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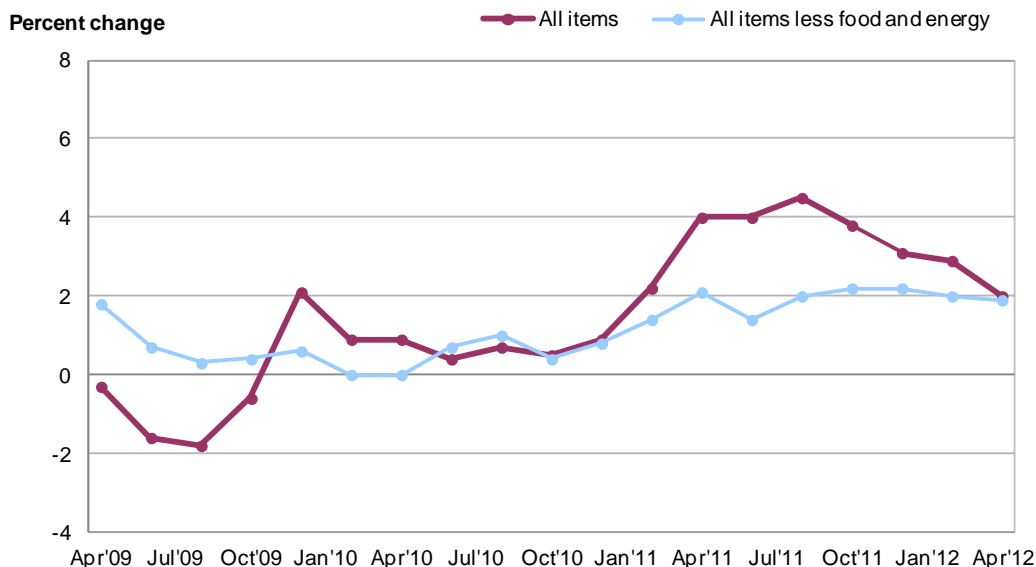
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, MIAMI-FORT LAUDERDALE—APRIL 2012
Area prices up 0.9 percent over the two months and 2.0 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for Miami increased 0.9 percent over the two months, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that energy prices advanced 4.5 percent and food prices increased 1.5 percent. The index for all items less food and energy edged up 0.3 percent during the March-April pricing period. Within the all items less food and energy group, the apparel and medical care indexes were among those that registered increases over the two months. Price decreases were noted for the education and communication, recreation, and other goods and services indexes. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U rose 2.0 percent with annual increases registered in several categories, notably food, shelter, and apparel. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 1.9 percent over the year. (See chart 1.)

Chart 1. 12-month percent change in CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), Miami-Fort Lauderdale, April 2009–April 2012



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Food

Food prices increased 1.5 percent over the two-month pricing period, reflecting increases in prices for both food at home (1.8 percent) and food away from home (0.9 percent).

From April 2011 to April 2012, the food index advanced 3.0 percent as prices increased for both food at home (3.5 percent) and food away from home (1.9 percent).

Energy

The energy index increased 4.5 percent during the March-April pricing period. Within this index, prices for motor fuel advanced 7.4 percent while utility (piped) gas service prices decreased 1.3 percent. Electricity prices were unchanged over the two months.

Over the year, the energy index advanced 1.7 percent as a price increase for motor fuel (4.6 percent) was partially offset by decreases in prices for electricity (-1.3 percent) and utility (piped) gas service (-4.3 percent).

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy edged up 0.3 percent over the two months. Among the components of the index, increases were recorded for apparel (4.3 percent) and medical care (0.7 percent). Price increases were also noted for used cars and trucks. During this period, prices declined for both education and communication, and recreation, down 1.3 and 1.1 percent, respectively.

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 1.9 percent, reflecting higher prices for shelter (1.1 percent), apparel (10.9 percent), and medical care (3.5 percent).

Table A. Miami metropolitan area CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month	2-month	12-month
February	1.3	2.9	0.8	5.3	1.0	0.7	-0.2	0.9	1.1	2.2	1.0	2.9
April	1.4	3.5	1.0	4.9	0.1	-0.3	0.1	0.9	1.8	4.0	0.9	2.0
June	0.9	4.4	1.7	5.8	0.3	-1.6	-0.1	0.4	-0.1	4.0	-	-
August	0.1	3.7	0.2	5.8	-0.1	-1.8	0.2	0.7	0.7	4.5	-	-
October	1.0	5.1	-0.8	4.0	0.5	-0.6	0.4	0.5	-0.3	3.8	-	-
December	1.0	5.8	-2.4	0.5	0.2	2.1	0.6	0.9	-0.1	3.1	-	-

The June 2012 Consumer Price Index for Miami-Fort Lauderdale is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, July 17, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index for Miami is published bi-monthly. 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 the 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.**

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

For personal assistance or further information on Consumer Price Indexes, as well as other Bureau products, contact the Southeast Information Office at (404) 893-4222 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

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

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Feb. 2012	Mar. 2012	Apr. 2012	Apr. 2011	Feb. 2012	Mar. 2012
Expenditure category						
All Items	234.043	-	236.095	2.0	0.9	-
All items (November 1977=100)	377.244	-	380.552	-	-	-
Food and beverages	239.719	-	243.098	3.0	1.4	-
Food	241.434	-	245.033	3.0	1.5	-
Food at home	242.335	245.165	246.712	3.5	1.8	0.6
Food away from home	241.297	-	243.404	1.9	0.9	-
Alcoholic beverages	218.694	-	217.992	3.1	-0.3	-
Housing	228.016	-	227.762	0.8	-0.1	-
Shelter	252.080	253.046	252.305	1.1	0.1	-0.3
Rent of primary residence (1)	239.659	239.994	240.426	1.5	0.3	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences (1) (2)	255.389	256.402	256.653	1.4	0.5	0.1
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence (1) (2)	255.389	256.402	256.653	1.4	0.5	0.1
Fuels and utilities	167.380	-	167.383	-0.8	0.0	-
Household energy	147.387	147.426	147.391	-1.3	0.0	-
Energy services (1)	143.819	143.819	143.785	-1.4	0.0	-
Electricity (1)	140.634	140.634	140.634	-1.3	0.0	-
Utility (piped) gas service (1)	186.471	186.471	184.087	-4.3	-1.3	-1.3
Household furnishings and operations	173.312	-	169.495	-0.5	-2.2	-
Apparel	144.706	-	150.921	10.9	4.3	-
Transportation	233.593	-	242.454	5.1	3.8	-
Private transportation	236.141	-	245.194	5.8	3.8	-
Motor fuel	330.796	346.519	355.168	4.6	7.4	2.5
Gasoline (all types)	327.516	343.119	351.773	4.5	7.4	2.5
Unleaded regular (3)	328.053	343.983	352.751	4.5	7.5	2.5
Unleaded midgrade (3) (4)	305.049	318.532	326.593	4.5	7.1	2.5
Unleaded premium (3)	318.732	333.828	341.718	4.6	7.2	2.4
Medical Care	399.146	-	401.908	3.5	0.7	-
Recreation (5)	113.846	-	112.554	-2.8	-1.1	-
Education and communication (5)	122.419	-	120.869	-0.1	-1.3	-
Other goods and services	300.004	-	298.390	-1.0	-0.5	-
Commodity and service group						
All Items	234.043	-	236.095	2.0	0.9	-
Commodities	205.348	-	208.739	2.6	1.7	-
Commodities less food & beverages	183.804	-	187.167	2.7	1.8	-
Nondurables less food & beverages	224.915	-	232.147	3.5	3.2	-
Durables	139.115	-	137.490	-0.1	-1.2	-
Services	257.225	-	258.302	1.6	0.4	-
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	226.275	-	228.277	1.9	0.9	-
All items less shelter	224.863	-	227.879	2.5	1.3	-
Commodities less food	185.569	-	188.838	2.7	1.8	-
Nondurables	234.073	-	239.407	3.1	2.3	-
Nondurables less food	225.137	-	232.011	3.5	3.1	-
Services less rent of shelter (2)	271.689	-	274.112	2.3	0.9	-
Services less medical care services	245.208	-	246.212	1.6	0.4	-
Energy	225.099	231.716	235.324	1.7	4.5	1.6
All items less energy	235.028	-	236.109	2.0	0.5	-
All items less food and energy	233.781	-	234.371	1.9	0.3	-

(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) In January, 2011, this series will be re-titled Energy services.

(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. Data not seasonally adjusted.