

FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

R&S RTI - 57
September 9, 1929

RETAIL TRADE IN AUGUST, 1929
Preliminary report

Department store sales for August were 5 per cent larger than in the corresponding month a year ago, according to preliminary reports made to the Federal reserve system by 446 stores. Increases in total sales were reported by 288 stores and decreases by 158 stores.

The change in sales varied considerably for different parts of the country, ranging from an increase of 9 per cent in the Boston Federal reserve district to a decrease of 8 per cent in the Minneapolis district.

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

Federal reserve district	Percentage of increase or decrease in sales, August 1929, compared with August 1928.	Number of stores reporting--	
		Increase	Decrease
United States	+ 4.7	288	158
Boston	+ 9.1	66	14
New York	+ 5.2	36	12
Philadelphia	+ 5.6	26	12
Cleveland	+ 8.2	11	11
Richmond	+ 5.4	28	17
Atlanta	- 1.6	9	16
Chicago	+ 2.5	32	24
St. Louis	+ 5.2	12	7
Minneapolis	- 8.4	8	7
Kansas City	+ 1.1	8	11
Dallas	+ 6.3	15	5
San Francisco	+ 3.9	37	22

Note:- The month had the same number of business days (27) this year and last year.