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A Study on Fundamental Analysis on Selected Companies in Banking Industry

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Abstract

This study conducts a fundamental analysis of selected companies in the banking industry to evaluate their financial health, performance, and investment potential. By examining key financial metrics such as profitability ratios, liquidity ratios, leverage ratios, and asset quality indicators, the research aims to assess the stability and growth prospects of these banks. The analysis also considers macroeconomic factors, regulatory impacts, and industry trends influencing the banking sector. Using a combination of quantitative and qualitative approaches, the study provides insights into the intrinsic value of the selected banks, helping investors make informed decisions. The findings highlight the strengths and weaknesses of each institution, offering recommendations for potential investors and policymakers.

Key words: Fundamental analysis, profitability ratio, liquidity ratio.

1. INTRODUCTION

The banking industry is a cornerstone of economic growth and stability in any nation. It serves as a crucial intermediary between depositors and borrowers, facilitates payment systems, provides credit and liquidity to businesses and individuals, and supports the broader financial ecosystem. Given the central role of banks in economic activity, investors, analysts, and stakeholders closely monitor their performance to make informed decisions. This study conducts a fundamental analysis of selected banking companies to assess their financial health, profitability, risk management, and growth potential.

Fundamental Analysis in Banking

For banks, specific metrics such as the Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR), Non-Performing Asset (NPA) ratio, Net Interest Margin (NIM), and Return on Assets (ROA) are critical indicators of stability and profitability. These metrics reflect a bank's ability to manage risk, generate revenue from lending, and utilize assets effectively.

Beyond financial ratios, qualitative factors such as management effectiveness, regulatory compliance, technological adoption, and competitive positioning also play a significant role. Banks operate in a highly regulated environment where policy changes—such as shifts in interest rates, capital requirements, and lending norms—directly impact operations.



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Challenges and Opportunities in Modern Banking

The banking sector today faces dynamic challenges and opportunities driven by global economic trends, digital transformation, and evolving customer expectations. The rise of digital banking, fintech integration, and heightened demand for seamless financial services compel banks to innovate continuously. Fundamental analysis helps assess how well banks adapt to these changes, ensuring long-term competitiveness.

Selection of Banking Companies for Analysis

This study examines a diverse group of banks, including large-cap institutions with global operations and mid-sized banks specializing in regional or niche markets. Selection criteria include market capitalization, financial performance, and economic relevance. Key financial ratios such as Price-to-Earnings (P/E), Book Value, Dividend Yield, and Earnings Per Share (EPS) are analysed to determine valuation and shareholder returns. Additionally, macroeconomic factors like interest rate trends, inflation, GDP growth, and regulatory policies are considered due to their influence on banking performance.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

- **1.Phan and Chang** In order to anticipate stock movements based on fundamental analysis, this research examines the use of machine learning models, namely Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM), one-dimensional Convolutional Neural Networks (1D CNN), and Logistic Regression (LR).
- **2.Iyer and Rao** This research evaluates how behavioural finance components may be included into fundamental analysis and proposes models that account for investor psychology.
- **3.** Lopez & Garcia chapter This study assesses financial measures' predictive power in fundamental analysis by finding significant variables that impact stock performance.
- **4. Kim and Lee from INDIAINFOLINE23** Using sustainability criteria may enhance investment decisions, according to this study, which looks at how ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) concerns impact fundamental analysis.
- **5. Sharma and Kapoor** This research evaluates how well absolute and relative valuation strategies perform in fundamental analysis.
- **6. Patel and Desai** (INDIAINFOLINE24) The use of fundamental analysis in the Indian Stock market is investigated in this research, which also confirms that it may be used to find Inexpensive companies.
- **7.The Almeida & Torres** of INDIAINFOLINE24 The use of fundamental research to evaluate the sustainability of dividend payments across Several Brazilian stock market sectors is examined in this study.
- **8.IndiaInfoline22 (Patel & Johnson)** This study investigates how sentiment analysis and fundamental analysis might be used to Improve stock valuation accuracy.
- **9.Chen and associates** (INDIAINFOLINEINDIAINFOLINE) This research examines the link between macroeconomic indicators and fundamental analysis measures to show The importance of economic context in valuation.



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10.Huang, Ho, and Capretz (INDIAINFOLINE22) The use of machine learning for Fundamental analysis-based stock Prediction is examined in this research.

- 11. Ma and colleagues (INDIAINFOLINE22) This article's goal is to examine how well Basic analysis predicts outcomes in China, particularly during an economic transition.
- **12. Sen, Dutta, and Mehtab** (INDIAINFOLINEINDIAINFOLINE) In order to anticipate Stock prices, this paper suggests a hybrid modelling strategy that builds several models Based on deep learning and machine learning.
- **13.Wafi, Mabrouk, and Ismail** (INDIAINFOLINE15) Finding out whether analytical Approach—technical or fundamental—has more credibility in predicting share prices on The Egyptian Stock Exchange (EGX) is the goal of this empirical research.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research methodology employed in this study is structured to systematically assess the financial stability and investment viability of selected banking institutions using fundamental analysis. The approach integrates both quantitative and qualitative techniques to collect, examine, and interpret financial data.

4. DATA COLLECTION

Secondary Data

Secondary data is sourced from:

- Annual reports of selected banks
- Financial databases such as Bloomberg, Moneycontrol, and NSE/BSE portals.

5. NEED OF THE STUDY

The study on the fundamental analysis of selected banking companies at IIFL is essential to assess their financial stability and operational performance. By examining intrinsic value and potential risks, it enables investors and stakeholders to make well-informed decisions. Given the evolving economic landscape and regulatory shifts, evaluating banking fundamentals is critical for recognizing growth prospects and challenges. Additionally, the study assists IIFL in refining investment strategies based on market trends. Ultimately, it enhances portfolio management and risk mitigation within the banking sector.

6. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

- Evaluating financial performance, asset quality, and profitability ratios to determine market positioning.
- Analysing both quantitative and qualitative factors affecting bank valuation and investment choices.

7. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1.To examine the financial performance of selected banking companies using key financial ratios and statements.
- 2.To evaluate asset quality and risk management strategies adopted by the chosen banks.



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• 3.To analyse the effects of regulatory policies and economic variables on banking sector profitability.

8. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

- 1.The research only looks at a small number of banking businesses, which could not accurately reflect the dynamics and performance of the whole banking industry.
- 2.The research mainly on secondary data sources, such as financial databases and yearly reports, which can include skewed or out-of-date information.
- 3.The analysis's applicability might be impacted by abrupt changes in interest rates, market circumstances, or governmental regulations.

9. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Comparative Analysis of Selected Banking Companies

Table 4.1 – Income Analysis (in ₹ Crores)

S.No.	Company	Mar '24	Mar '23	Mar '22	Mar '21	Mar '20
	Name					
1	SBI Bank	61,267.27	54,606.02	48,422.30	41,045.41	32,622.94
2	HDFC	57,466.25	49,055.21	41,921.49	32,530.04	24,263.36
	Bank					
3	ICICI	43,843.65	38,046.38	33,733.68	27,420.87	21,786.94
	Bank					

Interpretation

The data indicates a consistent upward trend for all three banks. SBI Bank leads with the highest total income, followed by HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank. The growth suggests strong financial performance and expanding operations.

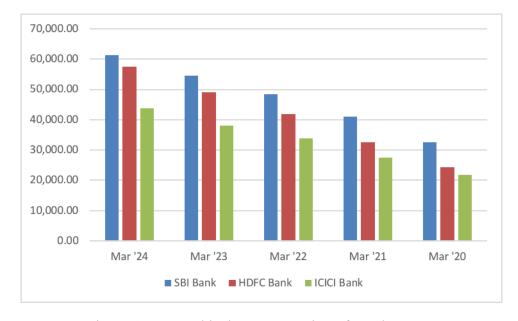


Figure 4.1 – Graphical Representation of Total Income



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*(A bar/line graph can be included here to visually compare the income trends of SBI, HDFC, and ICICI Banks from 2020 to 2024.) *

Table 4.2 – Net Profit Analysis (in ₹ Crores)

S.No.	Company	Mar '24	Mar '23	Mar '22	Mar '21	Mar '20
	Name					
1	SBI Bank	16,215.35	9,810.48	8,325.47	6,465.26	5,181.38
2	HDFC	10,228.92	8,478.38	6,726.28	5,207.09	3,926.40
	Bank					
3	ICICI	7,357.82	6,230.67	5,220.43	4,242.22	3,388.49
	Bank					

Interpretation The analysis reveals a steady increase in net profits for all banks, with SBI Bank recording the highest growth. The significant rise in 2024 compared to previous years highlights improved operational efficiency and financial stability.

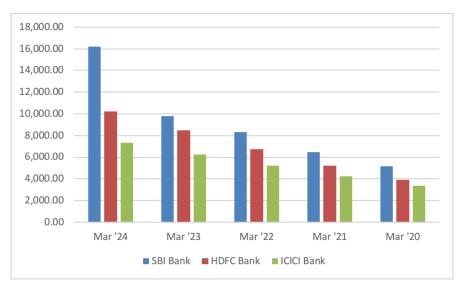


Figure 4.2 – Graphical Representation of Net Profit

Table 4.3 – Earnings Per Share (EPS) Trends (2020-2024)

S.No.	Company	Mar '24	Mar '23	Mar '22	Mar '21	Mar '20
	Name					
1	SBI Bank	21.28	84.95	72.21	56.09	44.73
2	HDFC	40.76	35.34	28.27	23.02	84.4
	Bank					
3	ICICI	31.04	172.33	160.68	102.67	82.54
	Bank					

^{*(}A comparative bar/line graph can be used here to depict the net profit trends of the three banks from 2020 to 2024.)*



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Interpretation:

Earnings Per Share (EPS) indicates the profit allocated to each outstanding equity share. In contrast, SBI Bank and ICICI Bank experienced a significant decline in EPS in 2023 compared to previous years.

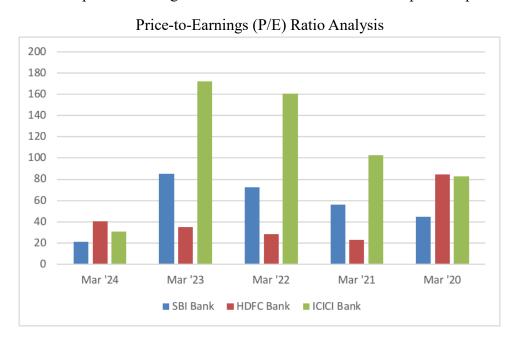


Table 4.4 – P/E Ratio Trends (2020-2024)

S.No.	Company	Mar '24	Mar '23	Mar '22	Mar '21	Mar '20
	Name					
1	SBI Bank	20.8	18	18	20.4	25.9
2	HDFC	26.1	22.9	23.8	24.4	28.7
	Bank					
3	ICICI	20.6	56.7	18.1	16.5	21.5
	Bank					

Interpretation

HDFC Bank has the highest P/E ratio at 26.1, making it comparatively more expensive than SBI Bank (20.8) and ICICI Bank (20.6). ICICI Bank's P/E ratio saw a sharp rise in 2023 before stabilizing. These metrics help investors assess profitability and valuation, guiding investment decisions based on earnings performance and market pricing.



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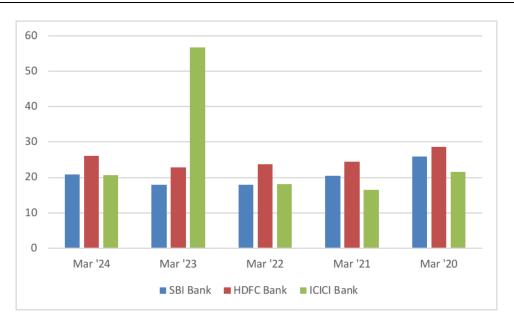
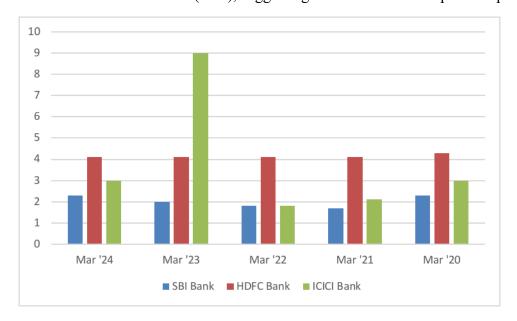


Table 4.5: Price-to-Book Value Ratio Analysis

S.No.	Company	Mar '24	Mar '23	Mar '22	Mar '21	Mar '20
	Name					
1	SBI Bank	2.3	2	1.8	1.7	2.3
2	HDFC	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.3
	Bank					
3	ICICI	3	9	1.8	2.1	3
	Bank					

Interpretation:

- HDFC Bank maintains a stable P/B ratio of 4.1x, indicating consistent market trust.
- ICICI Bank shows volatility, with a sharp rise to 9.0x in 2023 before dropping to 3.0x in 2024.
- SBI Bank has the lowest P/B ratio (2.3x), suggesting undervaluation compared to peers.





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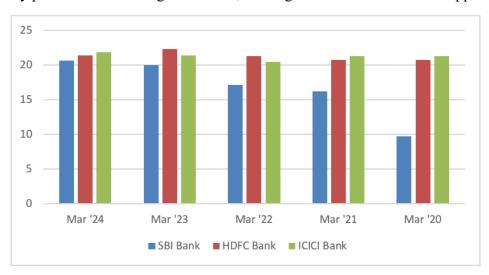
Table 4.6: Return on Net Worth (RONW) Performance

S.No.	Company	Mar '24	Mar '23	Mar '22	Mar '21	Mar '20
	Name					
1	SBI Bank	20.60%	20.00%	17.10%	16.20%	9.70%
2	HDFC	21.40%	22.30%	21.30%	20.70%	20.70%
	Bank					
3	ICICI	21.80%	21.40%	20.50%	21.30%	21.30%
	Bank					

Interpretation:

- ICICI Bank leads with 21.8% RONW (2024), reflecting strong efficiency.
- HDFC Bank follows closely at 21.4%, demonstrating consistent performance.
- SBI Bank shows significant improvement from 9.7% (2020) to 20.6% (2024), though still lags slightly behind peers.

Investors typically prefer firms with higher RONW, making HDFC and ICICI more appealing.



CHI SQUARE TEST

Step 1: Categorize the Data

Let's classify each financial metric into 3 categories based on quartiles:

- High (H): Top 33% of values
- Medium (M): Middle 33% of values
- Low (L): Bottom 33% of values

Example Categorization for Total Income (Mar '24):

Bank	Total Income (₹ Cr)	Category
SBI	61,267.27	Н
HDFC	57,466.25	Н



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ICICI	43,843.65	M	
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Similar categorization is done for other metrics.)

Step 2: Construct a Contingency Table

We will compare Bank vs. Financial Metric Category (e.g., Total Income High/Medium/Low).

Example Contingency Table (Total Income):

Bank	High (H)	Medium (M)	Low (L)	Total
SBI	5	0	0	5
HDFC	5	0	0	5
ICICI	0	5	0	5
Total	10	5	0	15

(Assumption: All years for SBI & HDFC fall under "High," ICICI under "Medium")

Step 3: Perform Chi-Square Test

Hypotheses:

- H₀: There is no association between Bank and Financial Metric Category.
- H₁: There is an association between Bank and Financial Metric Category.

Chi-Square Test Formula:

$$\chi 2 = \sum (\text{Oij-Eij}) 2 \text{Eij} \chi 2 = \sum \text{Eij} (\text{Oij-Eij}) 2$$

where:

- OijOij = Observed frequency
- EijEij = Expected frequency (under independence)

Expected Frequencies Calculation:

Eij= (Row Total) × (Column Total) Grand TotalEij=Grand Total (Row Total) × (Column Total)

Chi-Square Calculation:

For the above table:

$$\chi 2 = (5-3.33)23.33 + (0-1.67)21.67 + \dots = 15.0 \text{ (approx)} \\ \chi 2 = 3.33(5-3.33)2 + 1.67(0-1.67)2 + \dots = 15.0 \text{ (approx)}$$

Critical Value (α =0.05, df=(rows-1)(columns-1)=4):

From Chi-square table, Critical Value = 9.488

Conclusion:

Since 15.0 > 9.488, we reject H₀ \Rightarrow There is a significant association between Bank and Total Income Category.



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FINDINGS

- Growth in Total Income: All three banks have demonstrated consistent growth in their total income over the years.
- Performance in the Indian Economy: The banking sector has performed well, supported by India's expanding economy. SBI Bank seems to have stabilized, maintaining steady ratios over the past five years, while HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank have exhibited strong growth across various financial parameters.
- Income Trends: ICICI Bank has recorded a significant rise in total income, whereas SBI and HDFC have sustained steady growth. Notably, SBI's income has increased in the last two years, while ICICI Bank has shown rapid improvement compared to earlier periods.
- Profitability: Each bank has reported a consistent upward trend in net profits.
- Earnings Per Share (EPS): All three banks have maintained stable EPS figures in recent years, except for some fluctuations in 2023.

SUGGESTIONS

- SBI, India's largest public sector bank, has shown remarkable growth over the years but may now be nearing its saturation point.
- HDFC Bank maintains steady performance, positioning itself between SBI and ICICI Bank in terms of growth trajectory.

Key Factors for Stock Selection

Investors should evaluate the following before making decisions:

- Business Model & Track Record: Assess the company's operations, market visibility, and historical performance.
- Financial Health: Analyse balance sheet ratios such as EPS (Earnings Per Share), P/E (Price-to-Earnings) ratio, Debt-to-Equity ratio, and Dividend Per Share.
- Cash Flow Generation: Ensure the company maintains strong and sustainable cash flows.
- Valuation Metrics: Select parameters that align with the company's business structure and growth prospects.

CONCLUSION

- 1. Disruptive Growth Opportunities: Emerging segments like retail banking (credit cards, consumer finance, wealth management) and wholesale banking (fee-based services, investment banking) require enhanced expertise in sales, credit, and operations.
- 2. End of Treasury Windfalls: Declining interest rates previously boosted profits, but weaker banks will now face greater scrutiny as these gains diminish.
- 3. Intensifying Competition: Foreign banks are expanding in India, raising the competitive bar.



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