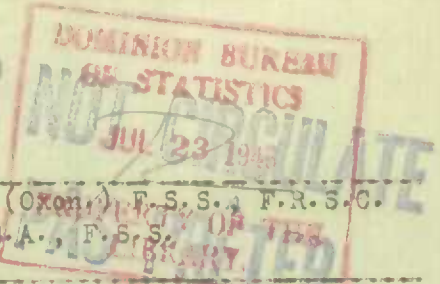


DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH
OTTAWA, CANADA



Dominion Statistician: S.A. Cudmore, M.A. (Oxon.), F.S.S., F.R.S.C.
Chief, Internal Trade Branch: Herbert Marshall, B.A., F.S.S.
Statistician: A.C. Steedman, B.A.
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PRELIMINARY REPORT ON DEPARTMENT STORE SALES, JUNE, 1943

Sales of department stores in Canada were 2 per cent lower in June, 1943, than in June, 1942, and were also 2 per cent below May of this year. The average monthly index during the first half of 1943 was 1.5 per cent greater than in the corresponding period of last year, gains of 8, 3 and 9 per cent in February, March and April being sufficient to offset decreases of 7 per cent in January and 2 per cent in each of the last two months. Unadjusted indexes (on the base, 1935-1939 = 100) stood at 136.5 for June, 1943, 139.6 for June, 1942 and 139.0 for May, 1943.

The index adjusted for differences in number of business days and for normal seasonal variations recorded a further sharp decline in the month under review. The index number of 130.6 for June, 1943, compares with 138.6 for May, 153.4 for April, 164.3 for March, 154.5 for February and 148.1 for January, and is lower than that of any month since June, 1941.

INDEXES OF THE DOLLAR VALUE OF DEPARTMENT STORE SALES, 1935 - 1939 = 100

	<u>1942</u> <u>June</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>1943</u> <u>May</u>	<u>June</u>
Unadjusted indexes	139.6	157.8	139.0	136.5
Adjusted indexes	134.1	153.4	138.6	130.6

Results for various regions of the country revealed that declines were more widespread than in May, the Prairie Provinces being the only section to report an increase in department store sales in June this year over last. Sales during the first six months of this year were 6 per cent greater than last year in the Prairie Provinces. June declines in other regions, with results for the half-year in brackets, were as follows: Maritime Provinces, -2 per cent (+2 per cent); Quebec, -5 per cent (+1 per cent); Ontario, -4 per cent (-3 per cent) and British Columbia, -2 per cent (+6 per cent).

A decline of 4 per cent in June this year below last is reported for 19 departmental firms which reported sales by departments. Results for most commodity groupings were strikingly similar to those occurring in the preceding month. Food sales, however, which had shown a slight increase in May this year over last, were 3 per cent lower in June, while furniture sales in department stores fell off 12 per cent in June and were down only 7 per cent in May below last year. The following are percentage changes from June, 1942 for other departments: women's apparel, +1 per cent; men's wear, -1 per cent; drugs, +5 per cent; piece goods, -8 per cent; smallwares, +3 per cent; home furnishings, -5 per cent; household appliances, -36 per cent; hardware, -14 per cent; radio and music, -26 per cent; shoes, -2 per cent; stationery, +11 per cent.

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN OTTAWA

Sales of Ottawa department stores were 17 per cent higher in June this year than last, while sales in the first six months of this year also averaged 17 per cent above the same six months of 1942.

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN CANADA, BY SELECTED DEPARTMENTS

June, 1942 and June, 1943

(Based on dollar sales of 19 firms including mail order houses)

	June, 1942	June, 1943	% Change, 1943/1942
	\$	\$	
TOTAL SALES, ALL DEPARTMENTS	25,733,329	24,707,356	- 4.0
1. Women's dresses, coats and suits	2,805,824	2,980,494	+ 6.2
2. Girls' and infants' wear	904,588	882,136	- 2.5
3. Hosiery and gloves	986,892	983,678	- 0.3
4. Lingerie and corsots	1,306,533	1,195,571	- 8.5
5. Millinery	296,057	307,630	+ 3.9
6. Women's and children's apparel--(Total, 1-5) ..	6,299,894	6,349,509	+ 0.8
7. Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings	2,900,281	2,879,159	- 0.7
8. Drug and toilet articles and preparations	692,668	728,156	+ 5.1
9. Piece goods	1,859,462	1,720,104	- 7.5
10. Smallwares	783,673	809,770	+ 3.3
11. Food and kindred products	2,287,207	2,116,738	- 7.5
12. Furniture (including mattresses and springs) ..	1,480,922	1,302,027	-12.1
13. Home furnishings	1,932,246	1,833,522	- 5.1
14. Household appliances and electrical supplies ..	710,123	457,676	-35.5
15. Hardware and kitchen utensils	1,234,121	1,056,156	-14.4
16. Radios, musical instruments and supplies	284,419	211,994	-25.5
17. Shoes and other footwear	2,126,170	2,079,566	- 2.2
18. Stationery, books and magazines	236,674	319,210	+11.3
19. All other departments, total	2,855,469	2,843,769	- 0.4



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Year	Value	Value	Description
1960	100,000	100,000	...
1961	105,000	105,000	...
1962	110,000	110,000	...
1963	115,000	115,000	...
1964	120,000	120,000	...
1965	125,000	125,000	...
1966	130,000	130,000	...
1967	135,000	135,000	...
1968	140,000	140,000	...
1969	145,000	145,000	...
1970	150,000	150,000	...
1971	155,000	155,000	...
1972	160,000	160,000	...
1973	165,000	165,000	...
1974	170,000	170,000	...
1975	175,000	175,000	...
1976	180,000	180,000	...
1977	185,000	185,000	...
1978	190,000	190,000	...
1979	195,000	195,000	...
1980	200,000	200,000	...