

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

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RETAIL TRADE IN MARCH, 1929
Preliminary report

Total sales of department stores in March were six per cent larger, and average daily sales ten per cent larger, than in the corresponding month a year ago, according to preliminary reports made to the Federal reserve system by 489 stores. Increase in total sales was reported by 349 stores and decrease by 140 stores.

Increases in total sales were reported in all Federal reserve districts except the Minneapolis district; they were greatest in the Richmond, Chicago and New York districts.

Percentage changes in total dollar sales between March, 1928, and March, 1929, are given by districts in the following table:

Federal reserve district	: Percentage of increase or decrease in sales -- March, 1929 : compared with March, 1928	: Number of stores reporting--	: Increase	: Decrease
United States	+ 6.1	349		140
Boston	+ 5.6	54		27
New York	+ 8.7	39		8
Philadelphia	+ 5.8	34		11
Cleveland	+ 3.8	31		4
Richmond	+ 9.1	35		9
Atlanta	+ 1.9	16		11
Chicago	+ 9.0	30		23
St. Louis	+ 4.1	15		5
Minneapolis	- 7.6	8		8
Kansas City	+ 6.5	20		4
Dallas	+ 6.9	13		5
San Francisco	+ 3.8	54		25

Note:--The month had 26 business days this year, 27 last year.