

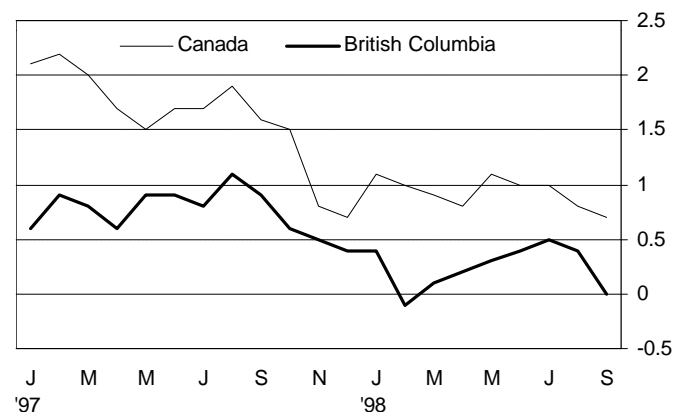
Consumer Price Index ♦ September 1998

Highlights

- Canada's annual inflation rate, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), remains low throughout the country. BC showed no increase since September 1997, and Canada posted a 0.7% rise for the same period. Saskatchewan and Manitoba recorded the highest increase, both at 1.5%. The greatest decrease was experienced in Newfoundland (-1.0%).
- Between August and September, Canada (-0.2%) and BC (-0.4%) experienced deflation, as did most provinces with the exception of Ontario and Saskatchewan, which both posted a minor increase of 0.1%.
- BC's monthly decrease can be attributed to significant declines in the prices of fresh vegetables (-8.2%), fresh fruit (-5.7%), children's clothing (-4.2%), and gasoline (-3.6%). Also, lower prices were noted for men's clothing and air transportation. Increases were recorded for education, household furniture, personal care items, and alcohol.
- Vancouver and Victoria both posted a 0.4% decline from August 1998. However, since September 1997, Vancouver's annual rate increased slightly (0.2%), while Victoria's dropped (-0.1%). The greatest annual decrease was shared by St. John's and Charlottetown (-0.6%), with Regina showing the greatest increase (1.9%).

	1992=100	% Change From	
		August 1998	September 1997
Canada	108.6	-0.2	0.7
B.C.	110.0	-0.4	0.0
Vancouver	110.2	-0.4	0.2
Victoria	109.9	-0.4	-0.1

CPI - Percent Change from Same Month of Previous Year



Notes:

Statistics Canada will release the October Consumer Price Index on November 19, 1998.