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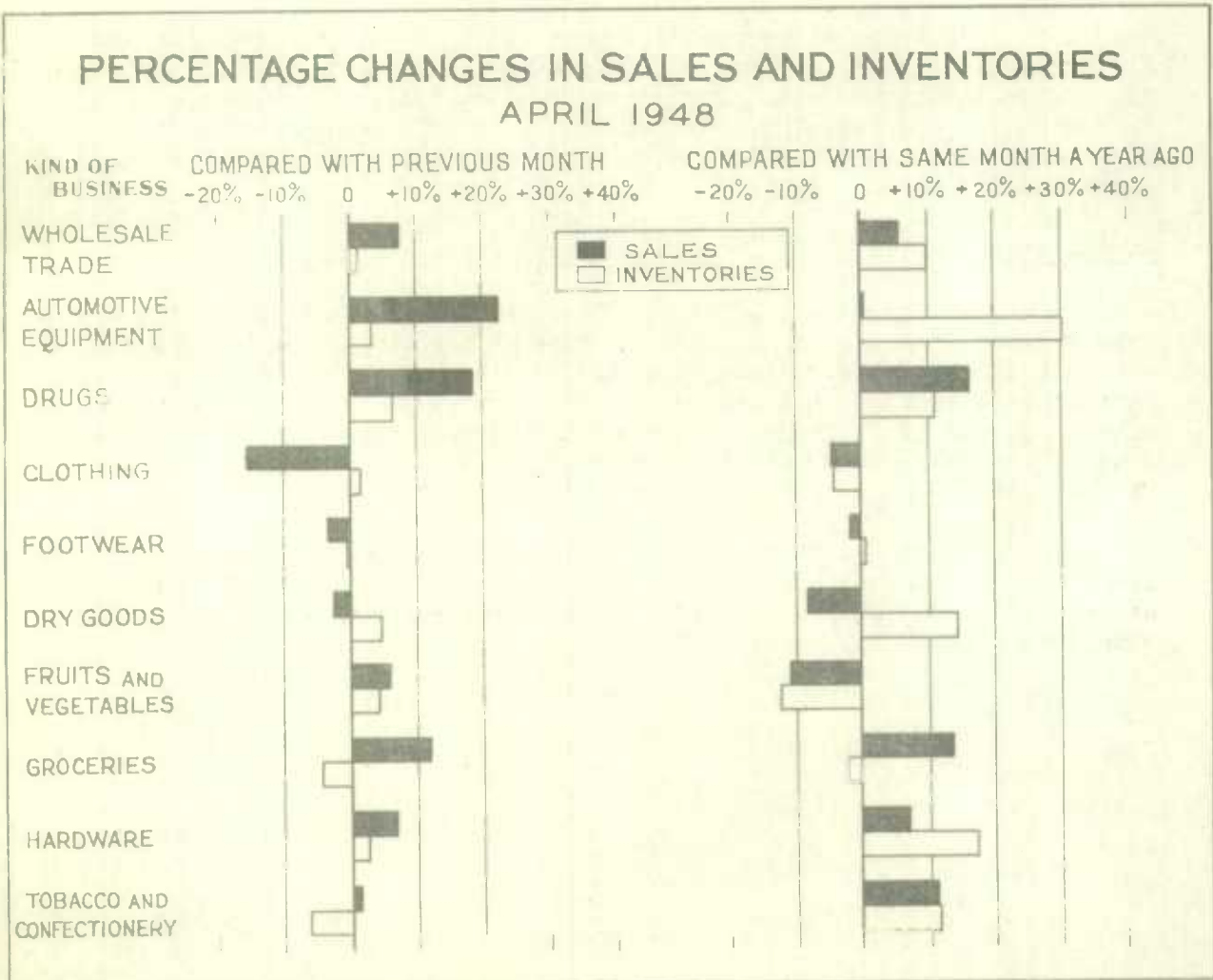
# WHOLESALE TRADE

## APRIL 1948

### April, 1948 Sales 6% Above 1947

Wholesale sales in April, 1948 were 6% higher in dollar volume than in April, 1947 and were 8% above the volume for March, 1948, according to statements received from 395 wholesalers representing nine lines of trade. Cumulative dollar sales for the first four months of 1948 were 4% in excess of the dollar volume reported for the corresponding period a year ago. The general unadjusted index (on the base, average for 1935-1939=100) stood at 284.4 for April, 1948, 268.8 for April, 1947, and 264.4 for March, 1948.

Wholesale sales in the Prairie Provinces continued below last year's level by 2% but all other regions of the country registered advances. A gain of 2% was recorded for the Maritime Provinces, sales in both Ontario and Quebec were 8.5% above April last year, while in British Columbia, the dollar volume of wholesale sales was 13% in excess of that recorded for April last year.



Grocery Sales up 14%.

Drug wholesalers and grocery wholesalers reported a greater increase over 1947 than in any month since the beginning of the year. Drug sales were up 16%, while grocers' sales were 14% in excess of the April, 1947 volume. Cumulative sales of grocery wholesalers for the year to date were only 5% above the volume for the corresponding period of 1947.

Tobacco and confectionery and hardware wholesalers were the only other trades which showed an increase in dollar volume of sales over last year. Gains of 11% and 7% respectively were recorded by these trades compared with cumulative gains for the first four months of 13% and 8%.

Wholesalers of automotive equipment (including parts, accessories, tires and tubes) reported sales practically the same as in April, 1947.

Sales down in Dry Goods and Apparel Trades.

Footwear wholesalers and fruit and vegetable dealers, whose sales have been below 1947 volumes for some months, continued to record sales volumes lower than last year. Footwear wholesalers' sales were down 2% while fruit and vegetable dealers' sales dropped 11%.

Clothing sales, which showed an increase over 1947 for the first time this year in March, again dropped below last year in April by 5%. Sales in the wholesale dry goods trade registered a decrease of 8% from April, 1947. Cumulative sales of dry goods wholesalers for the first four months of 1948 were 5% higher in dollar volume than in the corresponding period of 1947.

Stocks show smaller gains than in previous months.

Stocks in the hands of wholesalers at the end of April, 1948 were valued 10% higher than those on hand at the same date last year and were 1% above the value at the end of March, 1948. Automotive equipment dealers recorded the largest increase in value of stocks on hand with a gain of 30%. Hardware, dry goods, tobacco and confectionery, and drug wholesalers had inventories valued between 17% and 11% higher than at April 30, 1947.

Fruit and vegetable dealers' inventories were valued 12% lower than last year, while clothing and grocery wholesalers' stocks dropped to 4% and 2% respectively below the value of inventories at the same date a year ago.

Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

	Percentage Change				INVENTORY April, 1948 April, 1947
	SALES				
	(1) March, 1948 March, 1947	(2) April, 1948 April, 1947	April, 1948 March, 1948	Jan.-to- Apr., 1948 Jan.-to- Apr., 1947	
Automotive Equipment .....	- 6.1	+ 0.3	+22.3	- 3.5	+30.2
Maritimes and Quebec .....	- 5.0	- 0.2	+13.9		
Ontario .....	+11.6	+17.0	+ 8.3		
Western Provinces .....	-18.0	-11.4	+15.1		
Drugs .....	+ 9.1	+16.2	+18.6	+12.7	+11.2
Maritimes, Quebec and Ont.	+ 7.8	+16.3	+18.5		
Western Provinces .....	+12.3	+15.8	+16.2		
Clothing .....	+ 5.6	- 4.7	-15.4	- 2.7	- 4.1
Quebec .....	+25.7	+ 0.1			
Ontario & Western Prov....	- 3.3	- 8.3			
Footwear .....	- 0.5	- 1.8	- 3.3	- 5.3	+ 0.7
Maritimes and Quebec .....	-15.5	(X)			
Ont. and Western Provinces	+12.9	- 3.2			
Dry Goods .....	+ 0.1	- 8.1	- 2.7	+ 4.8	+14.6
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+ 3.3	- 8.6	- 0.7		
Ontario .....	- 3.9	- 7.3	- 3.6		
Western Provinces .....	+ 0.9	- 8.5	-17.1		
Fruits and Vegetables .....	-17.2	-10.6	+ 5.9	-11.6	-12.1
Maritimes and Quebec .....	-15.1	- 7.3	+20.0		
Ontario .....	- 8.7	- 2.4	+21.0		
Western Provinces .....	-27.4	-20.7	+11.7		
Groceries .....	+ 4.9	+13.8	+11.9	+ 5.2	- 2.0
Maritimes .....	+ 6.8	+ 4.7	+ 7.5		
Quebec .....	+ 4.5	+23.6	+20.1		
Ontario .....	+ 6.3	+ 9.5	+13.1		
Prairies .....	- 1.8	+14.2	+ 9.0		
British Columbia .....	+13.4	+23.9	+ 8.7		
Hardware .....	+ 4.8	+ 7.2	+ 6.7	+ 7.6	+17.4
Maritimes .....	+10.6	+16.9	+21.0		
Quebec .....	+13.3	+16.5	+ 2.3		
Ontario .....	+12.8	+16.2	+ 9.4		
Western Provinces .....	- 3.1	- 1.2	+10.0		
Tobacco and Confectionery :	+22.1	+11.4	+ 1.4	+12.5	+11.7
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+32.6	+15.1	+ 3.6		
Ontario .....	+18.5	+15.6	+ 8.9		
Western Provinces .....	+21.2	+ 5.9	-12.1		
Wholesale Trade -					
Maritimes .....	+ 4.6	+ 2.0	+10.9		
Quebec .....	+ 5.8	+ 8.5	+ 5.2		
Ontario .....	+ 8.0	+ 8.5	+12.0		
Prairies .....	- 4.9	- 2.0	+ 2.8		
British Columbia .....	+ 6.5	+12.8	+10.4		
CANADA .....	+ 3.0	+ 5.8	+ 7.6	+ 3.9	+10.0

(1) Revised.  
 (2) Preliminary.  
 (X) Unchanged.





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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 & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	
April, 1945	197.3	226.1	194.4	202.2	179.7	215.1	238.0	260.1	202.2	267.5
April, 1946	238.5	245.8	223.2	245.5	233.3	259.0	344.4	337.3	291.0	406.1
April, 1947	268.8	293.2	257.6	273.7	251.5	305.9	360.2	411.5	307.0	396.8
March, 1948	264.4	269.7	265.6	265.2	239.7	312.7	295.5	354.4	331.8	305.5
April, 1948	284.4	299.1	279.5	297.0	246.5	345.1	361.3	410.7	359.2	351.6

Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING		FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS		
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
April, 1945	220.0	217.5	222.0	182.8	246.0	167.9	172.8	163.3	160.1
April, 1946	235.8	226.9	255.7	213.7	321.5	193.4	199.2	196.8	172.3
April, 1947	248.8	240.5	266.4	249.4	294.2	282.0	291.8	294.0	239.2
March, 1948	243.7	236.0	265.4	280.9	298.7	266.3	268.7	282.6	264.0
April, 1948	289.1	279.7	308.5	237.7	288.9	259.2	266.7	272.5	218.9

Year and Month	GROCERIES						FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	
April, 1945	166.6	209.6	150.4	171.3	146.3	181.1	256.3	267.3	252.1	233.8
April, 1946	190.1	220.9	170.4	193.4	173.8	212.6	288.6	311.7	324.7	303.5
April, 1947	222.8	279.4	188.5	233.8	190.1	259.4	257.4	273.0	294.2	269.2
March, 1948	226.5	272.1	194.0	226.3	199.1	295.6	217.3	210.9	237.2	191.1
April, 1948	253.5	292.5	233.0	256.0	217.1	321.4	230.1	253.1	287.1	213.5

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	
April, 1945	212.8	222.4	203.3	205.2	218.5	243.5	281.4	238.2	205.5
April, 1946	279.0	271.1	253.3	282.4	289.5	294.6	291.8	280.1	275.0
April, 1947	348.5	341.0	301.9	333.8	378.4	309.0	347.0	293.3	273.1
March, 1948	350.0	329.4	343.9	354.6	339.8	339.3	385.6	311.4	328.9
April, 1948	373.6	398.6	351.7	387.9	373.9	344.2	399.4	339.1	289.2