



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Industry and Merchandising Division
OTTAWA

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce

Vol. 19 - No. 2

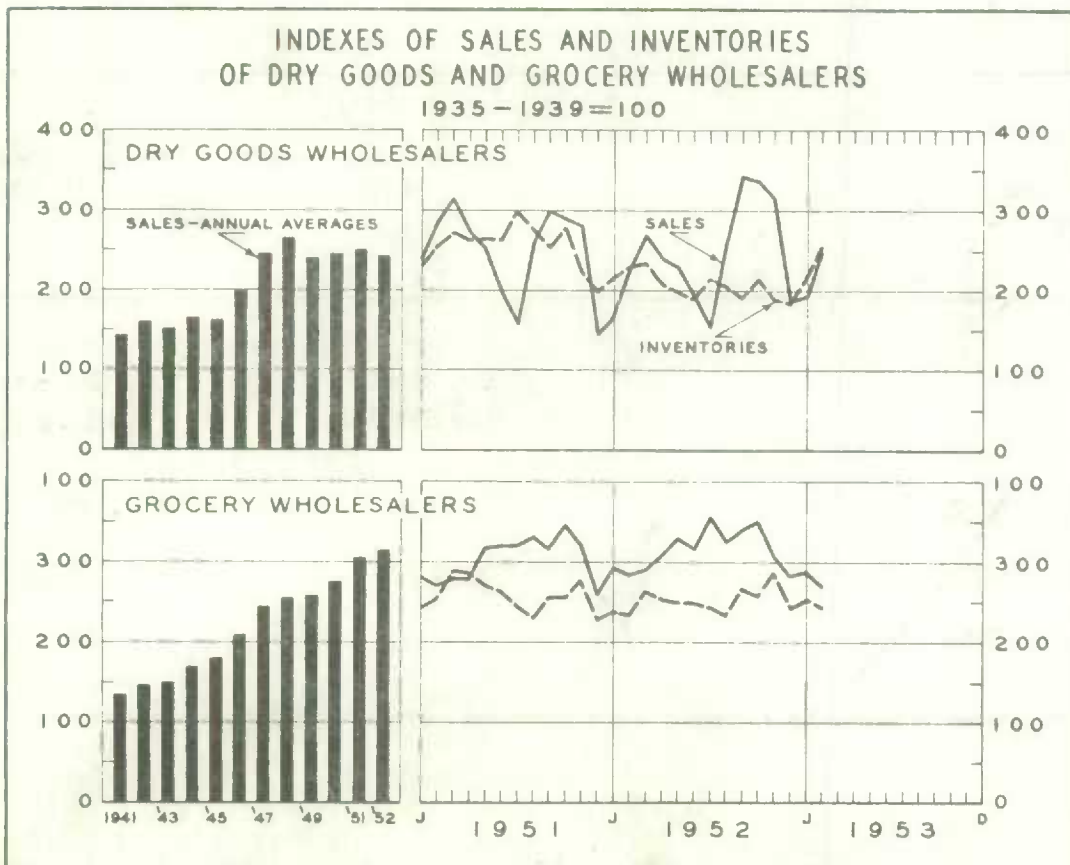
\$1.00 a year

WHOLESALE TRADE

FEBRUARY, 1953

The results shown in this report are based on returns from 400 wholesalers distributed over nine trades. They reflect trends in dollar volume of business and are not adjusted for changes in wholesale prices.

The unadjusted index for the total of the nine trades (on the base of 1935-1939=100) stood at 305.0 for February 1953 compared with 314.9 for February a year ago and 309.1 for January 1953.



Sales Trends by Trades

Wholesale sales continued to decline in February 1953. Sales for the nine trades covered in this survey were 3% lower than in the same month last year. Decreased sales were reported by wholesalers of tobacco and confectionery, fruits and vegetables, hardware, groceries, and drugs - 13%, 8%, 6%, 5%, and 1% respectively. Sales of footwear were 13% higher than in February 1952. Wholesalers of auto parts and equipment and dry goods reported increased sales of 11% while clothing sales were 5% higher.

Inventories

Stocks held by wholesalers were 4% higher at the end of February 1953 than at the same date last year. Higher inventories, ranging from 11% to 4% were recorded by wholesalers of dry goods, auto parts and equipment, groceries, and hardware. Stocks of footwear were 19% lower than at the end of February 1952, while stocks of tobacco and confectionery and clothing declined 9% and 7% respectively. Inventories of drugs and fruits and vegetables were only slightly lower than a year ago.

Grocery and Dry Goods Wholesalers' Inventories

Month and Year	Index Numbers of Wholesale Inventories (Average for 1935-1939=100)	
	<u>Dry Goods Wholesalers</u>	<u>Grocery Wholesalers</u>
February 1952	230.2	233.0
January 1953	219.8	251.7
February 1953	256.0	243.5

Wholesale Trade in Canada
FEBRUARY, 1953

Trade and Region	Monthly Indexes of Sales (Average 1935-39 = 100)			Percentage Change (Current month over same month last year)	
	February (P) 1953	January (R) 1953	February 1952	Sales %	Inventory %
Wholesale Trade¹, Canada	305.0	309.1	314.9	- 3.3	+ 3.7
Auto Parts and Equipment	561.3	481.9	506.9	+ 10.7	+ 7.8
Maritimes and Quebec	479.1	362.6	479.6	- 0.1	
Ontario	558.9	508.0	521.4	+ 7.2	
Western Provinces	625.8	530.3	504.7	+ 24.0	
Drugs	345.9	360.9	347.9	- 0.7	- 1.7
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario	325.7	360.4	330.0	- 1.3	
Western Provinces	413.2	362.6	407.5	+ 1.4	
Clothing	241.9	215.3	230.6	+ 4.9	- 7.0
Footwear	341.9	189.6	303.6	+ 12.6	- 19.1
Dry Goods	248.3	193.0	225.2	+ 10.6	+ 11.2
Maritimes and Quebec	218.4	157.1	194.0	+ 12.6	
Ontario	284.9	216.1	268.5	+ 6.1	
Western Provinces	260.3	226.4	233.2	+ 11.6	
Fruits and Vegetables	252.2	238.5	273.4	- 7.6	- 1.0
Maritimes and Quebec	242.4	183.9	252.5	- 4.0	
Ontario	237.6	275.7	281.9	- 15.7	
Western Provinces	274.1	259.6	286.4	- 4.3	
Groceries	271.0	288.1	283.9	- 4.8	+ 4.5
Maritimes	272.1	297.2	284.6	- 4.4	
Quebec	191.0	169.4	206.0	- 7.3	
Ontario	255.6	286.3	272.8	- 6.3	
Prairies	273.2	306.2	279.9	- 2.4	
British Columbia	448.9	449.0	461.8	- 2.8	
Hardware	336.2	359.0	357.3	- 5.8	+ 4.4
Maritimes	243.6	263.7	239.3	+ 1.8	
Quebec	304.3	364.9	321.3	- 5.3	
Ontario	390.5	405.5	405.1	- 3.6	
Western Provinces	336.2	344.2	367.0	- 8.4	
Tobacco and Confectionery	315.6	383.7	364.0	- 13.5	- 9.5
Maritimes and Quebec	274.4	341.7	345.2	- 20.5	
Ontario	345.3	400.0	383.7	- 10.0	
Western Provinces	319.4	420.5	351.4	- 9.1	

1. Composite of Nine Trades

Note: Figures for Newfoundland are not included.

6505-505

7-4-53

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010720570