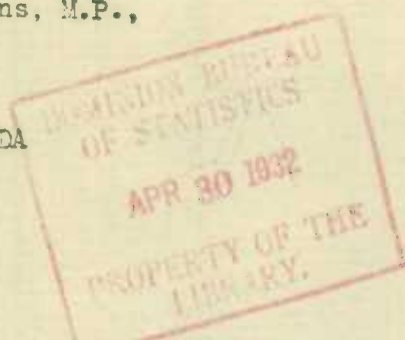


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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA  
INTERNAL TRADE BRANCH

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INDEX NUMBERS OF IMPORT AND EXPORT VALUATIONS, 1931.  
(1913=100 for all index numbers given)

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics price index number of commodities entering into Canada's international trade, i.e., the combined index of import and export valuations, showed a further sharp decline from 116.0 in 1930, to 95.2 in 1931. This marked the first occasion since the inception of the index, on which valuation averages have been below pre-war levels. Wholesale prices which move roughly parallel with import and export quotations, but upon a higher level, fell from 135.3 in 1930, to 112.8 in 1931.

The drop registered by import and export indexes between 1930 and 1931 was almost the same, imports declining from 115.1 to 95.3, and exports from 116.8 to 95.2. From 1925 to 1929 the export index was consistently between 10 and 17 points above that for imports. Relatively sharper declines in export quotations in the past two years, however, have placed the indexes practically upon a par. This change may be partially explained by the fact that raw materials are a large portion of Canada's exports while manufactured goods are imported extensively. Prices for raw materials competing in world markets have fallen much faster recently than those for manufactured goods.

Changes in Group Index Numbers

Declines occurred during 1931, in all export groups. Iron and Its Products changed slightly from 80.5 to 79.3. Fibres and Textiles again fell sharply from 89.4 to 68.0, influenced by lower wool quotations. Animal Products also showed a severe drop from 145.9 to 118.3, due chiefly to reduced quotations for meats, milk products, fish, and leather. Vegetable Products moved down from 99.0 to 73.5, grains, flour, and spirits all being lower, while sugar advanced slightly. Wood, Wood Products and Paper fell from 142.2 to 125.7, being affected by easier prices for lumber, wood pulp and paper. Non-Ferrous Metals with the exception of nickel, were down substantially causing the index for the group to decline from 109.4 to 88.5. Reduced quotations for asbestos were the main reason for the fall in Non-Metallic Minerals from 164.0 to 155.9. Chemicals and Allied Products dropped from 83.7 to 76.6.

Declines for import groups were also general. Vegetable Products fell from 117.0 to 100.9, fresh fruits, tea, coffee, and spirits, all being lower. Easier hide and skin prices were a factor in the movement of Animal Products from 75.1 to 58.0. Fibres and Textiles dropped from 123.0 to 86.0, because of general reductions for raw textiles and fabrics. Iron and Its Products moved down from 99.4 to 92.6. Weaker hardwood quotations influenced the decline of Wood, Wood Products and Paper from 144.8 to 117.9. Non-Ferrous Metals fell from 133.4 to 97.2, due in part to lower prices for copper, tin, and alumina. Non-Metallic Minerals reflected cuts for coal and glass, by changing from 117.2 to 100.6. Chemicals and Allied Products dropped slightly from 154.5 to 151.7.

INDEX NUMBERS OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS, CALENDAR YEARS, 1924-1931.

(1913 = 100)

EXPORTS

	Number of Items	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
Vegetable Products .....	14	133.1	155.2	150.9	143.5	132.1	130.1	99.0	73.6
Animals and Their Products .....	11	136.3	155.1	148.0	160.3	155.7	155.7	145.9	118.3
Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products .....	22	161.1	165.8	140.3	126.7	143.7	126.0	89.4	68.0
Wood, Wood Products and Paper .....	8	173.3	167.9	162.4	158.5	156.4	153.9	142.2	125.7
Iron and Its Products .....	4	88.3	83.8	82.9	92.0	81.0	82.9	80.5	79.3
Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products .....	6	123.3	132.9	129.4	120.0	121.1	126.6	109.4	88.5
Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products .....	2	181.1	169.9	172.8	173.3	172.8	177.0	164.0	155.9
Chemicals and Allied Products .....	3	109.0	109.6	107.6	97.0	87.4	85.5	83.7	76.6
Total Exports .....	50	139.6	151.7	147.0	144.0	137.6	136.9	116.8	95.2

IMPORTS

Vegetable Products .....	15	167.2	154.8	149.6	153.3	144.4	130.6	117.0	100.9
Animals and Their Products .....	3	78.9	93.6	86.9	95.0	119.2	94.9	75.1	58.0
Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products .....	15	181.7	184.0	158.0	143.7	153.8	147.1	123.0	86.0
Wood, Wood Products and Paper .....	3	167.0	175.6	164.7	141.7	142.1	150.9	144.8	117.9
Iron and Its Products .....	11	107.4	98.6	95.0	95.0	93.6	95.7	99.4	92.6
Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products .....	3	92.0	100.6	107.4	106.7	103.7	115.4	133.4	97.2
Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products .....	7	145.4	143.9	141.7	130.1	134.8	123.6	117.2	100.6
Chemicals and Allied Products .....	3	146.9	140.3	148.7	148.2	138.6	134.3	154.5	151.7
Total Imports .....	60	142.0	139.6	131.7	127.0	127.3	122.9	115.1	95.3
Combined Index .....		140.7	146.3	140.1	136.3	133.0	130.6	116.0	95.2





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