



1 in 2 Americans Indicate They are Living Paycheck to Paycheck

44 percent of Americans Simply Trying to Stay Current on Bills and Avoid Debt or Bankruptcy, Says New NetCredit Survey

CHICAGO (December 12, 2012) – Almost half of Americans (48 percent) indicate they are living paycheck to paycheck today in a new survey by online lender NetCredit.com and 44 percent are simply trying to stay current on bills or home payments and to avoid excessive debt or bankruptcy.

The poll of 1,000 Americans identified population segments where the concern of living paycheck to paycheck runs highest:

- 62 percent of Americans in their 30s
- 54 percent among those Americans under the age of 60
- 57 percent of families with children
- 64 percent of families with five or more people in the household versus 45 percent for households four and smaller
- 53 percent of residents in southern states versus 41 percent of those in the Northeast U.S.

“Living paycheck to paycheck puts many Americans dangerously close to their own personal fiscal cliff should they be hit with an emergency expense,” says Stephanie Klein, head of consumer lending at [NetCredit](http://NetCredit.com). “An unexpected medical bill, car repair or higher than usual utility bill can easily push them beyond their ability to pay bills on time.”

According to the [NetCredit](http://NetCredit.com) poll, three out of 10 Americans report that their primary financial goal now is simply to stay current on their bills (24 percent) or home payments (six percent) with another 14 percent trying to prevent excessive debt or bankruptcy.

Faced with the need to borrow cash today to meet a financial emergency, Americans indicate they would turn to the following sources (almost 30% would turn to more than one option):

- General savings - 61 percent
- Credit card - 23 percent
- Borrow from family/friends - 16 percent
- Separate rainy day fund - 15 percent
- Pawn or sell items – 7 percent
- Bank loan - 5 percent
- Short-term cash advances - 4 percent
- Installment loans – 2 percent

“But there might not be enough cash there to handle the crisis,” indicates Klein citing a recent FDIC study found nearly half of Americans cannot access \$2,000 in 30 days to meet an emergency. “We established NetCredit this summer to provide more flexible options to Americans needing access to cash, especially in these emergency situations.”

About the Survey

This NetCredit.com survey was conducted online in September 2012 by TNS Omnibus among a nationally representative sample of 1,000 Americans age 18 plus. The margin of error for the national sample is approximately three percent. Surveys are subject to other error sources as well, including sampling coverage error, recording error, and respondent error.

[Click here](#) to access the complete findings and data of the NetCredit.com survey. A videotaped interview with Stephanie Klein commenting on the NetCredit.com survey is available <http://bcove.me/fvd9uj7f>.

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NetCredit, a service of Chicago-based Enova International, is a licensed online lender for small personal loans, and an ideal choice for consumers who cannot qualify for a traditional credit product through their local bank. A trusted online provider, NetCredit ingrains a “customer first” attitude into everything it does, and works hard to deliver the best financial services to close the credit gap for underserved customers. NetCredit personal loans are currently available in the states of Virginia, Missouri, Wisconsin, Utah, Idaho, Delaware and South Dakota and pending approval in several others.

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