

Stores specializing in the sale of food products were estimated to have transacted business to the value of \$569,686,000 in 1940, an increase of 9 p.c. as compared with 1939. Department-store sales gained 12 p.c. with a dollar volume of business for 1940 estimated at \$324,973,000. Stores specializing in clothing and apparel gained 13 p.c. between 1939 and 1940. Hardware-store sales were up 10 p.c. Sales of retail lumber and building material dealers averaged 7 p.c. higher in 1940 than in 1939. Increases for this type of business were much greater in the Prairie Provinces than elsewhere, gains averaging 19 p.c. for Manitoba, 26 p.c. for Saskatchewan, and 18 p.c. for Alberta being reported. The more pronounced increases in these provinces reflected, in part, the demand for building materials in the latter part of the year. Such materials were in demand to provide storage facilities for that portion of the 1940 wheat crop, the marketing of which was deferred in accordance with Government policy until the spring of 1941.

21.—Total Sales and Indexes of Sales of Retail Merchandise Trade, by Provinces and Kinds of Business, 1939 and 1940

NOTE.—Total sales for 1930, 1933 and 1939 and indexes of retail sales for 1930, 1933 and 1934-39 will be found at pp. 504-507 of the 1941 Year Book. Figures for intervening years will be found in the corresponding tables of previous Year Books beginning with the 1937 edition.

Province or Group and Kind of Business	Total Sales			Indexes of Retail Sales (1930=100)	
	1939	1940	P.C. Change, 1939-40	1939	1940
	\$'000	\$'000			
Prince Edward Island.....	11,431	12,018	+5.1	83.0	87.3
Nova Scotia.....	98,864	118,660	+20.0	99.3	119.2
New Brunswick.....	74,276	86,399	+16.3	88.0	102.4
Quebec.....	564,537	623,189	+10.4	86.7	95.7
Ontario.....	1,002,071	1,129,821	+12.7	91.1	102.7
Manitoba.....	161,835	176,505	+9.1	85.5	93.3
Saskatchewan.....	144,477	162,228	+12.3	76.4	85.8
Alberta.....	164,211	177,537	+8.1	93.0	100.6
British Columbia.....	223,769	248,333	+11.0	90.0	99.9
Yukon and Northwest Territories.....	2,187	2,178	-0.4	68.0	67.7
Canada.....	2,447,658	2,736,868	+11.8	88.8	99.3
Food Group					
Bakery product stores (manufacturing bakeries not included).....	9,438	9,994	+5.9	85.6	90.6
Candy and confectionery stores.....	38,722	42,722	+10.3	71.5	78.9
Dairy product dealers (other than manufacturing dairies).....	37,654	41,032	+9.0	101.3	110.4
Fruit and vegetable stores.....	15,036	15,776	+4.9	92.3	96.9
Grocery and combination stores.....	351,410	384,093	+9.3	86.7	94.7
Meat markets (including sea foods).....	65,590	69,376	+5.8	79.0	83.6
Other food stores.....	6,296	6,693	+6.3	75.2	79.9
Totals, Food Group.....	524,146	569,686	+8.7	85.2	92.6
Country General Stores.....	192,188	203,652	+6.0	84.0	89.0
General Merchandise Group					
Department stores.....	289,887	324,973	+12.1	81.6	91.5
Dry goods stores.....	26,018	29,123	+11.9	82.1	91.9
General merchandise stores.....	17,095	18,811	+10.0	83.9	92.4
Variety stores.....	57,027	66,780	+17.1	129.0	151.0
Totals, General Merchandise Group.....	390,027	439,687	+12.7	86.4	97.4