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WHOLESALE TRADE

OCTOBER 1956

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
DEC 18 1956
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Wholesale sales were estimated at \$693,946,000 in October 1956 which brought the January to October total to \$6,414,197,000. Compared with a year ago, October sales were up 16.7 per cent and the total for the year up 14.6 per cent. These sales cover "wholesalers proper" and do not include the business transactions of manufacturers' sales branches or agent and brokers. They are not adjusted for price changes, seasonal variations or number of business days in the respective months.

Sales in October were up in all the specified trades except household electrical appliances which sustained a drop of 2.0 per cent from its level a year ago. The largest percentage increase (32.1 per cent) was registered for meat and dairy products. Other substantial increases were recorded for industrial and transportation equipment and supplies (21.2 per cent); drugs and drug sundries (18.1 per cent); groceries and food specialties (19.0 per cent). The "all other trades" group rose 29.4 per cent over the same period.

Further detail on the sales of the various trade groups will be found on the reverse side of this page.

Prepared in Merchandising and Services Section

Industry and Merchandising Division

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WHOLESALE TRADE

October 1956



Preliminary Estimates of Wholesale Sales and Percentage Changes
from corresponding period one year previous.

(in thousands of dollars)

Kind of Business	October 1955	October 1956	% Change Oct. 1956	Jan.-Oct. 1955	Jan.-Oct. 1956	% Change Jan.-Oct. 1956
TOTAL, ALL TRADES	594,510	693,946	+ 16.7	5,599,449	6,414,197	+ 14.6
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	16,711	19,320	+ 15.6	183,002	197,435	+ 7.9
Groceries and Food Specialties..	103,098	122,639	+ 19.0	936,407	1,018,606	+ 8.8
Meat and Dairy Products	15,159	20,027	+ 32.1	133,320	141,882	+ 6.4
Clothing and Furnishings	9,756	10,270	+ 5.3	70,742	74,001	+ 4.6
Footwear	2,993	3,458	+ 15.5	23,416	24,635	+ 5.2
Other Textile and Clothing						
Accessories	19,620	21,724	+ 10.7	150,874	164,480	+ 9.0
Drugs and Drug Sundries	14,991	17,707	+ 18.1	136,166	147,297	+ 8.2
Household Electrical Appliances.	18,461	18,095	- 2.0	128,318	131,499	+ 2.5
Farm Machinery	4,674	5,392	+ 15.4	53,107	66,052	+ 24.4
Coal and Coke	18,220	20,905	+ 14.7	142,153	165,399	+ 16.4
Hardware	28,000	30,462	+ 8.8	230,767	257,884	+ 11.8
Construction Materials and Supplies, including Lumber	64,671	67,644	+ 4.6	547,434	604,997	+ 10.5
Industrial and Transportation Equipment and Supplies	50,263	60,930	+ 21.2	466,647	641,750	+ 37.5
Commercial, Institutional and Service Equipment and Supplies.	8,564	8,772	+ 2.4	82,339	90,171	+ 9.5
Automotive Parts and Accessories	31,152	34,253	+ 10.0	290,460	321,794	+ 10.8
Newsprint, Paper and Paper Products	25,667	27,986	+ 9.0	215,970	241,953	+ 12.0
Tobacco, Confectionery and Soft Drinks	41,376	47,631	+ 15.1	416,209	459,201	+ 10.3
All Other	121,134	156,731	+ 29.4	1,392,118	1,665,161	+ 19.6