

HOW SAFE IS YOUR BANK?

Introduction

I. An Impending Banking Collapse? Bank and thrift failures. Record numbers of problem banks and insolvent thrifts. What your risks are. Aggregate banking and thrift experience. Bank failure "ripple effects."

II. How Reliable Is Federal Deposit Insurance? FDIC and FSLIC losses. The insolvent thrift insurance fund. The falling reserves of the bank insurance fund. Political "solutions" have made things worse. The Bush "bailout" plan and your "share." The "inflationary" way out.

III. Why Banks Are In Trouble. Deregulation is not the problem. Deposit insurance has fostered unsound banking. What should you expect?

IV. Comparative Bank Performance. Which Banks and thrifts are in trouble? Commercial bank peer group averages. Regional and state variations. Comparative performance of savings and loans. Thrift peer group averages. Using the peer group averages. Those thrifts waiting regulatory takeover.

V. How To Be Your Own Bank Examiner. What you should look for. Assets. Liabilities. Nonperforming loans. Repossessed assets. Charge-offs. Earnings. Return on assets. Primary capital. Liquidity. Procedures of the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council. The FFIEC rating system.

VI. Sources Of Information. Published sources. Uniform Bank Performance Reports. Call Reports. Bank rating services.

VII. Conclusion.

Appendix A. Sound Commercial Banking.

Appendix B. "The Lost Art of Commercial Banking," by E.C. Harwood.

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