

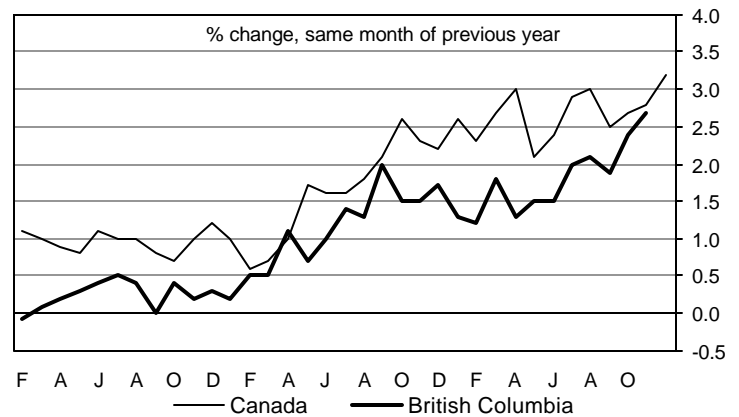
Consumer Price Index ♦ November 2000

Highlights

- Consumer prices in British Columbia remained unchanged from October 2000. Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia posted the highest monthly increase at 0.7%. Canada's rate rose 0.3%.
- Comparing price levels to a year ago, British Columbia, Manitoba and Quebec shared the smallest increase at 2.7%. The greatest 12-month increase was in Alberta (4.4%), followed by Prince Edward Island (4.3%). Canada's 12-month increase stood at 3.2%.
- Of the metropolitan areas, Victoria and Quebec City recorded the lowest 12-month increase at 2.4%. Calgary posted the top rate at 4.5%. Vancouver's rate rose 3.1% from the previous November.
- High energy prices continue to have a significant impact on the Consumer Price Index. Natural gas prices in BC rose 34.7% from a year ago, while fuel oil prices rose 31.7%. Gasoline, while showing a 2.9% decrease from last month, still showed a hefty 12-month increase of 23.4%. Also contributing to increased inflation in BC are higher prices for local and commuter transportation (10.4%), reading material and other printed matter (7.8%), fresh vegetables (7.4%), and women's clothing (6.0%). Offsetting these increases were lower prices for fresh fruit (-4.8%), bakery and cereal products (-3.6%), and coffee and tea (-3.1%).
- BC's inflation rate, excluding energy, rose 1.5% compared to a year ago. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.8%.

	1992=100	Index		% Change From	
		November 2000	October 2000	October 2000	November 1999
Canada		115.0		0.3	3.2
BC		114.5		0.0	2.7
Vancouver		115.2		0.1	3.1
Victoria		114.1		0.1	2.4

Inflation hits new heights



1992=100	Latest 12-month Average Index	Latest 12-month Average % Change
Canada	113.2	2.7
BC	113.1	1.8
Vancouver	113.6	2.1
Victoria	112.8	1.6

Notes:

Statistics Canada will release the December Consumer Price Index on January 18, 2001.