



PRICE MOVEMENTS

APRIL 1960

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (1949=100) The Consumer Price Index rose 0.5 per cent from 126.9 to 127.5 between March and April 1960. In April 1959 the index stood at 125.4. Although all five group indexes were higher in the current month, an increase of 1.3 per cent in the Food index accounted for most of the movement at the total level.

The Food index rose from 119.4 to 120.9 as price increases occurred for bread, eggs, citrus fruits, apples, potatoes and chicken. Beef and pork prices were generally lower, as were most imported fresh vegetables.

The Shelter index moved from 142.9 to 143.3, a rise of 0.3 per cent. The rent component was unchanged but the home-ownership component recorded a further increase.

An upward movement of 0.4 per cent in the Clothing index, from 110.4 to 110.8, reflected scattered price increases for some items of footwear and men's clothing, as well as items of women's clothing up from sale levels of previous months.

In the Household operation index, a fractional increase from 123.4 to 123.5 reflected somewhat higher prices for some appliances resulting from initial pricing of 1960 models, as well as furniture prices up from sale levels. These increases, combined with some price increases for household utensils and equipment, more than balanced lower prices for textiles.

A movement of 0.1 per cent in Other Commodities and Services, from 137.0 to 137.1, followed higher doctors' and dentists' fees. Price declines were limited to gasoline, bicycles and toilet soap.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
April 1960	127.5	120.9	143.3	110.8	123.5	137.1
March 1960	126.9	119.4	142.9	110.4	123.4	137.0
April 1959	125.4	119.3	140.5	109.6	122.6	133.7

8201-503-40

Prepared in Prices Division

(1)
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY) The prices of 30 industrial materials showed
 (1935-1939 = 100)

almost no change in April as the index edged 0.2 per cent down from 243.0 to 242.4 over the four-week period March 25th to April 22nd. Price declines for beef hides, cottonseed oil and hogs, were almost entirely offset by minor gains registered by 12 commodities, led by steers, domestic lead and zinc, wheat, and raw rubber. The slightly lower value of the Canadian dollar in relation to the United States dollar was reflected in minor price advances for commodities entering international trade.

The index of Canadian Farm Product prices at terminal markets edged 0.4 per cent higher in the same four-week period. The Field Products index rose 1.8 per cent reflecting price gains for potatoes and rye, Western flaxseed and Eastern corn, barley and hay. For Animal Products the index eased 0.5 per cent as declines for calves and hogs, chiefly on Eastern markets, and eggs and butterfat in the East, were almost balanced by gains for steers and lambs, the latter mainly in the East, and for poultry. The Eastern regional index was unchanged at 244.2 while the Western index moved up 0.9 per cent from 191.5 to 193.3.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1960 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Mar. 25th	Apr. 1st	Apr. 8th	Apr. 15th	Apr. 22nd	Apr. 1959	Mar. 1960	Apr. (P) 1960
Industrial Materials.....	243.0	242.9	242.8	242.9	242.4	240.4	240.4	242.8
Canadian Farm Products	217.9	219.4	218.2	218.8	218.8	217.3	213.6	218.8
Field	177.4	179.6	180.5	180.5	180.6	163.5	175.1	180.3
Animal.....	258.3	259.3	255.8	257.0	256.9	271.0	252.2	257.2

- (1) - All 1960 indexes subject to revision. Canadian Farm Products subsequent to July 1958 are subject to further major revisions as and when interim and/or final participation payments are announced for Western wheat, oats and barley.
 (P) - Preliminary, average of four weeks.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES: The Investors Index of 94 common stocks resumed its downward drift in the week of April 14th, for a net loss of

1.1 per cent over the four-week period March 31st to April 28th. Two major group indexes showed similar movements, 73 industrials registering a net loss of 1.3 per cent and 7 Banks a 1.2 per cent net loss, while the index for 14 Utilities turned down one week later for a net gain of 0.7 per cent. Four sub-groups declined, led by Oils (5.1 per cent) from 175.9 to 167.0, and Machinery and Equipment (3.5 per cent) from 690.2 to 665.9, while gains for 8 sub-groups, for the most part minor, were headed by Transportation (4.3 per cent) from 291.5 to 303.9, and Food and Allied Products (1.8 per cent) from 222.7 to 226.6.

The index of 28 Mining stocks fell 10.0 per cent over the four-weeks reviewed, reflecting losses of 16.2 per cent for 22 Golds and 2.9 per cent for 6 Base Metals.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1960 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Mar. 31st	Apr. 7th	Apr. 14th	Apr. 21st	Apr. 28th	Apr. 1959	Mar. 1960	Apr. (P) 1960
Investors' Price Index								
94 Common Stocks	247.0	252.4	251.4	246.8	244.4	265.8	242.3	248.8
73 Industrials.....	255.0	260.9	260.2	254.2	251.6	271.7	249.3	256.7
14 Utilities.....	186.1	188.0	188.9	188.6	187.4	201.3	184.5	188.2
7 Banks	307.4	315.8	308.6	308.1	303.8	357.1	305.8	309.1
Mining Stock Price Index								
28 Stocks.....	108.5	110.3	108.9	103.7	97.6	120.6	107.4	105.1
22 Golds	83.9	84.1	82.7	76.4	70.3	85.5	82.5	78.4
6 Base Metals	164.9	170.3	168.9	166.2	160.2	201.2	164.4	166.4

N.B. Enquiries concerning indexes in this release should be directed to the Prices Division.

(P) - Preliminary, average of four weeks.

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010751133