

10.—Average Family Expenditure, by Regions, in Cities of 15,000 or Over, 1959—concluded

Item	Families of Two or More						One-Person Units
	Atlantic Provinces	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Provinces	British Columbia	Canada Composite	Canada Composite
	PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION						
Food.....	28.4	26.4	22.1	22.5	22.9	23.8	21.6
Housing, fuel, light, water.....	16.5	15.9	17.1	15.1	15.9	16.4	22.4
Household operation.....	4.1	3.6	4.0	3.6	3.9	3.8	4.1
Furnishings and equipment.....	4.9	4.4	4.9	5.8	5.6	5.0	2.9
Clothing.....	8.6	10.7	8.3	9.2	8.4	9.1	8.2
Other commodities and services.....	24.8	25.7	28.0	28.6	28.2	27.2	24.5
Gifts and contributions, personal taxes, security.....	12.7	13.3	15.6	15.2	15.1	14.7	16.3
Totals.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Section 4.—Index Numbers of Security Prices

Investors price indexes for common stocks are calculated on the 1935-39 base* and published weekly and monthly for a sample of issues, broadly classified under the headings: industrials, public utilities and banks. Within the first category the sample is further classified by industry. Weekly and monthly indexes of mining stocks including both golds and base metals are calculated and published separately, as are monthly indexes of preferred stocks.

For purposes of index calculation, Thursday closing prices are used for the issues of companies listed on either or both the Montreal and Toronto stock exchanges. Weights are applied to each issue on the basis of the number of shares currently outstanding. The list of stocks included in the various security series (which at January 1962 totalled 88 for the investors index and 27 for the mining stocks index) are revised annually so that issues that have become important in stock market activity may be included and those of declining interest removed. Provision is also made for stock splits, mergers and the exercise of 'rights'. The indexes are designed to reflect weekly and monthly changes of interest to the investor rather than day-to-day changes of more speculative interest. For that reason the historical record of indexes dating back to January 1914 on a monthly basis is of significance in any analysis of the degree of fluctuation in stock prices through time.

Investors Index.—A continuation of the strong upward trend inaugurated with the inception of the bull market in December 1953 culminated in a new high in the investors total index of 291.8 in August 1956; the September 1929 peak was 197.8. Subsequent sharp declines that brought the level to 262.3 by November 1956 were reversed in December, and by May 1957 losses had been largely recouped. In mid-1957 prices broke sharply and commenced a seven-month slide to 215.4 by January 1958. At this point the index swung upward to 262.1 in October, continued slowly higher to 279.3 in July 1959, only to break sharply in September. Later it fluctuated moderately, touching a low of 241.7 in October 1960, after which the index again moved strongly upward. In March the index broke through the ceiling and continued strongly to 333.3 at December 1961, for a new all-time high. The major group indexes all moved up over the period January–December 1961 as follows: banks 21.6 p.c., industrials 21.1 p.c., and utilities 15.7 p.c. All sub-groups advanced; in industrials increases were headed by beverages, industrial mines, and textiles and clothing; in utilities, transportation and telephones were up sharply while power and traction showed only a small rise.

* Text and indexes presented here are on the 1935-39=100 base (except the four supplementary indexes). In the 1963 edition of the Year Book, revised indexes on the base 1956=100 will replace the present series. An outline of the revision and historical indexes on the new base are available on request from the Prices Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.