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WHOLESALE TRADE

May, 1959



Sales of Canadian wholesalers for the month of May were estimated at \$753,549,000, up 5.9% from sales of \$711,842,000 for May 1958. Total sales for the first five months of the year amounted to \$3,382,790,000, an increase of 9.9% above the corresponding period 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.

All but three of the 18 trade groups reported increases for the month of May ranging from 26.4% for household electrical appliances to 1.0% for other textile and clothing accessories. Other trades recording substantial increases were: industrial and transportation equipment and supplies (14.0%), clothing and furnishings (12.3%), automotive parts and accessories (10.8%), commercial, institutional and service equipment and supplies (10.4%), tobacco, confectionery and soft drinks (9.1%). Decreases were registered for coal and coke (8.3%), fresh fruits and vegetables (5.1%) and farm machinery (1.5%). However, when combined for the first five months of the year, sales of farm machinery showed an increase of 16.7% while sales of fresh fruits and vegetables and coal and coke decreased by 3.7% and 0.4% respectively.

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

Prepared in the Industry and Merchandising Division

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WHOLESALE TRADE

May 1959

Preliminary Estimates of Wholesale Sales and Percentage Changes

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	May			January - May		
	S a l e s		% Change 1959/1958	S a l e s		% Change 1959/1958
	1958	1959		1958	1959	
	\$'000	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000	
TOTAL, All Trades .....	711,842	753,549	+ 5.9	3,078,207	3,382,790	+ 9.9
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables .....	25,256	23,968	- 5.1	96,834	93,230	- 3.7
Groceries and Food Specialties .....	109,794	115,964	+ 5.6	504,729	546,064	+ 8.2
Meat and Dairy Products .....	11,744	12,626	+ 7.5	57,418	56,926	- 0.9
Clothing and Furnishings .....	6,320	7,099	+ 12.3	30,041	32,910	+ 9.6
Footwear .....	2,255	2,350	+ 4.2	10,636	11,612	+ 9.2
Other Textile and Clothing Accessories	14,845	14,998	+ 1.0	79,516	81,675	+ 2.7
Coal and Coke .....	9,610	8,817	- 8.3	53,330	53,135	- 0.4
Drugs and Drug Sundries .....	15,133	16,174	+ 6.9	78,337	85,672	+ 9.4
Newsprint, Paper and Paper Products ...	22,696	23,378	+ 3.0	103,413	103,380	(1)
Tobacco, Confectionery and Soft Drinks	45,995	50,175	+ 9.1	222,916	234,289	+ 5.1
Automotive Parts and Accessories .....	32,076	35,545	+ 10.8	136,961	155,541	+ 13.6
Commercial, Institutional and Service Equipment and Supplies .....	8,881	9,807	+ 10.4	40,979	45,966	+ 12.2
Construction Materials and Supplies, including Lumber .....	75,142	79,317	+ 5.6	285,974	303,027	+ 6.0
Farm Machinery .....	8,638	8,507	- 1.5	31,275	36,495	+ 16.7
Hardware .....	27,507	28,264	+ 2.8	107,956	112,076	+ 3.8
Household Electrical Appliances .....	11,167	14,114	+ 26.4	59,507	63,290	+ 6.4
Industrial and Transportation Equipment and Supplies .....	71,561	81,611	+ 14.0	264,316	300,601	+ 13.7
All Other Trades .....	213,222	220,835	+ 3.6	914,069	1,066,901	+ 16.7

(1) No change.