

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Hon. Gordon Churchill, Minister of Trade and Commerce

Vol. 22 - No. 8

\$1.00 a year

WHOLESALE TRADEAugust 1957

Estimated sales of Canadian wholesalers in August amounted to \$652,628,000, down 3 per cent in comparison with the same period of 1956 when sales reached \$673,362,000. Cumulative sales for the year to date at \$5,234,760,000 were 3 per cent above sales of \$5,099,174,000 in the first eight months of 1956. 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.

Nine of the seventeen specified trade groups covered in this report showed an increase over August 1956 but these were more than offset by the declines which occurred in the other eight specified groups and the "all other trades" category. The principal increases occurred in "commercial, institutional and service equipment and supplies" (16 per cent) and "footwear" (13 per cent) while "farm machinery" and "construction materials and supplies" accounted for the largest declines at 42 and 15 per cent respectively. Sales in the other trade groups varied up and down within a range of -8 per cent to +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 Wholesale Trade and Services Section,
Industry and Merchandising Division.

6515-505-87

WHOLESALE TRADE

August 1957

Preliminary Estimates of Wholesale Sales and Percentage Changes

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Kind of Business	August			January - August		
	Sales		% Change 1957/1956	Sales		% Change 1957/1956
	1956 \$'000	1957 \$'000		1956 \$'000	1957 \$'000	
TOTAL, All Trades	673,362	652,628	- 3.1	5,099,174	5,234,760	+ 2.7
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	21,513	20,704	- 3.8	160,395	158,156	- 1.4
Groceries and Food Specialties	114,869	120,200	+ 4.6	792,014	884,197	+ 11.6
Meat and Dairy Products	17,001	15,792	- 7.1	107,116	107,045	- 0.1
Clothing and Furnishings	8,399	8,275	- 1.5	53,958	54,096	+ 0.3
Footwear	3,228	3,659	+ 13.4	17,558	18,913	+ 7.7
Other Textile and Clothing Accessories ..	18,862	20,144	+ 6.8	121,746	128,795	+ 5.8
Coal and Coke	17,586	18,419	+ 4.7	124,251	125,145	+ 0.7
Drugs and Drug Sundries	14,518	14,975	+ 3.1	114,016	117,206	+ 2.8
Newsprint, Paper and Paper Products	25,536	23,732	- 7.1	189,552	195,566	+ 3.2
Tobacco, Confectionery and Soft Drinks ..	47,336	50,109	+ 5.9	362,241	395,827	+ 9.3
Automotive Parts and Accessories	39,368	38,231	- 2.9	253,741	263,577	+ 3.9
Commercial, Institutional and Service Equipment and Supplies	8,631	10,045	+ 16.4	72,874	76,390	+ 4.8
Construction Materials and Supplies, including Lumber	71,623	60,584	- 15.4	475,305	447,568	- 5.8
Farm Machinery	9,516	5,561	- 41.6	54,493	46,899	- 13.9
Hardware	28,927	29,066	+ 0.5	198,281	199,812	+ 0.8
Household Electrical Appliances	12,406	12,740	+ 2.7	97,915	99,532	+ 1.7
Industrial and Transportation Equipment and Supplies	66,084	64,680	- 2.1	520,251	537,446	+ 3.3
All Other Trades	147,959	135,712	- 8.3	1,383,467	1,378,590	- 0.4