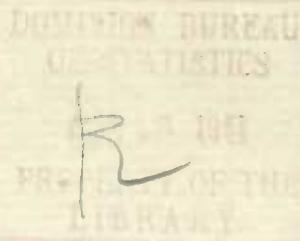


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CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

CANADIAN FARM

FAMILY LIVING COSTS

(semi-annual)

1941

(Spring)

(With revised weights, and on the new base period 1935-1939=100)

..... + + +

Published by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.,
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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

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FARM FAMILY LIVING COSTS, 1941 (SPRING)

(First release of indexes on the new base period 1935-1939=100)

The 1941 spring index number of Canadian farm family living costs issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on the base 1935-39=100 showed a further increase of 1.8 p.c. to 112.3. This was the highest level since 1930, and it compared with a depression low of 95.7 recorded in 1933. Regional indexes showed similar movements between the fall of 1940 and the spring of 1941, the eastern series gaining 2.1 p.c. to 112.9 while the corresponding western index moved up 1.4 p.c. to 111.4. Over the same period an index of Canadian urban living costs, stiffened 2.5 p.c. to 108.6 (1935-39=100) and an index of Canadian farm product prices at wholesale advanced 10.8 p.c. to 69.5 (1926=100). From August 1939 to April 1941 farm family living costs advanced 13.2 p.c. as compared with a 7.7 p.c. increase for urban living costs.

Among the various groups price changes between August 1940 and April 1941 were relatively narrow with the exception of foods. For foods the Dominion index advanced 5.6 p.c. to 113.8 between August, 1940 and April 1941, with the eastern regional index moving up 6.3 p.c. to 115.0 and the western index 4.5 p.c. to 111.9. Since the fall of 1939, the Dominion food series has increased 18.9 p.c.

Between August and April, a Dominion farm index of fuel prices moved up 3.6 p.c. to 105.8, this gain being more than one-half the 6.2 p.c. advance accumulated after the outbreak of war. Since August 1939, there has been a 7.9 p.c. increase in the eastern fuel index and 3.9 p.c. in the western series.

Slightly higher costs for all sub-sections of the health maintenance series were reflected in a 2.2 p.c. rise to 103.0 for April 1941. Until this advance there had been no increase in health maintenance costs since the spring of 1939.

In the household equipment and supplies group, an increase of 1.9 p.c. to 116.9 in the eastern series more than offset a minor decline of 0.2 p.c. to 114.0 in the western series, and the Dominion index advanced 1.0 p.c. to 115.7 between August 1940 and April 1941. Since the war this index has risen 15.1 p.c.

Two group indexes moved fractionally lower, the clothing index declining 0.5 p.c. to 120.2 while the miscellaneous series receded 0.2 p.c. to 102.4. For the former, lower prices for men's shoes and certain piece goods were the principal factors in reducing the index, while for the latter a small temporary reduction in tobacco prices was responsible

for the decline. Since August 1939, however, clothing prices have registered the most substantial increase in the farm family budget, the Dominion average being up 19.8 p.c. while regional increases of 20.4 p.c. and 19.0 p.c. were recorded for the east and west respectively. Since August, 1939 an index of miscellaneous items has advanced only 1.8 p.c.

Table I. - Index Numbers of Canadian Farm Living Costs and Related Series, 1913-1941.

(1935-39=100 for all series except the Canadian Farm Products Prices Index which is on a 1926 base)

Year	Canadian Farm Living Costs -			Canadian Urban Living Costs	Wholesale Prices of Canadian Farm Products (1926=100)
	Eastern Canada	Western Canada	Dominion Average		
1913	77.6	82.6	79.6	79.7	64.1
1914	80.6	84.0	82.0	80.0	70.2
1915	85.5	87.5	86.3	81.6	77.9
1916	93.3	94.0	93.6	88.3	89.8
1917	112.2	110.8	111.6	104.5	128.5
1918	132.6	129.7	131.4	118.3	132.6
1919	143.0	143.0	143.0	130.0	146.7
1920	168.2	174.4	170.7	150.5	160.6
1921	137.7	142.2	139.5	132.5	103.7
1922	125.6	130.3	127.5	121.3	88.0
1923	126.3	130.2	127.9	121.7	81.5
1924	123.8	127.1	125.1	119.5	88.1
1925	122.6	125.1	123.6	120.6	101.0
1926	120.2	121.9	120.9	121.8	100.0
1927	118.5	121.1	119.5	119.9	102.1
1928	117.4	119.7	118.3	120.5	100.7
1929	117.5	117.2	117.4	121.7	100.8
1930	113.5	114.0	113.7	120.8	82.3
1931	103.3	104.4	103.7	109.1	56.3
1932	97.4	98.2	97.7	99.0	48.4
1933	95.5	96.1	95.7	94.4	51.0
1934	97.6	98.1	97.8	95.6	59.0
1935	97.8	98.1	97.9	96.2	63.5
1936	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.1	69.4
1937	102.8	102.8	102.8	101.2	87.1
1938	102.0	101.7	101.9	102.2	73.6
1939 - Spring ...	99.7	99.6	99.7	100.6	65.5
- Fall	99.2	99.2	99.2	100.8	58.4
1940 - Spring ...	107.2	106.1	106.8	104.6	72.1
Fall	110.6	109.9	110.3	105.9	62.7
1941 - Spring ...	112.9	111.4	112.3	108.6	69.5

Table II. - Group Index Numbers of Canadian Farm Family Living Costs, 1913-1941.

(1935-39=100)

Date	Food			Clothing			Fuel			Household Equipment			Health			Miscellaneous		
	East	West	Dominion	East	West	Dominion	East	West	Dominion	East	West	Dominion	East	West	Dominion	East	West	Dominion
1913	93.2	99.7	95.8	87.5	85.9	86.9	62.4	105.2	79.5	70.3	67.7	69.3	52.9	52.9	52.9	67.7	67.8	67.7
1914	98.5	100.8	99.4	93.4	90.1	92.1	62.2	103.5	78.7	70.5	68.1	69.5	54.1	54.1	54.1	67.7	67.8	67.7
1915	109.3	109.0	109.2	98.5	94.9	97.1	63.3	97.4	76.9	74.1	70.5	72.7	56.2	56.2	56.2	68.4	68.5	68.4
1916	119.0	115.2	117.5	112.5	107.9	110.7	63.7	97.4	77.2	80.6	75.7	78.6	57.4	57.4	57.4	71.8	71.9	71.8
1917	153.6	114.7	150.0	135.8	127.9	132.6	83.4	105.0	92.0	91.7	88.8	90.5	61.1	61.1	61.1	78.6	78.6	78.6
1918	177.1	164.5	172.1	163.2	159.0	161.5	107.3	120.3	112.5	114.3	103.5	110.0	67.9	67.9	67.9	88.1	88.2	88.1
1919	186.3	174.3	181.5	179.5	182.2	180.6	111.9	134.9	121.1	121.5	111.9	117.7	76.1	76.1	76.1	97.6	97.7	97.6
1920	221.8	211.5	217.7	211.7	231.1	219.5	134.0	160.4	144.6	150.9	146.2	149.0	81.0	81.0	81.0	106.4	106.5	106.4
1921	161.1	157.8	159.8	163.7	170.3	166.3	135.0	158.4	144.4	124.5	125.2	124.8	87.5	87.5	87.5	108.4	108.5	108.4
1922	133.7	130.6	132.5	152.3	162.2	156.3	126.5	142.8	133.0	111.6	114.3	112.7	89.4	89.4	89.4	108.4	108.5	108.4
1923	139.7	136.3	138.3	147.4	155.9	150.8	125.3	140.7	131.5	114.9	116.2	115.4	90.8	90.8	90.8	107.7	107.8	107.7
1924	135.1	133.1	134.3	145.4	150.4	147.4	121.3	137.8	127.9	112.5	113.3	112.8	92.2	92.2	92.2	105.7	105.8	105.7
1925	138.1	136.8	137.6	141.0	143.1	141.8	119.7	134.9	125.8	109.1	109.2	109.1	94.6	94.6	94.6	103.6	103.7	103.6
1926	136.1	131.9	134.4	134.8	138.1	136.1	119.5	131.2	124.2	108.0	107.4	107.8	95.8	95.8	95.8	102.3	102.4	102.3
1927	135.5	134.2	135.0	130.7	133.6	131.9	118.6	129.1	122.8	104.4	106.1	105.1	96.9	96.9	96.9	102.9	103.0	102.9
1928	135.6	134.6	135.2	125.3	128.7	126.7	118.4	128.5	122.4	105.0	104.7	104.9	100.4	100.4	100.4	101.4	101.4	101.4
1929	137.4	132.2	135.3	123.6	123.8	123.7	117.6	122.4	119.5	105.3	103.5	104.6	102.1	102.1	102.1	101.2	101.2	101.2
1930	129.5	123.7	127.2	117.0	120.9	118.6	115.7	118.9	117.0	103.8	103.1	103.5	102.4	102.4	102.4	101.0	101.1	101.0
1931	102.0	98.4	100.6	107.0	112.4	109.2	114.2	115.5	114.7	98.6	99.7	99.0	102.2	102.2	102.2	101.2	101.2	101.2
1932	88.0	87.9	88.0	99.9	104.1	101.6	110.2	107.2	109.0	98.2	98.3	98.2	101.5	101.5	101.5	99.1	98.9	99.0
1933	89.7	91.3	90.3	96.0	97.2	96.5	103.0	100.8	102.1	94.4	95.2	94.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.8	98.7	98.8
1934	96.1	96.3	96.2	97.2	99.3	98.0	103.0	100.1	101.8	96.5	97.1	96.7	99.3	99.3	99.3	98.4	98.3	98.4
1935	96.5	96.4	96.5	97.6	97.9	97.7	101.4	100.7	101.1	96.0	97.6	96.6	99.3	99.3	99.3	99.4	99.4	99.4
1936	96.6	97.1	96.8	98.4	97.9	98.2	100.2	99.5	99.9	98.2	98.5	98.3	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.4	99.4	99.4
1937	106.3	106.9	106.5	102.3	102.5	102.4	99.8	99.1	99.5	104.0	102.4	103.4	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.2	100.2
1938	104.8	104.2	104.6	101.8	101.0	101.5	99.5	100.3	99.8	101.6	101.1	101.4	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.9	100.7	100.8
1939 Spring.	96.6	96.0	96.4	100.4	100.7	100.5	99.8	101.0	100.3	101.5	101.2	101.4	100.8	100.9	100.8	100.6	100.5	100.6
Fall ..	96.1	95.1	95.7	100.0	100.8	100.3	98.8	100.7	99.6	100.4	100.6	100.5	100.8	100.9	100.8	100.6	100.5	100.6
1940 Spring.	108.0	106.3	107.3	114.0	111.7	113.1	102.0	101.6	101.8	108.3	108.3	108.3	100.8	100.9	100.8	100.2	100.1	100.2
Fall ..	108.2	107.1	107.8	121.1	120.4	120.8	102.6	101.4	102.1	114.7	114.2	114.5	100.8	100.9	100.8	102.7	102.4	102.6
1941 Spring.	115.0	111.9	113.8	120.4	120.0	120.2	106.6	104.6	105.8	116.9	114.0	115.7	103.0	103.0	103.0	102.5	102.3	102.4

WEIGHTING

Coincident with the change in the base period of the Bureau's index of farm family living costs from 1926 to the five-year average 1935-39=100, there was a revision in weights. These weight revisions incorporate the results of a 1938 survey of expenditure records from 1,692 farm crop correspondent families. For individual items practically the only revisions of importance were in foods, though a few items in the clothing section were reweighted, e.g., men's and women's overcoats and men's suits and windbreakers. There was also a redistribution of weights for women's cashmere and silk hosiery in the eastern regional index. Food price weights were revised in line with 1938 food expenditure records. Most important changes in the new weighting set-up, however, were in the group weights, which are listed below along with the old weights.

<u>Group</u>	<u>East</u>		<u>West</u>	
	<u>Old</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Old</u>	<u>New</u>
Foods	29	24	27	26
Clothing	24	26	22	26
Fuel	10	6	14	8
Household Equipment and Supplies.	8	17	9	15
Health Maintenance.	8	10	9	8
Miscellaneous	21	17	19	17

Farm Living Cost Price Index Number Weighting System

Regional Weights (based upon the number of farms in specified areas)

	<u>Province</u>	<u>Region</u>
Eastern Canada		60
Quebec	23	
Ontario	24	
Western Canada		40
Manitoba	8	
Saskatchewan	17	
Alberta	12	

Family Budget Weights (based upon 1934 and 1938 surveys of Canadian Farm Living Expenditures)

<u>Groups and Items</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Weights for Individual Items</u>		<u>Group Weights</u>	
		<u>East</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>West</u>
<u>FOODS</u>					
Beef, fresh	pound	115	90	24	26
Pork, fresh	"	30	12		
Bacon	"	7	8		
Lard	"	36	19		
Butter, creamery...	"	43	12		
Cheese	"	19	15		
Flour	"	725	800		
Rolled Oats	"	84	100		
Rice	"	22	16		
Canned Tomatoes ...	2 1/2	14	21		
" Peas	16 ounce	10	7		
" Corn	16 ounce	7	8		
" Peaches	16 ounce	4	12		
Jam, raspberry	pound	3	25		
Prunes	"	9	17		
Raisins	"	13	18		
Currants	"	3	6		
Sugar	"	390	360		
Coffee	"	7	18		
Tea	"	15	16		
Salt	"	35	35		
Corn Syrup	"	13	26		

Groups and Items	Unit	Weights for Individual Items		Sub-Group Weight	Group Weights			
		East	West		East	West		
CLOTHING								
<u>Men's Wear</u>								
Boots, leather, work....	Pair	3.0	3.0		26	26		
Gum rubbers.....	"	1.0	1.0					
Socks, wool, work.....	"	4.0	7.0					
Socks, cashmere.....	"	2.0	3.0					
Gloves, horsehide.....	"	4.0	4.0					
Shirt, drill.....	one	4.0	5.0					
Sweater, wool.....	"	1.3	1.5					
Pyjamas.....	pair	0.6	1.0					
Windbreaker.....	one	1.0	1.0					
Overalls.....	pair	3.0	5.0					
Suit.....	one	0.3	0.3					
Overcoat.....	"	0.3	0.3					
Trousers.....	pair	2.0	2.0					
Underwear, balbriggan... suit		2.0	2.0					
Underwear, combinations.	"	2.0	3.0					
<u>Women's Wear</u>								
Shoes.....	pair	3.0	3.0					
Rubbers.....	"	1.0	1.0					
Stockings, cashmere....	"	4.5	5.0					
Stockings, silk.....	"	2.0	3.0					
Gloves, woollen.....	"	2.0	2.0					
Coat.....	one	0.3	0.3					
Sweater.....	"	1.0	1.0					
Housedress.....	"	3.0	3.0					
Apron.....	"	4.0	4.0					
Slip, cotton.....	"	2.0	2.0					
Bloomers, wool.....	"	2.0	3.0					
Bloomers, rayon.....	"	2.0	2.0					
Nightgown.....	"	1.0	1.0					
Dress, rayon crepe.....	"	0.5	0.5					
Vest, wool.....	"	1.5	1.5					
Vest, rayon.....	"	1.5	1.5					
<u>Materials, Yarns and Threads</u>								
Gingham.....	yard	6.0	7.0					
Flannelette.....	"	5.0	6.0					
Dress Goods, wool.....	"	5.0	6.0					
Dress Goods, celanese...								
rayon.....	"	4.0	4.0					
Cretonne.....	"	2.0	2.0					
Yarn, Scotch fingering..	pound	2.0	2.0					
Thread, spool.....	one	8.0	8.0					
Yarn, wool.....	ball	5.0	5.0					
<u>FUEL</u> *								
Wood.....	cord	2.6	3.2		6	8		
Coal.....	ton	0.6	4.0					
Coke.....	"	0.1	0.7					
Kerosene.....	gallon	16.72	20.16					
<u>HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES</u>								
<u>Household Equipment</u>								
Textiles				75	17	15		
Blankets.....	pair	0.5	0.5					
Sheets.....	"	1.0	1.0					
Bath Towels.....	"	2.0	2.0					

*Anthracite coal used in Quebec and Ontario; Bituminous in Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia.

<u>Textiles - Cont'd</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Weights for Individual Items</u>		<u>Sub-Group Weight</u>	<u>Group Weights</u>	
		<u>East</u>	<u>West</u>		<u>East</u>	<u>West</u>
Table Cloth	one	0.2	0.2			
Table Napkins	dozen	0.1	0.1			
Mattress	one	0.2	0.2			
Window Shades	"	1.0	1.0			
<u>Furnishings</u>				50		
Bookcase(until 1941 spring)	one	0.05	0.05			
Desk	"	0.05	0.05			
Couch	"	0.1	0.1			
Library Table	"	0.05	0.05			
Living Room Chair ...	"	0.1	0.1			
Bedstead	"	0.07	0.07			
Springs	"	0.1	0.1			
Dresser	"	0.05	0.05			
Buffet	"	0.05	0.05			
Table, dining	"	0.05	0.05			
Chairs, dining	half doz.	0.07	0.4(each)			
Cupboard, kitchen ...	one	0.04	0.04			
Chairs, kitchen	half doz.	0.1	0.6(each)			
Table, kitchen	one	0.07	0.07			
Sewing Machine	"	0.05	0.05			
Linoleum	yard	0.25	0.25			
<u>Hardware</u>				30		
Dish Pan	one	0.1	0.1			
Double Boiler	"	0.1	0.1			
Preserving Kettle ...	"	0.2	0.2			
Sad Irons	set	0.05	0.05			
Frying Pan	one	0.2	0.2			
Tea Kettle	"	0.2	0.2			
Tea Pot	"	0.2	0.2			
Wash Boiler	"	0.2	0.2			
Washing Machine.....	"	0.07	0.07			
Water Bucket	"	0.5	0.5			
Butcher Knife	"	0.2	0.2			
Paring Knife	"	1.0	1.0			
Stove	"	0.05	0.05			
Oil Lamp	"	0.2	0.2			
Clothes Line	50 ft.	1.0	1.0			
Mop	one	0.2	0.2			
Rolling Pin	"	0.1	0.1			
Floor Enamel	gallon	0.2	0.2			
<u>Drugs, Sundries and Cleaning Supplies</u>						
<u>Drugs and Sundries</u>				50		
Dodd's Kidney Pills..	box	1.0	1.0			
Cuticura Ointment ...	"	2.0	2.0			
Olive Oil	5-oz.					
	bottle	1.6	0.8(10 oz.)			
Castor Oil	5-oz.					
	bottle	3.2	2.0(8 oz.)			
Epsom Salts	pound	1.0	1.0			
Hydrogen peroxide ...	16-oz.					
	bottle	0.5	0.5			
Boracic Acid Powder..	pound	1.0	0.6			
Tincture of Iodine ..	2-oz.					
	bottle	2.0	2.0			
Hot Water Bottle ,...	one	0.2	0.2			
Listerine	14-oz.					
	bottle	1.0	1.0			
Tooth Brush	one	2.5	2.5			
Tooth Paste	tube	7.0	7.0			
Shaving Stick	one	2.0	2.0			

	<u>Unit</u>	Weights for Individual Items		Sub-Group Weight	Group Weights	
		<u>East</u>	<u>West</u>		<u>East</u>	<u>West</u>
<u>Cleaning Supplies</u>				50		
Soap, toilet	dozen	6.0	6.0			
Old Dutch Cleanser	can	4.0	4.0			
Soap Flakes	package	6.0	6.0			
Laundry Soap	ten	3.6	3.6			
		(Percentages)				
<u>Health</u>					10	8
Doctors' Fees		54	53			
Dentists' Fees		21	22			
Hospital Bills		25	25			
		(Percentages)			17	17
<u>Miscellaneous</u>						
Life Insurance		65	67			
Tobacco		11	12			
Newspapers		5	4			
Telephone		13	12			
Magazines		6	5			

Textiles, Furnishings and Household Hardware indexes weighted 20, 50 and 30 respectively and combined into a separate index of Household Equipment. The Drugs and Sundries indexes and Cleaning Supplies indexes are weighted 50 each and combined into a Drugs, Sundries and Cleaning Supplies index. The Household Equipment indexes and Drugs, Sundries, and Cleaning Supplies Indexes are then weighted 75 and 25 respectively, and combined into Household Equipment and Supplies Indexes. Subgroup weights are the same for eastern and western series.

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