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MID-ATLANTIC INFORMATION OFFICE: Philadelphia, Pa.

Technical information: (215) 597-3282 BLSInfoPhiladelphia@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/mid-atlantic

Media contact: (215) 861-5600 BLSMediaPhiladelphia@bls.gov

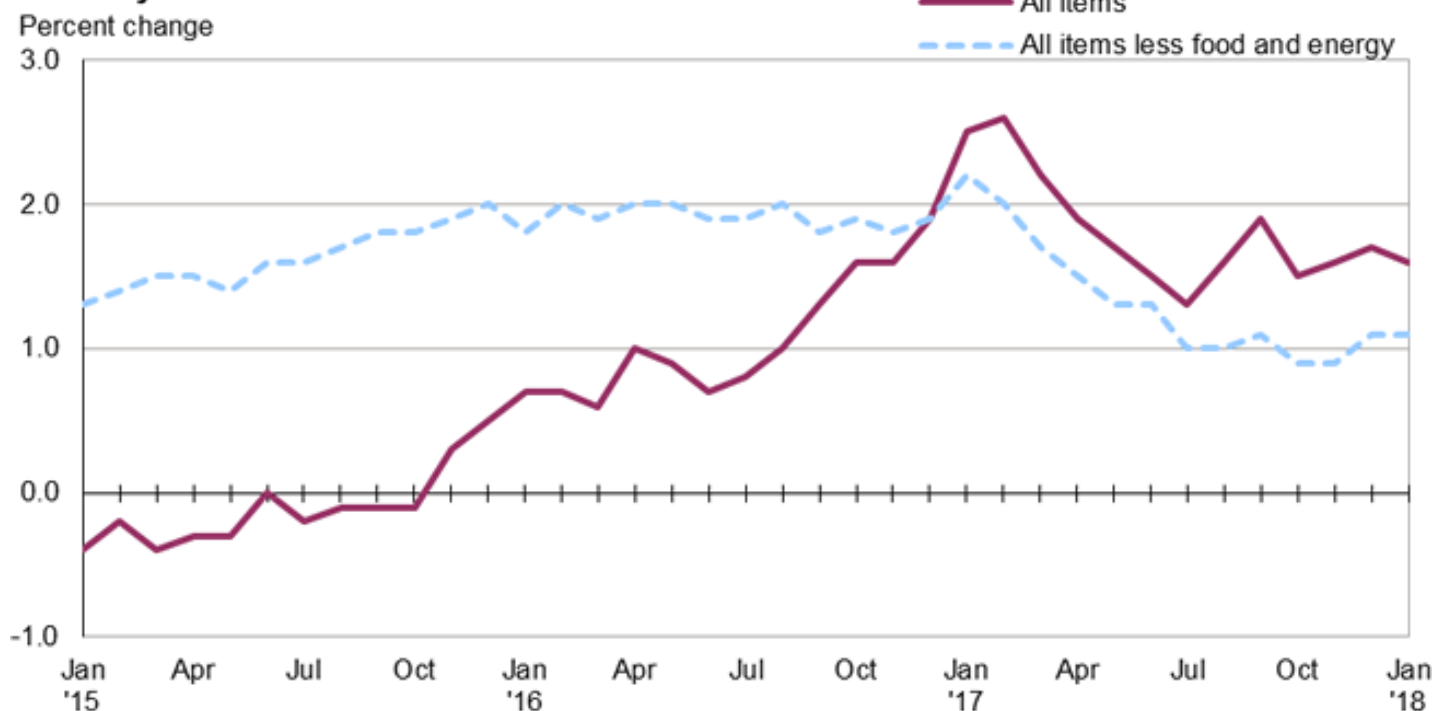
Consumer Price Index, Northeast Region – January 2018

Regional prices up 0.5 percent over the month and 1.6 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Northeast rose 0.5 percent in January, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau's regional commissioner, noted that the recent one-month increase reflected a rise in the all items less food and energy index, up 0.4 percent. The energy index and food index also increased since December, up 2.0 and 0.5 percent, respectively. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the Northeast all items CPI-U increased 1.6 percent, due largely to an advance in the all items less food and energy index, up 1.1 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The energy index (6.7 percent) and the food index (2.0 percent) also increased over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Northeast region, January 2015–January 2018



Food

The food index increased 0.5 percent since December. Prices increased for both food at home (0.6 percent) and for food away from home (0.4 percent).

From January 2017 to January 2018 the food index increased 2.0 percent, as prices for food away from home increased 2.7 percent and prices for food at home rose 1.4 percent.

Energy

The energy index, which includes prices for household and transportation fuels, increased 2.0 percent in January, reflecting a 2.5-percent increase in gasoline prices. Prices were also higher for electricity, up 2.3 percent, while prices for utility (piped) gas service decreased 3.2 percent.

The energy index advanced 6.7 percent since January 2017. The increase was mostly due to a 7.6-percent rise in gasoline prices. Prices also increased over the year for electricity (3.9 percent) and utility (piped) gas service (4.4 percent).

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.4 percent over the month. Prices increased for categories including shelter (0.2 percent), apparel (2.5 percent), medical care (0.6 percent), and recreation (0.6 percent), among others.

The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.1 percent since January 2017, led by higher prices for shelter (1.9 percent) and medical care (2.6 percent), among others. Meanwhile, prices were lower over the year for education and communication (-1.8 percent) and household furnishings and operations (-2.6 percent).

Table A. Northeast region CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	0.6	1.5	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	0.7	0.6	2.5	0.5	1.6
February.....	0.1	1.0	0.2	-0.2	0.2	0.7	0.3	2.6		
March.....	0.5	1.5	0.3	-0.4	0.2	0.6	-0.1	2.2		
April.....	0.0	1.6	0.1	-0.3	0.6	1.0	0.3	1.9		
May.....	0.4	2.0	0.4	-0.3	0.3	0.9	0.1	1.7		
June.....	0.0	1.9	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.0	1.5		
July.....	0.1	1.8	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.8	-0.2	1.3		
August.....	-0.3	1.3	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	1.0	0.3	1.6		
September.....	0.0	1.2	0.0	-0.1	0.2	1.3	0.5	1.9		
October.....	-0.2	1.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	1.6	-0.1	1.5		
November.....	-0.4	0.9	0.0	0.3	0.0	1.6	0.0	1.6		
December.....	-0.5	0.4	-0.4	0.5	0.0	1.9	0.1	1.7		

The Consumer Price Index for February 2018 is scheduled to be released Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 94 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 28 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.












































The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **Note: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The Northeast region is comprised of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.


















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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Northeast Region, (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted)

Expenditure category	Indexes				Percent change from		
	Historical data	Nov. 2017	Dec. 2017	Jan. 2018	Jan. 2017	Nov. 2017	Dec. 2017
All items.....		260.630	260.791	262.188	1.6	0.6	0.5
All items (December 1977 = 100).....		410.412	410.666	412.865			
Food and beverages		256.073	256.487	257.764	1.8	0.7	0.5
Food		256.209	256.764	258.097	2.0	0.7	0.5
Food at home		245.920	246.424	247.944	1.4	0.8	0.6
Cereals and bakery products			286.389	290.452			1.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....			251.499	249.705			-0.7
Dairy and related products			224.869	226.407			0.7
Fruits and vegetables			309.997	315.809			1.9
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials.....			171.841	172.791			0.6
Other food at home			219.860	220.752			0.4
Food away from home.....		275.002	275.644	276.724	2.7	0.6	0.4
Alcoholic beverages		253.128	251.711	252.312	0.4	-0.3	0.2
Housing		276.736	277.693	278.690	1.9	0.7	0.4
Shelter		343.275	344.282	345.089	1.9	0.5	0.2
Rent of primary residence(1).....		346.118	346.920	347.888	2.4	0.5	0.3
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(1)(2)		355.348	356.255	357.498	1.9	0.6	0.3
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(1)(2)		355.098	356.008	357.246	1.9	0.6	0.3
Fuels and utilities.....		220.163	223.688	227.092	5.4	3.1	1.5
Household energy		194.829	198.709	201.972	6.0	3.7	1.6
Energy services(1)		193.258	196.735	197.451	3.7	2.2	0.4
Electricity(1).....		195.921	199.636	204.167	3.9	4.2	2.3
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....		173.984	176.712	171.138	4.4	-1.6	-3.2
Household furnishings and operations		118.572	117.530	117.541	-2.6	-0.9	0.0
Apparel.....		129.241	124.143	127.247	-2.2	-1.5	2.5
Transportation		202.467	202.378	204.271	2.5	0.9	0.9
Private transportation		194.728	195.138	197.240	2.9	1.3	1.1
New and used motor vehicles(3).....		94.744	95.752	96.192	0.4	1.5	0.5
New vehicles		144.217	145.987	146.725	0.1	1.7	0.5
New cars and trucks(3)(4).....		99.909	101.144	101.678	0.1	1.8	0.5
New cars(4)		133.886	135.740	136.039	-0.9	1.6	0.2
Used cars and trucks.....		140.030	141.272	141.690	-1.2	1.2	0.3
Motor fuel		223.902	220.329	225.970	7.7	0.9	2.6
Gasoline (all types).....		222.946	219.332	224.858	7.6	0.9	2.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....		220.589	216.786	222.439	7.7	0.8	2.6
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....		235.207	233.187	237.417	6.8	0.9	1.8
Gasoline, unleaded premium(3).....		230.205	227.876	232.371	6.9	0.9	2.0
Motor vehicle insurance			615.509	623.148			1.2
Medical care		498.864	499.765	502.715	2.6	0.8	0.6
Medical care commodities.....		387.946	388.522	392.768	2.0	1.2	1.1
Medical care services.....		530.627	531.627	534.166	2.7	0.7	0.5
Professional services		377.680	378.179	380.065	1.1	0.6	0.5
Recreation(3).....		123.233	123.466	124.260	1.5	0.8	0.6
Education and communication(3).....		140.409	140.206	140.376	-1.8	0.0	0.1

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Northeast Region, (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted) - Continued

Expenditure category	Indexes				Percent change from		
	Historical data	Nov. 2017	Dec. 2017	Jan. 2018	Jan. 2017	Nov. 2017	Dec. 2017
Tuition, other school fees, and child care...			1,212.279	1,212.253			0.0
Other goods and services		480.950	480.873	482.013	1.8	0.2	0.2
Commodity and service group							
Commodities		187.525	186.904	188.920	1.3	0.7	1.1
Commodities less food and beverages		150.311	149.301	151.491	0.9	0.8	1.5
Nondurables less food and beverages...		194.777	192.319	196.286	2.4	0.8	2.1
Durables		101.303	101.516	102.118	-1.1	0.8	0.6
Services.....		331.150	332.006	332.886	1.7	0.5	0.3
Special aggregate indexes							
All items less shelter.....		232.203	232.054	233.681	1.4	0.6	0.7
All items less medical care		250.163	250.291	251.619	1.5	0.6	0.5
Commodities less food		154.027	153.001	155.156	0.9	0.7	1.4
Nondurables		225.444	224.318	227.089	2.1	0.7	1.2
Nondurables less food.....		198.177	195.781	199.545	2.2	0.7	1.9
Services less rent of shelter(2).....		329.515	330.302	331.282	1.5	0.5	0.3
Services less medical care services.....		317.401	318.247	319.013	1.6	0.5	0.2
Energy		206.616	207.538	211.791	6.7	2.5	2.0
All items less energy		268.806	268.892	270.000	1.2	0.4	0.4
All items less food and energy		272.756	272.764	273.844	1.1	0.4	0.4

Footnotes

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

(2) Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

(3) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

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