

Supplementary explanatory notes on the Deutsche Bundesbank's credit assessment procedure and use of the data (last updated: 15 November 2024)

In the context of its monetary policy tasks in the Eurosystem, the Deutsche Bundesbank grants refinancing and intraday loans to domestic credit institutions. Credit claims on eligible enterprises, amongst other instruments, can be used as collateral for these loans. Eligible enterprises have a high credit rating, similar to an investment grade rating, and/or a low probability of default. The Bundesbank's credit assessment procedure checks whether an enterprise meets these criteria by evaluating the data specified in point 1 using statistical models and carrying out a qualitative expert analysis. The outcome is summarised in a credit rating.¹

1. Data used to make the credit assessment

(a) The credit assessment is prepared using the last two sets of annual financial statements for your enterprise and any affiliated enterprises. These may also be obtained from public sources.

(b) Moreover, when preparing the credit assessment, use is also made of data on your enterprise and any affiliated enterprises supplied to the Bundesbank through reports provided by credit institutions to credit registers maintained by the Bundesbank.² These data take the form of identifying characteristics and information on the credit volume and on credit institutions' assessments of your enterprise's creditworthiness or that of any affiliated enterprises, including details of default events reported by credit institutions.

(c) For the purpose of preparing the credit assessment, use may be made of additional information (e.g. regarding the number of employees, long-term equity investments in other enterprises, developments in the financial year to date) submitted voluntarily by your enterprise or any affiliated enterprises to the Bundesbank. This enables a more accurate credit assessment of your enterprise and any affiliated enterprises.

2. Entry in an electronic register

Upon submission of a request for a credit assessment, your enterprise's master data, including name, address, commercial register (*Handelsregister*) number/location and, where applicable, the LEI, RIAD code and debtor ID, are entered in an electronic register, which can only be viewed by credit institutions that use credit claims as collateral for their central bank refinancing. Where a rating is issued, the note "eligible" or (from 16 June 2025) "non-eligible" will be added to this entry.

3. Using the data for checking eligibility, validation and the execution of monetary policy

The data specified in point 1, as well as the outcome of the credit assessment (hereinafter referred to jointly as the "credit assessment data"), are used by the Bundesbank for the

¹ Each credit rating reflects a certain expected probability of default, obtainable from the Bundesbank's master scale. For more details, see the Bundesbank's brief overview of its credit assessment system, available at <https://www.bundesbank.de/resource/blob/625838/e75aaf18769fe9f1c323a45321c5ad02/472B63F073F071307366337C94F8C870/bonitaetsanalyse-data.pdf>

² At present, use is made of reports produced in line with the supervisory reporting requirements set out in Section 14 of the Banking Act (*Gesetz über das Kreditwesen*) and the collection of statistical microdata under Regulation (EU) 2016/867 on the collection of granular credit and credit risk data (AnaCredit).

aforementioned purpose of checking eligibility, including the required validation of the credit assessment by the risk control unit,³ and for purposes connected with the implementation of monetary policy. To this end, the Bundesbank may also share your credit assessment data with the European Central Bank (ECB) and other central banks belonging to the European System of Central Banks (ESCB).

4. Use of the data for the purpose of statistics, banking supervision, monitoring of financial stability and economic analysis

The Bundesbank may use the credit assessment data for statistical purposes – particularly for compiling economic statistics – with all results depicted in anonymised form. In addition, the Bundesbank may also use the information in non-anonymised form to the extent and at the level of detail necessary in the context of banking supervision, financial stability monitoring, economic analysis and cash supply. To this end, the Bundesbank may also merge credit assessment data with other data on your enterprise and any affiliated enterprises to which it has access for justifiable reasons.

5. Use of master data for the purposes of improving quality

Your enterprise's master data and, where applicable, those of affiliated enterprises may be used for the purposes of identifying enterprises and improving the quality of the Bundesbank's and ECB's master data register, and can be transferred from this register to statistical and supervisory reporting agents. These master data include attributes that are objectively clearly attributable to your enterprise at a given point in time, in particular its name and address, unique identifiers of the enterprise such as its register number or LEI, its ESA sector and branch of economic activity, and potentially other comparable data, which the Bundesbank will add to the master dataset in future and which are required for the purposes specified above.

6. Consent to the use of your data as listed in points 2 to 5

By submitting annual financial statement documents or additional information supplementary to the annual financial statements (pursuant to point 1(c)), you give your full consent in each case (i.e. in subsequent years as well) to the use of the data you have provided as per points 2 to 5. Your consent shall also apply to affiliated enterprises over which your enterprise exercises a controlling influence. Consent shall be without prejudice to any data uses provided for by law. Publicly available information and data provided to the Bundesbank for the performance of its tasks pursuant to points 1a. and 1b. can be used for a credit assessment without any need for consent, for example. The Bundesbank treats documents confidentially in accordance with the applicable statutory provisions.

Consent may be withdrawn in writing at any time with future effect. Withdrawal of consent shall not affect the lawfulness of any processing that took place on the basis of this declaration of consent before it was withdrawn.

³ The credit assessment in its entirety is validated by the Bundesbank's risk control unit, using the data covered by point 1.