

June 12, 1952

## SALES FINANCE COMPANIES

APRIL 1952

Retail financing-Sales finance company purchases of retail automotive paper in April increased 15 per cent over the preceding month, reflecting gains in all items. Purchases of new passenger car paper increased for the first time since last August, while used-car financing increased for the fourth successive month. Purchases of commercial-car paper also increased substantially. At the end of April, outstanding balances of retail automotive paper were 2 per cent above those of the preceding month-end and slightly above the level of a year age.

Purchases of other retail instalment paper by sales finance companies expanded 10 per cent in April. The volume of household appliance paper and repair paper acquired increased 12 per cent and 24 per cent, respectively. In contrast, purchases of furniture and television paper declined 13 per cent. Despite the overall monthly expansion in acquisitions, outstanding balances of other retail instalment paper at the end of April were 3 per cent belew those of the preceding montheend.

## Retail Financing by Sales Finance Companies



Wholesale finanoing-Wholesale automotive paper acquired during April increased about 13 per cent over the preceding month. Outstanding balances at the month-end were up about 4 per cent, bringing these balances to about the yearmago level.

Acquisitions of wholesale paper on other consumer goods, however, declined substantially during the month. Outstunding balances at the end of the month were virtually unchanged from the March level, but were down sharply from April 1951.

NolE.-April data, based on returns from 108 sales finance companies, are compiled in the same manner as those shown in earlier reports. Aggregates represent only the totals for the reporting companies and, since the reporting sample is not identical from month to month, they are not comparable with totals of preceding months.

Table 1.--Automotive and Diversified Financing by Sales Finance Companies Indexes of Outstanding Balances: 1947-1949 average $=100$ a/

| End of month and yoar | ```Total all sales flnancing``` | Retail automotive | Wholesale automotive | Wholesale other than automotive | Retail other consumers' goods | Industrial, commercial, and farm equi pment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1939................... | 68 | 76 | 55 | 24 | 49 | 100 |
| 1940.................... | 92 | 101 | 92 | 34 | 64 | 131 |
| 1941................... | 103 | 114 | 96 | 61 | 73 | 147 |
| 1942................... | 36 | 28 | 61 | 10 | 38 | 61 |
| 1943. .................. | 14 | 10 | 22 | 2 | 15 | 27 |
| 1944.................... | 12 | 11 | 13 | 3 | 13 | 23 |
| 1945................... | 15 | 14 | 15 | 9 | 19 | 23 |
| 1946.................... | 40 | 32 | 49 | 55 | 52 | 59 |
| 1947.................... | 81 | 67 | 89 | 97 | 112 | 89 |
| 1948................... | 118 | 115 | 138 | 111 | 114 | 116 |
| 19490.................. | 155 | 190 | 118 | 81 | 92 | 107 |
| 1950.................... | 198 | 248 | 162 | 126 | 87 | 130 |
| 1951.................... | 202 | 248 | 197 | 120 | 75 | 151 |
| 1951-April............. | 200 | 238 | 209 | 231 | 77 | 136 |
| May.0........... | 202 | 241 | 219 | 220 | 76 | 138 |
| June.............. | 205 | 245 | 221 | 202 | 74 | 140 |
| July.............. | 202 | 248 | 203 | 181 | 72 | 143 |
| August............ | 203 | 253 | 185 | 156 | 73 | 146 |
| Septermber.0...0.. | 203 | 256 | 178 | 147 | 74 | 149 |
| October........... | 203 | 254 | 186 | 139 | 74 | 149 |
| November.......... | 203 | 251 | 196 | 130 | 74 | 150 |
| December......... | 202 | 248 | 197 | 120 | 75 | 151 |
| 1952-January.......... | 196 | 243 | 181 |  |  |  |
| February......... | 196 | 240 | 189 | 136 | 72 | 160 |
| March............. | 196 | 238 | 199 | 151 | 71 | 163 |
| April..0..0.*.... | 200 | 241 | 208 | 152 | 69 | 168 |

Indexes as of Decomber 31 for the years of 1939, 1940, and 1941 are based on figures reported by sales finance companies on a supplementary report form which accompanied the regular monthly report form for January 1942. Succeoding indexes are dorived by calculating the percentage changes of the outstanding balances reported by sales finance companies for each month from those reported by the same compenies for the preceding month, and by linking these percentages to the indexes for the preceding month.

Table 2.--Relative Importance of Loans Hade by Sales Finance Companies During April 1952 and Outstanding Balances at End of Month

| Class of papor | Papor acqui red during month |  | Outstanding balances, end of month |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Amount | Percentage of total | Amount | Percentage of total |
| Total, all classes of paper a/........ | \$1,020,710,118 | 100 | \$3,696,238,016 | 100 |
|  |  | 9 | 275,114, 244 | 7 |
| Small (personal) loans................ | $29,611,806$ | 3 | 154,545,720 | 4 |
| Business loans....................... | 57,967,973 | 6 | 120,568,524 | 3 |
| Total sales financing a/.............. | 933,130,369 | 91 | 3,421,123,772 | 93 |

Included in this classification are only those firms which, in addition to their sales financing operations, reported loan activities.

Table 3.--Automotive and Diversified Financing by Sales Finance Companies Paper Acquired During. April 1952 and Balances Outstanding at End of Month

| Class of paper | Volume of paper acquired during April 1952 |  | Outstanding balances April 30, 1952 a/ | Ratio paper ocquired to outstanding balences b/ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | By all companies reporting | By companies <br> reporting outstanding balances a/ |  |  |
| Total retail automotive... | \$357,695,053 | \$354, 634, 778 | \$2,498,741,564 | 14 |
| Total wholesale automotive................... | 535,035,283 | 531,897,778 | 597,325,502 | 89 |
| Total wholesale - other than automotive... | 13,671,090 | 13,239,197 | 46,164,322 | 29 |
| Total retail - other consumers' goods..... | 28,548,668 | 26,495,252 | 208,934,600 | 13 |
| Industrial, commercial, and farm equipment | $13,985,483$ | 13,372,127 | 125,607,857 | 11 |
| Total sates financing............ | \$948,935,577 | \$939,639,132 | \$3,476,773,845 | 27 |
| a/ Data are based on figures from sales finance companies able to report both their paper acguired and their outstanding balances. <br> b/ Ratios obtained by dividing paper acquired (column 2) by outetanding balances (column 3). |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 4.--Number of Cars Financed and Volume of Paper Acquired by Sales Finance Companies During April 1952

| Class of paper | Number of cars |  | Paper acquired |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Number | Percentage of total | Dollar volume | Percentage of total |
| Total retail automotive. | 283,719 | 100 | \$305,738,243 a/ | 100 |
| New passenger cars. | 74,912 | 26 | 117,029,750 | 38 |
| New commercial cars | 12,269 | 4 | 19,657,028 | 7 |
| Used passenger cars. | 180,480 | 64 | 156,357,815 | 51 |
| Used commercial cars. | 16,058 | 6 | 12,693,650 | 4 |
| Total wholesale automotive. | 300,973 | 100 | \$527,991,739 a/ | 100 |
| New cars (pascenger and commercial).0. Used cars (passenger and commercial). | $\begin{array}{r} 240,702 \\ 60,271 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 80 \\ & 20 \end{aligned}$ | $467,545,318$ $60,446,421$ | 89 11 |

a/ Data are based on reports from sales finance companies providing a breakdown of their retail and wholesale automotive financing. These amounts are less than those reported in table 3 due to the exclusion of some data for which breakdows were not available.

Table 5.--Volume of Diversified Sales Financing During April 1952

| Class of paper | Dollar volume of paper aoquired | Percentage of total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Retail - other consumers' goods: <br> Furniture, radios, pianos, and other musical instruments.. Refrigerators and other household appliances.................. Residential building repairs and modernization............... Miscel.laneous retail....................................................... | $\begin{array}{r} 5,651,370 \\ 9,022,565 \\ 3,746,051 \\ 8,613,378 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ 16 \\ 7 \\ 16 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| Total retail - other consumers' goods........................................ Total wholesale - other than automotive Industrial, commercial, and farm equipment | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 27,033,364 \\ & 13,671,090 \\ & 13,985,483 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 49 \\ & 25 \\ & 26 \end{aligned}$ |
| Total diversified finanoing...................... | \$54,689,937 | 100 |

a Data are based on reports from eales finance companies providing a breakdown of their retail financing of other consumers' goods. This amount is less than that reported in table 3 due to the exclusion of some data for which breakdowns were not available.

