

The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Consumer Price Index, September 2013

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Consumer prices rose 1.1% in the 12 months to September, matching the increase in August. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, the Consumer Price Index rose 0.2% in September, following a 0.1% increase in August.

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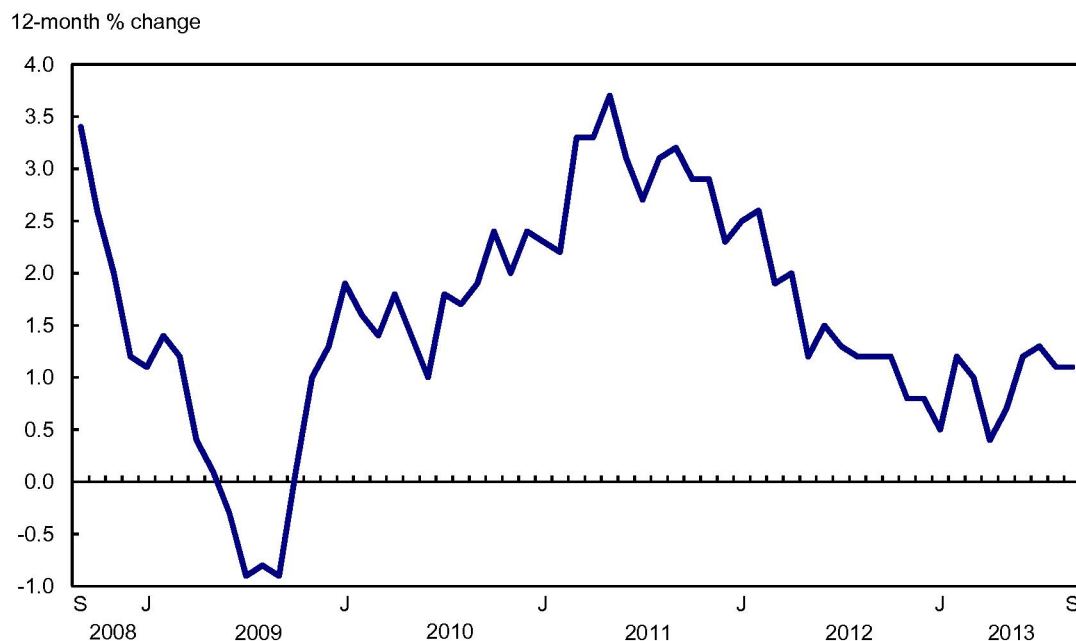
Canada

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Consumer Price Index, September 2013

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 1.1% in the 12 months to September, matching the increase in August.

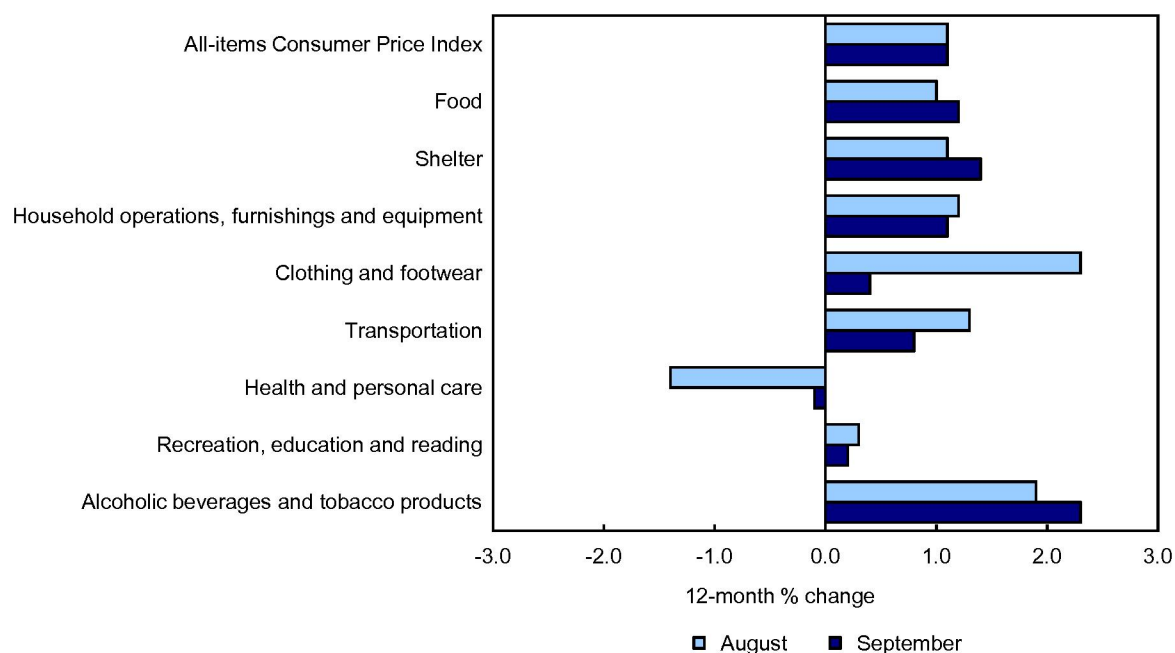
Chart 1
The 12-month change in the Consumer Price Index



12-month change in the major components

In September, seven of the eight major components posted year-over-year increases. Higher shelter costs led the rise in the CPI. Year-over-year price increases for food and transportation were also contributing factors. The health and personal care index was the only major component to decline in September compared with the same month a year ago.

Chart 2
Prices increase in seven of eight major components



Shelter costs rose 1.4% on a year-over-year basis, following a 1.1% gain in August. Consumers paid more for natural gas and rent in September compared with the same month a year earlier. In contrast, mortgage interest cost declined 3.0% in the 12 months to September, after falling 3.6% in August.

Food prices rose 1.2% in September compared with the same month last year. This increase followed a 1.0% rise in August. Prices for food purchased from stores increased 1.1% in the 12 months to September, as consumers paid more for fresh vegetables (+7.2%), meat (+2.0%) and fresh fruit (+4.3%). Conversely, prices for dairy products declined on a year-over-year basis. Prices for food purchased from restaurants increased 1.5% in September compared with the same month a year ago.

Transportation costs increased 0.8% in the 12 months to September, after rising 1.3% in August. Prices for the purchase of passenger vehicles rose 1.4% in September compared with the same month last year. This rise followed a 0.6% increase in August. In contrast, consumers paid 0.3% less for gasoline on a year-over-year basis in September, after paying 2.2% more in August.

Prices for clothing and footwear rose 0.4% in the 12 months to September, following a 2.3% gain in August. This slower increase was mainly attributable to a smaller monthly price gain this September than in the same month last year.

The recreation, education and reading index increased 0.2% on a year-over-year basis in September. Tuition fees advanced 3.1% in September after rising 3.7% in the same month last year. Tuition fees increased the most for residents of Ontario (+4.2%) and the least for Alberta residents (+0.4%).

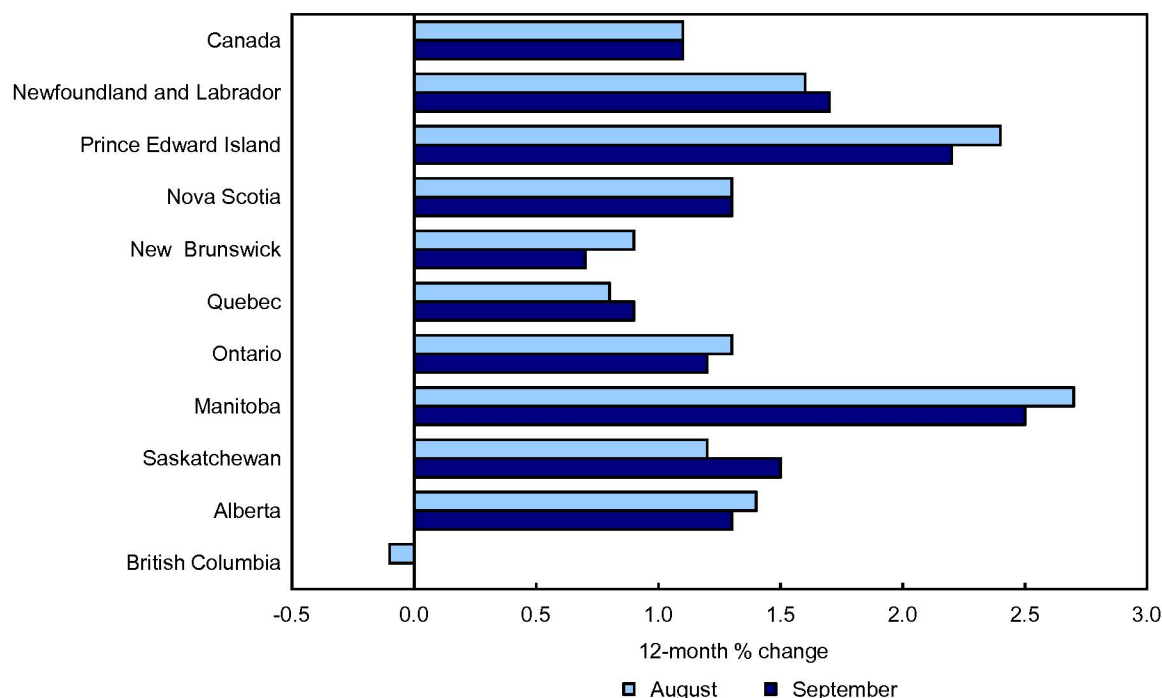
The index for health and personal care declined 0.1% in the 12 months to September, following a 1.4% decrease in August. Prices for personal care supplies and equipment, and non-prescribed medicines recorded smaller year-over-year declines in September than in August. The cost of prescribed medicines continued to decrease on a year-over-year basis in September.

12-month change in the provinces

Consumer prices rose in nine provinces in the 12 months to September. Manitoba recorded the largest increase while British Columbia was the lone province to post no change on a year-over-year basis in September.

Chart 3

Prices increase the most in Manitoba and post no change in British Columbia



In Manitoba, consumer prices advanced 2.5% in the 12 months to September, after increasing 2.7% in August. Manitoba posted higher year-over-year price gains for cigarettes, gasoline and passenger vehicle registration fees compared with the national average.

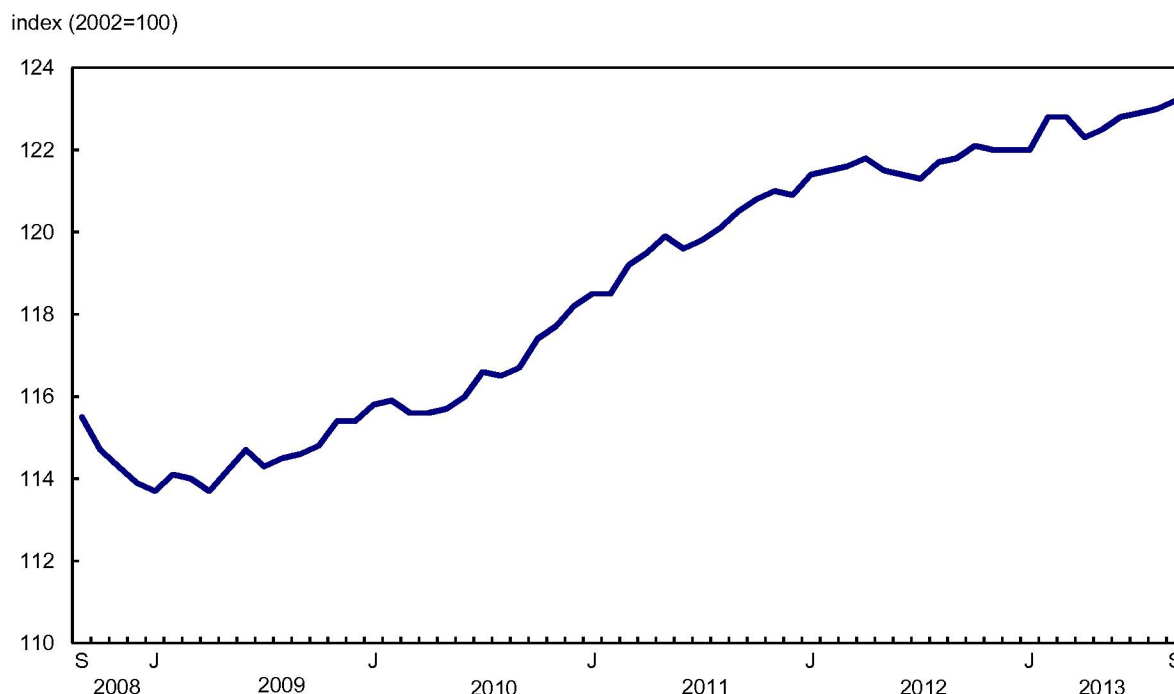
The CPI for British Columbia recorded no change in the 12 months to September, after declining 0.1% in August. British Columbia posted the largest year-over-year price decreases among the provinces for food purchased from restaurants and homeowners' replacement cost.

Consumer prices in Saskatchewan increased 1.5% on year-over-year basis in September, following a 1.2% rise in August. This larger gain in September was led by prices for the purchase of passenger vehicles, which advanced 2.8% in the 12 months to September, after declining 0.1% in the previous month.

Seasonally adjusted monthly CPI increases

On a [seasonally adjusted](#) monthly basis, the CPI rose 0.2% in September, following a 0.1% increase in August.

Chart 4
Seasonally adjusted monthly Consumer Price Index



On a seasonally adjusted basis, five of the eight major components posted increases in September. The largest gains were in the alcoholic beverages and tobacco products index (+0.4%), and the transportation component (+0.3%).

The food index increased 0.1% on a seasonally adjusted basis in September, while before seasonal adjustment the index fell 0.8%. This indicates that the observed price change for the food component was largely seasonal.

The seasonally adjusted index for clothing and footwear declined 1.2% in September. Before seasonal adjustment, prices increased 2.3% as many retailers introduced new fall and winter merchandise.

The recreation, education and reading component was down 0.3% on a seasonally adjusted basis in September.

Bank of Canada's core index

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

On a monthly basis, the seasonally adjusted core index rose 0.1% in September, after posting no change in the previous month.

Note to readers

As announced in [The Daily](#) on September 20, 2013, Statistics Canada has updated the [travel tours index](#) as part of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) Enhancement Initiative.

A seasonally adjusted series is one from which seasonal movements have been eliminated. Users employing CPI data for indexation purposes are advised to use the unadjusted indexes. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends](#).

The Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the CPI'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.

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

	Relative importance ¹	September 2012	August 2013	September 2013	August to September 2013	September 2012 to September 2013
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI)	100.00²	122.0	123.1	123.3	0.2	1.1
Food	16.60	130.3	133.0	131.9	-0.8	1.2
Shelter	26.26	127.2	128.8	129.0	0.2	1.4
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	12.66	113.2	114.1	114.5	0.4	1.1
Clothing and footwear	5.82	93.3	91.6	93.7	2.3	0.4
Transportation	19.98	128.3	129.2	129.3	0.1	0.8
Health and personal care	4.93	118.5	118.1	118.4	0.3	-0.1
Recreation, education and reading	10.96	107.7	107.9	107.9	0.0	0.2
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	2.79	137.7	140.4	140.9	0.4	2.3
Special aggregates						
Core CPI ³	84.91	119.9	121.2	121.4	0.2	1.3
All-items CPI excluding energy	91.44	118.9	120.0	120.1	0.1	1.0
Energy ⁴	8.56	160.6	163.0	163.0	0.0	1.5
Gasoline	4.62	188.8	189.0	188.2	-0.4	-0.3
All-items CPI excluding food and energy	74.85	116.4	117.1	117.5	0.3	0.9
Goods	48.18	114.2	114.7	114.8	0.1	0.5
Services	51.82	129.8	131.6	131.7	0.1	1.5

1. 2011 CPI basket weights at January 2013 prices, Canada, effective February 2013. Detailed weights are available under the Documentation section of survey 2301.

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

3. The Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the CPI'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	September 2012	August 2013	September 2013	August to September 2013	September 2012 to September 2013
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
Canada	100.00²	122.0	123.1	123.3	0.2	1.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.36	124.5	126.0	126.6	0.5	1.7
Prince Edward Island	0.36	126.2	128.6	129.0	0.3	2.2
Nova Scotia	2.59	125.7	126.6	127.3	0.6	1.3
New Brunswick	1.96	122.7	123.0	123.5	0.4	0.7
Quebec	22.04	120.9	121.9	122.0	0.1	0.9
Ontario	39.05	122.0	123.4	123.5	0.1	1.2
Manitoba	3.16	121.0	123.8	124.0	0.2	2.5
Saskatchewan	2.94	124.5	125.7	126.4	0.6	1.5
Alberta	12.32	127.8	129.4	129.5	0.1	1.3
British Columbia	14.05	118.1	118.0	118.1	0.1	0.0
Whitehorse	0.08	121.4	124.1	124.0	-0.1	2.1
Yellowknife	0.07	123.9	126.6	126.4	-0.2	2.0
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.02	115.9	117.5	117.5	0.0	1.4

1. 2011 Consumer Price Index basket weights at January 2013 prices, effective February 2013. Detailed weights are available under the Documentation section of survey 2301.

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

Table 3
Consumer Price Index and major components – Seasonally adjusted¹

	July 2013	August 2013	September 2013	July to August 2013	August to September 2013
	(2002=100)			% change	
All-items Consumer Price Index (CPI)	122.9	123.0	123.2	0.1	0.2
Food	132.1	132.6	132.7	0.4	0.1
Shelter	128.8	128.8	129.0	0.0	0.2
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	114.6	114.4	114.4	-0.2	0.0
Clothing and footwear	92.9	93.0	91.9	0.1	-1.2
Transportation	129.4	129.6	130.0	0.2	0.3
Health and personal care	118.2	118.2	118.4	0.0	0.2
Recreation, education and reading	106.3	106.6	106.3	0.3	-0.3
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	140.5	140.4	140.9	-0.1	0.4
Special aggregates					
Core CPI ²	121.2	121.2	121.3	0.0	0.1
All-items CPI excluding food and energy ³	117.3	117.3	117.4	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 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 Definitions, data sources and methods section of survey 2301.

2. The Bank of Canada's core index excludes eight of the CPI'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 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 September 2013 issue of *The Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 92, no. 9 (62-001-X), is now available from the *Browse by 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), from the *Browse by key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

The Consumer Price Index for October will be released on November 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; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

Natural gas sales, August 2013

Natural gas sales totalled 4 862 million cubic metres in August, up 1.1% compared with August 2012.

The volumes of sales to the residential (-0.2%) and commercial (-0.8%) sectors were down compared with the same month a year earlier, while industrial sector sales were up 1.4%.

Total sales in August were 1.5% higher compared with July.

Note to readers

These data are subject to revision.

Table 1
Natural gas sales

	August 2012	July 2013	August 2013 ^P	July to August 2013	August 2012 to August 2013
	thousands of cubic metres			% change	
Total sales	4 808 957	4 792 493	4 862 459	1.5	1.1
Residential ¹	382 135	413 018	381 503	-7.6	-0.2
Commercial ²	322 282	321 242	319 783	-0.5	-0.8
Industrial ³ and direct sales ⁴	4 104 540	4 058 233	4 161 173	2.5	1.4

^P preliminary

1. Gas sold for domestic purposes, including space heating, water heating and cooking, to a residential dwelling unit.

2. Gas sold to customers engaged in wholesale or retail trade, governments, institutions, office buildings, etc.

3. Gas sold to customers engaged in a process that creates or changes raw or unfinished materials into another form or product. Includes mining and manufacturing establishments. Includes firm, interruptible and buy/sell agreements.

4. Represents direct, non-utility, sales for consumption, where the utility acts solely as the transporter.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2149.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; mediahotline@statcan.gc.ca).

New products and studies

New products

The Consumer Price Index, September 2013, Vol. 92, no. 9
Catalogue number 62-001-X (HTML | PDF)

Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies Series: "PUMF 2012 - Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC)"
Catalogue number 89-555-X2013002 (Database)

The General Social Survey: An Overview, 2013
Catalogue number 89F0115X (HTML | PDF)

Release dates: October 21 to 25, 2013

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
21	Wholesale trade	August 2013
22	Retail trade	August 2013
24	Employment Insurance	August 2013

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



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