

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – JUNE 2014

Energy

The energy index increased 1.6 percent in June, its third increase in a row and largest since December. The gasoline index rose for the third month in a row, increasing 3.3 percent. (Before seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices increased 0.3 percent.) The electricity index also increased in June, rising 0.2 percent. In contrast, the fuel oil index fell 1.7 percent, its fourth consecutive decline. The index for natural gas also decreased, falling 2.6 percent. Over the past 12 months, the energy index has increased 3.2 percent, with its major components increasing from a low of 2.0 percent (gasoline) to a high of 5.1 percent (natural gas).

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.1 percent in June after a 0.3 percent increase in May. The shelter index decelerated, increasing 0.2 percent in June after a 0.3 percent increase the prior month. The indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent repeated their May increases of 0.3 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively. However, the index for lodging away from home turned down in June, falling 1.9 percent after rising 2.0 percent in May. The apparel index rose 0.5 percent in June, its largest increase since last July. The medical care index rose 0.1 percent in June; the index for medical care services was unchanged, but the index for prescription drugs increased 1.0 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations rose 0.2 percent in June, its first increase since June 2013. The index for airline fares, which rose 5.8 percent in May, increased 0.4 percent in June. The tobacco index also rose, increasing 1.0 percent, and the recreation index advanced 0.1 percent. In contrast, the new vehicles index fell in June; its 0.3 percent decrease was its first decline since January. The index for used cars and trucks also decreased, declining 0.4 percent. The index for all items less food and energy has risen 1.9 percent over the last 12 months; this is slightly lower than the 2.0 percent figure in May, but higher than the 1.7 percent average annualized increase over the past five years. The shelter index has increased 2.8 percent over the last 12 months, while the medical care index has risen 2.6 percent. The index for new vehicles was unchanged over the span.