Credit Conditions Survey

Survey results | 2015 Q3

BANK OF ENGLAND

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Credit Conditions Survey

2015 Q3

As part of its mission to maintain monetary stability and financial stability, the Bank needs to understand trends and developments in credit conditions. This quarterly survey of bank and building society lenders is an input to this work. Lenders are asked about the past three months and the coming three months. The survey covers secured and unsecured lending to households; and lending to non-financial corporations, small businesses, and to non-bank financial firms. Along with various data sources and discussions between the major UK lenders and Bank staff, this survey serves as an input into the quarterly *Credit Conditions Review* publication which presents the Bank of England's assessment of the latest developments in bank funding and household and corporate credit conditions.

This report presents the results of the 2015 Q3 survey. The 2015 Q3 survey was conducted between 24 August and 11 September 2015.

Additional background information on the survey can be found in the 2007 Q3 *Quarterly Bulletin* article 'The Bank of England Credit Conditions Survey'.

This report, covering the results of the 2015 Q3 survey, and copies of the questionnaires are available on the Bank's website at **www.bankofengland.co.uk/publications/Pages/other/monetary/creditconditions.aspx**.

The publication dates in 2016 for future *Credit Conditions Surveys* are:
2015 Q4 survey on 15 January 2016.

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Supply

- The availability of secured credit to households was reported to have increased in 2015 Q3. Lenders expected availability to increase over Q4 (**Chart 1**). Lenders reported that availability to borrowers with a loan-to-value ratio above 75% increased in Q3 for the second consecutive quarter. But availability to borrowers with a loan-to-value ratio above 90%, and maximum loan-to-value ratios, were reported to be unchanged.
- Lenders reported that the availability of unsecured credit to households was unchanged in 2015 Q3 (**Chart 2**). Within this, however, availability of other unsecured lending products, such as personal loans, appeared to have increased in Q3: credit scoring criteria were reported to have loosened slightly and the proportion of loan applications approved had increased. Despite that apparent easing, the credit quality of new other unsecured lending was reported to have improved.
- The overall availability of credit to the corporate sector was reported to be unchanged in Q3, and this was expected to remain the case in Q4. The availability of credit increased slightly in Q3 for small businesses (**Chart 3**).

Demand

- Lenders reported that demand for secured lending for house purchase increased significantly in 2015 Q3 (**Chart 4**). Demand increased across all types of secured lending, but was particularly significant for buy-to-let lending. Overall demand was expected to be unchanged in Q4.
- Demand for credit card lending from households increased in 2015 Q3, but was expected to be unchanged in Q4. Demand for other unsecured lending products, such as personal loans, was reported to have increased significantly in Q3, and was expected to increase again in Q4.
- Demand for corporate lending was reported to have increased across all business sizes in Q3 (**Chart 5**). Demand from small and medium-sized companies was expected to increase further in Q4, while demand from large corporates was expected to be unchanged.

Loan pricing

- Overall spreads on secured lending to households — relative to Bank Rate or the appropriate swap rate — were reported to have narrowed significantly in Q3, and were expected to narrow again slightly over the following three months.
- Lenders reported that spreads on credit cards had narrowed in Q3, and lenders also reported an increase in the length of interest free periods for purchases on new credit card lending. Spreads on other unsecured lending products, such as personal loans, were reported to have narrowed significantly in Q3, but were expected to widen slightly in Q4.
- As in previous quarters, spreads on lending to medium and large companies narrowed significantly in 2015 Q3. Spreads on lending to small businesses also narrowed (**Chart 6**) and fees and commissions fell slightly.

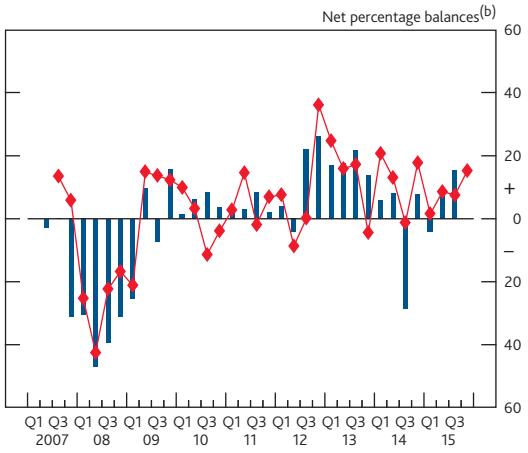
Defaults

- Lenders reported that default rates on secured loans to households fell in 2015 Q3, and were expected to fall again in Q4. Losses given default fell significantly in Q3 and were expected to fall further in Q4.
- Default rates and losses given default on credit card lending to households fell in Q3. Default rates on other unsecured lending to households increased in Q3, but losses given default fell slightly.
- Default rates on lending to medium and large companies were unchanged in Q3, but fell on lending to small companies. Losses given default fell in Q3 for businesses of all sizes.

This report presents the results of the 2015 Q3 survey. The 2015 Q3 survey was conducted between 24 August and 11 September 2015. The results are based on lenders' own responses to the survey. They do not necessarily reflect the Bank's views on credit conditions. To calculate aggregate results, each lender is assigned a score based on their response. Lenders who report that credit conditions have changed 'a lot' are assigned twice the score of those who report that conditions have changed 'a little'. These scores are then weighted by lenders' market shares. The results are analysed by calculating 'net percentage balances' — the difference between the weighted balance of lenders reporting that, for example, demand was higher/lower or terms and conditions were tighter/looser. The net percentage balances are scaled to lie between ±100.

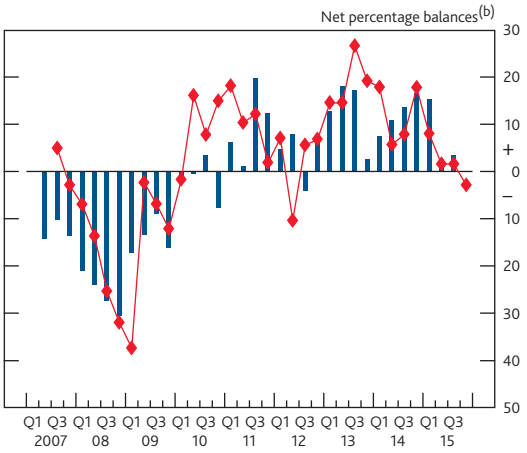
This report, and copies of the questionnaires are available on the Bank's website at www.bankofengland.co.uk/publications/Pages/other/monetary/creditconditions.aspx.

Chart 1 Household secured credit availability[a]



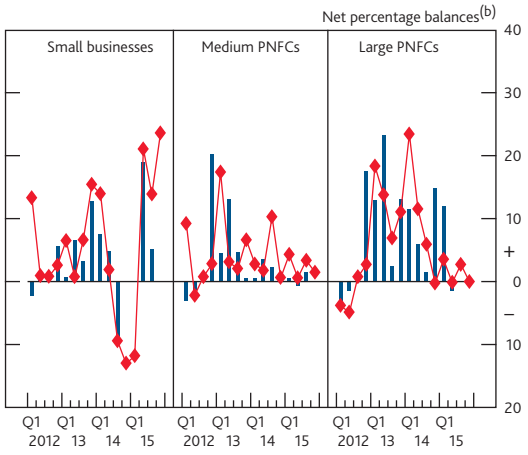
(a) Net percentage balances are calculated by weighting together the responses of those lenders who answered the question. The blue bars show the responses over the previous three months. The red diamonds show the expectations over the next three months. Expectations balances have been moved forward one quarter so that they can be compared with the actual outturns in the following quarter.
(b) A positive balance indicates that more secured credit is available.

Chart 2 Household unsecured credit availability[a]



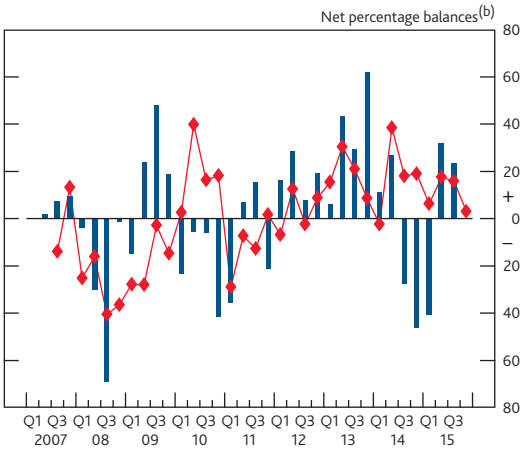
(a) See footnote (a) to **Chart 1**.
(b) A positive balance indicates that more unsecured credit is available.

Chart 3 Corporate credit availability by firm size[a]



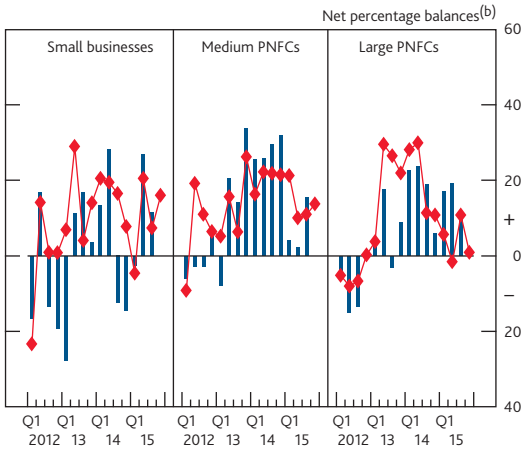
(a) See footnote (a) to **Chart 1**.
(b) A positive balance indicates that more corporate credit is available.

Chart 4 Household demand for overall secured lending to finance a house purchase[a]



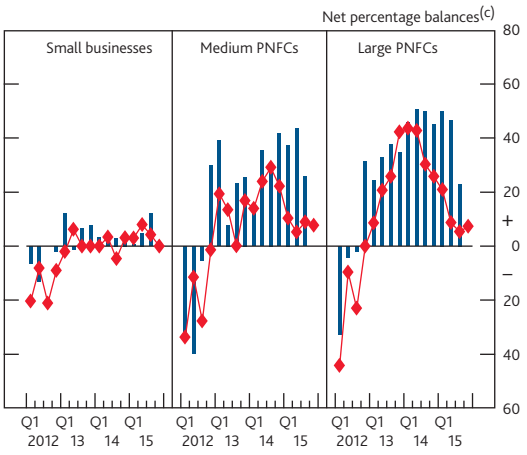
(a) See footnote (a) to **Chart 1**.
(b) A positive balance indicates an increase in demand.

Chart 5 Corporate demand for lending by firm size[a]



(a) See footnote (a) to **Chart 1**.
(b) A positive balance indicates an increase in demand.

Chart 6 Spreads on lending to corporates[a][b]



(a) See footnote (a) to **Chart 1**.
(b) Spreads are over Bank Rate or London interbank offered rate (Libor) for small businesses, and over Libor for medium-sized companies and large corporates.
(c) A positive balance indicates that spreads have fallen such that, all else being equal, it is cheaper for corporates to borrow.

Annex 1
Secured lending to households questionnaire results

To calculate aggregate results, each lender is assigned a score based on their response. Lenders who report that credit conditions have changed 'a lot' are assigned twice the score of those who report that conditions have changed 'a little'. These scores are then weighted by lenders' market shares. The results are analysed by calculating 'net percentage balances' — the difference between the weighted balance of lenders reporting that, for example, demand was higher/lower or terms and conditions were tighter/looser. The net percentage balances are scaled to lie between ±100. This annex reports the net percentage balance of respondents for each question in the secured lending questionnaire.

Positive balances indicate that lenders, on balance, reported/expected demand/credit availability/defaults to be higher than over the previous/current three-month period, or that the terms and conditions on which credit was provided became cheaper or looser respectively.

Where the survey balances are discussed, descriptions of a 'significant' change refer to a net percentage balance greater than 20 in absolute terms, and a 'slight' change refers to a net percentage balance of between 5 and 10 in absolute terms. Survey balances between 0 and 5 in absolute terms are described as unchanged.

The first Credit Conditions Survey was conducted in 2007 Q2 and additional questions have been included since 2007 Q4. A full set of results is available in Excel on the Bank's website at **www.bankofengland.co.uk/publications/Pages/other/monetary/creditconditions.aspx.**

		Net percentage balances[a]											
		2012	2013				2014				2015		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
How has the availability of secured credit provided to households changed?	Past three months	26.2	17.0	17.4	21.7	13.8	5.8	8.2	-28.5	7.8	-4.1	8.8	15.5
	Next three months	24.7	15.8	17.2	-4.5	20.7	13.0	-1.3	17.7	1.5	8.5	7.5	15.2
Factors contributing to changes in credit availability:[b]													
changing economic outlook	Past three months	0.8	1.9	2.0	4.8	5.3	7.3	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2
	Next three months	2.6	0.0	0.0	4.8	8.9	7.6	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0
market share objectives	Past three months	22.5	21.6	34.9	29.5	20.1	0.3	9.5	11.4	4.3	5.2	7.4	5.5
	Next three months	29.9	21.6	13.0	10.1	11.4	20.9	15.1	15.1	11.9	6.4	9.8	12.4
changing appetite for risk	Past three months	1.8	8.3	13.1	-4.8	11.5	14.8	-2.3	-25.5	0.0	0.0	9.3	1.2
	Next three months	16.7	0.0	6.0	11.5	11.6	-7.3	-9.8	1.5	1.5	8.9	1.7	3.6
tight wholesale funding conditions	Past three months	21.8	7.6	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	-2.2	0.0	2.1	0.0
	Next three months	5.8	3.8	1.8	0.0	-2.7	0.0	2.3	0.0	2.2	0.0	-4.9	-2.2
expectations for house prices	Past three months	-1.9	-1.8	0.5	1.7	17.1	3.1	0.7	-10.1	1.5	0.0	1.7	0.0
	Next three months	-1.9	-3.7	7.8	1.7	18.0	6.2	-0.3	-0.2	3.6	0.0	1.7	0.0
How has the availability of household secured credit to the following types of borrower changed?													
Borrowers with low loan to value ratios (75% or less)	Past three months	20.4	8.9	9.3	19.5	2.9	1.4	2.7	-11.1	0.7	-6.8	15.0	6.4
	Next three months	33.6	8.2	19.2	-8.1	0.0	4.4	12.0	10.8	1.5	16.3	0.8	7.8
Borrowers with high loan to value ratios (more than 75%)	Past three months	29.0	18.7	13.8	35.3	19.1	33.8	1.3	-10.2	0.4	-2.4	11.4	16.4
	Next three months	33.6	9.1	20.8	-2.0	28.4	8.6	5.7	1.3	3.6	-0.1	1.8	2.6
Have you become more willing to lend to borrowers with housing equity less than 10% of the value of their home?	Past three months	n.a.**	n.a.**	18.1	2.4	18.0	44.9	15.3	-14.2	-18.9	9.0	-1.2	1.8
	Next three months	n.a.**	n.a.**	19.7	10.8	24.6	14.1	-4.3	-7.1	0.0	0.0	11.5	10.3

		Net percentage balances[a]											
		2012	2013				2014				2015		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
How have credit scoring criteria for granting loan applications by households changed?	Past three months	4.7	-4.2	0.0	-3.1	10.5	5.5	-0.6	-17.9	0.0	2.0	8.4	3.1
	Next three months	-9.3	5.3	1.5	9.8	6.4	-9.7	-1.6	-3.1	1.7	1.9	3.7	-4.8
How has the proportion of household loan applications being approved changed?	Past three months	-1.9	-6.6	10.5	14.2	28.7	-11.0	0.7	-15.6	-9.4	-1.0	13.0	9.2
	Next three months	1.9	9.2	3.1	9.2	-2.0	-24.8	-20.6	10.8	5.2	11.8	5.8	-0.7
How has the average credit quality of new secured lending to households changed?[c]	Past three months	9.3	-15.6	8.0	10.1	13.2	5.1	-6.8	0.7	-1.4	-1.4	-3.0	0.7
	Next three months	9.3	-7.8	-6.0	0.0	-10.3	-18.3	8.5	-3.7	-2.1	9.9	10.4	2.6
How has the default rate on secured loans to households changed?	Past three months	-9.3	1.4	-2.4	-26.2	-44.9	-39.7	-34.1	-30.8	-33.8	-34.6	-17.3	-15.5
	Next three months	3.7	6.6	3.8	-14.6	-26.3	-19.1	-16.3	-20.3	-20.3	-11.0	-14.1	-14.6
How have losses given default on secured loans to households changed?	Past three months	5.0	-8.1	1.4	-37.6	-51.0	-48.4	-12.4	-27.1	-15.2	-33.9	-24.5	-33.1
	Next three months	1.8	-7.6	-8.0	-32.4	-46.0	-42.9	-6.3	-26.7	-5.9	20.1	-10.0	-14.9
How has demand for secured lending for house purchase from households changed?	Past three months	19.6	6.4	43.5	29.6	62.0	11.2	26.8	-27.4	-46.1	-40.8	32.1	23.3
	Next three months	15.3	30.4	20.9	8.6	-2.3	38.5	18.1	19.0	6.3	17.5	15.9	3.1
of which: demand for prime lending	Past three months	17.7	6.4	43.5	27.9	62.0	27.8	27.5	-22.0	-38.8	-44.3	31.3	15.4
	Next three months	17.2	30.8	19.8	14.7	-2.3	38.5	18.1	17.4	6.3	16.8	15.9	17.1
of which: demand for buy-to-let lending	Past three months	12.6	7.6	35.3	26.0	25.2	0.6	-4.0	6.9	-30.0	-15.8	22.2	43.4
	Next three months	13.7	22.8	18.2	14.7	18.5	8.6	15.7	9.0	1.5	3.6	16.9	-10.3
of which: demand for other lending	Past three months	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*
	Next three months	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*
How has demand for secured lending for remortgaging from households changed?	Past three months	18.5	14.5	40.9	25.3	33.1	-5.2	25.7	-28.8	-19.1	-26.8	11.9	17.5
	Next three months	17.2	31.2	6.7	11.0	1.0	26.8	5.0	25.0	10.1	8.3	11.2	15.7
How have overall secured lending spreads changed?	Past three months	27.5	50.0	48.1	38.4	33.4	6.4	13.5	14.9	47.0	14.4	35.0	39.7
	Next three months	39.1	51.8	40.7	22.8	7.0	9.4	15.0	25.4	10.5	40.3	15.6	9.1
of which: spreads on prime lending	Past three months	28.0	50.8	48.1	38.4	33.4	6.4	13.5	14.9	47.0	14.4	35.0	41.3
	Next three months	43.8	51.8	47.5	22.8	7.0	9.4	15.0	26.0	10.5	38.4	15.6	9.8
of which: spreads on buy-to-let lending	Past three months	22.3	46.3	43.9	30.6	26.5	-1.8	21.9	24.8	28.1	-10.4	10.2	35.7
	Next three months	31.9	25.7	34.9	15.0	-3.2	12.8	23.6	10.6	11.5	17.4	21.1	17.1
of which: spreads on other lending	Past three months	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*
	Next three months	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*
How have fees on secured lending changed?	Past three months	0.0	-0.4	1.4	-1.9	0.0	6.9	-10.1	0.7	17.5	9.8	6.4	0.0
	Next three months	1.8	1.0	5.2	5.4	0.0	0.7	-1.4	9.5	0.7	7.0	0.0	0.0
How have maximum loan to value ratios changed?	Past three months	1.8	7.8	9.6	1.6	5.0	24.7	12.3	1.8	-0.7	11.0	0.8	0.7
	Next three months	16.1	7.8	7.6	0.1	14.4	4.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	-4.0	-0.8	1.9
How have maximum loan to income ratios changed?	Past three months	2.1	7.9	0.0	0.0	8.4	8.2	5.9	-3.9	-22.0	-18.5	-0.3	6.1
	Next three months	0.0	7.9	0.0	8.4	0.0	0.0	-7.3	-1.6	-5.1	-9.0	6.0	-0.7

* Data are unpublished for this question as too few responses were received.

** Additional question not asked in survey.

(a) Net percentage balances are calculated by weighting together the responses of those lenders who answered the question by their market shares. Positive balances indicate that lenders, on balance, reported/expected demand/credit availability/defaults to be higher than over the previous/current three-month period, or that the terms and conditions on which credit was provided became cheaper or looser respectively.
(b) A positive balance indicates that the changes in the factors described have served to increase credit availability.
(c) A positive balance indicates an improvement in the credit quality of new borrowing.

Annex 2
Unsecured lending to households questionnaire results

To calculate aggregate results, each lender is assigned a score based on their response. Lenders who report that credit conditions have changed 'a lot' are assigned twice the score of those who report that conditions have changed 'a little'. These scores are then weighted by lenders' market shares. The results are analysed by calculating 'net percentage balances' — the difference between the weighted balance of lenders reporting that, for example, demand was higher/lower or terms and conditions were tighter/looser. The net percentage balances are scaled to lie between ±100. This annex reports the net percentage balance of respondents for each question in the unsecured lending questionnaire.

Positive balances indicate that lenders, on balance, reported/expected demand/credit availability/defaults to be higher than over the previous/current three-month period, or that the terms and conditions on which credit was provided became cheaper or looser respectively.

Where the survey balances are discussed, descriptions of a 'significant' change refer to a net percentage balance greater than 20 in absolute terms, and a 'slight' change refers to a net percentage balance of between 5 and 10 in absolute terms. Survey balances between 0 and 5 in absolute terms are described as unchanged.

The first Credit Conditions Survey was conducted in 2007 Q2. A full set of results is available in Excel on the Bank's website at **www.bankofengland.co.uk/publications/Pages/other/monetary/creditconditions.aspx.**

		Net percentage balances[a]											
		2012	2013				2014				2015		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
How has the availability of unsecured credit	Past three months	6.6	12.7	18.1	17.2	2.6	7.4	10.8	13.6	16.7	15.4	2.6	3.5
provided to households changed?	Next three months	14.6	14.6	26.6	19.2	17.9	5.7	7.8	17.8	8.0	1.6	1.6	-2.8
Factors contributing to changes in credit availability:[b]													
changing economic outlook	Past three months	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3	1.1	0.7	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Next three months	0.0	0.7	-2.2	9.4	8.1	4.3	-1.2	0.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
market share objectives	Past three months	6.1	8.1	1.1	11.4	0.1	6.6	0.7	12.4	6.3	13.1	-1.6	19.0
	Next three months	13.1	13.5	7.6	9.3	21.9	18.3	16.4	20.0	25.8	15.7	8.5	7.7
changing appetite for risk	Past three months	5.1	5.8	8.1	2.9	1.4	13.2	6.8	-0.9	12.2	5.8	1.3	0.2
	Next three months	5.8	7.4	7.5	4.1	9.4	1.8	2.0	-6.5	6.0	1.3	0.8	1.1
changing cost/availability of funds	Past three months	5.1	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Next three months	4.8	0.0	5.8	0.4	0.0	0.0	-2.0	0.3	11.6	0.0	0.0	-5.1
How have credit scoring criteria for granting	Past three months	-0.4	19.2	18.4	26.2	7.6	8.0	0.9	8.4	19.2	27.2	1.1	1.4
credit card loan applications by households changed?	Next three months	13.4	17.3	16.4	20.2	17.0	13.2	14.4	6.6	2.9	9.9	-0.4	-28.1
How have credit scoring criteria for granting	Past three months	12.7	-13.8	28.7	28.0	15.2	8.6	24.5	20.1	29.8	0.0	6.5	7.8
other unsecured loan applications by households changed?	Next three months	-0.1	19.4	32.0	28.7	13.6	25.7	22.1	9.1	15.7	6.3	6.5	0.3
How have credit scoring criteria for granting	Past three months	1.2	15.3	19.8	26.5	8.8	8.1	4.9	10.4	21.1	22.2	2.1	2.8
total unsecured loan applications by households changed?	Next three months	11.8	17.5	18.4	21.5	16.4	15.3	15.7	7.1	5.2	9.2	0.9	-23.0

		Net percentage balances[a]											
		2012	2013				2014				2015		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
How has the proportion of credit card loan applications from households being approved changed?	Past three months	-17.4	24.4	19.3	24.6	8.9	0.4	0.4	19.0	11.9	-11.0	-5.4	-3.0
	Next three months	22.5	16.5	27.9	20.2	17.0	15.2	14.4	12.3	2.1	16.4	12.7	-10.7
How has the proportion of other unsecured loan applications from households being approved changed?	Past three months	20.8	-5.6	34.5	25.4	22.6	4.8	25.0	-8.2	18.9	9.5	-2.3	18.3
	Next three months	0.8	26.9	34.9	20.8	13.6	29.0	19.9	14.0	15.7	3.6	8.0	14.1
How has the proportion of total unsecured loan applications from households being approved changed?	Past three months	-12.9	20.9	21.3	24.7	11.2	1.2	4.6	14.3	13.2	-7.3	-4.8	0.9
	Next three months	19.9	17.7	28.8	20.3	16.4	17.5	15.3	12.6	4.5	14.1	11.8	-6.3
How has the average credit quality of new credit card lending to households changed?[c]	Past three months	-10.2	-0.3	3.8	6.7	-11.3	-13.7	-6.3	3.1	-20.6	-18.3	7.2	-23.3
	Next three months	8.3	-6.1	0.0	-9.4	-8.2	-10.9	-7.9	12.9	6.0	-1.1	1.1	0.4
How has the average credit quality of new other unsecured lending to households changed?[c]	Past three months	4.0	2.7	11.6	-9.6	-3.3	17.8	-3.9	-12.6	3.8	12.8	4.6	15.3
	Next three months	0.9	-1.0	5.1	-8.9	-1.0	-4.8	2.4	-10.5	3.8	1.1	0.0	0.0
How has the average credit quality of new total unsecured lending to households changed?[c]	Past three months	-8.6	0.0	4.8	4.0	-10.0	-8.4	-5.9	0.3	-16.2	-12.6	6.7	-16.3
	Next three months	7.4	-5.5	0.7	-9.4	-7.0	-9.9	-6.1	8.8	5.6	-0.7	0.9	-0.4
How has the default rate on credit card loans to households changed?	Past three months	-17.5	-16.2	-8.6	-23.8	-17.9	-27.7	-27.4	-4.4	-24.3	-12.4	-13.0	-10.6
	Next three months	-9.1	-7.5	-9.5	-8.9	-11.2	-19.6	-12.0	17.5	-8.7	-5.8	-13.0	6.9
How has the default rate on other unsecured loans to households changed?	Past three months	-7.5	0.0	-6.4	-6.8	-3.6	-22.6	-7.2	-3.9	1.8	12.4	16.0	12.4
	Next three months	0.0	0.0	-6.4	0.0	0.0	-4.4	0.0	2.4	14.2	18.6	-1.5	-1.5
How has the default rate on total unsecured loans to households changed?	Past three months	-16.3	-14.3	-8.3	-21.1	-15.5	-26.8	-23.9	-4.3	-19.6	-7.8	-7.6	-6.5
	Next three months	-8.0	-6.7	-9.1	-7.4	-9.4	-17.1	-10.0	14.8	-4.6	-1.3	-10.8	5.4
How have losses given default on credit card loans to households changed?	Past three months	5.9	1.4	9.5	9.8	3.7	-10.9	-3.3	-19.8	22.8	13.9	-12.4	-14.7
	Next three months	7.5	8.3	9.5	9.8	10.4	0.0	10.6	-1.6	-0.7	-12.4	-0.6	-27.8
How have losses given default on other unsecured loans to households changed?	Past three months	-0.9	-22.9	-9.0	-0.5	0.0	0.0	-2.3	-2.4	5.0	0.0	-5.0	-8.0
	Next three months	-16.5	0.0	-8.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.4	0.0	-6.3	-6.5	-12.8
How have losses given default on total unsecured loans to households changed?	Past three months	5.1	-1.4	7.1	8.2	3.1	-9.1	-3.1	-16.8	19.6	11.3	-11.0	-13.5
	Next three months	4.7	7.3	7.2	8.3	8.7	0.0	8.8	-1.8	-0.6	-11.3	-1.7	-25.1
How has demand for credit card lending from households changed?	Past three months	27.8	2.4	-32.7	-1.9	-14.5	-26.7	-6.3	10.6	58.3	-7.7	4.2	17.0
	Next three months	0.0	11.6	0.0	0.0	9.7	1.4	-2.0	27.8	35.4	0.3	13.1	2.2
How has demand for other unsecured lending from households changed?	Past three months	34.6	-6.2	5.4	26.4	-23.0	11.7	4.0	1.8	38.7	-5.4	5.7	35.7
	Next three months	32.3	35.1	15.8	-6.5	15.3	29.4	13.6	24.8	14.0	11.4	9.0	12.8
How has demand for total unsecured lending from households changed?	Past three months	28.6	1.4	-27.6	2.7	-15.9	-20.2	-4.5	9.1	54.8	-7.2	4.5	20.4
	Next three months	3.8	14.3	2.1	-1.0	10.6	6.1	0.7	27.3	31.6	2.4	12.3	4.5
How have spreads on credit cards changed?	Past three months	0.0	0.0	1.0	-9.4	-4.7	0.0	-13.2	-0.4	-5.7	0.0	0.4	11.8
	Next three months	0.0	0.0	5.6	-2.0	0.0	-4.6	-1.1	-3.9	-1.0	1.1	0.0	0.0
How have spreads on other unsecured lending products changed?	Past three months	31.0	11.6	21.6	37.5	34.6	44.3	15.2	9.3	51.7	36.7	16.7	43.3
	Next three months	8.0	25.7	17.4	23.4	27.0	44.5	30.7	7.7	-2.9	33.4	23.9	-9.5
How have overall unsecured lending spreads changed?	Past three months	3.6	1.4	3.7	-1.9	1.8	7.4	-8.4	1.3	4.6	6.4	3.3	17.2
	Next three months	0.9	3.0	7.2	2.1	4.5	3.6	4.4	-1.9	-1.3	6.7	4.2	-1.6

		Net percentage balances[a]											
		2012	2013				2014				2015		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
How have credit card limits changed?	Past three months	5.8	6.7	1.8	7.5	-13.1	6.7	0.9	6.6	-12.5	-5.9	-15.2	11.2
	Next three months	6.6	0.0	9.7	0.0	0.9	0.9	8.8	7.5	8.8	6.6	9.3	3.2
How has the minimum proportion of credit card balances to be paid changed?	Past three months	0.0	-14.2	-6.6	0.0	0.0	-6.6	0.0	-6.6	0.0	0.0	-1.1	-1.6
	Next three months	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	-6.6	0.0	0.0	-12.5	-2.0
How have the following terms on new credit card lending to households changed?													
Length of interest free period on balance transfers	Past three months	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	31.1	20.4	0.7
	Next three months	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	28.5	1.2	1.3
Length of interest free period for purchases	Past three months	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	0.0	7.7	13.5
	Next three months	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	n.a.**	-5.6	1.2	-1.1
How have maximum maturities on loans changed?[d]	Past three months	0.0	0.0	-0.9	0.7	-2.3	0.0	2.2	0.0	5.1	0.0	0.0	-2.3
	Next three months	0.0	-1.0	-3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	5.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

** Additional question not asked in survey.

(a) Net percentage balances are calculated by weighting together the responses of those lenders who answered the question by their market shares. Positive balances indicate that lenders, on balance, reported/expected demand/credit availability/defaults to be higher than over the previous/current three-month period, or that the terms and conditions on which credit was provided became cheaper or looser respectively.
(b) A positive balance indicates that the changes in the factors described have served to increase credit availability/demand.
(c) A positive balance indicates an improvement in the credit quality of new borrowing.
(d) A positive balance indicates an increase in maximum maturities on new loans. The sign convention was changed in 2009 Q4 and was applied to the back data accordingly.

Annex 3
Corporate lending questionnaire results

To calculate aggregate results, each lender is assigned a score based on their response. Lenders who report that credit conditions have changed 'a lot' are assigned twice the score of those who report that conditions have changed 'a little'. These scores are then weighted by lenders' market shares. The results are analysed by calculating 'net percentage balances' — the difference between the weighted balance of lenders reporting that, for example, demand was higher/lower or terms and conditions were tighter/looser. The net percentage balances are scaled to lie between ±100. This annex reports the net percentage balance of respondents for each question in the corporate lending questionnaire, including specific questions for private non-financial corporations (PNFCs) and other financial corporations (OFCs).

Positive balances indicate that lenders, on balance, reported/expected demand/credit availability/defaults to be higher than over the previous/current three-month period, or that the terms and conditions on which credit was provided became cheaper or looser respectively.

Where the survey balances are discussed, descriptions of a 'significant' change refer to a net percentage balance greater than 20 in absolute terms, and a 'slight' change refers to a net percentage balance of between 5 and 10 in absolute terms. Survey balances between 0 and 5 in absolute terms are described as unchanged.

The first Credit Conditions Survey was conducted in 2007 Q2 and additional questions have been included since 2007 Q4. A full set of results is available in Excel on the Bank's website at **www.bankofengland.co.uk/publications/Pages/other/monetary/creditconditions.aspx.**

		Net percentage balances[a]											
		2012	2013				2014				2015		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
How has the availability of credit provided to the corporate sector overall changed?	Past three months	29.4	12.3	14.2	8.5	22.2	12.7	4.8	2.6	2.0	0.6	0.6	1.4
	Next three months	14.9	3.1	3.5	9.7	16.1	14.4	13.7	1.7	3.6	1.5	9.6	1.4
of which: commercial real estate sector	Past three months	10.4	1.7	14.4	0.7	14.8	14.6	-0.9	-0.9	3.9	6.7	2.7	1.4
	Next three months	15.4	2.4	13.9	2.6	0.1	15.8	2.8	-0.9	3.9	3.6	9.7	0.8
How have commercial property prices affected credit availability to the commercial real estate sector, and/or secured lending to PNFCs?	Past three months	-39.4	1.0	1.2	2.6	23.2	14.5	2.5	2.3	22.4	0.6	0.6	1.7
	Next three months	-13.6	1.7	0.0	1.4	2.6	2.5	2.5	0.0	3.7	-3.9	0.0	1.1
Factors contributing to changes in credit availability:[b]													
changing economic outlook	Past three months	-0.1	6.4	17.1	6.2	22.2	18.2	32.5	24.3	4.2	0.6	0.6	0.6
	Next three months	-0.1	6.4	38.5	29.4	24.8	19.9	32.5	10.6	-17.9	0.0	6.9	-1.0
changing sector-specific risks	Past three months	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	3.0	5.7	2.4	-0.4	6.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
	Next three months	0.0	-0.8	7.0	0.6	1.8	5.7	12.0	-2.1	-1.5	5.4	1.5	-1.3
market share objectives	Past three months	2.9	8.1	7.2	11.8	21.3	20.0	19.2	9.9	8.1	7.1	13.5	0.4
	Next three months	0.8	8.1	17.0	19.4	25.2	20.6	22.2	8.1	8.1	8.6	3.8	0.0
market pressures from capital markets	Past three months	0.0	7.3	8.8	8.2	22.3	12.8	16.8	14.2	8.1	0.6	-1.7	-0.4
	Next three months	5.8	7.3	7.5	19.2	20.6	12.8	18.0	7.2	0.0	0.0	-2.4	0.0
changing appetite for risk	Past three months	2.1	7.8	1.8	-1.1	16.7	11.8	4.5	1.7	13.1	0.0	0.0	1.4
	Next three months	0.7	7.8	1.4	9.9	16.0	14.9	14.9	0.0	0.9	3.7	1.4	0.0
tight wholesale funding conditions	Past three months	9.2	4.6	-1.5	0.0	0.0	11.4	-2.7	7.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.0
	Next three months	7.9	-5.9	0.0	0.0	-7.5	0.0	-2.7	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.0

		Net percentage balances[a]											
		2012	2013				2014				2015		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
How has the availability of credit provided to small businesses changed?	Past three months	5.6	0.7	6.6	3.2	12.7	7.6	4.9	-9.4	0.0	0.0	19.0	5.2
	Next three months	6.5	0.7	6.6	15.4	13.9	1.9	-9.4	-13.0	-11.8	21.0	13.9	23.6
How has the availability of credit provided to medium PNFCs changed?	Past three months	20.2	4.5	13.1	4.7	0.6	0.6	3.6	2.4	0.6	0.6	-0.7	1.5
	Next three months	17.4	3.1	2.1	6.6	2.8	1.8	10.3	0.6	4.3	0.6	3.4	1.5
How has the availability of credit provided to large PNFCs changed?	Past three months	17.5	12.9	23.2	2.5	13.1	11.5	5.9	1.5	14.9	12.0	-1.4	0.0
	Next three months	18.3	13.8	6.9	11.0	23.4	11.5	5.9	-0.2	3.5	-0.1	2.7	0.0
How has the proportion of loan applications from small businesses being approved changed?	Past three months	4.2	9.8	18.4	8.5	16.5	15.4	7.5	-14.9	-0.7	-11.1	26.6	44.2
	Next three months	3.3	0.7	4.0	12.8	12.1	0.6	-11.9	-12.1	2.4	7.0	3.6	13.3
How has the proportion of loan applications from medium PNFCs being approved changed?	Past three months	0.7	-3.1	-0.4	-1.7	0.6	1.2	7.3	9.1	-1.2	-0.5	-0.4	8.3
	Next three months	6.2	5.8	-1.1	0.6	1.2	7.3	9.1	10.9	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0
How has the proportion of loan applications from large PNFCs being approved changed?	Past three months	0.0	-3.1	2.6	-1.7	0.6	0.3	4.4	0.9	-0.8	-0.7	6.4	0.6
	Next three months	5.5	0.7	-1.1	0.6	1.2	-0.3	5.0	3.4	-0.2	-0.1	18.0	0.0
Has there been a change in average credit quality on newly arranged PNFC borrowing facilities?[c]	Past three months	-0.8	1.2	-2.2	0.4	0.0	-0.9	-7.6	-4.5	6.6	-7.7	-9.2	0.0
	Next three months	0.0	-0.8	-0.9	-0.9	0.0	-0.9	-0.9	-4.5	0.0	-1.1	-1.3	0.0
Has there been any change in 'target hold' levels associated with corporate lending?	Past three months	-6.1	-11.8	-5.1	-5.2	-12.2	-10.8	-13.5	-7.4	-13.8	-6.6	0.0	-0.6
	Next three months	0.7	0.0	-4.5	-6.3	-9.5	-10.0	-7.9	-7.2	-0.6	-0.6	-1.9	0.0
How have loan tenors on new corporate loans changed?[d]	Past three months	-11.7	0.0	-1.7	-1.1	23.8	11.2	11.3	10.5	2.9	-0.7	11.5	11.5
	Next three months	0.0	0.0	-1.7	11.3	13.9	11.2	14.7	11.1	-0.2	11.3	11.5	10.1
Has there been a change in draw-downs on committed lines by PNFCs?	Past three months	-1.1	1.6	-0.2	-13.2	-9.8	-1.1	-2.0	2.3	-1.0	-0.1	-0.1	1.5
	Next three months	1.5	-2.4	-0.2	3.0	-1.1	-0.2	7.5	2.7	-0.8	0.6	0.6	1.0
How has the default rate on loans to small businesses changed?	Past three months	9.3	-22.2	26.5	2.7	-22.3	8.4	-18.6	8.4	-33.8	-10.3	-34.8	-19.7
	Next three months	6.1	-0.7	-0.7	0.5	-14.4	0.6	-0.6	-14.9	-10.8	-10.8	-15.1	-4.4
How has the default rate on loans to medium PNFCs changed?	Past three months	24.7	-13.6	-0.6	-3.7	-3.3	-12.8	-14.1	-10.4	-11.9	-11.2	-7.3	-1.9
	Next three months	9.4	11.2	2.1	-15.9	-5.4	9.4	-2.1	-4.0	-1.4	-0.8	-3.4	-0.6
How has the default rate on loans to large PNFCs changed?	Past three months	30.7	-11.2	4.0	9.9	-10.5	-7.6	-25.5	-23.7	-15.1	-20.0	-12.2	1.5
	Next three months	7.3	0.7	-1.5	-3.1	-4.5	-12.9	-13.3	-18.4	-13.6	0.0	-4.0	7.3
How has losses given default on loans to small businesses changed?	Past three months	0.0	-14.0	7.2	-12.6	-11.9	0.6	-3.7	-3.7	-3.0	-3.5	-19.3	-14.6
	Next three months	0.0	-0.7	-0.7	10.9	-11.9	0.6	-3.1	-3.0	-3.0	-2.9	-7.1	-12.8
How have losses given default on loans to medium PNFCs changed?	Past three months	14.3	-8.6	12.5	-13.0	-11.3	1.0	-23.1	-23.3	-17.6	-16.7	-17.3	-14.1
	Next three months	0.2	-2.1	-11.5	-12.4	-13.0	-15.3	-10.4	-9.2	-2.3	0.0	-4.1	0.0
How have losses given default on loans to large PNFCs changed?	Past three months	12.4	4.1	0.2	-3.3	-12.5	-14.8	-23.3	-23.9	-16.8	-14.0	-18.3	-10.9
	Next three months	-0.7	9.9	-0.7	-1.5	-13.1	-13.6	-9.3	-9.4	-2.4	0.0	-4.1	0.0
How has demand for credit card lending from small businesses changed?	Past three months	11.7	11.7	10.4	21.8	-26.2	-4.7	3.6	23.3	2.3	23.1	22.7	41.8
	Next three months	9.8	21.5	10.4	9.4	11.2	18.0	23.1	17.4	8.5	8.4	8.1	9.7
How has demand for other unsecured lending from small businesses changed?	Past three months	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	24.4	20.0	-2.3	8.0	-11.7	0.0	-7.5	19.6	-11.0
	Next three months	n.a.*	n.a.*	n.a.*	16.1	20.3	22.0	10.4	12.3	-7.5	13.5	3.5	32.4

		Net percentage balances[a]											
		2012	2013				2014				2015		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
How has demand for total unsecured lending from small businesses changed?	Past three months	8.7	7.6	10.6	22.2	-18.4	-4.3	4.3	17.0	1.9	17.2	22.1	32.1
	Next three months	8.5	22.5	9.1	10.5	12.7	18.7	20.8	16.5	5.5	9.3	7.2	15.2
How has demand for secured lending from small businesses changed?	Past three months	-7.5	-11.2	35.9	24.1	33.0	-2.3	-0.5	-26.1	12.9	-13.6	19.2	-6.6
	Next three months	2.0	28.5	6.9	8.7	11.5	18.9	19.9	13.1	-6.8	18.9	5.3	2.3
How has overall demand for lending from small businesses changed?	Past three months	-19.2	-27.7	11.1	16.9	3.6	13.4	28.1	-12.5	-14.6	-2.5	27.0	11.5
	Next three months	6.9	28.9	4.0	14.0	20.4	19.4	16.5	7.7	-4.6	20.4	7.4	16.0
How has demand for lending from medium PNFCs changed?	Past three months	5.5	-7.9	20.5	14.0	33.7	25.6	25.8	29.4	31.8	4.1	2.2	15.5
	Next three months	5.2	15.6	6.3	26.2	16.3	22.2	21.8	21.4	21.2	10.0	10.9	13.7
How has demand for lending from large PNFCs changed?	Past three months	0.6	4.8	17.5	-3.0	8.8	22.6	23.6	19.0	5.8	17.0	19.1	10.3
	Next three months	3.7	29.4	26.5	21.9	28.1	29.9	11.4	10.7	5.6	-1.6	10.7	0.9
How has demand for lending from OFCs changed?	Past three months	-6.8	-13.5	0.0	13.4	2.7	17.1	14.4	39.0	0.0	0.0	27.4	39.9
	Next three months	0.0	6.9	-13.5	13.4	9.9	17.1	14.4	24.4	27.2	27.4	18.0	26.0
What have been the main factors contributing to changes in demand for lending:[b]													
mergers and acquisitions	Past three months	10.4	6.4	27.1	12.8	14.3	27.0	36.0	28.9	43.2	10.3	16.0	12.4
	Next three months	0.4	20.4	14.1	27.7	22.0	26.4	28.3	16.6	7.2	17.7	7.3	9.2
capital investment	Past three months	-3.2	-11.8	4.0	23.9	31.2	17.9	19.5	13.9	5.0	11.7	0.1	9.2
	Next three months	-0.9	3.9	2.8	19.4	37.6	25.2	24.6	3.8	3.9	1.1	10.5	0.0
inventory finance	Past three months	0.0	3.6	0.7	-0.5	31.5	22.2	11.9	10.8	-0.9	-4.2	-1.4	16.3
	Next three months	3.1	3.9	0.7	22.8	25.6	6.0	13.5	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.9
balance sheet restructuring	Past three months	11.8	16.8	13.4	7.3	7.1	5.2	1.0	3.2	4.5	6.0	-1.0	-1.1
	Next three months	3.2	2.2	7.9	8.0	8.1	28.4	-1.8	1.3	4.5	7.1	-1.0	0.0
commercial real estate	Past three months	-10.0	4.5	-7.9	23.3	29.4	26.9	29.3	25.7	30.0	32.4	11.2	7.5
	Next three months	-12.9	16.5	-11.3	27.7	28.0	39.8	28.7	20.7	15.6	10.1	17.4	10.9
How have spreads on loans to small businesses changed?	Past three months	-2.0	12.0	-1.2	6.7	7.9	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.0	0.6	4.9	12.1
	Next three months	-2.0	6.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	-4.7	3.0	3.0	7.9	4.2	0.0
How have fees/commissions on loans to small businesses changed?	Past three months	1.5	-7.4	7.8	7.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	-13.0	13.0	12.8	0.0	9.8
	Next three months	-0.7	7.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
How have collateral requirements for loans to small businesses changed?	Past three months	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Next three months	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
How have maximum credit lines for small businesses changed?	Past three months	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.9	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7
	Next three months	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
How have loan covenants for small businesses changed?	Past three months	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	5.1	5.3	0.0	0.0
	Next three months	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
How have spreads on loans to medium PNFCs changed?	Past three months	29.8	39.1	7.9	23.1	25.5	14.7	35.2	29.7	41.7	37.5	43.4	25.7
	Next three months	19.3	13.4	0.0	16.8	13.9	23.9	29.1	22.2	10.3	5.2	8.9	7.7
How have fees/commissions on loans to medium PNFCs changed?	Past three months	19.9	9.3	9.6	1.2	18.3	14.9	16.4	14.7	37.4	22.1	28.2	12.1
	Next three months	7.8	2.8	-0.7	1.2	21.2	15.8	10.9	14.7	9.3	5.2	8.3	0.0
How have collateral requirements for loans to medium PNFCs changed?	Past three months	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.9	-0.3	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3	0.0
	Next three months	1.2	0.0	0.8	2.2	0.6	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	6.8	8.3	0.0

		Net percentage balances[a]											
		2012	2013				2014				2015		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
How have maximum credit lines for medium PNFCs changed?	Past three months	-1.2	0.0	-1.0	10.6	-1.2	0.8	1.0	3.6	0.0	6.8	8.3	8.7
	Next three months	-0.5	0.0	0.0	0.7	-1.2	1.7	4.6	3.6	0.0	6.8	8.3	0.6
How have loan covenants for medium PNFCs changed?	Past three months	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.6	-0.9	11.2	10.9	11.8	10.8	12.3	11.5
	Next three months	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.9	1.2	7.2	5.7	10.3	0.9	10.8	9.0	0.0
How have spreads on loans to large PNFCs changed?	Past three months	31.4	24.3	32.8	37.7	34.6	45.8	50.6	49.8	45.0	50.0	46.3	23.0
	Next three months	8.5	20.7	25.8	42.3	43.6	42.7	30.2	25.7	20.9	8.7	5.3	7.3
How have fees/commissions on loans to large PNFCs changed?	Past three months	9.2	0.7	13.1	12.4	33.3	23.7	47.4	47.4	46.7	34.9	31.3	21.3
	Next three months	7.8	8.8	13.2	29.6	42.3	28.9	27.8	26.9	21.3	8.7	1.3	8.4
How have collateral requirements for loans to large PNFCs changed?	Past three months	0.0	0.0	-0.9	0.7	0.0	-0.3	11.0	1.7	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.0
	Next three months	0.0	0.8	0.9	0.0	0.6	0.0	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
How have maximum credit lines for large PNFCs changed?	Past three months	-3.3	3.9	16.7	31.1	18.7	31.1	32.2	19.6	1.5	7.6	2.5	9.7
	Next three months	2.6	3.9	19.1	29.6	18.4	13.2	6.6	0.9	0.9	7.8	2.5	7.6
How have loan covenants for large PNFCs changed?	Past three months	0.8	7.3	0.0	23.9	20.6	30.8	29.9	26.9	43.4	23.8	29.2	12.4
	Next three months	0.0	0.8	6.4	20.7	20.3	31.2	38.8	47.2	8.4	12.6	2.5	1.5
How have spreads on loans to OFCs changed?	Past three months	-2.7	12.7	12.7	42.0	33.4	46.6	48.0	48.1	39.5	26.3	27.9	32.5
	Next three months	7.9	6.5	19.8	28.2	43.6	46.0	42.9	34.3	27.2	27.0	22.2	7.9
How have fees/commissions on loans to OFCs changed?	Past three months	-6.0	3.9	23.4	19.9	32.7	43.9	46.7	42.7	38.5	26.3	26.6	14.3
	Next three months	10.3	0.0	19.8	28.2	42.2	43.3	42.9	34.3	26.2	14.7	26.6	0.0
How have collateral requirements for loans to OFCs changed?	Past three months	-13.1	0.0	3.5	0.0	1.3	0.6	0.0	5.3	0.0	-14.7	7.7	7.9
	Next three months	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-14.7	0.0	7.9
How have maximum credit lines for OFCs changed?	Past three months	6.3	0.0	19.8	33.0	7.3	21.9	34.1	34.3	18.9	13.5	32.8	20.6
	Next three months	0.0	12.9	19.8	7.1	20.4	34.8	34.1	34.3	18.9	25.8	25.2	7.9

* Data are unpublished for this question as too few responses were received.

** Additional question not asked in survey.

(a) Net percentage balances are calculated by weighting together the responses of those lenders who answered the question by their market shares. Positive balances indicate that lenders, on balance, reported/expected demand/credit availability/defaults to be higher than over the previous/current three-month period, or that the terms and conditions on which credit was provided became cheaper or looser respectively.
(b) A positive balance indicates that the changes in the factors described have served to increase credit availability/demand.
(c) A positive balance indicates an improvement in the credit quality of new borrowing.
(d) A positive balance indicates an increase in new corporate loan tenors. The sign convention was changed in 2009 Q3 and was applied to the back data accordingly.

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