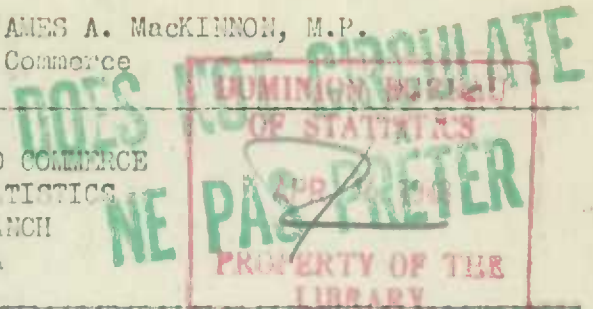


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MONTHLY INDEXES OF WHOLESALE SALES IN CANADA, FEBRUARY, 1943

Dollar sales of wholesale merchants in Canada averaged 7 per cent higher in February of this year than last, and declined by about 1 per cent from January, according to reports received from a representative number of wholesale houses in nine trades. The February unadjusted index of sales on the base 1935-1939 = 100 stands at 145.9 compared with 139.3 for January, and 136.1 for February, 1942.

The 7 per cent increase over February last year conforms closely with the increase reported for January, 1943 over 1942, and is in line with the pattern of wholesale trading witnessed in the latter months of 1942. Sales in Quebec increased 11 per cent over February, 1942; the Prairie Provinces and the Maritime Provinces were up 7 per cent; Ontario, 6 per cent; while British Columbia showed an increase of 5 per cent.

The fruit and vegetable trade and the footwear trade reported major increases of 33 and 32 per cent respectively. Wholesalers in the clothing trade transacted 15 per cent more dollar business than in February, 1942. The dry goods trade recorded a gain of 13 per cent; the tobacco and confectionery trade was up 12 per cent; while a gain of 11 per cent was registered for the drug trade. The dollar volume of merchandise sold by hardware wholesalers remained unchanged from February last year.

Sales of wholesale grocers increased by 3 per cent over February, 1942. Reports received from wholesalers in the Maritime Provinces, Quebec and Ontario revealed gains of 8 and 10 per cent, but a decline of 2 per cent was recorded in the Prairie Provinces and 5 per cent in British Columbia.

Wholesalers' inventory position relative to last year averaged 10 per cent lower than at the end of February, 1942. The tobacco and confectionery trade had 14 per cent more stock on hand at the end of February this year than last. The value of stocks held by drug wholesalers was unchanged from the corresponding date in 1942. Declines in inventory holdings were reported by the other trades, decreases ranging from 2 per cent for the hardware trade to 20 per cent in the fruit and vegetable trade.

Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

	Percentage Change, 1943, compared with 1942		
	Sales		INVENTORY
	(1) January, 1943 January, 1942	(2) February, 1943 February, 1942	
Automotive Equipment	-23.5	-20.2	-16.4
Maritimes and Quebec	-12.5	-15.2	
Ontario	-35.9	-29.6	
Western Provinces	- 9.6	-13.9	
Drugs	+ 6.7	+11.2	+ 0.2
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario .	+ 5.4	+11.1	
Western Provinces	+11.2	+11.9	
Clothing	+58.6	+13.1	-17.7
Quebec	+20.1	+ 5.9	
Ontario and Western Provinces .	+70.4	+19.1	
Footwear	+68.9	+22.0	-12.5
Quebec	+80.2	+19.9	
Ontario	+56.6	+48.9	
Dry Goods	+33.2	+13.4	-16.1
Maritimes and Quebec	+23.3	+13.3	
Ontario	+20.2	+ 6.2	
Western Provinces	+52.8	+16.2	
Fruit and Vegetables	+13.0	+22.7	-20.0
Maritimes and Quebec	+25.9	+17.6	
Ontario	+13.1	+22.9	
Western Provinces	+19.4	+48.1	
Groceries	- 1.9	+ 3.0	-14.2
Maritimes	+ 4.1	+ 7.8	
Quebec	+ 9.1	+ 9.5	
Ontario	+ 0.3	+ 7.5	
Prairies	- 9.7	- 2.2	
British Columbia	- 6.3	- 5.3	
Hardware	+ 0.9	- 0.4	- 2.3
Maritimes	-20.3	- 0.4	
Quebec	- 1.3	+ 5.8	
Ontario	-25.4	-19.0	
Western Provinces	+24.9	+ 6.0	
Tobacco and Confectionery	+ 3.9	+11.6	+14.1
Quebec	- 5.3	- 6.1	
Ontario	+19.4	+21.4	
Western Provinces	+16.4	+21.2	
Wholesale Trade --			
Maritimes	+ 3.9	+ 7.4	
Quebec	+12.4	+10.5	
Ontario	+ 2.2	+ 6.1	
Prairies	+ 2.2	+ 6.9	
British Columbia	+12.5	+ 5.4	
CANADA	+ 5.3	+ 7.2	- 3.5

(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
February, 1940	98.9	91.2	97.9	98.6	99.3	102.0	88.9	80.1	91.1	91.5
February, 1941	110.6	112.6	108.2	112.9	100.6	126.6	111.1	93.4	120.3	108.2
February, 1942	136.1	133.0	132.3	139.3	123.8	160.0	165.0	180.6	154.9	171.4
February, 1943	145.9	142.8	146.2	147.8	132.3	168.6	127.7	153.1	109.0	147.6
1942 - 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	154.3	173.6	136.6	152.7	156.1	184.0	125.0	136.4	124.6	121.0
August	157.4	168.3	145.8	156.2	160.7	165.3	140.1	134.1	119.4	157.8
September	177.9	190.1	173.4	175.0	174.7	181.0	171.3	164.3	150.3	186.6
October	171.4	190.2	172.4	166.1	164.3	187.6	156.6	175.7	129.5	167.2
November	152.9	176.5	151.1	147.9	144.8	179.1	147.1	155.9	122.9	170.6
December	148.0	149.8	132.7	149.8	132.1	194.3	127.8	147.0	114.6	143.5
1943 - January	139.9	139.8	134.4	147.2	124.4	167.5	131.4	158.7	129.7	136.6
February	145.9	142.8	146.2	147.8	132.3	168.6	131.7	153.1	109.0	147.6

Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING		FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS		
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
February, 1940	112.6	112.1	116.0	102.3	105.1	110.9	103.2	122.4	108.4
February, 1941	129.8	131.6	126.0	100.0	104.9	112.2	103.8	127.8	104.7
February, 1942	152.4	154.6	147.7	146.6	154.1	151.7	136.9	181.2	136.3
February, 1943	169.6	171.3	165.3	168.7	203.4	172.0	162.0	192.4	159.2
1942 - 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	193.9	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	122.4	96.2	134.8	161.9
August	130.7	160.8	159.2	197.5	166.9	166.1	150.9	174.6	180.7
September	180.6	185.4	170.8	211.6	216.1	203.9	200.1	210.3	198.6
October	199.3	203.1	185.7	214.0	219.2	183.1	165.5	186.5	212.0
November	173.6	173.3	174.8	186.3	152.8	145.1	133.0	156.4	168.2
December	154.5	156.4	148.4	129.3	120.2	112.9	90.0	122.4	125.7
1943 - January	170.2	172.4	162.7	155.0	165.5	175.1	171.1	196.2	162.0
February	169.6	171.3	165.3	168.7	203.4	172.0	162.0	192.4	159.2

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 & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	
February, 1940	96.7	96.9	85.4	93.1	103.6	100.7	92.5	109.8	93.5	81.2
February, 1941	106.4	121.2	95.6	102.4	103.5	121.4	99.0	116.6	104.7	83.8
February, 1942	125.6	136.4	108.5	120.5	122.3	155.6	117.9	139.7	130.8	95.4
February, 1943	129.4	147.0	118.8	129.5	119.6	147.4	156.5	164.3	100.8	141.3
1942 - March	141.2	159.8	133.4	138.7	130.8	163.3	143.5	160.5	161.0	117.8
April	135.0	152.0	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	131.0	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	154.0	160.1	161.5	132.1	167.9	177.1
August	153.2	167.9	148.5	154.2	147.9	151.2	149.7	105.5	141.1	186.2
September	165.5	176.5	162.7	167.6	158.6	163.3	186.2	173.4	148.2	224.2
October	163.0	183.6	173.8	158.8	154.6	166.2	156.0	129.6	149.6	175.2
November	143.7	173.2	153.6	132.1	129.8	155.5	146.8	146.2	139.9	153.1
December	143.3	154.9	126.1	143.6	134.3	177.4	181.0	152.2	184.4	189.0
1943 - January	124.8	145.9	109.0	128.1	114.7	135.6	139.0	124.9	181.8	121.8
February	129.4	147.0	118.8	129.5	119.6	147.4	156.5	164.3	160.8	141.3

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
February, 1940	95.8	66.9	87.9	86.9	104.6	105.2	112.6	100.5	99.9
February, 1941	118.3	91.4	101.7	121.3	124.1	124.0	134.4	120.1	112.5
February, 1942	157.3	121.8	136.2	160.6	164.9	138.4	147.8	134.5	127.7
February, 1943	149.3	121.3	144.1	130.1	174.8	154.5	138.8	163.3	154.8
1942 - 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	155.0	167.9	137.6	175.5	171.4	175.4	180.6	148.2
September	177.6	188.0	188.8	170.6	179.0	181.5	175.8	198.7	160.3
October	173.0	179.9	182.5	146.4	180.2	183.3	163.0	193.6	177.3
November	167.9	153.6	168.1	146.0	179.1	177.7	164.2	188.6	177.7
December	148.9	115.1	129.7	141.2	162.6	134.1	177.5	203.0	202.9
1943 - January	148.3	113.9	146.1	128.0	171.2	156.3	145.4	162.4	148.3
February	149.3	121.3	144.1	130.1	174.8	154.5	138.8	163.3	154.8

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