

Consumer Price Index Report

Energy:

The energy index which rose 2.8 percent in July, increased 1.2 percent in August. The gasoline index rose 1.9 percent in August after a 4.7 percent increase in July. (Before seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices fell 0.5 percent in August.) Over the past 12 months, the gasoline index has increased 32.4 percent. The household energy index rose modestly in August, increasing 0.4 percent. The indexes for electricity and for fuel oil both declined slightly, but the index for natural gas increased 2.2 percent in August after declining in July. Over the past year, the household energy index has increased 2.7 percent. The fuel oil index has risen 35.4 percent over that period, while the electricity index has risen 1.9 percent and the index for natural gas has declined, falling 2.0 percent.

Crude core:

The index for crude **nonfood materials** less energy rose 1.0 percent in September. For the 3 months ending in September, crude core prices advanced 3.3 percent after climbing 2.5 percent from March to June. A rise in raw cotton prices also contributed to the advance in the crude core index.