

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.17.2

October 8, 1952

Retail Instalment Credit at Furniture and Household Appliance Stores

AUGUST 1952

Instalment accounts outstanding at furniture stores continued to increase slightly during August. Balances at the month-end were about 2 per cent above those of July 31 and about 15 per cent above the level of a year ago. Household appliance stores also reported an increase of about 2 per cent in instalment accounts outstanding from July 31 to the end of August. Outstanding balances on August 31 were about 6 per cent above a year ago.

Collections on instalment accounts outstanding at furniture stores amounted to 10 per cent of first-of-month balances, the same as in the two preceding months but 2 points below a year ago. The corresponding ratio for household appliance stores in August was 11 per cent, 1 point below both a month ago and 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	143	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	157	160	163				
HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE:												
1950	163	164	167	172	179	187	199	219	234	235	234	236
1951	231	226	213	212	205	200	197	197	200	202	203	204
1952	197	189	182	180	184	196	204	209				

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	10	10	10				
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	12	12	11				

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