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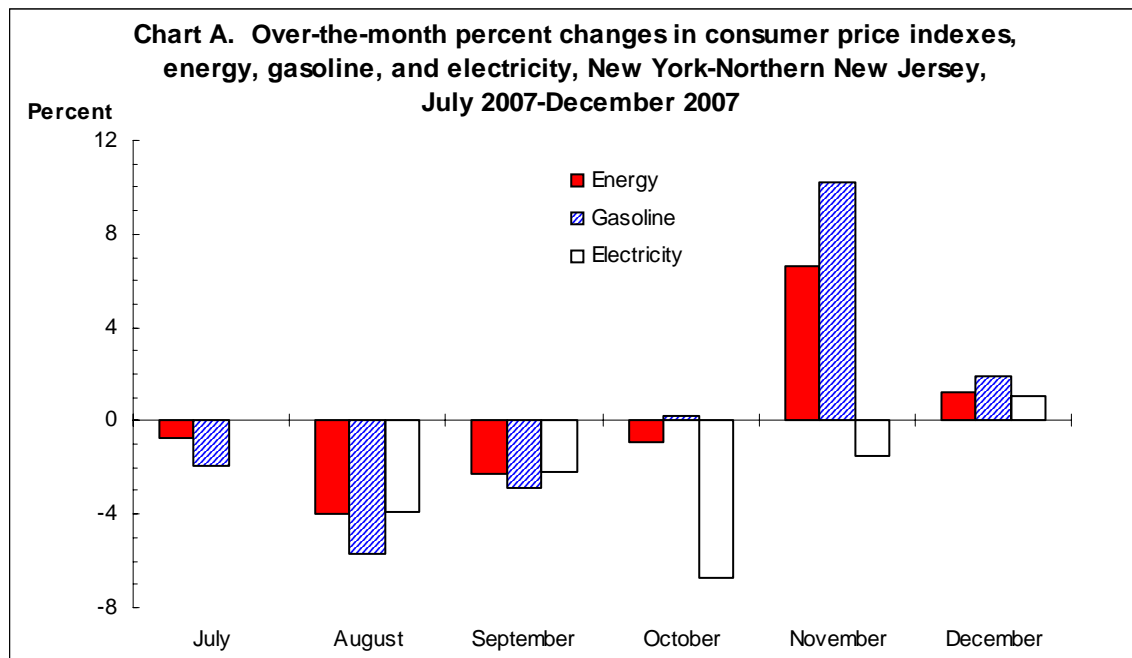
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## NEW YORK-NORTHERN NEW JERSEY CPI UNCHANGED IN DECEMBER, UP 3.7 PERCENT FROM YEAR AGO

Retail prices in the greater New York area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), were unchanged in December, following a 0.4-percent advance in November. Michael L. Dolfman, Regional Commissioner of the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, said that the December index largely reflected higher prices for energy and food and beverages that were offset by lower prices for shelter, along with a seasonal decline in apparel prices. For the year ended in December 2007, the CPI-U rose 3.7 percent. Core inflation, as measured by the all items less food and energy index, was up 2.1 percent over the year.

The energy index increased 1.2 percent in December, after jumping 6.6 percent in November. Gasoline prices rose 1.9 percent over the month, following a 10.2-percent rise in November. (See chart A.) The electricity index posted a 1.1-percent increase, the first increase in six months, and residential fuel oil prices continued to climb. In contrast, natural gas prices declined 0.6 percent.



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	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
January	0.6	1.9	0.8	3.3	0.3	2.7	0.6	4.1	0.8	3.7	0.2	2.7
February	0.7	2.5	0.8	3.3	0.6	2.5	0.4	3.9	0.2	3.6	0.6	3.1
March	0.6	2.5	0.5	3.1	1.1	3.2	1.7	4.4	0.8	2.7	0.7	2.9
April	0.4	2.8	-0.2	2.6	0.3	3.7	0.0	4.2	0.9	3.6	0.5	2.5
May	-0.2	2.2	0.1	2.8	0.2	3.9	-0.5	3.4	0.6	4.8	0.6	2.5
June	0.1	1.7	0.1	2.8	0.8	4.6	-0.3	2.3	0.5	5.6	0.5	2.5
July	0.3	2.2	0.4	3.0	-0.2	3.9	0.9	3.4	0.2	5.0	0.2	2.5
August	0.6	2.7	0.7	3.1	0.1	3.3	0.8	4.1	0.4	4.7	-0.1	1.9
September	0.1	2.8	0.3	3.3	0.1	3.2	0.8	4.8	-0.5	3.3	0.0	2.4
October	0.2	3.1	0.2	3.3	0.7	3.7	0.4	4.5	-0.5	2.4	0.1	3.1
November	-0.2	3.0	-0.3	3.1	0.0	3.9	-0.6	3.9	-0.4	2.6	0.4	3.9
December	-0.2	3.1	-0.1	3.2	-0.2	3.8	-0.5	3.6	0.2	3.3	0.0	3.7

Largely reflecting the advance in gasoline prices, the transportation index rose 0.4 percent in December. Over the year, transportation prices advanced 7.3 percent.

The food and beverages index increased 0.3 percent. Prices for food at home were up 0.3 percent over the month, reflecting higher prices for uncooked beef roasts, eggs, other fresh fruits, and tomatoes. The alcoholic beverages index jumped 1.0 percent over the month. Prices for food away from home inched up 0.1 percent. Over the year, the food and beverages index rose 5.0 percent, the largest 12-month increase since June 2004.

The housing index was unchanged in December. A 0.7-percent increase in prices for fuels and utilities was offset by decreases of 0.1 percent for shelter and 0.4 percent for household furnishings and operations. Within the shelter component, a drop in the volatile index for out-of-town lodging outweighed increases of 0.4 percent for residential rent and 0.2 percent for owners' equivalent rent.

The apparel index fell 3.1 percent in December, largely reflecting holiday sales for men's and boy's apparel, women's outerware, and men's footwear.

Among other components, the other goods and services index rose 0.3 percent, following two months of no change. Medical care edged up 0.2 percent over the month. Education and communication inched up 0.1 percent, buoyed by higher prices for personal computers and peripheral equipment. The recreation index declined 0.4 percent with lower prices for televisions.

With the New York-Northern New Jersey Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers at 229.395 in December (1982-84=100), \$22.94 was required to purchase what \$10 could in the 1982-84 base period. The purchasing power of the dollar was 43.6 cents in 1982-84 dollars and 15.1 cents in 1967 dollars. In December, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 223.873, up 0.1 percent over the month. The CPI-W rose 4.0 percent over the year. On a 1967 base, the December CPI-W was 637.424.

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—		
	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007	Dec. 2006	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2007
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All items .....	228.552	229.504	229.395	3.7	0.4	0.0
All items (1967=100) .....	660.713	663.464	663.150	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	213.695	214.436	214.980	5.0	.6	.3
Food .....	212.789	212.636	214.058	5.0	.6	.2
Food at home .....	210.881	211.758	212.435	5.7	.7	.3
Food away from home .....	220.796	221.627	221.743	4.2	.4	.1
Alcoholic beverages .....	223.227	222.585	224.702	4.2	.7	1.0
Housing .....	246.949	247.906	247.786	2.9	.3	.0
Shelter .....	298.260	298.507	298.163	3.0	.0	-.1
Rent of primary residence <sup>1</sup> .....	285.604	286.418	287.618	4.2	.7	.4
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>1 2</sup> .....	305.234	305.934	306.658	3.1	.5	.2
Fuels and utilities .....	184.671	191.342	192.700	8.3	4.3	.7
Household energy .....	185.761	193.159	194.516	8.5	4.7	.7
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>1</sup> .....	181.518	184.467	185.232	4.7	2.0	.4
Electricity <sup>1</sup> .....	164.906	162.462	164.300	7.0	-.4	1.1
Utility (piped) gas service <sup>1</sup> .....	214.002	227.677	226.303	1.4	5.7	-.6
Household furnishings and operations .....	128.603	127.888	127.440	-3.5	-.9	-.4
Apparel .....	114.010	110.772	107.346	-.3	-5.8	-3.1
Transportation .....	191.590	196.120	196.916	7.3	2.8	.4
Private transportation .....	182.279	186.832	187.630	7.8	2.9	.4
Motor fuel .....	213.048	234.814	239.185	31.7	12.3	1.9
Gasoline (all types) .....	212.196	233.888	238.237	31.7	12.3	1.9
Gasoline, unleaded regular <sup>3</sup> .....	213.376	236.892	241.355	32.1	13.1	1.9
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade <sup>3 4</sup> .....	214.227	233.634	237.900	31.5	11.1	1.8
Gasoline, unleaded premium <sup>3</sup> .....	212.894	230.321	234.366	29.8	10.1	1.8
Medical care .....	363.141	363.174	363.978	5.5	.2	.2
Recreation <sup>5</sup> .....	114.331	113.803	113.346	-.7	-.9	-.4
Education and communication <sup>5</sup> .....	127.463	127.274	127.393	3.6	-.1	.1
Other goods and services .....	338.974	338.981	340.127	1.7	.3	.3
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All items .....	228.552	229.504	229.395	3.7	.4	.0
Commodities .....	173.880	175.430	175.296	4.8	.8	-.1
Commodities less food and beverages .....	146.044	147.973	147.478	4.6	1.0	-.3
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	173.706	177.919	177.513	9.1	2.2	-.2
Durables .....	109.315	108.668	108.097	-2.6	-1.1	-.5
Services .....	275.406	275.828	275.742	3.0	.1	.0
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care .....	222.485	223.454	223.320	3.6	.4	-.1
All items less shelter .....	201.231	202.488	202.478	4.1	.6	.0
Commodities less food .....	149.301	151.139	150.741	4.6	1.0	-.3
Nondurables .....	195.718	198.208	198.282	6.8	1.3	.0
Nondurables less food .....	176.985	180.867	180.633	8.7	2.1	-.1
Services less rent of shelter <sup>2</sup> .....	259.498	260.155	260.397	3.3	.3	.1
Services less medical care services .....	268.096	268.523	268.376	2.9	.1	-.1
Energy .....	198.178	211.307	213.865	17.6	7.9	1.2
All items less energy .....	233.077	232.871	232.507	2.6	-.2	-.2
All items less food and energy .....	238.302	237.875	237.345	2.1	-.4	-.2

<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.