

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.16

April 1, 1953

## RETAIL FURNITURE REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1953

Total sales at furniture stores in February declined 4 per cent from the preceding month, reflecting decreases of 10 per cent in cash sales and 2 per cent in instalment sales; charge-account sales were unchanged from the preceding month. Compared with a year ago, total sales in February were up 2 per cent as a result of increased credit sales; cash sales were 4 per cent below a year ago.

Instalment accounts receivable at furniture stores decreased slightly during February, but at the end of the month were 21 per cent above the same month last year. Collections on these accounts decreased 9 per cent from January to February.

Inventories at furniture stores increased during February. The retail value at the end of the month was 3 per cent above January, but was 1 per cent below a year earlier. Merchandise on hand amounted to approximately a 5 month's supply at the February rate of sales.

## Furniture Store Statistics for February 1953

Item	Percentage change from:	
	Jan. 1953 to Feb. 1953	Feb. 1952 to Feb. 1953
Net sales		
Total	- 4	+ 2
Cash sales	-10	- 4
Credit sales: Instalment	- 2	+ 6
Charge account	0	+ 1
Accounts receivable, at end of month		
Total	- 1	+23
Instalment	- 1	+21
Collections during month		
Total	- 9	+ 5
Instalment	- 9	+ 4
Inventories, end of month, at retail value	+ 3	- 1

NOTE:--These figures are preliminary and subject to revision.

## RETAIL FURNITURE STORES - FEBRUARY 1953\*

## Sales and Inventories

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change							
	Total net sales		Cash sales		Credit sales		Inventories end of month <sup>1/</sup>	
	Jan. '53	Feb. '52	Jan. '53	Feb. '52	Jan. '53	Feb. '52	Jan. '53	Feb. '52
	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53
Boston	-18	+22	-10	+ 8	-18	+23	+ 4	+3
New York	+ 8	+ 5	+11	- 5	+10	+ 9	+ 5	-4
Philadelphia	+ 2	+ 3	0	- 2	+ 2	+ 5	+ 7	-3
Cleveland	0	- 5	- 2	- 4	+ 1	- 5	+ 7	-6
Richmond	+10	+ 2	+ 5	+ 6	+14	+ 2	+ 3	+3
Atlanta	+ 1	- 3	- 4	+ 1	+ 2	- 4	+ 1	-1
Chicago	- 3	+ 5	-18	- 5	- 3	+ 6	+ 8	+5
St. Louis	+15	+12	+ 1	+54	+17	+13	+ 4	+3
Minneapolis	- 6	-11	-13	-19	- 6	-10	+10	+3
Kansas City	+ 5	+ 1	-10	-13	+ 9	+ 4	+ 8	+3
Dallas	- 8	0	-16	- 8	- 5	+ 3	+ 1	-6
San Francisco	-17	+ 1	-26	- 5	-14	+ 4	- 4	-3
U. S. Total	- 4	+ 2	-10	- 4	- 2	+ 4	+ 3	-1
Number of stores	691	691	539	539	539	539	482	482

<sup>1/</sup> At retail value

## Accounts Receivable and Collections

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change							
	Accounts receivable, end of month				Collections during month			
	Total		Instalment		Total		Instalment	
	Jan. '53	Feb. '52	Jan. '53	Feb. '52	Jan. '53	Feb. '52	Jan. '53	Feb. '52
to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	to Feb. '53	
Boston	- 3	+29	0	+21	-15	+13	-11	+15
New York	- 1	+22	- 1	+23	- 9	+ 4	- 9	+ 3
Philadelphia	- 2	+15	- 2	+14	-10	+ 6	-10	+ 5
Cleveland	- 2	+18	- 2	+24	- 9	+ 2	-11	+ 1
Richmond	- 2	+18	- 1	+21	-16	+ 1	- 9	- 4
Atlanta	- 3	+31	- 3	+19	-10	+12	-12	+ 5
Chicago	- 1	+20	- 1	+16	- 7	+ 2	- 3	+ 6
St. Louis	- 3	+22	- 1	+25	- 8	+12	-10	+21
Minneapolis	- 1	+19	+ 1	+23	-11	+ 3	-11	+ 2
Kansas City	0	+33	0	+20	-10	- 2	-13	+ 8
Dallas	- 1	+24	+ 2	+18	- 9	+ 5	-11	- 3
San Francisco	+ 1	+22	0	+20	- 8	+ 3	- 7	+ 2
U. S. Total	- 1	+23	- 1	+21	- 9	+ 5	- 9	+ 4
Number of stores	612	612	211	211	612	612	211	211

\*--February 1953 figures are preliminary and subject to revision.