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 survey is being jointly sponsored by two Federal agencies that are working on behalf of all consumers:

The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) created in 2008 to oversee and insure the safety of the U.S. housing finance system

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) created in 2011 to study consumer financial markets and help consumers get the information they need to make financial decisions that are best for themselves and their families.

Together we are working to improve the safety and transparency of the lending process for all consumers.

Thank you for your help with this important national study.

We are interested in learning about mortgages obtained to purchase or refinance either a personal home or a home for someone else, including rental property.
We look forward to hearing from you.

At any time in 2013, did you sign or co-sign mortgage le	oan documei	nts?		
☐ Yes → If you took out or co-signed more than one mo mortgage you took out or co-signed in 2013 thro			o your experiences with	the
□ No → You do not need to complete the rest of the surve does not apply to you. The money enclosed is yo		ırn the blank que	stionnaire so we know th	ie si
. Did we mail this survey to the address of the house or	property yo	u financed wit	h the mortgage?	
□ Yes □ No				
. Including you, how many people signed or co-signed f	for this mort	gage?		
☐ One ☐ Two ☐ Three ☐ Four or more				
this loan was co-signed by others, we would like you to reswering the rest of the survey. Otherwise, it is your own sin	tuation that w	ve want to know	about.	
When you began the process of getting your mortgateach of the following	_	_		:s) v
	Very Familiar	Somewhat Familiar	Not at all Familiar	
		T MIIIIIMI		
The mortgage interest rates available at that time				
The different types of mortgages available				
The different types of mortgages available The process of taking out a mortgage				
The different types of mortgages available The process of taking out a mortgage The down payment needed to qualify for a mortgage				
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The different types of mortgages available The process of taking out a mortgage The down payment needed to qualify for a mortgage The income needed to qualify for a mortgage Your credit history or credit score The money needed at closing How much did you use each of the following sources.				ortg
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The different types of mortgages available The process of taking out a mortgage The down payment needed to qualify for a mortgage The income needed to qualify for a mortgage Your credit history or credit score The money needed at closing How much did you use each of the following source lenders? Your lender or broker Contact with other lenders or brokers Real estate agents or builders Material in the mail Websites that provide information on getting a mortgage Friends/relatives/co-workers Bankers or financial planners	ces to get in	aformation ab	Not At All	ortg

7. How many different lenders/brokers did you seriou mortgage? Circle one.	usly consider	before choos	sing where to a	pply for your
1 2 3 4 5 or more				
8. Thinking about the lenders/brokers you considered,	were any of th			
		Yes	No	
A financial institution where you had a checking or savings	account			
A lender/broker from whom you had a previous mortgage				
A lender/broker that, to your knowledge, operates only onli	ne			
A personal friend or relative				
P. How many different lenders/brokers did you apply to	o? Circle one.			
1 2 3 4 5 or more				
10. Who made the first contact in the application for the	mortgage you	ı took out?		
☐ I or my co-signers made first contact				
☐ The lender/broker made first contact				
☐ A third party (such as a real estate agent or home builde	r) made first cor	ntact		
11. How important were each of the following in choosin	ng where you a	applied for yo	our mortgage?	
	Very	Somewhat	Not	
	Important	Important	Important	
Having an established banking relationship	· 🗆		·	
Used lender/broker previously to get a mortgage				
Lender/broker is a personal friend or relative				
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				
Interest rate and terms offered				
Easier to qualify for a loan				
Spoke my primary language, which is not English				
	_			
12. Which of the following best describes how you (and a	any co-signers) felt <u>before</u> a	applying for you	r mortgage?
☐ Had a firm idea of the mortgage you wanted				
☐ Had some idea of the mortgage you wanted				
☐ Had little idea of the mortgage you wanted				
13. How open were you to suggestions about your mortg	age from youi	e lender/brok	er?	
□ Very open				
☐ Somewhat open				
□ Not at all open				
☐ NOU at all ODEII				
•	1 :		.n	
•				
•	applying for yo Very Concerned	our mortgage Somewhat Concerned	.? Not Concerned	
-	Very	Somewhat	Not	
14. How concerned were you about the following when a	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not Concerned	

During the application proceabout mortgages with any of the		ng?	lender/broker for any of the following?
	Yes	No	Does
An interest rate fixed for the life	105	110	Yes No Not A _I Title insurance □ □ □
of the loan			Settlement or closing agent \Box
An interest rate that could change	_	_	Mortgage insurance
over the life of the loan			
A term of less than 30 years (such			company
a 15- or 20-year term)			19. Overall, how satisfied are you that the mortg
A higher interest rate in return for		ш	you got was the one with the
lower closing costs			
A lower interest rate in return for	ш		Very Somewhat Not Satisfied Satisfied Satisfie
			Best terms to fit your
paying discount points			needs \square \square
Interest-only monthly payments			Lowest interest rate for
An escrow account for taxes		_	which you could qualify □ □ □
and/or homeowner insurance			Lowest closing costs
A prepayment penalty (fee if the	_	_	
mortgage is paid off early)			20. Overall, how satisfied are you with the
Reduced documentation or			Very Somewhat Not
"easy" approval			Satisfied Satisfied Satisfied
An FHA or VA loan			Lender/broker you used
[4]	4	3:3	Application process
In the process of getting your m	iortgage	, ala you	Loan closing process \square \square \square
	Yes	No	Mortgage disclosure forms □ □ □
	100		
Change lenders/brokers			
Change lenders/brokers Add a co-signer			21. In the process of getting your mortgage, did
Add a co-signer			21. In the process of getting your mortgage, did y talk to a credit counselor or take a course ab
Add a co-signer Resolve credit report errors or			21. In the process of getting your mortgage, did
Add a co-signer Resolve credit report errors or problems			21. In the process of getting your mortgage, did y talk to a credit counselor or take a course ab home buying?
Add a co-signer Resolve credit report errors or problems Answer follow-up requests for mo			21. In the process of getting your mortgage, did y talk to a credit counselor or take a course ab home buying?
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Add a co-signer Resolve credit report errors or problems Answer follow-up requests for mo information about your income or assets	□ □ □ re		21. In the process of getting your mortgage, did y talk to a credit counselor or take a course ab home buying? No Yes 22. (If Yes to Q21) How was counseling
Add a co-signer Resolve credit report errors or problems Answer follow-up requests for mo information about your income or assets Have multiple appraisals	a control of the cont		21. In the process of getting your mortgage, did y talk to a credit counselor or take a course ab home buying? No
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Add a co-signer Resolve credit report errors or problems Answer follow-up requests for mo information about your income or assets Have multiple appraisals Redo/refile paperwork due to processing delays	re		21. In the process of getting your mortgage, did y talk to a credit counselor or take a course ab home buying? No
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Your Mortgage

Your Mortgage	33. Does your mortgage loan have any features?	of the	followin
25. When you took out your mortgage, what was the	Ye	es No	Don't Know
loan amount (the dollar amount you borrowed)?	A prepayment penalty (fee if the	<i>3</i> 110	IXIIOW
	mortgage is paid off early)] [
\$ 00	An escrow account for taxes		
□ Don't know	and/or homeowner insurance		
26. What is the monthly payment (including the	Interest-only payments] [
amount paid to escrow for taxes and insurance)?	Lender's title insurance] [
unount para to escrow for taxes and insurance;	Owner's title insurance] [
\$00	Credit life/debt suspension/debt		
☐ Don't know	cancellation insurance		
27. What is the interest rate on your mortgage?	34. How were the costs to close your lo	an paid	1?
%			Don't
☐ Don't know	Ye	es No	Know
20 7 41	By me or a co-signer	, –	
28. Is this an adjustable-rate mortgage (one that allows	(check or wire transfer)		
the interest rate to change over the life of the loan)?	By lender/broker		
☐ Yes	By seller/builder		
□ No	Included in the mortgage amount		
□ Don't know	Other (specify)] [
interest rate would not change before closing? Yes Don't know When was the interest rate set/locked on your	also take out another loan on your a second lien, home equity loan, line of credit (HELOC)?		
30. When was the interest rate set/locked on your loan?	36. (If Yes to Q35) What was this loan?	the a	mount
☐ At application	\$. 00	
☐ Between application and closing☐ Around closing	☐ Don't know	00	
31. Many mortgages have discount points that you pay the lender to get a lower interest rate. If you paid any discount points, how many? points points Don't know	37. Did you face any unpleasant "sur loan closing? □ No □ Yes □ 38. (If Yes to Q37) What un		
32. Some lenders charge origination points to cover	surprises did you face?	T 7	N.T.
the cost of preparing a mortgage for closing that	Different loan terms	Yes	No
are expressed as a percentage of the loan amount.	Higher monthly paymen		
If you paid any origination points, how many?	Higher interest rate		
	Unexpected fees		
points	Higher amount of mone		
□ No points	needed at closing	у П	
☐ Don't know			
	Other (specify)		
	W	□	
	Skip to Q39		

39. What was the primary purpose of this loan at the time you took it out? Check one. ☐ Purchase of a property	45. How important, if at all, were the following reasons in your decision to refinance, modify or obtain a new mortgage?
☐ Permanent financing on a construction loan	Very Somewhat Not
☐ Refinance or modification of an	Important Important Important Change to a fixed-rate loan □ □ □
existing mortgage	Get a lower interest rate
☐ New loan on a mortgage-free property	Get a lower monthly
☐ Some other purpose (specify) Skip to Q45	·
	payment \square \square Consolidate or pay down
+	other debt
40. Which statement best describes your situatio	Repay the loan more
when you were about to make a purchase offer o	quickly
the house or property you bought?	Take out cash
 ☐ Had a pre-approval or pre-qualification from a lende ☐ No pre-approval or pre-qualification, but certain about the amount of loan I wanted and could qualify for 	46. Approximately how much was owed, in total, on the mortgage(s) and other loans you refinanced?
☐ Uncertain about the amount of the loan I wanted and could qualify for	☐ Zero (the property was mortgage-free)
41. Did you use the proceeds from the sale of another property to help pay for the house or property yo bought?	
r No	☐ New amount is lower
□ Yes ─	☐ New amount is about the same
V	☐ New amount is higher }
42. (If Yes to Q41) How much of the mone	
from the sale of this other property wa	
used to purchase your property?	48. Did you use the money you got from this
\$.00	new mortgage for any of the following?
☐ Don't know	Yes No
★	College, auto, or other major
43. What percent down payment did you make o	n purchase \square
your property?	Bills or debts
□ 0%	Home repairs/additions □ □
□ 1-5%	Savings
□ 6-10%	Some or all of the mortgage
□ 11-19%	closing costs
□ 20% or more	Business or investment
ii 2070 of more	Other (specify)
44. Did you use any of the following sources of fund to purchase the property?	s \
Not	
Used Used	Variable stranged Duamanti.
Savings, retirement account,	Your Mortgaged Property
inheritance, or other assets	
Assistance or loan from a nonprofit or	
government agency	49. When did you buy or acquire your property?
Gift or loan from family or friend	This may have been a long time ago.
Other (specify)	/
□ □	month year
Skip to Q49	

50. Which of these was your primary purpose for buying this property? Check one.	58. Which of the following best described how you use this property?
☐ Primarily as an investment ☐ Primarily as a place to live 51. What was the purchase price or acquisition cost of your property, or if you built it, the construction and land cost? \$00	☐ Primary residence (where you spend the majority of your time) ☐ It will be my primary residence soon ☐ Seasonal second home ☐ Home for other relatives ☐ Rental or investor property ☐ Other (specify)
□ Don't know	59. (If primary residence in Q58) When did you
52. How did you acquire the property? Check one.	move into the property?
 □ Purchased an existing home in a standard sale from the previous owner □ Purchased a new 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)	Your Household
Single-family detached house □ Townhouse, row house, or villa □ Mobile home □ 2-unit, 3-unit, or 4-unit dwelling □ Condo, apartment house, or co-op □ Unit in a partly commercial structure □ Other (specify)	61. What is your current marital status? Married

65. Have you owned other resbesides this one?	sidential		72. In what business or industry do you work? What is made or done at the place you work?
	You	Spouse/ Partner	You:
Yes			Corones / Doutes our
No			Spouse/Partner:
66. Highest level of education achie	eved:	Spouse/	73. Have you ever served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces? (Active duty includes serving in the U.S. Armed Forces as well as activation from the
	You	Partner	Reserves or National Guard).
Some schooling			Spouse/
High school graduate			You Partner
Technical school			Yes, on active duty in the past,
Some college			but not now
College graduate			Yes, now on active duty
Postgraduate studies			No, never on active duty except
<u> </u>			for initial/basic training
67. Are you Hispanic or Latino?			No, never served in the U.S.
		Spouse/	Armed Forces
	You	Partner	
Yes			74. Besides you (and your spouse/partner), does
No			anyone else live in your household? Include anyone
60.7			with a permanent address here even if he or she does
68. Race: Check all that apply.		g /	not currently live here, like a student away at college.
	You	Spouse/ Partner	not currently live here, like a student away at contege.
White			No No
Black or African American			☐ Yes —
	_		
American Indian or Alaska Native			75. (If Yes to Q74) How many of the other
Asian			household members are 18 years of age or
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific			younger?
Islander			household members
69. Current work status: Check all	that appl	'y.	□ None
		Spouse/	76. (If Yes to Q74) How many of the other
	You	Partner	household members are older than 18?
Self-employed/work for self			
Employed full time			household members
Employed part time			□ None
Retired			77 (IC V
Temporarily laid-off or on leave			77. (If Yes to Q74) Do any of the other
Not working for pay (student,			household members help pay for
homemaker, disabled,			household expenses?
unemployed)			☐ Yes
70. What is your official job t	itle (the	title your	□ No
employer uses)? If you have	more the	an one job,	78. Approximately how much is your total annual
please describe the one at which			,
hours.	,		household income from all sources (wages,
You:			salaries, tips, interest, child support, investment income, retirement, social security, and alimony)?
Spouse/Partner:			☐ Under \$25,000
71. Please describe your main job.	What do	you do?	□ \$25,000 to \$49,999 □ \$50,000 to \$74,999
You:			□ \$75,000 to \$74,399
			□ \$100,000 to \$149,999
Spouse/Partner:			□ \$150,000 or more

79. Would you say that over the last of your total household income has	couple o	of years,	84. In the last couple of your following financial events I spouse/partner?	,		
☐ Increased☐ Stayed about the same					Yes	No
☐ Decreased			Layoff, unemployment, or re	duced	103	110
Decreased			hours of work			
80. Which of the following best descri	ibes vo	ur total	Reduction in income			
household income over the last cou			Significant salary increase			
•			Significant increase in housing	ıg		
☐ Stable			expenses or repairs			
☐ Variable			Significant increase in non-h	ousing		
21 Doog anyong in your household h	ovo on	y of the	expenses			
81. Does anyone in your household h following?	ave any	of the	Took a second job			
ionowing.	Yes	No	Business failure			
Stocks, bonds, or mutual funds			Significant decrease in the va	ılue		
401(k), IRA, or pension plan			of your home			
Certificates of deposit			A large number of foreclosur	es or		
2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.4.2.2.2.	_	_	short sales in your neighbo	rhood		
82. Which one of the following s describes the amount of financia willing to take when you make invo	l risk j estment	you are s?	85. Do you tend to agree or d following statements?	isagre		
☐ Take substantial financial risks exp	pecting to	earn	Owning a home is a good fin	ancial	Agree	Disagree
substantial returns			investment	anciai		
☐ Take above-average financial risks	expectir	ng to earn	It is okay to default or stop m	nakina		Ш
above-average returns			mortgage payments if it is	_		
☐ Take average financial risks expec	ting to ea	ırn	borrower's financial interes			
average returns			Mortgage lenders generally t			
☐ Not willing to take any financial ri	sks		borrowers well	ıcaı		
92 In the last counts of weaver he		of the	I don't worry that paying my	hille la		
83. In the last couple of years, ha following life events happened to yo		or the	will lower my credit rating			
Separated/divorced/widowed	Yes	No	86. How well could you explain	n to so	meone	
Married/remarried/new partner						
Death of a household member				Very Well	Somewhat M Well	Not At All Well
(other than spouse/partner)			The process of taking out			
Addition to your household			a mortgage			
(not including spouse/partner)			Mortgage disclosure forms			
Person leaving your household			The difference between a			
(not including spouse/partner)			fixed- and an adjustable-			
Promotion or starting a new job			rate mortgage			
Disability or serious illness of		_	The difference between a			
household member			prime and subprime loan			
Disaster affecting either your house			The difference between a			
or your (or spouse/partner's) work			mortgage's interest rate			
Moved within current area			and its APR			
(less than 50 miles)			Loan amortization			
Moved to a new area			The consequences of not			
(50 miles or more)			making required mortgage			
(50 miles of more)	ы	ш	payments			

Helped me to shop for a mortgage	Yes	NTo	ı		Very	Somewhat	Not A
Helped me to shop for a mortgage		No			Likely	Likely	All Like
				Pay your bills for the nex months without borrow			
loan				Get significant financial	ing ப		
Helped me understand the terms of				help from family or frie	nds 🗆		
my mortgage loan				Borrow enough money fr	om		
Prompted me to ask questions to	_	_		a bank or credit union to			_
understand the terms of my loan				pay your bills on time Significantly increase			
Confirmed that I was getting the loan terms that I had discussed with the				your income			
lender/broker				•			
Prompted me to ask the lender/broker	_	_		91. How likely is it that in t	he next	couple of	years y
to change the terms of my loan				will			
Before closing, I carefully reviewed					Very	Somewhat	
the disclosure documents				Move and sell your prope	Likely rty □	Likely	All Lil
My mortgage lender (or closing				Move but keep your prope	-		
				Refinance your mortgage			
agent) guided me through the				, , ,			
agent) guided me through the disclosure documents				Retire			
		Ш		Retire Pay off your mortgage	П		
		Ш					٦
disclosure documents				Pay off your mortgage			
				Pay off your mortgage and own your property mortgage-free Lose your home because	_	_	
Your Future Expecta Over the next couple of years, he	atio	ns you t		Pay off your mortgage and own your property mortgage-free	_	_	
Over the next couple of years, he your income will change comparediving? Up more than the cost of living Up about the same as the cost of living	ow do ed to	ns you t	st of	Pay off your mortgage and own your property mortgage-free Lose your home because you cannot afford the	□ □	□ couple of	□ □ years y
Your Future Expecta Over the next couple of years, he your income will change comparediving? Up more than the cost of living	ow do ed to	ns you t	st of	Pay off your mortgage and own your property mortgage-free Lose your home because you cannot afford the loan payment O2. How likely is it that in twill face		0	0
Over the next couple of years, he your income will change compared iving? Up more than the cost of living Up about the same as the cost of living or defined to the	ow do	you t	st of	Pay off your mortgage and own your property mortgage-free Lose your home because you cannot afford the loan payment 92. How likely is it that in t will face Employment transfer or	he next Very Likely	couple of	years y Not A
Your Future Expecta Over the next couple of years, how your income will change comparaiving? Up more than the cost of living Up about the same as the cost of living	ow do ed to ving own	you to the con	st of	Pay off your mortgage and own your property mortgage-free Lose your home because you cannot afford the loan payment P2. How likely is it that in t will face Employment transfer or relocation	□ □ he next	□ □ couple of :	□ years y
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Vour Future Expecta Over the next couple of years, he cour income will change compare iving? Up more than the cost of living Up about the same as the cost of li Up less than the cost of living or development.	ow do ed to ving own	you to the con	st of	Pay off your mortgage and own your property mortgage-free Lose your home because you cannot afford the loan payment P2. How likely is it that in t will face Employment transfer or relocation A significant decline in	he next Very Likely	couple of Somewhat Likely	years y Not A All Like
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The Federal Housing Finance Agency and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau thank you for completing this survey.

We have provided the space below in case you wish to clarify or further explain any of your answers or share any other comments. Please do not put your name or address on the questionnaire.

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

FHFA 1234 Main Street Washington DC

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