

Published by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.,  
Minister of Trade and Commerce

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

(Issued April 29, 1941)

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Price \$1.00 per year

WEEKLY INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES, 1940-1941

After remaining at 86.5 for three consecutive weeks, the Bureau's index of wholesale commodity prices, on the base 1926=100, eased 0.1 to 86.4 for the week ending April 25. Reductions predominated in Vegetable Products and Textiles, but Chemicals moved higher. Cocoa products, potatoes, steers, butter, raw cotton and raw silk were among the commodities to be quoted lower, while raw rubber, hides, lard, eggs and castor oil were firmer.

The index of Industrial Material prices experienced a setback also, moving from 129.2 for the week ending April 18 to 128.4 for the week ending April 25 (August 1939=100). The Stable group declined from 119.6 to 119.1, because of a reduction in the price of crude oil, while the Sensitive price series, including Manufacturing and Food Materials, fell from 136.1 to 135.0, due to weakness in both divisions. Recessions in raw cotton, rosin and raw silk were mainly responsible for lowering Manufacturing Materials from 134.9 to 133.8. Food Materials dropped from 138.9 to 138.0, as a slight increase in wheat failed to offset declines in oats, steers and hogs.

Canadian Farm Products moved from 69.5 to 69.4. Lower quotations for grains and potatoes depressed Field Products 0.3 to 55.8, whereas Animal Products rose from 91.9 to 92.2, as increases in hides and eggs outweighed a decline in livestock.

Percentage Changes in Principal Commodities Between the  
Weeks of April 18 and 25.

Increases: eggs 5.0, hides 3.9, drugs and pharmaceuticals 2.3, hogs 2.0, lard 1.4, raw rubber 0.3.

Decreases: potatoes 3.2, oats 3.2, butter 2.4, steers 2.1, cocoa products 1.7, raw silk 0.7, raw cotton 0.6.

	: No. of :	: 1940 :		: 1941 :		: 1940 :		: 1941 :	
		: Price :	: April :	: April :	: April :	: April :	: April :	: April :	
	: Series :	: 26 :	: 18 :	: 25 :	: 26 :	: 18 :	: 25 :		
		(1926=100)				(August 1939=100)			
INDUSTRIAL MATERIAL PRICES .....	30	78.9	83.8	83.3	122.2	129.2	128.4		
Stable .....	12	99.4	106.1	105.6	112.5	119.6	119.1		
Sensitive .....	18	68.2	71.6	71.0	129.1	136.1	135.0		
Manufacturing .....	13	67.3	71.1	70.4	127.2	134.9	133.8		
Food .....	5	70.4	73.0	72.6	133.8	138.9	138.0		

	: No. of :	: 1940 :		: 1941 :		: 1940 :		: 1941 :	
		: Price :	: April :	: April :	: April :	: April :	: April :	: April :	
	: Series :	: 26 :	: 4 :	: 11 :	: 18 :	: 25 :			
		(1926=100)							
GENERAL WHOLESALE COMMODITY PRICES .....	567	83.2	86.5	86.5	86.5	86.4			
Chief Component Groups									
I. Vegetable Products .....	135	76.6	75.7	75.7	76.0	75.7			
II. Animals and Their Products .....	76	77.2	85.1	85.2	84.2	84.2			
III. Fibres, Textiles and Textile Products .....	85	83.7	85.5	85.4	85.7	85.6			
IV. Wood, Wood Products and Paper .....	49	87.5	92.4	92.4	92.5	92.5			
V. Iron and Its Products .....	44	102.3	107.5	107.5	107.5	107.5			
VI. Non-Ferrous Metals and Their Products .....	18	76.3	77.7	77.8	77.7	77.7			
VII. Non-Metallic Minerals and Their Products .....	83	87.1	91.5	91.5	91.7	91.7			
VIII. Chemicals and Allied Products .....	77	85.6	93.4	93.4	94.9	95.5			
CANADIAN FARM PRODUCTS .....	70	72.5	69.2	69.5	69.5	69.4			

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