



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Labour and Prices Division

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PRICE MOVEMENTS, SEPTEMBER 1951 (PRELIMINARY)*

COST-OF-LIVING INDEX: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics cost-of-living index rose (1935-1939 = 100) 0.5 percent from 188.9 to 189.8 between August 1st and September 1st. All groups, except food, registered increases. A decline in the food index from 251.4 to 251.1 reflected sharp seasonal decreases for fresh vegetables, coupled with declines for pork shoulder, lamb and vegetable shortening. These outweighed strength for most beef cuts, bacon, butter, cheese, eggs, cocoa, oranges and canned vegetables. Clothing rose from 204.6 to 206.9 due largely to sharp advances for footwear and woollen wear. Upturns for hardware items, floor coverings and dishes, moved the homefurnishings and services group from 199.0 to 199.1. Fuel and light rose 1.3 points to 149.5 due to scattered increases for coal and coke, while the miscellaneous items series changed from 143.7 to 144.0 on advances in transportation and recreation costs. The index for rents, reflecting the results of the August quarterly survey, moved from 139.8 to 142.7.

From August 1939 to September 1951, the increase in the cost-of-living index was 88.3 percent.

Dominion Cost of Living Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	Combined Index	Food	Rent	Fuel and Light	Clothing	Home Furnishings & Services	Miscellaneous
September 1, 1951	189.8	251.1	142.7	149.5	206.9	199.1	144.0
August 1, 1951	188.9	251.4	139.8	148.2	204.6	199.0	143.7
September 1, 1950	169.8	218.8	135.5	140.8	182.3	171.1	132.8

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY)
(1935-1939 = 100)

The index for 30 industrial material prices at wholesale, declined from 287.3 to 285.3

between August 31st and September 28th. Weakness occurred mainly in primary farm product prices. Among commodity decreases were; hogs, raw wool, wheat, zinc and copper. Offsetting these were advances for western oats, raw rubber, raw cotton, tin, cottonseed oil and scrap steel. Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets recorded a further sharp drop in September, the composite index receding from 256.8 to 249.3. Most of the loss was concentrated in animal products, notably, hogs and raw wool. Eggs were down slightly. The index for animal products dropped from 348.2 to 329.8 between August 31st and September 28th. Field product prices were firmer during the same period, the index rising from 165.3 to 168.8 due to higher quotations for potatoes and grains.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1951 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Aug. 31st	Sept. 7th	Sept. 14th	Sept. 21st	Sept. 28th	Sept. ^(p) 1951	Aug. 1951	Sept. 1950
Industrial Materials	287.3	288.3	288.5	286.0	285.3	287.0	287.4	265.2
Canadian Farm Products	256.8	257.1	257.3	255.7	249.3	254.8	256.4	234.9

(p) Preliminary

SECURITY INDEXES:
(1935-1939 = 100)

Common stock prices registered further increases in September although mid-month peak advances were not entirely held in all instances. The composite index for 105 common stocks rose from a level of 175.8 for the week of August 29th to 180.2 for September 20th, while the closing figure of 179.9 for the week of the 27th showed a net increase of 4.1 points. All major groups moved up, the index for 82 industrials rising from 181.4 to 185.5 between August 29th and September 27th. In the same interval, the index for 15 utilities changed from 168.2 to 172.4 and that for 8 banks from 136.7 to 139.9. Mining stocks moved ahead also on a firmer price tone for both base metal and gold stocks. The change in the composite index for 30 representative issues was from 98.5 to 106.1. The index for 5 base metals advanced from 164.3 to 180.9, while that for 25 golds increased from 69.7 to 73.5.

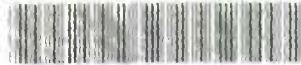
Weekly Security Price Indexes, 1935-1939=100

	1951 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Aug. 29th	Sept. 6th	Sept. 13th	Sept. 20th	Sept. 27th	Sept. 1951	Aug. 1951	Sept. 1950
Investors' Price Index								
105 Common Stocks	175.8	178.9	180.0	180.2	179.9	179.8	169.7	141.5
82 Industrials	181.4	184.6	185.6	185.7	185.5	185.4	174.5	139.3
15 Utilities	168.2	171.2	172.5	173.0	172.4	172.3	162.6	138.2
8 Banks	136.7	139.3	141.2	140.6	139.9	140.2	137.2	148.4
Mining Stock Price Index								
30 Stocks	98.5	100.2	103.7	106.1	106.1	104.0	97.7	90.0
25 Golds	69.7	72.1	74.9	74.3	73.5	73.7	69.7	62.7
5 Base Metals	164.3	164.6	169.7	179.0	180.9	173.6	161.7	145.1
Government of Canada Long-Term Bonds - Yield Index								
	105.1	104.8	104.8	105.1	105.5	105.0	104.9	89.8

* Indexes published in this bulletin do not yet include data covering Newfoundland.

N.B. Inquiries concerning indexes in this release should be directed to The Prices Section, Labour and Prices Division.

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