### 338.5071

## 1939 (Aug.) - 1943 (Dec.)

CANADA


DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMRERCE $H L I L$
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
PRICES BRANCH

PRICE MOVEMENTS
(AUGUST 1939-DECEMBER 1943)

Wholesale Prices
Retail Prices
Security Prices

Published by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P..

> Minister of Trade and Commerce.


Price 25 cents

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 Minister of Trade and CommerceDEPAFTMENT OF TRADE AND COMREECE

## DWINION BURFAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA

PRICFS BRANCH

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WARTIME REVIET OF MHOLESALE PRICE MOVEMENTS
(1926=100)

By the outbreak of war in 1939, wholesale price levels had lost almost twothirds of gains recorded between 1933 and 1937. The August, 1939 general wholesale index of 72.3 compared with a July, 1937 high of 87.6 and a February, 1933 low of 63.5. It was not surprising, therefore, that commodity markets should react strongly to the initial stimulus of war. Led by sherp advences in vegetable and animal products, the general wholesale price index jumped more than 8 p.c. to 78.4 in September, 1939. This rise continued at a slower rate until the invasion of Belgium and Holland in the spring of 1940 , and was followed by a minor reaction which continued until the fall of France in June. The trend from that time to the end of 1943 was steadily upward, first at a graduel rate until the spring of 1941 , then more rapidly until the imposition of the price coiling in December of that year. Since then the rise again has been gradual and without indication of appreciable acceleration. Not until July, 1943 was the 1926 average of 100.0 exceeded. By December, 1943, the wartime rise had amounted to 41.8 p.c., of which 11.9 p.c. was accumulated in the two years after the price ceiling was established.

Before passing on to examine the contribution of different commodity groups to movements of the wholesale price level, e word of explanation should be given concerning the prices used in calculating the general wholesale index. These prices continue to be market quotations without regard to bonus or subsidy payments. In the case of items for export markets, many of which have diverged videly from domestic markets, export prices are used; mood product exports provide an example of such items. Prices used in the farm products indexes calculated separately from the general wholesale indexes are treated differently, because the return to farmers is considered to be the fundamental consideration in this series. Bonue and subsidy payments, therefore, are added to market prices in calculating wholesale price index numbers of farm products.

## General Wholesal o Index Groups

Vegetable Products: The increase in the vegetable products group between August, 1939 and December, 1943 amounted to 61.7 p.c., bringing the index to a level of 94.9 . The over-all increase of 130.2 p.c. in grains which were abnomally depressed in August, 1939 contributed in a large measure to this rise. However, there were also substentiel gains for vegetable oils, up to 128.8 p.c.; potatoes 79.1 p.c., fresh fruits 59.0 p.cio; tea, coffee, cocos and spices 55.4 p.c.; miscelleneous vegetables 62.2 p.c. flour end cther milled products 39.3 p.c.; sugar and its products 39.3 p.c. and rubber and its products 25.5 p.c.

In 1943 vegetable products advanced 10.3 p.cos stilil led by the grains index which advanced 33.7 p.c. Removel of the ceiling price on rye eariy in 1943 was followed by a substantial market advence, but on authorized increase of 35 per bushel to $\$ 1.25$ for No. 1 Manitoba Northern wheat, Fort William and Port Arthur basis, for the 1943 , 44 crop yeer was the most important factor. The vegetable product index was also affected by a rise of $25 \$$ per bushel to $\$ 2.50$ for No. I C.W. flax, Fort Williem and Port Arthur basis, by a 14.8 p.c. advance in raw tobacco, and a 10.1 p.c. increase for potatoes. Fresh imported fruits, down 12.3 p.c. recorded the only substantial decline.

Anipal. Fraductas Wartime grius (August 1939-December 1943) of $141.5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. for furs; 103.8 p.c. for fishery products; $94.0 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$ for oils and fats; $92.6 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. for eges; 93.7 p.c. for livestock; 51.8 p.c. for meats and poultry and 45.5 p.c. for wilk and its products mere largely responstble for an increase of $57.2 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. to 109.6 is. December 1943 for the animel products index.

The 1943 incresse in animal products amounted to 4.4 p.c. Fur prices, upon which there is no ceiling, showed a rise of 82.5 poc: between Decerber, 1942 and Decumber, 1943 , while fishery products advenced 18.4 p.c., livestock 6.3 p.c. and
eggs 3.0 p.c. Milk and its products and oils and fats declined slightiy.
 of 38.2 p.c. for fibres, textiles and textile products reflected increases of 97.9 p.c. for flex, hemp and jute products; $75.7 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. for raw rcol; 52.7 p.c. for rool cloth; 45.4 p.c. for wool yarns and 27.6 p.c. for carpets. A substantiel "roll-back" in cotton fabric prices in 1942 to Februery, 1941 levels Imited the wartime rise in these goods to $19.9 \mathrm{p}, \mathrm{c}$ 。

The December, 1942-December, 1943 index comparison for textile producte showed no change, the index holding at 91.9 throughout the year.

Wood, Wood Products and Paper: The wartime gain in wood, wood products and peper amounted to 47.7 p.c., and moved the index to a December, 1943 level of 115.8 . Wood-pulp prices with a gain of 70.5 p.c. recorded the sharpest sub-group increase, closely followed by an advance of 64.0 p.c. for lumber. Furniture moved 31.2 p.c. higher, while newsprint and mrapping paper rose 26.8 p.c. Representation of export prices in the wood products indexes influenced the extent of the rise in the wood products groun; lumber expurt markets have risen more rapidly than the controlled domestic market.

Between December, 1942 and December, 1943, the group gain amounted to 12.3 p.c. with further substantial increases in lumber and nersprint and wraping paper accounting for the advance. The lumber index rose 15.7 p.c., while newsprint advanced 16.5 p.c.

Iron and Its Products: Increases of $51.7 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. In iron and steel scrap and $41.3 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. in steel pipe contributed to the rartime gain of $19.5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. for iron and its products. Rolling mill products were 17.8 p.c. higher, while pig iron and steel billets mounted 16.2 p.c.

A minor increase in freight rates for steel sheets moved iron and its products 0.1 F.c. higher in 1943 to an index of 116.0.

Non-Ferrcus Netals and Their Products: The wartime rise in non-ferrous metals was only 1400 p.c. The marked stebility displayed by this eroup refiected the establishment of long-term contracts with the United Kingdom for the more importent non-ferrcus metals. These contracts were based on prices close to pre-wor levels.

The non-ferrous metal price index remained unchenged at 79.7 through 1943.
Non-Metallic Minerels and Theis Products: Non-metallic minerals recorded a wartime increase of 21.8 p.c. to 102.4 in December, 1943. Outstending sub-group gains were recorded by crushed stone 41.2 p.c. higher; glass and its products up 40.9 p.c.; pottery and dinnervare 31.2 p.c.; coal 31.0 p.c. and petroleum products 21.7 p.c. Asbestos and its products registered a 4.9 p.c. decline.

The December, 1942-December, 1943 rise for non-metallics, amounting to 2.9 p.c. was largely accounted for by increeses of 6.9 p.c. for coal; 5.9 p.c. for sand and gravel, and 1.1 p.c. for clay and allied material products.

Chemicals and Allied Products: Increases of 128.1 p.c. for drugs and pharmaceuticals, 44.5 p.c. for paint materizls, 32.2 p.c. for dyeing and tanning meterials, 22.2 p.c. for organic chenicals and 20.6 p.c. for prepared paints were reflected in a gain of 29.1 p.c. for chemicals and allied products between August, 1939 and December, 1943.

For 1943 a minor decline amounting to 0.7 p.c. occurred. Lower sub-group indexes for soap, down 7.0 p.c., drugs and pharmeceuticals 3.0 p.c. and paint meteriels 1.8 p.c. more than counterbelenced small increases of 2.6 p.c. for inductriel gases, 0.8 p.c. for dyeing end tanning materials and 0.4 p.c. for inorgenic chemicals.

## Canodian Farm Products

The final 1943 figure of 104.6 for the composite index of farm products showed a wartime increase of 79.1 p.c. The outbreak of war found the level of form product prices almost 42 p.c. below the 1926 average, with the field products index at 48.2 , and the animal products index at 75.4 . A sharp initial price advance for

Livestock end grains in the first war months, moved the animal products index to 86.8 In November, 1939, and field products to 64.9 in April of 1940 . In the ensuing months, adverse fortunes of war were reflected in a sharp reversal of trend, and lows of 50.4 for field products and 83.3 for aninal products were reached in August, 1940. From the fall of 1940 until the end of 1943 , the movement in the farm product mholesale price index was almost steadily upward, and at a slightly accelerating rete. By October, 1943, the composite index for Canadian ferm product prices had moved above the 1926 average for the first time since January, 1930. October, 1943 also vitnessed the first time since 1937 that farm product prices have been at a point higher than thet recorded for the general level of wholesale prices. The December, 1943 field product index of 91.7 was still below its 1926 level ( 100.0 ), but the animal products index of 126.1 was well above the 1926 average.

The wholessle price index of Canadian farm product prices recorded a 1943 advence of $20.1 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$., due principally to upward changes for wheat prices and to an increase in the producer konus on fluid milk. Field products advenced 32.9 p.c. during the year while animal products registered an increase of $7.5 \mathrm{p}, \mathrm{c}$

Origin Clessificstion: The raw and partly manufactured products index was 13.5 p.o. below thet for fully and chiefly manufactured articles at the outbreak of war ( 62.8 and 72.6) . Up to December, 1941, the ram and partly manufectured series recorced a gain of $36.0 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. and the manufactured group 28.2 p.c., thereby narrowing the spread between the series to $8.3 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. Following establishment of maximum price ceiling regulations, the subsequent increase in fully and chiefly manufactured articles was only 0.8 p.c. in the next two years. On the other hand raw and partly manufactured products advanced 22.0 p.c. ovar the seme period. This increase reversed the relationship of the two series until by December, 1943, the level of raw and partly manufactured goods was 11.1 p.c. above fully and chiefly manufactured goods ( 104.2 and 93.8).

Between Decamber, 1942 and December, 1943 raw and partly manufactured goods recorded a gain of 12.3 p.c. due largely to sharp increases in certain grains, notably wheat and rye, coupled whth substantial advances in some primary product items not under the ceiling, e.g., rew furs. Fully and chiefly manufectured products, registered very little change during the year, the net gain amounting to 1.3 p.c.

The normal relationship between raw and fully manufactured goods prices has changed considerably since the price ceiling was established. Market prices for the latter have been held substantially unchanged by payment of subsidies designed to prevent increases ot the consumer level. Raw material prices, particulerly those for some farm products, have been controlled only indirectly by fixed prices at the consumer level. Subsidies at the consumer level, have, in effect, compensated for increases ot the rew material level, without any corresponding rise in the manufactured goods group.

Percentage Changes in Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices by Groups
Between August, 1939 and December, 1943
(1926=100)

| Group | $\begin{aligned} & 1939 \\ & \text { August } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1942 \\ \text { December } \end{gathered}$ | $1943$ <br> December | $\begin{aligned} & \text { December, } \\ & 1943 \\ & \text { December, } \\ & 1942 \end{aligned}$ | ```December, 1943 August, 1939``` |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vegetable Products | 58.7 | 86.0 | 94.9 | + 10.3 | + 61.7 |
| Fruits, fresh | 77.6 | 140.7 | 123.4 | -12.3 | + 59.0 |
| Fruits, dried | 75.6 | 93.7 | 93.7 | 0.0 | + 23.9 |
| Fruits, cenned | 64.7 | 73.5 | 73.9 | + 0.5 | + 11. |
| Grains | 39.1 | 67.3 | 90.0 | + 33.7 | $+130.2$ |
| Flour and other milled products | 56.8 | 78.9 | 79.1 | + 0.3 | + 39.3 |
| Bakery products | 84.4 | 86.8 | 86.8 | 0.0 | + 2.8 |
| Vegetable oils | 56.6 | 132.2 | 129.5 | $-2.0$ | + 128.8 |
| Rubler and its products | 60.3 | 75.7 | 75.7 | 0.0 | + 25.5 |
| Sugar and its products | 87.2 | 121.4 | 121.5 | + 0.1 | + 39.3 |
| Tea, coffee, cocoz and spices | 72.5 | 109.6 | 112.7 | + 2.8 | + 55.4 |
| Potatoes | 51.1 | 83.1 | 91.5 | +10.1 | + 79.1 |
| Onions | 64.2 | 112.2 | 209.8 | +87.0 | + 226.8 |

Percentage Changes in Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices by Groups Between August, 1939 and December, 1943 - contirue?
( $1926=100$ )

Group

Vegetable Products - conc.
Vegetables, canned
Tobecco, unnenufastured
Miscellaneous
Animal Products
ery produets
Furs
Hides and skins
Leather, unmanufactured
Boots and shoes
Livestock
Meats and poultry
Milk and its products
Fats
Eggs
Fibres, Textiles and Textile
Products
Cotton thread and yarn
Cotton fabrics
Cotton knit goods
Flax, hemp and jute products
Wool, raw
Wool hosiery
Wool cloth
Wool yarns
Carpets
Mood, Mood Products and Paper Newsprint and wrapping paper Lumber
Pulp
Furniture
Matches
Iron and Its Products
Pig iron and steel billets
Rolling mill products
Pipe
Hardware
Wire
Scrap
Non-Ferrous Metals
Brass and copper products
Lead and its products
Tin ingots
Zinc and its products
Non-Metallic Minerals
Clay and allied products
Pottery
Coal
Coke
Manufactured gas
Glass and its products
Petroleum products
Asphalt

| $\begin{gathered} 1939 \\ \text { August } \end{gathered}$ | 1942 <br> December | $1943$ <br> December | ```December, 1943 December, 1942``` | $\begin{gathered} \text { Decomber, } \\ 1943 \\ \text { August, } \\ 1939 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 71.6 | 80.9 | 80.9 | 0.0 | + 13.0 |
| 45.5 | 53.3 | 61.2 | +14.8 | + 34.5 |
| 58.4 | 94.5 | 94.7 | + 0.2 | + 62.2 |
| 69.7 | 105.0 | 109.6 | + 4.4 | + 57.2 |
| 67.9 | 116.9 | 138.4 | + 18.4 | + 103.8 |
| 51.1 | 67.6 | 123.4 | +82.5 | +141.5 |
| 64.4 | 120.1 | 94.2 | - 21.6 | + 46.3 |
| 81.9 | 111.9 | 111.9 | 0.0 | + 36.6 |
| 90.2 | 105.7 | 106.2 | $+0.5$ | + 17.7 |
| 79.3 | 137.1 | 145.7 | + 6.3 | + 83.7 |
| 73.6 | 108.2 | 111.7 | + 3.2 | + 51.8 |
| 68.5 | 100.1 | 99.7 | - 0.4 | + 45.5 |
| 43.2 | 88.2 | 83.8 | - 5.0 | + 94.0 |
| 57.8 | 108.1 | 111.3 | +3.0 | + 92.6 |

Parcentage Changes in Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices by Groups Between August, 1939 and December, 1943 - concluded
(1926:30)

| Gromi | 1939 <br> August | 10\%2 <br> December | 1943 <br> December | $\begin{gathered} \text { December, } \\ 1943 \\ \text { December, } \\ 1942 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { December, } \\ 1943 \\ \text { August, } \\ 1939 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Non-Metallic Minerals - conc. |  |  |  |  |  |
| Salt | 116.6 | 130.6 | 130.6 | 0.0 | $+12.0$ |
| Lime | 101.2 | 112.2 | 112.2 | 0.0 | + 10.9 |
| Cement | 96.7 | 106.5 | 106.5 | 0.0 | + 10.1 |
| Sand and gravel | 84.9 | 89.1 | 94.4 | + 5.9 | + 11.2 |
| Crushed stone | 65.8 | 91.1 | 92.9 | + 2.0 | $+41.2$ |
| Building stone | 64.3 | 70.8 | 70.8 | 0.0 | + 10.1 |
| Ashestos | 77.9 | 74.1 | 74.1 | 0.0 | 4.9 |
| Chemicals and Allied Products | 77.6 | 100.9 | 100.2 | - 0.7 | $+29.1$ |
| Inorganic chemicals | 84.8 | 89.1 | 89.5 | $+0.4$ | + 5.5 |
| Orgenic chemicals | 71.7 | 87.6 | 87.6 | 0.0 | + 22.2 |
| Coal tar products | 92.2 | 91.1 | 91.1 | 0.0 | 1.2 |
| Dyeing and tanning materials | 104.0 | 136.4 | 137.5 | $+0.8$ | + 32.2 |
| Explosives | 74.7 | 73.1 | 73.1 | 0.0 | - 2.1 |
| Paint, prepared | 68.4 | 82.5 | 82.5 | 0.0 | + 20.6 |
| Paint materiels | 67.7 | 99.6 | 97.8 | - 1.8 | + 44.5 |
| Drugs and pharmeceuticals | 71.3 | 167.7 | 162.6 | - 3.0 | +128.1 |
| Fertilizers | 82.9 | 83.9 | 83.7 | - 0.2 | + 1.0 |
| Industrial gases | 92.9 | 82.3 | 84.4 | + 2.6 | - 9.1 |
| Soap | 88.0 | 100.9 | 93.8 | -7.0 | + 6.6 |
| Composite Wholesale Index | 72.3 | 97.0 | 102.5 | + 5.7 | $+41.8$ |

## WARTIME CHANGES IN LIVING COSTS

$(1935-1939=100)$
Living costs showed a sluggish response to rising commodity markets following the depression years from 1929 to 1933. Thus, the August, 1939 cost-of-living index of $J 00.8$ was only 7.5 points above the June, 1933 depression 10 w , and almost 21 points below the 1929 average. The December, 1943 index of 119.3 was still more than 2 paints below the 1929 average.

The wartime rise in living costs followed the same general pattern as that for wholesale prices. There was a brief sharp rise during September, 1939 (reflected in the October 1 index) followed by a gredual rise until April, 1941. This accelerated rapidy until the Maximum Price Fegulations were imposed on December 1, 1941. The general movement in 1942 and 1943 continued to be upward, but it was checked temporarily at the end of 1942 by consumer subsidies on milk, tea, coffee, oranges, and butter. In 1943, the index moved upward steadily from February to September before levelling off under the influence of fall seasonal declines in foods.

The wartime increase in the cost-of-living index to December, 1943 was 18.4 p.c. It had reeched 15.4 p.c. by November, 1941 before the price ceiling was established.

The contribution of various budget groups to the cost-of-living increase between August, 1939 and the end of 1943 was of widely different proportions. The increase in foods, for example, amounted to nearly double the rise in living costs as a whole. However, rents and miscellaneous items (including a large proportion of service costs) recorded comparetively small increases which reterded considerably the advance in total living costs. The other groups, clothing, homefurnishings and services, and fuel ond lighting, increased by percentages approximating that for the total cost-of-living index. These reletionships may be observed from the following statement.


## WARTIME FEVIEW OF SECURIIT PRICE MOVEMENTS

$(1935-1939=100)$
Declaration of var in August, 1939 found security prices on Canedian exchanges at varied positions in relation to 1935-1939 average levels. Industrials and utility stocks, for instance, vere weak, reflecting the downwerd swing in the business cycle from 1937 high points. On the other hand mining stocks, golde in particular, were firm at the onset of mar.

The Bureau ${ }^{9}$ s composite inder for 94 industrisl and utility common stocks was 14 p.a. baiow the 1935-1939 average in August of 1939, while a composite index for 25 representative mining stocks was almost 6 p.c. above its 1935-1939 avergge. An index of preferred shares was 97.7 for August, 1939, and an index of yields on Dominion of Caneda long-term bonds wes 94.5 . The immediate reaction of these security groups following the outbreak of war veried videly. The prospect of greatly increased business activity produced an elnost perpendicular advence in induetrial and utility issues from 85.8 in August, 1939 to a wartime peak of 96.6 in October. To a lesser extent the rise in common stocks was reflected by those in the preferred group. Bond yielda increased, indiceting that the price level of bonds had declined sharply. For mining stocks the effect of war was depressing, notably for golds, the index for which dropped 11.2 points to 84.6 in September. Base metal shares were less depressed but vere partially responstble for a 5 p.c. decline in the general level of mining shere prices in the first two monthe of war.

Through the yeers 1940 to 1943 , the movement of security prices followed closely the changing fortunes of the Onited Nations. Prices were influenced also by manporer shortages, increeses in the excesa profits tax, and materiel shortzges. In the first half of 1940 the decline in stocks was severe, and by the time France had fallen in June, the Investors' index was 32 puc . below its pre-war level, while the mining stook index was 40 p.0. lower than for kugust, 1939. Through 1941, the Investors ${ }^{n}$ index hovered within a $10 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. range, while mining stocks contimued almoct sterdily downard due to weakness in gold issues. Because of their low manpover priority rating, gold mines were particularly susceptible to the effect of the war" $\varepsilon$ drain of labour resources, and this coupled with higher costs of materials reduced net profits. The $10 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. premium on United States funds which has obtrined almost since the beginning of the war, was of bssistence in offsetting higher costs in the earlier stages of the war, since it raised the price of gold from $\$ 35.00$ per fine cunce tc $\$ 38.50$.

Sustained recovery in security prices did not materielize until well into 1942. Althcugh the Investors ${ }^{\circ}$ index had reached a wartime low of 61.1 in April, the mining stocks index contfnued downard to 46.2 in October. Iittle net change occurred in the Investors' index of the avernge level of common stocks from April to September. However, all the main groups of stocks gained strength as the outcome of the North African campaign became increasingly certain towerds the close of 1942, end the Tn vestors ${ }^{9}$ index continued upward to a peak of 91.0 in July, 1943, while the mining stock index reached 79.2 in September. Fourth-quarter movements were erratic, influenced by premature peace rumours. At a level of 80.5 in December, the Investors' index wes still 6.2 p.c. lower than in August, 1939, while mining stocks averaged 29.1 p.c. Jower at 74.9.

For a few industrial groups, stock price movements have shown exceptional wartime fluctuations. The most spectacular change occurred in gold shares. In August, 1239 the index level for $\varepsilon$ representative index of 22 gold shares was 95.8 $(1935-39=100)$, but in the succeeding three years there was a drop to 33.3 in October, 1942. As already noted, loss of manpower and higher operating costs, coupled lith the possibility suggested in 1942, that all gold mines monld be shut ciom, lergely influenced this steep descent. The 1942-1943 reccvery moved the level of the gold index up to 68.5 by the close of 1943 . This left the gold index still $28.5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. below pre-war levels.

The rise in pulp and paper stacks at the outtreak of war provided another feature of security merkets. The average price level of stocks in this group more than doubled within the space of three months after the war started. This increase reflected expectations of a larger Unfted States market for pulp as a result of antisubmerine warfare on ships carrying this product from Scandinavian countries. Subsequently these issues shared in the drastic decline common to all security prices, and had fallen back almost to the pre-war index level cf 55.3 by September, 1942. In the general recovery of 1943 , the pulp and paper index rose to 102.7 in Decenber, 1943.

011 Etocks also recorded greater then average fluctuations. An index of oil stocks stood at 74.2 in August, 1939 , and reached a wartime peak of 93.3 in October. Subsequently it sank to 41.2 in March of 1942, but by December, 1943, this series was back on a par with pre-mar levels (74.7).

Of the uiflity groups, transportation issues recorded the widest fluctuations. The index for this group in August, 1939 was exceptionally low at 39.6 but in the following three months it had more than doubled to reach 83.5. From that point an intermittent reaction occurred to a wartime low of 47.3 in June, 1940. Fluctuations in the ensuing two years were within a $50 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{c}$. range, culminating in a prolonged rise commencing in Octobers 1942 to a wartime peak of 133.4 in May, 1943. The year ${ }^{\text {i }}$ close at 107.6 was 171.7 p.c. ebove August, 1939.

PRICE INDEX NUMBERS, AUGUST 1939 -DECBMBER 1943
General wholesale $\qquad$ Canadian Farm Producls $\qquad$


INDEX NUMBERS OF STOCK PRICES, AUGUST 1939 -DECEMBER 1943 Investors Index of 94 Common slocks $\qquad$ 25Mining słocks. $\qquad$
$1935-39=100$


Composite Cosl of Living Foods
$1935-39=100$


General Wholesale $\qquad$


Tabies I. - Weightst Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices, August, 1939 - December, 1943.
( $1926=100$ )

|  | Month | Meneral Wholesale | : Vago- <br> : table <br> 8 Products | $\delta$ <br> 8 <br> : Animel <br> : Products | \% F1bres <br> - Textilos <br> and <br> 8 Textile <br> : Products | : | Woad, Nood Produce: end Paper | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { Iron } \\ : & \text { and 1ts } \\ : & \text { Products } \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1939 | - August | 72.3 | 58.7 | 69.7 | 66.5 |  | 78.4 | 97.1 |
|  | Soptember: | 78.4 | 68.7 | 77.6 | 72.9 |  | 82.4 | 99.4 |
|  | October .. | 79.6 | 68.5 | 80.8 | 75.8 |  | 83.6 | 100.6 |
|  | fovainber. | 80.4 | 68.5 | 80.8 | 79.2 |  | 85.0 | 102.0 |
|  | Dacenter. | 81.7 | 72.0 | 80.3 | 81.9 |  | 85.3 | 102.2 |
| 1940 | - January | 82.6 | 73.7 | 79.9 | 82.5 |  | 86.0 | 102.9 |
|  | Fobruary . | 82.8 | 74.1 | 80.0 | 83.2 |  | 86.1 | 102.7 |
|  | 㩆等ch ... | 83.2 | 75.0 | 79.9 | 84.0 |  | 86.7 | 102.6 |
|  | April ... | 83, 1 | 76.1 | 77.5 | 84.2 |  | 86.9 | 102.5 |
|  | Hay ..... | 82.2 | 72.9 | 78.6 | 83.8 |  | 87.1 | 102, ${ }^{4}$ |
|  | Juna .... | 81.7 | 70.6 | 77.0 | 83.9 |  | 87.4 | 102.7 |
|  | July .... | 82.6 | 71.3 | 77.2 | 84.0 |  | 89.9 | 103.2 |
|  | Augirst .. | 82.6 | 70.3 | 76.8 | 83.6 |  | 90.5 | 105.8 |
|  | Soptenter. | 83.0 | 69.8 | 78.7 | 83.8 |  | 91.6 | 106.1 |
|  | Detaber .. | 83.3 | 69.7 | 80.2 | 83.7 |  | 91.4 | 106.2 |
|  | Nerenber | 84.0 | 70.9 | 82.1 | 84.0 |  | 91.4 | 106.2 |
|  | December - | 84.2 | 70.8 | 83.5 | 84.4 |  | 91.3 | 106. 3 |
| 1941 | .- Januexy .. | 84.8 | 72.8 | 83.5 | 86.6 |  | 91.9 | 107.4 |
|  | February . | 85.4 | 72.4 | 84.3 | 84.5 |  | 92.4 | 108.5 |
|  | Werch ... | 88.0 | 73.7 | 85.3 | 85.3 |  | 92.4 | 108.5 |
|  | April | 86.8 | 75.9 | 84.5 | 86.0 |  | 92.6 | 109.0 |
|  | mey | 88.8 | 78.6 | 85.8 | 88.2 |  | 95.5 | 112.7 |
|  | Juere | 90.1 | 77.7 | 89.7 | 90.8 |  | 96.1 | 112.7 |
|  | tuly $\ldots$. | 91.2 | 78.5 | 93.5 | 92.5 |  | 97.1 | 112.6 |
|  | August . | 92.0 | 77.7 | 97.0 | 9.4 .0 |  | 98.5 | 112.6 |
|  | Septamber. | 93.3 | 79.1 | 100.1 | 96.9 |  | 98.8 | 112.6 |
|  | October .. | 93.9 | 80.0 | 101.1 | 97.2 |  | 98.7 | 112.8 |
|  | Normber . | 93.9 | 79.8 | 101.8 | 96.7 |  | 98.8 | 112.8 |
|  | Decentrer. | 93.5 | 80.2 | 98.8 | 94.9 |  | 99.2 | 112.9 |
| 1942 | - January | 98.1 | 82.0 | 98.5 | 93.0 |  | 100.9 | 112.9 |
|  | February . | 94.6 | 82.7 | 98.9 | 92.1 |  | 100.8 | 115.4 |
|  | Narah ... | 95.0 | 83.4 | 99.8 | 92.1 |  | 101.1 | 115.4 |
|  | Aprest ... | 95.0 | 83.5 | 99.6 | 92.0 |  | 101.4 | 115.4 |
|  | may ...nt. | 95.2 | 83.9 | 99.8 | 91.9 |  | 101.8 | 115.3 |
|  | June | 95.8 | $8 \mathrm{SiL}_{2} 5$ | 202.2 | 91.9 |  | 101.8 | 115.8 |
|  | July ... | 96.0 | 86.1 | 1.01 .1 | 91.9 |  | 101.5 | 115.8 |
|  | Augrat .. | 95.5 | 85.2 | 99.6 | 91.9 |  | 1.01 .5 | 115.8 |
|  | Saptamior. | 95.8 | 85,2 | 100.5 | 91.9 |  | 101.7 | 215.8 |
|  | October .. | 96.6 | 85.7 | 103.3 | 91.9 |  | 102.8 | 115.8 |
|  | Nopenter | 96.9 | 86.0 | 104.8 | 91.9 |  | 102.8 | 115.8 |
|  | December | 97.0 | 86,0 | 105.0 | 91.9 |  | 103.3 | 115.8 |
| 1943 | - Innuary .. | 97.1 | 86.2 | 104.3 | 91.9 |  | 104.0 | 116.0 |
|  | Februery | 97.5 | 87.2 | 105.0 | 91.9 |  | 104.0 | 11.6 .0 |
|  | Merch | 98.5 | 88.9 | 105.6 | 91.9 |  | 105.5 | 116.0 |
|  | Aprsi 1 . | 98.9 | 92.9 | 105.7 | 92.9 |  | 107.3 | 115.7 |
|  | Way ..... | 99.2 | 90. is | 306.5 | 91.9 |  | 107.6 | 315.7 |
|  | June | 99.6 | 92, ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 106.7 | 91.9 |  | 107.6 | 115.7 |
|  | 5uly ${ }^{\text {¢ }}$ | 100.1 | 93.5 | 107.6 | 91.9 |  | 107.8 | 115.7 |
|  | August. . ${ }^{\text {c }}$ | 100.4 | 72.5 | 108.0 | 91.9 |  | 109.5 | $\lambda 15.7$ |
|  | Saplembor. | 104.2 | 92.7 | 108.4 | 92. |  | 113.6 | 115.7 |
|  | nctober ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 101.9 | 94.1 | 109.6 | 91.9 |  | 113.9 | 215.8 |
|  | Sorember. | 102.4 | 94. | 109.7 | 91.9 |  | 115.8 | 115.8 |
|  | Decenblez. | 102.5 | 94.9 | 109.6 | 91.9 |  | 115.8 | 115.8 |

-11 -
Table I. - Weighted Index Fumbers of Thelosele Priceg. August, 1939 - Dursembor, 1923.
$(1926=100)$


Table II. - Index Numbers of Living Costs in Cenada, Alegust, 1939 - Decanber, 1943. (1935-39 = 100 for the Dominion Index)

|  | Month | :Total : Index : | : Food <br> : Index <br> : : | Rent index | : Fuel <br> : and <br> :Light- <br> :ing <br> : Index | :Cloth- <br> :ing <br> :Index <br> : | : Home <br> : Furnish- <br> :ings and <br> :Services <br> : Index | :Miscel- <br> : laneous <br> : Index <br> : | :Retail <br> :Prices <br> : (com- <br> :modities <br> :only) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1939 | - August | 100.8 | 99.3 | 103.8 | 99.0 | 100.1 | 100.9 | 101.3 | 100.0 |
|  | September | 100.8 | 99.4 | 103.8 | 98.9 | 99.6 | 100.8 | 101.3 | 100.0 |
|  | October. | 103.5 | 106.3 | 104.4 | 104.4 | 99.6 | 101.0 | 101.7 | 103.8 |
|  | November. | 103.8 | 107.1 | 104.4 | 105.3 | 99.6 | 101.0 | 101.9 | 104.3 |
|  | December. | 103.8 | 104.7 | 104.4 | 105.4 | 103.3 | 104.1 | 102.0 | 104.3 |
| 1940 | - Januery | 103.8 | 104.5 | 104.4 | 105.5 | 103.3 | 104.3 | 101.8 | 104.2 |
|  | February. | 103.8 | 104.5 | 104.4 | 105.8 | 103.3 | 104.3 | 101.9 | 104.3 |
|  | March | 104.6 | 104.8 | 104.4 | 105.7 | 107.8 | 105.9 | 101.9 | 105.5 |
|  | April | 104.6 | 104.8 | 104.4 | 105.9 | 107.8 | 106.1 | 101.8 | 105.5 |
|  | May | 104.9 | 104.4 | 106.9 | 106.1 | 107.8 | 106.2 | 101.8 | 105.3 |
|  | June | 104.9 | 103.8 | 106.9 | 106.0 | 109.1 | 106.5 | 101.8 | 105.3 |
|  | July | 105.6 | 105.3 | 106.9 | 107.9 | 109.1 | 106.9 | 102.2 | 106.4 |
|  | August .. | 105.9 | 105.4 | 106.9 | 108.4 | 109.1 | 106.9 | 103.0 | 106.8 |
|  | September | 106.4 | 105.4 | 106.9 | 108.5 | 112.4 | 108.9 | 102.8 | 107.9 |
|  | October. | 107.0 | 106.1 | 107.7 | 108.0 | 113.5 | 109.7 | 102.8 | 108.4 |
|  | November. | 107.8 | 108.7 | 107.7 | 108.5 | 113.5 | 110.0 | 102.8 | 109.7 |
|  | December. | 108.0 | 109.1 | 107.7 | 108.5 | 113.5 | 110.7 | 102.8 | 110.0 |
| 1941 | - Jenuary | 108.3 | 109.7 | 107.7 | 108.6 | 113.7 | 110.8 | 103.1 | 110.4 |
|  | February. | 108.2 | 108.8 | 107.7 | 108.7 | 114.1 | 111.5 | 103.1 | 110.1 |
|  | March | 108.2 | 109.0 | 107.7 | 108.9 | 114.2 | 111.6 | 102.9 | 110.2 |
|  | April | 108.6 | 110.1 | 107.7 | 108.9 | 114.3 | 111.7 | 102.9 | 110.7 |
|  | May | 109.4 | 109.7 | 109.7 | 109.2 | 114.5 | 111.8 | 105.1 | 110.9 |
|  | June | 110.5 | 112.5 | 109.7 | 110.2 | 114.9 | 112.1 | 105.6 | 112.7 |
|  | July | 111.9 | 116.6 | 109.7 | 110.5 | 115.1 | 113.0 | 105.6 | 114.9 |
|  | August . . | 113.7 | 121.3 | 109.7 | 110.5 | 115.7 | 114.3 | 106.1 | 117.7 |
|  | September | 114.7 | 123.3 | 109.7 | 110.9 | 117.4 | 115.8 | 106.4 | 119.4 |
|  | October. | 115.5 | 123.2 | 111.2 | 112.1 | 119.6 | 117.3 | 106.5 | 120.1 |
|  | November. | 116.3 | 125.4 | 111.2 | 112.7 | 120.0 | 117.9 | 106.7 | 121.4 |
|  | December. | 115.8 | 123.8 | 111.2 | 112.7 | 119.9 | 117.9 | 106.7 | 120.6 |
| 1942 | - Jrnuary | 115.4 | 122.3 | 111.2 | 112.9 | 119.9 | 118.0 | 106.8 | 119.9 |
|  | Fetruary. | 115.7 | 123.1 | 111.2 | 112.9 | 119.8 | 118.0 | 107.1 | 120.3 |
|  | Nerch | 115.9 | 123.7 | 111.2 | 112.9 | 119.8 | 118.0 | 107.1 | 120.6 |
|  | April | 115.9 | 123.7 | 111.2 | 112.9 | 119.8 | 118.1 | 107.1 | 120.6 |
|  | Mey | 116.1 | 124.3 | 111.3 | 112.9 | 119.9 | 118.0 | 107.1 | 120.9 |
|  | June | 116.7 | 126.2 | 111.3 | 112.6 | 119.9 | 117.9 | 107.1 | 121.8 |
|  | July | 117.9 | 130.3 | 111.3 | 112.5 | 120.0 | 117.9 | 107.1 | 123.9 |
|  | August . . | 117.7 | 129.6 | 111.3 | 112.5 | 120.1 | 117.8 | 107.1 | 123.5 |
|  | September | 117.4 | 128.5 | 111.3 | 112.5 | 120.1 | 117.8 | 107.1 | 123.0 |
|  | Oetcber. | 117.8 | 129.8 | 111.3 | 112.8 | 120.1 | 117.8 | 107.1 | 123.7 |
|  | November. | 118.6 | 132.4 | 111.3 | 112.8 | 120.1 | 117.8 | 107.1 | 125.0 |
|  | Decemter. | 118.8 | 132.8 | 111.3 | 112.8 | 120.2 | 117.8 | 107.2 | 125.2 |
| 1943 | - Januery | 117.1 | 127.3 | 111.3 | 112.8 | 120.2 | 117.8 | 107.5 | 122.5 |
|  | February. | 116.9 | 126.7 | 111.3 | 112.7 | 120.1 | 117.8 | 107.5 | 122.2 |
|  | March | 117.2 | 127.7 | 111.3 | 112.7 | 120.1 | 117.8 | 107.5 | 122.7 |
|  | April | 117.6 | 128.7 | 111.3 | 112.7 | 120.2 | 117.8 | 107.7 | 123.2 |
|  | May | 118.1 | 129.9 | 111.5 | 112.7 | 120.2 | 117.8 | 108.0 | 124.0 |
|  | June | 118.5 | 130.9 | 111.5 | 113.0 | 120.4 | 117.8 | 108.2 | 124.5 |
|  | July | 118.8 | 131.8 | 111.5 | 113.4 | 120.5 | 117.8 | 108.2 | 125.1 |
|  | Angust. | 119.2 | 133.2 | 111.5 | 113.4 | 120.6 | 117.9 | 108.2 | 125.8 |
|  | Septerber | 119.4 | 133.5 | 111.5 | 113.4 | 120.6 | 118.2 | 108.3 | 126.0 |
|  | October | 119.3 | 132.9 | 111.9 | 113.3 | 121.1 | 118.2 | 108.3 | 125.8 |
|  | November. | 119.4 | 133.1 | 111.9 | 113.3 | 121.1 | 118.2 | 108.3 | 125.9 |
|  | December. | 119.3 | 132.7 | 111.9 | 111.9 | 121.1 | 118.8 | 108.6 | 125.9 |

Table II. - Index Numbers of Living Costs in Canada, August, 1939 - December, 1943.
(August, $1939=100$ for City Indexes)


Table III. - Weighted Index Numbers $t$ Dommon Stock Prices. Anprust, 1939 - Decemter, 1043.
(Investors" Mnnthly Index Numbers oi Common Stocks)
$(1935-1939=100)$


Table IIT. - Weighted Index Numbers of Common Stonk Pxicpa, August, 1939 - December, 1943.
(Investors: Montily Index Numbers of Common Stocka)
$(1935-1.939=100)$

| NLUSTHTAS |  |  | - UTLLTIES |  |  |  | EANKS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Butld- |  |  |  | Tele- | Power |  |
|  | ing | Indus |  | Trans | phone, | End |  |
| Beverm | Mater- | trial. | Tolni | por- | Tejem | Trac. | 200.ris |
| ages | 18.18 | Mnez |  | tatian | crapt | flicn |  |
| (7) | (15) | (2) | (18) | (2) | (2) | (14) | (3) |
| 93.8 | 87.4 | 95.4 | 81.1 | 39.6 | 110.7 | 85.5 | 103.2 |
| 86.5 | 104.5 | 105.2 | 83.7 | 75.9 | $99 . \mathrm{m}$ | 81.0 | 95.8 |
| 96.8 | 115.7 | 98.6 | 90.7 | 83.5 | 105.1 | 89.6 | 99.0 |
| 101.6 | 112.5 | 97. 4 | 88.7 | 68.2 | 106.6 | 89.7 | 102.9 |
| 104.2 | 111.6 | 93.0 | 90.7 | 70.8 | 107.7 | 92.3 | I03.1 |
| 107.9 | 108.3 | 92.2 | 90.7 | 69.9 | 1.07 .4 | 92.3 | 103.3 |
| 206.8 | 105.5 | 90.2 | 89.9 | 71.6 | 107. 1. | 4) , 8 | 20.0 |
| 107.9 | 105.3 | 85.3 | 93.4 | 84.0 | 107.7 | 92.0 | 764.0 |
| 109.9 | 105.2 . | 84.9 | 93.4 | 82.7 | 106.2 | 93.2 | 23.14 |
| 94.0 | 83.2 | 65.0 | 78.2 | 57.1 | 29.3 | 78.3 | 97-4 |
| 85.2 | 74.3 | 62.7 | 71.0 | 47.3 | 95.0́ | 70.8 | 97.3 |
| 91.0 | 73.5 | 55.8 | 70.4 | 49.0 | 91.5 | 70.9 | 85, 5 |
| 95.9 | 77.5 | 71.2 | 73.6 | 55.0 | 95.3 | 73.2 | 88.1 |
| 99.5 | 87.0 | 77.4 | 78.0 | 60.1 | 99.5 | 77.2 | 92.9 |
| 99.5 | 88.9 | 77.7 | 77.0 | 55-4 | 100.2 | 76.9 | 91.9 |
| 105.8 | 91.2 | 77.8 | 78.2 | 62.2 | 101.2 | 76.2 | 92.7 |
| 106.5 | 87.6 | 71.4 | 76.4 , | 55.8 | 101.3 | 75.6 | 94.6 |
| 104.3 | 84.0 | 73.2 | 77.3 | 60.9 | 101.2 | 75.4 | 94.7 |
| 96.6 | 77.3 | 67.3 | 71.3 | 51.6 | 100 ? | 68.8 | 90.0 |
| 93.7 | 78.5 | 69.0 | 70.7 | 55.7 | 99.2 | 67.0 | 89.9 |
| 88.1 | 77.8 | 67.8 | 68.2 | 57.3 | 97.8 | 62.2 | sa. 7 |
| 82.8 | 74.4 | 62.6 | 55.2 | 54.8 | 91.6 | 50.3 | 88.3 |
| 87.3 | 74.9 | 64.2 | 67.1 | 58.9 | 92.0 | 52.0 | 29.3 |
| 94.3 | 77.8 | 72.3 | 70.6 | 65.8 | 93.0 | 65.3 | on. 7 |
| 95.7 | 79.7 | 71.5 | 71.2 | 70.0 | 94.6 | 64.6 | 89.7 |
| 102.4 | 82.4 | 75.8 | 74.7 | 70.3 | 08.6 | 68.3 | O2. ${ }^{2}$ |
| 98.7 | 78.9 | 71.7 | 72.5 | 65.7 | 96.8 | 67.2 | 90.8 |
| 102.6 | 77.8 | 68.9 | 71.1 | 65.2 | 95.3 | 65.5 | 01.7 |
| 104.8 | 75.5 | 69.7 | 68.7 | 60.4 | - 95.9 | 63.0 | 90.5 |
| 99.2 | 75.1 | 71.9 | 70.4 | 64.5 | 95.5 | 64.4 | 91.1 |
| 96.3 | 73.9 | 70.1 | 67.7 | 60.5 | 93.5 | 62.1 | 91.1 |
| 92.8 | 74.0 | 67.3 | 67.5 | 59.4 | 93.5 | 62.0 | 89.2 |
| 93.1 | 73.9 | 64.2 | 66.3 | 60.6 | 91.9 | $60 . ?$ | 88.4 |
| 94.2 | 75.7 | 65.2 | 66.4 | 59.6 | 92.0 | 60.7 | $87 \%$ |
| 93.6 | 76.8 | 64.9 | 68.1 | 56.6 | 92.3 | 54.3 | 87.7 |
| 95.5 | 75.3 | 62.7 | 67.8 | 58.4 | 86.5 | 65.2 | 81.7 |
| 98.3 | 73.1 | 61.9 | 67.8 | 58.8 | 80.8 | 66.9 | 71.9 |
| 98.7 | 71.2 | 64.1 | 69.2 | 62.5 | 83.4 | 67.1 | 69.0 |
| 98.9 | 70.8 | 68.4 | 72.0 | 73.4 | 83.9 | 67.8 | 70.3 |
| 105.5 | 74.9 | 68.0 | 77.6 | 85.7 | 87.1 | 72.1 | 72.3 |
| 107.3 | 79.6 | 69.1 | 83.8 | 88.2 | 89.8 | 80.7 | 7 Cok |
| 109.7 | 84.0 | 74.3 | 90.0 | 92.1 | 93.3 | 88.5 | 75.8 |
| 111.8 | 85.0 | 78.6 | 88.0 | 84.7 | 92.2 | 88.0 | 79.5 |
| 113.9 | 85.3 | 79.6 | 92.1 | 1.02 .1 | 93.7 | 88.5 | 80.2 |
| 128.2 | 89.5 | 79.7 | 101.4 | $\underline{523.3}$ | 96.8 | 95.8 | T0. |
| 128.1 | 92.4 | 79.2 | 1.06 .2 | 133.4 | 95.0 | 1.01 .0 | 80.5 |
| 133.5 | 93.1 | 77.3 | 111.1 | 126.3 | 96.5 | 101.7 | 81.2 |
| 137.9 | 94.5 | 78.7 | 112.4 | 130.5 | 95.1 | 211.3 | 82.7 |
| 138.0 | 93.3 | 76.1 | 109.5 | 121.0 | 300.1 | 309.0 | 32.7 |
| 138.5 | 92.6 | 75.0 | 110.3 | 118.7 | 100.7 | 210.8 | 82.8 |
| 143.9 | 90.8 | 71.2 | 104.3 | 114.7 | 100.5 | 102.3 | 82.3 |
| 142.2 | 85.2 | 62.9 | 94.1 | 98.9 | 99.9 | 90.9 | 79.8 |
| 145.9 | 84.0 | 64.6 | 96.6 | 1.07 .6 | 99.5 | 92.2 | 38. |

Table III. - Weignted Index Numbers of Stock Prices and Bond Yields, August, 1939 - December, 19/4 - concluder

$$
(1935-1939=100)
$$



