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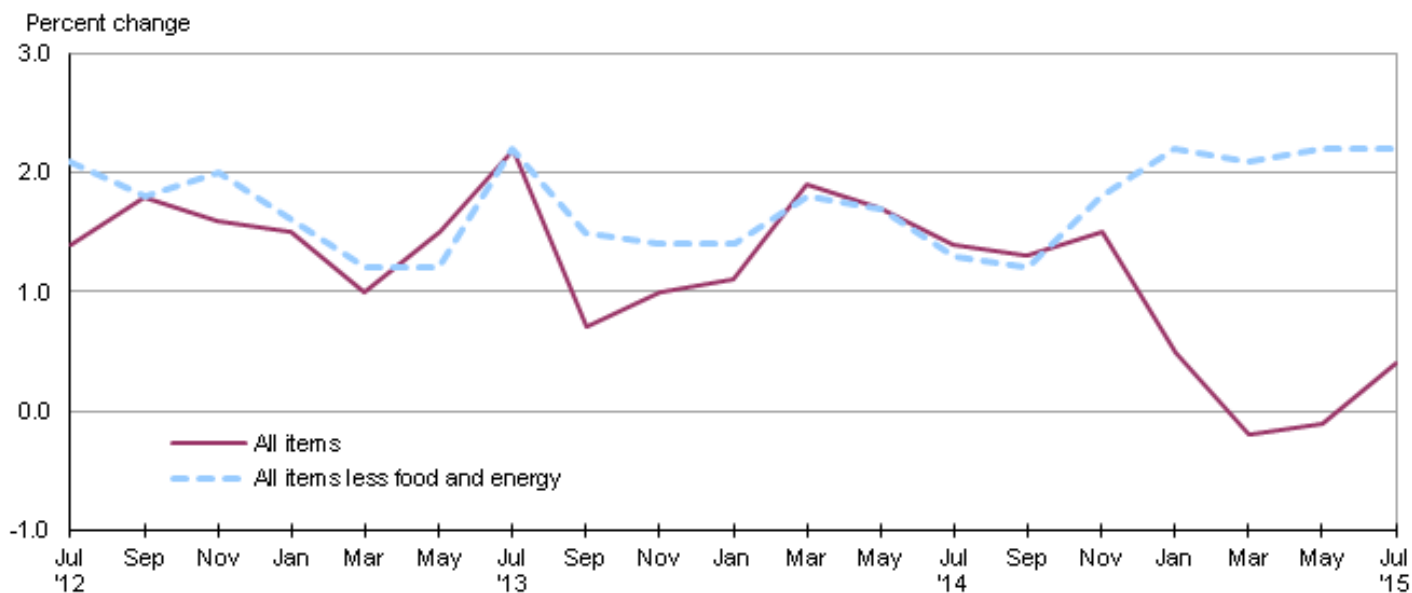
Consumer Price Index, Cleveland-Akron-Lorain — July 2015

Local prices up 0.4 percent over the year

The Cleveland-Akron, Ohio, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.9 percent from May to July, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that food prices and energy costs rose 0.1 percent and 5.9 percent, respectively, over the bi-monthly period. The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.6 percent. Within this last category, costs were higher for lodging away from home over the two-month period and prices for apparel were lower. (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 Cleveland area all items CPI-U rose 0.4 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The energy index declined 15.9 percent from its July 2014 level due to decreases in gasoline prices and utility (piped) gas service costs over the year. The index for all items less food and energy rose 2.2 percent over the past 12 months. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Cleveland, July 2012–July 2015



Food

Food prices edged up 0.1 percent from May to July following a 0.5-percent increase over the previous bi-monthly period. Between the food index's two components, prices for both food at home (groceries) and food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) rose 0.1 percent, respectively, over the recent two-month period. Over the year, food at home prices were up 0.8 percent while prices for food away from home rose 3.5 percent. Overall food costs rose 1.9 percent from a year ago.

Energy

The energy index increased 5.9 percent from May to July following a 0.4-percent increase over the previous bi-monthly period. In the recent period, rising costs for electricity (11.2 percent), gasoline (3.4 percent) and utility (piped) gas service (3.9 percent) all contributed to the increase in the energy index.

Over the year, the energy index fell 15.9 percent. An annual increase in the cost of electricity (4.5 percent) was more than offset by a drop in gasoline prices (-23.9 percent) and a decline in utility (piped) gas service costs (-24.3 percent).

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.6 percent from May to July. Among the index's components, increases were recorded in costs for lodging away from home. Apparel prices declined 4.3 percent.

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 2.2 percent mostly due to a 3.1-percent annual increase in the cost of shelter and a 5.4-percent rise in medical care costs.

Table A. Cleveland CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015	
	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month
January.....	0.7	2.2	0.4	2.1	0.2	1.5	0.3	1.1	-0.7	0.5
March	0.9	2.8	1.3	2.6	0.9	1.0	1.6	1.9	0.9	-0.2
May.....	1.3	4.0	-0.1	1.1	0.4	1.5	0.2	1.7	0.4	-0.1
July	-0.2	3.8	0.0	1.4	0.7	2.2	0.5	1.4	0.9	0.4
September.....	0.6	3.7	1.0	1.8	-0.4	0.7	-0.5	1.3		
November.....	-0.8	2.5	-1.0	1.6	-0.7	1.0	-0.6	1.5		

The September 2015 Consumer Price Index for Cleveland is scheduled to be released on Thursday, October 15, 2015.

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 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 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 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 **Cleveland-Akron, Ohio** consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit Counties in Ohio.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Cleveland-Akron, OH (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	May 2015	Jun. 2015	Jul. 2015	Jul. 2014	May 2015	Jun. 2015
Expenditure category						
All items	221.277	-	223.368	0.4	0.9	-
All items (1967=100)	709.076	-	715.778	-	-	-
Food and beverages	250.742	-	250.988	1.9	0.1	-
Food	255.980	-	256.230	1.9	0.1	-
Food at home	248.697	247.672	249.020	0.8	0.1	0.5
Food away from home	270.248	-	270.389	3.5	0.1	-
Alcoholic beverages	192.115	-	192.321	2.6	0.1	-
Housing	203.371	-	208.166	1.7	2.4	-
Shelter	235.938	238.698	240.584	3.1	2.0	0.8
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	232.147	233.353	233.816	2.5	0.7	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ^{(1) (2)}	228.045	228.105	228.073	1.7	0.0	0.0
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)}	228.045	228.105	228.073	1.7	0.0	0.0
Fuels and utilities	189.674	-	201.660	-4.2	6.3	-
Household energy	155.418	170.446	168.347	-7.0	8.3	-1.2
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	153.731	168.991	167.070	-7.0	8.7	-1.1
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	171.258	197.085	190.363	4.5	11.2	-3.4
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	114.443	114.327	118.853	-24.3	3.9	4.0
Household furnishings and operations	117.525	-	117.785	-0.5	0.2	-
Apparel	133.465	-	127.772	1.7	-4.3	-
Transportation	202.337	-	203.081	-6.1	0.4	-
Private transportation	203.113	-	204.626	-6.0	0.7	-
Motor fuel	261.809	283.273	270.587	-23.9	3.4	-4.5
Gasoline (all types)	258.914	280.156	267.605	-23.9	3.4	-4.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	249.390	269.588	256.968	-24.8	3.0	-4.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)}	268.065	291.489	279.186	-22.1	4.1	-4.2
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	259.876	280.955	271.198	-20.3	4.4	-3.5
Medical care	414.176	-	414.823	5.4	0.2	-
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	117.148	-	117.438	1.2	0.2	-
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	124.916	-	125.566	-1.0	0.5	-
Other goods and services	409.363	-	412.017	2.5	0.6	-
Commodity and service group						
All items	221.277	-	223.368	0.4	0.9	-
Commodities	191.880	-	191.955	-1.5	0.0	-
Commodities less food & beverages	161.618	-	161.620	-3.6	0.0	-
Nondurables less food & beverages	208.818	-	208.429	-6.4	-0.2	-
Durables	111.003	-	111.288	0.6	0.3	-
Services	251.524	-	255.456	1.8	1.6	-
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	212.432	-	214.581	0.0	1.0	-
All items less shelter	217.410	-	218.468	-0.7	0.5	-
Commodities less food	162.907	-	162.915	-3.4	0.0	-
Nondurables	230.534	-	230.447	-2.2	0.0	-
Nondurables less food	207.436	-	207.087	-5.9	-0.2	-
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	273.626	-	276.660	0.4	1.1	-
Services less medical care services	239.556	-	243.581	1.5	1.7	-
Energy	196.079	213.635	207.651	-15.9	5.9	-2.8
All items less energy	225.756	-	226.946	2.2	0.5	-

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Cleveland-Akron, OH (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	May 2015	Jun. 2015	Jul. 2015	Jul. 2014	May 2015	Jun. 2015
All items less food and energy	220.593	-	221.936	2.2	0.6	-

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 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.