

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

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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, rose from 85.1 for the week ending April 30 to 85.2 for the week ending May 7. Advances occurred in Vegetable Products, Textiles and Non-Ferrous Metals while recessions were predominant in Animal Products and Chemicals. Commodity markets were somewhat dull and uncertain with speculative interest greatly reduced.

Vegetable Products moved from 88.8 to 89.2. Grains averaged higher for the week although Friday's closing quotations were generally below those of a week ago. Raw sugar was buoyant also, but vegetable oils showed a slight loss and the potato index dropped 3.9 points to 58.2 which compared with 72.1 for a year ago. Animal Products slipped from 77.2 to 76.9 and with the exception of meats all changes were downward. Fish, furs, hides, milk products and eggs were among the commodities to register declines and livestock reacted also, although exports to the United States were above those of the previous week and shipments to British ports have again commenced. Fur prices have risen above levels of a year ago and the index stood at 72.7 to show a gain of 8.4 points in the past twelve months. Textile Products advanced from 73.5 to 73.6 as increases in miscellaneous fibres and cloth proved of more importance than declines in raw silk and worsted cloth yarns. Firmer quotations for copper, lead and zinc lifted the index for Non-Ferrous Metals from 84.9 to 85.5 while Chemicals dropped from 82.4 to 82.2 when decreases in organic chemicals and paint materials outweighed a rise in fertilizers. Wood, Iron and Non-Metallic Minerals were unchanged at 78.3, 104.2 and 85.5 respectively.

Canadian Farm Products mounted from 88.1 to 88.4. Increases in grains, hay and straw were of greater influence than a reduction in potatoes and advanced the index for Field Products from 89.0 to 89.9 while Animal Products fell from 86.5 to 85.8 reflecting weakness in livestock, hides and eggs.

	No. of Price Series	1937					
		1936 May	April	April	April	April	May
		8	9	16	23	30	7
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	71.9	86.7	86.0	85.8	85.1	85.2
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS							
I. Vegetable Products	135	65.8	94.4	91.5	90.4	88.8	89.2
(grains, fruits, etc.)							
II. Animals and Their Products	76	69.4	76.7	77.1	77.4	77.2	76.9
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	69.3	73.7	73.6	73.6	73.5	73.6
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	68.0	77.1	77.5	78.4	78.3	78.3
V. Iron and Its Products	44	87.4	102.4	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products	18	68.1	91.5	88.9	87.4	84.9	85.5
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	85.5	85.4	85.5	85.4	85.5	85.5
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	77.2	81.5	81.4	82.6	82.4	82.2
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	64.9	94.8	91.8	89.7	88.1	88.4

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