

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF MINNEAPOLIS
BANKING AND POLICY STUDIES

Minneapolis Options Report – September 6th

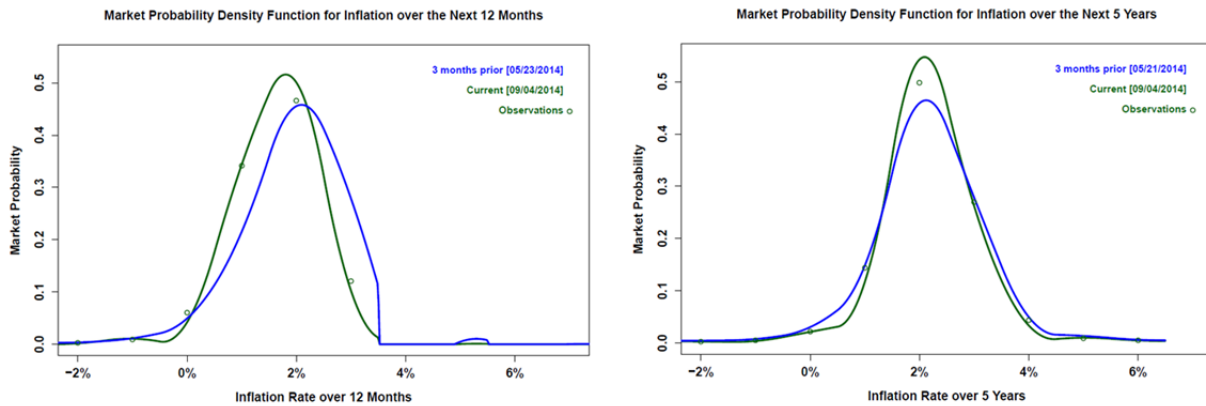
Please not the addition of the inflation MPD information to the spark table form of the report this week.

One year risk-neutral inflation expectations are biased toward lower rates and tail risks for 10-year rates remain low. Most bank stock MPDs exhibit more bias toward rising prices than they have in the past 4 years. Grain prices fell, cattle prices rose, and options activity on exchange rates was brisk.

Inflation

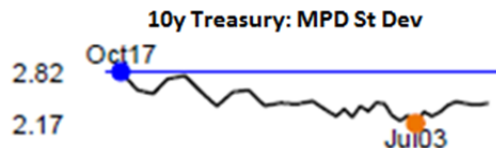
The median (risk-neutral) expected inflation rate for all expiries, as derived from caps and floors on the CPI, declined at the two and five year expiries. Market based uncertainty (MPD standard deviation) related to the median expectation is currently very low indicating high conviction about the expectation. Note narrowing of the middle of the MPDs in the graphs below.

Risk neutral bias is for lower inflation rates over the shorter term as measured by MPD skew. Over the next five years, MPD skew is close to zero indicating no bias toward higher or lower inflation rates.



Interest Rates

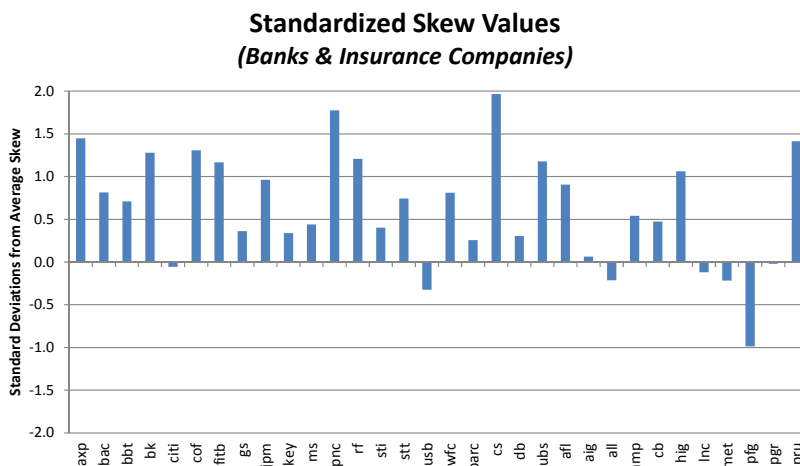
The risk neutral bias for near-term changes in the 10-year treasury price remains close to zero indicating relatively little expectation for rate changes in the near term. This is measured by MPD skew. Tail risks for rate changes as measured by MPD standard deviation are relatively low.



Banks & Insurance Companies

The S&P 500 was relatively unchanged over the past two weeks rising 0.3%. The average bank and insurance company in our universe of companies outpaced the broader market rising 1.3% and 0.7% respectively. Across the universe of bank and insurance company equities, tail risks as measured by MPD standard deviations remain low.

MPD skews are exhibiting more upside bias than they have over the past four years. In the graph below, we present MPD skews adjusted for their average values and standard deviations since 2010. That is, the graph shows Z-scores for bank skews. The adjustment allows us to account for the differing liquidity for the various firms as well as the fact that equity MPDs tend to be negatively skewed.



The graph indicates that, along with the general increase in share prices, risk neutral expectations are more biased toward upside price moves than they have been on average since 2010. Only C and USB have negative Z-scores among banks. The upward bias in skew is less pervasive among insurance companies and there are clear differences in the magnitudes across the companies.

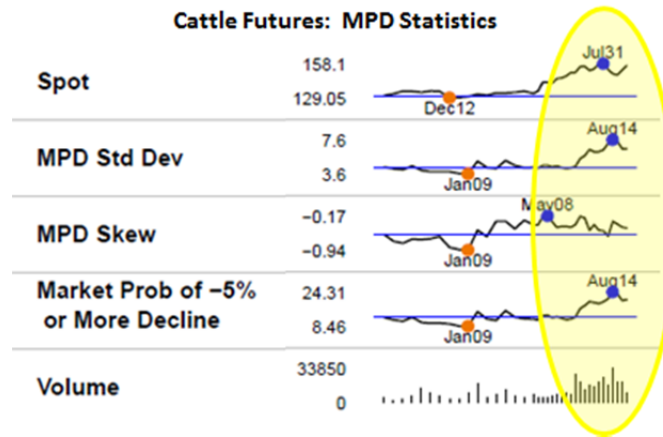
Other Commodity Markets

Spot prices were lower again across the range of physical commodities we track. Trading generally fell from two weeks ago. Tail risks as measured by MPD standard deviations were mixed. Across the set of exchange rate markets we follow, MPD standard deviations rose.

Additional Details:

- Trading in options on oil futures was light in both WTI and Brent crude markets. Traders had relatively more interest in trading options on WTI than Brent in the past two weeks which is a change from recent reports. MPD skews continue to indicate a bias toward lower prices.

- Trading was active again last week in all three currency markets we follow. MPD standard deviations, though at low levels, moved up indicating a change toward higher tail risk.
- Spot prices for corn, soybeans, and wheat futures dropped sharply. Options trading was relatively light and tail risks changes as measured by MPD standard deviations were mixed. MPD standard deviations remain near recent low levels.
- In contrast to the grain markets, spot prices for cattle futures remain near their recent highs. Tail risks have dropped from high levels over the past six weeks as has options activity even as prices rebounded.



Inflation MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Inflation (1-Year Expiry)				
Spot	1.62%	-0.002%		
MPD Std Dev	0.83%	-0.0041%		
MPD Skew	-0.5	0.063		
Market Prob of Less Than 1% Inflation	24.24%	0.3%		
Inflation (2-Year Expiry)				
Spot	1.87%	-0.034%		
MPD Std Dev	0.89%	0.0057%		
MPD Skew	-0.13	0.067		
Market Prob of Less Than 1% Inflation	17.47%	0.99%		
Inflation (5-Year Expiry)				
Spot	2.19%	-0.037%		
MPD Std Dev	0.95%	0.026%		
MPD Skew	0.06	0.098		
Market Prob of Less Than 1% Inflation	10.17%	1.2%		

Equity, Bond, and Index MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
S&P 500 (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	1997.65	0.27%		
MPD Std Dev	10.07%	0.041%		
MPD Skew	-1.2	0.077		
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	5.04%	-0.19%		
Volume	31240	-28%		
S&P 500 (12-Month Expiry)				
Spot	1997.65	0.27%		
MPD Std Dev	15.48%	0.32%		
MPD Skew	-1.22	0.033		
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	10.74%	0.19%		
Volume	30419	-30%		
10 Year Treasury (3-Month Expiry)				
Spot	124.98	-0.3%		
MPD Std Dev	2.43%	0.016%		
MPD Skew	-0.06	0.026		
Market Prob of -5% or More Decline	2.52%	0.0054%		
Volume	240180	-12%		
iShares US Real Estate Index (3-Month Expiry)				
Spot	74.12	-0.26%		
MPD Std Dev	5.63%	-0.29%		
MPD Skew	-0.88	0.31		
Market Prob of -10% or More Decline	6.17%	-2.3%		
Volume	17839	-56%		

Exchange Rate MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Dollar-Euro Futures (3-Month Expiry)				
Spot	1.29	-2.5%		
MPD Std Dev	3.4%	0.5%		
MPD Skew	-0.25	-0.27		
Market Prob of -10% or More Decline	0.44%	0.39%		
Volume	41854	19%		
Dollar-Pound Futures (3-Month Expiry)				
Spot	163.18	-1.6%		
MPD Std Dev	3.22%	0.75%		
MPD Skew	-0.25	-0.18		
Market Prob of -10% or More Decline	0.32%	0.31%		
Volume	8848	-29%		
Dollar-Yen Futures (3-Month Expiry)				
Spot	95.1	-1.3%		
MPD Std Dev	3.63%	0.25%		
MPD Skew	0.11	0.16		
Market Prob of -10% or More Decline	0.39%	0.09%		
Volume	8210	-63%		

Metal and Energy Commodity MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Gold (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	1267.3	-0.71%		
MPD Std Dev	9.41%	-0.49%		
MPD Skew	-0.08	-0.029		
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	2.39%	-0.54%		
Volume	3158	1.3%		
Silver (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	19.19	-1.5%		
MPD Std Dev	13.45%	-0.27%		
MPD Skew	-0.01	-0.013		
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	7.55%	0.45%		
Volume	1684	-64%		
West Texas Intermediate Crude (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	92.81	0.14%		
MPD Std Dev	11.6%	-0.62%		
MPD Skew	-0.42	-0.18		
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	5.69%	-0.39%		
Volume	11127	880%		
Brent Crude (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	104.6	0.72%		
MPD Std Dev	10.91%	-0.61%		
MPD Skew	-0.15	-0.016		
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	4.37%	-0.28%		
Volume	9125	-89%		

Agricultural Commodity MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Corn (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	359.5	-2.6%	513.25 359.5 47 month low	359.5 823.75 last 47 months
MPD Std Dev	15.52%	0.3%	21.43 12.43 Apr03 Jan23	15.52 29.14 last 47 months
MPD Skew	-0.02	0.047	0.31 -0.12 Jun26 Jan09	-0.02 0.36 last 47 months
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	10.7%	1.4%	18.97 5.73 Apr03 Jan23	10.7 29.69 last 47 months
Volume	51071	-65%	216660 0	51071 472954 last 47 months
Soybeans (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	1018.5	-2.6%	1343.75 1018.5 47 month low	1018.5 1691.25 last 47 months
MPD Std Dev	13.82%	0.96%	15.76 10.93 Apr17 Jan23	13.82 23.07 last 47 months
MPD Skew	-0.36	-0.13	0.17 -0.38 Apr03 Aug28	-0.36 0.75 last 47 months
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	8.75%	1.8%	10.49 4.07 Apr17 Jan23	8.75 22.49 last 47 months
Volume	15841	24%	238213 0	15841 326132 last 47 months
Wheat (6-Month Expiry)				
Spot	550	-0.99%	743.75 550 47 month low	550 930 last 47 months
MPD Std Dev	15.37%	-1.1%	21.56 12.95 Mar20 Dec12	15.37 28.19 last 47 months
MPD Skew	0.14	-0.13	0.4 0.03 Oct03 Jun12	0.14 0.54 last 47 months
Market Prob of -20% or More Decline	10.68%	-0.13%	19.59 5.67 Mar20 Dec12	10.68 29.32 last 47 months
Volume	4163	-86%	46977 0	4163 51689 last 47 months
Cattle (3-Month Expiry)				
Spot	156.7	5.5%	158.1 129.05 14 month high	129.05 158.1 last 14 months
MPD Std Dev	6.57%	-0.84%	7.6 3.6 Aug14 Jan09	6.57 7.6 last 14 months
MPD Skew	-0.44	-0.089	-0.17 -0.94 May08 Jan09	-0.44 -0.17 last 14 months
Market Prob of -5% or More Decline	20.88%	-2.7%	24.31 8.46 Aug14 Jan09	20.88 24.31 last 14 months
Volume	9508	-54%	33850 0	9508 33850 last 14 months

Bank MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
MPD Standard Deviation (3-Month Expiry)				
American Express	8.03%	-0.056%		48 month low 7.82 8.03 24.05 last 48 months
Bank of America	10.4%	0.17%		48 month low 10.22 10.4 44.07 last 48 months
BB&T	7.91%	0.09%		48 month low 7.29 7.91 27.58 last 48 months
Barclays	12.11%	-0.67%		48 month low 12.11 12.11 42.39 last 48 months
Bank of NY Mellon	8.92%	-0.21%		48 month low 7.88 8.92 27.34 last 48 months
Citigroup	9.09%	0.14%		48 month low 8.52 9.09 33.38 last 48 months
Capital One	8.36%	-0.54%		48 month low 7.72 8.36 29.49 last 48 months
Credit Suisse	11.93%	-0.3%		48 month low 9.84 11.93 34.13 last 48 months
Deutsche Bank	12.53%	-1.2%		48 month low 11.33 12.53 41.68 last 48 months
Fifth Third	9.57%	0.8%		48 month low 8.21 9.57 30.73 last 48 months
Goldman Sachs	8.6%	0.23%		48 month low 8.23 8.6 31.2 last 48 months
JP Morgan	8.73%	0.25%		48 month low 7.41 8.73 30.37 last 48 months
Keycorp	11.46%	-0.66%		48 month low 9.76 11.46 35.48 last 48 months
Morgan Stanley	11%	0.88%		48 month low 10.11 11 41.77 last 48 months
PNC Financial	7.6%	0.082%		48 month low 7.45 7.6 26.31 last 48 months
Regions Financial	10.93%	-0.1%		48 month low 10.93 10.93 39.37 last 48 months
SunTrust	10.01%	1.1%		48 month low 8.87 10.01 34.43 last 48 months
State Street	8.73%	-0.17%		48 month low 8.73 8.73 27.95 last 48 months
UBS	10.25%	-0.25%		48 month low 10.04 10.25 39.87 last 48 months
US Bancorp	7.39%	0.16%		Last time higher Jun2013 6.58 7.39 26.01 last 48 months
Wells Fargo	7.43%	-0.077%		48 month low 7.16 7.43 28.37 last 48 months

Bank MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
MPD Skew (3-Month Expiry)				
American Express	-0.38	0.033		
Bank of America	-0.32	0.081		
BB&T	-0.6	-0.18		
Barclays	-0.55	0.045		
Bank of NY Mellon	-0.51	0.082		
Citigroup	-0.53	-0.049		
Capital One	-0.47	0.15		
Credit Suisse	0.3	0.76		
Deutsche Bank	-0.55	-0.015		
Fifth Third	-0.27	0.35		
Goldman Sachs	-0.59	0.13		
JP Morgan	-0.52	0.038		
Keycorp	-0.5	0.19		
Morgan Stanley	-0.56	-0.076		
PNC Financial	-0.39	0.35		
Regions Financial	-0.28	-0.039		
SunTrust	-0.63	-0.1		
State Street	-0.55	0.22		
UBS	-0.01	1.2		
US Bancorp	-0.95	-0.44		
Wells Fargo	-0.63	-0.11		

Bank MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Market Probability of -20% or More Decline (3-Month Expiry)				
American Express	1.57%	-0.19%		48 month low 1.53 1.57 17.67 last 48 months
Bank of America	3.91%	0.017%		3.13 3.91 27.24 last 48 months
BB&T	2.17%	0.36%		48 month low 1.82 2.17 34.9 last 48 months
Barclays	5.54%	-2.3%		48 month low 5.54 5.54 30.94 last 48 months
Bank of NY Mellon	2.69%	-0.64%		1.72 2.69 21.34 last 48 months
Citigroup	2.79%	0.24%		1.93 2.79 24.59 last 48 months
Capital One	2.09%	-0.82%		1.64 2.09 21.29 last 48 months
Credit Suisse	4.99%	-1.8%		3.77 4.99 28.61 last 48 months
Deutsche Bank	7.05%	-0.95%		4.99 7.05 29.63 last 48 months
Fifth Third	3.24%	0.073%		0.99 3.24 27.19 last 48 months
Goldman Sachs	2.3%	0.014%		1.79 2.3 21.46 last 48 months
JP Morgan	2.8%	0.21%		1.31 2.8 20.52 last 48 months
Keycorp	5.02%	-1.7%		2.82 5.02 27.26 last 48 months
Morgan Stanley	5.13%	1.3%		48 month low 3.79 5.13 26.47 last 48 months
PNC Financial	1.43%	-0.32%		48 month low 1.43 1.43 17.91 last 48 months
Regions Financial	4.78%	-0.4%		3.64 4.78 29.69 last 48 months
SunTrust	3.98%	2%		1.73 3.98 26.4 last 48 months
State Street	2.23%	-0.85%		48 month low 2.23 2.23 19.69 last 48 months
UBS	3.12%	-1.8%		48 month low 3.12 3.12 27.33 last 48 months
US Bancorp	1.56%	0.27%		0.74 1.56 18.85 last 48 months
Wells Fargo	1.45%	-0.065%		1.3 1.45 20.71 last 48 months

Bank MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Volume (3-Month Expiry)				
American Express	4388	-39%	11926 0	623 - 4388 - 23041 last 48 months
Bank of America	32906	-60%	132589 0	7419 - 32906 - 363160 last 48 months
BB&T	815	-75%	6490 0	190 - 815 - 6903 last 48 months
Barclays	11011	3000%	11011 0	29 - 11011 - 15208 last 48 months
Bank of NY Mellon	349	370%	15678 0	59 - 349 - 17091 last 48 months
Citigroup	7132	20%	78527 0	1104 - 7132 - 284278 last 48 months
Capital One	689	-40%	9311 0	189 - 689 - 38646 last 48 months
Credit Suisse	132	120%	4011 0	0 - 132 - 14201 last 48 months
Deutsche Bank	1728	-23%	7910 0	62 - 1728 - 29575 last 48 months
Fifth Third	722	-84%	15351 0	28 - 722 - 19324 last 48 months
Goldman Sachs	6349	-5.1%	21840 0	296 - 6349 - 43413 last 48 months
JP Morgan	6393	-14%	52517 0	943 - 6393 - 119246 last 48 months
Keycorp	732	120%	2780 0	66 - 732 - 76270 last 48 months
Morgan Stanley	2961	-70%	32137 0	327 - 2961 - 84281 last 48 months
PNC Financial	635	-35%	4810 0	118 - 635 - 13224 last 48 months
Regions Financial	367	-90%	6989 0	20 - 367 - 19649 last 48 months
SunTrust	436	-89%	4232 0	61 - 436 - 13788 last 48 months
State Street	577	23%	5339 0	42 - 577 - 5370 last 48 months
UBS	484	460%	2766 0	6 - 484 - 6502 last 48 months
US Bancorp	243	-54%	5746 0	172 - 243 - 29201 last 48 months
Wells Fargo	12339	33%	121351 0	950 - 12339 - 167820 last 48 months

Insurance Company MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
MPD Standard Deviation (3-Month Expiry)				
Aflac	7.6%	0.3%		48 month low 7.29 [] 28.3 last 48 months
AIG	8.7%	-0.03%		48 month low 8.7 [] 34.63 last 48 months
Allstate	8.07%	1.2%		48 month low 5.83 [] 22.82 last 48 months
Ameriprise	9.91%	-0.58%		48 month low 9.76 [] 28.12 last 48 months
Chubb	6.76%	-0.71%		48 month low 6.43 [] 18.33 last 48 months
Hartford Financial	9.02%	-0.26%		48 month low 8.68 [] 34.59 last 48 months
Lincoln National	12.55%	1.7%		48 month low 10.28 [] 35.56 last 48 months
Met Life	10.19%	-0.56%		48 month low 10.08 [] 31.28 last 48 months
Principal Financial	12.22%	1.6%		48 month low 8.02 [] 34.89 last 48 months
Progressive	8.89%	0.71%		48 month low 6.2 [] 24.84 last 48 months
Prudential	10.33%	-0.16%		48 month low 10.11 [] 30.06 last 48 months

Insurance Company MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
MPD Skew (3-Month Expiry)				
Aflac	-0.61	0.056		
AIG	-0.52	0.04		
Allstate	-0.81	0.31		
Ameriprise	-0.65	0.032		
Chubb	-0.67	-0.2		
Hartford Financial	-0.44	0.42		
Lincoln National	-0.73	-0.16		
Met Life	-0.79	-0.21		
Principal Financial	-1.62	1.2		
Progressive	-1	1.1		
Prudential	-0.42	0.34		

Insurance Company MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Market Probability of -20% or More Decline (3-Month Expiry)				
Aflac	1.75%	0.2%		
AIG	2.55%	-0.042%		
Allstate	2.29%	0.88%		
Ameriprise	3.69%	-1.2%		
Chubb	1.12%	-0.37%		
Hartford Financial	3.12%	-0.5%		
Lincoln National	7.6%	2.9%		
Met Life	4.17%	-0.88%		
Principal Financial	9.34%	2.3%		
Progressive	4.38%	1.9%		
Prudential	4.27%	-0.95%		

Insurance Company MPD Statistics as of September 04, 2014

Indicator	Latest	2-Week Change	1-Year Trend with min/max points	Long-Term Range with median, IQR, and max/min
Volume (3-Month Expiry)				
Aflac	1010	-60%	3933 0	1010 541 22718 last 48 months
AIG	2225	-82%	38744 0	2225 432 103998 last 48 months
Allstate	275	-32%	5708 0	275 119 93106 last 48 months
Ameriprise	51	-64%	1114 0	51 5 1317 last 48 months
Chubb	286	250%	2541 0	286 43 30168 last 48 months
Hartford Financial	440	-77%	13441 0	440 198 37285 last 48 months
Lincoln National	290	-61%	8403 0	290 51 10682 last 48 months
Met Life	487	29%	14685 0	487 319 161416 last 48 months
Principal Financial	294	280%	306 0	294 2 3846 last 48 months
Progressive	26	-93%	680 0	26 0 4335 last 48 months
Prudential	4364	380%	13225 0	4364 222 13225 last 48 months