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Consumer Price Index for Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater – November 2019 **Area prices up 0.2 percent since September and 2.0 percent over the year**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater edged up 0.2 percent from September to November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the all items less food and energy index rose 0.4 percent since September. The food index declined 0.5 percent over the bi-monthly period, while the energy index was unchanged. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, bi-monthly changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

The all items CPI-U increased 2.0 percent from November 2018 to November 2019. The all items less food and energy index advanced 2.6 percent and the food index rose 1.8 percent over the year. The energy index declined 3.7 percent for the 12 months ending November 2019. ([See table 1.](#))

Food

The food index declined 0.5 percent from September to November, reflecting a 1.6-percent decrease in the food at home index. In contrast, the food away from home index rose 0.9 percent over the bi-monthly period.

The food index rose 1.8 percent from November 2018 to November 2019, led by a 4.0-percent increase in the food away from home index. The food at home index edged up 0.2 percent over the last 12 months.

Energy

The energy index was unchanged from September to November. The gasoline index was little changed from September, up 0.1 percent. The electricity and the utility (piped) gas service indexes were unchanged over the bi-monthly period.

The energy index declined 3.7 percent for the 12 months ending November 2019, led by a 5.7-percent drop in the gasoline index. The electricity index also declined over the past 12 months, down 1.5 percent, while the utility (piped) gas service index rose 2.0 percent over the year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.4 percent from September to November. Several indexes increased since September including shelter (0.6 percent) and medical care (1.8 percent). In contrast, the apparel index fell 12.6 percent and the new vehicles index declined 1.6 percent over the bi-monthly period.

The index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.6 percent over the last 12 months, led by increases in the shelter and medical care indexes, up 4.0 and 4.1 percent, respectively. The apparel index declined 11.6 percent from November 2018 to November 2019.

Table A. Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL, CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2018		2019	
	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month
January.....	0.8		-1.1	0.4
March.....	0.6		1.9	1.7
May.....	0.4		0.9	2.2
July.....	0.3		0.1	2.1
September.....	0.6		-0.1	1.5
November.....	-0.3	2.3	0.2	2.0

The Consumer Price Index for December 2019 is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

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 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 **Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL, Core Based Statistical Area** includes Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL (1987=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019	Nov. 2019	Nov. 2018	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019
Expenditure category						
All Items.....	229.219	-	229.740	2.0	0.2	-
Food and beverages	232.851	-	232.029	2.1	-0.4	-
Food	233.204	-	231.985	1.8	-0.5	-
Food at home	234.429	232.170	230.744	0.2	-1.6	-0.6
Cereals and bakery products	260.591	-	259.521	-0.8	-0.4	-
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....	223.833	-	215.019	-3.2	-3.9	-
Dairy and related products	221.650	-	213.004	-0.4	-3.9	-
Fruits and vegetables	331.807	-	321.811	2.5	-3.0	-
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials.....	172.978	-	174.689	4.2	1.0	-
Other food at home	190.521	-	191.340	0.0	0.4	-
Food away from home.....	230.490	-	232.462	4.0	0.9	-
Alcoholic beverages	212.730	-	217.243	5.8	2.1	-
Housing	233.636	-	234.893	3.7	0.5	-
Shelter	268.149	268.426	269.779	4.0	0.6	0.5
Rent of primary residence	272.289	274.201	275.480	4.6	1.2	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of residences	282.116	282.637	283.855	3.8	0.6	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence.....	282.116	282.637	283.855	3.8	0.6	0.4
Fuels and utilities.....	212.024	-	212.014	-0.5	0.0	-
Household energy	167.013	167.001	167.006	-1.4	0.0	0.0
Energy Services	164.537	164.525	164.525	-1.5	0.0	0.0
Electricity	161.651	161.639	161.639	-1.5	0.0	0.0
Utility (piped) gas service	240.646	240.646	240.646	2.0	0.0	0.0
Household furnishings and operations.....	121.929	-	122.613	6.1	0.6	-
Apparel	152.571	-	133.286	-11.6	-12.6	-
Transportation	200.453	-	201.157	0.4	0.4	-
Private transportation	205.051	-	204.900	-0.4	-0.1	-
New and used motor vehicles(1).....	108.226	-	107.313	0.5	-0.8	-
New vehicles	123.677	-	121.658	0.4	-1.6	-
Used cars and trucks.....	132.800	-	132.095	-0.5	-0.5	-
Motor fuel	258.239	269.225	258.472	-5.8	0.1	-4.0
Gasoline (all types).....	252.699	263.519	252.960	-5.7	0.1	-4.0
Unleaded regular(2)	244.693	256.267	245.012	-5.5	0.1	-4.4
Unleaded midgrade(2)(3).....	233.110	236.569	233.651	-5.5	0.2	-1.2
Unleaded premium(2).....	279.677	282.416	279.173	-8.2	-0.2	-1.1
Motor vehicle insurance	572.561	-	581.255	2.3	1.5	-
Medical Care	399.837	-	406.881	4.1	1.8	-
Recreation(1).....	121.785	-	123.280	1.9	1.2	-
Education and communication(1).....	132.636	-	133.627	-2.0	0.7	-
Tuition, other school fees, and child care.....	631.962	-	630.519	1.8	-0.2	-
Other goods and services	297.271	-	304.852	2.1	2.6	-
Commodity and service group						
All Items.....	229.219	-	229.740	2.0	0.2	-
Commodities	174.152	-	172.047	-0.8	-1.2	-
Commodities less food & beverages.....	144.174	-	141.673	-2.5	-1.7	-
Nondurables less food & beverages	207.055	-	201.403	-4.9	-2.7	-
Durables	90.787	-	90.181	0.1	-0.7	-
Services.....	278.126	-	280.963	3.6	1.0	-
Special aggregate indexes						

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, Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL (1987=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019	Nov. 2019	Nov. 2018	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019
All items less medical care	220.039	-	220.221	1.8	0.1	-
All items less shelter.....	213.175	-	213.224	0.9	0.0	-
Commodities less food	147.595	-	145.250	-2.2	-1.6	-
Nondurables	220.012	-	216.844	-1.2	-1.4	-
Nondurables less food.....	207.527	-	202.574	-4.2	-2.4	-
Services less rent of shelter	286.000	-	290.270	3.1	1.5	-
Services less medical care services.....	264.822	-	267.175	3.3	0.9	-
Energy	202.462	206.909	202.552	-3.7	0.0	-2.1
All items less energy	231.202	-	231.759	2.5	0.2	-
All items less food and energy	231.111	-	231.947	2.6	0.4	-

Footnotes

- (1) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
- (2) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
- (3) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.
- Data not available.