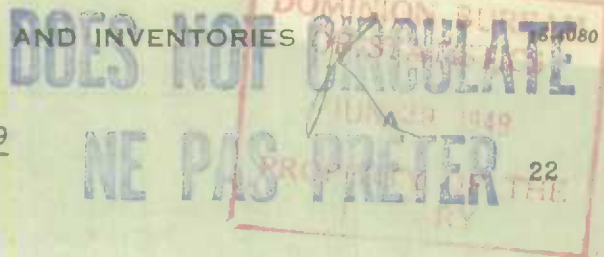


DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND INVENTORIES



BY PROVINCES

63 002 MAY, 1949

Total department store sales in Canada during May, 1949 were \$72,198,000, 11% above the May, 1948 total of \$65,229,000. Gains varied from 5% in Saskatchewan to 15% in the Maritime Provinces. Average increase for the first five months of 1949 over 1948 stood at 10%.

Mail order sales are attributed to the province in which offices receiving the orders are located.

Department Store Sales in May, 1948 and 1949

Province	Sales		% Change, 1949/1948
	1948 (\$000)	1949 (\$000)	
CANADA .....	65,229	72,198	+10.7
Maritime Provinces .	5,118	5,906	+15.4
Quebec .....	10,772	11,860	+10.1
Ontario .....	24,648	27,507	+11.6
Manitoba .....	9,241	10,119	+ 9.5
Saskatchewan .....	3,396	3,573	+ 5.2
Alberta .....	3,867	4,358	+12.7
British Columbia ...	8,187	8,875	+ 8.4

BY SELECTED DEPARTMENTS

The most substantial sales gains were recorded in household appliance, furniture and women's apparel departments. Food departments showed the only reduction in sales falling off 8% in comparison with May, 1948.

Inventories at the first of May were 11% higher this year than last. Stocks for household appliances, piece goods and women's apparel, continued high in relation to the previous year's inventory.

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DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND INVENTORIES

May, 1948 and May, 1949

These figures are estimates of total department store sales and inventories.  
Inventories are at selling value.

Department	SALES			INVENTORIES <sup>⊠</sup>		
	May, 1948 (\$000)	May, 1949 (\$000)	% Change, 1949/48	Apr. 30, 1948 (\$000)	Apr. 30, 1949 (\$000)	% Change 1949/48
TOTAL, ALL DEPARTMENTS ..	65,229	72,198	+10.7	171,468	191,036	+11.4
1. Women's dresses, coats and suits .....	7,909	9,352	+18.2	14,985	18,145	+21.1
2. Girls' and infants' wear .....	2,260	2,717	+20.2	5,456	7,418	+36.0
3. Hosiery and gloves .....	2,148	2,179	+ 1.4	4,838	5,526	+14.2
4. Lingerie and corsets ..	2,446	2,919	+19.3	5,813	7,168	+23.3
5. Millinery .....	715	775	+ 8.4	930	909	- 2.3
6. Women's and children's apparel - (Total, 1-5) ..	15,478	17,942	+15.9	32,022	39,166	+22.3
7. Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings .....	6,776	7,571	+11.7	20,259	22,531	+11.2
8. Drugs, toilet articles and preparations .....	1,348	1,438	+ 6.7	4,397	4,315	- 1.9
9. Piece goods .....	4,605	5,059	+ 9.9	15,192	18,764	+23.5
10. Smallwares .....	1,771	1,909	+ 7.8	7,168	7,481	+ 4.4
11. Food and kindred products ..	5,047	4,665	- 7.6	5,450	3,318	-39.1
12. Furniture (including mattresses and springs) ..	4,468	5,142	+15.1	12,281	12,771	+ 4.0
13. Home furnishings .....	5,645	6,060	+ 7.4	20,647	22,126	+ 7.2
14. Household appliances and electrical supplies ..	2,498	3,023	+21.0	5,751	8,035	+39.7
15. Hardware and kitchen utensils .....	3,946	4,379	+11.0	9,371	10,349	+10.4
16. Radios, musical instruments and supplies .....	822	832	+ 1.2	3,596	3,869	+ 7.6
17. Shoes and other footwear ..	4,825	5,329	+10.4	14,364	15,907	+10.7
18. Stationery, books and magazines .....	752	761	+ 1.2	3,290	3,268	- 0.7
19. All other departments, total .....	7,248	8,088	+11.6	17,680	19,136	+ 8.2

⊠ Comparisons are based on inventories at the beginning of May in the two years.

Canada totals do not include Newfoundland figures.