



For Release: Thursday, February 13, 2020

20-282-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, Riverside Area – January 2020

Area prices were up 0.5 percent over the past two months, up 3.0 percent from a year ago

Prices in the Riverside area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), advanced 0.5 percent for the two months ending in January 2020, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that the January increase was influenced by higher prices for shelter and household furnishings and operations. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, bi-monthly changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U rose 3.0 percent. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.5 percent over the year. Energy prices rose 6.8 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. Food prices rose 3.7 percent. (See [table 1](#).)

Food

Food prices advanced 2.5 percent for the two months ending in January. (See [table 1](#).) Prices for food away from home advanced 3.8 percent, and prices for food at home advanced 1.3 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices rose 3.7 percent. Prices for food away from home rose 6.7 percent since a year ago, and prices for food at home advanced 0.9 percent.

Energy

The energy index decreased 5.5 percent for the two months ending in January. The decrease was mainly due to lower prices for gasoline (-11.5 percent). Prices for natural gas service jumped 18.2 percent, and prices for electricity rose 3.2 percent for the same period.

Energy prices rose 6.8 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (8.4 percent). Prices paid for electricity increased 3.1 percent, and prices for natural gas service rose 2.9 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.9 percent in the latest two-month period. Higher prices for household furnishings and operations (7.0 percent), apparel (3.8 percent), and shelter (1.2 percent) were partially offset by a lower price for recreation (-2.4 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.5 percent. Components contributing to the increase included shelter (5.2 percent) and medical care (4.9 percent). Partly offsetting the increases were price decreases in apparel (-13.2 percent) and recreation (-3.2 percent).

The March 2020 Consumer Price Index for the Riverside area is scheduled to be released on April 10, 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 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 Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario metropolitan area covered in this release consists of Riverside and San Bernardino 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 Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario (December 2017=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019	Jan. 2020	Jan. 2019	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019
Expenditure category						
All items.....	106.573	-	107.143	3.0	0.5	-
Food and beverages	103.959	-	106.468	3.5	2.4	-
Food	104.292	-	106.853	3.7	2.5	-
Food at home	101.386	100.954	102.662	0.9	1.3	1.7
Cereals and bakery products	104.712	-	104.874	-0.1	0.2	-
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....	100.074	-	101.213	-1.7	1.1	-
Dairy and related products	105.255	-	105.764	4.0	0.5	-
Fruits and vegetables.....	100.967	-	104.337	1.2	3.3	-
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials.....	107.660	-	107.980	5.1	0.3	-
Other food at home	96.851	-	98.237	0.5	1.4	-
Food away from home.....	107.236	-	111.259	6.7	3.8	-
Food away from home.....	107.236	-	111.259	6.7	3.8	-
Alcoholic beverages	98.334	-	99.817	-1.0	1.5	-
Housing	107.678	-	109.886	5.0	2.1	-
Shelter	108.673	109.643	109.951	5.2	1.2	0.3
Rent of primary residence	108.774	109.513	110.071	5.2	1.2	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of residences	108.987	110.038	110.345	6.0	1.2	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence	108.987	110.038	110.345	6.0	1.2	0.3
Fuels and utilities.....	107.532	-	112.719	3.3	4.8	-
Household energy	104.377	106.521	110.807	3.0	6.2	4.0
Energy services.....	104.476	106.663	111.031	2.9	6.3	4.1
Electricity	105.347	105.375	108.669	3.1	3.2	3.1
Utility (piped) gas service	101.460	111.119	119.941	2.9	18.2	7.9
Household furnishings and operations.....	98.216	-	105.077	4.1	7.0	-
Apparel	89.989	-	93.442	-13.2	3.8	-
Transportation	111.540	-	106.672	2.0	-4.4	-
Private transportation	111.855	-	106.595	1.8	-4.7	-
New and used motor vehicles	100.146	-	98.503	-3.8	-1.6	-
New vehicles	101.539	-	101.840	-0.6	0.3	-
Used cars and trucks.....	100.284	-	99.340	-2.3	-0.9	-
Motor fuel	130.065	119.545	115.399	8.5	-11.3	-3.5
Gasoline (all types).....	130.261	119.660	115.336	8.4	-11.5	-3.6
Gasoline, unleaded regular(1).....	130.493	119.764	115.310	8.2	-11.6	-3.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(1).....	130.130	119.884	116.067	9.2	-10.8	-3.2
Gasoline, unleaded premium(1).....	128.984	118.990	115.258	9.5	-10.6	-3.1
Motor vehicle insurance	110.751	-	113.655	3.2	2.6	-
Medical care	104.906	-	105.768	4.9	0.8	-
Recreation	101.749	-	99.300	-3.2	-2.4	-
Education and communication	104.536	-	104.746	2.1	0.2	-
Tuition, other school fees, and child care.....	114.587	-	116.139	3.7	1.4	-
Other goods and services	106.336	-	107.738	4.5	1.3	-
Commodity and service group						
All items.....	106.573	-	107.143	3.0	0.5	-
Commodities	104.898	-	104.416	1.3	-0.5	-
Commodities less food & beverages.....	105.527	-	103.175	-0.1	-2.2	-
Nondurables less food & beverages	108.510	-	104.120	0.3	-4.0	-
Durables	101.232	-	101.653	-0.8	0.4	-
Services.....	107.603	-	108.834	4.1	1.1	-
Special aggregate indexes						

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 Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario (December 2017=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019	Jan. 2020	Jan. 2019	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019
All items less medical care	106.689	-	107.238	2.9	0.5	-
All items less shelter.....	105.397	-	105.582	1.8	0.2	-
Commodities less food	105.267	-	103.044	-0.1	-2.1	-
Nondurables	106.092	-	105.367	2.0	-0.7	-
Nondurables less food.....	107.904	-	103.851	0.2	-3.8	-
Services less rent of shelter	106.127	-	107.288	2.6	1.1	-
Services less medical care services.....	107.675	-	108.882	3.9	1.1	-
Energy	120.690	114.792	114.089	6.8	-5.5	-0.6
All items less energy	105.305	-	106.515	2.7	1.1	-
All items less food and energy	105.494	-	106.496	2.5	0.9	-

Footnotes

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

- Data not available

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