

Charlottesville
Black

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

G.7.3

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 16, 1959.

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS, BY DEPARTMENTS

UNITED STATES - MAY 1959
(Based on retail dollar amounts)

Summary by Selected Department Groups

Main Store								Base- ment store total
	Main store total	Women's apparel and acces- sories	Men's and boys' wear	Home furnish- ings	Piece goods and house- hold textiles	Small wares	Miscel- laneous	

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

Mar. 1957	97	105	77	105	77	92	81	94
Apr. 1957	104	120	98	96	73	97	94	111
May 1957	108	111	98	115	89	110	99	107
Jan. 1958	91	84	76	99	137	98	71	78
Feb. 1958	76	72	64	87	63	88	68	65
Mar. 1958	101	112	82	104	74	98	92	98
Apr. 1958	99	108	88	98	73	97	91	100
May 1958	106	109	97	112	84	111	102	103
Jan. 1959	94	87	81	103	138	101	74	78
Feb. 1959	83	82	70	95	65	93	67	71
Mar. 1959	105	123	91	96	68	101	95	103
Apr. 1959	102	109	87	109	76	99	84	99
May 1959	109	114	106	112	80	109	95	104

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

Mar. 1957	138	148	145	133	118	132	124	122
Apr. 1957	139	144	149	136	119	138	123	122
May 1957	136	139	152	135	116	134	126	121
Jan. 1958	122	126	124	121	110	124	123	104
Feb. 1958	128	138	133	122	112	126	117	113
Mar. 1958	135	143	141	132	115	132	123	118
Apr. 1958	135	141	147	132	114	138	124	120
May 1958	132	134	147	130	112	135	127	117
Jan. 1959	123	128	120	121	111	128	125	104
Feb. 1959	129	140	130	123	113	130	117	113
Mar. 1959	138	147	140	136	117	138	123	120
Apr. 1959	141	148	148	136	117	145	126	125
May 1959	138	141	148	135	116	141	129	121

RATIO OF STOCKS TO SALES

May 1957	3.5	2.7	5.0	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.3	2.3
May 1958	3.4	2.6	4.8	3.9	4.0	3.8	3.2	2.3
May 1959	3.4	2.6	4.4	4.1	4.3	4.1	3.5	2.4

Figures for departments within groups given on following pages.

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS, BY DEPARTMENTS

UNITED STATES - MAY

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)		May		May	
				1959	1958	Sales	Stocks
<u>GRAND TOTAL-entire store</u>	+ 2	+ 4	+ 4	3.3	3.2	--	--
<u>MAIN STORE TOTAL</u>	+ 2	+ 4	+ 4	3.4	3.4	109	138
<u>PIECE GOODS, HOUSEHOLD TEXTILES</u>	- 4	- 1	+ 3	4.3	4.0	80	116
Piece goods	- 7	- 2	+ 3	3.9	3.6	58	83
Silks, velvets, synthetics	- 6	0	+ 6	3.8	3.4	51	73
Woolen yard goods	- 5	- 1	+ 1	17.9	16.9	11	64
Cotton yard goods	- 9	- 4	+ 2	2.9	2.6	103	116
Household textiles	- 3	0	+ 3	4.3	4.1	95	132
Linen and towels	- 1	+ 3	+ 3	4.9	4.7	89	122
Domestics--muslins, sheetings	- 2	- 1	+ 4	3.8	3.6	101	156
Blankets, comforters, spreads	- 6	- 3	+ 3	4.2	3.9	98	128
<u>SMALL WARES</u>	- 1	+ 2	+ 5	4.1	3.8	109	141
Laces, trimmings, embroideries, and ribbons	0	+ 2	- 1	4.1	4.2	100	131
Notions	0	+ 1	+ 4	3.6	3.4	127	164
Toilet articles, drug sundries	- 3	+ 1	+ 7	3.6	3.3	128	139
Silverware and jewelry	+ 2	+ 5	+ 4	4.6	4.5	106	146
Silverware and clocks	- 1	+ 5	+ 2	6.8	6.6	87	159
Costume jewelry	0	+ 4	+ 8	2.7	2.5	121	134
Fine, jewelry and watches	+11	+13	- 1	7.5	8.4	134	178
Art needlework	- 5	- 1	+ 3	6.4	5.8	61	108
Books and stationery	- 1	+ 4	+ 6	4.2	3.9	96	145
Books and magazines	+ 3	+ 6	+ 7	3.8	3.6	93	133
Stationery	- 2	+ 3	+ 5	4.4	4.1	96	147
<u>WOMEN'S APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES</u>	+ 5	+ 6	+ 6	2.6	2.6	114	141
Women's accessories	+ 3	+ 4	+ 5	3.3	3.2	108	146
Neckwear and scarfs	+ 7	+ 6	+ 1	2.2	2.3	126	152
Handkerchiefs	- 1	- 1	+ 2	3.8	3.6	52	63
Millinery	- 2	+ 4	+10	1.2	1.1	70	82
Women's and children's gloves	+ 1	+ 2	- 5	4.0	4.2	71	81
Corsets and brassieres	+ 4	+ 6	+ 9	3.1	2.9	163	192
Women's, children's hosiery	- 3	+ 2	+ 9	3.1	2.8	81	141
Underwear, slips, and negligees	+ 5	+ 4	+ 4	2.7	2.7	103	130
Knit underwear	+ 7	+ 6	+ 8	3.0	3.0	137	175
Silk & muslin underwear, slips	+ 3	+ 4	+ 3	2.8	2.8	90	115
N negligees, robes, loung. apparel	+ 5	+ 5	+ 5	1.9	1.9	106	104
Infants' wear	+ 2	+ 2	+ 4	3.5	3.5	94	138
Handbags, small leather goods	+ 6	+ 8	+ 7	2.1	2.1	134	147
Women's and children's shoes	+ 4	+ 5	+ 3	4.9	4.9	133	179
Children's shoes	+ 2	0	+ 4	5.9	5.8	99	183
Women's shoes	+ 4	+ 6	+ 3	4.7	4.7	138	178

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

UNITED STATES - MAY

Department	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago			Ratio of stocks to sales 1/		Unadjusted indexes (1947-49 av.=100 2/)	
	Sales during period	5 mos.	Stocks (end of month)	May		May	
				1959	1958	Sales	Stocks
WOMEN'S APPAREL, ACCESSORIES (Cont.)							
Women's apparel	+ 7	+ 8	+ 7	2.0	2.0	121	134
Women's, misses' coats & suits	-13	+ 1	+13	3.0	2.4	42	80
Women's, misses' coats	-18	- 2	+10	3.2	2.3	37	77
Women's, misses' suits	- 6	+ 6	+13	2.9	2.4	48	77
Juniors' and girls' wear	+13	+10	+ 6	2.0	2.2	123	148
Juniors' coats, suits, dresses	+17	+13	+ 2	1.4	1.6	126	132
Girls' wear	+ 8	+ 8	+ 9	2.9	2.8	118	161
Women's and misses' dresses	+ 8	+11	+ 6	1.4	1.4	149	143
Inexpensive dresses	+10	+13	+10	1.1	1.1	160	151
Better dresses	+ 5	+ 8	+ 5	1.9	1.9	131	137
Blouses, skirts, sportswear	+ 9	+11	+ 6	2.1	2.2	165	183
Aprons, housedresses, uniforms	+ 9	+ 9	+ 4	1.3	1.3	185	131
Furs	- 7	- 3	+15	8.4	6.8	47	106
MEN'S AND BOYS' WEAR	+ 9	+ 6	0	4.4	4.8	106	148
Men's clothing	+10	+ 8	- 4	4.3	4.9	127	155
Men's furnishings and hats	+ 9	+ 6	+ 1	4.3	4.6	93	142
Boys' wear	+ 7	+ 5	+ 5	4.4	4.5	98	132
Men's & boys' shoes, slippers	+ 2	+ 4	+ 9	6.4	6.0	121	177
HOMEFURNISHINGS	0	+ 3	+ 4	4.1	3.9	112	135
Furniture and bedding	+ 4	+ 4	+ 1	3.7	3.8	128	133
Mattresses, springs, studio beds	- 1	+ 1	+ 4	1.9	1.9	136	145
Upholstered, other furniture	+ 6	+ 4	+ 1	4.3	4.5	124	129
Domestic floor coverings	+ 2	+ 8	+ 1	4.6	4.7	90	113
Rugs and carpets	+ 2	+ 6	+ 1	4.6	4.7	91	119
Linoleum	- 3	+ 7	+ 8	3.3	2.9	73	73
Draperies, curtains, upholstery	0	+ 3	+ 2	4.1	4.1	114	130
Lamps and shades	- 6	+ 2	+ 7	5.1	4.5	80	135
China and glassware	- 5	+ 3	+ 2	7.9	7.4	97	139
Major household appliances	+ 5	+ 3	+ 5	2.3	2.3	94	112
Housewares (incl. small appliances)	- 5	- 2	+ 6	3.7	3.3	135	158
Gift shop	+ 1	+ 8	+ 7	5.9	5.6	116	174
Radios, phonographs, television, pianos, records, sheetmusic, instr.	0	+ 5	+14	4.5	3.9	98	163
Radios, phonographs, television	+ 2	+ 5	+18	4.0	3.5	109	176
Records, sheet music, instr.	- 6	+ 4	+ 8	6.0	5.2	106	159
MISCELLANEOUS MERCHANDISE DEPTS.	- 8	- 3	+ 2	3.5	3.2	95	129
Toys, games, sporting goods, cameras	- 3	+ 2	+ 5	5.6	5.2	86	156
Toys and games	- 5	0	0	6.8	6.5	53	143
Sporting goods and cameras	- 2	+ 4	+10	4.8	4.2	141	166
Luggage	- 3	+ 2	+ 1	3.7	3.5	115	137
Candy	- 2	+ 4	+ 9	1.3	1.2	95	118

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

UNITED STATES - MAY

Department	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago			Ratio of stocks to sales 1/		Unadjusted indexes (1947-49 av.=1000/)	
	Sales during period		Stocks (end of month)	May		May	
	May	5 mos.	May	1952	1953	Sales	Stock
<u>BASEMENT STORE TOTAL</u>	+ 1	+ 2	+ 4	2.4	2.3	104	121
Domestics and blankets	- 6	- 2	+ 2	3.3	3.0	90	122
Women's, misses' ready-to-wear	+ 1	+ 2	+ 5	1.8	1.8	101	115
Intimate apparel	+ 1	+ 3	+ 6	2.3	2.2	113	133
Hosiery	- 5	+ 1	+ 9	2.5	2.2	3/	3/
Underwear, corsets & brassieres	+ 3	+ 4	+ 6	2.2	2.2	3/	3/
Coats and suits	-18	- 3	+15	2.3	1.6	37	59
Dresses	+ 7	+ 7	+ 4	0.9	1.0	128	115
Blouses, skirts, and sportswear	0	+ 2	+ 3	1.7	1.6	144	122
Girls' wear	+ 2	+ 1	+ 3	2.2	2.2	112	143
Infants' wear	0	- 1	+ 4	2.9	2.8	94	130
Aprons, housedresses, uniforms	+ 6	+ 4	- 1	1.3	1.4	3/	3/
Men's and boys' wear	+ 5	+ 3	+ 2	2.7	2.8	124	147
Men's wear	+ 4	+ 2	+ 1	2.6	2.7	129	151
Men's clothing	+ 2	+ 1	+ 3	2.5	2.5	154	164
Men's furnishings	+ 7	+ 4	0	2.7	2.9	115	143
Boys' wear	+ 7	+ 3	+ 3	2.8	2.9	109	137
Homefurnishings	- 9	- 1	+ 3	3.3	2.9	91	116
Shoes	+ 2	+ 3	+ 5	3.5	3.4	114	131
<u>NONMERCHANDISE TOTAL</u>	- 1	+ 4	3/	3/	3/	116	3/
Barber and beauty shop	+ 5	+ 9	3/	3/	3/	166	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 1958, 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.

May this year had one less trading day than last.