

# The Bundesbank's Treasures of Microdata on the German Financial System

Martin Eisele, Deutsche Bundesbank

## Microdata at the Bundesbank – overview

- The Deutsche Bundesbank collects monetary, financial and external sector statistical data as well as other microdata, particularly with regard to their main tasks (monetary policy, banking supervision, financial stability policy, payment systems).
- Microdata has become more important for the different policy areas.
  - Effects of monetary policy and financial stability policy differ across banks, firms, and households. Without taking such heterogeneity into account, the channels through which policy affects prices / financial stability are difficult to establish.
  - Assessing the effects of regulatory policies likewise requires granular data.
- In recent years, there has been an increased demand to provide more microdata for research purposes.
- Therefore, several microdata products are available under strict conditions and for clearly defined academic research purposes at the Bundesbank's Research Data and Service Centre (RDSC).

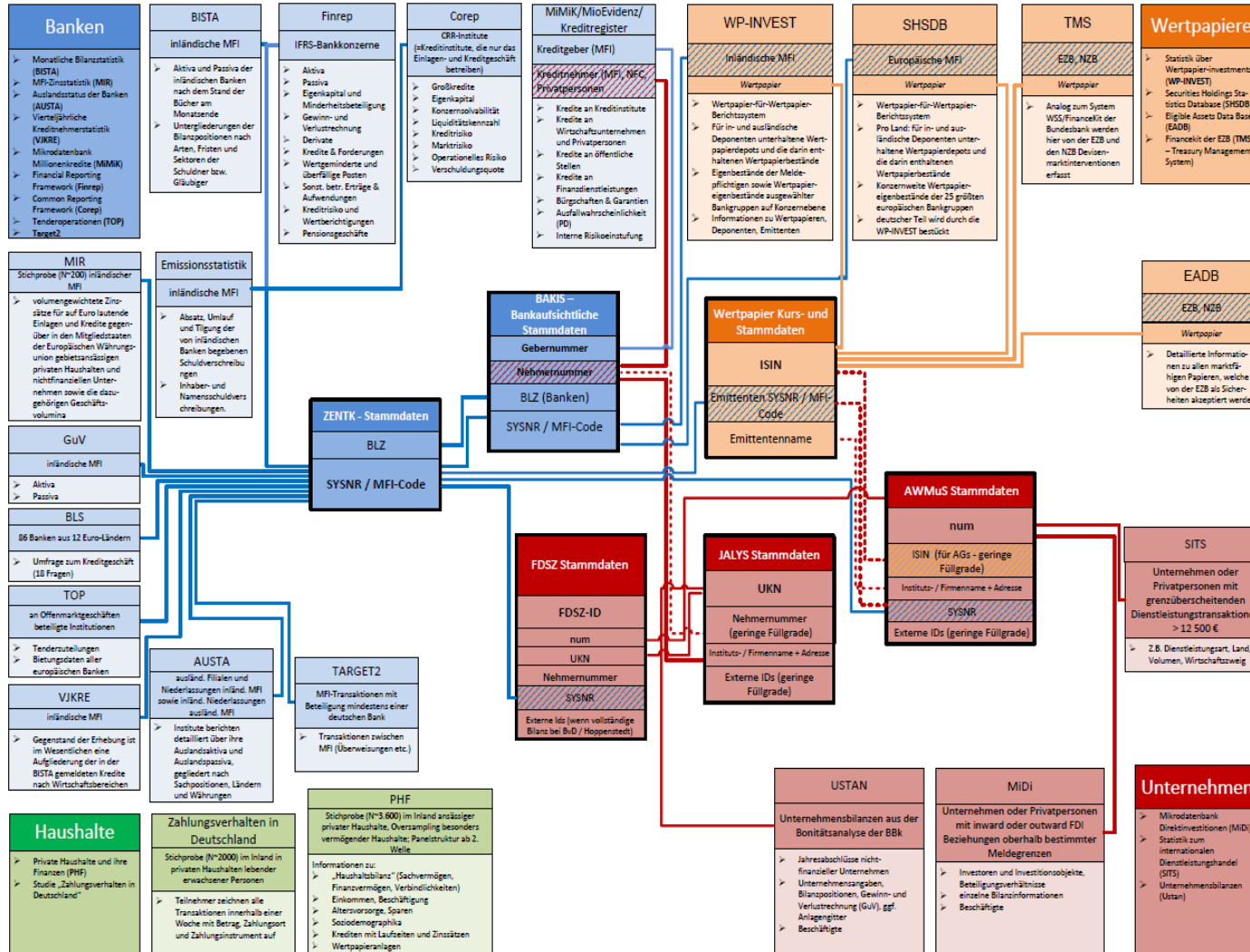
# The Research Data and Service Centre (RDSC)

The RDSC offers access for non-commercial research to sensitive microdata of the Bundesbank. Among the RDSC's tasks are:

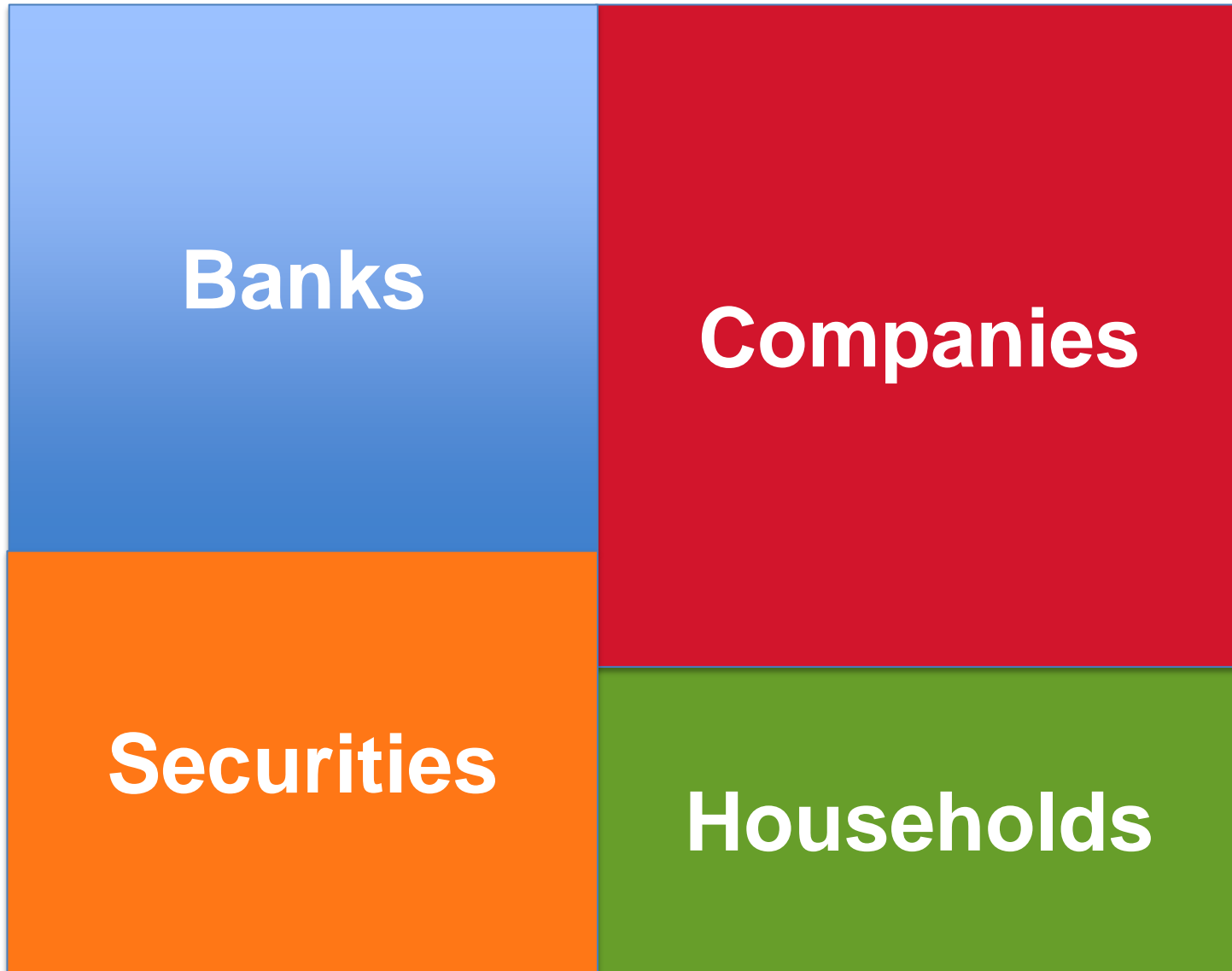
- Offer advisory service on data selection and data access (data handling, research potential, scope and validity of data).
- Provide data access in compliance with data protection regulations.
- Access to Bundesbank's microdata is possible via guest stays in Frankfurt (exceptions: scientific use files of household finance survey (PHF) and financial literacy survey).
- Document data and methodological aspects of the data.
- Generate links of different microdata sources.

# Bundesbank's relevant microdata sources and their connections

## (excerpt)



## Available microdata at the RDSC



## Securities holdings statistics

- The research data set SHS-Base is the core module of the Bundesbank's Securities Holdings Statistics.
- Financial institutions domiciled in Germany report securities which they hold for domestic or foreign customers. In addition, they provide information about their own holdings, irrespective of where the securities are held.
- Data is available from December 2005 until February 2017 (regular updates). Since January 2013 the data is collected monthly, prior to this date it was collected quarterly.
- The reporting agents provide information on securities holdings (broken down by economic sector and investors' country of origin) as well as about the securities on a security-by-security basis.
- The reporting scheme for securities holdings statistics comprises negotiable bonds and debt securities, negotiable money market papers, shares, participating certificates and investment fund certificates.

## Investment funds statistics

- The research data set IFS-Base is the core module of the Deutsche Bundesbank's Investment Funds Statistics (IFS). The IFS-Base allows for a detailed overview of the assets and liabilities of German open-end investment funds on a fund-by-fund level.
- Data is available from September 2009 until March 2017 (regular updates)
- German investment management and externally managed investment companies report monthly microdata on the assets under management for around 6.300 investment funds.
- Amongst other things, reportings consist of every security held by the respective investment fund on a security-by-security basis. In addition, information on these securities are provided (e.g. ISIN, sector and country of the issuer etc.).
- After an amendment of the reporting requirements in 2014, more granular data on real estate assets held by investment funds is available in the IFS-Base. For example, it became possible to distinguish real estate assets by usage type.
- The combination of SHS-Base and IFS-Base allows to analyse the structure of investment funds holdings of German banks in detail.

## Monthly balance sheet statistics of banks

- The monthly balance sheet statistics list domestic banks' (monetary financial institutes - MFIs) assets and liabilities based on the books at the end of the month.
- Unit of analysis: German MFI and foreign MFI acting in the domestic financial markets.
- Microdata is available as a monthly panel, starting in January 1999 until May 2017 (regular updates).
- The dataset contains monthly information on loans and credits to other MFI, to companies as well as to households, containing credits, debt securities etc.
- The monthly balance sheet statistics represent the most comprehensive statistical survey of the banking industry in Germany. It consists of a balance sheet and additional annexes with over 3,700 unique variables (with all positions according the German Commercial Code (HGB)).



## External position of banks

- The external position of banks shows the assets and liabilities of banks (MFIs) in Germany and their foreign branches and subsidiaries vis-à-vis non-residents.
- Unit of analysis: German MFI and foreign MFI acting in the domestic financial markets.
- Microdata is available as a monthly panel, starting in March 2002 until December 2016 (regular updates).
- It contains detailed information about type and maturity of investment. Compared to the monthly balance sheet statistics, there are further breakdowns of assets by recipient country of the reported asset.
- The Research data set contains
  - The 80 largest domestic banks (with respect to the total of foreign assets and foreign liabilities in May of each year) and all domestic banks with foreign subsidiaries or branches, with detailed breakdowns of ca. 100 countries.
  - All positions that are necessary to calculate total external assets and liabilities as well as all flows (head <-> foreign branches) within a MFI.

## Summing Up

- The Bundesbank hopes to (further) stimulate international research and policy analysis with these data.
  - Accessing the data is comparatively easy and inexpensive.
- Come, visit us in Frankfurt! (32<sup>nd</sup> floor of the TRIANON tower)



- **Website:** [www.bundesbank.de\rdsc](http://www.bundesbank.de\rdsc)
- **Contact:** [fdsz@bundesbank.de](mailto:fdsz@bundesbank.de)
- **Data Use Applications:** [fdsz-data@bundesbank.de](mailto:fdsz-data@bundesbank.de)
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