

# Biz2Credit Small Business Lending Index™

## For February 2022 Finds Approval Rates Continue to Rise



Approval Percentages at Banks and Non-Bank Lenders Are Roughly Half of What They Were at Their Peak in February 2020

Small business loan approval percentages at big banks (\$10 billion+ in assets) rose from 14.5% in January to 14.7% in February, and small banks' approvals also increased from 20.3% in January to 20.5% in February, according to the latest Biz2Credit Small Business Lending Index™ released today.

### Loan Approval in Big Banks

Big banks (\$10 billion+ in assets) rose from 14.5% in January to 14.7% in February.

#### Yearly Comparison

13.3%  14.7%

February 2021

February 2022



#### Monthly Comparison

14.5%  14.7%

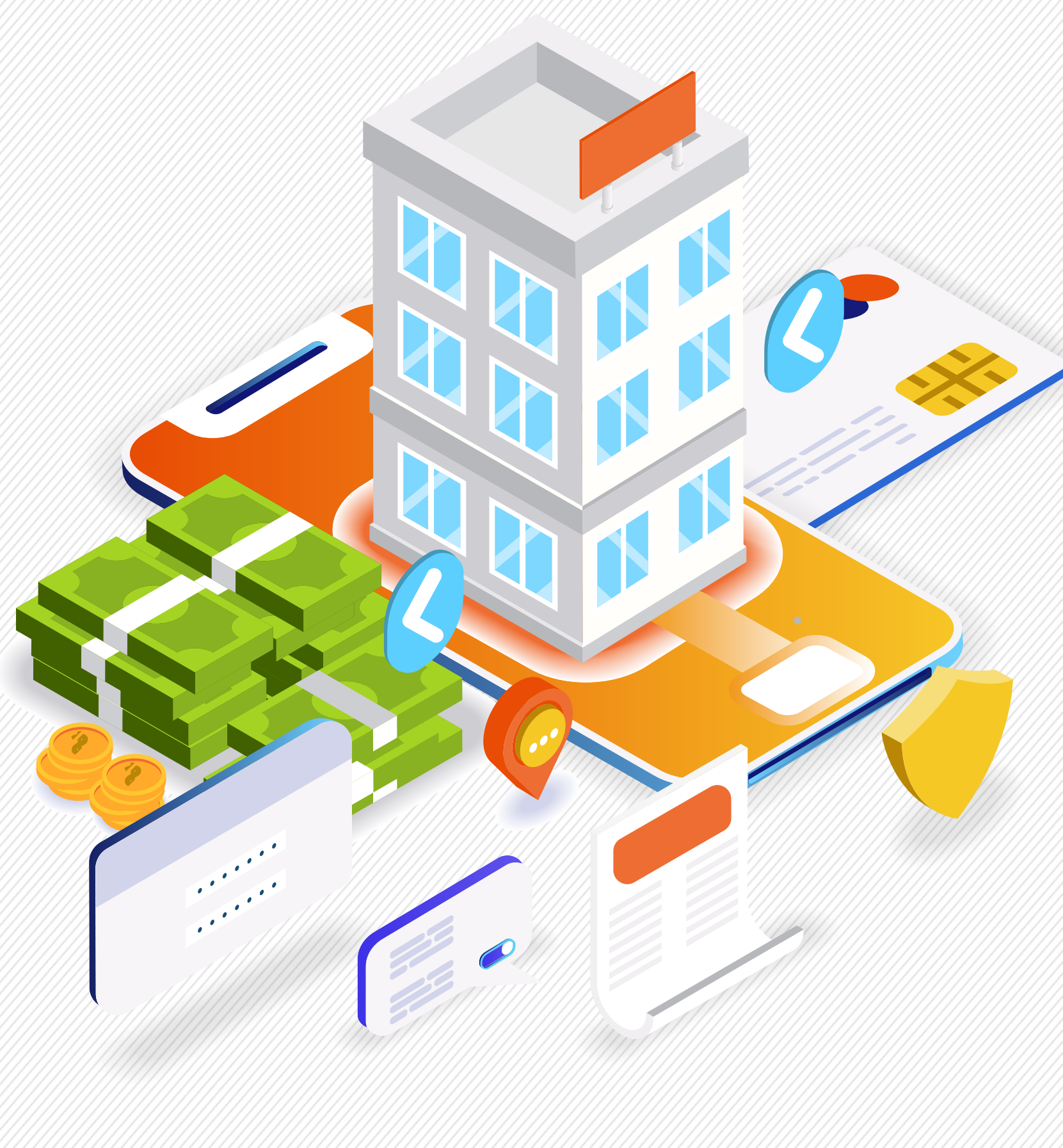
January 2022

February 2022



"Two years ago, bank approval percentages were almost double what they are today for all categories of lenders," said Biz2Credit CEO Rohit Arora, one of the nation's leading experts in small business lending and FinTech. "For instance, in February 2020, big banks approved 28.3% of loan requests, while small banks approved more than half (50.3%) of loan applications."

**Rohit Arora, Biz2Credit CEO**



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"Non-bank lender percentages in 2020 were even higher: institutional lenders approved nearly two-thirds (66.5%) of small business loan requests, at the time an all-time high. Meanwhile, alternative lenders granted 55.9%, and credit unions approved 39.6%," added Arora, who has overseen Biz2Credit's index for more than a decade. "We have a long way to go before we reach those marks again – if we ever do."

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 678,000 in February, and the unemployment rate was decreased to 3.8%, according to the Jobs Report released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics on Friday, Mar. 4. Employment growth continued in leisure and hospitality, in professional and business services, in health care, and in construction. Many of these jobs are created by small businesses.

### Loan Approval in Small Banks

Small banks' approvals increased from 20.3% in January to 20.5% in February.

#### Yearly Comparison


18.2%  20.5%

February 2021

February 2022



#### Monthly Comparison

20.3%  20.5%


January 2022

February 2022

### Institutional lenders

Institutional lenders approved 25.2% of funding requests in February, up one-tenth of a percent from 25.1% in January.

#### Yearly Comparison


23.1%  25.2%

February 2021

February 2022



#### Monthly Comparison

25.1%  25.2%


January 2022

February 2022

### Alternative lenders

Alternative lenders' approval rates rose from 26.3% in January to 26.5% in February.

#### Yearly Comparison


23.8%  26.5%

February 2021

February 2022



#### Monthly Comparison

26.3%  26.5%

January 2022

February 2022

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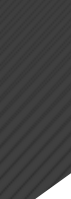


**Rohit Arora, Biz2Credit CEO**

### Credit unions

Credit unions remained stagnant at 20.7% in February.

#### Yearly Comparison

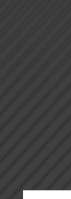
20.3%  20.7%

February 2021

February 2022



#### Monthly Comparison

20.7%  20.7%

January 2022

February 2022

#### About the Biz2Credit Small Business Lending Index

Biz2Credit analyzed loan requests from companies in business more than two years with credit scores above 680. The results are based on primary data submitted by more than 1,000 small business owners who applied for funding on Biz2Credit's platform.

#### About Biz2Credit

Founded in 2007, Biz2Credit has arranged more than \$7 billion in small business financing. The company is expanding its industry-leading technology in custom digital platform solutions for banks and other financial institutions, investors, and service providers. Visit [www.biz2credit.com](http://www.biz2credit.com) or Twitter @Biz2Credit, Facebook, and LinkedIn.