

Study Shows Borrowers Can Save Big by Comparison-Shopping Personal Loans on LendingTree

An analysis of offers made to prospective borrowers through LendingTree's personal loan marketplace shows that significant savings opportunities exist for consumers receiving multiple loan offers

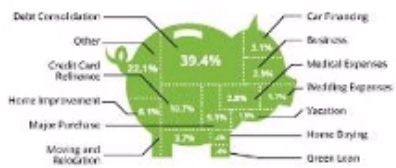
CHARLOTTE, N.C., Oct. 15, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- LendingTree, the nation's leading online loan marketplace, has launched an ongoing study to track the range of Annual Percentage Rates (APRs) on personal loans offered to prospective borrowers on its marketplace, highlighting the money-saving benefits of comparison shopping for loan products. In the third quarter, borrowers with a 'good' credit rating (as measured by a credit score between 690 and 719) seeking a \$10,000, 36-month personal loan who received offers from at least two lenders experienced an average interest rate differential of 4.74 percentage points, or 474 basis points, between the highest and lowest offers presented to them in their My LendingTree accounts.

SAVE BIG Borrowers with a good credit rating seeking a \$10,000, 36-month personal loan who received offers from at least two lenders experienced an average interest rate differential of 4.74 percentage points, or 474 basis points, between the highest and lowest offer.

by Comparison Shopping for Personal Loans



Reasons for Getting a Personal Loan



LendingTree LendingTree.com is the nation's leading online marketplace for personal loans. LendingTree.com is a true marketplace where both peer-to-peer and traditional lenders can compete for the borrower's business, bringing choice, competition and convenience to the online borrowing experience. Consumers looking to consolidate debt, pay off high-interest rate credit cards or access additional funding options are able to obtain [unsecured loan offers from multiple lenders](#) by filling out only one loan request form.

"With the rise of new alternative and peer-to-peer lending platforms, borrowers have more options than ever before in terms of personal loans," said Doug Lebda, founder and CEO of LendingTree. "LendingTree's platform makes shopping for a personal loan simple since it is a true marketplace where both peer-to-peer and traditional lenders can compete for the borrower's business, bringing choice, competition and convenience to the online borrowing experience. Consumers looking to consolidate debt, pay off high-interest rate credit cards or access additional funding options are able to obtain [unsecured loan offers from multiple lenders](#) by filling out only one loan request form."

According to LendingTree, borrowers with good credit in search of a \$10,000, 36-month personal loan received a variety of offers from peer-to-peer and traditional lenders on the network, some with APRs as low as 6.75%.

To illustrate the savings opportunity to a consumer, consider a \$10,000 loan amount, 36-month loan term and two potential offers: one at a 7.86% APR and the other a 12.6% APR, reflecting a 4.74 percentage point (474 basis point) difference. The chart below shows the monthly payments for each option, the annual cost and the total interest paid over the life of each loan.

	Offer 1:	Offer 2:	Difference:
\$10,000 Loan Amount	7.86% APR	12.6% APR	4.74 points

Monthly payment	\$312.72/mo.	\$335.02/mo.	\$22.30/mo.
Annual Cost	\$3,752.64/yr.	\$4,020.24/yr.	\$267.60/yr.
Total borrowing cost over 36 months	\$11,257.92	\$12,060.72	\$802.80

In this example, the 4.74 percentage point difference in APRs offered translates into a potential savings of \$802.80 over the 36 month life of the loan.

LendingTree also created an [infographic](#) to further illustrate this example, including a percentage breakdown of cited reasons why LendingTree borrowers are taking out personal loans.

By completing the online form, consumers are able to gain access to [LendingTree's personal loan marketplace](#) and the growing network of personal loan lenders, including both peer-to-peer and traditional lenders. In addition, the all-new My LendingTree experience provides borrowers with completely free credit scores updated monthly, along with analysis and insights into their personal credit and borrowing profiles that impact the offers available to them from lenders. Because personal loan rates offered to borrowers can vary greatly among lenders, sometimes by more than 10 percentage points, there are opportunities to save significantly by comparison shopping and receiving multiple loan offers.

For more information, tools and resources, all completely free of charge to consumers, please visit www.lendingtree.com/personal-loans.

About LendingTree, LLC

LendingTree, LLC is the nation's leading online loan marketplace, empowering consumers as they comparison-shop across a full suite of loan and credit-based offerings. LendingTree provides an online marketplace which connects consumers with multiple lenders that compete for their business, as well as an array of online tools and information to help consumers find the best loan. Since inception, LendingTree has facilitated more than 32 million loan requests. LendingTree provides access to lenders offering home loans, personal loans home equity loans/lines of credit, auto loans and more. LendingTree, LLC is a subsidiary of Tree.com, Inc. For more information go to www.lendingtree.com, dial 800-555-TREE, join our [Facebook page](#) and/or follow us on Twitter [@LendingTree](#).

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