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PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS^X

January, 1947

(1935=39=100)

There was a continuation between August, 1946 and January, 1947 of the steady rise in the commodity groups of index numbers of commodities and services^{xx} used by farmers. This was obscured, however, by the usual winter decline in farm wage rates. Due to this single cause, the Dominion composite index of prices paid by farmers for commodities and services, inclusive of living costs, moved down 0.7 points between August, 1946 and January, 1947. The eastern index rose 0.5 points and the western index declined 2.6 points. Recessions in wage-rate index numbers were much more substantial in the west than in the east. Compared with the January, 1946 level the Dominion composite index (11 factors) for January, 1947 was 6.8 points higher, with eastern and western indexes showing respective advances of 6.7 and 7.0 points. Wage rates were up 26.0 points from a year ago, 32.4 points in the east and 17.0 points in the west.

Between August, 1946 and January, 1947, the eight-factor index of commodities only, exclusive of living costs, rose 1.6 points for all Canada, as a result of increases of 1.6 points in the east and 1.7 points in the west. Both eastern and western index numbers recorded increases for implements, seed, building materials, hardware, feed, fertilizer and motor supplies. Slightly larger increases in the west for all these groups, with the exception of fertilizer, accounted for the difference in rise in the regional indexes.

The Dominion index of farm family living costs rose 1.7 points between August, 1946 and January, 1947. The largest changes were recorded by health maintenance, fuel and food groups. All groups showed increases with the exception of clothing and household equipment which are calculated only in April and August, and remained nominally at fall 1946 levels. The eastern regional index rose 1.3 points and the western index 2.3 points. The greater increase in the west was caused by a more substantial increase in fuel and a slightly larger rise in food costs.

Further detail concerning recent movements of these index numbers may be obtained from the following tables.

^X For a detailed description of these index numbers, see "Price Index Numbers of Commodities and Services used by Farmers", issued August 17, 1944.

^{xx} Commodities and services include implements, fertilizer, seed, feed, motor fuel and lubricants, building materials, hardware, binder twine, taxes, interest and wages.

Table 1 - Composite Price Index Numbers of Commodities and Services used by Farmers and Farm Family Living Costs

Number of Factors Years	1935-39=100						Farm Family Living Costs	
	Commodities and Services used by Farmers			Commodities and Services and Living Costs				
	8 ^x	10 ^x	11 ^x	8 ^x	10 ^x	11 ^x		
ALL CANADA								
1926	120.6	123.8	129.3	120.7	122.7	125.9	120.9	
1939	96.1	97.2	99.1	97.4	98.1	99.3	99.5	
1945 January	125.3	121.8	138.7	124.3	122.2	132.4	122.8	
April	125.5	122.1	143.4	124.5	122.4	135.2	123.0	
August	125.7	122.1	145.7	124.9	122.7	136.9	123.7	
1946 January	125.9	121.9	140.4	125.4	123.0	134.1	124.6	
April	128.3	123.6	146.9	127.4	124.6	138.6	126.1	
August	128.8	123.9	149.0	129.5	126.5	141.6	130.5	
1947 January	130.4	125.5	146.7	131.1	128.1	140.9	132.2	
EASTERN CANADA								
1926	122.9	124.2	128.1	121.8	122.6	125.0	120.2	
1939	95.7	96.5	98.9	97.2	97.7	99.1	99.5	
1945 January	127.3	121.7	141.1	125.4	122.0	133.7	122.5	
April	127.6	121.9	143.9	125.7	122.3	135.6	122.8	
August	128.0	122.1	147.2	126.2	122.7	137.8	123.6	
1946 January	128.1	121.9	143.9	126.7	123.0	136.2	124.6	
April	129.5	122.9	148.0	128.1	124.2	139.2	126.1	
August	130.2	123.5	150.2	130.4	126.3	142.4	130.6	
1947 January	131.8	124.4	150.2	131.9	127.4	142.9	131.9	
WESTERN CANADA								
1926	117.0	123.3	131.0	119.0	122.8	127.4	121.9	
1939	96.7	98.1	99.6	97.8	98.7	99.6	99.5	
1945 January	122.2	122.0	135.2	122.7	122.5	130.4	123.3	
April	122.4	122.2	142.6	122.8	122.7	134.9	123.4	
August	122.3	122.1	143.3	122.9	122.8	135.5	123.9	
1946 January	122.7	121.9	135.1	123.5	123.0	130.9	124.7	
April	126.6	124.6	145.3	126.4	125.2	137.6	126.1	
August	126.6	124.6	147.2	128.1	126.9	140.5	130.3	
1947 January	128.3	127.0	141.4	130.0	129.3	137.9	132.6.	

^x 8-factor indexes include prices of commodities only, representing the following groups: farm implements, building materials, gasoline, oil and grease, feed, fertilizer, binder twine, seed and hardware.

10-factor indexes include all the above commodities plus tax rates and interest rates.

11-factor indexes include all the above 10 factors plus farm wage rates.

1946 and 1947 index numbers subject to revision because figures for taxes and mortgage interest in these years are provisional.

Table 2 - Price Indexes of Commodities and Services Used by Farmers

1935-39=100

Year	Imple- ments	Ferti- lizer	Seed	Feed	Gasoline,		Building Materials	Hard- ware	Binder Twine	Taxes	Interest on Mortgages	Farm Wage Rates
					Oil, Grease	ALL CANADA						
EASTERN CANADA												
1926	97.3	129.0	127.8	137.6	130.0	114.0	103.7	184.5	142.7	119.1	167.9	
1939	103.9	107.2	80.2	80.1	97.6	108.1	101.6	93.8	104.2	95.1	108.1	
1945 January	113.1	108.0	137.3	128.5	119.9	174.9	119.6	126.4	124.6xx	90.2	234.6	
April	113.1	108.0	138.8	129.2	119.9	174.8	119.8	126.4			281.4	
August	113.1	108.0	139.5	129.6	120.1	174.2	119.2	126.4			301.0	
1946 January	113.1	108.0	142.3	129.6	120.1	174.3	119.2	126.4	125.1	87.8	247.4	
April	119.3xx	108.0	144.4	130.0	121.9	175.3	120.4	126.4			299.1	
August	119.3xx	110.1	142.4	130.6	121.9	175.9	122.8	126.4			316.5	
1947 January	122.7	110.8	145.8	131.7	122.4	177.4	124.1	126.4	125.1x	87.8x	273.4	
WESTERN CANADA												
1926	97.8	129.0	137.5	141.6	122.6	114.0	106.3	184.5	156.0	123.8	178.5	
1939	103.3	107.2	76.9	78.7	93.9	108.1	101.0	93.8	108.8	95.2	108.0	
1945 January	112.4	108.0	136.9	133.3	105.2	176.5	120.9	126.4	148.2xx	90.0	227.1	
April	112.4	108.0	138.8	133.7	105.2	176.5	121.2	126.4			313.4	
August	112.4	108.0	139.5	134.5	105.6	174.1	119.7	126.4			323.3	
1946 January	112.4	108.0	143.0	135.3	105.6	174.2	119.7	126.4	152.8	88.3	227.9	
April	118.2xx	108.0	147.1	135.9	110.2	176.0	119.8	126.4			318.7	
August	118.2xx	110.1	143.3	136.3	110.3	176.3	122.3	126.4			341.3	
1947 January	121.7	110.8	146.6	136.6	110.5	177.3	123.5	126.4	152.8x	88.3x	244.9	

x Nominal.

xx Revised.

Table 3 - Group Index Numbers of Canadian Farm Family Living Costs

1935-39=100

Year	Composite Index	Food	Clothing	Fuel	Household Equipment	Health Maintenance	Miscellaneous
ALL CANADA							
1926	120.9	134.4	136.1	124.2	107.8	95.8	102.3
1939	99.5	96.1	100.5	99.4	101.1	100.8	100.6
1945	January	122.8	131.6	127.7	120.8	127.6	111.7
	April	123.0	131.4	127.7	122.2	128.5	111.8
	August	123.7	131.8	129.3	122.3	129.2	112.8
1946	January	124.6	132.5	129.3	122.6	129.2	115.4
	April	126.1	134.0	129.9	122.9	134.5	115.7
	August	130.5	136.6	137.3	123.1	142.5	116.3
1947	January	132.2	139.1	137.3	128.5	142.5	122.5
EASTERN CANADA							
1926	120.2	136.1	134.8	119.5	108.0	95.8	102.3
1939	99.5	96.4	100.2	98.9	101.0	100.8	100.6
1945	January	122.5	134.1	127.7	116.2	124.4	111.7
	April	122.8	134.0	127.7	118.4	125.3	111.8
	August	123.6	134.6	129.3	118.4	126.1	112.8
1946	January	124.6	135.6	129.3	118.9	126.1	115.4
	April	126.1	137.0	130.4	118.9	131.1	115.7
	August	130.6	140.1	138.5	118.9	137.6	116.3
1947	January	131.9	142.3	138.5	119.2	137.6	122.5
WESTERN CANADA							
1926	121.9	131.9	138.1	131.2	107.4	95.8	102.4
1939	99.5	95.7	101.1	100.2	101.2	100.9	100.5
1945	January	123.3	127.8	127.8	127.7	132.4	111.8
	April	123.4	127.6	127.8	128.0	133.2	111.8
	August	123.9	127.8	129.3	128.2	133.8	112.8
1946	January	124.7	127.8	129.3	128.2	133.8	115.5
	April	126.1	129.4	129.2	129.0	139.7	115.7
	August	130.3	131.4	135.4	129.3	149.9	116.4
1947	January	132.6	134.2	135.4	142.5	149.9	122.6

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