



FEDERAL RESERVE

statistical release

H.8a MAY 6 1963

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
OF ST. LOUIS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 2, 1963

1538

Department store sales in April declined from March after allowance for the usual seasonal variation and the special Easter influence. The April index is estimated at 116 per cent of the 1957-59 average compared with 119 in March and 113 in April 1962.

	1963			1962
Monthly sales index 1957-59=100	Apr.	Mar.	Feb.	Apr.
Adjusted for seasonal variation	e116	e119	114	113
Without seasonal adjustment	e114	e101	85	112

WEEKLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES

Federal Reserve District	Percentage change from corresponding periods a year ago (Based on retail dollar amounts)					
	One week ending				Four weeks ending	Jan. 1 to
	Apr. 27	Apr. 20	Apr. 13	Apr. 6	Apr. 27	Apr. 27
Boston	+ 1	+17	+ 9	+ 9	0	+ 3
New York	+ 5	-16	+ 6	+ 6	0	+ 1
Philadelphia	- 4	r-25	0	+ 3	- 7	- 2
Cleveland	- 2	-15	r+ 3	+ 6	- 2	- 1
Richmond	- 1	r-20	+13	+13	+ 1	+ 4
Atlanta	+23	r- 9	+15	+20	+11	+10
Chicago	+ 4	r- 7	+11	+ 5	+ 3	+ 4
St. Louis	+ 1	r- 8	+12	+13	+ 4	+ 4
Minneapolis	-10	r-11	r+22	r+ 4	0	+ 3
Kansas City	+ 2	r-10	+16	+12	+ 5	+ 5
Dallas	+14	- 9	+24	+17	+11	+ 5
San Francisco	- 3	- 7	+11	- 1	0	+ 4
U.S. Total	+ 3	-12	+11	+ 7	+ 2	+ 3
*"Adjusted" U.S.	- 3	+ 7	+ 7	+ 4	+ 4	+ 4

U.S. weekly sales index, without seasonal adjustment, 1957-59=100 1/

1963 Mar. 30	113	1962 Mar. 31	106	1961 Apr. 1	109
Apr. 6	120	Apr. 7	112	Apr. 8	92
Apr. 13	121	Apr. 14	109	Apr. 15	94
Apr. 20	104	Apr. 21	118	Apr. 22	104
Apr. 27	113	Apr. 28	110	Apr. 29	105

r-- Revised e--Estimated

* Interpretation of the weekly percentage changes during the Easter season is affected by the shifting date of the holiday (this year, April 14, last year, April 22). Adjustment factors have been developed for this calendar irregularity and will be applied for 7 weekly periods, from the March 23 week through the May 4 week. For the week ending April 27, the factor is +6; this yields an "adjusted" year-to-year change for the United States of -3 per cent. Four-week and year-to-date cumulatives are also shown on an adjusted basis.