



Consumer Price Index

2003



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - 1992 = 100
January 2003 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Jan. 2003 Index	% Change from Dec. 2002	% Change from Jan.'02	Jan. 2003 Index	% Change from Dec. 2002	% Change from Jan.'02
All Items	123.1	1.2	6.3	121.4	0.8	4.5
Food	121.8	1.5	2.4	122.3	0.9	1.9
Shelter	121.2	0.7	5.9	116.2	1.9	2.8
Household Operations & Furnishings	110.9	0.1	0.9	113.9	-0.1	0.9
Clothing & Footwear	110.9	3.9	-1.1	101.6	-0.7	-0.7
Transportation	143.6	1.3	17.0	141.9	1.3	11.8
Health & Personal Care	113.0	0.0	0.3	116.1	0.0	1.6
Recreation, Education & Reading	127.0	0.2	3.4	125.4	-0.5	2.5
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	136.3	4.0	21.2	132.0	0.3	17.6
<i>Energy</i>	<i>140.7</i>	<i>5.2</i>	<i>24.1</i>	<i>140.4</i>	<i>10.0</i>	<i>15.3</i>

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cities**
- Halifax Metro's January 2003 all-items CPI index of 122.0 (1992=100) was up 1.0 % from last month and increased by 5.8% on a year over year basis.
- Nova Scotia**
- Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index increased 1.2% in January; it increased 6.3% over January 2002.
 - Notable increases for the previous month were recorded for:
 - fresh vegetables (+16.2%)
 - automotive vehicle insurance premiums (+5.5%)
 - electricity (+3.1%)
 - processed meat (+1.5%)
 - inter-city transportation (+1.4%)
 - bakery products (+0.9%)
 - Since last month offsetting price declines of particular note included:
 - non-alcoholic beverages (-24.2%)
 - children's clothing (-10.7%); women's clothing (-10.5%); men's clothing (-6.3%)
 - furniture (-5.4%)
 - recreation equipment & services (excl. vehicles) (-3.5%)
 - gasoline (-1.3%)
- Canada**
- From December 2002 to January 2003, all-items CPI increased 0.8% in Canada; Canadians paid 4.5% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.
 - Since last month higher prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:
 - gasoline (+6.2%)—the result of increases in all provinces and territories except PEI (-1.5%) where prices are regulated.
 - natural gas (+7.6%)—largely due to a 17.2% hike in Alberta following an increase in service charges. Higher supply and delivery costs also caused a 6.9% increase in Ontario.
 - non-alcoholic beverages (+9.4%)—return to regular pricing after holiday promotions.
 - Lower prices that moderated the rise included:
 - automotive vehicles (-1.2%)—due to more generous rebates.
 - travel tours (-8.6%)—prices decreased in all provinces

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - 1992 = 100
February 2003 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Feb. '03 Index	% Change from Jan. '03	% Change from Feb.'02	Feb. '03 Index	% Change from Jan. '03	% Change from Feb.'02
All Items	124.3	1.0	6.8	122.3	0.7	4.6
Food	122.7	0.7	2.4	122.1	-0.2	1.2
Shelter	123.2	1.7	7.1	116.7	0.4	3.2
Household Operations & Furnishings	112.2	1.2	1.2	114.5	0.5	1.2
Clothing & Footwear	108.5	-2.2	-2.7	103.8	2.2	-1.5
Transportation	145.1	1.0	17.3	144.1	1.6	13.0
Health & Personal Care	113.8	0.7	0.7	116.4	0.3	1.4
Recreation, Education & Reading	127.4	0.3	2.9	127.1	1.4	2.4
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	140.0	2.7	24.8	133.5	1.1	18.2
<i>Energy</i>	<i>148.0</i>	<i>5.2</i>	<i>28.0</i>	<i>146.5</i>	<i>4.3</i>	<i>19.7</i>

HIGHLIGHTS

Cities Halifax Metro's February 2003 all-items CPI index of 123.0 (1992=100) was up 0.8% from last month and increased by 6.1% on a year over year basis.

Nova Scotia Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index increased 1.0% in February; it increased 6.8% over February 2002.

Notable increases for the previous month were recorded for:

- fuel oil & other fuel (+13.7%)
- athletic footwear (+12.4%)
- ham & bacon (+6.4%); other food preparations (+4.3%)
- gasoline (+4.1%)
- tobacco products & smokers' supplies (+4.0%)
- travel services (+3.2%)

Since last month offsetting price declines of particular note included:

- other fresh fruit (-10.5%); potatoes (-8.1%)
- women's clothing (-5.8%); men's clothing (-4.4%)
- apples (-3.3%); non-alcoholic beverages (-1.3%); bread, rolls & buns (-1.2%)

Canada From January to February 2003, all-items CPI increased 0.7 % in Canada; Canadians paid 4.6% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.

Since last month higher prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:

- gasoline (+7.0%)—increases ranged from 2.1% in Newfoundland & Labrador to +9.2% in Manitoba; steady rise in crude oil prices since November 2002 contributed to the price hikes.
- women's clothing (+5.8%)—several items returned to regular price following discounts in January; hikes were felt most in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.
- travel tours (+11.0%)—increase in keeping with changes observed for same month over the past five years.
- fuel oil (+11.9%)—largest increase since the 16.0% increase in September 2000; fuel oil rose 1.4% in Newfoundland and Labrador, but increases in the other Atlantic provinces, Quebec and Ontario ranged from 11.0% to 15.9% and between 5.0% and 6.6% in the western provinces.
- cigarettes (+2.1%)—increase in manufacturers' prices and higher taxes on tobacco products in British Columbia
- traveller accommodation (+5.1%)—largest increase reported in Quebec during Carnaval de Quebec.

Lower prices that moderated the rise included:

- fresh fruit (-5.8%) and fresh vegetables (-4.1%)—mainly due to favourable weather conditions in exporting countries.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - 1992 = 100
March 2003 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Mar. '03 Index	% Change from Feb. '03	% Change from Mar.'02	Mar. '03 Index	% Change from Feb. '03	% Change from Mar.'02
All Items	125.1	0.6	6.8	122.8	0.4	4.3
Food	123.0	0.2	2.6	122.4	0.2	1.7
Shelter	124.7	1.2	7.8	117.4	0.6	3.8
Household Operations & Furnishings	112.1	-0.1	1.2	114.5	0.0	0.7
Clothing & Footwear	112.8	4.0	0.9	105.5	1.6	-1.5
Transportation	145.2	0.1	15.5	144.6	0.3	10.8
Health & Personal Care	113.7	-0.1	0.5	116.1	-0.3	1.4
Recreation, Education & Reading	128.0	0.5	2.1	126.7	-0.3	1.4
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	141.0	0.7	26.1	133.8	0.2	17.3
Energy	152.2	2.8	26.5	149.5	2.0	17.2

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cities** Halifax Metro's March 2003 all-items CPI index of 123.8 (1992=100) was up 0.7% from last month and increased by 6.3% on a year over year basis.
- Nova Scotia** Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index increased 0.6% in March; it increased 6.8% over March 2002.
- Notable increases for the previous month were recorded for:
 -books (excl. textbooks) and other printed matter (+15.1%)
 -fuel oil and other fuel (+10.8%)
 -men's clothing (+7.6%), women's clothing (+7.2%)
 -ham and bacon (+3.8%), fresh and frozen beef (2.8%)
 -mortgage interest costs (+0.3%)
- Since last month offsetting price declines of particular note included:
 -tomatoes (-10.5%), apples (-4.7%), other fresh vegetables (-2.4%), condiments, spices & vinegars (-2.2%), other food preparations (-0.6%)
 -rental of automotive vehicles (-4.7%)
 -pet food and supplies (-0.9%)
- Canada** From February to March 2003, all-items CPI increased 0.4% in Canada; Canadians paid 4.3% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.
- Since last month higher prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:
 -natural gas (+7.2%)—almost entirely due to 24.5% jump in prices in Alberta (higher recovery costs and elimination of the \$15 credit granted to customers of southern Alberta)
 -fuel oil (12.4%)—stems mainly from higher wholesale prices; the indexes in all provinces advanced
 -gasoline prices (+0.9%)—main increases BC (+8.7%) and PEI (+6.4%) versus declines in ON (-1.1%) and QC (-0.6%)
 -women's clothing (+2.3%)—launch of spring-summer collections
 -homeowners' replacement cost (+0.8%) and mortgage interest cost (+0.2%)—new housing prices and higher interest rates
- Lower prices that moderated the rise included:
 -travellers accommodations (-5.8%)—observed in all provinces except NF & Labrador
 -travel tours index (-1.2%)—first decrease since index was introduced in October 1978—seasonal trend of price increases for Florida destinations was not felt this year

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)
April 2003 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Apr. '03 Index	% Change from Mar. '03	% Change from Apr.'02	Apr. '03 Index	% Change from Mar. '03	% Change from Apr.'02
All Items	123.9	-1.0	4.2	121.9	-0.7	3.0
Food	122.4	-0.5	1.7	122.4	0.0	1.2
Shelter	122.9	-1.4	5.3	116.5	-0.8	3.3
Household Operations & Furnishings	112.1	0.0	1.9	114.5	0.0	0.5
Clothing & Footwear	111.1	-1.5	-2.1	103.8	-1.6	-2.6
Transportation	141.7	-2.4	6.9	141.8	-1.9	6.0
Health & Personal Care	114.7	0.9	1.8	116.8	0.6	1.3
Recreation, Education & Reading	128.1	0.1	1.9	126.3	-0.3	1.3
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	141.8	0.6	22.0	134.5	0.5	15.2
<i>Energy</i>	<i>140.6</i>	<i>-7.6</i>	<i>9.8</i>	<i>137.4</i>	<i>-8.1</i>	<i>6.2</i>

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cities**
- Halifax Metro's April 2003 all-items CPI index of 122.9 (1992=100) fell 0.7% from last month and increased by 4.0% on a year over year basis.
- Nova Scotia**
- Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index declined 1.0% in April; it increased 4.2% over April 2002.
 - Notable decreases for the previous month were recorded for:
 - fuel oil and other fuel (-13.7%); gasoline (-8.4%)
 - men's clothing (-5.3%); women's clothing (-2.9%)
 - ham and bacon (-3.6%); other fresh vegetables (-3.4%); other food preparations (-0.9%)
 - Since last month offsetting price increases of particular note included:
 - sugar and confectionery (+3.5%)
 - child care (+1.6%)
 - automotive vehicle maintenance & repair services (+1.4%)
 - cheese (+1.4%)
 - tobacco products & smokers' supplies (+0.9%)
 - air transportation (+0.8%)
 - mortgage interest cost (+0.2%)
- Canada**
- From March to April 2003, all-items CPI decreased 0.7% in Canada; Canadians paid 3.0% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.
 - Since last month lower prices contributing to the month-over-month decrease included:
 - fuel oil (-18.0%)—largest drop since the series was introduced in 1949 and was attributable to the drop in crude oil prices; price reductions occurred in each province, ranging from 5.3% to 25.2%.
 - electricity (-10.1%)—entirely attributable to the 1.7% drop in the index in Ontario due to legislated price setting and consumer refunds
 - gasoline (-9.0%)—result of lower wholesale and crude oil prices which were felt across Canada
 - women's clothing (-3.8%)—due to widespread sales in most categories of women's clothing; these drops were felt mostly in Manitoba, Ontario, Alberta and Quebec.
 - Higher prices of particular note included:
 - natural gas (+5.6%)—biggest increases were felt in British Columbia (rise in price of commodity) and Ontario (rise in gas delivery charge and a temporary surcharge designed to recover energy costs).

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)
May 2003 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	May '03 Index	% Change from Apr. '03	% Change from May'02	May '03 Index	% Change from Apr. '03	% Change from May'02
All Items	123.5	-0.3	2.9	122.0	0.1	2.9
Food	122.9	0.4	2.4	122.8	0.3	2.0
Shelter	121.8	-0.9	4.4	117.1	0.5	3.5
Household Operations & Furnishings	112.4	0.3	2.0	114.5	0.0	0.6
Clothing & Footwear	114.3	2.9	1.0	103.4	-0.4	-1.1
Transportation	138.5	-2.3	1.5	139.8	-1.4	4.3
Health & Personal Care	114.8	0.1	0.9	117.1	0.3	1.2
Recreation, Education & Reading	129.5	1.1	1.3	127.2	0.7	0.3
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	142.4	0.4	15.9	136.2	1.3	14.6
Energy	129.0	-8.3	1.8	134.4	-2.2	4.7

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cities**
- Halifax Metro's May 2003 all-items CPI index of 122.6 (1992=100) fell 0.2% from last month and increased by 2.7% on a year over year basis.
- Nova Scotia**
- Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index declined 0.3% in May; it increased 2.9% over May 2002.
 - Notable increases for the previous month were recorded for:
 - travel services (+6.4%)
 - men's clothing (+6.4%), women's clothing (+4.6%)
 - fresh or frozen poultry meat (+3.7%)
 - homeowners' insurance premiums (2.3%), automotive vehicle insurance premiums (+2.0%)
 - Since last month price declines of particular note included:
 - tomatoes (-20.1%)
 - fuel oil and other fuel (-13.7%), gasoline (-10.4%)
 - potatoes (-6.7%), non-alcoholic beverages (-4.0%), fats & oils (-1.8%), other processed meat (-0.8%)
- Canada**
- From April to May 2003, all-items CPI increased 0.1% in Canada; Canadians paid 2.9% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.
 - Since last month higher prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:
 - electricity (+10.9%)—entirely the result of Ontario companies crediting their customers on their April bills and returning to regular billing in May
 - travel accommodation prices (+6.2%)—hotel operators introduced their summer rates
 - cigarette prices (+1.6%)—a manufacturer price increase in response to higher tobacco prices; provincial sales taxes increased in PEI and Manitoba
 - Lower prices that moderated the rise included:
 - gasoline (-6.9%)—drops ranged from 4.1% in Newfoundland and Labrador to 10.4% in Nova Scotia
 - natural gas (-8.7%)—mainly attributed to price decreases in Alberta resulting from reduced demand

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)
June 2003 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	June '03 Index	% Change from May '03	% Change from June '02	June '03 Index	% Change from May '03	% Change from June '02
All Items	123.6	0.1	2.9	122.1	0.1	2.6
Food	123.3	0.3	2.7	123.2	0.3	1.9
Shelter	122.0	0.2	4.5	117.7	0.5	4.1
Household Operations & Furnishings	113.3	0.8	1.4	114.5	0.0	0.4
Clothing & Footwear	111.3	-2.6	2.0	101.0	-2.3	-3.1
Transportation	137.8	-0.5	1.2	139.5	-0.2	4.1
Health & Personal Care	114.6	-0.2	0.6	116.8	-0.3	0.8
Recreation, Education & Reading	130.2	0.5	1.9	127.6	0.3	0.3
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	143.0	0.4	13.9	136.4	0.1	9.9
Energy	129.3	0.2	2.2	137.0	1.9	7.9

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cities**
- Halifax Metro's June 2003 all-items CPI index of 122.6 (1992=100) was unchanged from last month and increased by 2.7% on a year over year basis.
- Nova Scotia**
- Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index increased 0.1% in June; it increased 2.9% over June 2002.
 - Notable increases for the previous month were recorded for:
 - travel services (+8.6%)
 - non-alcoholic beverages (+5.9%)
 - homeowners' maintenance & repairs (+1.9)
 - gasoline (+0.5%)
 - tobacco products & smokers' supplies (+0.5%)
 - food purchased from table-service restaurants (+0.4%)
 - Since last month offsetting price declines of particular note included:
 - potatoes (-7.3%)
 - men's clothing (-6.0%); women's clothing (3.2%); children's clothing (-3.0)
 - fresh or frozen beef (-2.8%); fresh or frozen poultry meat (-2.2%); bread, rolls & buns (-1.8%)
- Canada**
- From May to June 2003, all-items CPI increased 0.1% in Canada; Canadians paid 2.6% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.
 - Since last month higher prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:
 - natural gas (+8.6%)—influenced by higher bills in Ontario and Alberta
 - traveller accommodation(+8.2%)—onset of peak tourist season across the country
 - gasoline prices (+1.2%); however, price fell in PEI (-6.1%), NF & Labrador (-1.5%) and MN (-0.4%)
 - Lower prices that moderated the rise included:
 - automotive vehicle purchases (-1.5%)—sales in the first five months of 2003 were down 4.3% over same period a year earlier and this led some manufacturers to offer more substantial rebates in June.
 - men's clothing (-5.1%) and women's clothing (-1.4%)widespread sales in most clothing categories

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)
July 2003 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	July '03 Index	% Change from June'03	% Change from July'02	July '03 Index	% Change from June'03	% Change from July'02
All Items	124.0	0.3	2.6	122.2	0.1	2.2
Food	123.6	0.2	2.1	123.2	0.0	1.9
Shelter	121.9	-0.1	4.5	117.6	-0.1	3.9
Household Operations & Furnishings	113.1	-0.2	1.3	114.6	0.1	0.4
Clothing & Footwear	111.8	0.4	-0.6	101.6	0.6	-3.2
Transportation	139.5	1.2	2.0	139.9	0.3	3.3
Health & Personal Care	114.6	0.0	1.1	116.9	0.1	1.3
Recreation, Education & Reading	131.0	0.6	1.5	127.9	0.2	-0.4
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	143.2	0.1	11.4	136.6	0.1	5.5
Energy	133.0	2.9	4.6	137.6	0.4	6.7

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cities**
- Halifax Metro's July 2003 all-items CPI index of 123.0 (1992=100) was up 0.3% from last month and increased by 2.4% on a year over year basis.
- Nova Scotia**
- Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index increased 0.3% in July; it increased 2.6% over July 2002.
 - Notable increases for the previous month were recorded for:
 - many fresh vegetables (+7.6%)
 - gasoline (+6.5%)
 - fresh or frozen poultry meat (+3.8%)
 - air transportation (+3.0%)
 - automotive vehicle maintenance & repair services (+2.5%)
 - men's clothing (+2.4%)
 - travel services (+1.9%)
 - Since last month offsetting price declines of particular note included:
 - lettuce (-31.1%); tomatoes (-12.3%); fresh or frozen pork (-4.4%); ham and bacon (-3.6%)
 - children's clothing (-4.1%)
 - automotive vehicle insurance premiums (-1.3%)
 - mortgage interest costs (-1.3%)
- Canada**
- From June to July 2003, all-items CPI increased 0.1% in Canada; Canadians paid 2.2% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.
 - Since last month higher prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:
 - gasoline (-1.9%) - up in all provinces except Prince Edward Island where prices are regulated; increases ranged from + 0.2% in Alberta to +6.5% Nova Scotia
 - men's clothing (+3.4%) - rebounded as widespread sales came to an end
 - air transportation (+3.1%) - typical in July reflecting peak season for travellers
 - Lower prices that moderated the rise included:
 - automotive vehicle purchases(-0.9%) - primarily a result of additional incentives from automotive vehicle manufacturers; index for purchase of automotive vehicles is now at its lowest level since October 1997.
 - beef (-5.0%) - largest monthly decrease since mid-seventies; most of downward pressure came from price decreases for cuts Canada normally produces for export; price declines were greatest in Western Canada, with Alberta beef prices falling 16.4%.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)
August 2003 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Aug. '03 Index	% Change from July '03	% Change from Aug. '02	Aug. '03 Index	% Change from July '03	% Change from Aug. '02
All Items	124.1	0.1	2.8	122.5	0.2	2.0
Food	122.8	-0.6	1.9	122.1	-0.9	1.6
Shelter	121.9	0.0	4.4	117.7	0.1	3.1
Household Operations & Furnishings	113.1	0.0	1.3	114.7	0.1	0.3
Clothing & Footwear	109.3	-2.2	2.7	101.8	0.2	-3.0
Transportation	141.5	1.4	1.9	142.4	1.8	3.9
Health & Personal Care	114.5	-0.1	1.2	117.4	0.4	1.6
Recreation, Education & Reading	131.2	0.2	1.5	128.0	0.1	-0.4
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	143.3	0.1	10.8	137.1	0.4	5.6
Energy	137.5	3.4	6.6	143.5	4.3	7.6

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cities**
- Halifax Metro's August 2003 all-items CPI index of 123.1(1992=100) was up 0.1% from last month and increased by 2.6% on a year over year basis.
- Nova Scotia**
- Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index increased 0.1% in August; it increased 2.8% over August 2002.
 - Notable increases for the previous month were recorded for:
 - tomatoes (+23.3%)
 - gasoline (+7.5%)
 - ham and bacon (+2.7%)
 - bread, rolls and buns (+1.7%)
 - fresh or frozen beef; food purchased from table-service restaurants; and travel services each increased 1.3%
 - Since last month offsetting price declines of particular note included:
 - lettuce (-32.7%); other fresh vegetables (-14.1%); sugar and confectionery (-3.9%)
 - women's clothing (-7.8%)
 - non-alcoholic beverages (-1.5%)
- Canada**
- From July to August 2003, all-items CPI increased 0.2% in Canada; Canadians paid 2.0% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.
 - Since last month higher prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:
 - gasoline (+9.0%)—representing the highest advance since March 2002, gasoline prices accounted for nearly all of the upward pressure on the index in August
 - Lower prices that moderated the rise included:
 - fresh vegetables (-12.1%)—more locally grown produce became available
 - purchased automotive vehicles (-0.8%)—automotive vehicle manufacturers continued to push sales by offering incentives
 - beef (-8.3%)—fourth consecutive month of decline and prices are now at their lowest levels since January 2001

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)
September 2003 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Sept. '03 Index	% Change from Aug.'03	% Change from Sept.'02	Sept. '03 Index	% Change from Aug.'03	% Change from Sept.'02
All Items	124.1	0.0	2.4	122.4	0.2	2.2
Food	121.8	-0.8	2.4	121.3	-0.7	1.8
Shelter	121.4	-0.4	2.5	117.9	0.2	2.9
Household Operations & Furnishings	112.3	-0.7	1.3	115.1	0.3	1.1
Clothing & Footwear	114.9	5.1	3.2	105.0	3.1	-2.1
Transportation	141.6	0.1	2.2	141.9	-0.4	3.7
Health & Personal Care	115.0	0.4	1.1	117.6	0.2	1.6
Recreation, Education & Reading	131.4	0.2	0.2	128.9	0.7	0.2
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	143.4	0.1	10.9	137.1	0.0	5.5
Energy	136.0	-1.1	3.5	143.4	-0.1	6.5

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cities**
- Halifax Metro's September 2003 all-items CPI index of 123.2 (1992=100) was up 0.1% from last month and increased by 2.3% on a year over year basis.
- Nova Scotia**
- Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index was unchanged in September; it increased 2.4% over September 2002.
 - Notable increases for the previous month were recorded for:
 - lettuce (+58.6%); apples (+7.0%); sugar & confectionery (+4.4%); non-alcoholic beverages (+3.3%)
 - women's clothing (+13.6%)
 - homeowners' insurance premiums (+8.0%)
 - gasoline (+0.9%)
 - Since last month offsetting price declines of particular note included:
 - fresh or frozen beef (-7.5%)
 - fuel oil and other fuel (-6.7%)
 - air transportation (-3.5%)
 - travel services (-3.0%)
 - food purchased from fast food & take-out restaurants (-2.0%)
 - homeowners' maintenance & repairs (-1.5%)
- Canada**
- From August to September 2003, all-items CPI increased 0.2% in Canada; Canadians paid 2.2% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.
 - Since last month higher prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:
 - tuition fees (+8.1%)—largest rise since September 1997, highest increases were in British Columbia
 - women's clothing (+5.7%); men's clothing (+2.7%) and children's clothing (+3.1%)—typical this time of year
 - natural gas(+3.8%)—following price increases in Alberta
 - Lower prices that moderated the rise included:
 - fresh vegetables(-10.8%)—ongoing supply of local products
 - traveller accommodations (-4.5%)—several hotel/motel operators lowered their rates with end of peak tourist season
 - air transportation (-3.5%)—usual lower fares are available to travellers to transatlantic, Pacific/Asia and southern destinations
 - gasoline (-0.7%)—mainly due to decreases in Ontario and Quebec

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)
October 2003 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Oct. '03 Index	% Change from Sept. '03	% Change from Oct. '02	Oct. '03 Index	% Change from Sept '03	% Change from Oct. '02
All Items	123.5	-0.5	1.2	122.4	-0.2	1.6
Food	121.3	-0.4	2.2	121.1	-0.2	2.2
Shelter	121.8	0.3	1.9	118.2	0.3	2.1
Household Operations & Furnishings	112.5	0.2	0.4	115.1	0.0	1.1
Clothing & Footwear	114.0	-0.8	0.6	105.0	0.0	-2.0
Transportation	138.7	-2.0	-1.2	139.7	-1.6	1.3
Health & Personal Care	114.9	-0.1	1.6	117.7	0.1	1.3
Recreation, Education & Reading	130.7	-0.5	0.3	128.3	-0.5	0.5
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	143.2	-0.1	9.1	137.0	-0.1	4.4
<i>Energy</i>	<i>130.7</i>	<i>-3.9</i>	<i>-2.5</i>	<i>137.0</i>	<i>-4.5</i>	<i>-1.0</i>

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cities**
- Halifax Metro's October 2003 all-items CPI index of 122.8 (1992=100) was down 0.3% from last month and increased by 1.4% on a year over year basis.
- Nova Scotia**
- Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index decreased 0.5% in October; it increased 1.2% over October 2002.
 - Notable increases for the previous month were recorded for:
 - fruit juices (+5.0%); fresh and frozen poultry meat (+2.1%)
 - property taxes (including special charges) (+3.9%)
 - homeowners' maintenance & repairs (+1.6%)
 - men's clothing (+1.4%)
 - rent (+0.4%)
 - Since last month offsetting price declines of particular note included:
 - ham & bacon (-11.6%); non-alcoholic beverages (-6.2%)
 - gasoline (-7.2%)
 - travel services (-6.7%)
 - athletic footwear (-5.6%); women's clothing (-2.8%)
 - fuel oil & other fuel (-2.1%)
- Canada**
- From September to October 2003, all-items CPI declined 0.2% in Canada; Canadians paid 1.6% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.
 - Since last month higher prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:
 - property taxes (+2.8%) - higher taxes registered in all provinces ranging from 0.3% in NL and MB to 6.4% in AB
 - beef (+4.7%) - increased demand July and August and partial resumption of exports to Mexico and US
 - homeowners' maintenance & repairs (+1.3%) - higher prices for materials (in particular, carpets)
 - Lower prices that moderated the rise included:
 - gasoline (-6.6%) - price decreases ranged from 2.2% in PE to 11.1% in MB with the stronger declines observed in the Western provinces
 - natural gas (-8.3%) - mostly under the pressure of price declines in ON and AB
 - traveller accommodation (-6.1%) - end of peak tourist season
 - automotive vehicles (0.7%) - reflected incentives from some manufacturers in attempt to clear their 2003 models

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)
November 2003 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Nov. '03 Index	% Change from Oct.'03	% Change from Nov.'02	Nov. '03 Index	% Change from Oct'03	% Change from Nov.'02
All Items	123.8	0.2	1.1	122.7	0.2	1.6
Food	122.5	1.0	1.9	122.3	1.0	1.6
Shelter	122.1	0.2	1.8	118.3	0.1	2.2
Household Operations & Furnishings	112.7	0.2	0.4	114.9	-0.2	0.8
Clothing & Footwear	113.0	-0.9	-1.2	104.2	-0.8	-1.0
Transportation	139.5	0.6	-1.1	140.9	0.9	1.2
Health & Personal Care	116.1	1.0	2.4	118.0	0.3	1.5
Recreation, Education & Reading	129.4	-1.0	0.5	127.5	-0.6	0.6
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	143.1	-0.1	9.1	137.6	0.4	4.3
Energy	128.4	-1.8	-4.0	135.4	-1.2	-0.6

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cities**
- Halifax Metro's November 2003 all-items CPI index of 123.0 (1992=100) was up 0.2% from last month and increased by 1.2% on a year over year basis.
- Nova Scotia**
- Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index increased 0.2% in November; it increased 1.1% over November 2002.
 - Notable increases for the previous month were recorded for:
 - tomatoes (+18.2%); ice cream and related products (+13.9%); ham and bacon (+13.2%); fresh and frozen beef (+8.0%)
 - personal care services (+3.7%)
 - fuel oil and other fuel (+2.1%)
 - automotive vehicle maintenance & repair services (+1.7%)
 - Since last month offsetting price declines of particular note included:
 - potatoes (-13.2%); non-alcoholic beverages (-5.7%)
 - travel services (-7.1%)
 - gasoline (-4.7%)
 - air transportation (-4.5%)
 - children's clothing (-4.1%); women's clothing (-1.2%)
- Canada**
- From October to November 2003, all-items CPI increased 0.2% in Canada; Canadians paid 1.6% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.
 - Since last month higher prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:
 - automotive vehicles (+4.0%)—prices for the 2004 models were reflected in the index
 - fresh vegetables (+11.1)—typical this time of year as availability of local produce begins to diminish; beef(+6.7%)—strongest monthly advance since May 1982.
 - natural gas (+4.1%)—mostly under pressure of price increases in Ontario
 - Lower prices that moderated the rise included:
 - traveller accommodation (-9.0%)—decline typically the case following end of the peak tourist season
 - gasoline (-2.9%)—price reductions were experienced in all provinces except British Columbia
 - air transportation
 - electricity
 - women's clothing

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)
December 2003 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Dec '03 Index	% Change from Nov '03	% Change from Dec '02	Dec '03 Index	% Change from Nov '03	% Change from Dec '02
All Items	123.5	-0.2	1.5	122.8	0.1	2.0
Food	122.1	-0.3	1.8	123.4	0.9	1.8
Shelter	122.7	0.5	2.0	118.8	0.4	4.2
Household Operations & Furnishings	113.1	0.4	2.1	114.9	0.0	0.8
Clothing & Footwear	111.6	-1.2	4.6	102.5	-1.6	0.2
Transportation	138.5	-0.7	-2.3	140.8	-0.1	0.5
Health & Personal Care	115.9	-0.2	2.6	117.6	-0.3	1.3
Recreation, Education & Reading	128.3	-0.9	1.3	126.5	-0.8	0.4
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	143.0	-0.1	9.1	140.1	1.8	6.5
Energy	132.0	2.8	-1.3	136.2	0.6	6.7

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cities**
- Halifax Metro's December 2003 all-items CPI index of 122.7 (1992=100) declined 0.2% from last month and increased by 1.6% over December 2002. The 2003 annual all-items index of 122.9 increased 3.2% over 2002.
- Nova Scotia**
- Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index decreased 0.2% in December; it increased 1.5% over December 2002. The 2003 annual all-items index of 129.9 rose 3.4% over 2002.
 - Notable increases for the previous month were recorded for:
 - lettuce (+25.0%), tomatoes (+10.4%), other fresh vegetables (+8.3%)
 - air transportation (+6.9%)
 - fuel oil and other fuel (+6.0%), gasoline (+3.3%)
 - men's clothing (+1.5%)
 - Since last month offsetting price declines of particular note included:
 - automotive vehicle insurance premiums (-9.4%)
 - fruit juices (-8.1%), non-alcoholic beverages (-5.6%), ham & bacon (-3.0%)
 - books (excluding textbooks) & other printed matter (-6.9%)
 - travel services (-3.7%)
 - women's clothing (-2.9%)
- Canada**
- From November to December 2003, all-items CPI increased 0.1% in Canada; Canadians paid 2.0% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago. The 2003 annual all-items index of 122.3 was up 2.8% over 2002.
 - Since last month higher prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:
 - fresh vegetables (+12.5%) weather conditions affecting harvesting of tomatoes, broccoli, cauliflower, celery and lettuce)
 - cigarettes (+3.3%) due mostly to higher taxes introduced between November and December in ON, QC and BB
 - air transportation (+7.0%) higher season more expensive category for Pacific/Asia, transatlantic and southern routes
 - electricity(+1.2%) as a result of a 3.9% increase in Ontario's index in addition to a refund to some electricity consumers in November.
 - Lower prices that moderated the rise included:
 - automotive vehicles (-0.7%) manufacturers rebates and discounts were offered by dealers on some models
 - traveller accommodation (-5.2%) end of peak tourist season
 - clothing (-1.9%) pre-Christmas sale prices were widespread among women's, men's and children's clothing with the strongest decline observed for women's clothing (-2.1%)