

§ 203.1

AUTHORITY: 12 U.S.C. 2801–2810.

SOURCE: 54 FR 51362, Dec. 15, 1989, unless otherwise noted.

§ 203.1 Authority, purpose, and scope.

(a) *Authority.* This regulation is issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (“Board”) pursuant to the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (12 U.S.C. 2801 *et seq.*), as amended. The information-collection requirements have been approved by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* and have been assigned OMB Numbers 1557–0159, 3064–0046, 1550–0021, and 7100–0247 for institutions reporting data to the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Office of Thrift Supervision, and the Federal Reserve System, respectively; numbers for the National Credit Union Administration and the Department of Housing and Urban Development are pending.

(b) *Purpose.* (1) This regulation implements the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, which is intended to provide the public with loan data that can be used:

(i) To help determine whether financial institutions are serving the housing needs of their communities;

(ii) To assist public officials in distributing public-sector investments so as to attract private investment to areas where it is needed; and

(iii) To assist in identifying possible discriminatory lending patterns and enforcing antidiscrimination statutes.

(2) Neither the act nor this regulation is intended to encourage unsound lending practices or the allocation of credit.

(c) *Scope.* This regulation applies to certain financial institutions, including banks, saving associations, credit unions, and other mortgage lending institutions, as defined in § 203.2(e). It requires an institution to report data to its supervisory agency about home purchase and home improvement loans it originates or purchases, or for which it receives applications; and to disclose certain data to the public.

(d) *Loan aggregation and central data depositories.* Using the loan data made available by financial institutions, the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council will prepare disclosure

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statements and will produce various reports for individual institutions for each metropolitan statistical area (MSA), showing lending patterns by location, age of housing stock, income level, sex, and racial characteristics. The disclosure statements and reports will be available to the public at central data depositories located in each MSA. A listing of central data depositories can be obtained from the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, Washington, DC 20006.

[Reg. C, 54 FR 51362, Dec. 15, 1989, as amended at 63 FR 52142, Sept. 30, 1998]

§ 203.2 Definitions.

In this regulation:

(a) *Act* means the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (12 U.S.C. 2801 *et seq.*), as amended.

(b) *Application* means an oral or written request for a home purchase or home improvement loan that is made in accordance with procedures established by a financial institution for the type of credit requested.

(c) *Branch office* means: (1) Any office of a bank, savings association, or credit union that is approved as a branch by a federal or state supervisory agency, but excludes free-standing electronic terminals such as automated teller machines;

(2) Any office of a mortgage lending institution (other than a bank, savings association, or credit union) that takes applications from the public for home purchase or home improvement loans. A mortgage lending institution is also deemed to have a branch office in an MSA if, in the preceding calendar year, it received applications for, originated, or purchased five or more home purchase or home improvement loans on property located in that MSA.

(d) *Dwelling* means a residential structure (whether or not it is attached to real property) located in a state of the United States of America, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The term includes an individual condominium unit, cooperative unit, or mobile or manufactured home.

(e) *Financial institution* means:

(1) A bank, savings association, or credit union that originated in the preceding calendar year a home purchase

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loan (other than temporary financing such as a construction loan), including a refinancing of a home purchase loan, secured by a first lien on a one- to four-family dwelling if:

(i) The institution is federally insured or regulated; or

(ii) The loan is insured, guaranteed, or supplemented by any federal agency; or

(iii) The institution intended to sell the loan to the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation;

(2) A for-profit mortgage lending institution (other than a bank, savings association, or credit union) whose home purchase loan originations (including refinancings of home purchase loans) equaled or exceeded ten percent of its loan origination volume, measured in dollars, in the preceding calendar year.

(f) *Home improvement loan* means any loan that:

(1) Is for the purpose, in whole or in part, of repairing, rehabilitating, remodeling, or improving a dwelling or the real property on which it is located; and

(2) Is classified by the financial institution as a home improvement loan.

(g) *Home purchase loan* means any loan secured by and made for the purpose of purchasing a dwelling.

(h) *Metropolitan statistical area or MSA* means a metropolitan statistical area or a primary metropolitan statistical area, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

[Reg. C, 54 FR 51362, Dec. 15, 1989, as amended at 56 FR 59857, Nov. 26, 1991; 59 FR 63704, Dec. 9, 1994]

§ 203.3 Exempt institutions.

(a) *Exemption based on location, asset size, or number of home purchase loans.*

(1) A bank, savings association, or credit union is exempt from the requirements of this part for a given calendar year if on the preceding December 31:

(i) The institution had neither a home office nor a branch office in an MSA; or

(ii) The institution's total assets were at or below the asset threshold established by the Board. The asset threshold was adjusted from \$10 million

to \$28 million as of December 31, 1996. For subsequent years, the Board will adjust the threshold based on the year-to-year change in the average of the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, not seasonally adjusted, for each twelve-month period ending in November, with rounding to the nearest million. The Board will publish any adjustment to the asset figure in December in the staff commentary.

(2) A for-profit mortgage lending institution (other than a bank, savings association, or credit union) is exempt from the requirements of this part for a given calendar year if:

(i) The institution had neither a home office nor a branch office in an MSA on the preceding December 31; or

(ii) The institution's total assets combined with those of any parent corporation were \$10 million or less on the preceding December 31, and the institution originated fewer than 100 home purchase loans (including refinancings of home purchase loans) in the preceding calendar year.

(b) *Exemption based on state law.* (1) A state-chartered or state-licensed financial institution is exempt from the requirements of this regulation if the Board determines that the institution is subject to a state disclosure law that contains requirements substantially similar to those imposed by this regulation and contains adequate provisions for enforcement.

(2) Any state, state-chartered or state-licensed financial institution, or association of such institutions may apply to the Board for an exemption under this paragraph.

(3) An institution that is exempt under this paragraph shall submit the data required by the state disclosure law to its state supervisory agency for purposes of aggregation.

(c) *Loss of exemption.* (1) An institution losing an exemption that was based on the criteria set forth in paragraph (a) of this section shall comply with this part beginning with the calendar year following the year in which it lost its exemption.

(2) An institution losing an exemption that was based on state law under paragraph (b) of this section shall comply with this regulation beginning with