

DEBT STATISTICS – FEBRUARY 2012 SUMMARY

UK PERSONAL DEBT

Outstanding personal debt stood at **£1.451 trillion** at the end of December 2011.

- This is down from £1.454 trillion at the end of December 2010.
- Individuals owed nearly as much as the entire country produced in the four quarters between Q4 2010 and Q3 2011.

Outstanding secured (mortgage) lending stood at **£1.245 trillion** at the end of December 2011.

- This is up from £1.238 trillion at the end of December 2010.

Outstanding unsecured (consumer credit) lending stood at **£207 billion** at the end of December 2011.

- This is down from £216 billion at the end of December 2010.

Average household debt in the UK (excluding mortgages) was **£7,948** in December.

- This is down from a revised **£7,972** in November.

Average household debt in the UK (including mortgages) was **£55,823** in December.

- This is up from a revised **£55,818** in November.

The average amount owed per UK adult (including mortgages) was **£29,547** in December. This was around **122%** of average earnings.

Average consumer borrowing (including credit cards, motor and retail finance deals, overdrafts and unsecured loans) per UK adult was **£4,207** in December.

The estimated average outstanding mortgage for the 11.2m households that carry mortgage debt stood at **£110,703** in December.

Based on December 2011 trends, the UK's total interest repayments on personal debt over a 12 month period would have been **£62.6 billion**.

- This is equivalent to **£171 million** per day
- This means that UK households would have paid an average of **£2,406** in annual interest repayments.

STRIKING NUMBERS

£55,823 was the average household debt (inc. mortgages) in December

£171m was the daily amount of interest paid on personal debt in December

8,652 new debt problems were dealt with by the CAB each working day over the year to September

1,797 people were made redundant every day between Sep and Nov

857,000 people had been unemployed for over a year between Sep and Nov

£15.68m of loans are written-off daily by UK Banks and Building Societies

Every 14 min 17 sec a property is repossessed

Every 4 min 21 sec someone is declared insolvent or bankrupt

£1.252 billion was the daily value of all plastic card purchases made in November

The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) predicts that total household debt will reach **£2.045 trillion** in Q1 2017.

- This would mean that average household debt would reach **£78,669** (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 **£0.4 billion** in total in December 2011.

- Net secured lending rose by £0.7 billion in the month.
- Net consumer credit lending fell by £0.4 billion.

UK Banks and Building Societies wrote-off **£7.6 billion** of loans to individuals over the 4 quarters to Q3 2011.

- In Q3 2011 itself they wrote-off £1.43 billion (of which £716 million was credit card debt) amounting to a daily write-off of **£15.68m**.

EVERYDAY IN THE UK

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

- **331** people are declared insolvent or bankrupt every day (based on Q3 2011 trends). This is equivalent to **1 person every 60 seconds** during each *working day*.
- **1,779** Consumer County Court Judgements (CCJs) are issued every day (based on Q3 2011 trends). The average value of a CCJ in Q3 2011 was **£2,816**.
- Citizens Advice Bureaux in England and Wales dealt with **8,652** new debt problems every *working day* during the year ending September 2011.
- It costs an average of **£28.44** per day to raise a child from birth to the age of 21.
- **101** properties are repossessed every day (based on Q3 2011 trends).
- **68** new people a day became unemployed for over 12 months during the year ending November 2011.
- **1,797** people a day reported they had become redundant between September and November 2011.
- The Government's Public Sector Net Debt (including financial interventions) will grow by an average of **£199,700,000** today, equivalent to **£2,312** per second (based on December 2011 data).
- The Government pays an estimated **£138,080,000** of interest each day on the UK's Public Sector Net Debt of £2329.9bn (including financial interventions).
- **193** mortgage possession claims are issued and **153** mortgage possession orders are made every day
- **402** landlord possession claims are issued and **274** landlord possession orders are made every day.
- The UK population is projected to grow by **1,205 people a day** over the next decade.
- **26.2m** plastic card purchase transactions were made every day in November 2011 with a total value of **£1.252 billion**.
- **8.0m** cash withdrawals will be made daily with a total value of **£531m** (based on Q3 2011 trends).
- The average car costs **£18.33 per day** to run.
- It costs **£66.75** to fill a 50 litre tank with unleaded petrol in January.

NATIONAL STATISTICS

- The UK economy **contracted by 0.2%** in the fourth quarter of 2011, according to initial estimates from the Office of National Statistics.
- The number of unemployed people in the three months between September and November 2011 was **2.68 million** (8.4%). This is up by 118,000 from the previous three months, and up by 189,000 from a year earlier.
- **164,000** people (**1,797 a day**) reported they had become redundant over the three months. This is up by 14,000 from the previous three months, and up by 5,000 from a year earlier.
- **857,000** people had been unemployed for over 12 months between September and November, a fall of 10,000 over the previous three months, but a rise of 25,000 (**68 a day**) from a year earlier.

SERVICING DEBT

- Based on *annual* figures to the end of September 2011, Citizens Advice Bureaux in England and Wales are dealing with **8,652** new debt problems every *working day*.
- According to the Council of Mortgage Lenders (CML), **9,200** properties were taken into possession in Q3 2011. This is largely unchanged from 9,100 in Q2 2011.
- This equates to **101** properties being repossessed every day, or one property being repossessed **every 14 minutes 17 seconds**.
- The Insolvency Service said there were **30,219** individual insolvencies in England and Wales in Q3 2011. This is equivalent to **331** people a day or, one person **every 4 minutes 21 seconds**.

PLASTIC CARDS AND PERSONAL LOANS

- Total credit card debt in December 2011 was **£55.8bn**.
- During November 2011 an average of **304** 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 **£1.252 billion** during November.

FOR MORE DETAILED FIGURES AND ADDITIONAL STATISTICS, DOWNLOAD A PDF OF THE FULL VERSION OF CREDIT ACTION'S FEBRUARY 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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