

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.16

January 8, 1954

RETAIL FURNITURE REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1953

Instalment accounts receivable at furniture stores increased 2 per cent during November, after several months of practically no change. Balances at the end of the month were also 2 per cent above a year earlier. Collections on these accounts decreased 6 per cent from October to November.

Total sales at reporting furniture stores decreased 2 per cent during November, after having shown a rather large increase in the preceding month. Instalment sales and charge-account sales declined 4 per cent and 3 per cent, respectively, while cash sales showed practically no change. Sales of all types continued below a year ago.

The retail value of furniture store inventories at the end of November was 2 per cent below a month ago and 4 per cent below a year ago. At the November rate of sales, stocks on hand amounted to about a 4 months' supply.

Furniture Store Statistics for November 1953

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

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RETAIL FURNITURE STORES - NOVEMBER 1953

Sales and Inventories

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change							
	Total net sales		Cash sales		Credit sales		Inventories end of month ^{1/}	
	Oct. '53	Nov. '52	Oct. '53	Nov. '52	Oct. '53	Nov. '52	Oct. '53	Nov. '52
	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to
Nov. '53	Nov. '53	Nov. '53	Nov. '53	Nov. '53	Nov. '53	Nov. '53	Nov. '53	
Boston	- 7	- 4	-15	- 7	- 6	- 4	+ 4	+ 4
New York	- 4	- 9	- 3	- 5	- 6	-13	- 3	-11
Philadelphia	0	-11	- 2	-11	- 1	-11	- 2	+ 2
Cleveland	- 3	- 9	+13	+ 1	- 1	- 7	- 5	+ 2
Richmond	- 5	- 5	- 9	+ 5	- 4	- 6	- 2	- 3
Atlanta	- 6	- 4	- 8	-10	- 6	- 3	- 2	0
Chicago	+ 1	- 3	+ 6	0	0	- 1	+ 1	+ 5
St. Louis	0	- 2	+14	+ 8	- 2	- 2	0	-29
Minneapolis	- 7	0	+19	+ 7	-10	- 1	0	- 3
Kansas City	- 2	-17	0	- 7	- 2	-19	- 1	- 6
Dallas	- 3	- 7	- 4	+18	- 4	- 7	- 1	-10
San Francisco	- 2	- 7	+ 2	+ 1	- 4	- 6	- 2	- 2
U. S. Total	- 2	- 6	0	- 2	- 4	- 7	- 2	- 4
Number of stores	741	741	566	566	566	566	517	517

^{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	
	Oct. '53	Nov. '52	Oct. '53	Nov. '52	Oct. '53	Nov. '52	Oct. '53	Nov. '52
to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	
Nov. '53	Nov. '53	Nov. '53	Nov. '53	Nov. '53	Nov. '53	Nov. '53	Nov. '53	
Boston	+ 2	+ 7	+ 2	+ 7	- 2	+ 5	- 6	+ 8
New York	+ 3	+10	+ 2	+13	- 5	- 3	- 3	+ 5
Philadelphia	+ 2	+ 2	+ 2	0	- 4	- 4	- 7	- 7
Cleveland	0	+ 4	0	+ 8	- 6	+ 3	- 9	+ 2
Richmond	+ 1	+ 2	+ 1	+ 5	-10	- 3	-12	- 1
Atlanta	0	+ 1	0	- 4	- 9	- 2	- 8	- 4
Chicago	+ 2	+ 7	+ 3	+ 2	- 6	+ 2	- 9	- 6
St. Louis	+ 2	- 6	+ 1	+ 6	- 7	- 1	- 2	0
Minneapolis	+ 2	+ 6	+ 2	+12	- 9	0	- 8	+ 4
Kansas City	0	0	- 1	-18	- 7	-10	-10	-29
Dallas	0	+ 4	+ 1	0	- 6	- 2	- 9	- 5
San Francisco	+ 2	+ 8	+ 4	+ 8	- 6	+ 3	-12	+ 1
U. S. Total	+ 2	+ 5	+ 2	+ 2	- 6	- 1	- 6	- 1
Number of stores	648	648	219	219	648	648	219	219