



FEDERAL RESERVE

statistical release

H.8a

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 7, 1961.

Department store sales in August remained near the advanced July level, after seasonal adjustment. The index for August is estimated at 150 per cent of the 1947-49 average, compared with 151 for July and 144 for August 1960.

Index of department store sales 1/ 1947-49 = 100	1961			1960
	August	July	June	August
Adjusted for seasonal variation	e150	151	149	144
Without seasonal adjustment	e137	126	141	132

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	Sept. 2
	Sept. 2	Aug. 26	Aug. 19	Aug. 12	Sept. 2	Sept. 2	
Boston	+ 3	+18	+ 4	- 5	+ 5		+ 5
New York	+ 3	+ 5	+ 2	- 3	+ 2		+ 2
Philadelphia	+ 1	r+ 4	+ 3	- 2	+ 1		0
Cleveland	+ 4	r+ 2	+ 3	- 1	+ 2		- 1
Richmond	+ 2	+ 2	+ 4	r 0	+ 2		+ 2
Atlanta	+ 5	+ 2	+ 1	- 1	+ 2		0
Chicago	+ 2	+ 8	+ 2	- 3	+ 3		0
St. Louis	+ 2	+ 2	- 3	- 5	- 1		- 1
Minneapolis	+ 1	+ 3	- 2	+ 1	+ 1		+ 1
Kansas City	+ 4	+12	- 1	+ 2	+ 4		+ 4
Dallas	+16	+12	+ 3	+ 2	+ 8		0
San Francisco	+ 2	r- 1	0	+ 3	+ 1		+ 1
U. S. Total	+ 4	+ 6	+ 2	0	+ 3		+ 1

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

1961		1960		1959	
Aug. 5	132	Aug. 6	128	Aug. 8	131
Aug. 12	131	Aug. 13	131	Aug. 15	132
Aug. 19	142	Aug. 20	139	Aug. 22	132
Aug. 26	152	Aug. 27	144	Aug. 29	139
Sept. 2	153	Sept. 3	147	Sept. 5	148

r--Revised.

e--Estimated.

1/ Monthly indexes refer to daily average sales in calendar month. August figures estimated from weekly sales.

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.