

Bank Failure

Charlotte Economics Club

September 14, 2010

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William C. Handorf, Ph. D.

- **Current**

- **Professor of Finance**

- **The George Washington University**

- **Consultant**

- **Banks**
- **Central Banks**
- **Corporations**

- **Director**

- **Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta**

- **Experience**

- **Director**

- **Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond**
- **Federal Home Loan Bank System**

- **Regulator**

- **Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation**
- **Federal Home Loan Bank Board**

- **Lender**

- **National Bank of Detroit**

- **Officer, United States Army**

Past Problem Sectors in US



- **Emerging Market Debt - “*Countries Do Not Go Bankrupt*”**
 - **Agricultural Sector - “*We All Need Food*”**
 - **Oil Sector - “*We All Need Oil*”**
- **Commercial Real Estate - “*You Have Collateral*”**

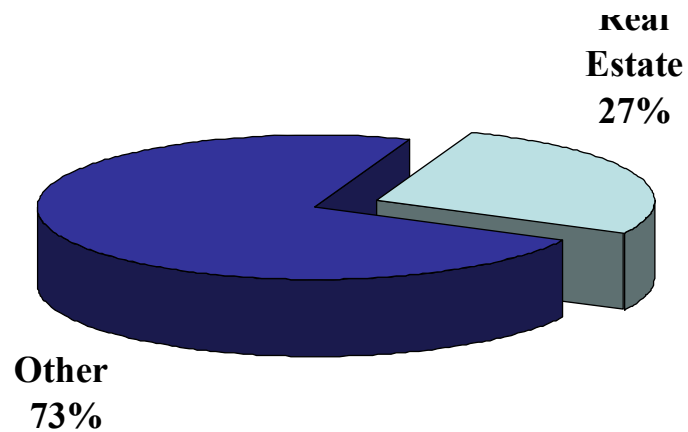
Home Ownership

- **National Goal - 70% own home**
- **Provide shelter**
- **Promote community pride, safety and appearance**
- **Enhance self-worth and health**
- **Create jobs**
- **Support economic growth**

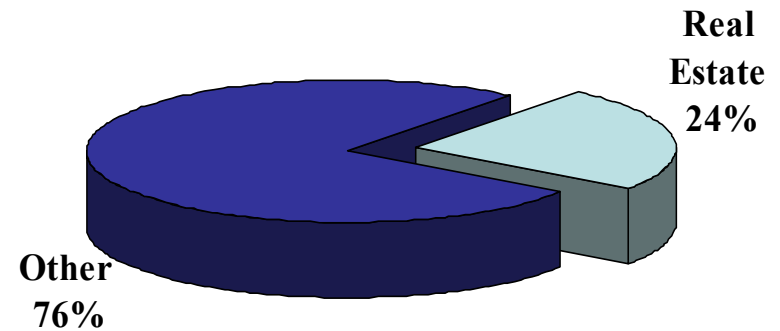


Importance of Real Estate

Household Sector Assets

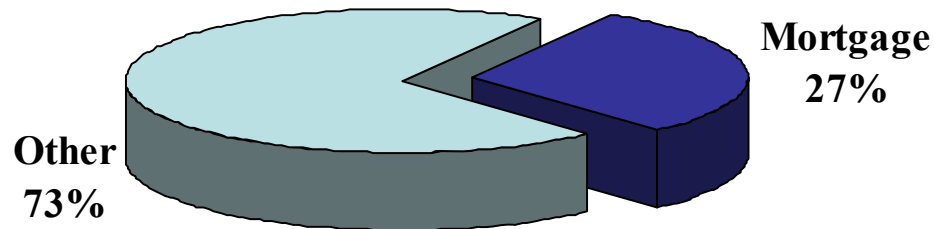


Business Sector Assets

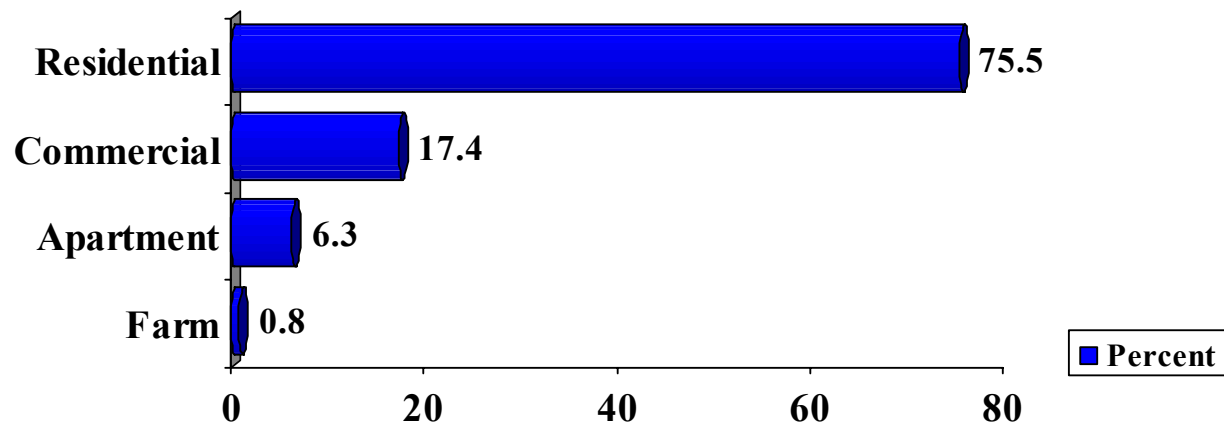


US Financial Market

US \$52 trillion of Debt



US \$14 trillion Mortgage Debt



Recent US “Failures” due to Housing Loan Losses

- **AIG**
- **Bank United**
- **Bear Stearns**
- **Citibank**
- **Downey**
- **Fannie & Freddie**
- **GMAC**
- **Indy Mac**
- **Lehman Brothers**
- **WAMU**
- **200 Smaller Banks**
- **Who will fail next Friday?**



Bank Failure



Liquidation

Economic

Financial

Managerial

Bank Failure and Management

- **High number and percentage of loans to insiders**
- **Passive Board of Directors**
- **Lack of coherent business plan**
 - **Quick growth funded by high cost funds offset by high yield assets**
 - **High dividend payouts and stock repurchase programs**
 - **Shrinkage to maintain capital ratios leads to even lower profits given fixed non-interest costs**
- **Ineffective risk management**
- **Fraud**



Bank Failure and the Economy

- ↪ Economic Recession
- ↪ High and/or Increasing Unemployment
- ↪ High “Real” Interest Rates
- ↪ Regional “Boom to Bust”
- ↪ Low Confidence in Banks or the Central Bank



Bank Failure and Asset/Liability Management



- **Low Capital**
 - **Losses**
 - **Loan Problems**
 - **Concentrated Portfolio**
 - **Loss of Cost Control**
 - **Quick Growth**
- **Liquidity**
 - **Non Core Fund Reliance**
 - **Lack of Good Collateral**
 - **Bad Press & Run**
- **High-yield Assets**
- **High Sensitivity**

Empirical Analysis of Recent US Bank Failure

- **Leading Causes**
 - **High problem loans to capital and ALLL**
 - **Large losses**
 - **High provision**
 - **Losses on securities**
 - **High non current loans**
 - **Portfolio concentration in high risk ADC loans**
 - **Low capital**
 - **Low Risk Index (<3)**
 - **High non core funding**
- **Other Factors**
 - **Prior quick growth**
 - **High yield assets**



The Risk Index

Risk Index (RI) is number of standard deviations bank is from their capital ratio declining below a stated threshold

$$\text{RI} = (\text{Capital Ratio} + \text{Mean ROA} - \text{Stated Threshold}) \div \text{ROA Sigma}$$

- **As Risk Index declines, probability of capital problems increase due to:**
 - **Low Capital Ratio**
 - **Low (or negative) mean ROA**
 - **High Volatility of Earnings from Bad Loans, Shifting Strategy, Sensitivity, Illiquidity, etc.**

The Risk Index Applied

Implied Probability Tier 1 Equity < 5% in One Year

$$\text{RI} = (\text{Equity} + \text{ROA} - 5.0\%) \div \text{Sigma ROA}$$

	Tier 1 Equity	Average ROA	ROA Sigma	Risk Index	Probability < 5%
PNC	9.31	0.84	0.25	20.60	0.12
BB&T	8.89	1.21	0.48	10.63	0.44
Bank America	7.38	0.89	0.53	6.17	1.31
Citibank	8.31	0.37	0.79	4.66	2.30

Risk Index Inferences

- **Normal Distribution**
 - Use Normal Table
 - Little Regulatory Concern > 10 Sigma
- **Non-normal (but symmetrical)**
 - **Probability = .5 [(1÷(RI)²]**






Risk Index	Probability
10	.5%
5	2.0%
3	5.5%
2	12.5%
1	50.0%

Resultant Governmental Actions

- **US Treasury invests in low-cost preferred stock (US \$250 billion)**
- **FDIC raises deposit insurance limit and guarantees bank debt (US \$400 billion)**
- **Federal Reserve provides long-term loans and purchases securities (US \$2 trillion)**



Housing Problem History

-  Home prices rise quickly after dot.com bust and low interest rate engineered by the central bank encouraged ARM loans
-  Investors earn 50+% returns with 10% annual appreciation and encourage speculators to purchase more property
-  Mortgagors need “innovative” loans and “piggy-back” loans to afford a home prior to even higher prices
-  Wall Street encourages brokers to originate more high-yield loans for MBS
-  MBS losses trigger “dominoes” to fall

US Home Prices



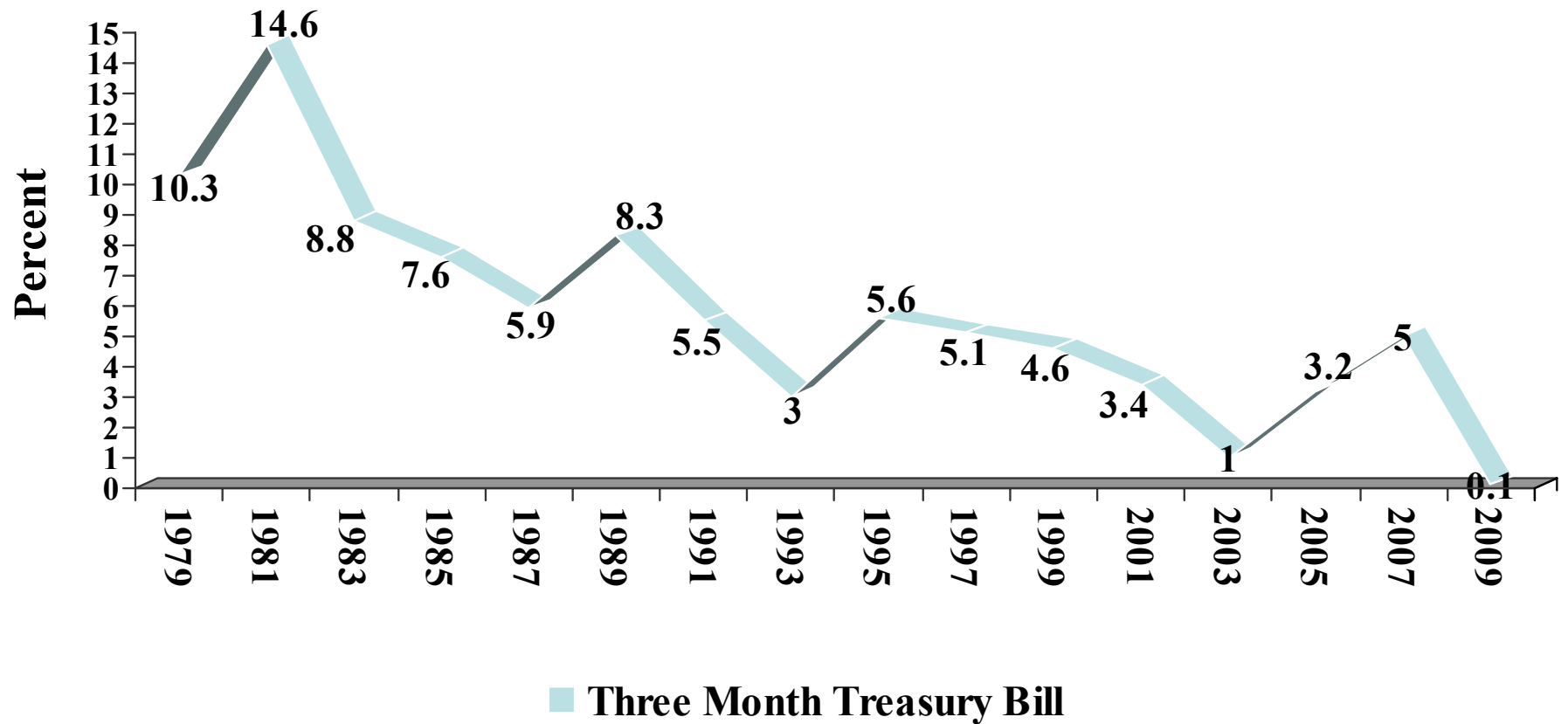
- **Annual Price Change**
 - **2001: 8.9%**
 - **2002: 15.0%**
 - **2003: 13.4%**
 - **2004: 19.9%**
 - **2005: 14.8%**
 - **2006: 0.2%**
 - **2007: -9.7%**
 - **2008: -19.1%**
 - **2009: -2.5%**
 - **2010 Increasing**

Accommodative Monetary Policy

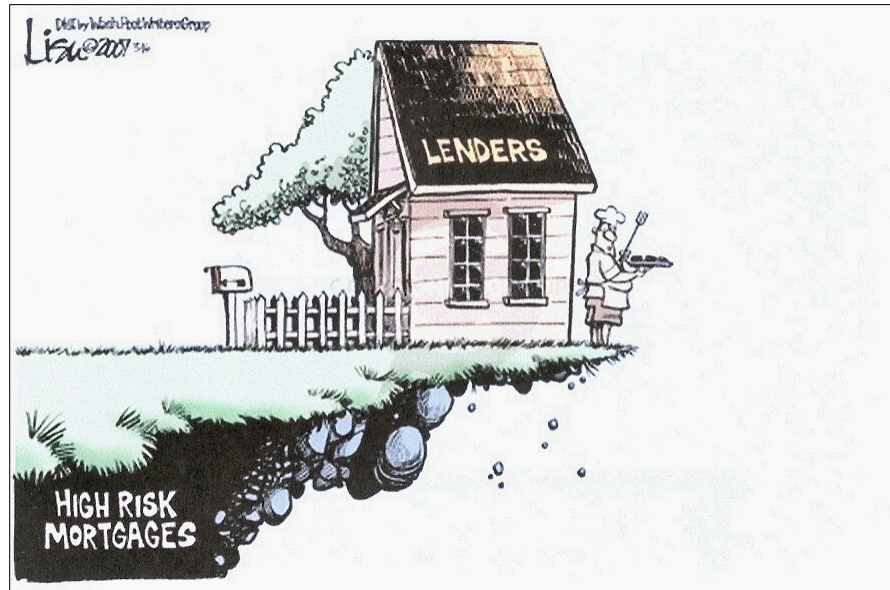
- **Reduce Interest Rates 13 Times 2001-2003**
 - **Reduce Cost of Short-term Borrowing**
 - **Consumer**
 - **Corporate**
 - **Fiscal**
 - **Stimulate Growth**
 - **Reduce Value of US\$**
 - **Stimulate Inflation**
 - **Increase Rates Mid-2004**



Interest Rate Trends

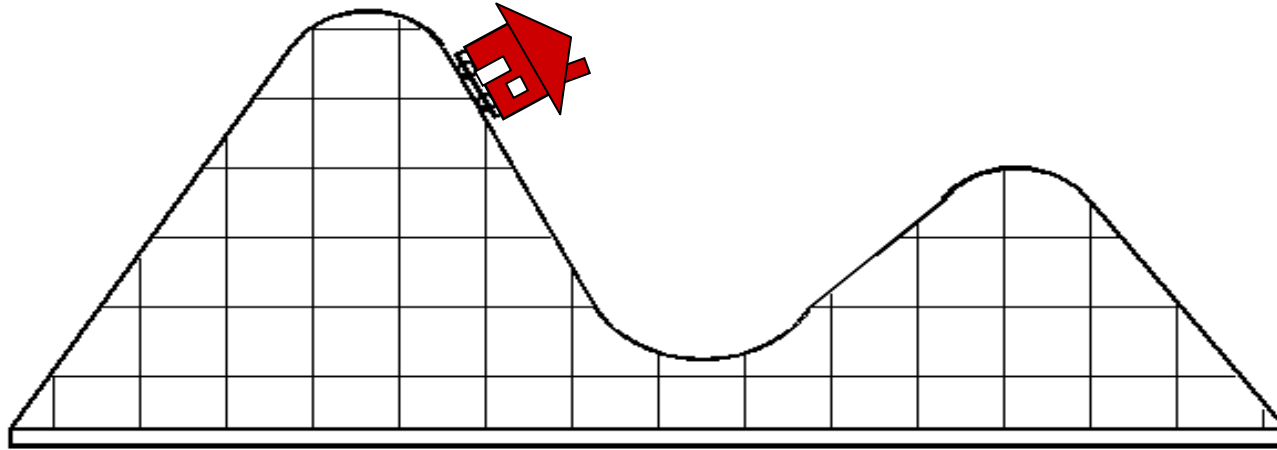


Mortgage Risk



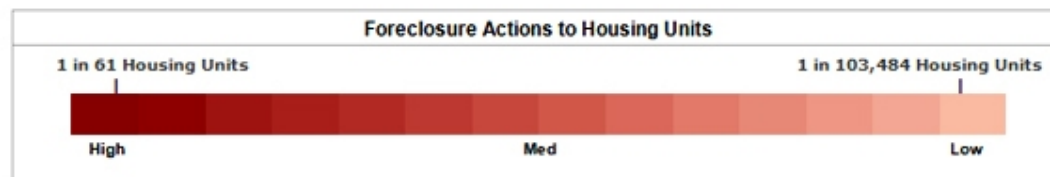
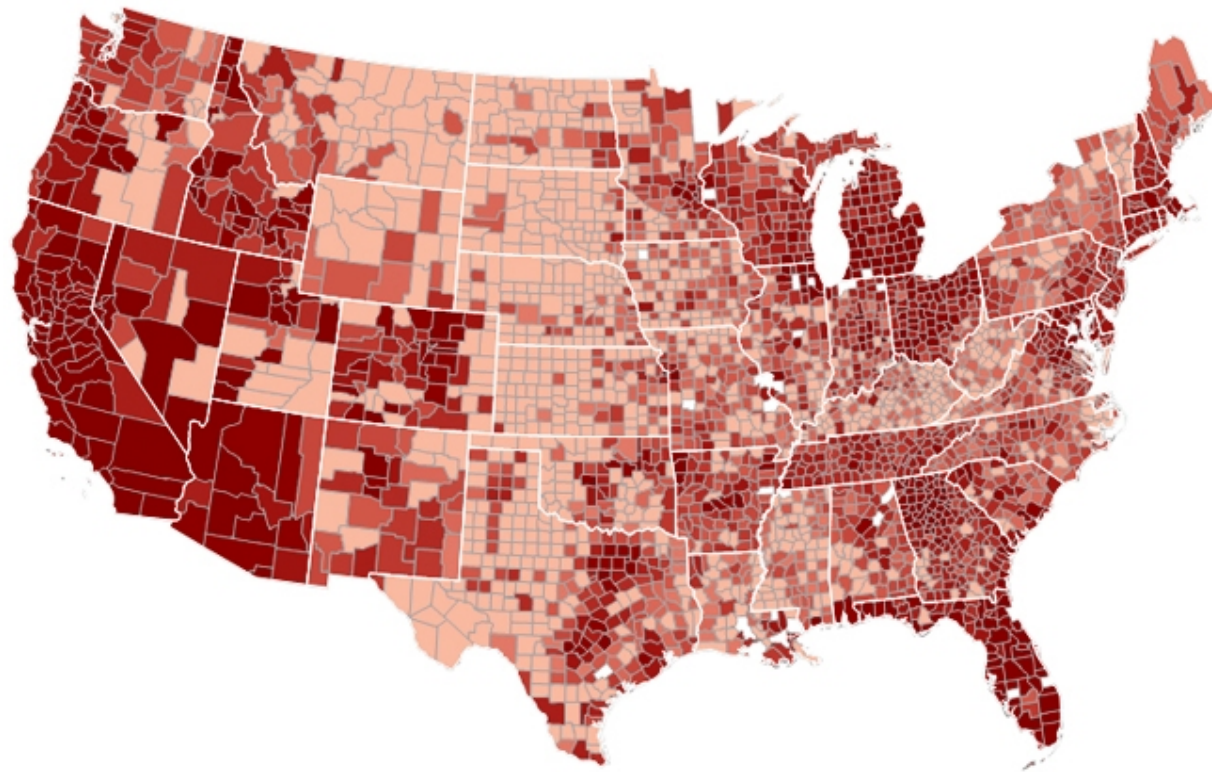
- **A: Excellent Credit History (84% of Market); Prime Borrower**
- **Alt-A: Income not Verified or Property not Appraised (6% of Market); Higher Rate Loan**
- **B/C: Mediocre to Weak Credit History (10% of Market); Much Higher Rate Loan**

Real Estate Loan Risk



- **Type - Balloon loans more risky than amortizing**
- **Interest Rate - Adjustable-rate more risky than fixed rate**
- **Amortization Period - Long-Term (40 years) amortization more risky than medium-term (15 years)**
- **Purpose - Equity refinance more risky than purchase**
- **Occupancy - Second home or investment home more risky than primary property**

U.S. Foreclosure Market Report Heat Map 2010

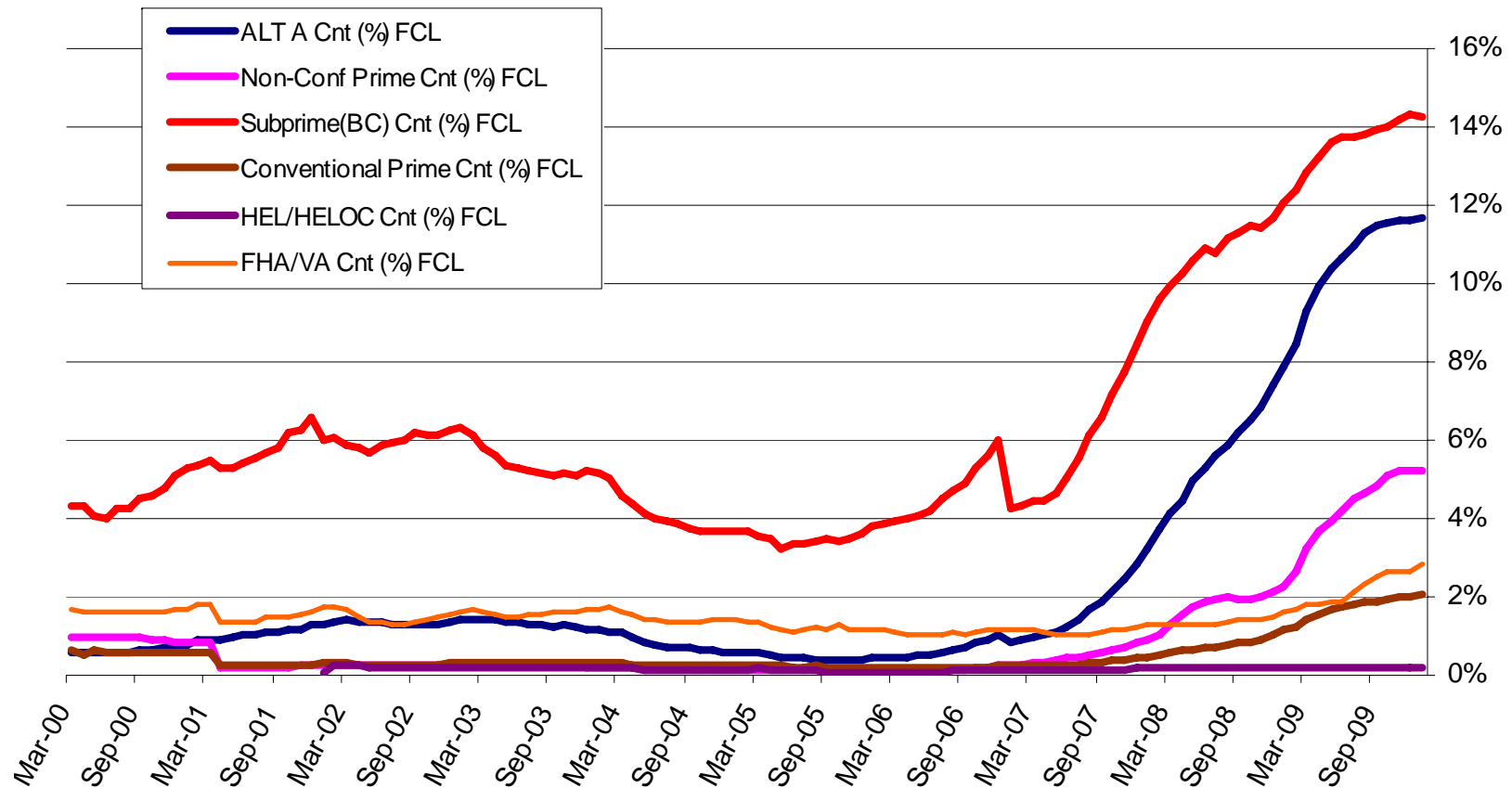


Major Metropolitan Areas: What Goes Up Most Comes Down Hardest

- **Home Prices Increased 100% (since 2000 to peak)**
 - Miami
 - Los Angeles
 - Washington, DC
 - San Diego
 - Tampa
 - Las Vegas
 - Phoenix
 - San Francisco
 - New York
- **Home Prices Declined at least 40% (peak to trough)**
 - Las Vegas (boom)
 - Phoenix (boom)
 - Miami (boom)
 - Tampa (boom)
 - Detroit (bust)

Foreclosure

All Mortgage Products



Source: First American CoreLogic, all Loan Performance databases

Supply Factors



Investment Banks
Sell Highly-Rated Securities
backed by High-Yield Loans

Mortgage Brokers
Originate High-Yield Loans
then Sold to Banks

Mortgagors Require
Credit to Afford Homes
Prior to Higher Prices

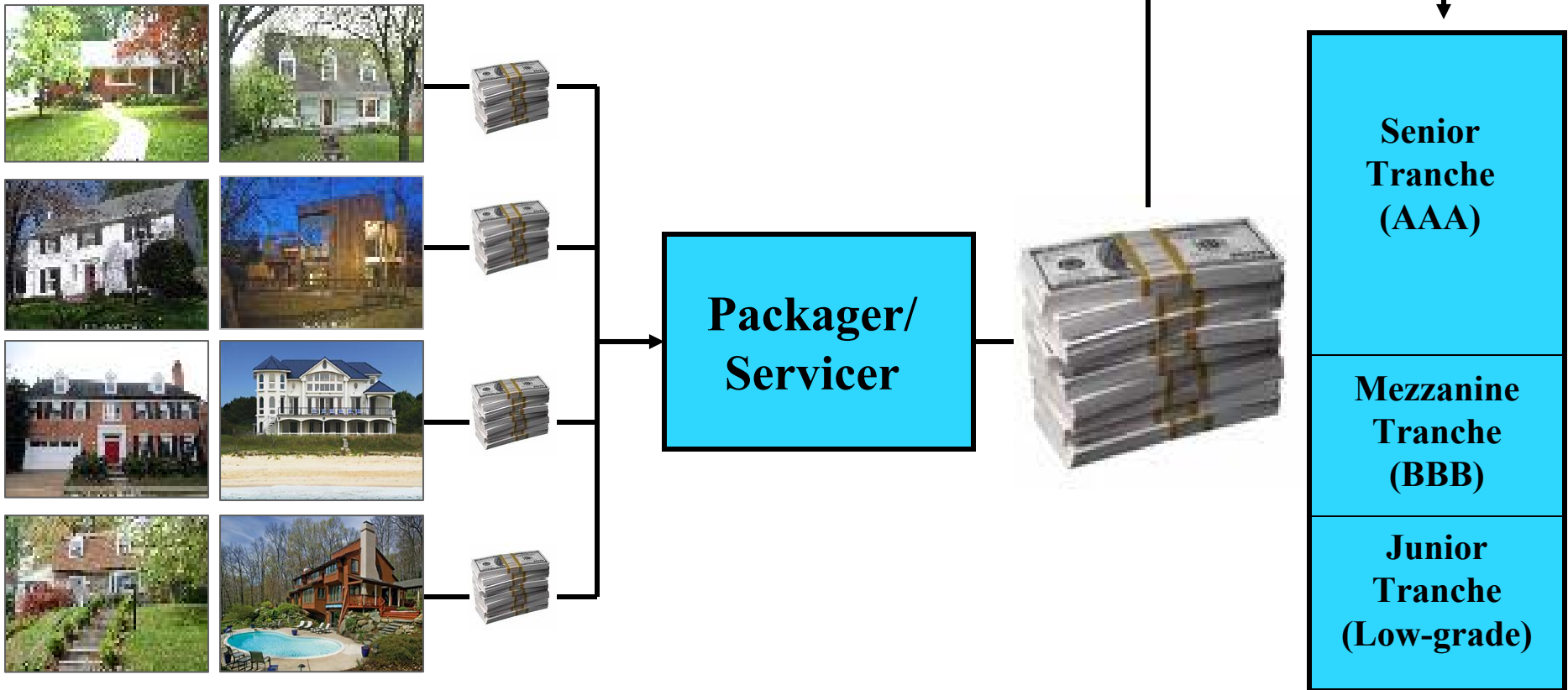
Investors and Speculators Seek
Credit to Purchase Real Estate
and Enhance Returns

Securitization

**Pool of
Residential
Mortgages**

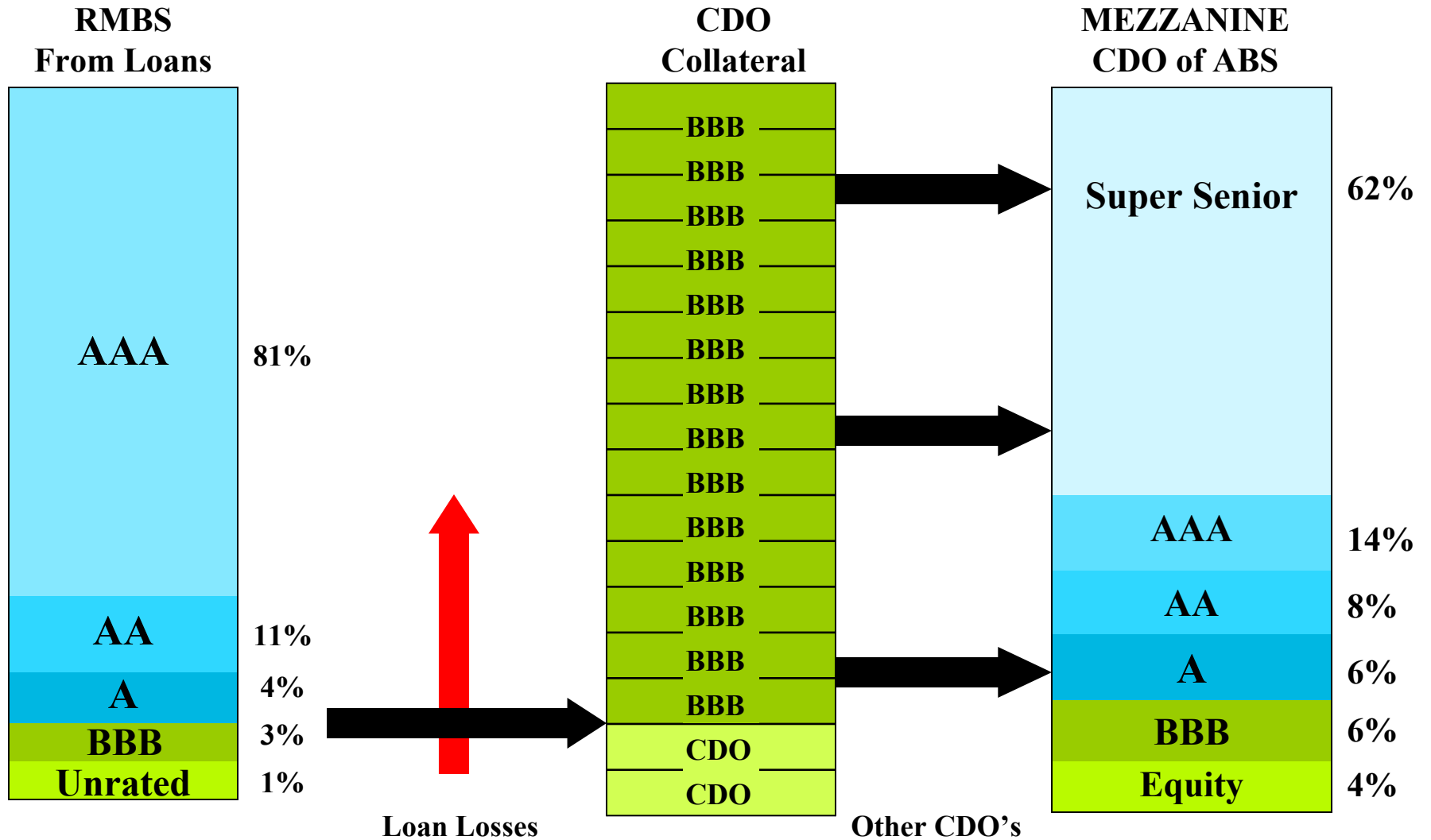
**Mortgage
Payments**

**Mortgage Backed
Security**



CDO's

(Collateralized Debt Obligations)



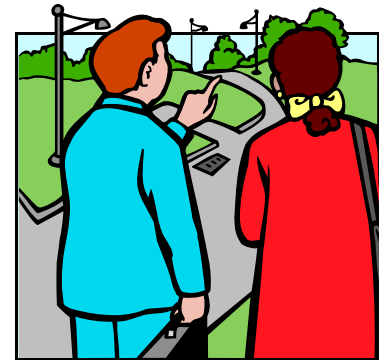
Projected v. Actual CDO Default over 3 Years backed by Sub prime

Rating	Projected 3-year Default	Actual Default Rate
AAA	Nil	0.10
AA	0.04	8.16
A	0.09	29.21
BBB	0.49	56.10

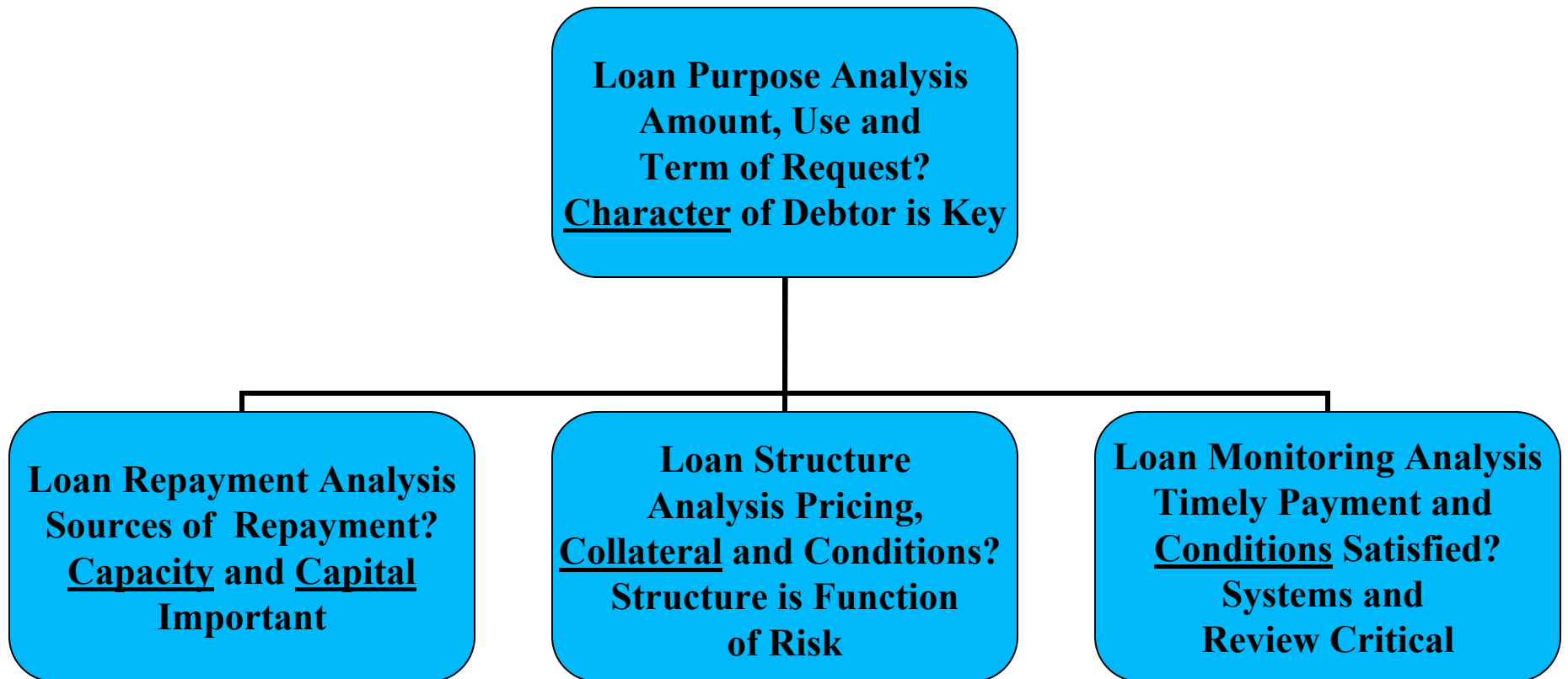


Implications for Acquisition, Development and Construction (ADC) Loans

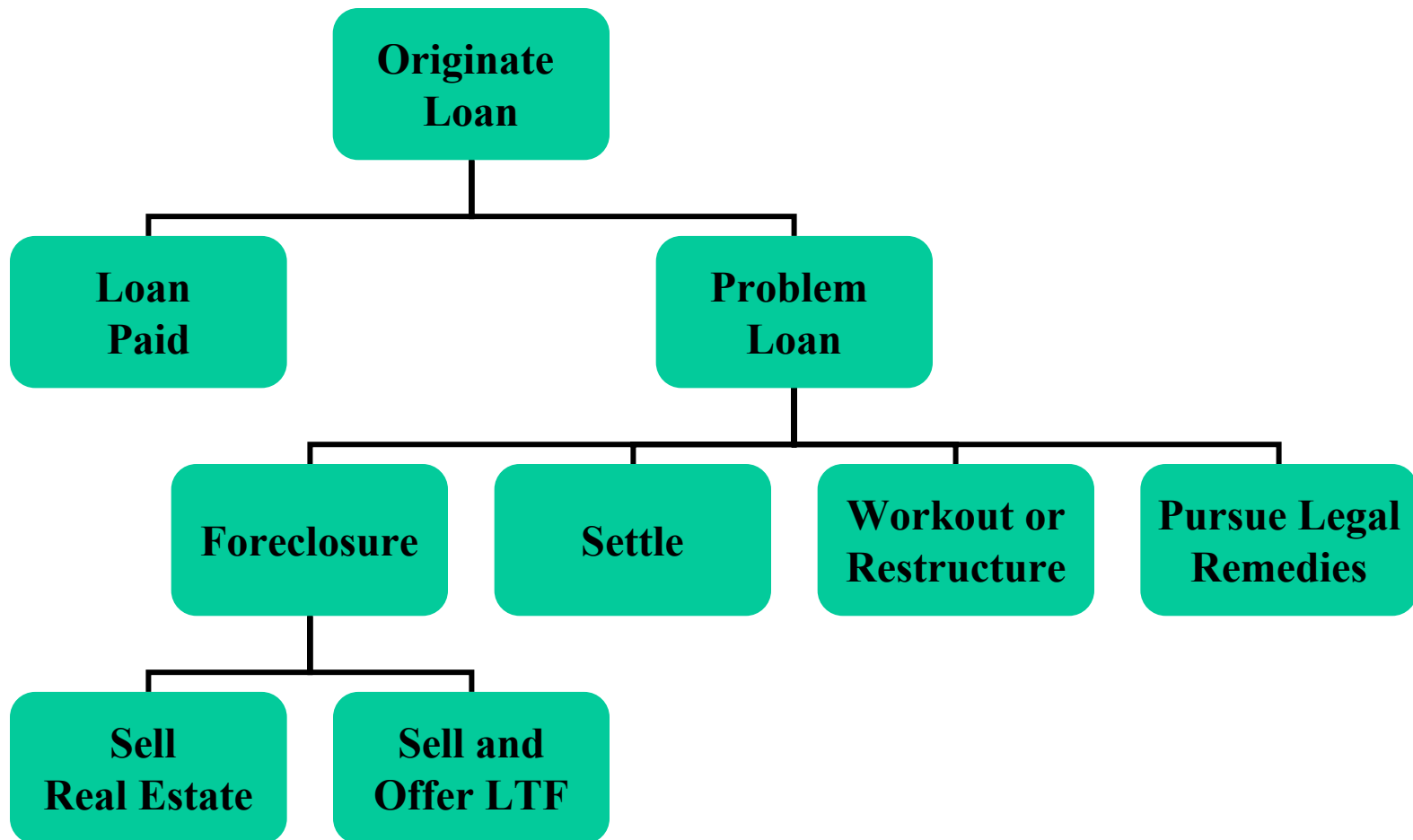
- **Excess housing inventory eliminates demand for new home lots by builders**
- **Expectations of falling home prices stem demand for new homes**
- **Strict underwriting limits potential buyers**
- **As a result, land sells for 20% of cost; banks incur substantial losses on ADC loans**



“Five C’s of Credit”



Mortgage Loan Problem Resolution



Implications of Home Loan Problems



- **Lower tax base**
- **Higher homelessness**
- **Urban blight**
- **Lost real estate wealth and MBS investment value and endowment**
- **More difficult to refinance or obtain home equity loan**
- **Lost employment and retail spending**

Housing Crisis Culprits

- **Central bank**
- **Unregulated mortgage brokers**
- **Bank risk managers**
- **Bank management and board of directors**
- **Credit rating agencies**
- **Bank regulators**
- **Investors seeking high yield without recognition of risk**
- **Federal government efforts to support affordable housing**



Congressional and Regulatory Implications

- **Strict loan underwriting**
- **Higher FDIC deposit insurance fee**
- **Higher capital requirements**
- **More focus on Tier 1 capital v. Tier 2 capital**
- **More attention to liquidity**
- **Federal Reserve and FDIC became a lender of “first resort” and now need to extricate their support**



Summary

- **Credit risk must be managed well to remain a safe and sound bank**
- **“Five C’s of Credit” still provide foundation for underwriting loans**
- **Quick growth, high yielding assets and concentration contributed to failure**
- **Another US banking crisis will occur in about 20 years as recent experience is confined to history**

