

## DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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## PRICE MOVEMENTS

DECEMBER 1966

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:  
(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada advanced 0.3 per cent to 145.9 at the beginning of December from 145.5 at the beginning of November. The December index was 3.6 per cent above the level for the corresponding month a year earlier when it stood at 140.8. In the current period, three main component indexes for Food, Health and Personal Care, and Tobacco and Alcohol remained unchanged; three others for Housing, Transportation, and Recreation and Reading showed increases while the Clothing component recorded a slight decrease.

## Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1966			1965
		December	November	October	December
All-Items	100	145.9	145.5	145.3	140.8
Food	27	144.7	144.7	145.6	139.6
Housing (2)	32	147.2	146.6	146.1	142.4
Clothing	11	129.7	129.8	129.2	123.8
Transportation	12	152.6	151.1	151.1	148.8
Health and Personal Care	7	184.5	184.5	182.7	177.9
Recreation and Reading	5	161.5	161.3	159.2	155.4
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	126.5	126.5	126.4	122.3

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

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

The Food index in December at 144.7 was unchanged from November. Price decreases were recorded for such items as bread, sugar, infants' food, instant coffee, most fats, some vegetables including lettuce, pork, lamb and all

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

The price index of 30 Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average, decreased 0.2 per cent to 255.6 from 256.2 in the three-week period December 2nd to December 23rd, 1966. Prices declined for nine commodities, advanced for three, and remained unchanged for eighteen. Principal changes included lower prices for hogs, raw sugar, raw wool and raw rubber. Higher prices were shown for steers and beef hides.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets declined 0.3 per cent to 248.3 from 249.0. The Field Products index advanced 0.5 per cent to 173.6 from 172.7 showing higher prices for tobacco, oats, corn and wheat on the Eastern market and for hay and rye in the West. Prices were lower for potatoes in the East. The Animal Products index moved down 0.8 per cent to 322.9 from 325.4 reflecting lower prices for hogs, eggs and raw wool on both Eastern and Western markets and for lambs in the East. Higher prices were shown for calves and steers on both markets and for poultry in the East.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1966 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes			
	Dec. 30th	Dec. 23rd	Dec. 16th	Dec. 9th	Dec. 2nd	Dec. (P) 1966	Nov. 1966	Dec. 1965	
Industrial Materials .....	A V A I L A B L E	255.6	256.4	256.7	256.2	256.4	255.6	261.3	
Canadian Farm Products .....		248.3	249.2	250.5	249.0	249.2	247.0	246.7	
Field .....		173.6	172.9	172.9	172.7	172.9	172.1	173.2	
Animal .....		322.9	325.5	328.0	325.4	325.5	321.9	320.3	
Regional Indexes:		N O T							
Eastern Canada .....			275.2	276.7	277.0	275.2	276.7	274.1	271.0
Western Canada .....	221.4		221.7	224.0	222.9	221.7	219.9	222.5	

1 - All 1966 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes subsequent to July 1965 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 increased 1.4 per cent to 154.7 from 152.5 in the four-week period November 24th to December 22nd. In the three major groups, Industrials and Utilities increased 2.1 per cent and 0.3 per cent respectively, the former to 162.3 from 158.9 and the latter to 148.5 from 148.1, and Finance decreased 1.3 per cent to 125.1 from 126.8. Within Industrials, indexes for ten of the thirteen sub-groups increased. Gains ranged from 6.4 per cent for Textiles and Clothing to 0.4 per cent for Non-Metallic Minerals, the former to 265.4 from 249.5 and the latter to 124.4 from 123.9. Decreases were led by Construction down 8.7 per cent to 61.9 from 67.8. In Utilities, indexes for four sub-groups increased and one decreased. Gas Distribution, registering the highest increase, moved up 2.6 per cent to 302.6 from 294.8. Electric Power declined 3.5 per cent to 123.3 from 127.8. In Finance, both sub-groups decreased with Investment and Loan down 2.3 per cent to 130.1 from 133.1 and Banks down 0.8 per cent to 122.3 from 123.3.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices rose 1.2 per cent to 95.5 from 94.4 as Golds increased 3.2 per cent to 116.1 from 112.5 and Base Metals eased 0.4 per cent to 84.2 from 84.5.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, Primary Oils and Gas advanced 14.3 per cent to 152.6 from 133.5 and Uraniums decreased 1.6 per cent to 189.6 from 192.7.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

	Number of Stocks Priced	1966 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
		Dec. 22nd	Dec. 15th	Dec. 8th	Dec. 1st	Nov. 24th	Dec. (P) 1966	Nov. 1966	Dec. 1965
<b>Investors Price Index:</b>									
Total Index .....	114	154.7	154.6	156.5	152.6	152.5	154.6	152.4	173.8
Industrials .....	80	162.3	162.0	163.7	159.0	158.9	161.8	158.8	179.0
Utilities .....	20	148.5	149.1	151.4	148.0	148.1	149.2	147.0	174.4
Finance <sup>1</sup> .....	14	125.1	125.7	127.6	126.9	126.8	126.3	127.9	147.5
Banks .....	6	122.3	122.1	123.4	122.8	123.3	122.6	123.3	136.3
<b>Mining Stock Price Index:</b>									
Total Index .....	24	95.5	95.0	95.7	94.5	94.4	95.2	96.9	110.1
Golds .....	16	116.1	116.9	117.7	114.8	112.5	116.4	114.8	127.0
Base Metals .....	8	84.2	83.0	83.7	83.3	84.5	83.6	87.2	100.9
<b>Supplementary Indexes:</b>									
Uraniums .....	6	189.6	190.1	192.8	187.0	192.7	189.9	198.4	141.4
Primary Oils and Gas .....	6	152.6	156.9	156.0	139.3	133.5	151.2	130.9	100.0

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

(P) Preliminary.



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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (Continued from Page 1)  
(1949=100)

cuts of beef except sirloin steak, round steak and blade roast. Offsetting higher prices were reported for eggs, corn flakes, macaroni, bananas, apples, frozen fruits and vegetables, cabbage, tomatoes and poultry.

The Housing index advanced 0.4 per cent to 147.2 from 146.6 as a result of increases in both the shelter and household operation components. Rents and property taxes edged up and price rises for repairs, fuel, some furniture items, textiles, and most utensils and equipment were also recorded. Prices were slightly lower for household supplies and floor coverings.

The Clothing index decreased 0.1 per cent to 129.7 from 129.8. December sale prices were reported for several items of men's, women's and children's wear, with higher prices recorded for footwear and piece goods. In clothing services, increases in prices for laundry and shoe repairs were offset by lower prices for dry cleaning.

The Transportation index rose 1.0 per cent to 152.6 from 151.1 in November, reflecting an increase in the automobile operation component. Initial prices of new 1967 passenger car models were higher than year-end prices of 1966 models. Slight price increases were also shown for gasoline, motor oil and chassis lubrication.

The Health and Personal Care index remained unchanged from November at 184.5.

The Recreation and Reading index at 161.5 was 0.1 per cent higher than the previous month's index of 161.3, reflecting a general rise in the price of toys and an increase in two cities in the price of newspapers.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index was unchanged at 126.5 for December.

NOTE

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

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