



# FEDERAL RESERVE

505

statistical release

G. 17

*Credit, Retail - Department Stores*

December 9, 1963

## DEPARTMENT STORE CREDIT - OCTOBER 1963

In October the instalment accounts receivable of reporting department stores continued the gradual seasonal expansion which began in September. The amount outstanding on these accounts at month-end still was about one-tenth above the year-earlier level. The pace at which these accounts were being repaid, however, was faster than either the month-ago or the year-ago rate.

Charge accounts receivable also increased in October, but somewhat less rapidly than in the preceding month. Relative to first-of-month accounts receivable, collections were accelerated in October after a month of some slackening.

Department store sales rose 9 per cent from September, with somewhat less than seasonal gains reported for all types of transactions. Total sales were in about the same volume as in October 1962. A gain in instalment sales over the year-period was offset by a moderate decline in charge-account transactions.

### Department Store Credit

Item	Accounts receivable, end of month					Collection ratios <sup>1/</sup>		
	Percentage increase or decrease from:		Percentage distribution					
	Month ago	Year ago	Oct. '63	Sept. '63	Oct. '62	Oct. '63	Sept. '63	Oct. '62
Charge	3	3	43	42	44	50	48	49
Instalment	1	10	57	58	56	18	17	17

### Department Store Sales

Item	Percentage increase or decrease from:		Percentage distribution		
	Month ago	Year ago	Oct. '63	Sept. '63	Oct. '62
Total	9	0	100	100	100
Cash	7	0	40	41	41
Charge	12	-2	42	41	42
Instalment	8	5	18	18	17

<sup>1/</sup> Collections during month as a percentage of accounts receivable at beginning of month.

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## DEPARTMENT STORE CREDIT - October 1963

## Sales by Type

Percentage increase or decrease (-)

Federal Reserve District	Total sales		Cash sales		Charge-account sales		Instalment sales	
	Month ago	Year ago	Month ago	Year ago	Month ago	Year ago	Month ago	Year ago
Boston	0	-2	-3	-2	1	-5	5	6
New York	8	0	10	-2	4	0	11	3
Philadelphia	3	-6	3	-6	2	-7	2	-4
Cleveland	5	-1	4	0	7	-6	2	5
Richmond	12	2	6	-1	14	1	16	9
Atlanta	14	2	10	2	16	-1	16	9
Chicago	10	2	6	1	22	-1	6	8
St. Louis	6	-5	8	-3	5	-7	14	-1
Minneapolis	18	-1	10	-1	26	-1	19	3
Kansas City	9	-2	11	-2	7	-4	10	3
Dallas	13	1	19	5	12	2	6	-5
San Francisco	16	4	13	5	23	1	12	8

Accounts Receivable, end of month  
Percentage increase or decrease (-)

Federal Reserve District	Charge accounts		Instalment	
	Month ago	Year ago	Month ago	Year ago
Boston	5	3	0	4
New York	2	1	2	21
Philadelphia	1	-4	-2	2
Cleveland	-1	0	-1	6
Richmond	8	5	0	2
Atlanta	4	1	-9	6
Chicago	9	10	2	0
St. Louis	3	-3	1	9
Minneapolis	6	-2	2	4
Kansas City	-1	2	-1	3
Dallas	1	5	-1	7
San Francisco	0	3	1	11