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BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 4, 1956

After allowance for the usual seasonal change, department store sales in September remained at the high level of July and August. The adjusted index for September is estimated at 128 per cent of the 1947-49 average.

Index of department store sales 1/ 1947-49=100	1956			1955
	Sept.	Aug.	July	Sept.
Adjusted for seasonal variation	e 128	128	128	121
Without seasonal adjustment	e 130	113	101	123

WEEKLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago (Based on retail dollar amounts)					
	One week ending				Four weeks ending	Jan. 1 to Sept. 29
	Sept. 29	Sept. 22	Sept. 15	Sept. 8	Sept. 29	
Boston	+ 6	+10	- 2	+ 3	+ 4	+ 3
New York	+11	+15	+ 5	- 3	+ 7	+ 5
Philadelphia	+ 5	+12	+ 3	r- 5	+ 4	+ 4
Cleveland	+ 6	r+10	+ 5	+ 6	+ 7	+ 5
Richmond	- 2	+ 9	+ 1	- 5	+ 1	+ 3
Atlanta	+14	r+10	+ 7	+ 5	+ 9	+ 7
Chicago	+ 3	r+11	+ 4	+ 7	+ 6	+ 4
St. Louis	- 1	+11	- 2	+14	+ 5	+ 5
Minneapolis	- 4	+ 5	+10	+ 5	+ 4	+ 5
Kansas City	- 2	- 3	+ 1	+ 9	+ 1	+ 2
Dallas	- 3	r- 3	+ 7	+15	+ 3	+ 4
San Francisco	- 6	- 3	+ 2	+ 2	- 1	+ 2
U. S. Total	+ 3	+ 8	+ 4	+ 4	+ 5	+ 4

U. S. weekly index, without seasonal adjustment, 1947-49=100 2/

1956	1955	1954
Sept. 1 128	Sept. 3 125	Sept. 4 113
Sept. 8 112	Sept. 10 108	Sept. 11 97
Sept. 15 130	Sept. 17 125	Sept. 18 120
Sept. 22 131	Sept. 24 121	Sept. 25 118
Sept. 29 130	Oct. 1 126	Oct. 2 110

e--Estimated. r--Revised.
1/ Monthly indexes refer to daily average sales in calendar month. September 1956 figures estimated from weekly sales. September this year had one less trading day than last.

2/ For description and weekly indexes for the period January 1937 to March 1952 see Federal Reserve Bulletin for April 1952, pp. 359-362. Indexes for the period April 1952 to date may be obtained upon request from the Division of Research and Statistics.

Weekly indexes at the district and city levels are published by several of the Federal Reserve Banks.