

Quarterly Sector Accounts

3th quarter of 2011

Net borrowing of the economy decreases

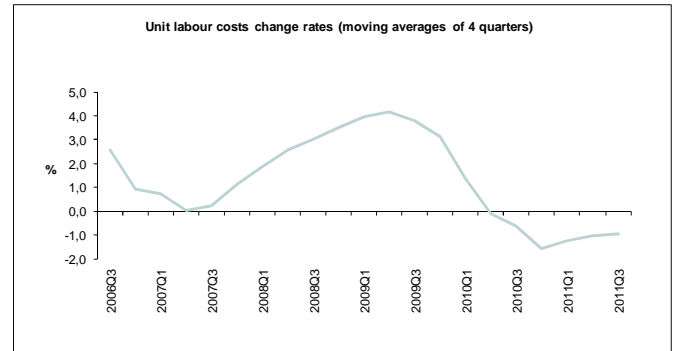
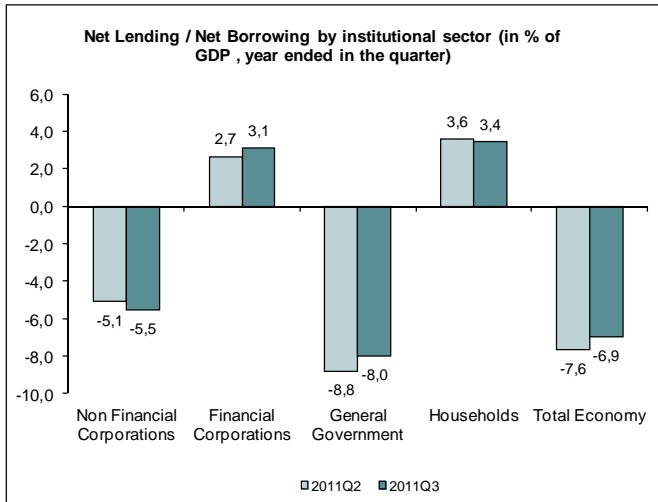
In the year ended in the 3rd quarter 2011, the net borrowing of the Portuguese economy maintained a downward trend, attaining 6.9% of GDP (7.6% in the previous quarter). This behaviour was the result of improvements in the net borrowing of General Government (from -8.8% of GDP in the 2nd quarter to -8.0% in the 3th quarter) and, to a lesser extent, in the net lending of Financial Corporation (from 2.7% to 3.1% of GDP). The contribution of these two sectors more than compensated the deterioration of the balances of the remaining sectors. The net lending of Households diminished to 3.6% of GDP, 0.2 percentage points less than the observed in the previous quarter, mainly due to the reduction of the saving rate. The net borrowing of the Non-Financial Corporations was -5.5% of GDP (0.4 percentage points less than the observed in the previous quarter).

The current results are the preliminary version of the Quarterly Sector Accounts for the 3th quarter of 2011, which can be revised in the next quarters accordingly with the update of the input data used in the compilation. Unless stated otherwise, the results and graphics in this press release are always presented as 4 quarters moving averages or as the year ended in the reference quarter. The change rates compare the year ended in the reference quarter with the year ended in the previous quarter. All the variables are valued at current prices.

These quarterly results are consistent with the final Sector Accounts for 2009, which are included in the annexed excel files. The results are consistent with the National Accounts by branch of activity, published in 9th December.

3rd quarter of 2011 – Main results

In the 3rd quarter of 2011 the net lending of the Portuguese economy decreased to 6.9% of GDP, 0.7 percentage points less than the observed in the previous quarter. This decrease reflected the improvement in the net borrowing of General Government, from -8.8% of GDP to -8.0%. For the other internal sectors, the overall net borrowing increased slightly in the 3rd quarter due to the deterioration of the balance of Households and, to a greater extent, of the Non Financial Corporations, which more than compensated the improvement of the net lending of the Financial Corporations..



The unit labour costs continued to diminish in consequence of the decrease in the wage per worker. However, this reduction was partially compensated by the unfavourable behaviour of productivity, leading to a less negative change rate of the unit labour costs.

Wages per worker decreased 0.4% in the year ended in the 3rd quarter of 2011, when compared with the same period of the previous year. This decrease was observed for the first time and it was the result of the behaviour of wages paid by General Government. The total wages expenditure of that sector decreased 2.0% (change rate of -1.8% in the previous quarter). For the Financial and Non Financial Corporations, wages increased 0.2% (0.3% in the previous quarter).