Summary
In the first quarter of 2012, average consumer debt in New Mexico increased to about $15,800, up substantially from about $15,200 in the first quarter of 2011 (chart 1). Revolving debt, which was flat in the first quarter, declined over the same period, however. Consumer debt in New Mexico was slightly higher than the District average, but remained well below the national average (chart 2). Student loan delinquencies were substantially higher than the U.S. average (chart 3). Mortgage delinquencies in New Mexico dropped slightly from the previous quarter, but remained considerably higher than other District states (chart 4). Albuquerque and surrounding counties contributed significantly to the relatively high state mortgage delinquency rate (map).

Theme: Credit Score
New Mexico’s average risk score, which is equivalent to a standard credit score, was 684 in the first quarter, which is below the averages for both the District and the nation (chart 5). The score likely was hampered by relatively high delinquency rates, especially in student loans and mortgages. New Mexico has consistently posted risk scores below the national average (chart 6). The overall time trend roughly follows the national trend, with modest increases in most of the last decade, flattening out in late 2008 through 2010. Since 2010, the average risk score has again been increasing.
Chart 3: Average Consumer Delinquency Rates

At least 30 days past due

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax and the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts

Notes: "Any Account" includes accounts not otherwise reported in the chart, such as first mortgages.

Chart 4: Mortgage Delinquencies

Source: Lender Processing Services, Inc.

Notes: The figures represent the share of outstanding mortgages. Past due represents mortgages that are 30 or more days delinquent, including those in foreclosure. Serious delinquencies represent mortgages that are 90 or more days past due or in some stage of the foreclosure process.
**Map**: Serious Delinquency Rates by County

Source: Lender Processing Services, Inc.

Note: Serious delinquencies represent mortgages that are 90 or more days past due or in some stage of the foreclosure process.

**Chart 5: Average Risk Score**

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax

Note: The Risk Score is equivalent to a standard credit score.
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, which encompasses Colorado, Kansas, western Missouri, Nebraska, northern New Mexico, Oklahoma and Wyoming. For questions or comments, contact Kelly Edmiston, senior economist, at kelly.edmiston@kc.frb.org.