18 August 2025

# **Yield Outlook**

# Optimism about Europe is broadening

European rates continued to rise in late July and into August – fortunately, on a positive note. The trade policy disputes with the Trump administration culminated in an agreement at the end of July, providing essential clarity for European businesses. While the agreement entails a general 10 percentage point increase in tariffs on imported European goods to the US, more crucially, it removes the risk of a larger trade war. This alone has bolstered the economic outlook in Europe and led to higher market rates.

#### Fiscal tailwinds could arrive sooner than expected in Germany

With the threat of a trade war removed or at least reduced, Europe's focus has now shifted to the forthcoming investments in infrastructure and defence, which could become a key driver of growth in the coming years. In Germany, the government reached an agreement on the 2026 budget draft at the end of July, which will include a significant increase in public investments starting as early as late 2025. Alongside these investment plans, the government's so-called 'growth booster' initiatives – including more lenient depreciation rules and subsidies – aim to enhance support for German businesses. We believe that the government's plans, if approved by parliament in September, have the potential to provide a more substantial boost to euro area growth next year than previously anticipated.

#### ECB has more reasons to keep rates steady

For the ECB, the shift from trade policy uncertainty to fiscal optimism is significant for risk assessment within the Governing Council. At its July meeting, the central bank was notably positive about the economic outlook, identifying a trade war with the US as the single greatest risk to the economy at that time. This was, notably, before the trade agreement with the US was finalised and prior to the German government's budget proposal. Meanwhile, economic data from Europe have continued to improve, with a particularly notable reversal of the downward growth signals from the services sector. We think that the likelihood of further ECB rate cuts has significantly diminished over the summer, and we therefore expect the key policy rate (the deposit rate) to remain at 2% until the end of 2026.

In the near term, the risk for short-end EUR rates remains tilted towards one final rate cut. European wage data still point to a significant decline in the coming quarters, which could create room for slightly easing monetary policy further. However, based on recent statements from ECB members, diminishing wage pressures do not appear to be a major concern for the majority, and the threshold for additional rate cuts now seems considerably higher following the developments of the past month.

#### The US labour market is weaker than expected

Across the Atlantic, August brought renewed uncertainty alongside cautious optimism. The US labour market report for July revealed weak job creation and repeated downward revisions of figures from previous months. Over the past three months, job creation in the US has nearly stagnated, averaging just 35,000 new jobs per month. This has once again shifted attention towards the potential need for further rate cuts by the Federal Reserve (Fed).

#### **Shortcuts**

Forecast eurozone

Forecast US

Forecast UK

Forecast Denmark

Forecast Sweden

Forecast Norway

#### Central bank policy rates

Country	Spot	+3M	+6M	+12M
USD	4.50	4.25	4.00	3.50
EUR	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
GBP	4.00	3.75	3.50	3.00
DKK	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
SEK	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
NOK	4.25	4.00	3.75	3.25

#### 10Y government bond yields

Country	Spot	+3M	+6M	+12M
USD	4.29	4.40	4.45	4.50
EUR	2.74	2.75	2.75	2.80
GBP	4.66	4.55	4.45	4.35
DKK	2.59	2.60	2.60	2.65
SEK	2.47	2.55	2.65	2.80
NOK	3.85	3.85	3.85	3.85

Note: EUR = Germany

#### 10Y swap rates

Country	Spot	+3M	+6M	+12M
USD	3.77	3.85	3.90	3.95
EUR	2.70	2.65	2.60	2.60
GBP	4.14	4.00	3.85	3.75
DKK	2.85	2.80	2.75	2.75
SEK	2.66	2.75	2.80	2.90
NOK	3.88	3.80	3.80	3.80

Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns

Source: Danske Bank (all three tables)

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At its July meeting - held two days before the release of the labour market report - the central bank emphasised inflationary risks stemming from tariffs and a shrinking labour supply. However, subsequent discussions are likely to have placed greater emphasis on the emerging risk of a cooling labour market. In line with market expectations, we expect the Fed to resume rate cuts at its September meeting, delivering a total of five cuts of 25bp each by late summer 2026.

#### We expect EUR rates to continue range-trading

Our new ECB call, which indicates an unchanged level for monetary policy rates until the end of 2026, has necessitated a minor adjustment to our rate forecast. We have therefore raised our 12M forecast for 2-year swap rates in DKK and EUR by 15bp, while the forecast for 5- and 10-year rates has been raised by 10bp. For long-term DKK/EUR swap rates, we expect them to remain close to current levels over the next 12 months. However, at the long end of the yield curve, we still see the risk as being tilted upwards across regions. The term premium, which reflects the compensation for taking on duration risk, has continued to increase over the summer in both the US and Europe, and several factors suggest that the long end of the yield curve will continue to struggle in the coming years.

The supply of bonds in both the US and Europe is set to increase significantly in the coming years due to high public budget deficits. This alone justifies a higher return requirement from investors in the bond market, which has recently been reflected in relatively weak demand for 10- and 30-year US Treasury bonds at auctions in July. We assess that longterm US rates will need to adjust slightly higher in the near term, despite the Federal Reserve's resumption of rate cuts from September onwards.

# Forecast\*

	Horizon	Policy rate	3M xlbor	6m xlbor	2y gov	5y gov	10y gov	2y swap	5y swap	10y swap
٠.	Spot	4.50			3.74	3.82	4.29	3.49	3.46	3.77
*	+3M	4.25			3.65	3.80	4.40	3.35	3.40	3.85
*∗GSN	+6M	4.00			3.50	3.80	4.45	3.20	3.35	3.90
	+12M	3.50			3.40	3.80	4.50	3.05	3.30	3.95
	Spot	2.00	2.03	2.11	1.95	2.30	2.74	2.10	2.37	2.70
EUR*	+3M	2.00	2.05	2.15	2.00	2.35	2.75	2.10	2.40	2.65
品	+6M	2.00	2.05	2.15	2.05	2.35	2.75	2.15	2.40	2.60
_	+12M	2.00	2.05	2.15	2.10	2.40	2.80	2.20	2.40	2.60
ų.	Spot	4.00			3.91	4.06	4.66	3.71	3.78	4.14
GBP**	+3M	3.75			3.80	3.95	4.55	3.60	3.60	4.00
麗	+6M	3.50			3.65	3.80	4.45	3.40	3.40	3.85
U	+12M	3.00			3.20	3.70	4.35	2.90	3.30	3.75
	Spot	1.60	1.96	2.14	1.69	1.95	2.59	2.18	2.50	2.85
PKK	+3M	1.60	2.04	2.22	1.80	2.10	2.60	2.20	2.55	2.80
占	+6M	1.60	2.04	2.21	1.90	2.15	2.60	2.25	2.55	2.75
	+12M	1.60	2.04	2.19	1.95	2.20	2.65	2.30	2.55	2.75
	Spot	2.00	2.09		1.80	2.07	2.47	1.98	2.27	2.66
SEK	+3M	2.00	2.10		1.85	2.20	2.55	2.05	2.35	2.75
S	+6M	2.00	2.12		2.00	2.25	2.65	2.10	2.40	2.80
	+12M	2.00	2.13		2.00	2.40	2.80	2.10	2.60	2.90
	Spot	4.25	4.29	4.29	3.51	3.67	3.85	3.89	3.80	3.88
X	+3M	4.00	4.05	4.00	3.45	3.65	3.85	3.75	3.70	3.80
NOK	+6M	3.75	3.80	3.75	3.35	3.60	3.85	3.60	3.65	3.80
	+12M	3.25	3.35	3.40	3.20	3.50	3.85	3.45	3.55	3.80

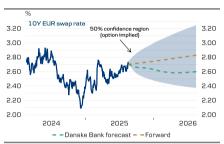
<sup>\*</sup> German government bond yields and euro swap rates \*\* Based on OIS/SOFR swap rates. Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### Curves have steepened since 2023



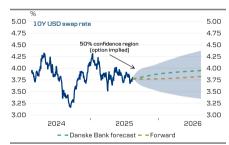
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Macrobond Financial og Danske Bank

#### Forecast: 10Y EUR swap rates



Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Macrobond Financial, Danske Bank

#### Forecast: 10Y USD swap rates



#### Overview



- The trade war with the rest of the world has created significant uncertainty regarding growth and inflation prospects. Recent easing, particularly in relation to the EU, has provided some relief, but uncertainty persists following weak job creation over the summer. Inflation figures have so far been only modestly affected by higher tariffs.
- Our Fed forecast is now more aligned with market pricing. We expect inflationary pressures to remain moderate, allowing for further rate cuts starting in September. However, we see upward risks for long-term US rates.
- Swap rates (USD, SOFR), %
  4.0
  3.9
  3.8
  3.7
  3.6
  3.5
  3.4
  3.3
  3.2
  3.1
  3.0
  2y
  5y
  10y
  —Today - Danske Bank (+12M) Forward (+12M)



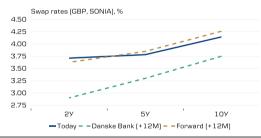
- The ECB delivered its eighth 25bp rate cut in June but signalled a reduced likelihood of further cuts. Growth has improved over the summer, trade uncertainty has eased, and significant fiscal policy easing is expected, particularly in Germany. The market is broadly in line with our forecast, although a final rate cut is still priced into the forward market.
- We expect the ECB to hold rates steady for the remainder of 2025 and throughout 2026. Over time, the fiscal stimulus in Germany may necessitate higher rates across the region.
- Swap rates (EUR, 6M Euribor), %
  2.9
  2.8
  2.7
  2.6
  2.5
  2.4
  2.3
  2.2
  2.1
  2y
  5y
  10y
  —Today Danske Bank [+12M] Forward (+12M)



- Since early 2023, Danmarks Nationalbank has maintained a 40bp monetary policy spread to the ECB, which we expect to persist in the near term. The EUR/DKK exchange rate has risen to around 7.4640, a historically high level, partly due to an increase in the net position.
- The Danish swap curve (10-year minus 2-year) is no longer inverted, but we see limited potential for further steepening. Long-term rates are expected to remain around or slightly below current levels in 12 months, similar to EUR rates.
- Swap rates (DKK, 6M CIBOR), %
  3.0
  2.9
  2.8
  2.7
  2.6
  2.5
  2.4
  2.3
  2.2
  2.1
  2Y
  5y
  10Y
  —Today Danske Bank (+12M) Forward (+12M)

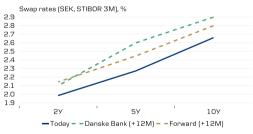


- The Bank of England (BoE) cut rates by 25bp in August as expected. The central bank's primary concern has recently shifted towards inflationary risks, driven by high wage growth, while the cooling labour market has taken a backseat in risk assessments.
- We anticipate that the focus will return to a weaker labour market, paving the way for further rate cuts in the coming quarters. However, the risk now appears tilted towards fewer cuts than the five currently included in our forecast.



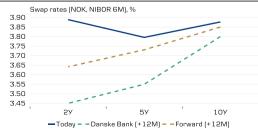


- Contrary to our expectations, the Riksbank cut rates to 2% at its June meeting and signalled that another rate cut could be considered in the second half of the year. While our baseline assumes no further cuts, the risk remains tilted to the downside.
- We expect higher long-term rates over the next 12 months and a
  widening rate spread to EUR rates, partly due to increased
  issuance of long-term SEK government bonds and the
  Riksbank's balance sheet reduction.





- Norges Bank surprised markets in June by cutting rates by 25bp, marking the first such move since COVID-19. The central bank expects to deliver two more cuts this year, a view we share.
   Following the June surprise, we have brought forward our expectations for rate cuts in the coming years.
- As a result of this adjustment, our profile for Norwegian rates is now slightly lower than market expectations. In our view, the forward curve remains remarkably flat over a 5-10Y horizon.



Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Macrobond Financial, Bloomberg, Danske Bank

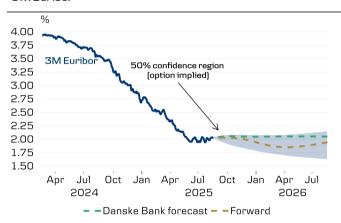
# **EUR forecast**

#### EUR forecast table

		Forec	ast			Fcst	vs Fwd	in bp
EUR	Spot	+3M	+6M	+12M	+3	ЗM	+6M	+12M
Money market								
Deposit	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00				
Euribor (3M)	2.03	2.05	2.05	2.05		5	17	11
Euribor (6M)	2.11	2.15	2.15	2.15		11	15	9
Government bonds								
27	1.95	2.00	2.05	2.10				
5Y	2.30	2.35	2.35	2.40				
10У	2.74	2.75	2.75	2.80				
Swap rates								
2Y	2.10	2.10	2.15	2.20		-1	1	-5
5Y	2.37	2.40	2.40	2.40		0	-3	-12
10У	2.70	2.65	2.60	2.60		-8	-16	-23

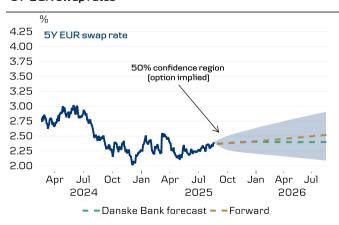
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 3M Euribor



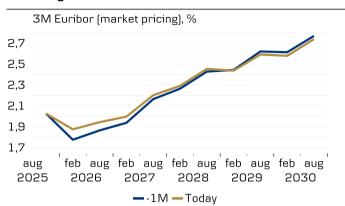
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# 5Y EUR swap rates



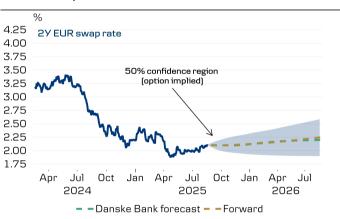
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 1M change in Euribor 3M forward curve



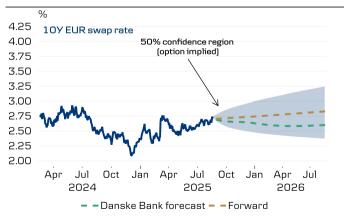
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

# 2Y EUR swap rates



Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

### 10Y EUR swap rates



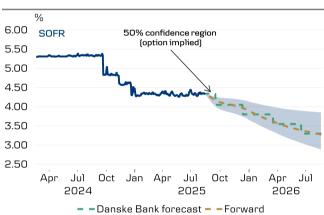
# **USD** forecast

#### USD forecast table

		Forec	ast		Fcst	vs Fwd	in bp
USD	Spot	+3M	+6M	+12M	+3M	+6M	+12M
Money market							
Fed Funds	4.50	4.25	4.00	3.50			
SOFR	4.34	4.05	3.80	3.30	3	10	2
Government bonds							
2Y	3.74	3.65	3.50	3.40			
5Y	3.82	3.80	3.80	3.80			
10У	4.29	4.40	4.45	4.50			
Swap rates							
2Y	3.49	3.35	3.20	3.05	0	-6	-14
5Y	3.46	3.40	3.35	3.30	-3	-7	-15
10Y	3.77	3.85	3.90	3.95	8	12	13

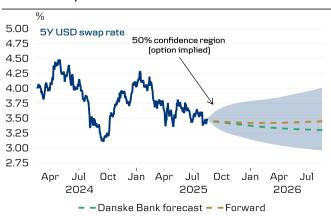
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#### SOFR rates



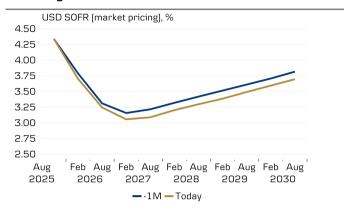
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

# 5Y USD swap rates



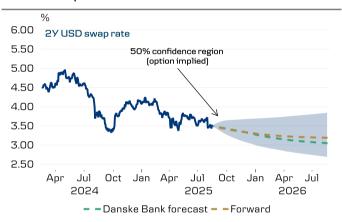
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 1M change in USD SOFR forward curve



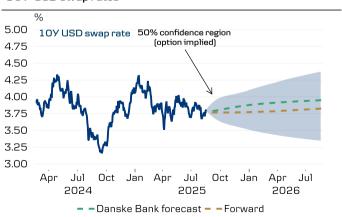
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

# 2Y USD swap rates



Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

# 10Y USD swap rates



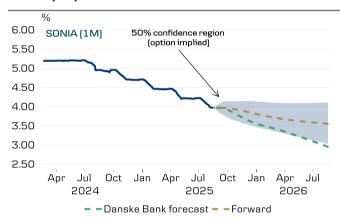
# **GBP** forecast

#### GBP forecast table

		Forec	ast		Fc:	st vs Fwd	in bp
GBP	Spot	+3M	+6M	+12M	+3N	+6M	+12M
Money market							
Bank rate	4.00	3.75	3.50	3.00			
SONIA (1M)	3.97	3.70	3.45	2.95	-19	-28	-61
Government bonds							
27	3.91	3.80	3.65	3.20			
5Y	4.06	3.95	3.80	3.70			
10У	4.66	4.55	4.45	4.35			
Swap rates							
27	3.71	3.60	3.40	2.90	-6	-23	-73
5Y	3.78	3.60	3.40	3.30	-18	-40	-55
10У	4.14	4.00	3.85	3.75	-17	' -34	-51

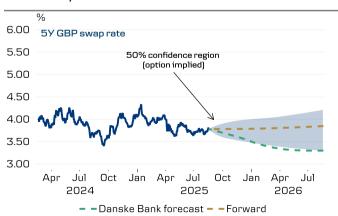
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### SONIA (1M)



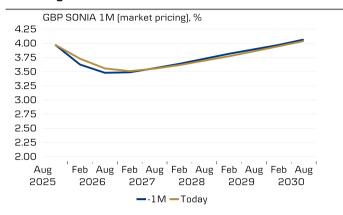
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

# 5Y UK swap rates



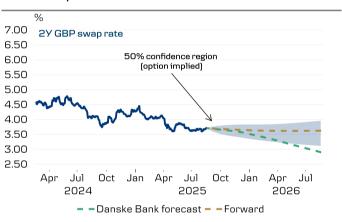
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 1M change in SONIA1M forward curve



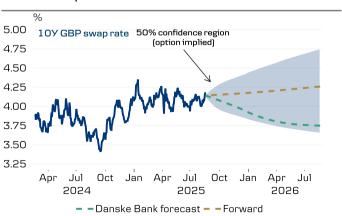
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 2Y UK swap rates



Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

# 10Y UK swap rates



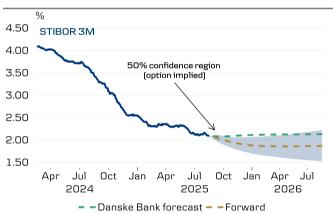
# **SEK** forecast

#### SEK forecast table

		Forec	ast		Fcst	vs Fwd	in bp
SEK	Spot	+3M	+6M	+12M	+3M	+6M	+12M
Money market							
Repo	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00			
STIBOR (3M)	2.09	2.10	2.12	2.13	18	26	26
Government bonds							
<b>2</b> Y	1.80	1.85	2.00	2.00			
5Y	2.07	2.20	2.25	2.40			
10У	2.47	2.55	2.65	2.80			
Swap rates							
<b>5</b> A	1.98	2.05	2.10	2.10	6	7	-4
5Y	2.27	2.35	2.40	2.60	5	5	15
10У	2.66	2.75	2.80	2.90	6	7	10

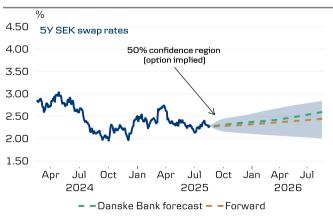
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 3M Stibor rates



Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

# 5Y SEK swap rates



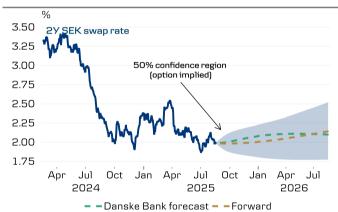
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 1M change in STIBOR3M forward curve



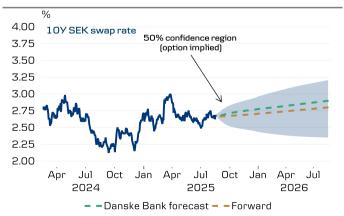
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 2Y SEK swap rates



Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

# 10Y SEK swap rates



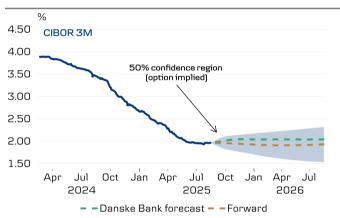
# **DKK** forecast

#### DKK forecast table

		Forec	ast		Fcs	t vs Fwd	in bp
DKK	Spot	+3M	+6M	+12M	+3M	+6M	+12M
Money market							
Repo	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75			
Deposit	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60			
CIBOR (3M)	1.96	2.04	2.04	2.04	10	13	11
CIBOR (6M)	2.14	2.22	2.21	2.19	14	13	8
Government bonds							
27	1.69	1.80	1.90	1.95			
5Y	1.95	2.10	2.15	2.20			
10Y	2.59	2.60	2.60	2.65			
Swap rates							
2Y	2.18	2.20	2.25	2.30	0	1	-6
5Y	2.50	2.55	2.55	2.55	1	-4	-13
10У	2.85	2.80	2.75	2.75	-8	-16	-23

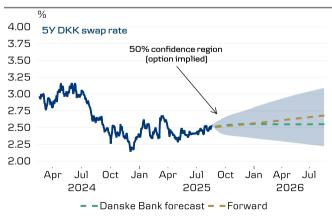
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#### 3M Cibor



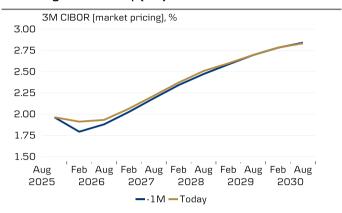
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

# 5Y DKK swap rates



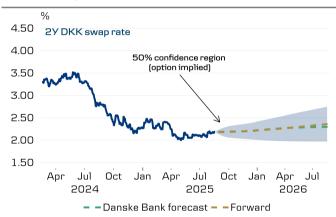
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 1M change in DKK swap (3M)



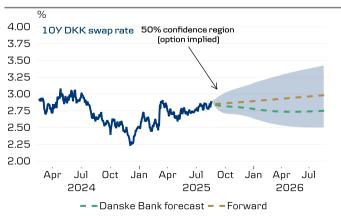
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 2Y DKK swap rates



Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

# 10Y DKK swap rates



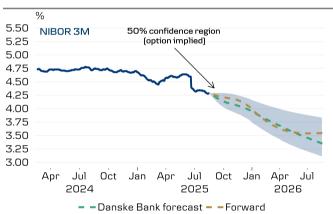
# **NOK** forecast

#### NOK forecast table

		Forec	ast		Fcst	vs Fwd	in bp
NOK	Spot	+3M	+6M	+12M	+3M	+6M	+12M
Money market							
Deposit	4.25	4.00	3.75	3.25			
NIBOR (3M)	4.29	4.05	3.80	3.35	-10	4	-20
NIBOR (6M)	4.29	4.00	3.75	3.40	-6	-7	-24
Government bonds							
2Y	3.51	3.45	3.35	3.20			
5Y	3.67	3.65	3.60	3.50			
10У	3.85	3.85	3.85	3.85			
Swap rates							
<b>2</b> Y	3.89	3.75	3.60	3.45	-2	-9	-19
5Y	3.80	3.70	3.65	3.55	-6	-8	-18
10У	3.88	3.80	3.80	3.80	-6	-5	-5

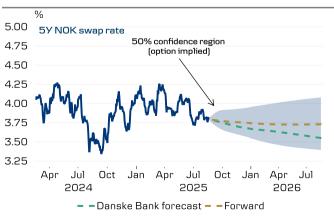
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 3M Nibor



Note: Past performance is not a reliable quide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

# 5Y NOK swap rate



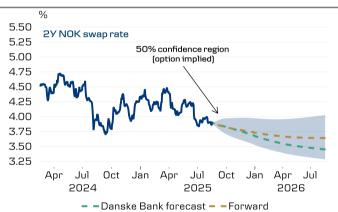
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 1M change in NOK swap (6M)



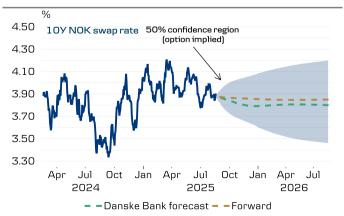
Note: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

#### 2Y NOK swap rate



Note: Past performance is not a reliable quide to future returns Source: Danske Bank

# 10Y NOK swap rate



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