## **Alternative Reference Rates Committee (ARRC)**

### Minutes for the September 26, 2023 Meeting

The ARRC Chair welcomed participants to the virtual meeting and kicked-off by introducing a discussion on overall transition-related progress and issues observed in the market in the months following the cessation of representative LIBOR on June 30. ARRC members broadly characterized the passage and aftermath of the LIBOR transition milestone as smooth and uneventful. In particular, in regard to the loan market, staff from the Loan Syndications and Trading Association (LSTA) noted that the USD LIBOR transition has been largely completed in both the leveraged loan and CLO markets following numerous LIBOR fallback amendments executed in June and several add-on amendments completed in the following months. The LSTA highlighted, however, that while a loan or CLO may currently reference SOFR, the contracts may not start making payments based on SOFR until the next interest rate reset period. In terms of operational considerations, the LSTA suggests that agent banks ensure that their rate reset notices separate the credit spread adjustment (CSA), margin, and all-in rate from the reference rate in order to provide lenders increased visibility into each interest rate component and comply with managed portfolio (such as CLO) indentures. (Appendix A)

The Operations/Infrastructure Working Group then provided an update on usage of the <a href="DTCC LIBOR Replacement Index Communication Tool">DTCC LIBOR Replacement Index Communication Tool</a> aimed at facilitating effective and efficient communication of rate changes in LIBOR contracts. As of September, more than 126 thousand notifications had been received by the tool. (Appendix B) Usage of the tool across issuers, agents, trustees, and market data providers has reportedly been smooth. It was noted that a majority of securities have now had their last LIBOR-linked coupons, with coupon resets to alternative reference rates such as SOFR having largely occurred throughout August and September.

Next, the Regulatory Issues Working Group provided an update on their engagement with the CFTC regarding the request for Pre-Trade Mid Mark relief currently afforded to certain swaps referencing USD LIBOR to be extended to the swap market's predominant reference rate, SOFR OIS. They indicated that the ARRC position request letter had been formally filed with the CFTC and was currently under review.

In the final segment, the ARRC discussed a draft of its closing report which is intended to provide an overview of its final reflections on the transition from LIBOR. The ARRC Chair ended the meeting by requesting members to review the <a href="September 26 Meeting Readout">September 26 Meeting Readout</a>, which was subsequently published, and to provide feedback on the draft ARRC closing

held in-person later this Fall.	-

report. The ARRC Chair thanked the members and noted that the next ARRC meeting will be

### Attendance at the September 26, 2023 Meeting\*

#### **ARRC Members**

MetLife

American Bankers Association Hu Benton
American Bankers Association Sayee Srinivasan

Association for Financial Professionals

Bank of America

Bank of New York Mellon

Bank of New York Mellon

Oliver Bader

Bank of New York Mellon Jeanne Naughton-Carr

BlackRock Jack Hattem
Citigroup Peter Phelan
Citigroup Luis Asturizaga
CME Group Agha Mirza
Comerica Bank Mathew Cornish
Deutsche Bank Kayam Rajaram
Fannie Mae Wells Engledow

Fannie Mae Bob Ives

Ford Jason Behnke Freddie Mac Ameez Nanjee Freddie Mac Guim Barbour Freddie Mac Samuel Chapin Freddie Mac Allan Krinsman Freddie Mac Karen Pilewski **GE Capital** Fred Robustelli **GE Capital** Mike Taets

Goldman Sachs
Government Finance Officers Association
Government Finance Officers Association
Government Finance Officers Association
Emily Brock
HSBC
Kelli Keenan
Huntington National Bank
Larry Heath

Intercontinental Exchange Harvey Flax
International Swaps and Derivatives Association Ann Battle
JP Morgan Chase & Co. Alice Wang
JP Morgan Chase & Co. Emilio Jimenez
KKR Tal Reback

London Clearing HousePhil WhitehurstLoan Syndications and Trading AssociationTess VirmaniLoan Syndications and Trading AssociationMeredith CoffeyMetLifeJoseph DemetrickMetLifeAlex Strickler

William Ding

Morgan Stanley Maria Douvas-Orme

National Association of Corporate Treasurers

PIMCO

PNC

Alexander Spiro

Andrew Wilson

Prudential Financial Gary Horbacz
Prudential Financial Chris McAlister
Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association Chris Killian
TD Bank Sumant Gupta

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Wells Fargo

Wells Fargo

World Bank

Kristen Malinconico

Jessica Murphy

Alexis Pederson

Don Sinclair

#### **Ex-Officio ARRC Members**

Commodity Futures Trading Commission Alicia Lewis

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Abhishek Agarwal Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Irina Leonova Federal Housing Finance Agency **Daniel Coates** Jim Winning Federal Housing Finance Agency Federal Housing Finance Agency Muna Sisay Federal Reserve Bank of New York Pooja Gupta Federal Reserve Bank of New York Jamie Pfeifer Federal Reserve Bank of New York Justine Hansen Federal Reserve Bank of New York Mari Baca

Federal Reserve Bank of New York Sophie Legrand-Green

Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Federal Reserve Board of Governors

David Bowman

Ginnie Mae

Carol Vilsack

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Kevin Walsh

Ang Middleton

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Maria Chelo De Venecia

U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission

U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission

U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission

U.S. Treasury

U.S. Treasury

U.S. Treasury

Anu Murgai

U.S. Treasury

Timothy Chu

#### **Observers**

Bank of Canada Sheryl King
BNP Paribas Simon Winn

CadwaladerLary StromfeldDeloitteAlexey SurkovMorgan LewisJon RoellkeState StreetScott Longo

<sup>\*</sup>This meeting was held via WebEx; asterisk indicates participation by dial-in.

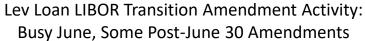
## Appendix A

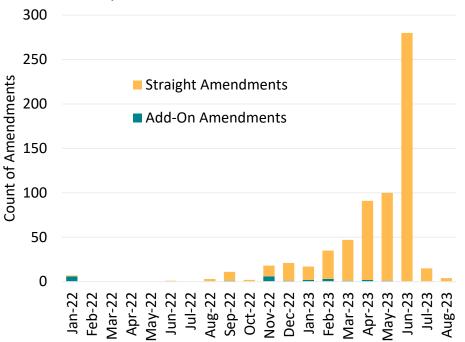


## **USD LIBOR Transition for Business Loans**

September 2023

## LIBOR Transition: Status as of Sept 2023





- USD LIBOR transition has been largely completed in the US BSL Leveraged Loan and CLO markets.
- LevFin Insights publicly tracked a flurry of "LIBOR Fallback" amendments in June 2023, and several clean-up amendments were executed in July and August.
- J.P. Morgan tracks reference rate language. As
  of the end of August, 76% of the loans in the
  J.P. Morgan Leveraged Loan Index referenced
  SOFR and 99% of CLO floating rate liabilities
  referenced SOFR.
- It is important to understand that while a loan or CLO liability may already <u>reference</u> SOFR, they may not start <u>paying</u> SOFR until the next interest period begins.

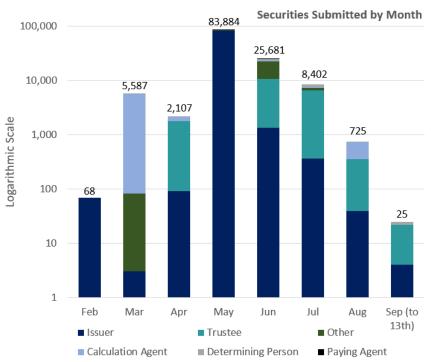
# LIBOR Transition: Operational Suggestions for Business Loans

- Ideally, agents should help lenders have visibility into each interest rate component by utilizing the individual fields in their interest rate and rollover notices to separately depict:
  - 1. Reference Rate (SOFR)
  - 2. CSA
  - 3. Margin
  - 4. All-in-Rate
- In a SOFR reference rate environment, many managed portfolios' indentures require that the Weighted-Average-Spread tests separately depict Reference Rate (SOFR) / CSA / Margin / All-in-Rate.
- If agent banks have not configured their notices to separate the CSA from the reference rate (or state
  explicitly that the CSA is 0.00 and then incorporate it into the reference rate value), it has been
  necessary to manually review the portfolios each month to separate the two rates to generate CLO
  compliance reports.

## **Appendix B**



## **LIBOR Tool Metrics**



- September to date has seen the lowest number of submissions, 25 as of the 13th.
- Largest number of submissions have been from issuers where Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac accounted for 55.3% and 41.8% of the total Issuer submissions, respectively.
- In terms of the benchmarks submitted to the tool, majority was Term SOFR with 71%, followed by other SOFR Based ARRs (e.g., SOFR 30,90,180) with 28%.

Submitter Type	Term SOFR	SOFR Based ARRs*	Other ARR**	Total	% of Total
Issuer	49,033	33,840	898	83,771	66.2%
Trustee	18,821	424	209	19,454	15.4%
Other	11,373	1,247	6	12,626	10.0%
Calculation Agent	7,426	226	344	7,996	6.3%
Paying Agent	1,751	22	61	1,834	1.5%
Determining Person	773	13	12	798	0.6%
Grand Total	89,177	35,772	1,530	126,479	100.0%

<sup>\*</sup>SOFR Based ARRs include SOFR 30, SOFR 90, SOFR 180, SOFR Spread-Adjusted ISR 5Y, SOFR Spread-Adjusted ISR 10Y, and SOFR Spread-Adjusted ISR 30Y

<sup>\*\*</sup>Other ARR also includes submissions where Fallback Rate Index value is blank