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May 22, 1963MONTHLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS, BY DEPARTMENTSUNITED STATES - MARCH 1963
(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)

Jan. 1961	91	85	77	96	135	101	72	73
Feb. 1961	83	83	72	93	69	93	70	71
Mar. 1961	114	133	98	103	76	109	98	110
Nov. 1961	150	145	170	147	97	166	190	174
Dec. 1961	231	213	319	170	119	327	386	190
Jan. 1962	97	90	84	106	139	108	76	79
Feb. 1962	85	82	75	99	69	96	73	69
Mar. 1962	112	124	94	118	82	110	88	100
Nov. 1962	154	149	174	152	99	168	196	131
Dec. 1962	235	217	328	176	122	327	389	190
Jan. 1963	98	91	86	104	147	107	78	76
Feb. 1963	87	84	78	99	71	98	77	68
Mar. 1963	111	125	96	113	79	106	89	99

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

Jan. 1961	135	141	135	130	120	139	130	106
Feb. 1961	138	150	145	131	120	139	121	114
Mar. 1961	148	160	156	141	122	146	127	120
Nov. 1961	178	198	201	145	134	197	204	151
Dec. 1961	142	150	147	132	133	151	119	115
Jan. 1962	142	152	141	135	126	147	138	115
Feb. 1962	148	164	152	136	128	148	128	123
Mar. 1962	160	178	168	147	130	159	140	132
Nov. 1962	189	212	218	153	138	207	214	160
Dec. 1962	150	159	160	140	135	159	126	121
Jan. 1963	149	158	151	140	128	155	146	118
Feb. 1963	154	170	161	142	130	155	135	126
Mar. 1963	165	184	176	152	133	165	147	135

RATIO OF STOCKS TO SALES

Mar. 1961	3.5	2.5	5.0	4.6	4.7	4.2	3.2	2.3
Mar. 1962	3.8	3.0	5.6	4.2	4.7	4.5	3.8	2.8
Mar. 1963	4.0	3.0	5.7	4.5	4.9	4.8	4.1	2.8

Figures for departments within groups given on following pages.

MONTHLY DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND STOCKS, BY DEPARTMENTS

UNITED STATES - MARCH 1963

Department	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago			Ratio of stocks to sales 1/		Unadjusted indexes (1947-49 av.=100 $\frac{1}{2}$)	
	Sales during period		Stocks (end of month)	Mar.		Mar.	
	Mar.	Jan-Mar.	Mar.	1963	1962	Sales	Stocks
<u>GRAND TOTAL-entire store</u>	- 1	0	+ 3	3.7	3.6	—	—
<u>MAIN STORE TOTAL</u>	- 1	0	+ 4	4.0	3.8	111	165
PIECE GOODS, HOUSEHOLD TEXTILES	- 4	+ 2	+ 2	4.9	4.7	79	133
Piece goods	- 1	- 1	0	3.3	3.3	81	97
Silks, velvets, synthetics	0	- 1	+ 1	3.1	3.1	77	85
Woolen yard goods	- 2	+ 3	- 2	3.4	3.4	59	67
Cotton yard goods	0	- 2	0	3.1	3.1	107	139
Household textiles	- 6	+ 3	+ 3	6.0	5.5	75	149
Linens and towels	- 6	+ 2	- 6	5.7	5.7	77	130
Domestics--muslins, sheetings	- 6	+ 6	+ 4	5.7	5.2	74	177
Blankets, comforters, spreads	- 7	+ 1	+ 3	6.1	5.5	76	145
SMALL WARES	- 3	- 1	+ 4	4.8	4.5	106	165
Laces, trimmings, embroideries, and ribbons	- 5	- 3	+ 3	4.9	4.6	91	159
Notions	+ 1	- 2	+ 2	4.4	4.4	107	175
Toilet articles, drug sundries	- 3	+ 2	+ 4	4.1	3.8	132	165
Silverware and jewelry	- 8	- 8	+ 3	6.9	6.2	84	175
Silverware and clocks	+ 3	- 2	+ 2	8.2	8.2	82	182
Costume jewelry	-14	-13	0	4.7	4.0	86	172
Fine jewelry and watches	- 4	- 1	+ 8	11.7	10.5	95	185
Art needlework	0	+ 7	+ 3	4.4	4.3	99	122
Books and stationery	- 3	- 1	+ 7	4.5	4.0	108	174
Books and magazines	- 8	- 5	+ 7	3.6	3.1	123	172
Stationery	- 1	+ 2	+ 7	5.0	4.6	99	172
WOMEN'S APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES	+ 1	+ 1	+ 3	3.0	3.0	125	184
Women's accessories	- 1	0	+ 3	3.9	3.7	113	185
Neckwear and scarfs	+ 1	+ 2	0	2.9	3.0	114	183
Handkerchiefs	- 3	- 3	- 6	5.1	5.2	38	65
Millinery	- 6	-10	- 1	1.2	1.1	121	139
Women's and children's gloves	-10	- 5	+10	5.7	4.6	90	146
Corsets and brassieres	+ 2	+ 4	+ 4	3.5	3.4	171	238
Women's, children's hosiery	- 3	0	+ 1	3.2	3.0	89	163
Underwear, slips, and negligees	- 2	0	+ 2	4.1	3.9	76	148
Knit underwear	- 2	0	+ 4	4.3	4.1	100	203
Silk & muslin underwear, slips	- 3	- 1	+ 2	4.5	4.3	62	134
N negligees, robes, loung. apparel	+ 3	+ 3	- 1	2.7	2.8	86	117
Infants' wear	+ 2	+ 1	0	3.2	3.3	124	167
Handbags, small leather goods	- 3	- 2	+ 6	3.3	3.0	118	203
Women's and children's shoes	+ 1	+ 1	+ 3	5.6	5.4	147	230
Children's shoes	+ 8	+ 3	+ 1	5.2	5.6	131	230
Women's shoes	0	0	+ 4	5.6	5.4	152	234

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

UNITED STATES - MARCH 1963

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	Mar.	Jan.-Mar.	Stocks (end of month)	Mar.	Mar.		
						1963	1962	
								Sales
WOMEN'S APPAREL, ACCESSORIES (Cont.)								
Women's apparel	+ 3	+ 2	+ 3	2.3	2.3	137	182	
Women's, misses' coats and suits	- 5	- 2	- 1	1.8	1.7	110	120	
Women's, misses' coats	- 5	0	+ 3	1.6	1.5	115	121	
Women's, misses' suits	- 7	- 6	-10	2.0	2.1	100	119	
Juniors' and girls' wear	+ 8	+ 5	0	2.1	2.3	139	211	
Juniors' coats, suits, dresses	+ 7	+ 4	0	1.7	1.8	161	192	
Girls' wear	+ 8	+ 6	0	2.6	2.8	179	227	
Women's and misses' dresses	+ 2	0	+ 3	2.1	2.0	135	194	
Inexpensive dresses	+ 3	0	+ 5	1.7	1.6	141	201	
Better dresses	+ 1	+ 1	- 7	2.4	2.6	127	176	
Blouses, skirts, sportswear	+ 5	+ 5	+10	2.9	2.7	153	236	
Aprons, housedresses, uniforms	+ 1	- 1	- 1	2.1	2.2	128	149	
Furs	- 5	- 2	0	6.3	6.0	74	133	
MEN'S AND BOYS' WEAR	+ 2	+ 3	+ 5	5.7	5.5	96	176	
Men's clothing	+ 3	+ 3	+ 6	6.4	6.3	102	192	
Men's furnishings and hats	- 2	+ 1	+ 4	5.7	5.4	75	156	
Boys' wear	+ 6	+ 6	+ 6	4.4	4.4	129	180	
Men's & boys' shoes, slippers	0	+ 1	+ 5	7.2	6.8	129	211	
HOMEFURNISHINGS	- 4	- 2	+ 3	4.5	4.1	113	152	
Furniture and bedding	- 4	- 3	+ 3	4.2	3.9	128	152	
Mattresses, springs, studio beds	+ 3	- 1	+ 3	2.1	2.1	144	171	
Upholstered, other furniture	- 6	- 5	+ 4	4.9	4.5	125	149	
Domestic floor covering	- 1	+ 1	+ 2	3.8	3.7	107	115	
Rugs and carpets	+ 1	+ 2	+ 5	3.6	3.5	107	114	
Linoleum	-18	- 5	0	4.8	3.9	53	67	
Drapes, curtains, upholstery	- 7	- 4	+ 3	4.9	4.4	101	142	
Lamps and shades	-12	- 9	+ 4	5.4	4.5	82	150	
China and glassware	- 6	- 5	+ 3	9.0	8.3	95	159	
Major household appliances	- 4	- 2	+ 1	2.9	2.7	78	111	
Housewares (incl. small appliances)	- 3	- 1	+ 1	4.5	4.3	120	169	
Gift shop	- 5	- 2	+ 6	8.1	7.3	98	209	
Radios, phonographs, television, pianos, records, sheet music, instr.	- 4	0	+10	3.4	3.0	184	228	
Radios, phonographs, television	- 4	0	+10	2.9	2.6	175	212	
Records, sheet music, instr.	- 5	0	+10	4.8	4.2	171	218	
MISCELLANEOUS MERCHANDISE DEPTS.	+ 1	+ 3	+ 5	4.1	3.9	89	147	
Toys, games, sporting goods, cameras	0	+ 3	+ 5	6.6	6.3	74	167	
Toys and games	0	+ 2	+ 1	7.1	7.0	47	137	
Sporting goods and cameras	+ 1	+ 4	+ 8	6.2	5.9	117	186	
Luggage	- 7	- 3	+ 4	6.2	5.5	76	157	
Candy	+ 5	+ 6	+ 9	2.0	2.0	116	218	

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

UNITED STATES - MARCH 1963

	Percentage change from corresponding period a year ago			Ratio of stocks to sales 1/		Unadjusted indexes (1947-49 av.=100 2/	
	Sales during period		Stocks (end of month)	Mar.		Mar.	
	Mar.	Jan.-Mar.	Mar.	1963	1962	Sales	Stocks
<u>BASEMENT STORE TOTAL</u>	- 1	- 2	+ 2	2.8	2.7	99	135
Domestics and blankets	- 7	- 3	+ 5	4.1	3.6	80	131
Women's, misses' ready-to-wear	+ 2	- 1	+ 1	2.1	2.1	101	132
Intimate apparel	- 3	- 2	+ 2	2.8	2.7	104	148
Hosiery	- 9	- 5	+ 1	2.5	2.2	3/	3/
Underwear, corsets & brassieres	+ 1	0	+ 2	3.0	3.0	3/	3/
Coats and suits	+ 1	- 1	- 2	1.3	1.3	96	91
Dresses	+ 1	- 4	+ 4	1.4	1.4	89	113
Blouses, skirts, and sportswear	+ 9	+ 7	+ 7	2.1	2.2	119	161
Girls' wear	+ 9	+ 2	- 1	2.1	2.3	139	168
Infants' wear	+ 4	0	0	2.9	3.0	110	151
Aprons, housedresses, uniforms	- 3	- 5	- 5	2.0	2.1	3/	3/
Men's and boys' wear	- 2	- 2	+ 2	3.5	3.4	111	169
Men's wear	- 4	- 3	+ 3	3.7	3.5	100	163
Men's clothing	- 5	- 6	+ 2	3.7	3.5	123	190
Men's furnishings	- 4	0	+ 5	3.7	3.4	88	152
Boys' wear	+ 7	+ 5	- 1	2.9	3.1	150	189
Homefurnishings	-11	- 9	+ 3	3.7	3.2	81	112
Shoes	- 1	- 3	+ 1	4.1	4.0	116	146
<u>NONMERCHANDISE TOTAL</u>	- 1	+ 2	3/	3/	3/	141	3/
Barber and beauty shop	- 4	- 1	3/	3/	3/	158	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 1962, sales and stocks at these stores accounted for about 1/3 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.