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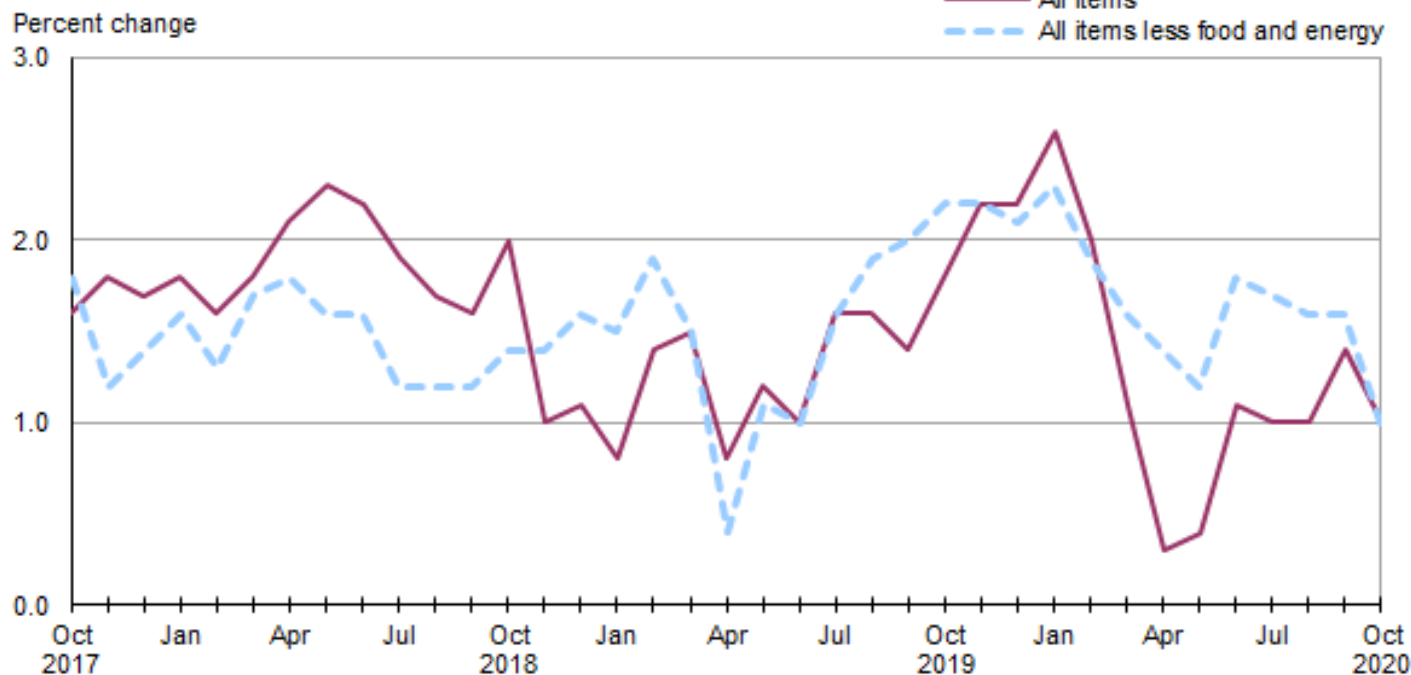
Consumer Price Index, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin — October 2020

Area prices were down 0.1 percent over the past month, up 1.0 percent from a year ago

Prices in the Chicago-Naperville-Elgin area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), declined 0.1 percent in October, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Jason Palmer noted that food prices increased 0.9 percent and the energy index was down 1.2 percent in October. The all items less food and energy index declined 0.2 percent in October due to lower prices for apparel, shelter, and medical care. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U increased 1.0 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.0 percent over the year. Food prices rose 5.1 percent. Energy prices decreased 9.1 percent, largely the result of a decrease in the price of gasoline. (See [table 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI, October 2017–October 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 0.9 percent for the month of October. Prices for food at home (groceries) rose 1.4 percent, and prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) rose 0.1 percent for the same period. Within the food at home group, indexes were higher in October for other fresh fruits, chicken, and citrus fruits, while prices were lower for uncooked beef steaks and frozen and freeze dried prepared foods.

Over the year, food prices rose 5.1 percent. Prices for food at home rose 4.9 percent since a year ago, and prices for food away from home rose 5.3 percent.

Energy

The energy index decreased 1.2 percent over the month. The decrease was mainly due to lower prices for gasoline (-2.5 percent). Prices for utility (piped) gas service advanced 0.3 percent, while prices for electricity decreased 0.4 percent for the same period.

Energy prices decreased 9.1 percent over the year, largely due to lower prices for gasoline (-17.6 percent). Prices paid for utility (piped) gas service advanced 4.8 percent, while prices for electricity decreased 3.4 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy declined 0.2 percent in October. Lower prices for apparel (-4.2 percent), shelter (-0.2 percent), and medical care (-0.3 percent) were partially offset by higher prices for new and used motor vehicles (1.2 percent) and alcoholic beverages (1.1 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 1.0 percent. Components contributing to the increase included shelter (2.2 percent), new and used motor vehicles (5.1 percent), and recreation (2.0 percent). Partly offsetting the increases were price decreases in apparel (-7.4 percent) and motor vehicle insurance (-9.8 percent).

Table A. Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI, 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.....	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.8	0.8	1.8	0.6	0.8	0.9	2.6
February.....	-0.2	0.7	0.1	2.2	0.0	1.6	0.6	1.4	0.0	2.0
March.....	0.1	0.2	-0.1	2.0	0.0	1.8	0.1	1.5	-0.7	1.1
April.....	0.6	0.7	0.4	1.7	0.7	2.1	-0.1	0.8	-0.9	0.3
May.....	0.0	0.3	0.2	1.8	0.4	2.3	0.8	1.2	1.0	0.4
June.....	0.5	0.7	0.0	1.3	-0.2	2.2	-0.4	1.0	0.3	1.1
July.....	-0.8	-0.1	0.0	2.2	-0.3	1.9	0.3	1.6	0.2	1.0
August.....	0.2	-0.2	0.3	2.3	0.1	1.7	0.2	1.6	0.1	1.0
September.....	0.6	0.6	0.4	2.1	0.4	1.6	0.2	1.4	0.6	1.4
October.....	0.1	0.8	-0.4	1.6	0.0	2.0	0.3	1.8	-0.1	1.0
November.....	0.2	1.5	0.4	1.8	-0.6	1.0	-0.2	2.2		
December.....	-0.2	1.9	-0.4	1.7	-0.3	1.1	-0.2	2.2		

The November 2020 Consumer Price Index for Chicago is scheduled to be released on Thursday, December 10, 2020.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on October 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 October 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 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 **Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI, Core Based Statistical Area** covered in this release is comprised of Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties in Illinois; Jasper, Lake, Newton, 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-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Aug. 2020	Sep. 2020	Oct. 2020	Oct. 2019	Aug. 2020	Sep. 2020
Expenditure category						
All items.....	244.341	245.745	245.584	1.0	0.5	-0.1
All items (1967=100).....	729.989	734.183	733.702	-	-	-
Food and beverages.....	260.499	265.079	267.388	5.0	2.6	0.9
Food.....	259.872	264.931	267.191	5.1	2.8	0.9
Food at home.....	246.435	246.143	249.711	4.9	1.3	1.4
Cereals and bakery products.....	275.587	278.781	278.091	3.6	0.9	-0.2
Meats, poultry, fish and eggs.....	263.884	267.299	271.539	7.1	2.9	1.6
Dairy and related products.....	233.675	227.612	227.190	7.5	-2.8	-0.2
Fruits and vegetables.....	308.078	295.809	319.439	0.4	3.7	8.0
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1).....	206.231	212.088	212.689	10.0	3.1	0.3
Other food at home.....	198.818	199.412	197.440	4.2	-0.7	-1.0
Food away from home.....	272.882	285.383	285.745	5.3	4.7	0.1
Alcoholic beverages.....	267.163	265.543	268.463	4.2	0.5	1.1
Housing.....	259.549	259.955	259.397	1.9	-0.1	-0.2
Shelter.....	330.642	331.358	330.736	2.2	0.0	-0.2
Rent of primary residence(2).....	350.673	351.302	352.532	2.8	0.5	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)(3).....	340.744	341.200	341.384	3.0	0.2	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(2)(3).....	340.744	341.200	341.384	3.0	0.2	0.1
Fuels and utilities.....	209.238	208.748	208.616	0.2	-0.3	-0.1
Household energy.....	160.986	160.473	160.283	-0.4	-0.4	-0.1
Energy services(2).....	164.263	163.753	163.554	-0.4	-0.4	-0.1
Electricity(2).....	167.590	163.117	162.521	-3.4	-3.0	-0.4
Utility (piped) gas service(2).....	145.844	151.283	151.691	4.8	4.0	0.3
Household furnishings and operations.....	90.365	90.418	89.895	0.8	-0.5	-0.6
Apparel.....	79.850	87.534	83.841	-7.4	5.0	-4.2
Transportation.....	179.927	177.932	178.934	-3.9	-0.6	0.6
Private transportation.....	180.116	178.364	178.154	-2.7	-1.1	-0.1
New and used motor vehicles(4).....	98.531	98.567	99.785	5.1	1.3	1.2
New vehicles(1).....	173.124	171.260	172.982	1.3	-0.1	1.0
Used cars and trucks(1).....	288.106	295.325	298.183	12.0	3.5	1.0
Motor fuel.....	207.903	203.881	198.770	-17.7	-4.4	-2.5
Gasoline (all types).....	205.960	201.921	196.807	-17.6	-4.4	-2.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular(5).....	197.638	193.494	188.674	-18.0	-4.5	-2.5
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(5)(6).....	231.165	229.295	221.644	-16.5	-4.1	-3.3
Gasoline, unleaded premium(5).....	234.048	231.784	225.860	-14.5	-3.5	-2.6
Motor vehicle insurance(1).....	540.884	510.182	499.604	-9.8	-7.6	-2.1
Medical care.....	535.786	538.491	536.920	0.1	0.2	-0.3
Recreation(4).....	114.536	115.020	114.955	2.0	0.4	-0.1
Education and communication(4).....	141.498	142.272	141.932	0.2	0.3	-0.2
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare(1) ...	1,216.774	1,216.696	1,218.961	1.2	0.2	0.2
Other goods and services.....	409.307	408.328	406.931	-0.3	-0.6	-0.3
Commodity and service group						
All items.....	244.341	245.745	245.584	1.0	0.5	-0.1
Commodities.....	167.792	170.026	169.799	0.3	1.2	-0.1
Commodities less food and beverages.....	123.040	124.276	123.147	-3.0	0.1	-0.9
Nondurables less food and beverages.....	162.400	165.597	161.697	-7.6	-0.4	-2.4
Durables.....	85.943	85.843	86.537	3.1	0.7	0.8
Services.....	317.348	317.766	317.686	1.3	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-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Aug. 2020	Sep. 2020	Oct. 2020	Oct. 2019	Aug. 2020	Sep. 2020
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	231.800	233.149	233.053	1.0	0.5	0.0
All items less shelter	215.141	216.768	216.759	0.3	0.8	0.0
Commodities less food	127.900	129.075	128.039	-2.7	0.1	-0.8
Nondurables	211.134	215.030	214.038	-0.6	1.4	-0.5
Nondurables less food.....	169.091	172.006	168.506	-6.6	-0.3	-2.0
Services less rent of shelter(3).....	319.318	319.429	319.935	0.3	0.2	0.2
Services less medical care services.....	300.387	300.551	300.509	1.3	0.0	0.0
Energy	178.764	176.851	174.696	-9.1	-2.3	-1.2
All items less energy	252.492	254.197	254.208	1.7	0.7	0.0
All items less food and energy	252.029	253.133	252.736	1.0	0.3	-0.2

Footnotes

(1) Index on a December 1977=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.