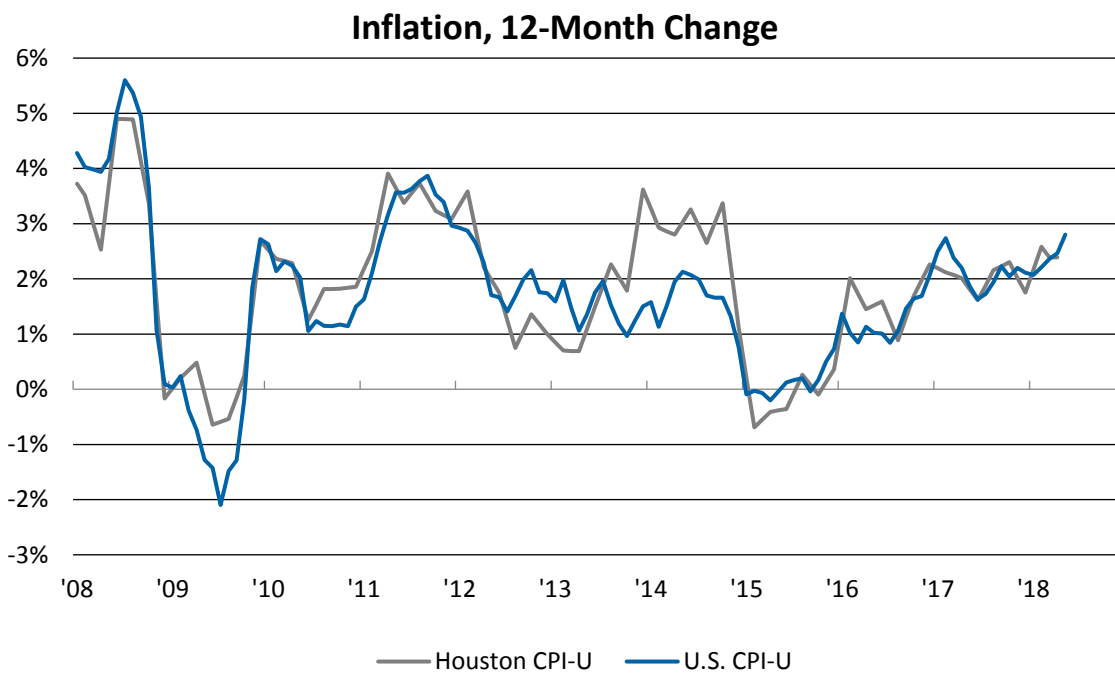




The Partnership sends updates for the six most important economic indicators each month. If you would like to opt-in to receive these updates, please click [here](#).

June 13, 2018

For the latest data, click [here](#).



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, not seasonally adjusted

INFLATION-NATIONWIDE

The cost of consumer goods and services as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 2.8 percent nationwide from May '17 to May '18, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Core inflation (all items less the volatile food and energy categories) increased 2.2 percent since May '17.¹

The cost of energy rose 11.7 percent from the previous May. Two of the three energy components posted gains: motor fuel prices jumped 21.8 percent and electricity costs increased 1.0 percent. Natural gas prices slipped 0.8 percent. The shelter index grew 3.5 percent from May

¹ CPI data in this commentary are not seasonally adjusted.

'17. Food prices grew 1.2 percent, with the cost of dining out increasing 2.7 percent and grocery prices rising 0.1 percent.

INFLATION-HOUSTON

In the Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land metro area², the energy index rose 14.5 percent and the shelter index ticked up 2.4 percent while grocery prices declined 1.4 percent since last May.

Full May and June CPI data for Houston will be released July 12.

Prepared by Greater Houston Partnership Research Department

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² Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery and Waller Counties.