



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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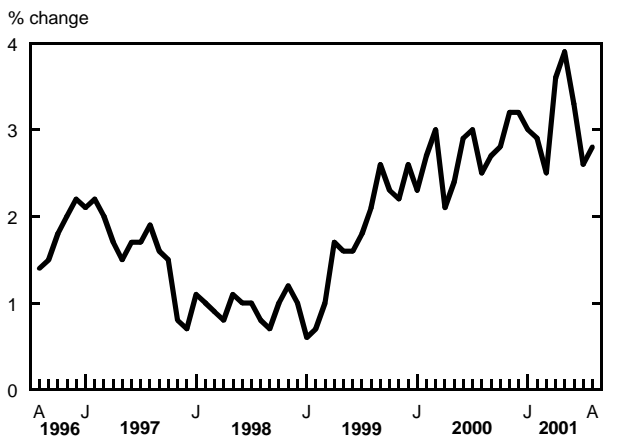
MAJOR RELEASES

Consumer Price Index

August 2001

Consumers paid 2.8% more for the goods and services included in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in August than they did in August 2000. While this was lower than the 3.9% increase posted in May, it was higher than July's rate of 2.6%.

Percentage change in the Consumer Price Index from the same month of the previous year



The increase in the CPI partly reflects the renewed impact of energy prices, which accounted for about 16% of the All-items increase. While energy prices figured more prominently than in July, they still had a smaller impact than they did earlier in 2001.

Led by a 33.9% jump in natural gas prices, the energy index rose 4.8% in August compared with August 2000. Electricity and fuel oil prices also boosted the index, but lower gasoline prices moderated the increase.

While energy prices picked up somewhat in August, this was not the case in all areas of the CPI. The CPI excluding energy rose 2.6% in August compared with August 2000, lower than July's rate of 2.7%.

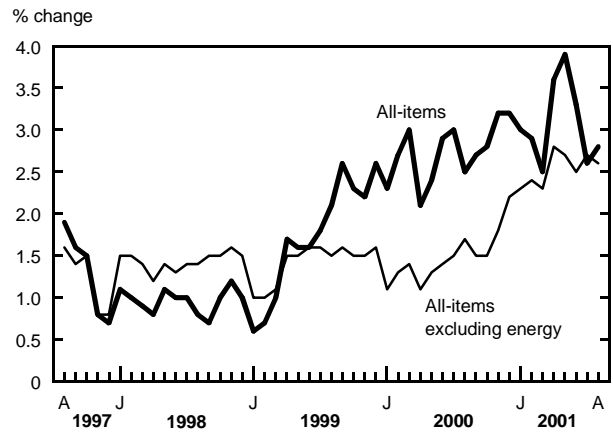
The impact of food prices lessened slightly in August, but still remained an important contributor, accounting for more than one-quarter of the All-items increase. Food prices were up 4.1% over August 2000, a slower rise than the 4.6% increases seen in June and July.

Note to readers

Statistics Canada is now calculating, on behalf of the Bank of Canada, a seasonally adjusted index series for All-items excluding the eight most volatile components. This series is available on CANSIM, Statistics Canada's official database, or by contacting the nearest regional office or Prices Division (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; cpiinfo@statcan.ca).

The continued influence of higher cigarette prices and rent, as well as the increased cost of housing replacement and mortgage interest, also pushed up the All-items index. This was partly offset by continuing declines in the price of computer equipment and supplies.

Annual change in the CPI and in the CPI excluding energy

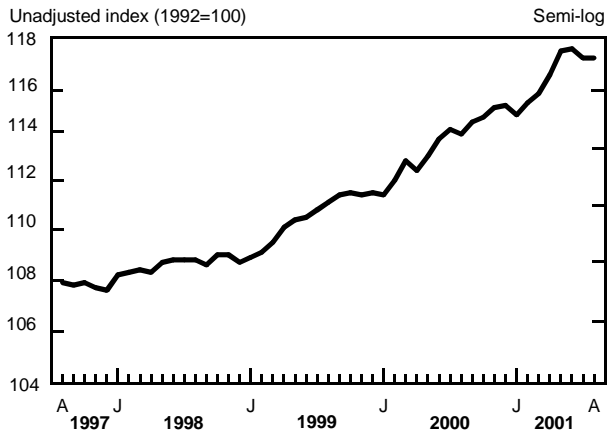


Month-to-month CPI unchanged

The CPI remained unchanged from July to August, after dropping from June to July. Declines in the fresh vegetables and natural gas categories were mostly offset by higher gasoline and cigarette prices.

As usually occurs in August, local produce came onto the market, helping to bring about a 12.5% drop in fresh vegetable prices. These declines were widespread across the country.

Consumer Price Index



Natural gas prices fell a further 2.2% from July to August, after dropping 8.4% in July. The decreases were posted in Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec, primarily reflecting lower operating costs and a retreat in the cost of natural gas. Nonetheless, prices remained 33.9% higher than in August 2000 and 68.6% higher than in August 1999. According to the Raw Materials Price Index, wholesalers and distributors paid 120.1% more for natural gas in July 2001 than they did in July 1999.

Gasoline prices rose 1.4% in August from July, boosted by crude oil cutbacks by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and declining gasoline inventories. This partly offset some of the declines that took place in June and July, but prices still remained 3.9% lower than in August 2000. Gasoline prices had been generally rising since early 1999. In August 2001, gasoline prices were 35.1% above their most recent low of February 1999.

Cigarette prices rose 1.5% as increased costs at the manufacturing level translated into higher consumer prices.

Available at 7 a.m. on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca).

Available on CANSIM: tables 3260001, 3260003, 3260004 and 3260010.

The August 2001 issue of the *Consumer Price Index* (62-001-XIB, \$8/\$77; 62-001-XPB, \$11/\$103) is now available. See *How to order products*.

The September 2001 Consumer Price Index will be released on October 18.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, call (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca), Prices Division, or Joanne Moreau (613-951-7130). □

The Consumer Price Index and its major components
(1992=100)

	August 2001	July 2001	August 2000	July to August 2001	August 2000 to August 2001
Unadjusted					
	% change				
All-items	117.1	117.1	113.9	0.0	2.8
Food	117.7	118.6	113.1	-0.8	4.1
Shelter	113.7	113.7	109.0	0.0	4.3
Household operations and furnishings	112.5	112.4	110.5	0.1	1.8
Clothing and footwear	106.6	105.8	105.4	0.8	1.1
Transportation	130.9	130.4	130.0	0.4	0.7
Health and personal care	114.2	114.8	112.4	-0.5	1.6
Recreation, education and reading	126.2	126.2	124.8	0.0	1.1
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	106.4	105.7	98.0	0.7	8.6
All-items (1986=100)	150.0				
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1992	85.4	85.4	87.8		
Special aggregates					
Goods	114.3	114.5	111.0	-0.2	3.0
Services	120.4	120.2	117.3	0.2	2.6
All-items excluding food and energy	115.1	114.9	112.6	0.2	2.2
Energy	133.4	133.1	127.3	0.2	4.8
All-items excluding the eight most volatile components ¹	118.0	117.9	115.3	0.1	2.3

¹ Excluded from the All-items CPI are these eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, please consult the Bank of Canada Web site: (www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation).

The Consumer Price Index by province, Whitehorse and Yellowknife
(1992=100)

	August 2001	July 2001	August 2000	July to August 2001	August 2000 to August 2001
Unadjusted					
	% change				
Newfoundland	115.0	115.3	113.8	-0.3	1.1
Prince Edward Island	115.2	115.7	112.5	-0.4	2.4
Nova Scotia	116.5	116.7	114.0	-0.2	2.2
New Brunswick	115.1	115.1	113.3	0.0	1.6
Quebec	113.8	113.6	111.0	0.2	2.5
Ontario	118.3	118.3	114.4	0.0	3.4
Manitoba	121.9	122.2	118.5	-0.2	2.9
Saskatchewan	121.2	121.1	117.2	0.1	3.4
Alberta	121.5	121.6	118.3	-0.1	2.7
British Columbia	116.1	116.3	114.1	-0.2	1.8
Whitehorse	117.9	118.1	115.9	-0.2	1.7
Yellowknife	113.8	113.7	111.9	0.1	1.7

OTHER RELEASES

Travel between Canada and other countries July 2001

Travel to Canada fell slightly in July, after rising in May and June. Canadian travel outside the country increased in July for the third consecutive month.

Foreigners made 4.2 million same-day and overnight trips in July, down 0.6% from June. U.S. residents took 0.6% fewer trips, and overseas residents took 0.5% fewer trips than they did in June.

The estimated number of international trips by Canadians was 3.9 million in July, up 1.7% from June. Canadian travel to the United States advanced 1.6%, and travel to overseas destinations was up 3.0%. (Data cover both same-day and overnight trips.)

U.S. residents made 1.7 million overnight trips to Canada in July, down 1.6% from June. Canadians made 1.2 million overnight trips south of the border in July, up 0.7%.

The number of overnight car trips by Americans to Canada decreased 1.1% to 815,000 in July. American travel by plane stood at 325,000, down 2.6%. Canadians took 647,000 overnight car trips to the United States, 1.2% more than in June, and 441,000 plane trips, 1.1% more than in June.

Same-day car trips between Canada and the United States increased in both directions in July for the third consecutive month. Canadians made 2.2 million car excursions south of the border, up 0.9% from June. The number of such trips by Americans to Canada rose 0.3% to 2.4 million.

Canadians took a record 425,000 overnight trips to overseas countries in July (+3.0%), the largest increase since January 2001. Overseas residents made 353,000 overnight trips to Canada, 1.0% less than in June.

Travellers from only 5 of Canada's top 12 overseas markets took more same-day and overnight trips in July. Japan posted the strongest gain in travel to Canada (+5.1%), followed by South Korea (+2.1%), the United Kingdom (+1.2%), Australia (+0.8%) and France (0.1%).

Travel between Canada and other countries

	June 2001 ^r	July 2001 ^p	June to July 2001	July 2001 ^p	July 2000 to July 2001
	Seasonally adjusted			Unadjusted	
	'000		% change	'000	% change
Canadian trips abroad¹	3,830	3,896	1.7	4,802	-2.6
To the United States	3,418	3,471	1.6	4,423	-3.5
To other countries	413	425	3.0	380	10.4
Same-day car trips to the United States	2,168	2,189	0.9	2,684	-3.4
Total trips, one or more nights	1,601	1,622	1.3	2,050	-1.1
United States ²	1,189	1,197	0.7	1,671	-3.4
Car	640	647	1.2	1,145	-3.8
Plane	436	441	1.1	336	-2.5
Other modes of transport	113	109	-3.9	189	-2.1
Other countries ³	413	425	3.0	380	10.4
Travel to Canada¹	4,256	4,232	-0.6	6,853	2.8
From the United States	3,884	3,862	-0.6	6,170	3.5
From other countries	372	370	-0.5	683	-3.8
Same-day car trips from the United States	2,355	2,361	0.3	3,294	5.3
Total trips, one or more nights	1,686	1,659	-1.6	3,215	0.5
United States ²	1,329	1,306	-1.7	2,564	1.7
Car	824	815	-1.1	1,730	2.7
Plane	334	325	-2.6	496	0.5
Other modes of transport	172	166	-3.4	338	-1.4
Other countries ³	357	353	-1.0	652	-3.9
Most important overseas markets⁴					
United Kingdom	75	76	1.2	123	-0.6
Japan	44	46	5.1	70	2.9
France	31	31	0.1	59	-8.4
Germany	30	30	-0.1	60	-12.4
Australia	14	14	0.8	20	-5.0
South Korea	14	14	2.1	29	15.7
Mexico	14	13	-1.6	36	8.5
Netherlands	10	10	-5.6	24	-8.0
Taiwan	11	10	-10.0	18	-30.5
Hong Kong	13	10	-25.0	21	-19.1
Italy	9	9	-1.0	18	-6.8
Switzerland	9	8	-2.8	22	-7.0

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Totals exceed the sum of "same-day car trips" and "total trips, one or more nights" because they include all of the same-day trips.

² Estimates for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and estimated numbers for planes, trains, boats and other methods.

³ Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

⁴ Includes same-day and one-or-more-night trips.

Note: The analysis of this release is based only on seasonally adjusted data.

Available on CANSIM: tables 4270001-4270006.

The July 2001 issue of *International travel, advance information*, Vol. 17, no. 7 (66-001-PIB, \$6/\$55) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release,

contact Jimmy Ruel (613-951-1910) or Client Services (1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-2909; cult.tourstats@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

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International travel, advance information, Vol. 17, no. 7
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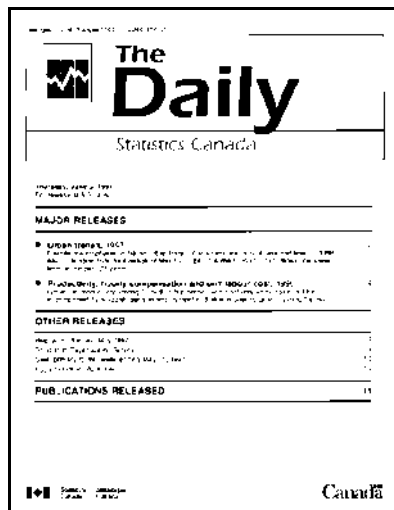
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