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Consumer Price Index, Chicago-Gary-Kenosha — June 2017 Local prices rose 1.3 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Chicago-Gary-Kenosha area was unchanged in June, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that food prices were also unchanged and energy prices increased 0.9 percent in June. The all items less food and energy index decreased 0.1 percent over the month. Among the indexes within the all items less food and energy category, prices were lower for apparel. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the Chicago area all items CPI-U increased 1.3 percent. (See chart 1 and table A.) Over the year, the food and energy indexes rose 0.8 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively. The all items less food and energy index was 1.5 percent higher over the year. (See table 1.)



Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Chicago, June 2014-June 2017

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Percent change

Food

Food prices were unchanged in June. The food at home index (groceries) declined 0.1 percent, while the food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) index rose 0.1 percent. Within the food at home group, indexes were lower in June for carbonated drinks and frozen and freeze dried prepared foods, while the indexes for citrus fruits and uncooked beef steaks rose.

From June 2016 to June 2017, the food index increased 0.8 percent. Food away from home prices rose 1.8 percent over the year, while grocery prices were unchanged from June a year ago.

Energy

The energy index rose 0.9 percent in June, primarily due to a 6.8-percent increase in electricity costs. To a lesser extent, a 1.7-percent increase in the index for utility (piped) gas service also contributed. Gasoline prices declined 3.4 percent in June.

Over the year, the Chicago area energy index rose 0.7 percent. From June 2016 to June 2017 electricity and utility (piped) gas service costs rose 6.3 percent and 19.5 percent, respectively. In contrast, gasoline prices were down 9.8 percent over the year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy decreased 0.1 percent in June, primarily due to the 3.8-percent decline in the index for apparel. Among the index's components, prices were higher for shelter (0.5 percent) and recreation (1.0 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 1.5 percent. Increases in the indexes for shelter (2.4 percent) and medical care (4.2 percent) were major contributing factors.

| Month | 2013 | | 2014 | | 2015 | | 2016 | | 2017 | |
|-----------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|
| | 1-month | 12- month |
| January | 0.2 | 1.2 | 0.9 | 1.2 | -0.2 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 1.8 |
| February | 1.1 | 2.3 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.0 | -0.2 | -0.2 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 2.2 |
| March | -0.1 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.9 | 0.7 | -0.6 | 0.1 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 2.0 |
| April | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 2.4 | 0.1 | -0.9 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 1.7 |
| May | 0.5 | 1.5 | -0.1 | 1.8 | 0.3 | -0.5 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 1.8 |
| June | 0.1 | 1.7 | 0.4 | 2.0 | 0.2 | -0.7 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 1.3 |
| July | -0.2 | 1.7 | -0.4 | 1.9 | -0.1 | -0.5 | -0.8 | -0.1 | | |
| August | 0.1 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 1.9 | 0.4 | -0.1 | 0.2 | -0.2 | | |
| September | -0.2 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 2.1 | -0.3 | -0.4 | 0.6 | 0.6 | | |
| October | -0.3 | 0.5 | -0.4 | 2.0 | -0.1 | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.8 | | |
| November | -0.3 | 0.6 | -0.8 | 1.6 | -0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 1.5 | | |
| December | -0.3 | 0.5 | -0.4 | 1.5 | -0.6 | 0.0 | -0.2 | 1.9 | | |

Table A. Chicago CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

The July 2017 Consumer Price Index for Chicago is scheduled to be released on Friday, August 11, 2017.

Consumer Price Index Geographic Revision for 2018

In January 2018, BLS will introduce a new geographic area sample for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). As part of the new sample, the index for this area will be renamed. The first indexes using the new structure will be published in February 2018. Additional information on the geographic revision is available at: www.bls.gov/cpi/additional-resources/geographic-revision-2018.htm.

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 **Chicago-Gary-Kenosha**, **Ill.-Ind.-Wis.** consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties in Illinois; Lake and Porter Counties in Indiana; and Kenosha County 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 and percent changes for selected periods Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

| Item and Group | | Indexes | | Percent change from- | | | |
|--|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| | Apr. 2017 | May 2017 | Jun. 2017 | Jun. 2016 | Apr. 2017 | May 2017 | |
| Expenditure category | - | | - | | - | - | |
| All items | 233.066 | 233.443 | 233.407 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 | |
| All items (1967=100) | 696.303 | 697.430 | 697.323 | - | - | | |
| Food and beverages | 242.079 | 244.050 | 244.107 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.0 | |
| Food | 241.723 | 243.852 | 243.753 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.0 | |
| Food at home | 231.135 | 234.298 | 233.982 | 0.0 | 1.2 | -0.1 | |
| Food away from home | 252.175 | 252.623 | 252.870 | 1.8 | 0.3 | 0.1 | |
| Alcoholic beverages | 245.612 | 245.241 | 247.590 | 1.3 | 0.8 | 1.0 | |
| Housing | 240.022 | 241.575 | 243.536 | 3.0 | 1.5 | 0.8 | |
| Shelter | 300.859 | 302.965 | 304.455 | 2.4 | 1.2 | 0.5 | |
| Rent of primary residence(1) | 319.569 | 320.162 | 320.744 | 2.6 | 0.4 | 0.2 | |
| Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2) | 306.145 | 306.420 | 306.589 | 2.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | |
| Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2) | 306.145 | 306.420 | 306.589 | 2.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | |
| Fuels and utilities | 201.534 | 202.820 | 210.357 | 9.2 | 4.4 | 3.7 | |
| Household energy | 159.146 | 159.677 | 167.135 | 11.0 | 5.0 | 4.7 | |
| Energy services(1) | 162.311 | 162.850 | 170.522 | 11.1 | 5.1 | 4. | |
| Electricity(1) | 153.313 | 152.474 | 162.788 | 6.3 | 6.2 | 6.8 | |
| Utility (piped) gas service(1) | 162.697 | 165.410 | 168.160 | 19.5 | 3.4 | 1. | |
| Household furnishings and operations | 92.478 | 92.645 | 92.662 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.0 | |
| Apparel | 86.812 | 86.119 | 82.849 | -3.9 | -4.6 | -3.8 | |
| Transportation | 186.064 | 183.936 | 180.326 | -2.9 | -3.1 | -2.0 | |
| Private transportation | 182.061 | 180.002 | 176.792 | -3.0 | -2.9 | -1.8 | |
| Motor fuel | 231.854 | 221.368 | 213.946 | -9.8 | -7.7 | -3.4 | |
| Gasoline (all types) | 229.645 | 219.200 | 211.791 | -9.8 | -7.8 | -3.4 | |
| Gasoline, unleaded regular(3) | 220.437 | 209.966 | 202.527 | -10.5 | -8.1 | -3. | |
| Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(3)(4) | 258.367 | 247.411 | 240.896 | -7.6 | -6.8 | -2.0 | |
| Gasoline, unleaded premium(3) | 253.755 | 246.062 | 239.374 | -6.4 | -5.7 | -2. | |
| Medical care | 490.939 | 493.445 | 494.011 | 4.2 | 0.6 | 0.1 | |
| Recreation(5) | 113.185 | 111.163 | 112.229 | 2.0 | -0.8 | 1.0 | |
| Education and communication(5) | 142.626 | 142.921 | 142.530 | 0.5 | -0.1 | -0.3 | |
| Other goods and services | 385.179 | 385.182 | 384.961 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.1 | |
| Commodity and service group | | | | | | | |
| All items | 233.066 | 233.443 | 233.407 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 | |
| Commodities | 165.906 | 165.595 | 164.499 | -1.5 | -0.8 | -0.7 | |
| Commodities less food & beverages | 127.201 | 125.990 | 124.484 | -3.2 | -2.1 | -1.2 | |
| Nondurables less food & beverages | 169.453 | 166.277 | 162.950 | -4.3 | -3.8 | -2.0 | |
| Durables | 88.096 | 88.379 | 88.284 | -1.9 | 0.2 | -0. | |
| Services | 296.818 | 297.873 | 298.891 | 2.9 | 0.7 | 0.3 | |
| Special aggregate indexes | | | | | | | |
| All items less medical care | 222.001 | 222.285 | 222.223 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | |
| All items less shelter | 210.220 | 209.999 | 209.434 | 0.8 | -0.4 | -0.3 | |
| Commodities less food | 131.484 | 130.282 | 128.857 | -3.0 | -2.0 | -1. | |
| Nondurables | 206.348 | 205.635 | 203.914 | -1.4 | -1.2 | -0.8 | |
| Nondurables less food | 174.545 | 171.509 | 168.481 | -3.8 | -3.5 | -1.3 | |
| Services less rent of shelter(2) | 307.962 | 307.927 | 308.480 | 3.6 | 0.2 | 0.2 | |
| Services less medical care services | 282.006 | 282.946 | 284.054 | 2.7 | 0.7 | 0.4 | |
| Energy | 187.023 | 183.288 | 184.973 | 0.7 | -1.1 | 0.9 | |
| All items less energy | 239.347 | 240.108 | 239.913 | 1.4 | 0.2 | -0.1 | |
| All items less food and energy | 239.760 | 240.275 | 240.061 | 1.5 | 0.1 | -0. | |

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. Data not seasonally adjusted.