

# State Bank of India (SBIN IN)

# FUNDAMENTAL VIEW 1

As of 18 Dec 2024

- State Bank of India (SBI) is the largest state-owned bank in India and is in some respects the country's flagship bank. Given the bank's ~57% government ownership and systemic importance, government support for SBI is very strong.
- It is rated Baa3(sta)/BBB-(pos)/BBB-(sta), the same as India's sovereign ratings. A
  sovereign downgrade to HY would be the greatest credit risk, but we assess that
  risk as low; S&P revised its outlook on India from stable to positive in May 2024.
- The bank's capital buffers are relatively low, but we take comfort in the strong government support.

# **RISKS & CATALYSTS**

As of 18 Dec 2024

- SBI does not have a strong buffer vs. the regulatory minimum of 8%, but its size, systemic importance and majority government shareholding confer particularly strong government support. But consequentially, any deterioration in the sovereign ratings will also affect the bank's credit.
- Increasing consolidation in the country's financial space may narrow the gap between SBI's market leading position vs its peers, particularly HDFC Bank.
- Continued tight system liquidity has led to pressure on margins and loan growth
  of the Indian banks, but SBI's less tight liquidity position than its private sector
  peers has allowed it to guide for robust loan growth of 14-16% YoY in FY25, above
  its deposit growth guidance of 10-11% YoY.
- Asset quality is also trending well despite a stretched urban middle and lower-middle class consumer class, and slower than anticipated economic activity in India, as SBI's personal unsecured loans book is ~95% to salaried employees of top tier corporates and the government. Net slippages however should still normalize this year.

# As of 19 Dec 2024 **CREDIT QUALITY SCORE (CQS)**<sup>2</sup> **CURRENT COS COS OUTLOOK 3** 50 HISTORICAL RATINGS: AVERAGE AGENCY RATING (ACR) VS CQS ACR COS BBB 60 ВВ 35 30 Jan 24 Mar 24 May 24 Jul 24 Aug 24 Oct 24 Dec 24 CQS -— ACR

# KEY METRICS As of 18 Dec 2024

INR MN	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	1H25
NIM	3.04%	3.12%	3.37%	3.28%	3.18%
ROAA	0.48%	0.67%	0.96%	1.04%	1.13%
ROAE	8.4%	11.9%	16.5%	17.3%	17.8%
Equity to Assets	5.6%	5.6%	5.9%	6.1%	6.6%
CET1 Ratio	10.3%	10.3%	10.6%	10.6%	10.3%
Gross NPA Ratio	4.98%	3.97%	2.78%	2.24%	2.13%
Provisions/Loans	1.77%	0.91%	0.54%	0.14%	0.41%
PPP ROA	1.65%	1.58%	1.59%	1.60%	1.78%

## **BUSINESS DESCRIPTION**

As of 18 Dec 2024

- State Bank of India is the largest commercial bank in India. Its predecessor banks date back to the 19th century. In the early 20th century, they merged to form the Imperial Bank of India, which became the State Bank of India after India gained independence in 1947.
- The Government of India remains the largest shareholder with a 56.92% stake. Per the SBI Act, the government's shareholding cannot fall below 55%.
- SBI's merged with its 5 associate banks and Bharatiya Mahila Bank in 2018. The
  merger catapulted SBI into one of the world's 50 largest banks.
- The bank has 85% of its loans in the domestic market, and has steadily increased its international business too over the past few years with offices across all international business centres. The domestic book is split 42% retail, 35% corporates, ~14% SMEs and ~10% to the agri segment as of end-September 2024.
- It has diversified its operations with well regarded subsidiaries in the areas of fund management, credit cards, insurance, and capital markets.

# **GLOSSARY**

- <sup>1</sup> The **Fundamental View** is our current assessment of credit quality and our expectation of how credit quality will trend over the next year or longer.
- <sup>2</sup> The **Credit Quality Score (CQS)** is a number between 5 and 100. It is a medium-term credit score for corporates and financial institutions that utilizes a combination of sector fundamental scores and equity market signals. Values of CQS above 50 generally indicate investment grade credit quality.
- <sup>3</sup> The **Credit Quality Score (CQS) Outlook** is the near-term (3 month) outlook for the CQS, based on its trend, volatility and distance from the adjacent CQS risk bucket.
- <sup>4</sup>The **Agency Composite Rating (ACR)** is the average senior unsecured rating from one or more major rating agencies.

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