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 (FHFA), 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 (CFPB), 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.

Para contestar la encuesta en español, vea las instrucciones de la carta adjunta.

National Survey of Mortgage Originations (NSMO) Questionnaire, Wave 4 (2014 Q4)
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, melading rental property.
We look forward to hearing from you.
We look for ward to flearing 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.
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.
OMB No. 2590-0012
Expires 12/31/2016

	ank you for helping us to learn i perience in getting a mortgage.	more ab	out your	•	5.	When you began mortgage, how c	oncerned we			
1.	Within the past 15 months or so, did you take out or co-sign mortgage loan documents (including any mortgage refinances)?					qualifying for a	mortgage?	at	☐ Not a	at all
	Yes → If you took out or co-s one mortgage during	signed mo this perio	ore than od, please		6.	How firm an ide have about the n				rs)
	refer to your experien mortgage you took ou throughout this survey	t or co-si				☐ Firm idea	Some ide		Littl	e idea
	No → You do not need to complete the rest of the survey. Please return the blank questionnaire so we know the survey does not apply to you. The money enclosed is yours to keep.					How much did y sources to get int mortgage lender	formation al		_	or
								A Lot	A Little	Not At Al
			0.17			Your lender or bro	ker			
2.	Did we mail this survey to th			•		Other lenders or bi	rokers			
	house or property you finance	ea with	tne			Real estate agents	or builders			
	mortgage?					Material in the ma	il			
	☐ Yes ☐ No					Websites that prov		n 🔲		
3.	Including you, how many peo	ople sign	ned or c	0-		Newspaper/TV/Ra	dio			
	signed for this mortgage?					Friends/relatives/c	o-workers			
	□ 1 □ 2 □ 3		4 or mo	re		Bankers or financi	al planners			
	his loan was co-signed by other	_				Housing counselor	'S			
all of we	co-signers as best you can whe the survey. Otherwise, it is your want to know about. When you began the process	n answe · own sit	ring the uation th	rest hat	8.	Other (specify) — Which of the foll shopping process	_	describes	□ s your	
	mortgage, how familiar were signers) with each of the follow	you (aı				☐ I picked the loan lender/broker	n type first, and	d then I pi	icked the	
	The mortgage interest rates	Very	Somewhat	Not At All		☐ I picked the lend the loan type	der/broker first	t, and ther	ı I picked	l
	available at that time The different types of				9.	How did you app	oly for your	mortgag	e? Mark	ζ.
	mortgages available					one answer.Directly to a len	idar such as a	bank or c	radit unic	m
	The process of taking out a mortgage					☐ Through a mort	gage broker (s	omeone w	ho works	
	The down payment needed to qualify for a mortgage					Other (specify)	ore lenders to	-		_
	The income needed to qualify for a mortgage				10.	0. How many different lenders/brokers did you seriously consider before choosing where to apply for your mortgage? Mark one answer.				
	Your credit history or credit score	П	П	П						
	The money needed at closing					□ 1 □ 2	□ 3	4] 5 or mo	re

11.	How many different lenders end up applying to? Mark or		•	u		How open were lender/broker al	bout mort			
ſ	1 2 3 4	. [5 or more	•		features or term ☐ Very	Some □	what	□ No	ot at all
	12. Did you apply to more lender/broker for any reasons?				16. How important were each of the following in determining the mortgage you took out?					in
	Searching for better loan of Concern over qualifying for Information learned from "Good Faith Estimate" Turned down on earlier and the important were each of choosing the lender/broker of mortgage you took out? Having an established banking relationship Having a local office or branch nearby Used previously to get a mortgage Lender/broker is a personal friend or relative Lender/broker operates online Lender is a community bank or credit union Recommendation from a friend/relative/co-worker Recommendation from a real estate agent/home builder Recommendation from a lending website Reputation of the lender/broker Spoke my primary language, which is not English Who initiated the first contatte lender/broker you used by you took out?	or a loa the pplication of the f the f you us the property of the f you us the property of the f the f you us the property of the f the f you us the property of the f t	on	Not At All	17.	Low interest rate Low APR (Annual Percentage Rate Low closing fees Low down payme Low monthly payn An interest rate fin the life of the loo A term of less than No mortgage insur- Was the "Good from your lende Easy to understand Valuable informat Did the "Good I Ask questions of y Seek a change in y In the process of your lender/bro Add a co-signer Resolve credit rep Answer follow-up information abo Have multiple app Redo/refile papers	nt ment ked for an an 30 years rance Faith Estimate for an	Very Very Mate' least of the color of the	Somewhat	No No
	☐ I (or one of my co-signers) di ☐ The lender/broker did ☐ We were put in contact by a treal estate agent or home be	hird pa	rty(such as	a		delays Delay or postpone	closing dat	te		



20. During the application process were you told			25. Overall, how satisfied are you with the								
	about mortgages with any of the follo	owing?				Very	Somewhat	Not At All			
		Yes	No		Lender/broker you used		П				
	An interest rate that is fixed for the life of the loan				Application process						
			ш		Loan closing process						
	An interest rate that could change over the life of the loan				The information in mortgage disclosure documents						
	A term of less than 30 years				The timeliness of mortgage		_				
	A higher interest rate in return for lower closing costs				disclosure documents Settlement agent						
	A lower interest rate in return for paying higher closing costs (discount points)			26. Did you take a course about home-buying or							
	Interest-only monthly payments		Ш		talk to a housing counselor?						
	An escrow account for taxes and/or homeowner insurance			ſ	— □ No □ Yes —						
	A prepayment penalty (fee if the mortgage is paid off early)				27. (If Yes to Q26) How was	the ho	ome-buyi	ng			
	Reduced documentation or "easy"	_	_		course or counseling pr		_	Ü			
	approval						Yes	No			
	An FHA, VA, USDA or Rural Housing	П			In person, one-on-one						
	loan		ш		In person, in a group						
21	In colocting your cottlement agent did	d von			Over the phone						
41.	In selecting your settlement agent did	u you			Online						
	Use an agent recommended by the lender/broker	Yes	No		28. (If Yes to Q26) How man home-buying course or	-		e			
	Use an agent you had used previously				• •	couns	······································				
	Shop around	H	H		Less than 3 hours						
	Shop around				\square 3 – 6 hours						
22	D:1 1 1 1 4 444				☐ 7 – 12 hours						
	Did your lender require you to get tit	tie			☐ More than 12 hours						
Г	insurance on your mortgage? ☐ No			29. (If Yes to Q26) Overall, how helpful was the home-buying course or counseling?							
	☐ Yes ─				☐ Very ☐ Some		□ Not a	at all			
	23. (If Yes in Q22) Which best descriyou picked the title insurance?	bes hov	v	1	,						
	Reissued previous title insurance				Your Mort	gage	е				
	Used title insurance recommended	by		30). When you took out your mo	rtgage	e, what wa	as the			
	lender/broker or settlement agent	•			loan amount (the dollar amo						
	☐ Shopped around				V	,		,			
↓ 24.	Overall, how satisfied are you that th	ne			\$00	D	on't know				
	mortgage you got was the one with th	he		21	What is the menthly marrows	4 (:	11: 41				
Not Very Somewhat At All			31	. What is the monthly payme amount paid to escrow for tax		_					
	Best terms to fit your needs				\$.00		! . 1				
	Lowest interest rate for which				.00	Пη	on't know				
	you could qualify			-	***						
	Lowest closing costs			32	2. What is the interest rate on	your n	nortgage'	3			
					%	□ D	on't know				



33.	Is this an adjustable-rate mortgage (one that	40. Does your mortgage have any of the following			ng	
	allows the interest rate to change over the life of	f	features?			Don't
	the loan)?			Yes	No	Know
	Yes		A prepayment penalty (fee if the			
	□ No		mortgage is paid off early)			
			An escrow account for taxes and/or	_		
	☐ Don't know		homeowner insurance		Ц	
			A balloon payment			
34.	At the time of application, did the lender give		Interest-only payments		Ц	
	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	_		
			cancellation insurance	Ш		Ш
	Yes					
	□ No		Were the costs to close your loan	n paid	in an	y of
		t	the following ways?			
	☐ Don't know					Don't
				Yes	No	Know
35.	When was the interest rate set/locked on your		By me or a co-signer (check or			
	loan?		wire transfer)	Ш	Ш	ᆜ
	At application		By lender/broker		Щ	닏
	Between application and closing		By seller/builder			
			Added to the mortgage amount		Ш	Ш
	Around closing		Other (specify)			
•				П		
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 con	npare	the fir	nal
	pay any discount points?		oan costs to the Good Faith Est	_		
	·□ No		received earlier from your lende		J	
	☐ Yes ─	_				
			No			
	37. (If Yes in Q36) How many discount points	L	☐ Yes —			
	did you pay?		43. (If Yes to Q42) Did you find	ony ci	anifia	ant
			differences between the two	_	giiiiic	anı
	points		unierences between the two	· •		
	·		Yes			
	☐ Don't know		□ No			
\downarrow		\downarrow				
38.	Some lenders charge origination points to cover		Did you seek input about your c			
	the cost of preparing a mortgage for closing.	(documents from any of the follo	wing]	people	e?
	These are often expressed as a percentage of			Ŋ	es	No
	the loan amount. Did you pay any origination		Lender/broker			
	points?		Attorney			
	□ No → Skip to Q40		Real estate agent			
	☐ Yes —		Settlement agent			
			Title agent			
	30 (If Vas in O38) How many origination		Trusted friend or relative who is not			
	39. (If Yes in Q38) How many origination points did you pay?		a co-signer on the mortgage			
	points and you pay:		Housing counselor			
			Other (specify)			
	points					П
	☐ Don't know					



45. Did you face any unpleasant '	'surprises'' at		50. What was the primary purpose of your mortgage
your loan closing? No Yes 46. (If Yes to Q45) What unpledid you face? Different loan terms Higher monthly payment Higher interest rate Unexpected fees Higher amount of money need at closing Asked to sign blank documer Rushed at closing or not give	easant surpris	Ses No	50. What was the primary purpose of your mortgage at the time you took it out? Mark one answer. 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) Some other purpose (specify) On the next page Had a pre-approval or pre-qualification from a lender before I made the purchase Shopped for a mortgage after making the purchase offer
to read documents Other (specify)			☐ Shopped for house and mortgage at the same time
47. At the same time you took out 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 a loan? \$ Don't know 49. How well could you explain to	loan on your equity loan, or OC))? 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? □ No □ Yes □ S3. (If Yes to Q52) How much money from the sale of this other property was used to purchase your property? □ Don't know 54. What percent down payment did you make on your property? □ 0%
	Very Somewhat	Not	Less than 5%
Process of taking out a mortgage Difference between a fixed- and an adjustable-rate mortgage			☐ 5% to less than 10%☐ 10% to less than 20%☐ 20% or more
Difference between a prime and subprime loan Difference between a mortgage's interest rate and its APR			55. Did you use any of the following sources of funds to purchase the property? Not Used Used
Amortization of a loan			Savings, retirement account,
Consequences of not making required mortgage payments			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 on a mortgage-free property or chose "other" in Q50 continue with Q56.	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, were the following reasons in your decision to refinance, modify or obtain a new mortgage? Not	\$			
Change to a fixed-rate loan Get a lower interest rate Get a lower monthly payment Consolidate or pay down other debt Repay the loan more quickly Take out cash 57. Approximately how much was owed, in total, on the old mortgage(s) and loan(s) you refinanced?	 62. How did you acquire the property? Mark one answer. Purchased an existing home in a standard sale from the previous owner Purchased a newly-built home from a builder Purchased a foreclosed property from a bank, investor, or government agency Purchased a "short sale" property from the previous owner Purchased land and built a house Received as a gift or inheritance 			
\$	Other (specify) 63. What type of house is on your property? Mark one answer.			
58. How does the total amount of your new mortgage(s) compare to the total amount of the old mortgage(s) and loan(s) when they were paid off? New amount is lower New amount is about the same New amount is higher Property was mortgage-free 59. Did you use the money you got from this new mortgage for any of the following?	Single-family detached house Townhouse, row house, or villa Mobile home or manufactured home 2-unit, 3-unit, or 4-unit dwelling Condo, apartment house, or co-op Unit in a partly commercial structure Other (specify) 64. (If multiple units in Q63) How many separate living units does your mortgage cover?			
College expenses Auto or other major purchase Pay off other bills or debts Home repairs/additions Savings Closing costs of new mortgage Business or investment Other (specify)	units 65. About how much do you think your property is worth in terms of what you could sell it for now? \$			
Your Mortgaged Property	67. (If Yes to Q66) How much rent do you receive?			
60. When did you buy or acquire your property? /	\$00 per month			



68. Which of the following best describes how you			75. Owned other residential properties besides this			
use this property?			one:		G /	
Primary residence (where spend the majority of yo	our time) ———		Yes	You	Spouse/ Partner	
It will be my primary resid	dence soon		No			
Seasonal or second home				_		
Home for other relatives		7	6. Highest level of education achie	ved:	a	
Rental or investor propert	У			You	Spouse/ Partner	
Other (specify)			Some schooling			
			High school graduate			
	\downarrow		Technical school			
69. (If primary residence	in Q68) When did you		Some college			
move into the proper	rty?		College graduate	님	님	
			Postgraduate studies	Ш		
/		7	7. Hispanic or Latino:			
month year	•	/	7. Hispanic of Latino:		Spouse/	
<u> </u>	1. • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			You	Partner	
70. Is anyone who currently			Yes			
co-signer on your mortg	age?		No	Ш	Ш	
☐ Yes ☐ No		7	8. Race: Mark all that apply.			
		′	6. Nace. Mark an mai appry.		Spouse/	
				You	Partner	
Your Hou	ısehold		White Black or African American	片	片	
			American Indian or Alaska Native	H	H	
71. What is your current ma	arital status?		Asian	H	H	
── ☐ Married			Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander		Ī	
Separated						
☐ Never married		7	'9. Current work status: Mark all ti	hat annl	lv.	
□ Divorced			our one work search with the search of the s	icii cippi	Spouse/	
☐ Widowed				You	Spouse/ Partner	
1 -2. 5 . • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			Self-employed/work for self			
72. Do you have a partn			Employed full time			
decision-making and			Employed part time	H	H	
running your housel legal spouse?	noia put is not your		Retired Temporarily laid-off or on leave	H	H	
			Not working for pay (student,	Ш		
Yes			homemaker, disabled, unemployed) 🔲		
□ No						
• Please answer the following q	uestions for you and	8	80. Have you ever served on active	duty in	the U.S.	
your spouse or partner, if app			Armed Forces? (Active duty incli			
your of ourse or farmer, goth			the U.S. Armed Forces as well as	activati	on from	
73. Age at last birthday:	Spouse/		the Reserves or National Guard).		Spouse/	
75. fige at last off thany.	You Partner			You	Partner	
			Yes, now on active duty			
	yearsye	ears	Yes, on active duty in the past, but			
			No never on active duty except for	Ш		
74. Sex:	Spouse/		No, never on active duty except for initial/basic training	П		
Molo	You Partner		No, never served in the U.S.			
Male			Armed Forces			
Female						



81. Besides you (and your spouse/partner), does	88. Does anyone in your household have any of the
anyone else live in your household or use your house as a permanent address?	following? Yes No
	401(k), 403(b), IRA, or pension plan
r □ No	Stocks, bonds, or mutual funds (<i>not in</i>
Yes	retirement accounts or pension plans)
82. (If Yes to Q81) How many of the other	Certificates of deposit
household members are 18 years of age or	Investment real estate
younger?	
, 8	89. Which one of the following statements best
household members	describes the amount of financial risk you are
	willing to take when you make investments?
None Call II	☐ 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
	90. Do you agree or disagree with the following
84. (If Yes to Q81) Do any of the other	statements?
household members help pay for household expenses?	Agree Disagree
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 payments, only whether loans are
☐ Under \$35,000	fully repaid
☐ \$35,000 to \$49,999	It is okay to default or stop making
\$50,000 to \$74,999	mortgage payments if it is in the
= \$75,000 to \$99,999	borrower's financial interest
\$100,000 to \$174,999	
\$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 No
compare to what it is in a "normal" year?	Separated/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 include any of the following sources?	Person leaving your household (not including spouse/partner)
Yes No	Disability or serious illness of
Wages or salary	household member
Business or self-employment	Disaster affecting your house
Interest or dividends	Disaster affecting your (or your
Alimony or child support	spouse/partner's) work
Social Security benefits	Moved within the area (less than 50 miles)
	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)?	96. In the next couple of years, how do you expect the overall desirability of living in your neighborhood to change?
	Yes No	☐ Become more desirable
	Layoff, unemployment or reduced	Stay about the same
	hours of work	☐ Become less desirable
	Retirement	
	Promotion	97. In the next couple of years, how do you expect
	Starting a new job	the following to change for you (and your
	Starting a second job	spouse/partner)?
	Business failure	Significant Little/No Significant
	A personal financial crisis	Increase Change Decrease
		Household income
93.	In the last couple years, how have the following	Housing expenses
	changed for you (and your spouse/partner)?	Non-housing expenses
	Significant Little/No Significant Increase Change Decrease	98. How likely is it that in the next couple of years
	Household income	you will Not
	Housing expenses	Very Somewhat At All
	Non-housing expenses	Move and sell your property
		Move but keep your property
94.	In the last couple years, how have the following	Refinance your mortgage
	changed in your neighborhood?	Pay off your mortgage and own
	Significant Little/No Significant	your property mortgage-free
	Number of homes for sale	99. How likely is it that in the next couple of years you (or your spouse/partner) will face
	Number of foreclosures or	Very Somewhat At All
	short sales	Retirement
	House prices	Difficulties making your
	Overall desirability of	mortgage payments
	living there	A layoff, unemployment, or
		forced reduction in hours
	Your Future Expectations	Some other personal financial crisis
95.	What do you think will happen to the prices of homes like yours in your neighborhood over	100. If your household faced an unexpected personal financial crisis in the next couple of years, how likely is it you could
	the next couple of years?	Not
	Increase a lot	Very Somewhat At Al
	☐ Increase a little	Pay your bills for the next 3 months without borrowing
	Remain about the same	months without borrowing Get significant financial help
	Decrease a little	from family or friends
	Decrease a lot	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	 pace below if yo rs. Please do <u>no</u>		-	ther explain any inaire.

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

FHFA

1600 Research Blvd, RC B16

Rockville, MD 20850

TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY ONLINE GO TO: <u>NSMBsurvey.com</u>
You will need your Personal PIN # found in the accompanying letter to access the survey.
For any questions about the survey you can call 1-855-339-7877.

