

Central Credit Register Service Standards & Performance September 2024

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The Central Credit Register

The Central Credit Register is a national database that stores information on consumer and business loans where the loan amount is €500 or more. It is used to generate credit reports, which borrowers and lenders can access.

Borrowers can access their credit report free of charge any time (subject to fair usage) to see what information about their loans is stored on the Central Credit Register.

Lenders can access a borrower's credit report to help them when making decisions about loans and loan applications. Lenders must request a borrower's credit report when considering a loan application for €2,000 or more, and may do so if the loan application is for less than that. In addition, a lender may obtain a borrower's credit report:

- if the borrower has asked for a re-structure of an existing loan;
- if there are arrears on an existing loan;
- if the borrower has breached the limit on a credit card or overdraft.

A footprint is created each time a credit report is accessed. This includes the name of the enquirer (such as the lender), the date and the purpose of the enquiry.

The Central Credit Register supports the Central Bank's obligations and functions to protect consumers, supervise the financial sector and ensure financial stability.

To enhance transparency around the operation of the Central Credit Register, this document provides information on:

- 1. Central Credit Register services by borrowers and lenders, and performance against agreed service standards;
- 2. A high level breakdown of the volumes of enquiries by lender type and product type; and
- 3. A high level breakdown of credit agreements by product type as reported to the Central Credit Register.

1. Services to Borrowers

Table 1: Service Standards for Borrowers¹

		Performance				2024 Total
Service	Target	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	(YTD)
Requests for credit reports	85% completed within 5 days	95.3%	97.5%	97.6%		31,219
Requests for amendments	50% completed within 20 days ²	68.5%	67.7%	73.8%		605
Requests for explanatory statements	85% completed within 5 days	94.4%	98.9%	100%		267

In Q3, service standard targets were exceeded for all borrower requests. Requests for borrower's services continued to decline in Q3 2024, when compared to the same period last year. Requests for credit reports, amendments and explanatory statements declined by 21%, 30% and 25%, respectively.

Table 2: Public Contact Volumes	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	2024 Total (YTD)
Website views	321,561	284,706	293,504		899,771
Responses Issued to Public Contacts ³	7,692	7,465	7,571		22,729

¹ A borrowers request for a credit report, amendment, or explanatory statement is actioned only after the application form and supporting documentation have been reviewed and are accepted as satisfactory

² As per legal requirement, all requests are actioned within 40 days

³ Includes email queries from the public and calls to helpline beyond the contacts set out in Table 1

2. Services to Lenders

A full list of lenders (Credit Information Providers) and a breakdown by lender type is available on our publications page.

Table 3: Service Standards for Lenders

			Performance				
Service	Target	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec		
System Response Time	95% of responses in ≤ 4 seconds	99.8%	95.4%	99.9%			
System Availability	97.5% of availability hours	100%	99.8%	100%			
File loading	98% of file loading completed in ≤ 5 days	100%	100%	100%			

In Q3, service standard targets for lenders were all exceeded. The volume of enquiries by lenders increased by 2% in Q3 2024, when compared with the same period of the previous year.

Table 4: Volume of Enquiries by Lender Type

	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	2024 Total (YTD)
Lender Enquiries	616,001	656,629	649,153		1,921,783
of which:					
Licensed Banks	271,192	277,049	276,676		824,917
Credit Union	141,719	161,064	160,021		462,804
Retail Credit Firm	137,856	138,527	134,679		411,062
Other	65,234	79,989	77,777		223,000

Table 5: Volume of Enquiries by Product Type

	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sept	Oct-Dec	2024 Total (YTD)
Lender Enquiries	616,001	656,629	649,153		1,921,783
of which:					
Personal Credit ⁴	519,347	558,100	558,905		1,636,352
Mortgages ⁵	48,502	51,450	48,197		148,149
Business Credit ⁶	41,731	38,834	34,894		115,459
Other	6,421	8,245	7,157		21,823

3. Breakdown of Credit Agreements by Product Type

Table 6: Credit Agreements by Product Type

	End September 2024
Total Active Credit Agreements	5,433,487
of which:	
Personal Credit	3,879,163
Mortgages	796,700
Business Credit	541,696
Other	215,928

⁴ Includes Personal Loan; Credit Card; Overdraft; Hire Purchase (HP); Personal Contract Plan (PCP); Charge Card; & Leasing

⁵ Includes Mortgage – Home loans; Mortgage – Buy to Let; Property Reversion Plan & Lifetime Mortgage Plan ⁶ Includes Business Credit Card, Business Overdraft, Business Loan, Business Hire Purchase, Business

Revolving Facility, Business Leasing, Stocking Finance, Supply Chain Finance and Mortgage - Commercial

Further Information

Web: www.centralcreditregister.ie

https://www.centralcreditregister.ie/borrower-area/faqs/

https://www.centralcreditregister.ie/lender-area/

