

**Consumer Price Index (2002=100)
December 2009**

CPI by Component	Nova Scotia			Canada		
	Dec '09 Index	%Change from Nov'09	% Change from Dec'08	Dec'09 Index	% Change from Nov'09	% Change from Dec'08
All-Items	116.3	-0.6	2.6	114.8	-0.3	1.3
Food	126.2	0.3	2.2	121.8	0.2	1.7
Shelter	124.1	-0.1	0.4	121.3	0.0	-1.7
Household Operations & Furnishings	108.7	0.1	2.5	107.5	-0.9	1.9
Clothing & Footwear	86.7	-9.0	-1.7	90.6	-4.7	-0.8
Transportation	111.9	-0.5	6.2	115.5	0.1	4.7
Health & Personal Care	112.8	0.0	3.8	113.2	-0.4	3.0
Recreation, Education & Reading	104.8	-1.1	1.8	102.8	-0.9	1.6
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco Products	154.2	0.0	9.2	131.2	-0.1	1.9
<i>Energy</i>	138.0	-2.2	11.9	130.3	-1.6	5.9
<i>All-items excluding Energy</i>	113.7	-0.4	1.5	113.5	-0.4	0.8

Nova Scotia's consumer price index (CPI) decreased 0.6 percent in December 2009 from November 2009. The NS CPI increased 2.6 percent over December 2008.

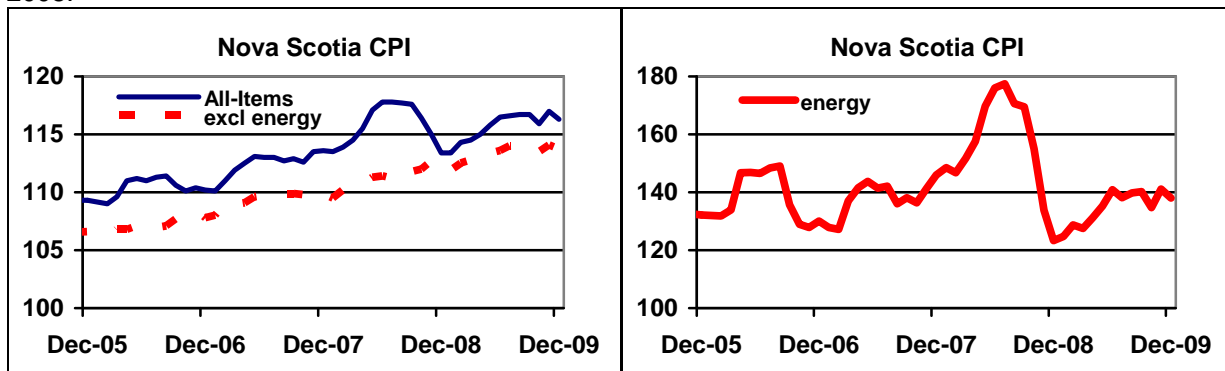
Main contributors to monthly NS CPI movement:

- *Fresh vegetables (+4.0%)*
- *Fresh or frozen beef (+4.0%)*
- *Children's clothing (-10.5%) and*
- *Women's clothing (-14.6%)*

Main contributors to annual NS CPI movement:

- *Gasoline (+28.7%)*
- *Cigarettes (+14.8%)*
- *Furniture (-9.0%) and*
- *Inter-city transportation (-10.4%)*

Halifax's CPI decreased 0.6 percent from November 2009. It increased 2.5 percent over December 2008.



On an annual basis in 2009, Nova Scotia's CPI was 115.7. This represents a decrease of 0.2 percent over 2008. In 2009, CPI for Halifax was 115.3, a 0.1 percent increase over 2008. Canada's CPI was 114.4, a 0.3 percent increase over 2008.

Changes in the **consumer price index** (CPI) on either a monthly, year-over-year or annual basis are often used as a measure for the rate of inflation (increases in prices). The CPI measures price changes for the cost of a fixed basket of commodities. Negative changes in CPI indicate deflation, or price decreases.

CPI for January 2010 will be released *February 18, 2010*.

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