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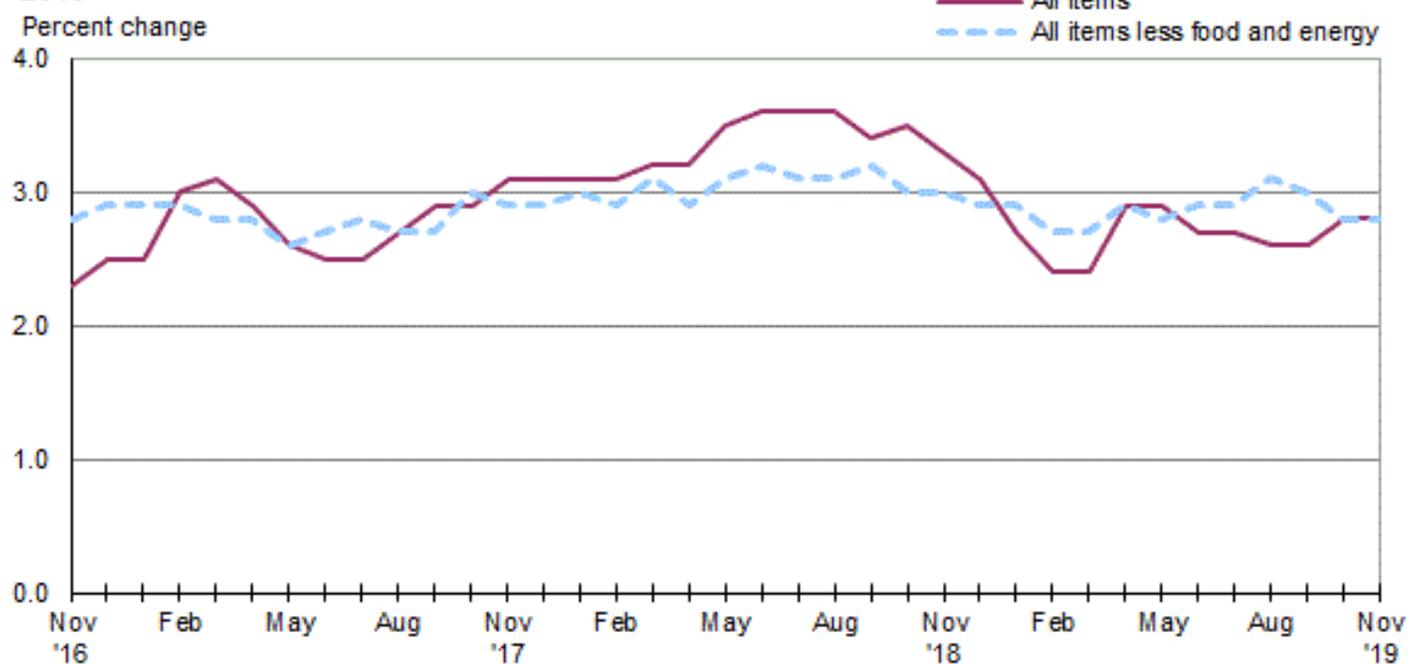
## Consumer Price Index, West Region — November 2019

**Area prices were down 0.1 percent over the past month, up 2.8 percent from a year ago**

Prices in the West Region, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), inched down 0.1 percent in November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A](#).) The November decrease was influenced by lower prices for apparel and energy. (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 2.8 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The index for all items less food and energy rose 2.8 percent over the year. Food prices increased 2.4 percent. Energy prices rose 3.5 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. (See [table 1](#).)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, West region, November 2016–November 2019**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Food

Food prices edged down 0.1 percent for the month of November. (See [table 1.](#)) Prices for food at home decreased 0.3 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 rose 3.6 percent since a year ago, and prices for food at home rose 1.3 percent.

## Energy

The energy index decreased 1.4 percent over the month. The decrease was mainly due to lower prices for electricity (-2.1 percent). Prices for natural gas service decreased 6.5 percent, and prices for gasoline decreased 0.5 percent for the same period.

Energy prices rose 3.5 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (4.6 percent). Prices paid for electricity increased 2.0 percent, and prices for natural gas service advanced 1.3 percent during the past year.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy were unchanged in November. Higher prices for other goods and services (0.8 percent), medical care (0.4 percent), and shelter (0.2 percent) helped counter lower prices for apparel (-3.8 percent) and household furnishings and operations (-0.7 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 2.8 percent. Components contributing to the increase included medical care (5.0 percent) and shelter (4.5 percent). Partly offsetting the increases was a price decrease in apparel (-2.2 percent).

**Table A. West region CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted**

Month	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	1-month	12-month								
January.....	-0.3	0.7	0.5	2.6	0.5	2.5	0.5	3.1	0.2	2.7
February.....	0.6	0.9	0.1	2.1	0.6	3.0	0.5	3.1	0.2	2.4
March.....	0.8	1.1	0.2	1.5	0.3	3.1	0.4	3.2	0.4	2.4
April.....	0.3	1.0	0.5	1.8	0.3	2.9	0.4	3.2	0.8	2.9
May.....	0.8	1.2	0.5	1.5	0.2	2.6	0.5	3.5	0.5	2.9
June.....	0.0	1.1	0.2	1.6	0.0	2.5	0.2	3.6	0.0	2.7
July.....	0.3	1.3	0.1	1.4	0.1	2.5	0.1	3.6	0.0	2.7
August.....	-0.1	1.3	0.0	1.5	0.2	2.7	0.2	3.6	0.1	2.6
September.....	-0.2	1.0	0.3	2.0	0.5	2.9	0.3	3.4	0.3	2.6
October.....	0.0	1.1	0.3	2.3	0.3	2.9	0.4	3.5	0.5	2.8
November.....	-0.2	1.5	-0.2	2.3	0.0	3.1	-0.2	3.3	-0.1	2.8
December.....	-0.1	1.8	0.0	2.5	0.1	3.1	-0.2	3.1		

**The December 2019 Consumer Price Index for the West Region is scheduled to be released on January 14, 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 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](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 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-		
	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019	Nov. 2019	Nov. 2018	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All Items.....	272.102	273.524	273.128	2.8	0.4	-0.1
All items (December 1977=100).....	439.839	442.137	441.496			
Food and beverages .....	266.908	267.382	266.850	2.2	0.0	-0.2
Food .....	266.870	267.487	267.107	2.4	0.1	-0.1
Food at home .....	250.531	251.030	250.350	1.3	-0.1	-0.3
Cereals and bakery products .....	268.127	266.617	266.219	2.0	-0.7	-0.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....	259.437	257.933	259.911	1.5	0.2	0.8
Dairy and related products .....	231.028	234.068	233.698	3.1	1.2	-0.2
Fruits and vegetables .....	332.862	336.864	330.634	1.2	-0.7	-1.8
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials.....	171.955	174.118	174.995	1.2	1.8	0.5
Other food at home .....	213.654	212.827	211.908	0.2	-0.8	-0.4
Food away from home.....	288.102	288.871	288.878	3.6	0.3	0.0
Alcoholic beverages .....	264.029	262.665	260.173	-0.6	-1.5	-0.9
Housing .....	301.774	302.144	301.908	4.1	0.0	-0.1
Shelter .....	349.189	349.802	350.397	4.5	0.3	0.2
Rent of primary residence(1).....	370.096	371.955	373.143	4.7	0.8	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2).....	366.097	367.314	368.433	4.4	0.6	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2).....	366.101	367.318	368.436	4.4	0.6	0.3
Fuels and utilities.....	308.582	310.623	305.066	2.8	-1.1	-1.8
Household energy .....	259.801	262.208	254.427	1.8	-2.1	-3.0
Energy services(1) .....	262.225	264.312	256.323	1.9	-2.3	-3.0
Electricity(1).....	295.549	297.331	290.952	2.0	-1.6	-2.1
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....	198.516	201.626	188.520	1.3	-5.0	-6.5
Household furnishings and operations.....	134.040	132.956	132.061	1.6	-1.5	-0.7
Apparel .....	120.198	119.233	114.668	-2.2	-4.6	-3.8
Transportation .....	219.408	223.674	223.156	0.9	1.7	-0.2
Private transportation .....	215.030	219.314	218.956	1.1	1.8	-0.2
New and used motor vehicles(3).....	99.719	99.743	99.531	-1.3	-0.2	-0.2
New vehicles .....	147.517	147.391	147.579	0.2	0.0	0.1
New cars and trucks(3)(4).....	102.436	102.350	102.480	0.2	0.0	0.1
New cars(4).....	145.982	145.782	146.222	0.8	0.2	0.3
Used cars and trucks.....	133.329	133.071	132.086	-0.5	-0.9	-0.7
Motor fuel .....	267.730	286.854	285.613	4.4	6.7	-0.4
Gasoline (all types).....	266.861	286.207	284.666	4.6	6.7	-0.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....	263.710	283.162	281.564	4.6	6.8	-0.6
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....	255.446	272.405	271.444	4.3	6.3	-0.4
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....	262.003	279.515	278.300	4.8	6.2	-0.4
Motor vehicle insurance(6).....	847.027	842.158	843.534	-1.3	-0.4	0.2
Medical Care .....	512.817	521.163	523.141	5.0	2.0	0.4
Medical care commodities.....	388.800	411.526	413.647	7.2	6.4	0.5
Medical care services.....	552.011	555.400	557.317	4.5	1.0	0.3
Professional services .....	358.709	359.664	359.655	1.3	0.3	0.0
Recreation(3).....	114.847	115.627	115.738	1.3	0.8	0.1
Education and communication(3).....	138.154	137.928	138.301	1.2	0.1	0.3
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(6) .....	1,491.739	1,494.313	1,495.444	2.4	0.2	0.1
Other goods and services .....	449.522	451.586	455.293	3.3	1.3	0.8
<b>Commodity and Service Group</b>						
All Items.....	272.102	273.524	273.128	2.8	0.4	-0.1
Commodities .....	188.239	190.020	189.091	1.7	0.5	-0.5

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-		
	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019	Nov. 2019	Nov. 2018	Sep. 2019	Oct. 2019
Commodities less food & beverages.....	149.280	151.460	150.430	1.4	0.8	-0.7
Nondurables less food & beverages .....	197.192	202.934	200.892	2.1	1.9	-1.0
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	251.095	261.643	261.450	3.5	4.1	-0.1
Durables .....	106.454	105.835	105.618	0.5	-0.8	-0.2
Services.....	350.092	351.102	351.264	3.4	0.3	0.0
Rent of shelter(2).....	371.879	372.536	373.174	4.5	0.3	0.2
Transportation services .....	320.998	321.753	321.138	-0.8	0.0	-0.2
Other services .....	358.571	360.056	360.878	2.1	0.6	0.2
<b>Special aggregate indexes:</b>						
All items less medical care .....	261.099	262.221	261.724	2.6	0.2	-0.2
All items less food .....	273.100	274.649	274.249	2.9	0.4	-0.1
All items less shelter.....	241.866	243.616	242.821	1.9	0.4	-0.3
Commodities less food .....	153.538	155.642	154.565	1.3	0.7	-0.7
Nondurables .....	232.299	235.675	234.306	2.1	0.9	-0.6
Nondurables less food.....	202.233	207.598	205.518	1.9	1.6	-1.0
Nondurables less food and apparel.....	252.020	261.427	261.017	3.1	3.6	-0.2
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	361.575	363.142	362.722	2.1	0.3	-0.1
Services less medical care services.....	335.975	336.825	336.873	3.3	0.3	0.0
Energy .....	268.626	281.399	277.542	3.5	3.3	-1.4
All items less energy .....	274.619	275.227	275.079	2.8	0.2	-0.1
All items less food and energy .....	276.778	277.386	277.277	2.8	0.2	0.0
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	141.049	141.127	140.062	0.6	-0.7	-0.8
Energy commodities.....	272.235	291.662	290.390	4.4	6.7	-0.4
Services less energy services.....	356.528	357.483	358.093	3.5	0.4	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) Indexes 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.

(6) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.

- Data not available

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.