

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

T-762

G.7.4.1

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 28, 1954

**DATA FILE  
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FEDERAL RESERVE BANK  
OF CHICAGO**

DEPARTMENT STORE MERCHANDISING DATA

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UNITED STATES - MAY 1954

JUN 29 1954

Selected series, based on retail dollar **FEDERAL RESERVE**

	Amount (In millions of dollars)				Percent change May from	
	1954		1953		Month ago	Year ago
	May	Apr.	May	Apr.		
Sales <u>1/</u>	p 372	402	r 391	377	- 7	- 5
Stocks <u>1/</u>	pl,161	1,183	rl,190	1,219	- 2	- 2
Outstanding orders	p 246	279	r 320	326	-12	-23
Receipts <u>2/</u>	p 350	409	r 362	420	-14	- 3
New orders <u>2/</u>	p 317	345	r 356	344	- 8	-11

Merchandising Ratios 3/

	1954		1953		1949-53 Average	
	May	Apr.	May	Apr.	May	Apr.
Stocks to Sales	p3.1	2.9	r3.0	3.2	3.0	3.2
Outstanding Orders to Sales	p0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.8
Stocks plus Outstanding Orders to Sales	p3.8	3.6	3.9	4.1	3.7	4.0
Receipts to Sales <u>2/</u>	p0.9	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.9	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 1953, 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.