

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## SNL Financial Reveals that China's Bank Assets Rose to 178.8 Trillion Yuan in Q1, 2015.

*The latest analysis from SNL Financial explores the state of China's banking sector, performance of banks and deal activity.*

**Hong Kong. (27 July 2015)** – [SNL Financial](http://www.snl.com) has released a [new report](#) investigating the state of China's banking sector. Using the latest financial data, the report contains a ranking of the top 15 Chinese banks by assets, an economic and industry overview, risk profile of the sector, shadow banking, free trade zones, branch network information, M&A, regulation and a summary of common stock offerings.

**Highlights:**

- Industrywide, [bank assets](#) grew 13.84% to 172.3 trillion Chinese yuan (US\$28.55 trillion) at the end of 2014 from 151.35 trillion yuan (US\$25 trillion) a year earlier. The figure rose to 178.8 trillion yuan (US\$28.84 trillion) at the end of first quarter of 2015.
- China's largest bank, Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd., held 20.61 trillion Chinese yuan (US\$3.32 trillion) in assets at the end of 2014. China Construction Bank Corp. was the country's second-largest bank with 16.74 trillion yuan (US\$2.70 trillion) in assets.
- The banking industry's weighted-average Tier 1 capital ratio rose 112 basis points year over year to 10.97% at the end of 2014, though that is still lower than most of Asia-Pacific nations, such as Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia and Australia. China, on the other hand, has a higher credit-to-GDP ratio than the four countries.

Top 15 Chinese banks by assets

Rank	Company	Total assets (US\$B)	ROAA (%)	Loans/deposits (%)	NPL/total net loans (%)	Tangible equity/tangible assets (%)
1	Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd.	3,319.05	1.40	67.51	1.13	7.32
2	China Construction Bank Corp.	2,696.49	1.40	71.50	1.19	7.37
3	Agricultural Bank of China Ltd.	2,572.49	1.18	61.75	1.54	6.30
4	Bank of China Ltd.	2,456.10	1.17	76.24	1.18	7.67
5	Bank of Communications Co. Ltd.	1,009.45	1.11	82.19	1.25	7.53
6	China Merchants Bank Co. Ltd.	762.02	1.21	74.04	1.11	6.40
7	Industrial Bank Co. Ltd.	709.61	1.20	68.32	1.10	5.91
8	Shanghai Pudong Development Bank Co. Ltd.	675.72	1.22	72.49	1.06	6.27
9	China CITIC Bank Corp. Ltd.	666.52	1.02	74.68	1.30	6.41
10	China Minsheng Banking Corp. Ltd.	646.60	1.28	72.90	1.17	6.05
11	China Everbright Bank Co. Ltd.	440.77	1.11	71.22	1.19	6.48
12	Ping An Bank Co. Ltd.	352.11	0.94	65.46	1.02	5.43
13	Hua Xia Bank Co. Ltd.	298.19	1.02	70.30	1.09	5.51
14	Bank of Shanghai Co. Ltd.	191.23	1.07	65.16	0.98	6.22
15	Chongqing Rural Commercial Bank Co. Ltd.	99.67	1.18	57.00	0.78	6.78
	<b>Average</b>	<b>1,126.40</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>70.05</b>	<b>1.14</b>	<b>6.51</b>

List is limited to SNL-covered banks headquartered in China.  
 Financial data is for the year ended Dec. 31, 2014.  
 Source: SNL Financial

- The weighted-average [nonperforming loan](#) ratio climbed to 1.22% at the end of 2014 from 0.95% at the end of 2013 and 0.92% at the end of 2012. Growing NPLs are a concern for the Chinese economy.
- [Credit default swaps](#) on five-year sovereign bonds dropped to 90.62 basis points as of April 27, 2015, down from the mid-2013 peak of 145.91 basis points.
- Shares in four of the five largest Chinese banks have outperformed an SNL Financial index for large-cap Asian banks since 2013. Between Jan.1, 2013, and April 27, 2015, shares in Bank of China Ltd. and Bank of Communications Co. Ltd. jumped 74.33% and 46.72%, respectively, while the SNL Large Cap Asia-Pacific Bank index rose 33.28%. Only Agricultural Bank of China Ltd.'s stock rose less than the index.
- There have been six announced [acquisitions](#) of stakes in Chinese banks since the start of 2014. The most recent deal is the Feb. 13, 2015, purchase of a 5% stake in Industrial bank Co., worth US\$2.04 billion, by a group of undisclosed institutional investors.

To read the full report,

visit: <http://go.snl.com/rs/080-PQS-123/images/China banking report.pdf>

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