**Debt Burden**

The capacity to pay back debt is a critical gauge of consumer credit conditions. On a short-term basis, this capacity is best measured by the minimum monthly payments due on debts as a share of monthly household income.

In Wyoming, 12.0 percent of disposable income is required to cover the minimum payments due on debt, such as mortgages, credit cards, and auto loans. Wyoming consumers are notably less debt-burdened than consumers in the Tenth District as a whole (12.5 percent) and nationally (13.2 percent). Wyoming debt service burden in the third quarter was substantially lower than the burden in 2006 (14.2 percent), despite an increase in levels of debt over the period from about $52,600 to about $63,700. The reason is lower interest rates. Should interest rates rise appreciably from their current historically low rates, debt service may become a more significant burden for Wyoming households. For more information, see the Tenth District Consumer Credit Report.
Chart 3: Mortgage Delinquencies

Map: Serious Delinquency Rates by County

Notes

The Consumer Credit Report series is published quarterly by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City to provide a summary view of consumer credit standing in each Tenth District state. For questions or comments, contact Kelly Edmiston, senior economist, at kelly.edmiston@kc.frb.org.