

EIOPA-BoS/19-372 26 July 2019

RISK DASHBOARD

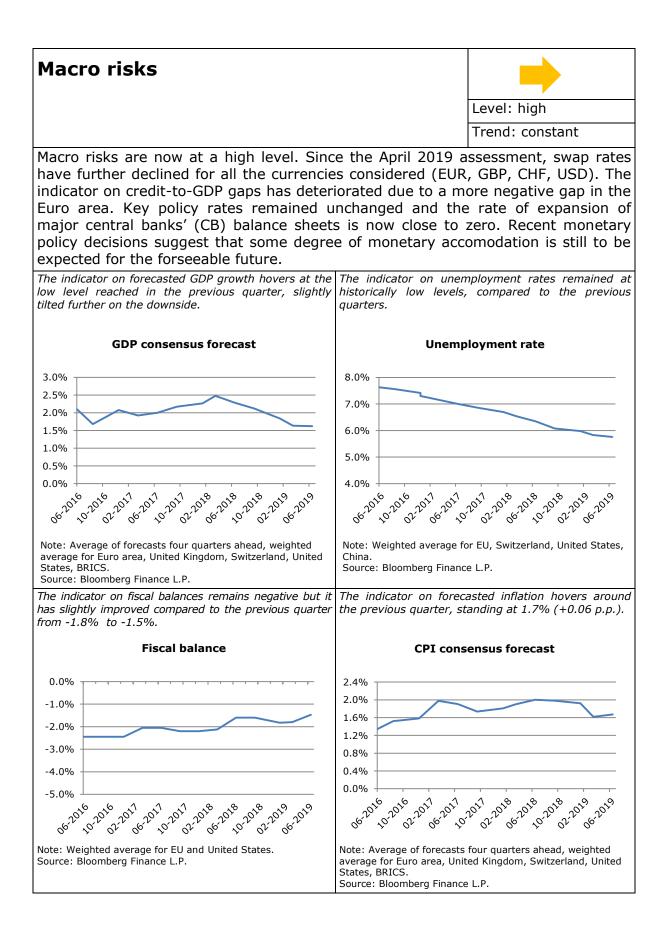
July 2019¹

Risks	Level	Trend
1. Macro risks	High	>
2. Credit risks	Medium	
3. Market risks	High	
4. Liquidity and funding risks	Medium	
5. Profitability and solvency	Medium	-
6. Interlinkages and imbalances	Medium	
7. Insurance (underwriting) risks	Medium	
Market perceptions	Level	Trend
8. Market perceptions	Medium	

Key observations:

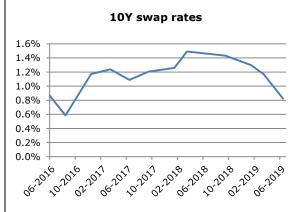
- Risk exposures for the European insurance sector remain overall stable.
- Macro and market risks are now at a high level due to a further decline in swap rates and lower returns on investments in 2018 which put strain on those life insurers offering guaranteed rates. The low interest rate environment remains a key risk for the insurance sector.
- Credit risks continue at medium level with broadly stable CDS spreads for government and corporate bonds.
- Profitability and solvency risks increased due to lower return on investments for life insurers observed in year-end 2018 data; SCR ratios are above 100% for most undertakings in the sample even when excluding the impact of the transitional measures.
- Market perceptions were marked by a performance of insurers' stocks broadly in line with overall equity markets, while median CDS spreads have slightly increased. No change was observed in insurers' external ratings and rating outlooks.

¹ Reference date for company data is Q1-2019 for quarterly indicators and 2018-YE for annual indicators. The cut-off date for most market indicators is mid-June 2019.



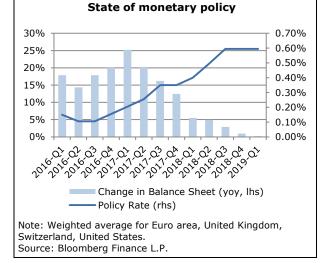
Swap rates continued to decrease compared to the The indicator on credit-to-GDP gap deteriorated previous quarter, with the aggregate indicator moving from 1.2% to 0.8%. This is due to declines in swap rates for all the currencies considered.

slightly from the previous quarter, primarily reflecting the larger negative gap in the Euro area (-13.1 p.p. compared to -12.4 p.p. in the previous assessment).

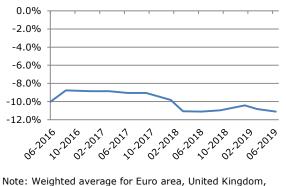


Note: Weighted average for EUR, GBP, CHF, USD. Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.

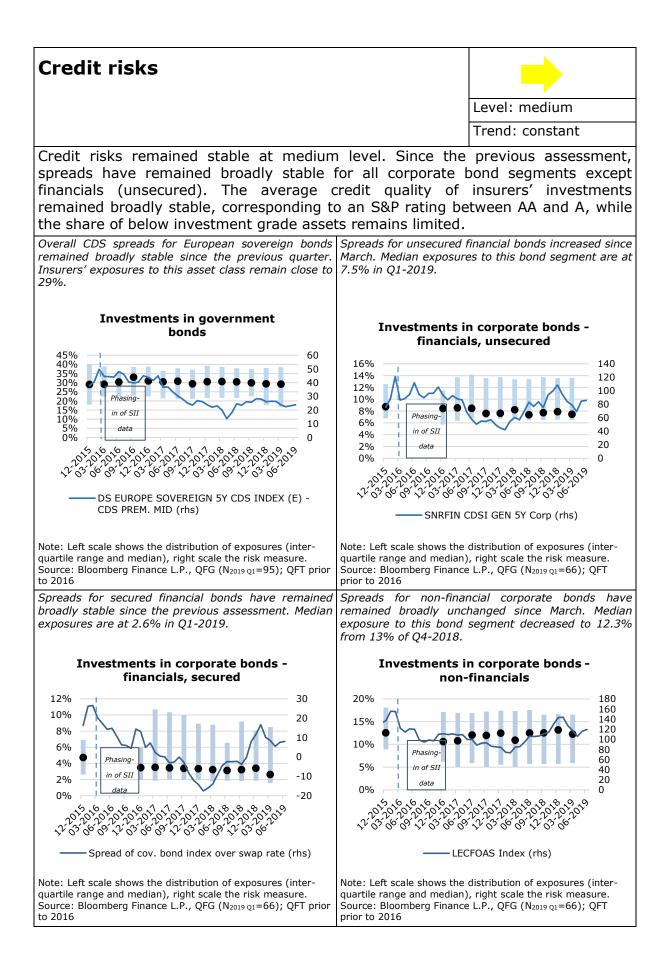
Key policy rates have remained constant since January's assessment. The rate of expansion of CB's balance sheets decreased in the Euro Area and US, with the aggregate indicator declining from 0.9% in 2018Q4 to 0.2% in 2019Q1.

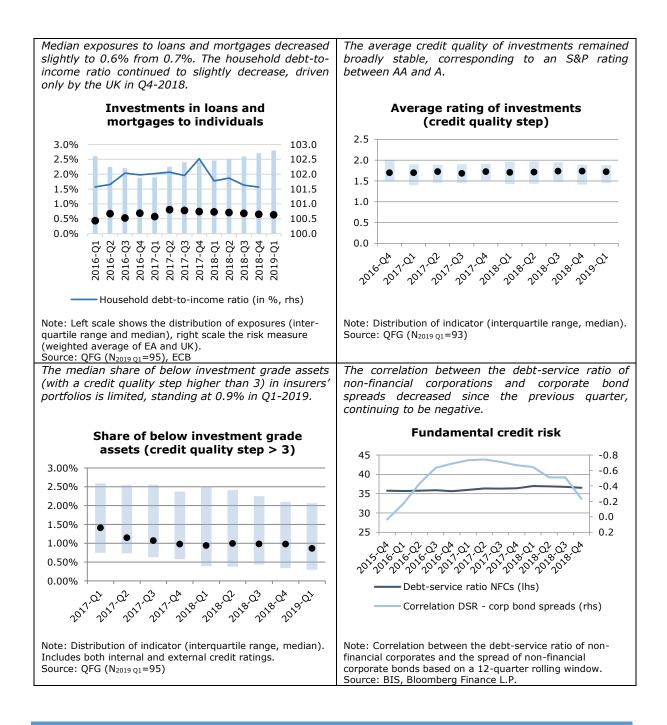


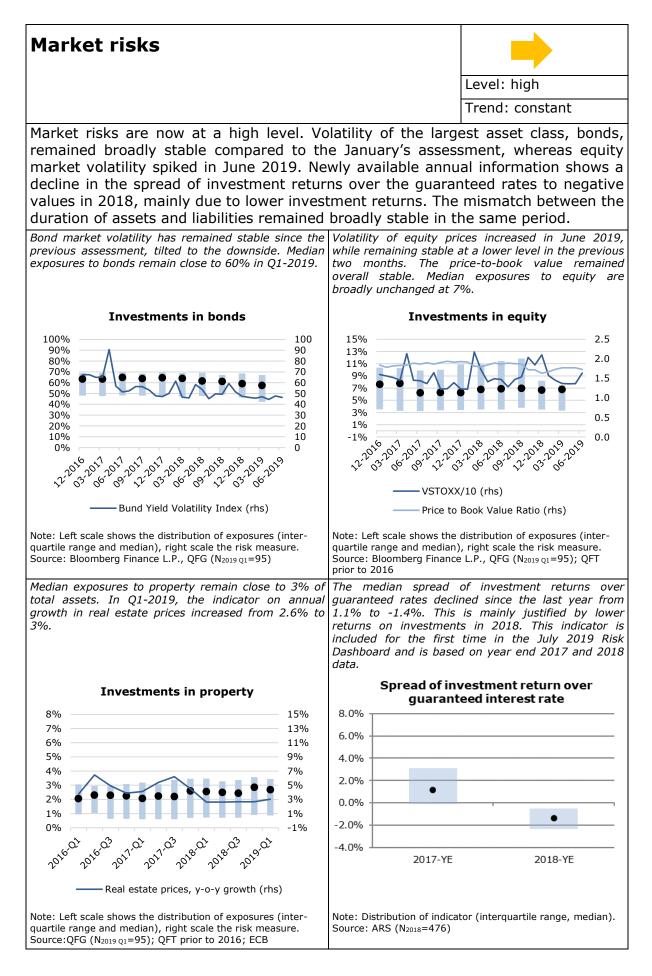
Credit-to-GDP gap

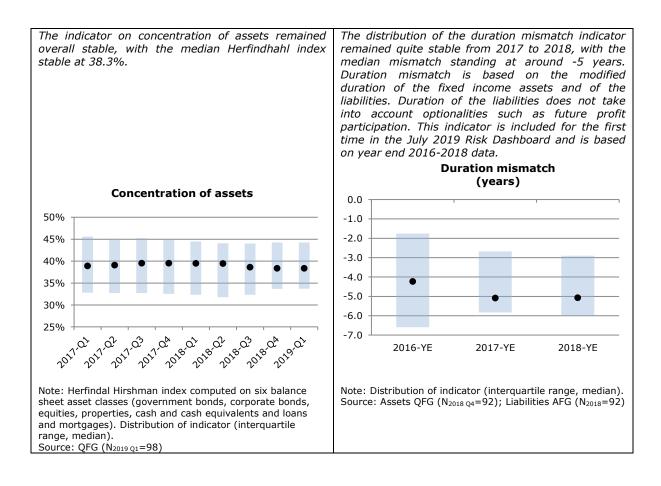


Switzerland, United States, China. Source: BIS





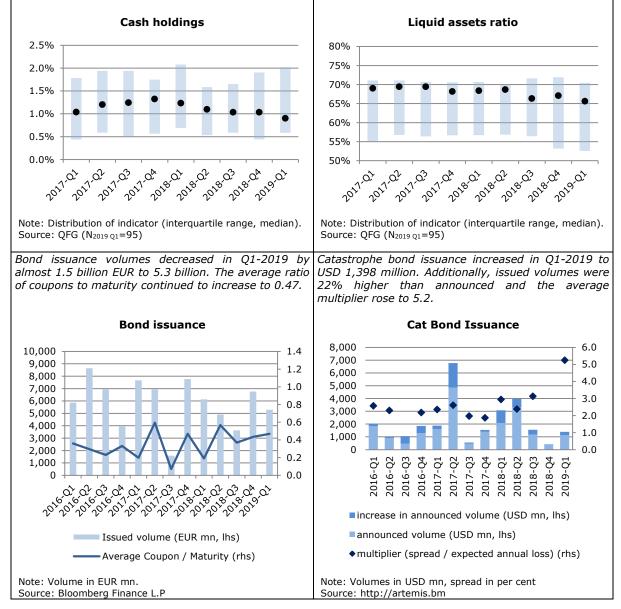


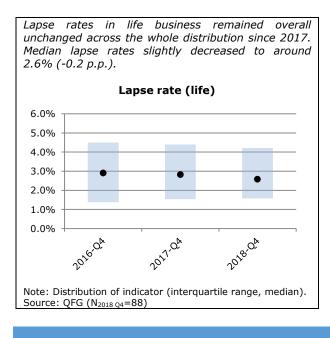


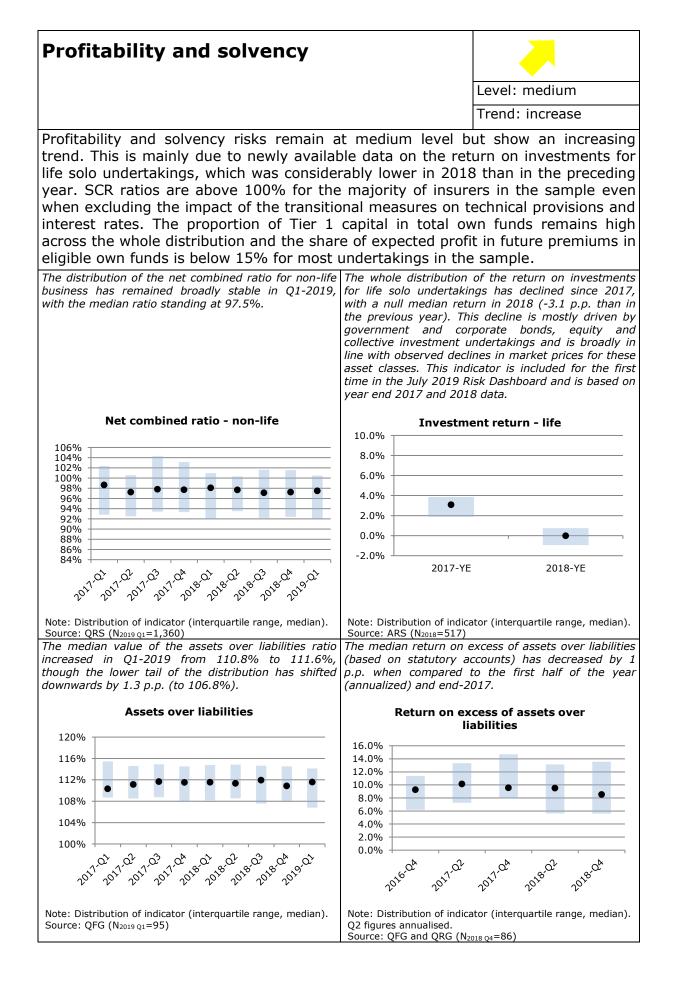


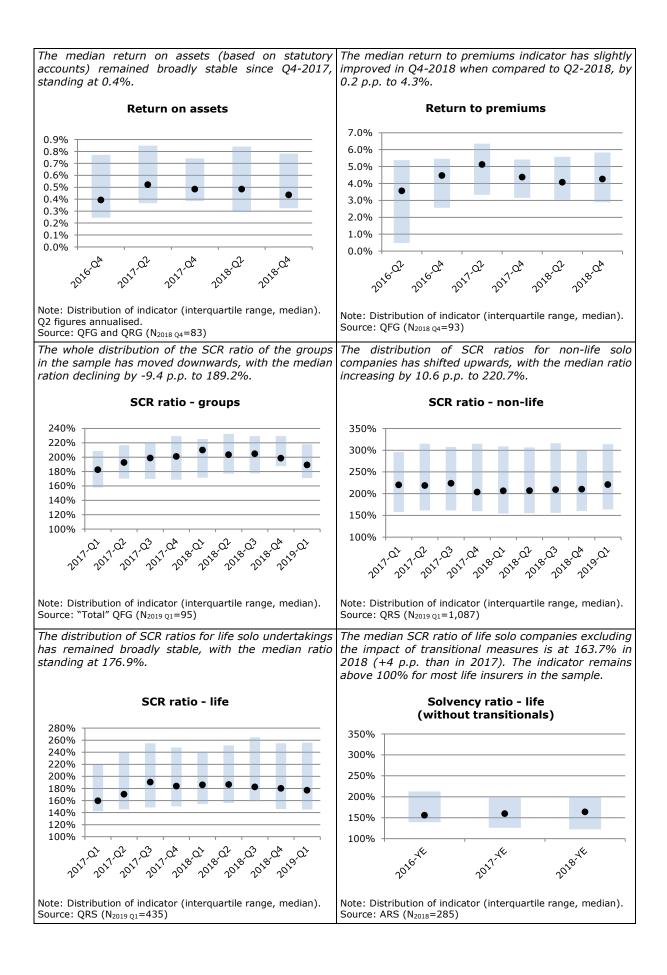
Liquidity and funding risks remained stable at medium level. Liquidity indicators have remained broadly unchanged since the previous quarter, while funding indicators such as the average ratio of coupons to maturity and the average multiplier for catastrophe bond issuance increased.

The distribution of the indicator on cash holdings has slightly decreased since Q4-2018, with a median value around 0.9% of total assets.

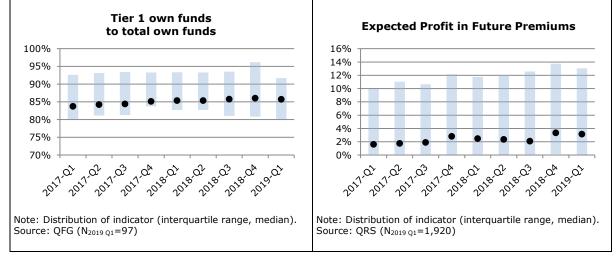


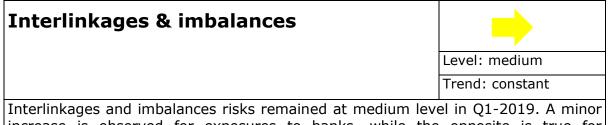






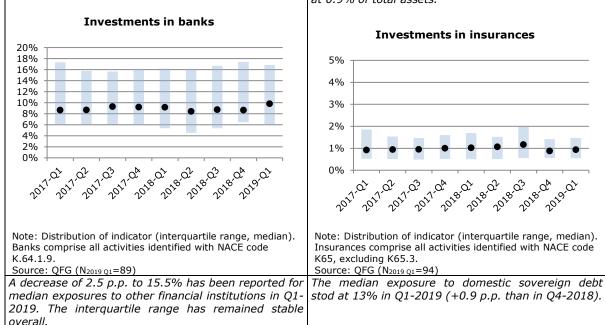
The median share of Tier 1 capital in total own funds has remained stable in Q1-2019, remaining at around 86%. A decline in the upper quartile of the distribution has been reported. The median ratio of the expected profit in future premiums to total eligible own funds to meet the SCR stood at 3.1% in Q1-2019 (-0.2 p.p. than in the previous quarter).



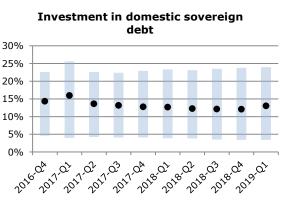


increase is observed for exposures to banks, while the opposite is true for exposures to other financial institutions. An increase has been reported in the share of premiums ceded to reinsurers.

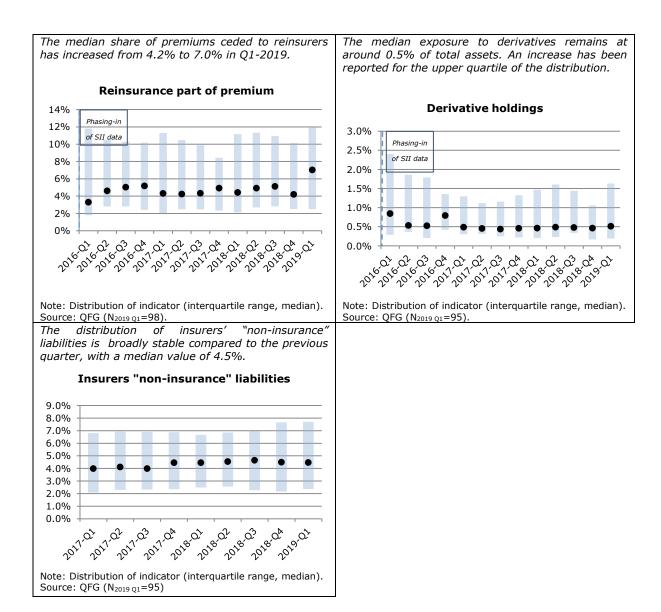
The median value of investments in banks as a share of total assets has increased by 1.2 p.p. in Q1-2019 to 9.8%. The distribution of investment exposures to other insurers has remained stable compared to the previous quarter, with the median exposures standing at 0.9% of total assets.

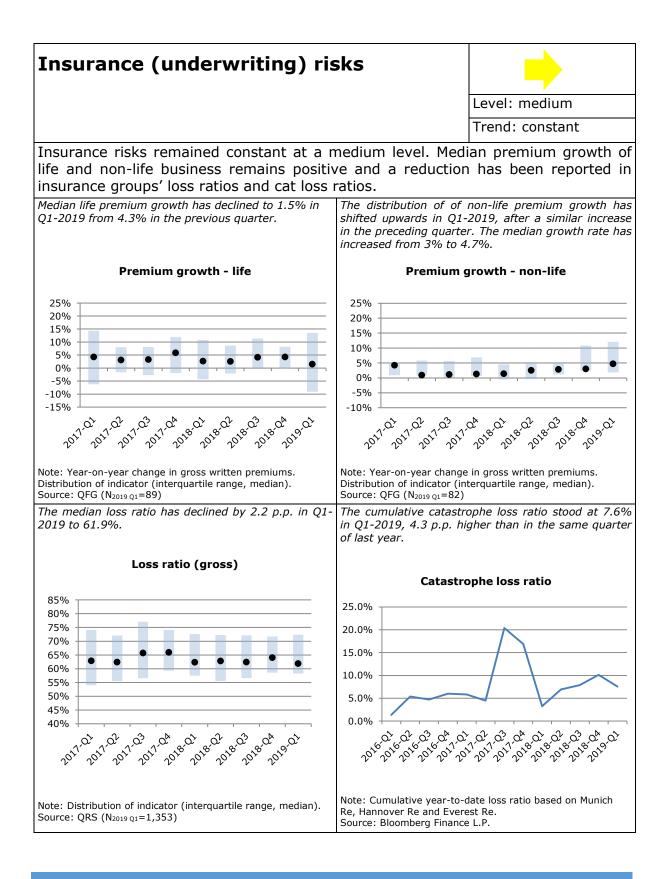


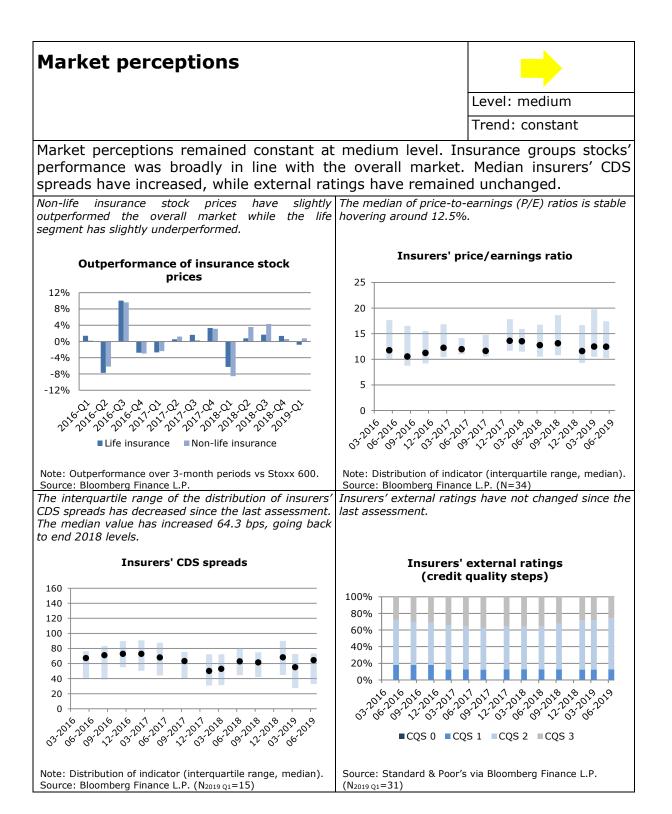
Investments in other financial institutions 40% 35% 30% 25% 20% 15% 10% 5% 0% 2017-02 2018-02 2018-03 2017.03 2017.04 2018-01 2018-04 2019-01 2017.01 Note: Distribution of indicator (interguartile range, median). Other financial institutions comprise all activities identified with NACE codes K66, K65.3 and K64 excluding K64.1.9. Source: QFG (N2019 Q1=89)

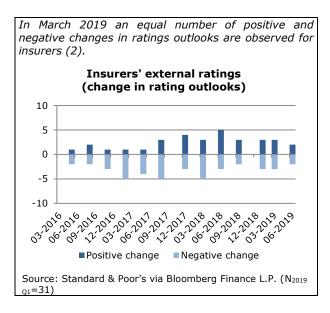


Note: Distribution of indicator (interquartile range, median). Source: QRS (N_{2019\,Q1}=1,716)









APPENDIX Level of risk Very high High Medium Low Trend Û Large increase \bigtriangledown Increase ⇒ Constant \mathcal{D} Decrease Û Large decrease

Arrows show changes when compared to the previous quarter.

Description of risk categories

Macro risks

Macro risk is an overarching category affecting the whole economy. EIOPA's contribution focuses on factors such as economic growth, state of the monetary policies, consumer price indices and fiscal balances which directly impact the insurance industry. The indicators are developed encompassing information on the main jurisdictions where European insurers are exposed to both in terms of investments and product portfolios.

Credit risks

The category measures the vulnerability of the European insurance industry to credit risk. To achieve this aim, credit-relevant asset class exposures of the (re)insurers are combined with the relevant risk metrics applicable to these asset classes. For instance, the holdings of government securities are combined with the credit spreads on European sovereigns.

Market risks

Market risk is, for most asset classes, assessed by analysing both the investment exposure of the insurance sector and an underlying risk metric. The exposures give a picture of the vulnerability of the sector to adverse developments; the risk metric, usually the volatility of the yields of the associated indices, gives a picture of the current level of riskiness. The risk category is complemented by an indicator which captures the difference between guaranteed interest rates and investment returns.

Liquidity and funding risks

This category aims at assessing the vulnerability of the European insurance industry to liquidity shocks. The set of indicators encompasses the lapse rate of the life insurance sector with high lapse rate signalling a potential risk, holdings of cash & cash equivalents as a measure of the liquidity buffer available, and the issuance of catastrophe bonds, where a very low volume of issuance and/or high spreads signals a reduction in demand which could form a risk.

Profitability and solvency

The category scrutinises the level of solvency and profitability of the European insurance industry. Both dimensions are analysed for the overall industry (using group data) and include a breakdown for the life and non-life companies (using solo data). In

detail, the solvency level is measured via solvency ratios and quality of own funds. Standard profitability measures for the whole industry are complemented by indicators such as the combined ratio and the return on investments specifically applied to the non-life and life industry respectively.

Interlinkages and imbalances

Under this section various kinds of interlinkages are assessed, both within the insurance sector, namely between primary insurers and reinsurers, between the insurance sector and the banking sector, as well as interlinkages created via derivative holdings. Exposure towards domestic sovereign debt is included as well.

Insurance (underwriting) risks

As indicators for insurance risks gross written premiums of both life and non-life business are an important input. Both significant expansion and contraction are taken as indicators of risks in the sector; the former due to concerns over sustainability and the latter as an indicator of widespread contraction of insurance markets. Information on claims and insurance losses due to natural catastrophes also contribute to this risk category.

Market perception

This category encompasses the financial markets' perception of the healthiness and profitability of the European insurance sector. For this purpose, relative stock market performances of European insurance indices against the total market are assessed, as well as fundamental valuations of insurance stocks (price/earnings ratio), CDS spreads and external ratings/rating outlooks.

Abbreviations

AFG	Annual Financial Stability Reporting for Groups
ARS	Annual Prudential Reporting for Solo Entities
QFG	Quarterly Financial Stability Reporting for Groups
QRS	Quarterly Prudential Reporting for Solo Entities
QFT	Quarterly Fast Track Reporting (pre-Solvency II, for around 32
	insurance groups on a best effort basis)

Notes

- Sample size for the different indicators may vary according to availability and consistency of the reported information.
- Vertical dashed lines where displayed in the graphs that signal the structural change in the series driven by the transition from Solvency I to Solvency II reporting.

EIOPA Risk Dashboard July 2019

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This report provides an interim risk-update, updating previous Risk Dashboards. Legal basis of this report is Regulation (EU) No 1094/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 November 2010 establishing a European Supervisory Authority (European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority), and in particular Article 32 (Assessment of market developments) thereof.

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