



For Release: Friday, July 15, 2016

16-1444-CHI

MIDWEST INFORMATION OFFICE: Chicago, Ill.

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

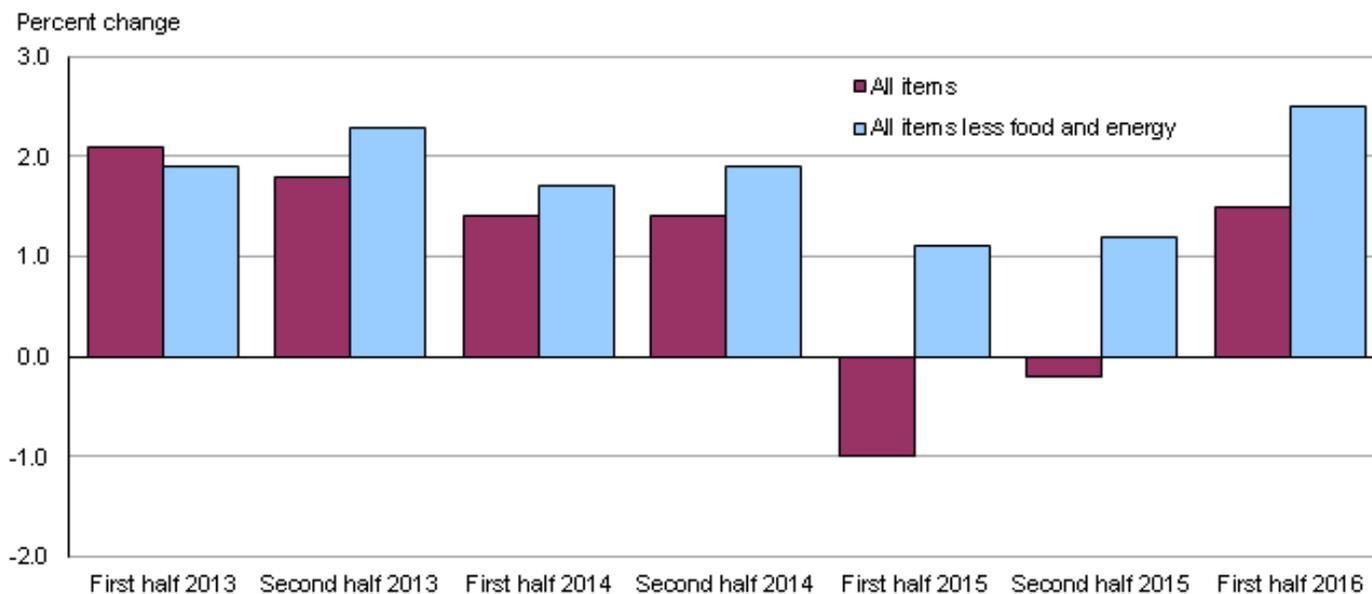
Media contact: (312) 353-1138

Consumer Price Index, Minneapolis-St. Paul — First Half 2016

Local prices rose 1.5 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area rose 1.5 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 2.5 percent higher compared to its first half 2015 level as price increases were noted for several categories: shelter, medical care, and recreation. Food prices rose 0.8 percent over the year while the index for energy fell 8.5 percent. (See [chart 1.](#))

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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 0.8 percent from their first half 2015 levels. Within the food category, the index for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) increased 3.1 percent over the year while prices for food at home (groceries) were 1.0 percent lower.

Energy

The energy index decreased 8.5 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 15.1 percent and 12.7 percent, respectively, over the year. The index for electricity rose 5.9 percent compared to its first half 2015 level.

All items less food and energy

The all items less food and energy index increased 2.5 percent over the year. Among the index's components, higher costs were recorded for shelter (4.0 percent), medical care (3.7 percent), and recreation (2.9 percent).

The second half 2016 Consumer Price Index for Minneapolis-St. Paul 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 **Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.-Wis.** metropolitan area covered in this release is comprised of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright Counties and Pierce and St. Croix Counties in Wisconsin.

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 Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI (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	229.374	231.760	232.777	1.5	0.4
All items (1967=100)	720.816	728.311	731.506	-	-
Food and beverages	269.800	272.282	271.883	0.8	-0.1
Food	258.628	261.487	260.785	0.8	-0.3
Food at home	250.130	252.407	247.678	-1.0	-1.9
Food away from home	271.699	275.526	280.251	3.1	1.7
Alcoholic beverages	371.538	368.029	372.357	0.2	1.2
Housing	207.453	209.754	213.268	2.8	1.7
Shelter	238.532	242.483	248.079	4.0	2.3
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	241.790	245.933	250.312	3.5	1.8
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ^{(1) (2)}	248.032	252.307	258.224	4.1	2.3
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)}	248.032	252.307	258.224	4.1	2.3
Fuels and utilities	199.068	198.092	200.078	0.5	1.0
Household energy	181.137	177.839	178.871	-1.3	0.6
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	184.380	181.648	182.471	-1.0	0.5
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	237.679	243.625	251.636	5.9	3.3
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	139.447	128.061	121.781	-12.7	-4.9
Household furnishings and operations	122.957	121.526	119.599	-2.7	-1.6
Apparel	133.291	137.800	127.054	-4.7	-7.8
Transportation	196.981	198.554	191.730	-2.7	-3.4
Private transportation	179.202	181.630	175.422	-2.1	-3.4
Motor fuel	193.152	194.019	163.836	-15.2	-15.6
Gasoline (all types)	193.562	194.835	164.347	-15.1	-15.6
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	194.863	195.629	164.382	-15.6	-16.0
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)}	197.470	199.182	171.425	-13.2	-13.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	232.817	237.912	204.187	-12.3	-14.2
Medical care	492.003	495.139	510.252	3.7	3.1
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	121.481	122.565	124.993	2.9	2.0
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	136.597	138.004	138.192	1.2	0.1
Other goods and services	359.731	363.260	367.175	2.1	1.1
Commodity and service group					
All Items	229.374	231.760	232.777	1.5	0.4
Commodities	184.388	185.166	180.860	-1.9	-2.3
Commodities less food & beverages	145.657	145.813	140.436	-3.6	-3.7
Nondurables less food & beverages	187.283	188.881	176.940	-5.5	-6.3
Durables	107.992	106.987	106.328	-1.5	-0.6
Services	268.972	272.786	278.725	3.6	2.2
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	217.557	219.912	220.301	1.3	0.2
All items less shelter	226.501	228.203	227.236	0.3	-0.4
Commodities less food	153.762	153.839	148.547	-3.4	-3.4
Nondurables	226.432	228.443	221.450	-2.2	-3.1
Nondurables less food	199.726	201.109	189.720	-5.0	-5.7
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	318.114	321.785	328.220	3.2	2.0
Services less medical care services	249.919	253.713	258.423	3.4	1.9
Energy	189.981	188.764	173.911	-8.5	-7.9
All items less energy	236.798	239.567	242.159	2.3	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 Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI (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	233.674	236.431	239.508	2.5	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 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.