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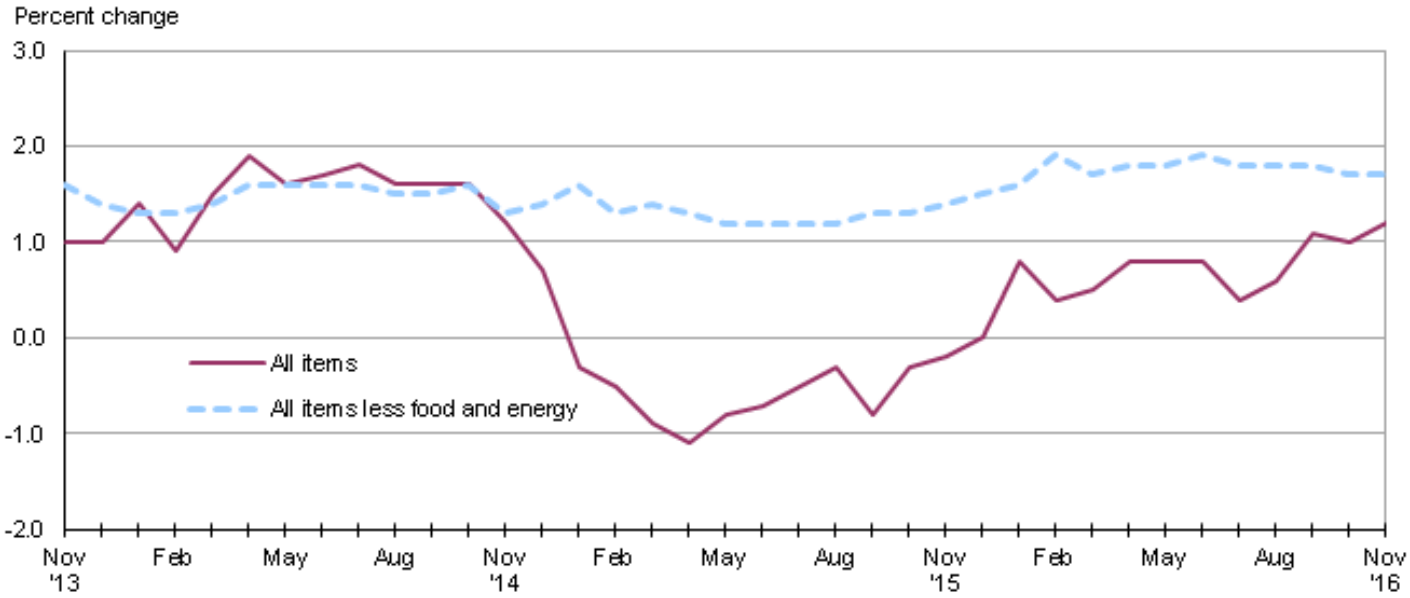
# Consumer Price Index, Midwest Region – November 2016

## Prices in the Midwest down 0.3 percent in November, but 1.2 percent higher over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Midwest was down 0.3 percent in November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The monthly decrease was largely attributable to a 6.0-percent drop in motor fuel prices. The broader energy index was 2.9 percent lower over the month. Food prices declined 0.4 percent while the index for all items less food and energy was unchanged. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

The CPI-U for the Midwest rose 1.2 percent from November 2015 to November 2016. (See chart 1 and table A.) Food prices decreased 0.2 percent, and the energy index, which includes motor fuel and household fuels, declined 1.0 percent. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced 1.7 percent over the year. (See table 1.)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Midwest region, November 2013–November 2016**




Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### Food

Food prices in the Midwest were down 0.4 percent in November. The index for food at home led the decline with a 0.7-percent decrease, while prices for food away from home were little changed over the month (0.1 percent).

From November 2015 to November 2016, the index for food decreased 0.2 percent. Prices for food at home registered their fourteenth consecutive over-the-year decrease, down 1.9 percent. Costs for food away from home rose 2.5 percent over the year.

**Energy**

The energy index registered its second straight monthly decline, down 2.9 percent in November, and had the greatest downward impact on the all items index. The decrease was largely attributable to a 6.0-percent drop in motor fuel prices. Lower costs for electricity (-0.9 percent) also contributed to the monthly decline. In contrast, prices for utility (piped) gas service advanced 1.0 percent in November.

Energy costs decreased 1.0 percent from November 2015 to November 2016, largely due to a 4.9-percent drop in motor fuel prices. Costs for utility (piped) gas service and electricity, up 7.5 and 0.3 percent, respectively, moderated the over-the-year decline.

**All items less food and energy**

The index for all items less food and energy for the Midwest was unchanged in November due to offsetting movements. Expenditure categories registering higher prices over the month included owners' equivalent rent of residences (0.3 percent) and medical care services (0.6 percent). In contrast, apparel (-1.9 percent), used cars and trucks (-1.5 percent), and household furnishings and operations (-0.7 percent) were among the expenditure categories posting lower prices over the month.

The index for all items less food and energy was up 1.7 percent from November 2015 to November 2016. A 2.9-percent rise in shelter costs led the advance. Prices for medical care services had the next largest upward impact with a 4.8-percent increase.

The Midwest Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) stood at 226.673 in November 2016. A typical market basket of goods and services that cost $100.00 in the 1982-84 base period cost $226.67 in November 2016.

**CPI-W**

In November, the Midwest Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 220.560, down 0.4 percent over the month. The CPI-W increased 0.9 percent over the year.

**Table A. Midwest region CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted**

| Month | 2012 | | 2013 | | 2014 | | 2015 | | 2016 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1-month | 12-month | 1-month | 12-month | 1-month | 12-month | 1-month | 12-month | 1-month | 12-month |
| January | 0.6 | 2.8 | 0.1 | 1.3 | 0.5 | 1.4 | -0.6 | -0.3 | 0.3 | 0.8 |
| February | 0.2 | 2.7 | 1.1 | 2.2 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.3 | -0.5 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| March | 1.0 | 2.8 | 0.2 | 1.4 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 0.6 | -0.9 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| April | 0.2 | 2.3 | -0.1 | 1.2 | 0.3 | 1.9 | 0.1 | -1.1 | 0.4 | 0.8 |
| May | -0.1 | 1.5 | 0.5 | 1.8 | 0.2 | 1.6 | 0.4 | -0.8 | 0.4 | 0.8 |
| June | -0.1 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 2.2 | 0.5 | 1.7 | 0.5 | -0.7 | 0.6 | 0.8 |
| July | 0.0 | 1.3 | -0.4 | 1.8 | -0.3 | 1.8 | 0.0 | -0.5 | -0.5 | 0.4 |
| August | 0.7 | 1.8 | 0.1 | 1.2 | -0.2 | 1.6 | 0.0 | -0.3 | 0.1 | 0.6 |
| September | 0.3 | 1.9 | 0.1 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 1.6 | -0.3 | -0.8 | 0.2 | 1.1 |
| October | -0.3 | 2.2 | -0.5 | 0.8 | -0.5 | 1.6 | -0.1 | -0.3 | -0.1 | 1.0 |
| November | -0.4 | 1.8 | -0.2 | 1.0 | -0.6 | 1.2 | -0.5 | -0.2 | -0.3 | 1.2 |
| December | -0.2 | 1.8 | -0.2 | 1.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 | -0.6 | 0.0 | | |

**The December 2016 Consumer Price Index for the Midwest region is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, January 18, 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 approximately 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 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 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 areas; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The Midwest region is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

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**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

| Item and Group | Indexes | | | Percent change from- | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Sep. 2016 | Oct. 2016 | Nov. 2016 | Nov. 2015 | Sep. 2016 | Oct. 2016 |
| **Expenditure category** | | | | | | |
| All Items | 227.636 | 227.358 | 226.673 | 1.2 | -0.4 | -0.3 |
| All items (December 1977=100) | 370.376 | 369.924 | 368.810 | | | |
| Food and beverages | 240.247 | 240.694 | 239.741 | -0.1 | -0.2 | -0.4 |
| Food | 239.803 | 240.215 | 239.266 | -0.2 | -0.2 | -0.4 |
| Food at home | 226.091 | 226.418 | 224.801 | -1.9 | -0.6 | -0.7 |
| Food away from home | 262.834 | 263.390 | 263.583 | 2.5 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Alcoholic beverages | 244.116 | 245.048 | 244.058 | 0.7 | 0.0 | -0.4 |
| Housing | 218.816 | 217.842 | 217.903 | 2.4 | -0.4 | 0.0 |
| Shelter | 257.954 | 257.898 | 258.337 | 2.9 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Rent of primary residence(1) | 256.240 | 256.812 | 257.599 | 2.8 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2) | 261.237 | 261.657 | 262.476 | 2.9 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2) | 261.227 | 261.647 | 262.463 | 2.9 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Fuels and utilities | 222.299 | 214.514 | 214.152 | 3.0 | -3.7 | -0.2 |
| Household energy | 183.727 | 175.687 | 175.203 | 2.5 | -4.6 | -0.3 |
| Energy services(1) | 192.177 | 183.223 | 182.653 | 2.5 | -5.0 | -0.3 |
| Electricity(1) | 213.025 | 198.414 | 196.587 | 0.3 | -7.7 | -0.9 |
| Utility (piped) gas service(1) | 146.215 | 147.027 | 148.536 | 7.5 | 1.6 | 1.0 |
| Household furnishings and operations | 113.880 | 114.233 | 113.379 | -1.5 | -0.4 | -0.7 |
| Apparel | 118.904 | 120.841 | 118.575 | -1.3 | -0.3 | -1.9 |
| Transportation | 192.363 | 192.021 | 189.630 | -1.6 | -1.4 | -1.2 |
| Private transportation | 186.994 | 186.761 | 184.199 | -1.4 | -1.5 | -1.4 |
| New and used motor vehicles(3) | 97.673 | 97.075 | 96.534 | -1.7 | -1.2 | -0.6 |
| New vehicles | 138.399 | 138.623 | 138.778 | -0.5 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| New cars and trucks(3)(4) | 97.819 | 97.983 | 98.149 | -0.6 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| New cars(4) | 134.235 | 134.836 | 135.129 | -0.4 | 0.7 | 0.2 |
| Used cars and trucks | 143.225 | 140.615 | 138.451 | -3.5 | -3.3 | -1.5 |
| Motor fuel | 200.085 | 200.608 | 188.560 | -4.9 | -5.8 | -6.0 |
| Gasoline (all types) | 199.049 | 199.519 | 187.382 | -4.9 | -5.9 | -6.1 |
| Gasoline, unleaded regular(4) | 193.392 | 193.667 | 181.479 | -5.4 | -6.2 | -6.3 |
| Gasoline, Unleaded midgrade(4)(5) | 230.799 | 232.708 | 219.491 | -3.4 | -4.9 | -5.7 |
| Gasoline, unleaded premium(4) | 222.432 | 223.743 | 213.638 | -1.5 | -4.0 | -4.5 |
| Medical Care | 474.779 | 476.005 | 477.271 | 4.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Medical care commodities | 385.764 | 384.715 | 381.666 | 3.9 | -1.1 | -0.8 |
| Medical care services | 504.595 | 506.627 | 509.428 | 4.8 | 1.0 | 0.6 |
| Professional services | 408.037 | 407.456 | 413.224 | 5.1 | 1.3 | 1.4 |
| Recreation(3) | 119.023 | 118.379 | 118.505 | 1.4 | -0.4 | 0.1 |
| Education and communication(3) | 140.582 | 140.679 | 140.313 | -0.4 | -0.2 | -0.3 |
| Other goods and services | 410.438 | 410.481 | 410.145 | 1.8 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| **Commodity and Service Group** | | | | | | |
| All Items | 227.636 | 227.358 | 226.673 | 1.2 | -0.4 | -0.3 |
| Commodities | 176.146 | 176.386 | 174.471 | -1.1 | -1.0 | -1.1 |
| Commodities less food & beverages | 145.084 | 145.235 | 142.994 | -1.8 | -1.4 | -1.5 |
| Nondurables less food & beverages | 186.888 | 187.811 | 183.686 | -1.1 | -1.7 | -2.2 |
| Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel | 231.527 | 231.805 | 226.466 | -1.1 | -2.2 | -2.3 |
| Durables | 104.189 | 103.756 | 103.066 | -2.3 | -1.1 | -0.7 |
| Services | 280.733 | 279.926 | 280.495 | 2.7 | -0.1 | 0.2 |
| Rent of shelter(2) | 265.074 | 265.035 | 265.471 | 2.9 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Transportation services | 297.836 | 297.744 | 300.125 | 1.3 | 0.8 | 0.8 |

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 Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

| Item and Group | Indexes | | | Percent change from- | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Sep. 2016 | Oct. 2016 | Nov. 2016 | Nov. 2015 | Sep. 2016 | Oct. 2016 |
| Other services | 334.526 | 334.135 | 334.004 | 1.5 | -0.2 | 0.0 |
| **Special aggregate indexes:** | | | | | | |
| All items less medical care | 215.936 | 215.587 | 214.809 | 0.8 | -0.5 | -0.4 |
| All items less food | 225.541 | 225.153 | 224.512 | 1.4 | -0.5 | -0.3 |
| All items less shelter | 218.953 | 218.594 | 217.503 | 0.5 | -0.7 | -0.5 |
| Commodities less food | 148.192 | 148.362 | 146.145 | -1.7 | -1.4 | -1.5 |
| Nondurables | 213.135 | 213.835 | 211.204 | -0.6 | -0.9 | -1.2 |
| Nondurables less food | 189.914 | 190.836 | 186.888 | -1.0 | -1.6 | -2.1 |
| Nondurables less food and apparel | 231.279 | 231.612 | 226.684 | -0.9 | -2.0 | -2.1 |
| Services less rent of shelter(2) | 314.159 | 312.469 | 313.216 | 2.4 | -0.3 | 0.2 |
| Services less medical care services | 264.045 | 263.032 | 263.438 | 2.4 | -0.2 | 0.2 |
| Energy | 191.573 | 187.192 | 181.718 | -1.0 | -5.1 | -2.9 |
| All items less energy | 234.021 | 234.145 | 233.924 | 1.4 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| All items less food and energy | 233.682 | 233.754 | 233.665 | 1.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Commodities less food and energy commodities | 145.132 | 145.231 | 144.090 | -1.0 | -0.7 | -0.8 |
| Energy commodities | 199.157 | 199.951 | 188.488 | -4.7 | -5.4 | -5.7 |
| Services less energy services | 292.231 | 292.280 | 292.974 | 2.7 | 0.3 | 0.2 |

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) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.
Regions defined as the four Census regions. Midwest includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.
NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date. Data not seasonally adjusted.

**Table 2. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

| Item and Group | Indexes | | | Percent change from- | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Sep. 2016 | Oct. 2016 | Nov. 2016 | Nov. 2015 | Sep. 2016 | Oct. 2016 |
| **Expenditure category** | | | | | | |
| All Items | 221.759 | 221.422 | 220.560 | 0.9 | -0.5 | -0.4 |
| All items (December 1977=100) | 358.634 | 358.088 | 356.695 | | | |
| Food and beverages | 240.002 | 240.522 | 239.342 | -0.4 | -0.3 | -0.5 |
| Food | 239.543 | 240.041 | 238.828 | -0.5 | -0.3 | -0.5 |
| Food at home | 226.614 | 227.013 | 225.150 | -2.1 | -0.6 | -0.8 |
| Food away from home | 263.890 | 264.589 | 264.729 | 2.5 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Alcoholic beverages | 245.743 | 246.605 | 245.971 | 1.1 | 0.1 | -0.3 |
| Housing | 213.826 | 212.788 | 212.953 | 2.4 | -0.4 | 0.1 |
| Shelter | 246.723 | 246.847 | 247.415 | 2.8 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Rent of primary residence(1) | 256.848 | 257.429 | 258.260 | 2.8 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2) | 243.480 | 243.870 | 244.640 | 2.9 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2) | 243.480 | 243.868 | 244.636 | 2.9 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Fuels and utilities | 223.468 | 215.568 | 215.161 | 2.9 | -3.7 | -0.2 |
| Household energy | 184.524 | 176.426 | 175.895 | 2.5 | -4.7 | -0.3 |
| Energy services(1) | 191.630 | 182.614 | 181.961 | 2.5 | -5.0 | -0.4 |
| Electricity(1) | 210.715 | 196.441 | 194.762 | 0.2 | -7.6 | -0.9 |
| Utility (piped) gas service(1) | 147.924 | 148.654 | 149.843 | 7.9 | 1.3 | 0.8 |
| Household furnishings and operations | 111.992 | 112.128 | 111.257 | -1.9 | -0.7 | -0.8 |
| Apparel | 116.399 | 118.284 | 116.462 | -1.9 | 0.1 | -1.5 |
| Transportation | 189.608 | 189.054 | 185.941 | -2.0 | -1.9 | -1.6 |
| Private transportation | 186.252 | 185.725 | 182.510 | -1.9 | -2.0 | -1.7 |
| New and used motor vehicles(3) | 97.619 | 96.723 | 95.859 | -2.2 | -1.8 | -0.9 |
| New vehicles | 141.496 | 141.593 | 141.628 | -0.8 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Used cars and trucks | 143.773 | 141.168 | 139.023 | -3.6 | -3.3 | -1.5 |
| Motor fuel | 200.563 | 200.987 | 188.914 | -5.0 | -5.8 | -6.0 |
| Gasoline (all types) | 199.424 | 199.797 | 187.655 | -4.9 | -5.9 | -6.1 |
| Gasoline, unleaded regular(4) | 193.623 | 193.780 | 181.609 | -5.5 | -6.2 | -6.3 |
| Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5) | 230.674 | 232.624 | 219.398 | -3.4 | -4.9 | -5.7 |
| Gasoline, unleaded premium(4) | 222.217 | 223.462 | 213.395 | -1.5 | -4.0 | -4.5 |
| Medical Care | 480.496 | 481.483 | 482.770 | 4.6 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| Medical care commodities | 378.360 | 376.491 | 373.183 | 3.3 | -1.4 | -0.9 |
| Medical care services | 512.073 | 514.068 | 516.982 | 4.9 | 1.0 | 0.6 |
| Professional services | 410.145 | 409.604 | 415.777 | 5.4 | 1.4 | 1.5 |
| Recreation(3) | 114.723 | 114.319 | 114.372 | 1.1 | -0.3 | 0.0 |
| Education and communication(3) | 132.169 | 132.270 | 131.861 | -0.6 | -0.2 | -0.3 |
| Other goods and services | 457.557 | 457.734 | 457.311 | 2.0 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| **Commodity and Service Group** | | | | | | |
| All Items | 221.759 | 221.422 | 220.560 | 0.9 | -0.5 | -0.4 |
| Commodities | 178.374 | 178.440 | 176.184 | -1.4 | -1.2 | -1.3 |
| Commodities less food & beverages | 148.499 | 148.383 | 145.774 | -2.2 | -1.8 | -1.8 |
| Nondurables less food & beverages | 193.489 | 194.246 | 189.554 | -1.5 | -2.0 | -2.4 |
| Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel | 241.066 | 241.232 | 234.844 | -1.4 | -2.6 | -2.6 |
| Durables | 106.210 | 105.474 | 104.539 | -2.7 | -1.6 | -0.9 |
| Services | 273.031 | 272.257 | 272.854 | 2.6 | -0.1 | 0.2 |
| Rent of shelter(2) | 245.126 | 245.271 | 245.826 | 2.9 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Transportation services | 299.402 | 299.780 | 302.212 | 1.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 |
| Other services | 308.657 | 308.541 | 308.397 | 1.2 | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| **Special aggregate indexes:** | | | | | | |

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

| Item and Group | Indexes | | | Percent change from- | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Sep. 2016 | Oct. 2016 | Nov. 2016 | Nov. 2015 | Sep. 2016 | Oct. 2016 |
| All items less medical care | 211.842 | 211.454 | 210.510 | 0.6 | -0.6 | -0.4 |
| All items less food | 218.171 | 217.699 | 216.897 | 1.1 | -0.6 | -0.4 |
| All items less shelter | 215.273 | 214.767 | 213.386 | 0.1 | -0.9 | -0.6 |
| Commodities less food | 151.419 | 151.325 | 148.747 | -2.1 | -1.8 | -1.7 |
| Nondurables | 216.948 | 217.597 | 214.553 | -0.9 | -1.1 | -1.4 |
| Nondurables less food | 196.152 | 196.914 | 192.422 | -1.3 | -1.9 | -2.3 |
| Nondurables less food and apparel | 239.883 | 240.101 | 234.187 | -1.2 | -2.4 | -2.5 |
| Services less rent of shelter(2) | 278.117 | 276.431 | 277.018 | 2.4 | -0.4 | 0.2 |
| Services less medical care services | 257.246 | 256.309 | 256.763 | 2.4 | -0.2 | 0.2 |
| Energy | 191.195 | 187.081 | 181.202 | -1.3 | -5.2 | -3.1 |
| All items less energy | 227.379 | 227.487 | 227.214 | 1.2 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| All items less food and energy | 225.101 | 225.136 | 225.038 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Commodities less food and energy commodities | 147.998 | 147.780 | 146.549 | -1.4 | -1.0 | -0.8 |
| Energy commodities | 199.773 | 200.432 | 188.981 | -4.9 | -5.4 | -5.7 |
| Services less energy services | 283.893 | 284.118 | 284.869 | 2.6 | 0.3 | 0.3 |

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 1984=100 base.
(3) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
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