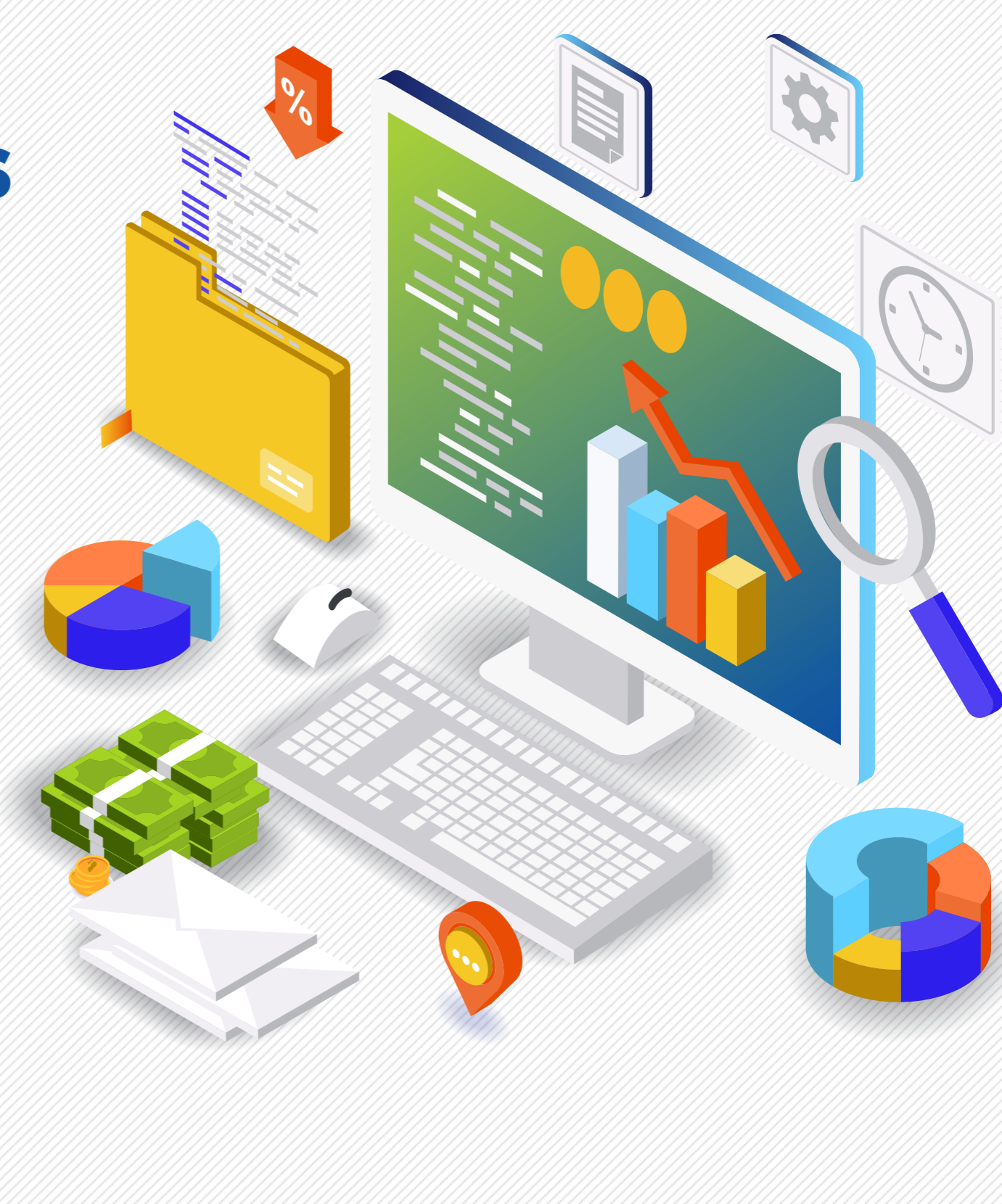


## Biz2Credit Small Business Lending Index™

### Small Business Loan Approvals at Big Banks Hit New High: Biz2Credit Small Business Lending Index™

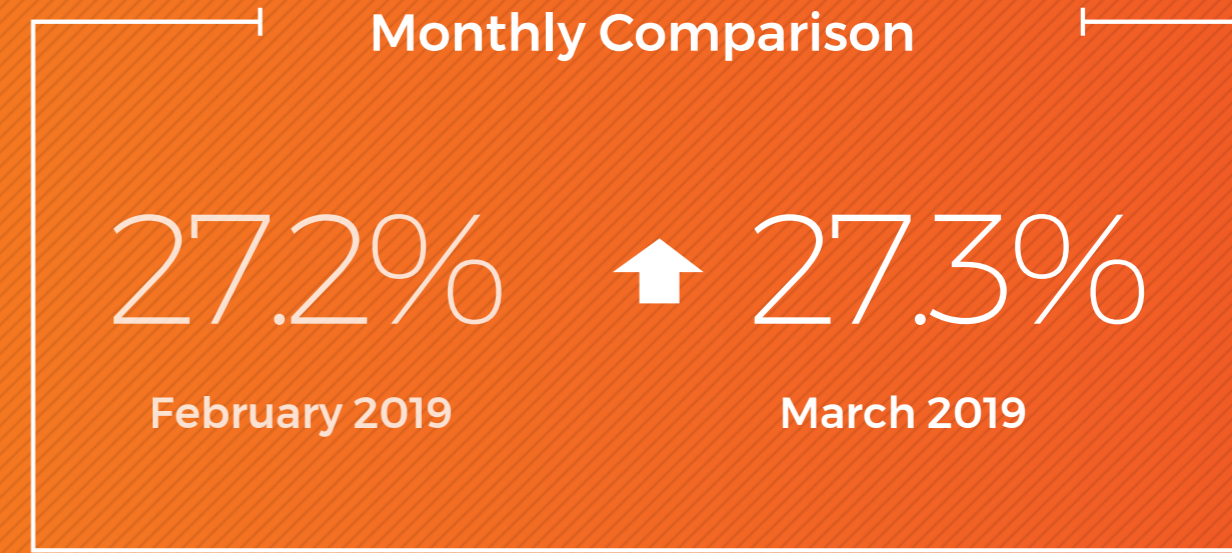
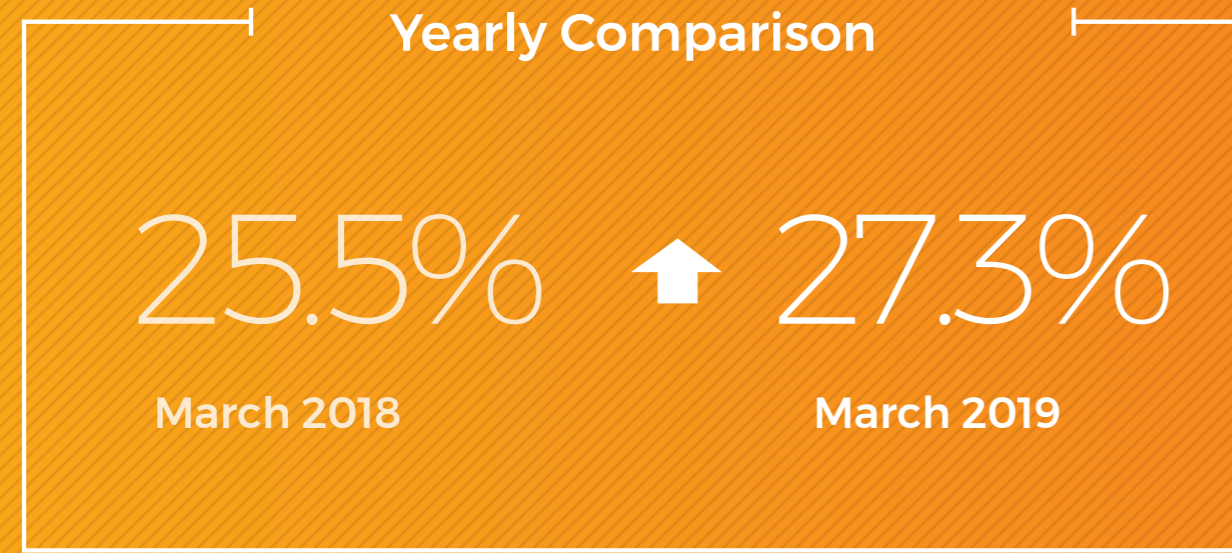


#### Credit Union Lending Percentages Drop to Historic, Post-Recession Low

The approval percentage for small business loan applicants hit a record high of 27.3% at big banks (\$10 billion+ in assets) in March, up one-tenth of a percent from February, according to the Biz2Credit Small Business Lending Index™ for March 2019.

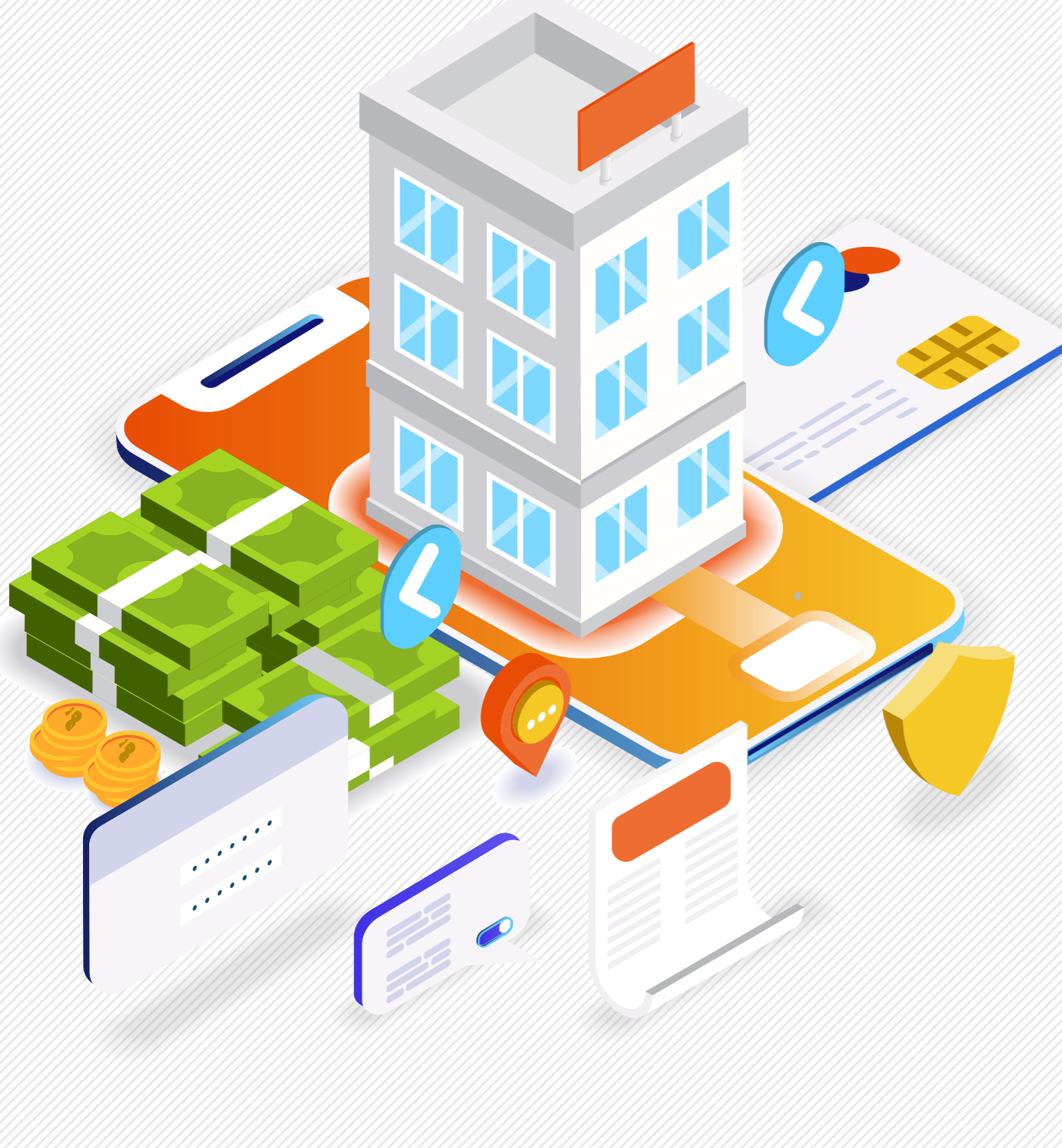
### Loan Approval in Big Banks

The approval percentage for small business loan applicants hit a record high of 27.3% at big banks in March



Approvals by big banks continue to climb. With strong financials from 2018, many small business owners are seeking capital for growth, and they have proven themselves to be creditworthy borrowers, who oversees the monthly research derived from more than 1,000 small business credit applications on his company's online lending platform

**Rohit Arora, Biz2Credit CEO**

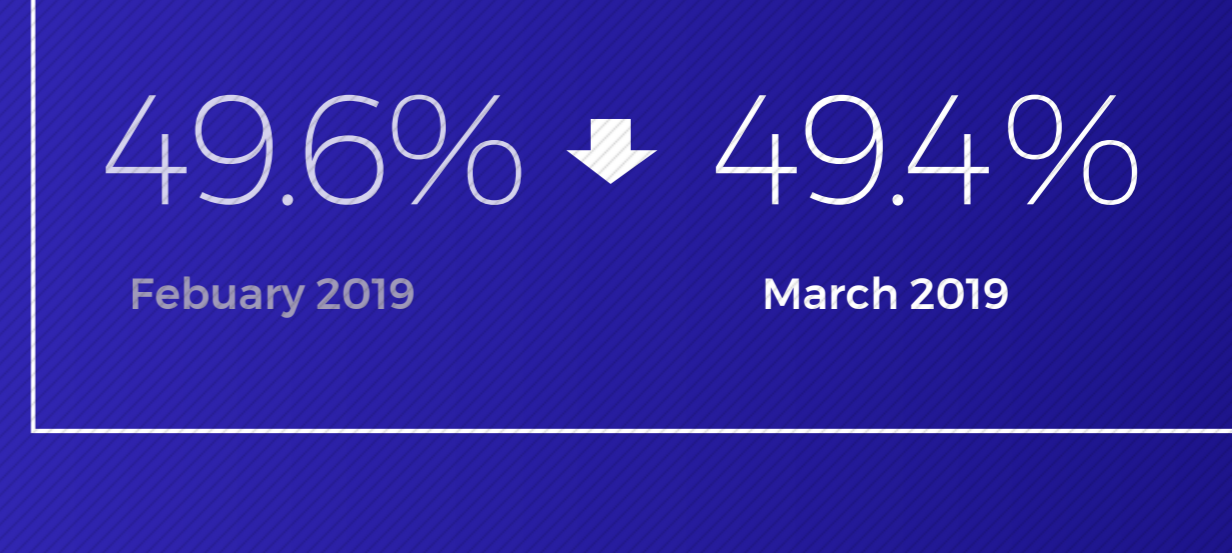
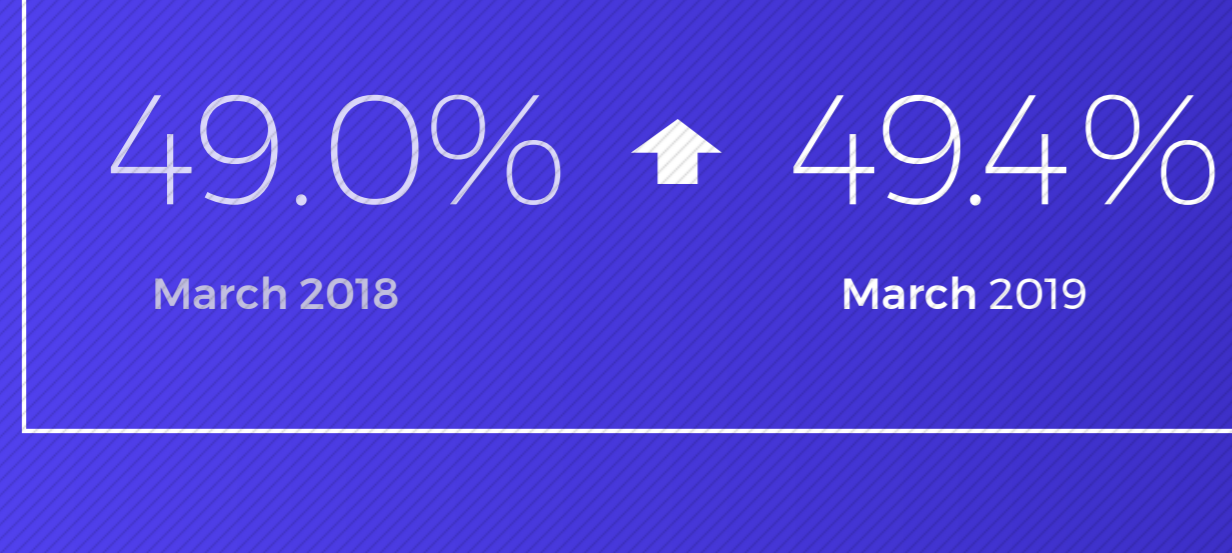


The Federal Reserve has slowed its trend of incremental interest rate hikes, which is good news for borrowers," said Arora, one of the nation's leading experts in small business finance. "Money is flowing to small business borrowers, while the cost of capital is still reasonable – especially loans from traditional bank loans."

On March 20, the Federal Reserve indicated that it will not likely raise interest rates again in 2019, which means that the pattern of small but continuous rate hikes has come to a halt for now. The Fed says that its target rate will remain unchanged at between 2.25% and 2.5%.

### Loan Approval in Small Banks

Small bank approvals of small business loan applications dropped two-tenths of a percent from 49.6% in February to 49.4% in March.

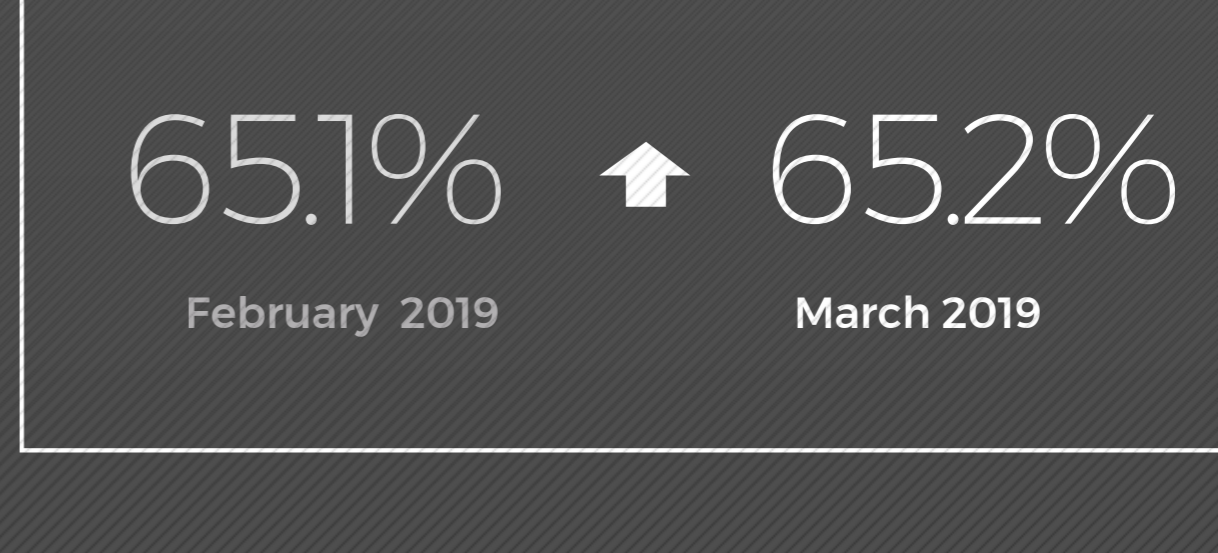
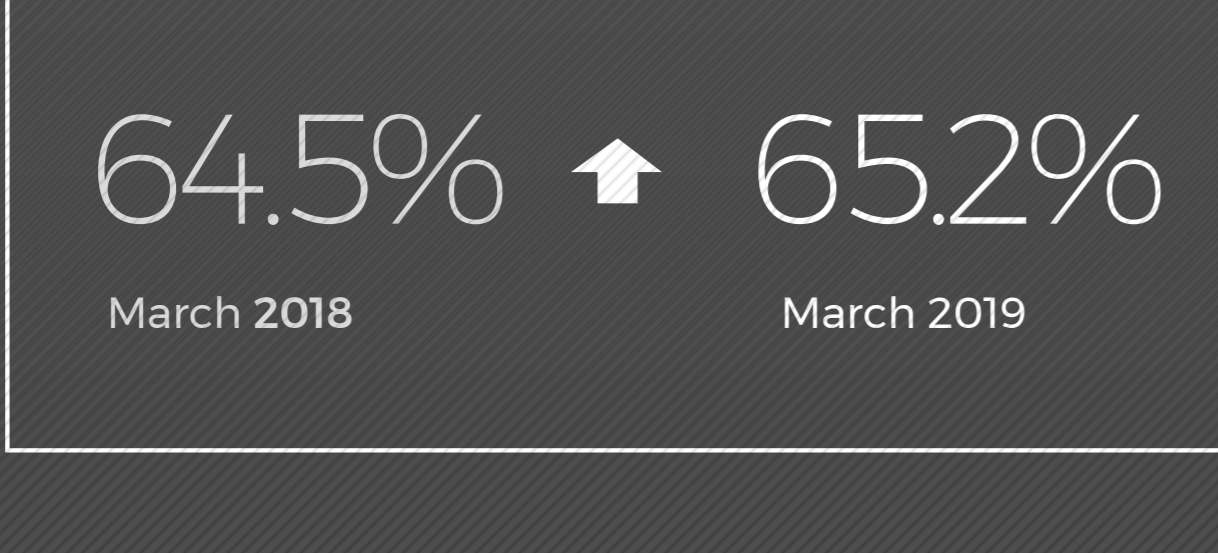


Around this time each year, there often is a hold up because small banks – particularly lenders that process SBA loans - will wait to see the previous year's tax filings before making a decision.

**Rohit Arora, Biz2Credit CEO**

### Institutional lenders

Institutional lenders climbed up to 65.2%, up a notch from 65.1 % in February



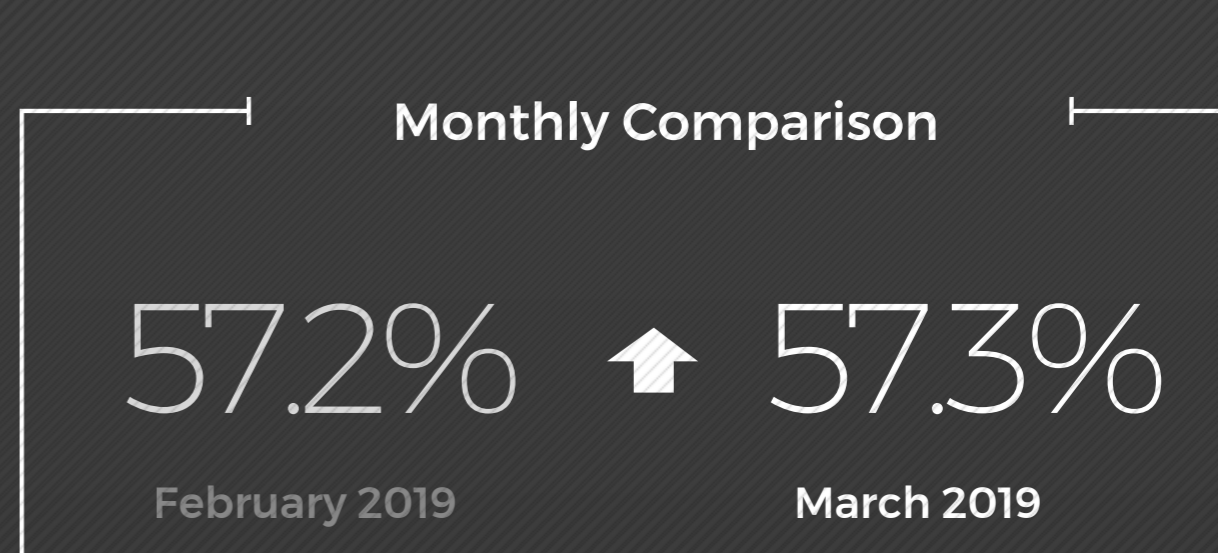
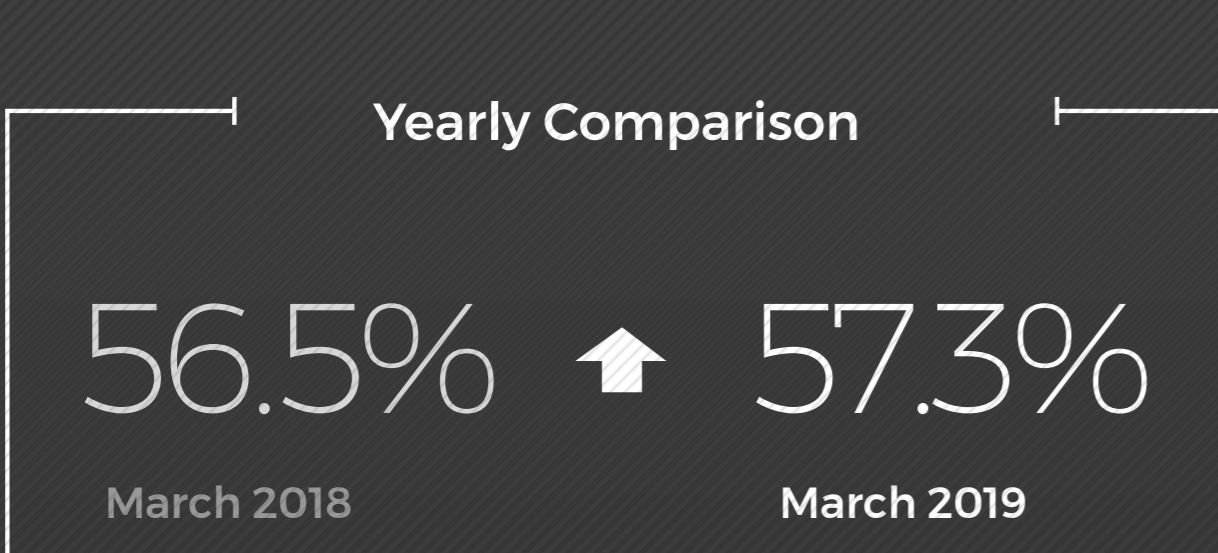
Small business loan-making has proven to be profitable and relatively low risk for institutional lenders, which explains their continued growth in the marketplace



**Rohit Arora, Biz2Credit CEO**

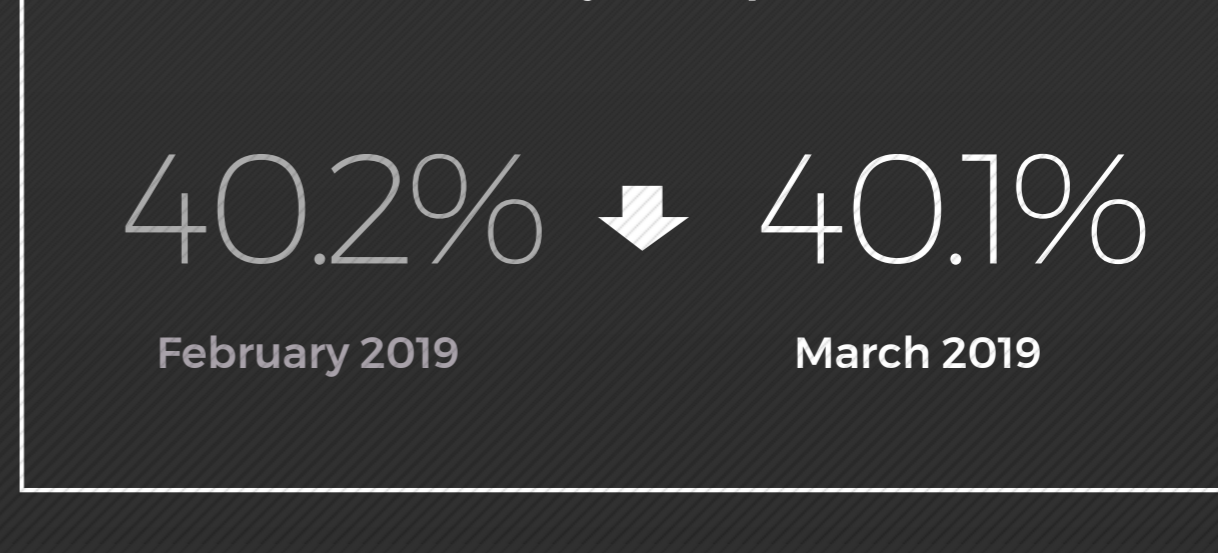
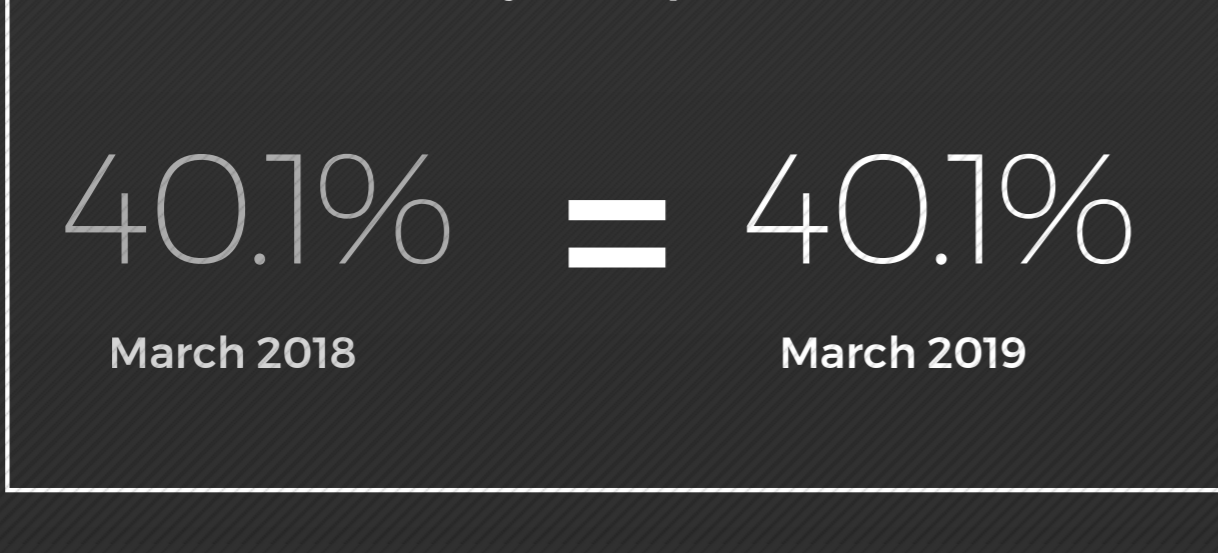
### Alternative lenders

Loan approval rates among alternative lenders climbed a notch from 57.2% in February to 57.3% in March, a one-tenth of a percent increase.



### Credit unions

Credit unions approvals dipped slightly from 40.2% in February to 40.1% of loan applications in March, tying a historic low.



Credit unions for the most part have not kept up with technology," added Arora, who oversees the Biz2Credit research. "Meanwhile, SBA lending has rebounded, big banks have asserted their presence in the marketplace, and institutional lenders have been active and aggressive in striking funding deals.



**Rohit Arora, Biz2Credit CEO**

#### About the Biz2Credit Small Business Lending Index

Biz2Credit analyzed loan requests ranging from \$25,000 to \$3 million from companies in business more than two years with an average credit score above 680. Unlike other surveys, the results are based on primary data submitted by more than 1,000 small business owners who applied for funding on Biz2Credit's online lending platform, which connects business borrowers and lenders.

#### About Biz2Credit

Founded in 2007, Biz2Credit has arranged more than \$2 billion in small business financing and has several times been named to Crain's New York's Fast 50 and was recently ranked among the top 200 fast-growing companies on Deloitte's 2018 Technology Fast 500. Biz2Credit is expanding its industry-leading technology in custom digital platform solutions for leading banks and other financial institutions, investors and service providers in the U.S. Visit [www.biz2credit.com](http://www.biz2credit.com) or follow Biz2Credit on Twitter: @Biz2Credit, Facebook, and LinkedIn.