## 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, Waves 1 & 2 (2014 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.	
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	S
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 i as set forth in the referenced SORN.	ıt
<b>Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:</b> 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.	et
OMB No. 2590-0012 Expires 12/31/2016	

		helping us to learn getting a mortgage.	more a	bout your	•	5.	When you began t mortgage, how con qualifying for a mo	ncerned wer	_	~ •				
1.	At any time in 2013, did you take out or co-sign mortgage loan documents?						• •	Somewhat		□ Not A	At All			
		If you took out or co-s one mortgage during refer to your experien mortgage you took ou	this per ces with	iod, please the <u>last</u>	6.	How firm an idea have about the mo	rtgage you v	-	?	ŕ				
		throughout this survey		3.8		Firm idea	Some idea		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.						7. How much did you use each of the following sources to get information about mortgages or mortgage lenders?  A A							
2	·	•	a addr	oss of the			Your lender or broke	·*	Lot	Little	At All			
4.	2. Did we mail this survey to the address of the house or property you financed with the						Other lenders or brol							
	mortgage?					Real estate agents or								
	☐ Yes	□ No					Material in the mail	bullders			$\Box$			
3.	Including	you, how many pe	ople si	gned or co	0-		Websites that provid on getting a mortga							
	signed for	this mortgage?					Friends/relatives/co-	workers						
	<u> </u>	$\square$ 2 $\square$ 3		4 or mor	æ		Bankers or financial	planners						
I£ 4	If this loan was co-signed by others, take into account						Housing counselors							
of we	the survey. ( want to kno		own s	ituation th		8.	Other (specify) Which of the followshopping process?	wing best de	scribes	□ s your				
4.	mortgage,	began the process how familiar were ith each of the follo	you (a	and any c	0-	☐ I picked the loan type first, and then I picked the lender/broker								
	The mortes	aga intaragt ratag	Very	Somewhat	Not At All		I picked the lender the loan type	r/broker first, a	and then	I picked				
		age interest rates at that time				9.	How did you apply	y for your m	ortgag	e? Mark	<del>,</del>			
	The differe		_		_		one answer.							
		es available	Ш	Ш	Ш		☐ Directly to a lender	er, such as a ba	nk or c	redit unio	n			
	mortgage						Through a mortga with two or mor	-						
		payment needed to or a mortgage					Other (specify)	e tenuers to ge			_			
	The income for a mor	e needed to qualify tgage				10.	0. How many different lenders/brokers did you seriously consider before choosing where to							
	Your credit	Your credit history or credit		П	П		apply for your mo		_					
	The money	needed at closing						<b>□</b> 3 □4	Г	] 5 or mo	re			

11.	end up applying to? Mark or			u	15. How open were you to s lender/broker about mo						
Γ	. □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4		] 5 or more	,	features or terms?	1		11			
					☐ Very ☐ Son	newhat	∐ No	ot At All			
	12. Did you apply to more lender/broker for any reasons?		following	16. How important were each of the following in determining the mortgage you took out?							
13.	Searching for better loan to Concern over qualifying for Information learned from "Good Faith Estimate" Turned down on earlier appropriate the control of th	for a loathe	on	No	Low interest rate  Low APR (Annual Percentage Rate)  Low closing fees  Low down payment		Somewhat	Not At All			
10.	choosing the lender/broker y mortgage you took out?		_		Low monthly payment An interest rate fixed for the life of the loan						
		Very	Somewhat	At All	A term of less than 30 years						
	Having an established banking relationship				No mortgage insurance						
	Having a local office or branch nearby				7. Was the "Good Faith Es from your lender/broke		you receiv	ed			
	Used previously to get a				11 0111 J 0 111 1011 101 101 101 101 101		Yes	No			
	mortgage			Ш	Easy to understand						
	Lender/broker is a personal friend or relative				Valuable information						
	Lender/broker operates online Lender is a community bank or				10 D:14b : UC - 1E-:4b E	······································					
	credit union				8. Did the "Good Faith Es	ımate" le	ead you to Yes	) No			
	Recommendation from a friend/relative/co-worker				Ask questions of your lende						
	Recommendation from a real estate agent/home builder				Seek a change in your loan	or closing					
	Recommendation from a		Ш		10 T 41		4 6				
	lending website		П	П	19. In the process of getting your mortgage from your lender/broker, did you						
	Reputation of the lender/broker		$\overline{\Box}$	$\overline{\Box}$	your ichaci, broker, ala	you	<b>X</b> 7	N			
	Spoke my primary language,				Add a co-signer		Yes	No			
	which is not English				Resolve credit report errors	or problen		H			
					Answer follow-up requests	•					
14	Who initiated the first conta	ct het	ween vou	and	information about income						
	the lender/broker you used t		•		Have multiple appraisals						
	you took out?	· · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Redo/refile paperwork due delays	to processii	ng						
	I (or one of my co-signers) die	d			Delay or postpone closing of	late					
	<ul><li>☐ The lender/broker did</li><li>☐ We were put in contact by a the real estate agent or home but</li></ul>	-	rty (such as	а							
	real estate agent of nome of	muer)									

During the application process were		25. Overall, how satisfied are you with the	
about mortgages with any of the following	lowing	?	Not Very Somewhat At All
	Yes	No	Lender/broker you used
An interest rate that is fixed for the life of the loan			Application process
			Loan closing process
An interest rate that could change over the life of the loan	П	П	The information in mortgage
A term of less than 30 years			disclosure documents
A higher interest rate in return for lower		ш	The timeliness of mortgage disclosure documents
closing costs			Settlement agent
A lower interest rate in return for paying higher closing costs (discount points)			26. Did you talk to a credit counselor or take a
Interest-only monthly payments			course about home buying?
An escrow account for taxes and/or homeowner insurance			□ No □ Yes □
A prepayment penalty (fee if the mortgage is paid off early)	e		27. (If Yes to Q26) How was counseling or the
Reduced documentation or "easy"			home-buying course provided?
approval			Yes No
An FHA, VA, USDA or Rural housing			In person, one-on-one
loan		Ш	In person, in a group
In salasting your settlement agent d	id wan		Over the phone
. In selecting your settlement agent di	Yes	·· No	Online
Use an agent recommended by the			28. (If Yes to Q26) How many hours was the
lender/broker			counseling or the home-buying course?
Use an agent you had used previously			Less than 3 hours
Shop around	Ш		☐ 3 – 6 hours
			☐ 7 – 12 hours
. Did your lender require you to get t	itle		☐ More than 12 hours
insurance on your mortgage?			
<b>−</b> □ No			29. (If Yes to Q26) Overall, how helpful was
☐ Yes —			counseling or the home-buying course?
$\downarrow$			☐ Very ☐ Somewhat ☐ Not At All
23. (If Yes in Q22) Which best descr	ibes ho	w	<u> </u>
you picked the title insurance?			Your Mortgage
☐ Reissued previous title insurance			100111101100
☐ Used title insurance recommended lender/broker or settlement agen	•		30. When you took out your mortgage, what was the loan amount (the dollar amount you borrowed)?
☐ Shopped around			Double leading
. Overall, how satisfied are you that t	he		\$
mortgage you got was the one with t			
moregage you got was one one with		NY 4	31. What is the monthly payment (including the
Very S	omewhat	Not t At All	amount paid to escrow for taxes and insurance)?
Best terms to fit your needs			00
Lowest interest rate for which			\$00
you could qualify			
Lowest closing costs			32. What is the interest rate on your mortgage?
			%

33.	Is this an adjustable-rate mortgage (one that	• • • • • •							
	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			ᆜ			
34.	At the time of application, did the lender give		Interest-only payments			Ш			
	you the option to set/lock the interest rate so		Owner's title insurance						
	that it would not change before closing?		Credit life/debt suspension/debt						
			cancellation insurance						
	Yes								
	□ No		Were the costs to close your loa	n paid	l in an	y of			
	☐ Don't know		the following ways?						
	_ Don't know			Yes	No	Don't Know			
35.	When was the interest rate set/locked on your		By me or a co-signer (check or						
	loan?		wire transfer)						
			By lender/broker						
	At application		By seller/builder	$\Box$		一百			
	☐ Between application and closing		Added to the mortgage amount	$\Box$	$\overline{\Box}$				
	Around closing		Other (specify)						
			emer (speeny)						
36.	Many mortgages have discount points paid to								
-0.	the lender to get a lower interest rate. Did you								
	pay any discount points?	42.	At or before closing did you con	npare	the fi	nal			
	pay any discount points.	loan costs to the Good Faith Estimate you							
Г	· No	received earlier from your lender?							
	☐ Yes ─	_	☐ No						
			Yes—						
	37. (If Yes in Q36) How many discount points								
	did you pay?		43. (If Yes to Q42) Did you find	anv si	gnific	ant			
			differences between the two						
	points		□ V						
			Yes						
	☐ Don't know		□ No						
<b>y</b> 38.	Some lenders charge origination points to cover	<b>↓</b> 44.	Did you seek input about your o	losing	ŗ				
	the cost of preparing a mortgage for closing.		documents from any of the follo			e?			
	These are often expressed as a percentage of		v		Yes	No			
	the loan amount. Did you pay any origination		Lender/broker						
	points?		Attorney		Ħ	Н			
			Real estate agent		H	Ħ			
	$\square$ No $\rightarrow$ Skip to Q40		Settlement agent						
	Yes —		Title agent		H	H			
			Trusted friend or relative who is not		Ш				
	<b>39.</b> (If Yes in Q38) How many origination		a co-signer on the mortgage						
	points did you pay?								
	I The state of the		Housing counselor			Ш			
	nainta		Other (specify)						
	points				П				
	☐ Don't know								

45	5. Did you face any unpleasant ' your loan closing?	'surp	rises" at		5	60. What was the primary purpose of your mortgage at the time you took it out? Mark one answer.			
	→ No  Yes  46. (If Yes to Q45) What unpl did you face?  Different loan terms	leasan	Yes	No		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)  on the next page			
	Higher monthly payment Higher interest rate				5	1. Which statement best describes the approach			
	Unexpected fees				3	you took to purchase your house or property?			
	Higher amount of money need at closing  Asked to sign blank document Rushed at closing or not give to read documents  Other (specify)	nts				<ul> <li>☐ Had a pre-approval or pre-qualification from a lender before I made the purchase</li> <li>☐ Shopped for a mortgage after making the purchase offer</li> <li>☐ Shopped for house and mortgage at the same time</li> </ul>			
	outer (speerly)		_		5	52. Did you use the proceeds from the sale of			
					3	another property to help pay for the house or			
4	47. At the same time you took out your mortgage, did you also take out another loan on your property (a second lien, home equity loan, or home equity line of credit - HELOC)?  No Yes  48. (If Yes to Q47) What was the amount of this loan?				property you bought?  No Yes  53. (If Yes to Q52) How much money from the sale of this other property was used to purchase your property?  \$				
	\$	.00							
	☐ Don't know				5	54. What percent down payment did you make on			
49	). How well could you explain to	o som	eone the.	••		your property?			
	Process of taking out a mortgage Difference between a fixed- and an adjustable-rate mortgage		Somewhat	Not		☐ 0% ☐ Less than 5% ☐ 5-9.99% ☐ 10-19.99% ☐ 20% or more			
	Difference between a prime and subprime loan				5	55. Did you use any of the following sources of			
	Difference between a mortgage's interest rate and its APR					funds to purchase the property?  Not Used 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.			
						2 C. talse of constituent to any to 200.			

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?	\$00				
Very Somewhat At All  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)				
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?	63. What type of house is on your property?  Mark one answer.  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				
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)	living units does your mortgage cover? units  65. About how much do you think your property is worth in terms of what you could sell it for now?  \$00  □ Don't know  66. Do you rent out any portion of your property?  □ No → Skip to Q68 □ Yes —				
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				



6

68. Which of the following b	est describes ho	ow you	75. Owned other residential properties besides this				
use this property?				one:		Spouse/	
Primary residence (where spend the majority of you		_		Yes	You 	Partner	
☐ It will be my primary resid				No No	H	H	
☐ Seasonal or second home						_	
Home for other relatives			<b>76.</b>	Highest level of education achie	eved:		
Rental or investor property					<b>X</b> 7	Spouse/ Partner	
Other (specify)		-		Some schooling	You 	rarther	
		-		High school graduate	ä	ä	
		$\downarrow$		Technical school			
<b>69.</b> (If primary residence	,	id you		Some college			
move into the proper	rty?			College graduate Postgraduate studies	H	H	
,				1 osignadate stadies			
month year			77.	Are you Hispanic or Latino?			
Inoliti year					You	Spouse/ Partner	
70. Is anyone who currently		perty a		Yes			
co-signer on your mortga	age?			No			
☐ Yes ☐ No			70	Door Mark all that apply			
			70.	Race: Mark all that apply.		Spouse/	
V				White	You 	Partner	
Your Hou	senola			Black or African American	H		
<b>54</b> 330 4				American Indian or Alaska Native			
71. What is your current ma	ritai status?			Asian			
Married				Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Ш	Ш	
Separated							
☐ Never married☐ Divorced☐			79.	Current work status: Mark all t	that app	ly.	
Widowed					You	Spouse/ Partner	
<b>↓</b>				Self-employed/work for self			
72. Do you have a partn				Employed full time			
decision-making and	_			Employed part time	님	님	
running your housel legal spouse?	ioiu but is not y	oui		Retired Temporarily laid-off or on leave	H		
_ ~				Not working for pay (student,	_	_	
☐ Yes ☐ No				homemaker, disabled, unemployed	<i>t)</i> 🗆		
			00			d HC	
Please answer the following q		and		Have you ever served on active Armed Forces? (Active duty incl	-		
your spouse or partner, if app	licable.			the U.S. Armed Forces as well as		_	
				the Reserves or National Guard).			
73. Age at last birthday:		pouse/ artner		ŕ	You	Spouse/ Partner	
	100	ar ther		Yes, now on active duty			
	years	years		Yes, on active duty in the past, but			
				not now	Ш	Ш	
74. Sex:		pouse/		No, never on active duty except for initial/basic training	П		
Male	You P:	artner		No, never served in the U.S.		_	
Female				Armed Forces			
генине							

anyone else live in your household or use your	following?
house as a permanent address?	Yes No
•	401(k), 403(b), IRA, or pension plan
□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?	
, and a second s	89. Which <u>one</u> of the following statements best
household members	describes the amount of financial risk you are
	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
84. (If Yes to Q81) Do any of the other	90. Do you agree or disagree with the following
household members help pay for	statements?
household expenses?	Owning a home is a good financial
•	investment
Yes No	Mortgage lenders generally treat
85. Approximately how much is your total annual	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 fully repaid
□ \$35,000 to \$49,999	
□ \$50,000 to \$74,999	It is okay to default or stop making 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
06 H	following happened to you?
86. How does this total annual household income compare to what it is in a "normal" year?	Yes No
	Separated/divorced
Higher than normal	Married/remarried/new partner
Normal	Death of a household member  Addition to your household
Lower than normal	(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 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 yet following happened to spouse/partner)?			the	t	n the next couple of y he overall desirability neighborhood to chan	of living			ect
	T 00 1	1 1	Ye	s No		Significant increase				
	Layoff, unemployment or hours of work	reduced				Stay about the same				
	Promotion					Significant decrease				
	Starting a new job									
	Starting a second job					n the next couple of y				ect
	Business failure					he following to chang	e for you	(and y	our	
	A personal financial crisis				S	pouse/partner)?	Significant	Little/N	o Sigi	nificant
						TT 1 11.	Increase	Change		crease
93.	In the last couple year			_		Household income				
	changed for you (and )	your spo	use/parti	ner)?		Housing expenses Non-housing expenses				
		Significant Increase	Little/No Change	Significant Decrease		Non-nousing expenses				
	Household income				98. 1	How likely is it that in	the next	couple	of vea	ars
	Housing expenses	H	H	H		ou will		•	•	
	Non-housing expenses							** 6		Not
						Move and sell your prope		Very Sor	newhat	At All
04	In the last counts week	a how h	ava tha fa	llowing		Move but keep your prop	•			님
94.	In the last couple year changed in your neigh			hiowing		Refinance your mortgage	-	H		H
	changed in your neigh	DOI HOOU	•			Pay off your mortgage ar			ш	ш
		Significant Increase	Little/No Change	Significant Decrease		your property mortgage				
	Number of homes for sale						_	_		
	Number of vacant homes					How likely is it that in		_	•	ars
	Number of homes for rent				3	ou (or your spouse/p	artner) w	ill face	•••	
	Number of foreclosures of							V C		Not
	short sales House prices					Retirement		Very Sor	newnat	At All
	Overall desirability of					Difficulties making your				
	living there					mortgage payments		П		
						A layoff, unemployment,				
						forced reduction in hou			Ш	ш
	Your Future	Ехре	ctatio	ns		Some other personal fina crisis	ncial			
95.	What do you think wil homes like yours in yo				100.	If your household fa				
	the next couple of year	_	DOI HOOU	UVCI		personal financial cr			ouple	of
	•					years, how likely is it	you coul	d		
	Increase a lot							Vory S	omowh	Not at At All
	Increase a little					Pay your bills for the ne	xt 3	very	ome win	110 710 711
	Remain about the same					months without borro		П	П	П
	Decrease a little					Get significant financial				
	Decrease a lot					from family or friends				
						Borrow enough money	from			
						a bank or credit union				
						Significantly increase ye	our		_	_
						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 <u>not</u> 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

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.

