

# Consumer Price Index, November 2021

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Canadians continued to feel the impact of supply chain disruptions in November, which put upward pressure on prices for durable goods, like passenger vehicles and furniture. Prices for foods commonly seen around dinner tables, including vegetables, meat and pasta, have also increased recently compared with 2020.

Towards the latter half of the month, the impact of the floods in British Columbia and the spread of the Omicron COVID-19 variant created new uncertainties around further potential disruptions to supply chains and oil demand.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 4.7% on a year-over-year basis in November, matching the increase in October. Excluding gasoline, the CPI rose 3.6% year over year, also matching the gain in October.

On a monthly basis, the CPI edged up 0.2% in November, following a 0.7% increase in October.

## Highlights

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 4.7% on a year-over-year basis in November, matching the increase in October.

Higher prices for gasoline (+43.6%), furniture (+8.7%) and food (+4.4%) were the main drivers of growth in headline CPI. Excluding gasoline, the CPI rose 3.6% year over year, the same as in October.

On a monthly basis, the CPI edged up 0.2% in November, following a 0.7% increase in October.

On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, the CPI increased 0.3%.

Prices rose in all eight major components on a year-over-year basis in November. Transportation and shelter prices contributed the most to the increase in the CPI.

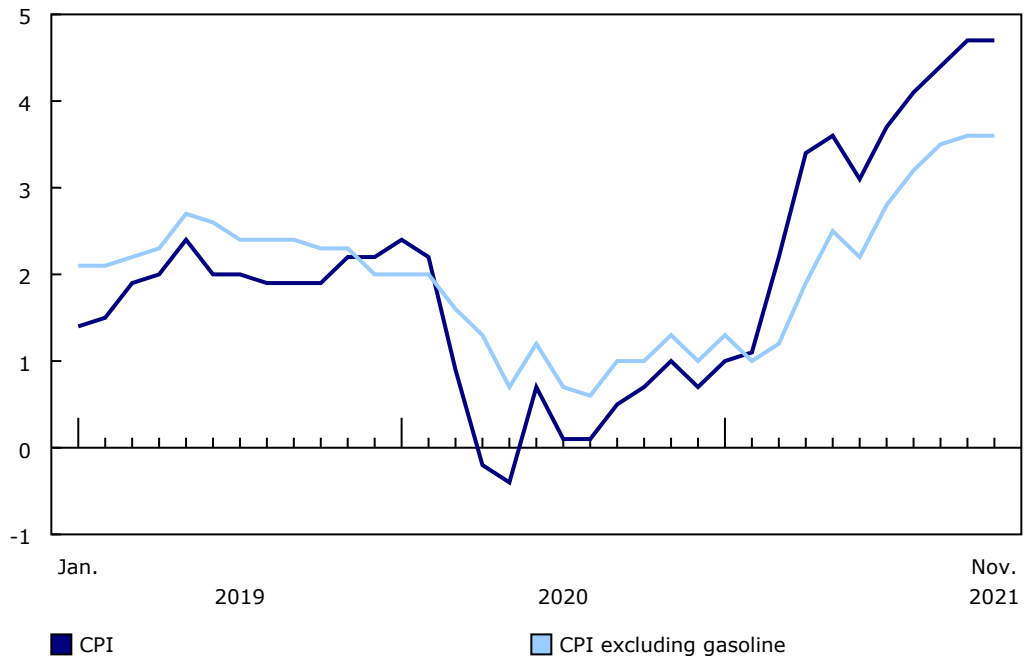
Year over year, prices for goods (+6.9%) rose at a faster pace in November compared with October (+6.5%). Prices for services (+2.9%), however, grew at a slower pace than in October (+3.2%), moderating the price growth in the CPI. Declines in prices for cellular services (-17.9%) contributed to the slowdown in the increase in service prices.

Inflation is often compared to changes to average wages. In November 2021, the CPI rose 4.7% on a year-over-year basis. Wage data, which maintains employment composition by occupation and tenure, from the [Labour Force Survey](#) found that wages rose 2.8% during the same period, meaning that, on average, prices rose faster than wages, and Canadians experienced a decline in purchasing power.



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

12-month % change



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

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## What's new this month?

### CPI and inflation perceptions

A new study with the Bank of Canada on "Consumer Price Index and Inflation Perceptions in Canada: Can measurement approaches or behaviour factors explain the gap?" is available through the *Prices Analytical Series* or available upon request by contacting [statcan.cpddisseminationunit-dpcunitedediffusion.statcan@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:statcan.cpddisseminationunit-dpcunitedediffusion.statcan@statcan.gc.ca).

### StatsCAN Plus

There is no question that prices are rising across Canada overall. In fact, the CPI has been increasing at its fastest pace in almost two decades over the last few months. Some consumers feel that prices may be rising at an even faster pace than captured by the CPI, but rest assured this is not the case. For more information, consult [Prices are rising, but by how much?](#) in Statistics Canada's newest publication, [StatsCAN Plus!](#)

### Explore the CPI tools that can help you make informed financial decisions

Check out the [Personal Inflation Calculator!](#) This interactive calculator allows you to enter dollar amounts in the common expense categories to produce a personalized inflation rate, which you can compare to the official measure of inflation for the average Canadian household—the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

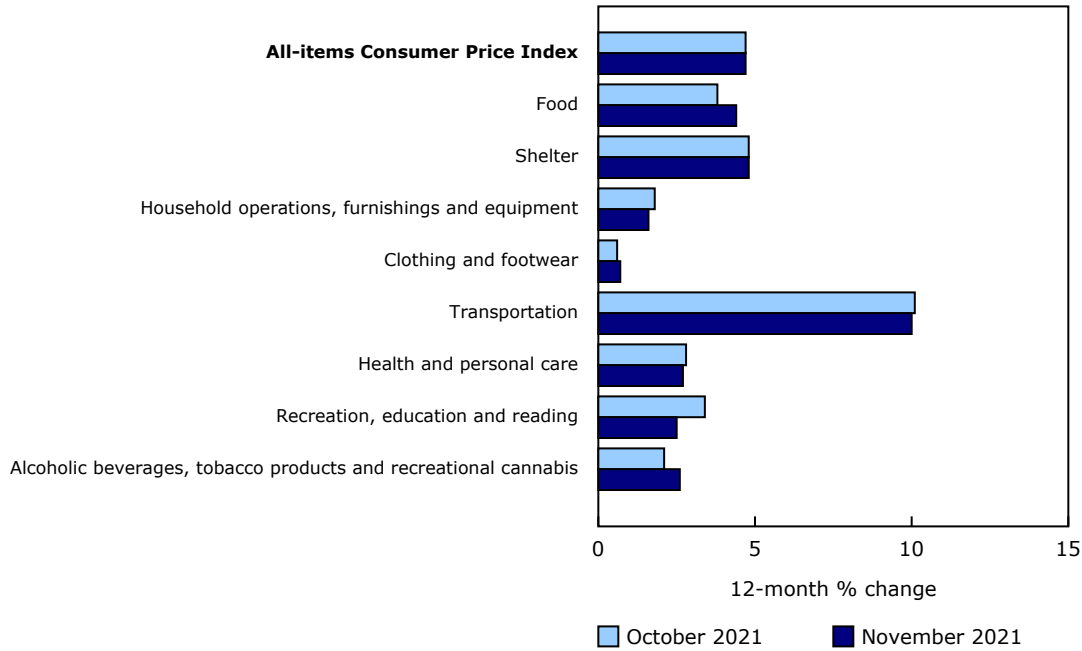
Visit the [Consumer Price Index](#) portal to find all CPI data, publications, interactive tools, and announcements highlighting new products and upcoming changes to the CPI in one convenient location.

Consult the [Consumer Price Index Data Visualization Tool](#) to access current and historical CPI data in a customizable visual format.

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## Chart 2 Prices rise in all eight major components

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

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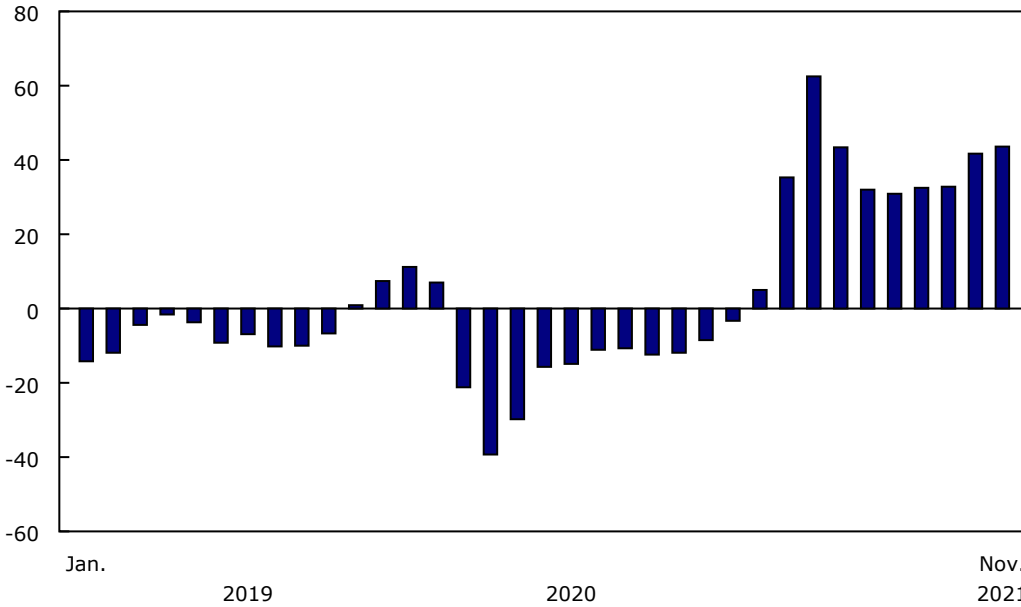
### Drivers see higher gasoline prices at the pumps

Canadian drivers continued to feel the impact of the largest source of consumer inflation, with gasoline prices 43.6% higher compared with November 2020. Oil production continues to remain below pre-pandemic levels, though global demand has increased.

On a monthly basis, gasoline prices were down 0.1% compared with October 2021, amid volatility in global oil markets because of ongoing uncertainties brought on by COVID-19 variants.

**Chart 3**  
**Gasoline prices rise year over year in November**

12-month % change



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

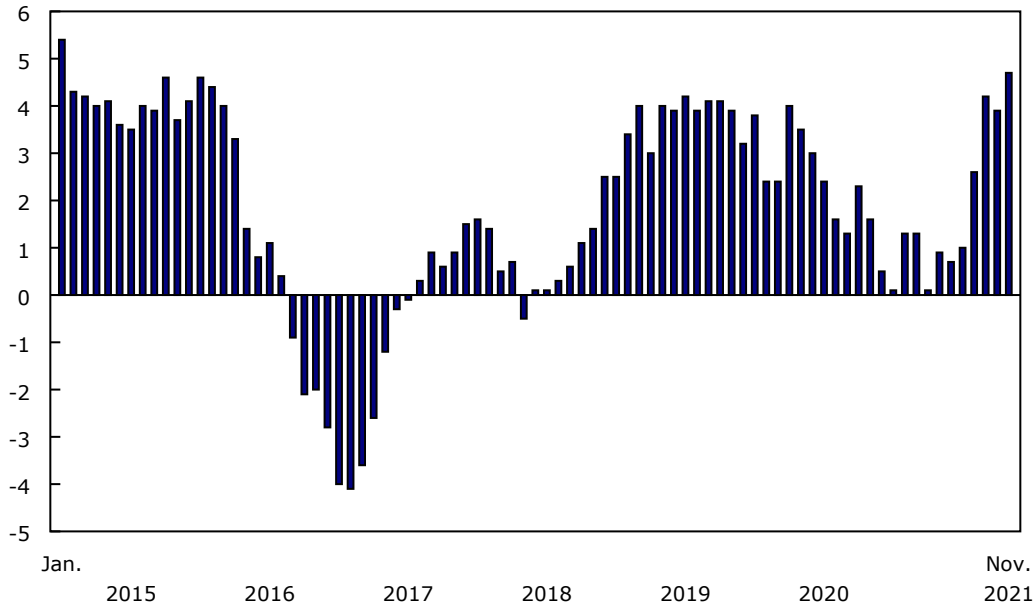
**Grocery prices increase at a faster pace**

Year over year, shoppers paid more for groceries, as prices for food purchased from stores rose at a faster pace in November (+4.7%) than in October (+3.9%). This is the largest increase since January 2015 when prices went up by 5.4%. Fresh vegetable prices increased 2.3% in November, the first yearly increase since February 2021. Prices for other fresh vegetables, including cucumbers, mushrooms and broccoli, drove the increase, rising 6.4% on a year-over-year basis as a result of higher shipping costs and supply chain disruptions.

Prices for fresh or frozen beef increased 15.4% year over year in November. Poor crop yields resulting from unfavourable weather conditions have made it more expensive for farmers to feed their livestock, in turn raising prices for consumers.

**Chart 4**  
**Prices for groceries increase at the highest rate since January 2015**

12-month % change



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

**Consumers pay less for cellular phone plans**

Consumers who signed on to a cell phone plan in November paid 17.9% less than those who did so in November 2020. Prices for cellular services declined, as a variety of promotions across the industry offered reduced prices for cellular phone plans, as well as bonus data.

**Furniture prices continue to rise**

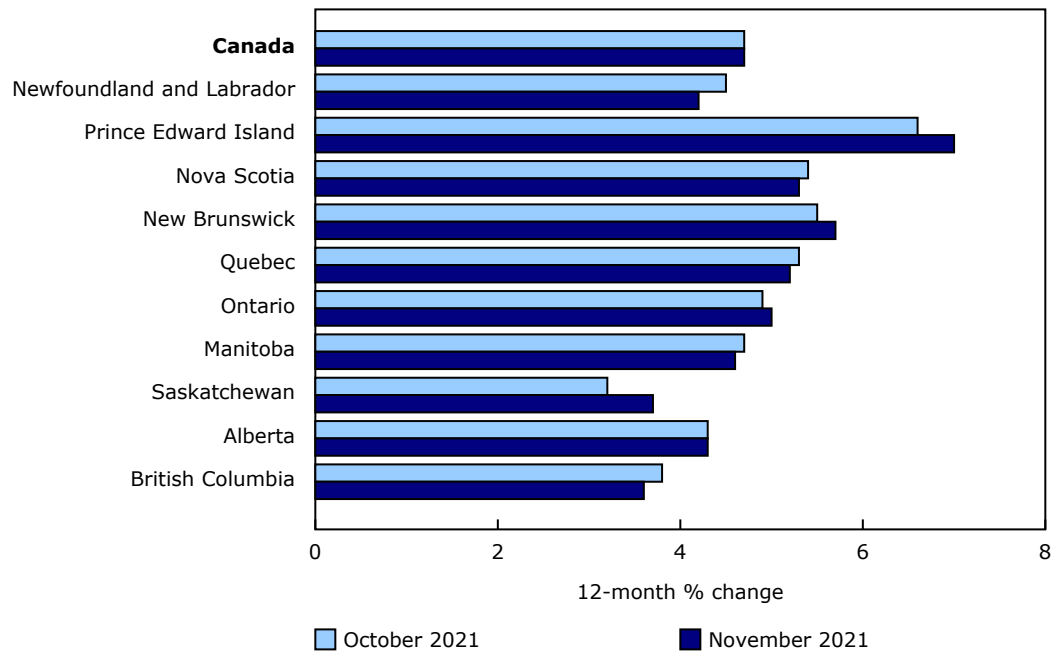
Canadians paid more to furnish their living spaces in November, as prices for furniture rose 8.7% year over year amid higher shipping costs. The introduction of tariffs first implemented in early May 2021 may have contributed to the increase in prices for upholstered furniture (+11.2%).

**Regional highlights**

Year over year, prices rose at a faster pace in November than in October in four provinces, with prices increasing the most in Prince Edward Island (+7.0%), mainly due to higher heating costs. Prices in Saskatchewan grew at a faster rate, largely the result of higher prices for natural gas (+13.4%).

The slowdown in British Columbia, which is unrelated to the flooding as most prices were collected prior to the weather events, is partly due to lower prices for clothing and footwear (-2.4%).

**Chart 5**  
**The Consumer Price Index rises at a faster pace in four provinces**



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

## Note to readers

### COVID-19 and the Consumer Price Index

In November 2021, all special treatments introduced for good and services that were unavailable due to the COVID-19 pandemic were removed.

With the November Consumer Price Index (CPI), cruise-based travel tours, which represented 0.03% of the 2020 CPI basket, are no longer being imputed and an adjustment factor is applied. The November index level for this component of the travel tours index is obtained by comparing November 2021 and the last observed price in 2020. This procedure removes the impact of all imputations performed in the months where this service was not available for consumption.

This treatment corresponds to the approach used for the [re-introduction of seasonal products](#) in the CPI in the first month of their in-season period.

The headline CPI for November 2021 would have been the same with or without the re-introduction of this component.

Users are advised to exercise caution in interpreting the 1-month change for November 2021 and the 12-month change for the next 12 months for the travel tours index.

### Floods in British Columbia

Price collection for the November CPI was largely unaffected by the recent floods, as the majority of prices were collected prior to the weather events. Statistics Canada continues to monitor the impacts of the floods in British Columbia on Canada's CPI.

Most prices are now [collected from alternative data sources](#), including point of sale data, administrative data and retailer websites. These advances ensure that the CPI remains an accurate measure of inflation in changing times.

### Real-time data tables

Real-time data table [18-10-0259-01](#) will be updated on January 4, 2022. For more information, consult the document "[Real-time data tables](#)."

### Next release

The Consumer Price Index for December 2021, including the Consumer Price Index Annual Review, will be released on January 19, 2022.

The Consumer Price Index for January 2022 will be released on February 16, 2022.



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

	Relative importance <sup>1,2</sup>	November 2020	October 2021	November 2021	October to November 2021	November 2020 to November 2021
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>137.7</b>	<b>143.9</b>	<b>144.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Food	16.24	153.9	159.2	160.7	0.9	4.4
Shelter	30.03	148.7	155.4	155.9	0.3	4.8
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	14.89	124.3	126.5	126.3	-0.2	1.6
Clothing and footwear	3.99	96.2	96.0	96.9	0.9	0.7
Transportation	15.96	141.3	155.4	155.4	0.0	10.0
Gasoline	3.57	146.8	211.1	210.8	-0.1	43.6
Health and personal care	4.68	130.6	133.9	134.1	0.1	2.7
Recreation, education and reading	9.40	115.6	120.1	118.5	-1.3	2.5
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis	4.80	172.1	176.2	176.6	0.2	2.6
<b>Special aggregates</b>						
All-items excluding food	83.76	134.6	141.0	141.0	0.0	4.8
All-items excluding food and energy	77.06	132.7	136.8	136.8	0.0	3.1
All-items excluding alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and smokers' supplies and recreational cannabis	95.20	136.6	142.9	143.1	0.1	4.8
All-items excluding energy	93.30	136.5	140.7	141.0	0.2	3.3
All-items excluding gasoline	96.43	137.0	141.6	141.9	0.2	3.6
Energy <sup>3</sup>	6.70	149.1	187.5	188.4	0.5	26.4
Goods	48.78	123.2	130.9	131.7	0.6	6.9
Durable goods	14.44	93.5	98.1	98.6	0.5	5.5
Semi-durable goods	6.60	98.4	99.1	99.3	0.2	0.9
Non-durable goods	27.73	147.1	159.7	160.8	0.7	9.3
Services	51.22	152.1	156.7	156.5	-0.1	2.9

1. 2020 Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights at May 2021 prices, Canada, effective with the June 2021 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>	November 2020	October 2021	November 2021	October to November 2021	November 2020 to November 2021
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>137.7</b>	<b>143.9</b>	<b>144.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.32	141.0	146.8	146.9	0.1	4.2
Prince Edward Island	0.36	138.3	147.8	148.0	0.1	7.0
Nova Scotia	2.35	138.7	145.9	146.0	0.1	5.3
New Brunswick	1.90	136.8	144.5	144.6	0.1	5.7
Quebec	20.90	133.5	140.2	140.5	0.2	5.2
Ontario	40.59	139.0	145.7	146.0	0.2	5.0
Manitoba	3.21	138.4	144.6	144.7	0.1	4.6
Saskatchewan	2.92	141.6	146.1	146.8	0.5	3.7
Alberta	11.55	145.4	151.5	151.6	0.1	4.3
British Columbia	14.73	133.3	137.9	138.1	0.1	3.6
Whitehorse	0.07	134.8	141.1	140.3	-0.6	4.1
Yellowknife	0.08	138.8	144.4	144.3	-0.1	4.0
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.03	130.9	133.6	133.9	0.2	2.3

1. 2020 Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights at May 2021 prices, effective with the June 2021 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>**

	September 2021	October 2021	November 2021	September to October 2021	October to November 2021
	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>143.1</b>	<b>143.9</b>	<b>144.4</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Food	159.3	160.4	161.0	0.7	0.4
Shelter	154.4	155.4	155.9	0.6	0.3
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	125.8	126.1	126.1	0.2	0.0
Clothing and footwear	93.6	94.0	95.2	0.4	1.3
Transportation	154.5	156.1	156.8	1.0	0.4
Health and personal care	133.5	133.7	133.8	0.1	0.1
Recreation, education and reading	118.3	120.3	119.6	1.7	-0.6
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis	175.9	176.3	176.7	0.2	0.2
<b>Special aggregates</b>					
All-items excluding food	139.9	140.7	141.0	0.6	0.2
All-items excluding food and energy <sup>2</sup>	136.2	136.5	136.7	0.2	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 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>**

	August 2021	September 2021	October 2021	November 2021
	% change			
CPI-common <sup>3,5</sup>	1.8	1.8	1.8	2.0
CPI-median <sup>4,6</sup>	2.7	2.9	2.8	2.8
CPI-trim <sup>4,7</sup>	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4

1. For more information on these measures of core inflation, please consult the [methodology](#) and [general information](#) documents found in the "Definitions, data sources and methods" section of survey [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. 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**

November 2020 to November 2021

	% change
<b>Main contributors to the 12-month change</b>	
<b>Main upward contributors</b>	
Gasoline	43.6
Homeowners' replacement cost	13.5
Purchase of passenger vehicles	6.1
Other owned accommodation expenses	13.3
Meat	9.0
<b>Main downward contributors</b>	
Mortgage interest cost	-8.3
Telephone services	-13.5
Passenger vehicle insurance premiums	-6.5
Travel tours	-27.1
Tools and other household equipment	-2.4
October to November 2021	
	% change
<b>Main contributors to the 1-month change, not seasonally adjusted</b>	
<b>Main upward contributors</b>	
Fresh vegetables	9.8
Furniture	4.6
Homeowners' replacement cost	1.1
Natural gas	2.9
Purchase of passenger vehicles	0.3
<b>Main downward contributors</b>	
Telephone services	-6.7
Travel tours	-19.4
Traveller accommodation	-3.1
Household textiles	-3.5
Video equipment	-1.8

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](#).

Please note that the tables available on the [website](#) represent a subset of the data available with this release. The full dataset is available upon request by contacting [statcan.cpddisseminatoinunit-dpcunitedediffusion.statcan@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:statcan.cpddisseminatoinunit-dpcunitedediffusion.statcan@statcan.gc.ca).

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

More information on 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; [infostats@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations ([statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca)).