BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM
October 3, 1957

## SALES FINANCE COMPANIES

August 1957

Sales finance company holdings of retail passenger car instalment paper increased $\$ 66$ million in August to an estimated $\$ 7,532$ million at the end of the month. This compares with August increases of $\$ 276$ million in 1955 and $\$ 80$ million in 1956.

Retail credit extended on passenger automobiles decreased $\$ 47$ million from the July volume, reflecting declines in both new and used car paper extended. In August about 169 thousand new passenger and 223 thousand used passenger cars were financed.

Wholesale automotive paper outstanding increased $\$ 45$ million to an estimated $\$ 1,530$ million, $\$ 450$ million above the level of a year earlier. Other types of business credit showed a net increase of $\$ 15$ million.

Outstanding Credit Held by Sales Finance Companies (In millions of dollars)


1/ Excludes some credit extended to business, such as that extended by factoring subsidiaries.
Credit Extended by Sales Finance Companies (In millions of dollars)

| Type of Credit | Aug. $1957$ | Month ago | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { ago } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Consumer instalment credit | 203 | -119 | +32 |
| Fetail automotive (passenger cars) | 681 | --47. | - 2 |
| New | 442 | - 16 | - 15 |
| Used | 239 | - 31 | $+13$ |
| Other consumer goods paper | 136 | - 58 | + 30 |
| Repair and modernization loans | 1 | - 1 | - 1 |
| Personel loans | 85 | - 13 | + 5 |
| Business credit 1/ | 1,210 | + 21 | $\pm 128$ |
| Retail automotive (commercial vehicles) | 53 | + | +2 |
| New | 36 | 0 | - 1 |
| Used | 17 | + 1 | + 3 |
| Wholesale automotive paper | 985 | + 21 | $+146$ |
| New (passenger and commercial) | 932 | $+20$ | +141 |
| Used (passenger and commercial) | 53 | + 1 | + 5 |
| Wholesale other than automotive | 46 | + 4 | - 3 |
| Other business credit I/ | 126 | - 5 | - 17 |

1/ Excludes some credit extended to business, such as that extend̈ed by factoring subsidiaries.

Number of Motor Vehicles Financed by Sales Finance Companfes (In thousands)

| Type of vehicle | Aug. <br> 1957 | Month <br> ago | Year <br> ago |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total financed by retail <br> New passenger | $\frac{426}{169}$ | $\frac{-27}{-7}$ | $\frac{-21}{-18}$ |
| Used passenger | 223 | -23 | -4 |
| New commercial | 16 | +1 | +1 |
| Used commercial | 18 | +2 | +1 |
| Total financed at wholesale |  |  |  |
| New (passenger and commercial) | 440 | +13 | +43 |
| Used (passenger and commercial) | 395 | $\frac{+12}{+12}$ | +38 |

## Credit Sales of New Passenger Cars as a Per Cent of Total Number Sold at Retail 1/

Credit Sales
1957 - August
Per Cent
July
71
79
1956 - August
76

1/ Based on new car instalment contracts acquired by banks, sales finance companies, other finencial institutions, and automobile dealers. Data for prior months may be obtained by writing to the Division of Research and Statistics, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington 25, D. C.

