



EQUIFAX®

Global Credit Trends

2022
TRENDS

Insight stories around the globe

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Rise in unsecured debt

Return of credit cards after years of shrinking market



Return of credit cards: Credit card demand rose 21% compared to Q4 2021. This positive growth came after declining levels from 2018 as BNPL took off in the Australian market

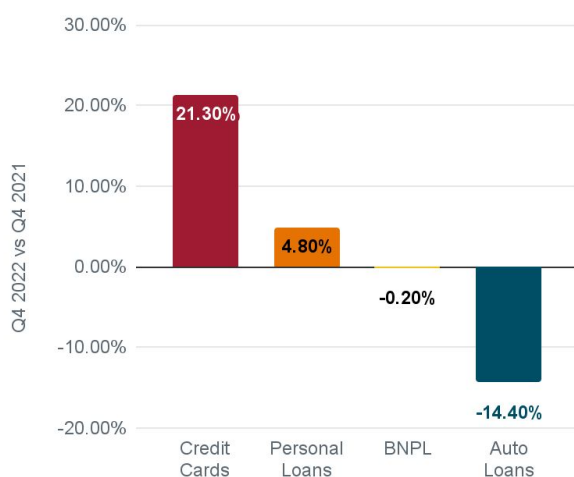


Drivers: This increase can be attributed in part to the travel and retail expenses of the holiday season. Also reflects the number of consumers turning to credit to help with increasing cost of living



Other unsecured debts: While credit card delinquencies remain stable, personal loan delinquencies are increasing alongside demand and expected to grow in 2023

Consumer credit demand by loan type



What does this mean?



- Lenders can review and improve on serviceability processes as consumers spread across multiple credit products
- Help consumers understand importance of affordability and financial literacy; especially when economic environments are volatile





Consumer delinquency

More consumers are missing payments on their credit products vs. one year ago

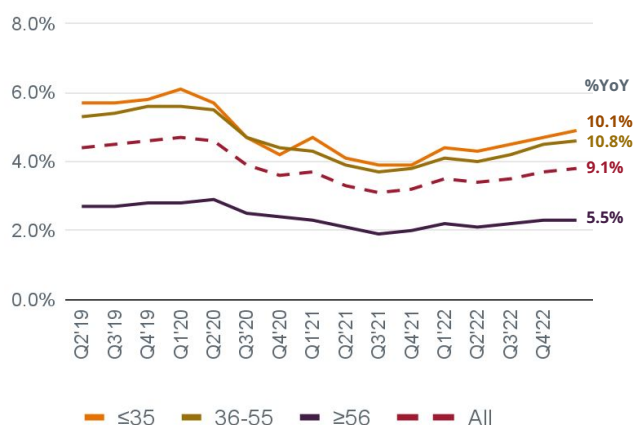


Non-mortgage: High inflation continues to increase the cost of living with higher proportion of younger consumers missing payments on credit cards and auto loans



Mortgage and home equity line of credit: While mortgage delinquencies remained low, increasing interest rates are putting pressure on consumers with a variable rate product. A higher proportion of older consumers are going delinquent on their HELOC payments

Percentage of Consumers with at Least One 30+ Delinquent Trade
By Consumer Age Band



What does this mean?



- Check consumer credit health to identify consumers that are likely to be in financial trouble after disposable income normalizes
- Understand the impact of rising debt levels on credit performance KPIs
- Refine collection strategy to accommodate the inevitable rise in payment delinquencies
- Risk of a potential future recession amidst rising interest rates, inflation and consumer debt



New economic environment **underpins cash advance market**

Key indicators

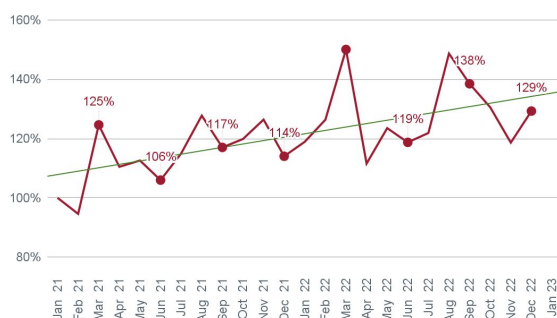
Increasing credit demand: The new economic environment has led to an increase in demand for payday loans. In 2021 coinciding with the second year of the pandemic and in 2022 with the rising cost of living and the shutdown of traditional lenders

The new situation implies a review of the rating systems: Important to assess whether rating systems are still valid for the new type of credit demand and adjust if necessary to comply with internal risk appetite framework

Bringing more value to customers: Lenders that only use bureau information for risk assessment can migrate to more advanced analytical solutions, such as generic scores for this market. In addition, they can also use different attributes for recruitment campaigns

Two last years trend: Cash advance loans have presented a constantly increasing trend over the last two years

Credit Demand in the Cash Advance Market
(in base 100 compared to January 2021)



What does this mean?



- Need a better understanding of the type of population demanding credit
- Adapt admission policies and risk management tools to the new situation
- Develop global solutions that cover the end-to-end risk management process, from admission to collection

Global slowdown in mortgages

Key indicators



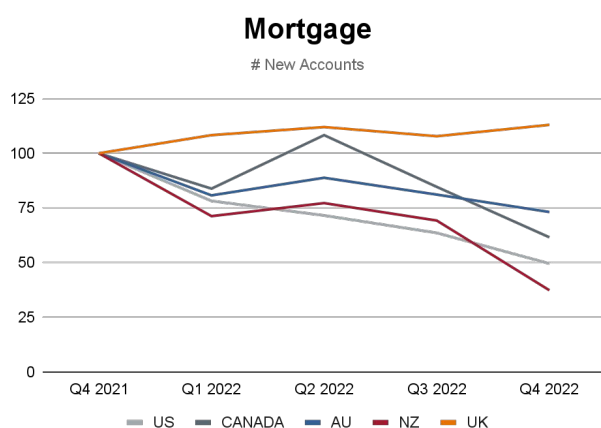
Slowdown across regions: Overall Mortgage originations across multiple regions fell 44% compared to 12 months ago. Bucking the trend, the **UK** experienced positive growth of 13% as consumers looked to refinance ahead of expected interest rate rises. In **Canada**, new mortgage origination decreased 38% when compared to Q4 2021



Monetary policy: Magnitude and frequency of change by local governments played a vital role to the decline of mortgage originations. **New Zealand** and **Australia** were relatively late to raise interest rates. **Bank of Canada** has raised interest rates by 425 bps in the last 11 months



Dominated by refinance activities: Flourish of market activities as consumers look for better rate to weather cost of living pressure and further rate hikes



What does this mean?



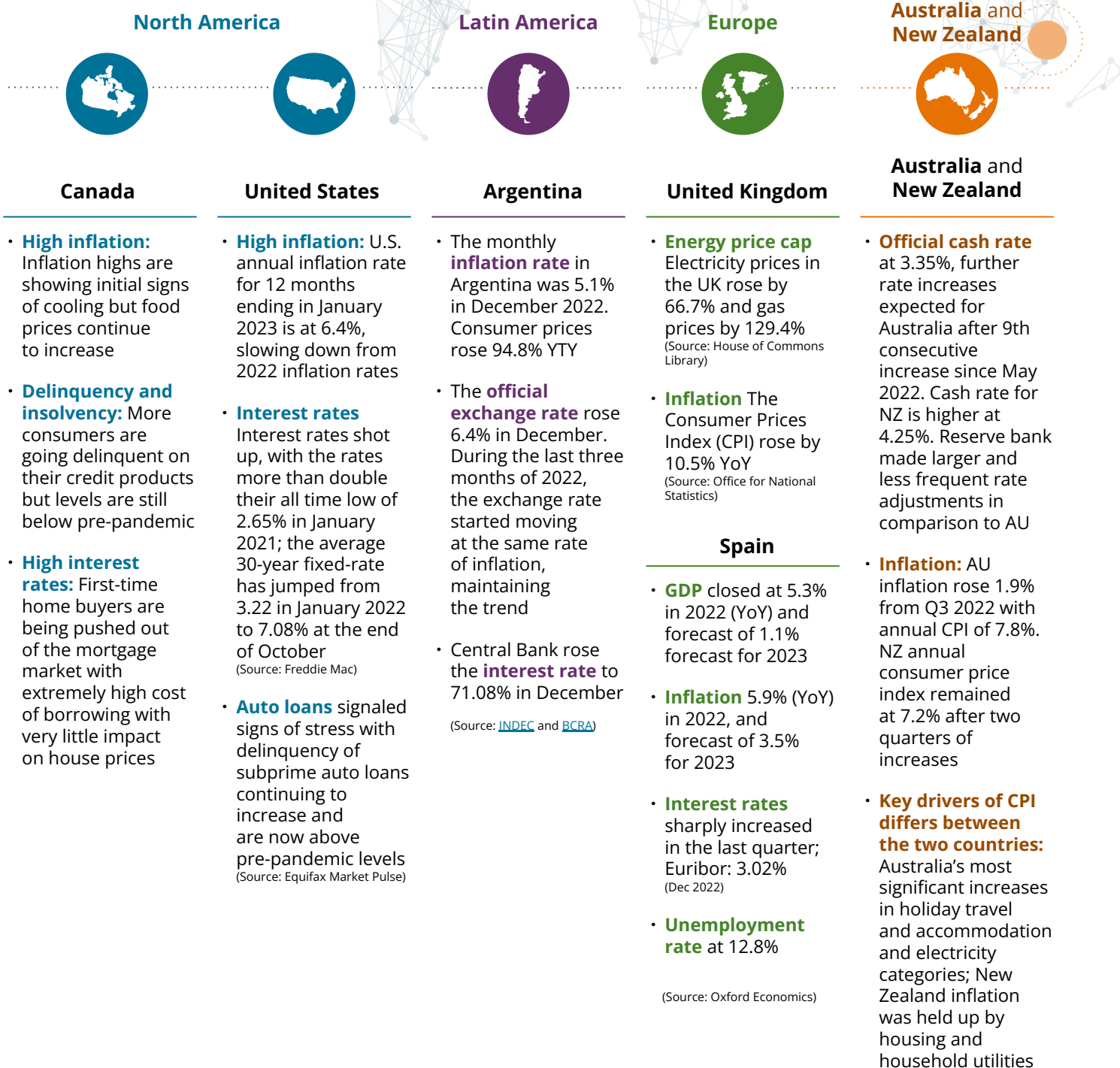
Chart data is indexed as of Q4 2021

- Proactive customer management to avoid churn and retain good quality customers
- New customer acquisition opportunities to grow mortgage accounts with consumers looking to refinance



Insights

Inflationary pressures continue to mount across the globe



Overall debt

Non-mortgage debt continues to increase across countries globally driven by **demand** and **inflation**

Global
outlook



Mortgage debt



United States

Total mortgage debt continued to rise, but at a slower rate as new originations slow down

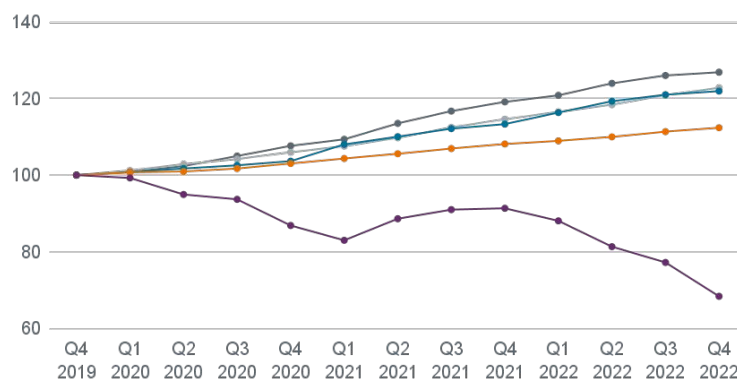
Canada

Drop in new mortgage volume is slowing down the increasing mortgage debt levels

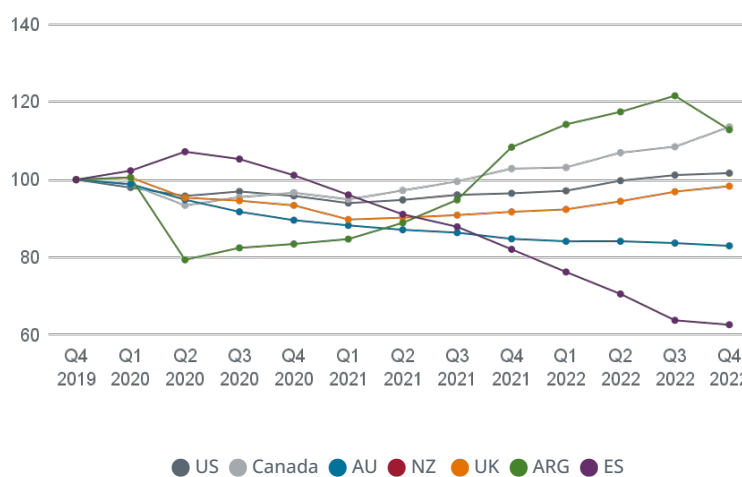
Australia

Drop in property sale price yet to show impact on overall indebtedness. Mortgage debt continues to climb; increased 6% and 15% compared to Q4 2021 and Q4 2020, respectively

Mortgage Debt



Non-mortgage Debt



● US ● Canada ● AU ● NZ ● UK ● ARG ● ES

Non-mortgage debt



United States

Non-mortgage debt has increased almost 9% since the end of 2021

Auto loan debt is now almost 7% higher than at the end of 2021

Canada

Average non-mortgage debt per consumer is at \$21,121, an **increase of 2.1%** compared to Q4 2021

United Kingdom

Consumers paying off credit card debt throughout the pandemic with balances still **below 80%** of January 2020 levels

Spain

Continued **decrease in debt** due to financial government support during pandemic period, and particularly in Q4 due to sales of non-performing assets (Spain only reports defaulted assets)

Argentina

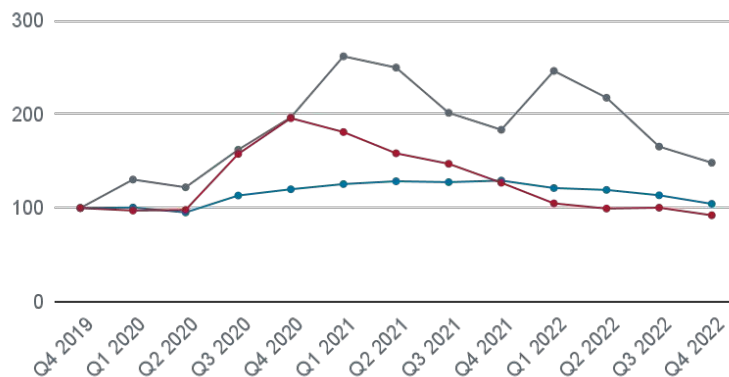
Non-mortgage debt presents a decrease between Q3 and Q4, mainly caused by movements in **inflation** and **exchange rate**. Debt stock has remained stable during 2022

Demand

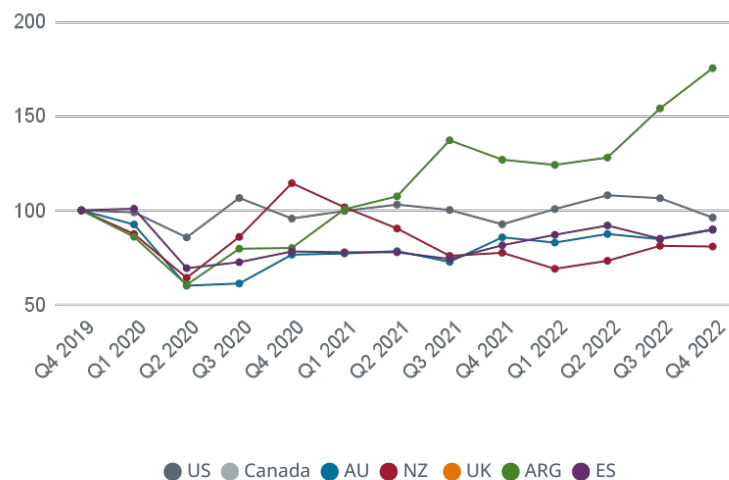
Strong growth in **credit card and personal loan** demand across multiple regions

Global outlook

Mortgage Inquiries



Non-mortgage Inquiries



● US ● Canada ● AU ● NZ ● UK ● ARG ● ES

Canada

- Non-mortgage credit demand is **going up, driven by credit cards**
- Mortgage broker inquiries are **slowing down** with rising interest rates

United Kingdom and Spain

- Credit demand has now reached pre-pandemic levels in the **UK** compared to 2019, although it is not in the same situation in **Spain** (~90%)
- **UK** annual growth rate for all lending at 7.5% in January 2023 (12.4% for credit cards)
- **Spain** shows as increase in Q4 2022 from previous quarter

Australia and New Zealand

- Largest fall in mortgage demand since pandemic, down 16% compared to elevated demand levels during Q4 2021. Widespread fall in property prices nationwide as consecutive rate hikes and cost of living pressure continues
- On top of rate pressures, tighter lending requirements introduced in late 2021 contributed towards lower mortgage demand in NZ; Q4 fell 27% YoY. However, despite softening market over 2022, this is 8% below pre-pandemic levels

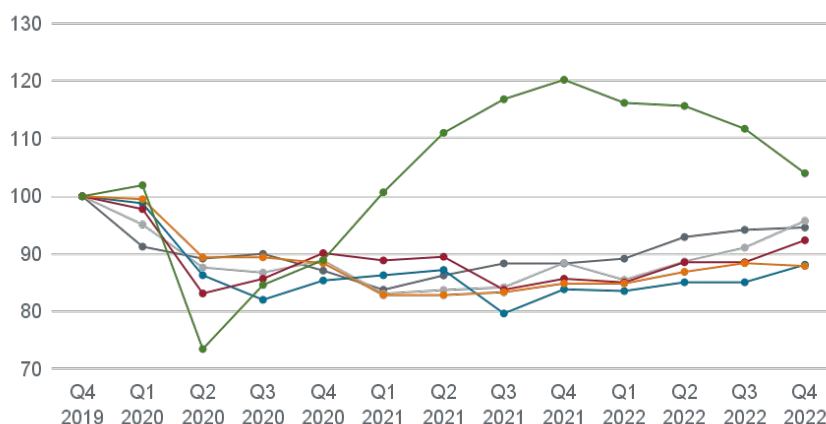
Argentina

- Argentina shows an **increase of non-mortgage inquiries** during the last two quarters of 2022, still this movement would not necessarily show an increase in new clients later
- Financial Institutions have been active in the market, especially in online offerings. Big banks present a new tendency to have a pre-approved offer to any client generating a new trend of massive bureau inquiries

Utilization

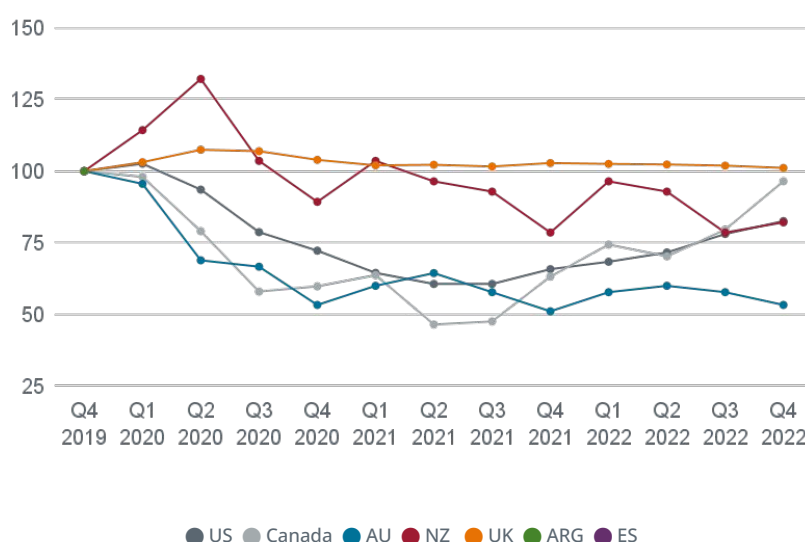
Continued **moderate** increases in card utilization across regions

Credit Card Utilization



Credit Card

90+ Delinquency (#)



Global outlook

Rising card delinquencies

Overall

Multiple regions are showing an uptick in credit card delinquencies

Canada

Non-mortgage debt in Canada surpassed pre-pandemic levels with huge growth in new credit card volume

United States

While the credit card unit delinquency rate is increasing, it is not quite back to pre-COVID levels. Subprime delinquency rates are showing more significant increases

Revolving debt

Argentina

Credit card utilization has been stable during 2022. Inflationary adjustments in credit card limits during the last quarter caused a drop in the utilization ratio

Canada

Credit card utilization is increasing with high consumer spending. It is currently at 22.7%, up 7.3% from Q4 2021

United States

Subprime credit card utilization has been rising faster than prime and near prime and now exceeds pre-Covid levels

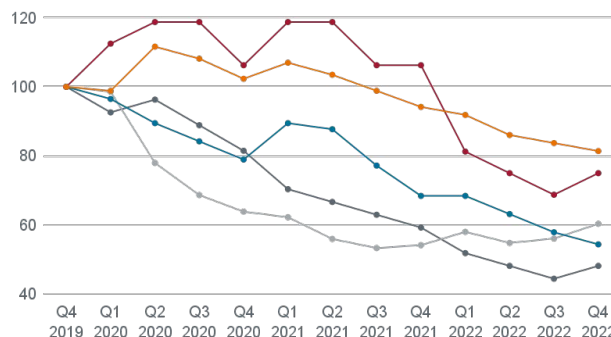
Delinquencies

Delinquency rates continue to rise, with some regions surpassing pre-pandemic levels

Global outlook

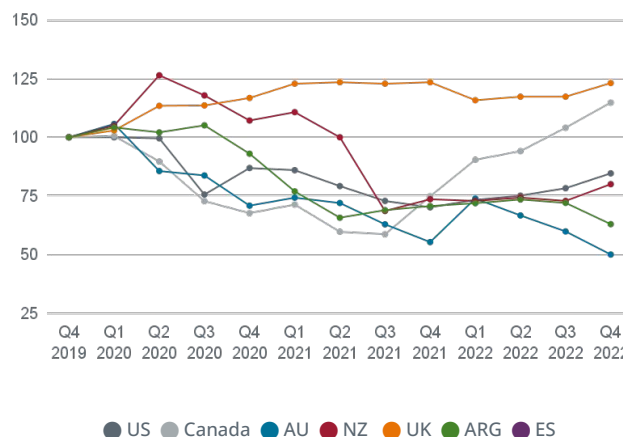
Mortgage

90+ Delinquency (#)



Installment Loan

90+ Delinquency (#)



● US ● Canada ● AU ● NZ ● UK ● ARG ● ES

United States

- **Auto loan** delinquency has surpassed pre-COVID levels, in both subprime and non-subprime segments
- **Bankcard** delinquencies are rising across the US YoY but there are differences in the rate of increase by geographic region

Canada

- **Credit card and auto loans** are starting to see a rise in delinquency rate with auto delinquencies fast approaching pre-pandemic levels
- **Mortgage** delinquencies remained low

United Kingdom

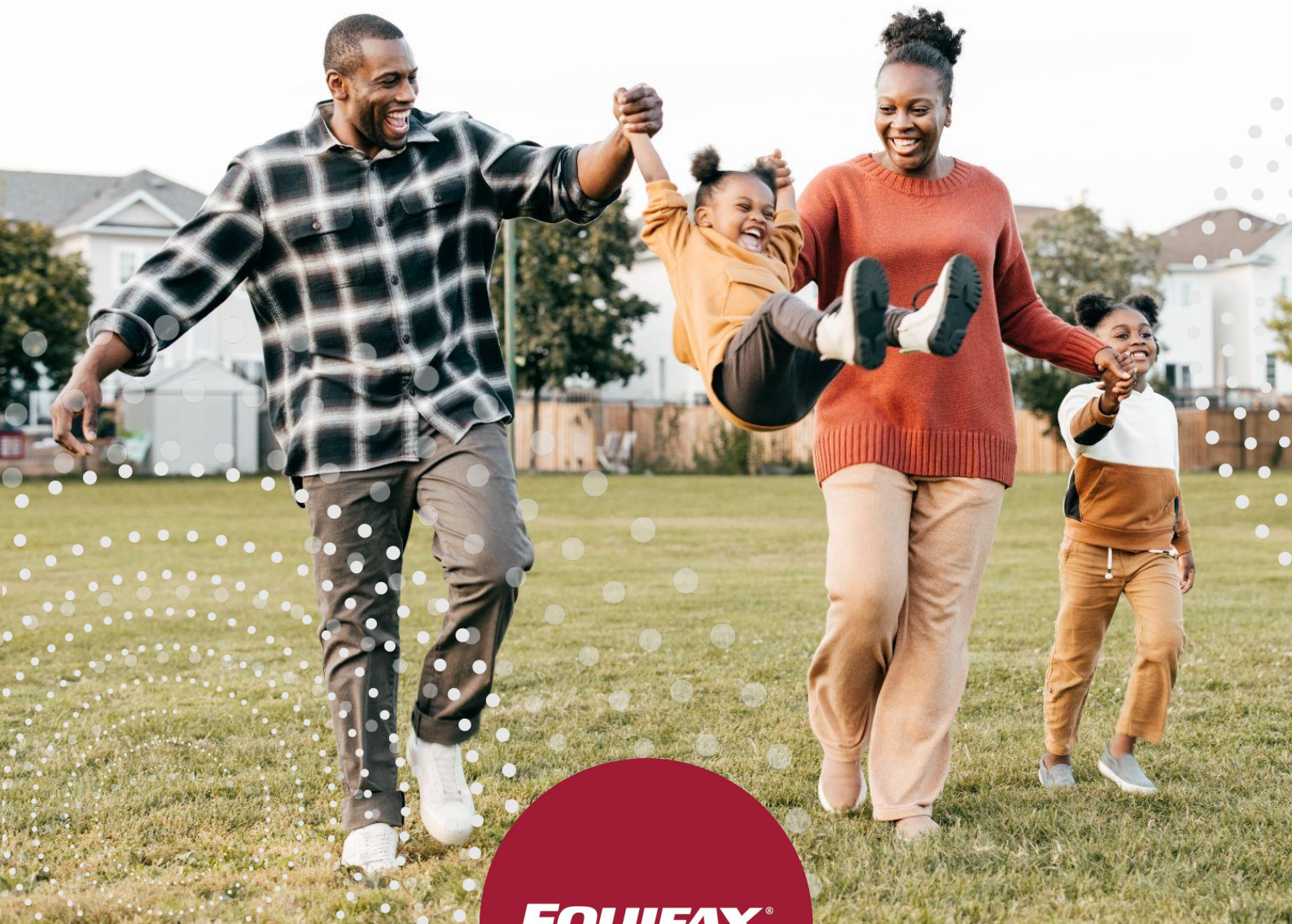
- **Mortgage** delinquency rates remain at low levels with many households still on low interest rates, expected increase in delinquencies as consumers roll off fixed rates
- **Unsecured** delinquency rates are starting to rise uniformly, with most product types approaching pre-pandemic levels

Argentina

- **Delinquency** remains stable during 2022. This market behavior shows the same trend since 2021, according to historical loan delinquency levels

Australia and New Zealand

- **AU:** Early personal loan delinquency increased by 0.4% compared to Q4 2021. This is likely to rise further due to the after-effects of the holidays season and increasing cost of living
- **NZ:** Signs of strain on mortgage delinquencies in recent months as home ownership seeks to meet significant increases in mortgage interest payments as they roll off fixed rates



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