FitchRatings

Key Rating Drivers

ΔG

Non-Bank Financial Institutions Finance & Leasing Companies Germany

Ratings

Foreign Currency	
Long-Term IDR	A-
Short-Term IDR	F1

Shareholder Support Rating

Sovereign Risk (Germany)

Long-Term Foreign-Currency IDR	AAA
Long-Term Local-Currency IDR	AAA
Country Ceiling	AAA

a-

Outlooks

Long-Term Foreign-Currency IDR	Stable
Sovereign Long-Term Foreign- Currency IDR	Stable
Sovereign Long-Term Local- Currency IDR	Stable

Rating of 'a-'. The Stable Outlook on VWFS's Long-Term Issuer Default Rating (IDR) is equalised with that on VW's Long-Term IDR. Fitch Ratings does not assign VWFS a standalone credit profile score because its franchise is highly correlated with that of its parent, and there is a high level of financial, operational and

Support-Driven Ratings: Volkswagen Financial Services AG's (VWFS) ratings are driven by an extremely high probability of support from its ultimate shareholder, Volkswagen AG (VW; A-/Stable), the leading global car manufacturer. This is reflected in VWFS's Shareholder Support

Volkswagen Financial Services

highly correlated with that of its parent, and there is a high level of financial, operational and management integration with the parent, reflected by, among other things, the current control and profit-and-loss transfer agreement between VWFS and VW.

Core Subsidiary, Highly Integrated: Fitch views VWFS as a core subsidiary of VW because of its central role in supporting VW's strategic objectives, the huge reputational impact a default of VWFS would have on VW, in our view, the high levels of integration, and the extensive record of ordinary and extraordinary support provided by VW in the past.

Smaller Size Due to Reorganisation: To optimise funding access for its European financial services division, VW plans to transfer ownership of VW Bank GmbH (not rated) to a new ECB-supervised intermediate holding company, which will also become the direct or indirect owner of other Europe-focused financial services entities (including the sizeable Volkswagen Leasing GmbH, which is owned by VWFS).

VWFS will reduce in size and be renamed Volkswagen Financial Services Overseas AG (VWFS Overseas) as a result of this reorganisation, to become the main intermediate holding company of VW's financial services activities outside Europe and North America, with material credit exposures in China and Brazil among other markets.

Support Unaffected by Planned Reorganisation: VWFS's current control and profit-and-loss transfer agreement will remain. In Fitch's view the reorganisation, which is planned to be mostly implemented by mid-2024, will not lead to a material reduction in VWFS's importance for VW, as reflected in the Stable Outlook on VWFS's Long-Term IDR. After the reorganisation, VWFS Overseas will be materially smaller and its average penetration rate will drop, but in our view it will remain central in supporting VW sales in a number of important growth markets.

Parental Support Allows High Leverage: VWFS's leverage ratio, defined as gross debt/tangible equity, is higher than that of comparable independent finance companies, at 6.3x at end-1H23 (end-2022: 6.3x). However, VWFS's leverage profile is supported by its sound earnings profile and the control and profit-and-loss agreement with VW. We believe VW is able to and will provide capital support to VWFS, if required, without materially impairing its own credit profile.

Well-Managed RV Risk: VWFS has a good record of managing residual value (RV) risks, reflected in positive net used car sales results, which have been particularly strong recently due to high used car prices. We expect used car prices to reduce in 2024, but do not expect VWFS to report RV-related losses, reflecting generally prudent RV risk-setting.

VWFS is exposed to moderate interest rate risk (controlled by a value-at-risk model), but its appetite for foreign exchange (FX) risk is low, with all FX cash flows hedged with currency forwards, or cross-currency interest rate swaps.

Applicable Criteria

Non-Bank Financial Institutions Rating Criteria (January 2024)

Related Research

Fitch Publishes Volkswagen Financial Services AG's 'A-' IDR; Outlook Stable (January 2024) EMEA NBFI Refinancing Risk Report: 2024 (February 2024) EMEA Developed Markets Finance and Leasing Outlook 2024 (December 2023)

Analysts

Ilya Makunin +49 69 768076 169 ilya.makunin@fitchratings.com

Markus Glabach +49 69 768076 195 markus.glabach@fitchratings.com

Rating Sensitivities

Factors that Could, Individually or Collectively, Lead to Negative Rating Action/Downgrade

Any negative rating action on VW would likely be mirrored in VWFS's ratings and Outlook.

A weakening of VW's propensity to support VWFS, for instance, due to VWFS becoming less central to VW's overall mobility services strategy, could lead to Fitch notching VWFS's Long-Term IDR from VW's Long-Term IDR, which would result in a downgrade. In particular, consistently below sector-average penetration rates or a transfer of business activities to other financial services entities beyond the current reorganisation plan could indicate reduced relevance of VWFS for VW.

Factors that Could, Individually or Collectively, Lead to Positive Rating Action/Upgrade

As VWFS's ratings are equalised with VW, any positive rating action on VW would likely be mirrored in VWFS's ratings and Outlook.

Shareholder Support Assessment

Shareholder Support	
Shareholder IDR	A-
Total Adjustments (notches)	0
Shareholder Support Rating	a-
Shareholder ability to support	
Shareholder Rating	A-/Stable
Shareholder regulation	1 Notch
Relative size	1 Notch
Country risks	Equalised
Shareholder propensity to support	
Subsidiary role and relevance	Equalised
Reputational risk	Equalised
Integration	Equalised
Support record	Equalised
Subsidiary performance and prospects	Equalised
Legal commitments	1 Notch

The colours indicate the weighting of each KRD in the assessment.

Higher influence 📃 Moderate influence 📃 Lower influence

VWFS's Long-Term IDR is driven by the extremely high probability of support from VW, and is aligned with VW's Long-Term IDR. In assessing support, Fitch accounts for VWFS's core subsidiary status and central role in supporting VW's strategic objectives globally, and VW's 100% ownership of VWFS, as well as the huge reputational impact for VW should the subsidiary default. It also takes into account the high level of financial, operational and management integration, and highly correlated franchises. VW has previously provided extensive ordinary and extraordinary support, and VWFS has a long and successful record of supporting group's global sales, as the key platform for VW's mobility solutions offering.

Fitch believes VWFS Overseas's penetration rate will reduce after the reorganisation in 1H24, as the entity's leasing business will deconsolidate and the entity will become materially smaller. However, in our view, VWFS Overseas will remain central in supporting business growth in a number of VW's core growth markets. We therefore believe it will not lead to a material reduction in VWFS Overseas' importance for VW, as reflected in the Stable Outlook on VWFS's Long-Term IDR.

Key Qualitative Factors

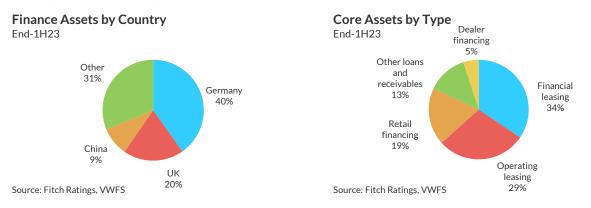
Used Car Sales Market to Normalise

Fitch expects auto finance and leasing companies' profitability, which was helped by large net gains from used car sales in recent years, to return to pre-pandemic levels in 2024. Used car prices remain high, but are falling as the supply of new vehicles has improved substantially, and demand has been pressured by higher interest rates and falling consumer expenditure. We expect RV gains to shrink as VWFS will start selling cars acquired at high prices at the outbreak of the pandemic, but the rating case assumes no material RV losses, given VWFS's disciplined RV settings.

High Integration with Parent

VWFS is VW's integrated financial services arm, and is fully owned by, and branded similarly to, VW. With EUR138 billion of assets at end-1H23, VWFS is one of the largest automotive financial services companies globally, accounting for 24% of VW's total group assets. VWFS's activities include auto finance and leasing, dealer financing, insurance and services, with products offered mostly through VW's dealer network globally. Typical for OEM's financial services companies, VWFS's business model heavily relies on group sales, exposing it to the volatility of the automotive industry. This is mitigated by incrementally more stable financial services revenue stream, company's broad geographical and product diversification and scalable business model.

VWFS has a long and successful record of supporting group sales as the key platform of VW's mobility solutions offering. VWFS's penetration rate (VWFS contracts/VW car sales) – excluding China where penetration rates are materially lower for all car manufacturers – was 46% at end-2022 (end-1H23: 46%), which is broadly in line with peers and emphasises VWFS's importance for VW.



Adequate Risk Profile

VWFS's underwriting, scoring and risk control frameworks are in line with that of its peers. We expect risk policy to remain adequate after the restructuring. VWFS expects a significant portfolio growth, driven by growing demand for its financial and mobility services.

Growth Dynamic



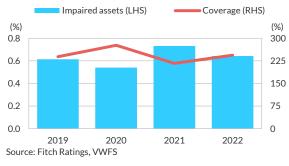
Source: Fitch Ratings, VWFS

Financial Profile

Robust Asset Quality

At end-1H23, 65% of VWFS's EUR138 billion assets related to customer loans and receivables, with another 26% related to operating leases, exposing VWFS to direct RV risk. Credit risk is well-managed, supported by the secured nature of company's exposures, as well as the sound risk framework and granular portfolio. VWFS's impaired receivables ratio (stage 3 and purchased or originated credit-impaired /gross loans and finance leases) has been consistently low (around 0.6% at end-2022) and average impairment charges to gross loans and finance leases was 0.5% in 2019-2022.

Solid Asset Quality



Sound Profitability



Sound Profitability to Moderate

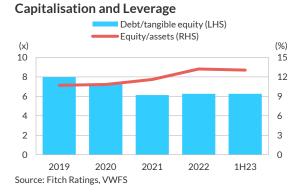
VWFS's profitability is sound, reflected in a pre-tax income/average assets ratio averaging 1.8% in 2019-2022. In 2024, higher interest expenses and a reduced net car sales result will weigh on VWFS's profitability. We also believe operating expenses, which averaged 59% of total net operating revenue in 2019-2022, could increase driven by costs related to re-organisation, putting pressure on profitability.

We believe macroeconomic volatility and uncertainty around RVs could lead to increased impairment and depreciation expenses, but we expect profitability to remain sound, supported by higher financing and leasing income and the implementation of VWFS's cost-saving programme.

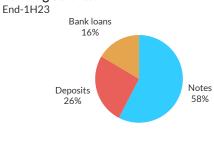
Leverage Higher than Peers'

VWFS's leverage (gross debt/tangible equity) was 6.3x at end-1H23 (end-2022: 6.3x), with asset growth supported by solid net profits in 2021 and 2022, and only modest dividend distributions. Leverage was still high relative to peer independent finance companies; however, it is supported by VWFS's sound earnings profile and the control and profit-and-loss agreement with VW.

We expect leverage will remain high in 1H24. However, the potential transfer of Volkswagen Leasing GmbH and other Europe-focused financial services entities, as part of the reorganisation, could lead to a decrease in leverage. In our view, the growth in costlier electric vehicles could drive higher fleet investment on a unit-cost basis, which combined with electric vehicles' RV concerns could put pressure on leverage and quality of capital.



Funding Structure



Source: Fitch Ratings, VWFS

Solid Funding Profile

VWFS sources a significant proportion of its funding from global asset-backed securities (ABS) markets (25% of total debt). The remaining funding (bank loans, customer deposits and notes) was mostly unsecured, providing the company with sufficient funding flexibility. Around 23% of VWFS's liabilities at end-2022 were from related parties.

VWFS's short-term debt to total debt ratio is high, at 40% at end-2022, reflecting large refinancing needs amid ongoing re-organisation and still high interest rates. However, we believe VWFS's solid capital market access should mitigate refinancing challenges, with the company also benefitting from a EUR2.5 billion committed liquidity facility from the parent.

Post re-organisation VWFS aims for an around an equal distribution of its funding between ABS, loans and bonds, which should provide diversified funding access. At the same time, customer deposits will no longer be raised under VW Overseas, with VW Bank consolidated under the newly created holding company.

Environmental, Social and Governance Considerations

FitchRatings

Volkswagen Financial Services AG

NBFI Ratings Navigator

0									Rat	ings Navigato				
Credit-Relevant ESG Derivatio	n							_	ESG Relevand	ce to Credit Rating				
Volkswagen Financial Services AG has	9 ESG po	tential rating drivers		ke	ey driver 0 issues			5	5					
		s exposure to regulatory risks, emissions fines or compliance costs related is has very low impact on the rating.	xposure to regulatory risks, emissions fines or compliance costs related to owned equipment, which could impact											
🔶 Volkswagen Financial Servic		driver					issue	5 	4					
 data protection; legal/regula Volkswagen Financial Servic 	tory fines	s exposure to fair lending practices; pricing transparency; repossession/foi s stemming from any of the above but this has very low impact on the ratin s exposure to impact of labor negotiations, including board/employee com	g.	poten	tial driver	9	issue	5	3					
		is exposure to shift in social or consumer preferences as a result of an institution's social positions, or social and/or . but this has very low impact on the rating.				2 issues		5	2					
Governance is minimally rele	evant to t	he rating and is not currently a driver.				iver 3 issues		5	1					
Environmental (E) Relevance So	cores													
General Issues	E Score	Sector-Specific Issues	Reference	E Rele	evance									
GHG Emissions & Air Quality	3	Regulatory risks, emissions fines or compliance costs related to owned equipment, which could impact asset demand, profitability, etc.	Sector Risk Operating Environment	5				How to F	Read This Page					
Energy Management	2	Investments in or ownership of assets with below-average energy/fuel efficiency which could impact future valuation of these assets	Risk Profile	4		is most i	relevant f	to the credit rating an	d green (1) is least rel					
Water & Wastewater Management	2	n.a.	n.a.	3		The Environmental (E), Social (S) and Governance (G) tables break out the general issues and the sector-specific issues that are most relevant to each industry group. Relevance scores are assigned to each sector-specific issue, signaling the credit-relevance of the sector-specific issues to the issuer's ov credit rating. The Criteria Reference column highlights the factor(s) within the corresponding ESG issues are captured in Fitch's credit analysis. The ve								
Waste & Hazardous Materials Management; Ecological Impacts	3	n.a.	n.a.	2										
Exposure to Environmental Impacts	1	Impact of extreme weather events on assets and/or operations and corresponding risk profile & management; catastrophe risk; credit concentrations	Business Profile; Asset Quality	1		color bars are visualizations of the frequency of occurrence of the higher constituent relevance scores. They do not represent an aggregate of the scores or aggregate ESG credit relevance.								
Social (S) Relevance Scores										nn is a visualization of				
General Issues	S Score	Sector-Specific Issues	Reference	S Rele				occurrence of the hig d G categories. The th		cores across the eft of ESG Relevance to				
Human Rights, Community Relations, Access & Affordability	1	n.a.	n.a.	5		The box	on the fa	nmarize rating releva Ir left identifies any E ial drivers of the issue	SG Relevance Sub-fac					
Customer Welfare - Fair Messaging, Privacy & Data Security	3	Fair lending practices; pricing transparency; repossession/foreclosure/collection practices; consumer data protection; legal/regulatory fines stemming from any of the above	Sector Risk Operating Environment; Risk Profile; Asset Quality	4		'4' and '		umed to reflect a neg		ce score. All scores of adicated with a '+' sign				
Labor Relations & Practices	3	Impact of labor negotiations, including board/employee compensation and composition	Business Profile; Management & Strategy; Earnings & Profitability; Capitalisation & Leverage; Funding, Liquidity & Coverage	3		Classification of ESG issues has been developed from Fitch's sector ratin The General Issues and Sector-Specific Issues draw on the classification s				The General Issues and Sector-Specific Issues draw on the classificat				lassification standards
Employee Wellbeing	1	n.a.	n.a.	2				l by the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investing (PRI), the illity Accounting Standards Board (SASB), and the World Bank.						
Exposure to Social Impacts	3	Shift in social or consumer preferences as a result of an institution's social positions, or social and/or political disapproval of core activities	Business Profile; Earnings & Profitability	1										
Governance (G) Relevance Scor	res					CREDI	T-RELE	ANT ESG SCALE						
General Issues	G Score	Sector-Specific Issues	Reference	G Rel				e E, S and G issues to	the overall credit rat	ing?				
Management Strategy	3	Operational implementation of strategy	Management & Strategy	5		5		the rating on an indi		s a significant impact or ent to "higher" relative gator.				
Governance Structure	3	Board independence and effectiveness; ownership concentration; protection of creditor/stakeholder rights; legal/compliance risks; business continuity; key person risk; related party transactions	Management & Strategy	4		4		Relevant to rating, no rating in combination	t a key rating driver t	out has an impact on the quivalent to "moderate				
Group Structure	3	Organizational structure; appropriateness relative to business model; opacity; intra-group dynamics; ownership	Business Profile	3		3		managed in a way th	nat results in no impa	low impact or actively ct on the entity rating. nee within Navigator.				
Financial Transparency	3	Quality and timing of financial reporting and auditing processes	Management & Strategy	2		2		Irrelevant to the	entity rating but rele	evant to the sector.				

1

1

The highest level of ESG credit relevance is a score of '3', unless otherwise disclosed in this section. A score of '3' means ESG issues are credit neutral or have only a minimal credit impact on the entity, either due to their nature or the way in which they are being managed by the entity. Fitch's ESG Relevance Scores are not inputs in the rating process; they are an observation on the relevance and materiality of ESG factors in the rating decision. For more information on Fitch's ESG Relevance Scores, visit https://www.fitchratings.com/topics/esg/products#esg-relevance-scores.

Irrelevant to the entity rating and irrelevant to the sector.

Financials

Income Statement

	30 Jui	n 23	31 Dec 22	31 Dec 21	31 Dec 20	31 Dec 19
	6 months - interim	6 months - interim	Year end	Year end	Year end	Year end
	(USDm)	(EURm)	(EURm)	(EURm)	(EURm)	(EURm)
	Audited - report not seen r	- Audited eport not seen	- Audited unqualified	- Audited unqualified	- Audited unqualified	- Audited unqualified
Revenues		· · ·	· · ·	· · ·	· · ·	
Interest income on loans	1,615	1,486	2,471	2,095	1,995	2,094
Finance lease income	n.a.	n.a.	2,001	1,830	1,852	n.a.
Gross operating lease & rental income	13,134	12,087	19,030	17,559	15,154	14,294
Depreciation of lease & rental assets	10,235	9,419	16,626	16,180	14,911	12,378
Net operating lease & rental income	2,899	2,668	2,404	1,379	243	1,916
Net fees and commissions	135	124	411	393	542	346
Net gains/(losses) on trading, FX and derivatives	-85	-78	777	267	-61	-118
Other operating income	861	792	1,430	1,949	2,049	1,852
Total gross operating revenues	5,424	4,992	9,494	7,913	6,620	6,090
Total interest expense	2,320	2,135	2,167	1,314	1,354	1,352
Total net operating revenues	3,104	2,857	7,327	6,599	5,266	4,738
Expenses						
Depreciation and amortisation of own assets	38	35	84	69	74	70
Personnel expenses	628	578	1,133	1,029	926	902
Other operating expenses	1,373	1,264	2,404	2,343	2,632	2,208
Total operating expenses	2,040	1,877	3,621	3,441	3,632	3,180
Pre-impairment/provision operating profit	1,065	980	3,706	3,158	1,634	1,558
Impairment charges (reversals) on loans & finance leases	203	187	703	122	610	294
Pre-tax income	865	796	3,003	3,005	1,024	1,264
Income tax expense	293	270	1,184	778	228	374
Net income (incl. non-controlling interests)	572	526	1,819	2,227	796	890
Exchange rate	· · · · ·	USD1 = EUR0.9203	USD1 = EUR0.9376	USD1 = EUR0.8842	USD1 = EUR0.8220	USD1 = EUR0.8902

Balance Sheet

	30 Jun 23		31 Dec 22	31 Dec 21	31 Dec 20	31 Dec 19
	6 months - interim (USDm)	6 months - interim (EURm)	Year end (EURm)	Year end (EURm)	Year end (EURm)	Year end (EURm)
Assets Loans & leases						
	50,097	44 104	47.040	40.495	20.071	40.410
Gross customer loans and other receivables Finance lease receivables	· · ·	46,104	47,040	40,685	39,871	40,419
	47,155	43,397	41,235	40,901	40,803	39,951
Gross loans & finance leases	97,252	89,501	88,275	81,586	80,674	80,370
Memo: impaired loans, leases and receivables included above	n.a.	n.a.	567	596	435	493
Less: loss allowances for loans, leases and receivables	n.a.	n.a.	1,382	1,289	1,202	1,175
Net loans and finance leases	97,252	89,501	86,893	80,297	79,472	79,195
Gross operating leases & rental assets	42,439	39,057	44,869	40,571	33,365	29,425
Accumulated depreciation on operating leases & rental assets	2,952	2,717	9,942	8,505	6,855	6,649
Net operating leases & rental assets	39,487	36,340	34,927	32,066	26,510	22,776
Investments in securities	1,044	961	894	994	772	896
Derivative assets	1,646	1,515	1,332	586	837	736
Other interest earning assets	4,266	3,926	3,406	5,066	3,830	2,477
Total interest earning assets	104,208	95,903	92,525	86,943	84,911	83,304
Investments in associated companies	695	640	722	787	743	737
Investments in property	75	69	71	76	80	17
Other assets						
Cash & equivalents	2	2	2	33	47	106
Restricted cash	n.a.	n.a.	688	865	777	810
Property, plant and equipment	404	372	320	361	378	413
Goodwill	n.a.	n.a.	6	33	33	35
Other intangibles	120	110	99	80	59	56
Deferred tax assets	1,275	1,173	1,143	1,641	1,752	1,513
Assets from discontinued operations	186	171	1,165	327	1,092	1,058
Other assets	3,732	3,435	1,673	1,378	1,452	1,619
Total assets	150,184	138,215	133,341	124,590	117,834	112,444
Liabilities & equity				,	,	,
Unsecured short-term debt	n.a.	n.a.	43,281	39,891	38,530	38,811
Short-term borrowings (maturing within 12 months)	n.a.	n.a.	43,281	39,891	38,530	38,811
Secured long-term debt (incl. finance lease liabilities)	n.a.	n.a.	26,348	27,803	25,633	24,102
Unsecured long-term debt	n.a.	n.a.	34,919	34,029	32,707	28,242
Long-term borrowings (maturing after 12 months)	n.a.	n.a.	61,267	61,832	58,340	52,344
Subordinated debt	3,216	2,960	2,909	3,039	4,170	6,943
Total borrowings	121,684	111,986	107,457	104,762	101,040	98,098
Derivative liabilities			2.424			
	2,958	2,722	,	532	464	427
Deferred tax liabilities	1,011	930	903	708	572	655
Liabilities from discontinued operations	100	92	478	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Other liabilities	4,851	4,464	4,454	4,155	3,004	1,236
Total liabilities	130,603	120,194	115,716	110,157	105,080	100,416
Total equity	19,582	18,021	17,625	14,433	12,754	12,028
Total liabilities and equity	150,184	138,215	133,341	124,590	117,834	112,444
Exchange rate		USD1 = EUR0.9203	USD1 = EUR0.9376	USD1 = EUR0.8842	USD1 = EUR0.8220	USD1 = EUR0.8902

Source: Fitch Ratings, Fitch Solutions, Volkswagen Financial Services AG

Summary Analytics

	30 Jun 23	31 Dec 22	31 Dec 21	31 Dec 20	31 Dec 19
	6 months - interim	Year end	Year end	Year end	Year end
Asset quality ratios (%)					
Impaired loans & finance leases/gross loans & finance leases	n.a.	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.6
Loss allowances/impaired loans & finance leases	n.a.	243.7	216.3	276.3	238.3
Net charge-offs/avg. gross loans & finance leases	n.a.	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Growth of gross loans & finance leases YoY	2.8	8.2	1.1	0.4	33.3
Loss allowances/gross loans & finance leases	n.a.	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5
Impairment charges on loans & finance leases/avg. gross loans & finance leases	0.4	0.8	0.2	0.8	0.4
Earnings and profitability ratios (%)					
Pre-tax income/average assets	1.2	2.3	2.5	0.9	1.3
Pre-tax income/average equity (9.0	18.7	22.1	8.3	12.6
Operating expenses/total net operating revenue	65.7	49.4	52.1	69.0	67.1
Depreciation expense/total revenue	65.4	63.7	67.2	69.3	67.0
Impairment charges/pre-impairment op. profit	19.1	19.0	3.9	37.3	18.9
Capitalisation and leverage ratios (%)					
Debt/tangible equity (x)	6.3	6.3	6.1	7.3	8.0
Tangible equity/tangible assets	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
(Net income - dividends - share repurchases)/beginning equity	6.0	9.8	17.5	6.6	11.1
Debt/equity (x)	6.2	6.1	7.3	7.9	8.2
Equity/total assets	13.0	13.2	11.6	10.8	10.7
Funding, liquidity and coverage ratios (%)					
Unsecured debt/total debt	n.a.	75.5	73.5	74.6	75.4
Short-term debt/total debt	n.a.	40.3	38.1	38.1	39.6
Dividends/net income	n.a.	22.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Source: Fitch Ratings, Fitch Solutions, Volkswagen Financial Services AG					

FitchRatings

SOLICITATION & PARTICIPATION STATUS

For information on the solicitation status of the ratings included within this report, please refer to the solicitation status shown in the relevant entity's summary page of the Fitch Ratings website.

For information on the participation status in the rating process of an issuer listed in this report, please refer to the most recent rating action commentary for the relevant issuer, available on the Fitch Ratings website.

DISCLAIMER & DISCLOSURES

All Fitch Ratings (Fitch) credit ratings are subject to certain limitations and disclaimers. Please read these limitations and disclaimers by following link: https://www.fitchratings.com/understandingcreditratings. In addition, the following https://www.fitchratings.com/rating-definitions-document details Fitch's rating definitions for each rating scale and rating categories, including definitions relating to default. Published ratings, criteria, and methodologies are available from this site at all times. Fitch's code of conduct, confidentiality, conflicts of interest, affiliate firewall, compliance, and other relevant policies and procedures are also available from Code of Conduct section of this site. Directors and shareholders' relevant interests are available the https://www.fitchratings.com/site/regulatory. Fitch may have provided another permissible or ancillary service to the rated entity or its related third parties. Details of permissible or ancillary service(s) for which the lead analyst is based in an ESMA- or FCA-registered Fitch Ratings company (or branch of such a company) can be found on the entity summary page for this issuer on the Fitch Ratings website.

In issuing and maintaining its ratings and in making other reports (including forecast information), Fitch relies on factual information it receives from issuers and underwriters and from other sources. Fitch believes to be credible. Fitch conducts a reasonable investigation of the factual information relied upon by it in accordance with its ratings methodology, and obtains reasonable verification of that information from independent sources, to the extent such sources are available for a given security or in a given jurisdiction. The manner of Fitch's factual investigation and the scope of the third-party verification it obtains will vary depending on the nature of the rated security and its issuer, the requirements and practices in the jurisdiction in which the rated security is offered and sold and/or the issuer is located, the availability and nature of relevant public information, access to the management of the issuer and its advisers, the availability of pre-existing third-party verifications such as audit reports, agreed-upon procedures they apprisals, actural reports, engineering reports, legal opinions and other reports provided by third parties, the availability of independent and competent third-party verification and ther reports. Users of Fitch's ratings and reports should understand that neither an enhanced factual investigation nor any third-party verification can ensure that all of the information fitch relies on in connection with a rating or a report will be accurate and complete. Ultimately, the issuer and its reports, Fitch must rely on the work of experts, including independent auditors with respect to legal and tax matters. Further, ratings and forecasts of financial and other information are inherently forward-looking and embody assumptions and predictions shout future events that by their nature cannot be verified as fast. As a result, despite any verification of current facts, ratings and forecasts can be affected by future events or conditions that wentere anonto be verified as fast.

The information in this report is provided "as is" without any representation or warranty of any kind, and Fitch does not represent or warrant that the report or any of its contents will meet any of the requirements of a recipient of the report. A Fitch rating is an opinion as to the creditworthiness of a security. This opinion and reports made by Fitch are based on established criteria and methodologies that Fitch is continuously evaluating and updating. Therefore, ratings and reports are the collective work product of Fitch are no individuals, is solely responsible for a rating or a report. The rating does not address the risk of loss due to risks other than credit risk, unless such risk is specifically mentioned. Fitch is not engaged in the offer or sale of any security. All Fitch reports have shared authorship. Individuals identified in a Fitch report were involved in, but are not solely responsible for, the opinions stated therein. The individuals are named for contact purposes only. A report providing a Fitch rating is neither a prospectus changed or withdrawn at any time for any reason in the sole discretion of Fitch. Fitch does not provide investment advice of any sort. Ratings are not a recommendation to buy, sell, or hold any security. Ratings do not comment on the adequacy of market price, the suitability of any security for a particular investor, or the tax-exempt nature or taxability of payments made in respect to any security. Fitch receives fees from issues, insurers, guarantors, other obligors, and underwriters for rating securities. Such fees generally vary from US\$1,000 to US\$750,000 (or the applicable currency equivalent) per issue. In certain cases, Fitch will rate all or a number of issues issued by a particular insurer or guarantor, for a single annual fee. Such fees are expected to vary from US\$1,000 to US\$1,500,000 (or the applicable currency equivalent). The assignment, publication, or dissemination of a rating by Fitch shall not constitute a consent by Fitch to use its name as an exper

For Australia, New Zealand, Taiwan and South Korea only: Fitch Australia Pty Ltd holds an Australian financial services license (AFS license no. 337123) which authorizes it to provide credit ratings to wholesale clients only. Credit ratings information published by Fitch is not intended to be used by persons who are retail clients within the meaning of the Corporations Act 2001.

Fitch Ratings, Inc. is registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission as a Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization (the "NRSRO"). While certain of the NRSRO's credit rating subsidiaries are listed on Item 3 of Form NRSRO and as such are authorized to issue credit ratings on behalf of the NRSRO (see https://www.fitchratings.com/site/regulatory), other credit rating subsidiaries are not listed on Form NRSRO (more "non-NRSRO") and therefore credit rating subsidiaries are not issued on behalf of the NRSRO. However, non-NRSRO personnel may participate in determining credit ratings issued by or on behalf of the NRSRO.

Copyright © 2024 by Fitch Ratings, Inc., Fitch Ratings Ltd. and its subsidiaries. 33 Whitehall Street, NY, NY 10004. Telephone: 1-800-753-4824, (212) 908-0500. Reproduction or retransmission in whole or in part is prohibited except by permission. All rights reserved.