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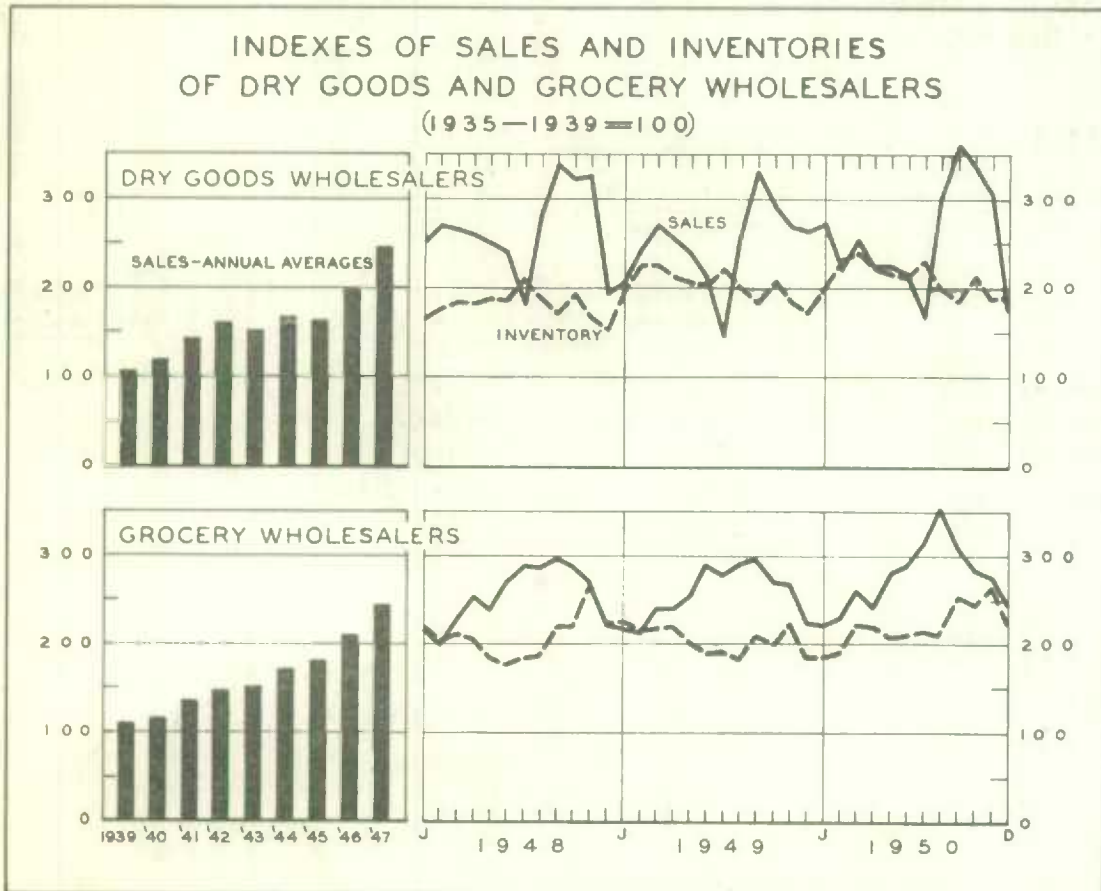


WHOLESALE TRADE  
DECEMBER, 1950

Wholesale sales in December 1950 for the nine trades covered by this survey advanced 8% in dollar volume from December 1949 but were 14% lower than in November 1950. Sales in the twelve months of 1950 were 5% in excess of the 1949 volume. The general unadjusted index (on the base, average for 1935-1939 =100) stood at 282.7 for December 1950, 261.5 for December 1949, and 326.9 for November 1950.

Provincial gains in December varied from 3% for the Maritime Provinces to 12% for British Columbia. Increases for the year 1950 over 1949 were closely grouped around the Canada average of 5%. Sales in the Maritime Provinces in the twelve months of 1950 were 4% above those for 1949; in Ontario and the Prairies, the increase was 5%, while Quebec and British Columbia sales were up 6%.

INDEXES OF SALES AND INVENTORIES  
OF DRY GOODS AND GROCERY WHOLESALERS  
(1935-1939=100)



## Sales Trends in Individual Trades

Hardware and automotive equipment wholesalers led the individual trades in percentage gains with increases of 23% and 15% respectively over December of the previous year. Sales of footwear and grocery wholesalers were 11% and 8% respectively higher than in December 1949. The increase recorded by dry goods wholesalers (6%) was somewhat smaller than in several preceding months. No change in dollar sales of fruit and vegetable dealers was recorded between December 1949 and 1950, while declines of 1% and 4% occurred in sales of clothing and of tobacco and confectionery wholesalers.

Hardware and automotive wholesalers' sales during the year 1950 were 8% in excess of the 1949 volume, while a gain of 7% was recorded by grocery wholesalers. Footwear and clothing wholesalers reported no change in dollar volume of sales between the two years, while gains of 2% and 3% were registered in the other four lines of trade.

## Stocks

Year-end stocks in the hands of wholesalers in the nine trades under review were valued 16% higher than stocks at the end of 1949, the December increase being the highest month-end increase in value of inventories of any month during 1950. Wholesalers of tobacco and confectionery and of hardware recorded the greatest gains among the nine trades at 29% and 20% respectively. Increases of 18% were reported by both footwear and grocery wholesalers; dry goods, automotive equipment, and drug wholesalers' stocks were up 11%, 10%, and 9% respectively over December 31, 1949 and a gain of 1% was reported by clothing wholesalers. Fruit and vegetable dealers' stocks at December 31, 1950 were valued 5% lower than at the corresponding date in 1949.

## Grocery and Dry Goods Wholesalers' Inventories.

<u>Month and Year</u>	<u>Index Numbers of Wholesale Inventories</u> (Average for 1935-1939 = 100)		<u>Stocks/Sales Ratios</u>
	<u>Dry Goods Wholesalers</u>	<u>Grocery Wholesalers</u>	<u>Grocery Wholesalers</u>
December 1947	150.9	223.1	1.23
December 1948	162.8	223.1	1.43
December 1949	170.8	186.3	1.24
November 1950	186.6	263.2	1.20
December 1950	189.9	220.6	1.33

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Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade<sup>(1)</sup>  
(Preliminary)

Trade and Region	SALES		INVENTORY
	December 1950 December 1949	Jan. - Dec. 1950 Jan. - Dec. 1949	December 31, 1950 December 31, 1949
<b>Automotive Equipment</b>	+15.0	+ 8.0	+10.3
Maritimes and Quebec . . . . .	+28.5	+10.7	
Ontario. . . . .	+21.0	+10.3	
Western Provinces . . . . .	+ 5.9	+ 5.3	
<b>Drugs</b> . . . . .	+ 6.3	+ 2.2	+ 8.6
Maritimes, Quebec and Ont. . . . .	(x)	+ 2.4	
Western Provinces . . . . .	+ 6.8	+ 1.9	
<b>Clothing</b> . . . . .	- 0.5	- 0.1	+ 1.3
Quebec . . . . .	- 8.0		
Ont. & Western Provinces . . . . .	+ 7.7		
<b>Footwear</b> . . . . .	+10.9	+ 0.4	+17.9
Maritimes and Quebec . . . . .	+38.1		
Ont. & Western Provinces . . . . .	-10.6		
<b>Dry Goods</b> . . . . .	+ 5.8	+ 2.3	+11.2
Maritimes and Quebec . . . . .	+17.7	+ 1.3	
Ontario. . . . .	- 4.5	+ 3.0	
Western Provinces . . . . .	+ 6.1	+ 2.9	
<b>Fruits and Vegetables</b> . . . . .	+ 0.1	+ 3.2	- 4.8
Maritimes and Quebec . . . . .	+ 6.5	+ 6.0	
Ontario. . . . .	+ 0.9	+ 5.0	
Western Provinces . . . . .	- 3.3	+ 1.6	
<b>Groceries</b> . . . . .	+ 8.1	+ 7.0	+18.4
Maritimes . . . . .	- 3.3	+ 4.3	
Quebec . . . . .	+ 1.3	+ 9.4	
Ontario. . . . .	+ 7.0	+ 5.4	
Prairies . . . . .	+12.3	+ 9.3	
British Columbia. . . . .	+20.2	+ 6.7	
<b>Hardware</b> . . . . .	+23.2	+ 7.9	+20.2
Maritimes . . . . .	+28.0	+ 9.2	
Quebec . . . . .	+30.2	+10.2	
Ontario. . . . .	+24.1	+10.6	
Western Provinces . . . . .	+18.8	+ 5.1	
<b>Tobacco and Confectionery</b> . . . . .	- 4.0	+ 2.3	+28.8
Maritimes and Quebec . . . . .	- 3.2	+ 2.4	
Ontario. . . . .	- 3.2	+ 3.4	
Western Provinces . . . . .	- 5.1	+ 1.0	
<b>WHOLESALE TRADE<sup>(1)</sup></b> . . . . .	+ 8.1	+ 5.3	+16.4
Maritimes . . . . .	+ 3.1	+ 4.0	
Quebec . . . . .	+10.4	+ 6.3	
Ontario. . . . .	+ 6.9	+ 5.4	
Prairies . . . . .	+ 7.5	+ 4.5	
British Columbia. . . . .	+12.4	+ 5.8	

(1) Composite of Nine Trades.  
(x) Not available.

NOTE: Figures for Newfoundland are not available.

MONTHLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE SALES IN CANADA  
(Average, 1935 - 1939 = 100)



Month and Year	WHOLESALE TRADE						AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
December 1947 ....	251.1	257.1	241.4	266.6	207.8	323.5	283.4	411.4	307.5	244.8
December 1948 ....	259.9	264.6	247.9	276.7	231.9	292.8	319.4	399.9	371.5	273.9
December 1949 ....	261.5	257.2	236.0	282.5	240.7	293.1	328.0	347.9	364.8	311.4
November 1950 ....	326.9	303.2	301.4	325.3	336.2	387.8	479.5	459.8	467.8	495.9
December 1950 ....	282.7	265.2	260.5	302.0	258.8	329.4	377.2	447.1	441.4	329.8

Month and Year	DRUGS			CLOTHING	FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS			
	CANADA	Maritimes Que.&Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
December 1947 ....	245.6	253.0	224.5	184.9	293.7	188.3	149.7	248.6	168.9
December 1948 ....	261.6	267.2	246.1	234.3	249.9	192.8	159.4	227.0	201.5
December 1949 ....	301.1	285.4	344.3	204.8	222.2	163.3	129.0	199.3	173.3
November 1950 ....	360.5	354.5	377.7	304.0	330.1	305.7	277.3	342.9	336.9
December 1950 ....	320.1	(x)	367.7	203.8	246.4	172.8	151.8	190.3	183.9

Month and Year	GROCERIES						FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
December 1947 ....	227.1	261.8	220.1	251.2	174.3	282.8	243.0	220.5	237.0	257.2
December 1948 ....	219.8	261.8	207.1	241.7	180.2	246.0	258.1	206.4	250.0	298.6
December 1949 ....	224.0	260.5	208.1	249.9	185.1	248.7	268.7	184.1	263.8	332.6
November 1950 ....	277.0	280.5	238.0	276.4	277.1	350.6	240.5	193.9	223.6	303.8
December 1950 ....	242.1	251.9	210.8	267.4	207.9	298.9	269.0	196.1	266.2	321.6

Month and Year	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
December 1947 ....	321.2	247.2	301.8	336.0	328.0	354.7	396.1	346.9	328.5
December 1948 ....	356.2	297.1	349.5	406.9	337.5	371.0	434.5	359.7	338.0
December 1949 ....	333.8	262.9	330.6	400.4	307.8	399.6	459.7	400.3	355.2
November 1950 ....	482.3	401.9	475.9	527.2	469.7	390.2	395.6	376.2	398.2
December 1950 ....	411.2	336.5	430.4	496.9	365.7	383.6	445.0	387.5	337.1

(x) Not available.