

DECISION

DATE: 10 June 2025
DEPARTMENT: Markets Department
DOCUMENT REGISTRATION NUMBER (DNR): 2025-00253

Decision on interest-free deposits 2025

The Riksbank's decision

1. The Riksbank decides that Swedish credit institutions and Swedish branches of foreign credit institutions ("institutions") shall hold deposits totalling SEK 40,055 million on account at the Riksbank from 31 October 2025 until the Riksbank decides otherwise.
2. The Riksbank sets the interest rate on these accounts at 0 per cent.
3. The Riksbank decides that the institutions shall hold a share of their deposit base as interest-free deposits at the Riksbank. This share shall be the ratio of the total interest-free deposits and the institutions' total deposit base.
4. The Executive Board delegates to the Head of the Markets Department the task of deciding on the deposit requirement for each institution.
5. This decision will be published at 09.30 on 11 June 2025.

Grounds for the decision

Legal basis

Since 1 January 2025, according to Chapter 8, Section 16 of the Sveriges Riksbank Act (2022:1568) (the Riksbank Act), the Riksbank may require that a share of Swedish credit institutions' and Swedish branches' deposits and issued debt instruments ("liabilities") shall be matched by the institution's deposits at the Riksbank ("deposit requirement"). According to the same provision, the Riksbank

may decide on deposits when the Riksbank's equity falls below the target level.¹ The basis is that the deposits shall be interest-free.²

All institutions must hold a certain share of their deposit base as interest-free deposits at the Riksbank. The share shall be the same for all institutions so that they contribute to the Riksbank's financing in proportion to the size of their deposit base. The deposit requirement is to apply to all institutions, and the Riksbank is not able to exempt any institution.³

Conditions for the calculation of the deposit base

The deposit base

The deposit base consists of the institutions' deposits and issued debt instruments, with some exceptions. The deposit base shall not include liabilities attributable to foreign branches of Swedish credit institutions. For a Swedish branch of a foreign credit institution, the liabilities attributable to the branch's operations in Sweden are included. The liabilities of a Swedish head office to a branch abroad and the liabilities of a Swedish branch to a head office abroad are included.⁴

The basis for the calculation of the deposit base shall be the conditions at the turn of the year.⁵ All institutions have therefore been ordered to submit data on their liabilities as of 31 December 2024, or alternatively to consent to the Riksbank obtaining this data from Statistics Sweden, to which the institutions have previously reported the data.

Exemption for deposits from the Riksbank and other institutions subject to the requirement

Deposits from the Riksbank and other institutions subject to the deposit requirement shall not be included in the deposit base. The reason for this is that funding via the banking system should not entail double costs for the deposit requirement.⁶ Repurchase agreements (repos) via Swedish central counterparties that constitute deposits should also be deducted, since, based on statistical data, they are deemed to constitute deposits from Swedish credit institutions or branches in Sweden.

¹ According to Chapter 8, Section 9 of the Riksbank Act, equity may amount to a maximum of SEK 60 billion (target level), unless the Riksdag decides otherwise. The target level shall be recalculated each year in accordance with the change in the consumer price index (Chapter 8, Section 10 of the Riksbank Act).

² [Government Bill 2024/25:50](#) p. 28.

³ Government Bill 2024/25:50 p. 26.

⁴ Government Bill 2024/25:50 pp. 27 and 37.

⁵ Government Bill 2024/25:50 p. 27.

⁶ Government Bill 2024/25:50 p. 26.

Exemption for issued debt instruments held by the Riksbank and other institutions subject to the requirement

Issued debt instruments held by the Riksbank and other institutions subject to the deposit requirement shall not be included in the deposit base. However, an institution that issues debt instruments generally does not have information on the ownership of the issued instrument, as the instrument can be traded on the secondary market and thus change owners. It is therefore not possible, or at least very difficult, for institutions to show which issued debt instruments should be deducted when calculating the deposit base.

The Riksbank has access to statistical data on issued debt instruments, such as bonds, held by the Riksbank and other credit institutions. However, this information is confidential. Therefore, the data cannot be used to calculate deductions, as this could reveal the holdings of individual institutions in relation to the issuer. However, the Riksbank can use the information as a basis for determining standard deductions.

The statistics show that the Riksbank and other institutions mainly own covered bonds and bonds issued by Kommuninvest i Sverige AB. To enable the fairest possible deductions, the Riksbank has calculated a standard deduction of 24.4 percent for covered bonds and bonds issued by Kommuninvest i Sverige AB, and a standard deduction of 1.2 per cent for other bonds. The standard deduction for each category of bonds corresponds to the share owned by the Riksbank and the institutions subject to the deposit requirement of the total volume of issued debt instruments at the turn of the year. By using two different standard values, the deductions can be calculated with high precision in relation to what would have been the case if exact data could have been used.

An institution also has the option to claim a deduction for actually issued debt instruments if it can provide supporting evidence for this claim. When calculating the deduction from the deposit base, the Riksbank applies the information provided by the institution if this means a higher deduction than that given by the standard deduction.

Exemption for liabilities to other institutions subject to equivalent requirements in another EEA country

Liabilities to other institutions that are subject to a requirement in another country within the European Economic Area (EEA) that corresponds to the Riksbank's deposit requirement shall also not be included in the deposit base. The reason for this is that cross-border financing within the EEA should not be disadvantaged in relation to domestic financing. Other deposit requirements, such as reserve requirements imposed for monetary policy purposes, do not constitute

a corresponding requirement.⁷ The Riksbank is not aware of any corresponding requirements in any other EEA country at present.

Total deposit base of institutions

Based on the conditions stated above, the Riksbank has calculated the institutions' total deposit base as of 31 December 2024 to be 11,785,211,863,412 SEK.

Interest-free deposits shall amount to SEK 40,055 million

According to the Riksbank Act, the Riksbank shall independently finance its own administrative costs for the long term. Self-financing is achieved when net interest income, i.e. the difference between the Riksbank's interest income and interest costs, covers administrative costs and financial risk provisions. The Riksbank's equity and banknotes and coins in circulation contribute positively to net interest income, as they provide interest-free financing of the assets that creates a return for the Riksbank. Interest-free deposits also give the Riksbank access to interest-free financing, which contributes to the Riksbank's earnings and strengthens its financial position. As the Riksbank's equity is below the target level, and the Riksbank's result is very sensitive to the development of interest rates and exchange rates, it is justified that the Riksbank decides on a maximum amount for interest-free deposits. This in turn improves the Riksbank's ability to generate positive results in the long term and thus build up equity to the target level. Based on current conditions, the deposit requirement is expected to reduce the Riksbank's interest expenditure by just over SEK 500 million during the period November 2025 to May 2026, which will increase the Riksbank's result by a corresponding amount.

The Riksbank's equity on 31 December 2024 amounts to SEK 23,045 million, while the target level is SEK 63,100 million.⁸ The Riksbank can at most decide on interest-free deposits corresponding to the difference between these amounts, which for the 2025 decision means SEK 40,055 million. This means that the share to be held as interest-free deposits amounts to around 0.34 per cent of the institutions' deposit base (the ratio of total interest-free deposits to the institutions' total deposit base).

⁷ Government Bill 2024/25:50 p. 27.

⁸ Equity takes into account the decision of the General Council on the allocation of the 2024 result. See also the Riksdag's decision to adopt the Riksbank's profit and loss account and balance sheet and to approve the General Council's decision on the allocation of the year's result (bet. 2024/25:FiU23 and Riksdag Communication 2024/25:200).

Table: Summary - interest-free deposits, deposit base and share

Target equity level	63,100 million
Equity	23,045 million
Total interest-free deposits	40,055 million
Total deposit base	SEK 11,785,211,863,412
Share of deposit base	SEK 40,055 million / SEK 11,785,211,863,412 ≈ 0.34 per cent

The deposit requirement affects the institutions by tying up a proportion of their liquid assets as deposits with the Riksbank. All else equal, this leads to a loss of return on the deposits, as they are interest-free, and a reduction in their available liquidity. However, the deposit requirement of SEK 40,055 million is relatively small in relation to the institutions' balance sheet total. The requirement is expected to have only a minor negative effect on the institutions' results and liquidity. The negative impact on results for all institutions is estimated at approximately SEK 700 million for the period November 2025 to May 2026. The deposit requirement is therefore expected to have little or no impact on financial stability.

As the deposit requirement has relatively minor effects on the institutions, it is not expected to affect the interest costs of households and companies or have any other significant impact on monetary policy. In addition, the size of the deposit requirement is relatively small in relation to the liquidity surplus that is expected to remain in the banking system in the longer term. The deposit requirement is therefore not expected to have any significant effects on interest-rate setting.

Overall, the Riksbank assesses that total interest-free deposits of SEK 40,055 million is appropriate. However, the actual amount may be less if, for example, one of the institutions concerned goes bankrupt or winds up its activities during the period covered by the requirement. However, the share of the deposit base that the institutions are required to hold as interest-free deposits will not change. Even if there are changes in the institutions' deposit bases during the period to which the requirement applies, the share decided by the Riksbank to be held in interest-free deposits will stay the same.

Deposits to be held on account at the Riksbank as from 31 October 2025

The deposit requirement is to be held on account at the Riksbank without the institutions receiving any interest. As this is the first time the Riksbank has adopted deposit requirements, the institutions should be given sufficient time to adapt to the decision. The deposit requirement should therefore apply from 31

October 2025 until the Riksbank decides otherwise. Deposits in line with the deposit requirement into the institutions' accounts at the Riksbank can be made no earlier than 15 October 2025 and no later than 31 October 2025. The institutions cannot freely dispose of the funds in the deposit account. This means that the institutions need to fulfil the requirement every day during the period to which the requirement applies, that is, until the Riksbank takes a new decision.

Each year, the Riksbank will need to decide whether to apply a deposit requirement and, if so, how large the requirement should be. The size of the requirement may vary over time depending on the size of the Riksbank's equity and the target level. Decisions can be taken after the Riksdag has adopted the Riksbank's profit and loss account and balance sheet for the previous year, which usually takes place in April or May, as it is only then that the size of the equity is determined. The institutions' deposit bases are calculated on the basis of the conditions at the turn of each year, which means that they also change. If the deposit requirement for an individual institution is increased, the institution must increase its interest-free deposits at the Riksbank. If, on the other hand, the deposit requirement is lowered, the Riksbank will return funds to the institution.

Decision on institution-specific deposit requirements

The share of total non-interest-bearing deposits to be held by all institutions is determined by the ratio of total interest-free deposits (SEK 40,055 million) to the total deposit base of all institutions (approximately SEK 11,785,212 million). To determine each institution's deposit requirement this ratio is multiplied by the respective institution's deposit base.

The Executive Board delegates to the Head of the Markets Department the power to decide on the deposit requirement of individual institutions.

Overall assessment

A total of SEK 40,055 million in interest-free deposits helps to improve the Riksbank's ability to fund itself and can thus be assumed to lead to the intended outcome. The Riksbank has analysed the effects on individual institutions and conducted a risk analysis in connection with the introduction of the deposit requirement. The deposit requirement is relatively small in relation to the institutions' balance sheet total and is not expected to have any significant effects on either financial stability or monetary policy. As the Riksbank's result is very sensitive to the development of interest rates and exchange rates, it is justified that the Riksbank decides on a maximum amount of interest-free deposits. Overall, the Riksbank finds that the deposit requirement for 2025 is not more far-reaching than necessary and that it does not entail any costs or risks for the Riksbank's and the State. The Riksbank therefore assesses that the decision is

compatible with the principle of proportionality in Chapter 1, Section 8 of the Riksbank Act.

The decision has been taken by the Executive Board (Governor Erik Thedéen, First Deputy Governor Anna Breman and Deputy Governors Per Jansson and Anna Seim) following a presentation by Senior Advisor Albina Soultanaeva. Acting Head of Department Anders Gånge and General Counsel Annica Sandberg participated in the final processing of the matter.