



# FEDERAL RESERVE

statistical release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## MONTHLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS, BY DEPARTMENTS

UNITED STATES - OCTOBER 1961  
(Based on retail dollar amounts)

Summary by Selected Department Groups

		Main Store						Base- 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	

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

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
June 1960	107	102	131	111	75	115	111	102
July 1960	85	82	83	100	84	88	91	76
Aug. 1960	105	107	92	112	112	103	89	100
Sept. 1960	113	124	100	114	84	113	83	106
Oct. 1960	123	132	121	125	90	122	100	115
June 1961	110	105	138	111	76	117	114	104
July 1961	91	84	87	105	88	91	92	78
Aug. 1961	108	110	96	113	114	105	91	103
Sept. 1961	114	123	101	118	84	115	84	103
Oct. 1961	124	132	122	128	91	123	99	115

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

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
June 1960	140	141	147	141	119	143	130	118
July 1960	139	148	139	134	124	138	128	115
Aug. 1960	145	165	156	131	119	138	131	121
Sept. 1960	157	179	179	137	127	147	153	134
Oct. 1960	169	186	195	145	130	169	194	141
June 1961	141	143	148	139	119	147	132	116
July 1961	138	149	139	131	123	141	129	111
Aug. 1961	145	166	155	128	119	141	132	120
Sept. 1961	158	181	177	134	129	150	153	136
Oct. 1961	172	193	196	143	134	176	194	146

RATIO OF STOCKS TO SALES

Oct. 1959	3.5	2.8	4.6	3.4	4.1	4.1	4.5	2.5
Oct. 1960	3.7	2.9	5.0	3.8	4.2	4.3	4.8	2.5
Oct. 1961	3.7	3.0	5.0	3.7	4.3	4.4	4.7	2.6

Figures for departments within groups given on following pages.

UNITED STATES - OCTOBER 1961

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	Oct.	1961	1960	Sales	Stocks
<b>GRAND TOTAL-entire store</b>	+ 1	0	+ 2	3.5	3.4	--	--
<b>MAIN STORE TOTAL</b>	+ 1	0	+ 2	3.7	3.7	124	172
<b>PIECE GOODS, HOUSEHOLD TEXTILES</b>	+ 1	+ 1	+ 3	4.3	4.2	91	134
Piece goods	- 2	- 1	+ 4	3.6	3.4	72	96
Silkes, velvets, synthetics	0	+ 2	+ 3	3.8	3.6	63	93
Woolen yard goods	- 2	+ 2	+10	2.3	2.0	121	103
Cotton yard goods	- 4	- 2	+ 5	4.8	4.4	56	110
Household textiles	+ 3	+ 1	+ 2	4.5	4.5	104	153
Linen and towels	+ 3	+ 1	+ 2	5.2	5.2	99	147
Domestics--muslins, sheetings	+ 2	+ 2	+ 4	4.8	4.7	86	175
Blankets, comforters, spreads	+ 4	- 1	+ 2	3.5	3.6	138	150
<b>SMALL WARES</b>	+ 1	+ 1	+ 4	4.4	4.3	123	176
Laces, trimmings, embroideries, and ribbons	- 3	- 4	- 2	4.8	4.7	86	132
Notions	- 1	- 1	+ 3	4.2	4.1	112	178
Toilet articles, drug sundries	+ 1	+ 1	+ 8	4.2	4.0	133	170
Silverware and jewelry	+ 1	+ 1	+ 3	5.0	4.9	119	178
Silverware and clocks	+ 7	- 1	0	7.2	7.7	92	178
Costume jewelry	- 2	+ 2	+ 1	3.0	3.0	145	182
Fine jewelry and watches	+ 4	+ 4	+10	8.9	8.5	129	199
Art needlework	+ 4	+ 3	+ 2	3.8	3.8	118	130
Books and stationery	+ 1	+ 1	+ 2	4.3	4.2	134	209
Books and magazines	+ 2	+ 1	+ 3	3.6	3.5	128	176
Stationery	+ 1	0	+ 1	4.6	4.6	133	217
<b>WOMEN'S APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES</b>	+ 1	0	+ 4	3.0	2.9	132	193
Women's accessories	0	- 1	+ 3	3.6	3.5	124	188
Neckwear and scarfs	- 4	- 2	+ 1	2.9	2.8	138	220
Handkerchiefs	- 4	- 5	- 6	5.3	5.4	47	83
Millinery	- 6	- 3	+15	1.0	0.8	131	137
Women's and children's gloves	+20	+12	+ 8	4.0	4.4	152	174
Corsets and brassieres	+ 3	+ 3	+ 8	3.4	3.3	164	222
Women's, children's hosiery	0	+ 1	+ 4	3.1	3.0	91	166
Underwear, slips, and negligees	+ 2	0	- 1	4.2	4.3	89	172
Knit underwear	+ 2	0	- 1	4.2	4.3	119	233
Silk & muslin underwear, slips	+ 1	0	0	4.3	4.4	72	144
N negligees, robes, loung. apparel	+ 4	+ 2	+ 1	3.5	3.6	95	172
Infants' wear	- 2	- 2	+ 3	3.3	3.1	140	191
Handbags, small leather goods	- 2	- 2	+ 1	2.7	2.7	141	197
Women's and children's shoes	- 2	- 3	+ 2	5.1	4.9	145	207
Children's shoes	- 6	- 1	+ 5	6.5	5.8	105	216
Women's shoes	- 1	- 3	+ 1	4.8	4.7	156	203

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

UNITED STATES - OCTOBER 1961

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 1961	October 1960	October		
					Sales	Stocks	
	Oct.	Jan.-Oct.	Oct.				
<b>WOMEN'S APPAREL, ACCESSORIES (Cont.)</b>							
Women's apparel	+ 1	+ 1	+ 5	2.5	2.4	141	199
Women's, misses' coats and suits	+ 5	+ 5	+ 5	2.2	2.2	130	175
Women's, misses' coats	+ 5	+ 7	+ 5	2.1	2.2	142	198
Women's, misses' suits	+ 5	+ 2	+ 6	2.3	2.2	81	106
Juniors' and girls' wear	- 1	+ 1	+ 7	2.6	2.5	154	242
Juniors' coats, suits, dresses	+ 2	+ 3	+13	2.1	1.9	139	215
Girls' wear	- 3	- 2	+ 3	3.1	2.9	171	264
Women's and misses' dresses	0	- 1	+ 7	2.2	2.0	121	181
Inexpensive dresses	- 1	0	+10	1.7	1.5	126	188
Better dresses	+ 1	- 1	+ 4	2.7	2.6	118	180
Blouses, skirts, sportswear	+ 1	+ 1	+ 4	2.7	2.6	171	240
Aprons, housedresses, uniforms	+ 3	- 3	+ 2	2.2	2.2	110	129
Furs	+ 3	+ 4	+ 2	3.9	3.9	160	167
<b>MEN'S AND BOYS' WEAR</b>	+ 1	0	0	5.0	5.0	122	196
Men's clothing	+ 2	0	- 1	5.1	5.3	137	206
Men's furnishings and hats	+ 1	+ 1	0	4.8	4.9	106	186
Boys' wear	- 2	0	+ 1	4.5	4.4	135	192
Men's & boys' shoes, slippers	- 1	0	+ 3	6.6	6.4	134	207
<b>HOMEFURNISHINGS</b>	+ 2	- 1	- 1	3.7	3.8	128	143
Furniture and bedding	0	- 3	- 4	3.3	3.4	142	133
Mattresses, springs, studio beds	+ 2	- 3	0	1.6	1.7	154	142
Upholstered, other furniture	0	- 2	- 3	3.8	3.9	137	130
Domestic floor coverings	0	- 1	- 2	2.9	3.0	132	112
Rugs and carpets	0	- 1	- 1	2.8	2.8	135	114
Linoleum	+ 3	- 8	-10	4.4	5.1	56	66
Draperies, curtains, upholstery	0	- 1	- 2	3.5	3.6	132	134
Lamps and shades	- 2	- 4	- 1	3.8	3.8	112	147
China and glassware	- 2	- 5	- 2	7.6	7.6	110	156
Major household appliances	+ 3	- 1	- 5	2.2	2.4	83	93
Housewares (incl. small appliances)	+ 2	0	0	4.2	4.3	119	165
Gift shop	0	- 3	- 2	7.2	7.4	136	250
Radios, phonographs, television, pianos, records, sheet music, instr.	+ 7	+ 12	+ 9	2.9	3.0	195	207
Radios, phonographs, television	+14	+ 8	+12	2.4	2.4	215	230
Records, sheet music, instr.	+11	+ 4	+ 4	4.6	5.0	164	214
<b>MISCELLANEOUS MERCHANDISE DEPTS.</b>	- 1	0	0	4.7	4.7	99	194
Toys, games, sporting goods, cameras	- 1	- 1	0	7.5	7.5	100	262
Toys and games	- 1	- 1	0	8.5	8.4	84	301
Sporting goods and cameras	- 2	0	0	6.0	5.9	134	210
Luggage	+ 2	+ 3	+ 1	6.7	6.8	72	165
Candy	+ 2	+ 1	+ 1	1.3	1.3	124	155

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

UNITED STATES - OCTOBER 1961

Department	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago				Ratio of stocks to sales 1/		Unadjusted indexes (1947-49, av.=100 <sup>2/</sup> )	
	Sales during period		Stocks (end of month)		October		October	
	Oct.	Jan.-Oct.	Oct.	Oct.	1961	1960	Sales	Stocks
<b>BASEMENT STORE TOTAL</b>	0	0	+ 3	2.6	2.5	115	146	
Domestics and blankets	+ 1	0	+ 1	3.0	3.1	105	131	
Women's, misses' ready-to-wear	- 1	- 1	+ 6	2.1	2.0	112	146	
Intimate apparel	+ 2	+ 1	+ 4	2.7	2.7	111	150	
Hosiery	0	+ 2	+ 6	2.3	2.2	3/	3/	
Underwear, corsets & brassieres	+ 3	+ 1	+ 3	2.8	2.9	3/	3/	
Coats and suits	+ 1	+ 5	+ 6	1.6	1.5	105	122	
Dresses	+ 1	- 2	+ 11	1.5	1.4	83	119	
Blouses, skirts, and sportswear	- 1	- 4	+ 4	1.9	1.8	153	177	
Girls' wear	- 1	- 1	+ 8	2.3	2.1	149	200	
Infants' wear	- 4	- 3	+ 4	2.5	2.3	145	170	
Aprons, housedresses, uniforms	- 1	- 3	+ 6	2.4	2.3	3/	3/	
Men's and boys' wear	+ 2	+ 1	+ 4	3.2	3.2	133	190	
Men's wear	+ 1	+ 1	+ 2	3.3	3.2	126	182	
Men's clothing	+ 3	+ 2	+ 1	3.3	3.3	141	192	
Men's furnishings	0	+ 1	+ 4	3.3	3.2	120	177	
Boys' wear	+ 3	+ 2	+ 9	3.1	2.9	150	208	
Homefurnishings	+ 1	- 1	0	2.7	2.7	109	111	
Shoes	+ 2	- 1	+ 1	3.6	3.6	122	142	
<b>NONMERCHANDISE TOTAL</b>	+ 1	+ 2	3/	3/	3/	143	3/	
Barber and beauty shop	0	+ 1	3/	3/	3/	117	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 1960, 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.