



## NEWS RELEASE



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MIDWEST INFORMATION OFFICE: Chicago, Ill.

Technical information: (312) 353-1880 • [BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov](mailto:BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov) • [www.bls.gov/regions/midwest/](http://www.bls.gov/regions/midwest/)

Media contact: (312) 353-1138

### **Consumer Price Index, Cincinnati-Hamilton – 2013 Annual Averages**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Cincinnati-Hamilton area rose 1.7 percent from 2012 to 2013, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that the energy index increased 1.1 percent in 2013, primarily due to higher electricity and utility (piped) gas service prices. Food prices increased 0.9 percent. The index for all items less food and energy rose 2.1 percent. Within the all items less food and energy category, the indexes for shelter, education and communication, and medical care were higher, while the index for apparel was lower.

#### **Food**

Average annual food prices rose 0.9 percent in 2013 after rising 2.7 percent in 2012. Between the two components of the food index, prices for food at home increased 0.5 percent while food away from home costs advanced 2.0 percent.

#### **Energy**

The energy index increased 1.1 percent in 2013 after decreasing 1.6 percent in 2012. Within the energy category, the index for electricity rose 5.8 percent and utility (piped) gas service costs were 4.6 percent higher compared to their respective 2012 averages. In contrast, the index for gasoline declined 1.7 percent in 2013.

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

Over the year, the annual average index for all items less food and energy increased 2.1 percent. Among the index's components, higher costs were recorded for shelter (2.9 percent), education and communication (3.6 percent), and medical care (1.7 percent). In contrast, apparel prices fell 3.9 percent.

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**The first half 2014 Consumer Price Index for Cincinnati-Hamilton is scheduled to be released on August 19, 2014.**

### **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](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 Cincinnati-Hamilton, Ohio-Ky.-Ind. consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Dearborn and Ohio Counties in Indiana; Boone, Campbell, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, and Pendleton Counties in Kentucky; and Brown, Butler, Clermont, Hamilton and Warren Counties in Ohio.

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**Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes for semiannual averages and percent changes for selected periods Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 1st half 2013 from-	
	1st half 2012	2nd half 2012	1st half 2013	1st half 2012	2nd half 2012
<b>Expenditure category</b>					
All items .....	215.208	217.425	218.797	1.7	0.6
All items (1967=100).....	665.900	672.761	677.008	-	-
Food and beverages .....	210.354	211.825	211.953	0.8	0.1
Food .....	207.149	208.789	208.843	0.8	0.0
Food at home.....	206.083	207.047	206.771	0.3	-0.1
Food away from home .....	211.325	215.009	215.764	2.1	0.4
Alcoholic beverages .....	236.726	235.497	236.721	0.0	0.5
Housing .....	194.341	196.434	198.632	2.2	1.1
Shelter .....	221.495	223.628	227.208	2.6	1.6
Rent of primary residence <sup>(1)</sup> .....	221.307	223.757	226.652	2.4	1.3
Owners' equiv. rent of residences <sup>(1) (2)</sup> .....	223.685	225.255	228.890	2.3	1.6
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence <sup>(1) (2)</sup> .....	223.685	225.255	228.890	2.3	1.6
Fuels and utilities.....	201.948	210.200	211.789	4.9	0.8
Household energy.....	167.424	174.116	175.728	5.0	0.9
Energy services <sup>(1)</sup> .....	170.837	178.380	180.018	5.4	0.9
Electricity <sup>(1)</sup> .....	169.563	178.760	178.329	5.2	-0.2
Utility (piped) gas service <sup>(1)</sup> .....	166.206	169.402	175.978	5.9	3.9
Household furnishings and operations .....	116.273	115.264	112.965	-2.8	-2.0
Apparel.....	144.242	149.530	141.107	-2.2	-5.6
Transportation .....	209.880	209.719	210.972	0.5	0.6
Private transportation .....	208.762	208.484	208.345	-0.2	-0.1
Motor fuel.....	327.538	321.258	327.893	0.1	2.1
Gasoline (all types) .....	326.846	320.246	327.064	0.1	2.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular <sup>(3)</sup> .....	338.105	331.244	338.219	0.0	2.1
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade <sup>(3) (4)</sup> .....	315.395	308.914	315.856	0.1	2.2
Gasoline, unleaded premium <sup>(3)</sup> .....	277.961	272.645	278.457	0.2	2.1
Medical care.....	431.394	436.653	438.311	1.6	0.4
Recreation <sup>(5)</sup> .....	119.872	121.779	122.596	2.3	0.7
Education and communication <sup>(5)</sup> .....	129.558	132.829	135.498	4.6	2.0
Other goods and services .....	441.184	442.248	450.615	2.1	1.9
<b>Commodity and service group</b>					
All items .....	215.208	217.425	218.797	1.7	0.6
Commodities .....	179.840	180.438	179.213	-0.3	-0.7
Commodities less food & beverages .....	162.632	162.812	160.978	-1.0	-1.1
Nondurables less food & beverages.....	209.680	211.109	208.415	-0.6	-1.3

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

**Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes for semiannual averages and percent changes for selected periods Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 1st half 2013 from-	
	1st half 2012	2nd half 2012	1st half 2013	1st half 2012	2nd half 2012
Durables .....	118.318	117.152	116.177	-1.8	-0.8
Services .....	253.771	257.633	261.611	3.1	1.5
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>					
All items less medical care.....	205.253	207.334	208.688	1.7	0.7
All items less shelter .....	214.665	217.070	217.544	1.3	0.2
Commodities less food .....	165.914	166.055	164.295	-1.0	-1.1
Nondurables .....	211.959	213.424	212.064	0.0	-0.6
Nondurables less food .....	213.118	214.416	211.910	-0.6	-1.2
Services less rent of shelter <sup>(2)</sup> .....	297.845	304.473	308.910	3.7	1.5
Services less medical care services .....	237.723	241.494	245.422	3.2	1.6
Energy .....	238.998	239.954	243.801	2.0	1.6
All items less energy .....	215.285	217.444	218.984	1.7	0.7
All items less food and energy .....	218.077	220.354	222.202	1.9	0.8

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

<sup>(2)</sup> Index is on a November 1982=100 base.

<sup>(3)</sup> Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

<sup>(4)</sup> Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

<sup>(5)</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.