

# For Immediate Release



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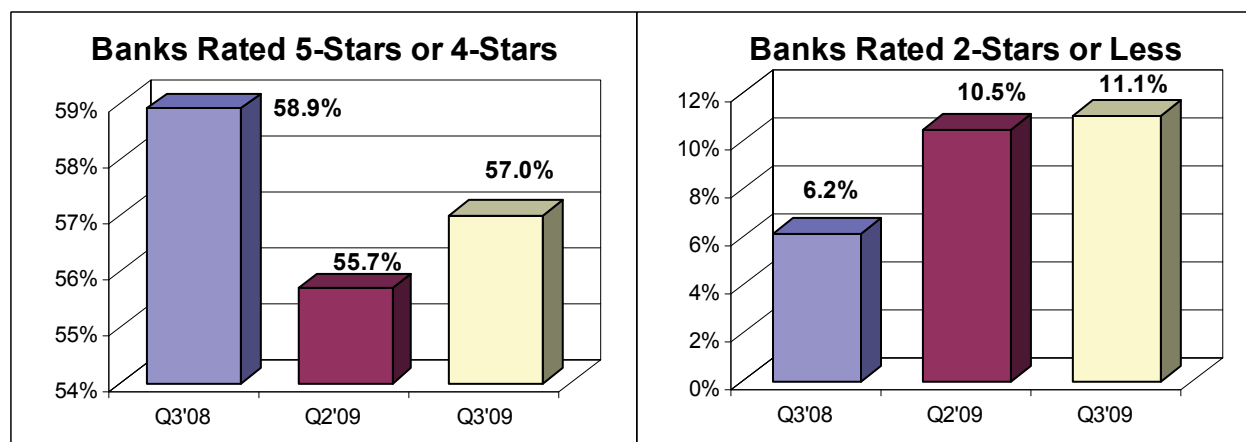
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To Banking or Business Editor:

**New Star-Ratings Are Now Available -  
visit [www.bauerfinancial.com](http://www.bauerfinancial.com) to get updates today!**

**December 10, 2009:** BAUERFINANCIAL's Star-ratings for all U.S. banks have just been updated. While the percentage of recommended banks (5-Star & 4-Star) has increased from last quarter, it remains well below its level of a year ago. What's more, the percentage of banks on our Troubled and Problematic Report (i.e. rated 2-Stars or below) continues to climb.



(Please note: The 2-Star or Less Chart does **not** include the 130 banks the FDIC has already closed this year indicating we still have quite a ways to go.)

The remaining banks are rated either 3½-Stars (Good) or 3-Stars (Adequate) or are unrated Start-up banks (S.U.). To find out where your local banks or credit unions stand, 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).