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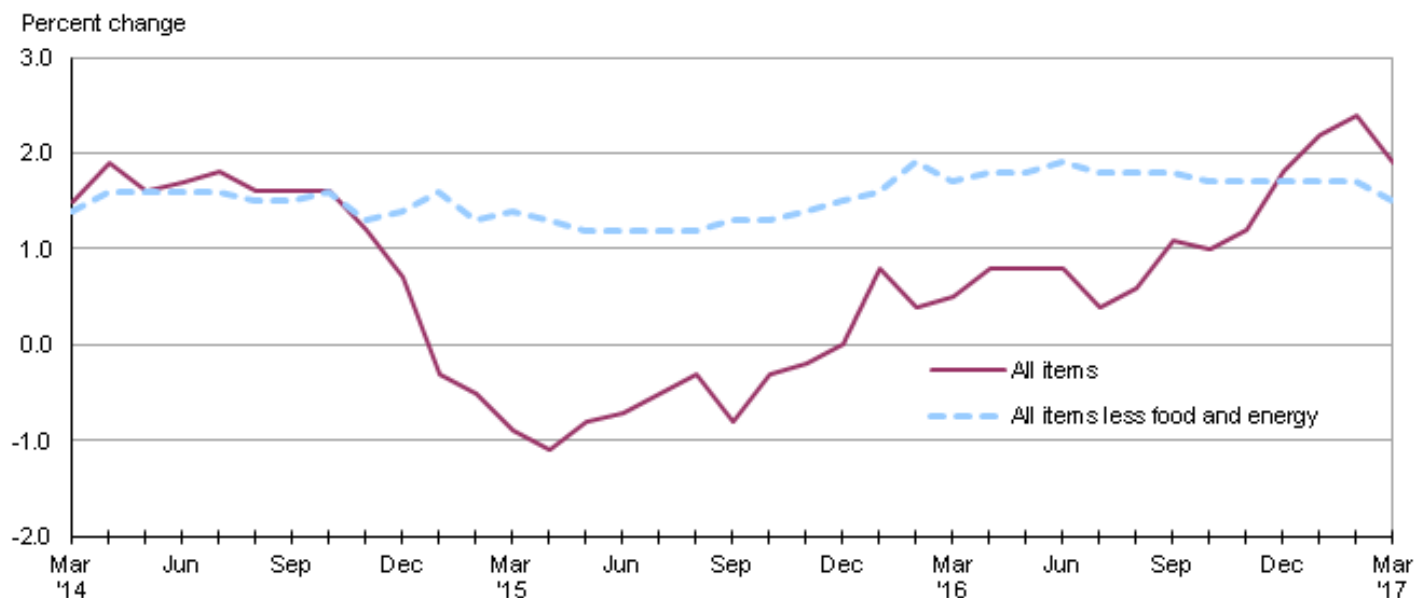
## Consumer Price Index, Midwest Region – March 2017

### Prices in the Midwest up 0.1 percent in March and 1.9 percent higher over the year

The March Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Midwest was virtually unchanged, edging up a slight 0.1 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Energy costs rose 0.6 percent over the month led by higher prices for gasoline (2.2 percent). Food prices were essentially unchanged (0.1 percent). Prices for all items less food and energy were unchanged in March due to offsetting movements within the index. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

The CPI-U for the Midwest rose 1.9 percent from March 2016 to March 2017. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The energy index, which includes motor fuel and household fuels, was up 9.9 percent and food prices were 0.3 percent higher. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced 1.5 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Midwest region, March 2014–March 2017**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Food

Food prices (0.1 percent) were little changed in March. Costs for food at home rose 0.2 percent while prices for food away from home were virtually unchanged (0.1 percent) over the month.

From March 2016 to March 2017, the index for food increased 0.3 percent led by a 2.1-percent rise in costs for food away from home. Prices for food at home registered their 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive over-the-year decrease, down 0.8 percent.

## Energy

The energy index rose 0.6 percent in March following a 2.3-percent decline in the prior month. Higher gasoline prices, up 2.2 percent, led the increase in the energy component. Electricity prices also contributed to the advance with an increase of 0.2 percent over the month. Conversely, costs for utility (piped) gas service were 2.6 percent lower.

Energy costs advanced 9.9 percent from March 2016 to March 2017. Gasoline prices rose 17.6 percent over the year. Costs for utility (piped) gas service increased 10.3 percent and prices for electricity were up 0.7 percent.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy for the Midwest was unchanged in March. Higher prices for apparel (1.8 percent) had the largest upward impact while lower prices for education and communication (-1.8 percent) registered the largest offsetting movement.

The index for all items less food and energy was up 1.5 percent from March 2016 to March 2017. Higher costs for shelter (2.5 percent) and medical care (3.3 percent) led the advance.

The Midwest Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) stood at 228.824 in March 2017. A typical market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in the 1982-84 base period cost \$228.82 in March 2017.

## CPI-W

In March, the Midwest Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 222.671, up 0.1 percent over the month. The CPI-W increased 1.8 percent over the year.

**Table A. Midwest region 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.....	0.1	1.3	0.5	1.4	-0.6	-0.3	0.3	0.8	0.7	2.2
February.....	1.1	2.2	0.6	0.9	0.3	-0.5	0.0	0.4	0.2	2.4
March.....	0.2	1.4	0.9	1.5	0.6	-0.9	0.6	0.5	0.1	1.9
April.....	-0.1	1.2	0.3	1.9	0.1	-1.1	0.4	0.8		
May.....	0.5	1.8	0.2	1.6	0.4	-0.8	0.4	0.8		
June.....	0.3	2.2	0.5	1.7	0.5	-0.7	0.6	0.8		
July.....	-0.4	1.8	-0.3	1.8	0.0	-0.5	-0.5	0.4		
August.....	0.1	1.2	-0.2	1.6	0.0	-0.3	0.1	0.6		
September.....	0.1	1.0	0.1	1.6	-0.3	-0.8	0.2	1.1		
October.....	-0.5	0.8	-0.5	1.6	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1	1.0		
November.....	-0.2	1.0	-0.6	1.2	-0.5	-0.2	-0.3	1.2		
December.....	-0.2	1.0	-0.7	0.7	-0.6	0.0	0.1	1.8		

**The April 2017 Consumer Price Index for the Midwest region is scheduled to be released on Friday, May 12, 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 approximately 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](http://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/homch17\\_a.htm](http://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17_a.htm).

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 areas; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The Midwest region is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

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**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Jan. 2017	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016	Jan. 2017	Feb. 2017
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All Items.....	228.279	228.633	228.824	1.9	0.2	0.1
All items (December 1977=100).....	371.422	371.998	372.309			
Food and beverages .....	240.077	240.532	240.842	0.4	0.3	0.1
Food .....	239.464	240.000	240.330	0.3	0.4	0.1
Food at home .....	225.083	225.558	225.919	-0.8	0.4	0.2
Food away from home.....	263.637	264.278	264.553	2.1	0.3	0.1
Alcoholic beverages .....	246.391	245.662	245.680	0.4	-0.3	0.0
Housing .....	219.369	219.711	219.759	2.2	0.2	0.0
Shelter .....	259.528	260.016	260.312	2.5	0.3	0.1
Rent of primary residence(1).....	258.736	259.003	259.587	2.8	0.3	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2).....	263.522	263.834	264.395	2.7	0.3	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2).....	263.506	263.812	264.370	2.7	0.3	0.2
Fuels and utilities.....	218.703	218.321	217.084	3.8	-0.7	-0.6
Household energy .....	179.422	178.854	177.386	3.8	-1.1	-0.8
Energy services(1) .....	186.608	185.745	184.406	3.5	-1.2	-0.7
Electricity(1).....	198.684	197.811	198.192	0.7	-0.2	0.2
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....	155.269	154.476	150.422	10.3	-3.1	-2.6
Household furnishings and operations.....	113.896	114.268	114.349	-1.0	0.4	0.1
Apparel .....	113.754	116.785	118.906	0.8	4.5	1.8
Transportation .....	195.395	193.850	195.223	3.5	-0.1	0.7
Private transportation .....	190.013	188.209	189.455	3.6	-0.3	0.7
New and used motor vehicles(3).....	96.984	97.207	97.259	-2.2	0.3	0.1
New vehicles .....	140.162	140.337	139.876	-0.6	-0.2	-0.3
New cars and trucks(3)(4).....	98.999	99.121	98.802	-0.7	-0.2	-0.3
New cars(4).....	136.756	137.672	136.562	0.0	-0.1	-0.8
Used cars and trucks.....	138.051	138.424	139.845	-4.6	1.3	1.0
Motor fuel .....	212.034	202.461	206.882	17.6	-2.4	2.2
Gasoline (all types).....	210.904	201.278	205.745	17.6	-2.4	2.2
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....	204.966	195.197	199.746	17.7	-2.5	2.3
Gasoline, Unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....	246.015	237.973	241.431	16.7	-1.9	1.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....	234.328	226.251	229.830	16.9	-1.9	1.6
Medical Care .....	479.115	480.573	479.253	3.3	0.0	-0.3
Medical care commodities.....	386.773	388.355	389.610	3.8	0.7	0.3
Medical care services.....	510.100	511.508	509.274	3.1	-0.2	-0.4
Professional services .....	413.960	415.610	414.303	3.6	0.1	-0.3
Recreation(3).....	118.860	120.781	121.447	2.6	2.2	0.6
Education and communication(3).....	140.444	140.076	137.614	-1.9	-2.0	-1.8
Other goods and services .....	412.612	412.232	412.323	1.4	-0.1	0.0
<b>Commodity and Service Group</b>						
All Items.....	228.279	228.633	228.824	1.9	0.2	0.1
Commodities .....	176.159	176.119	176.752	1.1	0.3	0.4
Commodities less food & beverages.....	145.170	144.935	145.677	1.6	0.3	0.5
Nondurables less food & beverages .....	187.971	187.154	188.947	4.7	0.5	1.0
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	236.605	233.321	234.914	6.1	-0.7	0.7
Durables .....	103.529	103.741	103.652	-2.4	0.1	-0.1
Services.....	282.021	282.777	282.517	2.4	0.2	-0.1
Rent of shelter(2).....	266.708	267.212	267.501	2.5	0.3	0.1
Transportation services .....	302.297	303.383	304.921	2.8	0.9	0.5

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 Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Jan. 2017	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016	Jan. 2017	Feb. 2017
Other services .....	335.288	337.388	335.480	1.0	0.1	-0.6
<b>Special aggregate indexes:</b>						
All items less medical care .....	216.404	216.705	216.968	1.7	0.3	0.1
All items less food .....	226.341	226.666	226.834	2.1	0.2	0.1
All items less shelter.....	219.271	219.580	219.735	1.6	0.2	0.1
Commodities less food .....	148.333	148.084	148.811	1.5	0.3	0.5
Nondurables .....	213.626	213.412	214.506	2.3	0.4	0.5
Nondurables less food.....	191.061	190.250	191.943	4.4	0.5	0.9
Nondurables less food and apparel.....	236.083	233.040	234.487	5.5	-0.7	0.6
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	315.145	316.220	315.348	2.3	0.1	-0.3
Services less medical care services.....	265.024	265.732	265.616	2.3	0.2	0.0
Energy .....	194.261	189.806	190.872	9.9	-1.7	0.6
All items less energy .....	234.471	235.303	235.410	1.3	0.4	0.0
All items less food and energy .....	234.276	235.165	235.232	1.5	0.4	0.0
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	143.776	144.568	144.920	-0.8	0.8	0.2
Energy commodities.....	211.647	202.786	206.720	17.4	-2.3	1.9
Services less energy services .....	294.254	295.187	295.040	2.3	0.3	0.0

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) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

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

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

Regions defined as the four Census regions. Midwest includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

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

**Table 2. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Jan. 2017	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016	Jan. 2017	Feb. 2017
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All Items.....	222.428	222.507	222.671	1.8	0.1	0.1
All items (December 1977=100).....	359.715	359.843	360.109			
Food and beverages .....	239.662	240.160	240.395	0.2	0.3	0.1
Food .....	239.048	239.608	239.831	0.1	0.3	0.1
Food at home .....	225.479	226.040	226.238	-0.9	0.3	0.1
Food away from home.....	264.722	265.274	265.546	2.1	0.3	0.1
Alcoholic beverages .....	247.930	247.413	247.850	0.8	0.0	0.2
Housing .....	214.425	214.683	214.753	2.3	0.2	0.0
Shelter .....	248.484	248.857	249.247	2.5	0.3	0.2
Rent of primary residence(1).....	259.386	259.662	260.233	2.8	0.3	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2).....	245.616	245.864	246.367	2.7	0.3	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2).....	245.613	245.859	246.361	2.7	0.3	0.2
Fuels and utilities.....	219.798	219.524	218.253	3.7	-0.7	-0.6
Household energy .....	180.218	179.754	178.265	3.8	-1.1	-0.8
Energy services(1) .....	185.951	185.175	183.871	3.5	-1.1	-0.7
Electricity(1).....	196.983	196.274	196.622	0.7	-0.2	0.2
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....	156.744	155.892	151.742	10.6	-3.2	-2.7
Household furnishings and operations.....	111.826	112.130	112.114	-1.5	0.3	0.0
Apparel .....	111.766	114.376	116.868	1.2	4.6	2.2
Transportation .....	192.194	190.281	191.812	3.6	-0.2	0.8
Private transportation .....	188.762	186.740	188.251	3.6	-0.3	0.8
New and used motor vehicles(3).....	96.086	96.353	96.655	-2.8	0.6	0.3
New vehicles .....	143.211	143.513	143.165	-0.7	0.0	-0.2
Used cars and trucks.....	138.600	138.957	140.374	-4.7	1.3	1.0
Motor fuel .....	212.443	202.924	207.244	17.6	-2.4	2.1
Gasoline (all types).....	211.212	201.654	206.006	17.5	-2.5	2.2
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....	205.094	195.433	199.830	17.7	-2.6	2.2
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....	245.895	237.786	241.333	16.8	-1.9	1.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....	234.083	225.941	229.518	16.9	-2.0	1.6
Medical Care .....	484.842	486.218	484.826	3.2	0.0	-0.3
Medical care commodities.....	378.327	380.004	381.467	3.3	0.8	0.4
Medical care services.....	517.937	519.192	516.796	3.1	-0.2	-0.5
Professional services .....	416.489	418.363	416.540	3.5	0.0	-0.4
Recreation(3).....	114.699	116.270	116.727	1.7	1.8	0.4
Education and communication(3).....	132.040	131.596	128.624	-2.8	-2.6	-2.3
Other goods and services .....	460.918	459.798	460.521	1.7	-0.1	0.2
<b>Commodity and Service Group</b>						
All Items.....	222.428	222.507	222.671	1.8	0.1	0.1
Commodities .....	178.454	178.109	178.934	1.2	0.3	0.5
Commodities less food & beverages.....	148.741	148.075	149.107	1.8	0.2	0.7
Nondurables less food & beverages .....	195.810	194.004	196.177	5.8	0.2	1.1
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	247.231	242.974	245.039	7.0	-0.9	0.8
Durables .....	104.938	105.138	105.278	-3.0	0.3	0.1
Services.....	274.339	274.870	274.338	2.2	0.0	-0.2
Rent of shelter(2).....	246.898	247.271	247.646	2.6	0.3	0.2
Transportation services .....	304.157	304.810	305.842	2.9	0.6	0.3
Other services .....	309.487	310.890	307.696	0.1	-0.6	-1.0
<b>Special aggregate indexes:</b>						

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Jan. 2017	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Mar. 2016	Jan. 2017	Feb. 2017
All items less medical care .....	212.369	212.399	212.623	1.7	0.1	0.1
All items less food .....	219.023	219.025	219.180	2.1	0.1	0.1
All items less shelter.....	215.559	215.535	215.620	1.5	0.0	0.0
Commodities less food .....	151.706	151.040	152.064	1.8	0.2	0.7
Nondurables .....	218.012	217.296	218.557	2.7	0.2	0.6
Nondurables less food.....	198.467	196.724	198.812	5.4	0.2	1.1
Nondurables less food and apparel.....	245.708	241.761	243.689	6.5	-0.8	0.8
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	278.810	279.462	278.009	1.9	-0.3	-0.5
Services less medical care services.....	258.273	258.758	258.341	2.1	0.0	-0.2
Energy .....	194.410	189.751	190.961	10.3	-1.8	0.6
All items less energy .....	227.750	228.394	228.435	1.0	0.3	0.0
All items less food and energy .....	225.632	226.292	226.299	1.2	0.3	0.0
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	146.357	146.977	147.582	-1.1	0.8	0.4
Energy commodities.....	212.152	203.338	207.152	17.2	-2.4	1.9
Services less energy services .....	286.055	286.747	286.307	2.1	0.1	-0.2

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 1984=100 base.

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

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