

# DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS OTTAWA - CANADA



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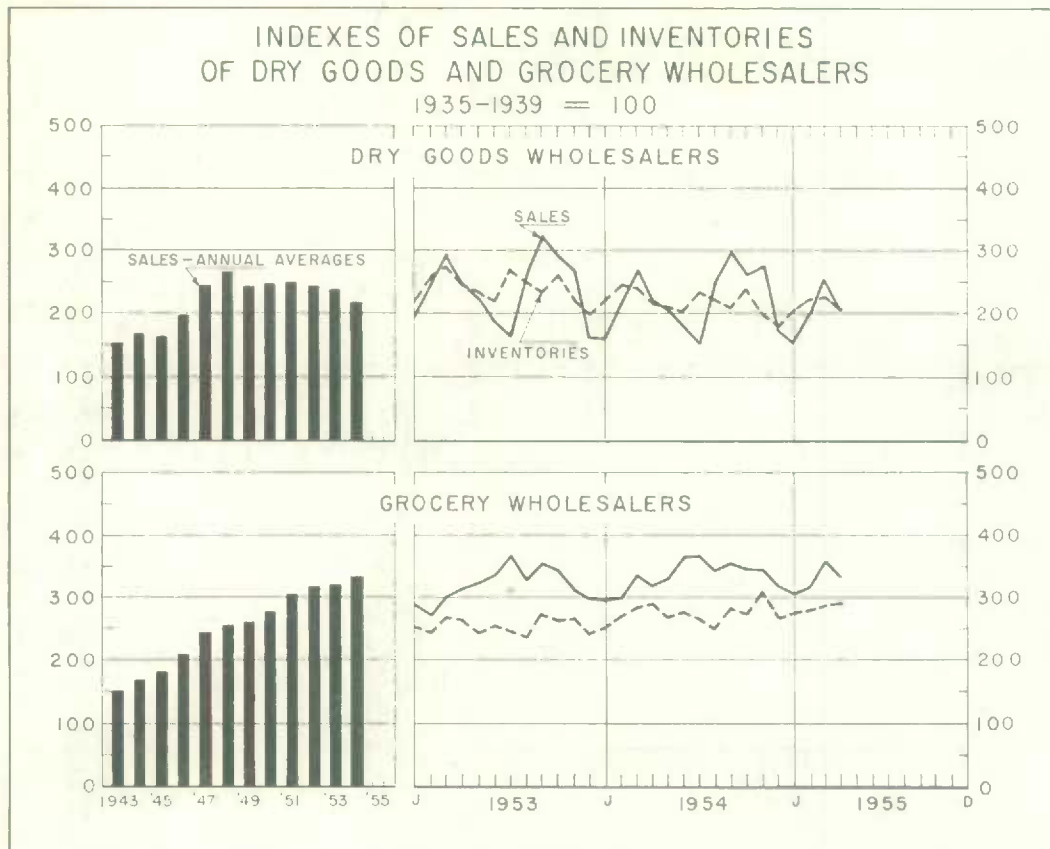
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## WHOLESALE TRADE APRIL 1955

The results shown in this report are based on returns from 400 wholesalers distributed over nine trades. They reflect trends in dollar volume of business and are not adjusted for changes in wholesale prices.

The unadjusted index for the total of the nine trades (on the base of 1935 - 1939 = 100) stood at 368.3 for April 1955 compared with 356.7 for April a year ago and 366.0 for March 1955.



Prepared in Merchandising and Services Section,  
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Sales Trends by Trades

Five of the nine wholesale trades covered in this report showed increased sales during April this year to make a total gain for all nine trades of 1.8% over 1954. Fruit and vegetable wholesalers reported the largest gain (8.0%) while other increases ranged down to 2.0% for footwear wholesalers. Reduced sales were evident in wholesalers of drugs (-3.1%), clothing (-4.5%) and dry goods (-5.9%).

Inventories

In total, the nine trades reported 2.6% less inventory value at the end of April, 1955, than at the same date of 1954. Five trades reported decreases ranging from -0.9% to -11.2%, the lowest appearing in footwear wholesalers. Fruit and vegetable wholesalers held 32.5% more stock at the end of April this year than last while other gains were more nominal, ranging from +4.8% to 0.2%.

Grocery and Dry Goods Wholesalers' Inventories

Month and Year	Monthly Indexes of Wholesale Inventories (Average for 1935-1939=100)	
	<u>Dry Goods Wholesalers</u>	<u>Grocery Wholesalers</u>
April 1955	206.3	288.9
March 1955	226.0	286.8
April 1954	213.8	288.3

Trade and Region	Monthly Indexes of Sales (Average 1935-39 = 100)			Percentage Change (Current month over same month last year)	
	April (P) 1955	March (R) 1955	April 1954	Sales %	Inventory %
<b>Wholesale Trade<sup>1</sup>, Canada</b> .....	368.3	366.0	356.7	+ 1.8	- 2.6
<b>Auto Parts and Equipment</b> .....	611.3	565.6	572.0	+ 6.0	- 1.6
Maritimes and Quebec .....	413.2	370.7	426.0	- 3.0	
Ontario .....	737.4	719.5	629.7	+ 17.1	
Western Provinces.....	564.3	473.5	591.5	- 4.6	
<b>Drugs</b> .....	386.4	387.6	398.2	- 3.1	+ 4.7
Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario	370.6	368.1	386.0	- 4.0	
Western Provinces .....	438.9	452.6	438.9	(2)	
<b>Clothing</b> .....	229.9	280.1	240.7	- 4.5	- 0.9
<b>Footwear</b> .....	312.3	331.5	306.2	+ 2.0	- 11.2
<b>Dry Goods</b> .....	204.1	251.1	216.9	- 5.9	- 3.5
Maritimes and Quebec .....	204.7	223.8	211.9	- 3.4	
Ontario .....	213.1	281.4	228.4	- 6.7	
Western Provinces .....	195.0	265.0	214.0	- 8.9	
<b>Fruits and Vegetables</b> .....	356.3	313.4	329.4	+ 8.0	+ 32.5
Maritimes and Quebec .....	295.0	264.0	275.2	+ 7.2	
Ontario .....	416.7	328.8	373.7	+ 11.5	
Western Provinces .....	364.4	348.0	344.1	+ 5.9	
<b>Groceries</b> .....	333.7	350.7	318.0	+ 2.8	+ 0.2
Maritimes .....	324.4	352.9	320.2	+ 1.3	
Quebec .....	223.1	245.9	219.2	+ 1.8	
Ontario .....	312.3	327.7	307.4	+ 1.6	
Prairies .....	322.7	351.0	316.4	+ 2.0	
British Columbia .....	628.0	596.6	523.3	+ 12.0	
<b>Hardware</b> .....	421.4	397.3	422.1	- 2.3	- 6.9
Maritimes .....	432.1	352.9	407.6	+ 6.0	
Quebec .....	391.0	405.7	406.0	- 3.7	
Ontario .....	515.4	485.6	510.3	+ 1.0	
Western Provinces .....	382.0	349.5	382.4	- 0.1	
<b>Tobacco and Confectionery</b> .....	430.1	407.0	416.0	+ 3.2	+ 4.8
Maritimes and Quebec .....	475.4	429.4	429.8	+ 10.6	
Ontario .....	423.6	392.7	421.5	+ 0.5	
Western Provinces .....	364.9	400.0	378.5	- 3.6	

1. Composite of Nine Trades (2) No change

Note: Figures for Newfoundland are not included.

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