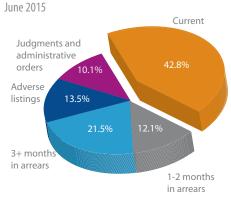
# Credit Bureau Monitor

Second Quarter | June 2015

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For further information on credit provision, please access the Consumer Credit Market Report on **www.ncr.org.za** 

he information reflected in this edition of the Credit Bureau Monitor covers the period from the quarter ended June 2011 to June 2015, and is based on data held by registered credit bureaus in terms of the National Credit Act No 34 of 2005.

## **Summary**

Credit bureaus create consumer credit profiles based on credit information received from credit providers, courts and utility service providers. The National Credit Regulator (NCR) regulates and monitors registered credit bureaus and the quality of their data.

#### As at the end of June 2015:

- Credit bureaus held records for 23.37 million credit-active consumers, an increase
  of 1.1% when compared to the 23.11 million in the previous quarter. Consumers
  classified in good standing increased by 139,000, to 12.84 million consumers. As a
  percentage of the total number of credit-active consumers, this reflects a decrease of
  0.1% quarter-on-quarter and 0.1% year-on-year.
- The number of consumers with impaired records increased by 124,000 to 10.53 million, from 10.41 million in the previous quarter.
- The number of accounts increased from 82.04 million in the previous quarter to 82.17 million. The number of impaired accounts decreased from 22.38 million to 21.71 million when compared to the previous quarter, a decrease of 670,000 quarter-on-quarter and an increase of 429,000 year-on-year.
- A total of 412.77 million enquiries were made on consumer credit records, an increase
  of 22.8% quarter-on-quarter and 12.9% year-on-year. Enquiries initiated by consumers
  accounted for 13.23 million of all enquiries, an increase of 3.6% quarter-on-quarter
  and a decrease of 13.3% year-on-year.
- Of the total enquiries made on consumer records, enquiries from banks and other financial institutions accounted for 76.0%, enquiries from retailers accounted for 2.5% and enquiries from telecommunication providers accounted for 5.4%. Banks and other financial institutions' enquiries increased by 24.7% from the previous quarter, retailers increased by 2.5% and telecommunication providers increased by 69.4%.
- The number of credit reports issued to consumers increased to 157,250. Of the total credit reports issued, 65.5% (102,967) were issued without charge, and the remaining 34.5% (54,283) were issued with charge.
- There were 27,988 disputes lodged on information held on consumer credit records for the quarter ended June 2015, an increase of 22.2% quarter-on-quarter and 31.2% year-on-year.

National Credit Regulator

## Introduction

The information reflected in this Credit Bureau Monitor covers the period from the quarter ended June 2011 to June 2015.

Comparisons in this report: "quarter-on-quarter" refers to a comparison between the June 2015 and March 2015 quarters, and "year-on-year" refers to a comparison between the June 2015 and June 2014 quarters.

## **Credit-active consumers**

There were 23.37 million credit-active consumers as at the end of June 2015

Credit bureaus held records for more than 47.42 million individuals on their databases as at the end of June 2015. From these records, 23.37 million (49.3%) were credit-active and the remaining records contained only identification information and no credit activity. The number of credit-active consumers increased by 263,000 quarter-on-quarter and 1.25 million year-on-year.

The percentage of consumers in good standing decreased this quarter

Consumers classified in good standing increased by 139,000 to 12.84 million consumers. As a percentage of the total number of credit-active consumers, this reflects a decrease of 0.1% quarter-on-quarter and 0.1% year-on-year. Of the total 23.37 million credit-active consumers, 54.9% were in good standing.

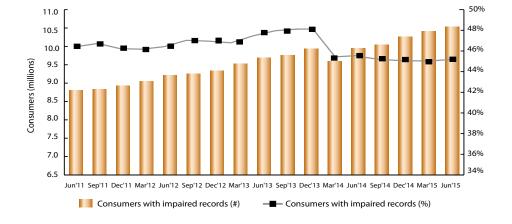
The number of consumers with impaired records (the inverse of those in good standing) increased by 124,000 to 10.53 million. The percentage of credit-active consumers with impaired records increased to 45.1%, comprising of 21.5% of consumers in three months or more in arrears, 13.5% of consumers with adverse listings, and 10.1% of consumers with judgments and administration orders.

A detailed breakdown of the nature of impairments is provided in Table 1 and Figure 1.

Table 1: Credit standing of consumers

	Sep 12	Dec 12	Mar 13	Jun 13	Sep 13	Dec 13	Mar 14	Jun 14	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15
Good standing (#)	10.45m	10.62m	10.55m	10.52m	10.53m	10.71m	12.11m	12.17m	12.45m	12.58m	12.70m	12.84m
Good standing (%)	53.0%	53.2%	52.5%	52.0%	51.9%	51.9%	55.8%	55.0%	55.3%	55.1%	55.0%	54.9%
Current (%)	38.8%	38.0%	37.2%	37.9%	38.2%	38.1%	41.5%	42.2%	42.3%	42.6%	42.2%	42.8%
1-2 months in arrears (%)	14.3%	15.3%	15.4%	14.2%	13.7%	13.8%	14.3%	12.8%	13.0%	12.5%	12.7%	12.1%
Impaired records (#)	9.25m	9.34m	9.53m	9.69m	9.76m	9.93m	9.60m	9.95m	10.05m	10.26m	10.41m	10.53m
Impaired records (%)	47.0%	46.8%	47.5%	48.0%	48.1%	48.1%	44.2%	45.0%	44.7%	44.9%	45.0%	45.1%
3+ months in arrears (%)	19.7%	20.1%	20.5%	21.1%	21.0%	20.1%	32.4%	28.3%	26.3%	23.8%	22.4%	21.5%
Adverse listings (%)	12.9%	12.7%	13.5%	13.5%	14.0%	15.4%	0.0%	5.2%	7.3%	10.4%	12.2%	13.5%
Judgments and administration orders (%)	14.3%	13.9%	13.5%	13.3%	13.1%	12.6%	11.8%	11.4%	11.1%	10.7%	10.4%	10.1%
Credit-active consumers (#)	19.69m	19.97m	20.08m	20.21m	20.29m	20.64m	21.71m	22.12m	22.50m	22.84m	23.11m	23.37m

Figure 1: Consumers with impaired records



#### **Consumer accounts**

There were 82.17 million accounts on record at the bureaus as at the end of June 2015

At the end of the reporting quarter there were 82.17 million accounts recorded at registered credit bureaus. This was an increase of 0.2% quarter-on-quarter and 3.5% year-on-year.

The percentage of accounts in good standing increased this quarter

Of the 82.17 million accounts, 60.47 million (73.6%) were classified as in good standing, a positive variance of 0.9% quarter-on-quarter and 0.4% year-on-year.

#### As at the end of June 2015:

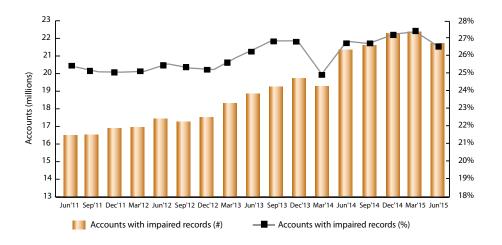
- 66.1% of accounts were classified as current (increased quarter-on-quarter by 1.4% and year-on-year by 0.7%).
- 7.5% had missed one or two instalments (decreased quarter-on-quarter by 0.5% and year-on-year by 0.4%).
- 18.9% had missed three or more instalments (decreased quarter-on-quarter by 0.9% and year-on-year by 2.4%).
- 5.2% had adverse listings (increased quarter-on-quarter by 0.1% and year-on-year by 2.3%).
- 2.2% had judgments or administration orders (decreased quarter-on-quarter by 0.1% and year-on-year by 0.4%).

See Table 2 and Figures 2 and 3 for detailed breakdown.

Table 2: Credit standing of accounts

	Sep 12	Dec 12	Mar 13	Jun 13	Sep 13	Dec 13	Mar 14	Jun 14	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15
Good standing (#)	51.02m	52.02m	52.42m	52.33m	51.92m	53.44m	57.91m	58.15m	59.55m	59.84m	59.66m	60.47m
Good standing (%)	74.7%	74.8%	74.1%	73.5%	73.0%	73.0%	75.0%	73.2%	73.3%	72.9%	72.7%	73.6%
Current (%)	66.0%	65.4%	64.3%	64.5%	64.2%	64.2%	66.1%	65.4%	65.5%	65.2%	64.7%	66.1%
1-2 months in arrears (%)	8.7%	9.4%	9.8%	9.0%	8.8%	8.8%	8.9%	7.9%	7.8%	7.6%	8.0%	7.5%
Impaired records (#)	17.26m	17.52m	18.31m	18.87m	19.25m	19.74m	19.27m	21.28m	21.64m	22.28m	22.38m	21.71m
Impaired records (%)	25.3%	25.2%	25.9%	26.5%	27.0%	27.0%	25.0%	26.8%	26.7%	27.1%	27.3%	26.4%
3+ months in arrears (%)	17.7%	17.8%	18.0%	18.5%	18.6%	18.0%	22.3%	21.3%	20.7%	20.1%	19.8%	18.9%
Adverse listings (%)	4.5%	4.4%	5.0%	5.1%	5.5%	6.2%	0.0%	2.9%	3.4%	4.6%	5.1%	5.2%
Judgments and administration orders (%)	3.1%	3.0%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%	2.8%	2.7%	2.6%	2.5%	2.4%	2.3%	2.2%
Consumer accounts (#)	68.28m	69.53m	70.73m	71.20m	71.17m	73.18m	77.18m	79.42m	81.18m	82.13m	82.04m	82.17m

Figure 2: Accounts with impaired records



50 45 40 40 35 30 25 20

Jun'11 Sep'11 Dec'11 Mar'12 Jun'12 Sep'12 Dec'12 Mar'13 Jun'13 Sep'13 Dec'13 Mar'14 Jun'14 Sep'14 Dec'14 Mar'15 Jun'15

Consumers with impaired records (%)

Figure 3: Consumers and accounts with impaired records

# **Credit market activity**

Enquiries made on consumer records increased for the quarter

In the quarter ended June 2015, 412.77 million enquiries were made. This was an increase of 22.8% quarter-on-quarter and 12.9% year-on-year. Enquiries done in bulk by banks and other financial institutions formed the largest portion of all enquiries.

- 13.23 million enquiries were made due to consumers seeking credit (increased by 3.6% quarter-on-quarter and decreased by 13.3% year-on-year).
- 0.91 million enquiries were related to telecommunication services (increased by 12.2% quarter-on-quarter and 33.0% year-on-year).
- 22.62 million enquiries were made for tracing/debt collection purposes (increased by 29.2% quarter-on-quarter and 59.9% year-on-year).
- 376.01 million enquiries were made for other purposes excluding those purposes mentioned above, e.g. account management and contact information update (increased by 23.3% quarter-on-quarter and 12.0% year-on-year).

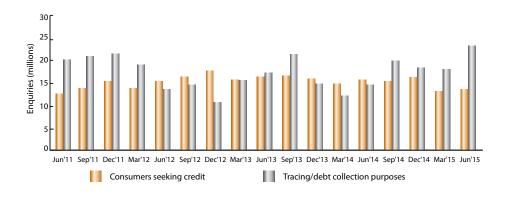
Refer to Table 3 and Figures 4 and 5 for detailed breakdown.

Table 3: Enquiries

		Nu	mber of e	nquiries	(millions	)							Percenta	ge change			
Enquiry purpose:	Jun 13	Sep 13	Dec 13	Mar 14	Jun 14	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Jun 13 to Sep 13	Sep 13 to Dec 13	Dec 13 to Mar 14	Mar 14 to Jun 14	Jun 14 to Sep 14	Sep 14 to Dec 14	Dec 14 to Mar 15	Mar 15 to Jun 15
Consumers seeking credit	15.91	16.16	15.48	14.33	15.26	14.96	15.78	12.76	13.23	1.6%	-4.2%	-7.4%	6.5%	-1.9%	5.5%	-19.1%	3.6%
Telecommunication services	0.70	0.73	0.73	0.72	0.69	0.76	0.77	0.81	0.91	5.4%	-0.3%	-1.5%	-4.7%	10.3%	1.8%	5.6%	12.2%
Tracing/debt collection purposes	16.78	20.81	14.42	11.82	14.14	19.31	17.83	17.51	22.62	24.0%	-30.7%	-18.1%	19.7%	36.5%	-7.7%	-1.8%	29.2%
Other	326.61	319.94	318.02	306.79	335.68	344.31	398.33	304.99	376.01	-2.0%	-0.6%	-3.5%	9.4%	2.6%	15.7%	-23.4%	23.3%
Total	360.01	357.65	348.66	333.66	365.76	379.35	432.71	336.08	412.77	-0.7%	-2.5%	-4.3%	9.6%	3.7%	14.1%	-22.3%	22.8%

Figure 4: Enquiries due to consumers seeking credit

Figure 5: Enquiries due to consumers seeking credit and enquiries for tracing/debt collection purposes



#### **Enquiry sectoral analysis**

In the quarter ended June 2015, 313.86 million enquiries were made by banks and other financial institutions, an increase of 24.7% quarter-on-quarter and 2.7% year-on-year. Retailers made 10.27 million enquiries on consumer records, which was an increase of 2.5% quarter-on-quarter and a decrease of 37.5% year-on-year. Enquiries made by telecommunication providers increased by 69.4% quarter-on-quarter and 105.3% year-on-year, to 22.08 million in June 2015 quarter. Enquiries made by debt collection agencies decreased by 19.9% quarter-on-quarter and 10.9% year-on-year, to 3.90 million in June 2015 quarter. Enquiries made by all other entities showed a quarter-on-quarter increase of 11.1% and 118.5% year-on-year, to 62.65 million.

Refer to Tables 4 to 7 and Figure 6 for a detailed breakdown.

*Table 4: All enquiries – distribution according to sectors* 

		Nu	ımber of e	enquiries	(millions	)							Percentag	ge change	<u>;</u>		
Enquiries by:	Jun 13	Sep 13	Dec 13	Mar 14	Jun 14	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Jun 13 to Sep 13	Sep 13 to Dec 13	Dec 13 to Mar 14	Mar 14 to Jun 14	Jun 14 to Sep 14	Sep 14 to Dec 14	Dec 14 to Mar 15	Mar 15 to Jun 15
Banks and other financial institutions	304.81	304.22	297.73	278.12	305.52	311.16	338.76	251.74	313.86	-0.2%	-2.1%	-6.6%	9.9%	1.8%	8.9%	-25.7%	24.7%
Retailers	20.14	11.41	10.22	11.88	16.43	11.49	9.73	10.03	10.27	-43.3%	-10.5%	16.3%	38.2%	-30.1%	-15.3%	3.1%	2.5%
Telecommunication providers	14.76	16.55	10.64	8.95	10.76	12.32	15.36	13.04	22.08	12.1%	-35.7%	-15.9%	20.2%	14.6%	24.6%	-15.1%	69.4%
Debt collection agencies	4.53	4.19	3.26	2.86	4.38	8.13	3.02	4.87	3.90	-7.5%	-22.1%	-12.4%	53.3%	85.6%	-62.9%	61.7%	-19.9%
All other entities	15.76	21.26	26.81	31.85	28.68	36.25	65.84	56.40	62.65	34.9%	26.1%	18.8%	-10.0%	26.4%	81.6%	-14.3%	11.1%
Total	360.01	357.65	348.66	333.66	365.76	379.35	432.71	336.08	412.77	-0.7%	-2.5%	-4.3%	9.6%	3.7%	14.1%	-22.3%	22.8%

Figure 6: All enquiries – distribution according to sectors

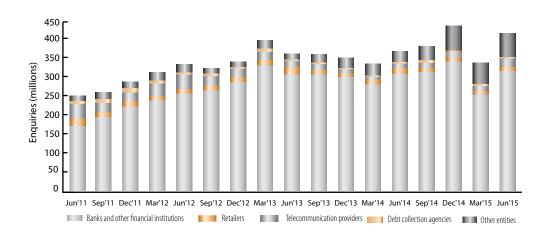


Table 5: Enquiries by banks and other financial institutions

		Nu	mber of e	nquiries (	(millions)								Percentag	ge change	<u>:</u>		
Enquiry purpose:	Jun 13	Sep 13	Dec 13	Mar 14	Jun 14	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Jun 13 to Sep 13	Sep 13 to Dec 13	Dec 13 to Mar 14	Mar 14 to Jun 14	Jun 14 to Sep 14	Sep 14 to Dec 14	Dec 14 to Mar 15	Mar 15 to Jun 15
Consumers seeking credit	13.34	13.20	11.89	11.39	12.03	12.13	12.44	10.37	10.77	-1.1%	-9.9%	-4.3%	5.7%	0.8%	2.6%	-16.7%	3.9%
Tracing/debt collection purposes	2.06	2.55	1.84	2.50	3.29	3.70	2.93	1.57	1.36	23.9%	-27.9%	36.3%	31.4%	12.3%	-20.8%	-46.3%	-13.7%
Other purposes	289.42	288.48	283.99	264.23	290.20	295.33	323.39	239.79	301.73	-0.3%	-1.6%	-7.0%	9.8%	1.8%	9.5%	-25.9%	25.8%
Banks and other financial institutions	304.81	304.22	297.73	278.12	305.52	311.16	338.76	251.74	313.86	-0.2%	-2.1%	-6.6%	9.9%	1.8%	8.9%	-25.7%	24.7%

Table 6: Enquiries by retailers

		Nu	mber of e	nquiries (	(millions)								Percenta	ge change			
Enquiry purpose:	Jun 13	Sep 13	Dec 13	Mar 14	Jun 14	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Jun 13 to Sep 13	Sep 13 to Dec 13	Dec 13 to Mar 14	Mar14 to Jun 14	Jun 14 to Sep 14	Sep 14 to Dec 14	Dec 14 to Mar 15	Mar15 to Jun 15
Consumers seeking credit	2.57	2.97	3.59	2.94	3.22	2.83	3.34	2.39	2.45	15.2%	21.0%	-17.9%	9.5%	-12.2%	18.0%	-28.3%	2.6%
Tracing/debt collection purposes	0.59	0.66	0.77	0.57	0.62	0.94	1.07	1.00	1.22	12.2%	17.2%	-25.9%	7.5%	52.4%	14.5%	-6.5%	21.4%
Other purposes	16.97	7.79	5.86	8.37	12.59	7.72	5.31	6.63	6.60	-54.1%	-24.8%	42.8%	50.4%	-38.7%	-31.2%	24.7%	-0.4%
Retailers	20.14	11.41	10.22	11.88	16.43	11.49	9.73	10.03	10.27	-43.3%	-10.5%	16.3%	38.2%	-30.1%	-15.3%	3.1%	2.5%

Table 7: Enquiries by telecommunication providers

'					,												
		Num	ber of en	quiries (ı	millions)								Percentag	ge change			
Enquiry purpose:	Jun 13	Sep 13	Dec 13	Mar 14	Jun 14	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Jun 13 to Sep 13	Sep 13 to Dec 13	Dec 13 to Mar 14	Mar 14 to Jun 14	Jun 14 to Sep 14	Sep 14 to Dec 14	Dec 14 to Mar 15	Mar 15 to Jun 15
Telecommunication services	0.70	0.73	0.73	0.72	0.69	0.76	0.77	0.81	0.91	5.4%	-0.3%	-1.5%	-4.7%	10.3%	1.8%	5.6%	12.2%
Tracing/debt collection purposes	8.49	11.75	7.21	4.22	4.11	4.94	9.45	8.27	14.64	38.4%	-38.7%	-41.4%	-2.6%	20.2%	91.1%	-12.5%	77.2%
Other purposes	5.58	4.07	2.71	4.01	5.96	6.62	5.14	3.96	6.53	-27.1%	-33.5%	48.0%	48.7%	11.2%	-22.4%	-23.0%	64.8%
Telecommunication providers	14.76	16.55	10.64	8.95	10.76	12.32	15.36	13.04	22.08	12.1%	-35.7%	-15.9%	20.2%	14.6%	24.6%	-15.1%	69.4%

# **Credit bureau activity**

## Demand for credit reports increased for the quarter

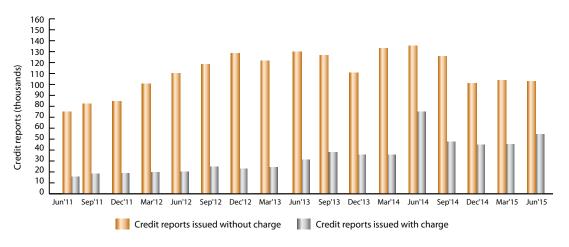
Of the total 157,250 credit reports issued to consumers at their request during the quarter ended June 2015, 65.5% (102,967) were issued without charge, and the remaining 34.5% (54,283) were issued with charge. The total number of credit reports issued increased by 5.4% quarter-on-quarter and decreased by 25.4% year-on-year.

See Table 8 and Figure 7 for details.

Table 8: Credit reports issued

				Numbe	r of credit	reports								Perce	entage ch	ange			
Credit reports:	Mar 13	Jun 13	Sep 13	Dec 13	Mar 14	Jun 14	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Mar 13 to Jun 13	Jun 13 to Sep13	Sep 13 to Dec 13	Dec 13 to Mar14	Mar 14 to Jun 14	Jun 14 to Sep 14	Sep 14 to Dec 14	Dec 14 to Mar15	Mar 15 to Jun 15
Issued without charge	121,659	129,761	126,591	110,803	133,216	135,650	125,689	101,119	103,771	102,967	6.7%	-2.4%	-12.5%	20.2%	1.8%	-7.3%	-19.5%	2.6%	-0.8%
Issued with charge	24,061	30,941	37,846	35,854	35,613	75,019	47,505	44,804	45,451	54,283	28.6%	22.3%	-5.3%	-0.7%	110.7%	-36.7%	-5.7%	1.4%	19.4%
Total issued	145,720	160,702	164,437	146,657	168,829	210,669	173,194	145,923	149,222	157,250	10.3%	2.3%	-10.8%	15.1%	24.8%	-17.8%	-15.7%	2.3%	5.4%

Figure 7: Credit reports issued



## **Consumer disputes**

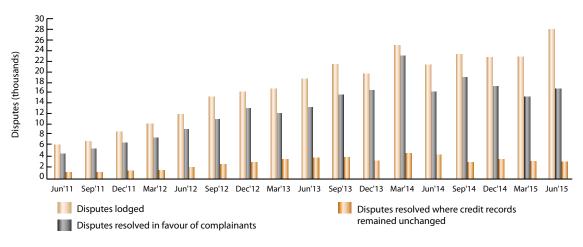
In the quarter ended June 2015, 27,988 disputes were lodged in respect of the accuracy of the information recorded on consumer credit records. This was an increase of 22.2% quarter-on-quarter and 31.2% year-on-year. More disputes were resolved in favour of complainants (16,896) as compared to disputes where credit records remained unchanged (3,187).

See Table 9 and Figure 8 for details.

Table 9: Disputes

			Nun	nber of di	sputes								Percentag	ge change			
Disputes:	Jun 13	Sep 13	Dec 13	Mar 14	Jun 14	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Jun 13 to Sep 13	Sep 13 to Dec 13	Dec 13 to Mar 14	Mar 14 to Jun 14	Jun 14 to Sep 14	Sep 14 to Dec 14	Dec 14 to Mar 15	Mar 15 to Jun 15
Lodged	18,792	21,466	19,658	25,005	21,339	23,334	22,822	22,912	27,988	14.2%	-8.4%	27.2%	-14.7%	9.3%	-2.2%	0.4%	22.2%
Resolved in favour of complainants	13,449	15,731	16,643	23,016	16,307	19,003	17,397	15,349	16,896	17.0%	5.8%	38.3%	-29.1%	16.5%	-8.5%	-11.8%	10.1%
Resolved where credit record remained unchanged	3,989	4,064	3,391	4,839	4,582	3,117	3,710	3,371	3,187	1.9%	-16.6%	42.7%	-5.3%	-32.0%	19.0%	-9.1%	-5.5%





## **Definitions**

Terms used in this report	Definitions
Credit-active consumers	Consumers obligated to pay credit providers and/or service providers, etc. These obligations result in transactional entries on the consumer's credit record at the credit bureaus.
Impaired record	A record on which a consumer and/or any of the accounts, are either classified as three or more payments or months in arrears, or which has an "adverse listing", or that reflects a judgment or administration order.
Good standing	An account or consumer showing as current or on which the client has not missed more than one or two instalments, which has no adverse listings and has no judgments.
Adverse listing	Accounts with adverse classifications such as 'handed over' and/or 'written-off'.
Current	A consumer or account is up-to-date with payments and has not missed any instalment over the period of the credit agreement.

## **Notes**

- 1. Where values have been rounded off, the percentage calculations and summed totals are calculated off the unrounded values
- 2. Refer to the NCR website for complete tables of thirty three quarters from June 2007 to June 2015.

