

2014 Risk Practices Survey Summary Report

MAR 2014 | RESEARCH

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Executive Summary

 \blacksquare he banking industry has made great strides over the last few years in the management of risk, and a number of important best practices have begun to emerge, according to Bank Director's 2014 Risk Practices Survey, sponsored by FIS. While the Dodd-Frank Act requires publicly traded bank holding companies with more than \$10 billion in assets to establish separate risk committees of the board, and banks over \$50 billion to additionally hire chief risk officers, smaller banks are proactively following suit. By taking a more comprehensive approach to risk management, these institutions are reaping the benefits with improved financial performance.

The 2014 Risk Practices Survey reveals how these banks govern risk, and that a best-practice approach can positively impact financial performance. Many banks still have some fine-tuning to do when it comes to risk management. Creating and properly using a comprehensive risk appetite statement challenges many boards. Many see room for improvement in the quality and comprehensiveness of the bank's enterprise risk management program. Tying risk management to the strategic plan and measuring its impact on the organization is difficult for many institutions, although those that have tried to measure the risk management program's impact report a positive effect on financial performance.

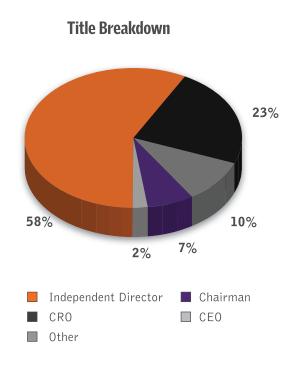
Conducted in January, the survey is based on 107 online responses from independent directors and senior bank executives, primarily chief risk officers, of banks with more than \$1 billion in assets.

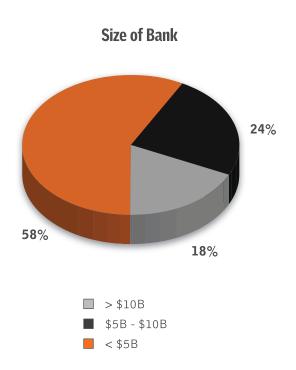
Key Findings include:

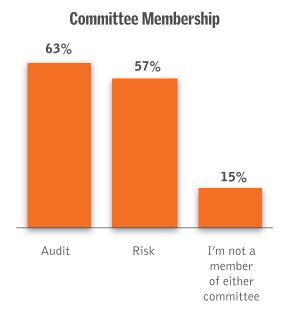
- Ninety-seven percent of respondents report that the bank has a chief risk officer or equivalent on staff, and 63 percent oversee risk within a separate risk committee of the board. Moreover, respondents whose banks have a separate board-level risk committee report a higher median return on assets (ROA), at 1.00, and higher median return on equity (ROE), at 9.50, compared to banks that govern risk within a combined audit/risk committee or within the audit committee.
- Of those that oversee risk with a separate risk committee, 64 percent of respondents review the bank's strategic plan and risk mitigation strategies, while the remaining 36 percent do not yet do so.
- Tools like the risk appetite statement, the enterprise risk assessment and risk dashboard aren't yet fully used. Only one-third of respondents feel that the bank's risk appetite statement covers all the risks faced by the institution, and less than half use it to provide limits to board and management. Just 13 percent analyze the risk appetite statement's impact on financial performance.
- Just 17 percent of respondents review the bank's risk profile and related metrics at the board and executive level monthly. Almost half review these metrics quarterly, while 23 percent review twice a year or annually.
- · Fifty-seven percent of directors feel that the board could benefit from more training in understanding how new regulations impact and pose risk to the bank, and 53 percent want a deeper understanding of emerging risks, such as risks associated with cyber security or Unfair, Deceptive or Abusive Acts or Practices (UDAAP). Conversely, senior executives feel that the board needs more training in overseeing the bank's risk appetite, and understanding risk oversight best practices and how other banks govern risk.
- · The regulatory environment continues to challenge bank boards. Fifty-five percent cite the volume and pace of regulatory change as the environmental factor most likely to cause risk evaluation failures at the bank.
- More than half of bank officers, and 40 percent of respondents overall, say that maintaining the technology and data infrastructure to support risk decision-making is a top risk management challenge.

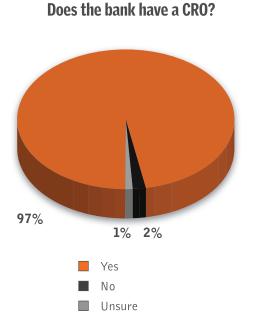
ABOUT THE SURVEY

The Bank Director 2014 Risk Practices Survey, sponsored by FIS, surveyed 107 independent directors and senior executives of banks with more than \$1 billion in assets to discover how these banks govern risk as well as the connection between risk management best practices and financial performance. The survey was conducted online in January 2014. Independent directors and chairmen accounted for 65 percent of respondents, and of these, 57 percent serve on their institution's board-level risk committee. Twenty-three percent of participants serve as the chief risk officer of the bank. Most respondents, at 58 percent, represent a bank with less than \$5 billion in assets, 24 percent a bank with between \$5 billion and \$10 billion in assets and 18 percent a bank with more than \$10 billion in assets.



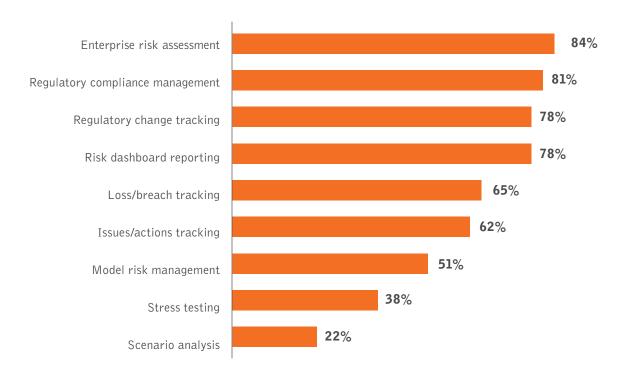






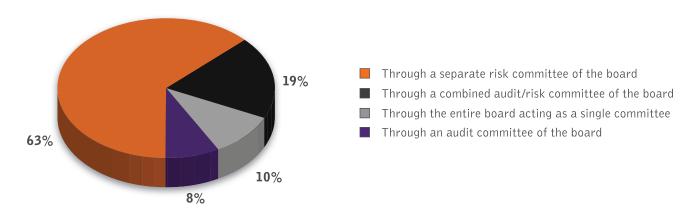
RISK GOVERNANCE

1. Does the risk management function at your bank have primary responsibility for any of the following? Respondents were asked to select all that apply. Only officers were asked to respond.



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Risk dashboard reporting	100%	88%	65%	78%
Stress testing	22%	38%	45%	38%
Regulatory compliance management	67%	88%	85%	81%
Model risk management	67%	75%	35%	51%
Loss/breach tracking	44%	100%	60%	65%
Scenario analysis	22%	25%	20%	22%
Regulatory change tracking	67%	75%	85%	78%
Issues/actions tracking	56%	100%	50%	62%
Enterprise risk assessment	67%	88%	90%	84%

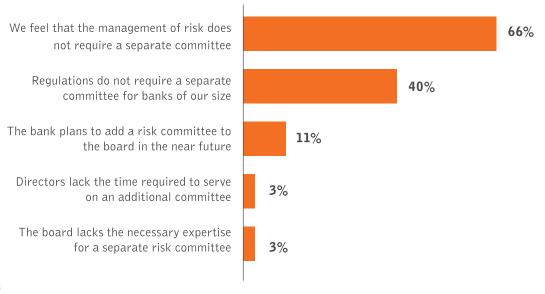
2. How does the board at your bank primarily handle risk governance?



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Through a separate risk committee of the board	78%	76%	54%	63%
Through a combined audit/risk committee of the board	22%	20%	18%	19%
Through the entire board acting as a single committee	0%	0%	16%	10%
Through an audit committee of the board	0%	4%	11%	8%

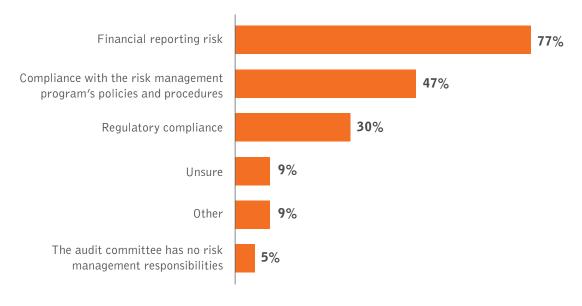
3. Why has the bank chosen not to establish a separate risk committee?

Respondents were asked to select all that apply. Only participants who indicated the bank has no separate risk committee were asked to respond.



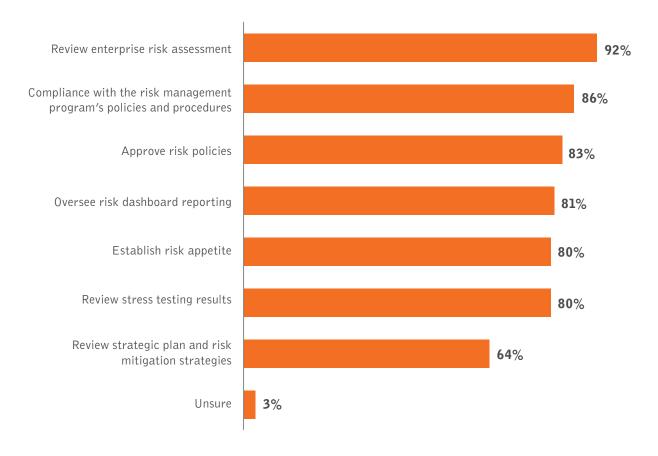
Title	Officer	Director	Total
We feel that the management of risk does not require a separate committee	55%	79%	66%
Regulations do not require a separate committee for banks of our size	64%	32%	40%
The bank plans to add a risk committee to the board in the near future	9%	5%	11%
Directors lack the time required to serve on an additional committee	9%	0%	3%
The board lacks the necessary expertise for a separate risk committee	0%	5%	3%

4. If your board has separate risk and audit committees, what is the audit committee's responsibility for risk governance? Respondents were asked to select all that apply. Only participants who indicated the bank has a separate risk committee were asked to respond.



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Financial reporting risk	71%	89%	71%	77%
Compliance with the risk management program's policies and procedures	64%	53%	35%	47%
Regulatory compliance	14%	32%	35%	30%
Unsure	14%	5%	10%	9%
Other	14%	11%	6%	9%
The audit committee has no risk management responsibilities	0%	5%	6%	5%

5. If your board has separate risk and audit committees, what is the risk committee's responsibility for risk governance? Respondents were asked to select all that apply. Only participants who indicated the bank has a separate risk committee were asked to respond.



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Review enterprise risk assessment	86%	89%	97%	92%
Compliance with the risk management program's policies and procedures	71%	95%	87%	86%
Approve risk policies	86%	89%	77%	83%
Oversee risk dashboard reporting	71%	84%	84%	81%
Establish risk appetite	79%	89%	74%	80%
Review stress testing results	79%	79%	81%	80%
Review strategic plan and risk mitigation strategies	64%	68%	61%	64%
Unsure	7%	0%	3%	3%

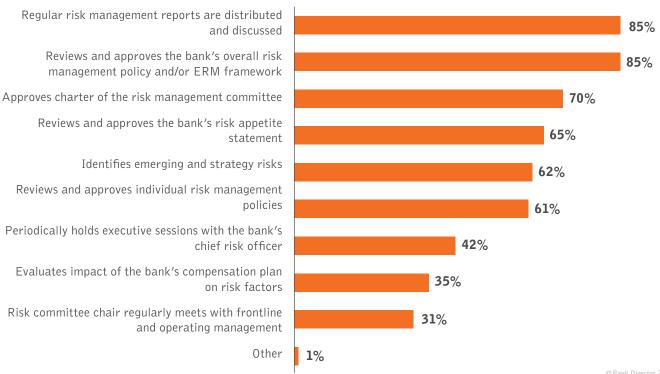
6. If your board has one committee that handles both audit and risk, what is this committee's responsibility for risk governance?

Respondents were asked to select all that apply. Only participants who indicated the bank handles risk within a combined audit/risk committee were asked to respond.



7. What does the board at your bank do to "set the tone from the top" or establish a risk management culture within the bank?

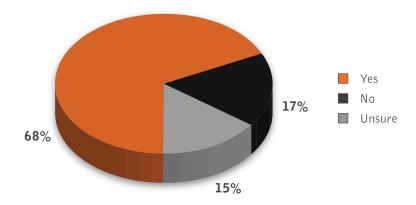
Respondents were asked to select all that apply.



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Regular risk management reports are distributed and discussed	88%	79%	87%	85%
Reviews and approves the bank's overall risk management policy and/or ERM framework	69%	79%	92%	85%
Approves charter of the risk management committee	75%	88%	60%	70%
Reviews and approves the bank's risk appetite statement	56%	71%	64%	65%
Identifies emerging and strategy risks	31%	71%	68%	62%
Reviews and approves individual risk management policies	38%	67%	66%	61%
Periodically holds executive sessions with the bank's chief risk officer	38%	50%	40%	42%
Evaluates impact of the bank's compensation plan on risk factors	12%	54%	34%	35%
Risk committee chair regularly meets with frontline and operating management	50%	54%	15%	31%
Other	0%	4%	0%	1%

Title	Officer	Director	Total
Regular risk management reports are distributed and discussed	83%	85%	85%
Reviews and approves the bank's overall risk management policy and/or ERM framework	79%	88%	85%
Approves charter of the risk management committee	71%	72%	70%
Reviews and approves the bank's risk appetite statement	54%	68%	65%
Identifies emerging and strategy risks	58%	67%	62%
Reviews and approves individual risk management policies	71%	57%	61%
Periodically holds executive sessions with the bank's chief risk officer	29%	43%	42%
Evaluates impact of the bank's compensation plan on risk factors	25%	38%	35%
Risk committee chair regularly meets with frontline and operating management	21%	37%	31%
Other	0%	2%	1%

8. Does your board have at least one member that you would consider to be an expert on risk as relates to financial institutions?

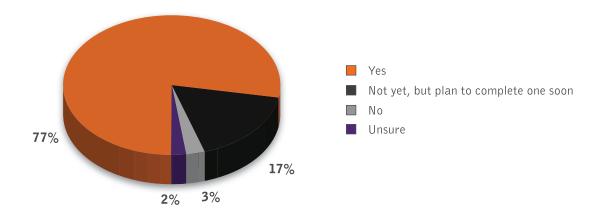


Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	<\$5B	Total
Yes	88%	65%	63%	68%
No	6%	26%	13%	15%
Unsure	6%	9%	24%	17%

Title	Officer Director		Total
Yes	79%	63%	68%
No	12%	17%	15%
Unsure	8%	20%	17%

MONITORING RISK

9. Has the bank completed a formal enterprise risk assessment to identify all inherent and residual risks that it faces?

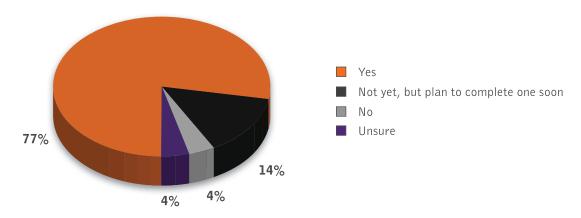


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Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Yes	73%	83%	76%	77%
Not yet, but plan to complete one soon	20%	13%	19%	17%
No	0%	4%	4%	3%
Unsure	7%	0%	2%	2%

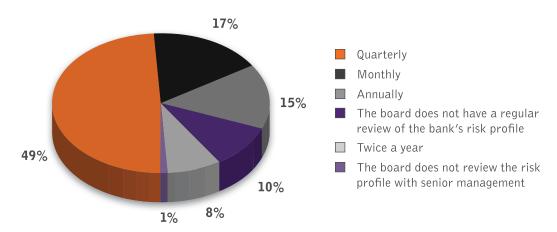
10. Has the bank incorporated the strategic plan and corporate objectives into the risk assessment?

Only participants who indicated their bank completed an enterprise risk assessment were asked to respond.



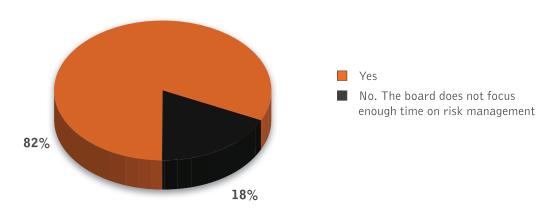
Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Yes	82%	79%	76%	77%
Not yet, but plan to complete one soon	18%	5%	17%	14%
No	0%	5%	5%	4%
Unsure	0%	11%	2%	4%

11. How often does the board review the bank's risk profile and related metrics with senior management?



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Quarterly	31%	55%	52%	49%
Monthly	25%	14%	17%	17%
Annually	31%	9%	13%	15%
The board does not have a regular review of the bank's risk profile	6%	9% 11%		10%
Twice a year	6%	14%	6%	8%
The board does not review the risk profile with senior management	0%	0%	2%	1%

12. Do you believe that the board devotes enough time to the discussion of risk management issues?

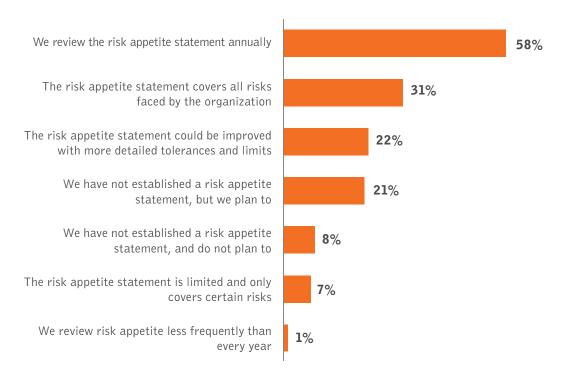


Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Yes	81%	86%	80%	82%
No. The board does not focus enough time on risk management	19%	14%	20%	18%

Title	Officer	Director	Total
Yes	96%	75%	82%
No. The board does not focus enough time on risk management	4%	25%	18%

13. How would you characterize your bank's risk appetite statement?

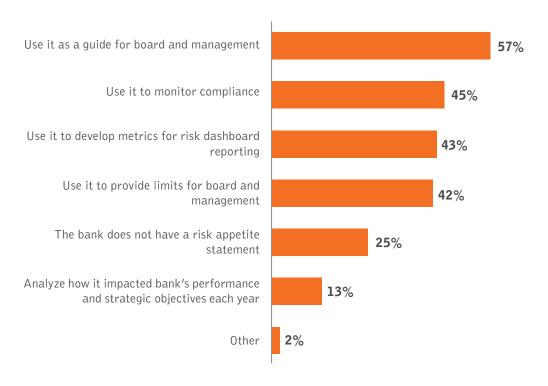
Respondents were asked to select all that apply.



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
We review the risk appetite statement annually	79%	50%	56%	58%
The risk appetite statement covers all risks faced by the organization	29%	50%	24%	31%
The risk appetite statement could be improved with more detailed tolerances and limits	14%	32%	20%	22%
We have not established a risk appetite statement, but we plan to	21%	14%	24%	21%
We have not established a risk appetite statement, and do not plan to	0%	5%	12%	8%
The risk appetite statement is limited and only covers certain risks	0%	5%	10%	7%
We review risk appetite less frequently than every year	0%	5%	0%	1%

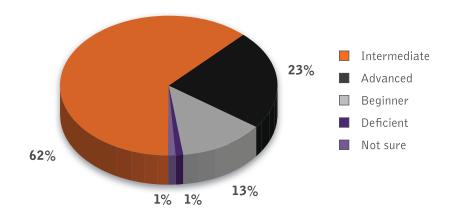
14. How does your board use the bank's risk appetite statement?

Respondents were asked to select all that apply.



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Use it as a guide for board and management	64%	62%	53%	57%
Use it to monitor compliance	29%	48%	49%	45%
Use it to develop metrics for risk dashboard reporting	43%	38%	45%	43%
Use it to provide limits for board and management	36%	33%	47%	42%
The bank does not have a risk appetite statement	21%	14%	31%	25%
Analyze how it impacted bank's performance and strategic objectives each year	7%	19%	12%	13%
Other	0%	0%	4%	2%

15. Which of the following best describe the maturity level of your bank's enterprise risk management (ERM) program?



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Intermediate. There is room for improvement in or addition of more of the key components of the ERM program	50%	67%	63%	62%
Advanced. Strategic plan is incorporated into enterprise risk assessment, risk appetite statement implemented, regular stress testing of all risks & risk dashboard reporting	43%	24%	18%	23%
Beginner. We have an ERM program, but it needs improvement and more sophistication in all key components	7%	10%	16%	13%
Deficient. We don't really have an ERM program and need to implement one properly	0%	0%	2%	1%
Not sure	0%	0%	2%	1%

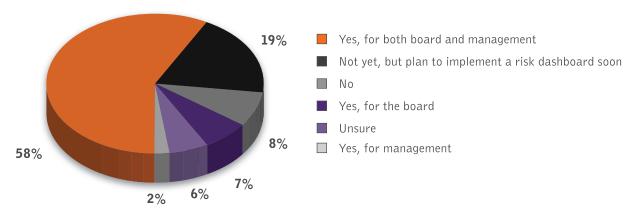
Title	Officer	Director	Total
Intermediate. There is room for improvement in or addition of more of the key components of the ERM program	64%	64%	62%
Advanced. Strategic plan is incorporated into enterprise risk assessment, risk appetite statement implemented, regular stress testing of all risks & risk dashboard reporting	14%	25%	23%
Beginner. We have an ERM program, but it needs improvement and more sophistication in all key components	18%	9%	13%
Deficient. We don't really have an ERM program and need to implement one properly	5%	0%	1%
Not sure	0%	2%	1%

16. What are the biggest challenges in connection with supporting an enterprise risk management (ERM) program? Respondents were asked to select no more than three.



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	\$5B - \$10B < \$5B	
Identifying and managing all of the institution's risks in a proactive manner	47%	46%	56%	52%
Integrating all of the risk silos into a single ERM program	21%	46%	44%	40%
Collecting, analyzing and reporting risk data in a timely fashion	37%	27%	37%	35%
Creating a culture in which employees are motivated to own and manage risk	16%	42%	34%	33%
Connecting the ERM program to the strategic plan	21%	31%	34%	31%
Developing and maintaining risk libraries	16%	12%	8%	11%

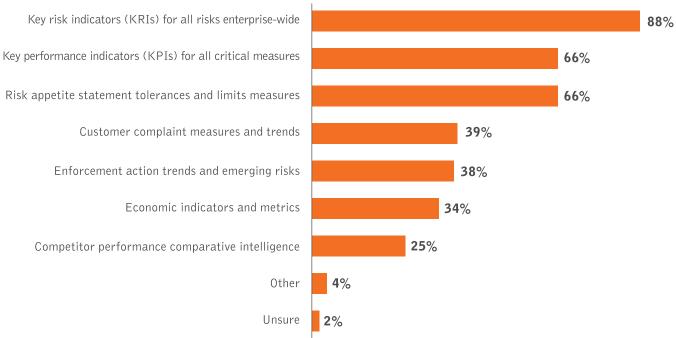
17. Have you implemented a comprehensive risk dashboard for both board and management to monitor all risks faced by the bank?



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total	
Yes, for both board and management	64%	55%	58%	58%	
Not yet, but plan to implement a risk dashboard soon	14%	23%	18%	19%	
No	7%	0%	12%	8%	
Yes, for the board	7%	18%	2%	7%	
Unsure	7%	0%	8%	6%	
Yes, for management	0%	5%	2%	2%	

18. If you have implemented a risk dashboard, what data does it provide?

Respondents were asked to select all that apply. Only participants who indicate they use a risk dashboard were asked to respond.



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Key risk indicators (KRIs) for all risks enterprise-wide	90%	88%	87%	88%
Key performance indicators (KPIs) for all critical measures	50%	62%	73%	66%
Risk appetite statement tolerances and limits measures	60%	81%	60%	66%
Customer complaint measures and trends	50%	25%	43%	39%
Enforcement action trends and emerging risks	20%	31%	47%	38%
Economic indicators and metrics	30%	50%	27%	34%
Competitor performance comparative intelligence	10%	31%	27%	25%
Other	0%	0%	7%	4%
Unsure	0%	0%	3%	2%

19. How does the bank use the information provided in the risk dashboard?

Respondents were asked to select all that apply. Only participants who indicate they use a risk dashboard were asked to respond.



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Ensure the bank does not exceed risk tolerances and limits	60%	81%	80%	77%
Provide reports to the board to make adjustments to strategy or risk mitigation	70%	75% 80%		77%
Identify emerging risks and take risk mitigation action	70%	75%	73%	73%
Provide reports to line management to better manage risks	60%	50% 70%		62%
Evaluate bank performance	30%	69%	67%	61%
Assign risk mitigation tasks	60%	44%	57%	54%
Make decisions on adequacy of capital	20%	31%	50%	39%
Plan detailed monitoring reviews or internal audits	10%	38%	40%	34%
Make decisions on products and services	20%	12%	33%	25%
Allocate resources	10%	19%	30%	23%
Review adequacy of compensation policies	10%	19% 23%		20%
Unsure	0%	6%	0%	2%

CHALLENGES

20. What are your bank's biggest risk management challenges?

Respondents were asked to select no more than three.

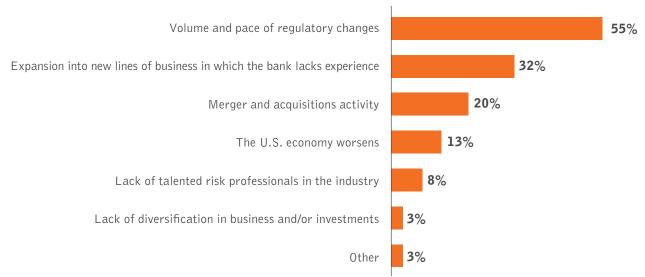


Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Keeping up with regulatory expectations of risk management practices	53%	35%	52%	48%
Maintaining the technology and data infrastructure to support risk decision-making	37%	50%	36%	40%
Clearly defining the institution's risk tolerances	16%	27%	41%	33%
Creating a culture that supports bank-wide risk communication and assessment	16%	38%	22%	25%
Making a financial commitment to technology, consulting or training	16%	15%	14%	15%
Having the in-house risk expertise	5%	0%	14%	9%

Title	Officer	Director	Total
Keeping up with regulatory expectations of risk management practices	33%	51%	48%
Maintaining the technology and data infrastructure to support risk decision-making	52%	34%	40%
Clearly defining the institution's risk tolerances	41%	28%	33%
Creating a culture that supports bank-wide risk communication and assessment	33%	24%	25%
Making a financial commitment to technology, consulting or training	22%	10%	15%
Having the in-house risk expertise	0%	13%	9%

21. Which of the following business and/or banking environmental factors are most likely to cause risk evaluation failures in your bank's processes and systems?

Respondents were asked to select no more than two.

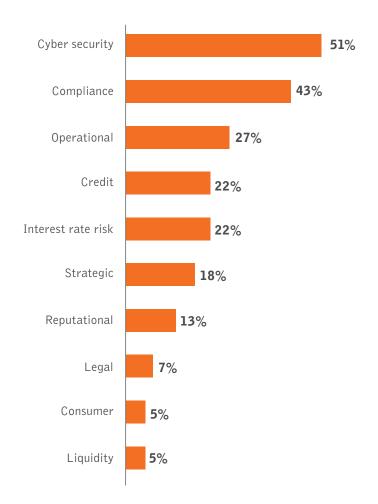


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Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Volume and pace of regulatory changes	47%	62%	55%	55%
Expansion into new lines of business in which the bank lacks experience	21%	19%	41%	32%
Merger and acquisitions activity	11%	35%	17%	20%
The U.S. economy worsens	11%	4%	17%	13%
Lack of talented risk professionals in the industry	11%	4%	9%	8%
Lack of diversification in business and/ or investments	0%	4%	3%	3%
Other	11%	4%	0%	3%

22. With respect to your bank, what risk categories are you most concerned about?

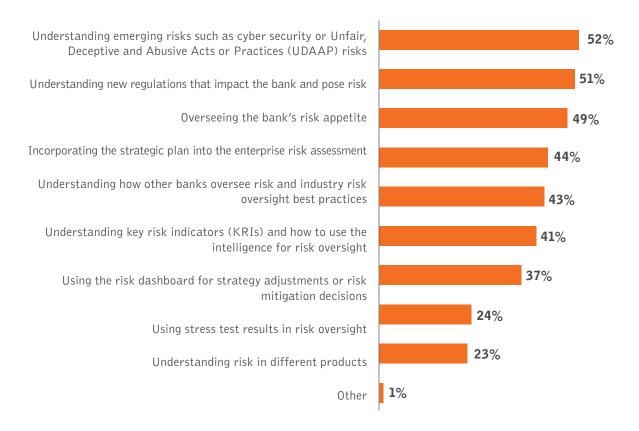
Respondents were asked to select no more than three.



Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Cyber security	26%	58%	57%	51%
Compliance	37%	42%	45%	43%
Operational	26%	31%	26%	27%
Credit	21%	23%	22%	22%
Interest rate risk	16%	19%	26%	22%
Strategic	26%	31%	10%	18%
Reputational	11%	12%	14%	13%
Legal	11%	4%	7%	7%
Consumer	5%	8%	3%	5%
Liquidity	5%	0%	7%	5%

Title	Officer	Director	Total
Cyber security	44%	54%	51%
Compliance	52%	37%	43%
Operational	41%	21%	27%
Credit	30%	21%	22%
Interest rate risk	15%	28%	22%
Strategic	19%	18%	18%
Reputational	7%	15%	13%
Legal	7%	6%	7%
Consumer	7%	4%	5%
Liquidity	4%	3%	5%

23. As relates to risk expertise, in what areas do you feel the board could most benefit from education and training? Respondents were asked to select all that apply.

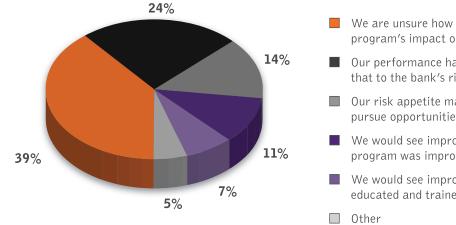


Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
Understanding emerging risks such as cyber security or Unfair, Deceptive and Abusive Acts or Practices (UDAAP) risks	57%	62%	45%	52%
Understanding new regulations that impact the bank and pose risk	29%	57%	55%	51%
Overseeing the bank's risk appetite	71%	38%	48%	49%
Incorporating the strategic plan into the enterprise risk assessment	57%	33%	45%	44%
Understanding how other banks oversee risk and industry risk oversight best practices	14%	48%	50%	43%
Understanding key risk indicators (KRIs) and how to use the intelligence for risk oversight	29%	43%	43%	41%
Using the risk dashboard for strategy adjustments or risk mitigation decisions	29%	43%	36%	37%
Using stress test results in risk oversight	29%	14%	27%	24%
Understanding risk in different products	14%	10%	32%	23%
Other	0%	0%	2%	1%

Title	Officer	Director	Total
Understanding emerging risks such as cyber security or Unfair, Deceptive and Abusive Acts or Practices (UDAAP) risks	45%	53%	52%
Understanding new regulations that impact the bank and pose risk	41%	57%	51%
Overseeing the bank's risk appetite	59%	45%	49%
Incorporating the strategic plan into the enterprise risk assessment	41%	45%	44%
Understanding how other banks oversee risk and industry risk oversight best practices	50%	41%	43%
Understanding key risk indicators (KRIs) and how to use the intelligence for risk oversight	41%	37%	41%
Using the risk dashboard for strategy adjustments or risk mitigation decisions	36%	37%	37%
Using stress test results in risk oversight	18%	25%	24%
Understanding risk in different products	27%	22%	23%
Other	5%	0%	1%

RISK & FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

24. Which statement best characterizes the impact of your bank's risk management program on its financial performance?



- We are unsure how to measure the bank's risk management program's impact on financial performance
- Our performance has measurably improved, and we can tie that to the bank's risk management program
- Our risk appetite may be too strict, and we sometimes don't pursue opportunities to grow the bank as a result
- We would see improved performance if our risk management program was improved
- We would see improved performance if our board was better educated and trained on risk oversight

Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
We are unsure how to measure the bank's risk management program's impact on financial performance	43%	43%	37%	39%
Our performance has measurably improved, and we can tie that to the bank's risk management program	7%	29%	27%	24%
Our risk appetite may be too strict, and we sometimes don't pursue opportunities to grow the bank as a result	7%	19%	15%	14%
We would see improved performance if our risk management program was improved	21%	10%	7%	11%
We would see improved performance if our board was better educated and trained on risk oversight	7%	0%	10%	7%
Other	14%	0%	5%	5%

Title	Officer	Director	Total
We are unsure how to measure the bank's risk management program's impact on financial performance	55%	38%	39%
Our performance has measurably improved, and we can tie that to the bank's risk management program	14%	25%	24%
Our risk appetite may be too strict, and we sometimes don't pursue opportunities to grow the bank as a result	9%	17%	14%
We would see improved performance if our risk management program was improved	18%	8%	11%
We would see improved performance if our board was better educated and trained on risk oversight	0%	8%	7%
Other	5%	4%	5%

25. Please provide the following information on your bank's financial performance.

Median values reported.

Bank Asset Size	> \$10B	\$5B - \$10B	< \$5B	Total
What is your bank's most recent ROE?	9.75	10.00	8.00	9.03
What is your bank's most recent ROA?	1.00	1.00	0.88	1.00

How is risk governed in committee?	Risk	Audit/Risk	Entire board	Audit*	Total
What is your bank's most recent ROE?	9.50	9.03	11.28	7.10	9.03
What is your bank's most recent ROA?	1.00	0.98	1.07	0.84	1.00

^{*(}Sample size <10)

What is the maturity level of the bank's ERM program?	Advanced	Intermediate	Beginner	Deficient*	Total
What is your bank's most recent ROE?	10.94	8.72	9.10	6.71	9.03
What is your bank's most recent ROA?	1.00	1.00	0.88	0.64	1.00

^{*(}Sample size <10)