

# For Immediate Release



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**To Banking or Business Editor:**

**New Bank & Credit Union Star-Ratings Now Available -  
visit [www.bauerfinancial.com](http://www.bauerfinancial.com) for updates today!**

**March 9, 2010:** BAUERFINANCIAL's Star-ratings for all U.S. banks and federally insured credit unions have just been updated and we are pleased to report that 33% of the nation's banks and 38% of credit unions are strong enough to earn Bauer's highest 5-Star rating. This actually marks a slight improvement in banks from year-end 2008 when only 31% qualified for this coveted status. The credit union number, however, is considerably lower than the 46% that earned 5-Stars a year ago.

At the other end of the spectrum, the number of banks on our ***Troubled and Problematic Report*** (i.e. rated 2-Stars or below) has now topped 1,000. At December 31, 2008, the number was 732. The number of credit unions rated 2-Stars or below has increased from 227 at December 31, 2008 to 464 at year-end 2009.

Why should you care? Because peace of mind matters! BauerFinancial has been providing the public with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions regarding their banking relationships for over a quarter of a century.

For the rating of any U.S. bank or federally insured credit union, simply visit [www.bauerfinancial.com](http://www.bauerfinancial.com).

For over a quarter of a century, **BAUERFINANCIAL, Inc. Coral Gables, Florida, the nation's bank rating firm**, has been the source that bankers and consumers have trusted when making important banking decisions. You should, too!

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Members of the press may request a free spreadsheet of all the bank and/or credit union star ratings in their state, along with financial highlights, by emailing [research@bauerfinancial.com](mailto:research@bauerfinancial.com).

If you are absolutely certain you will not need bank data or spreadsheets and would like to be removed from our fax list, simply call 800.388.6686 or fax 800.230.9569. (Please include the fax number you wish to remove.)