

1077

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 2, 1961.

Seasonally adjusted department store sales increased 4 per cent in February from the January level. The February index is estimated at 147 per cent of the 1947-49 average compared with 142 in January and also in February 1960.

| Index of department store sales 1/ 1947-49 = 100 | 1961 | | 1960 | |
|---|----------|---------|----------|----------|
| | February | January | December | February |
| Adjusted for seasonal variation | e147 | e142 | 147 | 142 |
| Without seasonal adjustment | e110 | e108 | 262 | 106 |

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 | Jan. 1 to |
| | Feb. 25 | Feb. 18 | Feb. 11 | Feb. 4 | Feb. 25 | Feb. 25 2/ |
| Boston | +15 | +10 | + 7 | -15 | + 4 | + 1 |
| New York | +18 | r+23 | -11 | -16 | + 2 | - 2 |
| Philadelphia | +11 | r+21 | -14 | -18 | 0 | - 6 |
| Cleveland | + 6 | + 8 | - 2 | -12 | 0 | - 3 |
| Richmond | +12 | +11 | - 4 | -12 | + 3 | - 4 |
| Atlanta | +14 | r- 7 | + 5 | + 6 | + 4 | - 2 |
| Chicago | + 9 | - 1 | + 3 | - 6 | + 1 | - 1 |
| St. Louis | +10 | + 7 | - 9 | - 8 | 0 | - 3 |
| Minneapolis | +11 | r+ 1 | + 1 | - 3 | + 2 | - 2 |
| Kansas City | +24 | + 6 | - 5 | +12 | + 8 | + 6 |
| Dallas | + 8 | + 2 | - 2 | + 6 | + 4 | - 1 |
| San Francisco | + 2 | r+ 4 | - 8 | + 9 | + 1 | - 1 |
| U. S. Total | +11 | + 7 | - 3 | - 5 | + 2 | - 1 |

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

| 1961 | | 1960 | | 1959 | |
|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|
| Jan. 28 | 103 | Jan. 30 | 111 | Jan. 31 | 106 |
| Feb. 4 | 106 | Feb. 6 | 111 | Feb. 7 | 108 |
| Feb. 11 | 111 | Feb. 13 | 115 | Feb. 14 | 111 |
| Feb. 18 | 115 | Feb. 20 | 107 | Feb. 21 | 109 |
| Feb. 25 | 122 | Feb. 27 | 110 | Feb. 28 | 118 |

r--Revised.

e--Estimated.

1/ Monthly indexes refer to daily average sales in calendar month. February figures estimated from weekly sales. February this year had one less trading day than last.

2/ Comparison period begins with January 2-7 week in 1961 and with January 4-9 week in 1960.

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.