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Outlook for US banks

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Conclusions

- 1. Banking sector balance sheets are generally in good shape, and credit growth is positive, driven by lending by large banks.
- 2. Delinquency rates are high on credit cards and auto loans. Restarting student loan payments is a headwind to credit quality and credit growth.
- 3. The trade war has not yet had much impact on the banking sector or credit growth.
- 4. Higher interest rates are putting downward pressure on CRE prices for office, multi-family apartments, and health care facilities. This remains a problem, in particular for regional banks.

Source: Apollo Chief Economist

Outline

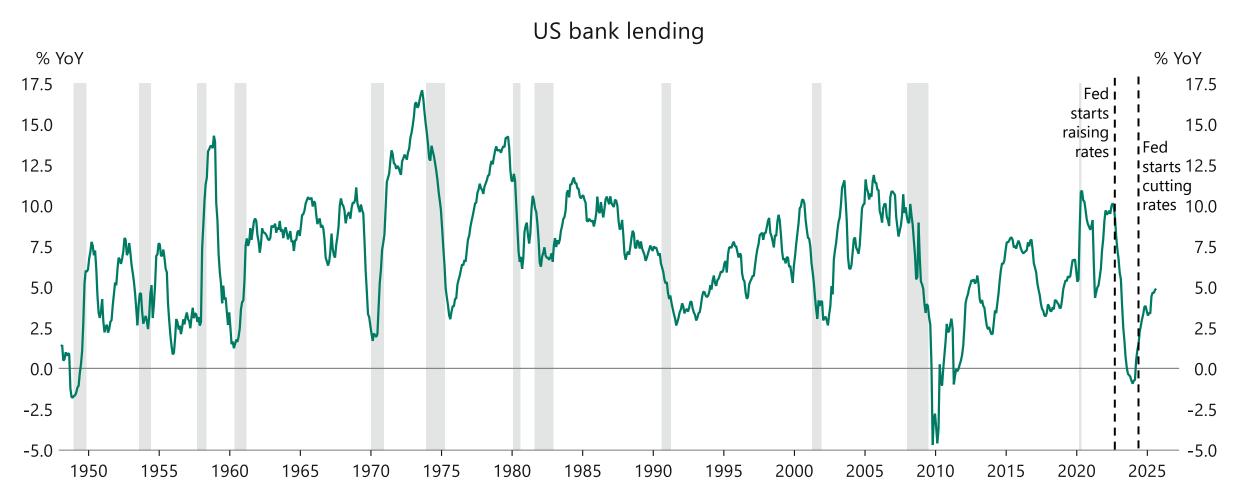
- 1. Overview
- 2. Recent trends in banking sector balance sheets
- 3. Weekly data for banking sector credit growth
- 4. Lending standards and credit quality
- 5. The importance of CRE for banking sector balance sheets
- 6. Bank deposits
- 7. US banks by asset size
- 8. Measures of banking sector liquidity and capital ratios
- 9. Stock market performance of small and large banks
- 10. Community banks

Source: Apollo Chief Economist 4

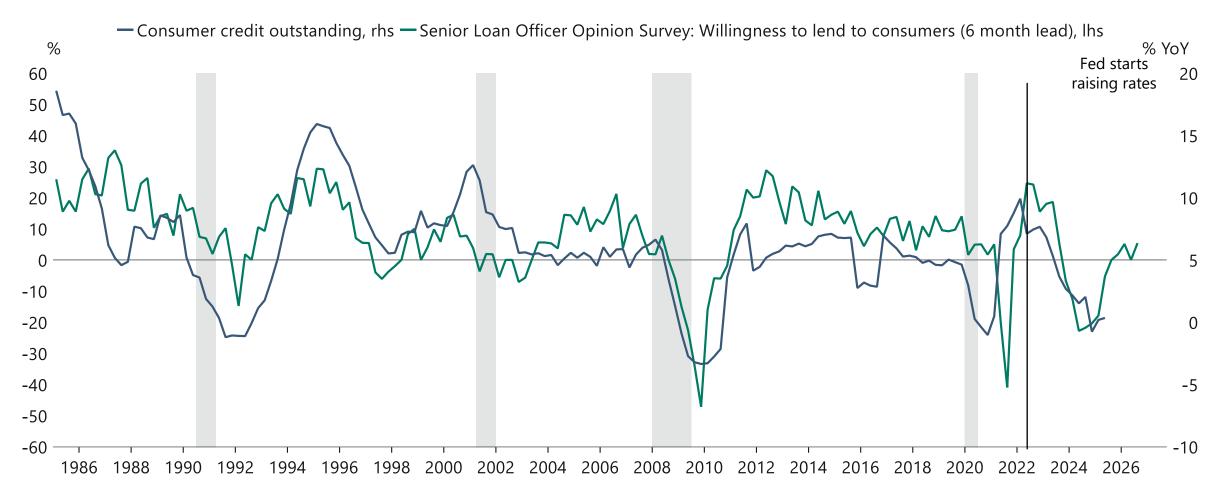
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Overview

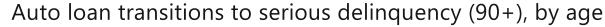
Bank credit growth is growing, driven by Fed cuts

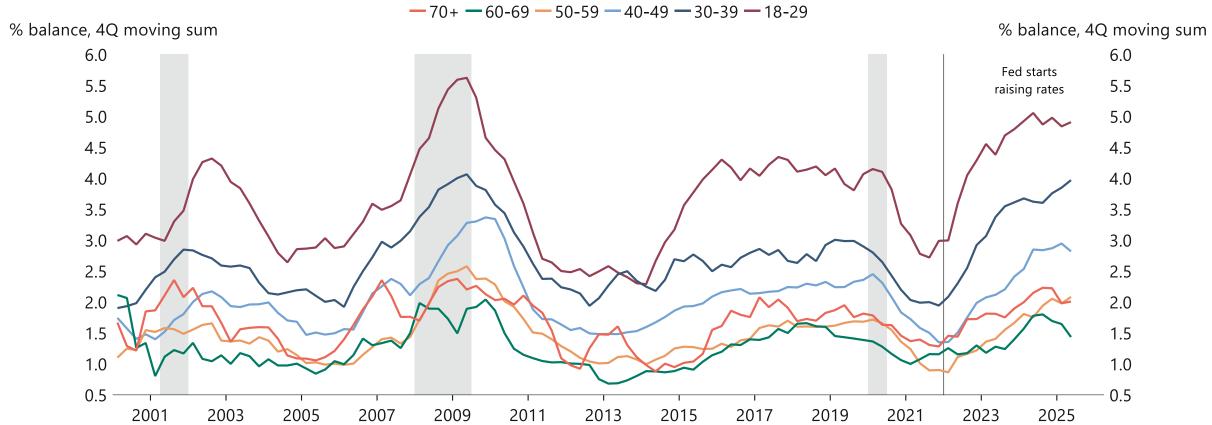


Banks are more willing to lend, this is an upside risk to consumer credit



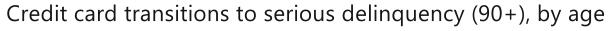
Auto loan delinquency rates near 2008 levels

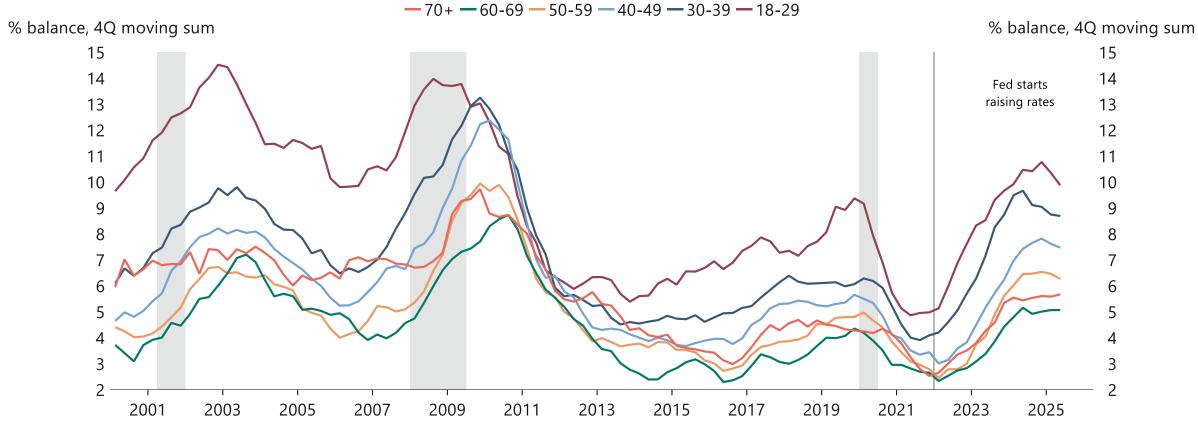




Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

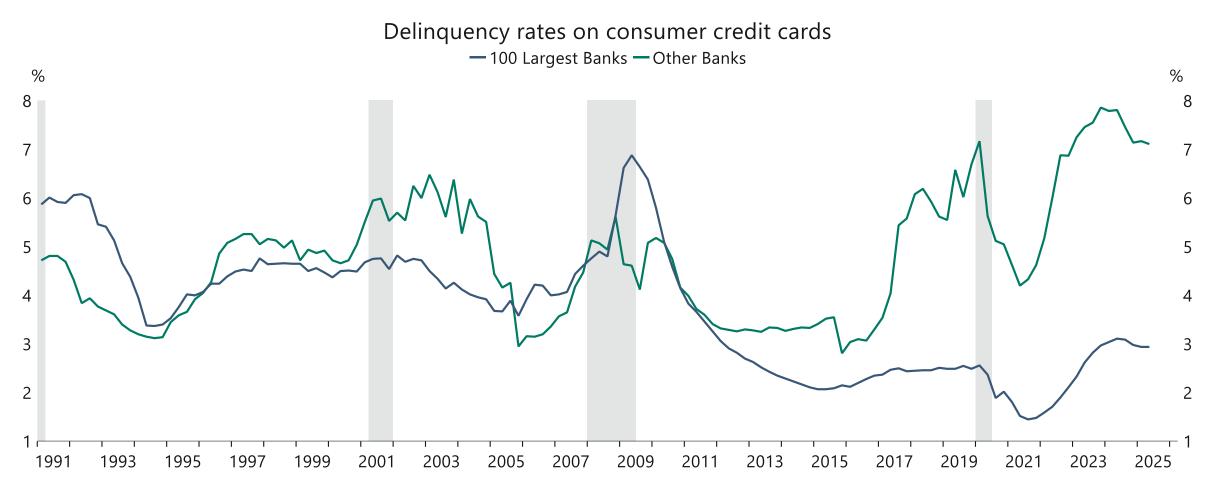
Delinquency rates elevated for credit cards



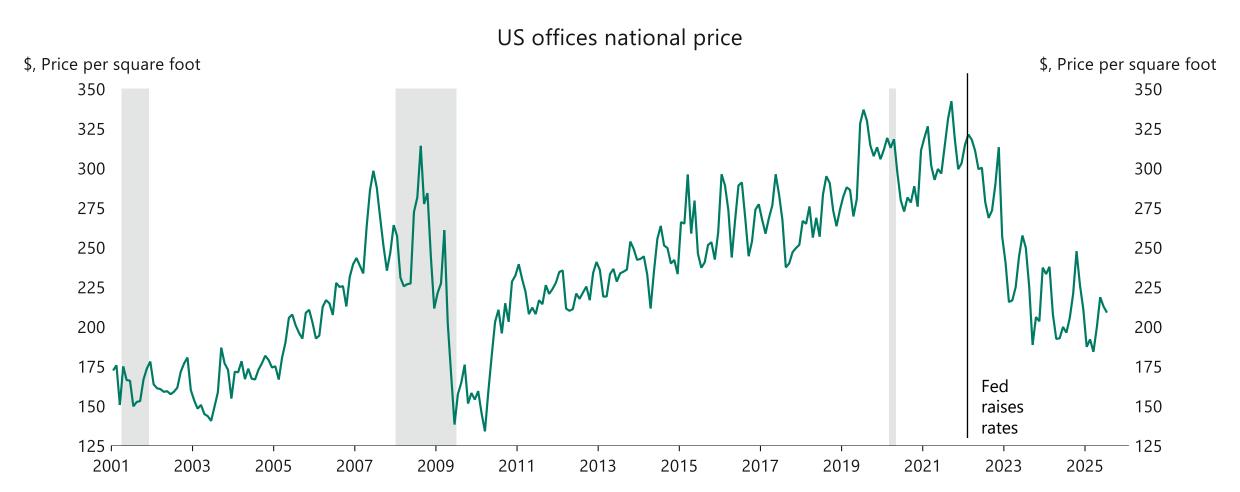


Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

Credit card delinquency rates at small banks are much higher than at large banks

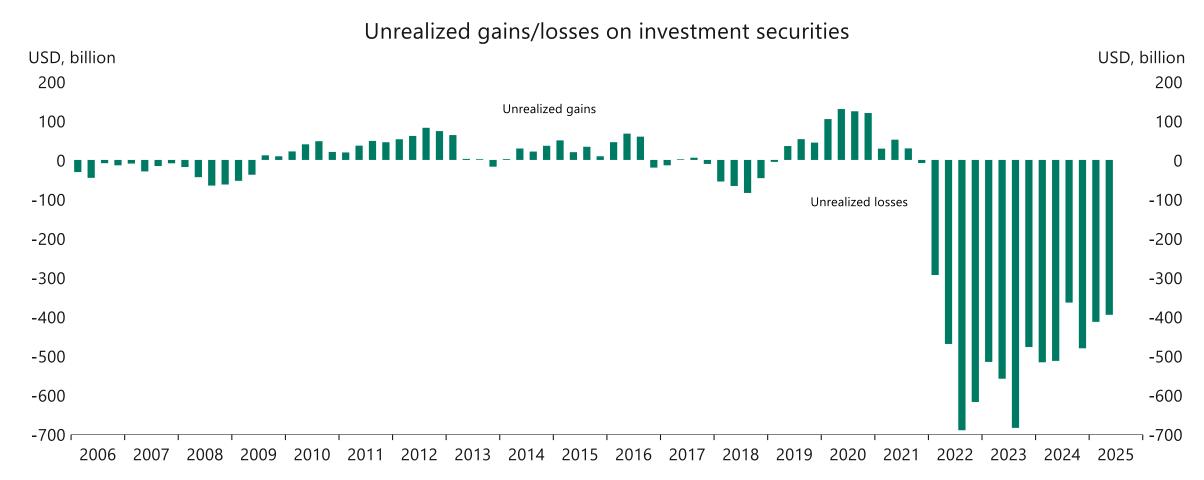


US office: The nationwide price per square foot is down 35% from the peak



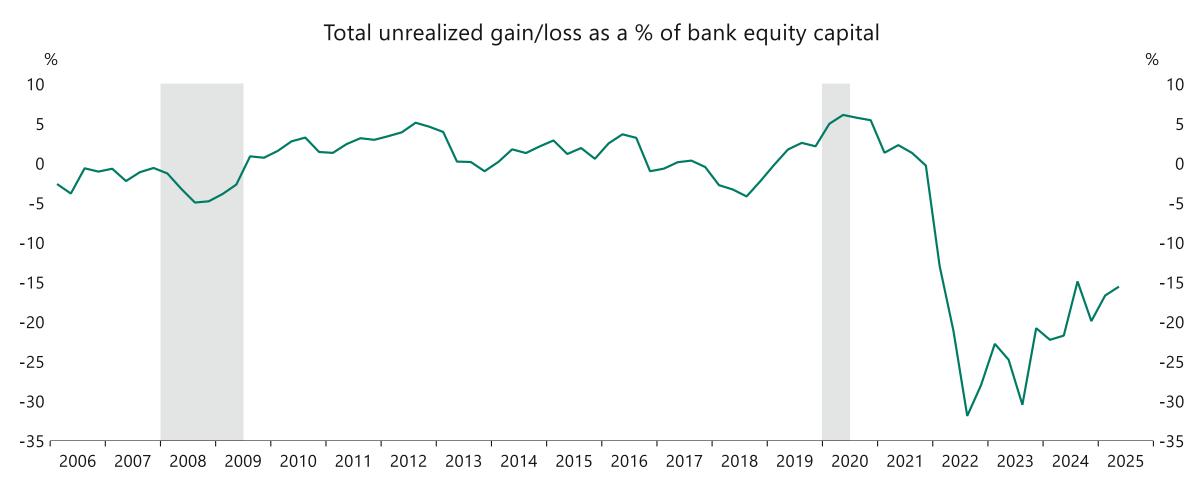
Source: Bloomberg, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

Banks: Unrealized losses on investment securities



Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

Unrealized losses making up 15% of bank equity capital

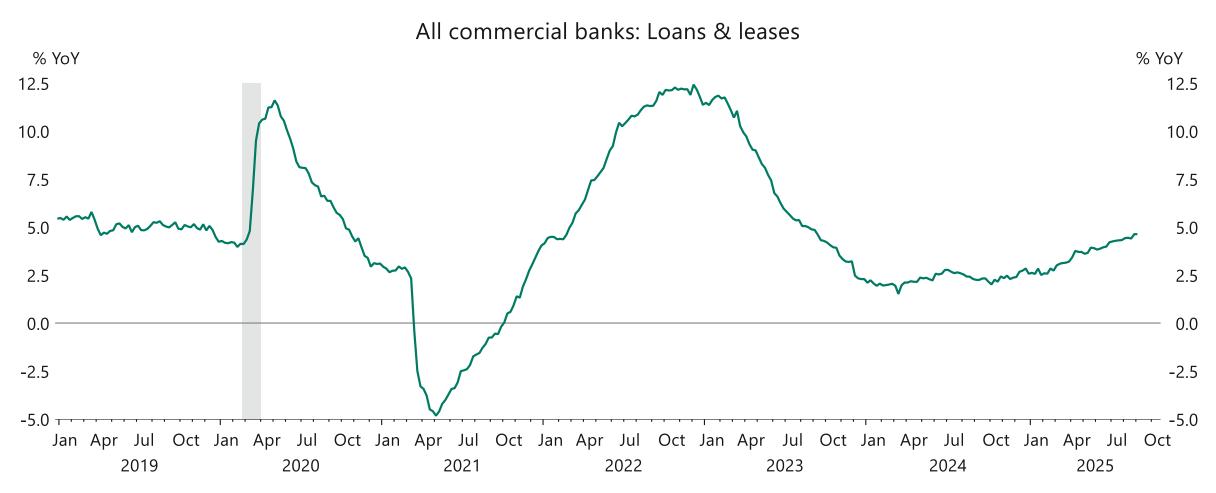


Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

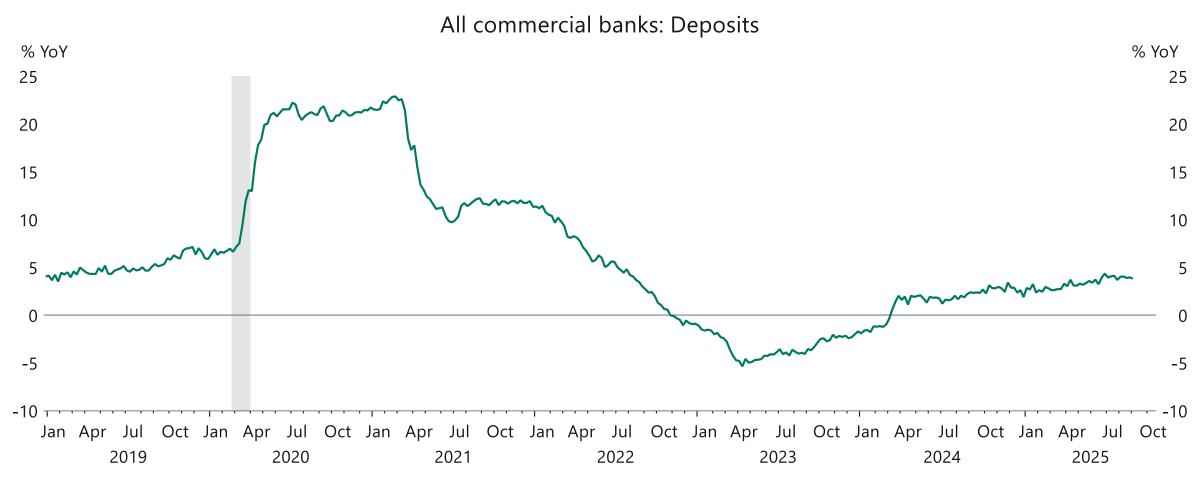
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Recent trends in banking sector balance sheets

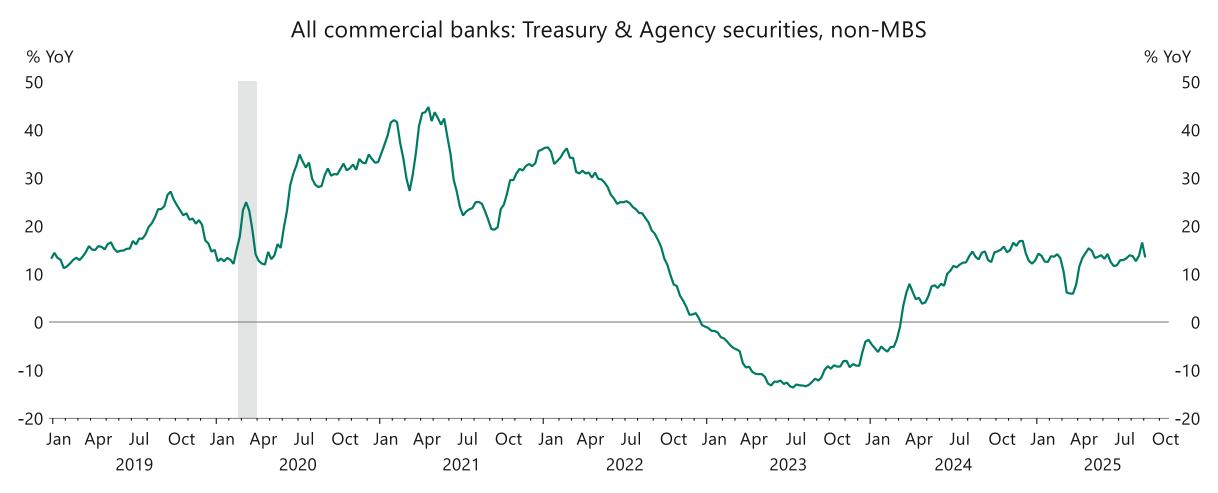
Bank loan growth rising steadily



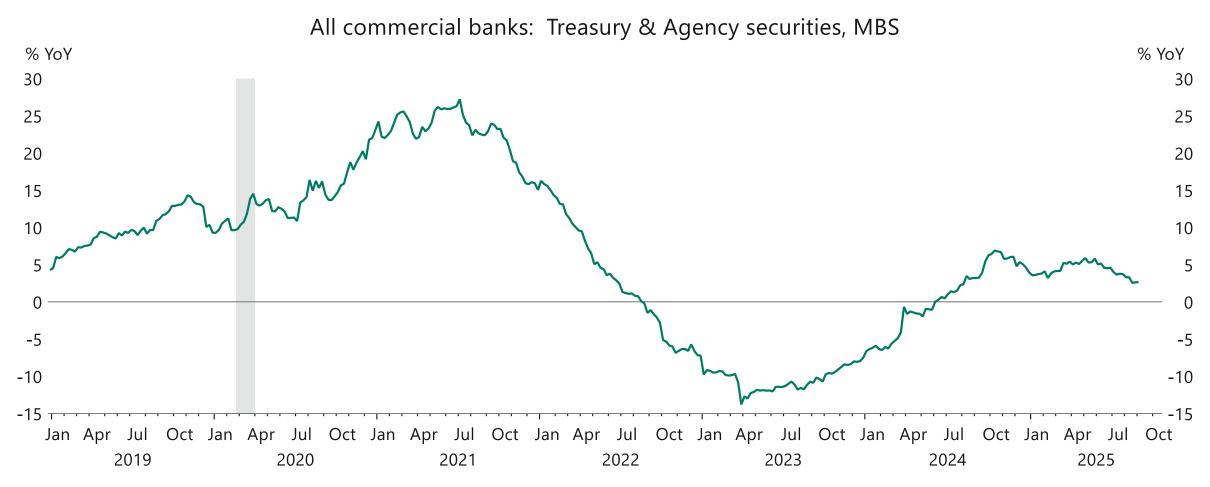
Banking sector deposit growth stable



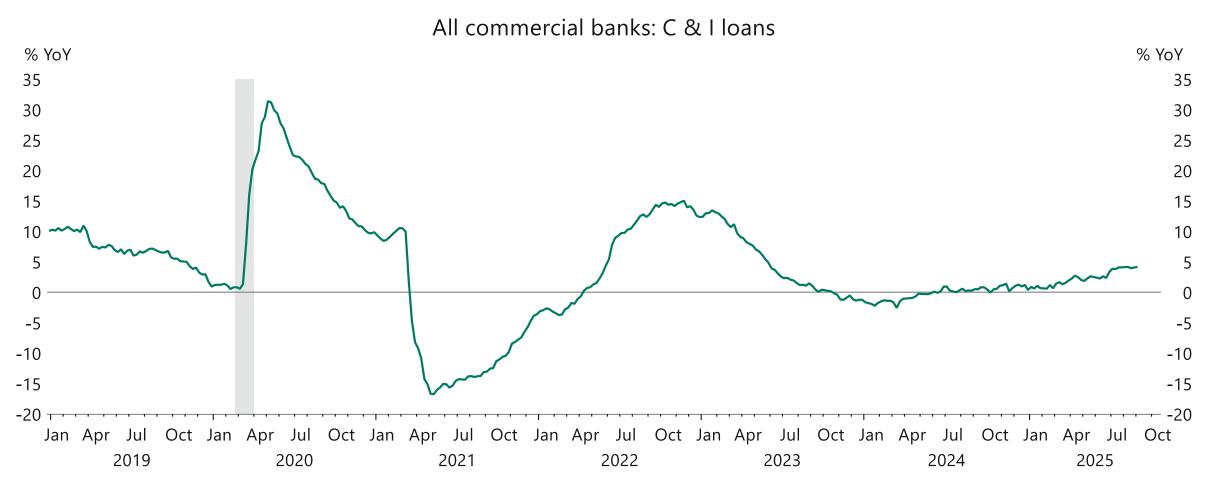
Growth in bank holdings of Treasuries



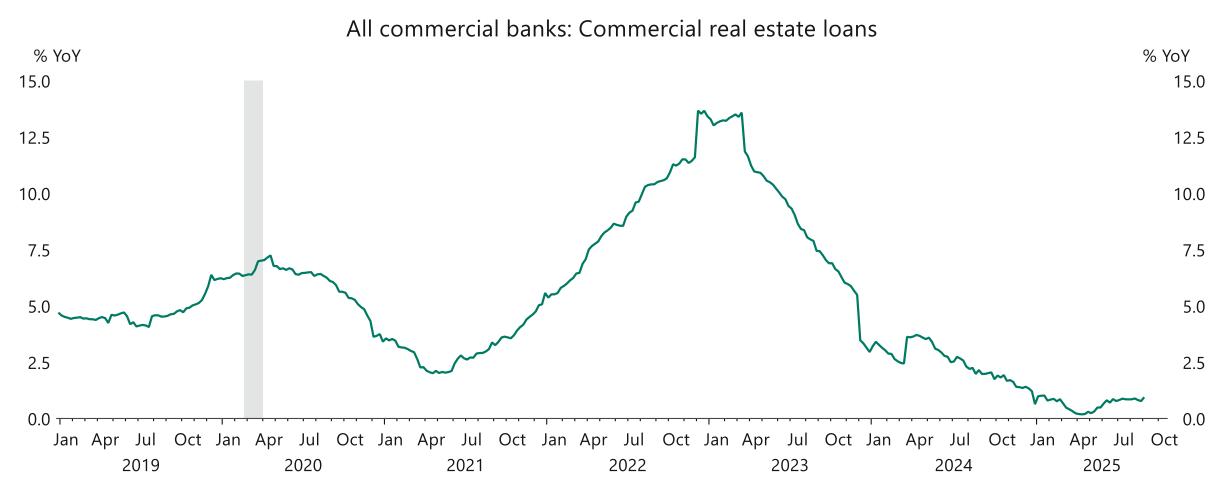
Growth in bank holdings of mortgages



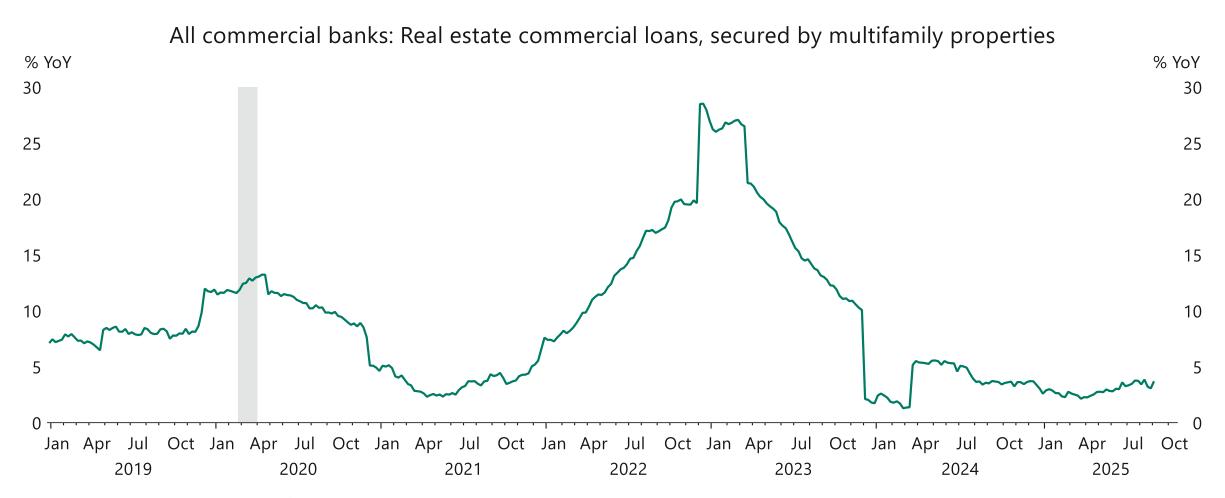
Growth in lending to corporates



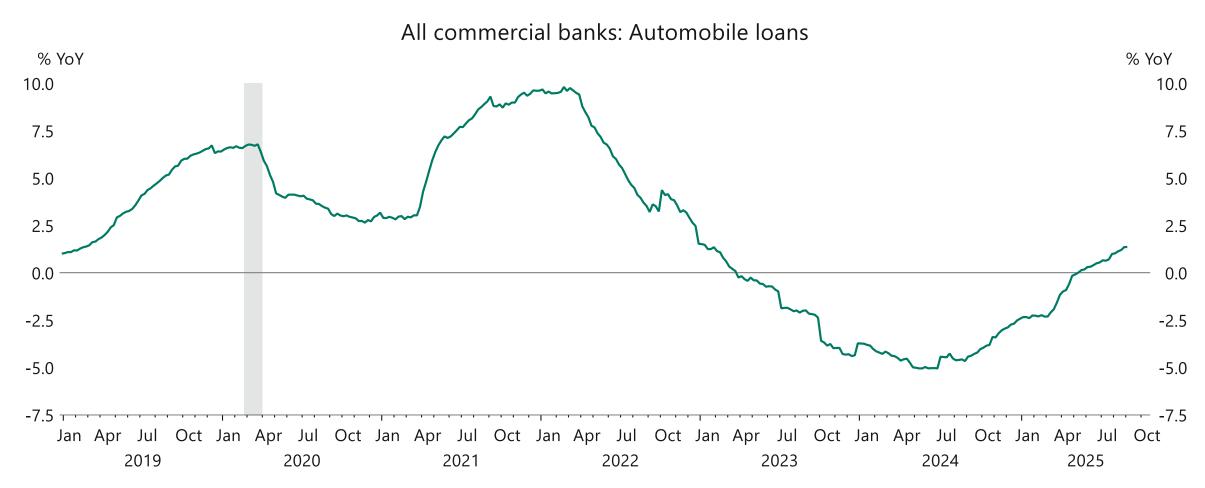
Growth in real estate lending



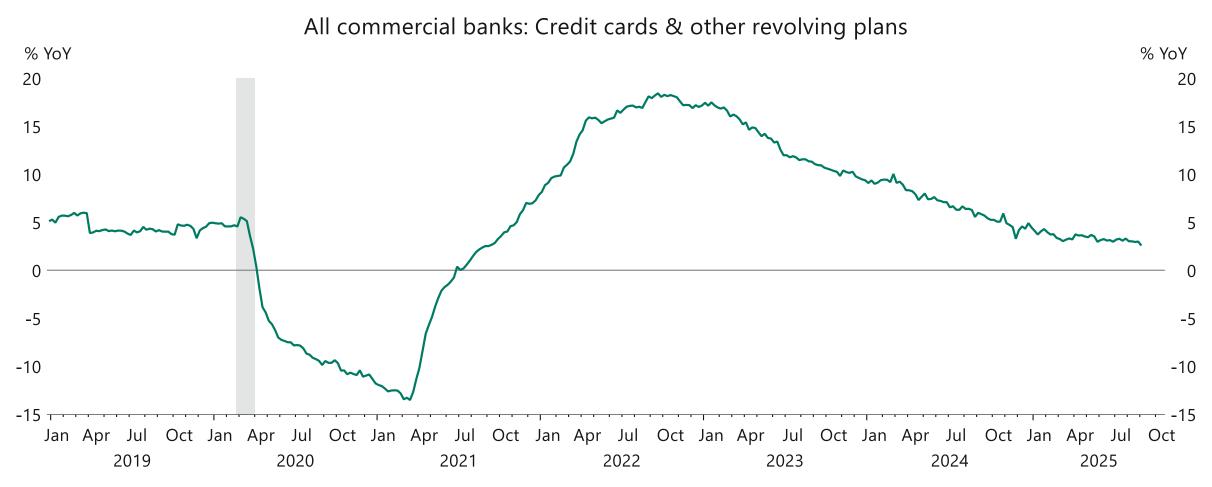
Growth in lending to multifamily construction



Growth in auto lending



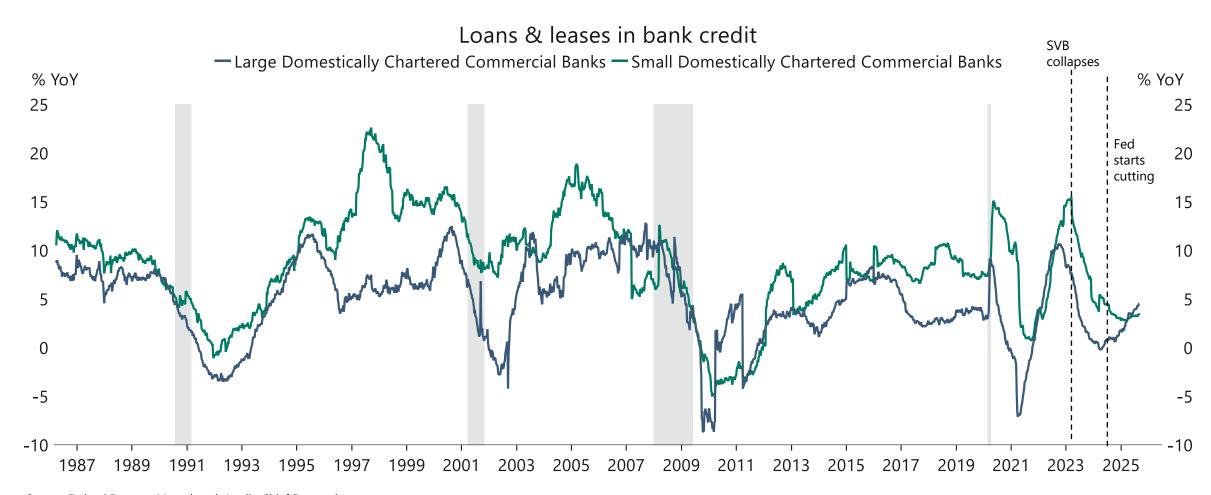
Growth in banks' credit card lending



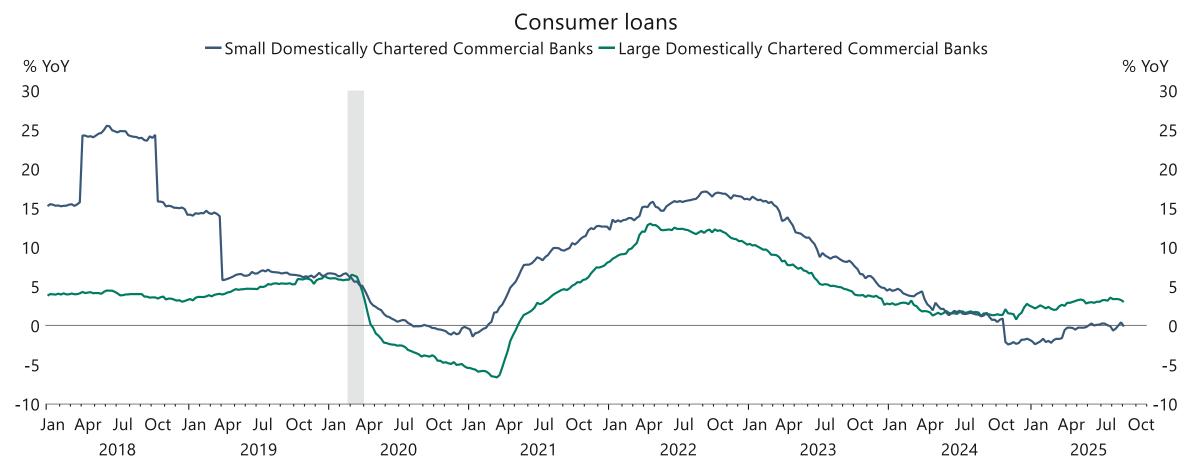
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Weekly data for banking sector credit growth

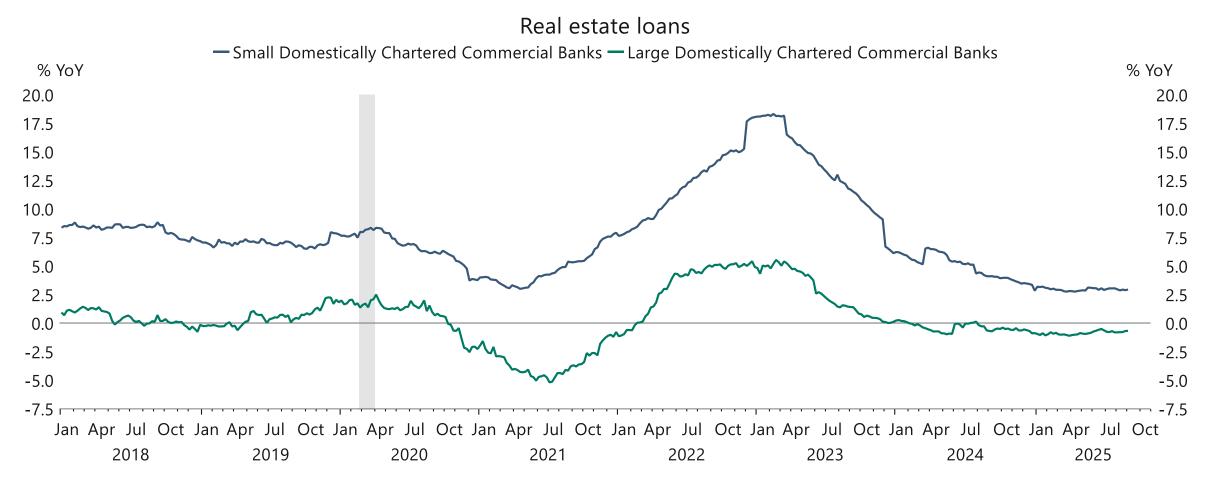
Large banks driving rise in loan growth



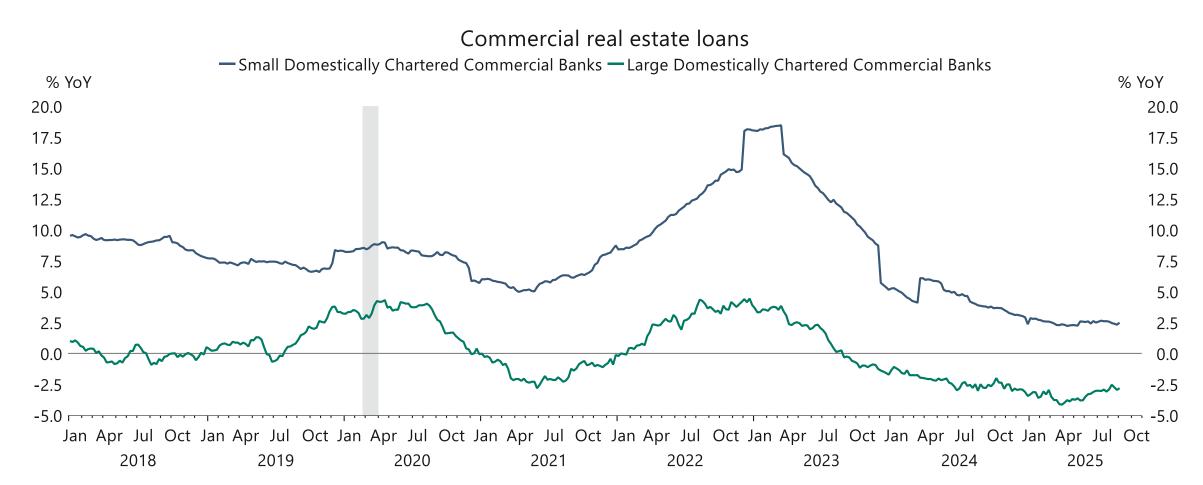
Lending to consumers is slowing for small banks, and growing for large banks



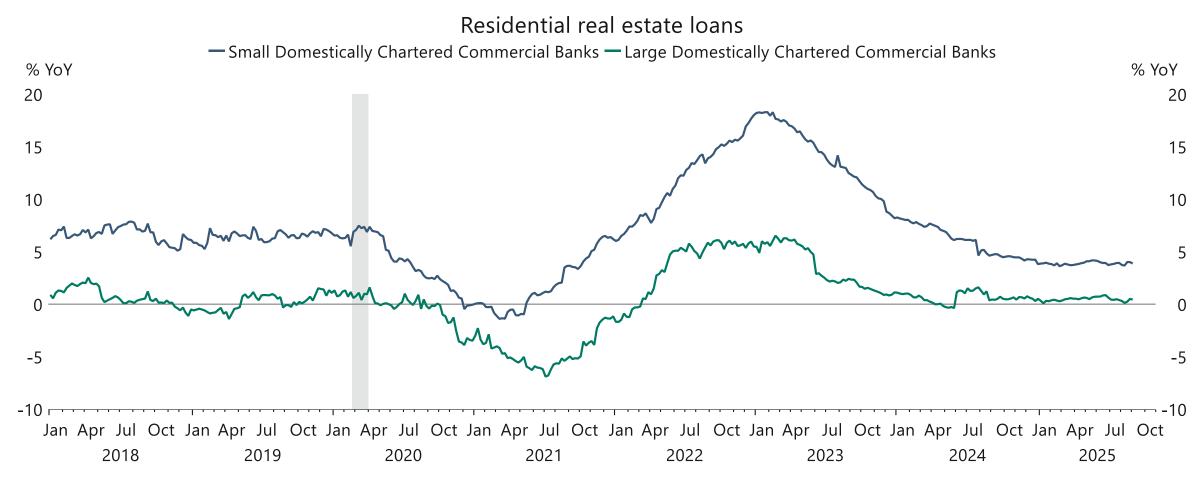
Real estate lending is slowing for both small and large banks



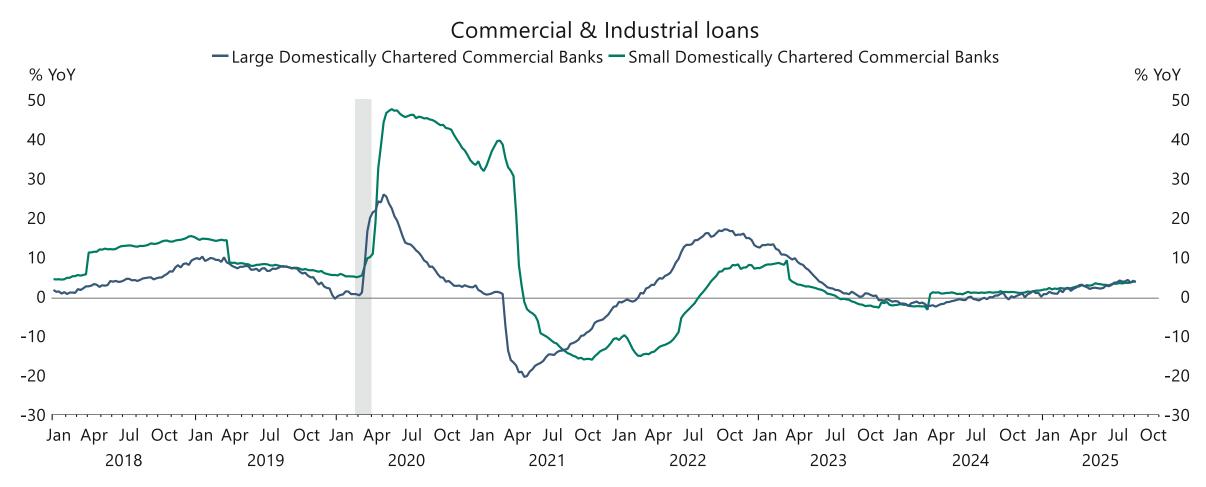
Commercial real estate lending is growing for small banks



Residential real estate lending is growing for small banks



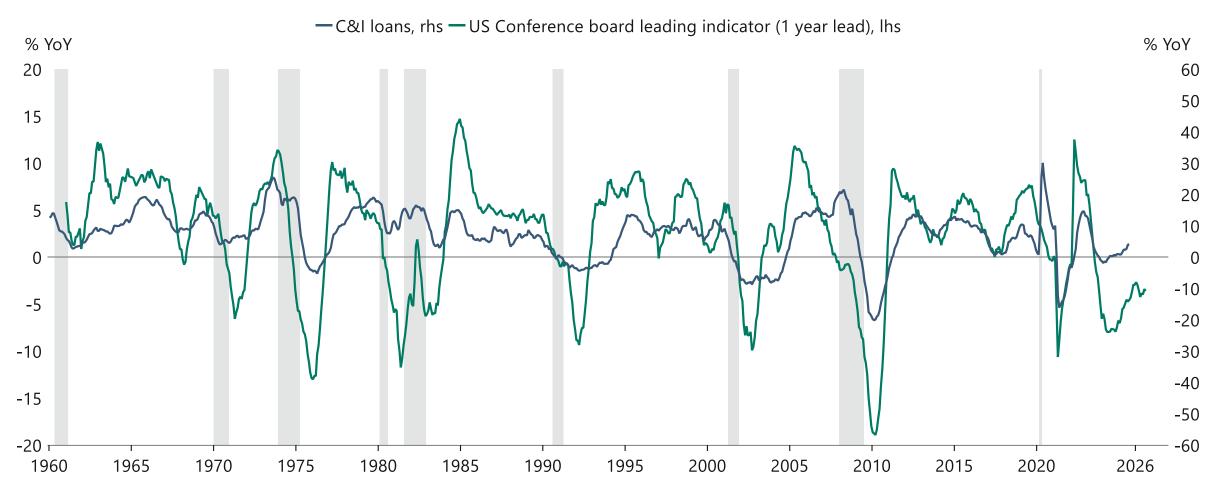
Lending to corporates is flat for both small and large banks



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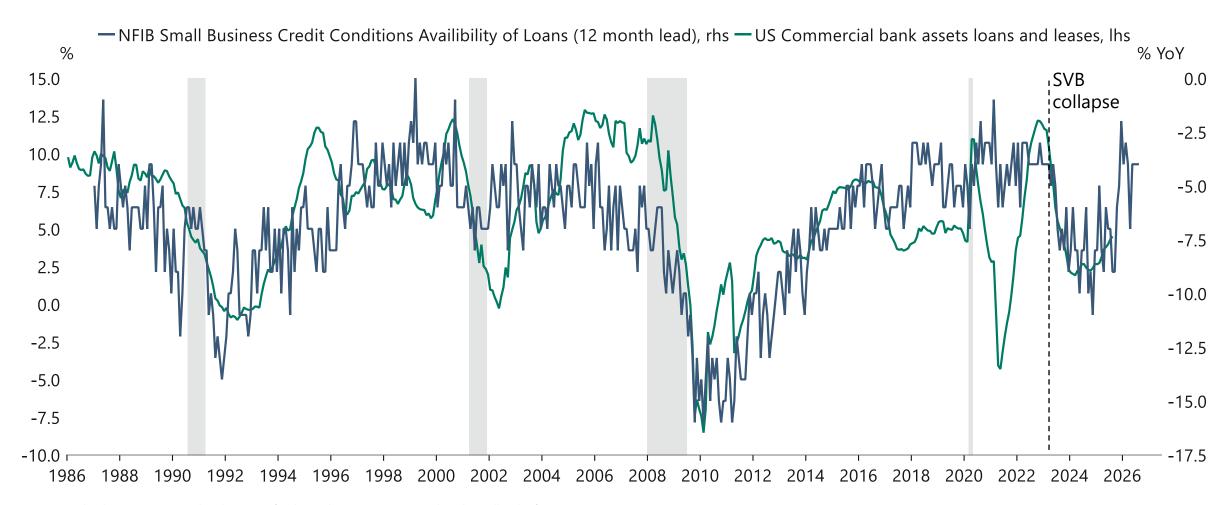
Lending standards and credit quality

Improving credit conditions should be positive for credit growth



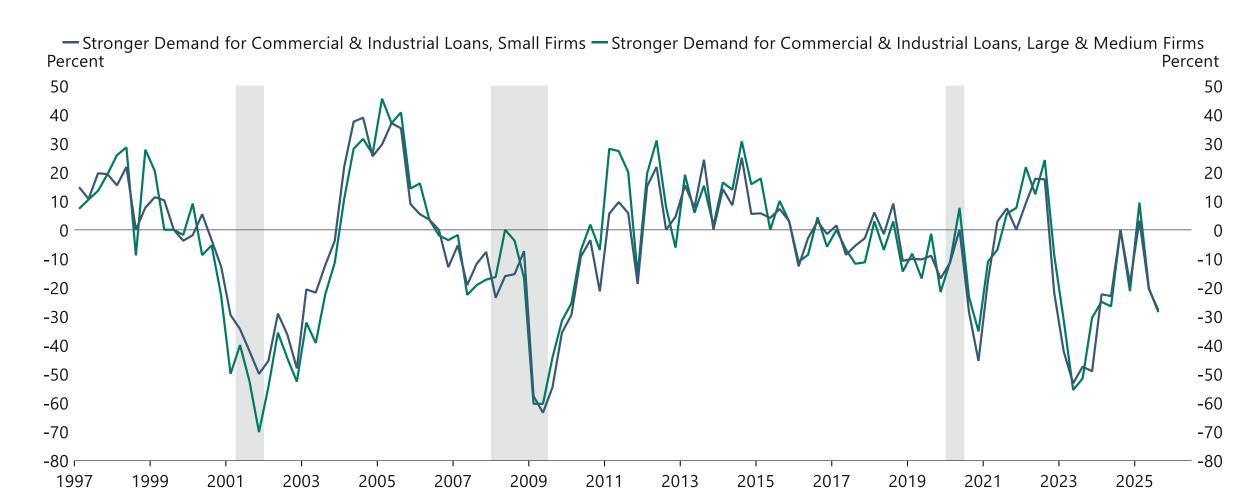
Source: Conference Board, Federal Reserve, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

Signs of a bottom in credit conditions



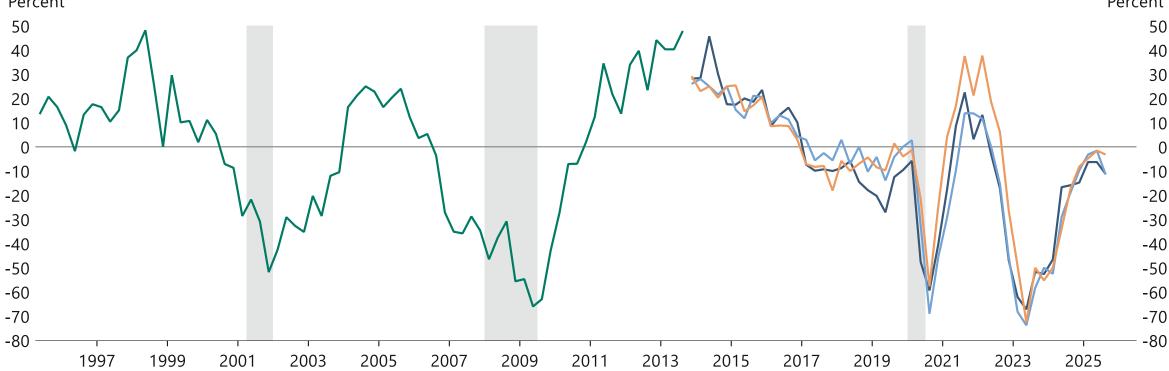
Source: Federal Reserve, National Federation of Independent Business, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

Demand for corporate loans

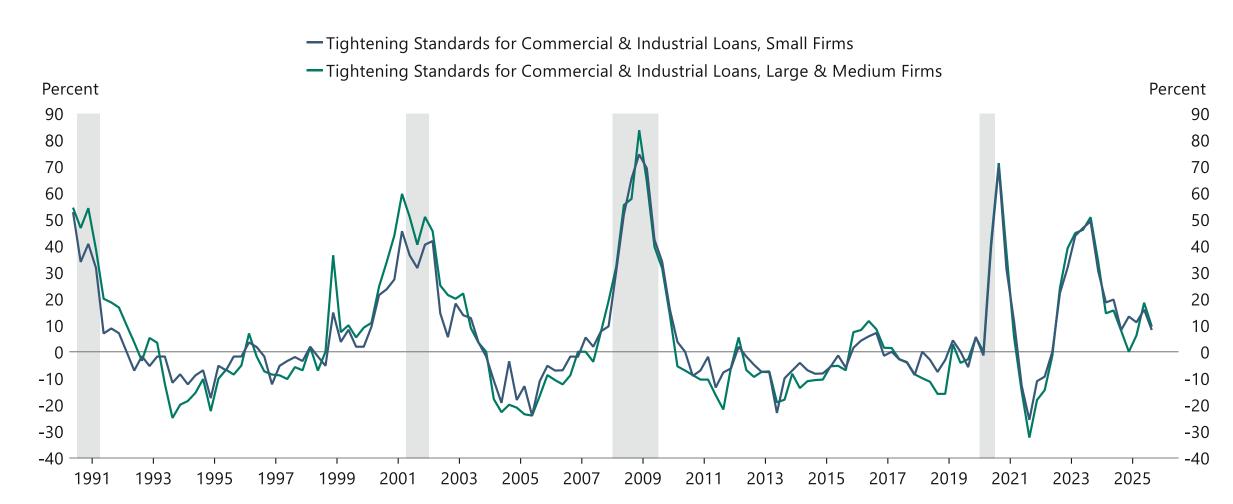


Demand for commercial real estate loans improving

- Stronger Demand for Commercial Real Estate Loans, Loans Secured by Multifamily Residential Properties
- Stronger Demand for Commercial Real Estate Loans, Loans Secured by Nonfarm Nonresidential Properties
- Stronger Demand for Commercial Real Estate Loans, Construction & Land Development Loans Stronger Demand for Commercial Real Estate Loans Percent

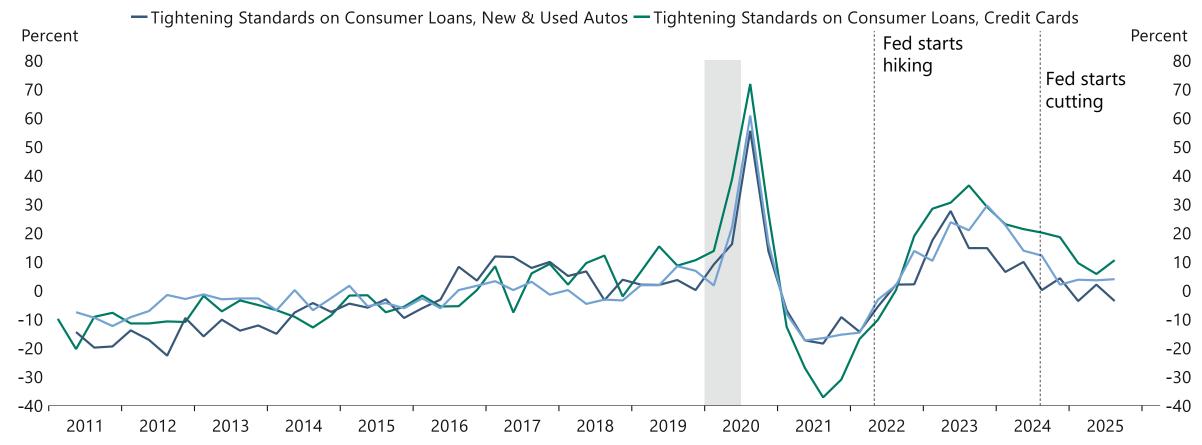


Lending standards improving

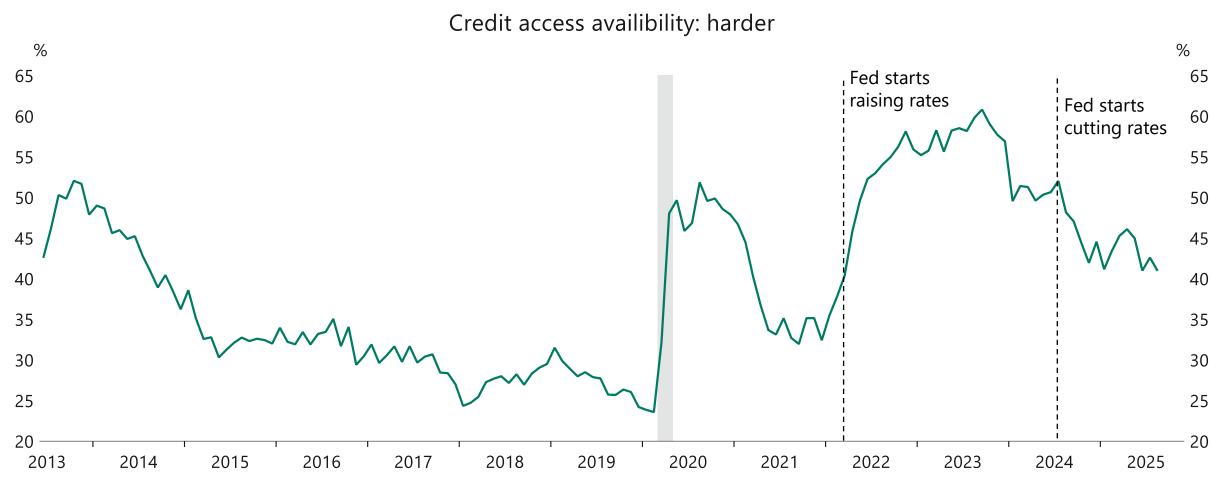


Lending standards for consumers starting to improve

— Tightening Standards on Consumer Loans, Consumer Loans Excluding Credit Cards & Autos

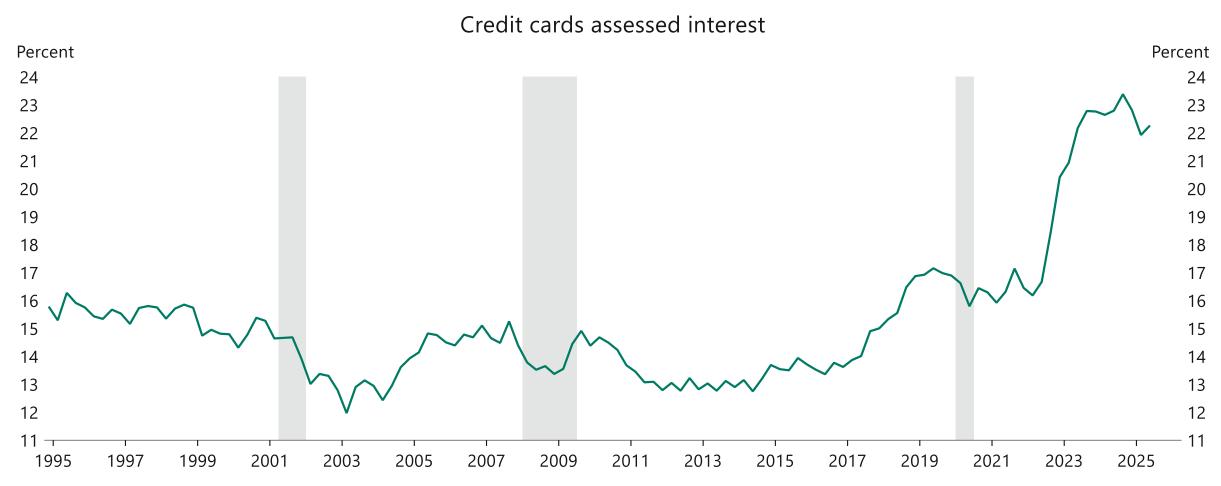


The share of households reporting it is harder to obtain credit than one year ago

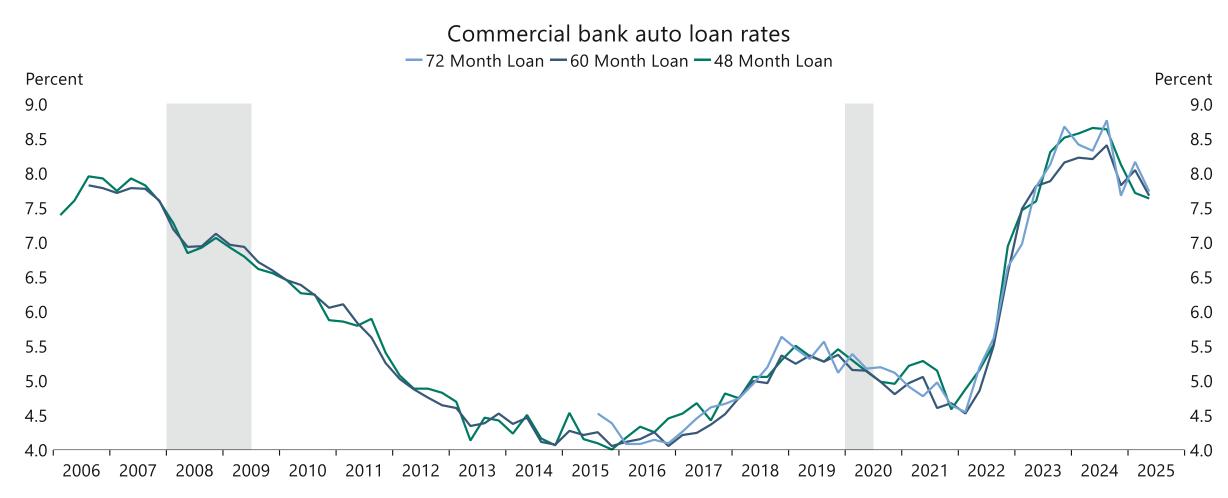


Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist. Note: Harder = much harder + somewhat harder

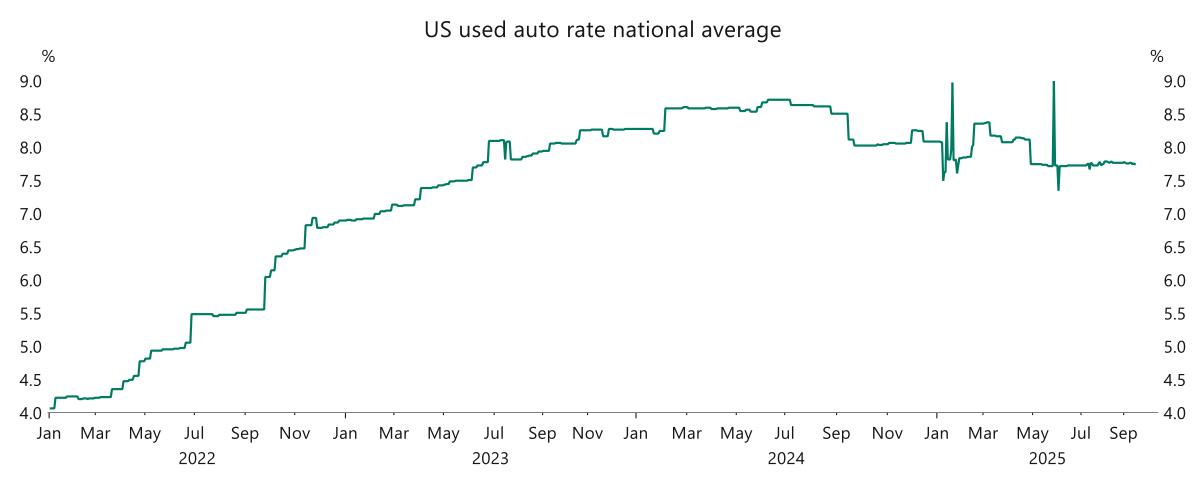
Interest rate on credit cards



Commercial bank auto loan interest rates

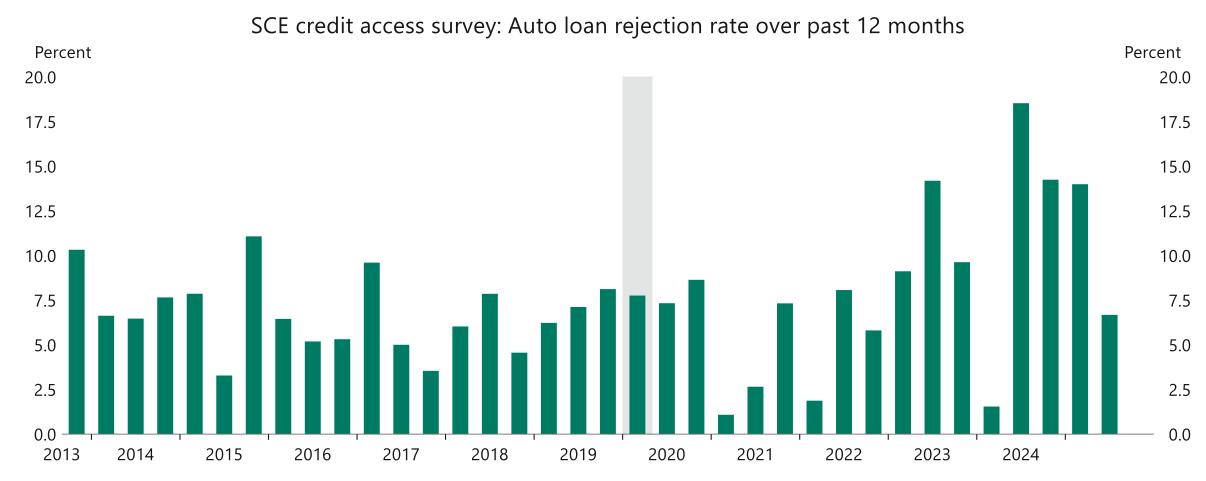


Interest rate on auto loans



Source: Bankrate.com, Bloomberg, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

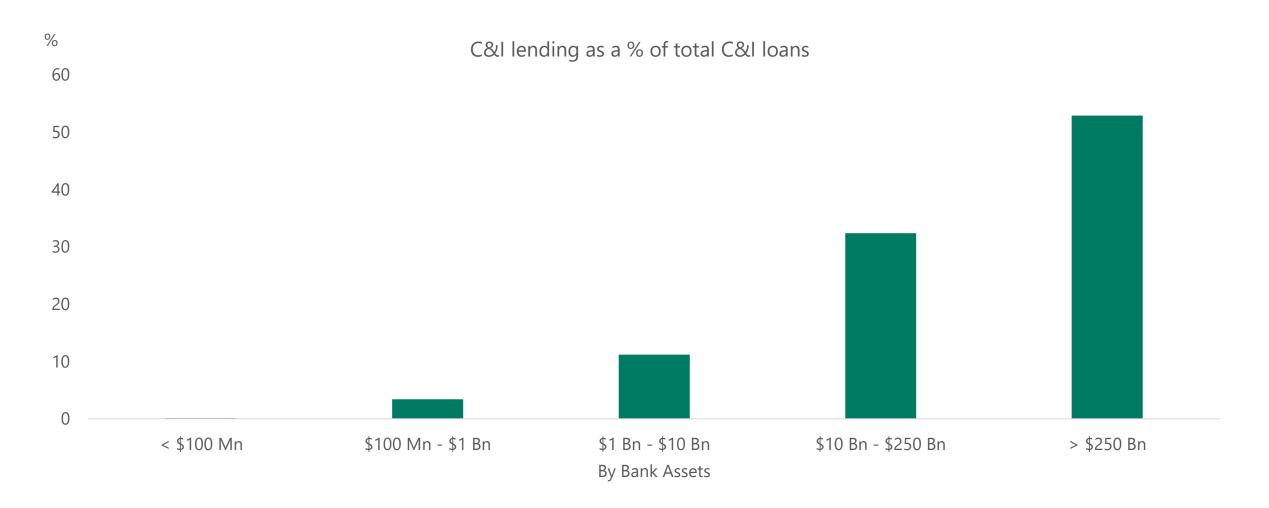
Auto loan rejection rate over the past 12 months



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

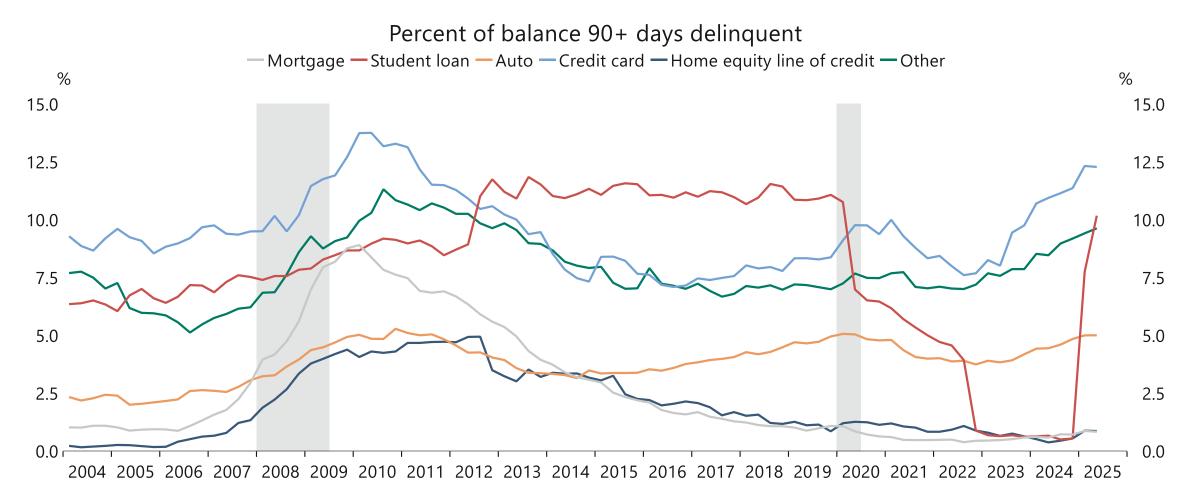
Small banks lend to small businesses

Banks with less than \$250bn in assets account for 47% of commercial and industrial lending



Source: FDIC, Apollo Chief Economist. Data as of Q2 2025 43

The pause on reporting delinquent federal student loans has ended

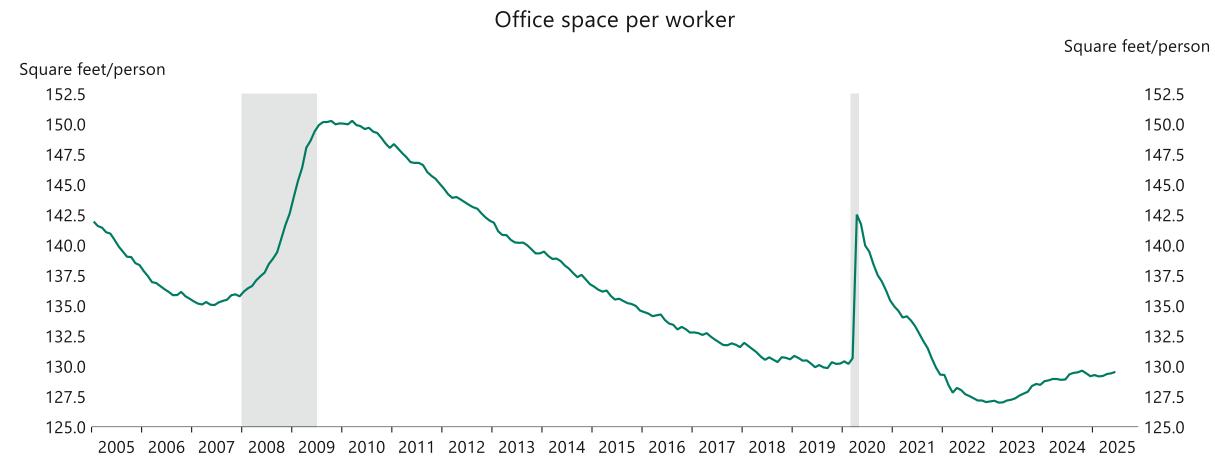


Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

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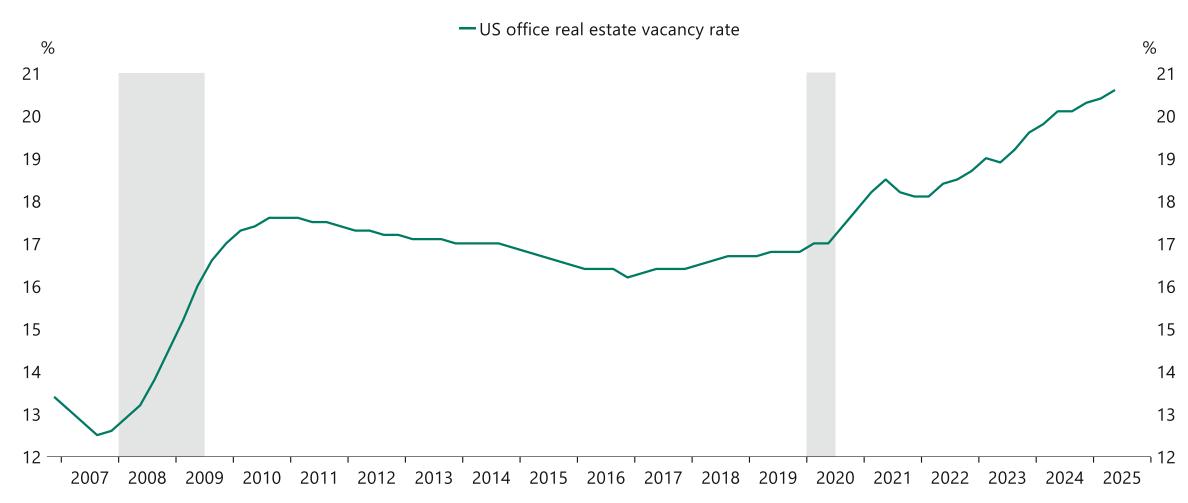
The importance of CRE for banking sector balance sheets

The amount of office space per worker



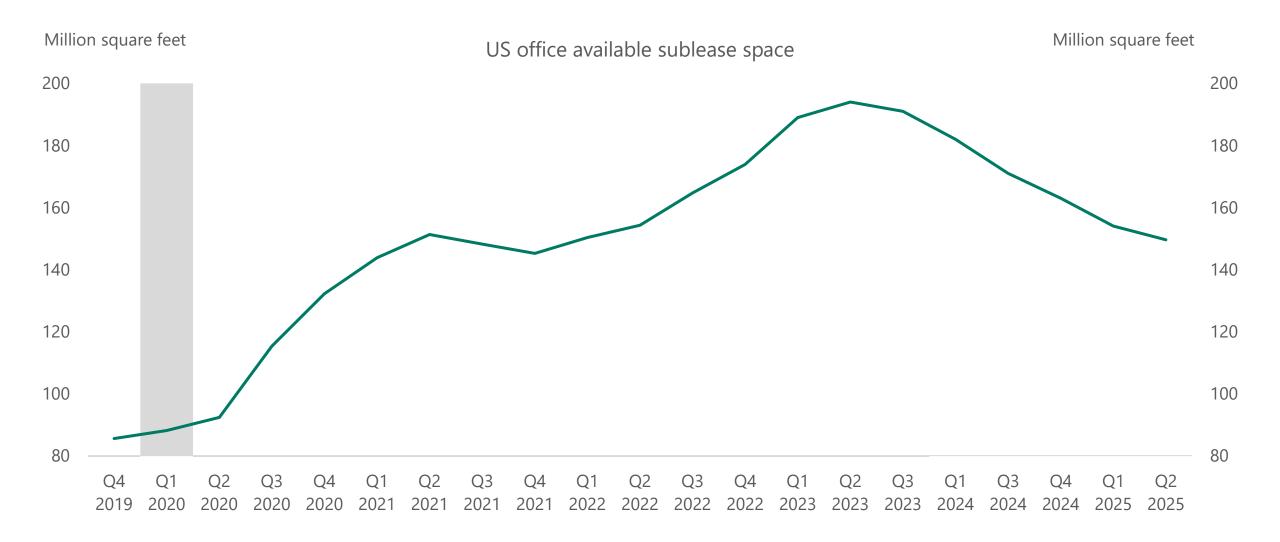
Source: REITS, BLS, Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist (Note: Office using employment includes professional and business services, Information and Financial activities)

US: Office vacancy rate at 20%



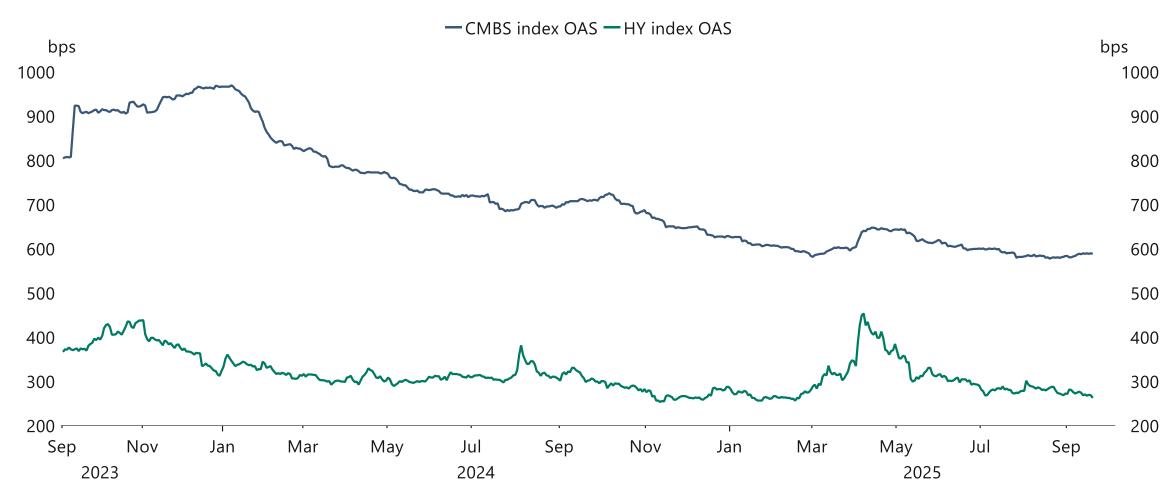
Source: REIS Data, Bloomberg, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

Available US office space



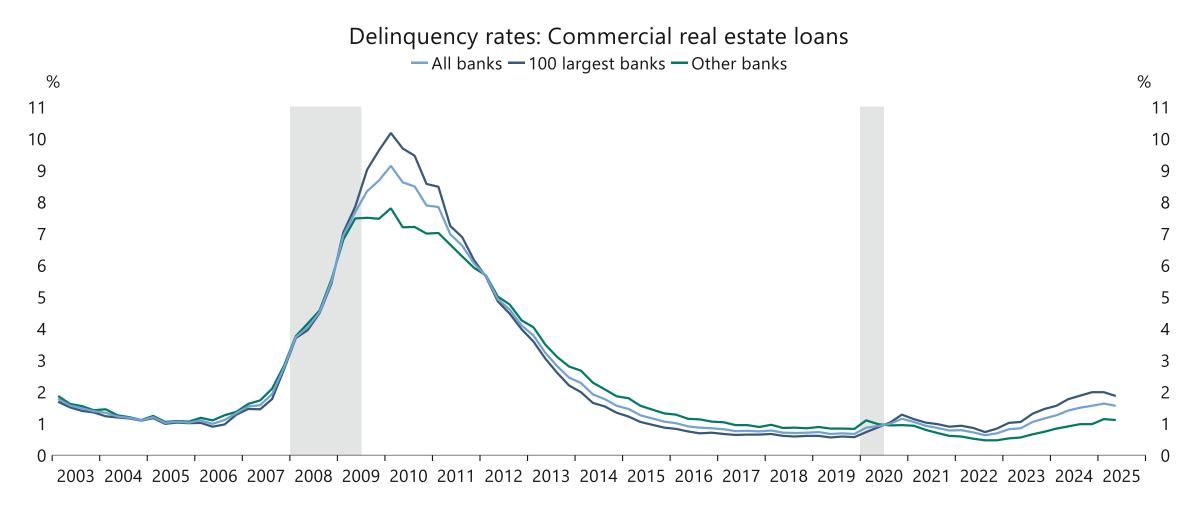
Source: CBRE, Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist.

CMBS spreads compared with HY spreads

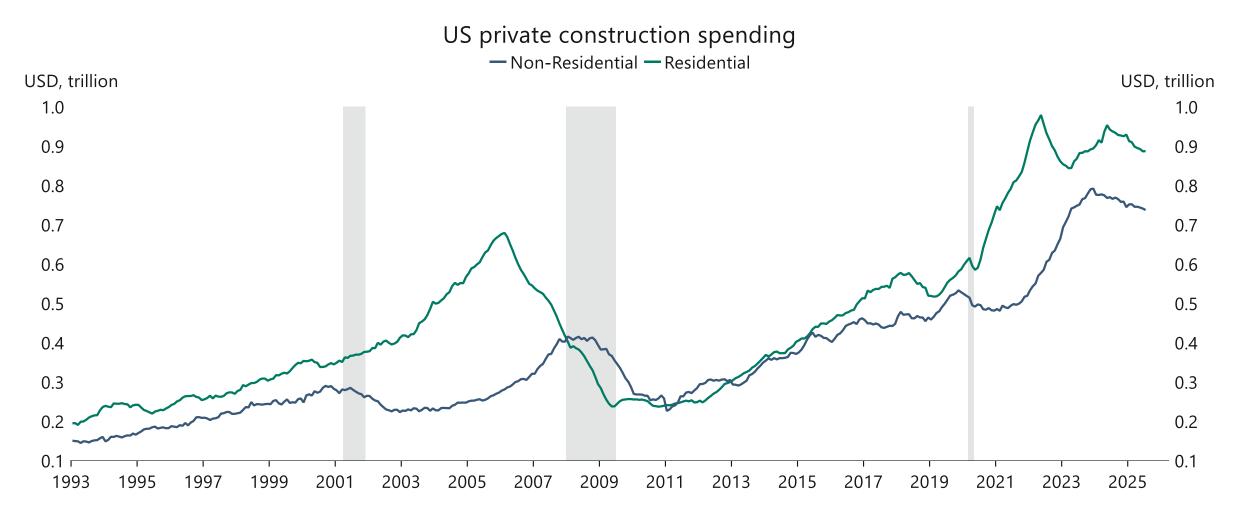


Source: Bloomberg, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

CRE delinquency rate

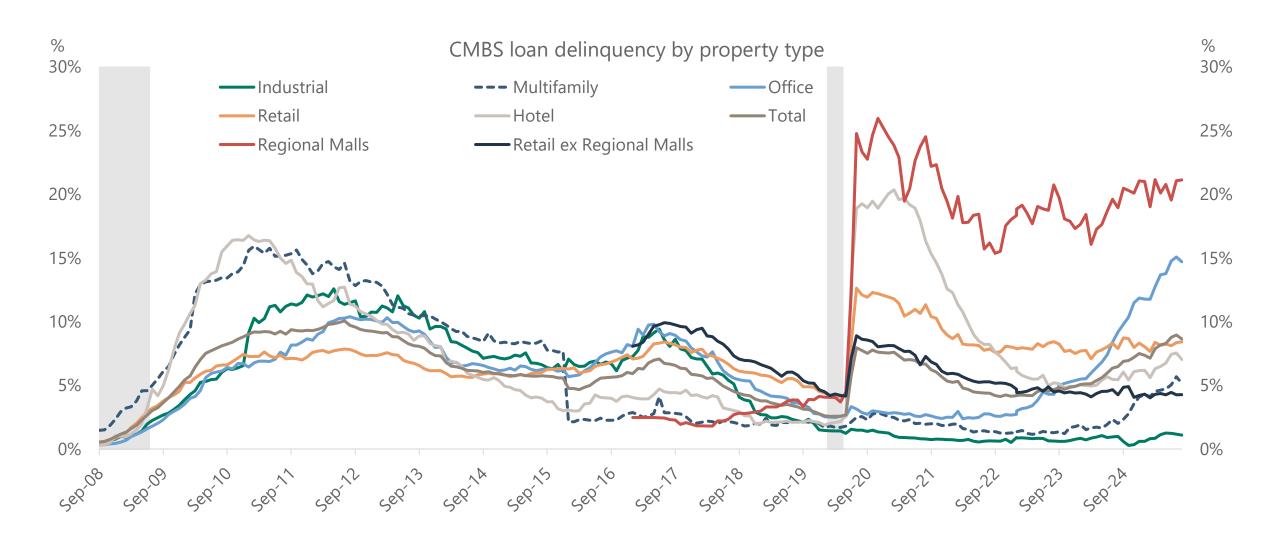


Residential construction spending elevated



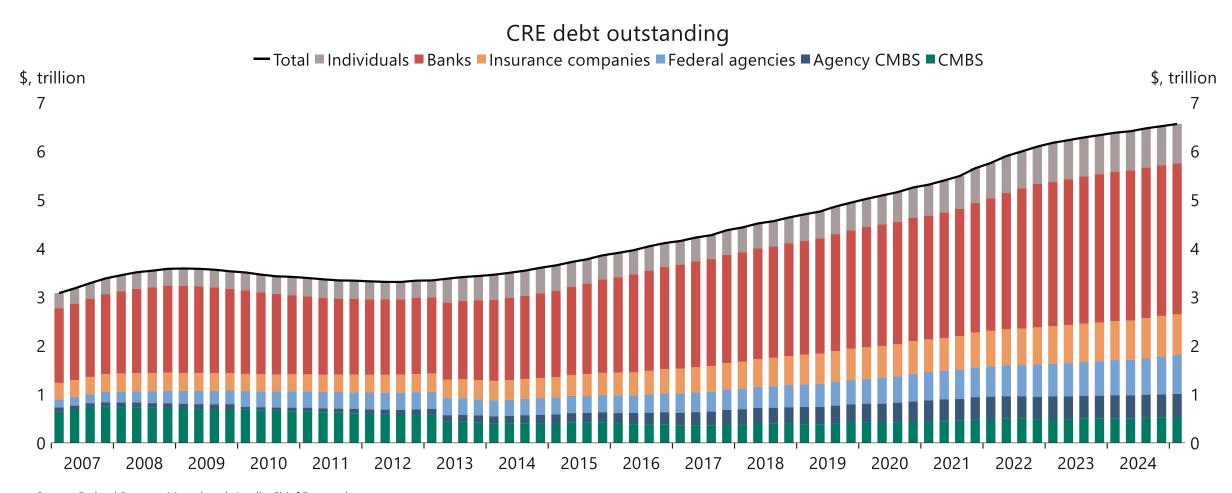
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

Delinquency rates rising for multifamily and office

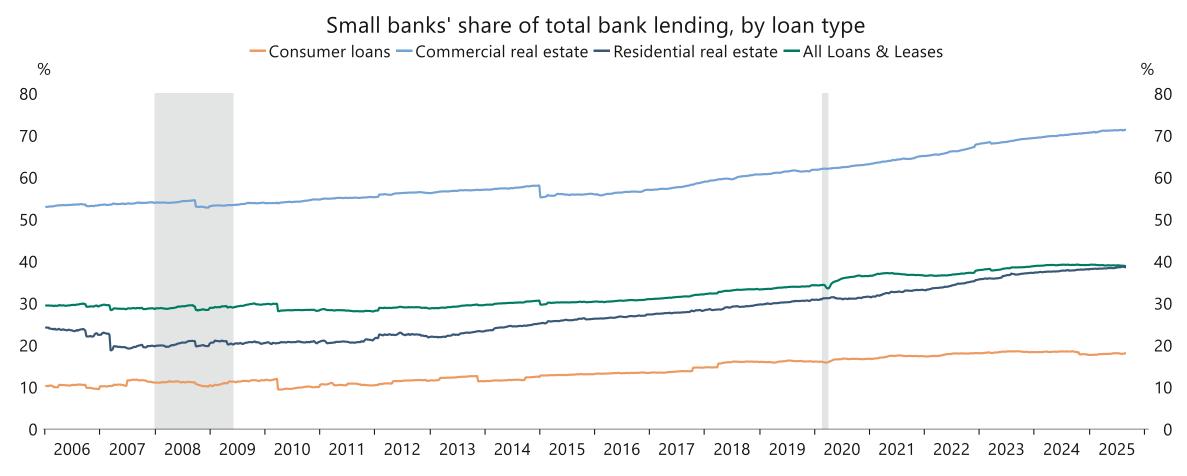


Source: Moodys Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist 52

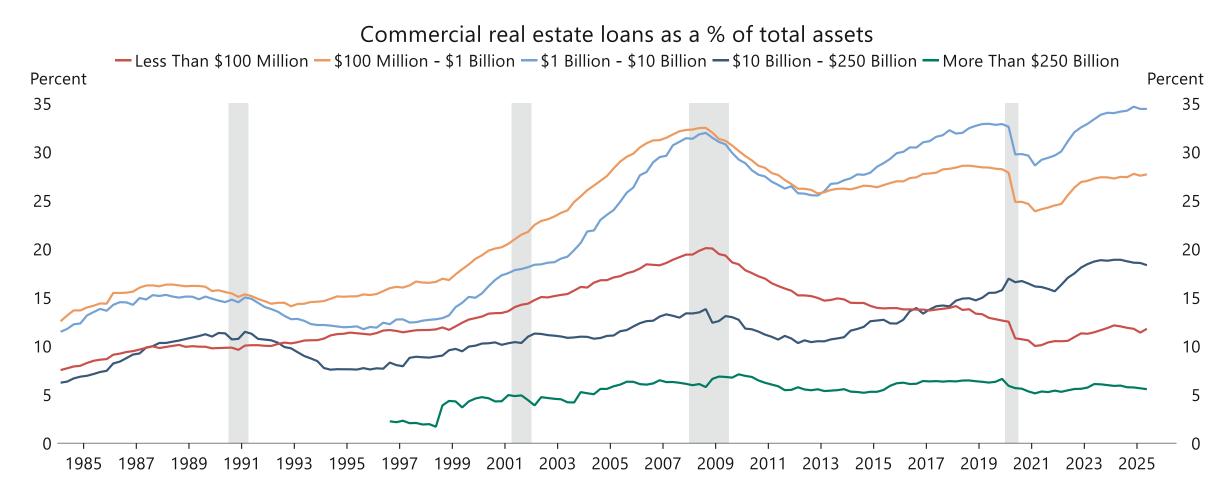
Banks hold half of all CRE debt outstanding



Small banks account for 70% of all bank commercial real estate loans outstanding

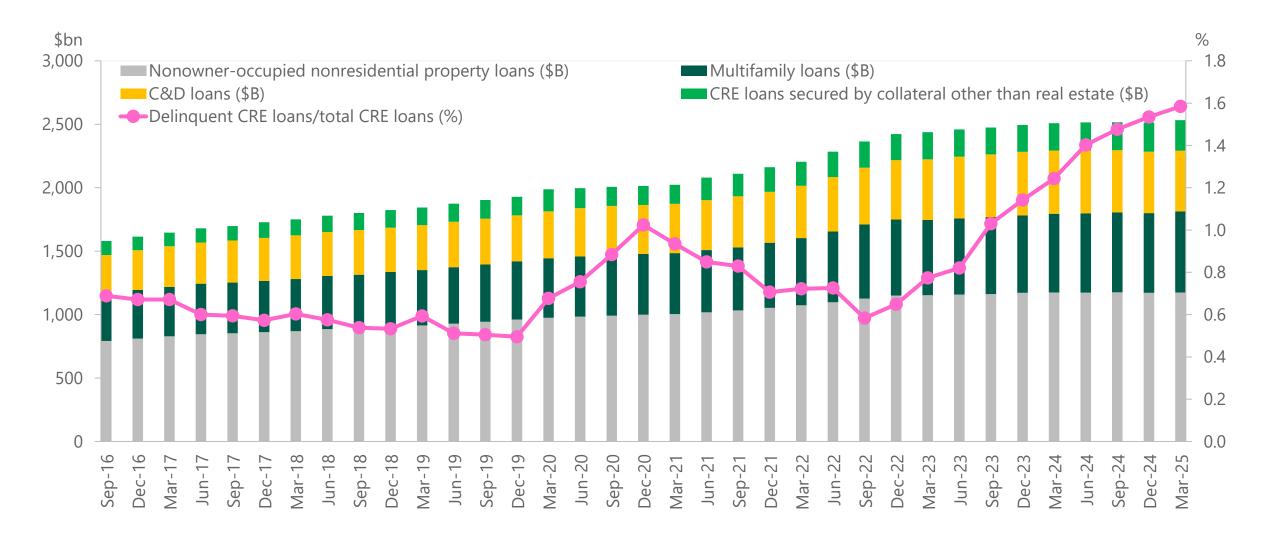


Banks with total assets between \$100mn and \$10bn are more exposed to CRE loans



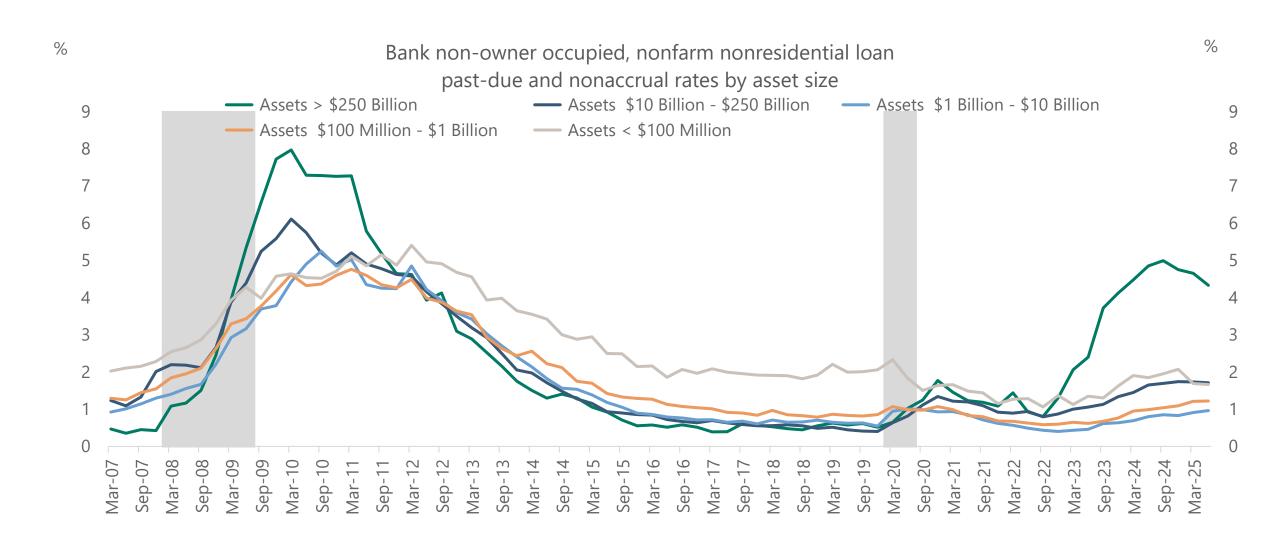
Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

CRE composition and delinquency at US banks

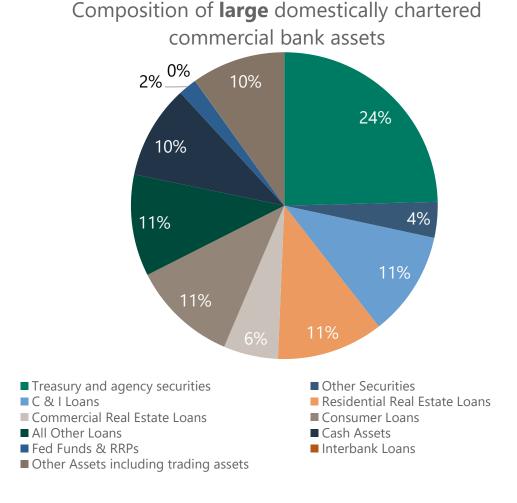


Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence, Apollo Chief Economist 56

Non-owner-occupied CRE past-due

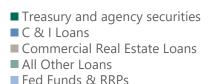


Important differences between the balance sheet of regional banks and money center banks



Composition of **small** domestically chartered commercial bank assets 0% 6% 13% 11%

31%



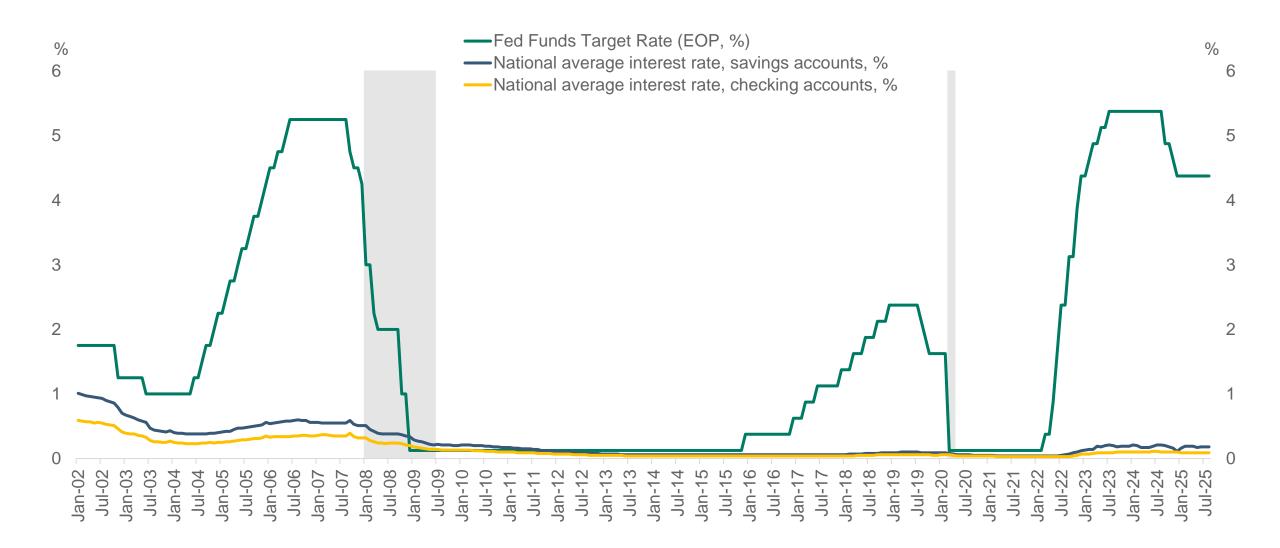


15%

Source: FRB, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

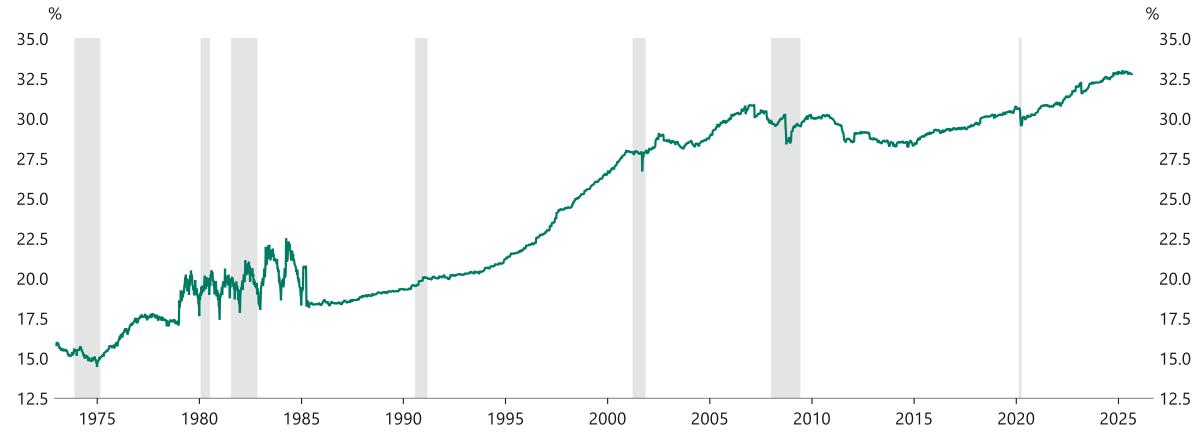
Bank deposits

Interest rate on checking accounts versus the Fed funds rate

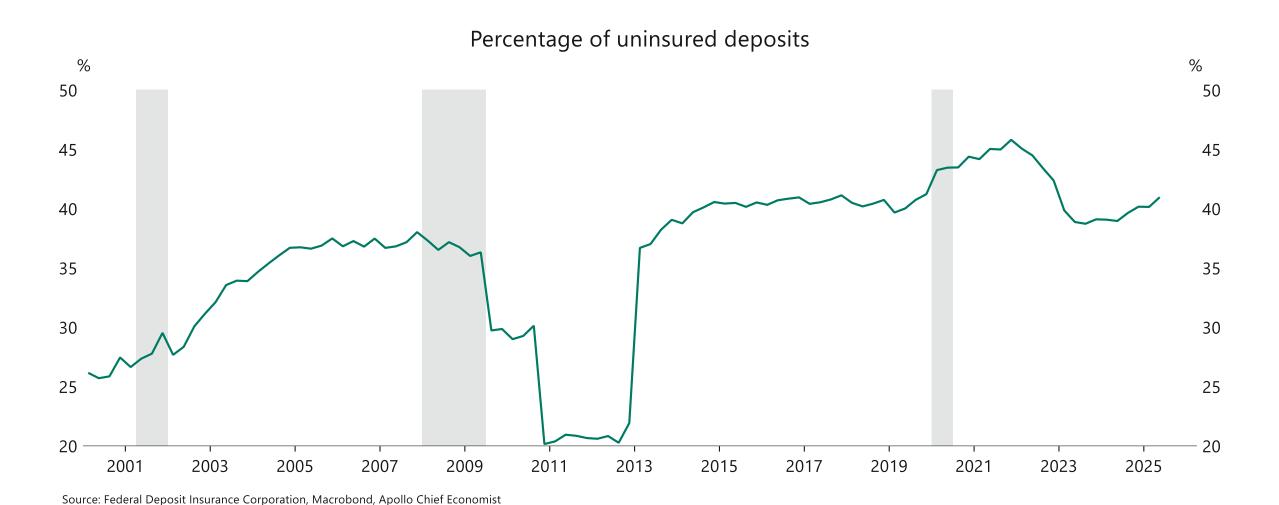


Small banks account for about 30% of total deposits in the banking sector, and the share has been rising since the 2008 financial crisis





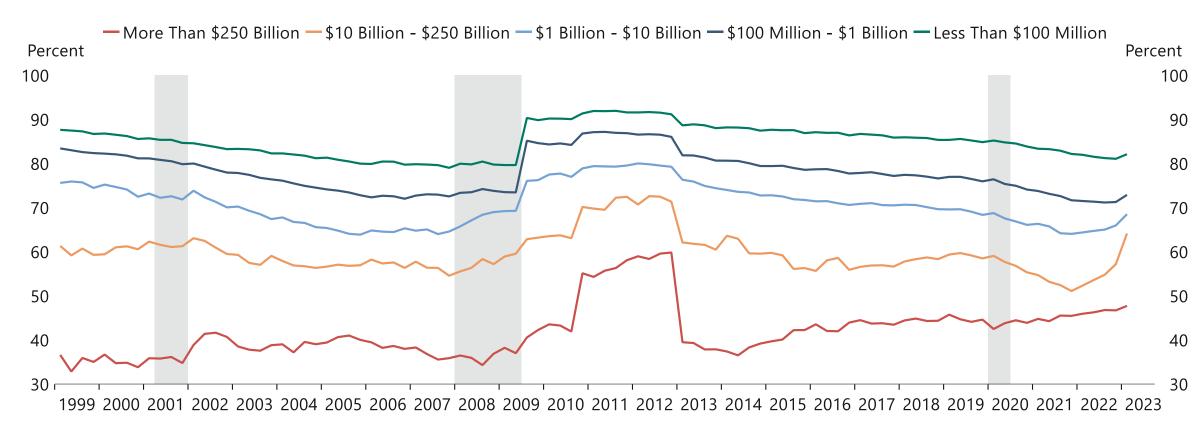
Share of total bank deposits that are uninsured: 40%



62

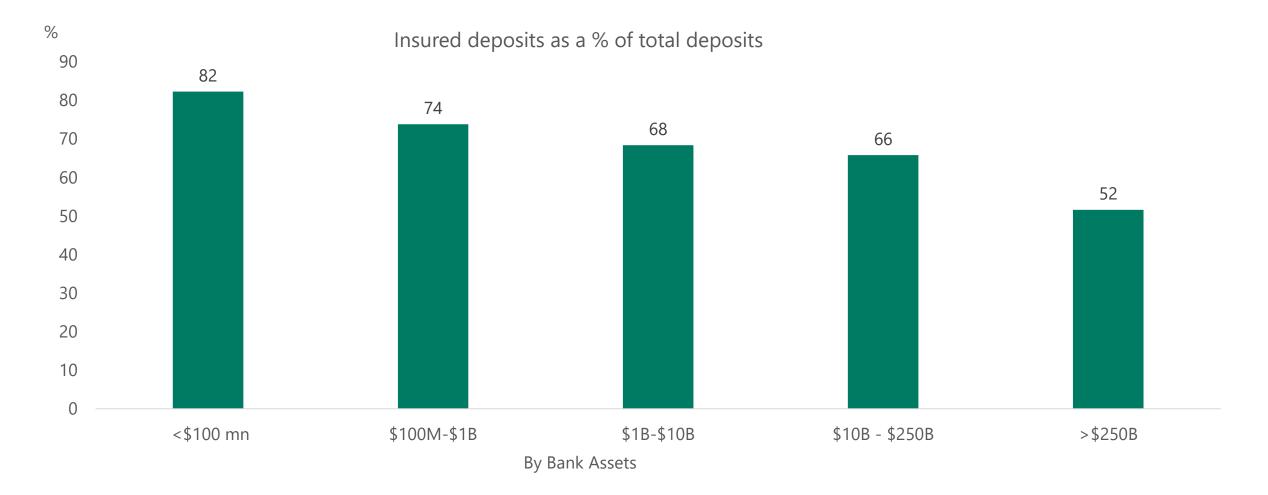
Share of insured deposits, by bank size

Insured deposits % total deposits by asset size



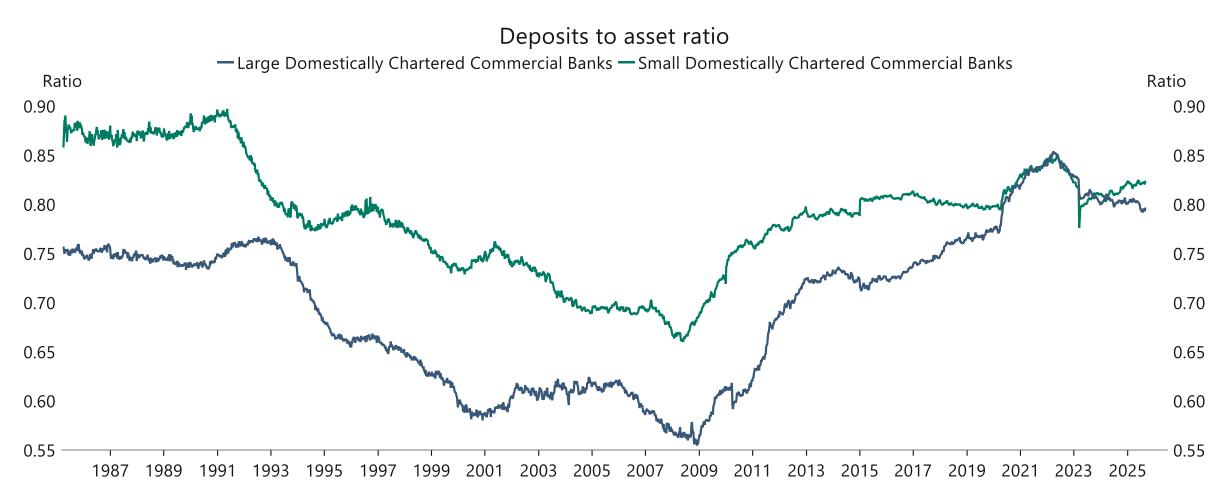
Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

Share of insured deposits, by bank size

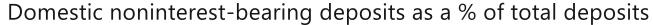


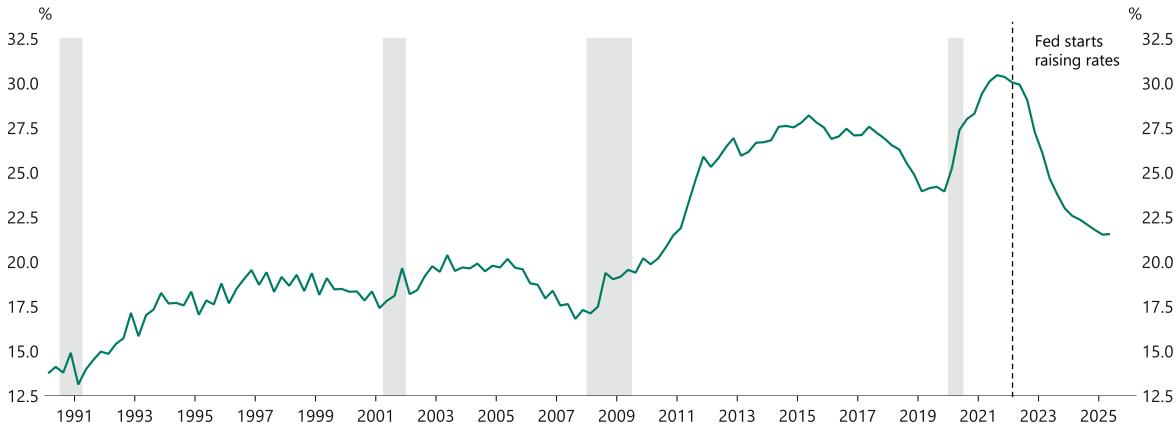
Source: FDIC, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist. As of Q2 2025

Deposit to asset ratio for large and small banks



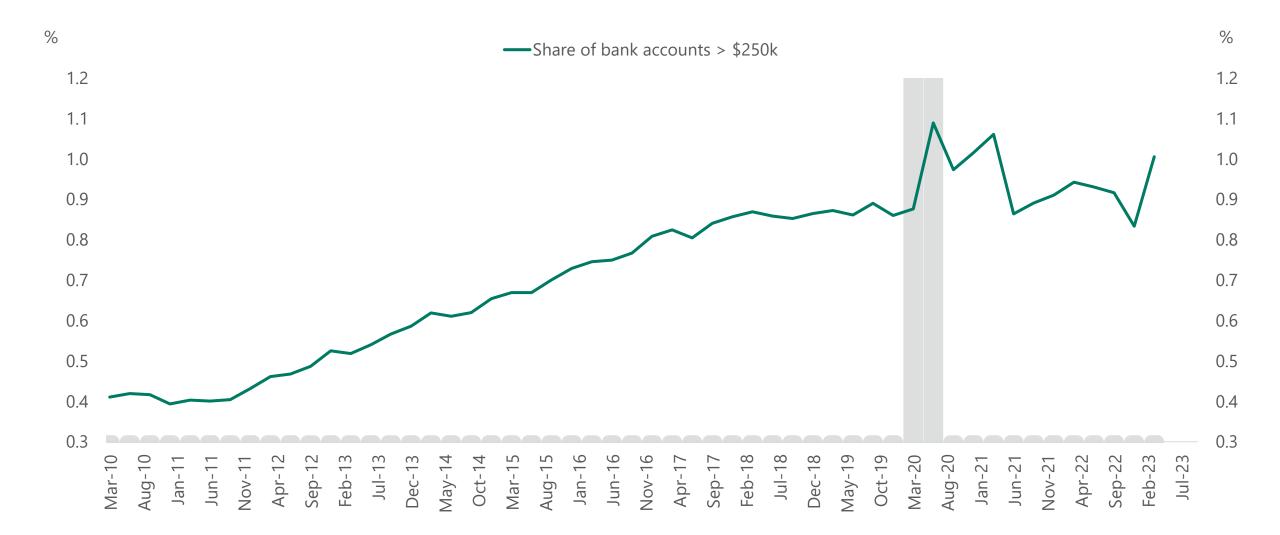
21% of deposits pay no interest





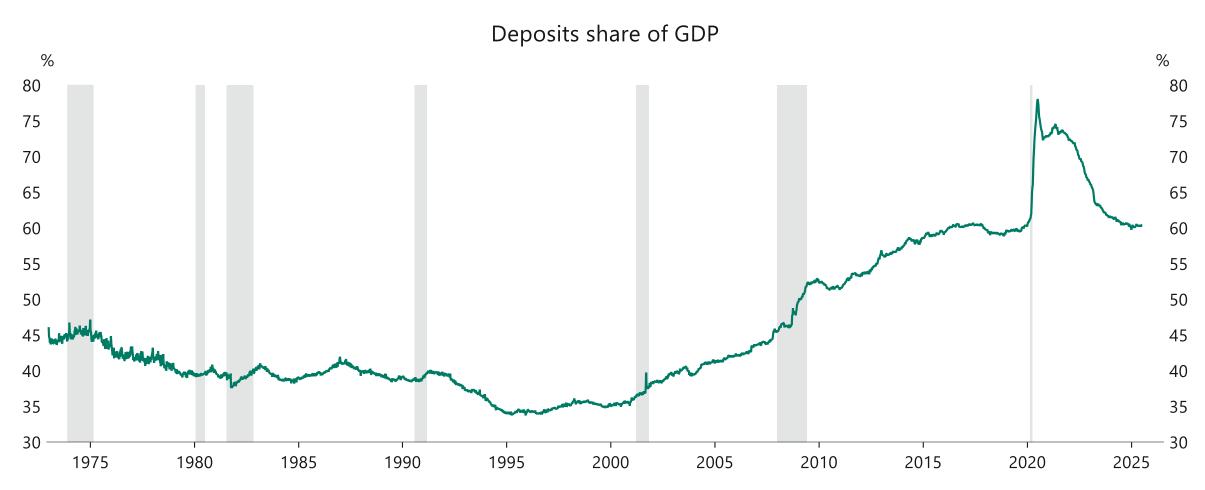
Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

1% of bank accounts have a balance higher than \$250k

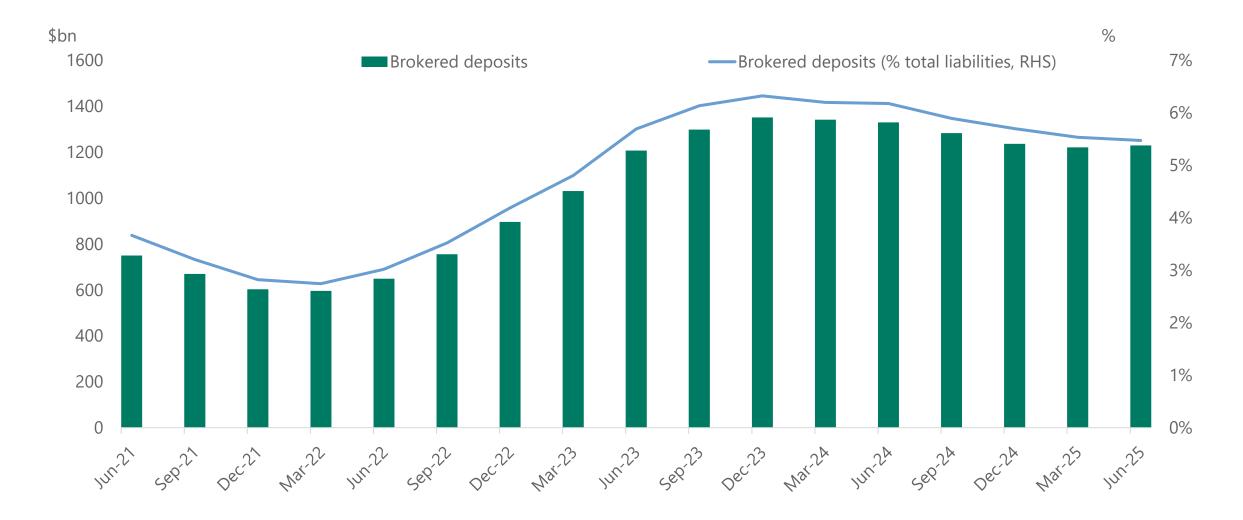


Source: FDIC, Haver Analytics, Apollo Chief Economist

Deposits as a share of GDP: 60%



Brokered deposits in US banks



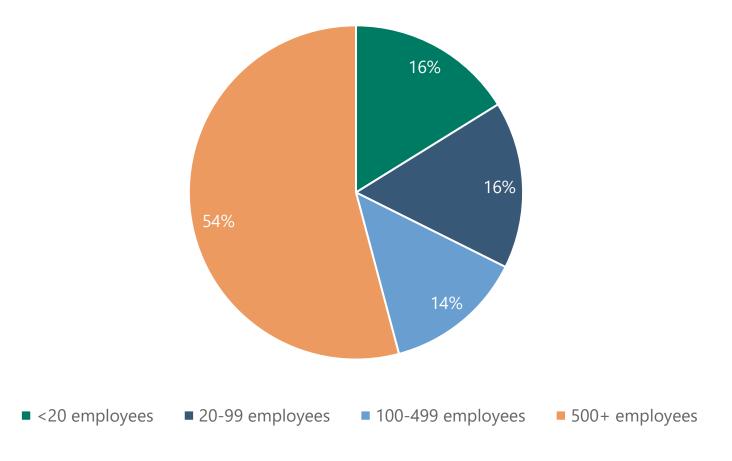
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US banks by asset size:

The importance of regional banks for the US economy

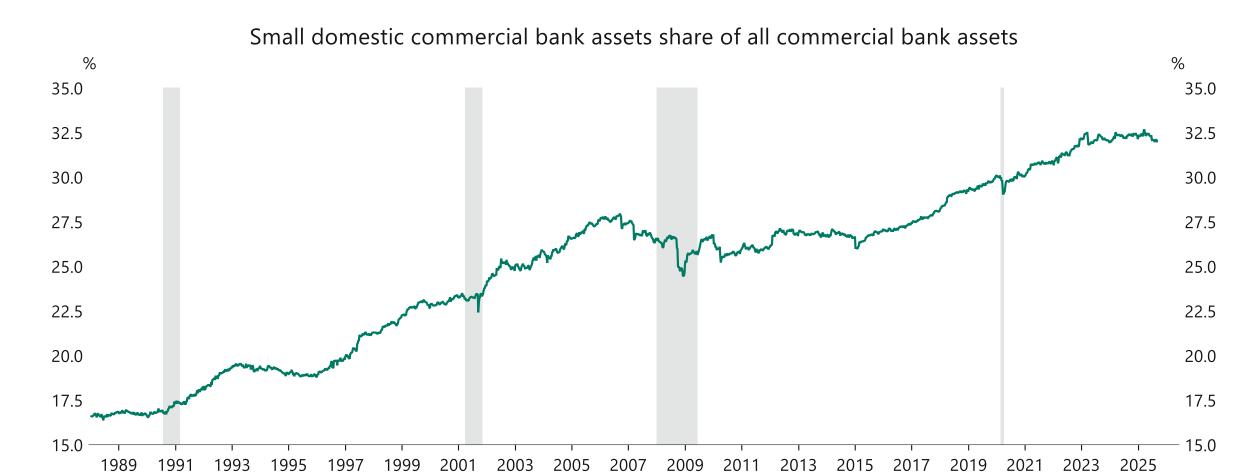
Half of US employment is in firms with fewer than 500 employees

Share of total employment by employment size of the firm, 2022



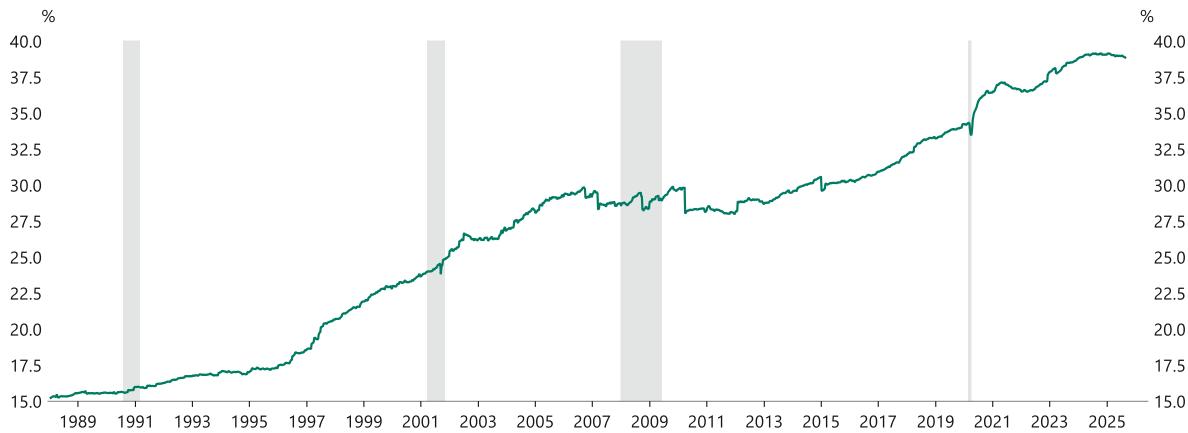
Source: Census, Apollo Chief Economist

Small bank assets as a share of total banking sector assets

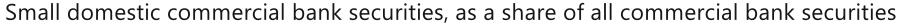


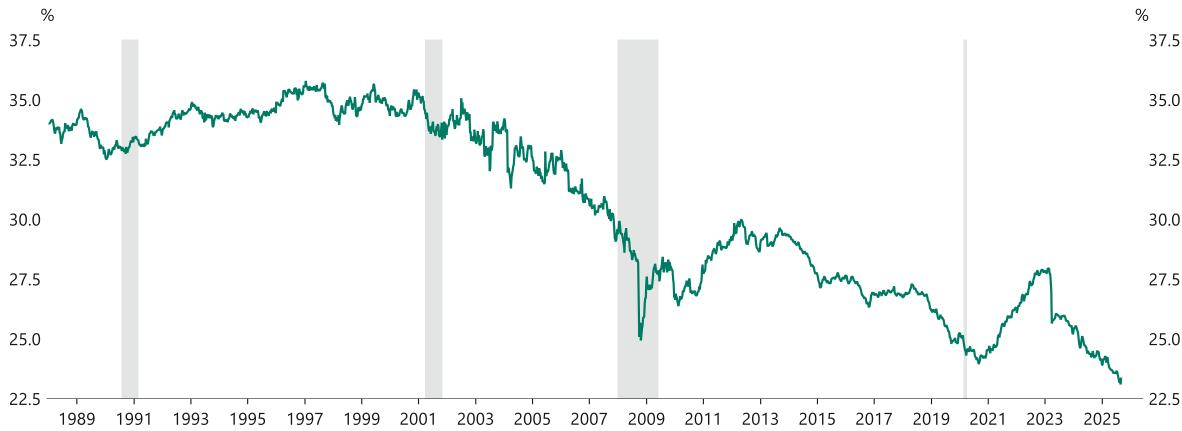
Share of lending by smaller banks

Small domestic commercial bank loans and leases, as a share of all commercial bank assets

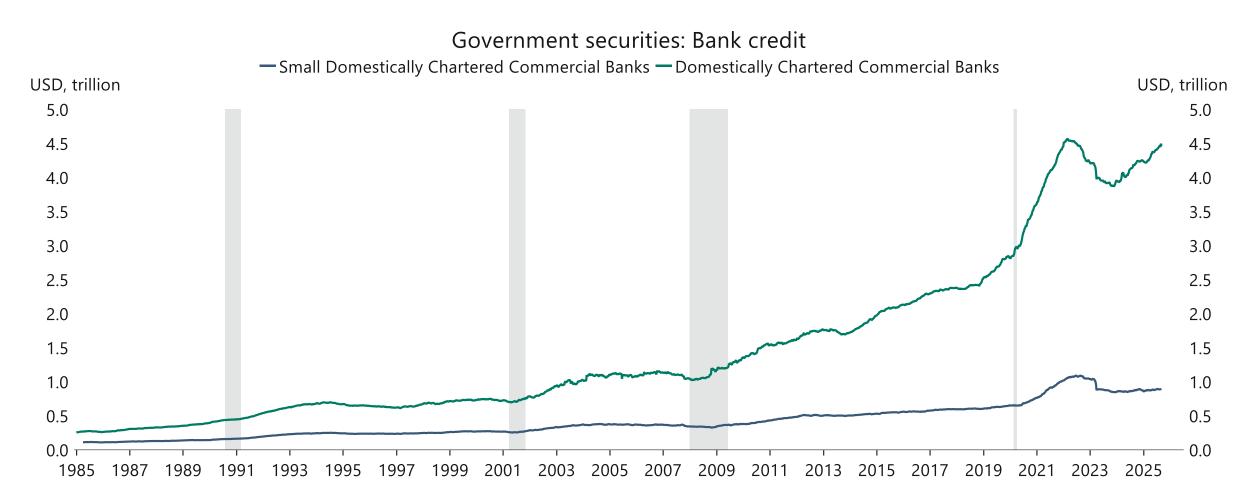


Share of securities in the banking sector held by small banks





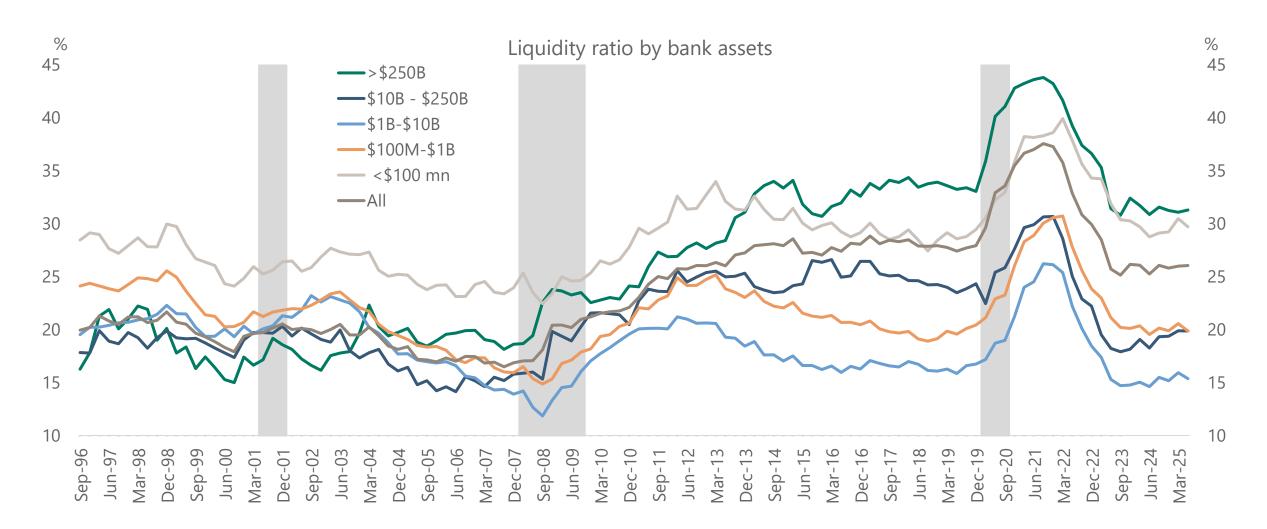
Large banks are accumulating Treasuries



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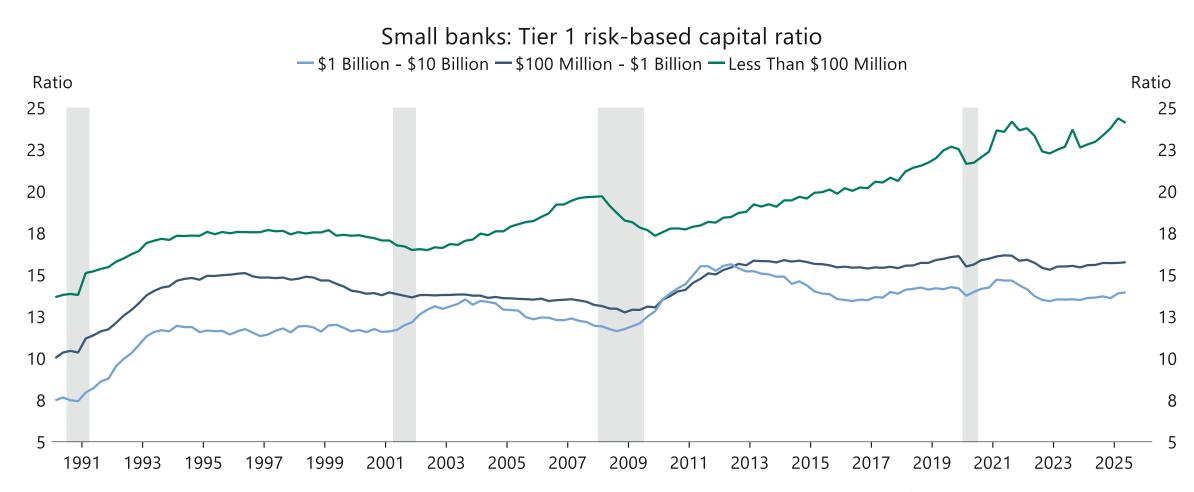
Measures of banking sector liquidity and capital ratios

Liquidity ratio, by bank assets: Banks with assets from \$1bn to \$10bn have lower liquidity ratios



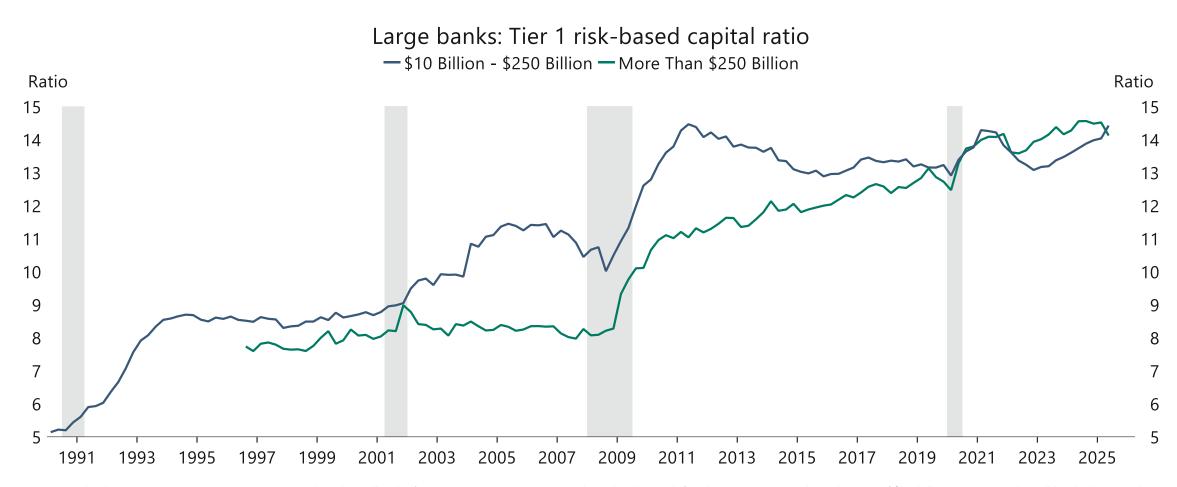
Source: FDIC, Bloomberg, Apollo Chief Economist. 77

Tier-1 risk-based capital ratio for banks, by size



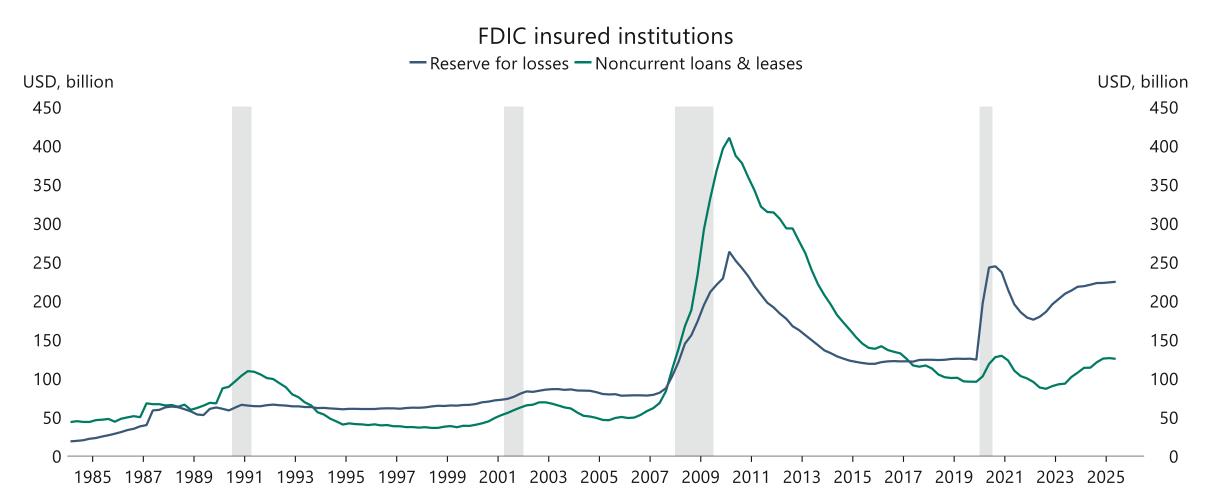
Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist. Note: As per FDIC, large banks are defined as institutions with total assets of \$10 billion or more and small banks have total assets under \$10 billion.

Tier 1 risk-based capital ratio for larger banks



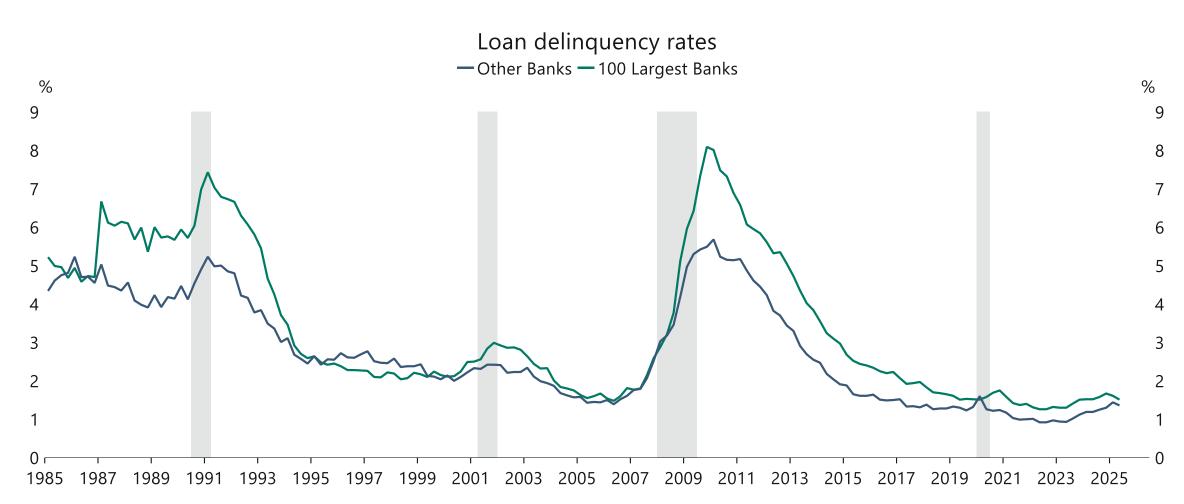
Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist. Note: As per FDIC, large banks are defined as institutions with total assets of \$10 billion or more and small banks have total assets under \$10 billion.

Reserves for loan losses

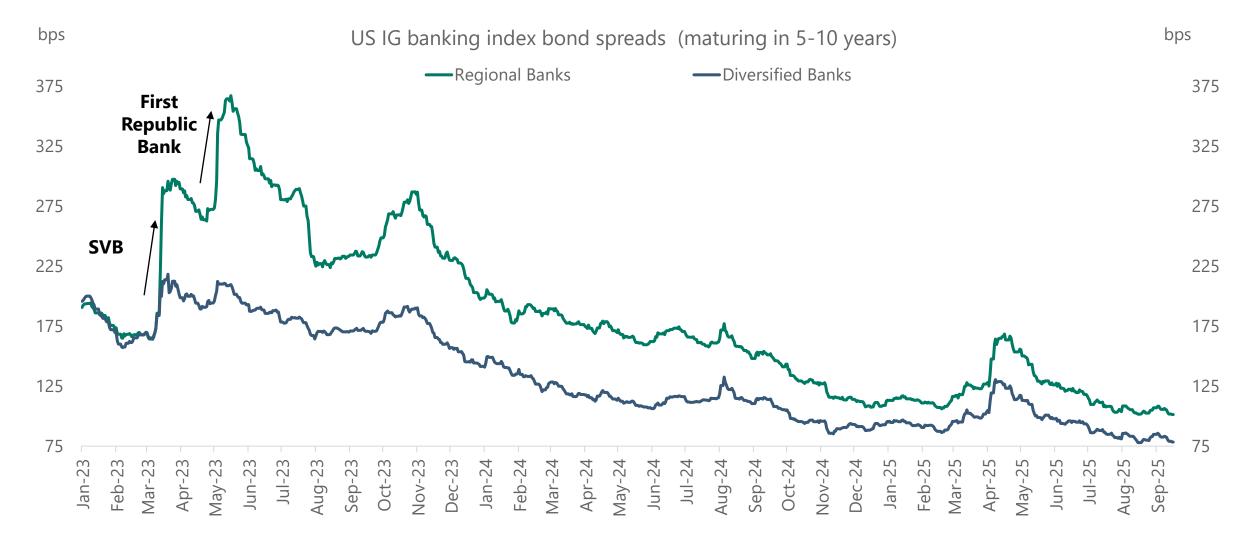


Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist

Loan delinquency rates for large and small banks



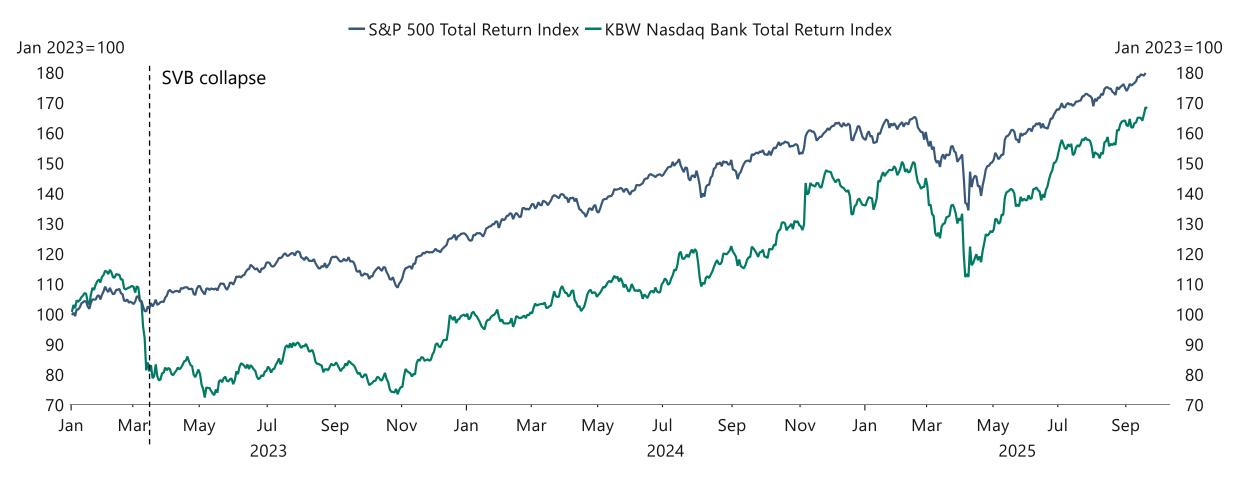
Funding costs higher for regional banks since SVB and FRB



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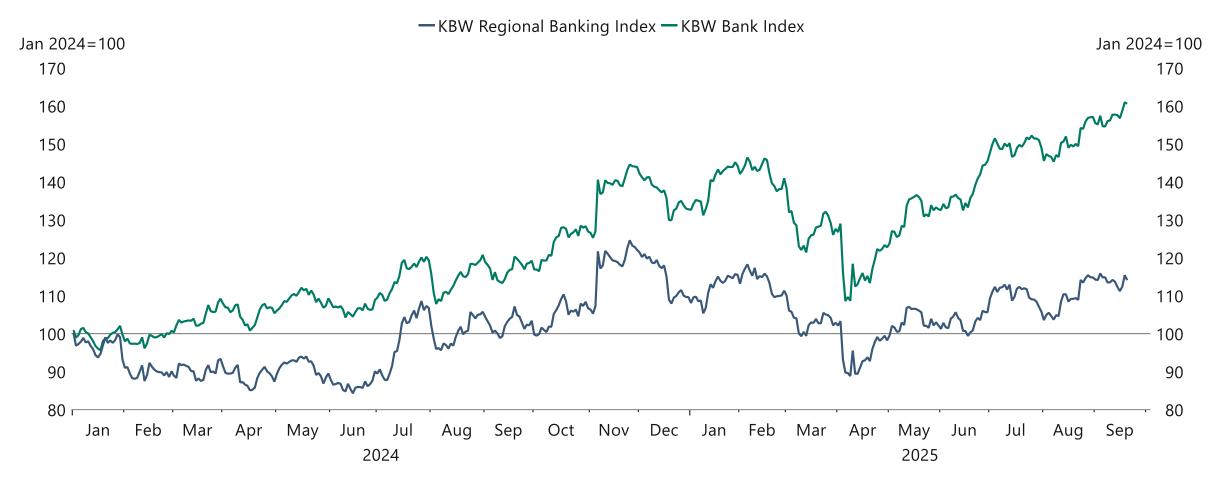
Stock market performance for small and large banks

Bank stocks continue to underperform the S&P500



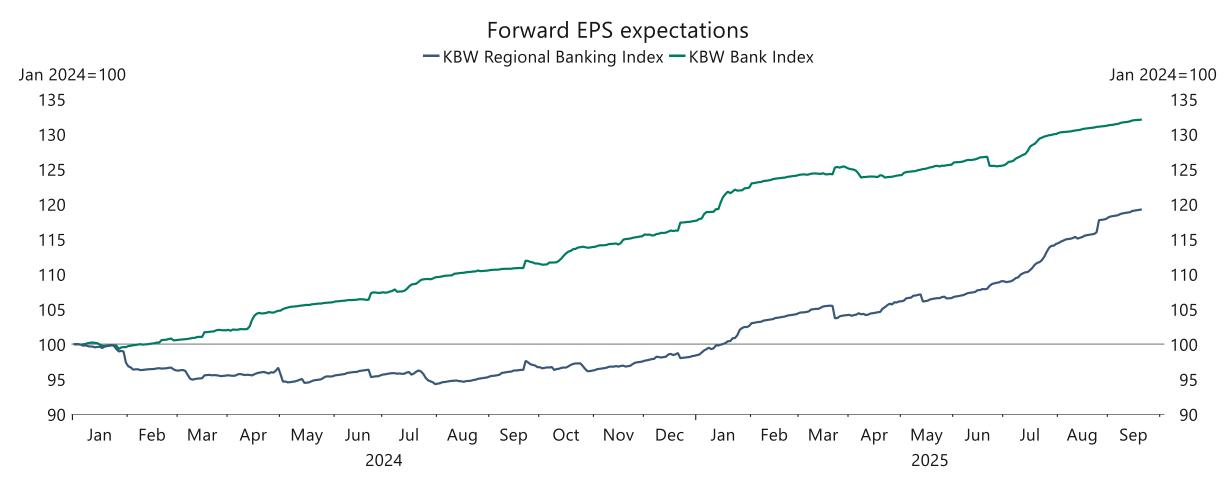
Source: Bloomberg, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist. Note: The KBW Bank Index consists of: Bank of NY Mellon, Bank of America, Capital One Financial, Citigroup, Citizens Financial Group, Comerica, Fifth Third Bank, First Horizon, Huntington, JP Morgan Chase, Keycorp, M&T Bank, Northern Trust, PNC, People's United Financial, Regions, State Street, Truist, US Bancorp, Wells Fargo, and Zions.

Regional bank stocks underperforming



Source: Bloomberg, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist.

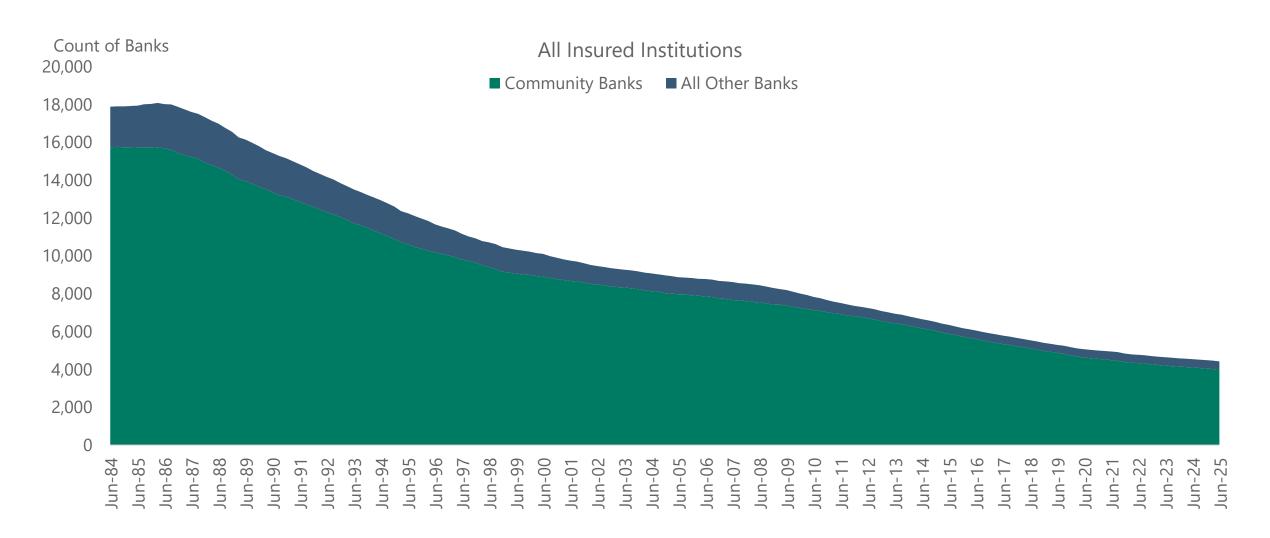
Earnings expectations weaker for regional banks



Source: Bloomberg, Macrobond, Apollo Chief Economist.

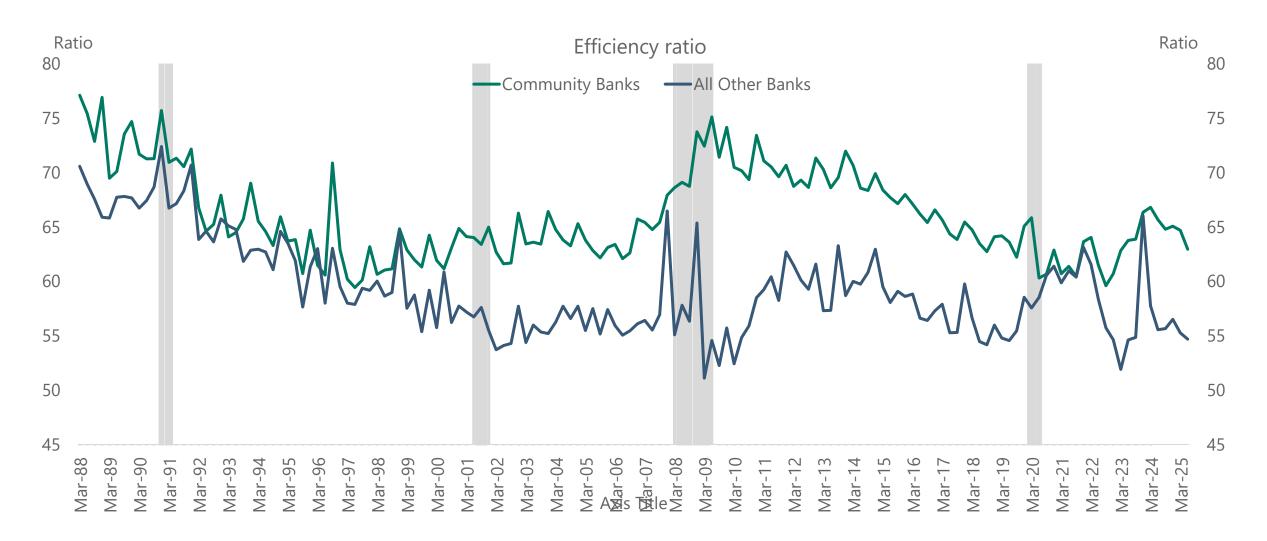
Community banks

90% of all banks in the US are community banks

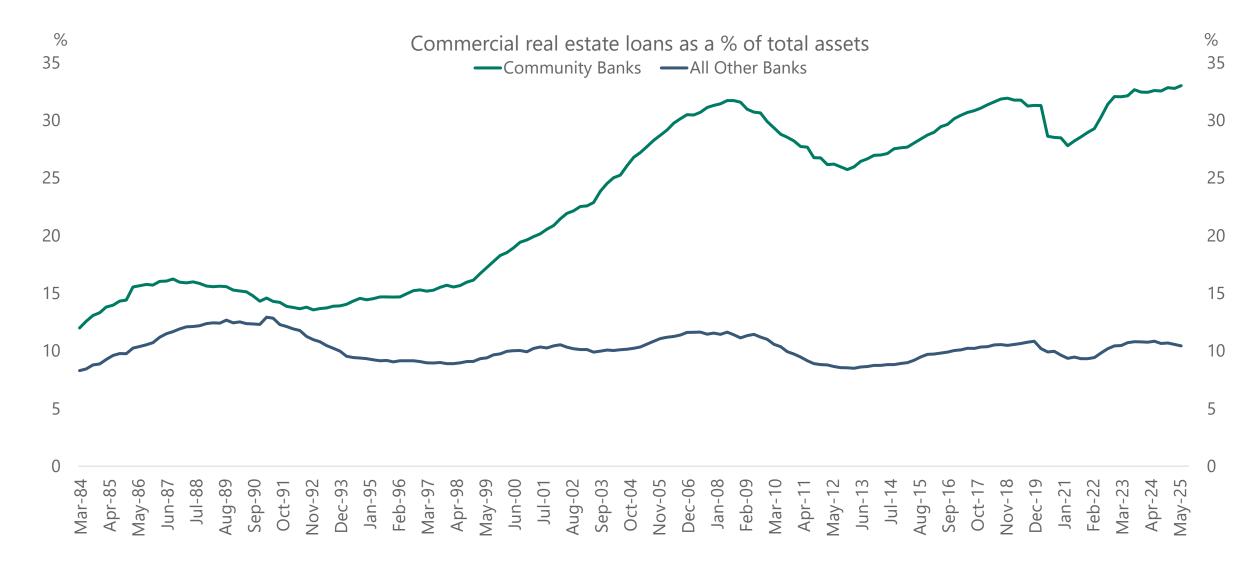


Source: FDIC, Apollo Chief Economist.

The average efficiency ratio is 58% for all types of banks

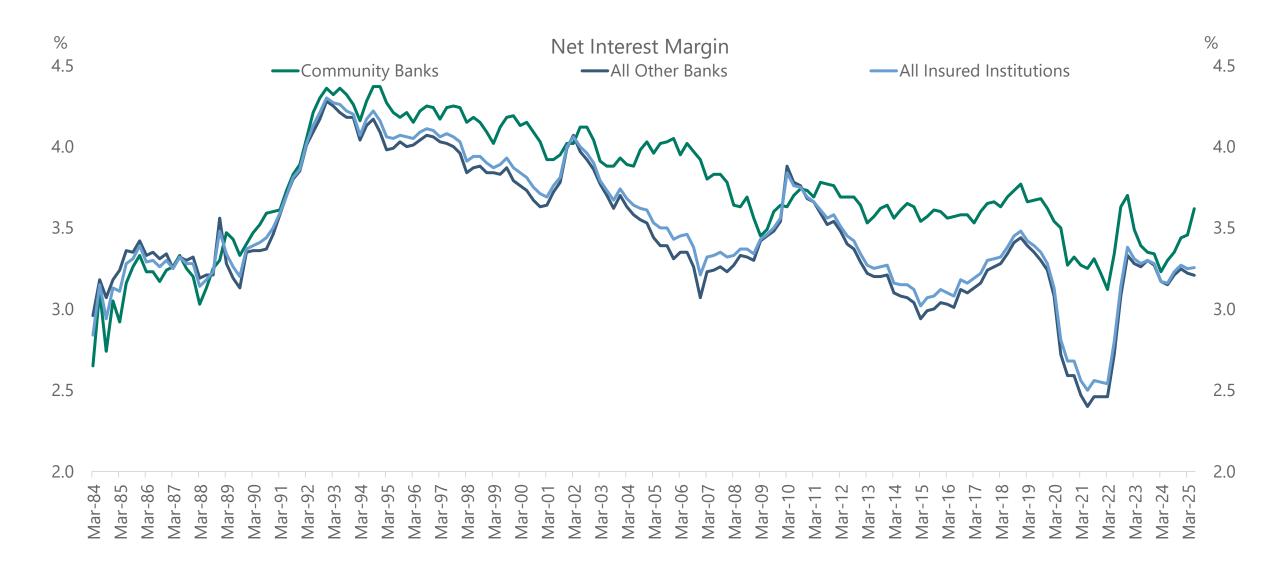


CRE loans make up a significant share of community banks' assets



Source: FDIC, Apollo Chief Economist.

Net interest margin



Source: FDIC, Apollo Chief Economist.



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Torsten Slok joined Apollo in August 2020 as Chief Economist and he leads Apollo's macroeconomic and market analysis across the platform.

Prior to joining, Mr. Slok worked for 15 years as Chief Economist on the sell-side where his team was top ranked in the annual Institutional Investor survey for a decade. Mr. Slok has also worked at the IMF in Washington, DC and at the OECD in Paris.

Mr. Slok has a Ph.D in Economics and studied at the University of Copenhagen and Princeton University.

The US is a market-based financial system. EU and Japan are bank-based financial systems

