

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)
December 2005 Release

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Dec '05 Index	% Change from Nov '05	% Change from Dec '04	Dec '05 Index	% Change from Nov '05	% Change from Dec '04
All Items	130.9	0.2	2.7	128.1	-0.1	2.2
Food	130.9	1.0	1.8	129.3	0.7	1.7
Shelter	133.1	-0.8	3.9	125.7	-0.3	2.8
Household Operations & Furnishings	113.6	-0.2	0.6	116.2	0.0	0.8
Clothing & Footwear	111.4	1.7	0.7	100.4	-1.4	-0.4
Transportation	151.1	1.1	5.4	152.1	-0.1	4.3
Health & Personal Care	117.6	-0.5	0.6	121.5	-0.2	2.0
Recreation, Education & Reading	131.7	-0.5	0.7	126.6	-0.4	-0.2
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	158.1	-0.1	3.0	147.5	-0.5	2.1
Energy	167.4	-0.2	12.7	162.3	-1.7	10.2

HIGHLIGHTS

Cities

- Halifax Metro's December 2005 all-items CPI index of 129.3 (1992=100) rose 0.2% from last month and increased 2.5% over December 2004. The annual index moved from 125.0 in 2004 to 128.1 in 2005, resulting in an annual increase of 2.5%. The annual average increase in 2004 was 1.7%.

Nova Scotia

- Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index increased 0.2% in December; it increased 2.7% over December 2004. The annual index moved from 126.1 in 2004 to 129.6 in 2005, resulting in an annual increase of 2.8%. The annual average increase in 2004 was 1.8%.
- Notable increases from the previous month were recorded for:
 - fresh or frozen pork (+9.6%); fresh vegetables (+7.2%); sugar & confectionery (+5.4%); food purchased from restaurants (+0.6%)
 - footwear (+5.5%); women's clothing (+2.3%)
 - gasoline (+3.9%)
- Since last month offsetting price declines of particular note included:
 - fuel oil and other fuel (-6.5%)
 - traveller accommodation (-5.8%)
 - fresh or frozen chicken (-4.2%)
 - personal care supplies & equipment (-1.4%)
 - men's clothing (-1.3%)
 - home entertainment equipment (-1.0%)
 - recreational equipment and services (-0.9%)

Canada

- From November 2005 to December, all-items CPI decreased 0.1% in Canada; Canadians paid 2.2% more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago. The index moved from 124.6 in 2004 to 127.3 in 2005, resulting in an annual increase of 2.2%. The annual average increase in 2004 was 1.9%.
- Since last month lower prices contributing to the month-over-month increase included:
 - natural gas (-6.1%)—fully attributable to decreases in Alberta and Quebec; fuel oil prices (-4.9%)—decreases noted in all provinces ranging from 2.6% in Quebec to 9.1% in British Columbia
 - women's clothing (-2.8%)—result of pre-Christmas sales
- Offsetting price increases of note included:
 - fresh vegetables (+9/0%)—price of tomatoes played a strong role in increase; fresh fruit (+4.3%)—all categories of fresh fruit showed higher prices