

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
PRICES BRANCH

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PRICE MOVEMENTS, JUNE 1948 (PRELIMINARY)

COST OF LIVING: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index increased from 153.3 for May 1 to 154.3 for June 1, 1948. Almost all of this rise resulted from higher food prices. The food index moved up from 191.2 to 193.9, due mainly to further advances for meats and vegetables. Butter prices averaged lower. Other changes in group indexes were of lesser proportions. Clothing advanced from 173.6 to 174.8; scattered advances in coal and coke changed fuel and light from 122.7 to 124.3; and homefurnishings and services moved from 161.9 to 162.0. Removal of the tax on theatre admissions in some areas, reduced the miscellaneous items index from 122.9 to 122.7.

From August 1939 to June 1, 1948 the increase in the cost-of-living index was 53.1 p.c. (from 100.8 to 154.3).

Dominion Cost-of-Living Indexes (1935-39=100)

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Clothing	Home-furnishings and Services	Miscellaneous
June 1, 1948	154.3	193.9	120.9	124.3	174.8	162.0	122.7
May 1, 1948	153.3	191.2	120.9	122.7	173.6	161.9	122.9
June 2, 1947	134.9	157.7	117.8	116.7	142.4	139.8	117.1

SECURITIES: The Investors' weekly index for 100 common shares advanced narrowly from 119.5 to 119.8 between May 27 and June 24. This was in sharp contrast to the rapid rise in stock prices in the previous two months. Among group changes the index for 8 banks rose 2.4 points to 129.2 and 16 utilities 1.7 to 132.5, while 76 industrials declined 0.2 to 114.1. Mining stocks were considerably weaker, the composite index for 30 representative issues declining 5.2 points to 79.1 during the month. Gold stocks recorded a sharp drop, an index for this group receding 6.3 points to 60.2 while the base metals series dipped 2.7 to 117.1

Weekly Security Price Indexes, 1935-39=100

	Week ended -					Monthly Average		
	May 27th	June 3rd	June 10th	June 17th	June 24th	June 1948	May 1948	June 1947
INVESTORS' PRICE INDEX								
(100 Common Stocks).....	119.5	119.8	120.2	121.3	119.8	120.3	116.5	105.3
76 Industrials	114.3	114.6	114.7	116.0	114.1	114.9	110.9	98.6
16 Utilities	130.8	130.4	132.6	133.1	132.5	132.2	127.8	116.7
8 Banks	126.8	128.5	128.0	128.3	129.2	128.5	128.4	129.2
MINING STOCK PRICE INDEX								
(30 Stocks)	84.3	82.9	82.1	80.4	79.1	81.1	84.1	86.9
25 Golds	66.5	65.4	63.6	61.6	60.2	62.7	66.9	76.6
5 Base Metals	119.8	117.5	119.0	118.2	117.1	118.0	118.2	105.5
DOMINION OF CANADA LONG-TERM BONDS - YIELD INDEX...								
	95.1	95.1	95.4	95.4	95.4	95.3	95.3	84.3

WHOLESALE PRICES (WEEKLY): The weekly index of Industrial Material Prices, on the base 1926=100, rose sharply during June, from 151.5 for the week ending May 28 to 155.3 for the week ending June 25. This was 24.8 points above the corresponding week of last year. Higher prices were quoted for steers, hogs, hides, rosin, raw wool, lead and tin ingots, while oats and raw cotton were somewhat easier. Canadian Farm Products moved from 144.3 to 149.1 in the same period. Potatoes and livestock showed unusual strength, with more moderate increases registered in poultry, eggs, hides and wool, while declines occurred in grains, tobacco and hay.

Weekly Wholesale Price Indexes, 1926=100

	Week ended -					Monthly Average		
	May 28th	June 4th	June 11th	June 18th	June 25th	June 1948	May 1948	June 1947
Industrial Materials	151.5	151.6	151.8	154.8	155.3	153.4	150.7	129.9
Canadian Farm Products	144.3	144.3	145.9	147.8	149.1	146.8	143.4	125.4

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