



# FEDERAL RESERVE

statistical release

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## DEPARTMENT STORE CREDIT - DECEMBER 1963

Instalment accounts receivable at reporting department stores showed the usual substantial increase in December. These accounts, which throughout the year had been substantially larger than in 1962, were 9 per cent higher at the close of 1963. Collections on these accounts returned to the October rate, one percentage point above that in December 1962.

Charge accounts receivable were about one-third larger at the year-end than a month earlier, following the customary seasonal pattern. Small year-to-year gains have been indicated throughout most of 1963.

The December expansion, typical in both cash and credit sales, was especially marked last year following a slow sales month in November. Instalment sales in December were one-tenth larger than in the corresponding month of 1962, while cash and charge-account sales showed slightly smaller year-to-year gains.

### 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	Dec. '63	Nov. '63	Dec. '62	Dec. '63	Nov. '63	Dec. '62
Charge	34	1	47	43	50	49	50	48
Instalment	14	9	53	57	50	18	17	17

### Department Store Sales

Item	Percentage increase or decrease from:		Percentage distribution		
	Month ago	Year ago	Dec. '63	Nov. '63	Dec. '62
Total	67	7	100	100	100
Cash	75	6	45	43	45
Charge	64	5	36	39	39
Instalment	57	10	17	18	16

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

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## DEPARTMENT STORE CREDIT - DECEMBER 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	81	8	91	8	75	7	69	8
New York	68	9	76	9	63	10	55	10
Philadelphia	63	6	76	6	55	4	54	13
Cleveland	68	9	77	9	63	7	66	12
Richmond	66	3	81	11	67	7	42	6
Atlanta	74	5	83	4	75	5	54	5
Chicago	60	6	64	5	63	3	53	11
St. Louis	67	3	73	1	67	5	41	-4
Minneapolis	72	6	74	3	60	2	115	29
Kansas City	76	4	77	2	73	4	76	11
Dallas	82	7	103	10	73	7	67	1
San Francisco	88	4	100	3	85	3	77	10

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

Federal Reserve District	Charge accounts		Instalment	
	Month ago	Year ago	Month ago	Year ago
Boston	33	0	11	3
New York	35	-1	15	17
Philadelphia	33	-5	14	3
Cleveland	37	0	18	9
Richmond	34	3	9	1
Atlanta	28	3	16	6
Chicago	24	1	5	8
St. Louis	25	2	12	2
Minneapolis	42	7	16	-1
Kansas City	37	1	16	2
Dallas	38	4	16	3
San Francisco	47	2	16	11