



NEWS RELEASE



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Consumer Price Index, Milwaukee-Racine –2013 Annual Averages

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Milwaukee-Racine area rose 1.8 percent from 2012 to 2013, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that the energy index declined 0.7 percent in 2013, as falling prices for gasoline and utility (piped) gas service were partially offset by higher prices for electricity. Food prices were up 2.4 percent. The index for all items less food and energy increased 2.0 percent. Within the all items less food and energy category, the indexes for shelter, medical care, education and communication, and apparel were higher over the year.

Food

Average annual food prices were 2.4 percent higher in 2013 after rising 3.0 percent in 2012. Between the two components of the food index, prices for food at home increased 1.9 percent and prices for food away from home rose 3.1 percent.

Energy

The energy index was down 0.7 percent in 2013 after registering little change in 2012. Within the energy category, the indexes for gasoline and utility (piped) gas service fell 2.7 percent and 4.9 percent, respectively. Electricity prices were 5.2 percent higher.

All items less food and energy

Over the year, the annual average index for all items less food and energy increased 2.0 percent. Among the index's components, higher costs were recorded for shelter (2.0 percent), medical care (5.3 percent), education and communication (3.0 percent), and apparel (4.9 percent).

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 Milwaukee-Racine, Wis., consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Washington, and Waukesha Counties in Wisconsin

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes for annual averages and percent changes for selected periodsMilwaukee-Racine, WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Annual average indexes		Percent change 2012 to 2013
	2012	2013	
Expenditure category			
All Items	221.143	225.061	1.8
All items (1967=100).....	683.024	695.125	
Food and beverages	236.138	241.396	2.2
Food	239.563	245.376	2.4
Food at home.....	236.634	241.069	1.9
Food away from home	244.409	251.875	3.1
Alcoholic beverages	205.537	204.062	-0.7
Housing	204.662	207.468	1.4
Shelter	244.666	249.496	2.0
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	226.706	231.690	2.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ^{(1) (2)}	260.421	265.361	1.9
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)}	260.421	265.361	1.9
Fuels and utilities.....	202.701	208.597	2.9
Household energy.....	170.348	173.590	1.9
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	174.543	177.974	2.0
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	200.152	210.530	5.2
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	125.474	119.383	-4.9
Household furnishings and operations	106.579	102.395	-3.9
Apparel.....	133.215	139.807	4.9
Transportation	207.468	207.285	-0.1
Private transportation	199.917	198.458	-0.7
Motor fuel.....	319.715	311.313	-2.6
Gasoline (all types)	316.568	307.864	-2.7
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	322.319	311.239	-3.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)}	330.901	325.903	-1.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	274.039	274.845	0.3
Medical care	444.698	468.166	5.3
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	113.646	114.849	1.1
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	145.670	150.041	3.0
Other goods and services	377.845	377.308	-0.1
Commodity and service group			
All Items	221.143	225.061	1.8
Commodities	182.541	183.965	0.8
Commodities less food & beverages	157.031	156.965	0.0
Nondurables less food & beverages.....	215.794	217.063	0.6

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes for annual averages and percent changes for selected periodsMilwaukee-Racine, WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Annual average indexes		Percent change 2012 to 2013
	2012	2013	
Durables	104.327	103.013	-1.3
Services	257.907	264.203	2.4
Special aggregate indexes			
All items less medical care.....	211.299	214.376	1.5
All items less shelter	214.494	218.186	1.7
Commodities less food.....	158.994	158.888	-0.1
Nondurables.....	228.366	231.436	1.3
Nondurables less food	214.865	215.981	0.5
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	284.956	293.173	2.9
Services less medical care services	242.922	247.974	2.1
Energy.....	237.427	235.688	-0.7
All items less energy	221.724	226.266	2.0
All items less food and energy	219.601	223.950	2.0

⁽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 November 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.

Table 2. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes for semiannual averages and percent changes for selected periodsMilwaukee-Racine, WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 2nd half 2013 from-	
	2nd half 2012	1st half 2013	2nd half 2013	2nd half 2012	1st half 2013
Expenditure category					
All Items	222.114	225.417	224.705	1.2	-0.3
All items (1967=100).....	686.025	696.224	694.026	-	-
Food and beverages	237.325	240.873	241.920	1.9	0.4
Food	240.753	244.753	245.998	2.2	0.5
Food at home.....	236.960	240.905	241.233	1.8	0.1
Food away from home	246.934	250.529	253.221	2.5	1.1
Alcoholic beverages	206.747	204.762	203.361	-1.6	-0.7
Housing	204.784	207.797	207.139	1.1	-0.3
Shelter	245.638	249.176	249.815	1.7	0.3
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	227.940	230.755	232.625	2.1	0.8
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ^{(1) (2)}	261.374	264.614	266.109	1.8	0.6
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)}	261.374	264.614	266.109	1.8	0.6
Fuels and utilities.....	201.710	209.403	207.792	3.0	-0.8
Household energy.....	168.752	175.120	172.060	2.0	-1.7
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	172.914	179.580	176.369	2.0	-1.8
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	201.884	208.715	212.345	5.2	1.7
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	119.520	125.394	113.373	-5.1	-9.6
Household furnishings and operations	105.224	104.779	100.011	-5.0	-4.6
Apparel.....	135.439	138.533	141.081	4.2	1.8
Transportation	206.811	210.045	204.525	-1.1	-2.6
Private transportation	199.095	200.717	196.199	-1.5	-2.3
Motor fuel.....	316.725	324.039	298.586	-5.7	-7.9
Gasoline (all types)	313.373	320.787	294.940	-5.9	-8.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	318.379	324.844	297.635	-6.5	-8.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)}	328.850	338.617	313.191	-4.8	-7.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	273.996	284.329	265.361	-3.2	-6.7
Medical care.....	456.191	465.723	470.608	3.2	1.0
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	113.667	114.817	114.881	1.1	0.1
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	147.960	149.910	150.173	1.5	0.2
Other goods and services	377.112	377.758	376.858	-0.1	-0.2
Commodity and service group					
All Items	222.114	225.417	224.705	1.2	-0.3
Commodities	182.581	184.843	183.087	0.3	-0.9
Commodities less food & beverages	156.636	158.346	155.583	-0.7	-1.7
Nondurables less food & beverages.....	215.449	218.680	215.446	0.0	-1.5

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes for semiannual averages and percent changes for selected periodsMilwaukee-Racine, WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 2nd half 2013 from-	
	2nd half 2012	1st half 2013	2nd half 2013	2nd half 2012	1st half 2013
Durables	103.877	104.192	101.834	-2.0	-2.3
Services	259.767	264.060	264.347	1.8	0.1
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care.....	211.820	214.851	213.900	1.0	-0.4
All items less shelter	215.512	218.847	217.525	0.9	-0.6
Commodities less food	158.640	160.258	157.517	-0.7	-1.7
Nondurables	228.702	232.124	230.748	0.9	-0.6
Nondurables less food	214.605	217.549	214.413	-0.1	-1.4
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	287.960	293.456	292.890	1.7	-0.2
Services less medical care services	244.200	248.004	247.943	1.5	0.0
Energy	235.205	242.077	229.299	-2.5	-5.3
All items less energy	223.150	226.141	226.391	1.5	0.1
All items less food and energy	221.070	223.907	223.994	1.3	0.0

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