

News

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: MAY 2006

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.5 percent in May, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The May level of 202.5 (1982-84=100) was 4.2 percent higher than in May 2005.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.5 percent in May, prior to seasonal adjustment. The May level of 198.2 (1982-84=100) was 4.3 percent higher than in May 2005.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent in May on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The May level of 117.2 (December 1999=100) was 3.4 percent higher than in May 2005. Please note that the indexes for the post-2004 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U advanced 0.4 percent in May, following a 0.6 percent rise in April. Energy costs continued their advance--up 2.4 percent in May. Within energy, the index for petroleum based energy increased 4.8 percent, while the index for energy services fell 0.6 percent. The food index increased 0.1 percent in May. The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.3 percent in May, the same as in each of the preceding two months; the index for shelter again accounted for over half of the monthly advance.

Table A. Percent changes in CPI for Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended May '06	Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended May '06
	Changes from preceding month								
	2005		2006						
Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May			
All Items	-0.7	-0.1	.7	.1	.4	.6	.4	5.7	4.2*
Food and beverages	.3	.1	.5	.2	.1	.0	.2	.8	1.9
Housing	.4	.2	.5	.1	.2	.1	.3	3.0	4.0
Apparel	.1	-0.3	.3	-1.0	1.0	.6	.2	7.3	.0
Transportation	-4.9	-0.7	1.8	-0.2	.9	2.4	1.5	20.9	9.0
Medical care	.5	.2	.1	.5	.4	.4	.3	4.5	4.2
Recreation	-0.1	.1	.0	.1	.4	.3	.2	3.3	1.6
Education and communication	.4	.2	.4	.2	.2	.3	.0	2.1	2.7
Other goods and services	.3	.4	.3	.1	.2	.0	.1	1.1	2.5
Special Indexes									
Energy	-8.1	-2.1	5.0	-1.2	1.3	3.9	2.4	35.0	23.6
Food	.3	.1	.5	.1	.1	.0	.1	.6	1.9
All Items less food and energy	.2	.1	.2	.1	.3	.3	.3	3.8	2.4