

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

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WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1937-1938.
(1926=100)

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices, on the base 1926=100, fell from 83.5 for the week ending March 4 to 83.2 for the week ending March 11. Animal Products and Chemicals advanced while Vegetable Products, Wood, Iron and Non-Ferrous Metals moved lower.

Vegetable Products dropped from 86.1 to 85.0. Moisture conditions in the winter wheat growing areas of the United States had a bearish effect upon wheat prices for most of the week but on Friday a wave of buying induced by the movement of German army units into Austrian territory checked the downward movement. Milled products, raw rubber, raw sugar and hay declined also, while citrus fruits became stronger. Animal Products rose from 78.7 to 79.0 when advances in livestock, meats, butter and cheese outweighed recessions in hides and eggs. Exports of livestock showed a slight increase over shipments of recent weeks while butter rose higher to average 36.5 cents per pound, or 33 p.c. above the prices of a year ago. Textiles remained at 68.6, as an increase in raw wool offset weakness in raw cotton. Wood Products moved slightly lower from 79.5 to 79.4. A decline in rolling-mill products decreased the Iron index from 103.8 to 103.7, and reductions in copper and tin carried the index for Non-Ferrous Metals from 71.2 to 70.9. Chemicals rose from 79.9 to 80.5, largely because of advances in organic chemicals and pharmaceuticals, while Non-Metallic Minerals were unchanged at 87.1.

Canadian Farm Products fell from 84.3 to 82.8. Decreases in grains and hay were mainly responsible for lowering the index for Field Products from 85.9 to 83.3 while Animal Products rose from 81.6 to 81.9 when advances in livestock and wool proved of more importance than declines in hides and eggs.

	No. of Price Series	1937		1938		
		Mar.	Feb.	Feb.	Mar.	Mar.
		12	18	25	4	11
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	84.8	83.6	83.8	83.5	83.2
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS						
I. Vegetable Products	135	88.6	86.7	87.2	86.1	85.0
II. Animals and Their Products	76	75.0	78.2	78.4	78.7	79.0
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products	85	73.3	68.6	68.7	68.6	68.6
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	74.2	79.7	79.5	79.5	79.4
V. Iron and Its Products	44	95.6	103.8	103.8	103.8	103.7
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products	18	98.6	71.3	71.5	71.2	70.9
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	85.9	87.1	87.1	87.1	87.1
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	80.1	79.9	79.9	79.9	80.5
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	88.4	85.0	85.2	84.3	82.8

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