



For Release: Wednesday, April 10, 2019

19-642-NEW

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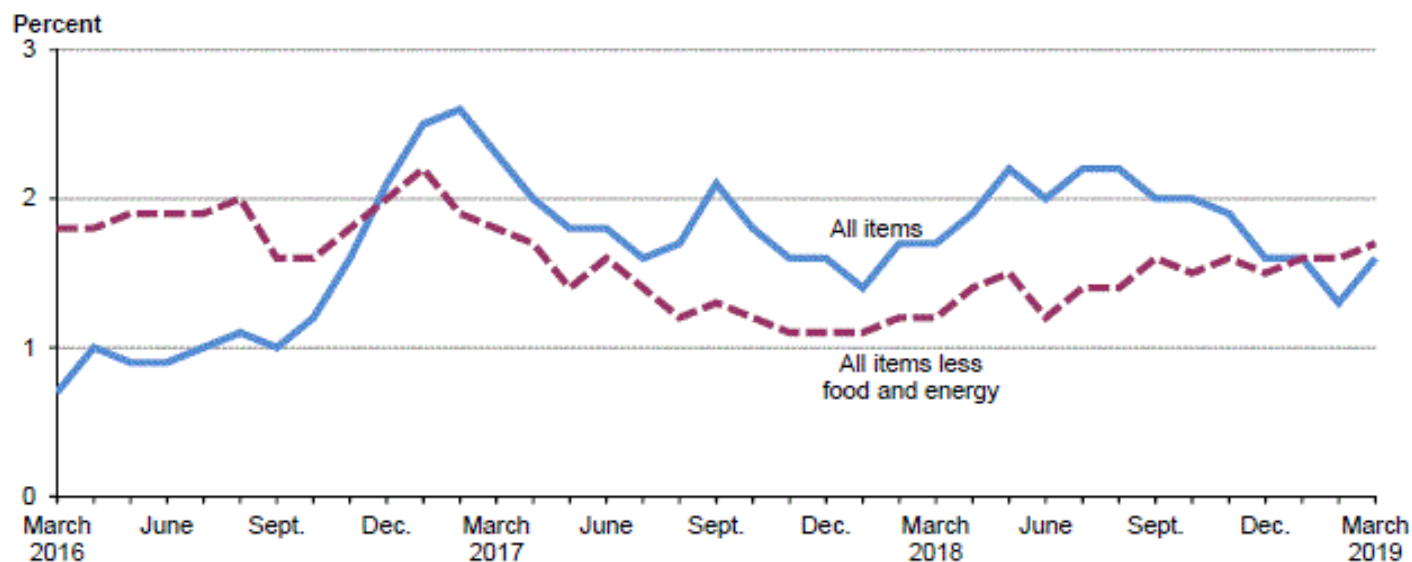
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Consumer Price Index, New York-Newark-Jersey City – March 2019 **Area prices up 0.3 percent over the month and 1.6 percent over the year**

Prices in the New York-Newark-Jersey City area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), rose 0.3 percent in March, following a 0.2-percent increase in February, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli attributed the rise to higher prices for energy and shelter. (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 1.6 percent. The index for all items less food and energy rose 1.7 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, March 2016–March 2019



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

The food index increased 0.3 percent, after edging up 0.1 percent in February. Prices for food at home rose 0.3 percent, with price increases in five of the six grocery groups. Groceries with higher prices in March included lettuce and bacon, breakfast sausage, and related products. Prices for food away from home increased 0.2 percent.

For the year ending in March 2019, the food index rose 2.6 percent. Food-away-from-home prices advanced 2.9 percent, and food-at-home prices increased 2.4 percent.

Energy

The energy index increased 2.7 percent, after declining in 2.2 percent in February. Gasoline prices jumped 6.0 percent, the first increase since June of last year. Higher prices for electricity (2.8 percent), partially offset by a decline in natural gas (-3.2 percent), led to a 0.6-percent increase in household energy prices.

Over the year, the energy index was down 1.4 percent. A 2.5-percent decline in electricity prices, partially offset by a 2.5-percent rise in natural gas prices, contributed to a 1.0-percent decline in household energy prices. Gasoline prices decreased 1.9 percent.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy inched up 0.1 percent, after rising 0.5 percent in each of the first two months of the year. Shelter prices rose 0.2 percent, with increases in residential rent (0.3 percent), owners' equivalent rent (0.1 percent), and lodging away from home. Higher prices were also reported for used cars and trucks (0.9 percent), medical care (0.5 percent), and education and communication (0.3 percent). Price declines in apparel (-1.9 percent), household furnishings and operations (-0.7 percent), and recreation (-0.6 percent) largely offset these increases.

From March 2018 to March 2019, the index for all items less food and energy increased 1.7 percent. A 2.0-percent rise in shelter prices included increases of 2.5 percent for residential rent and 2.2 percent for owners' equivalent rent. Other expenditure categories posting increases of at least 2.0 percent included medical care (3.8 percent), tuition, other school fees, and childcare (3.3 percent), alcoholic beverages (2.9 percent), and motor vehicle insurance (2.6 percent). In contrast, prices were down 3.1 percent for apparel.

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

Month	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	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.....	0.9	1.9	0.1	-0.5	0.2	0.8	0.6	2.5	0.4	1.4	0.5	1.6
February.....	-0.2	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.3	2.6	0.5	1.7	0.2	1.3
March.....	0.4	1.3	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.7	0.0	2.3	0.0	1.7	0.3	1.6
April.....	0.0	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.4	1.0	0.1	2.0	0.3	1.9		
May.....	0.5	1.9	0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.9	0.1	1.8	0.4	2.2		
June.....	0.0	1.7	0.2	0.1	0.2 ^(r)	0.9 ^(r)	0.2	1.8	0.1	2.0		
July.....	0.1	1.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.0	-0.2	1.6	0.0	2.2		
August.....	-0.2	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.1	0.2	1.7	0.1	2.2		
September.....	0.0	1.0	0.2	0.3	0.2	1.0	0.5	2.1	0.4	2.0		
October.....	-0.2	1.3	-0.1	0.4	0.1	1.2	-0.2	1.8	-0.1	2.0		
November.....	-0.4	0.8	-0.2	0.6	0.2	1.6	-0.1	1.6	-0.2	1.9		
December.....	-0.5	0.3	-0.4	0.7	0.1	2.1	0.1	1.6	-0.2	1.6		

Footnotes:
(R) = revised.

CPI-W

In March, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 271.123, up 0.3 percent over the month. The CPI-W rose 1.5 percent over the year.

The April 2019 Consumer Price Index for New York-Newark-Jersey City is scheduled to be released on Friday, May 10, 2019, 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-		
	Jan. 2019	Feb. 2019	March 2019	March 2018	Jan. 2019	Feb. 2019
Expenditure category						
All items	275.144	275.823	276.570	1.6	0.5	0.3
All items (1967=100)	795.404	797.367	799.526			
Food and beverages	269.800	269.907	270.636	2.7	0.3	0.3
Food	269.865	270.046	270.756	2.6	0.3	0.3
Food at home	259.288	258.689	259.546	2.4	0.1	0.3
Cereals and bakery products	298.472	305.249	306.981	2.3	2.9	0.6
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	252.938	251.255	254.454	0.4	0.6	1.3
Dairy and related products	228.319	224.142	225.649	1.9	-1.2	0.7
Fruits and vegetables	337.497	333.452	334.342	5.2	-0.9	0.3
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1)	258.466	256.656	248.616	0.0	-3.8	-3.1
Other food at home	226.663	228.020	230.412	4.0	1.7	1.0
Food away from home	292.168	293.474	293.993	2.9	0.6	0.2
Alcoholic beverages	264.364	263.448	264.415	2.9	0.0	0.4
Housing	301.140	301.233	301.791	1.8	0.2	0.2
Shelter	380.188	381.584	382.414	2.0	0.6	0.2
Rent of primary residence	394.041	395.438	396.754	2.5	0.7	0.3
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(2)	388.442	388.611	388.962	2.2	0.1	0.1
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(2)	387.961	388.130	388.481	2.2	0.1	0.1
Fuels and utilities	200.021	195.193	196.239	-0.4	-1.9	0.5
Household energy	191.719	186.384	187.523	-1.0	-2.2	0.6
Energy services	183.767	177.937	178.718	-0.7	-2.7	0.4
Electricity	179.787	173.987	178.798	-2.5	-0.6	2.8
Utility (piped) gas service	179.292	173.755	168.262	2.5	-6.2	-3.2
Household furnishings and operations	111.667	110.693	109.961	1.5	-1.5	-0.7
Apparel	121.501	127.683	125.298	-3.1	3.1	-1.9
Transportation	214.294	215.269	218.283	-0.1	1.9	1.4
Private transportation	201.636	202.076	205.715	-0.1	2.0	1.8
New and used motor vehicles(3)	90.020	91.099	91.127	-1.7	1.2	0.0
New vehicles(1)	203.109	204.632	204.123	1.4	0.5	-0.2
Used cars and trucks(1)	266.225	267.583	269.956	0.3	1.4	0.9
Motor fuel	199.239	196.935	208.752	-1.9	4.8	6.0
Gasoline (all types)	198.224	195.926	207.720	-1.9	4.8	6.0
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4)	196.469	194.232	206.468	-2.0	5.1	6.3
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5)	210.273	207.486	216.774	-1.3	3.1	4.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4)	212.662	209.920	218.523	-1.0	2.8	4.1
Motor vehicle insurance(1)	757.926	762.731	763.145	2.6	0.7	0.1
Medical care	501.396	501.561	504.067	3.8	0.5	0.5
Recreation(3)	124.605	125.201	124.499	0.8	-0.1	-0.6
Education and communication(3)	143.331	143.119	143.612	1.5	0.2	0.3
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1)	1,200.430	1,204.954	1,204.282	3.3	0.3	-0.1
Other goods and services	432.522	435.245	434.964	1.9	0.6	-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, 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-		
	Jan. 2019	Feb. 2019	March 2019	March 2018	Jan. 2019	Feb. 2019
Commodity and service group						
All items	275.144	275.823	276.570	1.6	0.5	0.3
Commodities	189.572	189.976	190.914	0.5	0.7	0.5
Commodities less food and beverages	141.627	142.143	143.120	-1.3	1.1	0.7
Nondurables less food and beverages.....	178.573	180.271	182.224	-1.9	2.0	1.1
Durables	94.605	93.793	93.649	-0.1	-1.0	-0.2
Services.....	347.191	348.090	348.744	2.0	0.4	0.2
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	265.321	266.022	266.692	1.4	0.5	0.3
All items less shelter.....	233.510	233.886	234.608	1.3	0.5	0.3
Commodities less food	146.188	146.664	147.646	-1.1	1.0	0.7
Nondurables	225.360	226.347	227.768	0.6	1.1	0.6
Nondurables less food.....	183.739	185.298	187.203	-1.6	1.9	1.0
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	322.447	322.814	323.287	2.0	0.3	0.1
Services less medical care services.....	334.186	335.097	335.584	1.7	0.4	0.1
Energy	197.187	192.940	198.185	-1.4	0.5	2.7
All items less energy	284.654	285.825	286.132	1.8	0.5	0.1
All items less food and energy	289.192	290.525	290.772	1.7	0.5	0.1

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.