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MONTHLY INDEXES OF WHOLESALE SALES IN CANADA, APRIL, 1946

Measured by dollar volume, April wholesale trading was 21 per cent heavier this year than last and gained approximately 2 per cent over the March volume of sales. These data are based on returns received from some 415 of the larger wholesale establishments representing nine lines of business. The 21 per cent increase is larger than the 16 per cent gain recorded in the March comparison and is in line with the high level of trading witnessed for the first two months of the year. The composite index of sales on the base 1935-1939 = 100 stands at 238.1 for April, 1946; 234.0 for March, 1946; and 197.3 for April, 1945. Aggregate sales for the year to date advanced 18 per cent over the volume of trading transacted in the first four months of 1945.

An analysis of sales on a regional basis revealed smaller gains in the eastern areas of Canada than in Ontario and the western provinces. Sales were up 8 per cent in the Maritime Provinces, 14 per cent in Quebec, 21 per cent in Ontario, 30 per cent in the Prairie Provinces, and 20 per cent in British Columbia.

Those trades which were affected by wartime restrictions are showing marked expansions in sales with the release of goods for consumer use. Automotive equipment sales were 43 per cent greater in April of this year than last, while total sales for the January-April period for this trade stand 51 per cent above the corresponding months of 1945. The footwear trade and the hardware trade each reported a 31 per cent gain over April, 1945, while cumulative sales for the year to date were up 19 per cent and 33 per cent respectively.

The fruit and vegetable trade recorded a 26 per cent gain and tobacco and confectionery sales advanced 21 per cent. Increases reported for the other trades were as follows; dry goods, 15 per cent; groceries, 14 per cent; clothing, 11 per cent; and drugs, 7 per cent.

Stocks in the hands of wholesalers at the end of April, 1946 were valued 6 per cent greater than inventories held on the same date of last year. The dry goods and grocery trades continued to report declining stocks as compared with 1945, while all other trades valued their inventory holdings higher, increases ranging from 2 per cent for the drug trade to 49 per cent for the clothing trade being recorded.

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Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

	Percentage Change, 1946 Compared With 1945			
	Sales			INVENTORY April, 1946 April, 1945
	(1)	(2)	Year-to-date	
	March 1946	April 1946	1946	
March 1945	April 1945	Year-to-date 1945		
Automotive Equipment .....	+41.6	+42.5	+50.5	+36.0
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+32.7	+21.4		
Ontario .....	+53.4	+41.3		
Western Provinces .....	+36.9	+52.8		
Drugs .....	+ 9.3	+ 7.4	+10.6	+ 3.3
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario	+ 8.9	+ 4.4		
Western Provinces .....	+10.6	+15.2		
Clothing .....	+ 5.5	+10.8	+12.3	+49.0
Quebec .....	+12.6	+11.6		
Ontario and Western Provinces	+ 1.9	+10.3		
Footwear .....	+28.3	+30.7	+18.8	+27.0
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+32.6	+21.1		
Ontario and Western Provinces	+24.9	+38.8		
Dry Goods .....	+ 2.9	+15.0	+ 9.4	- 1.2
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+ 5.4	+14.9		
Ontario .....	+ 2.7	+20.5		
Western Provinces .....	- 0.6	+ 7.6		
Fruits and Vegetables .....	+25.4	+26.3	+25.1	+ 5.2
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+ 9.9	+16.9		
Ontario .....	+31.4	+28.8		
Western Provinces .....	+29.0	+29.8		
Groceries .....	+ 9.8	+13.9	+11.8	- 3.4
Maritimes .....	+ 5.6	+ 5.1		
Quebec .....	+12.8	+11.5		
Ontario .....	+ 8.6	+14.0		
Prairies .....	+12.3	+18.0		
British Columbia .....	+ 8.8	+17.4		
Hardware .....	+30.3	+31.0	+35.5	+11.0
Maritimes .....	+17.8	+22.6		
Quebec .....	+30.6	+34.6		
Ontario .....	+39.6	+37.4		
Western Provinces .....	+27.6	+32.5		
Tobacco and Confectionery .....	+ 9.1	+20.6	+12.7	+ 5.9
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+ 3.7	+ 3.0		
Ontario .....	+ 5.6	+16.4		
Western Provinces .....	+15.7	+34.5		
Wholesale Trade --				
Maritimes .....	+ 6.6	+ 7.5		
Quebec .....	+14.7	+14.3		
Ontario .....	+17.0	+21.3		
Prairies .....	+20.1	+29.6		
British Columbia .....	+14.4	+20.3		
CANADA .....	+16.2	+20.7	+18.4	+ 6.4

(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	
April, 1943 .....	165.4	182.5	166.4	167.0	151.2	184.0	142.3	130.1	132.5	160.4	
April, 1944 .....	173.4	201.5	165.2	172.8	168.3	189.2	180.0	182.3	145.8	216.4	
April, 1945 .....	197.3	226.1	194.4	202.2	179.7	215.1	238.0	260.1	202.2	267.5	
April, 1946 .....	238.1	243.1	222.2	245.3	232.9	258.8	339.1	315.8	285.7	408.7	
1945 - May .....	205.9	253.6	187.1	215.4	193.6	224.9	213.5	296.9	168.5	237.9	
June .....	206.9	250.6	184.0	210.5	194.1	236.7	235.3	280.4	192.6	265.1	
July .....	203.7	240.6	179.4	201.2	208.2	233.6	228.3	281.8	192.9	241.3	
August .....	216.3	250.0	183.6	212.9	230.6	231.7	254.3	309.0	197.0	280.5	
September .....	217.7	237.9	210.8	208.1	228.9	221.6	293.6	300.3	239.4	329.1	
October .....	237.2	277.3	233.7	231.8	229.8	250.7	308.6	399.4	249.1	311.7	
November .....	221.5	257.5	210.1	224.1	214.2	238.4	290.8	355.9	247.1	310.2	
December .....	194.7	217.0	182.8	202.8	168.2	241.1	202.0	289.1	189.2	203.3	
1946 - January .....	217.1	231.4	183.9	235.5	206.5	252.1	356.5	327.5	330.8	403.5	
February .....	210.4	204.1	197.2	211.9	204.1	242.5	306.7	354.0	253.5	339.2	
March .....	234.0	234.1	223.9	237.2	230.0	250.9	333.3	324.5	312.2	360.7	
April .....	238.1	243.1	222.2	245.3	232.9	258.8	339.1	315.8	285.7	408.7	

Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING	FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS			
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
April, 1943 .....	185.6	184.2	185.4	195.2	188.0	152.7	157.6	142.5	153.4
April, 1944 .....	193.0	191.6	192.4	172.6	178.4	165.4	167.4	148.6	179.3
April, 1945 .....	220.0	217.5	222.0	182.8	246.0	167.9	172.8	163.3	160.1
April, 1946 .....	236.3	227.1	255.7	205.5	321.5	193.1	198.5	196.8	172.3
1945 - May .....	222.0	225.0	212.9	148.7	202.6	147.4	150.3	150.3	136.4
June .....	210.5	205.4	223.3	144.7	210.7	143.5	153.2	148.9	116.8
July .....	208.0	203.0	221.3	146.7	155.9	121.8	103.2	129.7	149.2
August .....	223.2	222.7	222.7	193.2	263.5	168.9	131.9	192.2	205.6
September .....	227.1	236.6	203.6	199.2	243.9	191.3	192.2	187.9	189.9
October .....	268.2	264.1	277.7	238.6	263.9	184.6	178.4	184.0	199.0
November .....	259.4	256.3	268.7	200.2	219.3	162.0	156.7	166.4	181.8
December .....	198.3	199.2	196.2	116.9	219.0	113.4	198.4	130.2	113.7
1946 - January .....	246.4	243.3	254.8	280.8	230.1	201.7	178.5	241.7	193.1
February .....	227.7	223.0	244.8	232.7	238.2	189.9	197.1	195.2	167.6
March .....	228.9	224.3	242.1	235.8	290.0	191.6	192.1	194.8	204.5
April .....	<b>236.3</b>	227.1	255.7	202.5	321.5	193.1	198.5	196.8	172.3

**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	
April, 1943 .....	143.4	174.6	143.1	148.6	123.4	147.2	209.9	209.3	212.2	189.6	
April, 1944 .....	151.6	184.7	135.9	157.2	136.5	161.0	218.9	213.5	216.2	204.4	
April, 1945 .....	166.6	209.6	150.4	171.3	146.3	181.1	256.1	266.4	252.1	233.8	
April, 1946 .....	189.8	220.3	167.7	195.3	172.6	212.6	323.5	311.4	324.7	303.5	
1945 - May .....	187.4	236.5	169.3	197.8	171.1	192.0	271.1	274.9	272.6	252.4	
June .....	188.8	246.8	169.8	190.6	166.2	209.5	281.2	300.9	273.3	275.1	
July .....	186.6	231.1	167.1	187.0	177.1	192.1	288.0	262.0	279.2	308.3	
August .....	191.1	236.9	171.4	191.7	180.2	195.6	278.7	184.1	264.0	358.9	
September .....	179.6	207.3	165.4	171.7	177.2	204.8	296.4	288.7	256.6	340.7	
October .....	203.1	255.0	204.1	204.3	182.3	214.9	288.5	250.9	272.4	318.8	
November .....	195.8	243.3	193.7	202.7	172.3	208.1	269.4	241.9	286.0	278.7	
December .....	171.6	216.8	161.4	186.8	136.7	196.0	298.2	270.3	302.9	301.8	
1946 - January .....	185.7	236.3	143.2	201.8	163.7	204.2	230.5	178.6	261.2	220.8	
February .....	173.2	195.6	148.2	175.9	161.3	203.0	244.5	234.9	245.9	240.6	
March .....	187.2	227.9	162.1	190.9	172.8	209.2	298.8	264.3	321.1	284.2	
April .....	189.8	220.3	167.7	195.3	172.6	212.6	323.5	311.4	324.7	303.5	

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY				
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	
April, 1943 .....	184.0	174.0	168.7	174.3	196.2	189.8	218.5	174.7	171.3	
April, 1944 .....	178.5	201.3	155.4	159.1	196.0	214.5	237.5	199.2	196.3	
April, 1945 .....	212.8	222.4	203.3	205.2	218.5	243.5	281.4	238.2	205.5	
April, 1946 .....	278.8	272.7	253.3	281.9	289.5	293.7	289.8	277.3	276.4	
1945 - May .....	205.4	200.0	187.9	192.4	227.5	286.4	275.6	308.9	244.7	
June .....	211.2	208.0	201.8	209.4	224.7	267.4	260.5	266.7	250.0	
July .....	203.5	192.8	190.0	166.2	231.5	258.4	236.8	260.6	246.6	
August .....	218.9	208.8	218.5	172.6	235.0	265.1	264.0	276.8	246.7	
September .....	228.6	242.4	235.7	217.1	237.3	250.5	248.0	251.3	238.2	
October .....	246.6	259.8	247.7	227.1	252.5	290.6	286.9	274.3	277.5	
November .....	236.5	222.9	233.5	224.4	244.7	275.5	256.6	279.5	274.8	
December .....	201.6	163.4	186.1	203.3	209.9	272.8	275.2	262.9	269.6	
1946 - January .....	228.5	174.1	239.9	195.0	259.2	254.8	233.9	256.4	247.1	
February .....	258.0	198.7	221.9	239.6	283.0	227.9	195.7	242.5	221.4	
March .....	283.8	229.8	267.6	273.9	292.5	272.0	273.6	260.5	265.8	
April .....	278.8	272.7	253.3	281.9	289.5	293.7	289.8	277.3	276.4	

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