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## **Consumer Price Index, Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington — July 2021**

**Area prices were up 1.7 percent over the past two months, up 6.5 percent from a year ago**

Prices in the Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), advanced 1.7 percent for the two months ending in July 2021, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Jason Palmer noted that food prices rose 1.7 percent and energy costs were up 8.7 percent from May to July. The index for all items less food and energy rose 1.1 percent in the bi-monthly period. Increases in the indexes for shelter and new and used motor vehicles contributed to the gain in the all items less food and energy category. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, bi-monthly changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U rose 6.5 percent. (See [table A](#).) The index for all items less food and energy increased 5.6 percent over the year. Energy prices jumped 26.5 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. Food prices increased 3.6 percent. (See [table 1](#).)

### **Food**

Food prices rose 1.7 percent for the two months ending in July. Prices for food at home (groceries) increased 2.4 percent, and prices for food away from home (restaurant, cafeteria, and vending purchases) increased 0.8 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices increased 3.6 percent. Prices for food at home increased 4.2 percent since a year ago, and prices for food away from home increased 2.8 percent.

### **Energy**

The energy index rose 8.7 percent for the two months ending in July. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (6.5 percent) and electricity (13.3 percent). The index for utility (piped) gas service rose 9.9 percent for the same period.

Energy prices rose 26.5 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (44.1 percent). Prices paid for utility (piped) gas service increased 30.0 percent, and prices for electricity advanced 0.8 percent during the past year.

### **All items less food and energy**

The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.1 percent in the latest two-month period. Higher prices for shelter (2.2 percent) and new and used motor vehicles (7.0 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for apparel (-4.2 percent) and recreation (-1.0 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 5.6 percent. Components contributing to the increase included new and used motor vehicles (19.2 percent), recreation (17.8 percent), and shelter (2.5 percent).

**Table A. Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI, CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted**

Month	2018		2019		2020		2021	
	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month
January.....	0.3		0.4	1.4	0.6	3.0	0.4	1.6
March .....	0.5		1.4	2.3	-0.3	1.2	1.1	3.0
May.....	1.0		1.0	2.3	-0.1	0.0	1.4	4.6
July .....	0.3		0.3	2.2	-0.1	-0.3	1.7	6.5
September .....	0.3		-0.2	1.7	2.1	1.9		
November.....	-1.2	1.3	-0.2	2.8	-0.4	1.7		

**The September 2021 Consumer Price Index for Minneapolis is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, October 13, 2021.**

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on July 2021 Consumer Price Index Data**

Data collection by personal visit for the Consumer Price Index (CPI) program has been suspended since March 16, 2020. When possible, data normally collected by personal visit were collected either online or by phone. Additionally, data collection in July was affected by the temporary closing or limited operations of certain types of establishments. These factors resulted in an increase in the number of prices considered temporarily unavailable and imputed.

While the CPI program attempted to collect as much data as possible, many indexes are based on smaller amounts of collected prices than usual, and a small number of indexes that are normally published were not published this month. Additional information is available at [www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-consumer-price-index.htm](http://www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-consumer-price-index.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 93 percent of the total U.S. population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total U.S. 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 6,000 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; for most of the CPI-U the reference base is 1982-84 equals 100. An increase of 7 percent from the reference base, for example, is shown as 107.000. Alternatively, that relationship can also be expressed as the price of a base period market basket of goods and services rising from \$100 to \$107. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/cpi](http://www.bls.gov/cpi) and the CPI section of the BLS Handbook of Methods available on the internet at [www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cpi/](http://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cpi/).

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-Bloomington, MN-WI, Core Based Statistical Area** covered in this release is comprised of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, LeSueur, Mille Lacs, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, Washington, and Wright Counties in Minnesota; 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 and percent changes for selected periods Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	May 2021	Jun. 2021	Jul. 2021	Jul. 2020	May 2021	Jun. 2021
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All items .....	262.898	-	267.241	6.5	1.7	-
All items (1967=100) .....	826.163	-	839.813	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	299.268	-	304.371	3.4	1.7	-
Food .....	288.238	-	293.193	3.6	1.7	-
Food at home .....	257.953	259.188	264.104	4.2	2.4	1.9
Cereals and bakery products .....	274.424	-	275.373	2.0	0.3	-
Meats, poultry, fish and eggs .....	287.802	-	301.177	8.7	4.6	-
Dairy and related products .....	288.089	-	294.948	11.5	2.4	-
Fruits and vegetables .....	352.687	-	366.004	1.8	3.8	-
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1) .....	161.654	-	160.650	-1.9	-0.6	-
Other food at home .....	201.432	-	204.834	3.2	1.7	-
Food away from home .....	331.620	-	334.287	2.8	0.8	-
Alcoholic beverages .....	391.668	-	397.767	1.2	1.6	-
Housing .....	247.529	-	254.056	3.2	2.6	-
Shelter .....	292.467	294.971	298.943	2.5	2.2	1.3
Rent of primary residence(2) .....	303.376	305.537	306.574	2.6	1.1	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)(3) .....	312.974	315.089	315.503	2.6	0.8	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(2)(3) .....	312.974	315.089	315.503	2.6	0.8	0.1
Fuels and utilities .....	217.461	-	236.939	8.4	9.0	-
Household energy .....	191.900	212.021	214.261	10.2	11.7	1.1
Energy services(2) .....	194.254	215.437	217.718	9.6	12.1	1.1
Electricity(2) .....	258.671	300.713	293.131	0.8	13.3	-2.5
Utility (piped) gas service(2) .....	139.577	141.672	153.387	30.0	9.9	8.3
Household furnishings and operations .....	130.007	-	131.909	4.7	1.5	-
Apparel .....	140.966	-	135.043	7.7	-4.2	-
Transportation .....	217.716	-	225.245	18.9	3.5	-
Private transportation .....	204.813	-	216.609	20.6	5.8	-
New and used motor vehicles(4) .....	102.956	-	110.171	19.2	7.0	-
New vehicles(1) .....	168.418	-	178.418	13.5	5.9	-
Used cars and trucks(1) .....	355.809	-	398.433	42.2	12.0	-
Motor fuel .....	229.095	234.373	243.772	43.5	6.4	4.0
Gasoline (all types) .....	230.010	235.340	244.919	44.1	6.5	4.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular(5) .....	230.625	236.026	245.753	44.9	6.6	4.1
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(5)(6) .....	228.714	233.710	242.883	34.9	6.2	3.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium(5) .....	282.281	288.076	298.181	36.9	5.6	3.5
Motor vehicle insurance(1) .....	510.388	-	506.691	4.6	-0.7	-
Medical care .....	602.262	-	603.046	4.9	0.1	-
Recreation(4) .....	133.917	-	132.523	17.8	-1.0	-
Education and communication(4) .....	139.475	-	139.893	2.7	0.3	-
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare(1) ..	1,131.870	-	1,136.601	4.2	0.4	-
Other goods and services .....	409.109	-	410.071	5.4	0.2	-
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All items .....	262.898	-	267.241	6.5	1.7	-
Commodities .....	198.501	-	202.537	8.5	2.0	-
Commodities less food and beverages .....	153.907	-	157.332	11.8	2.2	-
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	201.863	-	202.655	12.4	0.4	-
Durables .....	112.439	-	117.467	11.1	4.5	-
Services .....	320.036	-	324.601	5.3	1.4	-

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 Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	May 2021	Jun. 2021	Jul. 2021	Jul. 2020	May 2021	Jun. 2021
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care .....	247.636	-	252.100	6.6	1.8	-
All items less shelter .....	251.293	-	254.747	8.6	1.4	-
Commodities less food .....	162.472	-	166.036	11.2	2.2	-
Nondurables .....	247.594	-	250.241	7.5	1.1	-
Nondurables less food .....	214.875	-	215.926	11.3	0.5	-
Services less rent of shelter(3) .....	365.386	-	367.365	8.5	0.5	-
Services less medical care services .....	294.284	-	298.958	5.1	1.6	-
Energy .....	214.235	226.773	232.835	26.5	8.7	2.7
All items less energy .....	272.047	-	275.358	5.4	1.2	-
All items less food and energy .....	269.746	-	272.820	5.6	1.1	-

**Footnotes**

(1) Index on an April 1978=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.