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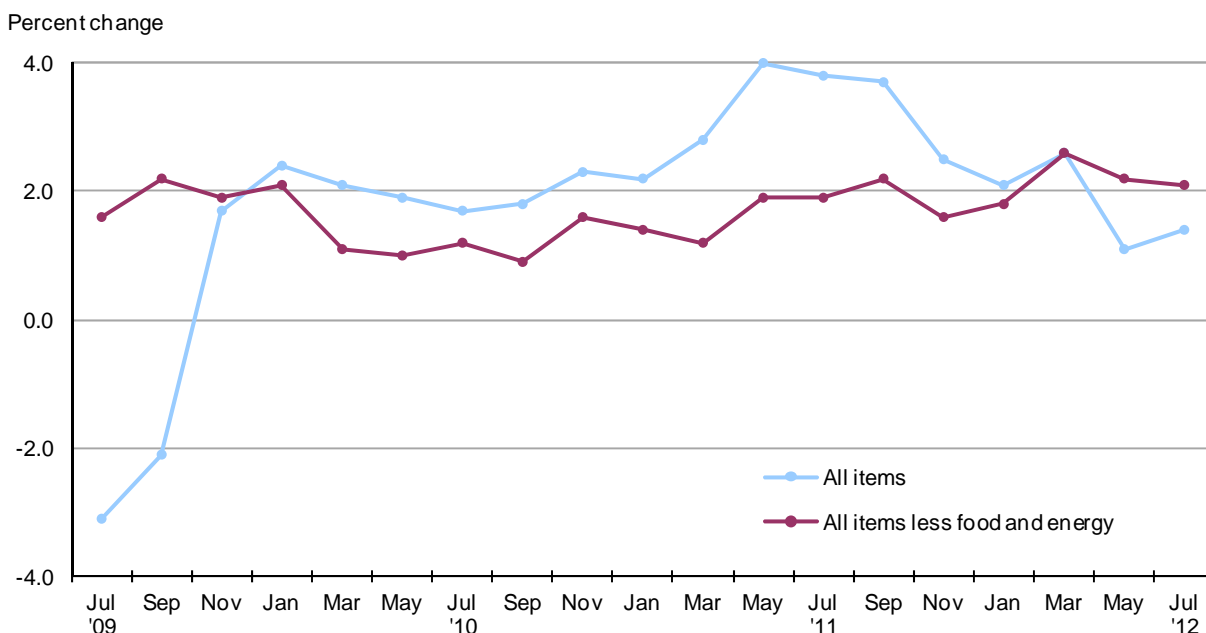
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, CLEVELAND-AKRON, OHIO, CMSA – JULY 2012

The Cleveland-Akron, Ohio, Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) was unchanged from May to July, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that the index for food rose 0.6 percent and the index for energy decreased 0.5 percent over the bi-monthly period. The index for all items less food and energy was unchanged. Within this last group, prices were higher for shelter and household furnishings and operations and lower for apparel. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the past 12 months the Cleveland area all items CPI-U advanced 1.4 percent. The energy index fell 6.1 percent largely as a result of declines in prices for utility (piped) gas service followed by a decrease in gasoline prices. The index for all items less food and energy rose 2.1 percent over the year.

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Cleveland-Akron, July 2009–July 2012



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Food

Food prices increased 0.6 percent from May to July following a 0.8-percent increase over the previous bi-monthly period. Of the food index's two components, food at home rose 0.5 percent and food away from home increased 0.8 percent. From July 2011 to July 2012, the index for food advanced 3.1 percent.

Energy

The energy index decreased 0.5 percent from May to July after falling 3.9 percent from March to May. Prices for gasoline were down 6.3 percent. Higher prices were recorded for electricity (8.3 percent) and for utility (piped) gas services (7.4 percent) from May to July.

The energy index fell 6.1 percent over the year. Prices for utility (piped) gas service fell 23.8 percent and gasoline prices were 4.3 percent lower. In contrast, prices for electricity increased 3.7 percent from July 2011 to July 2012.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was unchanged from May to July. Costs increased 0.3 percent for shelter and 1.8 percent for household furnishings and operations. Apparel prices declined 6.2 percent over the bimonthly period.

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 2.1 percent and was largely attributed to higher prices for shelter (1.6 percent) and medical care (3.1 percent).

The September 2012 Consumer Price Index for Cleveland is scheduled to be released on October 16, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

Table A. Percent Changes in the CPI-U, Cleveland-Akron, Ohio (not seasonally adjusted)

Expenditure Category	Percent changes from preceding 2 months							12 mo. ended July '12
	2011			2012				
	July	Sep.	Nov.	Jan.	Mar.	May	July	
All items	-0.2	0.6	-0.8	0.4	1.3	-0.1	0.0	1.4
Food & beverages	1.7	.6	-.5	.8	.7	.7	.6	3.0
Food	1.9	.6	-.5	.7	.8	.8	.6	3.1
Housing	.7	-.5	-.3	.1	.5	-.1	1.3	.9
Apparel	-6.4	15.9	-1.3	-7.7	7.9	-2.8	-6.2	4.0
Transportation	-2.9	-.3	-2.4	.2	4.5	-.9	-2.2	-1.3
Medical care	.8	.0	.2	1.7	.2	.9	.1	3.1
Recreation	-.1	.1	-2.0	3.5	-.4	.4	.0	1.5
Education & communication	.3	1.7	-.4	.4	-.1	.0	.0	1.5
Other goods & services	.9	1.1	-.7	1.4	-.2	1.6	-.3	2.9
Special Indexes								
Energy	-4.8	-3.2	-4.1	.3	5.5	-3.9	-.5	-6.1
All items less food & energy	0.1	1.1	-0.5	.3	.8	.3	.0	2.1

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 88 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 4,000 housing units and approximately 26,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17 The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17_a.htm.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The Cleveland-Akron, Ohio consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit Counties in Ohio.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

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

Cleveland-Akron, OH (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from—		
	May 2012	June 2012	July 2012	July 2011	May 2012	June 2012
Expenditure category						
All items	214.607	-	214.612	1.4	0.0	-
All items (1967=100)	687.702	-	687.717	-	-	-
Food and beverages	238.894	-	240.321	3.0	.6	-
Food	244.054	-	245.540	3.1	.6	-
Food at home	240.398	241.805	241.528	2.7	.5	-0.1
Food away from home	252.246	-	254.328	3.6	.8	-
Alcoholic beverages	181.345	-	182.123	1.1	.4	-
Housing	190.495	-	192.915	.9	1.3	-
Shelter	218.738	219.297	219.395	1.6	.3	.0
Rent of primary residence ¹	221.098	221.592	221.687	2.1	.3	.0
Owners' equivalent rent of residences ^{1 2}	215.864	216.312	216.387	1.5	.2	.0
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{1 2}	215.864	216.312	216.387	1.5	.2	.0
Fuels and utilities	177.456	-	187.906	-3.9	5.9	-
Household energy	151.410	159.067	162.894	-8.2	7.6	2.4
Energy services ¹	149.475	157.486	161.363	-8.2	8.0	2.5
Electricity ¹	160.082	173.528	173.381	3.7	8.3	-1
Utility (piped) gas service ¹	120.228	120.797	129.105	-23.8	7.4	6.9
Household furnishings and operations	119.485	-	121.675	2.8	1.8	-
Apparel	129.140	-	121.170	4.0	-6.2	-
Transportation	219.883	-	214.948	-1.3	-2.2	-
Private transportation	221.476	-	216.524	-1.0	-2.2	-
Motor fuel	370.439	361.247	346.801	-4.1	-6.4	-4.0
Gasoline (all types)	367.373	358.591	344.267	-4.3	-6.3	-4.0
Gasoline, unleaded regular ³	358.287	349.598	335.551	-4.4	-6.3	-4.0
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{3 4}	372.580	363.847	349.612	-4.1	-6.2	-3.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium ³	350.303	343.151	329.976	-4.0	-5.8	-3.8
Medical care	392.602	-	393.170	3.1	.1	-
Recreation ⁵	114.123	-	114.075	1.5	.0	-
Education and communication ⁵	119.726	-	119.759	1.5	.0	-
Other goods and services	393.099	-	392.053	2.9	-3	-
Commodity and service group						
All items	214.607	-	214.612	1.4	.0	-
Commodities	195.426	-	193.263	1.7	-1.1	-
Commodities less food and beverages	171.506	-	167.816	1.0	-2.2	-
Nondurables less food and beverages	227.735	-	219.643	1.3	-3.6	-
Durables	112.814	-	113.625	.4	.7	-
Services	236.022	-	237.786	1.2	.7	-
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	206.424	-	206.405	1.2	.0	-
All items less shelter	215.042	-	214.773	1.3	-1	-
Commodities less food	172.124	-	168.585	1.0	-2.1	-
Nondurables	234.965	-	231.269	2.1	-1.6	-
Nondurables less food	224.351	-	216.864	1.3	-3.3	-
Services less rent of shelter ²	260.166	-	263.230	.9	1.2	-
Services less medical care services	224.441	-	226.294	1.0	.8	-
Energy	233.201	234.761	231.930	-6.1	-5	-1.2
All items less energy	214.650	-	214.789	2.2	.1	-
All items less food and energy	209.634	-	209.554	2.1	.0	-

¹ This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

² Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

³ Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

⁴ Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

⁵ Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available.

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.