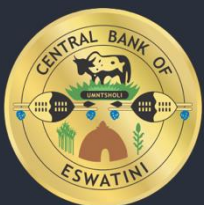


Monthly Statistical Release

MAR / APR 2022



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CENTRAL BANK
OF ESWATINI
Umntsholi Wemaswati

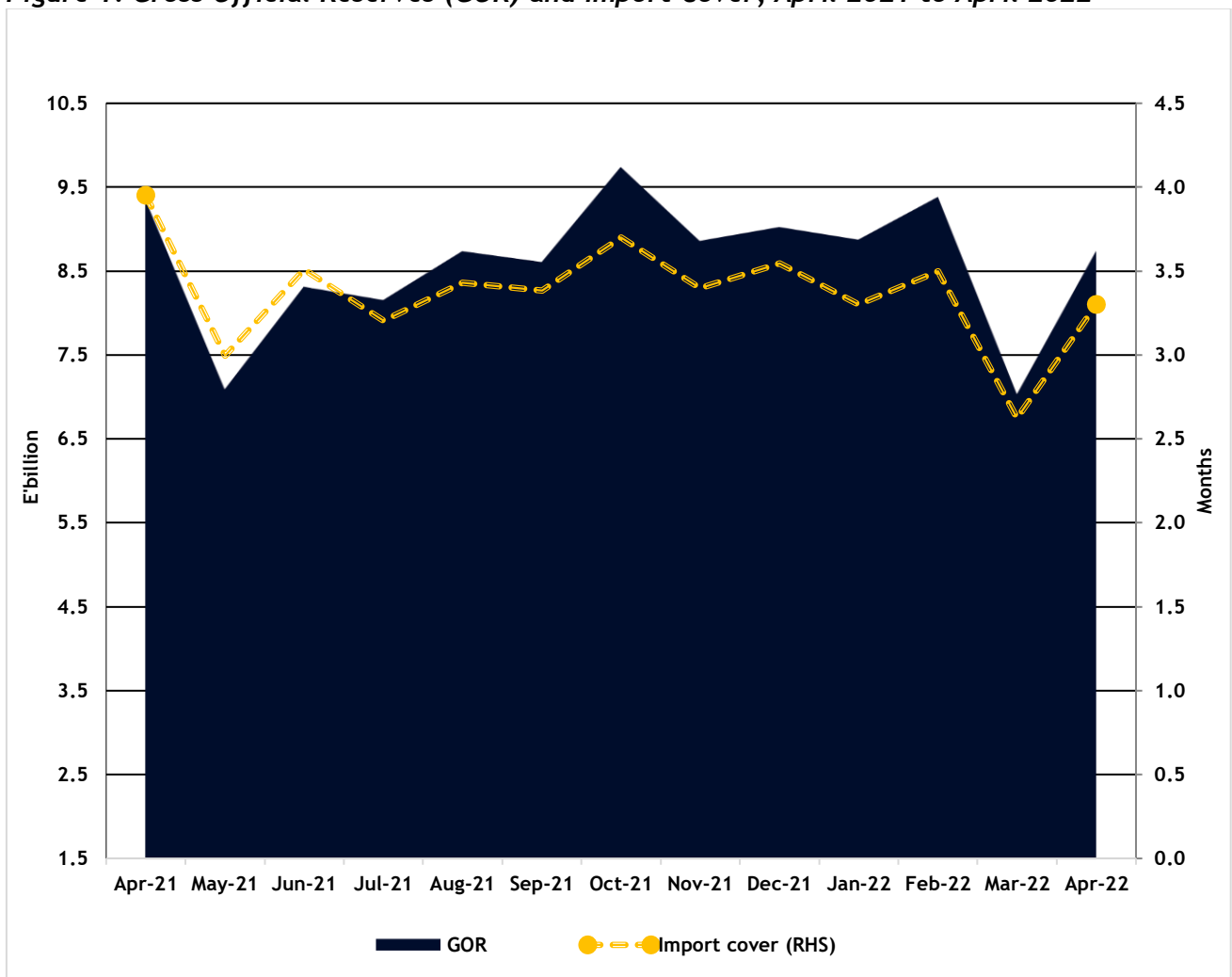


HIGHLIGHTS ON MAJOR MONETARY AGGREGATES	MONTHLY % CHANGE	ANNUAL % CHANGE
Gross official reserves grew by 24.4 per cent month-on-month and fell by 6.6 per cent year-on-year to reach E8.7 billion at the end of April 2022.	24.4 ▲	6.6 ▼
Credit extended to the private sector amounted to E15.8 billion at the end of March 2022, decreasing slightly by 0.03 per cent month-on-month and increasing by 3.3 per cent year-on-year.	0.03 ▼	3.3 ▲
Broad money supply (M2) stood at E19.3 billion at the end of March 2022, down by 7.0 per cent month-on-month and 8.6 per cent year-on-year.	7.0 ▼	8.6 ▼
Domestic liquid assets contracted by 14.0 per cent from February 2022 and 16.8 per cent year-on-year to reach E7.3 billion at the end March 2022.	14.0 ▼	16.8 ▼
	PER CENT	
Discount rate: the discount rate was at 4.0 per cent in April 2022.	4.00	
Prime lending rate: the prime lending rate stood at 7.50 per cent in April 2022.	7.50	
<p><i>The content of this publication is intended for general information sharing purposes only and is not intended to serve as financial or other advice. While every precaution is taken to ensure the accuracy of this information, the Central Bank of Eswatini shall not be liable to any person for inaccurate information or opinions contained in this publication. For more information on this publication, contact the Research Department at Tel (+268) 2408-2243.</i></p>		

Gross official reserves amounted to E8.7 billion at the end of April 2022, reflecting growth of 24.4 per cent month-on-month and a decline of 6.6 per cent year-on-year. The notable month-on-month increase in the reserves was mainly attributed to the quarterly inflow of Southern African Customs Union (SACU) revenues received at the beginning of April 2022. As a result, the reserves were above the international recommended benchmark of 3.0 months and sufficient to cover 3.3 months of imports at the end of April 2022.

Valued in special drawing rights (SDR), the reserves amounted to SDR410.4 million at the end of April 2022, higher by 18.1 per cent during the review month and 8.7 per cent year-on-year.

Figure 1: Gross Official Reserves (GOR) and Import Cover; April 2021 to April 2022



Source: Central Bank of Eswatini

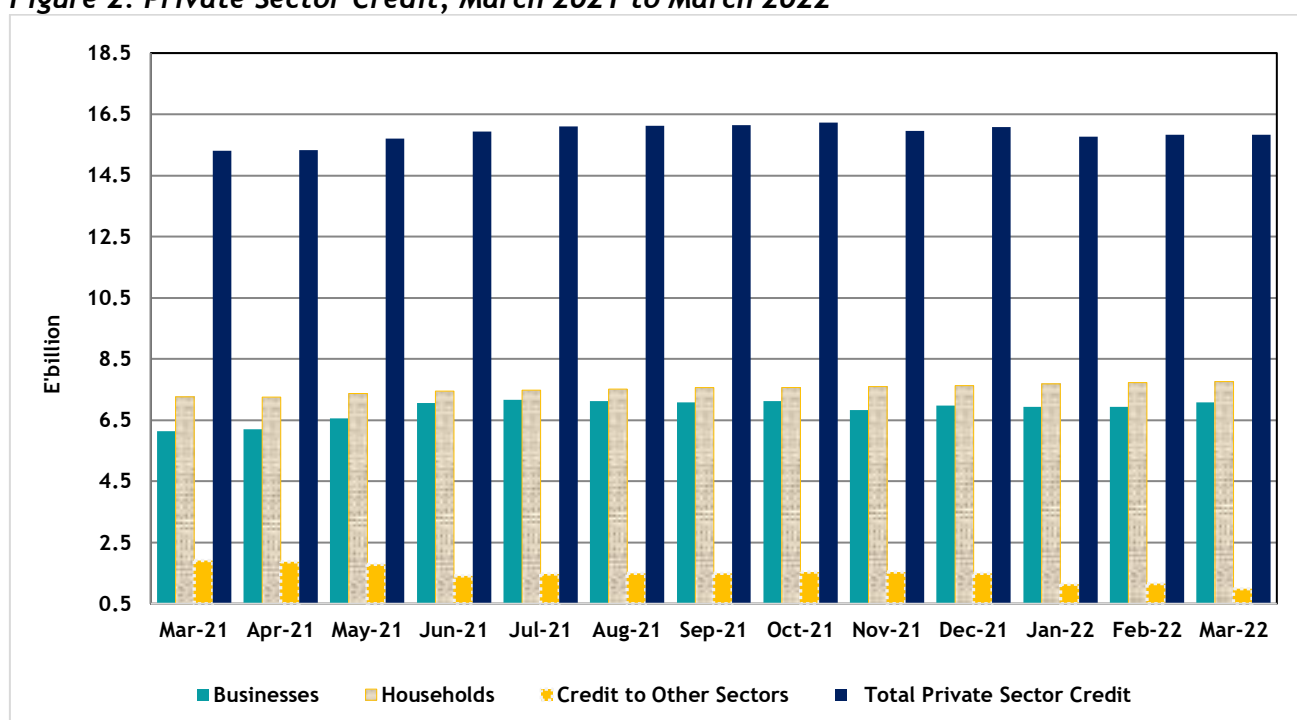
* Please note that gross official reserve figures may change after the Central Bank of Eswatini closes month-end accounts.

Credit extended to the private sector stood at E15.8 billion at the end of March 2022, representing a month-on-month decline of 0.03 per cent and an increase of 3.3 per cent year-on-year. The month-on-month decrease in private sector credit was driven by credit to other sectors of the domestic economy, while credit to businesses and households & non-profit institutions serving households (NPISH) increased.

Credit to other sectors fell by 14.2 per cent from the previous month and 48.1 per cent year-on-year to settle at E1.0 billion at the end of March 2022. The contraction was registered in credit to public nonfinancial corporations which, receded by 47.4 per cent month-on-month. Credit to other financial corporations and local government, on the contrary, reflected a month-on-month improvement of 10.5 per cent and 0.3 per cent, respectively.

Credit extended to businesses amounted to E7.1 billion at the end of March 2022, increasing by 1.8 per cent relative to February 2022 and 15.2 per cent over the year. The expansion in credit to businesses was recorded in the following subsectors; mining & quarrying (26.7 per cent), real estate (23.9 per cent), manufacturing (16.9 per cent), transport and communications (1.7 per cent), construction (1.4 per cent) and community social & personal services (0.4 per cent). However, a decline was observed in the following subsectors; distribution & tourism (13.9 per cent) as well as agriculture & forestry (-0.6 per cent).

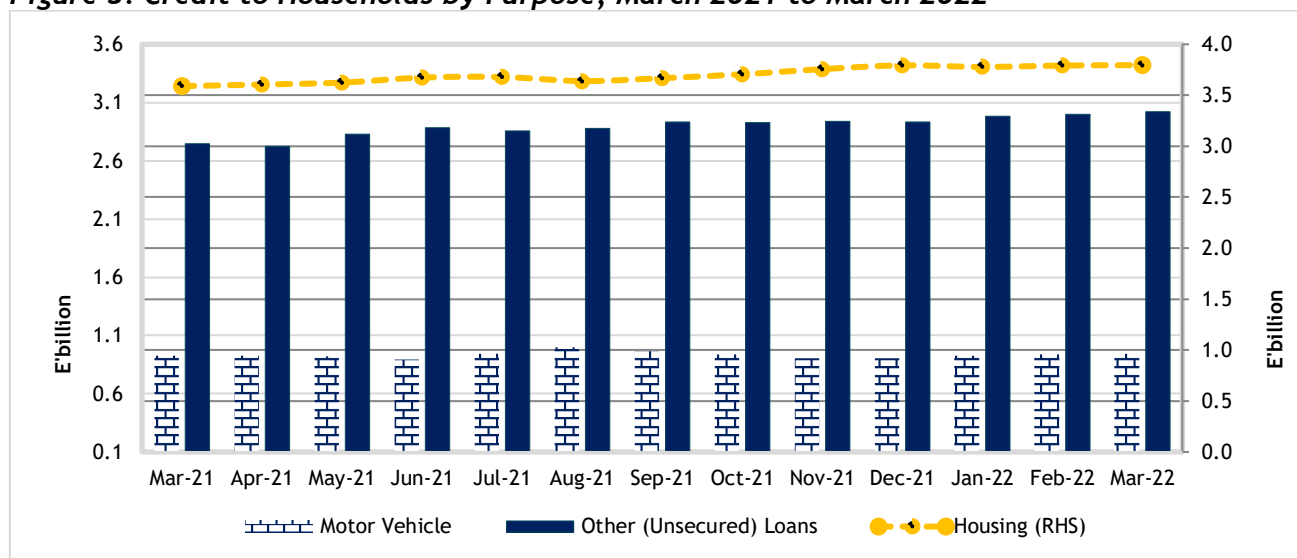
Figure 2: Private Sector Credit; March 2021 to March 2022



Source: Central Bank of Eswatini & Other Depository Corporations

Credit extended to households & NPISH rose to E7.8 billion at the end of March 2022, higher than the E7.7 billion recorded in February 2022. At this level, credit to households rose by 0.4 per cent month-on-month and 6.9 per cent year-on-year, registered in all components. Notably, motor vehicle loans, other personal (unsecured) loans and housing loans, reflected a month-on-month growth of 0.8 per cent, 0.7 per cent and 0.1 per cent, respectively.

Figure 3: Credit to Households by Purpose; March 2021 to March 2022



Source: Central Bank of Eswatini & Other Depository Corporations

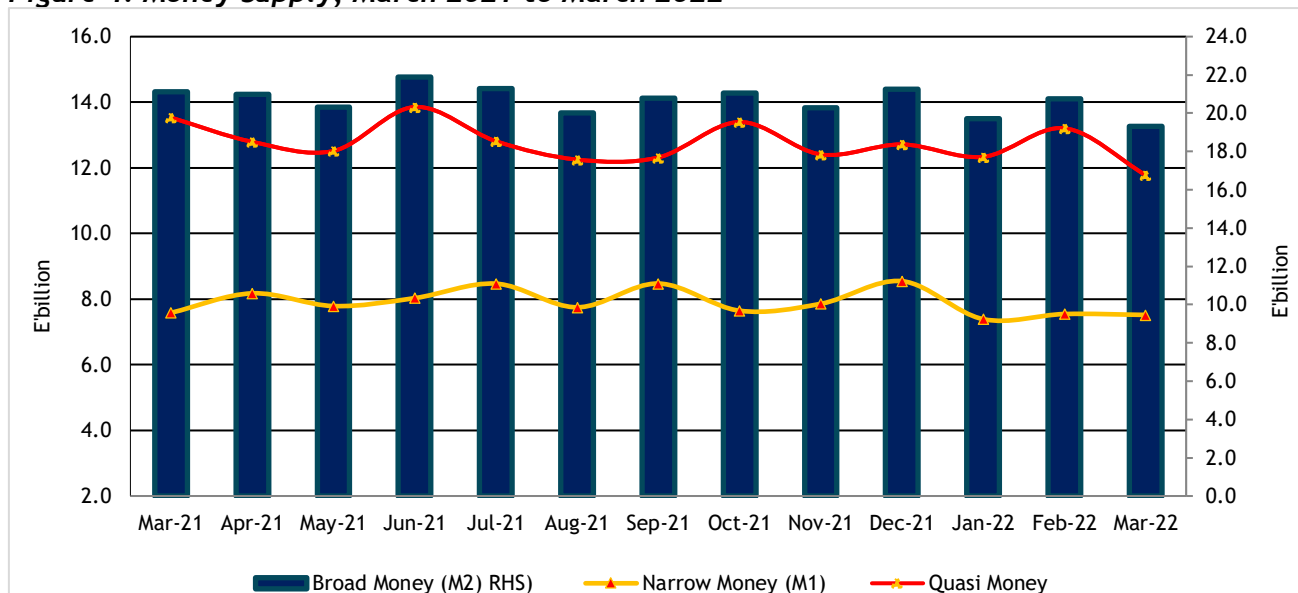
Net claims on government with the banking sector reached E3.0 billion at the end of March 2022 from E2.5 billion registered in February 2022. Accounting for the increase was an advance from the Central Bank during the month under review. As a result, claims on government rose by 4.6 per cent month-on-month to reach E7.8 billion at the end of March 2022. Government deposits on the other hand, contracted by 3.2 per cent from February 2022 to settle at E4.8 billion at the end of March 2022.

Broad money supply (M2) closed the review month at E19.3 billion, reflecting a decline of 7.0 per cent relative to the previous month and 8.6 per cent over the year. The contraction was recorded on both components of M2, quasi money supply and narrow money supply (M1).

Quasi money supply receded by 10.8 per cent month-on-month and 12.9 per cent year-on-year to reach E11.8 billion at the end of March 2022. The contraction was on account of time deposits, which decelerated by 12.7 per cent to settle at E9.9 billion at the end of March 2022. Savings deposits on the other hand, increased by 0.5 per cent to E1.9 billion at the end of March 2022.

M1 reached E7.5 billion at the end of March 2022, down by 0.4 per cent from the previous month and 0.9 per cent year-on-year, driven by Emalangi outside depository corporations. Consequently, Emalangi outside depository corporations fell by 4.2 per cent to settle at E757.9 million at the end of March 2022. Transferable (demand) deposits, however, grew by 0.1 per cent to E6.8 billion at the end of March 2022.

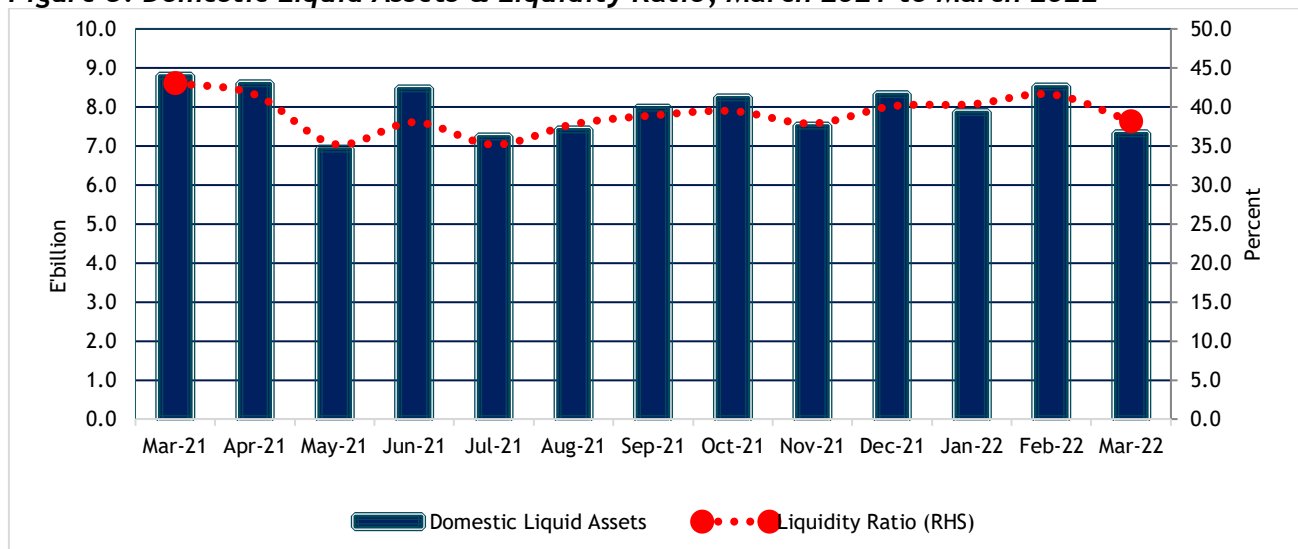
Figure 4: Money Supply; March 2021 to March 2022



Source: Central Bank of Eswatini & Other Depository Corporations

Banks' liquid assets declined by 14.0 per cent from February 2022 and 16.8 per cent year-on-year to reach E7.3 billion at the end of March 2022. The reduction was mainly attributed to a fall in the banks' balances held with the Central Bank during the month under review. Consequently, the banks' liquidity ratio decreased from 41.6 per cent in February 2022 to 38.2 per cent at the end of March 2022.

Figure 5: Domestic Liquid Assets & Liquidity Ratio; March 2021 to March 2022



Source: Central Bank of Eswatini & Other Depository Corporations

RELEASE OF MONEY AND BANKING STATISTICS

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>Mar-22</i> <i>Amount</i> <i>(E'000)</i>	<i>Feb-22</i> <i>Amount</i> <i>(E'000)</i>	<i>Mar-21</i> <i>Amount</i> <i>(E'000)</i>
CENTRAL BANK OF ESWATINI			
<i>Claims on Non-residents</i>	8,475,407	10,896,226	10,703,338
<i>Claims on Domestic Economy</i>	3,092,767	2,699,362	2,900,564
Government	3,059,180	2,665,599	2,866,987
Other Depository Corporations	2,082	2,082	2,512
Other Resident Sectors	31,505	31,681	31,065
<i>Other Assets</i>	543,730	170,088	654,762
<i>Total Assets/Liabilities</i>	12,111,905 *	13,765,676	14,258,664
OTHER DEPOSITORY CORPORATIONS			
<i>Cash and Deposits with CBE</i>	3,045,209	4,110,445	4,460,321
<i>Net Balances with Banks Outside Eswatini</i>	1,854,560	2,076,835	1,893,947
<i>Loans and advances</i>	15,232,089	15,296,669	14,091,026
Government Securities			
Treasury Bills	2,351,557	2,437,537	2,594,828
Government Bonds	2,309,991	2,279,863	2,090,992
<i>Other</i>	-	-	-
<i>Total Deposits</i>	20,935,149 *	22,383,394	22,693,410 *
Transferable/Demand	7,188,791	7,327,122	7,218,241
Savings	2,018,196	2,008,181	1,990,388
Time	11,728,163	13,048,091	13,484,780
<i>Capital and Reserves</i>	4,757,358	4,726,354	4,346,396
<i>Total Assets/Liabilities</i>	28,106,883	29,429,589	29,170,257
<i>Total Liquid Assets (Banks only)</i>	7,327,809	8,517,570	8,804,549
<i>Required Liquidity (Banks only)</i>	3,794,900	4,051,694	4,051,905
<i>Surplus/ Deficiency (-) (Banks only)</i>	3,532,910 *	4,465,877 *	4,752,643 *
RATIOS (%)			
<i>Actual Liquidity to Domestic Liabilities (Banks Only)</i>	38.2	41.6	43.1
<i>Loans and Advances to Deposits</i>	72.8	68.3	62.1

DEPOSITORY CORPORATIONS SURVEY		Mar-22	Feb-22	Mar-21	
Net Foreign Assets (E)		7,259,118	9,630,113	10,514,359	
Net Official Assets		4,813,905	7,107,264	7,874,925	
Foreign Assets - Central Bank of Eswatini		8,501,650	10,922,469	10,729,581	
Foreign Liabilities - Central Bank of Eswatini		3,687,745	3,815,205	2,854,656	
Net Other Depository Corporations Foreign holdings (ODC)		2,445,213 *	2,522,849	2,639,435 *	
Foreign Assets - ODC		2,847,112	3,003,743	3,035,561	
Foreign Liabilities - ODC		401,898	480,894	396,127	
Net Foreign Assets (SDR)		359,327	454,542	502,586	
Net Domestic Claims		18,796,288	18,305,971	16,418,883	
Net Claims on Government		2,968,061 *	2,472,868	1,102,057	
Claims on Central Government		7,767,762	7,428,805	7,664,922	
Government Deposits		4,799,702	4,955,937	6,562,865	
Claims on other sectors		15,828,227 *	15,833,103	15,316,826	
Other nonfinancial corporations (Industry)		7,072,120	6,945,083	6,138,162	
Other resident sectors (Households & NPISH)		7,761,101	7,728,338	7,262,672	
Other sectors		995,007	1,159,682	1,915,992	
Broad Money Supply (M2)		19,301,739	20,753,956	21,116,953	
Narrow Money Supply (M1)		7,519,352	7,546,302 *	7,583,819	
Currency outside depository corporations (E)		757,919	791,066	849,223	
Transferable (demand) deposits		6,761,433	6,755,235	6,734,596	
Quasi Money		11,782,387 *	13,207,654	13,533,134	
Savings Deposits		1,921,845	1,912,585	1,930,714	
Time Deposits		9,860,541	11,295,069	11,602,420	
Shares and Other Equity		7,320,297	7,731,916	6,249,912	
Central Bank Of Eswatini		1,851,860	2,313,342	1,236,998	
Other Depository Corporations		5,468,437	5,418,574	5,012,914	
Other Items (net)		-566,630	-549,788	-433,622	
GROSS OFFICIAL RESERVES		Apr-22	Mar-22	Feb-22	Mar-21
		Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
		(E'000)	(E'000)	(E'000)	(E'000)
Total Official (Gross) - Emalangeni E		8,732,278	7,022,111	9,372,112	9,198,355
Special Drawing Rights (SDR)		410,417	347,595	442,365	439,681
Central Bank		8,732,278	7,022,111	9,372,112	9,198,355
Government		26,243	26,243	26,243	26,243
Import Cover (reserves to months of estimated imports)		3.3	2.6	3.6	4.0
Net Bank Holdings		2,445,213	2,522,849	2,639,435	3,128,245

NOTES:

1.Data supplied in this Monthly Release represent an abstract of those provided regularly in the Central Bank's Quarterly Review.

2.This Release is issued every month.

3.All figures shown are subject to revision.

4.For definitions of concepts used reference should be made to the relevant notes in the Central Bank's Quarterly Review.

5.Import cover figures are subject to revision as import figures used have a 3 month lag.

6.* Owing to the rounding of figures , the sum of separate items will sometimes differ in the final digit from the total shown.