

**Consumer Price Index (2002=100)
February 2008**

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Feb'08 Index	%Change from Jan'08	% Change from Feb'07	Feb'08 Index	% Change from Jan'08	% Change from Feb'07
All-Items	113.9	0.4	2.6	112.2	0.4	1.8
Food	116.2	0.7	0.9	112.8	0.4	0.2
Shelter	122.5	0.1	7.4	119.6	0.3	4.1
Household Operations & Furnishings	104.6	0.5	0.3	104.1	0.8	1.1
Clothing & Footwear	97.3	6.9	-2.3	94.1	2.1	-1.4
Transportation	114.6	-1.4	2.9	117.0	-0.5	2.5
Health & Personal Care	107.2	0.3	1.4	107.7	0.2	1.1
Recreation, Education & Reading	104.5	1.0	-0.1	100.8	1.2	0.6
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	137.9	-0.2	3.0	126.8	0.3	2.1
Products						
<i>Energy</i>	146.7	-1.2	15.3	139.4	0.3	9.7
<i>All-items excluding Energy</i>	110.2	0.6	1.0	110.0	0.4	1.0

HIGHLIGHTS

Halifax Metro's February 2008 all-items CPI index of 113.4 (2002=100) increased 0.4 per cent from last month and increased 2.5 per cent over February 2007.

Nova Scotia's overall monthly price index rose 0.4 per cent in February 2008; it increased 2.6 per cent over February 2007.

Since last month notable increases:

- women's clothing (+17.5%)
- non-alcoholic beverages (+8.8%); fresh or frozen beef (+7.5%); dairy products (+2.2%)
- traveller accommodation (+6.2%)

Offsetting declines included:

- preserved fruit and fruit preparations (-5.4%); fresh fruit (-4.5%); sugar and confectionery (-3.0%)
- gasoline (-2.2%); fuel and other fuels (-0.6%)
- homeowners' maintenance and repairs (-2.0%)
- purchase and leasing of passenger vehicles (-1.9%)

Canada's all-items CPI, from January to February 2008, increased 0.4 per cent; Canadians paid 1.8 per cent more for the goods and services contained in the CPI basket than they did a year ago.

Since last month notable increases:

- tour package costs (+9.9%)—common increase this time of year
- non-alcoholic beverages (+8.4%)—driven by return to regular pricing after discounts of previous month
- traveller accommodation (+5.0)—sharpest increases due to Carnival in Quebec and Winterlude in Ottawa
- men's clothing (+4.9%)—typical of return to regular pricing after discounts of previous month

Offsetting declines included:

- in addition to the reduction in the Goods and Services Tax, vehicle purchase and lease prices (-1.8%)—drop in manufacturers suggested retail prices and increase in manufacturer's incentives

CPI for March 2008 will be released April 17, 2008

Source: Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, CPI release day, Catalogue No. 11-001-XIE; *The Consumer Price Index*, Catalogue 62-001-XIE; *CANSIM* Tables 326-0020 and 326-0021