## [JEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES SECTION OTTAWA CANADA

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December Sales 5 多 ADove Year Ago
Wholesslers' sales in December, 1948 were 5 higner in doller volume than in December, 1347 but $17 \%$ below the November, 1945 volume. This drop from November was greater than the usual seagonnl decline for the past few years. These floures are baed on statements received from 353 wholesalers representing nine lines of trade. Dollar asles for the twelve monthe of 1943 vere 5 㣻 in excess of the volume for the year 1947 . The general unailusted index (on the base, average for 1935-1939 = 100) etond ot 263.2 for December, 1948, 251.1 for December, 1947, and 315.2 for November, 1945.

Separate flgures by proviaces indicate that December sales in the nine lines of trade included in the survey were hizher than in December, 1947 in all provinces but British Columhia where a eecilne of 4 was recorded. Fercentage gains in the other regions were as followe: Maritime Provincee, 3\%; Quebec, 4\%; Ontario, 4\%; Proiric Provinces, 12\%


## Footwear Only Trade With Decrease in Sal es Volume

Footwear wholesalers registered a drop of $14 \%$ in sales volume from December, 1947 but results varied in different parts of the country. A gain of $22 \%$ in Ontario and the Western Provinces combined was more than offset by a $40 \%$ drop in Quebec and the Maritimes combined.

Salos of wholesale grocers remained practically unchanged from December y year ago while a gain of $1 \%$ was rerorted by dry goods wholesalers. The dollar volume of sales in the tobacco and confectionery trade increased 5\% over December, 1947, while sales of drugs and fruits and vegetables dealers were up $7 \%$. More substantial gains of $11 \%$ were recorded by wholasalers of hardware and of automotive equipment, with the highest percentage gain of $24 \%$ being reported by clothing wholesalers.

Stocks valued 6\% above Decamber, 1947
molesalers' inventories at the end of December, 1948 were valued $6 \%$ higher than at the seme date a year ago. Three trades, footwear, clothing and fruits and vegetables, showed marked decreases of $23 \%, 21 \%$ and $11 \%$ respectively in value of stocks on hand.

Wholesale grocers reported stocks on hand at a value $1 \%$ higher than on the corresponding date a year ago, while an increaso of $3 \%$ was registerod by wholesalers of drugs and of automotive equipment. Other trades included in the survey registered more substantial increases in value of stocks on hand as follows: dry goods, 11\%; hardware, 15\%; and tobacco and confectionery, 24\%.

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## Percentage Change

S 1 es

|  | (1) | (2) <br> December, $\frac{1948}{\text { December, }}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { December, } \\ \frac{1948}{\text { November, }} \\ 1948 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jan.-to- } \\ & \text { Dec. } 1948 \\ & \text { Jan. -to- } \\ & \text { Dec. } 1947 \end{aligned}$ | INVENTORY $\frac{\text { Dec., } 1948}{\text { Dec.,1947 }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Automotive Equipment ..... | 4.7 | +11.2 | -27. 5 | +.2.9 | $+3.2$ |
| Maritimes and Quebec.... | -2.6 | - 2.3 | - 9.8 |  |  |
| Ontario ................. | + 4.2 | $+24.2$ | - 3.8 |  |  |
| Western Provinces ........ | +8.2 | + 4.9 | -44.8 |  |  |
|  | $+17.2$ | $+6.6$ | -19.7 | +10.8 | $+3.3$ |
| Maritimes, Quebec and Ont | +17.2 | + 5.6 | -16.4 |  |  |
| Wostern Provinces ........ | +17.2 | + 9.7 | -28.8 |  |  |
| Clothing ................ | +14.3 | +23.6 | -28.5 | +3.6 | $-20.8$ |
| quebec................. | +29.1 | $+47.6$ |  |  |  |
| Cntario \& Western Prov. | +6.2 | +6.9 |  |  |  |
| Footwear ................. | +11.3 | -13.9 | -19.0 | $-4.7$ | -22.8 |
| Maritines and quebec .... | $+14.2$ | -39.7 |  |  |  |
| Ontario \& Western lrov. | + 9.1 | $+21.6$ |  |  |  |
| Dry Goods ............... | +23.9 | +1.1 | -41.5 | $+8.1$ | +11.1 |
| Maritimes and Quebec.... | +27.0 | + 4.7 | -50.4 |  |  |
| Ontario ................. | +15.2 | - 9.2 | $-33.7$ |  |  |
| Western Provinces ........ | $+31.2$ | +19.2 | -43.6 |  |  |
| Fruits and Vegetables .... | - 1.9 | $+8.6$ | + 1.0 | -13.1 | -11.2 |
| Maritimes and Quebec .... | $-11.6$ | - 8.0 | $-12.3$ |  |  |
| Ontario ................... | - 2.4 | + 5.5 | + 2.0 |  |  |
| Western Provinces ....... | $\begin{array}{r}5.9 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | $+16.7$ | +1.5 |  |  |
| Groceries .n.m.o......nomn | $=3.7$ | +0.2 | $-16.4$ | $+4.7$ | + 1.1 |
| Naritimes ...............s. | -6.8 | - 0.4 | $-18.7$ |  |  |
| Quebec ................... | - 5.5 | - 0.5 | -1\%.3 |  |  |
| Ontario ................. | - 8.4 | -3.8 | -1C. 6 |  |  |
| Prairies ................. | - 2.2 | +3.3 | -25.9 |  |  |
| British Columbia ......... | + 9.2 | $\begin{array}{r}\text { + } \\ + \\ \hline\end{array}$ | -10.6 |  |  |
| Hardwere .................. | +22.9 | +11.0 | $-17.3$ | +10.7 | +14.6 |
| Naritimes | +20.2 | +20.2 | -20.0 |  |  |
| Quebec ..................... | +21.6 | +16.8 | -18.0 |  |  |
| Ontario ................... | $+29.4$ | $+22.0$ | $-8.2$ |  |  |
| Western Provinces ....... | +20.6 | + 2.9 | -21.3 |  |  |
| Tobacco and Confectionery. | $+11.7$ | + 4.8 | +1.6 | +11.4 | $+23.5$ |
| Maritimes and Quebec.... | +16.9 | +8.9 | +16.4 |  |  |
| Ontario................. | $+13.0$ | + 4.4 | + 3.8 |  |  |
| Western Provinces . - . - . | +8.5 | +3.5 | -9.9 |  |  |
| Wholesale Trade - |  |  |  |  |  |
| Haritimos ................. | $+1.6$ | + 2.8 | -17.4 |  |  |
| Quebec ................... | +8.9 | + 4.0 | $-20.5$ |  |  |
| Ontario................. | $+4.6$ | +3.9 | -9.4 |  |  |
| Prairies ................ | $+10.8$ | +11.5 | -25.6 |  |  |
| British Columbia ........ | +8.0 | -3.6 | -16. 4 |  |  |
| CAMADA | $+7.2$ | $+4.8$ | $-16.8$ | + 4.4 | + 5.8 |

(1) Revised
(2) Preliminary

| Year and Month | WHOLESALE TRADE |  |  |  |  |  | AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | CANADA | Maritimes | Quebec | ontario | Prairies | British Columbia | CANADA | Maritimes \＆Quebec | Ontario | Western Provinces |
| 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 。e | 251.1 | 257.1 | 241.4 | 266.6 | 207.8 | 323.5 | 283.4 | 411.4 | 307.5 | 244.8 ． |
| November， 1948 ．． | 316.2 | 319.9 | 315.9 | 305.6 | 311.5 | 373.2 | 433.2 | 445.7 | 397.1 | 465.2 |
| December， 1948 ．． | 263.2 | 264.3 | 251．1 | 277.0 | 231.7 | 311.9 | 315.1 | 401.9 | 381.9 | 256.8 |


| Year and Month | DRUGE |  | CLOTHING | FOOTWEAF | DRY GOODS |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | CANADi | Ticritimes Western Rue d Ont．Provinces | CANADA | CAIVADA | CANADA | Maritimes \＆Quebee | Ontario | Western Provinces |
| December． $1945 \ldots$ | 198.3 | 199.2 196．2 | 116.9 | 219．0 | 113.4 | 98.4 | 130.2 | 11 \％．7 |
| December， 1946 ． | 215.8 | 215.1 218．2 | 167.3 | 251.0 | 162.5 | 150.5 | 186.8 | 142.8 |
| Deceraber， 1947 。o | 245.6 | 253.0224 .5 | 184.9 | 293.7 | 188.3 | 149.7 | 248.6 | 168.9 |
| November， 1948 。0 | 326.2 | $319.5 \quad 345.9$ | 319.7 | 312.3 | 325.7 | 315.8 | 340.4 | 357.0 |
| December， 1948 ．， | 261.8 | 267．2 246．3 | 228.5 | 252.9 | 190.4 | 156.7 | 225.7 | 201． 3 |


| Year and Montl | GROCERIÉ |  |  |  |  |  |  | FRUITS AND VEGETAELFS |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | CAlada | Maritimes | Quebec | Ontario | Prairies | British Columia | CANADA | Maritimes \＆quebec | Ontario | Western Provinces |
| December， 1945 ． | 171.6 | 216.8 | 161.4 | 186.8 | 136.7 | 196.0 | 298.3 | 271.3 | 302.9 | 301.8 |
| December， $1946 \ldots$ | 200.8 | 240.2 | 191.1 | 212.2 | 162.3 | 248.1 | 276.5 | 241.2 | 268.4 | 301.5 |
| December， 1947 ．． | 227.1 | 261.8 | 220.1 | 251.2 | 174.3 | 282.8 | 243.0 | 220.5 | 237.0 | 257.2 |
| November， 1948.0 | 272.3 | 302.1 | 264.7 | 270.4 | 243．2 | 347.1 | 256.5 | 231.4 | 245.1 | 295.7 |
| December， 1948 ． | 227．6 | 260.8 | 219.0 | $241 . ?$ | 180．1 | 310.2 | 259.0 | 202.9 | 250.0 | 300.2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Year and Month | HARDVARE． |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | CANAIAA | Maritimes | Qunbec | Cntario | Teste Provin |  |  | ritimes Quebec | Ontario | Hestorn srovinces |
| December， 1945 ．＊ | 201.6 | 163.4 | 186.1 | 203.3 | 209 |  |  | 275.2 | 262.9 | － 269.5 |
| Jecember， $1346 .$. | 249.4 | 206.5 | 234.9 | 269.2 | 248 |  |  | 323.9 | 296.0 | $292.0$ |
| Jecomber， 1947 ．． | 321.2 | 247.2 | 301.8 | 336.0 | 328 |  |  | 396.1 | 346.9 | 328.5 |
| November， 1948 ．． | 430.9 | 371.3 | 429．9 | 446.4 | 429 |  |  | 370.7 | 349.1 | 377.5 |
| December， 1948 ．． | 356.5 | 297.1 | 352.5 | 409．9 | 337 |  |  | 431.4 | 362.2 | 340.0 |

