



National Bank of the Republic of North Macedonia Statistics Department

Skopje, 29 March 2019

Press Release

Significant developments in interest rates of banks and savings houses¹: February 2019

- In February, the average interest rate on the outstanding amounts of loans kept on decreasing, and registered a monthly fall of 0.02 percentage points, reducing to 5.28%. The interest rate on outstanding amounts of deposits remained at the level of the previous month and amounted to 1.42%.
- In February, the average interest rate on newly granted² loans registered minimal monthly decline of 0.01 percentage point and reduced to 4.76%, while the average interest rate on newly received deposits increased by 0.12 percentage points and equaled 1.56%.

Table 1. Interest rates on loans and deposits (outstanding amounts and new business)³

	2.2018	3.2018	6.2018	9.2018	12.2018	1.2019	2.2019
in % on annual level							
Loans, outstanding amounts	5.70	5.67	5.57	5.46	5.33	5.30	5.28
Corporations	5.09	5.03	4.92	4.77	4.63	4.59	4.57
Households	6.36	6.35	6.25	6.17	6.08	6.03	6.02
New loans	4.98	4.92	4.97	4.86	4.49	4.77	4.76
Corporations	4.56	4.61	4.64	4.58	4.30	4.43	4.33
Households	5.60	5.56	5.53	5.39	5.03	5.41	5.54
Deposits, outstanding amounts	1.50	1.48	1.45	1.42	1.41	1.42	1.42
Corporations	1.72	1.69	1.63	1.71	1.69	1.72	1.74
Households	1.47	1.45	1.43	1.39	1.38	1.38	1.38
New deposits	1.57	1.47	1.29	1.57	1.40	1.44	1.56
Corporations	1.42	1.08	0.89	1.49	1.04	1.29	1.26
Households	1.71	1.79	1.55	1.60	1.60	1.49	1.69

Source: NBRNM.

¹ Interest rate implies annual weighted average interest rate in percentage. For more details see the methodology at: http://www.nbrm.mk/content/statistika/Monetarna%20statistika/metodologija/Metodologija_MIR_07_2018_eng.pdf

² With regard to the interest rates on newly granted loans / newly received deposits, variable movements are characteristic. Such movements in interest rates stem from changes in the volume of new deposits / loans (which can significantly vary from month to month), as well as from the newly agreed interest rate.

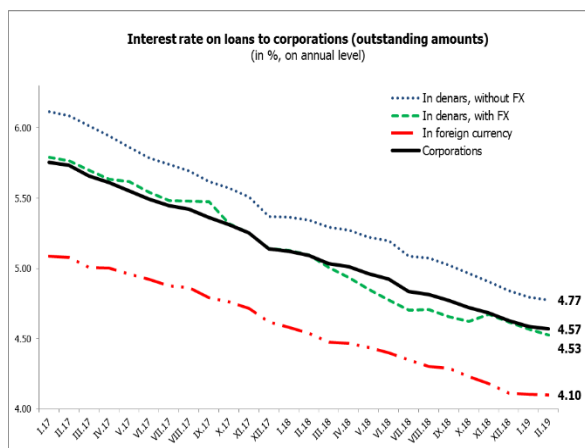
³ The effects of the changes in the methodology published in the Information on 20 July 2018 (http://www.nbrm.mk/content/statistika/informacii/Informacija_za_promeni_vo_monetarnata_statistika_eng.pdf) are not perceived in the individual categories of interest rates on deposits/loans (in denars without currency clause, in denars with currency clause and in foreign currency), but only in the aggregate interest rates (in denars and in foreign currency) which are not subject to analysis in the press release, but are published on the website of the NBRNM.



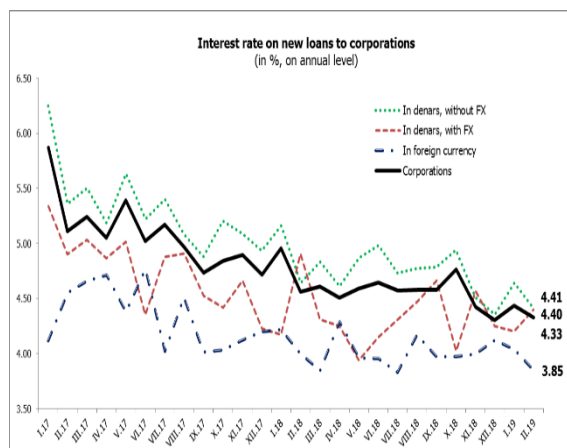
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1. Corporate interest rates⁴

- In February, the average interest rate on the outstanding amounts of loans to the corporate sector equaled 4.57%, which is a monthly fall of 0.02%. The decrease reflects the reduction in all its components as follows: interest rates on denar loans with and without a currency clause (of 0.04 percentage points and 0.03 percentage points, respectively) and foreign currency loans (of 0.01 percentage points). On an annual basis, this interest rate decreased by 0.52 percentage points.



Source: NBRNM.

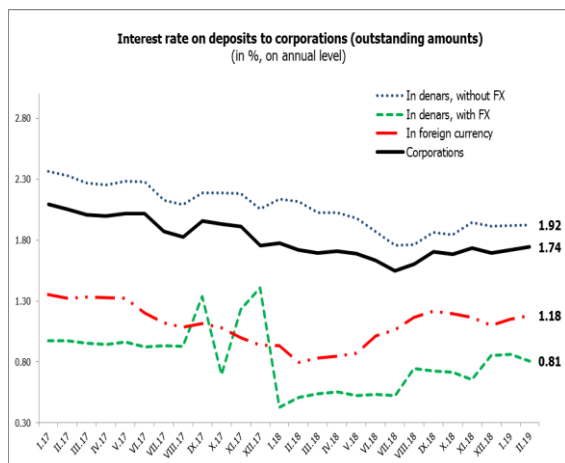


- In February, the interest rate on new loans to the corporate sector registered a monthly decrease of 0.10 percentage points and equaled 4.33%. The decrease is due to the cut of interest rates on denar loans without currency clause and foreign currency loans (by 0.23 and 0.19 percentage points, respectively), amid increase in the interest rates on denar loans with currency clause (by 0.20 percentage points). The interest rate on new loans to the corporate sector decreased by 0.23 percentage points compared to February last year.

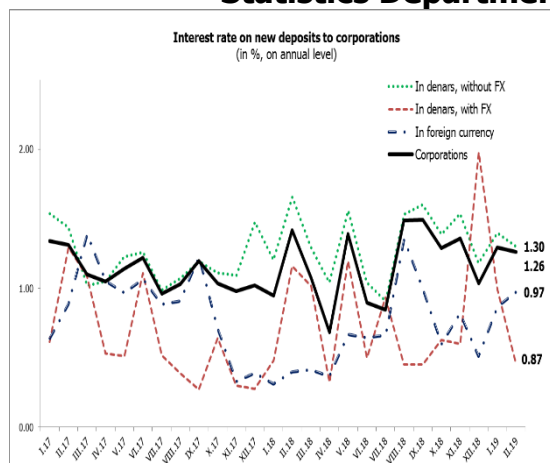
⁴ For the purposes of this press release, the corporate sector includes non-financial corporations (public and other).



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Source: NBRNM.



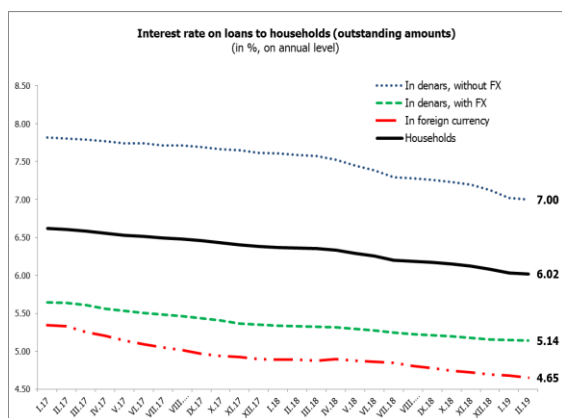
- In February, the interest rate on the outstanding amounts of the corporate sector deposits increased monthly by 0.02 percentage points (to 1.74%). The monthly increase reflects solely the increase in the interest rate on foreign currency deposits (of 0.03 percentage points), amid unchanged interest rate on denar deposits without currency clause and decline in the interest rate on denar deposits with currency clause (of 0.05 percentage points). The average interest rate on the outstanding amounts of the corporate sector deposits registered an annual increase of 0.02 percentage points.
- In February, the interest rate on newly received deposits⁵ of the corporate sector was 1.26%, down by 0.03 percentage points compared to the previous month. The monthly decrease primarily reflects the cut of interest rates on denar deposits with and without currency clause (of 0.55 and 0.10 percentage points, respectively), amid increase in the interest rate on foreign currency deposits (of 0.10 percentage points). On an annual basis, this interest rate decreased by 0.16 percentage point.

⁵ The disruption in series of data on interest rates in denars with currency clause shown in the chart referring to interest rates on newly received deposits of the corporate sector reflects fact that in some months, banks and savings houses have not received such deposit from the corporate sector.

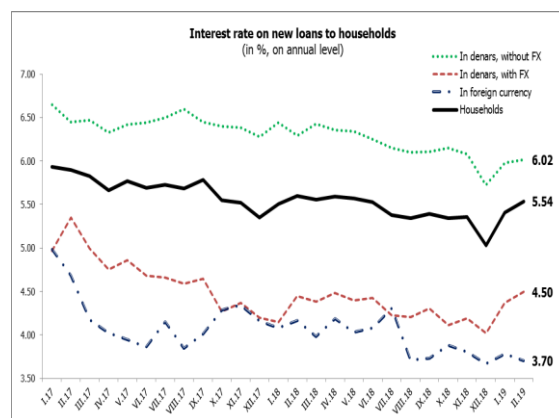


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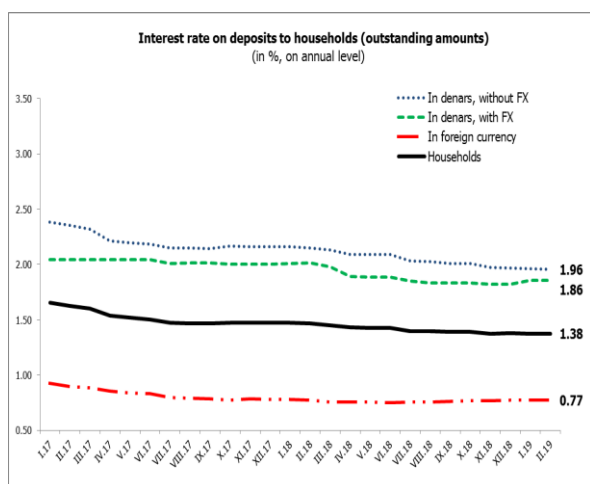
2. Interest rates for households⁶



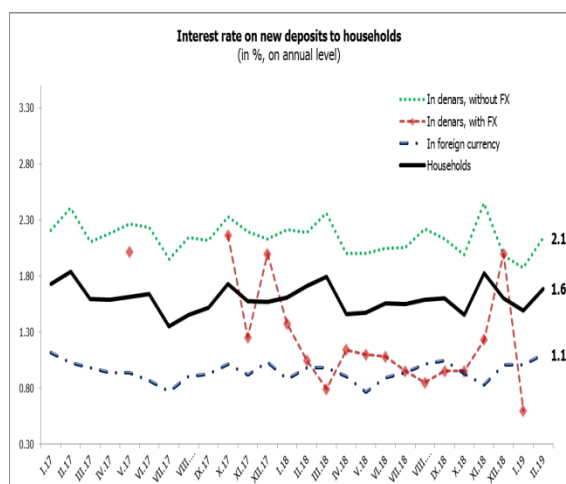
Source: NBRNM.



- The interest rate on the outstanding amount of household loans registered a minor monthly fall of 0.01 percentage points in February and reduced to 6.02%. This downward movement is due to the decrease in all components of this category, namely decrease in interest rates on both foreign currency loans (of 0.03 percentage points) and denar loans without and with currency clause (of 0.02 percentage points and 0.01 percentage points, respectively). On an annual basis, the interest rate on the outstanding amounts of household loans decreased by 0.34 percentage points.
- The average interest rate on new household loans registered a monthly increase of 0.13 percentage points and equaled 5.54%. The growth is a result of the increase in the interest rates on denar loans with and without currency clause (of 0.13 and 0.04 percentage points, respectively), partially offset by the cut of the interest rate on foreign currency loans (of 0.08 percentage points). On an annual basis, this interest rate decreased by 0.06 percentage points.



Source: NBRNM.



⁶ For the purposes of this press release, households include individuals, self-employed individuals and nonprofit institutions serving households.



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- The average interest rate on the outstanding amounts of household deposits is maintained at 1.38% for the fourth consecutive month. On an annual basis, the interest rate was decreased by 0.09 percentage points.
- In February, the interest rate of newly received deposits of the household sector⁷ was 1.69%, which is a monthly increase of 0.20 percentage points. The increase arises from the increase in interest rates on denar deposits without currency clause and foreign currency deposits (of 0.27 percentage points and 0.09 percentage points, respectively), amid absence of receipt of denar deposits with currency clause. Compared to February last year, this interest rate decreased by 0.02 percentage points.

Supporting information

Time series of data: annual, quarterly and monthly data on weighted interest rates of banks and savings houses [http://www.nbrm.mk/ns-newsarticle-ponderirani kamatni stapki na bankite i stedilnicite nova metodologija od januari 2015 godina.nspix](http://www.nbrm.mk/ns-newsarticle-ponderirani-kamatni-stapki-na-bankite-i-stedilnicite-nova-metodologija-od-januari-2015-godina.nspix)

Methodological explanations:

http://www.nbrm.mk/content/statistika/Monetarna%20statistika/metodologija/Metodologija_MIR_07_2018_eng.pdf

Next publications: Advance Release Calendar

http://www.nbrm.mk/content/statistika/kalendar/Advance_Release_Calendar.pdf

Monthly data on interest rates: 30 April 2019 (reference period as of March 2019).

We kindly ask journalists to contact the Governor's Office for any queries.

For more details about the disseminated statistical data, please contact us at contact.statistika@nbrm.mk or phone: 02 3215 181 extension 116 (or 112/110/108).

⁷ The disruption in series of data on interest rates in denars with FX clause shown in the chart referring to interest rates on newly received household deposits reflects fact that in some months, banks and savings houses have not accepted such deposits from households.