

**Full Length Research Paper**

# A Comparative Analysis of Selected Public Sector Banks: With Reference to Management of Non-Performing Assets

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**Article history:**

Received: 01-12-2018

Revised: 16-12-2018

Accepted: 25-12-2018

Published: 28-12-2018

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**Abstract**

*Non-Performing Assets of banks are always considered as a crucial financial component in analyzing the managerial efficiency and performance of the bank. The public sector banks in India are facing challenges of significant increase in the amount of non-performing Assets. A high level of NPAs indicates high probability of credit defaults which affect the liquidity and profitability of bank, in addition to posing threat on quality of asset and survival of banks. The problem of increasing NPA is a burning and critical issue not only for the banking sector but for the Indian economy as well, because the economic growth and development process always depends on the sound and efficient banking system of a country. While there are instances of clearing non-performing assets by public sector commercial banks in India, but there is still a considerable amount of efforts to be done for sustainable and strong banking sector. In this paper an attempt is made to analyse and compare the performance of selected public sector banks of India with special reference to performance related to management of Non-Performing Assets.*

**Keywords:** Non-Performing Assets, Financial stability, PSB

**Introduction**

Economic growth and development process of a country depends on its banking system. This banking system primarily includes the public sector banks and private sector banks. According to the world bank, inspite of several reforms being introduced in Indian banking sector such as improvement in transparency of funds in real estate sector, system of unique identification number, codes of bankruptcy etc. the Banking system in India is still at crossroads (World Bank publication). While there are instances of public sector commercial banks working towards clearing non-performing assets, there's still considerable amount of efforts to be done for a sustainable and strong banking sector. The banking regulatory bodies have prescribed creation of provisions for regulations of bad assets (Khan 2004). In other words, banks now have to continuously monitor and regulate the amount of loans and provisions made to accommodate for any losses. It becomes the responsibility of the banking regulatory bodies to keep an eye on the banks taking excessive risks with respect to advancing loans however there always remains a possibility that banks in expectation of higher earnings and profits would take extra risk in giving the loans (Sahoo 2015). Hence, it becomes important to analyse the efficiency and performance of the commercial banks in relation to non performing assets. The present study analyses the performance of five public sector banks of India with special reference to the Non-Performing Assets.

Accepting deposit and advancing loans is the primary function of the commercial banks. When commercial banks advance loans, there are instances when the banks fail to recover the money i.e. principal and interest for e.g., if a bank lends Rs.100 Crore to an individual or an institution and the individual or institution fails to repay the amount then the bank would classify this outstanding as Non Performing assets. In banking terms a loan or advance for which the principal or interest payment has remained overdue for a period of 90 days is termed as non-performing assets. On the basis of the time period for which the amount (principal and interest) remains overdue the banking regulations require these non performing assets to be classified into substandard assets, Doubtful assets or loss assets (Muraleedharan 2014). The management of non-performing assets reflects the managerial efficiency of the banks. The public sector banks in India are facing a significant increase in the amount of Non-Performing Assets. Increasing non-performing assets for public sector banks is a burning and critical issue not only for the entire banking sector but for the Indian economy as well. According to RBI the sum of all loan assets which have been classified as NPA are termed as Gross NPA. NPA of any bank is considered as a crucial financial component in analyzing the managerial efficiency and performance of a bank. NPA and related ratios provide an outlook about the asset quality of the banks which can be compared with other banks (Mishra 2016).

The primary objective of the present study is to analyse and compare the performance of selected public sector banks during past 5 financial years with special reference to performance related to management of non-performing assets. The present study will analyse and compare the gross and net NPA in relation to the gross advances and total assets of five public sector banks.

**Research Methodology**

The present study is descriptive and analytical in nature. The present study makes use of past year financial statement of selected public sector banks, hence can be said to be primarily based on secondary data. This data has been collected from the Annual

Reports available on the Bank's website. Based on the market capitalization the researcher has selected five public sector commercial banks viz. State Bank of India (SBI), Bank of Baroda (BOB), Punjab National Bank (PNB), Canara Bank and Bank of India (BOI). The period of the present study is limited to last five financial years i.e. 2013-14 to 2017-18. For the purpose of comparison, five ratios i.e. (Gross NPAs to Gross Advances Ratio, Gross NPA to Total Assets Ratio, Net NPAs to Net Advances, Net NPAs to Total Assets and Gross NPAs Ratio to Net NPAs Ratio) have been selected, which represent the managerial efficiency of bank in management of Gross and net non performing assets.

For the purpose of analyzing data using statistical tools hypothesis have been made as "There is no significant difference between the managerial efficiency of selected banks (using five different ratios as mentioned above) in management of gross and net NPA's during the period of study". The collected data is analysed with the help of Ratio Analysis and ANOVA (at 5% level of significance). ANOVA test is used to analyse significant difference between the ratios of selected public sector banks. The average value of the ratios may seem close or distant however to check the reliability of this observation ANOVA is being used. The results of ANOVA would provide whether there exists a significant difference between the banks performance or the difference between the averages is merely by chance. The results of ANOVA using MS-Excel are summarized in tabular form. The performance of selected banks on the basis of calculated ratio would be similar if the value of F calculated abbreviated as (F) is less than F critical abbreviated as (F crit) and vice versa (Kothari 2004).

### Results and Discussion

Gross NPA Ratio is the ratio of gross NPA to total advances (loans) of the bank. This ratio indicates the financial stability and sustainability of the banks. If this ratio is higher, it implies that the financial stability and sustainability of the bank is weak and vice versa. In other words the lower the ratio the better it is. Banks with higher ratio should try to control this ratio (Natika 2016). The table below represents the ratio of gross NPAs to gross advance for selected PSBs for the past five years.

**Table -1.** Gross NPAs to Gross Advances Ratio (Figures in %)

Name of Bank / Years	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	Average	SD
State Bank of India (SBI)	10.91	6.90	6.50	4.25	4.95	6.70	2.59
Bank of Baroda (BOB)	12.26	10.46	9.99	3.72	2.94	7.87	4.24
Punjab National Bank (PNB)	18.38	12.53	12.90	6.55	5.25	11.12	5.32
Canara Bank	11.84	9.63	9.40	3.89	2.49	7.45	4.03
Bank of India (BOI)	16.58	13.22	13.07	5.39	3.15	10.28	5.72

Source: Authors' calculation from Annual Reports of selected public sector banks from 2013-14 to 2017-18

The average of Gross NPA to Gross Advances ratio for State Bank of India is lowest whereas it is highest for Punjab national Bank among the selected banks in the past five years. On the basis of lowest average ratio SBI ranks first among the selected banks while Punjab National bank ranks last. The high value of Standard deviation for Bank of India (5.72) & Punjab National Bank (5.32) implies inconsistent performance in maintaining gross NPA to Gross Advances ratio whereas lowest value of Standard deviation for State Bank of India (2.59) implies that the bank has maintained consistent gross NPA to Gross Advances ratio.

**Table-2.** Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) of Gross NPAs to Gross Advances

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	73.02304	4	18.25576	0.894789	0.485356	2.866081
Within Groups	408.04576	20	20.402288			
Total	481.0688	24				

The table above clearly indicates that the value of F calculated (F) is less than F critical (F crit) implying there is no significant difference between the selected banks with reference to average of Gross NPAs to Gross Advances Ratio contradicting the results as observed using simple average of ratios.

Gross NPA to Total Assets Ratio is the ratio of gross NPAs to total assets of the bank. This ratio also indicates the financial stability and sustainability of the banks. If this ratio is higher, it implies that the financial stability and sustainability of the bank is weak and vice versa. In other words the lower the ratio the better it is. Banks with higher ratio should try to control this ratio. The table below presents the Gross NPA to Total Assets Ratio for selected banks for the past five years.

**Table-3** Gross NPA to Total Assets Ratio (Figures in %)

Name of Bank / Years	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	Average	SD
State Bank of India (SBI)	6.47	4.15	4.16	2.77	3.44	4.20	1.39
Bank of Baroda (BOB)	7.84	6.15	6.04	2.27	1.80	4.82	2.65
Punjab National Bank (PNB)	11.31	7.69	8.36	4.26	3.43	7.01	3.21
Canara Bank	7.69	5.86	5.72	2.38	1.54	4.64	2.58
Bank of India (BOI)	10.22	8.31	8.18	3.59	2.07	6.47	3.47

Source: Authors' calculation from Annual Reports of selected public sector banks from 2013-14 to 2017-18

The average of gross NPA to total assets ratio for State Bank of India is lowest whereas it is highest for Punjab national Bank

among the selected banks in the past five years. On the basis of lowest average ratio SBI ranks first among the selected banks while Punjab National bank ranks last. The high value of Standard deviation for Bank of India (3.47) & Punjab National Bank (3.21) implies inconsistent performance in maintaining gross NPA to total assets ratio whereas lowest value of Standard deviation for State Bank of India (1.39) implies that the bank has maintained consistent gross NPA to total assets ratio.

**Table-4.** Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) of Gross NPAs to Total Assets

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	30.51752	4	7.62938	1.006280333	0.427592003	2.866081402
Within Groups	151.63528	20	7.581764			
Total	182.1528	24				

The table above clearly indicates that the value of F calculated (F) is less than F critical (F crit) implying there is no significant difference between the selected banks with reference to average of Gross NPAs to Total Assets contradicting the results as observed using simple average of ratios.

Net NPAs to Net Advances Ratio represents relationship between amounts of Net NPAs to Net Advances in percentage (%) terms. This ratio acts as indicator of the financial stability and sustainability of the banks. If this ratio is higher, it implies that the financial stability and sustainability of the bank is weak and vice versa. In other words the lower the ratio the better it is. Banks with higher ratio should try to control this ratio. The table below presents the net NPAs to net advance ratio for selected banks for the past five years.

**Table-5 .**Net NPAs to Net Advances Ratio (Figures in %)

Name of Bank / Years	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	Average	SD
State Bank of India (SBI)	5.73	3.71	3.81	2.12	2.57	3.59	1.40
Bank of Baroda (BOB)	5.49	4.72	5.06	1.89	1.52	3.74	1.88
Punjab National Bank (PNB)	11.24	7.81	8.61	4.06	2.85	6.91	3.43
Canara Bank	7.48	6.33	6.42	2.65	1.98	4.97	2.48
Bank of India (BOI)	8.26	6.90	7.79	3.36	2.00	5.66	2.81

Source: Authors' calculation from Annual Reports of selected public sector banks from 2013-14 to 2017-18

The average of Net NPA to Net advances ratio for State Bank of India is lowest (3.59) whereas it is highest for Punjab national Bank (6.91) among the selected banks in the past five years. On the basis of lowest average ratio SBI ranks first among the selected banks while Punjab National bank ranks last. The high value of Standard deviation for Punjab National Bank (3.43) implies inconsistent performance in maintaining Net NPA to Net advances ratio whereas lowest value of Standard deviation (1.40) for State Bank of India implies that the bank has maintained consistent Net NPA to Net advances ratio.

**Table-6.** Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) of Net NPAs to Net Advances

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	38.45294	4	9.613234	1.536771	0.22974	2.866081
Within Groups	125.1095	20	6.255474			
Total	163.5624	24				

The table above clearly indicates that the value of F calculated (F) is less than F critical (F crit) implying there is no significant difference between the selected banks with reference to average of Net NPAs to Net Advances contradicting the results as observed using simple average of ratios.

Net NPAs to Total Assets Ratio represents relationship between amounts of Net NPAs to Total assets in percentage. This ratio also is an indicator of the financial stability and sustainability of the banks. If this ratio is higher, it implies that the financial stability and sustainability of the bank is weak and vice versa. In other words the lower the ratio the better it is. Banks with higher ratio should try to control this ratio. The table below presents the net NPAs to total assets ratio for selected banks for the past five years.

**Table-7.** Net NPAs to Total Assets Ratio (Figures in %)

Name of Bank / Years	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	Average	SD
State Bank of India (SBI)	3.21	2.15	2.37	1.35	1.73	2.16	0.70
Bank of Baroda (BOB)	3.26	2.60	2.89	1.13	0.92	2.16	1.06
Punjab National Bank (PNB)	19.97	13.2	13.54	6.75	5.41	11.77	5.88
Canara Bank	4.63	3.71	3.77	1.59	1.21	2.98	1.50
Bank of India (BOI)	4.63	4.04	4.59	2.18	1.29	3.35	1.52

Source: Authors' calculation from Annual Reports of selected public sector banks from 2013-14 to 2017-18

The Average of Net NPA to Total Assets ratio for State Bank of India & Bank of Baroda is same (2.16), which is lowest among the selected banks whereas it is highest for Punjab national Bank (11.77) in the past five years. On the basis of lowest average

ratio SBI with BOB ranks first while Punjab National bank ranks last among the selected banks. The high value of Standard deviation for Punjab National Bank implies inconsistent performance in maintaining Net NPA to Total Assets ratio whereas lowest (0.70) value of Standard deviation for State bank of India implies that the bank has maintained consistent Net NPA to Total Assets ratio.

**Table-8.** Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) of Net NPAs to Total Assets

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	337.439	4	84.35976	10.36364	0.000103	2.866081
Within Groups	162.7994	20	8.13997			
Total	500.2384	24				

The table above clearly indicates that the value of F calculated (F) is more than F critical (F crit) implying there is a significant difference between the selected banks with reference to average of Net NPAs to Total Assets supporting the results as observed using simple average of ratios. Gross NPA to Net NPA Ratio represents the relationship between amounts of Gross NPAs to Net NPAs in percentage (%) terms. This ratio also is an indicator of the financial stability and sustainability of the banks. If this ratio is high, it implies that the financial stability and sustainability of the bank is strong and vice versa. In other words the higher the ratio the better it is. The table below presents the ratio of gross NPAs to Net NPAs for selected banks for the past five years.

**Table-9.** Gross NPA to Net NPA Ratio (Figures in %)

Name of Bank / Years	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	Average	SD
State Bank of India (SBI)	1.90	1.86	1.71	2.00	1.93	1.88	0.108
Bank of Baroda (BOB)	2.23	2.22	1.97	1.97	1.93	2.06	0.148
Punjab National Bank (PNB)	1.64	1.60	1.50	1.61	1.84	1.64	0.125
Canara Bank	1.58	1.52	1.46	1.47	1.26	1.46	0.120
Bank of India (BOI)	2.82	2.01	1.92	1.68	1.60	2.01	0.485

Source: Authors' calculation from Annual Reports of selected public sector banks from 2013-14 to 2017-18

The average of Gross NPA to Net NPA ratio for Bank of Baroda is highest whereas it is lowest for Canara Bank among the selected banks in the past five years. On the basis of highest average of ratio, Bank of Baroda ranks first among the selected banks while Canara bank ranks last. The high value of Standard deviation for Bank of India implies inconsistent performance in maintaining Gross NPA to Net NPA ratio whereas lowest value of Standard deviation for State Bank of India (0.108) implies that the bank has maintained consistent Gross NPA to Net NPA ratio.

**Table-10.** Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) of Gross NPAs to Net NPAs

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	1.306584	4	0.326646	5.465049	0.003857	2.866081
Within Groups	1.1954	20	0.05977			
Total	2.501984	24				

The table above clearly indicates that the value of F calculated (F) is greater than F critical (F crit) implying there is a significant difference between the selected banks with reference to average of Gross NPAs to Net NPAs supporting the results as observed using simple average of ratios.

## Conclusion

The table below summarizes the findings of the study-

Ratio	Fcal	Ftab	Result	Findings
Gross NPAs to Gross Advances Ratio	0.894789	2.866081	Fcal<Ftab	<b>Ho: Accepted</b> There is no significant difference in Gross NPAs to Gross Advances Ratio among the selected public sector banks for study.
Gross NPAs to Total Assets Ratio	1.0062803	2.8660814	Fcal<Ftab	<b>Ho: Accepted</b> There is no significant difference in Gross NPAs to Total Assets Ratio among the selected public sector banks for study.
Net NPAs to Net Advances Ratio	1.536771	2.866081	Fcal<Ftab	<b>Ho: Accepted</b> There is no significant difference in Net NPAs to Net Advances Ratio among the selected public sector banks for study.
Net NPAs to Total Assets Ratio	10.36364	2.866081	Fcal>Ftab	<b>Ho: Rejected</b> There is a significant difference in Net NPAs to Total Assets Ratio among the selected public sector banks for study.
Gross NPAs to Net NPAs Ratio	5.465049	2.866081	Fcal>Ftab	<b>Ho: Rejected</b> There is a significant difference in Gross NPAs to Net NPAs Ratio among the selected public sector banks for study.

The table above concludes that there is no significant difference in financial stability and sustainability of the selected banks in terms of the Gross NPAs to Gross Advances Ratio, Gross NPAs to Total Assets Ratio and Net NPAs to Net Advances Ratio however there is a significant difference in financial stability and sustainability of the selected public sector banks in terms of the Net NPAs to Total Assets Ratio and Gross NPAs to Net NPAs Ratio. The performance of State Bank of India in maintaining gross NPA to Gross Advances ratio, gross NPA to Total assets ratio, Net NPA to Net advances ratio and net NPA's to total assets ratio is better than other public sector banks. Out of the five public sector banks the State bank of India has fared well on most of the dimensions.

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