

News

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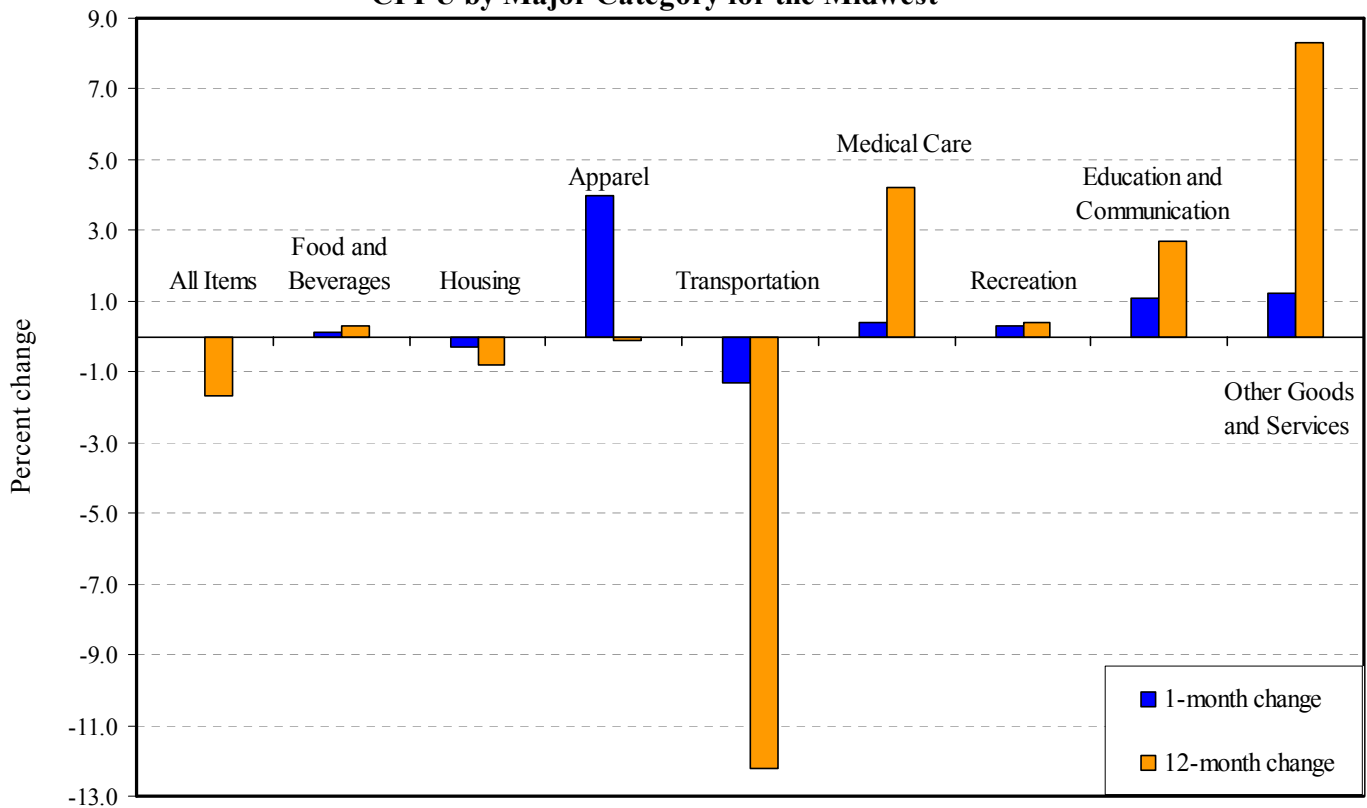
October 15, 2009

7:30am Central Time

MIDWEST REGION CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) – SEPTEMBER 2009 Prices in the Midwest unchanged in September, but 1.7 percent lower over the year

The Consumer Price Index for the Midwest was unchanged in September, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. According to Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman, lower prices for transportation and housing, both partially attributable to energy-related components, offset higher prices recorded for the other six major expenditure categories over the month. The all items index declined 1.7 percent since September 2008—its tenth consecutive over-the-year decrease.

1-Month and 12-Month Percent Changes Ended September 2009
CPI-U by Major Category for the Midwest



Energy prices, which include prices for motor fuel and household fuels, declined 2.8 percent in September after advancing 2.1 percent in the prior month. Costs for energy were 25.3 percent lower than one year ago. The special aggregate index for all items less energy was up 0.3 percent over the month and 1.5 percent over the year. Excluding the impact of food and energy prices, the Midwest CPI rose 0.3 percent over the month and was 1.8 percent higher than one year ago.

Among the eight major expenditure categories, transportation had the greatest impact on the September 2009 Midwest CPI. Transportation costs fell 1.3 percent following an increase of 1.5 percent in August. The decline in transportation costs was nearly entirely attributable to lower prices for motor fuel. Motor fuel price declined 4.6 percent in September—the second monthly decline in 2009. Despite seven monthly increases in 2009, prices for motor fuel were 33.7 percent lower than in September 2008. Among the other components of the transportation index, prices for new vehicles rose 0.2 percent in September 2009 and used cars and trucks' prices increased 1.1 percent. Prices for new vehicles were 0.8 percent higher than one year ago and prices for used cars and trucks were 3.6 percent lower. Overall, the transportation index fell 12.2 percent since September 2008.

A 4.0-percent increase in the apparel index had the next largest impact on the September 2009 Midwest CPI. Prices for apparel typically increase in August and September as retailers introduce fall merchandise. Prices were little changed from their September 2008 level.

Housing had slightly less impact on the overall index than apparel and was the only major expenditure category besides transportation to have a downward impact on the overall index. The housing index was down 0.3 percent in September after registering little change in August. Shelter, fuels and utilities, and household furnishings and operations each recorded lower prices in September than in August. Shelter costs were down 0.2 percent led by lower prices for lodging away from home. Prices for fuels and utilities were 0.7 percent lower over the month due primarily to a 2.3-percent decline in utility (piped) gas services costs. Electricity prices were nearly unchanged. Household furnishings and operations prices declined 0.7 percent over the month. From September 2008 to September 2009, the housing index decreased 0.8 percent largely due to a 36.0-percent drop in utility (piped) gas service costs. Electricity prices rose 3.5 percent over the year, shelter costs were up 1.2 percent, and household furnishings and operations costs were unchanged.

An increase of 1.1 percent in prices for education and communication had the fourth-largest impact on the Midwest CPI. Over the year, prices for education and communication were up 2.7 percent.

The remaining four major expenditure categories—other goods and services, medical care, recreation, and food and beverages—together accounted for approximately one-sixth of the movement in the overall September index. Other goods and services prices advanced 1.2 percent, medical care costs increased 0.4 percent, and prices for recreation were up 0.3 percent. Prices for food and beverages changed little for the fourth consecutive month, recording a 0.1-percent increase in September. From September 2008 to September 2009 prices for other goods and services were up 8.3 percent and medical care costs increased 4.2 percent. Recreation prices were 0.4 percent higher and the index for food and beverages rose 0.3 percent over the year.

The Midwest Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) stood at 205.601 in September 2009. A typical market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in the 1982-84 base period cost \$205.60 in September 2009. Because regional CPI data are not adjusted for seasonal price variation, consumers and businesses should be cautious in drawing conclusions about long-term retail price trends from short-term changes in the regional indexes. The Midwest region is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Consumer Price Index data for October are scheduled for release on Wednesday, November 18, 2009, at 7:30 A.M. (CT).

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

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods

Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

| Item and Group | Indexes | | | Percent change from— | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | July 2009 | Aug. 2009 | Sep. 2009 | Sep. 2008 | July 2009 | Aug. 2009 |
| Expenditure category | | | | | | |
| All items | 204.814 | 205.632 | 205.601 | -1.7 | 0.4 | 0.0 |
| All items (December 1977=100) | 333.244 | 334.574 | 334.524 | - | - | - |
| Food and beverages | 211.786 | 211.586 | 211.759 | .3 | .0 | .1 |
| Food | 211.239 | 211.033 | 210.978 | .0 | -.1 | .0 |
| Food at home | 205.252 | 204.623 | 204.522 | -2.0 | -.4 | .0 |
| Food away from home | 220.407 | 220.777 | 220.787 | 2.6 | .2 | .0 |
| Alcoholic beverages | 217.730 | 217.602 | 220.429 | 3.8 | 1.2 | 1.3 |
| Housing | 197.758 | 198.001 | 197.349 | -.8 | -.2 | -.3 |
| Shelter | 227.312 | 227.851 | 227.420 | 1.2 | .0 | -.2 |
| Rent of primary residence ¹ | 219.712 | 220.188 | 220.342 | 1.9 | .3 | .1 |
| Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{1 2} | 230.277 | 231.138 | 231.314 | 2.0 | .5 | .1 |
| Fuels and utilities | 199.651 | 199.484 | 198.049 | -11.2 | -.8 | -.7 |
| Household energy | 175.069 | 174.662 | 173.108 | -14.1 | -1.1 | -.9 |
| Gas (piped) and electricity ¹ | 182.263 | 181.646 | 180.248 | -13.1 | -1.1 | -.8 |
| Electricity ¹ | 182.142 | 183.573 | 183.449 | 3.5 | .7 | -.1 |
| Utility (piped) gas service ¹ | 174.075 | 169.366 | 165.471 | -36.0 | -4.9 | -2.3 |
| Household furnishings and operations | 123.483 | 123.066 | 122.145 | .0 | -1.1 | -.7 |
| Apparel | 108.561 | 111.068 | 115.505 | -.1 | 6.4 | 4.0 |
| Transportation | 182.126 | 184.815 | 182.493 | -12.2 | .2 | -1.3 |
| Private transportation | 177.036 | 179.731 | 177.330 | -12.4 | .2 | -1.3 |
| New and used motor vehicles ³ | 93.191 | 93.343 | 93.456 | -.3 | .3 | .1 |
| New vehicles | 130.188 | 128.686 | 128.916 | .8 | -1.0 | .2 |
| New cars and trucks ^{3 4} | 91.932 | 90.827 | 91.001 | .8 | -1.0 | .2 |
| New cars ⁴ | 130.125 | 128.245 | 127.593 | -1.6 | -1.9 | -.5 |
| Used cars and trucks | 125.231 | 128.295 | 129.706 | -3.6 | 3.6 | 1.1 |
| Motor fuel | 219.493 | 228.974 | 218.396 | -33.7 | -.5 | -4.6 |
| Gasoline (all types) | 219.750 | 229.338 | 218.179 | -33.6 | -.7 | -4.9 |
| Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁴ | 218.395 | 228.202 | 216.716 | -34.0 | -.8 | -5.0 |
| Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{4 5} | 240.639 | 250.928 | 239.777 | -33.1 | -.4 | -4.4 |
| Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁴ | 218.315 | 226.553 | 216.469 | -32.2 | -.8 | -4.5 |
| Medical care | 375.974 | 376.355 | 377.842 | 4.2 | .5 | .4 |
| Medical care commodities | 301.084 | 301.954 | 303.931 | 4.1 | .9 | .7 |
| Medical care services | 400.962 | 401.123 | 402.365 | 4.2 | .3 | .3 |
| Professional services | 344.434 | 344.246 | 345.179 | 4.6 | .2 | .3 |
| Recreation ³ | 115.948 | 115.897 | 116.281 | .4 | .3 | .3 |
| Education and communication ³ | 128.192 | 129.164 | 130.562 | 2.7 | 1.8 | 1.1 |
| Other goods and services | 360.439 | 358.693 | 362.922 | 8.3 | .7 | 1.2 |
| Commodity and service group | | | | | | |
| All items | 204.814 | 205.632 | 205.601 | -1.7 | .4 | .0 |
| Commodities | 166.715 | 167.582 | 167.505 | -4.7 | .5 | .0 |
| Commodities less food and beverages | 143.934 | 145.240 | 145.057 | -7.7 | .8 | -.1 |
| Nondurables less food and beverages | 179.911 | 182.916 | 182.622 | -11.5 | 1.5 | -.2 |
| Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel | 226.294 | 229.628 | 226.298 | -14.6 | .0 | -1.5 |
| Durables | 107.684 | 107.428 | 107.350 | -1.2 | -.3 | -.1 |
| Services | 244.600 | 245.363 | 245.381 | .5 | .3 | .0 |
| Rent of shelter ² | 233.614 | 234.149 | 233.682 | 1.2 | .0 | -.2 |
| Transportation services | 256.759 | 258.983 | 258.613 | 1.5 | .7 | -.1 |
| Other services | 294.194 | 295.947 | 298.128 | 2.2 | 1.3 | .7 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods-Continued

Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

| Item and Group | Indexes | | | Percent change from— | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | July 2009 | Aug. 2009 | Sep. 2009 | Sep. 2008 | July 2009 | Aug. 2009 |
| Special aggregate indexes | | | | | | |
| All items less medical care | 196.580 | 197.410 | 197.318 | -2.2 | 0.4 | 0.0 |
| All items less food | 203.658 | 204.647 | 204.620 | -2.0 | .5 | .0 |
| All items less shelter | 198.808 | 199.736 | 199.852 | -2.9 | .5 | .1 |
| Commodities less food | 146.435 | 147.696 | 147.612 | -7.2 | .8 | -.1 |
| Nondurables | 195.860 | 197.359 | 197.285 | -5.8 | .7 | .0 |
| Nondurables less food | 182.114 | 184.908 | 184.820 | -10.4 | 1.5 | .0 |
| Nondurables less food and apparel | 224.714 | 227.679 | 224.998 | -13.1 | .1 | -1.2 |
| Services less rent of shelter ² | 270.540 | 271.612 | 272.196 | -.1 | .6 | .2 |
| Services less medical care services | 232.481 | 233.272 | 233.216 | .2 | .3 | .0 |
| Energy | 193.888 | 197.898 | 192.324 | -25.3 | -.8 | -2.8 |
| All items less energy | 208.240 | 208.718 | 209.291 | 1.5 | .5 | .3 |
| All items less food and energy | 208.304 | 208.916 | 209.612 | 1.8 | .6 | .3 |
| Commodities less food and energy commodities | 140.097 | 140.264 | 141.631 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 1.0 |
| Energy commodities | 218.852 | 228.179 | 217.683 | -33.8 | -.5 | -4.6 |
| Services less energy services | 252.911 | 253.835 | 254.014 | 1.8 | .4 | .1 |

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 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

⁴ Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

⁵ Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

- Data not available.

Regions defined as the four Census regions. Midwest includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

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

Table 2. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods

Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

| Item and Group | Indexes | | | Percent change from— | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | July 2009 | Aug. 2009 | Sep. 2009 | Sep. 2008 | July 2009 | Aug. 2009 |
| Expenditure category | | | | | | |
| All items | 199.824 | 200.723 | 200.658 | -2.1 | 0.4 | 0.0 |
| All items (December 1977=100) | 323.160 | 324.614 | 324.509 | - | - | - |
| Food and beverages | 211.932 | 211.797 | 211.753 | .2 | -.1 | .0 |
| Food | 211.440 | 211.302 | 211.125 | .0 | -.1 | -.1 |
| Food at home | 205.510 | 204.949 | 204.652 | -2.0 | -.4 | -.1 |
| Food away from home | 221.066 | 221.549 | 221.546 | 2.8 | .2 | .0 |
| Alcoholic beverages | 217.900 | 217.812 | 219.515 | 3.9 | .7 | .8 |
| Housing | 192.219 | 192.477 | 191.962 | -.8 | -.1 | -.3 |
| Shelter | 216.743 | 217.302 | 217.078 | 1.6 | .2 | -.1 |
| Rent of primary residence ¹ | 220.282 | 220.762 | 220.870 | 1.9 | .3 | .0 |
| Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{1 2} | 214.535 | 215.322 | 215.524 | 2.1 | .5 | .1 |
| Fuels and utilities | 200.128 | 199.925 | 198.435 | -11.4 | -.8 | -.7 |
| Household energy | 175.138 | 174.698 | 173.111 | -14.0 | -1.2 | -.9 |
| Gas (piped) and electricity ¹ | 181.196 | 180.603 | 179.202 | -13.1 | -1.1 | -.8 |
| Electricity ¹ | 181.955 | 183.332 | 183.098 | 3.3 | .6 | -.1 |
| Utility (piped) gas service ¹ | 173.622 | 169.001 | 165.251 | -36.2 | -4.8 | -2.2 |
| Household furnishings and operations | 121.166 | 120.725 | 119.893 | .4 | -1.1 | -.7 |
| Apparel | 106.912 | 109.544 | 113.612 | -.2 | 6.3 | 3.7 |
| Transportation | 180.923 | 183.841 | 181.549 | -13.1 | .3 | -1.2 |
| Private transportation | 177.711 | 180.642 | 178.293 | -13.3 | .3 | -1.3 |
| New and used motor vehicles ³ | 91.708 | 91.992 | 92.357 | -.7 | .7 | .4 |
| New vehicles | 133.331 | 131.774 | 132.192 | .9 | -.9 | .3 |
| Used cars and trucks | 126.174 | 129.259 | 130.664 | -3.7 | 3.6 | 1.1 |
| Motor fuel | 220.125 | 229.521 | 219.090 | -33.7 | -.5 | -4.5 |
| Gasoline (all types) | 220.339 | 229.836 | 218.844 | -33.6 | -.7 | -4.8 |
| Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁴ | 218.874 | 228.601 | 217.263 | -33.9 | -.7 | -5.0 |
| Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{4 5} | 240.406 | 250.549 | 239.691 | -33.1 | -.3 | -4.3 |
| Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁴ | 218.234 | 226.313 | 216.441 | -32.1 | -.8 | -4.4 |
| Medical care | 377.905 | 378.249 | 379.892 | 4.1 | .5 | .4 |
| Medical care commodities | 294.402 | 295.203 | 297.180 | 4.0 | .9 | .7 |
| Medical care services | 404.068 | 404.195 | 405.636 | 4.2 | .4 | .4 |
| Professional services | 345.270 | 344.984 | 346.222 | 4.6 | .3 | .4 |
| Recreation ³ | 111.917 | 111.742 | 111.958 | .0 | .0 | .2 |
| Education and communication ³ | 124.487 | 125.296 | 126.364 | 2.4 | 1.5 | .9 |
| Other goods and services | 390.608 | 388.583 | 394.736 | 12.8 | 1.1 | 1.6 |
| Commodity and service group | | | | | | |
| All items | 199.824 | 200.723 | 200.658 | -2.1 | .4 | .0 |
| Commodities | 168.277 | 169.333 | 169.194 | -5.1 | .5 | -.1 |
| Commodities less food and beverages | 146.532 | 148.089 | 147.911 | -8.2 | .9 | -.1 |
| Nondurables less food and beverages | 187.878 | 191.210 | 190.679 | -11.9 | 1.5 | -.3 |
| Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel | 237.406 | 241.143 | 237.663 | -15.0 | .1 | -1.4 |
| Durables | 106.697 | 106.593 | 106.744 | -1.3 | .0 | .1 |
| Services | 238.175 | 238.898 | 238.918 | .5 | .3 | .0 |
| Rent of shelter ² | 215.364 | 215.906 | 215.663 | 1.5 | .1 | -.1 |
| Transportation services | 253.699 | 255.740 | 255.647 | 2.6 | .8 | .0 |
| Other services | 277.010 | 278.476 | 279.967 | 1.9 | 1.1 | .5 |
| Special aggregate indexes | | | | | | |
| All items less medical care | 192.829 | 193.739 | 193.621 | -2.5 | .4 | -.1 |
| All items less food | 197.481 | 198.565 | 198.520 | -2.5 | .5 | .0 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods-Continued

Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

| Item and Group | Indexes | | | Percent change from— | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | July 2009 | Aug. 2009 | Sep. 2009 | Sep. 2008 | July 2009 | Aug. 2009 |
| Special aggregate indexes | | | | | | |
| All items less shelter | 196.218 | 197.247 | 197.237 | -3.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| Commodities less food | 148.848 | 150.357 | 150.235 | -7.7 | .9 | -.1 |
| Nondurables | 200.165 | 201.863 | 201.561 | -6.2 | .7 | -.1 |
| Nondurables less food | 189.540 | 192.665 | 192.268 | -11.0 | 1.4 | -.2 |
| Nondurables less food and apparel | 234.610 | 237.973 | 234.992 | -13.6 | .2 | -1.3 |
| Services less rent of shelter ² | 240.979 | 241.837 | 242.155 | -.5 | .5 | .1 |
| Services less medical care services | 226.648 | 227.389 | 227.341 | .2 | .3 | .0 |
| Energy | 194.586 | 198.736 | 193.039 | -25.7 | -.8 | -2.9 |
| All items less energy | 201.929 | 202.424 | 203.068 | 1.7 | .6 | .3 |
| All items less food and energy | 200.238 | 200.867 | 201.684 | 2.1 | .7 | .4 |
| Commodities less food and energy commodities | 140.824 | 141.108 | 142.667 | 2.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 |
| Energy commodities | 220.093 | 229.314 | 218.906 | -33.6 | -.5 | -4.5 |
| Services less energy services | 245.706 | 246.605 | 246.816 | 2.0 | .5 | .1 |

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 1984=100 base.

³ Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

⁴ Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

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