

News

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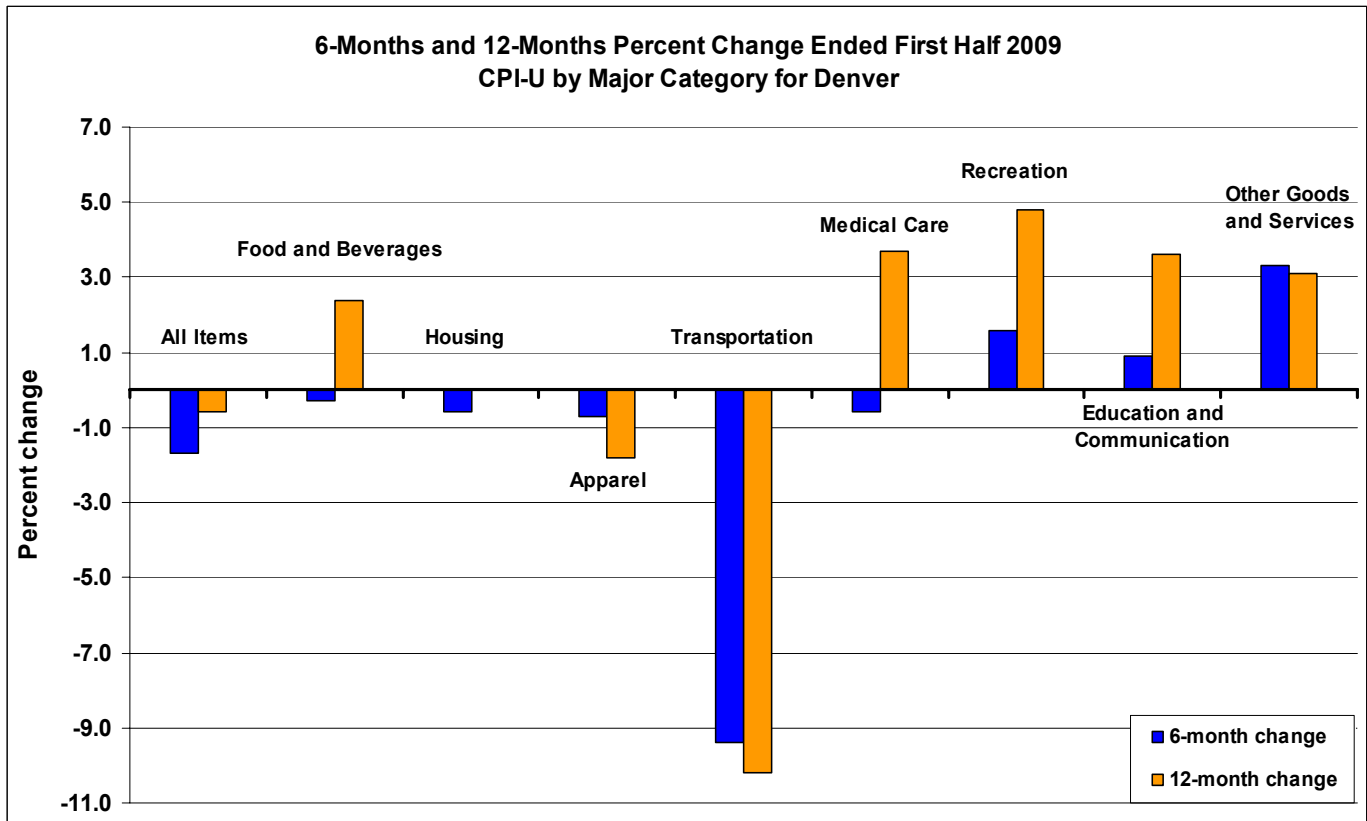


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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR DENVER-BOULDER-GREELEY Prices decreased 0.6 percent from the first half of 2008 to the first half of 2009

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Denver-Boulder-Greeley, Colo., metropolitan area decreased 0.6 percent from the first half of 2008 to the first half of 2009, with most of the decrease occurring in the latter half of the period, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. According to Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman, over one-half of the movement in the overall index was attributable to declining costs for transportation.



Among the eight major expenditure categories, the transportation index had the largest impact on the overall index. Transportation prices declined 10.2 percent from the first half of 2008 to the first half of 2009 due almost entirely to lower motor fuel costs. Prices for motor fuel fell a record-setting 39.3 percent over the period.

The Denver metropolitan area recorded higher prices in five of the remaining seven major expenditure categories, partially offsetting the downward movement of the transportation component. The index for food and beverages had the second largest effect on the all items index and accounted for approximately 12 percent of the overall movement. Costs for food and beverages rose 2.4 percent from the first half of 2008 to the first half of 2009. Prices for food away from home rose 3.5 percent, costs for food at home increased 1.4 percent, and prices for alcoholic beverages were 2.6 percent higher. Recreation prices, which include admissions to movies, concerts, and sporting events, advanced 4.8 percent. The index for education and communication rose 3.6 percent and medical care costs were 3.7 percent higher. Prices for other goods and services, which include tobacco and smoking products and personal care items, increased 3.1 percent since the first half of 2008.

The apparel index was the only major expenditure category other than transportation to record a decline over the year, but had little impact on the overall index. Apparel prices were down 1.8 percent over the period following a 4.3-percent increase in the same period one year ago. The housing index was unchanged from the first half of 2008 to the first half of 2009, as higher shelter costs were offset by decreases in the fuels and utilities index and the household furnishings and operations index.

Energy prices, which include prices for motor fuel and household fuels, declined 30.1 percent over the year, the largest over-the-year decrease since publication began in 1978. The special aggregate indexes for all items less energy and all items less food and energy rose 2.2 percent each from the first half of 2008 to the first half of 2009.

The Denver CPI-U stood at 207.444 for the first half of 2009. This means that a market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 during the 1982-84 base period cost \$207.44 during the first half of 2009. Because metropolitan area CPI data are not adjusted for seasonal price variation, consumers and businesses should be cautious in drawing conclusions about long-term retail price trends from short-term changes in the area indexes.

The Denver-Boulder-Greeley, Colo., Metropolitan Statistical Area includes Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, Jefferson, and Weld Counties in Colorado.

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

Denver-Boulder-Greeley, CO (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	208.741	211.066	207.444	-0.6	-1.7
All items (1967=100)	696.062	703.816	691.740	-	-
Food and beverages	198.694	203.999	203.483	2.4	-.3
Food	201.300	207.440	206.126	2.4	-.6
Food at home	206.180	211.420	209.125	1.4	-1.1
Food away from home	194.831	200.456	201.679	3.5	.6
Alcoholic beverages	179.526	176.706	184.126	2.6	4.2
Housing	192.726	193.800	192.687	.0	-.6
Shelter	210.836	212.358	214.382	1.7	1.0
Rent of primary residence	201.535	203.463	207.037	2.7	1.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ¹	206.194	207.680	209.843	1.8	1.0
Fuels and utilities	204.087	201.037	180.987	-11.3	-10.0
Household energy	162.211	162.563	138.600	-14.6	-14.7
Gas (piped) and electricity	160.559	160.954	137.455	-14.4	-14.6
Electricity	128.589	138.391	122.455	-4.8	-11.5
Utility (piped) gas service	219.193	200.659	162.782	-25.7	-18.9
Household furnishings and operations	125.553	127.329	123.334	-1.8	-3.1
Apparel	103.331	102.186	101.446	-1.8	-.7
Transportation	234.245	232.319	210.393	-10.2	-9.4
Private transportation	230.264	226.845	205.453	-10.8	-9.4
Motor fuel	271.312	247.272	164.811	-39.3	-33.3
Gasoline (all types)	269.589	245.709	164.013	-39.2	-33.2
Gasoline, unleaded regular ²	267.401	242.482	161.125	-39.7	-33.6
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{2 3}	253.554	233.591	156.238	-38.4	-33.1
Gasoline, unleaded premium ²	266.502	245.383	166.805	-37.4	-32.0
Medical care	423.776	442.049	439.587	3.7	-.6
Recreation ⁴	126.174	130.241	132.277	4.8	1.6
Education and communication ⁴	111.570	114.536	115.597	3.6	.9
Other goods and services	312.664	311.976	322.415	3.1	3.3
Commodity and service group					
All items	208.741	211.066	207.444	-.6	-1.7
Commodities	163.771	163.869	156.738	-4.3	-4.4
Commodities less food and beverages	145.097	142.742	132.633	-8.6	-7.1
Nondurables less food and beverages	178.221	172.453	153.784	-13.7	-10.8
Durables	112.888	113.822	112.109	-.7	-1.5
Services	246.453	251.041	251.389	2.0	.1
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	198.443	200.231	196.636	-.9	-1.8
All items less shelter	208.784	211.487	205.306	-1.7	-2.9
Commodities less food	146.387	144.017	134.628	-8.0	-6.5
Nondurables	189.122	188.774	178.853	-5.4	-5.3
Nondurables less food	177.537	172.039	155.502	-12.4	-9.6
Services less rent of shelter ¹	298.761	308.147	305.966	2.4	-.7
Services less medical care services	231.196	234.834	235.570	1.9	.3
Energy	212.339	200.634	148.329	-30.1	-26.1
All items less energy	209.366	213.132	214.034	2.2	.4
All items less food and energy	211.161	214.445	215.801	2.2	.6

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.

Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W):Indexes for semiannual averages and percent changes for selected periods

Denver-Boulder-Greeley, CO (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	201.124	202.605	197.944	-1.6	-2.3
All items (1967=100)	669.447	674.377	658.864	-	-
Food and beverages	199.964	205.782	205.409	2.7	-.2
Food	202.522	208.975	207.948	2.7	-.5
Food at home	206.174	211.808	209.916	1.8	-.9
Food away from home	196.746	202.631	204.340	3.9	.8
Alcoholic beverages	184.260	180.985	190.670	3.5	5.4
Housing	185.442	186.433	185.200	-.1	-.7
Shelter	199.463	200.946	203.157	1.9	1.1
Rent of primary residence	201.535	203.463	207.037	2.7	1.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ¹	192.492	193.879	195.898	1.8	1.0
Fuels and utilities	201.201	197.979	177.784	-11.6	-10.2
Household energy	161.594	161.805	137.939	-14.6	-14.7
Gas (piped) and electricity	161.234	161.461	137.812	-14.5	-14.6
Electricity	128.589	138.391	122.455	-4.8	-11.5
Utility (piped) gas service	219.195	200.660	162.784	-25.7	-18.9
Household furnishings and operations	129.158	131.569	127.774	-1.1	-2.9
Apparel	99.783	97.701	95.621	-4.2	-2.1
Transportation	231.963	227.450	204.265	-11.9	-10.2
Private transportation	228.988	224.151	201.134	-12.2	-10.3
Motor fuel	271.268	247.232	164.788	-39.3	-33.3
Gasoline (all types)	269.585	245.705	164.011	-39.2	-33.2
Gasoline, unleaded regular ²	267.406	242.487	161.128	-39.7	-33.6
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{2 3}	253.554	233.591	156.238	-38.4	-33.1
Gasoline, unleaded premium ²	266.539	245.417	166.828	-37.4	-32.0
Medical care	423.167	443.009	439.528	3.9	-.8
Recreation ⁴	115.011	119.186	121.426	5.6	1.9
Education and communication ⁴	112.064	113.963	114.219	1.9	.2
Other goods and services	314.058	311.517	324.619	3.4	4.2
Commodity and service group					
All items	201.124	202.605	197.944	-1.6	-2.3
Commodities	167.804	167.237	158.416	-5.6	-5.3
Commodities less food and beverages	147.390	144.013	131.824	-10.6	-8.5
Nondurables less food and beverages	191.296	183.007	157.344	-17.7	-14.0
Durables	105.765	106.073	104.427	-1.3	-1.6
Services	235.503	239.388	239.882	1.9	.2
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	192.152	193.179	188.581	-1.9	-2.4
All items less shelter	204.692	206.197	198.591	-3.0	-3.7
Commodities less food	148.757	145.376	133.719	-10.1	-8.0
Nondurables	199.358	198.203	184.964	-7.2	-6.7
Nondurables less food	190.663	182.688	159.076	-16.6	-12.9
Services less rent of shelter ¹	275.010	282.363	280.272	1.9	-.7
Services less medical care services	220.992	223.999	224.842	1.7	.4
Energy	223.597	210.693	154.741	-30.8	-26.6
All items less energy	199.225	202.430	203.394	2.1	.5
All items less food and energy	199.457	201.964	203.370	2.0	.7

¹ Index is on a November 1984=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.