

# DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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## PRICE MOVEMENTS

JULY 1955

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:  
(1949 = 100)

The Consumer Price Index remained almost unchanged between June 1 and July 2, moving from 115.9 to 116.0, as slight increases in Food and Shelter indexes were partially offset by declines in the Household Operation and Other Commodities and Services series. The Food component increased from 111.0 to 111.5 under the influence of a sharp increase in the price for eggs and somewhat higher prices for most fresh fruits and vegetables and meats. Decreases were registered by potatoes, tea, and coffee. The Clothing index remained unchanged at 107.8 as most items registered no change, and the few changes balanced each other. Decreases in prices of household appliances and, to a lesser degree, furniture prices, were mainly responsible for the decline in the Household Operation index from 116.1 to 115.8. Coal prices were up fractionally while electricity rates declined slightly. The index of Other Commodities and Services moved from 117.8 to 117.7 as increases in haircuts and some drug items were outweighed by decreases in radios and toilet soaps. The increase in the Shelter index from 129.2 to 129.6 resulted from small increases in both rent and home-ownership costs.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949 = 100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
July 2, 1955	116.0	111.5	129.6	107.8	115.8	117.7
June 1, 1955	115.9	111.0	129.2	107.8	116.1	117.8
July 2, 1954	116.2	112.1	126.6	109.6	117.2	117.6

Prepared in Prices Section, Labour and Prices Division

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

The weekly composite price index for thirty industrial materials advanced 0.5 per cent from 236.0 to 237.2 between the weeks of June 30th and July 22nd. The advance was due mainly to higher quotations for raw rubber and linseed oil, although other series contributing to the increase were spruce lumber, tin, sisal and steel sheets. Decreases were led by beef hides and hogs, followed by lesser declines for oats, raw cotton, steers, raw sugar, bleached sulphite pulp and iron ore.

Canadian farm product prices at terminal markets dropped 2.1 per cent between the weeks of June 30th and July 22nd to 207.9 from 212.4. Decreases were general in both Field and Animal Products as the index for the former series moved down 2.1 per cent from 173.0 to 169.4, and the latter, 2.2 per cent from 251.9 to 246.3. In Field Products, Eastern wheat and rye, and Western potatoes, flax, hay and rye, were substantially lower, followed by lesser declines for Eastern potatoes, oats, barley, corn and hay. Lower hog quotations and a sharp decline in Western lambs were mainly responsible for the drop in the Animal Products index. Other price series in this group to register weakness were eggs, steers, lambs and cheese milk in Eastern Canada. Western eggs and Eastern poultry were higher during the period under review.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939=100)

	1955 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	June 30th	July 8th	July 15th	July 22nd	July 29th	July 1954	June 1955	July 1955
Industrial Materials.....	236.0	236.0	237.6	237.2	not	224.4	236.2	not
Canadian Farm Products .....	212.4	212.2	210.9	207.9	avail-	219.6	212.2	avail-
Field .....	173.0	172.5	169.7	169.4	able	177.0	174.3	able
Animal.....	251.9	251.9	252.0	246.3		262.1	250.0	

**SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:** (1935-1939 = 100) The month of July was again a period of strength for common stock prices as gains occurred in all major groups and sub-groups of the Investors' Index. The composite index rose 4.6 per cent to 250.8 from 239.8 between the weeks of June 30 and July 28, while in the major groups, the index for 7 Bank stocks advanced 9.2 per cent from 250.3 to 273.4, 14 Utilities 4.8 per cent from 204.2 to 214.1, and 78 Industrials 4.0 per cent from 247.0 to 257.0. Advances among the sub-groups in the period under review were led by Industrial Mines, Power and Traction, Food and Allied Products, Textiles and Clothing, and Transportation. After a sharp increase in the first week of the month, Machinery and Equipment issues and Milling weakened slightly. Building Materials were also somewhat below the high reached earlier during the month.

The composite index for 27 Mining Stocks moved up 4.0 per cent over the four-week period from 122.7 to 127.6. While Gold Stocks were fractionally lower at an index of 75.7 as against 75.9, 5 Base Metals rose from 229.7 to 246.3 for an increase of 7.2 per cent.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1955 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	June 30th	July 7th	July 14th	July 21st	July 28th	July 1954	June 1955	July 1955
<b>Investors' Price Index</b>								
99 Common Stocks .....	239.8	243.5	244.6	247.0	250.8	182.3	237.1	246.5
78 Industrials.....	247.0	250.3	250.3	253.4	257.0	181.8	244.4	252.8
14 Utilities.....	204.2	205.5	207.0	209.0	214.1	169.4	202.9	208.9
7 Banks.....	250.3	263.5	275.1	270.4	273.4	216.4	243.3	270.6
<b>Mining Stock Price Index</b>								
27 Stocks.....	122.7	125.0	125.3	124.8	127.6	92.0	121.5	125.7
22 Golds.....	75.9	75.5	74.3	74.3	75.7	64.9	75.9	75.0
5 Base Metals.....	229.7	238.3	242.1	240.3	246.3	154.0	226.0	241.8
<b>Government of Canada Long-Term Bonds - Yield Index<sup>1</sup></b> .....	96.0	96.0	96.4	96.7	97.3	97.9	95.7	96.6

1. Yield Indexes based on rates as of Wednesday of each week.

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

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