

CA 18862
2004
Aug '69

CATALOGUE No.

62-001

MONTHLY

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

OTTAWA - CANADA

Published by Authority of the Minister of Trade and Commerce

Vol. 47 No. 8

Price: 10 cents, \$1.00 a year

PRICE MOVEMENTS

AUGUST 1969



THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:
(1961=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada rose by 0.4 per cent to 126.9 in August from 126.4 in July. At its August 1969 level it stood 5.1 per cent higher than twelve months earlier. Most of the increase in the latest month was attributable to a 1.4 per cent upward movement in the Food index. All other major components registered only fractional advances except the Health and Personal Care index, which was unchanged, and the Transportation index, which declined slightly.

Consumer Price Index and Main Components (1961=100)

	Component Weights (1)	Index			Per Cent Change	
		1969		1968	August 1969 From	
		Aug.	July	Aug.	July 1969	Aug. 1968
ALL-ITEMS	100	126.9	126.4	120.7	+ 0.4	+ 5.1
Food	27	130.6	128.8	123.9	+ 1.4	+ 5.4
Housing (2)	32	125.4	125.2	118.9	+ 0.2	+ 5.5
Clothing	11	125.0	124.8	120.6	+ 0.2	+ 3.6
Transportation	12	120.5	120.7	115.1	- 0.2	+ 4.7
Health and Personal Care	7	134.2	134.2	128.2	-	+ 4.7
Recreation and Reading	5	127.6	127.4	119.9	+ 0.2	+ 6.4
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	126.4	126.3	121.3	+ 0.1	+ 4.2

ALL-ITEMS Consumer Price Index Converted to 1949=100 164.0

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

(Continued on Page 4)

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, declined 0.4 per cent to 269.8 from 270.8 in the three-week period August 1st to August 22nd. Prices were lower for nine commodities, higher for six and unchanged for fifteen. Principal changes included decreases for raw sugar, cottonseed oil, oats, domestic wheat, steers and tin while increases were recorded for domestic copper, hogs, beef hides, linseed oil, raw wool and raw rubber.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets declined 1.1 per cent to 273.7 from 276.7. The Field Products index declined 3.4 per cent to 185.9 from 192.4 reflecting price decreases for potatoes on both Eastern and Western markets and for hay and flax in the West. Higher prices were shown for hay in the East and for rye in the West. The Animal Products index moved up 0.2 per cent to 361.6 from 361.0 with higher prices for hogs on both markets. Lower prices were shown for lambs and steers on both Eastern and Western markets, and for poultry in the East and for calves and eggs in the West.

Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1969 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Aug. 29th	Aug. 22nd	Aug. 15th	Aug. 8th	Aug. 1st	Aug. (P) 1969	July 1969	Aug. 1968
Industrial Materials	A	269.8	271.2	271.4	270.8	271.2	269.2	254.2
Canadian Farm Products	V	273.7	275.0	275.3	276.7	275.0	278.8	265.1
Field	A	185.9	188.2	191.3	192.4	188.2	186.0	189.4
Animal	V	361.6	361.7	359.2	361.0	361.7	371.6	340.8
Regional Indexes:								
Eastern Canada	N	294.8	296.1	298.1	300.2	296.1	300.2	284.6
Western Canada	O	252.6	253.8	252.4	253.2	253.8	257.4	245.6

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 rose 3.4 per cent to 190.3 in the four-week period July 31st to August 28th. Indexes for the three major groups increased, with Industrials up 3.7 per cent to 196.3, Utilities up just 0.2 per cent to 172.6, and Finance up 6.0 per cent to 184.4. Within Industrials, sub-groups generally finished higher at the end of the month than at the beginning, while decreases remained under five per cent. In Utilities, indexes for three sub-groups increased and two decreased. Pipelines registered the largest increase of 4.2 per cent while Transportation registered the largest decrease of 4.9 per cent. In Finance, Banks rose 5.6 per cent to 190.0 and Investment and Loan rose steadily throughout the month to show an increase of 7.1 per cent over last month.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices rose 4.1 per cent as a result of increases made by Golds and Base Metals of 2.3 per cent and 5.4 per cent respectively.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, both Uraniums and Primary Oils and Gas registered substantial advances of 15.3 per cent and 10.9 per cent respectively.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

Index and numbers of stocks priced	Week ended					% change from July 31st	Monthly average		
	Aug. 28th	Aug. 21st	Aug. 14th	Aug. 7th	July 31st		Aug. 1969	July 1969	Aug. 1968
Investors Price Index 114	190.3	189.6	186.2	187.2	184.1	+ 3.4	188.3	189.5	180.8
Industrials 80	196.3	195.6	191.9	192.7	189.3	+ 3.7	194.1	194.8	187.9
Industrial mines 4	195.4	196.4	194.8	192.2	192.1	+ 1.7	194.7	194.4	195.1
Foods 10	246.0	240.2	234.3	237.1	230.5	+ 6.7	239.4	232.7	230.8
Beverages 7	314.2	307.1	298.4	304.2	298.3	+ 5.3	306.0	304.2	277.8
Textiles and clothing 5	139.3	141.4	138.1	139.7	140.7	- 1.0	139.6	148.1	152.5
Pulp and paper 7	146.4	145.8	143.5	141.6	135.4	+ 8.1	144.3	140.5	107.3
Printing and pub. 4	758.0	766.0	727.6	738.0	728.5	+ 4.0	747.4	742.1	675.6
Primary metals 8	101.0	101.2	97.4	97.8	95.2	+ 6.1	99.4	99.0	91.2
Metal fabricating 9	135.1	135.0	134.2	136.4	128.4	+ 5.2	135.2	140.1	123.9
Non-metallic minerals 4	120.4	121.4	120.4	119.1	121.5	- 0.9	120.3	124.5	109.7
Petroleum 7	173.6	172.9	171.3	173.3	169.1	+ 2.7	172.8	177.2	183.4
Chemicals 4	111.3	107.9	107.6	109.9	109.0	+ 2.1	109.2	111.6	112.8
Construction 4	89.9	89.9	89.9	94.1	93.8	- 4.2	91.0	97.9	88.0
Retail trade 7	248.4	245.9	247.5	249.1	249.0	- 0.2	247.7	255.8	306.9
Utilities 20	172.6	172.1	170.6	173.1	172.3	+ 0.2	172.1	177.3	164.9
Pipelines 5	184.8	183.4	180.6	181.3	177.3	+ 4.2	182.5	182.3	181.2
Transportation 4	224.7	229.6	227.7	234.2	236.2	- 4.9	229.0	242.4	197.9
Telephone 3	108.9	106.8	105.8	107.8	108.1	+ 0.7	107.3	111.4	104.2
Electric power 3	131.8	131.3	131.2	132.3	133.1	- 1.0	131.6	137.7	126.1
Gas distribution 5	412.4	411.8	409.1	414.4	409.3	+ 0.8	411.9	419.1	407.0
Finance 14	184.4	182.9	178.6	178.4	173.9	+ 6.0	181.1	179.6	167.3
Banks 6	190.0	189.2	184.5	185.1	180.0	+ 5.6	187.2	186.1	175.2
Investment and loan 8	172.9	170.1	166.6	164.9	161.4	+ 7.1	168.6	166.4	151.3
Mining Stock Price Index 24	105.3	105.3	105.2	100.5	101.2	+ 4.1	104.1	110.1	107.7
Golds 6	122.4	125.2	129.7	115.7	119.7	+ 2.3	123.2	139.0	154.5
Base metals 18	95.9	94.4	91.8	92.1	91.0	+ 5.4	93.6	94.2	82.0
Uraniums Price Index 4	162.1	148.6	148.4	151.1	140.6	+15.3	152.6	151.5	258.9
Primary Oils and Gas 6	264.4	251.1	242.6	244.2	238.4	+10.9	250.6	262.2	218.2



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

The Food component advanced by 1.4 per cent to 130.6 in August from 128.8 in July. In the latest month, higher prices were registered for a number of fresh fruits and vegetables, with increases of over ten per cent recorded for potatoes, onions, carrots and grapefruit. Not all produce prices moved higher; lettuce, celery and cabbage were some items which registered noticeable declines. Among meat items, beef prices were 2.6 per cent lower to mark the second consecutive month of decline from their June peak. Poultry and fish prices, by contrast, rose by 3.4 and 1.8 per cent, respectively, while pork was largely unchanged. Some staples such as bread, butter, margarine and sugar declined slightly, but a number of speciality food items including baby food, pasta products, and cake mixes registered noticeable increases. Egg prices rose by some six per cent since the preceding month, but the increase was considerably less than normally experienced at this time of year. The August Food index stood 5.4 per cent above its level of a year earlier.

The Housing index increased by 0.2 per cent to 125.4 in August from 125.2 in the preceding month. Rents moved up in most cities across the country, while home-ownership costs also edged up in response to increased outlays for dwelling and contents insurance. Among household operation items, fuel oil prices were raised in a number of Ontario cities, but summer sales of furniture, utensils and equipment offset minor price increases in other homefurnishing items. The August Housing index stood 5.5 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Clothing index moved up by 0.2 per cent to 125.0 in August from 124.8 in July. Price levels for men's, women's and children's wear were slightly higher since the preceding month while piece goods advanced by 1.0 per cent, partially reflecting a return to regular prices following summer sales. The Clothing index stood 3.6 per cent above its level of a year earlier.

The Transportation index declined by 0.2 per cent to 120.5 in August from 120.7 a month earlier. New automobile prices decreased by 0.5 per cent reflecting the larger discounts negotiated towards the end of the car-model year. Gasoline prices, by contrast, increased in Toronto and several other Ontario centres. Among inter-city travel prices, train fares were seasonally lower. The August Transportation index was 4.7 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Health and Personal Care index remained unchanged at its July level of 134.2. Pharmaceutical prices edged up by 0.1 per cent, as higher prices for patent medicines outweighed minor declines for prescription drugs. Toiletary prices also registered mixed movements, but edged up on the whole. The Health and Personal Care index was 4.7 per cent above its level of a year ago.

The Recreation and Reading index moved up by 0.2 per cent to 127.6 in August from 127.4 in July largely on the strength of a 0.7 per cent increase in cinema admissions, and on a 0.8 per cent rise in camera film and developing charges. The Recreation and Reading index stood 6.4 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index edged up by 0.1 per cent to 126.4 in August from 126.3 in July. Sporadic price increases were registered across the country for both cigarettes and pipe tobacco. The Tobacco and Alcohol index was 4.2 per cent higher than a year earlier.