



2015 DFAST Annual Stress Test Disclosure

March 2015



AMERICAN EXPRESS



Overview

- In accordance with the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and implementing regulations issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the “Federal Reserve”), American Express Company (the “Company”) must conduct company-run stress tests of a minimum of five scenarios. These include supervisory baseline, supervisory adverse and supervisory severely adverse scenarios developed by the Federal Reserve, and baseline and severely adverse scenarios developed by the Company.
- The results of these stress tests are reported to the Federal Reserve, and the Company is also required to publicly disclose a summary of the results of the supervisory severely adverse scenario (the “Fed Severely Adverse Scenario”).
- Results are determined using the following capital action assumptions provided within the Dodd-Frank Act Stress Testing (“DFAST”) rules:
 - Capital actions (i.e. common stock dividends and share repurchases) for Q4 2014 were the actual capital actions taken in that quarter.
 - For the second through ninth quarters of the planning horizon:
 - Common stock dividends were equal to the quarterly average dollar amount of common stock dividends that the Company declared in the previous year (Q1 2014 – Q4 2014). This figure was \$0.26 per share per quarter.
 - Payments on any other instrument that is eligible for inclusion in the numerator of a regulatory capital ratio were equal to the stated dividend, interest, or principal due on such instrument during the quarter.
 - No redemption or repurchase occurred of any capital instrument that is eligible for inclusion in the numerator of a regulatory capital ratio.
- These assumptions are required by the Federal Reserve and are used for the sole purpose of conducting the required stress tests. However, these assumptions may not represent actual capital actions that may be taken by the Company in the future, nor the actual capital actions that may be taken should severely adverse conditions develop.



Fed Severely Adverse Scenario Description

- The Company's stress test results represent estimates under a hypothetical macroeconomic scenario developed by the Federal Reserve that is more adverse than the current macroeconomic environment and the consensus macroeconomic environment forecasted by economists. Thus, these estimates are not forecasts of expected losses, revenues, net income before taxes or capital ratios and are not necessarily indicative of future performance under a severe stress scenario. Actual results could differ materially.
- The Fed Severely Adverse Scenario, which was published by the Federal Reserve on October 23, 2014, reflects a hypothetical global macroeconomic environment, which includes the following assumptions:
 - A substantial weakening in global economic activity, accompanied by large reductions in asset prices.
 - The U.S. corporate sector experiences increases in financial distress that are even greater than would be expected in a severe recession, together with a widening in corporate bond spreads and a decline in equity prices.
 - A rise in oil prices (Brent crude) to approximately \$110 per barrel.

2015 DFAST Annual Stress Test: Fed Severely Adverse Scenario Results



Actual Q3 2014 and hypothetical stressed capital ratios and risk-weighted assets Q4 2014 through Q4 2016 under the Fed Severely Adverse Scenario

	Actual Q3 2014	Stressed Capital Ratios	
		Ending Q4 2016	Minimum
Tier 1 Common Ratio (%)	13.2%	16.3%	13.1%
Common Equity Tier 1 Capital Ratio (%) ^{1,2}	13.6%	16.2%	13.6%
Tier 1 Risk-based Capital Ratio (%) ²	13.6%	16.8%	14.1%
Total Risk-based Capital Ratio (%) ²	15.1%	18.6%	16.1%
Tier 1 Leverage Ratio (%) ²	11.6%	13.8%	12.0%
Memo items: Risk-weighted assets (billions of dollars)²			
General approach (Basel I)	128.9	112.5	
Basel III standardized approach		113.0	

1. Advanced approaches bank holding companies (“BHCs”) are subject to the common equity tier 1 (“CET1”) ratio for each quarter of 2014. All BHCs are subject to the CET1 ratio for each quarter of 2015, 2016 and beyond. The Company meets the definition of an advanced approaches BHC, which includes any BHC that has consolidated assets greater than or equal to \$250 billion or total consolidated on-balance sheet foreign exposure of at least \$10 billion, and is therefore subject to the CET1 ratio requirement beginning in Q1 2014.
2. Consistent with the Federal Reserve’s capital transition rules, for each quarter in 2014, risk-weighted assets are calculated using the Basel I risk-based capital approach. For each quarter in 2015 and 2016, risk-weighted assets are calculated under the Basel III standardized capital risk-based approach. The Company is currently in parallel run for the Basel III advanced approaches methodology to risk-weighted assets, and is not required to report its results under such advanced approaches until it receives regulatory approval to exit parallel run.



2015 DFAST Annual Stress Test: Fed Severely Adverse Scenario Results



9–quarter cumulative P&L metrics under the Fed Severely Adverse Scenario (Q4 2014 – Q4 2016)

	Billions of Dollars	Percent of Average Assets ¹
Pre-Provision Net Revenue	17.8	12.4%
Other Revenue ²	0.0	
Less		
Provisions	12.0	
Realized (Gains)/Losses on Securities (AFS/HTM)	(0.0)	
Trading and Counterparty Losses ³	0.0	
Other Losses/(Gains) ⁴	0.3	
Equals		
Net Income Before Taxes	5.5	3.8%
Memo items (billions of dollars):		
Other comprehensive income ⁵	0.0	
<i>Other effects on capital</i>	<i>Actual Q3 2014</i>	<i>Q4 2016</i>
AOCI included in capital ⁶	(1.3)	(1.4)

1. Average assets is the nine-quarter average of total assets.

2. Other revenue includes one-time income/(expense) items not included in pre-provision net revenue.

3. Trading and counterparty losses include mark-to-market losses, changes in credit valuation adjustments and incremental default losses.

4. Other losses/(gains) include losses from our GNMS business that are not loan losses.

5. Advanced approaches BHCs, such as the Company, must include accumulated other comprehensive income (“AOCI”) in calculations of regulatory capital. Other comprehensive income includes incremental unrealized losses/gains on available -for-sale (“AFS”) securities and on any held-to-maturity (“HTM”) securities that have experienced other than temporary impairment.

6. For advanced approaches BHCs, 20 percent of AOCI is included in capital calculations for 2014, 40 percent for 2015, and 60 percent for 2016, respectively.



2015 DFAST Annual Stress Test: Fed Severely Adverse Scenario Results



9-quarter cumulative loan losses by type of loans under the Fed Severely Adverse Scenario (Q4 2014 – Q4 2016)

	Billions of Dollars	Portfolio Loss Rates (%) ¹
Loans Losses	10.4	10.5%
First Lien Mortgages, Domestic	0.0	0.0%
Junior Liens and HELOCs, Domestic	0.0	0.0%
Commercial and Industrial ²	2.9	9.4%
Commercial Real Estate	0.0	0.0%
Credit Cards ³	7.4	11.0%
Other Consumer	0.0	0.0%
Other Loans ⁴	0.1	6.5%

1. Average loan balances used to calculate portfolio loss rates exclude loans held for sale and loans held for investment under the fair-value option, and are calculated over nine quarters.

2. Commercial and industrial loan losses include Corporate Cards and OPEN Charge and Lending.

3. Credit card losses include USCS consumer and ICSS charge and lending.

4. Other loans losses include merchant financing losses from the GMS business.

Key Drivers of Pro Forma Common Equity Tier 1 and Total Capital Ratios under Fed Severely Adverse Scenario



Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) Capital Ratio



Total Risk-based Capital Ratio



1. "Other" includes deferred tax asset ("DTA"), goodwill and intangibles amortization, issuance of employee compensation, and AOCI.

2. "Capital Actions" include capital distribution, issuance of preferred stock, and issuance and phase out of subordinated debt.

3. "Other" includes DTA, goodwill and intangibles amortization, issuance of employee compensation, AOCI, and allowance for loan and lease losses ("ALLL").



Risk Types

- In this stress test, the Company intends to capture its material exposures, activities and risks through estimates of operating performance and capital positions under a hypothetical Fed Severely Adverse Scenario. The types of risks in this hypothetical scenario include:

Key Risks	Effect on Business	Components
Business risk	Decline in business volume of Charge and Credit card portfolios	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Provision Net Revenue (“PPNR”) • Net Interest Income (“NII”)
Credit Risk	Increase in credit losses in the loan and receivable portfolios	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision for Loan Losses • ALLL
Operational Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure of internal process, people or systems • External legal and regulatory fines 	Non-interest expense: Operational Loss
Market Risks (including interest rate and credit spread)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in funding cost • Decline in value of AFS investments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NII • Other Than Temporary Impairment (“OTTI”) • AOCI



Stress Test Methodology: Overview

- The Company uses proprietary forecasting models, as well as management judgment, to estimate the income statement, balance sheet and off-balance sheet exposures by portfolio or business line for the nine-quarter period (“planning horizon”) beginning Q4 2014.
- To project its capital positions, the Company estimates the economic impacts to PPNR and losses under the Fed Severely Adverse Scenario.
 - PPNR includes net interest income, non-interest income and non-interest expense.
 - Losses include provision for loan losses reflecting net write-off of loans and receivables and changes in reserves, and losses associated with AFS investment securities.
 - Risk-weighted assets (“RWA”) reflect Basel I approach for 2014 and Basel III standardized approach for 2015 and 2016 applied to a balance sheet projection under the macroeconomic conditions of the Fed Severely Adverse Scenario.



Stress Test Methodology: PPNR

- Non-interest income and non-interest expense are calculated by using proprietary forecasting models that incorporate the Company's historical results and correlations, to generate estimates of business metrics, such as billed business volumes and losses related to operational risk events.
 - Billed Business forecasts are determined by using portfolio specific models that estimate the statistical relationship between macroeconomic conditions and Card Member behavior for the Company's card portfolios based on historical experience.
 - Operational loss forecasts are determined by using statistical models based on historical loss experience, event-driven idiosyncratic scenario analysis, and complementary Basel models that help to mitigate model uncertainty.
 - The historical relationships utilized in the models are expected to be maintained as the Company's business mix had not materially changed since the last economic downturn.
 - Management considered the Company's actions and experience in prior economic downturns to estimate reductions to operating expenses.
- Net interest income is determined by using proprietary forecasting models to forecast loan balances, credit spreads, interest rate curves, funding plans, and other balance sheet items based on the macroeconomic variables in the Fed Severely Adverse Scenario over the planning horizon beginning Q4 2014.
 - Card Member loan forecasts are determined by using portfolio specific models that estimate the statistical relationship between macroeconomic conditions and Card Member behavior for the Company's lending portfolios based on historical experience. These models incorporate known drivers of loan growth such as remittances and credit losses.



Stress Test Methodology: Losses

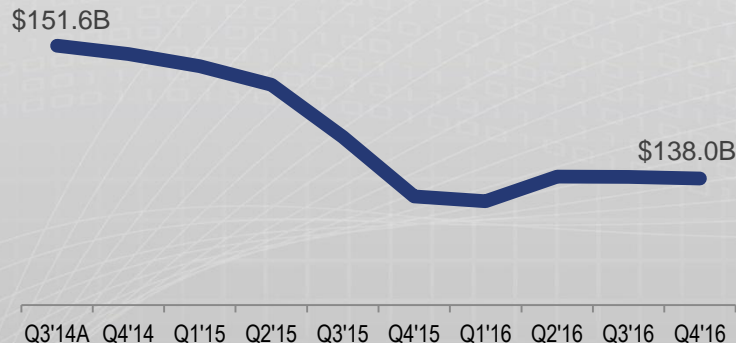
- Provision for loan losses is determined by using portfolio specific models that estimate the statistical relationship between macroeconomic conditions and credit loss for the Company's card portfolios based on historical experience. These models incorporate known drivers of credit risk and reflect changes in portfolio composition over time.
 - Econometric models are used to project gross charge-off performance at the loan portfolio segment level; risk-based segment migration over time is also projected as a function of macroeconomic variables.
 - Recovery performance is modeled at the portfolio level as a function of both macroeconomic variables and historical charge-offs available for collections.
 - The key macroeconomic drivers are unemployment rate and GDP, although some models incorporate home price index, equity index, and other relevant variables, as well as variables specific to the corporate portfolio (such as industrial production).
- Losses associated with AFS investment securities are assessed for OTTI each quarter over the planning horizon starting in Q4 2014. Based on historical credit rating downgrade information, the Company evaluates its AFS investments using ratings migration analyses through the Fed Severely Adverse Scenario. For securities projected to incur OTTI, a credit risk portion of the OTTI is allocated based on historical market data and recovery rates.

Stress Test Methodology: Projection of Balance Sheet and Risk-Weighted Assets

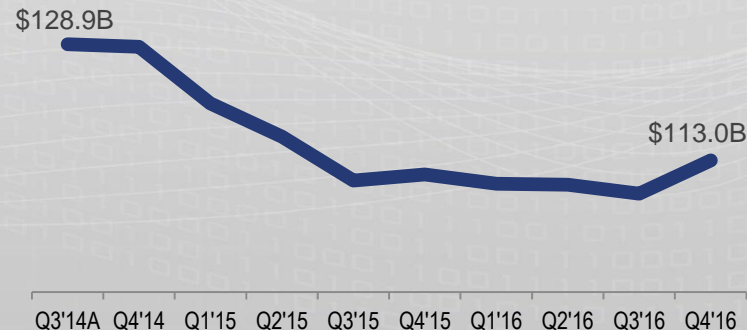


- Under the Fed Severely Adverse Scenario, the Company estimates that revenues would decline driven by declines in business volumes.
- The lowered billed business volumes would lead to lower accounts receivables and loan balances as consumers, small businesses and corporations reduce spending under a severe macroeconomic downturn.
- These estimates are consistent with the Company's historical experiences, including the 2008-09 economic downturn.
- The reduced level of asset balances would cause the expected level of average assets and risk-weighted assets over the planning horizon to be lower than most recent actual levels.

Average Assets



Risk-weighted Assets



The image features a stylized, semi-transparent globe in shades of blue and grey. The globe shows the continents of North and South America. Overlaid on the center of the globe is a solid blue square. Inside this square, the words "AMERICAN" and "EXPRESS" are written in a white, bold, sans-serif font, stacked vertically. The background of the entire image is a light grey with a subtle pattern of binary code (0s and 1s) and faint, curved lines suggesting global connectivity.

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Additional Information

The stress test results presented herein differ from the stress test results disclosed by the Company in September 2014, due to differences in timing, methodologies and macroeconomic assumptions used, and are therefore not comparable. In addition, the Company's stress test results differ from the stress test results provided by the Federal Reserve based on its own analysis and made public on March 5, 2015, due to differences in methodologies and assumptions used.

Additional information on required stress testing, the Fed Severely Adverse Scenario and the DFAST rules is available on the Federal Reserve's website at <http://www.federalreserve.gov>.

Please refer to the Company's 2014 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for a description of the Company's capital planning and risk management processes and certain risks that could affect the Company and its operations.