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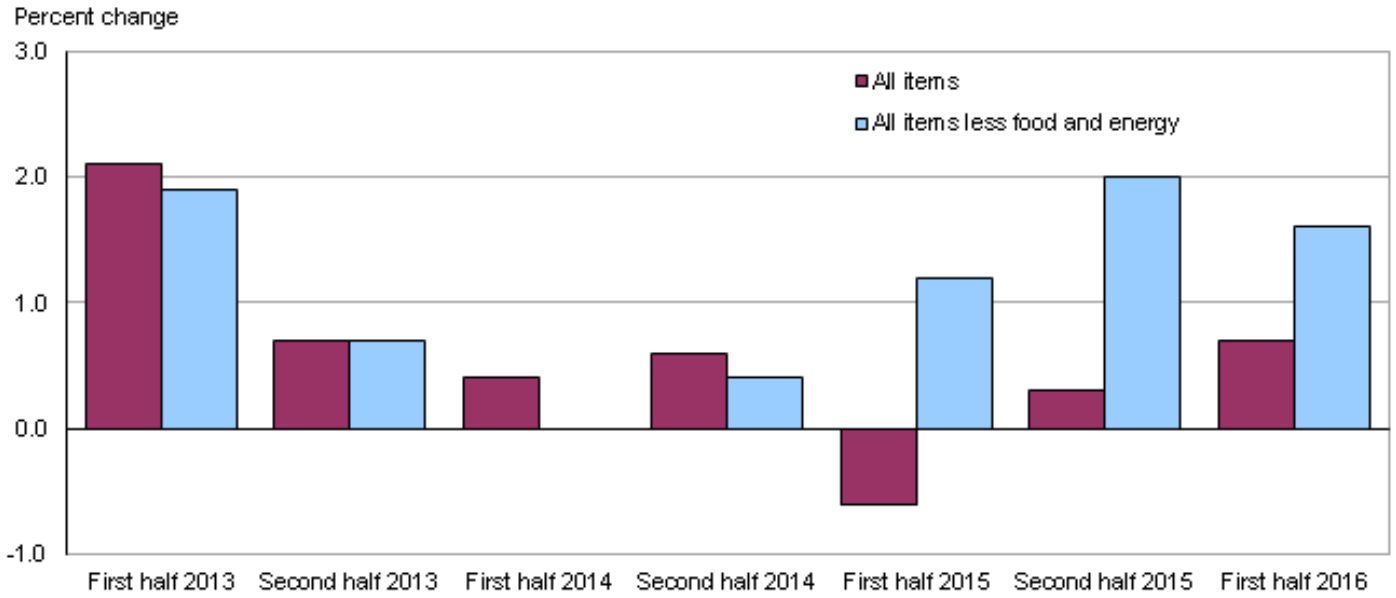
Consumer Price Index, Kansas City – First Half 2016

Prices increased 0.7 percent from the first half of 2015 to the first half of 2016

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Kansas City, Mo.-Kan., metropolitan area increased 0.7 percent from the first half of 2015 to the first half of 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Stanley W. Suchman noted that higher costs for shelter (1.9 percent) had the largest upward impact on the index, but was moderated by lower motor fuel costs (-17.3 percent). The broader energy index decreased 8.5 percent, food prices rose 0.8 percent, and the all items less food and energy index advanced 1.6 percent over the year.

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Kansas City, first half 2013–first half 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 0.8 percent from the first half of 2015 to the first half of 2016, following an increase of 2.1 percent in the same period one year ago. Within the food index, costs for food at home were little changed (0.1 percent), while prices for food away from home rose 1.9 percent over the year. These compared with increases of 1.6 and 2.5 percent, respectively, in the 12-month period that ended in the first half of 2015.

Energy

The energy index, which includes motor fuel and household fuels, decreased 8.5 percent from the first half of 2015 to the first half of 2016, after declining 18.8 percent in the same period one year ago. Falling prices for motor fuel (-17.3 percent), nearly all of which occurred in the latter half of the period, were largely responsible for the decline in the energy index. Costs for utility (piped) gas service, down 8.4 percent over the year, also contributed to the decrease. In contrast, electricity prices rose 3.4 percent from the first half of 2015. During the same period one year ago, motor fuel costs fell 30.7 percent, prices for utility (piped) gas service declined 13.4 percent, and electricity costs rose 1.5 percent.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.6 percent from the first half of 2015 to the first half of 2016, after registering a gain of 1.2 percent in the same period one year ago. Shelter costs advanced 1.9 percent and had the largest upward impact on the all items less food and energy index. Other expenditure categories that registered higher prices over the year included medical care (3.4 percent) and other goods and services (2.5 percent).

The Kansas City CPI-U stood at 222.963 for the first half of 2016. This means that a market basket of goods and services that cost $100.00 in the 1982-84 base period cost $222.96 in the first half of 2016. 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 metropolitan area indexes.

CPI-W

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for the Kansas City, Mo.-Kan., metropolitan area for the first half of 2016 was 213.196. The CPI-W increased 0.4 percent from the first half of 2015 to the first half of 2016.

The Consumer Price Index for the Second Half of 2016 is scheduled to be released in January 2017.

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 Kansas City, Mo.-Kan., area covered in this release includes Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami, and Wyandotte Counties in Kansas; and Cass, Clay, Clinton, Jackson, Lafayette, Platte, and Ray Counties in Missouri.

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

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes for semiannual averages and percent changes for selected periods Kansas City, MO-KS (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 1st half 2016 from-	
	1st half 2015	2nd half 2015	1st half 2016	1st half 2015	2nd half 2015
Expenditure category					
All Items	221.505	223.051	222.963	0.7	0.0
All items (1967=100)	657.726	662.319	662.056		
Food and beverages	255.432	256.995	257.393	0.8	0.2
Food	260.504	262.238	262.669	0.8	0.2
Food at home	249.404	250.644	249.547	0.1	-0.4
Food away from home	278.191	280.691	283.599	1.9	1.0
Alcoholic beverages	196.384	196.205	196.394	0.0	0.1
Housing	211.173	212.652	214.379	1.5	0.8
Shelter	235.647	237.754	240.152	1.9	1.0
Rent of primary residence [1]	240.491	244.553	246.057	2.3	0.6
Owners' equiv. rent of residences [1] [2]	230.495	232.980	235.752	2.3	1.2
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence [1] [2]	230.495	232.980	235.752	2.3	1.2
Fuels and utilities	227.333	228.211	229.021	0.7	0.4
Household energy	191.597	190.042	189.950	-0.9	0.0
Energy services [1]	189.440	187.788	187.969	-0.8	0.1
Electricity [1]	158.766	162.729	164.219	3.4	0.9
Utility (piped) gas service [1]	188.958	175.896	173.163	-8.4	-1.6
Household furnishings and operations	123.576	123.274	123.940	0.3	0.5
Apparel	116.529	113.271	115.314	-1.0	1.8
Transportation	192.376	193.754	186.195	-3.2	-3.9
Private transportation	189.793	190.784	182.426	-3.9	-4.4
Motor fuel	211.974	211.472	175.268	-17.3	-17.1
Gasoline (all types)	211.172	210.870	174.716	-17.3	-17.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular [3]	205.905	205.278	168.989	-17.9	-17.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade [3] [4]	256.530	256.434	220.676	-14.0	-13.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium [3]	211.210	215.168	187.095	-11.4	-13.0
Medical Care	343.775	351.078	355.503	3.4	1.3
Recreation [5]	129.837	130.430	131.011	0.9	0.4
Education and communication [5]	125.422	126.657	125.488	0.1	-0.9
Other goods and services	385.861	390.107	395.622	2.5	1.4
Commodity and Service Group					
All Items	221.505	223.051	222.963	0.7	0.0
Commodities	184.182	184.292	181.264	-1.6	-1.6
Commodities less food & beverages	150.881	150.384	145.920	-3.3	-3.0
Nondurables less food & beverages	195.595	195.169	186.746	-4.5	-4.3
Durables	108.005	107.470	106.664	-1.2	-0.7
Services	257.946	260.832	263.455	2.1	1.0
Special aggregate indexes:					
All items less medical care	214.623	215.827	215.469	0.4	-0.2
All items less shelter	217.807	219.148	218.087	0.1	-0.5
Commodities less food	152.621	152.136	147.842	-3.1	-2.8
Nondurables	224.367	224.884	220.653	-1.7	-1.9
Nondurables less food	196.282	195.874	188.056	-4.2	-4.0
Services less rent of shelter [2]	293.262	297.152	300.077	2.3	1.0
Services less medical care services	245.292	247.680	250.064	1.9	1.0
Energy	203.470	202.359	186.212	-8.5	-8.0
All items less energy	224.567	226.388	227.955	1.5	0.7

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 Kansas City, MO-KS (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 1st half 2016 from-	
	1st half 2015	2nd half 2015	1st half 2016	1st half 2015	2nd half 2015
All items less food and energy	218.718	220.554	222.293	1.6	0.8

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) 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 Kansas City, MO-KS (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 1st half 2016 from-	
	1st half 2015	2nd half 2015	1st half 2016	1st half 2015	2nd half 2015
Expenditure category					
All Items	212.284	213.868	213.196	0.4	-0.3
All items (1967=100)	621.993	626.633	624.664		
Food and beverages	258.157	259.831	259.773	0.6	0.0
Food	262.390	264.192	264.135	0.7	0.0
Food at home	248.861	250.242	248.784	0.0	-0.6
Food away from home	284.912	287.437	290.218	1.9	1.0
Alcoholic beverages	200.241	200.198	200.579	0.2	0.2
Housing	201.984	203.691	205.214	1.6	0.7
Shelter	222.574	224.932	227.212	2.1	1.0
Rent of primary residence [1]	240.491	244.553	246.057	2.3	0.6
Owners' equiv. rent of residences [1] [2]	209.851	212.114	214.638	2.3	1.2
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence [1] [2]	209.851	212.114	214.638	2.3	1.2
Fuels and utilities	227.304	228.152	228.864	0.7	0.3
Household energy	192.081	190.412	190.110	-1.0	-0.2
Energy services [1]	190.074	188.408	188.631	-0.8	0.1
Electricity [1]	158.768	162.731	164.221	3.4	0.9
Utility (piped) gas service [1]	188.957	175.895	173.162	-8.4	-1.6
Household furnishings and operations	111.914	111.770	112.441	0.5	0.6
Apparel	107.449	104.280	106.550	-0.8	2.2
Transportation	178.193	179.155	169.706	-4.8	-5.3
Private transportation	176.977	177.767	168.115	-5.0	-5.4
Motor fuel	211.906	211.469	175.213	-17.3	-17.1
Gasoline (all types)	211.167	210.865	174.712	-17.3	-17.1
Gasoline, unleaded regular [3]	205.903	205.276	168.987	-17.9	-17.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade [3] [4]	256.530	256.434	220.676	-14.0	-13.9
Gasoline, unleaded premium [3]	211.202	215.160	187.088	-11.4	-13.0
Medical Care	351.120	358.431	363.653	3.6	1.5
Recreation [5]	128.190	128.708	129.432	1.0	0.6
Education and communication [5]	113.490	114.530	113.167	-0.3	-1.2
Other goods and services	413.882	423.491	429.832	3.9	1.5
Commodity and Service Group					
All Items	212.284	213.868	213.196	0.4	-0.3
Commodities	179.971	180.299	176.358	-2.0	-2.2
Commodities less food & beverages	145.521	145.284	139.552	-4.1	-3.9
Nondurables less food & beverages	193.314	193.348	182.878	-5.4	-5.4
Durables	108.674	108.145	107.286	-1.3	-0.8
Services	248.500	251.338	253.865	2.2	1.0
Special aggregate indexes:					
All items less medical care	206.251	207.560	206.612	0.2	-0.5
All items less shelter	209.390	210.680	208.849	-0.3	-0.9
Commodities less food	147.414	147.182	141.595	-3.9	-3.8
Nondurables	224.218	225.016	219.429	-2.1	-2.5
Nondurables less food	194.430	194.460	184.447	-5.1	-5.1
Services less rent of shelter [2]	256.560	259.681	262.283	2.2	1.0
Services less medical care services	235.858	238.302	240.561	2.0	0.9
Energy	200.888	199.800	182.606	-9.1	-8.6
All items less energy	215.319	217.249	218.758	1.6	0.7

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 Kansas City, MO-KS (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Semiannual average indexes			Percent change to 1st half 2016 from-	
	1st half 2015	2nd half 2015	1st half 2016	1st half 2015	2nd half 2015
All items less food and energy	206.099	208.045	209.765	1.8	0.8

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