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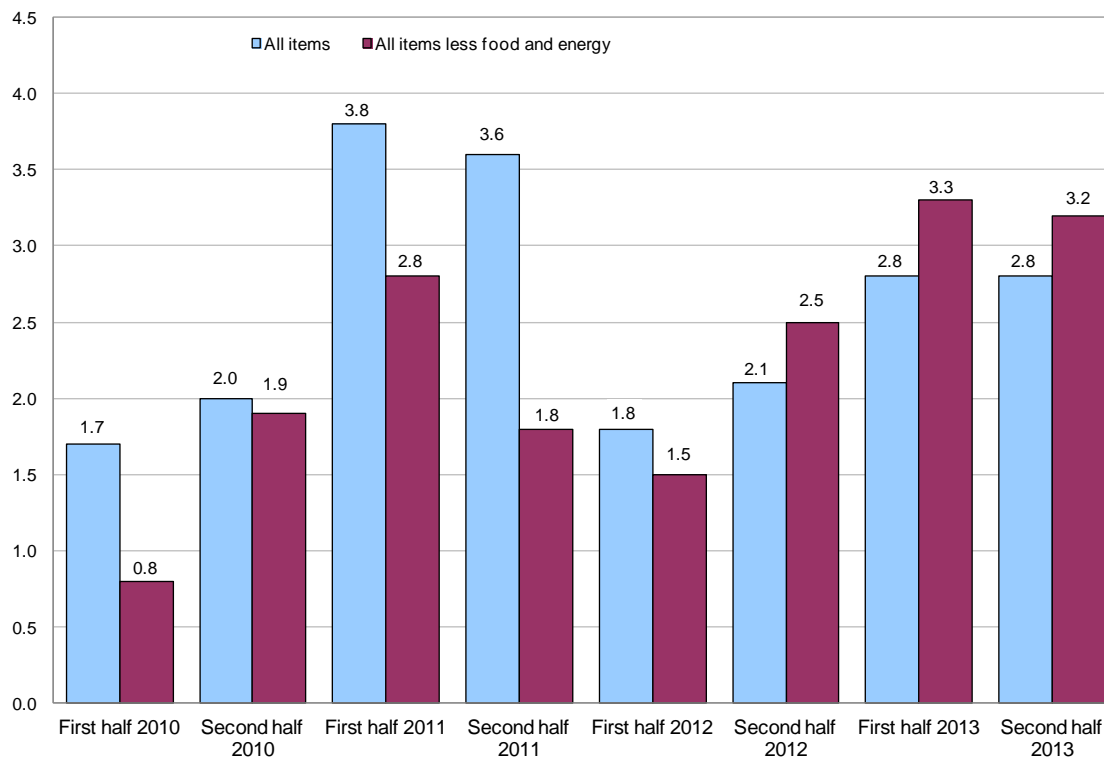
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) FOR DENVER-BOULDER-GREELEY
Prices increased 2.8 percent from the second half of 2012 to the second half of 2013

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Denver-Boulder-Greeley, Colo., metropolitan area increased 2.8 percent from the second half of 2012 to the second half of 2013, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that higher costs for shelter (4.9 percent) accounted for over half of the overall increase. Costs for energy were up 3.2 percent, food prices rose 0.2 percent, and the all items less food and energy index advanced 3.2 percent.

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in consumer price indexes, Denver, first half 2010–second half 2013

Percent change



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 0.2 percent from the second half of 2012 to the second half of 2013, considerably less than the 2.5-percent advance in the same period one year ago. Prices for food away from home increased 0.7 percent while costs for food at home declined 0.2 percent over the year. Comparatively, these indexes rose 3.4 percent and 1.9 percent, respectively, from the second half of 2011 to the second half of 2012.

Energy

The energy index, which includes motor fuel and household fuels, increased 3.2 percent from the second half of 2012 to the second half of 2013. Costs for utility (piped) gas service led the advance with an increase of 25.8 percent after declining 18.1 percent in the same period one year ago. Higher prices for electricity, up 8.5 percent, also contributed to the increase. In contrast, motor fuel costs were down 3.9 percent over the period.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 3.2 percent from the second half of 2012 to the second half of 2013. Shelter costs had the greatest upward impact with a rise of 4.9 percent. Among other components of the index that registered higher prices over the year were medical care (3.4 percent) and education and communication (1.1 percent).

The Denver CPI-U stood at 232.439 for the second half of 2013. This means that a market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 during the 1982-84 base period cost \$232.44 during the second half of 2013. 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 second half of 2013 was 223.133. The CPI-W increased 2.9 percent from the second half of 2012 to the second half of 2013.

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.
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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 2nd half 2013 from—	
	2nd half 2012	1st half 2013	2nd half 2013	2nd half	1st half
				2012	2013
Expenditure category					
All items	226.177	229.142	232.439	2.8	1.4
All items (1967=100)	754.205	764.094	775.087	-	-
Food and beverages	215.874	216.738	216.455	.3	-.1
Food	218.964	219.823	219.356	.2	-.2
Food at home	218.316	218.377	217.845	-.2	-.2
Food away from home	219.808	220.939	221.361	.7	.2
Alcoholic beverages	190.990	191.970	194.005	1.6	1.1
Housing	202.318	207.253	213.466	5.5	3.0
Shelter	226.994	231.768	238.079	4.9	2.7
Rent of primary residence ¹	225.943	232.933	242.387	7.3	4.1
Owners' equivalent rent of residences ^{1 2}	221.290	225.280	230.636	4.2	2.4
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{1 2}	221.290	225.280	230.636	4.2	2.4
Fuels and utilities	194.122	206.493	220.722	13.7	6.9
Household energy	144.949	155.164	168.007	15.9	8.3
Energy services ¹	143.298	153.678	166.512	16.2	8.4
Electricity ¹	153.132	162.521	166.210	8.5	2.3
Utility (piped) gas service ¹	137.073	148.913	172.447	25.8	15.8
Household furnishings and operations	118.409	118.477	119.128	.6	.5
Apparel	108.096	110.190	108.297	.2	-1.7
Transportation	263.448	262.304	263.350	.0	.4
Private transportation	262.587	259.886	262.446	-.1	1.0
Motor fuel	288.540	284.491	277.422	-3.9	-2.5
Gasoline (all types)	286.352	282.471	275.403	-3.8	-2.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular ³	283.422	279.383	271.824	-4.1	-2.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{3 4}	269.153	265.689	260.108	-3.4	-2.1
Gasoline, unleaded premium ³	285.132	282.079	276.691	-3.0	-1.9
Medical care	480.813	487.877	497.149	3.4	1.9
Recreation ⁵	145.800	146.821	146.665	.6	-.1
Education and communication ⁵	121.875	122.498	123.221	1.1	.6
Other goods and services	347.953	351.975	352.556	1.3	.2
Commodity and service group					
All items	226.177	229.142	232.439	2.8	1.4
Commodities	175.022	175.277	174.924	-.1	-.2
Commodities less food and beverages	153.485	153.428	153.049	-.3	-.2
Nondurables less food and beverages	190.351	190.618	189.611	-.4	-.5
Durables	116.094	115.684	115.978	-.1	.3
Services	270.035	275.516	282.210	4.5	2.4
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	214.298	217.079	220.120	2.7	1.4
All items less shelter	227.146	229.080	230.789	1.6	.7
Commodities less food	154.935	154.916	154.624	-.2	-.2
Nondurables	203.756	204.320	203.664	.0	-.3
Nondurables less food	189.812	190.125	189.326	-.3	-.4
Services less rent of shelter ²	333.655	340.142	347.270	4.1	2.1
Services less medical care services	252.561	257.799	264.247	4.6	2.5
Energy	209.783	213.201	216.577	3.2	1.6
All items less energy	228.704	231.727	234.813	2.7	1.3
All items less food and energy	230.913	234.383	238.204	3.2	1.6

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.

- Data not available.

Table 2. Consumer Price Index for Urban 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 2nd half 2013 from—	
	2nd half 2012	1st half 2013	2nd half 2013	2nd half 2012	1st half 2013
Expenditure category					
All items	216.767	219.558	223.133	2.9	1.6
All items (1967=100)	721.515	730.804	742.707	-	-
Food and beverages	217.632	218.750	218.240	.3	-.2
Food	220.917	222.046	221.290	.2	-.3
Food at home	219.347	219.798	218.682	-.3	-.5
Food away from home	223.553	224.821	225.252	.8	.2
Alcoholic beverages	195.949	197.005	198.860	1.5	.9
Housing	195.493	200.502	206.962	5.9	3.2
Shelter	216.036	220.838	227.199	5.2	2.9
Rent of primary residence ¹	225.943	232.933	242.387	7.3	4.1
Owners' equivalent rent of residences ^{1 2}	206.584	210.309	215.310	4.2	2.4
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{1 2}	206.584	210.309	215.310	4.2	2.4
Fuels and utilities	189.959	202.003	215.597	13.5	6.7
Household energy	144.456	154.599	166.963	15.6	8.0
Energy services ¹	144.196	154.558	166.987	15.8	8.0
Electricity ¹	153.131	162.521	166.209	8.5	2.3
Utility (piped) gas service ¹	137.074	148.914	172.448	25.8	15.8
Household furnishings and operations	122.311	122.045	123.705	1.1	1.4
Apparel	106.363	108.017	107.237	.8	-.7
Transportation	260.572	258.597	260.314	-.1	.7
Private transportation	258.608	256.091	258.314	-.1	.9
Motor fuel	288.645	284.619	277.538	-3.8	-2.5
Gasoline (all types)	286.348	282.468	275.399	-3.8	-2.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular ³	283.427	279.388	271.829	-4.1	-2.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{3 4}	269.153	265.689	260.108	-3.4	-2.1
Gasoline, unleaded premium ³	285.172	282.118	276.729	-3.0	-1.9
Medical care	483.964	490.440	499.289	3.2	1.8
Recreation ⁵	126.184	127.885	127.833	1.3	.0
Education and communication ⁵	117.447	118.230	118.818	1.2	.5
Other goods and services	349.122	353.197	353.417	1.2	.1
Commodity and service group					
All items	216.767	219.558	223.133	2.9	1.6
Commodities	180.333	180.243	179.941	-.2	-.2
Commodities less food and beverages	157.345	156.866	156.642	-.4	-.1
Nondurables less food and beverages	203.483	202.775	201.763	-.8	-.5
Durables	111.111	110.854	111.324	.2	.4
Services	255.693	261.061	268.099	4.9	2.7
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	206.454	209.106	212.494	2.9	1.6
All items less shelter	220.666	222.300	224.379	1.7	.9
Commodities less food	158.515	158.081	157.918	-.4	-.1
Nondurables	215.119	215.155	214.337	-.4	-.4
Nondurables less food	202.308	201.708	200.871	-.7	-.4
Services less rent of shelter ²	299.122	304.907	312.471	4.5	2.5
Services less medical care services	239.139	244.268	251.025	5.0	2.8
Energy	219.536	222.232	224.381	2.2	1.0
All items less energy	217.045	219.994	223.458	3.0	1.6
All items less food and energy	217.192	220.399	224.444	3.3	1.8

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.

- Data not available.