



## Costco Wholesale Corporation Reports December Sales Results

January 4, 2001

ISSAQUAH, Wash.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jan. 4, 2001--Costco Wholesale Corporation ("Costco" or the "Company") (Nasdaq:COST) today reported net sales of \$4.00 billion for the five weeks ended December 31, 2000, an increase of 6 percent from \$3.77 billion in the same five-week period of the prior fiscal year. On a comparable warehouse basis, that is warehouses open at least a year, sales increased 1 percent. This year's five-week period included 34 days of sales compared to 33 days during the year-earlier period, reflecting the timing of the New Year's Holiday.

For the first seventeen weeks of its 2001 fiscal year ended December 31, 2000, the Company reported net sales of \$11.50 billion, an increase of 8 percent from \$10.62 billion during the comparable period of the prior fiscal year. Comparable warehouse sales for the year-to-date period increased 3 percent over the prior year's level.

Costco currently operates 349 warehouses, including 251 in the United States, 59 in Canada, 11 in the United Kingdom, four in Korea, three in Taiwan, two in Japan and 19 in Mexico. The Company also operates Costco Online, an electronic commerce web site, at [www.costco.com](http://www.costco.com).

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