

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

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WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1939-1940

During the week ending May 24, Industrial Material prices moved sharply lower, and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' index, on the base August 1939=100, fell from 122.8 for the week ending May 17 to 119.8. Declines were general, except in the Stable group which remained at 112.8. Manufacturing Materials dropped from 130.4 to 124.7, because of lower quotations for rubber, cottenseed oil, linseed oil, hides, wool and raw silk, while Food Materials decreased from 128.0 to 124.2, due to weakness in wheat, oats and steers.

General Wholesale Commodities continued the decline begun in the week of May 3, falling from 81.9 for the week ending May 17 to 81.2 for the week of May 24. Price changes of importance were confined largely to three groups, viz., Vegetable Products, Animal Products and Textiles. Among the commodities to recede were grains, vegetable oils, livestock, butter and raw silk, while flour, ~~sugar~~ and cheese were buoyant.

Canadian Farm Products weakened still further, declining from 68.3 to 64.8. Field Products fell from 58.1 to 53.1 under pressure from grains, while Animal Products decreased from 85.3 to 84.5, because of reductions in livestock, hides and raw wool prices.

	: No. of : Price : Series	: 1939 :		: 1940 :		: 1939 :		: 1940	
		May	May	May	May	May	May	May	May
		26	17	24	26	17	24	26	17
		(1926=100)			(August 1939=100)				
INDUSTRIAL MATERIAL PRICES .....	30	65.6	79.6	77.7	100.9	122.8	119.8		
Stable .....	12	87.6	99.8	99.8	99.0	112.8	112.8		
Sensitive .....	18	54.1	68.6	65.8	102.1	129.8	124.7		
Manufacturing .....	13	52.0	69.0	66.0	97.9	130.4	124.7		
Food .....	5	60.1	67.4	65.4	114.2	128.0	124.2		

	: No. of : Price : Series	: 1939 :		: 1940 :		: 1939 :		: 1940	
		May	May	May	May	May	May	May	May
		26	3	10	17	24	26	17	24
		(1926=100)			(1926=100)				
GENERAL WHOLESALE COMMODITY PRICES .....	567	73.5	83.0	82.8	81.9	81.2			
Chief Component Groups									
I. Vegetable Products .....	135	62.7	76.0	75.8	72.3	70.1			
II. Animals and Their Products .....	76	71.4	76.7	76.2	76.0	75.8			
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products .....	85	66.4	83.6	83.4	83.3	83.2			
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper .....	49	76.7	87.3	87.4	87.7	87.7			
V. Iron and Its Products .....	44	97.3	102.3	102.3	102.3	102.3			
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products .....	18	69.4	76.3	76.5	76.5	76.5			
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products .....	83	84.7	87.1	87.1	88.7	88.7			
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products .....	77	77.8	85.6	85.6	85.4	85.4			
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS .....	70	65.1	71.6	71.3	68.3	64.8			

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