



Internet Address: <http://www.bls.gov/ro2/home.htm>

Information: Martin Kohli, (646) 264-3620

Media Contact: Michael L. Dolfman, (212) 337-2500

Transmission of material in this release is
embargoed until after 8:30 A.M. (EDT)
Wednesday, May 14, 2008

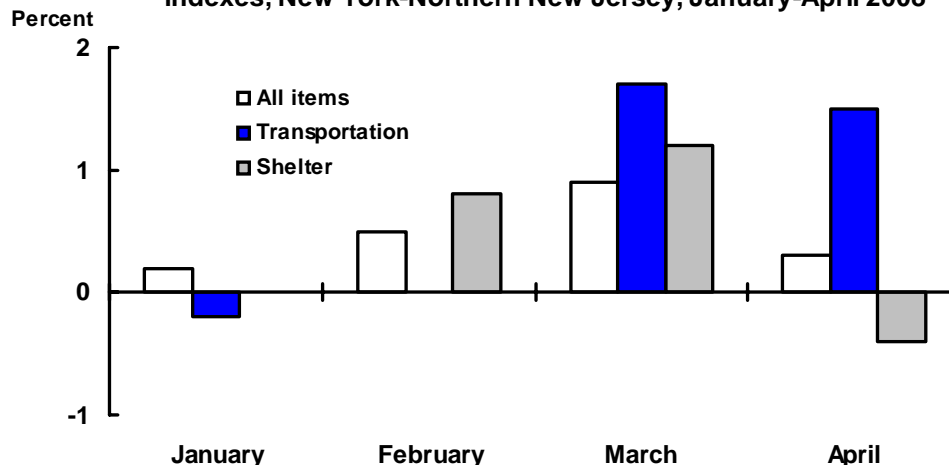
NEW YORK-NORTHERN NEW JERSEY CPI UP 0.3 PERCENT IN APRIL, 3.6 PERCENT RISE FROM YEAR AGO

Retail prices in the greater New York area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), rose 0.3 percent in April, following a 0.9-percent increase in March. Michael L. Dolfman, Regional Commissioner of the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, said the April rise was primarily due to higher prices for transportation and food and beverages. These increases were largely offset by lower prices for shelter. For the year ended in April 2008, the CPI-U rose 3.6 percent, and core inflation, as measured by the all items less food and energy index, was 2.0 percent.

The transportation index rose 1.5 percent in April, after increasing 1.7 percent in March. (See chart A.) Gasoline prices advanced 5.8 percent over the month and 20.9 percent over the year. The April 2008 index also reflected over-the-month increases for motor vehicle insurance, parking and other fees, motor fuels other than gasoline, and air transportation.

The food and beverages index increased 0.9 percent, following a 0.7-percent rise in March. Prices for food at home rose 1.4 percent—the largest increase in 15 months. The advance in grocery prices included higher prices for rice, pasta, and cornmeal; milk; potatoes; butter and margarine; bread; flour; and other processed fruits and vegetables. Prices for food away from home also rose, increasing 0.6 percent over the month. For the year ended April 2008, food and beverage prices increased 5.3 percent, the largest 12-month change since December 1990.

Chart A. Over-the-month percent changes in consumer price indexes, New York-Northern New Jersey, January-April 2008



Round-the-clock recorded messages for the Consumer Price Index and a variety of other *Bureau of Labor Statistics* data are available by dialing the *New York Information Office's* main telephone number: (646) 264-3600. For recorded messages, press '2'.

**New York-Northern New Jersey CPI monthly and annual percent changes
(not seasonally adjusted)**

Month	2003		2004		2005		2006		2007		2008	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
January	0.8	3.3	0.3	2.7	0.6	4.1	0.8	3.7	0.2	2.7	0.2	3.7
February	0.8	3.3	0.6	2.5	0.4	3.9	0.2	3.6	0.6	3.1	0.5	3.6
March	0.5	3.1	1.1	3.2	1.7	4.4	0.8	2.7	0.7	2.9	0.9	3.8
April	-0.2	2.6	0.3	3.7	0.0	4.2	0.9	3.6	0.5	2.5	0.3	3.6
May	0.1	2.8	0.2	3.9	-0.5	3.4	0.6	4.8	0.6	2.5		
June	0.1	2.8	0.8	4.6	-0.3	2.3	0.5	5.6	0.5	2.5		
July	0.4	3.0	-0.2	3.9	0.9	3.4	0.2	5.0	0.2	2.5		
August	0.7	3.1	0.1	3.3	0.8	4.1	0.4	4.7	-0.1	1.9		
September	0.3	3.3	0.1	3.2	0.8	4.8	-0.5	3.3	0.0	2.4		
October	0.2	3.3	0.7	3.7	0.4	4.5	-0.5	2.4	0.1	3.1		
November	-0.3	3.1	0.0	3.9	-0.6	3.9	-0.4	2.6	0.4	3.9		
December	-0.1	3.2	-0.2	3.8	-0.5	3.6	0.2	3.3	0.0	3.7		

The index for housing edged down 0.2 percent in April, the first decline in six months. The shelter component fell 0.4 percent, after increasing 1.2 percent in March, largely due to a decline in charges for out-of-town lodging, not uncommon in April. Owners' equivalent rent and residential rent each increased 0.3 percent, following similar increases over the past six months. Among the other housing components, the index for fuels and utilities rose 1.9 percent, after posting a 0.5-percent decline in March. The rise was primarily due to a 2.4-percent jump in electricity prices, along with higher prices for residential fuel oil. Natural gas prices increased 0.4 percent.

Among other expenditure categories, the recreation index rose 1.2 percent, the largest increase in 32 months. The April rise reflected higher prices for pets and pet products as well as televisions and audio discs, tapes, and other media. The apparel index dropped 0.8 percent over the month. Following no change in March, medical care prices edged down 0.2 percent, and education and communication inched up 0.1 percent. The other goods and services index was unchanged in April.

With the New York-Northern New Jersey Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers at 233.822 in April (1982-84=100), \$23.38 was required to purchase what \$10 could in the 1982-84 base period. The purchasing power of the dollar was 42.8 cents in 1982-84 dollars and 14.8 cents in 1967 dollars. In April, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 228.215, up 0.6 percent over the month. The CPI-W rose 3.8 percent over the year. On a 1967 base, the April CPI-W was 649.784.

Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences. The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA consolidated area comprises the five boroughs of New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess, and Orange Counties in New York State; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Monmouth, Middlesex, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren Counties in New Jersey; Fairfield County and parts of Litchfield, New Haven and Middlesex Counties in Connecticut; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

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

New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from—		
	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	Apr. 2007	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008
Expenditure category						
All items	231.020	233.122	233.822	3.6	1.2	0.3
All items (1967=100)	667.848	673.924	675.948	-	-	-
Food and beverages	216.392	217.953	220.009	5.3	1.7	.9
Food	215.477	216.948	219.236	5.5	1.7	1.1
Food at home	213.504	215.803	218.925	5.8	2.5	1.4
Food away from home	223.624	224.132	225.469	5.1	.8	.6
Alcoholic beverages	225.980	228.860	227.398	3.6	.6	-.6
Housing	250.328	252.586	252.200	3.2	.7	-.2
Shelter	300.736	304.244	303.015	2.9	.8	-.4
Rent of primary residence ¹	289.775	290.943	291.938	4.7	.7	.3
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{1 2}	307.776	308.414	309.225	2.9	.5	.3
Fuels and utilities	198.303	197.303	201.039	10.8	1.4	1.9
Household energy	200.732	199.579	203.684	11.4	1.5	2.1
Gas (piped) and electricity ¹	191.300	186.483	189.437	5.0	-1.0	1.6
Electricity ¹	172.351	165.808	169.629	6.5	-1.6	2.3
Utility (piped) gas service ¹	227.510	226.907	227.722	2.6	.1	.4
Household furnishings and operations	127.781	127.754	127.503	-3.4	-.2	-.2
Apparel	109.602	112.728	111.844	-2.9	2.0	-.8
Transportation	196.627	200.012	203.058	7.3	3.3	1.5
Private transportation	187.105	189.936	193.421	7.4	3.4	1.8
Motor fuel	236.792	247.212	261.591	21.2	10.5	5.8
Gasoline (all types)	235.739	245.733	259.935	20.9	10.3	5.8
Gasoline, unleaded regular ³	238.519	249.334	264.346	21.2	10.8	6.0
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{3 4}	235.959	244.449	257.141	20.4	9.0	5.2
Gasoline, unleaded premium ³	232.596	241.152	254.028	20.0	9.2	5.3
Medical care	366.619	366.596	365.956	1.9	-.2	-.2
Recreation ⁵	113.525	113.542	114.919	.1	1.2	1.2
Education and communication ⁵	127.671	127.688	127.836	3.5	.1	.1
Other goods and services	340.327	341.966	341.909	1.9	.5	.0
Commodity and service group						
All items	231.020	233.122	233.822	3.6	1.2	.3
Commodities	176.202	178.566	180.466	4.6	2.4	1.1
Commodities less food and beverages	148.095	150.731	152.462	4.0	2.9	1.1
Nondurables less food and beverages	178.595	183.522	186.936	7.6	4.7	1.9
Durables	108.165	108.113	107.876	-2.3	-.3	-.2
Services	277.976	279.870	279.574	3.0	.6	-.1
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	224.900	227.055	227.793	3.7	1.3	.3
All items less shelter	203.711	205.228	206.779	4.0	1.5	.8
Commodities less food	151.381	154.042	155.690	4.0	2.8	1.1
Nondurables	199.539	202.929	205.745	6.5	3.1	1.4
Nondurables less food	181.729	186.564	189.731	7.3	4.4	1.7
Services less rent of shelter ²	262.256	262.143	263.044	3.1	.3	.3
Services less medical care services	270.599	272.565	272.280	3.1	.6	-.1
Energy	216.522	220.181	228.579	15.7	5.6	3.8
All items less energy	234.042	236.006	235.958	2.6	.8	.0
All items less food and energy	238.911	240.980	240.489	2.0	.7	-.2

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.