

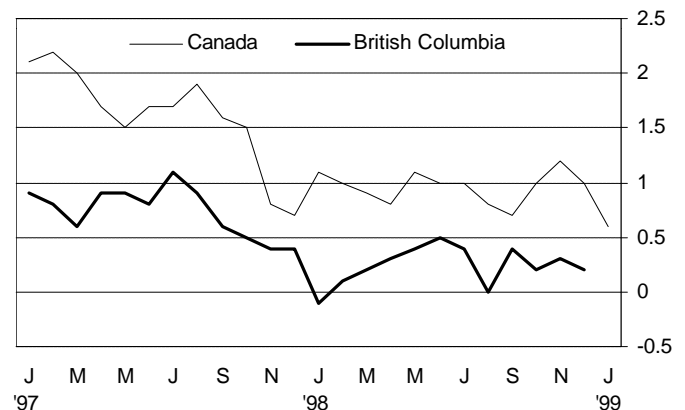
## Consumer Price Index ♦ January 1999

### Highlights

- The British Columbia annual inflation rate increased 0.2% from January 1998. Nationally, consumers paid 0.6% more than they did a year ago. Saskatchewan recorded the highest increase in the country at 1.9%. The Maritime provinces all recorded decreases, with Prince Edward Island posting the largest decrease (-0.7%).
- Between December 1998 and January 1999, BC's inflation rate rose 0.2%, the same as for Canada.
- Price increases in BC from December 1998 were recorded for fresh fruit (10.3%), fresh vegetables (8.6%), piped gas (7.7%), and women's clothing (5.9%). Offsetting these increases were price declines for meat (-1.4%), gasoline (-4.0%) and inter-city public transportation (-3.9%).
- Among the metropolitan areas, Vancouver and Victoria both experienced increases in their inflation rates at 0.1% and 0.2%, respectively. The highest rate (0.4%) was shared by Toronto, Thunder Bay, Regina and Saskatoon. The greatest decrease was experienced by Charlottetown and Saint John, both at -0.4%.

	1992=100	% Change From	
		December 1998	January 1998
Canada	108.9	0.2	0.6
B.C.	109.9	0.2	0.2
Vancouver	110.2	0.1	0.3
Victoria	109.9	0.2	0.1

CPI - Percent Change from Same Month of Previous Year



### Notes:

Statistics Canada will release the February Consumer Price Index on March 19, 1999.