



For Release: Wednesday, March 15, 2017

17-332-SAN

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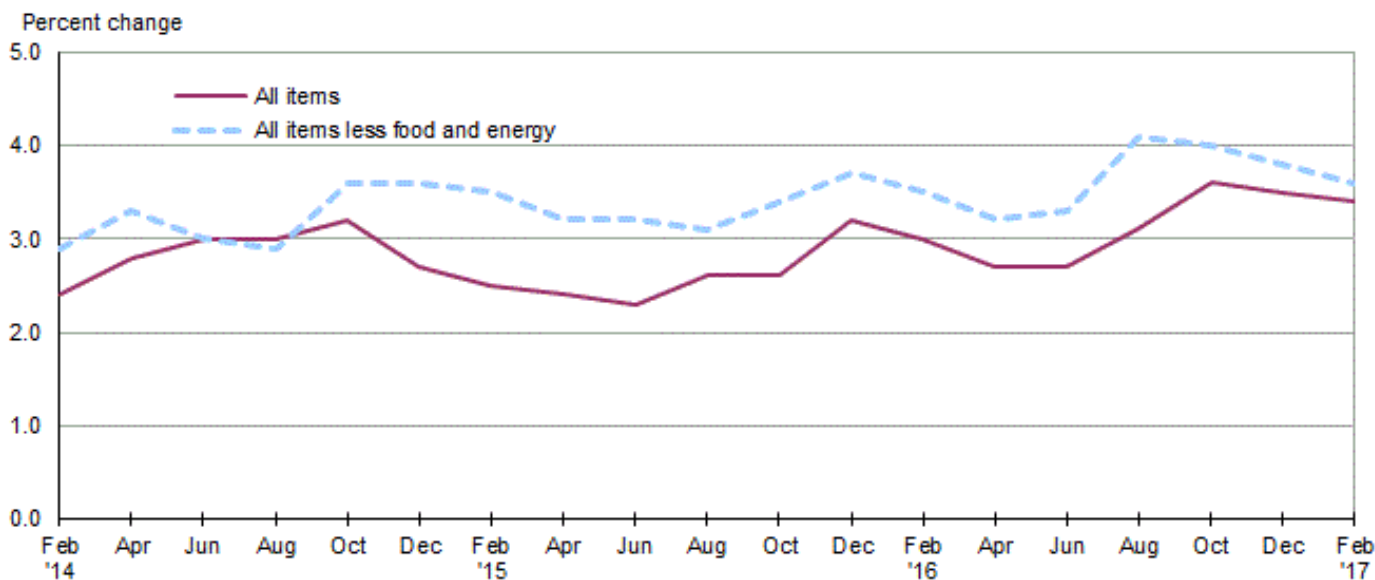
Consumer Price Index, San Francisco Area — February 2017

Area prices were up 0.8 percent over the past two months, up 3.4 percent from a year ago

Prices in the San Francisco area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), rose 0.8 percent for the two months ending in February 2017, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A](#).) Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that the February increase was influenced by higher prices for shelter, apparel, and gasoline. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U rose 3.4 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) Energy prices jumped 11.0 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 3.6 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, San Francisco, February 2014–February 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices advanced 0.3 percent for the two months ending in February. (See [table 1](#).) Prices for food away from home rose 0.4 percent, and prices for food at home increased 0.2 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices moved down 0.2 percent. Prices for food at home decreased 3.3 percent since a year ago, but prices for food away from home increased 3.4 percent.

Energy

The energy index rose 2.8 percent for the two months ending in February. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (6.2 percent). Prices for natural gas service declined 2.7 percent, and electricity prices decreased 0.2 percent for the same period.

Energy prices jumped 11.0 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (19.2 percent). Prices paid for natural gas service advanced 6.3 percent, and prices for electricity rose 1.1 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.8 percent in the latest two-month period. Higher prices for apparel (6.4 percent), household furnishings and operations (1.0 percent), and shelter (0.9 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for education and communication (-1.1 percent) and medical care (-0.6 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 3.6 percent. Components contributing to the increase included shelter (6.4 percent) and apparel (2.3 percent). Partly offsetting the increases were price declines in education and communication (-3.0 percent) and household furnishings and operations (-2.3 percent).

Table A. San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose CPI-U bi-monthly and annual percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)

Month	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Bi-monthly	Annual	Bi-monthly	Annual	Bi-monthly	Annual	Bi-monthly	Annual	Bi-monthly	Annual	Bi-monthly	Annual
February	1.1	3.0	1.3	2.4	1.2	2.4	1.0	2.5	0.9	3.0	0.8	3.4
April	0.9	2.1	0.8	2.4	1.2	2.8	1.1	2.4	0.7	2.7		
June	0.3	2.6	0.5	2.6	0.7	3.0	0.6	2.3	0.6	2.7		
August	0.6	2.8	0.1	2.0	0.0	3.0	0.3	2.6	0.7	3.1		
October	0.7	3.2	0.2	1.6	0.5	3.2	0.4	2.6	0.9	3.6		
December	-1.4	2.2	-0.4	2.6	-0.9	2.7	-0.3	3.2	-0.3	3.5		

The April 2017 Consumer Price Index for the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose is scheduled to be released on May 12, 2017.

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 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 28 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 26,000 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 and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/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 San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA. metropolitan area covered in this release is comprised of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, and Solano Counties in the State of California.

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Table 1. 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-		
	Dec. 2016	Jan. 2017	Feb. 2017	Feb. 2016	Dec. 2016	Jan. 2017
Expenditure category						
All items.....	269.483	-	271.626	3.4	0.8	-
All items (1967=100).....	828.464	-	835.053	-	-	-
Food and beverages.....	266.412	-	267.322	0.1	0.3	-
Food.....	266.586	-	267.295	-0.2	0.3	-
Food at home.....	248.921	249.468	249.301	-3.3	0.2	-0.1
Food away from home.....	287.887	-	289.007	3.4	0.4	-
Alcoholic beverages.....	269.857	-	273.109	2.8	1.2	-
Housing.....	317.130	-	319.808	5.5	0.8	-
Shelter.....	361.605	363.451	364.845	6.4	0.9	0.4
Rent of primary residence(1).....	408.710	411.357	412.606	6.5	1.0	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2).....	391.310	393.808	394.419	6.9	0.8	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2).....	391.310	393.808	394.419	6.9	0.8	0.2
Fuels and utilities.....	368.466	-	368.463	3.3	0.0	-
Household energy.....	324.310	321.879	321.319	2.7	-0.9	-0.2
Energy services(1).....	324.993	322.389	321.687	2.6	-1.0	-0.2
Electricity(1).....	335.551	334.735	334.735	1.1	-0.2	0.0
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....	287.301	281.428	279.426	6.3	-2.7	-0.7
Household furnishings and operations.....	134.707	-	136.113	-2.3	1.0	-
Apparel.....	110.011	-	117.008	2.3	6.4	-
Transportation.....	184.241	-	188.125	5.5	2.1	-
Private transportation.....	175.532	-	178.984	6.6	2.0	-
Motor fuel.....	200.151	208.379	212.552	19.2	6.2	2.0
Gasoline (all types).....	199.310	207.524	211.703	19.2	6.2	2.0
Gasoline, unleaded regular(3).....	199.059	207.340	211.554	19.4	6.3	2.0
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(3)(4).....	186.840	193.495	197.182	18.6	5.5	1.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium(3).....	190.590	198.233	202.054	18.5	6.0	1.9
Medical care.....	488.508	-	485.741	-	-0.6	-
Recreation(5).....	112.725	-	113.213	-0.6	0.4	-
Education and communication(5).....	142.129	-	140.597	-3.0	-1.1	-
Other goods and services.....	441.471	-	440.022	2.0	-0.3	-
Commodity and service group						
All items.....	269.483	-	271.626	3.4	0.8	-
Commodities.....	180.091	-	182.562	1.2	1.4	-
Commodities less food & beverages.....	133.867	-	136.861	2.2	2.2	-
Nondurables less food & beverages.....	169.918	-	175.905	5.4	3.5	-
Durables.....	98.883	-	99.032	-2.7	0.2	-
Services.....	344.016	-	345.954	4.4	0.6	-
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care.....	260.520	-	262.875	3.6	0.9	-
All items less shelter.....	231.574	-	233.234	1.2	0.7	-
Commodities less food.....	139.594	-	142.626	2.3	2.2	-
Nondurables.....	219.031	-	222.737	2.3	1.7	-
Nondurables less food.....	177.371	-	183.218	5.2	3.3	-
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	336.962	-	337.052	1.0	0.0	-
Services less medical care services.....	335.030	-	337.396	4.7	0.7	-
Energy.....	248.677	253.127	255.631	11.0	2.8	1.0
All items less energy.....	273.816	-	275.735	3.1	0.7	-

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. 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) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Dec. 2016	Jan. 2017	Feb. 2017	Feb. 2016	Dec. 2016	Jan. 2017
All items less food and energy	275.753	-	277.857	3.6	0.8	-

Footnotes(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.