Summary

Average consumer debt in Missouri was flat in the second quarter at $14,300 per consumer, including joint debt (Chart 1), and it remained below the averages for the seven-state District and the U.S. (Charts 1 and 2). Revolving debt fell by $100 to $5,470 (Chart 1). Delinquency rates for autos and student loans were higher than the national average, while mortgage delinquencies remained below U.S. rates (Charts 3 and 4). Mortgage delinquencies varied significantly across the state, with higher rates in the St. Louis metro area as well as the more rural counties of Schuyler and Howard (see Map on page 3).

In This Issue: A Look at Bankruptcy

Bankruptcy filings per 10,000 households in Missouri have followed the national trend, where a sharp increase in the lead-up to bankruptcy reform in 2005 was followed by a dramatic decline (Chart 5). Since the reform, bankruptcy rates have followed a trend similar to average consumer debt. Missouri’s annual bankruptcy filing rate in the second quarter was higher than the District and nationwide averages (Chart 6). As noted in the Tenth District Consumer Credit Report, a variety of factors can affect states’ bankruptcy filing rates. Although Missouri’s lower levels of consumer debt and its relatively modest homestead exemption normally would lead to lower bankruptcy filings, the state’s credit delinquencies are generally higher than District averages.

Chart 1: Average Debt* Per Consumer

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax.
*Excludes first mortgage. A first mortgage represents the primary note on the home and typically is not used to purchase consumer goods.

Chart 2: Average Debt* Per Consumer

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax.
*Excludes first mortgage. A first mortgage represents the primary note on the home and typically is not used to purchase consumer goods.
**Chart 3: Average Consumer Delinquency Rates*  
Four-quarter moving average**

![Chart 3](image)


*At least 30 days past due “Any Account” includes accounts not otherwise reported in the chart, such as first mortgages. The second quarter bankruptcy filing rate utilizes an updated estimate of households.

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**Chart 4: Mortgage Delinquencies**

![Chart 4](image)

Source: Lender Processing Services Inc.

Notes: The figures represent the share of outstanding mortgages. Past due represents mortgages that are 30 or more days delinquent, including those in foreclosure. Serious delinquencies represent mortgages that are 90 or more days 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 or more days past due or in some stage of the foreclosure process.

Chart 5: Nonbusiness Bankruptcy Filings per 10,000 Households (Quarterly)

Source: Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.
The Consumer Credit Report series is published quarterly by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City to provide a summary of consumer credit standing 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.