2026-10-30
ECO
Personal Consumption Expenditures PCE.

WSJ Print Edition

image

Fed's Preferred Inflation Gauge Accelerated Last Month

The inflation metric targeted by the Federal Reserve sped up in September, showing why elevated price increases hang over the central bank's next moves.

Prices as measured by the personal-consumption expenditures price index increased by 0.5% last month, after rising by 0.3% in August, the Commerce Department said Thursday. The 12-month PCE inflation rate climbed to 3.6%, from 3.4% a month earlier.

Excluding volatile food and energy, core PCE inflation was 0.3% in September and 3.1% over the trailing 12 months.

PCE inflation figures typically land very close to Wall Street's estimates, which benefit from other government data, published earlier in the month, that feed into the PCE calculation. Still, the increase underscores the uncomfortable inflation picture facing the Fed.

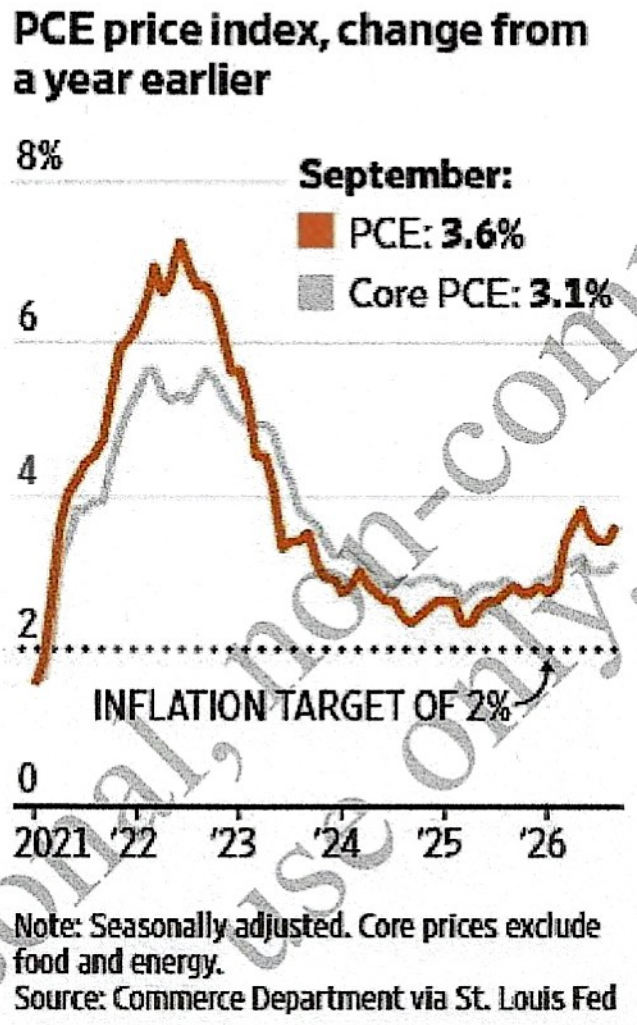
Thursday's numbers also showed Americans' personal incomes rose by 0.2% in September, after rising by 0.3% in August.

—Matt Grossman

For personal, noncommercial use only.

The following is a digital replica of content from the print newspaper and is intended for the personal use of our members. For commercial reproduction or distribution of Dow Jones printed content, contact: Dow Jones Reprints & Licensing at (800) 843-0008 or visit djreprints.com.

Copyright (c)2026 Dow Jones & Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved. 10/30/2026



The following is a digital replica of content from the print newspaper and is intended for the personal use of our members. For commercial reproduction or distribution of Dow Jones printed content, contact: Dow Jones Reprints & Licensing at (800) 843-0008 or visit djreprints.com.

For personal, non-commercial use only.

Copyright (c)2026 Dow Jones & Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved. 10/30/202