



For Release: Friday, May 10, 2019

19-773-CHI

MIDWEST INFORMATION OFFICE: Chicago, Ill.

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

Media contact: (312) 353-1138

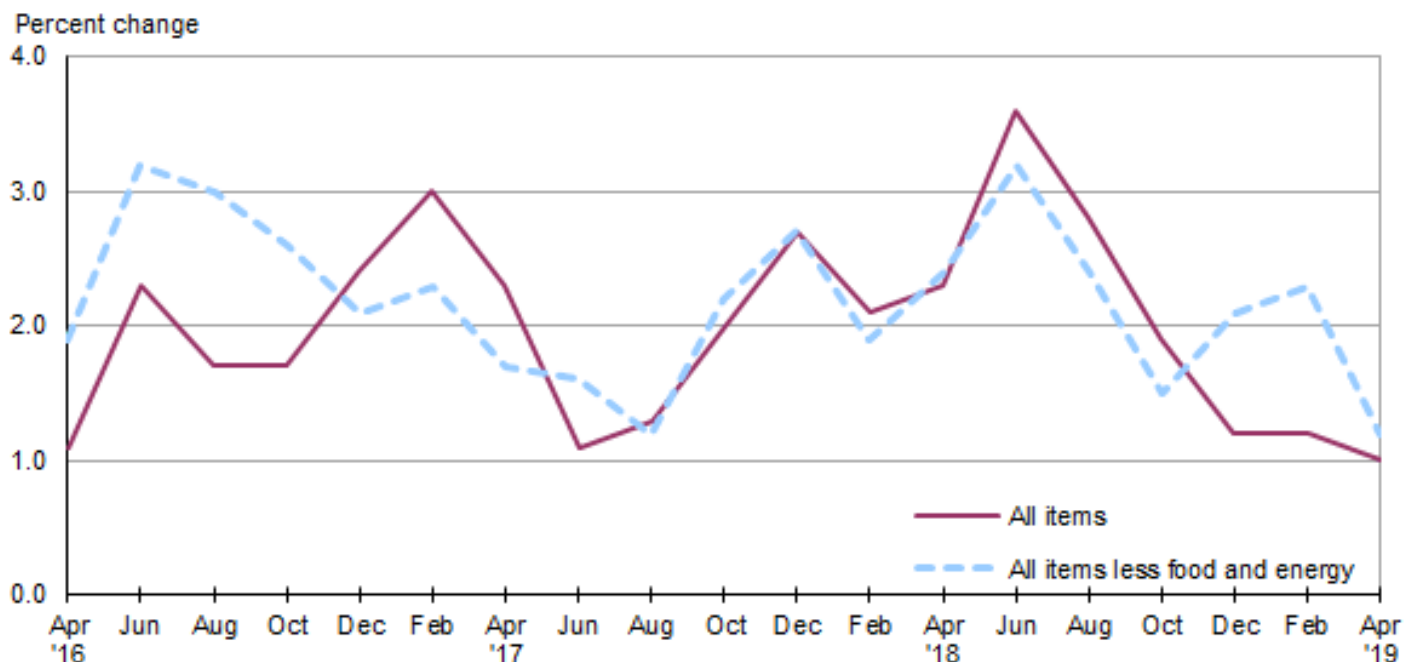
Consumer Price Index, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn — April 2019

Local prices increased 1.0 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn area increased 0.6 percent from February to April, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that the food and energy indexes rose 0.1 percent and 11.4 percent, respectively, over the bi-monthly period. The index for all items less food and energy decreased 0.3 percent from February to April. Among the indexes within the all items less food and energy category, prices were lower for apparel and new and used motor vehicles. (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 Detroit all items CPI-U increased 1.0 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) The food and energy indexes rose 0.2 percent each from April 2018 to April 2019. The index for all items less food and energy rose 1.2 percent over the year. (See [table 1.](#))

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI, April 2016–April 2019



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices increased 0.1 percent from February to April. Of the two components within the food index, prices for food at home (groceries) were unchanged and prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) increased 0.3 percent over the bi-monthly period.

Over the year, food prices in the Detroit area rose 0.2 percent. From April 2018 to April 2019, prices for groceries decreased 0.4 percent and prices for food away from home increased 0.8 percent.

Energy

The energy index for Detroit was 11.4 percent higher from February to April, largely due to gasoline prices rising 23.3 percent. Utility (piped) gas service costs were down 0.1 percent and electricity costs were unchanged during the same period.

From April 2018 to April 2019, overall energy prices rose 0.2 percent. Gasoline prices increased 4.3 percent over the year, while electricity costs decreased 7.2 percent and utility (piped) gas service costs were unchanged.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy decreased 0.3 percent from February to April. Among the index's components, prices were lower for apparel (-4.7 percent) and new and used motor vehicles (-2.1 percent), but higher for medical care (0.7 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 1.2 percent. Increases in the indexes for shelter (2.6 percent) and new and used motor vehicles (5.8 percent) were contributing factors.

Table A. Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI, CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month
February	-0.7	-1.8	0.3	0.9	0.9	3.0	0.3	2.1	0.4	1.2
April	1.2	-1.9	1.4	1.1	0.7	2.3	0.9	2.3	0.6	1.0
June	0.0	-2.4	1.2	2.3	0.0	1.1	1.3	3.6		
August	0.6	-0.9	-0.1	1.7	0.1	1.3	-0.6	2.8		
October	0.1	-0.7	0.2	1.7	0.9	2.0	0.0	1.9		
December	-1.2	-0.1	-0.6	2.4	0.1	2.7	-0.6	1.2		

The June 2019 Consumer Price Index for Detroit is scheduled to be released on Thursday, July 11, 2019.

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 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 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 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 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 **Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI, Core Based Statistical Area** covered in this release is comprised of Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Oakland, St. Clair, and Wayne Counties in Michigan.

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 Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Feb. 2019	Mar. 2019	Apr. 2019	Apr. 2018	Feb. 2019	Mar. 2019
Expenditure category						
All items	232.549	-	234.022	1.0	0.6	-
All items (1967=100)	691.232	-	695.611	-	-	-
Food and beverages	224.805	-	225.385	0.3	0.3	-
Food	224.151	-	224.485	0.2	0.1	-
Food at home	209.618	209.627	209.715	-0.4	0.0	0.0
Cereals and bakery products	263.467	-	264.422	1.1	0.4	-
Meats, poultry, fish and eggs	220.845	-	216.750	-2.4	-1.9	-
Dairy and related products	158.691	-	159.226	-2.2	0.3	-
Fruits and vegetables	228.380	-	227.117	-0.9	-0.6	-
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1)	199.313	-	199.162	-0.2	-0.1	-
Other food at home	189.625	-	193.602	1.7	2.1	-
Food away from home	247.397	-	248.070	0.8	0.3	-
Alcoholic beverages	227.526	-	231.431	1.6	1.7	-
Housing	221.708	-	221.783	1.7	0.0	-
Shelter	256.738	257.264	256.702	2.6	0.0	-0.2
Rent of primary residence(2)	264.386	264.314	264.565	4.3	0.1	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)(3)	255.081	255.042	254.503	2.7	-0.2	-0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(2)(3)	255.081	255.042	254.503	2.7	-0.2	-0.2
Fuels and utilities	240.249	-	240.152	-3.1	0.0	-
Household energy	182.799	181.752	182.705	-4.3	-0.1	0.5
Energy services(2)	183.846	182.638	183.711	-4.3	-0.1	0.6
Electricity(2)	212.655	212.611	212.571	-7.2	0.0	0.0
Utility (piped) gas service(2)	141.809	139.614	141.636	0.0	-0.1	1.4
Household furnishings and operations	119.298	-	119.857	0.6	0.5	-
Apparel	118.197	-	112.696	-5.4	-4.7	-
Transportation	238.098	-	246.999	3.5	3.7	-
Private transportation	239.033	-	248.512	3.8	4.0	-
New and used motor vehicles(4)	112.154	-	109.759	5.8	-2.1	-
New vehicles(1)	208.776	-	209.511	4.1	0.4	-
Used cars and trucks(1)	287.160	-	291.365	0.7	1.5	-
Motor fuel	207.142	231.953	254.468	4.2	22.8	9.7
Gasoline (all types)	205.384	230.365	253.298	4.3	23.3	10.0
Gasoline, unleaded regular(5)	205.807	231.583	255.030	4.4	23.9	10.1
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(5)(6)	246.808	272.342	296.899	5.0	20.3	9.0
Gasoline, unleaded premium(5)	221.611	241.220	261.548	3.3	18.0	8.4
Motor vehicle insurance(1)	1,814.124	-	1,794.289	-0.7	-1.1	-
Medical care	435.355	-	438.199	-0.8	0.7	-
Recreation(4)	111.945	-	112.707	-5.0	0.7	-
Education and communication(4)	144.688	-	144.157	1.8	-0.4	-
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare(1) ..	1,301.715	-	1,300.413	3.8	-0.1	-
Other goods and services	441.374	-	445.843	3.6	1.0	-
Commodity and service group						
All items	232.549	-	234.022	1.0	0.6	-
Commodities	174.456	-	178.567	0.2	2.4	-
Commodities less food and beverages	148.451	-	154.042	0.2	3.8	-
Nondurables less food and beverages	180.234	-	191.190	0.3	6.1	-
Durables	112.339	-	112.365	0.2	0.0	-
Services	291.628	-	290.695	1.4	-0.3	-

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 Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Feb. 2019	Mar. 2019	Apr. 2019	Apr. 2018	Feb. 2019	Mar. 2019
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	224.418	-	225.835	1.1	0.6	-
All items less shelter	226.142	-	228.246	0.3	0.9	-
Commodities less food	151.331	-	156.893	0.3	3.7	-
Nondurables	202.344	-	208.509	0.3	3.0	-
Nondurables less food	183.316	-	193.897	0.4	5.8	-
Services less rent of shelter(3)	342.947	-	340.875	0.3	-0.6	-
Services less medical care services	282.676	-	281.514	1.6	-0.4	-
Energy	197.041	208.227	219.407	0.2	11.4	5.4
All items less energy	238.868	-	238.377	1.0	-0.2	-
All items less food and energy	242.143	-	241.502	1.2	-0.3	-

Footnotes

(1) Index on a December 1977=100 base.

(2) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(3) Index on a December 1982=100 base.

(4) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

(5) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(6) Index on a December 1993=100 base.

- Data not available.

Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date. Data not seasonally adjusted.