

2.—Operating Results of Selected Wholesale Trades, 1957

(Percentage of Net Sales)

Kind of Business	Gross Profit	Selling Expense	Ware-house and Delivery Expense	Administrative and General Expense	Net Operating Profit	Net Non-trading Income	Net Profit before Income Tax
Grocery.....	6.84	1.11	2.15	3.12	0.46	0.59	1.05
Fruits and vegetables.....	12.14	1.85	5.27	4.17	0.85	0.32	1.17
Tobacco and confectionery.....	6.73	1.89	1.67	2.82	0.55	0.22	0.57
Dry goods.....	16.04	5.26	3.21	6.43	1.14	0.57	1.71
Piece goods.....	17.21	4.97	2.53	8.04	1.67	0.51	2.18
Footwear.....	13.60	3.35	2.29	6.50	1.46	0.76	2.22
Automotive parts and accessories.....	25.36	7.20	5.07	9.83	3.26	0.65	3.91
Hardware.....	20.05	4.82	3.54	8.36	3.33	0.10	3.43
Plumbing and heating supplies.....	16.97	3.84	3.02	7.18	2.93	—	2.93
Drug.....	11.79	1.75	3.31	5.28	1.45	0.56	2.01
Household appliances and electrical supplies.....	18.93	5.10	2.01	8.36	3.46	0.15	3.61

Subsection 2.—Retail Trade

The trend of retail trade is one of the best general indicators of the economic condition of the country. It is through retail stores that most goods are ultimately sold and such sales reflect the financial strength of the consumer except in times of short supply. The estimated value of retail sales increased nearly five and a half times during the 1930-57 period. These estimates, not adjusted for price changes, are shown by province in Table 3 and by kind of business in Table 4.

3.—Retail Trade, by Province, 1930 and 1941-57

NOTE.—Figures for 1931-40 are given in the 1957-58 Year Book, p. 938.

Year	Atlantic Provinces ¹	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia ²	Canada ³
	\$'000,000	\$'000,000	\$'000,000	\$'000,000	\$'000,000	\$'000,000	\$'000,000	\$'000,000
1930.....	197	646	1,091	188	188	175	251	2,736
1941.....	279	820	1,388	193	189	228	318	3,415
1942.....	301	876	1,447	206	201	243	346	3,619
1943.....	319	913	1,488	220	219	266	362	3,786
1944.....	351	976	1,574	243	249	296	404	4,093
1945.....	387	1,081	1,774	269	279	329	455	4,573
1946.....	491	1,342	2,265	338	341	416	593	5,787
1947.....	564	1,621	2,721	407	410	504	737	6,963
1948.....	607	1,792	3,067	466	473	611	818	7,835
1949.....	734	1,872	3,294	523	538	697	874	8,532
1950.....	822	2,183	3,715	567	571	777	982	9,617
1951.....	899	2,443	4,130	610	659	854	1,100	10,693
1952.....	982	2,635	4,383	651	764	939	1,177	11,532
1953.....	1,018	2,756	4,616	677	845	987	1,228	12,128
1954.....	1,025	2,798	4,634	637	758	964	1,249	12,066
1955.....	1,127	3,006	5,115	669	748	1,035	1,412	13,112
1956.....	1,211	3,322	5,499	700	812	1,159	1,594	14,298
1957.....	1,225	3,521	5,663	726	855	1,211	1,616	14,817

¹ Newfoundland included from 1949.

² Includes the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

are not the exact addition of the components because of rounding of the figures.

³ Totals