



**For Release: Friday, October 13, 2017**

**17-1388-SAN**

WESTERN INFORMATION OFFICE: San Francisco, Calif.

Technical information: (415) 625-2270 BLSinfoSF@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/west

Media contact: (415) 625-2270

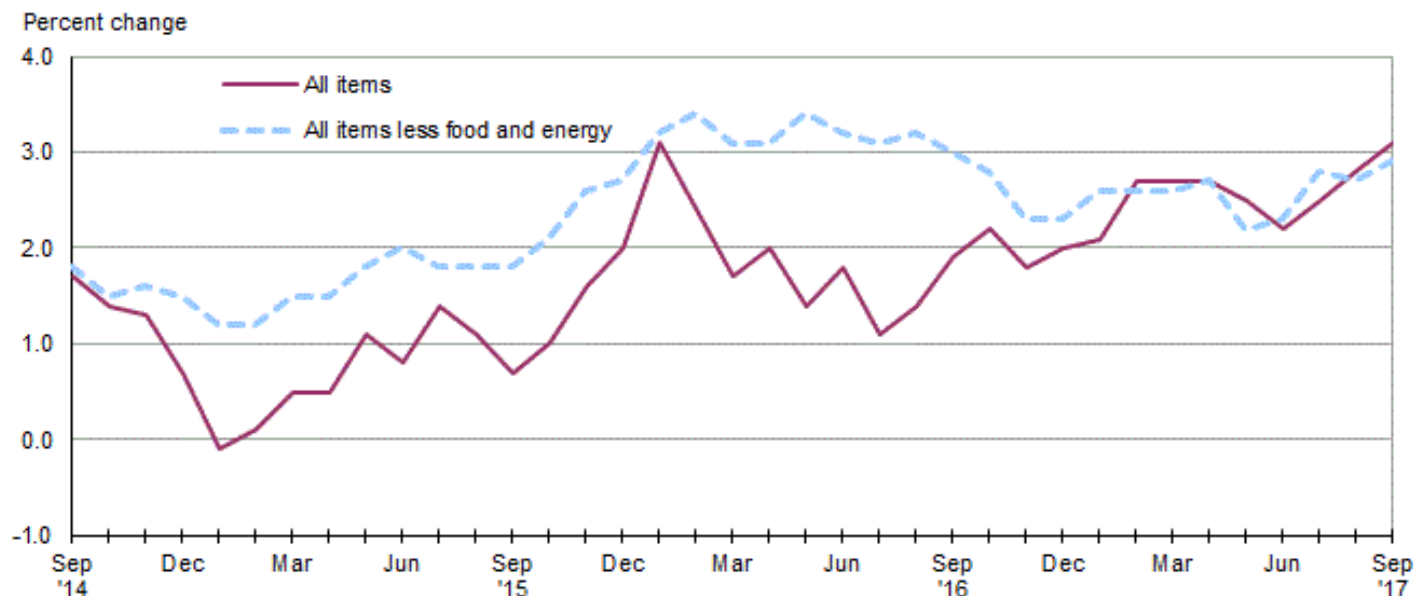
## **Consumer Price Index, Los Angeles area — September 2017**

**Area prices were up 0.4 percent over the past month, up 3.1 percent from a year ago**

Prices in the Los Angeles area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), increased 0.4 percent in September, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A](#).) Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that the September increase was influenced by higher prices for gasoline and shelter. (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 3.1 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) Energy prices advanced 6.8 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.9 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Los Angeles, September 2014–September 2017**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### **Food**

Food prices advanced 0.5 percent for the month of September. (See [table 1](#).) Prices for food at home advanced 0.8 percent, while prices for food away from home were unchanged for the same period.

Over the year, food prices increased 2.4 percent. Prices for food away from home moved up 4.5 percent since a year ago, and prices for food at home rose 0.8 percent.

## Energy

The energy index advanced 3.2 percent over the month. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (5.6 percent). Prices for electricity were unchanged, while prices for natural gas service declined 1.1 percent for the same period.

Energy prices advanced 6.8 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (14.3 percent). Prices paid for natural gas service declined 4.9 percent, and prices for electricity decreased 2.2 percent during the past year.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.2 percent in September. Higher prices for recreation (1.0 percent), apparel (0.5 percent), and shelter (0.3 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for household furnishings and operations (-1.1 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.9 percent. Components contributing to the increase included other goods and services (5.5 percent) and shelter (4.1 percent). Partly offsetting the increases was a price decline in apparel (-5.0 percent).

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

Month	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
January.....	0.8	2.1	0.8	2.0	0.5	0.8	-0.3	-0.1	0.7	3.1	0.9	2.1
February.....	0.5	2.1	0.7	2.2	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.0	2.4	0.6	2.7
March.....	1.0	2.0	0.1	1.3	0.6	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.3	1.7	0.3	2.7
April.....	0.0	1.5	-0.4	0.9	0.0	1.4	-0.1	0.5	0.2	2.0	0.2	2.7
May.....	0.1	1.6	0.1	1.0	0.4	1.7	1.0	1.1	0.5	1.4	0.3	2.5
June.....	-0.4	1.6	-0.1	1.4	0.1	1.8	-0.3	0.8	0.1	1.8	-0.2	2.2
July.....	-0.1	1.9	-0.1	1.3	0.1	2.0	0.7	1.4	0.0	1.1	0.3	2.5
August.....	0.6	2.3	0.1	0.8	-0.1	1.8	-0.3	1.1	0.0	1.4	0.3	2.8
September.....	0.4	2.2	0.2	0.6	0.0	1.7	-0.4	0.7	0.2	1.9	0.4	3.1
October.....	0.8	3.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.4	0.2	1.0	0.4	2.2		
November.....	-1.0	2.1	-0.5	0.4	-0.7	1.3	0.0	1.6	-0.4	1.8		
December.....	-0.7	1.9	0.0	1.1	-0.5	0.7	-0.1	2.0	0.0	2.0		

**The October 2017 Consumer Price Index for the Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County is scheduled to be released on November 15, 2017.**

### Consumer Price Index Geographic Revision for 2018

In January 2018, BLS will introduce a new geographic area sample for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). As part of the new sample, Los Angeles and Riverside will have separate indexes. The first indexes using the new structure will be published in February 2018. Additional information on the geographic revision is available at: [www.bls.gov/cpi/additional-resources/geographic-revision-2018.htm](http://www.bls.gov/cpi/additional-resources/geographic-revision-2018.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 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 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](http://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](http://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.

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 Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Jul. 2017	Aug. 2017	Sep. 2017	Sep. 2016	Jul. 2017	Aug. 2017
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All items .....	256.023	256.739	257.890	3.1	0.7	0.4
All items (1967=100) .....	756.405	758.521	761.921	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	256.155	255.487	256.658	2.3	0.2	0.5
Food .....	256.524	255.877	257.052	2.4	0.2	0.5
Food at home .....	254.786	253.407	255.460	0.8	0.3	0.8
Food away from home .....	254.810	255.075	255.150	4.5	0.1	0.0
Alcoholic beverages .....	235.649	234.701	235.761	-0.1	0.0	0.5
Housing .....	288.012	289.452	289.765	3.5	0.6	0.1
Shelter .....	330.223	332.242	333.103	4.1	0.9	0.3
Rent of primary residence(1) .....	348.898	350.842	351.705	5.0	0.8	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2) .....	343.386	345.158	346.413	4.3	0.9	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2) .....	343.367	345.138	346.393	4.3	0.9	0.4
Fuels and utilities .....	305.844	305.732	305.195	0.5	-0.2	-0.2
Household energy .....	262.398	262.274	261.575	-2.8	-0.3	-0.3
Energy services(1) .....	261.037	260.901	260.165	-2.9	-0.3	-0.3
Electricity(1) .....	290.636	290.631	290.669	-2.2	0.0	0.0
Utility (piped) gas service(1) .....	237.957	237.504	234.905	-4.9	-1.3	-1.1
Household furnishings and operations .....	116.628	116.584	115.323	0.2	-1.1	-1.1
Apparel .....	104.844	105.922	106.412	-5.0	1.5	0.5
Transportation .....	196.789	197.851	201.216	6.1	2.2	1.7
Private transportation .....	192.507	194.299	197.983	7.0	2.8	1.9
Motor fuel .....	223.750	230.041	242.911	14.3	8.6	5.6
Gasoline (all types) .....	218.844	225.027	237.612	14.3	8.6	5.6
Gasoline, unleaded regular(3) .....	218.910	225.207	238.002	14.4	8.7	5.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(3)(4) .....	210.910	216.434	228.143	14.2	8.2	5.4
Gasoline, unleaded premium(3) .....	210.705	216.132	227.211	13.6	7.8	5.1
Medical care .....	474.778	474.509	476.051	2.1	0.3	0.3
Recreation(5) .....	107.220	106.849	107.941	0.9	0.7	1.0
Education and communication(5) .....	143.696	143.587	144.088	1.6	0.3	0.3
Other goods and services .....	416.736	416.493	416.085	5.5	-0.2	-0.1
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All items .....	256.023	256.739	257.890	3.1	0.7	0.4
Commodities .....	175.886	176.177	177.703	2.4	1.0	0.9
Commodities less food & beverages .....	134.231	134.898	136.491	2.5	1.7	1.2
Nondurables less food & beverages .....	175.941	177.558	181.027	4.0	2.9	2.0
Durables .....	93.340	93.067	92.806	-0.4	-0.6	-0.3
Services .....	327.351	328.448	329.259	3.4	0.6	0.2
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care .....	246.563	247.314	248.445	3.2	0.8	0.5
All items less shelter .....	223.536	223.663	224.951	2.4	0.6	0.6
Commodities less food .....	138.572	139.205	140.804	2.4	1.6	1.1
Nondurables .....	216.790	217.391	219.879	3.1	1.4	1.1
Nondurables less food .....	181.583	183.093	186.488	3.7	2.7	1.9
Services less rent of shelter(2) .....	332.326	332.082	332.833	2.4	0.2	0.2
Services less medical care services .....	314.998	316.137	316.929	3.6	0.6	0.3
Energy .....	239.415	243.267	250.977	6.8	4.8	3.2
All items less energy .....	259.220	259.705	260.370	2.8	0.4	0.3

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-		
	Jul. 2017	Aug. 2017	Sep. 2017	Sep. 2016	Jul. 2017	Aug. 2017
All items less food and energy .....	260.020	260.698	261.277	2.9	0.5	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.