

H.8a

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 16, 1957

WEEKLY 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 11 | May 4 | Apr. 27 | Apr. 20 | May 11 | May 11 |
| Boston | + 5 | - 2 | - 2 | +17 | + 5 | + 2 |
| New York | + 7 | + 6 | - 1 | +11 | + 5 | + 4 |
| Philadelphia | + 3 | + 6 | + 1 | +13 | + 6 | + 2 |
| Cleveland | - 2 | + 6 | +13 | +10 | + 7 | 0 |
| Richmond | + 5 | + 5 | +19 | +23 | +12 | + 5 |
| Atlanta | + 5 | r+ 2 | 0 | +20 | + 6 | + 1 |
| Chicago | + 7 | r+13 | + 2 | r+16 | + 9 | + 4 |
| St. Louis | - 4 | + 7 | + 6 | +10 | + 4 | 0 |
| Minneapolis | + 6 | r+12 | + 7 | +20 | +11 | + 3 |
| Kansas City | + 3 | r+ 8 | + 3 | + 8 | + 5 | 0 |
| Dallas | - 7 | - 3 | - 9 | +17 | - 1 | - 2 |
| San Francisco | + 1 | r- 2 | 0 | + 8 | + 2 | + 1 |
| U. S. Total | + 3 | r+ 6 | + 3 | r+14 | + 7 | + 2 |

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

| 1957 | | 1956 | | 1955 | |
|---------|------|---------|-----|---------|-----|
| Apr. 13 | 122 | Apr. 14 | 114 | Apr. 16 | 103 |
| Apr. 20 | r129 | Apr. 21 | 113 | Apr. 23 | 112 |
| Apr. 27 | 123 | Apr. 28 | 119 | Apr. 30 | 120 |
| May 4 | r132 | May 5 | 125 | May 7 | 134 |
| May 11 | 133 | May 12 | 129 | May 14 | 138 |

~~r- Revised.~~

1/ During April changes from a year ago reflect the fact that last year Easter was on April 1 while this year it was on April 21. For this reason it is estimated that in comparison with last year an allowance should be made for an increase in sales of about 8 per cent for the month of April as a whole. These allowances apply 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.

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