

# Consumer Price Index, April 2018

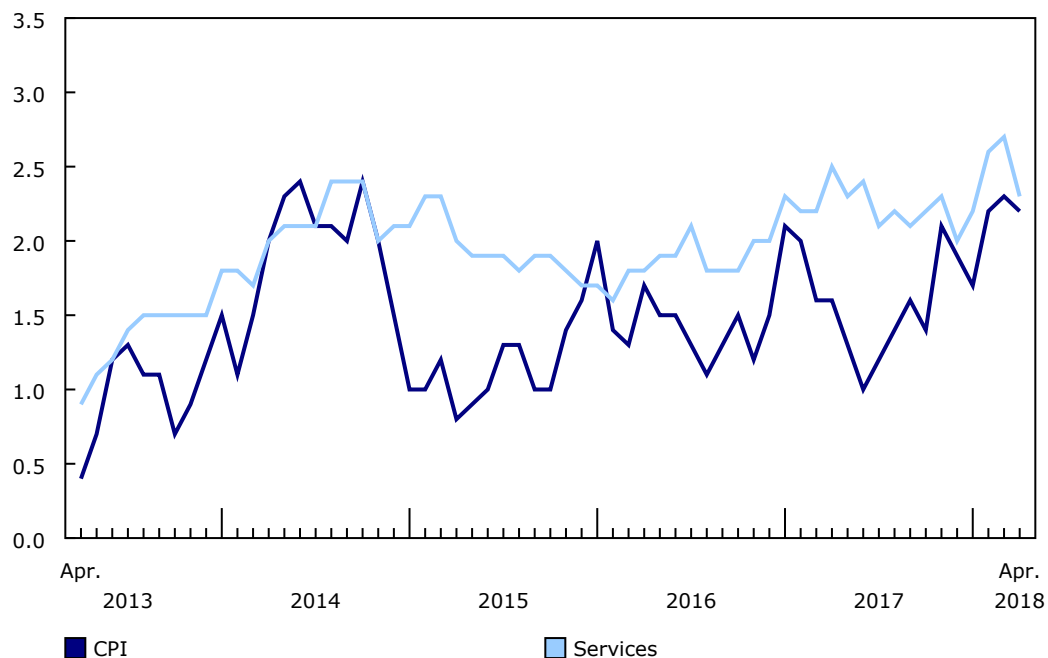
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Friday, May 18, 2018

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 2.2% on a year-over-year basis in April, following a 2.3% increase in March.

## Chart 1

### The 12-month change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the services index

12-month % change



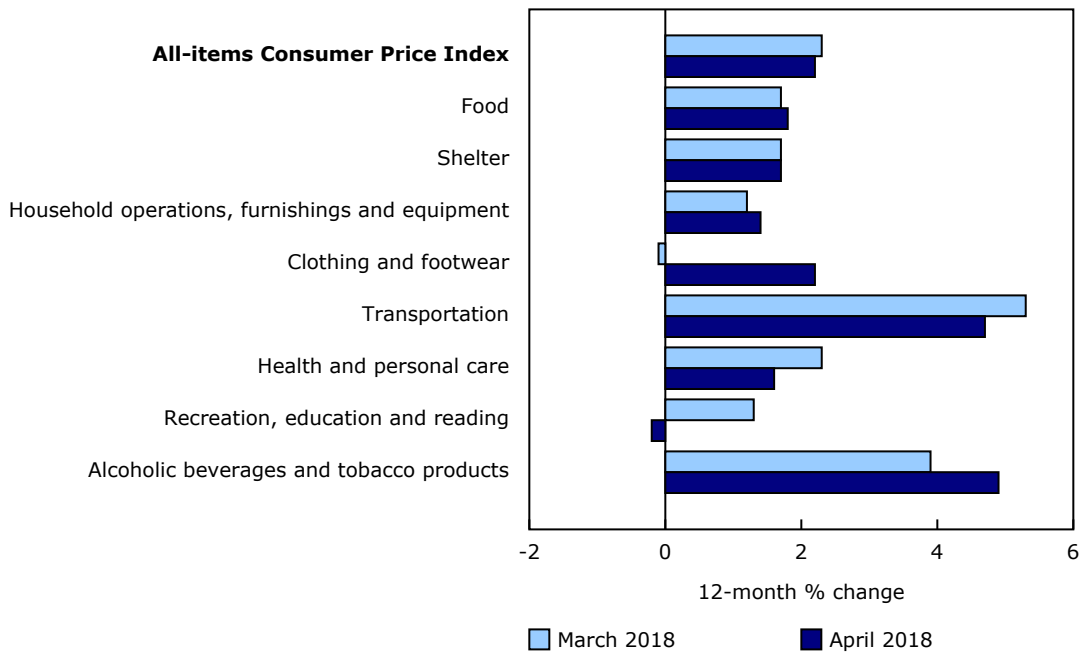
Source(s): CANSIM table [326-0020](#).

## 12-month change in the components

Seven of eight major components increased on a year-over-year basis in April. The recreation, education and reading index (-0.2%) was the lone major component to decline year over year.



**Chart 2**  
**Consumer prices increase in seven of eight major components**



Source(s): CANSIM table [326-0020](#).

The price of services (+2.3%) increased more slowly on a year-over-year basis in April, after posting a 2.7% increase in March. This was largely a result of price decreases in travel services, which declined 6.0% year over year. A smaller year-over-year increase in the cost of air transportation (+11.9%) coincided with the price decrease in travel services.

Prices for non-durable goods (+2.7%) increased less in the 12 months to April than they did in March (+3.0%). Year-over-year gains in prices for gasoline in April (+14.2%) were less than those recorded in March (+17.1%).

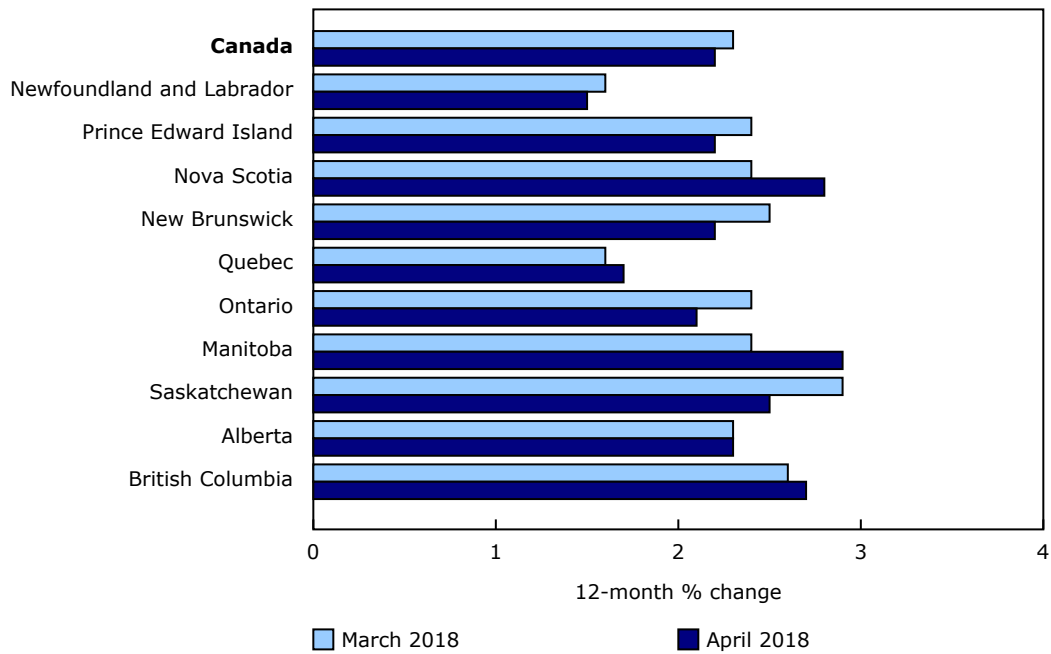
Prices for semi-durable goods increased 2.3% in April, following an increase of 0.2% in March. This was the largest increase in semi-durable goods since March 2015, and was largely the result of a 2.5% year-over-year increase in the clothing index in April.

### 12-month change in the provinces

Prices rose less on a year-over-year basis in five provinces in April compared with the previous month.

At the national level, consumers paid 6.3% more for energy year over year in April. Gasoline prices were the largest contributor to the increase in energy prices in all provinces except Newfoundland and Labrador. This increase was partly attributable to temporary supply disruptions at oil refineries, as they transitioned to summer fuel blends. Electricity prices in Alberta grew 38.9% year over year in April, as higher market prices led to increases in residential electricity rates.

**Chart 3**  
**Consumer prices rise at a slower rate in five provinces**



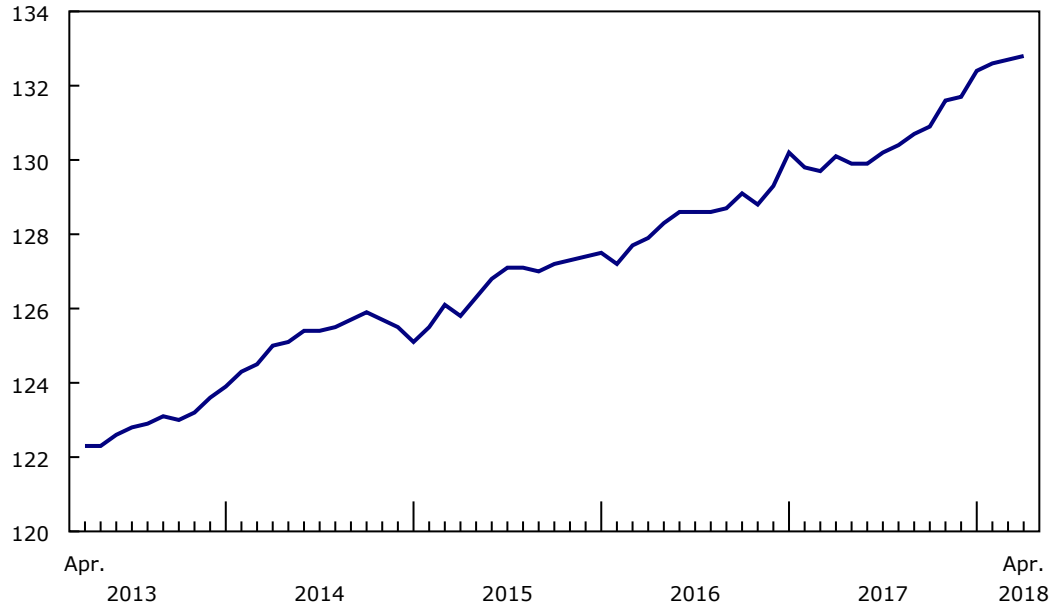
Source(s): CANSIM table [326-0020](#).

### Seasonally adjusted monthly Consumer Price Index

On a [seasonally adjusted monthly basis](#), the CPI rose 0.1% in April, matching the increase in March. Five of eight major components increased, with the clothing and footwear index (+1.2%) rising the most. The recreation, education and reading index (-1.5%) registered the largest decline.

## Chart 4 Seasonally adjusted monthly Consumer Price Index

index (2002=100)



Source(s): CANSIM table [326-0022](#).

### Note to readers

#### **Upcoming changes to the table "Inter-city indexes of price differentials of consumer goods and services": Addition of two new geographic strata**

Data on inter-city indexes of price differentials of consumer goods and services will be updated to October 2017 with the release of the June 2018 Consumer Price Index (CPI) (to be published on July 20, 2018). As well, the geographic strata "Whitehorse, Yukon" and "Yellowknife, Northwest Territories" will be introduced into the table, reflecting data for the all-items index and its eight major components and selected sub-groups.

#### **Real-time CANSIM tables**

Real-time CANSIM table 326-8023 will be updated on June 4. For more information, consult the document [Real-time CANSIM tables](#).

#### **Next release**

The CPI for May will be released on June 22.

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

	Relative importance <sup>1,2</sup>	April 2017	March 2018	April 2018	March to April 2018	April 2017 to April 2018
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>130.4</b>	<b>132.9</b>	<b>133.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.2</b>
Food	16.23	142.2	144.2	144.8	0.4	1.8
Shelter	27.15	137.9	140.0	140.3	0.2	1.7
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	12.97	122.2	122.9	123.9	0.8	1.4
Clothing and footwear	5.44	94.1	95.0	96.2	1.3	2.2
Transportation	19.70	133.2	138.0	139.5	1.1	4.7
Gasoline	3.37	166.5	178.0	190.1	6.8	14.2
Health and personal care	5.00	124.2	126.3	126.2	-0.1	1.6
Recreation, education and reading	10.89	113.9	116.4	113.7	-2.3	-0.2
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	2.63	160.1	166.0	167.9	1.1	4.9
<b>Special aggregates</b>						
All-items (1992=100)	.	155.2	158.2	158.6	0.3	2.2
All-items excluding food	83.77	128.1	130.6	131.0	0.3	2.3
All-items excluding food and energy	76.71	125.2	127.6	127.5	-0.1	1.8
All-items excluding alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and smokers' supplies	97.37	129.4	131.8	132.1	0.2	2.1
All-items excluding energy	92.94	128.2	130.6	130.6	0.0	1.9
All-items excluding gasoline	96.63	129.0	131.2	131.2	0.0	1.7
All-items excluding shelter, insurance and financial services	68.92	125.8	128.5	128.9	0.3	2.5
Energy <sup>3</sup>	7.06	157.2	161.0	167.1	3.8	6.3
Goods	45.32	119.5	120.9	122.0	0.9	2.1
Durable goods	13.41	90.2	90.8	90.6	-0.2	0.4
Semi-durable goods	6.86	96.3	97.5	98.5	1.0	2.3
Non-durable goods	25.06	143.0	145.0	146.9	1.3	2.7
Services	54.68	141.4	144.9	144.6	-0.2	2.3

. not available for any reference period

1. 2015 Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights at December 2016 prices, Canada, effective with the January 2017 CPI.

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

3. The special aggregate "energy" comprises electricity, natural gas, fuel oil and other fuels, gasoline, and fuel, parts and accessories for recreational vehicles.

Source(s): CANSIM tables [326-0020](#) and [326-0031](#).

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

	Relative importance <sup>1,2</sup>	April 2017	March 2018	April 2018	March to April 2018	April 2017 to April 2018
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>130.4</b>	<b>132.9</b>	<b>133.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.2</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.39	135.6	137.5	137.7	0.1	1.5
Prince Edward Island	0.33	133.2	135.6	136.1	0.4	2.2
Nova Scotia	2.38	132.0	135.0	135.7	0.5	2.8
New Brunswick	1.85	131.2	133.8	134.1	0.2	2.2
Quebec	20.93	127.0	128.7	129.2	0.4	1.7
Ontario	39.34	132.0	134.6	134.8	0.1	2.1
Manitoba	3.04	130.2	133.0	134.0	0.8	2.9
Saskatchewan	3.08	134.2	136.8	137.5	0.5	2.5
Alberta	13.07	137.4	139.9	140.6	0.5	2.3
British Columbia	14.40	124.4	127.4	127.7	0.2	2.7
Whitehorse	0.08	127.6	130.0	130.4	0.3	2.2
Yellowknife	0.07	133.5	136.0	135.9	-0.1	1.8
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.03	124.6	127.7	128.8	0.9	3.4

1. 2015 Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights at December 2016 prices, effective with the January 2017 CPI.

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

Source(s): CANSIM tables [326-0020](#) and [326-0031](#).

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

	February 2018	March 2018	April 2018	February to March 2018	March to April 2018
	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>132.6</b>	<b>132.7</b>	<b>132.8</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Food	144.0	143.9	144.4	-0.1	0.3
Shelter	140.0	140.0	140.3	0.0	0.2
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	123.3	122.7	123.6	-0.5	0.7
Clothing and footwear	94.3	93.6	94.7	-0.7	1.2
Transportation	138.1	138.6	138.3	0.4	-0.2
Health and personal care	125.6	126.5	125.9	0.7	-0.5
Recreation, education and reading	114.9	115.6	113.9	0.6	-1.5
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	164.4	165.9	167.5	0.9	1.0
<b>Special aggregates</b>					
All-items excluding food and energy <sup>2</sup>	127.1	127.3	127.3	0.2	0.0

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 release of January data. 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 "Definitions, data sources and methods" section of survey [2301](#).

2. The special aggregate "energy" comprises electricity, natural gas, fuel oil and other fuels, gasoline, and fuel, parts and accessories for recreational vehicles.

Source(s): CANSIM table [326-0022](#).

**Table 4**  
**Consumer Price Index statistics, preferred measures of core inflation – Bank of Canada definitions, year-over-year percent change, Canada<sup>1,2</sup>**

	January 2018	February 2018	March 2018	April 2018
	%			
CPI-common <sup>3,5</sup>	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9
CPI-median <sup>4,6</sup>	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.1
CPI-trim <sup>4,7</sup>	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.1

1. For more information on these measures of core inflation, please consult the [methodology](#) and [general information](#) documents found in our Definitions, data sources and methods - record number [2301](#).
2. The Bank of Canada's preferred measures of core inflation, CPI-common, CPI-median and CPI-trim, are subject to revision. In the case of CPI-median and CPI-trim, this results from the fact that these measures are based on seasonally adjusted price index series. In the case of CPI-common, revisions are due to the statistical technique used, as the factor model is estimated over all available historical data. The CANSIM table 326-8023 contains the historical release data for these three measures and will be updated every month.
3. This measure is based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) series adjusted to remove the effect of changes in indirect taxes.
4. This measure is based on CPI series that have been treated to remove the effect of changes in indirect taxes, and that have been seasonally adjusted.
5. CPI-common is a measure of core inflation that tracks common price changes across categories in the CPI basket.
6. CPI-median is a measure of core inflation corresponding to the price change located at the 50th percentile (in terms of CPI basket weights) of the distribution of price changes in a given month.
7. CPI-trim is a measure of core inflation that excludes CPI components whose rates of change in a given month are located in the tails of the distribution of price changes.

Source(s): CANSIM table [326-0023](#).



**Table 5**  
**Main contributors to the 12-month and 1-month change in the CPI**

April 2017 to April 2018

**Main contributors to the 12-month change**

**Main upward contributors**

Gasoline	14.2
Food purchased from restaurants	4.5
Air transportation	11.9
Homeowners' replacement cost	2.9
Purchase of passenger vehicles	1.8

**Main downward contributors**

Travel tours	-9.4
Electricity	-3.0
Natural gas	-4.6
Digital computing equipment and devices	-6.4
Furniture	-2.5

March to April 2018

**Main contributors to the 1-month change, not seasonally adjusted**

**Main upward contributors**

Gasoline	6.8
Telephone services	4.1
Traveller accommodation	4.1
Electricity	1.6
Meat	1.4

**Main downward contributors**

Travel tours	-20.4
Air transportation	-2.8
Natural gas	-3.2
Purchase of passenger vehicles	-0.4
Personal care supplies and equipment	-1.5

Source(s): CANSIM table [326-0020](#).

Available in CANSIM: tables [326-0009](#), [326-0012](#), [326-0020](#), [326-0022](#) and [326-0023](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [2301](#).

The April 2018 issue of *The Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 97, no. 4 ([62-001-X](#)) is now available.

More information about the concepts and use of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) is available in *The Canadian Consumer Price Index Reference Paper* ([62-553-X](#)).

For information on the history of the CPI in Canada, consult the publication *Exploring the First Century of Canada's Consumer Price Index* ([62-604-X](#)).

Two videos, "An Overview of Canada's Consumer Price Index (CPI)" and "The Consumer Price Index and Your Experience of Price Change," are available on Statistics Canada's YouTube channel.

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; [STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca](mailto:STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca)) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; [STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca](mailto:STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca)).