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CURRENT TRENDS IN FOOD DISTRIBUTION, JULY, 1941

Introduction

Indexes reflecting current trends in food distribution in Canada have been published for some years, indexes of retail and wholesale grocery trading establishments forming components of the two regular monthly bulletins on retail and wholesale trade issued by the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This series brings together in one report the information on retail and wholesale grocery sales contained in the other bulletins thus facilitating a comparison of the trends in monthly sales in the two stages of food distribution.

Wholesale Trade

Sales of 74 of the larger wholesale grocery houses in Canada averaged 35 per cent higher in July of this year than last and were 14 per cent above the level recorded in June. The 35 per cent increase in July over July, 1940, is considerably higher than the increases reported in earlier corresponding-month comparisons of this year although sales in April and March showed gains of 23 per cent and 20 per cent respectively over April and March of last year. In June of this year sales were up 9 per cent over the same month of 1940. Wholesale grocers' sales for the first seven months of 1941 stand 14 per cent above the level for the first seven months of 1940.

Results by economic divisions indicate that sales showed larger gains in the Prairies and in the Maritimes than in other sections but in all parts of the country sales increases were 30 per cent or higher over July last year. Sales in the Prairies were up 41 per cent; in the Maritimes sales were up 38 per cent; Quebec, up 35 per cent; Ontario, up 31 per cent; while in British Columbia sales were up 30 per cent.

Wholesale Grocery Trade by Economic Divisions

Division	Number of firms re- porting	Dollar Sales (add 000)		Per cent change		
		July 1940	July 1941	July, 1941 over		Year to date 1941 1940
				July 1940	June 1941	
		\$	\$			
CANADA	74	13,827	18,678	+ 35.1	+ 13.7	+ 14.2
Maritimes	16	1,658	2,285	+ 37.8	+ 25.0	+ 18.7
Quebec	21	2,207	2,976	+ 34.9	+ 16.7	+ 10.4
Ontario	20	4,287	5,597	+ 30.6	+ 7.0	+ 13.8
Prairies	11	3,907	5,523	+ 41.4	+ 20.3	+ 13.3
British Columbia ..	6	1,768	2,297	+ 29.9	+ 2.4	+ 18.1

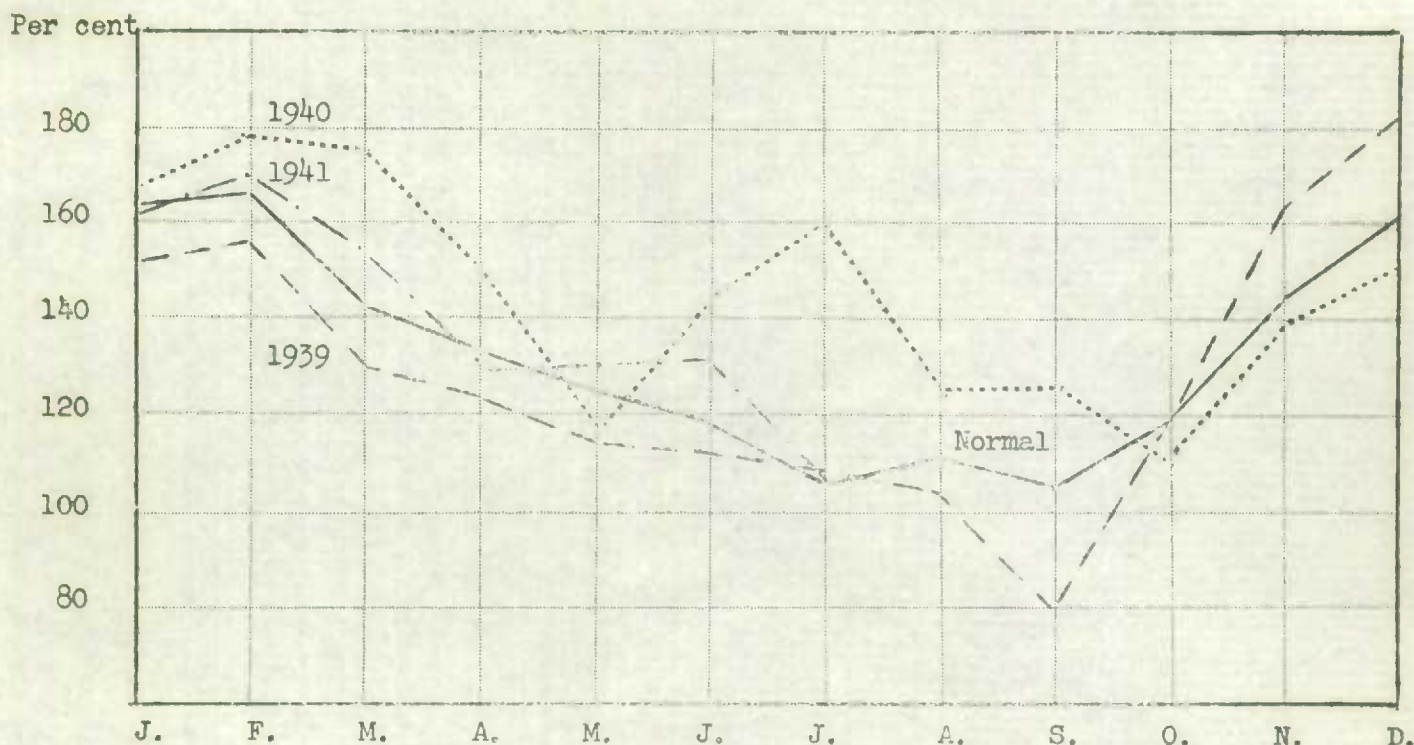
Stocks

Inventories carried by the wholesale grocery trade were up 7 per cent at the end of July from the corresponding date of 1940 and were 3 per cent higher than inventories at the end of June, 1941. Stocks on hand at any period must be considered in relation to sales in the immediately following period. Stocks on hand at the beginning of July normally amount to approximately 105 per cent of the July turnover. Stocks on hand at the end of June formed 107 per cent of the July sales, indicating that stocks on hand at the beginning of the month were only slightly higher than the normal inventory position for that time of year.

Wholesale Grocery Trade -- Percentage that Stocks on Hand

at Beginning of Month Bear to Sales During Month

(Normal = Average for 1935 - 1939)



Retail Trade

Chain Stores

Sales of 979 chain store units operated by 24 chain companies in the food retailing field averaged 31 per cent higher in July, 1941, than sales of 1,070 units operated by the same 24 firms in July a year ago. Average sales per store were \$12,375 in July of this year, 44 per cent greater than the \$8,620 average in the same month of 1940. A considerable reduction in the number of stores operated by the reporting chain companies is responsible, to some extent, for the increased sales volume per store.

Increases in various regions of the country were as follows: 36 per cent in Quebec, 34 per cent in Ontario, 22 per cent in the Prairie Provinces, and 20 per cent in British Columbia. Average daily sales for food chains increased 30 per cent in July of this year over last.

Comparison of Stores and Sales for July, 1940 and 1941

Division	July, 1940		July, 1941		Per cent change in Sales
	No. Stores	Sales	No. Stores	Sales	
CANADA	1,070	\$ 9,223,820	979	\$ 12,115,068	+ 31.3
Quebec	211	1,847,834	192	2,516,630	+ 36.2
Ontario	595	5,254,146	557	7,022,984	+ 33.7
Prairie Provinces ..	156	1,174,850	129	1,438,280	+ 22.4
British Columbia ...	108	946,990	101	1,137,174	+ 20.1

Independent Stores

Dollar sales of 961 independent grocery and combination stores were 14 per cent higher in July, 1941, than in July, 1940. Gains were reported in every geographical section of the country ranging from a substantial increase of 17 per cent in Quebec to a gain of 4 per cent in British Columbia. Ontario sales were up 15 per cent; the Maritimes, 14 per cent; and Alberta, 13 per cent. Saskatchewan reported a gain of 11 per cent while Manitoba sales showed an 8 per cent increase over July, 1940.

Comparison of Sales Reported for July, 1940 and 1941

Division	No. stores reporting	No. reporting increase	Per cent change in sales
CANADA	961	808	+ 14.0
Maritimes	141	123	+ 14.4
Quebec	210	183	+ 17.1
Ontario	371	323	+ 15.2
Manitoba	66	47	+ 8.1
Saskatchewan	35	29	+ 10.8
Alberta	60	50	+ 12.8
British Columbia	78	53	+ 3.7



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1971-1972

1971-1972

Some of the most important factors in the development of the Canadian economy are the natural resources, the human resources, and the capital resources. The natural resources are the land, the water, and the minerals. The human resources are the labour force and the population. The capital resources are the money and the equipment. The development of the Canadian economy is a process of increasing the production of goods and services, and of increasing the standard of living. This process is based on the use of the natural resources, the human resources, and the capital resources. The development of the Canadian economy is a process of increasing the production of goods and services, and of increasing the standard of living. This process is based on the use of the natural resources, the human resources, and the capital resources.

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Table 1. Exports of goods and services, 1971-1972

Division	1971-1972				Total
	Exports of goods	Exports of services	Exports of income	Exports of transfers	
Canada	1,200,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,200,000,000
United States	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
United Kingdom	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
France	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Germany	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Japan	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Italy	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Spain	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Portugal	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Greece	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Turkey	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Iran	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
India	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
China	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Japan	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
United States	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Canada	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000

Imports of goods and services, 1971-1972

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United Kingdom	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
France	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Germany	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Japan	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Italy	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Spain	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Portugal	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Greece	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Turkey	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Iran	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
India	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
China	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Japan	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
United States	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000
Canada	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	1,000,000,000	4,000,000,000