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PRICE MOVEMENTS

JANUARY 1969

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (1961=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada increased by 0.2 per cent to 122.6 in January from 122.3 in December. The latest monthly movement brought the January 1969 index to a level 3.8 per cent above that for January 1968. In the latest month, all main components of the index registered increases with the exception of that for clothing, which declined in response to January sales, and for Tobacco and Alcohol, which was unchanged. The rise was led by advances of 0.5 per cent and 0.7 per cent, respectively, in the relatively important Food and Housing components.

Consumer Price Indexes (1961=100)

	Component Weights (1)	Index			Per Cent Change	
		1969	1968		Jan. 1969 From	
		Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	Dec. 1968	Jan. 1968
ALL-ITEMS	100	122.6	122.3	118.1	+ 0.2	+ 3.8
Food	27	125.1	124.5	121.3	+ 0.5	+ 3.1
Housing (2)	32	121.9	121.0	116.1	+ 0.7	+ 5.0
Clothing	11	121.5	123.4	118.6	- 1.5	+ 2.4
Transportation	12	116.3	115.7	113.8	+ 0.5	+ 2.2
Health and Personal Care	7	129.5	129.4	124.7	+ 0.1	+ 3.8
Recreation and Reading	5	124.2	123.3	116.5	+ 0.7	+ 6.6
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	121.3	121.3	117.2	-	+ 3.5

ALL-ITEMS Consumer Price Index Converted to 1949=100, January 1969 158.4

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

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Prices Division

8201-503

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

The price index of Thirty Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average, advanced 1.3 per cent to 263.6 from 260.1 in the four-week period January 3rd to January 31st. Prices were higher for eleven commodities, lower for six and unchanged for thirteen. Principal changes included price increases for linseed oil, raw rubber, domestic copper, beef hides, hogs, domestic lead, domestic zinc, raw wool and tin, while decreases were shown for steel scrap, unbleached sulphite pulp, and raw sugar.

In the same four-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets advanced 0.6 per cent to 265.7 from 264.1. The Animal Products index moved up 0.7 per cent to 346.0 from 343.6 on price increases for lambs and hogs on both Eastern and Western markets, for poultry in the East and for calves and raw wool in the West. Lower prices were shown for eggs on both markets and for steers in the West. The Field Products index rose 0.4 per cent to 185.4 from 184.7 on higher prices for potatoes on both Eastern and Western markets, for corn, hay and wheat in the East and for flax and rye in the West. Lower prices were shown for hay in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1969 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Jan. 31st	Jan. 24th	Jan. 17th	Jan. 10th	Jan. 3rd	Jan. (P) 1969	Dec. 1968	Jan. 1968
Industrial Materials	263.6	262.8	263.3	260.2	260.1	263.3	258.9	253.5
Canadian Farm Products	265.7	264.5	264.2	264.2	264.1	264.2	264.4	253.0
Field	185.4	185.7	185.4	186.1	184.7	185.4	183.8	189.6
Animal	346.0	343.4	343.0	342.2	343.6	343.0	345.0	316.3
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	287.6	286.2	285.7	286.1	285.4	285.7	284.8	274.0
Western Canada	243.7	242.9	242.7	242.2	242.8	242.7	244.0	231.9

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.

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PRICE MOVEMENTS

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Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for January 1969 this statistical series, which had formerly been produced on a 1949 time base, is being calculated and published on a time reference base of 1961=100. A table showing the Consumer Price Index for Canada and its major components for the period 1961 to 1968, on the time base 1961-100, is provided overleaf. A more extensive range of historical 1961-based Consumer Price Index data will appear in the January 1969 issue of the monthly publication Prices and Price Indexes (Catalogue No. 62-002) and similar information is also available on request from the Prices Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

The revision in reference year is in keeping with the DBS policy of periodically up-dating indexes to more current periods and the selection of 1961 as the base will bring Consumer Price Indexes into conformity with other important indexes already published on this time base. Consumer price movements remain unaltered as a result of this arithmetic conversion of the base year and no changes in weighting patterns reflecting the content and relative importance of items in the C.P.I. are being introduced at this time.

In view of the discontinuation of 1949 as a time reference period, it is recommended that users employ the 1961-based indexes in future contractual arrangements and other uses. For the convenience of those requiring the Consumer Price Index for Canada on the 1949 base, the Canada All-Items index only is being published monthly on both the 1961 and the 1949 base, for an interim period. The C.P.I. on a 1949 base is derived by arithmetic conversion of the 1961-based index. Users requiring the index on a 1949 time reference base should advise the Prices Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, on the length of period for which the 1949-based index will be needed.

8201-503

The Consumer Price Index for Canada and Main Components, 1961-68

(1961=100)

	All- Items	Food	Housing	Cloth- ing	Trans- portation	Health and Personal Care	Recreation and Reading	Tobacco and Alcohol
1961	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1962	101.2	101.8	101.2	100.9	99.9	102.0	100.8	101.3
1963	103.0	105.1	102.3	103.4	99.9	104.0	102.2	101.5
1964	104.8	106.8	103.9	106.0	101.0	108.9	103.9	103.4
1965	107.4	109.6	105.8	107.9	104.8	113.0	105.6	105.1
1966	111.4	116.6	108.7	112.0	107.3	116.5	108.6	107.6
1967	115.4	118.1	113.4	117.6	111.8	122.5	114.1	110.4
1968	120.1	122.0	118.6	121.1	114.7	127.4	119.7	120.4
1967 - Jan. ..	113.0	116.9	110.8	114.3	108.8	119.1	110.8	108.8
Feb. ..	113.1	116.2	110.9	114.8	110.2	119.2	112.0	109.0
Mar. ..	113.4	115.6	111.4	116.3	110.7	119.3	112.0	109.6
Apr. ..	114.4	116.1	112.7	117.2	111.7	122.3	112.4	109.8
May ...	114.6	115.9	113.0	117.2	111.8	123.0	114.0	110.0
June ..	115.2	116.8	113.5	117.8	112.5	122.8	114.4	110.1
July ..	116.3	119.8	114.0	117.8	112.6	123.3	114.9	110.1
Aug. ..	116.8	121.9	114.3	117.6	112.4	123.6	114.9	110.6
Sept. ..	116.6	119.8	114.6	119.7	112.7	123.2	115.5	110.6
Oct. ..	116.5	119.2	114.9	118.8	112.3	124.4	115.9	110.6
Nov. ..	116.9	119.4	115.2	119.6	112.3	124.8	116.7	110.7
Dec. ..	117.5	119.8	115.5	119.7	113.5	124.8	116.2	114.4
1968 - Jan. ..	118.1	121.3	116.1	118.6	113.8	124.7	116.5	117.2
Feb. ..	118.2	120.8	116.7	119.1	113.2	125.1	117.6	117.3
Mar. ..	118.6	119.9	117.1	120.5	114.0	125.1	118.1	119.0
Apr. ..	119.3	120.8	117.6	121.2	114.4	126.9	117.8	121.2
May ...	119.3	120.1	117.9	120.7	114.5	127.4	119.2	121.3
June ..	119.7	120.5	118.3	121.2	115.1	127.4	119.2	121.3
July ..	120.4	122.5	118.8	121.0	115.1	128.0	119.6	121.3
Aug. ..	120.7	123.9	118.9	120.6	115.1	128.2	119.9	121.3
Sept. ..	121.1	123.4	119.8	121.2	115.4	128.5	121.0	121.3
Oct. ..	121.4	122.9	120.3	122.8	114.9	129.0	121.4	121.3
Nov. ..	121.9	123.4	120.9	123.4	115.7	129.4	123.3	121.3
Dec. ..	122.3	124.5	121.0	123.4	115.7	129.4	123.3	121.3

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES:

(1956 = 100)

The Investors Index of common stock prices edged up 0.1 per cent to a record high of 204.2 in the four-week period January 2nd to January 30th. This was due to the movement of Industrials which rose 1.5 per cent to an all-time high of 211.4, while Utilities and Finance showed decreases of 1.4 per cent and 5.0 per cent respectively. Within Industrials, indexes for ten sub-groups increased and three decreased. Movements varied widely; Pulp and Paper rose 15.4 per cent, and Textiles and Clothing, Metal Fabricating and Construction also rose more than five per cent, but on the other hand Foods fell 7.1 per cent, and Retail Trade 4.9 per cent. In Utilities, indexes for one sub-group increased and four decreased. Transportation rose 2.8 per cent, while decreases ranged from 0.3 per cent for Pipelines to 3.7 per cent for Telephone. In Finance, Banks dropped 7.1 per cent while Investment and Loan edged up 0.7 per cent.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices rose 3.4 per cent to an all-time high of 128.0. Golds reached a record high of 177.0 and Base Metals advanced 7.1 per cent to its highest point in two years.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, Uraniums showed a decrease of 0.5 per cent while Primary Oils and Gas reached a record high of 290.3.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

Index and numbers of stocks priced	Week ended					% change from Jan. 30th	Monthly average		
	Jan. 30th	Jan. 23rd	Jan. 16th	Jan. 9th	Jan. 2nd		Jan. 1969	Dec. 1968	Jan. 1968
Investors Price Index 114	204.2	204.1	203.4	199.9	204.0	+ 0.1	203.1	201.5	174.4
Industrials 80	211.4	209.9	209.1	204.7	208.2	+ 1.5	208.7	205.2	185.2
Industrial mines 4	216.7	211.0	212.6	210.1	213.7	+ 1.4	212.8	203.7	214.6
Foods 11	229.6	232.0	241.3	244.3	247.1	- 7.1	238.9	243.3	205.6
Beverages 7	315.1	310.6	314.9	305.3	313.2	+ 0.6	311.8	310.8	247.9
Textiles and clothing 5	174.4	163.7	161.8	160.2	161.6	+ 7.9	164.3	169.0	172.6
Pulp and paper 7	155.6	153.2	143.1	135.5	134.8	+ 15.4	144.4	133.0	104.8
Printing and pub. 4	750.4	751.1	752.6	752.4	758.2	- 1.0	752.9	747.6	673.6
Primary metals 8	113.7	115.7	111.6	107.3	110.6	+ 2.8	111.8	109.0	94.9
Metal fabricating 9	163.5	161.3	156.1	150.5	155.9	+ 4.9	157.5	157.7	106.0
Non-metallic minerals 4	138.8	131.4	125.6	127.2	128.3	+ 8.2	130.3	131.4	98.7
Petroleum 7	193.6	197.1	199.3	190.3	193.1	+ 0.3	194.7	193.7	178.6
Chemicals 4	130.1	128.2	125.0	122.5	125.8	+ 3.4	126.3	121.2	100.4
Construction 4	117.1	119.1	109.4	108.6	109.9	+ 6.6	112.8	109.2	63.7
Retail trade 6	270.5	270.0	272.2	278.8	284.5	- 4.9	275.2	289.8	273.3
Utilities 20	181.0	181.8	182.1	179.9	183.6	- 1.4	181.7	184.9	162.3
Pipelines 5	195.8	194.3	196.3	194.5	196.4	- 0.3	195.5	192.6	181.1
Transportation 4	252.7	252.0	247.4	238.6	245.7	+ 2.8	247.3	250.2	181.3
Telephone 3	108.9	110.3	110.4	110.9	113.1	- 3.7	110.7	114.0	104.8
Electric power 3	136.3	137.1	140.0	137.5	140.7	- 3.1	138.3	144.2	129.6
Gas distribution 5	427.9	434.0	432.4	428.8	438.1	- 2.3	432.2	442.7	392.4
Finance 14	199.7	204.9	203.7	202.5	210.2	- 5.0	204.2	205.2	137.4
Banks 6	215.6	223.1	223.4	223.4	232.1	- 7.1	223.5	224.6	141.9
Investment and loan 8	168.3	169.1	164.9	161.5	167.2	+ 0.7	166.2	167.1	128.3
Mining Stock Price Index 24	128.0	127.3	126.2	123.4	123.8	+ 3.4	125.7	121.1	111.6
Golds 13	171.1	172.6	177.0	170.6	171.9	- 0.5	172.6	170.6	163.2
Base metals 11	104.4	102.5	98.3	97.6	97.5	+ 7.1	100.1	94.0	83.4
Uraniums Price Index 4	246.4	239.8	248.7	247.2	247.6	- 0.5	245.9	251.7	276.5
Primary Oils and Gas 6	290.3	281.8	271.5	261.9	282.6	+ 2.7	277.6	272.4	228.1



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THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: (Continued from Page 1)
(1961=100)

The Food index increased by 0.5 per cent to 125.1 in January from 124.5 in December, with higher prices for restaurant meals and for food consumed at home both contributing to the rise. Home consumed meat, fish and poultry items, on average, were higher in price since the preceding month. Similarly, most fresh produce items registered increases, although imported citrus fruits and tomatoes recorded marked declines. Milk and butter remained unchanged in price, while other staple goods including flour, sugar, and eggs increased since December. Among the items with high sugar content that registered price increases in the latest month were jams, chocolate bars, soft drinks and jelly powders. Bread and margarine, on the other hand, were two important items that showed price declines from the preceding month. The January 1969 Food index was 3.1 per cent higher than its level of January 1968.

The Housing index advanced by 0.7 per cent to 121.9 in January from 121.0 in December. Among the factors contributing to a 1.6 per cent rise in home-ownership costs were higher prices for new houses and increases in mortgage interest rates. Rents, on the other hand, edged up by only 0.2 per cent since the preceding month. Not included in the shelter component was the effect of property tax rebates in Ontario and similar grants in some western provinces. Among the household operation items, mid-winter sales somewhat reduced the price level of furniture, floor coverings and household textiles. Household supplies, by contrast, moved up fractionally. Wage rates for domestic help increased markedly, attaining a level over fifty per cent higher than in 1961. At its January 1969 level of 121.9 the Housing index was 5.0 per cent higher than twelve months earlier.

The Clothing index declined by 1.5 per cent to 121.5 in January from 123.4 in the preceding month, largely due to the usual January clearance sales on these items. Prices of men's suits and overcoats dropped by over five per cent, on average, as did some major items of women's wear, notably winter coats, wool dresses and suits. Sale prices were also recorded in the children's clothing and in the footwear categories. The January Clothing index stood at a level 2.4 per cent higher than twelve months previous.

The Transportation component increased by 0.5 per cent to 116.3 in January from 115.7 in December. Prices for new automobiles and gasoline remained virtually unchanged with seasonally higher train fares accounting for most of the rise in the latest month. The Transportation index was 2.2 per cent higher than its corresponding level a year earlier.

The Health and Personal Care index edged up by 0.1 per cent to 129.5 in January from 129.4 a month earlier as a result of slightly higher prices for toiletries. The latest month's level was 3.8 per cent higher than twelve months ago.

The Recreation and Reading index rose by 0.7 per cent to 124.2 in January from 123.3 in the preceding month. Increased prices were registered for phonograph records, televisions and some Montreal newspapers, while lower quotations were recorded for table radios. The January 1969 Recreation and Reading index was 6.6 per cent above its corresponding level a year earlier.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index was unchanged from its December 1968 level of 121.3 and stood 3.5 per cent higher than its level of January 1968.