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BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM
 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 May 11, 1961.

NOTE:--The decline shown for the week ending May 6 is partly due to a difference in timing of Mother's Day. In 1960, Mother's Day occurred on May 8, while this year it will be on May 14.

WEEKLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago (based on retail dollar amounts) ^{1/}					
	One week ending				Four weeks ending	Jan. 1 to
	May 6	Apr. 29	Apr. 22	Apr. 15	May 6	May 6
Boston	-12	+6	+4	-23	-7	+2
New York	-9	+5	0	-19	-6	0
Philadelphia	-15	r-9	+7	-26	-11	-4
Cleveland	-13	r-10	-10	-19	-13	-4
Richmond	-11	-7	-4	-24	-12	-2
Atlanta	-9	r-5	0	r-19	-8	0
Chicago	-10	-7	-7	-15	-10	-3
St. Louis	-12	-8	-4	-24	-12	-2
Minneapolis	-1	r-2	-5	-13	-6	-1
Kansas City	-11	+3	+8	-13	-3	+4
Dallas	-11	-3	+1	-13	-6	-1
San Francisco	-11	-3	-1	-8	-5	-1
U. S. Total	-10	-3	-1	-17	-8	-1

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

1961	1960	1959
Apr. 8 128	Apr. 9 153	Apr. 11 130
Apr. 15 130	Apr. 16 156	Apr. 18 132
Apr. 22 144	Apr. 23 146	Apr. 25 141
Apr. 29 146	Apr. 30 151	May 2 141
May 6 140	May 7 156	May 9 158

r--Revised.

^{1/} During 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 a decrease in sales of about 8 per cent for the month of April as a whole. This allowance applies to the figures for the United States.

^{2/} 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.