PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOUR RECENT RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE EXPERIENCE

A nationwide survey of mortgage borrowers throughout the United States

Over the last few years the U.S. economy has gone through some dramatic changes that have affected mortgage practices. Learning directly from borrowers about their experiences will help us improve lending practices and the mortgage process for future borrowers.

This research study is sponsored by two Federal agencies who are working together on behalf of all consumers:



The Federal Housing Finance Agency, created in 2008 as the government regulator of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and to oversee and ensure the safety of the U.S. housing finance system; and

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, created in 2010 to ensure that all consumers have access to markets for consumer financial products and services and that markets for consumer financial products and services are fair, transparent, and competitive.

Thank you for your help with this important national study.

Esta encuesta está disponible en español en línea. Vea el reverso para obtener instrucciones.

Want to take the survey online? See the back cover for instructions.

National Survey of Mortgage Originations (NSMO) Questionnaire, Waves 5 and 6 (2015 Q1 & Q2)
We are interested in learning about your experience
purchasing or refinancing either a personal home or
a home for someone else, including rental property.
a nome for someone else, including rental property.
We look forward to hearing from you.
Privacy Act Notice: In accordance with the Privacy Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. § 552a), the following notice is provided. The information requested on this
Survey is collected pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 4544 for the purposes of gathering information for the National Mortgage Database. Routine uses which may be made of the collected information can be found in the Federal Housing Finance Agency's System of Records Notice (SORN) FHFA-21 National Mortgage
Database. Providing the requested information is voluntary. Submission of the survey authorizes FHFA to collect the information provided and to disclose it as set forth in the referenced SORN.
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OMB No. 2590-0012
Expires 12/31/2016

Thank you for helping us to learn more about your experience in getting a mortgage.					5.	5. When you began the process of getting y mortgage, how concerned were you abou qualifying for a mortgage?				
1.	Within the past 15 months o out or co-sign mortgage loan (including any mortgage refin	docum	ents	æ		☐ Very	☐ Somewhat		□ Not a	
	☐ Yes → If you took out or co- one mortgage during refer to your experien mortgage you took ou	this perio	od, please the <u>last</u>		6.	How firm an ide have about the n		wanted		
	throughout this surve No → You do not need to co the survey. Please ret questionnaire so we k	y. Implete the urn the b	ne rest of lank	es.	7.	How much did y sources to get in mortgage lender	formation abo		_	or
	not apply to you. The yours to keep.							A Lot	A Little	Not At All
_			A			Your lender or bro	ker			
2.	Did we mail this survey to the					Other lenders or b	rokers			
	house or property you finance	ced with	i the			Real estate agents	or builders			
	mortgage?					Material in the ma	il			
	Yes No					Websites that provon getting a mor				
3.	Including you, how many pe	ople sig	ned or c	0-		Newspaper/TV/Ra	idio			
	signed for this mortgage?					Friends/relatives/c	o-workers			
	□ 1 □ 2 □ 3		4 or mor	e		Bankers or financi	al planners	$\overline{\Box}$		\Box
						Housing counselor	=			一百
all of 1 we	his loan was co-signed by othe co-signers as best you can whe the survey. Otherwise, it is your want to know about. When you began the process	en answe r own sit	ering the tuation th	rest	8.	Other (specify) Which of the followhopping proces	_	_ □ escribes	□ s your	
	mortgage, how familiar were signers) with each of the foll	e you (a		0-		I picked the loatender/broker		then I pi	cked the	
	The moutes as interest rates	Very	Somewhat	Not At All		I picked the lend the loan type	der/broker first,	and ther	ı I picked	
	The mortgage interest rates available at that time				9.	How did you app	ply for your n	ortgag	e? Mark	5
	The different types of					one answer.				
	mortgages available		Ш			Directly to a ler	nder, such as a b	ank or c	redit unio	n
	The process of taking out a mortgage					Through a mort	gage broker (son			•
	The down payment needed to qualify for a mortgage					Other (specify)	_			
	The income needed to qualify for a mortgage				10.	How many differ			-	
	Your credit history or credit score					seriously conside apply for your n		_		
	The money needed at closing					□ 1 □ 2	<u>3</u>	1 [] 5 or mo	re

11.	end up applying to? Mark on		•	u		iow open were y ender/broker abo	_	_	_	
_		_	_			eatures or terms		58 cs		
	1 2 3 4		5 or more	•		Very	Some	what	□No	ot at all
	12. Did you apply to more				16 T	T		- C 41 C	- 11	•
	lender/broker for any or reasons?	of the	following			Iow important w letermining the n				III
	reasons:		Yes	No			nor eguge	<i>y</i> ou t o o	11 0000	.
	Searching for better loan to							Very S	Somewhat	Not At All
	Concern over qualifying for		an 🗌]	Low interest rate				
	Information learned from to "Good Faith Estimate"	the]	Low APR (Annual				
	Turned down on earlier ap	nlicati	on \square	H		Percentage Rate)				
	ramed down on earner ap	piicuti		Ш		Low closing fees				
13.	How important were each of	the f	ollowing in	n		Low down payment				
	choosing the lender/broker y		_			Low monthly payme An interest rate fixe				
	mortgage you took out?				1	the life of the loan		П		
		Very	Somewhat	Not At All		A term of less than :		H	H	H
	Having an established banking	•]	No mortgage insura	nce			
	relationship									
	Having a local office or branch	_	_	_	17. V	Vas the "Good F	aith Esti	mate'' y	ou receiv	ed
	nearby				f	rom your lender	broker	•		
	Used previously to get a mortgage								Yes	No
	Lender/broker is a personal	Ш		ш		Easy to understand				
	friend or relative					Valuable informatio	n			Ш
	Lender/broker operates online									
	Lender is a community bank or	_	_	_	18. I	oid the "Good Fa	ith Estin	nate'' le	ad you to)
	credit union Recommendation from a								Yes	No
	friend/relative/co-worker					Ask questions of yo				
	Recommendation from a real	Ш		ш	\$	Seek a change in yo	ur loan or	closing		
	estate agent/home builder									
	Recommendation from a				19. I	n the process of g	getting ye	our mor	tgage fro	m
	lending website					our lender/brok			0 0	
	Reputation of the lender/broker								Yes	No
	Spoke my primary language, which is not English					Add a co-signer				
	which is not English	Ш		Ш		Resolve credit repor		-	s \square	
					4	Answer follow-up ro information about	-			
14.	Who initiated the first conta				1	Have multiple appra		assets		
	the lender/broker you used f you took out?	or the	e mortgage	e		Redo/refile paperwo		processin	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
		_				delays	,	processii		
	I (or one of my co-signers) did	i]	Delay or postpone o	losing dat	e		
	The lender/broker did	ind no	utri (au ala aa	~]	Have your "Good F			ed	
	We were put in contact by a the real estate agent or home but	-	rty (such as	а		to reflect changes	in your lo	an terms		
	. car essure agent of nonte ou									



During the application process were			25. O	verall, how satisf	ied are you wi	th the	
about mortgages with any of the following	lowing	•			Very	Somewhat	Not At All
	Yes	No	L	ender/broker you us	ed 🔲		
An interest rate that is fixed for the life of the loan			A	application process			
	Ш		L	oan closing process			
An interest rate that could change over the life of the loan		П	T	he information in m			
A term of less than 30 years		_		disclosure documer	_		
•			Т	the timeliness of mor			
A higher interest rate in return for lower closing costs			S	disclosure documer ettlement agent	its \square		
A lower interest rate in return for paying higher closing costs (discount points)				id you take a cou		e-buying o	or
Interest-only monthly payments			ta	lk to a housing co	ounselor?		
An escrow account for taxes and/or homeowner insurance			۲] No] Yes —			
A prepayment penalty (fee if the mortgage is paid off early)				\downarrow	II 4b - 1		
Reduced documentation or "easy"			2	7. (If Yes to Q26)			ıng
approval				course or coun	senng provide		
An FHA, VA, USDA or Rural Housing				In pagen one -	n ono	Yes	No
loan				In person, one-o			
				In person, in a g	ioup		H
n selecting your settlement agent di	id you.	••		Online			
	Yes	No		Online		Ш	
Use an agent recommended by the	105	110	2	8. (If Yes to Q26)			ıe
lender/broker				home-buying o	course or coun	seling?	
Use an agent you had used previously				Less than 3 ho	ours		
Shop around				3 - 6 hours			
				☐ 7 – 12 hours			
Oid your lender require you to get t	itle			☐ More than 12	hours		
nsurance on your mortgage?							
No			2	9. (If Yes to Q26) home-buying o		_	s the
Yes —				☐ Very	☐ Somewhat	□ Not	at all
\downarrow 23. (If Yes in Q22) Which best descr	ihaa ha		\downarrow		Some what		ut un
you picked the title insurance?	ines no	vv		Vour	Mortgag		
☐ Reissued previous title insurance				Tour	IVIOI LEAS	,	
Used title insurance recommended	l by		30. W	hen you took out	your mortgag	ge, what w	as the
lender/broker or settlement agen	ıt		lo	an amount (the d	ollar amount ye	ou borrowe	ed) ?
☐ Shopped around					_		
Duranall have satisfied and you that the	l. a		\$		00	Don't know	
Overall, how satisfied are you that t nortgage you got was the one with t							
nortgage you got was the one with t	ше		31. W	hat is the month	ly payment (in	cluding the	e
W. C		Not	an	nount paid to escr	ow for taxes an	d insuranc	ce)?
•	Somewhat	At All					
Best terms to fit your needs Lowest interest rate for which	Ш	Ш	\$.00	Don't know	
you could qualify							
Lowest closing costs			32. W	hat is the interes	t rate on your	mortgage	?
					· ·	0 0	
				%		Don't know	
					_		

33. Is this an adjustable-rate mortgage (one that	40. Does your mortgage have any of	the follow	wing
allows the interest rate to change over the life of the loan)?	features?	Yes No	Don't Know
☐ Yes ☐ No	A prepayment penalty (fee if the mortgage is paid off early)		
☐ Don't know	An escrow account for taxes and/or homeowner insurance		
	A balloon payment		
34. At the time of application, did the lender give	Interest-only payments		
you the option to set/lock the interest rate so	Owner's title insurance		Ш
that it would not change before closing?	Credit life/debt suspension/debt		
Yes	cancellation insurance		Ш
□ No	41. Were the costs to close your loan the following ways?	paid in a	ny of
☐ Don't know	one rone may may be	Yes No	Don't Know
25 XXVI 41 - 3-4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	By me or a co-signer (check or	i es i No	Kilow
35. When was the interest rate set/locked on your	wire transfer)	пг	
loan?	By lender/broker		
☐ At application	By seller/builder		
☐ Between application and closing	Added to the mortgage amount		
Around closing	6 6		
Around closing	Other (specify)		
26 Many martes and have discount points paid to			
36. Many mortgages have discount points paid to			
the lender to get a lower interest rate. Did you	42. At or before closing did you com	pare the	final
pay any discount points?	loan costs to the Good Faith Esti		
⊢ □ No	received earlier from your lende	-	
☐ Yes ─	r □ No		
37. (If Yes in Q36) How many discount points	☐ Yes ☐		
did you pay?	42 (If V = 4 = 0.42) Did = 2 = find a	::£	:4
uiu you puy.	43. (If Yes to Q42) Did you find a		icant
	differences between the two	•	
points	Yes		
☐ Don't know	☐ No		
	J		
38. Some lenders charge origination points to cover	44. Did you seek input about your cl	osing	
the cost of preparing a mortgage for closing.	documents from any of the follow	wing peop	ole?
These are often expressed as a percentage of		Yes	No
the loan amount. Did you pay any origination	Lender/broker		П
points?	Attorney		
	Real estate agent		
\square No \rightarrow Skip to Q40	Settlement agent		$\overline{\Box}$
☐ Yes ─	Title agent	H	H
\downarrow	Trusted friend or relative who is not		
39. (If Yes in Q38) How many origination	a co-signer on the mortgage		
points did you pay?	Housing counselor		
			Ш
points	Other (specify)		
 •		🗆	
☐ Don't know			

45. Did you face any unpleasant your loan closing?	"surprises" at		50. What was the primary purpose of your mortgage at the time you took it out? Mark one answer.
A6. (If Yes to Q45) What unpludid you face? Different loan terms Higher monthly payment Higher interest rate Unexpected fees Higher amount of money need at closing Asked to sign blank document Rushed at closing or not give to read documents	Yes Comparis Compari	es No O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	Purchase of a property Permanent financing on a construction loan Refinance or modification of an existing mortgage New loan on a mortgage-free property Some other purpose (specify) 51. Which statement best describes the approach you took to purchase your house or property? Had a pre-approval or pre-qualification from a lender before I made the purchase Shopped for a mortgage after making the purchase offer Shopped for house and mortgage at the same time
Other (specify) 47. At the same time you took ou did you also take out another property (a second lien, home home equity line of credit (HEL) No Yes 48. (If Yes to Q47) What was loan? \$ Don't know	loan on your equity loan, or LOC))? the amount of	this	52. Did you use the proceeds from the sale of another property to help pay for the house or property you bought? Solve I No Yes 53. (If Yes to Q52) How much money from the sale of this other property was used to purchase your property? \$
Process of taking out a mortgage Difference between a fixed- and an adjustable-rate mortgage Difference between a prime and subprime loan	Very Somewhat	Not	☐ 0% ☐ Less than 5% ☐ 5% to less than 10% ☐ 10% to less than 20% ☐ 20% or more 55. Did you use any of the following sources of funds to purchase the property?
Difference between a mortgage's interest rate and its APR Amortization of a loan Consequences of not making required mortgage payments			Savings, retirement account, inheritance, or other assets Assistance or loan from a nonprofit or government agency Gift or loan from family or friend Seller contribution
			Purchase or construction loan skip to Q60.

If you refinanced, took a new loan property or chose "other" in Q50	~ ~ ~	61. What was the purchase price of your property, or if you built it, the construction and land cost?	
56. How important, if at all, wer reasons in your decision to robtain a new mortgage?		\$00	
	Very Somewhat	Not At All	62. How did you acquire the property?
Change to a fixed-rate loan			Mark one answer.
Get a lower interest rate			Purchased an existing home in a standard sale
Get a lower monthly payment Consolidate or pay down other		ш	from the previous owner
debt			Purchased a newly-built home from a builder
Repay the loan more quickly			Purchased a foreclosed property from a
Take out cash			bank, investor, or government agency
57. Approximately how much w	as owed in tot	al on	Purchased a "short sale" property from the previous owner
the old mortgage(s) and loan			Purchased land and built a house
			Received as a gift or inheritance
\$.00		Other (specify)
Zero (the property was mortg	age-free)		63. What type of house is on your property? Mark one answer.
58. How does the total amount of mortgage(s) compare to the		f tha	┌ Single-family detached house
old mortgage(s) and loan(s)			☐ Townhouse, row house, or villa
paid off?	wilcii tiicy wei		☐ Mobile home or manufactured home
New amount is lower			2-unit, 3-unit, or 4-unit dwelling
New amount is about the same			Condo, apartment house, or co-op
☐ New amount is higher			Unit in a partly commercial structure
Property was mortgage-free			Other (specify)
50 Did you use the money v	↓ vou got from th	,i a	
59. Did you use the money y new mortgage for any of	f the following	?	64. (If multiple units in Q63) How many separate living units does your mortgage cover?
College expenses	Yes	No	
Auto or other major purchase	<u> </u>	H	units
Pay off other bills or debts		H	65. All and have much do you think wave much and it
Home repairs/additions			65. About how much do you think your property is worth in terms of what you could sell it for now?
Savings			worth in terms of what you could sen it for now.
Closing costs of new mortga	ge 🔲		\$.00 Don't know
Business or investment			φ00
Other (specify)			66. Do you rent out any portion of your property?
			$\square \text{ No } \rightarrow \text{ Skip to } Q68$
			☐ Yes—
Your Mortgaged	Property	/	67. (If Yes to Q66) How much rent do you
60. When did you buy or acquir	e vour nronert	tv?	receive?
ara you say or acquir	- Jour Propert		00
/			\$00 per month
month year			



68. Which of the following best describes how you	75. Ever owned other residential properties besides
use this property?	this one: Spouse/
☐ Primary residence (where you	You Partner
spend the majority of your time)	Yes
☐ It will be my primary residence soon	No
Seasonal or second home	
Home for other relatives	76. Highest level of education achieved:
Rental or investor property	Spouse/ You Partner
Other (specify)	Some schooling
	High school graduate
↓	Technical school
69. (If primary residence in Q68) When did you	Some college
move into the property?	College graduate
	Postgraduate studies
/	77. Hispanic or Latino:
month year	Spouse/
<u></u>	You Partner
70. Is anyone who currently lives in the property a	Yes
co-signer on your mortgage?	No
☐ Yes ☐ No	78. Race: Mark all that apply.
	Spouse/
	You Partner
Your Household	White
	American Indian or Alaska Native
71. What is your current marital status?	Asian
─ ☐ Married	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
Separated	
☐ Never married	79. Current work status: Mark all that apply.
Divorced	
Widowed	Spouse/ You Partner
↓	Self-employed/work for self
72. Do you have a partner who shares the	Employed full time
decision-making and responsibilities of	Employed part time
running your household but is not your	Retired
legal spouse?	Temporarily laid-off or on leave Not working for pay (student,
Yes	homemaker, disabled, unemployed)
□ No	
Plana manufacturina mada a famana di	80. Have you ever served on active duty in the U.S.
Please answer the following questions for you and your spouse or partner, if applicable.	Armed Forces? (Active duty includes serving in
your spouse or parmer, if applicable.	the U.S. Armed Forces as well as activation from
7 2	the Reserves or National Guard). Spouse/
73. Age at last birthday: Spouse/You Partner	You Partner
Turther	Yes, now on active duty
yearsyears	Yes, on active duty in the past, but
	not now
74. Sex: Spouse/	No, never on active duty except for
You Partner	No, never on active duty except for initial/basic training
Spouse,	No, never on active duty except for initial/basic training \text{\text{\text{\text{No}}}} \text{\text{\text{\text{No}}}} \text{\text{\text{\text{No}}}} \text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{No}}}}} \text{\texi}\text{\text{\text{\texi}\text{\text{\text{\texi}\texi{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{\t
You Partner	No, never on active duty except for initial/basic training



on besides you (and your spouse/partner), does	60. Does anyone in your nousehold have any of the	
anyone else live in your household or use your	following? Yes No	
house as a permanent address?	401(k), 403(b), IRA, or pension plan	, 1
r □ No	Stocks, bonds, or mutual funds (<i>not in</i>	,
☐ Yes —	retirement accounts or pension plans)	1
92 (If Var to OSI) How many of the other	Certificates of deposit	, 1
82. (If Yes to Q81) How many of the other household members are 18 years of age or	Investment real estate	1
younger?		
younger:	89. Which one of the following statements best	
	describes the amount of financial risk you are	
——household members	willing to take when you make investments?	
None	☐ Take substantial financial risks expecting to earn substantial returns	
83. (If Yes to Q81) How many of the other household members are older than 18?	Take above-average financial risks expecting to earn above-average returns	
household members	☐ Take average financial risks expecting to earn average returns	
□ None	☐ Not willing to take any financial risks	
94 (If Veg to 001) Do ony of the other	90. Do you agree or disagree with the following	
84. (If Yes to Q81) Do any of the other household members help pay for	statements?	
household expenses?	Agree Disagr	:ee
Yes No	Owning a home is a good financial investment	
\$5. Approximately how much is your total annual	Mortgage lenders generally treat borrowers well	
household income from all sources (wages,	Late payments will lower my	
salaries, tips, interest, child support, investment	credit rating	
income, retirement, social security, and alimony)?	Lenders shouldn't care about any late	
Under \$35,000	payments, only whether loans are	
\$35,000 to \$49,999	fully repaid	
\$50,000 to \$74,999	It is okay to default or stop making	
\$75,000 to \$99,999	mortgage payments if it is in the borrower's financial interest	
\$100,000 to \$174,999	borrower's financial interest	
\$175,000 or more	91. In the last couple of years, have any of the	
— , ,	following happened to you?	
86. How does this total annual household income	Yes N	o
compare to what it is in a "normal" year?	Separated or divorced	
☐ Higher than normal	Married/remarried/new partner	
Normal	Death of a household member	
☐ Lower than normal	Addition to your household	
	(not including spouse/partner)]
87. Does your total annual household income	Person leaving your household	
include any of the following sources?	(not including spouse/partner)	
Yes No	Disability or serious illness of	
Wages or salf ampleyment	household member	_
Business or self-employment Interest or dividends	Disaster affecting your house	
Alimony or child support	Disaster affecting your (or your	_
Social Security benefits	spouse/partner's) work	_
	Moved within the area (less than 50 miles) Moved to a new area (50 miles or more)	4
	Moved to a new area (50 miles or more)	_



92. In the last couple of years, have any of the following happened to you (or your spouse/partner)?	the overall desirability of living in your neighborhood to change?
Starting a new job Starting a second job Business failure A personal financial crisis Significant Increase Change Change	Become more desirable Stay about the same Become less desirable 97. In the next couple of years, how do you expect the following to change for you (and your spouse/partner)? Significant Increase Change Decrease Household income Housing expenses Non-housing expenses Non-housing expenses Non-housing expenses 98. How likely is it that in the next couple of years you will Not Very Somewhat At All Move and sell your property
94. In the last couple years, how have the following changed in your neighborhood? Significant Increase Change Decrease Number of homes for sale	Move but keep your property Refinance your mortgage Pay off your mortgage and own your property mortgage-free 99. How likely is it that in the next couple of years
Number of vacant homes	you (or your spouse/partner) will face Very Somewhat At All Retirement
95. What do you think will happen to the prices of homes like yours in your neighborhood over the next couple of years?	Some other personal financial crisis
☐ Increase a lot ☐ Increase a little ☐ Remain about the same ☐ Decrease a little ☐ Decrease a lot	Pay your bills for the next 3 months without borrowing Get significant financial help from family or friends Borrow enough money from a bank or credit union Significantly increase your income

The Federal Housing Finance Agency and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau thank you for completing this survey.

We have provided the space below if you wish to share additional comments or further explain any
of your answers. Please do not put your name or address on the questionnaire.
_, ·

Please use the enclosed business reply envelope to return your completed questionnaire.

FHFA

1600 Research Blvd, RC B16

Rockville, MD 20850

ONLINE SURVEY INSTRUCTIONS

1. GO TO www.NSMBsurvey.com

Visite al sitio web www.NSMBsurvey.com

2. LOG IN with your unique survey PIN # found in the accompanying letter

Inicie la sesión con su número PIN único de la encuesta que se encuentra en la carta adjunta.

Online responses are processed more quickly, so taking the survey online makes it less likely you will receive follow-up reminders to complete the survey.

Respuestas en línea son procesados más rápido, por lo que tomar la encuesta en línea hace que sea menos probable que usted recibirá recordatorios de seguimiento para completar la encuesta.

For any questions about the survey or online access you can call toll free 1-855-339-7877.

