

Tracing Bank Runs in Real Time

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The views expressed in the presentation are those of the speaker and do not necessarily reflect views of the Federal Reserve Banks of New York or Richmond, or the Federal Reserve System.

Old time bank runs



Modern bank runs

- Running depositors **wire** their money to another bank
- We study March 2023 bank runs using **real-time wire transfer data**
 - Full cross-section of banks incl. non-public & run banks that did not fail
 - Hypothetical observation:

Date	Time	Sender	Receiver	Amount
12/25/2022	9:32:12	Bank A	Bank X	\$5,670,000.00

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- How were they run?
- How did they respond?

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Recap: One week in March 2023 (from public sources)

Wed, Mar 8: Silicon Valley Bank (SVB) announces sale of AFS securities at a loss and plan to raise capital

Thu, Mar 9: SVB suffers run; loses ~25% of deposits

Fri, Mar 10:

- SVB failure announced
- Signature Bank suffers run; loses ~20% of deposits

Sun, Mar 12:

- Signature Bank failure announced
- Fed-Treasury-FDIC guarantee all deposits in SVB and Signature (“systemic risk exception”); Fed announces Bank Term Funding Program (BTFP)

Mon, Mar 13: Regional bank stocks drop 8% (largest daily drop in the period)

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Runs were fast and concentrated

- Runs concentrated in only **three days**
 - Thursday, March 9 (SVB run) through Monday, March 13
 - Mainly **Friday** and **Monday**
- Identify **22 banks that were run** (incl. 5 runs on Friday & 19 runs on Monday)
 - Over 10x more than failed → many survived
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Anatomy of the runs

- Runs driven by large (uninsured) depositors
 - “Few large” rather than “many small” withdrawals → not a retail phenomenon
- Network of flows
 - Flight-to-safety of fastest depositors to largest banks

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Fundamentals vs. panic

- Characteristics of run banks
 1. Lower solvency and liquidity
 2. Higher & more concentrated uninsured deposits
 3. Predominantly publicly traded
- For public banks
 - Significant relation b/w stock returns and deposit outflows on run days
 - But: R^2 only 40% ... 30 banks had return $< -20\%$, only 9 had run

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How do (surviving) run banks respond?

Short term

- Substitute lost deposits with **new borrowing**
- **Pecking order** of emergency borrowing:
 1. From FHLBs → lender of next-to-last resort
 2. From discount window → lender of last resort
- No sales of securities (or other assets)

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Identifying runs in payments data

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- Payments are volatile, especially for banks sending few payments

→ z-score of net payments received

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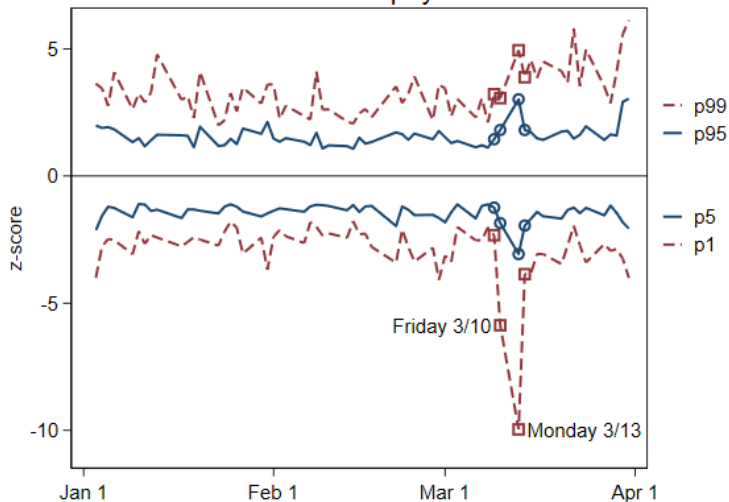
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Runs observable in the raw data

Percentiles of Fedwire payment z-scores



- Sample of over 600 banks
- “Systemic” runs for only two days (Fri & Mon)
- Worse on Monday, **after** Sunday guarantee announcement

Identifying banks that were run

- Classify “run bank” as z-score below -5
 - Less than 0.2% of bank-days in 12 months pre-March 2023

→ Identify 22 unique run banks

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Empirical approach

- Focus on main run days **Friday, March 10** and **Monday, March 13**
- Panel regressions on daily payments data (January 1 to March 14)

$$\begin{aligned} y_{it} = & \phi_i + \varphi_t + \varepsilon_{it} \\ & + \beta_{\text{Mar10}} \times \mathbb{I}[\text{date } t = \text{Mar10}] \times \mathbb{I}[\text{bank } i \text{ is run on Mar10}] \\ & + \beta_{\text{Mar13}} \times \mathbb{I}[\text{date } t = \text{Mar13}] \times \mathbb{I}[\text{bank } i \text{ is run on Mar13}] \end{aligned}$$

→ Unusual wire activity of the average run bank on the respective run day

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 - Fixed differences across banks (bank fixed effects ϕ_i)
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Scale of payments activity on run days

	Log paym. value		Log paym. volume		Log avg. paym. size	
	Sent (1)	Rcvd. (2)	Sent (3)	Rcvd. (4)	Sent (5)	Rcvd. (6)
$\text{Mar10}_t \times \text{RunMar10}_i$	1.540*** (0.152)	-0.006 (0.063)	0.229** (0.103)	-0.064 (0.048)	1.311*** (0.193)	0.057 (0.087)
$\text{Mar13}_t \times \text{RunMar13}_i$	1.316*** (0.141)	-0.228** (0.098)	0.181** (0.076)	-0.043* (0.024)	1.135*** (0.137)	-0.185** (0.092)
Date & bank FEs	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Observations	31,144	31,145	31,144	31,145	31,144	31,145
Adjusted R^2	0.937	0.934	0.979	0.986	0.774	0.771

- Payments sent

- Value sent more than triples
- Volume sent increases “only” 20%
- Not a flood of small depositors!

- Payments received

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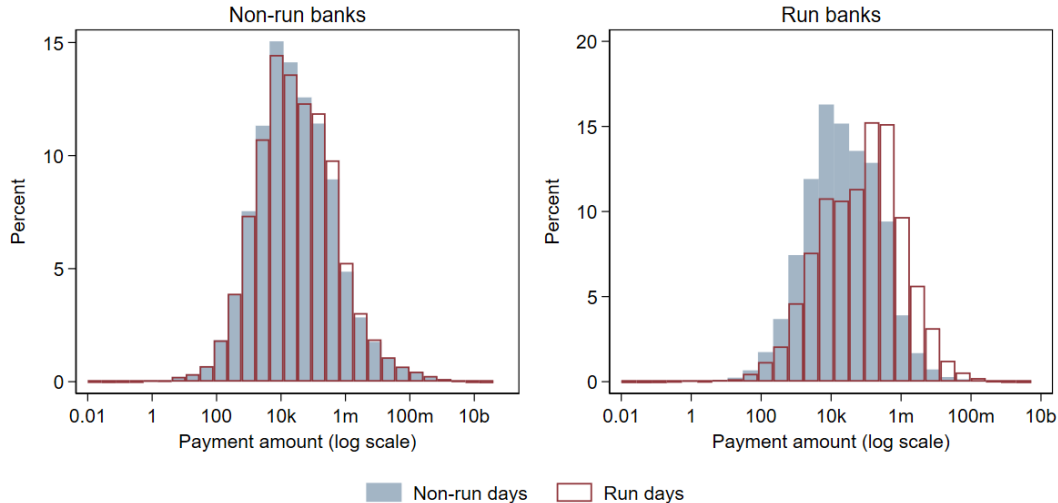
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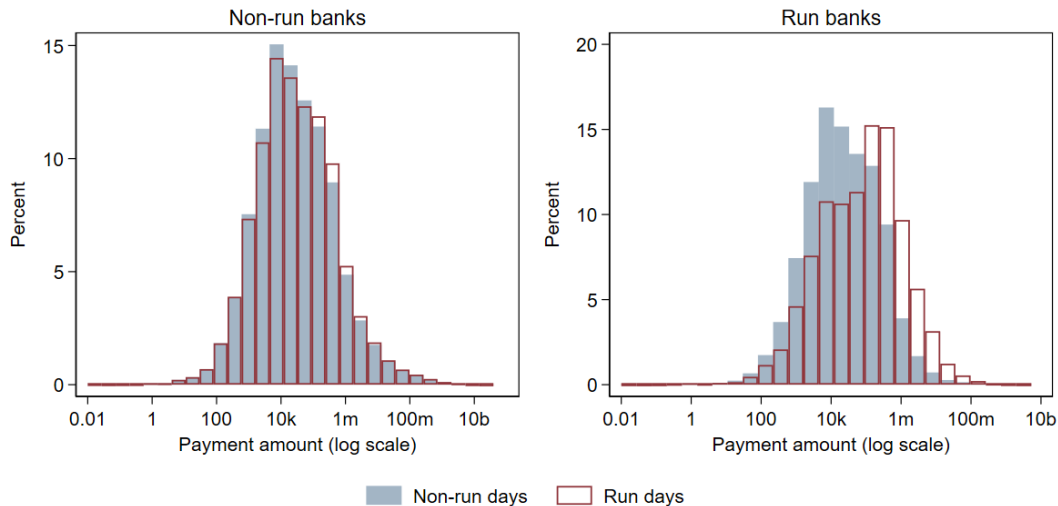
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Distribution of individual payment amounts



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Where does the money go?

	Log payments value sent to		
	Largest (1)	Large (2)	Small (3)
$\text{Mar10}_t \times \text{RunMar10}_i$	2.031*** (0.172)	1.670*** (0.298)	0.633** (0.254)
$\text{Mar13}_t \times \text{RunMar13}_i$	0.975*** (0.187)	1.336*** (0.431)	0.810*** (0.213)
Date & bank FEs	Y	Y	Y
Observations	31,156	31,156	31,156
Adjusted R^2	0.916	0.653	0.825

Largest: $\geq \$250\text{b}$; large: $\$250\text{b}$ to $\$100\text{b}$; small: $< \$100\text{b}$

Friday: flight to the very largest banks
(+660% vs. +430% vs. +90%)

Monday: somewhat more balanced

→ Friday runners more sophisticated?

- Run faster and/or ...
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- Unique informational advantage as recipients of run banks' flows
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Fundamentals vs. panic

	Run banks	Non-run banks	Diff.	p-val.
Total assets (\$b)	52.026	41.482	10.543	0.523
Assets over \$250b	0.000	0.023	-0.023 ^{ooo}	0.000
Assets \$250b to \$100b	0.136	0.028	0.108	0.165
Assets under \$100b	0.864	0.949	-0.085	0.273
Tier-1 cap./assets	0.089	0.100	-0.011 ^{oo}	0.001
Cash/assets	0.037	0.066	-0.029 ^{ooo}	0.000
Unins./total deposits	0.490	0.394	0.097**	0.034
Num. unins./tot. dep. (\$m)	0.439	0.543	-0.104***	0.005
Corp./total deposits	0.504	0.412	0.091**	0.038
FHLB borr./assets	0.066	0.039	0.028*	0.050
Publicly traded	0.818	0.365	0.453 ^{ooo}	0.000
Observations	22	602	624	

Significance: * 0.1, ** 0.05, *** 0.01, ° 0.005, °° 0.0025, °°° 0.0005

No sign. difference:

- Securities/assets
- Loans/assets
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- RRE/total loans
- Deposits/assets
- Recip. deposits/assets
- HTM loss/tier-1 cap.
- Deposit growth (yoy)
- Asset growth (yoy)

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Num. unins./tot. dep. (\$m)	0.439	0.543	-0.104***	0.005
Corp./total deposits	0.504	0.412	0.091**	0.038
FHLB borr./assets	0.066	0.039	0.028*	0.050
Publicly traded	0.818	0.365	0.453 ^{ooo}	0.000
Observations	22	602	624	

Significance: * 0.1, ** 0.05, *** 0.01, ° 0.005, °° 0.0025, °°° 0.0005

No sign. difference:

- Securities/assets
- Loans/assets
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- RRE/total loans
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- Asset growth (yoy)

- Low solvency and liquidity
- High & concentrated uninsured deposits, wholesale funding
- More than twice as likely to be publicly traded

Fundamentals vs. panic

	Run banks	Non-run banks	Diff.	p-val.
Total assets (\$b)	52.026	41.482	10.543	0.523
Assets over \$250b	0.000	0.023	-0.023 ^{ooo}	0.000
Assets \$250b to \$100b	0.136	0.028	0.108	0.165
Assets under \$100b	0.864	0.949	-0.085	0.273
Tier-1 cap./assets	0.089	0.100	-0.011 ^{oo}	0.001
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Predicting run banks

Cross-sectional regression $y_i = \alpha + \beta X_i + \varepsilon_i$

	Run bank dummy		Min z-score 3/9–3/14	
Assets \$250b to \$100b	0.164**	(0.066)	-3.938**	(1.834)
Assets under \$100b	0.097***	(0.034)	-1.212**	(0.576)
Cash/assets	-0.004	(0.005)	0.072	(0.089)
Loans/assets	0.009	(0.008)	-0.144	(0.126)
Deposits/assets	0.003	(0.008)	-0.168	(0.175)
FHLB borr./assets	0.016	(0.010)	-0.234	(0.144)
Tier-1 cap./assets	-0.007	(0.005)	0.047	(0.079)
Unins./total deposits	0.020**	(0.008)	-0.317**	(0.144)
Num. unins./tot. dep.	-0.017*	(0.009)	0.235*	(0.120)
Corp./total deposits	0.009	(0.007)	-0.175*	(0.093)
HTM loss/tier-1 cap.	0.007	(0.008)	-0.147	(0.123)
Unins. dep. \times HTM loss	0.009	(0.008)	-0.183*	(0.105)
Publicly traded	0.052***	(0.017)	-0.632***	(0.197)
Observations	624		624	
Adjusted R^2	0.065		0.128	
Area under ROC curve	0.833		n/a	

- Significant predictors:
 - High & concentr. unins. dep.
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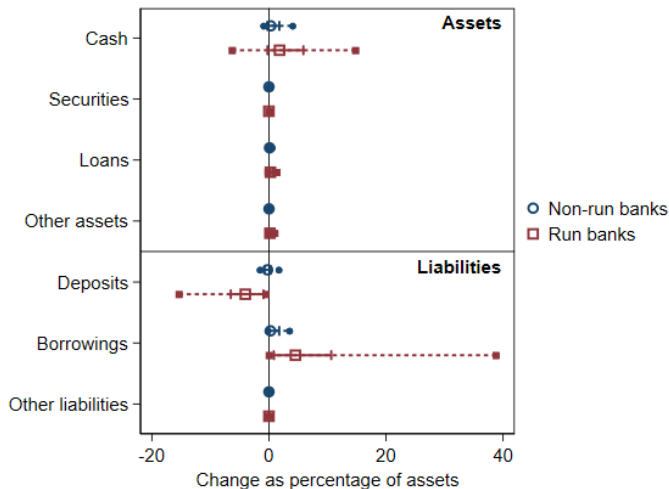
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Responses of (surviving) run banks

Balance sheet changes (Wednesday to Wednesday)

Weekly FR 2644 data includes about half of our sample (308 banks)



- Liabilities

- Expected decrease in deposits
- Larger increase in other borrowings, esp. in tails

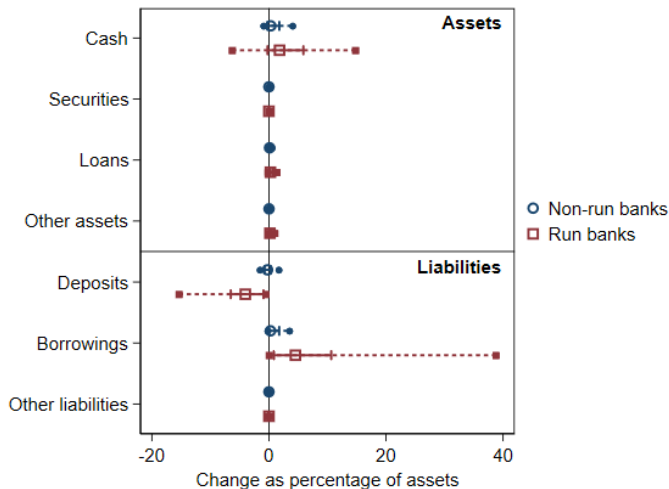
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→ More than substitute with other borrowings

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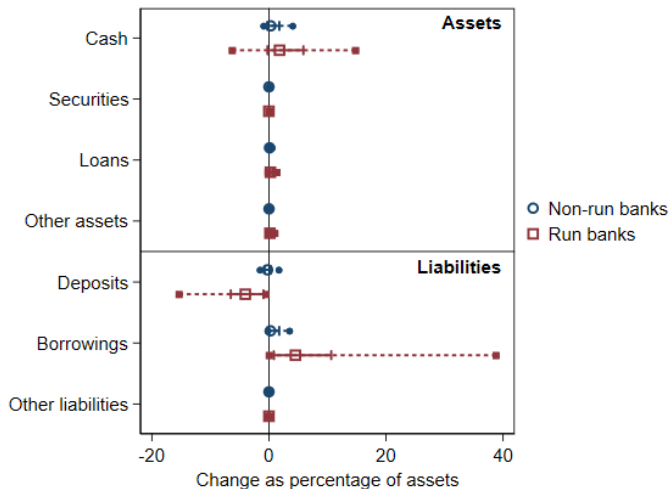
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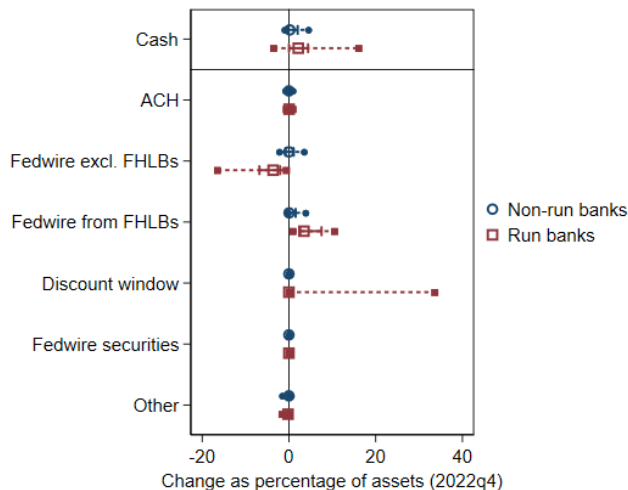
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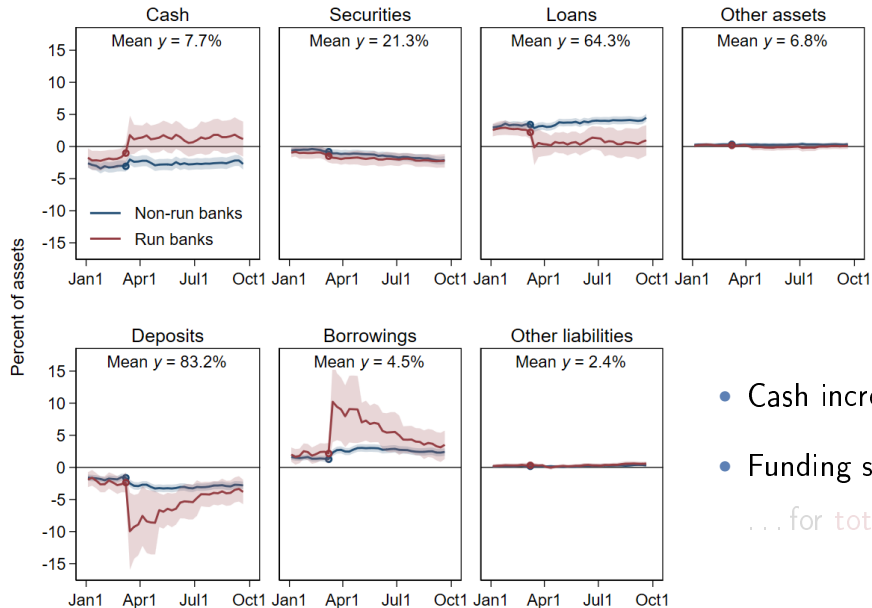
Fed account balance changes by source (Wed to Wed)

Account balances data includes **all** of our sample



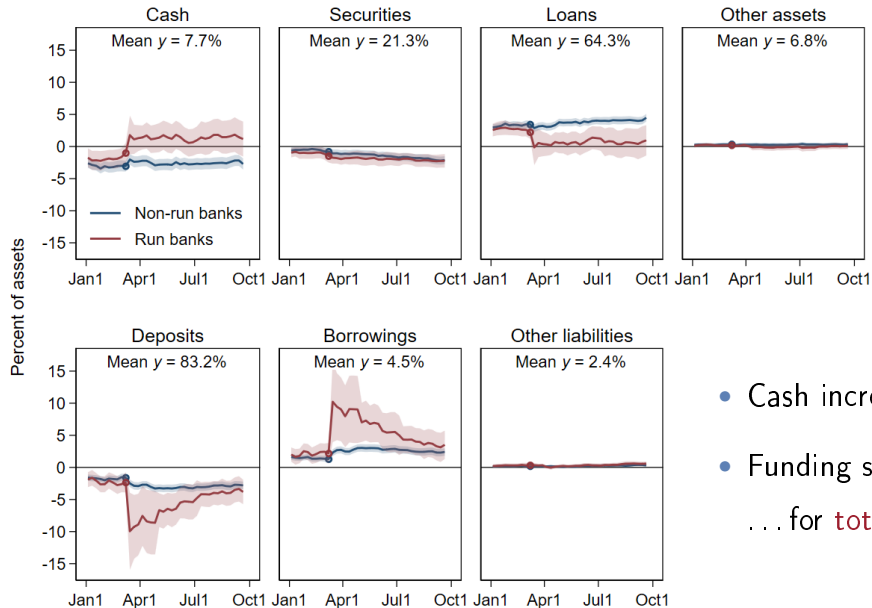
- Pecking order of emergency borrowing:
 - Almost all run banks borrow from FHLBs
 - Only few run banks borrow from DW ... but heavily so
 - FHLBs are “lender of next-to-last resort”

Balance sheets in the long term



- Cash increase is **persistent**
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... for **total** deposits

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Funding substitution in the long term

Quarterly call report date includes **all of our sample**

	All liabilities			Deposits detail		Interest rate on	
	Deposits (1)	FHLB borr. (2)	Oth. liab. (3)	Insured (4)	Unins. (5)	Deposits (6)	FHLB borr. (7)
2023q1 _t × RunBank _i	-4.843** (1.985)	2.674*** (0.978)	2.145 (1.681)	5.149** (2.068)	-9.988*** (2.675)	0.357*** (0.097)	0.796** (0.338)
2023q2 _t × RunBank _i	-0.704 (0.997)	0.134 (0.832)	0.547 (0.921)	6.506*** (2.280)	-7.205*** (2.764)	0.426*** (0.099)	1.605*** (0.358)
2023q3 _t × RunBank _i	-0.288 (1.029)	-0.927 (0.757)	1.199 (1.004)	7.182*** (2.388)	-7.466*** (2.736)	0.502*** (0.114)	1.749*** (0.411)
Date & bank FEs	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mean depend. var.	81.32	3.39	15.34	49.91	31.54	0.76	2.03
Observations	4,409	4,346	4,409	4,402	4,402	4,330	3,674
Adjusted R ²	0.925	0.787	0.944	0.885	0.874	0.799	0.156

- Persistent loss of **uninsured deposits**
- Substituted with insured deposits at **higher rates** (some are **reciprocal** deposits)

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