



# Lloyds TSB

**NOT FOR BROADCAST OR PUBLICATION BEFORE 00.01 HRS Monday 6th May 2013**

This is the annual **Lloyds TSB home maintenance survey**. Data on home maintenance has been drawn from the ONS publications Consumer Trends and the Family Spending Survey. Households in the Family Spending Survey are a mixture of owner-occupiers and renters in the public and private housing sectors. **UK household expenditure figures are expressed in real terms** to account for increases in inflation.

## DIY Spending falls for the fifth year in a row

**Spending on DIY fell for the fifth successive year in 2012, reaching its lowest level since 2000, according to research by Lloyds TSB<sup>1</sup>.** Households spent a total of £10.5 billion on DIY in 2012 – equivalent to around £400 per household; the lowest total since 2000. There was a fall of 8% in real terms (i.e. after allowing for inflation) from the total of £11.3 billion spent in 2011. Spending in 2012 was a third lower than the peak of £15.5 billion spent in 2004.

### Spending on both DIY tools and materials falls again in 2012

Expenditure on tools and equipment for home improvements - ranging from plumbing tools to the garden trimmer - declined slightly (-6%) from £3.6 billion in 2011 to £3.4 billion in 2012. Real spending on DIY materials, such as paint and plaster, dropped slightly more (-9%) between 2011 and 2012 from £7.7 billion to £7.0 billion.

### Overall home maintenance spending down by 7%

Expenditure on tradesmen's services also fell between 2011 and 2012, declining by 7% in real terms from £7.8bn to £7.2bn. As a result, total spending on home maintenance (i.e. DIY and tradesmen's services) dropped by 7% to £17.7bn in 2012 from £19.1bn in 2011.

### Home maintenance spending has fallen sharply since 2004

Whilst spending on tradesmen's services has fallen (-7%) in the past eight years, it has done so at a much slower pace than spending on DIY (-33%). Over the same period, overall spending on home maintenance has fallen by a quarter (-24%).

### A decade of two halves

The past decade has been very much a period of two highly differing halves. Spending on DIY increased by 13% between 2002 and 2007 as the housing market boomed. This was particularly reflected in a 42% rise in spending on tools. However, since the peak of the housing market in 2007, the decline in real DIY spending has fallen by a quarter.

### Nitesh Patel, Lloyds TSB Housing Economist, commented:

*"The continuing squeeze on discretionary incomes and the subdued state of the housing market is causing many householders to reduce their spending on home improvements. With economic conditions expected to remain challenging, the current squeeze on spending on both DIY and tradesmen is likely to continue for some time yet."*

**Table 1: Real Household Spending on Home Maintenance\*, 2002-2012**

	Materials - £bn	Tools - £bn	Total DIY Spending - £bn	Spending on Trades Services - £bn	Total Spending on Home Maintenance (DIY plus Trade Services) £bn
<b>2002</b>	8.9	4.0	12.9	8.2	21.1
<b>2003</b>	9.5	4.5	14.1	7.8	21.9
<b>2004</b>	11.0	4.5	15.5	7.8	23.3
<b>2005</b>	10.5	4.7	15.2	7.9	23.0
<b>2006</b>	9.3	5.1	14.4	8.5	22.9
<b>2007</b>	8.9	5.6	14.5	8.2	22.8
<b>2008</b>	9.0	5.1	14.0	7.7	21.7
<b>2009</b>	8.7	4.5	13.2	7.4	20.6
<b>2010</b>	8.3	4.4	12.7	7.2	19.9
<b>2011</b>	7.7	3.6	11.3	7.8	19.1
<b>2012</b>	7.0	3.4	10.5	7.2	17.7
<b>2011-12</b>	-9%	-6%	-8%	-7%	-7%
<b>2002-12</b>	-21%	-13%	-19%	-12%	-16%

Sources: Lloyds TSB calculations, ONS

\*Household spending figures have been adjusted to allow for inflation by applying the relevant price deflators. All values are in 2012 prices

### Notes to Editors:

<sup>1</sup>Findings are based on data from the Office for National Statistics (ONS). All UK household expenditure figures are expressed in real terms, i.e. after allowing for inflation.

Data on home maintenance has been drawn from the ONS publication Consumer Trends. Household spending figures have been adjusted to allow for inflation by applying the relevant price deflators.

Spending on home maintenance includes both the expenditure on DIY products and tradesmen's services.

The following ONS spending categories are included within DIY spending:

- Materials for maintenance and repair of the dwelling – includes paints, wallpaper, plaster, tiles and small plumbing items.
- Major tools and equipment – electric drills, power saws, hedge cutters, lawn mowers, chain saws and repairs of such.

Trade services include:

- Services for maintenance and repair of the dwelling – includes fees to plumbers, electricians, carpenters, glaziers, decorators etc.

**"This report is prepared from information that we believe is collated with care, however, it is only intended to highlight issues and it is not intended to be comprehensive. We reserve the right to vary our methodology and to edit or discontinue/withdraw this, or any other report. Any use of this report for an individual's own or third party commercial purposes is done entirely at the risk of the person making such use and solely the responsibility of the person or persons making such reliance. © Lloyds TSB Bank plc all rights reserved 2013"**

### Press Office Contacts:

Julia Chapman, Media Relations Manager, Lloyds TSB:  
020 7356 1511 / Julia.chapman@lloydsbanking.com

Eve Speight, Senior Media Relations Manager, Lloyds TSB  
020 7356 2162 / eve.speight@lloydtsb.co.uk