paragon

The Financial Adviser Confidence Tracking (FACT) index has been tracking financial adviser sentiment since 1995 based on the number of mortgages introduced in the previous quarter.

The index score is calculated as a percentage of a baseline figure and adjusted to account for the volume of business that advisers expect to complete over the following quarter. 58% of survey respondents are from directly authorised firms under the FCA's mortgage regulations and 40% are from appointed representative firms.

The FACT index for Q2 2019 was 101, down 8 points compared to Q1 2019

INDEX SCORE

022019

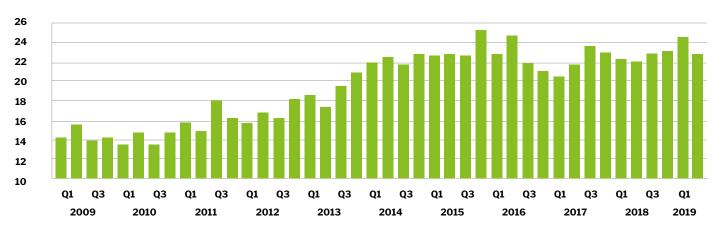


MARKET OVERVIEW

Mortgage intermediaries reported a slight dip in activity during the second quarter of 2019, with the average number of mortgages introduced per office falling 8.0% to 22.5 compared with 24.5 in Q1 2019.

Individually, the average number of applications handled per adviser fell from 8.5 to 7.9 mortgages.

FAST FACT: 22.5 average number of mortgages introduced per office



AVERAGE NUMBER OF MORTGAGES INTRODUCED PER OFFICE



CUSTOMER TYPES

Intermediaries continued to report strong interest in remortgaging, with remortgage business climbing from 39% of mortgage applications twelve months ago to 44% this time round.

This strong interest in remortgaging suggests home owners are opting to stay put and was reflected in a lower proportion of home-mover business, down from 23% of mortgage applications in Q2 2018 to just 19%.

First-time buyer applications were relatively flat at 17% of the total and buy-to-let fell to 15% of intermediary business.



BREAKDOWN OF MORTGAGE APPLICATIONS

MORTGAGE REPAYMENT STRATEGIES

The preference for repayment mortgages is now firmly established, with almost eight out of ten (79%) customers opting for a capital and interest repayment product.

Interest only mortgages, the next most popular choice, accounted for two out of ten cases (20%), with other mortgage types comprising less than one in a hundred cases (0.8%).

Since 2014, the proportion of capital and interest repayment mortgages compared with interest only mortgages has been relatively stable at around 80% and 20% respectively.

CAPITAL & INTEREST INTEREST ONLY 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 Q3 Q1 Q3 Q1 Q3 Q1 Q1 Q3 Q1 Q3 Q1 Q3 Q1 Q3 Q1 Q3 Q1 01 03 2013 2009 2010 2011 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2014

MORTGAGE REPAYMENT STRATEGIES

FAST FACT: 8 out 10 mortgage

customers select a capital repayment product



FAST FACT: 44% of mortgage customers choose to remortgage

%

INTEREST RATE TYPE

Fixed rate mortgages recorded another step-up in popularity, increasing from 91% of all mortgage applications in Q1 2019 to 94% of the total.

Fixed rate mortgages have gained consistently in popularity since 2010, following the Bank of England Base Rate cut in 2009. This ushered in an era of sustained, low interest rates, reducing the financial logic for choosing a variable rate tracker.

100 90 80 70 60 % 50 40 30 20 10 0 Q1 Q3 Q1 2009 2010 2011 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 TRACKER FIXED

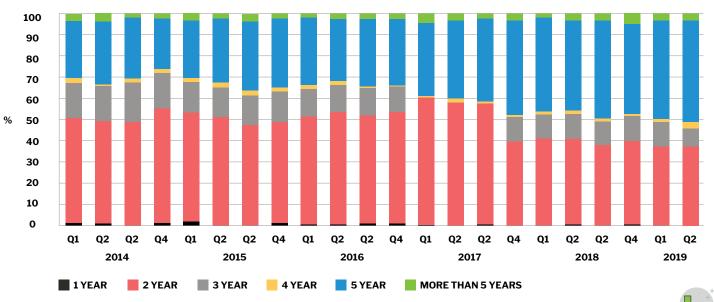
MORTGAGE INTEREST RATE TYPE

LENGTH OF INITIAL FIXED PERIOD

Fixed rate mortgages recorded another step-up in popularity, increasing from 91% of all mortgage applications in Q1 2019 to 94% of the total.

Fixed rate mortgages have gained consistently in popularity since 2010, following the Bank of England Base Rate cut in 2009. This ushered in an era of sustained, low interest rates, reducing the financial logic for choosing a variable rate tracker.

FAST FACT: 5 out of 10 mortgage customers choose a 5 year fix



DISTRIBUTION OF MORTGAGE CASES BY INITIAL TERM

94% of mortgage applications are for fixed rate products

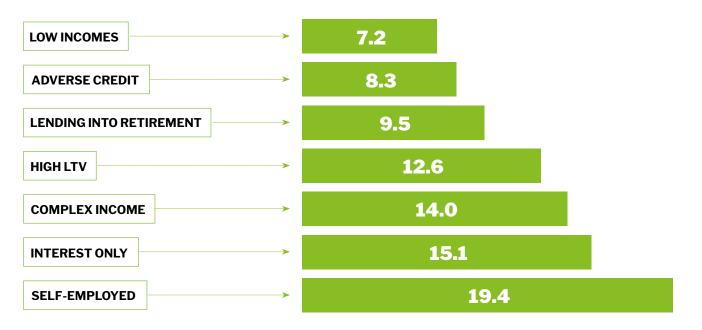
FAST FACT:

SPECIALIST CUSTOMER TYPES

The most significant source of demand for specialist residential mortgages come from self-employed customers (19%), customers looking for interest only products (15%) and those who have complex incomes (14%).

FAST FACT: 1 in 10 specialist mortgages are for retired customers

PROPORTION OF SPECIALIST BUSINESS BY CUSTOMER TYPE - %



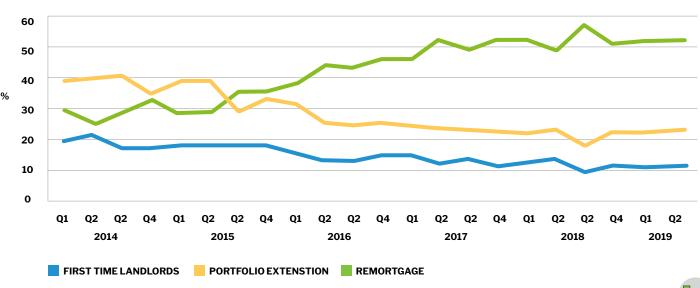
BUY-TO-LET MORTGAGE MARKET

REASONS FOR OBTAINING BUY-TO-LET MORTGAGES

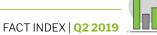
In the buy-to-let mortgage market, remortgaging makes up an even larger proportion of business than for the wider market, comprising over half of all cases (52%) in Q2 2019 compared with 30% of business five years ago.

This increase in remortgaging highlights how landlords have been taking action to reduce their finance costs and mitigate the impact of rising tax and regulatory costs.

FAST FACT: **1 in 2 buy-to-let mortgage applications are remortgages**



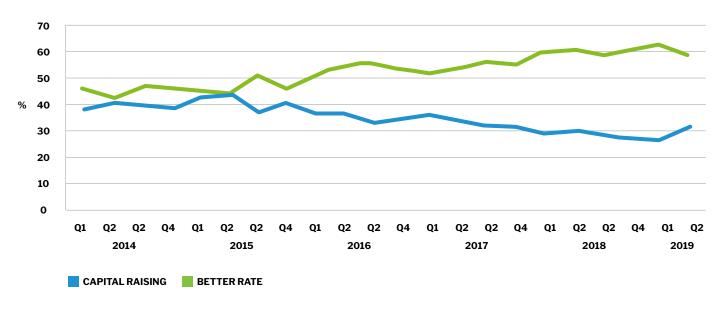
REMORTGAGE VS FIRST TIME LANDLORDS



PURPOSE OF BUY-TO-LET REMORTGAGES

Interestingly, a higher proportion of buy-to-let remortgage cases were for capital raising this time round, up from 28% to 32%, perhaps indicating an uptick in landlords looking to expand.

FAST FACT: 1 in 3 landlords remortgage to raise capital



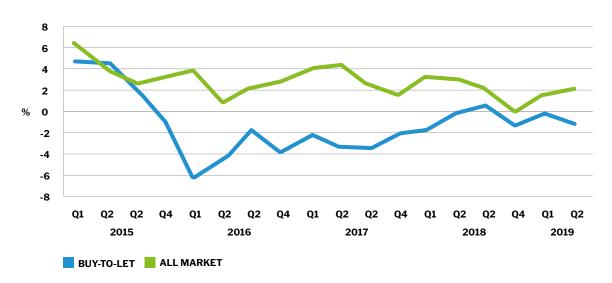
BREAKDOWN OF BUY-TO-LET REMORTGAGE CASES

MORTGAGE MARKET FORECAST

Looking ahead, intermediaries continue to forecast a relatively stable market, anticipating a 2.0% pick up in the general mortgage market in Q3 2019 and a 1.5% decline in buy-to-let.

FAST FACT: Modest growth outlook for general mortgage market

BREAKDOWN OF BUY-TO-LET REMORTGAGE CASES





ABOUT FACT

Established in 1995, Paragon's quarterly Financial Advisor Confidence Tracking Index (FACT) highlights intermediaries' general views on the performance of the mortgage market and on developing trends. Our FACT index summary report provides a snapshot of the survey's key findings.

ABOUT PARAGON

Paragon is a leading provider of buy-to-let mortgages for landlords with property portfolios, both big and small, through its portfolio and non-portfolio range.

Paragon lends to private individuals and limited companies and has mortgages suitable for single, self-contained properties, as well as HMOs and multi-unit blocks. Paragon can accommodate higher aggregate lending limits and more complex letting arrangements including local authority leases and corporate leases along with standard ASTs.

Paragon introduced its first product aimed at the professional property investor in 1995 and is a member of UK Finance, the Intermediary Mortgage Lenders Associations (IMLA), National Landlord Association (NLA) and the Association of Residential Letting Agents (ARLA). Paragon Bank PLC a subsidiary of the Paragon Banking Group PLC which is a FTSE 250 company based in Solihull in the West Midlands. Established in 1985, Paragon Banking Group PLC has over £12 billion of assets under management and manages over 450,000 customer accounts.

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