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PRICE MOVEMENTS

JULY 1969



THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:
(1961=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada rose by 0.4 per cent to 126.4 in July from 125.9 in June. The July 1969 index stood 5.0 per cent above its level of July 1968. Most of the latest month's increase was attributable to a 0.8 per cent rise in the Food index, and to a 0.4 per cent increase in the Housing index. Among other goods and services, substantially increased tobacco taxes in Alberta accounted for a 0.4 per cent upward movement in the Tobacco and Alcohol component. Transportation prices edged up by 0.1 per cent, while sale prices on selected apparel items helped reduce the Clothing index by a similar amount. The indexes for health and personal care and for recreation and reading were unchanged.

Consumer Price Index and Main Components (1961=100)

	Component Weights (1)	Index			Per Cent Change	
		1969		1968	July 1969 From	
		July	June	July	June 1969	July 1968
ALL-ITEMS	100	126.4	125.9	120.4	+ 0.4	+ 5.0
Food	27	128.8	127.8	122.5	+ 0.8	+ 5.1
Housing (2)	32	125.2	124.7	118.8	+ 0.4	+ 5.4
Clothing	11	124.8	124.9	121.0	- 0.1	+ 3.1
Transportation	12	120.7	120.6	115.1	+ 0.1	+ 4.9
Health and Personal Care	7	134.2	134.2	128.0	-	+ 4.8
Recreation and Reading	5	127.4	127.4	119.6	-	+ 6.5
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	126.3	125.8	121.3	+ 0.4	+ 4.1

ALL-ITEMS Consumer Price Index Converted to 1949=100 163.3

(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 0.2 per cent to 270.2 from 269.6 in the three-week period July 4th to July 25th. Prices were higher for five commodities, lower for nine and unchanged for sixteen. Principal changes included increases for steel scrap, unbleached sulphite pulp, raw rubber, tin and raw wool, while decreases were recorded for beef hides, oats, hogs, raw sugar, steers, raw cotton and cottonseed oil.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets declined 0.6 per cent to 276.3 from 277.9. The Animal Products index declined 1.3 per cent to 366.3 from 371.0 reflecting price decreases for lambs, steers and calves on both Eastern and Western markets. Higher prices were shown for eggs on both markets, and for hogs and raw wool in the West. The Field Products index moved up 0.7 per cent to 186.2 from 184.9 with higher prices for potatoes on both markets, and for flax and hay in the West. Lower prices were shown for barley, hay, wheat and corn on the Eastern market and for rye in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1969 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes			
	Aug. 1st	July 25th	July 18th	July 11th	July 4th	July (P) 1969	June 1969	July 1968	
Industrial Materials	A V A I L A B L E	270.2	270.5	269.6	269.6	270.5	270.6	253.4	
Canadian Farm Products		276.3	278.8	279.0	277.9	278.8	282.6	267.0	
Field		186.2	186.0	184.6	184.9	186.0	183.5	201.0	
Animal		366.3	371.6	373.4	371.0	371.6	381.7	333.1	
Regional Indexes:		N O T							
Eastern Canada			298.2	300.2	299.6	297.6	300.2	303.5	283.4
Western Canada		254.3	257.4	258.5	258.2	257.4	261.7	250.6	

1 - All 1969 indexes are subject to revision. For Canadian Farm Products, indexes subsequent to July 1968 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 continued its downward trend as it decreased 7.1 per cent to 184.1 in the four-week period July 3rd to July 31st. Indexes for all three major groups continued to fall, with Industrials down 7.5 per cent to 189.3, Utilities down 5.2 per cent to 172.3, and Finance down 7.8 per cent to 173.9. Within Industrials, Metal Fabricating, Petroleum, and Textiles and Clothing registered the largest losses of 16.8, 11.4, and 10.4 per cent respectively. In Utilities, decreases ranged from 3.5 per cent for Gas Distribution to 7.7 per cent for Electric Power. In Finance, Banks dropped 7.9 per cent to 180.0, closely followed by Investment and Loan down 7.7 per cent to 161.4.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices fell 11.9 per cent to 101.2 as Golds fell 18.7 per cent and Base Metals dropped 6.4 per cent.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, both Uraniums and Primary Oils and Gas registered substantial losses of 12.6 per cent and 18.4 per cent respectively.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 - 100)

Index and numbers of stocks priced	Week ended					% change from July 3rd	Monthly average		
	July 31st	July 24th	July 17th	July 10th	July 3rd		July 1969	June 1969	July 1968
Investors Price Index 114	184.1	185.8	189.4	190.0	198.2	- 7.1	189.5	198.3	181.8
Industrials 80	189.3	190.5	194.3	195.1	204.6	- 7.5	194.8	204.4	189.4
Industrial mines 4	192.1	188.9	190.1	194.5	206.6	- 7.0	194.4	204.8	198.4
Foods 10	230.5	232.5	234.2	231.4	234.8	- 1.8	232.7	230.1	225.3
Beverages 7	298.3	302.0	306.2	302.2	312.3	- 4.5	304.2	319.2	277.4
Textiles and clothing 5	140.7	144.0	150.8	148.0	157.0	-10.4	148.1	158.1	162.1
Pulp and paper 7	135.4	138.6	140.6	141.6	146.3	- 7.5	140.5	147.4	112.0
Printing and pub. 4	728.5	732.5	742.7	742.5	764.2	- 4.7	742.1	757.0	689.5
Primary metals 8	95.2	96.7	100.3	99.0	103.9	- 8.4	99.0	104.0	93.7
Metal fabricating 9	128.4	132.4	139.8	145.5	154.4	-16.8	140.1	151.1	130.3
Non-metallic minerals 4	121.5	122.9	123.6	125.7	128.8	- 5.7	124.5	134.0	107.0
Petroleum 7	169.1	171.9	177.4	176.6	190.9	-11.4	177.2	189.5	176.1
Chemicals 4	109.0	111.5	111.4	112.9	113.0	- 3.5	111.6	122.8	116.5
Construction 4	93.8	96.8	95.7	99.5	103.6	- 9.5	97.9	109.2	82.9
Retail trade 7	249.0	248.4	256.8	257.0	267.8	- 7.0	255.8	267.4	308.6
Utilities 20	172.3	175.6	178.4	178.4	181.7	- 5.2	177.3	182.8	166.5
Pipelines 5	177.3	181.2	183.4	182.8	186.8	- 5.1	182.3	189.0	179.8
Transportation 4	236.2	237.1	243.3	242.6	252.9	- 6.6	242.4	254.8	197.1
Telephone 3	108.1	112.0	112.6	112.4	112.1	- 3.6	111.4	114.2	106.8
Electric power 3	133.1	134.9	138.1	138.4	144.2	- 7.7	137.7	141.6	128.3
Gas distribution 5	409.3	415.4	422.5	424.3	424.2	- 3.5	419.1	427.1	414.0
Finance 14	173.9	175.6	179.4	180.3	188.6	- 7.8	179.6	188.6	164.5
Banks 6	180.0	183.5	185.2	186.2	195.4	- 7.9	186.1	193.6	174.8
Investment and loan 8	161.4	159.8	167.6	168.2	174.8	- 7.7	166.4	178.1	144.0
Mining Stock Price Index 24	101.2	108.4	113.1	112.7	114.9	-11.9	110.1	117.5	105.4
Golds 6	119.7	136.2	146.0	145.9	147.2	-18.7	139.0	154.1	151.5
Base metals 18	91.0	93.2	95.0	94.5	97.2	- 6.4	94.2	97.4	80.1
Uraniums Price Index 4	140.6	149.9	151.8	154.5	160.8	-12.6	151.5	172.7	271.8
Primary Oils and Gas 6	238.4	245.7	266.6	268.0	292.2	-18.4	262.2	291.0	209.4



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

The Food index advanced by 0.8 per cent to 128.8 in July from 127.8 in June. The increase in the level of food prices since June was less than normally expected during this period; much of the seasonal increase was recorded in last month's 2.2 per cent advance. A major factor contributing to the latest month's increase was notably higher prices for restaurant meals. Some items of food consumed in the home also moved up moderately. While beef prices were 4.0 per cent lower than in June, they still remained about eight per cent higher than in May. Other meats registered generally increased prices since June: pork rose 2.3 per cent and poultry was 0.9 per cent higher. Among produce items, the price of potatoes rose by thirteen per cent reflecting current marketing of "new" crops. Marked advances also were registered for celery, turnips, onions, apples and grapefruit, while the introduction of local tomatoes resulted in a fourteen per cent decrease in this item. Bakery and cereal products registered a 0.7 per cent price rise as reflected in increases for bread, cake, doughnuts, and macaroni. While fresh milk prices were unchanged, other dairy products including ice cream and cheese recorded higher quotations. Price levels for butter, margarine, and eggs each declined marginally since June. The July Food index was 5.1 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The Housing index rose by 0.4 per cent to 125.2 from 124.7 in the preceding month. Increased mortgage interest rates in the latest month were chiefly responsible for a 0.6 per cent upward movement in home-ownership costs, while rents increased by 0.4 per cent in the same period. Higher wages for domestic help, together with increased prices for broadloom, household textiles, utensils and supplies contributed to a 0.4 per cent increase in household operation costs. Electricity prices were higher in Saint John, Hamilton and Halifax with the increase in the latter city being attributable to a new service tax. The July Housing index stood 5.4 per cent above its level of a year earlier.

The Clothing index declined by 0.1 per cent to 124.8 in July from 124.9 a month earlier. Sale prices on a few selected apparel items outweighed a number of minor increases, but for the most part men's and women's wear items were unchanged in price. Footwear prices edged up by 0.2 per cent, while quotations for piece goods were marginally lower. The July Clothing index was 3.1 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Transportation index edged up by 0.1 per cent to 120.7 in July from 120.6 in June. This marginal increase was attributable mainly to seasonally higher train fares. There was no change in automobile operation costs, as slightly lower new car prices were offset by higher quotations for gasoline and motor oil in a number of cities. The Transportation index was 4.9 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The Health and Personal Care index remained unchanged at its June level of 134.2. Lower prices for toilet soap offset increases for toothpaste, razor blades, and cleansing tissues. The Health and Personal Care index stood 4.8 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Recreation and Reading component also remained stable in the latest month. Price declines for radios, televisions and phonograph records were counterbalanced by increased prices for bicycles and subscription rates for some Calgary newspapers. At a level of 127.4, the July Recreation and Reading index was 6.5 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index moved up by 0.4 per cent to 126.3 in July from 125.8 a month earlier, with the entire increase being attributable to the imposition of higher tobacco taxes in Alberta. The Tobacco and Alcohol index was 4.1 per cent higher than a year earlier.