

PRICE MOVEMENTS

AUGUST 1967

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:
(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada increased 0.5 per cent to 150.9 at the beginning of August from 150.2 in July. The August 1967 index was 4.1 per cent above the August 1966 level of 144.9. The advance between July and August was largely attributable to higher food prices which moved the Food index up by 1.8 per cent. Slight increases were recorded in the main component indexes for Housing, Health and Personal Care, Recreation and Reading, and Tobacco and Alcohol, while the Clothing and Transportation indexes declined fractionally.

Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	1967			1966
		August	July	June	August
All-Items	100	150.9	150.2	148.8	144.9
Food	27	151.2	148.5	144.8	148.1
Housing (2)	32	152.2	151.9	151.2	145.0
Clothing	11	132.3	132.5	132.5	124.8
Transportation	12	158.0	158.3	158.2	150.6
Health and Personal Care	7	191.9	191.5	190.7	181.3
Recreation and Reading	5	167.9	167.8	167.1	159.6
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	128.6	128.1	128.1	125.1

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

The Food index in August advanced 1.8 per cent to 151.2 from 148.5 in July, reflecting higher prices for a number of basic food items. Egg prices, which increased substantially over the preceding month, accounted for about

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Prices Division

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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, decreased 0.8 per cent to 253.2 from 255.3 in the four-week period July 28th to August 25th. Prices declined for seven commodities, advanced for six and remained unchanged for seventeen. Principal changes included lower prices for beef hides, raw sugar, raw rubber, tin and raw wool. Higher prices were shown for oats, steers and raw cotton.

In the same four-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets increased 3.5 per cent to 259.7 from 251.0. The Field Products index moved up 7.1 per cent to 189.2 from 176.6 reflecting higher prices for wheat, barley, oats and potatoes on the Western market. Lower prices were shown for corn, oats and barley in the East and rye in the West. The Animal Products index increased 1.5 per cent to 330.2 from 325.4 as a result of higher prices for steers and fluid milk on both markets and for eggs and poultry in the East and hogs and calves in the West. Decreases were shown for lambs and raw wool on both markets and for calves and hogs in the East.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1967 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Aug. 25th	Aug. 18th	Aug. 11th	Aug. 4th	July 28th	Aug. (P) 1967	July 1967	Aug. 1966
Industrial Materials	253.2	254.0	254.4	255.4	255.3	254.0	253.0	260.6
Canadian Farm Products	259.7	260.3	260.0	258.4	251.0	260.3	250.1	244.8
Field	189.2	190.8	190.9	189.8	176.6	190.8	175.2	170.9
Animal	330.2	329.8	329.2	327.0	325.4	329.8	325.0	318.6
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	279.6	281.3	281.0	278.9	279.9	281.3	277.5	267.0
Western Canada	239.8	239.3	239.1	237.9	222.1	239.3	222.7	222.5

1 - All 1967 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes subsequent to July 1966 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 eased 0.1 per cent to 179.1 from 179.2 in the four-week period July 27th to August 24th. Among the three major groups, Utilities decreased 1.6 per cent to 173.6 from 176.4; Finance edged up 0.4 per cent to 146.1 from 145.5, closely followed by Industrials up 0.3 per cent to 187.3 from 186.7. In Utilities, indexes for four sub-groups decreased and one increased. Decreases ranged from 4.7 per cent for Transportation to 0.5 per cent for Electric Power, the former to 217.4 from 228.2 and the latter to 139.9 from 140.6. Gas Distribution increased 2.2 per cent to 373.6 from 365.4. In Finance, indexes for both sub-groups increased as Banks rose 0.5 per cent to 147.2 from 146.5 and Investment and Loan edged up 0.2 per cent to 143.4 from 143.1. Within Industrials, indexes for seven sub-groups increased and six decreased. Gains ranged from 6.9 per cent for Textiles and Clothing to 0.1 per cent for Chemicals, the former to 224.8 from 210.3 and the latter to 123.3 from 123.2. Pulp and Paper, registering the largest decrease, moved down 3.4 per cent to 129.7 from 134.2, closely followed by Primary Metals down 3.1 per cent to 107.1 from 110.5.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices increased 2.8 per cent to 103.8 from 101.0, as Golds advanced 4.4 per cent to 135.6 from 129.9 and Base Metals increased 1.5 per cent to 86.4 from 85.1.

Both supplementary price indexes decreased with Uraniums down 3.4 per cent to 249.8 from 258.7 and Primary Oils and Gas down 1.9 per cent to 204.4 from 208.4.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

	Number of Stocks Priced	1967 Week Ended					Monthly Average		
		Aug. 24th	Aug. 17th	Aug. 10th	Aug. 3rd	July 27th	Aug. (P) 1967	July 1967	Aug. 1966
Investors Price Index:									
Total Index	114	179.1	181.7	182.4	182.0	179.2	181.3	177.5	160.8
Industrials	80	187.3	190.6	190.9	190.3	186.7	189.8	185.2	167.3
Utilities	20	173.6	176.0	177.4	177.0	176.4	176.0	175.2	157.7
Finance ¹	14	146.1	145.7	147.0	147.8	145.5	146.6	142.6	132.2
Banks	6	147.2	147.0	147.3	148.9	146.5	147.6	142.8	126.7
Mining Stock Price Index:									
Total Index	24	103.8	105.4	103.9	103.1	101.0	104.0	100.0	115.0
Golds	13	135.6	137.4	134.1	134.4	129.9	135.4	128.2	143.0
Base Metals	11	86.4	87.8	87.3	86.0	85.1	86.9	84.5	99.6
Supplementary Indexes:									
Uraniums	6	249.8	254.7	262.7	263.8	258.7	257.8	261.5	197.5
Primary Oils and Gas	6	204.4	207.7	200.8	202.4	208.4	203.8	190.8	108.0

¹ Composed of Banks and Investment and Loan.

(P) Preliminary.



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

one-third of the rise in the total food index. Lesser, though appreciable, advances were recorded in beef and poultry prices. The price of bread rose by over 3 per cent, though most other bakery and cereal products were only fractionally higher in price. Most dairy products including butter, cheese and ice cream registered minor price increases but the price of fresh milk remained unchanged. Fresh fruits, with the exception of peaches and grapes, were higher in price as were a miscellaneous group of grocery items including coffee, tea and soft drinks. Sugar, on the other hand, declined in price. Pork prices, too, were marginally lower, as was the case for most fats and oils (excluding butter). Fresh vegetable prices were mixed, with substantial decreases in lettuce, tomatoes and cabbage outweighing increases in potatoes, carrots and onions.

The Housing index rose 0.2 per cent to 152.2 in August from 151.9 in July, largely as a result of general rent increases and adjustments to the cost of insurance on dwellings and on household contents. Increases in the price of detergents, floor wax and other household supply items were offset by lower prices for furniture, floor coverings and household textiles.

The Clothing index declined 0.2 per cent to 132.3 in August from 132.5 in July. Minor increases for most men's wear items and all footwear items were more than offset by generally lower prices for women's and children's wear.

The Transportation index decreased 0.2 per cent to 158.0 in August from 158.3 in the preceding month, reflecting marginally lower prices for new cars and for gasoline at scattered locations.

The Health and Personal Care index rose 0.2 per cent to 191.9 in August from 191.5 in July mainly on the strength of generally higher prices for a range of personal care supplies.

The Recreation and Reading index edged up 0.1 per cent to 167.9 in August from 167.8 in July. Increases in admissions to sporting events and higher bicycle prices were chiefly responsible.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index increased 0.4 per cent to 128.6 in August from 128.1 in July due to scattered price increases for cigarettes, tobacco and beer.

NOTE

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

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