

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, fell from 85.8 for the week ending April 23 to 85.1 for the week ending April 30. Forced liquidation which was particularly severe in London influenced markets the world over and many of the more speculative commodities declined sharply. Six of the eight groups included in this index showed declines and Non-Metallic Minerals, alone, made a slight advance. Some of the more important price reductions were recorded for grains, raw rubber, cocoa, hides, raw cotton and copper.

Vegetable Products dropped from 90.4 to 88.8. Price changes reported were all downward and the commodities affected included grains, milled products, vegetable oils, raw rubber, cocoa beans and potatoes. With the marked curtailment of shipments from the Southern Hemisphere wheat price movements have become increasingly dependent upon weather conditions over the wheat growing areas. Animal Products declined from 77.4 to 77.2. Livestock, meats and eggs moved up but fats, hides, milk products and fish sold lower. Textiles fell from 73.6 to 73.5 as raw cotton and raw silk weakened. The index for raw silk was down only one point during the week, a very moderate recession considering the volatile price behaviour of this product. Reductions in Maritime spruce moved the index for Wood from 78.4 to 78.3, while Iron remained unchanged at 104.2. Most non-ferrous metals moved lower and the index for this group decreased from 87.4 to 84.9. The zinc index has dropped from 94.7 to 64.1 since the week of March 12, while the copper index moved down from 113.0 to 96.0 in the last month. A slight increase in coal tar raised the index for Non-Metallic Minerals from 85.4 to 85.5 while Chemicals fell from 82.6 to 82.4 through weakness in organic chemicals and paint materials.

Canadian Farm Products moved from 89.7 to 88.1. Declines in grains and potatoes were mainly responsible for lowering the index for Field Products from 91.8 to 89.0 while Animal Products rose from 86.3 to 86.5 largely because of strength in livestock and eggs.

	No. of	Price	May	April	April	April	April
Series:	1	9	16	23	30		
Total Index 567 Commodities .....	567	72.1	86.7	86.0	85.8	85.1	
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS							
I. Vegetable Products .....	135	66.4	94.4	91.5	90.4	88.8	
(grains, fruits, etc.)							
II. Animals and Their Products .....	76	69.5	76.7	77.1	77.4	77.2	
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products .....	85	69.3	73.7	73.6	73.6	73.5	
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper .....	49	68.0	77.1	77.5	78.4	78.3	
V. Iron and Its Products .....	44	87.4	102.4	104.2	104.2	104.2	
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products .....	18	68.6	91.5	88.9	87.4	84.9	
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products .....	83	85.5	85.4	85.5	85.4	85.5	
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products ....	77	77.4	81.5	81.4	82.6	82.4	
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS .....	70	65.3	94.8	91.8	89.7	88.1	

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