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FCA board receives annual report on the Farm Credit System's young, beginning and small farmer lending

McLEAN, Va., Aug. 9, 2018 — At its monthly meeting today, the Farm Credit Administration board received FCA's 2017 Annual Report on the Farm Credit System's Young, Beginning, and Small (YBS) Farmer Mission Performance.

Outstanding loans

From Dec. 31, 2016, to Dec. 31, 2017, the dollar volume of total System loans grew by 3.1 percent. Loan dollar volume outstanding to young farmers grew by 4.8 percent, to beginning farmers by 5.3 percent, and to small farmers by 2.0 percent.

At the same time, the *number* of total System loans outstanding declined by 3.2 percent. The number of loans outstanding to young farmers declined by 1.9 percent but remained the same for beginning farmers, and the number of loans outstanding to small farmers declined by 2.3 percent.

New loans

The System's overall new loan dollar volume declined by 0.9 percent in 2017. New loan dollar volume to young farmers declined by 1.5 percent, to beginning farmers by 1.8 percent, and to small farmers by 4.2 percent.

For total System loans, the number of new loans made in 2017 dropped by 9.8 percent compared with 2016. The number of loans to young and small farmers dropped by 8.5 percent, and the number of new loans made to beginning farmers dropped by 6.8 percent.

System institutions are required by law and FCA regulation to maintain programs to provide sound and constructive credit and related services to YBS farmers and ranchers. They must report annually to FCA on their YBS lending activity.

For more information about the System's YBS farmer lending in 2017, see the [related fact sheet](#). Also, see the [PowerPoint presentation](#) used at the FCA board meeting.

Notational votes

Since the July 12 FCA board meeting, two notational votes have occurred. Notational votes are actions taken by the FCA board between board meetings.

- On July 20, the board approved the Fall 2018 Abstract of the Unified Agenda of Federal Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions and the [Fall 2018 Regulatory Projects Plan](#).
- On Aug. 6, the FCA board approved a special assessment on Farm Credit System banks to cover the expenses for the Farm Credit Administration building.

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The Farm Credit Administration is the safety and soundness regulator of the Farm Credit System. The System consists of two government-sponsored enterprises — a nationwide network of cooperative banks and associations established in 1916, and a secondary market entity known as the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation (Farmer Mac), which was established in 1988. The System's borrower-owned banks and associations provide credit to farmers, ranchers, residents of rural communities, agricultural and rural utility cooperatives, and other eligible and creditworthy borrowers. Farmer Mac provides a secondary market for agricultural real estate loans, rural housing mortgage loans, and certain rural utility loans. Members of the FCA board are Dallas P. Tonsager, board chairman and CEO; Jeffery S. Hall; and Glen R. Smith.

Note: FCA news releases are available on the web at www.fca.gov.