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SOUTHEAST INFORMATION OFFICE: Atlanta, Ga.

Technical information: (404) 893-4222 BLSInfoAtlanta@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/southeast

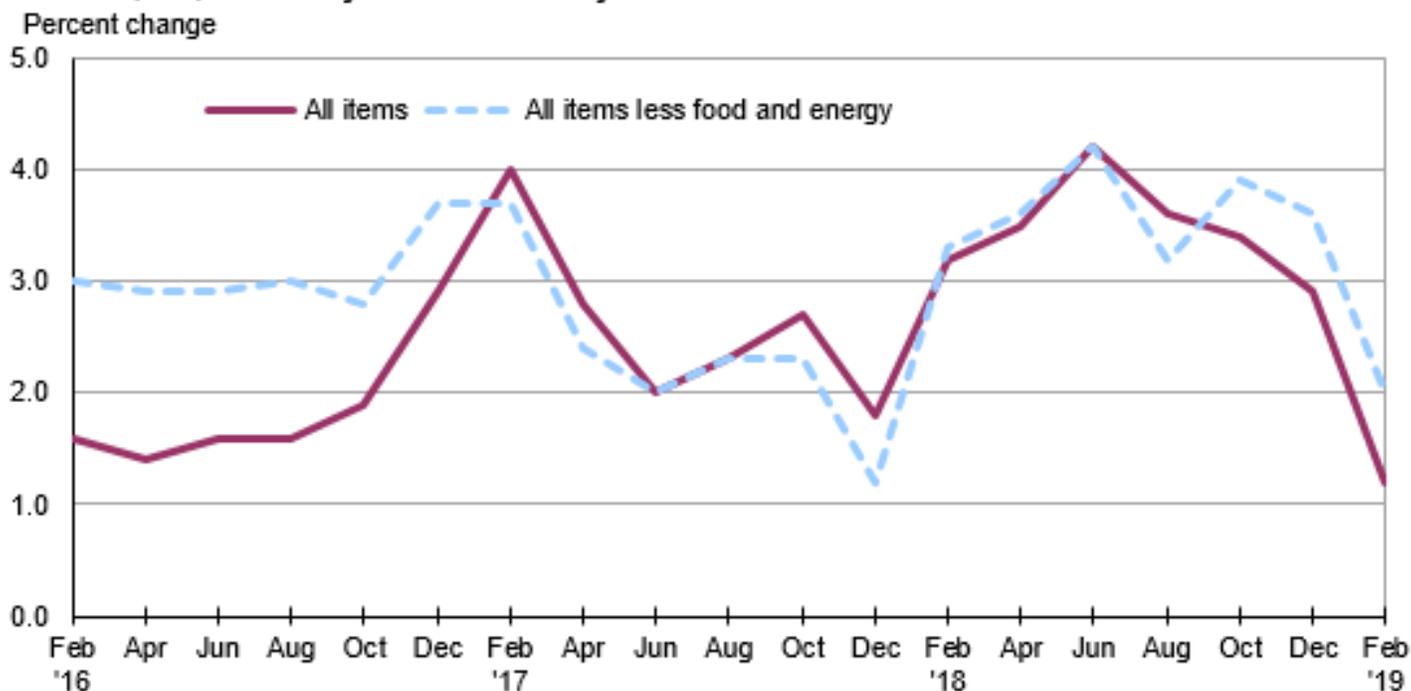
Media contact: (404) 893-4220

Consumer Price Index, Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach – February 2019 **Area prices up 1.0 percent over the two months and 1.2 percent over the year**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach increased 1.0 percent over the January-February pricing period, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the all items less food and energy index rose 1.4 percent. The energy index decreased 1.6 percent and the food index edged down 0.2 percent over the two months. (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 all items CPI-U increased 1.2 percent. The all items less food and energy index moved up 2.0 percent and the food index rose 1.5 percent over the year. The energy index declined 7.3 percent since February 2018. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL, February 2016–February 2019



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

The food index edged down 0.2 percent over the January-February pricing period, led by a 0.5-percent decline in the food at home index. The food away from home index edged up 0.2 percent over the two-month pricing period.

Since February 2018, the food index rose 1.5 percent, reflecting increases in the food away from home (2.0 percent) and the food at home (1.0 percent) indexes.

Energy

The energy index declined 1.6 percent over the January-February pricing period, led by a 4.6-percent decline in the gasoline index. The electricity index was up 2.0 percent over the two months.

Over the year, the energy index fell 7.3 percent, fueled by a 13.9-percent decline in the gasoline index. The electricity index was up 1.0 percent from February 2018.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 1.4 percent over the January-February pricing period as increases were recorded for several indexes, most notably the shelter index (1.9 percent).

From February 2018 to February 2019, the index for all items less food and energy increased 2.0 percent, led by a 4.6-percent advance in the shelter index. In contrast, the apparel and medical care indexes declined over the year, down 7.3 and 2.7 percent, respectively.

Table A. Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL, CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	2-month	12-month								
February	0.3	0.4	0.2	1.6	1.3	4.0	2.6	3.2	1.0	1.2
April	0.8	0.5	0.7	1.4	-0.5	2.8	-0.1	3.5		
June	0.4	1.2	0.6	1.6	-0.2	2.0	0.5	4.2		
August	0.0	1.3	0.0	1.6	0.3	2.3	-0.3	3.6		
October	0.2	1.1	0.5	1.9	1.0	2.7	0.8	3.4		
December	-0.1	1.6	0.8	2.9	-0.1	1.8	-0.6	2.9		

The Consumer Price Index for March 2019 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, April 10, 2019.

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 93 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 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 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/pdf/homch17.pdf.

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 **Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL**, Core Based Statistical Area covered in this release is comprised of Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach Counties in Florida.

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 and percent changes for selected periods Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2019	Feb. 2019	Feb. 2018	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2019
Expenditure category						
All Items.....	265.731	-	268.288	1.2	1.0	-
All items (November 1977=100).....	428.321	-	432.443	-	-	-
Food and beverages	265.357	-	265.557	1.7	0.1	-
Food	268.006	-	267.441	1.5	-0.2	-
Food at home	256.701	252.785	255.469	1.0	-0.5	1.1
Cereals and bakery products	285.679	-	279.284	2.0	-2.2	-
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....	243.058	-	243.974	2.8	0.4	-
Dairy and related products	221.978	-	224.565	1.6	1.2	-
Fruits and vegetables	344.625	-	343.836	-1.0	-0.2	-
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1)	252.935	-	246.628	-0.3	-2.5	-
Other food at home	210.362	-	210.438	0.5	0.0	-
Food away from home.....	288.804	-	289.267	2.0	0.2	-
Alcoholic beverages	230.618	-	240.338	5.1	4.2	-
Housing	279.948	-	285.079	4.1	1.8	-
Shelter	322.391	324.873	328.550	4.6	1.9	1.1
Rent of primary residence	313.730	316.937	318.861	4.7	1.6	0.6
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2).....	324.128	325.324	327.215	4.7	1.0	0.6
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(2)	324.128	325.324	327.215	4.7	1.0	0.6
Fuels and utilities.....	177.737	-	180.464	1.2	1.5	-
Household energy	151.065	153.500	154.028	0.8	2.0	0.3
Energy services.....	148.332	150.801	151.281	1.0	2.0	0.3
Electricity	145.294	147.709	148.216	1.0	2.0	0.3
Utility (piped) gas service	-	-	-	-	-	-
Household furnishings and operations.....	160.548	-	162.498	1.9	1.2	-
Apparel	132.190	-	131.477	-7.3	-0.5	-
Transportation	219.739	-	218.340	-4.4	-0.6	-
Private transportation	226.257	-	223.189	-3.7	-1.4	-
New and used motor vehicles(3).....	119.037	-	118.224	-0.1	-0.7	-
New vehicles(1).....	234.159	-	235.765	2.5	0.7	-
Used vehicles(1).....	294.739	-	296.939	1.7	0.7	-
Motor fuel	216.256	204.009	206.282	-13.8	-4.6	1.1
Gasoline (all types).....	213.469	201.356	203.637	-13.9	-4.6	1.1
Unleaded regular(4)	209.324	196.991	199.385	-14.5	-4.7	1.2
Unleaded midgrade(4)(5)	215.568	207.152	207.753	-10.5	-3.6	0.3
Unleaded premium(4).....	238.446	228.518	229.891	-8.7	-3.6	0.6
Motor vehicle insurance(1).....	882.122	-	887.757	1.9	0.6	-
Medical Care	551.537	-	552.978	-2.7	0.3	-
Recreation(3).....	119.898	-	121.033	1.0	0.9	-
Education and communication(3).....	118.304	-	120.437	0.8	1.8	-
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1) ..	978.856	-	994.670	4.2	1.6	-
Other goods and services	358.141	-	362.061	3.5	1.1	-
Commodity and service group						
All Items.....	265.731	-	268.288	1.2	1.0	-
Commodities	201.958	-	201.348	-1.9	-0.3	-
Commodities less food & beverages.....	164.201	-	163.199	-4.6	-0.6	-
Nondurables less food & beverages	195.379	-	192.864	-7.3	-1.3	-
Durables	130.758	-	131.610	0.8	0.7	-
Services.....	314.462	-	319.323	2.7	1.5	-

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 Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2019	Feb. 2019	Feb. 2018	Dec. 2018	Jan. 2019
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	253.618	-	256.213	1.6	1.0	-
All items less shelter	235.857	-	236.549	-1.0	0.3	-
Commodities less food	166.777	-	166.162	-4.2	-0.4	-
Nondurables	232.391	-	231.162	-2.5	-0.5	-
Nondurables less food	197.613	-	195.884	-6.5	-0.9	-
Services less rent of shelter(2)	311.755	-	314.783	0.2	1.0	-
Services less medical care services	297.140	-	302.053	3.1	1.7	-
Energy	180.360	176.232	177.541	-7.3	-1.6	0.7
All items less energy	275.336	-	278.497	1.9	1.1	-
All items less food and energy	276.482	-	280.280	2.0	1.4	-

Footnotes

(1) Index is on a November 1977=100 base.

(2) Index is on a November 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.

- Data not available.

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