**Grue Sparebank** 

**Full Rating Report** 

### **LONG-TERM RATING**

BBB+

**OUTLOOK** 

Stable

**SHORT-TERM RATING** 

**N2** 

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### **RATING RATIONALE**

Our 'BBB+' long-term issuer rating on Norway-based Grue Sparebank reflects the bank's low risk appetite and outstanding capital position. Despite total assets of only NOK 6.1bn, including transferred loans, the bank demonstrates reliable access to capital market funding and maintains a well-diversified and loyal retail deposit base. Its ownership and cooperation with the Eika Alliance banking association support product diversity, shared development costs and the ability to finance residential retail mortgage loans through the jointly owned covered-bond company Eika Boligkreditt AS.

We expect Grue Sparebank to maintain solid revenues despite lower interest rates and margin pressure as it expands beyond its traditional markets. However, recent investments in new staff are expected to weigh on profitability in our forecast as the bank prepares for growth. Projected credit losses remain modest, supported by the bank's high share of retail lending and limited problem loans.

The rating is constrained by the geographic concentration of the loan book in the south-eastern municipalities of Innlandet county and by a high proportion of real estate and agricultural collateral in the region. The bank maintains a strong market share in its core markets but faces significant competition from regional and local peers as it seeks growth in the southern Østerdal and Hedmark regions near Hamar and invests to expand its branch in Elverum.

### **STABLE OUTLOOK**

The outlook is stable, reflecting our view that the bank's low risk appetite will limit credit losses and offset the impact of a weaker regional economy. We expect Grue Sparebank's cost efficiency to weaken over the next few years as it invests in personnel to support growth objectives and its new branch in Hamar. The bank's improved capital ratios should support higher loan growth, enabling it to pursue its goal of doubling its share of corporate lending while maintaining a strong capital position.

# POTENTIAL POSITIVE RATING DRIVERS

- Pre-provision income to risk exposure amount (REA) sustainably above 3% and cost to income below 45%; and,
- Increased scale and improved market position in growth markets without material increase in risk appetite.

# POTENTIAL NEGATIVE RATING DRIVERS

- Consolidated Tier 1 capital ratio below 18% over a protracted period.
- A material deterioration in the local operating environment or asset quality.
- Risk-adjusted earnings metrics below 1.5% over a protracted period.

Figure 1. Key credit metrics, 2021–2027e

| %                         | 2021 | 2022  | 2023 | 2024 | 2025e | 2026e | 2027e |
|---------------------------|------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Net interest margin       | 1.6  | 1.9   | 2.7  | 2.7  | 2.6   | 2.5   | 2.4   |
| Loan losses/net loans     | 0.04 | -0.01 | 0.19 | 0.03 | 0.05  | 0.10  | 0.11  |
| Pre-provision income/REA  | 1.5  | 1.7   | 2.6  | 3.0  | 2.2   | 2.4   | 2.4   |
| Cost-to-income            | 62.9 | 63.0  | 53.3 | 50.7 | 65.1  | 62.7  | 61.1  |
| Return on ordinary equity | 6.1  | 7.2   | 8.8  | 10.3 | 6.7   | 6.7   | 6.9   |
| Loan growth               | 8.3  | 13.9  | 5.6  | 10.6 | 2.2   | 8.0   | 8.0   |
| CET1 ratio                | 18.6 | 18.2  | 19.1 | 21.3 | 23.9  | 23.3  | 22.8  |
| Tier 1 ratio              | 19.0 | 18.6  | 20.9 | 23.1 | 25.8  | 25.1  | 24.4  |

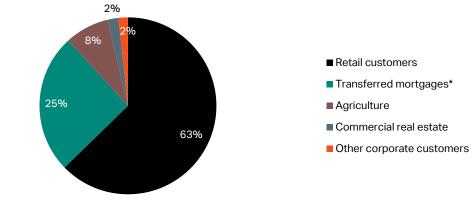
Source: company and NCR. e-estimate. REA-risk exposure amount. CET1-common equity Tier 1. All metrics adjusted in line with NCR methodology.

### **ISSUER PROFILE**

Grue Sparebank was established in 1862 in Norway's Grue municipality. Its core market includes the municipalities of Åsnes, Kongsvinger, Våler and Elverum. The bank operates four branches, including one in Hamar opened in March 2025. It plans to increase its staff to nearly 50 from just over 30, as it pursues growth in southern Østerdal and Hedmark. As of 30 Jun. 2025, Grue Sparebank reported total net lending of NOK 4.8bn, including NOK 1.2bn in retail mortgage loans transferred to Eika Boligkreditt. The bank aims to double its corporate and agricultural lending over the next few years as it expands operations in Elverum and Hamar.

Grue Sparebank is a member of the Eika Alliance, which comprises around 40 small and medium-sized Norwegian savings banks. The alliance supports product diversification and enhances cost efficiency through shared IT expenses and coordinated risk management and compliance. It also enables residential mortgage financing via Eika Boligkreditt, one of Norway's largest covered bond issuers.

Figure 2. Gross loans by sector, including transferred loans, 30 Jun. 2025



Source: company. \*net loans transferred to Eika Boligkreditt.

### **OPERATING ENVIRONMENT**

Operating environment

We consider a balance of national and regional factors in our assessment of the operating environment. Grue Sparebank's has a high proportion of exposure to its core markets in a region with relatively limited growth prospects and plans to expand in faster growing markets around Hamar in the northeast. We believe that the national economy could weaken over the next few years due to reduced economic activity and the ongoing impact of high inflation, but consider the Norwegian banking sector well positioned to cope.

# Norwegian savings banks resilient to reduced economic activity

Net interest margins in the Norwegian banking sector have widened significantly since 2021, driven by higher interest rates. Along with strong lending growth, this has supported sector earnings. In June, the central bank began a cautious normalisation of the policy rate, lowering it by 25bps to 4.25%, followed by another 25bps cut in September to 4%. We do not anticipate further cuts in 2025, consistent with the central bank's latest guidance. While policy rates could gradually decline towards 3% through 2026–2027, this remains uncertain given persistently high inflation, changes in global trade and tariff policies, and a resilient domestic economy. We expect that lower interest rates and increased competition, amid subdued loan demand, will slow earnings growth and reduce returns on equity through 2027.

As intended, persistently high interest rates are helping to slow the economy. Mainland GDP growth has improved somewhat from a weak 2023–2024, but we expect it to remain modest for now. Unemployment has increased slightly but remains exceptionally low compared with most European peers. Low unemployment has likely contributed to strong wage growth in recent years. While this has supported consumption and loan demand, it also raises concerns about continued inflationary pressure.

National banking environment

Nonetheless, Norwegian savings banks remain well capitalised, with the EU's Capital Requirements Regulation 3 (CRR3) enhancing competitiveness for those using the standardised approach, which includes most banks. Solid risk-adjusted earnings, despite somewhat lower interest margins, and stable or improved asset quality metrics should also support the banks' resilience in a prolonged weak economic environment.

Figure 3. Norwegian inflation and interest rates, 2024-2028e

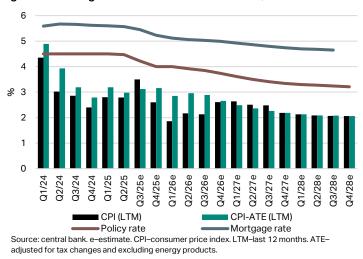
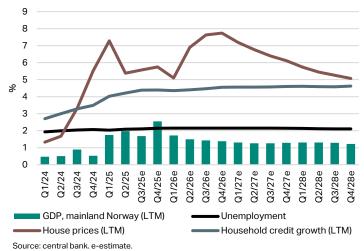


Figure 4. Norwegian economic indicators, 2024–2028e



## Low growth in traditional regions is driving the bank's expansion

Regional assessment

Grue Sparebank's core market is the southeast region of Innlandet county, about two hours northeast of Oslo and bordering Sweden. Nearly 90,000 people reside in the bank's core municipalities, including Hamar, its newest market. Statistics Norway projects population growth of 6.3% in these areas by 2050, below the national average of 9.2%. Most growth is expected in Hamar, while a stable population is expected in the bank's traditional municipalities. Limited growth in its core markets has prompted the bank to expand into Elverum and Hamar.

A high proportion of government-related workers in the small municipalities supports low unemployment, while Elverum and Hamar benefit from more diverse industry. In the smaller core municipalities, farming, logging and manufacturing represent a significant share of employment, and the region's extensive forest and agricultural land are reflected in the bank's loan portfolio. Long-term agricultural trends are increasing the scale and professionalism of local farmers, as farmhouses are increasingly separated from arable land.

Figure 5. Core markets

| Municipality      | Population, 2025 | Expected<br>population change,<br>2025–2050 (%) | Unemployment,<br>Aug. 2025 (%) | Unemployment,<br>Aug. 2024 (%) |
|-------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Grue              | 4,513            | 0.4   | 2.2                            | 2.4                            |
| Åsnes             | 7,247            | 0.5   | 2.4                            | 1.5                            |
| Våler (Innlandet) | 3,559            | -1.6  | 1.7                            | 2.0                            |
| Kongsvinger       | 18,109           | 1.3   | 2.1                            | 2.0                            |
| Elverum           | 21,899           | 3.2   | 2.1                            | 1.9                            |
| Hamar             | 33,441           | 13.8  | 2.1                            | 1.9                            |
| Core markets      | 88,768           | 6.3   | 2.1                            | 1.9                            |
| Norway            | 5,601,049        | 9.2   | 2.1                            | 2.1                            |

Source: Statistics Norway, Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration.

### **RISK APPETITE**

Risk appetite assessment

Our assessment of the bank's risk profile reflects its outstanding capital, demonstrated funding access, high proportion of low-risk lending, and ability to transfer loans to Eika Boligkreditt. The bank has regional concentrations and a high proportion of property-related lending in a rather illiquid property market.

# Adding internal personnel to improve on Eika Alliance resources

Risk governance

In our view, Grue Sparebank's risk governance framework, risk appetite, limit monitoring, risk reporting, and internal capital and liquidity adequacy assessments are appropriate for its low risk profile. The bank has limited single-name concentrations and maintains a high share of corporate lending to low-risk agricultural customers. Grue Sparebank has invested in new personnel to support its growth and to meet higher regulatory and compliance requirements associated with increased scale. Due to its size, the bank operates without an internal audit function, distinguishing it from larger peers that employ internal or consultant services for third line risk functions.

The bank's history in its local market and emphasis on social responsibility support its sustainability profile. A significant share of the bank's mortgage portfolio is financed through Eika Boligkreditt, which has established a framework for issuing green bonds. Cooperation with the Eika Alliance also supports risk governance and future sustainability reporting, and supplements the bank's own staff in monitoring money-laundering risks.

### Capital ratios and buffers set to improve with CRR3

Our capital assessment considers Grue Sparebank's consolidated capital position, including its proportionate holdings in Eika Gruppen and Eika Boligkreditt. The CET1 ratio was 23.0% and its Tier 1 ratio was 25.0% (excluding 0.6pp, or 50% of current year profits) as of 30 Jun. 2025. These are well above its minimum targets of 16.7% and 18.6%, respectively, including a 1.5pp management buffer.

The bank's capital ratios were significantly increased following the implementation of CRR3, which took effect in Norway on 1 Apr. 2025. Grue Sparebank's consolidated CET1 capital ratio improved by 2.5–3.0% in the second quarter of 2025, reflecting lower risk weights on its high low LTV residential mortgage loans. We expect the bank to maintain capital ratios about 6% above internal targets and its Tier 1 ratio above 24% through 2027, despite anticipated reductions from strong growth.

Figure 6. Capital projection assumptions

|             | 2025e | 2026e | 2027e |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Loan growth | 2.2%  | 8.0%  | 8.0%  |
| Gift rate   | 12%   | 12%   | 12%   |

Capital

Figure 7. Consolidated capital ratios 2024–2027e, capital requirement and targets as of 30 Jun. 2025

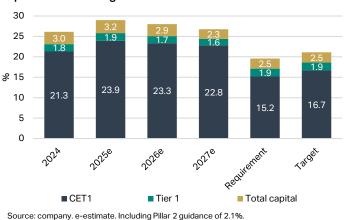
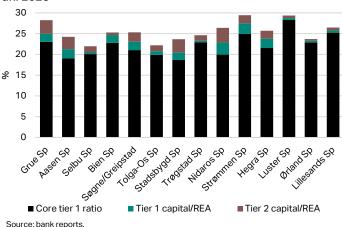


Figure 8. Norwegian savings banks' consolidated capital ratios, 30 Jun. 2025



### Loyal deposit base and demonstrated access to capital market funding

Funding and liquidity

Grue Sparebank's funding and liquidity profile is relatively diverse for its size. The bank benefits from a stable and loyal retail deposit base and has demonstrated access to capital market funding. It has limited single-name concentrations in customer deposits and maintains internal limits on annual and quarterly bond maturities to reduce refinancing risk. The bank also holds strong buffers of cash and debt instruments (25% of customer deposits as of 30 Jun. 2025). As of 30 Jun. 2025, the liquidity coverage ratio was 295% and the net stable funding ratio was 152%, both well above the bank's internal limits of 110%.

We expect the bank to have NOK 500m in five three-year senior unsecured bonds outstanding at end-2025, with maturities extending through 2028. However, the bank aims to grow its balance sheet in line with customer deposits, and we project the loan-to-deposit ratio will return towards 100%.

Eika Boligkreditt remains a stable and important funding source for Grue Sparebank, offering access to more affordable, longer-term retail mortgage funding than the bank could secure by itself. As of 30 Jun. 2025, the bank had transferred NOK 1.2bn in mortgage loans or 29% of total retail mortgage lending (including NOK 3.1bn on its own loan book), within its internal limit of 40%. The bank maintains a significant volume of readily transferable loans and we expect it to increase its use of Eika Boligkreditt financing for private loans, while allocating on balance sheet funding to corporate growth.

Figure 9. Deposit metrics, 2020-2027e

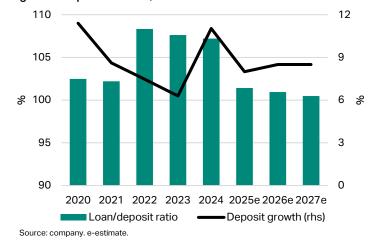
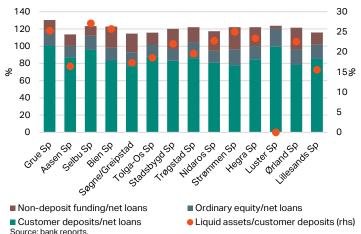


Figure 10. Norwegian savings banks' funding, 30 Jun. 2025



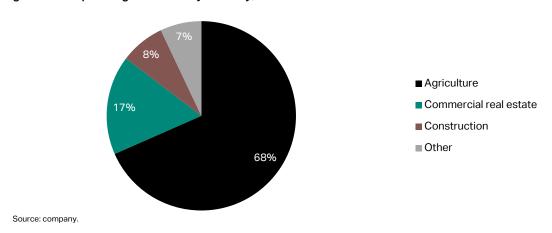
Credit and market risk

# High proportion of property lending in the local market

Grue Sparebank's loan portfolio is highly concentrated regionally, with 75% of on-balance sheet lending extended to borrowers in its six core municipalities and 85% in Innlandet County as of August 2025. In addition, 95% of the bank's exposures (including transferred loans) are to residential housing and agricultural properties. While we consider these low-risk credit exposures, they are secured by a relatively illiquid property market, including areas with declining populations. However, housing prices in the bank's operating region remain well below those in metropolitan areas, resulting in lower debt and interest burdens for the bank's customers.

Our forecast assumes annual loan growth on the bank's balance sheet of about 8% from mid-2025 to 2027. We expect most on-balance-sheet growth to be secured by real estate in its growth regions. Grue Sparebank's main corporate exposure is to agriculture, but this represents only 8% of on balance sheet exposure, reflecting the loan book's retail focus.

Figure 11. Corporate gross loans by industry, 30 Jun. 2025



As of 30 Jun. 2025, Grue Sparebank had transferred loans totalling NOK 1.2bn. These loans generated NOK 11m in commission income (approximately 6% of operating revenues) in 2024. However, the bank retains the associated risk and is expected to repurchase all non-performing loans to allow Eika Boligkreditt to maintain a clean cover pool. Grue Sparebank has consistently accepted repatriated loans. If repatriation is not possible, the bank guarantees 1% of transferred loans and covers 80% of any net loss incurred by Eika Boligkreditt under a loss guarantee. The bank is also jointly liable with other Eika Alliance banks for losses not covered by the guarantee. Due to the high credit quality of transferred loans and repatriation agreements, the mortgage company has not incurred actual credit losses.

We do not consider market risk to be material for Grue Sparebank, given the lack of a trading portfolio and its low limits on interest rate risk and currency risk.

### **COMPETITIVE POSITION**

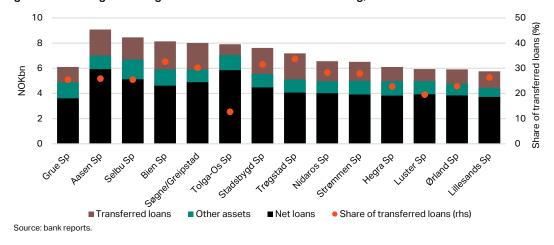
Competitive position

Despite its small scale, Grue Sparebank holds a market share of 20-50% in its traditional municipalities, and a share approaching 10% when including Elverum and Hamar. Recent growth has been driven by private customers in Elverum, where the bank opened a branch in 2020 after Tolga-Os Sparebank left the Eika alliance. The bank is also growing its footprint in Hamar in order to support corporate loan growth, following Totens Sparebank's exit from the Eika alliance and merger with Sparebank 1 Østlandet. We expect Grue Sparebank to expand in these markets, though it will face significant competition and margin pressure.

Grue Sparebank's membership in the Eika Alliance diversifies its revenue streams and allows the bank to offer a broader range of customer services than it could independently. Through the alliance, the bank provides insurance, debit and credit products, asset management and real estate agency services. On 1 Sep. 2025, the bank also acquired 66% of a local accounting firm, which we believe enhances diversification and enables cross-selling opportunities.

We view the bank's strong commitment to local communities as a competitive strength, demonstrated by its support for local social and cultural activities. This includes collaboration with Klosser Innovasjon AS and other business organisations, which promote local business development and innovation.

Figure 12. Norwegian savings banks' total assets and net lending, 30 Jun. 2025



### PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance indicators

Earnings

Grue Sparebank has improved interest income by expanding its on-balance sheet loan book and has a higher proportion of fee income than many of its peers. The bank cost efficiency is expected weighed down by staff increases, but low loans losses should support return on equity levels.

# Higher proportion of fee income and lower cost efficiency than peers

We expect the bank's interest margins to decline, reflecting lower policy rates and increased competition in new markets. However, corporate loan growth should partially offset the impact of lower market rates, and a high proportion of fee income reduces bottom line volatility.

The bank's cost efficiency is constrained by a 40% increase in staff over the past two years, which we project will result in a cost-to-income ratio above 60% until anticipated growth improves operating revenue. Higher costs underpin our return on equity projections of 6%–7% and risk-adjusted earnings (pre-provision income to REA) of around 2.4% through 2027.

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Figure 13. Norwegian savings banks' annualised net interest margins, Q3 2024 – Q2 2025

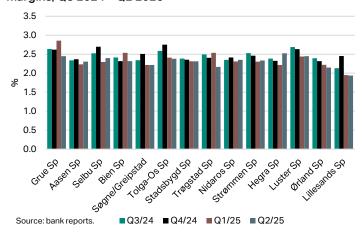
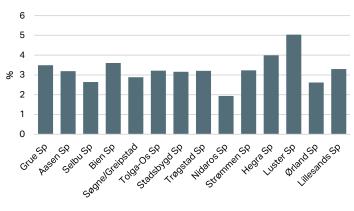


Figure 15. Norwegian savings banks' PPI to REA\*, LTM 30 Jun. 2025



Source: bank reports. PPI-pre-provision cinome. \*REA-risk exposure amount.

Figure 14. Norwegian savings banks' cost-to-income metrics, LTM 30 Jun. 2025

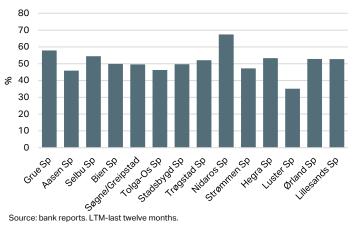
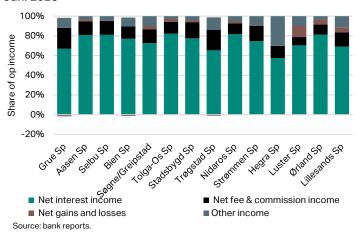


Figure 16. Norwegian savings banks' income breakdown, YTD 30 Jun. 2025



# We project modest loss provisions

Loss performance

Given Grue Sparebank's high proportion of retail and agricultural loans, we expect annual credit losses to remain near 10bps. The bank reported 19bps in credit losses in 2023, but 0bps total over the past six quarters, as previously non-performing loans have been reduced. The current level of net Stage 3 loans is relatively low for Norwegian savings banks, considering recent interest rate and inflation impacts. We expect future volumes to decline somewhat due to some interest rate relief for farmers and private individuals.

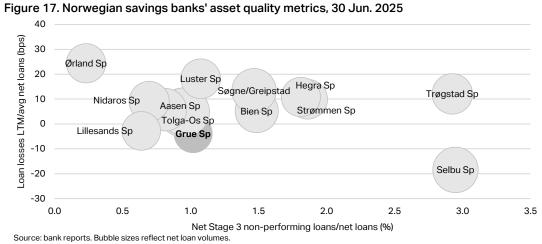
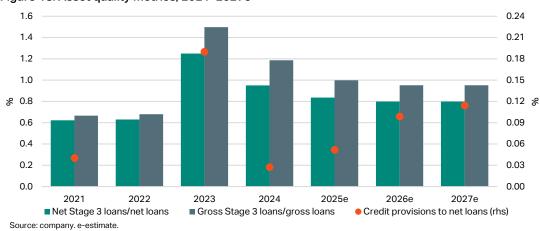


Figure 18. Asset quality metrics, 2021–2027e



# **ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE FACTORS**

ESG factors are considered throughout our analysis, where material to the credit assessment.

Figure 19. Priority ESG factors

| Issue/area                           | Risk/opportunity   | Impacted subsections (impact on credit assessment*)           |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| Social engagement in local community | Close connection to narrow regional markets provides a benefit.  | Competitive position (+) Funding & liquidity (+) Earnings (+) |
| Physical climate risk to collateral  | Climate-related damage to real-estate collateral (closely linked to supervision of insurance). Longer-term effects on market values in flood risk areas. | Credit risk (0)<br>Loss performance (0)                       |
| Anti-money laundering capacity       | Risk of sanctions and fraud due to insufficient reviews of customers.  | Risk governance (0)   |
| Control of sustainability issues     | Risk of overlooking impact of sustainability on underwriting, operations, and customer base.   | Risk governance (-)<br>Credit risk (0)                        |

\*Defined on a 5-step scale ranging from double minus (--) to double plus (++), with (--) representing the most negative impact and (++) the most positive.

### **ADJUSTMENT FACTORS**

### SUPPORT ANALYSIS

We consider Grue Sparebank's ownership structure neutral to its standalone credit profile. The bank is self-owned, with depositors as owners and profits reinvested in local community initiatives. While many Norwegian savings banks have issued equity capital certificates to support growth or recapitalisation, Grue Sparebank has not done so to date, but could initiate such a process, which typically takes up to six months.

### **ISSUE RATINGS**

Our rating on Grue Sparebank's unsecured senior debt is in line with the 'BBB+' long-term issuer rating. The bank has an outstanding Tier 2 instrument and an Additional Tier 1 instrument, which we rate one and three notches below the issuer rating, respectively. Consequently, the Tier 2 instrument is rated 'BBB', while the additional Tier 1 instrument is rated 'BB+'.

### **SHORT-TERM RATING**

The 'N2' short-term rating is the higher of two possible alternatives, given the 'BBB+' long-term issuer rating. It reflects the bank's access to central bank funding and our assessment that its liquidity is strong, based on an average liquidity coverage ratio of 220% over the past four quarters.

### **METHODOLOGIES USED**

- (i) Financial Institutions Rating Methodology, 12 May 2025.
- (ii) Rating Principles, 14 Feb. 2024.
- (iii) Group and Government Support Rating Methodology, 14 Feb. 2024.

#### **RELEVANT RESEARCH**

- (i) Nordic niche banks; building a foundation for growth, 4 Sep. 2025
- (ii) Swedish savings banks steadfast amid increasing headwinds, 6 May 2025.
- (iii) <u>Lower interest margin will lead to a drop in profitability for Norwegian savings banks</u>, 20 Jan. 2025.
- (iv) NCR Comments: Norway moves to adopt new standardised approach to capital requirements, 6 Dec. 2024.
- (v) Norwegian savings banks' capitalization boosted by CRR3, 26 Jun. 2024.

Figure 20. Grue Sparebank key financial data, 2021-Q2 2025 YTD

| Key credit metrics (%)                            | FY 2021 | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | Q2 2025 YTD |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|
| INCOME COMPOSITION                                |         |         |         |         |             |
| Net interest income to op. revenue                | 62.2    | 63.9    | 72.8    | 71.3    | 69.2        |
| Net fee income to op. revenue                     | 28.1    | 27.8    | 19.6    | 20.6    | 21.9        |
| Net gains and losses/operating revenue            | 0.6     | -1.4    | 1.4     | 1.6     | -1.7        |
| Net other income to op. revenue                   | 9.1     | 9.7     | 6.2     | 6.6     | 10.6        |
| EARNINGS  |         |         |         |         |             |
| Net interest income to financial assets           | 1.6     | 1.9     | 2.7     | 2.7     | 2.6         |
| Net interest income to net loans                  | 2.1     | 2.4     | 3.3     | 3.4     | 3.4         |
| Pre-provision income to REA                       | 2.0     | 2.3     | 3.4     | 3.8     | 3.4         |
| Core pre-provision income to REA (NII & NF&C)     | 1.5     | 1.7     | 2.9     | 3.2     | 2.7         |
| Return on ordinary equity                         | 6.1     | 7.2     | 9.2     | 11.0    | 10.3        |
| Return on assets                                  | 0.7     | 0.9     | 1.2     | 1.4     | 1.3         |
| Cost-to-income ratio                              | 62.9    | 63.0    | 53.3    | 50.7    | 58.1        |
| Core cost-to-income ratio (NII & NF&C)            | 69.7    | 68.7    | 57.6    | 55.2    | 63.8        |
| CAPITAL   |         |         |         |         |             |
| CET1 ratio  | 20.1    | 18.3    | 19.0    | 25.8    | 27.0        |
| Tier 1 ratio                                      | 20.1    | 18.3    | 20.9    | 27.6    | 28.9        |
| Capital ratio                                     | 22.4    | 20.4    | 22.8    | 30.7    | 32.1        |
| REA to assets                                     | 48.8    | 48.8    | 50.0    | 48.5    | 43.6        |
| Dividend payout ratio                             |         |         |         |         |             |
| Leverage ratio                                    | 9.7     | 9.1     | 10.6    | 12.8    | 11.9        |
| Consolidated CET1 ratio                           | 18.6    | 18.2    | 19.1    | 21.3    | 23.0        |
| Consolidated Tier 1 ratio                         | 19.0    | 18.6    | 20.9    | 23.1    | 25.0        |
| Consolidated Capital ratio                        | 21.2    | 20.7    | 22.9    | 26.1    | 28.2        |
| Consolidated Leverage ratio                       | 8.4     | 8.3     | 9.6     | 10.2    | 9.4         |
| GROWTH  |         |         |         |         |             |
| Asset growth                                      | 8.7     | 7.3     | 8.7     | 10.5    | 5.3         |
| Loan growth                                       | 8.3     | 13.9    | 5.6     | 10.6    | -1.:        |
| Deposit growth                                    | 8.6     | 7.5     | 6.3     | 11.0    | 6.8         |
| LOSS PERFORMANCE                                  | 0.0     | 7.0     | 0.0     | 11.0    | 0.0         |
| Credit provisions to net loans                    | 0.04    | -0.01   | 0.19    | 0.03    | -0.07       |
| Stage 3 coverage ratio                            | 6.87    | 7.52    | 16.88   | 20.18   | 11.99       |
| Stage 3 loans to gross loans                      | 0.67    | 0.68    | 1.50    | 1.19    | 1.15        |
| Net stage 3 loans to net loans                    | 0.62    | 0.63    | 1.25    | 0.95    | 1.03        |
| Net stage 3 loans/ordinary equity                 | 4.04    | 4.09    | 7.71    | 5.95    | 6.02        |
| FUNDING & LIQUIDITY                               | 4.04    | 4.09    | 7.71    | 5.95    | 6.02        |
|   | 100.0   | 100.0   | 107.0   | 107.0   | 00.4        |
| Loan to deposit ratio                             | 102.2   | 108.3   | 107.6   | 107.2   | 99.0        |
| Liquid assets to deposit ratio                    | 29.6    | 23.5    | 27.2    | 26.7    | 33.0        |
| Net stable funding ratio                          | 138.0   | 140.0   | 144.3   | 143.4   | 152.2       |
| Liquidity coverage ratio                          | 208.0   | 179.0   | 263.4   | 176.8   | 295.2       |
| Key financials (NOKm)                             | FY 2021 | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | Q2 2025 YTE |
| BALANCE SHEET                                     |         |         |         |         |             |
| Total assets                                      | 3,586   | 3,849   | 4,182   | 4,622   | 4,869       |
| Total tangible assets                             | 3,586   | 3,849   | 4,182   | 4,622   | 4,869       |
| Total financial assets                            | 3,552   | 3,818   | 4,152   | 4,577   | 4,82        |
| Net loans and advances to customers               | 2,755   | 3,138   | 3,314   | 3,665   | 3,61        |
| Total securities                                  | 656     | 616     | 671     | 758     | 94:         |
| Customer deposits                                 | 2,695   | 2,897   | 3,079   | 3,419   | 3,65        |
| Issued securities                                 | 436     | 442     | 493     | 524     | 52          |
| of which other senior debt                        | 395     | 402     | 453     | 454     | 45-         |
| of which subordinated debt                        | 40      | 40      | 40      | 71      | 7           |
| Total equity                                      | 424     | 483     | 577     | 625     | 65          |
| of which ordinary equity                          | 424     | 483     | 537     | 585     | 61          |
| CAPITAL   | 727     | 400     | 007     | 000     | 01          |
| Common equity tier 1                              | 352     | 344     | 397     | 579     | 57          |
| Tier 1  | 352     | 344     | 437     | 619     | 61:         |
|   |         |         |         |         |             |
| Total capital                                     | 392     | 384     | 477     | 689     | 683         |
| REA   | 1,751   | 1,880   | 2,090   | 2,240   | 2,12        |
| NOOME OT A TEMENT                                 |         |         |         |         |             |
|   |         |         |         |         |             |
| Operating revenues                                | 90      | 111     | 146     | 166     |             |
| Operating revenues Pre-provision operating profit | 34      | 41      | 68      | 82      | 90          |
|   |         |         |         |         |             |

Source: company. FY-full year. YTD-year to date.

Figure 21. Grue Sparebank rating scorecard

| Subfactors                     | Impact | Score   |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|
| National banking environment   | 5.0%   | а       |
| Sector exposure assessment     | -      | -       |
| Regional assessment            | 15.0%  | bbb-    |
| Cross border assessment        | -      | -       |
| National factors               | -      | -       |
| Regional, cross border, sector | -      | -       |
| Operating environment          | 20.0%  | bbb     |
| Risk governance                | 7.5%   | bbb+    |
| Capital                        | 17.5%  | aa      |
| Funding and liquidity          | 15.0%  | a-      |
| Credit and market risk         | 10.0%  | bbb     |
| Credit risk                    | -      | -       |
| Market risk                    | -      | -       |
| Other risks                    | -      | -       |
| Risk appetite                  | 50.0%  | а       |
| Competitive position           | 15.0%  | bb-     |
| Earnings                       | 7.5%   | bbb+    |
| Loss performance               | 7.5%   | a-      |
| Performance indicators         | 15.0%  | bbb+    |
| Indicative credit assessment   |        | bbb+    |
| Peer comparison                |        | Neutral |
| Transitions                    |        | Neutral |
| Borderline assessments         |        | Neutral |
| Stand-alone credit assessment  |        | bbb+    |
| Ownership                      |        | Neutral |
| Capital structure protection   |        | Neutral |
| Rating caps                    |        | Neutral |
| Material credit enhancement    |        | -       |
| Issuer rating                  |        | BBB+    |
| Outlook                        |        | Stable  |
| Short-term rating              |        | N2      |

Figure 22. Capital structure ratings

| Seniority         | Rating |
|-------------------|--------|
| Senior unsecured  | BBB+   |
| Tier 2            | BBB    |
| Additional Tier 1 | BB+    |

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