



## Covered Bond Special

Covered bonds as eligible collateral for central banks

NORD/LB Floor Research

18 March 2025

Marketing communication (see disclaimer on the last pages)

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# Introduction – central bank eligibility of covered bonds

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## **Covered bonds are often regarded as central bank-eligible by central banks**

For credit institutions, the provision of collateral is an important criterion when procuring liquidity or borrowing from the central banks in charge of monetary policy. The central banks attach great importance to covered bonds here. They are among the eligible assets in the ECB Collateral Framework and can be deposited as collateral when borrowing from the ECB if the relevant criteria are met. In an international comparison, the monetary policy instruments of central banks vary greatly. While the Bank of England, for example, lists a total of ten operations and facilities for which collateral is provided, of which covered bonds can be used as collateral in four categories, the Norwegian bank only provides collateral for central bank loans. The different requirements with regard to the eligibility of securities also exhibit a high degree of heterogeneity. The eligibility criteria vary, for example, depending on the currency of issue, the rating, the volume issued or the jurisdiction of origin (cf. [overview table](#)). Of particular note in this context is, for example, the eligibility of covered bonds at the Federal Reserve, which applies exclusively to AAA-rated German Jumbo Pfandbriefe in recognised currencies, as well as the restriction imposed by the Reserve Bank of Australia, among others, to covered bonds issued in domestic currency on the domestic market. The Bank of England or the ECB specify transparency requirements specifically tailored to covered bonds. If, for example, the external rating agencies do not fulfil the prevailing [obligations to provide information on covered bond ratings](#) in the context of the ECB Collateral Framework, there is a risk that haircuts will be tightened. In the course of the coronavirus crisis, numerous central banks have also felt compelled to initiate temporary adjustments to their frameworks. However, the temporary measures have now largely come to an end. For example, the ECB's reduction of the haircut expired on 30 June 2022. Other central banks withdrew their temporary adjustments earlier, meaning that only isolated changes to the frameworks associated with the coronavirus crisis are still in force.

## **Structure of this update**

In this update on central bank eligibility of covered bonds we present the basic frameworks regarding eligibility and valuation from the perspective of the ECB and ten other central banks (Bank of England, Swiss National Bank, US Federal Reserve, Sveriges Riksbank, Norges Bank, Danmarks Nationalbank, Bank of Canada, Reserve Bank of Australia, Reserve Bank of New Zealand as well as Narodowy Bank Polski) and discuss relevant (temporary) adjustments made by the respective central banks. The focus here is on the ECB, which is due to the very high relevance of covered bonds there. This has been clearly demonstrated not least by the far-reaching temporary adjustments to the framework in the course of the COVID-19 crisis. Furthermore, retained issues play a very significant role in the euro area.

**Euro area – European central bank**

The requirements with regard to assets eligible for ECB Collateral Management are documented extensively and in detail. They are generally laid down in [Guideline \(EU\) 2015/510](#), which has been amended by various other guidelines in recent years. The key requirements can also be found in the [eligibility criteria of marketable assets](#) and/or the [General Framework](#), which are supplemented by the [Temporary Frameworks](#). Covered bonds play an important role in the collateral framework of the Eurosystem, not least because of the comparatively low risk associated with covered bonds. Covered bonds can also, under certain conditions, benefit from a privileged position over other bonds in the context of collateral eligibility in the Eurosystem.

**Categorisation of covered bonds**

According to ECB Guideline (EU) [2015/510](#) Art. 2(12), "covered bonds" are debt instruments with a double recourse, namely i) directly or indirectly to a credit institution and ii) to the underlying assets in the dynamic cover pool, where there is no tranching of risks. Since 1 January 2021, due to the reduction in complexity of the Eurosystem's collateral framework, the [remaining eligible types of covered bonds](#) have consisted of "legislative covered bonds" (Art. 2 (49a)) and "multi cédulas" (Art. 2 (62)). The aforementioned types of covered bonds are defined as follows: "Legislative Covered Bonds" (Art. 2 (49a)) means a Covered Bond that is either a Covered Bond governed by the law of an EEA Member State (EEA Legislative Covered Bond) or a Covered Bond governed by the law of a non-EEA G10 country (Non-EEA G10 Legislative Covered Bond). On the one hand, the "EEA Legislative Covered Bond" (Art. 2 (24a)) refers to a covered bond issued in accordance with the requirements of Article 52 (4) of Directive 2009/65/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council. On the other hand, the "Non-EEA G10 Legislative Covered Bond" (Art. 2 (68a)) refers to a covered bond issued in accordance with the requirements of the national legal framework for covered bonds of a non-EEA G10 country. "Multi Cédulas" (Art. 2 (62)) means debt instruments issued by specific Spanish special purpose vehicles (Fondo de Titulización de Activos, FTA) that allow a certain number of small individual cédulas (Spanish covered bonds) of different originators to be grouped together.

**ECB criteria allow for a wide range of international covered bonds**

In general, central bank eligibility applies to investment-grade covered bonds denominated in euros from the EEA. The currencies USD, GBP and JPY are added to this specification on the basis of the above-mentioned [Temporary Guidelines](#) of the ECB. In addition, as a softening of the EEA restriction, euro-denominated covered bonds from non-EEA G10 jurisdictions (e.g. Canada) may also be lodged as collateral. With regard to the category "Settlement / handling procedures", the place of settlement has to be in the euro area as well as the ECB requires deposit in book form with one of the national central banks or with one of the [eligible Security Settlement Systems](#) (SSS). Haircuts are applied in relation to collateral eligibility and the daily determination of the lending value in accordance with the pool procedure.

### Changes in collateral eligibility after withdrawal from the EU

Following the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the EU [certain assets](#) no longer meet the eligibility criteria of the current Eurosystem collateral framework such as assets denominated in pounds sterling, yen or US dollars whose issuer is established in the UK or unsecured debt instruments issued by credit institutions or investment firms, or by their closely-linked entities, that are established in the UK. But as mentioned above, based on the UK's status as a non-EEA G10 country, euro-denominated covered bonds will continue to be accepted as eligible collateral and in this regard is comparable to Canada.

### Haircut categories and covered bonds

[Specific haircuts](#) also apply to covered bonds. In particular, a distinction must be made in this respect between the various haircut categories. The different categories of covered bonds (legislative covered bonds, jumbo covered bonds, multi céludas) are also included in this. Furthermore, the relevant wording has been amended by [Guideline \(EU\) 2020/1692](#) as well as [Decision \(EU\) 2020/506](#). The specific haircuts are then derived in combination with the underlying coupon (fixed, floating or zero coupon) and the credit quality step (CQS) as defined by the Eurosystem's harmonised rating scale. In general, covered bonds issued in jumbo format are assigned to Haircut Category II, while legislative covered bonds as well as multi céludas are assigned to Haircut Category III.

### Divergent credit quality step definition and limitation of the ECAI

When assessing the credit quality of collateral, the Eurosystem uses its own mapping procedure, i.e. the [Eurosystem's harmonised rating scale](#). While it also uses the concept of the credit quality steps (CQS), the classification does not fully correspond to the CQS [understanding of the CRR](#), which is used, for example, to determine risk weights or LCR levels. First of all, there is no difference between the two mapping systems with regard to investment grade ratings. In the non-investment grade, however, the Eurosystem is much more restrictive and only allows a bandwidth of two notches. CQS 4 thus only includes ratings that are one notch below investment grade, i.e. BB+/Ba1/BBH, whereas under the CQS system (CRR) all three rating levels of the BB segment are considered CQS 4. In addition, the Eurosystem also clearly limits the range of recognised rating assessments. Currently only the ratings of four external credit assessment institutions (ECAIs), including DBRS, Fitch, Moody's and S&P, are considered acceptable under the Eurosystem Credit Assessment Framework (ECAAF), as only these four agencies meet the [relevant Eurosystem requirements](#). Further information regarding the acceptance criteria for ECAIs as well as the application process for a credit rating agency to become accepted as an ECAI (Acceptance as an ECAI under the ECAAF) are laid down in [Annex IXc of the Guideline \(EU\) 2020/1690](#). The amended guideline, therefore, clarifies the application process and acceptance criteria for ECAIs in the Eurosystem credit assessment framework.

### Credit quality steps of long-term ratings based on the [Eurosystem's harmonised rating scale](#)

	Investment grade								Non investment grade			
	CQS 1				CQS 2				CQS 3		CQS 4	CQS 5
<b>DBRS</b>	AAA	AAH	AA	AAL	AH	A	AL	BBBH	BBB	BBBL	BBH	BB
<b>Fitch</b>	AAA	AA+	AA	AA-	A+	A	A-	BBB+	BBB	BBB-	BB+	BB
<b>Moody's</b>	Aaa	Aa1	Aa2	Aa3	A1	A2	A3	Baa1	Baa2	Baa3	Ba1	Ba2
<b>S&amp;P</b>	AAA	AA+	AA	AA-	A+	A	A-	BBB+	BBB	BBB-	BB+	BB
<b>Scope</b>	AAA	AA+	AA	AA-	A+	A	A-	BBB+	BBB	BBB-	BB+	BB

Source: ECB, NORD/LB Floor Research

**External ratings: ECB imposes transparency requirements**

External ratings are of major importance for covered bonds that are pledged. Rating agencies must, for example, fulfil specific disclosure obligations for the covered bonds they assess (see also [Annex IXa and Annex IXb to the ECB Guideline](#) and the corresponding [Q&A's](#)) in order to maintain repo eligibility, among other things. In addition, the ECB has adjusted the criteria for own-use covered bonds in such a way that an external rating will also be required for these securities from 1 February 2020 (cf. [Guideline \(EU\) 2019/1032](#) and [press release dated 13 May 2019](#)).

**ECB announces change in the use of external ratings**

On 21 February 2025, the ECB announced changes to the use of external rating assessments in the Eurosystem's collateral framework that are also relevant for covered bonds (cf. [press release](#)). Until the end of the transition period of 180 days after the announcement of the change, the best rating of a covered bond must continue to be used to assess eligibility. The amendment will therefore enter into force on 20 August 2025. In future, if there are two covered bond ratings, the second-best rating will be used. However, if the covered bond only has a rating from one of the recognised rating agencies (ECAI), the rating will be downgraded by one notch. The credit rating of such a covered bond rated AAA by S&P would, for example, be implicitly downgraded to AA+ in the assessment of central bank eligibility. If the implicit credit rating of a covered bond were to fall below the threshold value of A- or A3 (Moody's) or AL (DBRS), this would lead to higher valuation discounts. In line with the high ratings of most covered bonds, the impact of changes in the use of external ratings in this asset class should remain limited.

**Valuation haircuts for own-use covered bonds**

Additional haircuts apply to own-use covered bonds. For example, CQS 1 and 2 issues are subject to a haircut of 8% (CQS 3 securities: 12%). Adjustments to the haircuts are also relevant to own-use soft bullet or CPT covered bonds. During the eligibility process, for example, the extended maturity of the instrument is used rather than the originally scheduled maturity. In the case of a soft bullet structure, for example, the maturity would normally have to be extended by one year, while all CPT structures fall within the ">10 years" maturities range due to the theoretically very long extension period.

**Haircut categories overview**

Category I	Category II	Category III	Category IV	Category V
Debt instruments issued by central governments	Debt instruments issued by local and regional governments	Debt instruments issued by non-financial corporations, corporations in the government sector and agencies which are non-credit institutions that do not meet the quantitative criteria set out in Annex XIIa to Guideline (EU) 2015/510 (ECB/2014/60)	Unsecured debt instruments issued by credit institutions and agencies which are credit institutions that do not meet the quantitative criteria set out in Annex XIIa to Guideline (EU) 2015/510 (ECB/2014/60)	Asset-backed securities
Debt instruments issued by the European Union	Debt instruments issued by entities (credit institutions or non-credit institutions) classified by the Eurosystem as agencies and which meet the quantitative criteria set out in Annex XIIa to Guideline (EU) 2015/510 (ECB/2014/60)		Unsecured debt instruments issued by financial corporations other than credit institutions	
Debt certificates issued by NCBs of Member States whose currency is not the euro	Debt instruments issued by multilateral development banks and international organisations other than the European Union			
	<b>Legislative covered bonds</b>			
	<b>Multi cédulas</b>			

Source: ECB, NORD/LB Floor Research

**Valuation haircut levels** applied to eligible marketable assets

Kredit- qualität	Residual maturity (years)(*)	Haircut categories									
		Category I		Category II		Category III		Category IV		Category V	
		Fixed/floating coupon	Zero coupon	Fixed/floating coupon	Zero coupon	Fixed/floating coupon	Zero coupon	Fixed/floating coupon	Zero coupon	Fixed/floating coupon	Zero coupon
Steps 1 and 2	0-1	0.5%	0.5%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	7.5%	7.5%	4.0%	
	1-3	1.0%	2.0%	1.5%	2.5%	2.0%	3.0%	10.0%	11.5%	5.0%	
	3-5	1.5%	2.5%	2.5%	3.5%	3.0%	4.5%	12.0%	13.0%	7.0%	
	5-7	2.0%	3.0%	3.5%	4.5%	4.5%	6.0%	14.0%	15.0%	9.0%	
	7-10	3.0%	4.0%	4.5%	6.5%	6.0%	8.0%	16.0%	17.5%	12.0%	
	10-15	4.0%	5.0%	6.5%	8.5%	7.5%	10.0%	18.0%	22.5%	18.0%	
	15-30	5.0%	6.0%	8.0%	11.5%	9.0%	13.0%	21.0%	25.0%	20.0%	
	>30	6.0%	9.0%	10.0%	13.0%	11.0%	16.0%	24.0%	31.5%	22.0%	
Kredit- qualität	Residual maturity (years)(*)	Haircut categories									
		Category I		Category II		Kategorie III		Kategorie IV		Category I	
		Fixed/floating coupon	Zero coupon	Fixed/floating coupon	Zero coupon	Fixed/floating coupon	Zero coupon	Fixed/floating coupon	Zero coupon	Fixed/ floating coupon	Zero coupon
Step 3	0-1	5.0%	5.0%	5.5%	5.5%	6.5%	6.5%	11.5%	11.5%		
	1-3	6.0%	7.0%	7.5%	10.5%	9.5%	12.0%	18.5%	20.0%		
	3-5	8.5%	10.0%	11.0%	16.0%	13.0%	18.0%	23.0%	27.0%		
	5-7	10.0%	11.5%	12.5%	17.0%	15.0%	21.5%	25.5%	29.5%		Not
	7-10	11.5%	13.0%	14.0%	21.0%	17.0%	23.5%	26.5%	31.5%		eligible
	10-15	12.5%	14.0%	17.0%	25.5%	19.5%	28.0%	28.5%	35.0%		
	15-30	13.5%	15.0%	20.0%	28.5%	22.0%	31.0%	31.5%	39.0%		
	>30	14.0%	17.0%	22.0%	32.5%	25.0%	35.5%	34.5%	43.0%		

(\*) i.e. [0-1) residual maturity less than 1 year, [1-3) residual maturity equal to or greater than 1 year and less than 3 years, etc.

Note: Valuation haircuts do not include the additional own-use haircut of 8% for covered bonds in credit quality steps 1 and 2 and 12% for covered bonds in credit quality step 3. Valuation haircuts for eligible marketable assets denominated in GBP or USD have to use a haircut of 16% and 26% of JPY denominated bonds.

Source: ECB, NORD/LB Floor Research

**ECB database for eligible assets**

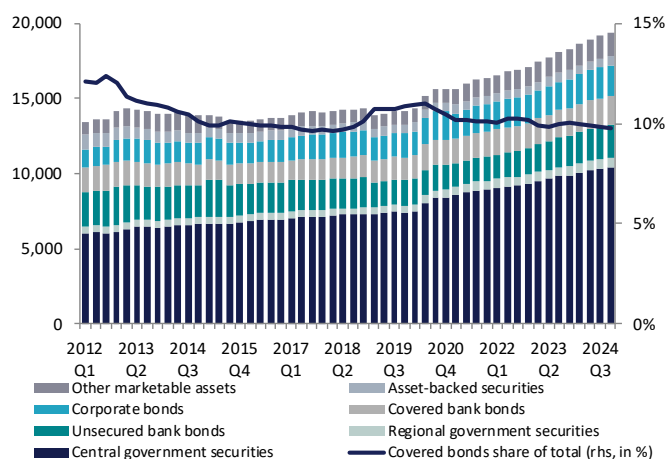
The ECB provides information on the list of eligible collateral on its website. Both the overall database and the changes compared to the previous working day can be accessed in the [download area](#). It is also possible to [query](#) whether a security is recognised as collateral. As at 17 March 2025, the database contained 29,845 securities. Of these, 3,494 were classified as covered bonds (3,343 Legislative Covered Bonds, 145 Non-EEA G10 Legislative Covered Bonds and 5 Multi Cédulas). The non-EEA G10 Legislative Covered Bonds originate from issuers domiciled in the UK (82 bonds) and Canada (63 bonds). However, it must be noted here that this list is only based on the eligibility for central bank borrowing noted by the ECB. This means that, firstly, bonds that are not listed here may also be eligible. Secondly, the listing does not necessarily mean that they can be used as collateral. The ECB publishes aggregated data that provides information on both the capability (Eligible Assets) and the use as collateral (Use of Collateral). According to these official statistics, the share of covered bonds in total eligible assets (EUR 19,358bn) was 9.7% (EUR 1,885bn) in the fourth quarter of 2024.



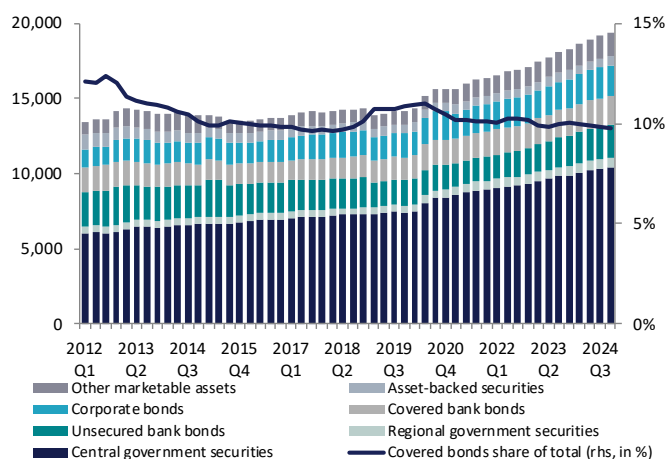
### EUR benchmarks not generally classifiable as eligible assets

With regard to the use of collateral at the ECB, the volume of covered bonds (after the haircut) totalled EUR 420bn at the end of Q4/2024. This corresponds to a share of around 22% of all covered bonds classified as eligible for deposit (eligible assets Q4/2024: EUR 1,885bn). In 2008, eligible assets (EUR 1,248bn) and use of collateral (EUR 174bn) each accounted for 11%, which rose to 12% (EUR 1,537bn) and 16% (EUR 288bn) respectively in 2011. The data also reveal that, applying the aforementioned criteria for bonds issued as EUR benchmarks and included in the iBoxx EUR Covered, ECB eligibility cannot necessarily be assumed. Due to the limitation to the EEA (Guideline (EU) 2015/510) and the additional eligibility of G10 issues, EUR benchmarks from Canadian issuers, for example, can generally be used as collateral. However, the EUR benchmark of the Korean KHFC cannot be classified as ECB-eligible. The same applies to bonds from Australia, New Zealand and Singapore as well as the RMBS-based EUR benchmarks from Japan.

ECB: composition of eligible assets (EUR bn)



ECB: composition of use of collateral (EUR bn)



Source: ECB, NORD/LB Floor Research

### UK – Bank of England

The Sterling Monetary Framework of the [Bank of England](#) (BoE) provides for a total of three different categories of eligible assets and distinguishes between Level A, Level B and Level C collateral (see [BoE Summary of Collateral Eligible for the Bank's Operations](#)). The currencies accepted are generally GBP, EUR, USD, AUD, CAD, CHF and SEK. While Level A collateral (which include securities denominated in pounds sterling, euros, US dollars and Canadian dollars issued by the governments and central banks of the United Kingdom, Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands and the USA) can be used for all listed operations or facilities, Level B or Level C collateral (which also includes covered bonds) is eligible to Liquidity Facility in Euros (Life), US Dollar Repo, Indexed Long-Term OMOs, the Discount Window Facility, Contingent Term Repo Facility, TFSME Lending Facility, Funding for Lending Scheme and the Term Funding Scheme.

**Bank of England: [eligible collateral for operations and facilities](#)**

Collateral	Level A	Level B	Level C
Intraday Liquidity	Y	N	N
Operational Standing Facility	Y	N	N
Liquidity Facility in Euros (LiFE)	Y	Y	Y
US Dollar Repo	Y	Y	Y
Indexed Long-Term Repo	Y	Y	Y
Short-Term Repo	Y	N	N
Discount Window Facility	Y	Y	Y
Contingent Term Repo Facility	Y	Y	Y
TFSME	Y	Y	Y

Source: Bank of England, NORD/LB Floor Research

**Covered bonds as Level B collateral: limited to UK, Germany and France**

Regulated covered bonds from the UK, Germany and France are classified as [Level B collateral](#) if the underlying assets are debt claims on the public sector, social housing loans or residential mortgage loans and these are geographically attributable to the UK or the EEA. Furthermore, covered bonds are only classified as Level B collateral if they are regulated UK covered bonds or securities from Germany or France with an AAA-equivalent rating and an issue volume of more than EUR 500m or GBP 500m. With regard to the external ratings, the Bank of England highlights that the ratings are to be understood as an indicator. Having said that, the central bank reserves the right to carry out its own risk assessment. This also implies that an external AAA or Aaa rating is not always considered sufficient for the Bank of England to assume that the instrument has the highest credit quality.

**Level C collateral: self-issued covered bonds also possible**

With regard to classification as [Level C collateral](#), the Bank of England specifies much broader requirements in relation to covered bonds. For example, a minimum credit quality at the rating level of A3 or A- applies to all Level C collateral described here. As a result, those covered bonds are eligible as Level C collateral that meet all the requirements for Level B collateral with the exception of the "highest credit quality" requirement. In addition, the Bank of England provides that covered bonds from the UK, the USA and the EEA, whose cover pools include SME loans or commercial mortgage loans, are eligible as Level C collateral. Covered bonds whose cover relates to loans secured by specific Export Credit Agency (ECA) collateral and to which the above-mentioned geographical classification applies are also generally eligible as Level C collateral. The Bank of England is required to assess them on a case-by-case basis. Furthermore, in the context of the distinction between Level B and Level C collateral, it should be noted that assets originating from the participant (i.e. own issues) are not accepted as Level B collateral, but may be eligible as Level C collateral. Further differences in the treatment of covered bonds depending on the type of collateral must also be taken into account, particularly in relation to collateral [haircuts](#).

**LIBOR linked collateral**

The Bank of England last revised its [guidelines on LIBOR Linked Collaterals](#) in May 2022, which provides for a gradual increase in haircut premiums. Since June 2023, the haircut for LIBOR Linked Collaterals has been 100%. In addition, the Bank of England reserves the right to waive LIBOR-linked haircuts. This is the case if the Bank of England is satisfied that the collateral benefits from a robust fallback or future rate switch mechanism and fulfils other requirements. Since 1 January 2021, all LIBOR Linked Collateral issued on or after this date is no longer eligible for use in the Sterling Monetary Framework. Exceptions are LIBOR Linked Collateral issued before 1 January that benefit from a Future Rate Switch Mechanism and meet all the conditions set out in the [Market communication](#).

**Sterling Monetary Framework: [haircuts for covered bonds](#)**

	Floating	Fixed						
		<1y	1-3y	3-5y	5-10y	10-20y	20-30y	>30y
Level B*	12.0%	12.0%	14.0%	15.0%	17.0%	19.0%	22.0%	24.0%
Level C: SME / Commercial	25.0%	25.0%	27.0%	28.0%	30.0%	32.0%	35.0%	37.0%
Level C: ECA guarantee loans	3.0%	3.0%	5.0%	6.0%	8.0%	10.0%	13.0%	15.0%

\* Level C Collateral UK, US, EEA have the same haircuts

Source: Bank of England, NORD/LB Floor Research; A haircut add-on of 5% is applied to own-use eligible covered bonds where appropriate; A haircut of 5% is added to eligible collateral for which no market price is observable

**Specific transparency requirements for covered bonds**

As early as 2010 the Bank of England had formulated specific transparency requirements for ABS and covered bonds. Accordingly, additional requirements must be met in order to maintain central bank eligibility. For example, quarterly information at loan level and within one month after the relevant interest payment date must be made publicly available. The programme descriptions and regular investor reports must also be published (see [BoE Transparency Requirements](#) for further details).

**Switzerland – Swiss National Bank**

Open market operations by the [Swiss National Bank \(SNB\)](#) or the use of available facilities usually take place using repo operations. In addition, the SNB has introduced a temporary standing facility called [“COVID-19 refinancing facility” \(CRF\)](#) in order to cushion the impact of the corona virus back on 25 March 2020. The SNB maintains a [regularly updated directory for this purpose](#), containing the [securities classified as eligible](#). As a general rule, the instruments provided as collateral must be those whose repayment is not subject to any conditions and whose principal amount is fixed. In addition to the Swiss franc, EUR, USD, GBP, DKK, SEK and NOK can also be used as issue currencies. With regard to the group of eligible issuers, bonds issued by financial institutions are generally not eligible, although covered bonds are explicitly excluded from this stipulation. However, there are further exemptions in this respect. Covered bonds are not eligible, for example, if they were issued by a domestic institution or a foreign subsidiary of such an institution. Nevertheless, this does not apply to covered bonds issued by the Pfandbriefbank schweizerischer Hypothekarinstitutione AG (Pfandbrief Bank of Swiss Mortgage Institutions) and the Pfandbriefzentrale der schweizerischen Kantonalbanken AG (Pfandbrief Central Office of the Swiss cantonal banks).

**SNB: soft bullet covered bonds and Brexit**

Since [June 2019](#), covered bonds with extendable maturities, in particular soft-bullet structure, are eligible collateral for SNB repos up to the original maturity date. The currency in which the collateral is denominated is also relevant to the domicile of the issuer. In the case of foreign currency bonds, the debtor must either be domiciled in Switzerland, in a Member State of the European Union (EU), in the European Economic Area (EEA) or in the United Kingdom (UK). The SNB has [amended its guidelines](#) back in February 2020, therefore, it prevents securities domiciled in the UK from losing their eligibility as collateral due to the Brexit.

**Mandatory credit rating by S&P, Moody's or Fitch**

While some central banks formulate the question of the required creditworthiness of collateral comparatively vaguely, the SNB guidelines are very specific. For example, securities deposited as collateral must have at least one rating from the three major rating agencies (Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch). The rating must be at least AA-/Aa3 to be eligible as collateral; consequently it must be assigned to Credit Quality Step 1, analogously to the [CRR](#). If more than one rating is available, the assessment will be based on the second-best rating. In the case of bonds issued by the two above-mentioned Pfandbrief institutions (Swiss Pfandbrief institutions), however, the issuer's rating may be used in the absence of a rating. The utilisation of own-use bonds as collateral is not possible. The SNB also defines own-use bonds as securities issued by an institution in which the institution providing the collateral has a direct or indirect holding of at least 20%.

**Required minimum volumes**

As was the case with some of the above requirements, this 20% rule does not apply to the two Swiss Pfandbrief institutions. Potential securities must also meet certain minimum levels of issue volume. The crucial factor in this respect is the volume issued, which must be at least CHF 100m for CHF bonds and the equivalent of EUR 1bn, USD 1bn, GBP 750m, DKK 7.5bn, SEK 10bn and NOK 10bn for bonds denominated in foreign currency. A further technical requirement is that collateral can be delivered via SIS (SIX SIS AG) and is held by a custodian in Switzerland, the EU, the EEA or the UK. In addition, the relevant collateral must usually be traded on an approved stock exchange or a representative market in Switzerland, the EU, the EEA or the UK, and price information must be available at regular intervals. It is essential for collateral denominated in foreign currencies to be quoted on the SIX Swiss Exchange.

**Basket formation for the classification of eligible collateral**

All eligible bonds are combined by the SNB in the "SNB GC Basket" and meet the requirements for High Quality Liquid Assets (HQLA). Furthermore, the securities are assigned to additional baskets based on their characteristics. On the one hand, the L1 Basket includes securities denominated in Swiss franc and foreign currency which is issued by, as a rule, central banks, public sector entities and multilateral development banks. On the other hand, the L2A Basket contains all other securities including covered bonds. In addition, the baskets "L1 CHF" and "L2A CHF" exist for collateral denominated in CHF. However, the SNB's assessment of the level assignment does not take into account any institution-specific aspects. As a consequence, all covered bonds are assigned to the "L2A" or "L2A CHF" basket.

**USA – Federal Reserve Bank**

Only jumbo covered bonds (Pfandbriefe) from Germany with a top rating are considered to be central bank-eligible covered bonds by the [US Federal Reserve](#). In addition to the USD, the currencies JPY, EUR, AUD, CAD, GBP, DKK, SEK and CHF are admissible as issue currencies in accordance with the [Federal Reserve Collateral Guidelines](#). The distinction between USD and non-USD issues results in a different treatment with regard to the eligible portion of the collateral delivered. For example, lower haircuts on the market value are applicable to USD covered bonds (Pfandbriefe).

**Federal Reserve Discount Window: eligibility of covered bonds**

Securities	Margins for Securities (% of market value)				
	Duration Buckets				
	0-1y	>1-3y	>3-5y	>5-10y	>10y
German Jumbo Pfandbriefe AAA/Aaa (USD)	98.0%	98.0%	97.0%	96.0%	94.0%
German Jumbo Pfandbriefe AAA/Aaa (Non-USD)	94.0%	94.0%	93.0%	91.0%	91.0%

Source: US Federal Reserve, NORD/LB Floor Research

**Sweden – Sveriges Riksbank**

Securities must meet a number of criteria as [eligible collateral](#) in operations with the [Sveriges Riksbank](#). Securities issued by credit institutions are only eligible if they are state-guaranteed instruments or covered bonds. The definition of covered bonds is based on the information in Article 52 (4) UCITS. As the scope of the Directive is the EEA, the central bank also imposes the restriction that only issues by a credit institution established in the EEA are considered covered collateral. With regard to creditworthiness, only securities with a rating of at least AA-/Aa3 (i.e. equivalent to classification as Credit Quality Step 1) are eligible as collateral. This assessment must also have been conducted by one of the three agencies the Riksbank acknowledges: Moody's, Fitch or S&P. Moreover, if the security has more than one rating, at least two assessments must meet the required standards.

**Required volume, country of origin and issue currency**

In addition to SEK collateral, the Riksbank also accepts instruments denominated in an approved currency (USD, GBP, DKK, EUR, JPY and NOK). Collateral must have an outstanding volume of at least SEK 100m or its equivalent in foreign currency. This requirement does not apply to securities issued by the Riksbank. In addition to the aforementioned requirements, the Riksbank also restricts the eligible jurisdictions. In addition to the G10 countries, the three Scandinavian countries Norway, Sweden and Denmark can be found on the relevant list. Furthermore, securities of issuers from Ireland, Austria and Luxembourg are generally eligible, as are those from the Southern European countries of Portugal, Spain, Italy and Greece. The two APAC states, Australia and New Zealand, round off the total of 22 approved jurisdictions. This list of countries is also the basis for the requirement that collateral must be admitted to trading on at least one regulated market in these 22 jurisdictions.

**Sweden: haircuts to be applied to covered bonds**

Remaining time to maturity	Haircut for price risk (Liquidity class 2)			Haircut for foreign exchange risk	
	Fixed rate	Variable rate	Zero coupon	Currency	Haircut
0-3y	3.0%	3.0%	5.0%	USD	6.0%
3-5y	5.0%	4.0%	10.0%	GBP	5.0%
5-7y	7.0%	6.0%	15.0%	DKK	4.0%
7-10y	10.0%	10.0%	20.0%	EUR	4.0%
>10y	15.0%	14.0%	25.0%	JPY	9.0%
				NOK	4.0%

Source: Sveriges Riksbank, NORD/LB Floor Research

**Riksbank's haircuts system**

As is usual with other central banks, Sveriges Riksbank also has a haircut system for adjusting or correcting the market values of collateral. To do so, the collateral is first grouped into one of the three liquidity classes, with covered bonds being assigned to Category 2. Based on the classification made, valuation haircuts are initially applied to the value of an item of collateral, depending on the residual maturity and the selected form of coupon payment. Apart from covered bonds denominated in SEK, fixed and floating-rate covered bonds from the "0-3y" bucket of maturities, denominated in Danish krone, Norwegian krone or euro, consequently have the lowest haircuts. A haircut of a further five percentage points is made if the price used is determined on a theoretical basis. In general, and if an outdated quotation is in use, the central bank is also entitled to specify additional haircuts, calculated on a case-by-case basis. EUR benchmarks with a fixed coupon, therefore, generally move within a haircut range of 7% to 19%.

**Dealing with potential concentration risks: Limit rules for covered bonds**

In order to reduce the concentration risk associated with operations involving the central bank, the maximum volume of collateral provided is used as a classification, in addition to the classification into liquidity classes. While, for example, Category 1 instruments can be provided as collateral in unlimited amounts, the volume of covered bonds (Group B instrument) is limited to 60% of the collateral provided. This limit requires that the collateral does not comprise instruments placed by the issuer itself or a related institution (a holding of 20% or more is generally applicable). Collateral of this type is limited to 50% of the collateral provided.

**Norway – Norges Bank**

The [guidelines](#) issued by [Norges Bank](#) require the securities to be held with VPS (Norwegian Central Securities Depository), Euroclear or Clearstream. In addition to the home currency NOK, eligible currencies also include SEK, DKK, EUR, USD, GBP, JPY, AUD, NZD, CAD and CHF. With regard to the country of issue, the EEA countries are approved; for non-EEA countries, it is necessary to ensure that Norges Bank is not disadvantaged in any way as a result. An up-to-date list of [approved countries](#) is available on the Norges Bank website. A rating by S&P, Moody's or Fitch is also required, except for in NOK denominated covered bonds issued by Norwegian entities. For securities issued by Norwegian entities, the issuer rating is sufficient if an issue rating is not available. Minimum ratings apply to bonds, depending on the issuer. Accordingly, Norwegian issuers must have a minimum rating of BBB-/Baa3, while foreign issuers must have at least an A/A2 rating. If more than one rating is available, the second-best rating always applies.

**No bank debt instruments, except ABS and covered bonds**

NOK-denominated securities issued by private institutions must have a minimum volume of NOK 300m, while for all other currencies, a minimum outstanding volume of EUR 100m or equivalent applies. For securities other than Norwegian government securities, a borrower may not pledge more than 20% of the issue's volume outstanding per ISIN. Norges Bank does not accept any securities issued by banks or other financial institutions as collateral as well as by a company in which banks or other financial institutions in the same group directly or indirectly own more than 1/3. ABS and covered bonds are the only exceptions in this respect, while for ABS only the upper tranche will be eligible as collateral. Debt securities issued by a holding company that primarily owns insurance companies may be accepted as collateral as well. When determining the haircut rates, covered bonds with a rating of AA-/Aa3 or better are assigned to Category 2 (see table below). Covered bonds with ratings from A/A2 to A+/A1 are assigned to Category 3, while the ratings BBB-/Baa3 to A-/A3 result in an allocation to category 4. If there is insufficient price information for securities (registered in a foreign securities account), the value is based on the nominal value, less an additional haircut based on the rating of the bond. For example, a haircut of 15% is applied for an AAA/Aaa rating and 20% for a rating of AA+ to AA- or Aa1 to Aa3. Furthermore, an additional haircut of 30% is applied based on a rating of A+ to A or A1 to A2. For securities not denominated in NOK, an additional haircut is required, which differs depending on the currency. SEK, DKK, EUR and CAD are subject to a 6% surcharge, while securities denominated in USD, GBP and CHF are subject to a 7% surcharge and JPY, NZD and AUD are subject to an 8% surcharge.

**Norges Bank: haircuts for covered bonds<sup>1</sup>**

Maturity in years	Category 1		Category 2		Category 3		Category 4	
	Fixed	Floating	Fixed	Floating	Fixed	Floating	Fixed	Floating
0-1y	1.0%	1.0%	3.0%	3.0%	4.0%	4.0%	8.0%	8.0%
1-3y	3.0%	1.0%	5.0%	4.0%	6.0%	5.0%	11.0%	10.0%
3-7y	5.0%	1.0%	7.0%	5.0%	10.0%	7.0%	17.0%	14.0%
7-15y	7.0%	1.0%	10.0%	6.0%	13.0%	9.0%	22.0%	17.0%
>15y	10.0%	1.0%	15.0%	7.0%	20.0%	12.0%	30.0%	25.0%

Source: Norges Bank, NORD/LB Floor Research; <sup>1</sup> Additional haircuts apply to non-NOK issues (additional haircut: 6%) or to covered bonds issued by the entity itself or affiliated institutions (5%).

### Denmark – Danmarks Nationalbank

In operations with the [Danish central bank](#), the three forms of Danish covered bonds, i.e. Realkreditobligationer (ROs), Særligt Dækkede Obligationer (SDOs) and Særligt Dækkede Realkreditobligationer (SDROs), which have been issued by an institution subject to the "Danish Financial Business Act", are accepted as [eligible collateral](#). This requires that the collateral is registered with [VP Securities](#), denominated in DKK or EUR and traded on the Copenhagen stock exchange ([NASDAQ OMX Copenhagen](#)). Own use issues, on the other hand, are not eligible in Denmark as collateral for operations with the central bank. In principle, however, Danmarks Nationalbank may, at its discretion, either classify securities as eligible collateral or reject them.

### Haircuts on fixed or floating-rate covered bonds

	Remaining maturity					
	0-1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	5-7 years	7-10 years	>10 years
<b>Category 2</b>	1.0%	1.5%	2.5%	3.5%	4.5%	8.0%
<b>Category 3</b>	1.5%	2.0%	3.5%	4.5%	5.5%	8.0%

Source: Danmarks Nationalbank, NORD/LB Floor Research

### Additional haircuts on EUR bonds

The Danish central bank also discounts collateral provided. For this purpose, the previous day's price of collateral from the Copenhagen Stock Exchange is used first. However, if the collateral was not traded on the previous day, a theoretical price is calculated by the central bank. With regard to haircuts, the Danish National Bank distinguishes between four categories. Covered bonds in the form of Danish RO, SDO and SDRO are suitable as category 2 or 3 assets depending on their characteristics. The prerequisite for classification in category 2 is that the bond has an outstanding volume of at least EUR 1.0bn or the equivalent value in Danish kroner. In addition, the prices must be provided via a price system recognised by the central bank and have at least three price quoters. In the absence of a recognised price quotation agreement, haircut category 2 is currently not used. If a covered bond does not fulfil the above criteria, it falls under category 3. If the price on which the valuation is based is a theoretical price, an additional haircut of five percentage points is applied, with the exception of securities issued by the Kingdom of Denmark. Covered bonds denominated in euros are also subject to an additional haircut, although only a further three percentage points are applied here. EUR benchmarks therefore generally move within a haircut range of 4.0% to 11.0%.



### Canada – Bank of Canada

The [Bank of Canada](#) provides access to liquidity for credit institutions through the Standing Liquidity Facility (SLF), among other sources. In addition to a number of securities, the central bank also lists covered bonds under the [eligible assets](#). These bonds must have been issued from a programme that is approved under the [Canadian Covered Bonds Registry](#) and in accordance with the national legislation. In addition, the bonds must also be of sufficiently high quality. Ratings from the agencies DBRS, Fitch, Moody's and S&P were used for this purpose up to July 2018. The minimum ratings were A (low), A-, A3 or A-. The second-highest rating of at least two ratings is then used as a basis. In order to reduce the dependence on the quality assessment by rating agencies, these [requirements were revised with effect from 23 July 2018](#). Since then, the quality of a covered bond has been regarded as sufficiently high if it is largely equal to an AAA-equivalent assessment. The Bank of Canada has in this way softened its quality standards somewhat from a technical point of view, while at the same time increasing the required quality significantly compared with the previous clear rating requirements.

### Margin requirements of the Bank of Canada for covered bonds

	Remaining maturity							
	up to 3 months	3-12 months	1-3 years	3-5 years	5-10 years	10-20 years	20-35 years	>35 years
Covered bonds <sup>1</sup>	2.25%	2.5%	4.0%	5.5%	6.0%	9.0%	15.0%	15.5%

Source: Bank of Canada, NORD/LB Floor Research

<sup>1</sup> an additional 4% will be added to the margin requirements for USD-denominated securities to account for foreign exchange risk

### Numerous other requirements for fundamentally eligible assets

Based on the fundamental eligibility of covered bonds as collateral, they, like all other eligible asset classes, must meet further criteria in order to be accepted as collateral by the Bank of Canada for the relevant operations. For example, covered bonds must be denominated in Canadian dollars and have an outstanding volume of at least CAD 1.0m. In addition, as of 26 July 2021 certain USD-denominated securities have been added to the list of eligible collateral such as covered bonds (cf. [Market Notice from 20 July 2021](#)). This is a supporting measure for the introduction of the Lynx payment system. In contrast, securities issued by the collateralising party or a related party (own use) are explicitly excluded as eligible collateral. With concentration risks in mind, the Canadian central bank stipulates that no more than 5% of the volume of collateral provided may be concentrated in a single issuer. In addition, the proportion of securities from municipal governments and the private sector, which includes covered bonds, may not exceed 20% of the total collateral provided by a counterparty. As is customary with many central banks, the Bank of Canada also applies haircuts to pledged collateral. The haircuts applicable to covered bonds, as for all other collateral, are determined on the basis of the residual maturity and are between 2.25% and 15.5% for covered bonds. Furthermore, an additional haircut of 4% will be applied for USD-denominated securities. In principle, however, the central bank reserves the right, irrespective of the defined criteria, to accept or reject securities as collateral and to make haircut adjustments.

**Reserve Bank of Australia: haircuts for covered bonds**

Eligible Securities Purchased under Repo	Average Credit Rating	Margins by residual maturity per cent			
		0-1y	1-5y	5-10y	>10y
ADI-issued securities (including covered bonds)	AAA	6.0%	7.0%	8.0%	10.0%
	AA-	10.0%	12.0%	14.0%	16.0%
	A-	12.0%	14.0%	16.0%	18.0%
	BBB-	18.0%	22.0%	26.0%	30.0%
	Public credit rating	24.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other securities <sup>1</sup>	A-1 or AAA	6.0%	7.0%	8.0%	10.0%

Source: Reserve Bank of Australia, NORD/LB Floor Research; <sup>1</sup> (including non-ADI-issued covered bonds)

**Australia – Reserve Bank of Australia**

The [eligible securities](#) accepted by the [Reserve Bank of Australia](#) (RBA) are limited to AUD issues traded through Austraclear. Covered bonds are classified in this case as bonds issued by financial institutions authorised to accept deposits (Authorised Deposit-taking Institutions, ADI). For this category of ADI-issued securities, which also includes senior unsubordinated bonds, an average minimum rating (issuer or issue ratings for covered bonds) of BBB-/Baa3 applies to securities with a maturity exceeding one year. At least two recognised rating agencies (S&P, Moody's or Fitch) must provide ratings. However, only the rating of one recognised agency is required for residual maturities of one year or less. Unless expressly agreed otherwise, securities will not be accepted from counterparties where, in the opinion of the Australian central bank, there is a material link between the credit quality of the pledging institution and the pledged security. As a result, "own use" covered bonds are not eligible for repo activities with the Australian central bank. In principle, the RBA also provides that covered bonds issued by non-ADI may be used. The additional collateral required under repurchase operations is expressed as a percentage of the purchase price applied by the Reserve Bank. At the Reserve Bank of Australia, too, these [margins](#) are also dependent on the type of security and the ratings, and are in principle subject to change. The margins applicable to covered bonds are shown in the table above.

**New Zealand – Reserve Bank of New Zealand**

The [Reserve Bank of New Zealand](#) (RBNZ) also includes covered bonds as one of the securities eligible for repo operations. The central bank maintains a comparatively detailed list of the [eligibility criteria](#). For example, covered bonds are only eligible if their cover assets are senior, are used for housing purposes and are geographically attributable to New Zealand; they must also be denominated in NZD and be traded through NZClear. The cover assets (maximum LTV ratio: 80% and no non-performing assets) must also have been transferred to an SPV. With regard to risk assessment, at least two approved rating agencies must have awarded AAA/Aaa ratings. If there are more than two ratings, none of them may be lower than AA+/Aa1.

**Covered bonds only eligible on a "two name" basis**

The Reserve Bank of New Zealand also does not provide for any own use ('one name' basis). This means that it is not possible for issuers to use covered bonds issued by themselves as collateral. The New Zealand central bank applies comparatively low [collateral haircuts](#) to the accepted covered bonds. A haircut of 5% is applied to maturities of less than three years, while from three years onwards, a haircut of 8% is applied. As at 23 February 2025, not a single covered bond was listed as an [eligible asset](#) at the Bank of New Zealand

**Poland – Narodowy Bank Polski**

The Polish central bank, [Narodowy Bank Polski](#) (NBP), lists mortgage-backed covered bonds in the mortgage bonds category. As criteria for the use of covered bonds in the context of repo operations, the central bank firstly specifies that these mortgage bonds must be admitted to public trading or trading on the regulated market, WSE and Bondspot. In addition, the nominal value of the issue (i.e. each ISIN code) may not be less than PLN 10m. The Polish central bank does not set any specific thresholds for the rating, but it does limit the range of covered bonds eligible for repurchase to issues denominated in Polish currency. The [haircuts](#) for the mortgage bonds, which are listed in the central bank's official documentation on haircuts as "other", are based on the nominal value.

**Narodowy Bank Polski: haircuts for mortgage bonds**

	Zero coupon bonds		<3y	Coupon bonds		
	<1y	>1y		3-7y	7-15y	>15y
Mortgage bonds	19.5%	40.5%	25.0%	39.0%	44.0%	56.0%

Source: Narodowy Bank Polski, NORD/LB Floor Research

## Covered bonds

### Central bank eligibility of covered bonds<sup>1</sup>

	Eurozone	United Kingdom		Switzerland	United States
	<a href="#">European Central Bank</a>	<a href="#">Bank of England</a>		<a href="#">Swiss National Bank</a>	<a href="#">Federal Reserve Bank</a>
<b>Eligibility criteria</b>	<a href="#">link</a>	<a href="#">link</a>		<a href="#">link</a>	<a href="#">link</a>
<b>Eligible securities</b>	<a href="#">link</a>	<a href="#">link</a>		<a href="#">link</a>	
<b>Category</b>	Category II	Level B	Level C	L2A, L2A CHF	German Jumbo Pfandbrief
<b>Rating requirements</b>	Min. BBB-/Baa3	AAA/Aaa equivalent	A-/A3 equivalent	Min. AA-/Aa3	AAA/Aaa
<b>Rating agencies</b>	ECAI (accepted for ECAF, at present: DBRS, Fitch, Moody's, S&P, Scope)	-	-	Fitch, Moody's, S&P	-
<b>Rating treatment</b>	First best <sup>2</sup>	-	-	Second best	lowest
<b>Min. volume (home currency)</b>		GBP 500m	-	CHF 100m	
<b>Min. volume equivalent (foreign currency)</b>	x	EUR 500m	-	EUR 1bn, USD 1bn, GBP 750m, DKK 7.5bn, SEK 10bn, NOK 10bn	German Jumbo Pfandbrief
<b>Own-use</b>	✓	x	✓	x	-
<b>Haircuts based on</b>	<b>TtM</b>	✓	✓	x	✓
	<b>Coupon</b>	✓	✓	x	✓
	<b>Currency</b>	✓	✓	x	✓
	...	Own-use	-	-	-
<b>Currencies</b>	<b>EUR</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<b>USD</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<b>GBP</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<b>JPY</b>	✓	x	x	x
	<b>CHF</b>	x	✓	✓	✓
	<b>SEK</b>	x	✓	✓	✓
	<b>NOK</b>	x	x	x	✓
	<b>DKK</b>	x	x	x	✓
	<b>CAD</b>	x	✓	✓	x
	<b>AUD</b>	x	✓	✓	x
	<b>NZD</b>	x	x	x	x
	<b>PLN</b>	x	x	x	x
<b>Country of issuance</b>	<b>EU</b>	✓	-	✓	✓ (non CHF-Bonds)
	<b>EEA</b>	✓	-	✓	✓ (non CHF-Bonds)
	<b>G10</b>	✓	-	x	x
	<b>others</b>	-	UK, DE, FR	US, UK	UK (non CHF-Bonds), CH; CHF bonds: no limitations

<sup>1</sup>The purpose of the table is to compare the requirements for eligible collateral. As a result, it does special/individual cases. Consequently, a case-by-case assessment is essential to determine the central bank eligibility of securities, which should not be based solely on this table; <sup>2</sup> After the 18-month period has expired, the second-best rating will be decisive from 21 August 2026

## Covered bonds

### Central bank eligibility of covered bonds<sup>1</sup> (continued)

	Sweden	Norway	Denmark	Poland	
	<a href="#">Sveriges Riksbank</a>	<a href="#">Norges Bank</a>	<a href="#">Danmarks Nationalbank</a>	<a href="#">Narodowy Bank Polski</a>	
<b>Eligibility criteria</b>	<a href="#">link</a>	<a href="#">link</a>	<a href="#">link</a>	<a href="#">link</a>	
<b>Eligible securities</b>	<a href="#">link</a>	<a href="#">link</a>	<a href="#">link</a>	<a href="#">link</a>	
<b>Category</b>	Liquidity class 2	Category 2,3 & 4	Category 2 & 3	Mortgage Bonds	
<b>Rating requirements</b>	Min. AA-/Aa3	Min. BBB-/Baa3	-	Min. BBB-/Baa3	
<b>Rating agencies</b>	Fitch, Moody's, S&P	Fitch, Moody's, S&P, Scope, NCR	-	Fitch, Moody's, S&P	
<b>Rating treatment</b>	≥ two ratings: min. AA-/Aa3	Second best	-	-	
<b>Min. volume (home currency)</b>	SEK 100m	NOK 300m	Category 2: EUR 1bn (or equivalent in DKK) Category 3: -	PLN 10m	
<b>Min. volume equivalent (foreign currency)</b>	SEK 100m	EUR 100m		-	
<b>Own-use</b>	✗	✓		-	
<b>Haircuts based on</b>	<b>TtM</b>	✓	✓	✓	
	<b>Coupon</b>	✓	✓	✗	
	<b>Currency</b>	✓	✓	✓	✗
	<b>...</b>	Theoretical and/or old price	-	Theoretical price	-
<b>Currencies</b>	<b>EUR</b>	✓	✓	✓	✗
	<b>USD</b>	✓	✓	✗	✗
	<b>GBP</b>	✓	✓	✗	✗
	<b>JPY</b>	✓	✓	✗	✗
	<b>CHF</b>	✗	✓	✗	✗
	<b>SEK</b>	✓	✓	✗	✗
	<b>NOK</b>	✓	✓	✗	✗
	<b>DKK</b>	✓	✓	✓	✗
	<b>CAD</b>	✗	✓	✗	✗
	<b>AUD</b>	✗	✓	✗	✗
	<b>NZD</b>	✗	✓	✗	✗
	<b>PLN</b>	✗	✗	✗	✓
<b>Country of issuance</b>	<b>EU</b>	-	✓	-	-
	<b>EEA</b>	-	✓	-	-
	<b>G10</b>	✓	-	✗	✗
	<b>others</b>	NO, DK, FI, AT, LU, IT, PT, ES, GR, AU, NZ	AU, NZ, US, CA, CH, GG, JE, KY, UK	DK	PL

<sup>1</sup> The purpose of the table is to compare the requirements for eligible collateral. As a result, it does special/individual cases. Consequently, a case-by-case assessment is essential to determine the central bank eligibility of securities, which should not be based solely on this table

## Covered bonds

### Central bank eligibility of covered bonds<sup>1</sup> (continued)

	Canada	Australia	New Zealand	
	<a href="#">Bank of Canada</a>	<a href="#">Reserve Bank of Australia</a>	<a href="#">Reserve Bank of New Zealand</a>	
Eligibility criteria	<a href="#">link</a>	<a href="#">link</a>	<a href="#">link</a>	
Eligible securities		<a href="#">link</a>	<a href="#">link</a>	
Category	Covered Bonds	ADI Bonds	Covered Bonds	
Rating requirements	AAA equivalent	Minimum average rating: BBB-/Baa3	AAA/Aaa	
Rating agencies	-	Fitch, Moody's, S&P	Acceptable rating agencies	
Rating treatment	-	At least two ratings	at least two ratings; more than two ratings: at least two AAA/Aaa and no rating lower than AA+/Aa1	
Min. volume (home currency)	CAD 1m	-	-	
Min. volume equivalent (foreign currency)	-	-	-	
Own-use	x	x	x	
	TtM	✓	✓	
Haircuts based on	Coupon	x	x	
	Currency	✓	x	
	...	-	Average credit rating	
Currencies	EUR	x	x	
	USD	✓	x	
	GBP	x	x	
	JPY	x	x	
	CHF	x	x	
	SEK	x	x	
	NOK	x	x	
	DKK	x	x	
	CAD	✓	x	
	AUD	x	✓	
	NZD	x	x	✓
	PLN	x	x	
	Country of issuance	EU	x	x
EEA		x	x	
G10		x	x	
others		CA	AU	NZ

<sup>1</sup> The purpose of the table is to compare the requirements for eligible collateral. As a result, it does special/individual cases. Consequently, a case-by-case assessment is essential to determine the central bank eligibility of securities, which should not be based solely on this table

## Appendix Publication overview

### Covered Bonds:

[Issuer Guide – Covered Bonds 2024](#)

[Risk weights and LCR levels of covered bonds](#) (updated semi-annually)

[Transparency requirements §28 PfandBG Q4/2024](#) (quarterly update)

[Transparency requirements §28 PfandBG Q4/2024 Sparkassen](#) (quarterly update)

### SSA/Public Issuers:

[Issuer Guide – German Laender 2024](#)

[Issuer Guide – Canadian Provinces & Territories 2024](#)

[Issuer Guide – Down Under 2024](#)

[Issuer Guide – European Supranationals 2024](#)

[Issuer Guide – Non-European Supranationals \(MDBs\) 2024](#)

[Issuer Guide – German Agencies 2024](#)

[Issuer Guide – French Agencies 2024](#)

[Issuer Guide – Nordic Agencies 2024](#)

[Issuer Guide – Dutch Agencies 2024](#)

[Issuer Guide – Austrian Agencies 2024](#)

[Beyond Bundeslaender: Belgium](#)

[Beyond Bundeslaender: Greater Paris \(IDF/VDP\)](#)

[Beyond Bundeslaender: Spanish regions](#)

### Fixed Income Specials:

[ESG-Update 2024](#)

[ECB interest rate cut in the wake of Rambo-Zambo bond packages](#)

## Appendix

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Frequent Issuers	+49 511 9818-9640

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**Time of going to press:** 18 March 2025 (18:05)