

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 84.8 for the week ending August 27 to 84.6 for the week ending September 3. Chief among the commodities to register declines were grains, raw sugar, raw cotton and the base metals, while livestock, milk products and bread moved up. Improved weather conditions in the Argentine and Australia were the principal bearish factors affecting grains.

Vegetable Products were easier, dropping from 85.4 to 84.8. Bakery products, cocoa and raw rubber became slightly stronger as grains, milled products, raw sugar and potatoes declined. An above-average potato crop is depressing prices, and the potato index fell 2.2 points to 31.3, to compare with 71.3 for the corresponding week of last year. Animal Products rose from 80.8 to 81.1. Price changes were mixed and while fish, livestock and milk products made small gains, meats and eggs were slightly lower. Hides, also, suffered a relapse and lost the advance of the previous week. Heavy receipts of livestock at the leading stock-yards were well received and the prices paid for steers were firmer, although those for calves, hogs and lambs dropped somewhat. Steers have made a noteworthy advance in the past twelve months and this index has mounted from 76.8 to 121.3. Hogs, calves and lambs have shown increases also, although not to so great an extent, and their respective indexes have risen from 68.5 to 74.7, 67.1 to 68.0 and 61.7 to 69.9. Weaker markets in raw cotton and raw wool were largely responsible for a fractional loss in the Textile index from 73.5 to 73.3, while Non-Ferrous Metals fell from 84.9 to 84.4 as continued depreciation in copper, lead, tin and zinc completed the fourth successive week of recession. Wood, Iron, Non-Metallic Minerals and Chemicals were unchanged at 77.8, 104.8, 87.1 and 81.7 respectively.

Canadian Farm Products declined from 82.1 to 81.8. Field Products dropped from 80.3 to 79.9 on weakness in grains, potatoes and hay while Animal Products fell from 85.1 to 84.9 when decreases in hides, eggs and wool outweighed a slight advance in livestock. Recent warm weather tended to lessen egg consumption but prices were only slightly below those of the corresponding week of last year when the index stood at 66.1 as compared with 64.6 for the period under review.

	: No. of : Price : Series	: 1936 : 1937				
		: Sept. : 4	: Aug. : 13	: Aug. : 20	: Aug. : 27	: Sept. : 3
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	75.5	85.9	85.3	84.8	84.6
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS						
I. Vegetable Products	135	74.8	88.2	86.9	85.4	84.8
(grains, fruits, etc.)						
II. Animals and Their Products	76	73.0	80.7	80.9	80.8	81.1
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	69.8	74.0	73.8	73.5	73.3
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	68.6	78.0	77.6	77.8	77.8
V. Iron and Its Products	44	87.9	105.6	104.8	104.8	104.8
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals & Their Products.	18	69.6	86.5	85.8	84.9	84.4
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	85.3	87.0	87.0	87.1	87.1
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	78.6	81.7	81.7	81.7	81.7
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	70.4	84.8	83.7	82.1	81.8



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