

Consumer Price Index, January 2020

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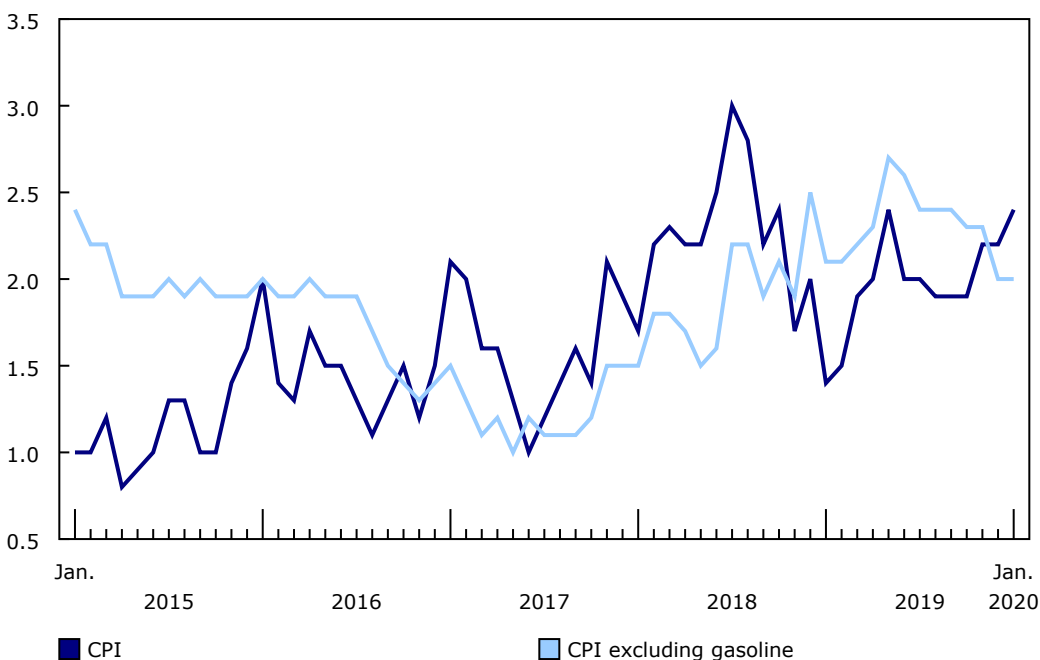
The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 2.4% on a year-over-year basis in January, up from a 2.2% gain in December. Excluding gasoline, the CPI rose 2.0% in January.

On a [seasonally adjusted monthly basis](#), the CPI rose 0.1% in January, following a 0.4% increase in December.

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.

Two ways of exploring 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.

Check out the Consumer Price Index Data Visualization Tool to access current and historical CPI data in a customizable, visual format.



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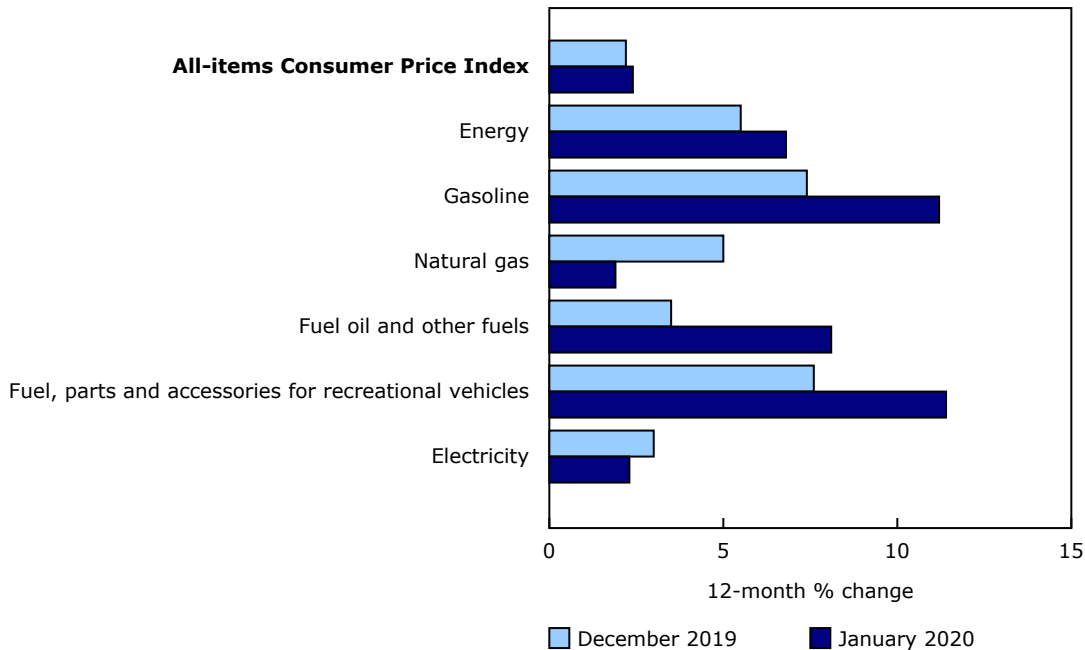
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Highlights

Gasoline prices impacted by international events

Gasoline prices increased by 11.2% year over year compared with January 2019, when oil prices were low as a result of a global supply glut. Gasoline prices rose with oil prices at the beginning of January 2020, due to concerns over global oil supplies in response to international political events. Later in the month, global oil prices fell following the novel coronavirus outbreak, which caused uncertainty about demand for oil.

Chart 2 Gasoline prices rise faster year over year



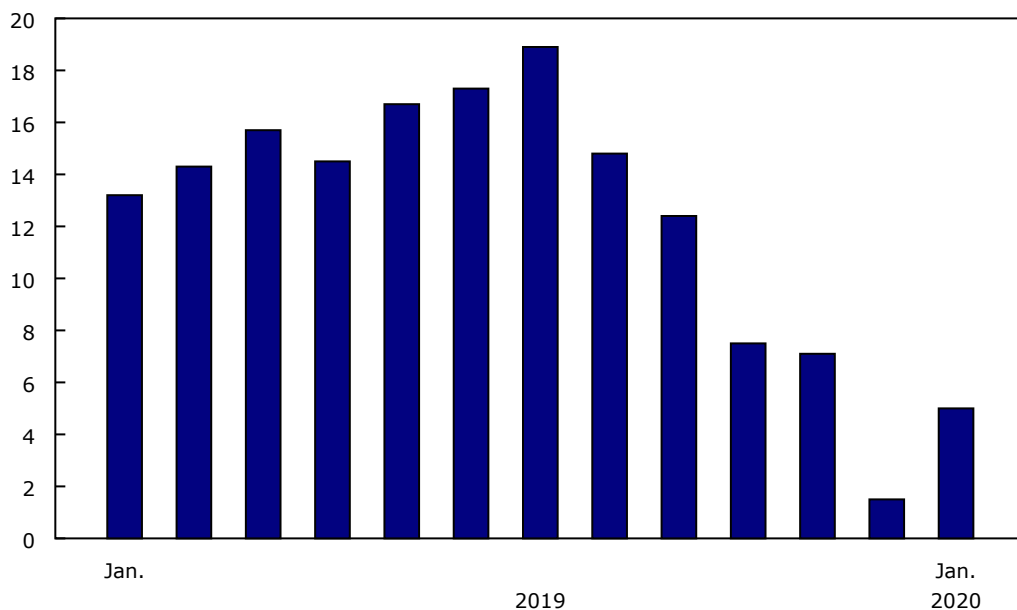
Source(s): Table 18-10-0004-01.

Year-over-year fresh vegetable price growth increases

Prices for fresh vegetables rose at a faster pace year over year in January (+5.0%) compared with December (+1.5%), largely attributable to strong year-over-year price growth of tomatoes (+10.8%) and other fresh vegetables (+5.0%). The higher prices stem from inclement weather in growing regions in the United States and Mexico.

Chart 3
Fresh vegetable prices grow at a faster pace

12-month % change



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

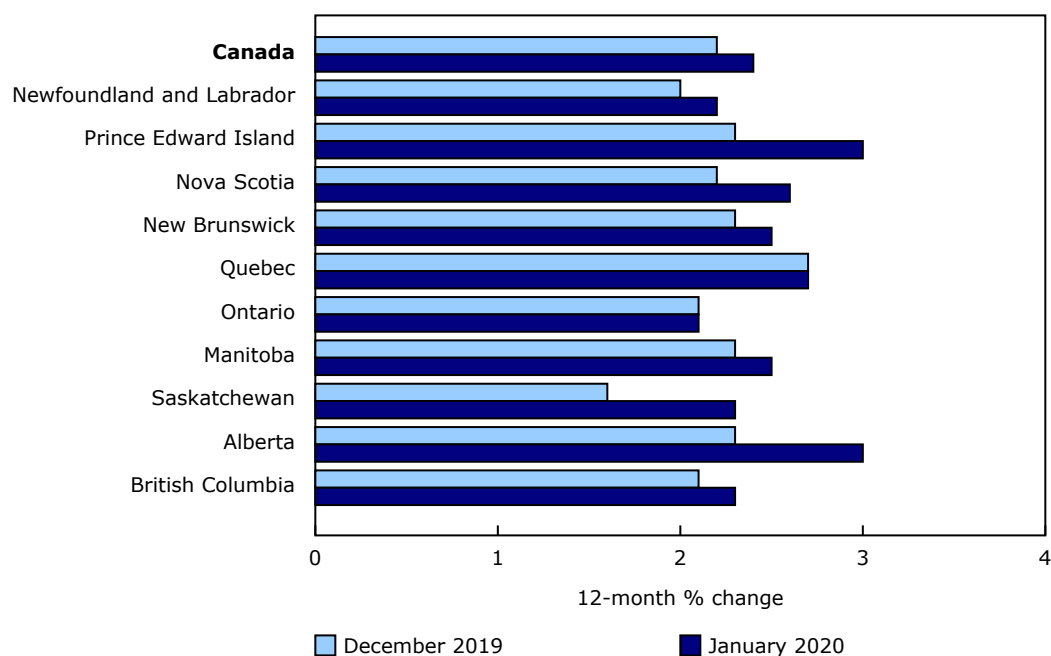
Purchase of passenger vehicles index increases with the release of new models

The purchase of passenger vehicles index increased 2.3% year over year in January, up from 1.4% in December. The gain reflected the higher availability of new model-year vehicles compared with January 2019.

Regional highlights

On a year-over-year basis, prices rose more in January than in December in eight provinces.

Chart 4
The Consumer Price Index rises at a faster pace in eight provinces



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

Drivers pay more in Alberta and Prince Edward Island

Consumers in Alberta paid 6.6% more for gasoline in January on a year-over-year basis, following a 0.9% increase in December. Carbon pricing was reintroduced in Alberta on January 1, 2020.

Passenger vehicle insurance premiums increased 17.8% on a year-over-year basis in Alberta. A significant share of private passenger vehicle insurers in this province submitted applications to increase rates following the removal of a rate cap, which resulted in Alberta's largest month-over-month increase in passenger vehicle insurance premiums (+7.6%) since November 2002.

Consumers in Alberta paid 14.4% more for other passenger vehicle operating expenses on a year-over-year basis in January 2020. This was due, in part, to increases in service fees, including fees for drivers' licences and passenger vehicle registration, introduced in the 2019-2020 provincial budget.

Consumers paid more for passenger vehicle operating expenses in Prince Edward Island following the reinstatement of driver's licence fees and a 25.0% increase in passenger vehicle registration fees in January. These fees were temporarily eliminated or reduced in January 2019 as a result of a provincial initiative to redistribute carbon levy proceeds to residents of the province.

Tobacco prices rise in British Columbia

Consumers in British Columbia paid 4.5% more for cigarettes in January compared with December, primarily due to a provincial tobacco tax increase which took effect on January 1, 2020. This is the largest month-over-month tobacco price increase in British Columbia since April 2018, the last time the province raised taxes on tobacco.

Note to readers

Clothing and footwear component

The release of the January 2020 Consumer Price Index (CPI) (published on February 19, 2020) marks the introduction of web scraped data and sample enhancements into the sub-indexes of the clothing and footwear component.

Beginning with the January 2020 CPI, for select retailers, some prices for this component are now collected online instead of in-store.

Detailed documentation describing the new data source is available in the article "[The Integration of Web-Scraped Data into the Clothing and Footwear Component of the Consumer Price Index](#)" which is published as part of the Prices Analytical Series ([62F0014M](#)).

Cellular services index

The cellular services price index is now available upon request. For more information, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca).

Real-time data tables

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

Next release

The Consumer Price Index for February will be released on March 18.

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

	Relative importance ^{1,2}	January 2019	December 2019	January 2020	December 2019 to January 2020	January 2019 to January 2020
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
All-items	100.00	133.6	136.4	136.8	0.3	2.4
Food	16.48	148.7	151.9	153.5	1.1	3.2
Shelter	27.36	143.0	146.3	146.4	0.1	2.4
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	12.80	123.3	122.9	122.6	-0.2	-0.6
Clothing and footwear	5.17	92.2	95.3	95.8	0.5	3.9
Transportation	19.95	136.6	143.1	143.4	0.2	5.0
Gasoline	3.13	149.6	165.8	166.4	0.4	11.2
Health and personal care	4.79	125.9	127.9	128.6	0.5	2.1
Recreation, education and reading	10.24	113.3	113.2	113.0	-0.2	-0.3
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis	3.21	170.6	170.0	171.4	0.8	0.5
Special aggregates						
All-items excluding food	83.52	130.7	133.4	133.6	0.1	2.2
All-items excluding food and energy	77.01	128.6	130.8	131.0	0.2	1.9
All-items excluding alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and smokers' supplies and recreational cannabis	96.79	132.4	135.3	135.7	0.3	2.5
All-items excluding energy	93.50	132.2	134.5	134.9	0.3	2.0
All-items excluding gasoline	96.87	132.8	135.2	135.5	0.2	2.0
Energy ³	6.50	148.5	158.3	158.6	0.2	6.8
Goods	44.29	120.0	122.6	123.7	0.9	3.1
Durable goods	12.94	90.5	90.9	92.1	1.3	1.8
Semi-durable goods	6.63	95.2	97.7	98.2	0.5	3.2
Non-durable goods	24.72	144.1	148.3	149.6	0.9	3.8
Services	55.71	147.1	150.1	149.7	-0.3	1.8

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}	January 2019	December 2019	January 2020	December 2019 to January 2020	January 2019 to January 2020
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
Canada	100.00	133.6	136.4	136.8	0.3	2.4
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.31	137.0	139.6	140.0	0.3	2.2
Prince Edward Island	0.33	135.0	138.4	139.0	0.4	3.0
Nova Scotia	2.31	135.0	137.9	138.5	0.4	2.6
New Brunswick	1.76	134.0	136.4	137.3	0.7	2.5
Quebec	20.72	129.1	132.4	132.6	0.2	2.7
Ontario	39.83	135.2	137.8	138.0	0.1	2.1
Manitoba	3.16	134.1	137.4	137.5	0.1	2.5
Saskatchewan	2.98	137.4	139.6	140.6	0.7	2.3
Alberta	12.15	140.5	143.7	144.7	0.7	3.0
British Columbia	15.27	129.1	131.7	132.1	0.3	2.3
Whitehorse	0.08	130.9	134.8	135.8	0.7	3.7
Yellowknife	0.07	136.8	140.0	141.0	0.7	3.1
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.03	129.3	132.2	131.8	-0.3	1.9

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

	November 2019	December 2019	January 2020	November to December 2019	December 2019 to January 2020
	(2002=100)			% change	
All-items	136.8	137.3	137.4	0.4	0.1
Food	152.0	152.3	152.8	0.2	0.3
Shelter	145.9	146.3	146.4	0.3	0.1
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	123.6	123.4	123.1	-0.2	-0.2
Clothing and footwear	97.1	97.3	98.1	0.2	0.8
Transportation	142.7	143.4	144.6	0.5	0.8
Health and personal care	128.4	128.5	128.9	0.1	0.3
Recreation, education and reading	116.3	116.4	116.1	0.1	-0.3
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis	172.3	170.9	171.9	-0.8	0.6
Special aggregates					
All-items excluding food	134.0	134.4	134.6	0.3	0.1
All-items excluding food and energy ²	131.2	131.4	131.6	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^{1,2}

	October 2019	November 2019	December 2019	January 2020
	% change			
CPI-common ^{3,5}	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.8
CPI-median ^{4,6}	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2
CPI-trim ^{4,7}	2.1	2.2	2.0	2.1

- 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](#).
- 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.
- This measure is based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) series adjusted to remove the effect of changes in indirect taxes.
- 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.
- CPI-common is a measure of core inflation that tracks common price changes across categories in the CPI basket.
- 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.
- 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

	January 2019 to January 2020
	% change
Main contributors to the 12-month change	
Main upward contributors	
Gasoline	11.2
Passenger vehicle insurance premiums	8.4
Mortgage interest cost	5.3
Purchase of passenger vehicles	2.3
Rent	2.4
Main downward contributors	
Telephone services	-7.1
Tuition fees	-3.6
Traveller accommodation	-4.8
Travel tours	-3.7
Internet access services	-4.0
	December 2019 to January 2020
	% change
Main contributors to the 1-month change, not seasonally adjusted	
Main upward contributors	
Purchase of passenger vehicles	2.4
Fresh vegetables	5.6
Meat	2.4
Passenger vehicle insurance premiums	1.1
Non-alcoholic beverages	6.7
Main downward contributors	
Air transportation	-13.8
Travel tours	-6.9
Fresh fruit	-4.1
Furniture	-2.6
Footwear	-1.4

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 [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).