

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

H.8a

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Department store sales in January were a little below the December level, after allowance for the usual seasonal change. The adjusted index is estimated at 126 per cent of the 1947-49 average, compared with 129 for December and 124 for January a year ago.

Index of department store sales 1/ 1947-49=100	1957	1956		
	Jan.	Dec.	Nov.	Jan.
Adjusted for seasonal variation	e 126	129	131	124
Without seasonal adjustment	e 96	223	158	95

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 Feb. 2 2/
	Feb. 2	Jan. 26	Jan. 19	Jan. 12	Feb. 2	
Boston	- 9	- 1	- 4	- 3	- 4	- 3
New York	+ 3	r+ 7	- 1	+ 9	+ 5	+ 4
Philadelphia	- 3	- 3	+ 4	+ 4	0	+ 1
Cleveland	+ 5	r+ 1	- 3	+ 1	+ 1	0
Richmond	+17	r- 5	+ 1	+13	+ 6	+ 6
Atlanta	+ 9	r+ 8	+ 3	+ 5	+ 6	+ 5
Chicago	+ 4	+ 3	+ 3	- 3	+ 2	0
St. Louis	+ 3	r 0	+11	- 2	+ 3	+ 1
Minneapolis	0	+ 1	+ 7	+ 1	+ 2	+ 1
Kansas City	+10	- 3	+ 5	- 4	+ 2	+ 2
Dallas	+10	- 7	+ 7	0	+ 2	+ 2
San Francisco	0	r+ 9	+ 3	+ 2	+ 4	+ 3
U. S. Total	+ 4	+ 2	+ 2	+ 3	+ 3	+ 2

U. S. weekly index, without seasonal adjustment, 1947-49=100 3/

1957		1956		1955	
Jan. 5	93	Jan. 7	94	Jan. 8	106
Jan. 12	107	Jan. 14	104	Jan. 15	99
Jan. 19	100	Jan. 21	98	Jan. 22	95
Jan. 26	96	Jan. 28	94	Jan. 29	87
Feb. 2	94	Feb. 4	90	Feb. 5	86

r--Revised.

e--Estimated.

1/ Monthly indexes refer to daily average sales in calendar month. January 1957 figures estimated from weekly sales. January this year had one more trading day than last.

2/ Comparison period begins with December 31-January 5 week in 1957 and with the January 2-7 week in 1956.

3/ 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.