

# Commodities Outlook for March 2024

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)
	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
	2023	77.63	2.54	1.96	390	559	6.45	5.65	14.16	172.54	81.09
	y-t-d 2024	75.83	2.38	2.10	438	447	5.89	4.36	11.95	179.30	76.80
2023	Mar	73.34	2.31	2.22	361	572	6.87	6.37	14.89	164.24	81.01
	Apr	79.44	2.16	1.86	346	569	6.67	6.55	14.88	173.31	75.28
	May	71.59	2.15	1.73	349	540	6.20	6.09	13.86	164.64	79.82
	Jun	70.27	2.18	1.84	380	532	6.60	6.15	14.31	178.27	90.48
	Jul	76.05	2.55	1.87	441	605	6.78	5.49	15.08	178.32	100.72
	Aug	81.37	2.58	2.03	409	589	6.13	4.76	13.88	179.49	89.79
	Sep	89.48	2.64	1.92	407	556	5.76	4.74	13.24	184.59	82.93
	Oct	85.60	2.98	1.76	379	510	5.73	4.88	12.84	183.27	74.23
	Nov	77.46	2.71	1.91	397	504	5.63	4.68	13.45	176.08	70.64
	Dec	71.98	2.52	1.40	419	488	6.13	4.69	13.11	168.39	69.00
2024	Jan	74.03	3.18	2.20	444	464	6.00	4.52	12.30	173.73	71.79
	Feb	76.94	1.72	1.35	434	433	5.86	4.23	11.69	183.49	80.18
	m-t-d Mar	79.70	1.53	n.a.	444	428	5.48	4.15	11.43	187.60	86.14
Forecast	2024 avg.	80.00	2.75	1.75	450	490 ↓	6.20 ↓	4.80 ↓	12.10 ↓	175.00	84.00
	2025 avg.	75.00	3.25	2.25	480	560	7.00	5.60	12.60	155.00	93.00

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)
	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
	2023	1,943	23.40	3.85	1.02	1.20	9.75	120
	y-t-d 2024	2,036	22.87	3.78	0.99	1.11	7.39	129
2023	Mar	1,909	21.93	4.01	1.04	1.34	10.56	127
	Apr	1,999	25.01	4.00	1.06	1.26	10.77	117
	May	1,993	24.14	3.73	1.03	1.12	10.08	104
	Jun	1,944	23.43	3.80	0.99	1.07	9.61	112
	Jul	1,950	24.05	3.83	0.98	1.09	9.48	113
	Aug	1,921	23.44	3.79	0.97	1.09	9.29	109
	Sep	1,918	23.21	3.75	0.99	1.13	8.90	120
	Oct	1,913	22.34	3.60	0.99	1.11	8.28	119
	Nov	1,984	23.43	3.71	1.00	1.15	7.70	130
	Dec	2,033	23.98	3.81	0.99	1.13	7.43	136
2024	Jan	2,035	22.96	3.78	1.00	1.14	7.30	135
	Feb	2,026	22.68	3.77	0.99	1.07	7.40	125
	m-t-d Mar	2,097	23.42	3.82	0.99	1.09	7.91	117
Forecast	2024 avg.	1,975 ↑	23.25 ↑	3.80	1.05	1.20	7.75	115
	2025 avg.	1,900 ↑	23.00 ↑	3.65	1.08	1.15	8.00	100

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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)
	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	328.3	281.9	426.4	276.4	262.6	313.9
	2023	275.0	225.5	395.1	141.2	205.9	265.2
<b>Forecast</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>273.9</b>	<b>232.6</b>	<b>381.7</b>	<b>163.2</b>	<b>189.4</b>	<b>261.3</b>
	<b>2025</b>	<b>264.0</b>	<b>219.5</b>	<b>364.0</b>	<b>172.9</b>	<b>208.2</b>	<b>248.9</b>
	2022 Q2	377.4	323.7	492.5	305.7	303.7	343.8
	Q3	358.5	323.2	453.4	257.7	280.9	329.3
	Q4	285.8	246.5	386.5	144.5	236.0	277.2
	2023 Q1	281.1	221.4	415.7	132.7	223.5	271.3
	Q2	264.4	213.7	383.7	127.7	205.9	253.9
	Q3	278.2	238.8	381.4	158.2	206.4	266.5
	Q4	276.3	227.9	399.7	146.1	187.8	269.0
<b>Forecast 2024</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>275.6</b>	<b>224.6</b>	<b>402.4</b>	<b>159.5</b>	<b>178.5</b>	<b>264.9</b>
	<b>Q2</b>	<b>272.9</b>	<b>232.3</b>	<b>381.3</b>	<b>161.7</b>	<b>183.2</b>	<b>261.4</b>
	<b>Q3</b>	<b>273.6</b>	<b>239.9</b>	<b>368.9</b>	<b>163.6</b>	<b>193.2</b>	<b>260.3</b>
	2023 Feb	284.0	222.9	417.6	147.2	229.0	272.5
	Mar	274.6	212.8	413.3	125.7	214.2	268.2
	Apr	278.0	229.8	399.7	121.9	212.1	267.8
	May	259.3	207.5	380.1	125.0	199.3	250.3
	Jun	255.9	203.8	371.3	136.2	206.3	243.6
	Jul	268.8	221.0	375.0	163.5	218.9	253.8
	Aug	275.2	236.1	377.2	156.2	205.2	264.4
	Sep	290.6	259.3	391.9	154.8	195.2	281.1
	Oct	283.6	249.0	391.7	138.9	188.0	277.5
	Nov	275.2	225.3	400.6	146.0	186.3	270.2
	Dec	270.2	209.4	406.9	153.4	189.0	259.4
	2024 Jan	273.7	216.6	407.0	161.0	183.3	262.4
	Feb	273.4	221.8	401.0	157.6	177.5	263.3

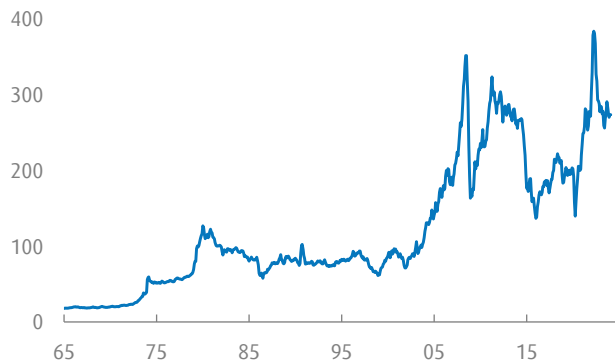
Commodity price indices and forecasts are by BMO Capital Markets Economics

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

### All-Commodity Index

Nominal US\$-Terms

(2003 = 100)

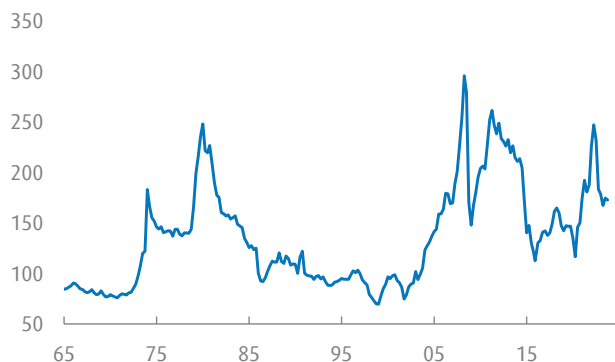


Source: BMO Economics

### 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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