

News

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR THE SAN DIEGO AREA, SECOND HALF 2008 San Diego Prices Increased by 3.2 percent in 2008

Consumer prices in the San Diego metropolitan area advanced 3.2 percent from one year prior, but inched down 0.1 percent in the second half of 2008 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Regional Commissioner Richard J. Holden said higher housing and food prices contributed largely to the all items index increase. Additionally, the special energy aggregate index was up 7.8 percent over the past year. Local Consumer Price Index data are not seasonally adjusted.

The housing index rose 3.7 percent for the year and by 1.0 percent for the past six months. Prices for the shelter component of housing advanced 2.9 percent and the fuels and utilities component rose 10.1 percent for the year. During the past six months costs for shelter increased 0.6 percent and costs for fuels and utilities increased 7.4 percent. Within fuels and utilities index, (utility) piped gas service prices increased 11.3 percent for the year, but fell 8.6 percent for the past six months. Electricity prices increased 9.6 percent for the year and rose by 13.6 percent for the past six months.

Food and beverage prices rose by 5.0 percent in 2008. In the past year, prices paid for food at home increased 7.6 percent, and prices for food away from home increased 3.0 percent. For the past six months, the overall food and beverages index rose 2.1 percent. Food at home prices were up 3.5 percent over the past six months and food away from home prices increased 1.0 percent. Alcoholic beverages prices rose 2.7 percent since the second half of 2007 and increased 1.5 percent over the past six months.

Transportation prices increased 1.4 percent during the past year, but declined 4.4 percent since the first half of 2008. Annual gasoline prices rose 6.4 percent over the past year. In the past six months, gasoline prices have declined 10.8 percent.

Apparel prices fell 1.6 percent over the year and by 3.7 percent over the past six months. Prices for recreation increased 4.2 percent since the second half of 2007 and by 0.3 percent over the past six months.

Education and communication prices advanced 0.7 percent during the past year, but fell by 1.0 percent during the past six months. Other goods and services rose 4.7 percent on an annual basis and increased by 1.4 percent since six months ago.

The San Diego area's Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) advanced to 242.185 (1982-84=100) during the second half of 2008. This means a market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in 1982-84 would have cost \$242.19 during the last six months of 2008.

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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 2nd half 2008 from—	
	2nd half 2007	1st half 2008	2nd half 2008	2nd half 2007	1st half 2008
Expenditure category					
All items	234.772	242.440	242.185	3.2	-0.1
All items (1967=100)	793.838	819.765	818.902	-	-
Food and beverages	213.479	219.445	224.163	5.0	2.1
Food	210.864	216.981	221.789	5.2	2.2
Food at home	195.335	203.164	210.184	7.6	3.5
Food away from home	229.371	234.089	236.349	3.0	1.0
Alcoholic beverages	236.887	239.502	243.189	2.7	1.5
Housing	262.839	269.695	272.457	3.7	1.0
Shelter	298.458	305.462	307.168	2.9	.6
Rent of primary residence	282.172	289.221	293.975	4.2	1.6
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ¹	316.710	322.412	325.432	2.8	.9
Fuels and utilities	192.741	197.625	212.199	10.1	7.4
Household energy	163.736	165.470	181.864	11.1	9.9
Gas (piped) and electricity	160.719	160.809	177.899	10.7	10.6
Electricity	146.765	141.590	160.860	9.6	13.6
Utility (piped) gas service	184.800	225.014	205.639	11.3	-8.6
Household furnishings and operations	175.940	181.182	184.543	4.9	1.9
Apparel	125.135	127.873	123.098	-1.6	-3.7
Transportation	193.518	205.196	196.246	1.4	-4.4
Private transportation	188.007	199.235	189.979	1.0	-4.6
Motor fuel	245.413	293.176	261.551	6.6	-10.8
Gasoline (all types)	246.182	293.636	261.887	6.4	-10.8
Gasoline, unleaded regular ²	255.303	305.410	272.306	6.7	-10.8
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{2 3}	213.750	252.300	224.011	4.8	-11.2
Gasoline, unleaded premium ²	249.633	296.313	266.360	6.7	-10.1
Medical care	-	368.155	370.586	-	.7
Recreation ⁴	136.695	141.990	142.479	4.2	.3
Education and communication ⁴	117.764	119.832	118.634	.7	-1.0
Other goods and services	331.081	341.929	346.575	4.7	1.4
Commodity and service group					
All items	234.772	242.440	242.185	3.2	-.1
Commodities	181.390	188.796	186.064	2.6	-1.4
Commodities less food and beverages	163.530	171.382	165.541	1.2	-3.4
Nondurables less food and beverages	178.435	194.486	185.318	3.9	-4.7
Durables	151.362	151.369	148.611	-1.8	-1.8
Services	281.913	289.820	291.772	3.5	.7
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	228.802	236.360	235.991	3.1	-.2
All items less shelter	209.655	217.426	216.584	3.3	-.4
Commodities less food	166.809	174.551	169.040	1.3	-3.2
Nondurables	197.212	208.670	205.966	4.4	-1.3
Nondurables less food	183.516	198.830	190.560	3.8	-4.2
Services less rent of shelter ¹	274.105	282.690	285.921	4.3	1.1
Services less medical care services	273.749	281.517	283.552	3.6	.7
Energy	210.621	239.402	227.151	7.8	-5.1
All items less energy	238.467	244.365	245.002	2.7	.3
All items less food and energy	244.571	250.472	250.414	2.4	.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.