

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)
February 2005 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Feb '05 Index	% Change from Jan '05	% Change from Feb '04	Feb '05 Index	% Change from Jan '05	% Change from Feb '04
All Items	127.4	0.3	2.6	125.8	0.4	2.1
Food	128.3	0.2	3.8	126.6	-0.2	2.6
Shelter	128.0	0.0	2.9	122.6	0.2	3.0
Household Operations & Furnishings	112.8	-0.2	0.1	115.5	0.2	0.3
Clothing & Footwear	108.8	-0.5	0.8	103.0	3.0	-1.0
Transportation	144.6	1.1	3.8	147.0	0.5	3.6
Health & Personal Care	117.1	-0.2	1.6	119.7	0.6	1.7
Recreation, Education & Reading	129.7	0.5	0.3	126.3	0.6	-0.2
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	153.8	0.1	7.3	145.2	0.1	2.9
<i>Energy</i>	<i>152.3</i>	<i>2.3</i>	<i>8.5</i>	<i>152.3</i>	<i>2.1</i>	<i>7.3</i>

HIGHLIGHTS

Cities

- Halifax Metro's February 2005 all-items CPI index of 126.1 (1992=100) rose 0.2 % from last month and increased 2.4% over February 2004.

Nova Scotia

- Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index increased 0.3% in February; it increased 2.6% over February 2004.
- Notable increases from the previous month were recorded for:
 - gasoline (+4.1%)
 - automotive vehicle insurance premiums (+2.8%)
 - dairy products (+2.8%); fresh or frozen beef (2.5%); processed meat (+2.2%)
 - fuel oil and other fuel (+1.8%)
- Since last month offsetting price declines of particular note included:
 - non-alcoholic beverages (-7.0%)
 - footwear (-6.4%)
 - homeowners' maintenance & repair (-3.1%)
 - fresh vegetables (-3.0%)
 - furniture (-1.9%)
 - personal care services (-1.1%)
 - purchase & leasing of automotive vehicles (-0.8%)

Canada

- From January 2005 to February 2005, all-items CPI increased 0.4% in Canada; Canadians paid 2.1% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.
- Since last month lower prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:
 - gasoline (+3.4%)—represented the second consecutive monthly rise; increases ranged from 2.0% in ON to 7.6% in SK.
 - women's (+4.7%); men's clothing (+4.2%)—usual to note increases in these indexes in February.
 - travel tours (+8.1%)—every province posted an increase from high of 9.3% in ON to low in Atlantic provinces of 3.3%.
- Offsetting price declines of note included:
 - purchase & leasing of automotive vehicles (-0.6%)—attributable to increases in financial incentives offered in February by some automotive vehicle manufacturers.
 - fresh vegetables (-4.7%); fresh fruit (-3.6%)—key price declines noted for tomatoes, lettuce and apples