NEWS RELEAD STATISTICS BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS U.S. DEPAR TMENT OF LABOR



For Release: Friday, July 15, 2016

SOUTHEAST INFORMATION OFFICE: Atlanta, Ga. Technical information: (404) 893-4222 BLSInfoAtlanta@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/southeast Media contact: (404) 893-4220

ERRATA Incorrect prices for prescription drugs were used for the CPI-U and CPI-W indexes from May through August 2016 in a number of areas. Several indexes were affected, including the all items and medical care indexes. A list of the series affected can be found at (www.bls.gov/bls/errata/cpi-price-corrections-10182016.htm), and the corrected data are available in the CPI database (www.bls.gov/cpi/data.htm).

Consumer Price Index for Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater – First Half 2016 Local prices up 0.5 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater area rose 0.5 percent from the first half of 2015 to the first half of 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the all items less food and energy index was 1.5 percent higher compared to its first half 2015 level as price increases were noted for several categories, most notably shelter. Food prices advanced 1.0 percent over the year while the index for energy fell 10.7 percent. (See chart 1.)

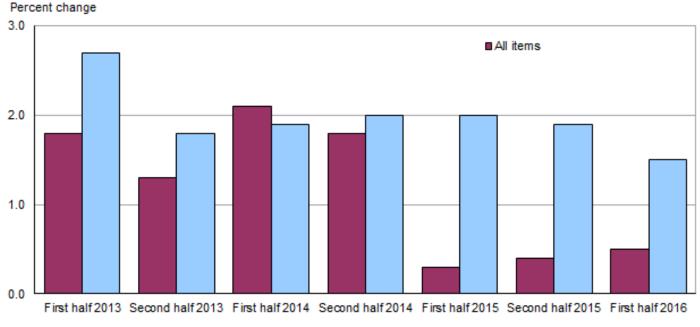


Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Tampa, first half 2013-first half 2016

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices advanced 1.0 percent since the first half of 2015, led by a 2.4-percent increase in prices for food away from home. Prices for food at home inched up 0.1 percent over-the-year.

Energy

The energy index declined 10.7 percent from the first half of 2015 to the first half of 2016, primarily due to a 17.2 percent drop in prices for motor fuel. Prices also declined for electricity (-5.1 percent), while prices for utility (piped) gas service were up 0.8 percent over-the-year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy advanced 1.5 percent since the first half of 2015 reflecting a 2.3 increase in the shelter index. Other indexes noting increases over the year included medical care (2.7 percent), education and communication (1.7 percent), and apparel (2.5 percent).

The Consumer Price Index for July 2016 is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, August 16, 2016.

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 4,000 housing units and approximately 26,000 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 **Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, Fla.** metropolitan statistical area covered in this release is comprised of Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties in Florida.

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 Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL (1987=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	211.414	211.699	212.502	0.5	0.4
Food and beverages	218.420	220.932	220.124	0.8	-0.4
Food	218.144	220.984	220.247	1.0	-0.3
Food at home	224.187	226.422	224.327	0.1	-0.9
Food away from home	209.072	212.819	214.118	2.4	0.6
Alcoholic beverages	208.584	206.233	204.516	-2.0	-0.8
Housing	202.433	203.529	205.341	1.4	0.9
Shelter	225.876	227.835	230.983	2.3	1.4
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	227.301	228.878	231.791	2.0	1.3
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ⁽¹⁾	237.225	239.792	242.531	2.2	1.1
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	237.225	239.792	242.531	2.2	1.1
Fuels and utilities	211.931	212.273	205.459	-3.1	-3.2
Household energy	171.886	171.464	163.804	-4.7	-4.5
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	169.510	169.242	161.716	-4.6	-4.4
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	167.041	166.029	158.485	-5.1	-4.5
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	250.972	260.101	253.075	0.8	-2.7
Household furnishings and operations	113.824	112.021	113.654	-0.1	1.5
Apparel	163.642	166.111	167.709	2.5	1.0
Transportation	189.782	185.070	183.226	-3.5	-1.0
Private transportation	193.633	188.856	186.345	-3.8	-1.3
Motor fuel	265.765	242.147	220.075	-17.2	-9.1
Gasoline (all types)	259.970	237.552	216.235	-16.8	-9.0
Unleaded regular ⁽²⁾	254.620	231.290	209.456	-17.7	-9.4
Unleaded midgrade ^{(2) (3)}	232.570	214.245	197.627	-15.0	-7.8
Unleaded premium ⁽²⁾	270.390	253.542	233.336	-13.7	-8.0
Medical Care	363.366	370.869	373.162	2.7	0.6
Recreation ⁽⁴⁾	126.097	123.943	124.807	-1.0	0.7
Education and communication ⁽⁴⁾	139.656	140.190	142.030	1.7	1.3
Other goods and services	296.536	294.129	293.524	-1.0	-0.2
Commodity and service group					
All Items	211.414	211.699	212.502	0.5	0.4
Commodities	173.268	172.569	171.518	-1.0	-0.6
Commodities less food & beverages	149.312	147.052	145.893	-2.3	-0.8
Nondurables less food & beverages	216.134	212.972	209.372	-3.1	-1.7
Durables	92.761	91.279	91.874	-1.0	0.7
Services	245.340	246.472	248.841	1.4	1.0
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	203.187	203.150	203.891	0.3	0.4
All items less shelter	206.130	205.661	205.409	-0.3	-0.1
Commodities less food	152.535	150.250	149.067	-2.3	-0.8
Nondurables	216.658	216.512	214.382	-1.1	-1.(
Nondurables less food	215.703	212.595	209.126	-3.0	-1.6
Services less rent of shelter	266.337	266.335	267.538	0.5	0.8
Services less medical care services	233.662	234.655	237.400	1.6	1.2
Energy	207.206	197.935	185.072	-10.7	-6.5
All items less energy	211.451	212.560	214.506	1.4	0.9
All items less food and energy	210.454	211.247	213.692	1.5	1.2

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) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
(3) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.
(4) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

NOTE: Data not seasonally adjusted.