

# Derivatives Market Landscape Spring 2014

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## **Lori Aldinger**

Manager
Research & Product Development
312-930-2337
lori.aldinger@cmegroup.com

## John W. Labuszewski

Managing Director
Research & Product Development
312-466-7469
jlab@cmegroup.com

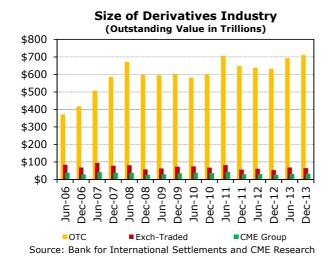
The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) publishes information regarding the total outstanding value of over-the-counter (OTC) and exchange-traded derivatives positions on a semi-annual basis.

BIS's May 2014 release, covering data through December 2013, suggests that the overall size of the derivatives industry, including OTC and exchange traded products, increased substantially during the  $2^{\rm nd}$  half of 2013 to a new all-time high water mark.

The notional value of CME Group open interest likewise experienced significant gains during calendar year 2013.

### **Outstanding Values**

Outstanding notional values in the OTC market advanced nicely from \$692.9 trillion in June 2013 to \$710.2 trillion in December 2013. This represents a 2.5% advance over the six month and a new high water mark above the previously established high at \$706.9 trillion in June 2011.



The notional value outstanding for the global exchange-traded derivatives industry, *e.g.*, organized futures exchanges, including futures and option markets, declined to \$64.6 trillion in December 2013 from \$69.1 trillion in June 2013, representing a 6.5% decline advance over the sixmonth period. The exchange-traded derivatives industry remains some 22.1% below a peak of \$82.9 trillion achieved in June 2011 and 32.1% below the

all-time high of \$95.1 trillion established in June 2007.

The notional value outstanding for CME Group markets rallied to \$33.9 in December 2013 from \$32.4 trillion in June 2013, representing a 4.6% increase over the six-month period. This figure remains 23.6% below the all-time high of \$44.4 trillion in June 2011; and, 20.6% below a peak of \$42.7 trillion established in June 2007. <sup>1</sup>

Please refer to Table 1 in our Appendix for more complete information regarding these markets, including statistics broken down by market segment in detail.

These statistics must be explained against the backdrop of economic events over past years. In particular, the economic and regulatory impact of the subprime mortgage crisis, peaking in 2008, has colored the markets tremendously.

Derivatives activity was initially constrained by deleveraging and general cautiousness on the part of the customer base. Activity was further limited to the extent that Fed zero interest rate policies ("ZIRP") have caused rates to remain at historic lows for some years now. But recent economic growth has motivated the Fed to taper its Quantitative Easing ("QE") programs in 2014.

The crisis also resulted in the passage of the Dodd-Frank financial reform bill of 2010. A major plank of the legislation is a mandate to clear standardized OTC derivatives. This mandate went into effect during the first half of 2013 and has bolstered confidence in OTC derivatives. This confidence is reflected in the growth of the interest rate swap (IRS) market to \$584.4 trillion in outstanding notional value as of December, representing a new all-time high.

## **Misleading Statistics**

We hastily add a note of caution to any comparison of the notional values of OTC vs. exchange traded

Note that the notional value of exchanged traded derivatives tends to advance on a seasonal basis midyear relative to year-end when open positions are often squared or offset for bookkeeping purposes.

derivatives. In particular, discrepant accounting practices between the two marketplaces may render such comparisons potentially misleading.

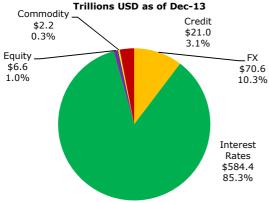
Consider the fact that when futures are bought and then sold, they are offset, resulting in a reduction in open interest. But both long and short sides of an offsetting OTC derivatives transaction are typically carried on the books until expiration, often for years even when they offset economically, resulting in inflated OTC notional values.

If OTC derivatives were offset like futures, anecdotal evidence suggests that reported exposures may be reduced 75%-95%.

Some OTC positions may, however, be offset through "tear-up" or "compression" services. However, the BIS data does not address the magnitude of this activity.

Paradoxically, the liquidation (in an economic sense) of OTC positions can even result in advancing outstanding notional values as offsetting positions are established. But it is impossible accurately to assess this effect based on the BIS data.

## Outstanding Value OTC Derivatives

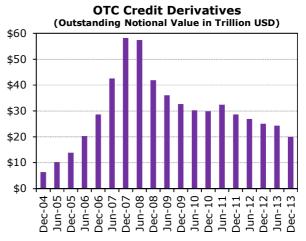


Source: Bank for International Settlements

Many feel that a more accurate comparison between OTC and exchange traded derivatives may be found by examining the notional value of volume or "turnover" per OTC vernacular. That comparison may be made by reference to the BIS Triennial Survey. Note that exchange traded derivatives compare very favorably to OTC derivatives in this regard.

#### **Market Mix**

Interest rate related instruments continue to account for the lion's share of OTC derivative positions established but not yet terminated. Interest rate related products now account for \$584.4 trillion or 85.3% of the \$710.2 trillion industry. FX and credit derivatives were valued at \$70.6 trillion and \$21.0 trillion or 10.3% and 3.1% of OTC notional value outstanding, respectively. Equity-linked and commodity derivatives brought up the rear with market shares of 1.0% and 0.3%, respectively. <sup>2</sup>



Source: Bank for International Settlements (BIS)

The credit derivatives market continues to retreat at the swiftest pace of all OTC sectors. In the mid-2000s, credit derivatives represented the fastest growing segment of the OTC derivatives industry. But this sector has most keenly felt the fallout of the subprime crisis. The outstanding notional value of credit derivatives had declined to \$21.0 trillion by December 2013. This is 63.9% off the peak of \$58.2 trillion observed in December 2007.

### Value at Risk

While it is interesting to examine statistics regarding the overall value of the OTC derivatives industry, we caution that "notional values" are just that - they do not necessarily reflect value at risk. However, BIS

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> BIS further recognizes a substantial "unallocated" portion of the derivatives which is not reflected in our graphics or market share calculations.

does release statistics depicting the "gross market value" of OTC derivatives.

Gross market value represents the sums of the absolute values of all open contracts with either positive or negative replacement values evaluated at market prices. One may think of gross market value as representative of the mark-to-market (MTM) or potential liquidation value of OTC derivative positions.

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Source: Bank for International Settlements

Note that gross market values in the OTC derivatives markets were reported at \$18.7 trillion as of December 2013 and down 7.4% from the \$20.2 trillion reported as of June 2013. Current gross market value is some 47.0% below the peak of \$35.3 trillion recorded in December 2008. Gross market values may be referenced in some detail in Table 2 of our Appendix.

## **Comparing Value at Risk**

There are no available statistics in the exchangetraded derivatives markets that are comparable to gross market values as calculated in the OTC markets. That is because exchange traded derivatives, *i.e.*, futures markets, are commonly marked-to-market on a daily basis. As such, traders pay any losses and collect any profits on a daily basis.

Thus, there are no "unrealized profits or losses" in the futures markets. Of course, if an OTC market participant should default after accruing an unrealized obligation to the counterparty to a transaction, that counterparty may be unable to collect on all or part of that obligation.

This is a classic example of counterparty credit risk. In essence, Gross Market Value represents the "Replacement Cost" associated with re-establishing an OTC derivatives position subsequent to a counterparty default.

Actually, one might examine the original performance bond or "margin" on deposit at futures clearing houses to assess the magnitude of risk that are represented in the exchange-traded derivatives markets. Performance bonds are typically calibrated by clearing houses to cover one day's close-to-close price movement with a high degree of confidence.

While such information is certainly of interest, it does not provide a direct comparison vs. the gross market values of OTC derivatives, noting that these gross market values may accumulate over extended periods of time.

Table 1: Outstanding Notional Value of Derivatives Markets (Billions USD)

	Dec-09	Jun-10	Dec-10	Jun-11	Dec-11	Jun-12	Dec-12	Jun-13	Dec-13	
Over-the-Counter Derivatives										
Total contracts	\$603,900	\$582,685	\$601,046	\$706,884	\$647,811	\$639,395	\$632,582	\$692,924	\$710,182	
FX contracts	\$49,181	\$53,153	\$57,796	\$64,698	\$63,381	\$66,672	\$67,358	\$73,121	\$70,553	
Forwards and forex swaps	\$23,129	\$25,624	\$28,433	\$31,113	\$30,526	\$31,395	\$31,718	\$34,421	\$33,218	
Currency swaps	\$16,509	\$16,360	\$19,271	\$22,228	\$22,791	\$24,156	\$25,420	\$24,654	\$25,448	
Options	\$9,543	\$11,170	\$10,092	\$11,358	\$10,065	\$11,122	\$10,220	\$14,046	\$11,886	
Interest rate contracts	\$449,875	\$451,831	\$465,260	\$553,240	\$504,117	\$494,427	\$489,706	\$561,314	\$584,364	
Forward rate agreements	\$51,779	\$56,242	\$51,587	\$55,747	\$50,596	\$64,711	\$71,353	\$86,334	\$73,819	
Interest rate swaps	\$349,288	\$347,508	\$364,377	\$441,201	\$402,611	\$379,401	\$370,002	\$425,584	\$461,281	
Options	\$48,808	\$48,081	\$49,295	\$56,291	\$50,911	\$50,314	\$48,351	\$49,396	\$49,264	
Equity-linked contracts	\$5,937	\$6,260	\$5,635	\$6,841	\$5,982	\$6,313	\$6,251	\$6,821	\$6,560	
Forwards and swaps	\$1,652	\$1,754	\$1,828	\$2,029	\$1,738	\$1,880	\$2,045	\$2,321	\$2,277	
Options	\$4,285	\$4,506	\$3,807	\$4,813	\$4,244	\$4,434	\$4,207	\$4,501	\$4,283	
Commodity contracts	\$2,944	\$2,852	\$2,922	\$3,197	\$3,091	\$2,994	\$2,587	\$2,458	\$2,206	
Gold	\$423	\$417	\$397	\$468	\$521	\$523	\$486	\$461	\$341	
Other commodities	\$2,521	\$2,434	\$2,525	\$2,729	\$2,570	\$2,471	\$2,101	\$1,997	\$1,865	
Forwards and swaps	\$1,675	\$1,551	\$1,781	\$1,846	\$1,745	\$1,659	\$1,363	\$1,327	\$1,261	
Options	\$846	\$883	\$744	\$883	\$824	\$812	\$739	\$670	\$603	
Credit default swaps	\$32,693	\$30,261	\$29,898	\$32,409	\$28,626	\$26,930	\$25,068	\$24,349	\$21,020	
Single-name instruments	\$21,917	\$18,494	\$18,145	\$18,105	\$16,865	\$15,566	\$14,309	\$13,135	\$11,324	
Multi-name instruments	\$10,776	\$11,767	\$11,753	\$14,305	\$11,761	\$11,364	\$10,760	\$11,214	\$9,696	
of which index products	-	\$7,500	\$7,476	\$12,473	\$10,514	\$9,723	\$9,656	\$10,163	\$8,746	
Unallocated	\$63,270	\$38,329	\$39,536	\$46,498	\$42,613	\$42,059	\$41,611	\$24,860	\$25,480	
Exchange Traded Derivatives										
All Exchange-Traded	\$73,126	\$75,427	\$67,940	\$82,888	\$58,331	\$61,511	\$54,122	\$69,124	\$64,628	
Interest rate	\$67,062	\$69,557	\$61,948	\$76,041	\$53,299	\$55,581	\$48,546	\$62,178	\$57,007	
Currency	\$293	\$349	\$316	\$390	\$312	\$328	\$336	\$344	\$384	
Equity index	\$5,770	\$5,521	\$5,676	\$6,457	\$4,720	\$5,601	\$5,240	\$6,602	\$7,237	
CME Group Contracts	\$34,908	\$38,850	\$36,755	\$44,392	\$31,007	\$31,780	\$26,969	\$32,400	\$33,891	

Source: Bank for International Settlements (BIS)

Table 2: Gross Market Value of OTC Derivatives
(Billions USD)

	Dec-09	Jun-10	Dec-10	Jun-11	Dec-11	Jun-12	Dec-12	Jun-13	Dec-13
Total contracts	\$21,542	\$24,697	\$21,296	\$19,518	\$27,297	\$25,408	\$24,733	\$20,082	\$18,658
Foreign exchange contracts	\$2,070	\$2,544	\$2,482	\$2,336	\$2,592	\$2,249	\$2,313	\$2,427	\$2,284
Forwards and forex swaps	\$683	\$930	\$886	\$777	\$923	\$773	\$806	\$957	\$824
Currency swaps	\$1,043	\$1,201	\$1,235	\$1,227	\$1,324	\$1,190	\$1,259	\$1,131	\$1,186
Options	\$344	\$413	\$362	\$332	\$345	\$286	\$286	\$339	\$273
Interest rate contracts	\$14,020	\$17,533	\$14,746	\$13,244	\$20,001	\$19,113	\$18,833	\$15,081	\$14,039
Forward rate agreements	\$80	\$81	\$206	\$60	\$67	\$51	\$47	\$168	\$108
Interest rate swaps	\$12,576	\$15,951	\$13,139	\$11,864	\$18,046	\$17,214	\$17,080	\$13,588	\$12,758
Options	\$1,364	\$1,501	\$1,401	\$1,319	\$1,888	\$1,848	\$1,706	\$1,325	\$1,174
Equity-linked contracts	\$708	\$706	\$648	\$708	\$673	\$639	\$600	\$692	\$700
Forwards and swaps	\$176	\$189	\$167	\$176	\$156	\$147	\$157	\$206	\$202
Options	\$532	\$518	\$480	\$532	\$518	\$492	\$443	\$486	\$498
Commodity contracts	\$545	\$458	\$526	\$471	\$466	\$379	\$347	\$384	\$264
Gold	\$48	\$45	\$47	\$50	\$63	\$51	\$42	\$80	\$47
Other commodities	\$497	\$413	\$479	\$421	\$403	\$328	\$304	\$304	\$217
Credit default swaps	\$1,801	\$1,666	\$1,351	\$1,345	\$1,586	\$1,187	\$848	\$725	\$653
Single-name instruments	\$1,243	\$993	\$884	\$854	\$958	\$715	\$527	\$430	\$369
Multi-name instruments	\$558	\$673	\$466	\$490	\$628	\$472	\$321	\$295	\$284
Unallocated	\$2,398	\$1,789	\$1,543	\$1,414	\$1,978	\$1,841	\$1,792	\$772	\$718
Memorandum Item									
Gross Credit Exposure	\$3,521	\$3,581	\$3,480	\$2,971	\$3,939	\$3,691	\$3,609	\$3,900	\$3,033

Source: Bank for International Settlements (BIS)

Futures and options trading is not suitable for all investors, and involves the risk of loss. Futures are leveraged investments, and because only a percentage of a contract's value is required to trade, it is possible to lose more than the amount of money initially deposited for a futures position. Therefore, traders should only use funds that they can afford to lose without affecting their lifestyles. And only a portion of those funds should be devoted to any one trade because they cannot expect to profit on every trade. All matters pertaining to rules and specifications herein are made subject to and are superseded by official CME rules. Current rules should be consulted in all cases concerning contract specifications.

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