

Parameta Solutions Indices

GBP Interest Rate Swap Volatility Indices

Parameta Solutions GBP Interest Rate Swap Volatility (GBP IRSV) indices aim to provide market participants with a forward looking implied volatility measure for the GBP interest rate swap markets.

Background

Interest rate swaps are an important tool for fixed income market participants, chiefly as they reflect the market's expectation of future interest rates. They are used by corporate treasurers, speculators, investors, and banks in a variety of use cases in portfolio management, financing, risk management, and investment strategies. According to ISDA¹, total notional outstanding for Interest Rate Derivatives (IRD) reached \$573.7 trillion and accounted for 80.3% of global OTC derivatives notional outstanding as of end-June 2023. Interest rate swaps notional outstanding hit \$465.9 trillion accounting for 81.2% of total IRD notional outstanding at end-June 2023.

Index Description

The Parameta Solutions GBP Interest Rate Swap Volatility (GBP IRSV) indices aim to provide market participants with a model-free measure of spot implied volatility in the GBP interest rate swap markets. Derived from interest rate swaption prices, an index is available for each of the 48 most liquid option expiry, swap tenor combinations. Each index distills the information content of up to 24 different ATM and OTM payer and receiver strikes into a single measure of implied volatility for each option expiry/swap tenor combination.

Accurate volatility forecasts are important for investors, both when making investment decisions and when measuring investment risks. Simple volatility measures implied from at-the-money (ATM) option prices fail to capture all available information from option markets. To address this, recent research advocates deriving implied volatility in a model-free manner from both ATM and out-of-the-money (OTM) call and put options. A recent BIS working paper² found that predictions of interest rate swap volatility based on model-free implied volatility have superior predictive power over other commonly used volatility forecasting measures.

Index Objective and Key Features

- Indices are available for 48 of the most liquid option expiry swap tenor combinations from the GBP interest rate option markets.
- The objective of each index is to provide an indication of the expected volatility of the index swap rate tenor over the index option expiry period.
- IRSV indices distil the information content of ATM and OTM interest rate swaptions into a single measure of implied volatility for each index.
- Model-free volatility estimates are widely accepted to have superior predictive power compared to other forecasting measures².

Recent History of GBP 1Y10Y Volatility Index



¹ <https://www.isda.org/a/5ihgE/Key-Trends-in-the-Size-and-Composition-of-OTC-Derivatives-Markets-in-the-First-Half-of-2023.pdf>

² <https://www.bis.org/publ/work1068.pdf>

Indices Available

The following indices are available directly from Parameta Solutions. Indices can also be viewed on Bloomberg using the tickers below or from page PMET.

GBP IRSV Indices		Swap Tenor (T in years)					
		01Y	02Y	05Y	10Y	20Y	30Y
Option Expiry	01M	PSVRS1IB	PSVRS1KB	PSVRS1VB	PSVRS1XB	PSVRS1UB	PSVRS1YB
	03M	PSVRS3IB	PSVRS3KB	PSVRS3VB	PSVRS3XB	PSVRS3UB	PSVRS3YB
	06M	PSVRS6IB	PSVRS6KB	PSVRS6VB	PSVRS6XB	PSVRS6UB	PSVRS6YB
	01Y	PSVRSIIB	PSVRSIKB	PSVRSIVB	PSVRSIXB	PSVRSIUB	PSVRSIYB
	02Y	PSVRSKIB	PSVRSKKB	PSVRSKVB	PSVRSKXB	PSVRSKUB	PSVRSKYB
	03Y	PSVRSLIB	PSVRSLKB	PSVRSLVB	PSVRSLXB	PSVRSLUB	PSVRSLYB
	05Y	PSVRSVIB	PSVRSVKB	PSVRSVVB	PSVRSVXB	PSVRSVUB	PSVRSVYB
	10Y	PSVRSXIB	PSVRSXKB	PSVRSXVB	PSVRSXXB	PSVRSXUB	PSVRSXYB

Calculation Methodology

The index calculation methodology is based on published academic research³ which provides a theoretical foundation for measuring interest rate swap volatility based on the model-free fair value of variance swap contracts for forward swap rates.

Each index is derived from the following inputs:

- Swaption ATM mid-price premium
- Swaption ATM normal volatility
- Swaption skew mid-price premia across the following payer and receiver strikes 1000, 500, 400, 300, 200, 150, 100, 75, 50, 25 and 12.5 for the specified option expiry and swap tenor.

For more information on the calculation methodology please [contact us](#).

Additional Information

- The price source for the GBP IRSV indices is the ICAP EMEA Interest Rate Options Desk.
- IRSV indices are published at or around 5PM UK time based on closing prices as at 4.15PM.
- A business day for GBP IRSV means a day on which banks are open in the UK and the ICAP Interest Rate Options Desk publishes prices.
- The inception date for the majority of GBP IRSV indices is 04 Jan 2010.

³ Mele, Antonio & Obayashi, Yoshiki. (2015). The Price of Fixed Income Market Volatility. 10.1007/978-3-319-26523-0_3

Get in touch

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