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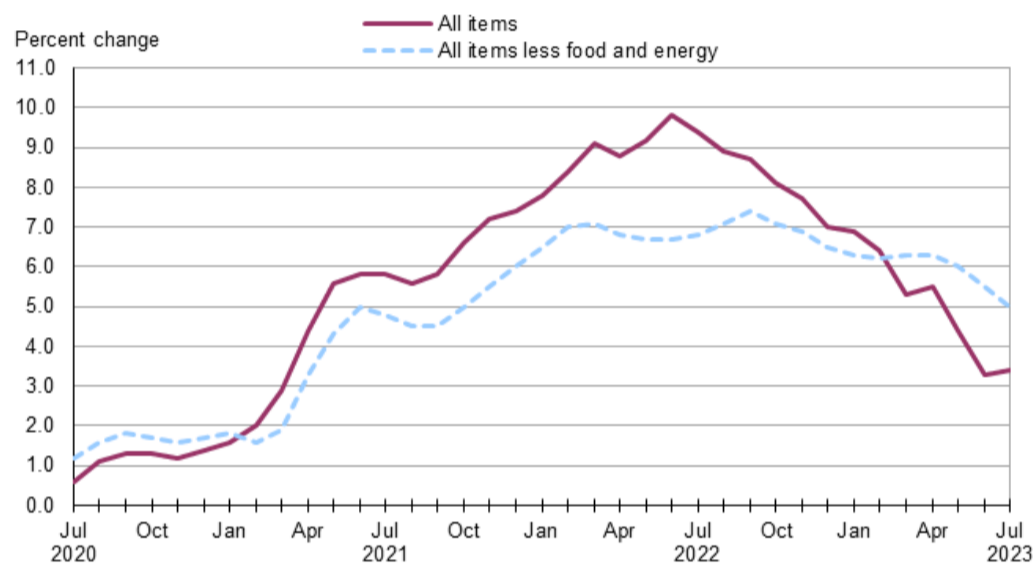
Consumer Price Index, South Region — July 2023

Prices in the South up 0.2 percent in July and 3.4 percent over the past year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the South rose 0.2 percent in July, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The energy and food indexes increased over the month, up 1.1 percent and 0.4 percent, respectively. The index for all items less food and energy was unchanged from June to July. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

The all items CPI-U for the South increased 3.4 percent for the 12 months ending in July after increasing 3.3 percent for the 12-month period ending in June. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) The index for all items less food and energy advanced 5.0 percent over the past 12 months. The food index continued to increase, up 5.1 percent over the past year. In contrast, the energy index fell 12.8 percent over the last 12 months.

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, South region, July 2020–July 2023



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

[View Chart Data](#)

Food

The food index increased 0.4 percent in July. The food at home index also rose 0.4 percent in July, as 5 of the 6 major grocery store food group indexes increased over the month. The food away from home index rose 0.3 percent in July.

The food index advanced 5.1 percent for the 12 months ending in July, led by a 7.4-percent increase in the food away home index. The food at home index also increased over the past year, up 3.8 percent. Five of the six major grocery store food group indexes increased over the last 12 months, including other food at home (+5.6 percent), cereals and bakery products (+6.3 percent), and nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials (+6.7 percent).

Energy

The energy index increased 1.1 percent in July, led by a 2.0-percent increase in the gasoline index. The natural gas index also rose over the month, up 3.1 percent, while the electricity index declined 0.3 percent.

The energy index fell 12.8 percent for 12 months ending in July, largely due to a 20.1-percent fall in the gasoline index. The index for natural gas also declined over the past year, down 8.2 percent. The index for electricity was little changed over the last 12 months, up 0.1 percent.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was unchanged in July. The shelter index rose 0.3 percent over the month, reflecting increases in the owners' equivalent rent (+0.4 percent) and rent of primary residence (+0.5 percent) indexes. There were multiple indexes that declined in July, including medical care services (-0.6 percent), household furnishing and operations (-0.7 percent), and new and used motor vehicles (-0.3 percent)—reflecting a 0.4-percent decline in the index for used cars and trucks.

The index for all items less food and energy advanced 5.0 percent for the 12 months ending in July, after increasing 5.5 percent for the 12-month period ending in June. The increase was largely contributed to shelter (+8.9 percent). The index for owners' equivalent increased 9.1 percent over the past year and rent of primary residence advanced 9.9 percent. In contrast, the index for used cars and trucks declined 6.0 percent over the past 12 months.

Geographic divisions

Additional price indexes are now available for the three divisions of the South. In July, the all items index rose 0.2 percent each for the East South Central and West South Central divisions. The all items index rose 0.1 percent in the South Atlantic division in July.

Over the year, the all items index increased 3.8 percent in the South Atlantic division, 3.6 percent in the East South Central division, and 2.5 percent in the West South Central division.

Table A. South region CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January	0.2	1.2	0.3	2.3	0.5	1.6	0.9	7.8	0.8	6.9
February	0.5	1.1	0.2	1.9	0.5	2.0	1.1	8.4	0.6	6.4

News Release Information

23-1759-ATL
Thursday, August 10, 2023

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Month	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
March	0.7	1.6	-0.1	1.1	0.8	2.9	1.4	9.1	0.4	5.3
April	0.5	1.8	-0.8	-0.2	0.7	4.4	0.5	8.8	0.7	5.5
May	-0.1	1.4	-0.2	-0.4	0.8	5.6	1.2	9.2	0.2	4.4
June	-0.1	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.9	5.8	1.5	9.8	0.3	3.3
July	0.3	1.4	0.6	0.6	0.5	5.8	0.1	9.4	0.2	3.4
August	-0.1	1.4	0.4	1.1	0.3	5.6	-0.2	8.9		
September	0.0	1.3	0.2	1.3	0.3	5.8	0.2	8.7		
October	0.2	1.3	0.1	1.3	1.0	6.6	0.4	8.1		
November	0.0	1.6	-0.1	1.2	0.4	7.2	0.1	7.7		
December	0.0	2.1	0.2	1.4	0.3	7.4	-0.3	7.0		

The Consumer Price Index for August 2023 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index for the South region is published monthly. 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 U.S. population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 29 percent of the total U.S. 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, 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 6,000 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; for most of the CPI-U the reference base is 1982-84 equals 100. An increase of 7 percent from the reference base, for example, is shown as 107.000. Alternatively, that relationship can also be expressed as the price of a base period market basket of goods and services rising from \$100 to \$107. For further details see the CPI home page on the internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the CPI section of the BLS Handbook of Methods available on the internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cpi/.

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 **South region** is comprised of Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Information in this release will be made available to individuals with sensory impairments upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Telecommunications Relay Service: 7-1-1.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods South (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	May 2023	Jun. 2023	Jul. 2023	Jul. 2022	May 2023	Jun. 2023
Expenditure category						
All Items	295.889	296.789	297.279	3.4	0.5	0.2
All items (December 1977=100)	479.973	481.434	482.228	-	-	-
Food and beverages	314.975	314.879	316.046	5.0	0.3	0.4
Food	318.714	318.627	319.841	5.1	0.4	0.4
Food at home	300.736	299.741	301.066	3.8	0.1	0.4
Cereal and bakery products	363.129	361.630	364.142	6.3	0.3	0.7
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	310.432	309.959	311.206	0.0	0.2	0.4
Dairy and related products	270.749	269.988	271.291	1.0	0.2	0.5
Fruits and vegetables	328.368	330.672	331.306	3.4	0.9	0.2

Footnotes

- (1) Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.
- (2) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
- (3) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.
- (4) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.
- (5) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.

- Data not available.

Regions defined as the four Census regions. South includes Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

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

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	May 2023	Jun. 2023	Jul. 2023	Jul. 2022	May 2023	Jun. 2023
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	216.002	213.753	213.556	6.7	-1.1	-0.1
Other food at home	271.483	269.530	271.520	5.6	0.0	0.7
Food away from home	348.234	349.976	350.940	7.4	0.8	0.3
Alcoholic beverages	262.886	262.651	263.135	3.4	0.1	0.2
Housing	298.146	299.795	300.449	7.1	0.8	0.2
Shelter	346.781	348.221	349.428	8.9	0.8	0.3
Rent of primary residence	369.691	371.090	373.026	9.9	0.9	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)	347.957	349.571	351.090	9.1	0.9	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)	347.949	349.560	351.079	9.1	0.9	0.4
Fuels and utilities	285.028	292.074	292.826	0.1	2.7	0.3
Household energy	231.901	239.030	239.400	-1.4	3.2	0.2
Energy services	231.758	239.116	239.539	-1.1	3.4	0.2
Electricity	227.782	236.426	235.811	0.1	3.5	-0.3
Utility (piped) gas service	239.069	237.323	244.573	-8.2	2.3	3.1
Household furnishings and operations	148.530	148.164	147.159	2.6	-0.9	-0.7
Apparel	139.079	138.781	137.767	3.3	-0.9	-0.7
Transportation	270.069	271.089	272.010	-3.1	0.7	0.3
Private transportation	271.542	273.220	274.792	-2.8	1.2	0.6
New and used motor vehicles(2)	132.061	132.727	132.285	-1.9	0.2	-0.3
New vehicles	187.353	187.565	187.684	3.3	0.2	0.1
New cars and trucks(2)(3)	-	-	-	-	-	-
New cars(3)	185.859	186.210	186.200	2.5	0.2	0.0
Used cars and trucks	200.458	202.838	202.008	-6.0	0.8	-0.4
Motor fuel	289.384	289.394	295.068	-20.5	2.0	2.0
Gasoline (all types)	288.168	288.407	294.148	-20.1	2.1	2.0
Unleaded regular(3)	281.515	281.747	287.490	-20.4	2.1	2.0
Unleaded midgrade(3)(4)	322.095	322.387	328.117	-18.9	1.9	1.8
Unleaded premium(3)	313.652	313.919	319.076	-17.7	1.7	1.6
Medical care	518.728	520.210	518.123	-0.8	-0.1	-0.4
Medical care commodities	380.281	380.276	382.400	4.9	0.6	0.6
Medical care services	564.969	566.996	563.339	-2.1	-0.3	-0.6
Professional services	392.707	393.186	392.421	-0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Recreation(2)	135.879	135.690	135.541	3.2	-0.2	-0.1
Education and communication(2)	140.485	140.115	140.152	1.2	-0.2	0.0
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(5)	1,452.953	1,462.692	1,471.209	3.7	1.3	0.6
Other goods and services	510.570	510.268	511.473	5.5	0.2	0.2
Commodity and service group						
All Items	295.889	296.789	297.279	3.4	0.5	0.2
Commodities	222.906	222.979	223.169	-0.8	0.1	0.1
Commodities less food and beverages	180.850	180.971	180.848	-3.9	0.0	-0.1
Nondurables less food and beverages	233.188	232.694	233.558	-6.1	0.2	0.4
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	289.909	289.297	291.200	-8.1	0.4	0.7
Durables	131.987	132.367	131.819	-1.5	-0.1	-0.4
Services	369.142	370.926	371.733	6.2	0.7	0.2
Rent of shelter(1)	357.144	358.627	359.867	9.0	0.8	0.3
Transportation services	452.580	454.677	455.235	11.8	0.6	0.1
Footnotes						
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Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	May 2023	Jun. 2023	Jul. 2023	Jul. 2022	May 2023	Jun. 2023
Other services	386.442	385.779	387.100	3.6	0.2	0.3
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	283.452	284.319	284.926	3.7	0.5	0.2
All items less food	292.176	293.212	293.600	3.1	0.5	0.1
All items less shelter	277.164	277.849	278.048	0.8	0.3	0.1
Commodities less food	183.457	183.572	183.460	-3.7	0.0	-0.1
Nondurables	271.718	271.412	272.419	-0.4	0.3	0.4
Nondurables less food	234.540	234.061	234.904	-5.6	0.2	0.4
Nondurables less food and apparel	286.092	285.515	287.293	-7.3	0.4	0.6
Services less rent of shelter ⁽¹⁾	395.211	397.460	397.686	3.0	0.6	0.1
Services less medical care services	350.811	352.558	353.681	7.3	0.8	0.3
Energy	253.052	256.869	259.597	-12.8	2.6	1.1
All items less energy	301.899	302.538	302.826	5.1	0.3	0.1
All items less food and energy	299.583	300.336	300.480	5.0	0.3	0.0
Commodities less food and energy commodities	171.395	171.527	170.877	0.7	-0.3	-0.4
Energy commodities	294.184	294.106	299.704	-20.4	1.9	1.9
Services less energy services	383.623	384.856	385.703	6.8	0.5	0.2
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Last Modified Date: Thursday, August 10, 2023

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