

Provident Financial Full year results

### Year ended 31 December 1999



Provident Financial Group strategy

To be a leading international provider of financial services to lower income households

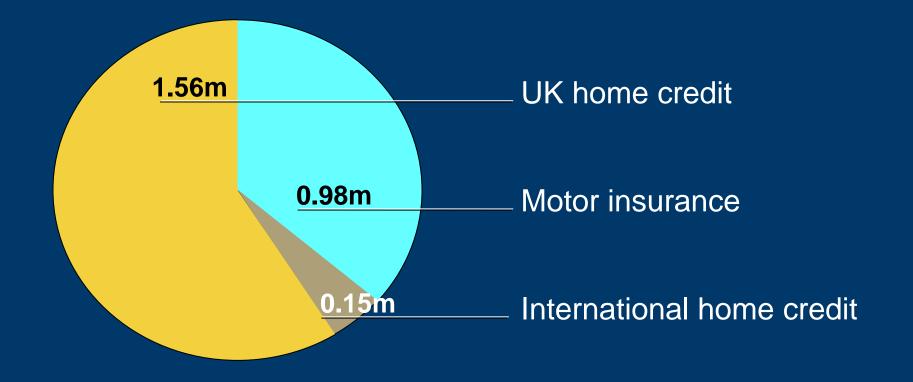


# Provident Financial International business

- > UK
- > Irish Republic
- > Poland
- > Czech Republic
- > South Africa

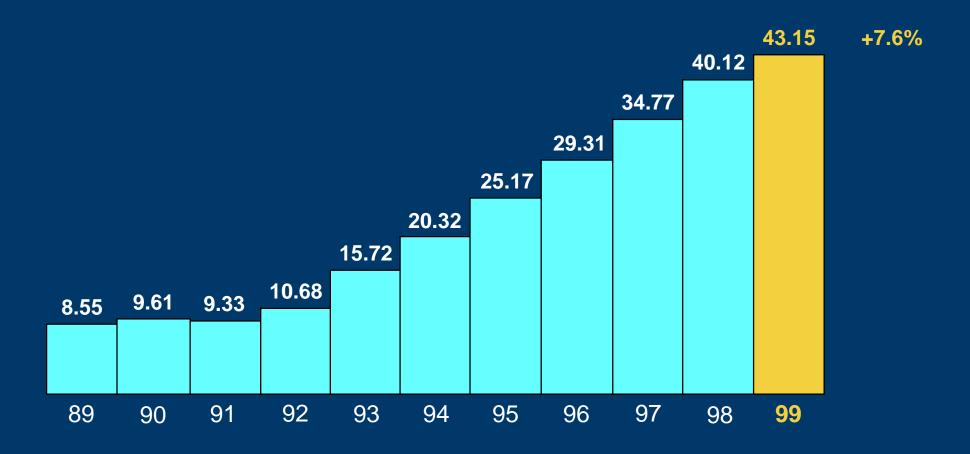


#### Provident Financial Three divisions - 2.7m customers





#### Provident Financial Outstanding track record of growth







# Provident Financial Significant progress in 1999

#### > Group

- customer numbers up to 2.7m +12%
- > UK home credit
  - continued growth
  - actions to stabilise bad debt



# Provident Financial Significant progress in 1999

- > International
  - customer numbers up from 18,000 to 149,000
  - profit in 2001, year ahead of plan
- > Insurance
  - strong growth
  - record profits
- > Capital
  - 5.2 million shares repurchased



# Provident Financial Significant progress in 1999

Customers up to	2.7m	+ 12%
Turnover up to	£582.6m	+ 15.1%
Like for like profit up to	£155.0m	+ 8.5%
Earnings per share up to	43.15p	+ 7.6%
Dividend per share up to	24.8p	+ 10.2%



# Provident Financial Profit before tax (£m)

	1998 reported	1998 like for like	1999	
UK home credit	136.9	133.8	143.9	+7.5%
International home credit	(4.7)	(4.7)	(8.4)	
Motor insurance	19.6	19.6	25.4	+29.6%
Central costs	(5.9)	(5.9)	(5.9)	
Profit before tax	145.9	142.8	155.0	+8.5%



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# UK home credit



## UK home credit Continues to be popular and successful

- > Personal
- > Flexible
- > Straightforward
- > Convenient

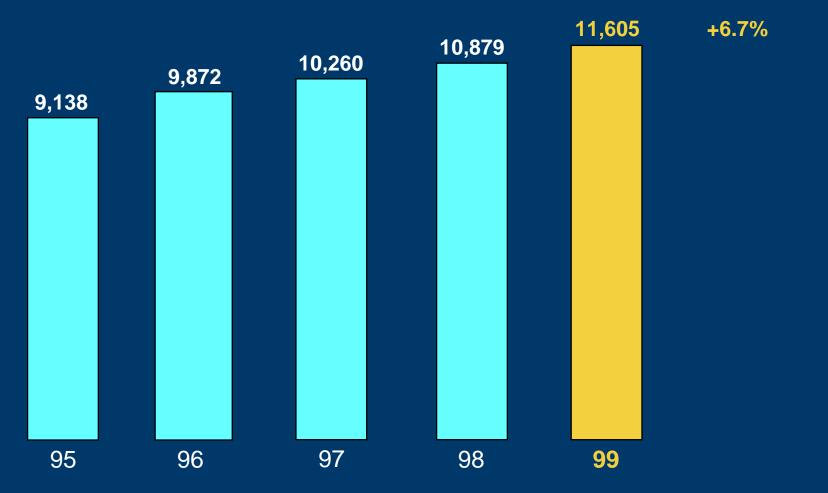


# UK home credit Strategy

- > Continuing growth potential in UK market
- > More agents
- > More customers
- > Increase in credit issued



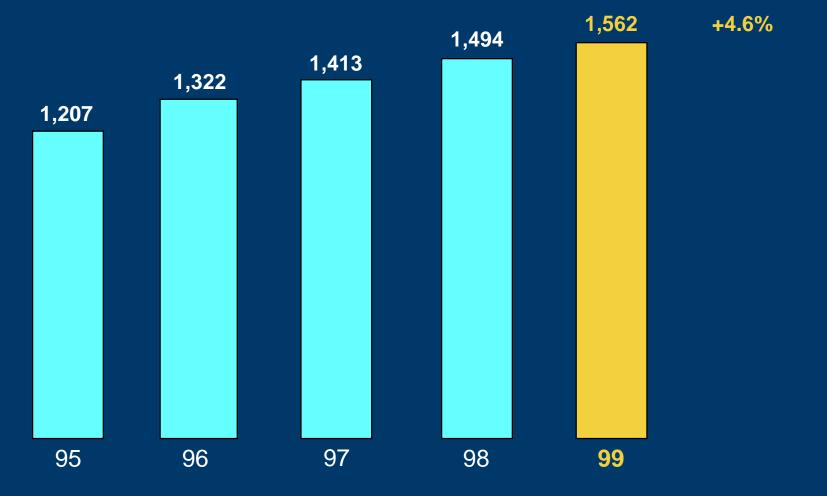
# UK home credit Agents



#### As at 31 December



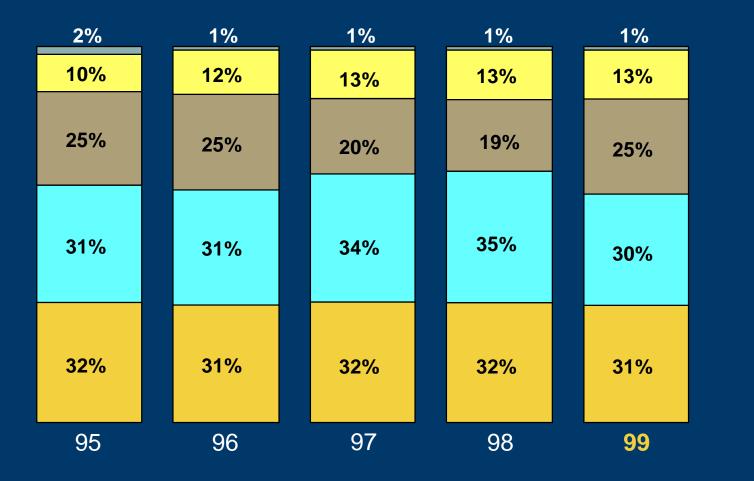
## UK home credit Customers (000s)

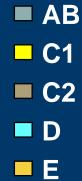


#### As at 31 December



#### UK home credit Customer profile







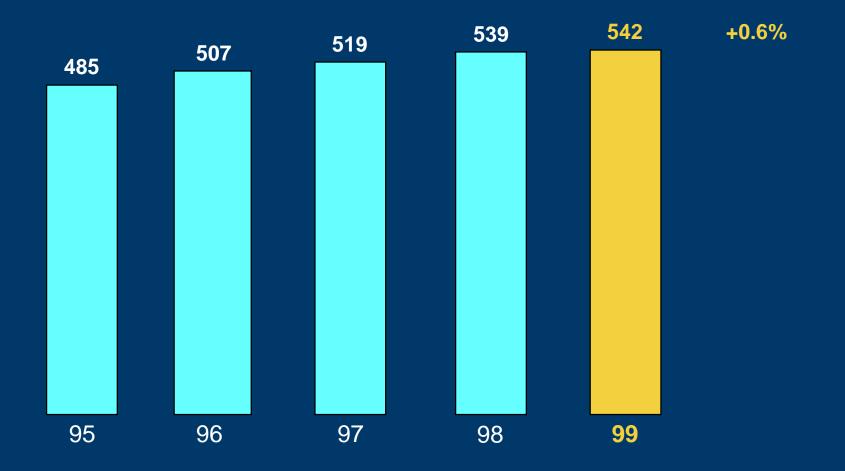
# UK home credit Credit issued (£m)



#### To 31 December



#### UK home credit Credit issued per customer (£)



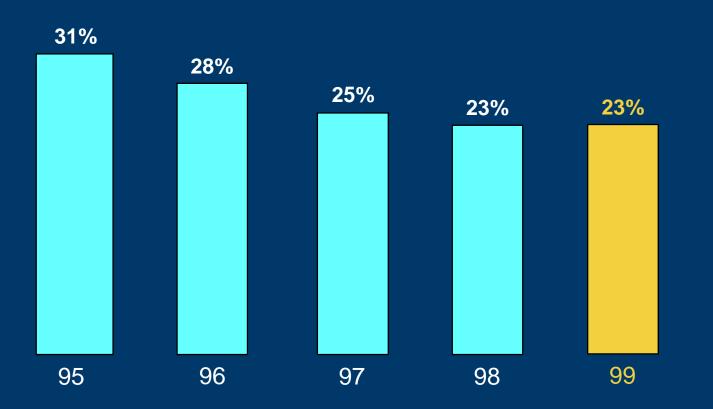


### UK home credit Consequences of growth strategy

- > More inexperienced agents
- > More customers of whom we have less knowledge
- > Greater workload for field management



#### UK home credit Drive for cost efficiency



Overhead as % of turnover

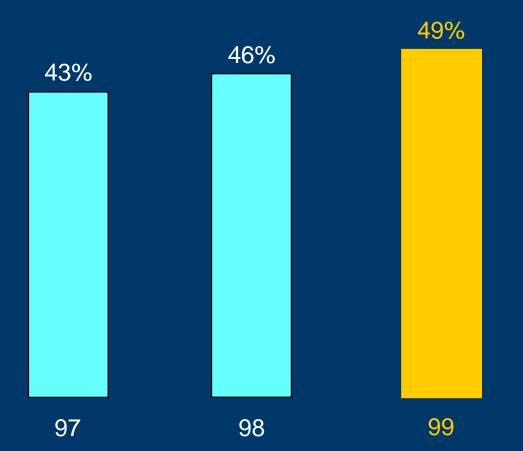


# UK home credit Increasing complexity in UK credit market

- > Wider range of credit products
- > Some increase in competition
- > Increased indebtedness
- > More complex lending environment

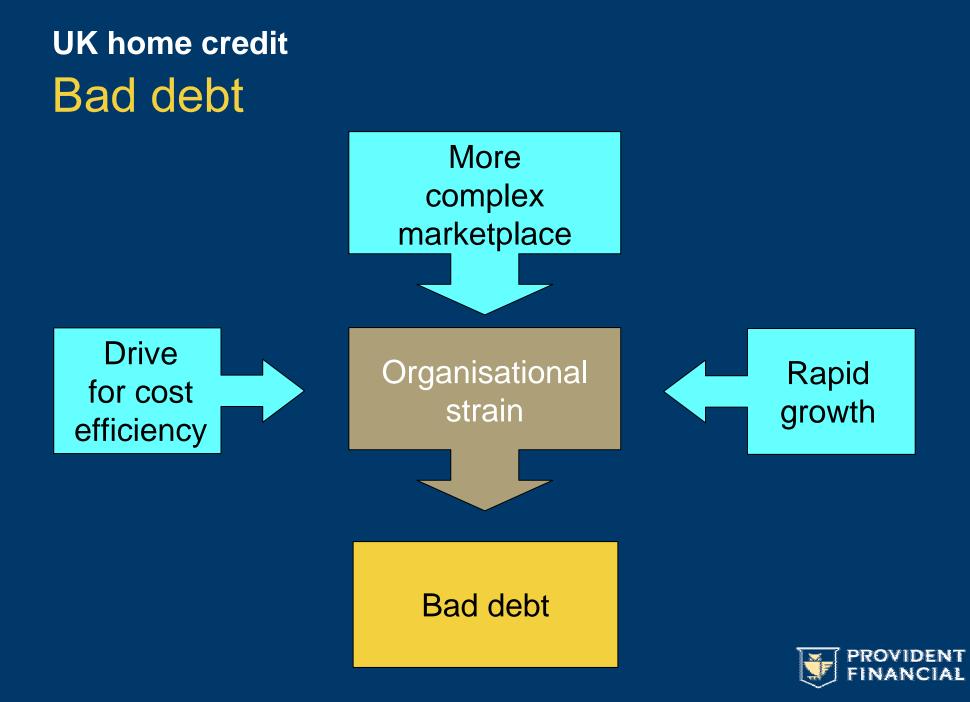


#### UK home credit Wider range of credit products

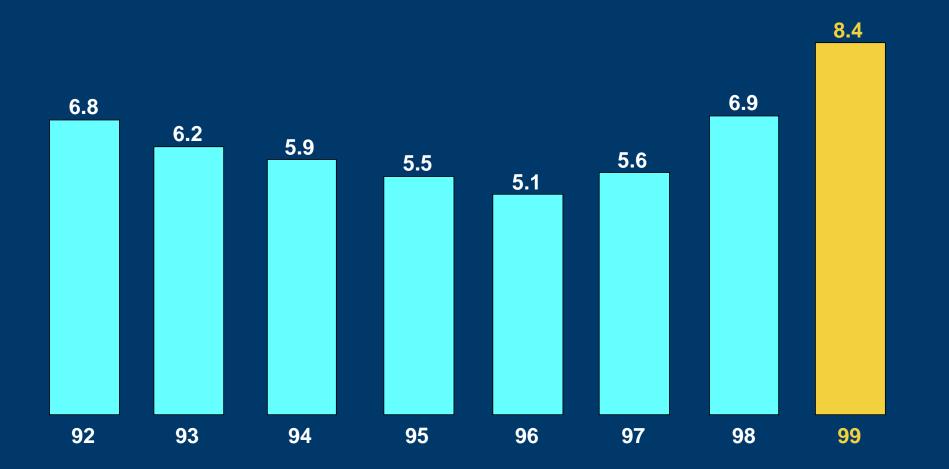


Customers using at least one other credit product other than mail order





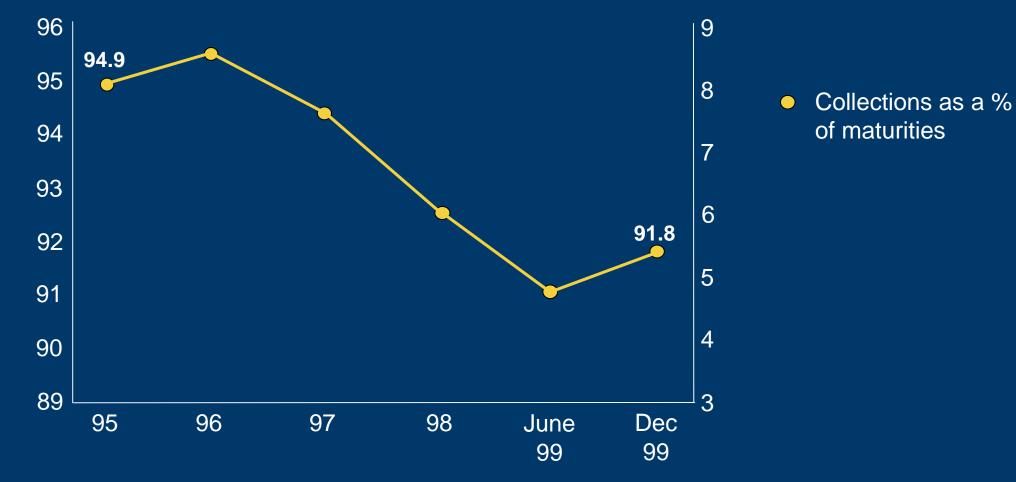
### UK home credit Bad debts



Bad debts as a % of credit issued

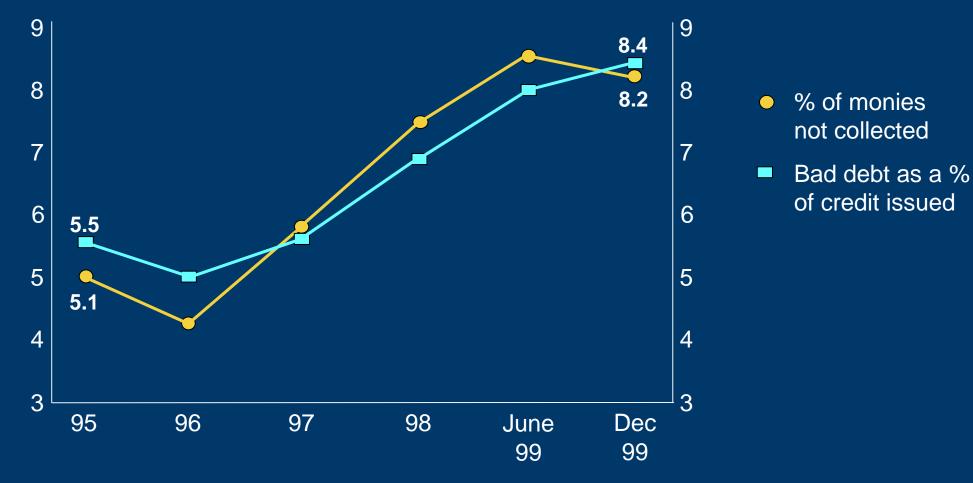


#### UK home credit Collections and bad debt





#### UK home credit Collections and bad debt





## UK home credit Response

- > Growth strategy remains in place
- > Strengthened field force
- > Improved support for agents
- > More cautious lending
- > Collection performance stabilising



# UK home credit Prospects for 2000

- > Growth in agents and customers
- > Cautious lending
- > Stronger field force
- > Bad debt ratio to stabilise
- > Slower growth in profits in 2000



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#### Motor insurance

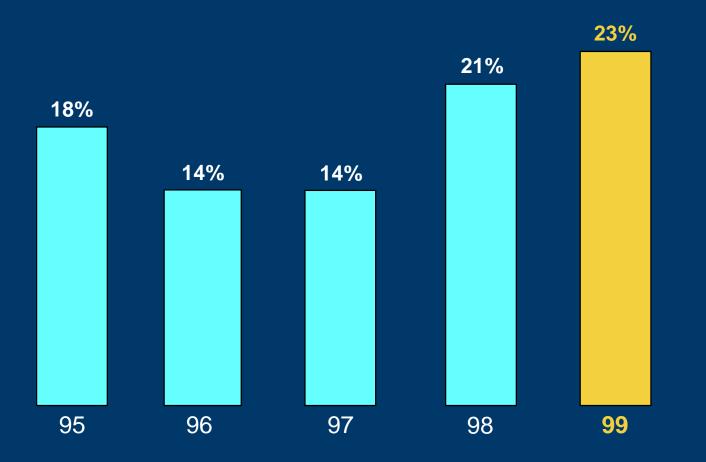


## Motor insurance Strategy

- > Specialist market provider
- > Cost-effective provision
  - competitive advantage
  - good margins
- > Excellent track record



#### Motor insurance Excellent track record



Return on equity



#### Motor insurance Profit before tax (£m)

	1998	1999	
Profit before tax	19.6	25.4	+ 29.6%



#### Motor insurance Underwriting customers (000s)





## Motor insurance Prospects for 2000

- > Premium increases feeding through
- > Our competitiveness improving
- > Volumes increasing
- > Excellent year for profit growth



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## International home credit

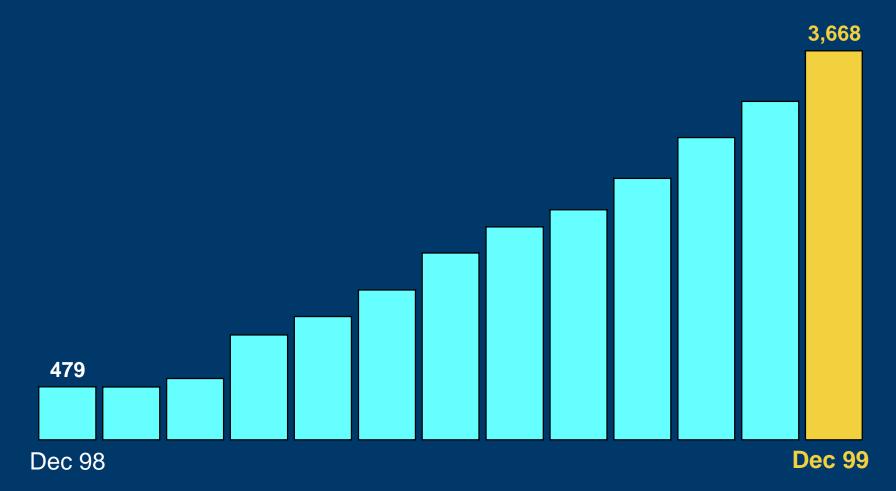


## International home credit Objectives for 1999

- > Year of largest investment £8.4m
- > Prove ability to roll out large scale non-UK operation
- > Build extensive infrastructure in Central Europe
- > Achieve substantial growth in agent and customer numbers

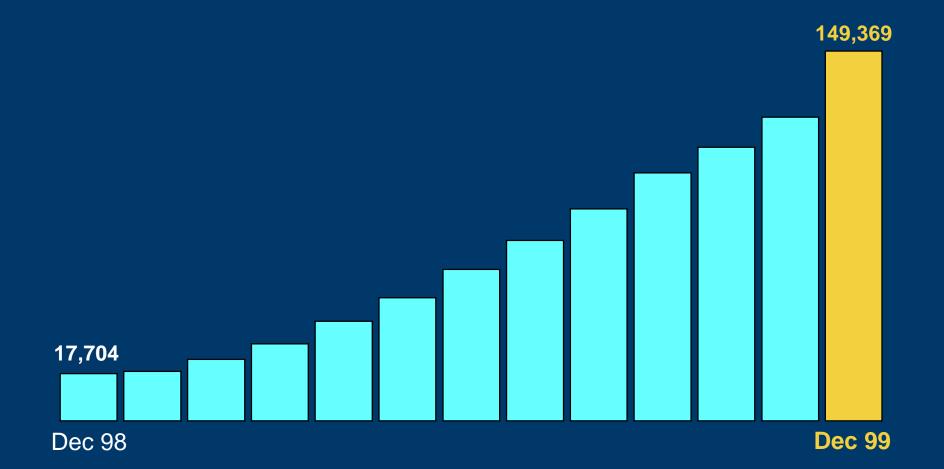


### International home credit Agent numbers

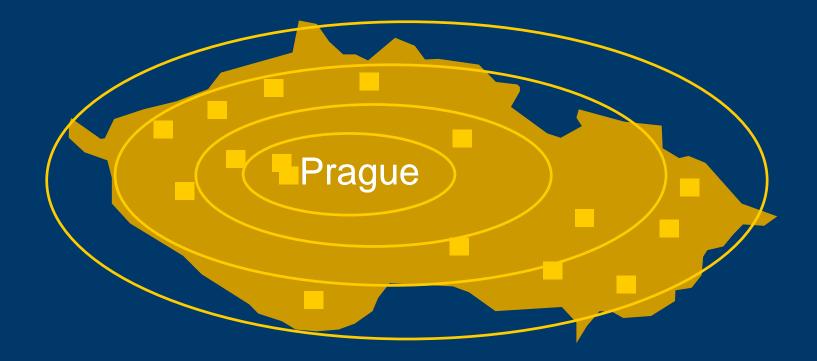




### International home credit Customer numbers









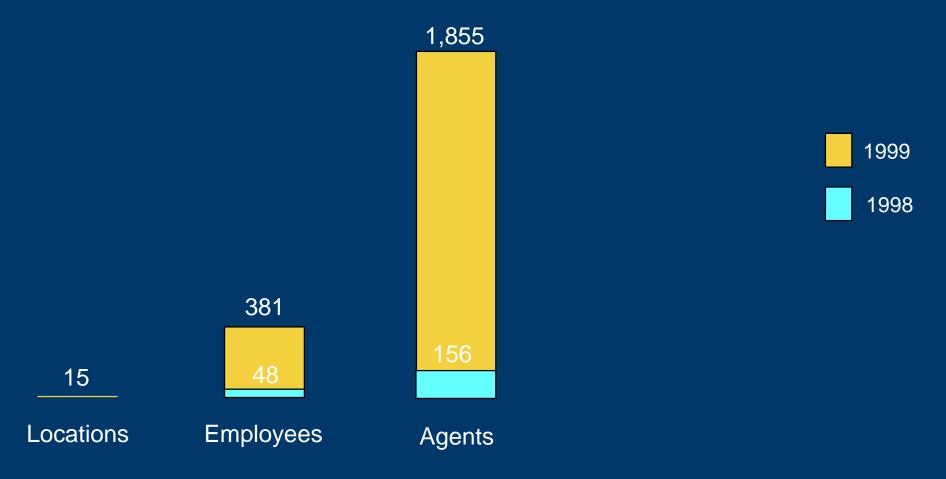


Locations

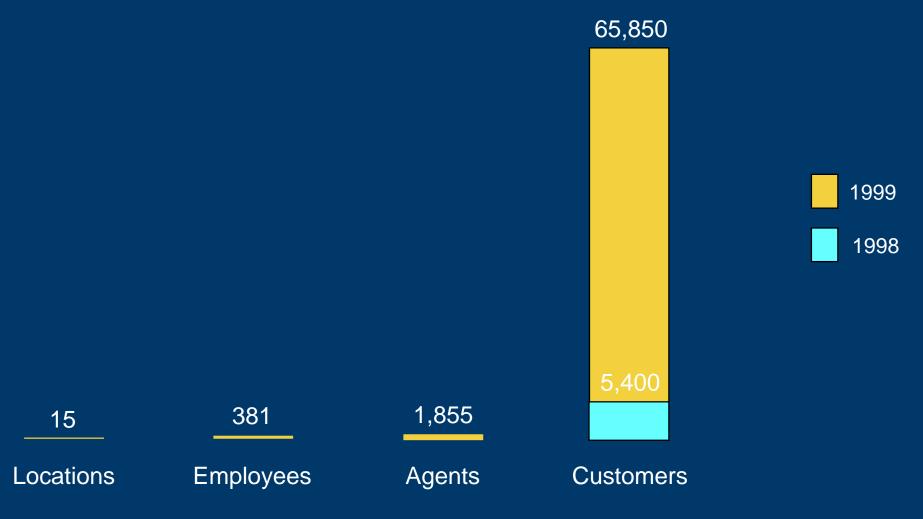














	1998	1999
Customers	5,400	65,850
Credit issued (£m)	0.8	13.0
Loss (£m)	(1.1)	(2.7)
Bad debt % credit issued	1.1%	3.3%
Net receivables (£m)	0.4	5.6

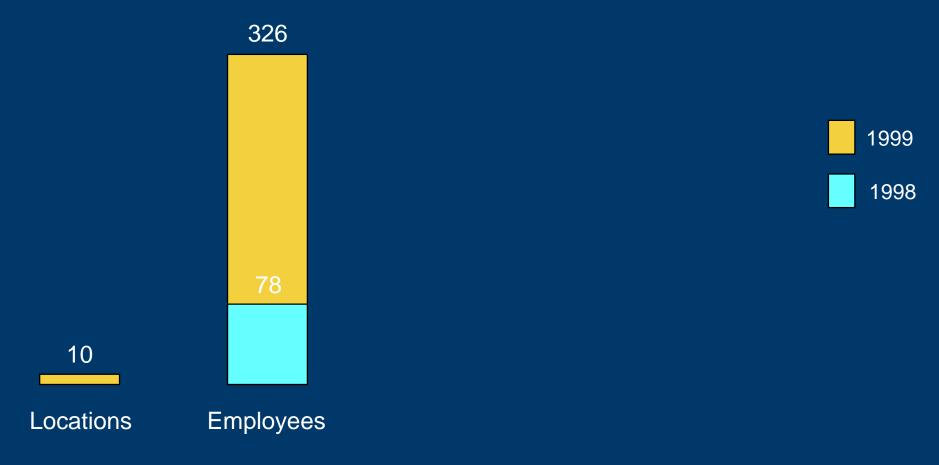






















	1998	1999
Customers	9,943	72,434
Credit issued (£m)	1.8	15.2
Loss (£m)	(1.5)	(2.7)
Bad debt % credit issued	2.8%	3.5%
Net receivables (£m)	0.9	7.0



### International Home Credit South Africa





## International home credit Summary

	1998	1999
Customers	17,704	149,369
Credit issued (£m)	2.8	29.4
Loss (£m)	(4.7)	(8.4)
Bad debt % credit issued	2.3%	3.6%
Net receivables (£m)	1.4	13.1



### International home credit Prospects for 2000

- > Substantial growth in Central Europe
- > Czech Republic in profit during 2000
- > Further investment in Poland
- > Lower start-up loss in 2000



Provident Financial Full year results

### Group prospects



### Provident Financial Group prospects for 2000

- > UK home credit
  - continuing growth in agents and customers
  - slower profit growth
- > International home credit
  - substantial growth
  - smaller loss in 2000
  - profit in 2001



### Provident Financial Group prospects for 2000

- > Motor insurance
  - increased profit
- > Group
  - good result for year



### Provident Financial Longer term outlook

- > Steady growth in UK home credit
- > Successful internationalisation of home credit
  - further expansion in Central Europe
  - over 1m customers in Poland and Czech Republic in 5 years
  - one further country each year



### Provident Financial Longer term outlook

- > Profitable specialist motor insurer
- > Broaden range of financial services offered to lower income households
  - balance<sup>™</sup> market testing in 2000





# Confident of an exciting and rewarding future