

LOAN APPROVALS AT BIG BANKS CONTINUE TO CLIMB, HIT NEW POST-RECESSION HIGH AND INSTITUTIONAL LENDERS INCREASE SLIGHTLY, DIP AT SMALL BANKS AND CREDIT UNIONS

According to the Biz2Credit Small Business Lending Index™, for March 2016

Loan approval rates at big banks and institutional lenders hit new highs in March 2016, according to the latest Biz2Credit Small Business Lending Index™, the monthly analysis of more than 1,000 small business loan applications on Biz2Credit.com. Approval percentages dipped slightly for small banks, credit unions, and alternative lenders.



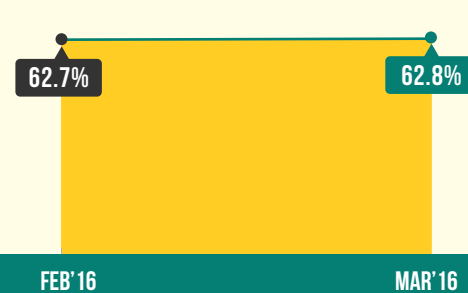
LOAN APPROVALS AT INSTITUTIONAL LENDERS

Lending approval rates at institutional lenders again had a slight uptick in March, improving to 62.8% from 62.7% in February. This category of lender continues to show strength in the small business credit marketplace every month . since Biz2Credit started following it in 2014.

↑ YEARLY COMPARISON



↑ MONTHLY COMPARISON



“Institutional lenders are indeed a driving force, and I don't see that changing anytime soon, International funds are getting into the marketplace. Because the yields in small business lending are attractive, increasing numbers of institutional lenders are getting into the game.”
- Biz2Credit CEO Rohit Arora



LOAN APPROVALS AT BIG BANKS

Lending approval rates at big banks ((\$10 billion+ in assets) approved 23% of funding requests in March, up two tenths of a percent from February 2016.

↑ YEARLY COMPARISON



↑ MONTHLY COMPARISON



“Big banks continue to loosen the spigot and are allowing more of a free flow of capital to small business,”
- Biz2Credit CEO Rohit Arora



LOAN APPROVALS AT SMALL BANKS

Small banks granted 48.7% of funding requests last month, down two tenths of a percent from 48.9% in February.

↓ YEARLY COMPARISON



↓ MONTHLY COMPARISON



CREDIT UNION APPROVALS

Credit unions approved 42% of loan applications in March, down slightly from 42.1% in February. This figure sets a new low for the category, according to the Index, which launched in January 2011.

↓ YEARLY COMPARISON



↓ MONTHLY COMPARISON



“Credit unions continue to slip as players in small business lending, this downward trend have gone on for quite a while. They simply cannot compete for quality, credit-worthy borrowers.” - Biz2Credit CEO Rohit Arora



SMALL BUSINESS LOAN APPROVALS BY ALTERNATIVE LENDERS

Loan approval rates at alternative lenders in March dipped to 60.7% from 60.8% in February. The emergence of institutional lenders in the small business lending marketplace has hurt alternative lenders (merchant cash advance companies, factors, and other non-bank lenders).

↓ YEARLY COMPARISON



↓ MONTHLY COMPARISON



“Alternative lenders' financial products are offered at high interest rates. With so much competition in the marketplace, borrowers are shopping for less expensive sources of capital,” - Biz2Credit CEO Rohit Arora

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.