

General Bank of Canada

Regulatory Disclosures

The Basel Committee of Banking Supervision sets out expectations for public disclosure of a bank's risk management objectives and policies, reporting systems, and definitions to be published annually.

Description of the Bank

General Bank of Canada operates two lines of business: fixed rate indirect auto financing and commercial lending; funding its operations through the issuance of fixed rate Guaranteed Investment Certificates with terms up to 5 years. The Bank's treasury function is kept intentionally straight forward, with asset and liability maturity bands constantly monitored and matched within self-imposed limits. All financial assets and liabilities are fully disclosed on the Bank's balance sheet. The Bank has no subsidiaries, and all operations are conducted in Canada. The Bank has a robust and effective system of controls to assess and manage risk across various spectra, including credit risk, interest rate risk, liquidity risk, market risk, and operational (including regulatory) risk. The Bank endeavors to satisfy all regulatory disclosure requirements, without disclosing excessive / unnecessary information, in consideration of the Bank's lines of business and any potential competitive disadvantage that could arise from disclosure.

Capital and Capital Management

Capital and leverage ratios were calculated using the Basel III framework. Regulatory capital includes Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1), additional Tier 1 and Tier 2 capital. CET1 capital mainly consists of common shares, retained earnings and other components of equity. Tier 1 capital comprises predominantly CET1, with additional items that consist of capital instruments such as certain preferred shares. Tier 2 capital includes subordinated debentures that meet certain criteria and certain loan loss allowances. Total Capital is the sum of CET1, additional Tier 1 and Tier 2 capital.

Regulatory adjustments under Basel III include full deductions of intangibles, certain deferred tax assets, and non-significant investments in banking, financial and insurance entities.

Regulatory capital ratios are calculated by dividing capital by risk-weighted assets. The Bank's assets, by classes, are risk weighted, with additional consideration given to the Bank's operational risk, relying on the Basic Indicator Approach to quantify operational risk. OSFI provides two approaches to determining credit risk, those being the Standardized Approach versus the Internal Ratings Based Approach, with the Bank following the former.

December 31, 2020 (000's)		
Risk Weighted		
Asset Class with Risk Weight %	Value	Capital Allocated
Cash and equivalents 20%	\$ 28,786	\$ 3,598
Consumer retail loans 75%	989,233	\$ 123,654
Commercial loans 35%-100%	388,305	\$ 48,538
Investments 100%	8,363	\$ 1,045
All other 100%	36,253	\$ 4,532
Total Adjusted Risk-Weighted Assets	1,450,940	181,367
Operational Risk	66,040	8,255
Total Risk-Weighted Assets	\$ 1,516,980	\$ 189,622
Surplus Capital		\$ 18,927
Total Capital		\$ 208,549

OSFI formally establishes risk-based capital targets for deposit-taking institutions in Canada. These targets are currently a Tier 1 ratio of greater than or equal to 7%, and a Total capital ratio of greater than or equal to 10.5%. In addition, Canadian banks are required to ensure that their leverage ratio, which is calculated by dividing Total capital by Total assets, does not fall below a minimum, as prescribed by OSFI for each bank individually. The Bank prepares a three year capital plan each year. During 2019 and 2020 we have complied with all capital requirements imposed by OSFI.

Regulatory capital and capital ratios
(\$ thousands)

	Basel III 2020 \$	Basel III 2019 \$
Capital		
Tier 1 capital	208,548	180,193
Total capital	208,548	180,193
Risk-weighted assets		
Credit risk	1,450,940	1,347,013
Operational risk	66,040	54,728
Total risk weighted assets	1,516,980	1,401,741
Capital ratios		
Tier 1 capital	13.75%	12.85%
Leverage ratio	10.19%	9.47%

General Bank of Canada is privately held, and issues only one class of capital to a private shareholder, and as such any further disclosure of the terms and conditions of all capital instruments is not relevant.

Basel III Capital Disclosure

With the implementation of revised guidelines (Basel III) certain classes of capital will be phased out, and/or renamed. The net effect of Basel III on the bank's capital management will be minimal. As a non domestically systemically important bank, General Bank of Canada is required to disclose a modified version of its capital and leverage structure as detailed below.

General Bank of Canada		
Capital Disclosure as at June 30, 2021		
Following disclosures follow templates provided by OSFI's Public Capital Disclosure Requirements related to Basel III Pillar 3. Templates have been modified to exclude line items that are not relevant. However, for purposes of comparability, OSFI template row numbering has been maintained.		
Common Equity Tier 1 Capital: Instruments and reserves (000's)		
1	Directly issued common share capital	\$117,500
2	Retained Earnings	\$100,012
3	Accumulated other comprehensive income	(\$585)
6	Common Equity Tier 1 before regulatory adjustments	\$218,598
26	Other deductions or regulatory adjustments to CET1 as determined by OSFI	\$1,671
28	Total regulatory adjustments to CET1	(\$107)
29	Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1)	\$218,491
29a	Common Equity Tier 1(CET1) with Transitional arrangement for ECL Provisioning not applied	\$216,820
45	Tier 1 Capital	\$218,491
45a	Tier 1 Capital with Transitional arrangement for ECL Provisioning not applied	\$216,820
Tier 2 Capital		
59	Total Capital	\$218,491
59a	Total Capital with Transitional arrangement for ECL Provisioning not applied	\$216,820
60	Risk Weighted Assets	\$1,553,719
Capital Ratios		
61	Common Equity Tier 1 (as percentage of Risk Weighted Assets)	14.06%
61a	Common Equity Tier 1 (as percentage of Risk Weighted Assets) with Transitional arrangement for ECL Provisioning not applied	13.95%
62	Tier 1 (as a percentage of Risk Weighted Assets)	14.06%
62a	Tier 1 (as a percentage of Risk Weighted Assets) with Transitional arrangement for ECL Provisioning not applied	13.95%
63	Total Capital (as percentage of Risk Weighted Assets)	14.06%
63a	Total Capital (as percentage of Risk Weighted Assets) with Transitional arrangement for ECL Provisioning not applied	13.95%
OSFI All In Target		
69	CET1 all in Target Ratio	12.50%
70	Tier 1 all in Target ratio	12.50%
71	Total Capital all in Target ratio	12.50%
Leverage Ratio Framework		

1	On-balance sheet items	\$2,078,596
2	Asset amounts deducted	\$107
3	Total on-balance sheet exposures	\$2,078,489
11	Total derivative exposure	\$641
19	Off-balance sheet items	\$34,079
20	Tier 1 capital	\$218,491
20a	Tier 1 Capital with Transitional arrangement for ECL Provisioning not applied	\$216,820
21	Total Exposures	\$2,113,209
22	Basel III leverage ratio	10.33
22a	Leverage ratio with Transitional arrangement for ECL Provisioning not applied	10.26

Additional bank financial information can be found on OSFI's website at:

<http://www.osfi-bsif.gc.ca/Eng/wt-ow/Pages/FINDAT.aspx>

Risk Management

Effective risk management plays an essential role in the Bank's ability to remain financially sound and responsible through the identification, assessment, management and monitoring of all applicable types of risk. The Bank is primarily exposed to credit, liquidity, interest rate and operational types of risk.

Senior management is responsible for defining the framework for identifying risks and developing the appropriate risk management policies. The Board of Directors, both directly or through its committees, reviews and approves key policies, and implements specific reporting procedures to enable them to monitor compliance over significant areas of risk.

The emergence of COVID-19 and the potential for prolonged adverse general business and economic conditions combined with stimulus interest rate environment has elevated certain risk factors that impacts financial results.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a financial loss will be incurred as a result of the failure of a customer to honour their contractual commitment or obligation to the Bank. The Bank has developed a Risk Appetite Statement, tailoring our risk position on a case-by-case basis as new opportunities are considered by the Bank.

To help mitigate credit risk on the retail loan portfolio, the Bank has established a maximum retail loan amount limit of \$150,000, based on credit quality, amount to finance, and lending parameters that clearly define the type, nature and qualification requirements of a prospective debtor. Any loan approvals falling outside of the Bank's established lending parameters require the post concurrence of senior management. A standardized credit risk rating classification guideline is used to monitor the ongoing quality of the loan portfolio upon initial approval, renewal, or when information becomes available indicating a material adverse change in the customers' financial affairs. Loans that have fallen more than 45 days into arrears are brought to the attention of a senior credit manager to facilitate the early recognition of problem accounts and implementation of the steps necessary to secure the Bank's interest in the loan collateral.

For commercial lending, the Bank has established a large exposure limits and a credit risk policy that has established targets for portfolio concentration and diversification by asset type and geography, and a risk rating system to monitor the quality of each loan at inception and during its life. The size and nature of the portfolio is such that each loan receives ongoing management attention to monitor performance and any change in the conditions affecting the security value or operating environment of the borrower.

The credit risk related to the Bank's preferred shares is that an issuer experiences financial difficulties and is unable to pay its preferred share obligations as they come due. To help mitigate this risk the Bank has purchased preferred shares rated as P-3 or better.

To limit the spread of COVID-19, businesses across many industries ceased or substantially reduced operations in response to government mandates to close non-essential businesses, resulting in employee layoffs or furloughs, with small- and medium-sized businesses particularly hard hit. Programs put in place by government agencies have provided temporary relief to retail customers and the relaxation of mandated containment measures has begun to positively impact the economy. The conclusion of payment deferrals and government relief programs, as well as further extended periods of curtailed economic activity combined with continued elevated levels of unemployment and existing levels of household debt, may adversely impact credit risk and could result in higher credit loss experience in future periods. As initial payment deferral arrangements concluded, predominantly under three-month terms, the Bank has been successful in working with customers to resume normal payments. Requests for new, additional, or extended payment deferrals have largely subsided. The Bank's exposure within industries particularly affected by the economic shutdown is well-diversified and supported by high-quality retail and commercial borrowers and high collateral values.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that there will be insufficient cash to meet the Bank's obligations as they come due. This risk can occur from both fluctuations in cash flows from lending, deposit taking and investment activities. Effective liquidity management ensures that an adequate amount of cash is available to honour all existing and short term cash outflow obligations. The Bank's liquidity policy includes the ongoing measurement and forecast of cash flows, the maintenance of a pool of high quality liquid assets, and the monitoring of the Bank's loan portfolio diversification as to geographic concentration. The Bank matches its asset and liability maturities so that assets reprice and liabilities mature at approximately the same time.

Market volatility and prolonged periods of economic stress impact how customers manage their deposits and loans. Market disruption may also impact the Bank's ability to access other funding sources on a cost-effective basis. Despite initial turmoil in funding markets at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bank of Canada, alongside other federal bodies, was quick to react with various programs to provide systemwide liquidity and funding costs have normalized. The Bank's liquidity position increased during fiscal 2020 as the Bank continues to prudently manage liquidity as the economy recovers.

Market risk

Market risk is the impact on earnings resulting from changes in financial market variables, such as interest rates and foreign exchange rates. Market risk arises when making loans, taking deposits, and making investments. The Bank does not undertake trading activities and therefore does not have risk related to activities such as market making, arbitrage or proprietary trading. The Bank does not hold or trade in foreign currencies, and consequently is not exposed to foreign exchange risk. The Bank's material market risk is confined to interest rates, as discussed below.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the impact on net interest income, both current and future, resulting from a change in market interest rates. This risk and potential variability in earnings arises primarily when cash flows stemming from interest sensitive assets and liabilities have different repricing dates. A positive gap arises when interest sensitive assets exceed interest sensitive liabilities for a specific maturity or when interest sensitive assets reprice earlier than interest sensitive liabilities. A negative gap arises when the opposite occurs. The impact of a change in market interest rates on earnings will depend on the magnitude of the change, on the size and maturity structure of the cumulative interest rate gap position and the management of those positions over time.

To mitigate the risk of changing interest rates with respect to variable rate commercial loans funded predominantly with fixed rate deposits, the Bank has entered into interest rate swaps.

(\$ thousands)	As at December 31, 2020							Total \$
	Floating rate to 3 months \$	3-6 months \$	6-12 months \$	1-2 years \$	2-5 years \$	Over 5 years \$	Non- interest sensitive \$	
Assets								
Cash	290,566	—	—	—	—	—	—	290,566
Loans	419,066	145,680	237,289	367,000	471,390	37,724	18,825	1,696,974
Marketable securities	716	26,519	3,761	1,950	5,000	—	(1,578)	36,368
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	11,800	11,800
Total	710,348	172,199	241,050	368,950	476,390	37,724	29,047	2,035,708
Liabilities								
Deposits	222,226	205,098	439,855	449,624	361,095	—	—	1,677,898
Interest rate swaps *	61,500	(10,000)	(36,500)	(15,000)	—	—	—	—
Secured debt	102,312	—	—	—	—	—	—	102,312
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	49,059	49,059
Total	386,038	195,098	403,355	434,624	361,095	—	49,059	1,829,269
Interest Rate Sensitive Gap	324,310	(22,899)	(162,305)	(65,674)	115,295	37,724		
Cumulative Gap	324,310	301,411	139,106	73,432	188,727	226,451		
Cumulative Gap as a Percentage of Total Assets	16%	15%	7%	4%	9%	11%		

* Interest rate swaps are included in this table at the notional amount

Operational risk

Operational risk is the potential for loss resulting from some external event, human error or inadequacy or failure of processes, procedures or controls. Operational risk can affect the Bank's financial position, reputation, competitive position, and regulatory position. The Bank is exposed to operational risk from internal business processes and activities as well as from activities that are outsourced. The financial measure of operational risk is actual losses incurred. There was no material operational risk losses incurred during the year ended December 31, 2020. The Bank mitigates operational risk by implementing policies and procedure directed at identified risks, employing knowledgeable and experienced senior managers, segregating duties among employees, training all employees with respect to effective risk management, and continually reviewing and upgrading policies and procedures.

Senior management is responsible for defining the framework for identifying risks and developing the appropriate risk management policies. The Board of Directors, both directly or through its committees, reviews and approves key policies, and implements specific reporting procedures to enable them to monitor compliance over significant areas of risk.

Other Factors

Concentration Risk

Exposure to single borrowers is limited by policy to \$150,000 in the case of retail automotive loans, and to lesser of \$20,000,000 or 12.5% of capital for any non-retail automotive credit exposure.

Geographically, the bank's loan book is distributed 32% in British Columbia, 25% in Alberta, 8% in Saskatchewan, 8% in Manitoba, and 27% in Ontario.

Compensation Practices

The Bank's senior management personnel include all directors, and executive management (President, Vice President, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Anti-Money Laundering Officer). The bank does not have a separate remuneration committee, nor does it have the resources to implement a functional deferral and performance adjustment scheme.

The President is paid a base salary by the bank, plus an annual amount directly by the shareholder, based on criteria established by the shareholder from time to time, commensurate with the shareholders expectations and appetite for return and risk. The payment of the annual bonus to the President is not paid by the Bank, therefore its composition is immaterial to parties other than the sole shareholder. The total compensation for the President is however aligned roughly with a regional executive position for larger financial institutions. The Chief Financial Officer is paid a base salary based on published data from leading Canadian recruitment firms. The Vice President and Chief Executive Officer, Chief Anti Money Laundering Officer are allocated notional amounts roughly equivalent to the pro-rated time they serve in these positions relative to other duties they perform for related companies. Their compensation is paid by entities other than the Bank. Unaffiliated Directors are paid an annual retainer plus a stipend for each meeting they attend.

Compensation of certain key management personnel as described above for the year may be sourced by companies other than the Bank and are summarized as follows:

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	1,825,000	1,434,000
Total compensation of key management personnel	1,825,000	1,434,000