Summary

Average consumer debt in New Mexico fell about $250 in the second quarter to $15,540 per consumer, including joint debt; this was below the national average and nearly even with the seven-state District average (Charts 1 and 2). Revolving debt declined slightly to $4,730 (Chart 1). Consumer delinquency rates for autos and student loans were higher than the national average (Chart 3). New Mexico’s mortgage delinquency rates were lower than the national average, but higher than the District average (Chart 4). Mortgage delinquencies varied across the state, with the Albuquerque metro area and Rio Arriba County having the highest rates (see Map on page 3).

In This Issue: A Look at Bankruptcy

The bankruptcy filing rate in New Mexico has remained consistently below the national average (Chart 5). The pattern in New Mexico has followed the nationwide trend, however, with a significant spike before bankruptcy reform in late 2005, followed by an abrupt drop after implementation. More recently, the trend has tracked average consumer debt, steadily rising from 2006 through 2009, then falling after the 2009 peak. The annual bankruptcy filing rate of 60 per 10,000 households, over the last four quarters, was well below average rates for the District and nationwide (Chart 6).
Chart 3: Average Consumer Delinquency Rates*

*At least 30 days past due. “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: Nonbusiness Bankruptcy Filings Per 10,000 Households (Quarterly)

Source: Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.
The Consumer Credit Report series is published quarterly by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City to provide a summary of consumer credit standing in each state of the Tenth District, which comprises 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.