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Report Of Comparative Merchandising Conditions Of The United States For June 1917

New York, July 14.—(By mail)—The following report is issued monthly by the Research Department of the Credit Clearing House:

This report is based on the compilation of the credit barometer, which investigates monthly over 160,000 active ledger experiences aggregating over $60,000,000.00.

ALABAMA—Purchase activities show a decline of 1 per cent from May and a decline of 4 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows an increase of 1 per cent over May, but a decrease of 5 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show a decline of 4 per cent from last month and 2 per cent from June, 1916. The unseasonable weather of the past month has evidently forced payments down in this state, but the last week's tabulation showed a decided improvement over the first part of the month.

ARIZONA — Purchase activities declined 3 per cent from May and 2 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness increased 1 per cent over May, but decreased 2 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities remain stationary with May, but declined 2 per cent from June, 1916.

ARKANSAS—Purchase activities increased 2 per cent over May and 2 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness increased 2 per cent over May and 2 per cent over June, 1916. Payment activities declined 1 per cent from May, but increased 8 per cent over June, 1916. The indebtedness continues to remain high in this state, in spite of the fine payment condition, because of the high purchase activity.

CALIFORNIA—Purchase activity shows an increase of 3 per cent over May and an increase of 1 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 1 per cent from May and a decrease of 5 per cent rfom June, 1916. Payment activities show a decline of 7 per cent from May, but show an increase of 4 per cent over June, 1916. The exceptional payment activity of last month has caused the indebtedness to decrease in this month's comparison, in spite of the decline of payment activity.

COLORADO—Purchase activity shows an increase of 4 per cent over May and an increase of 2 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 6 per cent from May and a decrease of 4 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show a decrease of 2 per cent from May, but an increase of 4 per cent over June, 1916. The splendid payment activity of the last two months caused a decline of indebtedness in this state, in spite of the slight decline in payment activity.

CONNECTICUT—Purchase activity shows an increase of 4 per cent over May and an increase of 3 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows an increase of 1 per cent over May, but a decrease of 2 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activity shows a decline of 1 per cent from May and a decline of 2 per cent from June, 1915, but still remains 3 per cent higher than the average for the past eighteen months.

DELAWARE—Purchase activity remains stationary with May, but shows an increase of 1 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness remains stationary with May, but shows a decrease of 6 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show an increase of 1 per cent over May and an increase of 10 per cent over June, 1916.

FLORIDA—Purchase activities show an increase of 2 per cent over May but a decline of 1 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 8 per cent from May and a decrease of 2 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show an increase of 2 per cent over May and 5 per cent over June, 1916.

Georgia—Purchase activities show an increase of 1 per cent over May, but a decline of 3 per cent from June 1916. Indebtedness shows an increase of 1 per cent over May, but a decrease of 5 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show a decline of 2 per cent from May, but an increase of 4 per cent over June, 1916.

IDAHO—Purchase activities show an increase of 1 per cent over May and an increase of 2 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 2 per cent from May, but an increase of 1 per cent over June, 1916. Payment activities show an increase of 3 per cent over May and an increase of 9 per cent over June, 1916. An abnormally low indebtedness in June, 1916, caused by the low purchase activity of the first five months of last year, makes this comparison show a slight increase in indebtedness over June of last year.

ILLINOIS — Purchase activity shows an increase of 5 per cent over May and an increase of 1 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 2 per cent from May and a decrease of 1 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities remain stationary with May, but show an increase of 2 per cent over June 1916.

INDIANA — Purchase activity shows 2 per cent increase over May and 1 per cent increase over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows 1 per cent increase over May, but a decrease of 1 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show an increase of 1 per cent over May and an increase of 3 per cent over June, 1916.

IOWA—Purchase activity shows an increase of 1 per cent over May, but a decline of 3 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 4 per cent from May, and a decrease of 6 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities remain stationary with May, but show an increase of 6 per cent over June, 1916.

KANSAS—Purchase activity shows an increase of 3 per cent over May and an increase of 4 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 2 per cent from May and a decrease of 3 per cent from June 1916. Payment activities show an increase of 2 per cent over May and 5 per cent over June, 1916.

KENTUCKY—Purchase activities show an increase of 2 per cent over May and an increase of 1 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 1 per cent from May and a decrease of 2 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activity shows a decline of 5 per cent from May, but an increase of 3 per cent over June, 1916. The apparent decrease in the payment activity of this month is due to an abnormally high payment activity shown during the month of May.

LOUSIANA — Purchase activity shows an increase of 4 per cent over May and an increase of 1 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 3 per cent from May and a decrease of 3 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show a decline of 4 per cent from May, but an increase of 1 per cent over June, 1916. The decrease in the payment activity compared with last month is not unexpected, as the entire month of May showed the highest payment activity in the state of Louisiana that has ever been recorded.

MAINE—Purchase activity remains stationary with last month, but shows an increase of 3 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness remains stationary with last month, but shows a decrease of 6 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show an increase of 3 per cent over May, and an increase of 9 per cent over June, 1916.

MARYLAND, AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA — Purchase activities show an increase of 5 per cent over May and an increase of 2 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 9 per cent from May and a decrease of 9 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show an increase of 1 per cent over May and an increase of 12 per cent over June, 1916.

MASSACHUSETTS—Purchase activity shows an increase of 4 per cent over May and an increase of 1 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness remains stationary with May, but shows a decrease of 3 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show 5 per cent increase over last month, but remain stationary with June, 1916.

MICHIGAN — Purchase activity shows an increase of 3 per cent over May and an increase of 2 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows an increase of 2 per cent over May, but remains stationary with June, 1916. Payment activities show a decline of 7 per cent from May, and 4 per cent from June, 1916. As May, 1916, showed the greatest payment activity recorded in this state, it is not unexpected that this month would show a decrease in this phase of merchandising. It still remains equal to the average for the past eighteen months.

MINNESOTA—Purchase activity shows an increase of 5 per cent over May, but remains stationary with June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 5 per cent from May and a decrease of 6 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show an increase of 2 per cent over May and 1 per cent over June, 1916.

MISSISSIPPI—Purchase activity shows a decline of 2 per cent from May and a decline of 2 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 1 per cent from May and a decrease of 3 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show a decline of 4 per cent from May, but an increase of 4 per cent over June, 1916. As May of this year showed the highest payment activity recorded it is not unexpected that this month will show a decline in this phase of merchandising. It is well to note, however, that the payment activity still remains 3 per cent above the average for the past eighteen months in this state.

MISSOURI — Purchase activity shows an increase of 2 per cent over last month and an increase of 2 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows an increase of 1 per cent over May, but a decrease of 2 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show a decline of 2 per cent from May but an increase of 4 per cent over June, 1916.

MONTANA — Purchase activities show an increase of 1 per cent over last month, but a decrease of 4 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness remains stationary both with last month and June, 1916. Payment activities show an increase of 10 per cent over last month and an increase of 12 per cent over June, 1916.

NEBRASKA — Purchase activity shows an increase of 2 per cent over May and an increase of 2 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 1 per cent from May and a decrease of 3 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activity shows a decrease of 3 per cent from May, but an increase of 5 per cent over June, 1916.

NEVADA—Purchase activity remains stationary with last month, but shows a 9 per cent increase over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows 2 per cent decrease from May and a 9 per cent decrease from June, 1916. Payment activities show a 2 per cent increase over May and 14 per cent increase over June, 1916.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—Purchase activities show 1 per cent increase over last month and 4 per cent increase over June, 1916. Indebtedness remains stationary both with May of this year and June of 1916. Payment activity remains stationary with May, but shows a 1 per cent increase over June, 1916.

NEW JERSEY—Purchase activity shows an increase of 2 per cent over May and an increase of 4 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 5 per cent from May and a decrease of 9 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show 6 per cent decline from May and a 9 per cent decline from June, 1916. The sudden reaction in this state and the payment activity is entirely due to the very unseasonable weather, plus the heavy purchases during March and April. The last week, however, shows decided improvement over the first period of the month in this phase of merchandising.

NEW MEXICO—Purchase activities remain stationary with May, but show 6 per cent increase over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 4 per cent from May and 3 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show an increase of 2 per cent over May and 10 per cent over June, 1916.

NEW YORK—Purchase activity shows a decline of 2 per cent from May but an increase of 1 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows an increase of 1 per cent over May, but a decrease of 3 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activity shows a decrease of 1 per cent from May, but an increase of 1 per cent over June, 1916.

NORTH CAROLINA—Purchase activities show a 3 per cent increase over May, but a decline of 1 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 1 per cent from May and a decrease of 3 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show a decrease of 4 per cent from May, but an increase of 7 per cent over June, 1916. The decrease in payment activity in comparison with last month's was caused by the fact that the comparison is with the record payment activity month of this state. This month's average still shows 5 per cent above the average for the past eighteen months.

NORTH DAKOTA—Purchase activity shows an increase of 5 per cent over May and an increase of 3 per cent over June 1916. Indebtedness remains stationary with both May of this year and June of 1916. Payment activities show an increase of 6 per cent over May and an increase of 3 per cent over June, 1916.

OHIO—Purchase activity remains stationary with last month, but shows a decline of 5 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows an increase of 1 per cent over May and an increase of 4 per cent over June, 1916. Payment activity shows a decline of 1 per cent from May, but remains stationary with June, 1916.

OKLAHOMA — Purchase activity shows 1 per cent increase over last month, but a decline of 1 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows 1 per cent increase over last month and 3 per cent increase over June, 1916. Payment activity shows decline of 4 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 2 per cent from May and a decrease of 4 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activity shows decline of 7 per cent from May, and a decline of 1 per cent from June, 1916.

OREGON—Purchase activity shows a decline of 1 per cent from May and a decline of 4 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 2 per cent from May and a decrease of 4 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activities show a 1 per cent increase over May and 1 per cent increase over June, 1916.

PENNSYLVANIA—Prchase activity shows a decline of 3 per cent from May, but remains stationary with June, 1916. Indebtedness shows 2 per cent increase over May, but remains stationary with June, 1916. Payment activity shows 3 per cent decline from May, but remains stationary with June, 1916.

RHODE ISLAND—Purchase activity shows decline of 1 per cent from May, but remains stationary with June, 1916. Indebtedness remains stationary with May, but shows an increase of 2 per cent over June, 1916. Payment activities remain stationary with May, but show a decline of 2 per cent from June, 1916.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Purchase activity shows 2 per cent decline from May and 5 per cent decline from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a 3 per cent increase from May and a 2 per cent decrease from June, 1916. Payment activities show 1 per cent decline from May, but an increase of 5 per cent over June, 1916.

SOUTH DAKOTA—Purchase activity shows 3 per cent increase over May, but remains stationary with June, 1916. Indebtedness shows 4 per cent decrease from May and a 10 per cent decrease from June, 1916. Payment activities show a decline of 8 per cent from May and 3 per cent from June, 1916. The very low indebtedness shown in this comparison is due to the low purchase activity and splendid payment activity of the past two months.

TENNESSEE — Purchase activity shows an increase of 1 per cent over May, but a decline of 3 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness remains stationary with May, but shows 2 per cent decrease from May, 1916. Payment activities show a decline of 5 per cent from May, but an increase of 1 per cent over June, 1916.

TEXAS—Purchase activity shows a decline of 1 per cent from May and a decline of 3 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows a decrease of 1 per cent from May and a decrease of 3 per cent from June, 1916. Payment activity shows 1 per cent increase over May and 8 per cent increase over June, 1916.

UTAH—Purchase activity shows 2 per cent decline from May, but 1 per cent increase over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows 1 per cent increase over May, also 1 per cent increase over June, 1916. Payment activity shows a 13 per cent decline from May, but remains stationary with June, 1916.

VERMONT—Purchase activity remains stationary with May, but shows 3 per cent decline from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows 1 per cen decrease from May and 3 per cent decrease from June, 1916. Payment activity shows 1 per cent increase over May and 10 per cent increase over June, 1916.

VIRGINIA — Purchase activity shows 4 per cent increase over May and a 3 per cent increase over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows 5 per cent decrease from May and 4 per cent decrease from June, 1916. Payment activities show increase of 1 per cent over May and an increase of 2 per cent over June, 1916.

WASHINGTON—Purchase activity shows an increase of 5 per cent over May and an increase of 3 per cent over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows 3 per cent decrease from May and a 1 per cent decrease from June, 1916. Payment activity shows an increase of 3 per cent over May and an increase of 7 per cent over June, 1916.

WEST VIRGINIA—Purchase activities show an increase of 1 per cent over May, but a decline of 3 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness shows an increase of 4 per cent over May and an increase of 3 per cent over June, 1916. Payment activtiy remains stationary with May, but shows an increase of 11 per cent over June, 1916. The increase in indebtedness during the last two months in this state is due to the high purchase activity of the early spring.

WISCONSIN — Purchase activity shows a decline of 1 per cent from May, also a decline of 1 per cent from June, 1916. Indebtedness remains stationary with May, but shows a 4 per cent decrease from June, 1916. Payment activity shows a decline of 6 per cent from May and a decline of 1 per cent from June, 1916.

WYOMING — Purchase activity shows 1 per cent increase over May and a 5 per cent increase over June, 1916. Indebtedness shows 5 per cent increase over May and 1 per cent increase over June, 1916. Payment activity shows 6 per cent decline from May, but 4 per cent increase over June, 1916.

THE CREDIT BAROMETER.

New York, July 14—(By mail)—The following shows the relative fluctuation in merchandising activities as reflected in reports made to The Credit Clearing House. The transactions covered average over Ten Million Dollars a week. The one star (*) indicates greater activity, the two stars (**) indicate less activity.

Comparison of the week ending July 14, 1917.

	Purchases	Indebtedness	Payments
United States			
With week ending July 7, 1917	*0.5%	**0.5%	*1.2%
With same week last year	*0.5%	**2.0%	*2.0%
Pacific Coast Section			
With week ending July 7, 1917	**0.5%	*3.3%	**0.6%
With same week last year	**3.9%	*1.1%	**4.1%
Mountain Section			
With week ending July 7, 1917	*1.8%	*6.5%	*8.2%
With same week last year	*4.7%	*3.1%	*14.0%
North Agricultural Section			
With week ending July 7, 1917	**0.8%	**0.3%	*3.1%
With same week last year	**1.0%	**1.3%	*3.1%
Middle Agricultural Section			
With week ending July 7, 1917	*1.0%	*0.3%	*0.8%
With same week last year	*2.5%	**1.2%	*1.4%
South Agricultural Section			
With week ending July 7, 1917	0.0%	**1.3%	**2.6%
With same week last year	**0.4%	**2.2%	*3.0%
East Section			
With week ending July 7, 1917	**0.3%	**0.4%	*4.7%
With same week last year	*0.5%	**4.3%	*4.0%

* Increase. ** Decrease.

The United States, as a whole, shows improved activities both in comparison with last week and with the same week last year.

The best showing is made in the Middle Agricultural Section.

This week's general activities show greater confidence than for the past three weeks.

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