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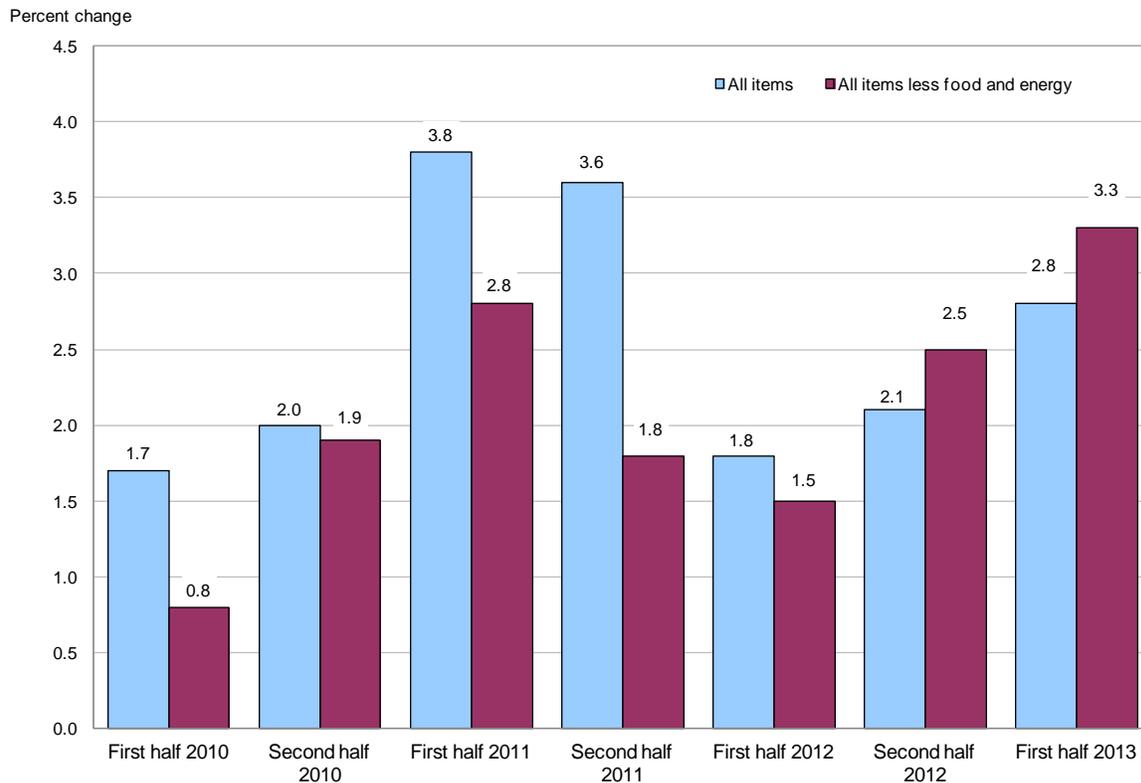
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) FOR DENVER-BOULDER-GREELEY
Prices increased 2.8 percent from the first half of 2012 to the first half of 2013

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Denver-Boulder-Greeley, Colo., metropolitan area increased 2.8 percent from the first half of 2012 to the first half of 2013, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that higher costs for shelter (4.2 percent) accounted for over half of the overall increase. Costs for energy were up 2.0 percent, food prices rose 1.0 percent, and the all items less food and energy index advanced 3.3 percent.

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



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices rose 1.0 percent from the first half of 2012 to the first half of 2013, considerably less than the 3.9-percent advance in the same period one year ago. Costs for food at home were virtually unchanged (-0.1 percent) and prices for food away from home advanced 2.0 percent over the year. Comparatively, these indexes rose 4.2 percent and 3.7 percent, respectively, from the first half of 2011 to the first half of 2012.

Energy

The energy index, which includes motor fuel and household fuels, increased 2.0 percent from the first half of 2012 to the first half of 2013. A 13.1-percent gain in electricity costs was responsible for the rise in the energy index. In contrast, motor fuel prices were down 0.5 percent. The index for utility (piped) gas service was unchanged over the year as higher costs in the most recent six months of the period offset price declines that occurred in the earlier portion.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 3.3 percent from the first half of 2012 to the first half of 2013—the largest annual increase since 2008. Shelter costs continued their upward trend with a 4.2-percent advance, double the gain of 2.1 percent recorded in the same period one year ago. Among other components of the index that contributed to the increase were apparel (13.6 percent), medical care (3.9 percent), and education and communication (1.7 percent).

The Denver CPI-U stood at 229.142 for the first half of 2013. This means that a market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 during the 1982-84 base period cost \$229.14 during the first 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 first half of 2013 was 219.558. The CPI-W increased 2.8 percent from the first half of 2012 to the first 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.
Voice phone: 202-691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 1-800-877-8339

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 1st half 2013 from—	
	1st half 2012	2nd half 2012	1st half 2013	1st half 2012	2nd half 2012
Expenditure category					
All items	222.960	226.177	229.142	2.8	1.3
All items (1967=100)	743.477	754.205	764.094	-	-
Food and beverages	214.698	215.874	216.738	1.0	.4
Food	217.694	218.964	219.823	1.0	.4
Food at home	218.526	218.316	218.377	-1	.0
Food away from home	216.642	219.808	220.939	2.0	.5
Alcoholic beverages	190.919	190.990	191.970	.6	.5
Housing	199.174	202.318	207.253	4.1	2.4
Shelter	222.525	226.994	231.768	4.2	2.1
Rent of primary residence ¹	220.199	225.943	232.933	5.8	3.1
Owners' equivalent rent of residences ^{1 2}	217.170	221.290	225.280	3.7	1.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{1 2}	217.170	221.290	225.280	3.7	1.8
Fuels and utilities	196.599	194.122	206.493	5.0	6.4
Household energy	145.606	144.949	155.164	6.6	7.0
Energy services ¹	143.857	143.298	153.678	6.8	7.2
Electricity ¹	143.634	153.132	162.521	13.1	6.1
Utility (piped) gas service ¹	148.941	137.073	148.913	.0	8.6
Household furnishings and operations	117.103	118.409	118.477	1.2	.1
Apparel	97.037	108.096	110.190	13.6	1.9
Transportation	263.306	263.448	262.304	-4	-4
Private transportation	262.096	262.587	259.886	-8	-1.0
Motor fuel	286.006	288.540	284.491	-5	-1.4
Gasoline (all types)	283.945	286.352	282.471	-5	-1.4
Gasoline, unleaded regular ³	281.125	283.422	279.383	-6	-1.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{3 4}	266.156	269.153	265.689	-2	-1.3
Gasoline, unleaded premium ³	283.187	285.132	282.079	-4	-1.1
Medical care	469.672	480.813	487.877	3.9	1.5
Recreation ⁵	146.260	145.800	146.821	.4	.7
Education and communication ⁵	120.414	121.875	122.498	1.7	.5
Other goods and services	341.039	347.953	351.975	3.2	1.2
Commodity and service group					
All items	222.960	226.177	229.142	2.8	1.3
Commodities	172.611	175.022	175.277	1.5	.1
Commodities less food and beverages	150.453	153.485	153.428	2.0	.0
Nondurables less food and beverages	184.682	190.351	190.618	3.2	.1
Durables	115.913	116.094	115.684	-2	-4
Services	266.119	270.035	275.516	3.5	2.0
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	211.407	214.298	217.079	2.7	1.3
All items less shelter	224.545	227.146	229.080	2.0	.9
Commodities less food	152.009	154.935	154.916	1.9	.0
Nondurables	200.300	203.756	204.320	2.0	.3
Nondurables less food	184.536	189.812	190.125	3.0	.2
Services less rent of shelter ²	330.777	333.655	340.142	2.8	1.9
Services less medical care services	249.372	252.561	257.799	3.4	2.1
Energy	208.943	209.783	213.201	2.0	1.6
All items less energy	225.174	228.704	231.727	2.9	1.3
All items less food and energy	226.917	230.913	234.383	3.3	1.5

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 1st half 2013 from—	
	1st half 2012	2nd half 2012	1st half 2013	1st half 2012	2nd half 2012
Expenditure category					
All items	213.588	216.767	219.558	2.8	1.3
All items (1967=100)	710.932	721.515	730.804	-	-
Food and beverages	216.713	217.632	218.750	.9	.5
Food	219.965	220.917	222.046	.9	.5
Food at home	220.036	219.347	219.798	-.1	.2
Food away from home	220.581	223.553	224.821	1.9	.6
Alcoholic beverages	195.308	195.949	197.005	.9	.5
Housing	192.286	195.493	200.502	4.3	2.6
Shelter	211.611	216.036	220.838	4.4	2.2
Rent of primary residence ¹	220.199	225.943	232.933	5.8	3.1
Owners' equivalent rent of residences ^{1 2}	202.739	206.584	210.309	3.7	1.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{1 2}	202.739	206.584	210.309	3.7	1.8
Fuels and utilities	191.737	189.959	202.003	5.4	6.3
Household energy	144.617	144.456	154.599	6.9	7.0
Energy services ¹	144.269	144.196	154.558	7.1	7.2
Electricity ¹	143.634	153.131	162.521	13.1	6.1
Utility (piped) gas service ¹	148.942	137.074	148.914	.0	8.6
Household furnishings and operations	120.634	122.311	122.045	1.2	-.2
Apparel	94.971	106.363	108.017	13.7	1.6
Transportation	260.075	260.572	258.597	-.6	-.8
Private transportation	257.982	258.608	256.091	-.7	-1.0
Motor fuel	286.130	288.645	284.619	-.5	-1.4
Gasoline (all types)	283.941	286.348	282.468	-.5	-1.4
Gasoline, unleaded regular ³	281.130	283.427	279.388	-.6	-1.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{3 4}	266.156	269.153	265.689	-.2	-1.3
Gasoline, unleaded premium ³	283.227	285.172	282.118	-.4	-1.1
Medical care	471.267	483.964	490.440	4.1	1.3
Recreation ⁵	126.627	126.184	127.885	1.0	1.3
Education and communication ⁵	115.266	117.447	118.230	2.6	.7
Other goods and services	342.933	349.122	353.197	3.0	1.2
Commodity and service group					
All items	213.588	216.767	219.558	2.8	1.3
Commodities	177.978	180.333	180.243	1.3	.0
Commodities less food and beverages	154.662	157.345	156.866	1.4	-.3
Nondurables less food and beverages	197.972	203.483	202.775	2.4	-.3
Durables	110.989	111.111	110.854	-.1	-.2
Services	251.692	255.693	261.061	3.7	2.1
Special aggregate indexes					
All items less medical care	203.553	206.454	209.106	2.7	1.3
All items less shelter	218.098	220.666	222.300	1.9	.7
Commodities less food	155.891	158.515	158.081	1.4	-.3
Nondurables	211.377	215.119	215.155	1.8	.0
Nondurables less food	197.107	202.308	201.708	2.3	-.3
Services less rent of shelter ²	296.118	299.122	304.907	3.0	1.9
Services less medical care services	235.724	239.139	244.268	3.6	2.1
Energy	218.295	219.536	222.232	1.8	1.2
All items less energy	213.558	217.045	219.994	3.0	1.4
All items less food and energy	213.350	217.192	220.399	3.3	1.5

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.