Summary

Average consumer debt in Wyoming dipped slightly in the first quarter following several quarters of consistent growth (Chart 1). Overall, consumer debt, at $17,840, was 2.4 percent higher over the year and 5.9 percent higher than its post-recession bottom in the second quarter of 2011. Wyoming had the second highest average debt level in the District in the first quarter, following Colorado, (Chart 2) but also has enjoyed a relatively robust economy. Consumer delinquency rates continued to fall well below U.S. (and District) averages, as did bankruptcy filing rates (Chart 3). Delinquency rates were lower than in the previous quarter, with the exception of student loans. Mortgage delinquency rates remained well below District and U.S. rates (Chart 4). Mortgage delinquencies varied across counties, however (Map).

In This Issue: A Dynamic Look at Student Loan Debt and Delinquencies

Average student loan debt has remained relatively flat in Wyoming while increasing steadily elsewhere in the District and the nation as a whole (Chart 5). Average student loan debt (among borrowers) stood at $16,690, well below the U.S. average of $25,180. Median debt has recently turned upward, however. In the most recent quarter, half of Wyomingans with student loan debt had debt less than $10,120, while half had more. The median debt jumped sharply in the first quarter from $9,580. The steady increase in per-borrower debt in the U.S., and to some extent in Wyoming, is explained in the District report. Consistent with national trends, the student loan delinquency rate has dropped considerably in recent quarters (Chart 6).
Chart 3: Average Consumer Delinquency Rates

Four-quarter moving average

Notes: At least 30 days past due. "Any Account" includes accounts not otherwise reported in the chart, such as first mortgages. Estimates of households are updated in the second quarter.

Chart 4: Mortgage Delinquencies

Share of outstanding mortgages

Source: Lender Processing Services Inc.
Notes: "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 County

*Source: Lender Processing Services Inc.*

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

**Chart 5:** Inflation-Adjusted Average Outstanding Student Loan Debt per Consumer Holding Student Loan Debt

*Source: Author’s calculations using data from The Federal Reserve Bank of New York Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax.*
Chart 6: Share of Outstanding Student Loans 30 or More Days Past Due
(including those in forbearance and deferrment)

Source: Author’s calculations using data from The Federal Reserve Bank of New York Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax.
Note: Excludes loans classified as “severe derogatory,” which have had balances charged-off.

The Consumer Credit Report series is published quarterly by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City to provide a summary of consumer credit 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.