Published by Authonty of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, M. P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS<br>MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES SECTION<br>OTTAWA, CANADA

# WHOLESALE TRADE <br> FEBRUARY 1949 


#### Abstract

Doller Sale日 Up 28 February, 1949 sales of wholeaslers were 28 higher in dollar volume than in February laat year and $1 \%$ higher than in January, 1949 , according to statements from 366 wholesolers representing nine iné of wholessle trade. The general unadjusted index (on the bese, 1935 1939 9100 ) btood ut 244.6 for Fetruery, $1949,239.8$ for February, 1948 , and 243.2 for January, 1949.


Sales in Quebec and in British Columbia continued below last vear by $6 \%$ and $3 \%$ respecilvely. Wholesalers $1 n$ the Marlitme Provinces reported on increase of $2 \%$ while going of $4 \%$ and $10 \%$ were recorded for Ontario and the Pralrie Provinces reafectively.

## PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN SALES AND INVENTORIES FEBRUARY 1949

KIND OF COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS MONTH COMPARED WITH SAME MONTH A YEAR AGO BUSINESS $-20 \%-10 \% \quad 0+10 \%+20 \%+30 \%+40 \% \quad-20 \%-10 \% \quad 0+10 \%+20 \%+30 \%+40 \%$ WHOLESALE TRADE

AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT

DRUGS

CLOTHING

FOOTWEAR

DRY GOODS
FRUITS AND
VEGETABLES
GROCERIES

HARDWARE

TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY


Sales in Dry Goods and Apparel Trades Continue Below 1948
Wholesalers of dry goods and appaiel continued to report sales below the 1948 volume although the February declines were le ss marked than those recorded for January. Footwear wholosalers' sales decreased $5 \%$, dry coods wholesalers', $9 \%$ while a drop of $16 \%$ was recorded by clothing wholesalers.

Moderate gains were roforted by all other trades. Drug wholesalers and tobacco and confectionery wholesalers reported sales in February, 1949 up $5 \%$ from February a year ago. Sales of grocery and fruit and vegetable daalers were up $4 \%$, while gains of $2 \%$ were reported by wholesalers of hardware and automotive equipment.

Inventories up $16 \%$
Wholesalers' inventories were valued $16 \%$ higher at the end of February, 1949 than at the corresponding date a year ago. Footwear wholesalers recorded a decline of $7 \%$ in value of stocks on hand oompared with last year but all other trades showed incroases.

The largest increases were reported by the dry goods and tobacco and confectionery trades at $29 \%$ and $28 \%$ respectively. Hardware wholesalers stocks were up $23 \%$ in value and those of automotive equipment dealers, $14 \%$. Other trades reported increases in value of stocks as follows: drugs, $8 \%$; groceries, $7 \%$; fruits and vegetables, 4\%; and clothing, $2 \%$.

Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

|  |  | Percentag | nge |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | S a 1 e |  |  |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { (1) } \\ \text { January } \\ \frac{1949}{\text { January }} \\ 1948 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { February, } \\ & \frac{1949}{\text { Sanuary, }} \\ & 1949 \end{aligned}$ | INVENTORY $\frac{\mathrm{Feb} ., 1949}{\mathrm{Feb} ., 1948}$ |
| Automotive Equipment...... | $+2.7$ | +2.3 | + 2.8 | +14.1 |
| Maritimes and quebea..... | $+6.2$ | -15.3 | + 9.7 |  |
| Ontario | $+0.1$ | +7.3 | - 4.4 |  |
| Western Provinces ........ | $+4.0$ | + 5.7 | + 3.6 |  |
| Drugs ..................... | +10.1 | $+5.4$ | -15.0 | +7.9 |
| Maritimes, Quebec and Ont. | +11.2 | + 6.6 | -14.9 |  |
| Nostorn Provinces ........ | + 7.9 | $+2.7$ | -13.7 |  |
| Clothing ................. | -20.1 | -16.0 | +1.1 | + 1.8 |
| Quebec . .................. | + 0.5 | - 6.9 |  |  |
| Ontario and Western Prov.. | -30.3 | $-21.0$ |  |  |
| Footwear....... | -40.3 | -5.1 | +71.4 | -6.5 |
| Maritimes and Quebec ..... | -51.5 | - 1.8 |  |  |
| Ontario and Western Prov. | -28.6 | - 9.7 |  |  |
| Dry Goods .................. | -17.9 | -8.9 | +18.2 | +29.3 |
| Maritimes and Quebec.... | -21.1 | $-11.5$ | +26.7 |  |
| Ontario | -14.0 | - 7.7 | +13.4 |  |
| Western Provinces ........ | -19.1 | - 5.6 | +8.9 |  |
| Fruits and Vegetables ..... | +8.7 | +3.8 | $+0.7$ | + 4.4 |
| Maritimes and Quebec ..... | + 9.4 | - 4.4 | +17.7 |  |
| Ontario .................. | + 6.3 | + 2.9 | -8.2 |  |
| Western Provinces ........ | $+11.3$ | $+10.3$ | + 4.4 |  |
| Groceries .................. | -0.4 | +4.1 | -2.5 | +6.7 |
| Maritimes | - 0.1 | + 2.2 | - 1.5 |  |
| Quebec .................... | -12.7 | -12.3 | +11.6 |  |
| Ontario | $+0.7$ | $+7.2$ | -7.6 |  |
| Prairies ................. | + 0.6 | + 9.4 | + 1.7 |  |
| British Columbia ......... | $+6.1$ | + 7.3 | -8.8 |  |
| Hardware .................. | + 3.1 | $+1.9$ | + 3.4 | +22. 8 |
| Maritimes | +15.1 | +10.0 | $+7.5$ |  |
| Quebec | $+7.7$ | - 0.8 | -13.1 |  |
| Onterio | +10.2 | +6.2 | + 2.1 |  |
| Mestern Provinces ........ | $-4.2$ | + 0.7 | + 4.3 |  |
| Tobacon ard Confectionery. | 2.3 | $\pm 5.3$ | - 6.3 | +27.9 |
| Naritimes and Queboc ..... | (x) | + 5.6 | - 0.4 |  |
| Ontario | +2.3 | + 3.5 | - 2.3 |  |
| Western Provinces ........ | +3.3 | + 7.1 | $-10.8$ |  |
| Wholesale Trade - |  |  |  |  |
| Maritimes ................. | + 2.2 | $+2.3$ | - 1.1 |  |
| Quebec | - 7.0 | - 6.3 | +12.5 |  |
| Ontario | $+1.5$ | + 4.0 | - 4.0 |  |
| Prairies | $+1.6$ | + 9.5 | + 3.3 |  |
| British Columbia ......... | -1.5 | $-3.3$ | $-10.4$ |  |
| CANADA | - 0.4 | $+2.0$ | +0.6 | +15.8 |

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

| Year and Month | WHOLESALE TRADE |  |  |  |  |  | AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | CANADA | Maritimes | Quebec | Ontario | Prairies | $\begin{aligned} & \text { British } \\ & \text { Columbia } \end{aligned}$ | CANADA | Maritimes \& Quebec | Ontario | Western Provinces |
| February, $1946 \ldots$ | 210.2 | 201.1 | 197.6 | 211.9 | 204.1 | 242.5 | 310.9 | 354.0 | 263.7 | 339.2 |
| February, 1947 .. | 231.2 | 218.0 | 218.9 | 238.8 | 220.2 | 260.4 | 335.2 | 428.7 | 314.1 | 318.5 |
| February, 1948 .. | 239.8 | 218.9 | 243.2 | 242.4 | 217.3 | 287.7 | 331.2 | 391.0 | 316.0 | 322.6 |
| January, $1949 \ldots$ | 243.2 | 226.4 | 202.5 | 262.5 | 230.3 | 310.5 | 329.6 | 302.0 | 354.6 | 329.3 |
| February, 1949 ... | 244.6 | 223.9 | 227.9 | 252.1 | 237.9 | 278.2 | 338.8 | 331.2 | 339.1 | 341.0 |


| Year and Month | DRTUGS |  |  | CLOTHING | FOTMEAR |  | DRY GOODS |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | CANADA | Maritimes Que. \& Ont | Westerm <br> Provinces | CANADA | CANADA | CANADA | Maritimes \& Quebec | Ontario | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Western } \\ & \text { Provinces } \end{aligned}$ |
| February, 1946. | 227.7 | 223.0 | 244.8 | 233.7 | 238.2 | 188.7 | 196.5 | 191.8 | 167.6 |
| February, 1947 .. | 221.1 | 216.5 | 237.2 | 277.2 | 296.8 | 229.6 | 224.8 | 272.0 | 177.3 |
| February, 1948 .. | 251.8 | 242.5 | 282.5 | 264.2 | 268.3 | 268.2 | 265.0 | 296.2 | 231.7 |
| January, $1949 \ldots$ | 312.4 | 303.9 | 336.3 | 219.5 | 148.5 | 206.6 | 185.1 | 241.1 | 200.9 |
| February, 1949 .. | 265.4 | 258.5 | 290.1 | 221.9 | 254.6 | 244.3 | 234.5 | 273.4 | 218.7 |


| Year and Month | GROCFR IFS |  |  |  |  |  |  | FRUITS AND VEGETABLES |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | CANADA | Maritimes | Quebec | Ontario | Prairies | British Col umbia | CANADA | Maritimes \& \&uebec | Ontario | Western Provinces |
| February, 1946 .. | 173.7 | 195.6 | 150.0 | 176.2 | 161.3 | 203.0 | 241.2 | 225.2 | 245.9 | 240.6 |
| February, $1947 \ldots$ | 200.3 | 222.0 | 159.5 | 211.6 | 189.2 | 228.6 | 219.7 | 209.4 | 220.8 | 220.6 |
| February, 1948 .. | 201.1 | 226.4 | 172.9 | 200.6 | 181.4 | 261.1 | 204.5 | 210.9 | 205.8 | 195.2 |
| January, $1949 \ldots$ | 214.7 | 235.0 | 135.8 | 232.7 | 195.1 | 307.1 | 210.8 | 171.3 | 230.7 | 206.2 |
| February, 1949 .. | 209.3 | 231.4 | 151.6 | 215.0 | 198.5 | 280.2 | 212.3 | 201.6 | 211.8 | 215.3 |


| Year and Month | MARDWARE |  |  |  |  | TOBLCCO AND CONFEC TIONERY |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | CAKADA | ?faritimes | Quebec | Ontario | Western Providoes | CANADA | Maritimes \& Quebec | Ontario | fiestern Provinces |
| February, 1946 | 257.8 | 193.7 | 221.9 | 239.6 | 283.0 | 228.8 | 195.7 | 244.3 | 221.4 |
| February, 1947 .. | 293.1 | 215.0 | 257.2 | 280.3 | 315.8 | 245.7 | 229.4 | 258.5 | 232.5 |
| February, 1948 .. | 314.8 | 236.7 | 299.6 | 309.5 | 320.2 | 269.3 | 268.9 | 287.7 | 242.3 |
| January, $1949 \ldots$ | 310.2 | 242.3 | 341.9 | 321.8 | 309.0 | 302.8 | 285.0 | 304.9 | 291.0 |
| February, 1949 .. | 320.8 | 260.4 | 297.2 | 328.7 | 322.4 | 283.6 | 284.0 | 297.8 | 259.5 |

