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WESTERN INFORMATION OFFICE: San Francisco, Calif.

Technical information: (415) 625-2270 BLSinfoSF@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/west

Media contact: (415) 625-2270

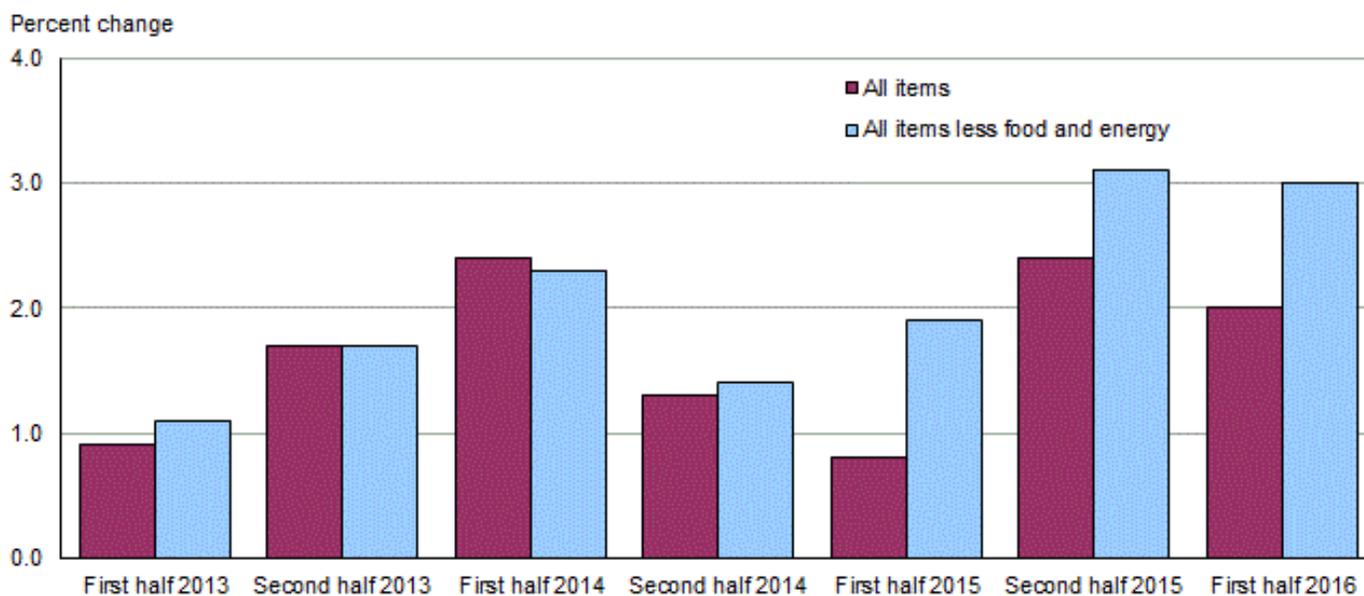
Consumer Price Index, San Diego - First Half 2016

Area prices were up 0.4 percent over the past six months, up 2.0 percent from a year ago

Prices in the San Diego Area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), advanced 0.4 percent in the first half of 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A.](#)) Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that the six-month increase was influenced by higher prices for shelter. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, six-month-to-six-month changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U rose 2.0 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) Energy prices fell 9.6 percent, largely the result of a decrease in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy rose 3.0 percent over the year. (See [table 1.](#))

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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 0.7 percent in the first half of 2016. (See [table 1.](#)) Prices for food away from home rose 1.9 percent, but prices for food at home decreased 0.3 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices increased 2.2 percent. Prices for food away from home advanced 4.3 percent since a year ago, and prices for food at home rose 0.3 percent.

Energy

The energy index decreased 10.4 percent since the second half of 2015. The increase was mainly due to lower prices for gasoline (-15.5 percent). Prices for natural gas service fell 4.4 percent, and prices for electricity decreased 1.5 percent for the same period.

Energy prices fell 9.6 percent over the year, largely due to lower prices for gasoline (-15.4 percent). Prices paid for natural gas service fell 2.7 percent, but prices for electricity increased 0.9 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 1.3 percent in the latest-six month period. Higher prices for shelter (1.8 percent), apparel (1.6 percent), and other goods and services (1.6 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for household furnishings and operations (-0.8 percent) and education and communication (-0.1 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 3.0 percent. Components contributing to the increase included shelter (4.1 percent), apparel (2.9 percent), and recreation (2.4 percent.)

Table A. San Diego CPI-U monthly and annual percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)

Month	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	Semi-annual	Annual										
First Half	2.3	3.4	1.3	1.7	0.6	0.9	1.4	2.4	0.9	0.8	0.4	2.0
Second Half	0.4	2.7	0.3	1.5	1.1	1.7	-0.1	1.3	1.6	2.4		

The second half of 2016 Consumer Price Index for the San Diego area is scheduled to be released mid-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 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 cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The San Diego, CA metropolitan area covered in this release consists of San Diego County in the State of California.

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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 San Diego, CA (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	267.346	271.526	272.628	2.0	0.4
All items (1967=100)	903.977	918.113	921.839	-	-
Food and beverages	245.892	249.132	250.802	2.0	0.7
Food	242.713	246.216	247.966	2.2	0.7
Food at home	223.746	225.186	224.494	0.3	-0.3
Food away from home	266.663	272.984	278.205	4.3	1.9
Alcoholic beverages	270.694	270.880	271.582	0.3	0.3
Housing	300.113	306.480	310.972	3.6	1.5
Shelter	336.524	344.181	350.446	4.1	1.8
Rent of primary residence	329.807	337.405	343.020	4.0	1.7
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ⁽¹⁾	358.339	365.724	372.674	4.0	1.9
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾ ..	358.339	365.724	372.674	4.0	1.9
Fuels and utilities	276.688	281.951	284.088	2.7	0.8
Household energy	244.848	250.290	244.828	0.0	-2.2
Energy services	239.701	245.151	240.003	0.1	-2.1
Electricity	231.328	236.897	233.377	0.9	-1.5
Utility (piped) gas service	190.601	193.952	185.479	-2.7	-4.4
Household furnishings and operations	183.531	185.266	183.793	0.1	-0.8
Apparel	142.571	144.477	146.727	2.9	1.6
Transportation	213.587	215.297	205.418	-3.8	-4.6
Private transportation	204.296	207.683	196.071	-4.0	-5.6
Motor fuel	259.482	259.681	219.589	-15.4	-15.4
Gasoline (all types)	259.634	259.987	219.773	-15.4	-15.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽²⁾	269.850	269.791	227.481	-15.7	-15.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(2) (3)}	222.721	224.045	189.936	-14.7	-15.2
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽²⁾	262.957	264.272	225.955	-14.1	-14.5
Medical care	-	-	-	-	-
Recreation ⁽⁴⁾	146.264	149.623	149.835	2.4	0.1
Education and communication ⁽⁴⁾	145.187	145.705	145.529	0.2	-0.1
Other goods and services	365.906	370.311	376.381	2.9	1.6
Commodity and service group					
All Items	267.346	271.526	272.628	2.0	0.4
Commodities	196.178	197.256	193.789	-1.2	-1.8
Commodities less food & beverages	169.752	169.738	163.718	-3.6	-3.5
Nondurables less food & beverages	190.045	191.030	182.225	-4.1	-4.6
Durables	148.717	147.191	145.336	-2.3	-1.3
Services	330.201	337.066	342.113	3.6	1.5
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	259.151	263.430	264.169	1.9	0.3
All items less shelter	240.755	243.430	242.232	0.6	-0.5
Commodities less food	174.229	174.224	168.454	-3.3	-3.3
Nondurables	218.911	220.963	216.911	-0.9	-1.8
Nondurables less food	197.145	198.086	189.833	-3.7	-4.2
Services less rent of shelter ⁽¹⁾	340.928	347.016	350.633	2.8	1.0
Services less medical care services	318.641	325.600	330.490	3.7	1.5
Energy	249.757	251.966	225.813	-9.6	-10.4
All items less energy	270.683	275.057	278.406	2.9	1.2
All items less food and energy	277.064	281.618	285.278	3.0	1.3

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Footnotes

- (1) Index is on a December 1982=100 base.
 - (2) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
 - (3) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.
 - (4) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
- Data not available.