

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.17.2

July 3, 1952

Retail Instalment Credit at Furniture and Household Appliance Stores

MAY 1952

Instalment accounts outstanding at furniture stores increased about 3 per cent during May bringing month-end balances to about 4 per cent above the level of a year ago. Instalment accounts outstanding at household appliance stores also increased during the month. At the end of May balances were about 2 per cent above the previous month-end but were approximately 10 per cent below a year ago.

Instalment collections at furniture stores during May amounted to 11 per cent of accounts outstanding at the beginning of the month. This was 1 point above April, but the same as for a year ago. The collection ratio of 13 per cent for household appliance stores was unchanged from April, but was up 2 points from May 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	147	152							
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	185							

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	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	13	13							

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