

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.16

June 8, 1950

RETAIL FURNITURE REPORT FOR APRIL 1950

Total furniture store sales showed a small contra-seasonal decline in April but were 2 per cent above those in the corresponding month of 1949. Both cash and credit sales were down slightly during the month with the largest decrease, 6 per cent, occurring in the cash segment. Although installment and charge-account sales were slightly below those in March, they continued in larger volume than a year earlier.

Installment accounts receivable at the end of April showed little change from those of a month earlier but were 29 per cent above the amount outstanding on April 30 last year. Collections on installment accounts were 8 per cent below those in March and the ratio of these collections to accounts receivable on April 1 was 14 per cent, 2 points below the April 1949 ratio.

Retail value of inventories rose 3 per cent in April but at the end of the month was about the same as on the corresponding date of 1949. The stock on hand on April 30 represented less than 5 months supply at the current rate of sale.

Furniture Store Statistics for April 1950

Item	Percentage change from:	
	Mar. 1950 to Apr. 1950	Apr. 1949 to Apr. 1950
Net sales		
Total	- 3	+ 2
Cash sales	- 6	- 7
Credit sales: Installment	- 2	+ 6
Charge account	- 3	+ 1
Accounts receivable, at end of month		
Total	+ 1	+27
Installment	+ 1	+29
Collections during month		
Total	- 6	+ 1
Installment	- 8	+ 2
Inventories, end of month, at retail value	+ 3	0

NCTB.--These figures are preliminary and subject to revision.

RETAIL FURNITURE STORES - APRIL 1950*

Sales and Inventories

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change							
	Total net sales		Cash sales		Credit sales		Inventories ^{1/} end of month	
	Mar.'50	Apr.'49	Mar.'50	Apr.'49	Mar.'50	Apr.'49	Mar.'50	Apr.'49
	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50
Boston	- 7	0	-13	+28	- 6	- 4	- 3	- 8
New York	- 4	- 5	- 8	- 9	0	+ 2	+ 1	0
Philadelphia	- 2	- 1	- 6	- 6	- 3	0	+ 3	+ 2
Cleveland	0	+ 3	- 6	-10	0	+ 6	0	-12
Richmond	+ 5	+ 3	- 8	-12	+ 7	+ 6	+ 2	+ 8
Atlanta	+ 2	+ 2	+ 3	- 9	+ 4	- 1	+ 3	- 4
Chicago	+ 2	+ 1	0	- 8	+ 2	+ 4	+ 2	+ 5
St. Louis	- 7	+ 7	+12	- 4	- 7	- 1	+ 3	+ 8
Minneapolis	+ 4	+ 2	- 6	- 5	+ 5	+ 3	+ 4	+ 6
Kansas City	- 4	+ 1	- 9	-15	- 3	+ 5	+ 4	+ 2
Dallas	- 5	+ 4	- 9	- 8	- 3	+ 3	+ 4	+ 1
San Francisco	- 6	+ 6	-10	- 5	- 5	+ 9	+ 4	- 3
U. S. Total	- 3	+ 2	- 6	- 7	- 1	+ 4	+ 3	0
Number of stores	709	709	547	547	547	547	490	490

^{1/} At retail value.

Accounts Receivable and Collections

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change							
	Accounts receivable, end of month				Collections during month			
	Total		Instalment		Total		Instalment	
	Mar.'50	Apr.'49	Mar.'50	Apr.'49	Mar.'50	Apr.'49	Mar.'50	Apr.'49
	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50	to Apr.'50
Boston	- 1	+34	- 1	+12	- 1	+ 2	0	- 8
New York	+ 1	+25	+ 1	+28	- 9	- 5	-12	+ 2
Philadelphia	0	+16	0	+17	- 6	- 1	- 6	- 2
Cleveland	+ 1	+24	+ 2	+37	- 3	+ 1	- 5	+ 7
Richmond	+ 1	+30	+ 4	+28	- 4	+ 4	+ 2	+ 7
Atlanta	+ 1	+23	+ 1	+21	- 8	- 1	- 6	- 2
Chicago	+ 1	+36	+ 1	+46	- 6	+ 4	- 5	0
St. Louis	+ 1	+29	+ 2	+31	- 3	+ 9	- 3	+ 6
Minneapolis	+ 1	+27	+ 2	+28	- 1	+ 6	- 5	0
Kansas City	+ 2	+22	+ 1	+40	- 2	0	- 8	+11
Dallas	+ 2	+33	0	+32	- 4	+ 8	- 6	- 2
San Francisco	+ 2	+26	+ 3	+66	- 9	+ 1	-10	+ 7
U. S. Total	+ 1	+27	+ 1	+29	- 6	+ 1	- 8	+ 2
Number of stores	635	635	249	249	635	635	249	249

April 1950 figures are preliminary and subject to revision.

Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis