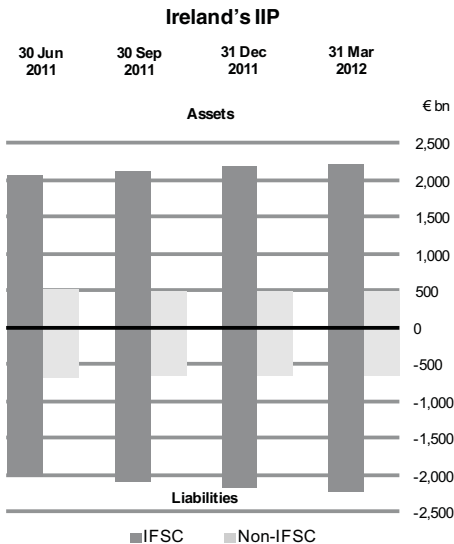




Quarterly International Investment Position and External Debt

31 March 2012



	31 December 2011			31 March 2012		
	Assets	Liabilities	Net	Assets	Liabilities	Net
General Government	5.4	103.9	-98.5	6.1	109.3	-103.2
Monetary Authority	19.0	120.5	-101.4	19.9	96.0	-76.1
Monetary Financial Institutions	800.3	746.6	53.6	748.5	715.5	33.0
Other Financial Intermediaries	1,627.0	1,566.2	60.7	1,686.2	1,628.4	57.7
Non-Financial Companies	230.8	297.9	-67.0	244.3	317.3	-72.9
Total	2,682.5	2,835.1	-152.6	2,705.1	2,866.5	-161.5

Net IIP liability of €161.5 billion at end-March 2012

At 31st March 2012, Ireland's quarterly *international investment position* (IIP) results show overall stocks of foreign financial assets of €2,705bn – up €22.6bn from the end-December level. The corresponding overall stocks of foreign financial liabilities of €2,866.5bn increased by €31.4bn in the same period. Irish residents therefore had an overall net foreign liability of €161.5bn at 31st March 2012, an increase of €8.9bn in the quarter – *see Table 1a*.

Some points of note in the end-March 2012 quarterly IIP are:

- ◆ General Government foreign assets (including assets of the NPRF) increased by €0.7bn to €6.1bn in the quarter while liabilities increased by €5.4bn to €109.3bn in the same period – *see Table 1b*.
- ◆ Within the commercial financial sector (i.e. MFI and OFI), IFSC enterprises accounted for a very high proportion of the sector's overall foreign assets and liabilities. At the end of March 2012, IFSC assets abroad amounted to €2,213bn or 91% of the sector's foreign assets (and 82% of Ireland's total foreign assets); IFSC liabilities at €2,215bn represented over 94% of the commercial financial sector aggregate (and 77% of Ireland's total foreign liabilities). IFSC enterprises therefore showed a net liability position at the end of March 2012 of €1.7bn – *see Table 2*.

For more information contact Stephen Treacy at 01 498 4076 or Stephen McDonagh at 01 498 4364.

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Ardee Road
Dublin 6
Ireland

Skehard Road
Cork
Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414 (ROI)
0870 876 0256 (UK/NI)

Tel: +353 1 498 4000
Fax: +353 1 498 4020

Tel: +353 21 453 5000
Fax: +353 21 453 5555

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: www.cso.ie
and go to

Economy: Balance of Payments

Director General: Pádraig Dalton

Enquiries:

BOP Statistics

BOP Section, 01-498 4055
bop@cso.ie

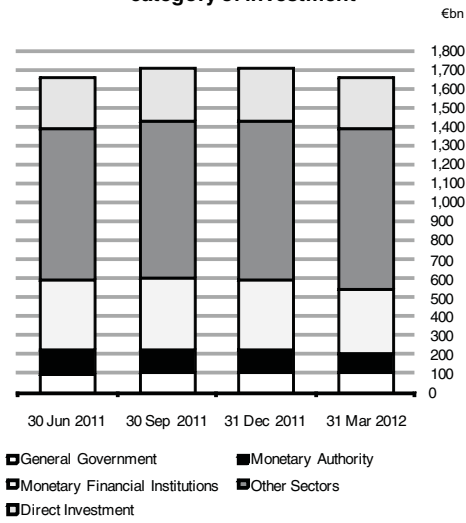
General queries

Information Section, ext 5021
information@cso.ie

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**Gross External Debt
- category of investment**



Gross External Debt decreases to €1,658 billion at end-March

At 31st March 2012, the gross external debt of all resident sectors (i.e. general government, the monetary authority, financial and non-financial corporations and households) amounted to €1,658bn. This represents a decrease of €53bn in the stock of financial liabilities to non-residents (other than those arising from issues of Irish equities and derivatives contracts) compared to the level shown at the end of December 2011 (€1,710bn) – see *Table 6a*.

The Net External Debt position stood at -€555bn at end-March (i.e. assets exceeded liabilities). This reflects the fact that while two thirds of the assets of Investment Funds are included, the bulk of their liabilities (being equity securities) are excluded – see *Table 6b*.

Revised results

This release reflects revisions due to new and updated information for 2009, 2010 and 2011.

Table 1a - International Investment Position (IIP) classified by Financial Instrument

€ million

Item	Q1 2009 ¹	Q2 2009 ¹	Q3 2009 ¹	Q4 2009 ¹	Q1 2010 ¹	Q2 2010 ¹	Q3 2010 ¹	Q4 2010 ¹	Q1 2011 ¹	Q2 2011 ¹	Q3 2011 ¹	Q4 2011 ¹	Q1 2012
Foreign Assets													
Direct Investment Abroad ²	126,935	149,917	174,075	205,008	222,405	230,225	232,548	254,538	252,851	251,985	239,103	242,494	255,869
Portfolio Investment	1,252,125	1,305,299	1,309,836	1,352,597	1,413,685	1,470,475	1,470,894	1,458,289	1,420,594	1,364,297	1,359,620	1,432,908	1,542,059
Other Investment ³	916,184	912,349	871,741	864,391	903,677	959,282	949,544	941,452	910,632	955,391	1,016,991	1,005,754	905,847
Reserve Assets	731	797	1,533	1,496	1,513	1,672	1,599	1,587	1,474	1,498	1,570	1,316	1,285
Total Foreign Assets	2,295,975	2,368,362	2,357,185	2,423,492	2,541,280	2,661,654	2,654,585	2,655,866	2,585,551	2,573,171	2,617,284	2,682,472	2,705,060
Foreign Liabilities													
Direct Investment in Ireland ²	162,616	163,947	158,731	173,610	197,570	212,699	199,492	213,722	216,522	211,910	226,653	194,508	206,520
Portfolio Investment	1,267,387	1,324,517	1,391,186	1,464,610	1,535,914	1,575,800	1,582,206	1,668,152	1,644,239	1,643,505	1,632,959	1,725,510	1,779,529
Other Investment ³	1,022,675	1,028,964	972,430	935,264	935,377	1,001,585	1,014,291	913,052	877,629	844,805	905,280	915,074	880,486
Total Foreign Liabilities	2,452,678	2,517,428	2,522,347	2,573,484	2,668,861	2,790,084	2,795,989	2,794,926	2,738,390	2,700,220	2,764,892	2,835,092	2,866,535
Net International Investment Position (IIP)													
Direct Investment ²	-35,681	-14,030	15,344	31,398	24,835	17,526	33,056	40,816	36,329	40,075	12,450	47,986	49,349
Portfolio Investment	-15,262	-19,218	-81,350	-112,013	-122,229	-105,325	-111,312	-209,863	-223,645	-279,208	-273,339	-292,602	-237,470
Other Investment ³	-106,491	-116,615	-100,689	-70,873	-31,700	-42,303	-64,747	28,400	33,003	110,586	111,711	90,680	25,361
Reserve Assets	731	797	1,533	1,496	1,513	1,672	1,599	1,587	1,474	1,498	1,570	1,316	1,285
Total (Net IIP)	-156,703	-149,066	-165,162	-149,992	-127,581	-128,430	-141,404	-139,060	-152,839	-127,049	-147,608	-152,620	-161,475

¹ Revised

² Reflecting the so-called directional principle for reclassifying Direct Investment (see background notes).

³ Includes financial derivatives and trade credits; in the case of liabilities this category also includes life insurance liabilities to non-residents.

Table 1b – International Investment Position (IIP) classified by Institutional Sector

€ million

Item	Q1 2009 ¹	Q2 2009 ¹	Q3 2009 ¹	Q4 2009 ¹	Q1 2010 ¹	Q2 2010 ¹	Q3 2010 ¹	Q4 2010 ¹	Q1 2011 ¹	Q2 2011 ¹	Q3 2011 ¹	Q4 2011 ¹	Q1 2012
Foreign Assets													
General Government	12,817	14,411	12,985	10,421	11,174	12,482	13,974	11,536	9,977	4,687	5,186	5,382	6,058
Monetary Authority ²	26,681	23,380	19,218	16,337	16,338	17,364	17,127	17,438	17,592	17,692	19,092	19,037	19,929
Monetary Financial Institutions ³	1,052,163	1,062,050	1,014,803	996,353	1,022,219	1,075,078	1,048,170	938,143	876,592	849,400	891,725	800,251	748,548
Other Sectors ⁴	1,204,315	1,268,521	1,310,177	1,400,380	1,491,548	1,556,732	1,575,316	1,688,749	1,681,390	1,701,394	1,701,282	1,857,801	1,930,526
<i>of which:</i>													
<i>Other Financial Intermediaries</i>	1,082,111	1,127,663	1,148,693	1,206,983	1,284,057	1,336,582	1,359,725	1,450,463	1,445,363	1,461,779	1,474,573	1,626,956	1,686,185
<i>non-Financial Companies</i> ⁵	122,204	140,858	161,484	193,397	207,491	220,150	215,591	238,286	236,027	239,615	226,709	230,845	244,341
Total Foreign Assets	2,295,975	2,368,362	2,357,185	2,423,492	2,541,280	2,661,654	2,654,585	2,655,866	2,585,551	2,573,171	2,617,284	2,682,472	2,705,060
Foreign Liabilities													
General Government	62,004	72,106	73,390	75,178	83,117	80,021	85,527	80,565	95,168	98,320	102,660	103,889	109,256
Monetary Authority ²	94,861	103,493	54,816	53,526	38,076	65,676	103,713	145,195	139,646	128,675	123,341	120,456	96,027
Monetary Financial Institutions ³	1,086,786	1,080,659	1,081,111	1,055,462	1,070,585	1,109,567	1,054,677	868,986	810,709	785,516	838,320	746,649	715,536
Other Sectors ⁴	1,209,026	1,261,170	1,313,031	1,389,319	1,477,084	1,534,820	1,552,072	1,700,178	1,692,866	1,687,710	1,700,570	1,864,098	1,945,717
<i>of which:</i>													
<i>Other Financial Intermediaries</i>	1,053,984	1,090,715	1,117,424	1,163,723	1,235,921	1,278,663	1,297,747	1,398,887	1,395,633	1,387,030	1,409,579	1,566,228	1,628,446
<i>non-Financial Companies</i> ⁵	155,042	170,455	195,607	225,596	241,163	256,157	254,325	301,291	297,233	300,680	290,991	297,870	317,271
Total Foreign Liabilities	2,452,678	2,517,428	2,522,347	2,573,484	2,668,861	2,790,084	2,795,989	2,794,926	2,738,390	2,700,220	2,764,892	2,835,092	2,866,535
Net International Investment Position (IIP)													
General Government	-49,187	-57,695	-60,405	-64,757	-71,943	-67,539	-71,553	-69,029	-85,191	-93,633	-97,474	-98,507	-103,198
Monetary Authority ²	-68,180	-80,113	-35,598	-37,189	-21,738	-48,312	-86,586	-127,757	-122,054	-110,983	-104,249	-101,419	-76,098
Monetary Financial Institutions ³	-34,623	-18,609	-66,308	-59,109	-48,366	-34,489	-6,507	69,157	65,883	63,884	53,405	53,602	33,012
Other Sectors ⁴	-4,711	7,351	-2,854	11,061	14,464	21,912	23,244	-11,429	-11,476	13,684	712	-6,297	-15,191
<i>of which:</i>													
<i>Other Financial Intermediaries</i>	28,127	36,948	31,269	43,260	48,136	57,919	61,978	51,576	49,730	74,749	64,994	60,728	57,739
<i>non-Financial Companies</i> ⁵	-32,838	-29,597	-34,123	-32,199	-33,672	-36,007	-38,734	-63,005	-61,206	-61,065	-64,282	-67,025	-72,930
Total (Net IIP)	-156,703	-149,066	-165,162	-149,992	-127,581	-128,430	-141,404	-139,060	-152,839	-127,049	-147,608	-152,620	-161,475

¹ Revised

² Central Bank of Ireland

³ Covering licensed credit institutions and money market funds.

⁴ *Other sectors* includes financial corporations other than the Monetary Authority and Monetary Financial Institutions, non-financial service and manufacturing companies and other industrial enterprises as well as (implicitly) households (see *Background Notes*). The gross liabilities to non-residents of financial corporations covered in *other sectors* tend to be very significant.

⁵ Including households

Table 2 – International Investment Position (IIP) - IFSC and non-IFSC activity by Institutional Sector

€ million

Item	30 Jun 2011 ¹			30 Sep 2011 ¹			31 Dec 2011 ¹			31 Mar 2012		
	IFSC	non-IFSC	Total	IFSC	non-IFSC	Total	IFSC	non-IFSC	Total	IFSC	non-IFSC	Total
Foreign Assets												
General Government	0	4,687	4,687	0	5,186	5,186	0	5,382	5,382	0	6,058	6,058
Monetary Authority ²	0	17,692	17,692	0	19,092	19,092	0	19,037	19,037	0	19,929	19,929
Monetary Financial Institutions ³	681,348	168,052	849,400	720,650	171,075	891,725	646,507	153,744	800,251	613,049	135,499	748,548
Other Sectors ⁴	1,379,740	321,654	1,701,394	1,396,387	304,895	1,701,282	1,547,633	310,168	1,857,801	1,600,333	330,193	1,930,526
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>Other Financial Intermediaries</i>	1,379,740	82,039	1,461,779	1,396,387	78,186	1,474,573	1,547,633	79,323	1,626,956	1,600,333	85,852	1,686,185
<i>non-Financial Companies</i> ⁵	0	239,615	239,615	0	226,709	226,709	0	230,845	230,845	0	244,341	244,341
Total Foreign Assets	2,061,088	512,083	2,573,171	2,117,037	500,247	2,617,284	2,194,140	488,332	2,682,472	2,213,382	491,678	2,705,060
Foreign Liabilities												
General Government	0	98,320	98,320	0	102,660	102,660	0	103,889	103,889	0	109,256	109,256
Monetary Authority ²	0	128,675	128,675	0	123,341	123,341	0	120,456	120,456	0	96,027	96,027
Monetary Financial Institutions ³	642,133	143,383	785,516	693,161	145,159	838,320	609,512	137,137	746,649	592,169	123,367	715,536
Other Sectors ⁴	1,382,146	305,564	1,687,710	1,404,143	296,427	1,700,570	1,560,881	303,217	1,864,098	1,622,866	322,851	1,945,717
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>Other Financial Intermediaries</i>	1,382,146	4,884	1,387,030	1,404,143	5,436	1,409,579	1,560,881	5,347	1,566,228	1,622,866	5,580	1,628,446
<i>non-Financial Companies</i> ⁵	0	300,680	300,680	0	290,991	290,991	0	297,870	297,870	0	317,271	317,271
Total Foreign Liabilities	2,024,279	675,941	2,700,220	2,097,304	667,588	2,764,892	2,170,393	664,699	2,835,092	2,215,035	651,500	2,866,535
Net International Investment Position (IIP)												
General Government	0	-93,633	-93,633	0	-97,474	-97,474	0	-98,507	-98,507	0	-103,198	-103,198
Monetary Authority ²	0	-110,983	-110,983	0	-104,249	-104,249	0	-101,419	-101,419	0	-76,098	-76,098
Monetary Financial Institutions ³	39,215	24,669	63,884	27,489	25,916	53,405	36,995	16,607	53,602	20,880	12,132	33,012
Other Sectors ⁴	-2,406	16,090	13,684	-7,756	8,468	712	-13,248	6,951	-6,297	-22,533	7,342	-15,191
<i>of which:</i>												
<i>Other Financial Intermediaries</i>	-2,406	77,155	74,749	-7,756	72,750	64,994	-13,248	73,976	60,728	-22,533	80,272	57,739
<i>non-Financial Companies</i> ⁵	0	-61,065	-61,065	0	-64,282	-64,282	0	-67,025	-67,025	0	-72,930	-72,930
Total (Net IIP)	36,809	-163,858	-127,049	19,733	-167,341	-147,608	23,747	-176,367	-152,620	-1,653	-159,822	-161,475

¹ Revised

² Central Bank of Ireland

³ Covering licensed credit institutions and money market funds.

⁴ *Other sectors* includes financial corporations other than the Monetary Authority and Monetary Financial Institutions, non-financial service and manufacturing companies and other industrial enterprises as well as (implicitly) households (see *Background Notes*). The gross liabilities to non-residents of financial corporations covered in *other sectors* tend to be very significant.

⁵ Including households

Table 3a - International Investment Position - Detailed Data

€ million

Item	Q2 2011 ¹	Q3 2011 ¹	Q4 2011 ¹	Q1 2012
Foreign Assets				
Direct Investment Abroad²	251,985	239,103	242,494	255,869
Equity capital and reinvested earnings	212,919	193,579	204,946	219,087
Other capital	39,065	45,524	37,548	36,783
Portfolio Investment	1,364,297	1,359,620	1,432,908	1,542,059
Equity	457,134	418,935	437,266	470,734
<i>Monetary authority³</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>General government</i>	4,120	4,057	4,123	4,130
<i>Monetary financial institutions⁴</i>	541	781	520	1,117
<i>Other sectors</i>	452,473	414,097	432,623	465,486
Debt instruments	907,163	940,685	995,642	1,071,325
Bonds and notes	681,302	698,797	719,796	738,010
<i>Monetary authority³</i>	10,141	10,962	10,751	11,610
<i>General government</i>	180	178	185	253
<i>Monetary financial institutions⁴</i>	221,108	217,382	201,867	194,565
<i>Other sectors</i>	449,873	470,275	506,994	531,583
Money market instruments	225,861	241,888	275,845	333,314
<i>Monetary authority³</i>	5,292	5,683	6,304	6,468
<i>General government</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Monetary financial institutions⁴</i>	168,869	173,175	146,015	197,466
<i>Other sectors</i>	51,700	63,031	123,527	129,380
Other Investment	955,391	1,016,991	1,005,754	905,847
Loans, currency and deposits	799,913	832,959	818,199	723,260
<i>Monetary authority³</i>	761	877	666	566
<i>General government</i>	2,029	1,527	1,778	2,522
<i>Monetary financial institutions⁴</i>	402,872	427,687	379,454	294,713
<i>Other sectors</i>	394,251	402,869	436,301	425,459
Trade Credits	32,800	32,255	33,664	35,572
<i>General government</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Other sectors</i>	32,800	32,255	33,664	35,572
Other assets ⁵	122,678	151,777	153,891	147,015
<i>Monetary authority³</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>General government</i>	-1,643	-577	-703	-847
<i>Monetary financial institutions⁴</i>	49,431	66,380	65,109	54,951
<i>Other sectors</i>	74,890	85,974	89,485	92,911
Reserve assets	1,498	1,570	1,316	1,285
Monetary gold	202	233	235	240
Special drawing rights	695	731	754	743
Reserve Position in the IMF	286	299	307	300
Foreign Exchange	315	307	20	2
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Foreign Assets	2,573,171	2,617,284	2,682,472	2,705,060

¹ Revised² Reflecting the so-called directional principle for reclassifying Direct Investment (see background notes).³ Central Bank of Ireland⁴ Covering licensed credit institutions and money market funds.⁵ Includes financial derivatives.

Table 3b - International Investment Position - Detailed Data

€ million

Item	Q2 2011 ¹	Q3 2011 ¹	Q4 2011 ¹	Q1 2012
Foreign Liabilities				
Direct Investment in Ireland ²	211,910	226,653	194,508	206,520
Equity capital and reinvested earnings	208,070	217,326	200,098	202,836
Other capital	3,840	9,327	-5,590	3,684
Portfolio Investment	1,643,505	1,632,959	1,725,510	1,779,529
Equity	1,047,885	1,041,395	1,142,975	1,212,637
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>General government</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	333,842	354,303	274,337	285,226
<i>Other sectors</i>	714,043	687,092	868,638	927,411
Debt instruments	595,621	591,565	582,535	566,892
Bonds and notes	578,504	581,198	571,762	557,318
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>General government</i>	74,824	75,198	67,684	62,147
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	64,149	66,149	62,839	56,354
<i>Other sectors</i>	439,531	439,851	441,238	438,818
Money market instruments	17,117	10,367	10,773	9,574
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>General government</i>	466	545	349	843
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	9,647	3,257	2,143	885
<i>Other sectors</i>	7,005	6,565	8,281	7,846
Other Investment	844,805	905,280	915,074	880,486
Loans, currency and deposits	648,406	681,262	686,511	652,702
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	128,649	123,321	120,434	96,001
<i>General government</i>	23,030	26,917	35,856	46,266
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	283,956	301,353	292,621	270,086
<i>Other sectors</i>	212,771	229,670	237,599	240,348
Trade Credits	16,618	18,858	19,166	18,852
<i>General government</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Other sectors</i>	16,618	18,858	19,166	18,852
Other liabilities ⁵	179,782	205,160	209,397	208,932
<i>Monetary authority ³</i>	26	20	22	26
<i>General government</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>Monetary financial institutions ⁴</i>	51,256	73,588	75,446	64,056
<i>Other sectors</i>	128,500	131,552	133,929	144,850
Total Foreign Liabilities	2,700,220	2,764,892	2,835,092	2,866,535

¹ Revised

² Reflecting the so-called directional principle for reclassifying Direct Investment (see background notes).

³ Central Bank of Ireland

⁴ Covering licensed credit institutions and money market funds.

⁵ Includes financial derivatives and also includes life insurance liabilities to non-residents.

Table 4 – International Investment Position (IIP) showing IFSC and non-IFSC activity

€ million

Item	Q2 2011 ¹	Q3 2011 ¹	Q4 2011 ¹	Q1 2012
Foreign Assets				
Direct Investment Abroad ²	251,985	239,103	242,494	255,869
- IFSC	27,716	27,299	27,575	27,830
- non IFSC	224,269	211,804	214,919	228,039
Portfolio Investment	1,364,297	1,359,620	1,432,908	1,542,059
- IFSC	1,228,848	1,228,417	1,306,671	1,412,292
- non IFSC	135,449	131,203	126,237	129,767
Other Investment ³	955,391	1,016,991	1,005,754	905,847
- IFSC	804,524	861,321	859,894	773,260
- non IFSC	150,867	155,670	145,860	132,587
Reserve Assets	1,498	1,570	1,316	1,285
- IFSC	0	0	0	0
- non IFSC	1,498	1,570	1,316	1,285
Total Foreign Assets	2,573,171	2,617,284	2,682,472	2,705,060
- IFSC	2,061,088	2,117,037	2,194,140	2,213,382
- non IFSC	512,083	500,247	488,332	491,678
Foreign Liabilities				
Direct Investment in Ireland ²	211,910	226,653	194,508	206,520
- IFSC	99,797	107,996	90,847	96,412
- non IFSC	112,113	118,657	103,661	110,108
Portfolio Investment	1,643,505	1,632,959	1,725,510	1,779,529
- IFSC	1,403,473	1,412,732	1,494,120	1,546,438
- non IFSC	240,032	220,227	231,390	233,091
Other Investment ³	844,805	905,280	915,074	880,486
- IFSC	521,009	576,576	585,426	572,185
- non IFSC	323,796	328,704	329,648	308,301
Total Foreign Liabilities	2,700,220	2,764,892	2,835,092	2,866,535
- IFSC	2,024,279	2,097,304	2,170,393	2,215,035
- non IFSC	675,941	667,588	664,699	651,500
Net International Investment Position (IIP)				
Direct Investment ²	40,075	12,450	47,986	49,349
- IFSC	-72,081	-80,697	-63,272	-68,582
- non IFSC	112,156	93,147	111,258	117,931
Portfolio Investment	-279,208	-273,339	-292,602	-237,470
- IFSC	-174,625	-184,315	-187,449	-134,146
- non IFSC	-104,583	-89,024	-105,153	-103,324
Other Investment ³	110,586	111,711	90,680	25,361
- IFSC	283,515	284,745	274,468	201,075
- non IFSC	-172,929	-173,034	-183,788	-175,714
Reserve Assets	1,498	1,570	1,316	1,285
- IFSC	0	0	0	0
- non IFSC	1,498	1,570	1,316	1,285
Total (Net IIP)	-127,049	-147,608	-152,620	-161,475
- IFSC	36,809	19,733	23,747	-1,653
- non IFSC	-163,858	-167,341	-176,367	-159,822

¹ Revised

² Reflecting the so-called directional principle for reclassifying Direct Investment (see background notes).

³ Includes financial derivatives and trade credits; in the case of liabilities this category also includes life insurance liabilities to non-residents.

Table 5 - International Investment Position (IIP) - 31 March 2012- Reconciliation of IIP and BOP Flows

€ million

Item	Opening Position 01/01/12 ¹	Bop Flows in Quarter	Valuation and Other Changes	Closing Position 31/03/12
Foreign Assets				
Direct Investment Abroad ²	242,494	4,899	8,476	255,869
Equity capital and reinvested earnings	204,946	4,765	9,376	219,087
Other capital	37,548	134	-899	36,783
Portfolio Investment	1,432,908	63,346	45,805	1,542,059
Equity	437,266	6,752	26,716	470,734
Debt instruments	995,642	56,595	19,088	1,071,325
<i>Bonds and notes</i>	719,796	10,620	7,594	738,010
<i>Money market instruments</i>	275,845	45,974	11,495 ³	333,314
Other Investment	1,005,754	-68,344	-31,563	905,847
Loans, currency and deposits	818,199	-63,636	-31,303 ³	723,260
Other ⁴	187,555	-4,708	-260	182,587
Reserve Assets	1,316	20	-51	1,285
Total Foreign Assets	2,682,472	-79	22,667	2,705,060
Foreign Liabilities				
Direct Investment in Ireland ²	194,508	12,968	-956	206,520
Equity capital and reinvested earnings	200,098	7,966	-5,228	202,836
Other capital	-5,590	5,002	4,272	3,684
Portfolio Investment	1,725,510	16,617	37,402	1,779,529
Equity	1,142,975	27,745	41,917	1,212,637
Debt instruments	582,535	-11,128	-4,515	566,892
<i>Bonds and notes</i>	571,762	-9,752	-4,692	557,318
<i>Money market instruments</i>	10,773	-1,376	177	9,574
Other Investment	915,074	-27,909	-6,679	880,486
Loans, currency and deposits	686,511	-28,784	-5,025	652,702
Other ⁴	228,561	875	-1,652	227,784
Total Foreign Liabilities	2,835,092	1,676	29,767	2,866,535

¹ Revised

² Reflecting the so-called directional principle for reclassifying Direct Investment (see background notes)

³ Reflects the re-classification of certain Investment fund assets from Loans, currency and deposits to Money Market Instruments

⁴ Includes financial derivatives and trade credits; in the case of liabilities this category also includes life insurance liabilities to non-residents

Table 6a - Gross External Debt¹

€ million

Item	30 Jun 2011 ²			30 Sep 2011 ²			31 Dec 2011 ²			31 Mar 2012		
	IFSC	non-IFSC	Total	IFSC	non-IFSC	Total	IFSC	non-IFSC	Total	IFSC	non-IFSC	Total
General Government	0	98,320	98,320	0	102,660	102,660	0	103,889	103,889	0	109,256	109,256
Short-term	0	466	466	0	545	545	0	349	349	0	843	843
Money market instruments	0	466	466	0	545	545	0	349	349	0	843	843
Loans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Long-term	0	97,854	97,854	0	102,115	102,115	0	103,540	103,540	0	108,413	108,413
Bonds and notes	0	74,824	74,824	0	75,198	75,198	0	67,684	67,684	0	62,147	62,147
Loans	0	23,030	23,030	0	26,917	26,917	0	35,856	35,856	0	46,266	46,266
Monetary Authority³	0	128,675	128,675	0	123,341	123,341	0	120,456	120,456	0	96,027	96,027
Short-term	0	128,649	128,649	0	123,321	123,321	0	120,434	120,434	0	96,001	96,001
Loans and deposits	0	128,649	128,649	0	123,321	123,321	0	120,434	120,434	0	96,001	96,001
Long-term	0	26	26	0	20	20	0	22	22	0	26	26
Other debt liabilities	0	26	26	0	20	20	0	22	22	0	26	26
Monetary Financial Institutions⁴	240,113	120,133	360,246	256,501	120,543	377,044	250,068	114,543	364,611	228,813	104,378	333,191
Short-term	*	*	236,127	*	*	243,608	*	*	232,199	*	*	210,977
Money market instruments	*	*	9,647	*	*	3,257	*	*	2,143	*	*	885
Loans and deposits	134,651	91,829	226,480	145,040	95,311	240,351	140,944	89,112	230,056	124,750	85,342	210,092
Long-term	*	*	124,119	*	*	133,436	*	*	132,412	*	*	122,214
Bonds and notes	38,289	25,860	64,149	43,257	22,892	66,149	41,248	21,591	62,839	39,406	16,948	56,354
Loans	55,692	1,784	57,476	59,153	1,849	61,002	60,775	1,791	62,566	58,316	1,678	59,994
Other debt liabilities	*	*	2,494	*	*	6,285	*	*	7,007	*	*	5,866
Other Sectors⁵	734,418	66,993	801,411	757,146	66,910	824,056	770,701	67,917	838,618	778,145	69,836	847,981
Short-term	*	*	105,862	*	*	118,980	*	*	125,955	*	*	126,260
Money market instruments	*	*	7,005	*	*	6,565	*	*	8,281	*	*	7,846
Loans and deposits	81,870	369	82,239	93,201	356	93,557	98,039	469	98,508	99,123	439	99,562
Trade credits	9,079	7,539	16,618	10,781	8,077	18,858	11,832	7,334	19,166	11,929	6,923	18,852
Long-term	*	*	695,549	*	*	705,076	*	*	712,663	*	*	721,721
Bonds and notes	*	*	439,531	*	*	439,851	*	*	441,238	*	*	438,818
Loans	89,310	41,222	130,532	95,055	41,059	136,114	98,006	41,086	139,092	99,268	41,519	140,787
Other debt liabilities	112,505	12,981	125,486	116,673	12,438	129,111	118,380	13,953	132,333	126,207	15,909	142,116
Direct Investment⁶	179,205	92,163	271,368	182,150	98,748	280,898	177,595	105,298	282,893	166,940	104,343	271,283
Debt liabilities to affiliated enterprises	0	15,420	15,420	0	20,374	20,374	0	23,616	23,616	0	22,896	22,896
Debt liabilities to direct investors	179,205	76,743	255,948	182,150	78,374	260,524	177,595	81,682	259,277	166,940	81,447	248,387
Gross External Debt	1,153,736	506,284	1,660,020	1,195,797	512,202	1,707,999	1,198,364	512,103	1,710,467	1,173,898	483,840	1,657,738

¹ Gross external debt represents the stock of Ireland's liabilities to non-residents other than equity and financial derivatives.

² Revised

³ Central Bank of Ireland

⁴ Covering licensed credit institutions and money market funds.

⁵ *Other sectors* includes financial corporations other than the Monetary Authority and Monetary Financial Institutions, non-financial service and manufacturing companies and other industrial enterprises as well as (implicitly) households (see *Background Notes*). The gross liabilities to non-residents of financial corporations covered in *other sectors* tend to be very significant.

⁶ Covering inter affiliate loans, non-equity securities, trade credits and other debt liabilities. *Debt liabilities to affiliated enterprises* refers to direct investment abroad while *debt liabilities to direct investors* refers to direct investment in Ireland.

* Suppressed for confidentiality reasons.

Table 6b - External Assets in Debt Instruments¹

€ million

Item	30 Jun 2011 ²			30 Sep 2011 ²			31 Dec 2011 ²			31 Mar 2012		
	IFSC	non-IFSC	Total	IFSC	non-IFSC	Total	IFSC	non-IFSC	Total	IFSC	non-IFSC	Total
General Government	0	2,209	2,209	0	1,705	1,705	0	1,963	1,963	0	2,775	2,775
Short-term	0	1,681	1,681	0	1,179	1,179	0	1,430	1,430	0	2,174	2,174
Money market instruments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Loans and Deposits	0	1,681	1,681	0	1,179	1,179	0	1,430	1,430	0	2,174	2,174
Long-term	0	528	528	0	526	526	0	533	533	0	601	601
Bonds and notes	0	180	180	0	178	178	0	185	185	0	253	253
Loans	0	348	348	0	348	348	0	348	348	0	348	348
Monetary Authority³	0	16,194	16,194	0	17,522	17,522	0	17,721	17,721	0	18,644	18,644
Short-term	0	6,053	6,053	0	6,560	6,560	0	6,970	6,970	0	7,034	7,034
Money market instruments	0	5,292	5,292	0	5,683	5,683	0	6,304	6,304	0	6,468	6,468
Loans and deposits	0	761	761	0	877	877	0	666	666	0	566	566
Long-term	0	10,141	10,141	0	10,962	10,962	0	10,751	10,751	0	11,610	11,610
Bonds and notes	0	10,141	10,141	0	10,962	10,962	0	10,751	10,751	0	11,610	11,610
Monetary Financial Institutions⁴	649,397	146,640	796,037	673,041	148,490	821,531	598,220	132,554	730,774	569,764	120,178	689,942
Short-term	*	*	500,836	*	*	522,529	*	*	448,851	*	*	456,993
Money market instruments	*	*	168,869	*	*	173,175	*	*	146,015	*	*	197,466
Loans and deposits	246,140	85,827	331,967	261,784	87,570	349,354	221,885	80,951	302,836	184,753	74,774	259,527
Long-term	*	*	295,201	*	*	299,002	*	*	281,923	*	*	232,949
Bonds and notes	185,943	35,165	221,108	183,186	34,197	217,383	174,001	27,866	201,867	168,595	25,970	194,565
Loans	46,130	24,775	70,905	52,320	26,013	78,333	54,024	22,594	76,618	16,684	18,502	35,186
Other debt Assets	*	*	3,188	*	*	3,286	*	*	3,438	*	*	3,198
Other Sectors⁵	935,001	53,404	988,405	981,467	54,310	1,035,777	1,117,405	55,569	1,172,974	1,139,949	57,442	1,197,391
Short-term	157,608	21,824	179,432	174,695	21,195	195,890	274,230	22,828	297,058	277,037	23,533	300,570
Money market instruments	49,311	2,389	51,700	60,791	2,240	63,031	121,622	1,905	123,527	127,381	1,999	129,380
Loans and deposits	88,164	6,768	94,932	92,496	8,108	100,604	131,673	8,194	139,867	127,215	8,403	135,618
Trade credit assets	20,133	12,667	32,800	21,408	10,847	32,255	20,935	12,729	33,664	22,441	13,131	35,572
Long-term	777,393	31,580	808,973	806,772	33,115	839,887	843,175	32,741	875,916	862,912	33,909	896,821
Bonds and notes	421,375	28,497	449,872	440,451	29,824	470,275	477,772	29,222	506,994	501,164	30,419	531,583
Loans	*	*	299,319	*	*	302,265	*	*	296,434	*	*	289,841
Other debt Assets	*	*	59,782	*	*	67,347	*	*	72,488	*	*	75,397
Direct Investment⁶	196,021	110,572	306,593	192,948	124,147	317,095	203,642	122,389	326,031	184,471	119,912	304,383
Debt asset claims on affiliated enterprises	0	54,485	54,485	0	65,898	65,898	0	61,164	61,164	0	59,679	59,679
Debt asset claims on direct investors	196,021	56,087	252,108	192,948	58,249	251,197	203,642	61,225	264,867	184,471	60,233	244,704
Reserve Assets	0	315	315	0	307	307	0	20	20	0	2	2
External Assets in Debt Instruments	1,780,419	329,334	2,109,753	1,847,456	346,481	2,193,937	1,919,267	330,216	2,249,483	1,894,184	318,953	2,213,137
Net External Debt⁷	-626,683	176,950	-449,733	-651,659	165,721	-485,938	-720,903	181,887	-539,016	-720,286	164,887	-555,399

¹ External Assets in Debt Instruments represents the stock of Ireland's claims on non-residents other than equity and financial derivatives.

² Revised

³ Central Bank of Ireland

⁴ Covering licensed credit institutions and money market funds.

⁵ *Other sectors* includes financial corporations other than the Monetary Authority and Monetary Financial Institutions, non-financial service and manufacturing companies and other industrial enterprises as well as (implicitly) households (see *Background Notes*). The gross claims on non-residents of financial corporations covered in other sectors tend to be very significant.

⁶ Covering inter affiliate loans, non-equity securities, trade credits and other debt assets. Debt claims on affiliated enterprises refers to direct investment abroad while debt claims on direct investors refers to direct investment in Ireland.

⁷ Net External Debt equals Gross External Debt (from table 6a) minus External Assets in Debt Instruments. A negative sign indicates a net Asset position.

* Data suppressed for confidentiality reasons.

Background Notes (updated June 2011)

Introduction

Ireland's balance of payments (BOP) quarterly statistical compilation system was completely overhauled in the late 1990's in order to: (a) strengthen sectoral and enterprise coverage in basic data collection; (b) adopt best international methodological standards; (c) conform more closely with international presentation formats; and, (d) provide for geographical analysis of the results. The improvements facilitate the production of BOP, international investment position (IIP) and external debt statistics required by the European Central Bank (ECB) and the EU Commission (EUROSTAT) to compile balance of payments statistics for the EMU and EU areas. The needs of other international organisations (such as IMF and OECD) as well as those of national users have also been catered for.

As part of the overall expansion of the information available, a new annual series showing Ireland's *International Investment Position* (IIP) as at 31 December for the years 1998 - 2001 was introduced in a release published on 11 December 2002 and was updated annually. This series was replaced by a quarterly series which was first published for the third quarter of 2010. This new release also includes quarterly external debt statistics. For the release of the fourth quarter of 2010 the external debt statistics were expanded further to distinguish IFSC/non-IFSC activity. The data presented concern the economy's end of quarter stocks of foreign assets and liabilities and, in essence, represent that element of Ireland's aggregate balance sheet which shows Irish residents' financial claims (assets) on non-residents along with their financial obligations (liabilities) to non-residents. As for the balance of payments statistics, the international investment position statistics shown in this Release distinguish direct investment, portfolio investment and other investment (including financial derivatives) along with reserve assets - see *Types of Investment* below. This presentation conforms closely with international presentation formats and the information is disseminated to different international organisations (i.e. the ECB, Eurostat, IMF and OECD) to meet their varied requirements. The external debt statistics exclude equity and financial derivative contracts in conformity with the IMF's External Debt manual.

International statistical standards

A description of the methodology is given below. It follows as far as possible the recommendations of the IMF's *Balance of Payments Manual - 5th Edition* (BPM5) concerning compilation of international investment position statistics. This Manual was prepared in close co-operation with the European Commission (Eurostat), the OECD and other international organisations. It was published by the IMF in 1993. Since then certain modifications to the treatment of financial derivatives have been approved internationally and were published in 2000 by the IMF (*Financial Derivatives: A Supplement to the 5th Edition (1993) of the Balance of Payments Manual*). The BOP/IIP compilation methodology recommended by the IMF is consistent with its *External Debt (2003) Manual* recommendations on compiling external debt statistics. Consequently, the results presented in all three statements are essentially consistent. It should be noted that, apart from the direct investment component of the IIP and the External Debt statements, the IIP liabilities data for financial instruments other than equity and derivative contracts at a particular reference date are equivalent to the external debt results for the same reference date. While the direct investment data presented in both statements are conceptually consistent, their presentations are different (see *Definition of International Investment Position* for further details).

Data collection

The data required are collected quarterly on a statutory basis by means of surveys conducted by the CSO and by the Central Bank of Ireland (CBI). Other data obtained from administrative sources are also used. Up to 2007, the CSO undertook all the necessary survey collection and compilation required. However, following a recent joint initiative involving the CSO and the CBI to rationalise statistical data collection and compilation for the financial sector and also to reduce the burden on data providers the data collection arrangements have changed. As a consequence, since 2008 the data required from licensed banks (credit institutions) and from investment funds (including money market funds) to meet BOP, IIP and external debt requirements (as well as other statistical demands on both organisations) are being collected quarterly by the CBI under its legislation as well as European legislation¹. These data are supplied by the CBI to CSO for statistical compilation purposes. The CSO has therefore discontinued its surveys of credit institutions and investment funds but continues to collect the required data from other financial enterprises as well as non-financial enterprises using its ongoing quarterly statutory surveys. These are conducted under the Statistics (Balance of Payments and Financial Accounts) Order, 2010 (S.I. No. 206 of 2010) made under the Statistics Act, 1993. The CSO and CBI surveys underpinning data collection are designed to address the internationally agreed statistical standards for BOP-related statistics. They are also used to collect quarterly balance of payments information as well as data needed for wider

national accounts purposes. The combination of both stock and the related flow data reporting on a single form greatly facilitates the quality-checking and reconciliation of both types of information.

The Central Bank commenced data collection from Financial Vehicle Corporations (FVC) in the last quarter of 2009. Preliminary data from this survey has been used to improve the existing estimates for FVCs in the International Investment Position and External Debt statistics.

The financial enterprise surveys cover banking, insurance, asset financing, treasury, institutional investment, activities of investment funds (i.e. mutual funds, unit trusts and similar collective investment operations), broking and other service provision. Financial enterprises, including those engaged in internationally-traded financial service activities and known collectively as IFSC (International Financial Services Centre) enterprises are required to make returns.

Respondents supply the data primarily using electronic media but they may use paper instead. Exhaustive coverage is aimed at but, in order to reduce reporting burden, companies with low activity volumes reporting to the CSO may, with its approval, provide annual data. Overall, about 5,000 financial entities are surveyed.

The surveys of manufacturing and non-financial service enterprises undertaken by the CSO are also designed to meet the conceptual and geographical analysis requirements specified in the international standards. Coverage is on a sample selection basis, those surveyed being selected using CSO statistical register information concerning transactions with non-residents. About 500 companies make quarterly and/or annual returns.

The survey information collected for all types of enterprises covers transactions with non-residents concerning purchases and sales of services, income flows, and acquisitions and disposals of foreign assets or liabilities along with the opening and closing stocks of these assets and liabilities. While much of this information is used to compile the BOP flow data published quarterly, the latter balance sheet information is used to compile the IIP results shown in this Release. In order to facilitate compilation of the wider national accounts statistics, the surveys also collect data on transactions of reporting enterprises with residents of Ireland.

Apart from survey data, administrative sources also provide information on non-resident transactions and stocks. For example, the National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA) provides flows and stocks information on Ireland's foreign debt and on other asset and liability transactions engaged in including those of the National Pensions Reserve Fund. In addition, the CBI supplies information on reserve assets and other foreign assets/liabilities flows and stocks.

The compilation system covers investment in residential and commercial property abroad by Irish residents and has recently included revised estimates for investment in Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) used for the purpose of securitising corporate assets from 2002 onwards. The securities issued by SPVs are mostly included under the *Bonds and Notes* heading in *Portfolio Investment - Liabilities* and the securitised assets are recorded mostly in *Other Investment - Assets* but some assets are categorised under *Equity*.

**Definition of the
International
Investment Position
(IIP)**

The *international investment position* (or IIP) is a point in time statistical statement of: the value and composition of the stock of an economy's foreign financial assets, or the economy's claims on the rest of the world, and the value and composition of the stock of an economy's financial liabilities (or obligations) to the rest of the world.

These assets and liabilities include land, other real property and other immovable items. In addition, monetary gold and special drawing rights (SDRs) owned by residents of the economy are included.

It may be of analytical interest to compute the difference between the two sides of the balance sheet, i.e. the net position. This gives a measure of that portion of an economy's net worth attributable to, or derived from, its relationship with the rest of the world.

A change in stocks during any defined period can be attributable to transactions (i.e. BOP flows), to revaluations reflecting changes in exchange rates, prices, etc. or to other adjustments (e.g. reclassifications, corrections, etc).

As indicated above, the methodologies for compiling both the IIP liabilities and the External Debt statistics are consistent. However, the latter statement by definition covers all external debt liabilities other than those arising from transactions in equity and financial derivative contracts. Hence, for *Portfolio Investment*, the end-quarter IIP liability levels for *debt instruments* (i.e. *bonds*

and notes and *money market instruments*) should be identical to the external debt stocks data for these instruments shown in the *External Debt* table. Similarly, for *other investment*, the IIP liability figures under the items *loans, currency and deposits* and *trade credits* should be identical to the external debt stocks data obtained by aggregating the relevant long-term and short-term instrument details. Because of the exclusion of financial derivative contracts from the external debt statistics, this equivalence does not exist for the IIP liability under the item *other liabilities*. In addition, due to the adoption of the *directional principle* for recording direct investment IIP stocks (and BOP transactions), the end-quarter stocks under *direct investment in Ireland – other capital* are shown on a net basis i.e. inter-affiliate positions (transactions) are offset. In the *External Debt* table, the relevant liability positions are shown on a gross basis and, hence, cannot be compared with the relevant IIP data.

Definition of External Debt

The IMF *External Debt* Manual defines external debt to be a point in time statistical statement of the value and composition of the stock of an economy's gross foreign financial liabilities to the rest of the world. The liabilities referred to cover those arising from Irish residents issuing debt securities such as bonds, notes and money market instruments to non-residents, as well as any loans received from and outstanding to non-residents, and any trade payables due to non-residents. In essence, external debt refers to financial obligations to non-residents other than those arising from transactions in equity or financial derivative contracts.

Types of financial instrument

Equity securities are shares issued by companies to shareholders and cover all instruments representing claims on the residual value of incorporated enterprises after the claims of all creditors have been met. Shares, stocks, preferred stocks or shares and participation shares usually denote ownership of equity and are included. Also included are depositary receipts (e.g. American depositary receipts) denoting ownership of equity securities issued as well as equity securities that have been sold under repurchase agreements and equity securities that have been lent under securities lending arrangements. Units issued by collective investment institutions, e.g. investment funds, are regarded as equity instruments and are included. Non-participating preference shares are treated as debt securities under bonds and notes in Portfolio Investment. Positions in equity in which the investor holds less than 10% of the share capital of the company are recorded under Portfolio Investment. Otherwise, they are recorded under Direct Investment.

Reinvested earnings within Direct Investment consist of the offsetting entry to the direct investor's share of earnings not distributed as dividends by subsidiaries or associates and earnings of branches not remitted to the direct investor, but recorded under investment income.

Other capital within Direct Investment covers all inter-company financial transactions (borrowing and lending of funds) – including debt securities and suppliers' credits (i.e. trade credits) – between direct investors and subsidiaries, branches and associates.

Bonds and notes are tradable debt securities issued with an initial maturity of more than one year which usually give the holder (I) the unconditional right to a fixed monetary income or contractually determined variable monetary income and (ii) the unconditional right to a fixed sum in repayment of principal on a specified date or dates. These instruments may be issued by companies or by governments. Positions held between affiliated enterprises (other than financial intermediaries) in bonds and notes are classified under Direct Investment. All other transactions are classified as Portfolio Investment (or under Reserve Assets if appropriate – see note on *Reserve Assets below*).

Money market instruments are debt securities issued with an initial maturity of one year or less. They generally give the holder the unconditional right to receive a stated, fixed sum of money on a specified date. These instruments are generally traded at a discount in organised markets, the discount being dependent upon the interest rate of the instrument relative to the market interest rate and the time remaining to maturity. Examples of such instruments are treasury bills, commercial and financial paper and bankers' acceptances. Transactions and positions between affiliated enterprises (other than financial intermediaries) in money market instruments are classified under Direct Investment. All other transactions are classified as Portfolio Investment (or under Reserve Assets if appropriate – see note on *Reserve Assets below*).

Financial derivative contract stocks (and transactions) cover (a) over-the-counter (OTC) instruments such as options, interest rate swaps, forward rate agreements (FRAs), cross-currency interest rate swaps and forward foreign exchange contracts and (b) exchange-traded futures and options. They should be valued at marked-to-market prices and exclusive of the value of the underlying good, financial instrument or currency to which they relate. Derivative positions between affiliated enterprises (other than financial intermediaries) are recorded under Direct Investment while positions between third parties are recorded in this Release under Other Investment.

Trade credits consist of claims or liabilities arising from the direct extension of credit relating to transactions in goods and services and advance payments for work in progress (or to be undertaken) associated with such transactions. Trade credits between affiliated enterprises (other than financial intermediaries) are classified under Direct Investment. Otherwise, they are classified under Other Investment.

Loans/currency and deposits cover the following financial instruments: loans, i.e. those financial assets created through the direct lending of funds by a creditor (lender) to a debtor (borrower); cash deposits and currency (i.e. notes and coins which are in circulation and commonly used to make payments). Included are loans to finance trade, other loans and advances (including mortgages) as well as financial leases. Positions in these instruments are generally recorded under Other Investment. However, in the case of transactions between affiliated enterprises (other than financial intermediaries), the resulting positions are included under Direct Investment. In particular, positions in permanent debt or subordinated loan capital between affiliated financial intermediaries are recorded under Direct Investment.

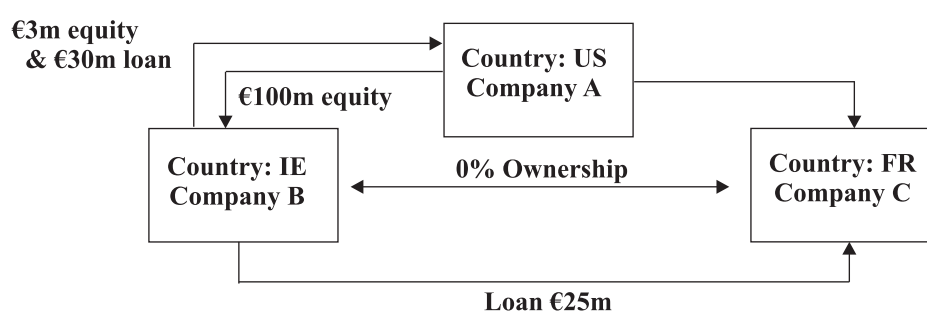
Stocks of all other financial instruments i.e. other than trade credits, loans and currency and deposits such as capital subscriptions of the participating Member States to international non-monetary organisations, changes in insurance technical reserves, offsets in respect of unsettled securities transactions are included in *other assets/other liabilities* within Other Investment (except where such positions arise from transactions between affiliated enterprises other than financial intermediaries) in which cases they are included under Direct Investment.

Types of investment

Four categories of functional investment are distinguished in the tables presented (i.e. *direct investment*, *portfolio investment*, *other investment* and *reserve assets*) and are based primarily on the relationship between the parties and secondly on the nature of the instrument involved. The category *other investment* includes the marked-to-market values of financial derivative positions.

Direct investment is a category of international investment that, based on an equity ownership of at least 10%, reflects a lasting interest by a resident in one economy (the direct investor) in an enterprise resident in another economy (the direct investment enterprise). Using this criterion, a direct investment relationship can exist between a number of affiliated enterprises whether the linkage involves a single chain or a number of chains. It can extend to a direct investment enterprise's subsidiaries, sub-subsidiaries and associates. Once the direct investment relationship is established, all subsequent financial flows between the related entities are recorded as direct investment transactions, regardless of the type of financial instrument used in the financing arrangement (except for financial intermediary affiliates among which direct investment transactions are limited to those involving equity and permanent debt). The components of direct investment transactions are equity capital, reinvested earnings, and other capital. *Equity capital* comprises investment in branches, shares in subsidiaries and associates (except non-participating preferred shares which are treated as debt securities) and other capital contributions. *Reinvested earnings* consists of the off-setting entry to the corresponding current account income item: it is the direct investor's share of the undistributed earnings of its branches, subsidiaries and associates. *Other capital* covers all other inter-affiliate financial transactions (borrowing and lending of funds), including debt securities and suppliers' credits (i.e. trade credits). Following the recommendations of the IMF, ECB, Eurostat and OECD, direct investment flows are recorded on a 'directional basis' rather than the more usual assets/liabilities basis. *Direct investment abroad* covers the net investment by parent companies resident in Ireland in their foreign branches, subsidiaries and associated companies. *Direct investment in Ireland* covers the net investment by foreign companies in their affiliates located in Ireland. The essential difference between the directional principle and the assets/liabilities approach centres on the treatment of reverse investment by a direct investment enterprise in its parent (direct investor) and on the treatment of transactions with other foreign affiliates covered by a direct investment relationship. In the Irish context, reverse *equity* investment in a parent enterprise is rare and tends to be relatively small. However, substantial flows (and positions) under the category *direct investment – other capital* can take place. These predominantly take the form of inter-affiliate loans but trade credits and transactions in financial securities between affiliates are also included. The treatment of reverse investment has to be considered under three scenarios. First, for *reverse equity investment for holdings of 10% or more of the voting capital*, such transactions are regarded as separate direct investment in their own right for both the equity and non-equity involved. Second, for *reverse equity investment for holdings of less than 10% of the voting capital*, the transactions involved, whether in equity or non-equity instruments, are regarded as offsetting (or netted against) any existing direct investment by the parent in the enterprise. For example, if a US direct investor A invests €100m in a direct investment enterprise B located in Ireland and B acquires a small reverse equity investment of €3m in its parent (A) then the value of *direct investment in Ireland-equity* is €97m (i.e. €100m less €3m). Extending this example, if B advances a €30m loan to parent, A,

direct investment in Ireland-other capital is €30m lower. Overall *direct investment in Ireland* from A to B is therefore €67m (i.e. €100m - €3m - €30m). The third scenario concerns a *non-equity transaction between enterprises related other than through equity ownership* (e.g. between ‘sister’ or ‘cousin’ companies). Given a number of considerations, there is some flexibility in the international standards regarding the treatment of this situation. In Ireland’s case and in order to ensure that all inward and outward flows (and stocks) arising from an initial inward direct investment are retained within the *direct investment in Ireland* category, the same principle as for reverse equity or non-equity investment with a parent company is applied. The transaction referred to is therefore treated as offsetting any existing *other capital* investment. Again extending the earlier example, if resident direct investment enterprise, B, advances a loan of €25m to a sister company, C, located in France, *direct investment in Ireland – other capital* is lowered by €25m and overall *direct investment in Ireland* from A to B amounts to €42m (i.e. €100m - €3m - €30m - €25m) – see diagram below. Cases occur on an ongoing basis where the outward investment flows or positions of B (or other sister direct investment enterprises located in Ireland) exceed the amounts attributable to A under *direct investment in Ireland*. The equivalent treatment is applied for similar situations categorised under *direct investment abroad*.



The compilation system for direct investment now includes investment by Irish residents (households) in residential property abroad. Such properties are regarded as constituting notional direct investment enterprises overseas and are treated accordingly in the system i.e. any relevant investment flows and stocks are included in the balance of payments and international investment statistics (current account flows - services or income are also of course, included in the balance of payments).

Portfolio investment covers the acquisition and disposal of equity and debt securities which cannot be classified under direct investment or reserve assets transactions. The securities involved are traded (or tradable) in organised and other financial markets. *Debt instruments* cover *bonds and notes* which have an original maturity term of more than one year and *money market instruments* with original maturity of one year or less. The CBI surveys of credit institutions and investment funds collect securities assets and liabilities data on an individual security basis to the extent possible. The CSO surveys collect this information on an aggregate basis but, over time, security-by-security collection is planned. Investment by resident investors in commercial property abroad is also included in portfolio investment. Stocks, as presented in the tables, are valued at current market values on the reference date inclusive of any accrued income

Other investment covers assets and liabilities other than those classifiable to direct investment, portfolio investment or reserve assets. It comprises loans, currency and deposits, short and long-term trade credits, financial derivatives and other accounts receivable and payable. Derivatives contracts refer to over-the-counter (OTC) and exchange-traded contracts and include options, futures, swaps, forwards, etc. For IIP purposes, all receipts and payments concerning financial derivative contracts are recorded appropriately as either assets or liabilities under *other investment*². It should be noted that stocks of the underlying financial instruments to which financial derivative contracts relate are categorised under the appropriate type of investment headings in the IIP. In principle, other investment transactions are valued at market valuation inclusive of accrued income. For loans, book values are accepted as a proxy for market values.

Reserve assets at national level in the context of EMU have been defined by the European Central Bank from 1 January 1999, the date of introduction of the euro currency, as: (a) qualifying assets which are under the effective control of the national monetary authority (i.e. the Central Bank of Ireland), and (b) consisting of highly liquid, marketable and credit-worthy foreign (non-euro) currency denominated claims on non euro-area residents together with gold, special drawing rights (SDRs) and the reserve position in the IMF. Up to 31 December 1998, the definition of reserve assets covered all foreign currency (non Irish Pound) denominated claims on non-residents of Ireland together with gold, SDRs and the reserve position in the IMF. Therefore, all claims on

euro-area residents outside Ireland as well as euro-denominated claims on non euro-area residents, which prior to 1999 would have been classified as reserve assets, were from 1999 onwards classified to *portfolio investment* or to *other investment* as appropriate.

Broad sectoral analysis This Release presents a broad institutional sector analysis of the portfolio investment and the other investment stocks. The sectors identified are:

- (i) *monetary authority* (the Central Bank of Ireland),
- (ii) *general government* (covering central and local government),
- (iii) *monetary financial institutions excluding the monetary authority* (i.e. credit institutions and money market funds) and
- (iv) *other sectors* - all other corporations and (implicitly) households. Included are: *other financial intermediaries*, i.e. investment funds, insurance companies and pension funds, asset finance companies, treasury companies, securities traders and other financial service companies, as well as non-financial service and manufacturing companies, other industrial enterprises, households and non-profit institutions serving households.

Structure of the International Investment Position (IIP) tables

Within the overall categorisation of *assets* and *liabilities*, Table 1 of the Release shows the main components of the IIP covering the broad functional headings: *direct investment*, *portfolio investment*, *other investment* (including financial derivatives) and *reserve assets*. In the case of direct investment and in line with the quarterly BOP flow data for such transactions, the directional presentation referred to above is used i.e. *direct investment abroad* (which approximates to the assets concept) and *direct investment in Ireland* (which closely equates to liabilities). As described above, the difference between the two approaches centres on the treatment of reverse investment by a direct investment enterprise in its parent (direct investor); these transactions are generally relatively small. In this Release, under international standards, *direct investment abroad* is categorised under assets while *direct investment in Ireland* is included under liabilities. A further breakdown of the main functional investment headings by type of instrument (e.g. equities, bonds/notes, loans/deposits) is provided. Table 2 shows a breakdown of foreign assets and liabilities to distinguish IFSC and non-IFSC investment cross-classified by institutional sector. For further analytical purposes, Table 3 shows a breakdown of the results by type of instrument and by institutional sector while Table 4 provides an analysis of IFSC and non-IFSC foreign assets and liabilities by type of investment. Table 5 shows a reconciliation of the quarterly stocks and BOP flows over individual reference quarters. In essence, this table attempts to directly link the IIP data to the Financial Account of the Balance of Payments and explains how the difference between two end-quarter positions can be accounted for by two main elements i.e. the relevant net BOP flows in the period (shown under '*BOP Flows in Year*') and the impact of valuation and other changes (shown under the heading '*Valuation and Other Changes*') occurring in the same period. Valuation changes can arise from movements in market prices or currency exchange rates or from stock revaluations, reclassifications or corrections.

Reconciliation of stocks and flows

It is generally difficult to satisfactorily reconcile aggregate IIP stock data with the corresponding BOP flows over the reference period particularly if the BOP balancing item 'net errors and omissions' (which is not shown in this Release) is large. The net BOP flows shown are obtained from and compatible with the data published in the CSO's quarterly Release Balance of International Payments. The figures shown under valuation and other changes are in many cases quite significant but it is not possible at this point to distinguish the impact of market price changes in securities from those arising from currency exchange rate changes, most notably in relation to movements in the Euro rate against the US Dollar and against the £Sterling.

Sign convention and symbols

In all tables both assets and liability stocks are unsigned i.e. they are shown as positive numbers. The net IIP figures are calculated as assets less liabilities. Those having a negative sign represent net liability positions of Irish residents to non-residents while unsigned (or positive) figures represent net asset positions vis-à-vis non-residents. In Table 5 in which a reconciliation of IIP stocks and BOP flows is shown, a net BOP transactions increase in assets is shown as a positive (unsigned) number and a corresponding net decrease as a negative number. This conflicts with the standard sign convention for representing BOP asset flows in the quarterly Release (in which transactions increases in assets are shown as negative quantities and decreases as positive quantities) but this is unavoidable in a table reconciling assets stocks and flows. The sign convention for liability flows in Table 5 coincides with the normal BOP sign convention for liability transactions in the quarterly Release (i.e. transaction increases in liabilities are shown as positive quantities while transaction decreases are shown as negative quantities).

Amounts are shown in millions of Euro; '0' means amounts of less than 500,000 units of currency; '-' means 'not relevant'. Cell entries may not add to totals due to rounding.

Valuation In principle, IIP statistics (like BOP flows) should be recorded using current market values at the reference date and data providers are requested to report their data on this basis. In practice, this may not be possible in certain cases. Direct investment in equity capital is a particular case in point. Market valuation where not directly available is generally approximated using one of the following in order of preference: (a) a recent transaction price, (b) directors' valuation, or (c) net asset value.

Where stock data are converted from foreign currency to the Euro equivalent, data providers are required to use the spot rate for the relevant currency against the Euro on the reference date. Where positions are returned in non-Euro currency, the equivalent Euro valuation is obtained by applying the reference date spot exchange rate.

Valuation of stocks should also reflect accruals recording principles particularly in relation to unpaid interest and trade credits.

Residence As for BOP transactions, IIP asset and liability positions are created between residents of Ireland and non-residents. The term 'resident' covers (a) individuals, including foreign nationals, living in Ireland for at least one year as well as Irish embassy staff and military staff located abroad, (b) Irish government enclaves located abroad (embassies, consulates, etc.), and (c) corporate bodies who have a centre of economic interest located here, including branches of foreign-registered companies. It is important to note that transactions in foreign assets and liabilities can occur between residents of Ireland and appropriate account is taken of such transactions (when known) in the compilation of the IIP (and the Financial Account of the BOP).

Geographical allocation principle

The so-called 'debtor/creditor' principle is used as the basic guideline for geographical allocation of foreign assets and liabilities. Asset positions are allocated to the country of residence of the debtor counterpart. As examples, (i) investment in a foreign security should be reported and classified to the country of residence of the issuer of the security; (ii) a loan advanced to a non-resident borrower should be reported and classified to the country of residence of the borrower. Liability positions should be allocated to the country of residence of the creditor counterpart. As examples: (i) investments by non-resident creditors in securities issued by a resident of Ireland should be allocated to the country of residence of the investor; (ii) take up of a loan advanced by a foreign bank should be allocated to the country of residence of the lending bank. Correct country allocation can sometimes be difficult on the liabilities side. In particular, it may not be possible to determine the residency of the actual owner/holder of bearer securities issued by an Irish resident since such securities can change hands without any re-registration of the new ownership. Similarly, correct geographical allocation can be difficult and sometimes impossible in the case of acquisitions by non-resident investors of Irish resident issued securities purchased through resident or non-resident nominee accounts. In such cases respondents give best estimates of the information required if the required details cannot be obtained from third party sources. In the case of direct investment, transactions are geographically attributed on the basis of country of location of immediate ownership of the direct investment enterprise rather than that of the ultimate beneficial owner. Therefore, if a US investor directly invests in a direct investment enterprise located in Ireland, the origin of the investment as presented in these statistics is US. If the US investor indirectly invests, through its Cayman Islands subsidiary, in an enterprise located in Ireland then the origin of the investment is Cayman Islands. In both cases, the country of location of the ultimate beneficial owner is US. This may have a significant impact on the geographic analysis of FDI statistics.

¹ECB Regulation on the Assets and Liabilities of Investment Funds (ECB/2007/8) of 27 July 2007, the ECB Balance of Payments and International Investment Statistics Guideline (ECB/2004/15) of 16 July 2004, as amended by (ECB/2007/3) of 31 May 2007, and the ECB Guideline on Monetary, Financial Institutions and Markets Statistics (ECB/2007/9) of 1 August 2007.

²The inclusion of these receipts and payments in the financial account reflects the amended recommendations on the treatment of financial derivative transactions as described in the IMF's *Financial Derivatives: A Supplement to the 5th Edition (1993) of the Balance of Payments Manual* published in 2000.