

News Release

THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK *of* KANSAS CITY

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FEDERAL RESERVE OF KANSAS CITY ANNOUNCES FIRST QUARTER SMALL BUSINESS LENDING SURVEY RESULTS

Small Business Lending Conditions Are Stable, But Terms Show Some Tightening

The Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City today released the results from the [First Quarter 2018](#) national Small Business Lending Survey. The quarterly survey of U.S. banks provides data on lending activity and terms for small businesses, a critical source of employment and economic growth for the country.

Complete results of the survey are now available from the [Kansas City Fed's website](#).

Key findings include:

- Small business lending conditions were generally stable in the first quarter of 2018.
- While small business commercial and industrial (C&I) loan balances declined marginally in the first quarter, new small business C&I loan originations were steady.
- Average interest rates on new small business C&I fixed- and variable- rate term loans and fixed-rate credit lines rose in the first quarter, but declined on variable-rate credit lines.
- Demand for small business C&I loans was stable for most banks.
- Among the 40 percent of the banks reporting that credit standards or loan terms changed, 70 percent of those banks reporting tightening cited industry-specific conditions and reduced risk tolerance as reasons.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City national quarterly Small Business Lending Survey (FR 2028D) includes quantitative and qualitative data on credit market conditions for bank lending to small businesses across the country. The survey results provide detailed information on commercial banks' lending activity and terms, and offers a snapshot of small businesses' access to credit.

