



For Release: Friday, February 19, 2016

16-352-NEW

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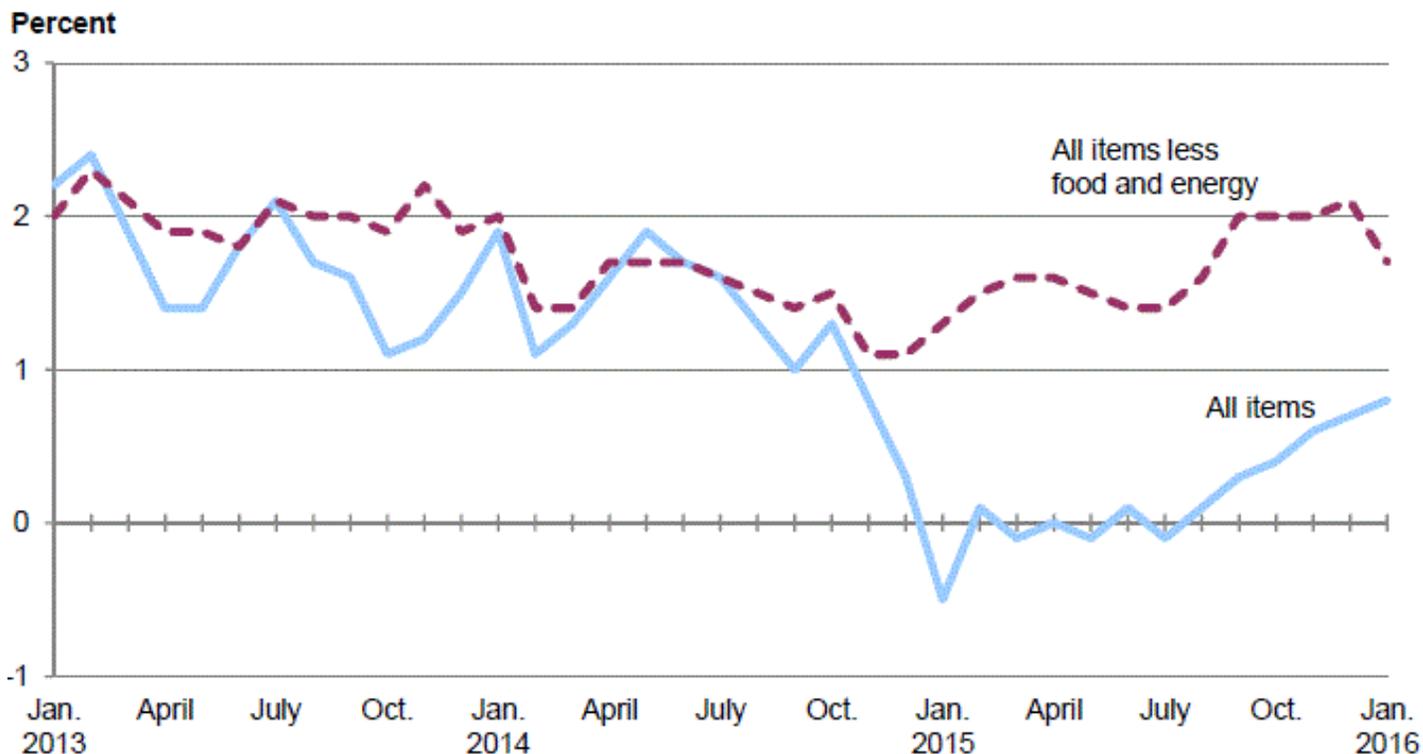
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Consumer Price Index, New York-Northern New Jersey – January 2016
Area prices up 0.2 percent over the month and up 0.8 percent over the year

Prices in the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), edged up 0.2 percent in January, following three consecutive months of declines, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli attributed the increase primarily to higher prices for medical care and food. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the year, the CPI-U was up 0.8 percent. (See [table A.](#)) The January increase was the largest since November 2014. (See [chart 1.](#)) The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.7 percent. (See [table 1.](#)) Higher prices for shelter drove the 12-month change in both indexes.

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, January 2013–January 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

The food index rose 0.5 percent in January—the largest increase in over a year—primarily due to higher prices for food away from home (0.9 percent). Grocery prices also rose (0.3 percent), with higher prices reported for tomatoes and cakes, cupcakes, and cookies.

Over the year, the food index increased 1.3 percent. Away-from-home food prices rose 3.0 percent, while at-home food prices inched up 0.1 percent.

Energy

The energy index declined 1.7 percent over the month, due primarily to a 6.0-percent decline in gasoline prices. Fuel oil also contributed to the decrease. In contrast, household energy rose 1.0 percent.

For the year ended in January 2016, the energy index fell 12.9 percent, reflecting drops in gasoline prices (-12.8 percent) and household energy (-12.9 percent). Within household energy, lower prices were reported for electricity (-11.0 percent), natural gas (-10.6 percent), and fuel oil.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy edged up 0.2 percent due to higher prices for medical care (1.4 percent), apparel (0.9 percent), and shelter (0.1 percent). Within shelter, residential rent and owners' equivalent rent each rose 0.2 percent.

From January 2015 to January 2016, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 1.7 percent. Shelter prices rose 2.8 percent, reflecting higher prices for residential rent (3.9 percent) and owners' equivalent rent (2.8 percent). Other categories with higher prices included education and communication (1.8 percent), other goods and services (1.7 percent), medical care (1.3 percent), and apparel (0.9 percent).

Table A. New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)

Month	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	1-month	12-month										
January.....	0.3	1.5	0.4	2.8	0.5	2.2	0.9	1.9	0.1	-0.5	0.2	0.8
February.....	0.5	2.1	0.4	2.6	0.6	2.4	-0.2	1.1	0.3	0.1		
March.....	0.7	2.3	0.6	2.6	0.1	1.9	0.4	1.3	0.2	-0.1		
April.....	0.4	2.5	0.2	2.4	-0.2	1.4	0.0	1.6	0.1	0.0		
May.....	0.6	2.9	0.1	1.8	0.1	1.4	0.5	1.9	0.4	-0.1		
June.....	0.2	3.2	-0.1	1.6	0.3	1.8	0.0	1.7	0.2	0.1		
July.....	0.3	3.3	-0.2	1.1	0.2	2.1	0.1	1.6	-0.1	-0.1		
August.....	0.4	3.5	0.6	1.4	0.1	1.7	-0.2	1.3	0.1	0.1		
September.....	0.2	3.8	0.4	1.6	0.3	1.6	0.0	1.0	0.2	0.3		
October.....	-0.2	3.3	-0.1	1.7	-0.6	1.1	-0.2	1.3	-0.1	0.4		
November.....	-0.3	3.0	0.0	2.0	0.1	1.2	-0.4	0.8	-0.2	0.6		
December.....	-0.4	2.7	-0.3	2.1	0.0	1.5	-0.5	0.3	-0.4	0.7		

CPI-W

In January, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 254.968, up 0.2 percent over the month. The CPI-W rose 0.7 percent over the year.

The February 2016 Consumer Price Index for New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island is scheduled to be released Wednesday, March 16, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

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 approximately 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 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 New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Conn.-Pa. consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Bronx, Dutchess, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties in New York State; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren Counties in New Jersey; Fairfield County and parts of Litchfield, Middlesex, and New Haven Counties in Connecticut; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)(not seasonally adjusted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Nov. 2015	Dec. 2015	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2015	Nov. 2015	Dec. 2015
Expenditure category						
All items	261.009	259.941	260.342	0.8	-0.3	0.2
All items (1967=100)	754.540	751.453	752.612			
Food and beverages	257.088	256.782	258.139	1.4	0.4	0.5
Food	257.038	256.735	258.143	1.3	0.4	0.5
Food at home	254.510	253.938	254.764	0.1	0.1	0.3
Food away from home.....	267.327	267.390	269.680	3.0	0.9	0.9
Alcoholic beverages	253.392	253.029	253.675	1.8	0.1	0.3
Housing	280.746	280.056	280.378	1.1	-0.1	0.1
Shelter	353.678	353.825	354.211	2.8	0.2	0.1
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	365.524	366.776	367.552	3.9	0.6	0.2
Owners' equivalent rent of residences ^{(1) (2)} ...	360.154	360.779	361.376	2.8	0.3	0.2
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)}	359.730	360.339	360.930	2.7	0.3	0.2
Fuels and utilities.....	177.913	172.253	173.800	-10.9	-2.3	0.9
Household energy	169.516	163.172	164.783	-12.9	-2.8	1.0
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	163.433	158.123	161.094	-10.9	-1.4	1.9
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	175.602	172.137	175.765	-11.0	0.1	2.1
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	133.930	124.975	126.638	-10.6	-5.4	1.3
Household furnishings and operations	113.377	113.360	112.542	-2.2	-0.7	-0.7
Apparel	127.008	125.502	126.608	0.9	-0.3	0.9
Transportation	209.745	206.918	204.878	-2.1	-2.3	-1.0
Private transportation	194.066	192.802	190.689	-2.4	-1.7	-1.1
Motor fuel	174.566	169.153	159.057	-12.9	-8.9	-6.0
Gasoline (all types).....	173.767	168.382	158.357	-12.8	-8.9	-6.0
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	171.284	165.856	155.611	-13.4	-9.2	-6.2
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)}	188.849	183.124	174.355	-10.5	-7.7	-4.8
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	192.346	187.281	178.737	-8.9	-7.1	-4.6
Medical care	448.440	445.724	451.773	1.3	0.7	1.4
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	118.727	118.415	118.595	-0.2	-0.1	0.2
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	143.590	143.473	143.617	1.8	0.0	0.1
Other goods and services	408.579	407.622	409.048	1.7	0.1	0.3
Commodity and service group						
All items	261.009	259.941	260.342	0.8	-0.3	0.2
Commodities	185.890	184.499	184.350	-1.2	-0.8	-0.1
Commodities less food and beverages	142.342	140.499	139.661	-3.4	-1.9	-0.6
Nondurables less food and beverages.....	176.158	173.015	171.401	-4.2	-2.7	-0.9
Durables	98.145	97.775	97.767	-1.9	-0.4	0.0
Services.....	324.813	323.982	324.812	1.7	0.0	0.3
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	252.840	251.839	252.005	0.7	-0.3	0.1

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, New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)(not seasonally adjusted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Nov. 2015	Dec. 2015	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2015	Nov. 2015	Dec. 2015
All items less shelter.....	224.390	222.794	223.204	-0.6	-0.5	0.2
Commodities less food.....	146.556	144.744	143.948	-3.1	-1.8	-0.5
Nondurables.....	218.027	216.210	215.997	-1.0	-0.9	-0.1
Nondurables less food.....	180.878	177.874	176.390	-3.7	-2.5	-0.8
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	304.120	302.096	303.449	0.1	-0.2	0.4
Services less medical care services.....	314.827	314.042	314.510	1.6	-0.1	0.1
Energy.....	173.801	167.724	164.917	-12.9	-5.1	-1.7
All items less energy.....	271.249	270.652	271.356	1.7	0.0	0.3
All items less food and energy.....	275.574	274.920	275.510	1.7	0.0	0.2

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.

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

The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA consolidated area comprises the five boroughs of New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess, and Orange Counties in New York State; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Monmouth, Middlesex, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren Counties in New Jersey; Fairfield County and parts of Litchfield, New Haven, and Middlesex Counties in Connecticut; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.