# PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

January 24, 2022

# COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

BankNewport RSSD #546003

184 John Clarke Road Middletown, Rhode Island 02842

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston 600 Atlantic Avenue Boston, Massachusetts 02210

NOTE: This document is an evaluation of this institution's record of meeting the credit needs of its entire community, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, consistent with safe and sound operation of the institution. This evaluation is not, nor should it be construed as, an assessment of the financial condition of this institution. The rating assigned to this institution does not represent an analysis, conclusion or opinion of the federal financial supervisory agency concerning the safety and soundness of this financial institution.

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#### INSTITUTION'S CRA RATING: This institution is rated SATISFACTORY.

The following table indicates the performance level of BankNewport (or the bank) with respect to the Lending, Investment, and Service Tests.

	<u>BANKNEWPORT</u>									
	PERFORMANCE TESTS									
PERFORMANCE LEVELS	Lending Test*	Investment Test	Service Test							
Outstanding										
High Satisfactory			X							
Low Satisfactory	X	X								
Needs to Improve										
Substantial			_							
Noncompliance										

<sup>\*</sup>The Lending Test is weighted more heavily than the Investment and Service Tests when arriving at an overall rating.

The major components supporting the ratings in the above referenced table include:

# **Lending Test**

- The bank demonstrates excellent responsiveness to credit needs in its assessment area, taking into account the number and amount of home mortgage and small business loans in its assessment area.
- The bank demonstrates a substantial majority of loans are made in the bank's assessment area.
- The bank demonstrates an adequate geographic distribution of loans in its assessment area.
- The bank demonstrates an adequate distribution, particularly in its assessment area, of loans among individuals of different income levels and businesses of different sizes, given the product lines offered by the bank.
- The bank demonstrates an adequate record of serving the credit needs of highly economically disadvantaged areas in its assessment area, low-income individuals, or businesses with gross annual revenues of \$1 million or less, consistent with safe and sound banking operations.
- The bank demonstrates use of innovative or flexible lending practices in a safe and sound manner to address the credit needs of low- or moderate-income individuals or geographies.
- The bank demonstrates it is a leader in making community development loans.

#### **Investment Test**

- The bank demonstrates an adequate level of qualified investments, particularly those that are not routinely provided by private investors, although rarely in a leadership position.
- The bank demonstrates occasional use of innovative or complex qualified investments.
- The bank demonstrates good responsiveness to credit and community development needs.

#### **Service Test**

- The bank demonstrates its service-delivery systems are reasonably accessible to geographies and individuals of different income levels in its assessment area.
- To the extent changes have been made, the bank's record of opening and closing branches has generally not adversely affected the accessibility of its delivery systems, particularly in low- and moderate-income geographies and to low- and moderate-income individuals.
- The bank demonstrates its services (including, where appropriate, business hours) do not vary in a way that inconveniences its assessment area, particularly low- and moderate-income geographies and low- and moderate-income individuals.
- The bank demonstrates it provides a relatively high level of community development services.

# **DESCRIPTION OF INSTITUTION**

BankNewport is a mutual savings bank founded in 1819 and headquartered at 184 John Clarke Road, Middletown, RI. BankNewport is wholly-owned by OceanPoint Financial Partners, LLC, which is owned by OceanPoint Financial Partners, MHC. BankNewport has three wholly-owned subsidiaries: (1) OceanPoint Insurance Agency, an operating subsidiary that provides insurance products to retail and commercial customers; (2) BON Investment Services, Inc., a passive investment company that holds loans transferred from the bank for beneficial tax purposes; and (3) OceanPoint Investment Services, Inc. which is currently inactive.

The bank offers a full range of personal and business banking products and services, as well as asset management activities through its trust division. In addition to its main office, the bank operates 17 full-service branch locations, 7 ATM-only locations, 1 lending center, 1 loan production office, and 1 administrative and operations center. All branch offices are located in the Rhode Island portion of the Providence-Warwick, RI-MA, Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The main branch is located at 10 Washington Square, Newport, RI. Since the previous examination on September 16, 2019, the bank has opened new branches in Johnston, RI, and Warwick, RI. Standalone ATMs were also added in Providence (2), East Providence (1), Newport (2), and Jamestown (1). The bank closed a branch in Quonset, RI, as well as a branch office in North Kingstown, RI. A standalone ATM at Wellington Square in Providence, RI was also closed.

As of September 30, 2021, BankNewports's assets total \$2.3 billion; with loans totaling \$1.6 billion and deposits totaling \$1.9 billion. Assets have increased from the last examination when, according to the FDIC's June 30, 2019 Consolidated Report of Condition and Income (Call Report), the bank had total assets of \$1.7 billion. Loans and deposits have also increased from the prior examination when both totaled approximately \$1.4 billion. The bank's balance sheet has shifted slightly since the previous examination when residential real-estate was the primary product category, at 50.6 percent of the portfolio. Currently, commercial lending accounts for the highest proportion, at 46.2 percent, with commercial real-estate, at 30.6 percent, and commercial and industrial lending, at 15.6 percent. Residential real-estate lending currently accounts for 42.9 percent of the portfolio, with 1-4 family residential lending accounting for 31.4 percent, revolving 1-4 family lending at 6.9 percent, and multi-family lending at 4.6 percent.

Refer to Table 1 for the breakout of the bank's loan portfolio.

Table 1 Loan Distribution as of September 30, 2020										
Loan Type	Dollar Amount \$ (000s)	Percent of Total Loans								
Construction and Land Development	80,772	4.9%								
Revolving 1-4 Family Residential	113,422	6.9%								
1-4 Family Residential	518,869	31.4%								
Multi-Family (5 or more) Residential	76,720	4.6%								
Commercial RE	504,703	30.6%								
Loans to finance agricultural production and other loans to farmers	184	0.0%								
Total Real Estate Loans	1,294,670	78.4%								
Commercial and Industrial	258,222	15.6%								
Consumer	84,776	5.1%								
Loans to nondepository financial institutions and other loans	12,680	0.8%								
Total Loans	1,650,348	100.0%								

Call Report as of September 30, 2021

Total percentages shown may vary by 0.1 percent due to automated rounding differences.

The bank offers a variety of products: mortgages, personal loans, student loans, and boat loans. The bank offers business banking, including debit and credit cards, residential real estate, and Small Business Administration (SBA) loans.

The bank's financial capacity, legal impediments, local economic conditions, demographics, and market competition are all considered when examining the bank's CRA performance. There are no legal impediments that would prevent the bank from fulfilling its responsibilities under the CRA. BankNewport operates primarily in the state of Rhode Island and competes with both regional and national financial institutions. While operating in a competitive market, the bank's market share and ranking in home mortgage and small business lending indicate the bank is competitive. Based on FDIC market share information, BankNewport was ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in market share of 20 institutions, with 4.5 percent of the deposit market share in the state. In terms of HMDA market share, according to aggregate data, the bank was ranked 16<sup>th</sup> of 420 institutions in 2019, and 15<sup>th</sup> of 440 reporters in 2020, who originated or purchased home mortgage loans in the state in those years. The bank ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> of 118 small business reporters in 2019, and 6<sup>th</sup> of 147 reporters in 2020.

The previous CRA evaluation was conducted on September 16, 2019, and the bank was rated "Satisfactory."

BankNewport has defined one assessment area for CRA purposes. The assessment area consists of the entire state of Rhode Island. The state is included in the Providence-Warwick, RI-MA MSA. The Providence-Warwick, RI-MA MSA is a multi-state MSA that includes all five counties in Rhode Island (Bristol County, Kent County, Newport County, Providence County, and Washington County), and one county in Massachusetts (Bristol County). All Rhode Island counties are included within the assessment area. The cities and towns within Bristol County are Barrington, Bristol and Warren. Kent County includes the cities and towns of Coventry, East

Greenwich, Warwick, West Greenwich, and West Warwick. Newport County includes the cities and towns of Jamestown, Little Compton, Middletown, Newport, Portsmouth, and Tiverton. Providence County includes the cities and towns of Burrillville, Central Falls, Cranston, Cumberland, East Providence, Foster, Glocester, Johnston, Lincoln, North Providence, North Smithfield, Pawtucket, Providence, Scituate, Smithfield, and Woonsocket.

Table 2 contains pertinent demographic data related to the bank's assessment area.

		Assessi	nent	Table 2 Area De	mograpl	hics				
Income Categories	Tract Distri			nmilies by Incom	Tract	Families < Level as Families by	% of	Families by Family Income		
	#	%		#	%	#	%	#	%	
Low-income	32	13.1		27,489	10.7	8,994	32.7	60,926	23.7	
Moderate-income	37	15.2		36,796	14.3	7,133	19.4	41,351	16.1	
Middle-income	96	39.3		105,935	41.1	6,764	6.4	50,087	19.4	
Upper income	73	29.9		86,632	33.6	2,973	3.4	105,176	40.8	
Unknown income	6	2.5		688	0.3	184	26.7	0	0.0	
<b>Total Assessment Area</b>	244	100.0 257,540			100.0	26,048	10.1	257,540	100.0	
	Housing	•			Гract					
	Units by	Ov	vner-	-Occupied	l	Renta	ıl	Vacant		
	Tract		#	%	%	#	%	#	%	
Low-income	52,862	11,	170	4.5	21.1	33,997	64.3	7,695	14.6	
Moderate-income	70,644	24,	368	9.9	34.5	38,830	55.0	7,446	10.5	
Middle-income	185,233	112,	293	45.5	60.6	57,542	31.1	15,398	8.3	
Upper income	151,568	98,	450	39.9	65.0	31,655	20.9	21,463	14.2	
Unknown income	2,593		628	0.3	24.2	1,669	64.4	296	11.4	
<b>Total Assessment Area</b>	462,900	246,	909	100.0	53.3	163,693	35.4	52,298	11.3	
	Total Busine	esses by	•	•	Business	ses by Tract	& Rever	iue Size		
	Trac	t	L	ess Than o		Over \$1 I	Million	Revenue Repor		
	#	%		#	%	#	%	#	%	
Low-income	4,442	8.6		3,994	8.5	425	9.9	23	5.7	
Moderate-income	8,024	15.5		7,023	14.9	933	21.7	68	16.9	
Middle-income	19,875	38.3		18,184	38.5	1,550	36.1	141	35.1	
Upper income	19,101	36.8		17,614	37.3	1,332	31.0	155	38.6	
Unknown income	428	0.8	362		0.8	51	1.2	15	3.7	
<b>Total Assessment Area</b>	51,870	100.0		47,177	100.0	4,291	100.0	402	100.0	
	Percentage o	esses:	91.0		8.3		0.8			

Based on 2015 American Community Survey Information

Total percentages shown may vary by 0.1 percent due to automated rounding differences.

As displayed in Table 2, the bank's assessment area contains 244 census tracts, 32 or 13.1 percent are low-income, 37 or 15.2 percent are moderate, 96 or 39.3 percent are middle-income,

73 or 29.9 percent are upper-income, and 6 or 2.5 percent are census tracts where the income is unknown. The majority of the low- and moderate-income census tracts are located in northern Rhode Island in Providence County where 31 low-income census tracts and 31 moderate-income census tracts are located. The low-and moderate-income tracts are concentrated in the city of Providence, which contains 16 low-income census and 12 moderate-income census tracts. Also within Providence County, 7 low-income census tracts are in Woonsocket, RI, while Central Falls and Pawtucket, RI each contain 4 low-income census tracts. The remainder of Providence County's moderate-income census tracts are in the municipalities of Woonsocket (2), Valley Falls (1), Cranston (2) Pawtucket (9), East Providence (4) and Cumberland, RI (1). Outside of Providence County, there are additional moderate-income census tracts in West Warwick (2), Bristol (1), Westerly (1) and Warren (1), RI. The City of Newport contains one low- and one moderate income census tract located outside of Providence County. Headquartered in southern Rhode Island, the bank has historically focused its lending activities on the cities and towns in the Narragansett Bay area and has gradually expanded its presence to the northern portion of the state. Providence County was added to the bank's assessment area as of 2016. The bank now operates four branch offices within Providence County, one of which was opened since the previous CRA evaluation.

The bank's ability to compete within a relatively new market was considered as a factor in performance context. In terms of competition, there are large national banks and established local banks and credit unions that have a larger branch presence with whom the bank must compete in the northern portion of the state. As previously mentioned, the bank ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in deposit market share with 4.5 percent within the state; however, in Providence County, BankNewport ranked 10<sup>th</sup> of 14 institutions with branch offices in the county with a deposit market share of 0.66 percent. The leading institutions in Providence County were Citizens Bank, N.A, ranked first (45.1 percent), followed by Bank of America, N.A (28.5 percent), Santander Bank, N.A. (9.0 percent), and Bank Rhode Island (6.8 percent). Specifically, within the city of Providence, BankNewport ranked 9<sup>th</sup> of 11 institutions, with 0.3 percent of the deposit market share. The same institutions captured the majority of the deposit market share within the city, with Citizens Bank holding 48.6 percent of the deposit market share, Bank of America with 33.7 percent, Santander Bank, N.A., with 8.9 percent, and Bank Rhode Island with 3.7 percent of the deposit market share.

#### Housing

The assessment area includes 462,900 housing units, of which 11.4 percent are in low-income tracts, 15.3 percent are in moderate-income tracts, 40.0 percent are in middle-income census tracts, 32.7 percent are in upper-income census tracts, and 0.6 percent are located in tracts where the income is unknown. Of the total housing units, 53.3 percent are owner-occupied, 35.4 percent are rental, and 11.3 percent are vacant.

Based on 2015 American Community Survey (ACS) data, the median housing value in the assessment area in 2015 was \$237,994. Housing prices have increased since 2015 in the assessment area. Data obtained from The Warren Group, Peabody, MA, shows that the median housing sales price for a single-family home in Rhode Island was \$272,000 in 2019, and \$301,000 in 2020. Home values in the assessment area vary by county with more affordable prices in Kent and Providence counties and higher value homes in Bristol and Newport counties. Table 3 displays the median sales price for each county in the assessment area in the years under

review based on data released by the Warren Group.

Table 3										
Median Sales										
County	2019 Median Sales Price	2020 Median Sales Price								
Kent County, RI	\$245,000	\$274,250								
Providence County, RI	\$245,000	\$275,000								
Washington County, RI	\$365,000	\$399,900								
Bristol County, RI	\$369,450	\$406,556								
Newport County, RI	\$406,000	\$465,000								

Source: The Warren Group

#### Business Characteristics

In 2019, there were 50,582 businesses in the assessment area, according to Dun & Bradstreet, Short Hills, NJ (D&B) data: 8.4 percent were in low-income census tracts, 15.3 percent were in moderate-income census tracts, 38.2 were in middle-income census tracts 37.2 were in upperincome census tracts, and 0.8 percent were in unknown income census tracts. According to data from 2020 there were 51,870 businesses in the assessment area; 8.6 percent of businesses were in low-income census tracts, 15.5 percent were in moderate-income census tracts, 38.3 percent were in middle income census tracts, 36.8 percent were located in upper-income census tracts and 0.8 percent were in unknown census tracts. The data would suggest that some businesses that were open in 2020 were no longer operating in 2021, presumably because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, there were 51,069 businesses in the assessment area; of those, 8.8 percent were in low-income census tracts, 15.6 percent were in middle-income census tracts, 36.3 were in upper income census tracts and 0.8 were unknown income census tracts. The number of businesses in low-income census tracts increased from 4,442 to 4,482 between 2020 and 2021; however, the data would indicate that total businesses in moderate-income census tracts decreased by 36, while there were 375 fewer businesses in middle-income census tracts.. There were 419 fewer businesses in upper-income census tracts and 11 fewer in tracts where the income was un-known.

#### **Population**

The total population in the assessment area is 1,053,661 based on the 2015 ACS. Of this total population, 12.1 percent reside in low-income tracts, 15.5 percent reside in moderate-income tracts, 39.6 percent reside in middle-income tracts, 31.8 percent reside in upper-income tracts, and 1.0 percent reside in tracts with unknown income. The assessment area contains 257,540 families, of which 23.7 percent are low-income, 16.1 percent are moderate-income, 19.4 percent are middle-income, and 40.8 percent are upper income. The percentage of families below the poverty level is 10.1 percent.

#### Income

The Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC) adjusts the median family income (MFI) of metropolitan areas annually based on estimates. The MFI for low-income is defined as family income less than 50 percent of the area median income; moderate-income is defined as income of at least 50 percent and less than 80 percent of median income; middle-

income is defined as income of at least 80 percent but less than 120 percent of median income; and upper income is defined as 120 percent of median income and above. The MFI income for the assessment area was \$85,100 in 2019 and \$89,00 in 2020. For 2021, the MFI declined slightly to \$87,500.

#### **Employment Statistics**

The unemployment rate in the State of Rhode Island in December 2019 was 3.6 percent. In 2020, the unemployment rate drastically increased due to economic shutdowns precipitated by the COVID-19 pandemic, reaching a high of 17.4 percent in April 2020. The unemployment rate remained at elevated levels for six months, eventually decreasing to 10.9 percent in September 2020. Since then, the unemployment rate has trended downwards, reflecting improved economic conditions. The unemployment rate in December 2020 was 7.9 percent, and in November 2021 was 5.1 percent.

#### **SCOPE OF EXAMINATION**

BankNewport's performance review was based on CRA activities conducted using the FFIEC Examination Procedures for Large Institutions<sup>1</sup>. These procedures evaluate banks under three tests: the Lending Test, the Investment Test, and the Service Test.

The Lending Test evaluates the bank's lending performance pursuant to the following criteria: lending activity, assessment area concentration of loans, geographic distribution of loans, borrower's profile, responsiveness of credit needs, community development lending activity, and product innovation. The Investment Test evaluates the bank's performance pursuant to the following criteria: investment and grant activity, responsiveness to credit and community development needs, and community development initiatives. The Service Test evaluates the bank's performance pursuant to the following criteria: accessibility of delivery systems, changes in branch locations, reasonableness of business hours and services, and community development services.

The data used for the evaluation and the applicable timeframes are discussed below.

The Lending Test evaluated residential loans and small business loans originated by the bank from January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2020. Home mortgage lending data was obtained from Loan Application Registers (LARs) maintained by the bank pursuant to the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA). The LARs record data for home purchase loans, home improvement loans, and refinance loans for one-to-four family and multi-family (five or more unit) properties. Changes in HMDA reporting requirements for 2018 included the determination of whether a loan is HMDA-reportable and includes the new loan type of "other purpose." "Other purpose" loans are for purposes other than home purchase, refinancing, or home improvement. This evaluation does not include analysis of "other purpose" loans reported on the bank's LARs.

Aggregate HMDA data consists of lending information from all HMDA reporters that originated or purchased HMDA-reportable loans in the bank's assessment area. The bank's residential loan

1 "Large institutions" are banks or savings associations with assets of at least \$1.322 billion as of December 31 of both of the prior two calendar years.

performance was compared to applicable aggregate data that was obtained from the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau (CFPB). "Other purpose" loans were excluded from the aggregate. Finally, the bank's home mortgage lending performance was compared to demographics from the 2015 ACS, unless otherwise noted.

Data for small business lending was derived from the small business loan registers maintained by the bank pursuant to CRA data reporting requirements, which include information regarding originated commercial real estate and commercial and industrial loans with original loan amounts of \$1 million or less. The bank's 2019 and 2020 small business lending performance was compared to aggregate data and business demographics obtained from D&B.

Given the composition of the bank's loan portfolio, slightly more emphasis was placed on small business lending than home mortgage lending for the Lending Test. The bank's lending and operations occurred in the State of Rhode Island and the Providence-Warwick, RI-MA MSA; accordingly, a full-scope review was performed using this assessment area.

Community development activities are not evaluated using a separate test, but are included as a component of the Lending, Investment, or Service Test, depending on the nature of the activity. For the community development component of the Lending Test, the Investment Test, and the Service Test, the evaluation period spanned from the prior CRA examination on September 16, 2019, through the current examination on January 24, 2022. The bank provided data related to its CRA qualified donations through December 31, 2021.

# **Community Contacts**

As part of the evaluation process, third parties that are active in community affairs are contacted to assist in assessing the housing and credit needs in the bank's assessment area. Relevant information from this practice assists in determining whether local financial institutions are responsive to the credit needs of the community, and whether additional opportunities are available. Two community contacts were conducted in conjunction with this examination. One was conducted with an organization that creates and maintains affordable housing in Bristol County. The contact stated that there is a need for affordable housing, and that the communities the organization serves are primarily home ownership communities with few apartments, which makes developing affordable housing more difficult and expensive. The contact stated that fraud protection for seniors and financial education such as budgeting and savings are also needed. The contact noted that there was more interaction from financial institutions prior to the pandemic but providing information in other formats such as pamphlets could benefit the individuals the organization serves. The contact mentioned BankNewport as being involved in the community.

The second contact was with a regional nonprofit economic development corporation with the mission of empowering entrepreneurs, strengthening local economies, and creating jobs by financing small businesses in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Speaking specifically to the state of RI, the contact stated that there is a shortage of funding from community development financial institutions (CDFIs) within the state. The organization receives most of its clients through referrals from banks that are unable to extend loans to small businesses based on their risk portfolio or entrepreneurs' credit history; the contact would like to increase awareness that

they are able to provide financing options when financial institutions may not. The contact discussed the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan program as being a saving grace for the entire state. The contact stated that during the COVID crisis, the organization experienced an increase in the request for start-up capital. The organization also partners with banks through providing gap funding and has partnered with BankNewport in the past.

#### CONCLUSIONS WITH RESPECT TO PERFORMANCE TESTS

#### **LENDING TEST**

BankNewport's performance under the Lending Test is rated Low Satisfactory.

The following information further details the data compiled and reviewed, as well as conclusions on the bank's performance.

# **Lending Activity**

The bank demonstrates excellent responsiveness to credit needs in its assessment area, taking into account the number and amount of home mortgage and small business loans in its assessment area.

As previously mentioned, in 2019, the bank originated 124 small business loans and was ranked 23<sup>rd</sup> in CRA small business lending of 118 reporters in that year. In 2020, the bank considerably increased the number of small business loans extended in that year by making 1,559 small business loans. This was attributed to the bank's participation in the PPP loan program. PPP loans are administered by the SBA as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act. PPP loans were designed to help small businesses retain workers and staff during the economic crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The bank extended loans to businesses with gross annual revenues (GAR) under \$1 million; and businesses located in low- and moderate-income census tracts which is considered highly responsive to the needs of small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. The bank was a leading PPP lender and was ranked 6<sup>th</sup> overall in small business lending of 147 small business reporters in 2020. As mentioned, these loans were noted by a community contact as being vital to the state's effort in enduring the crisis.

The bank extended 601 home mortgage loans in 2019. According to aggregate data, the bank was ranked 16<sup>th</sup> of 420 institutions that originated or purchased a home mortgage loan in the bank's assessment area in that year. In 2020, the bank extended 970 home mortgage loans and ranked 15<sup>th</sup> of 440 reporters that originated or purchased home mortgage loans in the bank's assessment area in that year. The increase was attributed to refinance loans due to the low-rate environment. In 2019, the bank extended 271 refinance loans, which increased to 651 refinance loans in 2020.

# **Distribution of Lending within the Assessment Area**

This criterion evaluates the concentration of loans originated by the bank within its assessment area. Table 4 demonstrates a substantial majority of loans were made in the bank's assessment area. The table presents the bank's levels of lending inside and outside the assessment area for the evaluation period.

	Table 4 Lending Inside and Outide the Assessment Area											
Loan Type - Description		Insi	de			Outs	side					
	#	%	\$(000s)	%	#	%	\$(000s)	%				
Small Business	1,683	87.4	139,839	82.9	243	12.6	28,899	17.1				
Total Small Bus. related	1,683	87.4	139,839	82.9	243	12.6	28,899	17.1				
Home Purchase	502	91.8	172,341	88.4	45	8.2	22,516	11.6				
Home Purchase - FHA	29	100	7,101	100	0	0	0	(				
Home Improvement	81	94.2	7,670	93.4	5	5.8	540	6.6				
Multi-Family Housing	37	94.9	27,166	93.3	2	5.1	1,939	6.7				
Refinancing	922	92	265,685	87.3	80	8	38,675	12.7				
Total HMDA related	1,571	92.2	479,963	88.3	132	7.8	63,670	11.7				
TOTAL LOANS	3,254	87.5	619,802	87.0	375	10.3	92,569	13.0				

HMDA and small business data for 2019 & 2020

Total percentages shown may vary by 0.1 percent due to automated rounding differences.

The bank extended the substantial majority of its loans, by number and dollar amount, within the assessment area. A substantial majority of small business loans, by number and dollar amount, were also extended in the assessment area. In 2019, 89.9 percent of small business loans were extended within the assessment area. The percentage decreased slightly in 2020, when 87.2 percent of small business loans were extended in the assessment area. The slight increase in small business lending outside was attributable to the bank's participation in the PPP loan program, whereby the bank did not limit lending to current customers or those located within its assessment area. Given the bank ranked sixth in small business lending in the assessment area in that year, the credit needs of the assessment area were met.

The substantial majority of home mortgage loans, 92.2 percent by number, were made within the assessment area during the review period. A high percentage of home mortgage loans were extended in the assessment area in both years under review, with 94.2 percent of HMDA loans inside the assessment area in 2019 and 91.1 percent inside in 2020. As shown, mortgage loans through the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) Affordable Housing Program were made within the assessment area. The majority of loans by dollar volume were also extended within the assessment area.

# **Geographic Distribution of Loans**

This performance criterion evaluates the bank's distribution of loans to census tracts of all income levels. The bank demonstrates an adequate geographic distribution of loans in its assessment area. There were no conspicuous gaps in the bank's lending in any income category unexplained by performance context.

#### **Small Business Lending**

Table 5 represents the distribution of small business loans by census tract income level. The bank's geographic distribution of small business loans is adequate.

	Table 5															
	Geographic Distrubition of Small Business Loans															
				Bank & Aggregate Lending Comparison												
\ \( \tilde{\cut} \)	Tract	2019	2019						2020		2020					
PRODUCT	Income	Total Businesse	Count			Dollar			Total	Count			Dollar			
A L	Levels	S	В	ank	Agg	Ba	nk	Agg	Businesses	Bank Agg		Agg	Bank		Agg	
		%	#	%	%	\$ 000s	\$ %	\$%	%	#	%	%	\$ 000s	\$ %	\$%	
	Low	8.4%	4	3.2%	8.0%	\$809	2.9%	6.3%	8.6%	54	3.5%	8.2%	\$2,674	2.4%	7.3%	
S	Moderate	15.3%	12	9.7%	15.2%	\$3,036	10.9%	17.7%	15.5%	149	9.6%	15.7%	\$11,912	10.6%	18.5%	
SSF	Middle	38.2%	48	38.7%	36.5%	\$9,362	33.7%	35.6%	38.3%	509	32.6%	36.8%	\$39,572	35.3%	35.2%	
ŽΫ	Upper	37.2%	60	48.4%	38.7%	\$14,603	52.5%	38.9%	36.8%	846	54.3%	38.3%	\$57,846	51.6%	37.8%	
SMALL BUSINESSES	Unknown	0.8%	0	0.0%	0.5%	\$0	0.0%	0.9%	0.8%	1	0.1%	0.6%	\$25	0.0%	1.1%	
BL	Tr Unknow	n	0	0.0%	1.1%	\$0	0.0%	0.5%		0	0.0%	0.4%	\$0	0.0%	0.2%	
	Total	100.0%	124	100.0%	100.0%	\$27,810	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	1,559	100.0%	100.0%	\$112,029	100.0%	100.0%	

D&B 2019 & 2020. Small business data for 2019 and 2020.

Total percentages shown may vary by 0.1 percent due to automated rounding differences.

As displayed, the bank extended four small business loans in low-income census tracts in 2019, accounting for 3.2 percent of total small business loans made within the assessment area in that year. This was below the percentage of small businesses located in those tracts, at 8.4 percent. The aggregate was able to mirror the demographics more closely, whereby 8.0 percent of the aggregate's small business loans were extended in low-income geographies. The bank made 12 loans, or 9.7 percent. within moderate-income census tracts in that year, which again lagged the aggregate's percentage (15.2 percent), and the percentage of businesses in moderate-income census tracts (15.3 percent). The bank extended 48 loans, or 38.7 percent, in middle-income geographies and 60 loans, or 48.4 percent, in upper income geographies in that year. In 2019, the bank extended loans in 23.4 percent of the 244 census tracts in its assessment area.

The bank increased its small business lending by 1,435 loans, between 2019 and 2020, attributable to the bank's participation in the PPP loan program. While the bank's percentages of loans in low- and moderate-income census tracts did not adjust markedly between 2019 and 2020, the number of originations increased substantially. The bank made 54 loans, or 3.5 percent, to businesses located in low-income census tracts in 2020. The bank made 149 small business loans, or 9.6 percent, in moderate-income tracts in that year. PPP loans in low- and moderate-income census tracts are considered particularly responsive. The bank made 509 small business loans in middle-income tracts, 846 in upper-income census tracts and 1 in an unknown census tract. In 2020, the bank extended small business loans in 186, or 76.2 percent, of the 244 census tracts in its assessment area reflecting an adequate distribution of loans throughout the assessment area.

# Residential Lending

Table 6 provides a comparison of the bank's lending by census tract income level to the aggregate lending data and demographics of the assessment area. The bank's geographic distribution of loans including the number and amount of loans in low-, moderate-, middle-, and upper-income geographies, is adequate.

	Table 6												
				G	eographic	Distribution		A Loans					
					<b>g</b> <u>1</u>		& Aggregat			parison			
Ж					2019						2020		
Ξ	Tract	Owner		Count		D.	llar		Count			Dollar	
CT	Income Levels	Occupied		Count		Do	iiai :		Count	,		Donai	
) DC	Levels	Units	В	ank	Agg	Bank	Agg	Bank		Agg	Bai	ık	Agg
PRODUCT TYPE		%	#	%	%	\$ (000s)	\$ %	#	%	%	\$ (000s)	\$ %	\$ %
HOME PURCHASE	Low	4.5%	12	4.4%	7.0%	\$2,198	5.6%	2	0.8%	6.6%	\$306	0.3%	4.2%
Η̈́	Moderate	9.9%	28	10.3%	11.9%	\$5,948	9.4%	20	7.7%	11.9%	\$3,955	4.3%	8.1%
J <sub>R</sub> C	Middle	45.5%	85	31.3%	44.5%	\$22,816	38.4%	76	29.3%	44.4%	\$23,253	25.3%	37.2%
<u> </u>	Upper	39.9%	142	52.2%	36.2%	\$55,505	46.2%	159	61.4%	36.8%	\$63,555	69.2%	50.0%
) M	Unknown	0.3%	5	1.8%	0.4%	\$1,122	0.4%	2	0.8%	0.4%	\$784	0.9%	0.4%
Ĭ	Total	100.0%	272	100.0%	100.0%	\$87,589	100.0%	259	100.0%	100.0%	\$91,853	100.0%	100.0%
	Low	4.5%	3	1.1%	3.9%	\$322	2.9%	5	0.8%	2.9%	\$1,222	0.6%	1.8%
9	Moderate	9.9%	12	4.4%	8.6%	\$2,073	6.8%	45	6.9%	7.5%	\$10,139	5.0%	4.9%
Ϋ́	Middle	45.5%	86	31.7%	43.0%	\$17,375	35.5%	135	20.7%	41.6%	\$33,344	16.6%	29.3%
REFINANCE	Upper	39.9%	170	62.7%	44.2%	\$44,990	54.4%	465	71.4%	47.8%	\$155,884	77.6%	59.8%
8	Unknown	0.3%	0	0.0%	0.3%	\$0	0.3%	1	0.2%	0.3%	\$336	0.2%	4.1%
	Total	100.0%	271	100.0%	100.0%	\$64,760	100.0%	651	100.0%	100.0%	\$200,925	100.0%	100.0%
<b>=</b>	Low	4.5%	0	0.0%	3.5%	\$0	2.9%	2	5.0%	2.7%	\$370	9.1%	2.4%
É	Moderate	9.9%	2	4.9%	8.6%	\$150	6.1%	2	5.0%	7.0%	\$230	5.7%	5.6%
HOME	Middle	45.5%	8	19.5%	41.6%	\$502	35.0%	13	32.5%	40.9%	\$974	24.0%	33.2%
유	Upper	39.9%	31	75.6%	46.1%	\$2,952	55.8%	23	57.5%	49.3%	\$2,492	61.3%	58.7%
HOME	Unknown	0.3%	0	0.0%	0.1%	\$0	0.2%	0	0.0%	0.1%	\$0	0.0%	0.1%
_	Total	100.0%	41	100.0%	100.0%	\$3,604	100.0%	40	100.0%	100.0%	\$4,066	100.0%	100.0%
	Low	19.1%	2	11.8%	29.9%	\$488	19.9%	4	20.0%	29.7%	\$1,430	10.9%	20.7%
ĺ	Moderate	20.4%	9	52.9%	23.9%	\$7,839	16.5%	6	30.0%	23.3%	\$4,607	35.1%	37.2%
FAN	Middle	38.8%	4	23.5%	31.9%	\$2,715	40.6%	7	35.0%	28.8%	\$5,628	42.8%	20.2%
MULTIFAMILY	Upper	20.5%	2	11.8%	13.5%	\$2,983	22.5%	3	15.0%	17.4%	\$1,476	11.2%	20.9%
M	Unknown	1.3%	0	0.0%	0.8%	\$0	0.5%	0	0.0%	0.8%	\$0	0.0%	1.0%
	Total	100.0%	17	100.0%	100.0%	\$14,025	100.0%	20	100.0%	100.0%	\$13,141	100.0%	100.0%
(O	Low	4.5%	17	2.8%	5.5%	\$3,008	5.4%	13	1.3%	4.2%	\$3,328	1.1%	3.1%
'AL	Moderate	9.9%	51	8.5%	10.2%	\$16,010	8.7%	73	7.5%	8.9%	\$18,931	6.1%	6.7%
10	Middle	45.5%	183	30.4%	43.5%	\$43,408	37.2%	231	23.8%	42.4%	\$63,199	20.4%	32.0%
, 6	Upper	39.9%	345	57.4%	40.4%	\$106,430	48.3%	650	67.0%	44.2%	\$223,407	72.1%	55.5%
HMDA TOTALS	Unknown	0.3%	5	0.8%	0.3%	\$1,122	0.4%	3	0.3%	0.3%	\$1,120	0.0%	2.7%
_	Total	100.0%	601	100.0%	100.0%	\$169,978	100.0%	970	100.0%	100.0%	\$309,985	0.0%	100.0%

<sup>\*</sup>Distribution of multifamily units by census tract income

In 2019, the bank made 17 home mortgage loans, or 2.8 percent, within low-income census tracts. The bank's percentage was below the percentage of owner-occupied units located within those tracts, at 4.5 percent. The aggregate achieved a percentage that exceeded the percentage of owner-occupied units in these tracts, at 5.5 percent. The bank extended home mortgage loans within just 11 of the assessment area's 32 low-income census tracts in that year.

Generally, the census tracts the bank was unable to penetrate were areas with less opportunity. None of the 21 census tracts with no loans had an owner occupancy rate over 30.0 percent; within 12 of the census tracts the percentage of owner-occupied units was between 0.0 percent and 19.6 percent. However, opportunity to lend does exist based upon the percentage achieved by the aggregate. Of the 21 census tracts that were not penetrated, 11 were in Providence, 3 were in Central Falls, 5 were in Woonsocket, 1 was in Newport, and 1 was in Pawtucket. While ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in lending within the assessment area in 2019 overall, the bank was ranked 30<sup>th</sup> in

<sup>2015</sup> ACS, 2018 & 2019 Aggregate HMDA Data, and 2018 & 2019 HMDA LARs.

Total percentages shown may vary by 0.1 percent due to automated rounding differences.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Aggregate percentages include all loans required to be reported by lenders comprising the aggregate. Aggregate percentages may include loan types not required to be reported by the bank.

lending just within low-income geographies, competing with 163 institutions which originated or purchased home mortgage loans within the assessment area's low-income census tracts.

BankNewport

Given the more limited opportunity to lend within low-income census tracts and the bank's relative newness to the Providence market, its performance is reasonable.

The bank extended 51 home mortgage loans in moderate-income census tracts in 2019, or 8.5 percent. The bank's percentage was slightly below the percentage of owner-occupied units in moderate-income tracks, at 9.9 percent, and the percentage of loans extended by the aggregate, at 10.2 percent. The bank extended 183 loans, or 30.4 percent, in middle-income census tracts. The bank's percentage of lending in middle-income tracts was lower than the percentage of owneroccupied units in those tracts and the percentage achieved by the aggregate, at 43.5 percent. The majority of the bank's loans, 345, or 57.4 percent, were located in upper-income geographies. The bank extended 5 loans within the census tracts with unknown incomes.

While overall lending in the assessment area increased in 2020, lending within low-income census tracts decreased by both number and percent, whereby 13 loans or 1.3 percent were made within low-income census tracts. Of the 651 refinance loans extended in 2020, just 5 or 0.8 percent were in low-income census tracts, while 465 were in upper-income census tracts.

The bank extended 73 loans, or 7.5 percent, in moderate-income census tracts in 2020, slightly lagging the aggregate, at 8.9 percent. The bank extended 231 loans, or 23.8 percent, in middle income census tracts, which was below the aggregate, and the majority of the bank's loans, 650 or 67.0 percent, were extended within upper-income census tracts.

# **Borrowers' Profile**

This criterion analyzes the distribution of loans to borrowers of different income levels as well as businesses with different revenues. The bank demonstrates an adequate distribution, particularly in its assessment area, of loans among individuals of different income levels and businesses of different sizes, given the product lines offered by the bank.

# **Small Business Lending**

The bank's small business loans originated within the assessment area were analyzed to determine the distribution among businesses of various sizes. Table 7 details the bank's lending to small businesses according to revenue size. The bank's performance in lending to businesses with GARs of \$1 million or less is excellent.

							Ta	ble 7								
				Distribu	tion of Sı	nall Busin	ess Loan	s By Gross	Annual	Revenue o	f Busines	S				
	be				Bank & Aggregate Lending Comparison											
	Туре						2	019					20	20		
	rct			Total		Count			Dollar			Count			Dollar	
	Product			Businesses	В	ank	Agg	Ba	nk	Agg	В	ank	Agg	Bai	nk	Agg
	4			%	#	%	%	\$ 000s	\$ %	\$%	#	%	%	\$ 000s	\$ %	\$%
		Sevenue	\$1 Million or Less	91.0%	78	62.9%	41.4%	\$15,800	56.8%	29.9%	39	2.5%	34.5%	\$7,690	6.9%	21.3%
			Over \$1 Million	8.3%	46	37.1%					39	2.5%				
			Total Rev. available	99.3%	124	100.0%					78	5.0%				
ess		Ϋ́	Rev. Not Known	0.8%	0	0.0%					1,481	95.0%				
risi			Total	100.0%	124	100.0%					1,559	100.0%				
l E			\$100,000 or Less		36	29.0%	93.9%	\$1,828	6.6%	39.1%	1,269	81.4%	86.2%	\$37,447	33.4%	31.0%
Small Business		oan Size	\$100,001 -		47	37.9%	3.2%	\$7,829	28.2%	15.6%	189	12.1%	7.6%	\$29,640	26.5%	20.6%
S			\$250,000					¥1,0=2						4-7,0.0		
			\$250,001 - \$1 Million		41	33.1%	3.0%	\$18,153	65.3%	45.4%	101	6.5%	6.1%	\$44,942	40.1%	48.4%
			Total		124	100.0%	100.0%	\$27,810	100.0%	100.0%	1,559	100.0%	100.0%	\$112,029	100.0%	100.0%

D&B 2019 & 2020. Small business data for 2019 and 2020.

Total percentages shown may vary by 0.1 percent due to automated rounding differences.

As displayed in Table 7, the bank exceeded the aggregate in extending small business loans to businesses with gross annual revenues under \$1 million in 2019. The bank made 62.9 percent of loans to businesses in this revenue category, while the aggregate extended just 41.4 percent. While the bank's percentage was below the demographic indicator, for purposes of this analysis, more emphasis was placed on lending performance in comparison to aggregate lending data. The table also provides a breakout of the bank's lending by loan size, as small-sized loans sometimes can serve to demonstrate a bank's willingness to meet the need of small businesses when the actual revenues of the businesses is unavailable.

In 2020, the vast majority of the bank's loans, 1,481 or 95.0 percent, were to businesses where revenues were not known. These loans were made under the PPP program. The PPP did not require the collection of revenue data and given the unique circumstances affecting borrowers and banks resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is expected that banks participating in the program would make a large volume of loans for which gross annual revenue information is not available, PPP borrowers are eligible for loan forgiveness when the loan procedures were used for eligible payroll costs, payments on business mortgage interest payments, rent, or utilities. As shown in Table 7, the bank made 81.4 percent of its loans in amounts under \$100,000 in 2020. As mentioned above, smaller loan amounts may sometimes serve as a proxy for determining if loans were extended to smaller businesses; the majority of PPP loans had loan sizes of \$100,000 or less, indicating that the bank is helping to serve the needs of small businesses in the assessment area.

# Residential Lending

Table 8 provides a comparison of the bank's lending by income level of the borrower to the income distribution of families in the assessment area and demographic data. The table further outlines the bank's performance by loan type in comparison to the aggregate group. The bank's performance in lending to individuals of different income levels, including low- and moderate-income borrowers, is poor.

							Table 8							
					HMD	A Distribu	tion by Bo	rrower Inc	come					
Д							Bank & A	Aggregate I	Lending	Compariso	n			
Ë	D								1			020		
CT	Borrower Income	Families by		Count			Dollar			Count			Dollar	
	Levels	Family Income	F	Bank	Agg	Ba	nk	Agg	В	ank	Agg	Ban	k	Agg
PRODUCT TYPE		%	#	%	%	S (000s)	\$ %	s %	#	%	%	S (000s)	s %	\$ %
	Low	23.7%	13	4.8%	5.6%	\$1,624	1.9%	3.2%	9	3.5%	6.5%	\$1,561	1.7%	3.1%
PURCHASE	Moderate	16.1%	33	12.1%	25.2%	\$6,020	6.9%	18.9%	40	15.4%	27.3%	\$7,803	8.5%	17.4%
RC	Middle	19.4%	69	25,4%	24.2%	\$15,172	17.3%	21.8%	55	21.2%	23.9%	\$15,053	16.4%	18.1%
	Upper	40.8%	137	50.4%	32.8%	\$57,290	65.4%	43.2%	136	52.5%	32.8%	\$60,311	65.7%	35.7%
НОМЕ	Unknown	0.0%	20	7.4%	12.2%	\$7,483	8.5%	12.8%	19	7.3%	9.5%	\$7,125	7.8%	25.7%
모	Total	100.0%	272	100.0%	100.0%	\$87,589	100.0%	100.0%	259	100.0%	100.0%	\$91,853	100.0%	100.0%
	Low	23.7%	10	3.7%	6.7%	\$1,273	2.0%	3.6%	25	3.8%	4.6%	\$3,408	1.7%	2.1%
Щ	Moderate	16.1%	50	18.5%	18.7%	\$8,302	12.8%	13.2%	86	13.2%	16.8%	\$16,665	8.3%	10.3%
NA ON	Middle	19.4%	64	23.6%	23.4%	\$12,834	19.8%	20.0%	165	25.3%	23.7%	\$38,307	19.1%	17.3%
REFINANCE	Upper	40.8%	142	52,4%	36.7%	\$40,994	63.3%	46.2%	360	55.3%	41.0%	\$138,254	68.8%	41.8%
R	Unknown	0.0%	5	1.8%	14.6%	\$1,357	2.1%	17.0%	15	2.3%	13.9%	\$4,291	2.1%	28.4%
	Total	100.0%	271	100.0%	100.0%	\$64,760	100.0%	100.0%	651	100.0%	100.0%	\$200,925	100.0%	100.0%
-	Low	23.7%	1	2.4%	8.3%	\$20	0.6%	7.2%	2	5.0%	7.3%	\$55	1.4%	5.1%
HOME MPROVEMENT	Moderate	16.1%	10	24.4%	18.7%	\$515	14.3%	14.6%	5	12.5%	15.9%	\$170	4.2%	12.3%
₩ E	Middle	19.4%	9	22.0%	24.8%	\$534	14.8%	21.0%	7	17.5%	27.0%	\$684	16.8%	22.9%
HOME	Upper	40.8%	20	48.8%	44.1%	\$2,485	69.0%	52.7%	26	65.0%	48.6%	\$3,157	77.6%	57.8%
Į Į	Unknown	0.0%	1	2.4%	4.0%	\$50	1.4%	4.6%	0	0.0%	1.3%	\$0	0.0%	1.9%
_ ≤	Total	100.0%	41	100.0%	100.0%	\$3,604	100.0%	100.0%	40	100.0%	100.0%	\$4,066	100.0%	100.0%
	Low	23.7%	0	0.0%	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
≥	Moderate	16.1%	0	0.0%	0.4%	\$0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Mulitfamily	Middle	19.4%	0	0.0%	0.0%	\$0	0.0%	0.0%	0	0.0%	1.3%	\$0	0.0%	0.3%
iii iii	Upper	40.8%	0	0.0%	2.0%	\$0	0.0%	0.8%	0	0.0%	2.1%	\$0	0.0%	0.6%
Σ	Unknown	0.0%	17	100.0%	97.6%	\$14,025	100.0%	99.1%	20	100.0%	96.6%	\$13,141	100.0%	99.1%
	Total	100.0%	17	100.0%	100.0%	\$14,025	100.0%	100.0%	20	100.0%	100.0%	\$13,141	100.0%	100.0%
	Low	23.7%	24	4.0%	6.2%	\$2,917	1.7%	3.2%	36	3.7%	5.3%	\$5,024	1.6%	2.5%
Ī	Moderate	16.1%	93	15.5%	21.6%	\$14,837	8.7%	15.2%	131	13.5%	20.1%	\$24,638	7.9%	12.7%
НМБА ТОТАL	Middle	19.4%	142	23.6%	23.7%	\$28,540	16.8%	19.6%	227	23.4%	23.8%	\$54,044	17.4%	17.3%
DA	Upper	40.8%	299	49.8%	35.2%	\$100,769	59.3%	41.9%	522	53.8%	38.5%	\$201,722	65.1%	39.0%
Σ	Unknown	0.0%	43	7.2%	13.3%	\$22,915	13.5%	20.0%	54	5.6%	12.3%	\$24,557	7.9%	28.5%
	Total	100.0%	601	100.0%	100.0%	\$169,978	100.0%	100.0%	970	100.0%	100.0%	\$309,985	100.0%	100.0%

2015 ACS, 2018 & 2019 Aggregate HMDA Data, and 2019 & 2020 HMDA LARs.

As displayed in Table 8, the bank made 24 loans to low-income borrowers in 2019, representing 4.0 percent of total loans made in that year. The bank's percentage was below the percentage of low-income families, at 23.7 percent. It is not expected that the bank would match the percentage of low-income families due to the relatively high housing values as compared to MFIs. Based on the MFI, a low-income family in the assessment area in 2019 would earn less than \$42,550 and may have difficulty qualifying for a mortgage under conventional underwriting standards, considering median home values ranging from \$245,000 in Kent County to \$406,000 in Newport County, as shown previously in Table 3. Based on the data, home values increased in 2020 and ranged from \$274,250 to \$465,000.

It is further noted that a high percentage of families, at 10.1 percent, live below the poverty level. Therefore, the demand and opportunity for lending to low-income families is relatively limited. While this may explain the disparity between the bank's lending to low-income families (4.0 percent) and the percentage of low-income families (23.7 percent), the aggregate was able to outperform the bank, extending 6.2 percent of loans to low-income borrowers. Closer analysis of the aggregate revealed that top lenders extending loans to low-income borrowers consisted of

Total percentages shown may vary by 0.1 percent due to automated rounding differences.

<sup>\*</sup>Aggregate percentages include all loans required to be reported by lenders comprising the aggregate except for "other" and "NA" loans, which may cause a slight difference from publicly available data. Aggregate percentages may include loan types not required to be reported by the bank.

large national banks, credit unions, and mortgage companies. While ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in overall HMDA lending in the assessment area, BankNewport placed 26<sup>th</sup> of 135 lenders who reported a loan to a low-income borrower in the assessment area in 2019.

The bank extended 93 loans or 15.5 percent to moderate-income borrowers in 2019, which was slightly below the percentage of moderate-income families, at 16.1 percent. The bank also lagged the aggregate's percentage, at 21.6 percent. However, it is again noted that the bank is operating in a competitive environment. BankNewport was ranked 24<sup>th</sup> of 219 reporters in extending home mortgage loans to moderate-income borrowers in 2019, with chiefly the larger national banks and credit unions outperforming the bank. The bank made 142 loans, or 23.6 percent, to middle-income borrowers, which was in line with the aggregate, at 23.7 percent. The bank made 299 loans, or 49.8 percent, to upper-income borrowers which was above the percentage extended by the aggregate and the percentage of upper-income families. By dollar amount, the bank's lending also trailed the aggregate in terms of lending to low-, moderate- and middle- income borrowers. The majority of the dollar volume was also extended to upper-income borrowers.

The overall volume of lending in the assessment area increased in 2020, bolstered by an increase in refinance loans, the majority of which were extended to upper-income borrowers. The bank also extended the majority of home improvement loans to upper-income borrowers in that year. The bank extended 36 loans or 3.7 percent of total loans to low-income borrowers, which was below the percentage extended by the aggregate, at 5.3 percent. The bank's percentage was also below the percentage of low-income families, however as discussed, the bank is not expected to match the percentage of low-income families. BankNewport ranked 20th in lending to lowincome borrowers in the assessment area in that year. The bank extended 131 loans, or 13.5 percent, to moderate-income borrowers, trailing the aggregate's 20.1 percent. The bank was able to extend 227 loans to middle-income borrowers, closely matching the percentage achieved by the aggregate, at 23.8 percent, and exceeding the percentage of middle-income families, at 19.4 percent. The majority of the bank's loans, 522 or 53.8 percent, were made to upper-income borrowers. The bank's lending to upper-income borrowers exceeded the percentage of upperincome families, at 40.8 percent, and the percentage of upper-income families, at 53.8 percent. Considering the percentage of the institution's total home mortgage loans to low-, moderate-, middle-, and upper-income borrowers compared to the percentage of the population within the assessment area who are low-, moderate-, middle-, and upper-income; and the bank's overall lending performance, room for improvement exists in meeting the credit needs of low- and moderate-income borrowers in the assessment area.

That stated, the bank demonstrates use of innovative or flexible lending practices in a safe and sound manner to address the credit needs of low- or moderate-income individuals and first-time home buyers.

- ➤ The bank extended 49 loans through its internal first-time home buyer program in 2019 and 47 loans through versions of this program in 2020.
- ➤ The bank originated 39 loans through programs offered through the Rhode Island Housing Authority in 2019 and 2020. The programs offered down payment assistance to eligible first-time homebuyers in Rhode Island.
- ➤ The bank also extended 19 loans through programs in conjunction with the Federal Home Loans FHA program and RIHousing for first time homebuyers.
- ➤ The bank made 13 additional loans through the FHA 30-year fixed program, two of

- which were for refinance purposes.
- ➤ The bank extended one loan through Fannie Mae's HomeReady program in 2020. The HomeReady program offers low down payment mortgages designed to help lenders confidently serve credit-worthy low-income borrowers.
- As previously discussed, the bank made a significant volume of loans through the PPP loan program. In addition to being considered responsive, these loans were considered a flexible product that quickly helped businesses retain workers and staff during the economic hardship resulting from the pandemic.

The bank demonstrates an adequate record of serving the credit needs of highly economically disadvantaged areas in its assessment area, low-income individuals, or businesses with gross annual revenues of \$1 million or less, consistent with safe and sound operations.

# **Community Development Lending Activities**

The bank's community development lending activities are evaluated pursuant to the following criteria: 1) The number and amount of community development loans in the bank's assessment area(s); 2) the extent to which community development lending opportunities have been made available to the institution; 3) the responsiveness to the opportunities for community development lending; 4) the extent of leadership the institution has demonstrated in community development lending; and 5) the innovativeness or complexity involved.

The bank demonstrates it is a leader in making community development loans. BankNewport originated 53 qualified community development loans, totaling \$35.8 million. This is an increase from the previous CRA evaluation when the bank extended 27 community development loans, totaling \$23.2 million. A summary of the bank's community development lending activity during the time period is provided below.

- The bank extended six SBA 504 loans during the period, totaling \$18.5 million. The Certified Development Companies (CDCs) 504 Loan Program provides long-term, fixed rate financing of up to \$5 million for major fixed assets that promote business growth and job creation. CDC 504 loans are available through SBA's community-based partners who regulate nonprofits and promote economic development within their communities. CDCs are certified and regulated by the SBA.
- The bank extended four loans, totaling \$10.5 million, that supported organizations whose mission is to provide services to low- and moderate-income individuals. For example, the bank provided a \$100,000 loan to provide working capital to an organization whose mission is to provide basic needs and resources to community members. The organization's vision is a community without hunger and poverty.
- The bank provided four loans, totaling \$1.5 million, in support of affordable housing, a need highlighted by community contacts. One of the four was a \$1,000,000 loan to a community development financial institution (CDFI) which invests in low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods using affordable loans that build wealth and improve neighborhoods, particularly in communities of color.
- The bank extended 39 PPP loans to non-profit organizations which supported job retention for low and moderate-income persons and stabilized low- and moderate-income geographies.

#### **INVESTMENT TEST**

BankNewport's performance under the Investment Test is rated Low Satisfactory. The Investment Test evaluates the institution's record of meeting the credit needs of its assessment area through its use of qualified investments<sup>2</sup> that benefit the assessment area or a broader statewide or regional area that includes the institution's assessment area. The bank's investment performance is evaluated pursuant to the following criteria: 1) the number and dollar amount of qualified investments; 2) the innovativeness or complexity of qualified investments; 3) the responsiveness of qualified investments to credit and community development needs; 4) the degree to which the qualified investments are not routinely provided by private investors.

The bank demonstrates an adequate level of qualified investments, particularly those that are not routinely provided by private investors, although rarely in a leadership position. The bank demonstrates occasional use of innovative or complex qualified investments. The bank demonstrates good responsiveness to credit and community development needs.

BankNewport's overall investments totaled \$3.2 million, including \$1.2 million in equity investments and \$2.0 million in grants and donations.

# **Equity Investments**

The bank holds two prior period investments.

- An \$800,000 investment in a CRA Qualified Investment Fund. The fund is a market-rate bond fund that invests in securities whose proceeds are designed to positively impact communities. The fund is earmarked to benefit the bank's assessment area. During the review period the bank invested an additional \$200,000 into this fund, bringing the qualified total to \$1 million.
- BankNewport is also involved with the Business Development Company of Rhode Island, a non-bank entity that provides financing for growth and expansion of companies outside of the traditional lending arena. The bank maintains a \$200,000 investment with this entity.

#### Grants and Donations

The bank has demonstrated a good responsiveness to credit and community development needs in its assessment area through the provision of community development donations. The bank extended a total of \$2.0 million in CRA donations.

Table 9 displays the bank's qualified grants and donations by year and community development purpose. Donations qualified as community services accounted for the largest share; however, several organizations supported multiple functions that could be assigned to other community development purposes such as affordable housing, revitalization and economic development.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A qualified investment is defined as any lawful investment, deposit, membership share, or grant that has as its primary purpose community development.

	Table 9 Qualified Donations by Purpose											
Community Development Category	`	6/2019- 1/2019)		2020	2	2021	Total					
	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$				
Affordable												
Housing	0	0	8	\$17,000	8	\$25,250	16	\$42,250				
Community Services	32	\$200,347	159	\$962,474	164	\$758,415	355	\$1,921,236				
Economic												
Development	1	\$200	7	\$25,000	8	\$33,350	387	\$58,550				
Revitalization/												
Stabilization	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Total	33	\$200,547	174	\$1,004,474	180	\$817,015	379	\$2,022,036				

Bank provided qualified investment data.

Below are some examples of the bank's contributions.

- The bank made a \$10,000 donation to an organization that develops and manages affordable housing in Pawtucket and Central Falls, RI. The organization also provides home buyer education.
- The bank provided a \$15,000 donation to an organization whose mission is to provide basic needs, resources, and hope to community members. The vision of the organization is a community without hunger and poverty.
- The bank provided a \$10,000 donation to support an organization in its efforts to meet the needs of individuals and the community effected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The bank's funds supported the organization in meeting the increased demand for key programs and community services during the COVID19 pandemic such as grocery cards, personal protective equipment, housing and rental support, increased mental health support, and cost of remote technical systems. The majority of the organization's clients are low-income families, many of whom were struggling with housing insecurity, job loss and other vulnerabilities.
- The bank provided a \$5,000 donation to an organization that supports low-income students in earning college degrees.
- The bank provided a \$2,500 donation to an organization that serves low-income, underresourced communities, concentrating specifically on school students in Pawtucket, Providence, and Central Falls, RI.

#### SERVICE TEST

BankNewport's performance under the Service Test is rated High Satisfactory. The Service Test evaluates an institution's record of helping to meet the credit needs of its assessment area(s) by analyzing both the availability and effectiveness of an institution's systems for delivering retail banking services and the extent and innovativeness of its community development services.

#### **Retail Banking Services**

Retail banking services evaluates the availability and effectiveness of an institution's systems for delivering retail banking services, pursuant to the following criteria: 1) the current distribution of the institution's branches among low-, moderate-, middle-, and upper-income geographies; 2) in the context of its current distribution of branches, the record of opening and closing branches, particularly branches located in low- or moderate-income geographies or primarily serving low-or moderate-income individuals; 3) the availability and effectiveness of alternative systems for delivering retail banking services in low- and moderate-income geographies and to low- and moderate-income individuals; and 4) the range of services provided in low-, moderate-, middle-, and upper-income geographies and the degree to which the services are tailored to meet the needs of those geographies.

Table 10 below displays the distribution of the bank's current branch network compared to the percentage of census tracts within the assessment area as well as the percentage of the population that resides in those tracts.

Table 10 Distribution of Branch Offices by Income Category											
Census Tract Income	Assessment Area Total Census Tracts	a Demographics Total Population	Bank Offices by Tract Location								
Category	% of #	% of #	#	%							
Low	13.1	12.1	0	0.0							
Moderate	15.2	15.5	1	5.6							
Middle	39.3	39.7	9	50.0							
Upper	29.9	31.8	8	44.4							
Unknown	2.5	0.9	0	0.0							
Total	100.0	100.0	18	100.0							

2015 ACS data

While lagging demographic data in low- and moderate-income areas, the bank demonstrates its service delivery systems are reasonably accessible to geographies and individuals of different income levels in its assessment area. As previously noted, the bank operates 18 full-service branch locations, 7 ATM-only locations, 1 lending center, 1 loan production office, and 1 administrative and operations center. The main branch is located at 10 Washington Square, Newport, RI. Since the previous examination on September 16, 2019, new branch locations were opened as part of the bank's ongoing strategic plan to expand as a statewide bank. Specifically, BankNewport opened new branches in Johnston, RI, and Warwick, RI. Standalone ATMs were also added in Providence (2), East Providence (1), Newport (2), and Jamestown (1), R.I. BankNewport closed its Quonset branch in North Kingstown, RI and a standalone ATM at Wellington Square in Providence, RI. The bank's record of opening and closing branches has

generally not adversely affected the accessibility of its delivery systems, no offices have been opened or closed in low-or moderate-income geographies. Each branch office is also equipped with Personal Teller Machines (PTMs). PTMs offer the personal touch of a real-life banker, combined with the convenience of an ATM. The PTM uses secure, two-way video technology that allows customers to see the real-life banker. The PTM has speakers and a built-in microphone for traditional communication.

The bank demonstrates its services (including where appropriate, business hours) do not vary in a way that inconveniences its assessment area, particularly low- and moderate-income geographies and low- and moderate-income individuals. Hours at the majority of the bank's branch offices are from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday -Thursday, and Fridays 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM, with Saturday hours from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The Providence branch does not offer Saturday hours, but does offer extended weekday hours from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM Monday - Thursday, and Fridays from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

### **Community Development Services**

A community development service has community development as its primary purpose and is generally related to the provision of financial services or technical assistance. Community development services are evaluated pursuant to the following criteria: 1) The extent to which the institution provides community development services; and 2) the innovativeness and responsiveness of community development services.

The bank demonstrates it provides a relatively high level of community development services.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, most of the bank's community development services were conducted in a virtual environment. Although the bank's community development services are not particularly innovative, the relatively high level of community development services is reflected through bank management and staff service as board or committee members on a wide variety of organizations, which promote financial literacy, affordable housing, economic development, and community services to low- and moderate-income individuals and small businesses.

Examples of involvement in community development activities include:

#### Employee Services

- **Grow Smart Rhode Island** A senior vice president serves on the board. This statewide non-profit organization promotes economic growth through revitalization of urban and town centers and promotion of affordable housing.
- East Bay Community Action Program (EBCAP) An executive vice president serves on the board. EBCAP is a private non-profit corporation that provides a wide array of health and human services to low- and moderate-income residents of the East Bay and beyond. Services include early head start, family health, food pantries, youth programs, assistance to the homeless, senior dining program, heating and energy services, and other social services.
- Dr. Martin Luther King (MLK), Jr. Community Center A vice president serves on the board. The MLK Community Center provides a wide range of social services to

- residents in Newport County and surrounding areas. The organization provides free meals through their food pantry and education services through their preschool, afterschool academy, and summer adventure camp. In addition, the organization provides health-related programming and cooking and nutrition classes for community members.
- Ocean State Business Development Authority (OSBDA) A vice president serves on the board. OSBDA is a business development company certified by the SBA that assists small businesses secure low-rate business loans for job creation, thereby promoting economic development.
- Child and Family Services A senior vice president serves on the board. The organization provides social services, which address the needs of low-to-moderate-income individuals, children, at risk youth and families, and the elderly.
- Providence Revolving Fund (PRF) A vice president serves on the board. PRF is a CDFI that invests in low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods using affordable loans that build wealth and improve neighborhoods, particularly in communities of color. They also provide micro-business loans in and around Providence, and they prioritize commercial lending projects that promote deed restricted mixed-income projects.

#### Educational Programs and Seminars

• BNWise – BankNewport partners with Everfi, Washington, D.C, to provide online financial literacy education for consumers to access at any time. The curriculum engages on topics such as mobile and online banking, certificates of deposit accounts, savings accounts, checking accounts, preventing overdraft fees, credit cards, and vehicle loans. BNWise provides engaging learning experiences through varied and interactive courses designed to help youth and adults strengthen their financial skills and to support good financial decisions with the present and future in mind. During the 2019, 2020, and 2021 school years, BankNewport employees shared their expertise and facilitated financial education classes in area schools. In-person classes were held throughout 2019, and during the COVID-19 pandemic BankNewport held virtual classes. In addition to providing education to area schools, the bank partnered with 29 organizations and participated in 65 workshops within Providence County and Newport County. Workshops were held via in-person presentations and livestream/recorded presentations.

# Other Community Development Services

- Center for Women & Enterprise (CWE) The bank's community development officer and vice president serves on the board. CWE is dedicated to helping aspiring women entrepreneurs and business owners launch and grow their business by providing greater access to the resources, tools, and support they need to achieve business success. CWE also operates the Veterans Business Outreach Center of New England (VBOC of NE) that focuses on assisting veterans, active-duty service members, and their families with starting and growing their business.
- South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation The bank's community development officer and vice president serves on the board. SEED is a regional nonprofit economic development corporation with the mission of empowering entrepreneurs,

- strengthening local economies, and creating jobs by financing all types of small businesses in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. SEED offers loan programs ranging from \$1,000 micro loans to \$5.5 million SBA 504 loans, and has a long history of assisting small business owners.
- Local Return The bank's community development officer and vice president serves on the board. Local Return's mission is to build community wealth in Rhode Island through ownership and investment, particularly in neighborhoods that have experienced historical disinvestment.

# FAIR LENDING OR OTHER ILLEGAL CREDIT PRACTICES REVIEW

No evidence of discriminatory or other illegal credit practices inconsistent with helping to meet community credit needs was identified.

#### **APPENDIX**

#### **GLOSSARY**

**Aggregate lending**: The number of loans originated and purchased by all reporting lenders in specified income categories as a percentage of the aggregate number of loans originated and purchased by all reporting lenders in the metropolitan area/assessment area.

**Assessment area**: One or more of the geographic areas delineated by the bank and used by the regulatory agency to assess an institution's record of CRA performance.

Census tract: A small subdivision of metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties. Census tract boundaries do not cross county lines; however, they may cross the boundaries of metropolitan statistical areas. Census tracts usually have between 2,500 and 8,000 persons, and their physical size varies widely depending on population density. Census tracts are designed to be homogeneous with respect to population characteristics, economic status, and living conditions to allow for statistical comparisons.

Community contact: Interviews conducted as part of the CRA examination to gather information that might assist examiners in understanding the bank's community, available opportunities for helping to meet local credit and community development needs, and perceptions on the performance of financial institutions in helping meet local credit needs. Communications and information gathered can help to provide a context to assist in the evaluation of an institution's CRA performance.

Community development: All Agencies have adopted the following language. Affordable housing (including multifamily rental housing) for low- or moderate-income individuals; community services targeted to low- or moderate-income individuals; activities that promote economic development by financing businesses or farms that meet the size eligibility standards of the Small Business Administration's Development Company or Small Business Investment Company programs (13 CFR 121.301) or have gross annual revenues of \$1 million or less; or, activities that revitalize or stabilize low or moderate-income geographies.

Effective September 1, 2005, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), and the FDIC have adopted the following additional language as part of the revitalize or stabilize definition of community development. Activities that revitalize or stabilize:

- (i) Low- or moderate-income geographies;
- (ii) Designated disaster areas; or
- (iii) Distressed or underserved nonmetropolitan middle-income geographies designated by the Board, the FDIC, and the OCC, based on:
  - a. Rates of poverty, unemployment, and population loss; or
  - b. Population size, density, and dispersion. Activities that revitalize and stabilize geographies designated based on population size, density, and dispersion if they help to meet essential community needs, including needs of low- and moderate-income individuals.

**Consumer loan(s)**: A loan(s) to one or more individuals for household, family, or other personal expenditures. A consumer loan does not include a home mortgage, small business, or small farm loan. This definition includes the following categories: motor vehicle loans, credit card loans, home equity loans, other secured consumer loans, and other unsecured consumer loans.

**Demographics**: The statistical characteristics of human populations (such as age, race, sex, income, etc.) used specially to identify markets.

**Distressed nonmetropolitan middle-income geography**: A middle-income, nonmetropolitan geography will be designated as distressed if it is in a county that meets one or more of the following triggers: (1) an unemployment rate of at least 1.5 times the national average, (2) a poverty rate of 20 percent or more, or (3) a population loss of 10 percent or more between the previous and most recent decennial census or a net migration loss of 5 percent or more over the 5-year period preceding the most recent census.

**Family**: Includes a householder and one or more other persons living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. The number of family households always equals the number of families; however, a family household may also include nonrelatives living with the family. Families are classified by type as either a married-couple family or other family, which is further classified into "male householder" (a family with a male householder and no wife present) or "female householder" (a family with a female householder and no husband present).

**Full-scope review**: Performance under the Lending, Investment, and Service Tests is analyzed considering performance context, quantitative factors (e.g., geographic distribution, borrower distribution, and total number and dollar amount of investments), and qualitative factors (e.g., innovativeness, complexity, and responsiveness).

**Geography**: A census tract delineated by the United States Bureau of the Census in the most recent decennial census.

Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA): The statute that requires certain mortgage lenders who do business or have banking offices in a metropolitan statistical area to file annual summary reports of their mortgage lending activity. The reports include such data as the race, gender, and the income of applications, the amount of loan requested, and the disposition of the application (e.g., approved, denied, and withdrawn).

**Home mortgage loans**: Includes home purchase and home improvement loans as defined in the HMDA regulation. This definition also includes multifamily (five or more families) dwelling loans, loans for the purchase of manufactured homes, and refinancing of home improvement and home purchase loans.

**Household**: One or more persons who occupy a housing unit. The occupants may be a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements.

**Housing affordability ratio**: Is calculated by dividing the median household income by the median housing value. It represents the amount of single family, owner-occupied housing that a dollar of income can purchase for the median household in the census tract. Values closer to 100 percent indicate greater affordability.

**Limited-scope review**: Performance under the Lending, Investment, and Service Tests is analyzed using only quantitative factors (e.g., geographic distribution, borrower distribution, total number and dollar amount of investments, and branch distribution).

**Low-income**: Individual income that is less than 50 percent of the area median income, or a median family income that is less than 50 percent, in the case of a geography.

**Market share**: The number of loans originated and purchased by the institution as a percentage of the aggregate number of loans originated and purchased by all reporting lenders in the metropolitan area/assessment area.

**Median family income**: The dollar amount that divides the family income distribution into two equal groups, half having incomes above the median, half having incomes below the median. The median family income is based on all families within the area being analyzed.

Metropolitan area (MA): A metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or a metropolitan division (MD) as defined by the Office of Management and Budget. An MSA is a core area containing at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more inhabitants, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of economic and social integration with that core. An MD is a division of an MSA based on specific criteria including commuting patterns. Only an MSA that has a population of at least 2.5 million may be divided into MDs.

**Middle-income**: Individual income that is at least 80 percent and less than 120 percent of the area median income, or a median family income that is at least 80 percent and less than 120 percent in the case of a geography.

**Moderate-income**: Individual income that is at least 50 percent and less than 80 percent of the area median income, or a median family income that is at least 50 percent and less than 80 percent in the case of a geography.

**Multifamily**: Refers to a residential structure that contains five or more units.

Nonmetropolitan statistical area (nonMSA): Not part of a metropolitan area. (See metropolitan area.)

**Other products**: Includes any unreported optional category of loans for which the institution collects and maintains data for consideration during a CRA examination. Examples of such

activity include consumer loans and other loan data an institution may provide concerning its lending performance.

**Owner-occupied units**: Includes units occupied by the owner or co-owner, even if the unit has not been fully paid for or is mortgaged.

**Performance context**: The performance context is a broad range of economic, demographic, and institution- and community-specific information that an examiner reviews to understand the context in which an institution's record of performance should be evaluated. The performance context is not a formal or written assessment of community credit needs.

**Performance criteria**: These are the different criteria against which a bank's performance in helping to meet the credit needs of its assessment area(s) is measured. The criteria relate to lending, investment, retail service, and community development activities performed by a bank. The performance criteria have both quantitative and qualitative aspects. There are different sets of criteria for large banks, intermediate small banks, small banks, wholesale/limited purpose banks, and strategic plan banks.

**Performance evaluation (PE)**: A written evaluation of a financial institution's record of meeting the credit needs of its community, as prepared by the federal financial supervision agency responsible for supervising the institution.

**Qualified investment**: A qualified investment is defined as any lawful investment, deposit, membership share, or grant that has as its primary purpose community development.

Rated area: A rated area is a state or multistate metropolitan area. For an institution with domestic branches in only one state, the institution's CRA rating would be the state rating. If an institution maintains domestic branches in more than one state, the institution will receive a rating for each state in which those branches are located. If an institution maintains domestic branches in two or more states within a multistate metropolitan area, the institution will receive a rating for the multistate metropolitan area.

**Small businesses/small farms**: A small business/farm is considered to be one in which gross annual revenues for the preceding calendar year were \$1 million or less.

**Small loan(s) to business(es)**: That is, "small business loans" are included in "loans to small businesses" as defined in the Consolidated Reports of Condition and Income (Call Report) and the Thrift Financial Reporting (TFR) instructions. These loans have original amounts of \$1 million or less and typically are secured by either nonfarm or nonresidential real estate or are classified as commercial and industrial loans. However, thrift institutions may also exercise the option to report loans secured by nonfarm residential real estate as "small business loans" if the loans are reported on the TFR as nonmortgage, commercial loans.

**Small loan(s) to farm(s)**: That is, "small farm loans" are included in "loans to small farms" as defined in the instructions for preparation of the Consolidated Reports of Condition and Income (Call Report). These loans have original amounts of \$500,000 or less and are either secured by farmland or are classified as loans to finance agricultural production and other loans to farmers.

**Underserved middle-income geography**: A middle-income, nonmetropolitan geography will be designated as underserved if it meets criteria for population size, density, and dispersion that indicate the area's population is sufficiently small, thin, and distant from a population center that the tract is likely to have difficulty financing the fixed costs of meeting essential community needs.

**Upper-income**: Individual income that is 120 percent or more of the area median income, or a median family income that is 120 percent or more, in the case of a geography.

For additional information, please see the Definitions section of Regulation BB at 12 C.F.R. 228.12