California’s economy continued to expand, but at a slower pace as job growth dipped below the national average for the first time in several years, constrained by tightening labor markets. Home price appreciation was robust but steady, especially in coastal markets. Per capita single family housing permit volumes continued to trail the nation due to land, labor, and other constraints, which further strained affordability.

California’s banks continued to perform well, yet the average loan growth rate, which ranked fourth best in the nation, slipped in recent quarters. Year-to-date profitability measures were solid and improved year-over-year, led mainly by lower overhead ratios. Nonperforming assets to total assets remained minimal, ranking second lowest among states, while banks maintained relatively high commercial real estate exposures. While total securities and investments remained relatively low as a percent of assets, California banks maintained good balance sheet liquidity based on short-term investments measures.

Key Economic Metrics (ranking #1 = highest in the nation)

Year-over-Year Job Growth: 1.5%
Rank: #22

Unemployment: 4.7%
Rank: #11

Year-over-Year Home Price Growth: 9.0%
Rank: #10

Single Family Permits / 1,000 Residents: 1.4
Rank: #42

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Banks at a Glance: California

Key Banking Metrics (averages across banks; ranking #1 = highest in the nation)

**Year-to-Date Return on Average Assets: 0.97%**

Rank: #7

**Year-over-Year Net Loan Growth: 11.2%**

Rank: #4

**Nonperforming Assets / Total Assets: 0.30%**

Rank: #49

**Total Risk-Based Capital: 15.5%**

Rank: #36

**CRE Concentration: 262%**

Rank: #4

**Securities and Liquid Invest. / Total Assets: 24.7%**

Rank: #37

Source: Call Report data for commercial banks based upon headquarters location. Averages are calculated on a “trimmed” basis by removing the highest 10% and lowest 10% of ratio values prior to averaging to prevent distortion from outliers. All charts display quarterly data, except for return on average assets which displays the same quarter in each year.

Growth rates are not adjusted for mergers. Graphics and data exclude “De Novo” banks (banks less than five years old). As of the latest period, the count of banks included in these statistics were 160 for the state and 4,978 for the nation.

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