

The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Consumer prices rose 0.8% in the 12 months to December, matching the increase in November. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, the Consumer Price Index decreased 0.1% in December after decreasing 0.2% in November.	
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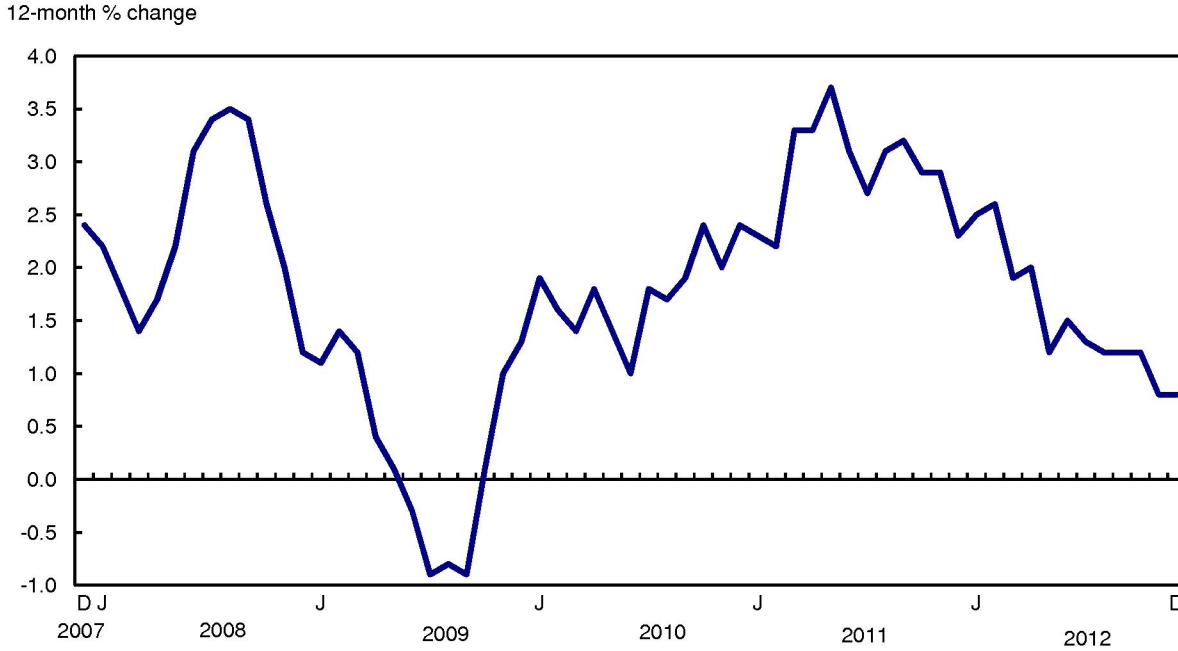


Releases

Consumer Price Index, December 2012

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 0.8% in the 12 months to December, matching the increase in November.

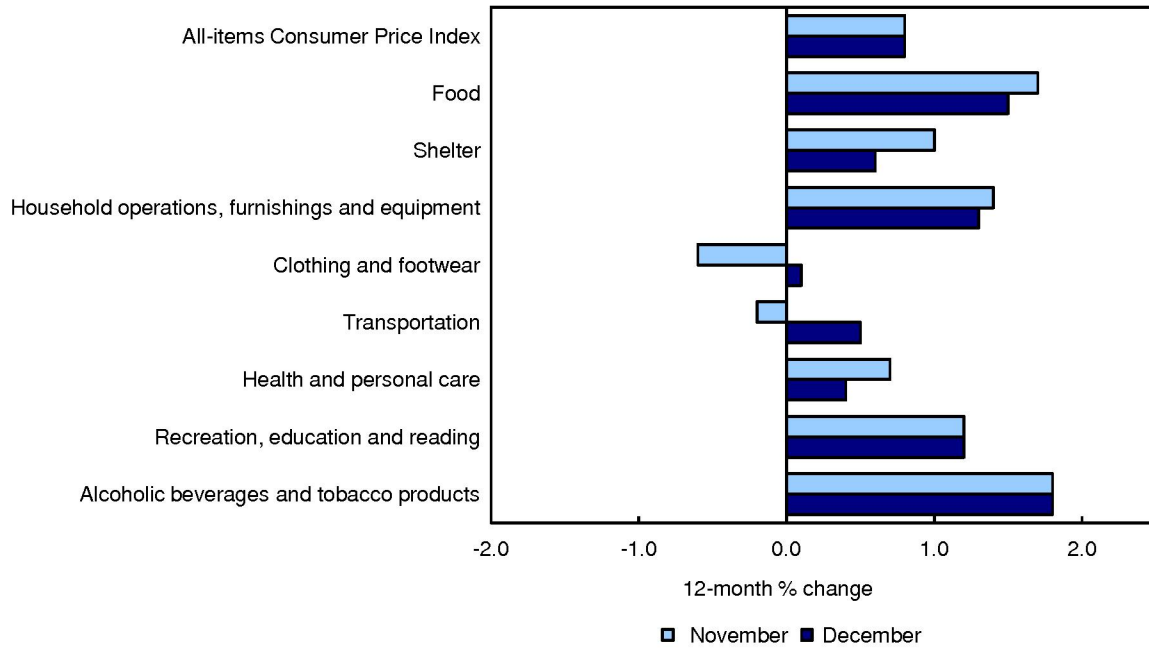
Chart 1
The 12-month change in the Consumer Price Index



12-month change in the major components

Consumer prices rose in all major components in the 12 months to December.

Chart 2
Prices rise for all major components



Food prices rose 1.5% on a year-over-year basis in December following a 1.7% increase in November. Consumers paid 2.2% more for food purchased from restaurants and 4.4% more for meat. In contrast, prices declined 5.8% for fresh vegetables.

Prices for household operations, furnishings and equipment increased 1.3% year over year in December, as consumers paid 4.2% more for financial services.

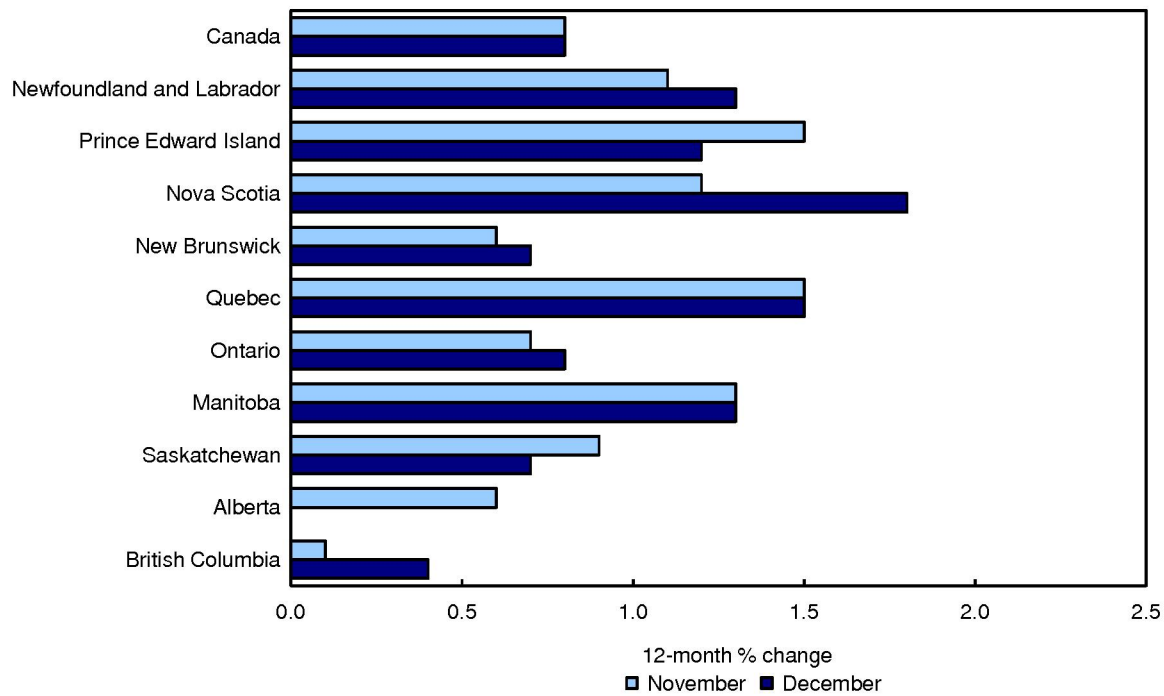
Shelter costs increased 0.6% in the 12 months to December after rising 1.0% in November. Rent and homeowners' replacement cost increased on a year-over-year basis. Conversely, mortgage interest cost and natural gas prices declined.

Prices for transportation increased 0.5% in the 12 months to December, after decreasing 0.2% in November. Gasoline prices rose 1.0% on a year-over-year basis in December compared with a 0.4% increase in November. Prices for the purchase of passenger vehicles fell 0.6% in the 12 months to December after decreasing 1.8% in November.

12-month change in the provinces

Consumer prices rose in all provinces in the 12 months to December, except Alberta which posted no change in its All-items CPI. The largest increase occurred in Nova Scotia.

Chart 3
Prices grow at the fastest rate in Nova Scotia while Alberta posts no price change



Consumer prices in Nova Scotia increased 1.8% on a year-over-year basis in December, after rising 1.2% in November. Nova Scotia posted the largest year-over-year price increase among the provinces for electricity, homeowners' home and mortgage insurance and clothing.

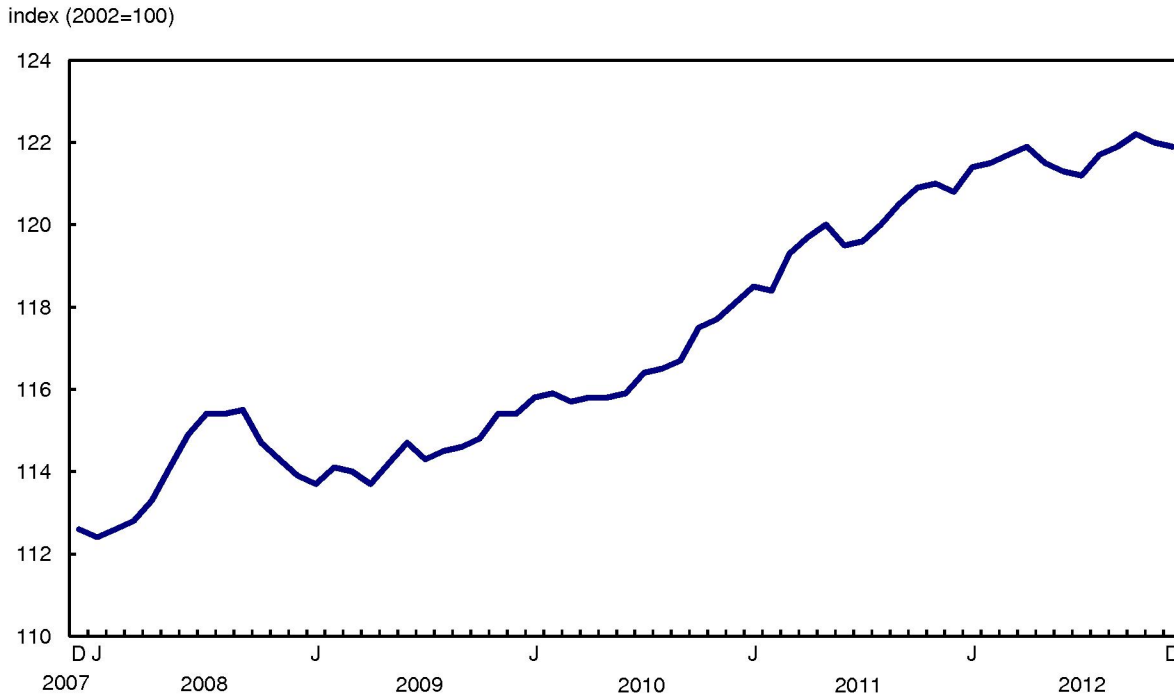
The All-items CPI in Alberta posted no change in the 12 months to December following a 0.6% increase the previous month. Alberta was the only province to post a year-over-year price decrease for electricity.

Prices in British Columbia rose 0.4% year over year in December, compared with a 0.1% increase in November. Smaller year-over-year price decreases for gasoline were observed in December compared with November.

Seasonally adjusted monthly CPI decreases

On a [seasonally adjusted](#) monthly basis, the CPI decreased 0.1% in December after declining 0.2% in November.

Chart 4
Seasonally adjusted monthly Consumer Price Index decreases



In December, five of the eight major components posted no price change while the indexes for clothing and footwear, and health and personal care edged up. The seasonally adjusted index for transportation declined 0.3% in December following a 1.2% decrease in November.

Bank of Canada's core index

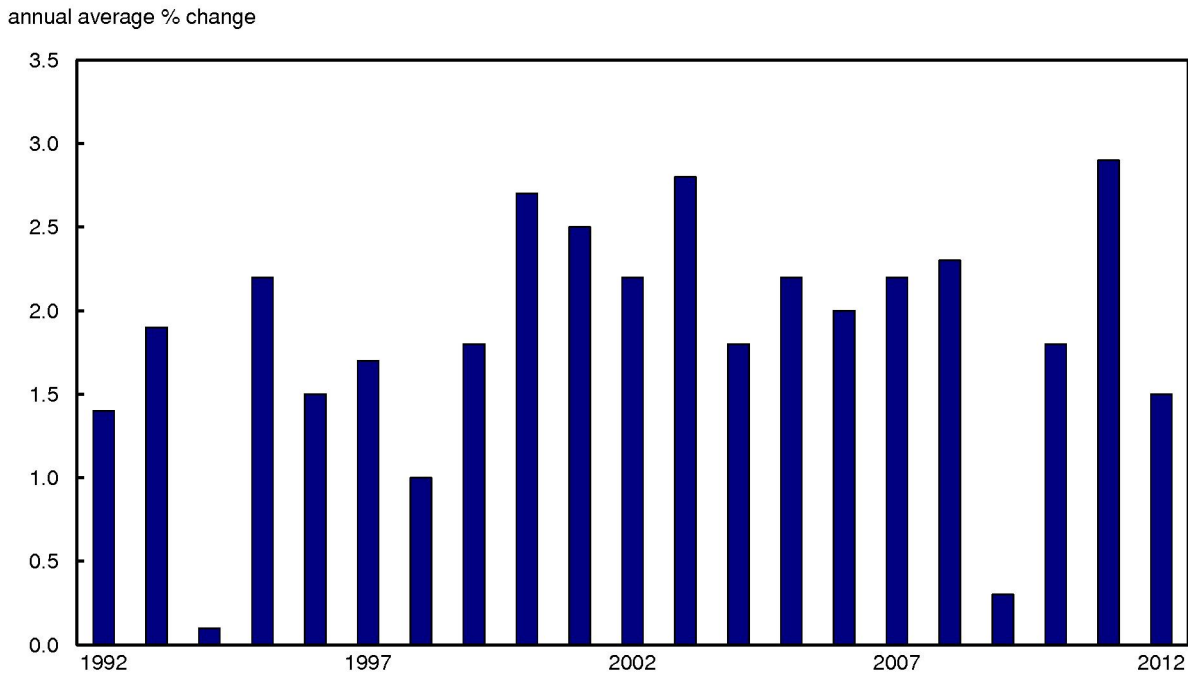
The [Bank of Canada's core index](#) rose 1.1% in the 12 months to December, following a 1.2% advance in November.

On a monthly basis, the seasonally adjusted core index increased 0.1% in December after registering no change in November.

Annual review of the 2012 Consumer Price Index

In 2012, the annual average increase in consumer prices was 1.5%. This followed a 2.9% rise in 2011 and a 1.8% rise in 2010. The 2012 increase in the CPI was the lowest since 2009, when prices increased 0.3%. The average of the annual increases in the CPI since 1992 is 1.8%.

Chart 5
Annual average change in the All-items Consumer Price Index



The slower increase in the CPI in 2012 compared with 2011 was largely attributable to smaller price increases for gasoline and food. Gasoline prices increased 2.5% in 2012 following gains of 20.0% in 2011 and 9.1% in 2010. Food prices rose 2.4% on average in 2012 after increasing 3.7% in 2011.

Note to readers

On March 27, 2013, with the release of the February Consumer Price Index (CPI), the basket of goods and services used in the calculation of the CPI will be updated. For more information, refer to [Consumer Price Index: Basket update and Enhancement Initiative](#).

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 ¹	December 2011	November 2012	December 2012	November to December 2012	December 2011 to December 2012
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI)	100.00²	120.2	121.9	121.2	-0.6	0.8
Food	15.99	129.3	131.4	131.2	-0.2	1.5
Shelter	27.49	126.8	127.5	127.5	0.0	0.6
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	11.55	111.8	113.7	113.2	-0.4	1.3
Clothing and footwear	5.31	89.1	92.5	89.2	-3.6	0.1
Transportation	20.60	125.2	127.3	125.8	-1.2	0.5
Health and personal care	4.95	118.1	118.7	118.6	-0.1	0.4
Recreation, education and reading	11.20	104.1	106.1	105.3	-0.8	1.2
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	2.91	135.8	138.3	138.3	0.0	1.8
Special aggregates						
Core CPI ³	82.15	118.2	120.2	119.5	-0.6	1.1
All-items CPI excluding energy	89.92	117.5	119.3	118.7	-0.5	1.0
Energy ⁴	10.08	152.7	153.8	151.9	-1.2	-0.5
Gasoline	5.80	170.0	175.9	171.7	-2.4	1.0
All-items CPI excluding food and energy	73.93	115.0	116.7	116.0	-0.6	0.9
Goods	47.80	112.6	113.8	112.6	-1.1	0.0
Services	52.20	127.7	129.9	129.7	-0.2	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).

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/).

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 ¹	December 2011	November 2012	December 2012	November to December 2012	December 2011 to December 2012
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
Canada	100.00²	120.2	121.9	121.2	-0.6	0.8
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.29	121.9	124.3	123.5	-0.6	1.3
Prince Edward Island	0.35	123.4	125.9	124.9	-0.8	1.2
Nova Scotia	2.56	122.7	125.5	124.9	-0.5	1.8
New Brunswick	2.06	120.4	122.0	121.2	-0.7	0.7
Quebec	21.21	118.7	121.1	120.5	-0.5	1.5
Ontario	39.85	120.3	121.9	121.3	-0.5	0.8
Manitoba	3.16	118.6	121.1	120.2	-0.7	1.3
Saskatchewan	2.90	122.4	124.5	123.3	-1.0	0.7
Alberta	11.97	126.5	127.3	126.5	-0.6	0.0
British Columbia	14.47	116.5	117.6	117.0	-0.5	0.4
Whitehorse	0.08	118.8	121.6	121.1	-0.4	1.9
Yellowknife	0.07	123.4	124.9	124.8	-0.1	1.1
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.02	114.2	115.3	115.1	-0.2	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).

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

Table 3
Consumer Price Index and major components – Seasonally adjusted¹

	October 2012	November 2012	December 2012	October to November 2012	November to December 2012
	(2002=100)			% change	
All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI)	122.2	122.0	121.9	-0.2	-0.1
Food	131.6	131.6	131.6	0.0	0.0
Shelter	127.6	127.5	127.5	-0.1	0.0
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	113.4	113.6	113.6	0.2	0.0
Clothing and footwear	91.1	91.5	91.8	0.4	0.3
Transportation	129.5	128.0	127.6	-1.2	-0.3
Health and personal care	118.7	118.7	118.9	0.0	0.2
Recreation, education and reading	105.8	106.3	106.3	0.5	0.0
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	137.8	138.3	138.3	0.4	0.0
Special aggregates					
Core CPI ²	119.9	119.9	120.0	0.0	0.1
All-items CPI excluding food and energy ³	116.3	116.3	116.4	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, please see the , see the Definitions, data sources and methods section of survey 2301 (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/).

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 December 2012 issue of *The Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 91, no. 12 (62-001-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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 January will be released on February 22.

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) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Consumer Price Index: Basket update and Enhancement Initiative

On March 27, 2013, with the release of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for February, Statistics Canada will publish an updated basket of goods and services.

This move implements one of the key objectives of the CPI Enhancement Initiative, a five-year program designed to improve the CPI's accuracy and relevance. Under these new measures, the basket will be updated every two years instead of every four years.

The CPI tracks price movements for a representative 'basket' of about 600 goods and services Canadians purchase over time. It is updated periodically to ensure that the CPI remains representative of consumer spending patterns. This is essential, as it is widely used as an indicator of the change in the general level of consumer prices, or the rate of inflation.

In addition, a revised weighting pattern for items in the basket will be published. The revised weights, indicating the relative importance of the basket items, are primarily determined by Statistics Canada's Survey of Household Spending. It collects information on the buying habits of about 20,000 Canadian households.

The new weighting pattern will be based on consumer spending in 2011. It replaces the current weights, which are based on spending patterns in 2009.

In addition, because of the Enhancement Initiative, the elapsed time between the basket weight reference year and the date at which the update is published has been shortened by three months. As a result, the CPI will have more current weights sooner, improving their representative nature.

In most other respects, changes to the CPI with this update will be minimal. The current list of CPI commodities and commodity groups will remain unchanged. The base year for which the CPI equals 100 will remain 2002.

No changes will be made to CANSIM table numbers or series identifiers. To satisfy the needs of certain users, an All-items CPI with a base year of 1992 equaling 100 will continue to be available.

Previously announced changes to the [Purchase of Passenger Vehicles Index](#) will be implemented to coincide with this update.

A number of other changes will be introduced later this year under the Enhancement Initiative.

For the most part, these relate to introducing new or improved methodologies to measure price change for specific products. They will also ensure that price changes calculated with samples of products are representative of the price change for the entire class of products.

These measures will enhance several component indexes of the CPI, such as: passenger vehicle parts, maintenance and repairs; funeral services; and travel tours. Enhancements are also planned to improve geographic, outlet and product coverage in the CPI collection sample.

These changes will be announced in *The Daily* prior to their implementation.

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.

The December 2012 issue of *The Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 91, no. 12 (62-001-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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*.

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Computer and peripherals price indexes, December 2012

Prices for commercial computers increased 0.4% from November to December, while consumer computer prices decreased 0.1%. In the case of computer peripherals, monitor prices increased 0.2% while printer prices were up 2.1%.

Year over year, prices declined for both commercial computers (-5.4%) and consumer computers (-6.5%). Also, monitor prices decreased 4.6% and printer prices were down 7.1%.

Note to readers

The computer and peripherals price indexes are monthly series measuring changes over time in the price of computers and computer peripherals sold to governments, businesses and consumers. This release presents data that are not seasonally adjusted, and the indexes published are subject to a six-month revision period after dissemination of a given month's data.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 331-0010 and 331-0011.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5032.

The computer and peripherals price indexes for January will be released on February 22.

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) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Commercial Software Price Index, December 2012

The Commercial Software Price Index (CSPI) increased by 0.3% in December compared with the previous month.

Year over year, the CSPI was down 0.3%.

Note to readers

The Commercial Software Price Index is a monthly series measuring the change in the purchase price of pre-packaged software typically bought by businesses and governments. This release presents data that are not seasonally adjusted, and the indexes published are subject to a six-month revision period after dissemination of a given month's data.

This index is available at the Canada level only.

Available without charge in CANSIM: table 331-0009.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5068.

The Commercial Software Price Index for January will be released on February 22.

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) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation, December 2012

Data on mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation are now available for December.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2110.

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) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Pipeline inventories and exports of crude oil and condensate, November 2012

Data on closing inventories, held in Canada; tanks: crude oil and condensate; and exports of crude oil are now available for November upon request.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers 2148 and 2191.

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) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

New products and studies

New products

The Consumer Price Index, December 2012, Vol. 91, no. 12
Catalogue number 62-001-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

Capital Expenditure Price Statistics, July to September 2012, Vol. 28, no. 3
Catalogue number 62-007-X (HTML, free | PDF, free)

Release dates: January 28 to February 1, 2013

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
28	High-income trends among Canadian taxfilers	1982 to 2010
29	Study: Trends in homeownership by age and household income	1981 to 2006
30	Payroll employment, earnings and hours	November 2012
30	Survey of Household Spending	2011 (final)
31	Gross domestic product by industry	November 2012
31	Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	December 2012

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



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