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PRESS RELEASE

STATISTICS ON EURO AREA INSURANCE CORPORATIONS AND PENSION FUNDS: SECOND QUARTER 2014

In the second quarter of 2014, the total financial assets of euro area insurance corporations and pension funds increased to €8,436 billion, from €8,173 billion in the previous quarter. Over the same period, the amount outstanding of insurance technical reserves, which are the main liabilities of insurance corporations and pension funds, increased to €6,944 billion, from €6,813 billion. The increase was due partly to an increase of €57 billion in transactions.

Selected balance sheet items of insurance corporations and pension funds

(EUR billions; not seasonally adjusted; amounts outstanding at the end of the period; transactions during the period)

	Amounts outstanding			Amounts outstanding	Transactions ¹
	2013		2014		
	Q3	Q4	Q1	2014 Q2	
Total financial assets	7,840	7,926	8,173	8,436	n.a.
Insurance technical reserves ²	6,593	6,674	6,813	6,944	57
net equity of households in life insurance reserves	3,493	3,536	3,603	3,666	30
net equity of households in pension fund reserves	2,253	2,296	2,339	2,405	22
prepayments of insurance premiums and reserves for outstanding claims	846	842	870	872	5

¹ Transactions are available only for euro area insurance technical reserves.

² Insurance technical reserves contain the provisions against policyholders or beneficiaries set aside by insurers and pension funds to meet future obligations. This item also includes prepayments of insurance premiums, which are related to non-life insurance and to reinsurance, and reserves for outstanding claims, which are the amounts expected to be paid out in settlement of claims, including disputed claims.

Regarding the breakdown of the assets of the aggregated balance sheet of euro area insurance corporations and pension funds, holdings of **securities other than shares** accounted for 40% of the sector's total financial assets at end-June 2014. The second largest category of holdings were **investment fund shares**, which contributed 26% to the total financial assets. Finally, **shares and other equity** accounted for 11% of the total financial assets.

Turning to transactions in the main breakdowns of the **insurance technical reserves**, the **net equity of households in life insurance reserves** increased by €30 billion in the second quarter of 2014. The **net equity of households in pension fund reserves** increased by €22 billion in the same quarter, while transactions in **prepayments of insurance premiums and reserves for outstanding claims** increased by €5 billion.

Regarding the contributions of the two sub-sectors, **insurance corporations' total financial assets** accounted for €6,476 billion at end-June 2014, representing 77% of the aggregated balance sheet of the insurance corporations and pension funds sector, while the **pension funds' total financial assets** amounted to €1,961 billion.

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Notes

Further predefined tables, statistical data and methodological notes, as well as the advance release calendar, are available on the ECB's website at <http://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/money/icpf/html/index.en.html>.

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Table 1: Assets and liabilities of euro area insurance corporations and pension funds(EUR billions; not seasonally adjusted; amounts outstanding at the end of the period ¹⁾)

	2013 Q3	2013 Q4	2014 Q1	2014 Q2
Total financial assets	7,840	7,926	8,173	8,436
Currency and deposits	771	756	767	759
<i>of which:</i> Deposits with euro area MFIs	724	708	717	710
<i>of which:</i> Deposits with non-euro area residents	45	46	48	47
Loans	480	480	494	494
To euro area residents	446	447	459	459
MFIs	8	11	12	11
General government	142	142	149	146
Other financial intermediaries	26	24	25	28
Insurance corporations and pension funds	84	82	81	82
Non-financial corporations	50	51	53	54
Households	135	138	139	139
To non-euro area residents	34	33	35	35
Securities other than shares	3,119	3,187	3,272	3,376
Issued by euro area residents	2,607	2,656	2,726	2,810
MFIs	702	676	675	689
General government	1,409	1,476	1,543	1,600
Other financial intermediaries	266	267	266	280
Insurance corporations and pension funds	16	16	16	13
Non-financial corporations	214	221	226	228
Issued by non-euro area residents	512	531	546	566
Shares and other equity	854	875	889	935
Quoted shares	365	380	384	399
<i>of which:</i> Issued by euro area MFIs	22	22	22	22
Unquoted shares	489	495	505	537
Investment fund shares/units	1,981	2,022	2,096	2,197
<i>of which:</i> Issued by euro area residents	1,870	1,911	1,984	2,078
Money market fund shares	96	83	99	99
<i>of which:</i> Issued by euro area MFIs	94	81	97	97
Prepayments of insurance premiums and reserves for outstanding claims ²⁾	284	282	287	291
<i>of which:</i> Euro area residents	251	251	254	258
Other accounts receivable/payable and financial derivatives	256	240	268	284
Non-financial assets	153	155	156	156
Total liabilities	7,656	7,742	7,913	8,057
Loans	278	265	278	284
Securities other than shares	46	47	48	53
Shares and other equity	515	538	537	532
Quoted shares	146	159	158	149
Unquoted shares	369	378	379	383
Insurance technical reserves	6,593	6,674	6,813	6,944
Net equity of households in life insurance reserves	3,493	3,536	3,603	3,666
Net equity of households in pension fund reserves	2,253	2,296	2,339	2,405
Prepayments of insurance premiums and reserves for outstanding claims ³⁾	846	842	870	872
Other accounts receivable/payable and financial derivatives	224	218	238	245
Net worth ⁴⁾	337	339	415	536

Source: ECB.

1) Figures may not add up due to rounding.

2) Includes reinsurance.

3) Prepayments of insurance premiums are related to non-life insurance and to reinsurance. Reserves for outstanding claims are the amounts expected to be paid out in settlement of claims, including disputed claims.

4) The net worth is calculated as the difference between total assets (financial and non-financial) and liabilities, and may also reflect statistical discrepancies.

Table 2: Assets and liabilities of euro area insurance corporations and euro area pension funds

(EUR billions; not seasonally adjusted; amounts outstanding at the end of the period ¹⁾)

	Insurance corporations		Pension funds	
	2014 Q1	2014 Q2	2014 Q1	2014 Q2
Total financial assets	6,303	6,476	1,870	1,961
Currency and deposits	567	558	200	201
Loans	432	431	62	63
Securities other than shares	2,811	2,902	461	474
Shares and other equity	666	700	223	235
Investment fund shares/units	1,285	1,344	812	854
Money market fund shares	91	90	7	9
Prepayments of insurance premiums and reserves for outstanding claims	257	262	30	30
Other accounts receivable/payable and financial derivatives	192	189	75	94
Non-financial assets	116	117	39	40
Total liabilities	6,141	6,216	1,772	1,841
Loans	259	262	19	22
Securities other than shares	48	53	0	0
Shares and other equity	528	523	9	8
Net equity of households in life insurance reserves	3,603	3,666	0	0
Net equity of households in pension fund reserves	645	656	1,694	1,749
Prepayments of insurance premiums and reserves for outstanding claims	866	867	5	5
Other accounts receivable/payable and financial derivatives	192	188	45	57
Net worth	278	377	137	159

1) For footnotes, see Table 1.

Chart 1: Net equity of households in life insurance reserves: breakdown by type of policy

(percentage of total; end-December 2013)

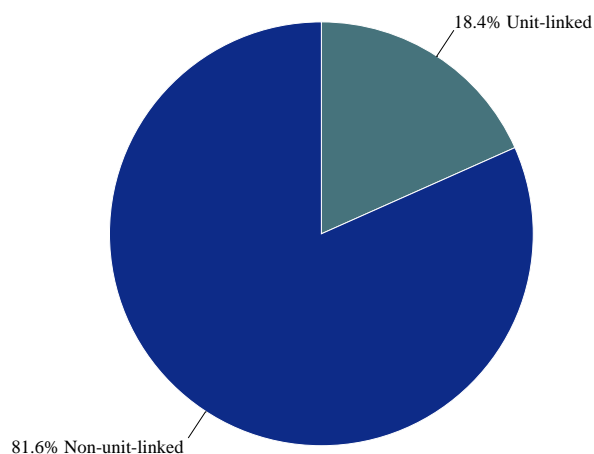
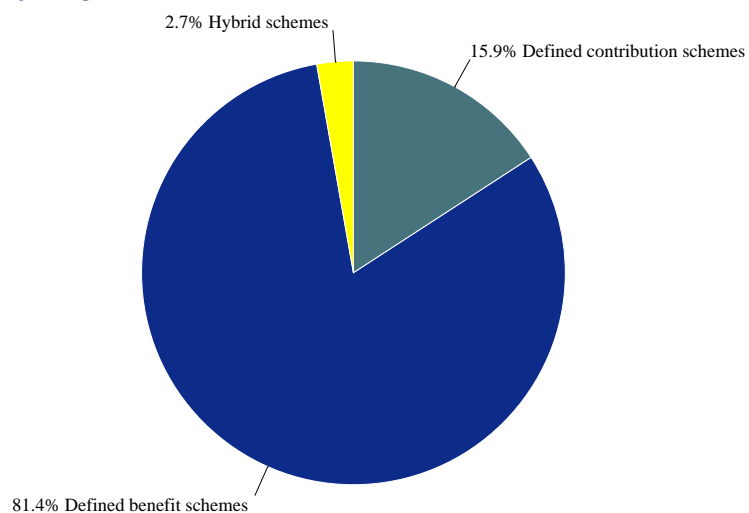


Chart 2: Net equity of households in pension fund reserves: breakdown by type of plan

(percentage of total; end-December 2013)



Source: ECB.