

Communication Department



PRESS RELEASE
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Effects of the transfer of assets to Sareb and of the recapitalisation of the "Group 1" institutions on credit institutions' aggregate balance sheets based on supervisory returns

The Banco de España publishes today <u>credit institutions' aggregate balance sheets based on supervisory returns</u> as at 31 December 2012. As highlighted in <u>the press release published on 28 January on bank balance sheets</u>, there has been a reduction in the stock of loans which, on the whole, does not correspond to any reduction in the flow of credit to Spanish households and firms, and mainly reflects the accounting effect of transactions relating to the transfer of the "Group 1" institutions' assets to Sareb.

In addition, these balance sheets drawn from supervisory returns show, for the first time, the stock of doubtful loans in December 2012. As was to be expected, the transfer of assets to Sareb, including doubtful loans relating to the real estate sector, has led to a significant decline in the total outstanding balance of doubtful loans on credit institutions' aggregate balance sheet in December. This balance, which amounted to €191 billion in November 2012 in the case of loans to other resident sectors, fell to €167 billion in December.

As a result of these developments, the ratio of doubtful loans (which include non-performing loans) to total loans fell by almost 1 pp in December to 10.4 %.