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# Public Closely Divided on Prohibiting Installment Buying; Largest Number Disapprove

**Survey Indicates Approximately 1 in 3 Now Buying on Installment; 70% Have Bought at One Time or Another**

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PRINCETON, N. J., Aug. 21. A report toward con-

production, it has been suggested that the government forbid anyone buying anything more on the installment plan until the war in Europe is over. Do you approve or disapprove of this suggestion?"

APPROVE . . . . . 43%  
 DISAPPROVE . . . . . 49  
 NO OPINION . . . . . 8

The Federal Reserve plan, according to the best information available, contemplates an increase in down-payments and a reduction of the "stretch-out" period hereafter.

happy about it. Today's survey found that approximately one-third of them would approve action to stop the purchase of anything more on the installment basis.

Among those who are not now buying anything on installment, nearly half (49 per cent) favor a complete curb.

The upper income groups buy fewer things on the installment

buying on the installment plan. The immediate objective is to curb purchases of such goods as autos, refrigerators, washing machines,



metals for defense. The long-range objective is to curb inflation.

**ONE-THIRD NOW BUYING ON INSTALLMENT**  
 The Institute study indicates

American adult population is now paying for something on the in-

following table indicates:

	For Prohibiting	Total
Upper	41	49
Lower Income Group	41	49

public's ultimate reaction will be to the program. But some light is shed on the country's attitude, a public opinion study just

many adopted is much more moderate in scope, and would almost certainly meet with more public approval than the drastic step of a complete curb on in-

thing on the installment plan?"

The results were:  
 YES . . . . . 36%  
 NO . . . . . 64

(An earlier poll taken some years

Lower Income Group . 41 49 10  
 Because the question of install-

the survey dealt with the question of a complete prohibition of installment purchases, which was one of the sug-

it is interesting to note that installment is fairly closely divided, as the following survey shows:

cent have at one time or another bought something on the installment plan

ions are put into effect, the Institute will continue to conduct surveys on the issue from time to time.