STAR RATING & AWARD METHODOLOGY

Bank of the Year - Small Business



July 2021

What is the Canstar Bank of the Year - Small Business Award?

In conjunction with the Business Banking Star Ratings, Canstar Bank of the Year – Small Business is awarded to the institution that provides the strongest combination of products across the Business Banking Star Ratings profiles, as well as excelling in a range of Business Banking Services and Customer Satisfaction.

The award gives recognition to the institution that provides the strongest combination of products and additional services to small businesses. Business Banking Services that were considered include:

- Branch coverage
- Online banking functionality
- Merchant services
- Other business services and advice
- Business insights and education

The Canstar Business Banking Star Ratings use a sophisticated and unique rating methodology that compares business banking products in Australia. The ratings are aimed at small businesses of varying sizes, with profiles and loan sizes to suit.

The four business banking product lines assessed within the Small Business Award are:

- Business Credit Cards
- Business Loans
- Business Savings and Transaction Accounts
- Business Term Deposits

Eligibility Requirements

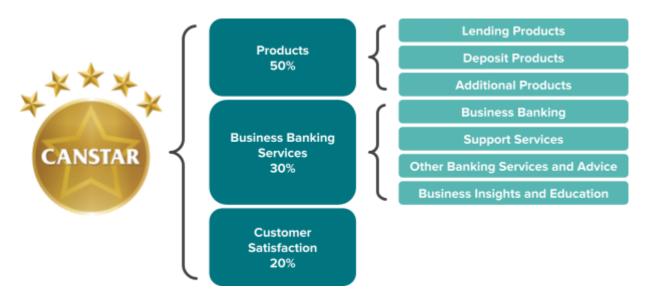
To be eligible for inclusion in the award, institutions must meet the below criteria::

- Offer at least 2 of the following:
 - Business loans
 - Business credit cards
 - Business savings/transaction accounts
- Posses a branch network in a majority of states/territories

Award Methodology

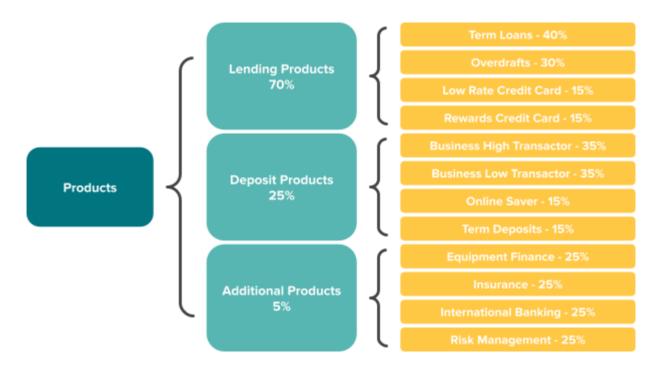
To arrive at the total score, Canstar applies a weight to the Product score, the Business Banking Services score and Customer Satisfaction score received by the institution. The institution with the highest cumulative score is recognised as the Bank of the Year – Small Business.

The breakdown of weighting for each category is displayed below:



Products Score

The Products score is determined by applying weights to three categories of products, being Lending Products, Deposit Products and Additional Products. Within each product category, weights are applied to subcategories to differentiate between product types within each category. The following weights tree outlines the weights applied within the Products score:



Please refer to the individual Star Ratings methodologies for Business Credit Cards, Business Loans and Business Savings and Transactions Account for the structure of the underlying Star Ratings.

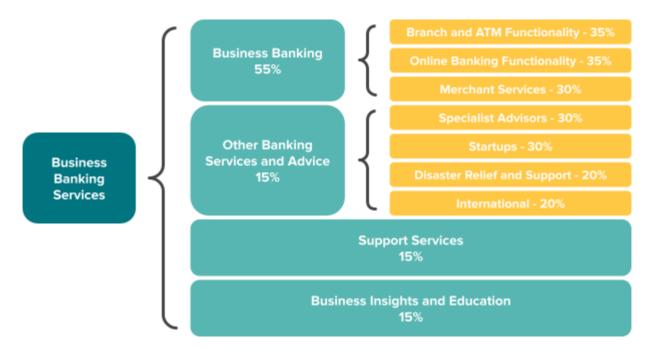
Credit Card Rewards Score

An institution's Rewards score for credit cards is calculated using three annual spend profiles from Canstar's Business Credit Cards profile with weights listed below. In addition, some institutions may only offer a Rewards or a Frequent Flyer credit card, in this award the best performing of either rewards or frequent flyer will be used to ensure that the institution is optimal product is represented for their Credit Card score:



Business Banking Services

The Business Banking Services score is determined by applying weights to four major categories, being Business Banking, Support Services, Other Banking Services & Advice, and Business Insights & Education. These categories are further analysed at a subcategory level as outlined in the weights tree below:



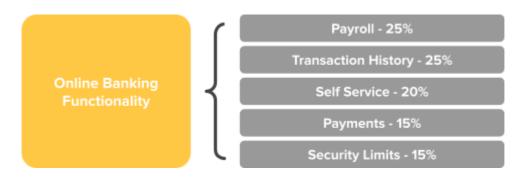
Branch and ATM Functionality

The score for Branch Coverage is calculated on the basis that if a bank has at least 1 branch per 40,000 people living in each state, then they will receive the full score. The maximum score for each state is based on each state's population relative to the population of Australia. The Branch Coverage score accounts for 70% of the overall Branch Coverage and Functionality score, with the remainder of the score determined by the functionality of the institution's ATM network.



Online Banking Functionality

The Online Banking Functionality score is assessed based on five categories of the business specific functionality that institution's business online banking platform provides to consumers, with the weights of the subcategories outlined in the below weights tree:



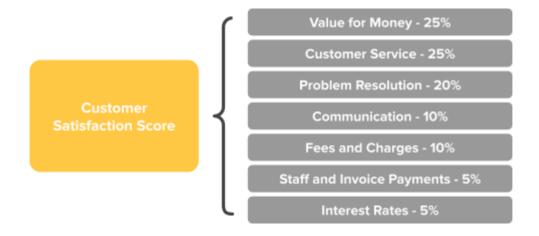
Customer Satisfaction

Canstar measures and tracks customer satisfaction amongst Australian adults across a range of financial categories via ISO 26362 accredited research panels.

The sample is broadly representative of the Australian population in terms of gender, age and location, and is based on ABS Census data.

Only people who have identified their primary business banking institution are able to answer the questions and be included in the survey results.

The Customer Satisfaction Score is based on weighted scores for the drivers of overall satisfaction. Weights for individual factors are determined by measuring the influence of each factor on overall satisfaction. The weights attributed to these factors are outlined below:



How often are products reviewed for Star Ratings and Award purposes?

Ratings and awards are recalculated annually based on the latest features offered by each provider. Canstar also monitors changes on an ongoing basis. The results are published in a variety of mediums (newspapers, magazine, television, websites, etc.).

Does Canstar rate all products available in the market?

We endeavour to include the majority of product providers in the market and to compare the product features most relevant to consumers in our ratings. However, this process is not always possible and it may be that not every product in the market is included in the rating nor every feature compared that is relevant to you.

Does Canstar rate other product areas?

Canstar researches, compares and rates the suite of banking, wealth and insurance products listed below. These Star Ratings use similar methodologies to guarantee quality, consistency and transparency. Results are freely available to consumers who use the Star Ratings as a guide to product excellence. The use of similar Star Ratings logos also builds consumer recognition of quality products across all categories.

Please access the Canstar website at <u>www.canstar.com.au</u> if you would like to view the latest Star Ratings reports of interest.

- Account based pensions
- Deposit accounts
- Health insurance
- Landlord insurance
- Margin lending
- Travel insurance
- Car insurance

- Direct life insurance
- Home & contents
- Life insurance
- Online banking
- Personal loans
- Superannuation
- Travel money cards

- Credit cards
- First home buyer
- Home loans
- Managed investments
- Online share trading
- Pet insurance
- Term deposits



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The ratings and awards results do not include all providers and may not compare all features relevant to you. The rating or award is only one factor to take into account when considering these products. Canstar acknowledges that past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

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