

Banks & Banking system

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Content

- 1 What is a Bank?
- 2 Bank balance sheet
- 3 Money creation
- 4 Commercial banks
- 5 Central Bank
- 6 Bank risks

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Definition

A bank represents an entity in the economy that has **permission** to receive funds, which it further offers to inquiring clients. In modern times, however, it also provides numerous other services that are based on the needs of the financial system, or clients' wishes. Due to its importance and scope of activity, it belongs to the most important financial intermediaries.

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A bank can be viewed as a financial institution that accepts deposits from the public (*banking licence*) and creates a supply of capital.

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Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena (1624).

The magic behind how banks work

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Thus, banks can increase the amount of money in the economy.

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Balance sheet

$\text{BANK ASSETS} = \text{BANK LIABILITIES} + \text{BANK CAPITAL}$

Financial sources

A simplified balance sheet may include these funding sources:

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- Checkable Deposits

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- Equity

Bank assets

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- Physical assets

Off-balance sheet items

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In general, the balance sheet and the income statement provide information about the financial health of the bank.

However, some important information is not captured in these accounts. These are so-called off-balance-sheet items, which can be contingent assets and liabilities, e.g. **unused promises, letters of credit** or **financial derivatives**.

These items can represent credit risk, counter-party risk or liquidity risk for the bank.

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MULTIPLAYING MONEY

Multiplicaton of deposits

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An illustrative example . . .

Bank run, Bank panic

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- **Bank panic** - *We can also talk about a banking crisis, more banks in the economy are facing a bank run.*

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Banking activity can be divided into:

- **Primary** - *Accepting deposits and offering bank loans.*
- **Secondary** - *Other services (Transfer money, Standing guarantee on behalf of its customers, Facilities of foreign exchange, Consulting, collecting supplying business information, etc.).*

Types of commercial banks

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- Retail Bank (*individual, small businesses*)

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- Private Bank (*high net worth individuals/families*)
- Investment Bank (*business activities associated with financial markets*)

Differences in the banking systems

Universal banking system

Universal banking system - *EU*.

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Separated banking system

Universal banking system - *EU*.

Separated banking system - *Separated banking activities into commercial banks and investment banks (1933 - Glass-Steagal. act, 1933, Franklin D. Roosevelt).*

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Among other things, it has a **monopoly** on the issuance of cash money. But generally it performs several essential functions.

Main functions of the Central bank

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- Maintain price stability

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- Monetary policy
- Collecting statistic data/analysis

Clearing & Clearing bank

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The main part of international payments is made via a specialized network - Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication or **SWIFT** (1973, Brussel, 239 Banks, BIC).

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 - ▶ Operational
 - ▶ Fraud
 - ▶ Reputation

Basel

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- Minimum standards for liquidity management
- Corporate governance, disclosure

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