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Consumer Price Index, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin — January 2020

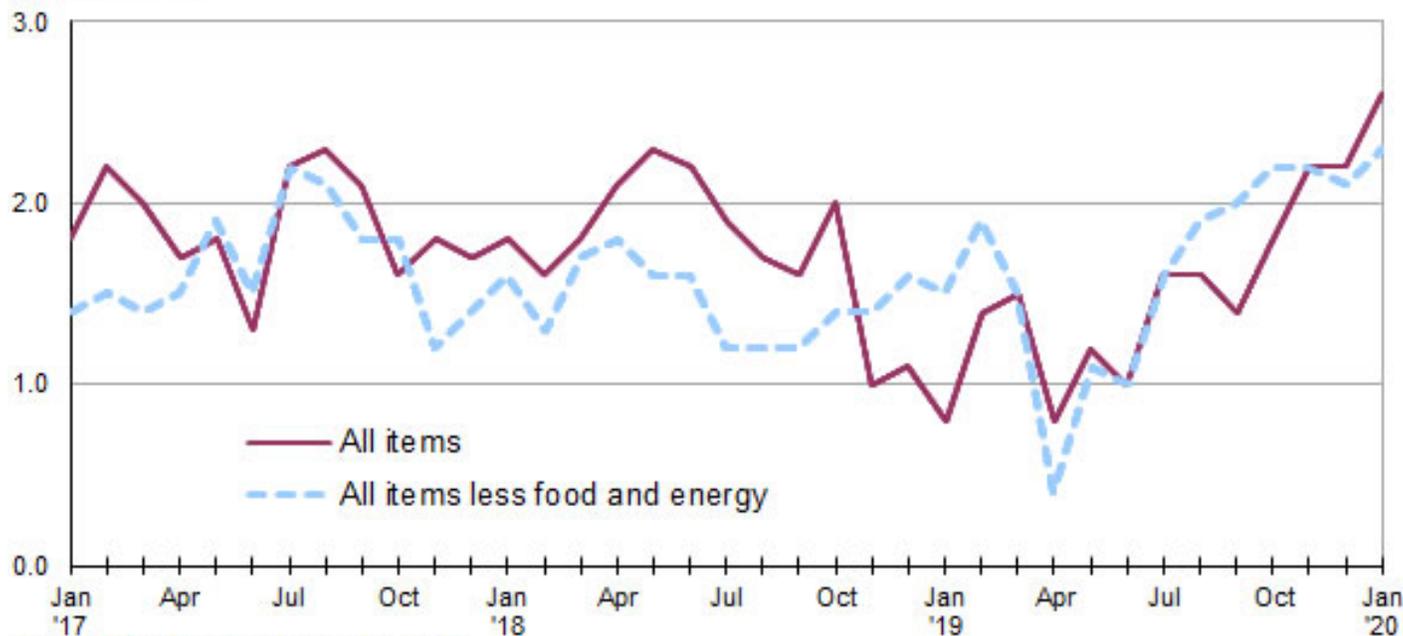
Local prices up 2.6 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Chicago-Naperville-Elgin area increased 0.9 percent in January, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that the index for food was up 0.7 percent and the energy index increased 2.0 percent over the month. The all items less food and energy index rose 0.9 percent in January. Within the all items less food and energy category, prices were higher over the month for apparel and shelter. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the Chicago area all items CPI-U increased 2.6 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) Over the year, the all items less food and energy index rose 2.3 percent, while the energy and food indexes were up 8.9 percent and 1.3 percent, respectively. (See [table 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI, January 2017–January 2020

Percent change



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 0.7 percent in January. Of the two components within the food index, prices for food at home (groceries) increased 1.0 percent, while prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) rose 0.3 percent. Within the food at home group, indexes were higher in January for other fresh vegetables; carbonated drinks; and spices, seasonings, condiments, sauces.

From January 2019 to January 2020, the food index increased 1.3 percent. Over the year, grocery prices were essentially unchanged, up 0.1 percent, and costs for food away from home were up 2.7 percent.

Energy

The energy index increased 2.0 percent in January. Among the index's components, prices were higher for electricity (+2.8 percent), gasoline (+1.7 percent), and utility (piped) gas service (+1.6 percent).

Over the year, the Chicago area energy index rose 8.9 percent. From January 2019 to January 2020, gasoline prices were up 21.0 percent and the electricity index increased 1.7 percent. Utility (piped) gas service costs were 8.2 percent lower over the year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was up 0.9 percent in January. Among the index's components, prices were higher over the month for apparel (8.0 percent) and shelter (0.6 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 2.3 percent. A contributing factor was an increase in the index for shelter (2.7 percent).

Table A. Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI, CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	1-month	12-month								
January.....	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.8	0.8	1.8	0.6	0.8	0.9	2.6
February.....	-0.2	0.7	0.1	2.2	0.0	1.6	0.6	1.4		
March.....	0.1	0.2	-0.1	2.0	0.0	1.8	0.1	1.5		
April.....	0.6	0.7	0.4	1.7	0.7	2.1	-0.1	0.8		
May.....	0.0	0.3	0.2	1.8	0.4	2.3	0.8	1.2		
June.....	0.5	0.7	0.0	1.3	-0.2	2.2	-0.4	1.0		
July.....	-0.8	-0.1	0.0	2.2	-0.3	1.9	0.3	1.6		
August.....	0.2	-0.2	0.3	2.3	0.1	1.7	0.2	1.6		
September.....	0.6	0.6	0.4	2.1	0.4	1.6	0.2	1.4		
October.....	0.1	0.8	-0.4	1.6	0.0	2.0	0.3	1.8		
November.....	0.2	1.5	0.4	1.8	-0.6	1.0	-0.2	2.2		
December.....	-0.2	1.9	-0.4	1.7	-0.3	1.1	-0.2	2.2		

The February 2020 Consumer Price Index for Chicago is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, March 11, 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 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 **Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI, Core Based Statistical Area** covered in this release is comprised of Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties in Illinois; Jasper, Lake, Newton, and Porter Counties in Indiana; and Kenosha County in Wisconsin.

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 Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019	Jan. 2020	Jan. 2019	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019
Expenditure category						
All items.....	242.661	242.079	244.361	2.6	0.7	0.9
All items (1967=100).....	724.971	723.231	730.049	-	-	-
Food and beverages.....	253.866	253.181	255.004	1.2	0.4	0.7
Food.....	253.398	252.756	254.536	1.3	0.4	0.7
Food at home.....	236.422	235.284	237.718	0.1	0.5	1.0
Cereals and bakery products.....	264.576	263.842	267.432	1.1	1.1	1.4
Meats, poultry, fish and eggs.....	249.628	255.223	255.928	2.0	2.5	0.3
Dairy and related products.....	214.825	215.887	210.087	-0.3	-2.2	-2.7
Fruits and vegetables.....	310.262	303.330	315.885	-2.0	1.8	4.1
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1).....	191.853	192.913	194.355	1.2	1.3	0.7
Other food at home.....	191.433	187.435	189.030	-0.4	-1.3	0.9
Food away from home.....	271.631	271.631	272.445	2.7	0.3	0.3
Alcoholic beverages.....	258.646	257.280	259.653	0.2	0.4	0.9
Housing.....	254.463	254.717	256.661	1.9	0.9	0.8
Shelter.....	323.795	324.498	326.418	2.7	0.8	0.6
Rent of primary residence(2).....	343.813	345.458	346.449	2.8	0.8	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)(3).....	331.919	333.408	334.705	2.9	0.8	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(2)(3).....	331.919	333.408	334.705	2.9	0.8	0.4
Fuels and utilities.....	205.519	205.019	208.691	-0.7	1.5	1.8
Household energy.....	157.713	157.354	160.960	-2.3	2.1	2.3
Energy services(2).....	160.732	160.452	164.169	-2.3	2.1	2.3
Electricity(2).....	161.761	161.795	166.277	1.7	2.8	2.8
Utility (piped) gas service(2).....	146.011	145.303	147.574	-8.2	1.1	1.6
Household furnishings and operations.....	89.314	88.791	89.797	-1.5	0.5	1.1
Apparel.....	87.005	83.120	89.776	7.6	3.2	8.0
Transportation.....	185.390	183.736	185.827	4.3	0.2	1.1
Private transportation.....	182.213	181.875	183.175	5.0	0.5	0.7
New and used motor vehicles(4).....	95.540	95.953	95.571	-1.2	0.0	-0.4
New vehicles(1).....	173.304	174.883	172.503	-1.4	-0.5	-1.4
Used cars and trucks(1).....	263.534	262.771	260.898	-1.6	-1.0	-0.7
Motor fuel.....	236.368	233.130	237.024	20.9	0.3	1.7
Gasoline (all types).....	233.859	230.624	234.538	21.0	0.3	1.7
Gasoline, unleaded regular(5).....	224.959	221.800	225.703	21.6	0.3	1.8
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(5)(6).....	260.304	256.058	260.024	18.2	-0.1	1.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium(5).....	259.097	256.586	259.167	15.7	0.0	1.0
Motor vehicle insurance(1).....	547.509	547.509	542.238	-2.2	-1.0	-1.0
Medical care.....	525.046	526.094	-	-	-	-
Recreation(4).....	116.093	116.495	116.432	2.8	0.3	-0.1
Education and communication(4).....	142.240	142.568	143.223	1.0	0.7	0.5
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare(1) ...	1,204.579	1,205.734	1,205.734	2.5	0.1	0.0
Other goods and services.....	406.353	402.228	400.766	2.5	-1.4	-0.4
Commodity and service group						
All items.....	242.661	242.079	244.361	2.6	0.7	0.9
Commodities.....	168.199	167.145	168.745	2.2	0.3	1.0
Commodities less food and beverages.....	125.945	124.851	126.264	2.8	0.3	1.1
Nondurables less food and beverages.....	171.035	168.669	172.031	6.4	0.6	2.0
Durables.....	84.951	84.821	84.885	-1.8	-0.1	0.1
Services.....	313.519	313.407	316.336	2.8	0.9	0.9

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 Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019	Jan. 2020	Jan. 2019	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	230.531	229.876	232.026	2.4	0.6	0.9
All items less shelter	215.200	214.166	216.561	2.5	0.6	1.1
Commodities less food	130.546	129.430	130.880	2.7	0.3	1.1
Nondurables	212.677	211.009	213.679	3.5	0.5	1.3
Nondurables less food.....	176.749	174.403	177.713	6.0	0.5	1.9
Services less rent of shelter(3).....	318.473	317.475	321.621	2.9	1.0	1.3
Services less medical care services.....	297.505	297.246	299.841	2.3	0.8	0.9
Energy	188.275	186.689	190.388	8.9	1.1	2.0
All items less energy	249.816	249.323	251.506	2.2	0.7	0.9
All items less food and energy	250.035	249.565	251.827	2.3	0.7	0.9

Footnotes

(1) Index on a December 1977=100 base.

(2) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(3) Index on a December 1982=100 base.

(4) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

(5) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(6) Index on a December 1993=100 base.

- Data not available.

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