

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.17.2

April 7, 1950

Retail Instalment Credit at Furniture and Household Appliance Stores*

FEBRUARY 1950

Instalment indebtedness carried on the books of retail furniture stores showed a further slight decline in February but continued more than one-fourth larger than in the comparable period of the preceding year. Instalment accounts outstanding at household appliance stores on February 28 amounted to about the same as at the end of January. Over the year-period, however, such accounts receivable have increased by nearly two-fifths.

Collections on furniture store instalment accounts were well-maintained in February. During the same period household appliance stores reported some slackening in the rate of repayment. Instalment accounts of both types of outlet were being liquidated at a considerably slower rate than in the early months of 1949.

Indexes of Instalment Accounts Outstanding at End of Month
December 31, 1939 = 100

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
FURNITURE:												
1948	104	103	104	108	112	116	117	122	128	128	130	140
1949	131	128	126	127	131	134	136	141	146	153	160	174
1950	168	166										
HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE:												
1948	90	90	94	103	112	118	124	131	138	139	138	142
1949	134	129	128	129	134	140	148	153	160	167	170	183
1950	180	179										

Instalment Collection Ratios
Instalment collections during month as percentage of accounts outstanding at beginning of month

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
FURNITURE:												
1948	14	14	15	15	15	16	14	14	14	14	14	14
1949	12	12	14	13	13	12	12	12	11	11	11	10
1950	10	10										
HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE:												
1948	19	17	18	17	18	17	17	17	16	16	15	15
1949	15	14	15	14	14	14	13	14	12	12	12	12
1950	12	11										

* Collection of similar statistics for jewelry stores was discontinued as of December 31, 1949.

NOTE.--Figures for February 1950 are preliminary and subject to revision.