

4Q22 & FY2022 Financial Results

9 February 2023

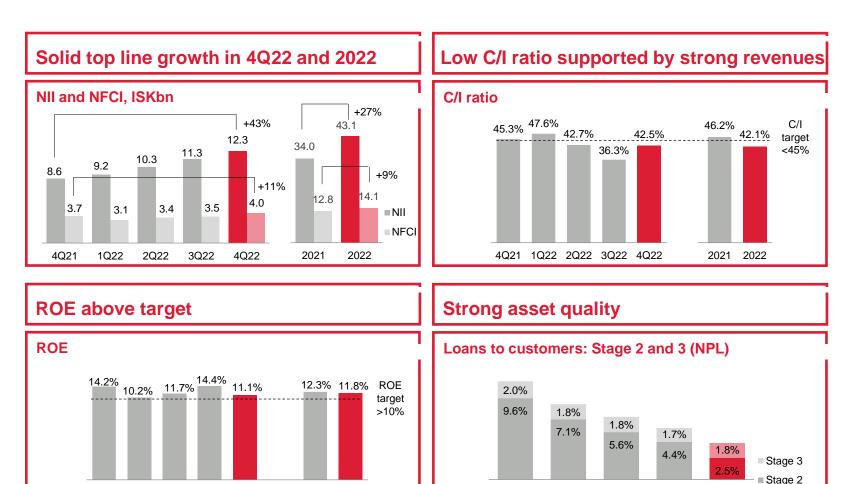
Birna Einarsdóttir Chief Executive Officer

Jón Guðni Ómarsson Chief Financial Officer

4Q21 1Q22 2Q22 3Q22 4Q22

Strong financial results in a volatile market environment

ROE of 11.1% in 4Q22 and 11.8% in 2022 mainly driven by growth in core income



31.12.21 31.3.22

30.6.22

30.9.22

31.12.22

2021 2022

Financial targets reached in 2022

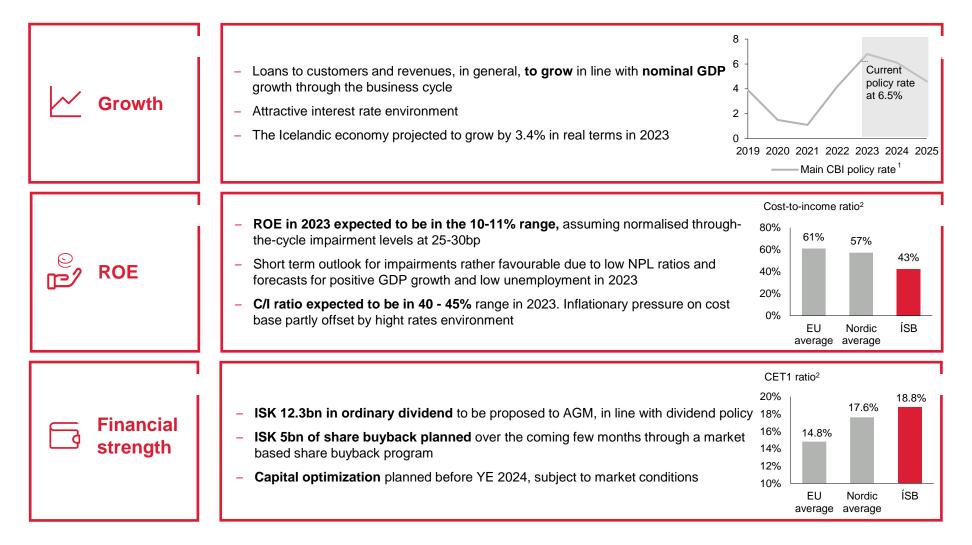
Resulting from strong revenue generation and strict cost control

	Targets	4Q22	2022
Return on equity	>10%	11.1% 🗸	11.8% 🗸
Cost-to-income ratio ¹	<45%	42.5% 🗸	42.1% 🗸
CET1 capital ratio ²	~16.5%	18.8% 🗸	18.8% 🗸
Dividend-payout-ratio	50%		50% 🗸

1. Calculated as (Administrative expenses + Contribution to the Depositors' and Investors' Guarantee Fund – One-off items) / (Total operating income – One-off items). 2. Long term CET1 capital target is subject to regulatory requirements and includes a management buffer of 50-200bp.

Attractive capital return and growth opportunity

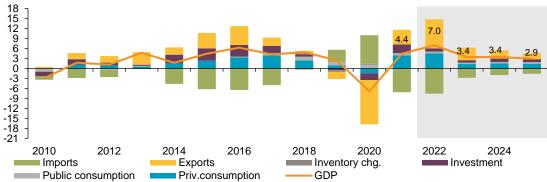
Strong underlying economic momentum



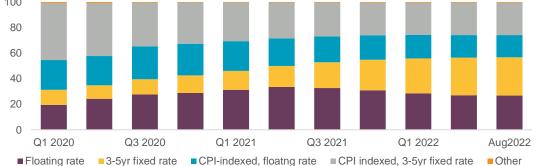
Adjustment phase ahead for the Icelandic economy

Moderate GDP growth on the cards after an impressive surge

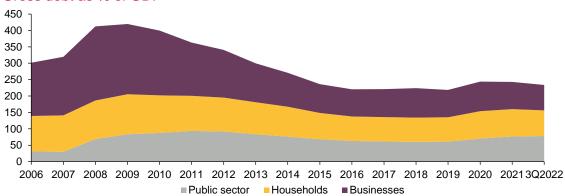
Steadier, export led growth to take over from the strong recovery... Real GDP and main subitems, YoY change, %



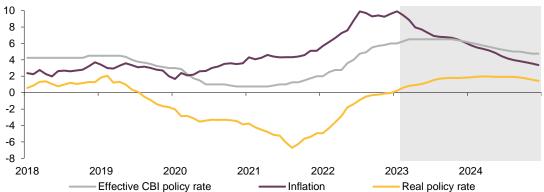
..and housing market remains resilient, partly due to flexible mortgage market Share of different types of mortgage loans of total outstanding mortgage stock



Moderate leverage throughout the economy increases resilience to shock... Gross debt as % of GDP



...while more persistent inflation has led to tighter monetary policy Inflation and policy rate, %



Shaded areas indicate ISB Research forecasts. Source: Statistics Iceland, the Central Bank of Iceland and ISB Research.

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The Icelandic economy and society draw on many strengths

Marine products

Other Industrial

Other goods

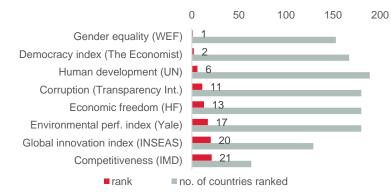
Other services

Tourism

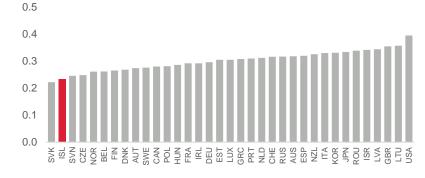
Aluminium

Heating and electricity generation based on sustainable energy sources

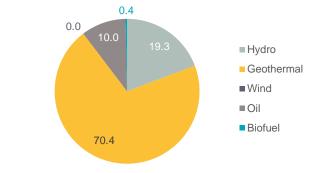
Iceland ranks highly on a variety of global development benchmarks



Income inequality is low compared to OECD peers Gini coefficient, OECD, most recent data available



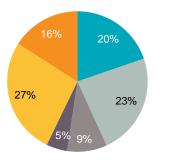
Sustainable energy usage is prevalent Energy consumption by source, 2020



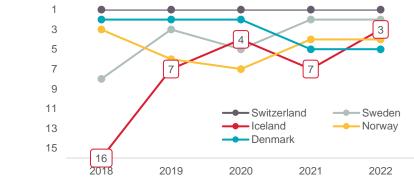
Public debt remains sustainable after pandemic General govt. gross financial liabilities, % of GDP



Export base has grown more diverse over time Export contribution by industry, 9M 2022



Iceland ranks highly in attracting/retaining talent IMD World Talent Ranking 2018-2022

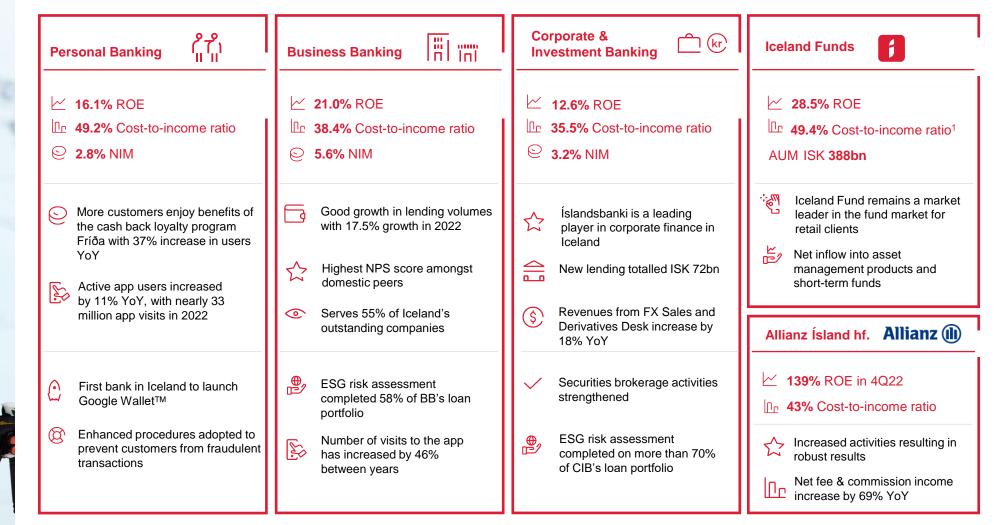


Shaded area denotes OECD forecast

ω

Strong results across business units

Increased personalised digitalisation results in higher service levels



Íslandsbanki 4Q22 & FY2022 Financial Results

Enhanced digital services in 2022

Íslandsbanki's digital solutions in the forefront

99%

of mortgage applications now digital

50% of retail equity trading is conducted via app

80%

of credit card limit changes done via app

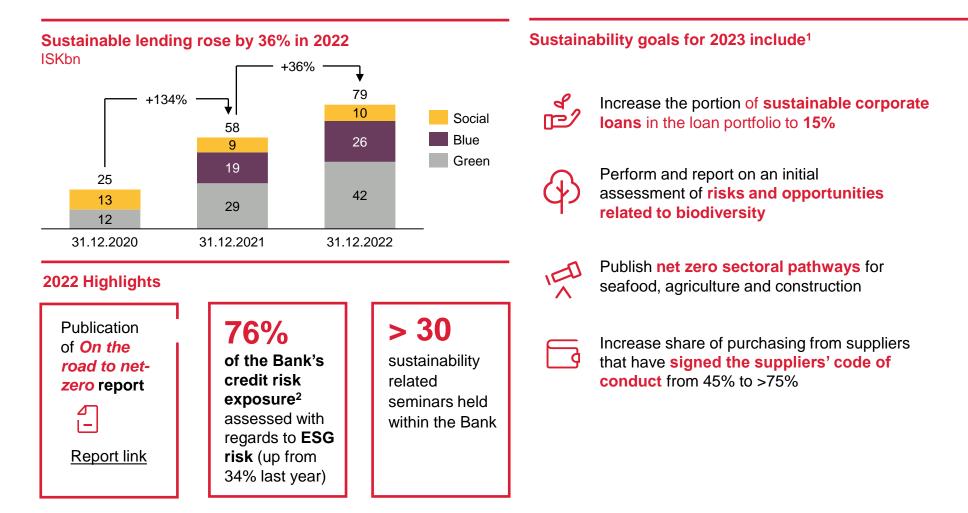
95% of new private pension savings registrations done digitally

82% of individual customers are active in digital channels

47% of advisory centre chats are now serviced by a chatbot

Sustainability priorities ahead in 2023

Significant sustainability milestones met in 2022



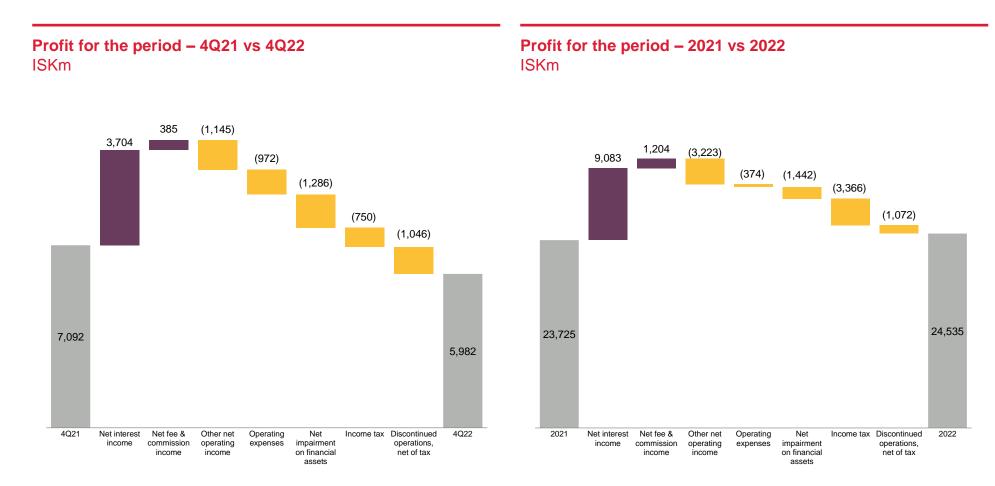
1. Full list of objectives can be found in the annual and sustainability report for 2022. 2. Excluding individual banking and small enterprises which are out of scope.

Íslandsbanki 4Q22 & FY2022 Financial Results



Growth in core income the key driver in strong results

Interest income continues to rise as loan portfolio grows and interest rates rise

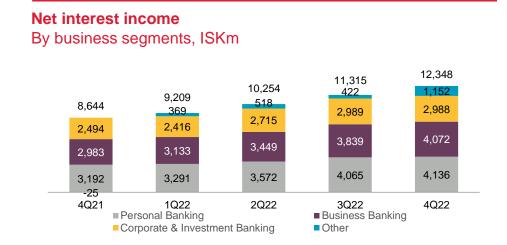


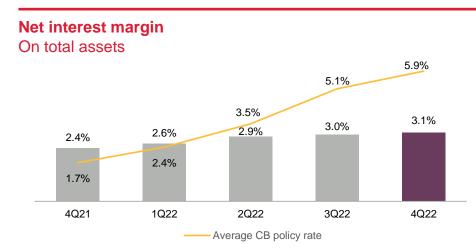
NII increases from larger loan portfolio and higher margins

Central bank rates likely near its peak, although inflation remains high

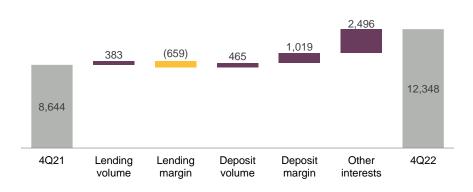
Highlights

- Lending margin was
 1.8% in 4Q22 (2.1% in
 4Q21) and 1.9% in 2022
 (2.2% in 2021)
- Deposit margin was
 2.1% in 4Q22 (1.4% in
 4Q21) and 1.9% in 2022
 (1.2% in 2021)
- Net interest margin was 2.9% in 2022 compared to 2.4% in 2021. Average CB policy rate rose from 1.1% in 2021 to 4.2% 2022

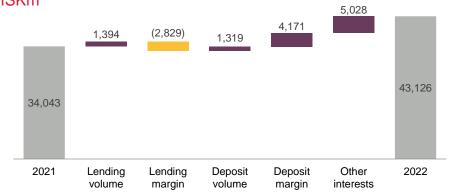




NII – comparison 4Q YoY ISKm



NII – comparison YoY ISKm

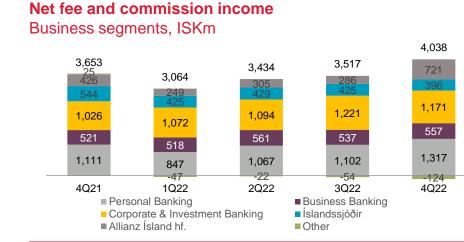


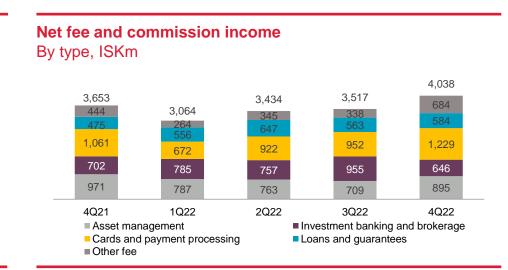
Rise in income from cards and payment processing continues

Allianz Ísland hf., a subsidiary, had a strong year contributing to rising NFCI

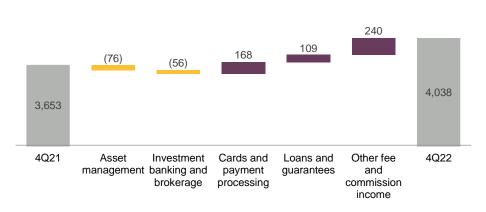
Highlights

- Strong result in Allianz from good sales and performance-based fees in 4Q22
- Income from cards and payment processing expected to have normalised after the COVID-19 related drop
- Reduction in performancebased fees explains the drop in asset management fees in 4Q22 YoY

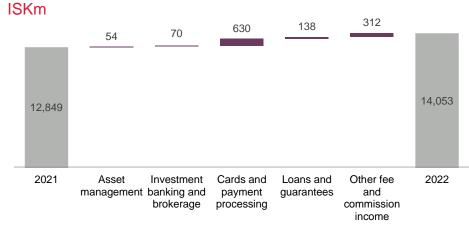




NFCI – comparison 4Q YoY ISKm



NFCI – comparison YoY



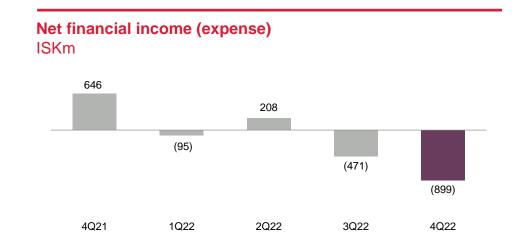
33

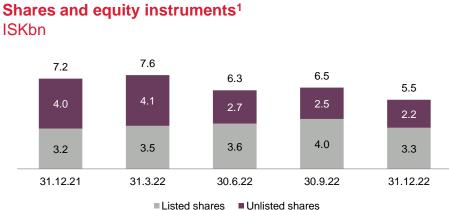
NFI affected by volatile market environment

Losses in bonds and related derivatives due to rising rates environment

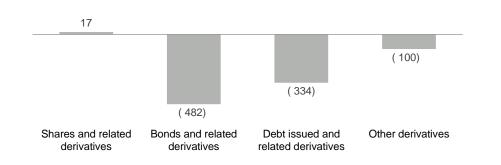
Highlights

- The loss in NFI is largely due to movements in ISK base rate curves
- Negative impact from Debt issued at fair value and related derivatives in 4Q22 due to reclassification of gains from P&L to Other Comprehensive Income (OCI)





Net financial expense by type in 4Q22 ISKm



Bonds and debt instruments² ISKbn



• 9 February 2023

1. Excluding listed shares and equity instruments used for economic hedging. 2. Excluding listed bonds and debt instruments used for economic hedging.

C/I ratio in 4Q22 below target due to strong income generation

High costs in 4Q22 and ongoing cost pressure in 2023 due to high inflation

Highlights

- The increase in other operating expenses in 4Q22 is resulting from a higher inflation, normalisation of travel and other activities after Covid-19, strategic projects and a provision based on internal estimate for a potential administrative fine (see note 43 on Contingencies in the 2022 financial statements)
- Current inflation levels and wage agreements put pressure on costs in 2023
- Salaries in Q4 unusually high mainly due to retroactive changes to wage agreements and accrued leave

ISKm

5,768

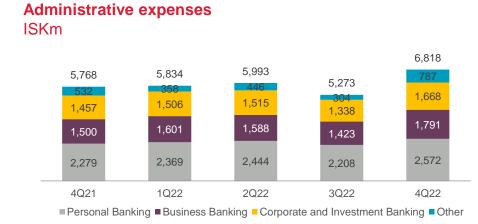
362

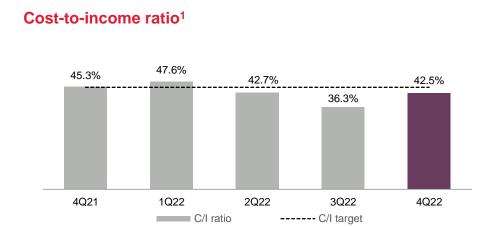
1,085

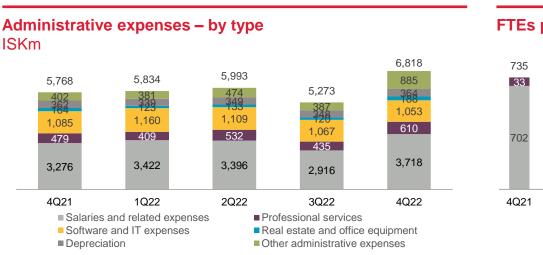
479

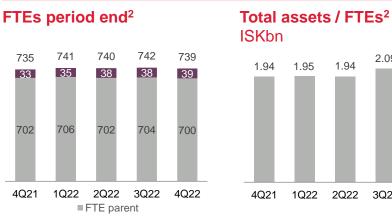
3,276

4Q21









2.09

3Q22

2.12

4Q22

15

9 February 2023

1. Calculated as (Administrative expenses + Contribution to the Depositor's and Investors' Guarantee Fund - one off items) / Total operating income - one-off items). 2. FTE numbers exclude seasonal employees.

Asset quality continues to improve

Stage 2 loans continue downward trend and have likely reached normalized levels

Highlights

- Uncertainty regarding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on credit quality is greatly reduced following a strong tourist season
- The COVID-19 overlay factor has been removed and the transfer to Stage 2 has been reversed in cases where no other indicators have been activated, leaving no additional impairment allowance attributable to the tourism overlay or stage transfer
- The definition of forbearance includes a 24-month probation period. Therefore, loans are classified as forborne even after normal payments have resumed
- The 4Q22 impairment is due to increased inflation and its potential impact on credit quality
- Loans amounting to ISK 27bn are expected to exit forbearance probation in 2023

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 Reserve coverage ratio (RCR) for impairment allowance on Stage 3 was 20% at end of 4Q22

Net impairment on financial assets By period, ISKbn 4.0 3.5 Addition due to COVID-19 3.0 2.4 pandemic Other changes in 1.8 loan portfolio 2.0 General 1.0 0.6 economic -1.2 -0.6 -0.6 environment -1.8 0.0 A few distressed credit cases -1.0 Changes in models -2.0 1Q20 2Q20 3Q20 4Q20 1Q21 2Q21 3Q21 4Q21 1Q22 2Q22 3Q22 4Q22

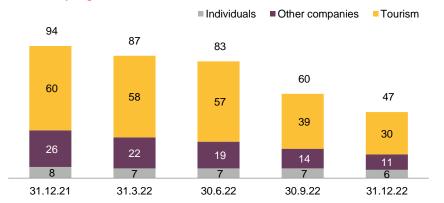
Current and expected cost-of-risk

- Annualised cost of risk was +22bp in 4Q22 (-23bp for 4Q21) and -14bp FY22
- Current impairment outlook relatively benign due to low unemployment and good economic growth outlook
 - The probability weights of economic scenarios were kept unchanged at 20% (good), 50% (baseline), and 30% (bad) at the end of 4Q22
- A shift of 5% from baseline to the bad scenario would increase the impairment allowance by ISK 0.3bn while a 5% shift from the baseline to the good would decrease the allowance by ISK 0.16bn
- Current impairment outlook relatively benign due to low unemployment and good economic growth outlook

Loans to customers: Stage 2 and 3 (NPL) Development of gross carrying amount as ratio of total loans



Performing loans with forbearance Gross carrying amount, ISKbn



16

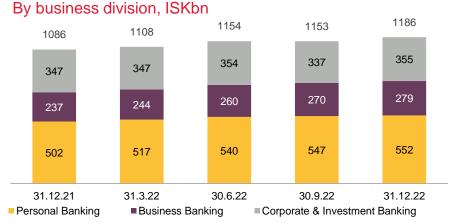
Solid lending growth during the year

Credit quality remains strong, and the loan portfolio is highly collateralised

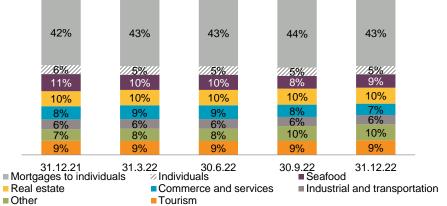
Highlights

- Robust risk management and conservative lending policies are attributed to the Bank's credit quality remaining strong
- Loans to customers grew 9.1% from year-end 2021. PB has grown by 10.0%, BB by 17.7% and CIB by 2.3%

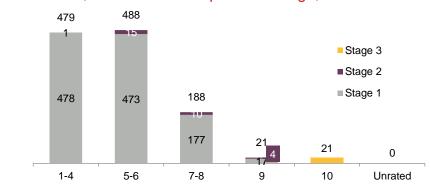
Loans to customers

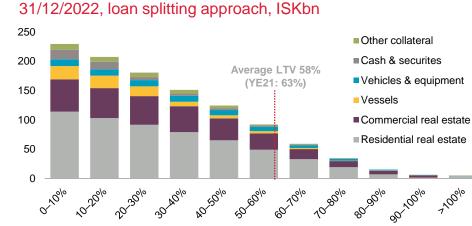


Loans to customers By sector, with tourism as a separate sector



Loans to customers: gross carrying amount 31/12/2022, risk class and impairment stage, ISKbn





LTV distribution by underlying asset class

17

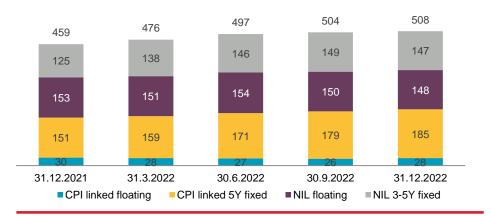
Mortgage portfolio resistant to rising rates

Average LTV improves, origination process had built-in buffers for expected rate increases

Highlights

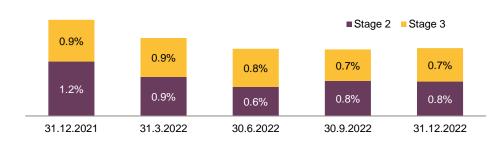
- Conservative payment assessment for non-indexed variable rate mortgages in the low interest environment means that households are well prepared for higher interest rate environment
- At origination, LTV is capped at 80% (85% for first time buyers) and debt service-to-income at 30% (35% for first-time buyers)
- Despite variable NIL mortgage rates have risen by 3.8pp since year-end 2021 there has not been any observable increase in stage 2 or in NPLs

Mortgage portfolio By interest rate type, gross carrying amount, ISKbn



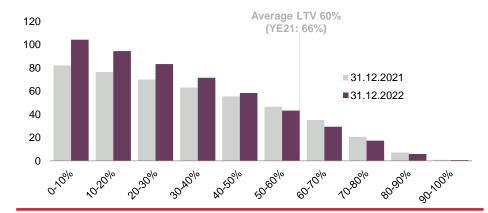
Mortgages portfolio: Stage 2 and 3 (NPL)

Development of gross carrying amount as ratio of total mortgages

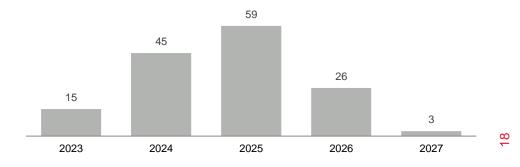


LTV distribution of mortgages

Gross carrying amount, loan splitting approach, ISKbn



Interest rate reset profile for NIL 3-5Y fixed rate mortgages¹ Gross carrying amount, ISKbn



1. NIL stands for non-index linked loans.

Real estate and construction sector in a good shape

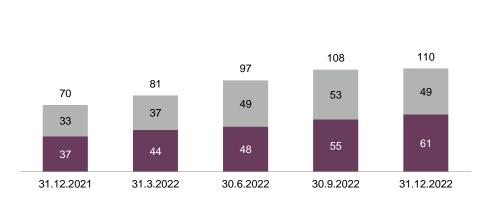
Exposures in the real estate sector mostly to companies with diverse portfolios

Highlights

- Loans to real estate companies and construction amount to 16% of loans to customers
- Disciplined origination with conservative LTV requirements and debt service criteria
- Third party security agents for largest clients
- Growth in exposure to construction is expected to continue to rise as the market is in need for new housing
- Over half of exposure in the construction sector is for building apartments, 20% for commercial real estate and the rest is mixed or to general construction contractors

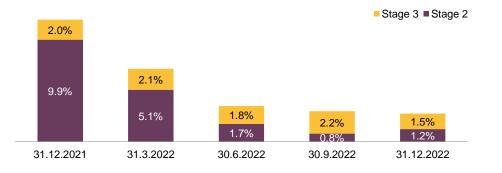


Development of construction exposures By period, ISKbn

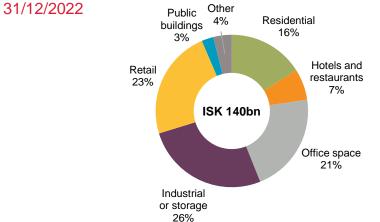


Real estate portfolio: Stage 2 and 3 (NPL)

Development of gross carrying amount as ratio of the real estate portfolio



Real estate collateral by type



■ Off-balance ■ On-balance

Funding sources

Deposits

financial inst.

and pension

funds

Short-term funding

Deposit from

retail and corp,

sovereigns, CB

and PSE

Deposits are the largest source of funding

3%

Covered Bonds Subordinated

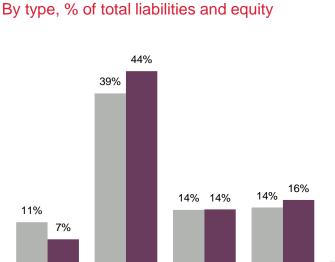
2%

debt

Retail deposits continue to increase

Highlights

- Term deposits are 19% of total deposits
- Deposit concentration is stable.
 12% of deposits belonged to the
 10 largest depositors and 29% to
 the 100 largest at 4Q22,
 compared to 12% and 28%
 respectively at YE21
- At end of 4Q22, 72% of deposits were in non-indexed ISK, 14% CPI-linked and 14% in foreign currencies



Senior

unsecured

bonds

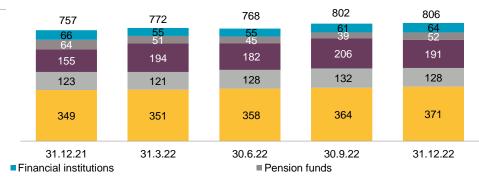
■31.12.21 ■31.12.22

Customer loans to customer deposits ratio Development, % 146% 145% 152% 148% 150% 118% 118% 124% 116% 119%



------ Customer loans (excl. mortgages funded with CB) to customer deposits ratio

Deposits from customers and credit institutions Development, by LCR category, ISKbn



Corporations, sovereigns, central banks and PSE Small and medium enterprises

Individuals

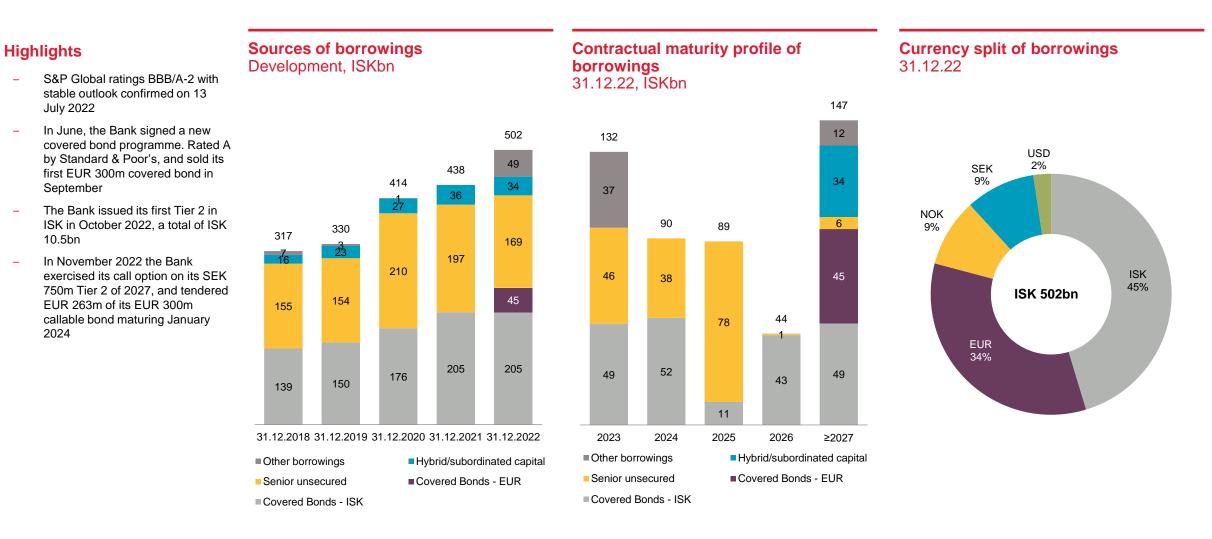
14% 14%

Equity

Long-term funding

Seasoned and diversified long-term funding programme

Issuance of EUR covered bonds and Tier 2 in ISK further diversifies the funding mix



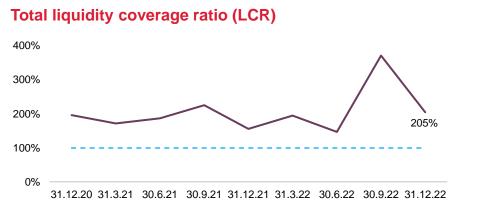
- LCR

Sound liquidity management, ratios well above requirements

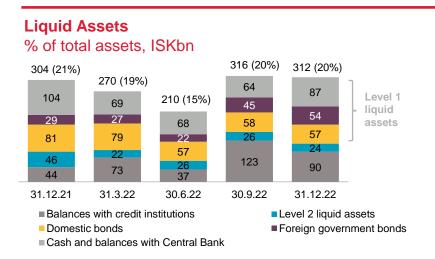
Liquid assets of ISK 312bn, representing 20% of total assets

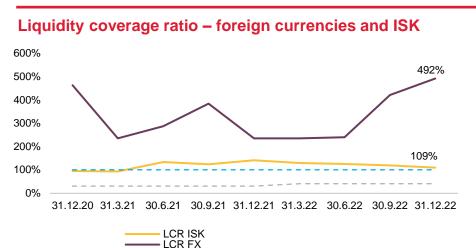
Highlights

- All liquidity measures above regulatory requirements
- The Central Bank has announced that at the beginning of 2023 a new rule takes effect with an 80% minimum liquidity ratio in euros
- The Banks EUR LCR at YE22 was 792%



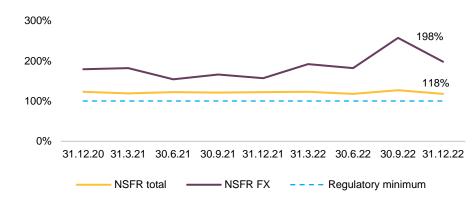
- - - Regulatory minimum





Regulatory minimum for foreign currency

Net stable funding ratio (NSFR)



Strong capital position

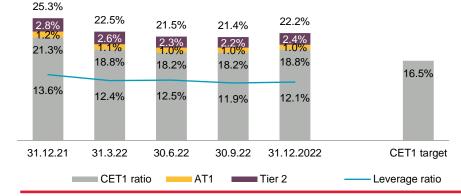
Capital position to be optimised before year-end 2024

Highlights

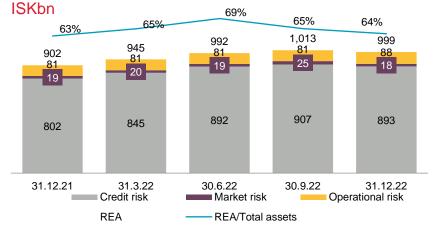
- At the end of September, the counter-cyclical buffer in Iceland increased from 0% to 2.0% which raised the Bank's overall capital requirement from 17.9% to 19.9%
- Additional AT1 issuance potential of ISK 10bn to optimise capital structure
- An ISK 14bn drop in REA despite an ISK 33bn increase in loans to customers in 4Q22
- The change in REA in 4Q22 is a result of decrease in loans to credit institutions and revision in the application of risk weights for the mortgage portfolio

Capital ratios and leverage ratio

% of REA (% of total exposure for leverage ratio)



Risk exposure amount (REA)



Capital distribution plans

- Dividend payment of ISK 12.3bn proposed to the annual general meeting in line with the Bank's policy of paying out ~50% of preceding year's profit
- ISK 5bn of share buybacks planned over the coming few months through a market-based share buyback program
- Buyback plans for the short term reduced from ISK 15bn to ISK 5bn due to profitable loan growth and market circumstances. The ISK 10bn reduction will be added back to the Bank's capital base
- The Bank plans to optimise its capital structure before year-end 2024

MREL (Minimum Required own funds and Eligible Liabilities) according to BRRD I

Own funds and eligible liabilities (%REA)	31.12.22
Capital base	22.2%
Eligible liabilities	12.3%
Own funds and eligible liabilities	34.5%

Minimum required own funds and eligible liabilities (%REA)	
MREL	21.2%
Combined buffer requirement	9.3%
MREL including CBR	30.5%

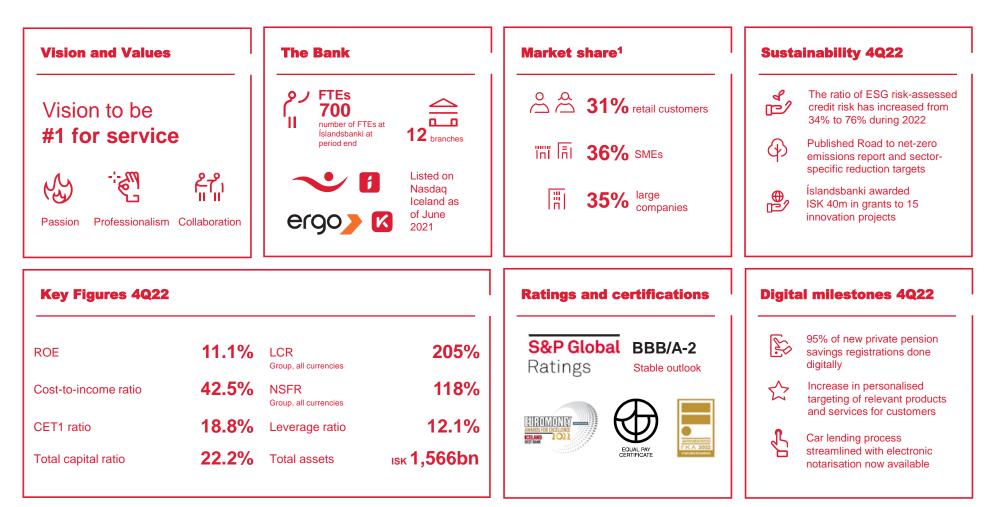




Appendix I – About Íslandsbanki and additional financial information

This is Íslandsbanki

Moving Iceland forward by empowering our customers to succeed



Financial overview

Key figures & ratios

		4Q22	4Q21	2022	2021	2020
PROFITABILITY	Profit for the period, ISKm	5,982	7,092	24,535	23,725	6,755
	Return on equity	11.1%	14.2%	11.8%	12.3%	3.7%
	Net interest margin (of total assets)	3.1%	2.4%	2.9%	2.4%	2.6%
	Cost-to-income ratio ¹	42.5%	45.3%	42.1%	46.2%	54.3%
	Cost of risk ²	0.22%	(0.23%)	(0.14%)	(0.28%)	0.91%
		31.12.22	30.9.22	30.6.22	31.12.21	31.12.20
BALANCE SHEET	Loans to customers, ISKm	1,186,639	1,153,047	1,153,677	1,086,327	1,006,717
	Total assets, ISKm	1,566,235	1,548,672	1,437,253	1,428,821	1,344,191
	Risk exposure amount, ISKm	999,491	1,012,986	992,883	901,646	933,521
	Deposits from customers, ISKm	789,897	781,614	756,862	744,036	679,455
	Customer loans to customer deposits ratio	150%	148%	152%	146%	148%
	Non-performing loans (NPL) ratio ³	1.8%	1.7%	1.8%	2.0%	2.9%
	Net stable funding ratio (NSFR), for all currencies	118%	127%	118%	122%	123%
	Liquidity coverage ratio (LCR), for all currencies	205%	371%	147%	156%	196%
CAPITAL	Total equity, ISKm	218,874	211,613	203,662	203,710	186,204
	CET 1 ratio ⁴	18.8%	18.2%	18.2%	21.3%	20.1%
	Tier 1 ratio ⁴	19.8%	19.2%	19.2%	22.5%	20.1%
	Total capital ratio⁴	22.2%	21.4%	21.5%	25.3%	23.0%
	-					

1.Calculated as (Administrative expenses + Contribution to the Depositors' and Investors' Guarantee Fund – One-off items) / (Total operating income – One-off items). 2. Negative cost of risk means that there is a net release of impairments. 3. Stage 3, loans to customers, gross carrying amount. 4. Including third quarter profit for 30.9.22.

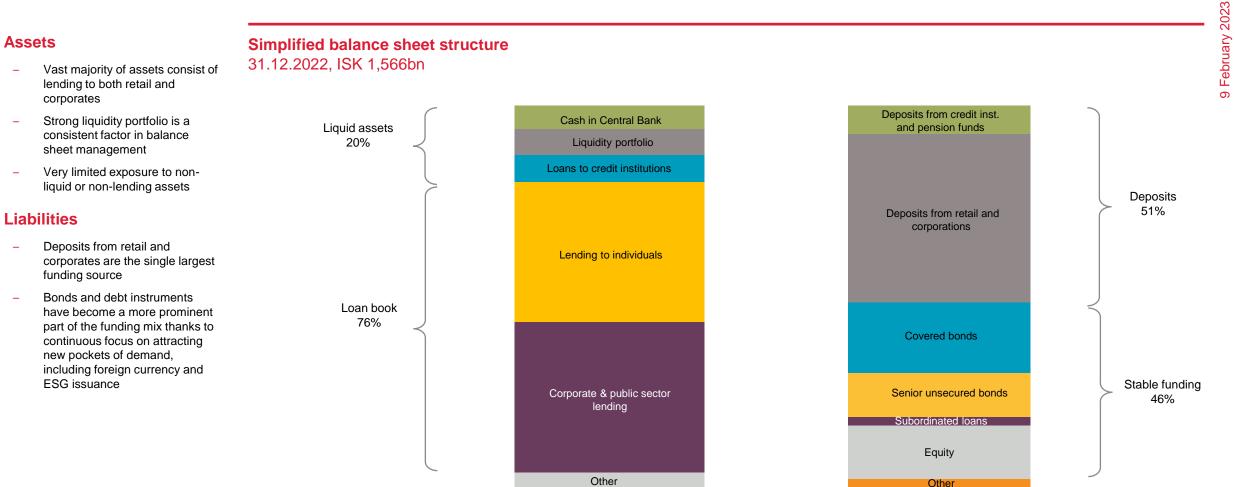
Income Statement

Strong income growth and robust profitability

Income statement, ISKm	4Q22	4Q21	Δ %	3Q22	Δ%	2022	2021	Δ%
Net interest income	12,348	8,644	43%	11,315	9%	43,126	34,043	27%
Net fee and commission income	4,038	3,653	11%	3,517	15%	14,053	12,849	9%
Net financial income (expense)	(899)	646	-	(471)	91%	(1,257)	2,499	(150%)
Net foreign exchange gain	576	159	262%	64	800%	881	479	84%
Other operating income	(2)	15	(113%)	111	(102%)	433	302	43%
Total operating income	16,061	13,117	22%	14,536	10%	57,236	50,172	14%
Salaries and related expenses	(3,718)	(3,276)	13%	(2,916)	28%	(13,452)	(13,397)	0%
Other operating expenses	(3,100)	(2,492)	24%	(2,357)	32%	(10,466)	(9,799)	7%
Administrative expenses	(6,818)	(5,768)	18%	(5,273)	29%	(23,918)	(23,196)	3%
Contribution to the Depositor's and Investors' Guarantee Fund	-	(170)	(100%)	-	-	(165)	(688)	(76%)
Bank tax	(481)	(389)	24%	(535)	(10%)	(1,858)	(1,683)	10%
Total operating expenses	(7,299)	(6,327)	15%	(5,808)	26%	(25,941)	(25,567)	1%
Net impairment on financial assets	(647)	639	(201%)	1,165	(156%)	1,576	3,018	(48%)
Profit before tax	8,115	7,429	9%	9,893	(18%)	32,871	27,623	19%
Income tax expense	(2,166)	(1,416)	53%	(2,525)	(14%)	(8,485)	(5,119)	66%
Profit for the period from continuing operations	5,949	6,013	(1%)	7,368	(19%)	24,386	22,504	8%
Discontinued operations held for sale, net of income tax	33	1,079	(97%)	118	(72%)	149	1,221	(88%)
Profit for the period	5,982	7,092	(16%)	7,486	(20%)	24,535	23,725	3%
Key ratios								
Net Interest Margin (NIM)	3.1%	2.4%		3.0%		2.9%	2.4%	
Cost-to-income ratio (C/I)	42.5%	45.3%		36.3%		42.1%	46.2%	
Return on Equity (ROE)	11.1%	14.2%		14.4%		11.8%	12.3%	
Cost of risk (COR)	0.22%	(0.23%)		(0.40%)		(0.14%)	(0.28%)	

Balance sheet reflects a balanced loan and funding profile

Conservative mix of assets and stable funding



Assets

Assets

Strong loan growth in 2022

Assets, ISKm	31.12.22	30.9.22	Δ	Δ%	31.12.21	Δ	Δ%
Cash and balances with Central Bank	94,424	73,566	20,858	28%	113,667	(19,243)	(17%)
Loans to credit institutions	110,364	137,169	(26,805)	(20%)	43,988	66,376	151%
Bonds and debt instruments	130,804	127,454	3,350	3%	132,289	(1,485)	(1%)
Derivatives	7,461	6,895	566	8%	2,445	5,016	205%
Loans to customers	1,186,639	1,153,047	33,592	3%	1,086,327	100,312	9%
Shares and equity instruments	15,868	24,472	(8,604)	(35%)	31,677	(15,809)	(50%)
Investment in associates	3,844	3,925	(81)	(2%)	939	2,905	309%
Property and equipment	6,752	6,760	(8)	(0%)	7,010	(258)	(4%)
Intangible assets	3,279	3,282	(3)	(0%)	3,351	(72)	(2%)
Other assets	6,072	11,303	(5,231)	(46%)	5,784	288	5%
Non-current assets and disposal groups held for sale	728	799	(71)	(9%)	1,344	(616)	(46%)
Total Assets	1,566,235	1,548,672	17,563	1%	1,428,821	137,414	10%
Key ratios							
Risk Exposure Amount (REA)	999,491	1,012,986	(13,495)	(1%)	901,646	97,845	11%
Non-performing loans (NPL) ratio ¹	1.8%	1.7%			2.0%		
Asset encumbrance ratio	26.5%	25.7%			19.6%		

Liabilities and equity

Deposits are the largest source of funding

Liabilities & Equity, ISKm	31.12.22	30.9.22	Δ	Δ%	31.12.21	Δ	Δ%
Deposits from Central Bank and credit institutions	15,269	19,912	(4,643)	(23%)	13,384	1,885	14%
Deposits from customers	789,897	781,614	8,283	1%	744,036	45,861	6%
Derivative instruments and short positions	10,804	13,996	(3,192)	(23%)	9,467	1,337	14%
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	468,270	458,969	9,301	2%	402,226	66,044	16%
Subordinated loans	34,392	32,156	2,236	7%	35,762	(1,370)	(4%)
Tax liabilities	12,128	10,827	1,301	12%	6,432	5,696	89%
Other liabilities	16,601	19,585	(2,984)	(15%)	12,848	3,753	29%
Non-current liabilities and disposal groups held for sale	-	-	-	-	956	(956)	(100%)
Total Liabilities	1,347,361	1,337,059	10,302	1%	1,225,111	122,250	10%
Total Equity	218,874	211,613	7,261	3%	203,710	15,164	7%
Total Liabilities and Equity	1,566,235	1,548,672	17,563	1%	1,428,821	137,414	10%
Key ratios							
Customer loans to customer deposits ratio	150%	148%			146%		
REA/total assets	63.8%	65.4%			63.1%		
Net stable funding ratio (NSFR)	118%	127%			122%		
Liquidity coverage ratio (LCR)	205%	371%			156%		
Total capital ratio ¹	22.2%	21.4%			25.3%		
Tier 1 capital ratio ¹	19.8%	19.2%			22.5%		
Leverage ratio ¹	12.1%	11.9%			13.6%		



Appendix II – Icelandic economy update Forecasts as of 1 February 2023

Steadier growth to take over from the strong recovery

Exports the main driver of GDP growth in 2023, but domestic demand will gain steam in coming years

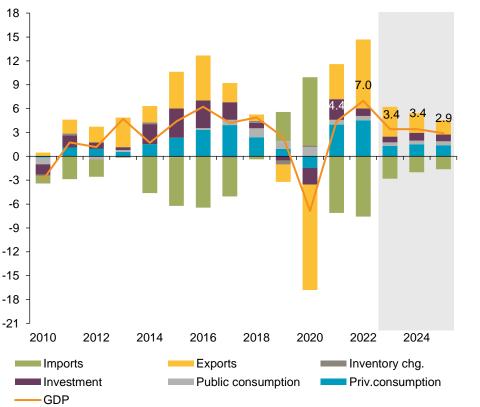
Highlights

- GDP growth is estimated to have measured 7.0% in 2022, following on from 4.4% growth in 2021
- Demand grew strongly private consumption in particular. Tourism regained its footing in 2022, and other export sectors contributed to growth as well. On the other hand, imports surged
- ISB Research forecasts GDP growth at 3.4% in 2023. Export growth will be a major contributor to GDP growth in 2023, supported by relatively robust growth in demand, although private consumption growth will lose considerable steam year-on-year

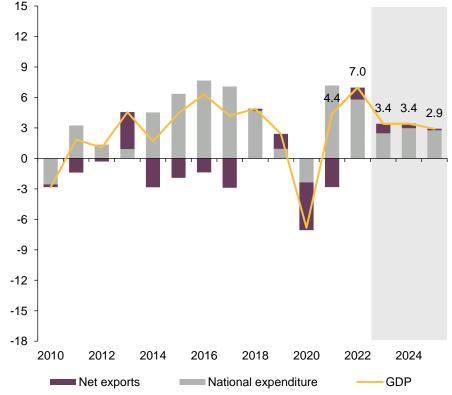
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- Output growth at 3.4% is also assumed in 2024, with private consumption and investment gaining pace and export growth softening
- For 2025, the outlook is for GDP growth to slow to 2.9%, owing mainly to weaker growth in exports
- External risk factors include the impact of the continuing war in Ukraine, the effects of high inflation and rising interest rates on trading partner demand, and the impact of a tighter domestic monetary stance as well as developments in the housing market on households and businesses

GDP and contribution of its subcomponents Volume change from prior year (%)







Tourism rises to new heights

Over 2.1 million tourists to visit Iceland in 2023, followed by record numbers in 2024 and 2025

Highlights

The tourism industry bounced back swiftly after public health restrictions were lifted last spring. As yet, the worsening economic outlook abroad seems not to have dampened appetite for travel to Iceland to any discernible degree

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300

250

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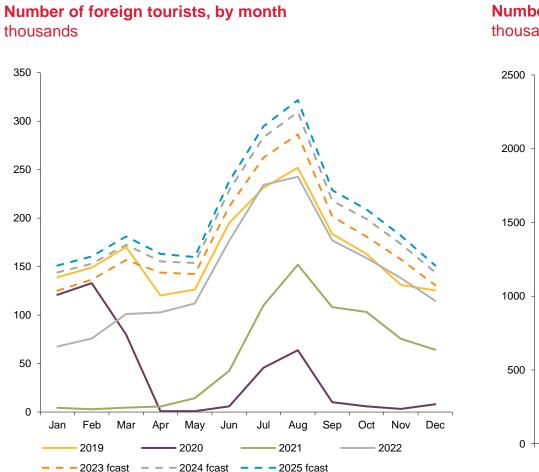
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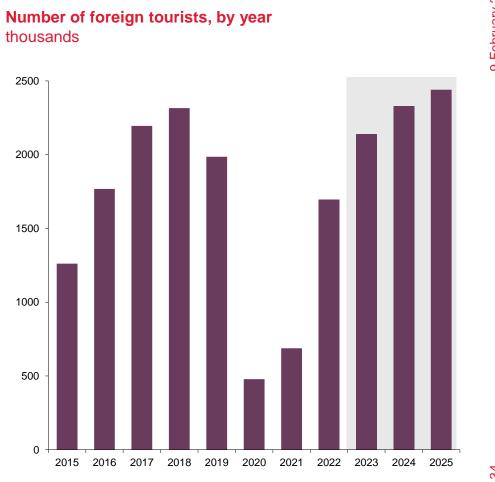
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- Around 1.7 million tourists visited Iceland in 2022, the largest total since 2019
- Bookings, growth in the number of scheduled Iceland-bound flights, and an uptick in cruise ship arrivals all suggest that growth will remain buoyant this year
- ISB Research forecasts that over 2.1 million tourists will arrive via Keflavik Airport this year, about the same number as in 2017
- Tourist numbers are expected to rise to over 2.3 million in 2024 and 2.4-2.5 million in 2025. If this forecast is borne out, the next two years will set new records for the tourism sector
- The slower expected rate of growth in tourist arrivals further ahead is due, among other things, to a shortage of accommodation and other related infrastructure and to the possibility that a rising real exchange rate could cut into demand for Iceland as a travel destination





9 February 2023

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Shaded areas and dotted lines denote ISB Research forecasts Sources: Icelandic Tourist Board, ISB Research.

Icelandic economy resilient to European energy crisis

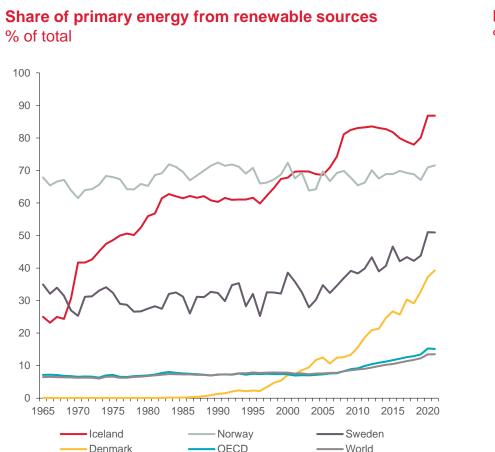
Geothermal heating keeps energy costs at bay

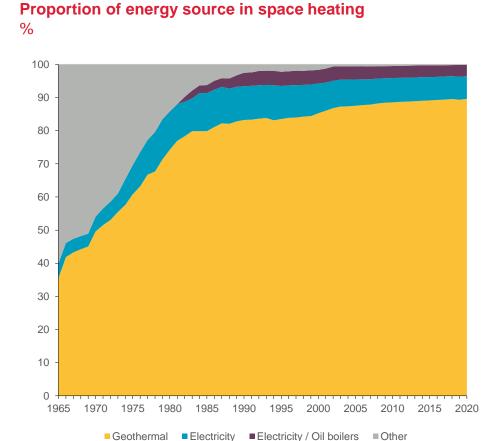
Highlights

- Being a small open economy, the economic impact of the Ukraine war and the resulting energy crisis is felt in Iceland although direct impact on trade is minimal
- However, as a commodity exporting economy with the highest share of renewable energy usage worldwide, Iceland is resilient to the energy crisis and terms-of-trade shock that most other European economies face in the coming winter
- Almost 90% of all housing in Iceland, measured in m³, is heated by geothermal energy and a further 7% is heated by domestically produced electricity
- The cost-of-living shock to European households creates a downward risk to tourism in the coming winter although, so far, the sector has not seen a backlash in demand for coming quarters

30

Seafood prices have increased considerably since the onset of the Ukraine war, offsetting the YoY reduction in allowable fish catch for the current season



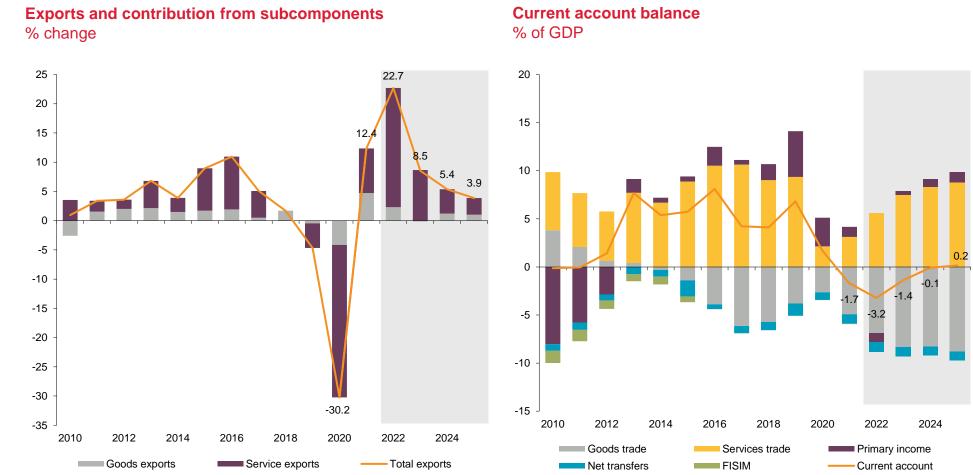


Current account deficit set to close during the forecast horizon

Growing exports, better terms of trade, and slower demand growth will help rebalance external trade

Highlights

- The tourism boom explains the bulk of this year's forecasted 8.5% growth in exports as well as the more moderate growth expected in 2024-2025
- Exports of intellectual property and other services look set to grow markedly as well
- Goods exports growth in coming years due to stronger exports of farmed fish, aluminium, and other industrial goods as well as an uptick in groundfish exports
- Last year's estimated current account deficit of 3.2% of GDP reflects the fact that domestic demand picked up more rapidly than exports in the wake of the pandemic as well as worsening terms of trade
- The outlook is for the current account deficit do decline to 1.4% of GDP in 2023 due to improving terms of trade, export growth outpacing import growth and an improvement in the contribution from primary income
- The current account is expected to be broadly balanced in 2024-2025, with the final outcome depending on the real exchange rate and terms of trade

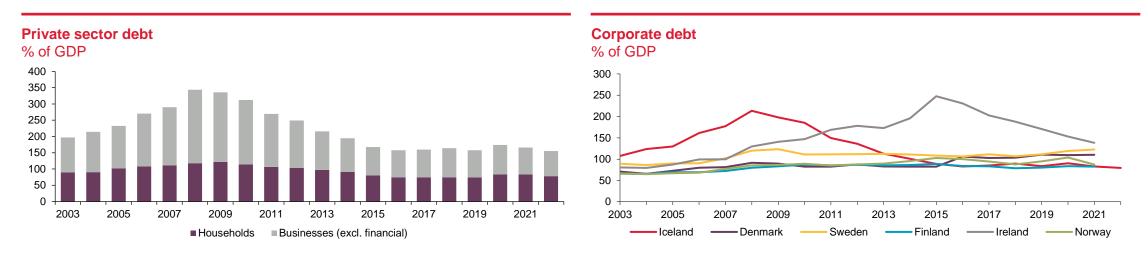


Sources: Statistics Icelandic, Central Bank of Iceland, ÍSB Research.

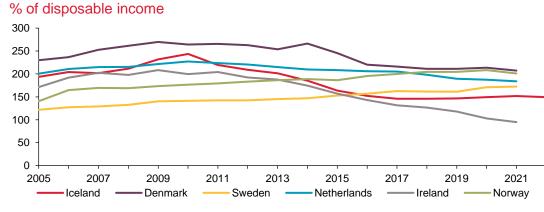
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Domestic balance sheets remain healthy

Economy-wide leverage remains moderate in comparison with peers and historical levels

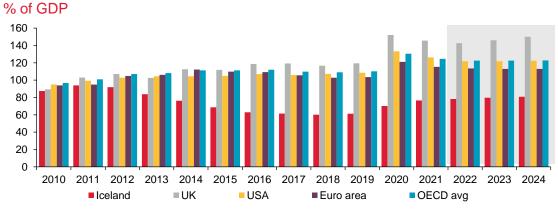






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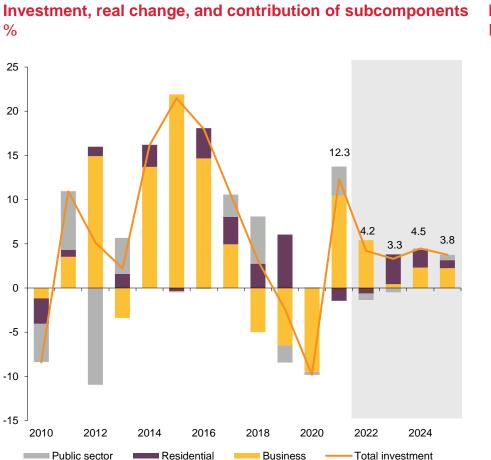
Shaded areas indicate OECD forecasts. Source: Central Bank of Iceland, Statistics Iceland, OECD and ISB Research. 37

Investment keeps growing steadily in the wake of an upsurge

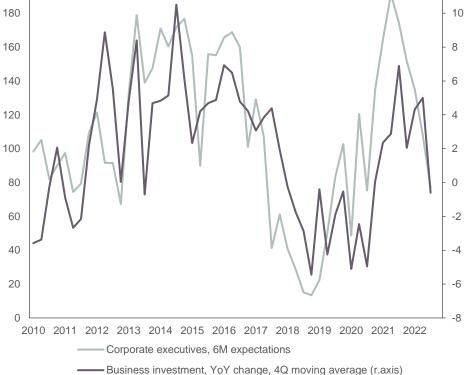
Residential investment the main driver of growth in 2023; corporate investment set to regain steam



- After spiking in 2021, investment growth appears to have lost considerable pace in 2022
- For 2022, growth is estimated at just over 4%, owing entirely to business investment, as both residential and public investment contracted somewhat yearon-year
- For 2023, though, robust growth in residential investment looks set to weigh heaviest in the projected 3% year-onyear growth in total investment, while business investment is on track to be virtually unchanged between years
- The impact of rising interest rates and increasingly muted expectations on business investment is offset by ambitious infrastructure-related projects
- Corporate investment will then pick up again in 2024, and residential investment is expected to grow as well
- In the final year of the forecast horizon, public investment is expected to rebound somewhat, while growth in residential investment looks set to lose momentum
- ISB Research forecasts that total investment will grow by just over 3% in 2023, 4-5% in 2024, and nearly 4% in 2025
- The overall investment level will hold relatively steady over the forecast horizon, although activity will shift between sectors







February 2023

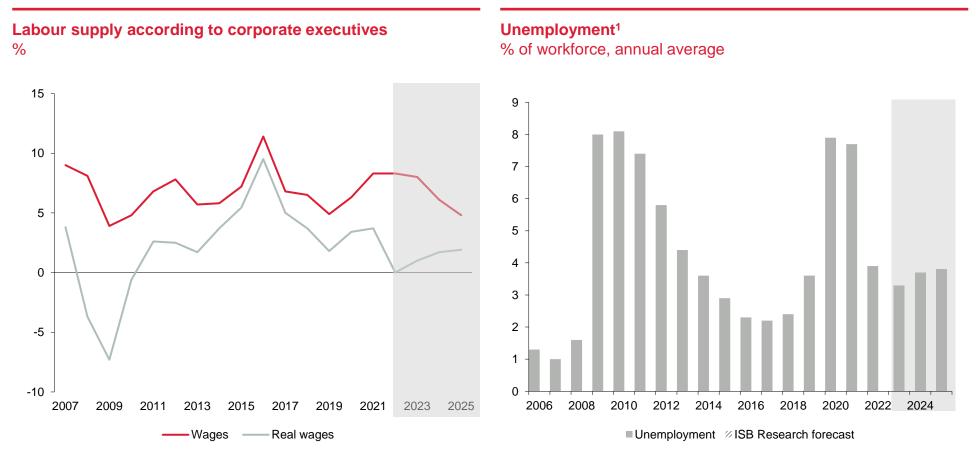
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Unemployment set to remain flat in 2023

Real wage growth expected throughout the forecast horizon

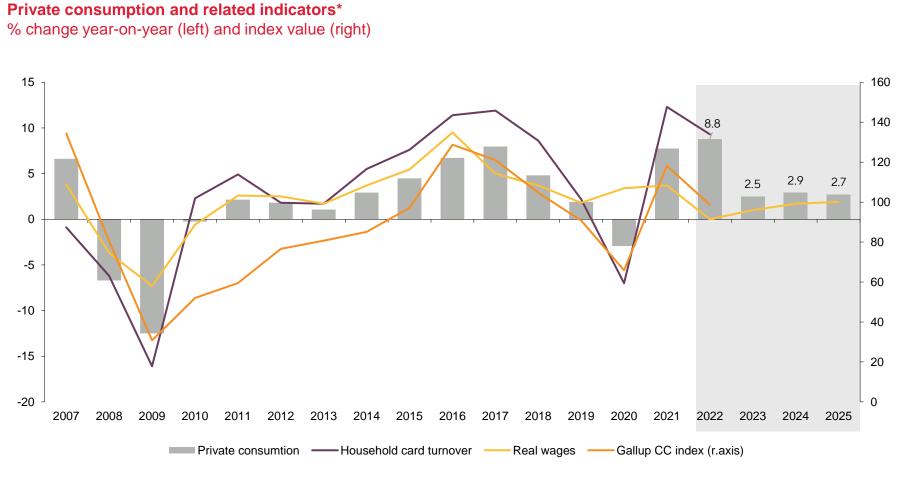
- The labour market has recovered remarkably quickly post-COVID, and job numbers are now above the prepandemic level
- Unemployment averaged 3.9% in 2022, close to the 3.6% seen in 2019. In 2020 and 2021, however, it hovered around 8%
- ISB Research forecasts average year-2023 unemployment at 3.3%
- Even though nominal wages rose by over 8% in 2022, they did not compensate for inflation, and real wages were flat during the year
- Real wages are projected to start to grow again as soon as this year, in view of the contracts currently on the table. ISB Research forecasts real wage growth at 1% in 2023 and nearly 2% per year in 2024 and 2025
- Unemployment is expected to remain broadly unchanged throughout the forecast horizon, although it will rise marginally in 2024 as tension in the labour market eases
- ISB Research forecasts average unemployment at 3.7% in 2024 and 3.8% in 2025



Private consumption growth remains resilient

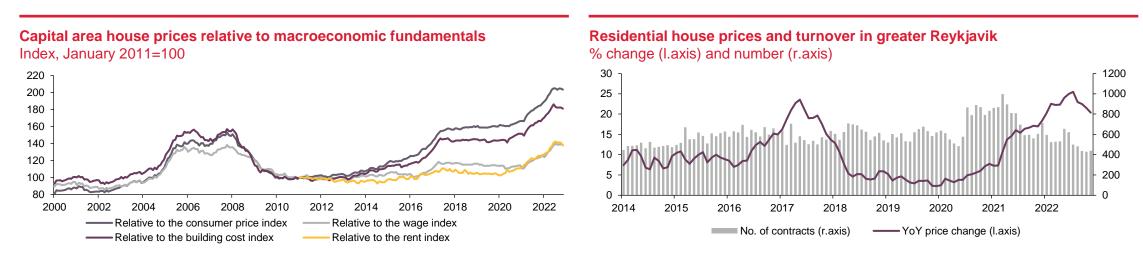
Household saving ratio still above average

- Icelanders were willing spenders in 2022.
 Over the first nine months of the year, private consumption grew in real terms by 11%, the fastest rate in 17 years
- Private consumption growth appears to have eased in Q4/2022, and the growth rate for the full year is estimated at approximately 9%
- The saving ratio topped out at 23% of disposable income in Q2/2022. It is still above average, measuring around 13% of disposable income, but has begun to ease towards its average level
- This could suggest that private consumption growth will lose momentum in the near future
- Other indicators, such as payment card turnover, point in the same direction.
 After several record-breaking months in 2022, payment card turnover has begun to ease
- Private consumption is quite resilient, and most households are still well positioned financially
- ISB Research forecasts year-2023 private consumption growth at 2.5%. Alongside declining inflation and the associated real wage gains, private consumption will grow by 2.9% in 2024 and 2.7% in 2025

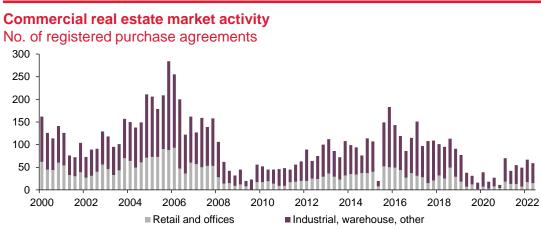


The housing market has begun to turn around

Central Bank measures appear to be achieving the intended result

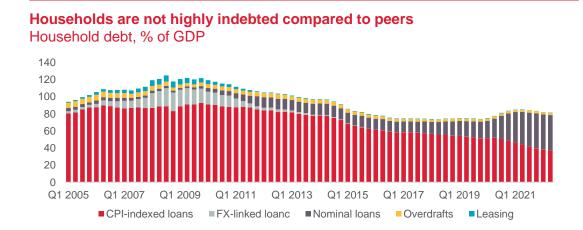




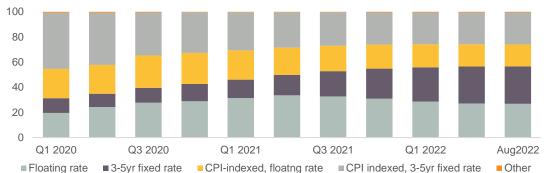


The Icelandic housing market is relatively resilient

Supply, demand, mortgage market factors combine to make a large price correction less likely

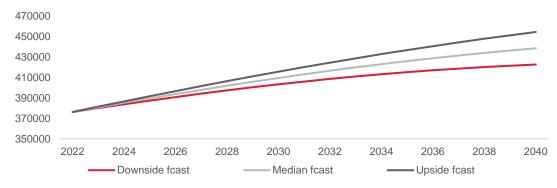


Mortgage market is flexible w.r.t. loan types with different payment burden Outstanding mortgage loans, share of total

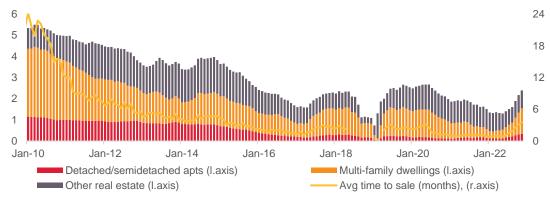


9 February 2023





Market has until recently been characterised by limited supply No. of purchase agreements, capital region (th.), and average time to sale

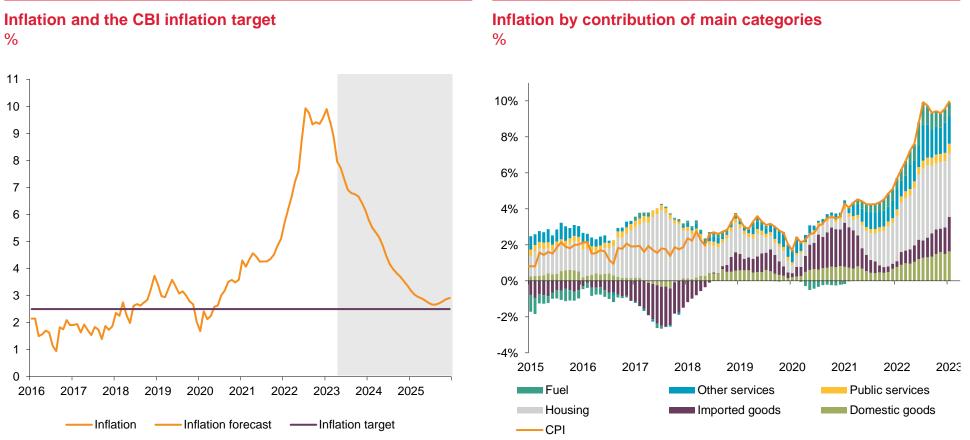


Source: The Central Bank of Iceland, Statistics Iceland

Inflation will fall, but how fast?

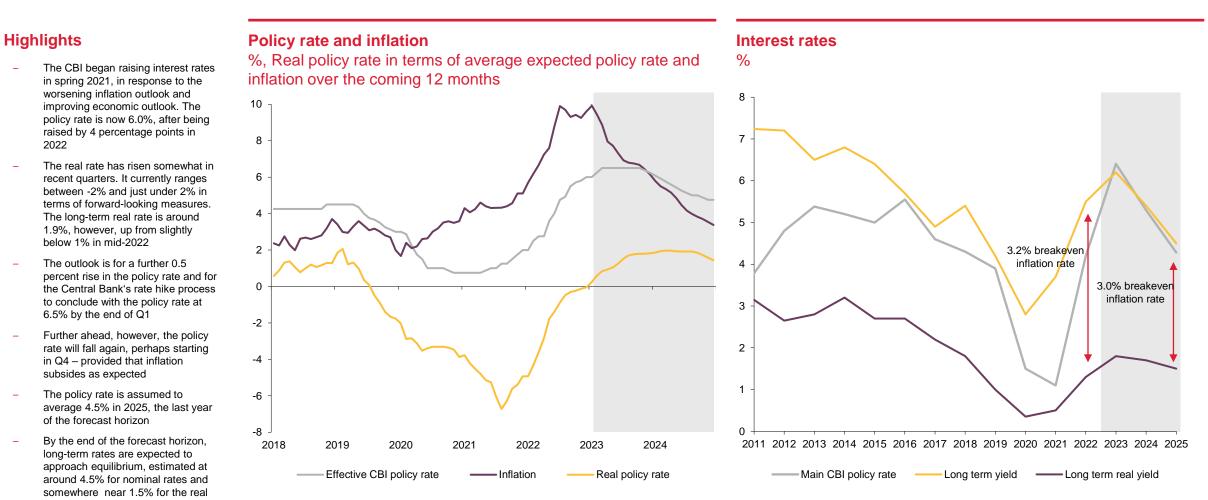
The road back to the inflation target is rocky and circuitous

- Twelfe-month inflation rose in January and measured 9.9%, where it topped out last July
- In coming months something major would have to change in order to prevent inflation from subsiding in the near future, as large monthly increases are set to drop out of twelve-month measurements
- For example, the CPI rose by an average of 1% per month over the first half of 2022
- Of the January inflation figure of 9.9%, the housing component accounts for 3.5%. This percentage has been falling, after peaking at 4% last summer, and looks set to keep declining in the near future
- Imported inflation, another key driver of inflation, is still rising and appears likely to keep doing so in coming months
- There are hopes that it will taper off sharply over the course of the year, though, particularly if the ISK holds its ground
- ISB Research expects inflation to average 7.6% in 2023, 4.5% in 2024, and 2.8% in 2025



Interest rates relatively high near-term but will ultimately fall

Gradual easing further ahead; equilibrium rate in sight by the end of the horizon

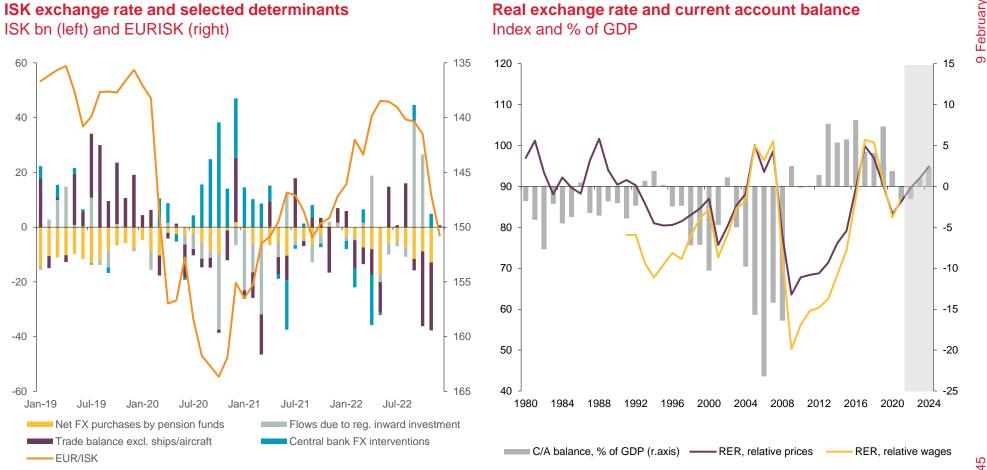


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ISK likely to strengthen somewhat over time

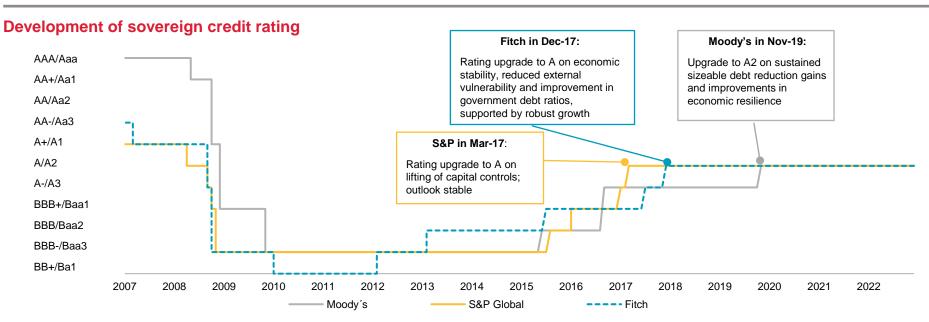
Less favourable net trade reduces the likelihood that the ISK will regain its previous strength

- After strengthening markedly over the first five months of last year, the ISK fell steadily from early summer until the yearend. On average, the ISK was 3% stronger in 2022 than in 2021
- Increases in long-ISK forward positions were a factor in the appreciation early on and reversals in such positions played a role in the subsequent depreciation
- Unfavourable foreign trade and foreign asset purchases by domestic pension funds also played a role in ISK depreciation in 2H 2022
- The near-term outlook for external trade has deteriorated somewhat relative to earlier forecasts, and the tailwinds supporting the ISK will probably be weaker in coming quarters than earlier anticipated
- Even so, the current account looks set to be in balance further ahead, with a significant interest rate differential, a strong external position, more favourable GDP growth prospects than are generally envisioned abroad, and non-residents' securities holdings are relatively moderate
- ISB Research forecasts that the ISK will be approximately 8% stronger at the end of the forecast horizon than at year-end 2022. This would give an exchange rate of roughly ISK 142 per euro towards the end of 2025



Iceland's credit rating has been resilient in turbulent times

Rating companies acknowledge the flexibility of the economy and resilience to the pandemic shock



MOODY'S IN JANUARY 2023

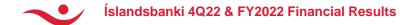
- "The credit profile of Iceland is underpinned by its wealthy and flexible economy with favourable demographics that support its long-term growth prospects."
- "The country has built significant buffers which help offset its vulnerability to shocks given its small size and concentration in a limited number of sectors."
- "The pandemic-induced fiscal deterioration is being gradually reversed helped by strong economic growth."

FITCH IN OCTOBER 2022

- "Iceland's 'A' rating is driven by its very high income per capita and very strong governance and human development indicators that are more consistent with those of 'AAA' and 'AA' rated countries."
- "A favourable demographic composition (the share of people of working age was 65% in 2020) supports growth potential."
- "The rating is constrained by the high, but declining, public debt burden, the small size of the economy and limited export diversification, which result in vulnerability to external shocks and balance of payments risks."

S&P IN NOVEMBER 2022

- "The Russia-Ukraine conflict has had only a limited impact on Iceland's economy. Iceland has minimal direct trade links with Russia and Ukraine and is largely energy independent."
- "The government is speeding up its fiscal consolidation strategy, following two years of sizable deficits during the pandemic."
- "-External pressures appear manageable, especially given Iceland's net external creditor position and large foreign exchange reserves."



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