

# Consumer Price Index, July 2019

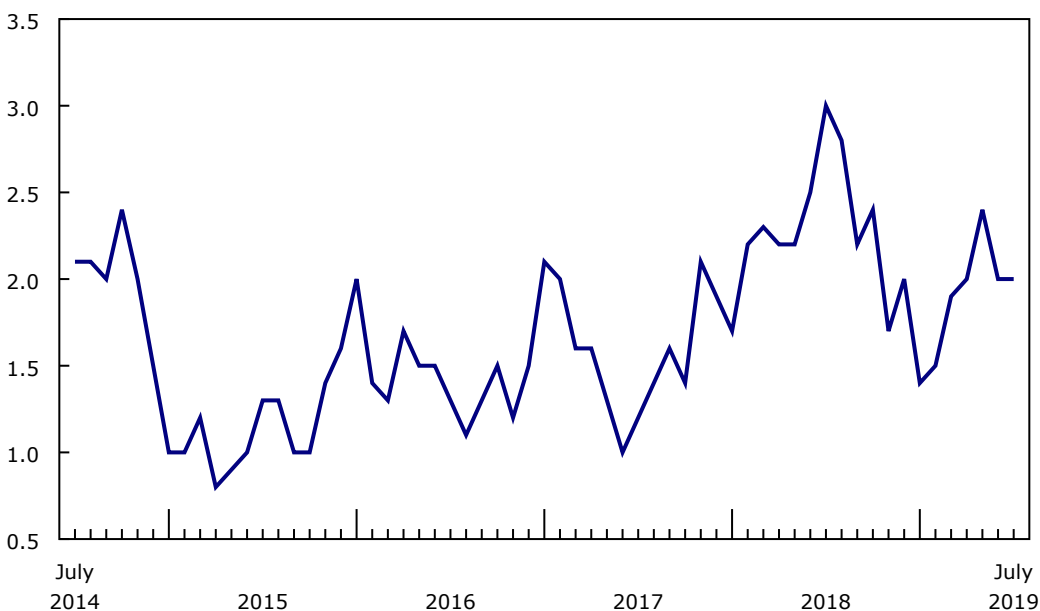
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Wednesday, August 21, 2019

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 2.0% on a year-over-year basis in July, matching the increase in June. Prices increased year over year in all eight major components.

On a [seasonally adjusted monthly basis](#), the CPI increased 0.4% in July, following a 0.1% decline in June.

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

12-month % change

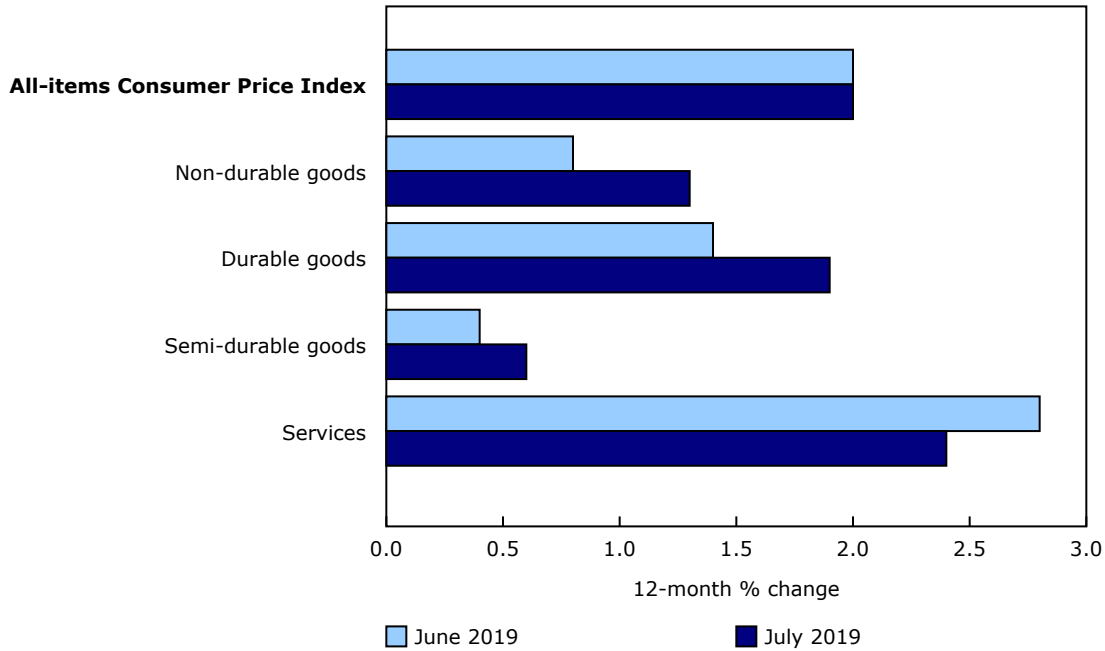


Source(s): Table [18-10-0004-01](#).

Year-over-year growth in the services index slowed in July (+2.4%) compared with June (+2.8%). This slowdown was offset by an increase in the goods index (+1.3%), as the year-over-year decline in gasoline prices slowed and price growth increased for durable goods and food.



**Chart 2**  
**Higher prices for goods year over year offset lower prices for services in July**



Source(s): Table 18-10-0004-01.

### Visit the new Consumer Price Index Portal!

Statistics Canada has launched a new [Consumer Price Index \(CPI\) Portal](#) as part of a suite of portals for prices and price indexes. The CPI Portal centralizes all CPI information and products in one convenient location on the Statistics Canada website. This webpage serves as a single point of access for users to find CPI data, publications, interactive tools, and announcements highlighting new products and upcoming changes to the CPI.

The portal also features an interactive data visualization tool that provides access to current and historical CPI data in a dynamic and customizable format. Check out the latest CPI snapshot to find out what's currently driving price changes in the CPI. Explore key CPI indicators and compare price changes of all the goods and services in the CPI basket over time and by geography.

The CPI Portal has been created in response to growing demand for information about the CPI and as a way to communicate upcoming changes to the program.

The portal will be updated regularly, and expanded to include additional features. Feedback from users will be used to guide future development of the CPI Portal. Your input can be provided in the form at the bottom of the portal webpage.

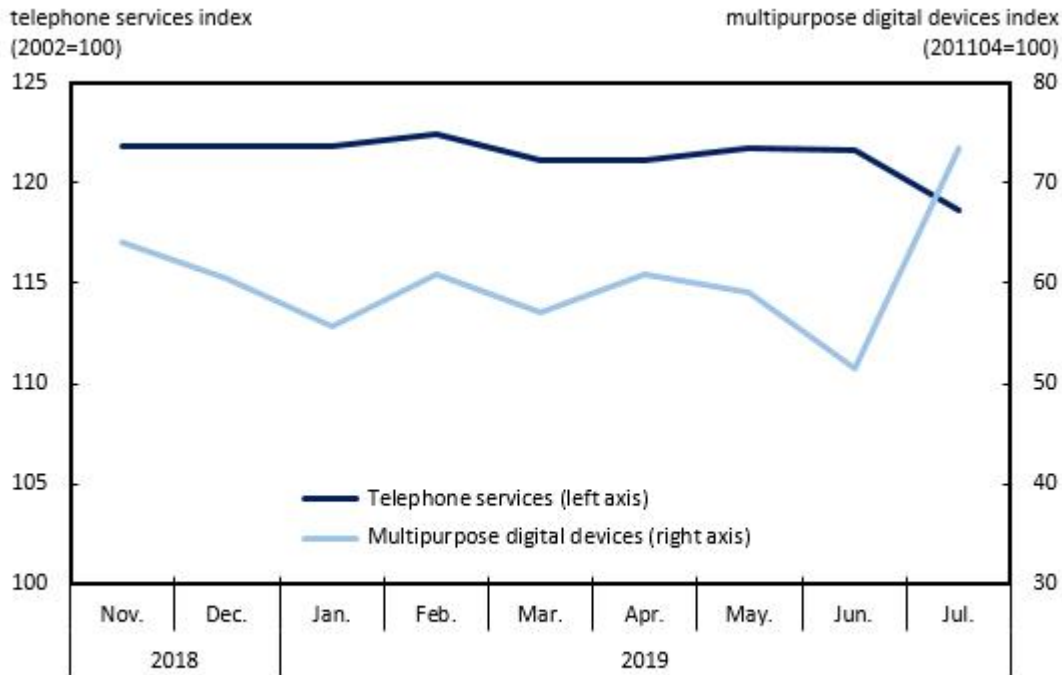
Visit the new Consumer Price Index (CPI) Portal today!

## Highlights

### Consumers pay less for telephone services, but more for devices in July

Consumers paid 2.5% less for telephone services in July compared with June. The decline follows an industry-wide shift in the pricing structure of cellular data plans amid intensifying competition among wireless providers. The widespread introduction of unlimited data plans coincided with a reduction in the subsidies for wireless devices, shifting more of the cost of devices to consumers. Consequently, the multipurpose digital devices index, which includes prices for tablets and smartphones, rose 42.5% month over month. Telephone services account for 2.29% of the 2017 CPI basket of goods and services, while multipurpose digital devices account for 0.24%.

### Infographic 1 – Telephone services index and multipurpose digital devices index



Source: Table 18-10-0004-01.

### Prices for air transportation and travel tours rise less year over year in July

On a year-over-year basis, prices for air transportation (+4.6%) and travel tours (+7.5%) rose to a lesser extent in July than in June. This follows a decline in jet fuel prices, as reported in the Industrial Product Price Index for the June reference month.

### Gasoline prices rise month over month, but remain below July 2018 levels

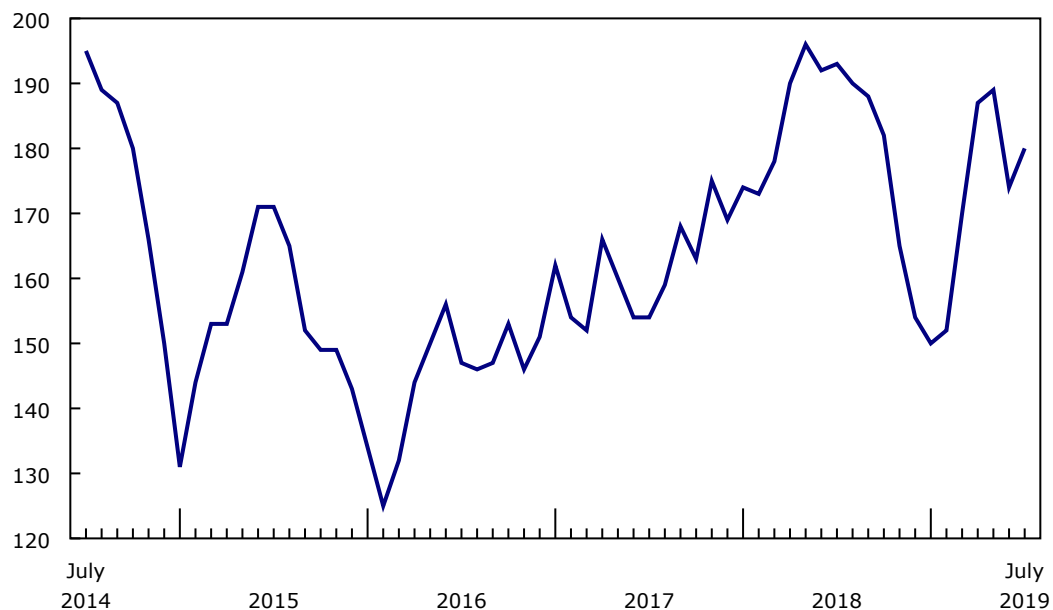
Gasoline prices declined 6.9% year over year in July after falling 9.2% in June, as tighter supply in the United States following a refinery closure led to month-over-month increases in the central and eastern regions of Canada.

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### Chart 3 Gasoline index

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index (2002=100)



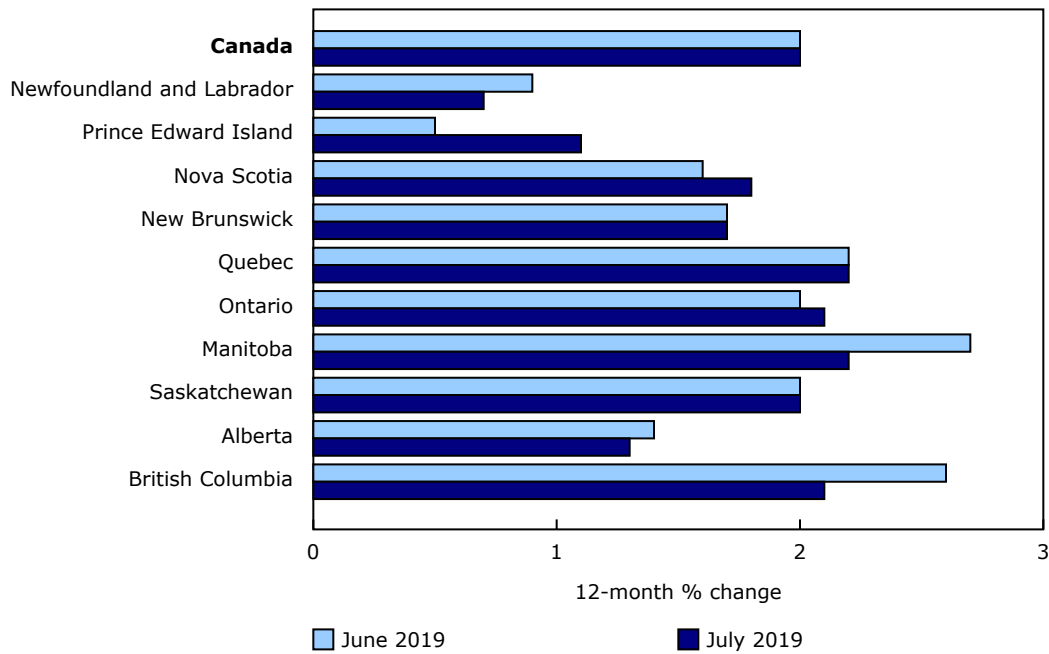
Source(s): Table [18-10-0004-01](#).

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### Regional highlights

Among the provinces, year-over-year price growth slowed the most in Manitoba (+2.2%) and British Columbia (+2.1%). In Manitoba, this slowdown was largely attributable to a decline in the province's Retail Sales Tax (RST), which decreased from 8% to 7% on July 1.

**Chart 4**  
**Consumer prices rise at a slower rate in four provinces**

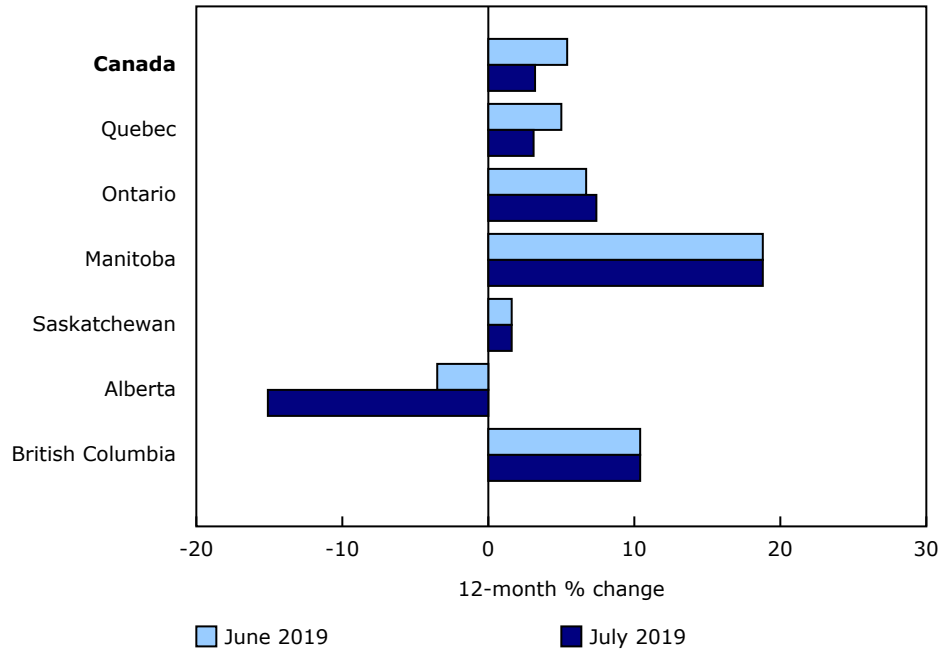


Source(s): Table 18-10-0004-01.

On a year-over-year basis, consumers in British Columbia paid less for traveller accommodation in July (-8.1%) than in June (+5.1%), when a significant increase in prices coincided with various events in the Vancouver area.

In Alberta, prices for natural gas fell 15.1% compared with July 2018, amid a sustained supply glut in the commodity market. The homeowners' replacement cost index, which is driven by the price of new homes, fell 2.6% year over year, the largest decline since January 2010.

**Chart 5**  
**Natural gas prices continue to decline year over year in Alberta**



Source(s): Table 18-10-0004-01.

**Note to readers**

**Telephone services index and multipurpose digital devices index**

Users are reminded that the methodology for the telephone services index and the multipurpose digital devices index was updated in November 2018 as part of the regular review of the Consumer Price Index methodology. Interpretation of the 12-month price change indicator should be made with caution, particularly in the year following the implementation of the new methodology.

**Real-time data tables**

Real-time data table 18-10-0259-01 will be updated on September 3.

**Next release**

The Consumer Price Index for August will be released on September 18.

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

	Relative importance <sup>1,2</sup>	July 2018	June 2019	July 2019	June to July 2019	July 2018 to July 2019
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>134.3</b>	<b>136.3</b>	<b>137.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Food	16.48	146.1	150.7	151.6	0.6	3.8
Shelter	27.36	141.0	144.0	144.3	0.2	2.3
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	12.80	123.1	124.1	123.5	-0.5	0.3
Clothing and footwear	5.17	93.0	94.9	94.0	-0.9	1.1
Transportation	19.95	142.0	142.7	144.2	1.1	1.5
Gasoline	3.13	193.3	174.1	179.9	3.3	-6.9
Health and personal care	4.79	126.1	127.7	128.0	0.2	1.5
Recreation, education and reading	10.24	117.9	117.9	121.1	2.7	2.7
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis	3.21	169.0	171.2	171.0	-0.1	1.2
<b>Special aggregates</b>						
All-items excluding food	83.52	132.0	133.5	134.2	0.5	1.7
All-items excluding food and energy	77.01	128.5	130.8	131.3	0.4	2.2
All-items excluding alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and smokers' supplies and recreational cannabis	96.79	133.2	135.2	135.9	0.5	2.0
All-items excluding energy	93.50	131.6	134.3	134.9	0.4	2.5
All-items excluding gasoline	96.87	132.2	134.9	135.4	0.4	2.4
Energy <sup>3</sup>	6.50	168.8	160.3	163.4	1.9	-3.2
Goods	44.29	121.6	122.8	123.2	0.3	1.3
Durable goods	12.94	89.7	91.6	91.4	-0.2	1.9
Semi-durable goods	6.63	96.0	97.3	96.6	-0.7	0.6
Non-durable goods	24.72	147.9	148.5	149.8	0.9	1.3
Services	55.71	147.1	149.6	150.7	0.7	2.4

1. 2017 Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights at December 2018 prices, Canada, effective with the January 2019 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): Tables 18-10-0004-01 and 18-10-0007-01.

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

	Relative importance <sup>1,2</sup>	July 2018	June 2019	July 2019	June to July 2019	July 2018 to July 2019
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>134.3</b>	<b>136.3</b>	<b>137.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.31	139.1	139.4	140.1	0.5	0.7
Prince Edward Island	0.33	138.0	138.0	139.5	1.1	1.1
Nova Scotia	2.31	136.0	137.4	138.5	0.8	1.8
New Brunswick	1.76	134.8	136.3	137.1	0.6	1.7
Quebec	20.72	129.7	132.0	132.6	0.5	2.2
Ontario	39.83	136.0	138.0	138.8	0.6	2.1
Manitoba	3.16	134.4	137.3	137.4	0.1	2.2
Saskatchewan	2.98	138.0	140.2	140.7	0.4	2.0
Alberta	12.15	141.8	142.7	143.6	0.6	1.3
British Columbia	15.27	129.7	131.9	132.4	0.4	2.1
Whitehorse	0.08	131.9	134.1	135.1	0.7	2.4
Yellowknife	0.07	137.3	139.1	139.2	0.1	1.4
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.03	131.7	132.1	132.8	0.5	0.8

1. 2017 Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights at December 2018 prices, effective with the January 2019 CPI.

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

Source(s): Tables 18-10-0004-01 and 18-10-0007-01.

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

	May 2019	June 2019	July 2019	May to June 2019	June to July 2019
	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>136.0</b>	<b>135.9</b>	<b>136.5</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Food	149.4	150.1	150.6	0.5	0.3
Shelter	144.2	144.0	144.3	-0.1	0.2
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	123.7	123.8	123.5	0.1	-0.2
Clothing and footwear	95.6	95.5	95.5	-0.1	0.0
Transportation	142.4	141.6	142.5	-0.6	0.6
Health and personal care	127.2	127.6	127.9	0.3	0.2
Recreation, education and reading	117.8	117.5	118.6	-0.3	0.9
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis	171.1	170.8	170.7	-0.2	-0.1
<b>Special aggregates</b>					
All-items excluding food	133.3	133.4	133.7	0.1	0.2
All-items excluding food and energy <sup>2</sup>	130.4	130.6	130.8	0.2	0.2

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): Table [18-10-0006-01](#).

**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>**

	April 2019	May 2019	June 2019	July 2019
	% change			
CPI-common <sup>3,5</sup>	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9
CPI-median <sup>4,6</sup>	2.0	2.2	2.1	2.1
CPI-trim <sup>4,7</sup>	2.0	2.3	2.1	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 table 18-10-0259-01 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): Table [18-10-0256-01](#).



**Table 5**  
**Main contributors to the 12-month and 1-month change in the Consumer Price Index**

	July 2018 to July 2019
	% change
<b>Main contributors to the 12-month change</b>	
<b>Main upward contributors</b>	
Mortgage interest cost	8.0
Passenger vehicle insurance premiums	8.5
Purchase of passenger vehicles	2.8
Fresh vegetables	18.9
Rent	2.6
<b>Main downward contributors</b>	
Gasoline	-6.9
Internet access services	-9.1
Traveller accommodation	-4.4
Fresh fruit	-3.7
Furniture	-1.7
	June to July 2019
	% change
<b>Main contributors to the 1-month change, not seasonally adjusted</b>	
<b>Main upward contributors</b>	
Air transportation	14.0
Travel tours	10.3
Gasoline	3.3
Digital computing equipment and devices	14.5
Meat	2.2
<b>Main downward contributors</b>	
Purchase of passenger vehicles	-1.4
Telephone services	-2.5
Women's clothing	-2.1
Fresh fruit	-3.5
Other food preparations	-1.5

Source(s): Table [18-10-0004-01](#).

**Available tables:** [18-10-0001-01](#), [18-10-0002-01](#), [18-10-0004-01](#), [18-10-0006-01](#) and [18-10-0256-01](#).

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

The interactive [Consumer Price Index Data Visualization Tool](#) is available on the Statistics Canada website.

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)).