June 4, 1959

## SALES FINANCE COMPANIES

April 1959

Sales finance company holdings of retail passenger car instalment paper increased $\$ 114$ million during April, the largest increase for any month since 1955. Holdings of other consumer instalment paper increased $\$ 27$ million during the month, nearly the same as in April of last year.

Retail passenger automobile contracts acquired during April amounted to 144 thousand new and 254 thousand used for a total dollar volume of 658 million. Compared with a year ago about 74 thousand more passenger car contracts were acquired.

Wholesale automotive paper outstanding increased \$103 million during April. This compares with a decline of $\$ 111$ million during the same month a year ago. All other types of business credit on balance increased $\$ 52$ 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.


| Type of credit | $\begin{array}{r} \text { April } \\ 1959 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Change from: |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Month ago | $\begin{gathered} \text { Year } \\ \text { ago } \end{gathered}$ |
| Consumer instalment credit | 933 | $+50$ | $+174$ |
| Retail automotive (passenger cars) | 658 | $\pm 44$ | +162 |
| New | 380 | $+32$ | +115 |
| Used. | 278 | +12 | $+47$ |
| Other consumer goods paper | 171 | $+10$ | $+1$ |
| Repair and modernization loans | 2 | - 1 | 0 |
| Personal loans | 102 | - 3 | + 11 |
| Business credit $1 /$ | 1,501 | $+37$ | $+554$ |
| Retail automotive (commercial vehicles) | - 59 | $\pm 5$ | $\pm 20$ |
| New | 46 | $+5$ | $+20$ |
| Used. | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| Wholesale automotive paper | 1,243 | $+10$ | $+483$ |
| New (passenger and commercial) | 1,146 | +9 | 7457 |
| Used (passenger and commercial) | 97 | $+1$ | + 26 |
| Wholesale other than automotive | 46 | 0 | $+12$ |
| Other business credit $1 /$ | 153 | +22 | + 39 |

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

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

| Type of vehicle |  | Change from: |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | April 1959 | Month ago | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Year } \\ & \text { ago } \end{aligned}$ |
| Total financed by retail | 428 | +32 | $+80$ |
| New passenger | 144 | +12 | +41 |
| Used passenger | 254 | $+17$ | + 33 |
| New commercial | 17 | + 3 | + 6 |
| Used commercial | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| Total financed at wholesale | 557 | $+11$ | $+207$ |
| New (passenger and commercial) | 464 | 78 | +183 |
| Used (passenger and commercial) | 93 | + 3 | + 24 |

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

Credit Sales
1959 - April
Per Cent
March
57
1958 - April
60

I/ Based on new car instalment contracts acquired by banks, sales finence 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.

