

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, declined from 73.5 for the week ending December 30 to 73.4 for the week ending January 6. Price movements have been narrow during the past two months and the index has ranged between 73.6 and 73.2, a level slightly more than 10 p.c. below the corresponding period of last year. Among the more important commodities to show advances were milled feed, livestock, fresh meats and butter, while recessions occurred in grains, eggs and several of the non-ferrous metals.

Vegetable products fell from 60.6 to 60.2. Milled products, vegetable oils, raw cocoa and raw coffee were stronger, while grains, raw rubber, raw sugar and potatoes moved down. Exports of grain were light and the market was responsive in some degree to weather reports from the United States and the Argentine. Animal products rose from 73.1 to 73.3 as increases in hides, livestock, fresh meats, butter and cheese proved of more importance than reductions in cured meats and eggs. The number of cattle shipped to United States centres increased at the new year, while the egg index dropped 6.2 points to 66.7 as receipts became more plentiful with no corresponding increase in consumer demand. An upward revision in British Columbia lumber prices following the introduction of the winter schedule of freight rates increased the index for Wood from 76.2 to 76.3, while Non-Ferrous Metals fell from 71.7 to 71.4 due to weakness in copper, lead and zinc. Textiles, Iron, Non-Metallic Minerals and Chemicals remained at 66.4, 98.1, 86.3 and 79.0 respectively.

Canadian Farm Products declined from 65.0 to 64.9. Field Products rose from 54.2 to 54.4 when increases in grains, onions and hay outweighed reductions in potatoes and straw, but Animal Products fell from 83.1 to 82.5 as a sharp drop in eggs overshadowed moderate increases in livestock and hides.

	: No. of :	1 9 3 8				: 1939
		: Price :	Jan. :	Dec. :	Dec. :	
	: Series :	7 :	16 :	23 :	30 :	6 :
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	83.5	73.4	73.2	73.5	73.4
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS						
I. Vegetable Products	135	88.3	60.2	59.9	60.6	60.2
II. Animals and Their Products ...	76	77.6	72.9	72.8	73.1	73.3
III. Fibres, Textiles & Textile Products	85	68.9	66.3	66.4	66.4	66.4
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	75.5	76.3	76.2	76.2	76.3
V. Iron and Its Products	44	104.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals & Their Products	18	72.1	71.7	71.7	71.7	71.4
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	87.0	86.3	86.3	86.3	86.3
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	80.9	79.2	79.0	79.0	79.0
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	87.3	64.5	64.6	65.0	64.9

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