

## DEBT STATISTICS – MARCH 2013 SUMMARY

### UK PERSONAL DEBT

Outstanding personal debt was **£1.422 trillion** at the end of January 2013.

- This is up from £1.408 trillion at the end of January 2012.
- At the end of January 2013, individuals owed nearly as much as the entire country produced during the whole of 2012.

Outstanding secured (mortgage) lending was **£1.265 trillion** at the end of January 2013.

- This is up from £1.248 trillion at the end of January 2012.

Outstanding unsecured (consumer credit) lending was **£158 billion** at the end of January 2013.

- This is down from £160 billion at the end of January 2012.

Average household debt in the UK (excluding mortgages) was **£5,988** in January.

- This up from a revised **£5,955** in December.

Average household debt in the UK (including mortgages) was **£53,972** in January.

- This is up from a revised **£53,948** in December.

The average amount owed per UK adult (including mortgages) was **£28,957** in January. This is up from **£28,944** in December, and was around **117%** of average earnings.

Average consumer borrowing (including credit cards, motor and retail finance deals, overdrafts and unsecured loans) per UK adult was **£3,213** in January. This is up from a revised **£3,195** in December.

The estimated average outstanding mortgage for the 11.3m households that carry mortgage debt stood at **£112,071** in January.

Based on January 2013 trends, the UK's total interest repayments on personal debt over a 12 month period would have been **£60.1 billion**.

- This is equivalent to **£165 million** per day.
- This means that UK households would have paid an average of **£2,282** in annual interest repayments.

### STRIKING NUMBERS

**£53,972** was the average household debt (inc. mortgages) in January

**£165m** was the daily amount of interest paid on personal debt in January

**8,308** new debt problems were dealt with by the CAB each working day over the year to September

**1,585** people were made redundant every day between Oct and Dec

**879,000** people had been unemployed for over a year between Oct and Dec

**£10.92m** of loans are written-off daily by UK Banks and Building Societies

**Every 17 min 7 sec** a property is repossessed

**Every 5 min 12 sec** someone is declared insolvent or bankrupt

**£1.387 billion** was the daily value of all plastic card purchases made in December

The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) predicted in December 2012 that total household debt will reach **£1.997 trillion** in Q1 2018.

- This would mean that average household debt would reach **£75,769** (assuming that the number of households in the UK remained the same between now and Q1 2018).

Net lending by UK Banks and Building Societies rose by **£0.6 billion** in total in January 2013.

- Net secured lending rose by £0.1 billion in the month.
- Net consumer credit lending rose by £0.4 billion.

UK Banks and Building Societies wrote-off **£4.5 billion** of loans to individuals over the 4 quarters to Q4 2012.

- In Q4 2012 itself they wrote-off £999 million (of which £469 million was credit card debt) amounting to a daily write-off of **£10.92m**.

## EVERY DAY IN THE UK

Based on the latest available data, Credit Action estimates that:

- **277** people are declared insolvent or bankrupt every day (based on Q4 2012 trends). This is equivalent to one person **every 5 minutes 12 seconds**.
- **1,374** Consumer County Court Judgements (CCJs) are issued every day (based on Q4 2012 trends). The average value of a Consumer CCJ in Q4 2012 was **£2,615**.
- Citizens Advice Bureaux in England and Wales dealt with **8,308** new debt problems every *working day* during the year ending September 2012.
- It costs an average of **£29.02** per day to raise a child from birth to the age of 21.
- **84** properties are repossessed every day (based on Q4 2012 trends).
- **57** new people a day became unemployed for over 12 months during the year ending December 2012.
- **1,585** people a day reported they had become redundant between October and December 2012.
- Public Sector Net Borrowing (excluding financial interventions) was **-£11.4bn** in January 2013 (a repayment), meaning that the Government repaid an average of **£368m** per day during the month (equivalent to **£4,256** per second).
- **154** mortgage possession claims are issued and **111** mortgage possession orders are made every day
- **426** landlord possession claims are issued and **297** landlord possession orders are made every day.
- The UK population is growing by an estimated **1,342 people a day**.
- **28.2m** plastic card purchase transactions were made every day in December 2012 with a total value of **£1.387 billion**.
- **7.7m** cash machine transactions were made every day in January 2013 with a total value of **£291m**.
- The average new car costs **£18.33 per day** to run.
- It cost **£68.95** to fill a 50 litre tank with unleaded petrol in February.

## NATIONAL STATISTICS

- The UK economy **contracted by 0.3%** in the fourth quarter of 2012, according to latest estimates from the Office of National Statistics.
- The number of unemployed people in the three months between October and December was **2.50 million** (7.8%). This is down by 14,000 from the previous quarter, and down 156,000 from a year earlier.
- **145,000** people (**1,585 a day**) reported they had become redundant over the three months. This is up by 17,000 from the previous three months, but down by 19,000 from a year earlier.
- **879,000** people had been unemployed for over 12 months between October and December, down by 15,000 from the previous three months, but up 21,000 (**57 a day**) from a year earlier.

## SERVICING DEBT

- Based on *annual* figures to the end of September 2012, Citizens Advice Bureaux in England and Wales are dealing with **8,308** new debt problems every *working day*.
- According to the Council of Mortgage Lenders (CML), **7,700** properties were taken into possession in Q4 2012 (this is down from 8,200 in Q3 2012).
- This equates to **84** properties being repossessed every day, or one property being repossessed **every 17 minutes 7 seconds**.
- The Insolvency Service said there were **25,302** individual insolvencies in England and Wales in Q4 2012. This is equivalent to **277** people a day or, one person **every 5 minutes 12 seconds**.

## PLASTIC CARDS AND PERSONAL LOANS

- Total credit card debt in January 2013 was **£55.1bn**.
- During December 2012 an average of **327** 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 **£1.387 billion** during December.

**FOR MORE DETAILED FIGURES AND ADDITIONAL STATISTICS, DOWNLOAD A PDF OF THE FULL VERSION OF CREDIT ACTION'S MARCH 2013 DEBT STATISTICS FROM OUR WEBSITE**

## NOTES

Credit Action's Debt Statistics are compiled by John Davies ([johndavies@creditaction.org.uk](mailto: johndavies@creditaction.org.uk)).

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