

## Consumer Price Index ♦ September 2003

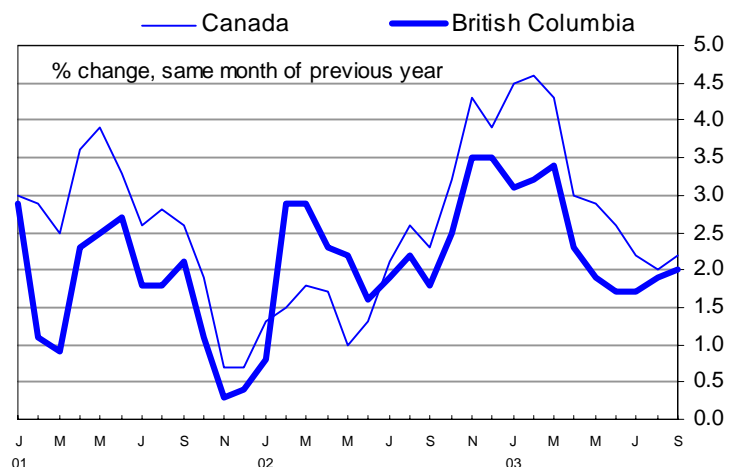
### Highlights

- Inflation in BC rose 2.0% over September 2002. The lowest price increases were seen in Manitoba and Quebec, both showing a 1.6% rise in inflation, while Alberta continued to have the highest inflation rate in the country (3.3%). Nationally, the CPI rose 2.2% during the same period.
- Among the metropolitan areas, Edmonton, at 4.5%, had the highest increase in the CPI from last September, while Thunder Bay, at 1.4%, recorded the lowest increase. During the same period, the Vancouver CPI rose 1.8%, and the Victoria CPI rose 2.0%.
- Contributing to BC's year-over-year inflation were higher prices for education (+20.3%), natural gas (+16.0%), fuel oil (+10.0%), cigarettes (+10.0%), gasoline (+8.9%), and coffee & tea (+5.6%). Offsetting these increases were lower prices for inter-city public transportation (-3.8%), fish & other seafood (-3.4%), non-alcoholic beverages (-2.5%), liquor purchased from stores (-2.2%), and footwear (-1.8%).
- BC's CPI, excluding food and energy, rose 1.5% from last September. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.9%.

**Note:** Statistics Canada will release the October Consumer Price Index on November 19, 2003.

1992=100	Index	% Change From	
		September 2003	September 2002
Canada	122.7	0.2	2.2
BC	121.2	0.2	2.0
Vancouver	121.8	0.2	1.8
Victoria	120.8	0.2	2.0

### Inflation Trend Shows Slight Rise



1992=100	Latest 12-Month Average Index (ending in Sept. 2003)	Latest 12-Month Average % Change	2002 Annual Average % Change
Canada	121.8	3.3	2.2
BC	119.9	2.6	2.3
Vancouver	120.6	2.4	2.2
Victoria	119.5	2.6	2.7