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BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 12, 1961.

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	Year 1960 over
	Jan. 7*	Dec. 31	Dec. 24**	Dec. 17	Jan. 7	Year 1959
Boston	-11	0	+39	-14	+4	+2
New York	-12	0	+44	-12	+6	+4
Philadelphia	-10	-7	+40	-19	+1	0
Cleveland	-11	+5	+22	-2	+4	+1
Richmond	-9	r-1	+34	-12	+4	-1
Atlanta	+3	r+2	+25	+2	+10	+1
Chicago	-15	+9	+28	0	+7	+1
St. Louis	-9	-4	+18	+4	+5	-1
Minneapolis	-13	+6	+28	+2	+8	r+3
Kansas City	-3	r+17	+25	+6	+12	+1
Dallas	-11	+2	+24	-1	+6	-3
San Francisco	-16	r+3	+22	-5	+4	0
U. S. Total	-11	+4	+30	-4	+6	+1

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

1960	1959	1958
Dec. 10 296	Dec. 12 298	Dec. 13 293
Dec. 17 305	Dec. 19 318	Dec. 20 304
Dec. 24 319	Dec. 26 246	Dec. 27 205
Dec. 31 117	1960 Jan. 2 112	1959 Jan. 3 104
1961 Jan. 7 118	Jan. 9 132	Jan. 10 121

*--New Year's Day this year occurred in the week ending January 7 whereas last year it was in the week ending January 2, 1960. The week of January 7, 1961, therefore, had one less trading day than the corresponding week last year.

**--The large percentage changes shown for this week are due mainly to the difference in timing of Christmas 1959 and 1960. Christmas in 1959 fell on Friday whereas in 1960 it was on Sunday. Therefore, the week ending Dec. 24, 1960 had the advantage since it included 6 pre-Christmas shopping days, while the 1959 week ending Dec. 26 contained 4 pre-Christmas shopping days, 1 holiday and 1 post-Christmas shopping day.

Note:--Cumulative year-to-date comparisons for 1961 over 1960 will be published effective the week ending February 4, 1961.