

## DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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## PRICE MOVEMENTS

MARCH 1965

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:  
(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada at the beginning of March edged up to 137.3, 0.1 per cent higher than the February index of 137.2 and 2.0 per cent higher than the March 1964 index of 134.6. In the current period, indexes for four of the seven main components increased, with the greatest rise, 0.8 per cent, occurring in the Clothing index. The Transportation index was 0.5 per cent lower, while Health and Personal Care, and Recreation and Reading were unchanged.

## Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1965			1964
		March	February	January	March
All-Items	100	137.3	137.2	136.9	134.6
Food	27	133.3	133.1	132.5	131.3
Housing (2)	32	140.2	140.1	139.8	137.5
Clothing	11	120.4	119.5	119.2	118.6
Transportation	12	145.6	146.3	146.3	143.0
Health and Personal Care	7	174.6	174.6	174.4	165.4
Recreation and Reading	5	153.4	153.4	154.0	152.3
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	121.9	121.8	121.7	119.4

- (1) Component weights indicate the relative importance of item groups.  
 (2) This index is composed of shelter and household operation.

The Food index rose 0.2 per cent to 133.3 from 133.1 but price movements were mixed. Increases in prices from the previous month were reported for powdered skim milk, evaporated milk, ice cream, fats, eggs, most fresh and canned vegetables, apples, grapes, cookies, cake mix, peanut butter, pickles, most cuts of

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Prices Division

8201-503

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY)<sup>1</sup>  
(1935-1939 = 100)

The price index of 30 Industrial Materials calculated as an unweighted geometric average edged up 0.3 per cent from 257.7 to 258.4 in the four-week period February 26th to March 26th. Prices for seven commodities advanced and five declined, while eighteen remained unchanged. Principal changes included increases for raw sugar, tin, beef hides and raw rubber, and decreases for raw wool, sisal and linseed oil.

In the same four-week period the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets advanced 0.2 per cent from 224.7 to 225.1. The Animal Products index rose 1.0 per cent from 268.2 to 270.8 reflecting higher prices for lambs and eggs on both Eastern and Western markets, poultry and calves in the East, and hogs and steers in the West. Prices were lower for raw wool on both markets and for calves in the West. The Field Products index declined 1.0 per cent from 181.2 to 179.4 as prices were lower for oats, potatoes and barley in the East and for rye in the West. Prices were higher for peas in the East and for hay and potatoes in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1965 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Mar. 26th	Mar. 19th	Mar. 12th	Mar. 5th	Feb. 26th	Mar. (P) 1965	Feb. 1965	Mar. 1964
Industrial Materials .....	258.4	258.2	258.2	257.6	257.7	258.2	255.3	257.1
Canadian Farm Products .....	225.1	225.0	224.6	224.5	224.7	225.0	224.9	215.1
Field .....	179.4	180.3	180.9	181.4	181.2	180.3	182.1	164.7
Animal .....	270.8	269.7	268.4	267.7	268.2	269.7	267.7	265.6
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada .....	243.2	243.3	244.2	244.3	244.5	243.3	244.9	227.8
Western Canada .....	207.0	206.7	205.0	204.7	204.8	206.7	204.8	202.4

1 - All 1964 and 1965 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes subsequent to July 1963 are subject to revision as and when participation payments are announced for Western grains.

(P) - Preliminary.

**SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:**

(1956 = 100)

The Investors Index of common stock prices, on the base 1956=100, increased 1.0 per cent from 178.6 to 180.4 in the four-week period February 25th to March 25th. Among the three major groups, Industrials advanced 1.9 per cent from 183.2 to 186.6, Utilities declined 1.0 per cent from 171.8 to 170.0 and Finance eased 0.7 per cent from 164.5 to 163.3. Within Industrials, indexes for nine sub-groups advanced and four declined. Gains were headed by Foods up 5.1 per cent from 206.3 to 216.9, Printing and Publishing up 4.7 per cent from 370.6 to 387.9 and Industrial Mines up 4.3 per cent from 187.6 to 195.7, while losses were led by Metal Fabricating down 2.8 per cent from 150.1 to 145.9. Within Utilities, four of the five sub-groups declined led by Transportation down 5.7 per cent from 215.5 to 203.3. Electric Power increased 3.7 per cent from 125.4 to 130.0. Both sub-groups in Finance showed decreases with Banks down 1.0 per cent from 152.8 to 151.3 and Investment and Loan down 0.3 per cent from 186.5 to 185.9.

The index of Mining stock prices declined 0.9 per cent from 119.5 to 118.4, reflecting a decrease of 1.4 per cent for Golds from 139.7 to 137.8 and 0.6 per cent for Base Metals from 108.4 to 107.7.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, Primary Oils and Gas advanced 1.7 per cent from 93.3 to 94.9 and Uraniums declined 5.2 per cent from 118.9 to 112.7.

**Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)**

	Number of Stocks Priced	1965 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
		Mar. 25th	Mar. 18th	Mar. 11th	Mar. 4th	Feb. 25th	Mar. 1965	Feb. 1965	Mar. 1964
<b>Investors Price Index:</b>									
Total Index .....	114	180.4	180.9	179.4	179.1	178.6	180.0	177.8	147.1
Industrials .....	80	186.6	186.6	184.4	183.6	183.2	185.3	182.0	149.3
Utilities .....	20	170.0	172.1	171.9	172.5	171.8	171.6	172.0	140.8
Finance <sup>1</sup> .....	14	163.3	164.6	164.1	165.0	164.5	164.2	164.9	144.2
Banks .....	6	151.3	153.1	151.4	152.8	152.8	152.2	152.8	134.4
<b>Mining Stock Price Index:</b>									
Total Index .....	24	118.4	118.3	119.9	119.5	119.5	119.0	117.6	96.4
Golds .....	16	137.8	136.9	139.9	142.0	139.7	139.2	138.0	107.6
Base Metals .....	8	107.7	108.1	108.9	107.1	108.4	108.0	106.5	90.2
<b>Supplementary Indexes:</b>									
Uraniums .....	6	112.7	108.4	108.6	109.1	118.9	109.7	114.0	90.4
Primary Oils and Gas .....	6	94.9	98.0	95.9	95.8	93.3	96.2	91.8	72.2

<sup>1</sup> Composed of Banks and Investment and Loan.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (Continued from Page 1)

beef and pork, and turkey. Prices decreased for sugar, jam, grapefruit, bananas, canned and frozen orange juice, and chicken.

The Housing index increased 0.1 per cent to 140.2 from 140.1. The shelter component rose fractionally with higher prices for repairs while rentals remained unchanged. The household operation component increased slightly as prices of furniture and carpets rose from last month's sales levels. Prices for some household supplies also advanced slightly.

The Clothing index advanced 0.8 per cent to 120.4 from 119.5 as widespread price increases were reported for men's, women's and children's wear, footwear, laundry and shoe repairs. Lower prices occurred for rayon dress material, men's and boys' undershirts and boys' flannelette sport shirts.

The Transportation index dropped 0.5 per cent to 145.6 from 146.3, reflecting a decrease in the automobile operation component. Generally lower prices for new cars and some decreases for gasoline and tires outweighed price increases for licenses, repairs, motor oil, and batteries.

The Health and Personal Care index was unchanged at 174.6 despite a slight decrease in the personal care supplies component.

The Recreation and Reading index was unchanged at 153.4. The reading component was unchanged and lower prices for television repair in four cities, which outweighed increases in five cities, were not sufficient to move the recreation component.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index rose 0.1 per cent to 121.9 from 121.8 as higher prices for liquor in Quebec increased the alcoholic beverages component. An increase in the price of cigarette tobacco did not move the tobacco component.

NOTE

For comprehensive detail on these and other price statistics, see Prices and Price Indexes (Monthly), Catalogue No. 62-002.

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