

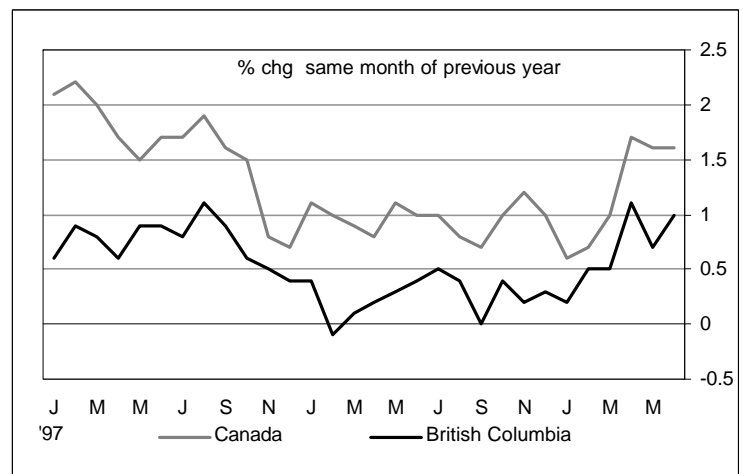
## Consumer Price Index ♦ June 1999

### Highlights

- British Columbians continue to enjoy the lowest inflation rate in the country, along with Prince Edward Island. Both provinces posted a 1.0% increase over June 1998. This is only the second time since August 1997 that BC's inflation rate has equalled or exceeded 1.0%. The greatest increase was shared by Manitoba and Ontario (1.9%). The national rate rose 1.6% from the previous June.
- Compared to May 1999, BC's inflation rate rose 0.4%. Consumers paid more for fresh vegetables (2.3%), women's clothing (4.9%), and recreation (2.2%). Offsetting these increases were lower prices for fish and seafood (-1.3%), and footwear (-2.0%).
- On a year-over-year basis, shelter costs in the province continued to decline in June to 0.7% below the June 1998 level. This was mainly due to continuing decreases in the cost of owned accommodation (-2.2%), reflecting the effects of a relatively weak housing market and mortgage rates which have risen only slightly from June 1998. BC's year-over-year inflation rate excluding the shelter component was 1.6% in June. The comparable figure for Canada was 1.7%.
- Of the metropolitan areas, Vancouver and Victoria posted the lowest year-over-year increases (0.8% and 0.9%, respectively). The highest rate was recorded in Toronto, at 2.0%.

	1992=100	% Change From	
	June 1999	May 1999	June 1998
Canada	110.5	0.1	1.6
BC	111.5	0.4	1.0
Vancouver	111.7	0.4	0.8
Victoria	111.4	0.4	0.9

### *BC's inflation rate rises to 1.0%*



**Notes:**

Statistics Canada will release the July 1999 Consumer Price Index on August 18, 1999.