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MONTHLY INDEXES OF COUNTRY GENERAL STORE SALES, DECEMBER, 1946
(1935-1939=100)

Sales of country general stores in Canada were 6.6 per cent higher in December, 1946 than in December, 1945 and were approximately 10 per cent above the November level according to reports received from a sample of 721 of these stores located in the smaller towns and rural areas and carrying a general line of merchandise. The increase in December, 1946 over 1945 was considerably less than the gains recorded in earlier months of the year, sales for the calendar year 1946 averaging 11 per cent above 1945. Unadjusted indexes of sales (on the base, 1935-1939 = 100) stand at 223.4 for December, 202.3 for November, 1946 and 209.6 for December, 1945.

Increased sales in December, 1946 over 1945 were general throughout the country, gains ranging as high as 12.4 per cent for the northern districts of Ontario being reported. Regional increases for December, 1946 over 1945 with average gains for the year in brackets are as follows: Maritime Provinces, 3.5 per cent (10.6 per cent); Quebec, 7.1 per cent (9.1 per cent); Ontario, 7.9 per cent (11.8 per cent); Manitoba, 7.5 per cent (10.9 per cent); Saskatchewan, 3.6 per cent (10.2 per cent); Alberta, 6.1 per cent (11.9 per cent); British Columbia, 13.1 per cent (17.5 per cent).

Percentage Change in Country General Store Sales, by Regions

| Region | December, 1946 | | | Region | December, 1946 | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| | December, 1945 | | | | December, 1945 | | |
| Region | Number of stores reporting | Number reporting an increase | Per cent change | Region | Number of stores reporting | Number reporting an increase | Per cent change |
| Maritime Provinces: | 120 | 66 | + 3.5 | Manitoba: | 50 | 34 | + 7.5 |
| Quebec: | | | | Saskatchewan: | | | |
| South | 44 | 26 | + 6.0 | North | 61 | 34 | + 4.2 |
| North | 56 | 37 | + 7.7 | South | 56 | 33 | + 2.7 |
| TOTAL | 100 | 63 | + 7.1 | TOTAL | 117 | 67 | + 3.6 |
| Ontario: | | | | Alberta: | | | |
| East..... | 71 | 43 | + 6.6 | North | 40 | 24 | + 3.9 |
| North | 40 | 26 | +12.4 | South | 66 | 47 | + 7.5 |
| West | 67 | 44 | + 6.5 | TOTAL | 106 | 71 | + 6.1 |
| TOTAL | 178 | 113 | + 7.9 | British Columbia: | 50 | 39 | +13.1 |
| | | | | CANADA | 721 | 453 | + 6.6 |



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INDEXES OF COUNTRY GENERAL STORE SALES--(Average for 1935-1939 = 100)

A. Unadjusted. B. Index adjusted for number of business days and seasonal variations.

| Year and Month | CANADA | | Maritimes | Quebec | Ontario | Manitoba | Saskat- | Alberta | British |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|-----------|--------|---------|----------|---------|---------|----------|
| | A | B | A | A | A | A | chewan | A | Columbia |
| December, 1936 | 116.9 | 100.7 | 119.1 | 106.9 | 116.1 | 119.1 | 123.4 | 126.4 | 115.7 |
| December, 1937 | 124.6 | 109.2 | 127.0 | 124.1 | 125.2 | 134.9 | 113.7 | 130.4 | 123.0 |
| December, 1938 | 118.3 | 97.7 | 116.0 | 116.1 | 114.4 | 126.0 | 116.0 | 128.1 | 121.7 |
| December, 1939 | 123.5 | 105.6 | 124.1 | 121.5 | 118.6 | 130.3 | 122.9 | 136.0 | 117.0 |
| December, 1940 | 128.3 | 113.3 | 130.3 | 132.2 | 123.2 | 137.4 | 118.5 | 138.2 | 121.9 |
| December, 1941 | 147.4 | 123.4 | 146.5 | 160.5 | 140.4 | 158.8 | 128.8 | 160.5 | 134.8 |
| December, 1942 | 166.3 | 139.4 | 172.3 | 169.8 | 153.2 | 187.9 | 160.7 | 182.2 | 147.3 |
| December, 1943 | 184.5 | 157.0 | 202.8 | 184.2 | 163.9 | 201.4 | 183.4 | 203.5 | 166.7 |
| December, 1944 | 196.5 | 163.3 | 216.8 | 194.3 | 170.5 | 214.1 | 197.0 | 217.5 | 187.5 |
| December, 1945 | 209.6 | 174.2 | 240.9 | 205.8 | 189.1 | 221.4 | 194.6 | 228.8 | 208.7 |
| 1946 | | | | | | | | | |
| January | 137.6 | 179.4 | 168.0 | 135.2 | 134.3 | 111.1 | 123.2 | 138.0 | 149.7 |
| February | 140.2 | 188.4 | 170.0 | 136.0 | 135.0 | 130.2 | 126.1 | 138.5 | 151.5 |
| March | 168.9 | 197.3 | 189.3 | 182.7 | 165.3 | 156.4 | 144.4 | 156.6 | 178.1 |
| April | 187.3 | 202.2 | 194.8 | 204.0 | 169.2 | 185.9 | 179.0 | 194.8 | 179.9 |
| May | 212.6 | 195.7 | 243.7 | 241.3 | 196.9 | 191.9 | 183.9 | 196.0 | 213.9 |
| June | 201.6 | 197.3 | 220.5 | 226.8 | 181.1 | 189.8 | 186.8 | 187.8 | 208.3 |
| July | 208.3 | 195.0 | 225.7 | 231.2 | 207.3 | 182.9 | 186.7 | 195.9 | 196.3 |
| August | 219.6 | 196.3 | 230.6 | 225.9 | 207.5 | 198.7 | 217.3 | 228.7 | 223.8 |
| September | 188.6 | 181.0 | 190.0 | 176.9 | 169.1 | 211.2 | 212.7 | 199.2 | 190.1 |
| October | 205.4 | 183.2 | 204.8 | 208.6 | 168.7 | 206.2 | 228.8 | 230.2 | 212.3 |
| November | 202.3 | 188.7 | 214.0 | 194.4 | 184.4 | 226.6 | 210.6 | 217.8 | 191.5 |
| December | 223.4 | 191.3 | 249.4 | 220.5 | 204.1 | 237.9 | 201.6 | 242.8 | 236.0 |
| % Change, | | | | | | | | | |
| Jan.-Dec., 1946 | +11.1 | - | +10.6 | + 9.1 | +11.8 | +10.9 | +10.2 | +11.9 | +17.5 |
| Jan.-Dec., 1945 | | | | | | | | | |

