

Wednesday, February 10, 2021
To: New York Community Banks

FROM ICBA

Smaller lenders continue leading PPP lending

Insured depository institutions under \$10 billion in assets in 2021 have approved more than 608,000 Paycheck Protection Program loans worth \$39.4 billion, according to the latest [SBA data](#). That is out of a total of 1.29 million loans worth \$100.9 billion. Of the 2021 PPP loan total, more than \$93 billion has been approved for second-draw loans and more than \$7.5 billion has gone to first-draw loans.

Fed extends rule allowing PPP loans to directors

The Federal Reserve Board again [extended](#) its rule allowing certain bank directors and shareholders to apply to their banks for Paycheck Protection Program loans for their small businesses. The SBA clarified last year that lenders may make PPP loans to businesses owned by their directors and certain shareholders. The rule extension is effective immediately and applies to PPP loans made through March 31, consistent with SBA's rules and restrictions. Additional PPP information and resources are available on the [SBA](#) and [Treasury](#) sites and ICBA's [PPP and EIP News](#) page.

FHFA extends foreclosure, eviction moratoriums

The [FHFA said](#) Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will extend the moratoriums on single-family foreclosures and real-estate-owned evictions from Feb. 28 until March 31. The foreclosure moratorium applies to enterprise-backed, single-family mortgages. The REO eviction moratorium applies to properties that have been acquired by an enterprise through foreclosure or deed-in-lieu-of-foreclosure transactions.

Credit union industry awareness campaign stalled: report

The Credit Union National Association's "Open Your Eyes" campaign promoting consumer awareness of credit unions has stalled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and other issues, [American Banker](#) reported. As the campaign to raise \$100 million in three years for a nationwide awareness push enters its third year, the campaign has deviated from the original plan and hasn't signed on roughly one-third of U.S. states, according to the article. ICBA continues raising awareness of credit union mission creep through its ["Wake Up" campaign](#) and Credit Union Task Force.

Small-biz optimism continues decline

The NFIB Small Business Optimism Index [declined](#) 0.9 points in January to 95.0, three points below its 47-year average. Owners expecting better business conditions over the next six months declined to the lowest level since November 2013 and have fallen 55 points over the past four months.

FROM OTHER SOURCES

- The U.S. has entered a precarious phase of the COVID-19 vaccination effort as providers try to ramp up the number of people getting first shots while also ensuring a growing number of others get the required second doses. [The shift is happening just when millions more Americans are becoming eligible to receive vaccines.](#)
- President Biden met with JPMorgan Chase & Co. CEO Jamie Dimon at the White House yesterday, along with other major CEOs, to discuss his \$1.9 trillion stimulus package. They reportedly discussed a proposal to raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour. Biden reiterated it isn't likely to be in the economic stimulus bill, but said he is committed to enacting it in the future. ([The Washington Post](#))
- Senate Majority Leader Schumer wants to include the \$15 minimum wage increase in the economic stimulus package and is working with the Senate parliamentarian, who interprets rules for the budget reconciliation process under which the \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus package is being considered. ([The New York Times](#))

- House Democrats "muscle past" Republicans on major portions of President Biden's pandemic plan, including a proposed \$130 billion in school relief and a gradual increase of the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour as part of the \$1.9 trillion relief package/reopening plan. Democrats say schools won't be able to reopen safely until they get funding to repair ventilation systems, buy protective equipment and take other steps recommended by health officials. Republicans oppose the legislation.
<https://link.apnews.com/view/5fc8ed17db42c9189a65851admt6x.8hue/c725251a>
- The Federal Reserve's Main Street Lending Program, which was designed to provide emergency support to mid-size U.S. companies during the pandemic, lent out a total \$17.5 billion - or just 3% of its potential capacity - according to data released Tuesday by the central bank. The program was maligned from the start: slow to get off the ground, it only opened to borrowers in July. https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-02-09/fed-s-main-street-program-ends-with-just-17-5-billion-in-loans?sref=GogtSAI4&mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTVRJd1lqRmtZVFJpTURNMCIIsInQiOiJEUldYU21QUg8welp3Q3Jhc2lUTWZXAUFJcG9kUnBEZVpZMTdCR3dFUUI1dHZxc2F4VkY1UnZid2RpUTJNVWQrXC83d2RqT0tBUHFpYW5MNvVwT21JU2crNzdWR0NqRTdLUWVmeIN5TnZFBHJRdnp1RzF6U1pLUkVPelcxZjloVW9iIn0%3D
- Borrowers with mortgages backed by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac may be eligible for an additional forbearance extension of up to three months, the Federal Housing Finance Agency announced Tuesday. FHFA forbearance plans initially had a 12 month expiration date, however, the government entity is now allowing borrowers up to 15 months of coverage. https://www.housingwire.com/articles/fhfa-extends-forbearance-policies-for-up-to-15-months/?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTVRJd1lqRmtZVFJpTURNMCIIsInQiOiJEUldYU21QUg8welp3Q3Jhc2lUTWZXAUFJcG9kUnBEZVpZMTdCR3dFUUI1dHZxc2F4VkY1UnZid2RpUTJNVWQrXC83d2RqT0tBUHFpYW5MNvVwT21JU2crNzdWR0NqRTdLUWVmeIN5TnZFBHJRdnp1RzF6U1pLUkVPelcxZjloVW9iIn0%3D
- Congress this week will consider a Democratic proposal that seeks, when possible, to base the next round of coronavirus relief checks on the reduced income many Americans earned during the pandemic. People whose incomes were reduced last year would have motivation to file their tax returns early this year, so that they could quickly get stimulus payment based on their 2020 incomes.
https://thehill.com/policy/finance/537998-filing-taxes-early-could-benefit-some-under-dem-proposal?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTVRJd1lqRmtZVFJpTURNMCIIsInQiOiJEUldYU21QUg8welp3Q3Jhc2lUTWZXAUFJcG9kUnBEZVpZMTdCR3dFUUI1dHZxc2F4VkY1UnZid2RpUTJNVWQrXC83d2RqT0tBUHFpYW5MNvVwT21JU2crNzdWR0NqRTdLUWVmeIN5TnZFBHJRdnp1RzF6U1pLUkVPelcxZjloVW9iIn0%3D
- The Biden administration is reportedly alarmed by data regarding the long-term supply of COVID-19 vaccines, as well as the emergence of viral variants from the United Kingdom and South Africa. Together, the indicators have raised fears within the administration that the United States may not reach herd immunity until Thanksgiving or even the start of winter, according to senior administration officials.
https://www.thedailybeast.com/biden-team-fears-no-covid-19-herd-immunity-until-thanksgiving?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTW1aalpHRmtZMlE1WTJVMiIsInQiOiJLMFpOaGVlK1p0dTVVMiFaRUFuTVZtRGZcL1NHODFoY3dSNEpNY3JWUFUzUDNvS2JlSDhiOXN5S5itPaGpKbUdadW5DWlBqTVdNTk5qM1R1T05zcUprMVpOTUhXemFtK3Uyb1dkT2dwYm9NTEExSTJzKXC9cL2tMStHLNDRtOXpjSElIdSJ9

FROM NEW YORK

- The New York State Department of Financial Services (DFS) has alerted regulated entities about the opportunity to receive credit under the New York CRA for activities undertaken to address

climate change that benefit low- to moderate-income communities. We have attached information from DFS for your review.

- Governor Cuomo reported Tuesday that COVID hospitalizations in the state rose to 7,875. Of the 153,648 tests reported yesterday, 7,866, or 5.12% , were positive. The 7-day average positivity rate is 4.38%, the lowest 7-day average since December 1. There were 1,412 patients in the ICU yesterday, down 42 from the previous day. Of them, 971 are intubated. 138 New Yorkers lost their lives to the virus. For more details, including a breakout of the data by region: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-lowest-7-day-average-covid-19-positivity-rate-december-1>
- Long Island has the highest percentage of positive test results on a 7-day average of any region of the state, at 5.36%, followed by the Mid-Hudson Region at 5.34%, New York City at 5.13%, the North Country at 4.79%, Western New York at 4.16%, the Capital Region at 3.40%, the Mohawk Valley at 3.15%, the Finger Lakes at 2.91%, Central New York at 1.87% and the Southern Tier at 1.22%.
- New York state can expect a new 5% bump in its vaccine supply, Governor Cuomo [said after a call with the Biden White House](#) -- but that is not yet enough to fully meet the demand for shots in all arms of the 10 million New Yorkers who now or will soon qualify. [Read More](#)
- New York City has surpassed 1 million total COVID-19 vaccinations – after falling short on Mayor Bill de Blasio’s pledge to give a million shots in the month of January alone, [Politico New York reports](#).
- New York City’s health department has closed 12 of its 15 neighborhood COVID-19 vaccine distribution hubs for three days, citing a lack of vaccine supply, leaving several neighborhoods that have been hit hard by the coronavirus without immunization sites, [NY1 reports](#).
- The New York State Senate Health Committee passed a bill requiring the state Department of Health to provide written, public updates to the draft COVID-19 vaccination program plan. [Read More](#)
- A progressive-leaning think tank on Wednesday is set to release its budget and fiscal outlook for New York as the state's finances have been stress test by the COVID-19 pandemic and amid an ongoing debate over raising taxes on wealthy residents. [Read More](#)

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IBANYS will continue to provide updates as additional information becomes available. Thank you all for your continued participation and support.

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