

Japan's Consumer Prices in 2015

(1) Overview

Japan's all items index of consumer prices in 2015 was 103.6 (2010=100), up 0.8% from the previous year.

The index for all items, less fresh food was 103.2, up 0.5% from the previous year.

The index for all items, less food (less alcoholic beverages) and energy was 101.1, up 1.0% from the previous year. (Figure 1-1, Figure 1-2, Figure 2, Table 1)

Figure 1-1 Indices for "All items", "All items, less fresh food" and "All items, less food (less alcoholic beverages) and energy"

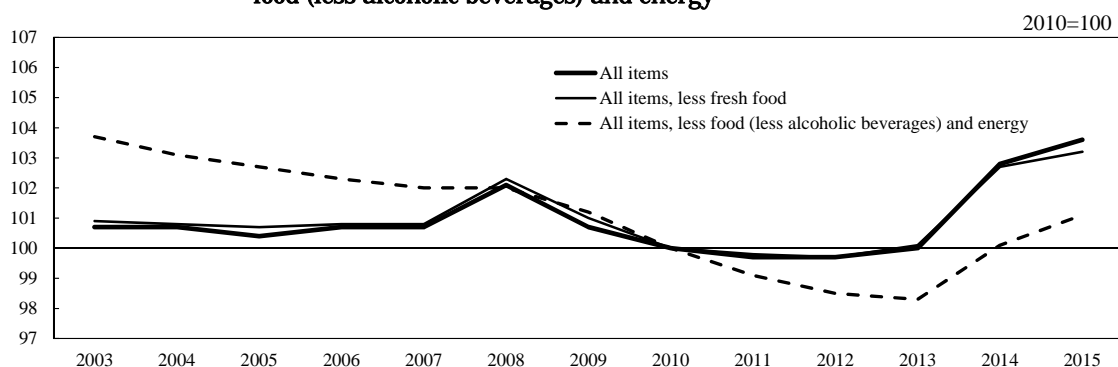


Figure 1-2 Changes from the Previous Year for "All items", "All items, less fresh food" and "All items, less food (less alcoholic beverages) and energy"

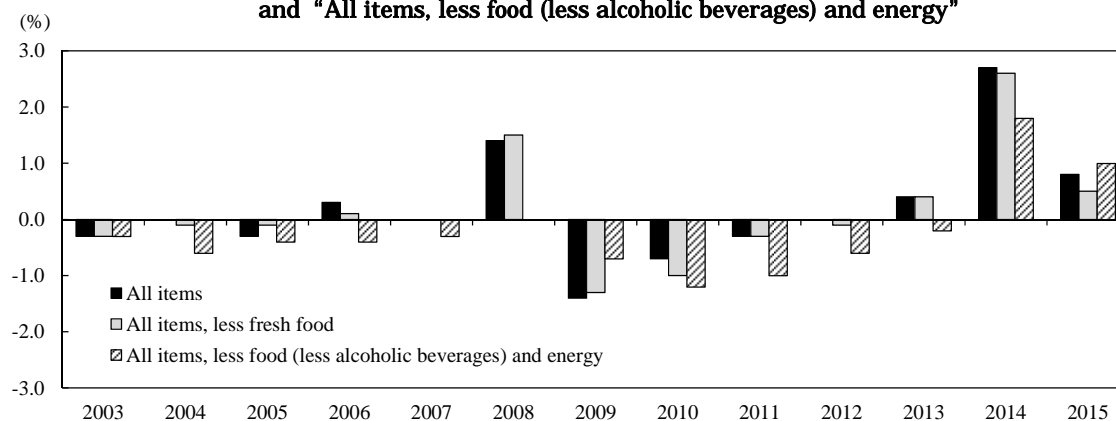
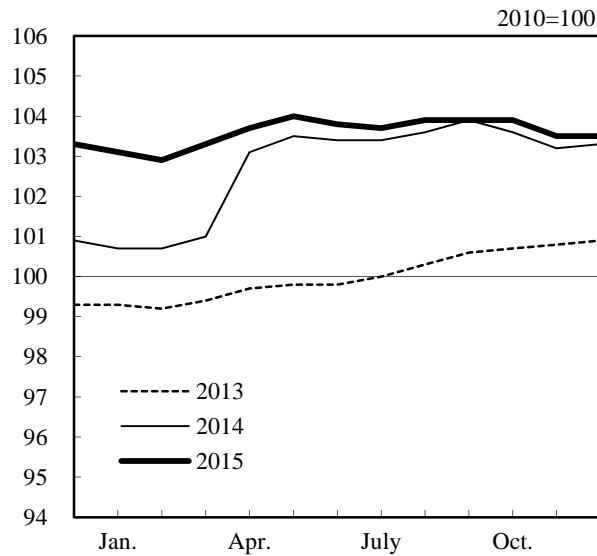


Table 1 Indices and Changes from the Previous Year for "All items", "All items, less fresh food" and "All items, less food (less alcoholic beverages) and energy"

		2010=100													
		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
All items	Index	100.7	100.7	100.4	100.7	100.7	102.1	100.7	100.0	99.7	99.7	100.0	102.8	103.6	
	Change from the previous year(%)	-0.3	0.0	-0.3	0.3	0.0	1.4	-1.4	-0.7	-0.3	0.0	0.4	2.7	0.8	
All items, less fresh food	Index	100.9	100.8	100.7	100.8	100.8	102.3	101.0	100.0	99.8	99.7	100.1	102.7	103.2	
	Change from the previous year(%)	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.0	1.5	-1.3	-1.0	-0.3	-0.1	0.4	2.6	0.5	
All items, less food (less alcoholic beverages) and energy	Index	103.7	103.1	102.7	102.3	102.0	102.0	101.2	100.0	99.1	98.5	98.3	100.1	101.1	
	Change from the previous year(%)	-0.3	-0.6	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	0.0	-0.7	-1.2	-1.0	-0.6	-0.2	1.8	1.0	

Figure 2 All items Index



(2) Sub-indices for 10 major groups in 2015

Regarding sub-indices for 10 major groups, “food” rose 3.1% from the previous year, mainly due to a rise in “fresh vegetables”. “Culture & recreation” rose 1.9%, mainly due to a rise in “recreational services”. “Clothes & footwear” rose 2.2%, mainly due to a rise in “clothes”. “Miscellaneous” rose 1.0%, mainly due to a rise in “toilet articles”. “Education” rose 1.6%, mainly due to a rise in “school fees”. “Furniture & household utensils” rose 1.5%, mainly due to a rise in “domestic utensils”. “Medical care” rose 0.9%, mainly due to a rise in “medical services”.

On the other hand, “transportation & communication” fell 1.9%, mainly due to a fall in “private transportation” which contains “gasoline”. “Fuel, light & water charges” fell 2.6%, mainly due to a fall in “other fuel & light” (kerosene).

“Housing” was the same level as the previous year. (Table 2)

Table 2 Changes from the Previous Year and the Degree of Contributions by 10 Major Groups

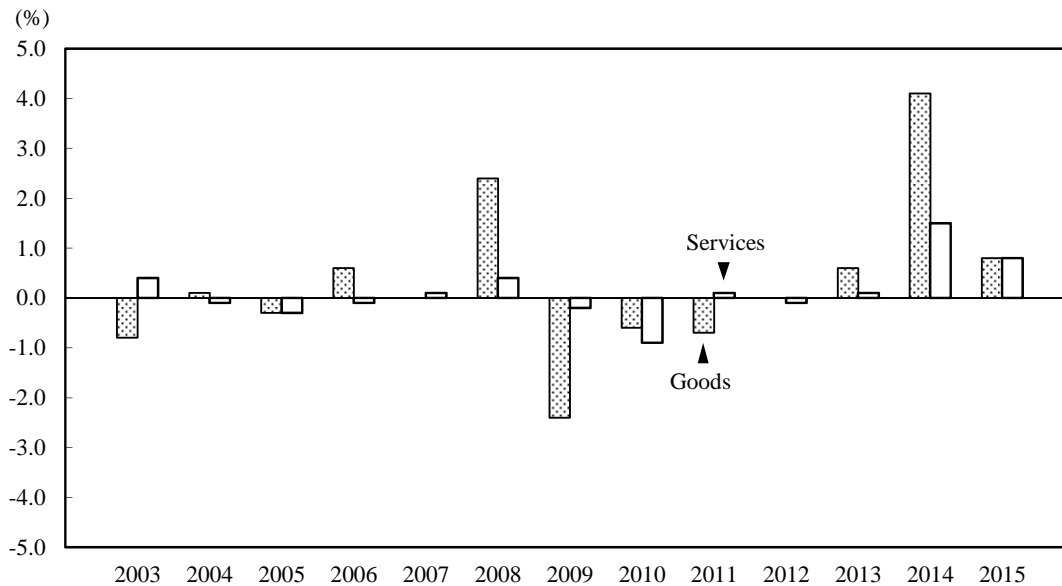
	All items	Food	Housing	Fuel, light & water charges	Furniture & household utensils	Clothes & footwear	Medical care	Transportation & communication	Education	Culture & recreation	Miscellaneous
Change from the previous year (%)	0.8	3.1	0.0	-2.6	1.5	2.2	0.9	-1.9	1.6	1.9	1.0
Contribution to annual change		0.79	0.01	-0.21	0.05	0.09	0.04	-0.28	0.05	0.21	0.06

(3) Sub-indices by goods and services classification in 2015

Goods index rose 0.8% from the previous year, mainly due to a rise in “agricultural, aquatic & livestock products”, which contains “fresh food, raw meats & cut flowers”.

Services index rose 0.8%, due to rises in “general services” and “public services”. (Figure 3)

Figure 3 Changes from the Previous Year for Goods and Services



(4) Main factors behind the change of the index in 2015

“Energy” fell 7.2%. All “energy” items decreased, such as “gasoline” fell 15.9%, “kerosene” 22.6%, “gas, manufactured & piped” 3.7%, “electricity” 0.7%, “liquefied propane” 1.1%. These were mainly due to a fall in import prices of crude oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG).

“Services” rose 0.8%. As for the details, “general services” rose 0.6%, mainly due to rises in “meals outside the home” and “hotel charges”. “Public services” rose 1.4%, mainly due to rises in “automotive insurance premium (option)” and “national expressway tolls”.

“Fresh food” rose 6.8%, mainly due to a rise in “fresh vegetables”. “Food, less fresh food” rose 2.4%. As for the details, “meals outside the home” rose 2.1% and “meats” such as beef rose 4.9%.

“Durable goods” rose 1.8%. As for the details, “TV sets” rose 8.3% and “cellular phones” rose 5.4%.

(Reference) The all items index in recent years

- In 2011, the index fell 0.3%. This was mainly because “durable goods” fell continuously though “gasoline” and “electricity” rose mainly because of the rise in prices of the crude oil.
- In 2012, the index was at the same level as that of 2011. This was mainly because “electricity”, “gas, manufactured & piped” and “non-glutinous rice” rose though “durable goods” fell continuously.
- In 2013, the index rose 0.4%. This was mainly because of rising in “electricity”, “gasoline”, “services” such as “automotive insurance premium (option)”, and turning upward of “durable goods” over the end of the year which had continued to decrease.
- In 2014, the index rose 2.7%. This was mainly because of increasing of the consumption tax rate in April and rising in “food” and “energy”.