

# News

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USDL-04-29

TRANSMISSION OF

MATERIAL IN THIS

RELEASE IS EMBARGOED

UNTIL 8:30 A.M. (EST)

Thursday, January 15, 2004

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: DECEMBER 2003

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.1 percent in December, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The December level of 184.3 (1982-84=100) was 1.9 percent higher than in December 2002.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 0.2 percent in December, prior to seasonal adjustment. The December level of 179.9 was 1.6 percent higher than in December 2002.

### CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U increased 0.2 percent in December, following a decline of 0.2 percent in November. The index for food rose 0.6 percent in December with prices for food at home up 0.8 percent, reflecting, in part, another large increase in beef prices. Energy costs rose 0.2 percent in December, compared with a 0.1 percent decrease in November. Shelter costs, which were unchanged in following a 3.0 percent drop in November. The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.1 percent in November, increased 0.3 percent in December.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Dec. '03	
	Changes from preceding month								
	2003								
	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		
All Items	.2	.2	.3	.3	.0	-.2	.2	.0	1.9
Food and beverages	.4	.1	.3	.2	.6	.4	.6	6.6	3.5
Housing	.1	.2	.1	.1	.3	-.1	.3	1.7	2.2
Apparel	.4	.0	.1	.5	.2	-.5	-.4	-2.6	-2.1
Transportation	.3	.2	1.1	.9	-1.6	-1.3	-.2	-11.7	.3
Medical care	.3	.5	.2	.5	.3	.3	.6	4.9	3.7
Recreation	.1	.0	.0	.2	.0	.1	.0	.4	1.1
Education and communication	-.1	.5	.5	.1	.0	.1	.4	1.8	1.6
Other goods and services	.0	.4	.1	.1	.1	-.1	.1	.4	1.5
Special Indexes									
Energy	.8	.4	2.7	3.0	-3.9	-3.0	.2	-23.8	6.9
Food	.4	.1	.3	.2	.6	.4	.6	6.6	3.6
All Items less food and energy	.0	.2	.1	.1	.2	-.1	.1	1.0	1.1

At a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR), consumer prices were unchanged in the fourth quarter of 2003. In the first three quarters changes were at annual rates of 5.2, -0.7, and 3.1 percent, respectively. For the 12 month period ended in December, the CPI rose 1.9 percent. In 2002 the increase was 2.4 percent. Although the index for energy oscillated markedly throughout the year--up at a 76.5 percent SAAR in the first quarter, down at a 24.5 percent rate in the second quarter, up at a 27.8 percent rate in the third quarter, and down at a 23.8 percent rate in the fourth quarter of 2003--the increase for the year of 6.9 percent was less than the 10.7 percent increase in 2002. The food index rose 3.6 percent in 2003. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs rose 11.5 percent, accounting for about two-thirds of the 4.5 percent advance in the index for food at home,. Beef prices rose 23.5 percent in 2003, their largest annual advance since a 28.3 percent increase in 1978.

Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 1.0 percent SAAR in the fourth quarter, following increases at rates of 0.8, 1.0, and 1.5 percent in the first three quarters of 2003. The 1.1 percent advance in 2003 compares with a 1.9 percent rise in all of 2002. The principal reason for the smaller increase in 2003 was the smaller advance in shelter costs--up 2.2 percent in 2003 compared with a 3.1 percent rise in 2002. Also contributing to the moderation in 2003 were smaller increases in the indexes for motor vehicle insurance and medical care, a downturn in the index for cigarettes, coupled with a larger decline in used car prices. The annual rates for selected groups for the last eight years are shown below.

**Percentage change 12 months  
ended in December**

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
All items	3.3	1.7	1.6	2.7	3.4	1.6	2.4	1.9
Food and beverages	4.2	1.6	2.3	2.0	2.8	2.8	1.5	3.5
Housing	2.9	2.4	2.3	2.2	4.3	2.9	2.4	2.2
Apparel	-2	1.0	-7	-5	-1.8	-3.2	-1.8	-2.1
Transportation	4.4	-1.4	-1.7	5.4	4.1	-3.8	3.8	.3
Medical care	3.0	2.8	3.4	3.7	4.2	4.7	5.0	3.7
Recreation	3.0	1.5	1.2	.8	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.1
Education and communication	3.4	3.0	.7	1.6	1.3	3.2	2.2	1.6
Other goods and services	3.6	5.2	8.8	5.1	4.2	4.5	3.3	1.5
<b>Special indexes</b>								
Energy	8.6	-3.4	-8.8	13.4	14.2	-13.0	10.7	6.9
Energy commodities	13.8	-6.9	-15.1	29.5	15.7	-24.5	23.7	6.9
Energy services	3.8	.2	-3.3	1.2	12.7	-1.5	.4	6.9
All items less energy	2.9	2.1	2.4	2.0	2.6	2.8	1.8	1.5
Food	4.3	1.5	2.3	1.9	2.8	2.8	1.5	3.6
All items less food and energy	2.6	2.2	2.4	1.9	2.6	2.7	1.9	1.1

The food and beverages index rose 0.6 percent in December. The index for food at home increased 0.8 percent, following increases of 0.7 percent in each of the preceding two months. Each of the six major grocery store food groups advanced in December, with the indexes for meats, poultry, fish and eggs, for dairy products, and for nonalcoholic beverages recording increases of more than 1.0 percent. Within the meats, poultry, fish, and eggs group, beef prices continued to advance, increasing 1.7 percent in December. Prices for poultry, eggs and other meats also increased substantially in December, more than offsetting a small decline in pork prices. The indexes for dairy products and for nonalcoholic beverages each turned up in December, reflecting price increases for ice cream and related products and for carbonated drinks, respectively, each of which had declined substantially in November. The indexes for other food at home, for fruits and vegetables, and for cereals and bakery products increased 0.7, 0.3, and 0.2 percent, respectively. Within the fruits and vegetables group, a 1.5 percent increase in the index for fresh vegetables more than offset declines in the indexes for fresh fruits and for processed fruits and vegetables. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--each increased 0.3 percent.

The index for housing, which declined 0.1 percent in November, increased 0.3 percent in October. Each of the three major housing groups contributed to the acceleration. Shelter costs, which were unchanged in November, increased 0.3 percent in December. Within shelter, the indexes for rent, for owners' equivalent rent, and for lodging away from home rose 0.2, 0.1, and 1.7 percent, respectively. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the index for lodging away from home declined 1.8 percent.). During the 12 month period ended in December, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent rose 2.7 and 2.0 percent, respectively. In 2002 these indexes increased 3.1 and 3.3 percent, respectively. The index for fuels and utilities, which declined 0.9 percent in November, increased 0.5 percent in December. Charges for natural gas and for electricity each turned up in December, advancing 1.9 and 0.1 percent, respectively, and the index for fuel oil rose 0.6 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, fuel oil prices increased 2.1 percent.) During the 12 month period ended in December, charges for natural gas and for electricity rose 17.4 and 2.6 percent, respectively, and fuel oil prices increased 7.8 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations, turned up in December, increasing 0.2 percent, but fell 1.8 percent during the 12 month period ended in December.

The transportation index decreased for the third consecutive month--down 0.2 percent in December. The index for gasoline declined 0.1 percent, after falling sharply in October and November. Despite the recent declines, gasoline prices are still 6.8 percent higher than in December 2002. The index for new vehicles was unchanged in December. (As of December, about 72 percent of the new vehicle sample was represented by 2004 models. The 2004 models will continue to be phased in, with appropriate adjustments for quality change, over the next several months as they replace old models at dealerships. For a report on quality changes for the 2004 vehicles represented in the Producer Price Index sample, see news release USDL-03-721, dated November 14, 2003.) New vehicle prices are 1.8 percent lower than in December 2002. The index for used cars and trucks decreased 0.7 percent in December and this index has declined 11.8 percent in the last 12 months. The index for public transportation declined 1.1 percent in December, reflecting a 1.9 percent drop in airline fares. These fares fell 0.1 percent in all of 2003 after registering declines in 2001 and 2002 of 3.9 and 2.4 percent, respectively.

The index for apparel declined 0.4 percent in December. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices fell 3.3 percent, reflecting pre-holiday discounting.) During the 12 month period ended in December, apparel prices declined 2.1 percent, their sixth consecutive annual decline.

Medical care costs rose 0.6 percent in December and are 3.7 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.4 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.6 percent in December. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.5 and 0.6 percent, respectively. In the 12 month period ended in December, these indexes advanced 2.8 and 6.4 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation was unchanged in December. Increases in the indexes for admissions to movies, theaters, concerts, and sporting events and for pets, pet products and services were offset by decreases in the indexes for toys and for video and audio products and services. During the 12 months ended in December, the indexes for admissions and for pets increased 3.4 and 2.7 percent, respectively, while prices for toys, for sporting goods and equipment, and for photography all declined. The index for video and audio increased 0.1 percent as a 3.8 percent increase in cable television charges more than offset declines in each of the other components within that category.

The index for education and communication increased 0.4 percent in December. Educational costs increased 0.7 percent, while communication costs were unchanged. Within the former category, the index for educational books and supplies increased 2.6 percent. During the 12 months ended in December, educational costs rose 7.2 percent, largely as a result of a 9.8 percent rise in the index for college tuition and fees. The index for communication declined 3.9 percent during the last 12 months, reflecting declines in long distance telephone services and for prices of personal computers and peripheral equipment--down 10.0 and 17.8 percent, respectively.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.1 percent in December, reflecting a 0.3 percent increase in the index for tobacco and smoking products. These prices, however, declined 0.4 percent in all of 2003, their first decrease since a 5.9 percent drop in 1993.

### **CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)**

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers increased 0.2 percent in December.

Table B. Percent changes in CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Dec. '03	Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Dec. '03
	Changes from preceding month								
	2003								
	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		
All Items	.2	.1	.4	.3	-.2	-.3	.2	-1.1	1.6
Food and beverages	.4	.1	.3	.3	.6	.5	.5	6.6	3.7
Housing	.1	.2	.2	.1	.2	-.1	.3	1.3	2.3
Apparel	.4	-.5	.3	.7	.4	-.5	-.2	-1.3	-1.8
Transportation	.3	.1	1.1	.8	-1.8	-1.7	-.3	-14.1	-.3
Medical care	.3	.4	.2	.5	.4	.3	.6	5.5	3.7
Recreation	.0	.2	.0	.0	-.1	.3	-.1	.4	.8
Education and communication	-.2	.5	.4	-.1	.0	.1	.3	1.5	.8
Other goods and services	.0	.5	.2	.0	.1	-.2	.1	.3	1.0
Special Indexes									
Energy	1.1	.4	3.0	3.3	-4.0	-3.2	.2	-25.0	6.9
Food	.4	.1	.3	.3	.6	.5	.6	7.1	3.7
All Items less food and energy	.1	.1	.1	.0	.1	-.1	.1	.2	.7

### **Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U)**

The C-CPI-U declined 0.2 percent in December on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The December level of 107.5 (December 1999=100) was 1.4 percent higher than in December 2002. Table 7 contains the most recent indexes for all items and the component series that are published. Data are published monthly in the CPI Detailed Report and are available on the CPI home page: <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/>. Please note that the indexes for the post-2001 period are subject to revision.

Consumer Price Index data for January are scheduled for release on Friday, February 20, 2004, at 8:30 A.M. (EST).

## **Recalculated Seasonally Adjusted Indexes to be Available on February 18, 2004**

Each year with the release of the January CPI, seasonal adjustment factors are recalculated to reflect price movements from the just-completed calendar year. This routine annual recalculation may result in revisions to seasonally adjusted indexes for the previous 5 years. BLS will make available recalculated seasonally adjusted indexes, as well as recalculated seasonal adjustment factors, for the period January 1999 through December 2003, on Wednesday, February 18, 2004. This date is two working days before the scheduled release of the January 2004 CPI on Friday, February 20, 2004.

The revised indexes and seasonal factors will be available on the internet. The address is <http://www.bls.gov/cpi>. Look under Tables Created by BLS and select Revised Seasonally Adjusted Data, 2003.

For further information please contact Dan Chow or Jeff Wilson on (202) 691-6968.

## **Planned Changes in the Consumer Price Index in 2004**

### **Expenditure Weight Update**

Effective with release of data for January 2004, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) will update the consumption expenditure weights in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) and Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) to the 2001-02 period. The updated expenditure weights for these indexes will replace the 1999-2000 weights that were introduced effective with the January 2002 CPI release. As originally announced by BLS in December 1998, CPI expenditure weights will continue to be updated at two-year intervals subsequent to the 2004 updating.

For the first six months of 2004, BLS will continue to calculate and publish selected CPI-U and CPI-W “overlap” indexes using the 1999-2000 expenditure pattern that was introduced into the CPI in 2002. These indexes will be compiled on a not seasonally adjusted basis. Comparison of these index series to the corresponding updated series will enable users of the CPI to observe the effects of the expenditure weight change. The subsequent expenditure updates scheduled in 2006 and every two years thereafter also will be accompanied by the publication of overlap indexes for a six-month period using the previous expenditure pattern.

### **C-CPI-U Index Revisions**

As scheduled, effective with release of data for January 2004, the Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) will undergo its second annual index revision. C-CPI-U indexes for the 12 months of 2002 will be issued in final form and values for the 12 months of 2003 will be revised and issued as interim. Calculation of the preliminary versions of the C-CPI-U--the initial version for January and the subsequent months of 2004 and the interim (revised initial) indexes for 2003--will employ the 2001-02 expenditure weights also used in the CPI-U and CPI-W. Note that the final values of the C-CPI-U employ monthly expenditure weights corresponding to the price collection period in their calculation. Thus, in calculation of the final (revised interim) C-CPI-U values for the months of 2002, the biennial 1999-2000 expenditure weights will be replaced with separate monthly expenditure weights.

### **Elementary Index Formula Changes**

Effective with release of data for January 2004, a geometric mean formula will replace the arithmetic mean formula in the calculation of the elementary indexes in the CPI-U, CPI-W, and C-CPI-U for (1) cable and satellite television and radio services (formerly cable TV) and for (2) eyeglasses and eye care. The geometric mean formula at the elementary index level is more appropriate for use in categories in which the consumer may alter his or her spending in response to changing prices within that category. Since the original decision to employ an arithmetic mean was made by BLS in 1998, changes in the markets for the above-mentioned categories have led to increased opportunity for consumer substitution behavior within those categories. The BLS introduced the geometric mean formula for calculating most of the basic components of the CPI-U and CPI-W with release of the CPI for January 1999.

The BLS will continue to evaluate the appropriateness of the formula used in the calculation of the elementary item indexes and on an annual basis may change or adjust the formula for constructing these indexes. A description of the 1999 adoption of the geometric mean formula is available on the internet at

<http://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/1998/10/contents.htm>

## Title Changes

The following index and average price series will have new titles beginning in January 2004. These series are continuous. The new titles serve to clarify the content of each series.

### Index series with new titles

Item code	Old title	New title
SEHF02	Utility natural gas service	Utility (piped) gas service
SERA02	Cable television	Cable and satellite television and radio service
SEED01	Telephone services, local charges	Land-line telephone services, local charges
SEED02	Telephone services, long distance charges	Land-line telephone services, long distance charges
SS27051	Interstate toll calls	Land-line interstate toll calls
SS27061	Intrastate toll calls	Land-line intrastate toll calls
SEED03	Cellular telephone services	Wireless telephone services
SEEE	Information and information processing other than telephone services	Information technology, hardware, and services
SEEE03	Computer information processing services	Internet services and electronic information providers
SEEE04	Other information processing equipment	Telephone hardware, calculators, and other consumer information items

### Average price series with new titles

Item code	Old title	New title
72620	Utility natural gas per therm	Utility (piped) gas per therm
72601	Utility natural gas – 40 therms	Utility (piped) gas – 40 therms
72611	Utility natural gas – 100 therms	Utility (piped) gas – 100 therms

## **Expanded Collection of Price Data**

During the last year, the CPI program completed its conversion to Computer Assisted Data Collection (CADC). Due to the efficiencies gained from the conversion to CADC, BLS will extend data collection to cover the entire month, beginning with data for January 2004.

The new data collection process utilizes hand-held computers called penpads, along with software developed by BLS staff, to collect price and other item characteristic data in stores each month. Data collection instructions are transmitted electronically from Washington to each data collector's penpad. After completing collection the field staff transmit data back to Washington. This electronic collection provides numerous benefits. Many data edits can take place during collection. The accuracy and efficiency of data entry and review are improved by having field staff directly enter data rather than filling out paper survey forms by hand for later computer input by clerical staff. The progress of data collection also can be monitored more effectively throughout the month.

Lastly, the introduction of CADC reduces the time required to transmit and process data. With electronic collection and transmission, the CPI will be able to eliminate the mailing and data entry functions, allowing the BLS to collect prices during the entire index month without compromising the timeliness of the CPI release, which takes place during the middle of the subsequent month.

CPI data collection is scheduled in terms of business days--weekdays excluding holidays. Currently, data collection covers three pricing periods, each comprising six business days in most months and five days in November and December. Consequently, the last day of scheduled data collection is usually the 18<sup>th</sup> business day of the month. This has allowed time during the end of the month for the mailing of paper schedules back to the Washington Office and the data entry of the information on these schedules. Starting in January 2004, the three pricing periods will have variable lengths, between six and eight business days long. The third pricing period now normally will end on the last business day of the month.



## **Facilities for Sensory Impaired**

Information from this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200, Federal Relay Services: 1-800-877-8339. For a recorded message of Summary CPI data, call (202) 691-5200.

## **Brief Explanation of the CPI**

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time of goods and services purchased by households. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), which covers households of wage earners and clerical workers that comprise approximately 32 percent of the total population and (2) the CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) and the Chained CPI for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U), which cover approximately 87 percent of the total population and include in addition to wage earners and clerical worker households, 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 CPIs are based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 50,000 housing units and approximately 23,000 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. Prices of fuels and a few other items are obtained every month in all 87 locations. Prices of most other commodities and services are collected every month in the three largest geographic areas and every other month in other areas. Prices of most goods and services are obtained by personal visits or telephone calls of the Bureau's trained representatives.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights, which represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. For the CPI-U and CPI-W separate indexes are also published by size of city, by region of the country, for cross-classifications of regions and population-size classes, and for 27 local areas. Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices among cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period. For the C-CPI-U data are issued only at the national level. It is important to note that the CPI-U and CPI-W are considered final when released, but the C-CPI-U is issued in preliminary form and subject to two annual revisions.

The index measures price change from a designed reference date. For the CPI-U and the CPI-W the reference base is 1982-84 equals 100.0. The reference base for the C-CPI-U is December 1999 equals 100. An increase of 16.5 percent from the reference base, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period market basket of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65.

For further details visit the CPI home page on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/> or contact our CPI Information and Analysis Section on (202) 691-7000.

## Calculating Index Changes

Movements of the indexes from one month to another are usually expressed as percent changes rather than changes in index points, because index point changes are affected by the level of the index in relation to its base period while percent changes are not. The example below illustrates the computation of index point and percent changes.

Percent changes for 3-month and 6-month periods are expressed as annual rates and are computed according to the standard formula for compound growth rates. These data indicate what the percent change would be if the current rate were maintained for a 12-month period.

### Index Point Change

CPI	115.7
Less previous index	111.2
Equals index point change	4.5

### Percent Change

Index point difference	4.5
Divided by the previous index	111.2
Equals	0.040
Results multiplied by one hundred	0.040x100
Equals percent change	4.0

### Regions Defined

The states in the four regions shown in Tables 3 and 6 are listed below.

The Northeast--Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

The Midwest--Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

The South--Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

The West--Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

## A Note on Seasonally Adjusted and Unadjusted Data

Because price data are used for different purposes by different groups, the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes seasonally adjusted as well as unadjusted changes each month.

For analyzing general price trends in the economy, seasonally adjusted changes are usually preferred since they eliminate the effect of changes that normally occur at the same time and in about the same magnitude every year--such as price movements resulting from changing climatic conditions, production cycles, model changeovers, holidays, and sales.

The unadjusted data are of primary interest to consumers concerned about the prices they actually pay. Unadjusted data also are used extensively for escalation purposes. Many collective bargaining contract agreements and pension plans, for example, tie compensation changes to the Consumer Price Index unadjusted for seasonal variation.

Seasonal factors used in computing the seasonally adjusted indexes are derived by the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Method. The updated seasonal data at the end of 1977 replaced data from 1967 through 1977. Subsequent annual updates have replaced 5 years of seasonal data; e.g., data from 1998 through 2002 were replaced at the end of 2002. In January 2002, dependently seasonally adjusted series were revised for January 1987-December 2001 as a result of a change in the aggregation weights for dependently adjusted series. For further information, please see "Aggregation of Dependently Adjusted Seasonally Adjusted Series," in the October 2001 issue of the CPI Detailed Report.

The seasonal movement of all items and 54 other aggregations is derived by combining the seasonal movement of 73 selected components. Each year the seasonal status of every series is reevaluated based upon certain statistical criteria. If any of the 73 components change their seasonal adjustment status from seasonally adjusted to not seasonally adjusted, not seasonally adjusted data will be used for the last 5 years, but the seasonally adjusted indexes will be used before that period. Note: 44 of the 73 components are seasonally adjusted for 2003.

Seasonally adjusted data, including the All items index levels, are subject to revision for up to five years after their original release. For this reason, BLS advises against the use of these data in escalation agreements.

Effective with the calculation of the seasonal factors for 1990, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has used an enhanced seasonal adjustment procedure called Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment for some CPI series. Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment allows for better estimates of seasonally adjusted data. Extreme values and/or sharp movements which might distort the seasonal pattern are estimated and removed from the data prior to calculation of seasonal factors. Beginning with the calculation of seasonal factors for 1996, X-12-ARIMA software was used for Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment.

For the fuel oil, natural gas, motor fuels, and educational books and supplies indexes, this procedure was used to offset the effects that extreme price volatility would otherwise have had on the estimates of seasonally adjusted data for those series. For the Nonalcoholic beverages index, the procedure was used to offset the effects of a large increase in coffee prices due to adverse weather. The procedure was used to account for unusual butter fat supply reductions and decreases in milk supply affecting the Fats and oils series. For the Water and sewerage maintenance index, the procedure was used to account for a data collection anomaly and dry weather in California. It was used to offset an increase in demand due to warmer than expected weather and increased rates to conserve supplies for Electricity. For

New vehicles, New cars, and New trucks, the procedure was used to offset the effects of a model changeover combined with financing incentives.

For a complete list of series that used Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment, a list of unusual events modeled for them, or for a description of intervention analysis please write to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, Washington, DC 20212 or by calling Daniel Chow on (202) 691-6968 or sending e-mail to [Chow\\_Dan@BLS.GOV](mailto:Chow_Dan@BLS.GOV). If you have general questions about the CPI, please call our information staff at (202) 691-7000.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-U	Relative importance, December 2002	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Dec. 2003 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2002	Nov. 2003	Sep. to Oct.	Oct. to Nov.	Nov. to Dec.
<b>Expenditure category</b>								
All items .....	100.000	184.5	184.3	1.9	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.2
All items (1967=100) .....	-	552.7	552.1	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	15.583	182.9	184.1	3.5	.7	.6	.4	.6
Food .....	14.554	182.4	183.6	3.6	.7	.6	.4	.6
Food at home .....	8.338	182.4	184.1	4.5	.9	.7	.7	.8
Cereals and bakery products .....	1.281	202.5	202.9	2.8	.2	-2	.1	.2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	2.222	179.3	181.1	11.5	1.0	1.8	3.2	1.1
Dairy and related products <sup>1</sup> .....	.876	171.2	173.0	3.4	1.1	.9	-3	1.1
Fruits and vegetables .....	1.234	227.5	232.4	3.3	2.2	.9	.4	.3
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	.954	137.9	139.3	-4	1.0	.5	-1.6	1.7
Other food at home .....	1.771	162.0	163.0	1.2	.6	.1	-5	.7
Sugar and sweets .....	.314	161.7	161.0	1.2	-4	.3	.4	-7
Fats and oils .....	.252	157.3	157.7	3.2	.3	1.0	-6	.8
Other foods .....	1.205	177.9	179.6	.8	1.0	-1	-7	1.1
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.287	109.0	109.8	-4	.7	-3	-1.5	.7
Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	6.216	183.8	184.3	2.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Other food away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	.388	122.7	122.9	2.6	.2	.4	.3	.4
Alcoholic beverages .....	1.029	188.6	188.7	2.1	.1	.1	.3	.3
Housing .....	40.854	185.1	185.1	2.2	.0	.3	-1	.3
Shelter .....	31.728	214.2	214.1	2.2	.0	.4	.0	.3
Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....	6.467	207.5	207.9	2.7	.2	.0	.2	.2
Lodging away from home <sup>2 3</sup> .....	2.654	115.0	112.9	3.4	-1.8	2.3	-1.1	1.7
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> .....	22.243	221.9	222.2	2.0	.1	.3	.1	.1
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.365	114.3	114.3	1.8	.0	.1	-1.5	.0
Fuels and utilities .....	4.469	152.9	153.6	6.5	.5	-8	-9	.5
Fuels .....	3.604	135.7	136.5	7.1	.6	-1.1	-1.2	.6
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.205	134.8	137.0	9.1	1.6	-1.3	1.1	-4
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	3.399	142.6	143.3	6.9	.5	-1.1	-1.4	.6
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	.864	119.4	119.8	4.5	.3	.5	.6	.3
Household furnishings and operations .....	4.658	124.9	124.7	-1.8	-2	.2	-3	.2
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.820	122.4	122.6	2.3	.2	.2	-2	.2
Apparel .....	4.220	123.1	119.0	-2.1	-3.3	.2	-5	-4
Men's and boys' apparel .....	1.065	121.4	118.0	-1.1	-2.8	.3	.3	-2
Women's and girls' apparel .....	1.738	115.7	110.9	-1.9	-4.1	1.0	-1.1	-4
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.193	123.0	119.2	-4.9	-3.1	-9	-1.9	-1.6
Footwear .....	.853	121.0	118.5	-1.8	-2.1	-1	-3	-3
Transportation .....	17.293	155.7	154.7	.3	-6	-1.6	-1.3	-2
Private transportation .....	16.121	151.7	150.8	.3	-6	-1.7	-1.4	-1
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	8.170	94.6	94.4	-4.4	-2	-7	-4	-4
New vehicles .....	4.864	137.5	138.0	-1.8	.4	-3	.0	.0
Used cars and trucks .....	2.025	132.0	131.0	-11.8	-8	-3.0	-2.3	-7
Motor fuel .....	3.119	131.2	127.8	6.8	-2.6	-6.8	-4.9	-2
Gasoline (all types) .....	3.091	130.6	127.2	6.8	-2.6	-6.8	-5.0	-1
Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	.416	107.9	107.7	.7	-2	.2	.0	-2
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	1.418	197.2	198.0	2.4	.4	.2	.3	.6
Public transportation .....	1.172	207.9	205.6	1.3	-1.1	1.1	-5	-1.1
Medical care .....	5.961	300.8	302.1	3.7	.4	.3	.3	.6
Medical care commodities .....	1.387	264.0	265.0	2.1	.4	.1	-3	.4
Medical care services .....	4.574	310.6	311.9	4.2	.4	.4	.5	.6
Professional services <sup>3</sup> .....	2.808	263.0	264.1	2.8	.4	.3	.1	.5
Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....	1.451	405.6	407.0	6.4	.3	.3	1.2	.6

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-U	Relative importance, December 2002	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Dec. 2003 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—			
		Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2002	Nov. 2003	Sep. to Oct.	Oct. to Nov.	Nov. to Dec.	
		Expenditure category							
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	5.943	107.8	107.7	1.1	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	1.638	103.8	103.3	.1	-5	.2	.1	-3	
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	5.798	110.8	110.9	1.6	.1	.0	.1	.4	
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	2.835	139.0	139.4	7.2	.3	.4	.4	.7	
Educational books and supplies .....	.236	336.0	342.8	6.0	2.0	.5	-7	2.6	
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	2.599	401.2	401.7	7.4	.1	.4	.4	.5	
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	2.963	88.2	88.2	-3.9	.0	-2	-2	.0	
Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.765	86.2	86.2	-4.2	.0	-3	-2	.0	
Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.273	97.2	97.2	-2.7	.0	-3	.1	.0	
Information and information processing other than telephone services <sup>1 5</sup> .....	.492	15.4	15.3	-11.0	-6	.0	-1.3	-6	
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.210	16.3	16.2	-17.8	-6	1.2	-1.2	-6	
Other goods and services .....	4.350	300.0	300.2	1.5	.1	.1	-1	.1	
Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....	.992	469.1	470.4	-4	.3	.2	-1	.3	
Personal care <sup>1</sup> .....	3.358	179.0	179.0	2.1	.0	.1	-1	.0	
Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....	.680	153.2	153.4	.0	.1	.1	-3	.1	
Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....	.897	194.2	194.3	2.3	.1	.1	-7	.1	
Miscellaneous personal services .....	1.573	287.0	287.1	3.7	.0	.1	.6	.1	
<b>Commodity and service group</b>									
Commodities .....	40.822	150.9	150.4	.5	-3	-6	-5	.1	
Food and beverages .....	15.583	182.9	184.1	3.5	.7	.6	.4	.6	
Commodities less food and beverages .....	25.239	132.9	131.7	-1.4	-9	-1.3	-1.0	-2	
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	13.824	149.0	146.7	1.0	-1.5	-1.4	-5	.5	
Apparel .....	4.220	123.1	119.0	-2.1	-3.3	.2	-5	-4	
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	9.604	169.1	167.7	2.3	-8	-2.6	-1.6	-2	
Durables .....	11.416	115.1	115.0	-4.3	-1	-7	-5	-2	
Services .....	59.178	217.9	217.9	2.8	.0	.3	.0	.2	
Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	31.364	223.0	222.9	2.2	.0	.4	.1	.2	
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.365	114.3	114.3	1.8	.0	.1	-1.5	.0	
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	3.399	142.6	143.3	6.9	.5	-1.1	-1.4	.6	
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	.864	119.4	119.8	4.5	.3	.5	.6	.3	
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.820	122.4	122.6	2.3	.2	.2	-2	.2	
Transportation services .....	6.722	218.6	217.7	2.7	-4	.8	-2	-3	
Medical care services .....	4.574	310.6	311.9	4.2	.4	.4	.5	.6	
Other services .....	11.071	257.3	257.4	2.9	.0	.1	.2	.2	
<b>Special indexes</b>									
All items less food .....	85.446	184.9	184.4	1.5	-3	-2	-3	.2	
All items less shelter .....	68.272	174.9	174.7	1.7	-1	-3	-3	.2	
All items less medical care .....	94.039	178.5	178.2	1.8	-2	-1	-3	.2	
Commodities less food .....	26.268	135.0	133.8	-1.3	-9	-1.2	-1.0	-1	
Nondurables less food .....	14.853	151.3	149.2	1.1	-1.4	-1.3	-5	.5	
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	10.633	170.0	168.8	2.3	-7	-2.0	-1.6	.0	
Nondurables .....	29.406	166.1	165.4	2.4	-4	-5	.1	.5	
Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	27.815	228.2	228.4	3.6	.1	.1	.0	.2	
Services less medical care services .....	54.604	209.9	209.9	2.7	.0	.3	.0	.1	
Energy .....	6.723	133.1	131.8	6.9	-1.0	-3.9	-3.0	.2	
All items less energy .....	93.277	191.6	191.5	1.5	-1	.3	.0	.2	
All items less food and energy .....	78.724	193.9	193.6	1.1	-2	.2	-1	.1	
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	22.945	139.9	139.0	-2.5	-6	-3	-4	-1	
Energy commodities .....	3.324	132.1	129.0	6.9	-2.3	-6.6	-4.4	-2	
Services less energy services .....	55.779	225.6	225.5	2.6	.0	.4	.0	.2	
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00) .....	-	\$.542	\$.543	-	-	-	-	-	
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00) .....	-	\$.181	\$.181	-	-	-	-	-	

<sup>1</sup> Not seasonally adjusted.

<sup>2</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>3</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

<sup>5</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

- Data not available.

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

**Table 2. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Seasonally adjusted U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-U	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2003	June 2003	Sep. 2003	Dec. 2003	June 2003	Dec. 2003
<b>Expenditure category</b>										
All items .....	185.0	185.0	184.6	185.0	5.2	-0.7	3.1	0.0	2.2	1.5
Food and beverages .....	181.3	182.3	183.1	184.2	2.5	2.7	2.2	6.6	2.6	4.4
Food .....	180.8	181.8	182.6	183.7	2.7	2.7	2.5	6.6	2.7	4.5
Food at home .....	180.3	181.6	182.8	184.3	3.0	3.4	2.7	9.2	3.2	5.9
Cereals and bakery products .....	203.5	203.1	203.3	203.7	9.6	.8	.8	.4	5.1	.6
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	170.4	173.4	178.9	180.9	6.8	6.2	7.1	27.0	6.5	16.6
Dairy and related products <sup>1</sup> .....	170.3	171.8	171.2	173.0	-5	-7.4	16.6	6.5	-4.0	11.4
Fruits and vegetables .....	227.0	229.0	230.0	230.7	-1.2	11.6	-3.1	6.7	5.0	1.7
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	139.5	140.2	138.0	140.3	-3.9	5.0	-4.2	2.3	.4	-1.0
Other food at home .....	163.0	163.2	162.4	163.5	1.7	2.0	-5	1.2	1.9	.4
Sugar and sweets .....	162.2	162.7	163.3	162.1	4.6	1.7	-1.5	-.2	3.1	-.9
Fats and oils .....	157.3	158.9	157.9	159.1	9.4	-2.3	1.3	4.7	3.4	3.0
Other foods .....	179.4	179.2	177.9	179.8	-2	2.9	-.7	.9	1.3	.1
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....	111.0	110.7	109.0	109.8	-4	5.2	-1.8	-4.3	2.4	-3.0
Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	182.8	183.3	183.8	184.3	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.3	2.0	2.7
Other food away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	121.3	121.8	122.2	122.7	3.7	3.7	-1.6	4.7	3.7	1.5
Alcoholic beverages .....	188.0	188.1	188.6	189.1	2.8	1.1	1.9	2.4	2.0	2.1
Housing .....	185.4	185.9	185.7	186.2	4.2	1.5	1.3	1.7	2.9	1.5
Shelter .....	214.0	214.9	214.9	215.5	1.1	2.5	2.5	2.8	1.8	2.7
Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....	206.8	206.9	207.3	207.7	3.2	3.0	2.8	1.8	3.1	2.3
Lodging away from home <sup>2 3</sup> .....	119.4	122.2	120.8	122.9	-11.3	14.6	.0	12.3	.8	5.9
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> .....	220.7	221.4	221.7	222.0	2.2	.7	2.6	2.4	1.5	2.5
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	115.9	116.0	114.3	114.3	6.2	4.3	2.5	-5.4	5.2	-1.6
Fuels and utilities .....	156.5	155.2	153.8	154.6	36.0	-1.3	.3	-4.8	15.9	-2.3
Fuels .....	140.0	138.4	136.7	137.5	44.5	-2.0	-1.1	-7.0	19.0	-4.1
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	135.0	133.3	134.8	134.2	215.3	-54.4	.9	-2.3	19.9	-.7
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	147.4	145.8	143.7	144.6	37.4	3.0	-1.3	-7.4	19.0	-4.4
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	118.3	118.9	119.6	120.0	3.2	3.5	6.0	5.9	3.3	5.9
Household furnishings and operations .....	125.0	125.3	124.9	125.1	-.9	-3.1	-3.4	.3	-2.0	-1.6
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	122.3	122.6	122.4	122.6	5.8	.7	1.7	1.0	3.2	1.3
Apparel .....	121.2	121.5	120.9	120.4	-5.7	-2.0	2.3	-2.6	-3.9	-.2
Men's and boys' apparel .....	117.9	118.3	118.7	118.5	2.4	-12.3	4.9	2.1	-5.3	3.5
Women's and girls' apparel .....	113.1	114.2	113.0	112.6	-7.1	1.1	.0	-1.8	-3.1	-.9
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	124.5	123.4	121.1	119.2	-8.9	-.7	7.7	-16.0	-4.9	-4.8
Footwear .....	120.1	120.0	119.6	119.2	-8.6	2.4	2.4	-3.0	-3.3	-.3
Transportation .....	160.0	157.5	155.4	155.1	17.6	-10.3	9.0	-11.7	2.7	-1.9
Private transportation .....	156.0	153.3	151.2	151.0	19.3	-11.7	9.5	-12.2	2.7	-2.0
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	95.5	94.8	94.4	94.0	-1.2	-3.6	-6.4	-6.1	-2.4	-6.3
New vehicles .....	137.6	137.2	137.2	137.2	-3.1	-3.1	.0	-1.2	-3.1	-.6
Used cars and trucks .....	138.6	134.5	131.4	130.5	5.0	-5.8	-22.0	-21.4	-.5	-21.7
Motor fuel .....	147.2	137.2	130.5	130.3	120.0	-43.5	70.1	-38.6	11.4	2.2
Gasoline (all types) .....	146.7	136.7	129.9	129.8	120.8	-43.7	70.9	-38.7	11.5	2.4
Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	107.7	107.9	107.9	107.7	3.4	-.7	.0	.0	1.3	.0
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	196.2	196.5	197.0	198.2	1.2	2.5	1.9	4.1	1.9	3.0
Public transportation .....	210.3	212.6	211.5	209.2	-1.9	12.8	-2.8	-2.1	5.2	-2.4
Medical care .....	299.5	300.5	301.4	303.1	1.7	3.6	4.7	4.9	2.6	4.8
Medical care commodities .....	264.9	265.2	264.5	265.5	2.2	.3	5.1	.9	1.2	3.0
Medical care services .....	308.5	309.7	311.2	313.2	1.5	4.7	4.4	6.2	3.1	5.3
Professional services <sup>3</sup> .....	262.6	263.5	263.8	265.2	.9	3.8	2.5	4.0	2.3	3.2
Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....	400.0	401.1	406.0	408.6	3.8	5.4	7.8	8.9	4.6	8.3

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Seasonally adjusted U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-U	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2003	June 2003	Sep. 2003	Dec. 2003	June 2003	Dec. 2003
<b>Expenditure category</b>										
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	107.8	107.8	107.9	107.9	2.3	1.1	0.7	0.4	1.7	0.6
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	103.9	104.1	104.2	103.9	-1.9	.8	1.6	.0	-6	.8
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	110.2	110.2	110.3	110.7	2.2	-1.8	4.1	1.8	.2	3.0
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	136.9	137.4	137.9	138.8	6.7	5.9	10.9	5.7	6.3	8.3
Educational books and supplies .....	336.5	338.3	336.0	344.6	8.9	4.8	1.0	10.0	6.8	5.4
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	394.5	396.0	397.6	399.7	6.6	6.1	11.9	5.4	6.3	8.6
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	88.6	88.4	88.2	88.2	-2.2	-8.9	-2.7	-1.8	-5.6	-2.2
Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	86.7	86.4	86.2	86.2	-2.2	-9.9	-2.3	-2.3	-6.1	-2.3
Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	97.4	97.1	97.2	97.2	-.8	-8.5	-.4	-.8	-4.7	-.6
Information and information processing other than telephone services <sup>1 5</sup> .....	15.6	15.6	15.4	15.3	-9.0	-13.5	-14.0	-7.5	-11.3	-10.8
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 2</sup> .....	16.3	16.5	16.3	16.2	-13.5	-28.0	-24.7	-2.4	-21.1	-14.3
Other goods and services .....	299.9	300.2	300.0	300.2	2.0	1.1	2.4	.4	1.6	1.4
Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....	468.7	469.5	469.1	470.4	-4.4	-3.1	4.6	1.5	-3.8	3.0
Personal care <sup>1</sup> .....	179.0	179.1	179.0	179.0	4.2	2.3	1.8	.0	3.2	.9
Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....	153.4	153.6	153.2	153.4	-.3	1.3	-1.0	.0	.5	-.5
Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....	195.4	195.6	194.2	194.3	3.8	2.3	5.5	-2.2	3.1	1.6
Miscellaneous personal services .....	285.5	285.8	287.6	288.0	4.4	4.3	2.4	3.5	4.4	3.0
<b>Commodity and service group</b>										
Commodities .....	152.1	151.2	150.5	150.7	7.7	-5.9	4.3	-3.6	.7	.3
Food and beverages .....	181.3	182.3	183.1	184.2	2.5	2.7	2.2	6.6	2.6	4.4
Commodities less food and beverages .....	135.5	133.7	132.4	132.1	10.9	-10.6	5.5	-9.7	-.4	-2.4
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	151.8	149.7	148.9	149.7	18.4	-21.1	18.2	-5.4	-3.3	5.7
Apparel .....	121.2	121.5	120.9	120.4	-5.7	-2.0	2.3	-2.6	-3.9	-.2
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	176.4	171.9	169.2	168.9	37.9	-21.7	21.0	-16.0	3.9	.8
Durables .....	116.1	115.3	114.7	114.5	-1.0	-4.0	-6.9	-5.4	-2.5	-6.2
Services .....	217.8	218.5	218.4	218.9	3.8	2.8	2.6	2.0	3.3	2.3
Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	222.8	223.7	223.9	224.3	1.5	2.4	2.4	2.7	1.9	2.5
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	115.9	116.0	114.3	114.3	6.2	4.3	2.5	-5.4	5.2	-1.6
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	147.4	145.8	143.7	144.6	37.4	3.0	-1.3	-7.4	19.0	-4.4
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	118.3	118.9	119.6	120.0	3.2	3.5	6.0	5.9	3.3	5.9
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	122.3	122.6	122.4	122.6	5.8	.7	1.7	1.0	3.2	1.3
Transportation services .....	217.5	219.3	218.8	218.1	2.5	5.9	1.3	1.1	4.2	1.2
Medical care services .....	308.5	309.7	311.2	313.2	1.5	4.7	4.4	6.2	3.1	5.3
Other services .....	256.3	256.6	257.0	257.5	3.7	1.6	4.3	1.9	2.7	3.1
<b>Special indexes</b>										
All items less food .....	185.8	185.5	184.9	185.2	5.8	-1.3	3.3	-1.3	2.2	1.0
All items less shelter .....	175.8	175.3	174.8	175.1	7.2	-2.3	3.7	-1.6	2.3	1.0
All items less medical care .....	179.1	179.0	178.5	178.9	5.6	-1.1	3.2	-.4	2.2	1.4
Commodities less food .....	137.4	135.7	134.4	134.2	10.7	-10.2	5.1	-9.0	-.3	-2.2
Nondurables less food .....	154.0	152.0	151.2	151.9	17.2	-19.8	16.9	-5.3	-3.0	5.2
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	176.4	172.8	170.0	170.0	33.4	-20.0	19.0	-13.7	3.3	1.3
Nondurables .....	166.8	166.0	166.1	166.9	10.7	-9.5	9.4	.2	.1	4.7
Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	228.5	228.7	228.7	229.1	6.5	3.8	3.0	1.1	5.1	2.0
Services less medical care services .....	210.1	210.7	210.6	210.9	3.8	2.9	2.7	1.5	3.3	2.1
Energy .....	142.9	137.3	133.2	133.5	76.5	-24.5	27.8	-23.8	15.4	-1.3
All items less energy .....	191.1	191.6	191.6	192.0	1.1	1.5	1.5	1.9	1.3	1.7
All items less food and energy .....	193.7	194.1	194.0	194.2	.8	1.0	1.5	1.0	.9	1.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	140.2	139.8	139.3	139.2	-1.7	-3.1	-2.3	-2.8	-2.4	-2.5
Energy commodities .....	147.3	137.6	131.5	131.2	125.0	-44.4	65.3	-37.1	11.9	2.0
Services less energy services .....	225.0	225.9	226.0	226.5	1.8	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.4	2.8

<sup>1</sup> Not seasonally adjusted.

<sup>2</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>3</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in

January, 1999.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

<sup>5</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

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



**Table 3. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Selected areas, all items index**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-U	Pricing schedule 1	All items										
		Indexes				Percent change to Dec.2003 from—			Percent change to Nov.2003 from—			
		Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2002	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Nov. 2002	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	
U.S. city average .....	M	185.2	185.0	184.5	184.3	1.9	-0.4	-0.1	1.8	-0.4	-0.3	
<b>Region and area size<sup>2</sup></b>												
Northeast urban .....	M	195.0	195.4	195.1	194.9	2.8	-3	-1	2.6	.1	-2	
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	197.3	197.7	197.3	197.1	3.0	-3	-1	2.9	.0	-2	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	115.0	115.2	115.3	115.0	2.1	-2	-3	1.9	.3	.1	
Midwest urban .....	M	179.5	179.1	178.9	178.4	1.7	-4	-3	1.6	-.3	-1	
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	182.0	181.7	181.4	180.9	1.7	-4	-3	1.7	-.3	-2	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	113.9	113.6	113.6	113.3	1.7	-3	-3	1.7	-.3	.0	
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	172.3	171.8	171.4	171.5	1.2	-2	.1	.6	-.5	-2	
South urban .....	M	178.3	178.1	177.5	177.5	1.7	-3	.0	1.5	-.4	-3	
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	180.1	180.1	179.1	179.2	1.9	-5	.1	1.7	-.6	-6	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	113.8	113.6	113.3	113.3	1.5	-3	.0	1.3	-.4	-3	
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	176.3	175.6	175.4	175.1	1.6	-3	-2	1.4	-.5	-1	
West urban .....	M	189.6	189.4	188.5	188.3	1.5	-6	-1	1.5	-.6	-5	
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	192.3	191.9	191.0	190.6	1.4	-7	-2	1.4	-.7	-5	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	115.6	115.5	114.9	115.2	1.9	-3	.3	1.6	-.6	-5	
<b>Size classes</b>												
A <sup>4</sup> .....	M	169.6	169.5	168.9	168.7	2.0	-5	-1	1.9	-.4	-4	
B/C <sup>3</sup> .....	M	114.3	114.1	113.9	113.8	1.7	-3	-1	1.5	-.3	-2	
D .....	M	177.4	176.9	176.6	176.5	1.6	-2	-1	1.2	-.5	-2	
<b>Selected local areas<sup>5</sup></b>												
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI .....	M	186.1	185.8	185.6	185.5	1.7	-2	-1	1.3	-.3	-1	
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ..	M	188.2	187.8	187.1	187.0	1.8	-4	-1	1.7	-.6	-4	
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA .....	M	199.6	200.0	199.4	199.3	3.2	-4	-1	3.1	-.1	-3	
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT ....	1	206.8	-	206.5	-	-	-	-	3.0	-.1	-	
Cleveland-Akron, OH .....	1	178.5	-	177.6	-	-	-	-	2.4	-.5	-	
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX .....	1	177.0	-	175.9	-	-	-	-	1.3	-.6	-	
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV <sup>6</sup> .....	1	117.2	-	116.7	-	-	-	-	2.4	-.4	-	
Atlanta, GA .....	2	-	180.1	-	179.0	1.0	-6	-	-	-	-	
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI .....	2	-	183.3	-	181.3	.9	-1.1	-	-	-	-	
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX .....	2	-	166.1	-	164.1	2.7	-1.2	-	-	-	-	
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL .....	2	-	181.6	-	181.6	2.1	.0	-	-	-	-	
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD .....	2	-	190.3	-	189.0	2.0	-7	-	-	-	-	
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....	2	-	196.3	-	195.3	1.1	-5	-	-	-	-	
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA .....	2	-	193.7	-	191.0	.5	-1.4	-	-	-	-	

<sup>1</sup> Foods, fuels, and several other items priced every month in all areas; most other goods and services priced as indicated:

- M - Every month.
- 1 - January, March, May, July, September, and November.
- 2 - February, April, June, August, October, and December.

<sup>2</sup> Regions defined as the four Census regions. See technical notes.

<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

<sup>5</sup> In addition, the following metropolitan areas are published semiannually and appear in Tables 34 and 39 of the January and July issues of the CPI Detailed Report: Anchorage, AK; Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN; Denver-Boulder-Greeley, CO; Honolulu, HI; Kansas City, MO-KS; Milwaukee-Racine, WI; Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI; Phoenix-Mesa, AZ; Pittsburgh, PA; Portland-Salem, OR-WA; St. Louis, MO-IL; San Diego, CA;

Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL.

<sup>6</sup> Indexes on a November 1996=100 base.

- Data not available.

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

NOTE: Local area indexes are byproducts of the national CPI program. Each local index has a smaller sample size than the national index and is, therefore, subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are similar. Therefore, the Bureau of Labor Statistics strongly urges users to consider adopting the national average CPI for use in their escalator clauses.

**Table 4. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W	Relative importance, December 2002	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Dec. 2003 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2002	Nov. 2003	Sep. to Oct.	Oct. to Nov.	Nov. to Dec.
<b>Expenditure category</b>								
All items .....	100.000	180.2	179.9	1.6	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	0.2
All items (1967=100) .....	-	536.7	536.0	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	17.072	182.4	183.6	3.7	.7	.6	.5	.5
Food .....	16.071	181.9	183.1	3.7	.7	.6	.5	.6
Food at home .....	9.646	181.6	183.3	4.7	.9	.7	.7	.8
Cereals and bakery products .....	1.449	202.4	202.9	2.9	.2	-2	.0	.2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	2.773	179.2	181.0	11.5	1.0	1.8	3.2	1.2
Dairy and related products <sup>1</sup> .....	.977	171.0	172.7	3.3	1.0	.9	-4	1.0
Fruits and vegetables .....	1.337	225.3	229.7	3.1	2.0	.9	.2	.2
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	1.118	137.3	138.6	-4	.9	.4	-1.4	1.5
Other food at home .....	1.992	161.6	162.5	1.2	.6	.1	-6	.7
Sugar and sweets .....	.337	161.4	160.5	1.0	-6	.3	.4	-9
Fats and oils .....	.302	157.3	157.7	3.1	.3	1.1	-6	.6
Other foods .....	1.353	178.3	180.0	.8	1.0	-3	-8	1.1
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.308	109.5	110.3	-4	.7	-1	-1.5	.7
Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	6.425	183.7	184.2	2.3	.3	.3	.2	.3
Other food away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	.278	122.9	123.1	2.5	.2	.5	.3	.4
Alcoholic beverages .....	1.001	188.8	188.9	2.3	.1	.2	.3	.2
Housing .....	38.134	180.9	181.0	2.3	.1	.2	-1	.3
Shelter .....	29.422	208.2	208.2	2.1	.0	.3	.0	.2
Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....	8.456	206.6	207.0	2.5	.2	.1	.1	.2
Lodging away from home <sup>2 3</sup> .....	1.499	116.2	113.4	3.5	-2.4	1.8	-9	1.2
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> .....	19.144	201.4	201.7	1.9	.1	.3	.1	.1
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.323	114.4	114.4	1.9	.0	.2	-1.4	.0
Fuels and utilities .....	4.783	152.3	153.0	6.6	.5	-8	-9	.5
Fuels .....	3.902	134.7	135.4	7.1	.5	-1.2	-1.2	.6
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.192	134.4	136.2	9.0	1.3	-1.0	1.4	-6
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	3.710	141.9	142.5	7.0	.4	-1.2	-1.3	.6
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	.880	119.5	119.9	4.6	.3	.5	.5	.3
Household furnishings and operations .....	3.929	120.7	120.4	-2.1	-2	.1	-2	.1
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.357	123.7	123.8	2.5	.1	.2	.0	.1
Apparel .....	4.638	122.6	118.7	-1.8	-3.2	.4	-5	-2
Men's and boys' apparel .....	1.176	121.1	117.8	-8	-2.7	.3	.8	-1
Women's and girls' apparel .....	1.801	115.3	110.5	-1.6	-4.2	1.1	-1.0	-4
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.244	125.0	121.4	-4.6	-2.9	-7	-2.5	-1.1
Footwear .....	1.136	120.4	117.8	-2.5	-2.2	.0	-6	-4
Transportation .....	19.666	153.6	152.5	-3	-7	-1.8	-1.7	-3
Private transportation .....	18.751	150.8	149.7	-5	-7	-2.0	-1.7	-2
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	9.568	93.1	92.8	-5.8	-3	-1.3	-7	-4
New vehicles .....	4.682	138.7	139.2	-1.8	.4	-4	.1	-1
Used cars and trucks .....	3.783	132.8	131.7	-11.8	-8	-2.9	-2.4	-6
Motor fuel .....	3.836	131.5	128.1	6.8	-2.6	-6.6	-5.2	-2
Gasoline (all types) .....	3.803	130.9	127.6	6.9	-2.5	-6.6	-5.2	-2
Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	.524	107.5	107.3	.9	-2	.3	.0	-2
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	1.458	198.9	199.8	2.5	.5	.3	.2	.7
Public transportation .....	.915	205.8	203.6	2.2	-1.1	1.1	-5	-1.1
Medical care .....	4.747	300.1	301.4	3.7	.4	.4	.3	.6
Medical care commodities .....	1.012	258.5	259.4	2.1	.3	.1	-3	.4
Medical care services .....	3.735	310.6	311.9	4.1	.4	.5	.5	.6
Professional services <sup>3</sup> .....	2.265	265.2	266.5	2.8	.5	.4	.1	.6
Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....	1.177	402.4	403.4	6.4	.2	.5	1.2	.4

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 4. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W Expenditure category	Relative importance, December 2002	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Dec. 2003 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2002	Nov. 2003	Sep. to Oct.	Oct. to Nov.	Nov. to Dec.
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	5.567	105.6	105.5	0.8	-0.1	-0.1	0.3	-0.1
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	1.795	103.0	102.5	.1	-5	.2	.2	-3
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	5.604	109.6	109.7	.8	.1	.0	.1	.3
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	2.472	138.0	138.4	6.7	.3	.3	.3	.7
Educational books and supplies .....	.217	337.5	343.8	5.9	1.9	.4	-3	2.2
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	2.256	390.2	390.7	6.7	.1	.3	.3	.5
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	3.132	89.8	89.7	-3.8	-1	-3	-1	-1
Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.972	88.4	88.3	-4.0	-1	-3	-1	-1
Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.536	97.4	97.4	-2.7	.0	-3	.1	.0
Information and information processing other than telephone services <sup>1 5</sup> .....	.436	15.9	15.8	-11.2	-6	.6	-1.9	-6
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.191	16.0	15.9	-17.6	-6	1.3	-1.2	-6
Other goods and services .....	4.571	307.7	308.1	1.0	.1	.1	-2	.1
Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....	1.542	470.2	471.5	-6	.3	.2	-1	.3
Personal care <sup>1</sup> .....	3.030	177.7	177.8	1.8	.1	.1	-2	.1
Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....	.786	153.8	154.0	-1	.1	.1	-2	.1
Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....	.896	194.8	194.9	2.2	.1	.1	-8	.1
Miscellaneous personal services .....	1.170	286.7	286.6	3.6	.0	.1	.4	.2
<b>Commodity and service group</b>								
Commodities .....	45.066	151.3	150.7	.3	-4	-7	-5	.1
Food and beverages .....	17.072	182.4	183.6	3.7	.7	.6	.5	.5
Commodities less food and beverages .....	27.994	133.8	132.5	-1.9	-1.0	-1.5	-1.2	-2
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	15.152	151.4	149.0	1.2	-1.6	-1.4	-6	.7
Apparel .....	4.638	122.6	118.7	-1.8	-3.2	.4	-5	-2
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	10.514	172.9	171.3	2.5	-9	-2.7	-1.9	-1
Durables .....	12.842	114.2	114.0	-5.3	-2	-1.0	-7	-4
Services .....	54.934	214.1	214.2	2.8	.0	.2	.0	.2
Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	29.099	200.5	200.6	2.2	.0	.2	.1	.1
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.323	114.4	114.4	1.9	.0	.2	-1.4	.0
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	3.710	141.9	142.5	7.0	.4	-1.2	-1.3	.6
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	.880	119.5	119.9	4.6	.3	.5	.5	.3
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.357	123.7	123.8	2.5	.1	.2	.0	.1
Transportation services .....	6.706	218.8	218.0	3.0	-4	.9	-3	-2
Medical care services .....	3.735	310.6	311.9	4.1	.4	.5	.5	.6
Other services .....	10.123	250.7	250.9	2.4	.1	.1	.1	.2
<b>Special indexes</b>								
All items less food .....	83.929	179.7	179.2	1.2	-3	-3	-4	.1
All items less shelter .....	70.578	171.9	171.6	1.5	-2	-4	-4	.2
All items less medical care .....	95.253	175.0	174.7	1.5	-2	-2	-3	.2
Commodities less food .....	28.995	135.8	134.5	-1.7	-1.0	-1.4	-1.2	-1
Nondurables less food .....	16.153	153.7	151.4	1.2	-1.5	-1.3	-6	.7
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	11.514	173.6	172.1	2.4	-9	-2.3	-1.7	.1
Nondurables .....	32.224	167.3	166.6	2.5	-4	-3	-1	.6
Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	25.835	202.7	202.9	3.6	.1	.1	-1	.2
Services less medical care services .....	51.199	206.5	206.6	2.7	.0	.1	.0	.1
Energy .....	7.738	132.4	131.1	6.9	-1.0	-4.0	-3.2	.2
All items less energy .....	92.262	187.0	186.9	1.2	-1	.2	.0	.2
All items less food and energy .....	76.191	188.4	188.0	.7	-2	.1	-1	.1
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	24.967	139.7	138.7	-3.1	-7	-4	-4	-1
Energy commodities .....	4.028	132.1	129.0	6.9	-2.3	-6.3	-5.0	-2
Services less energy services .....	51.224	222.1	222.1	2.5	.0	.4	.0	.2
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00) .....	-	\$.555	\$.556	-	-	-	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00) .....	-	\$.186	\$.187	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Not seasonally adjusted.

<sup>2</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>3</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1984=100 base

<sup>5</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

- Data not available.

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

**Table 5. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Seasonally adjusted U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2003	June 2003	Sep. 2003	Dec. 2003	June 2003	Dec. 2003
<b>Expenditure category</b>										
All items .....	180.9	180.6	180.1	180.4	6.2	-1.5	3.2	-1.1	2.3	1.0
Food and beverages .....	180.8	181.8	182.7	183.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	6.6	2.7	4.6
Food .....	180.2	181.3	182.2	183.3	2.5	2.7	2.7	7.1	2.6	4.9
Food at home .....	179.5	180.8	182.0	183.5	3.0	3.4	3.2	9.2	3.2	6.2
Cereals and bakery products .....	203.7	203.2	203.2	203.7	9.6	1.0	1.4	.0	5.2	.7
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	170.2	173.2	178.8	180.9	6.8	5.7	7.4	27.6	6.3	17.1
Dairy and related products <sup>1</sup> .....	170.2	171.7	171.0	172.7	-1.2	-7.5	17.4	6.0	-4.4	11.6
Fruits and vegetables .....	225.5	227.5	227.9	228.4	-5	10.7	-2.8	5.2	4.9	1.1
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	139.0	139.5	137.6	139.6	-5.0	5.9	-3.7	1.7	.3	-1.0
Other food at home .....	162.8	162.9	162.0	163.2	2.0	2.0	.0	1.0	2.0	.5
Sugar and sweets .....	162.0	162.5	163.2	161.7	4.1	1.7	-1.0	-7	2.9	-9
Fats and oils .....	157.2	159.0	158.1	159.1	9.4	-2.5	1.0	4.9	3.3	3.0
Other foods .....	180.2	179.7	178.3	180.3	-2	3.2	.2	.2	1.5	.2
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....	111.3	111.2	109.5	110.3	-7	5.9	-2.8	-3.5	2.5	-3.2
Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	182.7	183.3	183.7	184.2	2.2	1.6	2.2	3.3	1.9	2.8
Other food away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	121.4	122.0	122.4	122.9	3.0	3.0	-1.3	5.0	3.0	1.8
Alcoholic beverages .....	187.9	188.3	188.8	189.1	3.9	.0	2.4	2.6	2.0	2.5
Housing .....	181.1	181.4	181.2	181.7	5.0	1.1	1.6	1.3	3.1	1.4
Shelter .....	207.7	208.4	208.5	209.0	1.6	2.2	2.3	2.5	1.9	2.4
Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....	205.8	206.1	206.4	206.8	3.0	2.8	2.4	2.0	2.9	2.2
Lodging away from home <sup>2 3</sup> .....	120.4	122.6	121.5	123.0	-8.8	12.6	2.4	8.9	1.4	5.6
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> .....	200.4	201.0	201.2	201.5	2.0	.8	2.4	2.2	1.4	2.3
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	115.8	116.0	114.4	114.4	5.5	4.3	2.8	-4.7	4.9	-1.0
Fuels and utilities .....	155.9	154.6	153.2	154.0	35.5	-5	.3	-4.8	16.1	-2.3
Fuels .....	138.9	137.3	135.7	136.5	43.3	-1.1	-9	-6.7	19.0	-3.8
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	134.4	133.0	134.9	134.1	202.4	-53.6	1.5	-9	18.5	.3
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	146.5	144.8	142.9	143.8	37.7	2.8	-8	-7.2	18.9	-4.0
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	118.4	119.0	119.6	120.0	3.9	3.1	6.0	5.5	3.5	5.7
Household furnishings and operations .....	120.8	120.9	120.7	120.8	-1.9	-3.2	-3.2	.0	-2.6	-1.6
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	123.4	123.7	123.7	123.8	5.7	.7	2.3	1.3	3.2	1.8
Apparel .....	120.3	120.8	120.2	119.9	-5.5	-2.0	2.0	-1.3	-3.7	.3
Men's and boys' apparel .....	117.2	117.6	118.5	118.4	2.0	-11.8	3.1	4.2	-5.1	3.6
Women's and girls' apparel .....	112.4	113.6	112.5	112.1	-7.8	2.5	.4	-1.1	-2.8	-4
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	126.8	125.9	122.8	121.4	-9.1	.6	7.9	-16.0	-4.4	-4.8
Footwear .....	119.4	119.4	118.7	118.2	-5.8	-1.7	1.7	-4.0	-3.8	-1.2
Transportation .....	158.7	155.8	153.2	152.8	19.9	-11.4	8.2	-14.1	3.0	-3.6
Private transportation .....	155.9	152.8	150.2	149.9	21.2	-12.5	8.6	-14.5	2.9	-3.6
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	94.7	93.5	92.8	92.4	.0	-4.0	-9.5	-9.4	-2.0	-9.4
New vehicles .....	138.8	138.3	138.5	138.4	-3.1	-3.4	.6	-1.1	-3.2	-3
Used cars and trucks .....	139.3	135.2	132.0	131.2	4.9	-5.7	-22.2	-21.3	-.5	-21.7
Motor fuel .....	147.8	138.0	130.8	130.6	119.7	-43.0	70.2	-39.0	11.9	1.9
Gasoline (all types) .....	147.2	137.5	130.3	130.0	118.6	-43.0	71.1	-39.2	11.7	2.0
Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	107.2	107.5	107.5	107.3	3.4	-.4	.4	.4	1.5	.4
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	197.9	198.4	198.7	200.0	1.4	2.5	1.8	4.3	2.0	3.1
Public transportation .....	207.6	209.9	208.9	206.7	-1.2	15.3	-2.5	-1.7	6.7	-2.1
Medical care .....	298.5	299.7	300.7	302.5	1.7	3.5	4.4	5.5	2.6	4.9
Medical care commodities .....	259.4	259.7	259.0	260.0	2.5	.0	5.3	.9	1.3	3.1
Medical care services .....	308.2	309.7	311.2	313.2	1.5	4.4	4.1	6.6	2.9	5.4
Professional services <sup>3</sup> .....	264.7	265.7	266.0	267.5	.8	3.9	2.1	4.3	2.3	3.2
Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....	396.1	397.9	402.8	404.6	3.9	5.1	7.6	8.9	4.5	8.2

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 5. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Seasonally adjusted U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2003	June 2003	Sep. 2003	Dec. 2003	June 2003	Dec. 2003
<b>Expenditure category</b>										
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	105.6	105.5	105.8	105.7	1.1	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.8	0.6
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	103.0	103.2	103.4	103.1	-1.5	.4	1.2	.4	-6	.8
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	109.1	109.1	109.2	109.5	1.5	-2.5	3.0	1.5	-6	2.2
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	136.1	136.5	136.9	137.8	6.0	5.9	9.7	5.1	6.0	7.3
Educational books and supplies .....	337.6	339.0	337.9	345.5	8.7	4.6	1.0	9.7	6.7	5.2
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	384.2	385.5	386.7	388.8	5.8	6.0	10.4	4.9	5.9	7.6
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	90.2	89.9	89.8	89.7	-1.7	-8.7	-2.2	-2.2	-5.3	-2.2
Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	88.8	88.5	88.4	88.3	-1.7	-9.7	-2.2	-2.2	-5.8	-2.2
Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	97.6	97.3	97.4	97.4	-8	-8.5	-4	-8	-4.7	-6
Information and information processing other than telephone services <sup>1 5</sup> .....	16.1	16.2	15.9	15.8	-8.7	-13.1	-15.7	-7.2	-10.9	-11.6
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 2</sup> .....	16.0	16.2	16.0	15.9	-13.7	-26.9	-25.1	-2.5	-20.6	-14.5
Other goods and services .....	307.9	308.2	307.7	308.1	.7	.5	2.5	.3	.6	1.4
Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....	469.9	470.7	470.2	471.5	-4.3	-3.6	4.5	1.4	-4.0	2.9
Personal care <sup>1</sup> .....	177.9	178.0	177.7	177.8	3.2	2.5	1.6	-2	2.9	.7
Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....	154.0	154.1	153.8	154.0	-1.0	1.6	-1.0	.0	.3	-5
Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....	196.1	196.3	194.8	194.9	3.6	2.3	5.5	-2.4	3.0	1.5
Miscellaneous personal services .....	285.5	285.9	287.0	287.5	4.1	4.9	2.3	2.8	4.5	2.6
<b>Commodity and service group</b>										
Commodities .....	152.8	151.7	150.9	151.0	8.8	-6.6	4.3	-4.6	.8	-3
Food and beverages .....	180.8	181.8	182.7	183.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	6.6	2.7	4.6
Commodities less food and beverages .....	136.8	134.8	133.2	132.9	12.4	-11.5	5.1	-10.9	-3	-3.2
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	154.4	152.2	151.3	152.4	19.9	-23.7	20.4	-5.1	-4.3	6.9
Apparel .....	120.3	120.8	120.2	119.9	-5.5	-2.0	2.0	-1.3	-3.7	.3
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	181.0	176.2	172.9	172.7	41.9	-24.0	23.5	-17.1	3.8	1.2
Durables .....	115.9	114.7	113.9	113.5	-3	-4.6	-8.2	-8.0	-2.5	-8.1
Services .....	213.9	214.4	214.3	214.8	4.3	2.7	2.5	1.7	3.5	2.1
Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	200.1	200.6	200.9	201.2	1.8	1.6	2.8	2.2	1.7	2.5
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	115.8	116.0	114.4	114.4	5.5	4.3	2.8	-4.7	4.9	-1.0
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	146.5	144.8	142.9	143.8	37.7	2.8	-8	-7.2	18.9	-4.0
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	118.4	119.0	119.6	120.0	3.9	3.1	6.0	5.5	3.5	5.7
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	123.4	123.7	123.7	123.8	5.7	.7	2.3	1.3	3.2	1.8
Transportation services .....	217.5	219.4	218.7	218.2	3.1	6.5	1.3	1.3	4.8	1.3
Medical care services .....	308.2	309.7	311.2	313.2	1.5	4.4	4.1	6.6	2.9	5.4
Other services .....	250.0	250.2	250.4	251.0	3.1	1.0	3.8	1.6	2.0	2.7
<b>Special indexes</b>										
All items less food .....	180.9	180.3	179.5	179.7	6.9	-2.4	3.4	-2.6	2.2	.3
All items less shelter .....	173.1	172.4	171.7	172.0	8.3	-3.0	3.5	-2.5	2.5	.5
All items less medical care .....	175.8	175.4	174.9	175.2	6.4	-1.8	3.2	-1.4	2.2	.9
Commodities less food .....	138.7	136.7	135.1	134.9	12.2	-11.1	5.1	-10.5	-1	-3.0
Nondurables less food .....	156.5	154.5	153.5	154.6	19.3	-23.0	19.8	-4.8	-4.1	6.8
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	180.7	176.6	173.6	173.7	37.7	-22.8	21.5	-14.6	3.1	1.9
Nondurables .....	167.9	167.4	167.3	168.3	10.9	-10.9	10.4	1.0	-6	5.6
Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	203.1	203.4	203.1	203.5	7.1	3.4	3.0	.8	5.3	1.9
Services less medical care services .....	206.6	206.9	206.9	207.2	4.4	2.4	2.8	1.2	3.4	2.0
Energy .....	142.7	137.0	132.6	132.8	78.6	-25.3	30.2	-25.0	15.5	-1.2
All items less energy .....	186.5	186.8	186.8	187.2	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.2	1.3
All items less food and energy .....	188.2	188.4	188.2	188.3	.9	.9	.6	.2	.9	.4
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	140.2	139.6	139.0	138.8	-1.4	-3.3	-3.6	-3.9	-2.4	-3.8
Energy commodities .....	147.7	138.4	131.5	131.3	123.8	-43.7	66.1	-37.5	12.2	1.9
Services less energy services .....	221.3	222.2	222.3	222.7	2.2	2.4	2.8	2.6	2.3	2.7

<sup>1</sup> Not seasonally adjusted.

<sup>2</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>3</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in

January, 1999.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1984=100 base

<sup>5</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

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

**Table 6. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Selected areas, all items index**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W	Pricing schedule 1	All items										
		Indexes				Percent change to Dec.2003 from—			Percent change to Nov.2003 from—			
		Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2002	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Nov. 2002	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	
U.S. city average .....	M	181.0	180.7	180.2	179.9	1.6	-0.4	-0.2	1.6	-0.4	-0.3	
<b>Region and area size<sup>2</sup></b>												
Northeast urban .....	M	191.9	192.1	191.9	191.7	2.7	-2	-1	2.7	.0	-1	
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	193.0	193.2	192.8	192.7	3.0	-3	-1	2.9	-1	-2	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	115.1	115.3	115.4	115.2	2.2	-1	-2	2.0	.3	.1	
Midwest urban .....	M	174.6	174.1	173.9	173.4	1.4	-4	-3	1.3	-4	-1	
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	176.4	176.0	175.7	175.1	1.6	-5	-3	1.6	-4	-2	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	113.2	112.7	112.7	112.4	1.3	-3	-3	1.3	-4	.0	
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	170.0	169.3	169.1	169.1	1.1	-1	.0	.5	-5	-1	
South urban .....	M	175.3	174.9	174.3	174.2	1.3	-4	-1	1.1	-6	-3	
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	177.5	177.3	176.4	176.4	1.9	-5	.0	1.8	-6	-5	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	112.4	112.1	111.9	111.8	.9	-3	-1	.7	-4	-2	
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	175.9	174.8	174.5	174.2	.9	-3	-2	.6	-8	-2	
West urban .....	M	185.0	184.4	183.5	183.3	1.4	-6	-1	1.4	-8	-5	
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	186.1	185.4	184.4	183.9	1.3	-8	-3	1.4	-9	-5	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	115.3	115.0	114.6	114.8	1.7	-2	.2	1.5	-6	-3	
<b>Size classes</b>												
A <sup>4</sup> .....	M	168.0	167.7	167.1	166.8	1.9	-5	-2	1.9	-5	-4	
B/C <sup>3</sup> .....	M	113.5	113.2	113.0	112.9	1.3	-3	-1	1.2	-4	-2	
D .....	M	175.6	174.9	174.5	174.3	1.0	-3	-1	.8	-6	-2	
<b>Selected local areas<sup>5</sup></b>												
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI .....	M	179.8	179.1	179.1	178.8	1.6	-2	-2	1.2	-4	.0	
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ..	M	181.9	181.2	180.5	180.2	2.0	-6	-2	2.0	-8	-4	
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA .....	M	195.0	195.2	194.7	194.6	3.1	-3	-1	3.1	-2	-3	
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT ....	1	206.2	-	205.6	-	-	-	-	3.2	-3	-	
Cleveland-Akron, OH .....	1	169.5	-	168.3	-	-	-	-	2.1	-7	-	
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX .....	1	176.7	-	175.6	-	-	-	-	1.5	-6	-	
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV <sup>6</sup> .....	1	116.9	-	116.1	-	-	-	-	2.3	-7	-	
Atlanta, GA .....	2	-	177.6	-	176.6	1.1	-6	-	-	-	-	
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI .....	2	-	178.2	-	175.9	.9	-1.3	-	-	-	-	
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX .....	2	-	164.0	-	162.2	2.7	-1.1	-	-	-	-	
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL .....	2	-	179.0	-	178.9	2.1	-1	-	-	-	-	
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD .....	2	-	190.2	-	189.0	2.2	-6	-	-	-	-	
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....	2	-	191.9	-	191.1	.8	-4	-	-	-	-	
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA .....	2	-	187.8	-	185.3	.4	-1.3	-	-	-	-	

<sup>1</sup> Foods, fuels, and several other items priced every month in all areas; most other goods and services priced as indicated:  
M - Every month.  
1 - January, March, May, July, September, and November.  
2 - February, April, June, August, October, and December.  
<sup>2</sup> Regions defined as the four Census regions. See technical notes.  
<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.  
<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.  
<sup>5</sup> In addition, the following metropolitan areas are published semiannually and appear in Tables 34 and 39 of the January and July issues of the CPI Detailed Report: Anchorage, AK; Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN; Denver-Boulder-Greeley, CO; Honolulu, HI; Kansas City, MO-KS; Milwaukee-Racine, WI; Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI; Phoenix-Mesa, AZ; Pittsburgh, PA; Portland-Salem, OR-WA; St. Louis, MO-IL; San Diego, CA;

Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL.  
<sup>6</sup> Indexes on a November 1996=100 base.  
- Data not available.  
NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.

NOTE: Local area indexes are byproducts of the national CPI program. Each local index has a smaller sample size than the national index and is, therefore, subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are similar. Therefore, the Bureau of Labor Statistics strongly urges users to consider adopting the national average CPI for use in their escalator clauses.

**Table 7. Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group**

(December 1999=100, unless otherwise noted)

<b>C-CPI-U</b>	Relative importance, 1999-2000	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Dec. 2003 from—	
		Nov. 2003	Dec. 2003	Dec. 2002	Nov. 2003
<b>Expenditure category</b>					
All items .....	100.000	107.7	107.5	1.4	-0.2
Food and beverages .....	15.451	109.3	110.0	3.3	.6
Food .....	14.432	109.3	110.0	3.4	.6
Food at home .....	8.335	108.5	109.6	4.2	1.0
Food away from home .....	6.096	110.2	110.5	2.3	.3
Alcoholic beverages .....	1.019	109.1	109.2	2.0	.1
Housing .....	40.040	111.4	111.4	2.1	.0
Shelter .....	30.643	113.2	113.2	2.3	.0
Fuels and utilities .....	4.376	117.9	118.5	6.3	.5
Household furnishings and operations .....	5.020	95.4	95.2	-2.3	-.2
Apparel .....	4.819	93.9	90.7	-2.5	-3.4
Transportation .....	17.770	104.1	103.5	-.1	-.6
Private transportation .....	16.520	104.2	103.6	-.2	-.6
Public transportation .....	1.250	102.9	101.7	-.9	-1.2
Medical care .....	5.563	117.6	118.1	3.5	.4
Medical care commodities .....	1.330	112.4	112.8	2.0	.4
Medical care services .....	4.233	119.3	119.8	4.0	.4
Recreation .....	6.124	103.0	102.8	.4	-.2
Education and communication .....	6.068	97.0	97.0	-1.0	.0
Education .....	2.546	127.6	127.9	7.1	.2
Communication .....	3.522	79.0	78.8	-6.5	-.3
Other goods and services .....	4.164	112.2	112.2	1.3	.0
<b>Commodity and service group</b>					
Services .....	57.098	113.6	113.5	2.6	-.1
Commodities .....	42.902	100.3	99.9	-.3	-.4
Durables .....	12.953	87.0	86.9	-5.0	-.1
Nondurables .....	29.949	106.5	105.9	1.8	-.6
All items less food and energy .....	78.851	106.5	106.2	.6	-.3
Energy .....	6.717	118.2	117.0	6.7	-1.0

Indexes for 2003 are initial estimates. Indexes for 2002 are interim adjustments.  
NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.

**Table 1A. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

<b>CPI-U</b>	Annual average 2002	Annual average 2003	Percent change from 2002 to 2003
<b>Expenditure category</b>			
All items .....	179.9	184.0	2.3
All items (1967=100) .....	538.8	551.1	-
Food and beverages .....	176.8	180.5	2.1
Food .....	176.2	180.0	2.2
Food at home .....	175.6	179.4	2.2
Cereals and bakery products .....	198.0	202.8	2.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	162.1	169.3	4.4
Dairy and related products .....	168.1	167.9	-.1
Fruits and vegetables .....	220.9	225.9	2.3
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	139.2	139.8	.4
Other food at home .....	160.8	162.6	1.1
Sugar and sweets .....	159.0	162.0	1.9
Fats and oils .....	155.4	157.4	1.3
Other foods .....	177.1	178.8	1.0
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1</sup> .....	109.2	110.3	1.0
Food away from home .....	178.3	182.1	2.1
Other food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	117.7	121.3	3.1
Alcoholic beverages .....	183.6	187.2	2.0
Housing .....	180.3	184.8	2.5
Shelter .....	208.1	213.1	2.4
Rent of primary residence <sup>2</sup> .....	199.7	205.5	2.9
Lodging away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	118.3	119.3	.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>2 3</sup> .....	214.7	219.9	2.4
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1</sup> .....	108.7	114.8	5.6
Fuels and utilities .....	143.6	154.5	7.6
Fuels .....	127.2	138.2	8.6
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	115.5	139.5	20.8
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>2</sup> .....	134.4	145.0	7.9
Household furnishings and operations .....	128.3	126.1	-1.7
Apparel .....	124.0	120.9	-2.5
Men's and boys' apparel .....	121.7	118.0	-3.0
Women's and girls' apparel .....	115.8	113.1	-2.3
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	126.4	122.1	-3.4
Footwear .....	121.4	119.6	-1.5
Transportation .....	152.9	157.6	3.1
Private transportation .....	148.8	153.6	3.2
New and used motor vehicles <sup>1</sup> .....	99.2	96.5	-2.7
New vehicles .....	140.0	137.9	-1.5
Used cars and trucks .....	152.0	142.9	-6.0
Motor fuel .....	116.6	135.8	16.5
Gasoline (all types) .....	116.0	135.1	16.5
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	106.9	107.8	.8
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	190.2	195.6	2.8
Public transportation .....	207.4	209.3	.9
Medical care .....	285.6	297.1	4.0
Medical care commodities .....	256.4	262.8	2.5
Medical care services .....	292.9	306.0	4.5
Professional services <sup>2</sup> .....	253.9	261.2	2.9
Hospital and related services <sup>2</sup> .....	367.8	394.8	7.3
Recreation <sup>1</sup> .....	106.2	107.5	1.2
Video and audio <sup>1</sup> .....	102.8	103.6	.8

See footnotes at end of table.



**Table 1A. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

<b>CPI-U</b>	Annual average 2002	Annual average 2003	Percent change from 2002 to 2003
<b>Expenditure category</b>			
Education and communication <sup>1</sup> .....	107.9	109.8	1.8
Education <sup>1</sup> .....	126.0	134.4	6.7
Educational books and supplies .....	317.6	335.4	5.6
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	362.1	386.7	6.8
Communication <sup>1</sup> .....	92.3	89.7	-2.8
Information and information processing <sup>1</sup> .....	90.8	87.8	-3.3
Telephone services <sup>1</sup> .....	99.7	98.3	-1.4
Information and information processing other than telephone services <sup>4</sup> .....	18.3	16.1	-12.0
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	22.2	17.6	-20.7
Other goods and services .....	293.2	298.7	1.9
Tobacco and smoking products .....	461.5	469.0	1.6
Personal care .....	174.7	178.0	1.9
Personal care products .....	154.7	153.5	-.8
Personal care services .....	188.4	193.2	2.5
Miscellaneous personal services .....	274.4	283.5	3.3
<b>Commodity and service group</b>			
Commodities .....	149.7	151.2	1.0
Food and beverages .....	176.8	180.5	2.1
Commodities less food and beverages .....	134.2	134.5	.2
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	145.1	149.7	3.2
Apparel .....	124.0	120.9	-2.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	162.2	171.5	5.7
Durables .....	121.4	117.5	-3.2
Services .....	209.8	216.5	3.2
Rent of shelter <sup>3</sup> .....	216.7	221.9	2.4
Transportation services .....	209.1	216.3	3.4
Other services .....	246.4	254.4	3.2
<b>Special indexes</b>			
All items less food .....	180.5	184.7	2.3
All items less shelter .....	170.8	174.6	2.2
All items less medical care .....	174.3	178.1	2.2
Commodities less food .....	136.0	136.5	.4
Nondurables less food .....	147.4	151.9	3.1
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	163.3	172.1	5.4
Nondurables .....	161.1	165.3	2.6
Services less rent of shelter <sup>3</sup> .....	217.5	226.4	4.1
Services less medical care services .....	202.5	208.7	3.1
Energy .....	121.7	136.5	12.2
All items less energy .....	187.7	190.6	1.5
All items less food and energy .....	190.5	193.2	1.4
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	143.7	140.9	-1.9
Energy commodities .....	117.1	136.7	16.7
Services less energy services .....	217.5	223.8	2.9
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00) .....	\$ .556	\$ .544	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00) .....	\$ .186	\$ .182	-

<sup>1</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>2</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

- Data not available.

**Table 4A. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

<b>CPI-W</b>	Annual average 2002	Annual average 2003	Percent change from 2002 to 2003
<b>Expenditure category</b>			
All items .....	175.9	179.8	2.2
All items (1967=100) .....	523.9	535.6	-
Food and beverages .....	176.1	179.9	2.2
Food .....	175.5	179.4	2.2
Food at home .....	174.7	178.5	2.2
Cereals and bakery products .....	198.0	202.8	2.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	162.0	169.2	4.4
Dairy and related products .....	167.9	167.6	-.2
Fruits and vegetables .....	219.6	224.3	2.1
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	138.6	139.1	.4
Other food at home .....	160.4	162.2	1.1
Sugar and sweets .....	158.8	161.6	1.8
Fats and oils .....	155.3	157.4	1.4
Other foods .....	177.6	179.2	.9
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1</sup> .....	109.7	110.8	1.0
Food away from home .....	178.2	182.0	2.1
Other food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	118.1	121.5	2.9
Alcoholic beverages .....	183.3	187.1	2.1
Housing .....	175.7	180.4	2.7
Shelter .....	201.9	206.9	2.5
Rent of primary residence <sup>2</sup> .....	199.0	204.7	2.9
Lodging away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	118.4	119.8	1.2
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>2 3</sup> .....	195.1	199.7	2.4
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1</sup> .....	108.7	114.7	5.5
Fuels and utilities .....	142.9	153.9	7.7
Fuels .....	126.1	137.0	8.6
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	115.0	138.7	20.6
Gas (pipel) and electricity <sup>2</sup> .....	133.4	144.1	8.0
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>1</sup> .....	113.1	117.3	3.7
Household furnishings and operations .....	124.4	121.9	-2.0
Household operations <sup>1</sup> .....	119.7	122.9	2.7
Apparel .....	123.1	120.0	-2.5
Men's and boys' apparel .....	121.7	117.5	-3.5
Women's and girls' apparel .....	114.6	112.1	-2.2
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	128.6	124.1	-3.5
Footwear .....	121.2	119.1	-1.7
Transportation .....	151.8	156.3	3.0
Private transportation .....	149.0	153.5	3.0
New and used motor vehicles <sup>1</sup> .....	99.4	96.0	-3.4
New vehicles .....	141.1	139.0	-1.5
Used cars and trucks .....	152.8	143.7	-6.0
Motor fuel .....	117.0	136.1	16.3
Gasoline (all types) .....	116.4	135.5	16.4
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	106.1	107.3	1.1
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	191.7	197.3	2.9
Public transportation .....	202.6	206.0	1.7
Medical care .....	284.6	296.3	4.1
Medical care commodities .....	251.1	257.4	2.5
Medical care services .....	292.5	305.9	4.6
Professional services <sup>2</sup> .....	256.0	263.4	2.9
Hospital and related services <sup>2</sup> .....	363.2	391.2	7.7

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 4A. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

<b>CPI-W</b>	Annual average 2002	Annual average 2003	Percent change from 2002 to 2003
<b>Expenditure category</b>			
Recreation <sup>1</sup> .....	104.6	105.5	0.9
Video and audio <sup>1</sup> .....	102.0	102.9	.9
Education and communication <sup>1</sup> .....	107.6	109.0	1.3
Education <sup>1</sup> .....	125.9	133.8	6.3
Educational books and supplies .....	318.5	336.5	5.7
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	354.8	377.3	6.3
Communication <sup>1</sup> .....	93.7	91.2	-2.7
Information and information processing <sup>1</sup> .....	92.7	89.9	-3.0
Telephone services <sup>1</sup> .....	99.9	98.5	-1.4
Information and information processing other than telephone services <sup>4</sup> .....	19.0	16.7	-12.1
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	21.8	17.3	-20.6
Other goods and services .....	302.0	307.0	1.7
Tobacco and smoking products .....	463.2	470.5	1.6
Personal care .....	174.1	177.0	1.7
Personal care products .....	155.5	154.2	-.8
Personal care services .....	189.1	193.9	2.5
Miscellaneous personal services .....	274.0	283.3	3.4
<b>Commodity and service group</b>			
Commodities .....	150.4	151.8	.9
Food and beverages .....	176.1	179.9	2.2
Commodities less food and beverages .....	135.5	135.8	.2
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	147.0	152.1	3.5
Apparel .....	123.1	120.0	-2.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	165.3	175.6	6.2
Durables .....	121.8	117.4	-3.6
Services .....	205.9	212.6	3.3
Rent of shelter <sup>3</sup> .....	194.5	199.2	2.4
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1</sup> .....	108.7	114.7	5.5
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>2</sup> .....	133.4	144.1	8.0
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>1</sup> .....	113.1	117.3	3.7
Household operations <sup>1</sup> .....	119.7	122.9	2.7
Transportation services .....	207.7	216.2	4.1
Medical care services .....	292.5	305.9	4.6
Other services .....	241.6	248.5	2.9
<b>Special indexes</b>			
All items less food .....	175.8	179.7	2.2
All items less shelter .....	168.3	171.9	2.1
All items less medical care .....	171.1	174.8	2.2
Commodities less food .....	137.3	137.7	.3
Nondurables less food .....	149.2	154.2	3.4
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	166.1	175.9	5.9
Nondurables .....	161.9	166.4	2.8
Services less rent of shelter <sup>3</sup> .....	193.1	201.3	4.2
Services less medical care services .....	198.9	205.2	3.2
Energy .....	120.9	135.9	12.4
All items less energy .....	183.6	186.1	1.4
All items less food and energy .....	185.6	187.9	1.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	144.4	141.1	-2.3
Energy commodities .....	117.3	136.8	16.6
Services less energy services .....	213.9	220.2	2.9
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00) .....	\$.569	\$.556	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00) .....	\$.191	\$.187	-

<sup>1</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>2</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1984=100 base

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

- Data not available.