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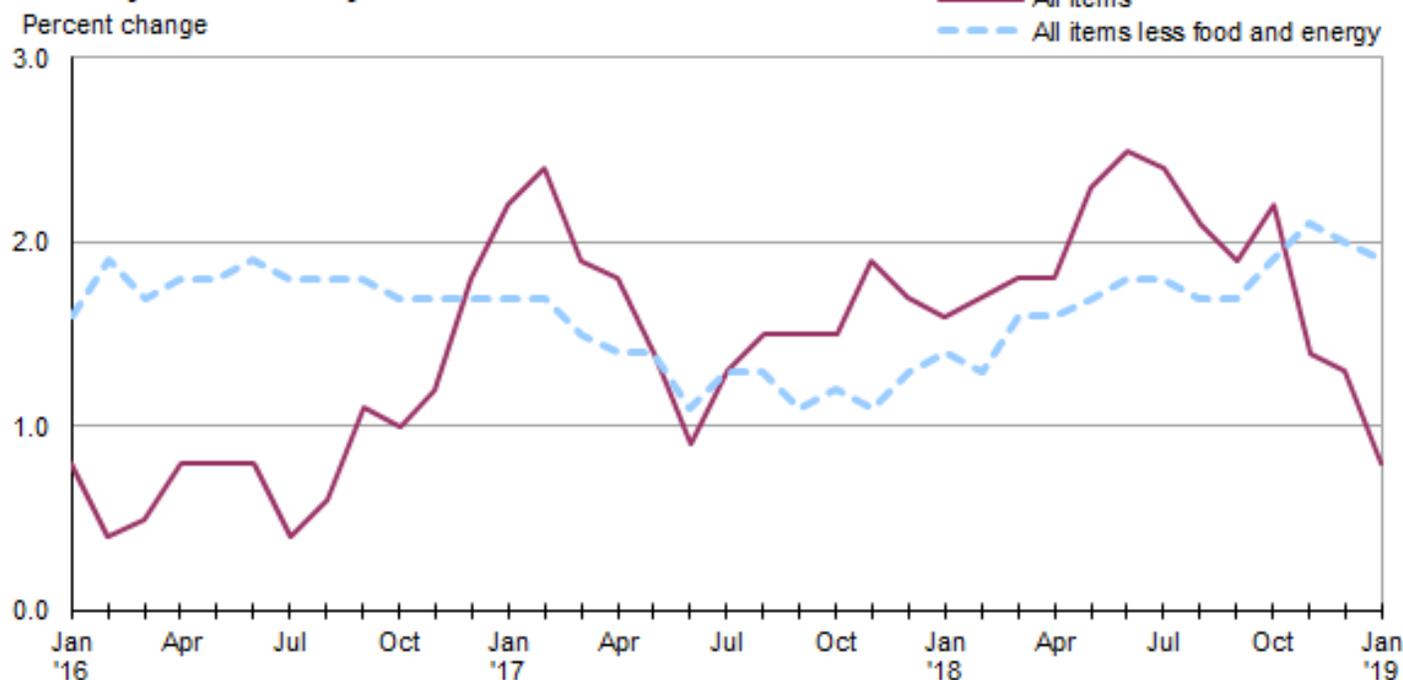
Consumer Price Index, Midwest Region – January 2019

Prices in the Midwest up 0.2 percent in January and 0.8 percent higher over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Midwest turned up 0.2 percent in January after declining in November and December, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The January movement was influenced by higher prices for shelter, medical care services, and food at home. Lower prices for gasoline helped to moderate the advance. Overall, energy costs were down 2.8 percent, but prices for food increased 0.6 percent. The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.4 percent after recording no change in the prior two months. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

The CPI-U for the Midwest rose 0.8 percent over the latest 12 months. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The energy index, which includes motor fuel and household fuels, declined 10.0 percent. Food prices increased 1.0 percent. The index for all items less food and energy was up 1.9 percent from January 2018 to January 2019. (See [table 1](#).)

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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices in the Midwest were up 0.6 percent in January led by higher prices for food at home (0.8 percent). Prices for food away from home rose 0.2 percent.

From January 2018 to January 2019, the index for food advanced 1.0 percent. Costs for food away from home were up 2.5 percent and were responsible for the increase. Prices for food at home were 0.2 percent lower over the year.

Energy

The energy index declined for the fourth month in a row, down 2.8 percent in January led by a 5.4-percent drop in prices for gasoline. Also contributing to the monthly decline, utility (piped) gas service costs were down 3.0 percent after rising 11.3 percent in the prior month. Electricity prices were up 1.0 percent in January.

Energy costs decreased 10.0 percent since January 2018 largely due to a decline of 19.1 percent in prices for gasoline. Electricity prices were down 1.2 percent, but costs for utility (piped) gas service were 2.4 percent higher than a year ago.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy for the Midwest increased 0.4 percent after registering no change in each of the prior two months. Among the expenditure categories registering higher costs were medical care services (1.0 percent) and shelter (0.3 percent), while prices for new vehicles (-0.5 percent) were among those that declined over the month.

The index for all items less food and energy was up 1.9 percent from January 2018 to January 2019. Higher costs for shelter (3.3 percent) contributed to the increase.

The Midwest Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) stood at 233.837 in January 2019. A typical market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in the 1982-84 base period cost \$233.84 in January 2019.

Table A. Midwest 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								
January.....	-0.6	-0.3	0.3	0.8	0.7	2.2	0.6	1.6	0.2	0.8
February.....	0.3	-0.5	0.0	0.4	0.2	2.4	0.2	1.7		
March.....	0.6	-0.9	0.6	0.5	0.1	1.9	0.2	1.8		
April.....	0.1	-1.1	0.4	0.8	0.4	1.8	0.4	1.8		
May.....	0.4	-0.8	0.4	0.8	0.0	1.4	0.5	2.3		
June.....	0.5	-0.7	0.6	0.8	0.0	0.9	0.2	2.5		
July.....	0.0	-0.5	-0.5	0.4	0.0	1.3	0.0	2.4		
August.....	0.0	-0.3	0.1	0.6	0.3	1.5	0.0	2.1		
September.....	-0.3	-0.8	0.2	1.1	0.3	1.5	0.1	1.9		
October.....	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1	1.0	-0.2	1.5	0.1	2.2		
November.....	-0.5	-0.2	-0.3	1.2	0.2	1.9	-0.6	1.4		
December.....	-0.6	0.0	0.1	1.8	-0.2	1.7	-0.4	1.3		

The February 2019 Consumer Price Index for the Midwest region is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, March 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 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 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 Midwest region is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Midwest Region, (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted)

Expenditure category	Indexes			Percent change from		
	Nov. 2018	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2019	Jan. 2018	Nov. 2018	Dec. 2018
All items	234.292	233.458	233.837	0.8	-0.2	0.2
All items (December 1977 = 100).....	381.206	379.849	380.466			
Food and beverages	244.088	244.469	245.739	1.0	0.7	0.5
Food	243.269	243.670	245.015	1.0	0.7	0.6
Food at home	224.384	224.499	226.291	-0.2	0.8	0.8
Cereals and bakery products	259.140	256.376	257.690	-0.4	-0.6	0.5
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....	244.133	241.678	244.643	-1.0	0.2	1.2
Dairy and related products	189.794	191.886	192.236	-3.8	1.3	0.2
Fruits and vegetables	263.345	270.970	275.248	1.4	4.5	1.6
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials.....	160.307	160.776	162.378	1.8	1.3	1.0
Other food at home	197.767	196.121	196.556	0.3	-0.6	0.2
Food away from home.....	274.604	275.440	276.128	2.5	0.6	0.2
Alcoholic beverages	253.211	253.315	253.559	1.1	0.1	0.1
Housing	228.707	229.553	230.194	2.8	0.7	0.3
Shelter	274.129	274.410	275.220	3.3	0.4	0.3
Rent of primary residence(1).....	274.266	274.928	275.503	3.1	0.5	0.2
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(1)(2).....	279.316	280.004	280.742	3.6	0.5	0.3
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(1)(2).....	279.283	279.963	280.704	3.6	0.5	0.3
Fuels and utilities.....	216.900	222.649	222.229	0.7	2.5	-0.2
Household energy	174.445	180.410	179.773	-0.2	3.1	-0.4
Energy services(1)	180.485	187.152	186.445	0.0	3.3	-0.4
Electricity(1).....	196.462	196.912	198.814	-1.2	1.2	1.0
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....	143.269	159.476	154.629	2.4	7.9	-3.0
Household furnishings and operations	114.559	114.288	115.068	1.3	0.4	0.7
Apparel	117.674	113.291	114.788	-1.5	-2.5	1.3
Transportation	200.177	194.978	192.640	-3.7	-3.8	-1.2
Private transportation	195.584	190.450	187.855	-3.7	-4.0	-1.4
New and used motor vehicles(3).....	96.525	97.425	97.115	1.2	0.6	-0.3
New vehicles	136.792	136.733	136.017	-0.9	-0.6	-0.5
New cars and trucks(3)(4).....	96.699	96.650	96.191	-0.7	-0.5	-0.5
New cars(4).....	133.603	133.817	133.167	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5
Used cars and trucks.....	136.638	136.799	137.526	0.9	0.6	0.5
Motor fuel	225.285	198.541	187.852	-18.7	-16.6	-5.4
Gasoline (all types).....	223.312	196.431	185.866	-19.1	-16.8	-5.4
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....	217.055	190.436	180.076	-19.4	-17.0	-5.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....	260.132	228.371	218.404	-17.4	-16.0	-4.4
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....	249.154	226.182	214.908	-14.8	-13.7	-5.0
Motor vehicle insurance(6).....	741.088	738.793	739.537	1.9	-0.2	0.1
Medical care	487.769	487.717	492.369	2.4	0.9	1.0
Medical care commodities.....	396.311	395.354	398.544	2.6	0.6	0.8
Medical care services.....	518.385	518.640	523.785	2.3	1.0	1.0
Professional services	416.787	416.817	420.993	0.9	1.0	1.0
Recreation(3).....	119.929	120.650	121.229	-0.9	1.1	0.5
Education and communication(3).....	137.491	137.412	137.834	-0.1	0.2	0.3
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(6) ..	1,197.208	1,196.868	1,199.645	1.4	0.2	0.2

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, Midwest Region, (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted) - Continued

Expenditure category	Indexes			Percent change from		
	Nov. 2018	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2019	Jan. 2018	Nov. 2018	Dec. 2018
Other goods and services	428.857	429.502	428.893	2.4	0.0	-0.1
Commodity and service group						
Commodities	177.715	175.167	175.182	-1.6	-1.4	0.0
Commodities less food and beverages	145.696	142.160	141.707	-3.2	-2.7	-0.3
Nondurables less food and beverages.....	192.814	184.244	183.000	-5.6	-5.1	-0.7
Durables	100.892	101.137	101.268	0.0	0.4	0.1
Services.....	292.654	293.637	294.400	2.3	0.6	0.3
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less shelter.....	222.327	221.100	221.334	-0.3	-0.4	0.1
All items less medical care	222.293	221.421	221.598	0.6	-0.3	0.1
Commodities less food.....	149.020	145.560	145.122	-3.0	-2.6	-0.3
Nondurables	218.112	213.667	213.590	-2.2	-2.1	0.0
Nondurables less food.....	196.010	187.933	186.773	-5.1	-4.7	-0.6
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	321.569	323.350	324.074	1.4	0.8	0.2
Services less medical care services.....	275.819	276.856	277.291	2.3	0.5	0.2
Energy	197.513	188.207	182.886	-10.0	-7.4	-2.8
All items less energy	240.842	240.861	241.825	1.7	0.4	0.4
All items less food and energy	241.121	241.071	241.972	1.9	0.4	0.4

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.

Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.