

## Table 2

### Senior Loan Officer Opinion Survey on Bank Lending Practices at Selected Branches and Agencies of Foreign Banks in the United States <sup>1</sup>

(Status of Policy as of July 2021)

**Questions 1-6** ask about commercial and industrial (C&I) loans at your bank. Questions 1-3 deal with changes in your bank's lending policies over the past three months. Questions 4-5 deal with changes in demand for C&I loans over the past three months. Question 6 asks about changes in prospective demand for C&I loans at your bank, as indicated by the volume of recent inquiries about the availability of new credit lines or increases in existing lines. If your bank's lending policies have not changed over the past three months, please report them as unchanged even if the policies are either restrictive or accommodative relative to longer-term norms. If your bank's policies have tightened or eased over the past three months, please so report them regardless of how they stand relative to longer-term norms. Also, please report changes in enforcement of existing policies as changes in policies.

1. Over the past three months, how have your bank's credit standards for approving applications for C&I loans or credit lines—other than those to be used to finance mergers and acquisitions—changed?

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Tightened considerably	0	0.0
Tightened somewhat	0	0.0
Remained basically unchanged	21	95.5
Eased somewhat	1	4.5
Eased considerably	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>100</b>

2. For applications for C&I loans or credit lines—other than those to be used to finance mergers and acquisitions—that your bank currently is willing to approve, how have the terms of those loans changed over the past three months?

a. Maximum size of credit lines

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Tightened considerably	0	0.0
Tightened somewhat	0	0.0
Remained basically unchanged	20	95.2
Eased somewhat	1	4.8
Eased considerably	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>100</b>

b. Maximum maturity of loans or credit lines

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Tightened considerably	0	0.0
Tightened somewhat	0	0.0
Remained basically unchanged	21	100.0
Eased somewhat	0	0.0
Eased considerably	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	21	100

c. Costs of credit lines

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Tightened considerably	0	0.0
Tightened somewhat	1	4.8
Remained basically unchanged	18	85.7
Eased somewhat	2	9.5
Eased considerably	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	21	100

d. Spreads of loan rates over your bank's cost of funds (wider spreads=tightened, narrower spreads=eased)

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Tightened considerably	0	0.0
Tightened somewhat	0	0.0
Remained basically unchanged	17	81.0
Eased somewhat	4	19.0
Eased considerably	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	21	100

e. Premiums charged on riskier loans

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Tightened considerably	0	0.0
Tightened somewhat	1	4.8
Remained basically unchanged	17	81.0
Eased somewhat	3	14.3
Eased considerably	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	21	100

f. Loan covenants

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Tightened considerably	0	0.0
Tightened somewhat	0	0.0
Remained basically unchanged	19	90.5
Eased somewhat	2	9.5
Eased considerably	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	21	100

g. Collateralization requirements

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Tightened considerably	0	0.0
Tightened somewhat	1	4.8
Remained basically unchanged	20	95.2
Eased somewhat	0	0.0
Eased considerably	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	21	100

h. Use of interest rate floors (more use=tightened, less use=eased)

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Tightened considerably	0	0.0
Tightened somewhat	0	0.0
Remained basically unchanged	20	95.2
Eased somewhat	1	4.8
Eased considerably	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	21	100

3. If your bank has tightened or eased its credit standards or its terms for C&I loans or credit lines over the past three months (as described in questions 1 and 2), how important have been the following possible reasons for the change? (Please respond to either A, B, or both as appropriate.)

A. Possible reasons for tightening credit standards or loan terms:

a. Deterioration in your bank's current or expected capital position

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

b. Less favorable or more uncertain economic outlook

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

c. Worsening of industry-specific problems (please specify industries)

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

d. Less aggressive competition from other banks or nonbank lenders (other financial intermediaries or the capital markets)

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

e. Reduced tolerance for risk

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

f. Decreased liquidity in the secondary market for these loans

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

g. Deterioration in your bank's current or expected liquidity position

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

h. Increased concerns about the effects of legislative changes, supervisory actions, or changes in accounting standards

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

B. Possible reasons for easing credit standards or loan terms:

a. Improvement in your bank's current or expected capital position

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

b. More favorable or less uncertain economic outlook

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Not important	0	0.0
Somewhat important	0	0.0
Very important	4	100.0
<b>Total</b>	4	100

c. Improvement in industry-specific problems (please specify industries)

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

d. More aggressive competition from other banks or nonbank lenders (other financial intermediaries or the capital markets)

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

e. Increased tolerance for risk

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

f. Increased liquidity in the secondary market for these loans

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

g. Improvement in your bank's current or expected liquidity position

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

h. Reduced concerns about the effects of legislative changes, supervisory actions, or changes in accounting standards

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

4. Apart from normal seasonal variation, how has demand for C&I loans changed over the past three months? (Please consider only funds actually disbursed as opposed to requests for new or increased lines

of credit.)

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Substantially stronger	1	4.5
Moderately stronger	1	4.5
About the same	20	90.9
Moderately weaker	0	0.0
Substantially weaker	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	22	100

5. If demand for C&I loans has strengthened or weakened over the past three months (as described in question 4), how important have been the following possible reasons for the change? (Please respond to either A, B, or both as appropriate.)

A. If stronger loan demand (answer 1 or 2 to question 4), possible reasons:

a. Customer inventory financing needs increased

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

b. Customer accounts receivable financing needs increased

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

c. Customer investment in plant or equipment increased

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

d. Customer internally generated funds decreased

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

e. Customer merger or acquisition financing needs increased

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

f. Customer borrowing shifted to your bank from other bank or nonbank sources because these other sources became less attractive

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

g. Customer precautionary demand for cash and liquidity increased

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

B. If weaker loan demand (answer 4 or 5 to question 4), possible reasons:

a. Customer inventory financing needs decreased

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

b. Customer accounts receivable financing needs decreased

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

c. Customer investment in plant or equipment decreased

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

d. Customer internally generated funds increased

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

e. Customer merger or acquisition financing needs decreased

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

f. Customer borrowing shifted from your bank to other bank or nonbank sources because these other sources became more attractive

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

g. Customer precautionary demand for cash and liquidity decreased

Responses are not reported when the number of respondents is 3 or fewer.

6. At your bank, apart from seasonal variation, how has the number of inquiries from potential business borrowers regarding the availability and terms of new credit lines or increases in existing lines changed over the past three months? (Please consider only inquiries for additional or increased C&I lines as opposed to the refinancing of existing loans.)

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
The number of inquiries has increased substantially	1	4.5
The number of inquiries has increased moderately	3	13.6
The number of inquiries has stayed about the same	18	81.8
The number of inquiries has decreased moderately	0	0.0
The number of inquiries has decreased substantially	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	22	100

**Questions 7-8** ask about commercial real estate (CRE) loans at your bank, including construction and land development loans and loans secured by nonfarm nonresidential properties. Question 7 deals with changes in your bank's standards over the past three months. Question 8 deals with changes in demand. If your bank's lending standards or terms have not changed over the relevant period, please report them as unchanged even if they are either restrictive or accommodative relative to longer-term norms. If your bank's standards or terms have tightened or eased over the relevant period, please so report them regardless of how they stand relative to longer-term norms. Also, please report changes in enforcement of existing standards as changes in standards.

7. Over the past three months, how have your bank's credit standards for approving applications for CRE loans or credit lines changed?

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Tightened considerably	0	0.0
Tightened somewhat	0	0.0
Remained basically unchanged	15	93.8
Eased somewhat	1	6.2
Eased considerably	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	16	100

For this question, 5 respondents answered "My bank does not originate CRE loans."

8. Apart from normal seasonal variation, how has demand for CRE loans or credit lines changed over the past three months? (Please consider the number of requests for new spot loans, for disbursement of funds under existing loan commitments, and for new or increased credit lines.)

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Substantially stronger	0	0.0
Moderately stronger	3	18.8
About the same	13	81.2
Moderately weaker	0	0.0
Substantially weaker	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	16	100

**Question 9** asks you to describe the current level of lending standards at your bank relative to the range of standards that has prevailed between 2005 and the present, a period which likely encompasses a wide range of standards as seen over a credit cycle. For each of the loan categories listed below, please use as reference points the points at which standards at your bank were tightest (most restrictive or least accommodative) and easiest (most accommodative or least restrictive) during this period.

9. Using the range between the tightest and the easiest that lending standards at your bank have been between 2005 and the present, for each of the loan categories listed below, how would you describe your bank's current level of standards relative to that range? If a different time frame (other than between 2005 and the present) would better encompass the most recent period over which your bank's standards have spanned the range of easiest to tightest, please indicate that reference range in the comment box below.

A. C&I loans or credit lines:

a. Syndicated or club loans (large loans originated by a group of relationship lenders) to investment-grade firms (or unrated firms of similar creditworthiness)

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Near the easiest level	2	9.5
Significantly easier than the midpoint	0	0.0
Somewhat easier than the midpoint	3	14.3
Near the midpoint	12	57.1
Somewhat tighter than the midpoint	2	9.5
Significantly tighter than the midpoint	2	9.5
Near the tightest level	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	21	100

b. Syndicated or club loans to below-investment-grade firms (or unrated firms of similar creditworthiness)

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Near the easiest level	2	9.5
Significantly easier than the midpoint	0	0.0
Somewhat easier than the midpoint	3	14.3
Near the midpoint	7	33.3
Somewhat tighter than the midpoint	5	23.8
Significantly tighter than the midpoint	3	14.3
Near the tightest level	1	4.8
<b>Total</b>	21	100



c. Non-syndicated loans to large and middle-market firms (annual sales of \$50 million or more)

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Near the easiest level	1	5.3
Significantly easier than the midpoint	0	0.0
Somewhat easier than the midpoint	1	5.3
Near the midpoint	9	47.4
Somewhat tighter than the midpoint	6	31.6
Significantly tighter than the midpoint	1	5.3
Near the tightest level	1	5.3
<b>Total</b>	19	100

d. Non-syndicated loans to small firms (annual sales of less than \$50 million)

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Near the easiest level	1	6.2
Significantly easier than the midpoint	0	0.0
Somewhat easier than the midpoint	1	6.2
Near the midpoint	6	37.5
Somewhat tighter than the midpoint	6	37.5
Significantly tighter than the midpoint	2	12.5
Near the tightest level	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	16	100

B. Loans or credit lines secured by commercial real estate:

a. For construction and land development purposes

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Near the easiest level	0	0.0
Significantly easier than the midpoint	0	0.0
Somewhat easier than the midpoint	0	0.0
Near the midpoint	7	43.8
Somewhat tighter than the midpoint	5	31.2
Significantly tighter than the midpoint	3	18.8
Near the tightest level	1	6.2
<b>Total</b>	16	100

b. Secured by nonfarm nonresidential properties

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Near the easiest level	0	0.0
Significantly easier than the midpoint	0	0.0
Somewhat easier than the midpoint	0	0.0
Near the midpoint	9	52.9
Somewhat tighter than the midpoint	5	29.4
Significantly tighter than the midpoint	3	17.6
Near the tightest level	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	17	100

c. Secured by multifamily residential properties

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
Near the easiest level	0	0.0
Significantly easier than the midpoint	0	0.0
Somewhat easier than the midpoint	0	0.0
Near the midpoint	12	70.6
Somewhat tighter than the midpoint	3	17.6
Significantly tighter than the midpoint	2	11.8
Near the tightest level	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	17	100

**Questions 10 and 11** ask you to report the interval in which standards at your bank reached their tightest and easiest level between 2005 and the present.

10. For each of the loan categories listed below, please select the range in which standards at your bank reached their tightest (most restrictive or least accommodative) level.

A. C&I loans or credit lines:

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
2005-2007	0	0.0
2008-2010	13	65.0
2011-2015	1	5.0
2016-2019	3	15.0
2020-present	3	15.0
<b>Total</b>	20	100

B. Commercial real estate loans:

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
2005-2007	0	0.0
2008-2010	9	60.0
2011-2015	3	20.0
2016-2019	1	6.7
2020-present	2	13.3
<b>Total</b>	15	100

11. For each of the loan categories listed below, please select the range in which standards at your bank reached their easiest (least restrictive or most accommodative) level.

A. C&I loans or credit lines:

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
2005-2007	12	63.2
2008-2010	0	0.0
2011-2015	3	15.8
2016-2019	2	10.5
2020-present	2	10.5
<b>Total</b>	19	100

B. Commercial real estate loans:

	All Respondents	
	Banks	Percent
2005-2007	12	85.7
2008-2010	0	0.0
2011-2015	2	14.3
2016-2019	0	0.0
2020-present	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	14	100

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1. As of March 31, 2021, the 22 respondents had combined assets of \$1.6 trillion, compared to \$2.6 trillion for all foreign-related banking institutions in the United States. The sample is selected from among the largest foreign-related banking institutions in those Federal Reserve Districts where such institutions are common. [Return to text](#)

Last Update: July 21, 2021