



Banco de Portugal

EUROSYSTEM

Note from the Governor

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The Banco de Portugal is providing from today a new Internet online access to its Statistical Interactive Database, called *BPstat - Estatísticas online*. It can be found on the Banco de Portugal website (www.bportugal.pt).

BPstat - Estatísticas online is the outcome of a considerable investment by the Banco de Portugal to provide a web dissemination service for relevant statistical information about the Portuguese economy. Its main aim is to provide easy and quick access to the statistics compiled by the Banco de Portugal, as well as to statistics and economic indicators published by other institutions.

This service offers a number of options and facilities allowing for very user-friendly navigation through the statistical information. This comprises:

- Multidimensional analysis of the statistical information;
- Design of tailor-made statistical tables according to needs;
- Creation of favourites;
- Subscription to an alert service, which flags the release of new statistical data on pre-selected domains;
- Access to the metadata.

Two of the main characteristics of this new service are quick and easy access to the statistical series and a very simple method for exploring the information. Significant efforts were made to provide methodological information about the statistical series, and this makes it possible for the users to know the main characteristics of the data and the methods used in their compilation, known in statistics terminology as metadata.

This new system is at the cutting-edge of the very best that can be found world-wide in matters of access to and dissemination of statistical data. Obviously, it is for potential users to confirm the usefulness of the system. The Banco de Portugal does not regard this as a final product and will be improving it constantly, especially as regards the statistics made available. Any suggestions from users will therefore be extremely welcome.

Vítor Constâncio

Governor of the Banco de Portugal