

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
OTTAWA, CANADA

Prepared in the Labour and Prices Division, Prices Section

18-3060

Price 10 Cents

PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS, APRIL 1949

(1935-39 = 100)

The Dominion composite index of commodities and services used by farmers, inclusive of living costs, rose from 187.7 for January, 1949 to 191.2 for April, 1949, due largely to a seasonal increase in wage rates. This compared with 184.2 for April of last year, and is an all-time high for this series, which extends back to 1913. The Dominion composite index, exclusive of living costs, rose 4.6 points between January and April to reach 202.9, as compared to 197.8 for April, 1948.

Farm wage rates increased from 352.2 to 379.6 between January and April. As a result of higher rates of pay in Western Canada the wage rate index rose slightly above the level of the preceding April.

Farm equipment and materials stood at 180.5 for April, as compared with 180.3 for January, and 172.9 for April, 1948. Three of the eight sub-groups moved higher, while three declined and two were unchanged between January and April. However, all groups had advanced as compared to April, 1948 except seed, which declined from 241.2 to 213.2, or approximately 11 percent.

Farm family living costs increased slightly to 173.5, as against 171.8 for January, and 163.7 for a year ago. Of the six sub-groups included in this index, only food showed a decline between January and April, while the remaining five groups moved from 0.4 to 7.1 points higher during the same period.

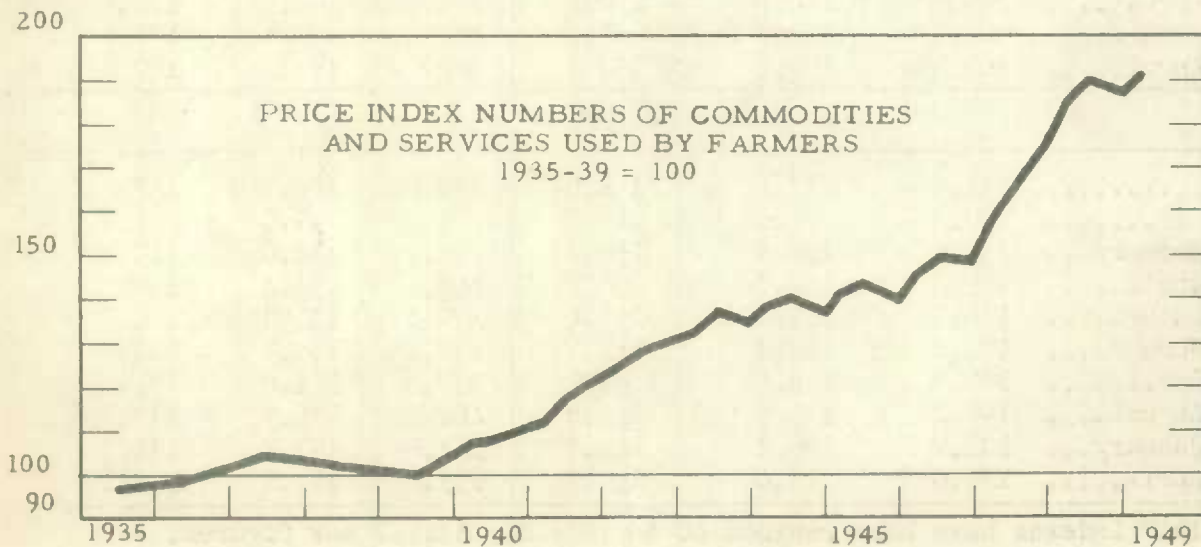


TABLE 1. - PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS AND FARM FAMILY LIVING COSTS

(1935-39=100)

	Composite Index Exclusive of Living Costs (a)	Equipment and Materials	Tax and Interest Rates (a)	Farm Wage Rates	Farm Family Living Costs	Composite Index Inclusive of Living Costs (a)
ALL CANADA						
1926	130.6	119.9	135.5	164.5	121.1	126.8
1939	99.3	95.7	101.1	110.3	99.5	99.4
1947 - January...	159.4	132.2	125.0	303.1	132.3	148.5
April.....	172.2	140.1	125.0	350.5	136.1	157.8
August.....	179.5	146.3	125.0	370.6	146.5	166.3
1948 - January...	189.3	169.8	127.8	337.8	155.3	175.7
April.....	197.8	172.9	127.8	377.4	163.7	184.2
August.....	203.7	176.7	127.8	398.4	169.5	190.1
1949 - January...	198.3	180.3	127.8	352.2	171.8	187.7
April.....	202.9	180.5	127.8	379.6	173.5	191.2
EASTERN CANADA						
1926	129.5	122.8	128.4	151.1	120.2	125.8
1939	98.7	94.8	99.2	110.6	99.5	99.0
1947 - January...	166.7	134.0	112.2	321.5	131.9	152.8
April.....	174.7	139.5	112.2	344.8	135.9	159.2
August.....	182.6	146.0	112.2	364.7	146.3	168.1
1948 - January...	199.3	176.1	112.2	355.9	154.9	181.5
April.....	202.9	177.4	112.2	370.3	163.4	187.1
August.....	209.2	180.0	112.2	394.1	168.4	192.9
1949 - January...	204.8	183.9 (r)	112.2	359.4	170.5	191.1
April.....	206.3	183.0	112.2	369.7	171.3	192.3
WESTERN CANADA						
1926	131.8	117.1	141.6	183.5	121.9	127.8
1939	99.8	96.6	102.7	109.9	99.5	99.7
1947 - January...	152.0	130.5	136.0	276.9	132.6	144.2
April.....	169.8	140.7	136.0	358.5	136.4	156.4
August.....	176.3	146.5	136.0	379.1	146.8	164.5
1948 - January...	179.2	163.8	141.2	312.1	155.7	169.8
April.....	192.7	168.5	141.2	387.5	164.0	181.2
August.....	198.2	173.5 (r)	141.2	404.5	170.7	187.2
1949 - January...	191.7	176.8	141.2	341.9	173.1	184.3
April.....	199.6	178.0	141.2	393.7	175.8	190.1

(a) 1947 indexes have been revised to include final 1947 tax figures. 1948 indexes have been revised to include 1948 interest rates and tax estimates. 1948 and 1949 indexes are still subject to revision, since tax and interest rate figures are preliminary.

(r) Revised.

TABLE 2. - GROUP INDEX NUMBERS OF EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS USED BY FARMERS (1935-39=100)

	Farm Machinery	Building Materials	Gasolene, Oil, Grease	Feed	Fer- tilizer	Binder Twine	Seed	Hardware
ALL CANADA								
1926	97.6	114.0	127.7	136.4	129.4	184.6	130.2	104.0
1939	103.6	108.1	96.2	80.5	100.2	93.8	79.4	101.6
1947 - January.....	128.1	177.4	117.7	130.2	120.3	126.4	146.0	124.0
April.....	125.4	178.8	122.4	142.7	120.3	226.2	168.9	128.2
August.....	125.4	204.0	123.6	146.5	120.8	226.2	189.9	136.9
1948 - January.....	138.8	217.7	134.0	202.4	131.2	226.2	252.2	142.4
April.....	138.8	222.6	137.0	201.3	131.2	294.0	241.2	156.1
August.....	147.3	234.0	139.7	208.2	132.2	294.0	223.4	159.4
1949 - January.....	157.9 (r)	237.5	139.2	209.0	141.4	294.0	218.5	162.6
April.....	158.4	237.4	139.2	208.3	141.4	304.7	213.2	165.9
EASTERN CANADA								
1926	97.0	114.0	136.6	134.9	129.4	184.6	121.4	101.9
1939	104.3	108.1	100.1	81.0	100.1	93.8	82.4	102.1
1947 - January.....	128.0	177.4	130.3	128.4	122.1	126.4	145.2	124.5
April.....	125.0	179.7	133.3	140.0	122.1	226.2	149.8	127.1
August.....	125.0	197.8	134.7	143.8	122.1	226.2	178.9	136.3
1948 - January.....	138.7	210.3	146.9	204.1	133.2	226.2	250.5	141.6
April.....	138.7	215.3	148.4	201.5	133.2	294.0	237.6	156.8
August.....	145.7	222.2	150.4	205.5	133.2	294.0	229.0	158.7
1949 - January.....	157.5 (r)	224.5	151.8	206.8	143.0	294.0	226.7	161.5
April.....	157.9	225.0	152.3	205.8	143.0	304.7	211.8	164.7
WESTERN CANADA								
1926	97.8	114.0	122.6	141.6	129.4	134.6	137.5	106.3
1939	103.3	108.1	93.9	78.7	101.3	93.8	76.9	101.0
1947 - January.....	128.2	177.3	110.5	136.6	102.7	126.4	146.6	123.5
April.....	125.5	177.8	116.1	152.3	102.7	226.2	134.9	129.4
August.....	125.5	210.5	117.2	156.4	108.6	226.2	199.2	137.5
1948 - January.....	138.8	225.6	126.6	196.2	112.3	226.2	253.6	143.3
April.....	138.8	230.2	130.4	200.8	112.3	294.0	244.2	155.4
August.....	147.9	246.5	133.5	217.9	123.1	294.0	218.7	160.1
1949 - January.....	158.1	251.2	131.9	216.8	126.0	294.0	211.6	163.8
April.....	158.6	250.5	131.6	217.4	126.0	304.7	214.3	167.3

(r) Revised

TABLE 3. - GROUP INDEX NUMBERS OF CANADIAN FARM FAMILY LIVING COSTS (1935-39=100)

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	Composite Index	Food	Clothing	Fuel	Household Equipment	Health Maintenance	Miscellaneous
ALL CANADA							
1926	121.1	134.0	136.5	125.3	107.7	95.8	102.3
1939	99.5	96.0	100.7	99.5	101.1	100.9	100.5
1947 - January	132.3	138.3	136.9	130.9	143.7	122.5	111.1
April	136.1	147.4	140.9	132.1	146.5	122.7	111.1
August	146.5	154.1	160.9	141.7	154.1	122.7	111.4
1948 - January	155.3	181.2	160.9	150.1	164.1	134.5	113.5
April	163.7	183.7	183.4	154.7	173.9	134.9	113.4
August	169.5	193.7	190.4	160.9	179.4	136.5	113.5
1949 - January	171.8	198.7	190.4	163.5	179.4	143.8	114.2
April	173.5	198.1	192.3	164.5	186.5	144.2	115.3
EASTERN CANADA							
1926	120.2	136.1	134.8	119.5	108.0	95.3	102.3
1939	99.5	96.3	100.2	98.9	100.9	100.8	100.6
1947 - January	131.9	142.3	138.5	119.2	137.6	122.5	111.4
April	135.9	151.1	142.7	120.2	141.8	122.7	111.4
August	146.3	158.0	164.0	128.1	157.6	122.7	111.7
1948 - January	154.9	185.3	164.0	137.4	157.6	134.5	113.8
April	163.4	189.0	185.2	138.4	169.4	135.0	113.7
August	163.4	198.9	191.3	141.5	173.1	136.5	113.8
1949 - January	170.5	203.0	191.3	145.2	173.1	143.8	114.6
April	171.3	200.5	192.6	146.1	178.1	144.2	115.7
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
1947 - January	132.6	134.2	135.4	142.5	149.9	122.6	110.9
April	136.4	143.7	139.2	143.9	161.1	122.7	110.9
August	146.8	150.1	157.8	155.3	170.6	122.7	111.1
1948 - January	155.7	177.1	157.8	162.7	170.6	134.4	113.2
April	164.0	178.4	181.6	170.9	178.3	134.9	113.1
August	170.7	188.4	189.5	180.2	185.7	136.5	113.2
1949 - January	173.1	194.4	189.5	181.7	185.7	143.8	113.8
April	175.8	195.7	192.0	183.0	194.9	144.2	115.0

Footnote: An historical record of the series contained in this bulletin, together with a statement of construction method and weighting detail, is available in PRICE INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES AND SERVICES USED BY FARMERS, 1913 - 1948.

It may be obtained, upon request, from the Prices Section, Economic Services of Statistics Canada.