



STATISTICAL PRESS RELEASE 67 | 2017

International banking statistics on a consolidated basis

1st quarter of 2017

12 July 2017

Today, Banco de Portugal publishes statistics in Table [A.24](#) of the *Statistical Bulletin* and in *BPstat* on international consolidated banking statistics for the first quarter of 2017. These statistics reflect exposure to risk on international financial assets held by banks having their head office in Portugal.

Data for the first quarter of 2017 incorporate revisions to data for the fourth quarter of 2016 in the wake of the new guidelines issued by the Bank for International Settlements, on the basis of which these statistics are compiled. The changes introduced make information handling more consistent, specifically as regards consolidation.

At the end of March 2017, international financial assets of Portuguese banks, on an immediate risk basis,¹ stood at €74 billion (€9.6 billion less than in the previous quarter).

On an ultimate risk basis,² international financial assets held by Portuguese banks amounted to approximately €75 billion, which corresponds to a decrease of €9.4 billion from end-2016 (Chart 1).

These decreases were chiefly due to changes in the universe of entities considered in both periods, as a result of capital acquisitions by non-residents

that led to a decline in the number of banks having their head office in Portugal.

Approximately two-thirds of international financial assets held by Portuguese banks were located in the European Union.

Exposure to ultimate risk vis-à-vis European Union Member States and the BRICS exceeded that to immediate risk. Conversely, with regard to Portuguese-speaking African countries, Portuguese banks' exposure was higher to immediate risk than to ultimate risk (Chart 2).

The higher volume of foreign claims on an ultimate risk basis than on an immediate risk basis means that there are claims of Portuguese banks on resident entities guaranteed by non-resident entities. This difference, which amounted approximately to €1 billion in the first quarter of 2017, corresponded to net risk transfers between Portugal and the rest of the world.

¹ international financial assets against the counterparty which signed the agreement with the bank, and which is primarily responsible for its compliance, even when guaranteed by a third party.

² international financial assets against the counterparty that is ultimately responsible for compliance with the agreement, i.e. when there is a third party that guarantees compliance with the agreement, it takes the place of the immediate counterparty.

Chart 1 • International financial assets of Portuguese banks, risk basis and net risk transfers

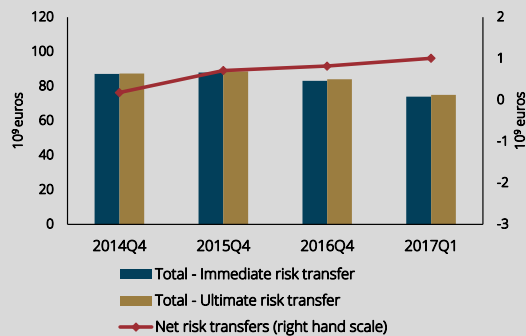
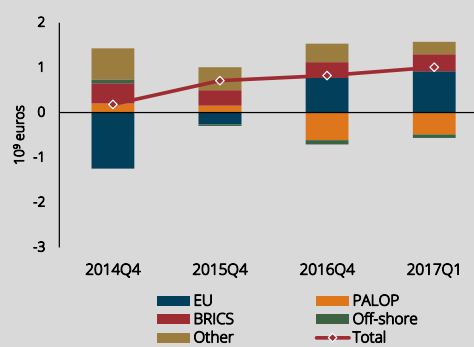


Chart 2 • Net risk transfers, by main geographical aggregates



Additional information available at:

[Table A.24 of the Statistical Bulletin](#)

[Statistical Press Release No 13 published in November 2015](#)

Next update: 11 October 2017

Banco de Portugal | info@bportugal.pt