

Important notice

Source of data

Data in this publication are sourced from audited regulatory returns submitted to APRA under the Financial Sector (Collection of Data) Act 2001 by authorised general insurers, general insurance groups, and Lloyd's Australia. General insurer or insurance group returns relate to the financial year end of each insurer, which can occur on any date within the 12 months up to and including the reference date of the publication. Details of each insurer's balance date are included in each table. Blank copies of the returns and associated instructions are available on the APRA website.

General insurer's balance date change

Where a general insurer changes its balance date during the reference period, the insurer may submit two annual returns (one standard return and one short return) or may submit one long annual return. Should the insurer submit two annual returns, the publication includes both annual returns as separate rows. The column headed 'Year end'/'Reporting date' indicates the year end of each annual return and the column headed 'Flow duration (months)' indicates the number of months of performance information included in the annual return.

Excel version

This publication includes statistics for general insurers (level 1), general insurance groups (level 2) and Lloyd's underwriters. The statistics are contained in Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3.

Descriptions of the statistics contained in each of these tables are provided below:

Table 1

In tables 1a to 1d, annual statistics per entity are provided as at each entity's most recent balance date (to the effective date of this publication). The 'Year end' column displays the respective balance dates.

Annual statistics are included for all level 2 insurance groups as well as all level 1 insurers that are not a subsidiary of an insurance group. Where a level 1 insurer is a subsidiary of another insurance group (see 'Consolidations' tab), they are not reported separately, and are instead included in the data for the parent insurance group. Further detail on individual subsidiary level 1 insurers not shown in the Excel version is available in the Database version.

Annual statistics are included for level 2 insurance groups split by region. Inter-region transactions within a group are excluded from total business statistics, but are included in statistics split by region. Thus, total business statistics are not the sum of statistics for each region, but include an inter-region elimination component, which is also included in this publication.

Statistics for level 2 insurance groups exclude any intra-group transactions, and include other related operations for both regulated and unregulated entities within the group that conduct insurance business, such as international insurance operations. These statistics are more closely aligned to the published group accounts of listed insurance groups. Examples of such transactions include intra-group reinsurance arrangements (premiums, claims, reinsurance recoveries, and provisions), dividends and loans between parents and subsidiaries in different regions.

Table 2

In tables 2a to 2d, statistics for the half-year ended at the effective date of this publication are provided. The 'Half-year ended' column displays effective date of these statistics, which is the also effective date of the publication.

Statistics for the six months to the effective date of this publication are included for level 2 insurance groups split by region. Inter-region transactions within a group are excluded from total business statistics, but are included in statistics split by region. Thus, total business statistics are not the sum of statistics for each region, but include an inter-region elimination component, which is also included in this publication.

Statistics for level 2 insurance groups exclude any intra-group transactions, and include other related operations for both regulated and unregulated entities within the group that conduct insurance business, such as international insurance operations. These statistics are more closely aligned to the published group accounts of listed insurance groups. Examples of such transactions include intra-group reinsurance arrangements (premiums, claims, reinsurance recoveries, and provisions), dividends and loans between parents and subsidiaries in different regions.

Table 3

In tables 3a to 3d annual Lloyd's Australia Limited statistics are provided as of the most recent December annual return.

Database version

Data relating to past periods are available in the database version of the publication. The database version (in a Microsoft Excel file) contains a full time series of statistics that were previously published in past editions of the General Insurance Institution-level Statistics from December 2012 to June 2016, the General Insurance Company Level Statistics from December 2010 to June 2012, and the Half Yearly General Insurance Bulletin from December 2005 to December 2009. The database version does not include the expanded statistics items now included in the Excel version. It is unchanged from the database versions of prior publications.

Company names used in this publication represent the name of the company as at the reporting date of that data item. For example, Avea Insurance Limited changed its name to Eric Insurance Limited effective 27 January 2016. The name Avea Insurance Limited therefore appears for data on or before 30 June 2015. Eric Insurance Limited is used for 30 June 2016 and beyond.

QBE Insurance (International) Ltd

This edition of the GILS database includes changes to the operations of QBE Insurance (International) Ltd (QBE INT). In August 2015, QBE INT entered agreements under which a significant portion of their assets and liabilities were acquired by other subsidiaries within QBE Insurance Group Limited.

Consistent with APRA's general insurance reporting standards and the accounting standards set by the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the changes in QBE INT's operations are reflected in the statistics for the 12 months to December 2015 and the 12 months to December 2016.

Further information can be found at: <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2015G01274>

Revisions

This publication will include revisions to previously published statistics if better source data becomes available or if compilation errors are uncovered.

APRA regularly analyses past revisions to identify potential improvements to the source data and statistical compilation techniques, in order to minimise the frequency and scale of any future revisions.

Basis of preparation

Figures in the 'Data - Level 1' tab of this database version are prepared from individual insurer accounts, not consolidated insurance group accounts. Transactions between related entities within the same insurance group have not been eliminated. Examples of such transactions include intra-group reinsurance arrangements (premiums, claims, reinsurance recoveries, and provisions), dividends and loans between parents and subsidiaries.

Figures in the 'Data - Level 2' tab are prepared from consolidated insurance group accounts.

Due to the interdependent nature of insurance and reinsurance, double counting of claims and premiums will occur in gross measures. Inwards reinsurance essentially reflects a restatement of premium that has already been included in the direct business figures (where the business is ceded by Australian authorised insurers or insurance groups).

Change in reporting frameworks

From 1 July 2010 onwards, data in this publication are prepared based on APRA reporting which has been largely aligned with AASB 1023 General Insurance Contracts (AASB 1023).

Data in the publication prior to 1 July 2010 are based on APRA's 'prospective accounting' reporting framework that applied until 1 July 2010. Under this framework, insurers used prospective liability valuation requirements prescribed by Prudential Standard GPS 310 Audit and Actuarial Reporting and Valuation (GPS 310).

Under APRA's prospective accounting reporting framework, expected future profit or loss on written business was immediately recognised. Under AASB 1023, profit or loss is recognised over time in accordance with the expected pattern of risk associated with the business.

From 1 January 2013 onwards, capital and solvency data items are reported under APRA's new capital standards which were effective from 1 January 2013 onwards. Further detail is provided in the Important Notice in the beginning of this publication.