

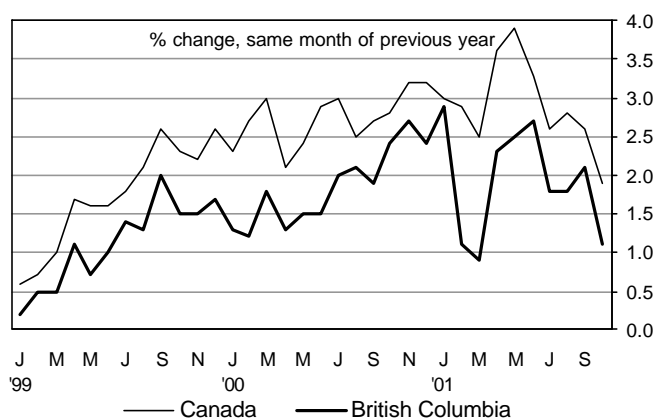
Consumer Price Index ♦ October 2001

Highlights

- Inflation in BC rose 1.1% between October 2000 and October 2001. The smallest 12-month increase was in Newfoundland at 0.1%, while Saskatchewan had the greatest increase at 3.1%. Canada's consumer prices increased 1.9% during the same period.
- Of the metropolitan areas, St. John's recorded the lowest year-over-year increase in prices at 0.3%, while the highest price increases were seen in Regina (3.1%). Prices in Victoria rose 1.1%, while Vancouver experienced a 1.2% increase in prices since last October.
- BC's energy prices, which include natural gas, home heating oil, electricity and motor gasoline, showed a 1.1% decrease from last October, continuing a downward trend. While natural gas prices rose 10.1% from last October, home heating oil prices dropped by 8.5% and motor gasoline prices dropped by 5.2%. Electricity prices remained stable with a 0.4% increase from the same period last year.
- Also contributing to inflation in BC from last October are higher prices for fresh fruit (+18.9%), non-alcoholic beverages (+11.1%), fresh vegetables (+7.8%), inter-city public transportation (+6.5%), meat (+6.4%), and fish and other seafood (+6.3%). Offsetting these increases were lower prices for children's clothing (-3.6%), women's clothing (-2.5%), recreation (-0.8%) and liquor purchased from stores (-0.6%).
- BC's consumer price index, excluding food and energy, rose 0.6% from last October. The comparable figure for Canada is 1.9%.

1992=100	Index	% Change From	
	October 2001	September 2001	October 2000
Canada	116.8	-0.5	1.9
BC	115.8	-0.8	1.1
Vancouver	116.5	-0.9	1.2
Victoria	115.2	-0.4	1.1

Inflation Trend Declining



1992=100	Latest 12-month Average Index	% Change from Prev. 12-month average
Canada	116.3	3.0
BC	115.1	2.0
Vancouver	115.9	2.3
Victoria	114.3	1.5

Note:
 Statistics Canada will release the November issue of the Consumer Price Index on December 20, 2001.