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## **Consumer Price Index, Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach – August 2019** **Area prices up 0.4 percent since June and 1.9 percent over the year**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach increased 0.4 percent from June to August, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the all items less food and energy index rose 0.6 percent over the bi-monthly period. Since June, the food index rose 0.4 percent, while the energy index fell 2.3 percent. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, bi-monthly changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

From August 2018 to August 2019, the all items CPI-U rose 1.9 percent. Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 3.0 percent and the food index rose 0.3 percent. In contrast, the energy index declined 6.1 percent over the past 12 months. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#).)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL, August 2016–August 2019**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Food

The food index rose 0.4 percent from June to August, reflecting a 0.7-percent increase in the food at home index. The food away from home index was unchanged over the bi-monthly period.

The food index edged up 0.3 percent for the 12 months ending August 2019. Over the year, the food away from home index increased 0.8 percent, while the food at home index inched down 0.1 percent.

## Energy

The energy index fell 2.3 percent from June to August, reflecting a 3.2-percent decrease in the gasoline index. The electricity index also declined over the bi-monthly period, down 1.2 percent.

Over the year, the energy index declined 6.1 percent, fueled by an 11.4-percent drop in the gasoline index. In contrast, the electricity index rose 1.2 percent since August 2018.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.6 percent from June to August. Several indexes increased over the bi-monthly period including shelter (0.3 percent), apparel (3.2 percent), and new and used motor vehicles (1.2 percent).

The all items less food and energy index advanced 3.0 percent from August 2018 to August 2019. The shelter index contributed to the over the year increase, up 4.4 percent.

**Table A. Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL, 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 .....	0.3	0.4	0.2	1.6	1.3	4.0	2.6	3.2	1.0	1.2
April .....	0.8	0.5	0.7	1.4	-0.5	2.8	-0.1	3.5	0.8	2.2
June .....	0.4	1.2	0.6	1.6	-0.2	2.0	0.5	4.2	-0.5	1.2
August .....	0.0	1.3	0.0	1.6	0.3	2.3	-0.3	3.6	0.4	1.9
October .....	0.2	1.1	0.5	1.9	1.0	2.7	0.8	3.4		
December .....	-0.1	1.6	0.8	2.9	-0.1	1.8	-0.6	2.9		

**The Consumer Price Index for September 2019 is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, October 10, 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 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](http://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](http://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 **Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL**, Core Based Statistical Area covered in this release is comprised of Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach Counties in Florida.

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**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Jun. 2019	Jul. 2019	Aug. 2019	Aug. 2018	Jun. 2019	Jul. 2019
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All Items.....	269.119	-	270.176	1.9	0.4	-
All items (November 1977=100).....	433.783	-	435.486	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	264.100	-	265.154	0.3	0.4	-
Food .....	266.507	-	267.585	0.3	0.4	-
Food at home .....	252.597	255.944	254.360	-0.1	0.7	-0.6
Cereals and bakery products .....	287.409	-	289.116	7.2	0.6	-
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....	234.227	-	235.323	-3.7	0.5	-
Dairy and related products .....	225.935	-	222.937	0.7	-1.3	-
Fruits and vegetables .....	335.461	-	332.379	-3.0	-0.9	-
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1) .....	247.221	-	257.274	2.1	4.1	-
Other food at home .....	208.866	-	211.376	0.3	1.2	-
Food away from home.....	291.321	-	291.352	0.8	0.0	-
Alcoholic beverages .....	232.375	-	233.124	0.4	0.3	-
Housing .....	284.942	-	285.629	4.1	0.2	-
Shelter .....	327.799	328.828	328.754	4.4	0.3	0.0
Rent of primary residence .....	323.032	322.234	322.476	4.2	-0.2	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)....	331.758	332.912	333.109	4.7	0.4	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(2) .....	331.758	332.912	333.109	4.7	0.4	0.1
Fuels and utilities.....	181.328	-	180.013	1.5	-0.7	-
Household energy .....	155.071	155.077	153.170	1.0	-1.2	-1.2
Energy services.....	152.291	152.293	150.481	1.2	-1.2	-1.2
Electricity .....	149.263	149.263	147.428	1.2	-1.2	-1.2
Utility (piped) gas service .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Household furnishings and operations ....	165.124	-	166.460	3.6	0.8	-
Apparel .....	138.331	-	142.826	4.4	3.2	-
Transportation .....	221.728	-	221.390	-2.8	-0.2	-
Private transportation .....	226.602	-	226.288	-3.7	-0.1	-
New and used motor vehicles(3).....	114.134	-	115.458	-0.2	1.2	-
New vehicles(1).....	232.231	-	232.654	2.5	0.2	-
Used vehicles(1).....	298.065	-	305.840	2.0	2.6	-
Motor fuel .....	230.867	238.407	223.442	-11.3	-3.2	-6.3
Gasoline (all types).....	228.086	235.623	220.730	-11.4	-3.2	-6.3
Unleaded regular(4) .....	224.432	232.256	216.768	-11.8	-3.4	-6.7
Unleaded midgrade(4)(5) .....	227.918	233.316	223.753	-8.3	-1.8	-4.1
Unleaded premium(4).....	247.878	252.717	243.225	-8.7	-1.9	-3.8
Motor vehicle insurance(1).....	881.918	-	881.918	-1.6	0.0	-
Medical Care .....	560.799	-	563.843	1.4	0.5	-
Recreation(3).....	119.499	-	120.790	-0.2	1.1	-
Education and communication(3).....	119.845	-	119.880	-0.4	0.0	-
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1) .....	994.670	-	1,000.918	2.5	0.6	-
Other goods and services .....	360.810	-	367.187	3.9	1.8	-
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All Items.....	269.119	-	270.176	1.9	0.4	-
Commodities .....	203.760	-	204.461	-0.9	0.3	-
Commodities less food & beverages.....	167.495	-	167.999	-1.9	0.3	-
Nondurables less food & beverages ....	202.050	-	202.685	-3.3	0.3	-
Durables .....	129.950	-	130.306	1.0	0.3	-
Services.....	319.028	-	320.351	3.3	0.4	-

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 Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Jun. 2019	Jul. 2019	Aug. 2019	Aug. 2018	Jun. 2019	Jul. 2019
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care .....	256.763	-	257.738	2.0	0.4	-
All items less shelter .....	238.195	-	239.301	0.2	0.5	-
Commodities less food .....	170.019	-	170.532	-1.8	0.3	-
Nondurables .....	235.300	-	236.149	-1.4	0.4	-
Nondurables less food .....	203.968	-	204.610	-3.0	0.3	-
Services less rent of shelter(2) .....	315.185	-	316.598	1.4	0.4	-
Services less medical care services .....	301.149	-	302.311	3.3	0.4	-
Energy .....	189.112	192.487	184.739	-6.1	-2.3	-4.0
All items less energy .....	278.123	-	279.789	2.6	0.6	-
All items less food and energy .....	280.002	-	281.768	3.0	0.6	-

Footnotes

(1) Index is on a November 1977=100 base.

(2) Index is on a November 1982=100 base.

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

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

(5) Indexes 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.