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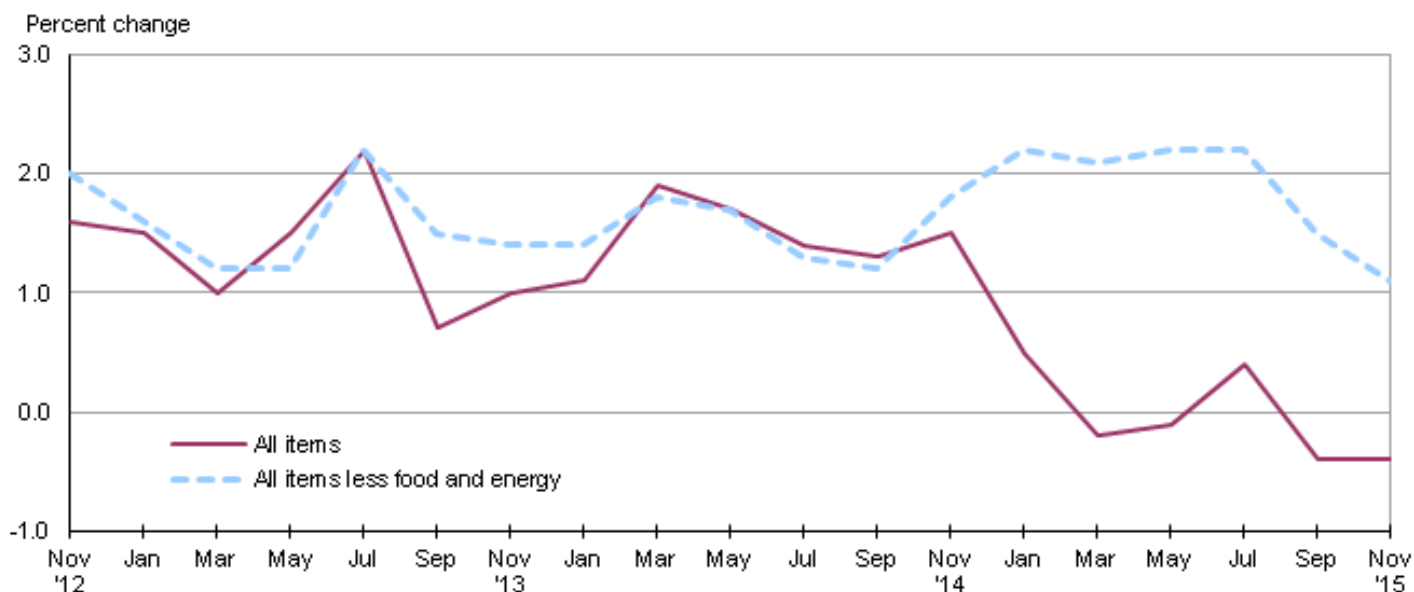
Consumer Price Index, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain — November 2015

Local prices down 0.4 percent over the year

The Cleveland-Akron, Ohio, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.5 percent from September to November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that energy costs declined 2.8 percent and food prices were 0.6 percent lower over the bi-monthly period. The index for all items less food and energy was down 0.3 percent. Within this last category, costs were lower for apparel and shelter over the two-month period. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the past 12 months the Cleveland area all items CPI-U declined 0.4 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) The energy index fell 16.0 percent from its November 2014 level due to decreases in gasoline prices and utility (piped) gas service costs over the year. The index for all items less food and energy rose 1.1 percent over the past 12 months. (See [table 1.](#))

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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices were down 0.6 percent from September to November following a 0.1-percent increase over the previous bi-monthly period. Between the food index's two components, prices for food at home (groceries) decreased 1.2 percent while prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) rose 0.2 percent over the recent two-month period.

Over the year, overall food prices were 1.1 percent higher. Prices for food away from home rose 1.7 percent and food at home prices were up 0.7 percent.

Energy

The energy index decreased 2.8 percent from September to November following a 10.9-percent decline over the previous bi-monthly period. In the recent period, declining prices for gasoline (-4.1 percent) and utility (piped) gas service (-6.4 percent) contributed to the fall in the overall energy index. Electricity prices were 0.8 percent higher.

Over the year, the energy index fell 16.0 percent due to decreases in gasoline prices (-23.7 percent) and utility (piped) gas service costs (-27.7 percent). Electricity costs rose 5.6 percent from their November 2014 level.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy declined 0.3 percent from September to November. Among the index's components, prices were lower for apparel (-6.1 percent), lodging away from home, and recreation (-0.9 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 1.1 percent. Increases in the indexes for shelter (1.4 percent) and medical care (2.1 percent) were major contributing factors. In contrast, apparel prices were down 7.3 percent over the past 12 months.

Table A. Cleveland CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015	
	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month
January.....	0.7	2.2	0.4	2.1	0.2	1.5	0.3	1.1	-0.7	0.5
March	0.9	2.8	1.3	2.6	0.9	1.0	1.6	1.9	0.9	-0.2
May	1.3	4.0	-0.1	1.1	0.4	1.5	0.2	1.7	0.4	-0.1
July	-0.2	3.8	0.0	1.4	0.7	2.2	0.5	1.4	0.9	0.4
September.....	0.6	3.7	1.0	1.8	-0.4	0.7	-0.5	1.3	-1.4	-0.4
November.....	-0.8	2.5	-1.0	1.6	-0.7	1.0	-0.6	1.5	-0.5	-0.4

The January 2016 Consumer Price Index for Cleveland is scheduled to be released on Friday, February 19, 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 **Cleveland-Akron, Ohio** consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit Counties in Ohio.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Cleveland-Akron, OH (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	220.304	-	219.126	-0.4	-0.5	-
All items (1967=100)	705.958	-	702.184	-	-	-
Food and beverages	251.224	-	249.862	1.1	-0.5	-
Food	256.584	-	254.979	1.1	-0.6	-
Food at home	249.284	245.959	246.265	0.7	-1.2	0.1
Food away from home	270.886	-	271.436	1.7	0.2	-
Alcoholic beverages	191.165	-	192.647	1.7	0.8	-
Housing	202.895	-	201.833	0.5	-0.5	-
Shelter	235.414	235.849	233.951	1.4	-0.6	-0.8
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	234.291	234.533	234.715	2.2	0.2	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ^{(1) (2)}	229.224	228.793	229.165	1.0	0.0	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)}	229.224	228.793	229.165	1.0	0.0	0.2
Fuels and utilities	187.969	-	185.713	-4.9	-1.2	-
Household energy	153.503	153.334	151.057	-8.3	-1.6	-1.5
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	152.233	152.034	149.734	-8.0	-1.6	-1.5
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	170.195	172.966	171.511	5.6	0.8	-0.8
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	112.540	108.500	105.350	-27.7	-6.4	-2.9
Household furnishings and operations	118.137	-	119.371	1.3	1.0	-
Apparel	138.643	-	130.223	-7.3	-6.1	-
Transportation	195.978	-	195.473	-4.9	-0.3	-
Private transportation	197.238	-	195.971	-4.8	-0.6	-
Motor fuel	234.863	243.708	225.187	-23.8	-4.1	-7.6
Gasoline (all types)	232.268	241.017	222.690	-23.7	-4.1	-7.6
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	220.825	228.861	210.355	-25.4	-4.7	-8.1
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)}	246.191	256.633	239.877	-20.5	-2.6	-6.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	246.172	255.830	240.780	-16.8	-2.2	-5.9
Medical care	408.099	-	409.585	2.1	0.4	-
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	117.788	-	116.747	0.4	-0.9	-
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	126.044	-	126.911	0.9	0.7	-
Other goods and services	411.980	-	416.681	3.4	1.1	-
Commodity and service group						
All items	220.304	-	219.126	-0.4	-0.5	-
Commodities	189.836	-	188.084	-2.6	-0.9	-
Commodities less food & beverages	158.617	-	156.766	-4.9	-1.2	-
Nondurables less food & beverages	203.048	-	199.115	-8.7	-1.9	-
Durables	110.309	-	110.152	0.5	-0.1	-
Services	251.492	-	250.806	1.2	-0.3	-
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	211.682	-	210.392	-0.6	-0.6	-
All items less shelter	216.242	-	215.171	-1.2	-0.5	-
Commodities less food	159.962	-	158.210	-4.7	-1.1	-
Nondurables	227.721	-	224.991	-3.7	-1.2	-
Nondurables less food	201.993	-	198.424	-8.1	-1.8	-
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	274.204	-	274.487	0.9	0.1	-
Services less medical care services	239.391	-	238.685	0.8	-0.3	-
Energy	185.018	188.132	179.907	-16.0	-2.8	-4.4
All items less energy	225.753	-	224.947	1.1	-0.4	-

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 Cleveland-Akron, OH (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	220.492	-	219.817	1.1	-0.3	-

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.