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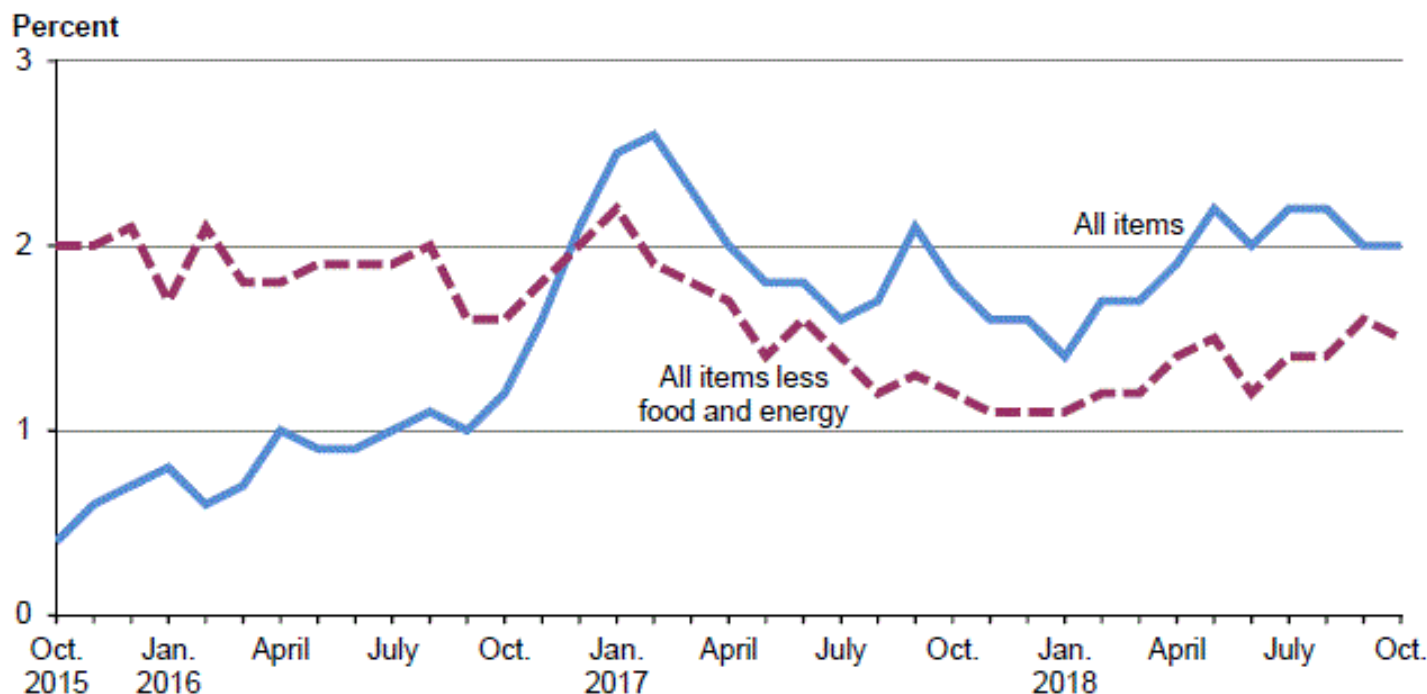
Consumer Price Index, New York-Newark-Jersey City – October 2018

Area prices down 0.1 percent over the month and up 2.0 percent over the year

Prices in the New York-Newark-Jersey City area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), ticked down 0.1 percent in October, after advancing 0.4 percent in September, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli attributed the downturn to lower prices for energy and food. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the year, the CPI-U increased 2.0 percent. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 1.5 percent. (See [table A](#) and [chart 1](#).) Price increases for shelter drove the 12-month change in both indexes. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, New York-Newark-Jersey City, October 2015–October 2018



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

The food index dropped 0.5 percent in October—the largest decrease in over two years—primarily due to lower prices for food at home (-0.8 percent). Prices declined in four of the six food categories, with flour and prepared flour mixes and apples among the grocery items with lower prices. Prices for food away from home dipped 0.1 percent, after rising 0.3 percent in September.

Over the year, the food index rose 2.2 percent. Food-away-from-home prices were 2.9 percent higher, and food-at-home prices were 1.6 percent higher.

Energy

Over the month, energy prices declined 1.1 percent, following no change in September. Within household energy, prices for electricity dropped 2.8 percent on a seasonal decline. Prices for natural gas dropped 2.4 percent, marking a third consecutive monthly decline. Gasoline prices, on the other hand, were unchanged.

For the year ended in October 2018, the energy index increased 9.4 percent. Gasoline prices were up 12.6 percent, and household energy prices, 6.9 percent. Electricity prices were 4.9 percent higher, and natural gas prices were 4.0 percent higher.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was unchanged in October. Shelter prices were flat. Within shelter, price declines for lodging away from home counterbalanced price increases for residential rent (0.4 percent) and owners' equivalent rent (0.3 percent). Price declines for apparel (-1.7 percent), recreation (-0.8), and education and communication (-0.5 percent) were offset by increases in household furnishings and operations (0.9 percent), medical care (0.5), and car and truck rentals.

From October 2017 to October 2018, the index for all items less food and energy rose 1.5 percent. Medical care prices increased 3.0 percent. Shelter prices rose 2.0 percent, including a 2.3-percent rise in owners' equivalent rent and a 1.8-percent increase in residential rent. One other category was up by at least 1.0 percent—other goods and services (1.6 percent).

Table A. New York-Newark-Jersey City CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)

Month	2013		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	1-month	12-month
January.....	0.5	2.2	0.9	1.9	0.1	-0.5	0.2	0.8	0.6	2.5	0.4	1.4
February.....	0.6	2.4	-0.2	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.3	2.6	0.5	1.7
March.....	0.1	1.9	0.4	1.3	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.7	0.0	2.3	0.0	1.7
April.....	-0.2	1.4	0.0	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.4	1.0	0.1	2.0	0.3	1.9
May.....	0.1	1.4	0.5	1.9	0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.9	0.1	1.8	0.4	2.2
June.....	0.3	1.8	0.0	1.7	0.2	0.1	0.2 ^(r)	0.9 ^(r)	0.2	1.8	0.1	2.0
July.....	0.2	2.1	0.1	1.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.0	-0.2	1.6	0.0	2.2
August.....	0.1	1.7	-0.2	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.1	0.2	1.7	0.1	2.2
September.....	0.3	1.6	0.0	1.0	0.2	0.3	0.2	1.0	0.5	2.1	0.4	2.0
October.....	-0.6	1.1	-0.2	1.3	-0.1	0.4	0.1	1.2	-0.2	1.8	-0.1	2.0
November.....	0.1	1.2	-0.4	0.8	-0.2	0.6	0.2	1.6	-0.1	1.6		
December.....	0.0	1.5	-0.5	0.3	-0.4	0.7	0.1	2.1	0.1	1.6		

Footnotes:
(R) = revised.

CPI-W

In October, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 269.879, down 0.2 percent over the month. The CPI-W rose 2.0 percent over the year.

The November 2018 Consumer Price Index for New York-Newark-Jersey City is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, December 12, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

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 New York-Newark-Jersey City, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa., Core Based Statistical Area includes Bronx, Dutchess, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties in New York; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Union Counties in New Jersey; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA, not seasonally adjusted (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Aug. 2018	Sept. 2018	Oct. 2018	Oct. 2017	Aug. 2018	Sept. 2018
Expenditure category						
All items.....	274.441	275.455	275.101	2.0	0.2	-0.1
All items (1967=100).....	793.370	796.303	795.280			
Food and beverages.....	267.351	269.321	268.054	2.2	0.3	-0.5
Food.....	267.423	269.323	267.978	2.2	0.2	-0.5
Food at home.....	256.820	259.499	257.363	1.6	0.2	-0.8
Cereals and bakery products.....	304.336	308.903	296.814		-2.5	-3.9
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....	253.685	253.060	254.372		0.3	0.5
Dairy and related products.....	224.308	225.880	228.127		1.7	1.0
Fruits and vegetables.....	325.772	329.982	327.795		0.6	-0.7
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1).....	249.937	254.493	252.442		1.0	-0.8
Other food at home.....	226.603	230.264	227.388		0.3	-1.2
Food away from home.....	289.699	290.532	290.286	2.9	0.2	-0.1
Alcoholic beverages.....	261.847	264.753	264.580	2.8	1.0	-0.1
Housing.....	298.629	299.187	299.024	2.3	0.1	-0.1
Shelter.....	377.549	378.195	378.368	2.0	0.2	0.0
Rent of primary residence.....	390.007	389.528	391.085	1.8	0.3	0.4
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(2).....	385.278	385.570	386.618	2.3	0.3	0.3
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(2).....	384.801	385.092	386.139	2.3	0.3	0.3
Fuels and utilities.....	199.521	199.839	196.518	6.5	-1.5	-1.7
Household energy.....	191.280	191.627	188.009	6.9	-1.7	-1.9
Energy services.....	180.764	180.701	175.830	4.4	-2.7	-2.7
Electricity.....	185.081	188.233	182.879	4.9	-1.2	-2.8
Utility (piped) gas service.....	163.643	158.616	154.772	4.0	-5.4	-2.4
Household furnishings and operations.....	107.994	108.445	109.369	0.5	1.3	0.9
Apparel.....	127.486	131.878	129.684	-0.9	1.7	-1.7
Transportation.....	223.356	222.138	223.267	3.7	0.0	0.5
Private transportation.....	211.863	210.363	210.526	4.5	-0.6	0.1
New and used motor vehicles(3).....	91.934	89.504	89.117		-3.1	-0.4
New vehicles(1).....	199.778	200.860	202.076		1.2	0.6
Used cars and trucks(1).....	271.128	259.428	261.472		-3.6	0.8
Motor fuel.....	237.097	236.359	236.304	12.6	-0.3	0.0
Gasoline (all types).....	236.021	235.281	235.198	12.6	-0.3	0.0
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....	235.409	234.643	234.450	12.9	-0.4	-0.1
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....	242.456	242.175	242.481	11.1	0.0	0.1
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....	242.278	241.653	242.405	10.3	0.1	0.3
Motor vehicle insurance(1).....	739.734	749.008	757.522		2.4	1.1
Medical care.....	484.875	491.881	494.226	3.0	1.9	0.5
Recreation(3).....	122.693	122.709	121.709	0.0	-0.8	-0.8
Education and communication(3).....	142.861	143.590	142.845	0.4	0.0	-0.5
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1).....	1,191.912	1,196.632	1,190.756		-0.1	-0.5
Other goods and services.....	431.587	432.152	430.881	1.6	-0.2	-0.3

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, New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA, not seasonally adjusted (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Aug. 2018	Sept. 2018	Oct. 2018	Oct. 2017	Aug. 2018	Sept. 2018
Commodity and service group						
All items	274.441	275.455	275.101	2.0	0.2	-0.1
Commodities	192.509	193.490	193.314	2.4	0.4	-0.1
Commodities less food and beverages	146.847	147.318	147.651	2.6	0.5	0.2
Nondurables less food and beverages.....	190.418	191.625	191.513	3.7	0.6	-0.1
Durables	92.276	91.913	92.724	-0.1	0.5	0.9
Services.....	343.969	345.056	344.563	2.0	0.2	-0.1
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	265.302	266.057	265.586	2.0	0.1	-0.2
All items less shelter.....	233.643	234.836	234.245	2.1	0.3	-0.3
Commodities less food	151.206	151.753	152.073	2.6	0.6	0.2
Nondurables	230.746	232.339	231.681	2.9	0.4	-0.3
Nondurables less food.....	194.829	196.132	196.016	3.6	0.6	-0.1
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	318.480	320.090	318.839	1.9	0.1	-0.4
Services less medical care services.....	332.156	332.635	332.007	1.8	0.0	-0.2
Energy	211.412	211.348	209.046	9.4	-1.1	-1.1
All items less energy	282.470	283.598	283.435	1.6	0.3	-0.1
All items less food and energy	287.031	288.048	288.066	1.5	0.4	0.0

Footnotes

- (1) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.
- (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.