

April 2015

Summary

Three-month Moving Average Ending	Apr. 2015	Mar. 2015	Apr. 2014	Change from	
				Mar. 2015	Apr. 2014
Number of Mortgage Approvals	2,352	2,252	1,785	4.4%	31.8%
House Purchase	2,130	2,046	1,654	4.1%	28.8%
Re-mortgage/Top-up	222	206	131	7.8%	69.5%
Value of Mortgage Approvals (€ m)	441	430	307	2.6%	43.6%
House Purchase	412	400	295	3.0%	39.7%
Re-mortgage/Top-up	30	30	13	0.0%	130.8%

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding. Data reported is based on a three-month moving average. The full data series is available at www.bpfi.ie.

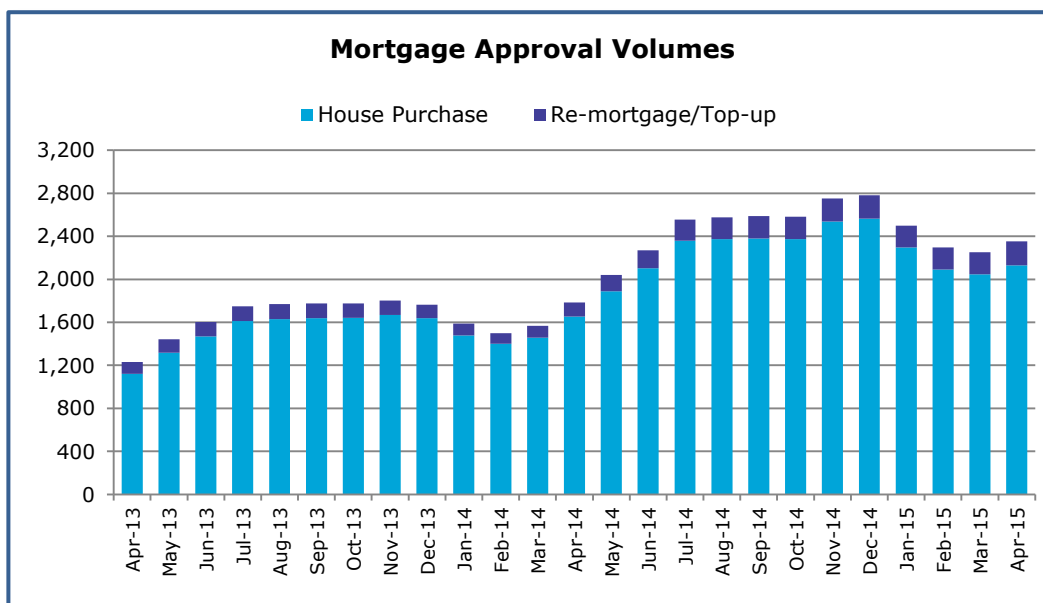
Key Points

Mortgage approval volumes

There were 2,352 mortgage approvals per month in the three months ending* April 2015, of which 2,130 were for house purchase.

The number of mortgage approvals rose by 31.8% compared with the three months ending April 2014 and increased by 4.4% compared with the three months ending March 2015. This is the 24th consecutive month of year-on-year growth.

Re-mortgage/top-up also grew on a year-on-year basis.



*The reported data is based on a three-month moving average.

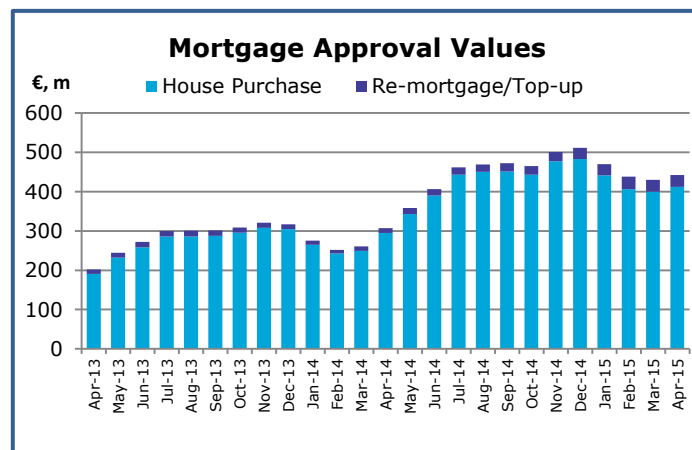
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Mortgage approval values

Some €441 million in mortgages was approved per month in the three months ending April 2015.

The value of mortgage approvals rose by 43.6% year-on-year, boosted by continued growth in the average mortgage value, and by 2.6% when compared with the three months ending March 2015.

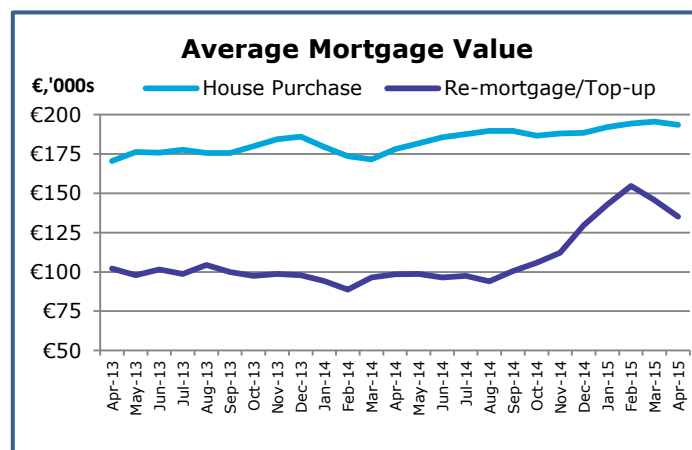
The value of house purchase mortgage approvals grew by 39.7% year-on-year to €412 million.



Average mortgage approval value

The average mortgage approval value in the three months ending April 2015 was €187,500, up 8.9% year-on-year.

The average mortgage for house purchase rose by 8.6% year-on-year to €193,427. This was the 19th successive quarter of year-on-year growth.



Notes

About Us

Banking & Payments Federation Ireland (BPFI) is the principal voice of the banking and financial services sector in Ireland. For queries, contact Anthony O'Brien, Head of Sector Research & Analysis, BPFI at 01-4748810 or anthony.obrien@bpfi.ie.

Data

This data relates to loans approved by BPFI member institutions listed which are secured by a mortgage on residential Irish property. The data includes residential mortgage lending data from the following institutions: AIB group; Bank of Ireland Mortgage Bank; EBS Limited; Haven Mortgages; ICS Building Society; KBC Bank Ireland; Danske Bank (September 2012-December 2013); Permanent TSB; Ulster Bank.

To reduce volatility in the data and identify underlying trends, the reported data is based on a three-month moving average, i.e. the past three months' data divided by three. The full data series, including the base monthly data, is available on the BPFI website at www.bpfi.ie/publications/bpfi-mortgage-approvals-report/.

Disclaimer

This report is based on statistical information supplied to BPFI by the mortgage lending institutions listed herein. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information included in this report, BPFI can accept no responsibility for errors contained herein. This report is not to be reproduced in whole or in part without prior permission. The full data series will be maintained on the BPFI website (www.bpfi.ie).

Key Terms

Mortgage Approval

A mortgage approval is defined as a "firm offer" to a customer of a credit facility secured on a specific residential property. A mortgage approval arises when the lender issues a formal offer of mortgage finance to the customer (whether it be in print or some other durable form) for a specific residential property and after a valuation report and any other necessary documentation have been received.

House Purchase

A house purchase approval is an approval for a mortgage loan issued for the purchase of residential property (houses/apartments) which is to be owner-occupied or used as a residential investment property or a holiday home. House purchase mortgages include those for first-time buyers, mover-purchasers and residential investment letting.

Re-mortgage/Top-up Purposes

A re-mortgage approval is an approval for a mortgage loan which is issued by one lender to refinance an existing mortgage with another lender. A top-up approval is an approval for a mortgage loan which is issued by a lender as a further mortgage advance to an existing borrower which is issued to finance expenditure other than house purchase.