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## PRICE MOVEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 1969



THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX:  
(1961=100)

The Consumer Price Index for Canada declined by 0.2 per cent to 126.6 in September from 126.9 in August. This latest movement marked the first monthly decline since October 1967 and left the index 4.5 per cent above its level of September 1968. The overall decline was attributable to a larger than normal seasonal drop of 1.6 per cent in food prices. Most other main components registered increases, and were led by an advance of 0.6 per cent in the Health and Personal Care index. The Transportation and the Recreation and Reading indexes each rose by 0.3 per cent, while both the Housing and Clothing components moved up by 0.2 per cent. The Tobacco and Alcohol index was unchanged.

Consumer Price Index and Main Components (1961=100)

	Component Weight (1)	Index			Per Cent Change	
		1969		1968	Sept. 1969 From	
		Sept.	Aug.	Sept.	Aug. 1969	Sept. 1968
ALL-ITEMS	100	126.6	126.9	121.1	- 0.2	+ 4.5
Food	27	128.5	130.6	123.4	- 1.6	+ 4.1
Housing (2)	32	125.7	125.4	119.8	+ 0.2	+ 4.9
Clothing	11	125.2	125.0	121.2	+ 0.2	+ 3.3
Transportation	12	120.9	120.5	115.4	+ 0.3	+ 4.8
Health and Personal Care	7	135.0	134.2	128.5	+ 0.6	+ 5.1
Recreation and Reading	5	128.0	127.5	121.0	+ 0.3	+ 5.8
Tobacco and Alcohol	6	126.4	126.4	121.3	-	+ 4.2

ALL-ITEMS Consumer Price Index Converted to 1949=100 ..... 163.6

- (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)<sup>1</sup>

(1935-1939 = 100)

The price index of Thirty Industrial Materials, calculated as an unweighted geometric average, advanced 1.0 per cent to 272.4 from 269.6 in the three-week period August 29th to September 19th. Prices were higher for twelve commodities, lower for three and unchanged for fifteen. Principal changes included increases for beef hides, domestic copper, domestic zinc, linseed oil, raw wool, oats, hogs and raw sugar, while decreases were recorded for steers, raw cotton and raw rubber.

In the same three-week period, the price index of Canadian Farm Products at terminal markets declined 0.5 per cent to 271.4 from 272.9. The Field Products index declined 0.8 per cent to 182.6 from 184.1 reflecting price decreases for potatoes, oats, barley and corn on the Eastern market. Higher prices were shown for potatoes, hay, flax and rye in the West. The Animal Products index moved down 0.4 per cent to 360.2 from 361.6 on lower prices for steers on both Eastern and Western markets, and for lambs in the West. Higher prices were shown for eggs, calves and hogs on both Eastern and Western markets and for fluid milk in the West.

## Wholesale Price Indexes (1935-1939 = 100)

	1969 Week Ended					Monthly Indexes		
	Sept. 26th	Sept. 19th	Sept. 12th	Sept. 5th	Aug. 29th	Sept.(P) 1969	Aug. 1969	Sept. 1968
<b>Industrial Materials</b> .....	A V A I L A B L E	272.4	271.3	269.2	269.6	272.4	269.2	253.6
<b>Canadian Farm Products</b> .....		271.4	270.7	272.1	272.9	271.4	275.0	263.6
Field .....		182.6	182.2	183.2	184.1	182.6	188.2	183.3
Animal .....		360.2	359.3	360.9	361.6	360.2	361.7	343.8
<b>Regional Indexes:</b>								
Eastern Canada .....	N O T	290.2	289.4	290.4	292.0	290.2	296.1	281.3
Western Canada .....		252.6	252.1	253.7	253.7	252.6	253.8	245.8

<sup>1</sup> - 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 3.7 per cent to 197.4 in the four-week period August 28th to September 25th. Indexes for the three major groups increased, with Industrials up 3.6 per cent, Utilities up 4.2 per cent and Finance up 3.7 per cent. Within Industrials, indexes for six sub-groups increased and seven decreased. Increases ranged from 6.4 per cent for Industrial Mines to 3.9 per cent for both Primary Metals and Retail Trade, while decreases reached 6.2 per cent for Construction. In Utilities, indexes for all five sub-groups rose, with increases as high as 6.4 per cent for Transportation. In Finance, both Banks and Investment and Loan rose steadily during the month to 196.4 and 180.9 respectively.

In the same period, the index of Mining stock prices advanced 7.8 per cent to 113.5 as a result of increases made by Golds and Base Metals of 11.4 per cent and 5.3 per cent respectively.

Of the two supplementary price indexes, Uraniums rose 14.0 per cent, while Primary Oils and Gas declined steadily throughout the month to show a loss of 12.0 per cent.

Weekly Security Price Indexes (1956 = 100)

Index and numbers of stocks priced	Week ended					% change from Aug. 28th	Monthly average		
	Sept. 25th	Sept. 18th	Sept. 11th	Sept. 4th	Aug. 28th		Sept. 1969	Aug. 1969	Sept. 1968
<b>Investors Price Index</b> ..... 114	197.4	196.6	193.1	191.7	190.3	+ 3.7	194.7	188.3	187.8
<b>Industrials</b> ..... 80	203.3	203.4	198.9	198.5	196.3	+ 3.6	201.0	194.1	193.5
Industrial mines ..... 4	208.0	214.7	202.9	201.7	195.4	+ 6.4	206.8	194.7	193.2
Foods ..... 10	242.5	240.1	246.6	246.6	246.0	- 1.4	244.0	239.4	240.0
Beverages ..... 7	329.0	322.9	318.3	310.4	314.2	+ 4.7	320.2	306.0	292.2
Textiles and clothing ..... 5	137.2	140.1	138.8	142.8	139.3	- 1.5	139.7	139.6	171.4
Pulp and paper ..... 7	152.7	149.0	148.6	147.5	146.4	+ 4.3	149.4	144.3	116.8
Printing and pub. .... 4	798.9	783.9	773.9	780.2	758.0	+ 5.4	784.2	747.4	654.1
Primary metals ..... 8	104.9	102.5	101.1	101.3	101.0	+ 3.9	102.4	99.4	100.6
Metal fabricating ..... 9	134.6	137.4	134.0	136.7	135.1	- 0.4	135.7	135.2	132.7
Non-metallic minerals ..... 4	119.2	121.0	119.0	119.5	120.4	- 1.0	119.7	120.3	122.0
Petroleum ..... 7	171.9	175.3	171.8	173.4	173.6	- 1.0	173.1	172.8	190.8
Chemicals ..... 4	109.9	110.7	111.1	110.9	111.3	- 1.3	110.6	109.2	121.7
Construction ..... 4	84.3	84.0	83.6	84.9	89.9	- 6.2	84.2	91.0	98.2
Retail trade ..... 7	258.0	249.6	250.3	249.4	248.4	+ 3.9	251.8	247.7	312.5
<b>Utilities</b> ..... 20	179.8	177.5	176.3	173.9	172.6	+ 4.2	176.9	172.1	173.8
Pipelines ..... 5	191.5	189.6	187.4	185.6	184.8	+ 3.6	188.5	182.5	192.9
Transportation ..... 4	239.1	238.5	233.2	229.7	224.7	+ 6.4	235.1	229.0	209.4
Telephone ..... 3	113.0	109.8	110.4	108.0	108.9	+ 3.8	110.3	107.3	109.2
Electric power ..... 3	139.4	136.2	136.4	134.2	131.8	+ 5.8	136.6	131.6	133.1
Gas distribution ..... 5	421.4	421.0	417.4	414.8	412.4	+ 2.2	418.6	411.9	425.6
<b>Finance</b> ..... 14	191.3	188.4	186.3	182.0	184.4	+ 3.7	187.0	181.1	177.8
Banks ..... 6	196.4	195.7	192.6	187.7	190.0	+ 3.4	193.1	187.2	184.6
Investment and loan ..... 8	180.9	173.7	173.6	170.5	172.9	+ 4.6	174.7	168.6	163.9
<b>Mining Stock Price Index</b> ..... 24	113.5	111.6	109.7	106.5	105.3	+ 7.8	110.3	104.1	111.5
Golds ..... 6	136.4	130.9	129.0	123.6	122.4	+11.4	130.0	123.2	157.4
Base metals ..... 18	101.0	101.0	99.1	97.2	95.9	+ 5.3	99.6	93.6	86.3
<b>Uraniums Price Index</b> ..... 4	184.8	186.5	167.9	163.0	162.1	+14.0	175.6	152.6	262.8
<b>Primary Oils and Gas</b> ..... 6	232.8	242.9	259.6	262.2	264.4	-12.0	249.4	250.6	239.3



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

The Food index declined by 1.6 per cent to 128.5 in September from 130.6 in August. Most of the drop in the latest month was attributable to seasonal declines in fresh fruit and vegetable prices and to a further two per cent decrease in beef prices. Some produce items which declined in price since the preceding month by twenty per cent or more included: potatoes, carrots, cabbage, tomatoes, and celery. Among meats, beef prices declined for the third consecutive month to a level eight per cent below their June peak. Pork, poultry and fish prices, by contrast, each rose by one per cent or more. Among staple food items, milk, bread, butter and eggs registered marginal increases, while sugar declined by over five per cent to reach its lowest level since March. Although flour declined in price in the latest month, biscuits and cracker prices each rose by about one per cent. The September Food index stood 4.1 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Housing index increase of 0.2 per cent to 125.7 in September from 125.4 in August was entirely due to higher shelter costs. Rents rose by 0.3 per cent and home-ownership costs moved up by 0.4 per cent, with the latter increase attributable to higher property taxes. Among household operation items, slightly higher prices for supplies, floor coverings and household textiles offset sale prices for some furniture and household equipment items. The Housing index was 4.9 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Clothing index rose by 0.2 per cent to 125.2 in September from 125.0 in the preceding month. Many items of men's wear, children's wear and footwear increased in price reflecting the introduction of new lines, but sales of women's cotton dresses and material helped reduce the price level of women's wear and piece goods. Clothing services increased in price mainly in response to higher shoe repair and dry cleaning charges. The September Clothing index stood 3.3 per cent above its level of a year ago.

The Transportation index moved up by 0.3 per cent to 120.9 in September from 120.5 in August. Higher gasoline prices in Toronto and a number of other Ontario cities combined with generally higher auto parts and repair prices to push up automobile operation costs by 0.4 per cent. Local transportation costs also rose by 0.4 per cent in response to higher taxi fares in Toronto and to increased bus fares in some other Ontario cities. The September Transportation index was 4.8 per cent above its corresponding level in September 1968.

The Health and Personal Care index rose by 0.6 per cent to 135.0 in September from 134.2 a month earlier. Men's and women's hairdressing prices advanced in a number of major cities, as did the prices of toilet soap and other items of personal care supplies. The Health and Personal Care index was 5.1 per cent above its level of a year ago.

The Recreation and Reading index increased by 0.3 per cent to 128.0 in September from 127.6 a month earlier. Increased prices for magazine subscriptions, television repairs and bicycles accounted for this rise. The Recreation and Reading index stood 5.8 per cent above its level of twelve months previous.

The Tobacco and Alcohol index remained unchanged from its August level of 126.4 and was 4.2 per cent higher than a year earlier.