The Great British Savings Squeeze



Monthly Savings Tracker | 1st September 2025



Key takeaways

Businesses are offered up to a **3.12**% higher savings rate by challenger banks SMEs are receiving an average interest rate of **just 1.08**% from the big banks – a marginal reduction from August.

The average UK SME with savings of £75,000 is **missing out on £2,337** per year in interest from their bank.

	Instant access (AER)	Interest earned on £75k deposit
Average offered by the Big Banks	1.08%	£813
Best rate from challenger banks	4.20%	£3,150
Difference	3.12%	£2,337
Bank of England Base Rate%	Big Banks average	— Challenger banks
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Analysis

This month's data shows that small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) continue to see a significant gap between savings rates offered by high-street banks and challenger banks. On average, SMEs are earning just 1.08% on their instant access savings from big banks, which represents a slight decrease compared to August. By contrast, the top instant access rate available

from challenger banks remains at 4.20%, creating a 3.12 percentage point difference between the two.

For an SME with £75,000 in savings, this disparity translates to £2,337 in additional annual interest if they opted for a challenger bank's top rate instead of sticking with a high-street bank. This is despite the Bank of England base rate dropping in August, which may explain some of the marginal movement in rates.

The data suggests that while savings rates have softened slightly in line with the base rate change, competitive rates remain available to businesses willing to shop around. This demonstrates the ongoing importance of reviewing savings options regularly to make the most of available returns.

About The Great British Savings Squeeze petition

Small businesses lose out on £9 billion a year in savings interest because big banks aren't offering them the rates their hard work deserves.

The Great British Savings Squeeze petition wants to fix that and get small businesses the money they deserve.

With support from the Federation of Small Businesses and Institute of Directors, we're calling for change in the business savings market.

About Allica Bank

Business banking isn't working. Allica Bank is on a mission to change that.

Built especially for businesses with between 5 and 250 employees, Allica Bank provides no-nonsense business banking for established businesses.

Allica was named as Britain's fastest-growing company in 2024's The Sunday Times 100. In 2024, Allica revealed there was over £4 billion saved in its savings accounts and it had lent over £3 billion to established UK businesses.

Find out more at savingssqueeze.com

Or reach our team at savingssqueeze@allica.bank

Methodology: The 'Average rate offered by the Big Banks' is determined by taking the average rate offered to a business with £75,000 of savings at the time of publication by the six major big banks in the UK by market share: Barclays, Nationwide, HSBC, Lloyds, NatWest and Santander. Historic data is taken from the first of each month.

The 'Best rate from challenger banks' is sourced from Moneyfacts.

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