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BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.17.2

April 7, 1952

Retail Instalment Credit at Furniture and Household Appliance Stores

FEBRUARY 1952

Instalment accounts outstanding at furniture stores decreased about 1 per cent from January to February, and at the month-end were nearly 1 per cent below the level of a year ago.

Household appliance store instalment accounts outstanding also declined during February, and at the month-end were about 1 per cent below the level of balances outstanding on January 31. Month-end balances were about 16 per cent below those of February last year.

The February instalment collection ratio for furniture stores was 1 point above the ratio for both the preceding month and February a year ago. For household appliance stores, the instalment collection ratio of 12 per cent was down 1 point from that for January, but was 1 point above the year-ago ratio.

Indexes of Instalment Accounts Outstanding at End of Month  
1947-1949 average = 100 1/2

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
<b>FURNITURE:</b>												
1950	148	146	148	150	154	156	160	164	169	167	165	169
1951	161	157	152	149	146	144	140	141	143	146	149	152
1952	153	151										
<b>HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE:</b>												
1950	163	164	167	172	179	187	199	219	234	235	234	236
1951	231	226	218	212	205	200	197	197	200	202	203	204
1952	197	189										

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.
<b>FURNITURE:</b>												
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	11
1952	10	11										
<b>HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE:</b>												
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	12
1952	13	12										

Indexes of instalment accounts outstanding have been converted from the December 31, 1939 base previously used to a 1947-1949 base. Back figures may be obtained from the Division of Research and Statistics.

1952 figures for February 1952 are preliminary and subject to revision.