

OCT 21 1949

C-2



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Industry and Merchandising Division
OTTAWA

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce

16-4040-15

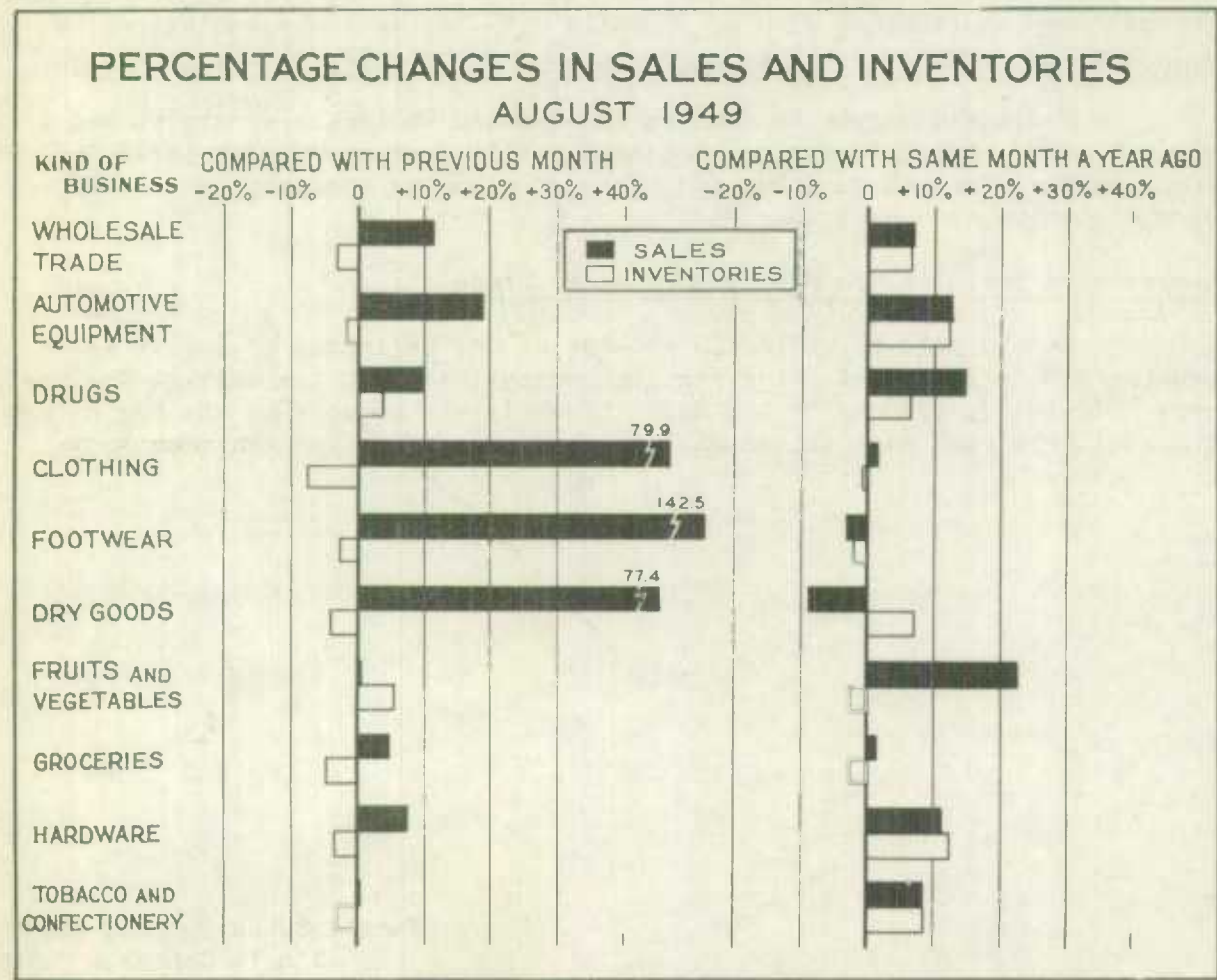
WHOLESALE TRADE

AUGUST 1949

Dollar Sales up 7% from 1948

Dollar sales of wholesalers in August, 1949 were 7% above dollar volume in August, 1948, and 11% above sales in July, 1949. These figures are based on statements submitted by 376 wholesalers representing nine lines of trade. Cumulative sales for the first eight months of 1949 were 5% in excess of sales during the corresponding period of 1948. The general unadjusted index (on the base, average for 1935-1939 = 100) stood at 316.9 for August, 1949, 296.7 for August, 1948, and 284.9 for July, 1949.

Gains were recorded for all regions of the country and ranged from 11% for the Prairie Provinces, through 6% for British Columbia and Ontario, to 4% and 3% respectively for Quebec and the Maritime Provinces.



Increases Greater in August than in July

A general widening of the margin of increase and smaller decreases were evident in August compared with July. Seven of the nine trades recorded increased sales over August 1948 while only two trades showed lower sales in August this year than last.

Fruit and vegetable wholesalers again reported the largest increase over a year ago at 23%. Drug, automotive equipment, and hardware wholesalers' sales increased 14%, 12%, and 11% respectively, while tobacco and confectionery wholesalers reported sales 9% above August, 1948. Sales of clothing wholesalers and grocery wholesalers were both up 2%.

Footwear wholesalers indicated dollar sales 3% lower in August than in the same month a year ago, while a drop of 9% from last year was recorded for dry goods wholesalers.

Inventories 7% Higher

Stocks in the hands of wholesalers in the nine trades included in the survey were valued 7% higher at the end of August, 1949 than at the corresponding date a year ago and 3% lower than at July 31, 1949. Five of the nine trades contributed to this increase. Stocks held by wholesalers of hardware and automotive equipment were 13% and 12% respectively greater in dollar value than the inventory value a year ago. Inventories of tobacco and confectionery wholesalers were up 9% while a 7% increase was registered by dry goods and drug wholesalers.

Fruit and vegetable dealers and grocery wholesalers both showed a decrease of 3% in value of stocks on hand, while footwear wholesalers' inventories were down 2% in value and those of clothing wholesalers were 1% below the value at August 31, 1948.

Stocks-Sales Ratio in the Wholesale Grocery Trade

Stocks held by wholesale grocers at the beginning of August are normally 11% in excess of sales for that month (based on the average for the years 1936-1942). Stocks in the hands of wholesale grocers at the beginning of August this year were valued 9% lower than the sales for that month.

Percentage Changes in Wholesale Trade

	Percentage Change				INVENTORY Aug., 1949 Aug., 1948
	SALES				
	(1) July, 1949 July, 1948	(2) August, 1949 August, 1948	August, 1949 July, 1949	Jan. - to - August, 1949 Jan. - to - August, 1948	
Automotive Equipment	+ 1.9	+12.4	+18.8	+ 6.8	+12.2
Maritimes and Quebec.....	-11.1	+ 4.1	+13.9	- 8.2	
Ontario	+ 6.8	+24.2	+ 4.7	+ 9.1	
Western Provinces	+ 3.2	+ 7.4	+32.5	+10.9	
Drugs	+ 3.3	+14.4	+ 9.8	+ 9.3	+ 6.6
Maritimes, Que. & Ont.....	+ 3.5	+14.8	+12.6	+ 9.9	
Western Provinces	+ 2.7	+13.5	+ 2.8	+ 8.1	
Clothing	-16.1	+ 1.7	+79.9	- 5.8	- 0.7
Quebec	- 4.7	+ 3.4			
Ont. and Western Provinces	-20.7	+ 0.7			
Footwear	-15.8	- 3.1	+142.5	- 0.3	- 2.0
Maritimes and Quebec	-22.6	- 0.5			
Ont. and Western Provinces	- 9.9	- 5.2			
Dry Goods	-18.2	- 8.7	77.4	- 8.3	+ 7.2
Maritimes and Quebec	-20.3	-11.5	+86.3	-10.5	
Ontario	-14.2	- 6.2	+89.4	- 5.8	
Western Provinces	-19.8	- 8.1	+44.5	- 7.6	
Fruits and Vegetables	+20.5	+22.7	+ 0.4	+18.2	- 2.5
Maritimes and Quebec	+14.9	+15.9	-18.7	+12.9	
Ontario	+14.4	+10.7	-16.8	+13.8	
Western Provinces	+29.0	+33.4	+23.1	+25.9	
Groceries	- 3.8	+ 1.5	+ 4.8	+ 2.0	- 2.7
Maritimes	- 6.8	+ 0.5	+ 1.9	- 1.3	
Quebec	- 0.3	+ 3.8	+ 8.4	- 4.2	
Ontario	+ 1.2	- 1.1	- 0.6	+ 2.9	
Prairies	- 7.0	+ 0.3	+ 3.4	+ 3.9	
British Columbia	- 8.9	+ 9.9	+18.0	+ 5.3	
Hardware	+ 4.4	+11.3	+ 7.4	+ 6.1	+12.5
Maritimes	+ 0.3	+ 9.7	+ 7.6	+ 2.9	
Quebec	+ 3.5	+ 9.2	+10.2	+ 2.1	
Ontario	+ 0.4	+15.8	+ 3.5	+10.0	
Western Provinces	+ 7.6	+10.4	+ 3.4	+ 6.5	
Tobacco and Confectionery..	- 1.7	+ 8.7	+ 0.3	+ 5.1	+ 8.8
Maritimes and Quebec	- 3.8	+11.2	+ 3.1	+ 4.0	
Ontario	- 1.0	+ 7.7	+ 5.9	+ 4.2	
Western Provinces	- 1.4	+ 8.6	- 1.9	+ 6.5	
Wholesale Trade -					
Maritimes	- 6.5	+ 2.6	+ 4.8	- 0.2	
Quebec	- 0.2	+ 4.4	+13.6	- 0.6	
Ontario	+ 1.4	+ 5.6	+ 7.4	+ 5.5	
Prairies	+ 3.8	+11.3	+14.4	+10.5	
British Columbia	- 3.6	+ 5.8	+ 8.0	+ 1.3	
CANADA	+ 0.5	+ 6.8	+11.2	+ 4.6	+ 6.6

(1) Revised (2) Preliminary

Note: Figures for Newfoundland are not available.

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, 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
August, 1948 ..	296.7	304.8	249.4	292.5	312.7	346.1	376.0	395.9	321.5	408.0
July, 1949 ...	284.9	298.5	229.2	287.7	304.3	339.0	355.8	361.7	381.3	330.7
August, 1949 ..	316.9	312.7	260.4	308.9	348.0	366.2	422.6	412.1	399.3	438.2

Year and Month	DRUGS			CLOTHING	FOOTWEAR	DRY GOODS			
	CANADA	Maritimes Que. & Ont.	Western Provinces	CANADA	CANADA	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
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
August, 1948 ..	279.6	268.6	309.0	264.5	363.6	284.5	243.7	325.4	300.3
July, 1949	291.4	274.0	341.0	149.5	145.3	146.4	115.8	161.1	191.0
August, 1949 ..	319.9	308.4	350.7	269.0	352.3	259.7	215.7	305.2	276.0

Year and Month	GROCERIES						FRUITS AND VEGETABLES			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Prairies	British Columbia	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
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
August, 1948 ..	285.4	313.9	227.4	290.5	281.3	332.7	249.0	167.8	230.1	318.9
July, 1949	276.8	310.0	217.8	289.1	272.9	309.7	304.4	239.3	306.1	345.7
August, 1949 ..	290.0	315.8	236.0	287.3	282.1	365.6	305.5	194.5	254.7	425.4

Year and Month	HARDWARE					TOBACCO AND CONFECTIONERY			
	CANADA	Maritimes	Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces	CANADA	Maritimes & Quebec	Ontario	Western Provinces
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
August, 1948 ..	339.5	313.5	319.1	293.9	362.3	348.2	336.4	355.5	336.0
July, 1949	352.0	319.7	316.3	328.8	386.7	377.5	362.8	361.6	371.8
August, 1949 ...	377.9	343.9	348.5	340.3	400.0	378.5	374.1	382.9	364.9