PRIVATE ASSETS

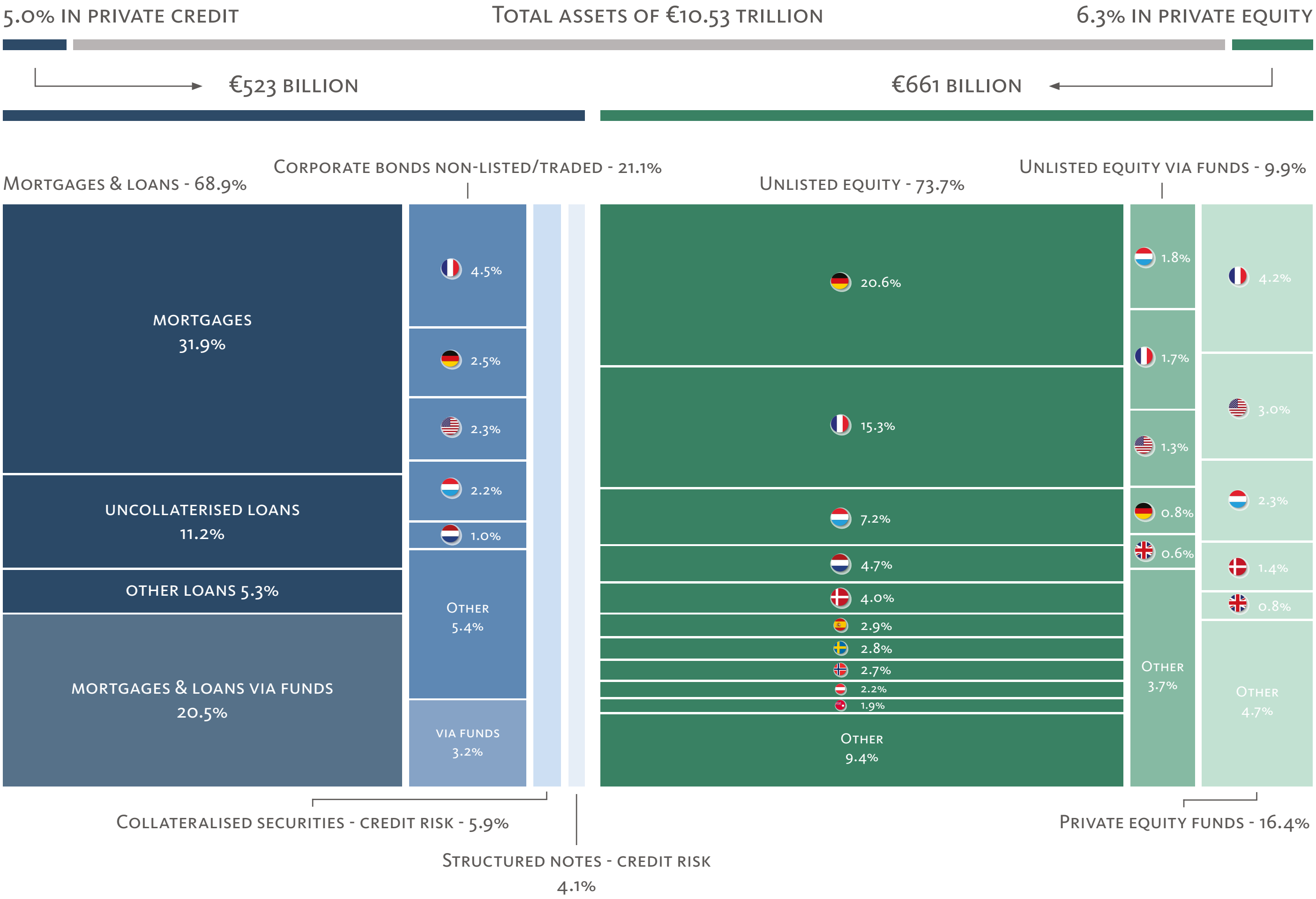
#PRIVATEASSETS #PRIVATECREDIT #PRIVATEEQUITY

EEA (RE)INSURERS' PRIVATE ASSET EXPOSURES - 2025 Q4

The European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA) collects and publishes comprehensive statistics on insurance undertakings in the European Economic Area (EEA). This factsheet complements regular statistics by providing further insights into (re)insurers' exposure to private assets – particularly private credit and private equity.

At year-end 2025, private asset exposure by EEA (re)insurers amounted to EUR 1.185 trillion – or around 11% of total assets. Private equity made up about 6% of total assets, while private credit accounted for the remaining 5%. The tree map below offers a visual breakdown of (re)insurers' private credit and private equity investments across asset types and issuer countries.

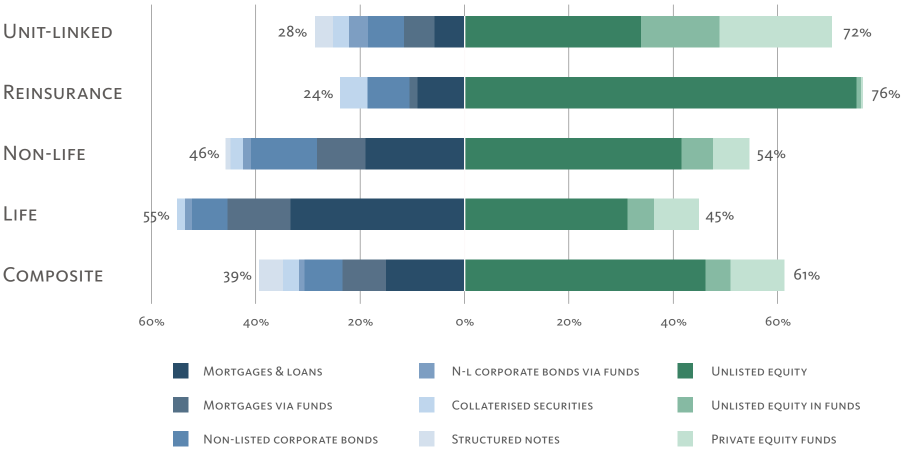
For example, the dark blue area labelled "Mortgages & loans" shows that more than two-thirds of private credit exposures are in this category, with the largest share being direct holdings of mortgages (31.9% of private credit). Similarly, the largest dark green area with the German flag shows that European (re)insurers hold 20.6% of their overall private equity investments in unlisted equity issued by German businesses. Another 0.8% in unlisted German businesses is held indirectly (shown under 'unlisted equity via funds').



Split of private assets by line of business

Life insurers exhibit the highest exposure to private assets with 23.1% of total investment* (see table on the right), followed by reinsurers (14.0%), non-life insurers (13.6%) and composites (11.4%). Unit-linked portfolios are characterized by a limited exposure to private assets.

While life insurers** tend to lean towards private credit, other types of business show higher investments in private equity. In particular, reinsurers hold a significant share of unlisted equity in the form of participations.



	Total investment*	Private Assets	Share of Total
Unit-linked	2 724 billion	101 billion	3.7%
Reinsurance	812 billion	114 billion	14.0%
Non-life	1 303 billion	177 billion	13.6%
Life	2 039 billion	471 billion	23.1%
Composite	2830 billion	323 billion	11.4%

** Only total investments can be broken down by type of business. Total investments stand at EUR 9.7 trillion, while total assets, which include assets other than investments (e.g. receivables, recoverables and deferred tax assets), amount to EUR 10.5 trillion.*

*** The life portfolio of life insurers and composites includes only general account investments in the chart above, as unit-linked portfolios are shown separately.*

Background

Private credit comprises a broad range of assets with diverse risk–return and liquidity characteristics and should not be viewed as a homogeneous asset class. It can offer yield enhancement and diversification benefits, making it attractive to insurers with long term investment horizons and liability profiles, which may potentially support allocations to less liquid assets. However, supervisory vigilance remains warranted to monitor prudent risk management of credit quality, liquidity risk, valuation uncertainty, and concentration risk.

Private credit holdings shown in this factsheet consist of direct investments in non-listed or non-tradable corporate bonds (excluding intragroup lending and lending to banks), mortgages and loans (excluding loans on policies, intragroup lending and lending to banks), structured notes subject to credit risk, and collateralized securities subject to credit risk. They also include indirect holdings via funds, comprising mortgages and loans as well as private debt or illiquid bonds, such as those held within alternative funds, private equity funds, and infrastructure funds.

Private equity holdings shown in this factsheet consist of direct and indirect (i.e. via funds) investments in unlisted equity, as well as investments in private equity funds. Mortgages and loans, as well as corporate bonds held through these private equity funds, are excluded, as they are considered part of private credit. In the case of direct private equity investments, exposures that are intragroup (i.e. where the issuer of the asset is an insurer, a holding company, or another entity engaged in ancillary financial activities within the same group) are excluded. Direct holdings of unlisted equity issued by banks are also excluded.

The reported holdings are subject to **data limitations**. For example, investments within funds classified under the "Other funds" category in Solvency II reporting may include private asset holdings that cannot be separately identified using the SII data available. Also, in some cases, private equity may be overestimated, as unlisted equity may include holdings in vehicles or funds that invest not only in private equity but also in other asset classes, such as real estate, private credit or others.

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