



For Release: Friday, July 14, 2017

17-1015-ATL

SOUTHEAST INFORMATION OFFICE: Atlanta, Ga.

Technical information: (404) 893-4222 BLSInfoAtlanta@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/southeast

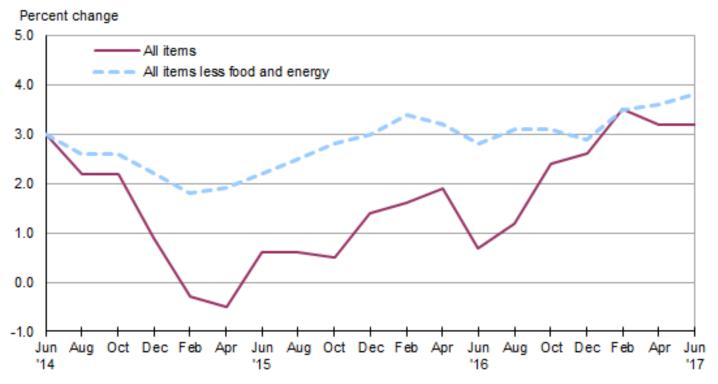
Media contact: (404) 893-4220

# Consumer Price Index, Atlanta – June 2017 Area prices up 1.3 percent over the two months and 3.2 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for Atlanta rose 1.3 percent over the May-June pricing period, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the energy index advanced 9.3 percent. The all items less food and energy index rose 0.5 percent and the food index increased 0.8 percent over the two months. (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 all items CPI-U increased 3.2 percent. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 3.8 percent over the year and the food index increased 1.2 percent. The energy index rose 0.5 percent since June 2016. (See chart 1 and table 1.)

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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### Food

Food prices rose 0.8 percent during the May-June pricing period reflecting price increases for food away from home (1.2 percent) and for food at home (0.5 percent).

Over the year, the food index advanced 1.2 percent, led by a 2.4-percent increase in the food away from home index. The food at home index edged up 0.2 percent since June 2016.

## Energy

The energy index advanced 9.3 percent over the two-month pricing period, led by a 31.5-percent seasonal increase in electricity prices. Prices for utility (piped) gas service rose 0.5 percent, while motor fuel prices declined 4.4 percent during the May-June pricing period.

Over the year, the energy index rose 0.5 percent, reflecting price increases for utility (piped) gas service (13.2 percent) and for electricity (0.1 percent). Prices for motor fuel declined 2.2 percent from June 2016 to June 2017.

# All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.5 percent during the May-June pricing period, led by a 1.3 percent increase in the shelter index.

From June 2016 to June 2017, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 3.8 percent, led by price increases for shelter (6.8 percent) and medical care (5.7 percent).

Table A. Atlanta CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	2-month	12- month								
February	1.9	2.1	1.3	1.8	0.0	-0.3	0.3	1.6	1.2	3.5
April	0.1	1.1	0.8	2.5	0.7	-0.5	1.0	1.9	0.6	3.2
June	1.0	1.4	1.5	3.0	2.5	0.6	1.3	0.7	1.3	3.2
August	0.7	1.5	-0.1	2.2	-0.1	0.6	0.5	1.2		
October	-1.0	1.6	-1.1	2.2	-1.2	0.5	-0.1	2.4		
December	-0.2	2.4	-1.5	0.9	-0.6	1.4	-0.4	2.6		

The Consumer Price Index for July 2017 is scheduled to be released on Friday, August 11, 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 **Atlanta, Ga.** metropolitan area covered in this release is comprised of Barrow, Bartow, Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, Rockdale, Spalding, and Walton Counties in Georgia.

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 Atlanta, GA (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	230.974	-	233.882	3.2	1.3	-	
All items (1967=100)	696.547	-	705.318	-	-		
Food and beverages	249.980	-	252.368	1.3	1.0		
Food	260.503	-	262.594	1.2	0.8		
Food at home	245.026	244.626	246.269	0.2	0.5	0.7	
Food away from home	285.653	-	289.026	2.4	1.2		
Alcoholic beverages	156.065	-	161.096	3.6	3.2		
Housing	232.037	-	239.515	5.8	3.2		
Shelter	255.990	257.473	259.298	6.8	1.3	0.7	
Rent of primary residence(1)	261.112	262.714	263.413	6.7	0.9	0.3	
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2)	249.461	250.226	252.585	7.2	1.3	0.9	
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2)	249.461	250.226	252.585	7.2	1.3	0.9	
Fuels and utilities	273.768	-	321.553	2.3	17.5		
Household energy	232.627	239.680	285.853	2.8	22.9	19.3	
Energy Services(1)	230.934	238.235	284.535	2.7	23.2	19.4	
Electricity(1)	198.868	207.538	261.599	0.1	31.5	26.0	
Utility (piped) gas service(1)	273.365	273.080	274.718	13.2	0.5	0.6	
Household furnishings and operations	122.772	-	123.861	1.8	0.9		
Apparel	141.380	-	138.441	2.3	-2.1		
Transportation	194.306	-	192.023	1.0	-1.2		
Private transportation	192.967	-	190.966	1.2	-1.0		
Motor fuel	206.563	197.700	197.561	-2.2	-4.4	-0.1	
Gasoline (all types)	205.349	196.435	196.327	-2.3	-4.4	-0.1	
Unleaded regular(3)	200.766	191.635	191.421	-2.8	-4.7	-0.1	
Unleaded midgrade(3)(4)	258.098	248.729	249.452	0.2	-3.3	0.3	
Unleaded premium(3)	225.720	219.696	220.476	1.4	-2.3	0.4	
Medical Care	454.421	-	456.860	5.7	0.5		
Recreation(5)	87.084	-	86.180	-1.5	-1.0		
Education and communication(5)  Other goods and services	131.328 372.413	-	131.032 372.603	-2.8 1.9	-0.2 0.1		
Commodity and service group							
All Items	230.974	_	233.882	3.2	1.3		
Commodities	177.386	_	176.090	0.2	-0.7		
Commodities less food & beverages	144.896	_	142.064	-0.7	-2.0		
Nondurables less food & beverages	179.511	-	176.584	0.9	-1.6		
Durables	109.076	-	106.365	-3.3	-2.5		
Services	281.500	-	288.125	4.8	2.4		
Special aggregate indexes							
All items less medical care	219.187	-	222.096	2.9	1.3		
All items less shelter	224.499	-	227.286	1.3	1.2		
Commodities less food	144.935	-	142.430	-0.5	-1.7		
Nondurables	209.972	-	209.473	1.1	-0.2		
Nondurables less food	176.502	-	174.210	1.1	-1.3		
Services less rent of shelter(2)	325.058	-	336.679	2.7	3.6		
Services less medical care services	263.790	-	270.659	4.8	2.6		
Energy	199.729	198.519	218.401	0.5	9.3	10.0	
All items less energy	234.104	-	235.436	3.4	0.6		

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 Atlanta, GA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group		Indexes		Percent change from-			
	Apr. 2017	May 2017	Jun. 2017	Jun. 2016	Apr. 2017	May 2017	
All items less food and energy	230.381	-	231.596	3.8	0.5		

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.