

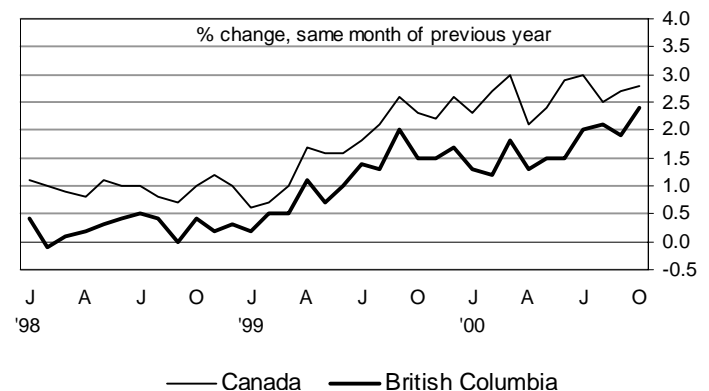
Consumer Price Index ♦ October 2000

Highlights

- Consumer prices in British Columbia rose 0.2% in October, matching the rate for the country as a whole, and the provinces of Newfoundland and New Brunswick. Manitoba experienced a decline of 0.2%, Saskatchewan remained unchanged, while Alberta and Quebec showed 0.1% increases. Highest increases were in PEI (+0.4%) and Nova Scotia and Ontario (+0.3%).
- Comparing price levels to a year ago, British Columbia at 2.4%, remained among the provinces showing the smallest increases. The lowest 12 month increase was in Manitoba (+2.2%) while the highest was in Prince Edward Island (+4.5%).
- Of the metropolitan areas, Victoria continued to record the lowest 12-month increase (2.1%). Charlottetown/Summerside topped the cities at 4.1%. Vancouver's rate rose 2.9% from the previous October.
- Energy price increases continued to push up the Consumer Price Index. Fuel oil prices rose 2.1% in BC in October, pushing the 12 month increase to 36.7%. Gasoline, had a 1.0% increase in September, putting the annual increase at 26.2%. Natural gas had no increase in the month, but was up 37.0% from a year ago. Property taxes also rose in October by 2.4%. Some price offsetting factors were monthly price declines in clothing and footwear (-0.6%), inter-city transportation costs (-5.9%), recreation expenditures (-2.2%) and alcoholic beverages (-0.1%).
- BC's inflation rate, excluding energy, rose 1.1% compared to a year ago. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.5%.

1992=100	Index	% Change From	
	October 2000	September 2000	October 1999
Canada	114.6	0.2	2.8
BC	114.5	0.2	2.4
Vancouver	115.1	0.2	2.9
Victoria	114.0	0.1	2.1

Inflation on the rise



1992=100	Latest 12-month Average Index	Latest 12-month Average % Change
Canada	112.9	2.6
BC	112.8	1.7
Vancouver	113.3	1.8
Victoria	112.6	1.5

Notes:

Statistics Canada will release the November Consumer Price Index on December 14, 2000.