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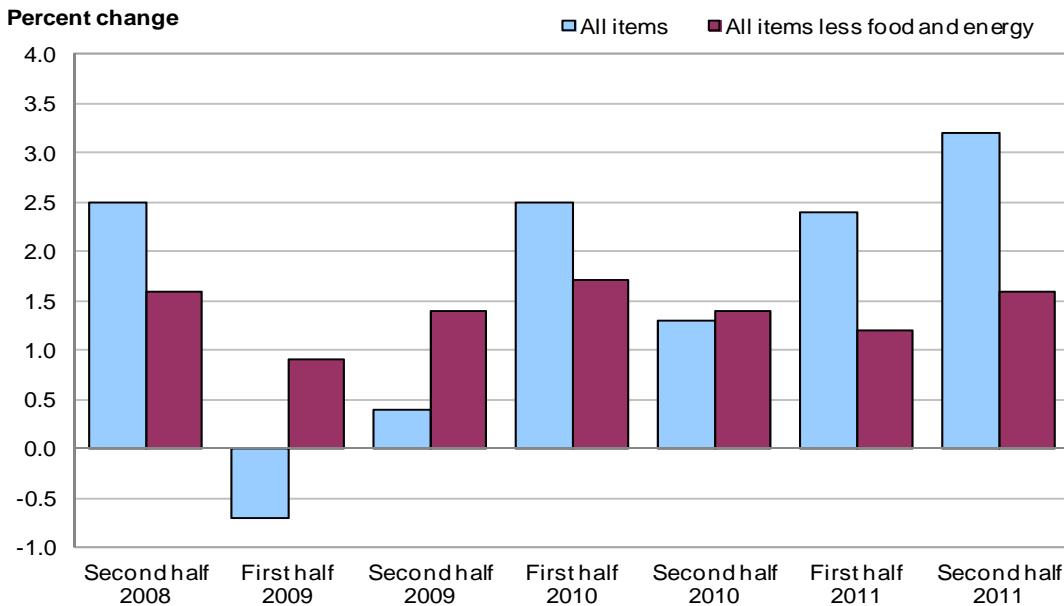
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## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR TAMPA-ST. PETERSBURG-CLEARWATER— SECOND HALF 2011

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater area rose 3.2 percent from the second half of 2010 to the second half of 2011, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the energy index was 12.2 percent higher compared to its second half 2010 level, primarily due to increases in motor fuel prices. Food prices were up 5.6 percent over the year and the index for all items less food and energy increased 1.6 percent. The 12-month advance in the all items less food and energy index reflected higher prices for medical care and education and communication. (See chart 1.)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, not seasonally adjusted**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## **Food**

Food prices rose 5.6 percent since the second half of 2010. Prices advanced for both food at home (7.4 percent) and food away from home (3.0 percent) over the year.

## **Energy**

The energy index rose 12.2 percent from the second half 2010 to the second half of 2011. A 25.5-percent jump in motor fuel prices was responsible for nearly all of the increase in the energy component. Utility (piped) gas service prices also rose, up 4.5 percent, while electricity prices declined 2.8 percent over the year.

## **All items less food and energy**

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 1.6 percent. Among the components of the index that contributed to the increase were medical care (3.6 percent) and education and communication (1.3 percent). Apparel prices declined 1.8 percent over the year, partially offsetting increases in the other categories.

## **Technical Note**

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 [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.**

The South region is comprised of Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

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 for semiannual averages and present changes for selected periods**

Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater (1987=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 2nd half 2011 from-	
	2nd half 2010	1st half 2011	2nd half 2011	2nd half 2010	1st half 2011
<b>Expenditure category</b>					
All Items	193.716	197.908	199.968	3.2	1.0
Food and beverages	194.727	199.114	205.153	5.4	3.0
Food	194.010	198.531	204.892	5.6	3.2
Food at home	190.526	198.356	204.544	7.4	3.1
Food away from home	199.651	199.304	205.716	3.0	3.2
Alcoholic beverages	191.708	194.407	196.621	2.6	1.1
Housing	183.626	183.584	184.210	0.3	0.3
Shelter	199.710	199.259	200.109	0.2	0.4
Rent of primary residence (1)	197.464	196.479	198.753	0.7	1.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences (1)	211.648	211.239	211.742	0.0	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence (1)	211.648	211.239	211.742	0.0	0.2
Fuels and utilities	199.817	200.758	201.728	1.0	0.5
Household energy	170.214	166.946	167.042	-1.9	0.1
Energy services (1)	168.023	164.203	164.261	-2.2	0.0
Electricity (1)	167.187	161.884	162.488	-2.8	0.4
Utility (piped) gas service (1)	226.342	245.375	236.637	4.5	-3.6
Household furnishings and operations	120.827	121.944	120.392	-0.4	-1.3
Apparel	153.009	154.168	150.189	-1.8	-2.6
Transportation	188.433	207.526	210.756	11.8	1.6
Private transportation	192.285	212.447	216.794	12.7	2.0
Motor fuel	290.879	371.281	364.932	25.5	-1.7
Gasoline (all types)	285.291	364.355	357.850	25.4	-1.8
Unleaded regular (2)	282.541	362.643	355.877	26.0	-1.9
Unleaded midgrade (2) (3)	250.646	317.164	311.906	24.4	-1.7
Unleaded premium (2)	282.190	355.050	349.659	23.9	-1.5
Medical Care	300.048	305.894	310.897	3.6	1.6
Recreation (4)	116.568	116.504	117.531	0.8	0.9
Education and communication (4)	129.744	130.005	131.458	1.3	1.1
Other goods and services	278.494	276.464	279.482	0.4	1.1
<b>Commodity and service group</b>					
All Items	193.716	197.908	199.968	3.2	1.0
Commodities	165.959	173.037	174.301	5.0	0.7
Commodities less food & beverages	150.091	158.467	157.313	4.8	-0.7
Nondurables less food & beverages	209.602	228.422	225.369	7.5	-1.3
Durables	99.496	99.575	99.922	0.4	0.3
Services	218.909	220.429	223.218	2.0	1.3
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>					
All items less medical care	187.571	191.656	193.580	3.2	1.0
All items less shelter	192.433	198.684	201.157	4.5	1.2
Commodities less food	152.755	160.949	159.929	4.7	-0.6
Nondurables	201.181	212.286	214.066	6.4	0.8
Nondurables less food	208.560	225.999	223.406	7.1	-1.1
Services less rent of shelter	239.849	243.968	248.829	3.7	2.0
Services less medical care services	209.209	210.457	213.031	1.8	1.2
Energy	215.815	244.437	242.077	12.2	-1.0
All items less energy	191.661	193.479	195.932	2.2	1.3
All items less food and energy	191.493	192.792	194.496	1.6	0.9

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

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

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

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

NOTE: Data not seasonally adjusted.