Retail Service Establishments.—This group of businesses includes those that provide personal or repair services or that offer amusement or recreation facilities to the public. A portion of these firms indicated some merchandising in their returns, but were classified as services because the greater proportion of their annual business consisted of service receipts. The principal statistics on retail service establishments derived from 1941 Census returns are shown in Table 19.

19.—Retail Service Establishments, by Provinces and Kinds of Bu	Business, 1941
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Province and Kind of Business	Estab- lishments	Total Receipts	Pro- prietors	Employees Full-time Part-time		Salaries and Wages
Province	No.	\$'000	No.	No.	No.	\$'000
Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia Totals 1	13,807 17,612 2,977 3,704 3,341	964 9,409 5,626 64,829 110,422 15,426 10,180 13,184 24,559 254,678	327 1,869 1,519 14,074 18,058 2,999 3,740 3,438 4,187 50,224	273 2,353 1,261 16,425 27,226 4,308 2,111 2,961 5,849	222 650 580 5,025 9,390 1,667 959 1,050 2,085	242 2,612 1,479 19,047 35,251 5,029 2,564 3,932 7,933 78,109
Kind of Business Amusement and recreation group	4,954	61,345	4,494	12,021	9,717	12,948
Business services	1,334 24,731 1,078 1,225 11,932	24,432 85,893 6,901 13,132 37,512 25,463	1,145 25,961 1,039 1,193 12,295 4,097	6,246 28,656 1,667 1,463 5,710 7,018	1,166 5,013 657 882 1,794 2,418	9,600 32,408 2,286 3,188 9,430 8,249

¹ Includes Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

Subsection 2.—Current Merchandising and Service Statistics

Certain phases of current distribution statistics are based on the application of the sampling method because the number of business firms prohibits monthly or even annual coverage. Wholesale and retail sales indexes depend to a large extent on this technique. On the other hand complete or near-complete coverage is possible in some fields such as automotive sales and financing, chain-store operations, theatre, power-laundry and dry-cleaning, and farm-implement sales statistics. Studies concerning the operating results of independent retailers have been a part of the program of merchandising statistics for some time, but summaries of these surveys now appear in the Year Book for the first time. Monthly and annual bulletins are issued for each of the fields covered in this Subsection, and are available by application to the Dominion Statistician.

Wholesale Trade.—Monthly index numbers of sales in several branches of the wholesale trade have been prepared since 1935. Indexes of sales (on the base 1935-39=100) are calculated each month for nine wholesale trades, based on reports received from a sample of some 415 firms whose sales made up about 68 p.c. of the total volume of business done by wholesalers in those trades in 1941. The sample of reporting firms is limited to wholesalers proper, i.e., wholesale establishments that perform the complete functions of jobbers or wholesalers, buying merchandise in large quantities on their own account and selling in broken lots.