



For Release: Tuesday, July 14, 2020

20-1413-PHI

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

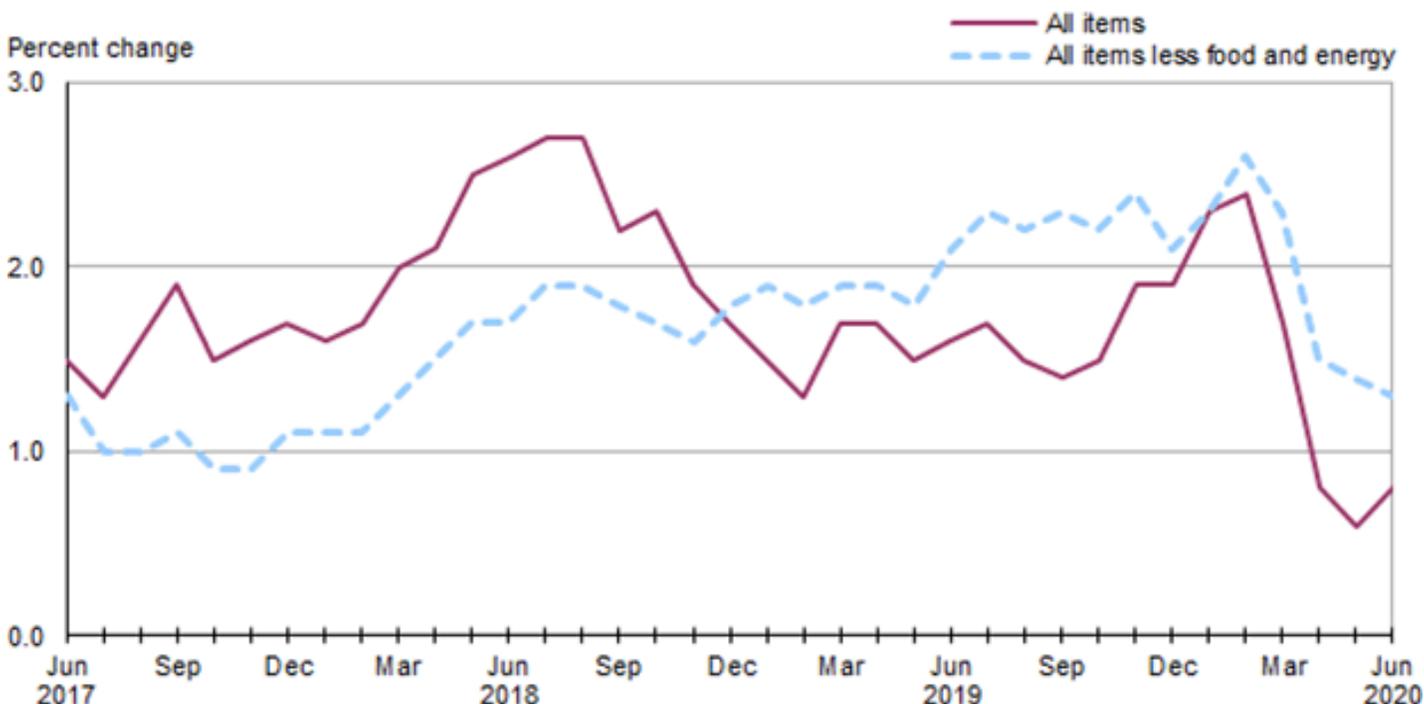
Consumer Price Index, Northeast Region – June 2020

Regional prices up 0.3 percent over the month; up 0.8 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Northeast edged up 0.3 percent in June, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau’s regional commissioner, noted that the recent increase reflected an increase in the energy index, up 4.0 percent since May. The all items less food and energy index also rose over the month, inching up 0.1 percent, while the food 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 0.8 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) This reflected an advance in the all items less food and energy index, up 1.3 percent. The food index also rose, up 4.5 percent, while the energy index fell 11.8 percent since June 2019. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Northeast region, June 2017–June 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

The food index was unchanged since April. Higher prices for food away from home, up 0.4 percent, were offset by lower prices for food at home, down 0.2 percent over the month.

From June 2019 to June 2020, the food index increased 4.5 percent. Prices for food at home increased over the year, up 5.0 percent; those for food away from home also rose, up 3.8 percent.

Energy

The energy index, which includes prices for household and transportation fuels, advanced 4.0 percent in June, led by a 5.2-percent rise in gasoline prices. Prices were also higher for electricity (4.5 percent) while prices were lower for utility (piped) gas service (-0.7 percent) over the month.

The energy index decreased 11.8 percent since June 2019. The decrease reflected a drop in prices for gasoline (-22.3 percent). Prices for utility (piped) gas service also decreased over the year, down 4.5 percent, while those for electricity increased 2.8 percent.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy inched up 0.1 percent over the month. Higher prices for shelter (0.4 percent) and medical care (0.7 percent) were nearly offset by lower prices for recreation (-2.8 percent) and apparel (-0.7 percent).

The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.3 percent since June 2019, led by higher prices for shelter and medical care, up 2.2 and 5.7 percent, respectively. Prices also rose over the year for education and communication (2.7 percent), recreation (1.7 percent), and other goods and services (2.3 percent).

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

Month	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	1-month	12-month								
January.....	0.0	0.7	0.6	2.5	0.5	1.6	0.3	1.5	0.7	2.3
February.....	0.2	0.7	0.3	2.6	0.4	1.7	0.2	1.3	0.3	2.4
March.....	0.2	0.6	-0.1	2.2	0.1	2.0	0.5	1.7	-0.2	1.7
April.....	0.6	1.0	0.3	1.9	0.4	2.1	0.4	1.7	-0.4	0.8
May.....	0.3	0.9	0.1	1.7	0.4	2.5	0.3	1.5	0.0	0.6
June.....	0.2	0.7	0.0	1.5	0.0	2.6	0.1	1.6	0.3	0.8
July.....	0.0	0.8	-0.2	1.3	0.0	2.7	0.1	1.7		
August.....	0.1	1.0	0.3	1.6	0.2	2.7	0.1	1.5		
September.....	0.2	1.3	0.5	1.9	0.1	2.2	0.0	1.4		
October.....	0.2	1.6	-0.1	1.5	-0.1	2.3	-0.1	1.5		
November.....	0.0	1.6	0.0	1.6	-0.4	1.9	0.1	1.9		
December.....	0.0	1.9	0.1	1.7	-0.1	1.7	-0.1	1.9		

Geographic divisions

Additional price indexes are now available for the two divisions of the Northeast. Over the month, the all items CPI-U increased in the New England division, up 0.5 percent, and rose in the Middle Atlantic division, up 0.3 percent.

Over the year, the all items index increased in the New England division (0.4 percent). (See [table B.](#)) Prices rose in the Middle Atlantic division, up 0.9 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.....	0.3	0.8
New England Division	0.5	0.4
Middle Atlantic Division.....	0.3	0.9

The Consumer Price Index for July 2020 is scheduled to be released Wednesday, August 12, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on June 2020 Consumer Price Index Data

Data collection by personal visit for the Consumer Price Index (CPI) program has been suspended since March 16, 2020. When possible, data normally collected by personal visit were collected either online or by phone. Additionally, data collection in June was affected by the temporary closing or limited operations of certain types of establishments. These factors resulted in an increase in the number of prices considered temporarily unavailable and imputed.

While the CPI program attempted to collect as much data as possible, many indexes are based on smaller amounts of collected prices than usual, and a small number of indexes that are normally published were not published this month. Additional information is available at www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-consumer-price-index.htm.

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 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.

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.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

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	Apr. 2020	May 2020	Jun. 2020	Jun. 2019	Apr. 2020	May 2020
All items.....		271.325	271.345	272.283	0.8	0.4	0.3
All items (December 1977 = 100).....		427.254	427.285	428.762			
Food and beverages		273.573	275.327	275.422	4.3	0.7	0.0
Food		274.617	276.418	276.511	4.5	0.7	0.0
Food at home		262.180	264.135	263.522	5.0	0.5	-0.2
Cereals and bakery products		313.438	312.739	318.380	6.8	1.6	1.8
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....		268.731	279.088	277.864	10.5	3.4	-0.4
Dairy and related products		241.163	242.054	242.169	6.4	0.4	0.0
Fruits and vegetables.....		320.523	321.906	318.167	1.6	-0.7	-1.2
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials.....		181.651	181.340	180.292	0.8	-0.7	-0.6
Other food at home		234.059	232.173	231.093	2.9	-1.3	-0.5
Food away from home.....		296.492	298.070	299.261	3.8	0.9	0.4
Alcoholic beverages		258.802	259.914	260.041	2.0	0.5	0.0
Housing		291.569	291.328	293.283	1.6	0.6	0.7
Shelter		365.383	365.728	367.321	2.2	0.5	0.4
Rent of primary residence		369.142	369.469	369.973	2.4	0.2	0.1
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(1).....		379.025	379.410	380.135	2.9	0.3	0.2
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(1)		378.705	379.093	379.810	2.9	0.3	0.2
Fuels and utilities.....		219.796	217.304	223.222	-2.4	1.6	2.7
Household energy		191.620	188.822	194.986	-3.2	1.8	3.3
Energy services.....		197.091	195.422	201.147	0.8	2.1	2.9
Electricity		202.391	203.446	212.556	2.8	5.0	4.5
Utility (piped) gas service		172.177	165.428	164.255	-4.5	-4.6	-0.7
Household furnishings and operations.....		120.596	119.994	120.756	-0.1	0.1	0.6
Apparel.....		122.783	118.529	117.665	-8.7	-4.2	-0.7
Transportation		192.380	190.787	193.629	-7.8	0.6	1.5
Private transportation		186.784	185.148	188.195	-6.6	0.8	1.6
New and used motor vehicles(2).....		95.942	96.679	96.629	-0.5	0.7	-0.1
New vehicles		144.030	145.786	145.161	-0.9	0.8	-0.4
New cars and trucks(2)(3).....		99.818	101.004	100.569	-0.9	0.8	-0.4
New cars(3).....		133.004	135.082	135.008	0.1	1.5	-0.1
Used cars and trucks.....		145.373	144.269	142.665	-3.0	-1.9	-1.1
Motor fuel		180.260	175.899	184.823	-22.2	2.5	5.1
Gasoline (all types).....		179.103	174.767	183.774	-22.3	2.6	5.2
Gasoline, unleaded regular(3).....		175.315	171.025	180.212	-23.0	2.8	5.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(3)(4).....		201.686	195.799	203.737	-18.8	1.0	4.1
Gasoline, unleaded premium(3).....		198.540	194.354	201.483	-17.7	1.5	3.7
Motor vehicle insurance(5).....		568.633	529.141	563.674	-9.3	-0.9	6.5
Medical care		549.330	548.862	552.744	5.7	0.6	0.7
Medical care commodities.....		390.261	390.799	392.995	-2.4	0.7	0.6
Medical care services.....		595.764	594.982	599.370	7.6	0.6	0.7
Professional services		401.080	403.512	407.393	3.9	1.6	1.0
Recreation(2).....		128.377	132.380	128.712	1.7	0.3	-2.8
Education and communication(2).....		147.043	146.915	146.720	2.7	-0.2	-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	Apr. 2020	May 2020	Jun. 2020	Jun. 2019	Apr. 2020	May 2020
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(5).....		1,301.052	1,301.458	1,302.856	3.9	0.1	0.1
Other goods and services		511.241	509.456	507.516	2.3	-0.7	-0.4
Commodity and service group							
Commodities		188.826	188.241	188.755	-1.9	0.0	0.3
Commodities less food and beverages		145.084	143.583	144.240	-6.1	-0.6	0.5
Nondurables less food and beverages...		183.337	179.901	181.757	-9.1	-0.9	1.0
Durables		100.951	100.950	100.711	-2.1	-0.2	-0.2
Services.....		350.479	351.075	352.420	2.2	0.6	0.4
Special aggregate indexes							
All items less shelter.....		238.814	238.717	239.426	0.0	0.3	0.3
All items less medical care		259.058	259.099	259.905	0.3	0.3	0.3
Commodities less food		149.072	147.632	148.278	-5.8	-0.5	0.4
Nondurables		227.723	226.778	227.792	-1.8	0.0	0.4
Nondurables less food.....		187.760	184.597	186.349	-8.3	-0.8	0.9
Services less rent of shelter(1).....		346.404	347.273	348.402	2.0	0.6	0.3
Services less medical care services.....		333.579	334.271	335.406	1.5	0.5	0.3
Energy		187.095	183.663	190.948	-11.8	2.1	4.0
All items less energy		282.453	282.786	283.159	1.7	0.2	0.1
All items less food and energy		285.641	285.717	286.141	1.3	0.2	0.1

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.