

Press Releases

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OTS 07-024 - Agencies Announce Availability of 2006 HMDA Data

Office of Thrift Supervision

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For further information

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Contact: Kevin Petrasic

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Joint Release

**Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
National Credit Union Administration
Office of the Comptroller of the Currency
Office of Thrift Supervision**

Agencies Announce Availability of 2006 HMDA Data

Washington, DC - The federal bank, credit union, and thrift supervisory agencies, along with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, announced today the availability of the 2006 home loan data disclosed under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA). Lenders are required to make these data available to the public, within thirty days after receiving a request, in the form of a Loan Application Register, after removing certain information to protect the privacy of applicants and borrowers.

HMDA, which was enacted by Congress in 1975, requires most mortgage lenders located in metropolitan areas to collect data about their housing-related lending activity, report the data annually to the government, and make the data publicly available in a modified Loan Application Register. Initially, HMDA required reporting of the geographic location of originated and purchased loans. In 1989, Congress expanded HMDA data to include information about denied home loan applications and the race, sex and income of applicants and borrowers. In 2002, the Federal Reserve Board amended the HMDA regulation to require lenders to report loan pricing (rate spread) data for certain higher-priced home mortgage loans, in response to concerns about this area of mortgage lending, as well as other new data.

The HMDA loan data may be used to facilitate fair lending supervision and enforcement. HMDA data are analyzed in conjunction with other factors to assess an institution's level of risk for lending discrimination. However, it is not possible to conclude from HMDA data alone whether a lender is complying with fair lending laws. The HMDA data do not include many potential determinants of credit decisions and loan pricing, such as the borrower's credit history, the debt-to-income ratio, and the loan-to-value ratio.

More information about the HMDA data is available in the FAQs on the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) website, at www.ffiec.gov/hmda/faq.htm. Summary statistical reports for each lender and an aggregate report for each Metropolitan Statistical Area will be released in September by the FFIEC.

Media Contacts:

Federal Reserve	Susan Stawick	(202) 452-2955
FDIC	David Barr	(202) 898-6992
HUD	Shantae Goodloe	(202) 708-0685
NCUA	Cherie Umbel	(703) 518-6330
OCC	Dean DeBuck	(202) 874-5770
OTS	Kevin Petrasic	(202) 906-6677

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The Office of Thrift Supervision, an office of the Department of the Treasury, regulates and supervises the nation's thrift industry. OTS's mission is to ensure the safety and soundness of, and compliance with consumer protection laws by, thrift institutions, and to support their role as home mortgage lenders and providers of other community credit and financial services. OTS also oversees the activities and operations of thrift holding companies that own or control thrift institutions. Copies of OTS news releases and other documents are available at the OTS web page at www.ots.treas.gov.