

# Profile of Key Economic Sectors

## Wholesale Trade

### What is included in the sector?

This sector includes a range of wholesalers focused on the sale of various consumer and commercial goods.

TABLE 1. SECTOR JOBS BY TYPE IN VANCOUVER

SUB-SECTOR	JOBS (%)
Food merchant wholesalers	22.3%
Computer and communications equipment and supplies merchant wholesalers	8.3%
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	7.9%
Lumber, millwork, hardware and other building supplies merchant wholesalers	7.2%
Business-to-business electronic markets, and agents and brokers	7.1%
Beverage merchant wholesalers	6.8%
Textile, clothing & shoe merchant wholesalers	5.3%
Pharmaceuticals, toiletries, cosmetics and sundries merchant wholesalers	5.2%
Personal goods merchant wholesalers	4.6%
Other miscellaneous merchant wholesalers	4.4%
Electrical, plumbing, heating and air-conditioning equipment/supplies wholesalers	4.3%
Construction, forestry, mining, and industrial machinery, equipment/supplies wholesalers	3.2%
Other	13.6%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Place of work data from 2016 Census for the city of Vancouver, Statistics Canada.

### Who is working in this sector?

TABLE 2. EMPLOYMENT STATUS FOR SECTOR JOBS IN VANCOUVER

CATEGORY	VALUE
<b>Full time vs. part time</b>	
Full time workers	89%
Part time workers	11%
<b>Self employed and work from home</b>	
Self employed	10%
Work from home	12%

Source: Place of work data from 2016 Census for the city of Vancouver, Statistics Canada.

TABLE 3. GENDER, WAGE AND EDUCATION CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE SECTOR IN THE REGION

CATEGORY	VALUE
<b>Gender</b>	
Men	65%
Women	35%
<b>Wages and highest education</b>	
Regional median income	\$48,570
University certificate, diploma or degree	29%

Source: Place of residence data from 2016 Census for the city of Vancouver, Statistics Canada.

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Wholesale trade jobs make up 3% of the city's total employment.
- The sector is the city's 13th largest employer with 10,215 jobs.
- The wholesale trade sector consists of a number of sub-sectors engaged in the sale of consumer and commercial goods.
- Between 2001 and 2016, the number of jobs in this sector in the city declined by 1,800 jobs (-15%).
- Roughly 56% of the city's workers in the sector reside in the city of Vancouver.
- Wholesale trade jobs are located within the city's industrial land base.

### Job growth in the sector: Vancouver vs. the region

The majority of wholesale trade jobs (80%) in the region are located outside the city of Vancouver. The sector is declining, in both the city and region; between 2001 and 2016 the total number of sector jobs in the city decreased by 15%. During this same timeframe, the city as a whole added roughly 64,355 jobs, growing by 21%.

TABLE 4. SECTOR GROWTH IN VANCOUVER AND METRO VANCOUVER

	VANCOUVER	METRO
Sector jobs	10,215 3% of all jobs	50,000 4% of all jobs
Growth of sector from 2001-16	-1,800 ↓ 15%	-490 ↓ 1%
Overall job growth from 2001-16	+64,355 ↑ 21%	+209,675 ↑ 23%

Source: Place of work data from 2016 Census for the city of Vancouver, Statistics Canada.

### What do they do?

**TABLE 5. SECTOR JOBS BY OCCUPATION IN THE REGION FOR WORKER PLACE OF RESIDENCE**

OCCUPATION	JOB (%)
Sales and service occupations	25.6%
Management occupations	23.4%
Business, finance and administration occupations	20.5%
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	14.8%
Occupations in manufacturing and utilities	6.4%
Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	6.4%
Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services	1.4%
Other	1.5%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Place of residence data from 2016 Census for Metro Vancouver, Statistics Canada.

### Where do sector workers live?

56% of the city’s workers in this sector live in Vancouver.

**TABLE 6. PLACE OF RESIDENCE FOR WORKERS IN WHOLESALE TRADE IN VANCOUVER**

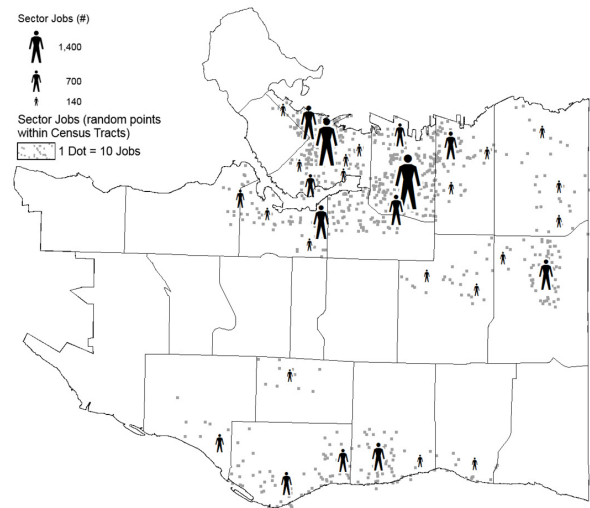
LOCATION	#	%
<b>City of Vancouver</b>	<b>5,715</b>	<b>55.9%</b>
<b>Metro Vancouver (Outside of Vancouver)</b>	<b>4,380</b>	<b>42.9%</b>
Burnaby & New Westminster	1,245	12.2%
Surrey, Delta, & White Rock	850	8.3%
Richmond	715	7.0%
North Shore (incl. Bowen and Lions Bay)	680	6.7%
Tri-Cities (incl. Anmore and Belcarra)	635	6.2%
Maple Ridge / Pitt Meadows	115	1.1%
Langley (District and City)	85	0.8%
University Endowment Lands	30	0.3%
First Nations Lands	25	0.2%
<b>Outside of Metro Vancouver</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,215</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Place of work commuter data from 2016 Census for the city of Vancouver, Metro Vancouver and Canada, Statistics Canada.

### Where in the city are sector jobs located?

Jobs in the wholesale trade sector are primarily located within the city’s industrial land base.

**FIGURE 1. DISTRIBUTION OF SECTOR JOBS IN THE CITY**

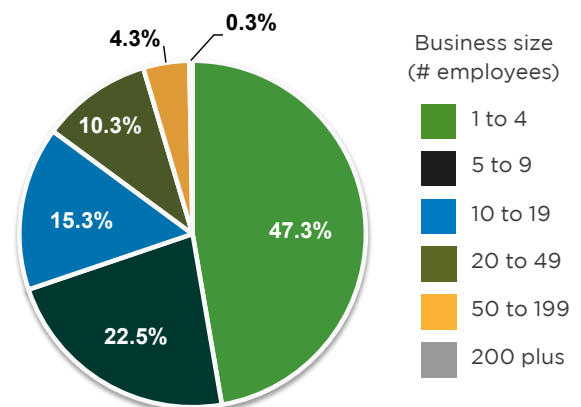


Source: Place of work data from 2016 Census for the city of Vancouver, Statistics Canada.

### Business size

The majority of sector businesses within the region (about 77%) employ fewer than 50 people.

**FIGURE 2. SIZE OF BUSINESSES IN SECTOR IN METRO VANCOUVER REGION**



Source: Statistics Canada Business Register for the Greater Vancouver Regional District, 2017.