Passage of the 1994 Reigle–Neal interstate banking legislation spurred consolidation among U.S. depository institutions. The total number of FDIC-insured commercial banks fell from 14,482 at the end of 1984 to 8,494 at mid-2000. The number of insured savings associations in the U.S. dropped from a peak of 3,667 in 1986 to 1,624 at mid-2000.

Between 1984 and mid-2000, the number of savings association offices declined sharply (from 23,887 to 14,180). Banking offices, however, increased from 56,335 to 72,166 over the same period. The net result was a slight increase in FDIC-insured depository institution offices (from 80,222 to 86,346). These numbers do not include other channels for delivering banking services, such as automated teller machines, telephone banking, and on-line banking. So the reduction in the number of insured depository institutions has not lessened consumers’ access to bank services.

Finally, the effects of interstate consolidation within the banking industry are apparent from the large number of states reporting that more than 15% of all depository institution branches belong to an out-of-state bank or savings association.