## Third Annual Energy **Supply Investment and Banking Ratios** Comparing low-carbon and fossil-fuel activity

**Summary Report** 

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### **Contents**

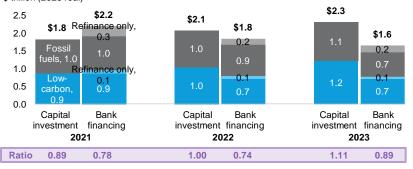
Methodology overview	3
Financing the real economy transition	8
Bank-facilitated financing	15
How this relates to other research and reporting	31
How this relates to banks' targets	34
How this relates to other bank assessment frameworks	37
Ensuring data accuracy	39

### **Executive summary**

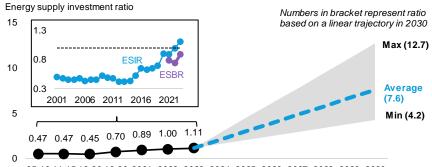
The energy industry is shifting more of its investment into cleaner sources of supply. Bank financing for low-carbon energy supply technologies reached 89% of that for fossil fuels in 2023 – meaning that for every dollar that went to oil, natural gas and coal, 89 cents went into things like wind, solar and grids. This is our third annual assessment of those flows, taking in both the investments made by energy companies and bank-facilitated finance. Despite the improvement, the ratio isn't evolving at the pace needed to hit the 4:1 level required this decade under commonly referenced scenarios to limit climate change to 1.5C.

- Investment in low-carbon energy surpassed fossil fuels for the first time. Real-economy investment rose from \$2.1 trillion in 2022 to \$2.3 trillion in 2023, making the ratio 1.11:1.
- Bank facilitated financing for fossil fuels declined. This led to a rise in 2023 for the Energy Supply Banking Ratio, or ESBR, which grew from 0.74:1 in 2022 to 0.89:1 in 2023. Changes in the way we measure finance and data gaps in China explain some of the increase in the ratio. But it also reflects an active transition in the energy system. Total bank financing slid 11% to \$1.6 trillion. Within that sum, fossil-fuel financing fell 18% to \$870 billion, while low-carbon retreated just 1.4% to \$776 billion.
- Real-economy investment has continued to rise, while bank facilitated financing fell, particularly for fossil fuels. Financing volumes eased from \$1.8 trillion in 2022 to \$1.6 trillion in 2023. This reflected a few key trends that started in 2022:
  - Cash flows for energy firms remained high, enabling them to pay for higher capital expenditure without financing from banks.
  - Interest rates stabilized but persisted at high levels, reducing attractiveness of linked products.
  - Small-scale solar often financed by consumers and thus not covered in this methodology continued to expand its share of low-carbon capex.
  - A big caveat: Chinese firms shifted from bonds to loans in 2023 as the central bank reduced deposit reserves and prime rates. Loans are less well reported, so Chinese firms probably borrowed more than our numbers suggest. This impact artificially inflates the global ratio.
- Coal is still drawing more capital than is compatible with a 1.5C target. The ratio of coal
  investment to fossil fuels was 0.18:1, triple the goal. For bank-facilitated financing, it was 0.11:1.
  China's banks underwrote about 66% of the \$94 billion that went to coal in 2023, before even
  accounting for the lower transparency on loans.

### Global energy supply investment vs. energy supply financing, 2021-23 \$ trillion (2023 real)



### Range of Energy Supply Investment Ratios to 2030 implied by commonly referenced climate scenarios consistent with 1.5C warming



05-10 11-15 16-20 16-20 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 Source: BloombergNEF, International Energy Agency, UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Network for Greening the Financial System, Bloomberg LP, RAN, Urgewald, JuGlobal, Note: Ratios from 2000 to 2023 are based on historical investment levels from the IEA World Energy Investment reports. ESIR refers to Energy Supply Investment Ratio: ESBR refers to Energy Supply Banking Ratio. Both are ratio of low-carbon to fossil-fuel supply.

## Methodology overview

Bank-facilitated financing Energy Supply Banking Ratio

## Our analysis spans the energy value chain

#### Focus 2 **Energy Demand Energy Supply** of this Company revenue driven by the development, extraction. Company revenue driven by the manufacture of clean Company revenue driven by the manufacture and report transportation or generation of energy. financing of transportation technologies. technologies. Not included: **Production and supply** Manufacturing Consumption Adjacent sectors Metals and mining relevant to Company revenue driven by low-carbon sources of energy Company revenue driven by the development of Company revenue driven by the manufacturing Lowbatteries/EVs. but tracked too production. This includes renewables, storage, biofuels plants/facilities manufacturing low-carbon energy of clean transportation technologies, primarily carbon electric vehicles (passenger vehicles and broadly in Bloomberg Industry and nuclear. equipment. This includes equipment and services, such as Classification System (BICS) modules, turbines and components. trucks). Also includes financing and leasing. Grid technology upgrades often tend to accompany system. cleaner capacity and also allow the smoother integration of We include smart grid equipment due to the direct Materials avoided - focus on energy. enablement of clean power on the grid. renewables, so transmission and distribution is considered green. Electric passenger vehicles Plant development Wind turbines Recycling and waste management Solar Marine power Solar, biomass, wind · Geothermal equipment Electric trucks Sustainable materials Wind Biofuels and biomass Smart grid equipment Hydro equipment Leasing electric vehicles Pollution control equipment Geothermal Nuclear Clean energy equipment Fuel cells Electric-vehicle financing Metals and mining Solar cells/modules, Hydropower Electricity grid Nuclear equipment inverters Storage Hydrogen and CO2 transport/storage Company revenue driven by fossil-fuel-based sources of Company revenue driven by the equipment used to Company revenue driven by the manufacturing Use of fossil-fuel vehicles excluded Fossil energy production. This includes coal, oil and gas, and support power generation from fossil-fuel-based sources. of traditional internal combustion engine to avoid double counting; focus is on **Fuels** utilities' fossil-fuel power generation for electricity and This includes equipment, parts and services, such as transportation technologies (passenger vehicles manufacturing instead. heating/cooling. This also includes transportation and and trucks) and other fossil-fuel-based forms of generators and boilers. Chemicals/materials avoided - focus transportation, such as ships and aircraft. Also refining businesses. on energy. includes financing. leasing and rental services. Utilities Oil and gas Equipment and infrastructure Passenger/commercial . Aircraft engines and · Fossil-fuel power Exploration and Generators generation production Manufacturing and Vehide financing Power generation equipment, parts and services Trucking freight

- Rail (agriculture, chemicals, industrial products, etc.)
- Bus transit
- Taxi services
- Hydrogen and ammonia

- · Heating and cooling
- Coal
- Mining
- Rail/freight

- Transport
- Refining
- Marketing/trading
- Filling stations

- Power boilers and heat exchangers
- Oilfield chemicals

- leasing
- Engines and parts
- Trucks
- Shipbuilding
- commercial, railcar)
- Vehicle rental

## **BloombergNEF**

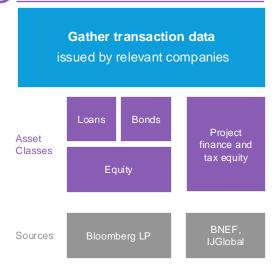
## Our methodology is built on transactions underwritten by banks for the energy sector and relevant issuers

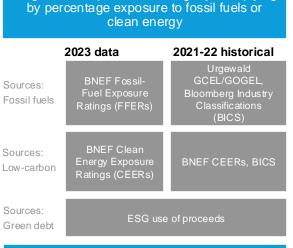
1) Select company universe

2 Pull financing activity

3 Adjust transactions

#### Issuers ~110,000 companies with energy sector revenue Low-carbon Fossil-fuel energy Sectors energy supply supply BNEF Fossil-Fuel Sources (FFERs). BNEF Clean-**Energy Exposure** Ratings (CEERs)





Adjust transaction data

for general corporate financing, by multiplying

Add full value of transactions for project finance and renewables tax equity/credit transfers

(historical 2021-22 only) Methodology overview

# Our analysis spans four main bank financing activities and focuses on energy supply

						<u> </u>	<u> </u>			
Type of financing	Recour	se debt iss	uances	Equity is	ssuances	Non-recourse	project finance	Tax equity and tax credit transfers	Incomplete inclusion	Not included
Asset class or type	Bonds	Loans	Green debt	IPOs	Additional share offerings	Fossil fuels	Clean energy	Tax credit investment	Asset- backed securities	Direct and bilateral lending
Source	В	Bloomberg L	P	Bloom	perg LP	IJGlobal	BNEF	BNEF	Bloomberg	Limited disclosure
Role	ı	Underwriting	9	Under	Underwriting Underwriting		Direct investment	Underwriting	Balance sheet	
Energy supply results Focus of this report	\$648 bill bil	1.4 trillion t ion low-carl lion fossil fu upply Banki 0.87	oon, <b>\$746</b> uels	<b>\$28 billion</b> lo <b>billion</b> fo Energy Supply	~\$0.05 trillion total  \$28 billion low-carbon, \$23  billion fossil fuels  ergy Supply Banking Ratio =  1.25  ~\$0.17 trillion total  \$79 billion low-carbon, \$101  billion fossil fuels  Energy Supply Banking Ratio =  0.79		~\$0.02 trillion total \$20 billion low-carbon			
Energy demand results	\$188 bil bil	~\$0.3 trillion total \$188 billion low-carbon, \$74 billion fossil fuels Energy Demand Ratio: Banking = 2.53		<b>\$3 billion</b> log <b>billion</b> fo Energy Der	rillion total w-carbon, <b>\$2</b> ossil fuels mand Ratio: g = <b>1.39</b>	N/A		N/A	-	

Source: Bloomberg LP, BloombergNEF. Note: Banks serve their clients in the energy sector in numerous other roles that are not the focus of this report. These include but are not limited to serving as an agent on a debt issuance, direct lending as opposed to underwriting, asset management, and retail banking (in other words, loans for electric vehicles or residential solar). Most of these omissions are due to data limitations.

# Impact of methodological decisions on results

Interpreting year-on-year changes in these results requires distinguishing between *changes in the market* (macroeconomic trends and decisions banks make) and *changes in measurement* (methodology). Here, we approximate the influence of the methodological changes on results. The number of arrows is proportional to degree of impact on results.

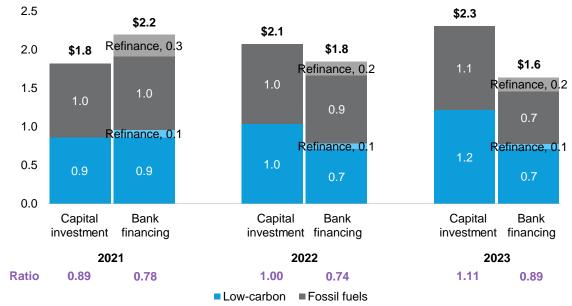
			historical results previous reporting)	Impact on	2023 results
Change	Description	Volume	ESBR (all else held equal)	Volume	ESBR (all else held equal)
Changes in adjustment factors	Our primary source for adjusting general corporate purpose transactions is now BNEF's Transition Exposure Ratings, which are revamped to include both Clean Energy Exposure Ratings (CEERs) and Fossil-Fuel Exposure Ratings (FFERs) for 109,806 companies. While the CEERs were used in the previous iterations of this report, the FFERs are entirely new and replace our use of Bloomberg Industry Classifications and external data for fossil fuels going forward. For more on the Transition Exposure Ratings, see BNEF Transition Exposure Ratings: 4Q 2024 (web) [terminal). This applies to 2023 data and onwards, while we maintain the same methodology for historical data 2021-2022: a combination of the CEERs, Urgewald, and BICS data.		e same methodology nistorical data	FFERs sometimes less than Urgewald estimates	↑↑↑ Low-carbon better captured, FÆRs sometimes less than Urgewald estimates
	We <b>filled in missing years of adjustment factor data</b> (because of a lack of financial reporting, for example), with adjacent years' data where possible. This allows us to capture deals we would have otherwise missed, raising the volume measured.	<b>↑</b> ↑	↑ Affects low-carbon more	<b>↑</b>	↑ Affects low-carbon more
Historical tax equity data	For the second year, we collected tax equity investment data directly from known tax equity players. <b>Historical data for 2021 (\$15 billion) was added for the first time</b> in this report, bringing historical figures in line for comparison. All years, 2021-2023, also include a small number of known deals for other banks from BNEF's renewables asset finance database. Combined, the \$17 billion in 2023 reported here represents around 85% of the approximately \$20-25 billion market.	↑↑ (2021 only)	↑↑ (2021 only)	N	ione
Tax credit transfers	The passage of the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act in the US created a new market for the sale and purchase of clean energy tax credits, facilitating liquidity in a previously constrained market and allowing for an expansion in volume and participants. Banks since grew their traditional tax equity desks to arrange tax credit transfer deals, which began to materialize in 2023. As this market evolves and these deal structures take new shapes, our approach to capturing transfers may shift accordingly. In 2023, we capture \$2.6 billion of credit transfers facilitated by banks. To understand more on this new market, see Credits for Sale: Biden Climate Law Remakes US Energy Finance (web   terminal).		market de velopment as of 2023	1	<b>↑</b>
Bank roles	We added in <b>co-lead arrangers</b> where these were the only LEAG-creditable roles on the loan. Previously, we had removed these from the data because there is very frequently double-counting of league credit with bookrunners, but this year we were able to add back them back in where there is no risk of double-counting. This captures an additional \$20 billion of low-carbon and \$14 billion of fossilfuel activity in 2023.	<b>↑</b> ↑	↑ More low-carbon than fossil fuels	<b>↑</b> ↑	↑ More low-carbon than fossil fuels
Low-carbon sectoral split	We split out results by type of <b>low-carbon energy</b> , including solar, wind, energy storage, hydropower, nuclear, biofuels, biomass and waste, geothermal, marine, carbon capture and storage, and clean electricity marketing and trading.			None	

# Financing the real economy transition

Capital investment versus bank finance for energy supply

# Bank financing for energy supply fell again, but capital investment is rising

Global energy supply investment vs. energy supply banking in 2021-23 \$ trillion (2023 real)



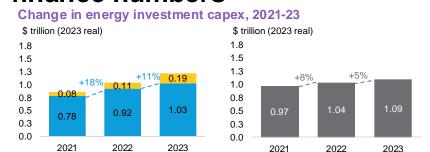
Sources: Bloomberg LP, BloombergNEF, IEA, Urgewald, Rainforest Action Network, IJGlobal. Note: All numbers adjusted for inflation and reported in 2023 dollars. 'Refinance' refers to debt/project finance deals earmarked solely for refinancing. Other transactions may include some refinancing.

- The low-carbon to fossil-fuel Energy Supply Investment Ratio (ESIR) continued to increase from 1:1 in 2022 to 1.11:1 in 2023. This measure is derived from capital spending on energy infrastructure.
- Among banks, the low-carbon to fossil-fuel Energy Supply Banking Ratio (ESBR) increased from 0.74:1 in 2022 to 0.89:1 in 2023. The ESBR is BNEF's estimate of global banks' capital facilitation for the energy sector. This is measure includes underwriting of debt and equity instruments issued by companies that are active in energy, as well as energy project finance.
- The ESBR broadly mirrors trends in global capital investment. However, it is not precisely aligned.
- Factors that affect alignment include the spending and finance decisions of major companies as operating and market conditions change. Also in the mix are the impact of interest rates and energy prices, the shift to private and bilateral loans especially in China, and the growth of sectors such as small-scale solar that are not captured in corporate finance data.
- In all years from 2021 through 2023, deals earmarked explicitly for refinancing only comprised about 20% of fossil-fuel bank financing and around 10% of lowcarbon bank financing.

Small-scale solar

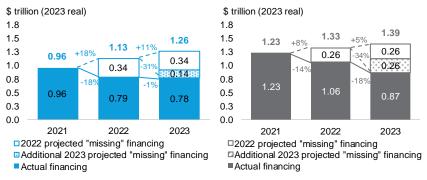
Other low-carbon capital investment

Small-scale solar is becoming big – but isn't captured in our bank finance numbers



#### Actual and capex-projected change in bank financing, 2021-23

■ Fossil fuels



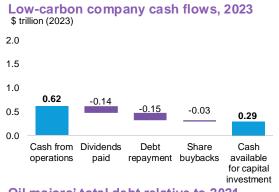
- Small scale solar projects create an anomaly in our data. They drew in more
  capital investment in the past few years, which we include in our capex figures. But
  households and the retail arms of banks are providing much of the finance for this
  sector. That data is difficult to gather and not included in our estimates for bankfacilitated finance. As a result, we may be understating our ESBR.
- Low-carbon capital investment continued to grow 18% in 2023 from the year before, but small-scale solar expanded at a much faster pace of 66%. Where banks are involved in these transactions, it is most often on their retail loan book, through packaged asset-backed securities or through unconventional financing structures.
- Excluding small-scale solar, low-carbon capital investment increased by 11% in 2023. Projecting this growth rate onto the \$776 billion of low-carbon financing in 2022 (plus the \$345 billion of projected missing financing in 2022) would result in a financing volume of \$1.26 trillion in 2023. Measured low-carbon financing in fact fell by 1.4% or \$11 billion.
- Similarly, if fossil-fuel financing had grown by the same rate as the comparative capex, then it would have resulted in an increase of 5% or \$68 billion in financing volumes. The recorded change was actually a drop of \$193 billion, or 18%.

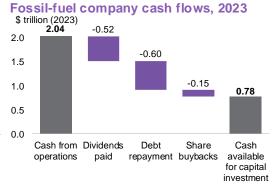
#### Several further factors may also affect financing volumes

- The time lag between an organization raising finance or gaining revenue and spending it could cause capex to spill over to the period(s) after financing is raised.
- Bilateral lending activity and private credit markets are not tracked in this report.
   Any shifts away from capital markets to these activities could feasibly lead to an increase in capex that is not replicated by the finance activity tracked in this report.
- Project finance capital structures may be evolving. The ESBR captures bank
  lending activities with respect to project finance, but not the equity provision of
  sponsors, or lending from less conventional debt funds that may have a small impact
  on overall volumes. See BNEF's report Wind, PV Investors Demand Higher Returns,
  May Not Get Them (web | terminal) for more.

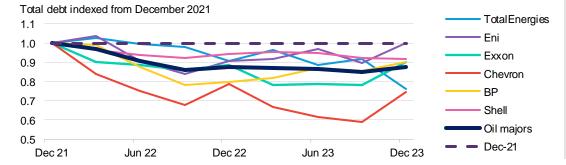
Source: Bloomberg LP, BloombergNEF, Urgewald, IJG lobal. Note: Projected "missing" financing refers to the volume of financing that would have occurred had financing followed the same growth rate as capex.

### Energy companies have been paying down debts since 2021





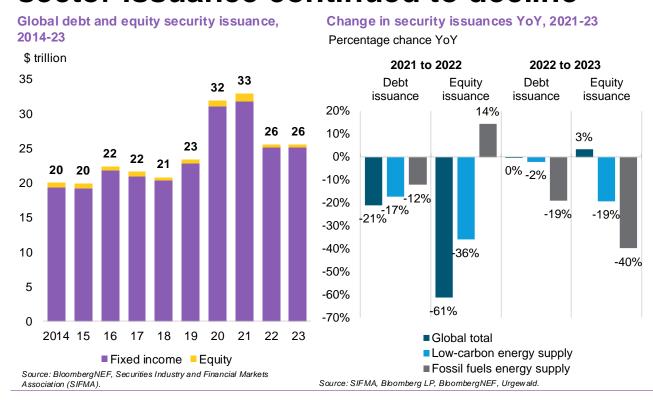
#### Oil majors' total debt relative to 2021



- Companies in the ESBR universe generated \$620 billion of cash in 2023, up 20% from the previous year, when adjusting for the proportion of revenue exposed to lowcarbon energy supply. This is despite slightly lower financing volumes. After accounting for cash dividends. debt repayments and share buybacks, they were left with \$294 billion to use for other activities, such as capital expenditure.
- Cash flows for the fossil-fuel company universe fell slightly from 2022 levels but remained high at about \$2 trillion, adjusted for fossil-fuel revenue exposure. After balance sheet management, about \$778 billion was left for investment.
- The six largest International Oil Companies (IOC) have reduced outstanding debt levels 13% since December 2021. Their strategy appears to have been to repay debt with increased cash flows generated from oil and gas price spikes after Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
- Those sharp declines in the IOCs' debt levels occurred over the course of 2022, ranging from 6% to 22%. But the trend leveled off in 2023. Several of the European majors, like ENI and BP, took on more debt in 2023 relative to 2022. At ENI, debt returned to end-of 2021 levels. The largest American majors, Exxon and Chevron, continued paying off debt for most of the 2023 but ended the year with an uptick in Q4.

Source: Bloomberg LP, Bloomberg NEF. Note: Cash flows for low-carbon versus fossil-fuel companies is determined using the same universe and adjustment factor methodology used in the bank financing analysis.

Global capital markets steadied in 2023, but energy sector issuance continued to decline

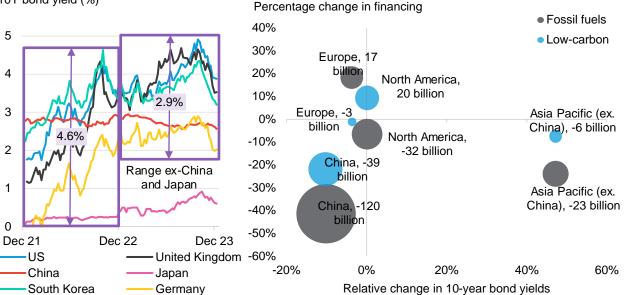


- A total of \$26 trillion in fixed income and equity was issued across all industries in 2023, roughly the same as the previous year. Markets stabilized but still showed issuance 22% below the peak of \$33 trillion in 2021. That reflects a surge in borrowing costs in 2022 and still-high rates in 2023. Equity was a small portion of the total but rose 3% from 2022 levels.
- Low-carbon debt issuance globally declined 2.1% in 2023, which was similar to the stability of the broader market. Equity issuance fell more steeply by 19%, likely related to the poor performance of clean energy stocks in 2023.
- Fossil-fuel issuance registered a larger decline than the broader market in 2023, falling by 19% for fixed income and 40% in equity. This is likely overstated due to measurement errors in financing in China (see page 14). Even so, high interest rates explain some of the drop (page 13). Another factor was record cash flows at fossil-fuel companies, some of which went into repaying debt (page 11).

# Borrowing costs were more stable in most places in 2023

10Y sovereign bond yields by country, Dec 21-Dec 23
10Y bond yield (%)

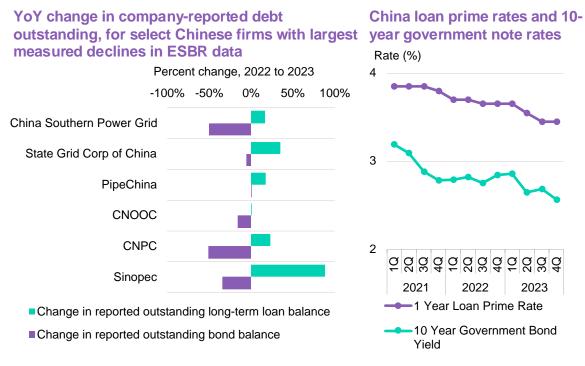




- Interest rates have a direct impact on the volume of finance raised in capital markets because they change the cost of borrowing paid by the issuer. Fluctuations in these rates in each region explain at least part of changes in the pace of financing.
- Europe and North America had more stable borrowing costs in 2023 compared to 2022, when central banks rapidly hiked policy rates to combat inflation. The yield on 10-year government bonds fell 4% in the UK in 2023 and by 21% in Germany. The US had fluctuations throughout the year but ended little changed. Financing volumes in these regions shifted minimally between 2022 and 2023, rising 4% in Europe and falling 2% in North America.
- Rates continued to rise in Asia Pacific outside of China. Japan saw a 47% net increase in 10Y sovereign bond yields. Energy supply financing correspondingly fell by 16% in APAC.
- In China, 10Y sovereign bond yields fell about 10% in 2023. But measured energy supply financing fell by 34%, breaking with the pattern of other regions. There is evidence that this drop is overestimated due to a strategic shift among Chinese energy companies from bond issuance to loans, which are more poorly disclosed. This is detailed on page 14.

Source: Bloomberg LP, BloombergNEF. Note: The bubble sizes and labels refer to the absolute annual change in financing from 2022 to 2023. Changes tracked represent the percentage difference (not percentage points) in average monthly 10 year sovereign bond yields from 2022 to 2023 and the total change in financing tracked for energy supply purposes from 2022 to 2023.

## China's energy debt issuance may be higher than reported



- Measured energy supply financing in China fell \$160 billion or 34% from 2022 to 2023. But this decline is almost certainly overstated. This is due to a substitution from bond to loan issuance among large energy companies in China, coupled with a lack of visibility into bilateral loan data.
- Top Chinese companies, particularly utilities, power generation and oil and gas players, shifted financing to loans and away from bonds in 2023. This led to significant perceived drops in issuance in disclosed data. For the six companies with the largest declines in ESBR-measured volume, all in fact reported increases in outstanding long-term loan balance in 2023. Meanwhile, all except Pipe China reported declining outstanding bonds.
- Part of China's post-pandemic recovery has been to **cut bank** loan prime rates and reduce the required deposit reserve ratio for major banks. This made loans cheaper and more attractive particularly for state-owned energy companies that can secure even lower rates through large tranches. From 2022 to 2023, the 1-year loan prime rate fell from 3.7% to 3.5%. **Bond yields fell as well.** For a reference, 10Y government sovereigns fell from 2.9% to 2.6%. However, with restrictions on banks' balance sheets and underlying loan rates reduced, this may have made loans more attractive than bonds to borrowers.
- These loan issuances are often not picked up in our data sources due to lack of disclosure to our underlying databases at the bilateral loan deal level. But it is clear from firm level financial reporting that this data is an underestimate of energy financing in China in 2023.

Source: Company financial reports, Bloomberg LP. Note: Long-term debt is defined as maturity greater than one year. Sinopec is short for China Petroleum & Chemical Corp., CNPC stands for China National Petroleum Co., CNOOC for China National Offshore Oil Corp., and Pipe China for National Petroleum and Natural Gas Pipeline Network Group.

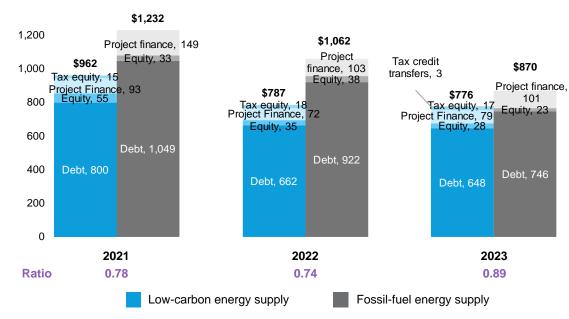
# Bank-facilitated financing

**Breakdown of Energy Supply Ratios: Banking from 2021 to 2023** 

# Fossil-fuel financing declined again in 2023

Global energy supply banking activity by asset class, 2021-23

\$ billion (2023 real)

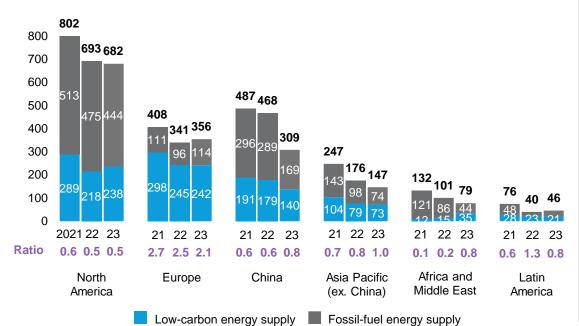


Source: BloombergNEF, IJGlobal, RAN, Urgewald. All 2021-22 numbers adjusted for inflation and reported in 2023 US dollars.

- The low-carbon to fossil-fuel Energy Supply Banking Ratio was 0.89:1 in 2023 across all 1,069 banks engaged in some form of energy supply underwriting in this dataset.
- Historical figures for 2021 and 2022 were revised and are restated, reflecting both methodology changes and the most up-to-date deal information from underlying sources (see <u>page 7</u>). This resulted in the following overall revisions:
  - 2021 ESBR restated from 0.75:1 to 0.78:1
  - 2022 ESBR restated from 0.73:1 to 0.74:1
- The increase in the ESBR from 0.74:1 to 0.89:1 between 2022 and 2023 can be attributed in part to measurement (see page 7 and page 14) and in part to an actively transitioning real economy. Measured fossil-fuel finance fell 18%, while low-carbon finance dropped just 1.4%. The ratio is moving in the right direction. But the pace and magnitude of the shift are not consistent with the steep curve implied by 1.5C-consistent climate scenarios. Those suggest a ratio of 4:1 is needed over the course of this decade. Each year that passes without rapid movement implies a sharper trajectory will be necessary to hit the temperature goal.
- In aggregate, these banks underwrote \$1.6 trillion of energy supply transaction activity in 2023. That includes \$776 billion for low-carbon energy and \$870 billion for fossil fuels. Of this, \$1.4 trillion was raised through debt, \$51 billion from equity, \$180 billion with project finance, and \$20 billion through tax equity and credit transfers.

# Finance volumes fell in most regions, but a few saw an increase in ratios The volume of finance by regions.

Energy supply financing by issuance region of risk, 2021-23 \$ billion (2023 real)



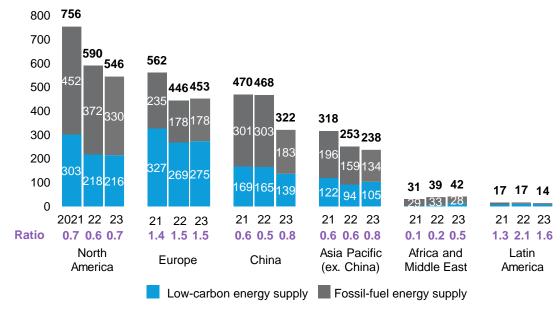
- The volume of finance by region of risk, or the geography
  where finance flowed for a given deal, declined across most
  regions tracked in this report. But there were some notable
  increases in ratios favoring the low-carbon side of the ledger in
  Asia. Africa and the Middle East.
- North America led in volume terms with \$682 billion in 2023, reflecting the major role the US, Canada and Mexico play in oil and gas supply both for domestic use and export. The ratio of low-carbon to fossil-fuel energy supply was relatively steady across this region at 0.5.
- Europe saw \$356 billion of energy supply finance in 2023, similar to the two previous years. While its ratio slipped in each of the previous two years, the region holds a colossal lead over others on low-carbon finance at a ratio of 2.1. The figures here also reflect a relative paucity of oil and gas projects and a highly favorable environment for clean-energy investment.
- China's energy supply finance dropped sharply to \$309 billion, but the balance tipped toward the low-carbon and resulted in an increase in ratio. This data is probably missing some of the financing happening in China – particularly for fossil fuels. For details, see <a href="mailto:page 14">page 14</a>.
- The Asia Pacific region outside China saw \$147 billion of energy supply financing and facilitation in 2023. This resulted in an ESBR of around 1.0:1, a material increase from 0.8:1.
- Africa and the Middle East had \$79 billion of energy supply financing, with \$35 billion directed to low-carbon and \$44 billion to fossil fuels. This made a strong increase in the ESBR to 0.8:1.
- Latin America and the Caribbean reported \$46 billion of energy supply financing, resulting in a significant drop in the ESBR to around 0.8:1.

Source: Bloomberg LP, Bloomberg NEF, RAN, Urgewald, IJGlobal. Note: All 2021-22 numbers adjusted for inflation and reported in 2023 US dollars.

### Banks in most regions reduced finance volumes in 2023

#### Energy supply financing by bank headquarters, 2021-23

\$ billion (2023 real)



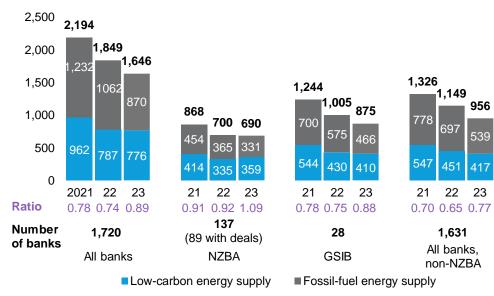
- Banks headquartered in North America engaged in \$546 billion of energy supply financing and facilitation in 2023, of which \$216 billion was for low-carbon energy and \$330 billion for fossil fuels. This resulted in an ESBR of about 0.7:1. This reflects both the leading nature of North American banks globally, as well as the region's role in the supply of energy for domestic use and export.
- Europe's banks engaged in \$453 billion of energy supply financing, of which \$275 billion was for low-carbon energy and \$178 billion for fossil fuels. The ESBR was steady at 1.5:1. This reflects the relative paucity of oil and gas investment in Europe and the historically favorable regulatory environment for low-carbon energy investment. European banks underperform the region (2:1:1), reflecting the role these banks play in financing fossil-fuel supply internationally.
- China-hea dquartered institutions arranged \$322 billion of energy supply financing. Of that, \$139 billon low-carbon energy and \$183 billion for fossil fuels. This resulted in an ESBR of 0.8:1, up from the previous two years.
- Excluding China, Asia Pacific-headquartered banks engaged in \$238 billion of energy supply financing and facilitation in 2023, of which \$105 billion was for low-carbon energy and \$134 billion for fossil fuels. This resulted in an ESBR of around 0.8:1.
- Banks headquartered in Africa and the Middle East engaged in \$42 billion of energy supply financing, of which \$14 billion was directed to low-carbon energy and \$28 billion to fossil fuels, resulting in an ESBR of approximately 0.5:1.
- Latin America and Caribbean-headquartered banks engaged in \$14 billion of energy supply financing, of which \$9 billion was directed to low-carbon energy and \$6 billion to fossil fuels, resulting in an ESBR of about 1.6:1.

Source: Bloomberg LP, BloombergNEF, RAN, Urgewald, IJ Global. Note: All 2021-22 numbers adjusted for inflation and reported in 2023 US dollars.

# How institutions in two banking groups performed

Banks' energy supply financing by subgroup, 2021-23

\$ billion (2023 real)



Source: Bloomberg LP, BloombergNEF, RAN, Urgewald, IJGlobal. Note: GSIB refers to global systematically important banks, and its constituents are as of November 26, 2024. Net-Zero Banking Alliance (NZBA) membership is as of January 17, 2025, with that membership reflected across all years. All 2021-22 numbers adjusted for inflation and reported in 2023 US dollars.

- Banks globally facilitated \$1.6 trillion of energy supply financing
  in 2023, with an average ESBR of 0.89. But ratios range widely
  among individual banks, from 0 to over 100. Some banks financed
  only low-carbon energy or only fossil fuels. While this report aims to
  capture the whole universe of banking activity, two key subgroups
  are worth further examination:
- Net-Zero Banking Alliance (NZBA): This is the largest group of banks committed to net-zero financed emissions under the wider umbrella of the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ). NZBA has 136 remaining member banks (137 at time of analysis). At the end of 2024 through early 2025, most of the major North American banks, such as JP Morgan, Citi and TD Bank, have exited the NZBA, reducing the share of energy financing attributable to this alliance. The remaining NZBA members collectively underwrote \$690 billion of energy supply financing in 2023 (42% of the total) with an ESBR of 1.09:1, higher than the global average of 0.89:1. For more on the implications of the defections from the NZBA, see Sustainable Finance After US Banks Quit Net Zero Group: React (web | terminal).
- Global Systematically Important Banks (GSIB): These are 28 banks determined by the global Financial Stability Board to be of such "size, interconnectedness, complexity or lack of substitutability" that they are too big to fail. Of the 28 GSIB institutions, 15 joined and currently remain in the Net-Zero Banking Alliance. In 2023, the GSIB underwrote \$875 billion of energy supply financing, or 53% of the total. That delivered a ratio of 0.88:1 for low-carbon energy to fossil fuels roughly equivalent to the global ESBR.

### **Energy supply:** Selection of top deals

#### Top low-carbon energy supply deals in 2023

Asset class	Issuer	Total deal amount (\$ billion)	Low-carbon supply (\$ billion)	Fossil-fuel supply (\$ billion)
Loan	TenneT Holdings	8.7	8.7	0.0
Green Loan	SunZia Wind	8.5	8.5	0.0
Green Bond	European Union	9.8	4.9	0.0
Green Bond	Italian Treasury	11.0	4.9	0.0
Loan	Iberdrola	5.8	4.4	1.4
Project Finance	Polski Koncern Baltic Sea Offshore Wind	4.2	4.2	0.0
Loan	Nextera	5.5	4.0	1.5
Project Finance	Bruc Hefesto PV Portfolio	3.8	3.8	0.0
Loan	Siemens Energy	12.1	3.5	8.6
Loan	EDP	3.3	3.3	0.0

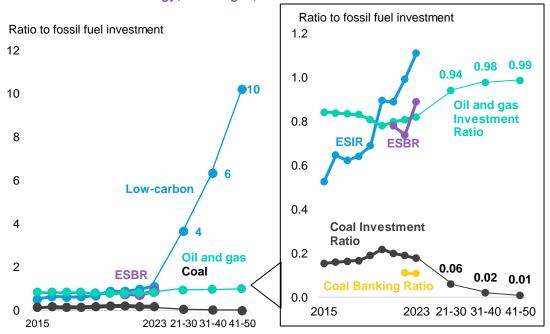
Top fossil-fuel energy supply deals in 2023

Asset class	Issuer	Total deal amount (\$ billion)	Low-carbon supply (\$ billion)	Fossil-fuel supply (\$ billion)
Loan	Trans Mountain Corp	13.2	0.0	13.2
Loan	Siemens Energy Global	12.1	3.5	8.6
Loan	Vitol	8.6	0.0	6.5
Loan	Rio Grande LNG	6.6	0.0	4.9
Loan	Venture Global Plaquemines	4.5	0.0	4.5
Loan	Trafigura	4.5	0.02	4.3
Loan	Bonzanza Creek Energy	4.0	0.0	4.0
Loan	Williams Companies	3.8	0.0	3.8
Loan	Pemex	3.5	0.02	3.5
Loan	PBF Holdings	3.5	0.0	3.5

Source: Bloomberg LP, BloombergNEF, RAN.

# Climate scenarios imply a rapid decline for coal investment

Ratio of low-carbon energy, oil and gas, and coal investment to fossil fuels



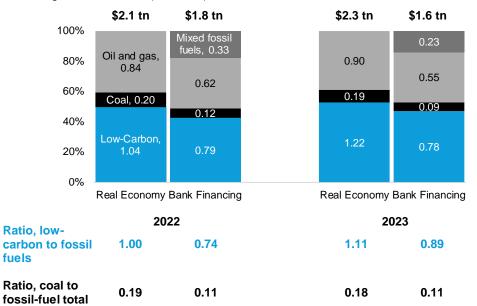
- Commonly referenced climate scenarios suggest a need to rein in coal investment in the years ahead.
- The ratio of *capital investment* in oil and gas to total fossil fuels has hovered between **0.78:1** to **0.84:1** since 2015, with coal making up the remaining share of capital spending. Coal's share peaked in 2020 at 0.22:1 and has declined since. In 2023, for every \$1 invested in fossil fuels supply, only **\$0.18** went toward coal. That gave a coal investment ratio of 0.18:1.
- These levels represent the overall capital spending incurred in a given year based on industry dynamics from the IEA's <u>World Energy Investment</u> reports. However, they differ from financing, and capex does not necessarily reflect the financing required for accelerated managed phase-outs for coal plants.
- Aligning to a net-zero trajectory and 1.5C warming implies the ratio of coal investment to total fossil fuels must fall from 0.2:1 to 0.06:1 this decade and 0.01:1 by the 2040s. The oil and gas investment ratio would rise to 0.99:1. In tandem, the low-carbon to fossil-fuel investment ratio rises significantly to a minimum of 4:1 by 2030, 6:1 in the 2040s and 10:1 by 2050.
- The coal banking ratio (0.11:1) the ratio of bank facilitated coal financing to total fossil fuels – remains less than the coal investment ratio of 0.18:1. This suggests a significant portion of coal capex comes from sources other than bankfacilitated financing. That may include equity from corporate balance sheets.

Sources: BloombergNEF, International Energy Agency, The Network for Greening the Financial System, UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Note: Investment into oil and gas supply includes the upstream, midstream and refining (downstream) sectors. Coal supply investment pertains to the mining and transport of both coking and steam coal. ESIR stands for Energy Supply Investment Ratio. ESBR stands for Energy Supply Banking Ratio.

### Coal financing took just 11% of fossil-fuel financing

Breakdown of energy supply investment and bank financing in 2022-23, by source

Percentage share, \$ trillion (2023 real)



#### Coal ratios

- Coal's ratio of real economy investment to fossil fuels was 0.18:1 in 2023. For bank-facilitated financing of coal, the ratio was about 0.11:1.
- While this is a small portion of financing, this is still much higher than commonly-referenced climate scenarios that imply a target coal to total fossil-fuel ratio of 0.06:1 this decade, and a further reduction to **0.01:1** in the 2040s.

#### Investment

- Capital investment in low-carbon energy supply matched fossil fuels 1.11:1 for a total of \$2.3 trillion in 2023. Some \$900 billion (82%) of fossil-fuel investment was in oil and gas. North America (\$284 billion) and the Middle East and Africa (\$192 billion) accounted for around 53% of this.
- Some \$194 billion (18% of all fossil fuels, 8% of all energy supply investment) went into coal. Of that, \$117 billion (60%) was in China.

#### Facilitated financing

- Oil and gas made up the majority (63%) of fossil-fuel financing at **\$548 billion** in 2023. This was almost six times more than the bank financing for coal. Coal investment was less than 11% of the total for fossil fuels and 6% of energy supply financing, at \$94 billion. About a quarter of fossil-fuel finance is made up of an undetermined breakdown between coal and oil and gas.
- China delivered some \$62 billion (66%) of measured coal financing. The US was a distant second with \$19 billion, followed by Pakistan (\$1.5 billion) and Singapore (\$1.3 billion).

Source: BloombergNEF, IJGlobal, RAN, Urgewald. Note: Labels on bar segments refer to investment and financing totals in trillions of 2023 real US dollars.

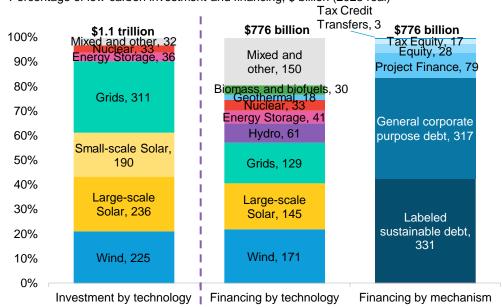
fuels

Wind, solar and grids make up over half of low-

carbon financing

Low-carbon energy supply bank investment, financing by sector and mechanism, 2023

Percentage of low-carbon investment and financing, \$ billion (2023 real)



- By technology, renewables constitute the largest share of both energy supply investment and financing. Large-scale solar and wind (projects and supply chains) comprise approximately 20% each of both global spending and bank-facilitated financing. Nearly 18% (\$236 billion) of low-carbon investment tracked went toward small-scale residential and commercial solar in 2023. As discussed on page 10, that reflects rapid growth in the sector 66% over 2022 and this is not captured in the bank financing data here.
- Other renewables make up a smaller portion of financing, including hydro (8%), storage (5%), geothermal (2%) and biofuels and biomass (4%). Nuclear represents an additional 4% of financing. Together these technologies make up just a collective 8% of the real-economy low-carbon energy supply investment tracked.
- Grids (transmission and distribution) are a major part of the energy transition opportunity, representing 29% of low-carbon investment and 16% of financing in 2023.
- Labeled debt plays a major role. Debt accounts for 84% or \$648 billion of the total by type of financing. Labeled sustainable instruments, such as green bonds and loans, make up 51% (\$331 billion) of low-carbon debt and 43% of overall low-carbon energy supply financing. Unlabeled general corporate purpose debt, adjusted for the portion of a company's revenue stemming from low-carbon technologies, makes up 41% (\$317 billion) of the total. This demonstrates the importance of both types of structures in financing the transition. While labels signal more information to investors, many companies are capitalizing on the transition without having to tap the labeled market.

Source: BloombergNEF, IJ Global, RAN, Urgewald. Note: Here, low-carbon energy investment numbers come from BNEF's Energy Transition Investment Trends as opposed to the IEA, to allow for greater granularity by technology.

# How this relates to other research and reporting

**Selected comparisons** 

# Existing research provides a range of estimates due to methodological differences

Research	Deport	Note	Sc	ope	C	oal	Oil and gas Sectors Value Sectors		Fossil fuels total value	Low-carbon total
organization	Report	Note	Years	# of banks	Value	Sectors			FOSSII TUEIS TOTAI VAIUE	value
BNEF	Financing the Energy Transition (this report)		2021-23	1,069 (2023) 1,101 (2022) 1,112 (2021)	\$94 billion (2023)	Mining, power	\$548 billion (2023)	Up-, mid-, downstream	<b>\$870 bill ion</b> (2023) <b>\$1,062 billion</b> (2022) <b>\$1,232 billion</b> (2021)	\$776 bill ion (2023) \$787 bill ion (2022) \$962 bill ion (2021)
Rainforest Action Network	Banking on Climate Chaos (BoCC)	Our report uses adjustment factors to parse transactions – an approach borrowed from RAN's work in <i>BoCC</i> .	2016-2023, by year	60 banks	\$125 billion (2023)	Mining, power	\$581 billion (2023)	Entire fossil fuel value chain	\$706 billion (2023) \$779 billion (2022) \$916 billion (2021)	
Urgewald	Financing the Coal Exit List	For historical data (2021-22), we use Urgewald's research on companies' fossil-fuel share of revenue.	2019-21 aggregate	705 banks	\$1.5 trillion	Mining, power	Not measured		<b>\$1.5 trillion</b> (2021)	
InfluenceMap	Finance and Climate Change		2020-21 aggregate	27 banks	\$42 billion	Mining	\$697 billion	Up-, mid-, downstream	\$739 billion	Not measured
Reclaim Finance	Throwing Fuel on the Fire		~1 year, 2021-2022	56 banks	\$54 billion	Mining, power, expansion only	\$215 billion	Up- and midstream, expansion only	\$269 billion	
Nature (UCL research)	The challenge of phasing out fossil fuel finance in the banking sector		2010-2021	709 banks					<b>\$592 billion</b> (2021)	
Profundo	Just 7% of Global Banks' Energy Financing Goes to Renewables		2016-2022, by year	60 banks		Not	split out		<b>\$299 billion</b> (2021)	<b>\$35 billion</b> (2021)
Federal Reserve	What are Large Global Banks Doing About Climate Change?		2016-2021, by year	60 banks (fossil fuels), all (sustainable debt)		Not	split out		<b>\$750 bill ion</b> (2021)	\$700 bill ion (2021, green debt only)

Source: BloombergNEF, RAN, Urgewald, InfluenceMap, Reclaim Finance, Profundo, Federal Reserve. Note: Years, ranges and activities are not directly comparable.

### Bank disclosure of Energy Supply Ratios

#### **Bank disclosure of Energy Supply Ratios**

Following the development of BNEF's Energy Supply Banking Ratio (ESBR), investors have begun pushing for bank-level disclosure of ratios, beginning with shareholder resolutions filed by the New York City Comptroller in 2024. As a result of this campaign, several banks, including JP Morgan Chase & Co., Citigroup Inc. and Royal Bank of Canada, have committed to publishing their own ratios of low-carbon to fossil-fuel financing activities. JP Morgan was the first to release its own ratio and methodology in November 2024.

#### **BNEF** tools for banks calculating ratios

- Implementation Guide (web | terminal): detailed ESBR methodological choices, rationales, and various design choices that banks can consider.
- How-to Guide (forthcoming): practical, step-by-step guide for replicating the BNEF methodology using Bloomberg data (and supplementing with private, internal data).
- Enterprise Data (DATA <GO>):
   Bloomberg data is available for purchase
   for use in external reporting. For the ESBR,
   this will include debt and equity bulk
   datasets and the Transition Exposure
   Ratings.

Tracking key methodology distinctions from BNEF in bank disclosure of Energy Supply Ratios

This table will be updated and expanded in subsequent versions of this report as we continue to see more institutions put out their own versions of an energy supply ratio.

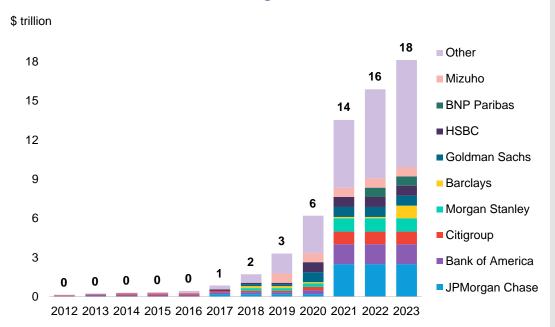
Bank	Methodology difference	Description	BNEFTake
	No explicit relationship to climate scenarios or target	Where BNEF takes 1.5 degree- consistent scenarios as an indicator for the real economy needing to reach a 4:1 ratio this decade, JPM's analysis is not explicitly tied to such a benchmark.	Scenarios are important narrative devices which reveal the scale and pace of change required in the real economy, which will be directionally reflected in financing activity.
	Inclusion of bilateral lending	JPM includes its private loan book in its ratio.	This is best-practice. This data is not disclosed and not possible for BNEF to include.
<u>JP Morgan</u> <u>Chase</u>	Capex-based adjustment factors	JPM estimates the portion of its counterparties' <i>capital expenditures</i> are spent on low-carbon solutions. BNEF uses <i>revenue-based</i> adjusters.	This is a positive development – capex is more forward-looking and better aligned with investment. Data is sparse – BNEF is working on capex estimates for the ESBR.
	Investment- focused portion of financing	JPM has estimated the portion of a counterparty's financing that is allocated toward capex and cash-based M&A and applies this as another adjustment to general corporate purpose transactions.	This aligns more closely with real-economy infrastructure spending. But it adds complexity and likely understates financing for traditional energy companies, which rely on paying down existing debt and balance sheet management to continue building.
	Sectoral scope	JPM's scope does not include manufacturing of energy equipment (e.g. turbines, generators), citing data availability.	Manufacturing is an essential component of energy supply transition investment and should be included if possible.

# How this relates to banks' targets

**Selected comparisons** 

# Bank sustainable finance targets jumped in 2021, and have continued growing

Cumulative bank sustainable finance target values



- Many of the world's largest banks have set ambitious goals to direct capital toward sustainability and climate-related projects. By the end of 2023, at least 53 global banks had set targets valued at a cumulative \$18 trillion for sustainable finance. Those include commitments to climate and other green and social priorities. According to bank reporting, \$6 trillion of these targets has already been mobilized.
- These green finance targets serve as a complement to, but are functionally quite different from, net-zero financed emissions targets. Unlike financed emissions, sustainable finance targets get closer to banks' growth-oriented role in capitalizing on the opportunities generated by the transition and are directly profitgenerating.
- The numerator of the ESBRs in this report characterizes the low-carbon energy supply financing facilitated by banks within a given year. It is just one portion of what banks include in reported progress against these sustainable finance targets. Scope differs between what is covered by the ESBR and what is reported by banks significantly, both by sector and by activity, and therefore the numbers reported here do not directly read across to those reported by banks. For a summary of the key differences, see page 36.
- For more on bank sustainable finance targets, see Bank
   Sustainable Finance Goals: More Than Just Accounting? (web |
   terminal). For a summary of the differences between this type of
   target-setting, financed emissions accounting, and the ESBR, see
   page 38.

Source: BloombergNEF, bank sustainability reports.

### What this report tracks versus what banks count in their long-term goals

Feature			This report	Do most banks generally count this?
Financial instruments or mechanisms		Direct lending	X	✓ Most
or mechanisms	Debt	Underwriting	✓	✓ Most
		Sustainable debt	✓ *Energy use of proceeds	✓ Most
	Project finance	Direct lending	✓	✓ Most
	Facility.	Underwriting	✓	✓ Most
	Equity	Tax equity	✓	✓ Some (concentrated market)
	Asset management	Portfolio	х	✓ Half
	Retail	Insurance or banking	х	✓ Most
	Internal	Corporate programs	х	? Some
Sector or technology		Renewables	✓	✓ Most
	Energy supply	Nuclear	✓	✓ Most
		Electric grid	✓	? Some
		Transport	√ *Only in energy demand (not ESBR)	✓ Most
	Energy demand	Energy efficiency	x *Except green debt, in energy demand (not ESBR)	✓ Most
		Landuse	X * Not energy supply	✓ Most
	Non-energy	Water/waste	X * Not energy supply	✓ Most
Key metrics	Exposure	Financed emissions	х	✓ Most
	Transition enablement	Energy supply facilitation	✓	✓ Most

Source: Bank reporting, BloombergNEF. Note: Bank target information based on the 35 institutions which have published a clear breakdown.

# How this relates to other bank assessment frameworks

**Selected comparisons** 

# How does the ESBR compare to other frameworks for assessing banks on climate progress?

	Energy Supply Banking Ratio	Green Asset Ratio (EU Taxonomy)	zero targets	progress
Description	Ratio of low-carbon to fossil-fuel energy supply banking activity	Mandatory reporting of ratio of green assets to total assets on bank balance sheets	Emissions associated with on-balance sheet financing activities	\$ volume of finance and facilitation toward "green" companies and projects
Framework developer	BloombergNEF	European Banking Authority European Commission	Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF) Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi)	Organic – individual banks have defined their own
What is included?	Facilitated financing (in other words, underwriting)     Corporate bonds and syndicated loans     Equity issuances     Project finance and tax equity	Corporate and project loans Equity holdings Household auto and mortgages	On-balance sheet corporate and project loans Equity and bond holdings Household auto and mortgages Sovereign debt	Corporate and project loans Underwriting activity Equity and bond holdings Tax equity Household electric vehicle loans
What is not included?	Corporate bilateral or otherwise private loans     Retail (in other words, household) lending	Facilitated financing (in other words, underwriting)     Exposure to governments, central banks     Assets under management     Loans to small companies and non-EU corporates not subject to Non-Financial Reporting Directive (NFRD) (but included in denominator)	Facilitated financing (in other words, underwriting) – standard in development	
Limitations	Relies on commercial databases and estimates, rather than company reporting Focused on two of the GFANZ four financing strategies: "climate solutions" and "managed phase out," partial coverage of aligned or aligning in other words, "transition" finance	Not tied to any benchmark rooted in science Not growth-oriented; based on "stock" or balance sheet, rather than tracking new financial flows Broad "green" bucket not focused on specific goals (in other words, climate)	Focused exclusively on emissions rather than solutions/new investment in low-emission assets     Incentivizes divestment – can lead to emissions being shifted off balance sheet     Anchored in sectoral emissions pathways	Not fied to a benchmark rooted in science Broad "green" bucket not focused on one goal (in other words, climate) Can be interpreted as a vanity metric
What has it added to the conversation?	Focused on new investment and finance facilitations required for the energy transition     Rooted in 1.5C climate scenarios	Focused on balance sheet exposure of institutions to particular asset types     First mandatory reporting metric that focuses on the "green" side of the energy transition     Reporting increases transparency and data availability	Addresses the unique impact financials have, contrasted with real economy companies     Enabled financials to set net-zero targets     Backbone of many global sustainability reporting mandates, such as the CSRD (EU) and Securities and Exchange Commission proposals (US) for banks	Growth and opportunity oriented     Acknowledges the important role that facilitated finance plays

Green financing targets and

Financed emissions accounting and net-

## **Ensuring data accuracy**

How to ensure your institution's transactions are properly tracked

# How to ensure an institution's transactions are properly tracked

This analysis is based on existing Bloomberg and IJG lobal databases, not primary data collection. Though the authors will share underlying data where possible, if transactions are missing from underlying databases or require corrections, BNEF is unable to add or edit these directly. In those circumstances, the following channels can be contacted to address the issue. Each team has rolling deadlines throughout the year – please contact them to ensure your institution's data is up to date.

Financing mechanism	Source	How to get in touch about discrepancies
Debt	Bloomberg LP, SRCH <go> function</go>	Submit or reach out to <a href="mailto:newissues@bloomberg.ne">newissues@bloomberg.ne</a> for North American bonds and <a href="mailto:newissues@bloomberg.ne">newissues@bloomberg.ne</a> for North American bonds and <a href="mailto:neweacapmkts@bloomberg.ne">neweacapmkts@bloomberg.ne</a> for EMEA bonds. Appropriate addresses for other regions can be identified using NIM99 <go> on the Bloomberg Terminal.  Please note that bond submissions require termsheet disclosure to Bloomberg – but these do not need to be published on the terminal.  Loans  Submit or reach out to <a href="mailto:loansleag@bloomberg.ne">loansleag@bloomberg.ne</a> for US loans, <a href="mailto:europeanloan@bloomberg.ne">europeanloan@bloomberg.ne</a> for EMEA loans, and <a href="mailto:aploans@bloomberg.ne">aploans@bloomberg.ne</a> for APAC loans. Location is based on market of syndication or country of risk for the borrower. Use NIM99 <go> for other appropriate addresses.  Mandatory fields for disclosure to Bloomberg include: borrower, structure type, signing date, involved parties, submitter's role, use of</go></go>
Equity	Bloomberg LP, IPO <go> function</go>	proceeds, deal/tranche size, and maturity.  Submit missing deals or discrepancies to the IPO desk at <a href="mailto:calendar@bloomberg.net">calendar@bloomberg.net</a>
Project Finance, Low-Carbon	BNEF Clean Energy League Tables team	Contact BNEF Clean Energy League Tables at <u>cleanenergy@bloomberg.net</u> to receive submission templates.
Project Finance, Fossil Fuels	IJGlobal	Contact <u>leaguetables@ijglobal.com</u> for submission forms to be submitted to the same address; or visit <a href="https://www.ijglobal.com/league-tables">https://www.ijglobal.com/league-tables</a> to download submission forms.

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