U.S. Department of Labor

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs Washington, D.C. 20210



July 31, 2025

The Honorable Ruben Gallego United States Senate 302 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Gallego,

Thank you for your June 10, 2025, letter regarding the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The Department of Labor and BLS are committed to providing accurate, timely, and impartial economic statistics. As such, BLS continuously reviews all economic programs, including the Producer Price Indexes (PPIs) and the Consumer Price Index (CPI), and makes adjustments to address methodological improvements and resource constraints.

BLS recently announced it would end the calculation and publication of approximately 350 of the roughly 10,000 PPIs for individual products and groups of products it releases each month. The discontinued indexes represent less than 1 percent of the PPI. Their removal will have minimal impact on the accuracy of the PPI final demand (headline) index.

Starting in April, BLS suspended CPI data collection in 3 of the 75 cities it regularly covers. These changes have a minimal impact on the overall CPI, which BLS noted in its announcement on June 4, 2025. Prices for goods and services used to calculate the CPI continue to be collected from about 23,000 retail and service establishments throughout the country, while data on rents are collected from about 40,000 landlords or tenants nationally. In an effort to ensure continued collection of CPI data, BLS field data collection employees were not eligible for the second deferred resignation program. BLS is maintaining the quality and timeliness of all scheduled data releases.

In the interest of transparency and continued public confidence, BLS regularly provides stakeholders with program updates on its website. BLS fully retains its ability to provide public and private institutions with the economic information they rely on.

Sincerely,

Tim Cummings

Acting Assistant Secretary