

For Immediate Release



CONTACT:

TEL:
FAX:

Karen Dorway
BAUERFINANCIAL, Inc.
1.800.388.6686
1.800.230.9569
www.bauerfinancial.com
research@bauerfinancial.com

To Banking or Business Editor:

New Bank & Credit Union Ratings Now Available

June 11, 2014: Newly released star-ratings from **BAUERFINANCIAL, Inc., the nation's bank rating firm**, show continued progress by U.S. Banks and Credit Unions. For the first time in seven years, banks rated 5-Stars or 4-Stars (recommended by the firm) represent 74.5% of the entire industry while 76.5% of credit unions are rated 5-Stars or 4-Stars. Delaware, North Dakota and Vermont were the only states to have a year over year drop in the percentage of recommended banks.

The number of banks in the nation that are relegated to Bauer's Troubled and Problematic Report (rated 2-Stars or below) has dropped to 6% this quarter. However, ten states (plus Puerto Rico) still have 10% or more represented in that group. Those states are: Georgia 23.4%; South Carolina 19.4%; Florida 18.3%; Maryland 14.1%; Arizona 13%; New Jersey 12.1%; Hawaii 11.1%; North Carolina 10.5%; and Delaware and Rhode Island each have 10.0%.

Those states with no banks rated 2-Stars or below include Alaska, Louisiana, North Dakota, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Vermont and Wyoming (plus the District of Columbia).

Find out how your bank or credit union rates today at www.bauerfinancial.com.

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BAUERFINANCIAL has been providing the public with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions regarding their banking relationships since 1983. **BAUERFINANCIAL** is the source that bankers and consumers trust when making important banking decisions. Let's face it, when it comes to money, all decisions are important.

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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.