

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Minister of Trade and Commerce

Vol. 45 No. 3

Price: 10 cents, \$1.00 a year

PRICE MOVEMENTS

MARCH 1967

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:
(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada advanced 0.3 per cent to 146.5 at the beginning of March from 146.1 in February. The March 1967 index was 2.9 per cent higher than the March 1966 level of 142.4. In the current period all components except Food showed increases. The Food component recorded a decrease.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1967			1966
		March	February	January	March
All-Items	100	146.5	146.1	146.0	142.4
Food	27	143.3	144.1	144.9	143.4
Housing (2)	32	148.4	147.7	147.6	143.3
Clothing	11	130.8	129.1	128.6	124.2
Transportation	12	155.6	155.0	153.0	150.0
Health and Personal Care	7	185.2	185.1	184.9	178.1
Recreation and Reading	5	163.7	163.6	161.9	156.6
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	127.5	126.8	126.5	123.4

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

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

The Food index in March declined 0.6 per cent to 143.3 from 144.1 in February. Lower prices were recorded for bread, some cereal products, coffee, tea, margarine, eggs, oranges, canned and frozen orange juice, raisins, canned pears and apple juice. Price declines were also noted for potatoes, cabbage, celery and lettuce, several cuts of beef, bacon, cottage roll and other meats including lamb, veal, wieners and meat loaf. Prices were higher for most dairy

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Prices Division

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

The price index of 30 Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average, decreased 0.7 per cent to 253.7 from 255.6 in the three-week period March 3rd to March 24th, 1967. Prices declined for eleven commodities, advanced for three and remained unchanged for sixteen. Principal changes included decreases for hogs, beef hides, raw sugar, steers, raw wool, raw rubber and tin. Higher prices were shown for sisal, linseed oil and structural shapes.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets declined 1.1 per cent to 244.1 from 246.8. The Animal Products index moved down 1.8 per cent to 315.5 from 321.2 reflecting lower prices for hogs and raw wool on both Eastern and Western markets and for lambs, steers and poultry in the East. Higher prices were shown for eggs and calves on both markets. The Field Products index advanced 0.2 per cent to 172.7 from 172.4 as a result of higher prices for tobacco and barley on the Eastern market and for flax and hay on the Western market. Prices were lower for potatoes, corn and hay in the East.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1967 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes			
	Mar. 31st	Mar. 24th	Mar. 17th	Mar. 10th	Mar. 3rd	Mar. (P) 1967	Feb. 1967	Mar. 1966	
Industrial Materials	A V A I L A B L E	253.7	254.0	254.5	255.6	254.0	253.8	263.9	
Canadian Farm Products		244.1	243.8	246.6	246.8	243.8	248.3	267.0	
Field		172.7	172.5	172.6	172.4	172.5	173.8	214.7	
Animal		315.5	315.1	320.6	321.2	315.1	322.9	319.2	
Regional Indexes:		N O T							
Eastern Canada			268.5	268.4	270.9	273.3	268.4	275.1	280.2
Western Canada	N	219.7	219.3	222.4	220.2	219.3	221.6	253.7	

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 rose 1.5 per cent to 174.1 from 171.5 in the four-week period March 2nd to March 30th. Indexes for all three major groups advanced as Utilities increased 2.5 per cent to 168.4 from 164.3, followed by Industrials and Finance, both moving up 1.3 per cent, the former to 180.7 from 178.3 and the latter to 149.2 from 147.3. In Utilities, indexes for the five sub-groups increased. Gains ranged from 4.6 per cent for Pipelines to 0.1 per cent for Telephone, the former to 175.9 from 168.2 and the latter to 120.3 from 120.2. Within Industrials, indexes for seven sub-groups increased and six decreased. Increases were led by Printing and Publishing up 8.8 per cent to 582.9 from 535.6, while decreases were headed by Primary Metals down 3.8 per cent to 112.1 from 116.5. In Finance, the Bank index moved up 3.0 per cent to 147.7 from 143.4, and the Investment and Loan index decreased 1.9 per cent to 151.5 from 154.4.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices declined 3.3 per cent to 98.4 from 101.8, reflecting decreases of 3.6 per cent for Golds to 116.0 from 120.3, and 3.2 per cent for Base Metals to 88.8 from 91.7.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, Uraniums advanced 7.5 per cent to 208.5 from 193.9 and Primary Oils and Gas moved up 5.6 per cent to 166.9 from 158.1.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

	Number of Stocks Priced	1967 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
		Mar. 30th	Mar. 22nd	Mar. 16th	Mar. 9th	Mar. 2nd	Mar. 1967	Feb. 1967	Mar. 1966
Investors Price Index:									
Total Index	114	174.1	171.0	169.8	170.5	171.5	171.4	168.8	175.0
Industrials	80	180.7	176.5	175.1	176.3	178.3	177.4	176.3	181.8
Utilities	20	168.4	166.4	166.2	165.4	164.3	166.1	160.9	172.5
Finance ¹	14	149.2	149.7	148.0	148.5	147.3	148.5	141.8	144.9
Banks	6	147.7	148.3	145.9	146.5	143.4	146.4	136.8	136.9
Mining Stock Price Index:									
Total Index	24	98.4	98.3	98.3	99.6	101.8	99.3	103.1	116.3
Golds	13	116.0	117.4	117.2	118.1	120.3	117.8	123.0	136.2
Base Metals	11	88.8	87.9	88.0	89.5	91.7	89.2	92.2	105.4
Supplementary Indexes:									
Uraniums	6	208.5	209.6	207.6	200.0	193.9	203.9	189.5	151.8
Primary Oils and Gas	6	166.9	156.5	153.6	158.0	158.1	158.6	154.3	112.5

¹ Composed of Banks and Investment and Loan.



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

products, flour, cookies and cake mix, sugar, most fresh fruits except oranges, root vegetables, tomatoes, canned corn, pork rib chops and shoulder roast, and poultry.

The Housing index advanced 0.5 per cent to 148.4 in March from 147.7 in February as a result of general increases in both the shelter and household operation components.

The Clothing index in March rose 1.3 per cent to 130.8 from 129.1 in February. Increases were recorded in most items of men's, women's and children's wearing apparel, piece goods and clothing services.

The Transportation index rose 0.4 per cent to 155.6 in March from 155.0 in February. Scattered price increases for new automobiles, and advances in the prices of automobile repairs, tires, and Montreal taxi fares contributed to this rise.

The Health and Personal Care index edged upward 0.1 per cent to 185.2 from 185.1 in February reflecting slightly higher prices for toilet soap and some other personal care items.

The Recreation and Reading index moved up fractionally 0.1 per cent to 163.7 in March from 163.6 in the previous month. Small increases in prices reported for bicycles and television repairs moved the recreation component upwards while the reading component remained unchanged.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index rose 0.6 per cent to 127.5 from 126.8 in February, reflecting increased prices for cigarettes and tobacco in some cities and for beer and alcohol in Saskatchewan.

NOTE

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

Price: \$4.00 Per Year; Single Copies 40 Cents