

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

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WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1938-1939
(1926=100)

Further reductions in wholesale commodity prices moved the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' index from 73.3 for the week ending January 13 to 73.2 for the week ending January 20. Since the second week in September, when the index stood at 74.0, this series has been comparatively stable, fluctuating within a range of 1.3 points. Textiles were firmer, rising from 66.1 to 66.2, but reductions predominated in Wood Products (76.3 to 76.2), Iron (98.1 to 97.7), Non-Ferrous Metals (70.9 to 70.3) and Chemicals (79.0 to 78.8). Vegetable Products, Animals and Non-Metallic Minerals were unchanged at 60.1, 73.1 and 86.3 respectively. Outstanding among commodities to show advances were grains, potatoes, rosin, dairy products, raw cotton and copper, while lower quotations ruled for vegetable oils, livestock, fresh meats, rolling-mill products, lead and drugs.

The index for Industrial Material Prices, on the contrary, rebounded from 64.0 to 64.4. The stable group was unchanged at 88.1, but the sensitive group, composed of manufacturing and food materials, rose from 51.7 to 52.2. Sensitive manufacturing materials advanced from 50.5 to 51.0, largely due to strength in rosin, raw cotton, raw silk and copper, while food materials were generally buoyant, moving from 55.1 to 55.5.

Canadian Farm Products increased from 64.6 to 64.8. Field Products mounted from 54.7 to 54.9 as firmer prices obtained for grains and potatoes, while Animal Products advanced from 81.1 to 81.3 when gains in poultry, milk and eggs proved of more consequence than reductions in livestock and hides.

	: No. of : : Price : : Series :	: 1 9 3 8 :		: 1 9 3 9 :		
		Jan. : 21 :	Dec. : 30 :	Jan. : 6 :	Jan. : 13 :	Jan. : 20 :
Total Index 567 Commodities	567	83.0	73.5	73.4	73.3	73.2
INDEX NUMBERS OF COMMODITIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THEIR CHIEF COMPONENT MATERIALS						
I. Vegetable Products	135	87.1	60.6	60.2	60.1	60.1
II. Animals and Their Products	76	77.6	73.1	73.3	73.1	73.1
III. Fibres, Textiles & Textile Products..	85	68.6	66.4	66.4	66.1	66.2
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper	49	75.1	76.2	76.3	76.3	76.2
V. Iron and Its Products	44	103.9	98.1	98.1	98.1	97.7
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals & Their Products..	18	71.6	71.7	71.4	70.9	70.3
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products	83	87.1	86.3	86.3	86.3	86.3
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products	77	80.8	79.0	79.0	79.0	78.8
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS	70	85.6	65.0	64.9	64.6	64.8
INDUSTRIAL MATERIAL PRICES	30		64.5	64.4	64.0	64.4
Stable	12		88.1	88.1	88.1	88.1
Sensitive	18		52.4	52.2	51.7	52.2
Manufacturing	13		50.6	50.5	*50.5	51.0
Food	5		57.1	57.0	*55.1	55.5

* Revised

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