

decennial census, they provide the most reliable indicators available of recent trends in merchandise trade as they cover more than two-thirds of the dollar volume of business.

Monthly Statistics.—Monthly indexes of retail sales, based on returns from department stores, chain stores, and a representative sample of independent firms, are now available for the period commencing January, 1929. A description of these indexes appears in Subsection 2 of this section. Monthly indexes of wholesale trade are also available, although for the shorter period beginning January, 1938.

Subsection 1.—Wholesale and Other Bulk or Non-Retail Merchandising.

Under this heading there appears at pp. 670-672 of the 1934-35 Year Book a summary of trade in the wholesale field, as derived from the Census of Merchandising and Service Establishments, and tables showing, for 1930, bulk merchandising statistics by provinces, and by type of distributor. This is the latest material available on that basis.

Wholesale Trade in Canada, 1930.—Included in the figures for all wholesale establishments, shown by provinces in Table 26, are data for regular wholesale houses and also for agents, brokers, manufacturers' sales branches, and other specialized wholesale agencies. Wholesalers proper embrace only regular wholesale houses such as wholesale merchants, importers, and exporters. Approximately one-third of the annual business of all wholesale establishments in Canada is transacted by wholesalers proper. The proportion for Manitoba is much below the Dominion average. Concentration of the grain trade in the City of Winnipeg results in an exceptionally high figure for agents and brokers in that Province.

26.—Bulk Merchandising (Wholesale and Other Non-Retail), by Provinces, 1930.

Province.	Popula- tion, 1931.	All Wholesale Establishments.					Wholesalers Proper.	
		Estab- lish- ments.	Em- ployees.	Salaries and Wages.	Net Sales (1930).	Stocks on Hand, End of Year (at Cost).	Estab- lish- ments.	Net Sales (1930).
	No.	No.	No.	\$	\$	\$	No.	\$
Prince Edward Is.	88,038	61	313	354,600	13,533,300	1,108,700	28	5,455,000
Nova Scotia.....	512,846	420	2,522	3,503,800	71,616,200	7,298,900	217	39,498,500
New Brunswick...	408,219	388	2,825	3,989,300	72,839,900	8,194,200	165	30,156,900
Quebec.....	2,874,255	2,932	26,171	41,958,100	904,795,500	82,285,800	1,479	355,618,100
Ontario.....	3,431,683	3,938	31,155	51,094,700	1,013,767,400	94,487,200	2,004	387,550,300
Manitoba.....	700,139	1,307	9,362	15,490,600	669,076,000	28,561,500	349	79,393,100
Saskatchewan.....	921,785	1,659	5,441	8,393,300	137,112,000	24,209,300	178	52,114,100
Alberta.....	731,605	1,306	5,756	9,738,200	189,569,900	23,560,400	248	64,091,200
British Columbia..	694,263	1,129	7,019	11,824,000	252,900,100	27,515,100	440	97,442,000
Totals.....	10,362,832	13,140	90,564	146,346,690	3,325,210,300	297,221,100	5,108	1,111,319,200

Wholesale Trade by Cities.—Figures of wholesale trade in cities of 20,000 or over are given at pp. 604-605 of the 1939 Year Book.

Annual Wholesale Statistics.—In constructing an annual index of wholesale sales, the chief objective has been to obtain the most representative measure of wholesale trade and particularly of the pre-retail business. This annual index is confined to wholesalers proper, who are for the most part wholesale merchants, importers, exporters, and supply and machinery distributors. From this group are excluded such distributors as agents and brokers, manufacturers' sales branches, and