### DIAMOND HILL

# Securitization in Focus

February 2024

# Residential Mortgage-Backed Securities (RMBS)

30-year fixed mortgage rates are up roughly 0.3% from the beginning of the year but well below the most recent high and only slightly higher than a year ago.

While most borrowers are locked in at much lower rates, there is some potential for a pickup in refinancing in more recent vintages.

### Bankrate.com US Home Mortgage 30Y Fixed National Average (%)



# Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities (CMBS)

### **Special Servicing**

Servicing of commercial mortgage loans involves greater discretion than servicing other types of loans. A servicer must use judgment to maximize the recovery value of the property. Special servicers foreclose, re-structure or work out loans that become delinquent or suffer other adverse events.

### YoY and MoM Trends in Special Servicing (%)

	Conduit	SASB <sup>1</sup>	CRE CLO <sup>2</sup>
Feb 2024	6.6	6.9	3.0
Jan 2024	6.5	6.8	3.3
Feb 2023	5.3	4.2	0.9
MoM	0.1	0.1	-0.3

# \$16.9B

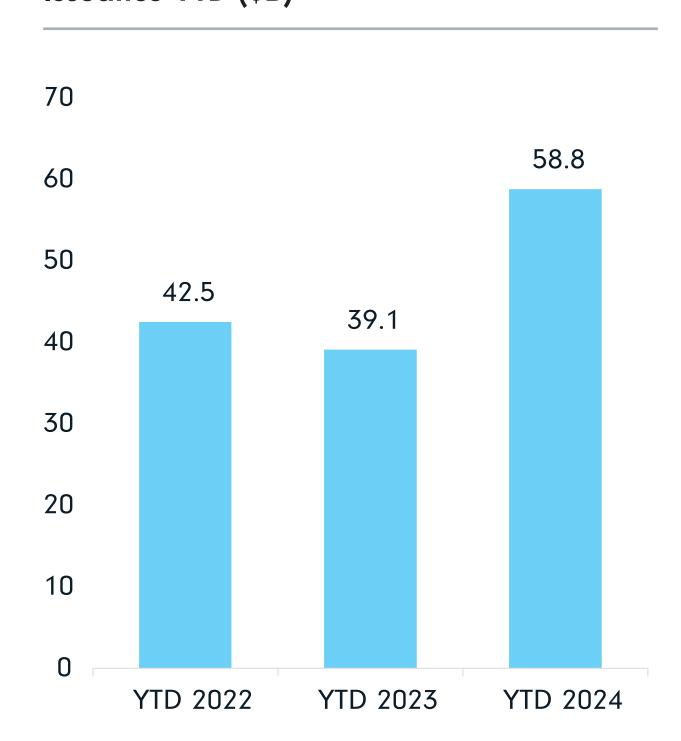
# Non-agency residential MBS issuance YTD

Roughly 31% ahead of the same period in 2023.

# Asset-Backed Securities (ABS)

### Issuance

Year-to-date ABS issuance is up 50% over the same period last year (through February). Autos made up the majority of that issuance (\$35 billion), increasing 24% vs a year ago.



# ChangeImageImageYoY Change1.32.7Trend↑↑

<sup>1</sup>SASB – Single Asset Single Borrower. <sup>2</sup>CRE CLO – Commercial Real Estate Collateralized Loan Obligation. Note: An "up" arrow indicates that the YoY and MoM changes are positive, a "down" arrow indicates that the YoY and MoM changes are negative, and a "sideways" arrow indicates that the YoY and MoM changes are in opposite directions.

### SECTOR HIGHLIGHT

### Commercial Real Estate Collateralized Loan Obligations (CRE CLOs)

These deals are collateralized with bridge loans that are secured by transitional properties going through repositioning or redevelopment to generate additional revenue. The collateral can include but is not limited to multifamily, office, retail, lodging and industrial.

These deals traditionally contain ten or more commercial real estate loans that are generally floating rate. Unlike conduits and SASB, which follow a more standard procedure, CRE CLOs can be customized and therefore a bit more complex.

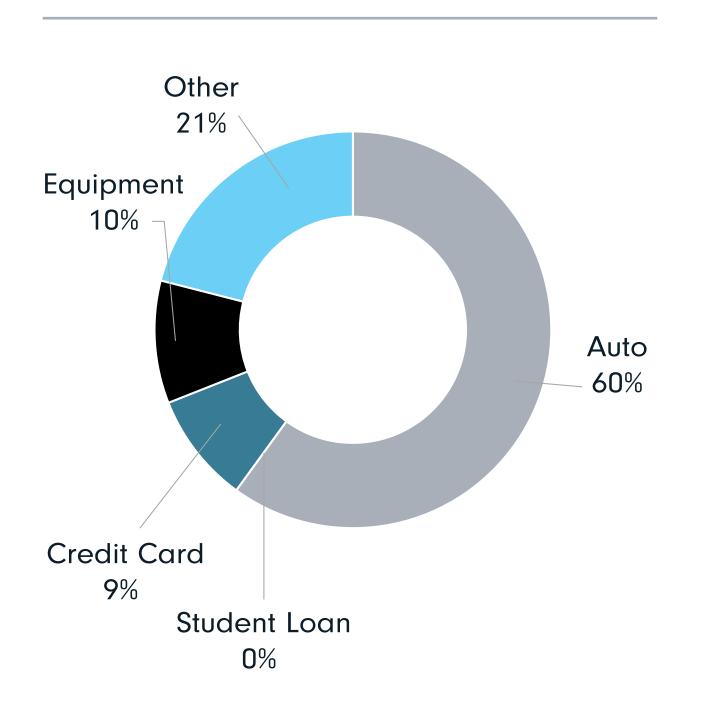
These investments differ greatly from the more standard collateralized loan obligations, which are a form of securitization that holds a variety of middle- and large-sized corporate loans.

### New Issue vs. Secondary Spreads

Secondary bonds have higher office exposure, extension/loan modification risks and downgrade risks. They are also more challenging to analyze. As such, we're seeing a decent divergence between primary and secondary spreads.

### Issuance YTD (\$B)

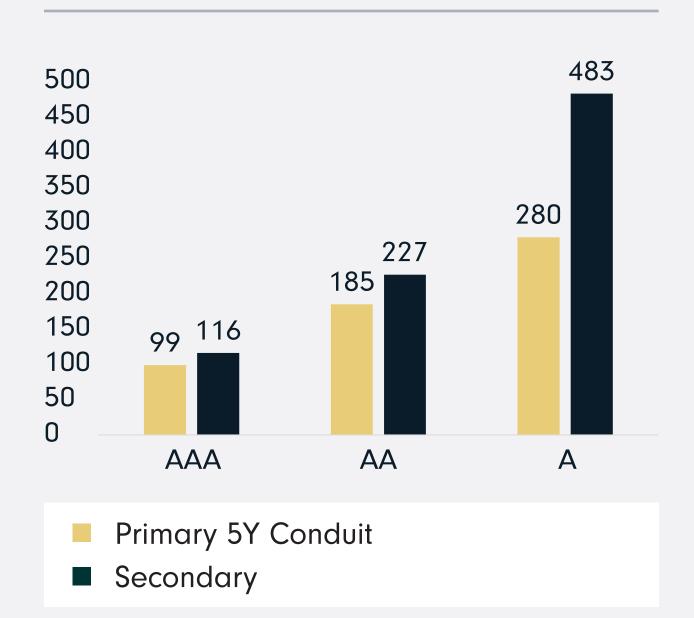
Issuance 2024 YTD Breakdown (%)



### **Delinquencies (%)**

ou Day Delinquencies (70)				
Feb	MoM	Default Rate (MoM)		
0.48	0.02	<b>1.12</b> (up 15 bps)		
5.37	0.24	<b>11.67</b> (up 78 bps)		
2.56	-0.05	<b>13.98</b> (up 55 bps)		
4.47	0.34	<b>9.14</b> (down 33 bps)		
	Feb 0.48 5.37 2.56	Feb   MoM     0.48   0.02     5.37   0.24     2.56   -0.05		





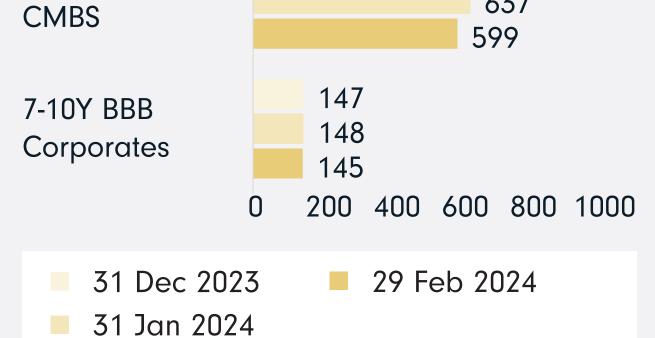
### Spread Rally in Non-Agency CMBS

Despite no material change in fundamentals, non-agency CMBS continue to rally and outperform investment-grade corporate debt.

### Duration as of 29 Feb 2024

7-10Y AAA AAA CMBS $7-10Y$ AAA Corporate $7-10Y$ BBB CMBS $8BB$ BBB Corporate $6.82$ $7.30$ $6.42$ $6.67$ Option-Adjusted Spread³ (bps) $7-10Y$ AAA CMBS $99$ 88 83 83 $7-10Y$ AAA $54$							
Option-Adjusted Spread³ (bps)7-10Y AAA99888354	AAA	AAA		BBB			
7-10Y AAA CMBS 88 83 54	6.82	7.30		6.42	6.0	67	
7-101 AAA 88   CMBS 83   54	Option-A	djusted S	prec	ıd <sup>3</sup> (bps)			
7-10Y AAA 54		4	88				
Corporates 74 71			74				
7-10Y BBB 637	7-10Y BBE				/77	855	

### **60+ Day Delinguencies (%)**



### Total Return as of 29 Feb 2024 (%)



Sources: Deutsche Bank, Barclays, ICE BofA Indexes, Bankrate.com.

Investment Grade is a bond quality rating of AAA, AA, A or BBB.

<sup>3</sup>Option-Adjusted Spread: Option-Adjusted Spread is the difference between the portfolio yield and the risk-free rate, accounting for embedded options.

The views expressed are those of Diamond Hill as of March 2024 and are subject to change without notice. These opinions are not intended to be a forecast of future events, a guarantee of future results or investment advice. Investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.