



For Release: Friday, July 15, 2016

16-1445-CHI

MIDWEST INFORMATION OFFICE: Chicago, Ill.

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

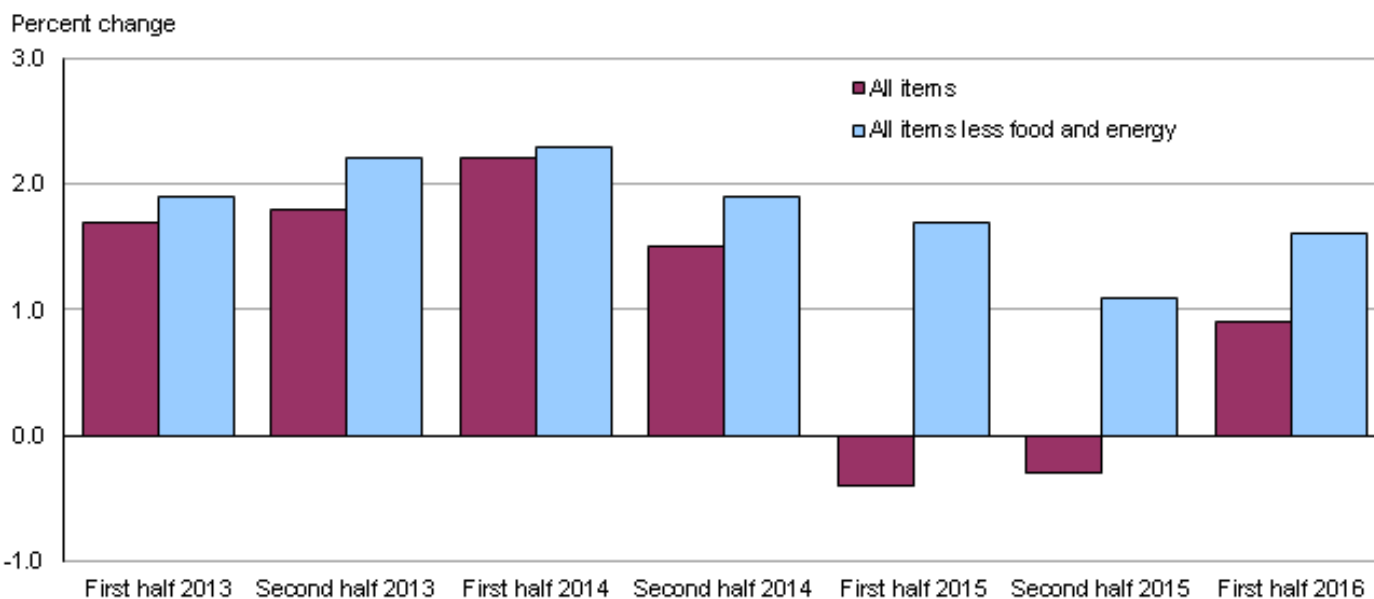
Media contact: (312) 353-1138

Consumer Price Index, Cincinnati-Hamilton — First Half 2016

Local prices rose 0.9 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Cincinnati-Hamilton area rose 0.9 percent from the first half of 2015 to the first half of 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that the all items less food and energy index was 1.6 percent higher compared to its first half 2015 level as price increases were noted for several categories: medical care, shelter, and household furnishings and operations. Food prices edged down 0.1 percent over the year while the index for energy decreased 2.7 percent. (See [chart 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Cincinnati, first half 2013–first half 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices edged down 0.1 percent from their first half 2015 levels. Within the food category, the index for food at home (groceries) was 2.3 percent lower while prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) were up 2.8 percent.

Energy

The energy index fell 2.7 percent from the first half of 2015 to the first half of 2016. Within the energy category, the indexes for gasoline and utility (piped) gas service declined 12.3 percent and 6.6 percent, respectively, over the year. The index for electricity rose 11.2 percent compared to its first half 2015 level.

All items less food and energy

The all items less food and energy index increased 1.6 percent over the year. Among the index's components, higher costs were recorded for medical care (5.0 percent), shelter (1.2 percent), and household furnishings and operations (3.0 percent). Prices declined 3.7 percent for education and communication over the year.

The second half 2016 Consumer Price Index for Cincinnati-Hamilton is scheduled to be released in January 2017.

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/pdf/homch17.pdf.

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 1st half 2016 from- | |
|---|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|--|------------------|
| | 1st half 2015 | 2nd half 2015 | 1st half 2016 | 1st half 2015 | 2nd half 2015 |
| Expenditure category | | | | | |
| All items | 222.788 | 223.768 | 224.871 | 0.9 | 0.5 |
| All items (1967=100) | 689.355 | 692.387 | 695.799 | - | - |
| Food and beverages | 220.267 | 220.788 | 220.140 | -0.1 | -0.3 |
| Food | 217.052 | 217.530 | 216.751 | -0.1 | -0.4 |
| Food at home | 214.125 | 212.216 | 209.126 | -2.3 | -1.5 |
| Food away from home | 225.292 | 228.976 | 231.605 | 2.8 | 1.1 |
| Alcoholic beverages | 245.699 | 246.798 | 247.588 | 0.8 | 0.3 |
| Housing | 205.651 | 207.636 | 209.499 | 1.9 | 0.9 |
| Shelter | 237.133 | 238.064 | 239.862 | 1.2 | 0.8 |
| Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾ | 240.307 | 242.803 | 244.768 | 1.9 | 0.8 |
| Owners' equiv. rent of residences ^{(1) (2)} | 237.664 | 238.344 | 240.588 | 1.2 | 0.9 |
| Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)} | 237.664 | 238.344 | 240.588 | 1.2 | 0.9 |
| Fuels and utilities | 214.231 | 223.026 | 225.311 | 5.2 | 1.0 |
| Household energy | 175.554 | 183.822 | 186.475 | 6.2 | 1.4 |
| Energy services ⁽¹⁾ | 180.467 | 189.554 | 192.795 | 6.8 | 1.7 |
| Electricity ⁽¹⁾ | 179.360 | 193.153 | 199.454 | 11.2 | 3.3 |
| Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾ | 175.840 | 171.219 | 164.191 | -6.6 | -4.1 |
| Household furnishings and operations | 113.917 | 114.913 | 117.333 | 3.0 | 2.1 |
| Apparel | 144.581 | 141.160 | 144.038 | -0.4 | 2.0 |
| Transportation | 198.886 | 199.744 | 197.109 | -0.9 | -1.3 |
| Private transportation | 195.056 | 196.559 | 193.666 | -0.7 | -1.5 |
| Motor fuel | 227.857 | 225.326 | 199.362 | -12.5 | -11.5 |
| Gasoline (all types) | 226.759 | 224.337 | 198.855 | -12.3 | -11.4 |
| Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾ | 232.079 | 229.042 | 202.113 | -12.9 | -11.8 |
| Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)} | 222.136 | 222.655 | 201.443 | -9.3 | -9.5 |
| Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾ | 202.371 | 207.829 | 192.189 | -5.0 | -7.5 |
| Medical care | 468.622 | 471.922 | 491.865 | 5.0 | 4.2 |
| Recreation ⁽⁵⁾ | 126.128 | 126.369 | 128.820 | 2.1 | 1.9 |
| Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾ | 133.292 | 130.372 | 128.352 | -3.7 | -1.5 |
| Other goods and services | 477.130 | 492.263 | 492.706 | 3.3 | 0.1 |
| Commodity and service group | | | | | |
| All items | 222.788 | 223.768 | 224.871 | 0.9 | 0.5 |
| Commodities | 175.929 | 175.740 | 175.107 | -0.5 | -0.4 |
| Commodities less food & beverages | 152.862 | 152.388 | 151.830 | -0.7 | -0.4 |
| Nondurables less food & beverages | 188.964 | 187.769 | 185.716 | -1.7 | -1.1 |
| Durables | 118.224 | 118.340 | 119.028 | 0.7 | 0.6 |
| Services | 272.800 | 274.938 | 277.669 | 1.8 | 1.0 |
| Special aggregate indexes | | | | | |
| All items less medical care | 211.473 | 212.346 | 212.581 | 0.5 | 0.1 |
| All items less shelter | 219.231 | 220.240 | 221.073 | 0.8 | 0.4 |
| Commodities less food | 156.553 | 156.115 | 155.549 | -0.6 | -0.4 |
| Nondurables | 205.758 | 205.375 | 203.887 | -0.9 | -0.7 |
| Nondurables less food | 193.841 | 192.761 | 190.707 | -1.6 | -1.1 |
| Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾ | 321.958 | 325.637 | 329.545 | 2.4 | 1.2 |
| Services less medical care services | 255.961 | 257.779 | 260.135 | 1.6 | 0.9 |
| Energy | 200.140 | 203.850 | 194.644 | -2.7 | -4.5 |
| All items less energy | 227.881 | 228.585 | 230.987 | 1.4 | 1.1 |

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 1st half 2016 from- | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| | 1st half 2015 | 2nd half 2015 | 1st half 2016 | 1st half 2015 | 2nd half 2015 |
| All items less food and energy | 231.266 | 232.015 | 235.036 | 1.6 | 1.3 |

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.