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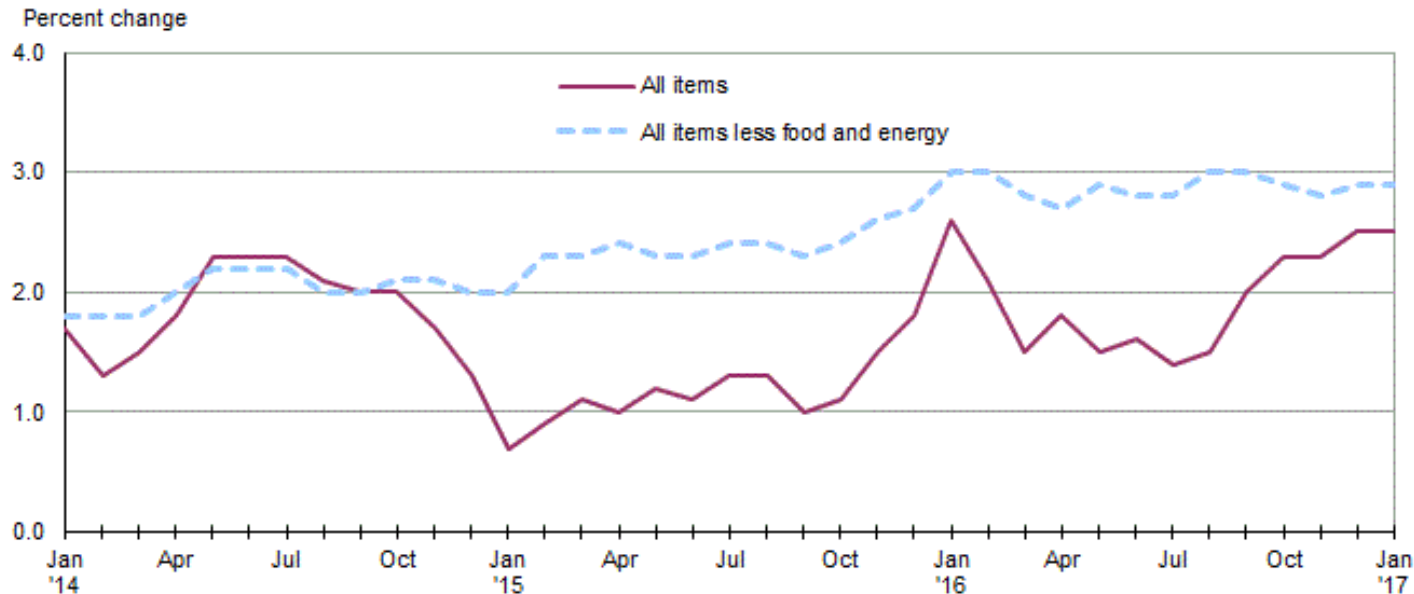
Consumer Price Index, West Region — January 2017

Area prices were up 0.5 percent over the past month, up 2.5 percent from a year ago

Prices in the West Region, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), advanced 0.5 percent in January, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A](#).) The January increase was influenced by higher prices for shelter and gasoline. (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 advanced 2.5 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) Energy prices increased 4.3 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy rose 2.9 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, West region, January 2014–January 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

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

Over the year, food prices inched down 0.1 percent. Prices for food at home declined 2.2 percent since a year ago, but prices for food away from home rose 2.9 percent.

Energy

The energy index advanced 2.4 percent over the month. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (5.1 percent). Prices for electricity decreased 0.4 percent, and prices for natural gas service decreased 1.1 percent for the same period.

Energy prices increased 4.3 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (6.0 percent). Prices paid for electricity rose 2.6 percent, and prices for natural gas service increased 1.3 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.4 percent in January. Higher prices for recreation (0.9 percent) and apparel (0.6 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for education and communication (-0.5 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 2.9 percent. Components contributing to the increase included shelter (5.3 percent) and medical care (3.3 percent). Partly offsetting the increases were price declines in used cars and trucks (-3.9 percent) and education and communication (-1.8 percent).

Table A . West Region 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.....	0.4	2.6	0.3	1.7	0.3	1.7	-0.3	0.7	0.5	2.6	0.5	2.5
February.....	0.4	2.5	0.8	2.0	0.4	1.3	0.6	0.9	0.1	2.1		
March.....	0.9	2.4	0.4	1.5	0.6	1.5	0.8	1.1	0.2	1.5		
April.....	0.2	2.1	0.0	1.3	0.3	1.8	0.3	1.0	0.5	1.8		
May.....	0.2	2.0	0.2	1.3	0.6	2.3	0.8	1.2	0.5	1.5		
June.....	-0.2	2.0	0.1	1.5	0.1	2.3	0.0	1.1	0.2	1.6		
July.....	-0.3	1.8	0.0	1.9	0.1	2.3	0.3	1.3	0.1	1.4		
August.....	0.5	2.1	0.1	1.5	-0.1	2.1	-0.1	1.3	0.0	1.5		
September.....	0.5	2.2	0.2	1.3	0.1	2.0	-0.2	1.0	0.3	2.0		
October.....	0.4	2.5	-0.1	0.9	-0.1	2.0	0.0	1.1	0.3	2.3		
November.....	-0.7	1.9	-0.4	1.3	-0.6	1.7	-0.2	1.5	-0.2	2.3		
December.....	-0.5	1.7	0.0	1.8	-0.5	1.3	-0.1	1.8	0.0	2.5		

The February 2017 Consumer Price Index for the West Region is scheduled to be released on March 15, 2017.

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 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 West Region covered in this release is comprised of the following thirteen states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods West (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Nov. 2016	Dec. 2016	Jan. 2017	Jan. 2016	Nov. 2016	Dec. 2016
Expenditure category						
All Items.....	249.448	249.516	250.814	2.5	0.5	0.5
All items (December 1977=100).....	403.218	403.328	405.426			
Food and beverages	251.105	251.557	252.503	0.1	0.6	0.4
Food	250.877	251.372	252.229	-0.1	0.5	0.3
Food at home	243.396	243.848	244.028	-2.2	0.3	0.1
Food away from home.....	260.265	260.818	262.638	2.9	0.9	0.7
Alcoholic beverages	250.874	250.740	252.864	2.2	0.8	0.8
Housing	269.068	270.315	271.486	4.4	0.9	0.4
Shelter	307.505	309.296	310.723	5.3	1.0	0.5
Rent of primary residence(1).....	324.716	326.453	327.754	5.7	0.9	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2).....	323.569	325.186	326.607	5.5	0.9	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2).....	323.579	325.202	326.630	5.5	0.9	0.4
Fuels and utilities.....	285.299	285.285	285.742	3.1	0.2	0.2
Household energy	245.626	245.607	244.662	2.5	-0.4	-0.4
Energy services(1)	247.811	247.545	246.089	2.3	-0.7	-0.6
Electricity(1).....	274.032	273.864	272.710	2.6	-0.5	-0.4
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....	200.941	200.425	198.154	1.3	-1.4	-1.1
Household furnishings and operations.....	128.384	128.283	128.894	-1.2	0.4	0.5
Apparel	120.424	115.540	116.279	-0.1	-3.4	0.6
Transportation	197.566	196.162	199.001	2.1	0.7	1.4
Private transportation	191.730	190.526	193.345	2.5	0.8	1.5
New and used motor vehicles(3).....	99.027	99.138	99.291	-0.4	0.3	0.2
New vehicles	148.005	148.170	148.786	1.8	0.5	0.4
New cars and trucks(3)(4).....	102.789	102.898	103.325	1.8	0.5	0.4
New cars(4).....	145.031	145.548	145.927	0.7	0.6	0.3
Used cars and trucks.....	131.976	131.799	131.723	-3.9	-0.2	-0.1
Motor fuel	207.062	200.117	210.265	6.2	1.5	5.1
Gasoline (all types).....	206.182	199.133	209.298	6.0	1.5	5.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....	203.490	196.348	206.637	6.1	1.5	5.2
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....	197.222	191.794	200.136	4.9	1.5	4.3
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....	204.463	198.147	207.014	5.6	1.2	4.5
Medical Care	473.402	474.889	476.005	3.3	0.5	0.2
Medical care commodities.....	356.252	359.850	361.439	4.0	1.5	0.4
Medical care services.....	510.854	511.526	512.451	3.2	0.3	0.2
Professional services	351.991	353.054	353.515	3.2	0.4	0.1
Recreation(3).....	111.750	111.583	112.584	1.0	0.7	0.9
Education and communication(3).....	137.293	137.192	136.460	-1.8	-0.6	-0.5
Other goods and services	410.257	411.130	411.956	1.4	0.4	0.2
Commodity and Service Group						
All Items.....	249.448	249.516	250.814	2.5	0.5	0.5
Commodities	177.732	176.753	178.141	0.2	0.2	0.8
Commodities less food & beverages.....	141.306	139.812	141.312	0.3	0.0	1.1
Nondurables less food & beverages	179.010	175.707	178.480	1.7	-0.3	1.6
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	220.591	218.214	222.348	2.3	0.8	1.9
Durables	106.718	106.731	107.157	-1.5	0.4	0.4
Services.....	315.799	316.878	318.074	3.8	0.7	0.4
Rent of shelter(2).....	327.282	329.203	330.737	5.3	1.1	0.5
Transportation services	290.285	290.356	292.278	2.5	0.7	0.7

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 West (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Nov. 2016	Dec. 2016	Jan. 2017	Jan. 2016	Nov. 2016	Dec. 2016
Other services	341.973	341.731	342.567	0.8	0.2	0.2
Special aggregate indexes:						
All items less medical care	239.216	239.221	240.525	2.5	0.5	0.5
All items less food	249.395	249.398	250.764	3.0	0.5	0.5
All items less shelter.....	226.941	226.273	227.528	1.0	0.3	0.6
Commodities less food	145.361	143.891	145.419	0.4	0.0	1.1
Nondurables	214.975	213.387	215.340	0.8	0.2	0.9
Nondurables less food.....	184.231	181.085	183.839	1.7	-0.2	1.5
Nondurables less food and apparel.....	223.150	220.977	224.928	2.3	0.8	1.8
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	336.692	336.780	337.665	2.0	0.3	0.3
Services less medical care services.....	302.232	303.333	304.543	3.9	0.8	0.4
Energy	226.655	222.722	228.035	4.3	0.6	2.4
All items less energy	253.197	253.565	254.573	2.4	0.5	0.4
All items less food and energy	254.364	254.712	255.749	2.9	0.5	0.4
Commodities less food and energy commodities	139.023	138.161	138.646	-0.6	-0.3	0.4
Energy commodities.....	211.279	204.534	215.030	6.2	1.8	5.1
Services less energy services.....	320.930	322.096	323.459	3.9	0.8	0.4

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) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

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

(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

Regions defined as the four Census regions. West includes Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

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