

Basel III Pillar 3 Report

Market discipline



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1. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE OF THIS REPORT

The objective of this report is to provide in-depth information on risk management at BCV Group to investors, analysts, ratings agencies and supervisory bodies. In particular, it describes the Bank's capital adequacy, its risk-assessment methods and the level of risk taken at BCV. This document was prepared in accordance with the Pillar 3 disclosure requirements set forth under the Basel III Accord (DIS Chapter), together with Circular 2016/1 "Disclosure – banks" published by the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA).¹

1.1 Disclosure policy

For ease of access, this report is available in the investor relations section of BCV's website. It has been updated on a half-yearly basis ever since BCV became subject to Basel II on 1 January 2009. It is published within two months following the end of the first half of the financial year and within four months following the end of the financial year, in accordance with Swiss regulations (FINMA Circular 2016/1, margin number 40).

This version of the report corresponds to the closing of accounts on 31 December 2023.² The description of the Bank's governance, methods, and processes reflects the situation at 31 December 2023; subsequent changes are not included.

The Bank's external auditor verifies, as a general rule every three years, compliance with financial disclosure requirements based on FINMA Circular 2013/3 "Auditing," and states its opinion in its detailed audit report. The data contained in the Bank's Pillar 3 reports are calculated in accordance with the Basel III Accord regulatory capital requirements. This calculation process was audited during FINMA's IRB approval process and is subject to oversight as part of the regulatory supervision process. Furthermore, BCV's Internal Audit Department periodically reviews the process for calculating capital requirements (Basel III Accord, Chapter CRE36.60).

The appendix to this report contains information that is useful for understanding this document, including a description of business segments and a list of abbreviations.

The figures contained in the tables have each been properly rounded depending on the number of significant digits used for the table; this may result in discrepancies between listed column and row totals and the sum of individual column or row items.

1.2 Scope

The parent company within BCV Group is Banque Cantonale Vaudoise, a corporation organized under public law with its headquarters in Lausanne. The parent company had a branch in Guernsey (Banque Cantonale Vaudoise Guernsey Branch) until it ceased operating in December 2023.

The companies that the Group is required to include in its regulatory reporting include companies over which BCV has control and companies in which it has significant influence over operations. These companies are fully consolidated. Significant influence is generally recognized by the Bank when it makes a profit from or bears the risks of a company's operations.

Companies in which BCV has significant influence but no outright control (holdings of 20%–50%) are accounted for using the equity method.

¹The correspondence between the tables in this Pillar 3 report and those in the Basel III Accord is given in the Appendix (Section 8.3.1).

²End-June figures are taken from BCV's interim financial statements, which are not audited by an independent auditor.

The following companies are not included in the scope of consolidation:

- Holdings of no material significance in terms of financial reporting and risk;
- Significant holdings not held for strategic purposes and intended to be sold or liquidated within 12 months.

Table 1. Group companies included in the regulatory scope of consolidation

At 31 December 2023, BCV Group

Group companies included in the supervisory review	Capital in millions		Shareholding (%)
Private banks			
Piguet Galland & Cie SA, Yverdon-les-Bains (Switzerland)	CHF	24.4	99.7
Fund-management companies			
Gérifonds SA, Lausanne (Switzerland)	CHF	2.9	100.0
Gérifonds (Luxembourg) SA, Luxembourg	EUR	0.1	100.0
Société pour la gestion de placements collectifs GEP SA, Lausanne (Switzerland)	CHF	1.5	100.0

The regulatory scope of consolidation did not change in 2023.

Companies taken into account for calculating capital requirements are the same as those included in the Group's consolidated accounts. All these companies are fully consolidated in the financial statements. No company is currently accounted for using the equity method. The Group has no subsidiaries in the field of insurance.

2. CAPITAL ADEQUACY AND LIQUIDITY

Monitoring capital adequacy and liquidity is a key component of BCV's financial strategy. Management carefully considers the potential impact on the Bank's capital and liquidity ratios before making any major decisions about the Bank's operations and the orientation of its business.

The Executive Board monitors the capital and liquidity ratios monthly for the parent company. Both the Executive Board and the Board of Directors monitor these ratios every quarter for the parent company and every six months for the Group as a whole. FINMA monitors the parent company's capital adequacy and liquidity each quarter and the Group's capital adequacy and liquidity every six months using regulatory-required reports.

2.1 Key ratios

FINMA's capital ratio requirement³ is based on the Basel III Accord and is set forth in Article 41 of the Capital Adequacy Ordinance (CAO). The minimum required total capital ratio for BCV was 14.0% at 31 December 2023. It comprises the permanent requirement for a category 3 bank (12.0%), a countercyclical capital buffer (1.0%), and an additional capital requirement (1.0%). The permanent requirement consists of the absolute minimum requirement for a banking license (8.0%) and the capital buffer for a category 3 bank (4.0%). The countercyclical capital buffer is a temporary requirement introduced by the Swiss Federal Council at the SNB's recommendation. The additional capital requirement is a temporary requirement set by FINMA in light of the extremely low interest rates up to 2022. Given those low rates, and BCV's interest-rate-risk exposure as determined by FINMA, FINMA has set an additional capital requirement of 1.0% for BCV.

BCV Group's total capital ratio was 18.0% at 31 December 2023, higher than the regulatory requirement of 14.0%. The Bank's Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) ratio was 17.9%, also above FINMA's requirement of 9.8%. The difference between the Bank's total capital ratio and CET1 ratio is due to the fact that its Tier 2 capital comprises reserves on debt and equity securities carried under financial investments and stated at lower of cost or market, subject to a limit of 45% of unrealized gains.

The leverage ratio⁴ was 5.6% at 31 December 2023 (see tables in Section 8.2). This ratio is above the regulatory requirement of 3% effective as of 1 January 2018.

BCV Group's liquidity coverage ratio (LCR) was an average of 129% in the second half of 2023, above the minimum regulatory requirement of 100% (see Section 5.4).

BCV Group's net stable funding ratio (NSFR) was 120% at 31 December 2023, above the minimum regulatory requirement of 100% in force since 1 July 2021 (see Section 5.4).

³The capital ratio is equal to regulatory capital divided by risk-weighted assets.

⁴The leverage ratio is equal to Tier 1 capital divided by the total exposure measure.

Table 2. Key metricsIn CHF millions, BCV Group, KM1⁵

	a	c	e
	31/12/2023	30/6/2023	31/12/2022
Available capital			
1 Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1)	3,465	3,370	3,369
2 Tier 1 (T1)	3,465	3,370	3,369
3 Total capital	3,490	3,395	3,391
Risk-weighted assets (RWA)			
4 Total RWA	19,352	19,277	19,132
4a Minimum capital requirement	1,548	1,542	1,531
Risk-based capital ratios as % of RWA			
5 CET1 ratio	17.9%	17.5%	17.6%
6 Tier 1 ratio	17.9%	17.5%	17.6%
7 Total capital ratio	18.0%	17.6%	17.7%
FINMA capital ratio requirements			
Minimum total capital ratio (CAO, Art. 42)	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%
12a Total capital buffer (CAO, Annex 8)	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%
12b Countercyclical buffer (CAO, Art. 44 and 44a)	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
12e Total regulatory capital requirement in accordance with Annex 8 of the CAO plus the countercyclical buffer (CAO, Art. 44 and 44a)	13.0%	13.0%	13.0%
Additional capital requirement (CAO, Art. 45)	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
Total FINMA capital requirement	14.0%	14.0%	14.0%
Basel III leverage ratio			
13 Total Basel III leverage ratio exposure measure	61,796	61,330	61,315
14 Basel III leverage ratio (Tier 1 capital as % of total Basel III leverage ratio exposure measure)	5.6%	5.5%	5.5%
Liquidity coverage ratio (LCR)			
15 Total high-quality liquid assets (HQLA)	12,472	15,071	14,026
16 Total net cash outflow	9,634	11,405	10,871
17 LCR	129%	132%	129%
Net stable funding ratio (NSFR)			
18 Available stable funding	38,245	38,499	38,540
19 Required stable funding	31,772	31,391	30,985
20 NSFR (as %)	120%	123%	124%

*FINMA has set a temporary additional capital requirement of 1% for BCV, given the extremely low interest-rate environment until 2022 and BCV's interest-rate-risk exposure as determined by FINMA.

⁵This table is a summary version of the Table KM1 required by FINMA. Only the FINMA capital ratio requirements are shown in this table; the Basel Committee requirements are less stringent and have not been included to avoid confusion. The full Table KM1 is provided in the Appendix (Table 29). The LCR figures represent the average for the six months preceding the indicated date.

2.2 Capital structure

BCV Group's regulatory capital is composed almost entirely of CET1 capital, with a marginal amount of T2 capital. Regulatory capital is based on the Group's financial statements, which are drawn up in accordance with the FINMA Accounting Ordinance (FINMA-AO) of 31 October 2019, and the Swiss accounting rules for banks, securities firms, financial groups and financial conglomerates of 31 October 2019 (FINMA Circular 2020/1).

CET1 capital comprises paid-in capital, disclosed reserves, and minority interests. At 31 December 2023, BCV's share capital amounted to CHF 86,061,900 and consisted of 86,061,900 fully paid-in registered shares with a par value of CHF 1. CET1 capital is adjusted for regulatory deductions such as goodwill and any shortfall of provisions to regulatory expected losses. BCV has not issued any capital instruments that meet the criteria for inclusion in Additional Tier 1 (AT1) capital. In particular, BCV has no authorized or conditional capital and has not issued any dividend-right certificates. There are no outstanding convertible bonds or options issued by the Bank involving the BCV share.

T2 capital comprises reserves on debt and equity securities carried under financial investments and stated at lower of cost or market, subject to a limit of 45% of unrealized gains, and general provisions allocated under the International Standardized Approach. BCV has not issued any capital instruments that meet the criteria for inclusion in T2.

Table 3. Composition of regulatory capital
In CHF millions, BCV Group, CC1⁶

	a		a-1	b
	Net figures		References	
	31/12/2023	30/6/2023		
Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1)				
1 Issued and paid-in capital, fully eligible	86	86		c
2 Retained earnings, including reserves for general banking risks and net profit (loss) for the period	3,380	3,281		
3 Capital reserve and currency translation reserve (+/-)	33	33		
5 Minority interests	0	0		
6 CET1 before regulatory adjustments	3,499	3,400		
CET1 regulatory adjustments				
8 Goodwill (net of related tax liability)	-	-		a
12 IRB shortfall of provisions to expected losses	20	19		
16 Net long position in own CET1 instruments	14	11		
28 Total regulatory adjustments to CET1	34	30		
29 Net CET1	3,465	3,370		
Additional Tier 1 capital (AT1)				
36 AT1 before regulatory adjustments	-	-		
43 Total regulatory adjustments to AT1	-	-		
44 Net AT1	-	-		
45 Net Tier 1 capital	3,465	3,370		
Tier 2 capital (T2)				
46 Issued and paid-in instruments, fully eligible	-	-		
48 Minority interests eligible as T2	-	-		
50 Valuation adjustments; provisions and impairments for prudential reasons; compulsory reserves on financial investments	25	25		
51 T2 before regulatory adjustments	25	25		
T2 regulatory adjustments				
52 Net long position in own T2 instruments	-	-		
57 Total regulatory adjustments to T2	-	-		
58 Net T2	25	25		
59 Total regulatory capital (Net T1 & Net T2)	3,490	3,395		

The increase in regulatory capital was due to the recognition of 2023 net profit less the recommended dividend payout (subject to approval at the Annual Shareholders' Meeting).

⁶Net profit for the current fiscal year is not included in regulatory capital at 30 June (Row 2). This table is a summary version of Table CC1, which is provided in full in the Appendix (Table 31).

2.3 Risk-weighted assets

Credit risk accounts for over 80% of the Bank's total risk exposure, in keeping with its business model and risk-taking strategy.

Table 4. Overview of RWA

In CHF millions, BCV Group, OV1⁷

	a	b	c
	RWA		Minimum capital requirements
	31/12/2023	30/6/2023	31/12/2023
1 Credit risk (excluding counterparty credit risk)	15,977	15,996	1,278
2 Of which: standardized approach (SA)	2,240	2,320	179
3 Of which: internal ratings-based approach (IRB)	6,977	7,030	558
4 Of which: supervisory slotting approach	6,268	6,168	501
Of which: assets without a counterparty	491	478	39
6 Counterparty credit risk (CCR)	261	261	21
7 Of which: standardized approach for counterparty credit risk (SA-CCR)	233	252	19
9 Of which: other CCR approach	28	10	2
10 Credit valuation adjustment (CVA)	124	136	10
11 Equity positions in banking book under market-based approach	121	122	10
13 Equity investments in funds – mandate-based approach	0	0	0
14 Equity investments in funds – fall-back approach	5	7	0
14a Equity investments in funds – simplified approach	29	30	2
15 Settlement risk	-	-	-
20 Market risk	141	98	11
21 Of which: standardized approach	141	98	11
24 Operational risk	1,909	1,843	153
25 Amounts below the thresholds for deduction (250% risk weighting)	782	782	63
26 Floor adjustment	-	-	-
27 Total	19,352	19,277	1,548

Since end-2017, BCV has been using the new regulatory approaches for its holdings in investment funds (as set forth in Article 63.3^(fbis) of the CAO and in margin number 333 of FINMA Circular 2017/7). The mandate-based approach is used for holdings in real-estate funds; the simplified approach is used for holdings in non-real-estate funds with a synthetic risk indicator of between 1 and 7; the fall-back approach is used for holdings in all other funds.

⁷An additional row has been added under "Credit risk" to indicate non-counterparty-related assets, which consist primarily of real estate and other tangible assets.

3. COMPREHENSIVE RISK MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The framework for risk governance, risk exposure (risk appetite), risk-assessment principles, and risk reporting, as well as other operational guidelines relating to risk management, are defined in the Bank's Risk Management Policy and Strategy (RMPS). The RMPS is the institution-wide risk management framework. It is an internal framework document that is reviewed and approved each year by the Board of Directors.

This section of the report sets out the Bank's risk-management principles, as required by FINMA for Pillar 3 disclosure.

3.1 Risk management objectives and governance

Risk-management objectives

BCV manages all its risks in an integrated and consistent way, using a process that encompasses all of the Bank's activities. The overall goals are to ensure that:

- BCV's risk exposure is evaluated, monitored, and reported in a manner that is appropriate to the economic and regulatory environment;
- BCV's risk-taking capacity is in line with its risk profile;
- BCV earns optimal returns on the risks that it takes and hence on the equity capital committed.

Risk-management governance

All risks are managed according to the same basic principles of governance and organization. The main responsibilities can be summarized as follows:

- The Board of Directors establishes the Bank's policy for managing risk and determines the strategy the Bank will pursue in taking on risk;
- The Board of Directors' Audit & Risk Committee ensures that the risk-management policy set by the Board of Directors is implemented and operational;
- The Executive Board is responsible for ensuring that the risk-management procedures are implemented and operational, and for monitoring the Bank's risk profile. The Executive Board monitors strategic and business risk and supervises the Executive Board Risk Management Committee (EBRMC) in monitoring and reporting these risks. The EBRMC is chaired by the Chief Financial Officer (CFO), and includes the CEO, other division heads, and the head of the Risk Management Department;
- Division heads are responsible for conducting and monitoring the activities of their divisions, regardless of whether the division has a front-line, steering, or business-support role. They have initial responsibility for overseeing, identifying, and managing the strategic, business, credit, market, and operational risks arising from the activities of their divisions;
- The CFO also assumes the role of Chief Risk Officer. The CFO puts forward the risk-management policy and strategy, monitors the Bank's aggregate risk profile, is responsible for capital adequacy, and helps foster a culture of risk management among staff, with the support of the Risk Management Department. Together with the Compliance Department, the CFO ensures that due diligence is taken to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism, monitor market abuse, and comply with economic sanctions.
- The Chief Credit Officer (CCO) is responsible for analyzing risk for all types of credit-risk exposure assumed by the Bank and, up to the limit of his approval authority (see below), for credit decisions and for monitoring risk exposure on a counterparty basis. The CCO is also responsible for developing and

monitoring the models used to measure credit risk, particularly those used in the lending process, and for setting and implementing the criteria and rules governing lending decisions and monitoring.

- The Risk Management Department is responsible for developing and improving the Bank's oversight principles and methods for credit, market, and operational risk; monitoring the Bank's risk profile; and overseeing and executing risk reporting. The Department ensures that the Bank's operational internal control system is effective and in keeping with the Bank's needs, by coordinating the work of the entities responsible for level 2 oversight; it is also in charge of submitting all risk reports to the Bank's governing bodies. Finally, it is responsible for the overnight monitoring of market risk for BCV's trading floor.
- The Compliance Department is responsible for setting up, implementing, monitoring, and adapting the internal regulations and control system needed to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism, monitor market abuse, and comply with economic sanctions and tax law. It is also responsible for monitoring implementation of investor protection measures. The Department is actively involved in raising employees' awareness of the respective obligations and carries out independent checks to ensure that internal regulations are in line with the Bank's activities.
- The Security Department is responsible for setting up, implementing, monitoring, and adapting the system that keeps the Bank's operations, IT systems, and data secure, and the people, infrastructure, and assets within the Bank safe and secure. It pays particular attention to cybercrime. It also makes sure that measures put in place to manage crisis situations and ensure business continuity remain effective and adequate over time.

Audit function

The remits of the Internal Audit Department and external auditors are set out in their respective audit programs and involve assessing the Bank's functioning and processes, and the methods of levels 1 and 2 of the internal control system.

3.2 Risk-taking strategy

BCV's risk appetite (or acceptable risk profile) is determined in accordance with the Bank's business strategy and capital-management strategy. The risk appetite is set so as to be consistent with the Bank's business model as a full-service bank with strong local roots and focused on moderate-growth activities. Granting loans in Vaud Canton is a core element of the Bank's mission and strategy and one that gives rise to credit risk. Market risk arising from the trading book is intended to remain only a marginal source of risk for the Bank.

The Bank has adopted a risk-taking strategy that spells out its risk-taking principles, overall limits, and target values, in order to keep its risk profile at appropriate levels. For credit and market risk, the Bank's RMPS establishes overall risk-exposure limits for a given portfolio or business line. It also includes risk-concentration limits for exposures to a given counterparty, underlying asset, or other risk-concentration factor.

The Executive Board Risk Management Committee, through the CFO, oversees compliance with the RMPS. Any crossed limits or instances of non-compliance with the principles set out in the RMPS are escalated to the Executive Board, which then reports to the Board of Directors.

3.3 Classification of risks and risk-assessment principles

Classification of risks

The Bank's approach to analyzing risk comprises four dimensions:

- Risk exposure, which relates to the fact that its activities and operations expose the Bank to risk;
- Risk factors, which are sources of uncertainty that may adversely affect the Bank's risk exposure;
- Risk events, which are triggered by a change in a risk factor, which, in turn, has an adverse effect on the Bank's risk exposure;
- Risk impact, which is the negative impact that a risk event has on the Bank's interests.

Throughout the Bank, four categories of risk are used to classify risk events:

- Strategic and business risk. Strategic risk arises from economic or regulatory changes that have an adverse effect on the Bank's strategic choices; business risk is the result of competitive or economic changes that have an adverse effect on business decisions for a given strategy;
- Credit risk. This arises from the possibility that a counterparty may default. Credit risk is inherent in all lending exposure;
- Market risk. This arises from potential adverse changes in market parameters – particularly prices and implied volatility – and other market effects (e.g., correlation between asset prices and market liquidity). Liquidity risk, both in terms of the structural funding of activities and short-term liquidity management, is also deemed to be a component of market risk. Market risk is inherent in all market exposure;
- Operational risk. This arises from a possible failure relating to inadequate processes, people, and/or information systems, or even malicious behavior. Operational risk includes the risk of non-compliance; i.e., the risk of the Bank breaching legal requirements, standards, and regulations. Operational risk is inherent in all business activity.

For all risk types, the Bank seeks to protect itself against three types of potential impact:

- The financial impact, that is, a decrease in the Bank's net profit and/or a drop in the book or economic value of the Bank's capital;
- The regulatory impact, that is, an intervention by the authorities as a result of a failure by the Bank to comply with its legal and regulatory obligations;
- The reputational impact, that is, negative publicity concerning the Bank; the severity of the impact will depend on the reaction of the Bank's main stakeholders. For example, there could be negative newsflow in the press or on social media, or a parliamentary inquiry or other major incident affecting relations between the Bank and the Vaud Cantonal Government or the general public.

Risk assessment

Throughout the Bank's businesses and portfolios and for every position and transaction, the Bank assesses and monitors its risk profile, i.e., its exposure to strategic, business, credit, market, and operational risks. The Bank assesses the potential financial, regulatory, and reputational impact of these risks.

Risk assessment generally involves analyzing the following:

- *Risk exposure*
This involves determining which risk factors the Bank is exposed to as a result of its activities or operational processes.
- *Risk factors and events*
This involves identifying relevant risk factors and determining potential risk events. For strategic and

business risk, this includes all economic and regulatory factors that may affect the Bank's business activities and its operational processes. For credit, market, and operational risk, the relevant risk factors and risk events are defined according to the nature of the Bank's activities.

These risk factors include climate-related risk factors. Details of these risk factors and how they are incorporated into the Bank's risk assessments are provided in Section 7, "Climate-related risks."

- **The impact of risks**

This involves determining the potential financial, regulatory, and reputational impact.

For risks with a potential financial impact, i.e., that may result in a decrease in the Bank's net profit and/or in the value of its capital, this means defining *loss metrics* and *risk metrics* and determining *capital requirements* (in keeping with FINMA requirements). *Loss metrics*, which are used to determine the potential financial impact, are calculated in accordance with the guidelines set out in the RMPS; they are developed for each risk category set out above.

Risk reports

Risk-related reports are intended to provide an overview of the Bank's risk profile at a given point in time, in order to identify any increases in risk exposure or changes in risk profile. The head of the Risk Management Department has overall responsibility for compiling these reports. If the reports show a material deterioration in the Bank's risk profile, the Department head informs the CFO, who then informs the Executive Board, the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, the Chair of the Board of Directors, and the Internal Audit Department.

The Bank's Risk Report gives insight into the overall economic climate and trends in the Bank's business and strategic risk, credit risk, market risk, and operational risk. This report also helps assess the financial impact of those risks and determine whether risk exposure is within the limits set by the RMPS.

For credit risk, the Risk Report provides information on the following items in particular:

- For portfolios: breakdown between banks and non-banks and by industry, segment, region, and exposure to climate-related risk factors (based mainly on the energy profile of financed real estate, corporate clients' business sectors, and the type of goods involved in trade-finance transactions); impaired vs. non-impaired loans; provisions; expected losses; capital requirements; and compliance with limits in the RMPS for specific portfolios;
- For counterparties: major risks; counterparties with the largest provisions; a watchlist for each business line; and compliance with limits in the RMPS for specific counterparties.

For market risk, the Risk Report provides information on the following items in particular:

- Trading book – Value of the trading book; use of funding limits; use of VaR limits; and compliance with limits in the RMPS;
- Interest-rate risk in the banking book – Equity duration; the sensitivity of the net interest margin to major stress scenarios; and compliance with limits in the RMPS;
- Liquidity risk – Short-term funding structure; total liquidity; concentration risk on short-term deposits; and compliance with limits in the RMPS.

For operational risk, the Risk Report provides information on the following items in particular:

- Key risk indicators (KRIs) for the main operational risks;
- Provisions and losses resulting from operational risk, and risk-tolerance tracking (number of incidents having an impact each year, and the amount of the impact in Swiss francs each year);
- The most significant new provisions and losses.

Most data in the Risk Report are updated monthly. Every six months a report on the Risk Management Department's operations is included. The Executive Board Risk Management Committee reviews the Risk Report every month; the Executive Board, Audit and Risk Committee, and Board of Directors review it every quarter. Once approved, the quarterly Risk Report is also sent to the head of the Internal Audit Department, the Chief Compliance Officer, and the entity responsible for the Bank's independent audits.

4. CREDIT RISK

4.1 Credit-risk framework

Strategy and processes

Guidelines for taking on credit risk

The Bank's lending activities are focused on Vaud Canton; lending does however take place to a lesser extent in other parts of Switzerland and other countries for specific client segments and products. Through its lending activities, the Bank aims to contribute to the development of all areas of the private-sector economy, to mortgage lending, and to the financing of public-sector entities within the Canton. The Bank pays particular attention to the principles of economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable development.

Lending at the Bank is based on the principle that a borrower must be able to fully repay any loan within a given period, or that the Bank may be released from any commitments it may have in regard to counterparties, while receiving fair compensation for the risks incurred and the work undertaken.

The Bank applies a differentiated pricing policy according to the estimated degree of risk. Where preferential terms are requested due to the extent of the Bank's business relationship with the counterparty or business group, the overall return on the business relationship is taken into consideration.

The Bank does not engage in pledge financing or name lending. The lending decision takes into account the solvency of the counterparty, the project's earnings capacity, and the management's capabilities; these factors take precedence over collateral value or reputation.

The Bank avoids financing or supporting illegal or immoral activities through its lending facilities. The Bank also avoids facilitating, through its lending facilities, activities that could entail a risk of money laundering, insider trading, corruption, or activities that would breach in any other way the Swiss banks' code of conduct with regard to the exercise of due diligence. The Bank avoids operations that may damage its reputation or image.

The Bank takes account of lending-related environmental and social risks and impacts. It has put in place a set of rules to ensure that it does not finance activities, projects, or counterparties that do not comply with its related standards. It has also developed indicators that it uses to monitor the lending portfolio and track specific risks (see also Section 7, "Climate-related risks").

Standards and procedures for lending and loan renewals

Before taking on credit risk, the Bank conducts an analysis of the nature and complexity of lending commitments, using the appropriate internal methods for that type of transaction. BCV will not grant, increase, or renew loans to debtors until it has assessed solvency, i.e., until it has determined the appropriate internal counterparty rating of the probability of default using established methods. Risks relating to transactions and the return on commitments are also analyzed. It is in this context that the collateral for the commitment is identified and evaluated.

For both new and existing banking relationships, the Bank studies the economic background, the nature of and the reasons for the transaction, as well as the relationship between the parties involved. The Bank seeks to obtain a detailed view of the economic and personal situation of counterparties, and, as necessary, of the beneficial owners, the guarantors, or the beneficiaries of guarantees. The information obtained is carefully verified.

The Bank develops, reviews, and uses standard criteria for lending decisions. For financing single-family homes and income-producing real estate, these criteria were chosen, in particular, for their reliability and clarity.

Contractual documentation for standard lending operations is drawn up using models and/or guidelines that have been validated by the Bank's Legal Department. For some lending operations, the Bank's

legal department or, if necessary, external experts may be called upon. Contractual provisions aim to ensure that the funds are used in accordance with the stated purpose of the lending facility and that the Bank obtains any requested financial information within the stated deadlines. For medium- and long-term lending commitments, the contract is written in such a way as to ensure that the Bank's position as lender is not subordinated to that of other creditors without its agreement, in terms of both collateral and the counterparty's position within a business group. For long-term commitments that cannot be terminated at any time based on the Bank's General Conditions, or for which the Bank cannot call in additional collateral at any time, the Bank adds a termination clause to hedge against the increased risk.

An application is prepared for all lending decisions. The application clearly states the reasons, conditions and contractual terms associated with the risk taken, and in particular the credit limit granted to the counterparty or business group. These applications are submitted for approval to the competent body according to a defined delegation chain.

Reexamination of lending commitments and collateral

Lending commitments are reviewed to assess any change in the counterparty's solvency or the value of the collateral, and to determine whether the commitments should be maintained at the existing level or reduced. The Bank uses an internal timetable to ensure that a periodic review is conducted of all lending commitments associated with a business group together with the contractual terms. A similar timetable is also used to review the level of collateral.

In addition to these regular reviews, the Bank uses a system of alerts under which specific commitments are reviewed outside of the normal timetable if any deterioration is detected. These alerts could be triggered and a review required, for example, if payment deadlines are missed or if there is a delay in the submission of information required to properly monitor lending commitments.

Decisions made on the basis of these reviews are subject to a delegation chain similar to the one used to assess whether to grant a new line of credit.

Limits, portfolio monitoring, and special measures

Within the credit portfolio, global risk limits are defined, mainly for the purpose of tallying up exposures that taken together could have a major impact on the Bank's net profit and economic capital. These limits are defined and monitored:

- For the exposure, the expected loss and the capital requirement for various client segments and for activities outside Vaud Canton and outside Switzerland.
- For the amount and term of the lending commitments in each foreign country in which the Bank takes on credit risk. The limits are determined through an internal analysis of the financial and settlement risks associated with the financing in place in the various countries.
- For the amount of aggregate positions for a given business group in order to monitor concentration risk.

If necessary, in addition to setting and monitoring these limits, the Bank analyzes specific portfolios that are deemed to be exposed to potential or actual adverse conditions. These analyses may lead to proactive measures for a sub-grouping of the counterparties in question in order to enhance credit-risk monitoring.

Furthermore, in case of extraordinary events, such as a significant decline in the local or broader property market, the dates on which collateral is reviewed may be moved forward for groups of collateral identified in accordance with various criteria (by region, property type, age of existing valuation, etc.) to avoid a situation in which the Bank's information systems contain obsolete and overestimated amounts for the market value of properties.

Monitoring and treating counterparties reputed to be in financial difficulty and counterparties in default

Counterparties that present a particularly high risk of default but are nevertheless considered to be performing are said to be "reputed to be in financial difficulty" (RD). These counterparties, along with counterparties that are "in default" (ID), are subject to closer monitoring.

Lending commitments to RD or ID counterparties are treated by the Bank individually, quickly and with the necessary rigor, in accordance with ethical and compliance-related rules. These positions must

generally be made sound over the course of three to four years. Where this strategy cannot be applied, the Bank takes the appropriate measures to minimize its losses.

Structure and organization

Responsibilities in the credit process

In processing credit operations, the Bank as a general rule separates its client-facing divisions (Corporate Banking, Retail Banking, Private Banking, and Asset Management & Trading), which are responsible for advising, selling, selecting, pre-analyzing, and pricing the transactions, from the Credit Management Division, whose departments are in charge of the other phases of the lending process, such as analysis, granting loans, arranging the financing, and monitoring credit limits. In addition to the principle of separation, rules exist to avoid potential conflicts of interest between counterparties, on the one hand, and analysts and specialists, on the other.

Delegation chain for credit-related decisions

The decision-making process involves approving or reviewing a position and validating the internal counterparty rating of the probability of default as well as any overrides. To determine the competent body, the Bank applies a differentiated delegation chain that ensures that large and high-risk commitments are dealt with at the highest level, guaranteeing that Management is appropriately involved in taking on credit risk.

The competent body depends on the nature of the commitments and the level of credit risk of the business group to which the counterparty belongs. Decision-making authority is attributed individually or to credit committees, in accordance with a set of approval limits for each type of commitment (e.g., loans and advances to customers, interbank lending, and loans to employees and members of the governing bodies). These limits, which are different for credit decisions and reviews of existing commitments, depend on the internal counterparty rating of the probability of default, the nature, amount and term of the lending commitment, and the level and quality of the collateral for the financing. In addition, should certain lending criteria not be met, any decision to grant or increase financing for single-family homes and income-producing real estate would have to be made higher up the credit-decision-making chain. For each type of lending commitment, there is a distinct set of approval limits for decisions relating to short-term overruns or overdrafts.

The Board of Directors is at the top of the decision-making hierarchy and systematically reviews the most important credit-related decisions. Immediately below the Board of Directors are the Executive Board's Credit Committee (EBCC) and the Chief Credit Officer (CCO), who heads the Credit Management Division. The EBCC and the CCO have widespread lending authority, which encompasses all of the Bank's activities. For lower amounts, lending authority is allocated according to the activity, beginning with the sector-specific credit committees. Lower down still, the analysts in the Credit Management Division, with different levels of authority, have certain powers that are specific to their field. Finally, some low-risk forms of lending, such as standard mortgage loans, are approved on the basis of standardized criteria through an automated credit analysis, using scores obtained from rating models defined by the Bank.

Lending commitments to RD or ID counterparties are subject to a separate delegation chain. There is an additional set of approval limits for decisions relating to taking on credit risk abroad.

Decisions taken at a given approval level are checked *a posteriori* by the level above, through a full or selective review of lending decisions deemed to be significant.

Responsibility for identifying and monitoring RD/ID loans

Any entity within the Bank that is involved in the lending process may suggest that a counterparty be included in the RD and ID categories on the basis of criteria that are defined in the same way for all of the Bank's activities. Entities with lending authority are authorized to decide whether to include a client in these categories.

A specialized department within the Credit Management Division monitors these commitments. It is separate from the front-line units that generate lending commitments. Once lending commitments are sound again, they are monitored by the front line.

Internal documentation and regulations

The guidelines for lending activities are set out in the Bank's Credit Policy. In particular, it sets out the basic principle for how authority for granting and reviewing loans is allocated. The delegation chain is then explained in detail in the Bank's Lending Policy Rule Book. Together with the Technical Standards (technical criteria and limits for lending), these documents form the framework for the Bank's lending activities, which is established in accordance with the Bank's RMPS.

The Executive Board defines and develops the Credit Policy, upon the recommendation of the CCO, and submits it to the Board of Directors (BoD) for approval. The BoD reviews the Credit Policy periodically. All those involved in the lending process are responsible for monitoring the Credit Policy and ensuring that it is adhered to. The CCO oversees its application.

The Lending Policy Rule Book sets out the rules and guidelines for decisions concerning the Bank's credit risk at the parent company level (delegation chain). It is established in accordance with the Bank's by-laws and Credit Policy.

The EBCC develops and submits the Lending Policy Rule Book and its updates to the BoD.

The Technical Standards define the type of collateral recognized by the Bank and, for each type of collateral, the loan-to-value ratio required for a loan to be considered secured. The Technical Standards are subject to validation by the BoD.

At the operational level, lending activities are structured around a series of internal directives that provide details of the guidelines set forth in the framework documents.

Risk assessment

Risk event

A credit-risk event is a default by a counterparty: the Bank considers a counterparty to be in default when the counterparty is past due more than 90 days on any material credit obligation to the Bank or when the Bank considers that the counterparty is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Bank in full. Impaired loans are the same as loans to counterparties in default, also known as defaulted loans.

In accordance with accounting principles, loans where the counterparty is more than 90 days late on a payment obligation to the Bank are considered past due and interest on these loans is not recognized as interest income. All past-due loans are classified as defaulted loans through an operating procedure and lending decision. The volume of past-due loans that have not yet been classified as defaulted loans is very low (less than CHF 1 million on average).

The Bank does not use the concept of a restructured exposure.

Risk exposure

The Bank considers all credit-risk exposure that arises from its activities, including its activities as a custodian bank, with the following counterparties or groups of counterparties:

- Retail and private banking clients;
- Corporates, excluding trade finance;
- Trade finance;
- Fund-management companies;
- Public-sector entities (municipalities and regional, local, and national governments);
- Bank counterparties.

For any counterparty, exposure to credit risk in the trading book and banking book (both on and off the balance sheet) occurs in the following forms:

- Exposure in the form of a financial claim (mortgage loans, fixed-term advances, current accounts with credit limits, overdrafts, investments, and current accounts held by the Bank with other banks);
- Off-balance-sheet exposure resulting from undrawn portions of notified limits, contingent liabilities (guarantees) issued by the Bank on behalf of the counterparty, guarantees or other forms of commitment (letters of credit, avalized drafts) received from the counterparty as collateral or for which the Bank takes over the risk;
- Exposure resulting from forward contracts and OTC derivatives, taking into account netting agreements and collateral management agreements;
- Exposure in terms of shares and other equity securities (including equity derivatives) for which the counterparty is the issuer (in the banking book and net positions in the trading book);
- Exposure resulting from repos/reverse repos and securities lending/borrowing transactions;
- Settlement exposure, especially on currency transactions. It should be noted that when positions are unwound through a simultaneous settlement system, such as CLS (Continuous Linked Settlement), settlement risk is not considered.

The methods defined determine the amount of exposure by category.

Loss metrics

The Bank uses the following credit loss metrics:

- *Expected credit loss on non-impaired exposure*: This is the amount that the Bank expects to lose in a “normal” year as a result of its credit-risk exposure to non-defaulted counterparties. The expected loss is usually determined individually for each loan on the basis of the probability of default and the loss given default. A general description of the method used for analytical purposes is provided below.⁸
- *New provisions on impaired exposure*: The Bank sets aside provisions on newly impaired loans so that the expected credit loss over the loans’ remaining lifetime is recognized as an expense during the period in which they became impaired. This approach ensures that the Bank’s credit-risk provisions cover effective credit losses. The amount of these provisions is generally determined using a parameter-based method in which the provisioning ratio is determined and applied to credit-risk exposure. In some cases, for large commitments or for special or complex situations, the amount of the provision is based on a scenario analysis.
- *Effective credit loss*: This is the actual loss recorded by the Bank *a posteriori* on its exposure to counterparties in default. It results from the write-down or write-off of loans on the balance sheet.

For performing loans not relating to trade finance or real-estate development, the expected loss is determined on the basis of the probability of default and the loss given default.

- *Counterparties’ probability of default, and rating of default risk*

Each counterparty is assigned an internal counterparty default rating depending on its probability of default. Throughout the Bank (parent company), there are seven main internal ratings (B1 to B7) and 16 sub-ratings (B1.1 to B7).

The ratings B1 to B5.2 are used for counterparties that are neither RD nor ID; B6 is used for counterparties that are RD, which are also considered performing. Counterparties rated B7 are ID or non-performing.

⁸In order to meet the requirement to set aside provisions for inherent credit risk on non-impaired loans (Articles 25 and 28 FINMA-AO), the Bank also uses expected loss models to determine the provisions for each non-impaired credit-risk exposure. For non-impaired exposures that are not classified as having a high risk of default, provisions are set aside based on the 12-month expected loss using the method described in this section. For non-impaired exposures that are classified as high-risk (i.e., counterparties “reputed to be in financial difficulty”), provisions are set aside based on the expected loss at maturity. More detailed information on provisions for inherent credit risk is provided in the Annual Report.

A rating method is used to assign an internal rating to each performing counterparty. Counterparties (individuals, companies, banks, etc.) are distinguished by factors that may affect their solvency, the nature of available explanatory data and the level of loss-risk they represent. Rating methods are segmented into groups of counterparties so that counterparties that are deemed similar according to these analytical factors are handled in the same way.

For each rating segment the rating method for performing clients comprises a “score” and an “analyst’s assessment.” Considered together, the score and the analyst’s assessment are used to assign an internal rating to each performing counterparty.

- For the score component of the rating method, an internal rating is identified using one of the following three procedures: applying a calculation function for the probability of default calibrated statistically or based on an expert’s assessment, assigning the counterparty to a default probability slot, or transferring a counterparty from one rating to another in accordance with a system of rules. The Bank also employs standards and methods to recognize the impact on the probability of default of factors such as the business group or government support at a local, regional, or national level.
- The “analyst’s assessment” component of the rating method defines the guidelines to be followed by an expert when analyzing the counterparty’s debt quality, alongside the score. The competent body sets and approves the internal rating that is eventually determined as well as the override, if necessary.

Specific criteria are defined for the purpose of identifying RD counterparties. A counterparty is deemed RD when one of the following two conditions is met:

- The Bank believes there to be a high risk that part of its exposure to credit risk on the counterparty will not be recovered.
- A significant breach of the contract on any of the forms of credit extended to the counterparty by the Bank has occurred and has not been remedied without a temporary or definitive exemption being granted.
- *Loss given default*

To calculate the loss given default, the Bank takes into account the expected exposure at the time of default, the expected coverage ratio at the time of default, the nature of the collateral, and the rate of loss on secured and unsecured parts. The internal models used are calibrated so that the loss given default produced by the calibrated model corresponds to an effective loss that takes into account discounted values of all cash flows paid and collected by the Bank after the default, including fees associated with managing the loans of counterparties in default and with recovering loans.

A supervisory slot is allocated to loans relating to real-estate development and trade finance in order to estimate the expected loss. The slot assignment is based on a structured analysis of the corresponding transactions. It meets the supervisory slotting criteria for specialized lending in Chapter CRE33 of the Basel III Accord.

Risk metrics

The Bank’s main credit-risk metrics are:

- The expected loss (see above);
- Loss under stress scenarios. The Bank applies cyclical stress tests and global stress tests:
 - Cyclical stress tests for credit risk indicate the extent of the change in capital requirements in the event of an economic slowdown. They are based on changes in two key credit-risk variables, which are probability of default and loss given default;
 - Global stress tests are part of the broad approach for estimating (by risk category) the impact of a number of stress scenarios on the Bank’s net profit in order to assess capital adequacy. For credit risk, this allows the need for new provisions to be estimated for each stress scenario, should it occur. The stress scenarios are defined for the entire lending portfolio on the basis of

historical observations (for example, the property market correction in the early 1990s) and macroeconomic analyses.

Unless otherwise indicated, credit-risk metrics address a risk horizon of 12 months.

Capital requirements for credit risk

For most of its credit-risk exposure (around 85% of risk-weighted assets), the Bank determines its regulatory capital requirements (Pillar 1) using the Foundation Internal Ratings-Based approach (F-IRB). For exposure outside the scope of the F-IRB approach, capital requirements are determined using the International Standardized Approach (SA-BIS).

Table 5. Credit-risk exposure by approach applied
In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CRE⁹

Category	Credit risk		Counterparty credit risk		Total
	F-IRB	SA-BIS	F-IRB	SA-BIS	
Central governments and central banks	-	99%	-	1%	13,518
Banks and securities firms	36%	32%	32%	0%	1,903
Non-central govt. public-sector entities; multilateral development banks	45%	51%	1%	3%	2,243
Corporates	78%	21%	1%	0%	19,487
Retail	95%	5%	0%	0%	22,081
Total	64%	34%	1%	0%	59,233

Exposures outside the scope of the F-IRB approach include those for which the Bank does not intend to put in place a rating model that meets the F-IRB criteria. These exposures include the Swiss National Bank, the Swiss Federal Government, Swiss cantonal governments, the Mortgage-Bond Bank of the Swiss Mortgage Institutions, the Central Mortgage-Bond Institution, some foreign bank and sovereign bond issuers, SMEs that do not have financial statements or that only have loans that are fully secured by cash, securities or a joint and several loan guarantee as described in Article 3 of the Covid-19 Joint and Several Loan Guarantee Ordinance, insurance companies, investment funds, counterparties with no loan agreement (i.e., for overdrafts), and exposures at the Bank's subsidiaries.

⁹Exposure at default (EAD) after applying credit conversion factors. Credit risk and counterparty credit risk excluding non-counterparty-related assets, credit valuation adjustments, and central counterparties. Categories defined by FINMA (Tables CR4 and CR7), also described in Section 8.3.2.

Table 6. Risk-weighted assets by approach applied

In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CRE

Category	Credit risk		Counterparty credit risk		Total
	F-IRB	SA-BIS	F-IRB	SA-BIS	
Central governments and central banks	-	100%	-	-	0
Banks and securities firms	59%	32%	9%	0%	736
Non-central govt. public-sector entities; multilateral development banks	51%	43%	1%	6%	601
Corporates	86%	13%	1%	0%	10,269
Retail	91%	9%	0%	0%	4,088
Total	84%	14%	1%	0%	15,694

4.2 Loans and debt securities

This section covers loans to customers and banks (excluding securities financing transactions and derivatives) and debt securities in the financial investments portfolio. These loans and debt securities correspond to the credit-risk exposure set out in FINMA Circular 2016/1 “Disclosure – banks.” Securities financing transactions (repo and reverse repo agreements) and derivatives are discussed in Section 4.3, “Counterparty credit risk.”

4.2.1 Portfolio quality

Most loans to customers are located in Vaud Canton (79%). They are composed primarily of on-balance-sheet exposure in the form of mortgage loans and various financing in the form of current accounts (e.g., loans for construction, operational, investment, or cash-management purposes).

Most of the exposure to banks and debt securities is in Switzerland (91%) but outside of Vaud Canton. These exposures mainly comprise cash held with the SNB, investments with the Central Mortgage-Bond Institution and the Mortgage-Bond Bank of the Swiss Mortgage Institutions, and exposures to other Swiss banks. Exposure in the European Union arises mainly from cash-management and trading transactions, whereas exposure in the rest of the world is a result of trade-finance activities.

Table 7. Credit-risk exposure by type of exposure and regionIn CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CRB¹⁰

Region	Exposure			Provisions and impairments		
	Total	Non- impaired	Impaired	Total	Non- impaired	Impaired
Customer loans	44,349	44,165	184	112	39	73
Vaud Canton	35,218	35,068	149	65	20	45
Rest of Switzerland	7,926	7,905	21	23	14	9
European Union and North America	266	266	0	2	2	0
Rest of world	939	926	13	22	4	18
Bank loans and debt securities	18,528	18,528	-	2	2	-
Vaud Canton	0	0	-	0	0	-
Rest of Switzerland	16,786	16,786	-	0	0	-
European Union and North America	1,122	1,122	-	0	0	-
Rest of world	619	619	-	2	2	-
Total	62,877	62,693	184	115	42	73

Table 8. Credit-risk exposure by risk segment

In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CRB

Risk segment	Exposure			Provisions and impairments		
	Total	Non- impaired	Impaired	Total	Non- impaired	Impaired
On- and off-balance- sheet exposure	57,742	57,558	184	115	42	73
Retail	12,821	12,785	36	11	4	7
Private banking	8,059	8,006	52	13	1	11
SMEs	5,789	5,724	65	34	8	26
Real-estate professionals	10,872	10,871	1	4	4	-
Large corporates	3,316	3,304	12	27	17	10
Public-sector entities	2,475	2,475	-	0	0	-
Trade finance	967	951	17	23	5	18
Banks	13,441	13,441	-	2	2	0
Debt securities	5,135	5,135	-	-	-	-
Total	62,877	62,693	184	115	42	73

¹⁰Tables 7 through 9 show exposure at default (EAD) before applying credit conversion factors. Non-counterparty-related assets are not included.

The Bank classifies counterparties into eight risk segments according to their type, main business, and extent of the banking relationship with BCV.¹¹

A large percentage of the Bank's exposure (33%) represents lending to retail and private banking customers in the form of mortgages and Lombard loans.

Companies account for 33% of total exposure, which is divided among SMEs, real-estate professionals, large corporates, and trade-finance counterparties.

Public-sector exposure mainly consists of limits granted to the Swiss Federal Government, municipalities, and the Vaud Cantonal Government.

Bank counterparties account for 21% of total exposure, comprised mostly of cash deposited with the SNB.

Debt securities account for 8% of total exposure and include investments with the Mortgage-Bond Bank of the Swiss Mortgage Institutions and the Central Mortgage-Bond Institution in the amount of CHF 3.2bn.

¹¹Risk segments are described in Section 8.3.2.

Table 9. Breakdown of exposure by residual contractual maturity

In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CRB

Category	< 1 yr	1-5 yrs	> 5 yrs	No maturity	Subsidiaries	Total Group
Central governments and central banks	364	68	397	12,337	273	13,440
Banks and securities firms	916	332	140	248	28	1,663
Non-central govt. public-sector entities; multilateral development banks	854	690	1,131	525	3	3,203
Corporates	5,255	2,230	2,982	11,645	1	22,113
Retail	1,014	378	122	19,992	952	22,458
Total	8,402	3,698	4,773	44,747	1,257	62,877

There is no contractual maturity date for repayment on 71% of the Bank's exposure. This is the case for cash held with the SNB, all mortgage loans, and some credit limits. Most mortgage loans are currently fixed-rate loans, which means there are maturity dates on which the loans can be renewed. At the maturity dates, most fixed-rate loans are renewed with new interest rates. For tax reasons, it is rare for clients residing in Switzerland to fully pay down their mortgage loan.

Table 10. Credit quality of assets

In CHF millions, BCV Group, at 31 December 2023, CR1

	a	b	c	d
	Gross carrying value of			
	Defaulted exposure	Non-defaulted exposure	Provisions and impairments	Net value
1 Loans (excl. debt securities)	169	50,885	102	50,952
2 Debt securities	-	5,135	-	5,135
3 Off-balance-sheet exposure	15	6,673	12	6,676
4 Total	184	62,693	115	62,762

Impaired or defaulted loans amounted to CHF 184m at 31 December 2023 and accounted for 0.3% of total exposure. A provision of CHF 73m was recognized for these loans; this represents an average provisioning rate of 40%, reflecting the high quality of the collateral provided on these loans. Provisions are determined individually for each defaulted loan, taking into account the liquidation value of collateral and the characteristics of the counterparty.

Non-impaired loans amounted to CHF 62.693bn. Provisions for inherent credit risks on those loans stood at CHF 42m. The provisions were calculated based on the 12-month expected loss for loans relating to B1 to B5 counterparties (CHF 25m at 31 December 2023) and on the expected loss at maturity for high-risk loans to counterparties "reputed to be in financial difficulty" (CHF 17m at 31 December 2023). Provisions for country risk (zero at 31 December 2023) cover non-defaulted exposure in countries where the financial or settlement risk rating is below a given threshold.

Table 11. Changes in the stock of defaulted loans and debt securities

In CHF millions, BCV Group, CR2

	a
	Defaulted loans
1 Defaulted loans and debt securities at end of previous reporting period	220
2 Loans and debt securities that have defaulted since the last reporting period	26
3 Amounts returned to non-defaulted status	41
4 Amounts written down or written off	3
5 Other changes	-18
6 Defaulted loans and debt securities at end of reporting period	184

Defaulted loans and debt securities decreased CHF 36m over the period, due to the closing out of several personal-banking and corporate loans in default. 89% of defaulted loans relate to counterparties that went into default in or after 2014.

4.2.2 Risk mitigation

The Bank seeks to appropriately secure its exposure through the use of collateral. Various types of collateral are recognized. They include:¹²

- Pledges on real estate (primarily mortgage deeds on various types of real estate);
- Pledges on financial assets (mainly cash and securities accounts);
- Guarantees (mainly loan guarantees and bank guarantees).

The valuation of collateral recognized by the Bank is based on the principle of market value, and is carried out as often as appropriate for the type of collateral. Pledges on real estate and financial assets are valued as follows:

- The valuation of pledged real estate is carried out using methods appropriate to the type of real estate: models are used for standard real estate like houses and apartments, while other types of properties, like hotels, are appraised. The frequency at which real estate is valued depends on the type of property, as do the standard loan-to-value ratios for the loans secured by this collateral.
- Securities portfolios and other financial assets pledged as collateral for Lombard loans are valued daily. Loan-to-value ratios are defined by type (shares, debt securities, fund units, fiduciary accounts, precious metals, or structured products), country of domicile, currency risk, the liquidity of the security, the counterparty's default risk, and the residual term for debt securities, together with portfolio diversification.

¹²BCV does not net out on- or off-balance-sheet items (except for securities financing transactions and derivatives, which are discussed in the "Counterparty credit risk" section).

Table 12. Credit-risk mitigation techniques – overview

In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CR3

	a	b1	b	d
	Exposures unsecured: carrying amount	Exposures secured	Exposures secured by collateral	Exposures secured by financial guarantees
1 Loans (excl. debt securities)	18,656	32,296	31,278	1,018
2 Debt securities	5,055	80	-	80
3 Total	23,711	32,376	31,278	1,098
4 Of which: defaulted	11	91	78	13

4.2.3 IRB approach

4.2.3.1 IRB approach (excluding specialized lending)

BCV obtained approval from FINMA to use the Basel Foundation IRB approach (F-IRB) to determine regulatory capital requirements for credit risk beginning on 1 January 2009.

Structure of IRB rating systems

The rating system for default risk is composed of a series of rating models. In all cases, the aim is to assess the one-year probability of default, in the form of an internal counterparty default rating. The following models are used for the categories for which the Bank obtained F-IRB approval (they are named after the population to which they apply):

- BCV staff (default probability pool);
- Private banking (default probability pool);
- Retail (default probability statistical scores);
- SMEs (several default probability statistical scores, depending on the nature of the client and the data available);
- Large corporates (expert default-probability scores);
- Banks (expert default-probability scores);
- Municipalities in Vaud Canton (expert default-probability scores).

The Bank has also defined and implemented a system of rules governing the transmission of internal ratings for counterparties that are related in terms of credit risk. The scores are accompanied by the analyst assessment rules.

All these models, with the exception of the rating model for bank counterparties, generate an estimate of the probability of default without using external ratings. When assessing default risk, the rating model used for bank counterparties takes into account, among other factors, the ratings issued by the main ratings agencies (Moody's, Fitch, and Standard & Poor's).

The Bank determined the scope of application of its models by grouping together similar counterparties; i.e., counterparties that could all default for related reasons and for which the Bank has a set of common data that can be used for modeling. The scope of its models matches these groups where they present a material, coherent risk.

Internal loss given default (LGD) and exposure at default (EAD) models are used to calculate regulatory capital requirements for retail portfolios.

LGD is the economic loss to the Bank if a counterparty defaults. The economic loss is calculated as the difference between the Bank's exposure to the counterparty at the time of default and the present value of all cash flows that the Bank stands to receive from the counterparty after its default. The Bank's internal LGD model factors in both the loss on the exposure and the workout costs. LGD is calculated by loan tranche, as each tranche is secured by different collateral (e.g., real estate, other securities, and guarantees); there may also be a portion not secured by collateral. Each tranche is given a loss rate. The LGD for the total loan is generally the weighted average of the loss rates for each tranche, including any unsecured tranches. The loss rates for each type of collateral are determined using data from a recessionary period in Vaud Canton (the early 1990s) to include the downturn characteristics required by regulators. A counterparty's LGD is separate from its probability of default (PD).

The credit conversion factors (CCFs) used for the Bank's internal EAD model are either calculated using a conservative approach (100% for undrawn credit limits) or based on prudential CCFs (contingent liabilities).

Use of ratings

In addition to being used to calculate regulatory capital requirements under the F-IRB approach, internal ratings are used for numerous purposes (in the front, middle, and back offices). Here are the main uses:

- Decision-making support when credit facilities and other commitments are granted or renewed;
- Defining lending authority and the intensity of monitoring;
- Setting risk-adjusted prices;
- Creating provisions;
- Monitoring the performance of business units;
- Analyzing risk on the lending book;
- Strategic planning.

The scope of application of certain models for internal needs goes significantly beyond the scope of the corresponding F-IRB approval. Internal LGD/EAD models are used to estimate the expected loss on most of the Bank's credit portfolios and not only on the retail portfolios. Furthermore, internal rating models for default risk are used for a number of portfolios for which the Bank does not intend to seek IRB approval.

Managing and integrating the reduction in credit risk

The principles used to recognize and value collateral are the same for the portfolios for which BCV has obtained F-IRB approval for calculating regulatory capital requirements as for the rest of its lending portfolio.

Rating system's control mechanism

The rating system's control mechanism obeys the principles of the Bank's internal control system. It is composed of three levels of internal oversight. The first two levels are under the responsibility of the Executive Board, while the third level falls under the Board of Directors:

- Level 1: operational and managerial oversight of business activities, in accordance with the chain of command.
- Level 2: monitoring the appropriateness and effectiveness of level 1 by independent entities.
- Level 3: periodic independent review of levels 1 and 2 by the Internal Audit Department.

For the rating models (PD, LGD, and EAD), or other models affecting the assessment of credit risk, three steps are defined. The objectives and responsibilities for each step are as follows:

Step 1: initial validation

Key components of the initial validation include monitoring the following: the logic of the design; the quality of the data; the selection of variables; the modeling process; the development of results; documentation; programming; and implementation.

Preparatory work for the initial validation is conducted by the units responsible for developing the models as part of their development and improvement work. Operational and managerial oversight of this work (level 1) is also done by these units.

The Validation of Rating Models unit, under the CFO's responsibility, challenges and monitors in both qualitative and quantitative terms the development and improvement work and the initial validation (level 2 oversight) and issues an opinion for the purposes of the initial validation by the Executive Board's Risk Management Committee (EBRMC).

The unit does this using documents drawn up by the unit responsible for developing the models, explaining the main choices made in the design process and describing the quantitative methods used and the results obtained. The documents also indicate the results expected from the models using a set of standardized indicators for explanatory power (for PD models) and indicators of the degree of prudence. The design document for each model is tailored to the type and complexity of the model in question (i.e., whether it is based on a statistical calculation or an expert assessment).

As part of its monitoring work, the Validation of Rating Models unit issues a report of this assessment and its conclusions.

The EBRMC is responsible for the initial validation of a new or improved model, and, by extension, for authorizing its implementation. It bases its validation decisions on reports from the unit responsible for developing the models that summarize the design documents, and on reports from the Validation of Rating Models unit that summarize the findings of the unit's independent assessment and include a recommendation for the initial validation.

Step 2: monitoring the use of models

This refers to the application of models in the Bank's credit and piloting processes.

For the credit process, analysts from the Credit Management Division and the front office are responsible for using the models and thus for calculating the estimators produced by the models. Analysts and the front office are also responsible for ensuring that the estimators are appropriately used in the context of credit decisions (decisions to grant credit as well as pricing decisions). These activities are subject to operational and managerial oversight which is defined by the analysts and the front office (level 1).

For piloting needs, various departments use the estimators produced by these models in the lending process. The Risk Management Department in particular uses rating models to analyze and monitor risk on the loan book and to calculate capital requirements.

Step 3: ongoing validation

Key components of ongoing validation include ensuring appropriate use of the models and compliance with structural and design-related hypotheses, and backtesting performance (precision and discriminating capacity).

Preparatory work for ongoing validation is conducted by the units responsible for developing the models. These units also propose any necessary measures to be taken in response to the results obtained. Operational and managerial oversight of this work (level 1) is carried out by these units.

As during the initial validation, the Validation of Rating Models unit, under the supervision and responsibility of the CFO, challenges and monitors in both qualitative and quantitative terms the ongoing validation (level 2) and issues an opinion on the results of the ongoing validation and the measures proposed, for ongoing validation by the EBRMC.

The unit does this using documents drawn up by the unit responsible for developing the models that describe all the models and characterize their results using a set of standardized indicators for explanatory power (for PD models) and indicators of the degree of prudence.

As part of its monitoring work, the Validation of Rating Models unit issues a report of this assessment and its conclusions.

The EBRMC is responsible for the ongoing validation of a model and for possible measures to be taken in this regard. It is therefore responsible for authorizing a model's continued use, including constraints and measures to be taken. It bases its validation decisions on reports from the unit responsible for developing the models that summarize the ongoing-validation documents, and on reports from the Validation of Rating Models unit that summarize the findings of the unit's independent assessment and include a recommendation for the ongoing validation.

Operational principle behind model validation

The core principle underlying the activities of the Validation of Rating Models unit is "close, but independent." Proximity is achieved by involving the unit in the entire process, starting with the initial steps taken by the design teams, both through regular support and regular discussions. Independence is achieved through the use of operational principles overseen by the EBRMC itself.

Table 13. IRB – Credit-risk exposure by portfolio and PD range

In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CR6

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
PD range	On-balance-sheet exposure	Off-balance-sheet exposure	Average CCF	EAD post-CRM and post-CCF	Average PD	Number of obligors	Average LGD	Average maturity	RWA	RWA density	EL	Provisions
3 Banks and securities firms (F-IRB)												
0.00 to <0.15	419	188	24%	464	0.04%	107	45%	2.42	104	22%	0	
0.15 to <0.25	2	28	20%	7	0.21%	13	45%	1.00	3	44%	0	
0.25 to <0.50	20	21	20%	24	0.37%	5	45%	1.00	15	62%	0	
0.50 to <0.75	15	12	59%	22	0.57%	6	45%	1.00	17	77%	0	
0.75 to <2.50	12	31	23%	19	0.99%	10	45%	1.00	18	98%	0	
2.50 to <10.00	125	82	33%	152	6.41%	39	45%	1.00	278	183%	4	
10.00 to <100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
100.00 (default)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sub-total	593	362	26%	688	1.50%	180	45%	1.95	435	63%	5	2
5 Non-central gov. public-sector entities; multilateral development banks (F-IRB)												
0.00 to <0.15	980	373	0%	960	0.06%	232	45%	3.59	282	29%	0	
0.15 to <0.25	33	20	-	32	0.21%	9	45%	3.72	19	60%	0	
0.25 to <0.50	7	4	-	7	0.37%	3	45%	4.90	6	92%	0	
0.50 to <0.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
0.75 to <2.50	1	1	-	1	1.22%	2	45%	4.19	1	128%	0	
2.50 to <10.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
10.00 to <100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
100.00 (default)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sub-total	1,021	399	0%	1,000	0.07%	246	45%	3.60	309	31%	0	0
9 Corporates - other lending (F-IRB)												
0.00 to <0.15	1,990	1,396	31%	2,421	0.09%	357	44%	2.32	662	27%	1	
0.15 to <0.25	573	238	22%	623	0.21%	126	44%	2.15	277	45%	1	
0.25 to <0.50	513	219	36%	590	0.37%	129	44%	2.12	350	59%	1	
0.50 to <0.75	254	138	21%	282	0.57%	80	44%	2.19	210	74%	1	
0.75 to <2.50	807	284	29%	886	1.28%	199	44%	2.33	866	98%	5	
2.50 to <10.00	79	9	26%	81	4.94%	22	43%	1.75	113	138%	2	
10.00 to <100.00	14	1	-	14	21.00%	5	45%	1.71	34	239%	1	
100.00 (default)	36	5	5%	36	100.00%	12	-	2.43	14	39%	23	
Sub-total	4,266	2,290	30%	4,934	0.52%	930	44%	2.25	2,526	51%	34	33

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l
PD range	On-balance-sheet exposure	Off-balance-sheet exposure	Average CCF	EAD post-CRM and post-CCF	Average PD	Number of obligors	Average LGD	Average maturity	RWA	RWA density	EL	Provisions
11 Mortgage-backed retail exposure												
0.00 to <0.15	9,485	65	100%	9,550	0.10%	18,833	13%	2.50	552	6%	1	
0.15 to <0.25	4,584	31	100%	4,615	0.21%	6,551	16%	2.51	605	13%	2	
0.25 to <0.50	2,824	33	100%	2,858	0.37%	3,559	19%	2.51	682	24%	2	
0.50 to <0.75	857	18	100%	875	0.57%	1,144	20%	2.52	284	32%	1	
0.75 to <2.50	1,574	31	99%	1,604	1.33%	2,041	19%	2.49	831	52%	4	
2.50 to <10.00	284	5	98%	289	5.16%	300	19%	2.51	348	121%	3	
10.00 to <100.00	15	0	61%	15	21.00%	21	21%	2.50	31	205%	1	
100.00 (default)	69	0	100%	70	100.00%	63	-	2.49	73	104%	1	
Sub-total	19,692	183	100%	19,875	0.37%	32,512	15%	2.50	3,406	17%	14	4
13 Other retail exposure												
0.00 to <0.15	360	417	99%	772	0.11%	1,881	27%	1.45	64	8%	0	
0.15 to <0.25	51	64	94%	111	0.21%	748	60%	1.88	33	30%	0	
0.25 to <0.50	25	34	96%	58	0.37%	348	82%	1.54	35	60%	0	
0.50 to <0.75	20	21	92%	39	0.57%	179	82%	1.65	30	78%	0	
0.75 to <2.50	54	66	94%	117	1.33%	526	70%	1.58	110	94%	1	
2.50 to <10.00	20	5	100%	24	5.93%	103	46%	2.70	20	83%	1	
10.00 to <100.00	3	1	99%	4	21.00%	29	60%	2.28	6	168%	0	
100.00 (default)	12	1	95%	14	100.00%	78	-	2.37	4	27%	10	
Sub-total	545	608	97%	1,137	0.47%	3,892	40%	1.56	301	26%	13	12
Total	26,117	3,842	40%	27,635	0.42%	37,761	23%	2.44	6,977	25%	67	52

In Tables 13 and 15, the average PD and average LGD subtotals do not include defaulted exposure. In the "Mortgage-backed retail exposure" category in Table 13, risk-weighted assets relating to residential mortgage loans to personal banking clients were calculated using an IRB multiplier of 1.9, pursuant to a ruling by FINMA. In categories 9, 11 and 13 in Tables 13 and 15, risk-weighted assets relating to SME counterparties rated using the latest approved models were calculated using an IRB multiplier of 1.165, pursuant to FINMA's decision.

The segmentation of the Bank's default rating system into groups of counterparties is adapted to the Bank's risk management needs and to its business activities. Within the Bank, both the initial and ongoing model validations are conducted according to these groups. The validation process is distinct from the exposure categorization set forth under Basel III.

The "Banks and securities firms (F-IRB)" portfolio is covered by the bank rating model. The "Non-central government public-sector entities; multilateral development banks (F-IRB)" portfolio is covered by the rating model for Vaud municipalities. The "Corporates – other lending (F-IRB)" portfolio is covered by three rating models (for large corporates, SMEs, and joint and several co-debtors). The "Mortgage-backed retail exposure" portfolio is covered by three rating models (one for retail customers, one for BCV employees, and one for private banking clients). The "Other retail exposure" portfolio is covered by four rating models (one for retail customers, one for BCV employees, one for private banking clients, and one for SMEs).

Table 14. RWA flow statements of credit-risk exposure
In CHF millions, BCV Group, CR8

	a
	RWA amount
1 RWA at end of previous reporting period	7,030
2 Asset size	+41
3 Asset quality	-82
4 Model updates	0
5 Methodology and policy	0
6 Acquisitions and disposals	0
7 Foreign exchange movements	-12
8 Other	0
9 RWA at end of reporting period	6,977

The amount of risk-weighted assets determined using the IRB approach (excluding specialized lending) decreased by around CHF 50m in the second half of 2023, mainly due to a decline in interbank exposures.

Table 15. IRB – Backtesting of PD per portfolio

In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CR9

a	b	d	e	f	g	h	i	j
PD range	Weighted average PD	Arithmetic average PD by obligors	Number of obligors		Defaulted obligors in the year	Of which: new defaulted obligors in the year	Average historical annual default rate, 2010-2023	
			End of previous year	End of year				
3 Banks and securities firms (F-IRB)								
0.00 to <0.07	0.03%	0.04%	87	102	-	-	-	
0.07 to <0.28	0.15%	0.18%	16	18	-	-	-	
0.28 to <1.44	0.62%	0.73%	30	21	-	-	-	
1.44 to <4.30	3.41%	3.41%	15	8	-	-	-	
4.30 to <8.99	7.08%	7.08%	20	31	-	-	-	
8.99 to <100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
100.00 (default)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sub-total	1.50%	1.50%	168	180	-	-	-	
5 Non-central govt. public-sector entities; multilateral development banks (F-IRB)								
0.00 to <0.07	0.05%	0.05%	197	207	-	-	-	
0.07 to <0.28	0.13%	0.14%	41	34	-	-	-	
0.28 to <1.44	0.43%	0.64%	8	5	-	-	-	
1.44 to <4.30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
4.30 to <8.99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
8.99 to <100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
100.00 (default)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sub-total	0.07%	0.07%	246	246	-	-	-	
9 Corporates – other lending (F-IRB)								
0.00 to <0.07	0.05%	0.05%	58	60	-	-	-	
0.07 to <0.28	0.14%	0.14%	417	423	-	-	0.03%	
0.28 to <1.44	0.69%	0.69%	327	347	3	-	0.16%	
1.44 to <4.30	2.19%	2.14%	87	70	1	-	1.89%	
4.30 to <8.99	5.92%	5.96%	18	14	1	-	8.02%	
8.99 to <100.00	21.00%	21.00%	6	5	1	-	21.84%	
100.00 (default)	100.00%	100.00%	13	12	-	-	-	
Sub-total	0.52%	0.69%	926	930	6	-	0.58%	

a	b	d	e	f		g	h	i	j
PD range	Weighted average PD	Arithmetic average PD by obligors	Number of obligors		Defaulted obligors in the year	Of which: new defaulted obligors in the year	Average historical annual default rate, 2010-2023		
			End of previous year	End of year					
11 Mortgage-backed retail exposure									
0.00 to <0.07	0.05%	0.05%	6,700	7,014	4	-	0.05%		
0.07 to <0.28	0.15%	0.15%	17,944	18,370	16	-	0.07%		
0.28 to <1.44	0.55%	0.55%	6,657	6,100	15	-	0.23%		
1.44 to <4.30	2.28%	2.25%	874	785	7	-	1.02%		
4.30 to <8.99	6.49%	6.43%	177	158	9	-	3.94%		
8.99 to <100.00	21.00%	21.00%	32	21	4	-	14.56%		
100.00 (default)	100.00%	100.00%	54	63	-	-	-		
Sub-total	0.37%	0.30%	32,437	32,512	54	-	0.18%		
13 Other retail exposure									
0.00 to <0.07	0.05%	0.05%	58	68	-	-	0.27%		
0.07 to <0.28	0.12%	0.14%	2,519	2,561	6	-	0.15%		
0.28 to <1.44	0.71%	0.65%	856	837	14	-	0.66%		
1.44 to <4.30	2.16%	2.22%	300	264	12	-	2.36%		
4.30 to <8.99	6.86%	6.22%	58	54	4	-	6.41%		
8.99 to <100.00	21.00%	21.00%	42	29	8	-	19.75%		
100.00 (default)	100.00%	100.00%	255	78	-	-	-		
Sub-total	0.47%	0.64%	4,088	3,892	43	-	0.95%		
Total	0.42%	0.34%	37,865	37,761	103	-	0.30%		

Internal rating	PD range	External rating equivalent
B1	0.00 to <0.07	AAA/Aaa to A-/A3
B2	0.07 to <0.28	BBB+/Baa1 to BBB/Baa2
B3	0.28 to <1.44	BBB-/Baa3 to BB-/Ba3
B4	1.44 to <4.30	B+/B1
B5	4.30 to <8.99	B/B2 to B-/B3
B6	8.99 to <100.00	CCC+/Caa1 to C/C
B7	100.00 (default)	D

Within the IRB scope, the average number of defaults in the period analyzed (2010 to 2023) was lower than the expected number based on the PD rating models. The difference is mainly due to the conservative nature of the models and to general economic growth during the period.

4.2.3.2 Slotting approach for specialized lending

The Bank uses slotting criteria for the financing of income-producing real estate (real-estate professionals) and for commodities financing (trade finance). For these two categories, FINMA has authorized BCV to assign preferential risk weights to “strong” and “good” exposures (Basel III Accord, Chapter CRE33.4).

For real-estate professionals (except real-estate development), the slots are determined on the basis of the probability of default (PD), loss given default (LGD), and exposure at default (EAD) models that are internally applied to each credit exposure in the real-estate professionals category. A specific mechanism used to calculate capital requirements has been set up to determine the PD of real-estate professionals in order to reduce the sensitivity of regulatory capital to the business cycle.

For real-estate development projects intended for sale, a slot is allocated directly to each credit exposure without applying the PD, LGD, and EAD models used for other exposures in the real-estate professionals category. A similar direct slotting system is in place for trade finance transactions.

These slotting systems meet the supervisory slotting criteria for specialized lending in Chapter CRE33 of the Basel III Accord.

Table 16. IRB – Specialized lending under the simple risk-weight method

In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CR10¹³

Regulatory category	On-balance-sheet amount	Off-balance-sheet amount	RW	Exposure amount			RWA	Expected loss
				CF	IPRE	Total		
Strong	6,628	639	50%	397	6,477	6,875	3,644	0
Good	2,765	340	70%	462	2,505	2,967	2,206	12
Satisfactory	298	49	115%	91	244	334	408	9
Weak	4	-	250%	0	4	4	10	0
Default	11	7	-	17	1	18	1	9
Total	9,705	1,035		967	9,230	10,198	6,268	31

Lending to real-estate professionals under the slotting criteria method amounted to CHF 9.230bn at 31 December 2023, up by around CHF 400m from 30 June 2023. The vast majority (97%) of the Bank’s real-estate exposure is in the “strong” and “good” slots. This is because this exposure is mainly associated with financing for real-estate investors that is adequately secured by property.

The Bank’s trade-finance exposure fell by CHF 184m in the second half of 2023. 89% of trade-finance transactions are in the “strong” and “good” slots, as they are secured by recognized collateral (especially cash and merchandise).

¹³Table CR10 of the Basel III Accord (Chapter DIS40) covers specialized lending and equities under the simple risk-weight method. In this report, specialized lending is covered in this table while equities are covered in Table 24 (in Section 5.2, “Risk on equity securities in the banking book”). This table does not include remaining maturities since preferential weights have been applied.

4.2.4 Standardized Approach

FINMA defines the risk weightings to be applied for exposure treated using the SA-BIS by type of counterparty (CAO, Annex 2). In this case, FINMA authorizes the use of external ratings (CAO, Article 64) provided that:

1. The ratings are supplied by ratings agencies recognized by FINMA.
2. External ratings are applied systematically by the Bank using a precise and specific approach.
3. Where the Bank uses external ratings to determine the risk weightings for a category of positions, the entire category must in principle be weighted through the use of external ratings.

The Bank uses, where available, Standard & Poor's ratings to determine the risk weightings of almost all counterparties for which the SA-BIS is applied. These counterparties are essentially counterparties for debt securities in the financial investments portfolio. For corporate clients with no external rating, a weighting of 100% ("no rating") is used.

Corporate clients make up 22% of the portfolio that is assessed using the SA-BIS. This category includes bonds from the Central Mortgage-Bond Institution and the Mortgage-Bond Bank of the Swiss Mortgage Institutions (weighting of 20%), commercial loans that are outside the scope of the parent company's F-IRB approach (i.e., SMEs that do not have financial statements or that only have loans that are secured by cash, securities or a joint and several loan guarantee as described in Article 3 of the Covid-19 Joint and Several Loan Guarantee Ordinance, insurance companies, and investment funds), and corporate exposures at the Bank's subsidiaries.

The category "Central governments and central banks" consists primarily of exposure to the SNB (weighting of 0%) and the Swiss Federal Government (weighting of 0%).

Table 17. Standardized Approach – Credit-risk exposure and credit-risk mitigation (CRM) effectsIn CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CR4¹⁴

Category	a		b		c		d	e	f
	Exposure before CCF and CRM		Exposure post-CCF and post-CRM						
	On-balance-sheet amount	Off-balance-sheet amount	On-balance-sheet amount	Off-balance-sheet amount			RWA	RWA density	
1 Central governments and central banks	13,430	9	13,430	7			0	0%	
2 Banks and securities firms	518	191	518	94			233	38%	
3 Non-central govt. public-sector entities; multilateral development banks	1,217	565	1,148	2			256	22%	
4 Corporates	4,177	623	4,119	19			1,376	33%	
5 Retail	989	421	989	40			376	36%	
8 Total	20,331	1,809	20,205	161			2,240	11%	

The impact of risk mitigation measures is low in the scope of the SA-BIS. This is due to the predominance of exposure to the SNB, the Central Mortgage-Bond Institution, the Mortgage-Bond Bank of the Swiss Mortgage Institutions, and the Swiss federal and cantonal governments, which are generally not secured by financial guarantees. The Bank recognizes the Export Risk Guarantees provided by the Swiss Export Risk Insurance (SERV) program. The amount covered by these guarantees is less than CHF 5m.

¹⁴Equities (row 6 in the FINMA table) are not included in this table because they are covered in Table 16 (IRB).

Table 18. Standardized Approach – Exposure by asset class and risk weightIn CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CR5¹⁵

	a	c	d	e	f	g	h	j
Category/Risk weight	0%	20%	35%	50%	75%	100%	150%	Total credit exposure post-CCF and post-CRM
1 Central governments and central banks	13,436	-	-	-	-	0	-	13,436
2 Banks and securities firms	-	462	-	22	-	128	-	612
3 Non-central govt. public-sector entities; multilateral development banks	-	1,065	-	85	-	-	-	1,150
4 Corporates	-	3,389	74	-	6	669	-	4,138
5 Retail	5	-	580	-	134	310	0	1,030
7 Other assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8 Total	13,442	4,917	653	107	140	1,108	0	20,366
9 Of which: secured by residential property	-	-	653	-	18	13	-	684
10 Of which: past-due loans	5	-	-	-	0	4	-	10

¹⁵Past-due loans with a 0% risk weight (column a, row 10) are past-due loans to counterparties that are guaranteed by a central government; the risk weight for central governments is applied to these loans in accordance with the substitution approach.

4.3 Counterparty credit risk

The Bank's counterparty credit risk (CCR) exposure includes securities financing transactions and derivative transactions. The framework for such exposure is set forth in the RMPS as well as in a BCV directive on collateralized contracts, which addresses governance, risk-taking limits, collateral eligibility, monitoring, and reporting.

Securities financing transactions (SFTs)

The majority of the Bank's SFTs are repo and reverse repo agreements. The Bank also began conducting securities borrowing transactions in 2017, but this is a marginal activity.

The Bank uses repo and reverse repo agreements to manage liquidity. These agreements are processed using a triparty system in which the triparty agent (SIX or Euroclear) is responsible for clearing. Throughout the lifetime of a repurchase agreement, the triparty agent carries out margin calls at least once per day to account for any change in the market value of the securities and any thresholds, and directly carries out any necessary transfers using securities or cash held with the triparty agent.

The Bank's repo and reverse repo agreements are based on standard contracts such as the GMRA or the Swiss Master Agreement for Repo Trades. Collateral eligibility is determined by SIX when it is the triparty agent (SNB basket) or agreed upon by the counterparties when Euroclear is the triparty agent. Collateral must meet the eligibility criteria set forth in the BCV directive (e.g., be a readily marketable stock, a bond with a rating of at least BBB- or equivalent, or a security independent of the counterparty's solvency).

SFT counterparties are banks, insurance companies, and large corporates. Limits are granted according to the lending process and lending authority described in Section 4.1. They are monitored daily on an individual basis. The Bank monitors the quality of securities received daily as collateral using a portfolio approach, with particular attention paid to risk concentration.

When calculating capital requirements, the Bank's exposure is determined using the comprehensive approach (CAO, Article 62.1(b)). Capital requirements are determined using the IRB or SA-BIS approach depending on the type of counterparty.

Non-centrally cleared OTC derivatives

Limits for OTC derivatives (including forward contracts) that are not centrally cleared (cleared bilaterally) are mainly granted to bank counterparties in order to carry out trading operations and interest-rate-risk hedging transactions. They are also granted to companies or public-sector entities so that they can hedge typically against exchange-rate and interest-rate risk.

These limits are granted according to the lending process and lending authority described in Section 4.1. They are monitored daily on an individual basis.

In principle, the Bank handles OTC derivative transactions only on the basis of ISDA netting agreements or an equivalent agreement. For its main bank counterparties in terms of pre-settlement exposure, the Bank takes the necessary measures to ensure that OTC derivative transactions can be carried out in accordance with a credit support annex (CSA) for collateral management. Alternatively, blocked cash deposits can be set up as a risk mitigant for OTC derivative exposure.

Credit-risk exposure is measured according to the principle of "positive mark-to-market value plus add-on." The add-on is determined by type of underlying and by maturity, on the basis of internal models. These models are based on the SA-CCR but are slightly more conservative. Where the Bank has entered into an ISDA netting agreement with the counterparty, contracts with negative mark-to-market values can be taken into account to reduce credit-risk exposure. Where the Bank has entered into a CSA collateral management agreement with the counterparty, credit-risk exposure is determined according to the same principle, taking into account the amount of the cash collateral and based on a reduced add-on, in order to take into consideration the frequency of revaluation and the option to make margin calls.

When calculating capital requirements, the Bank's derivatives exposure is determined according to the SA-CCR (as specified in FINMA Circular 2017/7, "Credit risk – banks," margin number 32 *et seq.*), taking account of netting and collateral management agreements. Capital requirements are determined according to the appropriate approach (IRB or SA-BIS), which since 1 January 2013 includes the credit valuation adjustment (CVA).

Table 19. IRB – CCR exposure by portfolio and PD range
In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CCR4¹⁶

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
PD range	EAD post-CRM	Average PD	Number of obligors	Average LGD	Average maturity	RWA	RWA density
3 Banks and securities firms (F-IRB)							
0.00 to <0.15	597	0.04%	68	45%	0.60	66	11%
0.15 to <0.25	2	0.21%	5	45%	0.29	1	35%
0.25 to <0.50	2	0.37%	2	45%	1.20	2	65%
0.50 to <0.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
0.75 to <2.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.50 to <10.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.00 to <100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
100.00 (default)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sub-total	602	0.04%	75	45%	0.60	68	11%
9 Corporates - other lending (F-IRB)							
0.00 to <0.15	69	0.06%	19	45%	0.88	9	13%
0.15 to <0.25	49	0.21%	6	45%	1.34	18	36%
0.25 to <0.50	19	0.37%	9	45%	0.87	9	45%
0.50 to <0.75	1	0.57%	4	45%	0.39	0	58%
0.75 to <2.50	6	1.12%	8	45%	1.82	5	91%
2.50 to <10.00	0	6.43%	1	45%	0.08	0	140%
10.00 to <100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
100.00 (default)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sub-total	144	0.21%	47	45%	1.07	42	29%
13 Other retail exposure							
0.00 to <0.15	14	0.11%	21	32%	0.97	1	9%
0.15 to <0.25	0	0.21%	4	96%	0.48	0	50%
0.25 to <0.50	1	0.37%	43	96%	0.32	0	65%
0.50 to <0.75	0	0.57%	5	98%	0.46	0	94%
0.75 to <2.50	0	1.94%	10	98%	0.48	1	139%
2.50 to <10.00	0	3.41%	1	98%	0.47	0	172%
10.00 to <100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
100.00 (default)	-	-	0	-	-	-	-
Sub-total	16	0.21%	84	41%	0.90	3	20%
Total	786	0.08%	208	45%	0.71	116	15%

¹⁶The following portfolio is not shown in the table because it does not have a material amount of RWA: "Non-central government public-sector entities; multilateral development banks" (RWA of CHF 3m).

Table 20. Standardized Approach – CCR exposure by regulatory portfolio and risk weight
In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CCR3

Category	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i
	Risk weight								Total credit exposure
	0%	10%	20%	50%	75%	100%	150%	Other	
1 Central governments and central banks	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80
2 Banks and securities firms	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	0
3 Non-central gov't. public-sector entities; multilateral development banks	-	-	-	67	-	-	-	-	67
4 Corporates	-	-	-	-	-	39	-	-	39
5 Retail	0	-	-	-	1	2	0	-	3
6 Equity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7 Other assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9 Total	81	-	-	67	1	41	0	-	189

Counterparty-credit-risk exposure determined using the Standardized Approach consists of derivative positions and repo agreements with supranational institutions, insurance companies and investment funds.

Table 21. Composition of collateral for CCR exposure
In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CCR5¹⁷

	a	b	c	d	e	f
	Collateral used in derivative transactions				Collateral used in SFTs	
	Fair value of collateral received		Fair value of posted collateral		Fair value of collateral received	Fair value of posted collateral
Type of collateral	Segregated	Non-segregated	Segregated	Non-segregated		
1 Cash in CHF	-	357	-	12	3,153	-
2 Cash in other currencies	-	145	-	164	474	-
3 Swiss sovereign debt	-	-	-	44	3	544
4 Other sovereign debt	-	-	-	-	1	61
5 Government agency debt	-	-	407	66	3	2,409
6 Corporate bonds	-	-	45	21	3	818
7 Equity securities	-	-	-	-	-	-
8 Other collateral	-	-	-	-	7	92
9 Total	-	502	452	307	3,644	3,925

¹⁷This table includes collateral received and posted for securities financing transactions (SFTs) and derivative transactions. It does not include collateral posted to central banks and other institutions that form part of the financial market infrastructure for the purposes of securing credit lines and payment and settlement transactions.

Centrally cleared derivatives

Centrally cleared derivatives include exchange-traded derivatives (ETDs) and OTC derivatives cleared by a central counterparty.

Exchange-traded derivatives whose settlement is guaranteed by a central counterparty (see Table 22, row 4) mainly relate to transactions on behalf of clients (investment funds, banks, companies, and individuals). Nostro positions make up a small portion of the total exposure to central counterparties. The contracts traded are mainly options and futures on equities and major indexes. The major organized markets are Eurex, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, and LIFFE.

OTC derivatives cleared by a central counterparty are interest-rate swaps used to manage the Bank's interest-rate risk and cleared by Eurex (see Table 22, row 3).

The Bank's exposure to central counterparties results from derivative positions, initial margins, variation margins, and default fund contributions. For derivatives, the exposure is determined according to the SA-CCR (as specified in FINMA Circular 2017/7, "Credit risk – banks," margin number 32 *et seq.*); other exposures are determined using the comprehensive approach (as specified in FINMA Circular 2017/7, "Credit risk – banks," margin number 191 *et seq.*). This type of exposure is subject to a credit limit if it gives rise to credit risk for the Bank.

Capital requirements for these positions have been calculated since Basel III came into force on 1 January 2013.

Table 22. Exposure to central counterparties (CCPs)

In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CCR8

	a	b
	EAD post-CRM	RWA
1 Total exposure to qualified central counterparties (QCCPs)		53
2 Exposure for trades at QCCPs (excl. initial margin and default fund contributions)	342	39
3 Of which: OTC derivatives	283	6
4 Of which: exchange-traded derivatives	59	33
7 Segregated initial margin	584	
8 Non-segregated initial margin	16	3
9 Pre-funded default fund contributions	86	11

5. MARKET RISK

5.1 Market risk in the trading book

Strategy and process

All trading activities are managed within the Asset Management & Trading Division. A distinction is made between the trading portfolio, which includes all the trading teams' positions, and the financial management nostro portfolio, which is composed of the nostro positions managed by the Asset Management Department.

The Trading Department carries out market transactions in equities, fixed-income instruments, forex, and precious metals on behalf of internal and external counterparties. It has also acquired expertise in structured products. The Trading Department is active along the entire structured product value chain, from issuing to market-making. Since BCV completely withdrew from proprietary equity-derivative trading at the end of 2009, the Trading Department has focused primarily on customer-driven transactions.

The Asset Management Department is responsible for the financial management nostro portfolio. While this portfolio used to focus on providing a return, it was given a new role under the Bank's strategy and significantly reduced in 2009 and early 2010. It is now used to assist in the creation of new Asset Management funds, while keeping risk-taking to a minimum. This portfolio may be invested in stocks, bonds, simple derivatives, structured products, funds, and funds of funds. All of these positions (apart from those in funds and funds of funds) are on recognized exchanges or representative markets.

Structure and organization

All new Asset Management & Trading products and instruments must be approved by the Division's Product and Instrument Committee (PIC). This committee is chaired by the Executive Board member in charge of the Asset Management & Trading Division and includes the Division's department heads, the head of the Risk Management Department (right of veto), and the head of the Back Office Department (right of veto). The process ensures that before a product is launched, all requirements have been met in the areas of risk management, ALM, treasury management, back offices, legal, compliance, tax, and IT.

For all trading positions, the overnight monitoring of market risk is under the responsibility of the Market Risk Unit within the Risk Management Department. The Market Risk Unit also defines the risk control measures and monitors the appropriateness of risk control for new trading products.

Risk assessment

Various techniques are used to measure risk exposure on the Asset Management & Trading Division's trading portfolio:

- Historical overnight Value-at-Risk (VaR) with a one-day time horizon and a confidence level of 99%;
- Analysis of potential losses using static stress tests;
- Sensitivity metrics such as delta, gamma, vega, theta, and rho.

Limit utilization is controlled and reported daily by the Market Risk Unit.

Various techniques are used to measure risk in the Asset Management & Trading Division's financial management nostro portfolio:

- Historical VaR with a six-month time horizon and a confidence level of 99%;
- Analysis of potential losses using static stress tests and dynamic six-month stress tests.

Market-risk-weighted assets correspond to the minimum capital requirements multiplied by 12.5. Minimum capital requirements for market risk on BCV's trading book are determined based on market values (mark-to-market) and in accordance with the Standardized Approach (CAO, Article 84) without the use of in-house models. For options trading, the calculation is based on the delta-plus method: the market value of the underlying is multiplied by the delta for the options positions. This method also takes gamma and vega into account. Hedge-fund positions in the financial management nostro portfolio are not included in the capital-requirement calculations for the trading book. Instead, these positions are included in the Bank's financial investment portfolio and treated as equity securities.

Assets weighted for interest-rate risk accounted for the largest portion of risk-weighted assets at 31 December 2023. Of these assets, the largest portion was made up of currency swaps for customer-driven forex trading. Assets weighted for equity risk result from remaining positions held as part of the Bank's structured products business, from the Bank's role as market maker for real-estate investment funds, and from nostro positions managed by the Asset Management Department.

Table 23. Market risk under the Standardized Approach (SA)

In CHF millions, BCV Group, MR1

	a	a-1
	RWA	
	31/12/2023	30/6/2023
Outright products	139	91
1 Interest-rate risk (general and specific)	113	61
2 Equity risk (general and specific)	18	22
3 Foreign-exchange risk	8	7
4 Commodity risk	-	-
Options	3	8
5 Simplified approach	-	-
6 Delta-plus method	3	8
7 Scenario approach	-	-
8 Securitization	-	-
9 Total	141	98

5.2 Risk on equity securities in the banking book

Equity securities in the banking book are recorded on the balance sheet in the line items Financial investments and Non-consolidated holdings.

Strategy and processes

Financial investments are composed of strategic holdings with a long time horizon that are acquired in accordance with the Bank's strategy. The Bank defined an upper limit of CHF 200m for these equity securities and, in principle, does not invest directly in private-equity positions.

The authority to acquire and change long-term holdings is held by the Executive Board for holdings of up to CHF 20m and the Board of Directors for larger amounts. The Board of Directors has responsibility for setting up and selling subsidiaries.

Risk assessment

Equity securities included in Financial investments are mainly listed or unlisted shares and fund units that are not held for trading purposes or for long-term investment. They are valued at lower of cost or market.

The "Non-consolidated holdings" line item comprises corporate equity securities, which are held as long-term investments irrespective of voting rights. It also includes the Group's infrastructure-related holdings, particularly joint ventures. They are stated at cost, less any required impairment. The Group's main non-consolidated holdings at 31 December 2023 were investments in financial companies (a 13.6% stake in the Swiss Central Mortgage-Bond Institution, a 4.8% stake in Viseca Payment Services SA, a 3.2% stake in TWINT, and a 2.5% stake in SIX).

Capital requirements are determined for both equity securities recorded under Financial investments and those entered under Non-consolidated holdings. A 250% risk weighting is applied to shareholdings of more than 10% in financial companies (below threshold 3 under Article 40 of the CAO), while the simple risk-weight method is applied to all other equity securities included in Financial investments and Non-consolidated holdings.

Table 24. IRB – Equities under the simple risk-weight method

In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, CR10¹⁸

Regulatory category	RW	Exposure amount	RWA
Exchange-traded equity exposure	300%	10	31
Other equity exposure	400%	21	91
Total		31	121

¹⁸Table CR10 in the Basel III Accord (Chapter DIS40) covers specialized lending and equities under the simple risk-weight method. In this report, equities are covered in this table while specialized lending is covered in Table 16 (in Section 4.2.3.2, "Slotting approach for specialized lending").

5.3 Interest-rate risk in the banking book

5.3.1 Management of interest-rate risk in the banking book

Interest-rate risk in the banking book (IRRBB) is defined here as the potential loss in the Bank's net interest income (NII) or economic value of equity (EVE) arising from the effects that an adverse change in interest rates could have on the Bank's banking-book positions (on- and off-balance sheet).

The main IRRBB risk factors for the Bank are:

- Instantaneous and progressive changes in the yield curve;
- Changes in customer behavior, including customer allocation among different financial instruments.

The Bank's IRRBB exposure is of three types:

- Gap risk – Mismatches within the term structure of banking-book positions (i.e., among volumes and repricing maturities) for the assets, liabilities, and off-balance-sheet positions in the Bank's banking book;
- Behavioral option risk – Positions, especially non-maturity deposits, that could be affected by competitive pricing practices or changes in customer behavior;
- Basis risk – The risk arising from an imperfect correlation in the adjustment of rates earned and paid on different instruments with otherwise similar rate-change characteristics.

Strategy and processes

The Board of Directors establishes the Bank's principles for managing risk and decides on the risk-taking strategy it will pursue, which includes the target profile for IRRBB. This target profile is defined in the Bank's Financial Strategy and reviewed annually as part of its Financial Management Policy (FMP). The target profile is defined within limits that are expressed in the form of equity duration. Those limits are approved by the Board of Directors.

Structure and organization

The Executive Board is responsible for organizing and implementing IRRBB management. The Executive Board delegates management of this type of risk to its Asset and Liability Management Committee (ALCO). This committee meets monthly. It is chaired by the CEO and comprises four other Executive Board members, including the CFO.

In the Finance & Risks Division, IRRBB management is centralized within the ALM & Financial Management (ALM-FM) Department, which reports directly to the CFO. This department is responsible for:

- Defining and maintaining the models and principles used to manage IRRBB as part of the Bank's Financial Strategy. These models and principles are approved by the Model Validation team, the Executive Board's Risk Management Committee, and the Board of Directors.
- Producing monthly reports on IRRBB management and presenting them to the ALCO. This report is also presented to the Executive Board and the Audit and Risk Committee each quarter and to the Board of Directors every six months.

Risk assessment

The ALM-FM Department continuously manages interest-rate risk for the parent company's entire banking book, and, at each month-end, calculates the sensitivity indicators for its equity capital. Interest-rate risk in the trading book represents a market risk and is outside the scope of IRRBB.

Interest-rate risk relating to the activities of Piguet Galland & Cie SA is managed independently by its Executive Board under the supervision of BCV Group. Each quarter, the interest-rate position for the entire Group is determined by the ALM-FM Department, in accordance with the approach used by the parent company. It is then presented to the ALCO, the Executive Board, and the Audit & Risk Committee; it is also presented to the Board of Directors every six months. At 31 December 2023, in terms of sensitivity, the parent company's IRRBB accounted for 98% of the Group's IRRBB exposure.

Risk measurement

The Bank measures and monitors IRRBB using two types of indicators:

- Static indicators, which measure the sensitivity of the net present value of the banking book:
 - The present value of equity;
 - The sensitivity of the economic value of equity to a 100bp change in interest rates;
 - The duration of equity;
 - The VaR of the net present value of equity;
 - Key rate durations;
 - Future changes in the value and duration of equity.
- Dynamic indicators, which are based on interest-rate and balance-sheet scenarios for the current year and subsequent two years. The results of these simulations are used to calculate NII forecasts and the NII at risk over rolling 12-, 24-, and 36-month periods. The NII at risk is a measure of the sensitivity of NII to fluctuations in interest rates.

Scenarios

IRRBB is measured using standard scenarios that combine an interest-rate scenario with a balance-sheet simulation that considers the impact of new business production in order to incorporate assumptions about customer behavior. The projected interest rates are calculated at various confidence intervals so as to cover a wide range of possible interest-rate movements; these confidence intervals are based on historical interest-rate data dating back to 1988. The interest-rate scenarios that the Bank uses are:

- Spike scenario: A spike in interest rates, with a 99% confidence interval;
- Probable scenario: The most likely movements in interest rates over the next three years, according to expert estimates. The Bank also generates Probable+ and Probable- scenarios at 66% confidence intervals around the Probable scenario;
- Crash scenario: A sharp decrease in interest rates, with a 99% confidence interval;
- Inversion scenario: An inversion of the yield curve based on expert estimates.

To measure its ability to withstand extreme changes in interest rates, the Bank also conducts ad-hoc stress tests in response to market conditions. In addition, the ALM-FM Department conducts stress tests every year using the stress scenarios specified in the Swiss National Bank's Financial Stability Report.

Risk mitigation

IRRBB hedging decisions are made by the ALCO and executed on the market by the ALM-FM Department's Treasury team. Interest-rate swaps are currently the main type of hedging instrument used. Any options positions in the banking book are systematically hedged through market transactions.

All hedging instruments must be matched to a fixed-rate position in the banking book; these hedges are recognized under accrual accounting.

Every quarter, the ALM-FM Department tests the effectiveness of the hedges by making sure that the hedge ratio is high enough for the associated derivatives to be classified as hedging instruments.

Table 25. Interest-rate risk – Quantitative information on the structure of positions, and maturity repricingAt 31 December 2023, parent company, IRRBBA1¹⁹

		a	b	c	d	e	f	g
		Volume in CHF millions			Average repricing maturity (in years)		Longest repricing maturity (in years) assigned to non-maturity positions	
		Total	Of which CHF	Of which other currencies	Total	Of which CHF	Total	Of which CHF
Positions with a set repricing maturity	Due from banks	454	220	-	1.0	1.8		
	Loans and advances to customers	5,030	4,615	-	3.5	3.8		
	Money-market mortgage loans	476	476	-	0.0	0.0		
	Fixed-rate mortgage loans	30,410	30,409	-	4.1	4.1		
	Financial investments	5,114	4,356	-	5.6	5.8		
	Other assets	-	-	-	-	-		
	Receivables on interest-rate derivatives	11,954	8,464	-	0.5	0.7		
	Due to banks	-4,640	-3,442	-	0.1	0.1		
	Customer deposits	-8,593	-7,343	-	0.1	0.1		
	Medium-term notes	-2	-2	-	2.4	2.4		
	Bonds and mortgage-backed bonds	-8,524	-8,524	-	6.5	6.5		
	Other liabilities	-	-	-	-	-		
Liabilities on interest-rate derivatives	-12,012	-11,080	-	3.8	3.8			

¹⁹As the Bank's swap positions (interest-rate and FX swaps) have two legs – a receivables leg and a payables leg – they are recorded under both “Receivables on interest-rate derivatives” and “Liabilities on interest-rate derivatives.” Column c (“Of which other currencies”) gives positions in other currencies that account for over 10% of balance-sheet assets or liabilities.

		a	b	c	d	e	f	g
		Volume in CHF millions			Average repricing maturity (in years)		Longest repricing maturity (in years) assigned to non-maturity positions	
		Total	Of which CHF	Of which other currencies	Total	Of which CHF	Total	Of which CHF
Positions with no set repricing maturity	Due from banks	234	14	-	0.0	0.0	-	-
	Loans and advances to customers	864	443	-	0.4	0.7	7.0	7.0
	Variable-rate mortgage loans	169	169	-	2.6	2.6	10.0	10.0
	Other sight receivables	12,814	12,461	-	-	-	-	-
	Customer sight deposits	-16,445	-14,845	-	1.9	2.1	7.0	7.0
	Other sight liabilities	-3,507	-2,694	-	-	-	-	-
	Callable but non-transferrable customer savings deposits	-10,427	-10,326	-	1.8	1.8	5.0	5.0
Total	3,371	3,371	-	8.2	8.4	-	-	

5.3.2 Prescribed modeling and parametric assumptions used to calculate the values in Table IRRBB1

The values given in Table IRRBB1 (Table 26) have been calculated in accordance with FINMA Circular 2016/1, “Disclosure – banks.” The six interest-rate scenarios used are those given in FINMA Circular 2019/2, “Interest-rate risk – banks.” The following sections describe the key modeling and parametric assumptions used to calculate changes in the economic value of equity (ΔEVE) and changes in net interest income (ΔNII) as per regulatory requirements.

Calculation of ΔEVE

Cash flows from fixed-rate positions are calculated using the interest rates on these positions. These calculations are aggregated by month using a median date.

The Bank includes non-maturity exposures in its calculation of static indicators using replication models. The main features of these models are:

- A parameter designed to smooth out the monthly volatility inherent in these types of exposures. This parameter is calculated using the monthly volume above the 3-month or 12-month rolling average (depending on the type of exposure). It is updated at one-month intervals.
- A simulation of the core stable volume of exposures, which is done using an interest-rate replication model for the rates applied to customers.
- This interest-rate replication model is based on market interest rates with repricing maturities spanning from one month to ten years (the average and the longest repricing maturities are given in Table IRRBBA1).
- The models are calibrated every year using a 10-year calculation window. Periods when a zero interest rate is applied to customers are omitted.

The benchmark interest rates used to discount the cash flows for the calculation of EVE are based on the interest-rate-risk hedging instruments used. For the Swiss franc, the interest rates used are the SAR up to 1 month and the SARON-based mid-swap rate beyond 1 month. For the euro, the interest rates used are the Euribor up to 12 months and the Euribor mid-swap rate beyond 12 months. For the US dollar, the interest rates used are the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) and the SOFR-based mid-swap rate. For pound sterling, the interest rates used are the Sterling Overnight Index Average (SONIA) and the SONIA-based mid-swap rate. For the Japanese yen, the interest rates used are the Tokyo Overnight Average Rate (TONAR) and the TONAR-based mid-swap rate.

Intermediate interest rates are calculated using linear interpolation.

Calculation of ΔNII

The repricing of fixed-rate exposures is based on the initial maturities of exposures that will reach their term in the next 12 months.

Cash flows from new fixed-rate positions are calculated using the interest rates on the new positions as follows:

Market interest rate for the term of the position + Additional funding rate + Expected margin

Where:

- Market interest rate is the rate taken from the simulated rate curve (same benchmark interest rates as for the calculation of EVE).
- Additional funding rate is the spread at each maturity that the Bank must pay above the benchmark interest rates for its senior and covered debt funding.

- Expected margin is based on recent and projected trends, taking into account business objectives and competitive pressure.

For exposures with variable rates set by the Bank (mainly sight deposits and savings accounts), the interest rates are modeled using historical data that compare market rates to customer rates. These historical data are used in stress tests to determine the interest rate that would be applied to customers after an interest-rate shock.

Behavioral and automatic option risks

Customers who pay a loan off early are charged an early redemption fee, which is calculated by multiplying the outstanding amount on the loan by an interest rate equal to the difference between the rate on the loan and the Bank's replacement rate for the remaining term of the loan. This policy ensures that the Bank does not incur any losses when customers pay off their loans early. As a result, the Bank does not use any specific models for early repayments.

The Bank applies the same policy to early withdrawals on term deposits, meaning the Bank does not use any specific models for these deposits either.

The Bank currently has no on- or off-balance-sheet positions that include embedded automatic options such as loans with a cap or floor, interest-rate options, and swaptions.

Any instruments on the balance sheet that include embedded automatic options would be accounted for as delta-weighted positions.

Foreign currencies

The vast majority of positions on the Bank's balance sheet are in CHF. The main foreign currencies are EUR and USD, which accounted for 4.5% and 3.0% of balance-sheet positions, respectively, at 31 December 2023. All foreign-currency exposures are fully included in the calculation of static indicators (as are CHF exposures). For dynamic indicators, a simplified calculation is used, although in keeping with FINMA Circular 2016/1, "Disclosure – banks." In 2023, the NII from foreign-currency transactions, excluding treasury-management transactions, amounted to 15% of total NII.

Differences in the assumptions used to calculate indicators

The main differences in the assumptions used to calculate the Bank's internal indicators vs. those used to calculate the indicators given in Table IRRBB1 are as follows:

- The NII values in Table IRRBB1 are calculated using a constant balance sheet, but internal indicators are calculated using a range of different balance-sheet scenarios based on different interest rates. This enables the Bank to account for how customer behavior may change in response to higher or lower interest rates;
- The NII values in Table IRRBB1 are calculated to reflect the effects of an instantaneous interest-rate shock, while internal indicators are calculated assuming the upwards or downwards pressure on interest rates occurs linearly over the first six months of the simulation;
- The NII values in Table IRRBB1 are calculated for a rolling 12-month period, while internal NII indicators are calculated for the current year and the subsequent two years.

Table 26. Interest-rate risk – Quantitative information on the economic value of equity and net interest income

In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, parent company, IRRBB1

	a		b		c		d
	ΔEVE		ΔNII				
Period	31/12/2023	30/6/2023	31/12/2023	30/6/2023			
Parallel up	-475	-429	32				13
Parallel down	534	489	-82				-118
Steeper	-251	-262					
Flattener	152	172					
Short rate up	-40	-8					
Short rate down	42	9					
Maximum	-475	-429	-82				-118
Period	31/12/2023		30/6/2023				
Tier 1 capital	3,439		3,355				

The economic value of equity is sensitive to a rise in interest rates. This sensitivity rose slightly in H2 2023, mainly due to an increase in the average term on new customer loans as a result of the inverted yield curve. The higher sensitivity still lies within a normal fluctuation range for interest-rate risk on the balance sheet.

The maximum possible loss as measured by a change in NII was lower in December than in June. This mainly reflects a decrease in the differential between the 150 bp Parallel down scenario and the Probable scenario used by the Bank. In June, the Probable scenario was for stable short-term interest rates, whereas in December, it included a 50 bp decrease in market rates over the following 12 months. As a result, there is now a 100 bp differential between the two scenarios, versus 150 bp in June. This change in the maximum possible loss still lies within a narrow fluctuation range for this type of simulation.

5.4 Liquidity risk

Strategy and processes

The Board of Directors sets out the principles for managing liquidity risk and the target liquidity-risk profile. The liquidity-risk profile is expressed through metrics such as the liquidity coverage ratio (LCR) and other indicators used to analyze the balance sheet's structure. The target liquidity-risk profile is reviewed annually by the ALCO.

Structure and organization

The Executive Board delegates responsibility for managing liquidity risk to the ALCO, which does so in accordance with the principles set out by the Board of Directors. Every month, the ALCO monitors liquidity risk via the monthly ALCO report. The reports are also submitted to the Executive Board and the Board of Directors every quarter.

Within the Finance & Risks Division, the ALM-FM Department, which includes ALM and Treasury, is responsible for the centralized and operational management of liquidity risk.

- Treasury manages the parent company's liquidity position on a daily basis and ensures that the internal LCR limit is complied with. Treasury is also the counterparty for Group subsidiaries when managing their liquidity positions.
- ALM submits proposals to the ALCO concerning strategic balance-sheet management (e.g., long-term borrowings and financial investments) and draws up the ALCO reports.
- ALM is also in charge of determining and maintaining liquidity-risk management principles and models. The principles are approved by the ALCO and the Board of Directors, while models are approved by the EBRMC.

Risk assessment

There are two types of liquidity-risk metrics:

- Static metrics, which calculate the risk on a given date in order to assess the risk level instantaneously and monitor changes over time;
- Dynamic metrics, which calculate the risk on future dates in order to anticipate changes in the risk level. Dynamic metrics are determined by simulating changes in balance-sheet items over the following three years using three different scenarios of how the Bank's business could develop.

The following metrics are calculated both statically and dynamically and analyzed by the ALCO in order to assess the Bank's liquidity position and the robustness of its balance sheet:

- Basel III liquidity ratios (LCR and NSFR);
- The net funding requirements of the Bank's business lines;
- The long-term funding plan.

Other static indicators are also monitored by the ALCO:

- Maturities distribution/concentration for long-term borrowings;
- Funding costs on the interbank and bond markets.

In addition to these risk metrics, stress tests are conducted to quantify the impact that different adverse scenarios would have on the Bank's liquidity position over a given time. These stress tests are the starting point for determining the target liquidity-risk profile.

Funding structure

BCV is funded primarily by client deposits. These account for 62% of total liabilities and shareholders' equity and come in the form of savings, sight deposits, term deposits, and medium-term notes.

Long-term borrowings account for 14% of total liabilities and shareholders' equity. Most long-term borrowings are mortgage-backed bonds issued through the Central Mortgage-Bond Institution, which represents a stable source of long-term funding. Other long-term borrowings (e.g., structured products and bonds) are made for diversification purposes.

Unsecured amounts due to banks make up 10% of total liabilities and shareholders' equity. Secured amounts due to banks (i.e., repurchase agreements) account for 3%.

The remaining items are shareholders' equity (7%) and other liabilities (4%).

Contingency funding plan

Pursuant to Article 10 of the Swiss Federal Liquidity Ordinance, the Bank has a contingency funding plan in place to cover a potential liquidity shortage. The plan has three components:

- An early warning system that determines the risk level using specific and systemic risk indicators;
- Escalation rules stipulating the management level that must be informed depending on how the situation develops;
- Checklists setting out the procedure to be followed, the measures to be taken by each business line, and the responsibilities of those tasked with managing the liquidity shortage.

The contingency funding plan is reviewed annually by the ALCO.

Liquidity coverage ratio (LCR)

The LCR is an international regulatory standard set out in the Basel III Accord. It became mandatory on 1 January 2015. The LCR ensures that a bank has enough liquidity to withstand a 30-calendar-day liquidity stress scenario. It is the ratio between the amount of high-quality liquid assets (HQLA) available and potential net cash outflows over a 30-day period. The term net cash outflows is defined as the total potential cash outflows (such as withdrawals from sight deposits and non-renewals of borrowings with a maturity of less than 30 days) less the total potential cash inflows (such as the repayment of receivables with a maturity of less than 30 days) in a stress situation. The minimum requirement for the LCR is 100%.

The average LCR for all BCV Group currencies was 130% in Q3 2023 and 129% in Q4 2023.

The Bank's SIC account makes up 70% of its HQLA. The remaining HQLA are primarily Swiss-issued securities that have a credit rating of between AAA and AA- (Central Mortgage-Bond Institution, the Mortgage-Bond Bank, the Swiss Federal Government and cantonal governments) and that are eligible as collateral for SNB open-market transactions.

Withdrawals from retail and corporate client deposits account for around 90% of total potential cash outflows. This reflects the fact that client deposits are the Bank's primary source of funding and also therefore the primary source of potential fund outflows in the event of a liquidity run.

Other cash outflows relate mainly to:

- Derivatives maturing within 30 days and margin calls relating to credit support annexes;
- The undrawn part of credit facilities granted to clients;
- Contingent liabilities (e.g., guarantees and letters of credit).

Loans to clients and banks maturing within 30 days account for around 92% of potential cash inflows. The remaining cash inflows primarily come from derivatives maturing within 30 days.

The LCR in CHF is higher than the LCR for all currencies combined, as almost all HQLA are denominated in CHF (cash deposited at the SNB). Conversely, the LCR in EUR and USD is lower than the LCR for all currencies combined.

Table 27. Liquidity coverage ratio (LCR)
In CHF millions, BCV Group, LIQ1

	Q4 2023		Q3 2023	
	Total unweighted value	Total weighted value	Total unweighted value	Total weighted value
High-Quality Liquid Assets (HQLA)				
1 Total HQLA		12,450		12,494
Cash outflows				
2 Retail deposits	23,128	1,822	23,338	1,859
3 Of which: stable deposits	7,811	391	7,862	393
4 Of which: less-stable deposits	15,316	1,432	15,476	1,466
5 Unsecured wholesale funding	16,275	8,529	16,071	8,376
6 Of which: operational deposits (all counterparties) and deposits in networks of cooperative banks	1,549	387	1,525	381
7 Of which: non-operational deposits (all counterparties)	14,703	8,119	14,521	7,969
8 Of which: unsecured debt	22	22	26	26
9 Secured wholesale funding		117		124
10 Additional requirements	2,850	857	2,943	832
11 Of which: cash outflows related to derivative exposure and other collateral requirements	1,407	566	1,455	533
13 Of which: cash outflows related to credit and liquidity facilities	1,443	291	1,488	299
14 Other contractual funding obligations	109	101	98	90
15 Other contingent funding obligations	1,869	93	1,741	87
16 Total cash outflows		11,520		11,368
Cash inflows				
17 Secured lending (e.g., reverse repos)	-	-	0	-
18 Inflows from fully performing exposure	2,315	1,713	2,117	1,617
19 Other cash inflows	154	154	136	136
20 Total cash inflows	2,469	1,867	2,253	1,753
Adjusted values				
21 Total HQLA		12,450		12,494
22 Total net cash outflows		9,652		9,615
23 Liquidity coverage ratio		129%		130%

Net stable funding ratio (NSFR)

The NSFR is the other liquidity-related international regulatory standard set out in the Basel III Accord. It became mandatory on 1 July 2021. The NSFR is the ratio of available stable funding, in the form of deposits, wholesale funding, and capital, to required stable funding for assets, primarily in the form of loans, over a one-year time horizon. It limits overreliance on short-term wholesale funding, and encourages better assessment of funding risk across all on- and off-balance-sheet items. The minimum requirement for the NSFR is 100%.

BCV Group's NSFR was 120% at 30 September 2023 and 31 December 2023.

Around 70% of available stable funding is in the form of deposits from private clients, SMEs, and non-financial companies. Interbank borrowing and other liabilities account for around 21%, and shareholders' equity makes up the remaining 9%. Close to 87% of required stable funding is in the form of mortgage loans and loans to non-financial companies. The remaining 13% is made up of off-balance-sheet assets and other on-balance-sheet assets.

Table 28. Net stable funding ratio (NSFR)

In CHF millions, BCV Group, LIQ2

	a	b	c	d	e	a-1	b-1	c-1	d-1	e-1
	31/12/2023					30/9/2023				
	Unweighted value by residual maturity				Weighted value	Unweighted value by residual maturity				Weighted value
	No maturity	< 6 months	≥ 6 months to < 1 year	≥ 1 year		No maturity	< 6 months	≥ 6 months to < 1 year	≥ 1 year	
Available stable funding (ASF)										
1 Capital:										
2 Regulatory capital	-	-	-	3,484	3,484	-	-	-	3,471	3,471
3 Other capital instruments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 Retail deposits and deposits from small business customers:										
5 Stable deposits	-	7,801	-	-	7,411	-	7,848	-	-	7,456
6 Less stable deposits	-	14,080	124	1,063	13,847	-	14,529	109	1,003	14,178
7 Wholesale funding:										
8 Operational deposits	-	1,221	-	-	611	-	1,036	-	-	518
9 Other wholesale funding	-	9,604	243	-	4,749	-	8,246	265	-	4,092
10 Liabilities with matching interdependent assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11 Other liabilities:										
12 NSFR derivative liabilities			670					615		
13 All other liabilities and equity not included in the above categories	-	12,170	547	7,660	8,143	-	11,531	469	7,539	7,963
14 Total ASF					38,245					37,678

	a	b	c	d	e	a-1	b-1	c-1	d-1	e-1
	31/12/2023					30/9/2023				
	Unweighted value by residual maturity				Weighted value	Unweighted value by residual maturity				Weighted value
	No maturity	< 6 months	≥ 6 months to < 1 year	≥ 1 year		No maturity	< 6 months	≥ 6 months to < 1 year	≥ 1 year	
Required stable funding (RSF)										
15 Total NSFR high-quality liquid assets (HQLA)					1,234					1,259
16 Deposits held at other financial institutions for operational purposes	-	20			10	-	81			41
17 Performing loans and securities:										
18 Performing loans to financial institutions secured by Level 1 and 2a HQLAs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19 Performing loans to financial institutions secured by non-Level 1 and 2a HQLAs and unsecured performing loans to financial institutions	-	917	12	508	659	-	1,258	3	493	691
20 Performing loans to nonfinancial corporate clients, loans to retail and small business customers, and loans to sovereigns, central banks and PSEs, of which:	-	2,343	281	9,775	9,619	-	2,386	260	9,683	9,553
21 With a risk weight of less than or equal to 35% under the Basel II standardized approach for credit risk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22 Performing residential mortgages, of which:										
23 With a risk weight of less than or equal to 35% under the Basel II standardized approach for credit risk	-	415	81	23,739	18,139	-	456	24	23,409	17,885
24 Securities that are not in default and do not qualify as HQLA, including exchange-traded equities	-	320		643	706	-	322		629	695
25 Assets with matching interdependent liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 Other assets:										
27 Physical traded commodities, including gold	-				190	-				175
28 Assets posted as initial margin for derivative contracts and contributions to default funds of central counterparties		-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-
29 NSFR derivative assets		1,254	-	-	43		1,910	-	-	27
30 NSFR derivative liabilities before deduction of variation margin posted		83	-	-	83		62	-	-	62
31 All other assets not included in the above categories	-	807	0	193	1,000	-	814	4	199	1,017
32 Off-balance-sheet items		4,990	-	-	88		5,117	-	-	94
33 Total RSF					31,772					31,497
34 NSFR (as %)					120%					120%

6. OPERATIONAL RISK

The Bank takes a comprehensive approach to managing operational risk in general (see Section 6.1), and has designed specific approaches to the key risks managed by Compliance (see Section 6.2) and Security (see Section 6.3) in particular.

6.1 Overview

Strategy and processes

The Bank's operational-risk management concept is based on the Basel Committee's principles of best practice and is in keeping with FINMA Circular 2008/21 on operational risks. In particular, the Bank aims to reduce its exposure to:

- Breaches of laws, regulations, standards, and Bank directives, including the potential occurrence of a control-related risk event (i.e., resulting from a design flaw in the internal control system, non-compliant implementation of that system, or a lack of rigor in carrying out internal controls);
- Erroneous or malicious actions taken by employees, suppliers, bank counterparties, customers, or other parties external to the Bank;
- Inadequacies of IT systems (e.g., applications, interfaces, and hardware) and communication systems (e.g., telephone, fax, email, and social networks);
- Inappropriate infrastructure;
- An organizational structure that is not adapted to the Bank's activities, both in terms of processes (methods, procedures, organizational structure, etc.) and governance (rules, policies, directives, manuals, etc.);
- Natural hazards.

Operational risk factors can give rise to risk events. The Bank categorizes potential risk events as follows:

- Non-compliance, that is, a failure to comply with laws, regulations, standards, and Bank directives;
- Internal fraud;
- External fraud, including cyberattacks that specifically target the Bank's clients;
- Events related to human resources;
- Events linked to customer relations and business practices;
- Loss of operating resources;
- Failure of information systems, including potential cyberattacks that specifically target the Bank;
- Events related to transaction and process management.

Structure and organization

The Operational Risk Unit within the Finance & Risks Division's Risk Management Department is in charge of conducting periodic analyses to monitor the Bank's operational-risk profile and gathering and analyzing information on operational incidents that have occurred. This unit develops the methods used for managing operational risk and submits them for approval to the Executive Board's Risk Management Committee. The unit is also responsible for implementing these methods. In addition, the Operational Risk Unit contributes to creating and implementing assessment methods and tools for the Bank's operational internal control system.

Risk reviews and analysis of incidents

Periodic reviews are carried out to assess how well the main operational risks are managed. These are supplemented by ad-hoc reviews, for instance if a potential new threat arises, if FINMA submits a specific request, or if a major risk event materializes at another bank. These reviews and analyses are conducted by the Risk Management department and by functional skills centers (e.g., the Compliance and Security departments). The aim of the reviews is to reveal possible improvements to the Bank's risk-management system, and particularly to operational and managerial controls.

In addition to identifying risks, the Bank exhaustively and systematically gathers information on and

analyzes the main operational events arising from the Bank's activities. These events are recorded in a dedicated operational-risk-management application and analyzed on a monthly basis. In order to monitor the Bank's operational-risk profile, tolerance limits are set for operational events in general and for each category of event.

If an important operational-risk event occurs, the Bank bases its response on clearly defined incident-management measures, such as the Business Continuity Plan (BCP).

Since the Basel II Accord came into force, the Bank has determined its regulatory capital requirements for operational risk in accordance with the Standardized Approach (CAO, Article 93). Under this approach, the Bank allocates income to the eight risk segments set forth by the regulator.

6.2 Key compliance risks

Strategy and processes

The key risks managed by Compliance relate to the risks inherent in money laundering and the financing of terrorism, in market abuse, and in conducting a business relationship with – or receiving or transferring funds for – an individual or legal entity that is subject to economic sanctions, or that is tax non-compliant. It also covers the respective control-related risks, such as the possibility that there is a design flaw in the internal control system, that implementation of the internal control system is non-compliant, or that internal controls are not rigorously carried out. These control-related risks stem from the Bank's regulatory requirement to have due diligence systems in place in order to mitigate compliance risk.

The Bank's approach to these inherent risks is in line with its position as a full-service bank with solid local roots. BCV's client relationships are representative of its locally focused core businesses and the other business activities that BCV conducts as a full-service bank, either because these activities offer strong synergies with the Bank's core businesses or because they offer solid profitability (e.g., trade finance). In all its business activities, the Bank prioritizes high-quality client relationships and does not enter into client relationships if there is a higher inherent risk in terms of money laundering and the financing of terrorism, market abuse, economic sanctions, and tax compliance.

To manage control-related risks, the Bank makes sure that the internal control system it sets up and implements is in line with its risk profile and relevant reference standards. It also ensures that the system is properly applied throughout the Bank. The internal control system is periodically reviewed so that it remains adapted to the above inherent risks as they evolve.

Structure and organization

The Compliance Department is responsible for setting up, implementing, monitoring, and adapting the internal regulations and control system needed to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism, monitor market abuse, and comply with economic sanctions. The Department is actively involved in raising employees' awareness of the respective obligations and carries out independent checks to ensure that internal regulations are in line with the Bank's activities.

Risk reviews and analysis of incidents

The Bank is inherently exposed to the key risks managed by Compliance (i.e., money laundering and the financing of terrorism, market abuse, economic sanctions, and tax compliance) when it provides banking services such as administering accounts, accepting funds, and executing transactions for clients. The Bank is also exposed to these risks when it decides whether to take on a client based on characteristics such as the client's place of domicile, the size of their assets, their lending commitments, and their business activities.

The Bank assesses its exposure to the risks inherent in money laundering and the financing of terrorism, economic sanctions, market abuse, and tax compliance on a yearly basis. As part of this process, it categorizes client relationships and transactions based on money-laundering and terrorist-financing risk factors.

The Bank is also exposed to control-related compliance risks arising from the choices it makes concerning:

- The principles and methods used to detect, record, categorize, analyze, and clarify compliance risks;
- Its expertise in accepting and reviewing client relationships and transactions, and the related support and control processes;
- The skills and experience of those involved in the control system, and the tools made available to them.

The Bank periodically assesses its control-related compliance risks based on key performance indicators. It looks in particular at the level of compliance with quality standards and money-laundering and terrorist-financing clarification deadlines; how operational-risk controls are carried out and any related delays or non-compliance issues; and the internal and external audits, particularly in terms of criticality, specific issues that arise, and any postponements.

6.3 Key security risks

Strategy and processes

The key risks managed by Security cover risks to IT security and to physical security:

- IT security risks, particularly risks relating to cybercrime, arise from exposure to the IT systems, data, and operations needed for the Bank to run smoothly.
- Physical security risks relate to the safety of people – clients, employees, partners, and external service providers – and the security of infrastructure, i.e., buildings and other premises containing Bank property, and all of the equipment that the Bank needs to operate.

The Bank is constantly evolving its security system to keep pace with these threats.

Structure and organization

The Security Department is responsible for setting up, implementing, monitoring, and adapting the system that keeps the Bank's operations, IT systems, and data secure, and the people, infrastructure, and assets within the Bank safe and secure. It also makes sure that measures put in place to manage crisis situations and ensure business continuity remain effective and adequate over time.

Risk reviews and analysis of incidents

The Bank's level of exposure to each of the main types of risk event is assessed in terms of risk type.

In particular, cyberattack scenarios are identified, compiled, and mapped out by network zone (i.e., the internet, the demilitarized network zone, and the Bank's internal network). In this way, any weaknesses or shortcomings in the security system can be detected and recorded. The Security Department re-assesses the Bank's level of exposure on a quarterly basis. Data-breach scenarios are also identified and recorded. A catalog is kept of security measures and controls used to reduce the likelihood of risk events occurring and mitigate their impact. The controls needed for each data-breach scenario are identified from this catalog, and the residual risk is determined. The scenarios and catalog of measures and controls are reviewed annually.

6.4 Principles governing the Bank's internal control system (ICS)

The Bank's internal control system (ICS) was developed in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) and the Basel Committee, and pursuant to FINMA Circulars 2017/1 on corporate governance and 2008/21 on operational risk. The purpose of the ICS is to ensure that the Bank's activities are in line with its overall objectives. More specifically, the ICS enables the Bank to:

- Achieve its performance objectives in terms of both profit and controlling profit fluctuations;
- Provide reliable information both internally and externally;
- Comply with legal, regulatory, and self-regulatory requirements.

The Bank has an overall ICS along with an operational ICS.

The overall ICS is designed to ensure that the Bank's risk appetite is in keeping with its risk-taking capacity and that the overall risk-management framework appropriately addresses the risks identified. It comprises a set of measures and procedures that structure the Bank's operations and the orientation of its business. They include: robust governance mechanisms; a clearly defined organizational structure; coherent business goals that will ensure the Bank's longevity; established operating procedures for the Executive Board, the Board of Directors, and their committees; regular reviews of the Bank's overall and business-specific strategies, financial strategy, and risk policy (including key risk limits); and reports that are in line with the Bank's business activities and risk-management framework.

In terms of procedures, implementing an overall risk-management framework involves assigning tasks, responsibilities, and decision-making authority to employees and managers, and setting out the limits, deadlines, procedures, and rules to be followed and the forms and other documents to be used. The overall risk-management framework therefore touches upon all aspects of the Bank's operations.

The operational ICS ensures that managers and other employees comply with the operational procedures governing their work. Department heads are responsible for implementing and updating the procedures for their department and the related operational ICS, with the relevant Division head having ultimate responsibility in this regard.

The operational ICS covers execution-related operational risks (EOR) and the controls put in place to mitigate them. An EOR arises from potential errors, failures or non-compliance with rules, limits or documentation requirements. EORs with Bank-wide relevance are referred to as key EORs. Controls are set up and documented at Bank level for each key EOR. These controls always include operational oversight by employees, conducted in the course of their work, and managerial oversight, conducted at each management level (up to the department head) to ensure that the previous level of oversight was properly carried out.

The ICS comprises three levels. The Executive Board is responsible for the first two levels (the Executive Board's ICS), while the Board of Directors oversees the third level:

- Level one: operational oversight (1a) and managerial oversight (1b) based on the chain of command;
- Level two: controlling the appropriateness and effectiveness of level-one oversight by entities independent of the chain of command (e.g., Risk Management and Compliance);
- Level three: periodic reviews of levels one and two by the Internal Audit Department, which is responsible for determining the principles, content, and schedule for these reviews.

The Executive Board assigns extensive oversight responsibility to managers, with centralized functional units providing support. The Executive Board also ensures the requisite separation of tasks to prevent conflicts of interest between level-1 and level-2 oversight.

Executive Board members collectively and individually attach great importance to ensuring that the operational ICS is of a high quality, effective, and adapted to the Bank's needs, and implement the operational ICS rigorously, thereby serving as an example for department heads and all other Bank employees.

The operational ICS is set up and implemented factoring in the Bank's organizational structure, the characteristics of its business lines and functions, its risk levels, and the need to make effective use of the know-how available within the Bank.

7. CLIMATE-RELATED RISK

Introduction

The socioeconomic impacts of the physical hazards caused by climate change and of the transition to a low-carbon economy are increasing and can affect all economic agents, including the financial sector and banks.

The Bank integrates climate-related risk into its risk-management framework in order to protect its interests and those of its clients. In keeping with the recommendations of supervisory authorities (i.e., FINMA and the Basel Committee), the Bank considers the physical hazards caused by acute and chronic climate events and the transition to a low-carbon economy to be risk factors that could impact all categories of risk to which the Bank is exposed – strategic and business risk, credit risk, market risk, and operational risk.

The Bank's Risk Management Policy and Strategy, which is approved each year by the Board of Directors and the Executive Board, defines how these climate-related risk factors should be taken into consideration when assessing risks, and assigns related responsibilities. The regular risk reports submitted to the Board of Directors and Executive Board include information on monitoring the Bank's exposure to climate-related risk factors.

The key aspects of the Bank's approach to managing climate-related risks are described below; they are presented in accordance with the recommended structure and the fundamental principles for effective disclosure established by the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).

Governance

The Bank manages climate-related risks according to the same basic principles of governance and organization as all other risks (see Section 3.1, "Risk management objectives and governance"). Under these principles, risk-monitoring authority is assigned to the Board of Directors, while the Executive Board is given responsibility for managing and assessing risks, and the Risk Management Department for developing risk-assessment methods. This explicitly includes climate-related risk factors.

The Board of Directors establishes the Bank's policy for managing risk and determines the strategy the Bank will pursue in taking on risk. It is also responsible for high-level oversight of the Bank's risk profile. As part of this, the Board of Directors monitors the Bank's main risk factors and exposures, including those related to the climate. This monitoring is conducted each quarter as part of the quarterly risk reports and on an annual basis as part of the analysis of key risks.

The Executive Board is responsible for ensuring that the risk-management procedures are implemented and operational, and for monitoring the Bank's risk profile. It monitors and assesses the Bank's main risk factors and exposures, including those related to the climate. This monitoring is conducted each quarter as part of the quarterly risk reports and on an annual basis as part of the analysis of key risks.

The Risk Management Department is responsible for developing and improving the Bank's risk-control principles and methods, monitoring the Bank's risk profile, and executing risk reporting. The Department ensures that the Bank's main risk factors and exposures, including those related to the climate, are taken into consideration in these processes.

Risk management

The Bank's approach to managing climate-related risks is fully aligned with its overall risk-assessment principles. The physical impacts of climate change and the transition to a low-carbon economy are among the main risk factors capable of adversely affecting the Bank's exposure to risk. Climate-related risk can therefore be defined as the possibility that a risk event will occur as a result of changes in one or several climate-related risk factors that, in turn, will have a negative impact on the Bank. Climate-related risks may relate to strategic, credit, market, or operational risk.

Climate-related risk factors

- *Climate-related laws, regulations, and the range of societal norms* may evolve significantly in order to speed up the transition to a low-carbon economy. This could involve tighter restrictions on emissions from buildings, vehicles, and industry, stricter disclosure requirements, significant adverse effects on the public image of certain companies and business sectors, and even an increase in climate-related lawsuits;
- *Economic development* may be heavily affected by structural shifts in the economy that occur in response to changes in demand for goods and services and to technological progress. The transition to a low-carbon economy will alter the value of resources; sectors and industries (e.g., the automobile sector) will undergo transformations, and jobs will be relocated;
- *Climate-related physical hazards* are becoming increasingly frequent and more intense as a result of global warming, particularly in certain regions of the world. There are two main types of climate-related physical hazards:
 - Extreme weather events, such as storms (causing flooding, landslides, and avalanches) heatwaves, droughts, and forest fires (i.e., acute physical hazards);
 - Longer-term changes in the climate leading to desertification, coastal erosion, coastal flooding, and less snowfall and melting glaciers in mountain areas (i.e., chronic physical hazards).

As a full-service bank with solid local roots, BCV is exposed to climate-related risk factors in various ways: through its strategic positioning, daily business decisions, lending activities, trading and investment activities, and operational procedures. In all of the Bank's business activities, climate-related risk factors are an integral part of managing risks. Detected sources of exposure are analyzed and monitored by the Board of Directors and Executive Board, in particular via risk reporting.

Strategy

The Bank operates primarily in Vaud Canton, which has a diverse, strongly services-oriented economy; the transition to a low-carbon economy has less of an impact on services than on other sectors of the economy. The Bank makes sure its strategy and objectives are consistent with the commitments made by the Swiss government and Vaud Cantonal Government to combat global warming (i.e., both current commitments and the roadmap to 2030 and 2050 targets).

Below is an assessment of climate-related risk factors for the main sources of exposure: the Bank's lending activities, trading and investment activities, and operational procedures.

Lending activities

The Bank's lending activities mainly comprise mortgage financing, primarily in Vaud Canton, and corporate financing (primarily to companies located in Vaud, but also to select large corporates throughout Switzerland and, to a limited extent, through its international trade-finance activities).

As the Bank's core region has little exposure to climate-related physical hazards, it prioritizes analyzing transition-related risk factors. When assessing credit risk, the Bank systematically examines and monitors the proportion of its exposure that could be put at an increased risk of default by transition-related risk factors. The main exposures are as follows:

- **Mortgage exposures:** The proportion of residential real-estate financing with a heightened exposure to transition-related risk factors is deemed to be very low (less than 5% of total exposures) and trending downward. Most of these exposures are loans granted to clients with a default rating below the portfolio average, and are on residential properties (i.e., rental properties, single-family homes, and, to a lesser extent, condominiums) that were built before the year 2000 and use fuel oil or natural gas as the main energy source for heating. The impact of climate-transition risk factors on the Bank's risk of credit loss is considered marginal. In its mortgage lending, the Bank helps to fund the energy transition by offering clients preferential interest rates on environmentally friendly real-estate purchases and green renovations. In line with the relevant guidelines published by the Swiss

Bankers Association,²⁰ BCV advisors address the question of energy efficiency with their clients when discussing home financing for properties that meet the Bank's criteria for necessary renovation work.

- **Corporate exposures (excluding trade finance):** The proportion of corporate loans granted to companies in sectors most affected by the energy transition is moderate (around 20%); these loans are not concentrated in any one sector, and no loans are granted to companies involved in fossil-fuel production. Most of the companies concerned are Swiss companies active in air, sea, or road transportation, construction, manufacturing, and chemicals and pharmaceuticals. The impact of transition-related risk factors on their default risk is deemed to be low and is factored into each individual credit-risk analysis. BCV's corporate lending process now includes a specific analysis of environmental and social risks.
- **Trade-finance exposures:** Financing of fossil-fuel-derived commodities makes up around 25%–30% of the Bank's trade-finance business (in US dollar terms). A large proportion of this exposure is to liquid and gas petroleum products, while a smaller proportion relates to steam coal (concentrated on trade to developing countries that cannot yet undertake the energy transition). All of this financing is transaction-based and granted for short terms of well under a year; transition-related risk factors have no material impact on the Bank's risk of credit loss. In 2019, the Bank committed to reducing its transaction-based exposure to coal at a slightly faster pace than in the Paris Agreement-compatible scenario (i.e., the rate at which global coal use needs to be phased out of the energy mix in order to meet the emissions target set out in the Paris Agreement, as defined by the International Energy Agency).

Trading and investment activities

Climate-related risk factors have only a limited impact on market risks. The Bank does not engage in proprietary trading and does not invest in a portfolio of equity holdings. For the purposes of liquidity management, the Bank has a portfolio of investment-grade financial investments, which is not concentrated on any one sector and mainly comprises securities issued by the Mortgage-Bond Bank of the Swiss Mortgage Institutions and the Central Mortgage-Bond Institution, and bonds issued by the Swiss federal government, Swiss cantons, and other supranational state entities.

As part of its asset-management activities, BCV makes investments at the request of its private and institutional clients. The value of these client-driven investments may be affected by climate-related risk factors, such as stricter carbon emission laws, adverse public-image trends for certain business sectors and/or companies, changes in the value of resources, and extreme weather events like storms and heatwaves.

In 2021, the Bank began asking its private clients with discretionary or advisory agreements about their expectations in terms of incorporating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria into their investments. When evaluating whether investment portfolios are aligned with clients' investor profiles, the Bank applies non-financial criteria, in addition to conventional financial criteria, in order to monitor the approaches used in the portfolios, such as sustainable investment themes to prioritize or business activities to exclude. The Bank conducts portfolio reviews and provides reports to ensure transparency on how clients' socially responsible investing (SRI) expectations have been taken into account. This process will be expanded to include institutional clients in 2024. In addition, ESG factors have been incorporated into the Bank's internal control system to ensure that all business lines are operating in accordance with the Bank's SRI policy. The Bank deployed this enhancement in ESG controlling and risk management in 2023, and these efforts will be stepped up in the coming years.

In 2022, BCV once again took part in the PACTA climate compatibility test run by the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment, which analyzed the exposure of a representative set of the Bank's asset portfolios to carbon-intensive sectors, and therefore to transition-related risk factors. The test showed that BCV's portfolios are less exposed to these sectors than the market as a whole (i.e., in comparison to the MSCI World Index and the aggregate portfolios of all banks taking part in the test). In its asset management activities, the Bank has a policy of excluding from its direct investments companies that

²⁰Swiss Bankers Association, ["Guidelines for mortgage providers on the promotion of energy efficiency"](https://www.swissbanking.ch/en/press-releases/2022/01/2022-01-20-swiss-bankers-association-guidelines-for-mortgage-providers-on-the-promotion-of-energy-efficiency) ([swissbanking.ch](https://www.swissbanking.ch)).

generate 15% or more of their revenues from thermal coal mining or power generation, or from unconventional fossil fuels.

Operational procedures

Changes to climate-related legislation, regulations, and the range of societal norms will have an impact on the regulatory requirements governing the Bank's operational procedures. If climate-related transparency requirements become stricter, this could have an impact on the Bank's reporting. Each year, the Bank publishes a sustainability report, which is prepared in accordance with Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Standards, the reference for reporting on sustainable development issues. The Bank is also involved in various external initiatives and partnerships: for instance, BCV is a signatory of the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI) and a member of Swiss Sustainable Finance; it takes part in the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) survey, and has entered into a strategic partnership with Ethos. Starting with the 2024 fiscal year, the Bank will issue a report that follows the TCFD recommendations, as required by the Swiss federal ordinance on mandatory climate disclosures for large companies.

BCV is taking numerous measures to reduce its carbon footprint, especially when it comes to heating its buildings. It also encourages employees to walk or bike to and from work.

Although BCV is located in a region that has relatively little exposure to climate-related physical hazards, extreme weather events – such as storms, flooding, landslides, and heatwaves – may give rise to operational-risk events affecting individuals (e.g., accidents and illnesses) or operating resources (e.g., damage to buildings). The Bank keeps individuals and infrastructure safe by implementing a set of measures that are based primarily on the Swiss government directives on security planning and business-continuity planning.

Metrics and targets

BCV actively monitors climate-related risk metrics and uses standard methodologies as the basis for its approach, particularly in its lending and client-driven investment activities. For these activities, the Bank also examines other ways to add to its climate and environmental data in order to strengthen its measurement of climate-related risks.

As an example, monitoring the lending portfolio's exposure to transition-related risk factors entails:

- Rating mortgage exposures based on the buildings' CO₂ emissions, calculated by modeling each building's energy use and applying specific emissions factors for the energy sources used for heating (e.g., natural gas, fuel oil, or a heat pump) and electricity;
- Rating corporate exposures (excluding trade finance) based on whether they are linked to climate-policy-relevant sectors;²¹
- Rating trade-finance exposures using an in-house methodology based on carbon-footprinting the financed goods.

In the coming years, the Bank will continue to develop its methods for assessing climate-related risks by seeking to adopt best practices and improving the data needed for its assessments. The Basel Committee has stated that measurement methodologies for climate-related risks are still under development. However, the TCFD does recommend certain carbon-footprinting methodologies, such as the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF) methodology.

BCV is committed to cutting its direct CO₂ emissions by at least 35% from 2019 levels by 2030. The Bank's direct emissions are published annually in the Sustainability Report, prepared in accordance with GRI Standards.

²¹Battiston, S. et al, A climate stress-test of the financial system.

8. APPENDIX

Table 29. Key metrics

In CHF millions, BCV Group, full table, KM1

	a	c	e
	31/12/2023	30/6/2023	31/12/2022
Available capital			
1 Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1)	3,465	3,370	3,369
2 Tier 1 (T1)	3,465	3,370	3,369
3 Total capital	3,490	3,395	3,391
Risk-weighted assets (RWA)			
4 Total RWA	19,352	19,277	19,132
4a Minimum capital requirement	1,548	1,542	1,531
Risk-based capital ratios as % of RWA			
5 CET1 ratio	17.9%	17.5%	17.6%
6 Tier 1 ratio	17.9%	17.5%	17.6%
7 Total capital ratio	18.0%	17.6%	17.7%
Additional CET1 buffer requirements (Basel Committee) as % of RWA			
8 Capital conservation buffer requirement (2.5% from 2019)	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
9 Countercyclical buffer requirement	-	-	-
11 Total of bank CET1 specific buffer requirements	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
12 CET1 available after meeting the bank's minimum capital requirements (i.e., after the CET1 allocated to cover minimum capital requirements and any TLAC requirements)	10.0%	9.6%	9.7%
FINMA capital ratio requirements			
12a CET1 buffer (CAO, Annex 8)	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%
12b Countercyclical buffer (CAO, Art. 44 and 44a)	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
12c CET1 total requirement in accordance with Annex 8 of the CAO plus the countercyclical buffer (CAO, Art. 44 and 44a)	8.8%	8.8%	8.8%
12d Tier 1 total requirement in accordance with Annex 8 of the CAO plus the countercyclical buffer (CAO, Art. 44 and 44a)	10.6%	10.6%	10.6%
12e Total regulatory capital requirement in accordance with Annex 8 of the CAO plus the countercyclical buffer (CAO, Art. 44 and 44a)	13.0%	13.0%	13.0%
Basel III leverage ratio			
13 Total Basel III leverage ratio exposure measure	61,796	61,330	61,315
14 Basel III leverage ratio (Tier 1 capital as % of total Basel III leverage ratio exposure measure)	5.6%	5.5%	5.5%
Net stable funding ratio (NSFR)			
18 Available stable funding	38,245	38,499	38,540
19 Required stable funding	31,772	31,391	30,985
20 NSFR (as %)	120%	123%	124%

	a	b	c	d	e
	Q4 2023	Q3 2023	Q2 2023	Q1 2023	Q4 2022
Liquidity coverage ratio (LCR)					
15 Total high-quality liquid assets (HQLA)	12,450	12,494	14,833	15,310	14,931
16 Total net cash outflow	9,652	9,615	11,543	11,266	11,136
17 LCR	129%	130%	128%	136%	134%

8.1 Reconciliation of financial statements and regulatory exposure

Table 30. Reconciliation of regulatory capital to balance sheet

In CHF millions, BCV Group, CC2²²

	a	a-1	c
	Balance sheet as in published financial statements		Reference
	31/12/2023	30/6/2023	
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	12,602	12,823	
Due from banks	662	1,096	
Reverse repurchase agreements	-	1	
Loans and advances to customers	6,128	6,079	
Mortgage loans	31,780	31,179	
Trading portfolio assets	229	165	
Positive mark-to-market values of derivative financial instruments	719	909	
Other financial assets at fair value	934	955	
Financial investments	5,196	5,140	
Accrued income and prepaid expenses	122	93	
Non-consolidated holdings	87	87	
Tangible fixed assets	381	365	
Intangible assets	-	-	
Of which: goodwill	-	-	a
Other assets	30	45	
Total assets	58,870	58,936	
Liabilities			
Due to banks	5,953	5,996	
Repurchase agreements	1,977	1,423	
Customer deposits	36,475	37,500	
Trading portfolio liabilities	2	2	
Negative mark-to-market values of derivative financial instruments	426	278	
Other financial liabilities at fair value	1,132	1,108	
Medium-term notes	2	-	

²²Column b, "Under regulatory scope of consolidation," is not included because the numbers are identical to those in column a, "Balance sheet as in published financial statements."

Bonds and mortgage-backed bonds	8,443	8,078	
Accrued expenses and deferred income	182	168	
Other liabilities	400	728	
Provisions	22	26	
Total liabilities	55,015	55,307	
Shareholders' equity			
Reserves for general banking risks	666	666	
Share capital	86	86	c
Statutory reserves, voluntary reserves, retained earnings, and net profit (loss) for the period	3,117	2,888	
Treasury shares	-14	-11	
Minority interests	0	0	
Total shareholders' equity	3,855	3,629	

Table 31. Composition of regulatory capitalIn CHF millions, BCV Group, full table, CC1²³

	a	a-1	b
	Net figures (after transitional arrangements)		References
	31/12/2023	30/6/2023	
Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1)			
1 Issued and paid-in capital, fully eligible	86	86	c
2 Retained earnings, including reserves for general banking and net profit (loss) for the period	3,380	3,281	
3 Capital reserve and currency translation reserve (+/-)	33	33	
5 Minority interests	0	0	
6 CET1 before regulatory adjustments	3,499	3,400	
CET1 regulatory adjustments			
8 Goodwill (net of related tax liability)	-	-	a
12 IRB shortfall of provisions to expected losses	20	19	
16 Net long position in own CET1 instruments	14	11	
28 Total regulatory adjustments to CET1	34	30	
29 Net CET1	3,465	3,370	
Additional Tier 1 capital (AT1)			
36 AT1 before regulatory adjustments	-	-	
43 Total regulatory adjustments to AT1	-	-	
44 Net AT1	-	-	
45 Net Tier 1 capital	3,465	3,370	
Tier 2 capital (T2)			
46 Issued and paid-in instruments, fully eligible	-	-	

²³Net profit for the current fiscal year is not included in regulatory capital at 30 June (row 2). Rows not applicable to BCV are not included. The "Impact of transitional arrangements" column is not included because BCV does not apply any transitional arrangements.

48	Minority interests eligible as T2	-	-
50	Valuation adjustments; provisions and impairment for prudential reasons; compulsory reserves on financial investments	25	25
51	T2 before regulatory adjustments	25	25
T2 regulatory adjustments			
52	Net long position in own T2 instruments	-	-
57	Total regulatory adjustments to T2	-	-
58	Net T2	25	25
59	Total regulatory capital (Net T1 & Net T2)	3,490	3,395
60	Total risk-weighted assets (RWA)	19,352	19,277
Capital ratios			
61	CET1 ratio (item 29 as % of RWA)	17.9%	17.5%
62	T1 ratio (item 45 as % of RWA)	17.9%	17.5%
63	Total capital ratio (item 59 as % of RWA)	18.0%	17.6%
64	Specific CET1 buffer (capital conservation buffer + countercyclical buffer + capital buffer for systemically important banks) (as % of RWA)	2.5%	2.5%
65	Of which: in accordance with Basel minimum standards (as % of RWA)	2.5%	2.5%
68	CET1 available to meet buffer requirements in accordance with Basel minimum standards, after deducting the CET1 covering minimum requirements (as % of RWA)	10.0%	9.6%
68a	CET1 total requirement in accordance with Annex 8 of the CAO plus the countercyclical buffer (as % of RWA)	8.8%	8.8%
68b	Of which: countercyclical buffer in accordance with CAO, Art. 44 and 44a (as % of RWA)	1.0%	1.0%
68c	CET1 available (as % of RWA)	13.8%	13.4%
68d	T1 total requirement in accordance with Annex 8 of the CAO plus the countercyclical buffer (as % of RWA)	10.6%	10.6%
68e	T1 available (as % of RWA)	15.6%	15.2%
68f	Total regulatory capital requirement in accordance with Annex 8 of the CAO plus the countercyclical buffer (as % of RWA)	13.0%	13.0%
68g	Regulatory capital available (as % of RWA)	18.0%	17.6%
Amounts below the thresholds for deduction (before risk weighting)			
72	Non-significant investments in the common stock of other financial entities	25	26
73	Significant investments in the common stock of financial entities	313	313

Table 32. Main features of regulatory capital instrumentsIn CHF millions, BCV Group, CCA²⁴

		Quantitative or qualitative information
1	Issuer	Banque Cantonale Vaudoise (BCV), corporation organized under public law, founded by the Vaud Cantonal Parliament on 19 December 1845
2	Unique identifier	ISIN CH0531751755
3	Governing laws of the instrument	Cantonal Act Governing the Organization of Banque Cantonale Vaudoise; BCV's articles of association; Swiss Code of Obligations
Regulatory treatment		
4	Transitional Basel III rules	CET1
5	Post-transitional Basel III rules	CET1
6	Eligible at solo/group/group and solo	Group and solo
7	Instrument type (to be specified by each jurisdiction)	Equity
8	Amount recognized in regulatory capital (currency in millions, as of most recent reporting date)	CHF 86
9	Par value of instrument	CHF 1
10	Accounting classification	Share capital
11	Original date of issuance	31 December 1995
12	Perpetual or dated	Perpetual
14	Issuer call subject to prior supervisory approval	No
Coupons and dividends		
17	Fixed or variable coupon or dividend	Variable
19	Existence of a dividend stopper	No
20	Fully discretionary, partially discretionary, or mandatory	Fully discretionary
36	Non-compliant transitioned features	No

²⁴Rows not used are not included.

Table 33. Differences between accounting and regulatory scopes of consolidation and mapping of financial statement categories with regulatory risk categoriesIn CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, LI1²⁵

	a	c	d	f	g
	Carrying values				
	As reported in published financial statements	Subject to credit risk framework	Subject to counterparty credit risk framework	Subject to market risk framework	Not subject to capital requirements or subject to deduction from capital
Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	12,602	12,602			
Due from banks	662	483	179		
Reverse repurchase agreements					
Loans and advances to customers	6,128	6,046	82		
Mortgage loans	31,780	31,780			
Trading portfolio assets	229			229	
Positive mark-to-market values of derivative financial instruments	719		719	719	
Other financial assets at fair value	934	0		934	
Financial investments	5,196	5,196	2,355		
Accrued income and prepaid expenses	122	122			
Non-consolidated holdings	87	87			
Tangible fixed assets	381	381			
Intangible assets					
Other assets	30	30			
Total assets	58,870	56,728	3,334	1,882	
Liabilities					
Due to banks	5,953		854		5,099
Repurchase agreements	1,977		1,977		
Customer deposits	36,475				36,475
Trading portfolio liabilities	2			2	
Negative mark-to-market values of derivative financial instruments	426		426	426	
Other financial liabilities at fair value	1,132			1,132	
Medium-term notes	2				2
Bonds and mortgage-backed bonds	8,443				8,443
Accrued expenses and deferred income	182				182
Other liabilities	400				400

²⁵Column b is not included since the accounting scope of consolidation is identical to the regulatory scope of consolidation.

Provisions	22	-			22
Total liabilities	55,015	-	3,258	1,561	50,623

Exposures relating to the following line items are assessed across several risk categories:

- Mark-to-market values of derivative financial instruments: derivative transactions generate both counterparty credit risk and market risk;
- Financial investments: bonds used in repo transactions or held as collateral with other financial institutions generate both credit risk and counterparty credit risk.

Table 34. Main sources of differences between regulatory exposure amounts and carrying values in financial statements

In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, BCV Group, LI2

	a	b			e
		Items subject to:			
	Total	Credit risk framework	Counterparty credit risk framework	Market risk framework	
1 Asset carrying value under regulatory scope of consolidation (as per Table LI1)	61,943	56,728	3,334	1,882	
2 Liabilities carrying value under regulatory scope of consolidation (as per Table LI1)	4,818	-	3,258	1,561	
3 Total net amount under regulatory scope of consolidation	57,125	56,728	76	321	
4 Off-balance sheet amounts	6,737	2,262	-	-	
5 Differences in valuations	-235	-	-235	-	
6 Differences due to different netting rules, other than those already included in row 2	290	-	290	-	
7 Differences due to consideration of provisions	95	95	-	-	
8 Differences due to prudential filters	47	47	-	-	
10 Exposure amounts considered for regulatory purposes	64,060	59,132	132	321	

Differences between the values reported in the financial statements and the regulatory amounts can be attributed to the following factors:

- Off-balance-sheet positions (contingent liabilities and undrawn revocable and irrevocable credit limits);

- Valuation differences for repo transactions (exposure after regulatory haircut);
- Provisions that are deducted from total exposure amounts according to the accounting standard applied at BCV;
- Add-ons to derivative positions and forward contracts.

Assets in the trading book are measured at fair value based on their prices in liquid markets. Fair values are checked daily by the Market Risk Unit within the Risk Management Department (see Section 5.1). Given the valuation method that the Bank uses, no prudential valuation adjustments are made (and, as such, Table PV1 is not applicable).

8.2 Leverage ratio

Table 35. Summary comparison of accounting assets vs. leverage ratio exposure measure

In CHF millions, BCV Group, LR1

	31/12/2023	30/6/2023
1 Total consolidated assets as per published financial statements	58,870	58,936
2 Adjustment for investments in banking, financial, insurance or commercial entities that are consolidated for accounting purposes but outside the scope of regulatory consolidation, as well as adjustment for assets deducted from Tier 1 capital	-34	-30
3 Adjustment for fiduciary assets recognized on the balance sheet pursuant to the operative accounting framework but excluded from the leverage ratio exposure measure	-	-
4 Adjustment for derivative financial instruments	277	137
5 Adjustment for securities financing transactions (SFTs)	13	2
6 Adjustment for off-balance-sheet items	2,671	2,286
7 Other adjustments	-	-
8 Leverage ratio exposure measure	61,796	61,330

The decrease in total assets mainly reflects a decline in amounts due from banks and in cash and cash equivalents (see Table 30). The difference between the financial assets reported on the balance sheet and the leverage ratio exposure measure stems primarily from off-balance-sheet transactions (CHF 2.671bn at 31 December 2023). Starting with the Q1 2019 financial statements, the leverage ratio for derivatives exposures is calculated using the SA-CCR.

Table 36. Leverage ratio common disclosures

In CHF millions, BCV Group, LR2

	31/12/2023	30/6/2023
On-balance-sheet exposure		
1 On-balance-sheet exposure (excluding derivatives and SFTs, but including collateral)	56,167	56,605
2 Assets deducted in determining Tier 1 capital	-34	-30
3 Total on-balance-sheet exposures within the leverage ratio framework, excluding derivatives and SFTs	56,133	56,575
Derivative exposure		
4 Replacement cost associated with all derivatives transactions, including those with central counterparties (net of eligible cash variation margin and/or with bilateral netting)	408	244
5 Add-on amounts for PFE associated with all derivatives transactions	841	1,013
6 Gross-up for derivatives collateral provided where deducted from the balance sheet assets pursuant to the operative accounting framework	-	-
7 Deduction of receivables assets for cash variation margin provided in derivatives transactions	-253	-211
8 Deduction relating to exposure to QCCPs if there is no obligation to reimburse the client in the event of the QCCP defaulting	-	-
9 Adjusted effective notional amount of written credit derivatives, after deduction of negative replacement values	-	-
10 Adjusted effective notional offsets of bought/written credit derivatives and add-on deductions for written credit derivatives	-	-
11 Total derivative exposure	996	1,046
Securities financing transaction (SFT) exposure		
12 Gross SFT assets with no recognition of netting, including sale accounting transactions, less the items specified in margin no. 58 FINMA Circular 2015/3	1,984	1,422
13 Netted amounts of cash payables and cash receivables relating to SFT counterparties	-	-
14 CCR exposure for SFT assets	13	2
15 Agent transaction exposure	-	-
16 Total SFT exposure	1,997	1,424
Other off-balance-sheet exposure		
17 Off-balance-sheet exposure at gross national amounts before application of credit conversion factors	6,786	7,210
18 Adjustments for conversion to credit equivalent amounts	-4,115	-4,924
19 Total off-balance-sheet exposure	2,671	2,286
Capital and total exposure		
20 Tier 1 capital	3,465	3,370
21 Total exposure	61,796	61,330
Leverage ratio		
22 Leverage ratio	5.6%	5.5%

The difference between the amount of total accounting assets on the balance sheet and the balance-sheet exposure used to calculate the leverage ratio (row 1 of Table 36) is due to the Bank's repo agreements (CHF 1.984bn at 31 December 2023) and derivatives (mark-to-market value of CHF 408m at 31 December 2023).

8.3 Disclosure map, analytical classifications, and abbreviations

8.3.1 Disclosure map

The Basel III Accord (DIS Chapter) sets out the minimum disclosure requirements. The relationships between the tables in the Accord, those in FINMA Circular 2016/1, “Disclosure – banks” (31 December 2022 version) and those in this report are described below.

Table 37. Disclosure map

Basel reference code	Description	BCV table No.	Frequency under FINMA	Comment
Overview				
KM1	Key metrics		2 Semiannual	
OVA	Bank risk management approach	Sec. 3	Annual	
OV1	Overview of RWA		4 Semiannual	
Linkages between financial statements and regulatory exposure				
LI1	Differences between accounting and regulatory scopes of consolidation and mapping of financial statement categories with regulatory risk categories		33 Annual	
LI2	Main sources of differences between regulatory exposure amounts and carrying values in financial statements		34 Annual	
LIA	Explanations of differences between accounting and regulatory exposure amounts	Sec. 8	Annual	
PV1	Prudential valuation adjustments		Annual	No prudential valuation adjustments
CC1	Composition of regulatory capital		31 Annual	
CC2	Reconciliation of regulatory capital to balance sheet		30 Annual	Updated half-yearly
CCA	Main features of regulatory capital instruments		32 Annual	
Leverage ratio				
LR1	Summary comparison of accounting assets vs leverage ratio exposure measure		35 Annual	Updated half-yearly
LR2	Leverage ratio common disclosures		36 Annual	

Credit risk				
CRA	General qualitative information about credit risk	Sec. 4	Annual	
CR1	Credit quality of assets	10	Annual	
CR2	Changes in stock of defaulted loans and debt securities	11	Annual	Updated half-yearly
CRB	Additional disclosure related to the credit quality of assets	Sec. 4	Annual	Updated half-yearly
CRC	Qualitative disclosure requirements related to credit risk mitigation techniques	Sec. 4	Annual	
CR3	Credit risk mitigation techniques – overview	12	Annual	Updated half-yearly
CRD	Qualitative disclosure on the Bank's use of external credit ratings under the standardized approach for credit risk	Sec. 4	Annual	
CR4	Standardized approach – credit risk exposure and credit risk mitigation (CRM) effects	17	Annual	
CR5	Standardized approach – exposure by asset class and risk weight	18	Annual	Updated half-yearly
CRE	Qualitative disclosures related to IRB models	Sec. 4	Annual	Updated half-yearly
CR6	IRB – credit risk exposure by portfolio and probability of default (PD) range	13	Semiannual	
CR7	IRB – effect on RWA of credit derivatives used as CRM techniques		Semiannual	No credit derivatives
CR8	RWA flow statements of credit risk exposure under IRB	14	Semiannual	
CR9	IRB – backtesting of PD per portfolio	15	Annual	
CR10	IRB – specialized lending and equities under the simple risk weight method	16 + 24	Semiannual	
CCRA	Qualitative disclosure related to counterparty credit risk	Sec. 4	Annual	
CCR1	Analysis of counterparty credit risk (CCR) exposure by approach			Not required for Category 3 banks
CCR2	Credit Valuation Adjustment (CVA) capital charge			
CCR3	Standardized approach – CCR exposure by regulatory portfolio and risk weight	20	Annual	Updated half-yearly

CCR4	IRB – CCR exposure by portfolio and PD range	19	Semiannual	
CCR5	Composition of collateral for CCR exposure	21	Annual	Updated half-yearly
CCR6	Credit derivatives exposures		Annual	No credit derivatives
CCR7	RWA flow statements of CCR exposure under the Internal Model Method (IMM)		Semiannual	IMM approach not used at BCV
CCR8	Exposure to central counterparties (CCPs)	22	Annual	Updated half-yearly
Market risk and liquidity				
SECA	Qualitative disclosure requirements related to securitization exposure		Annual	
SEC1	Securitization exposure in the banking book		Annual	
SEC2	Securitization exposure in the trading book		Annual	
SEC3	Securitization exposure in the banking book and associated regulatory capital requirements – bank acting as originator or sponsor		Annual	No securitization
SEC4	Securitization exposure in the banking book and associated regulatory capital requirements – bank acting as investor		Annual	
MRA	General qualitative disclosure requirements related to market risk	Sec. 5	Annual	
MR1	Market risk under Standardized Approach (SA)	23	Annual	Updated half-yearly
MRB	Qualitative disclosures for banks using the Internal Models Approach (IMA)		Annual	IMA approach not used at BCV
MR2	RWA flow statements of market risk exposure under the IMA		Semiannual	BCV does not use an internal model
MR3	IMA values for trading portfolios		Semiannual	
MR4	Comparison of VaR estimates with gains and losses		Semiannual	
IRRBBA	IRRBB risk management objectives and policies		Annual	
IRRBBA1	Quantitative information on the structure of IRRBB positions and maturity repricing	25 + Sec. 5.3	Annual	Updated half-yearly
IRRBB1	Quantitative information on the economic value of equity and net interest income	26 + Sec. 5.3	Annual	

LIQ1	Liquidity Coverage Ratio	27 + Sec. 5	Semiannual	
LIQ2	Net Stable Funding Ratio	28 + Sec. 5	Semiannual	
Operational risk				
ORA	General qualitative information about operational risk management	Sec. 6	Annual	
Remuneration				
REMA	Remuneration policy		Annual	
REM1	Remuneration awarded during the financial year		Annual	Not required for BCV
REM2	Special payments		Annual	
REM3	Deferred remuneration		Annual	

8.3.2 Analytical classifications

This section describes the different analytical classifications used in this document that are not already defined within the framework of the Basel III Accord.

Table 38. Basel III Accord asset categories (IRB)

Asset category	Description
Central governments and central banks (F-IRB)	The Swiss national government, BIS, central banks, multilateral development banks eligible for a 0% risk weighting, and foreign governments
Banks and securities firms (F-IRB)	Bank counterparties
Non-central govt. public-sector entities; multilateral development banks (F-IRB)	Cantonal governments and municipal authorities
Corporates – specialized lending (F-IRB)	Real-estate financing for counterparties rated with the “real-estate professionals” rating model, together with trade-finance transactions
Corporates – other lending (F-IRB)	Companies that do not meet the retail criteria, the Mortgage-Bond Bank of the Swiss Mortgage Institutions, and the Central Mortgage-Bond Institution
Mortgage-backed retail exposure	Mortgage-backed exposure to individuals and companies that meet the retail criteria
Other retail exposure	Other exposure to individuals and companies that meet the retail criteria

Table 39. Risk segments

Type of counterparty	Description
Retail	Individuals with no business loan who have a mortgage loan of up to CHF 1.2m or assets of less than CHF 250,000 invested in an asset allocation fund
Private banking	Individuals with no business loan who meet at least one of the following criteria: a mortgage loan of over CHF 1.2m, assets of more than CHF 250,000, or an advisory and/or discretionary management agreement

SMEs	Small and medium-sized businesses, excluding real-estate professionals and trade-finance counterparties, that do not meet the criteria for “large corporates”
Real-estate professionals	Counterparties whose main professional activity is investing in real estate for their own account
Large corporates	Listed companies that use the capital markets and have complex financial needs (e.g., syndicated loans, international exposure, etc.)
Public-sector entities	Swiss national, cantonal, and municipal governments
Trade finance	Non-bank counterparties involved in trade-finance activities
Banks	Bank counterparties, including central counterparties since 1 January 2013

Table 40. Supervisory slotting and PD rating model (scope of F-IRB approach)

BCV rating model	Description
BCV staff	Individuals who are BCV employees
Private banking	Individuals or groups of individuals with no commercial loans and with CHF 300,000 in assets with BCV or who are financed exclusively with Lombard loans
Retail	Individuals or groups of individuals with no commercial loans and who do not meet the criteria for “Private banking” or “BCV employees”
SME	Small and mid-sized businesses
Large corporates	Large businesses
Banks	Banking institutions
Vaud municipalities	Municipalities in Vaud Canton
Real-estate professionals	Counterparties whose main professional activity is investing in real estate for their own account
Trade finance (supervisory slotting criteria for specialized lending)	Transactions to finance international commodities trading
Real-estate development (supervisory slotting criteria for specialized lending)	Transactions to finance real-estate development

8.3.3 List of abbreviations

ALCO	Asset and Liabilities Management Committee
ALM	Asset and Liability Management
ALM-FM	The Bank's ALM and Financial Management Department
BCV	Banque Cantonale Vaudoise
BIS	Bank for International Settlements
BoD	Board of Directors
CAO	Ordinance of 1 June 2012 concerning capital adequacy and risk diversification for banks and securities traders (known as the "Capital Adequacy Ordinance")
CCF	Credit conversion factor
CCO	Chief Credit Officer
CCP	Central counterparty, an institution that acts as an intermediary between two parties to secure a transaction by becoming the counterparty to the buyer and the seller
CCR	Counterparty credit risk
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CF	Commodities finance
CFO	Chief Financial Officer
CRM	Credit risk mitigation
CSA	Credit Support Annex, an optional annex for ISDA netting agreements
CVA	Credit valuation adjustment, a capital requirement aimed at covering the risk of loss in market value as a result of deterioration in the counterparty's credit quality
ΔEVE	Change in the economic value of equity
ΔNII	Change in net interest income
EAD	Exposure at default
EBCC	Executive Board Credit Committee

EBRMC	Executive Board Risk Management Committee
EL	Expected loss
ESG	Environmental, Social, and Governance
EURIBOR	Euro Interbank Offered Rate, the set of benchmark rates published by the European Money Markets Institute for unsecured interbank funding in euros for periods of up to 12 months
F-IRB	Foundation Internal Ratings-Based approach
FINMA	Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority
FINMA-AO	FINMA accounting ordinance of 31 October 2019
GMRA	Global Master Repurchase Agreement of the Public Securities Association/International Securities Market Association (PSA/ISMA)
HQLA	High-quality liquid assets
ICS	Internal control system
ID	BCV's "in default" provisioning category
IMA	Internal Models Approach
IMM	Internal Model Method
IPRE	Income-producing real estate
IRB	Internal ratings-based
IRRBB	Interest-rate risk in the banking book
ISDA	International Swaps and Derivatives Association
LCR	Liquidity coverage ratio
LGD	Loss given default
LIBOR	London Interbank Offered Rate
NII	Net interest income
NSFR	Net stable funding ratio
OTC	Over the counter
PD	Probability of default

PFE	Potential future exposure
QCCP	Qualified central counterparty
RD	BCV's "reputed to be in financial difficulty" provisioning category
RMPS	BCV's Risk Management Policy and Strategy
RWA	Risk-weighted assets
SAR	Swiss Average Rate, the Swiss benchmark rate for repos
SARON	Swiss Average Rate Overnight, the Swiss benchmark rate for overnight repos
SFT	Securities financing transaction
SIC	Swiss Interbank Clearing
SNB	Swiss National Bank
SOFR	Secured Overnight Financing Rate, the benchmark rate published by the US Federal Reserve for secured overnight interbank funding
SONIA	Sterling Overnight Interbank Average rate, the benchmark rate published by the Bank of England for unsecured interbank funding in pound sterling
SRI	Socially Responsible Investing
SA-BIS	International Standardized Approach in accordance with the CAO
SA-CCR	Standardized Approach for measuring Counterparty Credit Risk
TCFD	Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures
TONAR	Tokyo Overnight Average Rate, the benchmark rate published by the Bank of Japan for unsecured interbank funding in yen
VaR	Value at risk

8.4 Parent-company disclosures

When capital and liquidity requirements are calculated at group level, the group is generally only required to provide consolidated disclosures (known as the disclosure exemption).

Under FINMA Circular 2016/1, the Bank is nevertheless required to disclose the following parent-company figures.

Table 41. Main parent-company figures

In CHF millions, at 31 December 2023, KM1

	a	c	e
	31/12/2023	30/6/2023	31/12/2022
Available capital			
1 Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1)	3,439	3,355	3,354
2 Tier 1 (T1)	3,439	3,355	3,354
3 Total capital	3,464	3,380	3,376
Risk-weighted assets (RWA)			
4 Total RWA	19,183	19,098	18,947
4a Minimum capital requirement	1,535	1,528	1,516
Risk-based capital ratios as % of RWA			
5 CET1 ratio	17.9%	17.6%	17.7%
6 Tier 1 ratio	17.9%	17.6%	17.7%
7 Total capital ratio	18.1%	17.7%	17.8%
Additional CET1 buffer requirements (Basel Committee) as % of RWA			
8 Capital conservation buffer requirement (2.5% from 2019)	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
9 Countercyclical buffer requirement	-	-	-
11 Total of bank CET1 specific buffer requirements	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%
12 CET1 available after meeting the bank's minimum capital requirements (i.e., after the CET1 allocated to cover minimum capital requirements and any TLAC requirements)	10.1%	9.7%	9.8%
FINMA capital ratio requirements			
12a CET1 buffer (CAO, Annex 8)	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%
12b Countercyclical buffer (CAO, Art. 44 and 44a)	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
12c CET1 total requirement in accordance with Annex 8 of the CAO plus the countercyclical buffer (CAO, Art. 44 and 44a)	8.8%	8.8%	8.8%
12d Tier 1 total requirement in accordance with Annex 8 of the CAO plus the countercyclical buffer (CAO, Art. 44 and 44a)	10.6%	10.6%	10.6%
12e Total regulatory capital requirement in accordance with Annex 8 of the CAO plus the countercyclical buffer (CAO, Art. 44 and 44a)	13.0%	13.0%	13.0%
Basel III leverage ratio			
13 Total Basel III leverage ratio exposure measure	60,869	60,418	60,300
14 Basel III leverage ratio (Tier 1 capital as % of total Basel III leverage ratio exposure measure)	5.6%	5.6%	5.6%
Net stable funding ratio (NSFR)			
18 Available stable funding	37,468	37,774	37,735
19 Required stable funding	31,259	30,847	30,423
20 NSFR (as %)	120%	122%	124%

	a	b	c	d	e
	Q4 2023	Q3 2023	Q2 2023	Q1 2023	Q4 2022
Liquidity coverage ratio (LCR)					
15 Total high-quality liquid assets (HQLA)	12,182	12,246	14,564	15,056	14,654
16 Total net cash outflow	9,546	9,473	11,371	11,087	10,919
17 LCR	128%	129%	128%	136%	134%