

G.7.4.1

February 1, 1954

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

LIBRARY

FEB 2 1954

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF CHICAGO

DATA FILE
REFERENCE LIBRARY
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
OF CHICAGO

	Amount (In millions of dollars)				Percent change from	
	1953		1952		Month ago	Year ago
	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.	Nov.		
Sales <u>1/</u>	p 728	477	r 738	466	+53	- 1
Stocks <u>1/</u>	p1,043	1,327	r1,022	r1,280	-21	+ 2
Outstanding orders	p 291	371	r 365	r 457	-22	-20
Receipts <u>2/</u>	p 444	507	r 480	r 509	-12	- 8
New Orders <u>2/</u>	p 364	416	r 388	r 389	-13	- 6

Merchandising Ratios 3/

	1953		1952		1948-52 Average	
	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.	Nov.	Dec.	Nov.
Stocks to Sales	p1.4	2.8	1.4	2.7	1.4	2.7
Outstanding Orders to Sales	p0.4	0.8	0.4	1.0	0.5	0.9
Stocks plus Outstanding Orders to Sales	p1.8	3.6	1.9	3.7	2.0	3.6
Receipts to Sales <u>2/</u>	p0.6	1.1	0.7	1.1	0.6	1.1

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. Figures for the most recent thirteen-month period are shown regularly in the Bulletin. For description and back data, January 1939 to August 1952, see Federal Reserve Bulletin for October 1952, pp. 1098-1102. Back data may be obtained from the Board's Division of Research and Statistics.