

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.17.2

May 6, 1952

Retail Instalment Credit at Furniture and Household Appliance Stores

MARCH 1952

Instalment accounts outstanding at furniture stores decreased about 2 per cent during March and continued at a level below that of a year ago. Similarly, household appliance stores reported a decline in instalment balances of about 3 per cent from the previous month and a decline of about 16 per cent from March of last year.

The March instalment collection ratio for furniture stores increased 1 point to 11 per cent, the same as a year ago. For household appliance stores, the collection ratio of 13 per cent was unchanged from the previous month but was 1 point above that for March a year ago.

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

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
FURNITURE:												
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	159
1952	153	149	147									
HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE:												
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	183									

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:												
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	10	11									
HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE:												
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	13	13									

NOTE:--Figures for March 1952 are preliminary and subject to revision.