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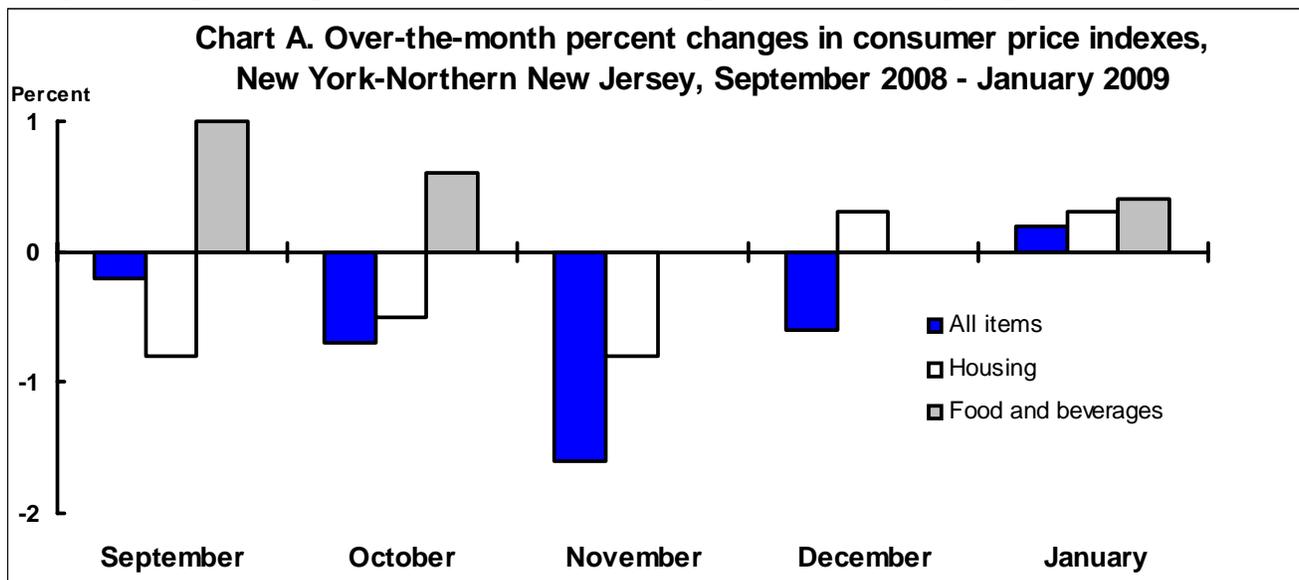
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NEW YORK-NORTHERN NEW JERSEY CPI EDGED UP 0.2 PERCENT IN JANUARY, 1.5 PERCENT RISE FROM YEAR AGO

Retail prices in the greater New York area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), edged up 0.2 percent in January after declining four consecutive months. Michael L. Dolfman, Regional Commissioner of the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, said that the January upturn largely reflected increases for housing and for food and beverages. These increases were partially offset by a seasonal decline for apparel. For the year ended in January 2009, the CPI-U advanced 1.5 percent, the lowest over-the-year increase since 1999, and the index for all items less food and energy rose 2.9 percent.

The housing index rose 0.3 percent for the second month in a row, primarily due to a 0.3-percent increase in shelter. (See chart A.) Within the shelter component, residential rent rose 0.3 percent and owners' equivalent rent inched down 0.1 percent. The household furnishings component advanced 0.3 percent, with higher prices reported for major appliances. In contrast, the fuels and utilities component inched down 0.1 percent in January. A 3.2-percent rise in electricity charges largely offset a 4.0-percent decline in natural gas prices. Over the year, the housing index climbed 3.1 percent.

The food and beverages index increased 0.4 percent in January after two months of virtually no change. A 0.8-percent upturn in the food-at-home component included higher prices for carbonated



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New York-Northern New Jersey CPI monthly and annual percent changes
(not seasonally adjusted)

Month	2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009	
	Monthly	Annual										
January	0.3	2.7	0.6	4.1	0.8	3.7	0.2	2.7	0.2	3.7	0.2	1.5
February	0.6	2.5	0.4	3.9	0.2	3.6	0.6	3.1	0.5	3.6		
March	1.1	3.2	1.7	4.4	0.8	2.7	0.7	2.9	0.9	3.8		
April	0.3	3.7	0.0	4.2	0.9	3.6	0.5	2.5	0.3	3.6		
May	0.2	3.9	-0.5	3.4	0.6	4.8	0.6	2.5	1.0	4.0		
June	0.8	4.6	-0.3	2.3	0.5	5.6	0.5	2.5	1.0	4.5		
July	-0.2	3.9	0.9	3.4	0.2	5.0	0.2	2.5	0.7	5.1		
August	0.1	3.3	0.8	4.1	0.4	4.7	-0.1	1.9	0.1	5.4		
September	0.1	3.2	0.8	4.8	-0.5	3.3	0.0	2.4	-0.2	5.2		
October	0.7	3.7	0.4	4.5	-0.5	2.4	0.1	3.1	-0.7	4.3		
November	0.0	3.9	-0.6	3.9	-0.4	2.6	0.4	3.9	-1.6	2.2		
December	-0.2	3.8	-0.5	3.6	0.2	3.3	0.0	3.7	-0.6	1.6		

drinks; frozen and freeze-dried prepared foods; spices, seasonings, condiments, and sauces; ice cream; and lettuce. In contrast, the index for alcoholic beverages decreased 0.4 percent in January, while the food-away-from-home index was unchanged. For the year ended in January 2009, food and beverage prices increased 5.9 percent; grocery prices advanced 7.3 percent.

The medical care index, often up in January, rose 0.6 percent, following monthly changes that ranged from -0.4 to 0.3 percent during the second half of 2008. The increase reflected higher prices for hospital services and prescription drugs. From January 2008 to January 2009, medical care prices rose 0.5 percent, the smallest 12-month increase since 1960.

The apparel index decreased 1.4 percent with post-holiday sales. Price reductions for women's outerwear contributed to the January decline. Despite the over-the-month decrease, apparel prices rose 1.6 percent over the year.

The transportation index edged down 0.2 percent in January. Gasoline prices dropped 1.5 percent over the month, the smallest of six consecutive monthly decreases. Prices for used cars and trucks also declined. Over the year, transportation prices fell 10.0 percent, with gasoline prices plummeting 41.6 percent, the largest 12-month drop since the series start in 1977.

Among other expenditure categories, recreation prices increased 0.3 percent in January. Prices for education and communication, as well as other goods and services, were little changed over the month.

With the New York-Northern New Jersey Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers at 233.402 in January (1982-84=100), \$23.34 was required to purchase what \$10 could in the 1982-84 base period. The purchasing power of the dollar was 42.8 cents in 1982-84 dollars and 14.8 cents in 1967 dollars. In January, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 227.503, up 0.1 percent. The CPI-W rose 1.3 percent over the year. On a 1967 base, the January CPI-W was 647.757.

Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences. The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA consolidated area comprises the five boroughs of New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess, and Orange Counties in New York State; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Monmouth, Middlesex, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren Counties in New Jersey; Fairfield County and parts of Litchfield, New Haven and Middlesex Counties in Connecticut; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods

New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from—		
	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Jan. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008
Expenditure category						
All items	234.498	233.012	233.402	1.5	-0.5	0.2
All items (1967=100)	677.900	673.604	674.732	-	-	-
Food and beverages	228.189	228.213	229.014	5.9	.4	.4
Food	227.518	227.406	228.324	6.0	.4	.4
Food at home	229.060	228.416	230.193	7.3	.5	.8
Food away from home	231.728	232.258	232.160	4.4	.2	.0
Alcoholic beverages	233.887	235.943	234.968	4.8	.5	-.4
Housing	254.912	255.615	256.339	3.1	.6	.3
Shelter	307.725	307.530	308.572	3.5	.3	.3
Rent of primary residence ¹	302.313	303.511	304.403	5.4	.7	.3
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{1 2}	316.402	317.595	317.430	3.4	.3	-.1
Fuels and utilities	197.831	203.310	203.015	2.3	2.6	-.1
Household energy	199.327	204.909	204.783	1.9	2.7	-.1
Gas (piped) and electricity ¹	192.300	202.702	203.564	6.4	5.9	.4
Electricity ¹	161.685	176.269	181.843	5.3	12.5	3.2
Utility (piped) gas service ¹	255.610	255.854	245.716	8.3	-3.9	-4.0
Household furnishings and operations	126.961	127.748	128.092	.7	.9	.3
Apparel	115.048	108.045	106.555	1.6	-7.4	-1.4
Transportation	185.353	177.308	176.963	-10.0	-4.5	-.2
Private transportation	174.393	165.547	165.557	-11.8	-5.1	.0
Motor fuel	177.894	143.045	140.776	-41.3	-20.9	-1.6
Gasoline (all types)	176.390	141.564	139.408	-41.6	-21.0	-1.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular ³	175.580	139.517	138.879	-42.5	-20.9	-.5
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{3 4}	182.606	149.579	143.356	-40.1	-21.5	-4.2
Gasoline, unleaded premium ³	180.129	148.179	143.160	-39.3	-20.5	-3.4
Medical care	367.298	367.657	369.972	.5	.7	.6
Recreation ⁵	115.171	115.148	115.503	1.4	.3	.3
Education and communication ⁵	133.122	133.955	134.102	5.2	.7	.1
Other goods and services	348.845	349.842	350.251	2.7	.4	.1
Commodity and service group						
All items	234.498	233.012	233.402	1.5	-.5	.2
Commodities	175.447	170.806	170.585	-2.8	-2.8	-.1
Commodities less food and beverages	141.312	134.645	133.942	-8.9	-5.2	-.5
Nondurables less food and beverages	169.745	157.964	156.339	-11.6	-7.9	-1.0
Durables	103.968	103.331	103.698	-3.9	-.3	.4
Services	285.001	286.137	287.039	3.8	.7	.3
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	228.442	226.907	227.232	1.6	-.5	.1
All items less shelter	205.703	203.633	203.744	.3	-1.0	.1
Commodities less food	144.985	138.530	137.815	-8.3	-4.9	-.5
Nondurables	200.453	194.149	193.661	-2.5	-3.4	-.3
Nondurables less food	173.737	162.649	161.052	-10.5	-7.3	-1.0
Services less rent of shelter ²	269.623	272.531	273.285	4.3	1.4	.3
Services less medical care services	277.695	278.870	279.668	4.0	.7	.3
Energy	191.180	179.954	178.936	-17.9	-6.4	-.6
All items less energy	240.364	239.821	240.351	3.3	.0	.2
All items less food and energy	244.187	243.559	244.019	2.9	-.1	.2

¹ This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

² Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

³ Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

⁴ Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

⁵ Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available.

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.