

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

H.8a

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 10, 1956WEEKLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago (Based on retail dollar amounts) 1/					
	One week ending				Four weeks ending	Jan. 1 to
	May 5*	Apr. 28	Apr. 21	Apr. 14	May 5	May 5
Boston	-12	+5	+1	+14	+1	-1
New York	-5	r+2	+7	+20	+4	+1
Philadelphia	+5	r-3	0	+24	+6	+3
Cleveland	-6	-6	-2	+14	-1	+3
Richmond	-4	-3	-4	+11	-1	+1
Atlanta	-6	-2	-6	0	-4	+3
Chicago	-9	-3	-1	+5	-2	+2
St. Louis	-5	+2	-9	+9	-1	+3
Minneapolis	-11	+5	+2	+14	+1	+1
Kansas City	-11	r-6	-1	+3	-4	-1
Dallas	-7	-7	-3	+4	-4	+1
San Francisco	-9	r+1	+6	+7	+1	0
U. S. Total	-7	r-1	+1	+11	0	+2

U. S. weekly index, without seasonal adjustment, 1947-49=100 2/

1956		1955		1954	
Apr. 7	104	Apr. 9	122	Apr. 10	113
Apr. 14	114	Apr. 16	103	Apr. 17	113
Apr. 21	113	Apr. 23	112	Apr. 24	101
Apr. 28	1119	Apr. 30	120	May 1	112
May 5	125	May 7	134	May 8	123

r--revised.

1/ During April changes from a year ago reflect in part the fact that last year Easter was on April 10 while this year it was on April 1. For this reason it is estimated that in comparison with last year an allowance should be made for a decrease in sales of about 4 per cent for the month of April as a whole. This allowance applies to the figures for the United States.

2/ 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 obtained upon request from the Division of Research and Statistics.

\*--Comparisons are affected by the fact that Mother's Day is one week later this year than last.

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