

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA



Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce

Vol. 22 - No. 4

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
\$1.00 a year
JUN 19 1957
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WHOLESALE TRADE

April 1957

Estimated wholesale sales in April at \$660,263,000 were only a fraction (0.5 per cent) higher than the \$657,226,000 registered for the same month last year. Cumulative sales for the year to date were up 7.2 per cent to \$2,478,910,000 from \$2,311,465,000 last year. 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.

In April, thirteen of the seventeen specified trade groups covered in this report registered increased sales while the other four along with the "all other trades" group experienced decreased sales. The main increases were reported in groceries and food specialties (19.2 per cent), footwear (12.2 per cent) and clothing and furnishings (11.6 per cent) while reduced sales were evident mostly in farm machinery (13.3 per cent) and in the "all other trades" group (12.7 per cent).

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.

6505-505-47

WHOLESALE TRADE

April 1957

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Preliminary Estimates of Wholesale Sales and Percentage Changes

Kind of Business	April			January - April		
	Sales		% Change 1957/1956	Sales		% Change 1957/1956
	1956	1957		1956	1957	
	\$'000	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000	
TOTAL, All Trades	657,226	660,263	+ 0.5	2,311,465	2,478,910	+ 7.2
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	17,657	19,213	+ 8.8	64,141	66,783	+ 4.1
Groceries and Food Specialties	90,753	108,179	+ 19.2	359,957	416,323	+ 15.7
Meat and Dairy Products	11,314	11,098	- 1.9	44,782	47,835	+ 6.8
Clothing and Furnishings	6,798	7,584	+ 11.6	26,973	26,726	- 0.9
Footwear	2,330	2,614	+ 12.2	8,373	8,851	+ 5.7
Other Textile and Clothing Accessories	15,999	17,002	+ 6.3	62,135	65,087	+ 4.8
Coal and Coke	12,572	13,674	+ 8.8	58,064	60,163	+ 3.6
Drugs and Drug Sundries	13,787	14,434	+ 4.7	55,589	58,325	+ 4.9
Newsprint, Paper and Paper Products ..	23,202	23,666	+ 2.0	91,531	94,590	+ 3.3
Tobacco, Confectionery and Soft Drinks	41,987	45,881	+ 9.3	171,481	189,167	+ 10.3
Automotive Parts and Accessories	34,298	35,532	+ 3.6	106,524	117,153	+ 10.0
Commercial, Institutional and Service Equipment and Supplies	8,398	8,509	- 4.4	34,348	35,500	+ 3.4
Construction Materials and Supplies, including Lumber	51,211	54,351	+ 6.1	193,665	187,358	- 3.3
Farm Machinery	9,364	8,123	- 13.3	21,143	19,852	- 6.1
Hardware	23,094	23,468	+ 1.6	84,294	87,364	+ 3.6
Household Electrical Appliances	11,856	12,672	+ 6.9	47,725	51,890	+ 8.7
Industrial and Transportation Equipment and Supplies	69,206	68,342	- 1.2	238,449	237,333	- 0.5
All Other Trades	212,900	185,921	- 12.7	642,291	708,610	+ 10.3