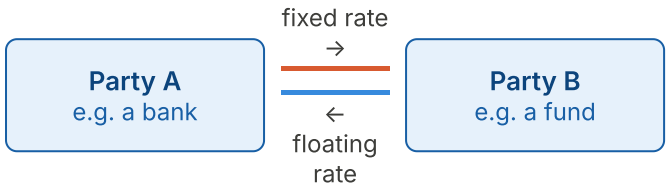
Australian interest rate derivatives

Layer 1 of the pyramid in detail: how an interest rate swap works, how large the Australian market is, and where the data stops. AUD unless marked US$.

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How an interest rate swap works



Both sides calculate interest on an agreed notional amount. The notional is never exchanged; only the difference between the fixed and floating payments changes hands.

Floating legs reference BBSW or the RBA cash rate (overnight index swaps, OIS). Banks use swaps to hedge fixed-rate loans against floating-rate deposits; companies fix loan costs; super funds and insurers match long-dated liabilities.

When rates move, the losing side pays cash margin to the clearing house daily.

How large: every published figure found

Measure	Value	Date	Source
All OTC derivatives, notional	**$42.3T**	Jun 2017	DDRS trade repository
of which interest rate derivatives	**$34.7T (82%)**	Jun 2017	DDRS trade repository
Interest rate derivatives, notional	**~$36T**	2018	RBA Bulletin, Jun 2018
their gross market value	**~$470bn**	2018	RBA Bulletin, Jun 2018
Derivatives referencing BBSW	**$17T**	2018	ASIC / RBA
AUD swaps cleared at LCH SwapClear	**$4T**	Jun 2014	RBA LCH assessment (latest A$ total found)
Open notional cleared at ASX	**$5,231.5bn**	Sep 2026	ASX monthly report; counted both sides
Global interest rate derivatives	**US$669.5T**	Dec 2025	BIS via ISDA

Latest Australian data: shares and growth, no dollar total (end-June 2025 unless marked)

+35%
Australian OTC notional, Jun 2022 to Jun 2025

66%
of interest rate derivatives are in AUD

88%
centrally cleared (global ~77%)

1.3%
gross market value per $ of notional (global 2.3%)

US$252bn
turned over per day, Apr 2025 (+123% vs 2022)

~50%
of swap turnover is OIS (cash-rate bets)

Data gap: the RBA's Feb 2026 Bulletin reports growth rates and shares from the BIS end-June 2025 survey, not a dollar total. The ASIC trade repository (DTCC DDRS) publishes aggregate reports, but no total after 2018 was found in public summaries. LCH clears ~90% of cleared AUD swaps (RBA, 2025) and does not publish an AUD total found here.

Sources: RBA Bulletin Feb 2026 (Findlay & McCarthy) · RBA 2025 BIS Triennial Survey results · RBA Bulletins Jun and Sep 2018 · RBA LCH SwapClear assessments 2014–2025 · ASX Group monthly report Sep 2026 · ISDA H2 2025 · MacroBusiness 2018 (DDRS).

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