



Sales Up in Dry Goods and Apparel Trades

Increases in sales of all trades except tobacco and confectionery in August, 1948 compared with August, 1947 exceeded the gains recorded for the year to date over the corresponding period of last year. Sales of wholesalers of dry goods, footwear and clothing recovered from the July slump to register increases of 12%, 9%, and 3% respectively over August last year. The substantial increases over July in these trades follow the normal seasonal patterns for this period.

Grocers' sales were 17% in excess of those in August a year ago, the greatest gain registered over last year in any month to date, while increases of 15% and 14% were reported by wholesalers of drugs and hardware. Sales of tobacco and confectionery wholesalers were 12% in excess of the August, 1947 volume although 10% below July, 1948.

Two Trades Show Drop in Sales

A slight drop of less than one per cent was reported for August this year compared with last by wholesalers of automotive equipment. Fruit and vegetable dealers' sales continued 18% below the 1947 level.

Stocks Up 12% Over 1947

Stocks in the hands of wholesalers in the nine lines of trade covered by this survey were valued 12% higher at the end of August this year than at the same date a year ago but were 2% lower than at July 31st this year.

Wholesalers of tobacco and confectionery, dry goods, and hardware again registered the largest increases in value of inventories compared with a year ago. Value of stocks of drug, automotive equipment and grocery wholesalers also showed increases ranging between 8% and 11%. Footwear wholesalers' inventories were valued 9% below last year, while decreases of 22% and 25% respectively were reported by clothing and fruit and vegetable wholesalers.

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Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

	Percentage Change				INVENTORY
	S a l e s				
	(1) July, 1948 July, 1947	(2) August, 1948 August, 1947	August, 1948 July, 1948	Jan.,-to- Aug.,1948 Jan.,-to- Aug.,1947	
Automotive Equipment .....	+ 0.2	- 0.5	+ 8.1	- 0.5	+ 9.0
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+ 3.9	-11.5	- 2.0		
Ontario .....	- 2.9	- 3.7	- 9.9		
Western Provinces .....	+ 1.3	+ 6.6	+25.1		
Drugs .....	+10.2	+15.1	- 1.3	+12.2	+ 8.1
Maritimes, Quebec and Ont.	+ 6.7	+16.7	+ 0.9		
Western Provinces .....	+19.3	+11.2	- 7.5		
Clothing .....	-11.2	+ 3.2	+55.8	- 2.1	-21.6
Quebec .....	+ 0.4	+ 3.7			
Ontario & Western Prov. ..	-19.2	+ 2.8			
Footwear .....	-20.2	+ 8.6	+110.7	- 6.9	- 9.3
Maritimes and Quebec .....	-22.5	+12.4			
Ont. and Western Provinces	-18.1	+ 5.8			
Dry Goods .....	- 1.1	+18.2	+57.2	+ 4.9	+19.3
Maritimes and Quebec .....	- 0.2	+19.6	+63.6		
Ontario .....	- 6.2	+17.6	+72.9		
Western Provinces .....	+ 3.8	+17.4	+26.3		
Fruits and Vegetables .....	-23.5	-18.0	- 1.0	-17.3	-25.4
Maritimes and Quebec .....	-23.9	-27.0	-21.4		
Ontario .....	-18.0	-16.1	-12.8		
Western Provinces .....	-27.6	-15.9	+19.0		
Groceries .....	+10.2	+16.7	- 0.9	+ 8.4	+10.9
Maritimes .....	+ 8.3	+17.0	- 4.0		
Quebec .....	- 9.7	+11.1	+ 6.2		
Ontario .....	+ 7.3	+17.8	+ 1.4		
Prairies .....	+ 20.7	+16.0	- 4.4		
British Columbia .....	+19.0	+19.8	- 2.1		
Hardware .....	+ 8.6	+13.9	+ 0.6	+ 8.9	+17.8
Maritimes .....	+14.2	+11.8	- 1.3		
Quebec .....	+12.3	+ 7.5	+ 4.4		
Ontario .....	+ 9.2	+18.9	-10.7		
Western Provinces .....	+ 5.8	+15.6	+ 0.8		
Tobacco and Confectionery .	+12.8	+12.3	- 9.5	+12.5	+31.4
Maritimes and Quebec .....	+ 6.7	+ 9.0	-10.8		
Ontario .....	+14.4	+ 9.8	- 3.2		
Western Provinces .....	+14.1	+16.7	-11.0		
Wholesale Trade -					
Maritimes .....	+ 6.8	+11.5	- 3.5		
Quebec .....	- 4.7	+ 4.5	+ 7.5		
Ontario .....	+ 1.8	+10.0	+ 3.1		
Prairies .....	+ 3.8	+ 8.4	+ 6.4		
British Columbia .....	+ 8.9	+12.6	- 1.7		
CANADA .....	+ 2.4	+ 9.0	+ 4.7	+ 4.2	+12.3

(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
August, 1945 ....	218.4	250.0	189.0	212.9	230.6	231.7	254.3	309.0	197.0	280.5
August, 1946 ....	262.7	265.0	224.7	257.6	285.7	283.8	334.2	368.9	288.8	353.7
August, 1947 ....	272.2	276.1	236.6	266.4	287.7	306.8	379.0	450.4	332.1	382.7
July, 1948 .....	283.5	319.0	230.0	284.2	293.2	351.4	348.9	406.9	354.8	326.1
August, 1948 ....	296.7	307.9	247.2	293.0	311.9	345.5	377.1	398.6	319.8	408.0

Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING		FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS		
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
August, 1945 ....	223.2	222.7	222.7	193.2	263.5	168.9	131.9	192.2	205.6
August, 1946 ....	250.9	243.9	268.6	266.2	328.6	215.7	186.1	234.3	242.2
August, 1947 ....	241.9	229.0	276.1	262.7	334.8	237.7	198.0	276.2	256.2
July, 1948 .....	282.1	264.7	332.0	174.0	172.6	178.8	144.7	187.8	238.1
August, 1948 ....	278.4	267.2	307.0	271.1	363.6	281.0	236.8	324.8	300.8

Year and Month	GROCERIES						FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
August, 1945 ....	191.1	236.9	171.4	191.7	180.2	195.6	292.9	226.5	264.0	358.9
August, 1946 .....	224.9	255.9	202.8	234.1	210.7	232.2	327.2	234.2	278.8	433.9
August, 1947 ....	245.6	271.5	207.5	246.0	241.9	277.7	304.0	221.6	278.2	379.2
July, 1948 .....	289.3	331.1	217.1	285.7	293.4	340.0	251.9	205.9	267.6	268.0
August, 1948 ....	286.6	317.7	230.5	289.8	280.6	332.7	249.3	161.8	233.4	318.9

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
August, 1945 ....	218.9	208.8	218.5	172.6	235.0	265.1	264.0	276.8	246.7
August, 1946 ....	292.5	268.5	265.0	234.9	327.8	307.8	277.5	322.7	297.5
August, 1947 ....	297.8	281.4	296.8	245.9	313.4	309.0	308.6	321.4	287.7
July, 1948 .....	337.2	318.7	305.6	327.5	359.4	383.3	377.1	364.4	377.1
August, 1948 ....	339.2	314.6	319.1	292.4	362.3	347.0	336.4	352.9	335.7