

Dominion Statistician:
Chief: Internal Trade Branch: Herbert Marshall, B.A., F.S.S.

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## CHANGES IN THE TALUE OF RETAIL SALES, JANUARY, 1937

The dollar value of retail sales for January receded seasonally Irom the exceptionally high level reached during December but was still 8.6 per cent greater than the amount reported for January a year ago. The general index (unadjusted), on the basis of the average monthly sales for 1930 equals 100 , stands at, 64.2 for January of this year compared with 59.1 for January, $1936,57.8$ for January, 2935 , and 57.7 for January, 193:.

When adjusted for differences in number of business days and for normal seasonal variations, the general index stands at 75.5 for January compared with 81.9 for Decomber, 76.5 for November, 76.9 for both october and September, and 75.5 for August. From these figures, it may be seen that the underlying trend of consumer purchasing continues at about the same level as that obtaining in the autumn months of last year.

Without adjustments for differences in number of business days or for seasonal variations, actual dollar sales of 11 kind-of-business groups were higher in January of this year compared with last and sales of two groups were lower. Hardware store sales were lip 37.8 per cent, and furniture store sales were up 26.4 per cent. Increases for other groups wene as follows: Momen's clothing, $17.3 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$.; variety stores, $15.5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. ; music and radio stores, $8.3 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c} . ;$ drug stores, $7.0 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c} . ;$ department stores, 6.9 p.c.; boot and shoe stores, 6.9 p.c.; grocery and meat stores, 6.6 p.c.; men's clothing stores, 5.1 p.c., and restaurants, 5.0 p.c. Candy store sales were 3.4 per cent lower in January of this year compared with last and receipts of dyeing and cleaning establishments were down by 8.7 per cent.

These statistics are calculated from returns furnished by 36 large departmental firms and 199 chains comprising more than 3,600 stores. The average for 1930 has been taken as 100 . Three series of index numbers for each kind of business are shown in the tables following. The first series is unadjusted. The second series is computed on an average daily basis and makes allowance not only for the varying number of business days in the different months but also for the varying sales importance of the days of the week. The third series is corrected for number of business days and also for seasonal variations.

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A. Unadjusted. B. Corrected for Number of Business Days.
C. Ldjusted for Number of Business Days and Seasonal Variations

| Year and Month | Departmental ( 36 Firms) |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Drugs } \\ & 4 \text { Firms) } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |  | Dyers and Cleaners ( 8 Chains) |  |  | Furniture (26 Firms) |  |  | Groceries and Meats$\qquad$ ( 34 Chains) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | A | B | C | A | B | C | A | B | C | A | B | C | A | B | C |
| 1935 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 54.1 | 53.4 | 66.7 | 72.1 | 70.6 | 73.6 | 51.7 | 50.8 | 72.6 | 43.8 | 43.4 | 65.7 | 71.7 | 71.7 | 73.9 |
| February | 54.4 | 57.9 | 69.0 | 68.9 | 74.7 | 73.9 | 44.7 | 47.6 | 68.1 | 55.6 | 59.2 | 71.3 | 67.6 | 71.8 | 73.2 |
| March | 61.4 | 59.7 | 67.1 | 76.8 | 74.8 | 74.1 | 64.1 | 63.0 | 70.0 | 62.2 | 60.2 | 69.2 | 75.2 | 70.0 | 72.9 |
| April | 72.6 | 74.9 | 72.7 | 71.7 | 73.0 | 73.8 | 96.3 | 98.4 | 70.3 | 81.2 | 83.3 | 71.2 | 73.9 | 78.1 | 73.0 |
| hay. | 70.5 | 69.6 | 68.2 | 72.0 | 70.4 | 73.3 | 93.7 | 92.1 | 73.7 | 83.9 | 83.1 | 65.9 | 74.8 | 74.7 | 70.5 |
| June | 72.1 | 72.8 | 75.1 | 70.7 | 71.3 | 70.6 | 90.0 | 92.0 | 82.9 | 69.1 | 69.2 | 69.9 | 71.4 | 68.9 | 68.9 |
| July | 55.4 | 54.9 | 68.6 | 71.4 | 70.4 | 72.5 | 77.6 | 76.3 | 77.9 | 55.5 | 54.9 | 70.4 | 69.9 | 70.4 | 71.8 |
| August | 60.4 | 56.6 | 70.8 | 74.1 | 70.8 | 72.2 | 76.5 | 72.4 | 75.4 | 76.5 | 71.5 | 71.5 | 71.5 | 64.6 | 70.2 |
| Septomber | 71.6 | 76.3 | 73.4 | 69.8 | 72.6 | 74.1 | 83.2 | 88.6 | 73.2 | 80.7 | 85.9 | 71.6 | 69.6 | 73.9 | 73.9 |
| October. | 87.6 | 83.6 | 72.7 | 74.4 | 72.9 | 73.6 | 88.1 | 83.4 | 75.1 | 89.2 | 85.4 | 76.2 | 77.3 | 75.4 | 75.4 |
| November | 88.5 | 86.0 | 75.4 | 76.8 | 75.7 | 75.7 | 71.1 | 69.9 | 77.6 | 77.9 | 75.1 | 74.4 | 75.4 | 70.1 | 70.8 |
| December | 116.5 | 119.6 | 78.7 | 87.9 | 88.4 | 77.5 | 56.6 | 57.8 | 75.1 | 81.7 | 84.1 | 75.8 | 80.3 | 83.9 | 78.4 |
| 1936 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January . . . . . . . . ...... | 53.6 | 52.7 | 65.9 | 72.6 | 70.9 | 73.8 | 51.9 | 51.0 | 71.8 | 46.9 | 46.4 | 70.3 | 75.2 | 74.2 | 76.5 |
| February | 57.8 | 58.4 | 69.5 | 73.7 | 75.3 | 74.6 | 48.8 | 49.9 | 71.3 | 59.0 | 59.1 | 71.1 | 74.2 | 71.6 | 73.1 |
| March ... | 62.5 | 61.9 | 72.0 | 73.8 | 74.2 | 73.5 | 68.4 | 67.2 | 70.7 | 62.1 | 61.4 | 70.6 | 74.8 | 76.0 | 78.3 |
| April | 72.1 | 74.0 | 69.8 | 74.3 | 75.2 | 75.9 | 112.0 | 114.5 | 84.8 | 86.1 | 88.3 | 75.5 | 73.8 | 76.7 | 72.4 |
| May . . ................... | 74.7 | 75.2 | 73.8 | 74.1 | 72.1 | 75.1 | 105.6 | 107.9 | 86.3 | 94.1 | 94.2 | 74.8 | 79.3 | 75.1 | 70.9 |
| June | 73.4 | 72.7 | 75.0 | 72.5 | 73.8 | 73.1 | 90.9 | 89.3 | 80.5 | 76.3 | 75.5 | 76.2 | 74.1 | 75.2 | 75.2 |
| July | 57.7 | 56.8 | 71.0 | 75.1 | 73.3 | 75.6 | 82.7 | 81.3 | 82.9 | 62.5 | 61.8 | 79.3 | 74.2 | 73.3 | 74.7 |
| August | 62.8 | 61.3 | 76.6 | 73.0 | 71.7 | 73.2 | 76.6 | 75.2 | 78.3 | 79.8 | 79.9 | 79.9 | 74.8 | 70.9 | 77.0 |
| September . .............. | 78.8 | 80.9 | 77.8 | 73.8 | 74.6 | 76.2 | 87.0 | 88.9 | 73.4 | 91.6 | 93.9 | 78.3 | 74.9 | 77.0 | 77.0 |
| October . ................ | 94.7 | 88.7 | 77.2 | 81.6 | 77.9 | 78.7 | 84.4 | 79.9 | 72.0 | 104.2 | 97.4 | 87.0 | 83.4 | 75.4 | 75.4 |
| November | 85.0 | 87.3 | 76.6 | 74.1 | 77.0 | 77.0 | 56.9 | 58.2 | 64.6 | 84.6 | 86.8 | 85.9 | 73.4 | 76.3 | 77.1 |
| December . .............. | 126.8 | 125.7 | 82.7 | 94.0 | 92.0 | 80.7 | 69.7 | 68.5 | 88.9 | 100.4 | 99.4 | 89.5 | 88.4 | 89.7 | 83.8 |
| 1937 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January | 57.3 | 58.0 | 72.5 | 77.7 | 75.5 | 78.7 | 47.4 | 48.5 | 68.3 | 59.3 | 59.4 | 90.0 | 80.2 | 77.4 | 79.8 |


| Year aind Montin | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Hardware } \\ & (16 \text { Uinans) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | and $:$ <br> Chain | io | Restaurants(14 Chains) |  |  | Variety(12 Cnains) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | A | B | C | A | B | C | A | B | C | A | B | C |
| 1935 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Januaty | 52.4 | 51.5 | 80.5 | 37.2 | $30 . ?$ | 4.4 .2 | 49.0 | 48.1 | 51.7 | 53.2 | 53.3 | 79.5 |
| Fubruary | 49.8 | 53.0 | 73.0 | 36.1 | 38.6 | 44.4 | 44.9 | 48.7 | 50.8 | 57.7 | 61.5 | 83.1 |
| Merch . | 62.3 | 61.2 | 79.5 | 39.7 | 37.2 | 47.8 | 51.4 | 50.5 | 52.0 | 67.5 | 63.7 | 80.6 |
| April | Ốs 6 | 52.4 | 73.5 | 35.5 | 36.4 | 45.0 | 50.7 | 51.4 | 50.9 | 77.9 | 80.9 | 87.0 |
| Way | 102:4 | 100.8 | 74.1 | 43.0 | 42.4 | 48.8 | 5.9 | 50.8 | 50.8 | 79.5 | 79.7 | 76.6 |
| June | 87.2 | 88.2 | 77.6 | 30.1 | 30.? | 43.5 | 49.8 | 50.7 | 50.2 | 88.6 | 86.1. | 82.6 |
| July | 82.9 | 83.5 | 81.1 | 26.6 | 26.2. | 40.4 | 51.2 | 50.2 | 48.8 | 82.8 | 83.3 | 83.3 |
| Ausust | 84.9 | 81.5 | 80.0 | 35.2 | 33.4 | 44.0 | 5504 | 53.6 | 50.6 | 83.7 | 76.6 | 83.3 |
| Seytantar | $90 . ?$ | 99.7 | 81.2 | 52.3 | 55.9 | 40.8 | 53.0 | 54.5 | 51.9 | 77.9 | 83.0 | 85.5 |
| Detobes | 95.5 | 92,6 | 82.7 | 66.6 | 63.3 | 48.0 | 54.3 | 53.3 | 53.3 | 90.4 | 88.1 | 83.7 |
| November | 81.4 | 82.1 | 87.3 | 66.0 | 65.1 | 46.2 | 52.5 | 52.6 | 54.7 | 91.3 | 86.1 | 85.2 |
| Desember | 77.9 | 81.07 | 80.1 | 67.7 | 69.5 | 4.4 .0 | 55.7 | 55.4 | 54.3 | 164.0 | 169.7 | 91.7 |
| 1936 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jaruary .............000 | 54.5 | 54.9 | 85.8 | 4.3 .2 | 4.2 .6 | 53.04 | 50.4 | 49.3 | 53.0 | 53.4 | 53.3 | 79.6 |
| February ...o.......0.000 | 51,9 | 54, 4 | 80.0 | $40 \cdot 4$ | 4.1 .5 | 47.7 | 49.0 | 50.8 | 53.0 | 60.8 | 59.1 | 79,8 |
| March oc.o.cecoc.ownouck | 69.0 | 69.6 | 90.4 | 36.6 | 36.2 | 44.1 | 52.7 | 52.4 | 54.0 | 65.1 | 65.5 | 81.8 |
| aprii | 86.5 | 70.7 | 30. 4 | 36.7 | 37.8 | 40.7 | 51.7 | 52.4 | 51.9 | 80.4 | 83.2 | 90.5 |
| May | 115.3 | 120.9 | 88.7 | 50.2 | 51.5 | 59.1 | 53.3 | 52.3 | 52.3 | 9.1 .2 | 88.3 | 84.9 |
| June | 120.0 | 110.7 | ?6.4 | 34.9 | 34. 5 | 48.5 | 52.4 | 53.1 | 52.6 | 93.1 | 93.6 | 90.9 |
| July | 97.9 | 98.7 | 35.8 | 30.01 | 33.6 | 51.7 | 55.8 | 54.6 | 53.0 | 88.8 | 88.7 | 88.7 |
| August .0.0.c...0.0.0.0.0. | 101.5 | 102. 3 | 100.3 | 31.0 | 31.5 | 4.2.5 | 57.3 | 56.4 | 53.2 | 87.2 | 82.5 | 89.6 |
| September .0000.0.c.0.00 | 11.6.5 | 122.1 | 100.1 | 63.3 | 64.9 | 47.4 | 55.3 | 56.1 | 53.4 | 85.5 | 88.4 | 91.1 |
| October | 120.7 | 117.2 | 104.7 | 69.8 | 66.3 | 50.3 | 54.6 | 52.9 | 52.9 | 100.7 | 92.2 | 87.8 |
| November ...eno......... | 99.7 | 104.5 | 111.2 | 60.9 | 62.6 | 44.4 | 53.0 | 54.4 | 56.7 | 90.5 | 93.7 | 92.7 |
| December .............. | 109.5 | 110.4 | 108.2 | 77.8 | 76.8 | 48.6 | 60.0 | 58.9 | 57.7 | 183.0 | 184.1 | 99.5 |
| 1231 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| January ................. | 75.1 | 78.7 | 123.0 | 46.8 | 48.0 | 57.9 | 52.9 | 51.9 | 55.8 | 61.7 | 59.9 | 89.4 |

D. Percentage change from corresponding month in 1930.
E. Percentage change from corresponding month in preceding year.

| Months | General Index |  | Boots and Shoes |  | Candy |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nen's } \\ & \text { Clothing } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | Departmental |  | Drugs |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | D | E | D | E | D | E | E | H | D | E | D | E | D |  |
| December, $1934 \ldots$ | -23.9 | $+7.5$ | $-7.2$ | $+26.4$ | $-28.8$ | + 2.9 | $-13.7$ | +28.0 | -18.9 | -2.2 | -21.0 | $+11.6$ | -21.7 | $+3.8$ |
| December, 1935. | -21.7 | + 2.9 | -10.5 | - 3.5 | -27.9 | $+1.2$ | -8.5 | $+6.0$ | $-19.2$ | - 0.4 | -19.5 | $+1.9$ | -19.4 | + 2.9 |
| December, 1936. | $-13.7$ | $+10.2$ | $-1.5 .5$ | - 5.6 | -29.2 | - 1.8 | + 0.2 | $+9.5$ | -10.4 | +11.0 | -12.4 | $+8.8$ | -13.8 | + 6.9 |
| Januaiy, $1934 \ldots$ | $-38.4$ | $+5.5$ | $-32.7$ | + 0.7 | -43.9 | $+3.3$ | -52.7 | -10.9 | -44.1 | $+1.7$ | $-39.0$ | $+8.5$ | $-29.6$ | -0.7 |
| J anuary, 1935 | -38.3 | $+0.2$ | $-35.0$ | - 3.3 | -53.0 | -16.2 | -.4.2.6 | +21.4 | -48.9 | - 8.6 | $-41.2$ | -3.6 | -27.5 | $+3.0$ |
| January, $1936 \ldots$ | -36.9 | + 2.2 | -39.6 | - 7.1 | -47.2 | +12.3 | $-39.6$ | $+5.1$ | -46.9 | + 3.9 | -41.7 | - 0.9 | -27.0 | + 0.7 |
| January, $1937 \ldots$ | -31.5 | +8.6 | $-35=4$ | +6.9 | $-48.8$ | -3.1 | $-36,5$ | + 5.1 | -37.7 | +17.3 | -37.7 | $+6.9$ | -21.9 | $+7.0$ |


| Wonths | Dyers and Cleaners |  | Groceries and ideats |  |  |  | ivusic and Radio |  |  |  | Restaurants |  | Variety |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | D | 近 | D | H | d |  | D |  | D | - | D |  | D. |  |
| December, 1934. | -20.0 | + 7.8 | -32.8 | +19.9 | $-28.5$ | - 4.2 | -27.6 | $+27.0$ | -60.7 | +25.3 | -44.1 | - 2.4 | -14.2 | $+9.9$ |
| December, 1935.. | -23.4 | - 4.2 | -28.1 | + 6.9 | $-23.7$ | $+6.6$ | -29.4 | - 2.5 | -60.5 | $+0.4$ | -42.0 | + 3.7 | -11.8 | + 2.8 |
| December, 1936. | -5.7 | +23.1 | $-11.7$ | +22.9 | -16.0 | $+10.1$ | -0.7 | +40.6 | $-54.6$ | +14.9 | -37.6 | + 7.7 | - 1.6 | $+11.6$ |
| January, 1934. | -26.4 | +19.1 | $-46.0$ | +34.9 | -33.6 | $+6.1$ | -42.0 | $+6.0$ | $-71.3$ | $+2.7$ | -51.1 | - 5.9 | -20.0 | $+1.3$ |
| January, 1935 .. | -28.2 | -2.5 | -45.9 | +0.2 | -32.7 | $+1.3$ | -27.8 | +24.5 | -64.7 | $+23.2$ | -53.2 | - 4.3 | -22.4 | - 3.1 |
| January, $1936 . .$. | -27.9 | + 0.4 | -42.0 | $+7.1$ | -29.5 | + 4.9 | -24.9 | $+4.0$ | -59.0 | $+16.1$ | -51.8 | + 2.9 | -22.2 | + 0.4 |
| January, 1937 ... | -34.2 | -8.7 | -26.7 | +26.4 | -24.7 | +6.8 | $+3.4$ | +37.8 | -55.6 | +8.3 | -49.4 | + 5.0 | -10.1 | +15.5 |

N.B. These percentage changes are based upon actual monthly sales figures. No allowances have been made for differences in the number of working days or for seasonal variations.




