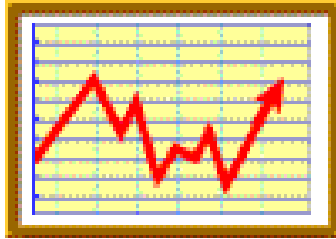


Consumer Price Index



NO. 15-1



DECEMBER 2015 ALL URBAN CONSUMERS

The United States City Average Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for **December 2015** was **236.525** representing a change of **0.7** percent over the index for **December 2014**.

The Northeast Area Consumer Price Index for **December 2015** was **251.670**—representing a change of **0.5** percent over the index for **December 2014**.

The New York-Northern New Jersey Area Consumer Price Index for **December 2015** was **259.941**—representing a change of **0.7** percent over the index for **December 2014**.

The January CPI will be available February 19, 2016.

CPI increases are projected at 1.6 percent for 2016 and 2.3 percent for 2017.

Future projections of the CPI by businesses and economic organizations are found on page 3.

The Average Annual Change in the CPI for the 2015 calendar year was 0.12%. This is important because under the tax cap law, allowable increases in the property tax levy are based on either 2 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less. Therefore, districts will use a 0.12% inflation factor, not 2.0%, when they are calculating their tax levy limit for 2016-17. Districts must use a nine-step formula to calculate their tax levy limit and submit this information to the NYS Office of State Comptroller by March 1, 2016.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – ALL URBAN CONSUMERS

Month	UNITED STATES CITY AVERAGE		NORTHEAST AREA		NEW YORK- NORTHERN NEW JERSEY AREA	
	Index	Increase Over Same Period of Previous Year	Index	Increase Over Same Period of Previous Year	Index	Increase Over Same Period of Previous Year
2013						
January	230.280	1.6	247.277	1.8	254.807	2.2
February	232.166	2.0	248.665	2.0	256.234	2.4
March	232.773	1.5	248.719	1.5	256.589	1.9
April	232.531	1.1	248.464	1.1	255.967	1.4
May	232.945	1.4	248.584	1.2	256.270	1.4
June	233.504	1.8	248.851	1.5	256.911	1.8
July	233.596	2.0	249.411	1.8	257.326	2.1
August	233.877	1.5	249.858	1.5	257.659	1.7
September	234.149	1.2	250.231	1.1	258.504	1.6
October	233.546	1.0	249.320	0.7	257.069	1.1
November	233.069	1.2	249.503	1.0	257.377	1.2
December	233.049	1.5	249.567	1.3	257.284	1.5
Average for 2013 Calendar Year	232.957	1.5	249.038	1.4	256.833	1.7
2014						
January	233.916	1.6	251.045	1.5	259.596	1.9
February	234.781	1.1	251.233	1.0	259.019	1.1
March	236.293	1.5	252.413	1.5	259.791	1.3
April	237.072	2.0	252.506	1.6	259.985	1.6
May	237.900	2.1	253.598	2.0	261.225	1.9
June	238.343	2.1	253.555	1.9	261.350	1.7
July	238.250	2.0	253.833	1.8	261.498	1.6
August	237.852	1.7	253.185	1.3	261.075	1.3
September	238.031	1.7	253.154	1.2	261.074	1.0
October	237.433	1.7	252.730	1.4	260.500	1.3
November	236.151	1.3	251.781	0.9	259.382	0.8
December	234.812	0.8	250.519	0.4	258.080	0.3
Average for 2014 Calendar Year	236.736	1.6	252.463	1.4	260.215	1.3
2015						
January	233.707	-0.1	250.016	-0.4	258.376	-0.5
February	234.722	0.0	250.619	-0.2	259.240	0.1
March	236.119	-0.1	251.451	-0.4	259.647	-0.1
April	236.599	-0.2	251.760	-0.3	259.959	0.0
May	237.805	0.0	252.770	-0.3	261.066	-0.1
June	238.638	0.1	253.626	0.0	261.512	0.1
July	238.654	0.2	253.405	-0.2	261.199	-0.1
August	238.316	0.2	252.903	-0.1	261.347	0.1
September	237.945	0.0	252.922	-0.1	261.887	0.3
October	237.838	0.2	252.504	-0.1	261.515	0.4
November	237.336	0.5	252.573	0.3	261.009	0.6
December	236.525	0.7	251.670	0.5	259.941	0.7
Average for 2015 Calendar Year	237.017	0.1	252.185	-0.1	260.558	0.1

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Projecting Increases in the Consumer Price Index (CPI)

A large number of organizations project increases in the Consumer Price Index. NYSUT subscribes to *Blue Chip Economic Indicators*. This monthly publication presents 2016 and 2017 economic projections from approximately 50 sources.

Projected Increases in the Consumer Price Index U.S. City Average All Urban Consumers

Blue Chip Economic Indicators, published by Aspen Publishers, Inc. This forecast uses the projections from approximately 50 different organizations and the mean of these projections is reported here.

YEAR	May 2016	June 2016	July 2016	August 2016	September 2016	October 2016	November 2016	December 2016	January 2016
2016	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.6
2017									2.3

Blue Chip also reports that 0 of the 53 forecasters contributing to its 2016 consensus CPI projection were revised upward from the prior month. Nineteen forecasts were unchanged and 34 were revised downward.

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