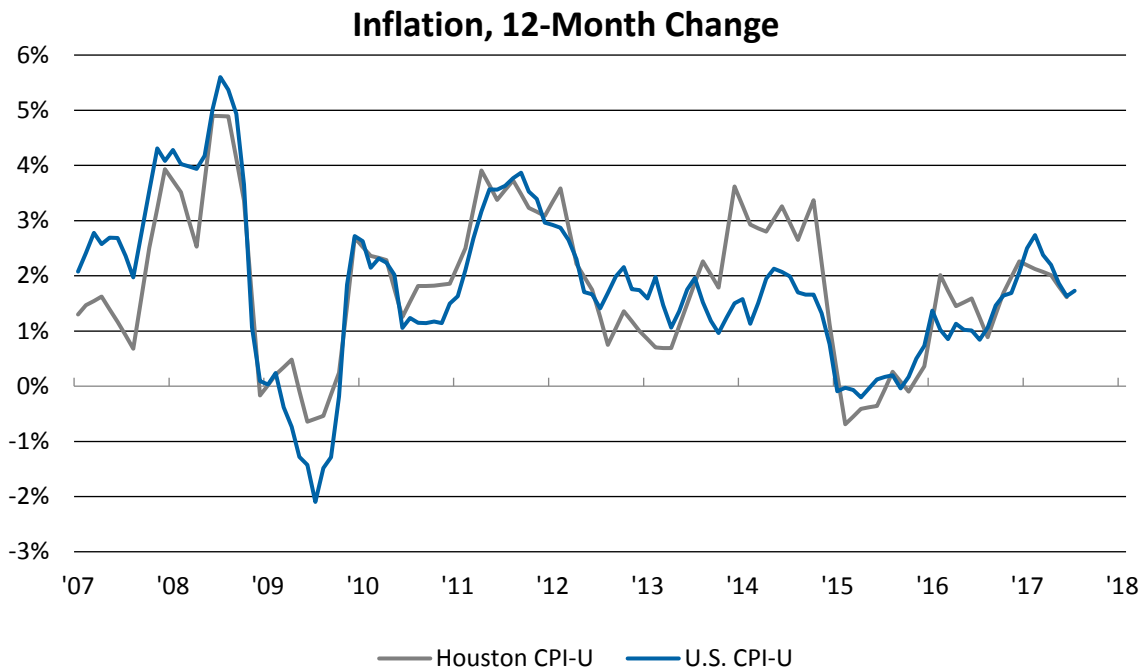




The Partnership sends updates for the six most important economic indicators each month. If you would like to opt-in to receive these updates, please click [here](#).

August 11, 2017

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 1.7 percent nationwide from July '16 to July '17, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Core inflation (all items less the volatile food and energy categories) increased 1.7 percent since July '16.¹

The cost of energy rose 3.4 percent from the previous July. All three energy components posted gains: electricity costs increased 2.6 percent, motor fuel prices rose 3.1 percent natural gas prices jumped 7.5 percent. The shelter index rose 3.2 percent from July '16. Food prices grew 1.1 percent, with the cost of dining out increasing 2.1 percent and grocery prices rising slightly by 0.3

¹ CPI data in this commentary are not seasonally adjusted.

percent. The cost of groceries increased for the first time since December '15 with the price of meat, poultry, fish and eggs recording its first gain in prices since November '15.

INFLATION-HOUSTON

In Houston (for this data series, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery and Waller Counties), the energy index rose 1.4 percent since July '16 with the cost of motor fuel increasing 0.3 percent and natural gas jumping 18.2 percent while electricity dropped 0.3 percent. The shelter index increased 1.1 percent and grocery prices dropped 0.4 percent from July '16.

Full July and August CPI data for Houston will be released September 14.

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