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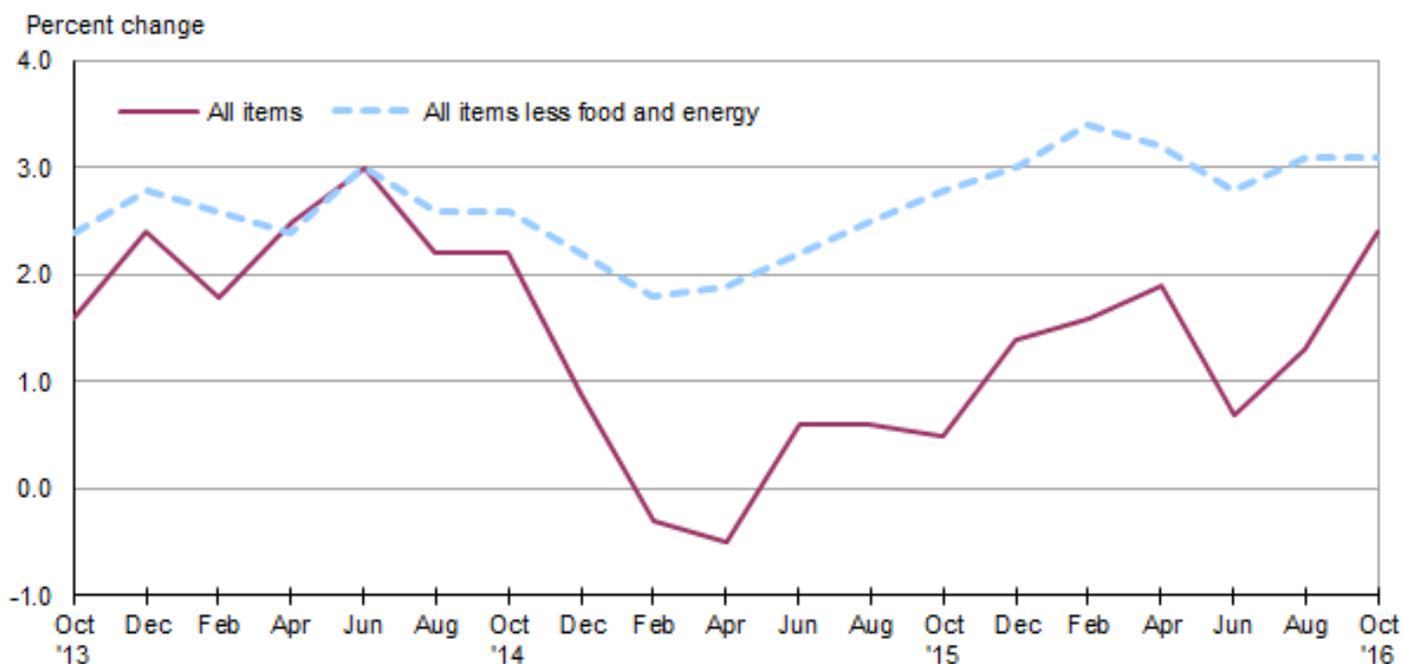
## **Consumer Price Index, Atlanta – October 2016**

**Area prices down 0.1 percent over the two months; up 2.4 percent over the year**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for Atlanta inched down 0.1 percent over the September-October pricing period, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the energy index declined 5.4 percent and the food index inched down 0.1 percent. The all items less food and energy index advanced 0.5 percent during the September-October pricing period. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the all items CPI-U increased 2.4 percent. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 3.1 percent over the year reflecting price increases for shelter and medical care. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#).)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Atlanta, October 2013–October 2016**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Food

Food prices inched down 0.1 percent during the September-October pricing period as food at home prices declined 0.4 percent. Prices for food away from home inched up 0.1 percent over the two months.

Over the year, the food index decreased 1.1 percent, led by a 3.0-percent decline in the food at home index. Since October 2015, the food away from home index advanced 1.4 percent.

## Energy

The energy index declined 5.4 percent during the September-October pricing period, reflecting a 21.1-percent seasonal drop in electricity prices. Over the two months, prices for motor fuel and utility (piped) gas service increased 9.0 and 1.9 percent, respectively.

Over the year, the energy index advanced 2.8 percent, led by a 6.9-percent increase in motor fuel prices. Since October 2015, utility (piped) gas service prices rose 3.1 percent, while electricity prices declined 2.5 percent.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.5 percent during the September-October pricing period as prices increased for shelter (1.1 percent) and apparel (8.5 percent). Over the two months, prices for medical care and for education and communication, declined 1.4 and 1.2 percent, respectively.

From October 2015 to October 2016, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 3.1 percent—led by increases for shelter (5.1 percent) and medical care (7.2 percent)

**Table A. Atlanta CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted**

Month	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	2-month	12-month								
February .....	1.0	2.4	1.9	2.1	1.3	1.8	0.0	-0.3	0.3	1.6
April .....	1.1	1.8	0.1	1.1	0.8	2.5	0.7	-0.5	1.0	1.9
June .....	0.6	1.5	1.0	1.4	1.5	3.0	2.5	0.6	1.3	0.7
August .....	0.6	1.5	0.7	1.5	-0.1	2.2	-0.1	0.6	0.5	1.3
October .....	-1.2	1.8	-1.0	1.6	-1.1	2.2	-1.2	0.5	-0.1	2.4
December .....	-0.9	1.2	-0.2	2.4	-1.5	0.9	-0.6	1.4		

**The Consumer Price Index for November 2016 is scheduled to be released on Thursday, December 15, 2016.**

## 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 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/pdf/homch17.pdf](http://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 **Atlanta, Ga.** metropolitan area covered in this release is comprised of Barrow, Bartow, Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, Rockdale, Spalding, and Walton Counties in Georgia.

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

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Aug. 2016	Sep. 2016	Oct. 2016	Oct. 2015	Aug. 2016	Sep. 2016
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All Items.....	(r) 227.817	-	227.675	2.4	(r) -0.1	-
All items (1967=100).....	(r) 687.026	-	686.599	-	-	-
Food and beverages.....	248.615	-	248.266	-0.9	-0.1	-
Food.....	259.148	-	258.778	-1.1	-0.1	-
Food at home.....	244.460	244.036	243.572	-3.0	-0.4	-0.2
Food away from home.....	283.111	-	283.511	1.4	0.1	-
Alcoholic beverages.....	154.605	-	154.439	1.7	-0.1	-
Housing.....	228.133	-	225.868	3.7	-1.0	-
Shelter.....	244.507	245.019	247.223	5.1	1.1	0.9
Rent of primary residence (1).....	249.868	250.925	251.903	5.7	0.8	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of residences (1) (2).....	238.676	240.654	241.585	4.4	1.2	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence (1) (2).....	238.676	240.654	241.585	4.4	1.2	0.4
Fuels and utilities.....	316.055	-	275.411	-0.8	-12.9	-
Household energy.....	280.140	280.841	234.651	-1.0	-16.2	-16.4
Energy Services (1).....	279.200	279.763	233.324	-1.0	-16.4	-16.6
Electricity (1).....	261.266	260.914	206.015	-2.5	-21.1	-21.0
Utility (piped) gas service (1).....	252.432	256.234	257.128	3.1	1.9	0.3
Household furnishings and operations.....	123.876	-	123.319	-1.3	-0.4	-
Apparel.....	139.128	-	151.009	0.7	8.5	-
Transportation.....	187.445	-	191.448	3.1	2.1	-
Private transportation.....	186.079	-	189.702	2.9	1.9	-
Motor fuel.....	188.707	203.920	205.699	6.9	9.0	0.9
Gasoline (all types).....	187.534	202.835	204.530	7.0	9.1	0.8
Unleaded regular (3).....	183.611	199.039	200.636	7.1	9.3	0.8
Unleaded midgrade (3) (4).....	233.761	249.815	253.324	6.8	8.4	1.4
Unleaded premium (3).....	203.998	216.979	219.082	6.0	7.4	1.0
Medical Care.....	(r) 449.638	-	443.470	7.2	(r) -1.4	-
Recreation (5).....	85.490	-	85.224	-1.2	-0.3	-
Education and communication (5).....	136.372	-	134.788	-0.3	-1.2	-
Other goods and services.....	362.838	-	362.462	-0.5	-0.1	-
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All Items.....	(r) 227.817	-	227.675	2.4	(r) -0.1	-
Commodities.....	(r) 175.963	-	177.684	0.5	(r) 1.0	-
Commodities less food & beverages.....	(r) 143.464	-	146.036	1.8	(r) 1.8	-
Nondurables less food & beverages.....	(r) 175.372	-	182.175	3.6	(r) 3.9	-
Durables.....	110.356	-	108.687	-1.5	-1.5	-
Services.....	(r) 276.779	-	275.009	3.5	(r) -0.6	-
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care.....	216.126	-	216.259	2.0	0.1	-
All items less shelter.....	(r) 225.148	-	223.673	1.1	(r) -0.7	-
Commodities less food.....	(r) 143.506	-	145.960	1.8	(r) 1.7	-
Nondurables.....	(r) 207.121	-	210.634	0.9	(r) 1.7	-
Nondurables less food.....	(r) 172.597	-	178.816	3.5	(r) 3.6	-
Services less rent of shelter (2).....	(r) 329.968	-	321.626	1.7	(r) -2.5	-
Services less medical care services.....	259.774	-	258.068	3.3	-0.7	-
Energy.....	211.680	219.290	200.189	2.8	-5.4	-8.7
All items less energy.....	(r) 229.436	-	230.429	2.4	(r) 0.4	-

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 Atlanta, GA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Aug. 2016	Sep. 2016	Oct. 2016	Oct. 2015	Aug. 2016	Sep. 2016
All items less food and energy .....	(r) 225.180	-	226.391	3.1	(r) 0.5	-

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) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

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

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

(R) Revised

- Data not available.

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