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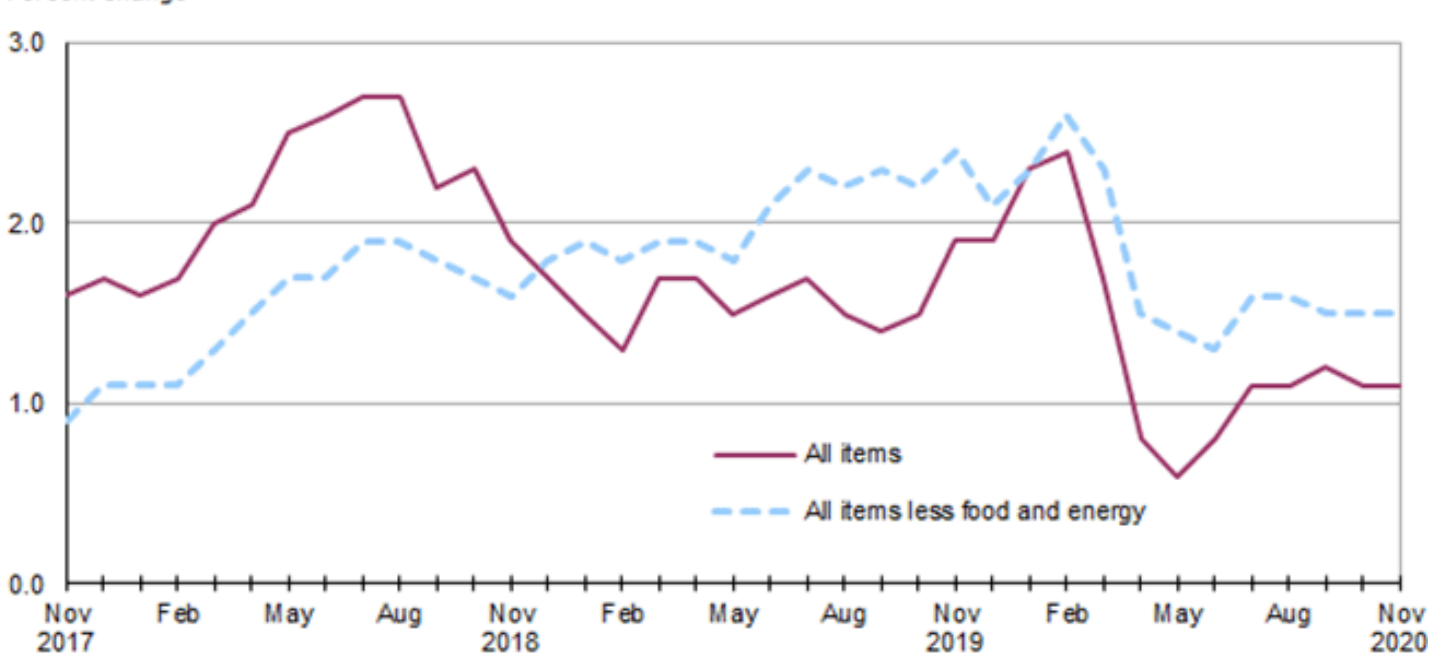
Consumer Price Index, Northeast Region – November 2020

Regional prices up 0.1 percent over the month; up 1.1 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. Acting Regional Commissioner Maureen McDevitt Greene noted that the recent increase reflected a rise in the energy index, up 1.0 percent since October. The food index declined over the month, down 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 1.1 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 3.2 percent, while the energy index fell 8.8 percent since November 2019. (See [table 1](#).)

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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

The food index inched down 0.1 percent since October. Prices were lower for food at home, down 0.2 percent, while those for food away from home were unchanged over the month.

From November 2019 to November 2020, the food index increased 3.2 percent. Prices for food at home increased over the year, up 2.8 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, rose 1.0 percent in November, led by a 8.7-percent advance in utility (piped) gas service prices. Prices were also higher for electricity (0.1 percent), while prices for gasoline declined over the month, down 1.4 percent.

The energy index fell 8.8 percent since November 2019. The decrease reflected a drop in prices for gasoline (-16.3 percent). Prices for utility (piped) gas service also decreased over the year, down 1.4 percent, while those for electricity increased 1.2 percent.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was unchanged over the month. Price increases for shelter (0.2 percent), household furnishings and operations (0.4 percent), and recreation (0.3) were offset by lower prices for apparel (-3.3 percent), medical care (-0.3 percent), and other goods and services (-0.6 percent).

The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.5 percent since November 2019, led by higher prices for shelter and new and used motor vehicles, up 1.8 and 4.6 percent, respectively. Prices also increased for recreation (2.8 percent) and medical care (1.8 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 | 0.1 | 1.1 |
| 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 decreased in the Middle Atlantic division, down 0.1 percent.

Over the year, prices rose in the Middle Atlantic division, up 1.3 percent. The all items index also rose in the New England division (0.4 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..... | 0.1 | 1.1 |
| New England Division | 0.5 | 0.4 |
| Middle Atlantic Division..... | -0.1 | 1.3 |

The Consumer Price Index for December 2020 is scheduled to be released Wednesday, January 13, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on November 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 November 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 measures 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 U.S. population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total U.S. 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 6,000 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; for most of the CPI-U the reference base is 1982-84 equals 100. An increase of 7 percent from the reference base, for example, is shown as 107.000. Alternatively, that relationship can also be expressed as the price of a base period market basket of goods and

services rising from \$100 to \$107. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the CPI section of the BLS Handbook of Methods available on the internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cpi/.

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. 2020 | Oct. 2020 | Nov. 2020 | Nov. 2019 | Sep. 2020 | Oct. 2020 |
| All items..... | | 273.925 | 273.374 | 273.543 | 1.1 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| All items (December 1977 = 100)..... | | 431.348 | 430.481 | 430.747 | | | |
| Food and beverages | | 274.500 | 274.419 | 274.106 | 3.2 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| Food | | 275.304 | 275.072 | 274.706 | 3.2 | -0.2 | -0.1 |
| Food at home | | 260.903 | 259.598 | 258.979 | 2.8 | -0.7 | -0.2 |
| Cereals and bakery products | | 308.929 | 306.610 | 304.567 | 1.7 | -1.4 | -0.7 |
| Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs..... | | 265.933 | 267.170 | 264.874 | 4.9 | -0.4 | -0.9 |
| Dairy and related products | | 240.369 | 236.485 | 237.381 | 2.5 | -1.2 | 0.4 |
| Fruits and vegetables..... | | 326.289 | 324.559 | 326.677 | 3.1 | 0.1 | 0.7 |
| Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials..... | | 180.309 | 179.406 | 176.107 | 0.4 | -2.3 | -1.8 |
| Other food at home | | 231.546 | 229.788 | 230.672 | 2.6 | -0.4 | 0.4 |
| Food away from home..... | | 300.242 | 301.677 | 301.705 | 3.8 | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| Alcoholic beverages | | 263.005 | 264.979 | 265.376 | 3.4 | 0.9 | 0.1 |
| Housing | | 293.749 | 292.539 | 293.678 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| Shelter | | 368.205 | 366.774 | 367.346 | 1.8 | -0.2 | 0.2 |
| Rent of primary residence | | 371.903 | 371.893 | 372.793 | 2.0 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Owners' equivalent rent of residences(1)..... | | 381.502 | 381.675 | 382.354 | 2.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(1) | | 381.171 | 381.338 | 382.014 | 2.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Fuels and utilities..... | | 219.623 | 218.026 | 223.098 | -2.0 | 1.6 | 2.3 |
| Household energy | | 190.773 | 188.983 | 194.052 | -3.2 | 1.7 | 2.7 |
| Energy services..... | | 195.499 | 193.263 | 198.393 | 0.4 | 1.5 | 2.7 |
| Electricity | | 205.218 | 201.876 | 202.066 | 1.2 | -1.5 | 0.1 |
| Utility (piped) gas service | | 162.261 | 162.305 | 176.489 | -1.4 | 8.8 | 8.7 |
| Household furnishings and operations..... | | 122.193 | 121.822 | 122.361 | 2.6 | 0.1 | 0.4 |
| Apparel..... | | 125.434 | 121.984 | 118.008 | -5.7 | -5.9 | -3.3 |
| Transportation | | 198.368 | 199.317 | 199.860 | -2.7 | 0.8 | 0.3 |
| Private transportation | | 193.484 | 193.363 | 193.422 | -1.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| New and used motor vehicles(2)..... | | 98.091 | 99.427 | 99.684 | 4.6 | 1.6 | 0.3 |
| New vehicles | | 143.211 | 143.979 | 144.085 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| New cars and trucks(2)(3)..... | | 99.268 | 99.803 | 99.839 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 0.0 |
| New cars(3)..... | | 133.480 | 134.103 | 134.498 | 1.9 | 0.8 | 0.3 |
| Used cars and trucks..... | | 159.375 | 161.126 | 159.067 | 10.6 | -0.2 | -1.3 |
| Motor fuel | | 192.586 | 190.260 | 187.602 | -16.2 | -2.6 | -1.4 |
| Gasoline (all types)..... | | 191.608 | 189.295 | 186.622 | -16.3 | -2.6 | -1.4 |
| Gasoline, unleaded regular(3)..... | | 188.066 | 185.717 | 182.960 | -16.8 | -2.7 | -1.5 |
| Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(3)(4)..... | | 211.145 | 209.248 | 207.237 | -13.4 | -1.9 | -1.0 |
| Gasoline, unleaded premium(3)..... | | 208.863 | 206.906 | 204.989 | -12.6 | -1.9 | -0.9 |
| Motor vehicle insurance(5)..... | | 609.713 | 584.681 | 592.578 | -5.1 | -2.8 | 1.4 |
| Medical care | | 548.668 | 547.497 | 546.128 | 1.8 | -0.5 | -0.3 |
| Medical care commodities..... | | 387.697 | 386.889 | 382.544 | -3.6 | -1.3 | -1.1 |
| Medical care services..... | | 595.705 | 594.428 | 594.004 | 2.9 | -0.3 | -0.1 |
| Professional services | | 407.281 | 407.269 | 407.942 | 2.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Recreation(2)..... | | 128.545 | 128.903 | 129.333 | 2.8 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| Education and communication(2)..... | | 148.939 | 149.003 | 148.692 | 1.6 | -0.2 | -0.2 |

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 | Historical data | Indexes | | | Percent change from | | |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | Sep. 2020 | Oct. 2020 | Nov. 2020 | Nov. 2019 | Sep. 2020 | Oct. 2020 |
| Tuition, other school fees, and child care(5)..... |  | 1,310.985 | 1,312.285 | 1,310.250 | 1.6 | -0.1 | -0.2 |
| Other goods and services |  | 513.994 | 513.566 | 510.586 | 1.5 | -0.7 | -0.6 |
| Commodity and service group | | | | | | | |
| Commodities |  | 191.124 | 190.542 | 189.784 | -0.3 | -0.7 | -0.4 |
| Commodities less food and beverages |  | 147.821 | 147.066 | 146.166 | -2.7 | -1.1 | -0.6 |
| Nondurables less food and beverages... |  | 186.528 | 184.416 | 182.728 | -6.6 | -2.0 | -0.9 |
| Durables |  | 103.037 | 103.297 | 103.044 | 2.4 | 0.0 | -0.2 |
| Services..... |  | 353.370 | 352.848 | 353.904 | 1.7 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Special aggregate indexes | | | | | | | |
| All items less shelter..... |  | 241.343 | 241.104 | 241.130 | 0.7 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| All items less medical care |  | 261.807 | 261.283 | 261.522 | 1.0 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| Commodities less food |  | 151.865 | 151.179 | 150.309 | -2.5 | -1.0 | -0.6 |
| Nondurables |  | 229.835 | 228.694 | 227.662 | -1.1 | -0.9 | -0.5 |
| Nondurables less food..... |  | 191.010 | 189.142 | 187.579 | -5.8 | -1.8 | -0.8 |
| Services less rent of shelter(1)..... |  | 349.445 | 349.889 | 351.503 | 1.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| Services less medical care services..... |  | 336.674 | 336.204 | 337.361 | 1.6 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Energy |  | 191.582 | 189.574 | 191.517 | -8.8 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| All items less energy |  | 284.914 | 284.489 | 284.498 | 1.7 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| All items less food and energy |  | 288.433 | 287.971 | 288.047 | 1.5 | -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.