



CreditCards.com: Weekly Credit Card Rate Report

Thursday, September 10, 2009

Austin, Texas -- The national average annual percentage rate on new credit card offers rose this week to 12.28 percent, according to the CreditCards.com Weekly Credit Card Rate Report, spurred by Chase's rate hike on one of its card products.

The national average credit card APR is comprised of 95 of the most popular credit cards in the country, including cards from dozens of leading U.S. issuers and representing every card category listed below. (Introductory, or teaser, rates are not included in the calculation.) Among the averages in nine card categories, four increased, two decreased and three were unchanged.

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

Credit Card Rate Averages

	Avg. APR	Last week	6 months ago
National Average	12.28%	12.14%	12.84%
Balance Transfer	10.32%	10.14%	11.18%
Business	10.49%	11.07%	16.74%
Low Interest	11.52%	10.62%	12.38%
Cash Back	11.69%	11.77%	13.76%
Reward	12.16%	12.16%	12.22%
Instant Approval	13.32%	12.99%	11.29%
Airline	13.79%	13.48%	12.96%
Bad Credit	14.29%	14.29%	12.77%
Student	14.45%	14.45%	15.79%

Source: CreditCards.com

Updated: 9-10-09

Chase's decision to boost APRs suggests that banks continue to adjust to both ongoing economic challenges and new federal legislation aimed at curbing credit card abuses.

On the economic front, the Federal Reserve's "beige book" survey of its regional banks showed consumer spending generally remained soft and lending standards remained tight during July and August. That combination helped to drive credit card balances down in July for the 10th straight month, as indicated by the Fed's G.19 report on consumer credit.

The CreditCards.com credit card rate survey is conducted weekly, using offer data from the leading U.S. card issuers as found on their Web sites. 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 several 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.

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