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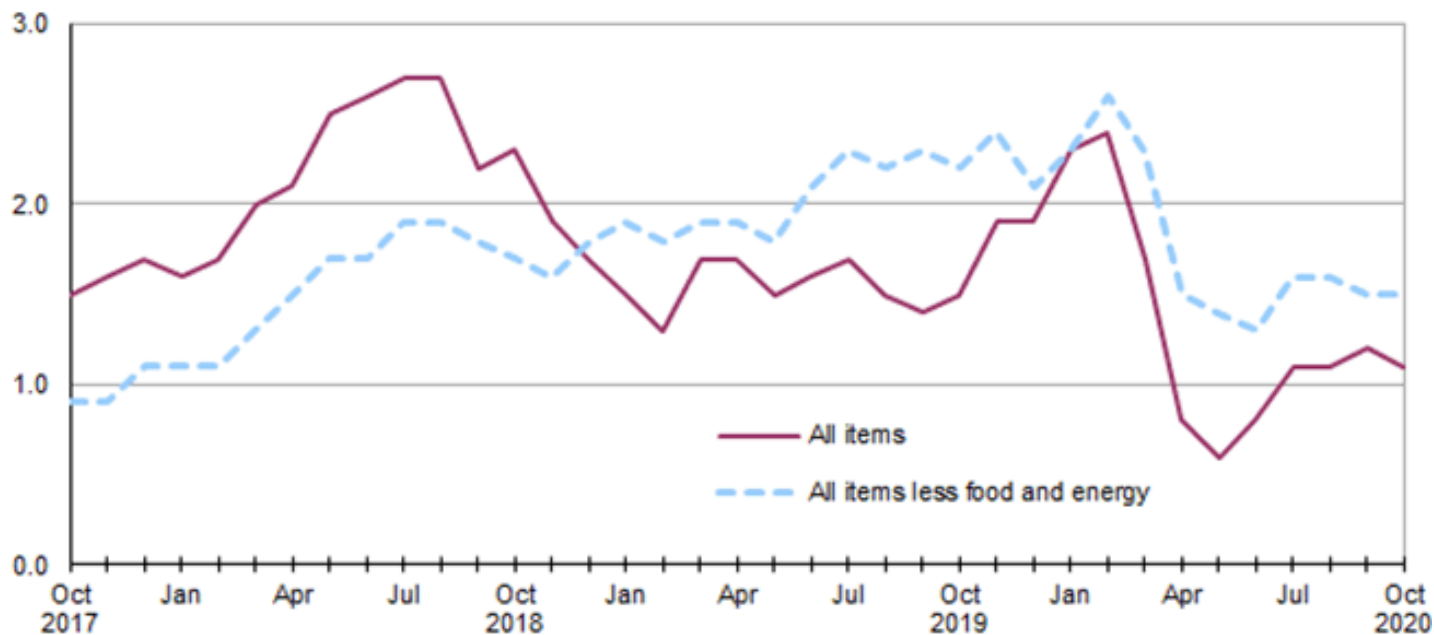
## **Consumer Price Index, Northeast Region – October 2020**

### **Regional prices down 0.2 percent over the month; up 1.1 percent over the year**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Northeast edged down 0.2 percent in October, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Acting Regional Commissioner Maureen McDevitt Greene noted that the recent decrease reflected a decline in the all items less food and energy index, down 0.2 percent since September. The energy index and the food index also declined over the month, down 1.0 and 0.1 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 1.1 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) This reflected an advance in the all items less food and energy index, up 1.5 percent. The food index also rose, up 3.5 percent, while the energy index fell 8.3 percent since September 2019. (See [table 1](#).)

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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Food

The food index inched down 0.1 percent since September. Lower prices for food at home, down 0.5 percent, were nearly offset by higher prices for food away from home, up 0.5 percent over the month.

From October 2019 to October 2020, the food index increased 3.5 percent. Prices for food at home increased over the year, up 3.3 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, declined 1.0 percent in October, led by a 1.6-percent decrease in electricity prices. Prices were also lower for gasoline (-1.2 percent) while prices for utility (piped) gas service were unchanged over the month.

The energy index decreased 8.3 percent since October 2019. The decrease reflected a drop in prices for gasoline (-15.0 percent). Prices for utility (piped) gas service also decreased over the year, down 4.3 percent, while those for electricity increased 3.0 percent.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy edged down 0.2 percent over the month. The decrease was led by lower prices for shelter (-0.4 percent) and apparel (-2.8 percent) since September.

The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.5 percent since October 2019, led by higher prices for shelter and new and used motor vehicles, up 1.9 and 4.2 percent, respectively. Prices also increased for medical care, up 2.3 percent over the year.

**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	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	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	0.4	1.1
August.....	0.1	1.0	0.3	1.6	0.2	2.7	0.1	1.5	0.1	1.1
September.....	0.2	1.3	0.5	1.9	0.1	2.2	0.0	1.4	0.1	1.2
October.....	0.2	1.6	-0.1	1.5	-0.1	2.3	-0.1	1.5	-0.2	1.1
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 decreased in the New England division, down 0.6 percent, and in the Middle Atlantic division, down 0.1 percent.

Over the year, prices rose in the Middle Atlantic division, up 1.4 percent. The all items index edged up in the New England division (0.2 percent). (See [table B.](#))

**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.....	-0.2	1.1
New England Division .....	-0.6	0.2
Middle Atlantic Division.....	-0.1	1.4

**The Consumer Price Index for October 2020 is scheduled to be released Thursday, December 10, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).**

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on October 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 October 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](http://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](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	Aug. 2020	Sep. 2020	Oct. 2020	Oct. 2019	Aug. 2020	Sep. 2020
All items .....		273.597	273.925	273.374	1.1	-0.1	-0.2
All items (December 1977 = 100) .....		430.831	431.348	430.481			
Food and beverages .....		274.094	274.500	274.419	3.5	0.1	0.0
Food .....		275.002	275.304	275.072	3.5	0.0	-0.1
Food at home .....		260.775	260.903	259.598	3.3	-0.5	-0.5
Cereals and bakery products .....		312.808	308.929	306.610	4.0	-2.0	-0.8
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....		266.995	265.933	267.170	5.8	0.1	0.5
Dairy and related products .....		240.498	240.369	236.485	2.5	-1.7	-1.6
Fruits and vegetables .....		322.093	326.289	324.559	1.8	0.8	-0.5
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....		178.804	180.309	179.406	1.3	0.3	-0.5
Other food at home .....		231.653	231.546	229.788	2.9	-0.8	-0.8
Food away from home .....		299.666	300.242	301.677	3.8	0.7	0.5
Alcoholic beverages .....		261.181	263.005	264.979	3.1	1.5	0.8
Housing .....		293.417	293.749	292.539	1.5	-0.3	-0.4
Shelter .....		367.753	368.205	366.774	1.9	-0.3	-0.4
Rent of primary residence .....		370.806	371.903	371.893	2.1	0.3	0.0
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(1) .....		381.116	381.502	381.675	2.5	0.1	0.0
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(1) .....		380.786	381.171	381.338	2.5	0.1	0.0
Fuels and utilities .....		220.042	219.623	218.026	-1.9	-0.9	-0.7
Household energy .....		191.319	190.773	188.983	-3.0	-1.2	-0.9
Energy services .....		195.555	195.499	193.263	0.8	-1.2	-1.1
Electricity .....		205.000	205.218	201.876	3.0	-1.5	-1.6
Utility (piped) gas service .....		162.837	162.261	162.305	-4.3	-0.3	0.0
Household furnishings and operations .....		121.806	122.193	121.822	1.7	0.0	-0.3
Apparel .....		121.598	125.434	121.984	-7.6	0.3	-2.8
Transportation .....		197.217	198.368	199.317	-2.8	1.1	0.5
Private transportation .....		193.697	193.484	193.363	-1.7	-0.2	-0.1
New and used motor vehicles(2) .....		98.838	98.091	99.427	4.2	0.6	1.4
New vehicles .....		144.638	143.211	143.979	1.0	-0.5	0.5
New cars and trucks(2)(3) .....		100.232	99.268	99.803	1.0	-0.4	0.5
New cars(3) .....		134.639	133.480	134.103	1.5	-0.4	0.5
Used cars and trucks .....		156.307	159.375	161.126	11.5	3.1	1.1
Motor fuel .....		190.108	192.586	190.260	-15.0	0.1	-1.2
Gasoline (all types) .....		189.108	191.608	189.295	-15.0	0.1	-1.2
Gasoline, unleaded regular(3) .....		185.523	188.066	185.717	-15.5	0.1	-1.2
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(3)(4) .....		209.337	211.145	209.248	-12.5	0.0	-0.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium(3) .....		206.731	208.863	206.906	-11.8	0.1	-0.9
Motor vehicle insurance(5) .....		620.243	609.713	584.681	-5.6	-5.7	-4.1
Medical care .....		551.685	548.668	547.497	2.3	-0.8	-0.2
Medical care commodities .....		393.671	387.697	386.889	-3.5	-1.7	-0.2
Medical care services .....		597.772	595.705	594.428	3.6	-0.6	-0.2
Professional services .....		407.372	407.281	407.269	2.1	0.0	0.0
Recreation(2) .....		130.317	128.545	128.903	2.4	-1.1	0.3
Education and communication(2) .....		148.796	148.939	149.003	2.1	0.1	0.0

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	Aug. 2020	Sep. 2020	Oct. 2020	Oct. 2019	Aug. 2020
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(5) .....		1,304.488	1,310.985	1,312.285	1.8	0.6	0.1
Other goods and services .....		513.366	513.994	513.566	2.0	0.0	-0.1
<b>Commodity and service group</b>							
Commodities .....		190.604	191.124	190.542	-0.4	0.0	-0.3
Commodities less food and beverages .....		147.281	147.821	147.066	-3.1	-0.1	-0.5
Nondurables less food and beverages.....		185.291	186.528	184.416	-6.9	-0.5	-1.1
Durables .....		103.037	103.037	103.297	2.1	0.3	0.3
Services.....		353.224	353.370	352.848	1.9	-0.1	-0.1
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>							
All items less shelter.....		241.058	241.343	241.104	0.7	0.0	-0.1
All items less medical care .....		261.327	261.807	261.283	1.0	0.0	-0.2
Commodities less food .....		151.287	151.865	151.179	-2.8	-0.1	-0.5
Nondurables .....		228.994	229.835	228.694	-1.2	-0.1	-0.5
Nondurables less food.....		189.739	191.010	189.142	-6.1	-0.3	-1.0
Services less rent of shelter(1).....		349.624	349.445	349.889	1.8	0.1	0.1
Services less medical care services.....		336.376	336.674	336.204	1.7	-0.1	-0.1
Energy .....		190.904	191.582	189.574	-8.3	-0.7	-1.0
All items less energy .....		284.613	284.914	284.489	1.7	0.0	-0.1
All items less food and energy .....		288.130	288.433	287.971	1.5	-0.1	-0.2

**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.