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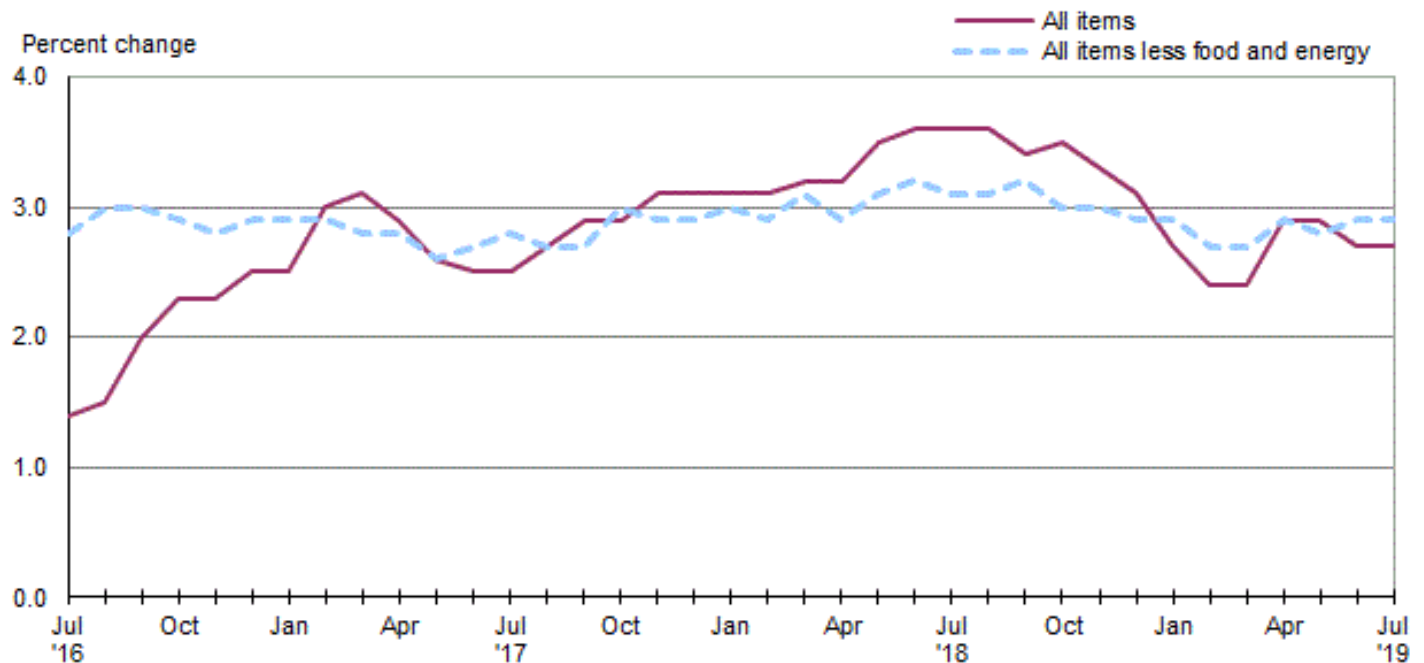
Consumer Price Index, West Region — July 2019

Area prices were unchanged over the past month, up 2.7 percent from a year ago

Prices in the West Region, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), were unchanged in July, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A.](#)) During July, lower prices for gasoline helped counter higher shelter prices. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U rose 2.7 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) Energy prices edged down 0.2 percent, largely the result of a decrease in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.9 percent over the year. (See [table 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, West region, July 2016–July 2019



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices edged up 0.2 percent for the month of July. (See [table 1.](#)) Prices for food away from home advanced 0.3 percent, and prices for food at home edged up 0.2 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices advanced 2.7 percent. Prices for food away from home advanced 3.6 percent since a year ago, and prices for food at home increased 1.8 percent.

Energy

The energy index decreased 1.9 percent over the month. The decrease was mainly due to lower prices for gasoline (-3.6 percent). Prices for natural gas service increased 2.8 percent, and prices for electricity rose 0.5 percent for the same period.

Energy prices edged down 0.2 percent over the year, largely due to lower prices for gasoline (-0.8 percent). Prices for natural gas service decreased 1.9 percent, but prices paid for electricity advanced 1.8 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy inched up 0.2 percent in July. Higher prices for shelter (0.5 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for apparel (-1.8 percent) and household furnishings and operations (-0.2 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.9 percent. Components contributing to the increase included shelter (4.6 percent) and medical care (2.8 percent). Partly offsetting the increases was a price decline in apparel (-1.3 percent).

Table A. West region CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	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
January.....	-0.3	0.7	0.5	2.6	0.5	2.5	0.5	3.1	0.2	2.7
February.....	0.6	0.9	0.1	2.1	0.6	3.0	0.5	3.1	0.2	2.4
March.....	0.8	1.1	0.2	1.5	0.3	3.1	0.4	3.2	0.4	2.4
April.....	0.3	1.0	0.5	1.8	0.3	2.9	0.4	3.2	0.8	2.9
May.....	0.8	1.2	0.5	1.5	0.2	2.6	0.5	3.5	0.5	2.9
June.....	0.0	1.1	0.2	1.6	0.0	2.5	0.2	3.6	0.0	2.7
July.....	0.3	1.3	0.1	1.4	0.1	2.5	0.1	3.6	0.0	2.7
August.....	-0.1	1.3	0.0	1.5	0.2	2.7	0.2	3.6		
September.....	-0.2	1.0	0.3	2.0	0.5	2.9	0.3	3.4		
October.....	0.0	1.1	0.3	2.3	0.3	2.9	0.4	3.5		
November.....	-0.2	1.5	-0.2	2.3	0.0	3.1	-0.2	3.3		
December.....	-0.1	1.8	0.0	2.5	0.1	3.1	-0.2	3.1		

The August 2019 Consumer Price Index for the West Region is scheduled to be released on September 12, 2019.

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/homch17_a.htm.

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 West Region covered in this release is comprised of the following thirteen states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

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

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	May 2019	Jun. 2019	Jul. 2019	Jul. 2018	May 2019	Jun. 2019
Expenditure category						
All Items.....	270.880	270.957	271.029	2.7	0.1	0.0
All items (December 1977=100).....	437.862	437.988	438.103			
Food and beverages	265.812	265.355	265.981	2.6	0.1	0.2
Food	265.728	265.176	265.820	2.7	0.0	0.2
Food at home	251.223	250.038	250.450	1.8	-0.3	0.2
Cereals and bakery products	269.246	264.712	267.252	3.7	-0.7	1.0
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....	259.650	258.131	257.627	1.2	-0.8	-0.2
Dairy and related products	230.481	228.742	229.565	1.9	-0.4	0.4
Fruits and vegetables	335.637	331.796	335.658	2.1	0.0	1.2
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials.....	174.776	173.807	173.183	2.5	-0.9	-0.4
Other food at home	212.768	214.621	213.575	0.8	0.4	-0.5
Food away from home.....	284.595	284.858	285.801	3.6	0.4	0.3
Alcoholic beverages	263.539	264.303	264.692	1.4	0.4	0.1
Housing	297.487	298.844	300.107	4.2	0.9	0.4
Shelter	343.752	345.131	346.749	4.6	0.9	0.5
Rent of primary residence(1).....	363.623	365.456	367.222	5.0	1.0	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2).....	360.524	362.056	363.373	4.5	0.8	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2).....	360.538	362.070	363.387	4.5	0.8	0.4
Fuels and utilities.....	306.620	308.287	310.304	2.1	1.2	0.7
Household energy	258.796	260.849	263.307	1.0	1.7	0.9
Energy services(1)	260.761	263.219	265.733	1.0	1.9	1.0
Electricity(1).....	293.840	297.814	299.276	1.8	1.8	0.5
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....	197.563	196.190	201.779	-1.9	2.1	2.8
Household furnishings and operations	132.761	133.881	133.648	3.5	0.7	-0.2
Apparel	116.675	116.627	114.572	-1.3	-1.8	-1.8
Transportation	226.846	224.419	221.551	0.5	-2.3	-1.3
Private transportation	221.540	219.151	217.085	0.6	-2.0	-0.9
New and used motor vehicles(3).....	100.135	100.820	101.437	0.7	1.3	0.6
New vehicles	148.318	148.396	148.020	0.6	-0.2	-0.3
New cars and trucks(3)(4)	102.987	103.042	102.785	0.6	-0.2	-0.2
New cars(4)	146.045	146.120	146.176	1.3	0.1	0.0
Used cars and trucks.....	134.113	135.604	137.543	2.0	2.6	1.4
Motor fuel	294.800	282.052	271.868	-0.9	-7.8	-3.6
Gasoline (all types).....	294.057	281.204	270.957	-0.8	-7.9	-3.6
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....	291.448	278.231	267.890	-1.0	-8.1	-3.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....	278.754	268.635	259.061	-0.3	-7.1	-3.6
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....	285.004	274.354	265.401	-0.3	-6.9	-3.3
Motor vehicle insurance(6).....	851.108	848.406	847.192	0.5	-0.5	-0.1
Medical Care	507.396	507.872	509.995	2.8	0.5	0.4
Medical care commodities.....	389.466	386.900	388.206	0.9	-0.3	0.3
Medical care services.....	544.546	546.057	548.445	3.3	0.7	0.4
Professional services	359.646	359.820	359.806	0.6	0.0	0.0
Recreation(3).....	114.357	114.477	114.362	0.4	0.0	-0.1
Education and communication(3).....	136.854	137.108	137.607	1.1	0.6	0.4
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(6)	1,466.132	1,470.221	1,475.057	5.4	0.6	0.3
Other goods and services	446.490	446.371	448.392	2.8	0.4	0.5
Commodity and Service Group						
All Items.....	270.880	270.957	271.029	2.7	0.1	0.0
Commodities	189.555	188.537	187.703	1.3	-1.0	-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 West (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	May 2019	Jun. 2019	Jul. 2019	Jul. 2018	May 2019	Jun. 2019
Commodities less food & beverages.....	151.431	150.255	148.918	0.4	-1.7	-0.9
Nondurables less food & beverages	202.457	199.088	196.202	-0.1	-3.1	-1.4
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	262.679	256.935	253.475	0.3	-3.5	-1.3
Durables	106.148	106.688	106.584	1.1	0.4	-0.1
Services.....	346.298	347.500	348.499	3.5	0.6	0.3
Rent of shelter(2).....	366.086	367.550	369.260	4.6	0.9	0.5
Transportation services	325.305	325.504	322.397	1.1	-0.9	-1.0
Other services	355.680	356.563	357.133	2.0	0.4	0.2
Special aggregate indexes:						
All items less medical care	260.060	260.120	260.103	2.7	0.0	0.0
All items less food	271.864	272.040	272.022	2.7	0.1	0.0
All items less shelter.....	242.331	241.887	241.338	1.6	-0.4	-0.2
Commodities less food	155.636	154.502	153.199	0.4	-1.6	-0.8
Nondurables	234.684	232.620	231.325	1.3	-1.4	-0.6
Nondurables less food.....	207.196	204.046	201.333	0.0	-2.8	-1.3
Nondurables less food and apparel.....	262.447	257.326	254.234	0.4	-3.1	-1.2
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	359.883	360.887	361.099	2.1	0.3	0.1
Services less medical care services.....	332.431	333.608	334.514	3.5	0.6	0.3
Energy	284.955	277.892	272.575	-0.2	-4.3	-1.9
All items less energy	272.109	272.707	273.171	2.9	0.4	0.2
All items less food and energy	274.026	274.823	275.257	2.9	0.4	0.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities	140.177	140.433	140.168	0.8	0.0	-0.2
Energy commodities.....	299.649	286.653	276.455	-0.9	-7.7	-3.6
Services less energy services.....	352.589	353.727	354.648	3.6	0.6	0.3

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) 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.

(6) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.

- Data not available

Regions defined as the four Census regions. West includes Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

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