

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD,

STATEMENT FOR THE PRESS

Retail Trade in August, 1926.

Preliminary reports to the Federal reserve system from retail firms in all sections of the United States indicate that the volume of retail trade in August of this year was considerably larger than in August, 1925. Total sales of 507 department stores were 6.5 per cent larger than a year ago and sales of two mail order houses were 12 per cent larger. Department store sales were larger than a year ago in all Federal reserve districts except the Minneapolis and Kansas City districts, the largest increases, ranging from 9 to 15 per cent, being in the New York, Chicago, and Dallas Federal reserve districts. Of the reporting stores 304 had larger sales than last year and 203 had smaller sales.

Sales of five and ten cent variety chain stores (5 reporting chains) were about 5 per cent larger than in August a year ago.

Percentage changes in dollar sales between August, 1925 and 1926, are given in the following table:

	: Total number of stores reporting:		Percentage of increase or decrease compared with August, 1925	
	Total	Increase	Decrease	
Boston	62	35	27	+ 8.5
New York	55	43	12	+ 9.2
Philadelphia	74	38	36	+ 2.4
Cleveland	40	25	15	+ 3.5
Richmond	47	30	17	+ 7.8
Atlanta	33	22	11	+ 2.0
Chicago	47	29	18	+12.3
St. Louis	19	11	8	+ 3.7
Minneapolis	14	6	8	- 6.6
Kansas City	27	12	15	- 1.6
Dallas	15	12	3	+14.7
San Francisco	74	41	33	+ 4.6
Total	507	304	203	+ 6.5
Mail order houses (2 Houses)				+12.3
Five and ten cent stores (5 chains)				+ 4.8