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# DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE <br> DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS <br> MERCHANDISING AND SERVICES BRANCH <br> OTTAWA. CANADA 

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## MONTHLY INDEXES OF COUNTRY GENERAL STORE SALES MAY, 1945

Country general store sales in Canada averaged 2 per cent higher in May of this year compared with May a yesr ago, according to reports submitted oy approximately 750 stores dealing in generel line of merchandise and looated in places of less than 2,000 population. The margin of increase over May. 194418 somewhat smaller than the 5 per cent gain recorded in the first five months of this year over last. The V-E Day celebrations on kay 7 th and 8 th were marked by the closing of many businese places, thus reducing the number of days on which business was transacted. This face tor would have had some effect in.reducing the voluae of May sales
may results on a regional basis reveal that sales maintained approximately the same margin over last year in Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia as that prevailing in earlier months of the yoar. In the Maritime Provinces, the gain in May sales amounted to only one per cent while Manitoba. Quebec and Ontarlo results indicated declines of from one to three per cent.

The unadjusted indexes of sales tood t 1820 for May, 1945,160 I for April, 1945 and 1802 for May, 1944 These indexes are based on the average monthly sales from 1935 to 1939 taken as 100

Percentage Change in Country General Store Sales by Regions

| Region | $\begin{array}{ll} \hline \text { May, } 1945 \\ \text { May, } 1944 \end{array}$ |  |  | Region | $\frac{\text { May. } 1945}{\text { May } 1944}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Number of } \\ \text { stores } \\ \text { reporting } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Number report ing an increase. | Per Cent Change |  | Number of stores reporting | Number report ing an increase | Fer Cent Change |
| Maritime |  |  |  | Manitobas | 50 | 24 | - 1.3 |
| Provinces Quebecs | 129 | 67 | +14 | Saskatchewan\% |  |  |  |
| Quebecs South | 50 | 19 | - 6:2 | North ..... | 59 |  | +6,6 |
| North | 57 | 24 | -1.3 | South | 57 116 | 42 82 | + $+\quad 27$ $+\quad 52$ |
| TOTAL | 107 | 43 | -2.9 | Alberta: |  |  |  |
| Ontarios |  |  |  | North | 49 | 35 | +106 |
| Bast | 66 | 20 | 70 | South | 68 | 45 | +3.5 |
| North | 42 | 29 | +44 | total | 117 | 80 | +6,2 |
| West | 68 | 32 | -30 | British |  |  |  |
| TOTAL | 176 | 81 | - 2.5 | Columbias | 57 | 41 | $+11.7$ |
|  |  |  |  | CANADA | 752 | 418 | + 186 |

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\text { INDEXES OF COUNTRY GENERAL STORE SALES--(Average for } 1935-1939=100 \text { ) }
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A. Unadjusted. B. Index adjusted for number of business days and seasonal variations.


