



For Release: Thursday, February 26, 2015

15-292-CHI

MIDWEST INFORMATION OFFICE: Chicago, Ill.

Technical information: (312) 353-1880 BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/midwest

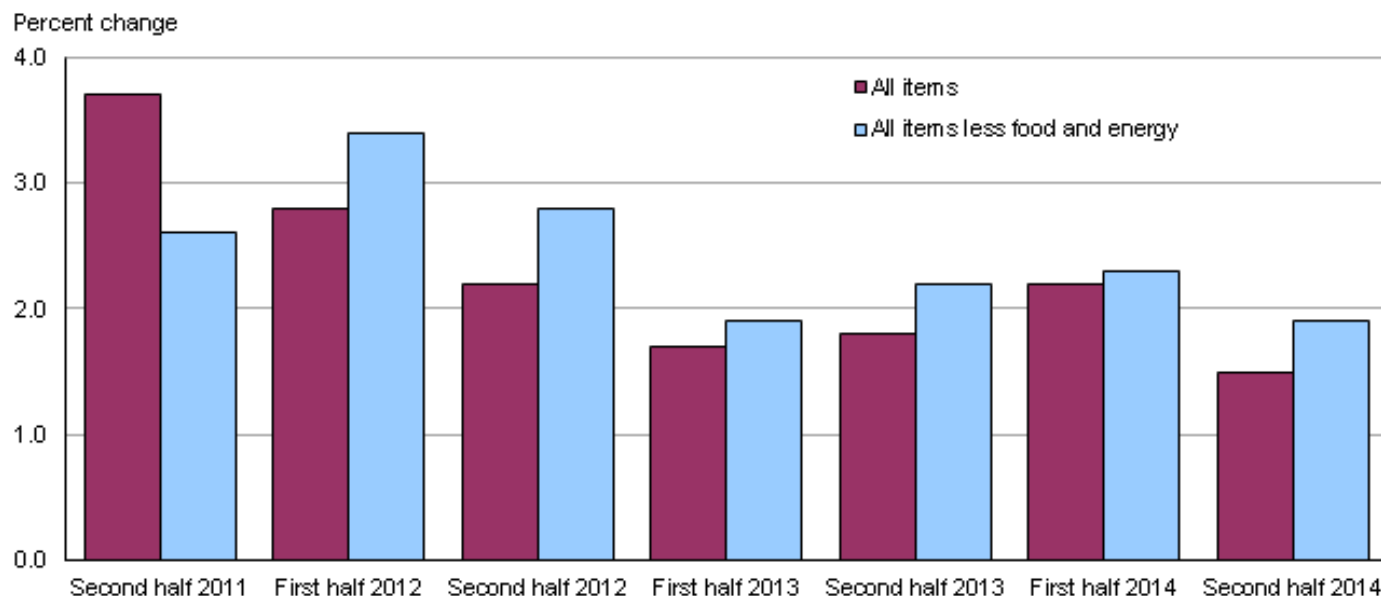
Media contact: (312) 353-1138

Consumer Price Index, Cincinnati-Hamilton – Second Half 2014

Local prices up 1.5 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Cincinnati-Hamilton area advanced 1.5 percent from the second half of 2013 to the second half of 2014, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that the all items less food and energy index was 1.9 percent higher compared to its second half 2013 level as price increases were noted for several categories, most notably shelter. Food prices rose 2.4 percent over the year while the index for energy decreased 3.1 percent. (See [chart 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Cincinnati, second half 2011–second half 2014



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 2.4 percent over the year. Within the food category, the index for food at home (groceries) was 2.4 percent higher while prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) were up 1.9 percent.

Energy

The energy index fell 3.1 percent from the second half of 2013 to the second half of 2014. Within the energy category, the indexes for electricity and utility (piped) gas service rose 2.0 percent and 7.5 percent, respectively, over the year. The index for gasoline was down 8.5 percent compared to its second half 2013 level.

All items less food and energy

The all items less food and energy index increased 1.9 percent over the year. Among the index's components, higher costs were recorded for shelter (2.0 percent), medical care (3.4 percent), and recreation (3.2 percent).

The first half 2015 Consumer Price Index for Cincinnati-Hamilton is scheduled to be released Wednesday, August 19, 2015, 8:30am ET.

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 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 28 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 **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.

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

Table 1. 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 2nd half 2014 from-	
	2nd half 2013	1st half 2014	2nd half 2014	2nd half 2013	1st half 2014
Expenditure category					
All items	221.262	223.680	224.519	1.5	0.4
All items (1967=100)	684.634	692.115	694.713	-	-
Food and beverages	213.825	216.670	219.340	2.6	1.2
Food	210.875	213.539	215.995	2.4	1.2
Food at home	208.402	210.195	213.434	2.4	1.5
Food away from home	219.151	222.206	223.400	1.9	0.5
Alcoholic beverages	236.009	241.219	246.780	4.6	2.3
Housing	202.884	202.905	206.092	1.6	1.6
Shelter	230.803	231.220	235.310	2.0	1.8
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	232.322	233.910	237.857	2.4	1.7
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ⁽¹⁾ ⁽²⁾	232.272	232.806	235.837	1.5	1.3
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾ ⁽²⁾	232.272	232.806	235.837	1.5	1.3
Fuels and utilities	220.982	220.651	228.500	3.4	3.6
Household energy	183.408	183.691	189.655	3.4	3.2
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	188.284	187.686	194.709	3.4	3.7
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	190.252	185.672	194.088	2.0	4.5
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	175.009	185.316	188.095	7.5	1.5
Household furnishings and operations	114.968	115.592	112.019	-2.6	-3.1
Apparel	141.214	139.750	138.876	-1.7	-0.6
Transportation	210.176	215.548	209.692	-0.2	-2.7
Private transportation	207.420	212.176	206.193	-0.6	-2.8
Motor fuel	310.158	327.023	284.312	-8.3	-13.1
Gasoline (all types)	308.996	325.409	282.826	-8.5	-13.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	319.224	336.125	290.872	-8.9	-13.5
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ⁽³⁾ ⁽⁴⁾	298.971	314.508	275.255	-7.9	-12.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	264.086	278.792	246.999	-6.5	-11.4
Medical care	444.705	456.412	459.784	3.4	0.7
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	122.379	125.330	126.350	3.2	0.8
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	136.223	135.702	135.904	-0.2	0.1
Other goods and services	459.508	470.000	470.222	2.3	0.0
Commodity and service group					
All items	221.262	223.680	224.519	1.5	0.4
Commodities	179.447	182.361	179.315	-0.1	-1.7
Commodities less food & beverages	160.446	163.207	157.909	-1.6	-3.2
Nondurables less food & beverages	205.670	211.184	201.480	-2.0	-4.6
Durables	118.033	118.767	117.150	-0.7	-1.4
Services	266.334	268.306	272.948	2.5	1.7
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	210.976	212.972	213.694	1.3	0.3
All items less shelter	219.377	222.844	222.389	1.4	-0.2
Commodities less food	163.753	166.608	161.543	-1.3	-3.0
Nondurables	211.517	215.814	211.961	0.2	-1.8
Nondurables less food	209.251	214.800	205.847	-1.6	-4.2
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	314.206	319.065	324.584	3.3	1.7
Services less medical care services	250.138	251.875	256.580	2.6	1.9
Energy	240.225	247.603	232.658	-3.1	-6.0
All items less energy	221.870	224.093	226.194	1.9	0.9

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. 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 2nd half 2014 from-	
	2nd half 2013	1st half 2014	2nd half 2014	2nd half 2013	1st half 2014
All items less food and energy	225.275	227.404	229.455	1.9	0.9

Footnotes

(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.

- Data not available.