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## CANADA

DOMINTON BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CENSUS OF MERCHANDISING AND SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS

## STATISTICS ON GROSS MARGINS

IN RETAIL TRADE

Published by Authority of the Hon. W.D. Euler, M.P., Minister of Trade and Commerce.

## OTTAWA

It should be clearly recognized that these gross margin figures - relate to the total business of stores grouped according to kind-of-business groupings and not to specified commodities. For example, gross margin for grocery stores for Canada as a whole in 1955 is shown in Table 1 as 16.8 per cent. This does not mean, of course, that the gross margin on every article sold in grocery stores formed 16.8 per cent of the sales of that commodity. For some commodities the gross margin ratio would be less than this figure and for others it would be more. But in the aggregate, including all commodities sold, gross margin formed 16.8 per cent of annual sales in grocery stores in 1935.

While the gross margin percentages shown in Table 1 are thought to be fairly typical of average operating results, certain factors should be kept in mind in considering the figures shown for certain kinds of business. For the Census of Merchandising Establishments, all stores are assigned to a kind-of-business classification based partly on the major comodities sold and partly according to popular designation. But not all stores within one classification are homogeneous in the relative proportions of various commodities which are sold. Different department stores sell varying proportions of grocery and meat products. Some candy and confectionery stores may provide meals while others may sell limited quantities of grocery products. The classification "Restaurants, cafeterias and lunch rooms" includes establishments selling varying proportions of candy and confectionery products in addition to the sale of meals. The gross margin figures for automobile dealers may be affected by varying trade-in values placed upon used cars and included in the value of purchases for the year. Some establishments (especially in the coal and wood business) may do a certain amount of business at wholesale prices so that the gross margin figures may be slightly lower than would be the case if all sales were on a retail basis.

## Middle Range Figures

The figures shown in Table 1 are computed from the aggregate sales and aggregate gross margins of the reporting firms. That is, these are weighted averages in which the larger stores have more weight in determining the figures shown than have the smaller firms. Table 2 presents gross margin averages in the determination of which all firms have the same weight irrespective of their size. The number of stores included in the sample is shown for each kind of business and gross margin ratios are shown under three headings: "Lower quartile", "Median", and "Upper quartile". These figures were derived in the following way: Gross margin as a percentage of sales was first computed for each individual store. These percentages were then arranged in an array from smallest to largest and three percontages were picked out as follows: the figure one-quarter the total distance from the lower end of the array (The Lower quartile), the figure half way through the array (The Median), and the figure three-quarters of the way through the array (The Upper Quartile). The median figure divides the array in half. The number of stores with a gross margin percentage of sales less than this figure is the same as the number of stores with a gross margin in excess of that figure. Obviously also, one-half the total number of stores will have a gross margin percentage of sales lying between the Lower and Upper quartiles.

Table 2 shows that 1,389 grocery stores reported data for this study. The median figure for gross margin is 16.4 per cent of sales as compared with 16.8 per cent as obtained by the weighted method and shown in Table l. The lower and upper quartiles are 13.5 per cent and 19.5 per cent respectively, indicating that one-quarter of the stores had a gross margin percentage of sales below the former figure, one-quarter of the total number of firms had a gross margin in excess of the latter figure, while one-half the stores (the middle half) had a gross margin ratio lying between 13.5 and 19.5 per cent of sales.

The lower and upper quartiles give a measure of the dispersion of the ratios for individual firms about the average figure. Fifty per cent of the grocery stores reporting had a gross margin percentage of sales lying between 13.5 per cent and 19.5 per cent or within a range of 6 points. Fifty per cent of the combination stores had a gross margin lying between 14.5 per cent and 20.9 per cent or within a range of 6.4 points. The corresponding range within which one-half the total number of units lie was

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## CENSUS OF MERCHANDISING AND SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS.

## STATISNJCS OIJ GROSS MARGINS IN RETAIL TRADE

For the second consecutive year, data have been secured in connection with the Census of Merchandising Establishments to show gross profit or gross margin in retail trade. Tijis bulletin summarizes the results for independert retail stores and shows gross margins expressed as percentages of net sales in 1935 for stores in each of the several provinces classified accoruing to the usual kind-of-business classifications. Corresponding figures for retail chains have already been published in a special report "Retail Chains in Canada, 1935".

Gross margin for all independent stores as a whole averaged 23.5 per cent of net sales in 1935 compared with 24.3 per cent in 1934. Gross margin as a percentage of net sales was lower in 1935 than in 1934 for 23 of the separate kind-of-business groupings for which figures are shown in the attached tables, highe $=$ in 1935 than in 1934 for 11 classifications and remained unchanged for 3 . The higher gross margin percentage of net sales in 1934 as compared with 1935 may be attributed partly to the more rapid rise in price levels in the earlier year. (The Bureau's retail price index advanced 3.5 points from 70.4 in 1933 to 73.9 in 1934 compared with the much smaller advance of, 4 points between 1934 and 1935.) Also contributing to the decline in gross margin for all independent store trade as a whole was the apparent pronounced reduction in gross profit for motor vehicle dealers from 19.6 per cent in 1934 to 16.7 per cent in 1935 . The figures for these esteblishments represent the total gross margin covering all activities, including the sale of new and used cars, parts and accessories and also repairs. The decrease may be at least partly attributed to the disorganized state of the used car market with smaller profits or greater losses on such business.

## Definition of Gross Margjn

The term "gross margin" is used in this report to represent the amount remaining after deducting the net cost of goods sold from net sales. It is, therefore, the amount of money which a business firm secured from the year's operations to cover the expenses of doing business and provide a profit. In the case of firms operating at a loss, the gross margin may be insufficient to cover operating expenses. The net cost of goods sold was calculated for each firm from the net cost of goods purchased during the year as reported on the census schedules and from the inventory values at the beginning and close of the year. The net cost of goods purchased includes the invoice value less all returns, allowances and discounts, plus inward freight, duty, insurance in transit and all other expenses incidental to the receipt of goods. Operating expenses of the stores are, of course, excluded from the value of purchases. Table l shows gross margin as a percentage of sales (based upon the aggregate sales figures and aggregate cost of goods sold) for independent stores operating in a number of selected kinds of business. Dominion averages are shown for 1934 and 1935 together with the amount of change between the two years. provincial figures are shown for 1955 only. Figures for some kinds of business are omitted in certain provinces as the number of reporting firms was too small to provide representative data.
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| Kind of Business | Canada |  |  | 1935 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1934 | 1935 | Change | P.E.I. | N.S. | N. ${ }^{\text {B }}$. | Ue. | Ont. | Man. | Sask. | Alta. | B.C. |
| Candy and confectionery stores | 30.3 | 30.4 | +.1 | (X) | 24.1 | 27.7 | 36.1 | 33.1 | 24.8 | (X) | 23.5 | 31.4 |
| Fruit and vegetable stores | 20.7 | 19.7 | -1.0 | (x) | (X) | (X) | 22.2 | 18.9 | ( X ) | (x) | (x) | 21.1 |
| Grocery stores | 17.0 | 16.8 | -. 2 | 1.6 .1 | 17.5 | . 25.2 | 18.3 | 16.7 | 17.1 | 16.2 | 1.5.5 | 1.5 .6 |
| Combination stores | 18.0 | 17.9 | -. 1 | (x) | 17.0 | 16.0 | 18.2 | 18.5 | 16.5 | 16.8 | 15.3 | 16.1 |
| Meat maxkets | 23.2 | 21.9 | -1.3 | (X) | 21.3 | 20.0 | 21.9 | 21.2 | 22,2 | 25.5 | 25.1 | 22.2 |
| Country general stores | 16.4 | 1.5.6 | -. 8 | 15.9 | 15.1 | 2.5.3 | 15.9 | 15.8 | 14.2 | 15.6 | 15.8 | 16.0 |
| Dapartment stores | 29.1 | 28.9 | -. 2 | (X) | 30.4 | 28.3 | 30.3 | 29.7 | ( x ) | 29.7 | 28.1 | 27.8 |
| Dry guods stores | 26.1 | 26.3 | +. 2 | (X) | 24.9 | 28.2 | 24.2 | 27.0 | 24.8 | (x) | (x) | 28.1 |
| General merchandise stoiras | 19.2 | 19.0 | -. 2 | (x.) | 26.0 | (X) | 19.4 | 20.0 | 19.6 | 27.7 | 17.2 | 17.8 |
| Hotor vehicle daalers | 19.6 | 16.7 | -2.? | 17.3 | 1?.6 | .18.3 | 16.4 | 1.6.1. | 16.7 | 18.0 | 17.0 | 18.5 |
| Notor vehicle dealers with farm impiaments | 20,6 | 17.3 | -3.3 | (x) | (x) | (X) | (x) | (x) | (x) | 17.4 | 17.1 | (x) |
| focessories, tires and battaries ............ | 32.5 | 33.2 | + $\quad .7$ | (x) | (x) | (X) | 34.5 | 37.6 | (X) | (x) | 29.0 | (x) |
|  | 19.2 | 18.8 | - 4 | (X) | 1. 6.6 | 17.7 | 19.4 | 18.4 | 18.0 | 21.2 | 19.3 | 19,8 |
| Men's and boys' clothing stores | 35.0 | 29.5 | - 5.5 | (x) | (x) | (X) | 29.6 | 29.7 | (x) | (x) | (X) | (X) |
| Men's furnishings stores. | 29.5 | 28.8 | -. 7 | (X) | (X) | (X) | 2.8 .7 | 29.0 | (X) | (x) | (X) | (X) |
| lien's clothing and fumishjngs stores | 28.1 | 28.2 | +. 2 | (X) | 27.4 | 27.2 | 28.5 | 28.1 | 30.0 | 26.2 | 27.8 | 30.1 |
|  | 55.5 | 55,2 | -. 4 | (X) | (X) | (X) | 55.9 | 55.6 | 50.8 | (x.) | ( X ) | (x) |
| Family slothing stores ........................... | 26.0 | 23.9 | - 61 | 25.6 | 25.4 | 24.5 | 2.5 .5 | 26.6 | 22.5 | 25.3 | 27.7 | 27.8 |
| Women's ready-tomwear stores ................... | 28.5 | 28.6 | + $\quad$. | (X) | 27.5 | 21.6 | 28.7 | 28.6 | 24.6 | 28.8 | 29.5 | 30.5 |
| Hosiery, corsets, lingerie .....0.0.0.0........0. | 28.7 | 29.4 | +. 7 | (x) | (X) | (X) | 30.6 | 28.5 | (x) | (x) | (x) | (x) |
| Hillinesy stores ......... | +6.4 | 45.4 | (a) | (X) | (x) | (x) | 50.4 | 49.3 | (x) | $(x)$ | (x) | (x) |
| Furrials - fur shops | 40.4 | 40.4 | (a) | (x) | (X) | (x) | 43.1 | 37.2 | (x) | (X) | (x) | 34.3 |
| Shoe storos | 27.6 | 27.7 | +. 1 | (x) | 2.4 .3 | 25.7 | 25.7 | 27.8 | 31.0 | 28.2 | 29.7 | 31.0 |
| Hardware stores | 26.4 | 25.3 | -1.1 | (x) | 21.6 | 21.9 | ? 4.7 | 26.2 | 25.1 | 25.7 | 22.9 | 2.6 .1 |
| Lumber and building material dealers ............ | 23.2 | 27.7 | -. 5 | (x) | $25 . ?$ | 31.2 | 28.7 | 27.6 | 26.4 | 26.0 | 28.2 | 27.5 |
| Lumber and building materials with ccal and wood. | 25.7 | 25.0 | -2.7 | (X) | (x) | (x) | 27.5 | 24.0 | 24.7 | 26.6 | (X) | 25.7 |
| Furniture stores ..................................... | 32.6 | 32.6 | (a) | (x) | 33.7 | 35.6 | 32.8 | 33.2 | (X) | (x) | 28.4 | 33.2 |
| Radio and music stores | 36.1 | 34.6 | -1.5 | (X) | 42.8 | (x) | 34.0 | 34.0 | (X) | (X) | 36.0 | 36.4 |
| Restaurants, cafeterias and lunch rooms | 43.6 | 42.5 | -1.1 | (X) | 41.9 | 35.7 | 43.9 | 44.5 | 41.2 | 37.1 | 39.2 | 42.6 |
| Book stores ....... | 30.4 | 30.9 | +. 5 | (x) | (X) | 33.5 | 30.7 | 32.2 | (X) | (x) | (X) | 25.4 |
| Coal and wood yards | 21.2 | 20.5 | -. 7 | (x) | 18.3 | 27.3 | 18.3 | 20.3 | 21.6 | 22.8 | (X) | 26.5 |
| Drug stores | 30.3 | 30.0 | -. 3 | (X) | 28.1 | 30.0 | 30.4 | 29.7 | 29.3 | 30.0 | 31.1 | 31.9 |
| Jewellery stores | 40.2 | 41.1 | +. 9 | (X) | 39.8 | 36.1 | 39.5 | 42.3 | 33.7 | 42.5 | 40.0 | 44.8 |
| Office and school supplies ......................... | 39.0 | 38.8 | -. 2 | (X) | (X) | (x) | 40.9 | 38.1 | (X) | (X) | (x) | (X) |
| Office and store mechanical appliances | 52.0 | 52.1 | +.1 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) | 53.4 | (X) | (x) | (x) | (X) |
| Typewriter dealers | 51.3 | 51.6 | +.3 | (X) | (X) | (x) | (X) | (x) | $(\mathrm{x})$ | (X) | (X) | (x) |
| Tobacco stores and stands | 19.7 | 19.2 | -. 5 | $(\mathrm{X})$ | 21.6 | 20.6 | 18.2 | 19.3 | (X) | 19.9 | 24.9 | 19.1 |

An (X) indicates that the number of reporting firms was too small to provide representative gross margin data.
(a) No change.
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$\square$

Table 2.--Middlo Range Grose Margin Ratios, by Kinds of Business and Provinces, 1235

| Kind of Business |  | Canada | N.S. | N. B. | रue. | Ont. | Man, | Sask. | Alta | B.C. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gracery Storen | (Number stores reporting | 1,389 | 45 | 40 | 358 | 547 | 67 | 85 | 92 | 147 |
|  | (Lower puartile ........ | 13.5 | 13.1 | 12.3 | 13.7 | 13.6 | 13.3 | 13.2 | 13.4 | 13.0 |
|  | (Median .. | 16.4 | 17.3 | 15.6 | 16.8 | 16.5 | 16.5 | 15.8 | 15.8 | 16.0 |
|  | (Upper Quartile | 19.5 | 20.0 | 19.5 | 20.5 | 19.6 | 19.0 | 17.8 | 18.0 | 18.9 |
| Sombination Stores | (Number stores reporting | 1,202 | 70 | 55 | 420 | 508 | 55 | 30 | 29 | 31 |
|  | (Lower kuartile ....... | 14.5 | 12.2 | 14.0 | 15.1 | 14.5 | 11.9 | 12.3 | 12.0 | 15.0 |
|  | (Median | 17.6 | 17.0 | 15.7 | 18.5 | 17.5 | 16.5 | 15.5 | 15.8 | 17.3 |
|  | (Upper Quartile | 20.9 | 20.5 | 18.3 | 21.5 | 20.7 | 19.7 | 20.7 | 19.0 | 20.4 |
| Moat Markots | (Number stores reporting | 664 18.9 | 13 16.0 | 12 13.6 | 110 | $\begin{array}{r} 295 \\ 18.6 \end{array}$ | 31 20.3 | 38 20.3 | 72 20.0 | 90 19.0 |
|  | (Lower रuartile | 18.9 22.6 | 16.0 20.9 | 13.6 | 19.1 21.8 | $\left.\begin{aligned} & 18.6 \\ & 21.7 \end{aligned} \right\rvert\,$ | 20.3 24.0 | 20.3 26.3 | 20.0 25.1 | 19.0 23.8 |
|  | (Upper Quartile | 26.9 | 26.2 | 29.0 | 25.8 | 25.7 | 25.9 | 30.2 | 30.7 | 27.4 |
| Country Goneral Storos | (Number stores reporting | 2,416 | 135 | 114 | 352 | 529 | 180 | 516 | 373 | 298 |
|  | (Lower Quartile | 11.8 | 11.0 | 11.8 | 12.0 | 11.3 | 10.8 | 12.2 | 12.3 | 12.6 |
|  | (Modian | 15.4 | 14.8 | 14.7 | 15.8 | 15.5 | 14.0 | 15.4 | 15.6 | 15.6 |
|  | (Upper Quartile | 19.1 | 18.7 | 18.6 | 20.7 | 19.4 | 17.7 | 18.7 | 18.8 | 18.9 |
| Motor Vohicla Dealers | (Number stores reporting | 905 | 46 | 30 | 121 | 405 | 46 | 79 | 94 | 80 |
|  | (Lower Quartile | 13.7 | 14.5 | 11.1 | 13.1 | 13.2 | 15.0 | 14.6 | 15.0 | 15.0 |
|  | (Nedian | 16.9 | 17.4 | 15.2 | 17.0 | 16.0 | 17.8 | 18.0 | 17.5 | 19.2 |
|  | (Upper Quartile | 21.5 | 22.3 | 21.0 | 21.3 | 20.0 | 22.0 | 23.0 | 21.0 | 25.0 |
| Men's and Boys' Clothing and Furnishing | (Number stores reporting <br> (Lower Quartile ........ | 450 23.2 | 37 22.4 | 14 24.3 | 71 21.0 | 207 | 21 21.6 | 29 23.0 | 29 | 37 23.1 |
|  | (Modian .......... | 27.0 | 27.9 | 25.4 | 26.0 | 27.6 | 25.9 | 25.5 | 27.0 | 28.9 |
|  | (Upper Quartile... | 30.8 | 31.2 | 31.0 | 32.0 | 31.2 | 32.4 | 28.8 | 29.3 | 32.0 |
| Women's Roady-toWear | (Number stores reporting <br> (Lower Quartile | 345 $2-2$ | 22 25.2 | 16 19.0 | 21.6 | 162 23.0 | 14 26.9 | 13 21.5 | 21 22.6 |  |
|  | (Median | 27.9 | 29.2 | 23.6 | 27.1 | 26.9 | 30.4 | 28.7 | 29.9 | 30.0 |
|  | (Upper Quartile | 32.1 | 32.1 | 26.0 | 31.7 | 31.4 | 34.8 | 31.0 | 34.7 | 36.8 |
| Shoe Storea | (Number stores reporting <br> (Lower Quartile ........ | $\begin{array}{r} 301 \\ 23.7 \end{array}$ | 18 22.8 | 22. ${ }^{9}$ | 69 20.8 | 137 23.6 | 14 29.2 | 11 26.6 | 14 27.0 | 28.6 |
|  | (Median ............... | 28.4 | 24.8 | 26.1 | 27.0 | 28.5 | 30.6 | 27.6 | 30.0 | 31.5 |
|  | (Upper Quartile ....... | 32.0 | 27.6 | 28.1 | 33.0 | 31.6 | 32.0 | 31.1 | 32.3 | 37.1 |
| Hardware Stores | (Number stores reporting (Lower Quartile | $746$ | 15 18.0 | 19 19.8 | 133 | 328 21.5 | 31 20.2 | 85 21.0 | 75 20.1 | 58 23.0 |
|  | (Median .................. | 25.7 | 25.0 | 22.0 | 26.0 | 21.5 26.4 | 24.8 | 24.8 | 23.6 | 27.8 |
|  | (Upper Quartile ....... | 30.0 | 27.5 | 25.0 | 30.7 | 30.8 | 28.7 | 28.3 | 26.9 | 32.0 |
| Oowl and Wood Yards | (Number stores reporting | 621 | ${ }^{23}$ | 19 | 112 | 342 |  | 29 27 |  | 43 20.6 |
|  | (Lower Quartilo | 16.8 | 16.5 | 20.0 27.2 | 15.5 19.3 | 16.6 19.9 | 19.3 22.4 | 21.4 24.6 | (x) | 20.6 26.0 |
|  | (Upper Quartilo | 24.6 | 24.0 | 33.4 | 23.7 | 23.0 | 25.7 | 26.6 | (x) | 32.5 |
| Drug Stores | (Number stores reporting (Lower Quartile | 885 25.7 | 39 24.7 | 37 24.0 | 138 26.9 | 407 25.6 | 55 25.5 | 62 25.5 | 76 26.6 | 62 26.0 |
|  | (Median ............. | 29.7 | 28.7 | 29.3 | 31.1 | 29.0 | 29.5 | 29.9 | 30.6 | 26.0 |
|  | \Upper Quartilo ....... | 33.7 | 32.9 | 34.0 | 35.7 | 32.7 | 32.5 | 34.5 | 35.9 | 36.0 |
| Furaiture Stores | (Number stores reporting | 199 | 15 | 8 | 43 | 88 |  |  | 13 | 21 |
|  | (Lower Quartile ........ | 27.3 | 28.0 | 34.0 | 26.8 | 27.6 | (x) | (x) | (x) | 24.7 |
|  | (Modian | 31.0 | 30.0 | 34.5 | 31.0 | 31.2 | (x) | (x) | (x) | 30.0 |
|  | (Upper Quartile. | 36.2 | 36.2 | 37.7 | 37.8 | 36.0 | (X) | (X) | (X) | 34.8 |

The number of firms reporting for Prince Edward Island was too small to permit this analysis.

An $(X)$ indicates that the number of stores reporting was too small to permit this analysis.
7.3 points for country general stores, 7.7 points for motor vehicle deal-- ers, 8 points for drug stores and 8.9 points for furniture stores.

Distribution of Stores According to Gross Margin Percentage of Sales
The lower and upper quartile figuses presented in Table 2 give some indication of the degree of concentration of gross margin percentages of net sales about a central value. The actual distributions of stores according to gross margin ratios in 1935 are shown in Table 3 for a number of selected kinds of business. These figures are interesting; not only in showing the degree of concentration about a cent"al value but also in that they show the numbers of stores operating on either exceptionally low or high margins. The lack of homogneity jn the propoitions of different types of merchandise carried by different stores classified under the same grouping has already been mentioned. In eldition, it should be recognized that many of the stores reportjing exbeptionally low gross margins may have operated at a loss. Complete information on uperating oxpenses for 1935 is not available. It jis impossible to say, thereiope, whether the amount of gross margin reported was alweys sufficient to pay the operating expenses of the store and to provide some additional profit on the yearis business.

Gross Margin Ratios for Grosery Stores Clossified Accordine to Size of Locality and hount of Annual Sales

For this analysis, those grocerv stoves reporting gross margin data for 1935 were classified, f゙irst, acocrding to size of locality and, thon, according to amount of annusl ssles. The gioss margin percentage of net sales was computed for each sjze of locaiity anc for eash size-of-business grouping and the results ace pressnted in Table 2 . The Dominion and provincial averages shown in this table do not aivays check exactly with those presented in Table 1 . In some instances, a combined gioss margin figure covering two stores in the same province was roported by a firm. Such reports were included in the calculatlons shomn in Table 1 but were omitted from the analysis by size of business and size of locality shown in Table 4.

In a general way, gross margin as a percentage of sales is greater in the larger-sized localities than in the smaller places. It decreases also as the size of business increases. Table 1 shows that for all sizes of business combined the ratio was 16.1 per cent for stores in places of less than 10,000 population; it veas 16.4 per cent for stores in places of from 10,000 to 30,000 population, and 1.6 .6 per cent for places of 30,000 population or more.

Gross margin formed 16.9 per cent of sales for stores with annual sales below $\$ 20,000,16.3$ per cent for stores with sales between $\$ 20,000$ and $\$ 30,000$, and 16.2 per cont for stores with annual sales in excess of $\$ 30,000$. Figures by economic divisions, by size of locality and by amount of annual salas are given in lable 4 Elthough, in some instances, the figures are withheld due to the lack of a sufficientiy complete sample.

An examination of gross margins for stores belon ing to voluatary chains as distinguished from those not thus arfiliated revealed no consistent difference between the two types. A conparison for stores classified according to turnover rate also revealed no definite tendency. Nor did a comparison for grocery stores classified according to turnover rate reveal any definite tendency.

|  | Grocery Stores |  |  | Combination Stores |  |  | Country General Stores |  |  | ijotor Vehicle Dealers |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gross Margin Percentage of Net Sales, 1935 | No. | Por cent | Sumulative per cent | No. | Per cent | Cumulative per cent | No. | Per cent | Cumulative per cent | No. | Per cent | Cumulative per cent |
| Total Number Reporting | 1,389 | 100.0 | - | 1,202 | 100.0 | - | 2,416 | 100.0 | - | 905 | 100.0 | - |
| Gross Margin Percentage -Less than 6 | 19 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 8 | - 7 | . 7 | 72 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 10 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| $6-7.9$ | 24 | 1.7 | 3.1 | 15 | 1.2 | 1.9 | 78 | 3.2 | 6.2 | 19 | 2.1 | 3.2 |
| $8-9.9$ | 50 | 3.7 | 6.8 | 34 | 2.8 | 4.7 | 219 | 9.1 | 15.3 | 48 | 5.3 | 8.5 |
| $10-11.9$ | 113 | 8.1 | 14.9 | 80 | 6.7 | 11.4 | 267 | 11.1 | 26.4 | 60 | 6.6 | 15.1 |
| 12-13.9 | 188 | 13.5 | 28.4 | 121 | 10.1 | 21.5 | 317 | 13.1 | 39.5 | 102 | 11.3 | 26.4 |
| $14-15.9$ | 257 | 18.5 | 46.9 | 184 | 15.3 | 36.8 | 366 | 15.2 | 54.7 | 154 | 17.0 | 43.4 |
| 16-17.9 | 232 | 16.7 | 63.6 | 199 | 16.6 | 53.4 | 353 | 14.6 | 69.3 | 129 | 14.3 | 57.7 |
| 18-19.9 | 219 | 15.8 | 79.4 | 189 | 15.7 | 69.1 | 265 | 21.0 | 80.3 | 100 | 11.1 | 68.8 |
| 20-21.9 | 114 | 8.2 | 87.6 | 156 | 13.0 | 82.1 | 192 | 7.9 | 88.2 | 76 | 8.4 | 77.2 |
| 22-23.9 | 66 | 4.8 | 92.4 | 83 | 6.9 | 89.0 | 95 | 3.9 | 92.1 | 57 | 6.3 | 83.5 |
| $24-25.9$ | 41 | 2.9 | 95.3 | 53 | 4.4 | 93.4 | 73 | 3.0 | 95.1 | 46 | 5.1 | 88.6 |
| 26-27.9 | 21 | 1.5 | 96.8 | 35 | 2.9 | 96.3 | 43 | 1.8 | 96.9 | 29 | 3.2 | 91.8 |
| 28-29.9 | 13 | . 9 | 97.7 | 8 | . 7 | 97.0 | 36 | 1.5 | 98.4 | 20 | 2.2 | 94.0 |
| $30-31.9$ | 17 | 1.2 | 98.9 | 16 | 1.3 | 98.3 | 15 | . 6 | 99.0 | 13 | 1.4 | 95.4 |
| 32 and over ...................... | 15 | 1.1 | 100.0 | 21 | 1.7 | 100.0 | 25 | 1.0 | 100.0 | 42 | 4.6 | 100.0 |


| Gross Margin Percentage of Net Sales, 1935 | Miest Markets |  |  | Men's \& Boys' Cloth- <br> ing \& Furnishings |  |  | Women's Ready-towear |  |  | Shoe Stores |  |  | Hardware Stores |  |  | Coal and Wood Yarde |  |  | Drug Stores |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | Per cent | Cumula- <br> tive percent | No. | Per cent | $\begin{gathered} \text { Cumula- } \\ \text { ডive } \\ \text { percent } \end{gathered}$ | No. | Per <br> cent | $\left[\begin{array}{c} \text { Cumula- } \\ \text { tive } \\ \text { percent } \end{array}\right.$ | No. | Per <br> cent | $\begin{gathered} \text { Cumula- } \\ \text { tive } \\ \text { percent } \end{gathered}$ | No. | Per cent | Cumula- <br> tive percent | No. | Per cent | $\begin{gathered} \text { Cumula- } \\ \text { tive } \\ \text { par cent } \end{gathered}$ | No. | Per cent | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Cumula- } \\ & \text { tive } \\ & \text { percent } \end{aligned}$ |
| Total Number Reporting | 664 | 100.0 |  | 450 | 00.0 | - | 345 | 100.0 |  | 301 | 00.0 |  | 746 | 00.0 |  | 621 | 100.0 | - | 885 | 100.0 |  |
| Gross Margin Percentage |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 12 | 26 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 7 | 1. | 1.5 | 3 | .9 | 9 | 4 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 20 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 42 | 6.8 | 6.8 | 6 | .7 | . 7 |
| 12-13.9 | 22 | 3.3 | 7.2 | 8 | 1.8 | 3.3 | 7 | 2.0 | 2.9 | 2 | .7 | 2.0 | 14 | 1.9 | 4.6 | 30 | 4.8 | 11.6 | 6 | . 7 | 1.4 |
| $14-15.9$ | 32 | 4.8 | 12.0 | 7 | 1.5 | 4.8 | 7 | 2.0 | 4.9 | 11 | 3.7 | 5.7 | 30 | 4.0 | 8.6 | 55 | 8.9 | 20.5 | 9 | 2.0 | 2.4 |
| 16-17.9 | 49 | 7.4 | 19.4 | 7 | 1.5 | 6.3 | 8 | 2.3 | 7.2 | 8 | 2.7 | 8.4 | 32 | 4.3 | 12.9 | 69 | 11.2 | 31.7 | 14 | 1.6 | 4.0 |
| 18-19.9 | 81 | 12.2 | 31.6 | 22 | 4.9 | 11.2 | 14 | 4.1 | 11.3 | 14 | 4.6 | 13.0 | 41 | 5.5 | 18.4 | 89 | 14.3 | 46.0 | 21 | 2.4 | 6.4 |
| 20-21.9 | 100 | 15.1 | 46.7 | 35 | 7.8 | 19.0 | 28 | 8.1 | 19.4 | 16 | 5.3 | 18.3 | 79 | 10.6 | 29.0 | 89 | 14.3 | 60.3 | 30 | 3.4 | 9.8 |
| $22-23.9$ | 74 | 11.1 | 57.8 | 44 | 9.8 | 28.8 | 33 | 9.6 | 29.0 | 24 | 8.0 | 26.3 | 81 | 10.9 | 39.9 | 78 | 12.6 | 72.9 | 55 | 6.2 | 16.0 |
| $24-25.9$ | 83 | 12.5 | 70.3 | 63 | 14.0 | 42.8 | 36 | 10.4 | 39.4 | 26 | 8.6 | 34.9 | 92 | 12.3 | 52.2 | 47 | 7.6 | 80.5 | 92 | 10.4 | 26.4 |
| 26-27.9 | 66 | 9.9 | 80.2 | 61 | 13.6 | 56.4 | 38 | 11.0 | 50.4 | 38 | 12.6 | 47.5 | 89 | 11.9 | 64.1 | 35 | 5.6 | 86.1 | 106 | 12.0 | 38.4 |
| $28-29.9$ | 49 | 7.4 | 87.6 | 66 | 14.7 | 71.1 | 48 | 13.9 | 64.3 | 44 | 14.6 | 62.1 | 84 | 11.3 | 75.4 | 19 | 3.1 | 89.2 | 122 | 13.8 | 52.2 |
| $30-31.9$ | 31 | 4.7 | 92.3 | 44 | 9.8 | 80.9 | 35 | 10.1 | 74.4 | 40 | 13.3 | 75.4 | 60 | 8.0 | 83.4 | 15 | 2.4 | 91.6 | 121 | 13.6 | 65.8 |
| $32-33.9$ | 23 | 3.5 | 95.8 | 36 | 8.0 | 88.9 | 32 | 9.3 | 83.7 | 28 | 9.3 | 84.7 | 55 | 7.4 | 90.8 | 12 | 1.9 | 93.5 | 96 | 10.8 | 76.6 |
| $34-35.9$ | 14 | 2.1 | 97.9 | 24 | 5.3 | 94.2 | 20 | 5.8 | 89.5 | 18 | 6.0 | 90.7 | 20 | 2.7 | 93.5 | 9 | 1.4 | 94.9 | 70 | 7.9 | 84.5 |
| $36-37.9$ | 3 | - 2 | 98.4 | 12 | 2.7 | 96.9 | 11 | 3.2 | 92.7 | 14 | 4.7 | 95.4 | 18 | 2.4 | 95.9 | 5 | . 8 | 95.7 | 60 | 6.8 | 91.3 |
| 38-39.9 | 4 | .6 | 99.0 | 6 | 1.3 | 98.2 | 12 | 3.5 | 96.2 | 4 | 1.3 | 96.7 | 13 | 1.7 | 97.6 | 7 | 1.1 | 96.8 | 37 | 4.2 | 95.5 |
| 40 and over .... | 7 | 1.0 | 100.0 | 8 | 2.8 | 100.0 | 13 | 3.8 | 100.0 | 10 | 3.3 | 100.0 | 18 | 2.4 | 100.0 | 20 | 3.2 | 100.0 | 40 | 4.5 | 100.0 |


 $\cdots 3$ $\qquad$


Table 3.--Tistribution of Stores in Selected Kinds of Business According to
Gross Margin Percentage of Net Sales, Caneda, 1935 (Continued) --

| Gross Margin Percentage of Net Sales, 1935 | Furniture Stores |  |  | Department Stores |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Per } \\ & \text { cent } \end{aligned}$ | Cumulative per cent | No. | Per cent | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Cumulative } \\ & \text { per cent } \end{aligned}$ |
| Total Number Reporting | 199 | 100.0 | - | 91 | 100.0 | - |
| Gross Margin Percentage -- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 18 | 5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 9 | 9.9 | 9.9 |
| 18-19.9 | 3 | 1.5 | 4.0 | 3 | 3.3 | 13.2 |
| 20-21.9 | 6 | 3.0 | 7.0 | 6 | 6.6 | 19.8 |
| 22-23.9 | 4 | 2.0 | 9.0 | 3 | 3.3 | 23.2 |
| 24-25.9 | 18 | 9.0 | 18.0 | 12 | 13.2 | 36.3 |
| 26-27.9 | 22 | 12.0 | 29.0 | 12 | 13.2 | 49.5 |
| 28-29.9 | 30 | 15.0 | 44.0 | 20 | 21.9 | 71.4 |
| $30-31.9$........................... | 23 | 11.5 | 55.5 | 9 | 9.9 | 81.3 |
| $32-33.9$.......................... | 19 | 9.5 | 65.0 | 7 | 7.7 | 89.0 |
| $34-35.9$ | 18 | 9.0 | 74.0 | 6 | 6.6 | 95.6 |
| $36-37.9$......................... | 20 | 10.0 | 84.0 | 1 | 1.1 | 96.7 |
| $38-39.9$.......................... | 9 | 4.5 | 88.5 | 1 | 1.1 | 97.8 |
| 40 and over | 22 | 11.5 | 100.0 | 2 | 2.2 | 100.0 |

Table 4.--Gross idargin Percentage of Net Sales for Grocery Stores Classified by Economic Divisions, by Size of Locality and by Amount of Annual Salos 1935

| Economic Division and Size of Locality | 8ioges Howing annual Seles of -- |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Tetal, all stores reporting | Less then $\$ 20,000$ | $\$ 20,000$ 29299 | $\begin{aligned} & \$ 30,000 \\ & \hline \end{aligned} 49,999$ | $\$ 50,000$ and over |
|  | \% | \% |  |  | \% |
| Canama, Total | 16.4 | 16.9 | 16.3 | 16.2 | 16.2 |
| Less than 10,000 | 16.1 | 16.7 | 16.2 | 15.8 | 15.9 |
| 10,000-30,000.. | 16.4 | 17.9 | 16.1 | 15.5 | 16.6 |
| 30,000 and over. | 16.6 | 16.8 | 16.3 | 16.9 | 16.3 |
| Maritime Provinces, Total | 16.2 | 17.3 | 14.7 | 14.9 | 17.6 |
| Less than 10,000 | 16.1 | 18.3 | 13.9 | 15.7 | 16.6 |
| 10,000-30,000. | 17.0 | (x) | (X) | (x) | (x) |
| 30,000 and over ............. | 15.8 | (X) | (X) | (X) | (X) |
| Quebec, Total | 16.8 | 17.9 | 16.4 | 16.4 | 16.7 |
| Less than 10,000 ........... | 16.3 | 16.5 | 17.1 | (x) | ( X ) |
| 10,000-30,000 ............. | 16.4 | (x) | (x) | (X) | ( X ) |
| 30,000 and over . ............. | 17.0 | 17.6 | 16.2 | 16.9 | 17.8 |
| Ontario, Total | 16.4 | 16.6 | 16.5 | 16.6 | 15.9 |
| Less than 10,000 | 16.2 | 16.4 | 16.2 | 15.9 | 16.4 |
| 10,000-30,000 ............. | 16.6 | 17.8 | 16.8 | 16.5 | 15.6 |
| 30,000 and over .............. | 16.6 | 16.3 | 16.7 | 17.5 | 15.7 |
| Prairie Provinces, Total | 15.9 | 15.8 | 15.6 | 25.7 | 17.0 |
| laces with population of -Less than 10,000 ............. | 15.9 | 16.4 | 15.1 | 14.8 | (x) |
| 10,000-30,000. | 16.1 | 16.0 | 15.1 | (X) | (x) |
| 30,000 and over . ............ | 15.9 | 25.5 | 16.1 | 16.3 | 15.8 |
| British Columbia, Total .......... | 15.9 | 17.3 | 16.8 | 15.9 | 14.5 |
| Places with population of -- |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less than 10,000 ............ | 15.8 | 16.8 | 17.9 | 15.5 | 14.7 |
| 10,000-30,000 | 12.6 | 13.2 | 9.8 | - | 13.0 |
| 30,000 and over .............. | 16.5 | 17.7 | 15.8 | 16.9 | 14.5 |

An (X) indicates that the number of stores reporting was too small to permit this analysis.
$(17)$

