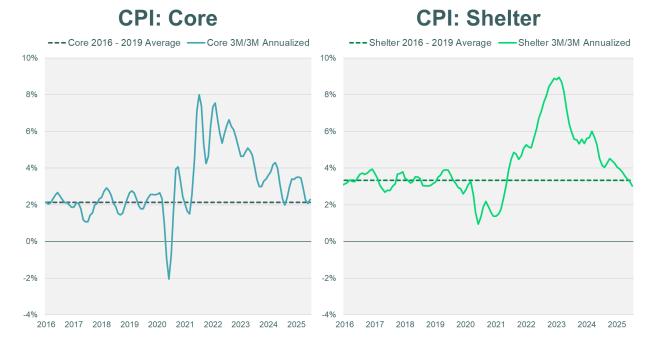
Get the latest update from our own Jeff Bridges, Chief Economist at Enact. Check out some key economic observations from the week of Aug. 11 – 15, 2025.

## **Key Points:**

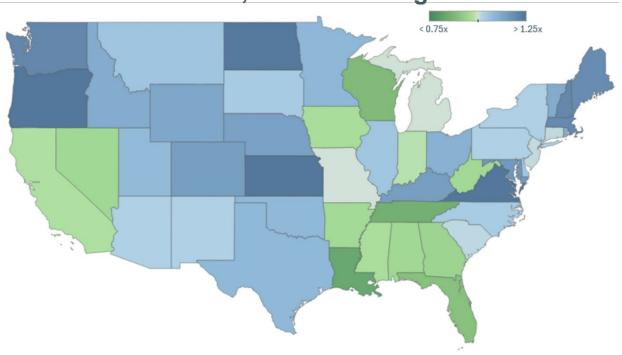
- Seasonally adjusted core <u>Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation</u>, which excludes volatile food and energy components, accelerated to 3.9% in July and remains elevated on a moving quarter basis.
  - However, inflation across shelter components continues to moderate.
  - Shelter inflation was a significant driver of headline inflation in recent years due to the heavy weight of housing in the CPI.
  - On a moving quarter basis, the price index for shelter is growing at its slowest pace since 2021.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

- Most states are seeing higher levels of <u>continuing claims for unemployment</u> <u>insurance</u> compared with last year.
  - The year-over-year growth in claims is particularly pronounced in Washington DC.
  - In the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria DC-VA-MD-WV metropolitan statistical area (MSA), <u>federal government employment</u> has contracted by over 5% from December through June.
  - Federal government employment accounted for ~11% of total MSA employment in December 2024.

Year-over-Year Growth in Continuing Jobless Claims, 4-Week Averages



Sources: U.S. Department of Labor Employment & Training Administration, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

