



Consumer Price Index 2020

Highlights:

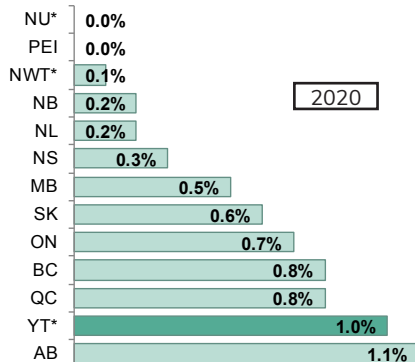
- The 2020 Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Whitehorse increased 1.0% over 2019; Canada's CPI increased 0.7%.
- In 2020, prices in Whitehorse increased for all major CPI components with the exceptions of: Food; Household operations, furnishings and equipment; and Transportation. Prices in Canada increased for all components with exceptions of: Clothing and footwear; Transportation; and Recreation, education and reading.

Changes in the Consumer Price Index

	Whitehorse, Yukon	Canada
2020	1.0%	0.7%
2019	2.0%	1.9%
2018	2.4%	2.3%
2017	1.7%	1.6%
2016	1.0%	1.4%
2015	-0.2%	1.1%
2014	1.3%	2.0%
2013	1.7%	0.9%
2012	2.3%	1.5%
2011	3.0%	2.9%

• The annual change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Whitehorse in 2020 was 1.0%; for Canada, it was 0.7%.

• The 2020 annual CPI growth for Whitehorse was 1.0 percentage point lower than in 2019 (2.0%). Canada's annual CPI growth in 2020 was 1.2 percentage points lower than in 2019 (1.9%).



• Amongst provinces and territories, Whitehorse's CPI increase (1.0%) was the second-highest in the country. The highest CPI increase was in Alberta (1.1%); the lowest increase was in Nunavut and Prince Edward Island (0.0%).

* CPIs for territories are estimated for capital cities only.

About the CPI

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the rate of price change for goods and services bought by Canadian consumers. It is the most widely used indicator of price changes in Canada. CPI is not a cost-of-living index.

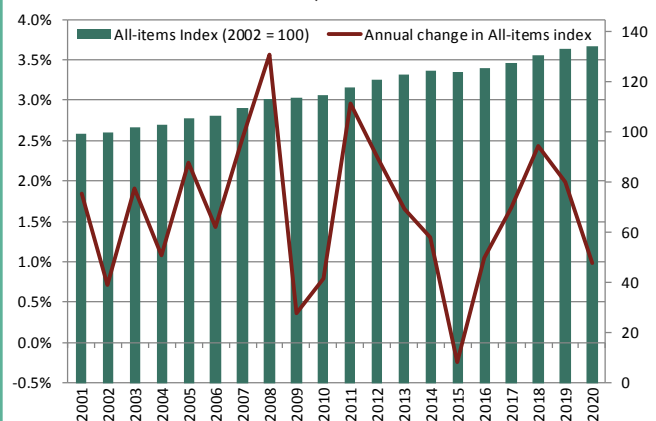
The CPI should be thought of as a measure of the percentage change over time of the average cost of a large basket of goods and services purchased by Canadians. The CPI does not count the price of each item equally but weights each according to its share of total household expenditures in the base period.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on the CPI, both in terms of the shifts in consumer spending patterns and in terms of the special imputation treatments introduced to address missing or unavailable products and prices in 2020. Goods and services in the CPI that were not available to consumers throughout most of 2020 because of COVID-19 restrictions received special treatments, effectively removing their impact on the calculation of the monthly and annual average CPI.

Related Links

- Statistics Canada's The Canadian Consumer Price Index Reference Paper: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/pub/62-553-x/62-553-x2019001-eng.pdf>
- Yukon Monthly Statistical Review - including the Community Spatial Price Index: <https://yukon.ca/en/statistics-and-data/yukon-bureau-statistics/find-monthly-statistics-yukon>
- Monthly Yukon Fuel Price Survey: <https://yukon.ca/en/statistics-and-data/yukon-bureau-statistics/find-statistics-yukons-economy>

Annual Index and Change in All-Items CPI, Whitehorse, 2001 to 2020



• From 2001 to 2007, the CPI growth for Whitehorse fluctuated between a low of 0.7% in 2002 and a high of 2.5% in 2007 with an overall increasing trend.

• During 2008 through 2014, the annual change in CPI for Whitehorse had a higher degree of fluctuation compared to the preceding period, ranging from a low of 0.4% in 2009 to a high of 3.6% in 2008.

• There was a small price deflation in 2015 which resulted in an annual change of -0.2%.

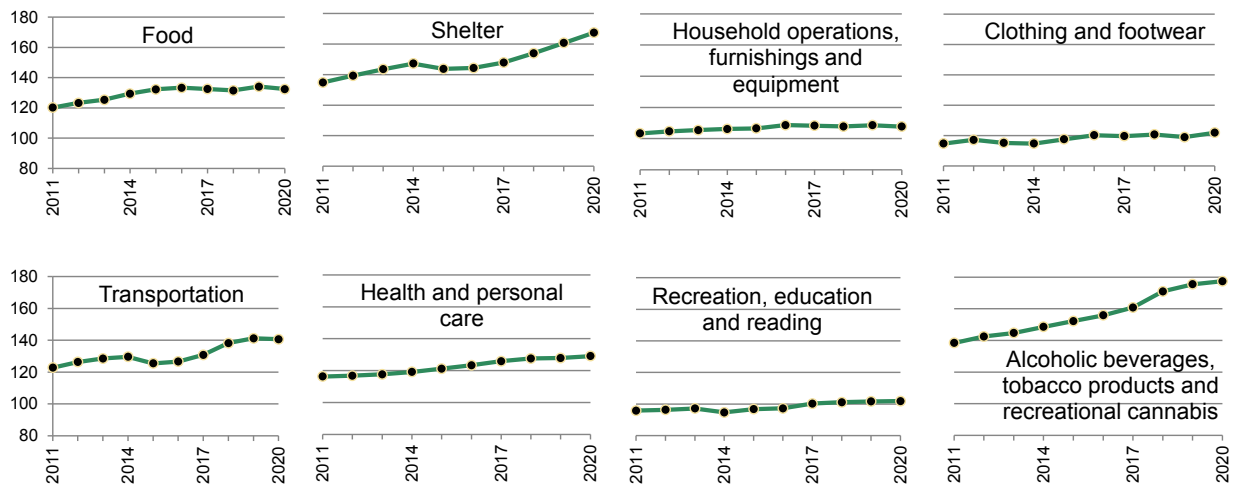
• The CPI for Whitehorse increased steadily from 2016 (1.0%) to 2018 (2.4%), before falling to 2.0% in 2019 and 1.0% in 2020.

Index Weighting

- The weighting of the Index is based on consumer spending patterns within each geographic area; the weighting of the Whitehorse CPI is unique to Whitehorse residents' spending patterns as reported in the 2017 Survey of Household Spending.
- For example, Whitehorse residents spent 24.5 cents of every dollar of their household expenditure on Shelter, while spending only 4.3 cents on Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products and recreational cannabis.
- The price indices of the two largest contributors to the Whitehorse CPI basket, Shelter (24.5% share) increased by 4.2% in 2020 and Transportation (20.5% share) decreased by 0.4%. The price indices of the two smallest contributing components, Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis (4.3% share) and Health and personal care (4.5% share), increased by 1.1% and 0.9%, respectively.

Major Components	Weighting (2017 Basket)	Change in index 2019 to 2020	Change in index 2016 to 2020
All-items	100.0	1.0%	7.3%
Shelter	24.5	4.2%	16.1%
Transportation	20.5	-0.4%	11.1%
Food	15.7	-1.3%	-0.7%
Household operations, furnishings and equipment	14.8	-0.8%	-0.9%
Recreation, education and reading	10.3	0.2%	4.7%
Clothing and footwear	5.3	2.9%	1.6%
Health and personal care	4.5	0.9%	4.7%
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis	4.3	1.1%	13.8%

Major CPI Components (2002 = 100), Whitehorse, 2011 to 2020



- Over the past ten years, annual average increases in price indices for Whitehorse have not been even across major components. Comparing 2020 to 2011, the price index for; Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis increased 28.2%; Shelter, 24.3%; Transportation, 14.5%; Health and personal care, 11.0%; Food, 10.1%; Clothing and footwear, 7.5%; Recreation, education and reading, 6.3%; and Household operations, furnishings and equipment, 4.2%.
- All major components' prices increased in 2020 compared to 2019, with the exceptions of Food (-1.3%); Household operations, furnishings and equipment (-0.8%); and Transportation (-0.4%). The largest increase was in Shelter (4.2%) followed by Clothing (2.9%) and Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis (1.1%).

Major CPI Components, Whitehorse, January to December 2020



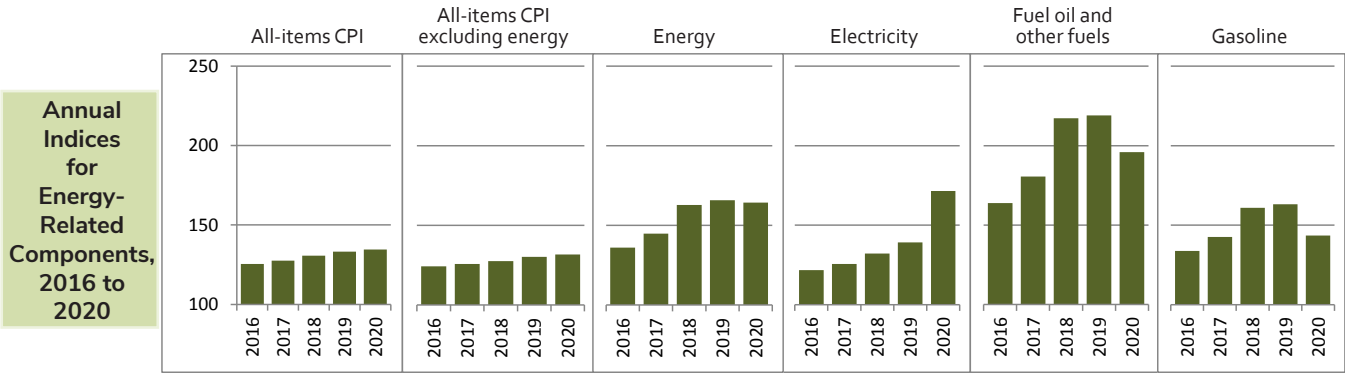
- Over the 12-month period, i.e., from January to December of 2020, changes in most major CPI components stayed within a range of 5.0 index points, with the exceptions of: Transportation (7.4 index points); Food (6.0 points); and Clothing and footwear (5.6 points).

Sub-Components Related to Food and Energy, Whitehorse, 2016 to 2020

Annual Indices of Food-Related Sub-Components, 2016 to 2020



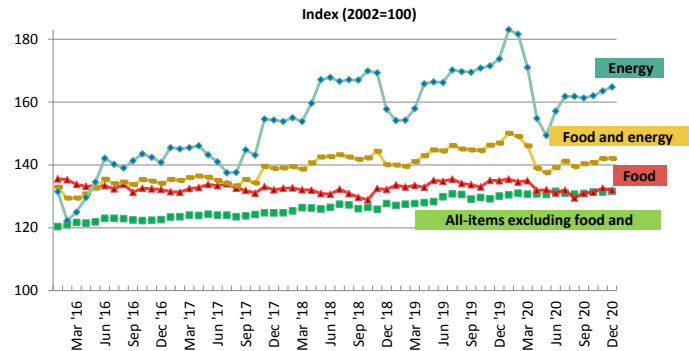
- The CPI for the major component of Food decreased 1.3% in 2020 compared to 2019. This was due to price decreases in all food-related sub-components with the exceptions of: Meat (+0.7%); and Dairy products and eggs (+1.6%).
- Comparing 2020 to 2019, the largest percentage decrease was in Fruit, fruit preparations and nuts (-3.7%) followed by Vegetables and vegetable preparations (-3.5%).



- The special aggregate of Energy is comprised of the sub-components of: Electricity; Natural gas (no data available); Fuel oil and other fuels; Gasoline; and Fuel, parts and supplies for recreational vehicles (no data available).
- Available sub-component data for Energy show a small decrease in the CPI for Electricity in 2016 (-2.4%); followed by increases in 2017 (+3.1%), 2018 (+5.2%) and 2019 (+5.4%); and a significant increase in 2020 (+23.2%). The CPI for Fuel oil and other fuels substantially decreased in 2016 (-13.0%); significantly increased in 2017 (+10.2%) and 2018 (+20.4%); slightly increased in 2019 (+0.8%); and decreased substantially in 2020 (-10.6%). The CPI for Gasoline showed a small decrease in 2016 (-3.2%); an increase in 2017 (+6.6%); a substantial increase in 2018 (+12.8%); a small increase in 2019 (+1.4%); and a substantial decrease in 2020 (-12.1%).

Special CPI Aggregates by Month, Whitehorse, January 2016 to December 2020

- In general, Food prices and Energy prices are the two most volatile components of the CPI.
- For Whitehorse, Energy prices reached the lowest level in the past five years in February 2016. Prices increased from March to June then remained almost unchanged for the rest of 2016 and until October of 2017, when prices started gradually increasing until November of 2018. Energy prices decreased in December 2018 and January 2019, followed by an increasing trend with almost steady monthly record-high prices until February 2020, when prices decreased until May 2020. Prices then increased in June and July 2020 before remaining relatively unchanged to the end of 2020.



- In 2020, on a year-over-year basis, the highest increase for All-items CPI excluding food and energy in Whitehorse was in January (+2.7%) and February (+2.7%). The annual average increase for All-items CPI excluding food and energy was 1.6%.
- On a year-over-year basis in 2020, the largest decrease in the CPI for Food was in August (-3.4%). The annual average decrease was 1.3% in 2020.
- In 2020, the year-over-year CPI change for Energy ranged from a decrease of 10.2% in May to an increase of 18.8% in January. The average annual decrease in 2020 for Energy was 0.9%.

Changes in All Available CPI Commodities, Whitehorse, 2020 Compared to 2011

Food	10.1%	Household operations, furnishings & equip.	4.2%	Transportation, cont'd	
Food purchased from stores	11.9%	Household operations	3.5%	Public transportation	38.2%
Meat	22.3%	Communications	-14.8%	Local & commuter transportation	12.3%
Fresh or frozen meat (excl. poultry)	38.3%	Telephone services	-18.9%	City bus & subway transportation	0.0%
Fresh or frozen beef	62.4%	Internet access services (200212=100)	-19.3%	Taxi & other transportation services	18.0%
Fresh or frozen pork	-16.3%	Child care & housekeeping services	25.8%	Inter-city transportation	40.5%
Fresh or frozen poultry	12.3%	Household cleaning products	-1.7%		
Fresh or frozen chicken	14.2%	Paper, plastic & aluminum foil supplies	15.0%	Health & personal care	11.0%
Processed meat	10.1%	Other household goods & services	18.0%	Health care	11.1%
Fish, seafood & other marine products	18.8%	Financial services (200212=100)	19.6%	Health care goods	-1.5%
Fish	14.5%	Household furnishings & equipment	3.7%	Medicinal & pharmaceutical products	-3.8%
Dairy products & eggs	8.7%	Furniture & household textiles	-6.5%	Prescribed medicines	-19.8%
Dairy products	6.7%	Furniture	-8.3%	Non-prescribed medicines	7.0%
Fresh milk	15.2%	Household textiles	1.6%	Health care services	27.8%
Butter	22.3%	Household equipment	7.6%	Personal care	10.3%
Cheese	-1.7%	Household appliances	0.1%	Personal care supplies & equipment	-0.3%
Eggs	25.5%	Non-elec. kitch. utensils, table- & cookware	8.5%	Personal care services	25.7%
Bakery & cereal products (excl. baby food)	4.7%				
Bakery products	11.6%	Clothing & footwear	7.5%	Recreation, education & reading	6.3%
Cereal products (excl. baby food)	-7.5%	Clothing	6.2%	Recreation	2.6%
Fruit, fruit preparations & nuts	16.4%	Women's clothing	-6.4%	Rec. equip. & services (excl. rec. veh.)	-15.9%
Fresh fruit	25.2%	Men's clothing	23.9%	Purchase & operation of rec. veh.	12.1%
Preserved fruit & fruit preparations	7.6%	Children's clothing	11.0%	Home ent. equip., parts & services	-17.7%
Vegetables & veg. preparations	30.7%	Footwear	9.4%	Travel services	10.9%
Fresh veg.	42.3%	Clothing accessories, watches & jewellery	26.0%	Traveller accommodation	12.4%
Preserved veg. & veg. preparations	-1.9%	Clothing material, notions & services	7.2%	Other cultural & recreational services	9.2%
Other food products & non-alcoholic bev.	-1.7%			Education & reading	23.6%
Sugar & confectionery	-7.8%	Transportation	14.5%	Reading material (excl. textbooks)	36.2%
Edible fats & oils	-7.0%	Private transportation	9.7%		
Coffee & tea	4.0%	Purchase, leasing & rental of passenger veh.	18.8%	Alcoholic bev. & tobacco products	28.2%
Non-alcoholic beverages	-3.1%	Purchase & leasing of passenger vehicles	23.4%	Alcoholic beverages	13.7%
Food purchased from restaurants	7.6%	Purchase of passenger vehicles	23.2%	Alcoholic bev. served in licensed estab.	15.6%
		Operation of passenger vehicles	5.4%	Alcoholic bev. purchased from stores	12.5%
Shelter	24.3%	Gasoline	-9.0%	Beer purchased from stores	10.2%
Water, fuel & electricity	18.6%	Passenger veh. parts, maint. & repairs	18.1%	Wine purchased from stores	14.7%
Electricity	60.3%	Other passenger veh. operating expenses	21.4%	Liquor purchased from stores	11.2%
Water	26.2%	Passenger vehicles insurance premiums	21.3%	Tobacco products & smokers' supplies	57.3%
Fuel oil & other fuels	-12.3%	Passenger vehicles registration fees	5.0%	Cigarettes	57.3%
				Recreational cannabis (201812=100)	...

Publication sources to this point: Statistics Canada. Tables 18-10-0004-01; 18-10-0005-01; and 18-10-0007-01.

Community Spatial Price Index (Whitehorse = 100), 2020

The Community Spatial Price Index is produced quarterly (2 periods' data presented below) by the Yukon Bureau of Statistics to compare prices of regularly purchased items in Whitehorse to prices in other Yukon communities. For example, in January 2020, if the selected items displayed in this table totalled \$100.00 to purchase in Whitehorse, the same items would cost \$118.90 to purchase in Carmacks, \$120.40 in Dawson City, \$123.30 in Faro, \$124.20 in Haines Junction, \$125.10 in Mayo, \$124.20 in Ross River, \$121.40 in Teslin and \$116.40 in Watson Lake.

	Carmacks		Dawson		Faro		Haines Junction		Mayo		Old Crow		Ross River		Teslin		Watson Lake	
	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul	Jan	Jul
Total Survey Items	118.9	117.6	120.4	..	123.3	120.1	124.2	123.9	125.1	125.5	..	..	124.2	122.2	121.4	118.8	116.4	116.4
Meat	116.5	113.6	107.3	..	127.7	119.1	112.7	113.8	122.5	127.3	..	..	114.8	108.1	106.6	109.7	104.8	104.4
Dairy/eggs	111.2	116.6	115.3	..	116.5	122.0	126.2	139.6	115.8	123.9	..	..	115.3	118.6	118.9	119.3	113.7	111.5
Fruit/vegetables	134.9	127.6	122.3	..	136.4	123.2	123.0	112.0	138.7	140.8	..	..	144.9	135.7	128.3	128.7	119.0	118.7
Bread/cereal	129.7	131.7	138.4	..	133.3	129.4	134.7	127.6	139.0	126.2	..	..	128.1	124.8	136.7	126.2	127.3	123.0
Other foods	125.3	122.3	134.4	..	137.0	135.0	141.5	150.6	138.3	146.8	..	..	139.2	134.1	131.8	129.9	129.8	129.9
Household operations	128.2	126.2	126.9	..	137.7	142.6	142.4	139.1	140.0	135.6	..	..	137.4	139.2	153.9	138.7	125.4	129.3
Health & personal care	116.2	122.0	139.5	..	117.5	115.9	129.1	130.7	124.5	126.5	..	..	122.9	126.3	124.0	126.3	132.7	137.0
Gasoline	109.3	108.3	108.7	117.7	109.3	106.3	103.4	104.7	104.1	99.9	..	..	108.1	108.0	104.4	104.4	100.4	98.1
Cigarettes	104.4	107.0	105.0	..	100.5	98.8	..	..	114.7	119.0	..	..	115.0	115.9	99.9	103.3	107.5	113.4
Home Heating Fuel	104.4	101.3	108.9	105.5	105.5	103.2	109.5	101.3	109.7	102.6	..	..	105.9	103.7	103.6	97.9	106.3	104.2

.. = data not available

Source: Yukon Bureau of Statistics

February 2021