

Cost of Living in 1941.—In December, 1940, the Bureau's cost-of-living index showed a rise of 7.1 p.c. above the August, 1939, level; by December, 1941, the increase was 14.9 p.c. A decline of 0.5 points from 116.3 in November to 115.8 in December marked the first appreciable fall in this index since the outbreak of the War. The food group, which has been responsible for almost half of the wartime increase in cost of living, advanced 13.5 p.c. during the year. Home furnishings and clothing followed with increases of less than half that amount. The indexes for rents and miscellaneous items showed the smallest net advances of 3.2 and 3.8 p.c., respectively; fuel and lighting increased at a slightly higher rate.

9.—Index Numbers of Living Costs in Canada, 1929-41, and by Months, January, 1940, to May, 1942

(1935-39=100)

Year and Month	Food Index	Fuel Index	Rent Index	Clothing Index	Home Furnishings and Services Index	Miscellaneous Index	Total Index
1929	134.7	112.6	119.7	134.8	105.0	121.7	
1930	131.5	111.8	122.7	130.6	105.4	120.8	
1931	103.1	110.0	119.4	114.3	103.3	109.1	
1932	85.7	106.8	108.7	106.6	100.4	99.0	
1933	84.9	102.5	98.6	93.3	88.2	94.4	
1934	92.4	102.6	92.8	96.9	97.7	95.7	
1935	94.6	100.9	94.0	97.6	95.4	98.7	
1936	97.8	101.5	96.1	99.3	97.2	99.1	
1937	103.2	103.8	98.9	101.4	101.5	100.1	
1938	103.8	97.7	103.1	106.9	102.4	101.2	
1939	100.6	101.2	103.8	100.2	101.4	101.4	
1940							
January	104.5	105.5	104.4	103.3	104.3	101.8	103.8
February	104.5	105.8	104.4	103.3	104.3	101.9	103.8
March	104.8	105.7	104.4	107.8	105.9	101.9	104.6
April	104.8	105.9	104.4	107.8	106.1	101.8	104.6
May	106.1	106.9	107.8	106.2	101.8	104.9	104.9
June	103.8	106.0	106.9	109.1	106.5	101.8	104.9
July	105.3	107.9	106.9	109.1	106.9	102.2	105.6
August	105.4	108.4	106.9	109.1	106.9	103.0	105.9
September	105.4	108.5	108.9	108.9	102.8	106.4	106.4
October	106.1	108.0	107.7	113.5	109.7	102.8	107.0
November	108.7	108.5	107.7	113.5	110.0	102.8	107.8
December	109.1	108.5	107.7	113.5	110.7	102.8	108.0
Averages, 1940							
1941							
January	109.7	108.6	107.7	113.7	110.8	103.1	108.3
February	108.8	108.7	107.7	114.1	111.5	103.1	108.2
March	109.0	108.9	107.7	114.2	111.6	102.9	108.2
April	110.1	108.9	107.7	114.3	111.7	102.9	108.6
May	109.7	109.2	109.7	114.5	111.8	105.1	109.4
June	112.5	110.2	109.7	114.5	111.8	105.1	110.5
July	116.6	110.5	109.7	115.7	114.3	106.1	111.9
August	121.3	110.5	109.7	117.4	115.8	106.4	114.7
September	123.3	110.9	103.7	117.4	117.3	106.5	115.5
October	123.2	112.1	111.2	119.6	117.3	106.7	116.3
November	125.4	112.7	111.2	120.0	117.9	106.7	115.8
December	123.8	112.7	111.2	119.9	117.9	106.7	115.8
Averages, 1941							
1942							
January	122.3	112.9	111.2	119.9	118.0	106.8	115.4
February	123.1	112.9	111.2	119.8	118.0	107.1	115.7
March	123.7	112.9	111.2	119.8	118.0	107.1	115.9
April	123.7	112.9	111.2	119.8	118.1	107.1	115.9
May	124.3	112.9	111.3	119.9	118.0	107.1	116.1