

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.17.2

January 7, 1952

Retail Instalment Credit at Furniture and Household Appliance Stores

NOVEMBER 1951

Instalment accounts outstanding at furniture stores continued to rise in November, in contrast to a slight decline reported in the same month last year. Total instalment accounts outstanding, however, were down about 10 per cent from a year ago.

Household appliance store accounts receivable showed a small increase for the third consecutive month. Nevertheless, outstanding balances continued substantially below a year ago.

The rate of collection on instalment accounts of furniture stores slackened somewhat in November. At household appliance stores the collection ratio remained approximately the same. At both kinds of business, however, the ratio was higher than in November last year.

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:												
1949	131	129	126	127	131	134	136	141	146	153	160	174
1950	168	166	168	170	174	177	182	186	192	190	187	192
1951	183	178	172	169	166	163	159	160	162	166	168	
HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE:												
1949	134	129	128	129	134	140	148	153	160	167	170	183
1950	180	180	184	190	197	206	219	241	258	258	258	260
1951	255	248	240	234	226	221	217	216	220	223	224	

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:												
1949	12	12	14	13	13	12	12	12	11	11	11	10
1950	10	10	11	10	10	10	11	11	11	11	10	11
1951	10	10	11	11	11	11	11	12	11	12	11	
HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE:												
1949	15	14	15	14	14	14	13	14	12	12	12	12
1950	12	11	12	11	12	10	11	11	10	11	10	10
1951	12	11	12	11	11	12	12	12	12	12	12	

NOTE: Figures for November 1951 are preliminary and subject to revision.