The **equity ratio** was 24.3% for the Group (2012: 22.7%) and 43.4% for the industrial business (2012: 39.8%). The 2012 and 2013 equity ratios are adjusted for the paid and proposed dividend payments for the years 2012 and 2013.

Provisions decreased to €23.1 billion (2012: €24.5 billion); as a proportion of the balance sheet total, they decreased to 14% (2012: 15%). They primarily comprise provisions for pensions and similar obligations (€9.9 billion; 2012: €11.3 billion) as well as provisions for product warranties (€4.7 billion; 2012: €5.1 billion), for personnel and social costs (€3.2 billion; 2012: €2.7 billion) and for income taxes (€1.3 billion; 2012: €1.7 billion). The decrease in provisions mainly relates to provisions for pensions and similar obligations and primarily reflects the increase in discount rates, especially in Germany, where they rose from 3.1% to 3.4%.

Financing liabilities of €77.7 billion were higher than a year earlier (2012: €76.3 billion). The increase of €5.8 billion after adjusting for exchange-rate effects is mainly the result of the growing leasing and sales-financing business. Of the total financing liabilities, 50% are accounted for by bonds, 25% by liabilities to financial institutions, 14% by deposits in the direct banking business and 8% by liabilities from ABS transactions.

Due to the higher volume of business, **trade payables** increased compared with the end of 2012 to €9.1 billion (2012: €8.8 billion). The Mercedes-Benz Cars division accounts for 60% of the payables and the Daimler Trucks division accounts for 28%.

Other financial liabilities decreased by €0.2 billion to €8.3 billion. They mainly consist of liabilities from residual-value guarantees, security deposits received and liabilities relating to wages and salaries, as well as derivative financial instruments and accrued interest on financing liabilities.

Other liabilities of €7.0 billion primarily comprise deferred taxes, tax liabilities and deferred income (2012: €5.7 billion). The increase mainly resulted from deferred revenues from multi-year service and maintenance agreements, increased deferred tax liabilities relating to derivative financial instruments, and pensions and similar obligations.

Further information on the assets presented in the statement of financial position and on the Group's equity and liabilities is provided in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position ↗ **F.03**, the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity ↗ **F.05** and the related notes in the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Off-balance-sheet assets

In addition to the assets presented in the statement of financial position, the Group uses to a small extent off-balance-sheet assets within the framework of rental and leasing agreements.

Funded status of pension obligations

The **funded status of the Group's pension benefit obligations**, defined as the difference between the present value of the pension obligations and the fair value of pension plan assets, amounts to minus €8.6 billion at December 31, 2013, compared with minus €9.7 billion at December 31, 2012. At December 31, 2012, the present value of the Group's pension obligations amounted to €23.2 billion, compared with €23.9 billion a year earlier. The decrease resulted primarily from the increase in discount rates, especially for the German and US plans. As a result, actuarial losses from defined benefit pension plans, which are recognized in equity under retained earnings, decreased by €1.3 billion before taxes. The plan assets available to finance the pension obligations increased from €14.2 billion to €14.7 billion at December 31, 2013.

Further information on the effects on the statement of financial position and the statement of income as well as on pensions and similar obligations is provided in Note 1 and Note 22 respectively of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.