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BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

H.8a

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 23, 1959.

WEEKLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago (Based on retail dollar amounts) ^{1/}					
	One week ending				Four weeks ending April 18	Jan. 1 to April 18
	Apr. 18	Apr. 11	Apr. 4	Mar. 28		
Boston	- 3	+25	-18	+ 8	+ 1	+ 5
New York	+ 8	+18	-18	+ 3	+ 2	+ 4
Philadelphia	- 2	r+32	-22	+ 4	+ 1	+ 8
Cleveland	+13	r+23	-15	+16	+ 8	+ 6
Richmond	- 6	+15	-18	+15	0	+ 8
Atlanta	+ 7	r+18	-12	+22	+ 8	+ 8
Chicago	+ 8	+14	- 5	+16	+ 8	+ 8
St. Louis	+ 6	+13	-12	+20	+ 6	+ 9
Minneapolis	+ 8	+ 5	-17	+12	+ 2	+ 5
Kansas City	+ 5	r+11	- 9	+17	+ 5	+10
Dallas	+ 7	+17	-11	+24	+ 8	+ 9
San Francisco	+ 4	+13	- 8	+26	+ 8	+12
U. S. Total	+ 6	+18	-13	+16	+ 6	+ 8

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

1959		1958		1957	
Mar. 21	137	Mar. 22	117	Mar. 23	121
Mar. 28	141	Mar. 29	122	Mar. 30	120
Apr. 4	117	Apr. 5	134	Apr. 6	121
Apr. 11	130	Apr. 12	110	Apr. 13	131
Apr. 18	132	Apr. 19	125	Apr. 20	138

r--Revised.

^{1/} During March and April changes from a year ago reflect in part the fact that last year Easter was on April 6 while this year it was on March 29. For this reason it is estimated that in comparison with last year an allowance should be made for an increase in sales of about 2 per cent for the month of March as a whole and a corresponding decrease for the month of April. These allowances apply to the figures for the United States.

^{2/} 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.