BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 6. 1959.

Department store sales in July increased 2 per cent from June and were 5 per cent above July 1958, after seasonal adjustment. The July index is estimated at 147 per cent of the 1947-49 average, equalling the previous high established in August of last year.

	1959			<u> 1958</u>
Index of department store sales $1/1947-49 = 100$	July	June	May	July
Adjusted for seasonal variation	e147	144	144	140
Without seasonal adjustment	el19	136	141	112

WEEKLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES

Federal Reserve	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago (Based on retail dollar amounts)					
District	One week ending			Four weeks ending	Jan. 1	
	aug. 1 July	25 July 18	Julyll		Aug. 1	
Boston New York Philadelphia Cleveland	+ 4 - + 2 r+ + 5 + + 7 +	3 + 2	+ 2 + 1 + 6 + 9	+ 2 + 4 + 4 + 7	+ 5 + 4 + 7 + 8	
Richmond Atlanta Chicago St. Louis	+ 1 + + 4 + + 7 + + 4 +	3 + 3 9 + 9	+ 1 +15 +11 +13	+ 2 + 6 + 9 + 6	+ 7 + 7 +10 + 8	
Minneapolis Kansas City Dallas San Francisco	+ 6 r+ + 4 r- + 8 + 9 +	1 + 5	+ 3 +10 +14 +11	+ 4 + 5 + 7 +11	+ 6 + 9 + 8 +11	
U. S. Total	+6 +	5 + 7	+ 9	+ 7	+ 8	

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

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1959		1958		1957	
July 4	109	July 5	102	July 6	101
July 11	126	July 12	116	July 13	111
July 18	118	July 19	110	July 20	108
July 25	117	July 26	111	July 27	108
Aug. 1	121	Aug. 2	114	Aug. 3	111

r -- Revised.

- 1/ Monthly indexes refer to daily average sales in calendar month. July figures estimated from weekly sales.
- 2/ For description and weekly indexes for the period January 1937 to March 1958 see Federal Reserve <u>Bulletin</u> for April 1958, pp. 412-421.
- Weekly indexes at the district and city levels are published by several of the Federal Reserve Banks.

e--Estimated.