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Consumer Price Index, Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington — November 2019

Local prices up 2.8 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington area declined 0.2 percent from September to November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that the food index rose 0.2 percent and the energy index was down 4.1 percent over the bi-monthly period. The index for all items less food and energy was essentially unchanged, up 0.1 percent, from September to November. Among the indexes within the all items less food and energy category, prices were higher for shelter and medical care, but were lower for apparel. (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 Minneapolis all items CPI-U increased 2.8 percent. (See [table A.](#)) The food index rose 2.2 percent while the energy index increased 2.7 percent from November 2018 to November 2019. The index for all items less food and energy rose 2.9 percent over the year. (See [table 1.](#))

Food

Food prices increased 0.2 percent from September to November. Of the two components within the food index, prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) increased 1.2 percent while prices for food at home (groceries) fell 0.6 percent over the bi-monthly period.

Over the year, food prices in the Minneapolis area were up 2.2 percent. Prices for groceries rose 0.8 percent, while food away from home prices rose 3.9 percent from November 2018.

Energy

The energy index for Minneapolis fell 4.1 percent from September to November. Among the index's components, prices were lower for electricity (-15.7 percent) and gasoline (-2.0 percent). Utility (piped) gas service costs rose 6.0 percent.

From November 2018 to November 2019, overall energy prices increased 2.7 percent. The utility (piped) gas service index rose 87.6 percent. Gasoline prices and electricity prices declined 2.6 percent and 9.8 percent, respectively, over the year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was essentially unchanged, up 0.1 percent, from September to November. Among the index's components, prices were higher for shelter (0.3 percent) and medical care (1.0 percent), but were lower for apparel (-8.9 percent) and household furnishings and operations (-0.4 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 2.9 percent. Increases in the indexes for shelter (4.2 percent) and medical care (5.5 percent) were contributing factors.

Table A. Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI, CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2018		2019	
	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month
January.....	0.3		0.4	1.4
March	0.5		1.4	2.3
May.....	1.0		1.0	2.3
July	0.3		0.3	2.2
September.....	0.3		-0.2	1.7
November.....	-1.2	1.3	-0.2	2.8

The January 2020 Consumer Price Index for Minneapolis is scheduled to be released on Thursday, February 13, 2020.

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 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 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 **Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI, Core Based Statistical Area** covered in this release is comprised of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, LeSueur, Mille Lacs, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, Washington, and Wright Counties in Minnesota; and Pierce and St. Croix Counties in Wisconsin.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019	Nov. 2019	Nov. 2018	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019
Expenditure category						
All items	251.416	-	250.997	2.8	-0.2	-
All items (1967=100)	790.081	-	788.766	-	-	-
Food and beverages	285.373	-	285.818	2.1	0.2	-
Food	274.096	-	274.760	2.2	0.2	-
Food at home	247.293	249.107	245.759	0.8	-0.6	-1.3
Cereals and bakery products	275.653	-	269.368	-3.6	-2.3	-
Meats, poultry, fish and eggs	264.287	-	262.410	1.3	-0.7	-
Dairy and related products	276.130	-	278.174	6.8	0.7	-
Fruits and vegetables	340.426	-	337.885	0.9	-0.7	-
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1)	153.319	-	154.630	2.9	0.9	-
Other food at home	195.960	-	194.438	-0.3	-0.8	-
Food away from home	312.428	-	316.302	3.9	1.2	-
Alcoholic beverages	384.914	-	381.771	0.9	-0.8	-
Housing	238.271	-	237.695	4.3	-0.2	-
Shelter	283.109	284.176	283.953	4.2	0.3	-0.1
Rent of primary residence(2)	288.844	290.019	291.260	4.8	0.8	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)(3)	295.540	296.718	297.252	3.9	0.6	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(2)(3)	295.540	296.718	297.252	3.9	0.6	0.2
Fuels and utilities	208.957	-	197.958	9.0	-5.3	-
Household energy	185.103	175.301	172.220	11.7	-7.0	-1.8
Energy services(2)	189.758	178.586	173.587	12.5	-8.5	-2.8
Electricity(2)	278.022	249.468	234.509	-9.8	-15.7	-6.0
Utility (piped) gas service(2)	114.691	118.148	121.524	87.6	6.0	2.9
Household furnishings and operations	121.493	-	120.948	1.8	-0.4	-
Apparel	146.106	-	133.068	2.2	-8.9	-
Transportation	200.141	-	200.247	-1.0	0.1	-
Private transportation	185.636	-	185.741	-1.5	0.1	-
New and used motor vehicles(4)	90.290	-	91.188	0.0	1.0	-
New vehicles(1)	155.152	-	157.400	0.4	1.4	-
Used cars and trucks(1)	271.099	-	267.925	-1.9	-1.2	-
Motor fuel	214.570	216.314	210.254	-2.6	-2.0	-2.8
Gasoline (all types)	215.102	216.852	210.705	-2.6	-2.0	-2.8
Gasoline, unleaded regular(5)	215.233	216.996	210.978	-2.5	-2.0	-2.8
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(5)(6)	221.817	225.240	214.248	-4.0	-3.4	-4.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium(5)	268.197	269.755	261.453	-3.1	-2.5	-3.1
Motor vehicle insurance(1)	462.823	-	464.304	-8.1	0.3	-
Medical care	565.622	-	571.455	5.5	1.0	-
Recreation(4)	131.289	-	131.710	3.9	0.3	-
Education and communication(4)	137.391	-	137.479	-1.3	0.1	-
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare(1) ...	1,089.593	-	1,089.593	-3.7	0.0	-
Other goods and services	378.836	-	383.258	3.5	1.2	-
Commodity and service group						
All items	251.416	-	250.997	2.8	-0.2	-
Commodities	189.157	-	187.944	1.1	-0.6	-
Commodities less food and beverages	146.584	-	144.973	0.5	-1.1	-
Nondurables less food and beverages	196.705	-	192.093	1.3	-2.3	-
Durables	104.146	-	104.609	-0.4	0.4	-
Services	306.793	-	307.097	3.7	0.1	-

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 Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019	Nov. 2019	Nov. 2018	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	237.271	-	236.567	2.5	-0.3	-
All items less shelter	238.898	-	237.926	2.0	-0.4	-
Commodities less food	154.980	-	153.296	0.5	-1.1	-
Nondurables	238.612	-	236.054	1.7	-1.1	-
Nondurables less food	209.562	-	204.898	1.2	-2.2	-
Services less rent of shelter(3)	346.608	-	346.247	3.2	-0.1	-
Services less medical care services	283.582	-	283.465	3.5	0.0	-
Energy	203.371	199.876	195.109	2.7	-4.1	-2.4
All items less energy	260.200	-	260.467	2.8	0.1	-
All items less food and energy	258.229	-	258.441	2.9	0.1	-

Footnotes

(1) Index on an April 1978=100 base.

(2) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(3) Index on a December 1982=100 base.

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

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

(6) Index on a December 1993=100 base.

- Data not available.

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