



For Release: Wednesday, November 14, 2018

18-1855-KAN

MOUNTAIN-PLAINS INFORMATION OFFICE: Kansas City, Mo.

Technical information: (816) 285-7000 BLSInfoKansasCity@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/mountain-plains

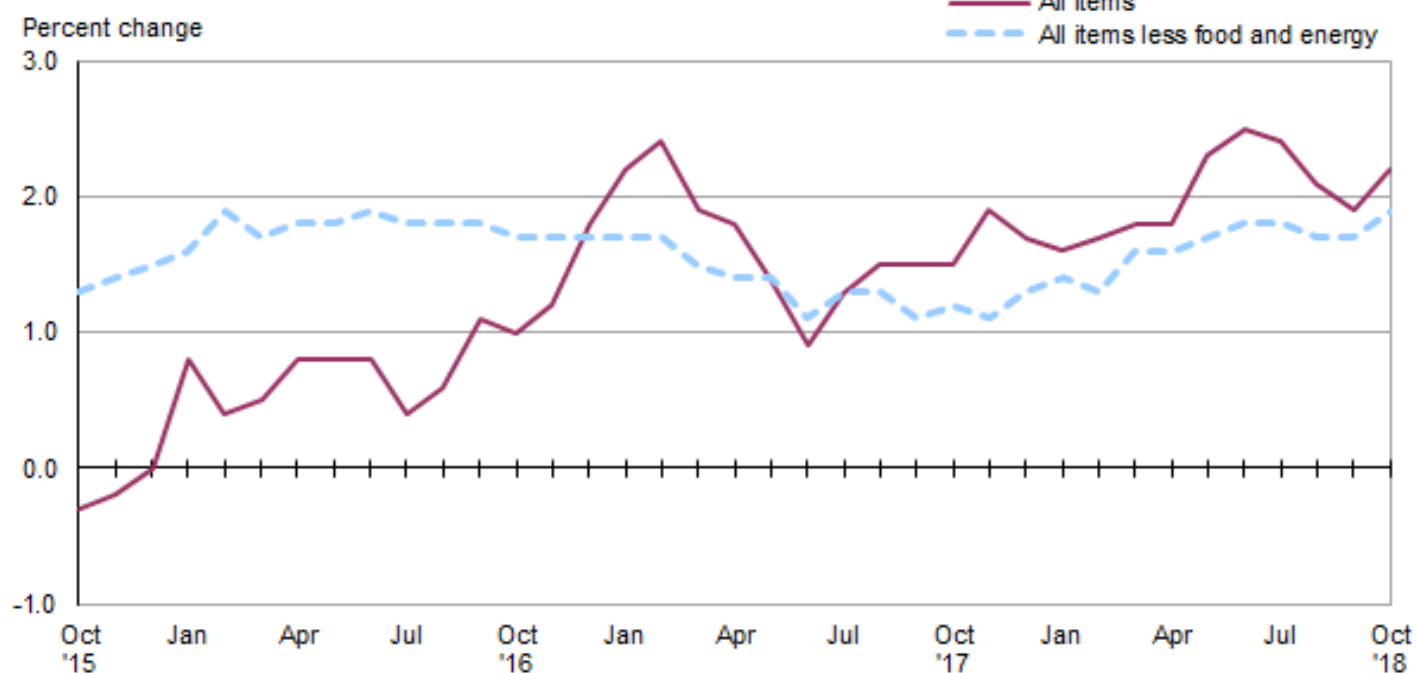
Media contact: (816) 285-7000

Consumer Price Index, Midwest Region – October 2018

Prices in the Midwest up 0.1 percent in October and 2.2 percent higher over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Midwest inched up 0.1 percent for the second month in a row after recording no change in the two prior months, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Movements within the index were mixed in October with lower prices for energy (-2.4 percent) offset by higher prices for items such as shelter (0.6 percent) and apparel (2.2 percent). Food prices were unchanged for the month. The index for all items less food and energy was up 0.3 percent in October. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Midwest region, October 2015–October 2018



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The CPI-U for the Midwest advanced 2.2 percent from October 2017 to October 2018. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The energy index, which includes motor fuel and household fuels, rose 8.1 percent and food prices increased 0.5 percent. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U was up 1.9 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

Food

Food prices in the Midwest were unchanged in October due to offsetting movements within the index. Prices for food away from home were up 0.3 percent for the second month in a row. Costs for food at home turned down 0.1 percent following a rise of 0.2 percent in the prior month.

From October 2017 to October 2018, the index for food rose 0.5 percent. Prices for food away from home were up 2.2 percent and were responsible for the increase. Prices for food at home were 0.7 percent lower over the year.

Energy

The energy index declined 2.4 percent in October after registering no change in the prior month. A 4.8-percent decline in prices for electricity led the index. Electricity prices were down 1.1 percent in the prior month. Gasoline prices also contributed to the decline, turning down 2.0 percent in October after rising 0.5 percent in September. Utility piped gas service costs were up 0.5 percent in October and rose 0.3 percent in the prior month.

Energy costs advanced 8.1 percent from October 2017 to October 2018 due largely to an increase of 14.8 percent in prices for gasoline. Costs for electricity also rose over the year, up 1.2 percent, but utility (piped) gas service prices were 1.4 percent lower than in October 2017.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy for the Midwest was up 0.3 percent in October. Among the expenditure categories registering higher costs were shelter (0.6 percent), apparel (2.2 percent) and used cars and trucks (1.2 percent), while prices for recreation (-0.5 percent) were among those that declined over the month.

The index for all items less food and energy was up 1.9 percent from October 2017 to October 2018. Higher costs for shelter (3.5 percent) led the over-the-year increase.

The Midwest Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) stood at 235.680 in October 2018. A typical market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in the 1982-84 base period cost \$235.68 in October 2018.

CPI-W

In October, the Midwest Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 230.186. The CPI-W inched up 0.1 percent in October and rose 2.5 percent over the year.

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

| Month | 2014 | | 2015 | | 2016 | | 2017 | | 2018 | |
|---------------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| | 1-month | 12-month | 1-month | 12-month | 1-month | 12-month | 1-month | 12-month | 1-month | 12-month |
| January..... | 0.5 | 1.4 | -0.6 | -0.3 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 2.2 | 0.6 | 1.6 |
| February..... | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.3 | -0.5 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 2.4 | 0.2 | 1.7 |
| March..... | 0.9 | 1.5 | 0.6 | -0.9 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 1.9 | 0.2 | 1.8 |
| April..... | 0.3 | 1.9 | 0.1 | -1.1 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 1.8 | 0.4 | 1.8 |
| May..... | 0.2 | 1.6 | 0.4 | -0.8 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 1.4 | 0.5 | 2.3 |
| June..... | 0.5 | 1.7 | 0.5 | -0.7 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 2.5 |
| July..... | -0.3 | 1.8 | 0.0 | -0.5 | -0.5 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 2.4 |
| August..... | -0.2 | 1.6 | 0.0 | -0.3 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 2.1 |

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

| Month | 2014 | | 2015 | | 2016 | | 2017 | | 2018 | |
|-----------------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| | 1-month | 12-month | 1-month | 12-month | 1-month | 12-month | 1-month | 12-month | 1-month | 12-month |
| September | 0.1 | 1.6 | -0.3 | -0.8 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 1.5 | 0.1 | 1.9 |
| October | -0.5 | 1.6 | -0.1 | -0.3 | -0.1 | 1.0 | -0.2 | 1.5 | 0.1 | 2.2 |
| November | -0.6 | 1.2 | -0.5 | -0.2 | -0.3 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 1.9 | | |
| December | -0.7 | 0.7 | -0.6 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 1.8 | -0.2 | 1.7 | | |

The November 2018 Consumer Price Index for the Midwest region is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, December 12, 2018.

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 approximately 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 Midwest region is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and 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, Midwest Region, (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted)

| Expenditure category | Indexes | | | Percent change from | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Aug. 2018 | Sep. 2018 | Oct. 2018 | Oct. 2017 | Aug. 2018 | Sep. 2018 |
| All items | 235.276 | 235.524 | 235.680 | 2.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| All items (December 1977 = 100)..... | 382.808 | 383.210 | 383.464 | | | |
| Food and beverages | 243.656 | 244.409 | 244.608 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| Food | 243.119 | 243.762 | 243.882 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| Food at home | 225.866 | 226.373 | 226.052 | -0.7 | 0.1 | -0.1 |
| Cereals and bakery products | 258.844 | 258.904 | 261.222 | | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs..... | 248.286 | 245.319 | 244.750 | | -1.4 | -0.2 |
| Dairy and related products | 194.780 | 195.649 | 193.957 | | -0.4 | -0.9 |
| Fruits and vegetables | 267.998 | 267.502 | 269.882 | | 0.7 | 0.9 |
| Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials..... | 158.340 | 162.289 | 161.784 | | 2.2 | -0.3 |
| Other food at home | 196.944 | 198.371 | 196.590 | | -0.2 | -0.9 |
| Food away from home..... | 271.995 | 272.852 | 273.635 | 2.2 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| Alcoholic beverages | 248.942 | 251.179 | 252.466 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 0.5 |
| Housing | 228.447 | 228.659 | 228.903 | 2.9 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Shelter | 271.663 | 272.185 | 273.686 | 3.5 | 0.7 | 0.6 |
| Rent of primary residence(1)..... | 271.325 | 271.865 | 273.290 | 3.3 | 0.7 | 0.5 |
| Owners' equivalent rent of residences(1) (2)..... | 276.423 | 276.819 | 278.413 | 3.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 |
| Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(1)(2)..... | 276.390 | 276.786 | 278.382 | 3.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 |
| Fuels and utilities..... | 227.656 | 226.781 | 221.705 | 1.4 | -2.6 | -2.2 |
| Household energy | 186.123 | 185.179 | 179.599 | 0.7 | -3.5 | -3.0 |
| Energy services(1) | 193.216 | 191.940 | 185.778 | 0.3 | -3.8 | -3.2 |
| Electricity(1)..... | 213.935 | 211.597 | 201.354 | 1.2 | -5.9 | -4.8 |
| Utility (piped) gas service(1)..... | 147.577 | 148.086 | 148.866 | -1.4 | 0.9 | 0.5 |
| Household furnishings and operations | 114.361 | 114.309 | 113.991 | 0.7 | -0.3 | -0.3 |
| Apparel | 113.081 | 118.790 | 121.445 | -0.6 | 7.4 | 2.2 |
| Transportation | 207.200 | 205.689 | 205.094 | 5.0 | -1.0 | -0.3 |
| Private transportation | 202.643 | 201.242 | 200.572 | 5.4 | -1.0 | -0.3 |
| New and used motor vehicles(3)..... | 98.050 | 95.946 | 95.721 | 1.2 | -2.4 | -0.2 |
| New vehicles | 137.207 | 135.734 | 135.636 | 0.2 | -1.1 | -0.1 |
| New cars and trucks(3)(4)..... | 96.974 | 95.960 | 95.896 | 0.2 | -1.1 | -0.1 |
| New cars(4)..... | 133.743 | 132.796 | 132.721 | 0.8 | -0.8 | -0.1 |
| Used cars and trucks..... | 140.213 | 133.797 | 135.414 | 0.1 | -3.4 | 1.2 |
| Motor fuel | 254.719 | 256.001 | 251.281 | 14.9 | -1.3 | -1.8 |
| Gasoline (all types)..... | 253.288 | 254.525 | 249.530 | 14.8 | -1.5 | -2.0 |
| Gasoline, unleaded regular(4)..... | 246.845 | 248.063 | 243.090 | 15.0 | -1.5 | -2.0 |
| Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5)..... | 292.110 | 292.947 | 287.074 | 13.8 | -1.7 | -2.0 |
| Gasoline, unleaded premium(4)..... | 275.281 | 276.808 | 272.486 | 12.9 | -1.0 | -1.6 |
| Motor vehicle insurance(6)..... | 728.073 | 731.895 | 742.727 | | 2.0 | 1.5 |
| Medical care | 484.957 | 485.951 | 486.365 | 1.6 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Medical care commodities..... | 393.777 | 394.593 | 395.429 | 2.3 | 0.4 | 0.2 |
| Medical care services..... | 515.481 | 516.535 | 516.805 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Professional services | 417.894 | 418.012 | 416.133 | 0.1 | -0.4 | -0.4 |
| Recreation(3)..... | 120.786 | 120.600 | 120.033 | -2.0 | -0.6 | -0.5 |
| Education and communication(3)..... | 138.398 | 138.124 | 138.305 | 0.6 | -0.1 | 0.1 |
| Tuition, other school fees, and child care(6) .. | 1,193.112 | 1,190.313 | 1,197.033 | | 0.3 | 0.6 |

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 Region, (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted) - Continued

| Expenditure category | Indexes | | | Percent change from | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Aug. 2018 | Sep. 2018 | Oct. 2018 | Oct. 2017 | Aug. 2018 | Sep. 2018 |
| Other goods and services | 426.414 | 426.977 | 427.530 | 2.2 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Commodity and service group | | | | | | |
| Commodities | 179.912 | 180.149 | 180.185 | 1.5 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Commodities less food and beverages | 148.783 | 148.818 | 148.792 | 2.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Nondurables less food and beverages..... | 198.715 | 200.973 | 201.043 | 4.1 | 1.2 | 0.0 |
| Durables | 101.774 | 100.267 | 100.177 | -0.5 | -1.6 | -0.1 |
| Services..... | 292.350 | 292.607 | 292.889 | 2.6 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Special aggregate indexes | | | | | | |
| All items less shelter..... | 224.512 | 224.666 | 224.358 | 1.6 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| All items less medical care | 223.458 | 223.670 | 223.814 | 2.2 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Commodities less food | 151.937 | 152.027 | 152.034 | 2.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Nondurables | 221.094 | 222.664 | 222.795 | 2.3 | 0.8 | 0.1 |
| Nondurables less food..... | 201.336 | 203.591 | 203.730 | 4.0 | 1.2 | 0.1 |
| Services less rent of shelter(2)..... | 323.686 | 323.653 | 322.559 | 1.7 | -0.3 | -0.3 |
| Services less medical care services..... | 275.710 | 275.906 | 276.189 | 2.8 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Energy | 217.425 | 217.523 | 212.364 | 8.1 | -2.3 | -2.4 |
| All items less energy | 239.911 | 240.176 | 240.875 | 1.7 | 0.4 | 0.3 |
| All items less food and energy | 240.048 | 240.248 | 241.052 | 1.9 | 0.4 | 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) Indexes 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.

(6) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.

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