MOODY'S
INVESTORS SERVICE

CREDIT OPINION

29 April 2020

Update

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RATINGS

Aareal Bank AG

Domicile	Germany
Long Term CRR	A3
Type	LT Counterparty Risk Rating - Fgn Curr
Outlook	Not Assigned
Long Term Debt	Withdrawn
Type	Senior Unsecured MTN - Fgn Curr
Outlook	Not Assigned
Long Term Deposit	A3
Type	LT Bank Deposits - Fgn Curr
Outlook	Negative

Please see the ratings section at the end of this report for more information. The ratings and outlook shown reflect information as of the publication date.

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Aareal Bank AG

Update following change in outlook to negative

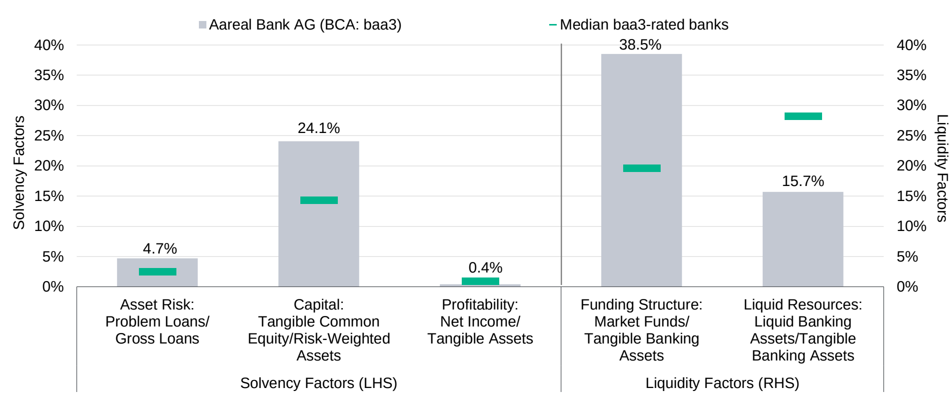
Summary

On 21 April 2020, we affirmed Aareal Bank AG's (Aareal Bank) A3/P2 deposit and issuer ratings and changed the outlook on the long-term ratings to negative from stable. We also affirmed the bank's A3/P-2 Counterparty Risk Ratings (CRRs), as well as its baa3 Baseline Credit Assessment (BCA) and Adjusted BCA.

Aareal Bank's ratings reflect (1) its baa3 BCA and Adjusted BCA; and (2) the results of our Advanced Loss Given Failure (LGF) analysis, which provide three notches of uplift for the bank's deposit and issuer ratings.

Aareal Bank's baa3 BCA reflects the resilience of the bank's intrinsic financial strength, even in a more deteriorating operating environment resulting from the coronavirus (COVID 19) outbreak in Europe. Aareal Bank's strong capitalization largely mitigates its limited diversification benefits from other businesses and elevated asset risks, enabling the bank to cope with a deterioration in its asset quality; despite some improvement in the second half of 2019, the bank reports a still relatively high nonperforming loan ratio. An average loan-to-value ratio of below 60% in its performing commercial real estate (CRE) lending book provides a further buffer against a deterioration in market prices. The BCA also reflects a sound track record of low through-the-cycle credit losses. Aareal Bank's sound liquidity management and funding profile are additional risk mitigants. Our view on the bank's BCA could change if the current economic shock because of the global spread of the coronavirus broadens and extends beyond our base case scenario.

Exhibit 1
Rating Scorecard - Key financial ratios



Source: Moody's Financial Metrics

Credit strengths

» Strong and high-quality capitalisation

» Sound liquidity metrics and stable funding from the housing industry sector

» Low loan losses through the cycle

Credit challenges

» High and concentrated exposures to CRE lending, which may exert pressure on the bank's asset quality during a global property downturn

» Significant exposures to hotel and retail CRE portfolios that are severely affected by the impact of the coronavirus induced economic downturn

» Above average non-performing loans

» Limited diversification benefits from other businesses (monoliner)

» Moderate dependence on wholesale funding

Outlook

The negative outlook on Aareal Bank's long-term issuer and deposit ratings reflects the downward pressure on the bank's BCA from the deteriorating operating environment as a result of the global coronavirus outbreak.

Factors that could lead to an upgrade

» As indicated by the negative outlook, upward pressure on the ratings is currently unlikely.

» An upgrade of Aareal Bank's ratings could follow an upgrade of its BCA, which would require a substantially more diversified business model, such that it eliminates the existing strong concentration risks in its CRE lending.

Factors that could lead to a downgrade

» Aareal Bank' ratings could be downgraded as result of a downgrade of its BCA or if its loss-absorbing liabilities decline significantly and beyond our expectations, thereby resulting in fewer notches of rating uplift from our LGF analysis.

» Downward pressure on Aareal Bank's BCA could develop as a result of a material deterioration in its asset quality, a significant and sustained drop in its profitability, or an overall weakening of the bank's combined liquidity profile.

Key indicators

Exhibit 2

Aareal Bank AG (Consolidated Financials) [1]

	12-19[2]	12-18[2]	12-17[2]	12-16[2]	12-15[2]	CAGR/Avg.[3]
Total Assets (EUR Billion)	40.1	41.6	40.8	43.8	47.8	(4.3)[4]
Total Assets (USD Billion)	45.0	47.6	49.0	46.2	51.9	(3.5)[4]
Tangible Common Equity (EUR Billion)	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.6	0.5[4]
Tangible Common Equity (USD Billion)	3.0	3.1	3.3	2.9	2.9	1.3[4]
Problem Loans / Gross Loans (%)	3.6	5.8	4.6	4.8	4.4	4.7[5]
Tangible Common Equity / Risk Weighted Assets (%)	24.1	21.0	23.4	18.7	15.8	20.6[6]
Problem Loans / (Tangible Common Equity + Loan Loss Reserve) (%)	30.4	47.2	37.0	45.7	48.3	41.7[5]
Net Interest Margin (%)	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.4[5]
PPI / Average RWA (%)	2.8	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.9[6]
Net Income / Tangible Assets (%)	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5[5]
Cost / Income Ratio (%)	60.6	61.0	59.3	57.8	57.8	59.3[5]
Market Funds / Tangible Banking Assets (%)	38.5	37.9	37.1	39.1	40.9	38.7[5]
Liquid Banking Assets / Tangible Banking Assets (%)	15.7	16.2	20.2	18.5	16.9	17.5[5]
Gross Loans / Due to Customers (%)	193.7	187.7	188.2	227.8	262.3	211.9[5]

[1]All figures and ratios are adjusted using Moody's standard adjustments. [2]Basel III - fully loaded or transitional phase-in; IFRS. [3]May include rounding differences because of the scale of reported amounts. [4]Compound annual growth rate (%) based on the periods for the latest accounting regime. [5]Simple average of periods for the latest accounting regime. [6]Simple average of Basel III periods.

Sources: Moody's Investors Service and company filings

Profile

Aareal Bank AG (Aareal), headquartered in Wiesbaden, Germany, is a CRE lending specialist, active in Europe, North America and, to a limited degree, in Asia. The bank focuses on corporate real estate clients, with no direct retail business either in its lending or funding activities.

Additionally, the group offers consultancy, IT/digital services and transaction banking activities to clients in the housing and commercial property industries. As of year-end 2019, the group's reported total assets amounted to €40.1 billion and it employed around 2790 persons.

Weighted Macro Profile of Strong+

Because of Aareal Bank's international CRE finance activities, the bank's assigned Strong+ Weighted Macro Profile is reflective of its worldwide activities, primarily focused on the United States of America (Aaa stable), which displays a Very Strong- Macro Profile, as well as other countries with a less benign operating environment, in particular the United Kingdom (Aa2 negative) and Italy (Baa3 stable).

Recent developments

The coronavirus outbreak will cause an unprecedented shock to the global economy. The full extent of the economic downswing will be unclear for some time; however, G-20 economies will contract in 2020. In Europe, the outbreak adds to late-cycle risks for European banks. The recession in 2020 will weigh on the banks' asset quality and profitability. We expect fiscal policy measures, as already announced by a variety of euro-area governments, to mitigate the economic contraction caused by the outbreak.

In March 2020, the European Central Bank (ECB) announced a series of measures to help European Union (EU) economies weather the widening effects of the coronavirus pandemic, temporarily increasing banks' liquidity provisions, as well as lowering regulatory capital and liquidity requirements. As part of these temporary measures, the ECB increased its targeted long-term refinancing operations (TLTRO III) under more favourable terms as well as its financial asset purchase program, while refraining from lowering the ultralow interest rates further.

The temporary suspension of buffer requirements for regulatory capital and the liquidity coverage ratio (LCR) gives banks greater flexibility and additional leeway to absorb the economic impacts, such as asset-quality declines. Overall, the package aims to help the banks continue to finance corporates and small and medium-sized businesses suffering from the effects of the coronavirus outbreak.

We believe that the ECB's measures will provide a limited relief for banks and their borrowers, and that it will require meaningful fiscal policy measures by the European Union and its member states to avert higher default rates in banks' lending books.

Germany announced a large stimulus package that complements the ECB's supportive policy actions. The German government launched emergency corporate lending guarantee programs and expanded short-time work subsidies and investments. These measures add to Germany's already expansionary fiscal policy stance and automatic stabilisers that support household incomes when unemployment increases. These policy measures will soften the negative economic effects of the coronavirus outbreak, but might not fully offset the credit-negative operational effect stemming from the outbreak.

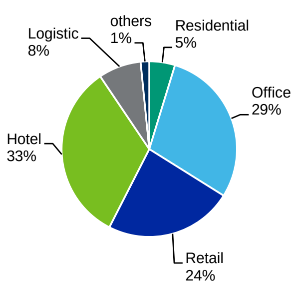
Detailed credit considerations

High and concentrated exposures to CRE lending may strain the bank's asset quality amid the coronavirus impact, particularly with risks related to tourism and nonfood retail sectors

We position Aareal Bank's ba2 Asset Risk score four notches below our baa1 initial score, taking into account the bank's high sector, single-name and single-location concentration risks. The bank's €25.9 billion CRE lending book is particularly concentrated in hotel (33%) and retail (24%), leaving the bank particularly vulnerable to the economic impact of the coronavirus-related measures.

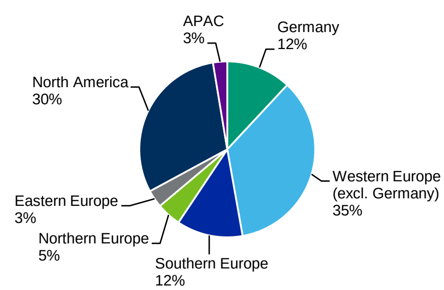
Aareal Bank recorded a sound history of relatively low credit losses because of the bank's focus on prime locations and properties with a high level of cash flow-based investment financing and a slightly lower average loan-to-value ratio of 57% as of year-end 2019. We expect the bank's management to continue to adhere to its value-preserving strategy when entering into new lending agreements with unchanged strict lending criteria.

Exhibit 3
Aareal Bank's CRE portfolio by sub-segment
As of year-end 2019



Sources: Company reports and Moody's Investors Service

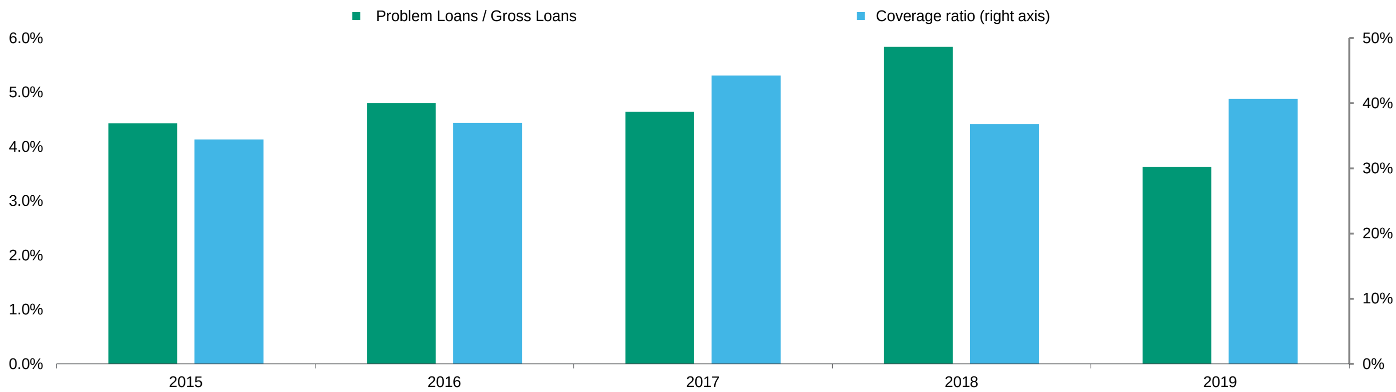
Exhibit 4
Aareal Bank's CRE portfolio by country
As of year-end 2019



Sources: Company reports and Moody's Investors Service

The bank's problem loan ratio of 3.6% as of year-end 2019 remained high compared with that of its closest domestic peers and decreased from 5.8% as of year-end 2018. Most of the bank's total problem loan exposures stem from its legacy exposures to Italy, although the UK portfolio has started to weaken. Aareal Bank's initiated measures to effectively and meaningfully reduce the risks resulting from these exposures finally did lead to a market improvement in nonperforming loans in late 2019; however, the increasing downside risks for the economy have risen to unprecedented levels in the meantime, although we expect those to be sufficiently mitigated by the bank's strong capitalisation metrics.

Exhibit 5
Aareal Bank's problem loan ratio increased recently



Problem loan ratio is in accordance with our definition since 2018, according to IFRS9 reporting standards.
Sources: Company reports and Moody's Investors Service

Strong and high-quality capitalisation is a key risk mitigant

We assign a Capital score of a1 to Aareal Bank, reflecting our expectation that the bank will maintain its strong capitalisation metrics, despite the expected strain from the potential impact of the coronavirus crisis and the upcoming revisions to the Basel framework for measuring credit risks (the so-called constrained internal ratings-based approach). We have captured the expected decline in the bank's capital ratio, in particular our tangible common equity (TCE) ratio, by positioning the bank's Capital score three notches below the aa1 initial score.

Aareal Bank reported a strong TCE ratio of 24.1% and a fully loaded Tier 1 leverage ratio of 6.0% as of 31 December 2019, significantly higher than those of its closest peers. TCE comprises the bank's Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) capital plus €300 million in high-trigger Additional Tier 1 (AT1) instruments.

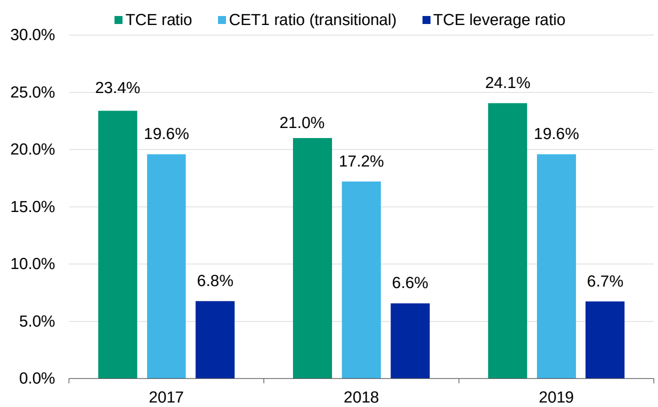
Consequently, we believe that Aareal Bank is well prepared to digest both potential RWA increases because of a deterioration in asset quality following the economic downswing underway and a larger increase in regulatory RWA. We expect the bank to be able to maintain and retain a capital ratio of close to 14% despite the aforementioned strain, and further taking into account high future dividend payouts, with a communicated target medium-term payout ratio of 70%-80%. For 2020, however, the bank's management already decided to refrain from calling its €300 million high-trigger AT1 instrument and postponed a decision on the dividend payout because of the economic crisis, both factors supporting the bank's capital position in the short term.

However, Aareal Bank's risk density, that is, the bank's risk-weighted assets (RWA) calculated as a percentage of total assets, amounted to only 28% as of year-end 2019. In light of the revisions to the Basel framework and because Aareal Bank calculates its RWA according to the advanced internal ratings-based approach for most of its exposures, we expect its risk density to continue to rise meaningfully, leading to a significant increase in RWA from the current levels.

The effects of these expected increases in RWA started to become visible in 2018, when Aareal Bank's CET1 ratio declined to 17.2% as of year-end 2018 from 19.6% in 2017, mainly driven by a €1.25 billion rise in RWA in 2018. These pressures on the bank's still-sound capital ratios reflect the expected effects of the ECB TRIM exercise. As of year-end 2019, the bank's CET1 ratio rose up again to 19.6% (total capital 29.9%), more than 2x its SREP requirement of 9.37% for CET1 and its 12.87% total capital requirement.

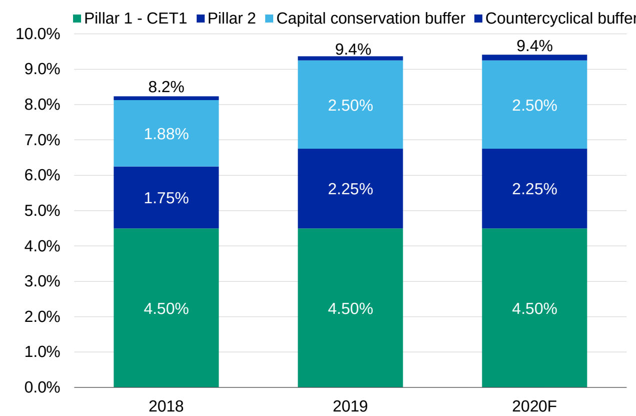
Previously, growth in TCE was achieved by a combination of retained earnings and the issuance of €300 million of high-trigger AT1 instruments in 2014, as well as by the acquisitions of Corealcredit Bank AG in 2014, Westdeutsche Immobilien Bank AG in 2015 and Duesseldorfer Hypothekenbank AG in 2018, all at prices significantly below their book values.

Exhibit 6
Aareal Bank comfortably exceeds its CET1 requirements



TCE = TCE (Moody's calculation), CET1 = Common Equity Tier 1 capital.
Sources: Company reports and Moody's Investors Service

Exhibit 7
Aareal Bank's CET1 requirements



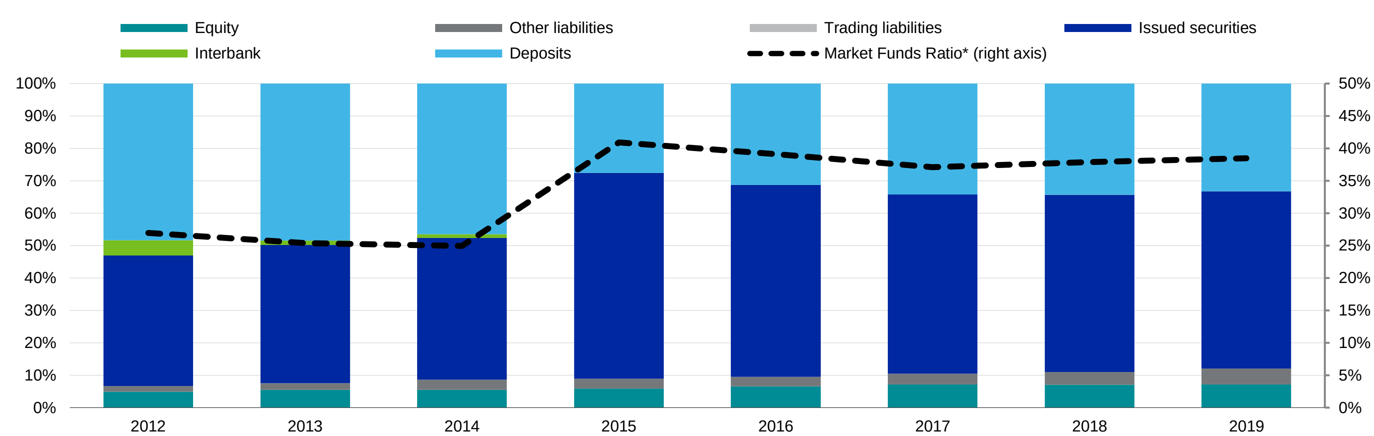
Source: Company reports

Stable funding from the housing industry sector mitigates the bank's remaining wholesale funding dependence

We assign a ba1 Funding Structure score to Aareal Bank, one notch above its initial score, reflecting its favourable term structure, and limited refinancing and interest rate risks. The bank's funding structure comprises less confidence-sensitive covered bonds (Pfandbriefe, €12.4 billion as of year-end 2019), a sizeable amount of corporate and housing industry deposits (€9.7 billion), senior unsecured debt including promissory notes (€7.0 billion) and subordinated debt (€0.6 billion). Within its senior unsecured debt proportion, Aareal Bank is a strong issuer of smaller-size promissory note loans to the market, benefitting from its strong and proven access to the institutional private placement market.

The bank's funding composition is further supported by its two-pillar business model, attracting sizeable and rather sticky housing industry deposits (€9.7 billion as of year-end 2019) because of its dominant market share of IT and banking services (of around 60%), which it provides to the German housing industry. Most of these deposits are either tenant security deposits or operating deposits of the respective housing companies, constituting a reliable and stable source of funding, which is a key credit strength compared with that of the bank's other wholesale-funded CRE lending peers. In addition, Aareal Bank's senior debt and covered bond investor base is diversified, granular and largely driven by a domestic private placement backbone, providing further funding stability.

Exhibit 8
Aareal Bank's funding mix is well diversified



*Market funding ratio = Market funds/tangible banking assets.
Sources: Company reports and Moody's Investors Service

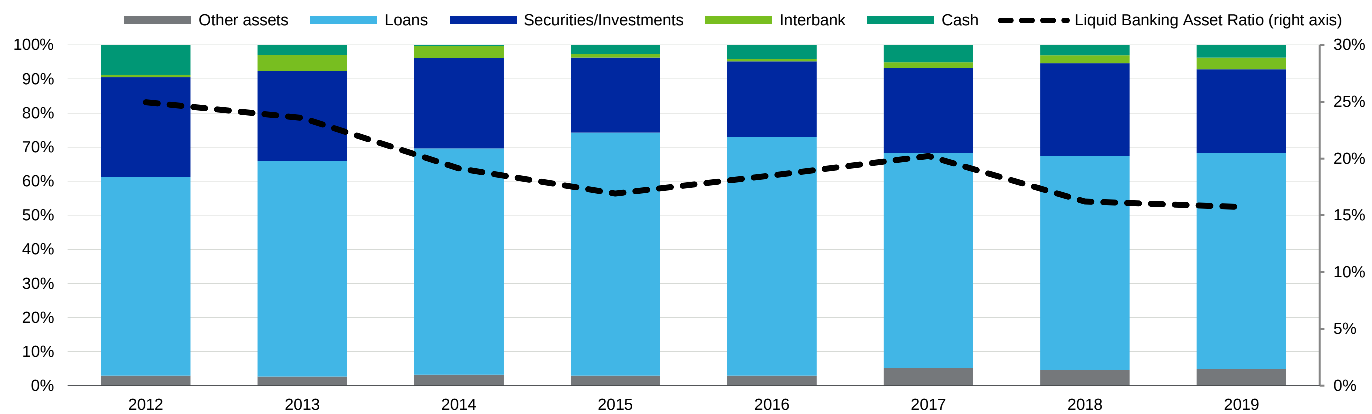
Sound liquidity metrics

We capture Aareal Bank's balanced liquidity profile in its baa2 Liquid Resources score, in line its baa2 initial score. The score reflects the bank's cash position and liquid interbank assets (€1.5 billion as of year-end 2019), as well as its high-quality treasury portfolio (€7.3 billion), which mainly consists of public-sector debtors and covered bonds, all of which are investment grade.

Moreover, additional liquidity could be generated through the issuance of covered bonds. As of September 2019, and based on an outstanding issuance of €10.7 billion, the over-collateralisation in Aareal's mortgage cover pool stood at 16% on an unstressed present value basis. Because the minimum over-collateralisation level, consistent with a Aaa covered bond rating, was 10.5% as of the same date, Aareal Bank has some leeway for using its existing cover pool to generate fresh liquidity through the issuance of covered bonds.

Together with the bank's diversified funding mix, its liquidity reserves constitute a very balanced profile, offering the bank significant flexibility in a more adverse market environment.

Exhibit 9
Aareal Bank's balance-sheet liquidity remains comfortable



*Liquid banking assets ratio = Liquid assets/tangible banking assets.
Sources: Company reports and Moody's Investors Service

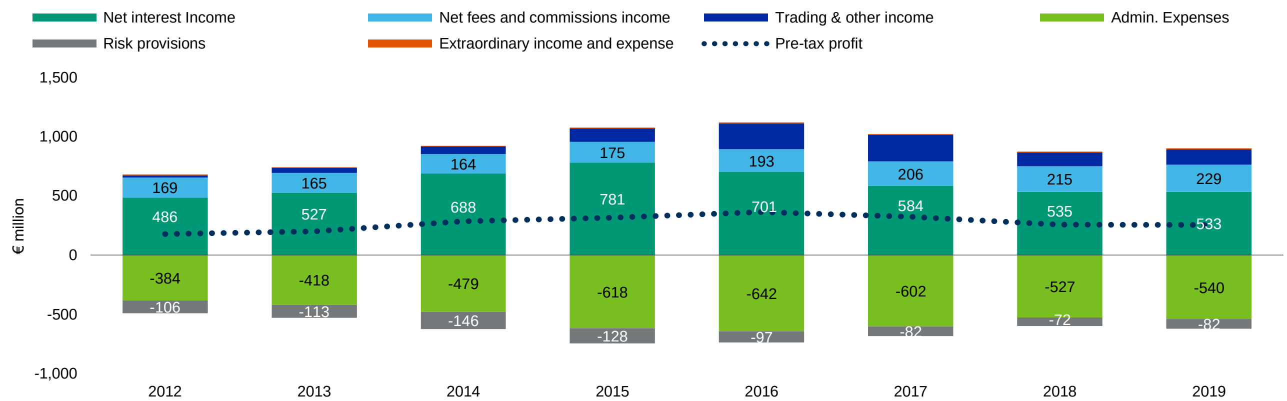
Adequate level of risk-weighted profitability

We assign a ba2 Profitability score for Aareal, one notch below the initial score, and capturing the bank's relatively solid earnings generation capacity that will likely be strained by the economic downturn.

We expect earnings to decline further over the next two to three years, driven by (1) the expectation of increasing loan-loss provisions; (2) the persistently low interest rate environment straining Aareal Bank's lending business margins, despite the bank's broader international presence than that of its closest Germany-focused peers; and (3) its still-limited fee and commission income, despite Aareal Bank's efforts to leverage its service and consulting activities under the Aareon brand.

The bank reported a net profit of €163 million for 2019, down from €226 million in 2018. This decrease mainly reflects the lack of favourable goodwill effects that supported the 2018 results. While net interest income remained rather stable, net commission income generated by its service and IT entity Aaeron increased by roughly 6.5%. This increase was partially offset by higher administrative expenses connected to the growth of Aareon and the transformation of Düsseldorfer Hypothekenbank, and higher risk costs because of accelerated de-risking of the portfolio.

Exhibit 10
Pretax income slightly decreased over the recent years



Sources: Company reports, Moody's Financial Metrics and Moody's Investors Service estimates

Qualitative adjustment captures limited business diversification

We reduce Aareal Bank's weighted average outcome of the assigned Financial Profile factor score by one notch to an assigned BCA of baa3. This adjustment reflects Aareal Bank's low revenue and negligible income diversification outside of the commercial mortgage-lending businesses.

Business diversification is an important gauge of a bank's sensitivity to stress in a single business line. It is related to earnings stability in the sense that earnings diversification across distinct and relatively uncorrelated lines of business increases the reliability of a bank's earnings streams and its potential to absorb shocks affecting a business line.

Being a CRE lending specialist, Aareal Bank is exposed to a rather volatile banking business through the cycle. We consider CRE lending highly cyclical and, therefore, a higher-risk sector exposure. Being a specialist CRE lender benefits the bank's sector-specific risk management know-how, but at the same time, it naturally limits the potential for (earnings) diversification within the bank. Because CRE exposures can cause high losses in times of financial market stress, Aareal Bank's high reliability on CRE-related earnings streams exposes it to unexpected shocks that are likely to hurt its income statement in an adverse scenario. As a result, we classify Aareal Bank as a monoline bank according to our approach for business diversification.

Environmental, social and governance considerations

In line with our general view on the banking sector, Aareal Bank has a low exposure to environmental risks (see our environmental risk heat map[1] for further information).

For social risks, we also place Aareal Bank in line with our general view for the banking sector, which indicates a moderate exposure. However, Aareal Bank has an elevated share of lending to sectors such as tourism and non-food retail that are particularly exposure to the rapid and widening spread of the coronavirus outbreak given the substantial implications for public health and safety, and a deteriorating global economic outlook creating a severe and extensive credit shock across many sectors, regions and markets (for further information see our social risk heat map[2]).

Governance is highly relevant for Aareal Bank, as it is to all participants in the banking industry. Governance risks are largely internal rather than externally driven, and for Aareal Bank, we do not have any particular governance concern[3]. Nonetheless, corporate governance remains a key credit consideration and requires ongoing monitoring.

Support and structural considerations

Loss given Failure (LGF) analysis

Aareal Bank is subject to the EU Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive, which we consider an operational resolution regime. We, therefore, apply our Advanced LGF analysis, where we consider the risks faced by the different debt and deposit classes across the liability structure should the bank enter resolution.

In line with our standard assumptions, we assume that equity and asset losses stand at 3% and 8%, respectively, of tangible banking assets in a failure scenario. We also assume a 25% runoff in junior wholesale deposits and a 5% runoff in preferred deposits. Moreover, we assign a 25% probability to junior deposits being preferred to senior unsecured debt. We apply a standard assumption for European banks that 26% of deposits are junior.

The results of our Advanced LGF analysis are:

» For Aareal Bank's deposit, issuer , our LGF analysis indicates an extremely low loss given failure, leading to a three-notch uplift from the bank's baa3 Adjusted BCA.

Government support considerations

We do not assign any rating uplift for Aareal Bank from government support, reflecting our unchanged assumption of a low probability of systemic support in the event of a stress scenario, given the bank's marginal importance to the domestic deposit-taking market and local payment systems.

Counterparty Risk Ratings (CRRs)

Our CRRs are opinions of the ability of entities to honour the uncollateralised portion of non-debt counterparty financial liabilities (CRR liabilities) and also reflect the expected financial losses in the event such liabilities are not honoured. CRRs are distinct from ratings assigned to senior unsecured debt instruments and from issuer ratings because they reflect that, in a resolution, CRR liabilities might benefit from preferential treatment compared with senior unsecured debt. Examples of CRR liabilities include the uncollateralised portion of payables arising from derivatives transactions and the uncollateralised portion of liabilities under sale and repurchase agreements.

CRRs are not applicable to funding commitments or other obligations associated with covered bonds, letters of credit, guarantees, servicer and trustee obligations, and other similar obligations that arise from a bank performing its essential operating functions.

Aareal Bank's CRRs are positioned at A3/P-2

The bank's CRRs are positioned three notches above the baa3 Adjusted BCA, based on the high buffer against default provided by subordinated instruments to the more senior CRR liabilities.

Counterparty Risk (CR) Assessment

Our CR Assessment is an opinion of how counterparty obligations are likely to be treated if a bank fails and is distinct from debt and deposit ratings in that it (1) considers only the risk of default rather than both the likelihood of default and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default; and (2) applies to counterparty obligations and contractual commitments rather than debt or deposit instruments. The CR Assessment is an opinion of the counterparty risk related to a bank's covered bonds, contractual performance obligations (servicing), derivatives (for example, swaps), letters of credit, guarantees and liquidity facilities.

Because the CR Assessment captures the probability of default on certain senior operational obligations, rather than expected loss, we focus purely on subordination and take no account of the volume of the instrument class.

Aareal Bank's CR Assessment is positioned at A3(cr)/P-2(cr)

Aareal Bank's CR Assessment is positioned three notches above the bank's baa3 Adjusted BCA, based on the substantial buffer against default provided to the senior counterparty obligations by more junior instruments, such as senior unsecured debt and dated subordinated debt.

Methodology and scorecard

Methodology

The principal rating methodology we used in rating Aareal Bank was the Banks Methodology, published in November 2019.

About Moody's Bank Scorecard

Our scorecard is designed to capture, express and explain in summary form our Rating Committee's judgement. When read in conjunction with our research, a fulsome presentation of our judgement is expressed. As a result, the output of our scorecard may materially differ from that suggested by raw data alone (though it has been calibrated to avoid the frequent need for strong divergence). The scorecard output and the individual scores are discussed in rating committees and may be adjusted up or down to reflect conditions specific to each rated entity.

Rating methodology and scorecard factors

Exhibit 11

Aareal Bank AG

Macro Factors		
Weighted Macro Profile	**Strong +**	**100%**

Factor	**Historic Ratio**	**Initial Score**	**Expected Trend**	**Assigned Score**	**Key driver #1**	**Key driver #2**
Solvency						
Asset Risk						
Problem Loans / Gross Loans	4.7%	baa1	←→	ba2	Sector concentration	Single name concentration
Capital						
Tangible Common Equity / Risk Weighted Assets (Basel III - transitional phase-in)	24.1%	aa1	↓↓	a1	Risk-weighted capitalisation	Expected trend
Profitability						
Net Income / Tangible Assets	0.4%	ba1	↓	ba2	Return on assets	Expected trend
Combined Solvency Score		a2		baa2		
Liquidity						
Funding Structure						
Market Funds / Tangible Banking Assets	38.5%	ba2	←→	ba1	Term structure	Expected trend
Liquid Resources						
Liquid Banking Assets / Tangible Banking Assets	15.7%	baa2	←→	baa2	Additional liquidity resources	Stock of liquid assets
Combined Liquidity Score		ba1		baa3		
Financial Profile				baa2		
Qualitative Adjustments				Adjustment		
Business Diversification				-1		
Opacity and Complexity				0		
Corporate Behavior				0		
Total Qualitative Adjustments				-1		
Sovereign or Affiliate constraint				Aaa		
BCA Scorecard-indicated Outcome - Range				baa2 - ba1		
Assigned BCA				baa3		
Affiliate Support notching				0		
Adjusted BCA				baa3		

Balance Sheet	**in-scope (EUR Million)**	**% in-scope**	**at-failure (EUR Million)**	**% at-failure**
Other liabilities	17,150	43.0%	18,508	46.4%
Deposits	13,310	33.4%	11,952	30.0%
Preferred deposits	9,849	24.7%	9,357	23.5%
Junior deposits	3,461	8.7%	2,595	6.5%
Senior unsecured bank debt	1,442	3.6%	1,442	3.6%
Junior senior unsecured bank debt	5,562	13.9%	5,562	13.9%
Dated subordinated bank debt	1,236	3.1%	1,236	3.1%
Equity	1,197	3.0%	1,197	3.0%
Total Tangible Banking Assets	39,897	100.0%	39,897	100.0%

Debt Class	De Jure waterfall		De Facto waterfall		Notching		LGF Notching Guidance vs. Adjusted BCA	Assigned LGF notching	Additional Notching	Preliminary Rating Assessment
	Instrument volume + subordination	Sub-ordination	Instrument volume + subordination	Sub-ordination	De Jure	De Facto				
Counterparty Risk Rating	30.2%	30.2%	30.2%	30.2%	3	3	3	3	0	a3
Counterparty Risk Assessment	30.2%	30.2%	30.2%	30.2%	3	3	3	3	0	a3 (cr)
Deposits	30.2%	20.0%	30.2%	23.7%	3	3	3	3	0	a3

Instrument Class	Loss Given Failure notching	Additional notching	Preliminary Rating Assessment	Government Support notching	Local Currency Rating	Foreign Currency Rating
Counterparty Risk Rating	3	0	a3	0	A3	A3
Counterparty Risk Assessment	3	0	a3 (cr)	0	A3(cr)	
Deposits	3	0	a3	0	A3	A3

[1]Where dashes are shown for a particular factor (or sub-factor), the score is based on non-public information.
Source: Moody's Investors Service

Ratings

Exhibit 12

Category	Moody's Rating
AAREAL BANK AG	
Outlook	Negative
Counterparty Risk Rating	A3/P-2
Bank Deposits	A3/P-2
Baseline Credit Assessment	baa3
Adjusted Baseline Credit Assessment	baa3
Counterparty Risk Assessment	A3(cr)/P-2(cr)
Issuer Rating	A3
ST Issuer Rating	P-2

Source: Moody's Investors Service

Endnotes

1 Environmental risks can be defined as environmental hazards encompassing the impacts of air pollution, soil/water pollution, water shortages and natural and man-made hazards (physical risks). Additionally, regulatory or policy risks, like the impact of carbon regulation or other regulatory restrictions, including the related transition risks like policy, legal, technology and market shifts that could impair the evaluation of assets are an important factor. Certain banks could face a higher risk from concentrated lending to individual sectors or operations exposed to the aforementioned risks.

2 Social risk considerations represent a broad spectrum, including customer relations, human capital, demographic and societal trends, health and safety and responsible production. The most relevant social risks for banks arise from the way they interact with their customers. Social risks are particularly high in the area of data security and customer privacy, which is mitigated by sizeable technology investments and banks' long track record of handling sensitive client data. Fines and reputational damage because of product mis-selling or other types of misconduct is a further social risk. Societal trends are also relevant in a number of areas, such as shifting customer preferences toward digital banking services increasing information technology costs, ageing population concerns in several countries affecting demand for financial services or socially driven policy agendas that may translate into regulations that affect banks' revenue bases.

3 Corporate governance is a well-established key driver for banks, and related risks are typically included in our evaluation of the banks' financial profile. Corporate governance weaknesses can lead to a deterioration in a company's credit quality, while governance strengths can benefit its credit profile. Further factors like specific corporate behaviour, key person risk, insider and related-party risk, strategy and management risk factors and dividend policy may be captured in individual adjustments to the BCA.

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