

News

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SAN FRANCISCO-OAKLAND-SAN JOSE AREA CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES: SEPTEMBER 2004 GROCERY PRICES RISE, WHILE ENERGY PRICES DECLINE

San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose area grocery prices, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) food at home index, increased 0.2 percent for the month. Compared to one year ago, grocery prices were 4.2 percent higher. Regional Commissioner Richard J. Holden of the Bureau of Labor Statistics said that the food at home index now stands at 203.7. This means grocery shoppers in the greater Bay Area spent \$203.70 in September for a basket of food items that cost \$100.00 in 1982-84. Local area CPI data are not seasonally adjusted.

The special aggregate index for energy declined 0.3 percent for the month and was also 0.3 percent lower than a year ago. Gasoline prices inched down 0.1 percent in September, and declined 0.5 percent over the year. The household fuels index decreased 0.9 percent this month, and was down 2.7 percent from one year ago. Within household fuels, prices for electricity rose 0.2 percent for the month, but were 8.1 percent lower than September 2003. The utility natural gas service index decreased 2.3 percent in September 2004 yet was up 6.9 percent compared to one year earlier.

The shelter index increased 0.6 percent over the month, but was 1.0 percent lower than in September 2003. In the month of September, rent of primary residence increased 0.1 percent, while owners' equivalent rent of primary residence was unchanged. These indexes have declined 0.1 and 0.8 percent, respectively, from one year ago.

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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—		
	July 2004	Aug. 2004	Sep. 2004	Sep. 2003	July 2004	Aug. 2004
Expenditure category						
All items	-	198.7	-	-	-	-
All items (1967=100)	-	610.7	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	-	199.2	-	-	-	-
Food	-	199.2	-	-	-	-
Food at home	204.8	203.3	203.7	4.2	-0.5	0.2
Food away from home	-	194.4	-	-	-	-
Alcoholic beverages	-	203.3	-	-	-	-
Housing	-	221.0	-	-	-	-
Shelter	251.5	251.8	253.2	-1.0	.7	.6
Rent of primary residence ¹	261.7	261.8	262.1	-1	.2	.1
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{1 2}	271.3	271.4	271.3	-8	.0	.0
Fuels and utilities	-	198.0	-	-	-	-
Fuels	188.5	199.9	198.1	-2.7	5.1	-9
Gas (piped) and electricity ¹	188.2	199.9	198.2	-2.7	5.3	-9
Electricity ¹	205.5	205.6	206.1	-8.1	.3	.2
Utility (piped) gas service ¹	176.4	203.7	199.1	6.9	12.9	-2.3
Household furnishings and operations	-	119.8	-	-	-	-
Apparel	-	111.5	-	-	-	-
Transportation	-	149.2	-	-	-	-
Private transportation	-	141.9	-	-	-	-
Motor fuel	168.3	161.0	160.9	.7	-4.4	-1
Gasoline (all types)	168.2	160.1	159.9	-5	-4.9	-1
Gasoline, unleaded regular ³	167.2	158.8	158.7	-3	-5.1	-1
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{3 4}	157.7	150.9	150.4	-1.5	-4.6	-3
Gasoline, unleaded premium ³	162.1	155.3	154.9	-1.0	-4.4	-3
Medical care	-	292.0	-	-	-	-
Recreation ⁵	-	98.2	-	-	-	-
Education and communication ⁵	-	115.1	-	-	-	-
Other goods and services	-	326.4	-	-	-	-
Commodity and service group						
All items	-	198.7	-	-	-	-
Commodities	-	154.0	-	-	-	-
Commodities less food and beverages	-	126.6	-	-	-	-
Nondurables less food and beverages	-	146.5	-	-	-	-
Durables	-	106.6	-	-	-	-
Services	-	235.9	-	-	-	-
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	-	194.6	-	-	-	-
All items less shelter	-	177.8	-	-	-	-
Commodities less food	-	130.3	-	-	-	-
Nondurables	-	174.1	-	-	-	-
Nondurables less food	-	150.9	-	-	-	-
Services less rent of shelter ²	-	227.0	-	-	-	-
Services less medical care services	-	232.0	-	-	-	-
Energy	178.4	177.5	176.9	-3	-8	-3
All items less energy	-	202.7	-	-	-	-
All items less food and energy	-	203.8	-	-	-	-

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.

Regions defined as the four Census regions. See map in technical notes.

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.