

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Friday, November 23, 2012**

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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## Releases

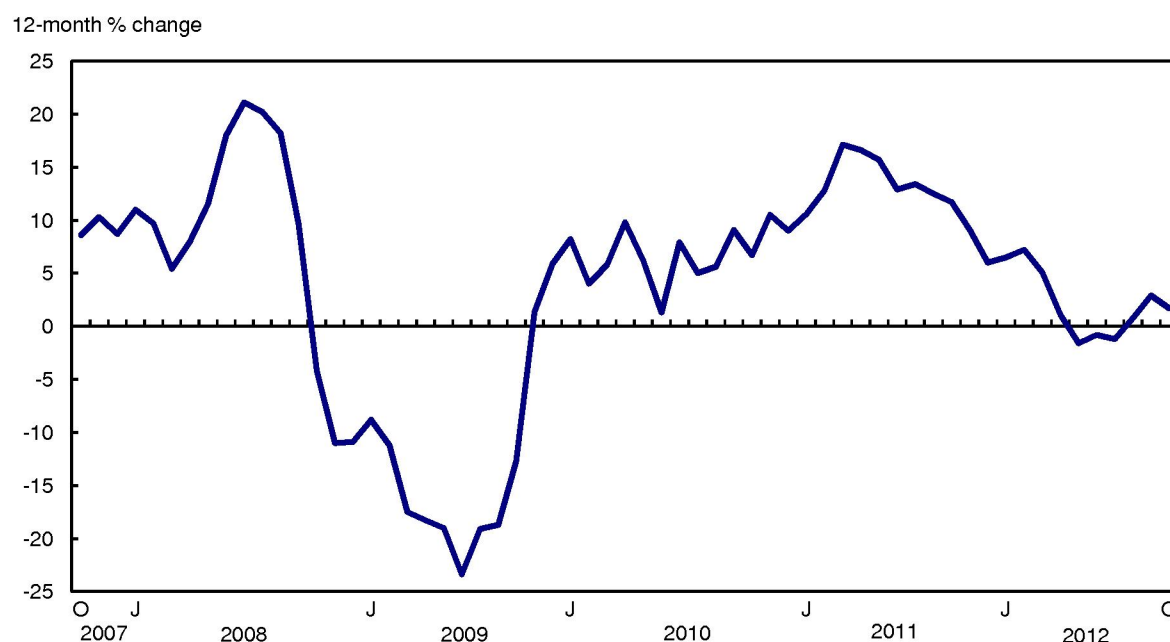
### Consumer Price Index, October 2012

Consumer prices rose 1.2% in the 12 months to October, matching the increases in August and September. Energy prices rose at a slower year-over-year rate in October compared with September, while air transportation, food purchased from stores and property taxes posted larger price gains.

#### Energy prices

Energy prices advanced 1.7% in the 12 months to October, after rising 2.9% in September. This slower increase was led by smaller price gains for electricity and gasoline.

**Chart 1**  
**The 12-month change in the energy index**



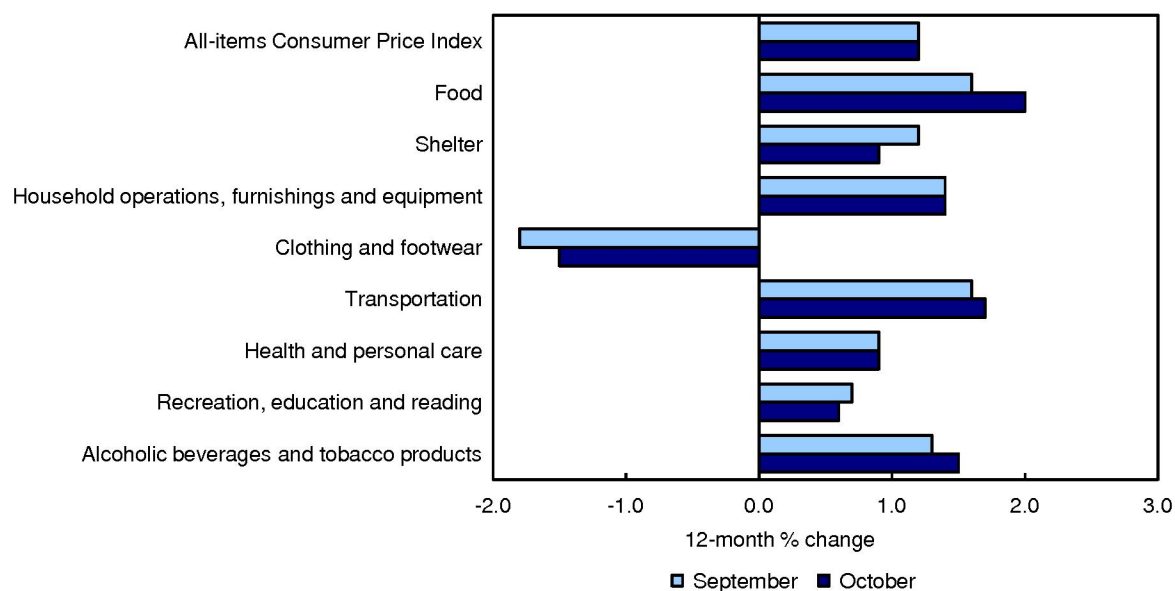
The cost of electricity increased 1.7% on a year-over-year basis in October, after rising 6.0% in September. This smaller increase in the electricity index was the result of price declines recorded in Alberta.

Gasoline prices rose 4.0% in the 12 months to October, following a 4.7% increase in September. Prince Edward Island (+9.0%) had the largest year-over-year increase, while British Columbia (+0.3%) had the smallest.

Natural gas prices declined 11.6% in the 12 months to October, after decreasing 14.2% in September. Despite a monthly price increase, the natural gas index was one of the largest downward contributors to the year-over-year change in the All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI) in October.



**Chart 3**  
**Prices rise in every major component except clothing and footwear**



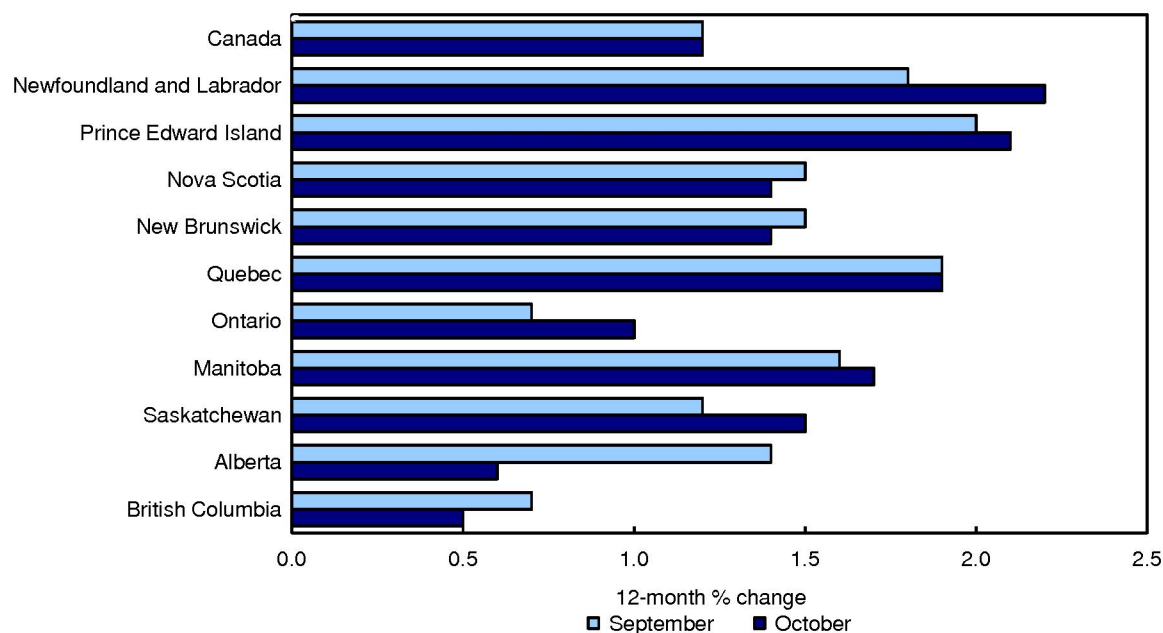
Food prices rose 2.0% in the 12 months to October, following a 1.6% increase in September. The October increase was led by year-over-year price gains for meat (+5.1%) and food purchased from restaurants (+2.1%).

Prices for transportation rose 1.7% on a year-over-year basis in October, after rising 1.6% in September. The increase in the transportation component in October was led by price gains for gasoline. Consumers also paid more for air transportation.

Shelter costs increased 0.9% in the 12 months to October, after rising 1.2% in September. Consumers paid 2.8% more in property taxes. Homeowner's replacement cost and rent also increased. Conversely, mortgage interest cost decreased 2.6%, continuing a pattern of year-over-year declines observed since 2009.

### 12-month change in the provinces

The largest year-over-year increase in consumer prices in October occurred in Newfoundland and Labrador, while the smallest occurred in British Columbia.

**Chart 4****Prices grow the fastest in Newfoundland and Labrador and the slowest in British Columbia**

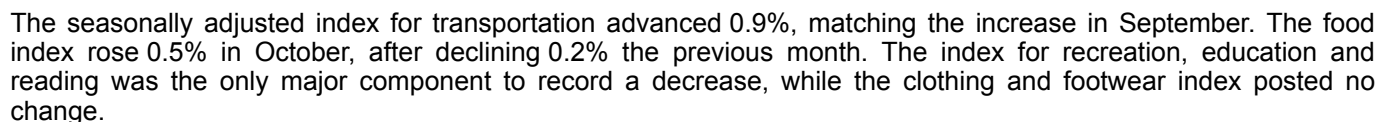
Prices in Newfoundland and Labrador rose 2.2% in the 12 months to October, a full percentage point above the national average of 1.2%. This difference was mainly attributable to larger year-over-year price increases in Newfoundland and Labrador for food purchased from stores and electricity. Additionally, since natural gas is not widely consumed in the province, the downward contribution of natural gas recorded for Canada in October is not a factor in the province's All-items CPI.

Consumer prices in British Columbia increased 0.5% in the 12 months to October, after rising 0.7% in September. In addition to recording the smallest year-over-year price increase for gasoline, British Columbia posted a decline in homeowner's replacement cost.

In Alberta, consumer prices rose 0.6% on a year-over-year basis in October, after advancing 1.4% in September. This slower increase in the Alberta CPI in October compared with September was the result of price decreases for electricity.

### Seasonally adjusted monthly CPI increases

On a [seasonally adjusted](#) monthly basis, the CPI increased 0.3% in October, after rising 0.2% in September.



The [Bank of Canada's core index](#) rose 1.3% in the 12 months to October, matching the increase in September.

## Note to readers

The Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the Consumer Price Index's most volatile components (fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies) as well as the effects of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components.

*A seasonally adjusted series is one from which seasonal movements have been eliminated. Users employing Consumer Price Index data for indexation purposes are advised to use the unadjusted indexes. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends.*

**Table 1**  
**Consumer Price Index and major components, Canada – Not seasonally adjusted**

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	October 2011	September 2012	October 2012	September to October 2012	October 2011 to October 2012
	%	(2002=100)		% change		
<b>All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI)</b>	<b>100.00<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>120.8</b>	<b>122.0</b>	<b>122.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>
Food	15.99	128.0	130.3	130.5	0.2	2.0
Shelter	27.49	126.5	127.2	127.6	0.3	0.9
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	11.55	111.9	113.2	113.5	0.3	1.4
Clothing and footwear	5.31	96.1	93.3	94.7	1.5	-1.5
Transportation	20.60	126.5	128.3	128.6	0.2	1.7
Health and personal care	4.95	117.4	118.5	118.5	0.0	0.9
Recreation, education and reading	11.20	106.0	107.7	106.6	-1.0	0.6
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	2.91	135.8	137.7	137.8	0.1	1.5
<b>Special aggregates</b>						
Core CPI <sup>3</sup>	82.15	118.7	119.9	120.2	0.3	1.3
All-items CPI excluding energy	89.92	117.9	118.9	119.2	0.3	1.1
Energy <sup>4</sup>	10.08	156.9	160.6	159.5	-0.7	1.7
Gasoline	5.80	179.4	188.8	186.6	-1.2	4.0
All-items CPI excluding food and energy	73.93	115.6	116.4	116.7	0.3	1.0
Goods	47.80	113.9	114.2	114.5	0.3	0.5
Services	52.20	127.7	129.8	129.8	0.0	1.6

1. 2009 CPI basket weights at April 2011 prices, Canada, effective May 2011. Detailed weights are available under the Documentation section of survey 2301 ([www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/2301-eng.htm](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/2301-eng.htm)).

2. Figures may not add to 100% as a result of rounding.

3. The Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the Consumer Price Index's most volatile components (fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies) as well as the effects of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components. For additional information on the core CPI, please consult the Bank of Canada website ([www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/indicators/key-variables/inflation-control-target/](http://www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/indicators/key-variables/inflation-control-target/)).

4. The special aggregate "Energy" includes: electricity; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; and fuel, parts and supplies for recreational vehicles.

**Table 2**  
**Consumer Price Index by province, and for Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Iqaluit – Not seasonally adjusted**

	Relative importance <sup>1</sup>	October 2011	September 2012	October 2012	September to October 2012	October 2011 to October 2012
	%	(2002=100)		% change		
<b>Canada</b>	<b>100.00<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>120.8</b>	<b>122.0</b>	<b>122.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.29	122.1	124.5	124.8	0.2	2.2
Prince Edward Island	0.35	123.9	126.2	126.5	0.2	2.1
Nova Scotia	2.56	123.9	125.7	125.6	-0.1	1.4
New Brunswick	2.06	120.8	122.7	122.5	-0.2	1.4
Quebec	21.21	119.0	120.9	121.3	0.3	1.9
Ontario	39.85	121.0	122.0	122.2	0.2	1.0
Manitoba	3.16	119.3	121.0	121.3	0.2	1.7
Saskatchewan	2.90	123.0	124.5	124.8	0.2	1.5
Alberta	11.97	127.2	127.8	128.0	0.2	0.6
British Columbia	14.47	117.4	118.1	118.0	-0.1	0.5
Whitehorse	0.08	119.1	121.4	121.6	0.2	2.1
Yellowknife	0.07	122.6	123.9	124.4	0.4	1.5
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.02	114.3	115.9	115.2	-0.6	0.8

1. 2009 Consumer Price Index basket weights at April 2011 prices, effective May 2011. Detailed weights are available under the Documentation section of survey 2301 ([www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/2301-eng.htm](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/2301-eng.htm)).

2. Figures may not add to 100% as a result of rounding.

**Table 3**  
**Consumer Price Index and major components – Seasonally adjusted<sup>1</sup>**

	August 2012	September 2012	October 2012	August to September 2012	September to October 2012
	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI)</b>	<b>121.7</b>	<b>121.9</b>	<b>122.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Food	131.4	131.1	131.7	-0.2	0.5
Shelter	127.4	127.2	127.6	-0.2	0.3
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	112.9	113.1	113.4	0.2	0.3
Clothing and footwear	91.1	91.1	91.1	0.0	0.0
Transportation	127.3	128.5	129.7	0.9	0.9
Health and personal care	119.3	118.4	118.7	-0.8	0.3
Recreation, education and reading	106.4	106.1	105.8	-0.3	-0.3
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	137.9	137.7	137.8	-0.1	0.1
<b>Special aggregates</b>					
Core CPI <sup>2</sup>	119.8	119.8	119.9	0.0	0.1
All-items CPI excluding food and energy <sup>3</sup>	116.2	116.2	116.3	0.0	0.1

1. A seasonally adjusted series is one from which seasonal movements have been eliminated. Each month, the previous month's seasonally adjusted index is subject to revision. On an annual basis, the seasonally adjusted values for the last three years are revised with the January data release. Users employing Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for indexation purposes are advised to use the unadjusted indexes. For more information on the availability and uses of seasonally adjusted CPI data, see the Definitions, data sources and methods section of survey 2301 ([www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/2301-eng.htm](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/imdb-bmdi/2301-eng.htm)).

2. The Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the Consumer Price Index's most volatile components (fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies) as well as the effects of changes in indirect taxes on the remaining components. For additional information on the core CPI, please consult the Bank of Canada website ([www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/indicators/key-variables/inflation-control-target/](http://www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/indicators/key-variables/inflation-control-target/)).

3. The special aggregate "Energy" includes: electricity; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuels; gasoline; and fuel, parts and supplies for recreational vehicles.

**Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 326-0009, 326-0012, 326-0015 and 326-0020 to 326-0022.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2301.**

For a more detailed analysis, consult the publication *The Consumer Price Index*. The October 2012 issue of *The Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 91, no. 10 (62-001-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

With this issue, data on inter-city indexes of price differentials of consumer goods and services, appearing in [Table 15](#) of the publication and in CANSIM table [326-0015](#), have been updated to October 2011.

More information about the concepts and use of the Consumer Price Index are also available online in *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (62-557-X, free) from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

The Consumer Price Index for November will be released on December 21.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).



## Study: Canada's dual crude oil market and the influence on changes in gasoline prices

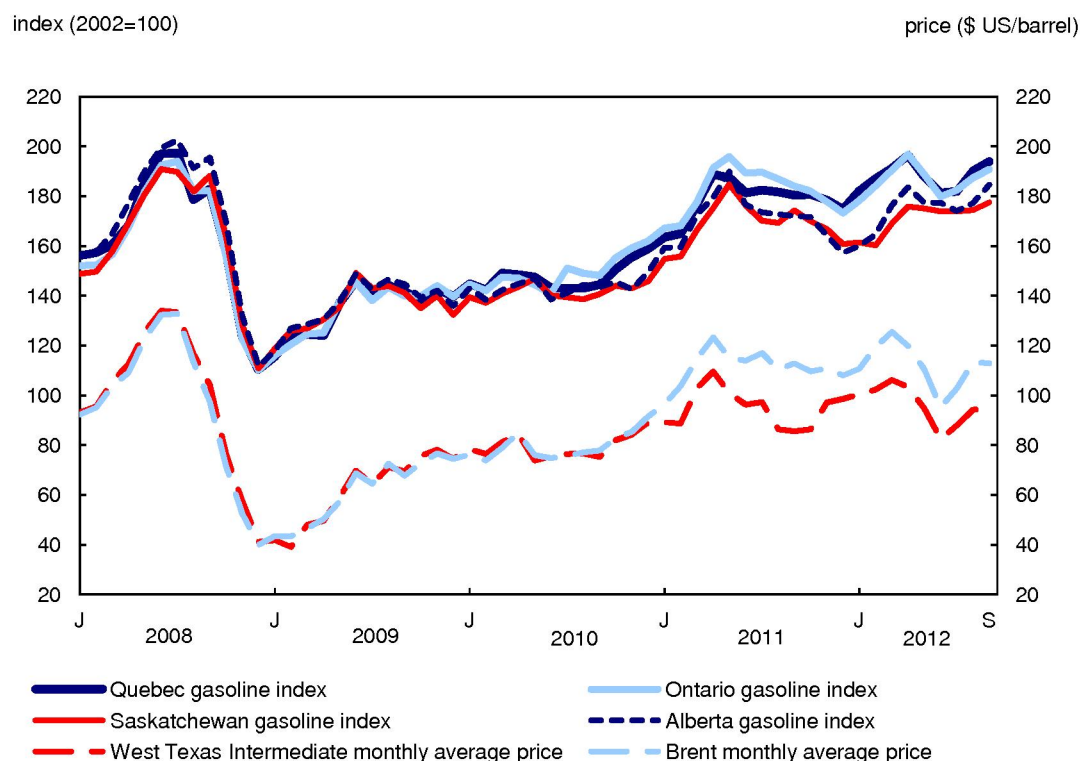
For much of the last decade, gasoline prices have changed at a more or less similar pace across the provinces. A reason for this is that changes in the cost of crude oil have had a similar impact on changes in the price of petroleum products, including gasoline, across the country.

Starting in 2011, rates of change in gasoline prices, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), have begun to diverge. In general, gasoline prices have increased at a slightly faster pace in the central and eastern provinces than in the west, resulting in a spread between some provincial gasoline indices.

This recent spread in price indexes for gasoline is the largest in 10 years. It is associated with the dual crude oil market in Canada and the recent price differential between crude oil benchmarks.

### Chart 1

#### Divergence between provincial gasoline price indexes coincides with crude oil price differential



**Sources:** Statistics Canada, Consumer Price Index, 2009 basket, CANSIM Table 326-0020 and U.S. Energy Information Administration. *Petroleum and Other Liquids, Data, Spot Prices.* <http://www.eia.gov/>

Refiners in Western Canada use domestically produced crude oil and, therefore, face prices similar to West Texas Intermediate (WTI), a North American crude oil benchmark.

Refiners in Eastern and Central Canada use either imported crude oil, or a mixture of domestic and imported. As a result, they can encounter crude oil prices that reflect Brent, which is a global crude oil benchmark.

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While other factors also determine the final 'pump price' of gasoline, the cost of crude oil is a major contributor. Therefore, changes in crude oil prices generally have a large impact on rates of change in gasoline prices.

Regardless of the source, crude oil prices are set in global and regional markets directed by supply and demand. Canadian refiners are 'price takers,' meaning that the price they pay for crude oil is based on benchmarks.

The price gap between crude oil benchmarks is, in part, related to distribution challenges facing the WTI benchmark. These challenges are linked to the increasing production of crude oil in North America and the fact that many of these oils are 'landlocked.' That is, they must travel by pipeline and thus cannot easily reach global markets.

At the same time, crude oils that can supply global markets and are benchmarked to Brent have been influenced by various upward pressures. These pressures include political instability in various crude oil producing countries, as well as increasing demand for petroleum products in emerging economies, such as India and China.

Consumer spending on gasoline accounts for a relatively large share of total household expenditures. At 5.8%, gasoline has one of the largest 'weights' in the CPI's 2009 basket of goods and services. This means that Canadians spent, on average, 5.8% of their total household budget on gasoline. Therefore, changes in gasoline prices can affect consumer price indices for Canada and the provinces.

Understanding the factors that influence gasoline price movements in Canada, including the dual crude oil market and the emergence of a price differential between crude oil benchmarks, is important in explaining variations in provincial gasoline price indexes and overall consumer price indexes.

#### **Note to readers**

*This release is based on an article that examines recent movements in gasoline prices across Canada. It examines benchmarks that influence prices in different segments of Canada's crude oil and gasoline refining markets. It also examines the extent to which the recent divergence in crude oil benchmarks coincides with relative changes in gasoline prices across the country.*

The study "The influence of crude oil prices on provincial variations in gasoline price changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) since 2011" is included in the October 2012 issue of *The Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 91, no. 10 (62-001-X, free), now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

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## Oilseed crushing statistics, October 2012

Oilseed processors crushed 664 261 tonnes of canola in October. Oil production totalled 284 900 tonnes while meal production amounted to 397 717 tonnes.

**Available without charge in CANSIM: table 001-0005.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3404.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

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## Large urban transit, September 2012

Total operating revenue (excluding subsidies) for 10 of Canada's largest urban transit systems rose 5.8% from September 2011 to \$292.1 million in September.

These 10 systems represent about 80% of total urban transit activity across the country.

Over the same period, ridership levels increased 0.2% to 149.3 million passenger trips.

**Available without charge in CANSIM: table 408-0004.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2745.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

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## Deliveries of major grains, October 2012

Data on major grain deliveries are now available for October.

**Available without charge in CANSIM: table 001-0001.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3403, 3404, 3443, 5046 and 5153.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

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## Milled wheat and wheat flour produced, September 2012

Data on milled wheat and wheat flour produced are now available for September.

**Available without charge in CANSIM: table 001-0044.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 3403 and 3443.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca)).

## Release dates, 2013

A list of publication dates for 2013 is available today for 25 key economic indicators, ranging from monthly data series such as the Labour Force Survey to quarterly series such as the balance of international payments.

The dates in this calendar are cross-indexed by release title in alphabetical order and by the month of release.

This calendar is not an exhaustive list of all Statistics Canada releases. For a more complete listing, consult each Friday's issue of *The Daily* for releases to be published the following week. In addition, *The Daily* issue of the last working day of the month contains a list of upcoming releases for the following month.

[Release dates](#) for 2013 are now available for free on *The Daily* page of our website in HTML and PDF format.

For more information, contact Julie Bélanger (613-951-1088; [julie.belanger@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:julie.belanger@statcan.gc.ca)), Communications Division.

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## New products and studies

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### New products

**Canadian Internet Use Survey - Public Use Microdata File, 2009**

Catalogue number 56M0003X (CD-ROM, free)

**The Consumer Price Index**, October 2012, Vol. 91, no. 10

Catalogue number 62-001-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

**Retail Trade**, September 2012, Vol. 84, no. 9

Catalogue number 63-005-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)



## Release dates: November 26 to 30, 2012

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
26	Farm income	2011
26	Farm cash receipts	2010 and 2011 (revised), January to September 2012
27	Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises	Third quarter 2012
27	Characteristics of international overnight travellers	Second quarter 2012
28	International travel account	Third quarter 2012
28	Payroll employment, earnings and hours	September 2012
29	Canada's balance of international payments	Third quarter 2012
29	Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	October 2012
30	Canadian economic accounts	Third quarter 2012
30	Gross domestic product by industry	September 2012

See also the release dates for major economic indicators for the rest of the year.



### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-X.

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