S&P Global
Ratings

RatingsDirect®

Argenta Spaarbank N.V.

Primary Credit Analyst:
Stanislas De Bazelaire, Paris (33) 1-4420-6654; stanislas.bazelaire@spglobal.com

Secondary Contact:
Nicolas Hardy, Paris (33) 1-4420-7318; nicolas.hardy@spglobal.com

Table Of Contents

Argenta Spaarbank N.V.

SACP	bbb+
Anchor	bbb+	
Business Position	Moderate	-1
Capital and Earnings	Very Strong	+2
Risk Position	Moderate	-1
Funding	Average	0
Liquidity	Strong	

+

Support	+1
ALAC Support	+1
GRE Support	0
Group Support	0
Sovereign Support	0

+

Additional Factors	0

Issuer Credit Rating
A-/Stable/A-2

Resolution Counterparty Rating
A/--/A-1

Major Rating Factors

Strengths:	Weaknesses:
• Strong capitalization and liquidity. • Very low credit risk in the regions where it operates. • Focused retail-banking strategy, with the insurance business gradually increasing in importance.	• Retail business concentration and limited geographic reach compared with its largest peers. • Additional costs for digitalization are weighing more heavily on the bank than for peers with a larger revenue base. • Structural exposure to interest-rate risk due to the savings-bank business model.

Outlook: Stable

The outlook on Argenta Spaarbank N.V. (ASPA) is stable because we expect that over the next 18-24 months the bank will maintain a business strategy focused on its core franchise (retail banking in Belgium and the Netherlands), strong capitalization, and resilient profitability. This comes amid competitive pressures in the Belgian and Dutch mortgage markets and sustained low interest rates.

Downside scenario

We could lower our ratings on ASPA in the next 18-24 months should it fail to maintain a strong capitalization. This could come as a result of an acquisition, profitability issues, or potentially as a result of adverse competitive dynamics in the Belgian and Dutch mortgage markets that it cannot mitigate.

Upside scenario

We consider an upgrade in the next 18-24 months a remote scenario as it would require a significant change in ASPA's size and business mix or higher additional loss-absorbing capacity (ALAC), which we do not envisage under current minimum requirements for own funds and eligible liabilities (MREL).

Rationale

Our ratings on ASPA are based on our view of the consolidated accounts of Argenta Bank-en Verzekeringsgroep N.V. (Argenta; not rated), the group's holding company, which is active in banking and insurance. Banking is the main activity of Argenta, accounting for about 85% of total assets as of year-end 2018.

Our issuer credit rating (ICR) on ASPA reflects the 'bbb+' anchor, which is based on our view of risks in the Belgian and Dutch banking systems, the two countries where ASPA operates, and the following bank-specific factors:

- A business profile concentrated on the retail segment in the Belgian region of Flanders, where the bank has a strong franchise, and in the Netherlands.
- Very strong capitalization, since we expect our risk-adjusted capital (RAC) ratio before diversification will remain above 15%.
- A very low credit risk profile, but some structural exposure to interest-rate risk and geographic and retail exposure concentration.
- A retail deposit funding profile, with a loan-to-deposit ratio below 100%, in line with the average for the Belgian banking system, and strong liquidity due to a large portfolio of liquid assets relative to limited wholesale funding.
- A high level of bail-in-able debt protecting senior creditors in resolution.

The bank's return on equity (ROE) has halved over the past three years to a low 6.2% in first-half 2019 (see chart 2). Noninterest expenses have been rising steadily, at 7.5% per year on average over the past three years (by our metrics), in particular due to the bank's digitalization efforts. In this respect, ASPA is seeking to increase its scale, as reflected in its dynamic growth (see chart 1). At the same time, lower interest rates and competition in both countries' mortgage markets have taken a toll on its reported net interest margin, which decreased to 1.4% in 2018, down from 1.7% in

2014 (ASPA perimeter).

Therefore, we believe the bank's main challenge is to extract additional revenue from its insurance and asset management activities. In our view, the recent (November 2018) creation of a joint venture with Degroof Petercam Asset Management and the appointment of a new chairman with a strong asset management background could potentially signify the stronger development of this activity.

We expect profitability will come under additional pressure since the European Central Bank's (ECB's) decision to embark on another round of monetary policy easing in September. We currently assume a stabilization of the bank's ROE at about 6%, taking into account the various levers it has, in our view, to stabilize its returns. For instance, it could increase the share of wholesale funding (currently below 10% of its funding base), adjust its asset mix toward higher-yielding loans (small and midsize enterprises or consumer finance), or accelerate its development in asset management.

We currently assume the bank's returns will be resilient and sufficient to support the current very strong capitalization, despite sustained growth, and cover very low credit losses through the cycle. That said, a significant deterioration in profitability could lead us to question the positioning of our rating.

Anchor:'bbb+' for banks operating in Belgium and the Netherlands

The 'bbb+' anchor draws on our Banking Industry Country Risk Assessment (BICRA) for Belgium and the Netherlands.

The economic risk score for the Netherlands is '3' and for Belgium '2', on a scale of 1-10 (1 is the lowest risk and 10 is the highest). For Argenta, we use a weighted average based on the loan portfolio's geographical breakdown (Belgium and the Netherlands account for about 42% and 56% as of year-end 2018). We revised our economic risk trend on the Netherlands to stable in June 2019 because economic imbalances in the country have not reduced, contrary to our previous expectations (see "Ratings On Various Dutch Banks Affirmed; Most Positive Outlooks Revised To Stable On Property Market Developments," published June 28, 2019 on RatingsDirect). Our anchor further reflects our assessment of Belgium's industry risk of '3' (no weighted average), given ASPA is a Belgian bank.

Table 1

Argenta Group--Key Figures*

	--Year ended Dec. 31--					
(Mil.€)	**2018**	**2017**	**2016**	**2015**	**2014**	**2013**
Adjusted assets	45,668	43,888	42,145	39,587	37,544	35,313
Customer loans (gross)	30,929	28,706	27,527	25,225	22,583	19,758
Adjusted common equity	1,909	1,777	1,651	1,571	1,613	1,436
Operating revenue§	772	752	800	767	692	484
Noninterest expenses§	519	479	443	418	430	261
Core earnings	197	204	270	262	249	157

*S&P Global Ratings' definitions. §We have restated the time series of operating revenue and noninterest expenses for commissions paid to agents (distribution costs) for the period covering 2014-2018. These commissions are now included in noninterest expenses rather than deducted from operating revenue.

Business position: Stable retail strategy but concentrated business model

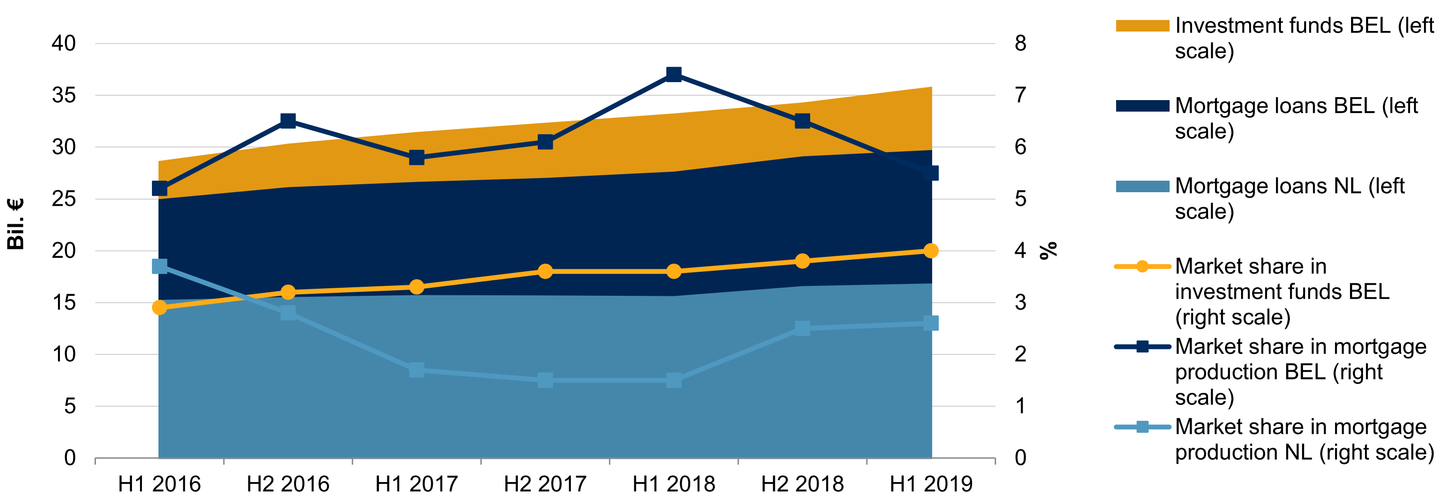
We view Argenta's business profile as a relative weakness for the ratings because the bank has a less-diversified profile and smaller geographical footprint than the universal banks that dominate the Belgian and Dutch markets.

ASPA is a savings bank with assets of €40 billion at year-end 2018. On the liability side, it offers traditional bank savings, life insurance products in Belgium via sister company Argenta Assuranties, and retail investment funds. The bank has been expanding steadily, essentially by maintaining its high market share in the quickly expanding Belgian mortgage market (see chart 1). On the asset side, it offers mortgage loans in Belgium and the Netherlands. ASPA is the fifth-largest bank by total assets in the concentrated Belgian market, with the four-largest banks accounting for more than 80% of consolidated assets. The bank also has 5.5% market share in outstanding mortgage loans and 8.4% in deposits (its main source of deposits) in the country as of mid-year 2019, with a franchise historically stronger in Flanders, the richest region. In contrast, the bank's market share in mortgage loans is far lower (2.6%) in the Netherlands, where it operates via brokers.

Although geographically concentrated on two markets, the bank's focus on low-risk retail banking has allowed it to weather various recent crises very well. The Dutch and Belgian markets are competitive, but ASPA's market position has proved resilient since the completion of its competitors' restructuring.

Chart 1

ASPA Is Expanding Steadily Driven By Belgian Mortgages And Investment Funds
Stock and market shares of mortgage loans and retail investment funds

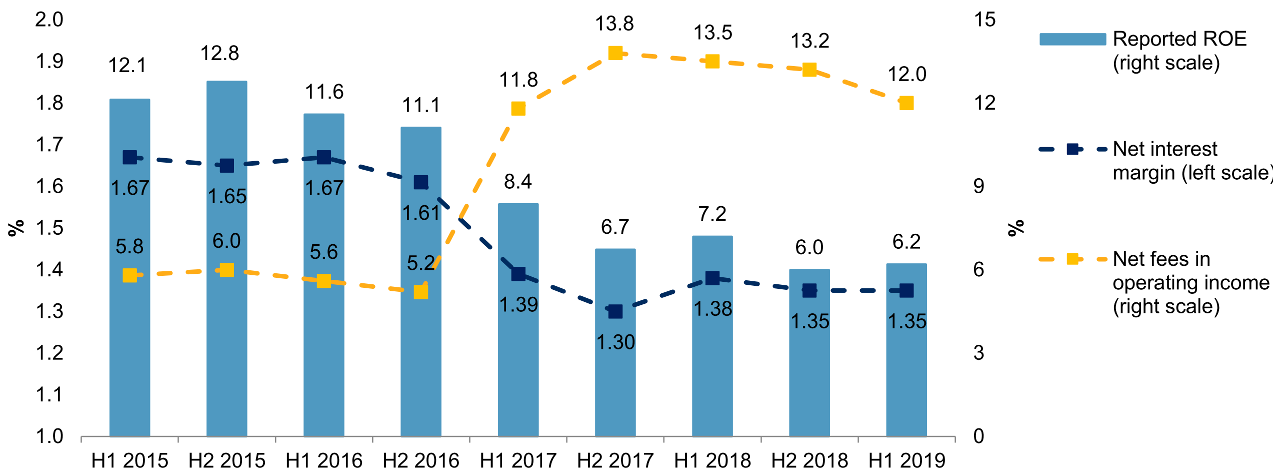


NL--The Netherlands. BEL--Belgium. H1--First half. H2--Second half. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

The bank's net interest margin has declined meaningfully over the past three years (see chart 2) amid intense competition in the mortgage market, very low interest rates, and interest rates on Belgian deposits at the legal floor. As a result, developing fee income has become a strategic focus for the bank, with some success (see chart 2). The share of fee income in reported operating income has nearly doubled over the past three years, accounting for about 10% in 2018. However, this has not proved sufficient to prevent returns falling significantly (see chart 2), demonstrating the bank's lack of business diversity. Over time, we expect the share of fee-related revenue and overall revenue quality will increase. Another answer to margin erosion could be expansion into slightly higher-risk segments, such as mortgage loans with higher loan-to-value ratios, or consumer finance, which remains marginal (less than 1% of outstanding loans).

Chart 2

ASPA's Net Interest Margin Is Trending Down While Fee Income Is Plateauing
Net interest margin, share of net fees in operating income and return on equity (ROE)

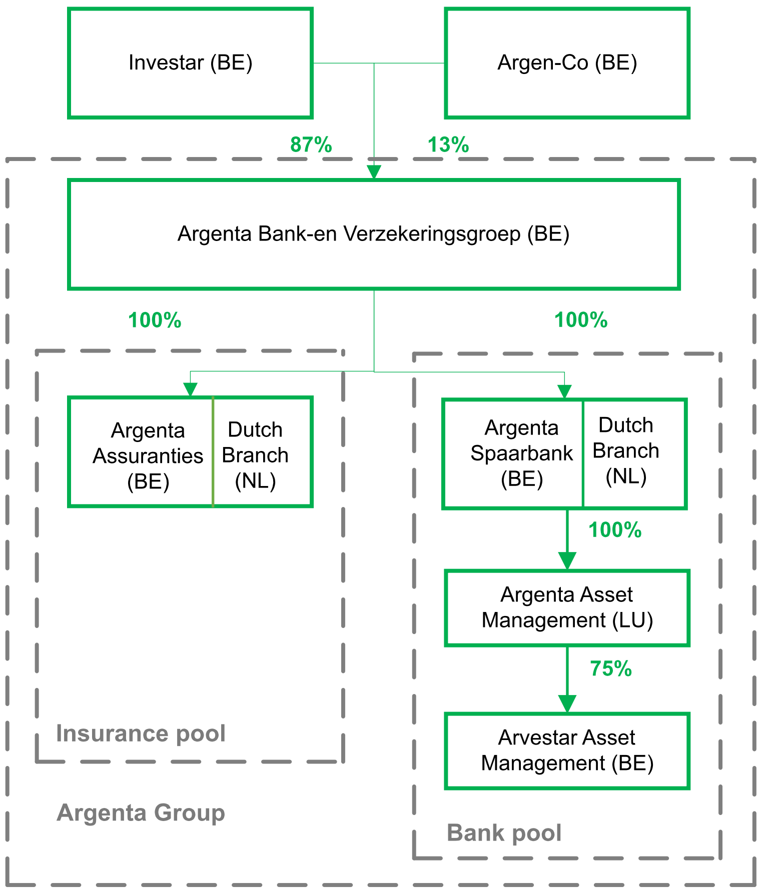


*ROE based on net income excluding the application of IFRIC 21, ASPA perimeter. In H1 2019, net interest margin and ROE were 1.26% and 4.6% respectively if we include the impact of lower interest rates on the mark-to-market of derivatives.
ROE--Return on equity. H1--First half. H2--Second half. Source: S&P Global Ratings based on company presentation.
Source: S&P Global Ratings based on company presentation.

Chart 3

Argenta Group Comprises An Insurance And A Banking Arm

Group structure



Source: Argenta Spaarbank

ASPA is owned by Argenta Bank- en Verzekeringsgroep NV, a holding company 86.7% owned by Investar NV (representing the interests of the Belgian founding family) and 13.3% owned by Argen-Co cvba (representing about 70,000 cooperative shareholders). The holding company has full control of ASPA and its sister company and insurance arm Argenta Assurantics (not rated).

We have not observed any material lending transaction in favor of the founding family. Governance standards are in place and we do not see any interference from the family in the conduct of operations.

In our view, development of insurance activities, previously marginal in the group's consolidated activities, is now a strategic priority. The bancassurance business model works well in Belgium. Despite Argenta's still-modest market shares in insurance, these activities have the potential to bring diversity and resilience to its business model. We also believe cross-selling insurance strengthens the stability of its client base.

Argenta relies on independent exclusive agents in Belgium and independent brokers in the Netherlands for product distribution, complemented by a digital distribution channel, particularly for savings products. Our cost-to-income ratio of 67% in 2018 is lower than that of Van Lanschot (87%), AXA Bank Belgium (76%), and Banque Internationale a Luxembourg (70%), but higher than Belfius (63%) and KBC Group (56%), which suggests room for improvement.

Argenta has been heavily investing in its digital banking capabilities. The bank aims to provide customers with digital tools, while not significantly reducing the number of branches. The bank's new banking platform facilitates faster digitalization. ASPA suffered an information technology (IT) glitch in April 2018 while migrating data to the new platform, resulting in a four-day interruption to internet banking. However, this did not result in any deposit outflows, highlighting to some extent the strength of the bank's franchise. However, the need to invest in IT and compliance capabilities is costly, particular given ASPA's size and revenue under pressure.

Table 2

Argenta Group--Business Position

	--Year ended Dec. 31--					
(%)	**2018**	**2017**	**2016**	**2015**	**2014**	**2013**
Noninterest expenses/operating revenue*	67.2	63.6	55.4	54.5	62.0	53.9
Return on average common equity	6.4	7.2	9.9	11.9	15.3	10.6

*Series restated to include commissions paid to agents (distribution expenses) under noninterest expenses rather than operating revenue for the period covering 2014-2018.

Capital and earnings: A cautious capital policy has led to very strong capitalization

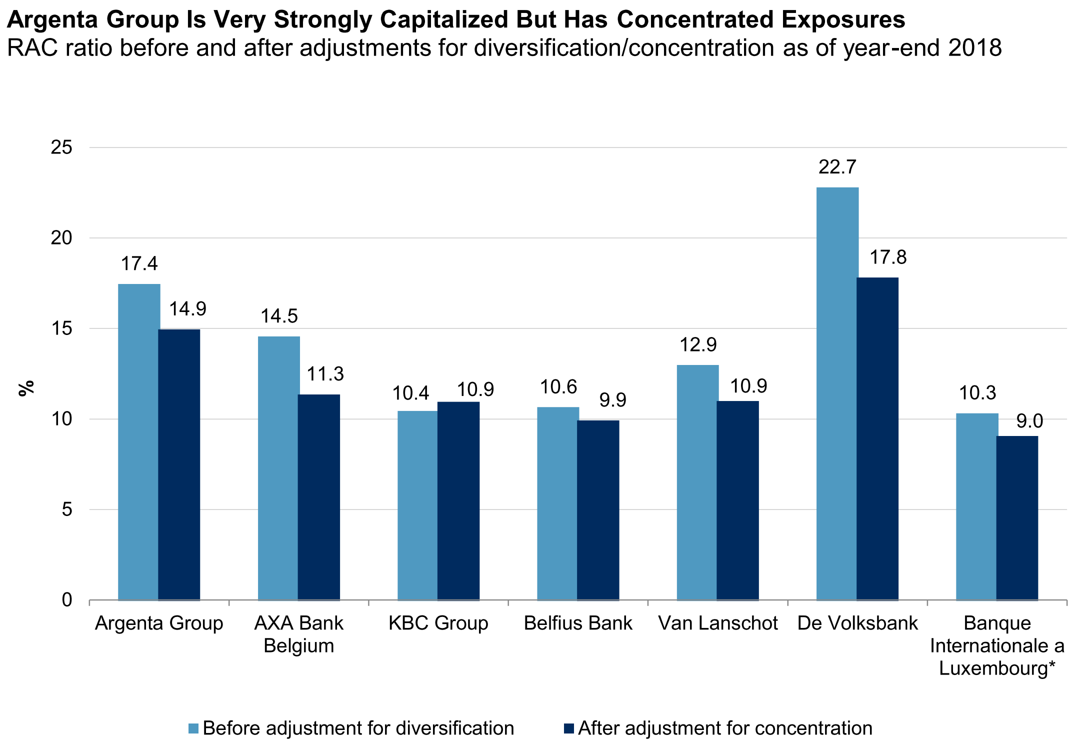
Capitalization is a rating strength for Argenta. Our RAC ratio, calculated at the group level, was 17.4% at year-end 2018 and we expect it will remain well above 15% in 2019-2020, supporting our strong assessment. Our RAC ratio is lower than the regulatory Tier 1 ratio of 23.0% mainly because of our higher risk weights on corporate and retail exposures (Argenta uses an internal ratings-based approach for credit risk) and because we deduct the insurance participation from our measure of capital (rather than risk weight it at 370% as allowed by the "Danish Compromise" regulatory approach).

For our projected RAC ratio, we assume earnings of about €170 million over 2019-2020, similar to 2018's €174 million, which translates into a ROE of about 6% over the period. We also assume annual dividend payments of €80 million excluding any potential re-injection, and risk-weighted assets (RWAs) will increase by 5%-6% per year.

Overall, in our base case we assume that a larger loan book, increasing fee income from retail investment funds, and potential adjustments to the funding and asset mix will compensate for pressure on the net interest margin and continued investments in digital capabilities.

More specifically, we forecast the net interest margin will decrease by 5 basis points (bps) per year over 2019-2021, loans will increase by 6%, commission income by 10% (from securities and management fees), and modest gains on financial assets leading to annual revenue growth of 3.0%-3.5%. We also assume noninterest expenses will increase about 4% annually, including commission paid to the branch network, translating into a stable cost-to-income ratio of about 60%

Chart 4



*Data as of year-end 2017. RAC--Risk-adjusted capital. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

We consider the quality of capital to be high because our measure of total adjusted capital, comprises solely common equity. The bank has no additional Tier 1 capital outstanding.

We recognize the benefit of the Dutch government-supported Nationale Hypotheek Garantie (NHG) for mortgage financing by aligning the risk weight of 65% of the guaranteed portfolio with the risk weight we apply to Dutch government debt. The remaining 35% of the portfolio carries the standard risk weight we apply to prime residential mortgages in the Netherlands. The resulting average risk weight aims to capture the risk of noneligibility, and other risks associated with the NHG guarantee scheme. At mid-year 2019, the share of NHG guaranteed mortgage loans represented about 65% of Argenta's Dutch mortgage book.

Our RAC ratio also takes into account the capitalization of the insurance arm because it represents a substantial part of the group's credit profile. We view the insurance arm as having enough capital to support an 'A' stress scenario.

Table 3

Argenta Group--Capital And Earnings						
	Year-ended Dec. 31--					
(%)	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Tier 1 capital ratio*	23.0	25.2	25.1	24.9	23.0	23.2

Table 3

Argenta Group--Capital And Earnings (cont.)

	Year-ended Dec. 31--					
(%)	**2018**	**2017**	**2016**	**2015**	**2014**	**2013**
S&P RAC ratio before diversification§	17.4	16.9	16.8	16.7	16.0	15.0
S&P RAC ratio after diversification§	14.9	14.9	14.5	16.0	15.4	14.4
Adjusted common equity/total adjusted capital	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Net interest income/operating revenue†	80.7	76.4	83.3	84.8	99.0	118.5
Fee income/operating revenue†	15.4	10.6	9.0	9.7	3.8	-19.7
Market-sensitive income/operating revenue†	0.0	4.2	1.2	3.4	2.7	9.4
Preprovision operating income/average assets	0.56	0.63	0.87	0.90	0.72	0.63
Core earnings/average managed assets	0.44	0.47	0.66	0.68	0.68	0.44

*Internal ratings-based approach to capital requirements. §2015, 2014, and 2013 calculated on the perimeter of Argenta Spaarbank N.V. †2014-2018 series restated to include commissions paid to agents (distribution expenses) under noninterest expenses rather than operating revenue.

Table 4

Argenta Group--Risk-Adjusted Capital Framework Data

(€)	**Exposure***	**Basel III RWA**	**Average Basel III RW(%)**	**S&P Global RWA**	**Average S&P Global RW (%)**
Credit risk					
Government & central banks	11,404,823,483	214,328,465	2	411,833,955	4
Of which regional governments and local authorities	715,509,410	99,583,158	14	27,997,423	4
Institutions and CCPs	2,396,653,912	576,157,418	24	419,199,360	17
Corporate	3,040,907,342	1,494,622,516	49	2,363,990,446	78
Retail	23,784,036,298	4,654,609,153	20	6,400,861,058	27
Of which mortgage	22,975,760,036	4,527,753,841	20	5,866,220,120	26
Securitization	979,478,592	119,036,350	12	215,057,033	22
Other assets	374,535,575	153,538,156	41	(173,017,713)	(46)
Total credit risk	41,980,435,202	7,212,292,058	17	9,637,924,139	23
Credit valuation adjustment					
Total credit valuation adjustment	--	125,458,874	--	--	--
Market Risk					
Equity in the banking book	20,610,906	15,469,378	75	135,041,539	655
Trading book market risk	--	0	--	--	--
Total market risk	--	15,469,378	--	135,041,539	--
Operational risk					
Total operational risk	--	1,042,748,430	--	1,192,215,951	--
	Exposure	**Basel III RWA**	**Average Basel II RW (%)**	**S&P Global Ratings RWA**	**% of S&P Global Ratings RWA**
Diversification adjustments					
RWA before diversification	--	9,048,817,113	--	10,965,181,630	100

Table 4

Argenta Group--Risk-Adjusted Capital Framework Data (cont.)					
Total Diversification/ Concentration Adjustments	--	--	--	1,810,543,106	17
RWA after diversification	--	9,048,817,113	--	12,775,724,736	117
		Tier 1 capital	**Tier 1 ratio (%)**	**Total adjusted capital**	**S&P Global Ratings RAC ratio (%)**
Capital ratio					
Capital ratio before adjustments		2,081,652,232	23.0	1,909,166,434	17.4
Capital ratio after adjustments‡		2,081,652,232	23.0	1,909,166,434	14.9

*Exposure at default. §Securitization Exposure includes the securitization tranches deducted from capital in the regulatory framework. †Exposure and S&P Global Ratings' risk-weighted assets for equity in the banking book include minority equity holdings in financial institutions. ‡Adjustments to Tier 1 ratio are additional regulatory requirements (e.g. transitional floor or Pillar 2 add-ons). RWA--Risk-weighted assets. RW--Risk weight. RAC--Risk-adjusted capital. Sources: Company data as of Dec. 31 2018, S&P Global Ratings.

Risk position: Low credit risk but concentrated exposures

Our assessment of Argenta's risk position as a rating weakness reflects risks not captured in our capital and earnings analysis, namely its exposure to interest-rate risk and geographic and retail concentration. We believe these weaknesses outweigh the bank's very limited risks in other areas, such as credit risk.

ASPA's exposure to interest-rate risk in the banking book is structural and stems from having a large proportion of fixed-rate assets (mortgage loans and bonds) and being retail funded mainly by regulated Belgian savings deposits, which are subject to a legal floor. Pre-hedging, exposure to interest-rate risk increased significantly over 2015-2017, particularly due to a higher proportion of long-term fixed-rate mortgages, which borrowers opted for as a result of the very-low interest rate environment. However, if we take hedging into account--the bank uses fair value macro and micro hedges on its mortgage and securities portfolios respectively--exposure to this risk is moderate. That said, hedging can be costly, potentially weighing on the net interest margin, and can result in profit and loss volatility due to hedging inefficiencies.

ASPA's mortgage loan book increased by a dynamic 8% in 2018. It expanded by 10% in Belgium, broadly in line with the market (+9%), while the estimated 6% growth in the Netherland was well above the market (-2%). Although we do not expect the bank will expand geographically outside of its two core markets, we note its willingness to develop mortgages with higher loan-to-value (LTV) ratios and consumer finance to a limited extent, which we don't expect to significantly change its risk profile. ASPA has historically targeted borrowers with LTV ratios lower than the market average. However, we note that expansion for both asset classes is expected to be limited for now, and that cost of risk on mortgage loans--the bulk of the bank's loan book--has been very contained at below 10 bps over the past decade.

Loan-to-foreclosure values are higher in the Netherlands (average LTV of 69% as of mid-year 2019) than in Belgium (58%), but about 65% benefit from a guarantee from the NHG, reducing the ultimate risk for the group in the case of borrowers' insolvencies. We consider the credit risk embedded in Argenta's investment portfolio to be low. This is because underlying securities are highly rated (36% in the 'AA' category or above, and 99% investment grade, as of mid-year 2019) and well diversified, although we note the amount invested in Belgian government bonds is significant compared with the bank's equity.

Table 5

Argenta Group--Risk Position

	--Year-ended Dec. 31--					
(%)	**2018**	**2017**	**2016**	**2015**	**2014**	**2013**
Growth in customer loans	7.7	4.3	9.1	11.7	14.3	13.6
Total diversification adjustment / S&P RWA before diversification*	16.5	13.5	15.5	3.8	3.9	4.0
Total managed assets/adjusted common equity (x)	24.0	24.8	25.6	25.3	23.3	24.7
New loan loss provisions/average customer loans	(0.01)	(0.02)	0.00	0.01	(0.27)	(0.02)
Gross nonperforming loans/customer loans	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.7
Loan loss reserves/gross nonperforming loans	17.4	18.8	18.8	19.9	29.1	24.8

*2015, 2014 ,and 2013 calculated on the perimeter of Argenta Spaarbank N.V. RWA--Risk-weighted assets.

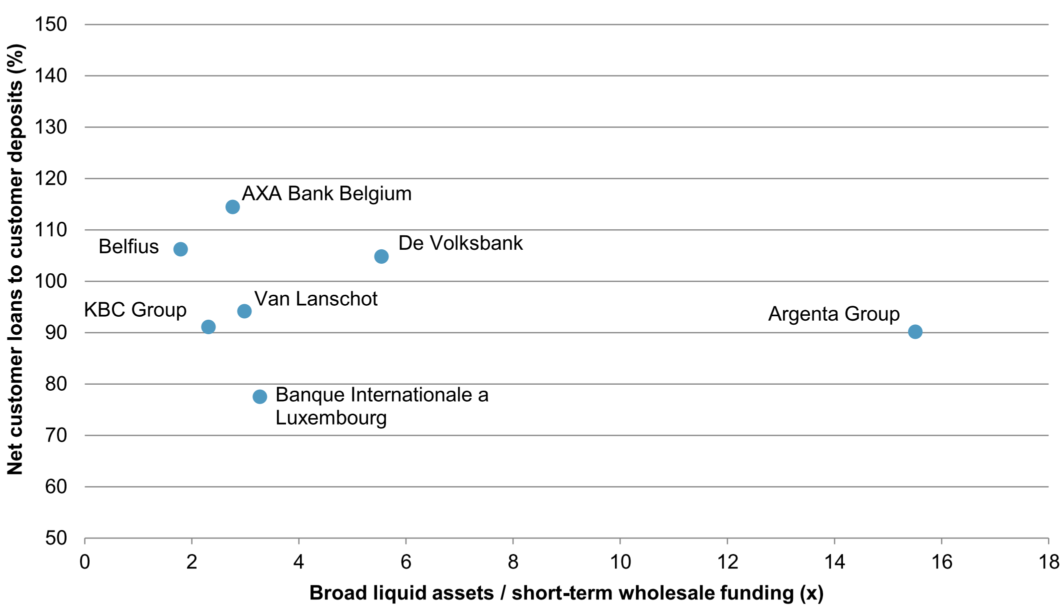
Funding and liquidity: Liquidity is a strength

Argenta's funding and liquidity are neutral for our ratings, although we consider the group's liquidity strong.

The loan-to-deposit ratio stood at an estimated 87% at year-end 2018, up from 84% in 2017, as a result of the strategy to rebalance the bank's asset mix in favor of customer lending. We expect this ratio will continue increasing toward 90% in 2019 because of the bank's strategy to diversify its funding profile toward securitization (two transactions over 2017-2018 for a total of €2 billion), which accounted for 5.5% of the funding profile as of year-end 2018.

Chart 5

Argenta Group's Liquidity Is Strong And Its Funding Profile Is On Par With Peers'



Year-end 2018 data. Source: S&P Global Ratings.

About one-quarter of the bank's balance sheet--€10 billion as of mid-year 2019--is made up of cash and high-quality liquid securities in its bond portfolio (excluding haircut), essentially level 1 assets that are eligible collateral in ECB open market operations. At group level, liquid assets comfortably covered (post haircut) limited short-term wholesale funding by 16x at year-end 2018, pointing to very limited refinancing risk.

Table 6

Argenta Group--Funding And Liquidity*

	--Year ended Dec. 31--					
(%)	**2018**	**2017**	**2016**	**2015**	**2014**	**2013**
Core deposits/funding base	92.5	94.2	92.2	92.5	91.6	91.1
Customer loans (net)/customer deposits	90.2	86.5	83.9	81.6	69.0	64.5
Long term funding ratio	98.9	99.1	99.1	98.0	97.4	97.3
Stable funding ratio	101.5	100.2	101.7	102.4	113.4	116.0
Short-term wholesale funding/funding base	1.2	1.0	1.0	2.1	2.7	2.8
Broad liquid assets/short-term wholesale funding (x)	15.5	17.8	19.5	10.2	5.7	6.2
Net broad liquid assets/short-term customer deposits	19.9	19.6	21.0	22.3	87.5	101.3
Short-term wholesale funding/total wholesale funding	16.1	17.6	36.3	81.4	32.2	31.8
Narrow liquid assets/3-month wholesale funding (x)	87.8	57.2	563.0	65.0	7.4	12.1

*Our funding and liquidity metrics differ from those reported so far because we no longer classify technical provisions as wholesale debt.

Support: ALAC protects senior creditors

Since December 2015, we have regarded the prospect of extraordinary government support for Belgian banks as uncertain in view of the country's effective resolution regime. As a result, banks are not eligible for notching uplift for possible future Belgian government support. However, we view the Belgian resolution regime as effective under our ALAC criteria because, among other factors, we believe it contains a well-defined bail-in process under which authorities would permit nonviable systemically important banks to continue critical functions as going concerns following a bail-in of eligible liabilities.

We factor in €500 million of Tier 2 debt issued in first-half 2016 to our ALAC amount, as well as total adjusted capital in excess of the amount necessary for a 15% RAC ratio (the threshold for the current capital and earnings assessment). The Tier 2 debt has a call date in 2021. In our forecasts, we assume the bank will maintain an equivalent level of ALAC-eligible debt over time. Our ALAC ratio stood at 7.0% of our RWA at year-end 2018, above our 5.5% threshold for a one-notch uplift. We currently do not expect the issuance of additional MREL-eligible securities considering the target ratio set by the EU Single Resolution Board (4.9% of total liabilities and own funds) is below the bank's current MREL ratio (estimated at 7.0% as of mid-year 2019).

The threshold we apply is above our standard 5.0%, reflecting a concentration of maturities, with a single Tier 2 issuance so far.

We have assigned 'A/A-1' resolution counterparty ratings (RCRs) to Argenta Spaarbank N.V. because we assess the resolution regime will be effective in Belgium, and consider that ASPA is likely to be subject to a resolution that entails a bail-in if it reaches nonviability. Our RCR is a forward-looking opinion of the relative default risk of certain senior liabilities that may be protected from default through an effective bail-in resolution process for the issuing financial institution.

Additional rating factors: None

No additional factors affect this rating.

Related Criteria

- Criteria - Financial Institutions - General: Methodology For Assigning Financial Institution Resolution Counterparty Ratings, April 19, 2018
- Criteria | Financial Institutions | General: Risk-Adjusted Capital Framework Methodology, July 20, 2017
- General Criteria: Methodology For Linking Long-Term And Short-Term Ratings, April 7, 2017
- Criteria | Financial Institutions | Banks: Bank Rating Methodology And Assumptions: Additional Loss-Absorbing Capacity, April 27, 2015
- Criteria | Financial Institutions | Banks: Bank Hybrid Capital And Nondeferrable Subordinated Debt Methodology And Assumptions, Jan. 29, 2015
- General Criteria: Group Rating Methodology, Nov. 19, 2013
- Criteria | Financial Institutions | Banks: Quantitative Metrics For Rating Banks Globally: Methodology And Assumptions, July 17, 2013
- Criteria | Financial Institutions | Banks: Banks: Rating Methodology And Assumptions, Nov. 9, 2011
- Criteria | Financial Institutions | Banks: Banking Industry Country Risk Assessment Methodology And Assumptions, Nov. 9, 2011
- Criteria | Insurance | General: Refined Methodology And Assumptions For Analyzing Insurer Capital Adequacy Using The Risk-Based Insurance Capital Model, June 7, 2010
- General Criteria: Use Of CreditWatch And Outlooks, Sept. 14, 2009

Related Research

- Banking Industry Country Risk Assessment: Belgium, Sept. 26, 2019
- Ratings On Various Dutch Banks Affirmed; Most Positive Outlooks Revised To Stable On Property Market Developments, June 28, 2019
- 31 European Banking Groups Assigned Resolution Counterparty Ratings; Four Collateralized Notes Upgraded; UCO Removed, June 12, 2018

Anchor Matrix

Industry Risk	Economic Risk									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	a	a	a-	bbb+	bbb+	bbb	-	-	-	-
2	a	a-	a-	bbb+	bbb	bbb	bbb-	-	-	-
3	a-	a-	bbb+	bbb+	bbb	bbb-	bbb-	bb+	-	-
4	bbb+	bbb+	bbb+	bbb	bbb	bbb-	bb+	bb	bb	-
5	bbb+	bbb	bbb	bbb	bbb-	bbb-	bb+	bb	bb-	b+
6	bbb	bbb	bbb-	bbb-	bbb-	bb+	bb	bb	bb-	b+
7	-	bbb-	bbb-	bb+	bb+	bb	bb	bb-	b+	b+
8	-	-	bb+	bb	bb	bb	bb-	bb-	b+	b
9	-	-	-	bb	bb-	bb-	b+	b+	b+	b
10	-	-	-	-	b+	b+	b+	b	b	b-

Ratings Detail (As Of October 31, 2019)*

Argenta Spaarbank N.V.	
Issuer Credit Rating	A-/Stable/A-2
Resolution Counterparty Rating	A/--/A-1
Senior Unsecured	A-
Subordinated	BBB-
Issuer Credit Ratings History	
28-Jun-2019	A-/Stable/A-2
15-Sep-2017	A-/Positive/A-2
02-Dec-2015	A-/Stable/A-2
Sovereign Rating	
Belgium	AA/Stable/A-1+

*Unless otherwise noted, all ratings in this report are global scale ratings. S&P Global Ratings' credit ratings on the global scale are comparable across countries. S&P Global Ratings' credit ratings on a national scale are relative to obligors or obligations within that specific country. Issue and debt ratings could include debt guaranteed by another entity, and rated debt that an entity guarantees.