

Methodological notes

To the monthly publication of the MNB's statistical balance sheet

1. Calculation of average monthly stocks and the average monthly exchange rates

The average stocks and exchange rates are calculated using the daily closing data. In calculating the averages, stocks and exchange rates for public holidays or non-working days are identical with the data at the end of the previous working day.

2. The relationship between the stocks in tables showing average monthly and end-of-month stocks published on the 'Summary' page in the Press release

Overnight loans are not recorded in the row 'Other types of lending to credit institutions' in the statistical balance sheet, containing average monthly stocks. These stocks are shown under other assets.

On the assets side of the table presenting end-of-month stocks, the contents of row 'Other assets' in the average balance sheet records corresponds to the combination of rows 'Mortgage bonds issued by credit institutions', 'Government-guaranteed bonds issued by credit institutions', 'Bonds issued by non-financial corporations', 'Government bonds issued by the central government' 'Funding for Growth Scheme refinancing loans to credit institutions', 'Other loans to credit institutions' and 'Other assets'.

On the liabilities side, the contents of row 'Deposits of MFIs' are identical with the contents of rows 'Current account balances of credit institutions - IMPS accounts', 'Current account balances of credit institutions – without IMPS accounts', 'Overnight deposits of credit institutions - preferential deposits', 'Overnight deposits of credit institutions - without preferential deposits', 'One-week deposits of credit institutions' and 'Other deposits of credit institutions' combined in the average balance sheet.

3. Developments in the MNB's key policy instrument

- Prior to 9 January 2007: two-week MNB deposit.
- Between 9 January 2007 and 5 August 2014: two-week MNB bill.
- Between 6 August 2014 and 22 September 2015: two-week MNB deposit. (Under the self-financing programme announced on 23 April 2014, the MNB re-introduced the two-week deposit as its key policy instrument.)
- Between 23 September 2015 and 18 December 2018: three-month MNB deposit. (Until August 2016, tenders of the three-month deposit were held with a weekly frequency and subsequently with a monthly frequency. From October 2016, the key policy instrument was available at tenders with quantity restrictions.)
- From 19 December 2018, reserve requirements have been the MNB's key policy instrument.

4. Developments in credit institutions' reserve requirements

Developments in the monetary base (M0) and the stock of current account deposits is effected by the size of the reserve requirement ratio. The reserve requirement ratio for credit institutions is set by the MNB.

- Prior to 1 August 2002: 12%.
- Between 1 August 2002 and 30 November 2008: 5%.

- Between 1 December 2008 and 30 September 2010: 2%.
- Between 1 October 2010 and 30 November 2015: optional reserve requirement ratio. Credit institutions subject to reserve requirements were allowed to choose one of the 2%, 3%, 4% and 5% ratios at most every 6 months. (In the absence of such a choice, the MNB imposed the lowest, 2%, ratio.)
- Between 1 December 2015 and 30 November 2016: 2%.
- From 1 December 2016: 1%.

5. Difference between the MNB's accounting and statistical equity

Equity, and in particular balance sheet profit/loss, as shown in the MNB's statistical balance sheet is different from equity in the accounting balance sheet. This difference is due to the fact that while financial derivatives are recorded at market value in the statistical balance sheet, in the accounting balance sheet they are recorded at a value required by Government Decree 221/2000 on the special reporting and accounting requirements.

6. Use of the JDemetra+ software in seasonal adjustment

Beginning with the release of January 2017 data, the MNB has migrated uniformly from the tool Demetra to the JDemetra+ software in producing seasonally adjusted data.

7. Reclassification of funds increasing the security of financial investments into central government

In accordance with the Eurostat's decision and in line with the methodology used by the Hungarian Central Statistical Office, funds increasing the security of financial investments have been removed from the financial corporate and non-financial corporate sectors and reclassified into the general government sector in monetary statistics from the end of July 2017 onwards. The sectoral reclassification affected the following institutions: National Deposit Insurance Fund, Investor Protection Fund, Guarantee Fund for Cooperative Credit Institutions, Compensation Fund, Resolution Fund, Hungarian Resolution Asset Management Plc, Resolution Receivable Management Plc, RESIDEAL Plc.

8. Treatment of repurchase transactions in the MNB's balance sheet

In accordance with the relevant international standards, in the statistical publications the owner of the securities may not change when repo transactions and securities lending transactions carried out – the related financial flows must be accounted for as a credit or deposit asset or liability.

This is also the case where the object of a repo or securities lending transactions is an MNB bill issued by the MNB earlier, recorded on the liabilities side of the balance sheet.

In order to present the effect of adjustments on stocks and transactions applied due to repurchase transactions, starting from the published time series containing August 2012 data were expanded with new columns: stocks and transactions consistent (adjusted) with international standards are published in the columns 'Memorandum items' in Tables 1.a.2 and 1.a.4.

9. Valuation of securities included in foreign exchange reserves

In the period to the February 2013 reference period, data on debt securities held as part of foreign exchange reserves among external assets on the assets side of the MNB's balance sheet were valued at 'bid' prices (as quoted by market makers), and subsequently at 'mid' prices (calculated as the average of bid and offer prices quoted by market makers). (The impact of the change in valuation on changes in stocks has been recorded as a price change in the March 2013 data as a price change in Table 4.11 of the publication.)