

Consumer Price Index, October 2019

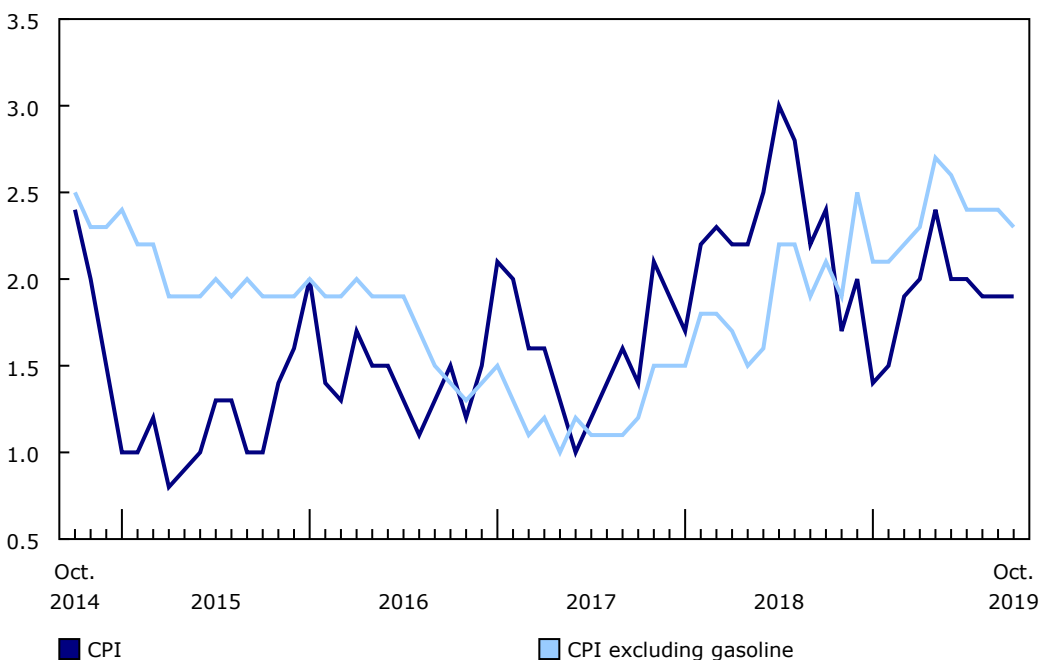
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Wednesday, November 20, 2019

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 1.9% on a year-over-year basis in October, matching the increase in August and in September. Excluding gasoline, the CPI rose 2.3% following three consecutive monthly increases of 2.4%.

On a [seasonally adjusted monthly basis](#), the CPI rose 0.3% in October, following a 0.1% decline in September.

Chart 1
The 12-month change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and CPI excluding gasoline

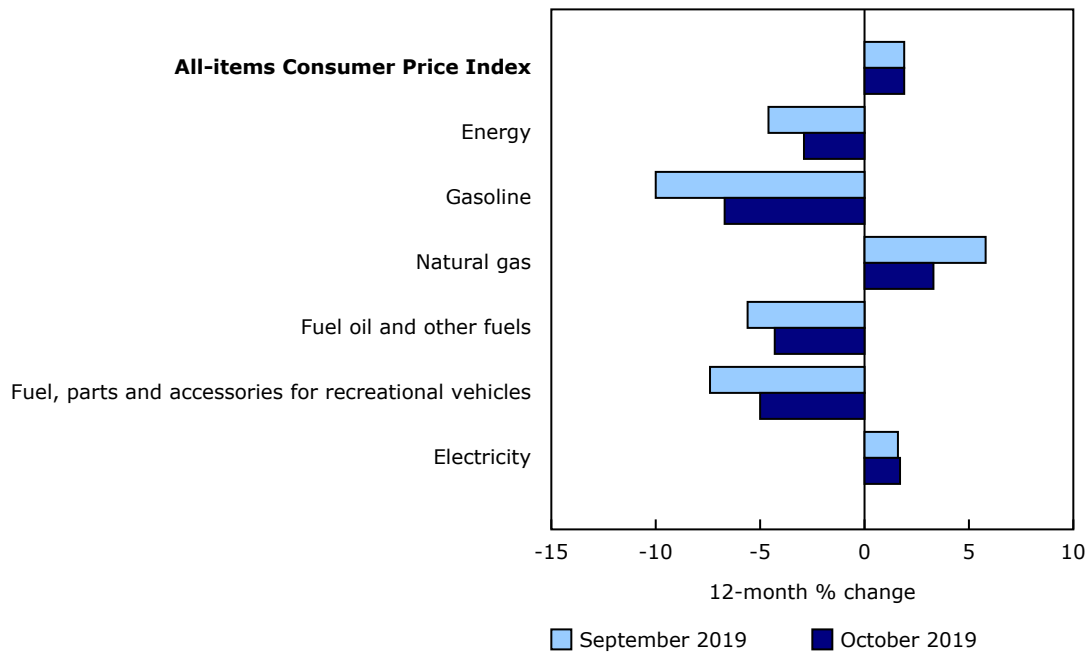
12-month % change



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



Chart 2
Energy prices continue to decline year over year



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.

Highlights

On a year-over-year basis, consumers paid 6.7% less for gasoline in October following a 10.0% decline in September. Although global demand for oil remained low in October, there were slight price increases on a monthly basis amid temporary supply disruptions in the Middle East, and a decline in crude oil inventories in the United States.

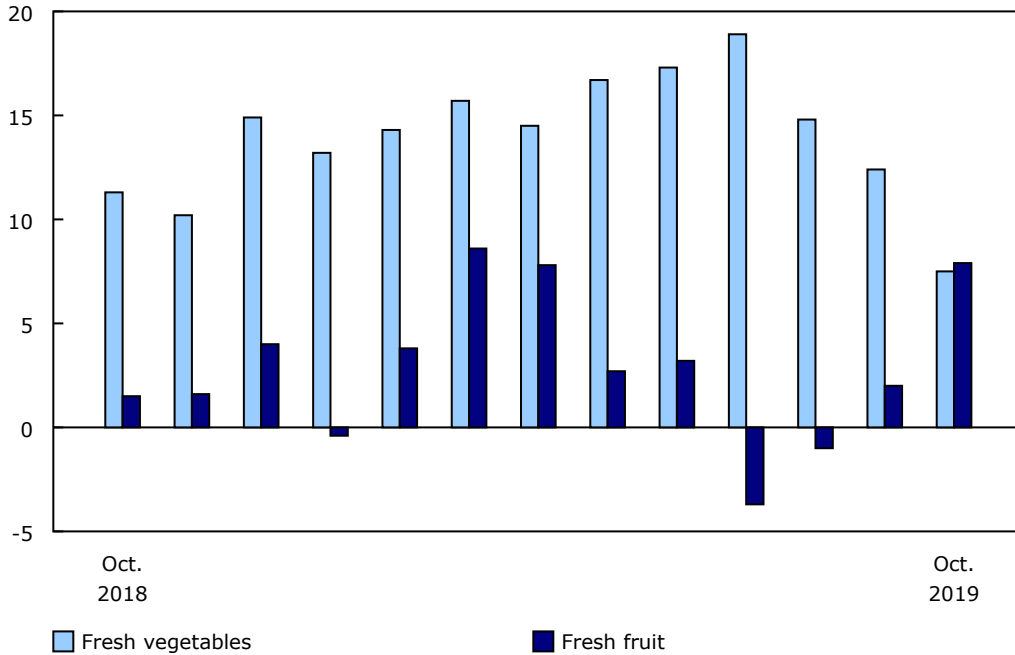
Natural gas prices rose 3.3% year over year after increasing 5.8% the previous month. This slowdown occurred as utilities in Ontario and Quebec revised commodity prices to reflect low current and forecasted natural gas prices in North America.

Fruit prices grow faster than vegetable prices year over year in October

Fresh fruit prices grew 7.9% year over year in October, a faster rate than the 2.0% increase in September. In contrast, prices for fresh vegetables grew at a slower pace in October (+7.5%), as supply pressure stemming from inclement weather in agricultural regions eased. This slowdown followed 12 consecutive months of year-over-year growth above 10%.

Chart 3
Fresh vegetables and fresh fruit, Canada, October 2018 to October 2019

12-month % change



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

Larger rebates slow growth in the purchase of passenger vehicles index

After eight months of year-over-year increases at or above 2.7%, growth in the purchase of passenger vehicles index (+1.8%) slowed in October. The lower level of growth was attributable, in part, to larger rebates compared with October 2018.

Regional highlights

Property taxes rise the most in Prince Edward Island

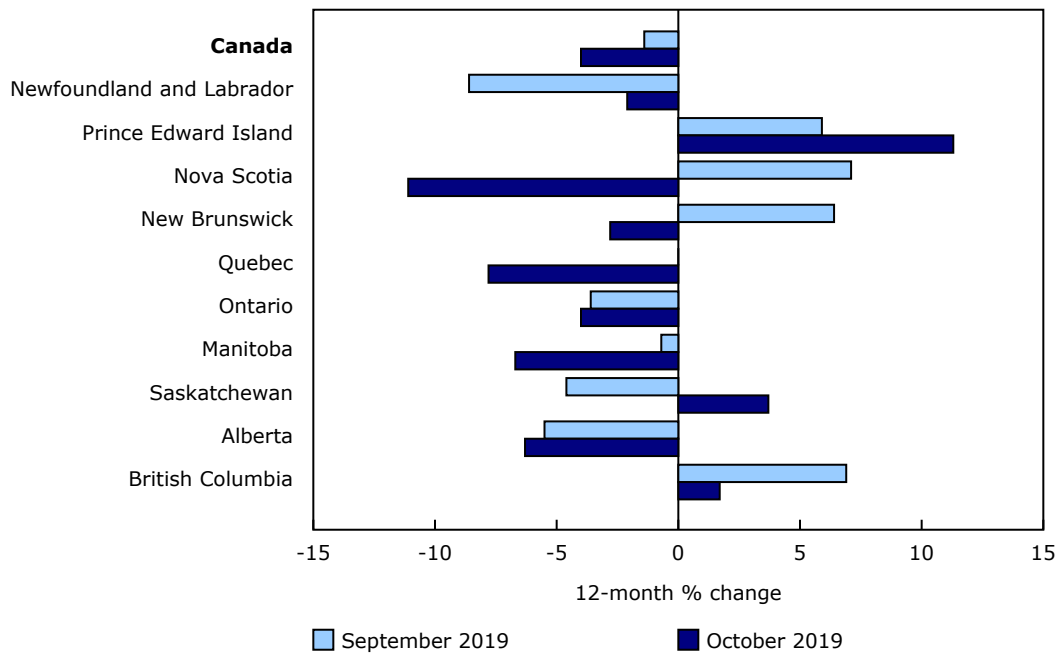
The cost of property tax, which is priced annually in October, rose 2.2% year over year at the national level. While higher property taxes in Ontario contributed the most to the gain, there was a notable increase in Prince Edward Island where prices rose 4.9%. This was attributable to higher assessment values for residential properties and costs associated with infrastructure projects within the province.

Traveller accommodation prices fall the most in Nova Scotia

The traveller accommodation index continued to trend downward, falling 4.0% year over year in October. Consumers in Nova Scotia paid 25.6% less compared with September, when a series of conferences occurred in the region. This is the largest month-over-month decline since the inception of this index in 1978.

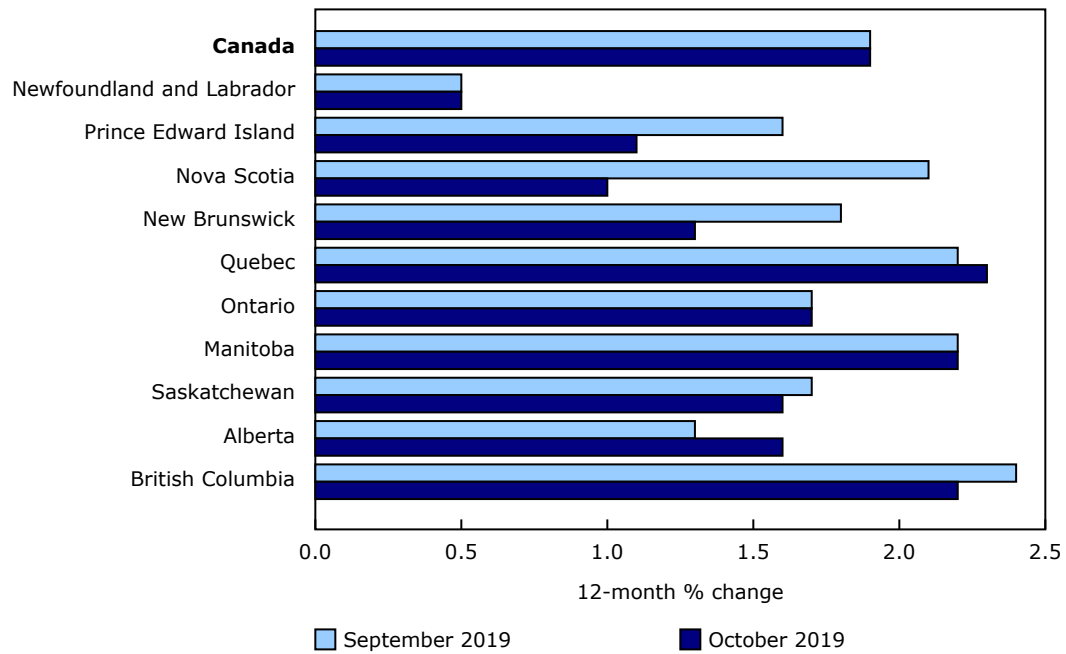
Traveller accommodation prices in British Columbia were 23.7% lower compared with September, when higher prices coinciding with a series of major concerts were reported in the Vancouver region. This decline marks the largest month-over-month decline in this index since March 2010, the month following the 2010 Olympic Games in Vancouver.

Chart 4
Traveller accommodation prices decline the most in Nova Scotia



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

Chart 5
The Consumer Price Index rises at a slower rate in five provinces



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

Note to readers

Consumer Price Index modernization

Statistics Canada is the nation's trusted source for information that contributes to informed decision making by governments, businesses and households. Statistics Canada continuously reviews and periodically updates the methods applied to various components of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to ensure it accurately reflects trends in the market, consumer behaviour and available data sources.

As part of the agency's efforts to modernize the CPI, various initiatives are underway, including the following:

- Increasing the use of alternative data sources for the food, clothing and footwear, and air transportation indexes
- Reviewing the CPI sample to better reflect consumer expenditure patterns in the digital economy
- Creating new analytical and interactive products, such as the [CPI Portal](#) and the [CPI Data Visualization Tool](#).

Statistics Canada will continue to explore new ways to better serve Canadians and meet information needs.

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 CPI 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.

Detailed documentation describing the new approach for calculating the telephone services index is available in the article "[New approach for estimating the Telephone Services Index of the Consumer Price Index](#)," which is published as part of the publication *Prices Analytical Series (62F0014M)*.

Real-time data tables

Real-time data table 18-10-0259-01 will be updated on December 2.

Next release

The Consumer Price Index for November will be released on December 18.

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

	Relative importance ^{1,2}	October 2018	September 2019	October 2019	September to October 2019	October 2018 to October 2019
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
All-items	100.00	134.1	136.2	136.6	0.3	1.9
Food	16.48	144.6	150.2	149.9	-0.2	3.7
Shelter	27.36	142.0	144.8	145.7	0.6	2.6
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	12.80	124.0	123.6	123.8	0.2	-0.2
Clothing and footwear	5.17	97.2	98.5	99.4	0.9	2.3
Transportation	19.95	139.3	140.3	141.3	0.7	1.4
Gasoline	3.13	182.3	169.5	170.1	0.4	-6.7
Health and personal care	4.79	126.3	127.8	127.9	0.1	1.3
Recreation, education and reading	10.24	116.1	118.0	117.6	-0.3	1.3
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis	3.21	169.7	170.9	171.3	0.2	0.9
Special aggregates						
All-items excluding food	83.52	132.0	133.5	134.0	0.4	1.5
All-items excluding food and energy	77.01	128.8	130.8	131.4	0.5	2.0
All-items excluding alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and smokers' supplies and recreational cannabis	96.79	132.9	135.1	135.5	0.3	2.0
All-items excluding energy	93.50	131.7	134.3	134.7	0.3	2.3
All-items excluding gasoline	96.87	132.3	134.8	135.3	0.4	2.3
Energy ³	6.50	163.7	158.7	158.9	0.1	-2.9
Goods	44.29	121.4	122.7	123.0	0.2	1.3
Durable goods	12.94	90.5	90.9	91.4	0.6	1.0
Semi-durable goods	6.63	99.3	100.2	101.0	0.8	1.7
Non-durable goods	24.72	145.6	147.6	147.4	-0.1	1.2
Services	55.71	146.8	149.5	150.1	0.4	2.2

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 ^{1,2}	October 2018	September 2019	October 2019	September to October 2019	October 2018 to October 2019
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
Canada	100.00	134.1	136.2	136.6	0.3	1.9
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.31	139.0	139.0	139.7	0.5	0.5
Prince Edward Island	0.33	136.9	138.2	138.4	0.1	1.1
Nova Scotia	2.31	136.6	138.4	138.0	-0.3	1.0
New Brunswick	1.76	135.1	136.6	136.8	0.1	1.3
Quebec	20.72	129.4	132.1	132.4	0.2	2.3
Ontario	39.83	135.6	137.5	137.9	0.3	1.7
Manitoba	3.16	135.0	136.9	138.0	0.8	2.2
Saskatchewan	2.98	138.7	139.7	140.9	0.9	1.6
Alberta	12.15	141.4	142.9	143.6	0.5	1.6
British Columbia	15.27	129.4	132.0	132.2	0.2	2.2
Whitehorse	0.08	131.0	133.5	133.9	0.3	2.2
Yellowknife	0.07	137.5	138.2	139.4	0.9	1.4
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.03	129.2	131.2	131.1	-0.1	1.5

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 adjusted¹

	August 2019	September 2019	October 2019	August to September 2019	September to October 2019
	(2002=100)			% change	
All-items	136.4	136.3	136.7	-0.1	0.3
Food	150.8	151.3	151.6	0.3	0.2
Shelter	144.6	144.8	145.7	0.1	0.6
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	123.6	123.7	123.8	0.1	0.1
Clothing and footwear	95.7	96.7	96.7	1.0	0.0
Transportation	142.3	141.7	142.2	-0.4	0.4
Health and personal care	127.5	127.9	127.9	0.3	0.0
Recreation, education and reading	118.1	115.7	117.6	-2.0	1.6
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis	170.9	170.8	171.5	-0.1	0.4
Special aggregates					
All-items excluding food	133.6	133.6	133.9	0.0	0.2
All-items excluding food and energy ²	131.0	131.1	131.4	0.1	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^{1,2}

	July 2019	August 2019	September 2019	October 2019
	% change			
CPI-common ^{3,5}	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9
CPI-median ^{4,6}	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.2
CPI-trim ^{4,7}	2.1	2.0	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

October 2018 to October 2019

	% change
Main contributors to the 12-month change	
Main upward contributors	
Mortgage interest cost	7.0
Passenger vehicle insurance premiums	9.0
Rent	3.7
Food purchased from restaurants	2.7
Purchase of passenger vehicles	1.8
Main downward contributors	
Gasoline	-6.7
Telephone services	-3.8
Internet access services	-7.9
Tuition fees	-3.6
Traveller accommodation	-4.0
September to October 2019	
	% change
Main contributors to the 1-month change, not seasonally adjusted	
Main upward contributors	
Travel tours	6.6
Purchase of passenger vehicles	1.1
Property taxes and other special charges	2.2
Rent	0.8
Air transportation	1.9
Main downward contributors	
Traveller accommodation	-12.8
Fresh vegetables	-4.7
Dairy products	-2.1
Natural gas	-2.7
Meat	-0.5

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) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca).