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June 3, 1958

SALES FINANCE COMPANIES

April 1958

Sales finance company holdings of retail passenger car instalment paper decreased \$112 million during April to an estimated \$6,968 million at the end of the month. This compares with increases of \$22 million in April 1957 and \$42 million in April 1956. Total consumer instalment credit at sales finance companies decreased \$84 million to \$9,200 million at the month end.

Retail credit extended on passenger automobiles increased by \$42 million, somewhat more than seasonally, reflecting increases in both new and used passenger car extensions. In April about 103 thousand new and 221 thousand used passenger cars were financed at retail.

Wholesale automotive paper outstanding decreased \$111 million during April to an estimated \$1,684 million. This compares with an increase of \$50 million during the same period a year ago. All other types of business remained relatively unchanged.

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

| | | | ase or c | r decrease during: | |
|--|----------|-------|---------------|--------------------|--|
| Type of credit | Apr. 30, | April | Ap ril | Year Ended | |
| | 1958 | 1958 | 195 7 | April 30, 1958 | |
| Consumer instalment credit | 9,200 | _ 84 | + 56 | + 96 | |
| Retail automotive (passenger cars) Other consumer goods paper Repair and modernization loans Personal loans | 6,968 | -112 | +22 | -244 | |
| | 1,515 | + 23 | +24 | +236 | |
| | 20 | + 1 | 0 | - 2 | |
| | 697 | + 4 | +10 | +106 | |
| Business credit 1/ | 2,984 | -114 | + 59 | + 87 | |
| Retail automotive (commercial vehicles) Wholesale automotive Wholesale other than automotive Other business credit | 491 | - 7 | + 1 | - 40 | |
| | 1,684 | -111 | +50 | + 67 | |
| | 107 | + 3 | + 4 | - 52 | |
| | 702 | + 1 | + 4 | +112 | |

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

Credit Extended by Sales Finance Companies (In millions of dollars)

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| | : | Change from: | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--|
| Type of credit | April | Month | Year | |
| | 1958 | ago | ago | |
| Consumer instalment credit Retail automotive (passenger cars) New Used | 759 | +35 | - 96 | |
| | 496 | +42 | -136 | |
| | 265 | +22 | -124 | |
| | 231 | +20 | - 12 | |
| Other consumer goods paper | 170 | - '7 | + 35 | |
| Repair and modernization loans | 2 | + 1 | + 1 | |
| Personal loans | 91 | - 1 | + 4 | |
| Business credit 1/ Retail automotive (commercial vehicles) New Used | 947 | -59 | -350 | |
| | 39 | + 3 | - 10 | |
| | 26 | + 4 | - 7 | |
| | 13 | - 1 | - 3 | |
| Wholesale automotive paper New (passenger and commercial) Used (passenger and commercial) | 760 689 71 | <u>-63</u> -63 | -327 -341 + 14 | |
| Wholesale other than automotive Other business credit $\underline{1}/$ | 34 114 | - 4 + 5 | - 13 0 | |

 $[\]underline{1}/$ Excludes some credit extended to business, such as that extended by factoring subsidiaries.

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

| | | Change from: | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Type of vehicle | April | Month | Year | |
| | 1958 | ago | ago | |
| Total financed by retail New passenger Used passenger New commercial Used commercial | 348 103 221 11 13 | +32 + 9 +24 + 2 - 3 | - 57 - 49 - 1 - 3 - 4 | |
| Total financed at wholesale New (passenger and commercial) Used (passenger and commercial) | 350 281 69 | -24 -26 + 2 | -118 -141 + 23 | |

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

| Credit Sales | Per Cent |
|--------------|----------|
| 1958 - April | 61 |
| March | 55 |
| 1957 - April | 63 |

^{1/} Based on new car instalment contracts acquired by banks, sales finance companies, other financial 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.