

PRICE MOVEMENTS

MAY 1966

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:

(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada edged up 0.1 per cent to 143.4 at the beginning of May 1966 from 143.2 at the beginning of April. The May index was 3.9 per cent higher than the May 1965 index of 138.0. Six of the seven main component indexes advanced with changes ranging from 1.0 per cent for Recreation and Reading to 0.1 per cent for Food and Tobacco and Alcohol. The Clothing index declined fractionally.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1966			1965
		May	April	March	May
All-Items	100	143.4	143.2	142.4	138.0
Food	27	143.8	143.7	143.4	134.5
Housing (2)	32	144.2	143.8	143.3	140.5
Clothing	11	125.0	125.3	124.2	121.0
Transportation	12	151.1	150.7	150.0	146.8
Health and Personal Care	7	180.7	179.2	178.1	175.6
Recreation and Reading	5	159.2	157.6	156.6	154.6
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	125.1	125.0	123.4	122.5

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

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

The Food index increased 0.1 per cent to 143.8 from 143.7. Price movements for food were mixed with higher prices for fresh fruits, most fresh vegetables, dairy products including butter, margarine, bakery products, tea, instant coffee, frozen orange juice, honey and lamb. Offsetting lower prices were recorded for beef, fresh and cured pork, veal, turkey, chicken, eggs, celery and tomatoes.

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

The price index of 30 Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average, moved up 0.5 per cent to 266.8 from 265.6 in the four-week period April 29th to May 27th, 1966. Prices advanced for seven commodities, declined for seven and remained unchanged for sixteen. Principal changes included increases for hogs and cottonseed oil, and decreases for sisal, raw sugar, tin, domestic lead and linseed oil.

In the same four-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products rose 3.0 per cent to 256.0 from 248.6. The Animal Products index advanced 4.3 per cent to 326.3 from 312.9 due to higher prices for hogs and butterfat on both markets, for poultry in the East and for calves, lambs and fluid milk in the West. Prices were lower for eggs on both markets and for raw wool in the West. The Field Products index rose 0.8 per cent to 185.7 from 184.2 reflecting price increases for potatoes and corn in the Eastern market. Prices were lower for hay on both markets, for oats in the East and potatoes in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1966 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	May 27th	May 20th	May 13th	May 6th	Apr. 29th	May (P) 1966	Apr. 1966	May 1965
Industrial Materials	266.8	267.1	266.2	266.2	265.6	266.2	264.7	258.5
Canadian Farm Products	256.0	255.8	252.6	250.1	248.6	252.6	250.8	245.5
Field	185.7	186.6	185.5	184.6	184.2	185.5	185.0	214.2
Animal	326.3	325.0	319.7	315.5	312.9	319.7	316.5	276.8
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	285.7	286.3	283.1	278.8	276.2	283.1	279.9	255.7
Western Canada	226.3	225.4	222.1	221.3	220.9	222.1	221.7	235.3

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 declined 4.0 per cent from 176.5 to 169.5 in the four-week period April 28th to May 26th. Indexes for all three major groups decreased, headed by Industrials down 4.6 per cent from 184.2 to 175.8 followed by Utilities down 3.2 per cent from 171.0 to 165.6 and by Finance down 1.6 per cent from 145.9 to 143.6. Within Industrials, indexes for twelve sub-groups decreased and one increased. Decreases ranged from 7.7 per cent for Primary Metals to 0.1 per cent for Non-metallic Minerals, the former from 138.5 to 127.8 and the latter from 144.1 to 144.0. Metal Fabricating increased 2.4 per cent from 148.0 to 151.6. In Utilities, indexes for the five sub-groups decreased. The downward trend was led by Electric Power moving down 6.9 per cent from 166.3 to 154.8 followed by Telephone down 4.3 per cent from 129.9 to 124.3. In Finance, Investment and Loan declined 5.1 per cent from 162.1 to 153.9 and Banks edged up 0.6 per cent from 137.3 to 138.1.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices decreased 5.7 per cent from 121.1 to 114.2 reflecting decreases of 8.0 per cent for Base Metals and 2.4 per cent for Golds, the former from 112.4 to 103.4 and the latter from 137.1 to 133.8.

Both supplementary price indexes decreased with Primary Oils and Gas down 7.3 per cent from 107.3 to 99.5 and Uraniums down 2.9 per cent from 181.1 to 175.9.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

	Number of Stocks Priced	1966 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
		May 26th	May 19th	May 12th	May 5th	Apr. 28th	May 1966	Apr. 1966	May 1965
Investors Price Index:									
Total Index	114	169.5	168.9	170.0	173.2	176.5	170.4	177.6	183.7
Industrials	80	175.8	175.7	177.3	180.6	184.2	177.4	185.2	190.7
Utilities	20	165.6	163.8	163.8	167.3	171.0	165.1	172.4	173.2
Finance ¹	14	143.6	142.3	142.2	144.3	145.9	143.1	147.0	162.7
Banks	6	138.1	135.5	134.3	136.2	137.3	136.0	138.8	149.8
Mining Stock Price Index:									
Total Index	24	114.2	113.1	114.6	118.5	121.1	115.1	121.2	116.0
Golds	16	133.8	132.7	132.5	136.9	137.1	134.0	137.4	130.2
Base Metals	8	103.4	102.3	104.8	108.4	112.4	104.7	112.3	108.3
Supplementary Indexes:									
Uraniums	6	175.9	166.4	170.6	176.8	181.1	172.4	170.9	134.8
Primary Oils and Gas	6	99.5	99.6	101.9	104.6	107.3	101.4	110.4	108.9

¹ Composed of Banks and Investment and Loan.



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

The Housing index rose 0.3 per cent to 144.2 from 143.8. The shelter component was slightly higher as a result of increased rent and home-ownership prices. The household operation component remained unchanged as lower prices for textiles, utensils and equipment, and household supplies were offset by higher prices for furniture, electricity and telephone rates.

The Clothing index fell 0.2 per cent to 125.0 from 125.3 as a result of sales in men's, women's and children's wear, and piece goods. Price increases were reported for footwear.

The Transportation index advanced 0.3 per cent, to 151.1 from 150.7, reflecting price increases for gasoline, motor oil, new automobiles and train fares.

The Health and Personal Care index at 180.7 was 0.8 per cent higher than the April index of 179.2. The personal care component rose 2.2 per cent as widespread increases were reported for men's haircuts and women's hairdressing, while personal care supplies moved up slightly. The health care component advanced fractionally with increased prices for pharmaceuticals.

The Recreation and Reading index rose 1.0 per cent to 159.2 from 157.6, as price increases for theatre admission, camera film, bicycles and toys moved the recreation component up 1.4 per cent.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index edged up 0.1 per cent to 125.1 from 125.0 as a result of scattered increases for cigarettes and tobacco.

NOTE

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

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