

# Consumer Price Index, April 2023

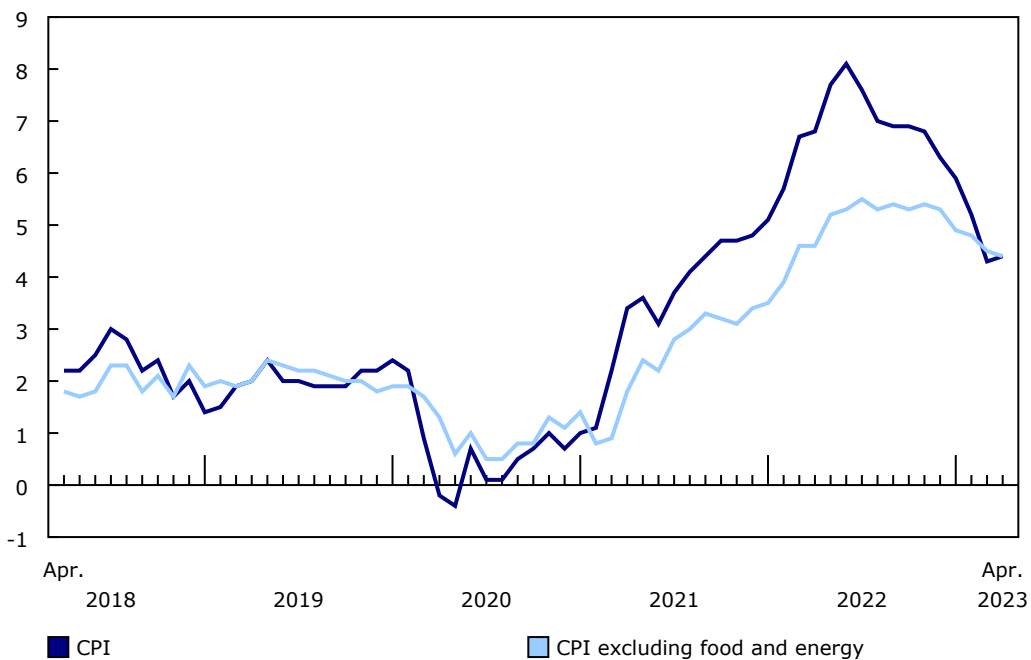
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Tuesday, May 16, 2023

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 4.4% year over year in April, following a 4.3% increase in March. This was the first acceleration in headline consumer inflation since June 2022. On a year-over-year basis, higher rent prices and mortgage interest costs contributed the most to the all-items CPI increase in April 2023.

On a monthly basis, the CPI was up 0.7% in April, following a 0.5% gain in March. Prices for gasoline (+6.3%) contributed the most to the headline month-over-month movement. Excluding gasoline, the monthly CPI rose 0.5%. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, the CPI rose 0.6%.

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

12-month % change



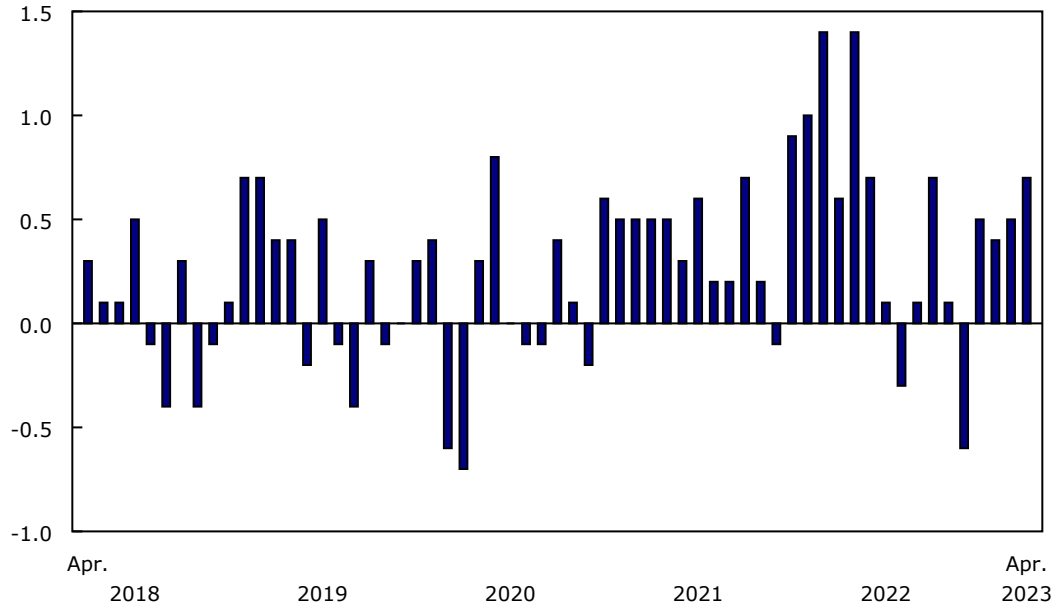
Source(s): Table 18-10-0004-01.

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**Chart 2**  
**1-month change in the Consumer Price Index**

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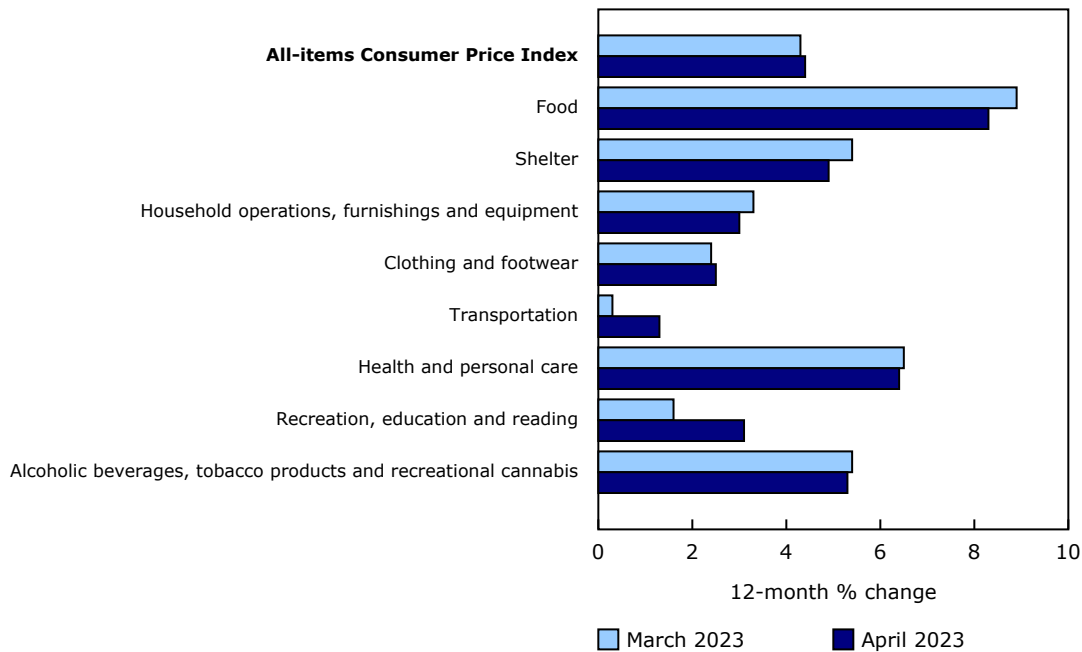
1-month % change



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

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**Chart 3**  
**Price increases for gasoline and recreation vehicles drive the all-items acceleration**



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

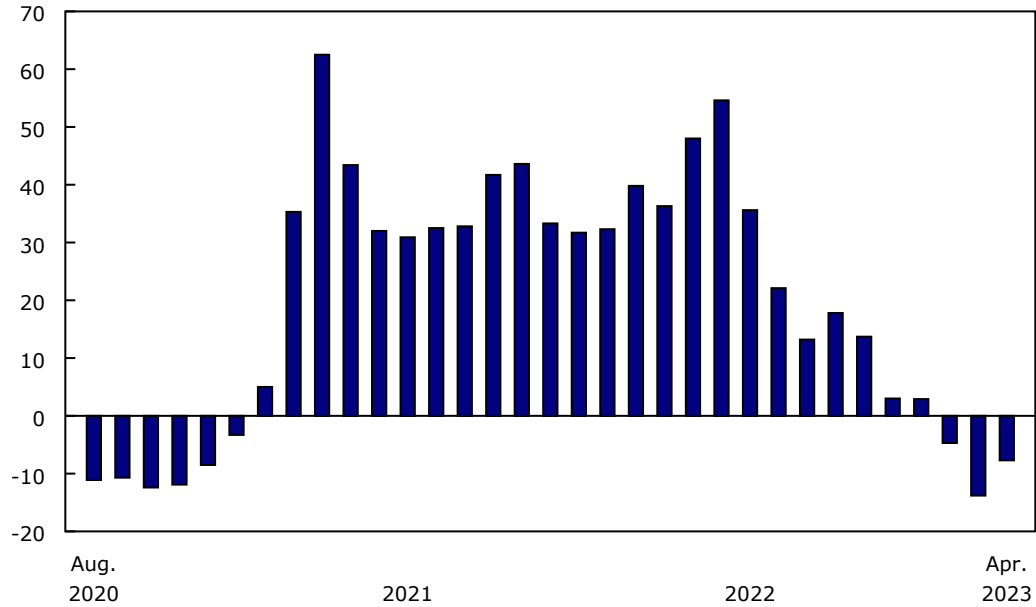
**Gasoline prices continue to fall year over year**

Gasoline prices rose by 6.3% in April compared with March, the largest monthly increase since October 2022 and contributing the most to the acceleration in the headline CPI. This increase followed an announcement from OPEC+ (countries from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries Plus) to reduce oil output, pushing prices higher. The switch to summer blend and an increase in carbon levies also contributed to higher prices.

Nevertheless, gas prices were 7.7% lower in April 2023 compared with April 2022, when prices were higher due in part to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Compared with 18 months earlier, gasoline prices were 10.0% higher in April 2023.

**Chart 4**  
**Gasoline prices continue to fall year over year**

12-month % change



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

**Mortgage interest cost rises as homeowners' replacement cost slows**

Shelter costs rose 4.9% on a year-over-year basis in April, after a 5.4% increase in March. Canadians continued to pay more in mortgage interest cost in April (+28.5%) compared with April 2022, as more mortgages were initiated or renewed at higher interest rates. The higher interest rate environment may also be contributing to rising rents in April 2023 (+6.1%) by stimulating higher rental demand.

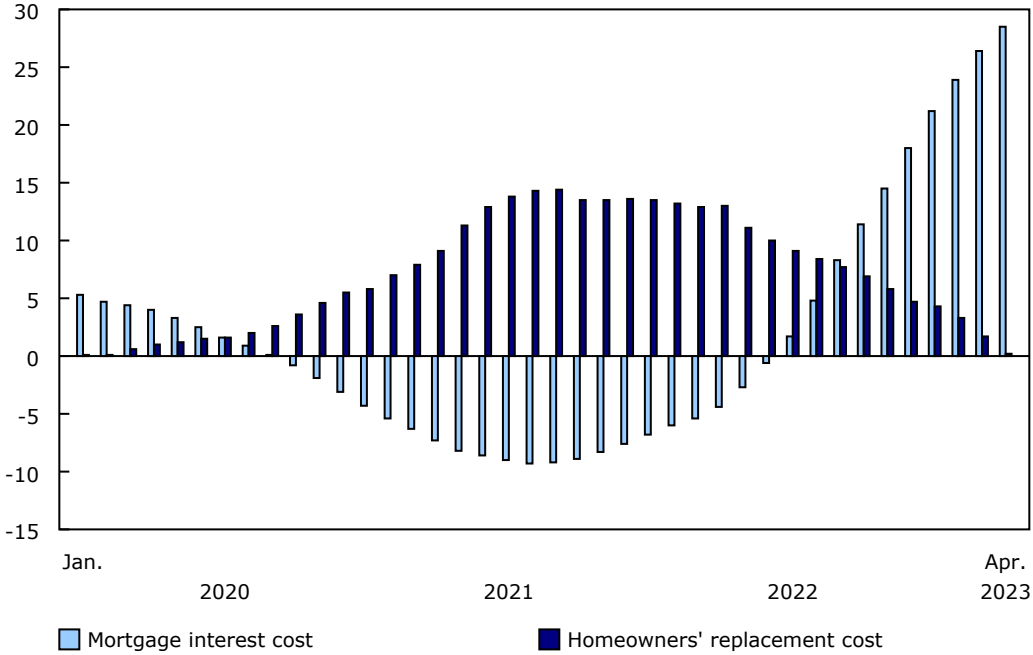
The year-over-year increase in the homeowners' replacement cost index slowed for the 12th consecutive month in April (+0.2%) compared with March (+1.7%), reflecting a general cooling of the housing market.

Natural gas prices decelerated, increasing by 0.9% on a year-over-year basis in April, compared with a 13.4% increase in March. Driving this deceleration was a smaller natural gas price increase in Ontario (+4.6%) in April, after a 31.8% increase in March. Lower delivery fees contributed to the slowdown in April.

**Chart 5**

**Mortgage interest costs continue to accelerate while homeowners' replacement costs continue to slow**

12-month % change



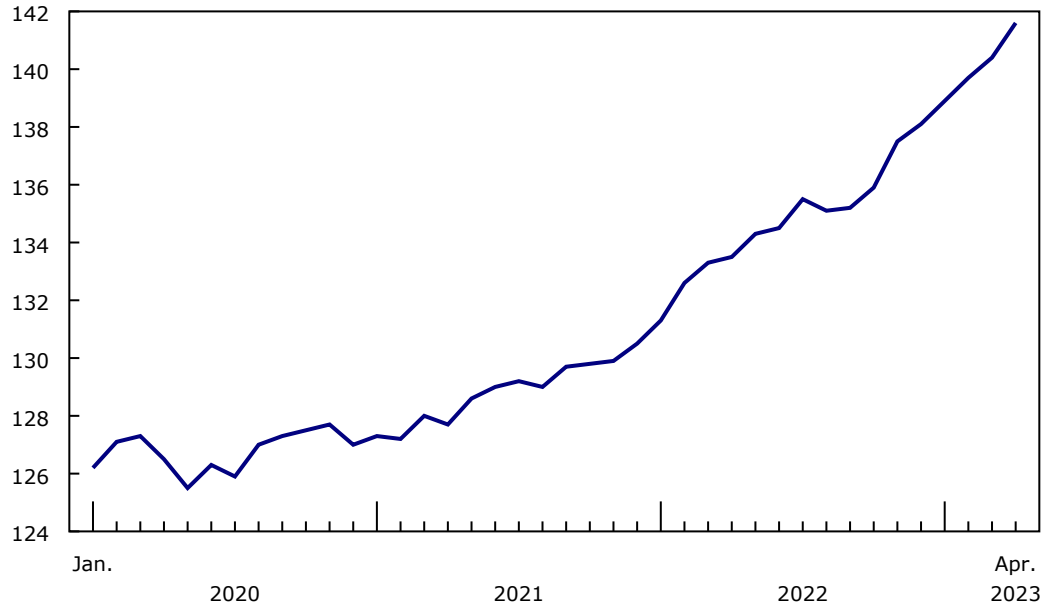
Source(s): Table 18-10-0004-01.

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## Chart 6 Rent prices continue to rise in higher interest rate environment

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index (2002=100)



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

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## Grocery prices increase at a slower pace

Year over year, prices for groceries rose at a slower rate in April (+9.1%) than in March (+9.7%), with the slowdown stemming from smaller price increases for fresh vegetables and coffee and tea.

Price increases for fresh vegetables slowed year over year in April (+8.8%) compared with March (+10.8%), mainly driven by lower prices for lettuce (-3.3%), which have fallen from record price levels in December 2022.

Similarly, coffee and tea prices increased 6.4% on a year-over-year basis in April 2023 compared with 11.1% in March.

Moderating the deceleration were prices for fresh fruit, which increased by 8.3% year over year in April, following a 7.1% gain in March. The increase was led by faster growth in prices for oranges (+12.0%).

## 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).

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.

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.

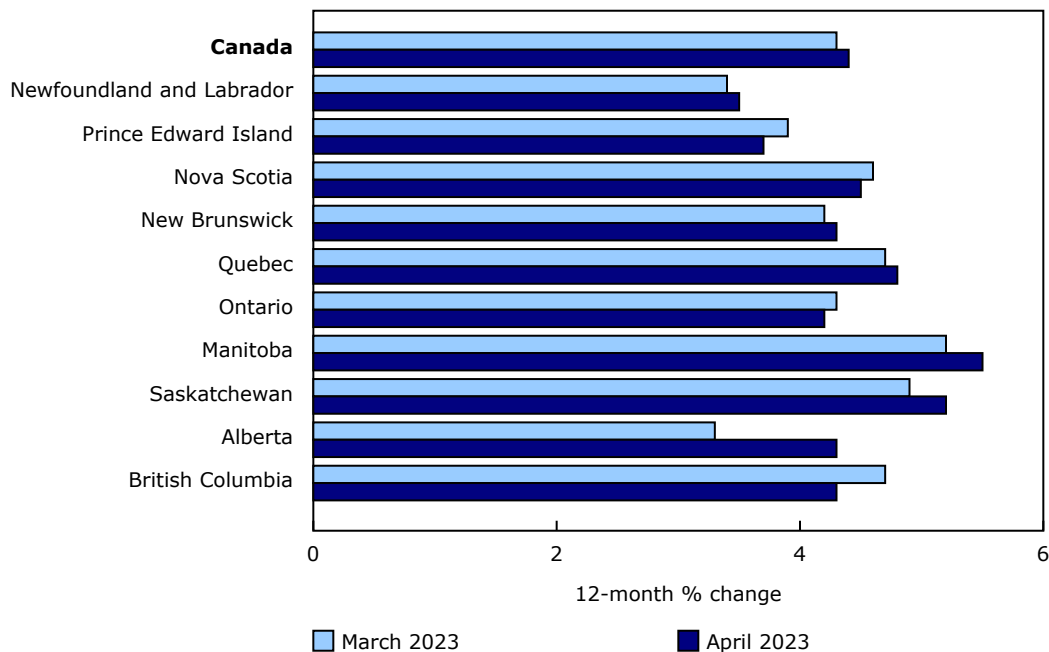
Find the [answers to the most common questions](#) about the CPI in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

## Regional highlights

Year over year, prices rose at a faster pace in April compared with March in six provinces. Price growth accelerated the most in Alberta, partially due to higher electricity prices.

### Chart 7

#### The Consumer Price Index rises at a faster pace in six provinces



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

## Note to readers

### Consumer Price Index basket update in June 2023

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is based on a fixed basket of goods and services designed according to international standards and methods. On **June 20, 2023**, 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 2022, 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 2022](#).

One week later, on June 27, 2023, 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."

### Homeowners' home and mortgage insurance and passenger vehicle insurance premiums

With the release of the May 2023 CPI, a new data source will be used for the calculation of the homeowners' home and mortgage insurance and passenger vehicle insurance premium indexes. These indexes represent 1.37% and 1.99% of the 2021 CPI basket and are part of the shelter and transportation components, respectively. This change will incorporate more price quotes and a broader range of consumer profiles in the calculation of the insurance indexes.

### Real-time data tables

Real-time data table [18-10-0259-01](#) will be updated on May 29. For more information, consult the document "[Real-time data tables](#)."

### Planned maintenance

The Consumer Price Index Data Visualization Tool will be temporarily unavailable from June 20 to 27, 2023, due to planned maintenance related to the updated basket.

### Next release

The updated basket weights for the Consumer Price Index, based on the 2022 weight reference period, will be released on June 20.

The CPI for May will be released on June 27.



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

	Relative importance <sup>1,2</sup>	April 2022	March 2023	April 2023	March to April 2023	April 2022 to April 2023
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>149.8</b>	<b>155.3</b>	<b>156.4</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>4.4</b>
Food	15.94	169.0	182.4	183.1	0.4	8.3
Shelter	29.80	161.9	168.9	169.9	0.6	4.9
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	14.50	129.8	133.3	133.7	0.3	3.0
Clothing and footwear	4.31	95.1	96.8	97.5	0.7	2.5
Transportation	16.91	166.3	166.0	168.5	1.5	1.3
Gasoline	4.28	251.7	218.4	232.2	6.3	-7.7
Health and personal care	4.62	137.0	143.7	145.7	1.4	6.4
Recreation, education and reading	9.29	121.6	125.1	125.4	0.2	3.1
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis	4.63	179.8	189.0	189.4	0.2	5.3
<b>Special aggregates</b>						
All-items excluding food	84.06	146.2	150.4	151.5	0.7	3.6
All-items excluding food and energy	76.65	140.4	145.9	146.6	0.5	4.4
All-items excluding alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and smokers' supplies and recreational cannabis	95.37	148.9	154.3	155.4	0.7	4.4
All-items excluding energy	92.59	145.3	152.0	152.7	0.5	5.1
All-items excluding gasoline	95.72	146.6	153.1	153.8	0.5	4.9
Energy <sup>3</sup>	7.41	215.1	199.2	206.0	3.4	-4.2
Goods	48.88	138.3	142.7	143.9	0.8	4.0
Durable goods	14.41	102.3	104.1	104.5	0.4	2.2
Semi-durable goods	7.08	99.9	104.0	104.6	0.6	4.7
Non-durable goods	27.39	171.7	178.0	180.0	1.1	4.8
Services	51.12	160.8	167.6	168.5	0.5	4.8

1. 2021 Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights at April 2022 prices, Canada, effective with the May 2022 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>	April 2022	March 2023	April 2023	March to April 2023	April 2022 to April 2023
	%	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>149.8</b>	<b>155.3</b>	<b>156.4</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>4.4</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.30	153.0	157.0	158.3	0.8	3.5
Prince Edward Island	0.37	156.0	160.7	161.7	0.6	3.7
Nova Scotia	2.39	152.4	158.4	159.3	0.6	4.5
New Brunswick	1.91	150.9	155.8	157.4	1.0	4.3
Quebec	20.23	145.5	151.3	152.5	0.8	4.8
Ontario	40.46	151.6	157.3	157.9	0.4	4.2
Manitoba	3.18	151.1	157.7	159.4	1.1	5.5
Saskatchewan	2.84	152.4	158.8	160.4	1.0	5.2
Alberta	11.47	157.0	161.7	163.7	1.2	4.3
British Columbia	15.67	144.2	149.7	150.4	0.5	4.3
Whitehorse	0.08	145.8	152.9	154.2	0.9	5.8
Yellowknife	0.08	150.3	156.5	157.6	0.7	4.9
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.03	137.8	140.8	142.1	0.9	3.1

1. 2021 Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights at April 2022 prices, effective with the May 2022 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>**

	February 2023	March 2023	April 2023	February to March 2023	March to April 2023
	(2002=100)			% change	
<b>All-items</b>	<b>154.9</b>	<b>155.3</b>	<b>156.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Food	181.2	182.0	182.9	0.4	0.5
Shelter	168.3	168.9	169.9	0.4	0.6
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	133.3	133.2	133.4	-0.1	0.2
Clothing and footwear	96.6	96.9	96.7	0.3	-0.2
Transportation	166.9	166.5	168.3	-0.2	1.1
Health and personal care	143.4	144.2	144.9	0.6	0.5
Recreation, education and reading	124.3	124.9	125.5	0.5	0.5
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis	187.4	188.7	189.1	0.7	0.2
<b>Special aggregates</b>					
All-items excluding food	150.1	150.4	151.3	0.2	0.6
All-items excluding food and energy <sup>2</sup>	145.5	146.0	146.5	0.3	0.3

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, measures of core inflation – Bank of Canada definitions, Canada<sup>1,2</sup>**

	January 2023	February 2023	March 2023	April 2023
	year-over-year % change			
CPI-common <sup>3,5</sup>	6.6	6.3	6.0	5.7
CPI-median <sup>4,6</sup>	5.0	4.8	4.5	4.2
CPI-trim <sup>4,7</sup>	5.1	4.8	4.4	4.2
	index (January 1989=100)			
CPI-median <sup>4,6</sup>	203.2	203.7	204.3	205.1
CPI-trim <sup>4,7</sup>	199.9	200.4	200.9	201.7

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 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**

April 2022 to April 2023

	% change
<b>Main contributors to the 12-month change</b>	
<b>Main upward contributors</b>	
Mortgage interest cost	28.5
Rent	6.1
Food purchased from restaurants	6.4
Purchase of passenger vehicles	4.1
Homeowners' maintenance and repairs	8.4
<b>Main downward contributors</b>	
Gasoline	-7.7
Other owned accommodation expenses	-3.8
Child care and housekeeping services	-11.6
Fuel oil and other fuels	-14.8
Digital computing equipment and devices	-7.1
March to April 2023	
	% change
<b>Main contributors to the 1-month change, not seasonally adjusted</b>	
<b>Main upward contributors</b>	
Gasoline	6.3
Mortgage interest cost	1.9
Rent	0.9
Purchase of recreational vehicles and outboard motors	4.3
Electricity	2.9
<b>Main downward contributors</b>	
Travel tours	-19.1
Fresh vegetables	-4.1
Natural gas	-5.4
Tools and other household equipment	-2.5
Fuel oil and other fuels	-7.1

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 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 COVID-19 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](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations ([statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca)).