



FEDERAL RESERVE

statistical release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 4, 1963

DEPARTMENT STORE MERCHANDISING DATA UNITED STATES - APRIL 1963

(Selected series, based on retail dollar amounts)

	Amount (In millions of dollars)				Per cent change April from Month Year ago	
	1963		1962		1963	1962
	April	March	April	March		
Sales ^{1/}	p 512	467	r 499	469	+ 3	+ 3
Stocks ^{1/}	p1,653	1,616	1,589	1,581	+ 2	+ 4
Outstanding Orders	p 459	507	r 456	497	- 9	+ 1
Receipts ^{2/}	p 549	575	r 507	595	- 5	+ 8
New Orders ^{2/}	p 501	527	r 466	564	- 5	+ 8

Merchandising Ratios ^{3/}

	1963		1962		1958-62 average	
	April	March	April	March	April	March
Stocks to Sales	p3.3	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.2
Outstanding Orders to Sales	p0.9	1.1	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.0
Stocks plus Outstand- ing Orders to Sales	p4.1	4.5	4.1	4.4	4.1	4.2
Receipts to Sales ^{2/}	p1.1	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.1	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.