

News

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR THE SAN DIEGO AREA, FIRST HALF OF 2009

Consumer prices in the San Diego metropolitan area decreased by 0.6 percent from last year and decreased 0.5 percent during the first half of 2009 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Regional Commissioner Richard J. Holden remarked that the significant drop in the transportation index contributed to an overall decrease in the all annual items index.

The transportation index fell by 13.7 percent for the year and 9.8 percent for the past six months. Overall, gasoline prices were lower by 35.9 percent since the first half of 2008 and 28.1 percent since the second half of 2008.

Housing prices were up 2.5 percent for the year. Annual prices for fuels and utilities rose by 16.6 percent over the year and 8.5 percent over the past six months. Household furnishings and operations also saw increases of 2.8 percent for the year and 0.9 percent for the past six months.

Prices paid for food and beverages rose 2.7 percent over the course of the year. During this period, both the food at home and the food away from home indexes made gains of 2.7 and 2.5 percent, respectively. Increases in the food and beverage index also occurred over the past six months, as prices advanced 0.5 percent. The food at home component decreased 0.8 percent for the past six months, while food away from home increased 1.5 percent. Prices of alcoholic beverages increased by 4.9 percent for the year and increased 3.3 percent since the second half of 2008.

Medical care prices rose 2.0 percent for the past twelve months and 1.3 percent for the past six months.

Apparel prices reported a decline of 1.9 percent for the year, but showed a 1.9 percent increase since the second half of 2008. Yearly prices for recreation increased slightly at 0.1 percent, but dipped 0.2 percent in the past six months.

Education and communication prices advanced 1.9 percent during the past year and continued to climb at 2.9 percent during the past six months. Other goods and services increased 6.4 percent on an annual basis and 4.9 percent on a semi-annual basis.

The San Diego area's Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) advanced to 240.885 (1982-84=100) during the first half of 2009. Therefore, a market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in 1982-84 would have cost \$240.89 in the first six months of 2009. Local area CPI data are not seasonally adjusted.

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Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes for semiannual averages and percent changes for selected periods

San Diego, CA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 1st half 2009 from—	
	1st half 2008	2nd half 2008	1st half 2009	1st half 2008	2nd half 2008
Expenditure category					
All items	242.440	242.185	240.885	-0.6	-0.5
All items (1967=100)	819.765	818.902	814.507	-	-
Food and beverages	219.445	224.163	225.371	2.7	.5
Food	216.981	221.789	222.327	2.5	.2
Food at home	203.164	210.184	208.549	2.7	-.8
Food away from home	234.089	236.349	239.849	2.5	1.5
Alcoholic beverages	239.502	243.189	251.185	4.9	3.3
Housing	269.695	272.457	276.523	2.5	1.5
Shelter	305.462	307.168	309.845	1.4	.9
Rent of primary residence	289.221	293.975	298.082	3.1	1.4
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ¹	322.412	325.432	329.199	2.1	1.2
Fuels and utilities	197.625	212.199	230.335	16.6	8.5
Household energy	165.470	181.864	200.645	21.3	10.3
Gas (piped) and electricity	160.809	177.899	198.140	23.2	11.4
Electricity	141.590	160.860	186.034	31.4	15.6
Utility (piped) gas service	225.014	205.639	158.609	-29.5	-22.9
Household furnishings and operations	181.182	184.543	186.190	2.8	.9
Apparel	127.873	123.098	125.465	-1.9	1.9
Transportation	205.196	196.246	177.071	-13.7	-9.8
Private transportation	199.235	189.979	171.545	-13.9	-9.7
Motor fuel	293.176	261.551	187.501	-36.0	-28.3
Gasoline (all types)	293.636	261.887	188.297	-35.9	-28.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular ²	305.410	272.306	194.829	-36.2	-28.5
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{2 3}	252.300	224.011	163.591	-35.2	-27.0
Gasoline, unleaded premium ²	296.313	266.360	194.387	-34.4	-27.0
Medical care	368.155	370.586	375.419	2.0	1.3
Recreation ⁴	141.990	142.479	142.127	.1	-.2
Education and communication ⁴	119.832	118.634	122.131	1.9	2.9
Other goods and services	341.929	346.575	363.673	6.4	4.9
Commodity and service group					
All items	242.440	242.185	240.885	-.6	-.5
Commodities	188.796	186.064	179.284	-5.0	-3.6
Commodities less food and beverages	171.382	165.541	155.554	-9.2	-6.0
Nondurables less food and beverages	194.486	185.318	164.782	-15.3	-11.1
Durables	151.369	148.611	148.694	-1.8	.1
Services	289.820	291.772	295.393	1.9	1.2
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	236.360	235.991	234.437	-.8	-.7
All items less shelter	217.426	216.584	213.517	-1.8	-1.4
Commodities less food	174.551	169.040	159.671	-8.5	-5.5
Nondurables	208.670	205.966	195.371	-6.4	-5.1
Nondurables less food	198.830	190.560	171.972	-13.5	-9.8
Services less rent of shelter ¹	282.690	285.921	290.996	2.9	1.8
Services less medical care services	281.517	283.552	287.249	2.0	1.3
Energy	239.402	227.151	190.694	-20.3	-16.0
All items less energy	244.365	245.002	247.264	1.2	.9
All items less food and energy	250.472	250.414	252.978	1.0	1.0

¹ Index is on a November 1982=100 base.

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.

- Data not available.