

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

June 30, 1953.

G-7 DATA FILE
REFERENCE LIBRARY
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT STORE MERCHANDISING DATA -- MAY
(Selected series, based on retail value figures)

LIBRARY
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF CHICAGO

	Amount (In millions of dollars)				Percent change	
	1953		1952		May 1953	Year ago
	May	Apr.	May	Apr.		
Sales <u>1/</u>	p 388	373	r 386	376	+ 4	+ 1
Stocks <u>1/</u>	p 1,184	1,213	r 1,105	1,141	- 2	+ 7
Outstanding orders	p 321	324	r 275	295	- 1	+17
Receipts <u>2/</u>	p 359	417	r 350	393	-14	+ 3
New orders <u>2/</u>	p 356	340	r 330	326	+ 5	+ 8

Merchandising Ratios 3/

	1953		1952		1948-52 Average	
	May	Apr.	May	Apr.	May	Apr.
Stocks to Sales	p 3.1	3.3	2.9	3.0	2.9	3.1
Outstanding Orders to Sales	p 0.8	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9
Stocks plus Outstanding Orders to Sales	p 3.9	4.1	3.6	3.8	3.7	4.0
Receipts to Sales <u>2/</u>	p 0.9	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0

p--Preliminary.

r--Revised.

1/ Figures are based on the sample described in the note below and are presented here solely to permit comparisons with changes in orders and receipts. For monthly movements of total department store sales and stocks, refer to the regular monthly sales report G.7.2. and stocks report G.7.4.2, or the Federal Reserve Bulletin.

2/ Receipts of goods are derived from the reported figures on sales and stocks. New orders are derived from receipts and reported figures on outstanding orders.

3/ The first three ratios are of stocks and/or orders at the end of the month to sales during the month. The final ratio is based on totals of sales and receipts for the month.

Note:--These figures are not estimates for all department stores in the United States. They are the actual dollar amounts reported by a group of department stores located in various cities throughout the country. In 1952, sales by these stores accounted for about 50 per cent of estimated total department store sales. Back data may be obtained from the Board's Division of Research and Statistics. Figures for the most recent thirteen-month period are shown regularly in the Bulletin.