U.S. Bank Failures: A Data-Driven Summary

The Power BI dashboard reveals that 561–563 banks failed across the U.S., with the most severe wave of collapses occurring during the 2008–2012 financial crisis, particularly in 2009–2010. This period reflects the widespread impact of the Great Recession on financial institutions, exposing structural weaknesses in the banking sector. Failures were most heavily concentrated in Georgia, Florida, Illinois, and California, with Chicago and Atlanta emerging as the hardest-hit cities, indicating regional vulnerabilities tied to real estate markets and lending practices.

In addition to yearly patterns, the dashboard highlights monthly spikes in failures, with the highest counts in July (74), October (63), and March (60). These seasonal surges suggest that regulatory reporting deadlines, fiscal cycles, or broader economic pressures may have played a role in the timing of collapses.

Together, these results highlight the geographic hotspots, crisis-driven trends, and cyclical timing of bank failures. They also underscore the legacy of the Great Recession, providing valuable lessons for policymakers, regulators, and financial institutions seeking to improve risk management frameworks and preventive strategies against future systemic failures.

1. Overall Failures

Across the U.S., more than 560 banks collapsed, with data broken down by states, cities, and years to enable both broad and detailed insights.

2. Geographic Distribution

- **Top States:** Georgia, Florida, Illinois, California, Minnesota, and Washington.
- **Top Cities:** Chicago and Atlanta were hardest hits, followed by Phoenix, Naples, Alpharetta, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, and Scottsdale.
  The dashboard's map clearly shows clusters of failures across these areas.

3. Temporal Trends

- **By Year**: Failures peaked during the 2008–2012 financial crisis, especially in 2009–2010, reflecting the recession's impact on banking.
- **By Month**: Failures spiked in July (74), October (63), and March (60), suggesting cyclical or seasonal stress points in the banking system.

4. Key Insights

- **Crisis Hotspots –** Chicago & Atlanta were the epicenters of failures.

- **Crisis Legacy –** The Great Recession period (2008–2012) remains the most vulnerable era for banking stability
- **Timing –** Failures tended to surge in mid-year and fall months, hinting at regulatory or fiscal cycle effects

5. Dashboard Features

The dashboard includes:

- **Year slicer (2001–2020)** for filtering trends.
- **Animated yearly trends** for dynamic visualization.
- **Tooltips** to provide detailed counts and locations on hover.
- **Geographic heat maps** to highlight high-density failure regions.

Conclusion:

The analysis demonstrates that U.S. bank failures were heavily concentrated during 2008–2012, with Chicago and Atlanta as major crisis hotspots and seasonal peaks in July, October, and March. These findings emphasize the importance of strengthening financial resilience, monitoring systemic risks, and implementing proactive regulatory oversight. The dashboard proves how data-driven insights from past failures can inform strategies to safeguard the banking system against future crises.