

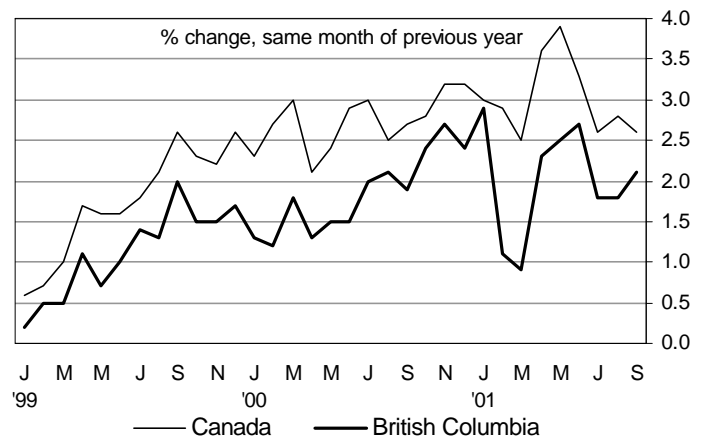
Consumer Price Index ♦ September 2001

Highlights

- Inflation in BC rose 2.1% between September 2000 and September 2001. The smallest 12-month increase was in Newfoundland at 0.9%, while Saskatchewan had the greatest increase at 3.9%. Canada's consumer prices increased 2.6% during the same period.
- Of the metropolitan areas, St. John's recorded the lowest year-over-year increase in prices at 1.0%, while the highest price increases were seen in Regina (3.9%). Prices in Victoria rose 1.6%, while Vancouver experienced a 2.1% increase in prices since last September.
- BC's energy prices, which include natural gas, home heating oil, electricity and motor gasoline, rose 5.0% from last September, driven primarily by a 22.4% increase in the price of natural gas. Home heating oil prices dropped by 2.6%, while electricity prices remained stable with a 0.4% increase. Motor gasoline prices continued to fluctuate, showing a 1.7% rise from last September.
- Also contributing to inflation in BC from last September are higher prices for non-alcoholic beverages (+9.4%), fresh fruit (+8.6%), fish and other seafood (+7.9%), meat (+7.9%), and fresh vegetables (+7.3%). Offsetting these increases were lower prices for coffee and tea (-4.4%), women's clothing (-1.4%) and children's clothing (-1.2%).
- BC's consumer price index, excluding food and energy, rose 1.2% compared to a year ago. The comparable figure for Canada was 2.1%.

	1992=100	Index		% Change From	
		Sept 2001	August 2001	Sept 2001	Sept 2000
Canada		117.4	0.3	2.6	
BC		116.7	0.5	2.1	
Vancouver		117.5	0.4	2.1	
Victoria		115.7	0.4	1.6	

BC inflation on the rise



1992=100	Latest 12-month Average Index	% Change from Prev. 12-month average
Canada	116.1	3.0
BC	115.0	2.1
Vancouver	115.8	2.4
Victoria	114.2	1.6

Note:

Statistics Canada will release the October issue of the Consumer Price Index on November 21, 2001.