For immediate release
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## CONSUMER INSTALLMENT CREDIT

Consumer installment credit outstanding expanded by a seasonally adjusted $\$ 5.87$ billion in March, compared with a record $\$ 6.61$ billion increase in February. The annual rate of growth was $17-1 / 2$ percent in both March and the first quarter as a whole. For all of 1983, consumer credit grew by 11-1/2 percent.

Automobile credit decelerated to a gain of $\$ 326$ million in March following a $\$ 2.80$ billion increase in February, reflecting the slower pace of new-car sales in March. Revolving credit, however, jumped to a record increase of $\$ 2.96$ billion in March from $\$ 1.27$ billion the month before. The large "other" category - comprised mainly of personal cash loans and sales finance contracts for non-automotive consumer goods -- remained strong in March with a $\$ 2.30$ billion increase.

| Flows Of Credit <br> Millions of dollars <br> (seasonally adjusted) | Net Change in <br> Amount Outstanding | Annual Rate of Growth |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| (percent) |  |  |

CONSUMER INSTALLMENT CREDIT BY HOLDER AND TYPE
(Millions of dollars except as noted)

| Installment credit holder and type | Net change during |  |  | Outstanding at end of |  |  | Change from end of Mar. 1983 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Mar. <br> 1984 | Feb. 1984 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar. } \\ 1984 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar. } \\ & 1984 \end{aligned}$ | Mar. <br> 1984 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar. } \\ & 1983 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
|  | S. A. | S.A. | N. S.A. | S.A. | N.S.A. | N.S.A. | amount | percent |
| Total | 5,870 | 6,608 | 3,289 | 405,665 | 402,466 | 351,736 | 50,730 | O 14.4 |

By major holder

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Commercial banks | 3,422 | 4,914 | 1,684 | 179,316 | 177,625 | 148,997 | 28,628 | 19.2 |
| Finance companies | -193 | 258 | -83 | 102,125 | 101,619 | 99,441 | 2,178 | 2.2 |
| Credit unions | 1,230 | 712 | 1,041 | 56,010 | 55,892 | 47,081 | 8,811 | 18.7 |
| Retailers 4/ | 355 | 325 | -247 | 33,727 | 33,208 | 29,826 | 3,382 | 11.3 |
| Savings and loans | 813 | 414 | 802 | 23,111 | 23,071 | 17,592 | 5,479 | 31.1 |
| Gasoline companies | 2 | -172 | -81 | 4,126 | 3,944 | 3,669 | 275 | 7.5 |
| Mutual savings banks | 242 | 156 | 173 | 7,250 | 7,107 | 5,130 | 1,977 | 38.5 |

By major credit type

| Automobile | 326 | 2,799 | 0 | 147,107 | 146,047 | 129,392 | 16,655 | 12.9 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Commercial banks | 432 | 2,635 | -90 | 71,814 | 71,237 | 56,745 | 14,492 | 25.5 |
| Finance companies | -766 | -112 | -408 | 48,508 | 48,078 | 50,129 | -2,051 | -4.1 |
| Credit unions | 660 | 276 | 498 | 26,785 | 26,732 | 22,518 | 4,214 | 18.7 |
| Revolving | 2,962 | 1,273 | 1,439 | 80,304 | 79,110 | 65,826 | 13,284 | 20.2 |
| Commercial banks | 2,613 | 1,127 | 1,729 | 45,751 | 45,235 | 35,625 | 9,610 | 27.0 |
| Retailers 4/ | 347 | 318 | -209 | 30,427 | 29,931 | 26,532 | 3,399 | 12.8 |
| Gasoline companies | 2 | -172 | -81 | 4,126 | 3,944 | 3,669 | 275 | 7.5 |
| Mobile home | 285 | -127 | 90 | 23,526 | 23,661 | 22,653 | 1,008 | 4.4 |
| Commercial banks | -85 | -112 | -74 | 9,647 | 9,589 | 9,795 | -206 | -2.1 |
| Finance companies | 218 | -93 | 9 | 9,149 | 9,333 | 9,080 | 253 | 2.8 |
| Savings and loans | 141 | 68 | 144 | 4,136 | 4,147 | 3,279 | 868 | 26.5 |
| Credit unions | 10 | 10 | 11 | 594 | 592 | 499 | 93 | 18.6 |
| Other | 2,298 | 2,662 | 1,760 | 154,728 | 153,648 | 133,865 | 19,783 | 14.8 |
| Commercial banks | 463 | 1,264 | 119 | 52,105 | 51,564 | 46,832 | 4,732 | 10.1 |
| Finance companies | 355 | 463 | 316 | 44,468 | 44,208 | 40,232 | 3,976 | 9.9 |
| Credit unions | 558 | 426 | 532 | 28,630 | 28,568 | 24,064 | 4,504 | 18.7 |
| Retailers 4/ | 8 | 7 | -38 | 3,300 | 3,277 | 3,294 | -17 | -0. 5 |
| Savings and loans | 673 | 346 | 658 | 18,976 | 18,924 | 14,313 | 4,611 | 32.2 |
| Mutual savings banks | 242 | 156 | 173 | 7,250 | 7,107 | 5,130 | 1,977 | 38.5 |

1. Interest rates are annual percentage rates as specified by Regulation $Z$.
2. Commercial bank data are simple unweighted averages of each bank's "most common" rate charged during the first calendar week of the month.
3. Finance company data from the subsidiaries of the three major U.S. automobile manufacturers are volume-weighted averages covering all loans of each type purchased during the month.
4. Includes auto dealers and excludes 30 -day charge credit held by travel and entertainment companies.
5. n.a. $=$ Data not available. S.A. $=$ Seasonally adjusted. N.S.A. $=$ Not seasonally adjusted. NOTE: The Board's series on amounts of credit 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 repayment) in two or more installments.
