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# Determinants of bank net interest margin in Tunisia: a panel data model

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## Abstract

This article examines the determinants of Net Interest Margins (NIM) in Tunisia and tests some of the bank's characteristics that are derived mainly from the dealership model (Ho and Saunders, [1981](#)). The research considers the heterogeneity of individual banks through the use of random-effect as well as fixed-effect models. It tests the robustness of the results by running the Wooldridge test for autocorrelation in panel data and robust cluster estimation. Operating Costs (OC) and Bank Capital (BC) are found to have a positive and significant effect on NIM. In addition, the Bank's Return on Assets (ROA) and the Bank's Return on Equity (ROE) are found to have a negative and significant effect on NIM. The Bank's Capital Ratio (CBR), the Bank's Liquidity Ratio (CLR), the Bank's Asset Ratio (QAR), the Bank's Management (QM), and the Bank's Profitability (PM) are found to have a positive and significant effect on NIM.

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