Facts count

20 years of ESCB statistics

Better - Bigger - Faster

20 years ECB

1992
Statistical work starts to prepare for the launch of European monetary union - 6 years before the ECB is established!

1994
The European Monetary Institute (EMI) is established; significant efforts are made to create a sound statistical framework

1996
'Implementation package for statistics - "Nothing is more important for monetary policy than good statistics", Alexandre Lamfalussy, first President of the EMI

1997
The EMI's statistical function is a key contributor to the report on the convergence criteria to be met by the (then) 15 EU Member States wishing to adopt the single currency

1998
The EU Council gives clear legal powers to the ECB to collect statistical data (these powers remain essential to date!)

1998
The ECB and Eurostat agree on a division of responsibilities to avoid duplication of work and to ensure consistent data at the EU level

1999
The exchange rates between the currencies of the countries set to form the euro area are irrevocably fixed and the euro is launched!

1999
The ECB publishes the first issue of its Monthly Bulletin; the Bulletin contains a set of harmonised euro area statistics, including monetary, balance of payments and HICP data

2000
The scope of euro area statistics is widened to encompass sources of financing beyond bank loans, i.e. securities issues
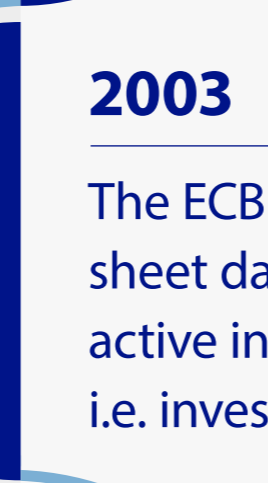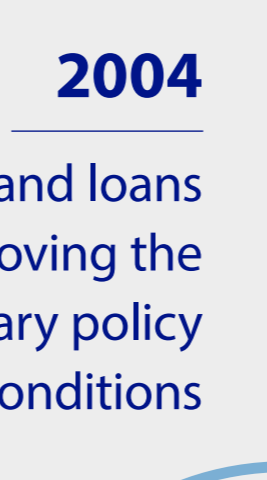
2001
The ECB publishes euro area financial accounts statistics covering financing and investment in non-financial sectors

2002
"Euro area statistics: challenges for the future" is the theme of the First ECB Statistics Conference

2003
The ECB publishes new balance sheet data on financial institutions active in the markets, beyond banks, i.e. investment funds

2004
Interest rates on deposits and loans are published, improving the analysis of monetary policy transmission and financial conditions

2005
For the first time, the ECB publishes indicators about financial integration in the euro area relating to retail loans and wholesale equity trading

2006
Transparent, accountable and service-oriented: the ECB's Statistical Data Warehouse is now accessible to the public via the ECB's website

2007
The ECB publishes institutional sector accounts to further improve understanding of the financial and non-financial positions/transactions in the various sectors of the euro area economy

2008
After 10 years of producing statistics, the European System of Central Banks moves towards more granular data and data collection only once (Statistics Task Force/Fourth ECB Statistics Conference)
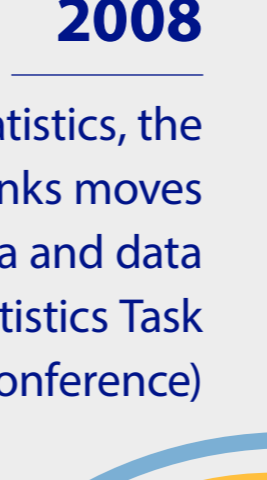
2009
The G-20 finance ministers and central bank governors endorse 20 recommendations to address data gaps revealed by the global financial crisis

2010
The ESRB, EBA, EIOPA and ESMA (micro-and macroprudential authorities) are established; the ECB provides the ESRB with the necessary data to support its tasks

2011
The ECB publishes new statistics on important financial institutions active in the markets, beyond banks, i.e. insurance corporations and pension funds

2012
The ECB creates the basis of the ESRB's risk dashboard, supporting the assessment of systemic risk

2013
The ECB and the national competent authorities undertake the first comprehensive assessment of 130 "significant" banks, marking the handover of their supervision to the ECB

2014
The Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM) is launched, becoming the first pillar of the Banking Union. Supervisory data are collected as of day 1 of SSM operation.

2015
The ECB publishes a new Household Sector Report, which brings together detailed information on the household sector

2016
The Single Resolution Board becomes operational, with the mandate of resolving non-viable financial institutions. ECB statistics support the Board's data requirements

2017
The ECB launches its money market statistics series, granular data on money markets to enhance analysis of the monetary policy transmission mechanism

2018
Work on reporting AnaCredit data (loan by loan) is progressing well and will much improve the information available on banks' lending to legal entities