## SEÐLABANKI ÍSLANDS

# **Credit Relief and Provisioning**

Unnur Gunnarsdóttir **Deputy Governor for Financial Supervision** 

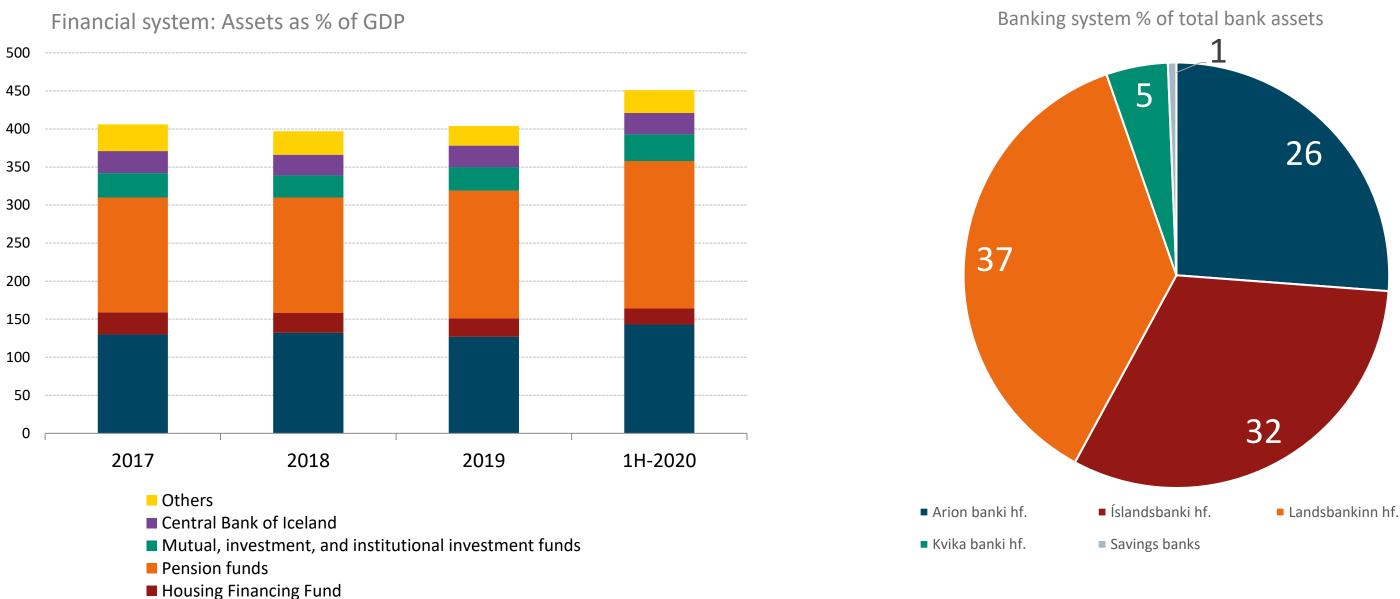
**INTEGRATED FINANCIAL SUPERVISORS' CONFERENCE 2021** 





## 26 November 2021

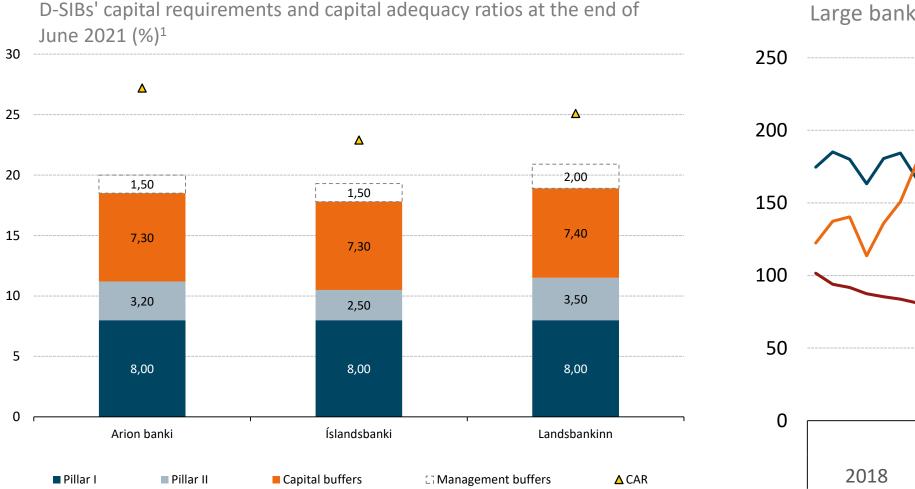
## The Icelandic financial system



 3 largest banks account for 94% of the banking system

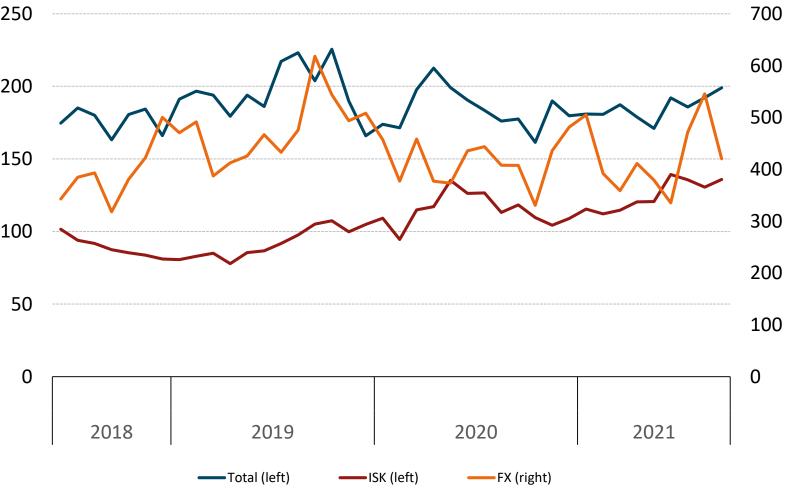


## Capital and liquidity is well above regulatory minimum



1. Domestic systemically Systemically important banks, consolidated figures. In calculating the capital ratio, the portion of H1/2021 profit to be paid as a dividend in 2022 has been deducted from the capital base. If the proposed dividend payments are included with the capital base, the banks' capital ratios are as follows: Arion Bank, 29.2%; Íslandsbanki, 23.3%; and Landsbankinn, 25.8%.

Source: Commercial banks' financial statements and other published materials.



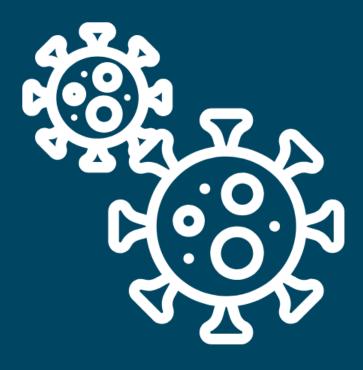
1. Domestic systemically importants banks, consolidated figures. Source: Central Bank of Iceland



### Large banks: Liquidity coverage ratio (%)

# Actions in response to COVID-19



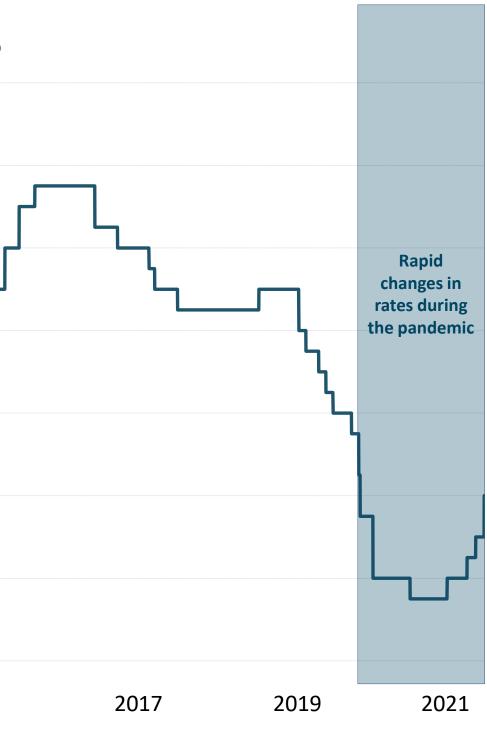


## Monetary policy during COVID-19

- Central bank key interest rates lowered by **200 bps** in four decisions from March 2020 to November 2020
- Economic recovery 2021
  - Favourable developments in unemployment and output
  - Inflation higher than expected
  - First rate hike in May, 25 bps
  - Two further **25 bps** hikes in August and October
  - Increase by **50 bps** in November

	Bank's key interest rate, %		
7,00			
6,00			
5,00		٦	
4,00			
3,00			
2,00			
1,00			
0,00			
	2013	2015	5





## **Financial stability**

- Counter Cyclical Buffer released in March 2020
  - Lowered from 2% to 0%
- CCyB re-instated on 29 September 2021
  - Increased from 0% to 2%, effective 29 September 2022 as the cyclical systemic risk has reached similar level as before the pandemic
- Restrictions on distributions of bank profits
  - In line with EBA statement
  - Extended in January 2021
  - Restrictions withdrawn on 30 June this year



## **Discretionary fiscal measures**



- Corporates
  - Closing support
  - Postponing tax payments
  - Public guaranteed lending



- Households
  - working hours
  - Income when quarantined

## Cost of discretionary fiscal measures: 2,9% of GDP



## • Unemployment benefits to top up reduced

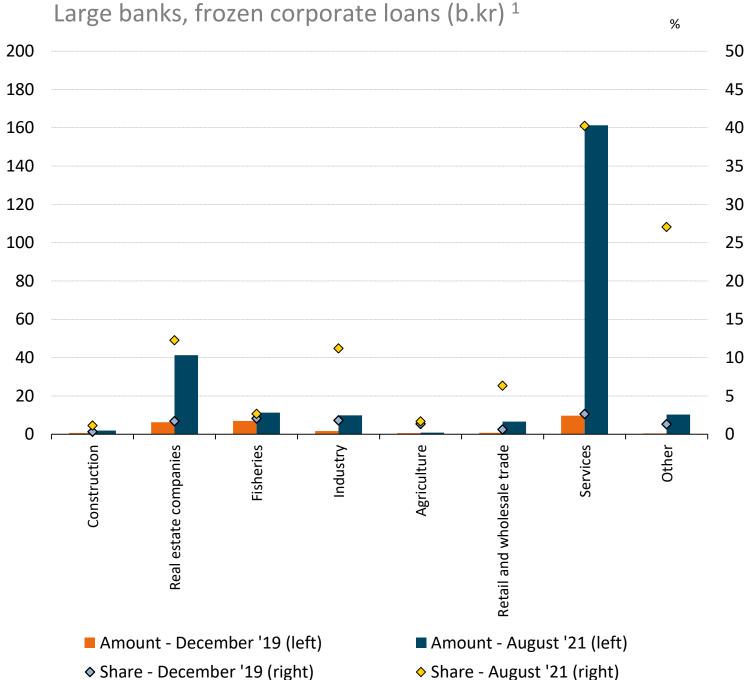
# Developements in the credit market





## Corporates

- Corporate loans in payment holidays or other similar status
  - December 2019 (blue) vs August 2021 (orange)
- Most notable increase in the services sector
  - Includes largely tourism industry
  - 40% loans in services affected
- Notable increase in real estate (hotels)

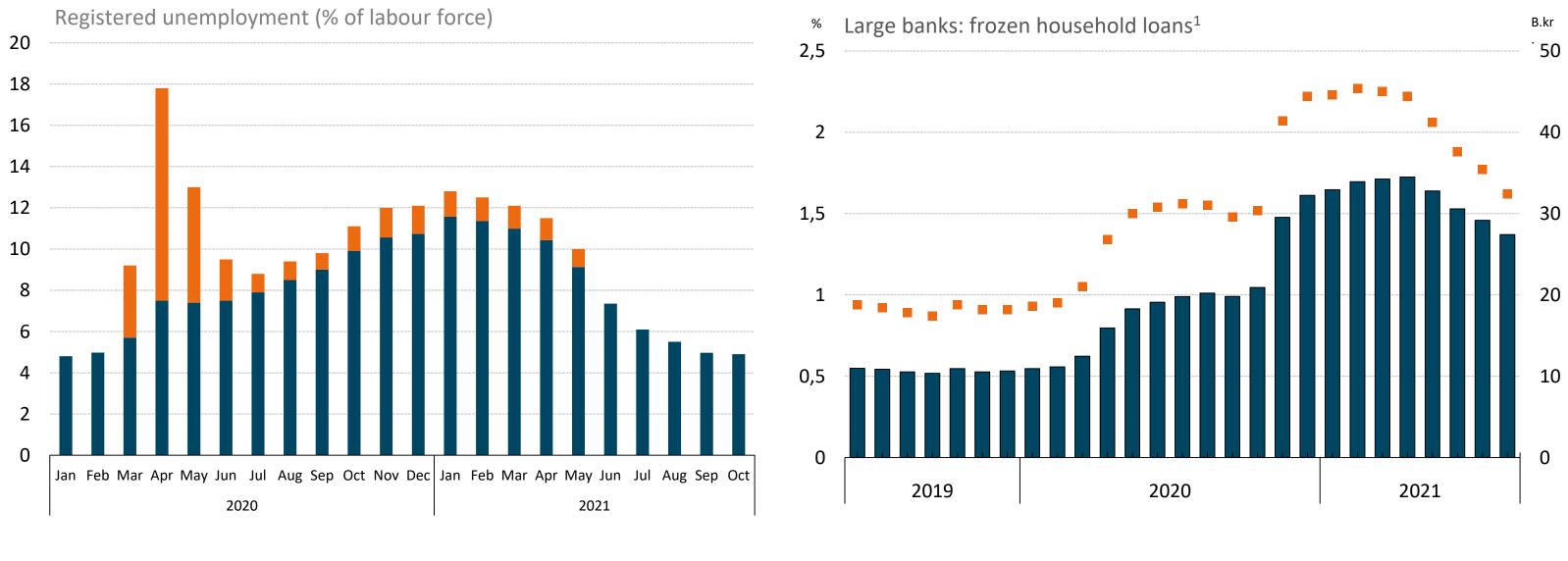


♦ Share - December '19 (right)

1. Parent companies, book value. Frozen loans accourding to the cross-default method. Source: Central Bank of Iceland.



## Households



Unemployment

Partial unemployment benefits

Frozen loans, total amount (right)
Share of total household loans (left)

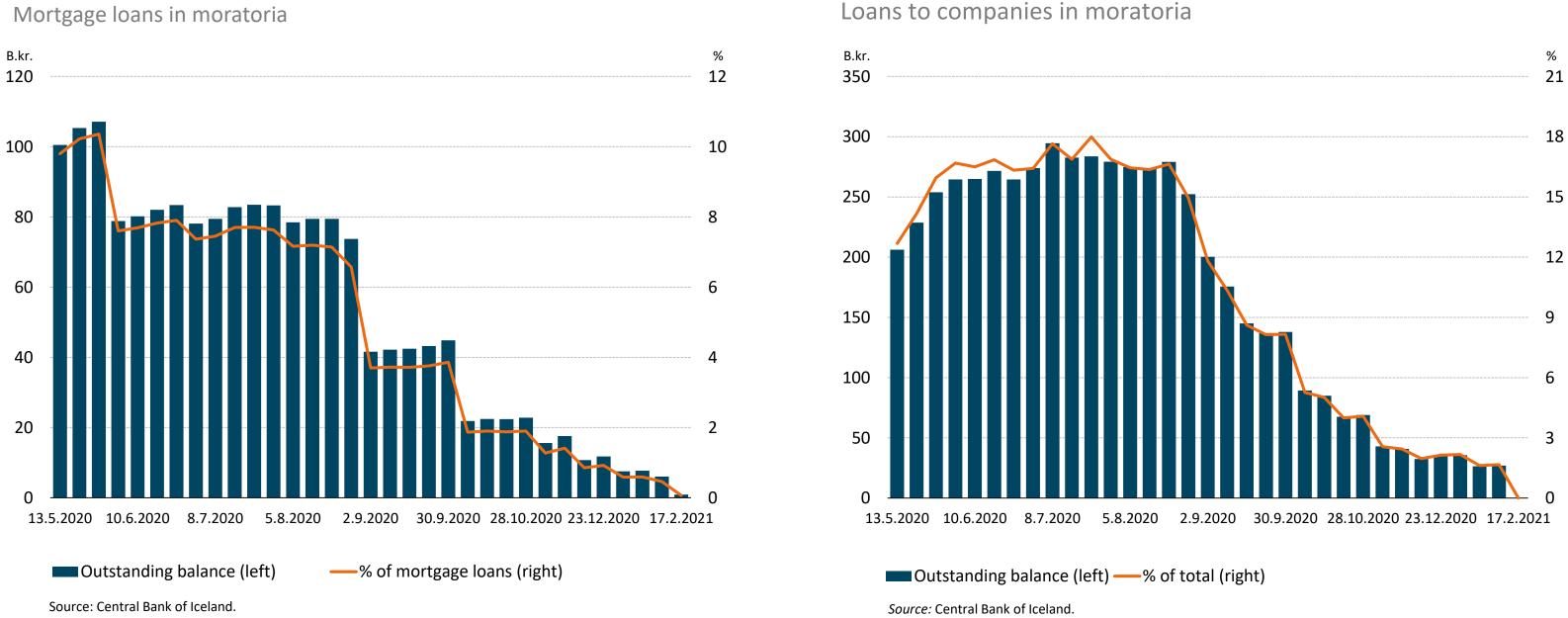
1. Parent companies, claim value, constant prices. Frozen loans according to the cross-default method. *Source:* Central Bank of Iceland.

Source: Directorate of labour.



## Covid-19 Moratoria

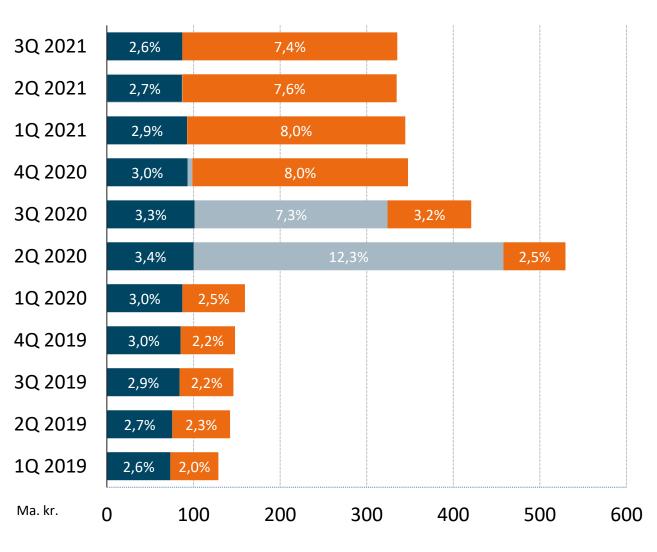
• Loan moratoria (payment holiday) by the financial sector was an important measure to mitigate the sudden fall in cash-flows of many companies





# **NPL & Forbearance**

- The banks average NPL core ratio was 2,6% at the end of Q3
  - Corporate NPL 4,2%
  - Households NPL 0,9%
- Still uncertainty regarding quality of loans to the tourism companies



- Non-performing loans
- Moratoria due to Covid 19
- Performing loans with forbearance

Source: Seðlabanki Íslands



### Large banks, non-performing, moratoria and forbearance

## Substantial Rise in Real Estate Prices - Actions taken





## The bar on LTV higher

80% in general

90% for first time buyers

**Introduction of DSTI** restrictions

35% of net income

40% for first time buyers



# Conclusion

- Government actions softened the downturn
- Coordinated reactions of the financial system
- Modest public guaranteed loans
- Next steps:
  - Analyse the quality of loans with forbearance

