

H.8a

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 1961.

WEEKLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago (Based on retail dollar amounts) <sup>1/</sup>					
	One week ending				Four weeks ending	Jan. 1 to
	Apr. 15	Apr. 8	Apr. 1	Mar. 25	Apr. 15	Apr. 15
Boston	-23	-16	+18	+12	- 4	+ 3
New York	-20	r-18	+ 6	+12	- 6	0
Philadelphia	-26	-21	- 4	+ 7	-12	- 3
Cleveland	-18	r-23	- 5	+ 8	-10	- 2
Richmond	-24	-21	+ 3	+ 6	-10	- 1
Atlanta	-23	-12	+ 8	+ 9	- 4	0
Chicago	-15	-16	+ 2	+ 5	- 6	- 2
St. Louis	-24	-21	- 2	- 2	-13	- 1
Minneapolis	-12	r-12	+14	+13	0	0
Kansas City	-13	-15	+10	0	- 5	+ 5
Dallas	-12	-18	+ 7	- 2	- 6	- 1
San Francisco	- 9	r- 8	+14	+ 2	0	0
U. S. Total	-17	-16	+ 6	+ 7	- 6	0

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

<u>1961</u>		<u>1960</u>		<u>1959</u>	
Mar. 18	140	Mar. 19	129	Mar. 21	137
Mar. 25	140	Mar. 26	131	Mar. 28	141
Apr. 1	151	Apr. 2	143	Apr. 4	117
Apr. 8	128	Apr. 9	153	Apr. 11	130
Apr. 15	130	Apr. 16	156	Apr. 18	132

r--Revised.

<sup>1/</sup> During March and April changes from a year ago reflect in part the fact that last year Easter was on April 17 while this year it was on April 2. 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 March as a whole and a corresponding decrease for the month of April. These allowances apply to the figures for the United States.

<sup>2/</sup> 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.