



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Consumer Price Index, June 2004** 2
 In June, the 12-month increase in the Consumer Price Index remained identical to that of May, at 2.5%. However, the 12-month increase in the All-items index excluding energy rose to 1.6% compared with 1.3% in May.
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MAJOR RELEASES

Consumer Price Index

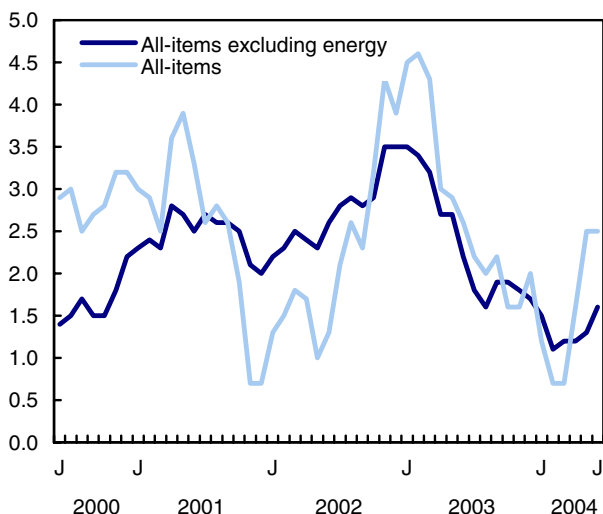
June 2004

In June 2004, consumers paid 2.5% more than they did in June 2003 for the goods and services included in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket, the same as in May. However, the 12-month increase in the All-items index excluding energy rose to 1.6% compared with 1.3% in May.

Again, gasoline prices were by far the main contributor to the increase in the CPI. However, gasoline's 12-month increase slowed down from 30.3% in May to 24.5% in June.

Percentage change from the same month of the previous year

% change



The variations in the price movements for the purchase of automotive vehicles, clothing and meat explain in large part the change in the increase of the All-items index excluding energy from 1.3% in May to 1.6% in June. The 12-month price change for automotive vehicle purchase reversed from a decline of 1.2% in May to a 0.2% increase in June, while that of clothing reversed from a 1.0% decrease in May to a 1.1% rise in June. The advance in meat prices rose from 0.9% in May to 5.2% in June.

The All-items index excluding eight volatile components identified by the Bank of Canada rose 1.7%

from June 2003 to June 2004. This follows a 1.5% rise in May.

Between May and June, the CPI advanced 0.1%, following a 0.9% increase in May. Gasoline prices had a large dampening effect on the CPI, as prices fell 3.3% on a monthly basis.

Gasoline prices were the most important contributor to the 12-month increase in the CPI

June's 12-month increase of 2.5% was identical to that in May. Although higher gasoline prices were by far the most important contributor to the 12-month increase in the CPI, upward pressure was also exerted by homeowners' replacement cost, cigarettes, tuition fees and homeowner's insurance premiums.

Dampening these increases were lower prices for computer equipment and supplies, leasing of automotive vehicles, fresh vegetables and traveller accommodation.

Gasoline prices were up 24.5% from June 2003. Substantial price increases were observed in all provinces, with the highest in Prince Edward Island (+35.2%) and the lowest in Saskatchewan (+21.7%).

Homeowners' replacement cost, which represents the worn-out structural portion of housing and is estimated using new housing prices (excluding land), increased 6.8% from June 2003. Favourable market conditions and higher material and labour costs across Canada are the main factors behind this increase.

Increases in tobacco taxes explain most of the 7.7% rise in the price of cigarettes since June 2003.

The 8.1% increase in tuition fees continue to be one of the important factors impacting the 12-month increase in the CPI, although they are collected only once a year, in September.

Homeowners' insurance premiums were up 12.8% on average.

Computer equipment and supplies prices fell 16.5% as prices for desktops and laptops decreased.

Prices for the leasing of automotive vehicles fell 5.9%, as a result of financing incentives offered over the last 12 months.

Prices of fresh vegetables decreased 7.5% from June 2003 to June 2004. This is mostly because of better crops than last year, especially for lettuce (-27.4%) and potatoes (-18.0%). These strong price decreases were dampened somewhat by higher prices for tomatoes (+7.8%), as a result of the switch from

imported field to Canadian hothouse tomatoes, which are more expensive to produce.

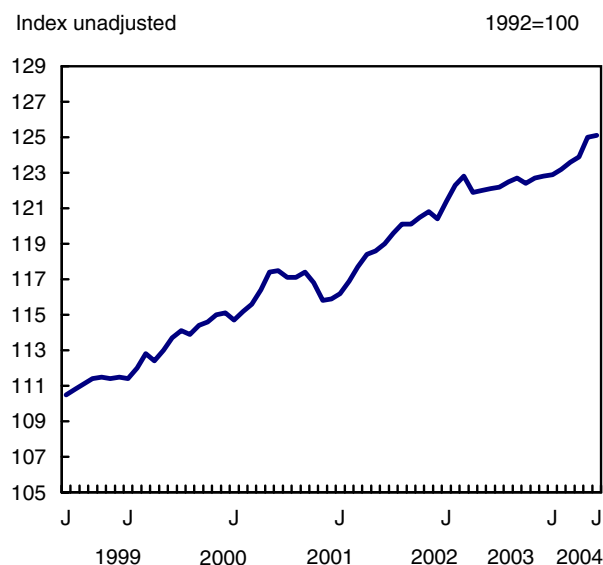
Traveller accommodation prices were also down from June last year, having decreased 7.3%. They have not yet recovered from the impact of a higher Canadian dollar, the world's instability and the general economic slowdown.

Slight monthly increase in the Consumer Price Index

The CPI rose 0.1% from May to June 2004. Upward pressure came mostly from higher prices for meat, natural gas and traveller accommodation. Gasoline prices exerted an important dampening effect on these upward pressures.

Meat prices advanced 4.0% between May and June 2004. June's 4.6% increase in beef prices re-established prices to levels comparable with those found prior to the discovery of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (or mad cow disease) in Alberta in May 2003.

The Consumer Price Index



Consumers also experienced higher chicken prices as lower supply pushed the index up 5.4%. June's increase is the sharpest monthly rise in the last seven years. The most important jump was recorded in British Columbia (+14.1%), where the avian flu forced the elimination of a large part of the stock.

Pork prices were 5.7% higher than in May, pushed up by stronger demand. June's increase is the strongest monthly rise since April 2001.

The natural gas index for Canada rose 8.0% in June. This rise is entirely the result of a 38.5% price increase in Alberta. Higher costs for gas recovery were mostly responsible for this jump. The remaining part of the price advance reflects additional administration fees charged as a result of new management taking over the retail operations from an existing company. In fact, higher natural gas prices are the main factor behind the 1.0% increase in Alberta's All-items index.

In June, consumers paid 6.0% more for traveller accommodation than in May. This follows a 7.9% rise in May. June's increases ranged from 3.2% for Saskatchewan residents to 10.5% for Nova Scotia residents. These increases are attributable to the onset of the peak tourist season across the country.

Gasoline prices had an important dampening effect on these increases, decreasing 3.3% on average for Canada. The largest decreases were registered in Ontario (-5.5%) and Quebec (-4.9%), while increases were observed in Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick and Manitoba.

Slight advance in the seasonally adjusted CPI from May to June

After seasonal adjustment, the CPI rose 0.1% from May to June 2004.

Upward pressure was exerted by higher seasonally adjusted indexes for shelter (+0.4%), food (+0.6%), alcoholic beverages and tobacco products (+0.4%), and health and personal care (+0.1%).

Partially offsetting these increases were lower seasonally adjusted indexes for transportation (-0.7%), household equipment and furnishings (-0.3%), clothing and footwear (-0.2%), and recreation, education and reading (-0.1%).

All-items excluding the eight most volatile components

The All-items index excluding the eight volatile components identified by the Bank of Canada increased 1.7% from June 2003 to June 2004. The main contributors to this increase were homeowners' replacement cost (+6.8%), homeowner's insurance premiums (+12.8%) and tuition fees (+8.1%).

From May to June 2004, the All-items index excluding the eight volatile components identified by the Bank of Canada registered a slight increase of 0.1%. Price increases for traveller accommodation (+6.0%) and meat (+4.0%) pushed the index up, while lower prices for men's clothing (-1.5%), upholstered furniture (-2.5%), homeowners' maintenance and repairs (-0.6%), refrigeration and air conditioning appliances (-5.0%) and athletic footwear (-3.5%) partly offset these increases.

Energy

The energy index rose 13.0% from June 2003 to June 2004, pushed up mostly by gasoline prices, which increased 24.5% over the period. Higher prices for electricity (+2.9%), fuel oil (+10.7%), as well as for fuel, parts and supplies for recreational vehicles (+13.5%) also contributed to the increase. However, natural gas prices fell 1.1% from 12 months ago.

On a monthly basis, the energy index decreased 0.9%, forced down by lower prices for gasoline (-3.3%). The decline was slowed down by the increase in natural gas prices in Alberta (+38.5%), which resulted in an 8.0% increase at the Canada level, and the stable price for electricity.

Available on CANSIM: tables 326-0001, 326-0002, 326-0009, 326-0012 and 326-0016 to 326-0018.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2301.

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI are also available online in *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (62-557-XIB, free).

Available at 7 a.m. online under *Today's news releases from The Daily*, then *Latest Consumer Price Index*.

The June 2004 issue of the *Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 83, no. 6 (62-001-XIB, \$9/\$83; 62-001-XPB, \$12/\$111) is now available. See *How to order products*. This issue includes the study, *The Soaring Loonie and Prices: Lower Inflation for Consumers?* (11-621-MIE2004014, free), released on June 24, 2004.

The July 2004 Consumer Price Index will be released on August 24.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, call Rebecca McDougall (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539), Prices Division.

□

Consumer Price Index and major components (1992=100)

	June 2004	May 2004	June 2003	May to June 2004	June 2003 to June 2004
unadjusted					
	% change				
All-items	125.1	125.0	122.1	0.1	2.5
Food	125.6	124.4	123.2	1.0	1.9
Shelter	120.3	119.8	117.7	0.4	2.2
Household operations and furnishings	115.0	115.4	114.5	-0.3	0.4
Clothing and footwear	101.9	102.8	101.0	-0.9	0.9
Transportation	147.1	148.2	139.5	-0.7	5.4
Health and personal care	119.1	119.0	116.8	0.1	2.0
Recreation, education and reading	128.5	128.4	127.6	0.1	0.7
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	144.0	143.4	136.4	0.4	5.6
All-items (1986=100)	160.3				
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared with 1992	79.9	80.0	81.9		
Special aggregates					
Goods	120.7	120.8	117.5	-0.1	2.7
Services	130.0	129.8	127.1	0.2	2.3
All-items excluding food and energy	122.0	122.0	120.2	0.0	1.5
Energy	154.8	156.2	137.0	-0.9	13.0
All-items excluding the eight most volatile components ¹	124.7	124.6	122.6	0.1	1.7

1. Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following 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; intercity 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 website (www.bankofcanada.ca/en/inflation/index.htm).

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

	June 2004	May 2004	June 2003	May to June 2004	June 2003 to June 2004
unadjusted					
	% change				
Newfoundland and Labrador	123.2	122.8	120.3	0.3	2.4
Prince Edward Island	124.9	124.3	121.5	0.5	2.8
Nova Scotia	126.5	126.0	123.6	0.4	2.3
New Brunswick	124.8	124.6	122.1	0.2	2.2
Quebec	121.0	121.1	118.1	-0.1	2.5
Ontario	125.8	126.1	122.9	-0.2	2.4
Manitoba	128.5	128.1	124.9	0.3	2.9
Saskatchewan	129.9	129.7	126.3	0.2	2.9
Alberta	133.0	131.7	130.1	1.0	2.2
British Columbia	123.6	123.4	120.2	0.2	2.8
Whitehorse ¹	121.8	121.5	119.9	0.2	1.6
Yellowknife ¹	119.5	119.1	118.6	0.3	0.8
Iqaluit (December 2002=100) ¹	101.8	101.4	100.2	0.4	1.6

1. Go online to view the geographical details for the city of Whitehorse, the city of Yellowknife and the town of Iqaluit.

OTHER RELEASES

Cancer incidence

2002

Cancer incidence data from 1992 to 2002 are now available for all provinces and territories, except for Quebec (2002 data unavailable). The 2002 publication *Cancer Statistics* (84-601-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Health*.

This publication also presents current and historical cancer incidence and survival statistics in Canada as well as links to health region cancer rates, comparable health indicators, the Cancer Record, the Canadian Cancer Registry (CCR) Input data dictionary, and other CCR Procedure Manuals. It also provides links to the major cancer-related sites.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3207.

For general information or to order custom tabulations, contact Client Services (613-951-1746; hd-ds@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Michel Cormier (613-951-1775; michel.cormier@statcan.ca), Health Statistics Division. ■

Canadian Potato Production

2004 (preliminary)

The preliminary estimate of the area planted to potatoes in 2004 is now available. For the first time in 16 years, Canadian potato producers have reduced the area planted at the national level. This reduction is primarily in response to cuts in contracts for processing potatoes. The total area planted to potatoes for Canada is estimated to be down 4% from 2003.

Available on CANSIM: table 001-0014.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3401, 3407, 3446 and 3465.

The 2004 issue of *Canadian Potato Production*, Vol. 2, no. 1 (22-008-XIE, free) is now available online. From *Our Products and Services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Agriculture*.

For more information, contact Client Services (1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the

concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Barbara McLaughlin (902-893-7251; barbara.mclaughlin@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Steel primary forms, weekly data

Week ending July 10, 2004 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending July 10 totalled 315 050 metric tonnes, up 2.3% from 307 942 tonnes a week earlier and 10.8% from 284 431 tonnes in the same week of 2003.

The year-to-date total as of July 10 was 8 559 887 tonnes, up 2.4% from 8 359 104 tonnes in the same period of 2003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2131.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Particleboard, Oriented Strandboard and Fibreboard

May 2004

Data on particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard for May are now available.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2141.

The May 2004 issue of *Particleboard, Oriented Strandboard and Fibreboard*, Vol. 40, no. 5 (36-003-XIB, \$6/\$51) 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 the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Whole Farm Database Reference Manual, July 2004
Catalogue number 21F0005GIE
(free).

Whole Farm Database Reference Manual, July 2004
Catalogue number 21F0005GPE
(free).

Canadian Potato Production, July 2004, Vol. 2, no. 1
Catalogue number 22-008-XIE
(free).

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, May 2004, Vol. 58,
no. 5
Catalogue number 31-001-XIE (\$17/\$158).

**Particleboard, Oriented Strandboard and
Fibreboard**, May 2004, Vol. 40, no. 5
Catalogue number 36-003-XIB (\$6/\$51).

Consumer Price Index, June 2004, Vol. 83, no. 6
Catalogue number 62-001-XIB (\$9/\$83).

Consumer Price Index, June 2004, Vol. 83, no. 6
Catalogue number 62-001-XPB (\$12/\$111).

New Motor Vehicle Sales, May 2004, Vol. 76, no. 5
Catalogue number 63-007-XIE (\$14/\$133).

**Education, Skills and Learning Research Papers:
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Staff at Canadian Universities , 2003 to 2004**, no. 19
Catalogue number 81-595-MIE2004019
(free).

**Science, Innovation and Electronic Information
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no. 13
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
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website (www.statcan.ca). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *For sale*.

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 The Daily Statistics Canada	
Thursday, June 3, 1997 For release at 9:30 a.m.	
MAJOR RELEASES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban transit, 1996 Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 21 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years. 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996 Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was modestly weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year. 	4
OTHER RELEASES	
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The Daily, July 16, 2004

RELEASE DATES: JULY 19 TO JULY 23

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
19	Canada's International Transactions in Securities	May 2004
20	Wholesale Trade	May 2004
20	Leading Indicators	June 2004
20	Travel between Canada and Other Countries	May 2004
21	Use of Cannabis and Other Illicit Drugs	2002
22	Industrial Competition, Shifts in Market Share and Productivity Growth	
22	Widowhood: Consequences on Income for Senior Women	1991 to 2000