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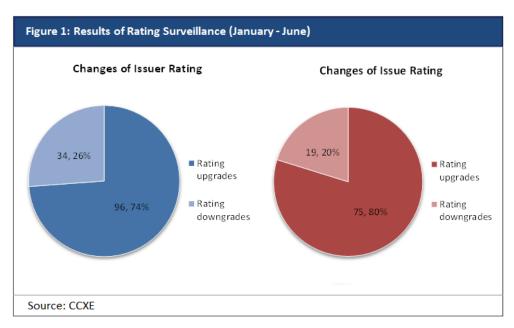
August 2014

Credit Risk in China's Bond Market

Summary

- Rating migration was dominated by rating upgrades, while for some corporate bonds rating downgrades were observed in two consecutive years;
- Credit spread of AA- rating widened, leading to polarization of spreads;
- The number of newly issued credit bonds decreased, and issuance rates also fell but with limited downside;
- Trading volume of enterprise bond remained large, and downward shifting of yield curve slowed;
- With improved macro statistics, money market performed stable in midyear.

1. Rating Migration

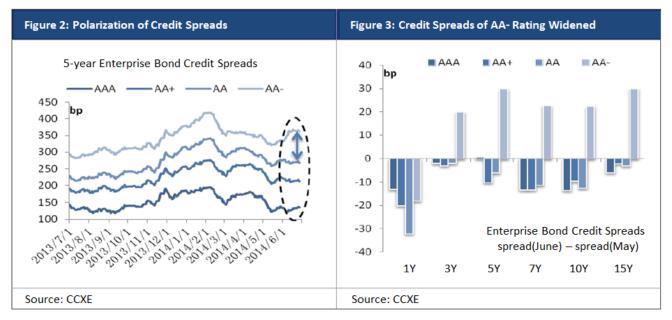


As on July 2, most results of rating surveillance on corporate bonds have been released. Although the proportion of upgrades out of total rating changes achieved 80%, the downgrade percentage exceeded previous years. Some corporate bonds with downgraded rating last year suffered further deterioration in ratings this year.

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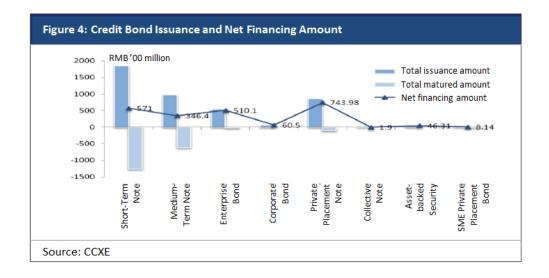


2. Credit Spreads



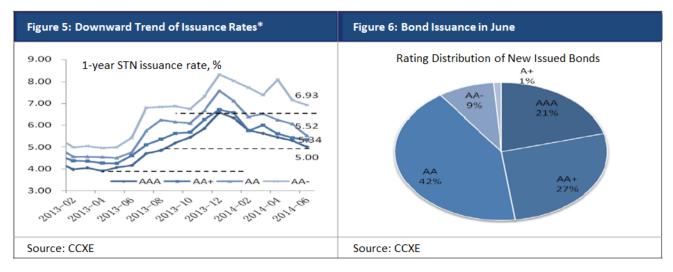
From the credit spread trends of different ratings, it was observed that the credit spreads of AA+ and AA remained stable, with a small slide at the beginning of June. At the same time, the credit spread of AAA and AA- moved in the opposite direction, demonstrating a mild increase for 5-year AAA and a sharp climb for AA- of all tenors. Hence, the credit spreads among different ratings varied, with widening spread between mid and low ratings and narrowing spread between mid and high ratings.

3. Bond Issuance



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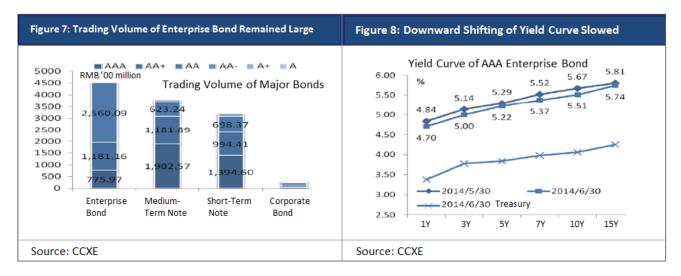




^{*} Issuance rate is the average rate of bonds issued in the month.

After a massive issuance for three months, credit bond issuance calmed in June, especially for bonds with medium to long tenors. The proportion of AA bond issuance rebounded, and the number of AA+ bond also increased. Cost of financing fell back to the levels of November 2013, but the downside is limited.

4. Market Trading

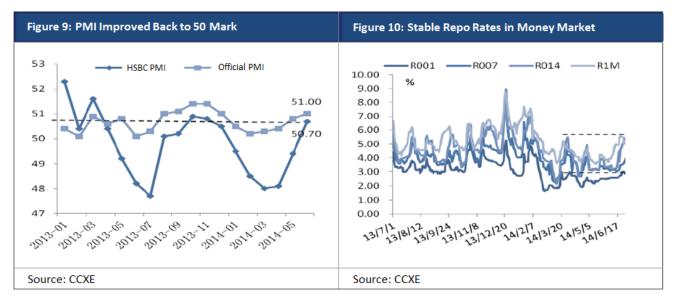


The total trading volume of enterprise bond was above RMB450 billion in June. The trading volume of medium-term note declined by RMB200 billion to RMB320 billion, while that of short-term note fluctuated slightly. Enterprise bond yield curve continued to shift downwards, but with a slowing pace. The changes of 5-year and 15-year rates were within 10 bps, while the changes of other tenors ranged from 14 to 16 bps. Meanwhile, treasury yield curve also went down except for 1-year and 15-year rates.

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5. Macro Economy



In June, HSBC PMI and the official PMI were 50.7 and 51.0 respectively, topping the 50 mark and reaching their peaks in 2014. Fluctuations in money market kept steady, and no significant increase in repo rates was observed. The improvement reflected mini-stimulus since the second quarter, and further economic recovery is expected.

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Appendix

Table 1: Credit Spread at Bond Issue (June)											
Bond	Rating	AAA				AA+		AA-			
	Tenor	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	
Enterprise Bond	5-year	_	_	_	248	248	248	_	_	_	
	7-year	252	252	252	296	240	454	334	252	464	
Medium-Term Note	3-year	114	111	117	202	144	261	270	224	386	
	5-year	182	131	245	250	165	316	295	219	366	
Short-Term Note	1-year	167	135	201	200	164	311	219	173	355	
Source: CCXE											

Table 2: Monthly Movements of Credit Spreads													
Bond	Rating	AAA			AA+			AA			AA-		
	Tenor	Cur	Last	Chg									
Enterprise Bond	1-year	135	148	-13	181	201	-20	201	233	-32	269	287	-18
	3-year	126	128	-2	193	196	-3	234	236	-2	313	293	20
	5-year	136	135	1	212	222	-10	268	274	-6	363	333	30
	7-year	138	151	-13	225	238	-13	285	296	-11	380	357	23
	10-year	146	160	-14	239	249	-10	297	310	-13	404	382	22
	15-year	150	156	-6	244	246	-2	302	305	-3	408	378	30
Short-/ Medium- Term Note	1-year	137	148	-11	168	185	-17	193	223	-30	304	333	-29
	3-year	128	131	-3	179	179	0	226	226	0	356	352	4
	5-year	143	143	0	197	206	-9	261	267	-6	406	405	1
Source: CCXE	•												

This report is written based on the information from the Chinese report "图说债市信用风险" of China Chengxin International.

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