



Internet Address: 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)
Thursday, August 14, 2008

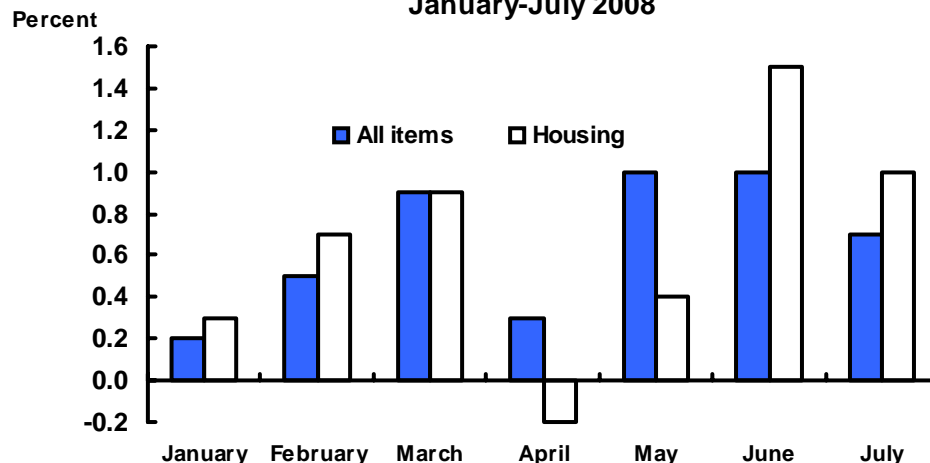
NEW YORK-NORTHERN NEW JERSEY CPI UP 0.7 PERCENT IN JULY, 5.1 PERCENT RISE FROM YEAR AGO

Retail prices in the greater New York area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), rose 0.7 percent in July, following increases of 1.0 percent in both May and June. Michael L. Dolfman, Regional Commissioner of the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, said the July rise primarily reflected an advance in the housing index. Higher prices for food and beverages and for transportation also contributed to the July increase. For the year ended in July 2008, the CPI-U increased 5.1 percent, and core inflation, as measured by the all items less food and energy index, was 2.4 percent.

The index for housing increased 1.0 percent in July, after rising 1.5 percent in June. (See chart A.) The shelter component rose 0.7 percent, primarily reflecting an increase in out-of-town lodging, often up at this time of year. Over the month, residential rent climbed 0.9 percent, the largest increase in 29 months, while owners' equivalent rent edged up 0.2 percent. In the fuels and utilities component, prices for household energy rose 3.8 percent after jumping 10.8 percent in June. A 4.3-percent increase in electricity charges along with a 5.1-percent advance in natural gas prices contributed to the July rise. Since July 2007, household energy prices have risen 22.5 percent.

The food and beverages index advanced 0.7 percent in July. Prices for food at home rose 0.8 percent, reflecting higher prices for a wide range of groceries, including other meats; fresh fish and

Chart A. Over-the-month percent changes in consumer price indexes, New York-Northern New Jersey, January-July 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	1.0	4.0
June	0.1	2.8	0.8	4.6	-0.3	2.3	0.5	5.6	0.5	2.5	1.0	4.5
July	0.4	3.0	-0.2	3.9	0.9	3.4	0.2	5.0	0.2	2.5	0.7	5.1
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		

seafood; potatoes; milk; apples; snacks; cakes, cupcakes, and cookies; other bakery products; and cheese and related products. Over the year, grocery prices increased 7.3 percent, the largest 12-month increase since October 1990. Prices for food away from home rose 0.6 percent in July and 4.1 percent over the year.

Transportation prices rose 0.4 percent over the month, the smallest increase since February. The slowdown in the transportation index was largely due to a 1.2-percent increase in gasoline prices, which had increased by between 4 and 13 percent in each of the previous four months. The July index also reflected higher prices for leased cars and trucks, as well as for car and truck rental. Over the year, transportation prices increased 12.5 percent, the largest 12-month advance since September 2005.

Among other expenditure categories, the other goods and services index increased 0.9 percent, and the education and communication index rose 0.6 percent, with higher charges for local telephone service. The medical care index increased 0.3 percent. In contrast, the index for apparel, often down in July, fell 0.6 percent, and the recreation index dropped 0.3 percent with price reductions for televisions.

With the New York-Northern New Jersey Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers at 240.273 in July (1982-84=100), \$24.03 was required to purchase what \$10 could in the 1982-84 base period. The purchasing power of the dollar was 41.6 cents in 1982-84 dollars and 14.4 cents in 1967 dollars. In July, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 235.446, up 0.7 percent over the month. The CPI-W rose 5.9 percent over the year. On a 1967 base, the July CPI-W was 670.374.

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—		
	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008	July 2007	May 2008	June 2008
Expenditure category						
All items	236.151	238.580	240.273	5.1	1.7	0.7
All items (1967=100)	682.680	689.702	694.595	-	-	-
Food and beverages	221.159	221.658	223.278	5.7	1.0	.7
Food	220.416	220.934	222.523	5.8	1.0	.7
Food at home	220.396	221.524	223.293	7.3	1.3	.8
Food away from home	226.328	226.122	227.536	4.1	.5	.6
Alcoholic beverages	228.074	228.273	230.313	3.7	1.0	.9
Housing	253.161	257.051	259.706	4.0	2.6	1.0
Shelter	303.001	304.891	307.161	2.4	1.4	.7
Rent of primary residence ¹	292.639	294.696	297.326	5.6	1.6	.9
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{1 2}	310.265	312.623	313.335	3.7	1.0	.2
Fuels and utilities	207.321	227.924	236.499	20.9	14.1	3.8
Household energy	210.660	233.487	242.451	22.5	15.1	3.8
Gas (piped) and electricity ¹	194.648	214.201	223.953	13.0	15.1	4.6
Electricity ¹	171.415	197.607	206.046	9.6	20.2	4.3
Utility (piped) gas service ¹	240.687	243.987	256.392	17.7	6.5	5.1
Household furnishings and operations	128.486	127.815	127.691	-2.1	-.6	-.1
Apparel	112.882	107.067	106.470	.7	-5.7	-.6
Transportation	211.635	217.187	218.149	12.5	3.1	.4
Private transportation	202.221	207.008	208.336	12.9	3.0	.6
Motor fuel	294.561	315.400	319.030	37.4	8.3	1.2
Gasoline (all types)	292.904	313.724	317.421	37.2	8.4	1.2
Gasoline, unleaded regular ³	298.627	319.984	323.309	38.1	8.3	1.0
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{3 4}	288.883	309.132	314.032	36.1	8.7	1.6
Gasoline, unleaded premium ³	284.199	304.244	308.351	34.6	8.5	1.3
Medical care	369.871	368.419	369.528	2.1	-.1	.3
Recreation ⁵	115.043	115.674	115.350	1.0	.3	-.3
Education and communication ⁵	128.332	128.943	129.762	4.2	1.1	.6
Other goods and services	343.477	349.941	352.966	4.7	2.8	.9
Commodity and service group						
All items	236.151	238.580	240.273	5.1	1.7	.7
Commodities	183.881	185.345	186.181	7.8	1.3	.5
Commodities less food and beverages	156.802	158.661	159.077	9.2	1.5	.3
Nondurables less food and beverages	195.282	198.938	200.119	16.1	2.5	.6
Durables	107.527	107.284	106.819	-2.8	-.7	-.4
Services	281.010	284.256	286.672	3.7	2.0	.8
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	230.053	232.589	234.288	5.3	1.8	.7
All items less shelter	210.162	212.859	214.322	6.8	2.0	.7
Commodities less food	159.952	161.774	162.241	9.0	1.4	.3
Nondurables	210.771	212.970	214.380	10.6	1.7	.7
Nondurables less food	197.699	201.185	202.415	15.2	2.4	.6
Services less rent of shelter ²	266.407	271.532	274.238	5.5	2.9	1.0
Services less medical care services	273.482	276.853	279.306	3.7	2.1	.9
Energy	246.402	268.490	275.268	29.1	11.7	2.5
All items less energy	236.787	237.309	238.515	2.9	.7	.5
All items less food and energy	241.256	241.782	242.923	2.4	.7	.5

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.