

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.17.2

November 5, 1952

Retail Instalment Credit at Furniture and Household Appliance Stores

SEPTEMBER 1952

Instalment accounts outstanding at furniture stores increased seasonally during September. Month-end balances were about 2 per cent above those of August 31 and about 16 per cent above the level of September 30 last year. Household appliance stores also reported a seasonal increase in instalment receivables. Outstanding balances at the end of the month were about 3 per cent above a month ago and about 8 per cent above the level of a year ago.

The September ratio of collections to instalment accounts outstanding on the first of the month was 11 per cent at both furniture and household appliance stores, the same as for August. The ratio for furniture stores was also unchanged from a year ago, but for household appliance stores it dropped 1 point.

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	140	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	157	160	163	166			
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	132	180	184	196	204	208	215			

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	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	13	12	12	11	11			

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