

May 8, 1958.

Department store sales increased further in April, after allowance for the usual seasonal change. The adjusted index is estimated at 134 per cent of the 1947-49 average, compared with 131 for March and 131 for April last year.

Index of department store sales 1/ 1947-49=100	1958			1957
	Apr.	Mar.	Feb.	Apr.
Adjusted for seasonal variation	e134	131	124	131
Without seasonal adjustment	e126	116	95	131

WEEKLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago (Based on retail dollar amounts) ^{2/}					
	One week ending				Four weeks ending May 3	Jan. 1 to May 3
	May 3	Apr. 26	Apr. 19	Apr. 12		
Boston	- 6	+ 5	-14	-25	-10	- 3
New York	- 7	+ 8	- 8	-19	- 7	+ 1
Philadelphia	- 6	+12	- 2	-26	- 6	- 3
Cleveland	-10	- 5	-10	-21	-11	- 5
Richmond	-10	r- 7	-12	-18	-12	- 5
Atlanta	- 1	r+ 9	-14	-14	- 5	- 3
Chicago	-14	0	-12	-17	-11	- 6
St. Louis	-15	- 5	- 6	-16	-11	- 5
Minneapolis	-10	- 2	-16	-11	-10	- 2
Kansas City	- 4	+ 1	- 9	-10	- 5	- 1
Dallas	- 5	+ 9	-15	-10	- 6	- 3
San Francisco	- 4	r+ 8	- 5	- 6	- 1	- 2
U. S. total	- 8	+ 4	- 9	-16	- 7	- 3

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

1958		1957		1956	
Apr. 5	134	Apr. 6	121	Apr. 7	113
Apr. 12	110	Apr. 13	131	Apr. 14	124
Apr. 19	125	Apr. 20	138	Apr. 21	123
Apr. 26	136	Apr. 27	131	Apr. 28	129
May 3	132	May 4	143	May 5	136

r--Revised.

e--Estimated.

1/ Monthly indexes refer to daily average sales in calendar month. April 1958 figures estimated from weekly sales.

2/ During April changes from a year ago reflect in part the fact that last year Easter was on April 21 while this year it was on April 6. For this reason it is estimated that in comparison with last year an allowance should be made for a decrease in sales of about 6 per cent for the month of April as a whole. These allowances apply to the figures for the United States.

3/ For description and weekly indexes for the period January 1937 to March 1958 see Federal Reserve Bulletin for April 1958, pp. 412-421.

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