

## PRICE MOVEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 1968

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:  
(1949=100)

The Consumer Price Index rose by 0.3 per cent to 156.4 in September from 156.0 in August. The September 1968 index was 3.8 per cent above its corresponding level of 150.7 in September 1967. Although the Food index declined by 0.4 per cent in the latest month, the Housing index rose by 0.8 per cent to more than offset this decline. In addition, fractional increases were recorded in the components for clothing, transportation, and for health and personal care. The Recreation and Reading index advanced by 0.9 per cent, while the Tobacco and Alcohol component remained unchanged from the previous month.

## Consumer Price Indexes (1949=100)

	Component Weights (1)	Index			Per Cent Change	
		1968		1967	Sept. 1968 From	
		Sept.	Aug.	Sept.	Aug. 1968	Sept. 1967
ALL-ITEMS	100	156.4	156.0	150.7	+ 0.3	+ 3.8
Food	27	153.0	153.6	148.5	- 0.4	+ 3.0
Housing (2)	32	159.6	158.4	152.6	+ 0.8	+ 4.6
Clothing	11	136.4	135.7	134.7	+ 0.5	+ 1.3
Transportation	12	162.2	161.8	158.4	+ 0.2	+ 2.4
Health and Personal Care	7	199.6	199.1	191.4	+ 0.3	+ 4.3
Recreation and Reading	5	176.8	175.2	168.7	+ 0.9	+ 4.8
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	141.1	141.1	128.6	-	+ 9.7

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

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WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES (WEEKLY)<sup>1</sup>

(1935-1939 = 100)

The price index of Thirty Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average, advanced 0.4 per cent to 256.9 from 255.8 in the three-week period August 30th to September 20th. Prices increased for six commodities, decreased for two and were unchanged for twenty-two. Principal changes included increases for tin, raw wool, raw rubber, beef hides and raw sugar, while prices for hogs at Toronto decreased.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets declined 0.8 per cent to 264.1 from 266.2. The Field Products index moved down 2.0 per cent to 182.4 from 186.2 reflecting lower prices for potatoes on both Eastern and Western markets and for flax in the West. Prices were higher for corn and barley in the East and for rye in the West. The Animal Products index declined 0.1 per cent to 345.9 from 346.2 on price decreases for hogs on both Eastern and Western markets, for lambs in the East, and steers in the West. Higher prices were shown for eggs and fluid milk on both markets, and for lambs, raw wool and calves in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1968 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Sept. 27th	Sept. 20th	Sept. 13th	Sept. 6th	Aug. 30th	Sept. <sup>(P)</sup> 1968	Aug. 1968	Sept. 1967
Industrial Materials .....	A V A I L A B L E	256.9	255.8	255.4	255.8	255.8	254.2	251.2
Canadian Farm Products .....		264.1	263.5	263.4	266.2	263.5	265.0	258.6
Field .....		182.4	183.2	183.6	186.2	183.2	189.2	186.1
Animal .....		345.9	343.8	343.3	346.2	343.8	340.8	331.2
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada .....	N O T	282.3	281.2	281.3	284.5	281.2	284.4	275.6
Western Canada .....		246.0	245.8	245.6	247.9	245.8	245.6	241.6

1 - All 1968 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes subsequent to July 1967 are subject to revision as and when participation payments are announced for Western grains.

(P) - Preliminary.



**SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:**  
 (1956=100)

During the four-week period August 29th to September 26th, the Investors Index rose 5.0 per cent to reach an all-time high. Indexes for the major groups, Industrials and Finance, also reached record levels. Within Industrials, all sub-groups rose except Printing and Publishing, five of them by more than ten per cent. Utilities rose 6.5 per cent, with all sub-groups rising by similar amounts, and Banks again rose sharply, leading the Finance group to an 8.4 per cent rise. In the six-month period, from the end of March, the Investors Index has risen 22.6 per cent. The biggest gains have been Construction, 74.5 per cent, and Textiles and Clothing 52.4 per cent, but four other sub-groups have risen by more than forty per cent during that time, Metal Fabricating (45.8), Non-metallic Minerals (49.4), Banks (44.5) and Investment and Loan (45.4).

The Mining index rose 4.0 per cent, as it did during the previous month. Base Metals again rose by over five per cent and have risen 15.1 per cent in the last six months. By contrast, the Gold index has only risen 0.6 per cent.

Both supplementary indexes rose, with Primary Oils and Gas reaching an all-time high after rising 38.1 per cent during the last six months.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956=100)

Index and numbers of stocks priced	Week ended					% change from Aug. 29th	Monthly average		
	Sept. 26th	Sept. 19th	Sept. 12th	Sept. 5th	Aug. 29th		Sept. 1968	Aug. 1968	Sept. 1967
<b>Investors Price Index</b> ..... 114	191.8	190.3	185.2	183.9	182.6	+ 5.0	187.8	180.8	181.0
<b>Industrials</b> ..... 80	197.1	195.2	191.2	190.6	189.5	+ 4.0	193.5	187.9	190.4
Industrial mines..... 4	198.6	193.0	189.8	191.5	193.4	+ 2.7	193.2	195.1	203.0
Foods..... 11	244.5	245.2	238.5	231.9	233.8	+ 4.6	240.0	230.8	216.7
Beverages..... 7	295.5	300.6	288.6	284.1	284.4	+ 3.9	292.2	277.8	249.0
Textiles and clothing..... 5	184.5	167.5	161.8	172.0	160.6	+14.9	171.4	152.5	229.5
Pulp and paper..... 7	122.7	118.4	115.0	111.3	108.9	+12.7	116.8	107.3	130.0
Printing and pub..... 4	649.8	648.0	655.0	663.6	672.1	- 3.3	654.1	675.6	739.7
Primary metals..... 8	104.2	102.3	98.7	97.4	90.8	+14.8	100.6	91.2	108.8
Metal fabricating..... 9	135.6	134.2	132.6	128.3	122.8	+10.4	132.7	123.9	117.7
Non-metallic minerals..... 4	124.0	124.6	122.9	116.4	110.0	+12.7	122.0	109.7	122.4
Petroleum..... 7	192.0	192.8	187.7	190.7	189.6	+ 1.3	190.8	183.4	165.1
Chemicals..... 4	123.6	122.0	121.0	120.2	115.7	+ 6.8	121.7	112.8	122.6
Construction..... 4	101.2	98.0	95.8	96.9	92.9	+ 8.9	98.2	88.0	65.3
Retail trade..... 6	315.3	315.7	312.1	307.0	312.2	+ 1.0	312.5	306.9	273.5
<b>Utilities</b> ..... 20	178.0	177.6	171.2	168.5	167.1	+ 6.5	173.8	164.9	173.4
Pipelines..... 5	197.8	197.7	190.5	185.5	185.9	+ 6.4	192.9	181.2	196.6
Transportation..... 4	215.5	215.0	204.9	202.1	202.2	+ 6.6	209.4	197.9	206.3
Telephone..... 3	108.5	110.4	109.8	108.3	104.5	+ 3.8	109.2	104.2	111.9
Electric power..... 3	138.6	134.5	130.0	129.4	127.6	+ 8.6	133.1	126.1	142.8
Gas distribution..... 5	441.8	440.2	413.8	406.8	409.9	+ 7.8	425.6	407.0	383.7
<b>Finance</b> ..... 14	185.5	182.5	173.9	171.1	169.3	+ 8.4	177.8	167.3	145.1
Banks..... 6	191.7	191.5	179.3	176.0	174.6	+ 9.8	184.6	175.2	146.6
Investment and loan..... 8	167.1	164.6	163.0	161.0	158.6	+ 5.4	163.9	151.3	141.8
<b>Mining Stock Price Index</b> ..... 24	114.4	112.0	110.8	108.7	110.0	+ 4.0	111.5	107.7	105.1
Golds..... 13	160.7	159.1	155.9	153.9	157.0	+ 2.4	157.4	154.5	135.9
Base metals..... 11	89.0	86.2	86.1	83.9	84.3	+ 5.6	86.3	82.0	88.3
<b>Grain Price Index</b> ..... 4	268.5	266.9	259.1	256.9	260.4	+ 3.1	262.8	258.9	272.1
<b>Primary Oils and Gas</b> ..... 6	246.9	243.7	235.8	230.9	230.0	+ 7.3	239.3	218.2	216.6



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

The Food index declined by 0.4 per cent to 153.0 in September from 153.6 in August, with seasonally lower prices for fresh produce items chiefly responsible for the decrease. Notably lower quotations were recorded for potatoes, carrots, cabbage, tomatoes, and apples. Among staple items, the price of fresh milk increased by almost three per cent due to substantial rises in all major Ontario cities. Bread, butter and margarine, on the other hand, remained virtually unchanged in price. Egg prices rose markedly to reach a level twenty-five per cent higher than in July; however, September prices were approximately the same as the average of all the September levels in the previous ten years. Meat prices increased by 2.9 per cent, with pork, in particular, rising by eight per cent to reach its highest level since November 1966. Beef and turkey prices also increased, while quotations for chicken were marginally lower. The September 1968 Food index was 3.0 per cent higher than its level of September 1967.

The Housing index advanced by 0.8 per cent to 159.6 in September from 158.4 in August. Among home-ownership costs, mortgage interest rates were higher than at the beginning of the year, and prices of new houses and repairs also increased. Rents also rose generally, with the largest increases occurring in Calgary, Saskatoon and Winnipeg. Prices for furniture, carpets and some household textiles, were higher, reflecting the removal of mid-summer sales on many of these items. The September 1968 Housing index was 4.6 per cent above its level of September 1967.

The Clothing index increased by 0.5 per cent to 136.4 in September from 135.7 in August. Higher prices for most women's outerwear, footwear and clothing services, outweighed lower prices for men's wear, especially men's suits. The Clothing index stood at the identical level as at June 1968, and was 1.3 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The Transportation component edged up by 0.2 per cent to 162.2 in September from 161.8 a month earlier. The price of new tires rose by about five per cent, while automobile repair and maintenance costs increased by a lesser amount. Among local transportation costs, higher bus fares were recorded for Kingston, Kitchener and Hull. These increases were partially offset by seasonally lower rail fares. The Transportation index was 2.4 per cent above its level of twelve months ago.

The Health and Personal Care index increased by 0.3 per cent to 199.6 in September from 199.1 in August. Most of the increase was attributable to a substantial rise in the price of men's haircuts in Vancouver. Quotations for toiletries were also marginally higher in a number of cities. The Health and Personal Care index was 4.3 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Recreation and Reading index advanced by 0.9 per cent to 176.8 in September from 175.2 in the preceding month. Subscription prices for some magazines were increased, while television repairs in many cities were more expensive. The Recreation and Reading index was 4.8 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index remained unchanged. At its September 1968 level of 141.1, this index was 9.7 per cent higher than at September 1967.

NOTE

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

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