

G.7.3

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 11, 1958.

## MONTHLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS, BY DEPARTMENTS

UNITED STATES - OCTOBER 1958  
(Based on retail dollar amounts)

## Summary by Selected Department Groups

Main Store								Basement store total
Main store total	Women's apparel and accessories	Men's and boys' wear	Home furnishings	Piece goods and household textiles	Small wares	Miscellaneous		

## SALES INDEXES (Unadjusted, 1947-49 average monthly sales = 100)

Aug. 1956	98	100	82	109	105	92	84	98
Sept. 1956	108	118	99	109	85	100	85	109
Oct. 1956	118	122	114	126	93	113	102	117
June 1957	99	92	121	108	72	100	105	102
July 1957	86	78	77	104	81	84	91	79
Aug. 1957	102	105	87	110	106	95	92	101
Sept. 1957	106	115	93	111	83	103	85	104
Oct. 1957	115	120	115	120	89	113	102	113
June 1958	97	90	114	103	72	103	105	96
July 1958	87	79	80	104	84	87	95	79
Aug. 1958	100	100	87	108	105	94	92	97
Sept. 1958	110	118	95	115	84	108	89	106
Oct. 1958	120	125	117	127	90	117	106	115

## STOCKS INDEXES (Unadjusted, 1947-49 average of end-of-month stocks = 100)

Aug. 1956	126	138	135	117	108	119	119	110
Sept. 1956	135	147	152	122	113	126	136	120
Oct. 1956	150	162	172	131	121	147	178	133
June 1957	128	127	137	129	112	129	122	110
July 1957	126	132	128	123	115	124	121	107
Aug. 1957	131	145	141	120	110	124	124	111
Sept. 1957	142	158	162	125	118	132	148	125
Oct. 1957	156	168	178	135	123	154	189	133
June 1958	126	125	133	127	108	130	124	108
July 1958	123	129	125	119	110	124	123	105
Aug. 1958	128	142	136	116	106	124	125	110
Sept. 1958	141	157	158	123	115	134	147	124
Oct. 1958	154	167	173	132	121	156	189	134

## RATIO OF STOCKS TO SALES

Oct. 1956	3.5	2.9	4.9	3.5	4.0	4.1	4.5	2.4
Oct. 1957	3.7	3.0	4.9	3.8	4.2	4.3	4.6	2.5
Oct. 1958	3.5	2.8	4.7	3.5	4.0	4.2	4.5	2.4

Figures for departments within groups given on following pages.

## MONTHLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS, BY DEPARTMENTS

UNITED STATES - OCTOBER

Department	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago			Ratio of stocks to sales 1/		Unadjusted indexes (1947-49 av.=100%)	
	Sales during period		Stocks (end of month)	October		October	
	Oct.	Jan.-Oct.	October	1958	1957	Sales	Stocks
<b>GRAND TOTAL-entire store</b>	+ 4	- 1	- 1	3.3	3.4	--	--
<b>MAIN STORE TOTAL</b>	+ 4	- 1	- 1	3.5	3.7	120	154
<b>PIECE GOODS, HOUSEHOLD TEXTILES</b>	+ 1	- 1	- 2	4.0	4.1	90	121
Piece goods	+ 1	- 3	- 5	3.3	3.6	73	87
Silks, velvets, synthetics	0	- 2	- 5	3.4	3.6	63	82
Woolen yard goods	0	- 2	- 5	2.1	2.2	119	92
Cotton yard goods	- 3	- 3	- 6	4.4	4.6	58	100
Household textiles	+ 1	- 1	- 1	4.3	4.3	101	137
Linen and towels	+ 5	- 2	- 1	4.9	5.2	93	129
Domestics--muslins, sheetings	0	0	+ 1	4.4	4.3	86	153
Blankets, comforters, spreads	0	- 1	- 2	3.4	3.5	135	143
<b>SMALL WARES</b>	+ 4	+ 2	+ 2	4.2	4.3	117	156
Laces, trimmings, embroideries, and ribbons	- 2	- 7	- 1	5.0	5.0	83	130
Notions	0	0	+ 1	4.1	4.0	108	161
Toilet articles, drug sundries	+ 5	+ 4	+ 1	3.9	4.0	125	145
Silverware and jewelry	+ 5	+ 2	0	4.8	5.1	111	159
Silverware and clocks	- 2	- 2	- 5	6.6	6.8	92	162
Costume jewelry	+ 6	+ 6	+ 1	3.1	3.2	131	161
Fine jewelry and watches	+17	+ 3	+10	8.5	9.1	114	174
Art needlework	+ 3	+ 2	- 1	3.8	3.9	114	122
Books and stationery	+ 4	+ 3	+ 5	4.0	3.9	133	191
Books and magazines	+ 4	+ 1	+ 5	3.2	3.2	125	152
Stationery	+ 4	+ 3	+ 6	4.3	4.2	134	202
<b>WOMEN'S APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES</b>	+ 4	- 1	0	2.8	3.0	125	167
Women's accessories	+ 5	- 1	0	3.4	3.6	120	167
Neckwear and scarfs	- 2	- 7	- 9	2.7	2.9	135	197
Handkerchiefs	- 6	- 7	- 8	4.8	4.9	53	86
Millinery	+ 4	- 3	- 5	0.9	1.0	131	115
Women's and children's gloves	+ 3	- 2	0	4.4	4.5	118	147
Corsets and brassieres	+ 6	+ 2	+ 2	3.2	3.3	150	183
Women's, children's hosiery	+ 9	+ 1	+ 3	2.8	3.0	94	152
Underwear, slips, and negligees	+ 2	- 5	- 2	4.0	4.2	87	157
Knit underwear	+ 3	- 3	- 4	4.0	4.2	115	204
Silk & muslin underwear, slips	+ 4	- 6	- 1	4.1	4.3	71	132
Negligees, robes, loung. apparel	+ 1	- 4	+ 1	3.5	3.5	90	158
Infants' wear	+ 3	- 2	+ 2	3.0	3.0	142	174
Handbags, small leather goods	+ 7	+ 1	0	2.6	2.7	136	175
Women's and children's shoes	+ 7	+ 2	+ 1	4.7	5.0	140	182
Children's shoes	+ 4	+ 1	- 1	5.4	5.6	105	186
Women's shoes	+ 7	+ 2	+ 2	4.6	4.8	149	181

## MONTHLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS, BY DEPARTMENTS (Continued)

UNITED STATES - OCTOBER

Department	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago			Ratio of stocks to sales 1/		Unadjusted indexes (1947-49 av.=100)	
	Sales during period		Stocks (end of month)	October		October	
	Oct.	Jan.-Oct.	October	1958	1957	Sales	Stocks
<b>WOMEN'S APPAREL, ACCESSORIES (Cont.)</b>							
Women's apparel	+ 4	- 2	- 1	2.3	2.4	130	167
Women's, misses' coats & suits	- 1	- 3	+ 5	2.1	2.0	120	157
Women's, misses' coats	- 3	- 1	+10	2.1	1.9	129	178
Women's, misses' suits	+ 6	- 7	- 8	1.9	2.2	85	92
Juniors' and girls' wear	+ 5	- 2	+ 2	2.4	2.5	139	199
Juniors' coats, suits, dresses	+ 2	- 5	+ 1	2.0	2.0	117	169
Girls' wear	+ 7	+ 1	+ 2	2.8	2.9	166	224
Women's and misses' dresses	+ 5	- 3	- 3	1.9	2.1	113	146
Inexpensive dresses	+ 7	- 2	0	1.5	1.6	115	148
Better dresses	+ 2	- 4	- 4	2.4	2.5	112	147
Blouses, skirts, sportswear	+ 4	- 2	- 6	2.5	2.7	156	198
Aprons, housedresses, uniforms	+10	0	- 2	2.2	2.5	98	120
Furs	+15	+ 7	+ 4	3.2	3.6	160	137
<b>MEN'S AND BOYS' WEAR</b>	+ 2	- 1	- 3	4.7	4.9	117	173
Men's clothing	+ 2	- 2	- 3	4.8	5.1	131	182
Men's furnishings and hats	+ 2	- 1	- 4	4.6	4.9	103	167
Boys' wear	+ 1	0	+ 1	4.3	4.3	127	169
Men's & boys' shoes, slippers	+ 3	+ 2	- 2	5.9	6.2	131	177
<b>HOMEFURNISHINGS</b>	+ 6	- 1	- 2	3.5	3.7	127	132
Furniture and bedding	+ 6	- 3	- 5	3.1	3.5	143	125
Mattresses, springs, studio beds	0	- 2	- 2	1.7	1.8	149	142
Upholstered, other furniture	+ 8	- 3	- 5	3.5	4.0	139	120
Domestic floor coverings	+ 6	0	- 7	2.9	3.3	130	108
Rugs and carpets	+ 5	- 1	- 7	2.9	3.3	131	111
Linoleum	+13	- 4	- 7	3.5	4.2	74	69
Draperies, curtains, upholstery	+ 1	- 3	- 1	3.5	3.6	133	131
Lamps and shades	+ 5	- 1	0	3.3	3.5	119	134
China and glassware	+ 5	- 3	- 2	6.9	7.3	117	146
Major household appliances	+ 5	- 3	- 2	2.1	2.3	86	91
Housewares (incl. small appliances)	+ 8	+ 3	- 1	3.9	4.2	121	150
Gift shop	+10	+ 5	+ 2	5.9	6.4	142	212
Radios, phonographs, television, pianos, records, sheet music, instr.	+ 5	+ 3	+12	3.1	2.9	153	165
Radios, phonographs, television records, sheet music, instr.	+ 4	+ 4	+16	2.6	2.3	161	179
	+ 7	+ 1	+ 7	4.3	4.3	140	178
<b>MISCELLANEOUS MERCHANDISE DEPTS.</b>	+ 4	+ 3	0	4.5	4.7	106	189
Toys, games, sporting goods, cameras	+ 3	+ 3	0	7.1	7.3	105	253
Toys and games	- 1	- 2	- 2	8.0	8.1	92	303
Sporting goods and cameras	+10	+10	+ 3	5.5	5.8	135	185
Luggage	0	- 8	- 5	6.2	6.5	75	154
Candy	+ 4	+ 5	+ 6	1.4	1.3	120	149

## MONTHLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS, BY DEPARTMENTS (Continued)

UNITED STATES - OCTOBER

Department	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago			Ratio of stocks to sales 1/		Unadjusted indexes (1947-49 av.=1002/	
	Sales during period		Stocks (end of month)	October		October	
	Oct.	Jan.-Oct.	October	1956	1957	Sales	Stocks
<u>BASEMENT STORE TOTAL</u>	+ 2	- 3	+ 1	2.4	2.5	115	134
Domestics and blankets	- 1	- 3	- 1	2.9	2.9	110	128
Women's, misses' ready-to-wear	+ 2	- 4	0	2.0	2.0	109	131
Intimate apparel	+ 5	- 2	- 2	2.5	2.7	107	133
Hosiery	+11	+ 1	- 1	2.1	2.3	3/	3/
Underwear, corsets & brassieres	+ 1	- 3	- 3	2.7	2.8	3/	3/
Coats and suits	- 2	- 5	+ 8	1.5	1.4	98	106
Dresses	+ 4	-10	0	1.5	1.5	75	105
Blouses, skirts, and sportswear	+ 6	- 2	- 3	1.8	1.9	152	163
Girls' wear	+ 2	- 3	+ 3	2.1	2.1	147	178
Infants' wear	- 1	- 3	+ 1	2.2	2.2	149	154
Aprons, housedresses, uniforms	- 6	- 6	- 6	2.5	2.5	3/	3/
Men's and boys' wear	+ 1	0	+ 4	2.9	2.8	132	167
Men's wear	+ 1	0	+ 4	2.9	2.8	128	161
Men's clothing	- 1	+ 3	+ 7	2.9	2.7	142	169
Men's furnishings	+ 2	- 2	+ 2	2.9	2.9	122	156
Boys' wear	0	- 1	+ 4	2.9	2.8	140	178
Homefurnishings	0	- 4	- 3	2.5	2.6	118	112
Shoes	+12	+ 2	+ 1	3.4	3.7	122	132
<u>NONMERCHANDISE TOTAL</u>	+ 3	+ 2	3/	3/	3/	139	3/
Barber and beauty shop	+ 8	+ 2	3/	3/	3/	112	3/

1/ The ratio of stocks to sales is obtained by dividing stocks at the end of the month by sales during the month and hence indicates the number of months' supply on hand at the end of the month in terms of sales for that month.

2/ The 1947-49 average of monthly sales and end-of-month stocks for each department is used as the base in computing sales and stocks indexes, respectively, for that department. For description of series, see pages 1146-49 of the November 1953 Federal Reserve Bulletin. A brochure containing back data for the departmental series for the period 1940-1952, inclusive, may be obtained from the Division of Administrative Services, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington 25, D. C.

3/ Data not available.

Note:--Based on reports from a group of large department stores located in various cities throughout the country. In 1957, sales and stocks at these stores accounted for about 45 per cent of estimated total department store sales and stocks. Not all stores report data for all of the departments shown; consequently, the sample for the individual departments is not so comprehensive as that for the total.