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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
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INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

**DOES NOT CIRCULATE**  
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MONTHLY INDEXES  
OF  
WHOLESALE SALES  
IN  
CANADA  
AUGUST 1942

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Published by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.,  
Minister of Trade and Commerce.

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OTTAWA

1942

Price \$1 a year

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH  
OTTAWA, CANADA

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MONTHLY INDEXES OF WHOLESALE SALES IN CANADA, AUGUST, 1942

The general level of business transacted by wholesale trading establishments in Canada as measured by dollar volume remained unchanged in August of this year compared with August, 1941, according to statements received from some 300 wholesale houses representing nine different trades. Cumulative sales for the first eight months of 1942 stand 13 per cent above the corresponding period a year ago. The general unadjusted index of sales stands at 157.4 for August, 1942, 154.2 for July, 1942, and 156.6 for August, 1941.

Considerable variations from the average result were recorded for different trades. The footwear trade came first in point of view of increased turnover with an increase of 19 per cent in sales over August, 1941. Tobacco and confectionery wholesalers reported a gain of 11 per cent, while the fruit and vegetable and drug trades recorded increases of 10 per cent and 9 per cent respectively. Sales of clothing houses were up 1 per cent in August of this year compared with last. The wholesale grocers reported no change between the volume of sales in August, 1942, and August, 1941. The dry goods trade declined by 1 per cent from August, 1941, while sales of hardware and automotive equipment establishments decreased by 6 per cent and 20 per cent respectively.

Inventories held by wholesalers in the grocery trade were 10 per cent lower at the end of August this year than last, while stock holdings declined by 7 per cent in the fruit and vegetable trade, 6 per cent in the clothing trade, and 4 per cent in the dry goods trade. Wholesale footwear establishments recorded an increase of 15 per cent in stocks on hand at the end of August, 1942, over the corresponding month last year, while gains in inventories for the other trades are as follows: hardware and drug trades, 9 per cent each; tobacco and confectionery trade, 7 per cent; and the automotive equipment trade, 2 per cent. Stocks for the nine trades as a group were up 5 per cent.

Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

	Percentage Change, 1942, compared with 1941			
	S A L E S			INVENTORY
	(1) July, 1942 July, 1941	(2) August, 1942 August, 1941	First 8 Months, 1942 First 8 Months, 1941	
Automotive Equipment .....	-27.5	-19.9	- 0.5	+ 2.2
Maritimes and Quebec .....	-26.9	-29.4		
Ontario .....	-30.9	-24.4		
Western Provinces .....	-23.4	+12.3		
Drugs .....	+10.8	+ 8.8	+14.8	+ 8.5
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario...	+10.8	+ 7.9		
Western Provinces .....	+10.6	+11.1		
Clothing .....	+21.7	+ 1.0	+12.6	- 6.2
Quebec .....	+ 4.9	- 5.4		
Ontario and Western Provinces ..	+40.8	+ 6.9		
Footwear .....	+35.1	+18.9	+12.8	+15.0
Quebec .....	+25.8	+22.2		
Ontario .....	+44.8	+15.3		
Dry Goods .....	+17.6	- 0.9	+25.0	- 3.6
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+11.0	+ 4.5		
Ontario .....	+10.5	- 7.5		
Western Provinces .....	+39.2	+ 2.0		
Fruit and Vegetables .....	+11.6	+10.4	+16.8	- 6.7
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+ 6.8	+ 3.4		
Ontario .....	+ 7.2	+ 1.6		
Western Provinces .....	+17.1	+17.7		
Groceries .....	+ 2.7	- 0.4	+11.3	-10.3
Maritimes .....	- 2.6	+ 3.4		
Quebec .....	- 3.9	- 0.4		
Ontario .....	+ 3.1	+ 7.1		
Prairies .....	+ 4.7	- 6.1		
British Columbia .....	+10.9	- 6.6		
Hardware .....	+ 3.3	- 5.9	+12.3	+ 9.2
Maritimes .....	+ 9.1	- 4.8		
Quebec .....	+ 4.8	- 8.4		
Ontario .....	- 3.7	-12.5		
Western Provinces .....	+ 5.7	- 1.9		
Tobacco and Confectionery .....	+ 4.1	+10.6	+12.3	+ 7.3
Quebec .....	- 8.0	+13.8		
Ontario .....	+ 5.9	+10.7		
Western Provinces .....	+20.9	+ 5.2		
Wholesale Trade --				
Maritimes .....	+ 1.4	+ 3.8		
Quebec .....	+ 0.6	+ 1.2		
Ontario .....	+ 3.2	+ 0.9		
Prairies .....	+ 6.9	- 0.9		
British Columbia .....	+13.8	- 0.4		
CANADA .....	+ 4.8	+ 0.5	+13.0	+ 4.5

(1) Revised.

(2) Preliminary.

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
August, 1939	115.2	114.3	100.9	108.7	133.6	114.6	130.6	113.3	114.1	147.6
August, 1940	123.4	124.4	107.6	121.7	134.3	129.2	147.1	130.4	137.1	155.8
August, 1941	156.6	163.1	144.5	153.7	162.0	166.0	174.2	184.0	157.5	179.9
August, 1942	157.4	169.3	146.2	155.1	160.5	165.3	139.5	129.9	119.1	157.8
1941 - September	171.2	184.2	180.3	169.6	161.8	172.9	196.4	193.1	191.5	192.6
October	170.5	190.2	180.1	166.1	153.4	192.4	189.1	208.4	176.9	177.7
November	147.4	168.1	156.3	142.8	155.8	162.4	161.8	172.8	163.4	153.8
December	137.4	144.9	132.4	141.5	125.3	158.2	163.9	190.4	166.8	159.4
1942 - January	132.2	134.6	118.5	144.0	121.6	147.6	171.8	158.5	202.4	151.1
February	136.1	133.0	132.3	139.3	123.8	160.0	165.0	180.6	154.8	171.4
March	155.4	160.2	163.3	157.5	138.0	163.1	163.6	216.7	161.9	149.7
April	154.5	163.7	158.3	158.4	140.1	166.5	154.3	154.9	153.9	156.5
May	158.7	177.9	164.1	163.6	140.1	173.5	133.8	143.9	132.3	135.4
June	167.6	191.2	169.6	175.5	143.5	187.5	123.4	121.7	123.0	124.8
July	154.2	172.9	135.6	152.7	156.1	184.0	124.7	134.9	124.1	121.0
August	157.4	169.3	146.2	155.1	160.5	165.3	139.5	129.9	119.1	157.8

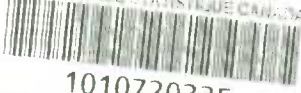
Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING	FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS			
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
August, 1939	110.9	109.1	116.1	116.4	120.8	96.8	84.7	95.7	120.2
August, 1940	123.7	122.8	125.9	132.9	112.9	112.6	95.8	121.7	130.3
August, 1941	147.3	148.2	143.3	185.3	140.4	169.5	149.6	188.8	177.2
August, 1942	160.3	159.9	159.2	187.2	166.9	168.0	156.3	174.6	180.7
1941 - September	160.8	162.9	159.6	216.1	202.9	220.0	227.9	231.3	186.7
October	170.8	174.0	159.3	220.4	216.6	195.0	199.2	201.0	180.4
November	154.9	156.2	151.1	182.5	153.0	166.8	179.0	178.1	149.5
December	148.6	149.5	145.8	128.4	172.2	100.6	100.8	94.9	106.5
1942 - January	159.5	163.6	146.2	97.7	98.0	130.8	122.8	162.7	106.0
February	152.4	154.6	147.7	146.6	154.1	151.7	136.9	181.2	136.3
March	154.1	153.7	156.4	173.7	190.6	190.3	194.3	197.1	173.4
April	175.1	175.5	171.1	167.5	196.2	179.9	198.9	179.6	142.5
May	155.1	155.6	152.6	162.3	168.3	170.1	170.7	187.5	142.4
June	158.5	159.8	153.3	154.6	131.3	161.6	170.7	168.6	134.3
July	155.7	155.2	155.8	126.2	114.6	122.2	95.5	134.8	161.9
August	160.3	159.9	159.2	187.2	166.9	168.0	156.3	174.6	180.7

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

Year and Month	GROCERIES						FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
August, 1939 .....	118.9	122.2	106.1	112.7	130.7	115.9	110.2	74.4	100.6	142.9
August, 1940 .....	119.5	128.2	107.6	113.5	125.7	124.0	118.0	84.4	122.1	138.8
August, 1941 .....	153.8	163.3	149.1	144.0	157.3	161.9	136.2	103.1	137.5	158.2
August, 1942 .....	153.2	168.9	148.5	154.2	147.7	151.2	150.4	106.6	139.7	186.2
1941 - September .....	157.0	167.0	161.3	154.3	154.1	157.9	150.2	163.9	133.0	163.3
October .....	160.9	186.2	177.7	149.5	147.8	177.4	130.3	114.7	135.5	135.6
November .....	137.0	163.4	153.3	126.0	127.4	147.8	119.0	121.4	122.5	121.5
December .....	124.6	141.1	117.3	124.1	119.7	132.6	141.2	135.9	155.7	130.6
1942 - January .....	127.2	140.2	99.9	127.3	127.0	144.7	117.0	99.2	138.7	102.0
February .....	125.6	136.4	108.5	120.5	122.3	155.6	117.9	139.7	130.8	95.4
March .....	141.2	159.8	133.4	138.7	130.8	163.3	143.5	160.5	161.0	117.8
April .....	135.0	153.0	123.7	129.9	131.7	150.1	153.2	154.0	170.4	126.3
May .....	142.2	176.0	141.2	135.6	132.9	161.0	184.4	202.1	209.1	146.8
June .....	163.3	192.7	161.9	170.0	139.1	179.0	180.8	198.0	192.8	160.7
July .....	155.1	173.4	149.0	148.7	154.9	160.1	160.4	127.4	167.9	177.1
August .....	153.2	168.9	148.5	154.2	147.7	151.2	150.4	106.6	139.7	186.2

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
August, 1939 .....	116.1	111.2	109.6	95.7	124.4	119.4	121.7	120.3	113.6
August, 1940 .....	140.5	120.1	130.5	125.4	148.3	128.7	125.8	134.8	121.7
August, 1941 .....	177.2	160.6	181.3	157.3	178.9	154.8	154.1	162.6	141.3
August, 1942 .....	166.7	152.9	166.1	137.6	175.5	171.2	175.4	180.0	148.6
1941 - September .....	196.2	210.1	215.0	208.8	185.5	151.9	150.8	158.3	142.9
October .....	200.2	193.6	204.6	204.7	195.4	163.4	159.5	161.9	156.6
November .....	181.3	172.0	191.0	183.4	175.9	152.1	148.6	154.5	152.8
December .....	175.0	145.3	163.2	198.0	171.2	168.8	170.5	169.7	164.7
1942 - January .....	148.0	142.9	154.6	171.6	137.1	142.2	154.0	136.0	127.4
February .....	157.3	121.8	136.2	160.6	164.9	138.4	147.8	134.5	127.7
March .....	178.6	161.9	173.4	182.1	176.1	154.7	164.8	151.8	142.7
April .....	184.3	184.7	183.6	188.1	181.3	163.4	173.8	160.9	146.0
May .....	180.8	178.1	183.9	186.9	180.5	178.3	199.5	174.2	152.8
June .....	182.2	183.0	187.7	188.3	181.2	201.9	211.0	207.4	176.1
July .....	184.0	160.3	185.2	164.7	190.2	165.0	153.3	166.2	170.6
August .....	166.7	152.9	166.1	137.6	175.5	171.2	175.4	180.0	148.6

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