

News

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR THE HONOLULU AREA, FIRST HALF OF 2009

Consumer prices in the Honolulu metropolitan area increased by 0.3 percent from one year prior, but decreased by 1.0 percent in the first half of 2009 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Regional Commissioner Richard J. Holden noted that an increase in the housing index contributed significantly to an overall increase in the annual all items index.

The transportation index fell by 11.0 percent for the year and 9.8 percent for the past six months. Over the year, gasoline prices were lower by 32.6 percent since the first half of 2008 and 30.6 percent since the second half of 2008.

The housing index made appreciable gains of 0.8 percent for the year. Annual prices for shelter also rose by 2.7 percent over the year and 2.3 percent for the past six months. The rent of primary residence index experienced increases of 3.2 percent and 2.5 percent for the year and for the past six months, respectively.

Prices paid for food and beverages rose 5.8 percent over the course of the year. During this period, both the food at home and food away from home indexes increased by 5.9 percent. An increase of 1.8 percent was recorded in the food and beverages index over the past six months. Food at home prices were up a modest 0.6 percent over the past six months and food away from home prices increased by 2.1 percent. The price of alcoholic beverages increased by 2.1 percent for the year and increased by 3.2 percent since the second half of 2008.

Medical care prices rose by 1.5 percent for the past twelve months and by 1.1 percent for the past six months.

Apparel prices exhibited large gains, with an 8.0 percent increase for the year and a 9.3 percent increase since the second half of 2008. Prices for recreation were unchanged since first half of 2008, but increased 0.6 percent from the latter half of 2008.

Education and communication prices advanced 5.0 percent during the past year and 1.5 percent over the past six months. Other goods and services rose by 7.5 percent on an annual basis and 5.1 percent on a semi-annual basis.

The Honolulu area's Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) advanced to 228.070 (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 \$228.07 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

Honolulu, HI (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	227.334	230.387	228.070	0.3	-1.0
All items (1967=100)	625.844	634.249	627.870	-	-
Food and beverages	212.390	220.859	224.747	5.8	1.8
Food	212.150	221.334	225.024	6.1	1.7
Food at home	222.424	234.214	235.640	5.9	.6
Food away from home	198.595	205.919	210.300	5.9	2.1
Alcoholic beverages	215.070	212.801	219.639	2.1	3.2
Housing	246.676	250.725	248.658	.8	-.8
Shelter	265.862	266.960	273.018	2.7	2.3
Rent of primary residence	255.297	257.136	263.499	3.2	2.5
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ¹	274.321	275.191	282.572	3.0	2.7
Fuels and utilities	266.498	301.325	226.255	-15.1	-24.9
Household energy	251.277	284.530	189.023	-24.8	-33.6
Gas (piped) and electricity	247.930	281.204	185.604	-25.1	-34.0
Electricity	243.024	276.956	182.339	-25.0	-34.2
Utility (piped) gas service	279.037	289.223	200.440	-28.2	-30.7
Household furnishings and operations	164.402	165.514	165.393	.6	-.1
Apparel	105.917	104.637	114.379	8.0	9.3
Transportation	215.519	212.477	191.723	-11.0	-9.8
Private transportation	210.861	207.461	188.269	-10.7	-9.3
Motor fuel	288.576	281.320	195.409	-32.3	-30.5
Gasoline (all types)	296.734	288.356	200.013	-32.6	-30.6
Gasoline, unleaded regular ²	313.895	308.008	209.845	-33.1	-31.9
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{2 3}	229.433	233.685	155.816	-32.1	-33.3
Gasoline, unleaded premium ²	265.117	247.123	180.767	-31.8	-26.9
Medical care	317.380	318.531	322.104	1.5	1.1
Recreation ⁴	105.600	104.979	105.629	.0	.6
Education and communication ⁴	115.126	119.110	120.937	5.0	1.5
Other goods and services	361.286	369.596	388.461	7.5	5.1
Commodity and service group					
All items	227.334	230.387	228.070	.3	-1.0
Commodities	180.499	181.726	179.124	-.8	-1.4
Commodities less food and beverages	157.863	155.445	149.730	-5.2	-3.7
Nondurables less food and beverages	192.383	189.833	176.864	-8.1	-6.8
Durables	119.774	117.585	118.249	-1.3	.6
Services	268.371	273.096	271.077	1.0	-.7
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	222.682	225.787	223.267	.3	-1.1
All items less shelter	210.819	214.789	208.566	-1.1	-2.9
Commodities less food	160.254	157.831	152.470	-4.9	-3.4
Nondurables	203.722	206.873	202.531	-.6	-2.1
Nondurables less food	193.812	191.284	179.538	-7.4	-6.1
Services less rent of shelter ¹	270.207	280.604	266.052	-1.5	-5.2
Services less medical care services	263.885	268.319	266.025	.8	-.9
Energy	271.033	282.696	192.341	-29.0	-32.0
All items less energy	226.301	228.767	232.526	2.8	1.6
All items less food and energy	230.438	231.560	235.353	2.1	1.6

¹ Index is on a December 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.