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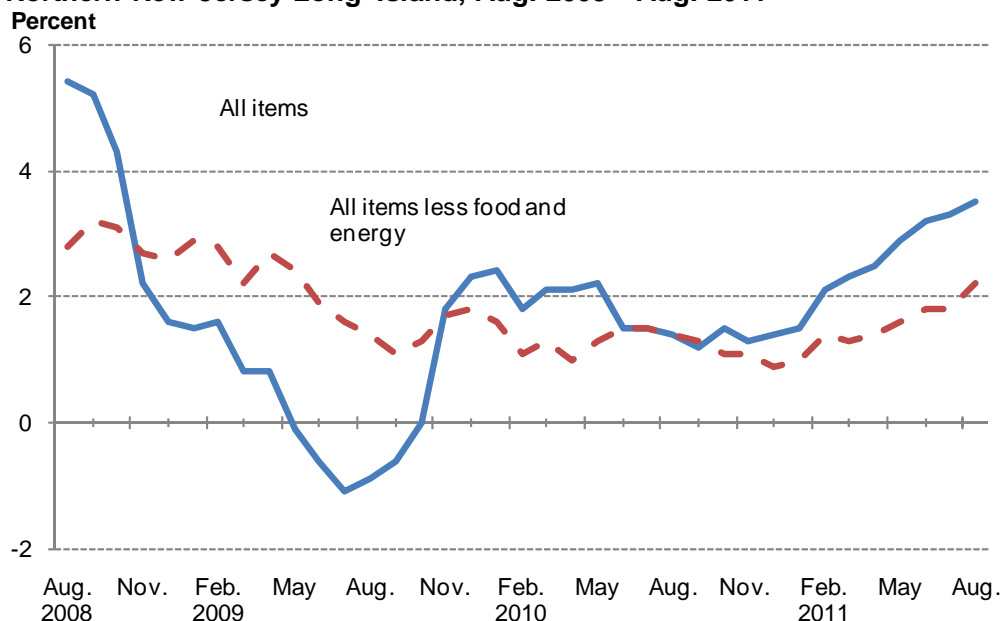
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**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, NEW YORK-NORTHERN NEW JERSEY – AUGUST 2011**  
**Area prices up 0.4 percent over the month and 3.5 percent over the year**

Prices in the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), advanced 0.4 percent in August after increasing 0.3 percent in July, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Michael L. Dolfman attributed the rise to higher prices for shelter and apparel, often up in August. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

For the 12 months ended in August 2011, the CPI-U rose 3.5 percent, primarily because of higher energy prices. (See table A.) The index for all items less food and energy increased 2.2 percent. August marked the first time since November 2008 that both indexes simultaneously registered 12-month increases exceeding 2.0 percent. (See chart 1.)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, Aug. 2008 - Aug. 2011**



**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-New Jersey Information Office's** main telephone number: **(646) 264-3600**. For recorded messages, press '2'.

## Food

Food prices ticked up 0.1 percent in August, after three months of increases ranging from 0.4 to 0.8 percent. Prices for food at home were unchanged. Higher prices for eggs, bacon, potatoes, and apples were offset by price declines for other groceries, including other fresh vegetables. Prices for food away from home rose 0.3 percent for the second consecutive month.

For the 12 months ended in August, the food index increased 4.1 percent, with food at home rising 5.1 percent and food away from home, 3.0 percent. (See table 1.)

## Energy

The energy index declined 1.7 percent, after inching up 0.2 percent in July. Gasoline prices decreased for the third straight month in August, with a 0.4-percent decline. Household energy prices retreated 2.9 percent, largely due to a 5.0-percent drop in electricity charges. Fuel oil charges also declined, while natural gas prices edged up 0.2 percent.

From August 2010 to August 2011, energy prices increased 16.5 percent, with gasoline prices climbing 37.3 percent and household energy prices rising 1.6 percent.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.6 percent, after edging up 0.2 percent in July. Shelter prices increased 0.3 percent, as did residential and owners' equivalent rent. Apparel, often up in August when fall and winter lines are introduced, jumped 6.5 percent. Recreation advanced 1.4 percent, with higher prices reported for pets and pet products and raised lesson fees. Education and communication rose 0.5 percent. Increased college tuition and fees, along with higher prices for books and supplies, contributed to the rise. Medical care advanced 0.4 percent.

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 2.2 percent, largely because of a 1.8-percent rise in shelter, which was the largest 12-month increase recorded since July 2009. Large increases were also reported for apparel (5.0 percent) and medical care (3.3 percent). Recreation (1.1 percent) and education and communication (1.0 percent) were among the other rising components.

**Table A. New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island CPI-U monthly and annual percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)**

Month	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010		2011	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
January	0.8	3.7	0.2	2.7	0.2	3.7	0.2	1.5	0.2	2.4	0.3	1.5
February	0.2	3.6	0.6	3.1	0.5	3.6	0.5	1.6	0.0	1.8	0.5	2.1
March	0.8	2.7	0.7	2.9	0.9	3.8	0.2	0.8	0.5	2.1	0.7	2.3
April	0.9	3.6	0.5	2.5	0.3	3.6	0.2	0.8	0.2	2.1	0.4	2.5
May	0.6	4.8	0.6	2.5	1.0	4.0	0.2	-0.1	0.2	2.2	0.6	2.9
June	0.5	5.6	0.5	2.5	1.0	4.5	0.5	-0.6	-0.1	1.5	0.2	3.2
July	0.2	5.0	0.2	2.5	0.7	5.1	0.2	-1.1	0.1	1.5	0.3	3.3
August	0.4	4.7	-0.1	1.9	0.1	5.4	0.3	-0.9	0.2	1.4	0.4	3.5
September	-0.5	3.3	0.0	2.4	-0.2	5.2	0.1	-0.6	0.0	1.2		
October	-0.5	2.4	0.1	3.1	-0.7	4.3	-0.1	0.0	0.2	1.5		
November	-0.4	2.6	0.4	3.9	-1.6	2.2	0.2	1.8	0.0	1.3		
December	0.2	3.3	0.0	3.7	-0.6	1.6	-0.1	2.3	0.0	1.4		

## CPI-W

In August, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 246.025, up 0.3 percent over the month. The CPI-W increased 3.9 percent over the year.

**The September 2011 Consumer Price Index for New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. (EDT).**

## 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 87 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 32 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 4,000 housing units and approximately 25,000 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](http://www.bls.gov/cpi) and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/pub/hom/homch17\\_a.htm](http://www.bls.gov/pub/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 New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Conn.-Pa. consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Bronx, Dutchess, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties in New York State; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren Counties in New Jersey; Fairfield County and parts of Litchfield, Middlesex, and New Haven Counties in Connecticut; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

For personal assistance or further information on Consumer Price Indexes, as well as other Bureau products, contact the New York-New Jersey Information Office at (646) 264-3600 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET.

HU\*Y%\*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—		
	June 2011	July 2011	Aug. 2011	Aug. 2010	June 2011	July 2011
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All items .....	248.505	249.164	250.058	3.5	0.6	0.4
All items (1967=100) .....	718.394	720.299	722.882	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	237.069	238.507	238.836	4.0	.7	.1
Food .....	236.431	237.950	238.290	4.1	.8	.1
Food at home .....	236.103	238.315	238.417	5.1	1.0	.0
Food away from home .....	243.078	243.772	244.417	3.0	.6	.3
Alcoholic beverages .....	242.385	242.641	242.808	1.5	.2	.1
Housing .....	263.038	264.345	264.070	1.6	.4	-.1
Shelter .....	318.664	319.961	320.827	1.8	.7	.3
Rent of primary residence <sup>1</sup> .....	320.554	321.621	322.568	2.0	.6	.3
Owners' equivalent rent of residences <sup>1 2</sup> .....	325.246	326.507	327.476	1.7	.7	.3
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>1 2</sup> .....	325.157	326.405	327.383	1.7	.7	.3
Fuels and utilities .....	208.766	212.587	207.154	1.8	-.8	-2.6
Household energy .....	207.745	211.282	205.162	1.6	-1.2	-2.9
Energy services <sup>1</sup> .....	192.308	197.166	190.447	-3.6	-1.0	-3.4
Electricity <sup>1</sup> .....	192.844	199.148	189.274	-2.0	-1.9	-5.0
Utility (piped) gas service <sup>1</sup> .....	184.700	186.217	186.656	-7.0	1.1	.2
Household furnishings and operations .....	122.407	121.987	121.234	-.7	-1.0	-.6
Apparel .....	118.863	116.446	124.029	5.0	4.3	6.5
Transportation .....	228.000	227.624	227.498	12.2	-.2	-.1
Private transportation .....	216.771	216.745	216.329	12.9	-.2	-.2
Motor fuel .....	301.210	296.992	295.758	37.1	-1.8	-.4
Gasoline (all types) .....	300.570	296.301	295.095	37.3	-1.8	-.4
Gasoline, unleaded regular <sup>3</sup> .....	304.628	300.301	299.121	38.0	-1.8	-.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade <sup>3 4</sup> .....	300.616	296.317	294.972	35.7	-1.9	-.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium <sup>3</sup> .....	292.521	288.470	286.977	35.2	-1.9	-.5
Medical care .....	391.602	391.951	393.550	3.3	.5	.4
Recreation <sup>5</sup> .....	115.451	115.909	117.520	1.1	1.8	1.4
Education and communication <sup>5</sup> .....	135.328	135.830	136.512	1.0	.9	.5
Other goods and services .....	382.191	382.953	383.657	.8	.4	.2
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All items .....	248.505	249.164	250.058	3.5	.6	.4
Commodities .....	191.025	190.692	192.129	6.6	.6	.8
Commodities less food and beverages .....	159.279	158.128	160.014	8.5	.5	1.2
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	202.056	199.598	203.282	12.3	.6	1.8
Durables .....	104.604	105.031	104.737	.7	.1	-.3
Services .....	297.846	299.323	299.779	2.0	.6	.2
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care .....	242.007	242.671	243.535	3.5	.6	.4
All items less shelter .....	221.152	221.549	222.461	4.6	.6	.4
Commodities less food .....	162.780	161.665	163.510	8.2	.4	1.1
Nondurables .....	222.234	221.566	223.737	7.9	.7	1.0
Nondurables less food .....	204.882	202.561	206.069	11.5	.6	1.7
Services less rent of shelter <sup>2</sup> .....	285.509	287.236	287.212	2.2	.6	.0
Services less medical care services .....	289.755	291.253	291.679	1.9	.7	.1
Energy .....	246.529	246.942	242.773	16.5	-1.5	-1.7
All items less energy .....	250.520	251.207	252.588	2.5	.8	.5
All items less food and energy .....	254.655	255.194	256.774	2.2	.8	.6

<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.