



## Credit Scores: What They Are and How to Improve Yours

Whether you are applying for a mortgage loan, buying a car, renting an apartment, or setting up utilities, your credit score can play a major role in your financial life. Understanding how credit scores work and how to improve them can help you save money and open doors to better financial opportunities.

A credit score is a three-digit number that helps lenders assess your likelihood of repaying borrowed money. Scores are generally calculated using information from your credit reports, which are maintained by the three major credit bureaus: Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion. Think of your credit score as your financial report card. The higher your score, the more confident lenders feel about extending credit to you and often at better interest rates.

Credit Score ranges fall within the following:

|         |             |
|---------|-------------|
| 300-579 | Poor        |
| 580-669 | Fair        |
| 670-739 | Good        |
| 740-799 | Very Good   |
| 800-850 | Exceptional |

Generally, a score of 670 or higher is considered good, while a score above 740 can help you qualify for the most competitive loan rates.

## What Affects Your Credit Score

Several factors contribute to your credit score:

1. **Payment history:** Your payment history is the biggest factor affecting your score.
2. **Credit utilization:** This measures how much of your available revolving credit you are using. Keeping your utilization below 30% is generally recommended.
3. **Length of credit history:** The longer your credit history, the more information lenders have about your borrowing habits.
4. **Credit mix:** A mix of credit types, such as credit cards, auto loans, mortgages, and personal loans, can help your score.
5. **New credit applications:** Applying for multiple credit accounts in a short period can temporarily lower your score because each application may generate a "hard inquiry" on your credit report. Only apply for credit when needed.

## How to Improve Your Credit Score

Improving your credit score doesn't happen overnight, but consistent habits can make a significant difference. Paying bills on time, late payments can stay on your credit report for years. Payment history is often the fastest way to damage and improve your credit. Reducing credit card balances will lower your credit utilization ratio and lead to score improvements. Avoid maxing out credit cards. Even if you pay the balance in full each month, high balances reported to the credit bureaus may temporarily hurt your score. Check your credit reports regularly for incorrect account information, fraudulent activity, payment errors, or accounts that don't belong to you. Disputing errors can sometimes result in score improvements.

Finally, your credit score is more than just a number, it's a reflection of your financial habits. The good news is that credit scores can improve with time and consistent effort. By paying bills on time, keeping balances low, monitoring your credit reports, and practicing responsible borrowing, you can strengthen your financial future and unlock better opportunities.

## Holidays

The Credit Union will be closed on the following dates:

Mon. Oct., 12, 2026  
Columbus Day  
Wed. Nov. 11, 2026  
Veteran's Day  
Thurs. & Fri., Nov. 26 & 27, 2026  
Thanksgiving  
**Thurs., Dec. 24, 2026-closing at 12:00 Noon for Christmas Eve**  
**Fri., & Sat., Dec. 25 & 26, 2026-Closed for Christmas**  
Fri., Jan. 1, 2027  
New Year's Day

## Contact us at:

1002 S Abe St, San Angelo, TX 76903

Phone: 325-658-7557

Fax: 325-658-4395

Website: [conchovalleycu.com](http://conchovalleycu.com)

## Lobby Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.

## Drive-Thru Hours:

Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
(phones are not answered Saturdays)



## IMPORTANT NOTICES

### Stay Notified on Facebook

Be sure to like and follow us on Facebook for up to date information on holiday closures or bad weather closures or other issues happening with the credit union.

### Inactive or Dormant Accounts

An account is deemed inactive if for more than one year there has not been a debit or credit made to it by you. It is presumed abandoned if:

1. The account has been inactive for at least three years and
2. We are unable to locate you.

If an account is presumed abandoned, we are required to report the abandonment and to pay the funds in the account to the State of Texas. Your account is important to us so please remember to keep it up to date by making a deposit of \$1.00 every year and making sure we have your current contact information.

### Member Access to Credit Union Documents

Notice of availability of certain documents: Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code, Title 7, Part 6, Chapter 91, Subchapter C, Rule 91.315, documents relating to Concho Valley Credit Union's finances and management are available by contacting 325-658-7557.

### Contact Emails at Credit Union

Please note the following email addresses for the credit union staff:

kimberly.perrine@conchovalleycu.com

cindy.baker@conchovalleycu.com

stephanie.savini@conchovalleycu.com

### Board Members

Justin Ahlers, Chairperson  
Amy Zuniga, Vice-Chairperson  
Anna Thomas, Secretary  
Anthony Kieffer, Treasurer  
Bradley Jones, Membership  
Clint Holik, Director  
Rudolph Olivas, Director  
Vona Hudson, Director  
Elizabeth Love, Director

### Credit Union Staff

Kimberly Perrine, CEO/President  
NMLS# 788814  
Cindy Baker, Executive VP  
NMLS# 791082  
Stephanie Savini, Accounting Officer  
Hannah Brackeen, Member Service Rep  
Bella Carlile, Member Service Rep  
Courtney Hogeda, Member Service Rep

### Complaint Notice:

If you have a problem with the services provided by this credit union, contact us at:

Concho Valley Credit Union  
1002 South Abe Street  
San Angelo, Texas 76903  
Ph# 325-658-7557 or kimberly.perrine@conchovalleycu.com

The Credit Union is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas and under state law is subject to regulatory oversight by the Texas Credit Union Department. If any dispute is not resolved to your satisfaction, you may also file a complaint against the credit union by contacting:

Texas Credit Union Department  
914 East Anderson Lane  
Austin, Texas 78752-1699  
Ph# 512-837-9236  
Fax# 512-832-0278  
Email: complaints@cud.texas.gov  
Website: www.cud.texas.gov