



PRICE MOVEMENTS

DECEMBER 1961

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:

(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.1 per cent from 129.7 to 129.8 between November and December 1961. For the year 1961, the index averaged 129.2, 0.9 per cent above the 1960 index of 128.0.

In the current period, increases in the component indexes for Food, Housing, and Health and Personal Care offset decreases in the Clothing and Transportation indexes. The Recreation and Reading, and Tobacco and Alcohol indexes were unchanged.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1961		
		December	November	October
All-Items	100	129.8	129.7	129.2
Food	27	124.5	123.6	123.3
Housing (2)	32	133.8	133.7	133.6
Clothing	11	113.7	114.0	113.6
Transportation	12	141.1	141.5	140.0
Health and Personal Care	7	156.8	156.7	155.3
Recreation and Reading	5	146.3	146.3	146.2
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	117.3	117.3	117.3

(1) Component weights indicate the relative importance of item groups.

(2) This index is composed of shelter and household operation.

The Food index rose 0.7 per cent from 123.6 to 124.5 as price increases occurred for beef, chicken, turkey and most fresh fruits and vegetables. Lower prices were reported for eggs, grapefruit, pork and powdered skim milk.

The Housing index increased 0.1 per cent from 133.7 to 133.8 with both the shelter and household operation components at slightly higher

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WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY)¹ (1935-1939=100) The price index of 30 Industrial Materials edged up 0.1 per cent in the three-week period December 1st to December 22nd. Prices for 8 commodities advanced and 7 declined, while 15 remained unchanged. Principal changes were increases for linseed oil, oats, raw rubber, bituminous coal, raw cotton, and cottonseed oil, and lower prices for hogs, sisal and raw sugar.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets eased 0.7 per cent. The Animal Products index declined 1.8 per cent reflecting price decreases for hogs and eggs on both markets and for steers and lambs in the West. Calves in the West, and butterfat on both markets showed moderate increases. The Field Products index rose 1.3 per cent, with higher prices for flax and rye in the West and for wheat, corn and potatoes in the East. Prices were lower for rye in the East and potatoes in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1961 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Dec. 29th	Dec. 22nd	Dec. 15th	Dec. 8th	Dec. 1st	Dec. (P) 1961	Nov. 1961	Dec. 1960
Industrial Materials.....	AVAILABLE	246.9	246.9	247.1	246.7	247.0	244.6	235.2
Canadian Farm Products	AVAILABLE	216.9	217.0	217.7	218.4	217.2	216.6	222.4
Field	AVAILABLE	160.5	159.8	158.9	158.5	159.7	158.2	169.8
Animal	AVAILABLE	273.3	274.2	276.5	278.2	274.7	275.0	275.0
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada.....	NOT AVAILABLE	234.2	234.0	234.4	234.8	234.2	233.6	239.7
Western Canada.....	NOT AVAILABLE	199.7	200.0	201.0	201.9	200.2	199.6	205.1

(1) - All 1961 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes from July 1960 are subject to revision as and when participation payments are announced for Western grains.

(P) - Preliminary, average of 3 weeks.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES: The Investors Index of common stocks, on the base 1935-39=100, moved up 2.8 per cent in the four-week period November 30th to December 28th, from 329.5 to a new high of 338.6. Increases for major groups were: Banks, 3.2 per cent, Industrials, 3.1 per cent and Utilities, 0.2 per cent. All-time highs were reached for Industrials at 353.1 in the fourth week, and for Banks at 439.4 in the third week. Indexes for seven sub-groups within Industrials advanced, led by Industrial Mines, up 6.9 per cent from 323.3 to a new high of 345.5, and Machinery and Equipment, up 4.6 per cent from 674.4 to 705.4, while two sub-groups declined, Milling and Grains down 5.3 per cent from 257.8 to 244.1 and Pulp and Paper down 0.5 per cent from 1,350.3 to 1,343.9. Two Utilities sub-groups moved higher with Power and Traction rising 1.7 per cent from 218.4 to 222.2 and Transportation 1.1 per cent from 332.1 to 335.9. Telephones declined fractionally.

The index of Mining Stocks, on the base 1935-39=100, declined 2.6 per cent reflecting a decrease of 6.3 per cent for Golds and an increase of 0.2 per cent for Base Metals.

Two of the supplementary indexes on the base 1956=100 showed gains while two declined as follows: Primary Oils and Gas, up 3.7 per cent; Pipelines, up 3.5 per cent; Uraniums, down 5.6 per cent; and Investment and Loan, down 5.5 per cent.

Weekly Security Price Indexes

	1961 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
	Dec. 28th	Dec. 21st	Dec. 14th	Dec. 7th	Nov. 30th	Dec. 1961	Nov. 1961	Dec. 1960
(1935 - 1939 = 100)								
Investors Price Index								
88 Common Stocks	338.6	332.0	331.0	331.6	329.5	333.3	326.3	260.2
Industrials (69)	353.1	344.9	343.2	344.5	342.5	346.4	339.3	268.0
Utilities (13)	232.6	229.9	232.6	234.0	232.2	232.3	230.7	193.0
Banks (6)	438.9	439.4	436.9	428.7	425.3	436.0	417.0	338.1
Mining Stock Price Index								
27 Stocks	140.8	138.7	139.8	138.0	144.6	139.3	138.2	108.5
Golds (21)	84.7	84.3	86.3	86.9	90.4	85.6	86.0	78.1
Base Metals (6)	269.1	263.1	262.2	255.1	268.6	262.4	257.6	178.2
(1956 = 100)								
5 Pipelines	154.7	152.6	155.5	156.3	149.4	154.8	149.2	109.7
5 Investment and loan	200.6	202.1	205.4	210.3	212.2	204.6	204.8	129.9
6 Uraniums	74.8	73.2	73.8	79.3	79.2	75.3	78.9	59.8
9 Primary Oil and Gas	73.0	72.7	73.6	70.5	70.4	72.4	66.7	40.8



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(1949=100)

levels. In shelter, the rent index was unchanged and the home-ownership index was up 0.3 per cent. In household operation, the increase of 0.1 per cent reflected higher prices for furniture, floor coverings and textiles.

The Clothing index declined 0.3 per cent from 114.0 to 113.7 as a result of lower prices for some items of men's, women's and children's wear, footwear and clothing services.

The Transportation index decreased 0.3 per cent from 141.5 to 141.1 due to lower gasoline prices in several cities.

The Health and Personal Care index increased 0.1 per cent from 156.7 to 156.8 as the health care component was up but the personal care component was unchanged. In health care, higher premiums in one province for prepaid medical care were responsible for the upward movement.

The Recreation and Reading, and Tobacco and Alcohol indexes were unchanged at 146.3 and 117.3 respectively.