|  |
| --- |
| Table 1: Rural Mainstreet Economy Last 2 Months & One Year Ago: (index > 50 indicates expansion) |
|  | March 2022 | Feb. 2023 | March 2023 |
| Area Economic Index | 65.4 | 50.1 | 45.6 |
| Loan Volume | 61.9 | 48.1 | 63.0 |
| Checking Deposits | 78.8 | 38.5 | 40.9 |
| Certificates of Deposit and Savings Instruments | 40.4 | 57.7 | 75.0 |
| Farmland Prices | 78.0 | 63.5 | 63.0 |
| Farm Equipment Sales | 72.2 | 52.1 | 59.5 |
| Home Sales | 69.2 | 37.0 | 36.4 |
| Hiring  | 63.5 | 48.1 | 45.5 |
| Retail Business | 51.9 | 50.0 | 41.3 |
| Confidence Index (area economy six months out) | 54.0 | 44.4 | 39.1 |

|  |
| --- |
| Table 2: The Rural Mainstreet Economy, March 2023 |
|  | Percentage of Bankers Reporting |
|  | Decline4% to 6% | Decline1% to 3% | No Change | Increase1% to 6% | Increase7% to 9% |
| Regarding farmland (non-irrigated) prices, how much do you expect prices to change over the next 12 months: | 17.4% | 13.0% | 21.7% | 39.1% | 8.8% |
|  |
|  | Percentage of Bankers Reporting |
|  | No Change in Credit Standards | Tightened Credit Standards |
| Which of the following best describes your latest farm loans (compared to last year at this time): | 86.4% | 13.6% |
|  |
|  | Percentage of Bankers Reporting |
|  | Make NoChanges | Raise Ratesby 0.25% | Raise Rates by0.50% |
| At the next meeting of the Fed's interest rate setting committee on March 21-22, they should: | 13.0% | 56.5% | 30.5% |

Follow Ernie Goss on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/erniegoss](http://www.twitter.com/erniegoss)

or historical data and forecasts, visit our website:

<https://www.creighton.edu/economicoutlook/>

For ongoing commentary on recent economic developments, visit our blog at:

<http://www.economictrends.blogspot.com/>

For more business insights from Goss and Creighton University, tune into the [Creighton Talks Business](https://open.spotify.com/show/6zoOWIqB5JvLjmSmXOBE1Z) podcast.