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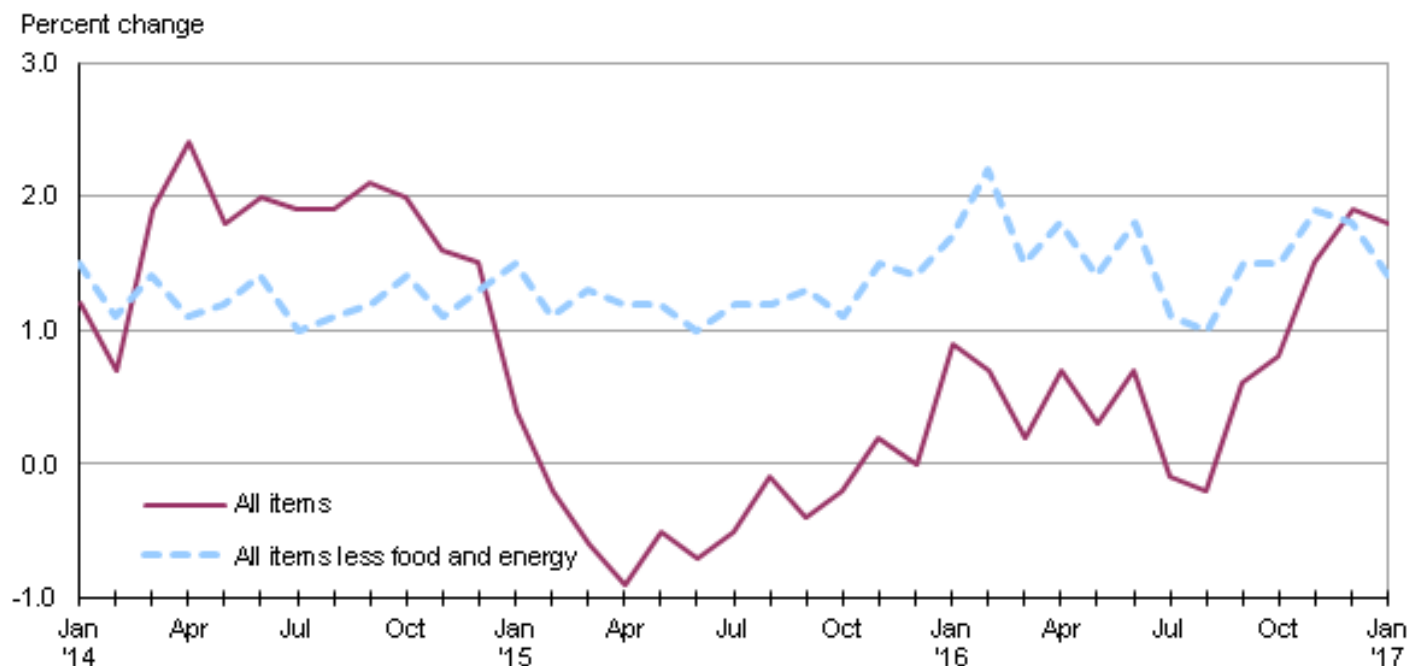
Consumer Price Index, Chicago-Gary-Kenosha — January 2017

Local prices up 1.8 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Chicago-Gary-Kenosha area rose 0.7 percent in January, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that food prices declined 0.2 percent and energy prices increased 4.4 percent in January. The all items less food and energy index rose 0.6 percent over the month. Among the indexes within the all items less food and energy category, prices were higher for shelter, recreation, and apparel. (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 1.8 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) Energy costs rose 16.2 percent over the year due to increases in the indexes for gasoline and utility (piped) gas service. The all items less food and energy index was 1.4 percent higher over the year. (See [table 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Chicago, January 2014–January 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices fell 0.2 percent in January after decreasing 0.4 percent in December. Between the two components within the food index, prices for food at home (groceries) fell 0.3 percent, while prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) were unchanged over the month. Within the food at home group, prices were lower in January for other pork including roasts and picnics, potatoes, and breakfast cereal. In contrast, the indexes for eggs and citrus fruits were higher.

From January 2016 to January 2017, the food index fell 1.3 percent. Grocery prices declined 3.7 percent, while food away from home prices rose 2.3 percent over the year.

Energy

The energy index increased 4.4 percent in January primarily due to gasoline prices rising 5.7 percent. Utility (piped) gas service costs increased 4.8 percent over the month and the electricity index rose 2.4 percent.

Over the year, the Chicago area energy index rose 16.2 percent. The major contributing factors in the energy index's rise were a 28.5-percent increase in gasoline prices and a 22.1-percent increase in the utility (piped) gas service index. Electricity costs fell 0.6 percent over the year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.6 percent in January. Prices were higher for shelter (0.8 percent), recreation (2.1 percent), and apparel (2.8 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 1.4 percent. Increases in the indexes for shelter (2.4 percent) and medical care (5.3 percent) were major contributing factors.

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

Month	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	0.2	1.2	0.9	1.2	-0.2	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.8
February.....	1.1	2.3	0.5	0.7	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.7		
March.....	-0.1	0.9	1.1	1.9	0.7	-0.6	0.1	0.2		
April.....	0.0	0.9	0.5	2.4	0.1	-0.9	0.6	0.7		
May.....	0.5	1.5	-0.1	1.8	0.3	-0.5	0.0	0.3		
June.....	0.1	1.7	0.4	2.0	0.2	-0.7	0.5	0.7		
July.....	-0.2	1.7	-0.4	1.9	-0.1	-0.5	-0.8	-0.1		
August.....	0.1	1.1	0.1	1.9	0.4	-0.1	0.2	-0.2		
September.....	-0.2	0.7	0.0	2.1	-0.3	-0.4	0.6	0.6		
October.....	-0.3	0.5	-0.4	2.0	-0.1	-0.2	0.1	0.8		
November.....	-0.3	0.6	-0.8	1.6	-0.4	0.2	0.2	1.5		
December.....	-0.3	0.5	-0.4	1.5	-0.6	0.0	-0.2	1.9		

The February 2017 Consumer Price Index for Chicago is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, March 15, 2017.

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-		
	Nov. 2016	Dec. 2016	Jan. 2017	Jan. 2016	Nov. 2016	Dec. 2016
Expenditure category						
All items.....	230.969	230.476	232.155	1.8	0.5	0.7
All items (1967=100).....	690.040	688.567	693.581	-	-	-
Food and beverages.....	243.435	242.856	242.524	-1.3	-0.4	-0.1
Food.....	243.466	242.580	242.117	-1.3	-0.6	-0.2
Food at home.....	234.809	233.374	232.695	-3.7	-0.9	-0.3
Food away from home.....	250.838	250.838	250.726	2.3	0.0	0.0
Alcoholic beverages.....	241.256	245.213	246.802	-0.1	2.3	0.6
Housing.....	238.965	237.767	240.097	2.5	0.5	1.0
Shelter.....	300.016	298.542	300.959	2.4	0.3	0.8
Rent of primary residence(1).....	317.112	317.296	317.668	2.4	0.2	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2).....	304.051	304.582	304.947	2.4	0.3	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2).....	304.051	304.582	304.947	2.4	0.3	0.1
Fuels and utilities.....	199.898	197.760	202.833	8.1	1.5	2.6
Household energy.....	157.840	155.622	160.768	7.3	1.9	3.3
Energy services(1).....	160.926	158.554	163.895	7.4	1.8	3.4
Electricity(1).....	150.177	150.375	154.025	-0.6	2.6	2.4
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....	164.254	157.948	165.549	22.1	0.8	4.8
Household furnishings and operations.....	91.171	91.290	91.776	-3.0	0.7	0.5
Apparel.....	88.102	82.776	85.121	-6.2	-3.4	2.8
Transportation.....	176.508	179.811	182.556	5.2	3.4	1.5
Private transportation.....	172.887	176.640	179.380	6.1	3.8	1.6
Motor fuel.....	196.464	211.678	223.642	28.3	13.8	5.7
Gasoline (all types).....	194.380	209.568	221.456	28.5	13.9	5.7
Gasoline, unleaded regular(3).....	185.344	200.589	212.045	29.7	14.4	5.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(3)(4).....	222.363	236.527	250.531	24.5	12.7	5.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium(3).....	224.125	236.886	248.844	22.3	11.0	5.0
Medical care.....	498.174	495.526	492.224	5.3	-1.2	-0.7
Recreation(5).....	106.585	105.603	107.772	-2.5	1.1	2.1
Education and communication(5).....	144.574	145.202	145.522	2.1	0.7	0.2
Other goods and services.....	385.112	388.371	385.260	0.7	0.0	-0.8
Commodity and service group						
All items.....	230.969	230.476	232.155	1.8	0.5	0.7
Commodities.....	163.609	163.691	165.286	0.0	1.0	1.0
Commodities less food & beverages.....	123.550	123.894	126.184	1.0	2.1	1.8
Nondurables less food & beverages.....	162.380	163.117	167.297	5.1	3.0	2.6
Durables.....	87.153	87.191	87.967	-4.0	0.9	0.9
Services.....	294.948	293.889	295.630	2.9	0.2	0.6
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care.....	219.492	219.093	220.993	1.5	0.7	0.9
All items less shelter.....	207.683	207.529	208.956	1.6	0.6	0.7
Commodities less food.....	127.777	128.216	130.512	1.0	2.1	1.8
Nondurables.....	203.289	203.396	205.431	1.4	1.1	1.0
Nondurables less food.....	167.587	168.507	172.564	4.6	3.0	2.4
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	304.841	304.185	305.271	3.4	0.1	0.4
Services less medical care services.....	279.293	278.419	280.617	2.5	0.5	0.8
Energy.....	172.525	177.059	184.835	16.2	7.1	4.4
All items less energy.....	238.381	237.418	238.546	0.9	0.1	0.5
All items less food and energy.....	238.297	237.317	238.739	1.4	0.2	0.6

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

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. Data not seasonally adjusted.