

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

H.8a

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 12, 1956WEEKLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago (Based on retail dollar amounts)					
	One week ending				Four weeks ending	Year 1955
	Jan. 7	Dec. 31	Dec. 24*	Dec. 17	Jan. 7	
Boston	-19	+ 4	+20	+ 3	+ 4	+ 3
New York	-14	r+11	+19	+ 2	+ 6	+ 2
Philadelphia	-12	+10	r+26	+10	+11	+ 7
Cleveland	-11	r+11	+23	+ 8	+10	+10
Richmond	- 8	r+ 7	+23	+ 7	+10	+ 6
Atlanta	- 4	+ 9	r+18	+ 9	+10	+ 9
Chicago	- 9	+18	+25	+ 8	+11	+ 8
St. Louis	- 8	+12	+29	+10	+13	+ 8
Minneapolis	- 8	r- 5	+17	+ 3	+ 4	+ 3
Kansas City	-10	r+15	+19	+ 5	+ 8	+ 8
Dallas	-12	r+11	+20	+ 3	+ 7	+ 9
San Francisco	-15	+ 9	+ 18	+ 2	+ 5	+ 6
U. S. Total	-11	r+10	+22	+ 6	+ 8	+ 7

U. S. weekly index, without seasonal adjustment, 1947-49-100 1/

<u>1955</u>		<u>1954</u>		<u>1953</u>	
Dec. 10	235	Dec. 11	224	Dec. 12	216
Dec. 17	255	Dec. 18	240	Dec. 19	234
Dec. 24	231	Dec. 25	190	Dec. 26	163
Dec. 31	r 88	1955 Jan. 1	80	1954 Jan. 2	81
<u>1956</u>					
Jan. 7	94	Jan. 8	106	Jan. 9	94

1/ For description and weekly indexes for the period January 1937 to March 1952 see Federal Reserve Bulletin for April 1952, pp. 359-362. Indexes for the period April 1952 to date may be found in subsequent issues of the Bulletin or may be obtained upon request from the Division of Research and Statistics.

Weekly indexes at the district and city levels are published by several of the Federal Reserve Banks.

*--The large increases shown for this week reflect in part the fact that this year Christmas fell on Sunday and the week therefore included six days of heavy pre-Christmas shopping as compared with five days last year when Christmas fell on Saturday.