

# Commodities Outlook for March 2023

A Publication of BMO Capital Markets Economic Research · Douglas Porter, CFA, Chief Economist, BMO Financial Group

## Energy, Materials and Agriculture

		Natural Gas		Lumber (US\$/mbf)	Canola (US\$/t)	Wheat ——	Corn (US\$/bu.)	Soybeans ——	Cattle (US\$/cwt)	Hogs (US\$/cwt)	
		Crude Oil (US\$/bbl)	Henry Hub (US\$/mmbtu)								AECO (US\$/mmbtu)
2010		79.43	4.39	3.89	255	429	5.81	4.27	10.48	94.95	75.60
2011		95.08	4.00	3.67	255	566	7.10	6.79	13.18	114.54	90.34
2012		94.20	2.75	2.39	299	601	7.50	6.94	14.64	122.65	84.93
2013		97.93	3.73	3.08	356	545	6.84	5.80	14.08	126.40	89.33
2014		93.26	4.39	4.08	349	400	5.88	4.16	12.46	151.50	105.83
2015		48.69	2.63	2.12	277	371	5.08	3.77	9.45	146.49	69.40
2016		43.21	2.52	1.64	305	366	4.36	3.58	9.87	118.61	65.60
2017		50.91	2.99	1.67	401	393	4.36	3.59	9.77	117.90	69.87
2018		64.84	3.17	1.19	480	389	4.95	3.68	9.32	114.64	65.26
2019		56.99	2.57	1.36	360	344	4.94	3.83	8.90	115.84	69.92
2020		39.27	2.03	1.67	556	372	5.50	3.63	9.52	105.54	59.83
2021		67.98	3.91	2.90	883	694	7.02	5.82	13.75	122.43	91.74
2022		94.60	6.42	4.18	781	749	9.00	6.94	15.50	141.89	97.75
y-t-d	2023	77.53	2.83	2.51	398	620	7.47	6.70	15.18	160.02	79.70
2022	Mar	108.41	4.90	4.01	1,350	886	11.25	7.47	16.80	139.25	102.86
	Apr	101.78	6.60	5.47	1,054	929	10.66	7.86	16.82	139.81	104.08
	May	109.34	8.14	5.90	949	908	11.41	7.89	16.77	132.80	104.64
	Jun	114.60	7.70	5.71	595	808	10.11	7.58	16.90	135.77	109.45
	Jul	100.74	7.28	4.20	655	664	8.07	6.63	15.50	135.74	114.98
	Aug	93.11	8.81	2.57	567	654	7.84	6.32	15.70	140.02	105.70
	Sep	84.04	7.88	3.44	501	607	8.56	6.82	14.61	144.63	92.64
	Oct	87.37	5.66	2.42	453	642	8.70	6.86	13.81	147.77	89.27
	Nov	84.37	5.45	4.56	420	649	8.12	6.68	14.42	152.47	84.16
	Dec	76.61	5.53	4.56	357	635	7.48	6.51	14.74	154.71	84.95
2023	Jan	78.16	3.27	2.84	364	621	7.45	6.70	15.10	157.36	78.70
	Feb	76.85	2.38	2.10	433	619	7.52	6.71	15.28	162.55	80.49
	m-t-d Mar	77.69	2.59	n.a.	n.a.	623	6.97	6.41	15.04	165.13	84.95
Forecast	2023 avg.	85.00 ↓	3.50	2.75	450	620	7.50	6.40	13.80	156.00	92.00
	2024 avg.	80.00	4.00	3.00	525	570	7.20	5.70	12.80	146.00	94.00

Commodity price forecasts are by BMO Economics and are independent of those used by BMO Capital Markets Equity Research

↑ and ↓ indicate annual forecast changes from last month

## Base and Precious Metals

		Gold (US\$/oz)	Silver	Copper	Aluminum (US\$/lb)	Zinc	Nickel	Iron Ore (US\$/t)
	2010	1,225	20.16	3.42	0.99	0.98	9.89	147
	2011	1,570	35.11	4.00	1.09	0.99	10.38	169
	2012	1,668	31.15	3.61	0.92	0.88	7.96	130
	2013	1,411	23.83	3.32	0.84	0.87	6.81	135
	2014	1,266	19.08	3.11	0.85	0.98	7.65	97
	2015	1,160	15.70	2.50	0.75	0.88	5.37	56
	2016	1,248	17.10	2.21	0.73	0.95	4.35	58
	2017	1,258	17.06	2.80	0.89	1.31	4.72	71
	2018	1,270	15.71	2.96	0.96	1.33	5.95	69
	2019	1,393	16.20	2.72	0.81	1.16	6.31	93
	2020	1,770	20.51	2.80	0.77	1.03	6.25	108
	2021	1,800	25.16	4.23	1.12	1.36	8.38	159
	2022	1,802	21.75	4.00	1.23	1.58	11.71	120
	y-t-d 2023	1,877	22.86	4.07	1.11	1.46	12.43	125
2022	Mar	1,947	25.22	4.64	1.60	1.80	15.47	150
	Apr	1,935	24.51	4.62	1.48	1.98	15.10	151
	May	1,852	21.90	4.25	1.28	1.70	12.67	133
	Jun	1,835	21.49	4.10	1.16	1.65	11.71	130
	Jul	1,739	19.09	3.42	1.09	1.40	9.74	107
	Aug	1,766	19.72	3.61	1.10	1.62	9.97	105
	Sep	1,685	18.82	3.51	1.01	1.42	10.28	98
	Oct	1,666	19.41	3.46	1.02	1.34	9.94	92
	Nov	1,725	21.00	3.64	1.06	1.33	11.45	92
	Dec	1,794	23.23	3.80	1.09	1.42	13.08	110
2023	Jan	1,898	23.80	4.08	1.13	1.49	12.80	121
	Feb	1,858	21.98	4.06	1.10	1.43	12.10	126
	m-t-d Mar	1,834	20.95	4.11	1.07	1.40	11.34	127
Forecast	2023 avg.	1,750	21.00	3.70	1.05	1.30	10.50	110
	2024 avg.	1,650	21.50	3.60	1.10	1.15	9.00	90

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↑ and ↓ indicate annual forecast changes from last month

## Commodity Indices and Forecasts (US\$-terms : 2003 = 100)

		All Commodities	Oil & Gas	Metals & Minerals	Forest Products	Agricultural Products	All Commodities (C\$-terms)
	2014	250.6	273.7	265.5	120.0	173.4	197.4
	2015	170.1	143.6	229.3	97.5	150.6	154.8
	2016	164.6	127.9	237.2	109.7	138.9	155.6
	2017	184.7	150.7	255.6	144.1	142.0	171.2
	2018	210.1	190.5	265.8	168.1	147.4	194.2
	2019	196.7	167.0	271.4	122.9	141.5	186.4
	2020	187.4	115.6	301.7	196.9	151.4	178.9
	2021	262.9	201.0	354.1	319.5	224.1	235.2
	2022	321.4	281.9	406.0	276.4	262.6	306.1
<b>Forecast</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>279.5</b>	<b>248.4</b>	<b>366.5</b>	<b>153.3</b>	<b>225.2</b>	<b>264.4</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>260.0</b>	<b>235.3</b>	<b>327.1</b>	<b>178.5</b>	<b>211.6</b>	<b>239.0</b>
	2021 Q2	272.8	193.6	361.2	480.5	227.2	239.1
	Q3	260.1	209.3	359.2	191.5	224.4	233.9
	Q4	274.6	229.7	353.5	257.9	242.5	247.2
	2022 Q1	337.3	277.6	420.8	455.6	272.2	305.4
	Q2	359.5	323.7	439.5	305.7	303.7	327.5
	Q3	342.5	323.2	405.9	257.7	280.9	314.6
	Q4	285.6	246.5	386.2	144.5	236.0	277.1
<b>Forecast 2023</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>285.1</b>	<b>227.9</b>	<b>415.0</b>	<b>139.6</b>	<b>228.6</b>	<b>273.4</b>
	<b>Q2</b>	<b>277.2</b>	<b>244.2</b>	<b>362.8</b>	<b>158.2</b>	<b>233.1</b>	<b>263.7</b>
	<b>Q3</b>	<b>275.7</b>	<b>257.9</b>	<b>340.8</b>	<b>160.5</b>	<b>222.0</b>	<b>259.6</b>
	2022 Feb	329.5	269.8	411.8	463.0	257.9	299.4
	Mar	378.4	317.8	465.5	489.8	310.5	343.0
	Apr	364.5	302.6	471.0	370.1	309.0	328.3
	May	362.7	327.3	434.3	335.9	315.0	333.4
	Jun	351.3	341.3	413.1	211.2	287.2	320.8
	Jul	313.4	301.1	370.5	226.1	240.6	289.5
	Aug	308.2	282.7	388.8	198.3	236.7	283.9
	Sep	287.9	255.1	373.4	175.2	237.9	273.4
	Oct	290.0	259.7	374.5	160.3	242.3	283.9
	Nov	288.0	250.8	385.4	149.8	237.4	276.7
	Dec	279.0	229.0	398.7	123.5	228.4	270.6
	2023 Jan	286.3	228.5	421.0	125.1	227.3	274.7
	Feb	286.0	222.9	423.4	147.2	229.0	274.3

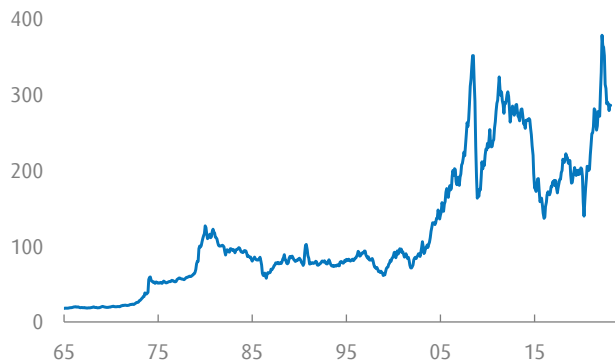
Commodity price indices and forecasts are by BMO Capital Markets Economics

Forecasts are independent of those used by BMO Capital Markets Equity Research

### All-Commodity Index

Nominal US\$-Terms

(2003 = 100)

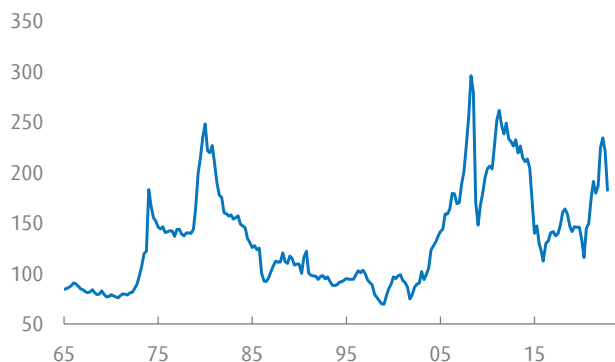


Source: BMO Economics

### All-Commodity Index

Real US\$-Terms

(2003 = 100)



Source: BMO Economics

### All-Commodity Index

Nominal

(2003 = 100)



Source: BMO Economics

### Technical Note

The BMO Capital Markets Commodity Price Index is a fixed-weight, export-based index that encompasses the price movement of 20 commodities key to Canadian exports. Weights are each commodity's average share of the total value of exports of the 20 commodities during the period 2012-21. Similarly, weights of sub-index components reflect the relative importance of commodities within their respective product group.

**The all-commodities index and sub-indices consist of the following:**

(percent)	Weight in All-Commodities Index	Weight in Sub-Index
<b>Metals &amp; Minerals</b>	33.7	100.0
Gold	9.9	29.5
Silver	0.9	2.8
Aluminum	6.3	18.7
Copper	2.3	6.7
Nickel	2.6	7.6
Zinc	0.9	2.8
Iron Ore	3.0	9.0
Metallurgical Coal	3.2	9.6
Uranium	1.1	3.2
Potash	3.4	10.1
<b>Oil and Gas</b>	49.7	100.0
Crude Oil	43.8	88.3
Cdn. Natural Gas	5.8	11.7
<b>Forest Products</b>	6.8	100.0
Lumber	5.5	81.7
OSB	1.2	18.3
<b>Agricultural Products</b>	9.9	100.0
Wheat	4.1	41.7
Canola	3.1	31.6
Corn	0.2	2.4
Soybeans	1.4	14.0
Hogs	0.3	2.6
Beef Cattle	0.8	7.8
<b>All Commodities</b>	100.0	—

Source: BMO Economics

Unless otherwise specified, all indices reported in this publication correspond to prices in U.S. dollars.

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