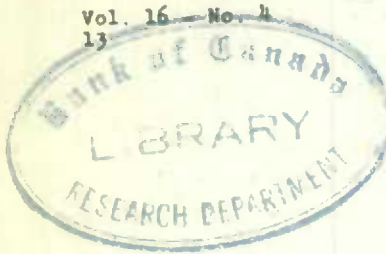


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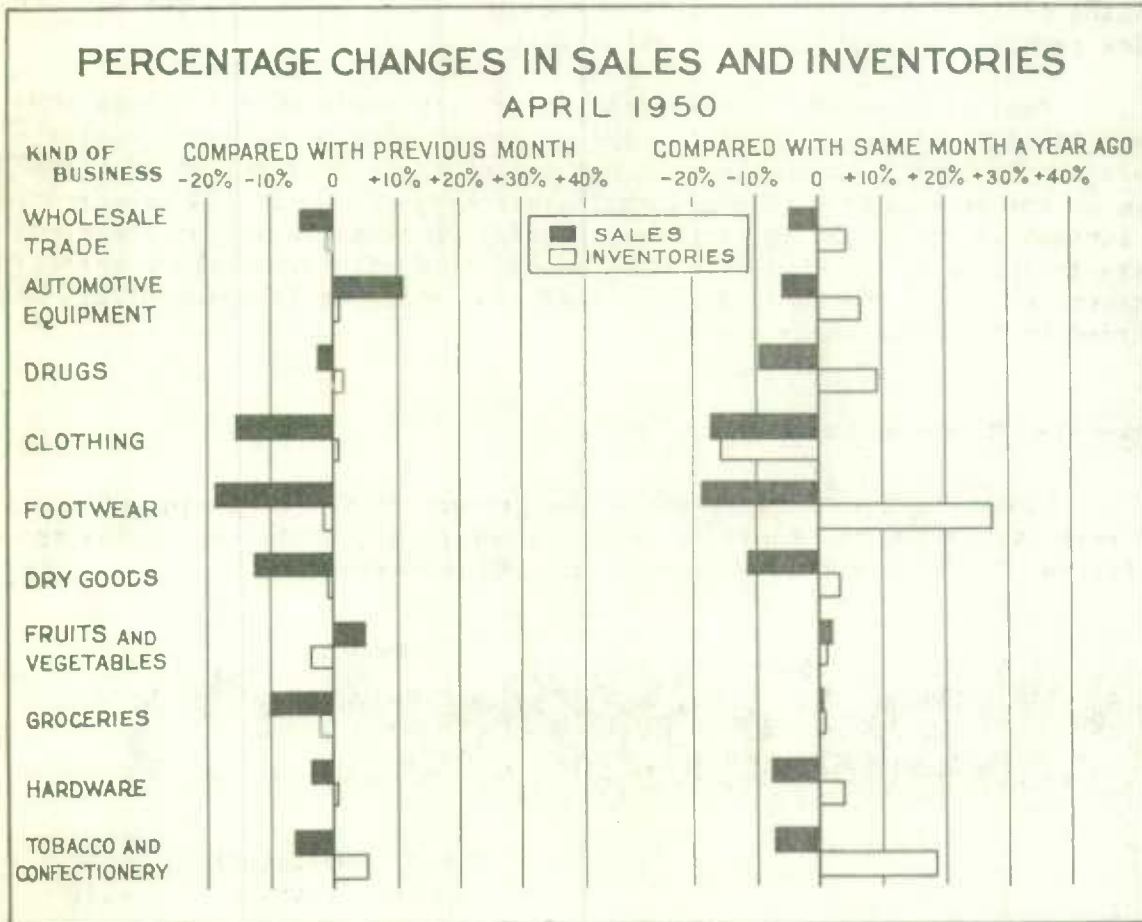


WHOLESALE TRADE
APRIL 1950

April Sales Down 4% from 1949

Dollar value of wholesale sales, as reported by 366 wholesalers representing nine lines of trade, declined 4% in April 1950 from April 1949, and was 5% lower than in March 1950. Cumulative sales for the first four months of 1950 were 1% below the total for the corresponding period of 1949. The general unadjusted index (on the base, average for 1935-1939=100) stood at 278.9 for April 1950, 291.7 for April 1949, and 293.6 for March 1950.

Decreases from April 1949 were recorded in sales for all regions of the country. Sales in British Columbia were only slightly



below April last year with a decrease of 1%. A decline of 4% was registered for Ontario and of 5% for the Maritime Provinces and the Prairie Provinces. Quebec sales were 7% below April a year ago.

One Trade Only Shows Gain

Fruit and vegetable dealers, with sales up 2% had the only increase among the nine trades included in the survey, comparing April 1950 with April 1949. Grocery wholesalers' sales were practically the same as in April a year ago, small gains in Quebec and British Columbia being offset by declines in the Maritime and Prairie Provinces.

The drop in sales of automotive equipment wholesalers amounted to 6%, corresponding with the decrease for the year to date. Hardware wholesalers' sales were 7% below April 1949. This was the only trade for which the April decline was smaller than the decline for the year to date, which in this case was 9%. Sales of tobacco and confectionery wholesalers were also 7% below April 1949, while decreases of 10% and 12% were recorded for drugs and dry goods respectively. Largest decreases were reported by clothing wholesalers, at 17%, and footwear wholesalers, at 19%.

Stocks 5% Higher

The value of stocks in the hands of wholesalers in the nine trades surveyed was 5% higher at April 30, 1950 than at the end of April 1949. Clothing wholesalers' inventories remained 16% lower in value, but all other trades reported stocks higher in value than in 1949.

Fruit and vegetable dealers' and grocery wholesalers' stocks were valued 1% higher than at April 30, 1949. Inventories of hardware wholesalers and dry goods wholesalers at the end of April were valued 4% above those on the same date last year, while increases of 7% and 10% were recorded for automotive equipment wholesalers and drug wholesalers respectively. Stocks in the hands of wholesale tobacco and confectionery dealers were 19% in excess of the value at April 30 a year ago, while an increase of 27% was recorded by footwear wholesalers.

Stock-Sales Ratio in the Grocery Trade

Stocks in the hands of wholesale grocers at the beginning of April 1950 were valued 19% in excess of sales during April, while the corresponding figures for 1948 and 1949 were 9% and 14% respectively.

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Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

Trade and Region	Percentage Change				INVENTORY April 1950 April 1949
	SALES			Jan.-to- April 1950 Jan.-to- April 1949	
	(1) March 1950 March 1949	(2) April 1950 April 1949	April 1950 March 1950		
Automotive Equipment ...	- 0.6	- 5.7	+11.1	- 5.9	+ 6.7
Maritimes and Quebec ..	- 1.4	- 6.7	+10.6	- 8.0	
Ontario	+ 9.9	- 1.3	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	
Western Provinces	- 8.8	- 9.3	+21.6	-10.4	
Drugs	+ 7.6	- 9.7	- 2.4	- 2.8	+ 9.6
Maritimes, Que., and Ont.	+10.9	-11.9	- 5.6	- 1.7	
Western Provinces ...	(x)	- 3.7	+ 3.9	- 5.0	
Clothing	- 0.7	-17.4	-15.2	-11.0	-15.6
Quebec	+17.1	-18.2			
Ont. & Western Provinces	-10.0	-16.6			
Footwear	+ 2.0	-18.7	-18.7	- 8.9	+27.3
Maritimes and Quebec ..	+ 4.1	-20.0			
Ont. & Western Provinces	+ 0.5	-17.6			
Dry Goods	- 5.1	-11.6	-12.4	-10.3	+ 3.7
Maritimes and Quebec ..	- 6.6	-12.3	-10.7	-13.9	
Ontario	- 9.5	- 9.8	-15.0	- 8.8	
Western Provinces	+ 4.4	-13.0	-26.8	- 5.8	
Fruits and Vegetables ...	+ 4.1	+ 2.1	+ 5.0	+ 4.7	+ 1.4
Maritimes and Quebec ..	- 2.3	- 0.5	+ 9.5	- 0.3	
Ontario	+ 4.0	- 2.3	+20.2	+ 2.2	
Western Provinces	+ 7.9	+ 8.2	+13.2	+ 9.8	
Groceries	+ 8.1	+ 0.4	-10.0	+ 4.7	+ 0.8
Maritimes	+ 7.6	- 1.5	-18.2	+ 4.0	
Quebec	+18.6	+ 4.1	-12.3	+11.6	
Ontario	+ 6.4	+ 0.3	-14.0	+ 2.1	
Prairies	+12.0	- 0.5	- 9.4	+ 7.6	
British Columbia	- 1.8	+ 0.9	+ 5.3	+ 1.6	
Hardware	- 1.9	- 7.2	- 3.3	- 9.3	
Maritimes	+ 0.1	- 9.7	+ 5.1	- 9.7	+ 4.0
Quebec	-11.7	-12.5	- 1.9	-14.1	
Ontario	- 3.1	- 4.5	+ 1.8	- 4.5	
Western Provinces	+ 3.0	- 5.9	- 4.0	-10.0	
Tobacco and Confectionery	+ 5.8	- 7.0	- 6.1	(x)	+18.7
Maritimes and Quebec ..	+ 9.2	- 7.9	- 3.0	+ 1.8	
Ontario	+ 4.3	- 1.4	+ 1.4	+ 0.8	
Western Provinces	+ 5.8	-12.5	-20.6	- 1.8	
Wholesale Trade -					
Maritimes	+ 5.2	- 4.9	- 9.2	- 0.2	
Quebec	+ 1.5	- 7.0	- 8.4	- 4.2	
Ontario	+ 3.6	- 3.8	- 2.0	- 0.7	
Prairies	+ 4.7	- 5.0	- 5.5	- 0.6	
British Columbia ...	+ 3.7	- 0.7	- 1.3	- 1.6	
CANADA	+ 3.6	- 4.4	- 5.0	- 1.4	+ 4.6

(1) Revised.

(2) Preliminary.

(x) Unchanged

Note: Figures for Newfoundland are not available.

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

Year and Month	WHOLESALE TRADE						AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
April 1947	269.0	291.0	257.1	275.0	252.0	305.9	360.9	411.5	308.8	396.8
April 1948	285.1	297.7	281.0	296.5	249.0	344.4	368.1	412.3	370.6	353.2
April 1949	291.7	276.3	267.8	303.9	287.8	324.4	395.3	351.7	381.3	432.0
March 1950	293.6	289.3	272.0	298.5	289.3	326.2	335.5	296.7	374.8	322.1
April 1950	278.9	262.8	249.1	292.4	273.4	322.1	372.8	328.1	376.3	391.8

Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING	FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS			
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
April 1947	248.8	240.5	266.4	270.3	294.2	282.0	291.8	294.0	239.2
April 1948	288.9	279.5	308.8	253.5	288.9	259.2	266.4	272.5	218.9
April 1949	316.1	308.6	329.5	280.1	350.4	253.0	254.9	257.0	234.0
March 1950	292.3	287.9	305.5	272.9	350.4	255.5	250.4	272.7	278.3
April 1950	285.4	271.9	317.3	231.4	284.9	223.7	223.5	231.8	203.6

Year and Month	GROCERIES						FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
April 1947	222.6	279.4	188.3	233.8	191.0	259.4	257.1	271.8	294.2	269.2
April 1948	252.0	292.5	226.3	251.8	218.9	321.4	231.1	254.7	282.4	218.9
April 1949	235.1	257.1	185.3	223.9	230.3	315.3	272.9	259.3	352.2	265.3
March 1950	262.3	309.5	219.9	261.2	253.0	302.2	265.4	235.6	286.2	253.6
April 1950	236.0	253.2	192.9	224.6	229.1	316.1	278.6	258.0	344.1	287.1

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
April 1947	348.5	341.0	301.9	333.8	378.4	308.4	347.0	292.4	272.8
April 1948	376.0	405.1	356.2	387.9	374.6	348.5	409.8	340.4	292.2
April 1949	382.8	373.9	336.6	411.9	390.7	376.4	432.3	350.3	335.2
March 1950	367.4	321.1	300.2	386.5	382.9	372.8	410.5	340.7	369.6
April 1950	355.2	337.6	294.5	393.4	367.6	350.1	398.1	345.4	293.3