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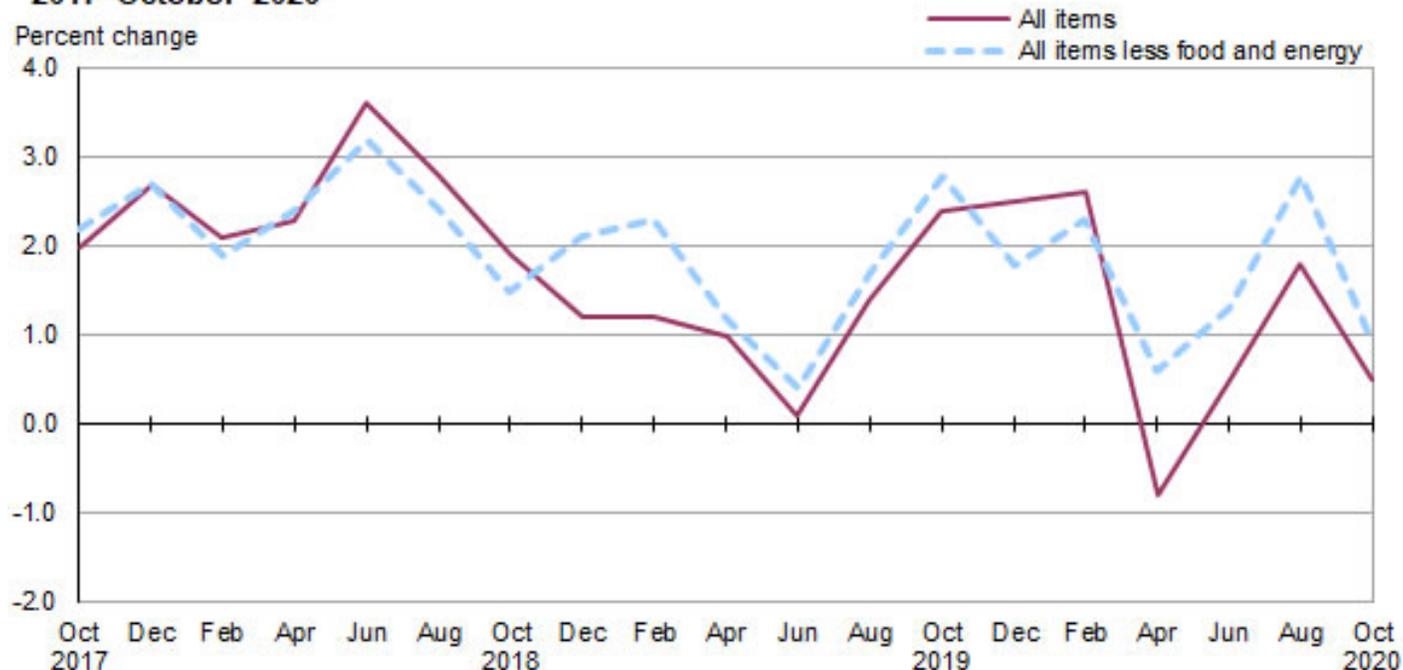
Consumer Price Index, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn — October 2020

Area prices were down 0.3 percent over the past two months, up 0.5 percent from a year ago

Prices in the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), decreased 0.3 percent for the two months ending in October 2020, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Jason Palmer noted that food prices increased 0.1 percent, and the energy index increased 1.3 percent from August to October. The all items less food and energy index fell 0.5 percent over the past two months due to declines in the indexes for motor vehicle insurance, shelter, and other goods and services. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, bi-monthly changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U increased 0.5 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.9 percent over the year. Food prices rose 1.4 percent. Energy prices decreased 6.8 percent, largely the result of a decrease in the price of gasoline. (See [table 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI, October 2017–October 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 0.1 percent for the two months ending in October. (See table 1.) Prices for food at home (groceries) decreased 0.3 percent, and prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) increased 0.5 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices rose 1.4 percent. Prices for food at home rose 3.7 percent since a year ago, and prices for food away from home decreased 1.3 percent.

Energy

The energy index rose 1.3 percent for the two months ending in October. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for utility (piped) gas service (11.3 percent). Prices for electricity rose 3.2 percent, while prices for gasoline declined 5.1 percent for the same period.

Energy prices decreased 6.8 percent over the year, largely due to lower prices for gasoline (-21.3 percent). Prices paid for utility (piped) gas service advanced 7.3 percent, and prices for electricity increased 5.7 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy declined 0.5 percent in the latest two-month period. Lower prices for motor vehicle insurance (-10.1 percent), shelter (-0.7 percent), and other goods and services (-0.8 percent) were partially offset by higher prices for household furnishings and operations (1.3 percent) and recreation (0.6 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 0.9 percent. Components contributing to the increase included medical care (3.2 percent) and household furnishings and operations (3.5 percent). Partly offsetting the increases were price decreases in apparel (-9.2 percent) and shelter (-0.5 percent).

Table A. Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI, CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
	2-month	12-month								
February	0.3	0.9	0.9	3.0	0.3	2.1	0.4	1.2	0.5	2.6
April	1.4	1.1	0.7	2.3	0.9	2.3	0.6	1.0	-2.7	-0.8
June	1.2	2.3	0.0	1.1	1.3	3.6	0.4	0.1	1.7	0.5
August	-0.1	1.7	0.1	1.3	-0.6	2.8	0.6	1.4	1.9	1.8
October	0.2	1.7	0.9	2.0	0.0	1.9	1.0	2.4	-0.3	0.5
December	-0.6	2.4	0.1	2.7	-0.6	1.2	-0.6	2.5		

The December 2020 Consumer Price Index for Detroit is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on October 2020 Consumer Price Index Data

Data collection by personal visit for the Consumer Price Index (CPI) program has been suspended since March 16, 2020. When possible, data normally collected by personal visit were collected either online or by phone. Additionally, data collection in October was affected by the temporary closing or limited operations of certain types of establishments. These factors resulted in an increase in the number of prices considered temporarily unavailable and imputed.

While the CPI program attempted to collect as much data as possible, many indexes are based on smaller amounts of collected prices than usual, and a small number of indexes that are normally published were not published this month. Additional information is available at www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-consumer-price-index.htm.

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/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 **Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI, Core Based Statistical Area** covered in this release is comprised of Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair, and Wayne Counties in Michigan.

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 Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Aug. 2020	Sep. 2020	Oct. 2020	Oct. 2019	Aug. 2020	Sep. 2020
Expenditure category						
All items.....	240.598	-	239.922	0.5	-0.3	-
All items (1967=100).....	715.157	-	713.147	-	-	-
Food and beverages.....	231.162	-	231.177	1.4	0.0	-
Food.....	230.575	-	230.736	1.4	0.1	-
Food at home.....	220.173	215.489	219.555	3.7	-0.3	1.9
Cereals and bakery products.....	267.911	-	266.768	-0.8	-0.4	-
Meats, poultry, fish and eggs.....	238.648	-	242.807	8.5	1.7	-
Dairy and related products.....	167.011	-	169.154	3.5	1.3	-
Fruits and vegetables.....	226.223	-	226.376	1.2	0.1	-
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1).....	208.588	-	208.670	1.9	0.0	-
Other food at home.....	205.163	-	199.564	4.4	-2.7	-
Food away from home.....	247.971	-	249.246	-1.3	0.5	-
Alcoholic beverages.....	232.839	-	231.137	1.7	-0.7	-
Housing.....	229.436	-	229.928	0.7	0.2	-
Shelter.....	263.704	261.235	261.849	-0.5	-0.7	0.2
Rent of primary residence(2).....	274.291	273.571	273.807	1.8	-0.2	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)(3).....	264.490	261.524	261.776	0.4	-1.0	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(2)(3).....	264.490	261.524	261.776	0.4	-1.0	0.1
Fuels and utilities.....	263.200	-	276.471	5.8	5.0	-
Household energy.....	203.368	208.908	215.910	6.3	6.2	3.4
Energy services(2).....	205.394	211.029	218.130	6.3	6.2	3.4
Electricity(2).....	253.963	260.640	262.055	5.7	3.2	0.5
Utility (piped) gas service(2).....	143.006	147.207	159.164	7.3	11.3	8.1
Household furnishings and operations.....	121.766	-	123.364	3.5	1.3	-
Apparel.....	107.720	-	108.534	-9.2	0.8	-
Transportation.....	250.572	-	245.460	-1.0	-2.0	-
Private transportation.....	254.946	-	249.299	0.0	-2.2	-
New and used motor vehicles(4).....	-	-	-	-	-	-
New vehicles(1).....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Used cars and trucks(1).....	310.732	-	321.601	12.0	3.5	-
Motor fuel.....	196.955	185.704	186.980	-21.3	-5.1	0.7
Gasoline (all types).....	195.885	184.544	185.909	-21.3	-5.1	0.7
Gasoline, unleaded regular(5).....	196.126	184.860	185.578	-21.7	-5.4	0.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(5)(6).....	235.888	219.060	226.623	-19.7	-3.9	3.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium(5).....	213.292	201.506	208.606	-16.6	-2.2	3.5
Motor vehicle insurance(1).....	2,156.045	-	1,937.584	3.3	-10.1	-
Medical care.....	472.534	-	473.334	3.2	0.2	-
Recreation(4).....	111.719	-	112.438	-1.2	0.6	-
Education and communication(4).....	148.146	-	148.572	2.8	0.3	-
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare(1) ...	1,329.407	-	1,330.714	0.6	0.1	-
Other goods and services.....	451.173	-	447.770	1.1	-0.8	-
Commodity and service group						
All items.....	240.598	-	239.922	0.5	-0.3	-
Commodities.....	176.617	-	177.117	-1.0	0.3	-
Commodities less food and beverages.....	148.799	-	149.472	-2.6	0.5	-
Nondurables less food and beverages.....	174.642	-	172.389	-9.1	-1.3	-
Durables.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services.....	305.671	-	303.760	1.3	-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 Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Aug. 2020	Sep. 2020	Oct. 2020	Oct. 2019	Aug. 2020	Sep. 2020
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	231.102	-	230.358	0.2	-0.3	-
All items less shelter	234.643	-	234.394	0.8	-0.1	-
Commodities less food	151.830	-	152.433	-2.4	0.4	-
Nondurables	202.593	-	201.460	-3.5	-0.6	-
Nondurables less food.....	178.490	-	176.281	-8.3	-1.2	-
Services less rent of shelter(3).....	366.151	-	364.142	3.0	-0.5	-
Services less medical care services.....	294.273	-	292.064	0.9	-0.8	-
Energy	204.526	202.690	207.277	-6.8	1.3	2.3
All items less energy	246.846	-	245.887	1.0	-0.4	-
All items less food and energy	250.414	-	249.253	0.9	-0.5	-

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.