



CreditCards.com Weekly Rate Report: Card APRs steady as 2012 begins

Wednesday, January 4, 2012

Austin, Texas – Interest rates on new credit card offers were unchanged to start the new year, according to the CreditCards.com Weekly Credit Card Rate Report.

The average is composed of 100 of the most popular credit cards in the country, including cards from dozens of leading U.S. issuers and representing every card category. Introductory (teaser) rates are not included in the calculation.

Rates for card categories tracked by CreditCards.com are listed below:

Credit Card Averages

	Avg. APR	Last week	6 months ago
National Average	15.14%	15.14%	14.75%
Low Interest	10.62%	10.62%	10.73%
Balance Transfer	12.85%	12.85%	12.78%
Business	13.13%	13.13%	13.07%
Student	13.77%	13.77%	13.77%
Airline	14.54%	14.54%	14.31%
Cash Back	14.74%	14.74%	13.90%
Reward	14.82%	14.82%	14.28%
Instant Approval	15.49%	15.49%	15.99%
Bad Credit	24.96%	24.96%	24.96%

Source: CreditCards.com

Updated: 1-4-2012

The average annual percentage rate (APR) stayed fixed at 15.14 percent. It's the first time since CreditCards.com began tracking rates in 2007 that the national average APR didn't move in the first week of the year.

Though they were static this week, rates are significantly higher than they were in the first week of 2011. A year ago, the national average APR stood at 14.71 percent. And in the first week of 2010, the national average stood at just 12.87 percent -- more than 2 percentage points lower than the current rate.

Still, today's rate is shy of the record high of 15.22 percent, set in mid-December. It was the seventh record high set in 2011, equaling the number seen in 2010..

The CreditCards.com credit card rate survey (permalink: <http://www.creditcards.com/rate-report>) is conducted weekly, using offer data from the leading U.S. card issuers' websites. Introductory offer periods and regular interest rates will vary with applicants' credit quality and issuer risk-based pricing policies.

About CreditCards.com

CreditCards.com is the leading online credit card marketplace connecting consumers with multiple credit card issuers, including a majority of the 10 largest in the United States, based on credit card transaction volume. CreditCards.com, <http://www.creditcards.com>, enables consumers to search for, compare and apply for credit cards and offers credit card issuers an online channel to acquire qualified applicants.

For more information, contact:

Ben Woolsey
Director of Marketing
benw@creditcards.com
512-996-8663 x106

NOTE TO EDITORS: The information in this release is available for print or broadcast with attribution to CreditCards.com.

Source: CreditCards.com