Executive Summary

Jiapeng Wang

Our analysis identifies key factors driving substantial variation in PRSM scores, which measure borrower credit risk. The most influential predictors include **loan amount**, **business structure**, **FICO score**, **financial stress**, **gender ownership**, **and months in business**.

Key Findings

- Loan Amount: Higher loan amounts are associated with higher PRSM scores, indicating stronger cash flow
- Woman-Owned Businesses: These businesses tend to have higher PRSM scores, possibly due to financial management or industry-specific factors.
- Business Structure: LLCs and partnerships score higher than sole proprietorships and corporations.
- **FICO Score:** Higher credit scores ("Excellent" or "Very Good") correspond to better repayment performance.
- Financial Stress: A higher garnishment-to-volume ratio is linked to lower creditworthiness.
- Months in Business: Longer operational history reduces default risk.

Baseline Borrower & PRSM Predictions

A representative borrower was selected based on median or average values from the training data:

- Baseline Characteristics: FICO: 700, Loan Amount: 200K, Volume: 140K, Stress: 0.20, Delinquent Accounts: 4, Credit Lines: 10, Woman-Owned: Yes, Business Structure: LLC, NAICS: 445291, Months in Business: 18
- **Predicted PRSM: 0.92** (95% Prediction Interval: **0.60 1.24**)

Impact of Key Changes

By adjusting individual features while keeping others constant, we observe:

- FICO 850 → PRSM: 1.00 (0.68 1.32); FICO 450 → PRSM: 0.88 (0.56 1.19)
- Loan Amount 500K → PRSM: 0.96 (0.64 1.28) ; Loan Amount 50K → PRSM: 0.86 (0.54 1.18)
- Stress 0.05 → PRSM: 0.80 (0.48 1.12); Stress 0.50 → PRSM: 1.12 (0.80 1.44)
- Non-Woman-Owned → PRSM: 0.71 (0.39 1.02)
- Business Structure: Corporation → PRSM: 0.69 (0.37 1.00); Business Structure: Sole Proprietorship → PRSM: 0.83 (0.52 – 1.15); Business Structure: Partnership → PRSM: 0.92 (0.60 – 1.23)
- Months in Business 30 → PRSM: 1.11 (0.79 1.43); Months in Business 3 → PRSM: 0.68 (0.36 1.00)

Conclusion

PRSM scores increase with stronger financial standing (higher FICO, lower stress, longer business history). Business structure and gender ownership also influence credit risk assessment. These insights provide a foundation for evaluating potential borrowers.