

News

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

Consumer prices in the Portland-Salem metropolitan area decreased 0.2 percent from one year prior and decreased 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 the drop in transportation costs contributed to an overall decrease in the annual all items index.

The transportation index fell by 12.3 percent for the year and 9.9 percent for the past six months. Overall, gasoline prices were lower by 37.0 percent since the first half of 2008 and 31.1 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 3.6 percent over the year and 3.1 percent over the past six months. Household furnishings and operations also saw increases of 2.1 percent for the year and 2.3 percent for the past six months.

Prices paid for food and beverages rose 5.1 percent over the course of the year. During this period, the food at home index increased 2.5 percent and the food away from home index surged 7.4 percent. Increases in the food and beverages index also occurred over the past six months, as prices advanced 1.0 percent. Food at home prices were down 1.1 percent over the past six months, while food away from home prices increased 2.7 percent. The price of alcoholic beverages rose by 4.7 percent for the year and by 2.3 percent since the second half of 2008.

Medical care prices jumped 7.3 percent for the past twelve months and 5.2 percent for the past six months.

Apparel prices reported a 9.3 percent drop for the year and a 3.2 percent decrease since the second half of 2008. Yearly and semi-annual prices for recreation also fell by 1.3 and 2.3 percent, respectively.

Education and communication prices advanced 3.0 percent during the past year and 0.4 percent during the past six months. Other goods and services rose by 3.1 percent on an annual basis and 3.7 percent on a semi-annual basis.

The Portland area's Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) advanced to 214.102 (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 \$214.10 in the first six months of 2009. Local area CPI data are not seasonally adjusted.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request.

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

Portland-Salem, OR-WA (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	214.619	216.159	214.102	-0.2	-1.0
All items (1967=100)	628.313	632.822	626.803	-	-
Food and beverages	194.222	202.104	204.038	5.1	1.0
Food	194.837	203.036	204.740	5.1	.8
Food at home	193.455	200.497	198.264	2.5	-1.1
Food away from home	201.029	210.232	215.885	7.4	2.7
Alcoholic beverages	189.101	193.674	198.078	4.7	2.3
Housing	206.843	209.423	212.015	2.5	1.2
Shelter	236.408	240.430	242.201	2.5	.7
Rent of primary residence	224.958	228.439	232.662	3.4	1.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ¹	244.234	248.693	252.254	3.3	1.4
Fuels and utilities	219.664	220.698	227.633	3.6	3.1
Household energy	191.833	190.546	197.722	3.1	3.8
Gas (piped) and electricity	233.358	231.916	247.107	5.9	6.6
Electricity	250.977	243.716	257.591	2.6	5.7
Utility (piped) gas service	194.537	204.502	221.975	14.1	8.5
Household furnishings and operations	111.221	111.005	113.527	2.1	2.3
Apparel	121.179	113.539	109.921	-9.3	-3.2
Transportation	222.302	216.355	194.968	-12.3	-9.9
Private transportation	222.687	215.227	194.033	-12.9	-9.8
Motor fuel	303.932	278.163	190.616	-37.3	-31.5
Gasoline (all types)	305.138	278.878	192.116	-37.0	-31.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular ²	303.448	277.051	189.655	-37.5	-31.5
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{2 3}	257.491	236.547	165.204	-35.8	-30.2
Gasoline, unleaded premium ²	281.174	257.800	182.888	-35.0	-29.1
Medical care	395.546	403.598	424.582	7.3	5.2
Recreation ⁴	112.020	113.246	110.612	-1.3	-2.3
Education and communication ⁴	107.333	110.104	110.555	3.0	.4
Other goods and services	396.520	394.495	409.007	3.1	3.7
Commodity and service group					
All items	214.619	216.159	214.102	-.2	-1.0
Commodities	169.929	168.931	162.736	-4.2	-3.7
Commodities less food and beverages	157.016	152.179	142.570	-9.2	-6.3
Nondurables less food and beverages	191.659	184.080	163.442	-14.7	-11.2
Durables	118.007	115.619	115.317	-2.3	-.3
Services	259.373	263.661	266.194	2.6	1.0
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	205.970	207.280	204.510	-.7	-1.3
All items less shelter	207.534	208.179	204.338	-1.5	-1.8
Commodities less food	158.048	153.554	144.450	-8.6	-5.9
Nondurables	192.382	192.367	182.710	-5.0	-5.0
Nondurables less food	190.507	183.890	165.221	-13.3	-10.2
Services less rent of shelter ¹	294.540	299.901	303.193	2.9	1.1
Services less medical care services	248.899	253.097	254.533	2.3	.6
Energy	247.747	233.468	190.148	-23.2	-18.6
All items less energy	214.499	217.328	218.900	2.1	.7
All items less food and energy	219.820	221.630	223.188	1.5	.7

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.