

METHODOLOGICAL PAGES

PRESENTATION

1)-The Central Bank of Tunisia

Statistics of the Central Bank of Tunisia are worked out on the basis of its ten-day statements. They are presented after reclassifying the various items in the form of monthly sector-related statements and annual and monthly retrospective statements.

2)-The lending institutions

a) Banks

- Arab Tunisian Bank (ATB)
- Banque Franco-Tunisienne (BFT)
- Banque Nationale Agricole (BNA - ex BNT)
- Banque Attijari de Tunisie (ATTIJARI - ex BS)
- Banque de Tunisie (BT)
- Amen Bank (AB)
- Citibank (onshore)
- Arab Banking Corporation (ABC onshore)
- Banque Internationale Arabe de Tunisie (BIAT)
- Société Tunisienne de Banque (STB)
- STUSID BANK
- Union Bancaire pour le Commerce et l'Industrie (UBCI)
- Union Internationale de Banques (UIB)
- Banque de l'Habitat (BH - ex CNEL)
- Banque Tunisienne de Solidarité (BTS)
- Qatar National Bank (QNB - ex TQB)
- Banque Tuniso-Koweitienne (BTK)
- Banque de Tunisie et des Emirats (BTE)
- Banque de Financement des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises (BFPME)
- Banque Tuniso-Libyenne (BTL)
- Banque Zitouna (BZ)
- Al Baraka Bank Tunisia (al baraka)

Banking system statistics worked out on the basis of the monthly accounting statements of these banks are presented in the form of monthly sector-related statements and annual and monthly retrospective statements.

It should be mentioned that the accounting statements of Citibank, the Banque de l'Habitat (ex-CNEL transformed into deposit bank in June 1989) and the BNDA, a bank which was taken over in June of the same year by the BNT called henceforth BNA, are only posted in banks' statistics, as of December 1989. Accounting statement of the BTS, operating as of January 1998, is ever then posted in banks' statistics.

Worth of note the coming into operation in March 2005 of a new bank called the Bank for financing small and medium-sized companies (BFPME) ; its accounting statement is included in banks' statistics since December 2005.

The Banque de Développement Economique de Tunisie (BDET) and the Banque Nationale de Développement Touristique (BNDT) are no longer part of development banks, they are henceforth considered banks as of December 2000, month of their takeover by the Société Tunisienne de Banque (STB). The Qatar National Bank (QNB ex - TQB), the Banque Tuniso-Koweitienne (BTK), the Banque de Tunisie et

des Emirats (BTE), the STUSID BANK and the BTL were transformed into universal banks ; the first in April 2004, the second and the third in May 2004, the fourth in April 2005, and the last one in November 2005.

As of March 2010, the Tunisian banking system was enriched with the coming into operation of Banque Zitouna, a new bank specialised in Islamic finance.

As of January 2014, "Al Baraka Bank Tunisia (al Baraka)", the offshore bank which has been transformed into a universal bank, as of December 2013, is entered under banks' statistics.

b) Financial institutions

● Leasing companies

Tunisie-Leasing (TL), UBCI Leasing (absorbed on 29 December 2010 by UBCI, the parent company), the Compagnie Internationale de Leasing (CIL), the Arab Tunisian Lease (ATL), Amen Lease (AL) fully liquidated on 14 April 2010, Attijari leasing (Attij. L), Modern Leasing (ML), Arab International Lease (AIL), Best Lease (BL), Hannibal lease (HL), and El Wifack Leasing (WL).

● Merchant banks

The two merchant banks are the International Maghreb Merchant Bank (IMMB) and the Banque d'Affaires de Tunisie (BAT).

● Factoring companies

Tunisie Factoring and Uni-Factor.

3)-Specialised banks or banks with a particular status

Offshore banks : Citibank (offshore branch), the Tunisian Foreign Bank (TF Bank - ex. UTB), Tunis International Bank (TIB), Loan and Investment Company (LINC), North Africa International Bank (NAIB), Alubaf International Bank (ALUBAF) and Arab Banking Corporation (ABC : offshore branch).

4)-Debt collection companies

Up today, the number of debt collection companies amounts to 14.

The Société Tunisienne de Recouvrement des Créances (STRC), The Sud Recouvrement (SR), the Société Financière de Recouvrement des Créances (SOFINREC), EL ISTIFA Company, the Compagnie Internationale Arabe de Recouvrement (CIAR), the Internationale de Recouvrement des Créances (IRC) and Le Recouvrement, the Société Générale de Recouvrement des Créances, Rapide Recouvrement, the Tuniso-Saoudienne de Recouvrement, the Compagnie Arabe de Recouvrement, the Tuniso-Qatari de Recouvrement, Tunisie-Recouvrement and Alyssa Recouvrement.

5)-A savings collection company : The Postal Savings Centre (CEP ex-CENT) and a Postal Cheque Centre (CCP).

6)-Mutual investment companies (OPC) into operation :

(43) Open-ended investment companies (SICAV), (72) mutual investment funds (of which (3) guaranteed mutual investment funds, (2) index-related mutual investment fund and one stock mutual investment fund), (35) venture capital mutual investment funds (FCPR), (5) start-up funds and (2) joint claim funds (FCC).

6 A)- Investment Companies :

(91) closed-end investment funds (SICAF) and (43) capital risk investment companies (SICAR).

7)-Insurance companies

The Tunisian insurance market is currently made up of 22 resident companies and three off-shore ones. Most of these companies operate in multi-branches but some of them are specialized in a particular insurance activity (4 in life insurance and capitalization : Hayett, Maghrebria Vie, Carte Vie and Amina, two in commercial and export loan insurance : Assurcredit and COTUNACE and one in reinsurance : TUNIS-RE).

The Insurance General Committee "C. G. A." is a legal entity with financial autonomy relevant to the Ministry in charge of Finance. It protects insured persons' rights and safeguards the insurance and reinsurance companies' capacities to honour their commitments. This structure intervenes in :

- off-site and on-site control of insurance and reinsurance companies professions tied to the sector,
- follow up of the insurance sector as well as mutual associations' activity,
- studying any legal and technical issue relevant to insurance and reinsurance operations and to development of the sector.

SECTORIZATION

1)-The monetary system

The monetary system includes, in addition to the Central Bank of Tunisia, banks (cf. relating diagram presented on page A 23) and the Postal Cheque Centre (CCP).

Retrospective situations of the Central Bank, banks and customer deposit at the Postal Cheque Centre are consolidated to constitute the monetary resources situation. The latter is followed by a detailed breakdown of each of the three resource counterparts (net claims on abroad, net claims on the State and financing of the economy).

2)-Resident financial system

Resident financial system includes the monetary system, the leasing companies situation and the savings deposits of individuals at Postal Savings Centre (CEP ex-CENT).

3)-Global financial system

Global financial system includes resident financial system and offshore bank's situation.

4)-Loans counted by the Risk Base

These loans are monthly transmitted to the risk Base of the Central Bank of Tunisia. The counting includes overall loans given by the global financial system, broken down by branch of economic activity and distributed into short, medium and long term loans and this, up to October 2002.

As of November 2002, these statistics concern just professional loans. Non-professional loans granted to individuals are put in a separate table.

As of January 2007, data in the risk base are published as per a new nomenclature due to a change in the sectoral breakdown of professional loans. This change was led by the coming into operation of the new risk base that adopted Nomenclature of the Tunisian Activities (NAT) established in compliance with the international norms for a better coherence with the other economic and social statistics, notably, the national accounting.

Some differences may occur in the follow up of the sectoral evolution of loans due to disparities in classifying by economic activity a number of companies between the former system of codification and the new allocation of activity by the Corporate National Index (Repertoire National d'Entreprises).

Historical data are maintained as per the former breakdown of economic branches of activity for pages related to annual statistics.

The following table presents approximately the conformity between the former and the new breakdown :

TABLE OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE NEW AND THE FORMER BREAKDOWN

NEW BREAKDOWN	CORRESPONDING FORMER BRANCH OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY
Agriculture, hunting and forestry	Direct loans to agriculture (agriculture and fishing)
Fishing, fish breeding and aquaculture	
Extractive industries	Mining
	Energy (Oil research and mining)
	Building materials, ceramics and glass industries (mining and quarry)
Manufacturing industries	Energy (oil refining)
	Agrofood industries
	Building materials, ceramics and glass industries (Manufacturing)
	Mechanical and electrical industries
	Chemical industries and rubber
	Textile
	Clothing and leather
	Cork, wood and furniture
	Paper and publishing industries
	Electricity, gas and water production and distribution
Construction	Building and civil engineering
Hotel and restaurants	Tourism
Real estate, renting and services to corporates	Management and transfer of immovable goods (real estate promotion)
	Other services
Transport and communication	Transport and telecommunications
	Miscellaneous trade (Industry and trade-related activities)
	Other services
Trade, car repair and household requisites	Agricultural and agrofood trade
	Raw materials, equipment and fuel trade
	Vehicle machine hardware trade
	Textile and leather trade
	Miscellaneous trade
Financial activities	Other services (Financial and insurance institutions)
Public administration	Other services (Governmental services)
Education	Other services
Health and social actions	Other services
Collective, social and personal services	Miscellaneous trade
	Other services
Household services	Other services
Extra-territorial structures	Other services
Miscellaneous	Other services
	Miscellaneous trade
	Management and transfer of immovable goods

5)-Clearing

This includes statistics on the number and amount of cheques, bills, transfers and debits handled in electronic clearing and the clearing houses of Tunis. As from the transition to electronic clearing, all transactions are carried out solely in Tunis. Monthly series are obtained through accumulated daily data.

6)-Instruments of monetary and credit policy

In this framework, the intervention instruments of the Central Bank of Tunisia are recapped. The rediscount is removed whereas debtor and creditor interest rates and bank commissions are almost released.

7)-Exchange

In addition to a retrospective series for spot exchange representing average rates expressed in dinar of listed currencies on the interbank market as at the last working day of the considered month as well as their monthly averages, this part includes a table describing the trend of the main three listed currencies on the interbank market during the last three months. Furthermore, a series of the Tunisian dinar exchange rate expressed in SDR is published.

8)-Tunis stock exchange market (BVMT)

Relating statistics concern BVMT listed and off-list transactions.

Rates entered in the statistics are those posted on the official quotation exclusive of operations on capital securities.

• **Official quotation** : Following the modifications introduced in byelaw of Ministry of Finance of 24 September 2007 with respect to the General Regulation of BVMT, the stock listing is henceforth made up of 3 markets : the main market of capital securities, the alternative market of capital securities and the bond market.

Creating an alternative market aims notably at:

- allowing Tunisian companies, in particular, small and medium-sized businesses that can not be listed on the main market to enter the alternative market at rather flexible admission conditions ;
- encouraging company start-up through public call for savings (APE), notably, by earmarking for APE part of financing to "major projects" as of their creation.

The electronic quotation witch started up on 25 October 1996 with four companies was spread up to all company at the beginning of July 1997.

• **Off list:** Shares and bonds which are not listed on the official quotation are traded in this framework.

Stock market capitalisation: the number of listed shares multiplied by their last prices of the period.

Number of listed companies: the number of companies listed on the stock market.

Volume of transactions: the volume of trade effected in one sense, at sale, on the official quotation or off list.

BVMT general index (base 100 on 30 September 1990) : it reflects the trend of average market rate of return. All listed shares are included in the reference sample before its adjustment on 31 March 1998. The new pattern includes just shares with a quotation frequency higher than 60%. This index was posted in its current form, on 1st April 1998, with a base of 465.77 on 31 March 1998. As of 2 January 2009, BVMT index is no longer posted.

TUNINDEX index: It is an index of stock market capitalisation base 1000 on 31 December 1997, published on 1st April 1998. To calculate this index, we take into account the average trend in stock rates weighted by the number of issued stocks. The basic sample is made up of listed ordinary shares, the stay period of which in either of the stock markets' quotation is at least six months.

As of 2 January 2009, the mode for calculating TUNINDEX index was modified. It is no longer weighted by total stock capitalisation but by floating capitalisation. Thus, the number of shares accounted for in calculating stock capitalisation is that of shares made available to the market and no longer the number of quoted shares. This calculation mode helps ensure more coherence between the real situation of corporate stocks and its implementation through indexes.

The general rule concerning the making up of TUNINDEX index and the sector related indexes is modified as follows: the sample which makes up TUNINDEX index and the sector related indexes is open to securities quoted on one of the markets of the quotation of the stock market of assets securities with an accommodating delay of a month at least starting from the first negotiation.

TUNINDEX20 index : In order to develop the business activity of the Tunis Stock Exchange, the Stock Exchange Indexes Committee decided to launch, starting from 2 January 2012, a new index designated "TUNINDEX20" (the 20 most liquid largest securities), with a base level of one thousand base points starting from 31 December 2006.

9)-Instruments of monetary and credit policy

a) The principles underpinning money market rate setting are as follows :

- **the Key rate of the Central Bank** is the rate fixed by the Executive Board. As indicated by its name, it helps to conduct all the other market rates. This rate has a major importance in running the monetary policy. It informs about the monetary policy guidelines. Thus, an increase in the key rate means that the Central Bank tightens its policy. This would be the case when inflation increases and persists or when credit distribution goes up and is likely to bring about inflationary pressures. On the contrary, to boost the economic activity, the Central Bank can decrease its key rate.

- **Deposit and credit standing facilities' rates** : They represent the fluctuation corridor limits of interbank rates. These rates were modified several times as from the revolution correlatively to the key rate modifications.

- **Money market rates** : This concerns interbank transactions rates emanating from liquidity exchange between banks. A money market monthly average weighted rate commonly known as TMM is calculated as of the day-to-day interbank market. TMM is used as a reference to determine most of debit and credit

rates applied by banks to economic agents with respect to the loans they grant and the deposits they collect. Worth of note that as of 1st June 2004 and in compliance with provisions of Circular to banks n°2004-02 of 26 May 2004, market rates' round off is operated at 1/100 percentage point the nearest.

- **Call for bid rate** : Call for bid is the main refinancing operation granted by the Central Bank to banks. In fact, banks present their auctions to the Issuing Institution which decides, following the refinancing committee meeting, held each Tuesday under chairmanship of the Governor, about the refinancing amount to be granted. The amount of call for bid is given to banks by reference to the rates at which they supply liquidity so as to obtain it as per the multiple rate method. Worth of note that the key rate of the Central Bank is the minimum rate of auctions (indicative rate)

- **The savings remuneration rate (TRE)** : As per Circular n°86-42 of 1st December 1986, banks set freely the annual interest rate to apply on deposits credited to special savings accounts. Yet, this remuneration can not be below TRE as defined by article 36 of BCT Circular to banks n°91-22 of 17 December 1991 and modified by subsequent texts.

- **The minimum bank overdraft rate** is TMM + 7 percentage points.

b) The money market in dinar is made up of the interbank market on which banks short-term liquidity exchange is carried out and the market devoted to BCT intervention through its monetary policy operations, be them discretionary (at BCT initiative) or not. The interbank market is unsecure and thus banks exchange liquidity without collateral for maturities that rarely go beyond one or two weeks. However, monetary policy operation are carried on presentation of a collateral in the form of State securities (Treasury bonds) or performing claims on the private sector, in compliance with the BCT statutes. Monetary policy operations are under one of following forms :

- ✓ 7-day call for bid which is the main refinancing operation ;
- ✓ Firm sale and purchase of Treasury bonds in the framework of Open Market ;
- ✓ 24-hour credit and deposit standing facilities, on initiative of banks introduced in February 2009. These operations help banks to cover their needs or place their temporary excess liquidity. 24-hour credit standing facility is carried against pawn of public securities, claims or values on businesses and private individuals. It bears an interest rate which is equal to the BCT key rate plus a margin. When launched, 24-hour deposit and credit facilities, used to bear respective interest rates of 4% and 5% respectively: 50 basis points on both sides of the BCT key rate, set therefore, by the Executive Board at 4.5%.

The global volume of refinancing includes the calls for bids, the firm purchase or sale of Treasury bonds in the framework of the Open Market and the credit and deposit standing facilities. To this is added, if need be, fine tuning operations to inject or tap liquidity at 24 hours (operations becoming rare since the creation of standing facilities), the repo (that have not been used since 2008) and the swap exchange operations, as instrument of monetary policy, newly set up but not yet used.

c) The reserve requirement instrument : This instrument is used by the Central Bank to act on the money quantities. The reserve requirement is marked by the following features ;

- ✓ The reserve requirement is calculated, on average, over the month ;

- ✓ It is not remunerated ;

- ✓ The period for constitution of the reserve requirement for a month goes from the first to the last day of the month following the one during which the reserve is built up (BCT circular to banks n°2006-20 of 29 November 2006).

- ✓ The reserve requirement amount is set by application of a 1% rate on the outstanding balance of sight deposits and other sums due to the customer and 30% rate on the increase in the outstanding balance of consumer loans by reference to the outstanding balance of September 2012. It should be also mentioned that all other deposit forms are exempted from constitution of the reserve (cf. BCT circular to banks n°2013-20 of 27 December 2013).

10)- The balance of payments

The balance of payments is drawn up in compliance with provisions of the 5th edition of the IMF balance of payments manual. This accounts for quarterly data.

SDR allocations are entered in the item « other investment » as monetary authority commitment.

Other external sector indicators are presented monthly in accumulated terms.

11)- Overall external position

Overall external position is a statistic statement on the global assets and liabilities of the country abroad in terms of stocks: direct investment, portfolio investment, other investments and reserve assets.

Set up in terms of stocks, starting from financial operations recorded in terms of flows at the balance of payments level as defined in the framework of the 5th edition of the IMF manual drawn up in this respect, the overall external position reflects then, the rights and claims of residents on non-residents, their commitments with respect to each other, the monetary gold and the SDR.

SDR allocations are entered in the item « other investment » as monetary authority commitment and SDRs are accounted for in the item "reserve assets".