

■ Methodological notes

Consolidated financial statements statistics have been released on a semi-annual basis since 2007. Listed non-financial groups admitted to the Prime Standard segment of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange which publish consolidated financial statements prepared according to the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) form part of the reporting group.

The published economic metrics are based on consolidated financial statement data which are adjusted for intra-group transactions between globally active group companies. Data from the balance sheets and the groups' income statement are recorded. Consolidated financial statement statistics therefore allow a timely analysis of the asset and capital structure and of the profitability of large German groups on a consolidated basis as well as an observation of economic developments.

The data are reported in condensed form as well as broken down by the economic sectors services and production.

■ Reporting group

Groups which generate a noteworthy share of their value in Germany are included in the reporting group. That share is deemed to be noteworthy if at least 10% of its total sales or more than €500 million of its sales are generated in Germany, or if at least 10% of its staff or more than 500 members of staff are employed in Germany. The reporting group thus currently includes around 230 groups. There is no double counting through sub-groups. The cut-off dates for adding groups to the reporting group or removing them are 30 June and 31 December.

■ Statistical preparation

The Bundesbank itself extracts and captures the data for the largest groups from their financial reports (currently 34 groups). The data for other groups are obtained from a private data provider.

The statistics on flows – such as sales or operating profit (loss) – are based on data for the respective half-year or full-year figure, while the figures for stocks are as at the end of the half-year.

Where consolidated financial statement data are available on a quarterly basis, they are also recorded at this frequen-

cy; the flow statistics are then aggregated to form semi-annual data by adding the data from first and second quarters (and the third and fourth quarters, respectively). Some missing data are estimated. The annual flow figures do not always match the sum of the two half-year figures.

The published absolute values are unadjusted aggregates. By contrast, the rates of change for the aggregated values are adjusted for changes in the groups' bases of consolidation (addition or removal of fully consolidated entities in financial statements) and by changes in the reporting group (addition or removal in Prime Standard for equities).

For detailed methodological notes on consolidated financial statements, see the Quality report on consolidated financial statements statistics.¹⁾

■ Notes on individual items

Since balance sheet data and income statement figures are not reported according to a binding classification format in published IFRS financial statements, the allocation of sub-items can vary between enterprises, which means that items may need to be reclassified to ensure consistency. The largest groups, which are recorded manually, are consolidated in accordance with the following aspects:

Non-current assets

Non-current assets include: intangible assets, property, plant and equipment, investments (at equity), shares in related parties and similar financial assets, investment property, other non-current financial assets, deferred tax assets and other non-current assets.

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Current assets

The following are consolidated as current assets: inventories, trade receivables, current tax assets, other current assets

¹ <https://www.bundesbank.de/resource/blob/622532/d0348713f5b21ffb896a373599232242/mL/quality-report-on-consolidated-financial-statement-statistics-data.pdf>.

(including short-term investments), cash and cash equivalents as well as non-current assets and disposal groups.

Equity

Share capital, capital reserves (including hybrid or mezzanine capital), revenue reserves (including profit or loss for the year), cumulated capital changes recognised in equity (OCI or other reserves) and non-controlling interests are aggregated in equity. Treasury shares are deducted from equity.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities include all financial liabilities, in particular pertaining to bonds, commercial paper, leasing or bank debt.

Operating profit (EBIT/EBITDA)

Alongside submitted data, the operative income figures are even calculated from other income statement items in some cases (EBIT = turnover + other operating income – operative expenses – other operating expenses; EBITDA = EBIT + depreciation and amortisation).

On 1 January 2018 and 1 January 2019, changes in IFRS accounting standards came into effect, which had a significant effect on the reported figures and thus impair comparability with preceding periods.