

**General Wholesale Index.**—The general wholesale index includes prices mainly of manufacturers but also included are those of wholesalers proper, assemblers of primary products, agents and operators of other types of commercial enterprises which trade in commodities of a type, or in quantities characteristic of primary marketing functions. In the general wholesale index, prices are grouped according to a commodity classification scheme based on chief component material similarities. In addition, indexes classified according to degree of manufacture are available. In Table 1, the general wholesale index is presented for the period 1935-62. The general index is used as a conventional summary figure against which to observe the behaviour of particular price groups such as farm products, raw materials and building materials, for which separate price indexes have been constructed. Table 2 gives, for the years 1953-62, the general wholesale price index and two of its integral classifications—raw and partly manufactured goods, and fully and chiefly manufactured goods; also presented in that table are two related systems—industrial materials and Canadian farm products. Annual price index numbers of non-residential building materials and residential building materials are given for 1953-62 in Tables 3 and 4, respectively. More specific indexes are published regularly in the DBS monthly publication *Prices and Price Indexes* (Catalogue No. 62-002), which also contains current series on retail and security prices. Vol. 23 of that publication is a historical summary reaching back to the year 1867 for some series.

The DBS has introduced a new system of wholesale price indexes called *Industry Selling Price Indexes 1956=100*, referring exclusively to manufacturing industries and including approximately 100 industry and 175 commodity indexes. DBS Reference Paper No. 62-515 contains tables, explanatory text, charts and weights relating to these indexes; current indexes are published monthly in *Prices and Price Indexes*.

The general wholesale index rose 2.9 p.c. from 233.3 in 1961 to 240.0 in 1962 and thus continued its annual increases which began in 1954.

**1.—General Wholesale Index Annual Averages, 1935-62**  
(1935-39=100)

Year	Average	Year	Average	Year	Average	Year	Average
1935.....	94.4	1942.....	123.0	1949.....	198.3	1956.....	225.6
1936.....	96.8	1943.....	127.9	1950.....	211.2	1957.....	227.4
1937.....	107.7	1944.....	130.6	1951.....	240.2	1958.....	227.8
1938.....	102.0	1945.....	132.1	1952.....	226.0	1959.....	230.6
1939.....	99.2	1946.....	138.9	1953.....	220.7	1960.....	230.9
1940.....	108.0	1947.....	163.3	1954.....	217.0	1961.....	233.3
1941.....	116.4	1948.....	193.4	1955.....	218.9	1962.....	240.0

The raw and partly manufactured goods index increased 5.3 p.c. from 212.6 in 1961 to 223.8 in 1962 and thus exceeded the increase of 1.8 p.c. shown by the fully and chiefly manufactured goods index.

**2.—Annual Index Numbers of Wholesale Price Groups, 1953-62**  
(1935-39=100)

Year	General Wholesale Index	Raw and Partly Manufactured Goods	Fully and Chiefly Manufactured Goods	Industrial Materials	Canadian Farm Products		
					Field	Animal	Total
1953.....	220.7	207.0	228.8	232.3	179.4	263.8	221.6
1954.....	217.0	204.8	224.2	223.7	170.9	256.2	213.6
1955.....	218.9	209.7	224.5	236.0	180.1	245.1	212.6
1956.....	225.6	215.8	231.5	248.2	181.6	246.9	214.2
1957.....	227.4	209.4	237.9	240.3	169.2	258.0	213.6
1958.....	227.8	209.3	238.3	229.8	171.4	274.5	222.9
1959.....	230.6	210.9	241.6	240.2	176.1	271.6	223.9
1960.....	230.9	209.6	242.2	240.4	189.1	264.1	226.6
1961.....	233.3	212.6	244.5	243.2	191.7	270.0	230.9
1962.....	240.0	223.8	249.0	248.0	185.1 <sup>p</sup>	286.0 <sup>p</sup>	235.6 <sup>p</sup>