BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 19, 1960.

MEERLY DEPARTMENT STORE-SALES

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Federal Reserve	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago (Based on retail dollar amounts) 1/						
District	One week ending	Four weeks ending	Jan 1 to May 14				
Boston New York	Hay 14 May 7 Apr. 30 Apr. 23 -2 +6 +2 -1 +1 r+9 +18 +9	May 14 + 1 + 9	+ 3 + 6 + 3				
Philadelphia Cleveland Richmond	$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & +12 & +1 \\ -1 & -1 & +11 & +10 \\ -9 & r-9 & +10 & +4 \end{bmatrix}$	+ 3 + 4	+ 4				
Atlanta Chicago St. Louis	+ 3 r+ 1 + 9 - 1 - 3 - 4 + 7 + 4 - 6 - 7 + 6 + 8	+ 3 + 1 0	+ 1 + 3 - 1				
Finneapolis Kansas City Dallas San Francisco	-1 -3 +8 +12 -4 -5 -5 -3 -7 -10 -7 -5 -1 0 +1 0	+ 4 - 4 - 7 0	+ 4 - 3 - 1 + 1				
U. S. Total	-2 -1 +7 +4	+ 2	+ 3				

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

1960			1959		1958	
apr.	16	156	Apr. 18	132	Apr. 19	125
Apr.	23	146	Apr. 25	141	Apr. 26	136
Apr.	30	151	liay 2	141	May 3	132
May	7	156	May 9	158	May 10	138
May	14	134	May 16	137	May 17	126

r -- Revised.

^{1/} During April changes from a year ago reflect in part the fact that last year Easter was on March 29 while this year it was on April 17. For this reason it is estimated that in comparison with last year an allowance should be made for an increase in sales of about 8 per cent for the month of April as a whole. These figures 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 <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.