Calgary Census Metropolitan Area (CMA)

Chukwudi Osuji, Ph.D, Senior Corporate Economist | Estella Scruggs, Corporate Research Analyst

October 21, 2020

September 2020 Headline Inflation

Comparison is based on 12-month-moving-average of the Consumer Price Index



Major Contributors to Calgary's Inflation Rate September 2020



Calgary Local Inflation Conditions and Contributing Factors

In September 2020, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in Calgary CMA increased by 1.3 per cent on a twelve-month-moving-average* basis. The year-over-year CPI increased by 1.4 per cent from September 2019.

The year-to-date inflation for the last nine months was 0.8 per cent in September 2020 compared to 1.0 in September 2019. It took 7 months in 2019 to reach the same pace of year-to-date inflation observed in September of 2020.

The major contributor to the September 2020 inflation was the cost of food and shelter. It added 0.92 percentage points to the inflation rate, lower than the 1.05 percentage points to the inflation rate in September 2019.

Transportation returned to be the second largest contributor to inflation in September 2020, switching positions with clothing and footwear, which had been the second largest contributor to inflation since April 2020. The switch is likely due to the increased demand for transportation as employment rebounds.

Excluding transportation, food and shelter costs, the average CPI did not change in September 2020 compared to September 2019.

The largest contributor to deflation (drop of price) was household operations, furnishing and equipment, which contributed -0.1 percentage points to the overall inflation rate.

External Inflation Conditions and Contributing Factors

The CPI for Alberta and Canada in September 2020 increased by 1.3 and 1.0 per cent respectively, on a twelvemonth-moving-average basis. In September 2020, the year-overyear CPI increased by 1.5 in Alberta and decreased by 0.5 per cent in Canada.

Inflation Rates

	Relative	Year-over-year (12-MMA,%)			Year-to-Date (12-MMA, %)		
	Importance (%)*						
		Sep-20	Aug-20	Jul-20	Sep-20	Aug-20	Jul-20
Calgary: All-items	100.00	1.26	1.19	1.19	0.84	0.70	0.63
Calgary: All-items excluding food and energy	76.28	1.44	1.51	1.59	1.00	0.93	0.86
Food	16.59	3.04	3.32	3.47	2.14	2.08	1.94
Shelter	26.26	1.40	1.29	1.29	0.93	0.70	0.58
Rented accommodation	5.68	0.71	0.72	0.72	0.48	0.40	0.32
Owned accommodation	15.48	1.62	1.73	1.79	1.09	0.99	0.89
Water, fuel and electricity	5.09	1.04	0.39	0.20	0.52	-0.13	-0.32
Household operations, furnishing and equipment	12.93	-0.65	-0.65	-0.57	-0.41	-0.41	-0.41
Clothing and footwear	5.15	2.49	2.80	2.59	1.44	1.64	1.54
Transportation	20.28	0.76	0.48	0.41	0.41	0.21	0.21
Gasoline	3.26	-13.55	-15.46	-16.66	-11.37	-11.49	-10.99
Health and personal care	4.81	1.53	1.53	1.53	1.01	0.87	0.80
Recreation, education and reading	10.49	0.35	0.35	0.61	-0.17	-0.26	-0.09
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and recreational cannabis	3.48	0.47	0.64	0.70	0.23	0.35	0.35
Alberta: All-items	100.00	1.33	1.34	1.34	0.84	0.70	0.63
Alberta: All-items excluding food and energy	76.28	1.51	1.59	1.74	1.00	0.93	0.86
Canada: All-items	100.00	1.03	1.11	1.26	0.51	0.44	0.44
Canada: All-items excluding food and energy	77.01	1.31	1.39	1.54	0.84	0.77	0.77

* Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket weights are based on the 2017 Survey of Household Spending, modified on February 2019. Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, October 21, 2020

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Calgary Census Metropolitan Area Share of Goods and Services of a Typical Urban Dweller Consumption Basket, Household Operations, -0.65% 2017 Weights, September 2020 **Furnishing and Equipment** 1.53% **Health and Relative Importance in Consumption Basket Personal Care** 2.49% Shelter **Clothing and** 0.47% Footwear Alcoholic **Transportation** 0.35% beverages **Recreation**, Education and tobacco and Reading products Food and recreational cannabis 40% 0.76% 0.39 0.16 0.53 0.18 Contribution of Consumer Items to Inflation: 1.26 -

Sources: Statistics Canada, Corporate Economics, October 21, 2020

Next release: November 18, 2020

* Twelve-month-moving average is done by taking an average over a 12-month consecutive data series. The discussion of CPI here is on a twelve-month-moving-average unless stated otherwise.

Glossary:

Headline Inflation: This is the inflation rate measured using all components of the consumer basket of goods and services. **Core Inflation:** This is the inflation rate after excluding food and transportation from the consumer basket of goods and services. **Overnight Rate:** The interest rate the Bank of Canada charges commercial banks to borrow money.

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