



**For Release: Wednesday, May 12, 2021**

**21-868-NEW**

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY INFORMATION OFFICE: New York City, N.Y.

Technical information: (646) 264-3600 BLSinfoNY@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/new-york-new-jersey

Media contact: (646) 264-3620

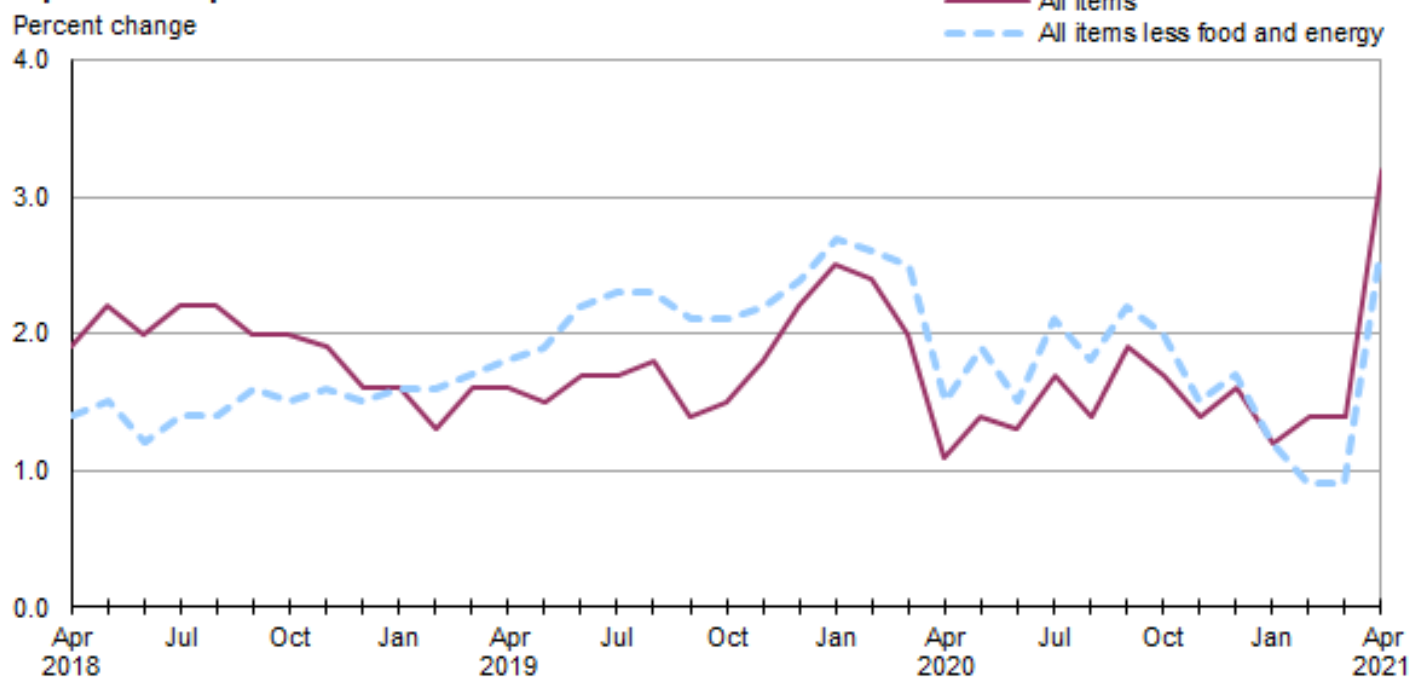
## **Consumer Price Index, New York-Newark-Jersey City – April 2021**

### **Area prices up 0.7 percent over the month and 3.2 percent over the year**

Prices in the New York-Newark-Jersey City area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), rose 0.7 percent in April, following a 0.4-percent increase in March, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli noted that the increase was influenced by higher prices for all items less food and energy. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over-the-year, the CPI-U rose 3.2 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The 3.2-percent increase was the largest over-the-year increase since October 2011. Food prices increased 2.1 percent. Energy prices jumped 16.1 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy rose 2.6 percent. (See [table 1](#).)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA, April 2018–April 2021**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Food

The food index climbed 0.8 percent in April. Prices for food at home rose 1.2 percent, with four of the six grocery indexes reporting increases. The index for food away from home rose 0.3 percent.

Over-the-year, the food index was up 2.1 percent. Prices for food away from home increased 4.3 percent, while at-home food prices rose 0.3 percent.

## Energy

The energy index rose 3.5 percent in April, after falling 1.6 percent in March. Household energy prices experienced a 5.0-percent increase, due to a 10.6-percent jump in electricity prices that was partially offset by a 2.6-percent drop in natural gas prices.

From April 2020 to April 2021, energy prices increased 16.1 percent, largely due to a 29.0-percent jump in gasoline prices. Price increases for electricity (6.6 percent) and natural gas (4.9 percent) also contributed to the increase in energy prices.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.5 percent in April. Prices for new and used motor vehicles rose 4.3 percent, driven by a 9.8-percent increase in used car and truck prices. Shelter prices rose 0.3 percent, with owners' equivalent rent rising 0.2 percent and residential rent edging up 0.1 percent. Lower prices for apparel (-2.9 percent) partially offset these increases.

For the year ended in April 2021, the index for all items less food and energy increased 2.6 percent. New and used motor vehicle prices rose 14.7 percent, with used car and truck prices increasing 20.7 percent. Shelter prices rose 1.0 percent, with owners' equivalent rent rising 0.8 percent and residential rent increasing 0.3 percent. Household furnishings and operations increased 7.4 percent, the largest over-the-year increase since October 1981.

**Table A. New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA, CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted**

Month	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	0.6	2.5	0.4	1.4	0.5	1.6	0.8	2.5	0.4	1.2
February.....	0.3	2.6	0.5	1.7	0.2	1.3	0.2	2.4	0.3	1.4
March.....	0.0	2.3	0.0	1.7	0.3	1.6	-0.2	2.0	0.4	2.0
April.....	0.1	2.0	0.3	1.9	0.3	1.6	-0.5	1.1	0.7	3.2
May.....	0.1	1.8	0.4	2.2	0.2	1.5	0.5	1.4		
June.....	0.2	1.8	0.1	2.0	0.3	1.7	0.1	1.3		
July.....	-0.2	1.6	0.0	2.2	0.0	1.7	0.5	1.7		
August.....	0.2	1.7	0.1	2.2	0.2	1.8	-0.1	1.4		
September.....	0.5	2.1	0.4	2.0	0.0	1.4	0.4	1.9		
October.....	-0.2	1.8	-0.1	2.0	0.0	1.5	-0.2	1.7		
November.....	-0.1	1.6	-0.2	1.9	0.1	1.8	-0.3	1.4		
December.....	0.1	1.6	-0.2	1.6	0.1	2.2	0.4	1.6		

**The May 2021 Consumer Price Index for New York-Newark-Jersey City is scheduled to be released on Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).**

## **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on April 2021 Consumer Price Index Data**

Data collection by personal visit for the Consumer Price Index (CPI) program has been suspended since March 16, 2020. When possible, data normally collected by personal visit were collected either online or by phone. Additionally, data collection in April was affected by the temporary closing or limited operations of certain types of establishments. These factors resulted in an increase in the number of prices considered temporarily unavailable and imputed.

While the CPI program attempted to collect as much data as possible, many indexes are based on smaller amounts of collected prices than usual, and a small number of indexes that are normally published were not published this month. Additional information is available at

<https://www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-consumer-price-index.htm>.

### **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 93 percent of the total U.S. population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total U.S. 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 75 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 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; for most of the CPI-U the reference base is 1982-84 equals 100. An increase of 7 percent from the reference base, for example, is shown as 107.000. Alternatively, that relationship can also be expressed as the price of a base period market basket of goods and services rising from \$100 to \$107. For further details see the CPI home page on the internet at [www.bls.gov/cpi](http://www.bls.gov/cpi) and the CPI section of the BLS Handbook of Methods available on the internet at [www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cpi/](http://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cpi/).

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-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Core Based Statistical Area includes Bronx, Dutchess, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties in New York; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Union Counties in New Jersey; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

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**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA, not seasonally adjusted (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Feb. 2021	March 2021	April 2021	April 2020	Feb. 2021	March 2021
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All items .....	286.474	287.481	289.493	3.2	1.1	0.7
All items (1967=100) .....	828.156	831.067	836.885			
Food and beverages .....	284.117	284.883	287.011	2.1	1.0	0.7
Food .....	284.173	285.064	287.250	2.1	1.1	0.8
Food at home .....	267.500	268.347	271.550	0.3	1.5	1.2
Cereals and bakery products .....	309.918	303.628	315.173	1.6	1.7	3.8
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	262.388	269.027	274.012	1.4	4.4	1.9
Dairy and related products .....	238.089	241.454	241.696	1.3	1.5	0.1
Fruits and vegetables .....	339.875	346.307	341.386	-0.1	0.4	-1.4
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1) .....	269.623	269.176	268.312	0.6	-0.5	-0.3
Other food at home .....	235.309	230.122	235.774	-1.7	0.2	2.5
Food away from home .....	315.561	316.538	317.349	4.3	0.6	0.3
Alcoholic beverages .....	278.558	277.606	278.888	2.7	0.1	0.5
Housing .....	311.974	310.552	312.728	2.0	0.2	0.7
Shelter .....	393.648	394.286	395.644	1.0	0.5	0.3
Rent of primary residence .....	409.559	408.227	408.794	0.3	-0.2	0.1
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(2) .....	402.698	402.372	403.234	0.8	0.1	0.2
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(2) .....	402.200	401.873	402.735	0.8	0.1	0.2
Fuels and utilities .....	208.407	193.473	201.608	8.1	-3.3	4.2
Household energy .....	198.628	181.670	190.667	8.5	-4.0	5.0
Energy services .....	193.004	174.193	184.739	6.1	-4.3	6.1
Electricity .....	194.225	167.492	185.167	6.6	-4.7	10.6
Utility (piped) gas service .....	177.211	175.635	171.113	4.9	-3.4	-2.6
Household furnishings and operations .....	115.554	115.735	116.919	7.4	1.2	1.0
Apparel .....	126.288	128.362	124.678	6.7	-1.3	-2.9
Transportation .....	221.064	227.756	233.736	12.5	5.7	2.6
Private transportation .....	213.608	222.646	227.887	15.6	6.7	2.4
New and used motor vehicles(3) .....	95.783	99.374	103.688	14.7	8.3	4.3
New vehicles(1) .....	211.041	211.071	213.183	3.3	1.0	1.0
Used cars and trucks(1) .....	289.542	296.015	324.917	20.7	12.2	9.8
Motor fuel .....	207.391	227.671	231.080	28.6	11.4	1.5
Gasoline (all types) .....	206.574	226.859	230.269	29.0	11.5	1.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4) .....	204.726	225.485	228.945	30.0	11.8	1.5
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5) .....	217.639	235.458	238.882	21.7	9.8	1.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4) .....	222.091	238.980	241.999	22.2	9.0	1.3
Motor vehicle insurance(1) .....	762.383	777.234	777.234	12.8	1.9	0.0
Medical care .....	535.385	534.617	536.584	1.0	0.2	0.4
Recreation(3) .....	130.026	130.501	130.753	-0.1	0.6	0.2
Education and communication(3) .....	150.812	151.034	151.253	2.2	0.3	0.1
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1) .....	1,272.387	1,272.387	1,272.387	1.3	0.0	0.0
Other goods and services .....	435.976	449.941	449.590	1.7	3.1	-0.1

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, New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA, not seasonally adjusted (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Feb. 2021	March 2021	April 2021	April 2020	Feb. 2021	March 2021
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All items .....	286.474	287.481	289.493	3.2	1.1	0.7
Commodities .....	195.862	198.043	199.643	5.3	1.9	0.8
Commodities less food and beverages .....	143.892	146.576	147.839	8.2	2.7	0.9
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	181.498	186.010	185.512	8.5	2.2	-0.3
Durables .....	95.693	96.474	99.179	7.9	3.6	2.8
Services .....	362.424	362.581	364.959	2.3	0.7	0.7
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care .....	275.672	276.752	278.764	3.3	1.1	0.7
All items less shelter .....	243.940	245.093	247.366	4.6	1.4	0.9
Commodities less food .....	148.825	151.418	152.689	7.9	2.6	0.8
Nondurables .....	233.802	236.576	237.337	4.7	1.5	0.3
Nondurables less food .....	187.313	191.512	191.117	8.0	2.0	-0.2
Services less rent of shelter <sup>(2)</sup> .....	339.904	339.566	343.048	3.9	0.9	1.0
Services less medical care services .....	347.179	347.407	349.744	2.4	0.7	0.7
Energy .....	204.830	201.575	208.610	16.1	1.8	3.5
All items less energy .....	296.442	297.816	299.431	2.5	1.0	0.5
All items less food and energy .....	300.637	302.100	303.634	2.6	1.0	0.5

**Footnotes**

- (1) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.
- (2) Indexes 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.