

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 9, 1958.

NOTICE

The monthly indexes of department store sales for each Federal Reserve District and the United States have been revised for the period 1949 to date. (A few of the Banks have revised their indexes for a longer-time period.) For a description of the principal features of the revision and indexes for back years, see the Federal Reserve Bulletin for December 1957, pp. 1323-1352.

As soon as practicable the weekly sales index will also be revised, thereby permitting direct comparison with the revised monthly sales index.

Department store sales increased in December, after allowance for the usual seasonal change. The seasonally adjusted index is estimated at 139 per cent of the 1947-49 average, compared with 134 for November. Total dollar sales in 1957 were one per cent greater than in the previous year.

Index of department store sales 1/ 1947-49=100	1957			1956
	Dec.	Nov.	Oct.	Dec.
Adjusted for seasonal variation	e139	134	129	137
Without seasonal adjustment	e243	163	134	240

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. 4	Year 1957
	Jan. 4	Dec. 28*	Dec. 21	Dec. 14		
Boston	+ 3	+35	+ 2	+ 7	+ 9	- 1
New York	+ 4	r+37	+12	+ 4	+11	+ 2
Philadelphia	- 2	r+31	+ 8	+10	+11	+ 1
Cleveland	+ 5	r+31	+ 7	+ 5	+ 9	- 1
Richmond	+ 1	r+35	+ 6	+ 8	+10	+ 2
Atlanta	+ 4	r+30	c+ 3	+ 6	+ 8	+ 2
Chicago	- 1	r+31	+ 1	0	+ 5	+ 1
St. Louis	0	r+29	0	- 1	+ 4	- 1
Minneapolis	- 1	+33	r+ 3	+ 3	+ 7	+ 2
Kansas City	0	+26	- 2	- 1	+ 3	0
Dallas	+ 2	+29	- 3	- 4	+ 2	+ 2
San Francisco	+ 3	+34	- 2	- 4	+ 3	0
U. S. Total	+ 2	r+32	+ 3	+ 2	+ 7	+ 1

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

1957		1956		1955	
Dec. 7	215	Dec. 8	226	Dec. 10	235
Dec. 14	266	Dec. 15	260	Dec. 17	255
Dec. 21	274	Dec. 22	265	Dec. 24	231
Dec. 28	r148	Dec. 29	112	Dec. 31	88
1958		1957		1956	
Jan. 4	95	Jan. 5	93	Jan. 7	94

r--Revised. e--Estimated. c--Corrected.

1/ Monthly indexes refer to daily average sales in calendar month. December 1957 figures estimated from weekly sales.

* This year there were two shopping days before Christmas while last year there was one.

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