

SOUTHEAST INFORMATION OFFICE  
Atlanta, Ga.

**For release: Thursday, January 19, 2012**

12-84-ATL

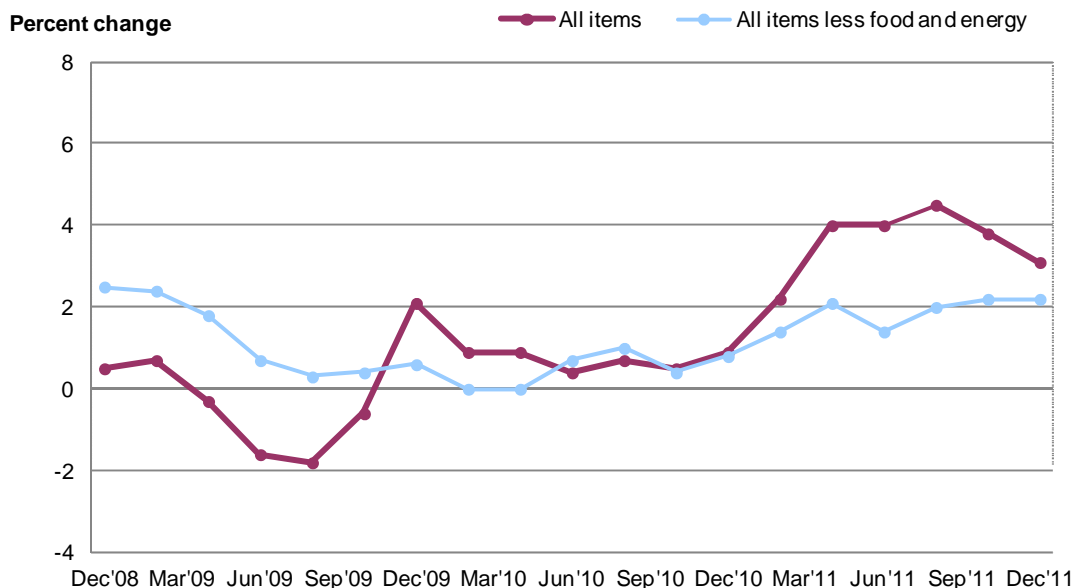
Technical Information: (404) 893-4222 • [BLSInfoAtlanta@bls.gov](mailto:BLSInfoAtlanta@bls.gov) • [www.bls.gov/ro4](http://www.bls.gov/ro4)  
Media Contact: (404) 893-4220

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, MIAMI-FORT LAUDERDALE—DECEMBER 2011**  
**Area prices down 0.1 percent over the two months; up 3.1 percent over the year**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for Miami inched down 0.1 percent over the two months, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that prices for energy and food decreased 2.4 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively. The index for all items less food and energy edged up 0.2 percent during the November-December pricing period. Within the all items less food and energy group, increases in the shelter and recreation indexes were partially offset by declining apparel and medical care prices. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U rose 3.1 percent with annual increases registered in most categories, notably food and motor fuel. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.2 percent over the year. (See chart 1.)

**Chart 1. 12-month percent change in CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), Miami-Fort Lauderdale, December 2008–December 2011**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Food

Food prices edged down 0.3 percent over the two-month pricing period. A 0.5-percent decrease in prices for food at home was partially offset by a 0.1-percent increase in the cost of food away from home. Within the food at home group, price decreases were noted for citrus fruits and tomatoes.

From December 2010 to December 2011, the food index advanced 5.0 percent, reflecting increases in prices for food at home (6.2 percent) and food away from home (2.7 percent).

## Energy

The energy index declined 2.4 percent during the November-December pricing period. Within this index, motor fuel prices fell 3.8 percent and those for utility (piped) gas service declined 1.1 percent. Electricity prices were unchanged over the two months.

Over the year, the energy index advanced 7.3 percent as prices increased for motor fuel (10.7 percent) and electricity (1.7 percent). Prices for utility (piped) gas service decreased 5.0 percent over the year.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy edged up 0.2 percent over the two months. Among the components of the index, increases were recorded for shelter (0.4 percent) and recreation (1.7 percent), while decreases were registered in apparel (-4.1 percent) and medical care (-0.6 percent). Price increases were noted for car and truck rental and televisions.

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.2 percent, reflecting higher prices for medical care (4.5 percent), apparel (6.1 percent), and recreation (3.8 percent).

---

**The Consumer Price Index for February 2012 is scheduled to be released on Friday, March 16, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. (ET).**

**Table A. Miami metropolitan area CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted**

| Month    | 2006    |          | 2007    |          | 2008    |          | 2009    |          | 2010    |          | 2011    |          |
|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
|          | 2-month | 12-month | 2-month | 12-month | 2-month | 12-month | 2-month | 12-month | 2-month | 12-month | 2-month | 12-month |
| February | 2.4     | 6.1      | 1.3     | 2.9      | 0.8     | 5.3      | 1.0     | 0.7      | -0.2    | 0.9      | 1.1     | 2.2      |
| April    | 0.8     | 5.5      | 1.4     | 3.5      | 1.0     | 4.9      | 0.1     | -0.3     | 0.1     | 0.9      | 1.8     | 4.0      |
| June     | 0.0     | 5.8      | 0.9     | 4.4      | 1.7     | 5.8      | 0.3     | -1.6     | -0.1    | 0.4      | -0.1    | 4.0      |
| August   | 0.9     | 5.1      | 0.1     | 3.7      | 0.2     | 5.8      | -0.1    | -1.8     | 0.2     | 0.7      | 0.7     | 4.5      |
| October  | -0.4    | 3.0      | 1.0     | 5.1      | -0.8    | 4.0      | 0.5     | -0.6     | 0.4     | 0.5      | -0.3    | 3.8      |
| December | 0.3     | 4.1      | 1.0     | 5.8      | -2.4    | 0.5      | 0.2     | 2.1      | 0.6     | 0.9      | -0.1    | 3.1      |

## Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index for Miami is published bi-monthly. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 87 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 32 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living.

Each month, prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 4,000 housing units and approximately 25,000 retail establishments—department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of the items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period “market basket” of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, *The Consumer Price Index*, available on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/cpi](http://www.bls.gov/cpi) and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, *The Consumer Price Index*, available on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17\\_a.htm](http://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17_a.htm).

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: (800) 877-8339.

For personal assistance or further information on Consumer Price Indexes, as well as other Bureau products, contact the Southeast Information Office at (404) 893-4222 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

| Item and Group                                   | Indexes   |           |           | Percent change from- |           |           |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
|  | Oct. 2011 | Nov. 2011 | Dec. 2011 | Dec. 2010            | Oct. 2011 | Nov. 2011 |
| <b>Expenditure category</b>                      |           |           |           |                      |           |           |
| All Items  | 232.141   | -         | 231.794   | 3.1                  | -0.1      | -         |
| All items (November 1977=100)                    | 374.179   | -         | 373.620   | -                    | -         | -         |
| Food and beverages                               | 242.084   | -         | 240.970   | 5.0                  | -0.5      | -         |
| Food   | 243.520   | -         | 242.767   | 5.0                  | -0.3      | -         |
| Food at home                                     | 245.395   | 243.659   | 244.103   | 6.2                  | -0.5      | 0.2       |
| Food away from home                              | 241.462   | -         | 241.791   | 2.7                  | 0.1       | -         |
| Alcoholic beverages                              | 224.979   | -         | 218.435   | 4.2                  | -2.9      | -         |
| Housing  | 225.798   | -         | 226.648   | 0.5                  | 0.4       | -         |
| Shelter  | 249.253   | 249.224   | 250.168   | 0.2                  | 0.4       | 0.4       |
| Rent of primary residence (1)                    | 238.327   | 238.604   | 239.198   | 0.3                  | 0.4       | 0.2       |
| Owners' equiv. rent of residences (1) (2)        | 253.737   | 253.911   | 254.722   | 0.3                  | 0.4       | 0.3       |
| Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence (1) (2) | 253.737   | 253.911   | 254.722   | 0.3                  | 0.4       | 0.3       |
| Fuels and utilities                              | 169.099   | -         | 169.219   | 1.7                  | 0.1       | -         |
| Household energy                                 | 149.325   | 149.378   | 149.465   | 1.7                  | 0.1       | -         |
| Gas (piped) and electricity (1) (3)              | 145.943   | 145.901   | 145.941   | 1.5                  | 0.0       | -         |
| Electricity (1)                                  | 142.768   | 142.768   | 142.808   | 1.7                  | 0.0       | -         |
| Utility (piped) gas service (1)                  | 184.334   | 182.361   | 182.372   | -5.0                 | -1.1      | 0.0       |
| Household furnishings and operations             | 169.640   | -         | 171.072   | 1.0                  | 0.8       | -         |
| Apparel  | 146.504   | -         | 140.447   | 6.1                  | -4.1      | -         |
| Transportation                                   | 227.982   | -         | 225.693   | 8.4                  | -1.0      | -         |
| Private transportation                           | 230.320   | -         | 228.469   | 9.7                  | -0.8      | -         |
| Motor fuel                                       | 312.404   | 309.446   | 300.474   | 10.7                 | -3.8      | -2.9      |
| Gasoline (all types)                             | 309.280   | 306.130   | 296.939   | 10.4                 | -4.0      | -3.0      |
| Unleaded regular (4)                             | 307.833   | 304.402   | 294.901   | 9.8                  | -4.2      | -3.1      |
| Unleaded midgrade (4) (5)                        | 291.935   | 289.397   | 281.116   | 11.8                 | -3.7      | -2.9      |
| Unleaded premium (4)                             | 305.864   | 303.721   | 295.972   | 12.0                 | -3.2      | -2.6      |
| Medical Care                                     | 393.665   | -         | 391.377   | 4.5                  | -0.6      | -         |
| Recreation (6)                                   | 112.355   | -         | 114.247   | 3.8                  | 1.7       | -         |
| Education and communication (6)                  | 121.910   | -         | 122.107   | 1.4                  | 0.2       | -         |
| Other goods and services                         | 300.864   | -         | 300.898   | 0.4                  | 0.0       | -         |
| <b>Commodity and service group</b>               |           |           |           |                      |           |           |
| All Items  | 232.141   | -         | 231.794   | 3.1                  | -0.1      | -         |
| Commodities                                      | 203.954   | -         | 201.602   | 5.2                  | -1.2      | -         |
| Commodities less food & beverages                | 180.167   | -         | 177.271   | 5.3                  | -1.6      | -         |
| Nondurables less food & beverages                | 218.627   | -         | 213.412   | 6.4                  | -2.4      | -         |
| Durables   | 139.329   | -         | 138.865   | 3.5                  | -0.3      | -         |
| Services   | 254.874   | -         | 256.066   | 1.8                  | 0.5       | -         |
| <b>Special aggregate indexes</b>                 |           |           |           |                      |           |           |
| All items less medical care                      | 224.481   | -         | 224.197   | 3.0                  | -0.1      | -         |
| All items less shelter                           | 223.432   | -         | 222.435   | 4.8                  | -0.4      | -         |
| Commodities less food                            | 182.192   | -         | 179.177   | 5.2                  | -1.7      | -         |
| Nondurables                                      | 232.189   | -         | 228.947   | 5.7                  | -1.4      | -         |
| Nondurables less food                            | 219.440   | -         | 214.138   | 6.3                  | -2.4      | -         |
| Services less rent of shelter (2)                | 270.036   | -         | 271.669   | 4.2                  | 0.6       | -         |
| Services less medical care services              | 243.018   | -         | 244.168   | 1.6                  | 0.5       | -         |
| Energy   | 218.956   | 217.637   | 213.597   | 7.3                  | -2.4      | -1.9      |
| All items less energy                            | 233.620   | -         | 233.879   | 2.6                  | 0.1       | -         |
| All items less food and energy                   | 231.708   | -         | 232.148   | 2.2                  | 0.2       | -         |

(1) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(2) Index is on a November 1982=100 base.

(3) In January, 2011, this series will be re-titled Energy services.

(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

(6) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available.

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date. Data not seasonally adjusted.