

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

(Issued December 14, 1937)

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WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1936-1937.
(1926=100)

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices on the base 1926=100, advanced from 82.5 for the week ending December 3 to 82.7 for the week ending December 10. An increase occurred in Vegetable Products while recessions predominated in Animal Products, Non-Ferrous Metals and Chemicals. Butter prices reached their highest point since early in 1931.

Vegetable Products rose from 83.8 to 84.8. Grains, milled products, raw rubber and African coffees hardened while fruits, vegetable oils, raw sugar and canned vegetables moved moderately lower. Grain prices were sharply up in the early part of the week as reports of adverse crop conditions in the Argentine were received but later advices of large quantities of new Australian wheat afloat had a bearish influence upon markets. The grain index moved from 85.1 to 87.2 which compared with 81.4 for the corresponding week of 1936. Animal Products fell from 78.9 to 78.5 when reductions in meats, lard and eggs proved of more consequence than increases in fish, hides, livestock and butter. The slight increase in hides came after five weeks of decline while livestock prices have been maintained of late in the fact of an almost total cessation of cattle exports. The Textile index remained at 69.1 when slight increases in raw cotton and raw silk were offset by weakness in raw wool. Non-Ferrous Metals dropped from 72.9 to 72.5 following recessions in copper, lead and zinc. The tin index was unchanged at 71.0, although on the 10th the International Tin Committee slashed production quotas for the first quarter of 1938 from 110 p.c. to 70 p.c. Chemicals eased from 81.3 to 81.2, while Wood Products, Iron and Non-Metallic Minerals were unchanged at 75.9, 104.2 and 87.2 respectively.

Canadian Farm Products mounted from 82.1 to 83.2. At this level, the index was 3.8 points above that for the same period of 1936. Field Products rose from 80.2 to 82.1 because of strength in grains and potatoes while Animal Products declined from 85.4 to 85.1 when reductions in eggs and wool exerted a greater influence than advances in livestock and hides.

	: No. of : Price : Series	: 1936 :		: 1937		
		: Dec. : 11	: Nov. : 19	: Nov. : 26	: Dec. : 3	: Dec. : 10
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	77.9	83.5	82.6	82.5	82.7
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS						
I. Vegetable Products	135	80.5	85.5	83.6	83.8	84.8
II. Animals and Their Products	76	73.6	80.8	79.9	78.9	78.5
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	70.1	69.5	69.1	69.1	69.1
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	69.5	76.1	76.0	75.9	75.9
V. Iron and Its Products	44	88.4	105.1	104.2	104.2	104.2
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products	18	76.3	73.0	72.3	72.9	72.5
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	85.0	87.2	87.2	87.2	87.2
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	78.8	81.3	81.3	81.3	81.2
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	79.4	85.1	82.3	82.1	83.2

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