

Section 6.—Wholesale Price Index Numbers of Principal Imports and Exports.

For a country such as Canada, whose economy is vitally affected by foreign trade, the importance of statistics relating to all phases of international commerce is readily apparent. Prices of imports and exports, although of less general concern than aggregate values, are nevertheless significant, and the examination of price fluctuations must form a part of any complete analysis of trade statistics. If trade value figures decline, it is important to know whether this represents a contraction of markets or simply a reduction in prices with volume maintained at former levels. Indexes of both volume and price are necessary for a complete knowledge of such facts. They are also useful to determine the influence of tariff policy upon trade movements. It is likewise of considerable importance that repercussions of international price fluctuations upon domestic price levels may be observed, and measurements made of their effect.

The calendar year import and export valuation indexes formerly published have been replaced by a new and more comprehensive series of wholesale price index numbers for principal imports and exports. These are available from 1913 to the present time on the base 1926=100. They compare closely with the corresponding valuation indexes and have been constructed so as to be directly comparable with other wholesale price index numbers which the Bureau publishes. From 1934 onward, the new series is available upon a monthly basis.

15.—Canadian Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices and Average Valuations for All Commodities, Imports and Exports, calendar years 1913-36.

(1926=100.)

Year.	All Commodities.		Imports.		Exports.	
	Prices.	Average Valuations.	Prices.	Average Valuations.	Prices.	Average Valuations.
1913.....	64.0	71.5	73.0	76.2	64.7	68.0
1914.....	65.5	70.5	69.3	70.7	66.5	70.3
1915.....	70.4	73.6	77.5	70.7	78.1	75.6
1916.....	84.3	82.6	100.0	87.4	88.7	85.3
1917.....	114.3	116.1	125.6	109.2	120.5	121.2
1918.....	127.4	130.5	135.5	126.8	126.2	133.3
1919.....	134.0	138.5	139.6	137.1	134.8	139.5
1920.....	155.9	161.1	158.8	167.8	158.1	156.3
1921.....	110.0	116.4	105.8	122.4	116.5	112.1
1922.....	97.3	97.7	100.4	103.1	94.7	93.7
1923.....	98.0	101.3	110.0	112.5	93.5	93.1
1924.....	99.4	100.4	105.0	108.0	95.7	95.0
1925.....	102.6	104.4	105.6	106.1	104.5	103.2
1926.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1927.....	97.7	97.3	97.7	96.3	97.8	98.0
1928.....	96.4	95.0	96.1	96.7	94.2	93.6
1929.....	95.6	93.4	94.2	93.8	92.2	93.1
1930.....	86.6	83.2	83.7	88.4	77.4	79.5
1931.....	72.1	68.3	72.4	73.1	60.5	64.8
1932.....	66.7	62.5	70.5	68.9	54.9	57.9
1933.....	67.1	62.5	73.0	67.8	55.2	58.6
1934.....	71.6	68.6	76.5	73.1	60.6	65.4
1935.....	72.1	1	77.9	1	62.2	1
1936.....	74.6	1	1	1	1	1

¹ Discontinued.

² Not available at time of going to press.