



FEDERAL RESERVE

statistical release

537

Credit, Retail - Department Stores
January 13, 1964

DEPARTMENT STORE CREDIT - NOVEMBER 1963

Instalment accounts receivable held by reporting department stores increased 3 per cent in November, a faster rate of expansion than in either of the two preceding months. Throughout 1963 balances on these accounts have been substantially larger than in 1962. The rate of collection on these accounts dipped in November to approximately the same rate as a year earlier.

Charge accounts, which customarily show a marked expansion during the last two months of the year, increased less than is usual in November this year. These accounts were being collected at about the same rate as in October and slightly faster than in November 1962.

Both cash and credit sales showed somewhat less than the customary sharp November gains. Instalment sales continued in larger volume than a year earlier, but cash and charge-account business fell below 1962.

Department Store Credit

Item	Accounts receivable, end of month					Collection ratios ^{1/}		
	Percentage increase or decrease from:		Percentage distribution					
	Month ago	Year ago	Nov. '63	Oct. '63	Nov. '62	Nov. '63	Oct. '63	Nov. '62
Charge	5	1	43	43	45	50	50	49
Instalment	3	8	57	57	55	17	18	17

Department Store Sales

Item	Percentage increase or decrease from:		Percentage distribution		
	Month ago	Year ago	Nov. '63	Oct. '63	Nov. '62
Total	13	-4	100	100	100
Cash	18	-3	43	41	42
Charge	8	-7	39	41	41
Instalment	11	1	18	18	17

^{1/} Collections during month as a percentage of accounts receivable at beginning of month.

DEPARTMENT STORE CREDIT - NOVEMBER 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	19	-6	27	-5	16	-8	6	-2
New York	7	-7	10	-9	5	-9	4	-1
Philadelphia	23	-7	31	-7	18	-9	20	0
Cleveland	21	-4	27	-3	16	-6	22	0
Richmond	9	-3	19	-5	1	-5	8	0
Atlanta	14	0	20	2	-3	-9	31	12
Chicago	9	-1	14	0	2	-9	7	-4
St. Louis	12	-6	15	-6	11	-7	0	-4
Minneapolis	1	6	7	22	-1	-2	-15	-12
Kansas City	14	-4	17	-4	12	-7	8	-1
Dallas	11	-3	10	-3	9	-4	15	-3
San Francisco	12	-2	15	0	11	-7	7	5

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

Federal Reserve District	Charge accounts		Instalment	
	Month ago	Year ago	Month ago	Year ago
Boston	3	-1	2	3
New York	4	-4	3	19
Philadelphia	9	-6	5	1
Cleveland	8	-3	4	6
Richmond	5	0	2	1
Atlanta	6	4	4	6
Chicago	-3	7	2	8
St. Louis	7	-1	2	1
Minneapolis	4	5	4	-5
Kansas City	7	1	1	0
Dallas	7	2	2	2
San Francisco	8	4	2	9