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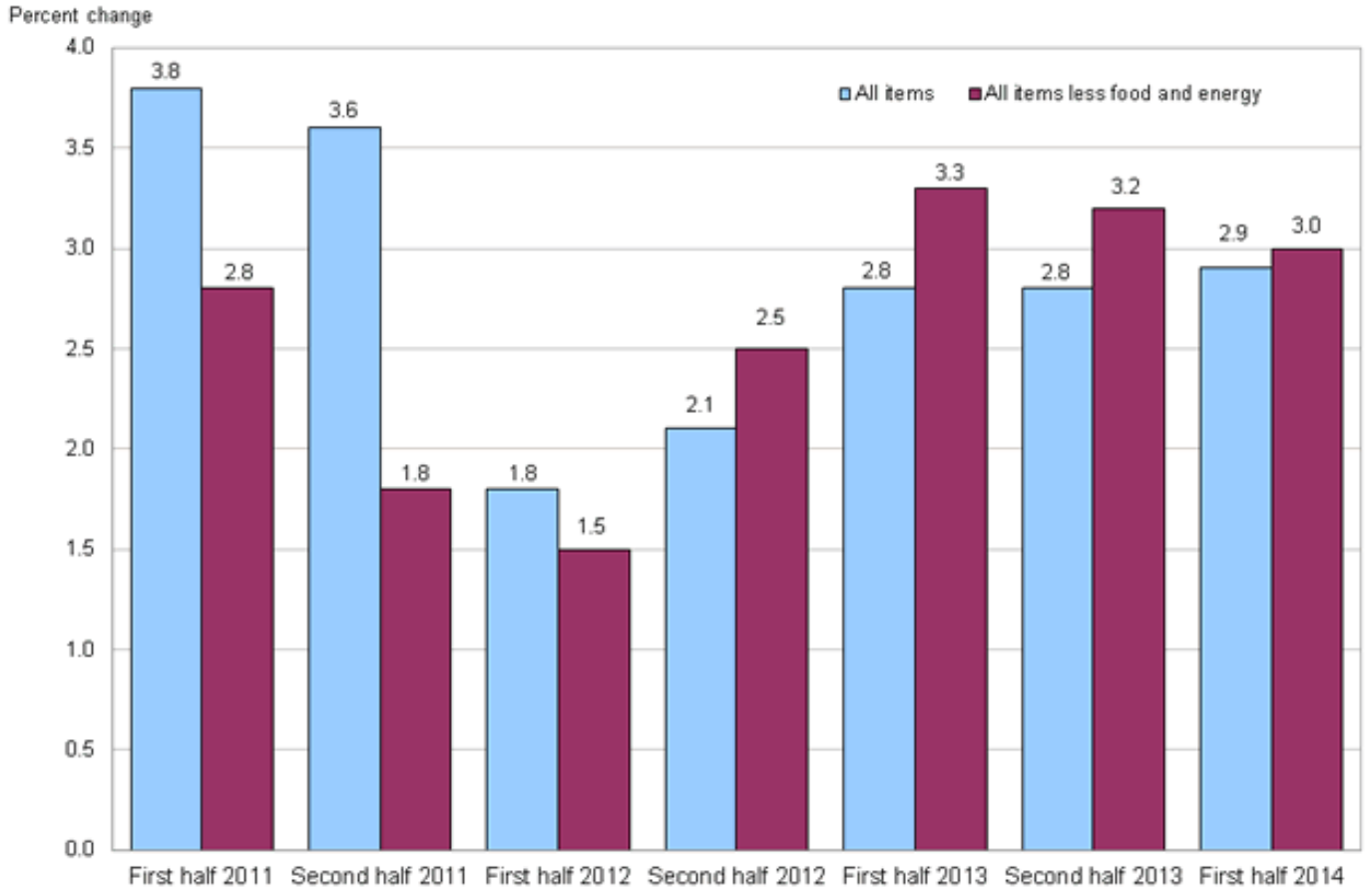
Consumer Price Index, Denver-Boulder-Greeley – First Half 2014

Prices increased 2.9 percent from the first half of 2013 to the first half of 2014

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Denver-Boulder-Greeley, Colo., metropolitan area increased 2.9 percent from the first half of 2013 to the first half of 2014, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that higher costs for shelter (5.0 percent) were largely responsible for the overall increase. Costs for energy were up 3.9 percent, food prices rose 2.0 percent, and the all items less food and energy index advanced 3.0 percent.

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in consumer price indexes, Denver, first half 2011–first half 2014



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 2.0 percent from the first half of 2013 to the first half of 2014, compared to a 1.0-percent gain in the same period one year ago. The index for food at home increased 2.2 percent and costs for food away from home were 1.3 percent higher over the year. Comparatively, from the first half of 2012 to the first half of 2013, prices for food at home were little changed (-0.1 percent) and costs for food away from home rose 2.0 percent.

Energy

The energy index, which includes motor fuel and household fuels, increased 3.9 percent from the first half of 2013 to the first half of 2014. Costs for utility (piped) gas service led the advance with an increase of 18.1 percent, with most of the gain occurring in the first part of the period. Higher prices for electricity, up 3.7 percent, also contributed to the increase. In contrast, motor fuel costs were down 0.6 percent from the first half of 2013 to the first half of 2014, with all of the decline occurring in the first half of the period.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 3.0 percent from the first half of 2013 to the first half of 2014. Shelter costs had the greatest upward impact with an increase of 5.0 percent. In contrast, the index for apparel (-6.0 percent) was among the expenditure categories registering lower prices over the year.

Due to insufficient data, the medical care component is not available for the first half of 2014.

The Denver CPI-U stood at 235.736 for the first half of 2014. This means that a market basket of goods and services that cost $100.00 during the 1982-84 base period cost $235.74 during the first half of 2014. 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.

CPI-W

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for the Denver-Boulder-Greeley, Colo., metropolitan area for the first half of 2014 was 226.254. The CPI-W increased 3.0 percent from the first half of 2013 to the first half of 2014.

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 areas; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

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

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request**.** Voice phone: 202-691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 1-800-877-8339

Table 1. 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 2014 from-	
	1st half 2013	2nd half 2013	1st half 2014	1st half 2013	2nd half 2013
Expenditure category					
All Items	229.142	232.439	235.736	2.9	1.4
All items (1967=100)	764.094	775.087	786.082		
Food and beverages	216.738	216.455	220.829	1.9	2.0
Food	219.823	219.356	224.114	2.0	2.2
Food at home	218.377	217.845	223.094	2.2	2.4
Food away from home	220.939	221.361	223.785	1.3	1.1
Alcoholic beverages	191.970	194.005	194.746	1.4	0.4
Housing	207.253	213.466	217.608	5.0	1.9
Shelter	231.768	238.079	243.324	5.0	2.2
Rent of primary residence [1]	232.933	242.387	248.529	6.7	2.5
Owners' equiv. rent of residences [1] [2]	225.280	230.636	235.063	4.3	1.9
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence [1] [2]	225.280	230.636	235.063	4.3	1.9
Fuels and utilities	206.493	220.722	226.215	9.6	2.5
Household energy	155.164	168.007	172.396	11.1	2.6
Energy services [1]	153.678	166.512	170.662	11.1	2.5
Electricity [1]	162.521	166.210	168.603	3.7	1.4
Utility (piped) gas service [1]	148.913	172.447	175.904	18.1	2.0
Household furnishings and operations	118.477	119.128	118.479	0.0	-0.5
Apparel	110.190	108.297	103.545	-6.0	-4.4
Transportation	262.304	263.350	268.342	2.3	1.9
Private transportation	259.886	262.446	265.961	2.3	1.3
Motor fuel	284.491	277.422	282.665	-0.6	1.9
Gasoline (all types)	282.471	275.403	280.378	-0.7	1.8
Gasoline, unleaded regular [3]	279.383	271.824	276.526	-1.0	1.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade [3] [4]	265.689	260.108	264.464	-0.5	1.7
Gasoline, unleaded premium [3]	282.079	276.691	283.202	0.4	2.4
Medical Care	487.877	497.149			
Recreation [5]	146.821	146.665	147.096	0.2	0.3
Education and communication [5]	122.498	123.221	123.986	1.2	0.6
Other goods and services	351.975	352.556	350.399	-0.4	-0.6
Commodity and Service Group					
All Items	229.142	232.439	235.736	2.9	1.4
Commodities	175.277	174.924	175.779	0.3	0.5
Commodities less food & beverages	153.428	153.049	152.114	-0.9	-0.6
Nondurables less food & beverages	190.618	189.611	188.627	-1.0	-0.5
Durables	115.684	115.978	115.440	-0.2	-0.5
Services	275.516	282.210	287.809	4.5	2.0
Special aggregate indexes:					
All items less medical care	217.079	220.120	223.253	2.8	1.4
All items less shelter	229.080	230.789	233.158	1.8	1.0
Commodities less food	154.916	154.624	153.735	-0.8	-0.6
Nondurables	204.320	203.664	205.351	0.5	0.8
Nondurables less food	190.125	189.326	188.393	-0.9	-0.5
Services less rent of shelter [2]	340.142	347.270	353.477	3.9	1.8
Services less medical care services	257.799	264.247	269.693	4.6	2.1
Energy	213.201	216.577	221.507	3.9	2.3
All items less energy	231.727	234.813	238.136	2.8	1.4

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. 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) - Continued

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 1st half 2014 from-	
	1st half 2013	2nd half 2013	1st half 2014	1st half 2013	2nd half 2013
All items less food and energy	234.383	238.204	241.306	3.0	1.3

Footnotes
(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 November 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.

Table 2. Consumer Price Index for 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 2014 from-	
	1st half 2013	2nd half 2013	1st half 2014	1st half 2013	2nd half 2013
Expenditure category					
All Items	219.558	223.133	226.254	3.0	1.4
All items (1967=100)	730.804	742.707	753.093		
Food and beverages	218.750	218.240	222.822	1.9	2.1
Food	222.046	221.290	226.240	1.9	2.2
Food at home	219.798	218.682	224.133	2.0	2.5
Food away from home	224.821	225.252	227.764	1.3	1.1
Alcoholic beverages	197.005	198.860	199.651	1.3	0.4
Housing	200.502	206.962	210.990	5.2	1.9
Shelter	220.838	227.199	232.116	5.1	2.2
Rent of primary residence [1]	232.933	242.387	248.529	6.7	2.5
Owners' equiv. rent of residences [1] [2]	210.309	215.310	219.442	4.3	1.9
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence [1] [2]	210.309	215.310	219.442	4.3	1.9
Fuels and utilities	202.003	215.597	220.671	9.2	2.4
Household energy	154.599	166.963	171.097	10.7	2.5
Energy services [1]	154.558	166.987	170.906	10.6	2.3
Electricity [1]	162.521	166.209	168.602	3.7	1.4
Utility (piped) gas service [1]	148.914	172.448	175.905	18.1	2.0
Household furnishings and operations	122.045	123.705	123.327	1.1	-0.3
Apparel	108.017	107.237	102.510	-5.1	-4.4
Transportation	258.597	260.314	264.671	2.3	1.7
Private transportation	256.091	258.314	261.855	2.3	1.4
Motor fuel	284.619	277.538	282.584	-0.7	1.8
Gasoline (all types)	282.468	275.399	280.374	-0.7	1.8
Gasoline, unleaded regular [3]	279.388	271.829	276.531	-1.0	1.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade [3] [4]	265.689	260.108	264.464	-0.5	1.7
Gasoline, unleaded premium [3]	282.118	276.729	283.241	0.4	2.4
Medical Care	490.440	499.289			
Recreation [5]	127.885	127.833	127.978	0.1	0.1
Education and communication [5]	118.230	118.818	119.526	1.1	0.6
Other goods and services	353.197	353.417	351.605	-0.5	-0.5
Commodity and Service Group					
All Items	219.558	223.133	226.254	3.0	1.4
Commodities	180.243	179.941	180.299	0.0	0.2
Commodities less food & beverages	156.866	156.642	155.627	-0.8	-0.6
Nondurables less food & beverages	202.775	201.763	200.312	-1.2	-0.7
Durables	110.854	111.324	110.908	0.0	-0.4
Services	261.061	268.099	273.669	4.8	2.1
Special aggregate indexes:					
All items less medical care	209.106	212.494	215.473	3.0	1.4
All items less shelter	222.300	224.379	226.624	1.9	1.0
Commodities less food	158.081	157.918	156.930	-0.7	-0.6
Nondurables	215.155	214.337	215.073	0.0	0.3
Nondurables less food	201.708	200.871	199.457	-1.1	-0.7
Services less rent of shelter [2]	304.907	312.471	318.846	4.6	2.0
Services less medical care services	244.268	251.025	256.375	5.0	2.1
Energy	222.232	224.381	228.462	2.8	1.8
All items less energy	219.994	223.458	226.824	3.1	1.5

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Consumer Price Index for 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) - Continued

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 1st half 2014 from-	
	1st half 2013	2nd half 2013	1st half 2014	1st half 2013	2nd half 2013
All items less food and energy	220.399	224.444	227.502	3.2	1.4

Footnotes
(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 November 1984=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.