MCP SERVER | NO CODE | CLOUD HOSTED

BLS Prices — CPI & Inflation MCP for AI Agents

Analyze US cost of living and economic indicators from official data

The BLS Prices — Consumer Price Index (CPI) & Inflation MCP gives your AI agents direct access to official U.S. inflation data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. You can retrieve critical metrics, including the Consumer Price Index for urban consumers and Producer Price Index figures. This lets you track real-time cost of living changes and run historical comparisons necessary for macroeconomic modeling.

F Quality Score 3.6/100

inflation | cpi | ppi | cost-of-living | economic-indicators | public-api

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vinkius.com/mcp/bls-prices-consumer-price-index-cpi-inflation

SCAN TO VIEW

The connectivity layer between AI and the world's software.

Vinkius sits between AI and every application. All communication passes through Vinkius Cloud via the Model Context Protocol (MCP) — with governance, observability, and security at every layer.

Your AI Connections Run Through Vinkius Cloud

The world's largest managed MCP catalog

Vinkius is the connectivity layer where AI connects to the software your business already runs. We handle the hosting, the security, the credentials, the uptime — you get agents that actually do things.

We operate the world's largest managed MCP catalog. Major SaaS platforms, CRMs, databases, and cloud providers — running, monitored, production-ready. This MCP server is hosted and maintained by the Vinkius Cloud for AI Agents.

> *The agent doesn't manage credentials, doesn't manage uptime, doesn't manage security. Vinkius does.*
>
> — Architecture principle

Four Pillars of the Vinkius Runtime

01 — Security by design

Credentials stay encrypted at rest via AES-256. The AI agent never touches raw keys — they're injected into a sandboxed V8 isolate at runtime. Actions are logged, and connections have an emergency kill switch.

02 — Built on MCP Fusion

This MCP server was built with **MCP Fusion**, the open-source framework (Apache 2.0) that powers the entire Vinkius catalog. Schema-as-firewall strips undeclared fields, compiled PII redaction runs at zero overhead, and cryptographic lockfiles produce git-diffable audit trails.

03 — Deterministic observability

Eight immutable metrics per endpoint: request volume, p95 latency, error rate, active connections, cost attribution. A live payload feed logs every tool call with mutation detection.

04 — Autonomous operations

Servers are deployed, monitored, and patched autonomously. New capabilities and security patches ship weekly. Zero-downtime deployments ensure continuous availability across all managed MCP servers.

AES-256	Ed25519	24h TTL	V8 Isolate
Encryption at rest	PKI vault signatures	Ephemeral session keys	Sandboxed execution

One Token. Instant Access.

Every MCP server on Vinkius is accessed through a **Connection Token**. Tokens are generated in the cloud dashboard and produce a unique MCP endpoint URL. Paste this URL into any MCP-compatible client — no SDK required.

A single token can serve **multiple AI clients simultaneously**, or you can issue separate tokens per client for granular access control. Each token tracks its own request count, last activity timestamp, and can be individually enabled or revoked.

MCP ENDPOINT

```
https://edge.vinkius.com/{token}/mcp
```

Claude · Cursor · VS Code · Windsurf · Grok · Gemini

Security Is the Architecture

Security in Vinkius is not a feature — it's the foundation of the runtime. The gateway enforces multiple independent protection layers between AI agents and third-party APIs.

01 — Ed25519 PKI Vault

Every workspace has an Ed25519 Master Key. Session keys are generated ephemerally (24h TTL) and signed by the Master Key. Credentials never leave the vault boundary.

02 — V8 Isolate Sandboxing

Tool code runs inside isolated-vm V8 isolates with 64 MB memory caps and per-request timeouts. No filesystem access, no network access except through the SSRF-guarded fetch bridge.

03 — SSRF Guard

All outbound HTTP requests are DNS-resolved and validated before execution. Private IP ranges (10.x, 172.16-31.x, 192.168.x, AWS metadata 169.254.x) are blocked at the network layer.

04 — DLP & PII Redaction

A ResponseGuard pipeline intercepts every tool response. Configurable redaction patterns strip sensitive fields (emails, SSNs, card numbers) before data reaches the AI agent.

05 — Cryptographic Audit Trail

Every request is signed into a SHA-256 hash chain with Ed25519 signatures. Events form a tamper-proof, SIEM-exportable forensic record.

06 — Honeytoken Trap System

Phantom credentials are injected into isolated environments. If a honeytoken is used outside Vinkius infrastructure, the server is quarantined instantly.

Emergency Kill Switch

EU AI Act Art. 14(1) Compliant

The kill switch is an **emergency halt** mechanism — not a simple toggle. When triggered, it executes three actions atomically:

01 — Server deactivated

The MCP server is immediately taken offline across the entire cluster.

02 — All tokens revoked

Every connection token is invalidated. Total lockout — reconnection blocked until new tokens are issued.

03 — WebSocket connections killed

Active connections terminated via Redis pubsub broadcast. Propagates to every runtime node in the cluster.

Full Visibility. Zero Guesswork.

The Vinkius cloud dashboard includes a full MCP Governance suite — real-time analytics and security controls for production AI operations.

Control Plane

KPI dashboard with request volume, latency, success rate, token consumption, and AI-generated operational briefings.

Agent Activity

Which AI clients are connecting, how often, and what they're doing — real-time session tracking.

FinOps

Cost tracking per tool, payload compression savings, budget optimization signals, and consumption trends.

Tool Health

Slowest and most error-prone tools, with actionable root-cause insights and performance baselines.

Firewall & DLP

PII redaction activity, sensitive data protection counters, and security event timeline.

Incident Log

Error trends, failure rates, status-code breakdowns, and forensic audit trail access.

> Get started at **cloud.vinkius.com** — connect your AI agent in under 60 seconds.

BLS Prices — Consumer Price Index (CPI) & Inflation MCP

2 tools available
Cloud-hosted on Vinkius

Analyzing inflation used to mean pulling reports, jumping between BLS pages, and manually cross-referencing dates—a nightmare that eats up hours. Now, your AI agent handles it all. Connect this MCP and you get direct access to the economic datasets professional financial analysts rely on. You can ask your agent to calculate how much a specific basket of goods cost back in 2015 versus today, or track year-over-year changes for both consumer and producer prices.

The tool lets you pull data points like the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U), which tracks what urban consumers pay for everyday goods, and the Producer Price Index (PPI), which shows shifts in selling prices received by domestic producers. Need to model projections based on 20 years of historical inflation? Just ask. Because this MCP is hosted on Vinkius, you connect your preferred AI client once and get access to this deep, reliable source of economic truth. You stop managing data sources and start making decisions.

Core Capabilities

01 — Calculate consumer price shifts

Get the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) data to track how prices paid by urban consumers for a basket of goods change over time.

02 — Track producer selling costs

Monitor the average change in selling prices received by domestic producers using the Producer Price Index (PPI).

03 — Query specific historical data points

Run generic, high-volume time series queries across various BLS economic datasets when you know the exact Series ID.

One Click on Vinkius — From Prompt to Execution

Available at **vinkius.com/mcp/bls-prices-consumer-price-index-cpi-inflation** — connect your AI agent in three steps.

01 First, sign up for a free developer API key directly from the Bureau of Labor Statistics website.

02 Provide that unique key within your AI client's MCP settings on Vinkius.

03 Finally, ask your agent to perform an analysis, like calculating the inflation rate between two specific years or comparing CPI-U and PPI.

The bottom line is you tell your AI what economic question you have; it formats and executes the complex data request against official BLS records for a clean answer.

Built For

Financial analysts, economists, and corporate finance teams need this. If you spend time building models or adjusting budgets based on inflation curves, you're here. This MCP saves you the painful process of cross-referencing multiple government reports.

Financial Analyst

Building financial models that require accurate, historical macroeconomic signals to predict future market behavior.

Economist/Researcher

Running deep dives into long-term U.S. index data, comparing consumer price changes across decades for academic papers or reports.

Corporate Finance Manager

Adjusting annual budgets and capital expenditure projections to account for current and forecasted inflation rates accurately.

What Changes When You Connect

01 Instantly track changes in consumer spending. Using get_cpi_inflation lets you see the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) shifts without manual report downloads.

02 Model inflation projections with historical depth. You can query up to 20 years of consecutive data, giving your models real ballast.

03 Understand input cost pressures. The MCP provides Producer Price Index (PPI) metrics so you know what's affecting businesses upstream.

04 Deep dive into specific datasets. If you need a niche time series lookback, the query_bls tool handles it with explicit BLS Series IDs.

05 Save hours of manual research. Instead of compiling reports from multiple government sites, your agent pulls and calculates everything in one go.

Real-World Applications

Determining post-pandemic cost increases

A finance team needs to know how much prices rose between 2020 and 2024. They prompt the agent, which uses get_cpi_inflation to calculate the precise percentage increase over four years.

Assessing industry supply chain health

A commodities analyst wants to know if input costs are stabilizing. The agent uses PPI data (via query_bls) to see if producer selling prices have cooled down from peak increases in 2022.

Building a long-term budget forecast

A corporation needs to adjust its five-year plan. It uses the MCP's historical metrics capability to model inflation curves based on decades of CPI data, ensuring their projections are accurate.

Comparing consumer vs. producer cost shifts

An economist wants a full picture: what did consumers pay (CPI-U) versus what producers charged (PPI)? The agent executes both datasets to give a complete market view.

Patterns to Avoid

Treating data as static

✗ AVOID

A user only asking for the current month's CPI data, missing the crucial historical context needed for comparison.

✓ INSTEAD

Always ask your agent to compare multiple time periods. Use get_cpi_inflation or query_bls to pull a range (e.g., 'compare 2019 vs 2023') so you see the true trend, not just a single data point.

Using general search engines

✗ AVOID

Searching Google for 'US inflation rate' and getting dozens of conflicting articles with varying data sources or cut-off dates.

✓ INSTEAD

Connect this MCP. It goes straight to the official BLS source, giving you verifiable, consistent index numbers directly in your workflow.

Forgetting PPI context

✗ AVOID

Only looking at CPI and concluding inflation is low, while ignoring that input costs for businesses (PPI) are actually spiking.

✓ INSTEAD

Always check both the consumer data and use query_bls to pull PPI figures. You need to see if cost pressures are building up before they hit consumers.

The Right Fit

Use this MCP if your work involves modeling anything tied directly to U.S. inflation, whether it's corporate budgeting, market forecasting, or academic research. You need reliable, historical index numbers that reflect the cost of living and production over time. Don't use it if you only need basic data points; instead, check out a simple database retrieval tool. If your goal is just to summarize news articles about inflation without needing hard numbers, then an article summary MCP would work better. But for actual financial modeling or deep economic research, this is the definitive source.

BLS Prices — CPI & Inflation MCP: Tracking Cost of Living Changes

Right now, tracking inflation means jumping between multiple government websites. You pull a report for consumer prices, then you have to find another section for producer costs, and then maybe download an Excel sheet just to compare two years. It’s slow, it's tedious, and it introduces human error every time.

With this MCP, the process changes completely. Your agent handles all the API calls, pulling both CPI-U consumer data and PPI producer data into one cohesive analysis. You get immediate, comparative insights—the whole picture—without ever leaving your workflow.

BLS Prices — CPI & Inflation MCP: Analyzing Economic Indicators

Manual economic analysis requires constantly cross-referencing specific index codes and dates. You have to remember if you need the CPI for all urban consumers or just a specific basket, which is easy to mix up.

This MCP eliminates that guesswork. By giving your agent access to the underlying datasets, it simplifies complex lookbacks into simple questions. It moves your analysis from data retrieval to pure insight generation.

BLS Prices — Consumer Price Index (CPI) & Inflation: 2 Tools for Economic Data

Use these tools to retrieve specific, verifiable inflation data points or run complex time series queries against the official BLS records.

#	TOOL	DESCRIPTION
01	`get_cpi_inflation`	Fetches the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) data, helping you identify major shifts in consumer buying power.
02	`query_bls`	Allows advanced timeseries lookbacks for BLS data using specific series IDs, supporting up to 50 concurrent queries.

See It in Action

Real prompts you can use once this MCP is connected to your AI agent through Vinkius Cloud.

U What was the inflation rate trend in 2010 compared to 2020?

📊 **CPI-U Historical Trend Comparison**

The index shows a clear divergence over that decade.

- **Jan 2010:** Index value was ~254 (low inflation environment).
- **Jan 2020:** Index value jumped to ~297, representing significant price increases due to various factors.

The gap between the two shows a substantial increase in cost of living that your models need to account for.

U Show me how much did the cost of housing rise from 2015 to today?

📈 **Housing Cost Index Change**

Based on available data, the index shows a steep climb in this category.

- **Approx. 2015:** Index reading was X
- **Current Period:** Index reading is Y

The cost has risen by Z%, which significantly impacts household budgeting and market projections.

U What were the PPI fluctuations in tech components last year?

PPI Sector Analysis (Tech Components)

The data shows that input costs for technology dropped sharply in Q4, but rebounded moderately in Q1. The overall trend suggests a stabilization of supplier pricing, which could signal better margin predictability for manufacturers.

Frequently Asked Questions

01 **How do I use the BLS Prices — CPI & Inflation MCP to check my budget?**

You can ask your agent directly. You just need to specify the time frame and the goods you care about, like 'What was the cost of a gallon of milk in 2018 vs now?' It gives you precise historical comparisons for better budgeting.

02 **Is the BLS Prices — CPI & Inflation MCP reliable for financial modeling?**

Yes. Because it pulls data directly from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the source is official and used by major economists. This gives your models the verifiable accuracy they need.

03 **What's the difference between using CPI-U and PPI with this MCP?**

The CPI-U tracks what actual consumers pay for goods, focusing on the end-user cost of living. The PPI tracks what producers receive for their output—it shows business input costs.

04 **Can I use the BLS Prices — CPI & Inflation MCP to look at data from decades ago?**

Absolutely. The historical metrics capability allows you to query up to 20 years of consecutive inflation data, giving your agent the depth needed for long-term analysis.

05 **Does BLS Prices — CPI & Inflation MCP need a subscription or key?**

Yes, while Vinkius manages the connection, you must provide an active developer API Key obtained directly from the BLS site to authenticate the data requests.

Go Live in 60 Seconds

Get your connection token from **cloud.vinkius.com**, then paste the endpoint URL into any MCP-compatible client.

YOUR MCP ENDPOINT

```
https://edge.vinkius.com/[TOKEN]/mcp
```

CLIENT	WHERE TO CONFIGURE
Claude AI	Profile → Customize → Connectors → "+" → Add custom connector → Paste endpoint
Cursor	Settings → Features → MCP Servers → "+ Add New MCP Server" → Type: SSE → Paste endpoint
VS Code	Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+P → "MCP: Add Server" → add `"bls-prices-consumer-price-index-cpi-inflation": { "url": "…" }`
Windsurf	MCP Settings → `mcp_settings.json` → Add endpoint URL
ChatGPT	Settings → Tools & plugins → Add MCP server → Paste endpoint
Gemini	Extensions → Add MCP Server → Paste endpoint URL

ASK AN AI ABOUT THIS

Let your preferred AI explain this MCP server

- Ask ChatGPT
- Ask Claude
- Ask Perplexity
- Ask Gemini
- Ask Grok

READY TO CONNECT

BLS Prices — Consumer Price Index (CPI) & Inflation is live on Vinkius Cloud.

Get your connection token, paste it into your AI agent, and start building. No SDK. No deployment. Just results.

Start at cloud.vinkius.com →

vinkius.com · support@vinkius.com

V I N K I U S

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DOCUMENT INFORMATION

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