

# News

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## **SAN FRANCISCO-OAKLAND-SAN JOSE AREA CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES: SEPTEMBER 2008 ENERGY PRICES DECLINE**

The special aggregate index for energy decreased 6.3 percent last month, but was 20.2 percent higher than in September 2007, said Regional Commissioner Richard J. Holden of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Gasoline prices were down 6.3 percent in September 2008 and dominated the decline in the overall energy index. Over the year, gasoline prices were 31.4 percent higher. The household energy index decreased 5.8 percent for the month, but advanced 3.1 percent for the year. Within household fuels, electricity prices were unchanged for the month, yet decreased 1.0 percent over the year. The utility (piped) gas service index dropped 17.9 percent from August to September, but was 12.1 percent higher than in September 2007.

The shelter index advanced 0.4 percent in September 2008 and was 2.0 percent higher compared to one year earlier. Within shelter, the rent of primary residence rose 0.3 percent last month and was 4.4 percent higher than in September 2007. The owners' equivalent rent of primary residence index increased 0.5 percent over the month and rose 3.2 percent over the year.

Area grocery prices were up 0.9 percent from August to September and 6.3 percent higher than a year ago. The food at home index now stands at 230.207. This means grocery shoppers in the greater Bay Area spent \$230.21 in September for a basket of food items that cost \$100.00 in 1982-84. Local area CPI data are not seasonally adjusted.

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Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods

San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from—		
	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Sep. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All items .....	-	225.411	-	-	-	-
All items (1967=100) .....	-	692.975	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	-	225.364	-	-	-	-
Food .....	-	224.948	-	-	-	-
Food at home .....	228.336	228.094	230.207	6.3	0.8	0.9
Food away from home .....	-	221.096	-	-	-	-
Alcoholic beverages .....	-	235.102	-	-	-	-
Housing .....	-	244.190	-	-	-	-
Shelter .....	273.786	273.980	275.062	2.0	.5	.4
Rent of primary residence <sup>1</sup> .....	288.994	290.625	291.618	4.4	.9	.3
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>1 2</sup> .....	294.244	295.210	296.577	3.2	.8	.5
Fuels and utilities .....	-	274.327	-	-	-	-
Household energy .....	310.870	298.277	280.880	3.1	-9.6	-5.8
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>1</sup> .....	309.920	297.330	279.797	2.6	-9.7	-5.9
Electricity <sup>1</sup> .....	275.379	275.379	275.379	-1.0	.0	.0
Utility (piped) gas service <sup>1</sup> .....	390.997	346.563	284.686	12.1	-27.2	-17.9
Household furnishings and operations .....	-	128.473	-	-	-	-
Apparel .....	-	102.839	-	-	-	-
Transportation .....	-	185.165	-	-	-	-
Private transportation .....	-	175.763	-	-	-	-
Motor fuel .....	341.875	314.230	293.935	31.6	-14.0	-6.5
Gasoline (all types) .....	339.158	311.970	292.294	31.4	-13.8	-6.3
Gasoline, unleaded regular <sup>3</sup> .....	341.219	313.420	293.300	31.9	-14.0	-6.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade <sup>3 4</sup> .....	312.099	288.071	270.846	30.2	-13.2	-6.0
Gasoline, unleaded premium <sup>3</sup> .....	314.649	290.814	273.449	29.9	-13.1	-6.0
Medical care .....	-	365.035	-	-	-	-
Recreation <sup>5</sup> .....	-	106.034	-	-	-	-
Education and communication <sup>5</sup> .....	-	133.863	-	-	-	-
Other goods and services .....	-	373.200	-	-	-	-
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All items .....	-	225.411	-	-	-	-
Commodities .....	-	173.511	-	-	-	-
Commodities less food and beverages .....	-	142.173	-	-	-	-
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	-	183.802	-	-	-	-
Durables .....	-	103.277	-	-	-	-
Services .....	-	268.606	-	-	-	-
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care .....	-	219.504	-	-	-	-
All items less shelter .....	-	207.026	-	-	-	-
Commodities less food .....	-	146.574	-	-	-	-
Nondurables .....	-	206.819	-	-	-	-
Nondurables less food .....	-	188.047	-	-	-	-
Services less rent of shelter <sup>2</sup> .....	-	275.982	-	-	-	-
Services less medical care services .....	-	261.914	-	-	-	-
Energy .....	336.047	313.030	293.432	20.2	-12.7	-6.3
All items less energy .....	-	222.826	-	-	-	-
All items less food and energy .....	-	223.143	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

<sup>2</sup> Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

<sup>3</sup> Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

<sup>5</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available.

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