Summary

Average consumer debt in Kansas, which had increased significantly in the last three years, changed little in the first quarter (Chart 1). Since the second quarter of 2011, average consumer debt has increased 9.7 percent, reversing the trend in several previous quarters. Revolving debt has declined 27.4 percent since the depth of the recession. Average consumer debt of about $16,042 was on par with the District but below the nation (Chart 2). Delinquency rates in Kansas were below national rates in every category except student loans, for which the delinquency rate was slightly higher (Chart 3). There were only negligible changes in delinquency rates, other than a moderate increase in the student loan delinquency rate. Bankruptcy filing rates were below those of the District and the nation. Past due and seriously delinquent mortgage rates of 6.5 percent and 3.2 percent, respectively, exceeded District rates (Chart 4). Mortgage delinquencies were especially high in the Topeka area. Mortgage delinquency rates varied across the state but were highest in the more populous areas of eastern Kansas (Map).

In This Issue: Credit Card Debt and Utilization Rates

The average credit card balance in Kansas in the first quarter was $3,738, lowest in the District by a significant margin (Chart 5). The credit card utilization rate, which is the sum of outstanding balances divided by the sum of credit limits, was 20.9 percent, also significantly less than other District states (Chart 6). The credit utilization rate is one of the primary determinants of credit score.
**Chart 3: Average Consumer Delinquency Rates**

Four-quarter moving average

![Chart 3](chart3.png)

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

Notes: At least 30 days past due. “Any Account” includes accounts not otherwise reported in the chart, such as first mortgages. Beginning this quarter, “severe derogatory” accounts are included in the calculation of delinquency rates, which makes delinquency rates higher than in other quarters, all else equal. Thus these delinquency rates are not comparable to delinquency rates provided in previous reports.

**Chart 4: Mortgage Delinquencies**

Share of outstanding mortgages

![Chart 4](chart4.png)

Source: Lender Processing Services Inc.

Notes: “Past Due” represents mortgages that are 30 days or more delinquent, including those in foreclosure. “Seriously Delinquent” represents mortgages that are 90 days or more past due or in some stage of the foreclosure process.
Map: Seriously Delinquent Rates By Country

Chart 5: Average Credit Card Balance for Those with Credit Cards

Source: Lender Processing Services Inc.
Note: Seriously delinquent represents mortgages that are 90 or more days past due or in some stage of the foreclosure process.
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.