

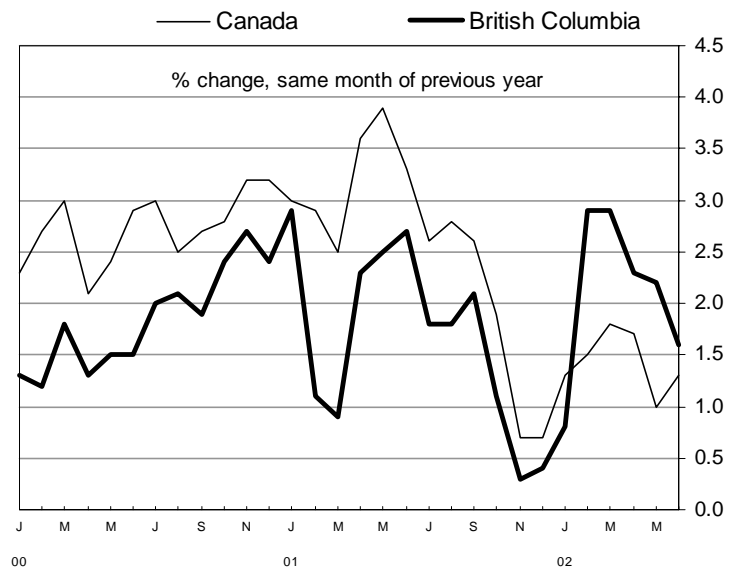
Consumer Price Index – June 2002

Highlights

- The year-over-year inflation rate in BC was 1.6% in June, down 0.6 percentage points from May. The highest rate (2.6%) was seen in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, while Alberta reported the lowest rate (0.5%). Canada's year-over-year inflation rate was 1.3% in June.
- Of the metropolitan areas, prices in Vancouver rose 1.7% from last June, while Victoria posted a 2.1% increase over the same period. Halifax reported the greatest price increases from a year ago at 2.8%, while Edmonton experienced deflation (-0.5%).
- BC's energy prices, which include natural gas, home heating oil, electricity and gasoline, fell 6.0% from last June, largely due to a 13.1% drop in the price of natural gas. Fuel oil prices also declined compared to last June (-6.1%), while electricity prices remained stable. Gasoline prices decreased 6.1% during the same period.
- Contributing to inflation in BC from last June were higher prices for cigarettes (+27.9%), inter-city public transportation (+8.7%), local and commuter transportation (+7.5%), reading material (+5.0%), household furnishings (+5.0%), beer purchased from stores (+4.9%), and fresh vegetables (+4.8%). Lower prices for children's clothing (-4.5%), coffee and tea (-4.1%), men's clothing (-1.8%), and fish and other seafood (-1.5%) helped offset these increases.
- BC's consumer price index, excluding food and energy, rose 2.3% from last June. The comparable figure for Canada is 2.6%.

	1992=100	Index		% Change From	
		June 2002	May 2002	May 2002	June 2001
Canada		119.0	0.3	1.3	
BC		118.2	0.1	1.6	
Vancouver		119.0	0.0	1.7	
Victoria		117.8	0.2	2.1	

BC inflation trend continues slide



1992=100	Latest 12-month Average Index	Latest 12-month Average % Change
Canada	117.2	1.7
BC	116.4	1.7
Vancouver	117.0	1.7
Victoria	115.8	1.8

Note:
 Statistics Canada will release the July issue of the Consumer Price Index on August 21, 2002.