

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS Industry and Merchandising Division OTTAWA

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce



CHAIN STORE SALES AND STOCKS

JULY, 1951

Increases in sales and inventories of chain food stores continued to outrank those for the five other chain store trades covered in this summary. July results showed sales 20% higher than in July last year, and stocks up 29%.

Sales of women's clothing chains increased 14% over July 1950. Inventory values, which began to incline more sharply some six months ago, reached a point on July 1st 19% higher than the value of stocks a year previously.

An 11% gain in sales volume was recorded by chein variety stores with a marked increase of 29% in variety store stocks. The number of units operated by the reporting firms increased from 501 in July 1950 to 521 in July 1951.

Chain shoe store sales increased 9% while chain drug store sales were 4% higher than in July 1950. Stocks for each of these trades were 13% higher than those held a year ago.

Hardware store sales were 6% lower than sales for July 1950. Stocks at July 1, 1951 were 6% higher than inventory values a year earlier.

Prepared in Merchandising and Services Section

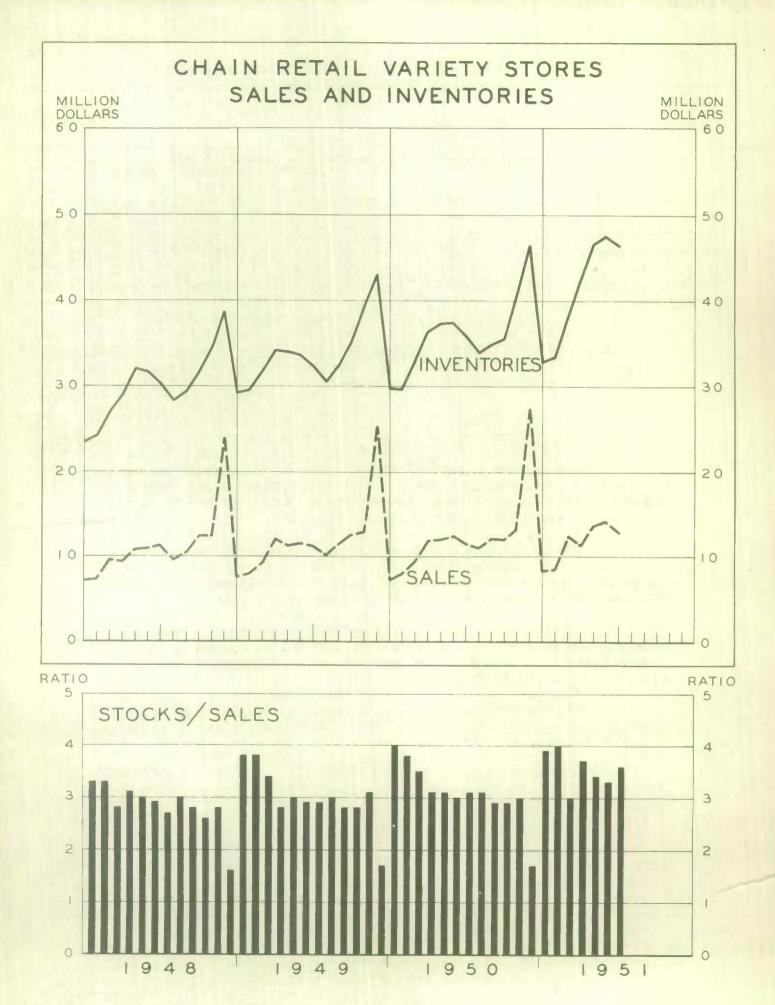


Table 1 - Sales and Stocks, for Six Trades, July 1951

Trade	Sales		Stocks		% Change July 1951/1950	
	July 1950	July 1951	July 1950	July 1951	Sales	Stocks
	\$000's	\$000's	\$000's	\$000°s	%	%
Food Stores	41,035 2,959 2,698 1,135 2,173 11,587	49,077 3,370 2,930 1,073 2,266 12,839	31,662 6,975 15,945 3,877 7,389 35,944	40,706 8,298 17,947 4,101 8,328 46,268	+ 19.6 + 13.9 + 8.6 - 5.5 + 4.3 + 10.8	+ 28.6 + 19.0 + 12.6 + 5.8 + 12.7 + 28.7

Table 2 - Sales/Stocks Relationships, July 1951

Trade	Stocks Rat	Stock Turnover	
11.506	July 1950	July 1951	July 1951
Food Stores	0.8	0.8	14.1
Women's Clothing Stores	2.4	2,5 6,1	4.6
Hardware Stores	3.4	3.8	3.3
Drug Stores	3.4	3.7	3.5
Variety Stores	3.1	3.6	3.4

Stock/Sales Ratios - are obtained by dividing stocks at selling value as at the beginning of the month by sales made during the month.

Stock Turnover Rates - are obtained by dividing sales in the 12 months ending with the report month by stocks at selling value at the beginning of the report month.

Table 3 - Number of Stores Operated by Sample Firms

Trade	Number of Stores		
1 rade	July 1950	June 1951	
Food Stores	775	760	
Women's Clothing Stores .	267	279	
Shoe Stores	464	473	
Hardware Stores	37	36	
Drug Stores	249	243	
Variety Stores	501	521	

The number of stores relates to the sample of chain companies used to determine trends. They constitute 85%, by volume, of the total chain store sales in each of the six different trades.

