Monthly Retail Credit Update - September 2024 (July 2024 data, unless otherwise stated)

New Lending

- New lending continued to grow, for both owner-occupiers and investors, while lending to first home buyers remained stable. Credit growth continued to increase.
- Lenders continue to focus on the investor segment, further reducing interest rates spreads. The share of new lending to investors continued to increase. Most banks surveyed expect this trend to continue over the next 12 months (see Credit Conditions Survey June 2024).
- Banks are expecting margins to remain stable over the next 12 months. Competitive pressure appears to have stabilised, with refinancing in line with long term averages. However, some lenders have recently reinstated of cash-back offers, which drove record levels of refinancing in 2023 as banks sought to grow market shares.

Existing Lending

• NPLs were stable for the month, for the first time since interest rates started increasing, potentially supported by Stage 3 tax cuts. While it is too early to be definitive if this is a change of trend for NPLs, the share of loans 1-29 days past due has fallen for 4 consecutive months. However, the ADIs surveyed continued to be unanimously pessimistic on delinquency rates over the next 12 months for owner-occupiers and near-unanimously for investors.

