

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.17.2

June 5, 1952

Retail Instalment Credit at Furniture and Household Appliance Stores

APRIL 1952

Instalment accounts outstanding at furniture stores showed little change during April. Month-end balances declined less than 1 per cent from the level of March 31 and were about 2 per cent below the level of April a year ago. Household appliance stores also reported a slight decline in instalment accounts outstanding. Balances at the end of April were down about 1 per cent from March, but were nearly 15 per cent below the year-ago level.

The April instalment collection ratio for furniture stores remained at 11 per cent, unchanged from the preceding month and from the same month a year ago. For household appliance stores the April collection ratio of 13 per cent was the same as for March, but was 2 points above that for 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	146								
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	181								

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	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	13								

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