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CURRENT TRENDS IN FOOD DISTRIBUTION, JUNE, 1947

Indexes reflecting current trends in food distribution in Canada have been published for some years, indexes of retail grocery and whole-sale grocery and fruits and vegetables sales forming components of the two regular monthly bulletins on retail and wholesale trade issued by the Merchandising and Services Statistics of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This series brings together in one report the information on retail grocery and wholesale grocery and fruit and vegetable 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

The dollar volume of wholesale grocers' sales in June, 1947 was 18 per cent higher than in June, 1946 and 5 per cent above May, 1947 according to statements received from 73 of the larger wholesalers across Canada. Sales in British Columbia were up 28 per cent from June last year and in Quebec, 27 per cent. Wholesalers in Ontario reported a gain of 19 per cent, while the Prairies and Maritimes followed with increases of 12 and 10 per cent respectively. Cumulative sales for the first half of 1947 were 14 per cent higher in dollar volume than for the corresponding period of 1946. In the year-to-date comparison, British Columbia showed a gain of 19 per cent over the first six months of 1946; Ontario sales were up 16 per cent; Quebec, 13 per cent; and the Maritime and Prairie Provinces, 12 per cent.

Sales of wholesalers of fruits and vegetables continued below the 1946 dollar volume in June when they dropped 5 per cent from June, 1946 and 4 per cent below May, 1947. These figures are based on statements received from 47 of the larger wholesalers across Canada. Ontario dealers reported practically no change in dollar volume of sales in June this year compared with last. Wholesale sales of fruits and vegetables in the Maritimes and Quebec combined were 3 per cent below June, 1946, while a drop of 9 per cent was recorded for the Western Provinces. Sales for the year-to-date were 7 per cent below those for the first half of 1946.

Stocks in the hands of wholesale grocers at the end of June, 1947 were 38 per cent higher in value than at the end of June last year and were 2 per cent less than at the end of May, 1947. Inventories at the beginning of June are normally 20 per cent in excess of sales during that month. Stocks at the beginning of June this year were only 4 per cent in excess of sales.

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Wholesale Grocery Trade by Economic Divisions

Division	Number of firms reporting	Dollar Sales (add 000)		Per cent change		
		June, 1946	June, 1947	June, 1947 over June, May, 1946 1947		Year-to- date, 1947
						Year-to- date, 1946
		\$	\$			
CANADA.....	73	23,538	27,815	+18.2	+ 5.0	+14.1
Maritime Provinces..	14	2,835	3,122	+10.1	+ 1.7	+11.6
Quebec.....	19	2,914	3,686	+26.5	- 2.7	+13.1
Ontario.....	21	7,572	9,035	+19.3	+ 1.6	+15.6
Prairie Provinces...	13	6,756	7,552	+11.8	+ 4.5	+11.7
British Columbia....	6	3,461	4,420	+27.7	+21.8	+18.5

Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Trade by Economic Divisions

Division	Number of firms reporting	Dollar Sales (add 000)		Per cent change		
		June, 1946	June, 1947	June, 1947 over June, May, 1946 1947		Year-to- date, 1947
						Year-to- date, 1946
		\$	\$			
CANADA.....	47	12,473	11,904	- 4.6	- 4.2	- 7.3
Maritimes and Quebec	15	2,639	2,548	- 3.4	+ 1.3	- 4.6
Ontario.....	18	4,642	4,638	- 0.1	- 7.6	- 8.5
Western Provinces...	14	5,192	4,718	- 9.1	+ 1.0	- 7.5

Retail Trade

Chain Stores - June, 1947 sales of 928 chain store units operated by 30 chain companies in the food retailing field were 15 per cent higher than sales of 932 stores operated by the same 30 firms in June, 1946. Average sales per store in June, 1947 were \$23,350, 16 per cent above the \$20,143 average for the same month of the previous year.

The largest gain in chain food store sales occurred in Quebec. Increases of 24 per cent in that province and 17 per cent in Ontario were the only two surpassing the average gain. The Maritime Provinces recorded an advance of 13 per cent, while the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia each experienced a smaller gain of 5 per cent.

Comparison of Stores and Sales for June, 1946 and 1947

	June, 1946		June, 1947		% Change In Sales June, 1947 June, 1946
	No. of Stores	Sales	No. of Stores	Sales	
CANADA.....	932	18,773,400	928	21,668,800	+15.4
Maritime Provinces	45	642,600	44	724,100	+12.7
Quebec.....	164	3,777,600	163	4,692,000	+24.2
Ontario.....	492	9,866,600	489	11,542,300	+17.0
Prairie Provinces.	138	2,581,700	137	2,702,500	+ 4.7
British Columbia..	93	1,904,900	95	2,007,900	+ 5.4

Independent Stores - Independent food stores did 2 per cent more business in June this year than last. Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia all recorded increases within a range of 3 to 5 per cent. Minor decreases of 2 per cent were shown in both the Maritime Provinces and Alberta, while Saskatchewan recorded a decline of 3 per cent.

Comparison of Sales Reported for June, 1946 and 1947

	No. of Stores Reporting	No. Reporting An Increase	% Change in Sales June, 1947 June, 1946
CANADA.....	1,143	565	+2.1
Maritime Provinces.....	163	57	-2.4
Quebec.....	264	145	+4.8
Ontario.....	368	199	+3.4
Manitoba.....	82	41	+3.6
Saskatchewan.....	61	22	-3.0
Alberta.....	94	40	-2.4
British Columbia.....	111	61	+2.8



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1. The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the economy in the United Kingdom during the year 1964. It covers the main features of the economic growth, the balance of payments, the money market, and the labour market.

2. The second part of the report deals with the detailed analysis of the economic growth in the United Kingdom during the year 1964. It covers the main features of the economic growth, the balance of payments, the money market, and the labour market.

3. The third part of the report deals with the detailed analysis of the balance of payments in the United Kingdom during the year 1964. It covers the main features of the balance of payments, the money market, and the labour market.

4. The fourth part of the report deals with the detailed analysis of the money market in the United Kingdom during the year 1964. It covers the main features of the money market, the labour market, and the balance of payments.

5. The fifth part of the report deals with the detailed analysis of the labour market in the United Kingdom during the year 1964. It covers the main features of the labour market, the balance of payments, and the money market.

6. The sixth part of the report deals with the detailed analysis of the economic growth in the United Kingdom during the year 1964. It covers the main features of the economic growth, the balance of payments, the money market, and the labour market.

7. The seventh part of the report deals with the detailed analysis of the balance of payments in the United Kingdom during the year 1964. It covers the main features of the balance of payments, the money market, and the labour market.

8. The eighth part of the report deals with the detailed analysis of the money market in the United Kingdom during the year 1964. It covers the main features of the money market, the labour market, and the balance of payments.

9. The ninth part of the report deals with the detailed analysis of the labour market in the United Kingdom during the year 1964. It covers the main features of the labour market, the balance of payments, and the money market.