# FINANCIAL STABILITY REPORT, NOVEMBER 2024

Press Conference | 27 November 2024



Senior economic analyst
Financial System Analysis Directorate





I. Shock resilience of the Hungarian banking sector



II. Trends in corporate lending



III. Trends in household lending



IV. Risks in the housing loan market





### KEY TAKEAWAYS OF THE REPORT

- **Hungarian banking system remains stable,** several risks identified in the spring have abated.
- **Shock resilience** is strengthened by outstandingly high profitability, ample liquidity, adequate capitalisation and the high quality of the loan portfolios.
- Return on equity was supported both by volatile and one-off items; **profitability** calculated with these items filtered out may have peaked at the end of 2023.
- In line with global trends, risks related to domestic commercial real estate lending continue to deserve special attention.
- The credit market is characterised by dual trends: household lending picked up significantly, corporate credit growth decelerated further, owing to subdued credit demand.
- The lending capacity of the banking system is abundant, no credit supply constraints can be identified.
- The stress test results suggest that the sector would meet the regulatory requirements on liquidity and capital adequacy even in the event of a severe shock.



## I. SHOCK RESILIENCE OF THE HUNGARIAN BANKING SECTOR



### HUNGARIAN BANKING SYSTEM REMAINS STABLE, WITH RISKS IDENTIFIED EARLIER MODERATING

Stability indicators of the banking system

Financial Stability Indicators	2008	2019	2024 H1
Liquid assets / total assets	10.0%	28.2%	33.5%
Loan-to-deposit ratio	152.0%	75.5%	74.9%
Foreign funds / total liabilites	33.9%	12.7%	10.5%
Capital adequacy ratio	12.9%	18.0%	19.6%
Share of loans over 90 days past due	4.6%	2.1%	1.4%
Return on Equity	11.3%	11.6%	26.2%
Operational costs to assets	2.4%	2.0%	1.7%
Household loans outstanding - annual growth rate	19.1%	16.7%	6.0%
Share of FX loans in the household loan segment	66.7%	0.5%	0.3%
Share of floating-rate loans in the household mortgages	77.5%	48.7%	14.8%
Corporate loans outstanding - annual growth rate	6.5%	14.2%	3.7%

### The most important challenges of the banking system



Valuation of commercial real estate collaterals



Core profitability\* may have peaked



Subdued investment activity and credit demand



Low interest rate spread in the housing loan market



## THE RISKS IDENTIFIED IN THE SPRING STABILITY REPORT HAVE OVERALL ABATED



LABOUR MARKET The unemployment rate rose to **4.4-4.5 per cent** at the beginning of 2024

The unemployment rate has been fluctuating at this low level since then

Kérdések sajto@mnb.hu



INTEREST RATE CAP

**19 per cent** of the mortgage portfolio is under interest rate cap

Declining interest rate environment → median increase in instalments is **5,000 HUF** 



PRENATAL BABY SUPPORT LOAN

15-25 per cent of contracts concluded in 2019 did not result in children being born

**2 years** (end of June 2026)



LIQUIDATION PROCEEDINGS

The number of liquidation proceedings increased in 2024 H1

These corporations have a low level of bank loans outstanding



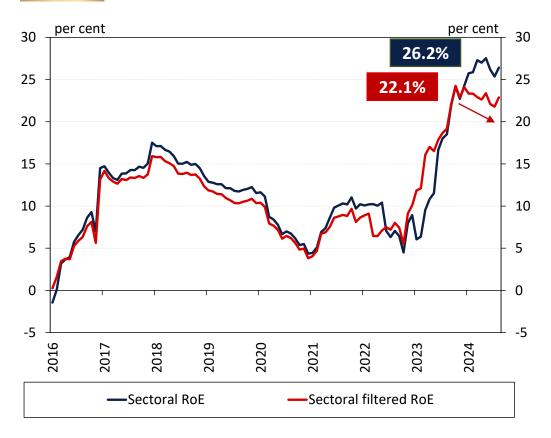
### THE SHOCK RESILIENCE OF THE BANKING SECTOR IS STILL STRONG

## **OUTSTANDING PROFITABILITY** Outstandingly high **HUF 934 Bn** profit after tax in H1 **Return on Equity** 26%

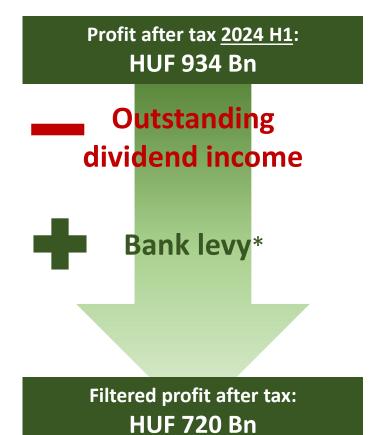
Note | Data for NPL and capital position refer to June 2024, while data for liquidity refer to August 2024. Profit after tax refers to 2024 H1, Return on Equity is determined on a 12-month basis and is as of the end of June 2024. Free capital buffer is calculated capital requirements valid at the end of June 2024 taken into account, and excluding unaudited interim | 7 profit. Source | MNB



### PROFITABILITY IN 2024 COULD ALSO BE HIGH, BUT CORE PROFITABILITY MAY HAVE PEAKED



THE 12-MONTH ROLLING FILTERED AND UNFILTERED RETURN ON EQUITY AFTER TAX IN THE CREDIT INSTITUTION SECTOR

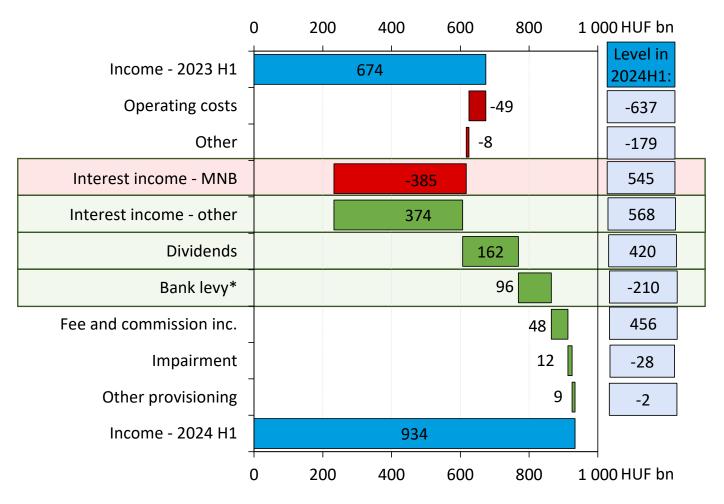


\*In the second half of 2024, the windfall tax – previously accounted for using the discount in effect at the beginning of 2024 – is expected to increase.

Note | Based on non-consolidated data. As regards filtered sectoral RoE, the sectoral RoE excludes the following oneoff items: special tax on financial organisations, windfall tax, dividend income. Return on equity is calculated on the | 8 basis of profit after tax, with 12-month average equity calculated without the current year's profit. Source | MNB



## NET INTEREST INCOME WAS SUPPORTED BY AN INCREASE IN INTEREST INCOME FROM OTHER SECTORS



### ANNUAL CHANGES IN THE AFTER-TAX PROFIT COMPONENTS OF THE CREDIT INSTITUTION SECTOR

Note | The bank levy\* line includes the combined change in the special tax on financial organisations ('normal' bank levy) and the windfall tax (extra profit tax). Source | MNB



### THE SHOCK RESILIENCE OF THE BANKING SECTOR IS STILL STRONG

### **OUTSTANDING PROFITABILITY**





### HISTORICALLY LOW **NPL-RATES**



Outstandingly high profit after tax in H1

**HUF 934 Bn** 

Continued to decline in the *household* portfolio

2.3%

**Return on Equity** 

26%



Stagnated in the *corporate* portfolio

3.8%



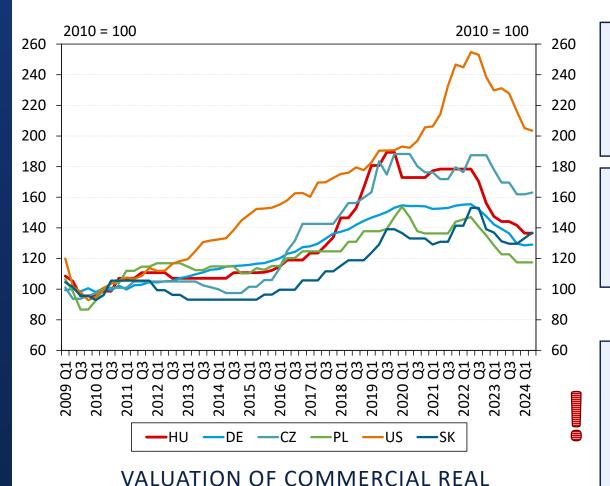




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### THE DEPRECIATION OF COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE IS A **GLOBAL PHENOMENON**



**Increased financing costs and higher** expected yields in an uncertain market have caused commercial real estate prices to decline globally since 2022.

In 2022, a significant price decline began in both the USA and Europe, with a 13-24% decline in value by 2024 Q2.



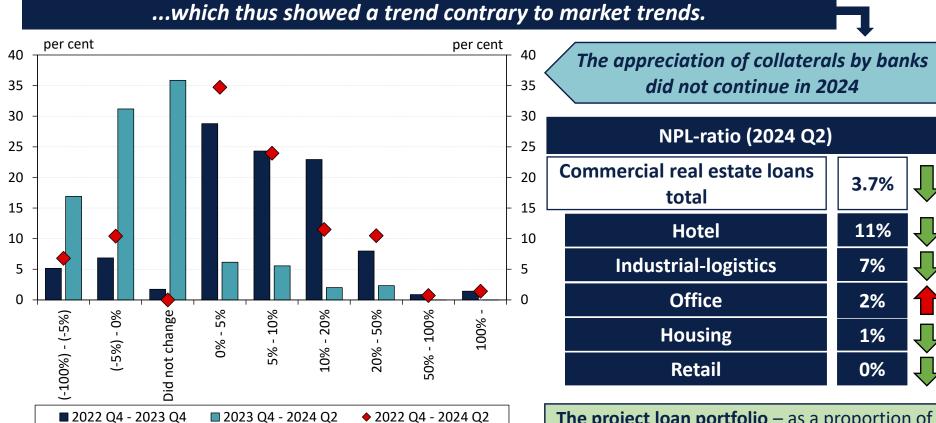
In a supervisory newsletter in August, the ECB drew attention to the common problems identified in relation to the valuation of CRE collateral.

ESTATE IN EUROPE AND IN THE U.S. Note | In the case of CEE countries, estimated capital value indices, in the case of the United States, all types of

commercial real estate, in the case of Germany, an index estimated based on completed transactions including office and retail real estate. In the case of the EU, an index estimated based on completed transactions including all 11commercial real estate types. Source | BIS, CBRE, Cushman & Wakefield, ECB



### BANKS HAVE TYPICALLY ADJUSTED THE VALUE OF PROJECT LOAN COLLATERAL UPWARDS IN 2023...



DISTRIBUTION OF COLLATERALS OF PROJECT LOANS SECURED BY COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE BY THE CHANGE IN COLLATERAL VALUES

**The project loan portfolio** – as a proportion of regulatory capital – is currently moderate (37%) compared to the level during the 2008 crisis (73%).

Note | In proportion to market value as at end-June 2024. Based on the real estate collateral in the portfolio at the end of 2022 and 2023, as well as the end of June 2024 for office, retail, industrial-logistics and hotel project loans with a completed status. In some cases, the evolution of the collateral value may have been affected by technical factors, including data errors on the | 12 completion status of the collateral property and changes in the collateral register. Source I MNB



### THE SHOCK RESILIENCE OF THE BANKING SECTOR IS STILL STRONG

### **OUTSTANDING PROFITABILITY**





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### III.

### **ROBUST LIQUIDITY POSITION**





✓ Ample liquidity reserves

OLB: HUF 20,900 Bn

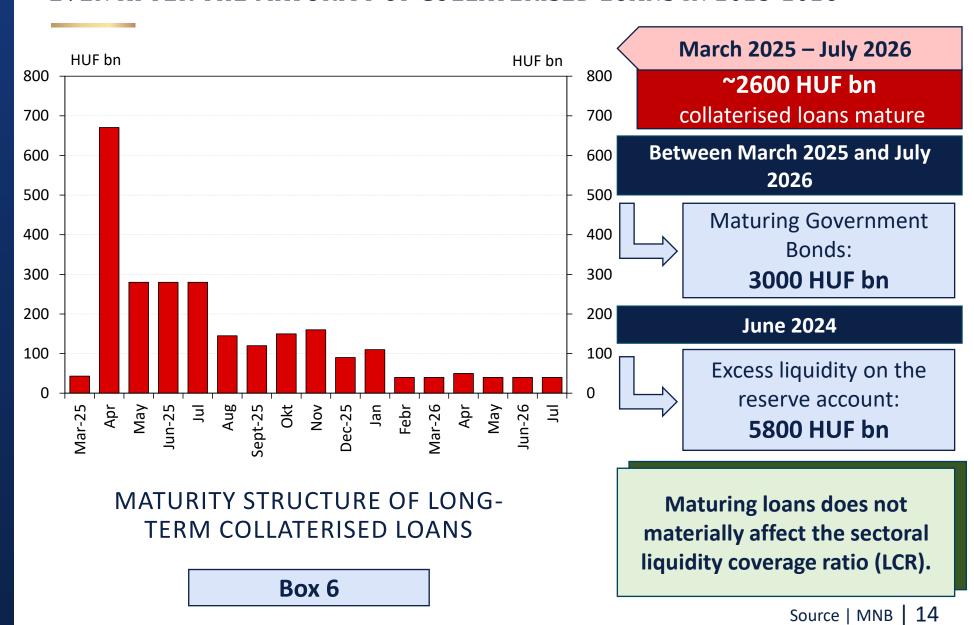
✓ The banking sector meets regulatory requirements with ample buffers

**LCR: 177%** 

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### THE BANKING SECTOR WOULD FULFILL THE REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS EVEN AFTER THE MATURITY OF COLLATERISED LOANS IN 2025-2026





### THE SHOCK RESILIENCE OF THE BANKING SECTOR IS STILL STRONG

### **OUTSTANDING PROFITABILITY**



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### III.

### **ROBUST LIQUIDITY POSITION**



### STRONG CAPITAL POSITION, HIGH **LEVEL OF FREE CAPITAL**



✓ Ample liquidity reserves

OLB: HUF 20,900 Bn

✓ The banking sector meets regulatory requirements with ample buffers

**LCR: 177%** 

✓ Strong capital adequacy

CAR: 19.6%

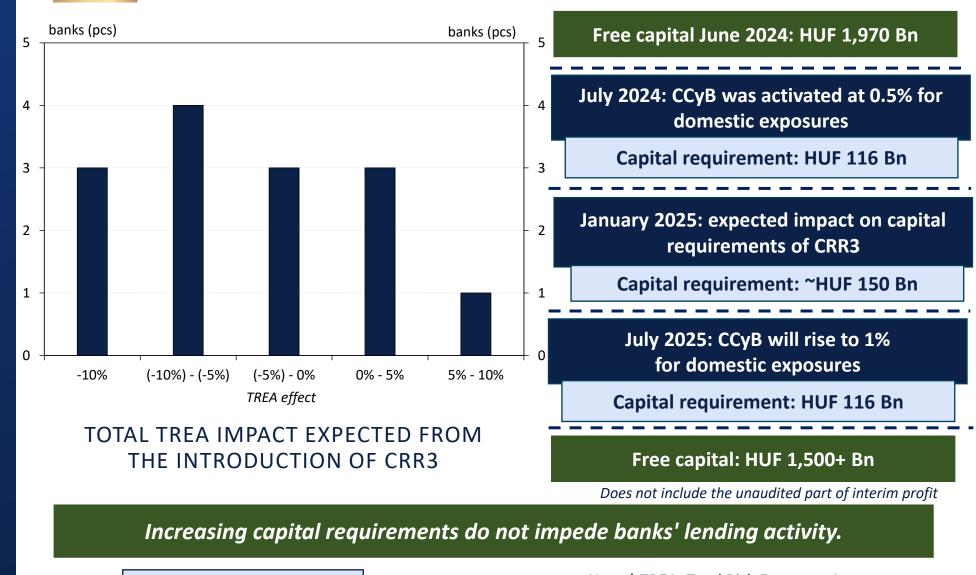
✓ High level of free capital buffer

~ HUF 1,970 Bn

Note | Data for NPL and capital position refer to June 2024, while data for liquidity refer to August 2024. Profit after tax refers to 2024 H1, Return on Equity is determined on a 12-month basis and is as of the end of June 2024. Free capital buffer is calculated capital requirements valid at the end of June 2024 taken into account, and excluding unaudited interim profit. Source | MNB



## DESPITE INCREASING CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS IN 2024 AND 2025, THE SECTOR'S FREE CAPITAL REMAINS HIGH



Box 5

Note | TREA: Total Risk Exposure Amount. Source | MNB, based on banks' responses.



### THE BANKING SECTOR WOULD MEET THE REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS ON LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL ADEQUACY EVEN IN THE EVENT OF SEVERE SHOCKS

### **Liquidity stress test**

### **Assumptions**

Over the **2-quarter** horizon of the stress scenario we assume a 20-30% drawdown of credit lines, a 10-15% withdrawal of deposits and a 30% withdrawal of owner debts, accompanied by a weaker exchange rate and tighter interest rate conditions.



Liquidity surplus above the regulatory requirement of 100% LCR is over <u>HUF 5,000 billion</u>.

The need of liquid assets of banks facing a liquidity shortage is **only HUF 10 billion**.

### **Solvency stress test**

### **Assumptions**

In the stress scenario, the GDP-level falls by 12% over 2 years, household consumption drops by 12-13% compared to the baseline scenario, while employment falls by 178,000. All this is accompanied by a substantial weakening of the exchange rate and tighter interest rate conditions.

Alternative stress scenario: German economic slowdown and lower interest rate environment.



The sectoral capital adequacy ratio would remain above 20% in both stress scenarios.

HUF 57 billion additional capital is required.

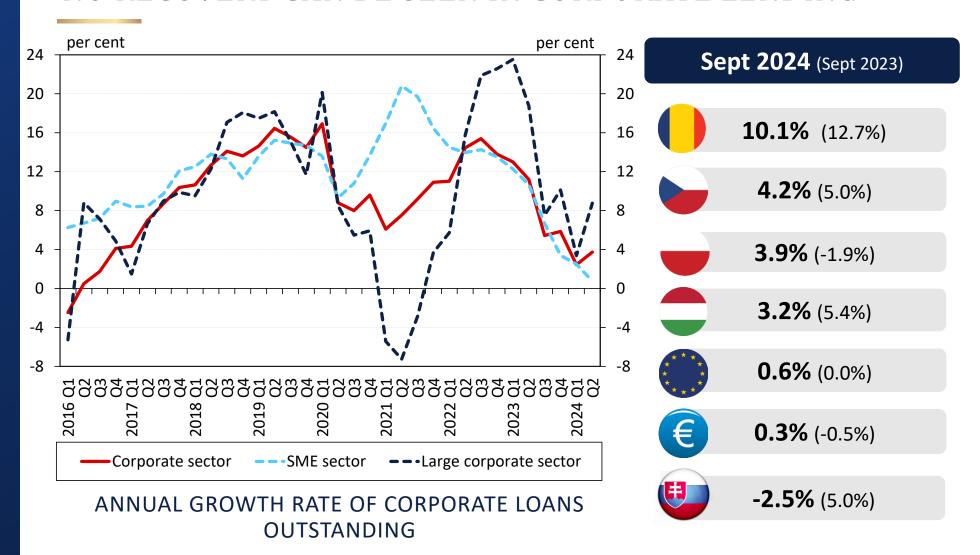
HUF 2 billion additional capital is required.



## II. TRENDS IN CORPORATE LENDING



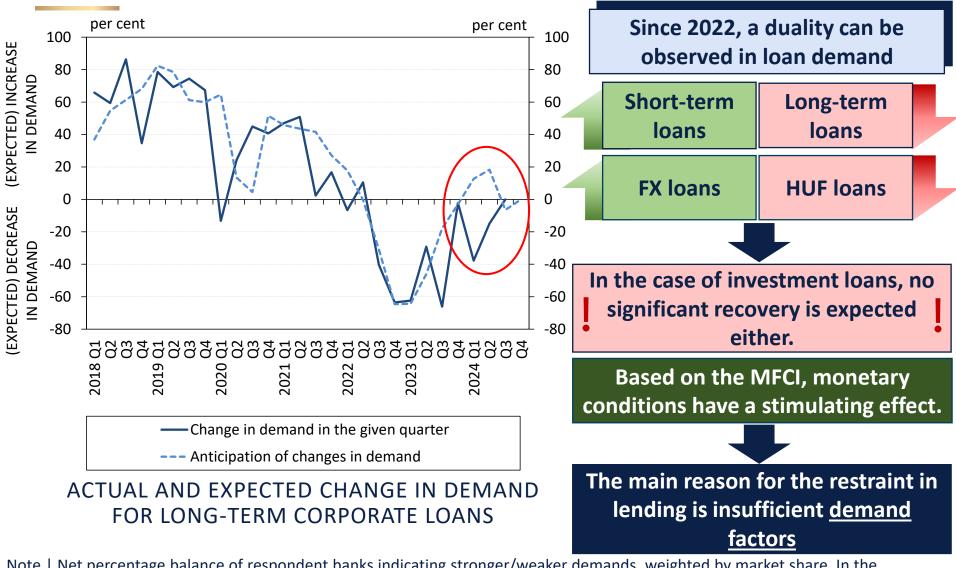
### NO RECOVERY CAN BE SEEN IN CORPORATE LENDING



Note | Transaction-based, i.e. growth rate calculated on the basis of the value of new disbursements adjusted for repayments, exchange rate effects and other stock changes. Between March 2022 and August 2022, incoming repayments to Sberbank are also taken into account. Source | MNB



## THERE IS NO SIGN OF A TURNAROUND IN DEMAND FOR INVESTMENT LOANS YET, AND EXPECTATIONS HAVE ALSO WORSENED

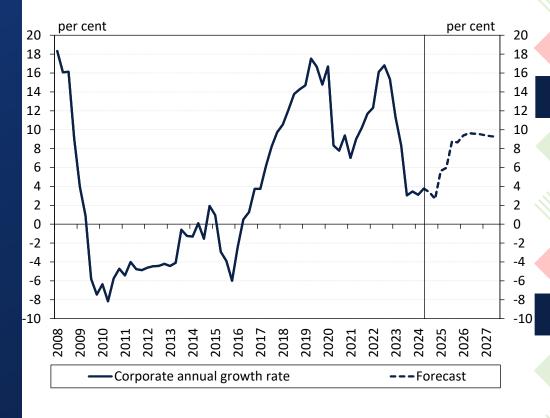


Note | Net percentage balance of respondent banks indicating stronger/weaker demands, weighted by market share. In the survey, the banks provide their expectations six months in advance, so the time series of expectations in the figure for each quarter is the average of the expectations of the previous two quarters. MFCI: Monetary Financial Conditions Index.

Source | MNB, based on banks' responses



### A 3 PER CENT INCREASE IN CORPORATE LOANS **OUTSTANDING IS EXPECTED IN 2024**



FORECAST FOR CORPORATE LENDING

### **Credit conditions 2024 Q4-2025 Q1:**

**Unchanged** 

**Tightening: Commercial real estate loans** 

**Credit demand 2024 Q4-2025 Q1:** 

**Increasing demand: FX loans** 

**Unchanging demand: short-term loans, HUF loans** 

**Consistently low demand for long-term** loans

**Economic environment** 

**Lower inflation** 

**Decreasing** interest rates

Stabilizing economic environment

High accumulated liquid assets



## III. TRENDS IN HOUSEHOLD LENDING



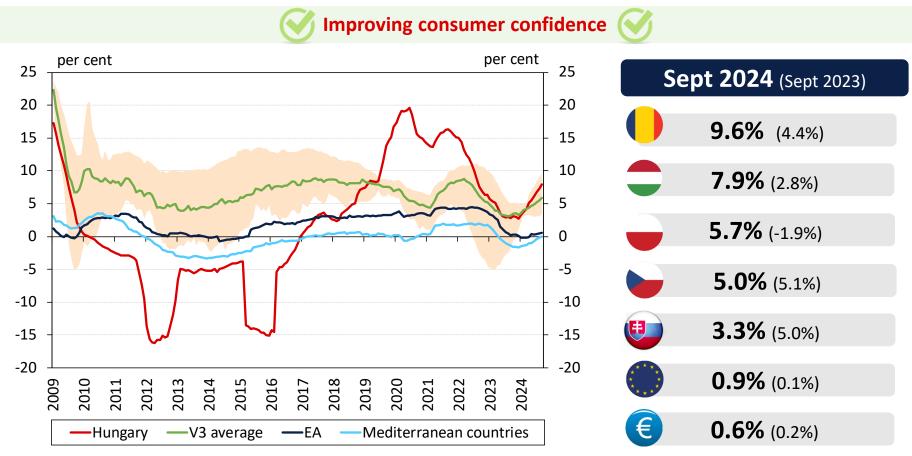
## HOUSEHOLD LENDING IS PICKING UP AS FUNDAMENTALS IMPROVE

Average wages are growing at a double-digit rate

With inflation curbed, real incomes also began to rise

Credit conditions have become more favourable

Employment is at a historic high



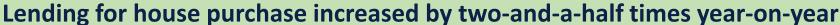
### ANNUAL GROWTH RATE OF HOUSEHOLD LOANS OUTSTANDING

Note | The yellow area indicates the range of the countries in the region (Czechia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia). EA:

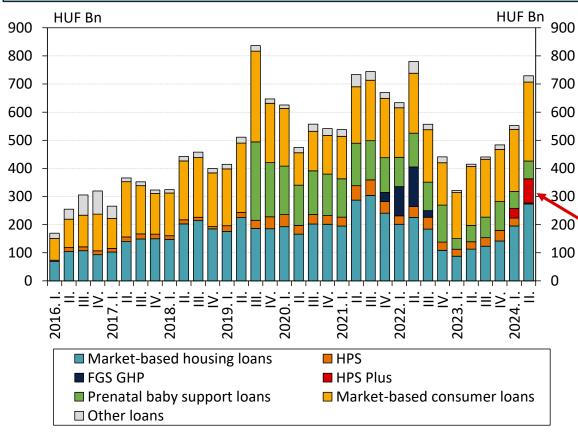
Euro area. Mediterranean countries: Spain, Greece, Italy, Portugal. Source | MNB, ECB.



## AFTER BOTTOMING OUT AT THE BEGINNING OF 2023, THE VALUE OF NEW CONTRACTS IS GROWING DYNAMICALLY







In terms of new housing loan contracts, the number of new customers and their average contract size are also increasing.

Since its launch in January 2024, HPS Plus has accounted for 22 percent of total housing loan disbursement.

Due to the higher available loan amount of HPS Plus, fewer clients take out market-based and subsidized loans at the same time.

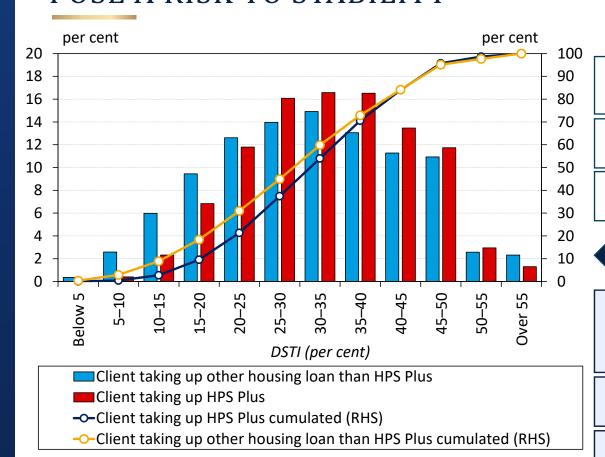








### BASED ON THE RISK INDICATORS, HPS PLUS LOANS DO NOT POSE A RISK TO STABILITY



#### DSTI DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSING LOAN DEBTORS TAKING UP HOUSING LOAN IN 2024 H1

Box 3



### HPS Plus (Jan-Aug):

- Loan amount: max. HUF 15, 30 or 50 million
- ✓ **Maturity:** min. of 10, max. of 25 years
- **Interest rate:** fixed and max. 3 per cent (room for banking competition)

### 7,400 contracts **HUF 200 billion**

Number of assumed children: 55 per cent committed to one, 41 per cent to two, 4 per cent to three children

**Debtor profile:** younger and lowerincome borrowers

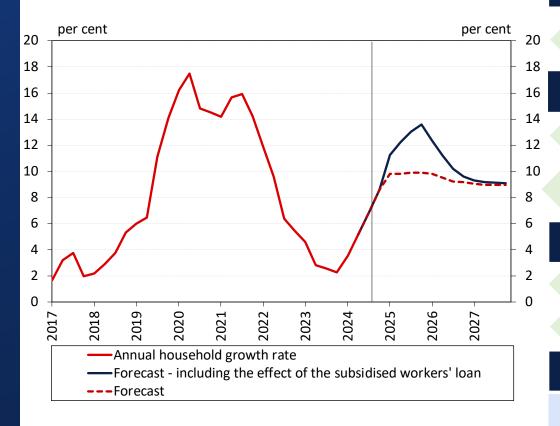
**DSTI:** median 34 per cent (market-based housing loans: 32 per cent)

LTV: median 63 per cent (market-based housing loans: 51 per cent)

Note | DSTI: debt-service-to-income ratio. If a client has more than one loan, all their outstanding loans have been | 25 taken into account during the calculation. LTV: loan-to-value. Source | MNB



### THE ANNUAL GROWTH RATE OF HOUSEHOLD LOANS OUTSTANDING MAY ACCELERATE TO CLOSE TO 9 PER CENT IN 2024



#### HOUSEHOLD LENDING FORECAST

Note | Transaction-based annual growth rate based on data from the financial intermediary system. Source | MNB

### **Credit conditions 2024 Q4-2025 Q1:**

Housing loans - easing

Consumer loans - unchanged

### Credit demand 2024 Q4-2025 Q1:

**Increasing demand: housing loans** 

Demand for consumer loans remains high

#### **Economic environment**

**Lower inflation** 

Improving consumer confidence

#### **HPS Plus**

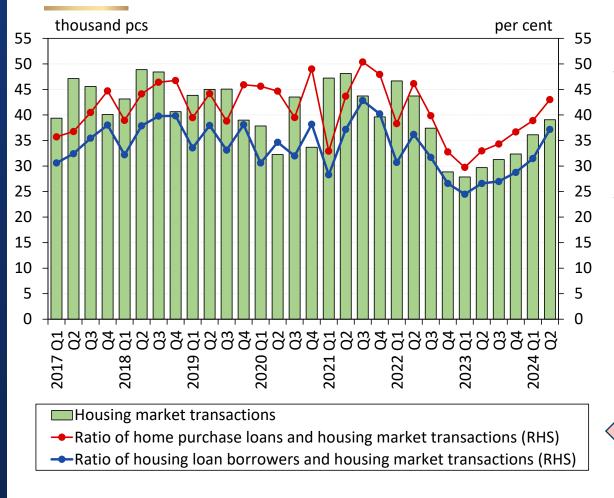
38 per cent of the HPS Plus loans may appear on the market as additional loans.



## IV. RISKS IN THE HOUSING LOAN MARKET



### THE SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN LENDING FOR HOUSING PURPOSES SUPPORTED THE GROWTH IN HOUSING MARKET ACTIVITY



THE ROLE OF LENDING IN HOUSING MARKET **TURNOVER** 

2024 Q2 vs. 2023 Q2

**Housing market transactions** 

+32%

Housing loan borrowers

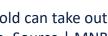
+84%



Ratio of housing market sales financed with credit

2023 Q2 vs. 2024 Q2

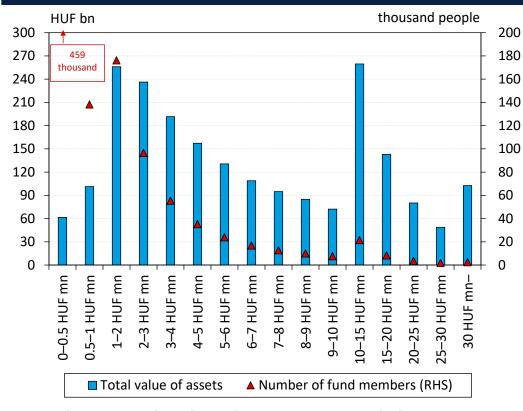






### HUNDREDS OF BILLIONS OF FORINTS MAY FLOW INTO THE HOUSING MARKET FROM VOLUNTARY PENSION FUND SAVINGS

#### Voluntary pension fund savings will be able to be used tax-free for housing purposes in 2025



DISTRIBUTION OF VOLUNTARY PENSION FUND ASSETS AND MEMBERS BY THE INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNT BALANCE OF MEMBERS

Box 2

- Downpayment for housing loans, repayment of mortgages, purchase of property, home renovations
- > Own use or transfer to a family member
- In 2025 only, up to a maximum of three payments

The government expects that 14% of the wealth in voluntary pension funds may flow into the housing market: **HUF 300 bn** 

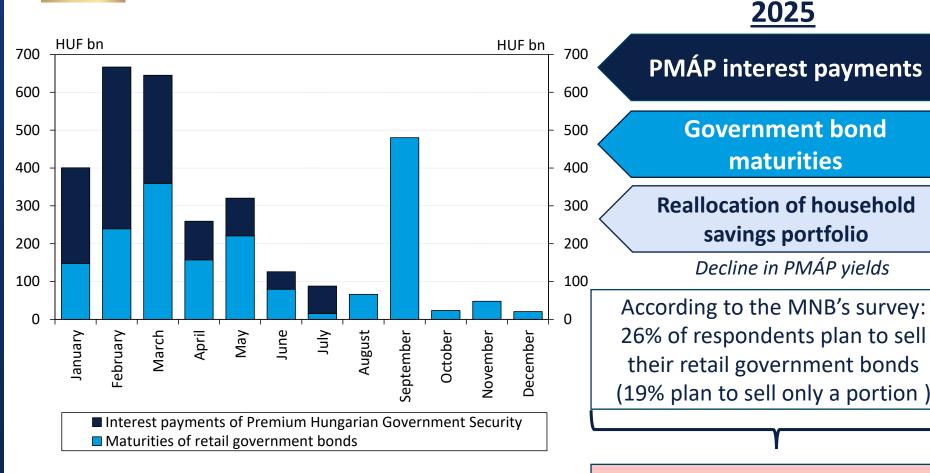
Average account balance: HUF 2 million

The distribution of fund assets is uneven → nearly three quarters of the members are not expected to generate additional housing market demand

Ratio and savings of members under **41 years is low** → not sufficient for a downpayment



### SUBSTANTIAL FUNDS MAY FLOW INTO THE DOMESTIC HOUSING MARKET AS A RESULT OF A REALLOCATION OF HOUSEHOLD WEALTH



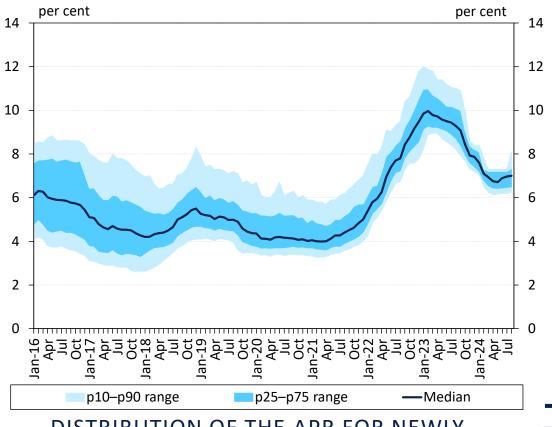
MATURITIES OF RETAIL GOVERNMENT BONDS AND INTEREST PAYMENTS OF PREMIUM **HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT SECURITY IN 2025** 

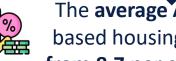
**Housing market demand may** increase → rise in housing prices > worsening housing affordability



### THE VOLUNTARY APR CEILING REDUCED THE PRICING RANGE FOR HOUSING LOANS SIGNIFICANTLY

The voluntary APR ceiling was in place **between October 2023 and June 2024**.





The average APR for marketbased housing loans dropped from 8.7 per cent 6.7 per cent.

This effect would have been much lower without the APR-ceiling.



Banks contracted 87 per cent of the market-based housing loan volume with an APR below the effective ceiling.



The APR distribution narrowed significantly.



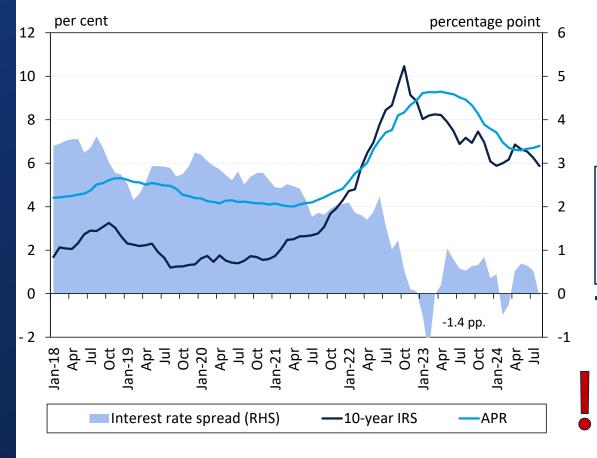
It did not crowd out riskier customers

DISTRIBUTION OF THE APR FOR NEWLY DISBURSED MARKET-BASED HOUSING **LOANS** 

The APR ceiling was a barrier to risk-based pricing.



## MARKET-BASED HOUSING LOANS WERE ISSUED AT AN AVERAGE INTEREST RATE SPREAD OF AROUND ZERO



FINANCING COSTS OF NEW MARKET-BASED HOUSING LOANS

Intensified banking competition due to APR-ceiling



In 2024 H1, market-based housing lending was offered at the cost of funds, i.e. with an interest rate spread of around zero.

In the longer term, interest income that does not cover credit risk costs and operating costs may pose a stability risk to the financial intermediary system.



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- **Hungarian banking system remains stable,** several risks identified in the spring have abated.
- **Shock resilience** is strengthened by outstandingly high profitability, ample liquidity, adequate capitalisation and the high quality of the loan portfolios.
- Return on equity was supported both by volatile and one-off items; **profitability** calculated with these items filtered out may have peaked at the end of 2023.
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- The stress test results suggest that the sector would meet the regulatory requirements on liquidity and capital adequacy even in the event of a severe shock.



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



100 éve Magyarország gyarapodásáért