BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

SALES FINANCE COMPANIES
May 1959

Expansion of sales finance company holdings of retail passenger car instalment paper accelerated in May as outstandings increased $\$ 136$ million. Holdings of other consumer instalment paper increased $\$ 32$ million during the month.

Retail passenger automobile contracts acquired during May numbered 145 thousand new and 253 thousand used for a total dollar volume of 663 million. Compared with a year ago about 66 thousand more passenger car contracts were acquired.

Wholesale automotive paper outstanding increased \$63 million and at the month-end was $\$ 277$ million above a year ago. All other types of business credit increased $\$ 29$ million.

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


I/ 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 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { May } \\ 1959 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Change froin: |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Month } \\ \text { ago } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Year } \\ \text { ago } \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| Consumer instalment credit | 940 | + 7 | +197 |
| Retail automotive (passenger cars) | 663 | $\pm$ | $\pm \pm$ |
| New | 384 | $+4$ | +1.09 |
| Used | 279 | + 1 | $+46$ |
| Other consumer goods paper | 175 | + 4 | + 28 |
| Repair and modernization loans | 3 | $+1$ | + 1 |
| Personal loans | 99 | - 3 | + 13 |
| Business credit I/ | 1,391 | -110 | $+474$ |
| Retail automotive (commercial vehicles) | - 56 | $-3$ | $\underline{+18}$ |
| New |  | $-3$ | $+15$ |
| Used | 13 | 0 | + 2 |
|  | 1.146 |  | $+417$ |
| New (passenger and commercial) | 1,055 | -91 | $\pm 395$ |
| Used (passenger and commercial) | 91 | - 6 | $+22$ |
| Wholesale other than automotive | 42 | - 4 | + 10 |
| Other business credit $1 /$. | 147 | - 6 | + 29 |

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 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { May } \\ 1959 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Change from: |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Month ago | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Year } \\ \text { ago } \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| Total financed by retail | 426 | - 2 | +72 +7 |
| New passenger | 145 | +1 | $+39$ |
| Used passenger | 253 | - 1 | + 27 |
| New commercial | 16 | - 1 | $+5$ |
| Used commercial | 12 | - 1 | +1 |
| Total financed at wholesale | 514 | -43 | $+172$ |
| New (passenger and commercial) | 428 | -36 | +155 |
| Used (passenger and commercial) | 86 | -7 | $+17$ |

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

Credit Sales
1959 - May
Per Cent
April

1958 - May
56

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.

