



CU Performance Benchmark Report

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. How are the reports created?

NAFCU's CU Performance Benchmark Report is created using NCUA quarterly call report data to create a broad range of financial performance ratios. NAFCU then aggregates call report data for peer groups in order to create benchmark ratios. The peer groups used are asset size (broadest), NCUA region and asset size, and state and asset size (narrowest). Credit unions should select the peer group that is most appropriate for benchmarking purposes.
2. When are the reports released?

NCUA generally releases call report data two months after the end of each quarter. Once that occurs, NAFCU spends about a week processing the data, generating the reports, and validating them for accuracy.
3. Why can't I download my report from the NAFCU website?

If you have difficulty downloading reports, please make sure that you are first logged in to the NAFCU website. If you are logged in and are still having difficulty downloading the reports, please reach out to NAFCU Research at research@nafcu.org.
4. Who is eligible to receive the reports?

The CU Performance Benchmark Report is a part of your NAFCU dues. Any employee or volunteer of a NAFCU member is eligible to sign up for the report on NAFCU's website. Once reports are available, those who are signed up will receive an email alerting them to the availability of the new round of reports. At this time, non-members are not eligible to receive the report.
5. How do I sign up to receive my report?

If you are an employee or volunteer of a NAFCU member credit union, simply log in to the NAFCU website and then click on the "subscribe online" link [here](#).
6. Can I get prior versions of my report?

Yes. Just email NAFCU's research division at research@nafcu.org.
7. Which credit unions are in my peer group?

NAFCU creates peer groups along three dimensions. All federally-insured credit unions with the same characteristics are in the peer group. The peer groups are:

 - Asset class
 - \$0-50M
 - \$50M-\$100M
 - \$100M-\$500M
 - \$500M-\$1B
 - Over \$1B
 - Region and asset class – those within the same asset class and in the same [NCUA region](#).
 - State and asset class – those within the same asset class and headquartered in the same state.

8. Can I create my own peer group?

Not at this time.

9. Why are the ratios different from the ones in NCUA's [Financial Performance Report \(FPR\)](#)?

NAFCU uses a different method for calculating ratios than NCUA. For growth rates, NAFCU uses year-over-year growth, whereas NCUA annualizes growth for the current calendar year. For ratios that use year-to-date data, NAFCU sums the most recent 12 months of data. For example, return on average assets (ROA) in the first quarter of 2014 would reflect net income from 2013 Q2 through 2014 Q1. NCUA's calculation would take only first quarter net earnings and then annualize it. NAFCU believes that its approach provides a better metric by minimizing seasonal distortions and reducing volatility, particularly early in the year.

10. Why do the peer averages from the Performance Benchmark Report match those from your [CU Industry Trends](#) report?

The Benchmark Report uses a consistent sample from one year to the next. This means that those credit unions which disappeared over the past year due to merger or liquidation are removed from the calculations entirely. This is to enable report users to compare themselves to their existing peers.

For the CU Industry Trends report, all credit unions are included in the calculations, even those which no longer exist due to merger or liquidation. The purpose is to provide broad trends within the industry, and consolidation is an important element to consider.

11. How do I find a ratio that does not appear on the report?

If there is a ratio that would be useful to you and your board, please contact NAFCU's research division at research@nafcu.org.