

Chapter 11

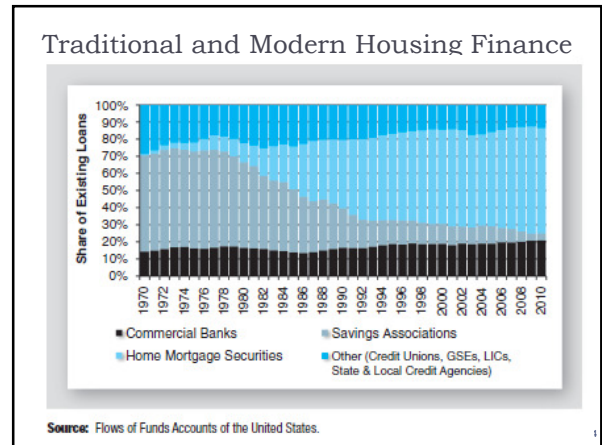
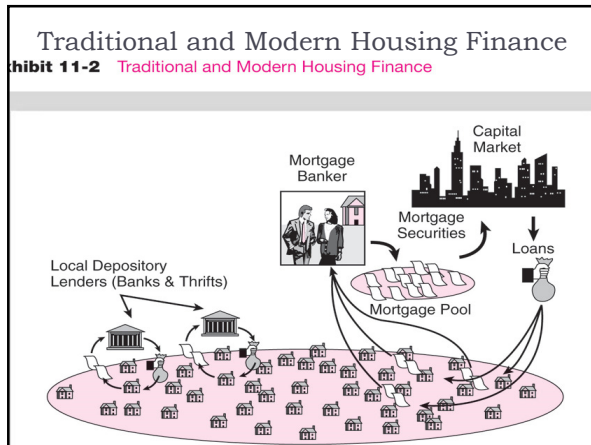
Sources of Funds for Residential Mortgages

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Mortgages and Mortgage Markets

Loan Type	Amount	Percent of Total
Residential (1-4 family)	\$11,033	75%
Apartment (multifamily)	896	6
Commercial	2,599	18
Farm	111	1
Total	\$14,639	100%

Source: Federal Reserve Bulletin, March 2009, Table 1.54, "Mortgage Debt Outstanding."



- ### Thrifts
- ▶ Formerly backbone of mortgage finance
 - ▶ Dominated mortgage lending
 - ▶ Extremely localized
 - ▶ Fatal flaw: Funded long-term loans with short-term savings
 - ▶ Traded freedom for deposit insurance (1930s)
 - ▶ Cocoon of regulations
 - ▶ Unable to adapt to a new financial world

- ### Thrifts (continued)
- ▶ Flood of home loans in late 1970s - all fixed rate
 - ▶ Interest rates soared in war on inflation
 - ▶ Wide freedoms began in 1980s
 - ▶ Asset-liability mismatch severely damaged thrifts
 - ▶ Almost one-third failed
 - ▶ 70% had disappeared by 2001
 - ▶ "Collateral damage" to elected officials, regulators, taxpayers
 - ▶ Market share of home loans plummeted (1970s: over 50%, 1997: 15%)

Thriffs Today

- ▶ **Changed approach to regulation**
 - ▶ Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery and Enforcement Act of 1989 (FIRREA)
 - ▶ Risk-based capital standards
- ▶ **Most are now banks (acquired or converted)**
- ▶ **Others often have “boutique” roles:**
 - ▶ Mortgage banker Sub-prime lender
 - ▶ Commercial loans Multifamily loans
- ▶ **Emphasis on ARM lending (40% of loans)**

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Commercial Banks

- ▶ **Historically: Real estate needs of business clients**
 - ▶ Business-related real estate loans
 - ▶ Home loans
 - ▶ Personal investments
- ▶ **Assumed former roles of savings associations**
- ▶ **Large-scale construction lending**

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Commercial Banks (continued)

- ▶ **“Warehouse” credit lines for mortgage bankers**
- ▶ **Effects of bank deregulation**
 - ▶ Enormous consolidation of the industry
 - ▶ Aggressive pursuit of real estate lending
 - ▶ Directly
 - ▶ Through mortgage banking subsidiaries
 - ▶ New powers to reenter real estate investment and development

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Portfolio and Non-portfolio Mortgage Lenders

- ▶ **Portfolio Lenders (depository institutions)**
 - ▶ Banks
 - ▶ Thrifts
 - ▶ Large credit unions
- ▶ **Non-portfolio lenders**
 - ▶ Mortgage bankers
 - ▶ Mortgage brokers
 - ▶ May include credit unions and small banks

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Non-Portfolio Lenders: Mortgage Companies

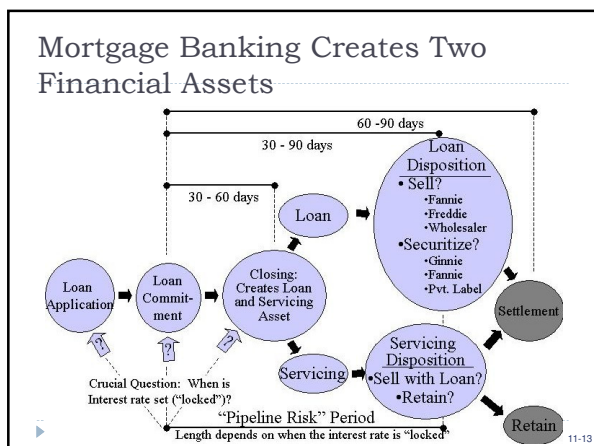
- ▶ **Mortgage banker: Not a bank – accepts no deposits**
 - ▶ Originates loans to sell
 - ▶ Retains right to service the loan for a fee
- ▶ **Mortgage broker: Brings borrower and lender together for a fee; never owns the loan**

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Mortgage Banker

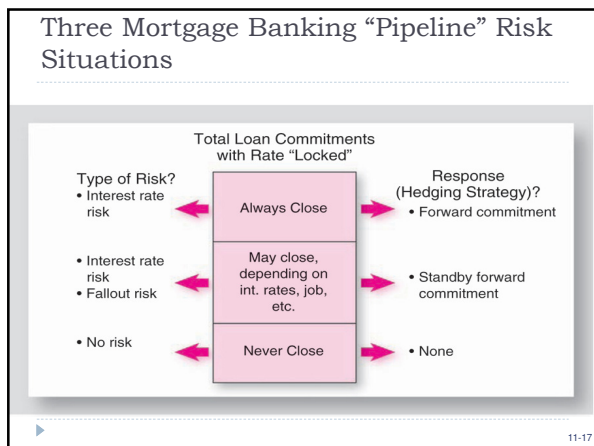
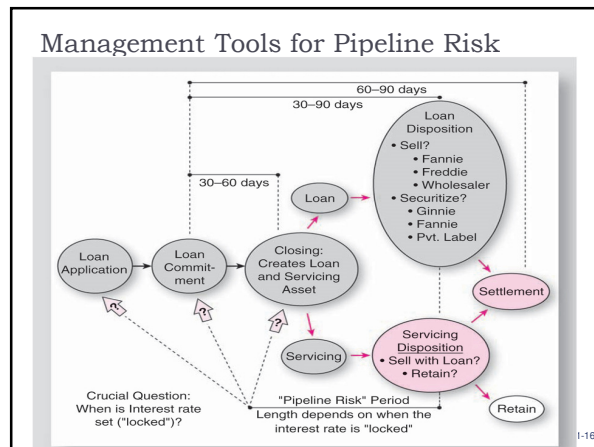
- ▶ **Originates and owns loans long enough to sell**
 - ▶ Sell loans “whole”
 - ▶ Pool and securitize loans
- ▶ **Servicing is core profit center**
- ▶ **Three-step process:**
 1. Issue mortgage commitment to potential borrower
 2. Close or originate loan (funding loan)
 3. Sell loan

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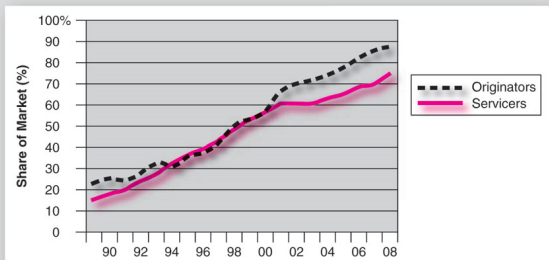
- ### Mortgage Banker as Servicer
- ▶ Collects monthly payments, remits to investor
 - ▶ Collects and remits payments for property taxes, hazard insurance and mortgage insurance
 - ▶ Manages late payments, defaults, foreclosures
 - ▶ Receives fee of .25% to .44% (25 to 44 bps)
 - ▶ Typically accept loss at origination of a loan to obtain servicing rights

- ### Pipeline Risk: Signature Risk of Mortgage Banking
- ▶ Pipeline risk: Risk between loan commitment and loan sale
 - ▶ Two components
 - ▶ Fallout risk: Risk that loan applicant backs out
 - ▶ Interest rate/price risk: Risk that closed loans will fall in value before sold
 - ▶ Mortgage bankers highly leveraged
 - ▶ Very sensitive to pipeline risk
 - ▶ Hedging necessary for survival



- ### Emergence of Megamortgage Bankers
- ▶ Megabanks saw home mortgage lending as profit center
 - ▶ Cyberelectronics imply huge economies of scale
 - ▶ Four modes of operation:
 - ▶ Traditional "face-to-face" or "retail" lending
 - ▶ Wholesale mortgage banking
 - ▶ Internet lending
 - ▶ Lending through brokers
 - ▶ Tremendous consolidation in last decade

Consolidation of the Top 20 Home Mortgage Lenders



Source: The 2009 Mortgage Market Statistical Annual, vol 1. Inside Mortgage Finance Publications Inc. Bethesda, MD, 2009

Mortgage Brokers

- ▶ “Places” borrower’s loan application with lender
 - ▶ Receives application fee
 - ▶ Receives part of lender’s origination fee
- ▶ Never owns and never services loan
- ▶ Grew rapidly prior to recent housing crisis
- ▶ Causes for concern about mortgage brokerage:
 - ▶ “Front-loaded” compensation
 - ▶ Few repeat customers
 - ▶ Low competency requirements
- ▶ Wide-spread borrower abuse in recent years

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Evolution of the Secondary Mortgage Market

- ▶ Pre-1970: Limited and informal
- ▶ Lack of standardization a barrier
- ▶ Large interregional differences in home mortgage interest rates (100-200 bps)
- ▶ Rising interest rates could shut down home mortgage lending through disintermediation

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Beginning of the Modern Secondary Mortgage Market

- ▶ Fannie Mae (1968): Spun off from HUD to become a primary purchaser of FHA and VA mortgage loans
- ▶ Ginnie Mae (1968): Empowered to guarantee “pass-through” mortgage-backed securities based on FHA and VA loans
- ▶ Freddie Mac (1970): Formed to purchase and securitize conventional home loans from thrifts

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Mortgage-Backed Securities

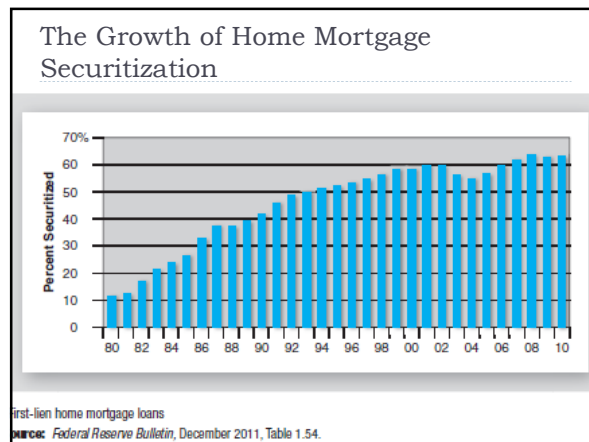
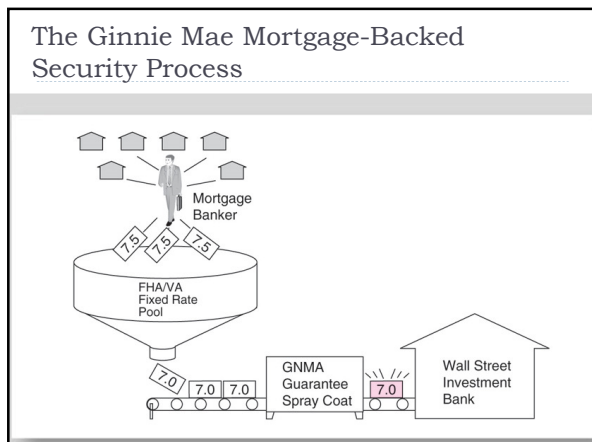
- ▶ Multiple mortgage loans in a single pool or fund
- ▶ Security entitles investor to pro rata share of all cash flows
- ▶ Loans in a given pool will be similar:
 - ▶ FHA/VA; or conventional (or subprime)
 - ▶ Same vintage (new or recent loans)
 - ▶ Similar interest rates
- ▶ Nearly two-thirds of all new home loans have been securitized in recent years

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Mortgage-Backed Securities

- ▶ MBS is a generic term for many types of mostly debt securities which are backed by a pool of mortgages
- ▶ RMBS – Residential MBS (from pools of mortgages on houses)
- ▶ CMBS – Commercial MBS (from pools of mortgages on CRE)
- ▶ Can be:
 - ▶ Mortgage Backed Bond
 - ▶ Pass Through
 - ▶ Collateralized Mortgage Obligation (CMO)
- ▶ Many forms of CMO (tranches)

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- ### Role of Ginnie Mae in the Secondary Mortgage Market
- ▶ GNMA created first major pass-through MBS program
 - ▶ Does not buy mortgages
 - ▶ Guarantees timely payment of interest and principal to holders of GNMA securities.
 - ▶ Guarantees only securities based on FHA/VA loans

- ### Fannie Mae
- ▶ Original mission: Secondary market for FHA/VA
 - ▶ Became privately owned but still U.S. chartered
 - ▶ Public mission for housing
 - ▶ U.S. Treasury financial credit line available
 - ▶ Surpasses Freddie Mac in buying conventional loans
 - ▶ Funded through debt issues, mortgage securitization and guarantee fees
 - ▶ Has securitized and sold, or owns, about 23% of outstanding home loans
 - ▶ Taken into conservatorship by U.S. in 2008

- ### Freddie Mac
- ▶ Chartered by Congress
 - ▶ Deals exclusively in conventional loans
 - ▶ Securitized all loans purchased until recent years
 - ▶ Financially similar to Fannie Mae
 - ▶ Has securitized and sold, or owns, about 15% of outstanding home loans
 - ▶ Taken into conservatorship by U.S. in 2008

- ### Importance of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac
- ▶ Have brought about standardization in:
 - ▶ Mortgages and mortgage notes
 - ▶ Appraisal forms and practices
 - ▶ Underwriting procedures and standards
 - ▶ Also, influence practices and standards in nonconforming mortgage markets
 - ▶ Have increased liquidity of mortgage markets
 - ▶ No interstate differentials in mortgage interest rates
 - ▶ No home lending disruptions when interest rates rise
 - ▶ New sources of mortgage funds in security investors

Importance of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (continued)

- ▶ Type of loans that GSEs buy heavily influences what loans most lenders will make
- ▶ Recent accusations against GSEs:
 - ▶ Too much influence on mortgage markets
 - ▶ Unfair competition due to their federal financial “backstops”
 - ▶ Exceeding boundaries of their charters
 - ▶ Bearing too much undisclosed risk

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What Was Wrong with Fannie and Freddie?

- ▶ Not capitalized to withstand declining home values
- ▶ Said to wield too much political influence
- ▶ Said to unsuccessfully mix private enterprise with housing subsidy programs
- ▶ Said to divert the benefits of their efficiency advantage into the pockets of their management
- ▶ Said to be unnecessary in a financial world now dominated by a few giant banks
- ▶ Said to be part of an unnecessary mortgage lending system – for the level-payment fixed rate mortgage

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Private mortgage Conduits

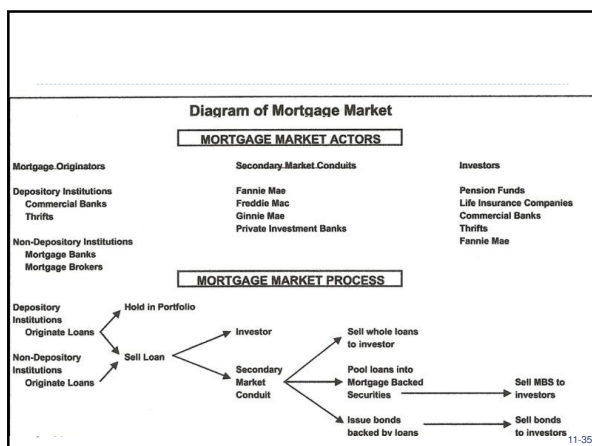
- ▶ Grew out of the market for non-conforming “Jumbo” loans
- ▶ Small market share until sub-primes emerged
- ▶ Grew explosively post-2000, mainly for sub-primes
- ▶ Diminishing rapidly as sub-prime diminish
- ▶ Likely to continue as a conduit for “Jumbos”

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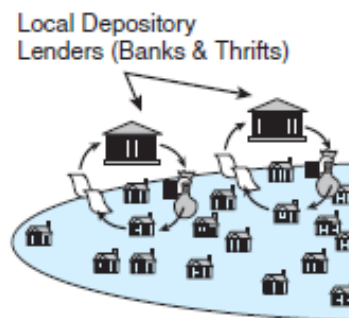
The U.S. Home Mortgage System Today – Four Channels

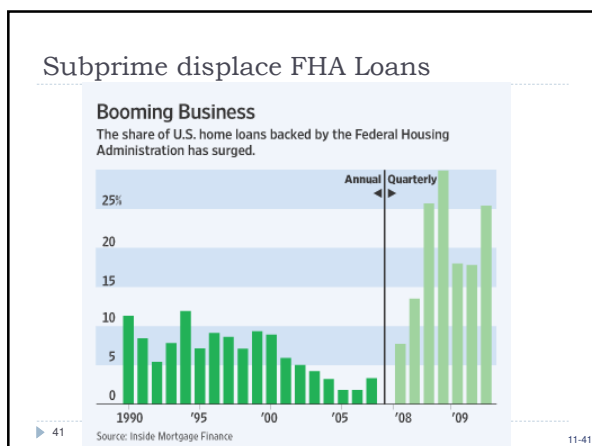
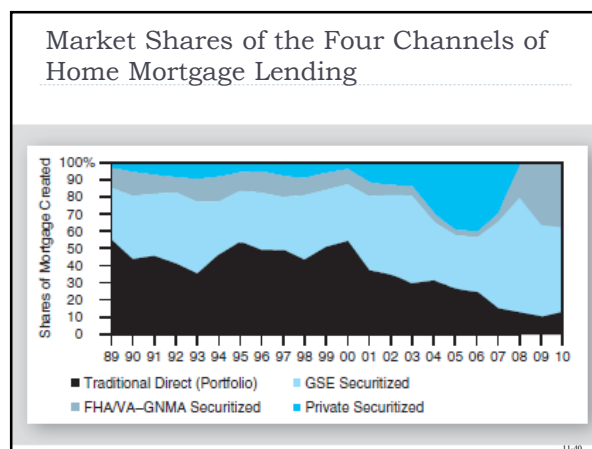
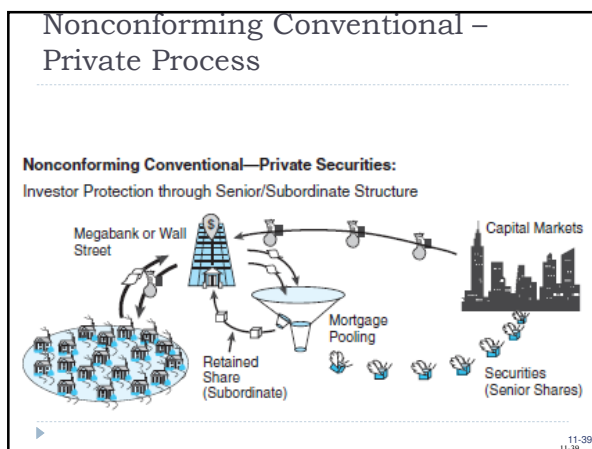
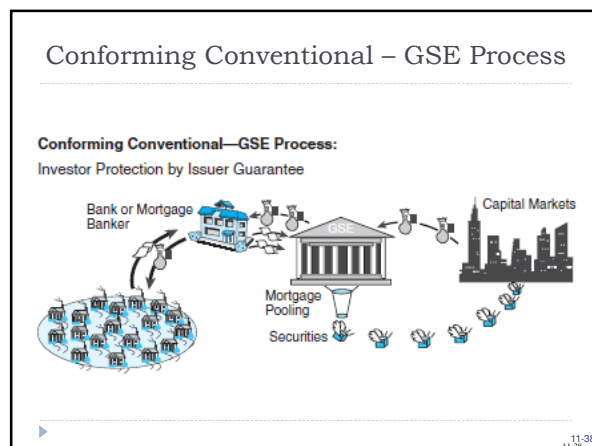
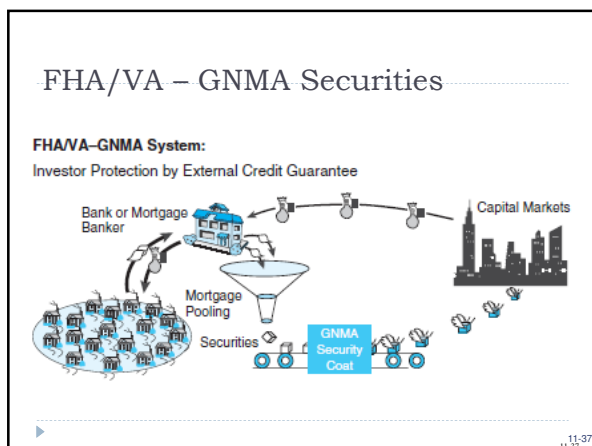
- ▶ Local depository lending (very limited)
- ▶ FHA/VA – GNMA securitization process
- ▶ Conforming conventional – GSE process
- ▶ Non-conforming conventional – private security process

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Local Portfolio Lending by Banks and Thrifts





- ### Where Do You Get a Mortgage Loan in Today’s Complex System?
- ▶ No simple answer, except to shop aggressively
 - ▶ Portfolio lenders may offer cost and interest rate advantage
 - ▶ Brokers may offer service and down payment advantage
 - ▶ Depository lenders may have best ARM offers
 - ▶ Non-depositories may have best fixed-rate offers
 - ▶ SHOP!
- 11-42

Lenders' Underwriting Decisions

- ▶ Underwriting: Process of determining whether the risks of a loan are acceptable
- ▶ Three “Cs” of traditional underwriting:
 - ▶ Collateral: URAR appraisal
 - ▶ Creditworthiness: Credit report
 - ▶ Capacity: Ability to pay (payment ratios)

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Traditional Payment Ratios for Mortgage Underwriting

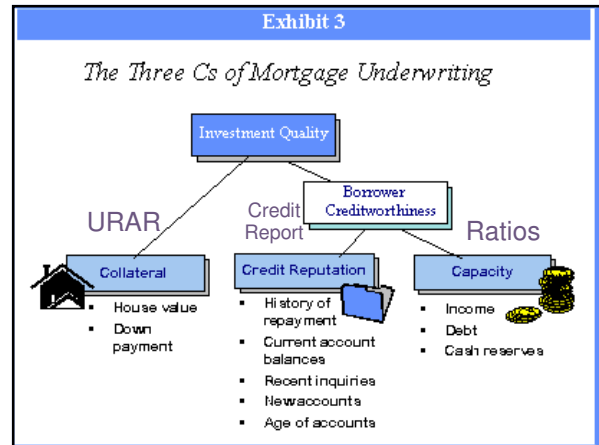
- ▶ Housing expense ratio = $PITI/GMI$
 - ▶ *PITI* is principal, interest, (property) taxes and insurance
 - ▶ *GMI* is gross monthly income
 - ▶ Recent convention set maximum at:
 - ▶ 28% for conventional loans
 - ▶ 29% for FHA
 - ▶ Known as “front-end” ratio

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Traditional Payment Ratios for Mortgage Underwriting

- ▶ Total debt ratio = $(PITI + LTO) \div GMI$
 - ▶ *LTO* is long-term obligation
 - ▶ Recent convention set maximum at:
 - ▶ 36% for conventional loans
 - ▶ 43% for FHA
 - ▶ Known as “back-end” ratio
- ▶ Note: *GMI* is critical. Its computation is closely regulated by ECOA

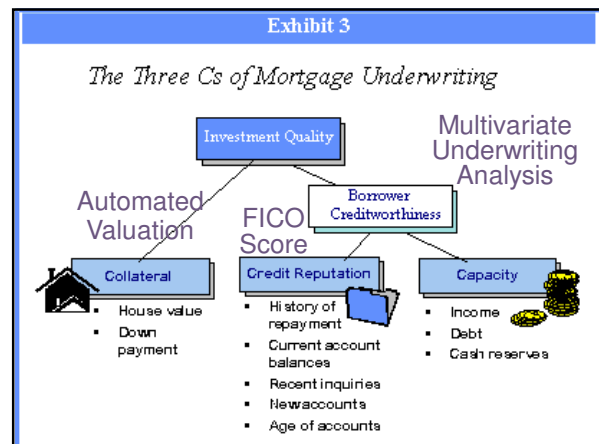
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Modern Home Loan Underwriting

- ▶ Automated underwriting is dominant
 - ▶ Creation of single statistical score
 - ▶ URAR appraisal yields to “automated valuation” in most cases
 - ▶ Credit report displaced by credit score
- ▶ Single underwriting index incorporates: house value, credit score, income and obligation data
- ▶ Automated underwriting superior to traditional methods
- ▶ Remaining issue: How important is a cash down payment requirement?

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Recent Underwriting Failures

- ▶ News of fraud and extensive defaults have been widely reported
- ▶ Problems were not due to the procedures and standards described above, but due to the failure to use them:
 - ▶ Half of sub-prime loans had limited documentation
 - ▶ Most of Alt-A loans had limited or no documentation (Came to be called “liar loans”)
 - ▶ Private securitization firms widely suppressed loan underwriting

11-49

Affordable Housing Programs

- ▶ GSEs bought an array of affordable home loans
- ▶ Vary by allowing override of one of traditional underwriting guidelines:
 - ▶ House value
 - ▶ Credit score
 - ▶ Payment ratio
 - ▶ Targeted to different underwriting deficiencies

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Affordable Housing Programs (continued)

- ▶ Programs are enabled by:
 - ▶ Automated underwriting
 - ▶ Accumulated knowledge base on affordable lending
- ▶ GSE default rates on affordable loans comparatively good.

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Subprime Lending

- ▶ Many households unable to qualify for “affordable” home loans
- ▶ Subprime originally targeted three borrower deficiencies:
 - ▶ Lack of income documentation
 - ▶ Weak credit
 - ▶ Seeking financing for 100% LTV or higher

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Subprime Lending (continued)

- ▶ More expensive than standard home loans
- ▶ Polar views of subprime lending:
 - ▶ Fills compelling, legitimate need (beats credit cards), **or**
 - ▶ Hunting ground of predatory lenders
- ▶ In any case, spun out of control, and to disaster

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Qualified Mortgages

- ▶ In response to the “mortgage meltdown” following the 2008-2012 house price declines, mortgage credit has been tightened
- ▶ Top quality applicants have no problems getting loans, and interest rates are very low by historical standards
- ▶ The required documentation for borrowers has increased significantly
- ▶ The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (created by congress) has defined a type of mortgage known as a Qualified Mortgage (as of January 1, 2014)

▶ 54



Qualified Mortgage

- ▶ No negative amortization allowed
- ▶ No IO payments allowed
- ▶ The points and fees on a mortgage over 100,000 can not exceed 3%
- ▶ Limits the fees that someone can earn for steering you to a QM (cannot earn more on a non-QM)
- ▶ **All FHA/VA and conforming loans** must be QM (for next 7 years)
- ▶ Must show a borrower can afford the loan over the life of the loan (cannot be qualified on the Teaser Rate).
- ▶ Back end ratio cannot exceed 43%

▶ 55

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