



FEDERAL RESERVE

statistical release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 7, 1963

DEPARTMENT STORE MERCHANDISING DATA UNITED STATES - MARCH 1963

(Selected series, based on retail dollar amounts)

DATA FILE LIBRARY FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF CHICAGO	Amount (In millions of dollars)				Per cent change March from	
	1963		1962		Month	year
	Mar.	Feb.	Mar.	Feb.	ago	ago
Sales <u>1/</u>	p 467	366	r 469	355	+28	0
Stocks <u>1/</u>	pl,616	1,508	rl,581	r 1,581	+ 7	+ 2
Outstanding Orders	p 507	555	r 497	528	- 9	+ 2
Receipts <u>2/</u>	p 575	408	r 595	r 404	+41	- 3
New Orders <u>2/</u>	p 527	465	r 564	r 452	+13	- 7

Merchandising Ratios 3/

	1963		1962		1958-62 average	
	Mar.	Feb.	Mar.	Feb.	Mar.	Feb.
Stocks to Sales	p 3.5	4.1	r 3.4	4.1	3.2	3.9
Outstanding Orders to Sales	p 1.1	1.5	1.1	1.5	1.0	1.4
Stocks plus Outstand- ing Orders to Sales	p 4.5	5.6	4.4	5.5	4.2	5.3
Receipts to Sales <u>2/</u>	p 1.2	1.1	r 1.3	1.1	1.2	1.2

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 1962 sales by these stores accounted for more than 40 per cent of the 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.