



FEDERAL RESERVE

statistical release

421 (6.19)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FEBRUARY 6, 1979

CONSUMER INSTALMENT CREDIT - DECEMBER 1978

CONSUMER INSTALMENT CREDIT OUTSTANDING EXPANDED SOMEWHAT FASTER IN DECEMBER, INCREASING BY \$4.31 BILLION COMPARED WITH \$4.10 BILLION IN NOVEMBER. THE AMOUNT OF GAIN SLIGHTLY EXCEEDED THE PREVIOUS RECORD ADVANCE OF \$4.28 BILLION IN MAY, ALTHOUGH THE ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE OF GROWTH (19 PER CENT) WAS 2 PERCENTAGE POINTS LESS BECAUSE OF THE LARGER CREDIT BASE FOR DECEMBER'S CALCULATION.

THE VOLUME OF CREDIT NEWLY EXTENDED EDGED UP TO \$26.41 BILLION IN DECEMBER WHILE LIQUIDATIONS OF EXISTING DEBT DECLINED SLIGHTLY TO \$22.10 BILLION, RESULTING IN THE \$4.31 BILLION NET CHANGE. THE PICKUP IN GROWTH OCCURRED MAINLY IN THE REVOLVING CREDIT CATEGORY; AUTOMOBILE CREDIT ADVANCED LESS RAPIDLY THAN IN NOVEMBER, AND THE OTHER CATEGORIES MAINTAINED A STEADY RATE OF GROWTH.

TOTAL CONSUMER NONINSTALMENT CREDIT OUTSTANDING--CREDIT SCHEDULED TO BE REPAYED IN A LUMP SUM, INCLUDING SINGLE PAYMENT LOANS, CHARGE ACCOUNTS, AND SERVICE CREDIT--AMOUNTED TO \$61.7 BILLION AT THE END OF 1978, AN INCREASE OF \$3.1 BILLION FROM THE REVISED 1977 ESTIMATE.

(IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

INSTALMENT CREDIT	DEC. 1978	NOV. 1978	DEC. 1978	DEC. 1977	LATEST 12 MONTHS
	(SEASONALLY ADJ.)	(SEASONALLY ADJ.)	(NOT SEAS. ADJ.)	(NOT SEAS. ADJ.)	(NOT SEAS. ADJ.)
AMOUNT EXTENDED:	26,413	26,214	27,398	24,534	298,494
AUTOMOBILE	7,734	7,787	6,457	6,006	88,903
REVOLVING (1)	9,424	9,176	11,743	10,287	104,587
MOBILE HOMES	534	486	436	388	6,092
OTHER	8,721	8,765	8,762	7,853	98,912
AMOUNT LIQUIDATED	22,100	22,115	21,283	18,910	253,508
NET CHANGE IN AMOUNT OUTSTANDING:	4,313	4,099	6,115	5,624	44,986 (3)
AUTOMOBILE	1,681	1,755	820	990	(4)
REVOLVING (1)	869	665	3,528	3,260	(4)
MOBILE HOMES	103	75	50	16	(4)
OTHER	1,660	1,604	1,717	1,358	(4)
AMOUNT OUTSTANDING, END OF MONTH	(2)	(2)	274,994	230,829	(2)

INSTALMENT CREDIT FLOWS, QUARTERLY AVERAGES (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ANNUAL RATES)

TOTAL INSTALMENT CREDIT	(MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)					AS PER CENT OF DISPOSABLE PERSONAL INCOME				
	1978IV	1978III	1978II	1978I	1977IV	1978IV	1978III	1978II	1978I	1977IV
EXTENSIONS	313,540	304,912	301,404	274,664	270,368	20.7	20.8	21.0	19.7	19.9
LIQUIDATIONS	266,396	261,800	251,032	237,164	228,836	17.6	17.8	17.5	17.0	16.8
NET CHANGE	47,144	43,112	50,372	37,500	41,532	3.1	2.9	3.5	2.7	3.1

NOTE: THE BOARD'S SERIES COVERS MOST SHORT- AND INTERMEDIATE-TERM CREDIT EXTENDED TO INDIVIDUALS THROUGH REGULAR BUSINESS CHANNELS, USUALLY TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE OF CONSUMER GOODS AND SERVICES OR TO REFINANCE DEBTS INCURRED FOR SUCH PURPOSES, AND SCHEDULED TO BE REPAYED (OR WITH THE OPTION OF REPAYING) IN TWO OR MORE INSTALMENTS. DETAILS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING.

- (1) CREDIT CARDS AT RETAILERS, GASOLINE COMPANIES AND COMMERCIAL BANKS, AND CHECK CREDIT AT COMMERCIAL BANKS.
- (2) NOT APPLICABLE OR NOT AVAILABLE.
- (3) A VALUE FOR THE UNADJUSTED NET CHANGE IN OUTSTANDINGS APPEARS ALSO ON THE NEXT TO LAST COLUMN ON THE NEXT PAGE, BUT MAY VARY SLIGHTLY, DUE TO DIFFERENT AGGREGATION METHODS.
- (4) FOR VALUES SEE THE NEXT TO LAST COLUMN ON THE NEXT PAGE UNDER THE HEADING "CHANGE FROM END OF DECEMBER 1977 AMOUNT N.S.A."

CONSUMER INSTALMENT CREDIT BY HOLDER AND TYPE - DEC. 1978

(IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS)

INSTALMENT CREDIT BY HOLDER AND TYPE	EXTENDED				LIQUIDATED				NET CHG DEC. 1978 S.A. (1)	OUTSTANDING		
	DEC. 1978 S.A.	NOV. 1978 S.A.	DEC. 1977 S.A.	DEC. 1978 N.S.A.	DEC. 1978 S.A.	NOV. 1978 S.A.	DEC. 1977 S.A.	DEC. 1978 N.S.A.		END OF DEC. 1978 N.S.A.	CHANGE FROM END OF DEC. 1977 N.S.A.	PER CENT
TOTAL	26,413	26,214	22,832	27,398	22,100	22,115	19,252	21,283	4313	274,994	44,165	19.1
BY MAJOR HOLDER												
COMMERCIAL BANKS	12,454	12,476	10,907	12,103	10,441	10,551	8,946	9,880	2013	137,413	25,040	22.3
FINANCE COMPANIES	4,659	4,512	3,719	4,874	3,581	3,494	3,029	3,686	1078	54,309	9,441	21.0
CREDIT UNIONS	3,526	3,530	3,035	3,239	2,753	2,751	2,432	2,605	773	45,939	8,334	22.2
RETAILERS (2)	3,612	3,571	3,465	5,163	3,416	3,385	3,145	3,293	196	23,006	-84	-2.1
SAVINGS AND LOANS	516	489	335	475	401	401	298	372	115	8,394	1,040	14.1
GASOLINE COMPANIES	1,451	1,376	1,285	1,368	1,355	1,377	1,261	1,301	96	3,240	277	9.3
MUTUAL SAVINGS BANKS	195	260	85	176	153	156	141	146	42	2,693	517	23.8
BY MAJOR CREDIT TYPE												
AUTOMOBILE	7,734	7,787	6,889	6,457	6,053	6,032	5,252	5,637	1681	102,385	19,474	23.5
COMMERCIAL BANKS	4,344	4,503	4,266	3,504	3,598	3,664	3,261	3,370	746	60,481	10,904	22.0
INDIRECT PAPER	2,451	2,422	2,358	1,971	1,921	1,982	1,762	1,830	530	33,850	6,471	23.6
DIRECT LOANS	1,893	2,081	1,908	1,533	1,677	1,682	1,499	1,540	216	26,631	4,433	20.0
CREDIT UNIONS	1,738	1,718	1,475	1,555	1,347	1,354	1,206	1,252	391	21,967	3,868	21.4
FINANCE COMPANIES	1,652	1,566	1,148	1,398	1,108	1,014	785	1,015	544	19,937	4,702	30.9
REVOLVING	9,424	9,176	7,985	11,743	8,555	8,511	7,226	8,215	869	45,300	6,026	15.3
COMMERCIAL BANKS	4,814	4,702	3,622	5,712	4,204	4,146	3,239	4,002	610	24,434	6,060	33.0
RETAILERS	3,159	3,098	3,077	4,663	2,996	2,988	2,726	2,912	163	17,626	-311	-1.7
GASOLINE COMPANIES	1,451	1,376	1,285	1,368	1,355	1,377	1,261	1,301	96	3,240	277	9.3
MOBILE HOMES	534	486	457	436	431	411	398	386	103	17,349	2,208	14.6
COMMERCIAL BANKS	327	280	307	248	274	261	250	242	53	10,860	1,736	19.0
FINANCE COMPANIES	74	77	60	63	63	62	68	61	11	3,152	75	2.4
SAVINGS AND LOANS	111	108	72	106	81	74	69	71	30	2,848	310	12.2
CREDIT UNIONS	22	21	18	19	13	14	11	12	9	489	87	21.6
OTHER	8,721	8,765	7,501	8,762	7,061	7,161	6,376	7,045	1660	109,960	16,457	17.6
COMMERCIAL BANKS	2,969	2,991	2,712	2,639	2,365	2,480	2,196	2,266	604	41,638	6,340	18.0
FINANCE COMPANIES	2,933	2,869	2,511	3,413	2,410	2,418	2,176	2,610	523	31,220	4,664	17.6
CREDIT UNIONS	1,766	1,791	1,542	1,665	1,393	1,383	1,215	1,341	373	23,483	4,379	22.9
RETAILERS	453	473	388	500	420	397	419	381	33	5,380	-173	-3.1
SAVINGS AND LOANS	405	381	263	369	320	327	229	301	85	5,546	730	15.2
MUTUAL SAVINGS BANKS	195	260	85	176	153	156	141	146	42	2,693	517	23.8

- (1) NET CHANGES FOR ALL MONTHS EQUAL EXTENSIONS MINUS LIQUIDATIONS (REPAYMENTS, CHARGEOFFS, AND OTHER CREDITS).
 (2) EXCLUDES 30-DAY CHARGE CREDIT HELD BY RETAILERS, GASOLINE COMPANIES, AND TRAVEL AND ENTERTAINMENT COMPANIES.
 (3) MUTUAL SAVINGS BANKS, SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS, AND AUTO DEALERS.

NOTE: S.A. AND N.S.A. DENOTE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA, RESPECTIVELY.
 DETAILS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING.

NOTE

The consumer instalment credit series covers most short- and intermediate-term credit extended to individuals through regular business channels, usually to finance the purchase of consumer goods and services or to refinance debts incurred for such purposes, and scheduled to be repaid (or with the option of repaying) in two or more instalments.

The series excludes certain types of arrangements by which household expenditures are financed. It generally excludes mortgage financing, which is reported elsewhere, although some credit secured by junior liens on real estate may be reported in the data for certain holders such as finance companies. Also excluded are (a) extensions of funds against the cash value of life insurance policies or generally against savings accounts; (b) non-instalment credit to individuals; and (c) loans to farmers. Some components of the series include unearned (precomputed) finance charges.

Historical data as well as additional information about the series are available from the Mortgage and Consumer Finance Section, Division of Research and Statistics, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, D.C. 20551.

Other regular Federal Reserve publications containing consumer credit stock and/or flow statistics are: monthly--the Bulletin, and the finance company release "422;" and quarterly--the Flow of Funds Accounts release "780" and the Commercial Bank Report of Condition. The two quarterly reports include data for noninstalment credit. In addition, the Report of Condition provides separate commercial bank instalment loan detail for credit card and check credit, home improvement credit, personal loans, and other consumer instalment credit. Consumer data also appear in the Federal Reserve's Annual Statistical Digest. Finally, a semi-annual joint publication of the Federal Reserve, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, entitled "Assets and Liabilities of Commercial and Mutual Savings Banks," contains regional and state data for consumer credit held by commercial banks and mutual savings banks. The publication can be obtained upon written request to the Data Requests and Surveys Section, Division of Management Systems and Financial Statistics, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 550 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006