

France
Full Rating Report

Groupe BPCE

Ratings

Foreign Currency	
Long-Term IDR	A+
Short-Term IDR	F1+
Individual Rating	
Individual Rating	C
Support Rating	1
Support Rating Floor	A+
Sovereign Risk	
Foreign-Currency Long-Term IDR	AAA
Local-Currency Long-Term IDR	AAA

Outlooks

Foreign-Currency Long-Term IDR	Stable
Sovereign Foreign-Currency Long-Term IDR	Stable
Sovereign Local-Currency Long-Term IDR	Stable

Financial Data

Groupe BPCE	30 Jun 10	31 Dec 09
Total assets (USDm)	1,379,234	1,482,082
Total assets (EURm)	1,123,979	1,028,802
Total equity (EURm)	40,481	36,634
Fitch core capital (EURm)	21,462	18,639
Fitch eligible capital (EURm)	32,456	29,799
Operating profit (EURm)	3,038	-1,112
Published net income (EURm)	2,138	-75
Comprehensive income (EURm)	2,496	1,181
Operating ROAA (%)	0.57	-0.10
Operating ROAE (%)	14.52	-3.24
Eligible capital/weighted risks (%)	7.58	7.25
Tier 1 ratio (%)	9.60	9.10

Analysts

Eric Dupont
+33 1 44 29 91 31
eric.dupont@fitchratings.com

Janine Dow
+33 1 44 29 91 38
janine.dow@fitchratings.com

Related Research

- Applicable Criteria
- *Global Financial Institutions Rating Criteria* (August 2010)
 - *Rating Criteria for European Banking Structures Backed by Mutual Support Mechanisms* (December 2009)
 - *Rating Hybrid Securities* (December 2009)
 - *Equity Credit for Hybrids and Other Capital Securities* (December 2009)
- Other Research
- *Natixis* (September 2010)

Rating Rationale

- Groupe BPCE's (GBPCE) Issuer Default Ratings (IDRs) are driven by support from the French state. Its Individual Rating, which was upgraded to 'C' from 'C/D' on Monday 27 September 2010, reflects the group's impressive domestic retail franchise, its sound loan quality, profitability in line with peers and its satisfactory liquidity, but also considers its weak capital ratios and dependence on wholesale funding.
- GBPCE, created in July 2009, is a cooperative banking group according to French banking law. One legally binding cross-guarantee mechanism covers its central body (BPCE) and its 37 regional banks, consisting of 20 Banques Populaires (BPs) and 17 Caisses d'Epargne et de Prévoyance (CEPs). A number of subsidiaries – among them Natixis, the entity hosting most of the group's specialised activities – benefit from a legal commitment from BPCE to maintain their liquidity and solvency above the regulatory minimum under an affiliation agreement and are consequently assigned the same IDRs as GBPCE.
- Natixis was hit hard by the financial crisis and this, combined with the economic slowdown, meant that GBPCE's pro-forma operating performance was very poor until mid-2009, with six-month operating losses of around EUR3bn in both H208 and H109. The group has returned to better fortunes since H209 owing to insignificant impacts from activities which are being run off, rebounded activity in all core business lines and the halving of credit impairment charges. With a 66% cost/income ratio and 15% operating return on equity, GBPCE's current profitability is in line with its peers' despite a more conservative business mix.
- At 4%, GBPCE's NPL ratio is one of the lowest in France. The 58% coverage ratio is understandable given the strong dominance of the safe French housing sector, where real estate collateral is ample. Loan impairment charges represent only 34bp of average loans. Nevertheless, GBPCE is still carrying around EUR16bn (i.e. 50% of eligible capital) of crisis-related net problem exposure that may require additional provisioning.
- GBPCE's loan book is only 70% financed by customer deposits and the group is a large issuer in the market. Liquidity is not a problem for the group, notably owing to its large stock of repoable assets (over EUR100bn after haircut).
- Of the EUR7.05bn capital received from the state since end-2008, EUR3.55bn has already been repaid. The group will repay another EUR0.6bn in October 2010 and intends to repay the balance by 2013.

Support

- Given GBPCE's domestic importance, Fitch Ratings considers there is an extremely high probability that the French state would support it, if necessary.

Key Rating Drivers

- GBPCE's Individual and hybrids ratings would benefit from higher capitalisation and from lower dependence on wholesale funding.

Profile

GBPCE ranks second in French retail banking, controlling a market share of over 21%. Commercial banking and insurance generate two-thirds of its operating profit.

- Created on 31 July 2009
- A cooperative organisation mostly focused on retail and commercial banking
- Legally responsible for Natixis, a subsidiary hosting most of the group's specialised activities

Profile

GBPCE was created on 31 July 2009 from the merger of two leading French cooperative banking groups, Groupe Banque Populaire (GBP) and Groupe Caisse d'Épargne (GCE).

GBPCE's organisation and cross-guarantee mechanism are described in Annex 1. In line with Fitch's "*Rating Criteria for European Banking Structures Backed by Mutual Support Mechanisms*" (see *Related Research* on front page), the Long- and Short-Term IDRs assigned to GBPCE also apply to its regional banks (the BPs and the CEPs) as well as to BPCE, given the legally binding cross-guarantee mechanism in place.

Every BP and CEP and most of the specialised subsidiaries, including Natixis, Crédit Foncier de France (CFF, a dedicated real estate bank) and Banque Palatine, are affiliated to BPCE. As GBPCE's central body, BPCE defines strategy, sets risk limits and policies, takes on treasury functions, issues debt, and is responsible for its affiliates' liquidity and solvency.

GBPCE has two core business lines and three additional divisions.

Commercial Banking and Insurance

Retail banking is mostly conducted by the BPs and the CEPs, and is by far GBPCE's most significant activity. The CEPs and the BPs act independently and are competitors. The combined retail network holds market shares in French retail banking of 16%-25% (depending on product) and serves over 26 million banking customers. This business line includes CFF and Banque Palatine.

Within the insurance sector, the group controls 15.76% of CNP Assurances (France's leading life insurance company) and is active in the non-life sector through GCE Assurances, whose products are distributed by the CEPs. In addition, the BPs distribute the products of Natixis Assurances.

Corporate and Investment Banking, Investment Solutions and Specialised Financial Services

These are carried out by Natixis (see Fitch's Full Rating Report under *Related Research*), which is 72%-owned by GBPCE (see Annex 1). Corporate and investment banking (CIB) includes commercial banking, capital markets and structured finance. Investment solutions include asset management, insurance and private banking. Financial services include factoring, leasing, consumer credit and guarantees.

Additional Divisions

Financial Investments

GBPCE controls a number of vehicles operating in the real estate sector (real estate agents, developers, brokers). It also controls the credit insurer Coface and runs a private equity business. GBPCE recently sold its French private equity business, and other divestments of financial investments are likely if opportunities arise.

Run-Off Activities

These include GAPC (the entity that hosts Natixis's legacy assets and activities to be run down) and the former proprietary trading portfolios of Caisse Nationale des Caisses d'Épargne et de Prévoyance, both managed in a run-off mode.

Corporate Centre

This includes the group's central functions, such as funding, human resources, IT and communication.

Corporate Governance

Senior management at GBPCE and Natixis was replaced in H109. As in every French cooperative banking group, senior management and decision-making powers are centralised at the central body level. BPCE's management board comprises five

members, including one representing commercial banking and insurance, one person in charge of human resources, the chief operating officer, the chief financial officer and the chairman (for a four-year term).

It is nominated and supervised by a supervisory board with 18 members (in addition to representatives of the employees). Seven of the members are nominated by the BPs, seven by the CEPs, and four by the French state (of whom two are independent).

Given the importance of Natixis within GBPCE, its chief executive officer is a member of BPCE's general management committee.

Strategy

The 2010-2013 strategic plan for GBPCE was released in February 2010 and the group is now focusing on savings and financing activities while, at the same time, developing various synergies with the specialised subsidiaries. GBPCE is also contemplating modest growth in overseas markets, notably in commercial banking in central and eastern Europe, sub-Saharan Africa, the Mediterranean basin and south-east Asia; asset management in Europe and the US, but also in Asia through partnerships; and CIB in Asia.

Presentation of Accounts

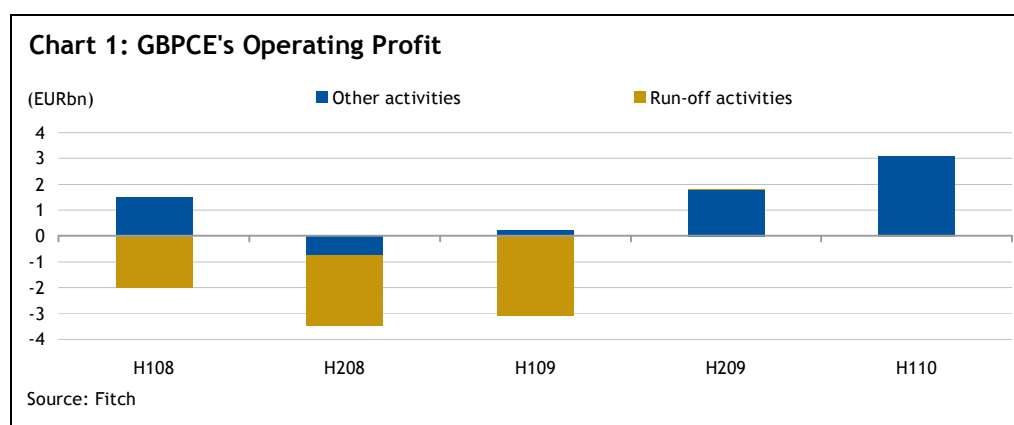
Although GBPCE was created on 31 July 2009, it has produced 2008 pro-forma balance sheet and profit and loss accounts. Natixis is fully consolidated into GBPCE.

Performance

Global Picture

GBPCE's pro-forma operating performance (Fitch figures, which differ from GBPCE's accounts due to the reclassification of some items from "operating" to "non-operating") was very poor until mid-2009 (see Chart 1), with half-year operating losses of around EUR3bn in both H208 and H109. The first reason behind these disappointing results was the financial crisis, which translated in huge write-downs and operating losses for the run-off activities and reduced activity in Natixis's core businesses. The second reason was the economic slowdown, which pushed half-year provisioning charges for the "good bank" to EUR2bn in both H208 and H109.

- Operating profit of EUR1.8bn in H209 and EUR3bn in H110
- Cost/income ratio down to 67%
- The lowest cost of risk among French banks
- Overall performance in line with peers despite a more conservative business mix
- Two-thirds of operating profit generated from low-risk commercial banking and insurance



Prospects have brightened for GBPCE since its creation in H209, with a EUR4m positive impact from the run-off activities on operating profit in the 12 months to end-June 2010, rebound activity in all core business lines and halved credit impairment charges. There is currently no reason why the H110 profitability levels should not be repeated in the near future. This would translate into annual operating profit of about EUR6bn, a cost/income ratio of 66%, operating return on equity of 15% and net income of EUR4bn. If sustainable, Fitch would view this expected performance positively.

It should be noted that GBPCE reduced its cost/income ratio from 75% in Q309 to 67% in Q210. Although loan impairment charges have fallen to 34bp of the average loan book in Q210 (which is the best ratio reported among large French banks over the period) from a peak of 132bp in Q209, GBPCE's management estimates that they can be reduced further. Non-operating items were large in 2009 (EUR744m) and included a EUR1.7bn gain on the reclassification of some deeply subordinated instruments from debt to equity, as well as EUR1.3bn goodwill impairment charges. Non-operating items were insignificant in H110.

Breakdown Per Business Line

GBPCE generates around two-thirds of its operating profit from commercial banking and insurance activities and one-third from CIB, investment solutions and specialised financial services. The contribution of other businesses, including those in run-off mode, is very minor. Although GBPCE is operating in a mature French retail market, the domestic loan book increased by 5.5% in the 12 months to end-May 2010 and revenue is rising by around 12% annually, well above the market.

Even when excluding run-off activities, operating profit emanating from CIB activities has proved volatile. For instance, it reached EUR368m in Q210 (24% of GBPCE's operating profit), against only EUR102m in Q409 (9%). On the positive side, quarterly credit impairment charges have fallen from EUR408m in Q309 to less than EUR100m since Q409.

Albeit growing in size, savings and specialised financial services remain small contributors, at 6% and 4% of consolidated operating profit in H110, respectively.

Peer Comparison

Table 1 compares GBPCE's performance ratios with those of a peer group composed of banks focusing on retail banking, and three specific French peers. GBPCE's performance ratios are in line with those of its peers, with lower margins being offset by a lower cost of risk. It should be noted that GBPCE's business mix is conservative, with small reliance on CIB.

Table 1: Comparative H110 Financial Highlights

	GBPCE	CA	CMCEE	SG	Peer group
Long-Term IDR	A+	AA-	AA-	A+	n.a.
Equity (EURbn)	41	76	23	42	53 ^a
Net interest revenue/earning assets (%)	1.18	1.33	1.63	1.35	1.91
Cost/income (%)	66.45	60.01	58.54	62.50	52.36
Pre-impairment operating ROAA (%)	0.75	0.78	1.04	0.90	1.30
Operating ROAA (%)	0.57	0.45	0.74	0.50	0.61
Pre-impairment operating ROAE (%)	19.16	18.80	20.59	24.27	24.04
Operating ROAE (%)	14.52	10.79	14.60	13.53	11.26
Operating income (EURbn)	11.9	17.3	5.5	12.9	13.1 ^a
Operating profit (EURbn)	3.0	4.0	1.6	2.7	3.0 ^a
Of which domestic retail banking (%)	64	65	66	29	n.a.
Of which corporate and investment banking (%)	21	30	24	42	n.a.

CA: Crédit Agricole (CA); CMCEE: Crédit Mutuel Centre Est Europe (CMCEE); SG: Société Générale
Peer group: Lloyds Banking Group, Intesa Sanpaolo, UniCredit S.p.A., CMCEE, CA, Banco Santander, Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA)

^a Average

Source: Fitch

Prospects

In its strategic plan published in February 2010, GBPCE identified EUR1bn cost synergies and EUR810m revenue synergies to be achieved by 2013. It aims to generate 46% of cost synergies by centralising group expenses, 31% from IT and 23% from reorganisation, mostly the merger of GBP's and GCE's central bodies. By end-June 2010, it had already saved EUR245m. It expects revenue synergies from

intensified cross-selling between Natixis’s specialised subsidiaries and GBPCE’s regional retail banks, and EUR103m had already been reached by end-June 2010.

The group is thus targeting an annual operating income over EUR25bn and a cost/income ratio of 66%, which are in line with its H110 performance. GBPCE is largely focused on France, where the outlook for growth is modest. Nevertheless, Fitch expects GBPCE to meet these objectives – which do not look overly ambitious – as long as the economic environment does not deteriorate significantly.

Risk Management

The risk management department (direction des risques groupe) is responsible for credit, market and operational risk management. It determines all group risk objectives and policies and establishes limits for all businesses. It is fully independent from the operational entities and reports directly to the chairman of BPCE’s management board, who chairs the major risk committees.

In addition, the finance department is responsible for monitoring and managing asset and liability management (ALM) including liquidity risk, as well as ensuring compliance with capital adequacy requirements.

These departments cover all credit institutions within GBPCE. Some of these (notably Natixis) also have their own risk management, finance and compliance departments, which work closely with those in place at the GBPCE level.

Credit Risk

At end-June 2010, credit risks accounted for 87% of total weighted risks. Around 55% of credit exposure remain under the standard approach (mostly the CEPs, CFF and Palatine), which penalises the group in terms of capital requirements relative to its major competitors that have already moved on to more advanced approaches.

Customer Exposure

Customer exposure, including off-balance-sheet commitments, was EUR576bn at end-2009, equally split between retail and corporate customers. A geographical breakdown shows the dominance of France (see Chart 2) and retail exposure is nearly exclusively domestic.

The 20 largest corporate exposures are not a source of concern. Within the EUR341bn exposure to corporates and professionals, the only concentrations are to the holding, finance and insurance sector (25% of the total) and real estate (21%; investors 15% and developers 6%).

The housing and real estate sector dominates GBPCE’s EUR576bn customer exposure: housing 36% and commercial real estate 12% (mostly in France). The outlook for the housing and real estate sector in France is steady, as demographics continue to support good demand for housing and other building needs.

On the other hand, the group follows the transport, mechanical/electrical engineering, tourism/hotel/leisure, consumer goods and food sectors closely. These account for 9% of total corporate exposure and 19% of total watchlist and doubtful loans. GBPCE’s exposure to each of these sectors is around EUR6bn, with the exception of tourism/hotel/leisure (EUR2.8bn).

Consumer loans are underdeveloped and account for only 5% of customer exposure.

At end-June 2010, two-thirds of GBPCE’s EUR8.4bn gross leveraged buy-out financings were held at Natixis, with an average individual exposure of EUR15m; these are well split by economic sector. Most of the balance is in the BPs and the CEPs, with a EUR1.8m average individual exposure, but there is some concentration in the services and industry sectors. Asset quality deterioration on leveraged buy-out financings has been small to date and is expected to remain so.

- Centralised risk monitoring
- Customer exposure equally split between retail and corporate customers
- 85% of customer exposure in France
- Strong dominance of the housing and real estate sector
- One of the lowest NPL ratios in France
- Sovereign exposure is not a concern
- Crisis-related problem exposure accounts for 50% of eligible capital
- Liquidity has never been an issue

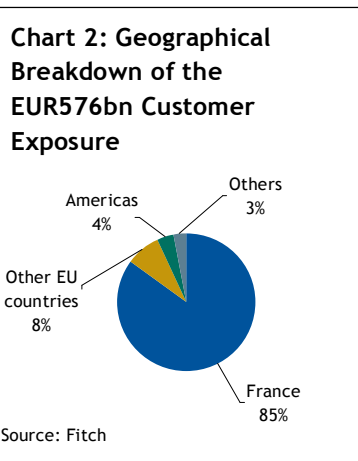
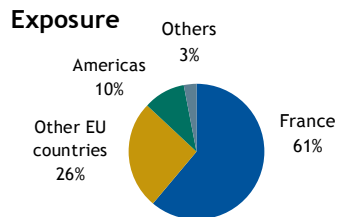


Chart 3: Breakdown of the EUR149bn Interbank Exposure



Source: Fitch

While GBPCE's NPL ratio has deteriorated to 4% at end-June 2010, it remains one of the lowest among large French banks. At the same time, the coverage ratio has fallen to 55%, one of the lowest among French banks.

Interbank Exposure

Interbank exposure was EUR149bn at end-2009 and showed a conservative geographical breakdown (see Chart 3), with only EURO.1bn in Greece. The 20 largest interbank exposures are to highly rated entities.

Sovereign Risk

At end-March 2010, the group's net individual exposure to sovereign risk exceeded EUR500m only for France (EUR34.9bn) and Italy (EUR6.8bn). Gross exposure to the Greek government was EUR1.5bn (banking book EUR1.1bn; trading book EUR0.4bn), and net exposure was EUR1.2bn. Combined sovereign net exposure to Portugal, Ireland and Spain was only EUR0.8bn.

Crisis-Related Net Problem Exposure

Crisis-related net problem exposure totalled EUR16bn at end-June 2010 (see Table 2), most of which are housed in GAPC. At 50% of eligible capital, this does not compare well with most of GBPCE's peers. It should be noted that GBPCE has guaranteed most of GAPC's assets since July 2009 (see Full Rating Report on Natixis).

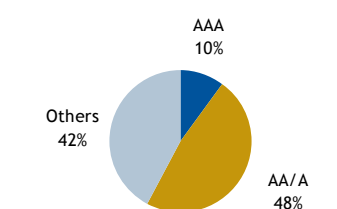
The EUR16bn mostly consist of unhedged RMBS and non-US CDOs (see Charts 4 and 5). As a whole, these portfolios are not expected to generate large losses in the future. On the other hand, some uncertainties remain with the hedged assets: while net exposure to monoline insurers and credit derivative product companies (CDPCs) is fairly low at EUR2.2bn, the notional amount of hedged assets remained very large at end-June 2010, at over EUR27bn, and it can not be assumed that monoline insurers and CDPCs would have the resources to meet their obligations if these assets were to lose significant value. This is why Natixis arranged in July 2010 the disposal of the complex credit derivatives positions held in GAPC at a loss of EUR83m, which will reduce hedged assets by more than EUR10bn.

Table 2: Risky Exposures, End-June 2010

(EURbn)	Natixis	GBPCE (including Natixis)
Unhedged ABS CDOs (US)	0.7	0.7
Unhedged other risky CDOs	3.6	5.2
Unhedged RMBS	6.3	7.2
CMBS	0.5	0.9
Net exposure to monoline insurers and CDPCs	2.2	2.2
Total net exposures	13.3	16.2
Eligible capital (end-June 2010)^a		32.3

^a Fitch calculation
Source: Groupe BPCE's and Natixis's results

Chart 4: Rating Breakdown of the EUR5.2bn Unhedged Non-US CDO Portfolio



Source: Fitch

Market Risks

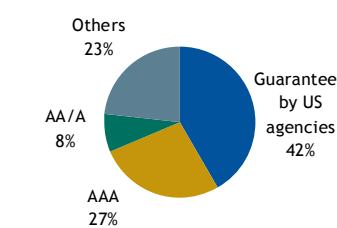
At end-June 2010, market risks accounted for 6% of total weighted risks. These are concentrated within Natixis, whose value at risk (99% confidence level and one-day holding period) averaged EUR22m in the 12 months to end-June 2010, against a EUR35m limit. Natixis is mostly exposed to interest rate risk.

Natixis is also using stress test scenarios; these show that Natixis is particularly sensitive to corporate debt crisis. The most severe global stress tests would reduce revenue by around EUR300m.

Operational Risk

At end-June 2010, operational risks accounted for 7% of total weighted risks. A model to assist in the measurement of operational risks has been developed and is already in use throughout the group. All potential losses exceeding EUR150,000 are reported (EUR1m at Natixis). Given the recent merger between GCE and GBP, the adoption of the advanced measurement approach for measuring operational risk has been postponed and the group is still using the standard approach.

Chart 5: Breakdown of the EUR7.2bn Unhedged RMBS Portfolio



Source: Fitch

Asset/Liability Management

As the central body, BPCE is responsible for the group's ALM. The group ALM committee, which meets on a quarterly basis, defines the structural risk limits, receives refinancing and investment forecasts from every group entity, and examines the group's structural risks and strategies to manage these. All group entities enjoy some autonomy in their ALM within limits set by the group ALM committee and use the same management tools, models and limits so that risks have been consolidated at GBPCE level since end-March 2010.

Table 3: Loss Ratios Assumptions on Subprime Assets

	(%)
Vintage 2007	49
Vintage 2006	27
Vintage 2005	16
Before 2005	6

Source: Groupe BPCE's and Natixis's results

- Dependent on wholesale funding despite a very solid retail deposit base
- Half of the state capital support has been repaid
- Weak eligible/weighted risks ratio

A 1% change in interest rates can not reduce GBPCE's annual interest revenue by more than 5%, which is low.

GBPCE has not faced any liquidity problem since the crisis started in 2007. It has never been dependent on the ECB repos facilities for its funding or liquidity but has been using them as a source of cheap funding. GBPCE's marginal USD funding is provided by Natixis's New York branch and by BPCE itself through its US commercial paper programme.

Liquidity risk is monitored by using static, dynamic and stress test (systemic, name specific and combined) liquidity gaps. GBPCE's collateral reserve is very substantial (at over EUR100bn after haircut).

Funding and Capital

GBPCE's large customer deposit base is a major strength, with a 22% market share in France. Nevertheless, the loan/deposit ratio at the CEPs and the BPs exceeds 100% and Natixis is entirely wholesale-funded. As a consequence, only 70% of GBPCE's loan book is funded by customer resources, which does not compare well with the sector average. The group is therefore a large issuer in the market. At end-July 2010, the group had issued EUR27bn debt (i.e. over two-thirds of its 2010 issuance programme of EUR40bn), 59% of which in the form of covered bonds.

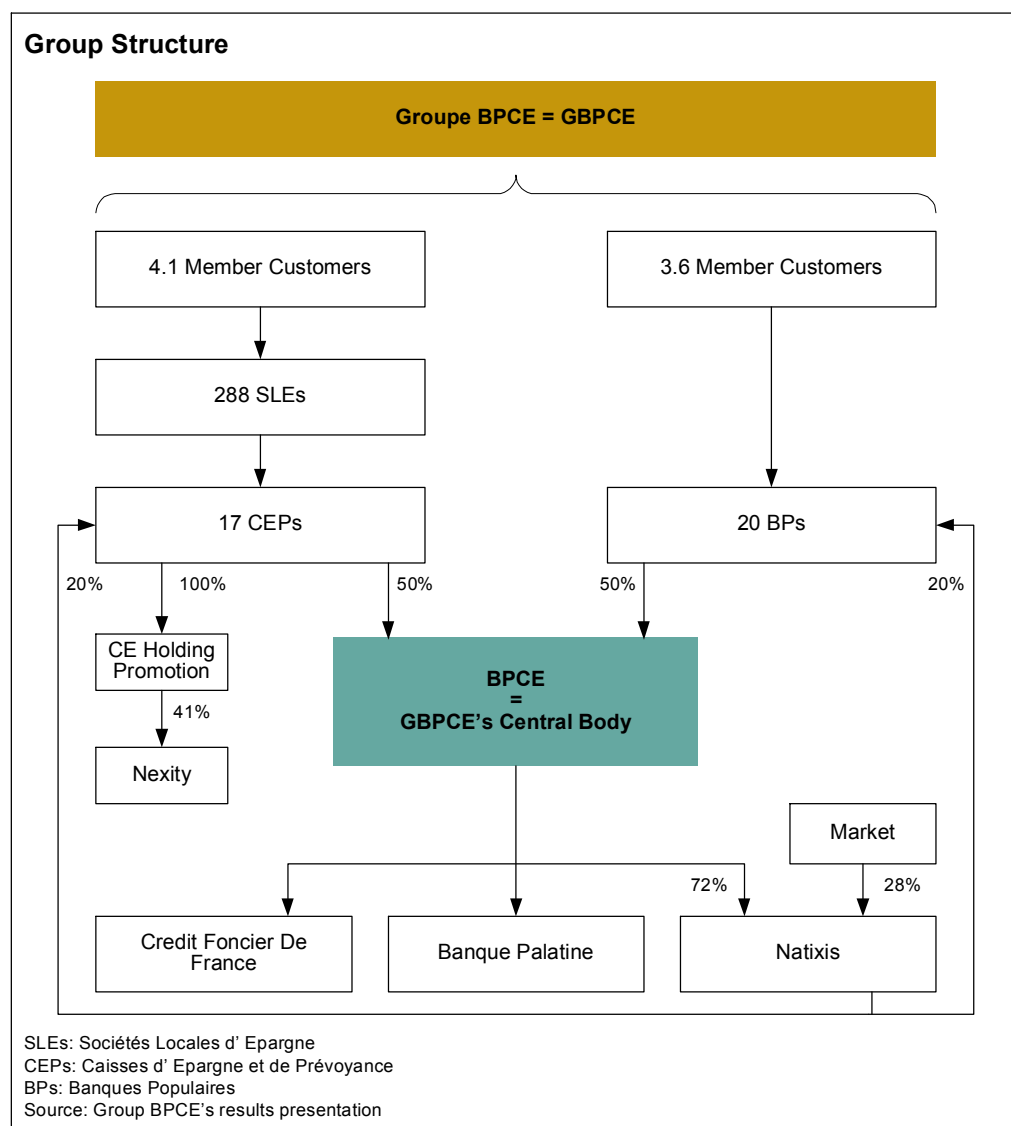
Of the total EUR4.05bn deeply subordinated debt (TSS, hybrid instruments accounted for as Tier 1 capital) and EUR3bn preferred shares subscribed to by the state in 2008-2009, EUR1.75bn TSS had been repaid at end-June 2010. On 6 August 2010, the group repaid another EUR0.6bn TSS as well as EUR1.2bn preferred shares. Another EUR0.6bn preferred shares will be repaid on 15 October 2010 following the sale of the retail bank Société Marseillaise de Crédit to Société Générale. GBPCE intends to repay the outstanding capital support (EUR2.9bn) by 2013 from retained earnings.

Fitch considers the group's eligible capital/risk-weighted assets ratio of 7.6% at end-June 2010 as weak, given the remaining stock of risky assets in GAPC and the high proportion of hybrid instruments (these will account for around 27% of eligible capital after the H210 repayments to the state). At 5% at end-June 2010, GBPCE's Fitch core capital/weighted risks ratio was just above the 4.5% minimum common equity target ratio set by the Basel committee for 2015 but well below the 7% minimum common equity ratio targeted by the same committee for early 2019. While its Fitch eligible capital/risk-weighted assets ratio is above the 6% minimum Tier 1 target for 2015, it is below the 8.5% minimum Tier 1 target for early 2019 and will suffer from the phasing out of hybrid instruments.

Therefore, in the coming years GBPCE will be under pressure both to increase its core capital base and to extend the usage of IRB approaches (to reduce its risk weighted assets), while at the same time repaying the EUR2.9bn state capital support. As a non-quoted cooperative group, GBPCE can only increase its core capital by retaining earnings or by issuing cooperative certificates to retail customers – which, though not highly remunerated at around 3.8%, are fiscally attractive. In recent years, GBPCE has raised between around EUR1bn and EUR3bn annually of new capital in this manner; management has advised Fitch that continued demand for such instruments exists.

Annex: Structure of Groupe BPCE

Organisation



GBPCE is a cooperative group unified financially and legally, but with a decentralised decision-making structure. It is organised on a regional basis around 17 CEPs and 20 BPs (owned by around 7.7 million cooperative customers), which themselves fully own BPCE (the network's central body – “organe central” – and the central bank of the group). BPCE holds the group's subsidiaries.

In accordance with French banking law, BPCE has established a financial solidarity mechanism to ensure the liquidity and solvency of the CEPs and BPs and of all other entities affiliated to it.

Firstly, BPCE and each of the CEPs and BPs is required to support each other in case of temporary cash shortage (liquidity guarantee) or in order to prevent and/or cope with severe financial failures (solvency guarantee). Every CEP and BP thus effectively acts as a guarantor of the obligations of BPCE and of the other CEPs and BPs, and BPCE effectively acts as guarantor of the obligations of the CEPs and BPs. This solidarity mechanism is known as the cross-guarantee mechanism; it is internal to the group and does not constitute a guarantee that is enforceable by third parties, although French banking regulators may require the mechanism to be used

if needed. The solidarity mechanism is operated by BPCE under the sole authority of its management board.

Secondly, BPCE is legally required to safeguard the liquidity and solvency of its affiliates. These are the CEPs, the BPs and any other credit institutions located in France, as long as such affiliation has been notified to the French authorities (notably CFF, Banque Palatine and Natixis). This liquidity and solvency support does not extend to non-French credit institutions or to non-credit institutions, such as the real estate companies belonging to the group.

Groupe BPCE Income Statement

	30 Jun 2010		31 Dec 2009		30 Jun 2009		31 Dec 2008		30 Jun 2008		
	6 Months - Interim	6 Months - Interim	As % of	Year End	As % of	6 Months - Interim	As % of	Year End	As % of	6 Months - Interim	As % of
	USDm	EURm	Earning	EURm	Earning	EURm	Earning	EURm	Earning	EURm	Earning
	Unaudited	Unaudited	Assets	Unqualified	Assets	Unaudited	Assets	Unqualified	Assets	Unaudited	Assets
1. Interest Income on Loans	11,820.6	9,633.0	1.91	19,826.0	2.10	10,689.0	2.16	24,410.0	2.32	n.a.	-
2. Other Interest Income	5,433.6	4,428.0	0.88	14,639.0	1.55	9,313.0	1.89	22,123.0	2.10	0.0	0.00
3. Dividend Income	327.6	267.0	0.05	349.0	0.04	231.0	0.05	486.0	0.05	n.a.	-
4. Gross Interest and Dividend Income	17,581.9	14,328.0	2.84	34,814.0	3.69	20,233.0	4.10	47,019.0	4.47	0.0	0.00
5. Interest Expense on Customer Deposits	3,336.5	2,719.0	0.54	6,474.0	0.69	3,758.0	0.76	10,653.0	1.01	n.a.	-
6. Other Interest Expense	7,171.2	5,844.0	1.16	15,239.0	1.61	9,479.0	1.92	26,896.0	2.56	0.0	0.00
7. Total Interest Expense	10,507.7	8,563.0	1.70	21,713.0	2.30	13,237.0	2.68	37,549.0	3.57	0.0	0.00
8. Net Interest Income	7,074.2	5,765.0	1.14	13,101.0	1.39	6,996.0	1.42	9,470.0	0.90	0.0	0.00
9. Net Gains (Losses) on Trading and Derivatives	1,113.0	907.0	0.18	585.0	0.06	-1,396.0	-0.28	-3,141.0	-0.30	n.a.	-
10. Net Gains (Losses) on Other Securities	-67.5	-55.0	-0.01	-653.0	-0.07	-678.0	-0.14	-671.0	-0.06	n.a.	-
11. Net Gains (Losses) on Assets at FV through Income Statement	806.2	657.0	0.13	-1,709.0	-0.18	-662.0	-0.13	-899.0	-0.09	n.a.	-
12. Net Insurance Income	-65.0	-53.0	-0.01	-824.0	-0.09	-111.0	-0.02	1,190.0	0.11	n.a.	-
13. Net Fees and Commissions	4,472.8	3,645.0	0.72	6,977.0	0.74	3,191.0	0.65	7,667.0	0.73	n.a.	-
14. Other Operating Income	1,325.3	1,080.0	0.21	1,915.0	0.20	787.0	0.16	1,887.0	0.18	8,379.0	0.00
15. Total Non-Interest Operating Income	7,584.7	6,181.0	1.22	6,291.0	0.67	1,131.0	0.23	6,033.0	0.57	8,379.0	0.00
16. Personnel Expenses	5,855.7	4,772.0	0.95	9,493.0	1.00	4,750.0	0.96	9,440.0	0.90	n.a.	-
17. Other Operating Expenses	3,885.0	3,166.0	0.63	6,866.0	0.73	3,291.0	0.67	6,897.0	0.66	8,162.0	0.00
18. Total Non-Interest Expenses	9,740.7	7,938.0	1.57	16,359.0	1.73	8,041.0	1.63	16,337.0	1.55	8,162.0	0.00
19. Equity-accounted Profit/ Loss - Operating	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
20. Pre-Impairment Operating Profit	4,918.2	4,008.0	0.79	3,033.0	0.32	86.0	0.02	-834.0	-0.08	217.0	0.00
21. Loan Impairment Charge	1,061.4	865.0	0.17	2,912.0	0.31	1,884.0	0.38	1,930.0	0.18	748.0	0.00
22. Securities and Other Credit Impairment Charges	128.8	105.0	0.02	1,233.0	0.13	1,106.0	0.22	1,216.0	0.12	n.a.	-
23. Operating Profit	3,727.9	3,038.0	0.60	-1,112.0	-0.12	-2,904.0	-0.59	-3,980.0	-0.38	-531.0	0.00
24. Equity-accounted Profit/ Loss - Non-operating	135.0	110.0	0.02	198.0	0.02	104.0	0.02	184.0	0.02	131.0	0.00
25. Non-recurring Income	n.a.	n.a.	-	2,102.0	0.22	1,554.0	0.31	383.0	0.04	194.0	0.00
26. Non-recurring Expense	132.5	108.0	0.02	1,279.0	0.14	997.0	0.20	920.0	0.09	n.a.	-
27. Change in Fair Value of Own Debt	n.a.	n.a.	-	-277.0	-0.03	82.0	0.02	593.0	0.06	157.0	0.00
28. Other Non-operating Income and Expenses	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
29. Pre-tax Profit	3,730.4	3,040.0	0.60	-368.0	-0.04	-2,161.0	-0.44	-3,740.0	-0.36	-49.0	0.00
30. Tax expense	1,106.8	902.0	0.18	-293.0	-0.03	-572.0	-0.12	-1,044.0	-0.10	207.0	0.00
31. Profit/Loss from Discontinued Operations	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
32. Net Income	2,623.5	2,138.0	0.42	-75.0	-0.01	-1,589.0	-0.32	-2,696.0	-0.26	-256.0	0.00
33. Change in Value of AFS Investments	-568.1	-463.0	-0.09	1,516.0	0.16	508.0	0.10	-3,749.0	-0.36	n.a.	-
34. Revaluation of Fixed Assets	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
35. Currency Translation Differences	967.0	788.0	0.16	45.0	0.00	77.0	0.02	-118.0	-0.01	n.a.	-
36. Remaining OCI Gains/(Losses)	40.5	33.0	0.01	-305.0	-0.03	-233.0	-0.05	-359.0	-0.03	n.a.	-
37. Fitch Comprehensive Income	3,062.8	2,496.0	0.49	1,181.0	0.13	-1,237.0	-0.25	-6,922.0	-0.66	-256.0	0.00
38. Memo: Profit Allocation to Non-controlling Interests	236.8	193.0	0.04	-612.0	-0.06	-832.0	-0.17	-849.0	-0.08	-247.0	0.00
39. Memo: Net Income after Allocation to Non-controlling Interests	2,386.7	1,945.0	0.39	537.0	0.06	-757.0	-0.15	-1,847.0	-0.18	-9.0	0.00
40. Memo: Common Dividends Relating to the Period	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
41. Memo: Preferred Dividends Related to the Period	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-

xchange rate

USD1 = EURO.81493

USD1 = EURO.69416

USD1 = EURO.70751

USD1 = EURO.71855

USD1 = EURO.63436

Groupe BPCE Summary Analytics

	30 Jun 2010	31 Dec 2009	30 Jun 2009	31 Dec 2008	30 Jun 2008
	6 Months - Interim	Year End	6 Months - Interim	Year End	6 Months - Interim
A. Interest Ratios					
1. Interest Income on Loans/ Average Gross Loans	3.75	3.92	4.18	n.a.	n.a.
2. Interest Expense on Customer Deposits/ Average Customer Deposits	1.45	1.74	2.03	n.a.	n.a.
3. Interest Income/ Average Earning Assets	2.94	3.49	3.98	n.a.	n.a.
4. Interest Expense/ Average Interest-bearing Liabilities	1.85	2.29	2.74	n.a.	n.a.
5. Net Interest Income/ Average Earning Assets	1.18	1.31	1.38	n.a.	n.a.
6. Net Int. Inc Less Loan Impairment Charges/ Av. Earning Assets	1.00	1.02	1.01	n.a.	n.a.
7. Net Interest Inc Less Preferred Stock Dividend/ Average Earning Assets	1.18	1.31	1.38	n.a.	n.a.
B. Other Operating Profitability Ratios					
1. Non-Interest Income/ Gross Revenues	51.74	32.44	13.92	38.92	100.00
2. Non-Interest Expense/ Gross Revenues	66.45	84.36	98.94	105.38	97.41
3. Non-Interest Expense/ Average Assets	1.48	1.51	1.46	n.a.	n.a.
4. Pre-impairment Op. Profit/ Average Equity	19.31	8.83	0.52	n.a.	n.a.
5. Pre-impairment Op. Profit/ Average Total Assets	0.75	0.28	0.02	n.a.	n.a.
6. Loans and securities impairment charges/ Pre-impairment Op. Profit	24.20	136.66	3,476.74	-377.22	344.70
7. Operating Profit/ Average Equity	14.64	-3.24	-17.63	n.a.	n.a.
8. Operating Profit/ Average Total Assets	0.57	-0.10	-0.53	n.a.	n.a.
9. Taxes/ Pre-tax Profit	29.67	79.62	26.47	27.91	-422.45
10. Pre-Impairment Operating Profit / Risk Weighted Assets	1.89	0.74	0.04	n.a.	n.a.
11. Operating Profit / Risk Weighted Assets	1.43	-0.27	-1.41	n.a.	n.a.
C. Other Profitability Ratios					
1. Net Income/ Average Total Equity	10.30	-0.22	-9.65	n.a.	n.a.
2. Net Income/ Average Total Assets	0.40	-0.01	-0.29	n.a.	n.a.
3. Fitch Comprehensive Income/ Average Total Equity	12.03	3.44	-7.51	n.a.	n.a.
4. Fitch Comprehensive Income/ Average Total Assets	0.47	0.11	-0.22	n.a.	n.a.
5. Net Income/ Av. Total Assets plus Av. Managed Assets	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
6. Net Income/ Risk Weighted Assets	1.01	-0.02	-0.77	n.a.	n.a.
7. Fitch Comprehensive Income/ Risk Weighted Assets	1.18	0.29	-0.60	n.a.	n.a.
D. Capitalization					
1. Fitch Eligible Capital/ Fitch Adjusted Weighted Risks	7.58	7.25	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
2. Tangible Common Equity/ Tangible Assets	2.89	2.32	1.85	1.87	n.a.
3. Tangible Common Equity/ Total Business Volume	2.17	1.71	1.83	1.85	n.a.
4. Tier 1 Regulatory Capital Ratio	9.60	9.10	8.70	n.a.	n.a.
5. Total Regulatory Capital Ratio	n.a.	10.90	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
6. Fitch Eligible Capital/ Tier 1 Regulatory Capital	79.16	79.31	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
7. Equity/ Total Assets	3.51	3.56	2.97	3.00	n.a.
8. Cash Dividends Paid & Declared/ Net Income	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
9. Cash Dividend Paid & Declared/ Fitch Comprehensive Income	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
10. Net Income - Cash Dividends/ Total Equity	10.92	-0.20	-9.96	-7.87	n.a.
E. Loan Quality					
1. Growth of Total Assets	9.25	-10.04	-5.28	n.a.	n.a.
2. Growth of Gross Loans	2.33	1.18	0.04	n.a.	n.a.
3. Impaired Loans(NPLs)/ Gross Loans	3.99	3.66	n.a.	2.45	n.a.
4. Reserves for Impaired Loans/ Gross loans	2.18	2.11	n.a.	1.79	n.a.
5. Reserves for Impaired Loans/ Impaired Loans	54.63	57.59	n.a.	72.93	n.a.
6. Impaired Loans less Reserves for Imp Loans/ Equity	24.13	21.83	n.a.	9.84	n.a.
7. Loan Impairment Charges/ Average Gross Loans	0.34	0.58	0.74	n.a.	n.a.
8. Net Charge-offs/ Average Gross Loans	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
9. Impaired Loans + Foreclosed Assets/ Gross Loans + Foreclosed Assets	3.99	3.66	n.a.	2.45	n.a.
F. Funding					
1. Loans/ Customer Deposits	149.66	150.70	135.18	147.69	n.a.
2. Interbank Assets/ Interbank Liabilities	170.20	132.37	121.33	128.20	n.a.

Groupe BPCE Reference Data

	30 Jun 2010		As % of Assets	31 Dec 2009		30 Jun 2009		31 Dec 2008		30 Jun 2008	
	6 Months - Interim USDm	6 Months - Interim EURm		Year End EURm	As % of Assets	6 Months - Interim EURm	As % of Assets	Year End EURm	As % of Assets	6 Months - Interim EURm	As % of Assets
A. Off-Balance Sheet Items											
1. Managed Securitized Assets Reported Off-Balance Sheet	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
2. Other off-balance sheet exposure to securitizations	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
3. Guarantees	282,315.0	230,067.0	20.47	230,065.0	22.36	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
4. Acceptances and documentary credits reported off-balance sheet	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
5. Committed Credit Lines	160,637.1	130,908.0	11.65	116,164.0	11.29	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
6. Other Contingent Liabilities	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
7. Total Business Volume	1,822,186.0	1,484,954.0	132.12	1,375,031.0	133.65	1,083,290.0	100.00	1,143,679.0	100.00	n.a.	-
8. Memo: Total Weighted Risks	525,198.5	428,000.0	38.08	411,135.0	39.96	414,000.0	38.22	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
9. Fitch Adjustments to Weighted Risks	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
10. Fitch Adjusted Weighted Risks	525,198.5	428,000.0	38.08	411,135.0	39.96	414,000.0	38.22	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
B. Average Balance Sheet											
Average Loans	661,244.2	538,867.7	47.94	519,547.7	50.50	515,171.0	47.56	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Average Earning Assets	1,207,062.3	983,671.3	87.52	997,603.0	96.97	1,024,114.5	94.54	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Average Assets	1,324,200.0	1,079,130.3	96.01	1,085,257.0	105.49	1,113,484.5	102.79	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Average Managed Assets (OBS)	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Average Interest-Bearing Liabilities	1,144,416.1	932,619.0	82.97	947,095.7	92.06	975,260.0	90.03	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Average Common equity	47,178.7	38,447.3	3.42	31,856.3	3.10	30,955.0	2.86	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Average Equity	51,362.3	41,856.7	3.72	34,351.0	3.34	33,209.5	3.07	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Average Customer Deposits	465,227.7	379,128.0	33.73	371,746.7	36.13	373,761.5	34.50	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
C. Maturities											
Asset Maturities:											
Loans & Advances < 3 months	n.a.	n.a.	-	66,192.0	6.43	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Loans & Advances 3 - 12 Months	n.a.	n.a.	-	38,938.0	3.78	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Loans and Advances 1 - 5 Years	n.a.	n.a.	-	161,158.0	15.66	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Loans & Advances > 5 years	n.a.	n.a.	-	251,152.0	24.41	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Debt Securities < 3 Months	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Debt Securities 3 - 12 Months	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Debt Securities 1 - 5 Years	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Debt Securities > 5 Years	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Interbank < 3 Months	n.a.	n.a.	-	108,921.0	10.59	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Interbank 3 - 12 Months	n.a.	n.a.	-	10,622.0	1.03	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Interbank 1 - 5 Years	n.a.	n.a.	-	19,178.0	1.86	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Interbank > 5 Years	n.a.	n.a.	-	7,727.0	0.75	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Liability Maturities:											
Retail Deposits < 3 months	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Retail Deposits 3 - 12 Months	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Retail Deposits 1 - 5 Years	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Retail Deposits > 5 Years	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Other Deposits < 3 Months	n.a.	n.a.	-	284,993.0	27.70	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Other Deposits 3 - 12 Months	n.a.	n.a.	-	15,169.0	1.47	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Other Deposits 1 - 5 Years	n.a.	n.a.	-	47,604.0	4.63	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Other Deposits > 5 Years	n.a.	n.a.	-	19,951.0	1.94	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Interbank < 3 Months	n.a.	n.a.	-	49,287.0	4.79	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Interbank 3 - 12 Months	n.a.	n.a.	-	51,259.0	4.98	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Interbank 1 - 5 Years	n.a.	n.a.	-	13,469.0	1.31	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Interbank > 5 Years	n.a.	n.a.	-	1,929.0	0.19	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Senior debt Maturing < 1 year	n.a.	n.a.	-	95,359.0	9.27	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Senior debt Maturing > 1 year	n.a.	n.a.	-	109,051.0	10.60	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Total Senior Debt on Balance Sheet	162,456.9	132,391.0	11.78	109,051.0	10.60	187,492.0	17.31	207,834.0	18.17	n.a.	-
Fair Value Portion of Senior Debt	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Subordinated Debt maturing < 1 year	n.a.	n.a.	-	1,471.0	0.14	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Subordinated Debt maturing > 1 year	n.a.	n.a.	-	13,510.0	1.31	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
Total Subordinated Debt on Balance Sheet	17,855.5	14,551.0	1.29	14,981.0	1.46	15,437.0	1.43	15,478.0	1.35	n.a.	-
Fair Value Portion of Subordinated Debt	n.a.	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
D. Equity Reconciliation											
1. Equity	48,447.1	39,481.0	3.51	36,634.0	3.56	32,158.0	2.97	34,261.0	3.00	n.a.	-
2. Add: Pref. Shares and Hybrid Capital accounted for as Equity	13,490.7	10,994.0	0.98	11,160.0	1.08	10,171.0	0.94	950.0	0.08	n.a.	-
3. Add: Other Adjustments	n.a.	n.a.	-	0.0	0.00	n.a.	-	0.0	0.00	n.a.	-
4. Published Equity	n.a.	n.a.	-	47,794.0	4.65	n.a.	-	35,211.0	3.08	n.a.	-
E. Fitch Eligible Capital Reconciliation											
1. Total Equity as reported (including non-controlling interests)	48,447.1	39,481.0	3.51	36,634.0	3.56	32,158.0	2.97	34,261.0	3.00	n.a.	-
2. Fair value effect incl in own debt/borrowings at fv on the B/S- CC only	666.3	543.0	0.05	543.0	0.05	n.a.	-	820.0	0.07	n.a.	-
3. Non-loss-absorbing non-controlling interests	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	n.a.	-	0.0	0.00	n.a.	-
4. Goodwill	6,450.9	5,257.0	0.47	5,670.0	0.55	5,994.0	0.55	7,409.0	0.65	n.a.	-
5. Other intangibles	2,424.7	1,976.0	0.18	1,967.0	0.19	1,976.0	0.18	2,026.0	0.18	n.a.	-
6. Deferred tax assets deduction	5,670.4	4,621.0	0.41	4,193.0	0.41	4,391.0	0.41	3,699.0	0.32	n.a.	-
7. Net asset value of insurance subsidiaries	4,211.4	3,432.0	0.31	3,432.0	0.33	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
8. Embedded value of insurance business	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	n.a.	-	0.0	0.00	n.a.	-
9. First loss tranches of off-balance sheet securitizations	4,020.0	3,276.0	0.29	3,276.0	0.32	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
10. Fitch Core Capital	26,336.0	21,462.0	1.91	18,639.0	1.81	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
11. Eligible weighted Hybrid capital	7,048.5	5,744.0	0.51	4,860.0	0.47	12,251.5	1.13	7,269.5	0.64	n.a.	-
12. Government held Hybrid Capital	6,442.3	5,250.0	0.47	6,300.0	0.61	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
13. Fitch Eligible Capital	39,826.7	32,456.0	2.89	29,799.0	2.90	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-
14. Eligible Hybrid Capital Limit	11,286.9	9,198.0	0.82	7,988.1	0.78	n.a.	-	n.a.	-	n.a.	-

Exchange Rate USD1 = EURO.81493 USD1 = EURO.69416 USD1 = EURO.70751 USD1 = EURO.71855 USD1 = EURO.63436

ALL FITCH CREDIT RATINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CERTAIN LIMITATIONS AND DISCLAIMERS. PLEASE READ THESE LIMITATIONS AND DISCLAIMERS BY FOLLOWING THIS LINK: [HTTP://FITCHRATINGS.COM/UNDERSTANDINGCREDITRATINGS](http://fitchratings.com/understandingcreditratings). IN ADDITION, RATING DEFINITIONS AND THE TERMS OF USE OF SUCH RATINGS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE AGENCY'S PUBLIC WEB SITE AT WWW.FITCHRATINGS.COM. PUBLISHED RATINGS, CRITERIA, AND METHODOLOGIES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS SITE AT ALL TIMES. FITCH'S CODE OF CONDUCT, CONFIDENTIALITY, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, AFFILIATE FIREWALL, COMPLIANCE, AND OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE CODE OF CONDUCT SECTION OF THIS SITE.

Copyright © 2010 by Fitch, Inc., Fitch Ratings Ltd. and its subsidiaries. One State Street Plaza, NY, NY 10004. Telephone: 1-800-753-4824, (212) 908-0500. Fax: (212) 480-4435. Reproduction or retransmission in whole or in part is prohibited except by permission. All rights reserved. In issuing and maintaining its ratings, Fitch relies on factual information it receives from issuers and underwriters and from other sources Fitch believes to be credible. Fitch conducts a reasonable investigation of the factual information relied upon by it in accordance with its ratings methodology, and obtains reasonable verification of that information from independent sources, to the extent such sources are available for a given security or in a given jurisdiction. The manner of Fitch's factual investigation and the scope of the third-party verification it obtains will vary depending on the nature of the rated security and its issuer, the requirements and practices in the jurisdiction in which the rated security is offered and sold and/or the issuer is located, the availability and nature of relevant public information, access to the management of the issuer and its advisers, the availability of pre-existing third-party verifications such as audit reports, agreed-upon procedures letters, appraisals, actuarial reports, engineering reports, legal opinions and other reports provided by third parties, the availability of independent and competent third-party verification sources with respect to the particular security or in the particular jurisdiction of the issuer, and a variety of other factors. Users of Fitch's ratings should understand that neither an enhanced factual investigation nor any third-party verification can ensure that all of the information Fitch relies on in connection with a rating will be accurate and complete. Ultimately, the issuer and its advisers are responsible for the accuracy of the information they provide to Fitch and to the market in offering documents and other reports. In issuing its ratings Fitch must rely on the work of experts, including independent auditors with respect to financial statements and attorneys with respect to legal and tax matters. Further, ratings are inherently forward-looking and embody assumptions and predictions about future events that by their nature cannot be verified as facts. As a result, despite any verification of current facts, ratings can be affected by future events or conditions that were not anticipated at the time a rating was issued or affirmed.

The information in this report is provided "as is" without any representation or warranty of any kind. A Fitch rating is an opinion as to the creditworthiness of a security. This opinion is based on established criteria and methodologies that Fitch is continuously evaluating and updating. Therefore, ratings are the collective work product of Fitch and no individual, or group of individuals, is solely responsible for a rating. The rating does not address the risk of loss due to risks other than credit risk, unless such risk is specifically mentioned. Fitch is not engaged in the offer or sale of any security. All Fitch reports have shared authorship. Individuals identified in a Fitch report were involved in, but are not solely responsible for, the opinions stated therein. The individuals are named for contact purposes only. A report providing a Fitch rating is neither a prospectus nor a substitute for the information assembled, verified and presented to investors by the issuer and its agents in connection with the sale of the securities. Ratings may be changed or withdrawn at anytime for any reason in the sole discretion of Fitch. Fitch does not provide investment advice of any sort. Ratings are not a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold any security. Ratings do not comment on the adequacy of market price, the suitability of any security for a particular investor, or the tax-exempt nature or taxability of payments made in respect to any security. Fitch receives fees from issuers, insurers, guarantors, other obligors, and underwriters for rating securities. Such fees generally vary from US\$1,000 to US\$750,000 (or the applicable currency equivalent) per issue. In certain cases, Fitch will rate all or a number of issues issued by a particular issuer, or insured or guaranteed by a particular insurer or guarantor, for a single annual fee. Such fees are expected to vary from US\$10,000 to US\$1,500,000 (or the applicable currency equivalent). The assignment, publication, or dissemination of a rating by Fitch shall not constitute a consent by Fitch to use its name as an expert in connection with any registration statement filed under the United States securities laws, the Financial Services and Markets Act of 2000 of Great Britain, or the securities laws of any particular jurisdiction. Due to the relative efficiency of electronic publishing and distribution, Fitch research may be available to electronic subscribers up to three days earlier than to print subscribers.