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WHOLESALE TRADESTATISTICS STATISTIQUE
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Estimated sales of Canadian wholesalers in March showed a moderate increase of 4 per cent over March a year ago. Sales amounted to \$680,121,000 compared with \$652,825,000 in 1956. The trade group "groceries and food specialties" by far the largest in volume of business, accounted for the biggest increase in the month at 12 per cent. Sales in the other trade groups varied up and down within a range of -4 to +12 per cent. 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.

The cumulative wholesale sales for the first quarter of 1957 at \$1,818,647,000 were ¹⁰ ~~22~~ per cent greater than last year's total of \$1,654,239,000 for 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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March 1957

Preliminary Estimates of Wholesale Sales and Percentage Changes

Kind of Business	March			January - March		
	Sales		% Change 1957/1956	Sales		% Change 1957/1956
	1956	1957		1956	1957	
	\$'000	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000	
TOTAL, All Trades	652,825	680,121	+ 4.2	1,654,239	1,818,647	+ 9.9
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	17,814	17,438	- 2.1	46,484	47,570	+ 2.3
Groceries and Food Specialties	94,894	106,479	+ 12.2	269,204	308,144	+ 14.5
Meat and Dairy Products	13,641	14,722	+ 7.9	33,468	36,737	+ 9.8
Clothing and Furnishings	7,888	7,597	- 3.7	20,175	19,142	- 5.1
Footwear	2,576	2,671	+ 3.7	6,043	6,237	+ 3.2
Other Textile and Clothing Accessories	17,688	17,948	+ 1.5	46,136	48,085	+ 4.2
Coal and Coke	13,379	13,194	- 1.4	45,492	46,489	+ 2.2
Drugs and Drug Sundries	14,515	15,396	+ 6.1	41,802	43,891	+ 5.0
Newsprint, Paper and Paper Products ...	23,880	24,294	+ 1.7	68,329	70,924	+ 3.8
Tobacco, Confectionery and Soft Drinks	53,187	59,389	+ 11.7	129,494	143,286	+ 10.7
Automotive Parts and Accessories	32,665	34,248	+ 4.8	72,226	81,621	+ 13.0
Commercial, Institutional and Service Equipment and Supplies	9,314	8,964	- 3.8	25,450	26,991	+ 6.1
Construction Materials and Supplies, including Lumber	53,109	53,266	+ 0.3	142,454	133,007	- 6.6
Farm Machinery	5,116	5,494	+ 7.4	11,779	11,729	- 0.4
Hardware	22,769	24,051	+ 5.6	61,200	63,896	+ 4.4
Household Electrical Appliances	12,944	12,510	- 3.4	35,869	39,218	+ 9.3
Industrial and Transportation Equipment and Supplies	69,294	73,655	+ 6.3	169,243	168,991	- 0.1
All Other Trades	188,152	188,805	+ 0.3	429,391	522,689	+ 21.7