

Key Insights from Credit Risk Analysis:

1. High Annual Income as a Strong Indicator of Creditworthiness

Customers with a high annual income exhibit more favourable financial behaviour, including:

- Fewer delayed payments.
- Lower overall debt levels.
- Lower credit utilization ratios

These individuals present **minimal credit risk** to lenders, as their financial stability allows them to manage repayments effectively.

2. Longer Credit History Correlates with Stronger Financial Discipline

Borrowers with an extended credit history tend to:

- Make fewer delayed payments.
- Maintain lower levels of debt.

On the other hand, customers with frequent delayed payments and higher debt levels are **more likely** to pose a credit risk to lenders.

3. Minimum Payments Linked to Poor Credit Mix

Customers who consistently pay only the minimum amount on their credit balances typically have a **poor credit mix**, meaning they may lack a balanced portfolio of different types of credit, such as mortgages, car loans, and credit cards. This behavior could signal **credit mismanagement** and **higher potential risk**.

4. High Credit Utilization as a Red Flag for Default and Financial Stress

A high credit utilization ratio is strongly correlated with:

- Missed payments and potential defaults.
- High debt burdens.
- Frequent credit inquiries, which often indicate financial strain.

Customers with high credit utilization are more likely to face **credit risk** due to their difficulty in managing existing debt.

5. Age and Credit Score Stability

- **Customers over 35** generally have stronger credit scores, reflecting better financial management and a history of responsible credit behavior.
- **Younger customers (ages 18-35)** show more variability, with both high and low credit scores present in this age group, indicating mixed financial stability and experience.

6. Credit Inquiries Correlated with Debt and Borrowing Behavior

The number of credit inquiries is positively correlated with:

- Number of credit cards held.
- Amount of debt.
- Number of loans taken.

Multiple credit inquiries can suggest an individual is frequently seeking new credit, potentially signaling **financial stress** or an aggressive borrowing pattern.

These insights highlight key behavioural trends among borrowers, helping lenders identify both **low-risk** and **high-risk customers**, while enabling better risk management strategies.

Recommendations for Credit Risk Management:

1. Prioritize High-Earning Customers

Lenders should prioritize customers with **high annual incomes**, as they typically demonstrate stronger financial stability, lower credit utilization, and fewer delayed payments.

2. Implement Income-Based Loan Limitations

To reduce the likelihood of delayed payments, loan amounts should be **calibrated to a customer's monthly income**.

3. Exercise Caution with Customers Lacking Credit History

Borrowers with **limited or no credit history** should be approached with caution, as they represent a higher credit risk due to the lack of proven repayment behaviour.

4. Encourage Credit Status Improvement for Low-Risk Borrowers

Customers with **good credit status** should be encouraged to improve their credit scores and move toward **excellent credit status**.

5. Limit Loan Amounts for Average-Risk Customers

For customers with **good or average credit scores**, lenders should only sanction **smaller loan amounts** to mitigate risk.

6. Conduct Rigorous Evaluation for High Loan Amounts

Approval of **high loan amounts** should only be granted after a thorough evaluation of factors correlated with high credit risk, such as debt levels, credit utilization, and repayment history.

These recommendations aim to enhance the **risk management process**, ensuring that credit is extended responsibly while minimizing the exposure to default risk.