



PRICE MOVEMENTS

AUGUST 1960

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (1949=100) The Consumer Price Index advanced 0.3 per cent from 127.5 to 127.9 between July and August 1960. A year ago the index stood at 126.4.

The current movement was due largely to a 1.0 per cent increase in the Food index from 120.5 to 121.7 which approximated the usual July-August seasonal increase. The Shelter, Household Operation, and Other Commodities and Services indexes all edged up a fractional 0.1 per cent, with the Clothing index down 0.5 per cent.

In foods, higher prices were reported for eggs, beef, pork, bananas and oranges, with most domestic fruits and vegetables showing substantial seasonal declines.

The Shelter index moved from 143.9 to 144.0 with rents unchanged but the home-ownership component, reflecting 1960 property tax changes, moving to higher levels.

The Clothing index declined from 110.8 to 110.3, as mid-summer sale prices for women's and children's wear and some footwear, offset scattered price increases for cotton dress prints, boys' trousers and men's pyjamas.

The Household Operation index edged up to 123.1 from 123.0 on the strength of price increases for coal, linoleum, textiles and household supplies. Fuel oil prices were lower and August furniture sales were in evidence on a number of furniture items.

The Other Commodities and Services index increased from 137.6 to 137.7 as higher prices were reported for gasoline, taxi fares, some rail fares, newspapers and personal care items. The drug index was lower as substantial price decreases occurred on penicillin prescriptions.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Total Index	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services
August 1960	127.9	121.7	144.0	110.3	123.1	137.7
July 1960	127.5	120.5	143.9	110.8	123.0	137.6
August 1959	126.4	120.5	141.9	109.7	122.6	135.3

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Prepared in Prices Division

(1)
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY)
 (1935-1939 = 100)

The index of 30 industrial materials prices, again slightly weaker in August, eased 0.2 per cent over the three weeks July 29th to August 19th. Decreases occurred for 11 items led by raw rubber, fir timber, linseed oil, hogs, raw cotton and tin, while a sharp rise for rosin was followed by small increases for beef hides, oats and steers.

In the same period, the index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets moved 0.9 per cent lower. For Field Products the 4.0 per cent index decline reflected losses of 8.7 per cent in the East and 0.7 in the West. Potato prices fell sharply and small losses occurred for Western rye and Eastern oats, while Eastern corn, peas and barley showed slight gains. The Animal Products index rose 1.0 per cent reflecting price gains for eggs, chiefly in the East, and for steers and calves, which were largely offset by declines for hogs, both East and West, lambs and poultry in the East, and fluid milk in the West. Regional index declines were: Eastern 1.6 per cent from 238.5 to 234.7, and Western 0.1 per cent from 197.4 to 197.3.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1960 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	July 29th	Aug. 5th	Aug. 12th	Aug. 19th	Aug. 26th	Aug. 1959	July 1960	Aug. 1960 (P)
Industrial Materials.....	241.9	241.2	242.1	241.3	NOT AVAILABLE	242.6	240.5	241.5
Canadian Farm Products	217.9	216.2	216.1	216.0		222.0	221.8	216.1
Field	166.4	162.7	161.1	159.8		169.1	173.6	161.2
Animal.....	269.5	269.8	271.1	272.2		274.9	270.1	271.0

- (1) - All 1960 indexes are subject to revision. Canadian Farm Products subsequent to July 1959 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 three weeks.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:

The Investors Index of 93 common stock prices,

1935-1939 = 100, advanced 7.5 per cent in the four-week period July 28th to August 25th. Increases for major groups were: 7 Banks 8.1 per cent, 72 Industrials 7.8 per cent, and 14 Utilities 5.5 per cent. Eleven sub-group gains were led by Oils, up 13.0 per cent from 159.0 to 179.7; Milling and Grains, up 10.0 per cent from 181.1 to 199.2; and Machinery and Equipment, up 9.1 per cent from 619.5 to 676.0. One sub-group, Textiles and Clothing, moved against the trend to show a decline of 1.7 per cent from 182.9 to 179.8.

The index of 27 Mining stocks moved up 10.2 per cent in the period under review, reflecting increases of 14.3 per cent for 21 Golds, and 6.5 per cent for 6 Base Metals.

Four supplementary indexes on the base 1956 = 100 showed gains in the same period, as follows: Primary Oils and Gas, 12.3 per cent, Pipelines 10.4 per cent, Investment and Loan 7.6 per cent, and Uraniums 1.6 per cent.

Weekly Security Price Indexes

	1960 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	July 28th	Aug. 4th	Aug. 11th	Aug. 18th	Aug. 25th	Aug. 1959	July 1960	Aug. 1960
(1935 - 1939 = 100)								
Investors Price Index								
93 Common Stocks	238.7	239.9	247.5	253.0	256.7	274.6	243.6	249.3
72 Industrials	243.9	244.9	253.9	259.4	263.0	282.0	249.8	255.3
14 Utilities	185.7	187.2	190.9	192.5	196.0	199.8	187.3	191.6
7 Banks	309.8	311.9	314.9	329.7	335.0	373.7	311.5	322.9
Mining Stock Price Index								
27 Stocks	94.1	100.4	99.9	101.5	103.7	119.8	95.5	101.4
21 Golds	63.5	72.6	69.9	70.6	72.6	86.1	64.7	71.4
6 Base Metals	164.2	164.1	168.6	172.1	174.9	196.9	166.0	169.9
(1956 = 100)								
5 Pipelines	95.2	94.1	99.1	100.7	105.1	120.7	96.4	99.8
5 Investment and loan	117.8	119.0	122.6	125.0	126.7	134.7	119.2	123.3
7 Uraniums	55.2	54.7	54.7	54.9	56.1	84.3	55.4	55.1
9 Primary Oil and Gas	40.8	40.4	46.6	44.8	45.8	77.4	42.2	44.4

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