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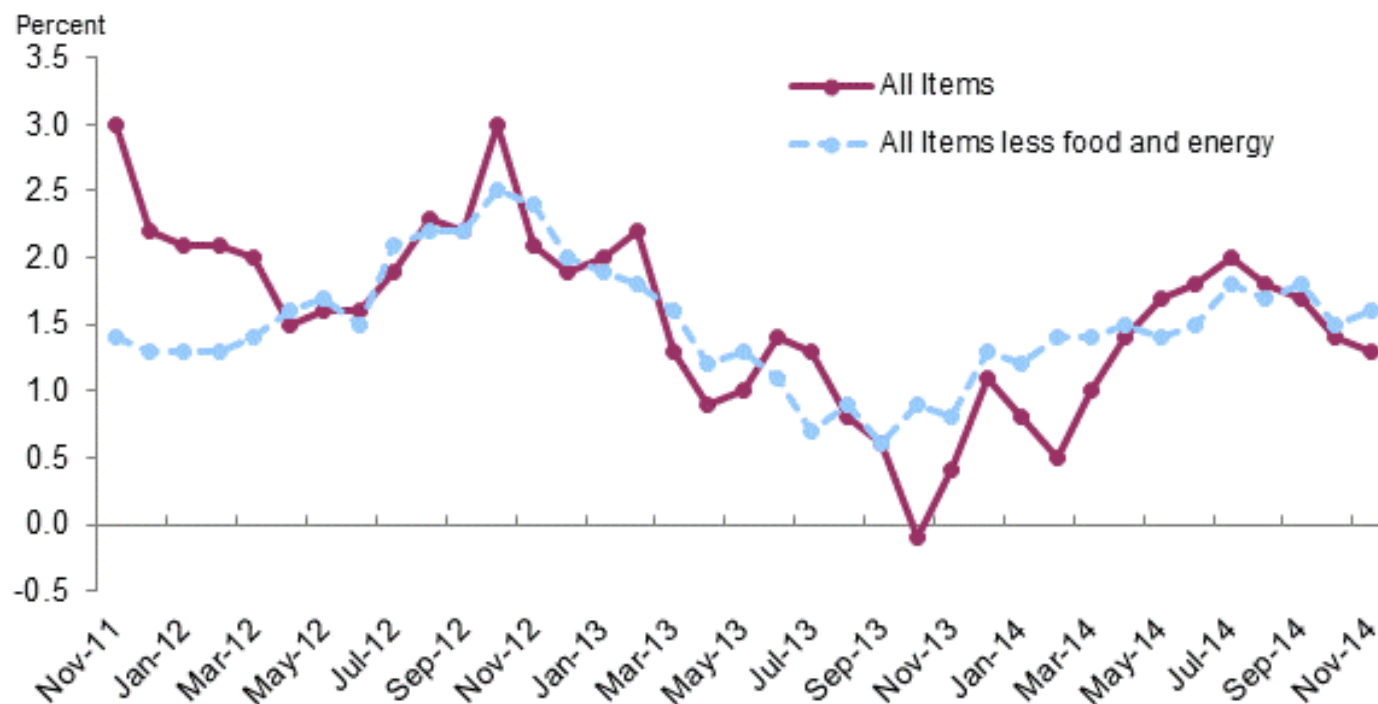
Consumer Price Index, Los Angeles area – November 2014

Area prices were down 0.7 percent over the past month, up 1.3 percent from a year ago

Prices in the Los Angeles area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), decreased 0.7 percent in November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A](#).) Regional Commissioner Richard J. Holden noted that the November decrease was influenced by lower prices for gasoline and apparel. (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 increased 1.3 percent. (See [chart 1](#).) Energy prices declined 6.2 percent, largely the result of a decrease in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.6 percent since November 2013.

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Los Angeles, November 2011–November 2014



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices increased 0.3 percent for the month of November. (See [table 1.](#)) Prices for food away from home rose 0.7 percent, while prices for food at home were unchanged for the same period.

Over the year, food prices rose 3.7 percent. Prices for food at home moved up 3.7 percent since a year ago, and prices for food away from home increased 3.6 percent.

Energy

The energy index decreased 7.0 percent over the month. The decrease was mainly due to lower prices for gasoline (-9.6 percent). Prices for natural gas service fell 10.0 percent, while prices for electricity were unchanged in November.

Energy prices declined 6.2 percent over the year, largely due to lower prices for gasoline (-12.0 percent). Prices paid for natural gas service increased 5.3 percent, and prices for electricity advanced 3.5 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy decreased 0.2 percent in November. Lower prices for apparel (-3.9 percent) and recreation (-1.8 percent) were partially offset by higher prices for medical care (1.2 percent) and other goods and services (0.4 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 1.6 percent. Components contributing to the increase included shelter (3.0 percent), medical care (1.5 percent), and education and communication (1.3 percent). Partly offsetting the increases were price declines in household furnishings and operations (-1.7 percent) and recreation (-1.0 percent).

Table A. Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County CPI-U monthly and annual percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)

Month	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
January.....	0.5	-0.1	0.4	1.8	0.9	1.8	0.8	2.1	0.8	2.0	0.5	0.8
February.....	0.3	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.5	2.3	0.5	2.1	0.7	2.2	0.5	0.5
March.....	0.0	-1.0	0.4	1.9	1.1	3.0	1.0	2.0	0.1	1.3	0.6	1.0
April.....	0.1	-1.3	0.2	1.9	0.5	3.3	0.0	1.5	-0.4	0.9	0.0	1.4
May.....	0.4	-1.8	0.2	1.8	0.0	3.1	0.1	1.6	0.1	1.0	0.4	1.7
June.....	0.6	-2.2	-0.2	0.9	-0.4	2.9	-0.4	1.6	-0.1	1.4	0.1	1.8
July.....	0.0	-2.6	0.1	0.9	-0.4	2.4	-0.1	1.9	-0.1	1.3	0.1	2.0
August.....	0.2	-1.7	0.2	0.8	0.2	2.4	0.6	2.3	0.1	0.8	-0.1	1.8
September.....	0.3	-1.0	-0.1	0.4	0.5	3.1	0.4	2.2	0.2	0.6	0.0	1.7
October.....	0.0	-0.4	0.3	0.7	0.0	2.8	0.8	3.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.4
November.....	-0.4	0.9	-0.4	0.7	-0.1	3.0	-1.0	2.1	-0.5	0.4	-0.7	1.3
December.....	-0.3	1.8	0.3	1.3	-0.5	2.2	-0.7	1.9	0.0	1.1		

CPI-W

In November, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 233.896, down 0.9 percent from October. The CPI-W increased 1.0 percent over the year.

The December 2014 Consumer Price Index for the Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County is scheduled to be released on January 16, 2015.

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 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 4,000 housing units and approximately 26,000 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/homch17_a.htm.

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 Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA. metropolitan area covered in this release is comprised of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura Counties in the State of California.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Sep. 2014	Oct. 2014	Nov. 2014	Nov. 2013	Sep. 2014	Oct. 2014
Expenditure category						
All items	243.623	243.341	241.753	1.3	-0.8	-0.7
All items (1967=100)	719.770	718.938	714.245	-	-	-
Food and beverages	246.471	247.050	247.926	3.5	0.6	0.4
Food	246.723	247.370	248.145	3.7	0.6	0.3
Food at home	257.152	258.233	258.307	3.7	0.4	0.0
Food away from home	230.004	230.089	231.745	3.6	0.8	0.7
Alcoholic beverages	228.601	228.320	230.363	2.2	0.8	0.9
Housing	261.662	262.764	262.727	2.7	0.4	0.0
Shelter	294.404	295.041	295.807	3.0	0.5	0.3
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	306.995	308.258	309.611	3.3	0.9	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ^{(1) (2)}	306.389	307.264	308.348	2.6	0.6	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)}	306.388	307.260	308.346	2.6	0.6	0.4
Fuels and utilities	302.470	304.815	300.072	4.8	-0.8	-1.6
Household energy	272.266	277.081	269.234	3.9	-1.1	-2.8
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	270.797	275.668	267.786	4.0	-1.1	-2.9
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	305.582	314.871	314.900	3.5	3.0	0.0
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	233.799	231.113	208.097	5.3	-11.0	-10.0
Household furnishings and operations	115.350	117.421	116.528	-1.7	1.0	-0.8
Apparel	116.373	114.802	110.284	1.2	-5.2	-3.9
Transportation	208.643	205.057	197.339	-4.3	-5.4	-3.8
Private transportation	203.411	199.106	191.453	-4.2	-5.9	-3.8
Motor fuel	291.985	273.641	247.502	-11.9	-15.2	-9.6
Gasoline (all types)	285.611	267.645	241.999	-12.0	-15.3	-9.6
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	287.152	268.856	242.853	-12.0	-15.4	-9.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)}	270.754	254.537	231.105	-11.1	-14.6	-9.2
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	268.646	252.391	229.091	-11.8	-14.7	-9.2
Medical care	417.119	415.879	421.072	1.5	0.9	1.2
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	105.393	104.948	103.032	-1.0	-2.2	-1.8
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	145.524	145.833	145.998	1.3	0.3	0.1
Other goods and services	381.001	379.760	381.349	1.4	0.1	0.4
Commodity and service group						
All items	243.623	243.341	241.753	1.3	-0.8	-0.7
Commodities	180.500	179.051	175.997	-0.6	-2.5	-1.7
Commodities less food & beverages	144.711	142.457	137.852	-3.6	-4.7	-3.2
Nondurables less food & beverages	192.781	187.823	180.289	-3.8	-6.5	-4.0
Durables	97.891	98.197	96.392	-3.1	-1.5	-1.8
Services	298.993	299.864	299.757	2.4	0.3	0.0
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	235.833	235.586	233.785	1.3	-0.9	-0.8
All items less shelter	221.494	220.815	218.208	0.3	-1.5	-1.2
Commodities less food	148.575	146.365	141.936	-3.3	-4.5	-3.0
Nondurables	221.300	218.894	215.235	0.1	-2.7	-1.7
Nondurables less food	197.019	192.310	185.311	-3.4	-5.9	-3.6
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	314.160	315.395	313.990	1.8	-0.1	-0.4
Services less medical care services	288.377	289.266	288.963	2.5	0.2	-0.1
Energy	285.637	276.063	256.803	-6.2	-10.1	-7.0
All items less energy	242.454	242.845	242.528	1.9	0.0	-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 Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Sep. 2014	Oct. 2014	Nov. 2014	Nov. 2013	Sep. 2014	Oct. 2014
All items less food and energy	242.016	242.360	241.842	1.6	-0.1	-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.

- Data not available

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