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Consumer Price Index, West Region — April 2022

Area prices were up 0.7 percent over the past month, up 8.3 percent from a year ago

Prices in the West Region, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), advanced 0.7 percent in April, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See table A.) The April increase was influenced by higher prices for shelter and food. (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 8.3 percent. (See chart 1 and table A.) Food prices advanced 9.1 percent. Energy prices jumped 31.7 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy increased 6.4 percent over the year. (See table 1.)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, West region, April 2019–April 2022

Month	All items	All items less food and energy
Apr 2019	2.9	2.9
May 2019	2.9	2.8
Jun 2019	2.7	2.9
Jul 2019	2.7	2.9
Aug 2019	2.6	3.1
Sep 2019	2.6	3.0
Oct 2019	2.8	2.8
Nov 2019	2.8	2.8
Dec 2019	2.8	2.8
Jan 2020	2.9	2.8
Feb 2020	3.1	2.9
Mar 2020	2.5	2.5
Apr 2020	1.3	2.1
May 2020	0.8	1.9
Jun 2020	1.2	1.7
Jul 2020	1.7	2.0
Aug 2020	1.9	1.9
Sep 2020	1.6	1.6
Oct 2020	1.2	1.6
Nov 2020	1.4	1.8
Dec 2020	1.5	1.5
Jan 2021	1.4	1.3
Feb 2021	1.6	1.2
Mar 2021	2.4	1.5
Apr 2021	3.9	2.7
May 2021	4.7	3.3
Jun 2021	5.1	4.1
Jul 2021	5.2	3.9

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, West region, April 2019–April 2022 - Continued

Month	All items	All items less food and energy
Aug 2021	5.0	3.8
Sep 2021	5.3	4.0
Oct 2021	6.0	4.5
Nov 2021	6.5	4.8
Dec 2021	7.1	5.5
Jan 2022	7.7	6.2
Feb 2022	8.1	6.7
Mar 2022	8.7	6.8
Apr 2022	8.3	6.4

Food

Food prices rose 0.9 percent for the month of April. (See table 1.) Prices for food at home advanced 1.0 percent, led by higher prices for dairy and related products (2.3 percent) and meats, poultry, fish, and eggs (2.0 percent). Prices for food away from home advanced 0.7 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices advanced 9.1 percent. Prices for food at home jumped 11.1 percent since a year ago, led by higher prices for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs (15.4 percent). Prices for food away from home increased 6.3 percent.

Energy

The energy index advanced 1.1 percent over the month. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (2.2 percent). Prices for electricity decreased 1.0 percent, and natural gas service prices declined 0.5 percent for the same period.

Energy prices jumped 31.7 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (45.0 percent). Prices paid for natural gas service rose 20.9 percent, and prices for electricity advanced 11.0 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.6 percent in April. Higher prices for new vehicles (1.1 percent), shelter (0.7 percent), and medical care (0.3 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for apparel (-1.4 percent) and recreation (-0.7 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 6.4 percent. Components contributing to the increase included new and used motor vehicles (16.5 percent), household furnishings and operations (9.3 percent), and shelter (5.7 percent).

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

Month	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January	0.5	3.1	0.2	2.7	0.3	2.9	0.2	1.4	0.9	7.7
February	0.5	3.1	0.2	2.4	0.4	3.1	0.5	1.6	0.8	8.1
March	0.4	3.2	0.4	2.4	-0.2	2.5	0.7	2.4	1.3	8.7
April	0.4	3.2	0.8	2.9	-0.4	1.3	1.0	3.9	0.7	8.3
May	0.5	3.5	0.5	2.9	0.1	0.8	0.8	4.7		
June	0.2	3.6	0.0	2.7	0.4	1.2	0.9	5.1		
July	0.1	3.6	0.0	2.7	0.5	1.7	0.6	5.2		
August	0.2	3.6	0.1	2.6	0.3	1.9	0.2	5.0		
September	0.3	3.4	0.3	2.6	0.0	1.6	0.2	5.3		

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

Month	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
October	0.4	3.5	0.5	2.8	0.2	1.2	0.8	6.0		
November	-0.2	3.3	-0.1	2.8	0.0	1.4	0.5	6.5		
December	-0.2	3.1	-0.2	2.8	-0.1	1.5	0.4	7.1		

The May 2022 Consumer Price Index for the West Region is scheduled to be released on June 10, 2022.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measures 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 U.S. population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total U.S. 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; for most of the CPI-U the reference base is 1982-84 equals 100. An increase of 7 percent from the reference base, for example, is shown as 107.000. Alternatively, that relationship can also be expressed as the price of a base period market basket of goods and services rising from $100 to $107. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the CPI section of the BLS Handbook of Methods available on the internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cpi/.

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.

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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-		
	Historical data	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2022	Apr. 2022	Apr. 2021	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2022
Expenditure category							
All Items		301.158	305.082	307.145	8.3	2.0	0.7
All items (December 1977=100)		486.805	493.149	496.483			
Food and beverages		304.228	306.818	309.523	8.9	1.7	0.9
Food		305.426	308.084	310.827	9.1	1.8	0.9
Food at home		288.722	293.496	296.397	11.1	2.7	1.0
Cereals and bakery products		289.271	294.139	296.523	10.1	2.5	0.8
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs		319.495	326.704	333.278	15.4	4.3	2.0
Dairy and related products		259.727	260.589	266.489	7.8	2.6	2.3
Fruits and vegetables		375.946	378.227	380.205	8.7	1.1	0.5
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials		203.121	206.730	207.667	8.3	2.2	0.5
Other food at home		243.433	248.920	249.705	12.3	2.6	0.3
Food away from home		326.611	325.535	327.934	6.3	0.4	0.7
Alcoholic beverages		285.027	286.615	288.754	5.5	1.3	0.7
Housing		329.267	331.428	333.144	6.6	1.2	0.5
Shelter		376.280	378.224	380.733	5.7	1.2	0.7
Rent of primary residence(1)		398.598	400.197	402.333	4.9	0.9	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2)		395.783	397.457	399.367	5.6	0.9	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2)		395.614	397.286	399.190	5.5	0.9	0.5
Fuels and utilities		360.162	368.276	366.517	11.4	1.8	-0.5
Household energy		309.516	319.827	316.902	13.5	2.4	-0.9
Energy services(1)		310.804	320.630	317.845	12.9	2.3	-0.9
Electricity(1)		341.086	355.794	352.316	11.0	3.3	-1.0
Utility (piped) gas service(1)		259.426	258.683	257.317	20.9	-0.8	-0.5
Household furnishings and operations		151.716	152.223	152.675	9.3	0.6	0.3
Apparel		123.871	124.640	122.895	5.7	-0.8	-1.4
Transportation		261.970	274.446	279.914	20.6	6.8	2.0
Private transportation		261.597	273.820	276.601	20.4	5.7	1.0
New and used motor vehicles(3)		126.930	126.163	127.166	16.5	0.2	0.8
New vehicles		169.586	168.029	169.815	12.3	0.1	1.1
New cars and trucks(3)(4)		117.856	116.755				
New cars(4)		167.061	165.812	168.523	13.3	0.9	1.6
Used cars and trucks		202.981	199.731	198.827	22.7	-2.0	-0.5
Motor fuel		337.333	405.789	415.438	45.5	23.2	2.4
Gasoline (all types)		335.897	403.994	412.907	45.0	22.9	2.2
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4)		332.621	401.205	409.882	45.8	23.2	2.2
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5)		320.157	382.288	391.619	43.6	22.3	2.4
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4)		327.605	389.377	398.622	42.0	21.7	2.4
Medical Care		561.235	562.215	563.983	3.6	0.5	0.3
Medical care commodities		433.685	431.541	426.330	1.3	-1.7	-1.2
Medical care services		600.663	602.602	606.513	4.1	1.0	0.6
Professional services		386.503	386.169	386.357	2.8	0.0	0.0
Recreation(3)		122.253	123.430	122.587	4.2	0.3	-0.7
Education and communication(3)		141.868	141.415	141.206	0.7	-0.5	-0.1
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(6)		1,563.378	1,564.403	1,564.665	3.8	0.1	0.0
Other goods and services		490.764	493.279	497.305	5.1	1.3	0.8
Commodity and Service Group							
All Items		301.158	305.082	307.145	8.3	2.0	0.7
Commodities		217.767	222.597	223.972	12.8	2.8	0.6

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-		
	Historical data	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2022	Apr. 2022	Apr. 2021	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2022
Commodities less food & beverages		174.406	179.758	180.579	15.4	3.5	0.5
Nondurables less food & beverages		221.901	238.360	240.215	18.0	8.3	0.8
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel		290.886	317.736	321.910	21.5	10.7	1.3
Durables		129.329	127.989	128.152	13.2	-0.9	0.1
Services		377.199	380.009	382.716	5.7	1.5	0.7
Rent of shelter(2)		400.918	403.006	405.700	5.7	1.2	0.7
Transportation services		329.493	336.388	349.770	8.6	6.2	4.0
Other services		379.258	381.540	380.983	3.2	0.5	-0.1
Special aggregate indexes:							
All items less medical care		289.227	293.260	295.328	8.7	2.1	0.7
All items less food		300.624	304.748	306.706	8.2	2.0	0.6
All items less shelter		271.700	276.446	278.335	9.8	2.4	0.7
Commodities less food		178.753	184.078	184.938	15.0	3.5	0.5
Nondurables		263.290	273.103	275.383	12.8	4.6	0.8
Nondurables less food		226.845	242.563	244.446	17.0	7.8	0.8
Nondurables less food and apparel		289.879	314.412	318.396	19.9	9.8	1.3
Services less rent of shelter(2)		389.312	393.397	396.432	5.7	1.8	0.8
Services less medical care services		361.605	364.466	367.087	5.9	1.5	0.7
Energy		331.185	374.648	378.794	31.7	14.4	1.1
All items less energy		301.662	303.023	304.966	6.8	1.1	0.6
All items less food and energy		301.848	302.993	304.805	6.4	1.0	0.6
Commodities less food and energy commodities		161.474	160.890	160.950	9.4	-0.3	0.0
Energy commodities		343.844	412.864	422.320	45.3	22.8	2.3
Services less energy services		382.519	384.938	387.970	5.4	1.4	0.8

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.