

Report on Banks

September 2008



BANCO CENTRAL
DE LA REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA

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Year VI, Number 1



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Contents

Page 3 | Monthly summary

Page 4 | Activity

Within an increasingly volatile scenario, financial intermediation with the private sector continues to grow

Page 5 | Deposits and liquidity

Deposits gain share in bank funding in a situation of strengthening liquidity levels

Page 7 | Financing

Lending to the private sector keeps on growing, with reduced levels of non-performance

Page 8 | Solvency

Net worth increases as a result of capital contributions and book profits

Page 11 | Latest regulations

Page 12 | Methodology and glossary

Page 14 | Statistics

Note | Information for September 2008 available by October 27, 2008 is included. This Report is focussed on the performance of the financial system, including breakdowns by homogeneous subsectors. The data reported (particularly, those referring to profitability) are provisional and are subject to changes later.

Published on November 17, 2008

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Monthly summary

- **In a context of rising financial volatility and uncertainty about the course of world economic growth, the local financial system continues to perform its intermediation function, without neglecting to maintain adequate liquidity and capital levels. The BCRA persists in promoting instruments that have contributed to preserve the local financial stability.** In September, lending to the private sector increased again, although its rate of year-on-year growth declined. This performance has taken place in a context of limited credit risk, with rising deposit as the main source of bank funding for the month. As a result, banks continue to show improved solvency levels, a consequence of both capital contributions and book profits.
- **Bank lending to the private sector continue to rise in September (2% or \$2.6 billion), although evidencing some moderation in its annual growth rhythm. In an international environment that has been more hostile to emerging economies as a whole, slowing credit growth rates have been a feature of the financial systems in the region.** Promissory notes and credit cards were the most dynamic lines during the month. Private sector lending stood at 38.5% of total assets, slightly above the level registered in August, and 3.2 p.p. more than 12 months earlier.
- As a result, **within the framework of BCRA incentives established to reinforce the “crowding in” process for lending to households and companies, financial system exposure to the private sector is at almost three times the level of its exposure to the public sector.** Bank exposure to the public sector declined by 0.3 p.p. in September, to 12.9% of total assets. This drop for the month took place mainly in private banks.
- **Banks have continued to record adequate liquidity levels, to be use as insurance in the face of the increasingly volatile outlook.** Liquid assets went up \$2.45 billion in September, mainly because of the increase of current account stocks at the BCRA and cash held in banks, partly offset by a reduction in the repo position with the BCRA. As a result, **the liquidity indicator reached 26.3% of total deposits** for the month, rising to over 41% if Lebac and Nobac position is included.
- **Non-performance ratio in the case of lending to the private sector have reached a record low of 2.9% of the portfolio, showing a drop of 0.3 p.p. in 2008 to date.** This decline has been driven by the corporate sector, being widespread across all segments of productive activity.
- **Total deposits rose \$4.7 billion in September, following an increase in private sector placements (\$3.8 billion) and, to a lesser extent, in deposits by the public sector (\$900 million).** Private sector deposit increases took place in both sight and time deposit accounts. In view of the resurgence of financial market turmoil, private sector deposits in pesos declined in October.
- **During September the financial system continued to strengthen its solvency, mainly as a result of the capital contributions received, with a lesser contribution from book profits.** During the month, bank net worth rose \$825 million (2.1% or 9.9% y.o.y.), mainly from the receipt of a capitalization by a non-bank financial entity for the equivalent of US\$175 million. Book profits posted by the banking system in September reached \$410 million (1.6%a. of assets), showing an increase compared with the previous month. As a result, the third quarter of 2008 has closed with profits totaling almost \$1.15 billion (1.5%a. of assets), accumulating a total of \$3.5 billion (1.6%a. of assets) in the first 9 months of 2008. Capital compliance increased by 0.3 p.p. of risk-weighted assets in September, to 17%.

Activity

Within an increasingly volatile scenario, financial intermediation with the private sector continues to grow

In the midst of growing financial turbulence, local banking system has continued to increase its intermediation volumes, without neglecting to maintain precautionary liquidity levels. In a context of limited credit risk, during September credit to the private sector continued to rise, although the annual growth rhythm has fallen. Private sector deposits increased during the month, so that they were the main source of bank funding. Credit growth took place at the same time as adequate systemic liquidity was maintained to insure against a more volatile context.

Financial system netted assets went up 2.2% during the month, for total year-on-year (y.o.y.) growth of 17.5%. This increase for the month was driven by private banks, with a rise of 2.7% (15.8% y.o.y.) and, to a lesser extent, by public financial entities, which posted an increase of 1.3% (18.3% y.o.y.). In the last year, the growth of the financial system asset portfolio was driven mainly by liquid assets, followed in second place by credit to the private sector (see Chart 1). Liquid assets stood at 19.6% of financial system netted assets in September (4.3 p.p. more than in the same month of 2007), while lending to the private sector reached 40.9% (3.7 p.p. higher than 12 months earlier).

It should be noted that despite the worsening international financial crisis, both the local financial system and those of the region have continued to show growth in their lending to the private sector. Nevertheless, bearing in mind that penetration levels are relatively low, in most Latin American economies there has been a slowing in the rate of private sector lending expansion in recent months (see Chart 2).

In terms of the estimated flow of funds for all financial entities in September, higher private sector deposits (\$3.8 billion) and public sector deposits (\$900 million), followed by capital contributions (\$550 million) have constituted the main sources of resources. The main fund uses during the month were increased lending to the private sector (\$2.6 billion) and a rise in the holding of liquid assets (\$2.45 billion).

In the case of private bank flow of resources, increased private sector deposits (\$3.0 billion) provided the most significant source of funds for the month. These

Chart 1

Netted Assets
Financial system

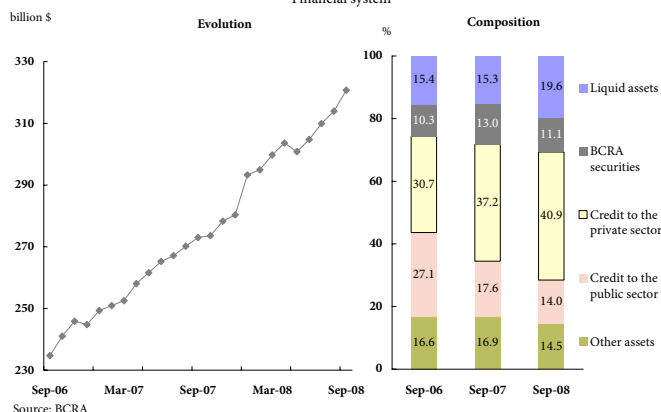
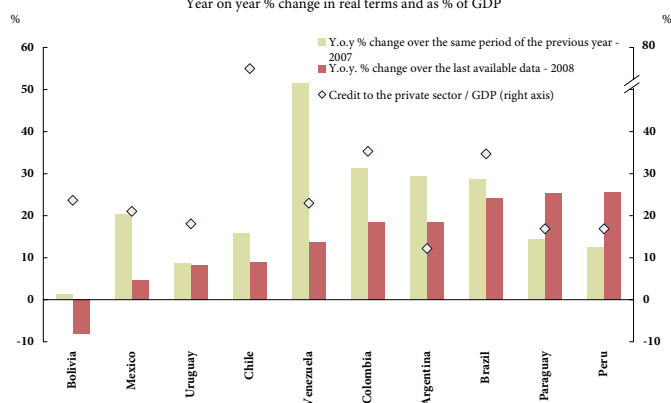


Chart 2

Credit to the Private Sector

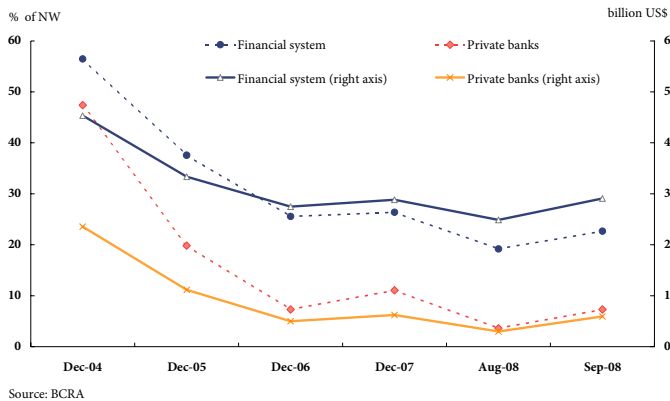
Year on year % change in real terms and as % of GDP



Source: Central Banks, Superintendencies and IMF.

Chart 3

Currency Mismatch
Assets in US\$ - Liabilities in US\$



Source: BCRA

resources were channeled mainly into reinforcing liquid assets (\$2.5 billion) and the granting of loans to the private sector (\$1.65 billion). The main difference with the estimated flow of funds for the public banks was seen in the behavior of liquid assets, as in the case of this latter group of banks they remained unchanged.

The financial system records a low level of foreign currency mismatch. Bank foreign currency assets rose by US\$640 million in September, driven by an increase in future and forward transactions and a rise in liquid assets. Foreign currency liabilities went up US\$220 million during the month, reflecting the impact of increased private sector deposits. As a result, **financial system foreign currency mismatching in terms of net worth recorded a slight increase for the month to 22.7%, although it remains lower than in 2007 (-3.7 p.p.)** (see Chart 3).

Deposits and liquidity

Deposits gain share in bank funding in a situation of strengthening liquidity levels

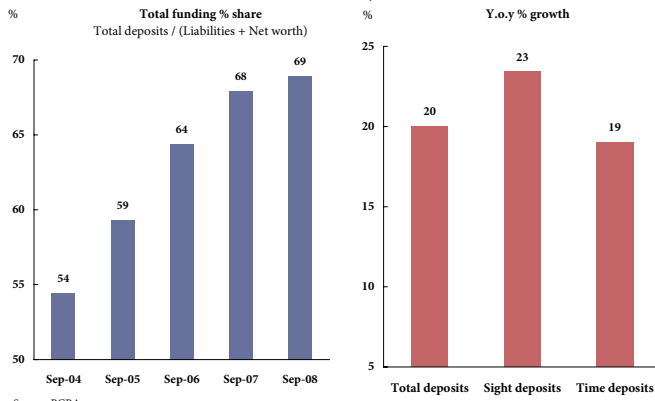
The increase in total deposits in September was led mainly by private sector placements. Total deposit stocks¹ increased by \$4.7 billion (2% or 20% y.o.y.) in September, explained by growth of \$3.8 billion (2.2% or 17.7% y.o.y.) in private sector placements, and by the \$900 million (1.4% or 26% y.o.y.) rise in those of the public sector. **Private sector deposit growth for the month was mainly driven by sight deposits, with a lesser contribution from time deposits** (both wholesale and retail), in a context of a slight upward turn in deposit interest rates.

It should be noted that **in October there was a drop for the month in total deposits** (according to SisCen data, the fall was approximately \$1.6 billion between ends of the month), reflecting the impact of a drop in private sector peso deposits (sight placements and to a lesser extent, time deposits). This movement was partly offset by a rise in total public sector deposits and in private sector dollar placements.

Notwithstanding this short-term performance, the normalization of bank liabilities is a process that has taken place steadily in recent years, with **deposits gaining share of total financial system funding** (see Chart 4). As at September, total deposits represented 69% of liabilities and net worth of the banking system as

Chart 4

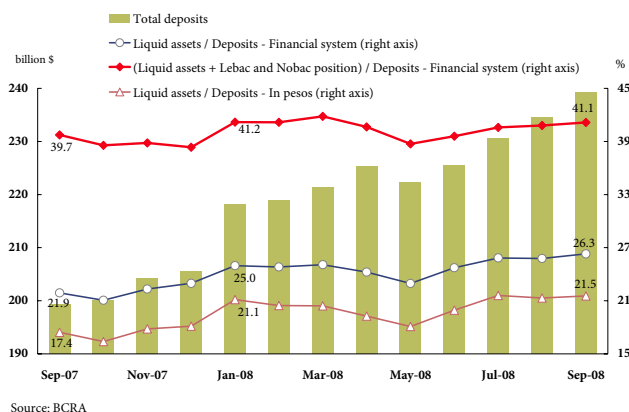
Total Deposits
Financial system



Source: BCRA

¹ Including accrued interest and CER adjustments.

Chart 5
Deposits and Liquidity



a whole, 10 p.p. more than four years ago, and above the levels recorded prior to the 2001-2002 crisis.

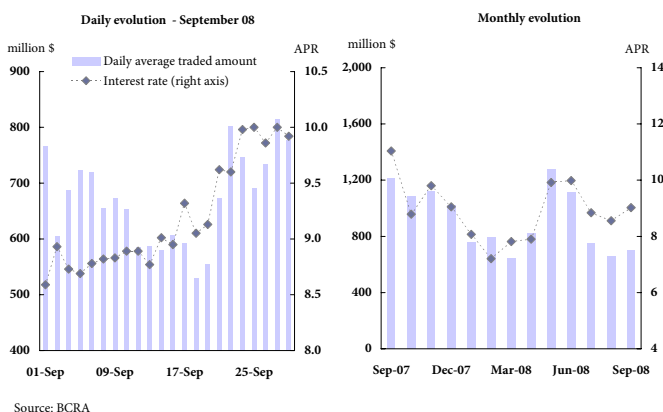
Within the framework of persistent volatility on financial markets, the local financial system continues to display adequate liquidity levels. Liquid banking system assets² went up \$2.45 billion in the month, explained by the increase in current account stocks at the BCRA and in cash held at banks (\$4.1 billion in total), a figure that was partly offset by the drop in repos with the BCRA position (-\$1.65 billion).

As a result, in September **the bank liquidity indicator reached 26.3% of total deposits**, up 0.5 p.p. compared with August and 4.4 p.p. in the last 12 months (see Chart 5). Given the increase for the month of \$300 million in Lebac and Nobac position, the broad financial system liquidity index (which includes this position) increased 0.3 p.p. in September to 41.1% of total deposits. **This increase in liquidity for the month took place mainly in private banks**, as in the case of public banks there was a slight decline.

Chart 6

Call Market

1-day maturity operations in pesos



Call money market interest rate rose 0.5 p.p. during the month, averaging 9.2% during September (see Chart 6). This increase mainly reflects transactions entered into in the final days of the month. **It should be considered that the behavior of interbank market interest rates during September has reflected the increased recorded in the rate for BCRA repos** (1 p.p. in all their forms). Daily average trading volume in the call market in September reached \$700 million, slightly higher than in August.

The BCRA continues to broaden the range of tools available to ensure adequate liquidity in the financial system. In September a session was introduced for the **automatic repurchase of Lebac and Nobac** with a residual terms of less than 6 months, discounting face values using the private bank BADLAR interest rate plus a spread of 6 p.p. Complementing this step, a **mechanism for the tendering of put options on BCRA securities was established**, permitting banks to sell back Lebac and Nobac to this Institution at a discount on the BADLAR interest rate (such securities should have a residual term of less than 180 days). In addition, **the maximum term for banks to be able to carry out reverse repos with the BCRA was extended to 90 days** (based on a private bank BADLAR interest rate plus a spread of 4 p.p.).

² See Glossary.

Chart 7

Credit to the Private Sector by Type of Line

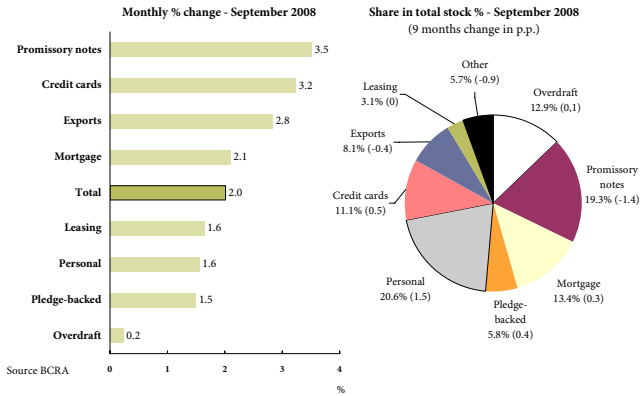


Chart 8

Lending Interest Rates

Credit to the private sector - Financial system

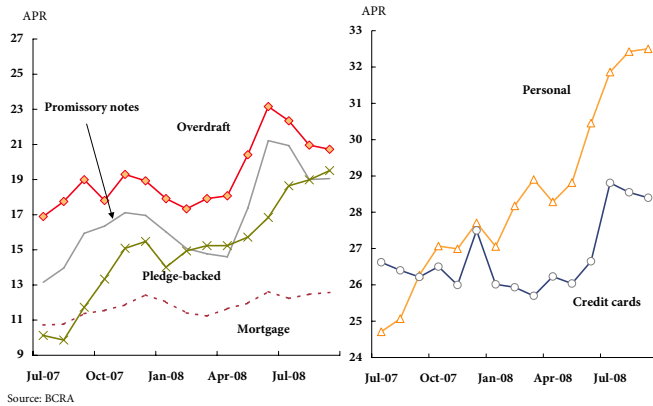
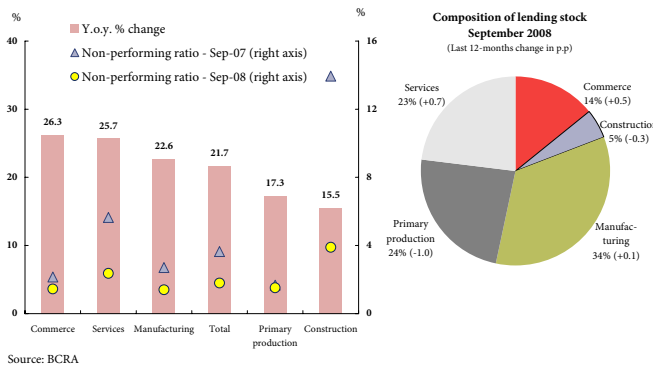


Chart 9

Lending to Companies by Economic Sector

Financial system



In addition to these measures, a two-month period (October-November) was decreed for minimum cash compliance in pesos, with the aim of providing greater degrees of freedom to financial entities. Furthermore, as a temporary step, as from December 2008 banks will be allowed to claim the full amount of cash they hold, as well as cash in transit and cash at value carriers, when calculating liquidity requirement compliance. At the same time, this Institution decided to lower minimum cash requirements on deposits in dollars so that banks would be able to free up resources for use in lending in such currency in relation to foreign trade transactions. The BCRA has also recently revised liquidity assistance requirements to take into account bank asset structures, seeking to expand access to the liquidity window in view of the volatility registered by deposits. As from November, banks will have available a mechanism for the pre-classification of assets for use to collateralize loans from the BCRA, as from which they will have the option to request liquidity against such assets if necessary.

Financing

Lending to the private sector keeps on growing, with reduced levels of non-performance

Lending to the private sector increased by \$2.6 billion (2%) in September, slowing its rate of year-on-year growth to approximately 29%. Lending via promissory notes and credit cards were the most dynamic during the month, rising 3.5% and 3.2%, respectively (see Chart 7). Personal loans have made the greatest gains in total loan portfolio share during the course of 2008 (+1.5 p.p.), followed by credit card lending and pledge-backed loans. This increase in lending to the private sector during September took place in a context of relatively stable lending interest rates in comparison with the previous month (see Chart 8), although those are still higher than the values seen at the beginning of the year.

Bank lending to corporations has continued to increase for all productive sectors, posting a year-on-year increase of 21.7% (see Chart 9), a more moderate expansion rate than in previous periods. Commerce, service and the manufacturing sector have recorded above-average year-on-year rates of increase (26.3%, 25.7% and 22.6% respectively), gaining share in total loans, offsetting the lower than average increase for the primary production and construction sectors.

Lending to households continues to rise, reaching 18.7% of netted assets in September, an increase of 1.8

Chart 10
Non-Performing Credit to the Private Sector
 Non-performing loans / Total loans (%)

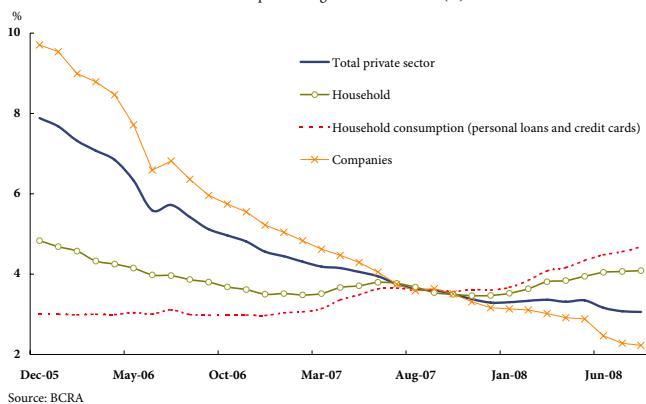


Chart 11
Private and Public Sector Exposure
 As % of total assets - Financial system

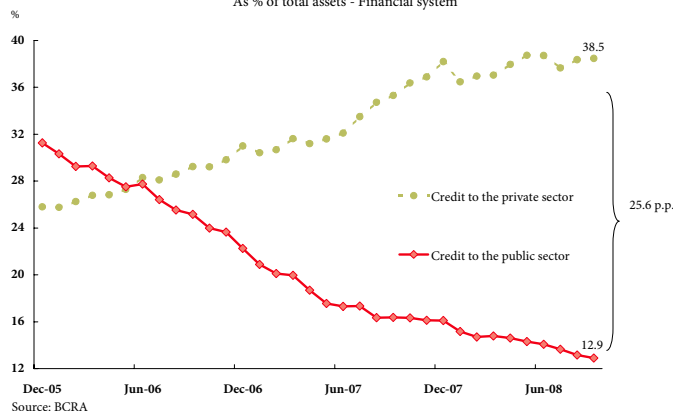
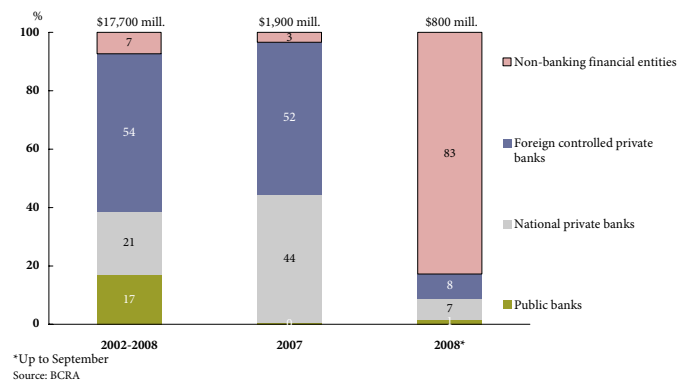


Chart 12
Capital Contributions
 Composition by financial entity group



p.p. in 2008 to date. The most dynamic lines in the last 9 months were personal and pledge-backed loans, which increased their share of the loans to households portfolio following growth at above the average rate.

The increase in lending to companies and households has continued to take place in the context of limited credit risk. This can be seen from the fact that non-performance levels remained at a historically low level of 2.9% of lending to the private sector in September, with a drop of 0.6 p.p. in the last 12 months. **This year-on-year improvement in credit portfolio quality was explained by loans to the corporate sector³** (see Chart 10), for which delinquency totaled 1.8%. **There has been a decline in non-performance across all segments of productive activity.** While loans to the construction sector have shown the most significant improvement in delinquency level, the best relative performance has been recorded in the lines granted to commerce and the manufacturing sector, both of which show non-performance ratios of 1.4%. The non-performance rate for household lending remains within a historically low range, although it has risen slightly compared with levels one year earlier (to 4.1%). It should be noted that at September **the coverage of total non-performing loans by means of provisions was 131%**, another indication of the sound financial situation of banks in the face of private sector credit risk.

Steady growth in lending to the private sector continues to take place at the same time as exposure to the public sector has declined. Lending to the public sector stood at 12.9% of assets in September, 0.3 p.p. less than in August and 3.5 p.p. lower than in the same month of last year (see Chart 11). This change was led by the private bank sector.

Solvency

Net worth increases as a result of capital contributions and book profits

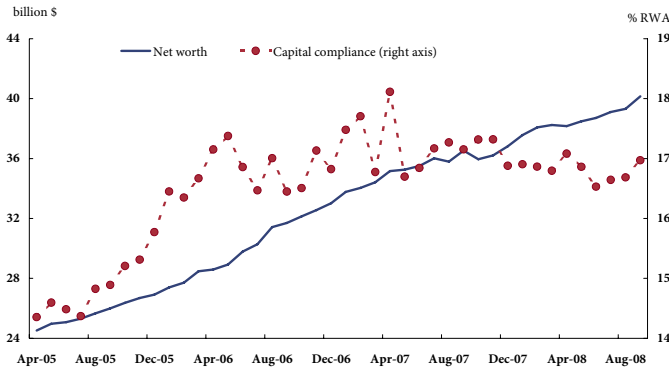
At the end of the third quarter of the year, **banks have continued to strengthen their balance sheet structure.** The book profits posted by financial entities, added to new capital contributions, continue to promote the consolidation of financial sector solvency.

In September banking sector net worth rose 2.1% (\$825 million), for a total positive variation of 9.9% (close to

³ Loans to companies are considered to be those granted to legal persons and commercial credit to individuals, while remaining lending to individuals is included under the households heading.

Chart 13

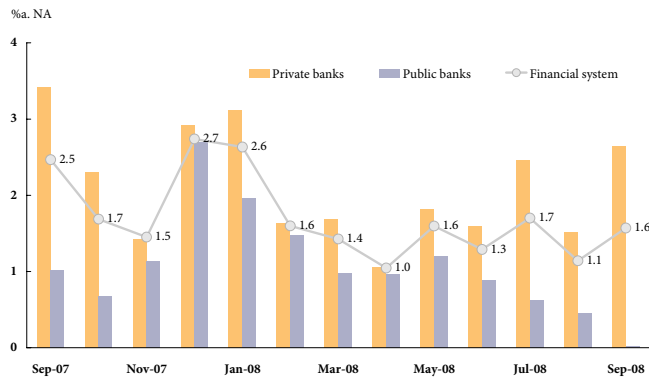
Solvency
Financial system



Source: BCRA

Chart 14

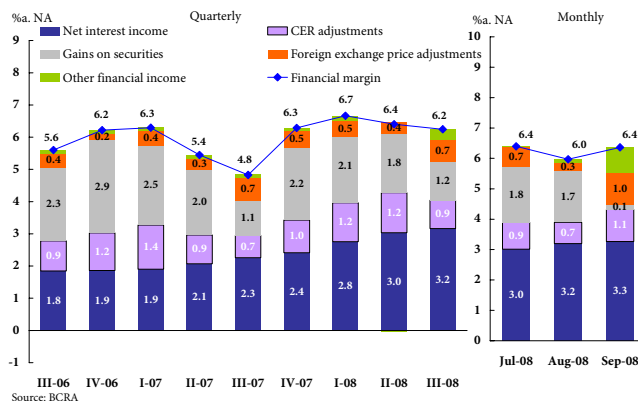
Financial System Profitability
As % of netted assets



Source: BCRA

Chart 15

Financial Margin
Financial system



Source: BCRA

\$3.65 billion) over the course of the last 12 months. A **non-bank financial entity received a capital contribution in cash for approximately US\$175 million**. In 2008 to date, banks have received capital injections for \$800 million, with non-bank financial entities accounting for 83% of the total (see Chart 12). As a result, since the beginning of 2002 the financial system has received capital injections totaling approximately \$17.7 billion.

The banking sector has continued to reinforce its solvency, exceeding the requirements established by the BCRA and the minimum standards recommended internationally. As a consequence of the increase in basic net worth following capital contributions during the month, and the reduction in risk weighted assets, **capital compliance in relation to the latter went up 0.3 p.p., reaching 17%** (see Chart 13). Therefore, excess capital compliance in terms of requirement rose 1.5 p.p. to 88.7% at the end of the third quarter of the year.

In September, financial entities continued to reinforce their profit levels. Financial system ROA reached 1.6%a. of assets in September (\$410 million), a rise of 0.5 p.p. for the month (see Chart 14). This took profits for the third quarter of 2008 to almost \$1.15 billion (1.5%a. of assets), a figure that compares favorably with the \$985 million (1.3%a. of assets) and \$370 million (0.5%a. of assets) recorded in the second quarter of this year and in the same period of 2007, respectively. Consequently, in the first 9 months of 2008 banks achieved a ROA of 1.6%a. (close to \$3.5 billion) and a ROE of 13.3%a.

As in recent periods, **results for the month were led by private banks**, which posted profits for \$400 million (ROA of 2.6%a.) This group of banks accrued profits for \$985 million (ROA of 2.2 %a.) and \$2.55 billion (ROA of 2%a.) for the quarter and in the year to date, respectively. Public banks recorded profits of close to \$2 million during the month, a figure that rises to \$115 million (ROA of 0.4%a.) and \$850 million (0.9%a. of assets) for the whole of the third quarter, and in the first nine months of the year.

Banking sector financial margin rose by 0.4 p.p. of assets in the month, to 6.4%a. (see Chart 15). This sound performance was mainly explained by **foreign exchange price adjustments**, at a time of slight increases in balance sheet foreign currency mismatching, as well as in the peso-dollar exchange rate. Income from this source totaled 1%a. of assets for the month, 0.7 p.p. more than in August. Those more stable revenue sources (interest and service earnings) together rose by 0.2 p.p. of assets in September to 6.9%a. **Service income margin**

Chart 16
More Stable Revenue Sources Evolution

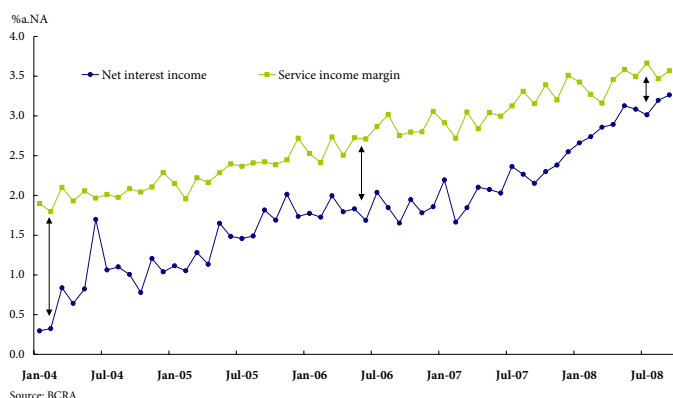
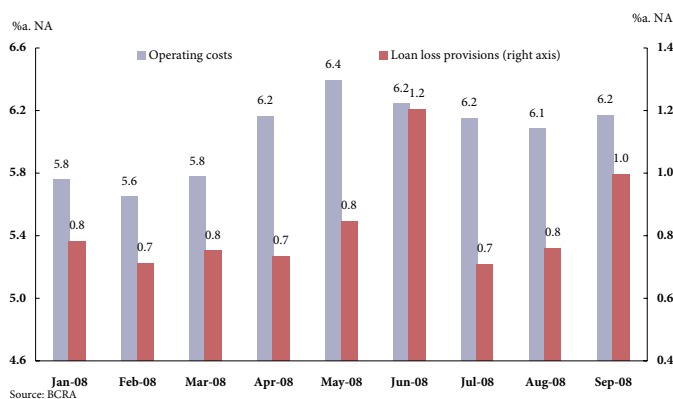


Chart 17
Loan Loss Provisions and Operating Costs
Financial system



has maintained its growth trend, rising in September by 0.1 p.p. of assets to 3.6 %a., thus ending the quarter at the same level, and 0.4 p.p. of assets above the same quarter of 2007. **A similar behavior was recorded by net interest income** (see Chart 16), which rose by 0.1 p.p. of assets to 3.3%a. in September. This revenue ended the quarter at 3.2%a. of assets, 0.9 p.p. higher than in the same period of 2007.

As a result of the uncertainty of the financial situation and a reclassification of items during the month, **gains on securities posted a decline of 1.6 p.p. of assets to 0.1%a.**⁴ For the quarter as a whole, however, it amounted to 1.2%a. of assets, 0.1 p.p. above the level recorded one year earlier. CER adjustments recorded an increase for the month of 0.4 p.p. of assets to 1.1%a., largely reflecting the impact of the mentioned reclassification.

Loan loss provisions rose slightly during the month, by 0.2 p.p. of assets to 1%a., within the context of a quarterly period-end closing, **although they still remain at a low level.** These disbursements have nevertheless dropped by 0.1 p.p. of assets compared with the previous quarter and compared with the same period of 2007. Operating costs went up 0.1 p.p. of assets in the month, to 6.2%a. (see Chart 17). **Miscellaneous heading rose 0.4 p.p. of assets during the month to 1%a., driven by the results obtained from investments in other non-banking entities** controlled by financial entities.

On the basis of the available information at the time this Report was being published, **it is expected that banks will continue to improve their solvency in October, although there could be some decline in profits from the fluctuations in the financial environment.** Although some financial intermediation volatility will be recorded for the month (in the form of lower private sector deposits, slower growth in lending and some reduction in financial intermediation spreads following a larger rise in deposit interest rates than in lending interest rates), net interest income and service income margin is not expected to have been significantly affected. As a result of the rise in the peso-dollar exchange rate between ends in October, an increase in foreign exchange price adjustments can be expected. Gains on securities are expected to be lower, in view of the significant volatility shown by financial markets.

⁴ During September one large private bank reclassified certain results from government securities to CER adjustments. Corrected to take this operation into account, gains on securities would have totaled 0.6% of assets.

Latest regulations

This section contains a summary of the main regulations related to the business of financial intermediation issued during the month (referenced by the date on which they came into force).

- To make available to the financial system a mechanism for the immediate obtaining of liquidity, the BCRA began to offer banks the possibility of daily automatic repurchase of its Lebac and Nobac as from September 22. The bills and notes must mature within six months, and the price will arise from discounting the nominal value with an interest rate equivalent to the private bank BADLAR, plus a 6% spread.

Methodology

- (a) Aggregate balance sheet information is taken from the monthly accounting information system (unconsolidated balance sheets). In order to calculate aggregate data for the financial system, for financial entities that have not provided data for the month reviewed, the most recent information available is repeated in the aggregate balance sheet. On the other hand, for profitability analysis only the banks providing data for that month are considered.
- (b) Due to possible lack of data for some banks at the time this Report was drafted, and due to possible corrections to the data provided by financial entities later, the data included is of a preliminary nature –particularly for the last month included-. Therefore, and due to the fact that the most recent data available always used, data in connection with earlier periods may not match what was mentioned in earlier issues of the Report. In such cases, the latter release should be regarded as being of better quality.
- (c) Unless otherwise indicated, data about deposits and loans refer to balance sheet information, and do not necessarily agree with those compiled by the Centralized Information Requirement System (SISCEN). Reasons for discrepancies include the precise date considered in order to calculate monthly changes and the items included in the definition adopted in either case.
- (d) Profit ratio calculations are based on monthly results estimated from changes in the aggregate result amounts during the current fiscal year. Unless otherwise specified, profit ratios are annualized.
- (e) Initially, the breakdown by group of banks was determined based on majority decision making role –in terms of voting rights at shareholder meetings - distinguishing between private sector financial entities and public sector banks. In order to increase depth of the analysis, private sector entities were also classed according to the geographic and business scope of their operations. Wholesale banks were therefore defined as those specializing in the large corporations and investor sector, which in general do not rely on deposits from the private sector for their funding. On the other hand, retail banks were divided into those carrying out business nationwide, those located in certain geographic regions –municipalities, provinces, or regions- and entities that specialize in a financial sector niche market –usually smaller entities-. Finally, it is worth noting that the classifications defined above are solely for analytical purposes and does not mean it is the only methodology criteria by which to group them; while on the other hand, the listing of features for each financial entity group has been established in a general manner.
- (f) Indicators exhibited in Tables 1 and 5 of Statistical Appendix: 1.- (Paid in liquidity at the BCRA + Other cash holding + Holdings of BCRA securities for repo transactions in cash) / Total deposits; 2.- (Position in government securities (not including Lebac nor Nobac) + Loans to the public sector + Compensations to be received) / Total assets; 3.- (Loans to the non-financial private sector + Leasing operations) / Total assets; 4.- Irregular portfolio with the non-financial private sector / Loans to the non-financial private sector; 5.- (Total irregular portfolio – Bad loan provisions) / Equity. The irregular portfolio includes loans classed in situations 3, 4, 5 and 6; 6.- Cumulative annual result / Average monthly netted assets - % annualized; 8.- (Financial margin (Net interest income + CER and CVS adjustments + Gains on securities + Foreign exchange price adjustments + Other financial income) + Service income margin) / Cumulative annual operating costs; 9.- Paid in capital (Calculated Equity Requirement) / Risk weighted assets, according to the BCRA rule on minimum capital; 10.- Total capital position (Paid in capital less requirement, including flexibilities) / Capital requirement.

Glossary

%a.: annualized percentage.

%i.a.: interannual percentage.

Adjusted profit: Total profit excluding payments made due to court-ordered releases and adjustments to the valuation of public sector assets according to Com. "A" 3911 and modifications.

ASE: Adjusted stockholders' equity, for Responsabilidad Patrimonial Computable (RPC) in Spanish. The measure for compliance with bank capital regulations.

Consolidated (or aggregate) assets and liabilities: Those arising from excluding operations between financial entities.

Consolidated result: Excludes results related to shares and participations in other local financial entities.

CEDRO: Certificado de Depósito Reprogramado. Rescheduled Stabilization Coefficient.

Financial margin: Income less outlays of a financial nature. Includes interest income, gains from securities, CER/CVS adjustments, exchange rate differences and other financial results. Does not include the items affected by Com. A 3911.

Gains from securities: Includes income from government securities, short-term investments, corporate bonds, subordinated debt, options and from other income from financial intermediation. In the case of government securities, it includes the results accrued from income, quotation differences, exponential increase on the basis of the internal rate of return (IRR), and from sales, as well as the charge for impairment to value.

Income from services: Commissions collected less commissions paid. Includes commissions on liabilities, credits, securities, guarantees granted, rental of safe deposits boxes and foreign trade and exchange transactions, excluding in the case of the latter results from the trading of foreign currency, which are recorded in the "Exchange difference" accounts (here included under the heading "Other financial results"). Outflows include commissions paid, contributions to the Banking Social Services Institute (ISSB), other contributions on service income and charges accrued for gross income tax.

Interest income (interest margin): Interest collected less interest paid on financial intermediation, on an accrual basis – taken from balance sheet – rather than on a cash basis. Includes interest on loans of government securities and premiums on repos and reverse repos.

Liquid assets: Minimum cash compliance – cash, current account at BCRA and special accounts in guarantee – and other liquid items, including correspondent accounts plus repos in cash with the BCRA.

Liquidity ratio: Liquid assets as a percentage of total deposits.

mill.: million.

NBFE: Non-banking financial entity.

Netted assets (NA) and liabilities: Those net of accounting duplications inherent to the recording of repurchase agreements, term transactions or unsettled spot transactions.

Net worth exposure to counterpart risk: Non-performing portfolio net of allowances in terms of net worth.

Non-performing portfolio: Portfolio in categories 3 to 6, as per the debtor classification system.

Operating costs: Includes remuneration, social security payments, services and fees, miscellaneous expenses, taxes and amortization.

ON: Corporate bonds (Obligaciones Negociables).

OS: Subordinated debt (Obligaciones Subordinadas).

Other financial results: Income from financial leasing, adjustments to valuation of credit to the public sector, contribution to the deposit guarantee fund, interest on liquid funds, difference in market price of gold and foreign exchange, premiums on the sale of foreign currency and other unidentified income (net).

PN: Net worth (Patrimonio Neto).

p.p.: percentage points.

Private sector credit: Loans to the private sector and private sector securities.

Public sector credit: Loans to the public sector, holdings of government securities, compensation receivable from the Federal Government and other credits to the public sector.

Quotation differences: Income from the monthly updating of foreign currency-denominated assets and liabilities. The heading also includes income arising from the purchase and sale of foreign currency, arising from the difference in the price agreed (net of direct costs generated by the transaction) and the book value.

ROA: Net profits as a percentage of netted assets. When referring to accumulated results the denominator includes the average netted assets for the reference months.

ROE: Net profits as a percentage of net worth. When referring to accumulated results the denominator includes the average net worth for the reference months.

RPC: Adjusted stockholder's equity, calculated towards meeting capital regulations. (Responsabilidad Patrimonial Computable)

SME: Small and Medium Enterprises.

US\$: United States dollars.

RWA: Risk weighted assets.

Statistics Annex | Financial System

Chart 1 | Financial Soundness Indicators (see Methodology)

As %	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Sep 2007	2007	Aug 2008	Sep 2008
1.- Liquidity	22.3	26.1	23.1	25.0	23.4	19.6	22.8	29.1	29.6	20.1	22.5	21.9	23.0	25.8	26.3
2.- Credit to the public sector	16.9	16.2	16.2	18.0	17.3	23.0	48.5	46.5	40.6	31.3	22.3	16.4	16.1	13.2	12.9
3.- Credit to the private sector	50.8	47.7	48.4	44.9	39.9	42.7	20.8	18.1	19.6	25.8	31.0	35.3	38.2	38.4	38.5
4.- Private non-performing loans	16.2	13.8	12.2	14.0	16.0	19.1	38.6	33.5	18.6	7.6	4.5	3.5	3.2	3.0	2.9
5.- Net worth exposure to private sector	24.9	22.5	20.6	24.7	26.2	21.9	17.3	12.4	-1.0	-4.1	-3.3	-3.2	-3.0	-2.7	-3.0
6.- ROA	0.6	1.0	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	-8.9	-2.9	-0.5	0.9	1.9	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.6
7.- ROE	4.1	6.3	3.9	1.7	0.0	-0.2	-59.2	-22.7	-4.2	7.0	14.3	9.8	11.0	13.3	13.3
8.- Efficiency	142	136	138	142	147	143	189	69	125	151	167	159	160	164	164
9.- Capital compliance	23.8	20.8	20.3	21.0	20.1	21.4	-	14.5	14.0	15.3	16.8	17.2	16.9	16.7	17.0
10.- Excess capital compliance	64	73	49	54	58	54	-	116	185	173	134	100	93	87	89

Source: BCRA

Chart 2 | Balance Sheet

In million of current pesos	Dec 00	Dec 01	Dec 02	Dec 03	Dec 04	Dec 05	Dec 06	Sep 07	Dec 07	Aug 08	Sep 08	Change (in %)			
												Last month	2008	Last 12 months	
Assets	163,550	123,743	187,532	186,873	212,562	221,962	258,384	293,555	297,963	341,297	347,046	1.7	16.5	18.2	
Liquid assets ¹	20,278	13,005	17,138	27,575	29,154	20,819	37,991	39,893	46,320	48,586	52,682	8.4	13.7	32.1	
Public bonds	10,474	3,694	31,418	45,062	55,382	66,733	64,592	70,811	62,678	73,836	72,790	-1.4	16.1	2.8	
Lebac/Nobac	-	-	-	-	17,755	28,340	29,289	43,329	36,022	50,500	49,212	-2.6	36.6	13.6	
Portfolio	-	-	-	-	11,803	21,067	25,725	35,195	31,598	35,225	35,511	0.8	12.4	0.9	
Repo ²	-	-	-	-	5,953	7,273	3,563	8,134	4,424	15,275	13,701	-10.3	209.7	68.4	
Private bonds	633	543	332	198	387	389	813	413	382	306	201	-34.3	-47.5	-51.4	
Loans	83,277	77,351	84,792	68,042	73,617	84,171	103,668	122,121	132,157	150,014	152,519	1.7	15.4	24.9	
Public sector	15,164	22,694	44,337	33,228	30,866	25,836	20,874	16,849	16,772	17,298	17,324	0.2	3.3	2.8	
Private sector	64,464	52,039	38,470	33,398	41,054	55,885	77,832	100,316	110,355	126,911	129,415	2.0	17.3	29.0	
Financial sector	3,649	2,617	1,985	1,417	1,697	2,450	4,962	4,956	5,030	5,805	5,781	-0.4	14.9	16.6	
Provisions over loans	-6,907	-6,987	-11,952	-9,374	-7,500	-4,930	-3,728	-3,874	-4,089	-4,361	-4,293	-1.5	5.0	10.8	
Other netted credits due to financial intermediation	42,361	21,485	39,089	27,030	32,554	26,721	26,039	32,999	29,712	41,109	40,241	-2.1	35.4	21.9	
Corporate bonds and subordinated debt	794	751	1,708	1,569	1,018	873	773	687	606	1,008	1,024	1.6	69.1	49.0	
Unquoted trusts	2,053	2,065	6,698	4,133	3,145	3,883	4,881	5,398	5,023	5,760	5,679	-1.4	13.1	5.2	
Compensation receivable	0	0	17,111	14,937	15,467	5,841	763	375	377	317	324	2.3	-14.0	-13.5	
Other	39,514	18,669	13,572	6,392	12,924	16,124	19,622	26,539	23,706	34,023	33,213	-2.4	40.1	25.1	
Leasing	786	771	567	397	611	1,384	2,262	3,319	3,469	4,006	4,072	1.6	17.4	22.7	
Shares in other companies	2,645	2,688	4,653	4,591	3,871	4,532	6,392	6,919	6,430	6,976	7,185	3.0	11.7	3.9	
Fixed assets and miscellaneous	4,939	4,804	8,636	8,164	7,782	7,546	7,619	7,536	7,643	7,738	7,770	0.4	1.7	3.1	
Foreign branches	1,115	1,057	3,522	3,144	3,524	3,647	2,782	2,928	2,912	2,877	2,916	1.4	0.1	-0.4	
Other assets	3,950	5,334	9,338	12,043	13,180	10,950	9,953	10,492	10,347	10,210	10,962	7.4	5.9	4.5	
Liabilities	146,267	107,261	161,446	164,923	188,683	195,044	225,369	257,031	261,143	301,971	306,897	1.6	17.5	19.4	
Deposits	86,506	66,458	75,001	94,635	116,655	136,492	170,898	199,394	205,550	234,597	239,276	2.0	16.4	20.0	
Public sector ³	7,204	950	8,381	16,040	31,649	34,019	45,410	51,295	48,340	63,724	64,624	1.4	33.7	26.0	
Private sector ³	78,397	43,270	59,698	74,951	83,000	100,809	123,431	145,787	155,048	167,810	171,571	2.2	10.7	17.7	
Current account	6,438	7,158	11,462	15,071	18,219	23,487	26,900	32,857	35,245	38,016	39,781	4.6	12.9	21.1	
Savings account	13,008	14,757	10,523	16,809	23,866	29,078	36,442	42,778	47,109	47,191	47,119	-0.2	0.0	10.1	
Time deposit	53,915	18,012	19,080	33,285	34,944	42,822	54,338	63,182	65,952	76,123	77,785	2.2	17.9	23.1	
CEDRO	0	0	12,328	3,217	1,046	17	13	5	0	0	0	-	-	-	
Other netted liabilities due to financial intermediation	55,297	36,019	75,737	61,690	64,928	52,072	46,037	48,750	46,225	57,609	57,183	-0.7	23.7	17.3	
Interbanking obligations	3,545	2,550	1,649	1,317	1,461	2,164	4,578	4,322	4,310	5,082	5,002	-1.6	16.1	15.7	
BCRA lines	102	4,470	27,837	27,491	27,726	17,005	7,686	2,452	2,362	2,013	1,978	-1.8	-16.3	-19.4	
Outstanding bonds	4,954	3,777	9,096	6,675	7,922	6,548	6,603	7,181	6,938	6,128	6,098	-0.5	-12.1	-15.1	
Foreign lines of credit	8,813	7,927	25,199	15,196	8,884	4,684	4,240	3,753	3,864	4,860	5,112	5.2	32.3	36.2	
Other	37,883	17,295	11,955	11,012	18,934	21,671	22,930	31,042	28,752	39,526	38,993	-1.3	35.6	25.6	
Subordinated debts	2,255	2,260	3,712	2,028	1,415	1,381	1,642	1,645	1,672	1,612	1,592	1.3	-3.6	-2.0	
Other liabilities	2,210	2,524	6,997	6,569	5,685	5,099	6,792	7,242	7,695	8,174	8,827	8.0	14.7	21.9	
Net worth	17,283	16,483	26,086	21,950	23,879	26,918	33,014	36,524	36,819	39,326	40,150	2.1	9.0	9.9	
Memo															
Netted assets	129,815	110,275	185,356	184,371	202,447	208,275	244,791	273,056	280,336	313,951	320,771	2.2	14.4	17.5	
Consolidated netted assets	125,093	106,576	181,253	181,077	198,462	203,286	235,845	263,785	271,652	304,220	310,947	2.2	14.5	17.9	

(1) Includes margin accounts with the BCRA and excludes financial entities repos against BCRA. (2) Booked value from balance sheet. (3) Does not include accrual on interest or CER.

Source: BCRA

Statistics Annex | Financial System (cont.)

Chart 3 | Profitability Structure

Amount in million of pesos	Annual								First 9 months		Monthly			Last
	2000	2001	2002 ¹	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2007	2008	Jul-08	Aug-08	Sep-08	12 months
Financial margin	7,291	6,943	13,991	1,965	6,075	9,475	13,262	15,134	10,770	14,524	1,633	1,544	1,679	18,887
Net interest income	5,106	4,625	-3,624	-943	1,753	3,069	4,150	5,744	4,071	6,743	769	826	861	8,416
CER and CVS adjustments	0	0	8,298	2,315	1,944	3,051	3,012	2,624	1,918	2,503	227	181	280	3,208
Foreign exchange price adjustments	185	268	5,977	-890	866	751	944	1,357	983	1,135	167	71	276	1,508
Gains on securities	1,481	1,490	3,639	1,962	1,887	2,371	4,923	5,144	3,591	3,819	463	440	38	5,372
Other financial income	519	559	-299	-480	-375	233	235	264	206	325	7	26	224	383
Service income margin	3,582	3,604	4,011	3,415	3,904	4,781	6,243	8,248	5,911	7,806	935	896	941	10,143
Loan loss provisions	-3,056	-3,096	-10,007	-2,089	-1,511	-1,173	-1,198	-1,894	-1,334	-1,884	-181	-196	-263	-2,444
Operating costs	-7,375	-7,362	-9,520	-7,760	-7,998	-9,437	-11,655	-14,634	-10,480	-13,654	-1,570	-1,572	-1,627	-17,808
Tax charges	-528	-571	-691	-473	-584	-737	-1,090	-1,537	-1,086	-1,591	-184	-194	-202	-2,042
Income tax	-446	-262	-509	-305	-275	-581	-595	-1,032	-831	-1,027	-149	-95	-113	-1,228
Adjust. to the valuation of gov. securities ²	0	0	0	-701	-320	-410	-752	-837	-509	-1,333	-143	-196	-203	-1,661
Amort. payments for court-ordered releases	0	0	0	-1,124	-1,686	-1,867	-2,573	-1,922	-1,484	-717	-57	-58	-61	-1,155
Other	535	702	-3,880	1,738	1,497	1,729	2,664	2,380	1,631	1,383	150	166	264	2,131
Monetary results	0	0	-12,558	69	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total results³	3	-42	-19,162	-5,265	-898	1,780	4,306	3,905	2,587	3,505	434	295	414	4,823
Adjusted results ⁴	-	-	-	-3,440	1,337	4,057	7,631	6,665	4,581	5,556	634	549	678	7,640
<i>Annualized indicators - As % of netted assets</i>														
Financial margin	5.7	5.7	6.5	1.1	3.1	4.6	5.8	5.7	5.5	6.4	6.4	6.0	6.4	6.4
Net interest income	4.0	3.8	-1.7	-0.5	0.9	1.5	1.8	2.2	2.1	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.3	2.9
CER and CVS adjustments	0.0	0.0	3.9	1.3	1.0	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.7	1.1	1.1
Foreign exchange price adjustments	0.1	0.2	2.8	-0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.3	1.0	0.5
Gains on securities	1.2	1.2	1.7	1.1	1.0	1.2	2.2	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.7	0.1	1.8
Other financial income	0.4	0.5	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.1
Service income margin	2.8	3.0	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.3	2.7	3.1	3.0	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.4
Loan loss provisions	-2.4	-2.6	-4.7	-1.1	-0.8	-0.6	-0.5	-0.7	-0.7	-0.8	-0.7	-0.8	-1.0	-0.8
Operating costs	-5.8	-6.1	-4.4	-4.2	-4.1	-4.6	-5.1	-5.5	-5.4	-6.0	-6.2	-6.1	-6.2	-6.0
Tax charges	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6	-0.7	-0.7	-0.7	-0.8	-0.7
Income tax	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	-0.6	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4
Adjust. to the valuation of gov. securities ²	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.6	-0.6	-0.8	-0.8	-0.6
Amort. payments for court-ordered releases	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.6	-0.9	-0.9	-1.1	-0.7	-0.8	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.4
Other	0.4	0.6	-1.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.7
Monetary results	0.0	0.0	-5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
ROA³	0.0	0.0	-8.9	-2.9	-0.5	0.9	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.1	1.6	1.6
ROA adjusted ⁴	0.0	0.0	-8.9	-1.9	0.7	2.0	3.4	2.5	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.1	2.6	2.6
ROE ³	0.0	-0.2	-59.2	-22.7	-4.2	7.0	14.3	11.0	9.8	13.3	14.7	9.9	13.7	13.6

(1) Data at December 2002 currency (2) Com. "A" 3911. Adjustments to the valuation of government unlisted securities according to Com. "A" 4084 are included under the "gains from securities" heading.

(3) As of January 2008, data to calculate financial system consolidated result is available. This indicator excludes results and asset headings related to shares and participation in other local financial entities.

(4) Excluding amortization of payments for court-ordered releases and the effects of Com. "A" 3911 and 4084.

Source: BCRA

Chart 4 | Portfolio Quality

As percentage	Dec 00	Dec 01	Dec 02	Dec 03	Dec 04	Dec 05	Dec 06	Sep 07	Dec 07	Aug 08	Sep 08
Non-performing loans (overall)	12.9	13.1	18.1	17.7	10.7	5.2	3.4	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.5
Non-performing loans to the non-financial private sector	16.0	19.1	38.6	33.5	18.6	7.6	4.5	3.5	3.2	3.0	2.9
Provisions / Non-performing loans	61.1	66.4	73.8	79.2	102.9	124.5	129.9	131.8	129.6	126.7	130.5
(Total non-performing - Provisions) / Overall financing	5.0	4.4	4.7	3.7	-0.3	-1.3	-1.0	-0.9	-0.8	-0.7	-0.8
(Total non-performing - Provisions) / Net worth	26.2	21.6	17.2	11.9	-1.0	-4.1	-3.3	-3.2	-3.0	-2.7	-3.0

(*) Include commercial loans treated as consumer loans for classification purposes.

Source: BCRA

Statistics Annex | Private Banks

Chart 5 | Financial Soundness Indicators (see Methodology)

As %	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Sep 2007	2007	Aug 2008	Sep 2008
1.- Liquidity	23.6	26.9	22.8	24.3	24.1	23.6	24.8	27.6	29.2	21.5	23.7	23.5	25.7	27.5	28.8
2.- Credit to the public sector	13.5	13.7	13.6	16.1	14.7	20.8	49.4	47.1	41.2	28.0	15.9	9.6	9.1	6.9	6.7
3.- Credit to the private sector	51.0	46.7	47.6	44.6	38.4	45.4	22.4	19.9	22.5	31.1	37.9	44.3	46.6	47.2	46.8
4.- Private non-performing loans	11.1	8.5	7.7	8.9	9.8	14.0	37.4	30.4	15.3	6.3	3.6	2.8	2.5	2.7	2.5
5.- Net worth exposure to private sector	21.6	14.3	13.2	11.5	13.4	11.4	18.6	11.2	1.9	-2.2	-3.0	-3.1	-3.6	-2.8	-3.2
6.- ROA	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.2	-11.3	-2.5	-1.0	0.5	2.2	1.4	1.6	1.9	2.0
7.- ROE	4.1	6.3	4.3	2.3	0.8	1.4	-79.0	-19.1	-8.1	4.1	15.3	9.4	10.9	14.5	15.3
8.- Efficiency	144	135	139	146	152	151	168	93	115	136	158	150	152	162	162
9.- Capital compliance	15.9	15.4	14.6	18.9	18.0	17.6	-	14.0	15.1	17.8	18.6	19.8	19.2	18.4	18.3
10.- Excess capital compliance	33	47	27	60	49	43	-	88	157	155	116	100	87	83	81

Source: BCRA

Chart 6 | Balance Sheet

In million of current pesos	Dec 00	Dec 01	Dec 02	Dec 03	Dec 04	Dec 05	Dec 06	Sep 07	Dec 07	Aug 08	Sep 08	Change (in %)			
												Last month	2008	Last 12 months	
Assets	119,371	82,344	118,906	116,633	128,065	129,680	152,414	169,751	175,509	193,704	198,797	2.6	13.3	17.1	
Liquid assets ¹	13,920	10,576	11,044	14,500	15,893	14,074	22,226	24,174	29,418	29,489	31,801	7.8	8.1	31.5	
Public bonds	7,583	1,627	19,751	22,260	24,817	29,966	27,663	28,114	24,444	25,523	25,831	1.2	5.7	-8.1	
Lebac/Nobac	0	0	-	-	8,359	15,227	15,952	20,364	17,684	20,629	21,159	2.6	19.7	3.9	
Portfolio	0	0	-	-	5,611	12,899	14,220	16,912	15,639	14,116	14,033	-0.6	-10.3	-17.0	
Repo ²	0	0	-	-	2,749	2,328	1,732	3,452	2,045	6,513	7,126	9.4	248.5	106.5	
Private bonds	563	451	273	172	333	307	683	359	310	215	113	-47.7	-63.7	-68.6	
Loans	56,035	52,319	51,774	47,017	50,741	56,565	69,294	82,356	88,898	98,711	100,245	1.6	12.8	21.7	
Public sector	8,172	13,803	25,056	23,571	21,420	15,954	10,036	6,538	6,413	6,361	6,318	-0.7	-1.5	-3.4	
Private sector	45,103	36,636	26,074	22,816	28,213	39,031	55,632	72,069	78,587	87,792	89,350	1.8	13.7	24.0	
Financial sector	2,760	1,880	644	630	1,107	1,580	3,626	3,749	3,898	4,559	4,577	0.4	17.4	22.1	
Provisions over loans	-3,248	-3,957	-7,463	-5,225	-3,717	-2,482	-2,227	-2,270	-2,365	-2,678	-2,609	-2.6	10.3	15.0	
Other netted credits due to financial intermediation	36,600	13,037	27,212	22,148	25,753	16,873	18,387	18,659	17,084	22,914	23,161	1.1	35.6	24.1	
Corporate bonds and subordinated debt	724	665	1,514	1,394	829	675	618	508	430	803	815	1.5	89.6	60.6	
Unquoted trusts	1,609	1,637	6,205	3,571	2,362	2,444	2,982	3,867	3,456	4,129	3,929	-4.8	13.7	1.6	
Compensation receivable	0	0	15,971	13,812	14,657	5,575	760	374	377	317	324	2.3	-14.0	-13.4	
Other	34,267	10,735	3,523	3,370	7,905	8,179	14,027	13,910	12,822	17,666	18,093	2.4	41.1	30.1	
Leasing	776	752	553	387	592	1,356	2,126	3,061	3,149	3,555	3,609	1.5	14.6	17.9	
Shares in other companies	1,651	1,703	3,123	2,791	1,892	2,416	4,042	4,455	3,762	4,321	4,491	3.9	19.4	0.8	
Fixed assets and miscellaneous	3,225	3,150	5,198	4,902	4,678	4,575	4,677	4,586	4,685	4,800	4,832	0.7	3.1	5.4	
Foreign branches	75	112	-109	-136	-53	-148	-139	-151	-154	-153	-159	3.8	3.6	5.6	
Other assets	2,190	2,574	7,549	7,816	7,137	6,178	5,682	6,408	6,277	7,007	7,484	6.8	19.2	16.8	
Liabilities	107,193	70,829	103,079	101,732	113,285	112,600	131,476	146,331	152,153	168,503	173,312	2.9	13.9	18.4	
Deposits	57,833	44,863	44,445	52,625	62,685	75,668	94,095	110,462	116,719	127,767	130,957	2.5	12.2	18.6	
Public sector ³	1,276	950	1,636	3,077	6,039	6,946	7,029	8,281	7,564	10,565	10,801	2.2	42.8	30.4	
Private sector ³	55,917	43,270	38,289	47,097	55,384	67,859	85,714	100,814	107,671	115,420	118,407	2.6	10.0	17.5	
Current account	4,960	7,158	8,905	11,588	13,966	17,946	20,604	24,765	27,132	28,392	29,842	5.1	10.0	20.5	
Savings account	9,409	14,757	6,309	10,547	14,842	18,362	23,165	27,066	30,169	29,385	29,743	1.2	-1.4	9.9	
Time deposit	39,030	18,012	11,083	18,710	22,729	27,736	38,043	44,427	45,770	53,163	54,222	2.0	18.5	22.0	
CEDRO	0	0	9,016	2,409	798	3	1	1	0	0	0	-	-	-	
Other netted liabilities due to financial intermediation	46,271	22,629	49,341	42,367	45,083	32,349	31,750	30,280	29,323	34,341	35,559	3.5	21.3	17.4	
Interbanking obligations	2,293	1,514	836	726	1,070	1,488	3,383	2,176	1,979	2,026	2,006	-1.0	1.4	-7.8	
BCRA lines	83	1,758	16,624	17,030	17,768	10,088	3,689	662	675	632	634	0.4	-6.0	-4.2	
Outstanding bonds	4,939	3,703	9,073	6,674	7,922	6,548	6,413	7,061	6,686	5,785	5,755	-0.5	-13.9	-18.5	
Foreign lines of credit	5,491	4,644	15,434	9,998	5,444	2,696	2,249	1,731	1,833	2,901	3,068	5.8	67.4	77.2	
Other	33,466	11,010	7,374	7,939	12,878	11,530	16,015	18,650	18,150	22,999	24,096	4.8	32.8	29.2	
Subordinated debts	1,668	1,700	3,622	1,850	1,304	1,319	1,642	1,641	1,668	1,588	1,608	1.3	-3.6	-2.1	
Other liabilities	1,420	1,637	5,671	4,890	4,213	3,264	3,989	3,948	4,443	4,807	5,188	7.9	16.8	31.4	
Net worth	12,178	11,515	15,827	14,900	14,780	17,080	20,938	23,420	23,356	25,201	25,486	1.1	9.1	8.8	
Memo															
Netted assets	88,501	73,796	117,928	115,091	121,889	123,271	143,807	159,450	166,231	179,830	184,613	2.7	11.1	15.8	

(1) Includes margin accounts with the BCRA and excludes financial entities repos against BCRA. (2) Booked value from balance sheet. (3) Does not include accrual on interest or CER.

Source: BCRA

Statistics Annex | Private Banks (cont.)

Chart 7 | Profitability Structure

Amount in million of pesos	Annual								First 9 months		Monthly			Last
	2000	2001	2002 ¹	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2007	2008	Jul-08	Aug-08	Sep-08	12 months
Financial margin	5,441	5,282	10,628	2,575	3,415	5,253	7,778	8,960	6,237	9,111	1,100	971	1,033	11,834
Net interest income	3,598	3,519	-304	107	1,214	2,069	2,826	4,191	2,870	5,400	635	641	661	6,721
CER and CVS adjustments	0	0	1,476	1,082	900	1,215	858	662	494	692	54	43	166	861
Foreign exchange price adjustments	160	256	6,189	-312	666	576	740	990	700	1,015	129	75	117	1,304
Gains on securities	1,232	962	3,464	1,892	959	1,259	3,154	2,888	1,992	1,708	278	188	-133	2,604
Other financial income	450	546	-197	-195	-322	134	199	229	181	297	4	24	222	344
Service income margin	2,554	2,598	2,782	2,341	2,774	3,350	4,459	5,881	4,231	5,498	648	636	665	7,148
Loan loss provisions	-2,173	-2,464	-6,923	-1,461	-1,036	-714	-737	-1,174	-818	-1,247	-100	-139	-188	-1,603
Operating costs	-5,263	-5,224	-6,726	-5,310	-5,382	-6,303	-7,741	-9,735	-6,960	-9,030	-1,032	-1,037	-1,083	-11,805
Tax charges	-379	-418	-512	-366	-393	-509	-769	-1,105	-775	-1,183	-137	-144	-147	-1,513
Income tax	-393	-216	-337	-295	-202	-217	-365	-380	-240	-744	-98	-88	-98	-884
Adjust. to the valuation of gov. securities ²	0	0	0	-665	-51	-201	-170	-100	-30	-212	-32	-27	-21	-281
Amort. payments for court-ordered releases	0	0	0	-791	-1,147	-1,168	-1,182	-1,466	-1,140	-473	-38	-40	-39	-799
Other	307	615	-4,164	1,178	846	1,156	1,641	1,576	1,080	824	49	91	280	1,320
Monetary results	0	0	-10,531	-20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total results³	93	174	-15,784	-2,813	-1,176	648	2,915	2,457	1,585	2,545	360	224	401	3,416
Adjusted results ⁴	-	-	-	-1,357	252	2,016	4,267	4,023	2,756	3,229	430	291	461	4,496
<i>Annualized indicators - As % of netted assets</i>														
Financial margin	6.2	6.4	7.6	2.3	2.9	4.3	5.9	5.8	5.5	7.0	7.5	6.6	6.8	6.9
Net interest income	4.1	4.3	-0.2	0.1	1.0	1.7	2.1	2.7	2.5	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.4	3.9
CER and CVS adjustments	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	1.1	0.5
Foreign exchange price adjustments	0.2	0.3	4.4	-0.3	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.8	0.8
Gains on securities	1.4	1.2	2.5	1.7	0.8	1.0	2.4	1.9	1.8	1.3	1.9	1.3	-0.9	1.5
Other financial income	0.5	0.7	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	1.5	0.2
Service income margin	2.9	3.2	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.7	3.4	3.8	3.7	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.2
Loan loss provisions	-2.5	-3.0	-5.0	-1.3	-0.9	-0.6	-0.6	-0.8	-0.7	-1.0	-0.7	-0.9	-1.2	-0.9
Operating costs	-6.0	-6.4	-4.8	-4.6	-4.6	-5.1	-5.9	-6.3	-6.1	-6.9	-7.1	-7.0	-7.2	-6.9
Tax charges	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.6	-0.7	-0.7	-0.9	-0.9	-1.0	-1.0	-0.9
Income tax	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.6	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6	-0.5
Adjust. to the valuation of gov. securities ²	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.6	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Amort. payments for court-ordered releases	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.7	-1.0	-1.0	-0.9	-0.9	-1.0	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.5
Other	0.4	0.7	-3.0	1.0	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.3	0.6	1.8	0.8
Monetary results	0.0	0.0	-7.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
ROA³	0.1	0.2	-11.3	-2.5	-1.0	0.5	2.2	1.6	1.4	2.0	2.5	1.5	2.6	2.0
ROA adjusted ⁴	0.1	0.2	-11.3	-1.2	0.2	1.6	3.2	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.9	2.0	3.0	2.6
ROE³	0.8	1.4	-79.0	-19.1	-8.1	4.1	15.3	10.9	9.4	15.3	19.2	11.9	21.1	15.2

(1) Data at December 2002 currency (2) Com. "A" 3911. Adjustments to the valuation of government unlisted securities according to Com. "A" 4084 are included under the "gains from securities" heading.

(3) As of January 2008, data to calculate financial system consolidated result is available. This indicator excludes results and asset headings related to shares and participation in other local financial entities.

(4) Excluding amortization of payments for court-ordered releases and the effects of Com. "A" 3911 and 4084.

Source: BCRA

Chart 8 | Portfolio Quality

As percentage	Dec 00	Dec 01	Dec 02	Dec 03	Dec 04	Dec 05	Dec 06	Sep 07	Dec 07	Aug 08	Sep 08
Non-performing loans (overall)	8.3	9.9	19.8	15.7	8.9	4.4	2.9	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.3
Non-performing loans to the non-financial private sector	9.8	14.0	37.4	30.4	15.3	6.3	3.6	2.8	2.5	2.7	2.5
Provisions / Non-performing loans	67.7	75.7	73.4	79.0	97.0	114.3	129.3	134.3	141.3	128.1	134.0
(Total non-performing - Provisions) / Overall financing	2.7	2.4	5.3	3.3	0.4	-0.6	-0.9	-0.8	-0.9	-0.7	-0.8
(Total non-performing - Provisions) / Net worth	13.4	11.4	18.6	11.2	1.3	-2.2	-3.0	-3.1	-3.6	-2.8	-3.2

(*) Include commercial loans treated as consumer loans for classification purposes.

Source: BCRA