

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS, BY DEPARTMENTS

UNITED STATES - DECEMBER 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)

Oct. 1957	115	120	115	120	89	113	102	113
Nov. 1957	135	129	151	133	95	148	183	127
Dec. 1957	206	191	282	149	116	282	362	179
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
Nov. 1958	130	124	145	131	88	142	170	121
Dec. 1958	221	205	308	161	121	299	385	193
Aug. 1959	100	100	86	113	106	95	87	94
Sept. 1959	114	125	101	118	85	110	83	108
Oct. 1959	126	133	124	134	92	124	105	117
Nov. 1959	139	133	156	139	92	152	180	127
Dec. 1959	228	211	311	171	122	317	390	192

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

Oct. 1957	156	168	178	135	123	154	189	133
Nov. 1957	159	170	181	135	122	172	192	137
Dec. 1957	124	125	131	122	118	128	111	103
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
Nov. 1958	158	170	176	133	122	174	196	136
Dec. 1958	123	126	126	120	119	131	109	103
Aug. 1959	137	158	142	123	114	131	126	119
Sept. 1959	150	172	165	131	122	141	149	132
Oct. 1959	162	178	181	138	125	162	188	138
Nov. 1959	166	182	187	140	124	179	194	141
Dec. 1959	132	137	137	128	125	136	112	108

RATIO OF STOCKS TO SALES

Dec. 1957	1.7	1.4	1.5	2.9	3.1	1.4	0.8	1.2
Dec. 1958	1.5	1.3	1.3	2.5	2.9	1.4	0.7	1.1
Dec. 1959	1.6	1.4	1.4	2.5	3.0	1.3	0.7	1.1

Figures for departments within groups given on following pages.

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS, BY DEPARTMENTS

UNITED STATES - DECEMBER 1959

Department	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago			Ratio of stocks to sales 1/		Unadjusted indexes (1947-49 av.=100 $\frac{2}{2}$)	
	Sales during period	Stocks (end of month)		December		December	
				1959	1958	Sales	Stocks
	Dec.	12 mos.	Dec.				
<u>GRAND TOTAL--entire store</u>	+ 3	+ 4	+ 7	1.5	1.4	--	--
<u>MAIN STORE TOTAL</u>	+ 3	+ 5	+ 7	1.6	1.5	228	132
PIECE GOODS, HOUSEHOLD TEXTILES	+ 1	+ 1	+ 5	3.0	2.9	122	125
Piece goods	- 1	- 1	+ 4	4.1	4.0	56	82
Silks, velvets, synthetics	+ 1	0	+ 4	3.9	3.8	53	75
Woolen yard goods	- 5	- 3	+ 11	3.2	2.7	77	84
Cotton yard goods	- 1	- 2	0	5.3	5.2	50	104
Household textiles	+ 1	+ 2	+ 5	2.7	2.6	169	148
Linens and towels	+ 5	+ 6	+ 7	2.1	2.1	215	128
Domestics--muslins, sheetings	+ 2	+ 1	+ 3	4.1	4.0	115	190
Blankets, comforters, spreads	- 5	- 1	+ 6	2.7	2.4	172	141
SMALL WARES	+ 6	+ 4	+ 3	1.3	1.3	317	136
Laces, trimmings, embroideries, and ribbons	+ 5	+ 5	+ 2	2.4	2.5	144	110
Notions	+ 6	+ 4	+ 2	2.1	2.1	188	141
Toilet articles, drug sundries	+ 8	+ 4	+ 3	1.3	1.3	353	141
Silverware and jewelry	+ 8	+ 6	+ 5	1.5	1.5	321	139
Silverware and clocks	+ 2	+ 3	+ 6	2.6	2.5	228	152
Costume jewelry	+ 9	+ 5	+ 6	0.8	0.8	356	126
Fine jewelry and watches	+ 12	+ 12	+ 4	2.0	2.2	458	150
Art needlework	0	0	+ 4	2.8	2.7	151	117
Books and stationery	+ 4	+ 4	+ 5	0.8	0.8	449	136
Books and magazines	+ 5	+ 7	+ 10	1.0	1.0	368	141
Stationery	+ 3	+ 3	+ 3	0.8	0.8	477	130
WOMEN'S APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES	+ 3	+ 6	+ 9	1.4	1.3	211	137
Women's accessories	+ 1	+ 4	+ 7	1.5	1.4	230	138
Neckwear and scarfs	0	+ 5	+ 11	0.9	0.8	296	142
Handkerchiefs	- 1	0	+ 2	0.8	0.8	239	63
Millinery	- 2	+ 2	+ 5	0.8	0.7	93	70
Women's and children's gloves	- 6	+ 1	+ 8	1.0	0.9	306	90
Corsets and brassieres	+ 6	+ 6	+ 7	2.6	2.6	188	187
Women's, children's hosiery	- 4	0	+ 9	1.4	1.2	175	140
Underwear, slips, and negligees	+ 2	+ 5	+ 9	0.9	0.8	283	116
Knit underwear	+ 4	+ 6	+ 8	1.0	1.0	341	232
Silk & muslin underwear, slips	+ 2	+ 4	+ 7	1.0	0.9	240	107
N negligees, robes, loung. apparel	+ 1	+ 3	+ 17	0.5	0.4	353	95
Infants' wear	+ 1	+ 2	+ 6	1.3	1.3	249	135
Handbags, small leather goods	+ 6	+ 7	+ 10	0.8	0.8	341	139
Women's and children's shoes	+ 1	+ 4	+ 6	3.5	3.3	168	164
Children's shoes	0	+ 2	+ 8	3.1	2.9	175	164
Women's shoes	+ 2	+ 5	+ 6	3.6	3.5	166	162

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

UNITED STATES - DECEMBER 1959

Department	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago			Ratio of stocks to sales. 1/ December		Unadjusted indexes (1947-49 av.=100 ² / ₂)	
	Sales during period	Stocks (end of month)	Dec.	December		Sales	Stocks
				1959	1958		
				Dec.	12 mos.		
WOMEN'S APPAREL, ACCESSORIES (Cont.)							
Women's apparel	+ 5	+ 7	+11	1.3	1.2	192	136
Women's, misses' coats & suits	+ 4	+ 1	+ 2	1.8	1.8	107	119
Women's, misses' coats	+ 2	0	+ 2	1.6	1.6	124	129
Women's, misses' suits	+ 7	+ 3	+ 1	2.6	2.8	57	81
Juniors' and girls' wear	+ 8	+10	+13	1.0	0.9	253	139
Juniors' coats, suits, dresses	+13	+14	+10	1.0	1.0	193	123
Girls' wear	+ 4	+ 7	+15	1.0	0.9	325	152
Women's and misses' dresses	+ 8	+ 9	+11	1.6	1.5	130	136
Inexpensive dresses	+ 8	+ 9	+12	1.1	1.1	142	137
Better dresses	+ 9	+ 8	+10	2.1	2.1	123	137
Blouses, skirts, sportswear	+ 4	+ 8	+14	1.1	1.0	302	156
Aprons, housedresses, uniforms	+ 3	+ 8	+ 5	1.4	1.3	160	121
Furs	- 2	- 3	+16	2.2	1.9	232	132
MEN'S AND BOYS' WEAR	+ 1	+ 5	+ 9	1.4	1.3	311	137
Men's clothing	+ 3	+ 6	+ 6	2.4	2.4	207	142
Men's furnishings and hats	+ 1	+ 5	+11	0.9	0.8	387	127
Boys' wear	0	+ 5	+11	1.5	1.3	285	127
Men's & boys' shoes, slippers	- 2	+ 4	+ 9	2.6	2.3	257	168
HOMEFURNISHINGS	+ 6	+ 5	+ 6	2.5	2.5	171	128
Furniture and bedding	+ 8	+ 5	+ 7	3.9	3.9	126	131
Mattresses, springs, studio beds	+ 8	+ 3	+ 8	3.1	3.1	93	153
Upholstered, other furniture	+10	+ 6	+ 8	3.9	4.0	135	126
Domestic floor coverings	+ 5	+ 6	+ 5	4.1	4.1	99	112
Rugs and carpets	+ 6	+ 6	+ 5	3.9	3.9	101	118
Linoleum	+ 4	+ 2	+ 6	5.1	5.0	49	60
Draperies, curtains, upholstery	+ 4	+ 4	+ 2	3.4	3.4	130	123
Lamps and shades	+ 4	+ 2	+ 6	2.1	2.1	186	131
China and glassware	+ 2	+ 3	+ 6	2.7	2.6	269	132
Major household appliances	+ 1	+ 6	+13	3.1	2.7	73	109
Housewares (incl. small appliances)	+ 4	+ 1	+ 5	1.9	1.9	223	137
Gift shop	+ 5	+ 7	+10	1.4	1.4	466	169
Radios, phonographs, television, pianos, records, sheetmusic, instr.	+18	+12	+ 8	1.1	1.2	387	142
Radios, phonographs, television	+18	+12	+ 7	1.0	1.1	374	153
Records, sheet music, instr.	+17	+10	+ 6	1.1	1.3	514	151
MISCELLANEOUS MERCHANDISE DEPTS.	+ 1	0	+ 2	0.7	0.7	390	112
Toys, games, sporting goods, cameras	+ 2	+ 3	+ 5	0.7	0.7	585	132
Toys and games	+ 4	+ 3	- 2	0.5	0.5	635	113
Sporting goods and cameras	- 1	+ 3	+12	1.3	1.2	479	158
Luggage	+ 5	+ 5	+ 4	1.5	1.5	264	126
Candy	+ 3	+ 4	+ 3	0.3	0.3	413	111

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

UNITED STATES - DECEMBER 1959

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)	Dec.	December		Sales	Stocks
				1959	1958		
	Dec.	12 mos.	Dec.	1959	1958	Sales	Stocks
<u>BASEMENT STORE TOTAL</u>	0	+ 2	+ 6	1.1	1.1	192	108
Domestics and blankets	- 2	- 1	0	2.1	2.1	147	130
Women's, misses' ready-to-wear	+ 1	+ 3	+ 6	0.9	0.9	180	101
Intimate apparel	0	+ 3	+ 6	1.1	1.0	207	113
Hosiery	- 3	0	+ 3	1.0	1.0	3/	3/
Underwear, corsets & brassieres	+ 1	+ 4	+ 7	1.1	1.1	3/	3/
Coats and suits	+ 5	- 1	+ 9	1.2	1.2	92	85
Dresses	+ 9	+ 7	+ 5	0.8	0.9	120	90
Blouses, skirts, and sportswear	+ 1	+ 2	+ 2	0.7	0.7	258	108
Girls' wear	0	+ 2	+ 7	0.7	0.7	273	113
Infants' wear	- 1	0	+ 5	1.0	1.0	248	117
Aprons, housedresses, uniforms	+ 2	+ 5	- 2	0.9	0.9	3/	3/
Men's and boys' wear	- 3	+ 2	+10	0.9	0.8	305	123
Men's wear	- 3	+ 1	+10	0.9	0.8	304	122
Men's clothing	+ 1	0	+ 8	1.5	1.4	224	138
Men's furnishings	- 5	+ 2	+11	0.7	0.6	340	106
Boys' wear	- 3	+ 2	+12	1.0	0.8	287	119
Homefurnishings	- 3	- 2	- 1	2.3	2.2	116	103
Shoes	- 2	+ 3	+ 8	2.2	2.0	166	119
<u>NONMERCHANDISE TOTAL</u>	- 1	+ 4	3/	3/	3/	176	3/
Barber and beauty shop	+ 5	+ 7	3/	3/	3/	131	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.