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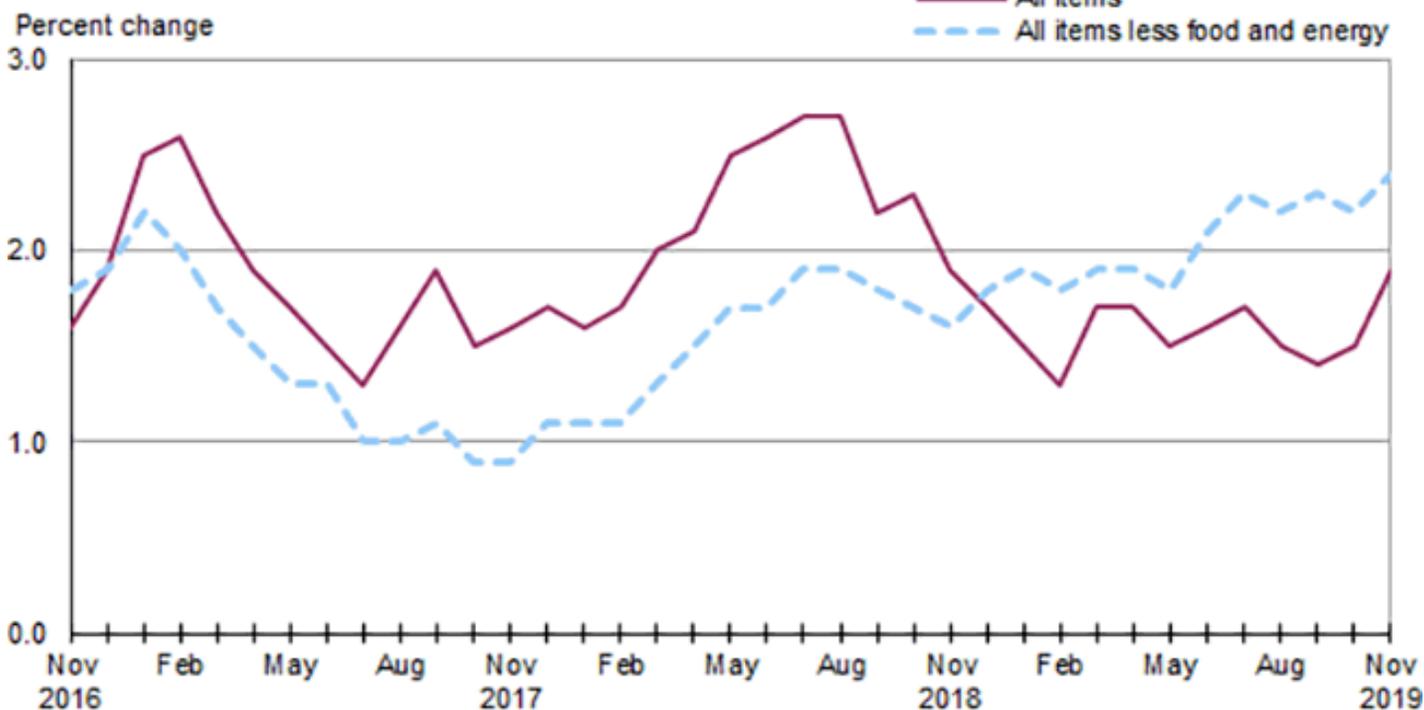
## Consumer Price Index, Northeast Region – November 2019

### Regional prices up 0.1 percent over the month; up 1.9 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Northeast inched up 0.1 percent in November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau’s regional commissioner, noted that the recent over-the-month increase was largely due to a 1.6-percent rise in the energy index. The food index also rose since October, up 0.1 percent, while the all items less food and energy index was unchanged. (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 1.9 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) This was due almost entirely to an advance in the all items less food and energy index, up 2.4 percent. The food index also rose, up 2.2 percent since November 2018, while the energy index declined 2.7 percent. (See [table 1](#).)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Northeast region, November 2016–November 2019**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Food

The food index inched up 0.1 percent since October. Prices were higher for food at home (0.2 percent), while those for food away from home were unchanged.

From November 2018 to November 2019, the food index increased 2.2 percent. Prices for food away from home increased over the year, up 3.0 percent; those for food at home rose 1.5 percent.

## Energy

The energy index, which includes prices for household and transportation fuels, rose 1.6 percent in November, reflecting higher utility (piped) gas service prices, up 5.6 percent. Prices were also higher for electricity (1.9 percent), while those for gasoline were unchanged over the month.

The energy index decreased 2.7 percent since November 2018. The decline reflected lower prices for gasoline (-4.6 percent) and electricity (-0.3 percent), while those for utility (piped) gas service increased (0.4 percent) over the year.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was unchanged over the month. Lower prices for apparel (-5.2 percent) were offset by increases for shelter (0.2 percent) and medical care (0.3 percent), among others.

The index for all items less food and energy increased 2.4 percent since November 2018, led by higher prices for shelter and medical care, up 2.5 and 5.6 percent, respectively. Prices also rose over the year for education and communication (3.0 percent) and other goods and services (2.9 percent), among others.

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

Month	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	1-month	12-month								
January.....	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	0.7	0.6	2.5	0.5	1.6	0.3	1.5
February.....	0.2	-0.2	0.2	0.7	0.3	2.6	0.4	1.7	0.2	1.3
March.....	0.3	-0.4	0.2	0.6	-0.1	2.2	0.1	2.0	0.5	1.7
April.....	0.1	-0.3	0.6	1.0	0.3	1.9	0.4	2.1	0.4	1.7
May.....	0.4	-0.3	0.3	0.9	0.1	1.7	0.4	2.5	0.3	1.5
June.....	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.0	1.5	0.0	2.6	0.1	1.6
July.....	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.8	-0.2	1.3	0.0	2.7	0.1	1.7
August.....	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	1.0	0.3	1.6	0.2	2.7	0.1	1.5
September.....	0.0	-0.1	0.2	1.3	0.5	1.9	0.1	2.2	0.0	1.4
October.....	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	1.6	-0.1	1.5	-0.1	2.3	-0.1	1.5
November.....	0.0	0.3	0.0	1.6	0.0	1.6	-0.4	1.9	0.1	1.9
December.....	-0.4	0.5	0.0	1.9	0.1	1.7	-0.1	1.7		

## Geographic divisions

Additional price indexes are now available for the two divisions of the Northeast. Over the month, the all items CPI-U increased 0.3 percent in the New England division and rose 0.1 percent in the Middle Atlantic division.

Over the year, the all items index advanced 2.2 percent in the New England division. (See [table B.](#)) Prices also rose in the Middle Atlantic division, up 1.9 percent.

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

Area	1-month change	12-month change
Northeast.....	0.1	1.9
New England Division .....	0.3	2.2
Middle Atlantic Division.....	0.1	1.9

**The Consumer Price Index for December 2019 is scheduled to be released Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 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 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 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](http://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](http://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.

The **New England division** is comprised of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

The **Middle Atlantic division** is comprised of New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

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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	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019	Nov. 2019	Nov. 2018	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019
All items.....		270.563	270.348	270.643	1.9	0.0	0.1
All items (December 1977 = 100).....		426.053	425.715	426.181			
Food and beverages .....		264.364	265.226	265.506	2.1	0.4	0.1
Food .....		264.884	265.790	266.106	2.2	0.5	0.1
Food at home .....		250.048	251.386	251.867	1.5	0.7	0.2
Cereals and bakery products .....		296.708	294.753	299.492	3.0	0.9	1.6
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....		251.040	252.590	252.509	0.6	0.6	0.0
Dairy and related products .....		231.171	230.748	231.561	1.7	0.2	0.4
Fruits and vegetables.....		308.132	318.688	316.866	1.9	2.8	-0.6
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials.....		177.425	177.088	175.343	1.5	-1.2	-1.0
Other food at home .....		224.071	223.231	224.830	0.9	0.3	0.7
Food away from home.....		290.422	290.713	290.793	3.0	0.1	0.0
Alcoholic beverages .....		256.592	256.910	256.753	0.8	0.1	-0.1
Housing .....		289.142	288.158	289.297	2.0	0.1	0.4
Shelter .....		361.023	359.999	360.772	2.5	-0.1	0.2
Rent of primary residence .....		364.306	364.141	365.561	3.1	0.3	0.4
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(1).....		372.187	372.237	373.820	2.3	0.4	0.4
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(1) .....		371.881	371.941	373.516	2.3	0.4	0.4
Fuels and utilities.....		223.836	222.250	227.679	-0.5	1.7	2.4
Household energy .....		196.550	194.836	200.435	-1.2	2.0	2.9
Energy services.....		194.092	191.649	197.678	-0.1	1.8	3.1
Electricity .....		201.717	196.035	199.705	-0.3	-1.0	1.9
Utility (piped) gas service .....		166.552	169.593	179.008	0.4	7.5	5.6
Household furnishings and operations.....		120.344	119.838	119.253	0.1	-0.9	-0.5
Apparel.....		133.298	132.042	125.174	-2.4	-6.1	-5.2
Transportation .....		205.461	204.991	205.488	-0.1	0.0	0.2
Private transportation .....		197.262	196.710	196.995	-0.6	-0.1	0.1
New and used motor vehicles(2).....		95.594	95.380	95.305	0.5	-0.3	-0.1
New vehicles .....		142.589	142.586	142.643	0.6	0.0	0.0
New cars and trucks(2)(3).....		98.833	98.823	98.869	0.6	0.0	0.0
New cars(3).....		131.742	132.089	132.003	0.3	0.2	-0.1
Used cars and trucks.....		144.821	144.517	143.758	0.1	-0.7	-0.5
Motor fuel .....		225.375	223.918	223.968	-4.6	-0.6	0.0
Gasoline (all types).....		224.264	222.797	222.833	-4.6	-0.6	0.0
Gasoline, unleaded regular(3).....		221.232	219.798	219.820	-4.8	-0.6	0.0
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(3)(4).....		241.042	239.266	239.249	-3.9	-0.7	0.0
Gasoline, unleaded premium(3).....		236.103	234.466	234.633	-3.1	-0.6	0.1
Motor vehicle insurance(5).....		620.671	619.421	624.748	0.4	0.7	0.9
Medical care .....		531.412	535.250	536.649	5.6	1.0	0.3
Medical care commodities.....		403.746	401.027	396.928	1.0	-1.7	-1.0
Medical care services.....		568.174	574.009	577.091	6.6	1.6	0.5
Professional services .....		398.975	398.920	399.567	4.1	0.1	0.2
Recreation(2).....		125.380	125.822	125.770	1.3	0.3	0.0
Education and communication(2).....		145.964	145.951	146.347	3.0	0.3	0.3

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	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019	Nov. 2019	Nov. 2018	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(5).....		1,289.058	1,289.693	1,289.786	3.7	0.1	0.0
Other goods and services .....		502.159	503.443	502.804	2.9	0.1	-0.1
<b>Commodity and service group</b>							
Commodities .....		191.429	191.268	190.262	0.2	-0.6	-0.5
Commodities less food and beverages .....		152.269	151.720	150.271	-1.0	-1.3	-1.0
Nondurables less food and beverages...		198.855	198.011	195.560	-1.4	-1.7	-1.2
Durables .....		101.433	101.164	100.633	-0.3	-0.8	-0.5
Services.....		346.636	346.370	347.822	2.8	0.3	0.4
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>							
All items less shelter.....		239.324	239.408	239.529	1.6	0.1	0.1
All items less medical care .....		259.075	258.674	258.919	1.6	-0.1	0.1
Commodities less food .....		156.038	155.511	154.093	-0.9	-1.2	-0.9
Nondurables .....		231.553	231.488	230.270	0.4	-0.6	-0.5
Nondurables less food.....		202.215	201.441	199.129	-1.3	-1.5	-1.1
Services less rent of shelter(1).....		343.012	343.562	345.780	3.1	0.8	0.6
Services less medical care services.....		331.370	330.685	332.025	2.4	0.2	0.4
Energy .....		208.392	206.786	210.061	-2.7	0.8	1.6
All items less energy .....		279.697	279.627	279.611	2.3	0.0	0.0
All items less food and energy .....		284.084	283.854	283.784	2.4	-0.1	0.0

Footnotes

- (1) Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.
- (2) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
- (3) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
- (4) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.
- (5) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.