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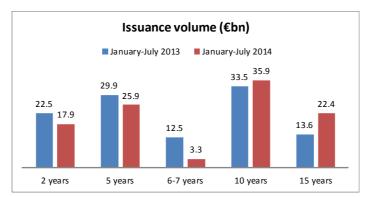
Agence France Trésor is tasked with managing the government debt and cash positions under the most secure conditions in the interest of the taxpayer.

News at Agence France Trésor

# Investors turn to long maturities in search of yield

The execution of France's 2014 debt issuance programme is ahead of schedule. At the end of July, Agence France Trésor had already issued €140.5bn in medium- and long-term debt, compared to €134.9bn one year earlier. An environment of low inflation and low interest rates also makes it possible to obtain low borrowing costs. The Supplementary Budget Act passed in July includes a provision to reduce the cost of servicing debt forecast in the Initial Budget Act by €1.8bn, with €1bn of the reduction stemming from lower inflation and €0.8bn from lower interest rates. The average cost of medium- and long-term debt securities at issue stood at 1.51% at the end of July 2014, even lower than the average borrowing cost of 1.54% in 2013.

Some investors are buying longer maturities to increase their returns in a low-yield environment, combined with a steeper yield curve in the 10-to-20-year segment since the end of 2013. Yields in this segment rose by 18 basis points between 31 December 2013 and 1 August 2014. Meanwhile, yields in the 2-to-10-year segment of the curve fell by 84 basis points over the same period.



Consequently, volumes issued in the 6-to-7-year segment contracted sharply in the first seven months of the year, falling by €9.1bn compared to the same period in 2013. In contrast, volumes issued for longer maturities, i.e. 10 years and especially 15 years, increased by €11.2bn. This change has been facilitated by the flexibility principle underlying Agence France Trésor's issuance strategy, which, combined with the regularity and transparency of its policies, enables it to issue securities with the maturities that are most in demand. Agence France Trésor does not have a target for the average maturity of France's negotiable debt securities, particularly since it has remained stable at around 7 years, which is equal to or greater than the average maturities of major issuers in the euro area, such as Germany, Italy and Spain.

**Economic news** 

# Changes in non-residents' holdings government debt in 2013

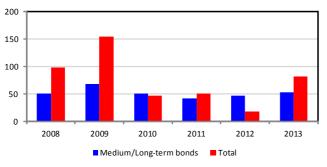
**French** 

PEPUBLIQUE

In June, the Banque de France published its 2013 Annual Report on France's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position. In addition to announcing a small improvement in the current account deficit, from 1.5% of GDP in 2012 to 1.4% in 2013, the report compiles data on non-residents' holdings of French government debt.

Foreign investors were net buyers of French government securities in 2013, with total net investment inflows standing at €81bn. These figures reflect the renewed appetite of foreign investors for French government debt, with net purchases closer to euro area pre-crisis amounts (see Chart 1 below).

Chart 1: Non-residents' transactions in French government securities (€bn)



Source: Banaue de France

Non-residents' holdings of French government debt stood at €1,155.2bn at the end of 2013, up 6% on 2012.

This renewed appetite for French government bonds, particularly medium- and long-term, may stem from their status as a safe haven in the euro area against the backdrop of a modest economic recovery and a strong correlation between French and German yields (Chart 2 below), with French securities paying significantly higher yields than German securities. The 10-year yield on French Treasury bonds stood at 1.39% on 19 August compared to 1% on German bonds.

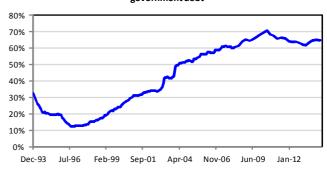
Chart 2: Correlation between French and German 10-year yields over 120 days



Source: Bloomberg

In the first quarter of 2014, non-residents' total share of negotiable French government debt stood at 64.6% (Chart 3 below). This share remained fairly stable during the crisis. It peaked at 70.6% in June 2010 and has been rising since the first quarter of 2013.

Chart 3: Non-residents' share of negociable French government debt



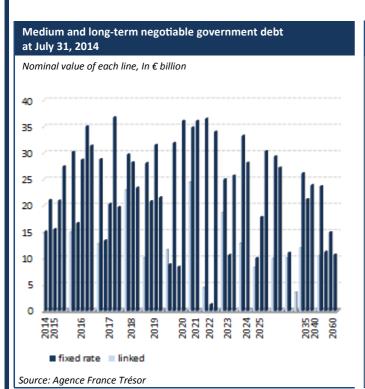
Source: Banque de France

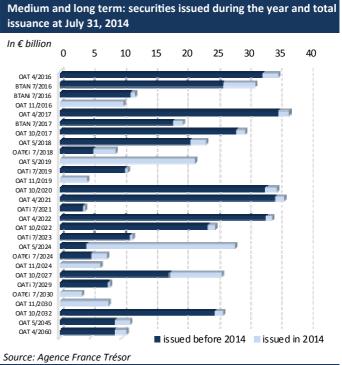
The large share held by non-residents is a reflection of France's appeal to foreign investors. It is also a positive factor for the management of central government debt insofar as a diverse investor base makes France less dependent on investors in a specific geographic area or category. It also reduces the volatility of borrowing costs.

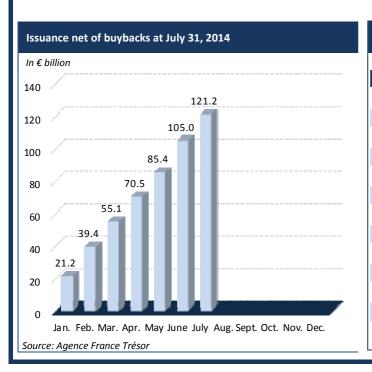


Indicative auction schedule									
									PTI(
			Short	-term			Medium-term	Long-term	Index linked
September 2014	auction date	1	8	15	22	29	18	4	18
	settlement date	4	11	18	25	02 Oct	23	9	23
October 2014	auction date	6	13	20	27	//	16	2	16
	settlement date	8	15	22	29	//	20	7	20

Source: Agence France Trésor







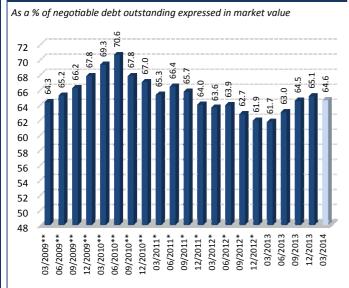
In € billion		
Month	Coupon	Redemption
Aug-14		
Sep-14	0.1	15.0
Oct-14	15.9	21.1
Nov-14	0.4	
Dec-14		
Jan-15	0.4	15.7
Feb-15	1.0	
Mar-15		
Apr-15	15.9	20.9
May-15	2.1	
Jun-15		
Jul-15	4.4	42.5

Medium and long term: provisional maturity schedule

Source: Agence France Trésor

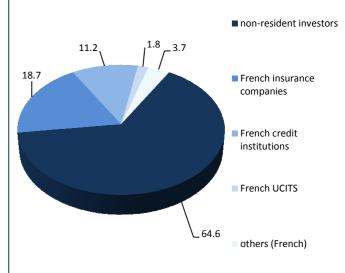
at July 31, 2014

# Non-resident holders of negotiable government debt in first quarter of 2014



# Negotiable government debt by group of holders in first quarter of 2014





Source: Banque de France

#### Negotiable government debt at July 31, 2014

(\*) figures revised quarterly (\*\*) figures revised annually

In euros

Source: Banque de France

Average maturity	7 years and 11 days
TOTAL OUTSTANDING	1,525,121,996,010
Average maturity	123 days
Total short-term debt	187,234,000,000
Average maturity	7 years and 353 days
Total stripping activity	61,508,170,500
Total medium and long-term debt	1,337,887,996,010

Average maturity 7 years and 11 days

Source: Agence France Trésor

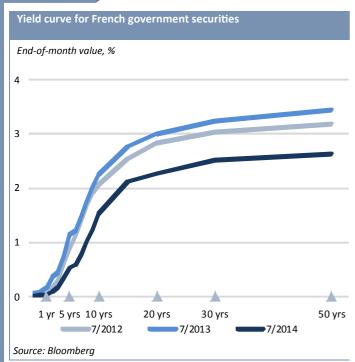
Source: Agence France Trésor

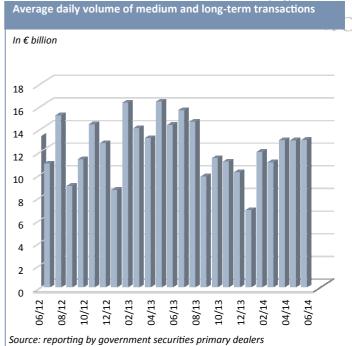
### Negotiable government debt and interest rate swaps at July 31, 2014

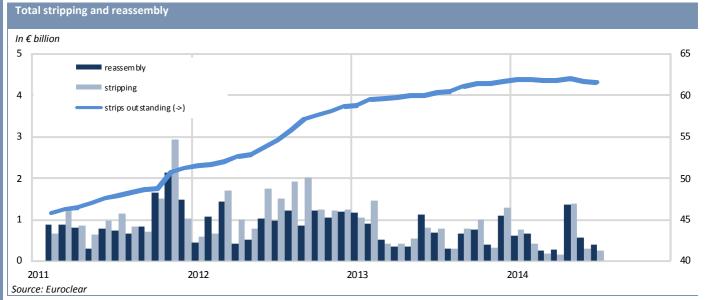
In € billion

III € DIIIIOII					
	End 2011	End 2012	End 2013	End June 2014	End July 2014
Negotiable government debt outstanding	1,313	1,386	1,457	1,536	1,525
of which index-linked securities	166	173	174	186	187
Medium and long term	1,135	1,220	1,283	1,347	1,338
short-term	178	167	174	188	187
Swaps outstanding	13	10	7	4	3
Average maturity of the negotiable debt					
before swaps	7 years	7 years	7 years	6 years	7 years
	57 days	37 days	5 days	343 days	11 days
after swaps	7 years	7 years	7 years	6 years	7 years
	52 days	34 days	2 days	341 days	9 days



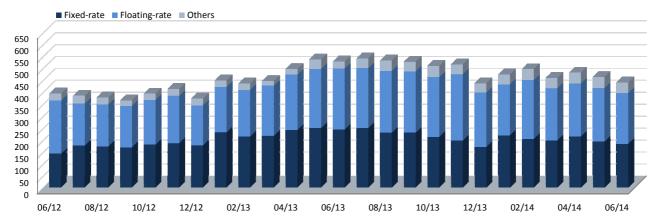












Source: reporting by government securities primary dealers





# Short-term debt at July 31, 2014

	Maturity	Outstanding (€)
BTF	7 August 2014	7,759,000,000
BTF	14 August 2014	9,090,000,000
BTF	21 August 2014	5,234,000,000
BTF	28 August 2014	8,032,000,000
BTF	4 September 2014	7,425,000,000
BTF	11 September 2014	8,515,000,000
BTF	18 September 2014	6,951,000,000
BTF	25 September 2014	8,554,000,000
BTF	2 October 2014	8,209,000,000
BTF	9 October 2014	8,907,000,000
BTF	16 October 2014	8,432,000,000
BTF	23 October 2014	8,805,000,000
BTF	30 October 2014	8,317,000,000
BTF	13 November 2014	6,367,000,000
BTF	27 November 2014	7,320,000,000
BTF	11 December 2014	3,147,000,000
BTF	24 December 2014	6,032,000,000
BTF	8 January 2015	8,857,000,000
BTF	5 February 2015	8,176,000,000
BTF	5 March 2015	7,872,000,000
BTF	2 April 2015	8,105,000,000
BTF	30 April 2015	8,483,000,000
BTF	28 May 2015	7,413,000,000
BTF	25 June 2015	7,579,000,000
BTF	23 July 2015	3,653,000,000

# Medium and long-term debt (maturing 2014–2018) at July 31, 2014

Stripped (€	Face value	Ind. Coeff.	Outstanding (€)	Bond	SIN Code
			36,097,971,990	Maturity 2014	
-			15,044,000,000	BTAN 0.75% 25 September 2014	FR0120634490
(			21,053,971,990	OAT 4% 25 October 2014	FR0010112052
			125,630,243,533	Maturity 2015	
-			15,515,000,000	BTAN 2.5% 15 January 2015	FR0117836652
(			20,942,313,893	OAT 3.5% 25 April 2015	FR0010163543
-			27,401,000,000	BTAN 2% 12 July 2015	FR0118462128
(	12,487,000,000	1.19772	14,955,929,640 (1)	OAT€i 1.6% 25 July 2015	FR0010135525
(			30,161,000,000	OAT 3% 25 October 2015	FR0010216481
(			16,655,000,000	OAT 0.25% 25 November 2015	FR0011452721
			149,869,691,900	Maturity 2016	
-			28,686,000,000	BTAN 2.25% 25 February 2016	FR0119105809
(			35,007,000,000	OAT 3.25% 25 April 2016	FR0010288357
-			31,322,000,000	BTAN 2.5% 25 July 2016	FR0119580050
-	12,070,000,000	1.05217	12,699,691,900 (1)	BTANi 0.45% 25 July 2016	FR0119105791
293,055,600			28,789,000,000	OAT 5% 25 October 2016	FR0000187361
(			13,366,000,000	OAT 0.25% 25 November 2016	FR0011857218
			129,326,269,300	Maturity 2017	
-			20,302,000,000	BTAN 1.75% 25 February 2017	FR0120473253
(			36,737,000,000	OAT 3.75% 25 April 2017	FR0010415331
-			19,680,000,000	BTAN 1% 25 July 2017	FR0120746609
(	20,195,000,000	1.13574	22,936,269,300 (1)	OATi 1% 25 July 2017	FR0010235176
(			29,671,000,000	OAT 4.25% 25 October 2017	FR0010517417
			110,480,668,340	Maturity 2018	
(			28,170,000,000	OAT 4% 25 April 2018	FR0010604983
(			23,412,000,000	OAT 1% 25 May 2018	FR0011394345
(	9,654,000,000	1.04171	10,056,668,340 (1)	OAT€i 0.25% 25 July 2018	FR0011237643
(			28,047,000,000	OAT 4.25% 25 October 2018	FR0010670737
(			20,795,000,000	OAT 1% 25 November 2018	FR0011523257

(1) face value x indexation coefficient (face value if coefficient < 1)





Medium and long-term debt (maturing in 2019 and beyond) at July 31, 2014

Stripped (€	Face value	Ind. Coeff.	Outstanding (€)	Bond	ISIN Code
			113,675,638,532	Maturity 2019	
			31,478,000,000	OAT 4.25% 25 April 2019	FR0000189151
			21,545,000,000	OAT 1% 25 May 2019	FR0011708080
	10,841,000,000	1.06881	11,586,969,210 (1)	OATi 1.3% 25 July 2019	FR0010850032
6,077,530,10			8,844,392,893	OAT 8.5% 25 October 2019	FR0000570921
			31,858,000,000	OAT 3.75% 25 October 2019	FR0010776161
			8,336,000,000	OAT 0.5% 25 November 2019	FR0011993179
	6,692,154		27,276,429 (2)	OAT cap. 9.82% 31 December 2019	FR0000570954
			95,248,242,750	Maturity 2020	
			36,032,000,000	OAT 3.5% 25 April 2020	FR0010854182
	19,975,000,000	1.22229	24,415,242,750 (1)	OAT€i 2.25% 25 July 2020	FR0010050559
			34,801,000,000	OAT 2.5% 25 October 2020	FR0010949651
			76,905,979,190	Maturity 2021	
			36,041,000,000	OAT 3.75% 25 April 2021	FR0010192997
	4,339,000,000	1.01221	4,391,979,190 (1)	OATi 0.1% 25 July 2021	FR0011347046
			36,473,000,000	OAT 3.25% 25 October 2021	FR0011059088
			78,839,709,070	Maturity 2022	
520,868,40			1,243,939,990	OAT 8.25% 25 April 2022	FR0000571044
			34,030,000,000	OAT 3% 25 April 2022	FR0011196856
	17,126,000,000	1.08658	18,608,769,080 (1)	OAT€i 1.1% 25 July 2022	FR0010899765
			24,957,000,000	OAT 2.25% 25 October 2022	FR0011337880
			82,304,346,243	Maturity 2023	
6,069,916,00			10,606,195,903	OAT 8.5% 25 April 2023	FR0000571085
			25,660,000,000	OAT 1.75% 25 May 2023	FR0011486067
	11,634,000,000	1.10101	12,809,150,340 (1)	OATi 2.1% 25 July 2023	FR0010585901
506,722,00			33,229,000,000	OAT 4.25% 25 October 2023	FR0010466938
			46,368,730,050	Maturity 2024	
			28,128,000,000	OAT 2.25% 25 May 2024	FR0011619436
	8,085,000,000	1.01753	8,226,730,050 (1)	OAT€i 0.25% 25 July 2024	FR0011427848
			10,014,000,000	OAT 1.75% 25 November 2024	FR0011962398
			17,780,928,118	Maturity 2025	
2,992,226,90			17,780,928,118	OAT 6% 25 October 2025	FR0000571150
			30,306,000,000	Maturity 2026	
113,460,00			30,306,000,000	OAT 3.5% 25 April 2026	FR0010916924
			39,230,210,460	Maturity 2027	
	9,257,000,000	1.07078	9,912,210,460 (1)	OAT€i 1.85% 25 July 2027	FR0011008705
			29,318,000,000	OAT 2.75% 25 October 2027	FR0011317783
			21,322,893	Maturity 2028	
	46,232,603		21,322,893 (3)	OAT zéro coupon 28 March 2028	FR0000571226
			37,202,555,081	Maturity 2029	
3,889,749,50			27,169,880,458	OAT 5.5% 25 April 2029	FR0000571218
	7,993,144,000	1.25516	10,032,674,623 (1)	OATi 3.4% 25 July 2029	FR0000186413
			168,599,488,560	Maturity 2030 et plus	
			11,015,000,000	OAT 2.5% 25 May 2030	FR0011883966
	3,500,000,000	1.00446	3,515,610,000 (1)	OAT€i 0.7% 25 July 2030	FR0011982776
	9,626,000,000	1.23843	11,921,127,180 (1)	OAT€i 3.15% 25 July 2032	FR0000188799
11,562,957,00			26,135,322,600	OAT 5.75% 25 October 2032	FR0000187635
5,426,246,00			21,183,000,000	OAT 4.75% 25 April 2035	FR0010070060
4,779,950,00			23,889,000,000	OAT 4% 25 October 2038	FR0010371401
	9,121,000,000	1.14718	10,463,428,780 (1)	OAT€i 1.8% 25 July 2040	FR0010447367
7,227,052,00			23,650,000,000	OAT 4.5% 25 April 2041	FR0010773192
			11,244,000,000	OAT 3.25% 25 May 2045	FR0011461037
			11,244,000,000	OAT 3.2370 23 Way 2043	THOOTE TOTOS
7,502,183,00			14,926,000,000	OAT 4% 25 April 2055	FR0010171975

<sup>(1)</sup> face value x indexation coefficient (face value if coefficient < 1)
(2) Including coupons capitalized at 31/12/2013; not open to subscription
(3) Revised updated on 28/03/2013; not open to subscription



#### Most recent economic indicators

Industrial output, year-on-year	-2.0%	06/2014
Household consumption*, year-on-year	2.0%	06/2014
Unemployment rate (ILO)	10.1%	03/2014
Consumer prices, year-on-year		
all items	0.5%	07/2014
all items excluding tobacco	0.3%	07/2014
Trade balance, fob-fob, sa (€bn)	-€5.4 bn	06/2014
п	-€4.9 bn	05/2014
Current account balance, sa (€bn)	-€7.4 bn	06/2014
11	-€3.3 bn	05/2014
10-year constant maturity rate (TEC10)	1.47%	31/7/2014
3-month interest rate (Euribor)	0.209%	31/7/2014
EUR / USD	1.3379	31/7/2014
EUR / JPY	137.66	31/7/2014

<sup>\*</sup> manufactured products

Source: Insee, Minefi, Banque de France

### Monthly government budget position

In € billion

			end of June level		
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2014
General budget balance	-88.16	-75.44	-39.90	-43.55	-42.78
revenue	286.01	301.25	145.32	152.65	151.57
expenditure	374.17	376.68	185.21	196.21	194.35
Balance of special Treasury accounts	1.01	0.56	-16.78	-15.76	-16.62
General budget outturn	-87.15	-74.87	-56.68	-59.31	-59.41

Source: Minefi

#### Public finances: deficit and debt

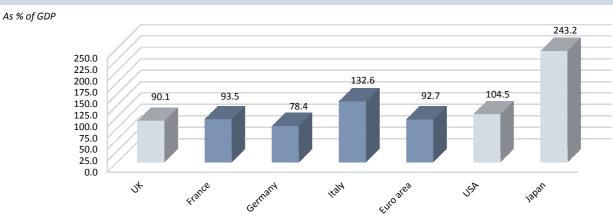


debt (right-hand scale) debt excluding impact of European guarantees

— debt (right-hand scale) debt including impact of European guarantees

Source: France's 2014-2017 Stability Programme, Insee

### General government debt in 2013



Sources: Eurostat (04/2014), FMI (04/2014)





# French economic indicators timetable

September 2014	October 2014
Job seekers Q2-2014 (BIT)	Eurozone economic outlook - Q3-2013
Foreign trade in July	Foreign trade in August
10 Industrial output in July	Industrial output in August
Payroll employment: Q2-2014	Balance of payments in August
Consumer prices: index for August	Consumer prices: index for September
Balance of payments in july	16 Inflation (HICP): September index
Inflation (HICP): August index	Industrial trends: quarterly survey for October
Quarterly national accounts: final results Q2-2014	23 Industrial trends: monthly survey for October
Industrial trends: monthly survey for September	Job seekers in September
Job seekers in August	New building starts in September
New building starts in August	Household confidence survey: October survey
Industrial investments: August survey	31 Industrial producer prices: September index
Net foreign exchange reserves in August	Household consumption of manufactured goods in September

Sources : Insee, Eurostat