NEWS RELEASE
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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ERRATA Incorrect prices for prescription drugs were used for the CPI-U and CPI-W indexes from May through August 2016 in a number of areas. Several indexes were affected, including the all items and medical care indexes. A list of the series affected can be found at www.bls.gov/bls/errata/cpi-price-corrections-10182016.htm, and the corrected data are available in the CPI database (www.bls.gov/cpi/data.htm).

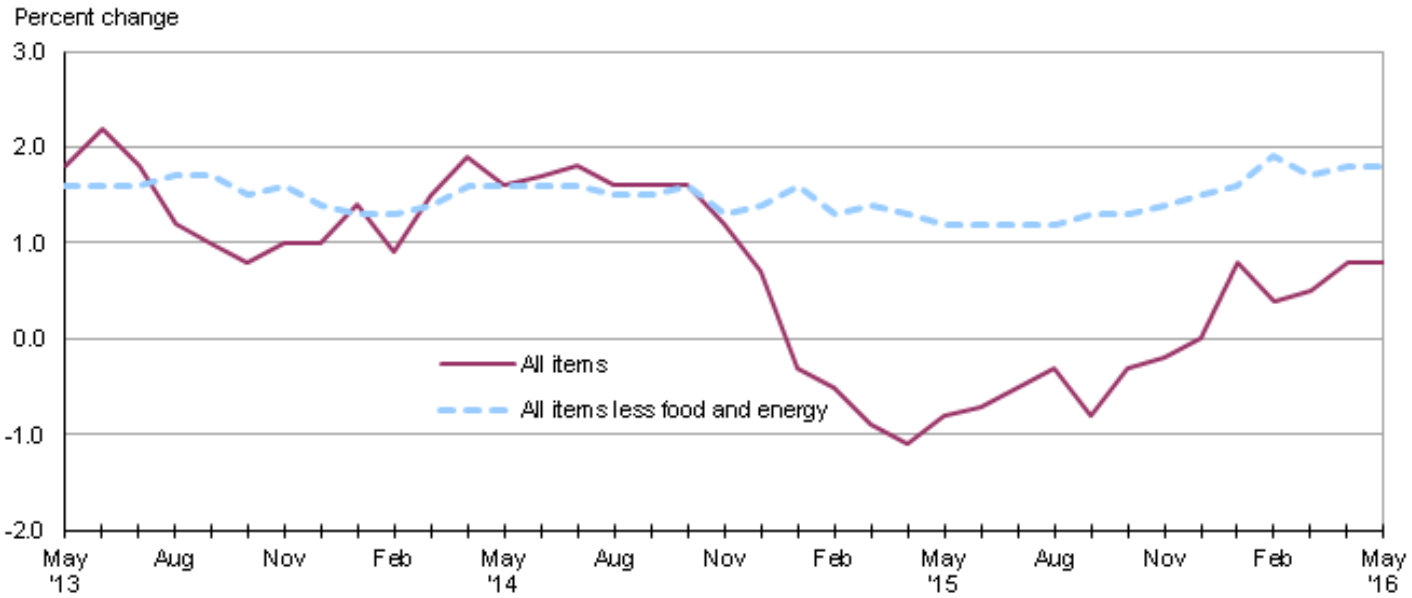
Consumer Price Index, Midwest Region – May 2016

Prices in the Midwest up 0.4 percent in May and 0.8 percent higher over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) in the Midwest rose 0.4 percent in May, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The monthly advance was largely attributable to an 8.2-percent increase in motor fuel prices. The broader energy index was 4.6 percent higher over the month. Food prices declined 0.2 percent while the index for all items less food and energy was little changed (0.1 percent). (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

The CPI-U for the Midwest advanced 0.8 percent from May 2015 to May 2016. (See chart 1 and table A.) The energy index, which includes motor fuel and household fuels, fell 7.9 percent, but prices for food were up 0.7 percent. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 1.8 percent over the year. (See table 1.)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Midwest region, May 2013–May 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices in the Midwest declined 0.2 percent in May. The index for food at home decreased 0.7 percent while costs for food away from home were up 0.5 percent.

From May 2015 to May 2016, the index for food increased 0.7 percent. Rising costs for food away from home (2.9 percent) were responsible for the yearly advance. Prices for food at home registered their eighth consecutive over-the-year decline, down 0.7 percent since May 2015.

Energy

The energy index rose 4.6 percent in May, following increases of 7.7 and 2.6 percent, respectively, in March and April. As in the previous two months, motor fuel prices were largely responsible for the monthly advance, rising 8.2 percent in May. Costs for electricity rose 2.1 percent and prices for utility (piped) gas service were 0.4 percent higher over the month.

Despite the recent monthly advances, energy prices decreased 7.9 percent from May 2015 to May 2016. Prices for motor fuel and utility (piped) gas service were down 13.4 and 8.5 percent, respectively. Costs for electricity increased 0.8 percent over the year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy for the Midwest was little changed (0.1 percent) in May. Expenditure categories registering higher prices over the month included medical care services (0.7 percent) and shelter (0.2 percent). In contrast, education and communication and new and used motor vehicles (each down 0.3 percent) were among the expenditure categories posting lower prices over the month.

The index for all items less food and energy was up 1.8 percent from May 2015 to May 2016. A 2.7-percent rise in shelter costs led the advance. Prices for medical care services had the next largest upward impact with a 3.8-percent increase.

The Midwest Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) stood at 226.478 in May 2016. A typical market basket of goods and services that cost $100.00 in the 1982-84 base period cost $226.48 in May 2016.

CPI-W

In May, the Midwest Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 220.833, up 0.5 percent over the month. The CPI-W increased 0.5 percent over the year.

Table A. Midwest region CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January	0.6	2.8	0.1	1.3	0.5	1.4	-0.6	-0.3	0.3	0.8
February	0.2	2.7	1.1	2.2	0.6	0.9	0.3	-0.5	0.0	0.4
March	1.0	2.8	0.2	1.4	0.9	1.5	0.6	-0.9	0.6	0.5
April	0.2	2.3	-0.1	1.2	0.3	1.9	0.1	-1.1	0.4	0.8
May	-0.1	1.5	0.5	1.8	0.2	1.6	0.4	-0.8	0.4	0.8
June	-0.1	1.4	0.3	2.2	0.5	1.7	0.5	-0.7		
July	0.0	1.3	-0.4	1.8	-0.3	1.8	0.0	-0.5		
August	0.7	1.8	0.1	1.2	-0.2	1.6	0.0	-0.3		
September	0.3	1.9	0.1	1.0	0.1	1.6	-0.3	-0.8		
October	-0.3	2.2	-0.5	0.8	-0.5	1.6	-0.1	-0.3		

Table A. Midwest region CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted - Continued

Month	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
November	-0.4	1.8	-0.2	1.0	-0.6	1.2	-0.5	-0.2		
December	-0.2	1.8	-0.2	1.0	-0.7	0.7	-0.6	0.0		

The June 2016 Consumer Price Index for the Midwest region is scheduled to be released on Friday, July 15, 2016.

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 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 28 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 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 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 Midwest region is comprised of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Mar. 2016	Apr. 2016	May 2016	May 2015	Mar. 2016	Apr. 2016
Expenditure category						
All Items	224.621	225.609	226.478	0.8	0.8	0.4
All items (December 1977=100)	365.470	367.079	368.492			
Food and beverages	240.000	240.898	240.398	0.7	0.2	-0.2
Food	239.494	240.489	239.941	0.7	0.2	-0.2
Food at home	227.791	228.662	227.107	-0.7	-0.3	-0.7
Food away from home	259.091	260.295	261.470	2.9	0.9	0.5
Alcoholic beverages	244.757	244.237	244.453	0.7	-0.1	0.1
Housing	214.948	214.974	215.543	1.8	0.3	0.3
Shelter	254.079	254.693	255.109	2.7	0.4	0.2
Rent of primary residence [1]	252.535	252.983	253.486	2.9	0.4	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences [1] [2]	257.322	257.889	258.534	2.7	0.5	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence [1] [2]	257.309	257.877	258.523	2.7	0.5	0.3
Fuels and utilities	209.184	207.060	209.801	-0.8	0.3	1.3
Household energy	170.820	168.634	171.218	-2.3	0.2	1.5
Energy services [1]	178.097	175.795	178.634	-2.0	0.3	1.6
Electricity [1]	196.855	196.351	200.527	0.8	1.9	2.1
Utility (piped) gas service [1]	136.418	131.335	131.821	-8.5	-3.4	0.4
Household furnishings and operations	115.511	115.053	114.784	-1.6	-0.6	-0.2
Apparel	117.964	118.214	118.928	1.0	0.8	0.6
Transportation	188.629	192.163	195.422	-3.8	3.6	1.7
Private transportation	182.902	185.942	189.040	-4.0	3.4	1.7
New and used motor vehicles [3]	99.422	99.447	99.168	-1.2	-0.3	-0.3
New vehicles	140.696	139.816	139.611	-0.7	-0.8	-0.1
New cars and trucks [3] [4]	99.453	98.824	98.711	-0.8	-0.7	-0.1
New cars [4]	136.600	135.719	135.531	-1.2	-0.8	-0.1
Used cars and trucks	146.614	148.092	147.886	-2.1	0.9	-0.1
Motor fuel	175.857	189.416	204.859	-13.4	16.5	8.2
Gasoline (all types)	174.991	188.601	203.986	-13.2	16.6	8.2
Gasoline, unleaded regular [4]	169.684	183.205	198.571	-14.2	17.0	8.4
Gasoline, Unleaded midgrade [4] [5]	206.842	220.484	236.644	-10.6	14.4	7.3
Gasoline, unleaded premium [4]	196.600	210.119	224.387	-7.4	14.1	6.8
Medical Care	464.165	465.161	466.998	3.3	0.6	0.4
Medical care commodities	375.463	376.989	374.011	1.6	-0.4	-0.8
Medical care services	493.913	494.715	498.263	3.8	0.9	0.7
Professional services	400.045	401.109	406.529	3.6	1.6	1.4
Recreation [3]	118.423	119.005	118.939	1.0	0.4	-0.1
Education and communication [3]	140.305	140.773	140.355	0.7	0.0	-0.3
Other goods and services	406.810	406.716	408.204	2.1	0.3	0.4
Commodity and Service Group						
All Items	224.621	225.609	226.478	0.8	0.8	0.4
Commodities	174.833	176.218	177.169	-1.5	1.3	0.5
Commodities less food & beverages	143.386	144.924	146.425	-3.0	2.1	1.0
Nondurables less food & beverages	180.382	183.774	187.479	-3.4	3.9	2.0
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	221.418	226.842	232.484	-4.7	5.0	2.5
Durables	106.174	106.232	105.995	-2.0	-0.2	-0.2
Services	275.973	276.559	277.345	2.3	0.5	0.3
Rent of shelter [2]	260.998	261.666	262.087	2.8	0.4	0.2

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Mar. 2016	Apr. 2016	May 2016	May 2015	Mar. 2016	Apr. 2016
Transportation services	296.699	299.813	300.661	1.7	1.3	0.3
Other services	332.058	332.868	332.578	1.7	0.2	-0.1
Special aggregate indexes:						
All items less medical care	213.282	214.271	215.093	0.5	0.8	0.4
All items less food	222.095	223.082	224.177	0.8	0.9	0.5
All items less shelter	216.216	217.348	218.385	-0.1	1.0	0.5
Commodities less food	146.546	148.038	149.513	-2.9	2.0	1.0
Nondurables	209.582	211.801	213.519	-1.3	1.9	0.8
Nondurables less food	183.807	186.980	190.490	-3.1	3.6	1.9
Nondurables less food and apparel	222.168	227.040	232.176	-4.3	4.5	2.3
Services less rent of shelter [2]	308.376	308.907	310.138	1.8	0.6	0.4
Services less medical care services	259.722	260.292	260.876	2.1	0.4	0.2
Energy	173.728	178.323	186.465	-7.9	7.3	4.6
All items less energy	232.431	233.076	233.238	1.6	0.3	0.1
All items less food and energy	231.855	232.439	232.730	1.8	0.4	0.1
Commodities less food and energy commodities	146.051	146.190	146.086	-0.4	0.0	-0.1
Energy commodities	176.121	189.008	203.723	-13.4	15.7	7.8
Services less energy services	288.421	289.317	289.892	2.6	0.5	0.2

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 December 1982=100 base.
(3) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.
Regions defined as the four Census regions. Midwest includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.
NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date. Data not seasonally adjusted.

Table 2. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Mar. 2016	Apr. 2016	May 2016	May 2015	Mar. 2016	Apr. 2016
Expenditure category						
All Items	218.761	219.816	220.833	0.5	0.9	0.5
All items (December 1977=100)	353.785	355.491	357.136			
Food and beverages	239.989	240.986	240.312	0.5	0.1	-0.3
Food	239.513	240.589	239.854	0.5	0.1	-0.3
Food at home	228.384	229.263	227.647	-0.8	-0.3	-0.7
Food away from home	260.146	261.616	262.708	2.9	1.0	0.4
Alcoholic beverages	245.996	245.702	246.027	1.1	0.0	0.1
Housing	209.859	209.764	210.481	1.7	0.3	0.3
Shelter	243.086	243.586	244.072	2.7	0.4	0.2
Rent of primary residence [1]	253.145	253.595	254.101	2.9	0.4	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences [1] [2]	239.862	240.390	241.006	2.7	0.5	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence [1] [2]	239.861	240.390	241.010	2.7	0.5	0.3
Fuels and utilities	210.408	208.388	211.183	-0.7	0.4	1.3
Household energy	171.760	169.697	172.293	-2.2	0.3	1.5
Energy services [1]	177.673	175.511	178.419	-1.8	0.4	1.7
Electricity [1]	195.335	194.849	199.019	0.7	1.9	2.1
Utility (piped) gas service [1]	137.209	132.205	132.734	-8.3	-3.3	0.4
Household furnishings and operations	113.835	113.064	113.026	-1.9	-0.7	0.0
Apparel	115.538	115.787	116.956	0.4	1.2	1.0
Transportation	185.173	188.984	192.670	-4.4	4.0	2.0
Private transportation	181.634	185.270	188.869	-4.5	4.0	1.9
New and used motor vehicles [3]	99.477	99.696	99.540	-1.3	0.1	-0.2
New vehicles	144.213	143.171	142.980	-0.7	-0.9	-0.1
Used cars and trucks	147.239	148.726	148.499	-2.1	0.9	-0.2
Motor fuel	176.242	190.071	205.454	-13.3	16.6	8.1
Gasoline (all types)	175.295	189.154	204.469	-13.2	16.6	8.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular [4]	169.849	183.624	198.883	-14.2	17.1	8.3
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade [4] [5]	206.631	220.449	236.643	-10.5	14.5	7.3
Gasoline, unleaded premium [4]	196.371	210.000	224.271	-7.4	14.2	6.8
Medical Care	469.981	470.969	472.524	3.3	0.5	0.3
Medical care commodities	369.153	370.457	366.694	1.4	-0.7	-1.0
Medical care services	501.198	502.064	505.498	3.9	0.9	0.7
Professional services	402.541	403.669	408.874	3.9	1.6	1.3
Recreation [3]	114.733	115.229	115.116	0.9	0.3	-0.1
Education and communication [3]	132.292	132.651	132.174	0.6	-0.1	-0.4
Other goods and services	453.042	453.227	454.081	2.5	0.2	0.2
Commodity and Service Group						
All Items	218.761	219.816	220.833	0.5	0.9	0.5
Commodities	176.830	178.547	179.801	-1.7	1.7	0.7
Commodities less food & beverages	146.399	148.346	150.322	-3.3	2.7	1.3
Nondurables less food & beverages	185.478	189.862	194.624	-3.9	4.9	2.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	228.936	235.695	242.548	-5.1	5.9	2.9
Durables	108.512	108.573	108.409	-2.0	-0.1	-0.2
Services	268.419	268.798	269.587	2.2	0.4	0.3
Rent of shelter [2]	241.433	241.959	242.434	2.7	0.4	0.2
Transportation services	297.099	298.834	299.680	2.1	0.9	0.3
Other services	307.478	308.237	307.752	1.5	0.1	-0.2

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Midwest (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Mar. 2016	Apr. 2016	May 2016	May 2015	Mar. 2016	Apr. 2016
Special aggregate indexes:						
All items less medical care	209.132	210.189	211.186	0.3	1.0	0.5
All items less food	214.705	215.753	217.048	0.4	1.1	0.6
All items less shelter	212.470	213.734	214.951	-0.4	1.2	0.6
Commodities less food	149.361	151.268	153.217	-3.1	2.6	1.3
Nondurables	212.709	215.502	217.696	-1.5	2.3	1.0
Nondurables less food	188.549	192.702	197.245	-3.6	4.6	2.4
Nondurables less food and apparel	228.765	234.948	241.265	-4.6	5.5	2.7
Services less rent of shelter [(2)]	272.941	273.127	274.181	1.7	0.5	0.4
Services less medical care services	253.036	253.382	254.008	2.0	0.4	0.2
Energy	173.126	178.439	186.952	-8.3	8.0	4.8
All items less energy	226.145	226.704	226.838	1.5	0.3	0.1
All items less food and energy	223.644	224.106	224.402	1.7	0.3	0.1
Commodities less food and energy commodities	149.248	149.411	149.391	-0.4	0.1	0.0
Energy commodities	176.686	189.822	204.416	-13.5	15.7	7.7
Services less energy services	280.401	281.089	281.624	2.6	0.4	0.2

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 December 1984=100 base.
(3) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.
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