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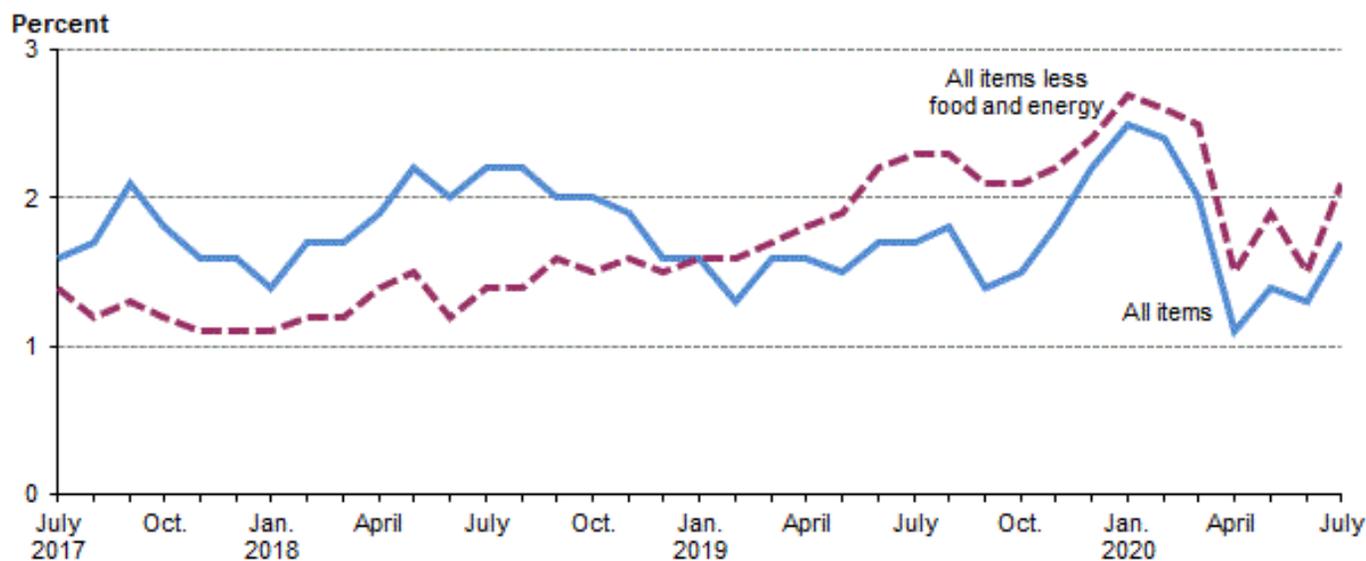
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Consumer Price Index, New York-Newark-Jersey City – July 2020 **Area prices up 0.5 percent over the month and 1.7 percent over the year**

Prices in the New York-Newark-Jersey City area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), rose 0.5 percent in July, after increasing 0.1 percent in June, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli attributed the jump to widespread increases within the all items less food and energy index. (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 1.7 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.1 percent. 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, July 2017–July 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

The food index dropped 0.8 percent in July, after edging down 0.1 percent in June. Prices for food at home fell 0.8 percent, with lower prices reported for three of the six major grocery groups. Chicken and cheese and related products were among the items with July price declines. Prices for food away from home fell 0.7 percent.

From July 2019 to July 2020, the food index advanced 4.4 percent. Prices for food at home rose 5.3 percent, and prices for food away from home rose 3.3 percent.

Energy

The energy index inched up 0.2 percent in July, after jumping 5.9 percent in June. Gasoline prices rose 2.5 percent in July, following a 2.6-percent increase one month earlier. By contrast, household energy prices declined 0.9 percent. Electricity and natural gas prices declined 2.0 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively.

For the year ended in July 2020, energy prices dropped 8.8 percent, primarily due to a 22.1-percent fall in gasoline prices. Household energy prices rose 0.9 percent, with higher prices for electricity (5.1 percent) and for natural gas (0.9 percent).

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy jumped 0.7 percent in July, following a 0.2-percent decline in June. Shelter prices edged up 0.1 percent, with residential rent up 0.1 percent and owners' equivalent rent unchanged. Price increases were reported for motor vehicle insurance (3.5 percent), recreation (3.3 percent), education and communication (1.4 percent), apparel (1.4 percent), and medical care (0.6 percent), among other categories.

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 2.1 percent. A 1.8-percent increase in shelter prices included a 2.4-percent rise in owners' equivalent rent and a 1.9-percent increase in residential rent. Recreation prices rose 5.3 percent, medical care prices rose 4.7 percent, and new and used vehicles rose 3.7 percent. A 4.2-percent rise in prices for tuition, other school fees, and childcare contributed to a 3.5-percent increase in prices for education and communication.

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

Month	2015		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	1-month	12-month
January.....	0.1	-0.5	0.2	0.8	0.6	2.5	0.4	1.4	0.5	1.6	0.8	2.5
February.....	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.3	2.6	0.5	1.7	0.2	1.3	0.2	2.4
March.....	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.7	0.0	2.3	0.0	1.7	0.3	1.6	-0.2	2.0
April.....	0.1	0.0	0.4	1.0	0.1	2.0	0.3	1.9	0.3	1.6	-0.5	1.1
May.....	0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.9	0.1	1.8	0.4	2.2	0.2	1.5	0.5	1.4
June.....	0.2	0.1	0.2 ^(r)	0.9 ^(r)	0.2	1.8	0.1	2.0	0.3	1.7	0.1	1.3
July.....	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.0	-0.2	1.6	0.0	2.2	0.0	1.7	0.5	1.7
August.....	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.1	0.2	1.7	0.1	2.2	0.2	1.8		
September.....	0.2	0.3	0.2	1.0	0.5	2.1	0.4	2.0	0.0	1.4		
October.....	-0.1	0.4	0.1	1.2	-0.2	1.8	-0.1	2.0	0.0	1.5		
November.....	-0.2	0.6	0.2	1.6	-0.1	1.6	-0.2	1.9	0.1	1.8		
December.....	-0.4	0.7	0.1	2.1	0.1	1.6	-0.2	1.6	0.1	2.2		

Footnotes:
(R) = revised.

CPI-W

In July, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 277.944, up 0.5 percent over the month. The CPI-W rose 1.7 percent over the year.

The August 2020 Consumer Price Index for New York-Newark-Jersey City is scheduled to be released on Friday, September 11, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on July 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 July 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

<https://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 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 6,000 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, NY-NJ-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-		
	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	July 2019	May 2020	June 2020
Expenditure category						
All items.....	282.092	282.333	283.624	1.7	0.5	0.5
All items (1967=100).....	815.490	816.185	819.917			
Food and beverages.....	284.171	283.866	281.823	4.3	-0.8	-0.7
Food.....	284.654	284.462	282.301	4.4	-0.8	-0.8
Food at home.....	274.785	272.888	270.732	5.3	-1.5	-0.8
Cereals and bakery products.....	308.436	319.724	324.531	7.5	5.2	1.5
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....	284.368	280.832	270.862	6.9	-4.7	-3.6
Dairy and related products.....	244.577	242.453	238.469	5.0	-2.5	-1.6
Fruits and vegetables.....	339.187	338.841	340.323	4.1	0.3	0.4
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1).....	273.103	265.127	263.544	2.4	-3.5	-0.6
Other food at home.....	239.612	234.973	235.371	5.5	-1.8	0.2
Food away from home.....	306.452	308.662	306.433	3.3	0.0	-0.7
Alcoholic beverages.....	272.738	270.889	270.502	2.4	-0.8	-0.1
Housing.....	306.606	308.680	308.945	1.7	0.8	0.1
Shelter.....	391.742	391.894	392.217	1.8	0.1	0.1
Rent of primary residence.....	407.966	408.318	408.845	1.9	0.2	0.1
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(2).....	400.201	400.381	400.502	2.4	0.1	0.0
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(2).....	399.705	399.885	400.007	2.4	0.1	0.0
Fuels and utilities.....	188.427	200.896	199.345	1.4	5.8	-0.8
Household energy.....	177.215	191.006	189.199	0.9	6.8	-0.9
Energy services.....	175.941	189.809	186.915	4.8	6.2	-1.5
Electricity.....	176.674	197.758	193.784	5.1	9.7	-2.0
Utility (piped) gas service.....	162.310	160.704	160.179	0.9	-1.3	-0.3
Household furnishings and operations.....	107.991	109.907	111.080	0.2	2.9	1.1
Apparel.....	112.596	112.850	114.472	-2.1	1.7	1.4
Transportation.....	209.149	212.644	214.264	-4.4	2.4	0.8
Private transportation.....	197.741	201.678	204.084	-3.3	3.2	1.2
New and used motor vehicles(3).....	93.208	93.299	93.556	3.7	0.4	0.3
New vehicles(1).....	210.982	207.321	210.085	3.7	-0.4	1.3
Used cars and trucks(1).....	267.082	264.089	273.042	-0.4	2.2	3.4
Motor fuel.....	171.070	175.435	179.673	-22.0	5.0	2.4
Gasoline (all types).....	169.939	174.363	178.664	-22.1	5.1	2.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....	167.074	171.671	176.016	-23.0	5.4	2.5
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....	188.304	191.973	195.698	-16.7	3.9	1.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....	192.902	195.890	199.925	-15.8	3.6	2.1
Motor vehicle insurance(1).....	681.767	746.338	772.419	1.9	13.3	3.5
Medical care.....	531.938	536.188	539.187	4.7	1.4	0.6
Recreation(3).....	139.590	129.484	133.697	5.3	-4.2	3.3
Education and communication(3).....	147.976	147.716	149.780	3.5	1.2	1.4
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1).....	1,257.297	1,258.241	1,263.874	4.2	0.5	0.4
Other goods and services.....	440.712	439.746	445.023	1.0	1.0	1.2

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-		
	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	July 2019	May 2020	June 2020
Commodity and service group						
All items	282.092	282.333	283.624	1.7	0.5	0.5
Commodities	189.287	189.546	190.178	-0.7	0.5	0.3
Commodities less food and beverages	134.733	135.230	137.031	-4.9	1.7	1.3
Nondurables less food and beverages.....	167.136	168.504	170.691	-7.6	2.1	1.3
Durables	92.107	91.778	93.050	0.2	1.0	1.4
Services.....	359.558	359.791	361.612	2.7	0.6	0.5
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	271.257	271.329	272.547	1.5	0.5	0.4
All items less shelter.....	238.576	238.851	240.526	1.6	0.8	0.7
Commodities less food	139.709	140.139	141.885	-4.5	1.6	1.2
Nondurables	226.177	226.759	226.938	-0.9	0.3	0.1
Nondurables less food.....	173.433	174.616	176.655	-6.8	1.9	1.2
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	335.975	336.311	339.715	3.7	1.1	1.0
Services less medical care services.....	344.625	344.585	346.257	2.3	0.5	0.5
Energy	177.516	187.978	188.409	-8.8	6.1	0.2
All items less energy	293.925	293.315	294.692	2.4	0.3	0.5
All items less food and energy	297.611	296.928	298.894	2.1	0.4	0.7

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.