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MONTHLY INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES IN CANADA, JUNE, 1947 (1935-1939=100)

Retail stores in fourteen trades dealing principally in food, apparel, household equipment and personal effects reported sales averaging 7 per cent higher in June of this year than in June, 1946. Sales were down 6 per cent from May, 1947, but this trend is consistent with the normal seasonal movement from May to June. The increase over June a year ago was a little smaller than the average gain in earlier months of the year. At the close of the first half of this year, sales had established a margin of 9 per cent over the same period of 1946. Unadjusted indexes (on the base, 1935-1939=100) stood at 232.7 for June, 1947, 316.6 for June, 1946 and 247.7 for May, 1947.

Most of the individual trades recorded percentage changes in June which corresponded closely with the percentage changes in the first six months of this year as compared to the same period in 1946. The outstanding exception was that of food stores in which sales advanced only 6 per cent in June as compared with a 10 per cent advance for the year to date. In June, 1946 there were 5 Saturdays, while there were 4 in the same month of this year. This factor accounts for the modified increase in sales of food stores and may also have had similar effects on the June sales comparisons for other types of stores. Men's wear stores also showed a change in June which differed from that in the six-month comparison, but in this instance the June increase of 12 per cent was considerably larger than the gain of 8 per cent shown in the cumulative result. Shoe stores joined restaurants and jewellery stores in recording sales declines from June of last year, but the reductions for the first two of these trades were only fractional.

June sales of department stores were 15 per cent higher in 1947 than in 1946, this gain being identical with that shown in the January-June comparison. Country general and variety store increases, though cut in half from those experienced in the preceding month, were almost on a par with their average gains for the year to date at 6 and 7 per cent respectively.

From January to June, increases for apparel stores were remarkably uniform, at close to 7 per cent, but there was less uniformity in their June increases. A 12 per cent increase for men's clothing stores in June was followed by gains of 7 and 4 per cent for family clothing stores and women's apparel shops. Shoe store sales were practically unchanged in June this year compared with last and have an average gain of only 2 per cent in the cumulative results for six months.

Sales of radio and electrical stores were almost one-third higher in June this year than last. The increase for these continues far above those for other trades. The level of sales volume is currently quite high; higher than for most other trades relative to sales volume in the base period, 1935 to 1939. Furniture store sales in June were 12 per cent higher than in June last year, while June increases for hardware and drug stores were 9 and 3 per cent respectively. The only sizable reduction from June of last year was that for jewellery stores which reported sales 11 per cent lower, a decrease similar to that shown in the cumulative comparison for this trade.

Chain candy stores reported sales 2 per cent lower in June, 1947 compared with June, 1946. Sales averaged 2 per cent higher in the first half of this year compared with the same period of 1946. Retail furriers experienced an 8 per cent decline in sales between June, 1946 and June, 1947.

Regional Trends In Retail Trade

Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia were grouped closely with increases of 9 or 10 per cent in June and with gains of 10 or 11 per cent in the first half of this year compared with last. An increase of 5 per cent for the Prairie Provinces in June shows the largest diminution from results for earlier months of the year, sales in that region averaging 8 per cent higher in the cumulative comparison. June sales in the Maritimes barely exceeded last year's volume by 1 per cent, while sales in that section of the country stood 3 per cent higher in the first six months of the year.

Department Store Sales for Selected Departments

A number of the individual departments of department stores showed sales increases for June which exceeded 20 per cent. Sales of household appliance departments gained 38 per cent in June this year over last, this percentage gain exceeding those for other departments. Among other prominent increases were those for men's wear, food, furniture, home furnishings, and radio and music departments.

Department store sales in the first six months of 1946 and 1947 classified by commodity groups are summarized on Page 8 of this report.

Comparison of Retail Sales in Canada, and for Regions, by Kinds of Business (Comparisons are based on dollar sales. No corrections have been made for price changes.)

		June, 1947 Compared With						Jan.	-June	, 194	7 Com	pared !	With	
Kind of Business			June,	1946			June 1941	May, 1947		Jai	nJu	ne, 1	946	
	Can.	Mar. Prov.	Que.	Ont.	Pr. Prov.		CAN	ADA	CAN.	Mar. Prov.	Que.	Ont.	Pr. Prov.	Br. Col.
GENERAL INDEX	% + 7.4	%	% + 9	% + 9	+ 5	% +10	% +75.4	- 6.1	% + 9.2	% + 3	% +11	% +10	% + 8	% +11
General Merchandise Group; Country General Stores Department Stores Variety Stores	+15.0	+10	+ 7 +17 + 9		+ 4 +14 + 6	+14 +17 + 3	+84.6 +78.4 +61.9	-11.0	+ 7.3 +15.0 + 7.5	+10	+ 6 +19 +10	+10 +15 + 8	+ 6 +14 + 5	+12 +15 + 8
Food Group; Food Stores	+ 5.9		+ 8		+ 1 - 2	+ 4 + 3	+68.9		+ 9.7	+ 4	+11 (a)	+11 (a)	+ 7 - 1	+ 9 + 4
Clothing Group: Funily Clothing Stores Men's Clothing Stores Women's Clothing Stores Shoe Stores	+11.7	- 8 + 2	+10 +15 +10 - 3	+ 8 +14 + 1 + 1	+ 4 + 8 + 5 + 2	+ 8 +21 + 9 + 4	+88.7 +84.8 +79.4 +60.1	+ 3.4	+ 7.3 + 7.9 + 7.3 + 1.9	-10 + 4	+10 +14 +12 + 2	+10 +11 + 5 + 3	+ 4 (a) + 4 - 2	+ 8 + 11 + 11 + 1
Household and Personal Effects Group: Drug Stores	+12.4 + 9.3 -11.1	+22 - 2 -16	+ 8 +12 +14 - 7 +42	+ 3 +13 +10 -14 +32	+ 3 - 3 + 7 -13 +17	+ 4 +13 + 8 - 2 +44	+67.1 +70.2 +99.8 +75.4 +94.4	-11.3 - 2.5 - 4.2	+ 4.0 +12.0 + 9.5 -10.5 +39.2	+18 + 5 -18	+ 5 +15 +12 - 1 +33	+ 4 +14 + 9 -13 +46	+ 4 - 4 + 8 -14 +27	+ 5 + 9 +12 - 8 +53

⁽a) Change of less than 0.5 per cent.

⁽b) Based on sales including the Federal Tax introduced in June, 1942.

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES AND INVENTORIES IN CANADA, BY SELECTED DEPARTMENTS

June, 1946 and June, 1947

These figures are derived from a sample of reporting companies and are not to be interpreted as totals for all department stores.

			SALES		INVENTORY (*)
	DEPARTMENT	June 1946	June 1947	% Change, 1947/1946	% Change, May 31,1947 May 31, 1946
		\$	\$		
	TOTAL, ALL DEPARTMENTS	34,953,026	40,195,852	+15.0	+42.6
1.	Women's dresses, coats and suits	4,107,659	4,238,591	+ 3.2	+ 4.7
2.	Girls' and infants' wear	1,130,856	1,289,974	+14.1	+26.4
3.	Hosiery and gloves	1,140,756	1,233,168	+ 8.1	+79.2
4.	Lingerie and corsets	1,380,547	1,535,257	+11.2	+72.0
	Millinery	341,630	379,839	+11.2	- 1.3
	Women's and children's apparel - (Total, 1-5)	8,101,448	8,676,829	+ 7.1	+2 5,2
	Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings	3,651,172	4,527,386	+24.0	+75.8
8.	Drugs and toilet articles and preparations	955,224	962,260	+ 0.7	+ 4.3
9.	Piece goods	2,617,256	2,871,240	+ 9.7	+76.2
10.	Smallwares	1,165,271	1,262,241	+ 8.3	+ 9.4
	Food and kindred products	2,605,694	3,134,895	+20.3	+28.7
12.	Furniture (including mattresses and springs)	2,427,722	3,060,084	+26.0	+82.3
	Home furnishings	2,696,848	3,298,418	+22.3	+70.1
14.	Household appliances and electrical supplies	1,009,669	1,387,948	+37.5	+87.1
	Hardware and kitchen utensils Radios, musical instruments and	1,860,786	2,131,492	+14.5	+45.9
10.	supplies	458,758	578,524	+26.1	+142.8
17.	Shoes and other footwear	2,748,217	2,946,761	+ 7.2	+24.9
18.	Stationery, books and magazines	516,487	544,738	+ 5.5	+ 6.7
19.	All other departments, total	4,138,474	4,813,036	+16.3	+21.7
(*)	Please observe that these comparison	s are based	on the inv	entory situs	ition at

(*) Please observe that these comparisons are based on the inventory situation at the beginning of June in the two years.

CANADA - Indexes of Retail Sales - (Average for 1935-1939 = 100)

A. Unadjusted. B. Adjusted for Number of Business Days and Seasonal Variations.

(Figures for the current year are subject to final revision)

Year and Month	General Index			Country General		Department		lety
	A	В	A	В	A	В	A	В
June, 1941	132.7	134.4	115.8	116.1	123.7	123.1	154.0	154.8
June, 1943	161.0	158.9	153.9	150.6	136.8	130.9	184.3	181.6
June, 1945	197.1	184.7	183.5	172.6	169.1	160.6	212.3	193.9
June, 1946	216.6	210.6	201.6	197.3	191.9	189.5	233.2	220.3
May, 1947	247.7	234.0	238.0	212.7	248.0	238.7	252.7	251.6
June, 1947	232.7	235.1	213.8	215.1	220.7	218.8	249.4	249.8

Year and Month	Foo	d	Resta	urants	Family Clothing		Men's(a) Clothing	
0-40	A	B	A	В	A	В	A	В
June, 1941	139.4	145.7	119.3	121.5	137.7	139.1	137.4	134.8
June, 1943	171.7	174.5	176.5	176.7	179.4	176.2	171.9	166.2
June, 1945	211.0	197.2	199.9	199.4	216.5	198.8	212.3	189.5
June, 1946	222.3	216.4	210.1	213.2	243.7	231.0	227.4	209.1
ay, 1947	247.6	237.7	208.0	202.3	278.8	267.4	245.6	251.5
June, 1947	235.4	245.1	208.4	212.1	259.8	259.7	253.9	249.5

Year and Month	Momen's Clothing		Shoes		Drug		Furniture	
	A	В	A	В	A	В	A	В
June, 1941	132.9	123.4	160.7	130.4	122.9	133.5	134.7	141.0
June, 1943	174.7	166.0	202.6	163.7	154.2	164.0	118.6	121.2
June, 1945	221.3	199.3	263.2	191.9	184.6	190.6	163.9	159.3
June, 1946	228.9	213.3	257.7	195.7	198.6	209.2	204.0	206.0
May, 1947	273.1	258.0	238.4	208.2	212.2	212.2	258.4	206.2
June, 1947	238.4	231.1	257.3	209.6	205.4	220.8	229.2	239.8

Year and month	Hardware	(b) Jewellery	Radio and Electrical		
	A B	A B	A	В	
June, 1941	157.7 135.1	134.8 147.8	136.6	148.2	
June, 1943	168.9 141.9	167.1 176.3	106.4	111.0	
June, 1945	219.1 177.8	232.9 245.7	117.8	122.9	
June, 1946	288.4 242.3	266.0 291.7	200.3	217.3	
May, 1947	323.3 241.1	246.7 275.0	280.7	241.5	
June, 1947	315.1 269.0	236.4 259.3	265.6	288.2	

⁽a) Includes men's furnishings.

⁽b) Based on sales including the Federal Tax introduced in June, 1942.

Unadjusted Indexes of Retail Sales by Regions - (Average for 1935 - 1939 = 100)

(Figures for the current year are subject to final revision)

Year and	Month	General Index	Country General	Depart- ment	Variety	Food	Restau- rant	Family Clothing	
Maritime Provinces									
June, 1941		143.0	108.2	147.0	196.7	132.3	178.9	140.9	
June, 1946			220.5	209.0	267.4	237.6	257.8	286.4	
May, 1947		271.2	262.9	285.5	278.0	253.7	245.0	293.5	
June, 1947		245.6	223.8	230.5	272.1	236.6	233.5	268.5	
				Quebec					
June, 1941		140.0	134.4	129.0	172.3	141.4	117.2	154.4	
June, 1946		227.9	226.8	217.3	287.4	220.2	209.0	275.0	
May, 1947		261.6	261.6	290.9	320.3	245.4	215.3	314.5	
June, 1947		249.4	242.9	253.6	312.8	237.1	207.4	303.4	
				Ontario					
June, 1941			114.7	125.2	144.5	136.1	115.1	129.7	
June, 1946		204.7	181.1	183.5	211.8	208.2	202.6	197.6	
May, 1947		239.0	228.6	236.7	228.6	247.9	200.9	239.1	
June, 1947		222.5	195.7	212.0	228.4	226.0	203.5	213.1	
			• Pra	irie Prov	inces				
June, 1941		124.0	106.7	114.5	144.0	146.8	124.0	122.8	
June, 1946		214.5	187.8	181.4	215.8	250.0	219.8	257.0	
May, 1947		239.7	217.0	230.5	230.6	253.1	210.3	282.1	
June, 1947		225.7	195.5	206.3	227.8	252.5	213.8	268.2	
				tish Colu	mbia				
June, 1941			116.9	120.8	118.1	146.2	100.2	122.9	
June, 1946		224.2	208.3	204.2	174.5	239.9	200.4	226.2	
May, 1947		251.6	240.8	253.9	185.0	238.7	196.9	270.9	
June, 1947		246.0	237.8	238.5	179.1	248.8	205.4	244.2	

Unadjusted Indexes of Retail Sales by Regions - (Average for 1935 - 1939 = 100)

(Figures for the current year are subject to final revision)

Men's(a) Clothing	Women's Clothing	Shoes	Drugs	Furniture	Hardware	(b) Jewellery	Radio and Electrical
			Mariti	ime Province	8		
173.2	162.6	176.1	133.7	163.5	150.8	170.7	142.0
292.6	308.5	295.7	222.8	290.5	306.2	331.4	245.0
278.9	384.5	270.9	225.0	372.4	310.7	310.2	290.4
269.6	307.1	283.9	212.9	355.1	299.6	278.5	305.0
				Quebec			
141.5	141.7	154.3	119.0	138.2	177.2	126.1	132.9
222.1	226.2	239.8	189.4	202.2	309.4	247.4	215.9
241.8	270.7	222.0	211.1	271.9	345.5	236.1	273.3
255.3	247.6	233.0	205.0	226.6	353.4	231.2	305.7
				Ontario			
136.6	129.7	165.5	125.5	134.5	161.4	137.0	140.8
222.9	235.5	266.8	189.9	183.7	258.1	258.9	167.2
244.8	266.5	234.0	201.3	229.8	293.8	240.8	252.2
253.6	236.8	269.3	195.5	208.4	283.9	222.9	220.9
			Prair	ie Provinces			
126.0	115.8	162.9	120.7	109.9	139.5	129.9	128.7
230.4	195.0	240.4	208.0	201.6	295.7	295.2	258.8
244.9	250.1	235.5	219.4	212.8	328.7	256.8	360.6
247.6	203.9	244.3	213.9	195.7	315.9	257.3	303.9
			Briti	sh Columbia			
116.0	136.9	138.5	112.7	124.9	138.0	127.2	134.0
205.4	222.8	249.9	230.5	235.8	340.2	255.7	215.6
232.9	301.0	289.3	252.7	290.3	403.4	240.7	309.6
247.6	243.4	260.0	239.8	267.4	368.4	251.4	310.4

⁽a) Includes men's furnishings.

⁽b) Based on sales including the Federal Tax introduced in June, 1942.



DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN CANADA, BY SELECTED DEPARTMENTS

Jan.-June, 1946 and Jan.-June, 1947

These figures are derived from a sample of reporting companies and are not to be interpreted as totals for all department stores.

=		Town True	Town 7	of ob-
		JanJune, 1946	JanJune, 1947	% Change, 1947/1946
		3	*	
	TOTAL, ALL DEPARTMENTS	207,449,700	238,009,889	+14.7
1.	Women's dresses, coats and suits	24,594,407	26,769,972	+ 8.8
2.	Girls' and infants' wear	7,722,980	8,687,154	+12.5
3.	Fosiery and gloves	7,261,220	8,185,133	+12.7
4.	Lingerie and corsets	7,960,440	8,901,814	+11.8
5.	Millinery	2,489,085	2,649,467	+ 6.4
6.	Women's and children's apparel - (Total,1-5)	50,028,132	55,193,540	+10,3
7.	Men's and boys' clothing and furnishings	21,447,529	24,601,047	+14.7
8.	Drugs and toilet articles and preparations .	5,610,192	5,748,824	+ 2.5
9.	Piece goods	16,491,187	18,965,501	+15.0
10.	Smallwares	7,030,914	7,948,215	+13.0
11.	Food and kindred products	16,427,106	18,882,704	+14.9
12.	Furniture (including mattresses and springs)	14,992,173	17,204,881	+14.8
13.	Home furnishings	15,504,122	19,270,286	+24.3
14.	Household appliances and electrical supplies	5,807,366	8,294,264	+42.8
15.	Hardware and kitchen utensils	10,446,568	12,080,211	+15.6
16.	Radios, musical instruments and supplies	2,860,600	4,352,573	+52.2
17.	Shoes and other footwear	14,434,414	15,826,818	+ 9.6
1.8.	Stationery, books and magazines	3,413,870	3,792,949	+11.1
19.	All other departments, total	22,955,527	25,848,076	+12.6