

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA

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CURRENT TRENDS IN WHOLESALE TRADE, JANUARY, 1936

The dollar value of wholesale trade in Canada for January, 1936, showed an increase of 4.2 per cent over the corresponding period in 1935, according to monthly returns secured from some 200 regular wholesale houses operating in nine different lines of business.

Of the nine kind-of-business groups for which figures are available, increases in trade for January, 1936, over January, 1935, are recorded for eight, while a decrease is reported for one. The various groups, arranged in descending order of percentage increases, together with the increases, are as follow: Automotive, +17.4 per cent; Clothing, +13.9 per cent; Groceries, +5.5 per cent; Drugs, +5.3 per cent; Hardware, +5.3 per cent; Footwear, +1.3 per cent; Tobacco and confectionery, +1.3 per cent; Fruits and vegetables, +0.9 per cent. A decrease of 3.3 per cent below the 1935 figure was reported for the dry goods group.

Combined sales of all firms by provinces or economic divisions for January, 1936, show the following percentage changes when compared with the same month last year: British Columbia, +18.9 per cent; Prairie Provinces, +5.3 per cent; Quebec, +5.1 per cent; Maritime Provinces, +4.5 per cent, and Ontario, -1.8 per cent.

Value of inventory as on January 31, 1936, was 6.9 per cent higher than on the corresponding date of the preceding year. The percentage changes in inventory value ranged from an increase of 22.8 per cent in the case of the Groceries group to a decrease of 2.7 per cent in the Tobacco and Confectionery group.

For the purposes of these monthly bulletins the various reporting firms are classified according to kind of business. While many wholesale houses restrict their trade to a few commodity lines, others, particularly in the hardware field, handle many commodities. Some wholesale automotive dealers also act as distributors for radios. The statistics for wholesale trades cannot, therefore, be taken as entirely indicative of sales by commodities.

Percentage Changes in Wholesale Sales

Pourcentage des changements dans les ventes au gros

	Percentage change, 1936 compared with 1935 Pourcentage du changement, 1936 comparé à 1935			
	Sales -- Ventes			Inventory Inventaire
	(1) December 1935 Decembre 1934	(1) Year 1935 année Year 1934 année	(2) January 1936 Janvier 1936	January 1936 Janvier 1935
Automotive Equipment -- Equipement automoteur .....	-14.1	+ 5.6	+17.4	- 0.2
Maritimes and Quebec .....	(X)	(X)	(X)	
Ontario .....	- 9.9	+ 2.0	+ 9.2	
Western Provinces.--de l'Ouest ..	-21.1	+11.7	+29.4	
Drugs -- Drogues .....	+11.3	+ 6.7	+ 5.3	+ 8.2
Eastern Provinces.--de l'Est ....	+13.1	+ 7.5	+ 4.4	
Western Provinces.--de l'Ouest ..	+ 6.4	+ 4.6	+ 7.5	
Clothing -- Vêtement .....	+20.6	+ 4.0	+13.9	+ 2.9
Quebec .....	+29.0	+ 4.1	+29.7	
Ontario and Western Provinces.-- de l'Ouest .....	+10.6	+ 3.9	- 2.2	
Footwear -- Chaussures .....	+36.5	+ 8.0	+ 1.3	+21.7
Quebec .....	+53.8	+ 8.2	+21.0	
Ontario .....	- 1.0	+7.6	-30.7	
Dry Goods -- Marchandises sèches ..	+ 5.8	+ 1.8	- 3.3	- 2.1
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+12.6	+ 4.9	+ 7.7	
Ontario .....	+ 4.0	- 1.1	- 8.7	
Western Provinces.--de l'Ouest ..	- 4.1	+ 0.7	- 9.0	
Fruits and Vegetables -- Fruits et légumes .....	+ 4.0	+ 5.7	+ 0.9	+16.5
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+ 8.2	+ 8.0	- 2.5	
Ontario .....	+ 4.8	+ 4.1	+ 2.0	
Western Provinces.--de l'Ouest ..	+ 1.7	+ 5.9	+ 1.6	
Groceries -- Epiceries .....	+11.0	+ 5.1	+ 5.5	+22.8
Maritimes .....	+14.8	+ 4.4	+ 7.9	
Quebec .....	+18.0	+ 1.1	+ 1.3	
Ontario .....	+ 8.2	+ 3.6	- 3.4	
Prairies .....	+12.9	+ 7.5	+10.1	
British Columbia .....	+ 4.6	+ 7.3	+19.4	
Hardware -- Quincaillerie .....	+ 7.3	+ 6.9	+ 5.3	- 1.1
Maritimes .....	- 0.8	- 3.5	-11.1	
Quebec .....	+10.2	+ 7.4	+20.3	
Ontario .....	+11.8	+ 7.6	+ 0.9	
Western Provinces.--de l'Ouest ..	+ 6.0	+ 8.0	(X)	
Tobacco and Confectionery -- Tabacs et confiseries .....	+10.3	+ 6.1	+ 1.3	- 2.7
Quebec .....	+14.0	+ 6.7	- 2.7	
Ontario .....	+10.8	+ 8.8	+ 4.5	
Western Provinces.--de l'Ouest ..	+ 5.9	+ 2.6	+ 3.3	
Wholesale Trade -- Commerce de gros --				
Maritimes .....	+ 9.9	+ 2.9	+ 4.5	
Quebec .....	+17.6	+ 4.9	+ 5.1	
Ontario .....	+ 7.1	+ 3.5	- 1.8	
Prairies .....	+ 5.4	+ 6.2	+ 5.3	
British Columbia .....	+ 7.0	+ 8.4	+18.9	
CANADA .....	+ 8.2	+ 5.3	+ 4.2	+ 6.9

(1) Revised.

(2) Preliminary.

(X) Figures not available.

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