

2011 Reasons Households Use AFS

Main Reason Household Used AFS Instead of Banks	All Households		Unbanked		Banking Status					
					Underbanked		Fully Banked		Banked but Underbanked Status Unknown	
	Number (1000s)	Pct of Col	Number (1000s)	Pct of Col						
Non-Bank Money Order										
Banks do not sell money orders	955	2.4	115	2.0	484	2.5	349	2.4	7	1.8
The place is more convenient	22,199	56.0	2,272	39.1	10,517	54.7	9,259	64.9	151	42.1
A bank charges more for money orders	8,858	22.3	1,130	19.4	5,391	28.0	2,250	15.8	87	24.1
The place feels more comfortable than a bank	888	2.2	219	3.8	480	2.5	185	1.3	4	1.0
Do not have a bank account	2,268	5.7	1,587	27.3	330	1.7	333	2.3	17	4.9
Do not trust banks	245	0.6	131	2.3	69	0.4	41	0.3	4	1.1
Other	3,654	9.2	304	5.2	1,797	9.3	1,525	10.7	28	7.8
Don't Know/Refused	604	1.5	54	0.9	165	0.9	323	2.3	61	17.2
Total	39,671	100.0	5,813	100.0	19,233	100.0	14,266	100.0	359	100.0
Non-Bank Check Cashing										
Banks do not cash checks	272	1.7	113	2.4	119	1.6	40	1.1	-	-
To get money faster	2,665	16.6	529	11.3	1,403	18.4	719	20.1	13	8.3
The place is more convenient	7,237	45.2	1,339	28.7	3,942	51.8	1,889	52.8	68	43.0
A bank charges more to cash checks	632	3.9	309	6.6	263	3.4	57	1.6	3	2.2
The place to cash checks asks for fewer IDs	167	1.0	75	1.6	71	0.9	22	0.6	-	-
The place feels more comfortable than a bank	271	1.7	89	1.9	158	2.1	24	0.7	-	-
Do not have a bank account	2,952	18.4	1,815	38.9	768	10.1	356	9.9	14	8.7
Do not trust banks	206	1.3	115	2.5	77	1.0	14	0.4	-	-
Other	1,314	8.2	198	4.2	727	9.6	373	10.4	17	10.9
Don't Know/Refused	301	1.9	89	1.9	84	1.1	86	2.4	42	26.9
Total	16,018	100.0	4,670	100.0	7,611	100.0	3,579	100.0	157	100.0
Non-Bank Remittances										
Banks do not send money abroad	597	8.4	45	3.7	411	9.4	139	9.7	NA	NA
The money gets there faster	1,666	23.5	235	19.2	1,091	25.0	339	23.6	NA	NA
The place is more convenient	2,296	32.5	306	25.0	1,451	33.2	529	36.7	NA	NA
A bank charges more to send money abroad	778	11.0	84	6.9	569	13.0	122	8.5	NA	NA
The place to give or send money feels more comfortable than a bank	365	5.2	103	8.4	224	5.1	35	2.4	NA	NA
Do not have a bank account	454	6.4	361	29.5	79	1.8	15	1.0	NA	NA
Do not trust banks	78	1.1	33	2.7	29	0.7	15	1.0	NA	NA
Other	706	10.0	36	2.9	458	10.5	204	14.2	NA	NA
Don't Know/Refused	136	1.9	21	1.7	57	1.3	41	2.9	NA	NA
Total	7,076	100.0	1,224	100.0	4,369	100.0	1,439	100.0	44	100.0
Payday Loans										
Banks do not make small dollar loans	1,125	20.0	128	17.6	699	19.7	296	22.4	NA	NA
The place is more convenient	677	12.0	71	9.8	461	13.0	145	11.0	NA	NA
It is easier or faster to get a payday loan than to qualify for a bank loan	2,283	40.6	249	34.2	1,497	42.3	523	39.6	NA	NA
The payday loan place feels more comfortable than a bank	76	1.3	4	0.6	61	1.7	10	0.8	NA	NA
Do not qualify for a bank loan	838	14.9	183	25.2	481	13.6	168	12.7	NA	NA
Do not trust banks	41	0.7	30	4.1	11	0.3	.	.	NA	NA
Other	468	8.3	47	6.5	262	7.4	153	11.6	NA	NA
Don't Know/Refused	114	2.0	14	1.9	68	1.9	25	1.9	NA	NA
Total	5,622	100.0	727	100.0	3,541	100.0	1,320	100.0	34	100.0
Pawn Shops										
Banks do not make small dollar loans	1,567	17.5	261	12.8	907	19.2	397	18.4	NA	NA
The place is more convenient	940	10.5	205	10.1	473	10.0	261	12.1	NA	NA
It is easier and faster to get money from a pawn shop than to qualify for a bank loan	3,722	41.5	825	40.6	1,973	41.8	904	41.8	NA	NA
More comfortable at a pawn shop than at a bank	194	2.2	44	2.2	112	2.4	38	1.7	NA	NA
Don't qualify for a bank loan	1,546	17.3	544	26.8	737	15.6	262	12.1	NA	NA
Do not trust banks	96	1.1	63	3.1	27	0.6	6	0.3	NA	NA
Other	807	9.0	84	4.1	440	9.3	275	12.7	NA	NA
Don't Know/Refused	88	1.0	7	0.3	48	1.0	19	0.9	NA	NA
Total	8,960	100.0	2,033	100.0	4,717	100.0	2,162	100.0	96	100.0

Notes:

Totals include only households that used the specified AFS product.

NA = Not available because the sample size was too small to make an accurate estimate.

- = For this table cell there were so few sample respondents (in some cases zero) reporting that the estimated universe proportion round to 0.0 percent. It is estimated that the true value is only slightly greater than zero.

Households are identified as unbanked if they answered "no" to the question, "Do you or does anyone in your household currently have a checking or savings account?"

Underbanked households are defined as those households that have a checking and/or a savings account and had used non-bank money orders, non-bank check cashing services, non-bank remittances, payday loans, rent-to-own services, pawn shops, or refund anticipation loans (RALs) in the past 12 months.

Refer to 2011 FDIC National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households and FDIC Technical Notes for terms, definitions, and methodological notes. Figures do not always reconcile to totals because of rounding. Differences between groups may or may not be statistically significant.

[2011 FDIC National Survey of Unbanked and Underbanked Households](#)

[2011 Technical Notes](#)