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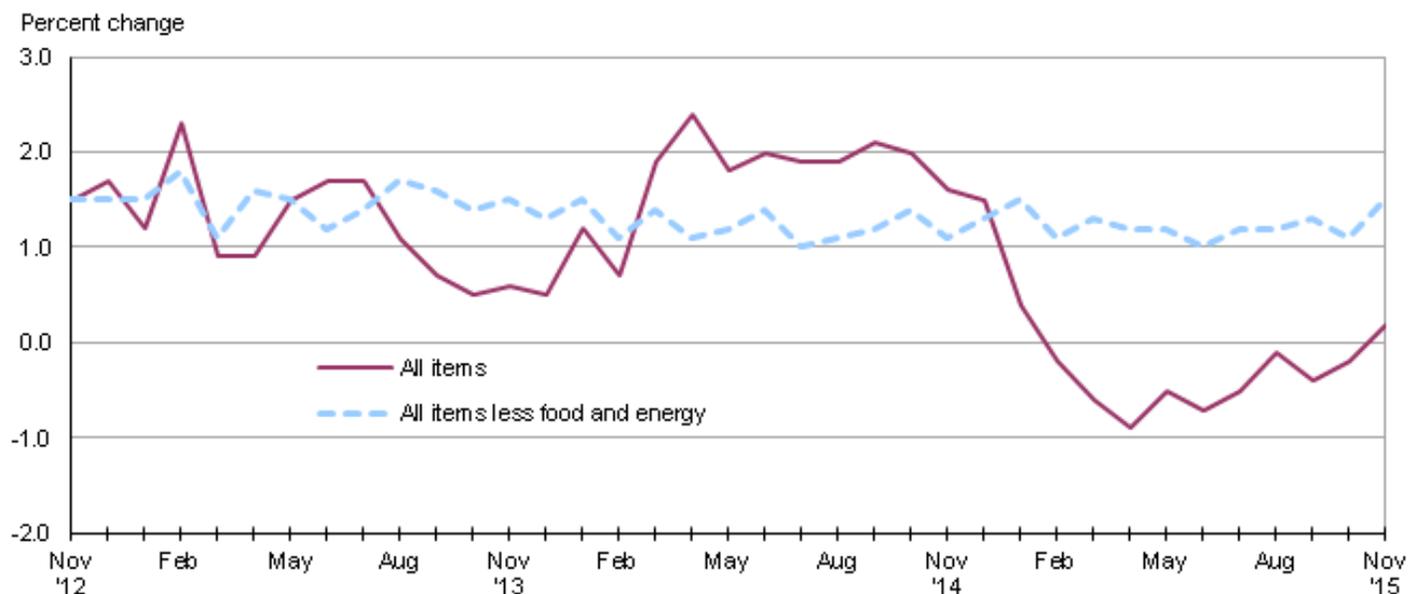
Consumer Price Index, Chicago-Gary-Kenosha — November 2015

Local prices increased 0.2 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Chicago-Gary-Kenosha area decreased 0.4 percent in November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that energy prices fell 6.4 percent and food prices were down 0.5 percent in November. The all items less food and energy index edged up 0.1 percent over the month. Among the indexes within the all items less food and energy category, prices were higher for shelter and lower for recreation. (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 Chicago area all items CPI-U increased 0.2 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) The energy index fell 14.9 percent over the year due to declines in gasoline prices and utility (piped) gas service costs. The all items less food and energy index was 1.5 percent higher over the year. (See [table 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Chicago, November 2012–November 2015



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices were down 0.5 percent in November following a 0.4-percent increase in October. Between the two components within the food index, prices for food at home (groceries) declined 1.1 percent while prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) were up 0.3 percent over the month. Within the food at home group, prices were up for other pork including roasts and picnics (excluding pork chops; ham; and bacon, breakfast sausage, and related products). In contrast, categories experiencing decreases included breakfast cereal, eggs, and uncooked ground beef.

From November 2014 to November 2015, the food index increased 1.3 percent. Prices for food eaten away from home increased 3.2 percent over the year, and grocery food prices edged up 0.1 percent from the previous November.

Energy

The energy index was down 6.4 percent in November, due to declines in gasoline prices (-11.9 percent) and utility (piped) gas service costs (-3.5 percent). Electricity prices increased 0.3 percent over the month.

On an annual basis, the Chicago area energy index declined 14.9 percent due to decreases in gasoline prices (-24.0 percent) and utility (piped) gas service costs (-19.1 percent). Electricity prices were 6.4 percent higher.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy edged up 0.1 percent in November. Among the index's components, shelter costs were up 0.2 percent. Recreation prices were down 0.9 percent.

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 1.5 percent. Increases in the indexes for shelter (2.3 percent) and medical care (2.5 percent) were major contributing factors. In contrast, prices for household furnishing and operations decreased 3.2 percent and prices for alcoholic beverages were 2.9 percent lower.

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

Month	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015	
	1-month	12-month								
January.....	0.6	1.4	0.6	2.1	0.2	1.2	0.9	1.2	-0.2	0.4
February.....	0.5	1.8	0.0	1.6	1.1	2.3	0.5	0.7	0.0	-0.2
March.....	0.8	2.3	1.2	2.1	-0.1	0.9	1.1	1.9	0.7	-0.6
April.....	0.4	2.7	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.9	0.5	2.4	0.1	-0.9
May.....	0.6	3.3	-0.1	1.0	0.5	1.5	-0.1	1.8	0.3	-0.5
June.....	0.0	3.8	-0.1	0.9	0.1	1.7	0.4	2.0	0.2	-0.7
July.....	-0.4	3.2	-0.2	1.1	-0.2	1.7	-0.4	1.9	-0.1	-0.5
August.....	0.2	3.2	0.6	1.5	0.1	1.1	0.1	1.9	0.4	-0.1
September.....	0.2	3.1	0.3	1.6	-0.2	0.7	0.0	2.1	-0.3	-0.4
October.....	-0.2	2.9	-0.2	1.7	-0.3	0.5	-0.4	2.0	-0.1	-0.2
November.....	-0.2	2.9	-0.4	1.5	-0.3	0.6	-0.8	1.6	-0.4	0.2
December.....	-0.5	2.1	-0.3	1.7	-0.3	0.5	-0.4	1.5		

The December 2015 Consumer Price Index for Chicago is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, January 20, 2016.

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 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 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 87 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 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 **Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, Ill.-Ind.-Wis.** consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties in Illinois; Lake and Porter Counties in Indiana; and Kenosha County in Wisconsin.

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 Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Sep. 2015	Oct. 2015	Nov. 2015	Nov. 2014	Sep. 2015	Oct. 2015
Expenditure category						
All items	228.826	228.600	227.641	0.2	-0.5	-0.4
All items (1967=100)	683.637	682.963	680.098	-	-	-
Food and beverages	243.146	244.100	242.745	1.1	-0.2	-0.6
Food	243.037	243.974	242.684	1.3	-0.1	-0.5
Food at home	239.750	241.200	238.511	0.1	-0.5	-1.1
Food away from home	242.183	242.372	243.097	3.2	0.4	0.3
Alcoholic beverages	243.035	244.221	241.924	-2.9	-0.5	-0.9
Housing	232.901	232.524	232.702	1.4	-0.1	0.1
Shelter	289.844	289.986	290.674	2.3	0.3	0.2
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	307.585	308.449	309.200	2.6	0.5	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ^{(1) (2)}	294.816	295.350	296.123	2.2	0.4	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)}	294.816	295.350	296.123	2.2	0.4	0.3
Fuels and utilities	195.083	193.848	192.048	-1.1	-1.6	-0.9
Household energy	158.053	156.541	154.632	-5.2	-2.2	-1.2
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	161.045	159.463	157.535	-5.1	-2.2	-1.2
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	159.175	160.116	160.603	6.4	0.9	0.3
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	148.482	143.561	138.474	-19.1	-6.7	-3.5
Household furnishings and operations	95.843	94.405	94.326	-3.2	-1.6	-0.1
Apparel	92.371	91.491	90.761	-0.1	-1.7	-0.8
Transportation	184.406	183.236	179.136	-5.8	-2.9	-2.2
Private transportation	181.597	179.521	174.810	-6.6	-3.7	-2.6
Motor fuel	240.088	232.922	205.304	-24.0	-14.5	-11.9
Gasoline (all types)	237.632	230.499	203.058	-24.0	-14.5	-11.9
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	229.098	221.825	194.445	-25.4	-15.1	-12.3
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)}	263.512	256.592	229.339	-19.6	-13.0	-10.6
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	256.427	251.743	228.411	-15.0	-10.9	-9.3
Medical care	464.155	465.204	466.513	2.5	0.5	0.3
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	109.184	109.057	108.120	0.4	-1.0	-0.9
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	143.403	143.555	143.321	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
Other goods and services	382.921	383.330	383.420	0.3	0.1	0.0
Commodity and service group						
All items	228.826	228.600	227.641	0.2	-0.5	-0.4
Commodities	169.285	168.441	165.910	-2.6	-2.0	-1.5
Commodities less food & beverages	131.613	130.014	127.051	-5.5	-3.5	-2.3
Nondurables less food & beverages	172.731	170.691	165.380	-7.4	-4.3	-3.1
Durables	92.213	91.036	90.299	-2.0	-2.1	-0.8
Services	285.229	285.587	286.111	1.8	0.3	0.2
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	218.749	218.467	217.406	0.0	-0.6	-0.5
All items less shelter	208.343	207.987	206.440	-0.8	-0.9	-0.7
Commodities less food	135.733	134.195	131.226	-5.3	-3.3	-2.2
Nondurables	208.703	208.071	204.585	-2.8	-2.0	-1.7
Nondurables less food	177.550	175.673	170.493	-7.1	-4.0	-2.9
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	295.147	295.751	296.120	1.2	0.3	0.1
Services less medical care services	271.589	271.895	272.404	1.8	0.3	0.2
Energy	189.626	185.918	174.014	-14.9	-8.2	-6.4
All items less energy	234.369	234.474	234.552	1.5	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 Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Sep. 2015	Oct. 2015	Nov. 2015	Nov. 2014	Sep. 2015	Oct. 2015
All items less food and energy	233.621	233.572	233.904	1.5	0.1	0.1

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) Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

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

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

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

- Data not available.

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