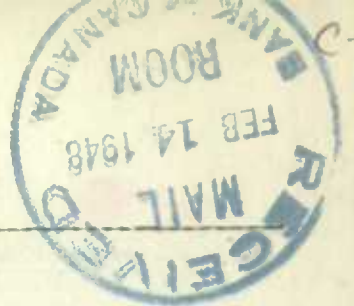


63-005



Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe,
Minister of Trade and Commerce
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES STATISTICS
OTTAWA, CANADA

Dominion Statistician:	Herbert Marshall
Director, Division of Census of Industry and Merchandising:	W. H. Losee
Chief, Merchandising and Services Statistics:	C. H. McDonald

16-4040
10

WHOLESALE TRADE

December, 1947

December Increase 13%, Close to 12% Increase for 1947/1946

December, 1947 sales of 365 wholesalers in nine lines of trade were 13% above the dollar volume of December, 1946 but dropped 15% from the November, 1947 volume. The general unadjusted index (on the base, average for 1935-1939=100) stood at 251.8 for December, 1947, 222.2 for December, 1946, and 295.0 for November, 1947. Total sales for the year 1947 exceeded the 1946 volume by 12%.

According to regions, British Columbia with an increase of 18% and Ontario with sales up 17% had the greatest gains in dollar volume of business when compared with December, 1946. Quebec sales were up 13%; those in the Maritimes, 10%; and in the Prairie Provinces, 8%.

Largest Gains in Wholesale Hardware--29%, Automotive Equipment--20%

Sales by hardware wholesalers were 29% higher than in December, 1946, a considerably larger increase than the 17% registered for the twelve months of 1947 compared with 1946. Wholesalers of automotive equipment also reported a greater increase in December sales compared with the same month of 1946 (20%) than the increase recorded for the year 1947 compared with 1946 (10%).

The dry goods and groceries trades, while reporting substantial increases in sales in December, 1947 over the same month of 1946 of 18% and 14% respectively, did not maintain the increase recorded in earlier months. The cumulative increase for the twelve months of 1947 over 1946 for dry goods amounted to 24%, while that for groceries was 17%.

Tobacco and confectionery, footwear, and drug wholesalers had December, 1947 sales ranging from 14% to 18% higher than December, 1946. These increases exceeded by a considerable margin the gains for the year as a whole. Percentage increases for these trades in December compared with the same month a year ago, with the cumulative twelve-month percentage increases in brackets, are as follows: tobacco and confectionery, 18% (7%); footwear, 17% (8%); and drugs, 14% (4%). Clothing wholesalers' sales were 13% in excess of those for December, 1946, while sales in the year 1947 were 10% higher than in 1946.

Year's Subscription, \$1.00
Single Copies, .10

12% Decline in Fruit and Vegetable Sales in December

Fruits and vegetable dealers' sales, which have continued lower than in 1946 throughout 1947 recording a drop of 6% for the year, were 12% lower in December, 1947 than in December a year ago. This is the greatest decrease registered for any month of 1947 compared with corresponding month of 1946.

December Inventories Show Smallest Gains in 1947

Stocks in the hands of wholesalers at December 31, 1947 were valued 20% higher than at the same date in 1946. This gain is less than those recorded in all earlier months of 1947. The drop in increases in value of stocks compared with 1946 was apparent in all trades with the exception of tobacco and confectionery where inventories at the end of December were valued 32% higher than at December 31, 1946. Stocks held by fruit and vegetable dealers were 10% below the value at the end of December a year ago. The dry goods and automotive equipment trades continued to record the largest increases in stocks on hand with gains of 45% and 38% respectively. Footwear wholesalers' stocks were up by 33% while other increases were as follows: hardware, 20%; groceries, 16%; clothing, 8%; and drugs, 6%.

Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

	Percentage Change, 1947 Compared with 1946			
	Sales			INVENTORY December, 1947 December, 1946
	(1)	(2)	(2)	
	Nov. 1947	Dec. 1947	12 months 1947	
Nov. 1946	Dec. 1946	12 months 1946		
Automotive Equipment	+26.3	+19.7	+10.1	+38.0
Maritimes and Quebec	+27.4	+11.6		
Ontario	+26.8	+27.7		
Western Provinces	+25.4	+16.6		
Drugs	- 2.2	+14.4	+ 3.8	+ 6.3
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario.	- 1.7	+19.1		
Western Provinces	- 3.7	+ 2.4		
Clothing	+ 2.5	+12.6	+10.2	+ 7.6
Quebec	-12.9	-13.0		
Ontario and Western Provinces.	+13.6	+38.3		
Footwear	- 4.0	+17.0	+ 7.8	+33.1
Maritimes and Quebec	-23.8	+25.3		
Ontario and Western Provinces.	+20.7	+ 7.3		
Dry Goods	+20.1	+17.9	+24.0	+45.3
Maritimes and Quebec	+23.7	+ 1.5		
Ontario	+21.0	+41.0		
Western Provinces	+13.8	+20.0		
Fruits and Vegetables	- 0.5	-12.3	- 5.6	- 9.9
Maritimes and Quebec	+14.5	- 9.8		
Ontario	+ 0.6	-11.3		
Western Provinces	- 9.9	-14.6		
Groceries	+22.1	+13.5	+17.0	+15.8
Maritimes	+18.0	+ 9.4		
Quebec	+20.6	+17.4		
Ontario	+27.2	+18.4		
Prairies	+18.1	+ 7.5		
British Columbia	+24.1	+14.0		
Hardware	+20.6	+29.0	+17.1	+19.8
Maritimes	+25.4	+19.7		
Quebec	+27.2	+28.2		
Ontario	+24.7	+25.7		
Western Provinces	+15.3	+31.9		
Tobacco and Confectionery	+ 5.4	+17.6	+ 7.2	+31.5
Maritimes and Quebec	+15.6	+23.2		
Ontario	+ 2.6	+20.3		
Western Provinces	+ 4.2	+12.8		
Wholesale Trade -				
Maritimes	+13.3	+ 9.5		
Quebec	+17.1	+13.0		
Ontario	+16.5	+16.7		
Prairies	+ 9.0	+ 7.9		
British Columbia	+19.7	+17.9		
CANADA	+14.7	+13.3	+11.6	+19.6

(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
December, 1944	171.5	201.1	163.5	174.7	153.9	198.3	166.8	175.0	150.3	191.8
December, 1945	194.7	217.0	182.8	202.8	168.2	241.1	202.0	289.1	189.2	203.3
December, 1946	222.2	237.4	214.8	229.8	191.9	275.1	231.9	347.2	243.5	203.7
December, 1947	251.8	260.0	242.7	268.2	207.1	324.3	277.6	387.5	310.9	237.5
1947 - January	237.7	235.5	206.4	252.6	231.7	271.0	345.4	342.3	354.1	349.5
February	231.4	219.0	218.9	239.2	220.2	260.4	337.3	428.7	321.2	318.5
March	256.7	257.8	251.0	250.2	252.1	293.6	314.7	373.0	297.3	372.6
April	268.8	293.2	257.3	273.7	251.5	305.9	360.2	411.5	307.0	396.8
May	280.6	297.4	262.5	293.8	267.7	311.9	350.5	457.2	303.5	372.9
June	268.3	272.1	245.0	273.0	250.6	330.1	369.4	414.0	337.8	390.8
July	277.6	301.5	241.9	280.2	282.5	323.0	351.4	408.7	366.3	316.3
August	272.7	277.7	238.0	266.4	287.7	306.8	379.7	455.2	332.1	382.7
September	301.7	317.5	292.9	297.1	301.6	330.6	483.7	491.9	467.0	475.7
October	325.2	361.6	319.9	328.0	296.6	372.6	427.9	498.5	423.0	372.4
November	295.0	317.7	289.1	292.4	281.1	345.6	413.5	461.2	378.8	429.9
December	251.8	260.0	242.7	268.2	207.1	324.3	277.6	387.5	310.9	237.5

Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING		FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS		
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
December, 1944	166.7	190.3	176.8	120.0	143.7	111.8	103.6	124.4	104.8
December, 1945	196.3	199.2	196.2	116.9	219.0	113.4	98.4	130.2	113.7
December, 1946	215.8	215.1	218.2	167.3	251.0	162.5	150.5	186.8	142.8
December, 1947	246.9	256.2	223.4	188.4	293.7	191.6	152.8	263.4	171.4
1947 - January	255.2	246.6	278.8	294.7	278.7	220.8	190.9	256.9	232.1
February	220.6	216.3	236.7	277.2	297.8	229.3	224.0	272.0	177.3
March	223.4	218.9	236.3	266.0	300.2	266.0	260.1	294.1	261.6
April	248.8	240.5	266.4	249.4	294.2	282.0	291.8	294.0	239.2
May	266.7	266.4	265.8	248.3	265.0	270.8	264.3	287.5	257.1
June	230.8	221.3	254.4	210.9	247.5	212.5	229.0	211.5	180.7
July	256.2	248.1	278.5	196.9	216.3	182.0	147.3	200.2	229.4
August	241.6	229.0	275.3	263.8	334.8	237.5	197.5	276.2	256.2
September	273.9	285.2	246.7	261.7	378.1	303.9	301.0	313.5	288.7
October	313.4	313.2	310.8	295.3	427.6	279.9	267.1	300.7	281.3
November	278.0	272.6	293.9	280.5	280.6	262.9	249.1	294.8	272.1
December	246.9	256.2	223.4	188.4	293.7	191.6	152.8	263.4	171.4

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	
December, 1944	163.1	203.8	157.0	172.3	134.0	184.2	234.7	217.0	230.9	242.6	
December, 1945	171.6	216.8	161.4	186.8	136.7	196.0	298.3	271.3	302.9	301.8	
December, 1946	200.8	240.2	191.1	212.2	162.3	248.1	276.5	241.2	268.4	301.5	
December, 1947	227.9	262.8	224.4	251.2	174.5	282.8	242.5	217.6	238.1	257.5	
1947 - January	213.4	250.5	163.7	232.5	190.8	246.1	217.9	169.9	238.5	218.2	
February	200.3	222.0	159.8	211.6	189.2	228.6	219.5	208.3	220.8	220.6	
March	215.9	254.8	185.6	212.9	202.7	260.7	262.4	248.4	259.8	263.2	
April	222.8	270.4	188.5	233.8	190.1	259.4	257.4	273.0	294.2	269.2	
May	228.6	264.9	215.3	244.1	203.8	246.9	327.7	323.7	329.0	312.9	
June	240.3	266.3	214.6	248.1	212.4	300.7	315.9	336.0	303.9	315.9	
July	262.5	305.7	241.4	266.3	243.1	285.7	329.6	270.8	326.4	370.2	
August	246.7	271.5	210.9	246.0	243.1	277.7	305.0	224.6	278.2	379.2	
September	275.0	301.0	266.3	265.2	260.5	333.8	278.9	210.4	259.8	356.4	
October	318.4	361.4	303.0	344.4	267.3	370.0	278.0	222.7	255.7	330.4	
November	282.3	324.1	277.1	295.2	248.7	317.9	262.6	268.4	250.9	279.2	
December	227.9	262.8	224.4	251.2	174.5	282.8	242.5	217.6	238.1	257.5	

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TORACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
December, 1944	156.5	134.5	147.9	149.6	164.0	242.9	270.3	235.4	227.9
December, 1945	201.6	163.4	186.1	203.3	209.9	272.8	275.2	262.9	269.6
December, 1946	249.4	206.5	234.9	269.2	248.7	305.0	323.9	296.0	292.0
December, 1947	321.7	247.2	301.1	338.4	328.0	358.7	399.0	356.1	329.4
1947 - January	268.3	209.9	276.8	249.6	293.7	280.8	259.8	285.2	269.6
February	293.6	227.8	256.7	280.3	315.8	246.0	229.4	259.2	232.5
March	334.0	297.8	303.5	314.4	350.7	277.9	290.8	262.8	271.4
April	348.5	341.0	301.9	333.8	378.4	309.0	347.0	293.3	273.1
May	352.3	338.7	295.6	361.5	391.2	358.4	333.9	374.0	321.4
June	322.1	313.7	294.4	345.1	337.5	322.7	332.0	309.6	304.7
July	310.5	279.1	272.1	299.9	339.7	342.4	353.4	322.8	330.5
August	297.8	281.4	296.8	245.9	313.4	308.7	309.4	320.1	287.7
September	339.6	371.2	346.4	347.7	342.1	323.8	341.8	318.9	305.0
October	359.6	393.8	349.9	354.5	360.1	363.7	394.2	334.4	342.3
November	350.6	308.9	353.5	345.0	355.8	327.8	317.1	308.0	347.9
December	321.7	247.2	301.1	338.4	328.0	358.7	399.0	356.1	329.4

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010720498