



FEDERAL RESERVE

statistical release

JUN 10 1976
 FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ST. LOUIS

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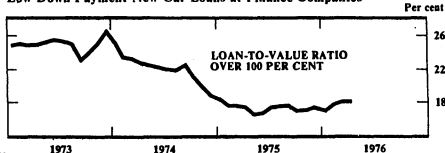
AUTOMOBILE CREDIT - APRIL 1976

JUNE 16, 1976

CREDIT EXTENDED FOR BOTH NEW AND USED CARS DECLINED marginally in April, after seasonal adjustment, for new cars, direct loan volume rose at commercial banks by about the amount that indirect lending declined. At finance companies, volume held steady while new-car credit extended by "other lenders" (primarily credit unions) declined about 6 per cent. The new-car average contract size declined for all lenders combined; the used-car average note was higher.

At finance companies, the proportion of new-car contracts exceeding 42 months rose more rapidly than the 37-42 month segment in April, continuing the recent trend. Meanwhile, the proportion of new-car loans with low downpayments has edged up from the January figure (see chart). Finance rates were up for both new and used cars, after adjustment for seasonal variation.

Low-Down Payment New-Car Loans at Finance Companies



CREDIT EXTENDED	NEW CARS						USED CARS					
	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED		
	1975 APR.	1976 MAR.	1976 APR.	1975 APR.	1976 MAR.	1976 APR.	1975 APR.	1976 MAR.	1976 APR.	1975 APR.	1976 MAR.	1976 APR.
ALL HOLDERS												
TOTAL CREDIT (MILLION \$)	1,873	2,840	2,810	2,033	2,930	2,898	1,563	1,728	1,692	1,704	1,985	1,842
NUMBER OF CONTRACTS (THOUS.)	417	572	573	451	595	593	668	678	655	724	775	710
AVERAGE SIZE OF CONTRACT (\$)	4,492	4,965	4,904	4,463	4,924	4,887	2,340	2,549	2,583	2,354	2,561	2,594
BANK DIRECT LOANS												
TOTAL CREDIT (MILLION \$)	394	621	647	436	663	674	439	495	509	499	582	577
NUMBER OF CONTRACTS (THOUS.)	93	131	140	104	140	147	194	208	206	218	242	231
AVERAGE SIZE OF CONTRACT (\$)	4,237	4,740	4,621	4,192	4,736	4,585	2,263	2,380	2,471	2,289	2,405	2,498
BANK PURCHASED PAPER												
TOTAL CREDIT (MILLION \$)	650	981	959	714	1,012	1,024	431	502	494	483	557	532
NUMBER OF CONTRACTS (THOUS.)	147	201	198	162	210	211	175	186	184	197	207	199
AVERAGE SIZE OF CONTRACT (\$)	4,422	4,881	4,843	4,407	4,819	4,853	2,463	2,699	2,685	2,452	2,691	2,673
FINANCE COMPANIES												
TOTAL CREDIT (MILLION \$)	475	696	697	503	696	714	259	282	262	285	315	295
NUMBER OF CONTRACTS (THOUS.)	96	129	128	102	130	132	99	101	92	104	112	104
AVERAGE SIZE OF CONTRACT (\$)	4,948	5,395	5,445	4,931	5,354	5,409	2,616	2,792	2,848	2,615	2,812	2,837
OTHER LENDERS												
TOTAL CREDIT (MILLION \$)	354	542	507	360	559	486	434	449	427	437	531	438
NUMBER OF CONTRACTS (THOUS.)	81	111	107	83	115	103	200	183	173	200	214	176
AVERAGE SIZE OF CONTRACT (\$)	4,370	4,883	4,738	4,337	4,861	4,718	2,170	2,454	2,468	2,185	2,481	2,489

NOTE: DATA FOR TOTAL CREDIT AND AVERAGE SIZE OF CONTRACTS INCLUDE RECOMPUTED FINANCE CHARGES AT MOST HOLDERS. BANK REFERS TO COMMERCIAL BANKS ONLY; OTHER LENDERS INCLUDE PRIMARILY CREDIT UNIONS, BUT ALSO MUTUAL SAVINGS BANKS, SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS AND AUTOMOBILE DEALERS.

AUTOMOBILE CREDIT AT FINANCE COMPANIES - APRIL 1976

CREDIT EXTENDED	NEW CARS						USED CARS					
	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED		
	1975 APR.	1976 MAR.	1976 APR.	1975 APR.	1976 MAR.	1976 APR.	1975 APR.	1976 MAR.	1976 APR.	1975 APR.	1976 MAR.	1976 APR.
TOTAL CREDIT (MILLION \$)	4751	6961	6971	5031	6961	7141	2591	2821	2621	2851	3151	2951
NUMBER OF CONTRACTS (THOUS.)	961	1291	1281	1021	1301	1321	991	1011	921	1091	1121	1041
AVERAGE SIZE OF CONTRACT (\$)	4,948	5,395	5,445	4,931	5,354	5,409	2,616	2,792	2,848	2,615	2,812	2,837
AVERAGE AMOUNT FINANCED (\$)	4,095	4,449	4,469	4,074	4,400	4,442	2,191	2,398	2,424	2,203	2,403	2,431
AVERAGE FINANCE RATE (%)	13.18	13.21	13.24	13.07	13.13	13.13	17.76	17.71	17.75	17.58	17.48	17.58
AVERAGE MATURITY (MONTHS)	37.5	38.5	38.6	37.6	38.5	38.7	29.2	30.0	30.0	29.6	30.4	30.3
PERCENTAGE WITH MATURITIES:												
OVER 42 MONTHS	...	12.1	13.2	...	12.6	13.6						
37-42 MONTHS	...	18.7	19.1	...	18.7	19.5						
OVER 36 MONTHS							...	2.9	2.8	...	3.3	3.2
31-36 MONTHS	65.1	57.6	55.9	65.2	57.5	55.8	...	53.1	52.8	...	57.4	56.5
30 MONTHS OR LESS	12.1	11.3	11.2	11.8	11.1	10.9						
25-30 MONTHS							31.8	30.5	31.1	29.6	28.0	29.2
24 MONTHS OR LESS							15.6	13.1	12.8	13.7	11.3	11.1
AVERAGE LOAN-TO-VALUE RATIO(%)	86.0	86.0	86.0	86.0	86.0	86.0	96.8	95.0	95.0	97.0	95.0	95.0
PERCENTAGE WITH L/V RATIOS:												
OVER 110%	2.4	3.7	3.8	2.3	3.7	3.6	13.8	10.7	9.8	14.5	11.0	10.3
101-110%	15.0	14.4	14.3	15.0	14.4	14.2	24.5	22.7	22.1	24.9	23.0	22.5
91-100%	33.7	32.8	32.8	33.7	32.7	32.7	28.9	31.3	31.7	28.7	31.1	31.5
90% OR LESS	48.9	49.2	49.2	49.1	49.2	49.5	32.8	35.4	36.9	32.0	34.9	35.9

NOTE: LOAN RATE AND LOAN TERMS DATA APPLY MAINLY TO CONTRACTS PURCHASED FROM DEALERS. AVERAGE SIZE OF CONTRACT IS DERIVED BY DIVIDING TOTAL CREDIT EXTENSIONS FOR ALL FINANCE COMPANIES BY ESTIMATED NUMBER OF CONTRACTS; IT INCLUDES PRECOMPUTED FINANCE CHARGES INCORPORATED IN THE CREDIT EXTENSION STATISTICS. AVERAGE AMOUNT FINANCED IS BASED ON DATA FROM A LIMITED SAMPLE OF FINANCE COMPANIES; IT EXCLUDES ANY PRECOMPUTED FINANCE CHARGES. FINANCE RATES ARE ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATES AS SPECIFIED BY REGULATION Z (TRUTH-IN-LENDING). AVERAGE LOAN RATE, MATURITY, AND LOAN-TO-VALUE RATIO DATA ARE OBTAINED FROM A DIFFERENT SAMPLE THAN THE LOAN TERMS PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTIONS. USED-CAR LOAN MATURITY AND LOAN-TO-VALUE DATA APPLY ONLY TO CARS LESS THAN THREE YEARS OLD.

... DATA NOT AVAILABLE BEFORE NOVEMBER, 1975