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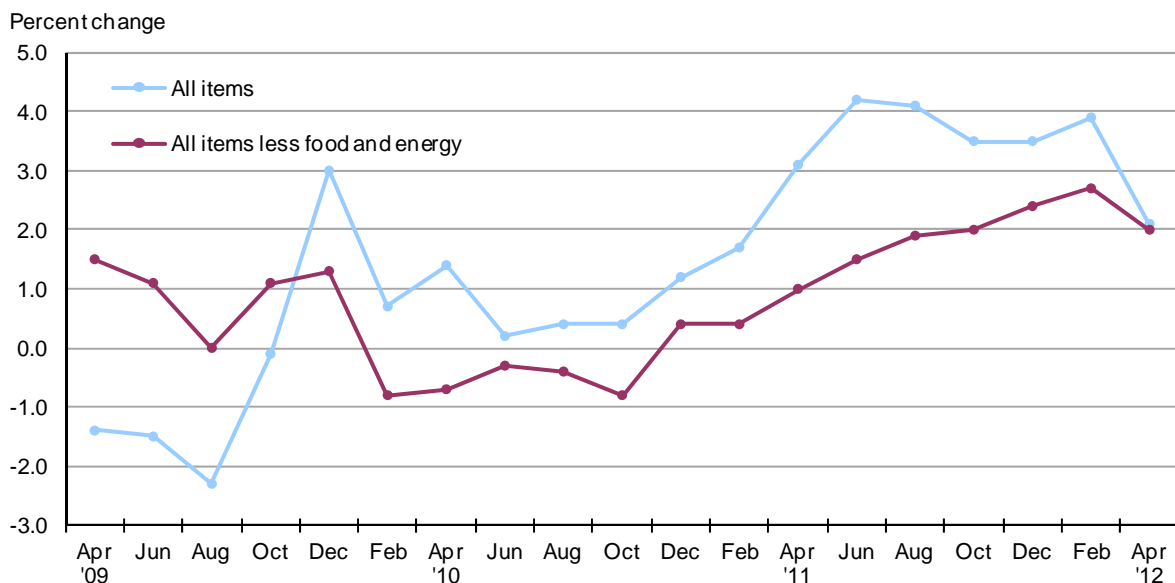
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, DETROIT-ANN ARBOR-FLINT, MICH., CMSA - APRIL 2012

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint area rose 0.6 percent from February to April, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that the energy index increased 5.9 percent while the food index declined 0.6 percent over the bi-monthly period. The index for all items less food and energy was unchanged. Among the indexes within the all items less food and energy category, prices were higher for shelter and new and used motor vehicles while costs for recreation fell. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the past 12 months the CPI-U advanced 2.1 percent. The energy index was up 3.1 percent, largely the result of over-the-year increases in electricity and gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy rose 2.0 percent over the year.

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, April 2009–April 2012



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Food

Food prices declined 0.6 percent from February to April, after increasing by the same amount over the previous bi-monthly period. Between the two components of the food index, prices for food at home (grocery food) fell 1.1 percent while prices for food away from home were up 0.5 percent. Grocery prices stood 2.0 percent higher than last April while prices for food away from home cost 2.7 percent more than a year ago. From April 2011 to April 2012, overall food prices advanced 2.3 percent.

Energy

The energy index was up 5.9 percent from February to April after rising 3.1 percent in the previous bi-monthly period. Within the energy category, prices for gasoline and electricity rose 11.9 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively, while utility (piped) gas prices fell 3.2 percent from February to April.

The energy index rose 3.1 percent over the year. In particular, electricity prices increased 12.8 percent from April 2011 to April 2012 and gasoline prices were up 4.1 percent. In the previous annual period ending in April 2011, gasoline prices recorded a 32.5 percent increase. The utility (piped) gas service index was down 7.4 percent over the year, after posting an 8.9 percent drop in the previous 12-month period ended April 2011.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was unchanged from February to April. Among the index's components, costs for shelter rose 0.5 percent while prices for recreation were lower by 3.6 percent.

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 2.0 percent. A 2.1-percent increase in prices for shelter and a 6.8 percent rise in recreation costs were major contributing factors. Costs for education and communication rose 3.1 percent over the year.

The June 2012 Consumer Price Index for Detroit is scheduled to be released on July 17, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

Table A. Percent Changes in the CPI-U, Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, Mich. (not seasonally adjusted)

Expenditure Category	Percent changes from preceding 2 months							12 mo. ended Apr. '12
	2011					2012		
	Apr.	June	Aug.	Oct.	Dec.	Feb.	Apr.	
All items	2.3	0.9	0.2	-0.5	0.3	0.6	0.6	2.1
Food & beverages	.5	1.1	.4	.6	.1	.6	-.6	2.3
Food	.5	1.2	.4	.7	.0	.6	-.6	2.3
Housing	1.1	.7	.5	.3	-.1	.8	.0	2.2
Apparel	17.3	-7.2	6.5	2.0	-9.0	1.9	1.1	-5.5
Transportation	6.7	2.3	-1.2	-3.9	-.8	1.7	4.4	2.3
Medical care	.4	.2	-.2	.4	.4	1.2	.5	2.5
Recreation	-3.0	1.7	.0	-2.3	15.5	-3.5	-3.6	6.8
Education & communication	.1	.1	.7	1.7	.1	.4	.1	3.1
Other goods & services	-.6	3.2	-1.7	1.9	1.1	-.2	.6	4.8
Special Indexes								
Energy	16.0	4.2	-3.0	-6.2	-.4	3.1	5.9	3.1
All items less food & energy	.7	.2	.7	.3	.4	.3	.0	2.0

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 88 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 29 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 26,000 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 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 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.

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 Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, Mich. consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Genesee, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne Counties in Michigan.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

For personal assistance or further information on Consumer Price Indexes, as well as other Bureau products, contact the Chicago Information Office at (312) 353-1880 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET.

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods

Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from—		
	Feb. 2012	Mar. 2012	Apr. 2012	Apr. 2011	Feb. 2012	Mar. 2012
Expenditure category						
All items	214.836	-	216.194	2.1	0.6	-
All items (1967=100)	638.581	-	642.619	-	-	-
Food and beverages	210.976	-	209.762	2.3	-6	-
Food	211.519	-	210.299	2.3	-6	-
Food at home	207.221	207.444	204.901	2.0	-1.1	-1.2
Food away from home	217.249	-	218.235	2.7	.5	-
Alcoholic beverages	196.795	-	195.736	2.1	-5	-
Housing	192.088	-	192.136	2.2	.0	-
Shelter	210.546	210.671	211.519	2.1	.5	.4
Rent of primary residence ¹	211.789	212.239	212.376	3.1	.3	.1
Owners' equivalent rent of residences ^{1 2}	211.173	211.302	211.555	1.5	.2	.1
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{1 2}	211.173	211.302	211.555	1.5	.2	.1
Fuels and utilities	245.928	-	243.541	4.1	-1.0	-
Household energy	202.112	202.458	199.764	3.5	-1.2	-1.3
Energy services ¹	203.943	204.149	201.464	3.7	-1.2	-1.3
Electricity ¹	214.243	214.953	214.936	12.8	.3	.0
Utility (piped) gas service ¹	180.829	180.465	174.976	-7.4	-3.2	-3.0
Household furnishings and operations	124.037	-	122.106	.3	-1.6	-
Apparel	113.372	-	114.620	-5.5	1.1	-
Transportation	241.559	-	252.086	2.3	4.4	-
Private transportation	239.733	-	250.498	2.5	4.5	-
Motor fuel	308.879	342.927	345.153	3.9	11.7	.6
Gasoline (all types)	308.352	343.133	344.968	4.1	11.9	.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular ³	317.885	353.882	355.719	4.3	11.9	.5
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{3 4}	343.294	379.406	382.642	3.4	11.5	.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium ³	280.288	312.868	313.999	2.7	12.0	.4
Medical care	371.266	-	373.079	2.5	.5	-
Recreation ⁵	120.965	-	116.663	6.8	-3.6	-
Education and communication ⁵	138.517	-	138.691	3.1	.1	-
Other goods and services	399.120	-	401.340	4.8	.6	-
Commodity and service group						
All items	214.836	-	216.194	2.1	.6	-
Commodities	179.655	-	182.702	1.6	1.7	-
Commodities less food and beverages	162.440	-	167.165	.8	2.9	-
Nondurables less food and beverages	201.299	-	210.051	.8	4.3	-
Durables	117.517	-	118.235	1.8	.6	-
Services	251.891	-	251.696	2.7	-1	-
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	208.572	-	209.912	2.1	.6	-
All items less shelter	219.773	-	221.308	2.2	.7	-
Commodities less food	164.010	-	168.633	.9	2.8	-
Nondurables	206.750	-	211.008	1.7	2.1	-
Nondurables less food	201.325	-	209.666	.9	4.1	-
Services less rent of shelter ²	309.981	-	308.297	3.4	-5	-
Services less medical care services	243.329	-	243.007	2.8	-1	-
Energy	254.334	269.947	269.430	3.1	5.9	-2
All items less energy	213.102	-	213.008	2.1	.0	-
All items less food and energy	213.930	-	214.035	2.0	.0	-

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 December 1982=100 base.

³ Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

⁴ Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

⁵ Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available.

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