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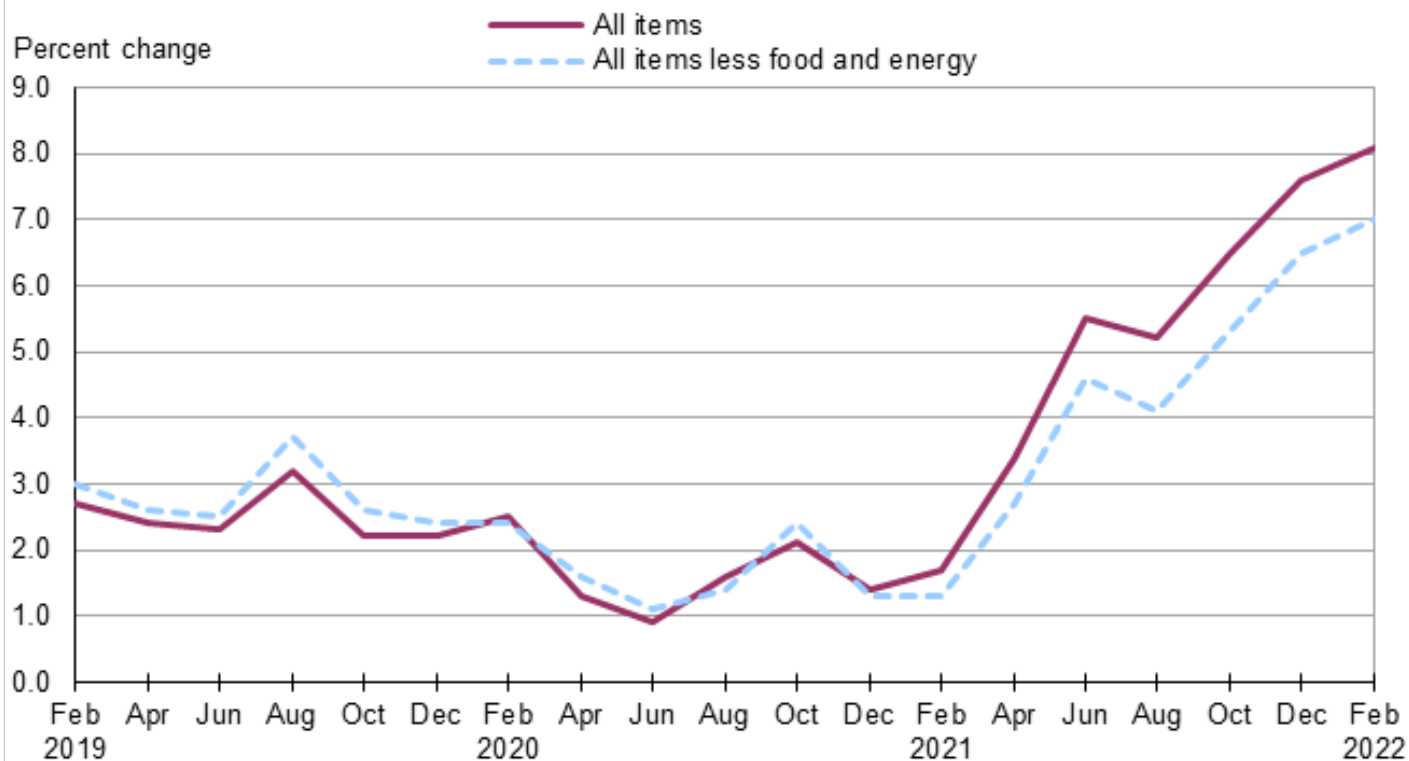
Consumer Price Index, Seattle area — February 2022

Area prices were up 1.7 percent over the past two months, up 8.1 percent from a year ago

Prices in the Seattle area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), advanced 1.7 percent for the two months ending in February 2022, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A](#).) Regional Commissioner Chris Rosenlund noted that the February increase was influenced by higher prices for shelter and food. (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 8.1 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) Food prices increased 9.8 percent. Energy prices jumped 21.9 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy rose 7.0 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA, February 2019–February 2022



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices increased 2.4 percent for the two months ending in February. (See [table 1.](#)) Prices for food at home advanced 4.0 percent. Increases across food at home expenditure categories ranged from 0.3 percent for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs to 9.6 percent for dairy and related products. Prices for food away from home moved down 0.2 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices increased 9.8 percent. Prices for food at home rose 12.1 percent since a year ago, led by higher prices for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs (21.3 percent) and nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials (17.6 percent). Prices for food away from home rose 6.5 percent.

Energy

The energy index advanced 2.0 percent for the two months ending in February. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (2.6 percent). Prices for electricity advanced 0.6 percent, while prices for natural gas service were unchanged for the same period.

Energy prices jumped 21.9 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (34.7 percent). Prices paid for natural gas service advanced 8.0 percent, and prices for electricity increased 2.7 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 1.6 percent in the latest two-month period. Higher prices for apparel (6.6 percent), household furnishings and operations (2.9 percent), medical care (2.7 percent), and shelter (1.2 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for recreation (-0.3 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 7.0 percent. Components contributing to the increase included new and used motor vehicles (25.7 percent), household furnishings and operations (18.0 percent), and shelter (4.2 percent).

Table A. Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA, CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month
February	0.8	3.3	0.7	2.7	1.0	2.5	1.2	1.7	1.7	8.1
April	0.8	3.3	0.5	2.4	-0.6	1.3	1.1	3.4		
June.....	0.8	3.3	0.7	2.3	0.2	0.9	2.2	5.5		
August	-0.3	3.1	0.6	3.2	1.4	1.6	1.1	5.2		
October.....	0.4	3.1	-0.6	2.2	-0.1	2.1	1.1	6.5		
December.....	0.2	2.8	-0.3	2.2	-0.4	1.4	0.6	7.6		

The April 2022 Consumer Price Index for the Seattle area is scheduled to be released on May 11, 2022.

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 and the CPI section of the BLS Handbook of Methods available on the internet at 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 Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA. metropolitan area covered in this release is comprised of King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties in the State of Washington.











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

Item and Group	Indexes				Percent change from-		
	Historical data	Dec. 2021	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2022	Feb. 2021	Dec. 2021	Jan. 2022
Expenditure category							
All items.....		304.856	-	310.078	8.1	1.7	-
All items (1967=100).....		929.320	-	945.238	-	-	-
Food and beverages.....		316.117	-	323.276	10.0	2.3	-
Food.....		318.288	-	325.771	9.8	2.4	-
Food at home.....		289.094	294.697	300.701	12.1	4.0	2.0
Cereals and bakery products.....		305.616	-	318.062	6.3	4.1	-
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....		283.064	-	284.022	21.3	0.3	-
Dairy and related products.....		238.257	-	261.116	7.3	9.6	-
Fruits and vegetables.....		462.537	-	481.628	11.4	4.1	-
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1).....		361.330	-	394.834	17.6	9.3	-
Other food at home.....		224.191	-	231.194	8.0	3.1	-
Food away from home.....		363.077	-	362.351	6.5	-0.2	-
Alcoholic beverages.....		287.808	-	291.338	11.0	1.2	-
Housing.....		359.292	-	364.755	6.0	1.5	-
Shelter.....		406.791	408.264	411.594	4.2	1.2	0.8
Rent of primary residence(2).....		414.974	416.060	418.196	3.9	0.8	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)(3).....		427.111	430.161	432.684	3.5	1.3	0.6
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2).....		427.111	430.161	432.684	3.5	1.3	0.6
Fuels and utilities.....		292.611	-	301.099	5.4	2.9	-
Household energy.....		264.517	266.988	266.456	4.9	0.7	-0.2
Energy services(2).....		311.267	312.711	312.711	4.0	0.5	0.0
Electricity(2).....		333.037	335.081	335.081	2.7	0.6	0.0
Utility (piped) gas service(2).....		189.151	189.151	189.151	8.0	0.0	0.0
Household furnishings and operations.....		217.820	-	224.168	18.0	2.9	-
Apparel.....		127.079	-	135.405	9.0	6.6	-
Transportation.....		257.224	-	262.624	19.2	2.1	-
Private transportation.....		271.869	-	276.602	17.8	1.7	-
New and used motor vehicles(4).....		123.801	-	125.576	25.7	1.4	-
New vehicles(1).....		211.753	-	212.803	17.3	0.5	-
Used cars and trucks(1).....		479.426	-	491.088	40.7	2.4	-
Motor fuel.....		439.100	446.485	451.678	34.9	2.9	1.2
Gasoline (all types).....		448.917	455.726	460.626	34.7	2.6	1.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4).....		486.123	493.713	499.042	35.1	2.7	1.1
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5).....		357.117	361.692	365.829	34.4	2.4	1.1
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4).....		416.777	422.364	426.808	33.2	2.4	1.1
Medical care.....		421.648	-	433.191	4.6	2.7	-
Recreation(6).....		109.081	-	108.799	8.5	-0.3	-
Education and communication(6).....		146.417	-	146.763	0.2	0.2	-
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1).....		1,741.070	-	1,740.194	0.4	-0.1	-
Other goods and services.....		445.463	-	453.134	5.2	1.7	-
Commodity and service group							
All items.....		304.856	-	310.078	8.1	1.7	-
Commodities.....		225.903	-	231.174	14.9	2.3	-
Commodities less food & beverages.....		182.191	-	186.522	19.1	2.4	-
Nondurables less food & beverages.....		207.501	-	213.570	13.9	2.9	-
Durables.....		153.297	-	156.204	25.2	1.9	-
Services.....		377.234	-	382.345	4.2	1.4	-

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 Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes				Percent change from-		
	Historical data	Dec. 2021	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2022	Feb. 2021	Dec. 2021	Jan. 2022
Special aggregate indexes							
All items less medical care		299.722	-	304.640	8.3	1.6	-
All items less shelter.....		265.328	-	270.678	10.2	2.0	-
Commodities less food		186.353	-	190.683	18.5	2.3	-
Nondurables		259.687	-	266.296	11.5	2.5	-
Nondurables less food.....		214.249	-	220.172	13.6	2.8	-
Services less rent of shelter(3).....		350.359	-	355.872	4.1	1.6	-
Services less medical care services.....		369.703	-	374.470	4.2	1.3	-
Energy		360.191	365.148	367.371	21.9	2.0	0.6
All items less energy		305.266	-	310.447	7.4	1.7	-
All items less food and energy		303.174	-	308.002	7.0	1.6	-

Footnotes

(1) Indexes on a November 1977=100 base.

(2) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(3) Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

(6) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available

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