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## WHOLESALE TRADE

November 1956

Preliminary estimates of wholesale sales in November advanced 13 per cent above November 1955 to \$676,085,000 from \$598,159,000 and 14 per cent in the January to November period to \$7,090,282,000 from \$6,197,608,000. These sales cover "wholesalers proper" and do not include the business transactions of manufacturers' sales branches or agents and brokers. They are not adjusted for price changes, seasonal variations or number of business days in the respective months.

Sales in November were up in all the specified trade groups except farm machinery, household electrical appliances and automotive parts and accessories which accounted for decreases of 24, 5 and 1 per cent respectively. The greatest gains were registered for commercial, institutional and service equipment and supplies (18 per cent), groceries and food specialties (15 per cent) and tobacco, confectionery and soft drinks (12 per cent) while their increases in the January-November period were recorded at approximately 10 per cent in each case. The largest increases in the January to November period were: industrial and transportation equipment and supplies, 34 per cent; farm machinery, 21 per cent; coal and coke, 16 per cent. The "all other trades" group advanced 34 per cent in the month and 21 per cent in the cumulative January-November 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

November 1956

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

(in thousands of dollars)



Kind of Business	November 1955	November 1956	% Change Nov. 1956	Jan.-Nov. 1955	Jan.-Nov. 1956	% Change Jan.-Nov. 1956
TOTAL, ALL TRADES .....	598,159	676,085	+ 13.0	6,197,608	7,090,282	+ 14.4
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables .....	16,191	17,482	+ 8.0	199,193	214,917	+ 7.9
Groceries and Food Specialties ..	104,838	120,234	+ 14.7	1,041,245	1,138,840	+ 9.4
Meat and Dairy Products .....	15,469	16,522	+ 6.8	148,789	158,404	+ 6.5
Clothing and Furnishings .....	9,141	9,238	+ 1.1	79,883	83,239	+ 4.2
Footwear .....	3,252	3,532	+ 8.6	26,668	28,167	+ 5.6
Other Textile and Clothing						
Accessories .....	18,452	19,698	+ 6.7	169,326	184,178	+ 8.8
Drugs and Drug Sundries .....	15,547	16,711	+ 7.5	151,713	164,008	+ 8.1
Household Electrical Appliances ..	19,124	18,135	- 5.2	147,442	149,634	+ 1.5
Farm Machinery .....	3,509	2,666	- 24.0	56,616	68,718	+ 21.4
Coal and Coke .....	18,426	20,181	+ 9.5	160,579	185,580	+ 15.6
Hardware .....	29,664	31,927	+ 7.6	260,431	289,811	+ 11.3
Construction Materials and						
Supplies, including Lumber ....	59,338	60,844	+ 2.5	606,772	665,841	+ 9.7
Industrial and Transportation						
Equipment and Supplies .....	55,542	59,039	+ 6.3	522,189	700,789	+ 34.2
Commercial, Institutional and						
Service Equipment and Supplies	8,265	9,719	+ 17.6	90,604	99,890	+ 10.2
Automotive Parts and Accessories	31,829	31,450	- 1.2	322,289	353,244	+ 9.6
Newsprint, Paper and Paper Pro-						
ducts .....	26,051	28,498	+ 9.4	242,021	270,451	+ 11.7
Tobacco, Confectionery and						
Soft Drinks .....	42,735	48,016	+ 12.4	458,944	507,217	+ 10.5
All Other .....	120,786	162,193	+ 34.3	1,512,904	1,827,354	+ 20.8