Summary

Average consumer debt in Kansas increased $150 in the third quarter to $15,170, while revolving debt stood firm at $4,660, among the lowest in the District (Chart 1). Consumer debt levels in Kansas remain lower than the national and District averages, but average consumer debt has increased since third quarter 2011 (Chart 2). Consumer delinquency rates in Kansas were lower than national rates with the exception of student loans (Chart 3). Mortgage delinquency rates were higher in Kansas than in the District, but lower than national rates (Chart 4). Mortgage delinquency rates across the state were varied with metro areas such as Topeka with a much higher rate as well as a few rural areas throughout the state (Map).

In This Issue: A Look at Debt Burden

In the four quarters leading up to the current quarter, debt payments, including mortgage payments, absorbed 15.4 percent of disposable income in Kansas (Chart 5). While that amount is higher than both District (13.7 percent) and U.S. averages (13.6 percent), Kansas has not seen the drop-off in debt burden experienced in much of the District and the rest of the nation due to the paring down of consumer balance sheets and low interest rates. This may reflect the fact that consumer debt levels have increased over the past year in Kansas, while income levels have not rebounded to their 2007 levels.

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax
Notes: Excludes first mortgage. A first mortgage represents the primary note on the home and typically is not used to purchase consumer goods.
Chart 3: Average Consumer Delinquency Rates

Four-quarter moving average

- Auto (percentage of outstanding loans)
  - U.S.: 3.2%
  - KS: 1.9%

- Student Loans (percentage of outstanding loans)
  - U.S.: 9.6%
  - KS: 10.3%

- Bank Card (percentage of outstanding accounts)
  - U.S.: 1.4%
  - KS: 1.6%

- Any Account (percentage of outstanding accounts)
  - U.S.: 5.8%
  - KS: 3.4%

- Bankruptcy Filings Per 10,000 Households (annual rate)
  - U.S.: 106.4
  - KS: 83.2

Notes: At least 30 days past due. "Any Account" includes accounts not otherwise reported in the chart, such as first mortgages. The second quarter bankruptcy filing rate utilizes an updated estimate of households.

Chart 4: Mortgage Delinquencies

- Past Due
- Seriously Delinquent

- U.S.: 11.4%
- District: 6.9%
- Kansas: 8.3%
- Kansas City: 8.9%
- Topeka: 9.3%
- Wichita: 10.3%

Source: Lender Processing Services Inc.
Notes: Figures represent the share of outstanding mortgages. "Past due" represents mortgages that are 30 days or more delinquent, including those in foreclosure. "Serious delinquencies" represent mortgages that are 90 days or more past due or in some stage of the foreclosure process.
Map: Serious Delinquency Rates by Country

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: Debt Burden

Debt payments as a percentage of annual disposable household income

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax; U.S. Census Bureau.

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 of 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.