

DEBT STATISTICS – APRIL 2012 SUMMARY

UK PERSONAL DEBT

Outstanding personal debt stood at **£1.457 trillion** at the end of February 2012.

- This is up from £1.452 trillion at the end of February 2011.
- Individuals owed nearly as much as the entire country produced during the whole of 2011.

Outstanding secured (mortgage) lending stood at **£1.249 trillion** at the end of February 2012.

- This is up from £1.241 trillion at the end of February 2011.

Outstanding unsecured (consumer credit) lending stood at **£208 billion** at the end of February 2012.

- This is down from £212 billion at the end of February 2011.

Average household debt in the UK (excluding mortgages) was **£8,002** in February.

- This is down from a revised **£8,005** in January.

Average household debt in the UK (including mortgages) was **£56,058** in February.

- This is up from a revised **£56,016** in January.

The average amount owed per UK adult (including mortgages) was **£29,671** in February. This was around **123%** of average earnings.

Average consumer borrowing (including credit cards, motor and retail finance deals, overdrafts and unsecured loans) per UK adult was **£4,235** in February.

The estimated average outstanding mortgage for the 11.2m households that carry mortgage debt stood at **£111,358** in February.

Based on February 2012 trends, the UK's total interest repayments on personal debt over a 12 month period would have been **£63.1 billion**.

- This is equivalent to **£172 million** per day.
- This means that UK households would have paid an average of **£2,427** in annual interest repayments.

STRIKING NUMBERS

£56,058 was the average household debt (inc. mortgages) in February

£172m was the daily amount of interest paid on personal debt in February

8,518 new debt problems were dealt with by the CAB each working day over the year to December

1,896 people were made redundant every day between Nov and Jan

855,000 people had been unemployed for over a year between Nov and Jan

£16.23m of loans are written-off daily by UK Banks and Building Societies

Every 15 min 28 sec a property is repossessed

Every 4 min 32 sec someone is declared insolvent or bankrupt

£1.361 billion was the daily value of all plastic card purchases made in January

The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) predicts that total household debt will reach **£2.044 trillion** in Q1 2017.

- This would mean that average household debt would reach **£78,615** (assuming that the number of households in the UK remained the same between now and Q1 2017).

Net lending by UK Banks and Building Societies rose by **£1.6 billion** in total in February 2012.

- Net secured lending rose by £1.2 billion in the month.
- Net consumer credit lending rose by £0.4 billion.

UK Banks and Building Societies wrote-off **£6.9 billion** of loans to individuals over the 4 quarters to Q4 2011.

- In Q4 2011 itself they wrote-off £1.48 billion (of which £907 million was credit card debt) amounting to a daily write-off of **£16.23m**.

EVERYDAY IN THE UK

Based on the latest available data, Credit Action estimates that every day in the UK:

- **318** people are declared insolvent or bankrupt every day (based on Q4 2011 trends). This is equivalent to **1 person every 62 seconds** during each *working day*.
- **1,473** Consumer County Court Judgements (CCJs) are issued every day (based on Q4 2011 trends). The average value of a Consumer CCJ in Q4 2011 was **£2,949**.
- Citizens Advice Bureaux in England and Wales dealt with **8,518** new debt problems every *working day* during the year ending December 2011.
- It costs an average of **£28.44** per day to raise a child from birth to the age of 21.
- **93** properties are repossessed every day (based on Q4 2011 trends).
- **30** new people a day became unemployed for over 12 months during the year ending January 2012.
- **1,896** people a day reported they had become redundant between November and January.
- The Government's Public Sector Net Debt (including financial interventions) will fall by an average of **£165,300,000** today, equivalent to **£1,913** per second (based on February 2012 data).
- The Government pays an estimated **£136,810,000** of interest each day on the UK's Public Sector Net Debt of £2172.8bn (including financial interventions).
- **196** mortgage possession claims are issued and **149** mortgage possession orders are made every day
- **388** landlord possession claims are issued and **275** landlord possession orders are made every day.
- The UK population is projected to grow by **1,205 people a day** over the next decade.
- **27.5m** plastic card purchase transactions were made every day in January 2012 with a total value of **£1.361 billion**.
- **8.1m** cash withdrawals will be made daily with a total value of **£547m** (based on Q4 2011 trends).
- The average car costs **£18.33 per day** to run.
- It cost **£69.25** to fill a 50 litre tank with unleaded petrol in March.

NATIONAL STATISTICS

- The UK economy **contracted by 0.3%** in the fourth quarter of 2011, according to the latest estimates from the Office of National Statistics.
- The number of unemployed people in the three months between November 2011 and January 2012 was **2.67 million** (8.4%). This is up by 28,000 from the previous three months, and up by 148,000 from a year earlier.
- **173,000** people (**1,896 a day**) reported they had become redundant over the three months. This is up by 11,000 from the previous three months, and up by 30,000 from a year earlier.
- **855,000** people had been unemployed for over 12 months between November and January, a fall of 12,000 over the previous three months, but a rise of 11,000 (**30 a day**) from a year earlier.

SERVICING DEBT

- Based on *annual* figures to the end of December 2011, Citizens Advice Bureaux in England and Wales are dealing with **8,518** new debt problems every *working day*.
- According to the Council of Mortgage Lenders (CML), **8,500** properties were taken into possession in Q4 2011 (this is down nearly 9% from 9,300 in Q3 2011, but up 5% from 8,100 in Q4 2010).
- This equates to **93** properties being repossessed every day, or one property being repossessed **every 15 minutes 28 seconds**.
- The Insolvency Service said there were **28,973** individual insolvencies in England and Wales in Q4 2011. This is equivalent to **318** people a day or, one person **every 4 minutes 32 seconds**.

PLASTIC CARDS AND PERSONAL LOANS

- Total credit card debt in February 2012 was **£55.3bn**.
- During January 2012 an average of **319** purchases were made in the UK every second using debit and credit cards, based on figures from the UK Cards Association.
- On a daily basis, purchases using plastic cards were worth **£1.361 billion** during January.

FOR MORE DETAILED FIGURES AND ADDITIONAL STATISTICS, DOWNLOAD A PDF OF THE FULL VERSION OF CREDIT ACTION'S APRIL 2012 DEBT STATISTICS FROM OUR WEBSITE

NOTES

Credit Action's Debt Statistics are compiled by John Davies (johndavies@creditation.org.uk).

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