

F E D E R A L R E S E R V E B O A R D

STATEMENT FOR THE PRESS

For release in morning papers,
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Retail Trade in May, 1925

Retail trade in May, 1925, was in slightly larger volume than last year.

Sales at 523 retail stores which made preliminary reports to the Federal reserve banks from all sections of the country were 0.2 per cent larger than in May, 1924. Sales were smaller in all of the eastern Federal reserve districts except New York, but were generally larger in the western districts. The greatest increase was in the Minneapolis Federal reserve district and amounted to 6.4 per cent. Of the total number of firms reporting 216 showed a larger volume of business than last year and 306 reported declines.

Sales at mail order houses were about 9 per cent larger than last year and buying at five and ten cent chains was 8 per cent larger.

Percentage changes in dollar sales between May, 1924, and May, 1925, are shown in the following table:

Districts	:Number stores reporting			: Percentage of increase or decrease compared with May, 1924
	:Total	:Increase	:Decrease	
Boston	65	20	45	- 1.6
New York	62	18	44	1.3
Philadelphia	81	30	51	- 3.3
Cleveland	41	19	22	- 0.7
Richmond	55	26	29	- 1.3
Atlanta	31	18	13	- 0.7
Chicago	53	20	33	0.4
St. Louis	19	7	12	- 0.5
Minneapolis	14	8	6	6.4
Kansas City	26*	12	13	2.5
Dallas	10	6	4	3.0
San Francisco	<u>66</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>2.6</u>
United States	523	216	306	0.2
Mail order houses				9.4
Five and ten cent chains				7.8

*One store showed neither increase or decrease.