

Consumer Price Index, April 2024

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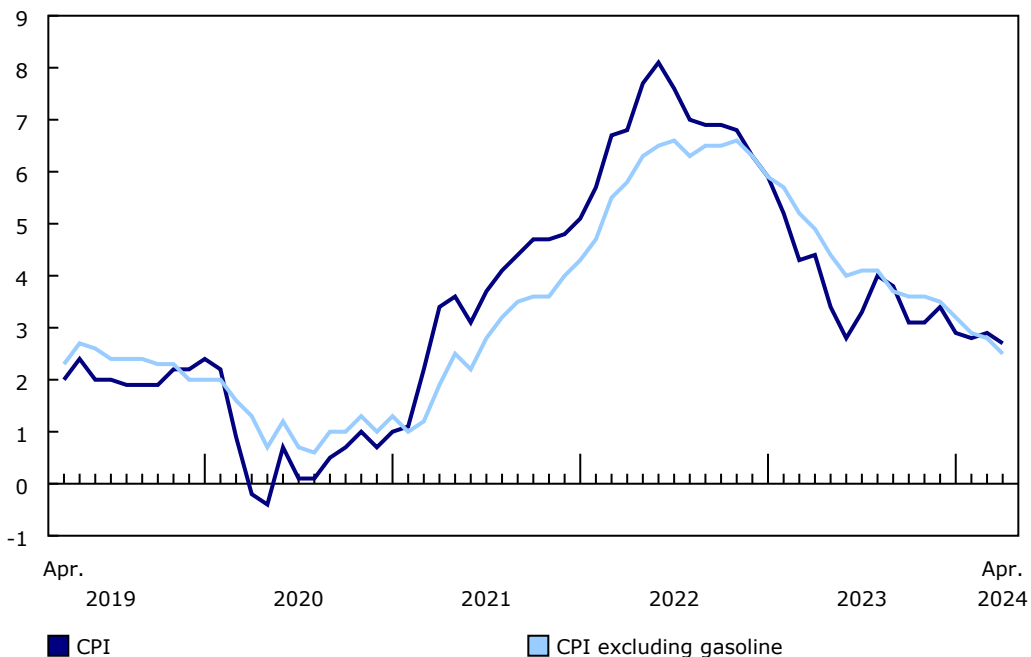
The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 2.7% on a year-over-year basis in April, down from a 2.9% gain in March. Broad-based deceleration in the headline CPI was led by food prices, services and durable goods.

The deceleration in the CPI was moderated by gasoline prices, which rose at a faster pace in April (+6.1%) than in March (+4.5%). Excluding gasoline, the all-items CPI slowed to a 2.5% year-over-year increase, down from a 2.8% gain in March.

On a monthly basis, the CPI rose 0.5% in April, mainly driven by prices for gasoline. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, the CPI rose 0.2% in April.

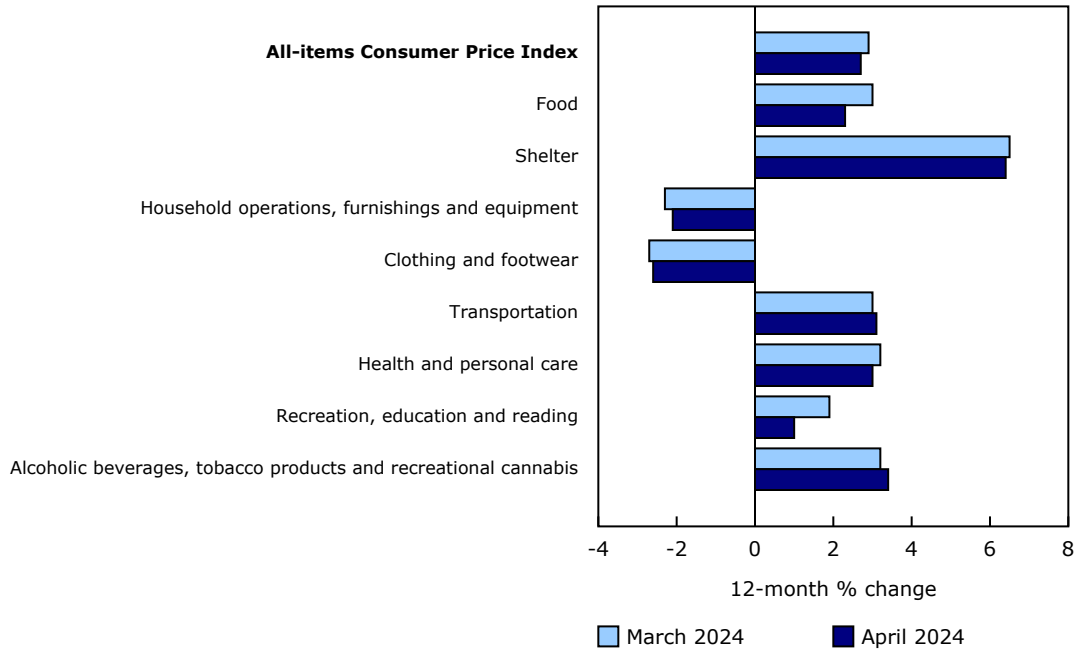
Chart 1
12-month change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and CPI excluding gasoline

12-month % change



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

Chart 2
Consumer prices decelerate in four components

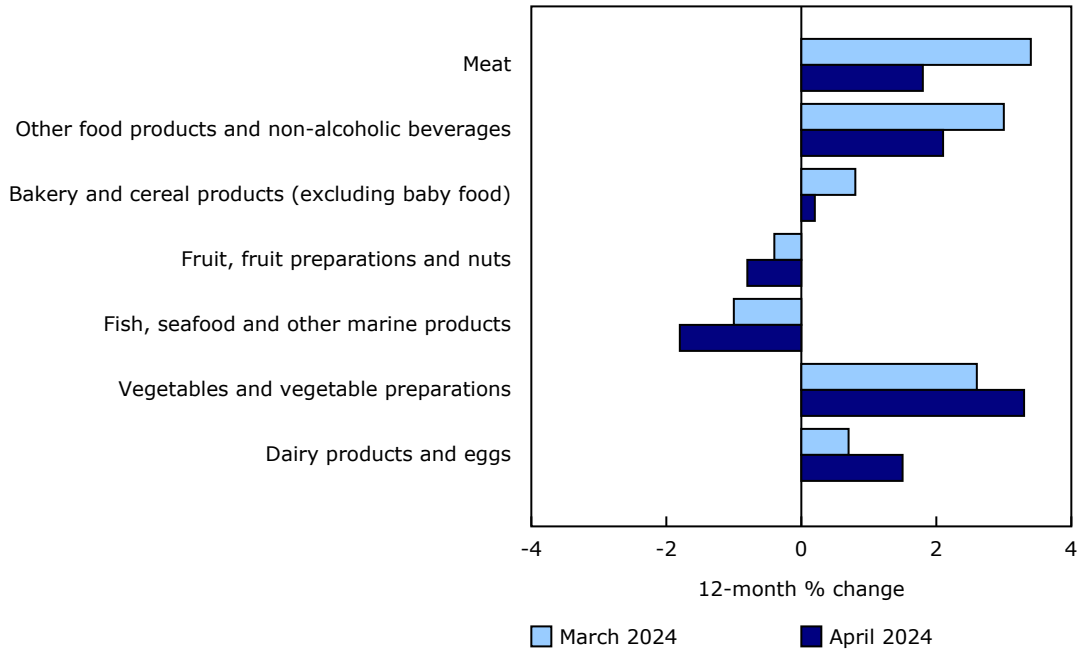


Source(s): Table 18-10-0004-01.

Food prices lead the deceleration in the Consumer Price Index

While prices for food purchased from stores continue to increase, the index grew at a slower pace year over year in April (+1.4%) compared with March (+1.9%). Meat contributed the most to slower price growth, largely due to a base-year effect in prices for fresh or frozen beef (+4.4%) as a result of a monthly increase in April 2023 which fell out of the 12-month movement. Other contributors to the slowdown in grocery prices included other food products and non-alcoholic beverages (+2.1%), bakery and cereal products (+0.2%), fruit, fruit preparations and nuts (-0.8%) and fish, seafood and other marine products (-1.8%). From April 2021 to April 2024, prices for food purchased from stores increased 21.4%.

Chart 3
Mostly decelerations and declines in prices for grocery items

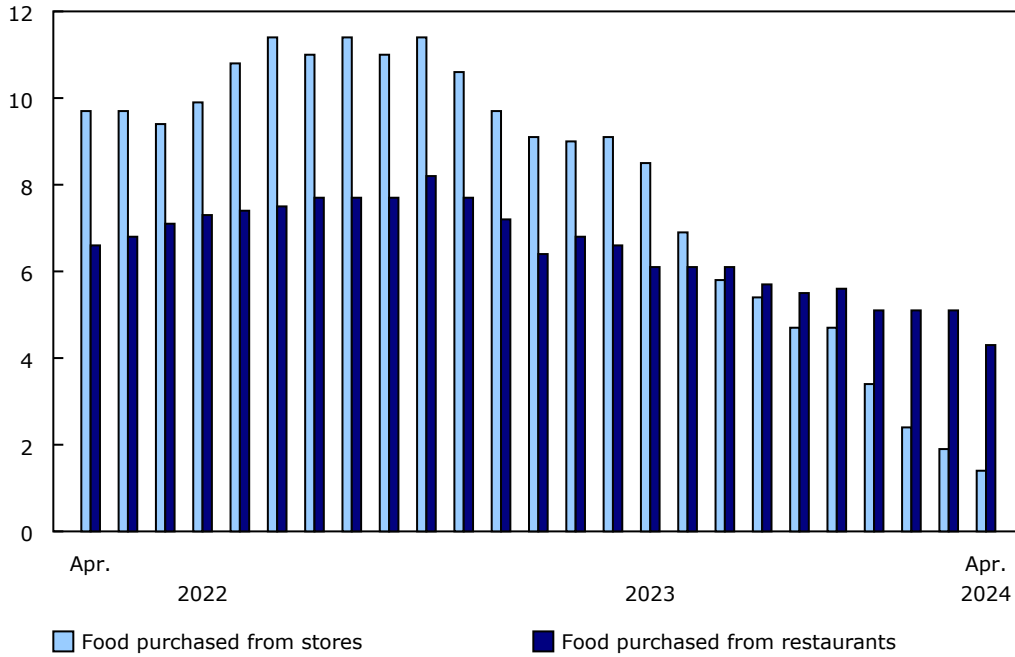


Source(s): Table 18-10-0004-01.

Price growth for food purchased from restaurants also eased on a yearly basis, rising 4.3% in April 2024 following a 5.1% increase in March. The index was unchanged month over month in April, however a 0.8% monthly increase from April 2023 fell out of the 12-month movement and put downward pressure on the index.

Chart 4
Price growth for food from stores and restaurants trends down since January 2023

12-month % change



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

Did you know Statistics Canada uses the most robust food data available for the Consumer Price Index?

Food is the second-largest major Consumer Price Index (CPI) component. Based on 2022 expenditures, Canadians directed 16.65% of their household budget to food purchases, with food purchased from stores accounting for 11.04% of household budgets. Reflecting this importance, food price data undergoes a rigorous review process. Statistics Canada works with price experts and other national statistical organizations to ensure that the methods used to calculate the CPI are aligned with international standards and best practices.

Grocery prices are mostly captured using scanner data, also known as point-of-sale data, received directly from grocery retailers. Scanner data are the highest quality price data available and the gold standard for price collection. They track actual prices paid by Canadians at the till, including sales, promotions and quantity details. Grocery prices are also collected using websites or flyers where scanner data are not available. Food price data in the CPI cover every province and every territorial capital and are collected from nearly 500 grocery retailer outlets. This makes the food price data used in the CPI the most robust in the nation.

The CPI measures pure price change based on a fixed basket of goods and services. The same products are priced at the same outlets every month and undergo quantity and quality adjustments. For instance, if a product's size is reduced but the price remains the same, [often referred to as shrinkflation](#), it is treated as a price increase as the consumer gets less for the same price.

Average prices versus the Consumer Price Index

Using only scanner data, Statistics Canada produces the Monthly average retail prices for selected products ([18-10-0245-01](#)). The table shows the [average price Canadians paid for selected products](#) in a given month, providing additional context to food prices, by product and region. However, users should exercise caution when comparing average prices over time as they may not be fully comparable from one month to another due to product rotation, availability, and fluctuating purchase compositions (weights, stores, and brands). Rather, it is the CPI that should be used to compare prices over time, as it measures pure price change across the grocery landscape.

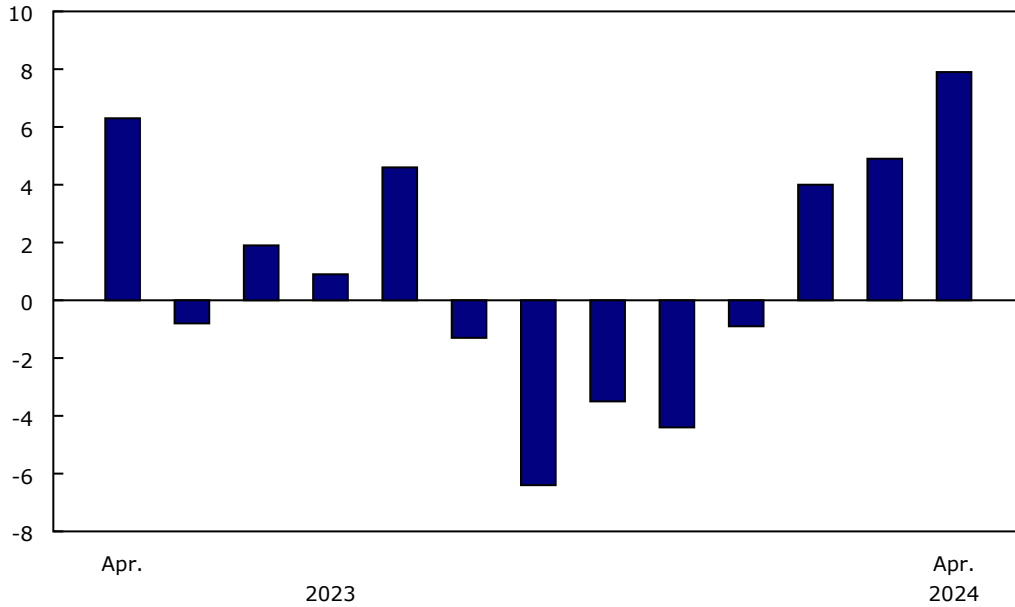
Food price data and analysis is featured on our [Food Price Data Hub](#). Newly released analytical products such as "[From Shelf to Statistic: An Overview of Food Price Measurement in the Consumer Price Index](#)" and "[Why Food Inflation Is Such A Hard Nut To Crack](#)," a new Eh Sayers podcast, are now available.

Gasoline prices moderate deceleration in the Consumer Price Index

Consumers paid 6.1% more at the pump year over year in April, following a 4.5% increase in March. Faster growth was driven by a 7.9% month-over-month increase in April. Higher costs associated with switching to summer blends, higher oil prices due to supply concerns and an increase in the federal carbon levy all contributed to the increase in prices.

Chart 5
Gasoline prices increase month over month in April

1-month % change



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

Explore the Consumer Price Index tools

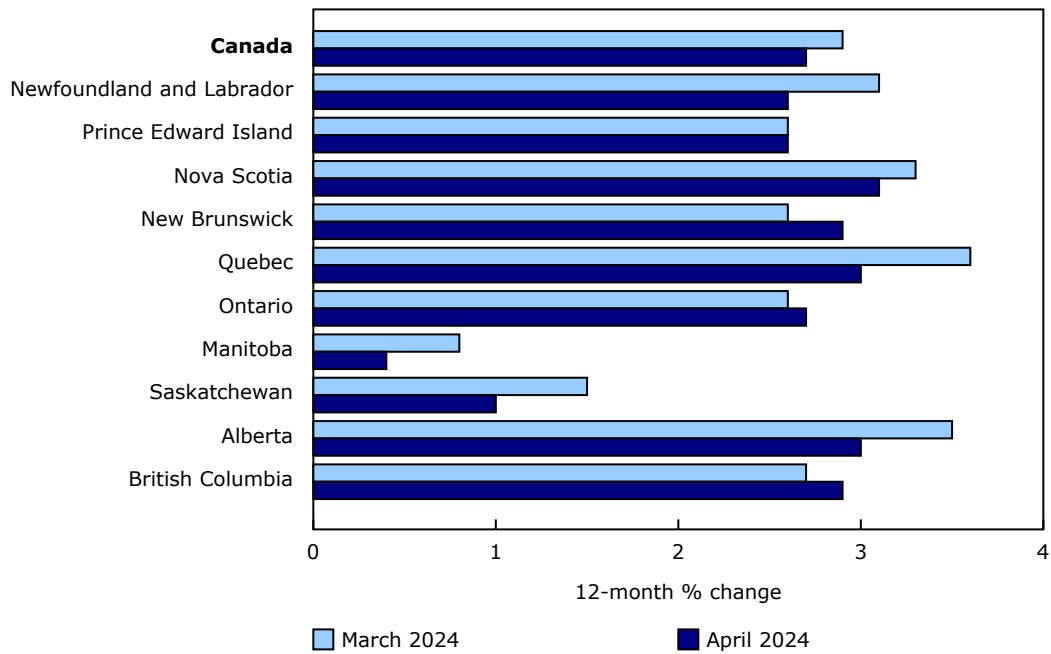
Check out the [Personal Inflation Calculator](#). This interactive calculator allows you to enter dollar amounts in the common expense categories to produce a personalized inflation rate, which you can compare to the official measure of inflation for the average Canadian household—the Consumer Price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

Browse the [Consumer Price Index Data Visualization Tool](#) to access current ([Latest Snapshot of the CPI](#)) and historical ([Price trends: 1914 to today](#)) CPI data in a customizable visual format.

Regional highlights

Year over year, prices rose at a slower pace in April compared with March in six provinces.

Chart 6
The Consumer Price Index rises at a slower pace in six provinces

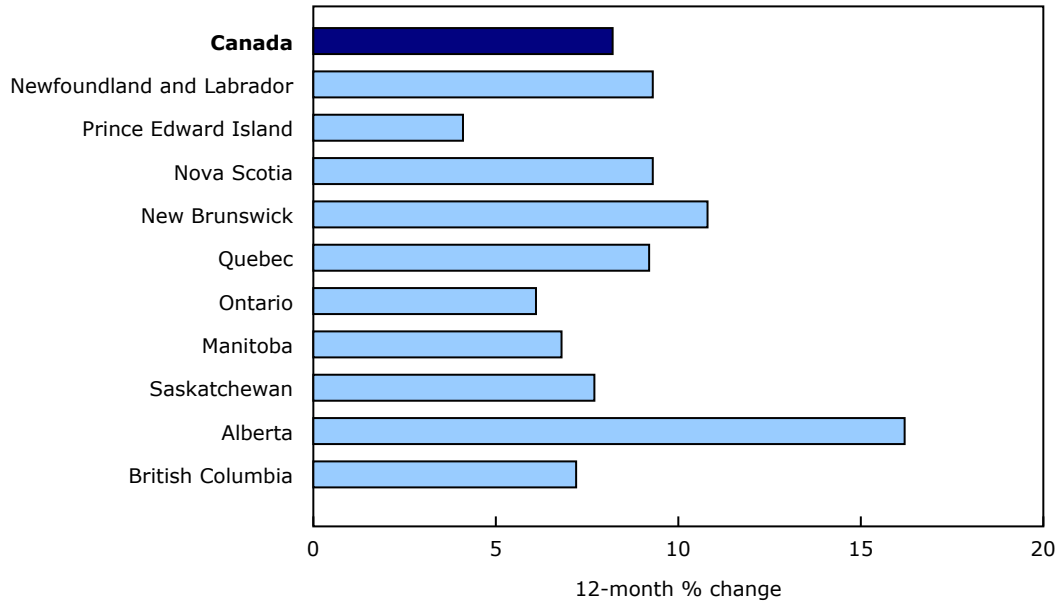


Source(s): Table 18-10-0004-01.

Alberta inflation slows, but shows largest rent increases in Canada

The CPI in Alberta decelerated year over year in April partly due to prices for electricity and natural gas. Partially offsetting this were higher prices for rent, which rose 16.2% year over year in April, up from a 14.2% increase in March. Rent in Alberta increased at a higher rate than it did at the national level (+8.2% in April) for the eighth consecutive month, which coincides with strong demand from [high net interprovincial migration to Alberta](#).

Chart 7
Largest year-over-year rent increase in Alberta in April



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

Did you know we have a mobile app?

Download our mobile app and get timely access to data at your fingertips! The [StatsCAN](#) app is available for free on the [App Store](#) and on [Google Play](#).

Note to readers

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

Consumer Price Index basket update in June 2024

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is based on a fixed basket of goods and services designed according to international standards and methods. On June 18, 2024, updated basket weights for the goods and services used in the calculation of the CPI will be made available in table [18-10-0007-01](#). The new basket weight reference period will be 2023, based on the most recent [household final consumption expenditure](#) data and other alternative data. The methods and data sources used will be similar to the [last basket update in June 2023](#).

One week later, on June 25, 2024, the May CPI will be released, based on the updated basket weights.

For general information on basket updates, consult [The Canadian Consumer Price Index reference paper](#), chapter 8, "Weights and basket updates."

Paper on impact of extreme weather on insurance

This month, Statistics Canada released the study, ["Insights into the impact of extreme weather trends in Canada on homeowners insurance profitability and consumers."](#) This paper examines the impact of extreme weather on the insurance industry in Canada from 2020 to 2023. Insurer profitability and consumer impacts are explored in light of the increase in catastrophic claims.

Planned maintenance

The Consumer Price Index Data Visualization Tool will be temporarily unavailable from June 18 to 25, 2024, due to planned maintenance related to the updated basket.

Real-time data tables

Real-time data table [18-10-0259-01](#) will be updated on June 3. For more information, consult the document, ["Real-time data tables."](#)

Next release

The Consumer Price Index for May will be released on June 25.

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

| | Relative importance ^{1,2} | April 2023 | March 2024 | April 2024 | March to April 2024 | April 2023 to April 2024 |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| | % | (2002=100) | | | % change | |
| All-items | 100.00 | 156.4 | 159.8 | 160.6 | 0.5 | 2.7 |
| Food | 16.65 | 183.1 | 187.8 | 187.4 | -0.2 | 2.3 |
| Shelter | 28.34 | 169.9 | 179.9 | 180.8 | 0.5 | 6.4 |
| Household operations, furnishings and equipment | 14.36 | 133.7 | 130.2 | 130.9 | 0.5 | -2.1 |
| Clothing and footwear | 4.73 | 97.5 | 94.2 | 95.0 | 0.8 | -2.6 |
| Transportation | 16.44 | 168.5 | 171.0 | 173.8 | 1.6 | 3.1 |
| Gasoline | 3.89 | 232.2 | 228.3 | 246.3 | 7.9 | 6.1 |
| Health and personal care | 5.03 | 145.7 | 148.3 | 150.0 | 1.1 | 3.0 |
| Recreation, education and reading | 9.92 | 125.4 | 127.5 | 126.6 | -0.7 | 1.0 |
| Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis | 4.53 | 189.4 | 195.0 | 195.9 | 0.5 | 3.4 |
| Special aggregates | | | | | | |
| All-items excluding food | 83.35 | 151.5 | 154.7 | 155.7 | 0.6 | 2.8 |
| All-items excluding food and energy | 76.57 | 146.6 | 150.1 | 150.5 | 0.3 | 2.7 |
| All-items excluding alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and smokers' supplies and recreational cannabis | 95.47 | 155.4 | 158.7 | 159.5 | 0.5 | 2.6 |
| All-items excluding energy | 93.22 | 152.7 | 156.4 | 156.6 | 0.1 | 2.6 |
| All-items excluding gasoline | 96.11 | 153.8 | 157.4 | 157.7 | 0.2 | 2.5 |
| Energy ³ | 6.78 | 206.0 | 204.7 | 215.2 | 5.1 | 4.5 |
| Goods | 47.22 | 143.9 | 144.2 | 145.4 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| Durable goods | 13.08 | 104.5 | 104.0 | 103.7 | -0.3 | -0.8 |
| Semi-durable goods | 7.56 | 104.6 | 103.5 | 104.0 | 0.5 | -0.6 |
| Non-durable goods | 26.59 | 180.0 | 181.7 | 184.2 | 1.4 | 2.3 |
| Services | 52.78 | 168.5 | 175.1 | 175.5 | 0.2 | 4.2 |

1. 2022 Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights at April 2023 prices, Canada, effective with the May 2023 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} | April 2023 | March 2024 | April 2024 | March to April 2024 | April 2023 to April 2024 |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| | % | (2002=100) | | | % change | |
| Canada | 100.00 | 156.4 | 159.8 | 160.6 | 0.5 | 2.7 |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 1.30 | 158.3 | 161.9 | 162.4 | 0.3 | 2.6 |
| Prince Edward Island | 0.38 | 161.7 | 164.8 | 165.9 | 0.7 | 2.6 |
| Nova Scotia | 2.45 | 159.3 | 163.7 | 164.3 | 0.4 | 3.1 |
| New Brunswick | 1.93 | 157.4 | 159.8 | 162.0 | 1.4 | 2.9 |
| Quebec | 20.67 | 152.5 | 156.7 | 157.0 | 0.2 | 3.0 |
| Ontario | 40.14 | 157.9 | 161.4 | 162.2 | 0.5 | 2.7 |
| Manitoba | 3.24 | 159.4 | 159.0 | 160.0 | 0.6 | 0.4 |
| Saskatchewan | 2.87 | 160.4 | 161.2 | 162.0 | 0.5 | 1.0 |
| Alberta | 11.46 | 163.7 | 167.3 | 168.6 | 0.8 | 3.0 |
| British Columbia | 15.40 | 150.4 | 153.8 | 154.7 | 0.6 | 2.9 |
| Whitehorse | 0.08 | 154.2 | 156.5 | 156.9 | 0.3 | 1.8 |
| Yellowknife | 0.07 | 157.6 | 159.9 | 159.2 | -0.4 | 1.0 |
| Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100) | 0.03 | 142.1 | 143.9 | 143.6 | -0.2 | 1.1 |

1. 2022 Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights at April 2023 prices, effective with the May 2023 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

| | February 2024 | March 2024 | April 2024 | February to March 2024 | March to April 2024 |
|---|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| | (2002=100) | | | % change | |
| All-items | 159.5 | 159.9 | 160.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Food | 187.4 | 187.4 | 187.0 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Shelter | 179.2 | 179.9 | 180.8 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| Household operations, furnishings and equipment | 130.8 | 130.1 | 130.3 | -0.5 | 0.2 |
| Clothing and footwear | 93.1 | 94.4 | 94.4 | 1.4 | 0.0 |
| Transportation | 171.5 | 172.2 | 173.2 | 0.4 | 0.6 |
| Health and personal care | 148.9 | 149.0 | 149.3 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Recreation, education and reading | 126.6 | 127.2 | 127.0 | 0.5 | -0.2 |
| Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis | 194.2 | 194.7 | 195.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| Special aggregates | | | | | |
| All-items excluding food | 154.4 | 154.8 | 155.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| All-items excluding food and energy ² | 149.8 | 150.1 | 150.3 | 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 (CPI), measures of core inflation – Bank of Canada definitions, Canada^{1,2}

| | November 2023 | December 2023 | January 2024 | February 2024 | March 2024 | April 2024 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | year-over-year % change | | | | | |
| CPI-common ^{3,5} | 3.9 | 3.8 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 2.9 | 2.6 |
| CPI-median ^{4,6} | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 2.9 | 2.6 |
| CPI-trim ^{4,7} | 3.5 | 3.7 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 2.9 |
| | index (January 1989=100) | | | | | |
| CPI-median ^{4,6} | 209.3 | 210.0 | 210.2 | 210.5 | 210.7 | 211.0 |
| CPI-trim ^{4,7} | 206.0 | 206.9 | 207.0 | 207.2 | 207.6 | 207.9 |

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 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 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

April 2023 to April 2024

| | % change |
|---|----------|
| Main contributors to the 12-month change | |
| Main upward contributors | |
| Mortgage interest cost | 24.5 |
| Rent | 8.2 |
| Food purchased from restaurants | 4.3 |
| Gasoline | 6.1 |
| Passenger vehicle insurance premiums | 6.8 |
| Main downward contributors | |
| Telephone services | -20.6 |
| Internet access services | -9.6 |
| Men's clothing | -5.9 |
| Homeowners' replacement cost | -0.9 |
| Digital computing equipment and devices | -9.1 |
| March to April 2024 | |
| | % change |
| Main contributors to the 1-month change, not seasonally adjusted | |
| Main upward contributors | |
| Gasoline | 7.9 |
| Mortgage interest cost | 1.2 |
| Internet access services | 7.0 |
| Rent | 0.5 |
| Women's clothing | 2.1 |
| Main downward contributors | |
| Travel tours | -7.5 |
| Fresh vegetables | -3.6 |
| Air transportation | -5.7 |
| Purchase of digital media | -13.0 |
| Furniture | -1.0 |

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

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

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

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 \(CPI\) and Your Experience of Price Change](#)," are available on Statistics Canada's YouTube channel.

Find out [answers to the most common questions](#) posed about the CPI in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

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 (statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca).