

Consumer Price Movements May 2007

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.6 percent in May, before seasonal adjustment. The May level of 207.949 (1982-84=100) was 2.7 percent higher than in May 2006.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.8 percent in May prior to seasonal adjustment. The May level of 203.661 (1982-84=100) was 2.8 percent higher than in May 2006.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.4 percent in May on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The May level of 120.032 (December 1999=100) was 2.3 percent higher than in May 2006. Please note that the indexes for the post-2005 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U advanced 0.7 percent in May, following a 0.4 percent increase in April. The index for energy increased sharply for the third consecutive month--up 5.4 percent in May. The index for petroleum-based energy rose 9.8 percent while the index for energy services declined 0.2 percent. The food index rose 0.3 percent in May, slightly less than in April. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.1 percent in May, following a 0.2 percent rise in April. Smaller increases in the indexes for shelter and medical care were responsible for the moderation.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended May '07
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended May '07	
	2006		2007						
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May		
All Items	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.7	7.0	2.7
Food and beverages	-.1	-.1	.7	.8	.3	.4	.3	4.2	3.9
Housing	.4	.4	.2	.4	.2	.2	.2	2.5	3.3
Apparel	-.1	.2	.3	.5	-1.0	-.3	-.3	-6.6	-.8
Transportation	-.8	1.7	-.8	.1	2.8	1.2	2.8	30.6	1.3
Medical care	.2	.2	.8	.5	.1	.4	.3	3.3	4.0
Recreation	.1	-.3	.1	.0	.0	.1	.2	.9	.4
Education and communication	-.2	.2	-.1	.3	.5	.3	.6	5.3	2.7
Other goods and services	.1	.6	.8	.2	.2	.3	.3	3.0	3.9
Special Indexes									
Energy	-.2	4.2	-1.5	.9	5.9	2.4	5.4	71.0	4.7
Food	-.1	.0	.7	.8	.3	.4	.3	4.2	3.9
All Items less food and energy	.1	.1	.3	.2	.1	.2	.1	1.6	2.2

During the first five months of 2007, the CPI-U rose at a 5.5 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 2.5 percent for all of 2006. The acceleration thus far this year was due to larger increases in the energy and food components. The index for energy advanced at a 36.0 percent SAAR in the first five months of 2007 compared with 2.9 percent in 2006. Petroleum-based energy costs increased at a 63.9 percent annual rate and charges for energy services rose at a 6.8 percent annual rate. The food index has increased at a 6.2 percent SAAR thus far this year, following a 2.1 percent rise for all of 2006. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 2.1 percent SAAR in the first five months, following a 2.6 percent rise for all of 2006.

The food and beverages index rose 0.3 percent in May. The index for food at home increased 0.4 percent, following a 0.5 percent rise in April. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs registered a substantial increase for the third consecutive month--up 1.2 percent in May. The indexes for pork and for other meats turned up in May after declining in April, advancing 2.0 and 0.8 percent, respectively. Poultry prices rose 0.8 percent; beef prices slowed from their recent trend, increasing 0.1 percent. Through the first five months of 2007, beef prices have risen 5.1 percent, poultry prices, 4.3 percent, and pork prices, 3.4 percent. The index

for fruits and vegetables, which rose 0.4 percent in April, declined 0.5 percent in May. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, prices for fruits and vegetables rose 1.0 percent.) The indexes for fresh vegetables and for processed fruits and vegetables declined 1.8 and 0.3 percent, respectively, while the index for fresh fruits increased 0.7 percent. The index for dairy products increased 0.5 percent as a 2.2 percent increase in milk prices more than offset a 0.4 percent decline in prices for cheese. The index for nonalcoholic beverages rose 0.9 percent, reflecting an upturn in prices for carbonated drinks and for coffee. The indexes for cereal and bakery products and for other food at home were each virtually unchanged in May. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--each increased 0.2 percent.

The index for housing increased 0.2 percent in May, the same as in each of the two preceding months. The index for shelter rose 0.2 percent in May, following an increase of 0.3 percent in April. Within shelter, the index for rent rose 0.3 percent; the index for owners' equivalent rent, 0.1 percent; and the index for lodging away from home, 1.6 percent. The index for household energy declined 0.1 percent as a 0.9 percent decrease in the index for natural gas was partially offset by increases in the indexes for fuel oil and for electricity--up 1.9 and 0.1 percent, respectively. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, charges for electricity rose 1.7 percent, reflecting the switch to seasonal rates in some areas.) The index for household furnishings and operations was virtually unchanged in May.

The transportation index rose sharply for the third consecutive month--up 2.8 percent in May. A 10.4 percent increase in the index for motor fuels was partially offset by declines in the indexes for new and used vehicles and for public transportation. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices rose 9.5 percent. As of May, the price of gasoline was 4.0 percent higher than its previous peak level recorded in July 2006.) The index for new vehicles declined 0.2 percent, while the index for used cars and trucks increased 0.1 percent. During the last 12 months, new vehicle prices have declined 1.0 percent and prices for used cars and trucks, 4.6 percent. The index for public transportation declined 0.5 percent in April, reflecting a 0.6 percent decrease in the index for airline fares. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, airline fares rose 0.4 percent.)

The index for apparel declined 0.3 percent in May the same as in April. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices decreased 1.2 percent. Prices for women's and girls' apparel registered the largest decline--down 2.3 percent.)

Medical care costs rose 0.3 percent in May and are 4.0 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--was virtually unchanged. The index for medical care services rose 0.4 percent. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.2 and 0.7 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation rose 0.2 percent in May. The index for cable and satellite television and radio service increased 1.0 percent. This increase was partially offset by a 3.1 percent decline in the index for televisions. Television prices have declined 26.9 percent during the 12 month period ended in May.

The index for education and communication advanced 0.6 percent in May. Educational costs rose 0.4 percent and the index for communication costs increased 0.7 percent. Within the communication group, the index for telephone services rose 0.9 percent. Land-line local service charges increased 0.3 percent, land-line long distance charges advanced 2.7 percent, while wireless telephone service charges declined 0.1 percent. The indexes for personal computers and peripheral equipment declined 2.0 percent. The index for internet services and electronic information providers advanced for the third consecutive month--up 0.1 percent in May--but was 23.6 percent lower than a year ago.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.3 percent in May. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 0.4 percent, following a 0.4 percent decline in April. The index for miscellaneous personal services rose 0.3 percent, reflecting increases for legal and for financial services, each up 0.5 percent.

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 0.8 percent in May.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended May '07
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended May '07	
	2006		2007						
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May		
All Items	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.8	8.5	2.8
Food and beverages	-.1	-.1	.7	.8	.3	.4	.4	4.6	3.9
Housing	.4	.4	.3	.4	.3	.2	.2	2.8	3.4
Apparel	-.1	.2	-.1	.5	-.8	-.4	-.3	-5.9	-.8
Transportation	-.9	1.9	-1.0	.0	3.0	1.4	3.1	34.7	1.4
Medical care	.2	.1	.8	.5	.1	.4	.3	3.3	4.1
Recreation	.2	-.3	.1	.0	-.1	.0	.2	.5	.4
Education and communication	-.3	.1	-.1	.3	.4	.3	.6	5.3	2.5
Other goods and services	.0	.8	1.0	.4	.2	.1	.3	2.8	4.2
Special Indexes									
Energy	-.2	4.3	-1.5	.8	6.2	2.6	5.8	76.2	4.9
Food	-.1	-.1	.6	.8	.3	.4	.4	4.7	4.0
All Items less food and energy	.0	.1	.2	.2	.1	.2	.1	1.6	2.1

Consumer Price Movements June 2007

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.2 percent in June, before seasonal adjustment. The June level of 208.352 (1982-84=100) was 2.7 percent higher than in June 2006.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.1 percent in June prior to seasonal adjustment. The June level of 203.906 (1982-84=100) was 2.7 percent higher than in June 2006.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.2 percent in June on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The June level of 120.221 (December 1999=100) was 2.3 percent higher than in June 2006. Please note that the indexes for the post-2005 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U advanced 0.2 percent in June, following a 0.7 percent increase in May. The index for energy, which had increased sharply in each of the preceding three months, declined 0.5 percent in June. The index for petroleum-based energy decreased 0.9 percent and the index for energy services fell 0.1 percent. The food index rose 0.5 percent in June with grocery store food prices up 0.6 percent. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.2 percent in June, following a 0.1 percent rise in May. A larger increase in the index for shelter and an upturn in the index for new and used vehicles were responsible for the larger advance.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended June '07	
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended June '07		
	2006	2007								
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June			
All Items	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.2	5.2	2.7	
Food and beverages	-.1	.7	.8	.3	.4	.3	.5	4.9	4.0	
Housing	.4	.2	.4	.2	.2	.2	.3	3.0	3.4	
Apparel	.2	.3	.5	-1.0	-.3	-.3	-.6	-4.8	-1.4	
Transportation	1.7	-.8	.1	2.8	1.2	2.8	-.2	16.5	0.9	
Medical care	.2	.8	.5	.1	.4	.3	.2	3.8	4.0	
Recreation	-.3	.1	.0	.0	.1	.2	.0	1.1	.3	
Education and communication	.2	-.1	.3	.5	.3	.6	.0	3.5	2.4	
Other goods and services	.6	.8	.2	.2	.3	.3	.3	3.4	3.7	
Special Indexes										
Energy	4.2	-1.5	.9	5.9	2.4	5.4	-.5	32.9	4.6	
Food	.0	.7	.8	.3	.4	.3	.5	5.1	4.1	
All Items less food and energy	.1	.3	.2	.1	.2	.1	.2	2.3	2.2	

Consumer prices increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of 5.2 percent in the second quarter after advancing at a 4.7 percent rate in the first three months of 2007. This brings the year-to-date annual rate to 5.0 percent and compares with an increase of 2.5 percent in all of 2006. The index for energy, which rose 2.9 percent in all of 2006, advanced at a 27.8 percent SAAR in the first half of 2007 and accounted for about 48 percent of the advance in the overall CPI-U during that period. Petroleum-based energy costs increased at a 48.3 percent annual rate and charges for energy services rose at a 5.5 percent annual rate. The food index rose at a 6.2 percent SAAR in the first half of 2007 and contributed about 17 percent to the overall CPI-U increase in the first six months. Grocery store food prices increased at a 8.0 percent annual rate in the first half of 2007, reflecting acceleration over the last year in each of the six major groups. These increases ranged from annual rates of 14.8 percent in the index for dairy products to 5.5 percent in the index for other food at home.

The CPI-U excluding food and energy advanced at a 2.3 percent SAAR in the second quarter, the same rate as in the first three months of 2007. The advance at a 2.3 percent SAAR for the first half of 2007 compares with a 2.6 percent rise in all of 2006. The deceleration largely reflects a smaller increase in the index for shelter and a downturn in the index for apparel. Shelter costs, which rose 4.2 percent in all of 2006, have risen at a 3.4 percent annual rate in the first half of 2007. The index for apparel, which registered its first annual increase in 2006 since 1997, has declined at an annual rate of 2.9 percent thus far in 2007. The annual rates for selected groups for the last seven and one-half years are shown below.

Table Q2. Annual percent changes in the CPI for All Urban Consumers, 2000-2007

	Percentage change 12 months ended in December						SAAR 6 mos. ended in June	
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
All items	3.4	1.6	2.4	1.9	3.3	3.4	2.5	5.0
Food and beverages	2.8	2.8	1.5	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.2	6.2
Housing	4.3	2.9	2.4	2.2	3.0	4.0	3.3	3.2
Apparel	-1.8	-3.2	-1.8	-2.1	-.2	-1.1	.9	-2.9
Transportation	4.1	-3.8	3.8	.3	6.5	4.8	1.6	12.3
Medical care	4.2	4.7	5.0	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.6	4.7
Recreation	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.1	.7	1.1	1.0	.6
Education and communication	1.3	3.2	2.2	1.6	1.5	2.4	2.3	3.1
Other goods and services	4.2	4.5	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.1	3.0	4.1
Special indexes								
Energy	14.2	-13.0	10.7	6.9	16.6	17.1	2.9	27.8
Energy commodities	15.7	-24.5	23.7	6.9	26.7	16.7	6.1	48.3
Energy services	12.7	-1.5	.4	6.9	6.8	17.6	-.6	5.5
All items less energy	2.6	2.8	1.8	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.8
Food	2.8	2.8	1.5	3.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	6.2
All items less food and energy	2.6	2.7	1.9	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.3

The food and beverages index rose 0.5 percent in June. The index for food at home, which rose 0.4 percent in May, increased 0.6 percent in June. The index for dairy products increased 3.2 percent, accounting for over half of the June food at home advance. Milk prices rose 3.5 percent and have risen 9.9 percent since the beginning of the year. The index for fruits and vegetables declined for the second consecutive month--down 1.1 percent in June. The indexes for fresh vegetables and for fresh fruits declined 2.7 and 0.7 percent, respectively, while the index for processed fruits and vegetables increased 1.4 percent. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs increased 0.5 percent. The indexes for pork and for beef increased 0.5 and 0.2 percent, respectively. Poultry prices rose 2.1 percent. Through the first six months of 2007, beef and pork prices have each risen 5.2 percent and poultry prices, 6.5 percent. The indexes for cereal and bakery products and for other food at home each increased 0.7 percent. The index for nonalcoholic beverages rose 0.3 percent. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.3 and 0.4 percent, respectively.

The index for housing increased 0.3 percent in June, following increases of 0.2 percent in each of the preceding three months. The index for shelter rose 0.4 percent, following an increase of 0.2 percent in May. Within shelter, the index for rent rose 0.3 percent; the index for owners' equivalent rent, 0.2 percent; and the index for lodging away from home, 2.5 percent. The index for household energy increased 0.1 percent as a 2.5 percent increase in the index for fuel oil was partially offset by decreases in the indexes for natural gas and for electricity--each down 0.1 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, charges for electricity rose 6.9 percent, reflecting in part the switch to seasonal rates in some areas.) The index for household furnishings and operations increased 0.1 percent in June.

The transportation index, which had risen sharply in each of the preceding three months, declined 0.2 percent in June, reflecting a downturn in the index for motor fuels. The index for gasoline prices, which had increased 28.0 percent during the previous three

months, declined 1.1 percent in June. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices fell 1.9 percent from their peak level recorded in May.) The index for new vehicles was virtually unchanged. The index for used cars and trucks increased 0.4 percent. During the last 12 months, new vehicle prices have declined 1.0 percent and prices for used cars and trucks, 4.5 percent. The index for public transportation rose 0.8 percent in June, reflecting a 0.9 percent increase in the index for airline fares. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, airline fares advanced 2.8 percent.)

The index for apparel declined for the fourth consecutive month, down 0.6 percent in June. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices decreased 3.5 percent. Prices for women's and girls' apparel registered the largest decline--down 5.8 percent.)

Medical care costs rose 0.2 percent in June and are 4.0 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--was virtually unchanged. The index for medical care services rose 0.3 percent. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.2 and 0.3 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation was virtually unchanged in June. Increases in the indexes for pets, pet products and services and for video and audio--up 0.6 and 0.2 percent, respectively--were offset by decreases in most other recreation categories. The index for admissions to movies, theaters, concerts, and sporting events declined 1.1 percent.

The index for education and communication, which advanced 0.6 percent in May, was virtually unchanged in June. Educational costs rose 0.2 percent and the index for communication costs decreased 0.2 percent. Within the communication group, the index for information and information processing declined 0.3 percent; the indexes for personal computers and peripheral equipment and for internet services and electronic information providers declined 2.7 and 1.2 percent, respectively.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.3 percent in May. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 0.5 percent and has increased 5.9 percent during the last 12 months. The index for miscellaneous personal services rose 0.3 percent, reflecting a 1.1 percent increase in the index for financial services.

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 0.1 percent in June.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended June '07
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended June '07	
	2006	2007							
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June		
All Items	.5	.1	.4	.8	.5	.8	.1	5.6	2.7
Food and beverages	-.1	.7	.8	.3	.4	.4	.5	5.2	4.1
Housing	.4	.3	.4	.3	.2	.2	.2	2.4	3.4
Apparel	.2	-.1	.5	-.8	-.4	-.3	-.9	-6.3	-1.7
Transportation	1.9	-1.0	.0	3.0	1.4	3.1	-.2	18.6	1.1
Medical care	.1	.8	.5	.1	.4	.3	.2	3.7	4.1
Recreation	-.3	.1	.0	-.1	.0	.2	-.1	.6	.1
Education and communication	.1	-.1	.3	.4	.3	.6	.0	3.4	2.2
Other goods and services	.8	1.0	.4	.2	.1	.3	.3	3.1	4.0
Special Indexes									
Energy	4.3	-1.5	.8	6.2	2.6	5.8	-.7	34.7	4.7
Food	-.1	.6	.8	.3	.4	.4	.5	5.3	4.1
All Items less food and energy	.1	.2	.2	.1	.2	.1	.2	1.8	2.0

Consumer Price Movements July 2007

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) was virtually unchanged in July, before seasonal adjustment. The July level of 208.299 (1982-84=100) was 2.4 percent higher than in July 2006.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 0.1 percent in July prior to seasonal adjustment. The July level of 203.700 (1982-84=100) was 2.3 percent higher than in July 2006.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 0.1 percent in July on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The July level of 120.148 (December 1999=100) was 2.1 percent higher than in July 2006. Please note that the indexes for the post-2005 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U advanced 0.1 percent in July, following a 0.2 percent increase in June. The index for energy declined for the second consecutive month, down 1.0 percent in July. The index for petroleum-based energy decreased 1.4 percent. The index for energy services fell 0.5 percent, resulting from a 1.7 percent decline in the index for natural gas. The food index rose 0.3 percent in July, reflecting a 0.5 percent increase in food away from home. The index for food at home rose 0.1 percent in July after registering average monthly increases of 0.6 percent in the first six months of the year. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.2 percent in July, the same as in June. A smaller increase in the index for shelter was offset by an advance in the apparel index and larger increases in the indexes for medical care and for new and used vehicles.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended July '07
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended July '07	
	2007								
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July		
All Items	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.1	4.0	2.4
Food and beverages	.7	.8	.3	.4	.3	.5	.3	4.3	4.1
Housing	.2	.4	.2	.2	.2	.3	.2	2.7	3.2
Apparel	.3	.5	-1.0	-.3	-.3	-.6	.4	-1.9	-.3
Transportation	-.8	.1	2.8	1.2	2.8	-.2	-.3	9.4	-.7
Medical care	.8	.5	.1	.4	.3	.2	.6	4.8	4.3
Recreation	.1	.0	.0	.1	.2	.0	-.1	.5	.0
Education and communication	-.1	.3	.5	.3	.6	.0	.2	3.4	2.3
Other goods and services	.8	.2	.2	.3	.3	.3	.0	2.5	3.8
Special Indexes									
Energy	-1.5	.9	5.9	2.4	5.4	-.5	-1.0	16.0	1.0
Food	.7	.8	.3	.4	.3	.5	.3	4.4	4.2
All Items less food and energy	.3	.2	.1	.2	.1	.2	.2	2.5	2.2

During the first seven months of 2007, the CPI-U rose at a 4.5 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 2.5 percent for all of 2006. The index for energy, which rose 2.9 percent in 2006, advanced at a 21.3 percent SAAR in the first seven months of 2007 despite registering declines in each of the last two months. Petroleum-based energy costs increased at a 36.9 percent annual rate and charges for energy services rose at a 3.8 percent annual rate. The food index has increased at a 5.7 percent SAAR thus far this year, following a 2.1 percent rise for all of 2006. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 2.3 percent SAAR in the first seven months, following a 2.6 percent rise for all of 2006.

The food and beverages index rose 0.3 percent in July. The index for food at home, which increased 0.6 percent in June, rose 0.1 percent in July. Another sharp increase in the index for dairy products was nearly offset by declines in the indexes for fruits and vegetables, for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, and for nonalcoholic beverages. The index for dairy products increased 2.7 percent, following a 3.2 percent increase in June. Milk prices rose 6.4 percent and have risen 16.9 percent since the beginning of the year.

The index for fruits and vegetables declined for the third consecutive month--down 1.1 percent in July. The indexes for fresh fruits and for fresh vegetables declined 2.3 and 0.5 percent, respectively, while the index for processed fruits and vegetables rose 0.2 percent. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs decreased 0.4 percent. The indexes for pork and for beef declined 0.9 and 0.7 percent, respectively, while poultry prices rose 0.3 percent. The index for nonalcoholic beverages fell 0.1 percent. The indexes for cereal and bakery products and for other food at home increased 0.1 and 0.3 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.5 and 0.1 percent, respectively.

The index for housing increased 0.2 percent in July, following a 0.3 percent rise in June. The index for shelter rose 0.2 percent, following an increase of 0.4 percent in June. Within shelter, the index for rent rose 0.3 percent; the index for owners' equivalent rent, 0.2 percent; and the index for lodging away from home, 0.8 percent. The index for household energy decreased 0.2 percent as a 1.7 percent decline in the index for natural gas more than offset an increase of 4.2 percent in the index for fuel oil. The index for electricity was virtually unchanged. The index for household furnishings and operations decreased 0.2 percent in July.

The transportation index declined for the second consecutive month--down 0.3 percent in July-- reflecting another decline in the index for motor fuels. The index for gasoline, which fell 1.1 percent in June, declined 1.7 percent in July. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices were 4.9 percent lower than their peak level recorded in May.) The index for new vehicles was virtually unchanged. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, new vehicle prices declined for the sixth consecutive month, down 0.3 percent in July.) The index for used cars and trucks increased 0.7 percent. During the last 12 months, new vehicle prices have declined 1.1 percent and prices for used cars and trucks, 4.3 percent. The index for public transportation decreased 0.1 percent in July. The index for airline fares was virtually unchanged in July. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, airline fares advanced 1.1 percent.)

The index for apparel, which had declined in each of the preceding four months, increased 0.4 percent in July. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices declined 3.2 percent, reflecting continued seasonal discounting of spring-summer clothing. Prices for women's and girls' apparel registered the largest decline--down 6.1 percent.)

Medical care costs rose 0.6 percent in July. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.6 percent. The index for medical care services also rose 0.6 percent. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.4 and 0.9 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation declined 0.1 percent in July. Decreases in the indexes for video and audio and for toys--down 0.5 and 1.4 percent, respectively--more than offset increases in most other recreation categories.

The index for education and communication increased 0.2 percent in July. Educational costs rose 0.5 percent while the index for communication was virtually unchanged. Within the former group, the indexes for college textbooks and for college tuition and fees rose 0.7 and 0.5 percent, respectively. Within the communication group, the index for telephone services rose 0.1 percent as a 0.6 percent increase in land-line local charges more than offset a 0.2 percent decline in land-line long distance charges. The indexes for personal computers and peripheral equipment and for internet services and electronic information providers declined 1.0 and 0.2 percent, respectively.

The index for other goods and services was virtually unchanged in July. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 0.3 percent and has increased 6.2 percent during the last 12 months. The index for miscellaneous personal services fell 0.2 percent, reflecting a 1.6 percent decrease in the index for financial services.

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 0.1 percent in July.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended July '07	
	Changes from preceding month								Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended July '07
	2007								
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July		
All Items	0.1	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.1	0.1	4.2	2.3
Food and beverages	.7	.8	.3	.4	.4	.5	.2	4.5	4.2
Housing	.3	.4	.3	.2	.2	.2	.2	2.2	3.2
Apparel	-.1	.5	-.8	-.4	-.3	-.9	.8	-1.6	.0
Transportation	-1.0	.0	3.0	1.4	3.1	-.2	-.3	10.9	-.7
Medical care	.8	.5	.1	.4	.3	.2	.7	4.7	4.4
Recreation	.1	.0	-.1	.0	.2	-.1	-.1	-.1	-.3
Education and communication	-.1	.3	.4	.3	.6	.0	.3	3.3	2.2
Other goods and services	1.0	.4	.2	.1	.3	.3	.1	3.0	4.1
Special Indexes									
Energy	-1.5	.8	6.2	2.6	5.8	-.7	-1.0	17.2	1.0
Food	.6	.8	.3	.4	.4	.5	.3	4.6	4.3
All Items less food and energy	.2	.2	.1	.2	.1	.2	.3	2.3	2.1

Consumer Price Movements August 2007

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) declined 0.2 percent in August, before seasonal adjustment. The August level of 207.917 (1982-84=100) was 2.0 percent higher than in August 2006.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also decreased 0.2 percent in August prior to seasonal adjustment. The August level of 203.199 (1982-84=100) was 1.8 percent higher than in August 2006.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 0.1 percent in August on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The August level of 120.077 (December 1999=100) was 1.8 percent higher than in August 2006. Please note that the indexes for the post-2005 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U declined 0.1 percent in August, the first decline since a 0.4 percent decrease in October 2006. The index for energy declined for the third consecutive month, down 3.2 percent in August. The index for petroleum-based energy decreased 4.6 percent. The index for energy services fell 1.3 percent, resulting from a 4.2 percent decline in the index for natural gas. The food index rose 0.4 percent in August. The index for food at home also rose 0.4 percent, reflecting another large increase in the index for dairy products. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.2 percent in August, the same as in July.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Aug. '07	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Aug. '07
	Changes from preceding month								
	2007								
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.		
All Items	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.7	2.0
Food and beverages	.8	.3	.4	.3	.5	.3	.4	4.6	4.2
Housing	.4	.2	.2	.2	.3	.2	.0	2.0	2.9
Apparel	.5	-1.0	-.3	-.3	-.6	.4	-.5	-2.8	-1.4
Transportation	.1	2.8	1.2	2.8	-.2	-.3	-1.2	-6.6	-2.1
Medical care	.5	.1	.4	.3	.2	.6	.5	5.6	4.5
Recreation	.0	.0	.1	.2	.0	-.1	-.1	-.8	-.1
Education and communication	.3	.5	.3	.6	.0	.2	.3	2.3	2.4
Other goods and services	.2	.2	.3	.3	.3	.0	.1	1.5	3.6
Special Indexes									
Energy	.9	5.9	2.4	5.4	-.5	-1.0	-3.2	-17.5	-2.5
Food	.8	.3	.4	.3	.5	.3	.4	4.7	4.3
All Items less food and energy	.2	.1	.2	.1	.2	.2	.2	2.5	2.1

During the first eight months of 2007, the CPI-U rose at a 3.7 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 2.5 percent for all of 2006. The larger advance thus far this year was due to larger increases in the energy and food indexes. Despite registering declines in each of the last three months, the index for energy increased at a 12.7 percent SAAR through August. Petroleum-based energy led the acceleration with a 22.7 percent increase at an annual rate. Last year the overall energy index rose 2.9 percent. The food index also increased much more so far this year compared with last year, a 5.6 percent SAAR compared with a 2.1 percent rise for all of 2006. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 2.3 percent SAAR in the first eight months, following a 2.6 percent rise for all of 2006.

The food and beverages index rose 0.4 percent in August. The index for food at home, which increased 0.1 percent in July, rose 0.4 in August. Another sharp increase in the index for dairy products, coupled with upturns in the indexes for nonalcoholic beverages and for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, accounted for most of the August advance. The index for dairy products increased 1.7 percent, following increases of 3.2 and 2.7 percent in the preceding two months. Milk prices rose 1.0 percent and have risen

18.1 percent since the beginning of the year. The index for nonalcoholic beverages, which fell 0.1 percent in July, rose 1.2 percent in August. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs increased 0.1 percent after declining 0.4 percent in July. Beef prices, which declined 0.7 percent in July, increased 0.1 percent in August. The indexes for poultry and for pork increased 0.2 and declined 0.8 percent, respectively. The index for eggs rose 2.4 percent in August and was 34.9 percent higher than a year ago. The index for fruits and vegetables declined for the fourth consecutive month--down 0.2 percent in August. A 1.7 percent decrease in the indexes for fresh vegetables more than offset increases in the indexes for fresh fruits and for processed fruits and vegetables--up 1.0 and 0.3 percent, respectively. The indexes for cereal and bakery products and for other food at home increased 0.4 and 0.1 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.4 and 0.3 percent, respectively.

The index for housing was virtually unchanged in August, following a 0.2 percent increase in July. The index for shelter rose 0.2 percent, the same as in July. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and for owners' equivalent rent each rose 0.2 percent; while the index for lodging away from home, declined 0.6 percent. The index for household energy decreased 1.2 percent as a 4.2 percent decline in the index for natural gas more than offset an increase of 0.4 percent in the index for fuel oil; the index for electricity was virtually unchanged for the second consecutive month. The index for household furnishings and operations decreased 0.2 percent in August.

The transportation index declined for the third consecutive month--down 1.2 percent in August--reflecting another decline in the index for motor fuels. The index for gasoline declined 4.9 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices fell 5.9 percent in August and were 9.0 percent lower than their peak level recorded in May.) The index for new vehicles rose 0.1 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, new vehicle prices declined for the seventh consecutive month, down 0.2 percent in August.) The index for used cars and trucks increased 0.8 percent. During the last 12 months, new vehicle prices have declined 0.9 percent and prices for used cars and trucks, 3.7 percent. The index for public transportation increased 0.5 percent in August, reflecting a 0.6 percent increase in the index for airline fares. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, airline fares declined 1.7 percent.)

The index for apparel, which increased 0.4 percent in July, declined 0.5 percent in August. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices rose 0.8 percent, as price increases associated with the introduction of fall-winter wear more than offset the decline in prices for discounted spring-summer clothing. Prices for women's and girls' apparel rose 1.9 percent, while prices for men's and boys' apparel declined 0.5 percent.)

Medical care costs rose 0.5 percent in August. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.4 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.5 percent. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services each increased 0.5 percent.

The index for recreation declined 0.1 percent in August. Decreases in the indexes for video and audio, for sporting goods, and for admissions to movies, theaters, concerts and sporting events--each down 0.4 percent --more than offset a 0.5 percent increase in the index for pets, pet products and services.

The index for education and communication increased 0.3 percent in August. The index for education rose 0.5 percent, reflecting increases of 2.2 percent for college textbooks and 0.4 percent for college tuition and fees. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, charges for college tuition and fees rose 2.6 percent in August and were 6.0 percent higher than a year ago.) The index for communication rose 0.1 percent in August. Within this group, the index for telephone services rose 0.2 percent, reflecting increases for land-line local charges and for land-line long distance charges of 0.4 and 0.2 percent, respectively. The indexes for personal computers and peripheral equipment and for computer software and accessories declined 0.8 and 2.7 percent, respectively, while charges for internet services and electronic information providers rose 0.3 percent.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.1 percent in August. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 0.2 percent and has increased 6.5 percent during the last 12 months. The index for personal care was virtually unchanged as a decline in prices for personal care products was offset by increases in charges for personal care services and miscellaneous personal services.

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

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

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Aug. '07	
	Changes from preceding month								Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Aug. '07
	2007								
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.		
All Items	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.2	1.8
Food and beverages	.8	.3	.4	.4	.5	.2	.4	4.7	4.3
Housing	.4	.3	.2	.2	.2	.2	.0	1.5	2.9
Apparel	.5	-.8	-.4	-.3	-.9	.8	-.3	-1.4	-1.3
Transportation	.0	3.0	1.4	3.1	-.2	-.3	-1.4	-7.3	-2.4
Medical care	.5	.1	.4	.3	.2	.7	.5	5.7	4.6
Recreation	.0	-.1	.0	.2	-.1	-.1	-.1	-1.6	-.3
Education and communication	.3	.4	.3	.6	.0	.3	.3	2.1	2.2
Other goods and services	.4	.2	.1	.3	.3	.1	.1	2.0	4.0
Special Indexes									
Energy	.8	6.2	2.6	5.8	-.7	-1.0	-3.4	-18.4	-2.7
Food	.8	.3	.4	.4	.5	.3	.4	4.8	4.4
All Items less food and energy	.2	.1	.2	.1	.2	.3	.2	2.4	2.0

Consumer Price Movements September 2007

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent in September before seasonal adjustment. The September level of 208.490 (1982-84=100) was 2.8 percent higher than in September 2006.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.3 percent in September prior to seasonal adjustment. The September level of 203.889 (1982-84=100) was 2.8 percent higher than in September 2006.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent in September on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The September level of 120.423 (December 1999=100) was 2.3 percent higher than in September 2006. Please note that the indexes for the post-2005 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U increased 0.3 percent in September, following a 0.1 percent decline in August. The index for energy, which declined in each of the preceding three months, rose 0.3 percent in September. The index for petroleum-based energy increased 0.4 percent and the index for energy services rose 0.1 percent. The food index rose 0.5 percent in September. The index for food at home also rose 0.5 percent, reflecting large increases in the indexes for fruits and vegetables and for dairy products. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.2 percent in September, the same as in each of the preceding three months.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Sep. '07
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Sep. '07	
	2007								
Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.			
All Items	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.3	1.0	2.8
Food and beverages	.3	.4	.3	.5	.3	.4	.5	4.6	4.4
Housing	.2	.2	.2	.3	.2	.0	.3	1.6	2.9
Apparel	-1.0	-.3	-.3	-.6	.4	-.5	.3	.6	-1.8
Transportation	2.8	1.2	2.8	-.2	-.3	-1.2	.1	-5.6	2.2
Medical care	.1	.4	.3	.2	.6	.5	.3	6.0	4.6
Recreation	.0	.1	.2	.0	-.1	-.1	.3	.3	.3
Education and communication	.5	.3	.6	.0	.2	.3	.1	2.7	2.4
Other goods and services	.2	.3	.3	.3	.0	.1	.4	2.1	3.6
Special Indexes									
Energy	5.9	2.4	5.4	-.5	-1.0	-3.2	.3	-14.8	5.3
Food	.3	.4	.3	.5	.3	.4	.5	4.9	4.5
All Items less food and energy	.1	.2	.1	.2	.2	.2	.2	2.5	2.1

Consumer prices increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of 1.0 percent in the third quarter of 2007, following increases in the first and second quarters at annual rates of 4.7 and 5.2 percent, respectively. This brings the year-to-date annual rate to 3.6 percent and compares with an increase of 2.5 percent for all of 2006. The index for energy, which advanced at annual rates of 22.9 and 32.9 percent in the first two quarters, declined at a 14.8 percent rate in the third quarter of 2007. Thus far this year, energy costs have risen at an 11.7 percent SAAR after increasing 2.9 percent in all of 2006. In the first nine months of 2007, petroleum-based energy costs (energy commodities) advanced at a 20.6 percent rate and charges for energy services (gas and electricity) increased at a 1.3 percent rate. The food index rose at a 5.7 percent SAAR in the first nine months of 2007 after advancing 2.1 percent in all of 2006. Grocery store food prices increased at a 6.7 percent annual rate in the first nine months of 2007, reflecting acceleration over the last year in each of the six major groups. These increases ranged from annual rates of 4.0 percent in the index for other food at home to 17.7 percent in the index for dairy products.

The CPI-U excluding food and energy advanced at a 2.5 percent SAAR in the third quarter, following increases at rates of 2.3 percent in each of the first two quarters of 2007. The advance at a 2.3 percent SAAR for the first nine months of 2007 compares with a 2.6 percent rise in all of 2006. The deceleration largely reflects a smaller increase in the index for shelter and a downturn in the index for apparel. Shelter costs, which rose 4.2 percent in all of 2006, have risen at a 3.2 percent annual rate in the first nine months of 2007. The index for apparel, which last year registered its first annual increase since 1997, has declined at an annual rate of 1.7 percent thus far in 2007. The annual rates for selected groups for the last seven and three-quarter years are shown below.

Table Q3. Annual percent changes in the CPI for All Urban Consumers, 2000-2007

	Percentage change 12 months ended in December						SAAR 9 mos. ended in Sep.	
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
All items	3.4	1.6	2.4	1.9	3.3	3.4	2.5	3.6
Food and beverages	2.8	2.8	1.5	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.2	5.7
Housing	4.3	2.9	2.4	2.2	3.0	4.0	3.3	2.7
Apparel	-1.8	-3.2	-1.8	-2.1	-.2	-1.1	.9	-1.7
Transportation	4.1	-3.8	3.8	.3	6.5	4.8	1.6	6.0
Medical care	4.2	4.7	5.0	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.1
Recreation	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.1	.7	1.1	1.0	.5
Education and communication	1.3	3.2	2.2	1.6	1.5	2.4	2.3	3.0
Other goods and services	4.2	4.5	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.4
Special indexes								
Energy	14.2	-13.0	10.7	6.9	16.6	17.1	2.9	11.7
Energy commodities	15.7	-24.5	23.7	6.9	26.7	16.7	6.1	20.6
Energy services	12.7	-1.5	.4	6.9	6.8	17.6	-.6	1.3
All items less energy	2.6	2.8	1.8	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.8
Food	2.8	2.8	1.5	3.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	5.7
All items less food and energy	2.6	2.7	1.9	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.3

The food and beverages index rose 0.5 percent in September. The index for food at home, which rose 0.4 percent in August, advanced 0.5 percent in September. The index for fruits and vegetables, which had declined in each of the preceding four months, increased 1.8 percent in September and accounted for about one-half of the grocery store food advance. The indexes for fresh vegetables and for fresh fruits rose 2.5 and 1.4 percent, respectively. The index for processed fruits and vegetables increased 1.2 percent. The index for dairy products increased 1.0 percent in September and has advanced 13.0 percent in the first nine months of 2007. Milk prices also rose 1.0 percent in September and have risen 19.3 percent since the beginning of the year. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs increased 0.5 percent in September. Beef and poultry prices rose 1.0 and 0.9 percent, respectively, while the index for pork declined 1.1 percent. The index for eggs rose 8.7 percent in September and was 43.9 percent higher than a year ago. The index for cereal and bakery products increased 0.4 percent, the same as in August. The indexes for nonalcoholic beverages and for other food at home were virtually unchanged and declined 0.2 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.5 and 0.1 percent, respectively.

The index for housing, which was virtually unchanged in August, increased 0.3 percent in September. The index for shelter rose 0.3 percent after increasing 0.2 percent in August. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and for owners' equivalent rent each rose 0.3 percent and the index for lodging away from home increased 1.0 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the index for lodging away from home declined 3.8 percent.) The index for household energy, which decreased 1.2 percent in August, rose 0.1 percent in September, as a 1.0 percent decline in the index for natural gas was more than offset by increases in the indexes for fuel oil and for electricity--up 0.9 and 0.5 percent, respectively. The index for household furnishings and operations decreased 0.2 percent, the same as in each of the preceding two months.

The transportation index turned up in September, increasing 0.1 percent. The index for gasoline, which had declined in each of the preceding three months, rose 0.4 percent. As of September, gasoline prices were 10.1 percent lower than their peak level recorded in May. The index for new vehicles declined 0.3 percent in September. (About 14 percent of the new car sample in September was represented by 2008 models.) The index for used cars and trucks was virtually unchanged. During the last 12 months, new vehicle prices have declined 1.0 percent and prices for used cars and trucks, 2.7 percent. The index for public transportation increased 0.5 percent in September, reflecting a 1.1 percent increase in the index for airline fares. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, airline fares declined 0.9 percent.)

The index for apparel, which declined 0.5 percent in August, increased 0.3 percent in September. (Reflecting price increases associated with the introduction of fall-winter wear, apparel prices advanced 4.5 percent in September, prior to seasonal adjustment; prices for women's and girls' clothing increased 7.5 percent.)

Medical care costs rose 0.3 percent in September. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--was virtually unchanged. The index for medical care services rose 0.4 percent. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.2 and 0.8 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation rose 0.3 percent in September. Increases in the indexes for cable and satellite television and radio, for pets, pet products and services, and for admissions to movies, theaters, concerts and sporting events--up 0.7, 1.0, and 0.9 percent, respectively--were partially offset by a 1.2 percent decline in the index for toys.

The index for education and communication increased 0.1 percent in September. The index for education rose 0.2 percent, reflecting increases of 0.8 percent in the index for child care and nursery school and 0.7 percent in the index for college textbooks. The index for college tuition and fees declined 0.3 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, charges for college tuition and fees rose 1.5 percent in September and were 5.5 percent higher than a year ago.) The index for communication was virtually unchanged in September. Within this group, the index for telephone services rose 0.1 percent as a 0.3 percent increase in the index for land-line local charges more than offset a 0.1 percent decline in the index for land-line long distance charges. The indexes for personal computers and peripheral equipment declined 0.7 percent, while the indexes for computer software and accessories and for internet services and electronic information providers increased 1.2 and 0.2 percent, respectively.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.4 percent in September. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 0.8 percent, reflecting in part the pass through of a wholesale price increase for cigarettes. During the last 12 months, prices for cigarettes have increased 7.8 percent. The index for miscellaneous personal services rose 0.7 percent, reflecting a 1.9 percent increase in financial services.

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 0.3 percent in September.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Sep. '07
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Sep. '07	
	2007								
	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.		
All Items	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.7	2.8
Food and beverages	.3	.4	.4	.5	.2	.4	.5	4.6	4.4
Housing	.3	.2	.2	.2	.2	.0	.2	1.5	2.8
Apparel	-.8	-.4	-.3	-.9	.8	-.3	.1	2.4	-2.0
Transportation	3.0	1.4	3.1	-.2	-.3	-1.4	.1	-6.0	2.4
Medical care	.1	.4	.3	.2	.7	.5	.4	6.3	4.7
Recreation	-.1	.0	.2	-.1	-.1	-.1	.4	.4	.2
Education and communication	.4	.3	.6	.0	.3	.3	.0	2.4	2.1
Other goods and services	.2	.1	.3	.3	.1	.1	.4	2.5	4.1
Special Indexes									
Energy	6.2	2.6	5.8	-.7	-1.0	-3.4	.3	-14.9	5.7
Food	.3	.4	.4	.5	.3	.4	.5	4.9	4.5
All Items less food and energy	.1	.2	.1	.2	.3	.2	.2	2.6	2.0

Consumer Price Movements October 2007

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.2 percent in October before seasonal adjustment. The October level of 208.936 (1982-84=100) was 3.5 percent higher than in October 2006.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.2 percent in October prior to seasonal adjustment. The October level of 204.338 (1982-84=100) was 3.7 percent higher than in October 2006.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.2 percent in October on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The October level of 120.700 (December 1999=100) was 3.0 percent higher than in October 2006. Please note that the indexes for the post-2005 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U increased 0.3 percent in October, the same as in September. The index for energy advanced 1.4 percent in October, with the index for petroleum-based energy up 1.5 percent and the index for energy services, 1.3 percent. The food index rose 0.3 percent in October. The index for food at home also rose 0.3 percent and the index for food away from home increased 0.2 percent. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.2 percent in October.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Oct. '07	
	Changes from preceding month								Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Oct. '07
	2007								
	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.		
All Items	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.3	0.3	1.7	3.5
Food and beverages	.4	.3	.5	.3	.4	.5	.3	4.7	4.4
Housing	.2	.2	.3	.2	.0	.3	.2	1.9	3.1
Apparel	-.3	-.3	-.6	.4	-.5	.3	.0	-1.1	-1.2
Transportation	1.2	2.8	-.2	-.3	-1.2	.1	.4	-2.7	5.8
Medical care	.4	.3	.2	.6	.5	.3	.6	5.7	4.8
Recreation	.1	.2	.0	-.1	-.1	.3	.3	1.9	.5
Education and communication	.3	.6	.0	.2	.3	.1	.4	3.1	2.6
Other goods and services	.3	.3	.3	.0	.1	.4	.2	2.9	3.5
Special Indexes									
Energy	2.4	5.4	-.5	-1.0	-3.2	.3	1.4	-6.1	14.5
Food	.4	.3	.5	.3	.4	.5	.3	4.9	4.4
All Items less food and energy	.2	.1	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	2.1	2.2

During the first ten months of 2007, the CPI-U rose at a 3.6 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 2.5 percent for all of 2006. The index for energy, which increased 2.9 percent in 2006, advanced at a 12.3 percent SAAR in the first ten months of 2007. Petroleum-based energy costs increased at a 20.6 percent annual rate and charges for energy services rose at a 2.7 percent annual rate. The food index has increased at a 5.5 percent rate thus far in 2007, following a 2.1 percent rise for all of 2006. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 2.3 percent SAAR in the first ten months of 2007 after increasing 2.6 percent in 2006.

The food and beverages index rose 0.3 percent in October. The index for food at home, which rose 0.5 percent in September, increased 0.3 percent in October. The smaller advance reflects a downturn in egg prices and deceleration in the indexes for milk and for fruits and vegetables. The index for fruits and vegetables increased 0.7 percent in October, following a 1.8 percent rise in September. The index for fresh vegetables increased 2.3 percent while the index for fresh fruits declined 0.4 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, fresh fruit prices rose 1.0 percent.) The index for processed fruits and vegetables increased 0.1 percent. The index for dairy products increased 0.2 percent in October and has advanced 13.3 percent in the first ten months of 2007. Milk prices

were virtually unchanged in October, but have risen 19.3 percent since the beginning of the year. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs increased 0.2 percent in October. Beef and poultry prices each fell 0.7 percent, while prices for pork, for other meats, and for fish and seafood each turned up in October after registering declines in September. The index for eggs fell 1.3 percent in October, but have increased 42.2 percent during the last 12 months. The index for cereal and bakery products increased 0.4 percent, the same as in each of the two preceding months. The indexes for nonalcoholic beverages and for other food at home rose 0.1 and 0.3 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.2 and 0.3 percent, respectively.

The index for housing increased 0.2 percent in October. The index for shelter rose 0.1 percent after increasing 0.3 percent in September. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and for owners' equivalent rent increased 0.5 and 0.2 percent, respectively, while the index for lodging away from home decreased 1.5 percent. The index for household energy, which rose 0.1 percent in September, increased 1.4 percent in October. Each of the three major household fuels showed acceleration: The index for natural gas, which declined 1.0 percent in September, increased 0.7 percent in October. The indexes for fuel oil and for electricity, which rose 0.9 and 0.5 percent, respectively in September, advanced 2.3 and 1.5 percent in October. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, charges for electricity declined 3.9 percent, reflecting the switch to winter rates in some areas.). The index for household furnishings and operations decreased for the fourth consecutive month--down 0.1 percent in October.

The transportation index increased 0.4 percent in October. The index for gasoline rose 1.4 percent, accounting for over 90 percent of the overall transportation increase. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices fell 0.1 percent and were 10.2 percent lower than their peak level recorded in May. The index for new vehicles declined 0.2 percent in October. (As of October, about 30 percent of the new car sample consisted of 2008 models. The 2008 models will continue to be phased in, with adjustments for quality change, over the next several months as they replace old models at dealerships. For a report on quality changes for the 2008 vehicles represented in the Producer Price Index sample, see news release USDL-07-1787 dated November 14, 2007.) The index for used cars and trucks declined 0.1 percent. During the last 12 months, new vehicle prices have declined 1.1 percent and prices for used cars and trucks, 1.7 percent. The index for public transportation increased 1.2 percent in October, reflecting a 1.6 percent increase in the index for airline fares.

The index for apparel, which increased 0.3 percent in September, was virtually unchanged in October. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices advanced 1.9 percent in October, reflecting the continued introduction of fall-winter wear.)

Medical care costs, which rose 0.3 percent in September, increased 0.6 percent in October. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.3 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.6 percent. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services advanced 0.4 and 1.1 percent, respectively, following increases of 0.2 and 0.8 percent in September.

The index for recreation rose 0.3 percent in October, the same as in September. Increases in the indexes for admissions to movies, theaters, concerts and sporting events and for cable and satellite television--up 1.1 and 0.6 percent, respectively--accounted for over four-fifths of the overall recreation advance.

The index for education and communication increased 0.4 percent in October. The index for education rose 0.7 percent, reflecting an increase of 0.8 percent in the index for tuition. College tuition costs rose 1.1 percent in October and were 6.1 higher than a year ago. The index for communication was virtually unchanged in October. Within this group, the index for telephone services rose 0.2 percent, reflecting a 0.5 percent increase in the index for land-line local charges. The indexes for personal computers and peripheral equipment declined 1.4 percent and the indexes for computer software and accessories and for internet services and electronic information providers decreased 0.2 and 0.6 percent, respectively.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.2 percent in October. The two major sub-indexes-- tobacco and smoking products and personal care--each rose 0.2 percent. During the last 12 months, prices for tobacco and smoking products have increased 7.6 percent and prices for personal care have risen 2.5 percent.

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 0.3 percent in October.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Oct. '07	
	Changes from preceding month								Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Oct. '07
	2007								
	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.		
All Items	0.5	0.8	0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.3	1.6	3.7
Food and beverages	.4	.4	.5	.2	.4	.5	.3	4.8	4.4
Housing	.2	.2	.2	.2	.0	.2	.3	2.1	3.2
Apparel	-.4	-.3	-.9	.8	-.3	.1	.1	-.5	-1.3
Transportation	1.4	3.1	-.2	-.3	-1.4	.1	.4	-3.3	6.3
Medical care	.4	.3	.2	.7	.5	.4	.6	6.1	5.0
Recreation	.0	.2	-.1	-.1	-.1	.4	.3	2.1	.4
Education and communication	.3	.6	.0	.3	.3	.0	.3	2.4	2.2
Other goods and services	.1	.3	.3	.1	.1	.4	.2	3.0	4.1
Special Indexes									
Energy	2.6	5.8	-.7	-1.0	-3.4	.3	1.4	-6.5	15.1
Food	.4	.4	.5	.3	.4	.5	.3	4.9	4.5
All Items less food and energy	.2	.1	.2	.3	.2	.2	.2	2.2	2.0

Consumer Price Movements November 2007

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.6 percent in November before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The November level of 210.177 (1982-84=100) was 4.3 percent higher than in November 2006.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.8 percent in November prior to seasonal adjustment. The November level of 205.891 (1982-84=100) was 4.6 percent higher than in November 2006.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.4 percent in November on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The November level of 121.178 (December 1999=100) was 3.6 percent higher than in November 2006. Please note that the indexes for the post-2005 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U increased 0.8 percent in November, its largest advance since a 1.2 percent rise in September 2005. The index for energy advanced 5.7 percent and accounted for nearly 70 percent of the overall CPI increase in November. The index for petroleum-based energy rose 9.5 percent and the index for energy services, 0.7 percent. The food index rose 0.3 percent in November. The indexes for food at home and for food away from home each increased 0.3 percent. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.3 percent in November, following increases of 0.2 percent in each of the preceding five months. In November, the index for shelter rose 0.3 percent after increasing 0.1 percent in October and the apparel index increased 0.8 percent.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Nov. '07
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Nov. '07	
	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.		
All Items	0.7	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.3	0.3	0.8	5.6	4.3
Food and beverages	.3	.5	.3	.4	.5	.3	.3	4.1	4.7
Housing	.2	.3	.2	.0	.3	.2	.4	3.6	3.1
Apparel	-.3	-.6	.4	-.5	.3	.0	.8	4.1	-.4
Transportation	2.8	-.2	-.3	-1.2	.1	.4	2.9	14.4	9.6
Medical care	.3	.2	.6	.5	.3	.6	.4	5.2	5.0
Recreation	.2	.0	-.1	-.1	.3	.3	.1	3.0	.6
Education and communication	.6	.0	.2	.3	.1	.4	.1	2.2	2.8
Other goods and services	.3	.3	.0	.1	.4	.2	.3	3.7	3.7
Special Indexes									
Energy	5.4	-.5	-1.0	-3.2	.3	1.4	5.7	33.8	21.4
Food	.3	.5	.3	.4	.5	.3	.3	4.3	4.8
All Items less food and energy	.1	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.3	2.6	2.3

During the first eleven months of 2007, the CPI-U rose at a 4.2 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 2.5 percent for all of 2006. The index for energy, which increased 2.9 percent in 2006, advanced at an 18.1 percent SAAR in the first 11 months of 2007. Petroleum-based energy costs increased at a 30.8 percent annual rate and charges for energy services rose at a 3.2 percent annual rate. The food index has increased at a 5.3 percent rate thus far in 2007, following a 2.1 percent rise for all of 2006. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 2.4 percent SAAR in the first 11 months of 2007 after increasing 2.6 percent in 2006.

The food and beverages index rose 0.3 percent in November. The index for food at home increased 0.3 percent in November, the same as in October. Larger increases in the indexes for fruit and vegetables, for cereal and bakery products, and for dairy products were offset by downturns in the indexes for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, for nonalcoholic beverages, and for other food at home. The index for fruits and vegetables increased 1.6 percent in November, following a 0.7 percent increase in October. The indexes for fresh vegetables and for fresh fruits each increased 2.3 percent, while the index for processed fruits and vegetables declined 0.9 percent. The index for dairy products increased 0.6 percent in November and has advanced 14.0 percent in the last 12 months. Fresh milk prices, which declined 0.6 percent in October, turned back up in November, increasing 1.2 percent. Since the beginning of the year fresh milk prices have risen 23.2 percent. The index for cereal and bakery products increased 0.7 percent in November. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs decreased 0.1 percent in November, reflecting declines in the indexes for eggs, poultry, pork, and fish and seafood. Beef prices increased 0.6 percent. The indexes for nonalcoholic beverages and for other food at home declined 0.5 and 0.2 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.3 and declined 0.1 percent, respectively.

The index for housing increased 0.4 percent in November, following a 0.2 percent rise in October. Each of the three major housing groups contributed to the larger advance. The index for shelter, which rose 0.1 percent in October, increased 0.3 percent in November. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and for owners' equivalent rent increased 0.4 and 0.3 percent, respectively, while the index for lodging away from home decreased 0.2 percent. The index for fuels and utilities, which rose 1.2 percent in October, increased 1.5 percent in November. The index for fuel oil increased 14.2 percent, its largest monthly advance since a 14.7 percent increase in February 2003. The indexes for natural gas and for electricity rose 0.9 and 0.6 percent, respectively in November. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, charges for electricity declined 2.2 percent, reflecting the switch to winter rates in some areas.). The index for household furnishings and operations, which had declined in each of the preceding four months, rose 0.1 percent in November.

The transportation index increased 2.9 percent in November. The index for motor fuel rose 9.3 percent, accounting for over 90 percent of the overall transportation increase. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices rose 9.7 percent to a level that was 1.5 percent lower than their peak level recorded in May.) The index for new vehicles increased 0.1 percent in November. (As of November, about 53 percent of the new car sample consisted of 2008 models. The 2008 models will continue to be phased in, with adjustments for quality change, over the next several months as they replace old models at dealerships. For a report on quality changes for the 2008 vehicles represented in the Producer Price Index sample, see news release USDL-07-1787 dated November 14, 2007.) The index for used cars and trucks declined 0.2 percent. During the last 12 months, new vehicle prices have declined 0.4 percent and prices for used cars and trucks, 0.5 percent. The index for public transportation increased 1.8 percent in November, largely reflecting a 2.6 percent increase in the index for airline fares.

The index for apparel, which was virtually unchanged in October, increased 0.8 percent in November. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices declined 0.5 percent in November, reflecting seasonal discounting of women's clothing.)

Medical care costs rose 0.4 percent in November to a level 5.0 percent above a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.6 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.3 percent. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services advanced 0.2 and 0.6 percent, respectively. The index for hospital and related services has increased 7.9 percent during the last 12 months.

The index for recreation rose 0.1 percent in November. Increases in the indexes for admissions to movies, theaters, concerts and sporting events, for club membership dues and for fees for participant sports--each up 0.6 percent--more than offset declines in the indexes for video and audio, for photography, and for toys.

The index for education and communication increased 0.1 percent in November. The index for education rose 0.6 percent, while the index for communication declined 0.5 percent. Within the latter group, the index for telephone services declined 0.3 percent, reflecting decreases in the indexes for both land-line local charges and long distance charges. The index for personal computers and peripheral equipment declined 4.1 percent and the index for internet services and electronic information providers decreased 0.2 percent.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.3 percent in November. The two major sub-indexes--tobacco and smoking products and personal care--rose 0.2 and 0.3 percent, respectively. Within the latter group, the index for financial services rose 0.5 percent, reflecting a 0.9 percent increase in the index for tax return preparation and other accounting fees.

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 0.9 percent in November.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Nov. '07	
	Changes from preceding month								Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Nov. '07
	2007								
	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.		
All Items	0.8	0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.3	0.9	6.0	4.6
Food and beverages	.4	.5	.2	.4	.5	.3	.2	4.0	4.7
Housing	.2	.2	.2	.0	.2	.3	.5	4.1	3.2
Apparel	-.3	-.9	.8	-.3	.1	.1	.5	2.6	-0.7
Transportation	3.1	-.2	-.3	-1.4	.1	0.4	3.0	15.3	10.5
Medical care	.3	.2	.7	.5	.4	0.6	0.4	5.5	5.1
Recreation	.2	-.1	-.1	-.1	.4	0.3	0.0	2.8	0.3
Education and communication	.6	.0	.3	.3	.0	.3	.0	1.2	2.4
Other goods and services	.3	.3	.1	.1	.4	.2	.2	3.7	4.4
Special Indexes									
Energy	5.8	-.7	-1.0	-3.4	.3	1.4	5.9	35.0	22.3
Food	.4	.5	.3	.4	.5	.3	.2	4.2	4.8
All Items less food and energy	.1	.2	.3	.2	.2	.2	.2	2.4	2.2

Consumer Price Movements December 2007

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.1 percent in December before seasonal adjustment. The December level of 210.036 (1982-84=100) was 4.1 percent higher than in December 2006.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 0.1 percent in December prior to seasonal adjustment. The December level of 205.777 (1982-84=100) was 4.3 percent higher than in December 2006.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 0.1 percent in December on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The December level of 121.088 (December 1999=100) was 3.4 percent higher than in October 2006. Please note that the indexes for the post-2005 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U increased 0.3 percent in December, following a 0.8 percent rise in November. The index for energy advanced 0.9 percent and accounted for about one-third of the overall CPI increase in December. The index for petroleum-based energy rose 1.2 percent and the index for energy services, 0.5 percent. The food index rose 0.1 percent in December. The index for food at home was virtually unchanged, while the index for food away from home increased 0.2 percent. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.2 percent in December, following a 0.3 percent increase in November. Smaller increases in the indexes for apparel, for medical care, for recreation, and for new vehicles were responsible for the more moderate increase in December.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Dec. 2007
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Dec. 2007	
	June 2007	July 2007	Aug. 2007	Sep. 2007	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007		
All items	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.3	5.6	4.1
Food and beverages .....	.5	.3	.4	.5	.3	.3	.0	2.3	4.8
Housing .....	.3	.2	.0	.3	.2	.4	.3	3.8	3.0
Apparel	-.6	.4	-.5	.3	.0	.8	.2	4.1	-.3
Transportation	-.2	-.3	-1.2	.1	.4	2.9	.5	16.3	8.3
Medical care .....	.2	.6	.5	.3	.6	.4	.3	5.1	5.2
Recreation .....	.0	-.1	-.1	.3	.3	.1	.0	1.8	.8
Education and communication .....	.0	.2	.3	.1	.4	.1	.3	3.0	3.0
Other goods and services ...	.3	.0	.1	.4	.2	.3	.3	3.0	3.3
Special indexes:									
Energy	-.5	-1.0	-3.2	.3	1.4	5.7	.9	37.1	17.4
Food .....	.5	.3	.4	.5	.3	.3	.1	2.4	4.9
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.3	.2	2.7	2.4

Consumer prices advanced at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of 5.6 percent in the fourth quarter of 2007. This followed increases in the first three quarters at annual rates of 4.7, 5.2, and 1.0 percent, respectively. For the 12 month period ended in December, the CPI-U rose 4.1 percent. This compares with an increase of 2.5 percent in 2006. The index for energy, which advanced at annual rates of 22.9 and 32.9 percent in the first two quarters, declined at a 14.8 percent rate in the third quarter, turned back up in the fourth quarter, advancing a 37.1 percent annual rate. Overall energy costs rose 17.4 percent in 2007 with the index for petroleum-based energy costs (energy commodities) up 29.4 percent and charges for energy services (gas and electricity) up 3.4 percent. The food index, which rose 2.1 percent in all of 2006, advanced 4.9 percent in 2007, its largest increase since a 5.3 percent rise in 1990. Grocery store food prices increased 5.6 percent in 2007, reflecting acceleration over the last year in each of the six major groups. These increases ranged from 3.2 percent in the index for other food at home to 13.4 percent in the index for dairy products.

Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 2.7 percent SAAR in the fourth quarter, following increases at rates of 2.3, 2.3, and 2.5 percent in the first three quarters of 2007. The 2.4 percent advance for all of 2007 compares with a 2.6 percent rise in 2006. The deceleration reflects a smaller increase in the index for shelter, in particular the index for owners' equivalent rent, and a small decrease in the index for apparel. Shelter costs, which rose 4.2 percent in all of 2006, increased 3.1 percent in 2007. The index for owners' equivalent rent rose 2.8 percent in 2007 after a 4.3 percent increase in 2006. The index for apparel, which last year registered its first annual increase since 1997--up 0.9 percent--declined 0.3 percent in 2007. The annual rates for selected groups for the last eight years are shown below.

Table Q4. Annual percent changes in the CPI for All Urban Consumers, 2000-2007

Expenditure Category	Percentage change 12 months ended in December							
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
All items	3.4	1.6	2.4	1.9	3.3	3.4	2.5	4.1
Food and beverages	2.8	2.8	1.5	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.2	4.8
Housing	4.3	2.9	2.4	2.2	3.0	4.0	3.3	3.0
Apparel	-1.8	-3.2	-1.8	-2.1	-2	-1.1	.9	-.3
Transportation	4.1	-3.8	3.8	.3	6.5	4.8	1.6	8.3
Medical care	4.2	4.7	5.0	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.2
Recreation	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.1	.7	1.1	1.0	.8
Education and communication	1.3	3.2	2.2	1.6	1.5	2.4	2.3	3.0
Other goods and services	4.2	4.5	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.3
Special indexes:								
Energy	14.2	-13.0	10.7	6.9	16.6	17.1	2.9	17.4
Energy commodities	15.7	-24.5	23.7	6.9	26.7	16.7	6.1	29.4
Energy services	12.7	-1.5	.4	6.9	6.8	17.6	-.6	3.4
All items less energy	2.6	2.8	1.8	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.8
Food	2.8	2.8	1.5	3.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	4.9
All items less food and energy	2.6	2.7	1.9	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.4

The food and beverages index was virtually unchanged in December. The index for food at home also was virtually unchanged. Increases in the indexes for cereal and bakery products, and for other food at home--up 0.6 and 0.2 percent, respectively--offset declines in the indexes for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, for dairy products, for fruits and vegetables, and for nonalcoholic beverages. Despite a downturn in December, the index for dairy products registered the largest increase of the six major grocery store food groups in the last 12 months--up 13.4 percent. During the last 12 months, milk and cheese prices increased 19.3 and 13.0 percent, respectively. The index for fruits and vegetables, which declined 0.4 percent in December, increased 5.9 percent in the last 12 months, reflecting increases in prices for fresh vegetables, for fresh fruits, and for processed fruits and vegetables. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs decreased 0.1 percent in December, but advanced 5.4 percent since December 2006. During the latter period, beef prices rose 5.0 percent, pork prices, 1.4 percent, and poultry prices, 6.3 percent. During the 12 months ended in December, the index for cereal and bakery products increased 5.4 percent with bread prices increasing 10.5 percent. The indexes for nonalcoholic beverages and for other food at home increased 3.5 and 3.2 percent, respectively, in all of 2007. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.2 and declined 0.2 percent, respectively, in December and rose 4.0 and 3.8 percent in all of 2007.

The index for housing increased 0.3 percent in December, following a 0.4 percent rise in November. The index for shelter increased 0.3 percent in December, the same as in November. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and for owners' equivalent rent increased 0.4 and 0.3 percent, respectively, and the index for lodging away from home rose 0.2 percent. During the 12 months ended in December, the indexes for rent and for owners' equivalent rent increased 4.0 and 2.8 percent, respectively, following increases of 4.3 percent in 2006. The index for lodging away from home rose 4.6 percent in 2007. The index for fuels and utilities rose 0.6 percent in December. The index for fuel oil increased 2.4 percent in December and 32.5 percent during the last 12 months. The index for natural gas rose 2.3 percent, while the index for electricity declined 0.2 percent. During the 12 months ended in December, charges for electricity rose 5.2 percent, while charges for natural gas declined 0.4 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations was virtually unchanged in December and 0.7 percent lower than in December 2006.

The transportation index increased 0.5 percent in December. The index for gasoline rose 1.1 percent, accounting for about two-thirds of the overall transportation increase. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices fell 1.6 percent to a level that was 3.0 percent lower than their peak level recorded in May.) During the 12 months ended in December, gasoline prices increased 29.6 percent, their largest annual advance since a 30.1 percent rise in 1999. The index for new vehicles was virtually unchanged in

December. (As of December, about 63 percent of the new car sample consisted of 2008 models. The 2008 models will continue to be phased in, with adjustments for quality change, over the next several months as they replace old models at dealerships. For a report on quality changes for the 2008 vehicles represented in the Producer Price Index sample, see news release USDL-07-1787 dated November 14, 2007.) The index for used cars and trucks rose 0.2 percent. During the last 12 months, new vehicle prices have declined 0.3 percent, while prices for used cars and trucks rose 0.5 percent. The index for public transportation increased 1.2 percent in December, largely reflecting a 1.6 percent increase in the index for airline fares. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, airline fares declined 0.9 percent in December, but advanced 10.6 percent in the last 12 months.)

The index for apparel increased 0.2 percent in December. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices declined 2.4 percent, largely as a result of pre-holiday discounting.) During the 12 month period ended in December, apparel prices declined 0.3 percent. Declines in prices for men's and boys' apparel and women's and girls' apparel--down 1.0 and 0.7 percent, respectively--were partially offset by a 5.0 percent increase in prices for jewelry.

Medical care costs rose 0.3 percent in December. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.3 percent. The index for medical care services also rose 0.3 percent. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services each advanced 0.4 percent. For the 12 months ended in December, the medical care index rose 5.2 percent, its largest annual advance since a 5.4 percent increase in 1993. Charges for hospital and related services increased 8.1 percent in the 12 months ended in December, following a 6.1 percent rise in 2006.

The index for recreation was virtually unchanged in December. Decreases in the indexes for sporting goods, for photography, for toys, and for admissions to movies, theaters, concerts, and sporting events were offset by increases in the indexes for video and audio and for pets, pet products and services. During the 12 months ended in December, the index for recreation rose 0.8 percent as increases in the indexes for pets, pet products and services and for recreational services--up 5.5 and 2.4 percent, respectively--more than offset declines in the indexes for video and audio, for sporting goods, for photography, and for toys.

The index for education and communication increased 0.3 percent in December. Educational costs increased 0.5 percent while communication costs were virtually unchanged. During the 12 months ended in December, educational costs rose 5.6 percent, reflecting increases of 6.1 and 9.0 percent in the indexes for college tuition and for college textbooks, respectively. The index for communication rose 0.2 percent during the last 12 months. Increases in the indexes for telephone services and postal services--up 2.1 and 4.4 percent, respectively--offset declines in prices for personal computers and peripheral equipment, for computer software and accessories, and for internet services and electronic information providers--down 13.2, 6.4, and 5.2 percent, respectively.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.3 percent in December to a level 3.3 percent higher than in December 2006. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 0.8 percent in December and 7.5 percent during the last 12 months, accounting for about 70 percent of the monthly increase and 45 percent of the annual change in this major group.

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 0.3 percent in December.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Dec. 2007
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Dec. 2007	
	June 2007	July 2007	Aug. 2007	Sep. 2007	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007		
All items	0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.3	6.2	4.3
Food and beverages .....	.5	.2	.4	.5	.3	.2	.0	2.3	4.9
Housing .....	.2	.2	.0	.2	.3	.5	.3	4.4	3.1
Apparel	-9	.8	-.3	.1	.1	.5	.4	3.9	-.4
Transportation	-2	-3	-1.4	.1	.4	3.0	.5	17.1	8.9
Medical care .....	.2	.7	.5	.4	.6	.4	.3	5.1	5.2
Recreation	-.1	-.1	-.1	.4	.3	.0	.0	1.5	.6
Education and communication .....	.0	.3	.3	.0	.3	.0	.3	2.0	2.6
Other goods and services ...	.3	.1	.1	.4	.2	.2	.3	3.1	3.9
Special indexes:									
Energy	-7	-1.0	-3.4	.3	1.4	5.9	.9	38.0	18.1
Food .....	.5	.3	.4	.5	.3	.2	.1	2.4	5.0
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.3	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	2.7	2.3

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS JANUARY 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.5 percent in January before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The January level of 211.080 (1982-84=100) was 4.3 percent higher than in January 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.5 percent in January prior to seasonal adjustment. The January level of 206.744 (1982-84=100) was 4.6 percent higher than in January 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.5 percent in January on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The January level of 121.895 (December 1999=100) was 3.9 percent higher than in January 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision. Previously published and revised data for 2006 and 2007 are shown on page 5.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U increased 0.4 percent in January. The indexes for food and for energy each advanced 0.7 percent, following increases in December of 0.1 and 1.7 percent, respectively. The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.3 percent, following increases of 0.2 percent in each of the preceding nine months. The January advance reflects larger increases than in December in the indexes for apparel, for medical care, for recreation, for education and communication, and for other goods and services.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Jan. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Jan. 2008	
	July 2007	Aug. 2007	Sep. 2007	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008		
All items	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.4	0.4	6.8	4.3
Food and beverages .....	.3	.4	.5	.2	.4	.1	.7	4.6	4.8
Housing .....	.2	.1	.3	.2	.4	.3	.2	3.5	3.0
Apparel .....	.4	-.5	.2	.1	.6	.1	.4	4.6	-.2
Transportation .....	.3	-.6	.7	.3	3.5	1.0	.5	22.3	9.4
Medical care .....	.6	.5	.4	.5	.4	.3	.5	5.1	4.9
Recreation	-.1	-.1	.2	.3	.2	.0	.2	1.6	1.0
Education and communication .....	.2	.3	.2	.3	.0	.3	.4	2.8	3.4
Other goods and services ...	.1	.1	.3	.2	.2	.3	.4	3.9	3.0
Special indexes:									
Energy .....	.1	-1.7	1.4	1.0	6.9	1.7	.7	43.6	19.6
Food .....	.3	.4	.5	.2	.4	.1	.7	4.7	4.9
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.3	3.1	2.5

Note: Seasonal factors have been recalculated to reflect developments during 2007. For this reason, some of the seasonally adjusted figures above and elsewhere in this report differ from those previously published. See the technical note on page 6 for details.

The food and beverages index rose 0.7 percent in January, up from 0.1 in December and the largest monthly increase since last February. The index for food at home advanced 0.9 percent, following virtually no change in December. The index for fruits and vegetables increased 2.2 percent in January, following a decline of 0.3 percent in December. The indexes for fresh vegetables, for fresh fruits, and for processed fruits and vegetables increased 3.3, 1.8, and 0.7 percent, respectively. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs advanced 0.8 percent in January, following a decrease of 0.1 percent in December. Prices for poultry, for fish and seafood, for pork, and for other meats each increased, while beef prices were virtually unchanged. The index for dairy products rose 0.2 percent after a 0.2 percent decrease in December as a 2.1 percent increase in cheese prices more than offset a small decline in milk prices. The index for nonalcoholic beverages rose 1.6 percent in January, reflecting increases in prices for carbonated drinks and for coffee. The indexes for cereal and bakery products and for other food at home rose 0.6 and 0.4 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--each increased 0.4 percent.

The index for housing increased 0.2 percent in January. The index for shelter increased 0.3 percent in January, the same as in December. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and for owners' equivalent rent each increased 0.3 percent and the index for lodging away from home rose 1.1 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the index for lodging away from home increased 5.0 percent.) The index for fuels and utilities was virtually unchanged in January. The index for household fuels declined 0.1 percent as declines in the indexes for natural gas and electricity--down 2.2 and 0.1 percent, respectively--more than offset a 4.5 percent increase in the index for fuel oil. The indexes for garbage and trash collection and for water and sewerage treatment rose 1.0 and 0.5 percent, respectively. The index for household furnishings and operations increased 0.1 percent in January, following virtually no change in each of the preceding two months.

The transportation index increased 0.5 percent in January. The index for gasoline rose 1.2 percent, accounting for about two-thirds of the overall transportation increase. As of January, gasoline prices were 2.1 percent below their peak level recorded in May 2007. The index for new vehicles declined 0.3 percent in January. (As of January, about 76 percent of the new car sample consisted of 2008 models. The 2008 models will continue to be phased in, with adjustments for quality change, over the next several months as they replace old models at dealerships. For a report on quality changes for the 2008 vehicles represented in the Producer Price Index sample, see news release USDL-07-1787 dated November 14, 2007.) The index for used cars and trucks rose 0.2 percent. During the last 12 months, new vehicle prices have declined 0.6 percent, while prices for used cars and trucks rose 1.4 percent. The index for public transportation increased 0.4 percent in January, largely reflecting a 0.8 percent increase in the index for airline fares.

The index for apparel rose 0.4 percent in January, its fifth consecutive monthly advance. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices declined 2.1 percent, largely as a result of post-holiday discounting.)

Medical care costs rose 0.5 percent in January. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.5 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.6 percent. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services advanced 0.4 and 1.0 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation, which was virtually unchanged in December, increased 0.2 percent in January. Upturns in the indexes for sporting goods and for admissions to movies, theaters, and concerts coupled with a larger increase in the index for club dues and fees for participant sports and group exercises largely accounted for the January advance.

The index for education and communication increased 0.4 percent in January. Educational costs rose 0.6 percent, reflecting increases in prices for college textbooks and charges for child care and nursery school--up 0.9 and 0.8 percent, respectively. The index for communication rose 0.1 percent. Within the communication group, the index for telephone services rose 0.1 percent and the index for personal computers and peripheral equipment increased 1.0 percent.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.4 percent in January. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 1.1 percent accounting for about 55 percent of the monthly increase in this major group.

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 0.4 percent in January.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Jan. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Jan. 2008	
	July 2007	Aug. 2007	Sep. 2007	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008		
All items	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.3	1.0	0.4	0.4	7.7	4.6
Food and beverages .....	.3	.5	.5	.2	.3	.1	.7	4.5	4.9
Housing .....	.1	.0	.2	.3	.4	.2	.2	3.5	3.1
Apparel .....	.5	-.2	.0	.1	.4	.2	.8	5.6	.5
Transportation .....	.3	-.6	.7	.3	3.8	1.1	.7	24.6	10.2
Medical care .....	.6	.5	.4	.5	.4	.3	.6	5.4	5.1
Recreation	-.1	-.1	.3	.2	.1	.1	.2	1.3	.7
Education and communication .....	.2	.3	.1	.3	.0	.2	.3	2.2	3.0
Other goods and services ...	.2	.1	.4	.2	.2	.4	.5	4.5	3.4
Special indexes:									
Energy .....	.1	-1.8	1.4	1.1	7.2	1.8	.8	45.9	20.4
Food .....	.3	.5	.5	.2	.3	.1	.7	4.6	5.0
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.3	3.1	2.4

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS FEBRUARY 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent in February before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The February level of 211.693 (1982-84=100) was 4.0 percent higher than in February 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.2 percent in February prior to seasonal adjustment. The February level of 207.254 (1982-84=100) was 4.4 percent higher than in February 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent in February on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The February level of 122.251 (December 1999=100) was 3.7 percent higher than in February 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U was virtually unchanged in February, following a 0.4 percent rise in January. Each of the three groups--food, energy, and all items less food and energy--contributed to the deceleration. The index for food at home, which rose 0.9 percent in January, increased 0.3 percent. The moderation reflected a downturn in the indexes for fruits and vegetables, for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, and for nonalcoholic beverages. The index for energy turned down in February as a 1.9 percent decline in the index for energy commodities more than offset a 1.7 percent increase in the index for energy services. The index for all items less food and energy was virtually unchanged after increasing 0.3 percent in January. The deceleration reflects smaller increases in the indexes for shelter, for medical care, for recreation, for education and communication, and for other goods and services, and a decline in the index for apparel.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Feb. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Feb. 2008	
	Aug. 2007	Sep. 2007	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008		
All items	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.0	3.1	4.0
Food and beverages .....	.4	.5	.2	.4	.1	.7	.4	4.6	4.5
Housing .....	.1	.3	.2	.4	.3	.2	.2	2.8	2.8
Apparel	-.5	.2	.1	.6	.1	.4	-.3	.8	-1.0
Transportation	-.6	.7	.3	3.5	1.0	.5	-.7	3.5	9.0
Medical care .....	.5	.4	.5	.4	.3	.5	.1	3.9	4.5
Recreation	-.1	.2	.3	.2	.0	.2	.1	1.4	1.1
Education and communication .....	.3	.2	.3	.0	.3	.4	.1	3.2	3.2
Other goods and services ...	.1	.3	.2	.2	.3	.4	.2	3.9	2.9
Special indexes:									
Energy	-1.7	1.4	1.0	6.9	1.7	.7	-.5	7.6	18.9
Food .....	.4	.5	.2	.4	.1	.7	.4	4.7	4.6
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.3	.0	2.3	2.3

The food and beverages index rose 0.4 percent in February. The index for food at home, which advanced 0.9 percent in January, increased 0.3 percent in February. Downturns in the indexes for fruits and vegetables, for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, and for nonalcoholic beverages were responsible for the moderation. The index for fruits and vegetables declined 1.3 percent, following a 2.2 percent rise in January. The indexes for fresh vegetables and for fresh fruits declined 4.0 and 0.4 percent, respectively, while the index for processed fruits and vegetables increased 1.7 percent. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, which advanced 0.8 percent in January, declined 0.1 percent in February. Price decreases for pork and for poultry--down 1.4 and 0.6 percent, respectively--more than offset a 0.5 percent increase in beef prices. The index for nonalcoholic beverages, which rose 1.6 percent in January, declined 0.1 percent in February, reflecting a decline in prices for coffee. On the other hand, the other three grocery store food groups advanced more in February than in January. The index for cereal and bakery products rose 1.8 percent, its largest monthly advance since January 1975. The index for dairy products, which rose 0.2 percent in January, increased 0.8 percent in February. The index for other food at home increased 1.0 percent, following a 0.4 percent rise in January. The other two

components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--each increased 0.4 percent, the same as in January.

The index for housing increased 0.2 percent in February. The index for shelter was virtually unchanged in February, following a 0.3 percent increase in January. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and for owners' equivalent rent increased 0.2 and 0.1 percent, respectively, while the index for lodging away from home fell 1.2 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the index for lodging away from home increased 2.8 percent.) The index for household fuels, which declined 0.1 percent in January, increased 1.5 percent as a 7.2 percent increase in the index for natural gas more than offset decreases in the indexes for fuel oil and for electricity--down 1.5 and 0.3 percent, respectively. The index for household furnishings and operations was virtually unchanged in February.

The transportation index decreased 0.7 percent in February. The index for gasoline declined 2.0 percent, accounting for about 95 percent of the overall transportation decrease. As of February, gasoline prices were 2.6 percent below their peak level recorded in May 2007. The index for new vehicles declined 0.3 percent in February. (As of February, about 84 percent of the new car sample consisted of 2008 models. The 2008 models will continue to be phased in, with adjustments for quality change, over the next several months as they replace old models at dealerships. For a report on quality changes for the 2008 vehicles represented in the Producer Price Index sample, see news release USDL-07-1787 dated November 14, 2007.) The index for used cars was virtually unchanged. During the last 12 months, new vehicle prices declined 0.8 percent, while prices for used cars and trucks rose 2.0 percent. The index for public transportation decreased 0.1 percent in February, reflecting in part a 0.3 percent decrease in the index for airline fares. (Prior to seasonal adjustment airline fares rose 1.2 percent in February and are 7.6 percent higher than in February 2007.)

The index for apparel declined 0.3 percent in February, following increases in each of the preceding five months. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices increased 1.8 percent, reflecting the introduction of spring-summer wear.)

Medical care costs rose 0.1 percent in February. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.1 percent. The index for medical care services also rose 0.1 percent. The index for professional services was virtually unchanged, while the index for hospital and related services advanced 0.3 percent.

The index for recreation increased 0.1 percent in February. Increases in the indexes for pets, pet products and services, for recreational books, and for toys were partially offset by declines in the indexes for video and audio and for sporting goods.

The index for education and communication increased 0.1 percent in February. Educational costs rose 0.3 percent, while communication costs were virtually unchanged. Within the communication group, declines in the indexes for telephone services and for personal computers and peripheral equipment--down 0.1 and 0.5 percent, respectively--were offset by increases in the indexes for computer software and accessories and for internet services and electronic information providers--each up 0.6 percent.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.2 percent in February. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 0.4 percent accounting for about 42 percent of the monthly increase in this major group. The advance in the index for miscellaneous personal services, reflecting increases in laundry and dry cleaning, other apparel services, and financial services, was partially offset by declines in prices for personal care products.

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

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers was virtually unchanged in February.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Feb. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Feb. 2008	
	Aug. 2007	Sep. 2007	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008		
All items	0.0	0.4	0.3	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	3.4	4.4
Food and beverages .....	.5	.5	.2	.3	.1	.7	.3	4.6	4.6
Housing .....	.0	.2	.3	.4	.2	.2	.2	2.8	2.9
Apparel	-.2	.0	.1	.4	.2	.8	-.3	2.5	-.3
Transportation	-.6	.7	.3	3.8	1.1	.7	-.7	4.2	9.9
Medical care .....	.5	.4	.5	.4	.3	.6	.1	4.0	4.7
Recreation	-.1	.3	.2	.1	.1	.2	.1	1.5	.8
Education and communication .....	.3	.1	.3	.0	.2	.3	.1	2.6	2.8
Other goods and services ...	.1	.4	.2	.2	.4	.5	.3	4.7	3.2
Special indexes:									
Energy	-1.8	1.4	1.1	7.2	1.8	.8	-.7	7.7	19.7
Food .....	.5	.5	.2	.3	.1	.7	.3	4.5	4.6
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.3	.0	2.4	2.3

Consumer Price Index data for March are scheduled for release on Wednesday, April 16, 2008, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS MARCH 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.9 percent in March, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The March level of 213.528 (1982-84=100) was 4.0 percent higher than in March 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.9 percent in March, prior to seasonal adjustment. The March level of 209.147 (1982-84=100) was 4.3 percent higher than in March 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.8 percent in March on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The March level of 123.204 (December 1999=100) was 3.6 percent higher than in March 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U advanced 0.3 percent in March, following virtually no change in February. The energy index increased 1.9 percent in March after declining 0.5 percent in February. Within energy, the index for petroleum based energy increased 2.0 percent and the index for energy services rose 1.9 percent. The food index, which rose 0.4 percent in February, increased 0.2 percent in March. The index for food at home also rose 0.2 percent. The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.2 percent in March, following virtually no change in February. A larger increase in the index for household furnishings and operations and an upturn in the index for airline fares more than offset a larger decline in the apparel index.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Mar. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Mar. 2008	
	Sep. 2007	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008		
All items	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.3	3.1	4.0
Food and beverages .....	.5	.2	.4	.1	.7	.4	.2	5.1	4.4
Housing .....	.3	.2	.4	.3	.2	.2	.4	3.4	3.0
Apparel .....	.2	.1	.6	.1	.4	-.3	-1.3	-4.7	-1.4
Transportation .....	.7	.3	3.5	1.0	.5	-.7	.7	2.4	8.2
Medical care .....	.4	.5	.4	.3	.5	.1	.1	3.2	4.6
Recreation .....	.2	.3	.2	.0	.2	.1	.3	2.3	1.3
Education and communication .....	.2	.3	.0	.3	.4	.1	.3	3.2	3.0
Other goods and services ...	.3	.2	.2	.3	.4	.2	.4	4.5	3.2
Special indexes:									
Energy	1.4	1.0	6.9	1.7	.7	-.5	1.9	8.6	17.0
Food .....	.5	.2	.4	.1	.7	.4	.2	5.3	4.5
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.2	.2	.3	.0	.2	2.0	2.4

For the first three months of 2008, consumer prices increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of 3.1 percent. This compares with an increase of 4.1 percent for all of 2007. The index for energy, which rose 17.4 percent in 2007, advanced at a 8.6 percent SAAR in the first quarter of 2008. Petroleum-based energy costs increased at a 5.6 percent annual rate and charges for energy services rose at a 12.8 percent annual rate. The food index rose at a 5.3 percent SAAR in the first quarter of 2008, following a 4.9 percent increase in all of 2007. The index for grocery store food prices increased at a 5.9 percent annual rate, reflecting increases in each of the six major groups ranging from annual rates of 0.7 percent in the index for dairy products to 15.7 percent in the index for cereal and bakery products.

Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 2.0 percent SAAR in the first quarter, following a 2.4 percent rise in all of 2007. The moderation thus far in 2008 largely reflects smaller increases in the indexes for shelter--up at a 2.0 percent rate after advancing 3.1 percent in all of 2007--and medical care, coupled with a larger decline in the index for apparel. The annual rates for selected groups for the last seven and one-quarter years are shown below.

Table Q1. Annual percent changes in the CPI for All Urban Consumers, 2001-2008

Expenditure Category	Percentage change 12 months ended in December							SAAR 3 mos. ended Mar. 2008
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	
All items	1.6	2.4	1.9	3.3	3.4	2.5	4.1	3.1
Food and beverages	2.8	1.5	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.2	4.8	5.1
Housing	2.9	2.4	2.2	3.0	4.0	3.3	3.0	3.4
Apparel	-3.2	-1.8	-2.1	-.2	-1.1	.9	-.3	-4.7
Transportation	-3.8	3.8	.3	6.5	4.8	1.6	8.3	2.4
Medical care	4.7	5.0	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.2	3.2
Recreation	1.5	1.1	1.1	.7	1.1	1.0	.8	2.3
Education and communication	3.2	2.2	1.6	1.5	2.4	2.3	3.0	3.2
Other goods and services	4.5	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.3	4.5
Special indexes:								
Energy	-13.0	10.7	6.9	16.6	17.1	2.9	17.4	8.6
Energy commodities	-24.5	23.7	6.9	26.7	16.7	6.1	29.4	5.6
Energy services	-1.5	.4	6.9	6.8	17.6	-.6	3.4	12.8
All items less energy	2.8	1.8	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.8	2.5
Food	2.8	1.5	3.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	4.9	5.3
All items less food and energy	2.7	1.9	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.4	2.0

The food and beverages index rose 0.2 percent in March. The index for grocery store food also increased 0.2 percent. Another large increase in the index for cereal and bakery products was partially offset by a downturn in the index for dairy products; the other four major grocery store food groups registered small increases. The index for cereal and bakery products, which increased 1.8 percent in February, rose 1.3 percent in March. Prices for bread increased 2.1 percent in March and were 14.7 percent higher than a year earlier. The index for dairy products declined 0.8 percent in March, as milk prices fell 2.2 percent. Despite the drop in March, milk prices were still 13.3 percent higher than in March 2007. The index for fruits and vegetables rose 0.1 percent. A 2.0 percent increase in the index for fresh vegetables more than offset declines in the indexes for fresh fruits and for processed fruits and vegetables--down 1.1 and 0.9 percent, respectively. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs was virtually unchanged in March. Increases in prices for beef, for poultry, and for other meats were offset by declines in prices for pork and for fish and seafood. The indexes for nonalcoholic beverages and for other food at home increased 0.3 and 0.1 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.3 and declined 0.1 percent, respectively.

The index for housing, which rose 0.2 percent in February, increased 0.4 percent in March. Each of the three major groups contributed to the larger advance. The index for shelter increased 0.1 percent in March after registering virtually no change in February. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent each increased 0.2 percent, while the index for lodging away from home fell 0.6 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the index for lodging away from home increased 3.7 percent.) The index for fuels and utilities increased 2.0 percent, following a 1.3 percent rise in February. Upturns in the indexes for electricity and for fuel oil more than offset a smaller increase in charges for natural gas. The index for natural gas, which rose 7.2 percent in February, increased 4.6 percent in March. The index for fuel oil increased 10.1 percent in March and is 48.4 percent higher than in March 2007. The index for electricity rose 0.8 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations, which was virtually unchanged in February, increased 0.5 percent in March. About two-thirds of the advance reflects a 1.7 percent increase in prices for furniture and bedding.

The transportation index increased 0.7 percent in March after declining 0.7 percent in February, reflecting the upturn in gasoline prices. The index for motor fuels, which declined 2.0 percent in February, advanced 1.6 percent in March and accounted for almost three-fourths of the transportation increase in March. As of March, the price of gasoline was 4.4 percent higher than its previous peak level recorded in May 2007. The index for new vehicles declined 0.1 percent in March and was 1.1 percent lower than in March 2007. The index for used cars and trucks was virtually unchanged in March. The index for public transportation advanced 2.5 percent in March, reflecting increases in airline fares and intercity train fares. Airline fares increased 3.0 percent in March and have risen 10.2 percent in the last 12 months.

The index for apparel fell 1.3 percent in March, following a 0.3 percent decrease in February. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices rose 2.6 percent, reflecting the continued introduction of spring-summer wear. Prices for women's and girls' apparel registered the largest advance--up 4.0 percent.)

Medical care costs rose 0.1 percent in March and are 4.6 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 0.1 percent in March. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.1 and 0.2 percent, respectively..

The index for recreation, which rose 0.1 percent in February, advanced 0.3 percent in March. Increases in the indexes for pets, pet products and services and for admissions to sporting events--each up 1.1--and for cable and satellite television and radio service--up 0.6 percent--largely accounted for the March advance.

The index for education and communication rose 0.3 percent in March. Educational costs increased 0.4 percent and communication costs rose 0.1 percent. Within the latter category, increases in charges for telephone services more than offset a decline in the index for information technology, hardware and services. Local-and long distance-land-line telephone charges rose 0.5 and 0.2 percent, respectively, while charges for wireless telephone services were unchanged. The index for information technology, hardware and services declined 0.1 percent, reflecting decreases in the indexes for personal computers and peripheral equipment, for computer software and accessories, and for internet services.

The index for other goods and services rose 0.4 percent in March. The index for personal care rose 0.6 percent, reflecting increases in the indexes for haircuts, tax return preparation, and miscellaneous personal goods. These increases were partially offset by a 0.1 percent decline in the index for tobacco and smoking products.

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

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers rose 0.4 percent in March.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Mar. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Mar. 2008	
	Sep. 2007	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008		
All items	0.4	0.3	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.4	3.3	4.3
Food and beverages .....	.5	.2	.3	.1	.7	.3	.2	5.1	4.4
Housing .....	.2	.3	.4	.2	.2	.2	.5	3.6	3.0
Apparel .....	.0	.1	.4	.2	.8	-.3	-1.2	-3.1	-1.0
Transportation .....	.7	.3	3.8	1.1	.7	-.7	.7	2.8	9.0
Medical care .....	.4	.5	.4	.3	.6	.1	.1	3.2	4.6
Recreation .....	.3	.2	.1	.1	.2	.1	.3	2.5	1.2
Education and communication .....	.1	.3	.0	.2	.3	.1	.2	2.6	2.6
Other goods and services ...	.4	.2	.2	.4	.5	.3	.4	4.8	3.4
Special indexes:									
Energy	1.4	1.1	7.2	1.8	.8	-.7	1.9	8.3	17.6
Food .....	.5	.2	.3	.1	.7	.3	.2	5.2	4.5
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.2	.2	.3	.0	.1	2.1	2.3

Consumer Price Index data for April are scheduled for release on Wednesday, May 14, 2008, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS APRIL 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.6 percent in April, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The April level of 214.823 (1982-84=100) was 3.9 percent higher than in April 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.7 percent in April, prior to seasonal adjustment. The April level of 210.698 (1982-84=100) was 4.2 percent higher than in April 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.5 percent in April on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The April level of 123.845 (December 1999=100) was 3.5 percent higher than in April 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U advanced 0.2 percent in April, following a 0.3 percent increase in March. The index for energy was virtually unchanged after advancing 1.9 percent in March. In April, the index for petroleum-based energy fell 1.6 percent, offsetting a 2.5 percent increase in the index for energy services. The food index rose 0.9 percent in April. The index for food at home increased 1.5 percent, reflecting substantial increases in all six major grocery store food groups. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.1 percent in April, following a 0.2 percent rise in March. Downturns in the indexes for public transportation, for household furnishings and operations, and for recreation, coupled with a larger decline in the index for lodging away from home, more than offset an upturn in the index for apparel.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Apr. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Apr. 2008	
	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008		
All items	0.3	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.2	2.3	3.9
Food and beverages .....	.2	.4	.1	.7	.4	.2	.9	6.1	5.0
Housing .....	.2	.4	.3	.2	.2	.4	.3	3.7	3.0
Apparel .....	.1	.6	.1	.4	-.3	-1.3	.5	-4.6	-.7
Transportation .....	.3	3.5	1.0	.5	-.7	.7	-.7	-2.5	7.2
Medical care .....	.5	.4	.3	.5	.1	.1	.2	1.6	4.3
Recreation .....	.3	.2	.0	.2	.1	.3	-.1	1.2	1.2
Education and communication .....	.3	.0	.3	.4	.1	.3	.4	3.3	3.2
Other goods and services ...	.2	.2	.3	.4	.2	.4	.5	4.8	3.5
Special indexes:									
Energy	1.0	6.9	1.7	.7	-.5	1.9	.0	5.6	15.9
Food .....	.2	.4	.1	.7	.4	.2	.9	6.3	5.1
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.2	.3	.0	.2	.1	1.2	2.3

During the first four months of 2008, the CPI-U rose at a 3.0 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 4.1 percent for all of 2007. The deceleration thus far this year reflects smaller increases in the indexes for energy and for all items less food and energy. The index for energy advanced at a 6.3 percent SAAR in the first four months of 2008 compared with 17.4 percent in 2007. Petroleum-based energy costs decreased at a 0.7 percent annual rate while charges for energy services rose at a 17.7 percent annual rate. The food index has increased at a 6.9 percent SAAR thus far this year, following a 4.9 percent rise for all of 2007. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 1.8 percent SAAR in the first four months, following a 2.4 percent rise for all of 2007.

The food and beverages index rose 0.9 percent in April. The index for food at home increased 1.5 percent, following a 0.2 percent rise in March. Each of the six major grocery store food groups contributed to the larger advance in April. The index for fruits and vegetables, which rose 0.1 percent in March, increased 2.0 percent in April. The indexes for fresh fruits and for processed fruits and vegetables increased 3.2 and 3.4 percent, respectively, while the index for fresh vegetables declined 0.2 percent. The

index for cereal and bakery products, which increased 1.3 percent in March, rose 1.4 percent in April. Prices for bread increased 1.5 percent and were 14.1 percent higher than a year earlier. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, which was virtually unchanged in March, advanced 0.9 percent in April. A 1.1 percent decline in beef prices was more than offset by increases in the indexes for pork, for fish and seafood, and for poultry--up 3.4, 2.6, and 0.7 percent, respectively. The index for dairy products turned up in April, increasing 1.2 percent. Milk prices rose 0.9 percent and were 13.5 percent higher than in April 2007. The index for nonalcoholic beverages increased 1.7 percent, reflecting large price increases for coffee and for carbonated drinks--up 4.0 and 2.2 percent, respectively. The index for other food at home rose 1.9 percent in April, reflecting large increases in most categories. In particular, the indexes for butter and for margarine increased 7.8 and 6.5 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.3 and 0.6 percent, respectively.

The index for housing rose 0.3 percent in April. The index for shelter increased 0.1 percent in April, the same as in March. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent increased 0.3 and 0.2 percent, respectively. The index for lodging away from home declined for the third consecutive month--down 1.9 percent in April. The index for household energy registered its third consecutive large increase--up 2.6 percent in April. The index for fuel oil rose 4.4 percent and was 52.6 percent higher than in April 2007. The indexes for natural gas and for electricity rose 4.8 and 1.5 percent, respectively. During the last 12 months charges for natural gas and for electricity increased 10.9 and 5.0 percent, respectively. The index for household furnishings and operations, which increased 0.5 percent in March, declined 0.1 percent in April.

The transportation index declined 0.7 percent in April, reflecting a 2.0 percent decrease in the index for gasoline. The index for new vehicles declined 0.2 percent and was 1.3 percent lower than in April 2007. The index for used cars and trucks declined 0.3 percent in April, but was 1.8 percent higher than a year ago. The index for public transportation declined 0.4 percent in April, reflecting a 0.5 percent decrease in the index for airline fares. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, airline fares rose 0.9 percent and were 10.1 percent higher than a year ago.)

Gasoline prices rose 5.6 percent in April. Compared to a year ago, these prices were up 20.9 percent. Gasoline prices increase seasonally during the first five months of the year, with the largest increases occurring in March and April and decline seasonally for the remainder of the year.

The index for apparel rose 0.5 percent in April, following a 1.3 percent decrease in March. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices rose 1.0 percent. Prices for men's and boys' apparel rose 1.4 percent and women's and girls apparel increased 0.5 percent. During the last 12 months, prices for men's and boys' apparel increased 1.3 percent, while prices for women's and girls' clothing fell 5.0 percent.)

Medical care costs rose 0.2 percent in April and are 4.3 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--decreased 0.2 percent. The index for medical care services increased 0.3 percent. Within the latter group, the indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.2 and 0.5 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation, which rose 0.3 percent in March, declined 0.1 percent in April. A 0.4 percent decrease in the index for video and audio was largely responsible for the April decrease. Declines in the indexes for photography, for toys, and for admissions to movies, theaters, and concerts also contributed to the April decrease.

The index for education and communication increased 0.4 percent in April. Educational costs rose 0.6 percent and the index for communication costs rose 0.2 percent. Within the latter category, increases in charges for telephone services more than offset a decline in the index for information technology, hardware and services. Local land-line telephone charges rose 0.8 and long distance land-line telephone charges and wireless telephone services each rose 0.3 percent. The index for information technology, hardware and services declined 0.7 percent, reflecting decreases in the indexes for personal computers and peripheral equipment and for internet services.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.5 percent in April. The index for personal care products rose 0.6 percent, reflecting a 1.2 percent increase in the index for hair, dental, shaving and miscellaneous personal care products. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 0.3 percent.

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 April.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Apr. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Apr. 2008	
	Oct. 2007	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008		
All items	0.3	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.2	2.4	4.2
Food and beverages .....	.2	.3	.1	.7	.3	.2	.9	6.1	5.0
Housing .....	.3	.4	.2	.2	.2	.5	.4	4.6	3.2
Apparel .....	.1	.4	.2	.8	-.3	-1.2	.2	-5.4	-.5
Transportation .....	.3	3.8	1.1	.7	-.7	.7	-.7	-2.8	7.9
Medical care .....	.5	.4	.3	.6	.1	.1	.2	1.4	4.4
Recreation .....	.2	.1	.1	.2	.1	.3	-.2	1.2	1.0
Education and communication .....	.3	.0	.2	.3	.1	.2	.4	2.9	2.8
Other goods and services ...	.2	.2	.4	.5	.3	.4	.4	4.5	3.8
Special indexes:									
Energy	1.1	7.2	1.8	.8	-.7	1.9	-.2	4.3	16.2
Food .....	.2	.3	.1	.7	.3	.2	1.0	6.3	5.1
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.2	.3	.0	.1	.1	1.3	2.2

Consumer Price Index data for May are scheduled for release on Friday, June 13, 2008, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS MAY 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.8 percent in May, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The May level of 216.632 (1982-84=100) was 4.2 percent higher than in May 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 1.0 percent in May, prior to seasonal adjustment. The May level of 212.788 (1982-84=100) was 4.5 percent higher than in May 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.6 percent in May on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The May level of 124.645 (December 1999=100) was 3.6 percent higher than in May 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U advanced 0.6 percent in May, following a 0.2 percent increase in April. The index for energy, which was virtually unchanged in April, increased 4.4 percent in May. The index for petroleum-based energy advanced 5.8 percent and the index for energy services rose 2.3 percent. The food index rose 0.3 percent in May. The index for food at home, which advanced 1.5 percent in April, also increased 0.3 percent, as five of the six major grocery store food groups registered substantial deceleration. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 0.2 percent in May, following a 0.1 percent rise in April. Upturns in the indexes for lodging away from home, for public transportation, and for household furnishings and operations more than offset a downturn in the index for apparel.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended May 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended May 2008	
	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008		
All items	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.6	4.9	4.2
Food and beverages .....	.4	.1	.7	.4	.2	.9	.3	5.9	5.0
Housing .....	.4	.3	.2	.2	.4	.3	.5	4.9	3.3
Apparel .....	.6	.1	.4	-.3	-1.3	.5	-.3	-4.3	-.6
Transportation	3.5	1.0	.5	-.7	.7	-.7	2.0	8.7	8.1
Medical care .....	.4	.3	.5	.1	.1	.2	.2	1.8	4.1
Recreation .....	.2	.0	.2	.1	.3	-.1	.1	1.0	1.2
Education and communication .....	.0	.3	.4	.1	.3	.4	.4	4.2	3.0
Other goods and services ...	.2	.3	.4	.2	.4	.5	.4	5.3	3.6
Special indexes:									
Energy	6.9	1.7	.7	-.5	1.9	.0	4.4	28.2	17.4
Food .....	.4	.1	.7	.4	.2	.9	.3	6.2	5.1
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.3	.0	.2	.1	.2	1.8	2.3

During the first five months of 2008, the CPI-U rose at a 4.0 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 4.1 percent for all of 2007. The index for energy advanced at a 16.5 percent SAAR in the first five months of 2008 after advancing 17.4 percent in all of 2007. Petroleum-based energy costs increased at a 13.9 percent annual rate and charges for energy services rose at a 20.3 percent annual rate. The food index has increased at a 6.3 percent SAAR thus far this year, following a 4.9 percent rise for all of 2007. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 2.0 percent SAAR in the first five months, following a 2.4 percent rise for all of 2007.

The food and beverages index rose 0.3 percent in May. The index for food at home increased 0.3 percent, following a 1.5 percent rise in April. The index for cereal and bakery products recorded its fourth consecutive large advance--up 1.6 percent in May. Each of the other six major grocery store food groups decelerated in May. The index for fruits and vegetables, which increased 2.0 percent in April, was virtually unchanged in May. A 0.7 percent decline in the indexes for fresh fruits offset increases in the indexes for fresh vegetables and processed fruits and vegetables--up 0.5 and 0.4 percent, respectively. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and

eggs, which advanced 0.9 percent in April, rose 0.1 percent in May. Beef prices, which declined 1.1 percent in April, rose 1.5 percent in May. Prices for poultry and for fish and seafood increased 0.8 and 0.9 percent, respectively. These increases were largely offset by decreases in the indexes for pork, for other meats, and for eggs. The index for dairy products declined 0.1 percent, following a 1.2 percent increase in April. Milk prices fell 0.7 percent, but were 10.2 percent higher than in May 2007. The index for nonalcoholic beverages, which increased 1.7 percent in April, declined 0.9 percent in May reflecting a 2.2 percent drop in the index for carbonated drinks. The index for other food at home rose 0.5 percent after advancing 1.9 percent in April. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.4 and 0.1 percent, respectively.

The index for housing rose 0.5 percent in May. The index for shelter increased 0.2 percent, following a 0.1 percent rise in April. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent increased 0.2 and 0.1 percent, respectively. The index for lodging away from home, which had declined in each of the preceding three months, increased 1.3 percent in May. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, charges for lodging away from home declined 0.5 percent in May.) The index for household energy registered its fourth consecutive large increase--up 2.8 percent in May. The index for fuel oil rose 10.4 percent and was 64.0 percent higher than in May 2007. The indexes for natural gas and for electricity rose 5.6 and 0.9 percent, respectively. During the last 12 months charges for natural gas and for electricity increased 16.5 and 5.8 percent, respectively. The index for household furnishings and operations, which declined 0.1 percent in April, increased 0.2 percent in May.

The transportation index advanced 2.0 percent in May, reflecting large increases in the indexes for motor fuel and public transportation. The index for gasoline rose 5.7 percent and was 20.8 percent higher than in May 2007. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices in May rose 9.5 percent above their previous peak level recorded in April.) The index for new vehicles declined 0.1 percent and was 1.2 percent lower than in May 2007. The index for used cars and trucks declined 0.3 percent in May, but was 1.4 percent higher than a year ago. The index for public transportation advanced 2.3 percent in May, reflecting a 3.2 percent increase in the index for airline fares. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, airline fares rose 4.2 percent and were 14.4 percent higher than a year ago.)

The index for apparel fell 0.3 percent in May following a 0.5 percent increase in April. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices declined 1.1 percent. Prices for women's and girls apparel decreased 2.2 percent. During the last 12 months, prices for women's and girls' clothing fell 5.0 percent, while prices for men's and boys' apparel increased 1.9 percent.)

Medical care costs rose 0.2 percent in May and were 4.1 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--declined for the second consecutive month--down 0.7 percent in May. The index for medical care services increased 0.5 percent. Within the latter group, the indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.7 and 0.4 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation, which declined 0.1 percent in April, rose 0.1 percent in May. Upturns in the indexes for admissions to movies, theaters, concerts, and sporting events and for photography, coupled with larger increases in the indexes for sporting goods and for pets, pet products and services more than offset declines in the indexes for video and audio and for toys.

The index for education and communication increased 0.4 percent in May. Educational costs rose 0.4 percent and the index for communication costs rose 0.3 percent. Within the latter category, increases in charges for telephone services more than offset a decline in the index for information technology, hardware and services. Local land-line telephone charges rose 0.3 percent and long distance land-line telephone charges rose 1.3 percent; wireless telephone services were unchanged. The index for information technology, hardware and services declined 0.5 percent, reflecting decreases in the indexes for personal computers and peripheral equipment and for computer software and accessories.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.4 percent in May. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 0.8 percent and accounted for more than half of the increase in this major group.

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 0.7 percent in May.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended May 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended May 2008	
	Nov. 2007	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008		
All items	1.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.7	5.4	4.5
Food and beverages .....	.3	.1	.7	.3	.2	.9	.3	6.0	4.9
Housing .....	.4	.2	.2	.2	.5	.4	.5	5.7	3.5
Apparel .....	.4	.2	.8	-.3	-1.2	.2	-.2	-4.8	-.4
Transportation	3.8	1.1	.7	-.7	.7	-.7	2.1	8.9	8.7
Medical care .....	.4	.3	.6	.1	.1	.2	.1	1.7	4.2
Recreation .....	.1	.1	.2	.1	.3	-.2	.0	.8	.9
Education and communication .....	.0	.2	.3	.1	.2	.4	.3	4.0	2.5
Other goods and services ...	.2	.4	.5	.3	.4	.4	.5	5.2	3.9
Special indexes:									
Energy	7.2	1.8	.8	-.7	1.9	-.2	4.5	27.7	17.5
Food .....	.3	.1	.7	.3	.2	1.0	.3	6.3	5.1
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.3	.0	.1	.1	.2	1.8	2.3

Consumer Price Index data for June are scheduled for release on Wednesday, July 16, 2008, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS JUNE 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 1.0 percent in June, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The June level of 218.815 (1982-84=100) was 5.0 percent higher than in June 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 1.1 percent in June, prior to seasonal adjustment. The June level of 215.223 (1982-84=100) was 5.6 percent higher than in June 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.8 percent in June on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The June level of 125.582 (December 1999=100) was 4.2 percent higher than in June 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U advanced 1.1 percent in June, following a 0.6 percent increase in May. The index for energy rose sharply for the second straight month, increasing 6.6 percent in June following a 4.4 percent increase in May. The increase in the energy index accounted for around two-thirds of the overall increase in the all items index in June. The index for petroleum-based energy advanced 10.0 percent and the index for energy services rose 1.5 percent. The food index rose 0.8 percent in June after rising 0.3 percent in May. The index for food at home went up 1.0 percent in June, with indexes for four of the six major grocery store food groups sharply accelerating. The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.3 percent in June, following a 0.1 percent rise in April and a 0.2 percent increase in May. Larger increases in the indexes for shelter and for tobacco and smoking products and an upturn in the apparel index contributed to the larger increase.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended June 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended June 2008	
	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008		
All items	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.6	1.1	7.9	5.0
Food and beverages .....	.1	.7	.4	.2	.9	.3	.7	8.1	5.2
Housing .....	.3	.2	.2	.4	.3	.5	.5	5.2	3.5
Apparel .....	.1	.4	-.3	-1.3	.5	-.3	.1	1.0	-.2
Transportation	1.0	.5	-.7	.7	-.7	2.0	3.8	22.3	12.0
Medical care .....	.3	.5	.1	.1	.2	.2	.2	2.1	4.0
Recreation .....	.0	.2	.1	.3	-.1	.1	.1	.6	1.3
Education and communication .....	.3	.4	.1	.3	.4	.4	.5	5.1	3.4
Other goods and services ...	.3	.4	.2	.4	.5	.4	.4	5.2	3.8
Special indexes:									
Energy	1.7	.7	-.5	1.9	.0	4.4	6.6	53.6	24.7
Food .....	.1	.7	.4	.2	.9	.3	.8	8.5	5.3
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.3	.0	.2	.1	.2	.3	2.5	2.4

Consumer prices advanced at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR) of 7.9 percent in the second quarter after increasing at a 3.1 percent rate in the first three months of 2008. This brings the year-to-date annual rate to 5.5 percent and compares with an increase of 4.1 percent in all of 2007. The index for energy increased at a 29.1 percent SAAR in the first half of 2008, accounting for around half of the advance in the all items CPI-U during that period. Energy commodities increased at a 34.7 percent rate and energy services rose at a 20.1 percent rate. The food index rose at a 6.8 percent SAAR in the first half of 2008, accounting for about one-sixth of the overall CPI-U increase in the period. The food at home index increased at an 8.7 percent annual rate in the first half of 2008, compared to a 5.6 percent increase for all of 2007. Four of the six major groups accelerated over last year. The increases ranged from annual rates of 15.5 percent for the index for cereal and bakery products to 5.2 percent for the index for meats, poultry fish and eggs.

The CPI-U excluding food and energy increased at a 2.5 percent SAAR in the second quarter after rising at a 2.0 percent rate in the first three months of 2008. The advance at a 2.3 percent SAAR over the first six months of 2008 compares with an increase

of 2.4 percent in all of 2007. Deceleration in the shelter and medical care indexes and a larger rate of decline in the apparel index more than offset acceleration in the indexes for recreation, education and communication, and other goods and services. The shelter index increased at a 2.2 percent SAAR after increasing 3.1 percent in 2007 while the apparel index declined at a 1.9 percent rate after falling 0.3 percent in 2007. The annual rates for selected groups for the last seven-and-one-half years are shown below.

Table Q2. Annual percent changes in the CPI for All Urban Consumers, 2001-2008

Expenditure Category	Percentage change 12 months ended in December							SAAR 6 mos. ended June 2008
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	
All items	1.6	2.4	1.9	3.3	3.4	2.5	4.1	5.5
Food and beverages	2.8	1.5	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.2	4.8	6.6
Housing	2.9	2.4	2.2	3.0	4.0	3.3	3.0	4.3
Apparel	-3.2	-1.8	-2.1	-2	-1.1	.9	-.3	-1.9
Transportation	-3.8	3.8	.3	6.5	4.8	1.6	8.3	11.9
Medical care	4.7	5.0	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.2	2.7
Recreation	1.5	1.1	1.1	.7	1.1	1.0	.8	1.5
Education and communication	3.2	2.2	1.6	1.5	2.4	2.3	3.0	4.1
Other goods and services	4.5	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.3	4.8
Special indexes:								
Energy	-13.0	10.7	6.9	16.6	17.1	2.9	17.4	29.1
Energy commodities	-24.5	23.7	6.9	26.7	16.7	6.1	29.4	34.7
Energy services	-1.5	.4	6.9	6.8	17.6	-.6	3.4	20.1
All items less energy	2.8	1.8	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.8	3.0
Food	2.8	1.5	3.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	4.9	6.8
All items less food and energy	2.7	1.9	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.4	2.3

The food and beverages index rose 0.7 percent in June. The index for food at home increased 1.0 percent, following a 0.3 percent rise in May. Four of the six major grocery store food group indexes accelerated in June. The index for fruits and vegetables, which was virtually unchanged in May, rose 2.8 percent in June. The index for fresh vegetables rose 6.1 percent in June and the indexes for fresh fruit and for processed fruits and vegetables increased 0.8 percent and 1.2 percent, respectively. The index for dairy and related products increased 1.6 percent in June after a 0.1 percent decline in May. The index for meats, poultry fish and eggs rose 0.8 percent in June after a 0.1 percent increase in May. The beef and veal index increased sharply for the second month in a row, up 1.7 percent in June after a 1.5 percent increase in May. The pork index turned up, increasing 0.6 percent in June after declining 0.8 percent the previous month. The index for eggs increased 1.4 percent in June after a 3.8 percent decrease in May and is 23.2 percent higher than in June 2007. The index for nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials rose 0.2 percent in June after a 0.9 percent decline in May. The two decelerating groups were cereals and bakery products, increasing 0.5 percent in June after a 1.6 percent rise in May, and other food at home, up 0.4 percent in June after a 0.5 percent increase in May. The indexes for food away from home and for alcoholic beverages increased 0.5 and 0.1 percent, respectively.

The index for housing rose 0.5 percent in June, the same increase as the previous month. The index for shelter increased 0.3 percent, following a 0.2 percent rise in May and a 0.1 percent increase in April. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent increased 0.4 and 0.3 percent, respectively. The index for lodging away from home increased 0.7 percent in June. The index for household energy registered its fifth consecutive large increase, increasing 2.1 percent in June. The index for fuel oil rose 10.4 percent for the second consecutive month and is 78.0 percent higher than in June 2007. The index for electricity, after increasing for three consecutive months, declined 0.1 percent in June. The index for natural gas increased sharply for the fifth consecutive month, rising 4.9 percent in June and is up 21.5 percent over the last 12 months. The index for household furnishings and operations was virtually unchanged in June after increasing 0.2 percent in May.

The transportation index advanced 3.8 percent in June, reflecting large increases in the indexes for motor fuel and public transportation. The index for gasoline rose 10.1 percent, accounting for slightly more than half of the total advance in the all items index, and was 32.8 percent higher than in June 2007. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices in June rose 7.9 percent above their previous peak level recorded in May.) The index for new vehicles turned up in June, increasing 0.2 percent after a 0.1 percent decline in May; the new vehicles index is down 1.0 percent over the last 12 months. The index for used cars and trucks declined 0.3 percent in June, the third consecutive decrease, but is up 0.7 percent over June 2007. The index for public transportation advanced 3.4 percent in June, reflecting a 4.5 percent increase in the index for airline fares. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, airline fares rose 6.7 percent and were 18.7 percent higher than a year ago.)

The index for apparel rose 0.1 percent in June following a 0.3 percent decline in May. Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices declined 3.1 percent in June and are 0.2 percent lower than in June 2007. Over the last year, women's and girls' apparel prices declined 3.3 percent while prices for men's and boys' apparel rose 1.0 percent.

Medical care costs rose 0.2 percent in June, and are 4.0 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.1 percent in June after a 0.7 percent decline in May. The index for medical care services increased 0.3 percent in June after a 0.5 percent increase in May. This reflected a deceleration in the index for professional services, which increased 0.3 percent in June after a 0.7 percent increase in May. The index for hospital and related services increased 0.4 percent in June.

The index for recreation was increased 0.1 percent in June, the same percent change as in May. Increases in the indexes for pets, pet products and services and for sporting goods more than offset declines in the indexes for video and audio, for toys, and for admissions.

The index for education and communication increased 0.5 percent in June. Educational costs rose 0.4 percent and the index for communication costs rose 0.6 percent. Within the latter category, the index for delivery services increased 2.1 percent and long distance land-line telephone charges increased 3.3 percent. These increases were partially offset by a 0.5 percent decline in the index for information technology, hardware and services.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.4 percent in June. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 1.5 percent, accounting for over 80 percent of the increase in this group. The index for personal care increased 0.1 percent.

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 1.2 percent in June.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended June 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended June 2008	
	Dec. 2007	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008		
All items	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.7	1.2	9.0	5.6
Food and beverages .....	.1	.7	.3	.2	.9	.3	.8	8.4	5.2
Housing .....	.2	.2	.2	.5	.4	.5	.5	5.9	3.8
Apparel .....	.2	.8	-.3	-1.2	.2	-.2	.0	.2	.3
Transportation	1.1	.7	-.7	.7	-.7	2.1	4.0	23.7	12.9
Medical care .....	.3	.6	.1	.1	.2	.1	.2	2.1	4.1
Recreation .....	.1	.2	.1	.3	-.2	.0	.2	.2	1.1
Education and communication .....	.2	.3	.1	.2	.4	.3	.5	5.1	3.0
Other goods and services ...	.4	.5	.3	.4	.4	.5	.6	6.1	4.2
Special indexes:									
Energy	1.8	.8	-.7	1.9	-.2	4.5	6.8	54.1	25.1
Food .....	.1	.7	.3	.2	1.0	.3	.8	8.7	5.3
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.3	.0	.1	.1	.2	.3	2.5	2.4

Consumer Price Index data for July are scheduled for release on Thursday, August 14, 2008, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS JULY 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.5 percent in July, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The July level of 219.964 (1982-84=100) was 5.6 percent higher than in July 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.5 percent in July, prior to seasonal adjustment. The July level of 216.304 (1982-84=100) was 6.2 percent higher than in July 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.4 percent in July on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The July level of 126.116 (December 1999=100) was 4.8 percent higher than in July 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U advanced 0.8 percent in July, following a 1.1 percent increase in June. The index for energy rose sharply for the third straight month, increasing 4.0 percent in July and accounting for about half of the overall increase in the all items index. The food index rose 0.9 percent in July after rising 0.8 percent in June. The index for food at home rose 1.2 percent in July after rising 1.0 percent in June. Indexes for five of the six major grocery store food groups rose at least 1.0 percent. The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.3 percent in July, the second straight such increase. The indexes for apparel and for recreation increased more sharply than in June, but the indexes for shelter and medical care rose more slowly.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended July 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended July 2008	
	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008		
All items	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.6	1.1	0.8	10.6	5.6
Food and beverages .....	.7	.4	.2	.9	.3	.7	.9	8.0	5.8
Housing .....	.2	.2	.4	.3	.5	.5	.6	6.5	3.9
Apparel .....	.4	-.3	-1.3	.5	-.3	.1	1.2	4.2	.8
Transportation .....	.5	-.7	.7	-.7	2.0	3.8	1.7	34.3	13.4
Medical care .....	.5	.1	.1	.2	.2	.2	.1	1.8	3.5
Recreation .....	.2	.1	.3	-.1	.1	.1	.4	2.4	1.7
Education and communication .....	.4	.1	.3	.4	.4	.5	.5	5.5	3.7
Other goods and services ...	.4	.2	.4	.5	.4	.4	.4	4.6	4.0
Special indexes:									
Energy .....	.7	-.5	1.9	.0	4.4	6.6	4.0	79.4	29.3
Food .....	.7	.4	.2	.9	.3	.8	.9	8.4	6.0
All items less food and energy .....	.3	.0	.2	.1	.2	.3	.3	3.5	2.5

During the first seven months of 2008, the CPI-U rose at a 6.2 percent seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR). This compares with a 4.1 percent increase for the 12 months ending December 2007. The energy index rose at a 33.1 percent SAAR in the first seven months of 2008 after increasing 17.4 percent in 2007. Gasoline prices increased at a 35.2 percent SAAR in 2008 after a 29.6 percent increase in 2007, while natural gas prices rose at a 71.3 percent SAAR after decreasing 0.4 percent in 2007. The food index has increased at a 7.6 SAAR for the first seven months of 2008 after increasing 4.9 percent in 2007. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U has advanced at a 2.5 percent SAAR following a 2.4 percent increase in 2007.

The food and beverages index rose 0.9 percent in July. The index for food at home increased 1.2 percent, following a 1.0 percent rise in June. Five of the six major grocery store food group indexes increased at least 1.0 percent in July. The index for cereal and bakery products increased 1.8 percent in July and is 12.1 percent higher than in July 2007, while the fruits and vegetables index rose 1.2 percent in July and is 10.1 percent higher than a year ago. Within the fruits and vegetables group, the fresh fruits index was virtually unchanged in July, while the index for fresh vegetables rose 2.9 percent. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs rose 1.0 percent in July after a 0.8 percent increase in June. The index for dairy and related products increased 1.6 percent in July, with the index for milk increasing 4.3 percent. The index for other food at home rose 1.0 percent in July after a 0.4 percent increase

in June. The index for nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials increased 0.7 percent in July. The other two components of the food and beverages index—food away from home and alcoholic beverages—increased 0.6 and 0.4 percent respectively.

The index for housing rose 0.6 percent in July after increasing 0.5 percent the previous month. The index for shelter increased 0.2 percent after a 0.3 percent increase in June. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent increased 0.3 and 0.1 percent, respectively, while the index for lodging away from home increased 0.7 percent for the second straight month. The index for household energy rose 3.8 percent in July to a level 18.2 percent higher than in July 2007. The index for natural gas increased 7.4 percent in July. It was the sixth straight large increase and the index is up 32.7 percent since July 2007. The index for electricity increased 2.5 percent in July after declining 0.1 percent in June. The index for household furnishings and operations increased 0.4 percent in July after being virtually unchanged in June.

The transportation index advanced 1.7 percent in July, the third straight substantial increase. The index for gasoline increased 4.1 percent and accounted for over 80 percent of the increase in this group. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices increased 0.7 percent over their previous peak in June and are 37.9 percent higher than in July 2007.) The index for new vehicles increased 0.2 percent in July while the index for used cars and trucks declined 0.1 percent. During the last 12 months, new vehicle prices have declined 0.8 percent and prices for used cars and trucks have fallen 0.1 percent. The index for public transportation increased 1.1 percent in July, mostly due to a 1.3 percent increase in the index for airline fares. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, airline fares increased 2.1 percent in July and are 19.9 percent higher than in July 2007.)

The index for apparel rose 1.2 percent in July following a 0.1 percent increase in June. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices declined 2.3 percent in July.) Apparel prices have increased 0.8 percent since July 2007.

Medical care prices rose 0.1 percent in July after rising 0.2 percent in June and are 3.5 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--decreased 0.2 percent in July after a 0.1 percent increase in June. The index for medical care services increased 0.2 percent in July. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.2 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation increased 0.4 percent in July, following a 0.1 percent increase in June. Increases in the indexes for pets and pet products and services, for sporting goods, and for admissions, more than offset declines in the indexes for photography and for toys. The index for video and audio was virtually unchanged in July.

The index for education and communication increased 0.5 percent in July, with both the education and communication components increasing 0.5 percent. Within the latter category, the indexes for information and information processing increased 0.6 percent, reflecting a 0.7 percent increase in the index for telephone services. The index for information technology, hardware and services rose 0.2 percent in July after declining for four months in a row.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.4 percent in July, the third consecutive such increase. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 1.2 percent and the index for personal care increased 0.1 percent.

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 0.9 percent in July.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended July 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended July 2008	
	Jan. 2008	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008		
All items	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.7	1.2	0.9	11.9	6.2
Food and beverages .....	.7	.3	.2	.9	.3	.8	.9	8.2	5.8
Housing .....	.2	.2	.5	.4	.5	.5	.7	6.9	4.3
Apparel .....	.8	-.3	-1.2	.2	-.2	.0	.8	2.7	.7
Transportation .....	.7	-.7	.7	-.7	2.1	4.0	1.8	36.7	14.4
Medical care .....	.6	.1	.1	.2	.1	.2	.1	1.7	3.6
Recreation .....	.2	.1	.3	-.2	.0	.2	.4	2.4	1.7
Education and communication .....	.3	.1	.2	.4	.3	.5	.5	5.6	3.3
Other goods and services ...	.5	.3	.4	.4	.5	.6	.5	6.4	4.6
Special indexes:									
Energy .....	.8	-.7	1.9	-.2	4.5	6.8	4.0	81.3	29.7
Food .....	.7	.3	.2	1.0	.3	.8	.9	8.6	6.0
All items less food and energy .....	.3	.0	.1	.1	.2	.3	.3	3.2	2.5

Consumer Price Index data for August are scheduled for release on Tuesday, September 16, 2008, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS AUGUST 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.4 percent in August, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The August level of 219.086 (1982-84=100) was 5.4 percent higher than in August 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 0.5 percent in August, prior to seasonal adjustment. The August level of 215.247 (1982-84=100) was 5.9 percent higher than in August 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 0.2 percent in August on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The August level of 125.843 (December 1999=100) was 4.7 percent higher than in August 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U decreased 0.1 percent in August, following a 0.8 percent increase in July. The index for energy fell 3.1 percent in August after three consecutive sharp increases. The gasoline index declined by 4.2 percent in August but is 35.6 percent higher than in August 2007. The index for household energy, which was up 3.8 percent in July, declined 1.6 percent in August. The food index advanced 0.6 percent in August after rising 0.9 percent in July. The index for food at home rose 0.8 percent in August after a 1.2 percent increase in July and is up 7.5 percent over the past year. The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.2 percent in August after increasing 0.3 percent in July. A downturn in the index for lodging away from home was responsible for almost half of the smaller increase. Deceleration in the indexes for new vehicles, apparel, and telephone services also contributed. Partly offsetting these were larger increases in the indexes for medical care and recreation.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Aug. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Aug. 2008	
	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008		
All items	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.6	1.1	0.8	-0.1	7.2	5.4
Food and beverages .....	.4	.2	.9	.3	.7	.9	.6	9.1	5.9
Housing .....	.2	.4	.3	.5	.5	.6	-.1	4.2	3.8
Apparel	-.3	-1.3	.5	-.3	.1	1.2	.5	7.4	1.7
Transportation	-.7	.7	-.7	2.0	3.8	1.7	-1.5	16.8	12.1
Medical care .....	.1	.1	.2	.2	.2	.1	.2	2.1	3.3
Recreation .....	.1	.3	-.1	.1	.1	.4	.5	4.4	2.4
Education and communication .....	.1	.3	.4	.4	.5	.5	.2	5.0	3.6
Other goods and services ...	.2	.4	.5	.4	.4	.4	.2	4.0	4.1
Special indexes:									
Energy	-5	1.9	.0	4.4	6.6	4.0	-3.1	32.9	27.2
Food .....	.4	.2	.9	.3	.8	.9	.6	9.6	6.1
All items less food and energy .....	.0	.2	.1	.2	.3	.3	.2	3.4	2.5

During the first eight months of 2008, the CPI-U rose at a 5.1 percent seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR). This compares with a 4.1 percent increase for the 12 months ending December 2007. The energy index rose at a 22.4 percent SAAR in the first eight months of 2008 after increasing 17.4 percent in 2007. Gasoline prices increased at a 22.1 percent SAAR in 2008 after a 29.6 percent increase in 2007, while natural gas prices rose at a 46.3 percent SAAR after decreasing 0.4 percent in 2007. The food index increased at a 7.5 SAAR for the first eight months of 2008 after increasing 4.9 percent in 2007. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U has advanced at a 2.5 percent SAAR in 2008 following a 2.4 percent increase in 2007.

The food and beverages index rose 0.6 percent in August following a 0.9 percent increase in July. The index for food at home increased 0.8 percent, following a 1.2 percent rise in July. Four of the six grocery store food groups increased less in August than in July. Most notable were a downturn in the index for cereals and bakery products, which declined 0.1 percent in August after a 1.8 percent increase in July, and a smaller increase in the index for dairy and related products, up 0.4 percent in August after a 1.6 percent increase in July. The index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs increased 1.0 percent for the second consecutive month. The fruits and vegetables index increased more rapidly in August, up 2.1 percent following a 1.2 percent increase in July. The food away

from home index decelerated in August, up 0.3 percent after a 0.6 percent increase in July, while the index for alcoholic beverages increased 0.4 percent for the second straight month.

The index for housing declined 0.1 percent in August after a 0.6 percent increase in July. The shelter index increased 0.1 percent in August after a 0.2 percent increase in July. The smaller increase was due to a downturn in the lodging away from home index, which fell 1.1 percent in August after a 0.7 percent increase in July. The indexes for rent and for owners' equivalent rent duplicated their July increases of 0.3 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively. The index for household energy declined 1.6 percent in August, but is still 17.3 percent above its August 2007 level. Within household energy, the indexes for fuel oil and for natural gas fell substantially, declining 9.6 percent and 5.8 percent respectively. The index for electricity increased 1.2 percent in August following a 2.5 percent increase in July. The index for household furnishings and operations, which rose 0.4 percent in July, increased 0.2 percent in August.

The transportation index turned down in August, declining 1.5 percent following three straight substantial increases. The index for gasoline decreased 4.2 percent following a 4.1 percent increase in July. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices fell 7.4 percent in August but are 35.6 percent above their August 2007 level.) The index for new vehicles declined 0.6 percent in August after a 0.2 percent increase in July, with the index for new cars virtually unchanged and the index for new trucks declining 1.2 percent. The index for used cars and trucks fell 0.3 percent in August following a 0.1 percent decline in July. The indexes for new vehicles and for used cars and trucks each declined 1.3 percent since August 2007. The index for public transportation increased 1.1 percent in August, the same increase as in July, mostly due to a 1.6 percent increase in the index for airline fare. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the index for airline fare decreased 0.9 percent in August and is 20.9 percent higher than in August 2007.)

The index for apparel rose 0.5 percent in August following a 1.2 percent increase in July. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices rose 1.8 percent in August and are 1.7 percent higher than in August 2007.) The index for women's and girls' apparel increased 2.0 percent in August, while the index for men's and boys' apparel rose 0.3 percent.

The medical care index rose 0.2 percent in August after rising 0.1 percent in July, and is 3.3 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.1 percent in August after a 0.2 percent decrease in July. The index for medical care services increased 0.3 percent in August. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.3 percent and 0.6 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation increased 0.5 percent in August, following a 0.4 percent increase in July. The index for video and audio rose 0.5 percent in August after being virtually unchanged in July. The indexes for pets, pet products and services and for admissions both rose 1.3 percent in August, while the index for sporting goods declined 0.7 percent.

The index for education and communication increased 0.2 percent in August after a 0.5 percent increase in July. The index for education rose 0.6 percent, reflecting increases of 3.4 percent for college textbooks and 0.3 percent for college tuition and fees. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, charges for college tuition rose 2.6 percent in August and were 6.3 percent higher than a year ago.) The communication index, which increased 0.5 percent in July, declined 0.2 percent in August. Within communication, the telephone services index was virtually unchanged in August after a 0.7 percent increase in July, and the information technology hardware and services index declined 0.7 percent after a 0.2 percent increase in July.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.2 percent in August after three consecutive increases of 0.4 percent. The deceleration was caused by the index for tobacco and smoking products, which rose 0.1 percent in August after a 1.2 percent increase in July.

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

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

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Aug. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Aug. 2008	
	Feb. 2008	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008		
All items	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.7	1.2	0.9	-0.2	8.0	5.9
Food and beverages .....	.3	.2	.9	.3	.8	.9	.6	9.6	6.0
Housing .....	.2	.5	.4	.5	.5	.7	.0	4.6	4.2
Apparel	-.3	-1.2	.2	-.2	.0	.8	1.0	7.6	1.8
Transportation	-.7	.7	-.7	2.1	4.0	1.8	-1.7	17.4	12.8
Medical care .....	.1	.1	.2	.1	.2	.1	.3	2.3	3.4
Recreation .....	.1	.3	-.2	.0	.2	.4	.5	4.4	2.3
Education and communication .....	.1	.2	.4	.3	.5	.5	.2	5.2	3.3
Other goods and services ...	.3	.4	.4	.5	.6	.5	.2	5.1	4.6
Special indexes:									
Energy	-.7	1.9	-.2	4.5	6.8	4.0	-3.2	33.8	27.8
Food .....	.3	.2	1.0	.3	.8	.9	.6	9.9	6.2
All items less food and energy .....	.0	.1	.1	.2	.3	.3	.2	3.5	2.5

Consumer Price Index data for September are scheduled for release on Thursday, October 16, 2008, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS SEPTEMBER 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.1 percent in September, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The September level of 218.783 (1982-84=100) was 4.9 percent higher than in September 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 0.1 percent in September, prior to seasonal adjustment. The September level of 214.935 (1982-84=100) was 5.4 percent higher than in September 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 0.1 percent in September on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The September level of 125.774 (December 1999=100) was 4.3 percent higher than in September 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U was virtually unchanged in September following a 0.1 percent decrease in August. The index for energy fell 1.9 percent in September following a 3.1 percent decline in August. The motor fuel index declined 0.8 percent in September but was 31.8 percent higher than a year ago. The index for household energy fell 3.4 percent in September after a 1.6 percent decrease in August. The food index advanced 0.6 percent in September, the same increase as in August. The index for food at home rose 0.6 percent in September after a 0.8 percent rise in August and is up 7.6 percent over the past year. The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.1 percent in September, decelerating for the second straight month. Contributing to the deceleration were downturns in the indexes for apparel and for airline fares, a smaller increase in the index for recreation, and a steeper decline in the index for new and used motor vehicles. These more than offset an upturn in the index for lodging away from home and larger increases in the indexes for medical care and owners' equivalent rent.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Sep. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Sep. 2008	
	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008		
All items	0.3	0.2	0.6	1.1	0.8	-0.1	0.0	2.6	4.9
Food and beverages .....	.2	.9	.3	.7	.9	.6	.6	8.5	6.0
Housing .....	.4	.3	.5	.5	.6	-.1	-.1	1.8	3.5
Apparel	-1.3	.5	-.3	.1	1.2	.5	-.1	6.6	1.4
Transportation .....	.7	-.7	2.0	3.8	1.7	-1.5	-.6	-1.7	10.5
Medical care .....	.1	.2	.2	.2	.1	.2	.3	2.5	3.2
Recreation .....	.3	-.1	.1	.1	.4	.5	.2	4.6	2.4
Education and communication .....	.3	.4	.4	.5	.5	.2	.1	3.3	3.5
Other goods and services ...	.4	.5	.4	.4	.4	.2	.2	3.3	4.0
Special indexes:									
Energy	1.9	.0	4.4	6.6	4.0	-3.1	-1.9	-4.9	23.1
Food .....	.2	.9	.3	.8	.9	.6	.6	8.7	6.2
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.1	.2	.3	.3	.2	.1	2.7	2.5

Consumer prices increased at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR) of 2.6 percent in the third quarter of 2008 following increases in the first and second quarters at annual rates of 3.1 and 7.9 percent, respectively. This brings the year-to-date annual rate to 4.5 percent and compares with an increase of 4.1 percent for all of 2007. The index for energy fell at a 4.9 percent annual rate in the third quarter of 2008, following increases at rates of 8.6 percent and 53.6 percent in the first two quarters, respectively. So far this year, the energy index has risen at a 16.6 percent rate after increasing 17.4 percent in all of 2007. Within energy, petroleum-based energy costs (energy commodities) advanced at a 19.1 percent rate and energy services (gas and electricity) rose at a 12.4 percent rate in the first nine months of 2008. The food index rose at a 7.5 percent SAAR in the first nine months of 2008, compared to a 4.9 percent increase in all of 2007. The larger increase reflects acceleration in all of the major grocery store food

groups except dairy and related products. The cereals and bakery products index and the fruits and vegetables index rose the fastest, rising at a 14.2 percent and 12.1 percent SAAR, respectively.

The CPI-U excluding food and energy rose at a 2.7 percent SAAR in the third quarter following increases at rates of 2.0 and 2.5 percent in the first and second quarter, respectively. The index increased over the first nine months of 2008 at a 2.4 percent SAAR, which matches the 2.4 percent increase during all of 2007. Deceleration in the shelter and medical care indexes, as well as the index for new and used motor vehicles, were offset by a larger increase in the recreation index and upturns in the indexes for apparel and for household furnishings and operations.

Table Q3. Annual percent changes in the CPI for All Urban Consumers, 2001-2008

Expenditure Category	Percentage change 12 months ended in December							SAAR 9 mos. ended Sep. 2008
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	
All items	1.6	2.4	1.9	3.3	3.4	2.5	4.1	4.5
Food and beverages	2.8	1.5	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.2	4.8	7.2
Housing	2.9	2.4	2.2	3.0	4.0	3.3	3.0	3.5
Apparel	-3.2	-1.8	-2.1	-2	-1.1	.9	-.3	.9
Transportation	-3.8	3.8	.3	6.5	4.8	1.6	8.3	7.2
Medical care	4.7	5.0	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.2	2.6
Recreation	1.5	1.1	1.1	.7	1.1	1.0	.8	2.5
Education and communication	3.2	2.2	1.6	1.5	2.4	2.3	3.0	3.9
Other goods and services	4.5	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.3	4.3
Special indexes:								
Energy	-13.0	10.7	6.9	16.6	17.1	2.9	17.4	16.6
Energy commodities	-24.5	23.7	6.9	26.7	16.7	6.1	29.4	19.1
Energy services	-1.5	.4	6.9	6.8	17.6	-.6	3.4	12.4
All items less energy	2.8	1.8	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.8	3.2
Food	2.8	1.5	3.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	4.9	7.5
All items less food and energy	2.7	1.9	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.4	2.4

The food and beverages index rose 0.6 percent in September, the second straight such increase. The index for food at home, which rose 0.8 percent in August, increased 0.6 percent in September. The index for cereals and bakery products turned up in September, rising 1.1 percent after a 0.1 percent decline in August. The indexes for nonalcoholic beverages and other food at home accelerated in September, increasing 0.7 percent and 1.1 percent respectively after increases of 0.4 percent and 0.7 percent in August. The index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs rose 1.0 percent in September, the third straight such increase. Within this group, the index for eggs increased 2.6 percent in September after a 5.7 percent decrease in August, while the index for beef and veal decelerated, rising 0.2 percent in September after a 2.4 percent increase in August. Turning down in September were the indexes for dairy and related products, down 0.6 percent after rising 0.4 percent in August, and for fruits and vegetables, down 0.5 percent after advancing 2.1 percent in August. The indexes for food away from home and for alcoholic beverages both increased 0.5 percent in September.

The index for housing declined 0.1 percent in September, the same decline as in August. The shelter index increased 0.3 percent in September after a 0.1 percent increase in August. The index for rent increased 0.3 percent for the third month in a row while the index for owners' equivalent rent rose 0.2 percent after a 0.1 percent increase in August. The index for lodging away from home turned up in September, increasing 0.9 percent after a 1.1 percent decrease in August. The index for household energy declined 3.4 percent in September, but was still 13.1 percent above its September 2007 level. Within household energy, the indexes for fuel oil and for natural gas fell sharply, declining 7.8 percent and 8.3 percent respectively, while the index for electricity fell 0.9 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations, which rose 0.2 percent in August, increased 0.5 percent in September.

The transportation index declined in September, falling 0.6 percent after a 1.5 percent decrease in August. The index for gasoline decreased 0.6 percent following a 4.2 percent decrease in August. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices fell 2.5 percent in September but were 31.7 percent above their September 2007 level.) The index for new vehicles declined for the second straight month, falling 0.7 percent after a 0.6 percent decrease in August. The index for used cars and trucks fell sharply in September, declining 1.8 percent after a 0.3 percent fall in August. The index for public transportation decreased 1.0 percent in September after a 1.1 percent increase in August, as the index for airline fare turned down, declining 1.7 percent in September after rising 1.6 percent in August. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the index for airline fare decreased 3.6 percent in September but was 17.5 percent higher than in September 2007.)

The index for apparel declined 0.1 percent in September after increasing 0.5 percent in August. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices rose 4.1 percent in September and were 1.4 percent higher than in September 2007.)

The medical care index rose 0.3 percent in September after rising 0.2 percent in August, and was 3.2 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.2 percent in September after a 0.1 percent increase in August. The index for medical care services increased 0.4 percent in September. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.2 percent and 0.6 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation increased 0.2 percent in September, following a 0.5 percent increase in August. The index for video and audio rose 0.1 percent in September after a 0.5 percent increase in August. The indexes for pets, pet products and services rose 1.0 percent in September and the index for photography rose 0.8 percent. The index for recreation services decreased 0.1 percent in September.

The index for education and communication increased 0.1 percent in September after a 0.2 percent increase in August. The index for education rose 0.4 percent in September. The index for college textbooks rose 1.0 percent after a 3.4 percent increase in August. The index for college tuition and fees rose 0.3 percent in September. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, charges for college tuition and fees rose 1.8 percent in September and are up 6.7 percent since September 2007.) The communication index declined in September, falling 0.2 percent for the second consecutive month. Within communication, the index for telephone services was virtually unchanged while the index for information technology, hardware and services declined 1.1 percent.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.2 percent in September, the same increase as in August. The index for tobacco and smoking products was virtually unchanged and the index for personal care rose 0.3 percent.

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

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers decreased 0.1 percent in September.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Sep. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Sep. 2008	
	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008		
All items	0.4	0.2	0.7	1.2	0.9	-0.2	-0.1	2.5	5.4
Food and beverages .....	.2	.9	.3	.8	.9	.6	.6	8.7	6.1
Housing .....	.5	.4	.5	.5	.7	.0	-.2	1.9	3.8
Apparel	-1.2	.2	-.2	.0	.8	1.0	.0	7.6	1.7
Transportation .....	.7	-.7	2.1	4.0	1.8	-1.7	-.7	-2.4	11.1
Medical care .....	.1	.2	.1	.2	.1	.3	.3	2.8	3.3
Recreation .....	.3	-.2	.0	.2	.4	.5	.2	4.7	2.2
Education and communication .....	.2	.4	.3	.5	.5	.2	.0	3.2	3.2
Other goods and services ...	.4	.4	.5	.6	.5	.2	.2	3.6	4.4
Special indexes:									
Energy	1.9	-.2	4.5	6.8	4.0	-3.2	-1.7	-4.1	23.8
Food .....	.2	1.0	.3	.8	.9	.6	.6	8.9	6.3
All items less food and energy .....	.1	.1	.2	.3	.3	.2	.1	2.5	2.4

Consumer Price Index data for October are scheduled for release on Wednesday, November 19, 2008, at 8:30 A.M. (EST).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS OCTOBER 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 1.0 percent in October, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The October level of 216.573 (1982-84=100) was 3.7 percent higher than in October 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 1.3 percent in October, prior to seasonal adjustment. The October level of 212.182 (1982-84=100) was 3.8 percent higher than in October 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 0.8 percent in October on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The October level of 124.784 (December 1999=100) was 3.3 percent higher than in October 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U decreased 1.0 percent in October following very little change in September and August. The large October decline was the largest one month decrease since publication of seasonally adjusted changes began in February 1947. Compared to a year ago, the October index was up 3.7 percent. The energy index fell 8.6 percent in October following declines of 1.9 percent in September and 3.1 percent in August. Motor fuel prices continued to decline in October, with the gasoline index falling 14.2 percent. Despite the decline, gasoline prices remain 12.0 percent above their October 2007 level. The index for household energy items declined 0.9 percent following a 3.4 percent decrease in September. Petroleum based household fuel prices continued to decline, but the October decreases were moderated by an increase in the electricity index. The food index increased 0.3 percent in October, a smaller advance than the average monthly increase of 0.7 percent during the June through September period. Compared with a year earlier, the food index was up 6.3 percent. The index for all items less food and energy turned down in October, (cont.)

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Oct. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Oct. 2008	
	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008		
All items	0.2	0.6	1.1	0.8	-0.1	0.0	-1.0	-4.4	3.7
Food and beverages .....	.9	.3	.7	.9	.6	.6	.3	5.7	6.1
Housing .....	.3	.5	.5	.6	-.1	-.1	.0	-.9	3.2
Apparel .....	.5	-.3	.1	1.2	.5	-.1	-1.0	-2.4	.3
Transportation	-.7	2.0	3.8	1.7	-1.5	-.6	-5.4	-26.2	4.2
Medical care .....	.2	.2	.2	.1	.2	.3	.2	2.9	2.8
Recreation	-.1	.1	.1	.4	.5	.2	.1	3.4	2.2
Education and communication .....	.4	.4	.5	.5	.2	.1	.2	2.1	3.4
Other goods and services ...	.5	.4	.4	.4	.2	.2	.3	2.9	4.1
Special indexes:									
Energy .....	.0	4.4	6.6	4.0	-3.1	-1.9	-8.6	-43.1	11.5
Food .....	.9	.3	.8	.9	.6	.6	.3	5.8	6.3
All items less food and energy .....	.1	.2	.3	.3	.2	.1	-.1	1.1	2.2

declining 0.1 percent to a level 2.2 percent above October 2007. Contributing to the decrease in October were declines of 1.0 percent in the apparel index, 4.8 percent in the airline fare index, 1.6 percent in the index for lodging away from home, and 0.7 percent in the index for new and used motor vehicles.

The food and beverages index rose 0.3 percent in October after a 0.6 percent increase in September. The index for food at home increased 0.1 percent in October after increasing at least 0.6 percent in each of the preceding four months. Five of the six grocery store food groups decelerated in October. The fruits and vegetables index declined 2.2 percent in October after a 0.5 percent decrease in September. The index for dairy and related products also registered a larger decline, falling 1.0 percent in October after a 0.6 percent decline in September. The indexes for cereals and bakery products, for meats, poultry, fish and eggs, and for other food at

home all rose more slowly in October than September. All three indexes rose 0.6 percent in October after increases in September of 1.1, 1.0, and 1.1 percent, respectively. Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials was the only major grocery store food group to increase more rapidly in October, increasing 1.2 percent after a 0.7 percent increase in September. The other indexes in the food and beverages group, food away from home and alcoholic beverages, rose 0.5 percent and 0.4 percent in October, respectively.

The housing index was virtually unchanged in October after declining 0.1 percent in September. The shelter index, which rose 0.3 percent in September, was virtually unchanged in October. Within shelter, the index for rent of primary residence rose 0.4 percent in October after a 0.3 percent increase in September. The index for owners' equivalent rent, which increased 0.2 percent in September, rose 0.1 percent in October. The lodging away from home index turned down sharply in October, falling 1.6 percent after a 0.9 percent increase in September. (On a not seasonally adjusted basis, the index for lodging away from home fell 1.7 percent in October and was 1.4 percent below its October 2007 level). The household energy index declined 0.9 percent in October as declines in the fuel oil and natural gas indexes more than offset an increase in the electricity index. The index for household furnishings and operation was virtually unchanged in October after rising 0.5 percent in September.

The transportation index declined sharply in October, falling 5.4 percent as several major components of the index declined significantly. The motor fuels index fell 13.9 percent in October after declining 0.8 percent in September. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, motor fuel prices fell 14.8 percent in October but were 12.3 percent higher than in October 2007). The index for new and used motor vehicles declined for the third straight month, falling 0.7 percent in October. The new vehicles index declined 0.5 percent in October. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, new vehicle prices fell 0.1 percent and have declined 2.3 percent since October 2007.) The index for used cars and trucks declined 2.4 percent in October after a 1.8 percent decrease in September. The index for public transportation declined 3.3 percent in October as the airline fare index fell 4.8 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, airline fares fell 4.4 percent but are 10.4 percent higher than in October 2007.)

The index for apparel fell 1.0 percent in October following a 0.1 percent decline in September. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices rose 0.9 percent in October and were 0.3 percent higher than in October 2007.)

The medical care index rose 0.2 percent in October after rising 0.3 percent in September, and was 2.8 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies—and the index for medical care services each increased 0.2 percent in October. Within the latter group, the index for physicians' services rose 0.1 percent and the index for hospital and related services increased 0.4 percent.

The index for recreation advanced 0.1 percent in October, following a 0.2 percent increase in September. The index for video and audio declined 0.6 percent in October, while the index for photography declined 0.8 percent and the index for toys fell 0.5 percent. The indexes for pets and pet products and services and for sporting goods increased substantially in October, rising 0.9 percent and 1.5 percent, respectively.

The index for education and communication rose 0.2 percent in October after a 0.1 percent increase in September. The index for education rose 0.4 percent in October, the same increase as in September. The index for communication was virtually unchanged in October after declining 0.2 percent in September. Within communication, the index for telephone services rose 0.1 percent while the index for information technology, hardware and services declined 0.3 percent.

The index for other goods and services rose 0.3 percent in October following a 0.2 percent increase in September. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 0.4 percent in October after being virtually unchanged in September, while the index for personal care, which rose 0.3 percent in September, advanced 0.2 percent in October.

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

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers decreased 1.2 percent in October.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Oct. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Oct. 2008	
	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008		
All items	0.2	0.7	1.2	0.9	-0.2	-0.1	-1.2	-5.7	3.8
Food and beverages .....	.9	.3	.8	.9	.6	.6	.3	5.9	6.2
Housing .....	.4	.5	.5	.7	.0	-.2	.0	-.7	3.5
Apparel .....	.2	-.2	.0	.8	1.0	.0	-1.2	-.9	.3
Transportation	-.7	2.1	4.0	1.8	-1.7	-.7	-6.0	-28.9	4.1
Medical care .....	.2	.1	.2	.1	.3	.3	.1	3.1	2.9
Recreation	-.2	.0	.2	.4	.5	.2	.0	3.1	2.0
Education and communication .....	.4	.3	.5	.5	.2	.0	.2	1.9	3.1
Other goods and services ...	.4	.5	.6	.5	.2	.2	.3	2.7	4.5
Special indexes:									
Energy	-.2	4.5	6.8	4.0	-3.2	-1.7	-9.0	-43.7	11.7
Food	1.0	.3	.8	.9	.6	.6	.3	6.0	6.4
All items less food and energy .....	.1	.2	.3	.3	.2	.1	-.1	1.0	2.1

Consumer Price Index data for November are scheduled for release on Tuesday, December 16, 2008, at 8:30 A.M. (EST).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS NOVEMBER 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 1.9 percent in November, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The November level of 212.425 (1982-84=100) was 1.1 percent higher than in November 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 2.3 percent in November, prior to seasonal adjustment. The November level of 207.296 (1982-84=100) was 0.7 percent higher than in November 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 2.0 percent in November on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The November level of 122.284 (December 1999=100) was 0.7 percent higher than in November 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U decreased 1.7 percent in November, the second consecutive record decrease. For the 12 month period ending in November the CPI was up 1.1 percent, compared to 5.6 percent for the twelve months ending July of this year. Falling energy prices, particularly gasoline, drove the decline in the overall index. Excluding energy, the index was virtually unchanged.

The energy index fell 17.0 percent in November. The decrease was about twice the October decline and energy prices are now 32.4 percent below the July peak earlier this year. The gasoline index fell 29.5 percent in November and gas prices are now 47.0 percent below their July peak. The natural gas index also (cont.)

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Nov. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Nov. 2008	
	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008		
All items	0.6	1.1	0.8	-0.1	0.0	-1.0	-1.7	-10.2	1.1
Food and beverages .....	.3	.7	.9	.6	.6	.3	.2	4.1	5.9
Housing .....	.5	.5	.6	-.1	-.1	.0	-.1	-1.0	2.7
Apparel	-.3	.1	1.2	.5	-.1	-1.0	.3	-3.3	.0
Transportation	2.0	3.8	1.7	-1.5	-.6	-5.4	-9.8	-48.1	-8.9
Medical care .....	.2	.2	.1	.2	.3	.2	.2	2.9	2.7
Recreation .....	.1	.1	.4	.5	.2	.1	.0	1.2	2.0
Education and communication .....	.4	.5	.5	.2	.1	.2	.2	2.1	3.6
Other goods and services ...	.4	.4	.4	.2	.2	.3	.0	1.9	3.8
Special indexes:									
Energy	4.4	6.6	4.0	-3.1	-1.9	-8.6	-17.0	-69.3	-13.3
Food .....	.3	.8	.9	.6	.6	.3	.2	4.0	6.0
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.3	.3	.2	.1	-.1	.0	.4	2.0

declined in November, the fourth consecutive decrease. After seasonal adjustment, the index was down 21.7 percent from July to November.

Food prices increased 0.2 percent November following a 0.3 percent rise in October. Excluding food and energy, the CPI was virtually unchanged in November and is up 2.0 percent since November 2007. Continuing declines in the indexes for new and used motor vehicles, lodging away from home, airline fares and some technology-related commodities offset small increases in a variety of other service and commodity items.

For the first eleven months of 2008, the all items index rose at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR) of 0.7 percent after increasing 4.1 percent in all of 2007. The energy index, which rose 17.4 percent during 2007, has declined at a SAAR of 16.0 percent through the first eleven months of 2008. The food index has risen at a 6.5 percent SAAR for the first eleven months of 2008 after increasing 4.9 percent in 2007. Excluding food and energy, the CPI has advanced at a 1.9 percent SAAR so far in 2008 after rising 2.4 percent in 2007.

The food and beverages index rose 0.2 percent in November after increasing 0.3 percent in October. The food at home index was unchanged in November. The index for meat, poultry, fish and eggs turned down in November for the first time since February, falling 0.7 percent as the indexes for beef, fish, and eggs all declined. The fruits and vegetables index also declined for the third month in a row, with the decrease being driven by a decline in the fresh fruits index. These declines were offset by increases in the other grocery store food groups, including a 0.6 percent advance in the other food at home index and a 0.4 percent increase in the index for dairy and related products. Compared to November 2007, the food at home index was up 7.0 percent, with the largest increase in the cereal and bakery products index at 12.0 percent and the smallest increase in dairy and related products at 3.5 percent. The food away from home index rose 0.3 percent in November and the index for alcoholic beverages increased 0.5 percent.

The housing index fell 0.1 percent in November after being virtually unchanged in October. The index for shelter, virtually unchanged in October, rose 0.2 percent in November. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent both rose 0.3 percent, while the index for lodging away from home fell 1.1 percent in November, its second straight significant decline. The index for household energy, down 0.9 percent in October, fell 2.0 percent in November. Both the fuel oil and natural gas indexes posted substantial declines for the fourth consecutive month; the fuel oil index decreased 14.6 percent in November and the natural gas index fell 5.2 percent. The electricity index rose for the second straight month, increasing 0.6 percent in November. The index for household furnishings and operations, virtually unchanged in October, fell 0.2 percent in November.

The transportation index declined 9.8 percent in November after falling 5.4 percent in October as several major components of the index continued to decline. The index for motor fuel fell 29.0 percent in November after decreasing 13.9 percent in October and is 28.6 percent lower than in November 2007. New and used motor vehicles, down 0.7 percent in October, fell 0.9 percent in November. The index for used cars and trucks declined 2.2 percent in November and the new vehicles index fell 0.6 percent and has declined 2.9 percent since November 2007. The index for public transportation, down 3.3 percent in October, fell 2.7 percent in November, with the airline fare index declining 4.0 percent. It was the third consecutive decrease in the airline fare index, but it is still up 4.0 percent since November 2007.

The apparel index turned up in November, rising 0.3 percent after declining 1.0 percent in October. (Before seasonal adjustment, apparel prices declined 0.8 percent in November and are virtually unchanged from their November 2007 level.)

The index for medical care rose 0.2 percent in November, the same increase as in October, and was 2.7 percent higher than in November 2007. The medical care commodities index rose 0.6 percent in November following a 0.2 percent increase in October as the index for prescription drugs rose 0.6 percent in November after increasing 0.3 percent in each of the two prior months. The index for medical care services rose 0.1 percent in November after rising 0.2 percent in October. Within medical care services, the physicians' services index rose 0.3 percent after increasing 0.1 percent in October and the index for hospital and related services was virtually unchanged in November after advancing 0.4 percent in October.

After rising 0.1 percent in October, the index for recreation was virtually unchanged in November. The indexes for video and audio and for toys decreased in November while the indexes for pets, pet products and services, for sporting goods, and for admissions all posted increases.

The index for education and communication rose 0.2 percent in November, the same increase as the previous month. The index for education repeated its October increase of 0.4 percent while the communication index rose 0.1 percent after being virtually unchanged in October. Within communication, the telephone services index rose 0.1 percent while the index for information technology, hardware and services declined 0.1 percent.

The other goods and services index was virtually unchanged in November after rising 0.3 percent in October. The indexes for tobacco and smoking products and for personal care were both virtually unchanged in November after posting respective increases of 0.4 percent and 0.2 percent in October.

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

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers decreased 2.1 percent in November.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Nov. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Nov. 2008	
	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008		
All items	0.7	1.2	0.9	-0.2	-0.1	-1.2	-2.1	-12.9	0.7
Food and beverages .....	.3	.8	.9	.6	.6	.3	.2	4.2	6.0
Housing .....	.5	.5	.7	.0	-.2	.0	-.1	-.8	3.1
Apparel	-.2	.0	.8	1.0	.0	-1.2	.2	-3.9	.2
Transportation	2.1	4.0	1.8	-1.7	-.7	-6.0	-10.9	-52.1	-10.4
Medical care .....	.1	.2	.1	.3	.3	.1	.2	2.7	2.7
Recreation .....	.0	.2	.4	.5	.2	.0	-.1	.8	1.9
Education and communication .....	.3	.5	.5	.2	.0	.2	.2	1.6	3.4
Other goods and services ...	.5	.6	.5	.2	.2	.3	.1	2.4	4.4
Special indexes:									
Energy	4.5	6.8	4.0	-3.2	-1.7	-9.0	-17.8	-70.8	-14.3
Food .....	.3	.8	.9	.6	.6	.3	.2	4.1	6.2
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.3	.3	.2	.1	-.1	.0	.1	2.0

Consumer Price Index data for December are scheduled for release on Friday, January 16, 2009, at 8:30 A.M. (EST).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS DECEMBER 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 1.0 percent in December, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The December level of 210.228 (1982-84=100) was 0.1 percent higher than in December 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 1.2 percent in December, prior to seasonal adjustment. The December level of 204.813 (1982-84=100) was 0.5 percent lower than in December 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 1.3 percent in December on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The December level of 120.661 (December 1999=100) was 0.5 percent lower than in December 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U decreased 0.7 percent in December, the third consecutive decline. The index is now only 0.1 percent higher than in December 2007. Declining energy prices, particularly for gasoline, again drove most of the decline. The energy index declined 8.3 percent in December. Within energy, the gasoline index fell 17.2 percent and accounted for almost 90 percent of the decrease in the all items index. The index for household energy declined 0.7 percent. Excluding energy, the index was virtually unchanged for the third straight month. The food index declined 0.1 percent in December, the first (cont.)

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Dec. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Dec. 2008	
	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008		
All items	1.1	0.8	-0.1	0.0	-1.0	-1.7	-0.7	-12.7	0.1
Food and beverages .....	.7	.9	.6	.6	.3	.2	.0	1.7	5.8
Housing .....	.5	.6	-.1	-.1	.0	-.1	.0	-.7	2.4
Apparel .....	.1	1.2	.5	-.1	-1.0	.3	-.9	-6.4	-1.0
Transportation	3.8	1.7	-1.5	-.6	-5.4	-9.8	-4.4	-55.6	-13.3
Medical care .....	.2	.1	.2	.3	.2	.2	.3	2.8	2.6
Recreation .....	.1	.4	.5	.2	.1	.0	-.2	-.4	1.8
Education and communication .....	.5	.5	.2	.1	.2	.2	.3	3.0	3.6
Other goods and services ...	.4	.4	.2	.2	.3	.0	.0	.8	3.4
Special indexes:									
Energy	6.6	4.0	-3.1	-1.9	-8.6	-17.0	-8.3	-76.6	-21.3
Food .....	.8	.9	.6	.6	.3	.2	-.1	1.4	5.9
All items less food and energy .....	.3	.3	.2	.1	-.1	.0	.0	-.3	1.8

decrease since April 2006, as many meat, dairy, fruit, and vegetable indexes decreased. The index for all items excluding food and energy was virtually unchanged in December. Continuing decreases in the indexes for lodging away from home, airline fare, and new and used motor vehicles, along with downturns in the indexes for apparel and recreation, offset increases in other indexes including rent and owners' equivalent rent, medical care, and education.

For the 12 month period ending December 2008, the CPI-U rose 0.1 percent. This was the smallest calendar year increase since a 0.7 percent decline in 1954 and compares with a 4.1 percent increase for the 12 months ended December 2007. Consumer prices declined at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR) of 12.7 percent in the fourth quarter of 2008. This followed increases during the first three quarters at rates of 3.1, 7.9, and 2.6 percent, respectively. The index for energy declined at a SAAR of 76.6 percent during the fourth quarter and fell 21.3 percent for the 12 months ending December after rising 17.4 percent during 2007. Petroleum-based energy prices declined 40.5 percent during 2008 while prices for energy services rose 7.7 percent. The food index rose 5.9 percent in 2008 compared to 4.9 percent in 2007, with grocery store food prices rising 6.6 percent in 2008 compared to 5.6 percent in 2007. In both cases, the 2008 increases were the largest since 1980. Among the grocery store food groups, the

2008 increases ranged from a low of 2.7 percent for dairy and related products to a high of 11.7 percent for cereals and bakery products.

Excluding food and energy, the CPI declined at a 0.3 percent SAAR during the last quarter of 2008, after increasing at rates of 2.0, 2.5, and 2.7 percent during the first three quarters, respectively. The 1.8 percent increase for all of 2008 compares to 2.4 percent during 2007 and is the smallest one-year increase since 2003. The smaller increase reflects slower advances in prices for shelter and medical care as well as a decline in the price of new and used motor vehicles. Shelter costs rose 1.9 percent in 2008 after increasing 3.1 percent in 2007, while medical care prices rose 2.6 percent in 2008 after increasing 5.2 percent in 2007. Prices for new and used motor vehicles declined 3.5 percent during 2008 after being virtually unchanged during 2007. The annual rates for selected groups for the last eight years are shown below.

Table Q4. Annual percent changes in the CPI for All Urban Consumers, 2001-2008

Expenditure Category	Percentage change 12 months ended in December							
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
All items	1.6	2.4	1.9	3.3	3.4	2.5	4.1	0.1
Food and beverages	2.8	1.5	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.2	4.8	5.8
Housing	2.9	2.4	2.2	3.0	4.0	3.3	3.0	2.4
Apparel	-3.2	-1.8	-2.1	-2	-1.1	.9	-.3	-1.0
Transportation	-3.8	3.8	.3	6.5	4.8	1.6	8.3	-13.3
Medical care	4.7	5.0	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.2	2.6
Recreation	1.5	1.1	1.1	.7	1.1	1.0	.8	1.8
Education and communication	3.2	2.2	1.6	1.5	2.4	2.3	3.0	3.6
Other goods and services	4.5	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.4
Special indexes:								
Energy	-13.0	10.7	6.9	16.6	17.1	2.9	17.4	-21.3
Energy commodities	-24.5	23.7	6.9	26.7	16.7	6.1	29.4	-40.5
Energy services	-1.5	.4	6.9	6.8	17.6	-.6	3.4	7.7
All items less energy	2.8	1.8	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.8	2.4
Food	2.8	1.5	3.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	4.9	5.9
All items less food and energy	2.7	1.9	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.4	1.8

The food and beverages index was virtually unchanged in December, as increases in the indexes for food away from home and alcoholic beverages offset a 0.4 percent decline in the food at home index. Within food at home, the indexes for three of the six major grocery store food groups declined. The fruits and vegetables index declined 2.4 percent in December, the fourth consecutive decrease, with fresh vegetables down 4.4 percent. The index for dairy and related products turned down in December, falling 0.9 percent after rising 0.4 percent in November. For the year, the indexes for fruits and vegetables and for dairy and related products rose 3.4 percent and 2.7 percent, respectively. The index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs declined 0.5 percent in December, but was up 5.1 percent for the year. The December decrease was driven by a 6.6 percent decline in the index for eggs. The indexes for cereals and bakery products and for other food at home both increased in December. The former index rose 0.3 percent in December and posted an 11.7 percent 12 month increase, while the latter climbed 0.6 percent and was up 9.3 percent for the year. The index for nonalcoholic beverages was virtually unchanged in December and has increased 5.9 percent since December 2007. The index for food away from home advanced 0.3 percent in December while the alcoholic beverages index increased 0.6 percent.

The index for housing was virtually unchanged in December after declining 0.1 percent in November. The shelter index, which rose 0.2 percent in November, was also virtually unchanged. Increases in the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent of 0.2 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively, offset a 0.7 percent decline in the index for lodging away from home. For the 12 months ending December, the housing index rose 2.4 percent, with the index for shelter increasing 1.9 percent. The household energy index declined 0.7 percent in December, but registered a 5.9 percent increase over the last 12 months. Within household energy, the index for fuel oil declined sharply, down 12.7 percent in December and 21.0 percent over the last year. The natural gas index declined 1.6 percent but was up 5.5 percent during 2008. The electricity index increased in December, rising 0.6 percent to a level 8.6 percent above a year ago. The index for household furnishings and operations increased 0.1 percent in December.

The transportation index fell 4.4 percent in December as several of its major components continue to decline. This was the fifth consecutive monthly decrease and the index is now down 13.3 percent over the past year. The motor fuel index decreased 16.8 percent in December. (Before seasonal adjustment, motor fuel prices fell 20.3 percent in December and were 42.2 percent below their December 2007 level) The index for new and used motor vehicles fell for the fifth straight month, declining 0.4 percent. The new vehicles index declined 0.4 percent and the index for used cars and trucks fell 0.8 percent. The index for public transportation declined 1.3 percent in December as the airline fare index decreased 1.2 percent. This was the fourth straight decline in the airline fare index, but it was still 1.4 percent higher than in December 2007.

The index for apparel turned down in December, declining 0.9 percent after rising 0.3 percent in November. Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices fell 3.5 percent, and are 1.0 percent below their December 2007 level.

The index for medical care rose 0.3 percent in December after increasing 0.2 percent in November, and is up 2.6 percent over the past year. The medical care commodities index increased 0.5 percent, with the index for nonprescription drugs and medical supplies rising 1.1 percent. The index for medical care services advanced 0.2 percent in December after rising 0.1 percent in November. The physicians' services index increased 0.4 percent and the index for hospital and related services rose 0.5 percent.

After being virtually unchanged in November, the index for recreation declined 0.2 percent in December. Decreases in the indexes for sporting goods, for photography, and for toys contributed to the decline. The index for video and audio, which fell 0.1 percent in November, increased 0.1 percent in December. The recreation index has increased 1.8 percent over the past year.

The index for education and communication rose 0.3 percent in December after advancing 0.2 percent in November and has risen 3.6 percent over the past year. The index for education increased 0.5 percent in December and the index for communication rose 0.2 percent. Within the latter group, the telephone services index increased 0.1 percent and the index for information technology, hardware and services rose 0.4 percent.

The index for other goods and services was virtually unchanged for the second consecutive month and rose 3.4 percent during all of 2008. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 0.5 percent in December after being virtually unchanged in November. The index for personal care turned down in December, falling 0.2 percent after being virtually unchanged in November.

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

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers decreased 0.9 percent in December.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Dec. 2008
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Dec. 2008	
	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008		
All items	1.2	0.9	-0.2	-0.1	-1.2	-2.1	-0.9	-15.7	-0.5
Food and beverages .....	.8	.9	.6	.6	.3	.2	.0	1.8	5.9
Housing .....	.5	.7	.0	-2	.0	-1	.0	-2	2.8
Apparel .....	.0	.8	1.0	.0	-1.2	.2	-1.0	-7.7	-9
Transportation	4.0	1.8	-1.7	-7	-6.0	-10.9	-5.0	-59.8	-15.3
Medical care .....	.2	.1	.3	.3	.1	.2	.3	2.6	2.7
Recreation .....	.2	.4	.5	.2	.0	-1	-2	-8	1.6
Education and communication .....	.5	.5	.2	.0	.2	.2	.3	2.8	3.4
Other goods and services ...	.6	.5	.2	.2	.3	.1	.1	1.8	4.1
Special indexes:									
Energy	6.8	4.0	-3.2	-1.7	-9.0	-17.8	-8.7	-78.2	-22.6
Food .....	.8	.9	.6	.6	.3	.2	-1	1.5	6.0
All items less food and energy .....	.3	.3	.2	.1	-1	.0	.0	-3	1.7

Consumer Price Index data for January are scheduled for release on Friday, February 20, 2009, at 8:30 A.M. (EST).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS JANUARY 2009

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.4 percent in January, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The January level of 211.143 (1982-84=100) was virtually unchanged from January 2008.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.4 percent in January, prior to seasonal adjustment. The January level of 205.700 (1982-84=100) was 0.5 percent lower than in January 2008.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.5 percent in January on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The January level of 121.208 (December 1999=100) was 0.5 percent lower than in January 2008. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U increased 0.3 percent in January after declining in each of the three previous months. The energy index climbed 1.7 percent in January, its first increase in six months, but it was still 31.4 percent below its July 2008 peak level. Within energy, the gasoline index rose 6.0 percent in January after a 19.3 percent decline in December. However, some energy components continued to decline; the fuel oil index fell 3.7 percent in January and the index for natural gas declined 3.6 percent. The food index, which rose sharply during the summer and moderated through the fall, increased 0.1 percent in January after being virtually unchanged in December. The food index has risen 5.3 percent over the past year. The (cont.)

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Jan. 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Jan. 2009	
	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009		
All items	0.7	0.0	0.0	-0.8	-1.7	-0.8	0.3	-8.4	0.0
Food and beverages .....	.9	.6	.5	.4	.2	.1	.1	1.4	5.2
Housing .....	.6	.0	-.1	.0	-.1	.0	.0	-.3	2.2
Apparel	1.0	.4	-.3	-.7	.1	-.6	.3	-.9	-.9
Transportation	1.4	-.9	-.1	-4.8	-9.7	-5.0	1.3	-43.0	-12.6
Medical care .....	.1	.2	.3	.2	.2	.3	.4	3.9	2.6
Recreation .....	.3	.4	.2	.2	.0	-.2	.0	-.5	1.6
Education and communication .....	.5	.2	.1	.2	.2	.3	.3	3.3	3.6
Other goods and services ...	.4	.2	.2	.3	.0	.0	.3	1.5	3.3
Special indexes:									
Energy	3.5	-2.0	-1.0	-7.8	-16.9	-9.3	1.7	-65.4	-20.4
Food .....	.9	.6	.5	.4	.2	.0	.1	1.1	5.3
All items less food and energy .....	.3	.2	.1	.0	.1	.0	.2	.9	1.7

food at home index declined 0.1 percent in January as the fruits and vegetables index continued to fall. The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.2 percent in January after being virtually unchanged in December. Contributing to the increase were larger advances in the indexes for rent and owners equivalent rent and upturns in the indexes for new vehicles and apparel.

The food and beverages index increased 0.1 percent in January, the same increase as in December. A 0.3 percent increase in the index for food away from home and a 0.2 percent rise in the alcoholic beverages index more than offset a 0.1 percent decline in the food at home index. The food at home index has risen 5.7 percent over the past year. Within food at home, the indexes for four of the six major grocery store food groups declined in January. The index for fruits and vegetables fell 1.3 percent, its fifth consecutive monthly decline. The index for fresh fruits fell 2.2 percent and the fresh vegetables index declined 1.6 percent. The dairy and related products index, down 1.1 percent in December, fell 0.6 percent in January, with the milk index declining 1.4 percent. Also declining in January were the indexes for meats, poultry, fish and eggs and for nonalcoholic beverages, each down 0.1 percent. The index for cereals and bakery products was virtually unchanged in January, but was still up 11.3 percent over the

last year. The index for other food at home rose 0.6 percent in January, the only major grocery store food group index to increase for the month.

The housing index was virtually unchanged in January for the second straight month. However the shelter index, virtually unchanged in December, rose 0.2 percent in January. Over the last 12 months, the housing index has risen 2.2 percent and the index for shelter was up 1.8 percent. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent both rose 0.3 percent in January after rising 0.2 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively, in December. The index for lodging away from home fell 1.1 percent in January and has declined 4.7 percent over the past 12 months. The household energy index fell 0.9 percent in January, its sixth consecutive monthly decline. Within household energy, the electricity index rose 0.2 percent, but the indexes for fuel oil and natural gas both declined. Despite the recent declines, the household energy index was up 4.9 percent over the past 12 months. The index for household furnishings and operations turned down in January, declining 0.1 percent after increasing 0.1 percent in December.

The transportation index rose for the first time since July, increasing 1.3 percent in January. The index has declined 12.6 percent over the past 12 months. The index for motor fuel, which had been declining in recent months, rose 5.3 percent in January. However, the motor fuel index is still 48.1 percent below its peak in July. The index for new and used motor vehicles increased in January after posting 12 straight declines, rising 0.2 percent. The index for new vehicles rose 0.3 percent in January but has declined 2.6 percent over the past year. The index for public transportation continued to decline, falling 1.8 percent in January. The airline fare index fell 2.1 percent in January and was down 0.9 percent compared to a year ago.

After declining 0.6 percent in December, the apparel index turned up in January, rising 0.3 percent. The index for men's and boys' apparel rose 1.6 percent and the index for women's and girls' apparel rose 0.2 percent. (On a not seasonally adjusted basis, the apparel index declined 2.0 percent in January and was down 0.9 percent over the last 12 months.)

The medical care index climbed 0.4 percent in January following a 0.2 percent increase in November and a 0.3 percent advance in December. The index for medical care commodities rose 0.4 percent, with the prescription drugs index rising 0.5 percent. The medical care services index rose 0.5 percent in January. Within this group, the index for physicians' services rose 0.2 percent and the hospital and related services index increased 0.8 percent.

The index for recreation, down 0.2 percent in December, was virtually unchanged in January. The indexes for photography, toys, admissions, and for pets, pet products and services all rose in January. These increases offset declines in the indexes for video and audio and for sporting goods. The recreation index is up 1.6 percent over the past 12 months.

The education and communication index increased 0.3 percent in January and was up 3.6 percent over the past year. The education index, which rose 0.5 percent in December, advanced 0.3 percent in January. The index for communication climbed 0.2 percent for the second straight month. Within communication, the telephone services index rose 0.2 percent and the index for information technology, hardware and services increased 0.1 percent.

After being virtually unchanged in December, the index for other goods and services rose 0.3 percent in January and was up 3.3 percent over the past 12 months. The index for tobacco and smoking products rose 0.8 percent in January, while the personal care index increased 0.1 percent.

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 0.3 percent in January.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Jan. 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Jan. 2009	
	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009		
All items	0.8	0.0	0.0	-1.0	-2.1	-1.0	0.3	-10.5	-0.5
Food and beverages .....	.9	.6	.5	.4	.2	.1	.0	1.2	5.3
Housing .....	.6	.0	-.1	.0	.0	.0	.0	.1	2.6
Apparel .....	.8	.6	.0	-1.0	.0	-.6	.6	.3	-.8
Transportation	1.5	-1.1	-.1	-5.3	-10.9	-5.6	1.5	-46.8	-14.5
Medical care .....	.1	.3	.3	.1	.2	.3	.4	3.8	2.6
Recreation .....	.3	.4	.2	.1	.0	-.1	.0	-.5	1.5
Education and communication .....	.5	.2	.0	.2	.2	.3	.2	2.8	3.3
Other goods and services ...	.5	.2	.2	.3	.1	.1	.4	2.5	3.9
Special indexes:									
Energy	3.5	-2.0	-.8	-8.2	-17.8	-9.7	1.9	-67.3	-21.7
Food .....	.9	.6	.5	.4	.2	.1	.0	1.0	5.4
All items less food and energy .....	.3	.2	.1	.0	.1	.0	.2	1.2	1.7

Consumer Price Index data for February are scheduled for release on Wednesday, March 18, 2009, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS FEBRUARY 2009

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.5 percent in February, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The February level of 212.193 (1982-84=100) was 0.2 percent higher than in February 2008.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.5 percent in February, prior to seasonal adjustment. The February level of 206.708 (1982-84=100) was 0.3 percent lower than in February 2008.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.6 percent in February on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The February level of 121.901 (December 1999=100) was 0.3 percent lower than in February 2008. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U increased 0.4 percent in February after rising 0.3 percent in January. The energy index rose 3.3 percent in February following a 1.7 percent increase in January as the gasoline index rose 8.3 percent in February after a 6.0 percent increase in January. In contrast, the indexes for fuel oil and natural gas both declined in February. About two-thirds of the all items increase was due to the rise in the gasoline index. Compared to the July 2008 peak, the energy index was 29.2 percent lower and the gasoline index was down 44.0 percent. The food index turned down slightly in February, falling 0.1 percent. The food at home index fell 0.4 percent with five of the six major grocery store food group indexes posting declines in February. The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.2 percent in February, the same (cont.)

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Feb. 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Feb. 2009	
	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009		
All items	0.0	0.0	-0.8	-1.7	-0.8	0.3	0.4	-0.5	0.2
Food and beverages .....	.6	.5	.4	.2	.1	.1	-.1	.1	4.7
Housing .....	.0	-.1	.0	-.1	.0	.0	.0	.0	1.9
Apparel .....	.4	-.3	-.7	.1	-.6	.3	1.3	3.9	.8
Transportation	-.9	-.1	-4.8	-9.7	-5.0	1.3	1.9	-7.4	-11.0
Medical care .....	.2	.3	.2	.2	.3	.4	.3	4.3	2.8
Recreation .....	.4	.2	.2	.0	-.2	.0	.4	1.0	1.9
Education and communication .....	.2	.1	.2	.2	.3	.3	.2	3.3	3.6
Other goods and services ...	.2	.2	.3	.0	.0	.3	.2	2.0	3.2
Special indexes:									
Energy	-2.0	-1.0	-7.8	-16.9	-9.3	1.7	3.3	-17.4	-18.5
Food .....	.6	.5	.4	.2	.0	.1	-.1	.0	4.8
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.1	.0	.1	.0	.2	.2	1.5	1.8

increase as in January. The indexes for new vehicles and apparel increased substantially in February, and the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent increased slightly. Partly offsetting these increases were continuing declines in the indexes for lodging away from home and airline fares.

The food and beverages index declined 0.1 percent in February after rising 0.1 percent in January. The food at home index, which declined 0.1 percent in January, fell 0.4 percent in February. Within food at home, the dairy and related products index fell 2.4 percent in February, with the milk index declining 5.7 percent. The milk index has declined 10.0 percent over the past year. The fruits and vegetables index was the only major grocery store food group to post an increase, rising 0.4 percent in February after declining in each of the past five months. The other four groups posted modest declines, from 0.1 percent for the meats, poultry, fish and eggs index to 0.5 percent for the cereals and bakery products index. Over the last year the food at home index has risen 4.8 percent. Among the major grocery store food groups, the cereals and bakery products index had the largest increase over the past year at 8.9 percent, while dairy and related products was the only index to decline, falling 1.7 percent. Among the other indexes within the food and beverages major group, the food away from home index rose 0.3 percent in February, while the index for alcoholic beverages declined 0.2 percent, the first decline since December 2005.

The housing index was virtually unchanged in February for the third straight month. The shelter index, which rose 0.2 percent in January, was virtually unchanged in February. The indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent both rose 0.1 percent in February after increasing 0.3 percent in January. The lodging away from home index fell 1.8 percent in February, the fifth straight monthly decline. It has declined 5.7 percent over the past year. The index for household energy fell 0.2 percent in February and was down 8.1 percent from its July peak. Within household energy, the index for fuel oil fell 3.8 percent and the index for natural gas declined 1.6 percent, while the electricity index rose 0.5 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations rose 0.2 percent in February after declining 0.1 percent in January. Over the past year, the housing index increased 1.9 percent, with the shelter index up 1.7 percent.

The index for transportation rose 1.9 percent in February after a 1.3 percent increase in January. The new and used motor vehicles index rose 0.5 percent in February. The new vehicles index increased 0.8 percent in February, while the index for used cars and trucks declined 1.7 percent. The motor fuel index rose 7.6 percent in February but was down 35.4 percent over the past year. The airline fare index fell in February for the sixth straight month, declining 2.6 percent, and has fallen 14.0 percent since August 2008. The transportation index has declined 11.0 percent over the past year.

The apparel index rose 1.3 percent in February after increasing 0.3 percent in January. The index for men's and boys' apparel rose 2.8 percent and the index for women's and girls' apparel advanced 0.8 percent. (Before seasonal adjustment, apparel prices rose 3.5 percent in February and were up 0.8 percent over the past year.)

Among other CPI groups, the medical care index rose 0.3 percent with the prescription drug index rising 0.6 percent. The index for recreation rose 0.4 percent as the indexes for toys, for sporting goods, and for pets, pet products and services all increased. The education and communication index rose 0.2 percent, with the education index rising 0.4 percent and the communication index virtually unchanged. The index for other goods and services advanced 0.2 percent with the tobacco and smoking products index posting a 0.7 percent increase.

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 0.4 percent in February.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Feb. 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Feb. 2009	
	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009		
All items	0.0	0.0	-1.0	-2.1	-1.0	0.3	0.4	-0.8	-0.3
Food and beverages .....	.6	.5	.4	.2	.1	.0	-.2	-.2	4.8
Housing .....	.0	-.1	.0	.0	.0	.0	.1	.4	2.4
Apparel .....	.6	.0	-1.0	.0	-.6	.6	1.0	4.1	.7
Transportation	-1.1	-.1	-5.3	-10.9	-5.6	1.5	2.0	-8.9	-12.9
Medical care .....	.3	.3	.1	.2	.3	.4	.4	4.4	2.8
Recreation .....	.4	.2	.1	.0	-.1	.0	.4	1.3	1.8
Education and communication .....	.2	.0	.2	.2	.3	.2	.2	2.8	3.4
Other goods and services ...	.2	.2	.3	.1	.1	.4	.2	3.0	3.8
Special indexes:									
Energy	-2.0	-.8	-8.2	-17.8	-9.7	1.9	3.6	-17.6	-19.5
Food .....	.6	.5	.4	.2	.1	.0	-.2	-.3	4.9
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.1	.0	.1	.0	.2	.2	1.6	1.7

Consumer Price Index data for March are scheduled for release on Wednesday, April 15, 2009, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS MARCH 2009

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.2 percent in March, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The index has decreased 0.4 percent over the last year, the first 12 month decline since August 1955.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U decreased 0.1 percent in March after rising 0.4 percent in February. The decrease was due to a downturn in the energy index, which declined 3.0 percent in March after rising 3.3 percent the previous month. All the energy indexes decreased, particularly the indexes for fuel oil, natural gas, and motor fuel. The food index declined 0.1 percent for the second straight month to virtually the same level as October 2008. The food at home index declined 0.4 percent, the second straight such decrease, as the index for dairy and related products continued to decline.

The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.2 percent for the third month in a row. An 11.0 percent increase in the index for tobacco and smoking products accounted for over sixty percent of the March rise, with a 0.6 percent increase in the new vehicles index also contributing. In contrast, the indexes for lodging away from home, used cars and trucks, and airline fares continued to decline. The index for all items less food and energy has risen 1.8 percent over the past year.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Mar. 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Mar. 2009	
	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009		
All items	0.0	-0.8	-1.7	-0.8	0.3	0.4	-0.1	2.2	-0.4
Food and beverages .....	.5	.4	.2	.1	.1	-.1	-.1	-.7	4.3
Housing	-.1	.0	-.1	.0	.0	.0	-.1	-.5	1.4
Apparel	-.3	-.7	.1	-.6	.3	1.3	-.2	5.3	1.4
Transportation	-.1	-4.8	-9.7	-5.0	1.3	1.9	-1.1	8.8	-13.1
Medical care .....	.3	.2	.2	.3	.4	.3	.2	4.0	2.8
Recreation .....	.2	.2	.0	-.2	.0	.4	.0	1.8	1.7
Education and communication .....	.1	.2	.2	.3	.3	.2	.2	2.9	3.6
Other goods and services ...	.2	.3	.0	.0	.3	.2	2.7	13.5	5.7
Special indexes:									
Energy	-1.0	-7.8	-16.9	-9.3	1.7	3.3	-3.0	7.9	-23.0
Food .....	.5	.4	.2	.0	.1	-.1	-.1	-.8	4.4
All items less food and energy .....	.1	.0	.1	.0	.2	.2	.2	2.2	1.8

The food and beverages index declined 0.1 percent in March, the same decrease as in February. A 0.4 percent decrease in the food at home index more than offset 0.1 percent increases in the indexes for food away from home and for alcoholic beverages. Within food at home, the indexes for three of the six major grocery store food groups declined. The largest decline was in the dairy and related products index, which fell 2.4 percent in March, the same decrease as in February, as the milk index declined 4.4 percent. The index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs decreased 0.9 percent, the fifth straight monthly decline, as the index for eggs fell 4.6 percent and the beef index declined 1.4 percent. The index for cereals and bakery products also declined in March, while the other food at home index was virtually unchanged. Registering increases in March were the indexes for fruits and vegetables and for nonalcoholic beverages. The food index has increased 4.4 percent over the past year, with the food at home index up 4.3 percent.

After being virtually unchanged in February, the housing index declined 0.1 percent in March. The shelter index was virtually unchanged in March. The indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent both rose 0.2 percent, but these increases were offset by a 2.4 percent decrease in the index for lodging away from home. This was the sixth straight monthly decline in that index, which has fallen 7.8 percent over the past year. The index for household energy decreased 1.8 percent in March. The indexes for fuel oil and natural gas, which have been falling since last summer, continued to decline in March, with the fuel oil index falling 8.5 percent and the index for natural gas decreasing 4.8 percent. The electricity index turned down in March, falling 0.2 percent after rising 0.5 percent in February. The index for household furnishings and operations rose 0.3 percent in March. Over the past year, the housing index has risen 1.4 percent, with the shelter index up 1.5 percent and the household energy index down 0.5 percent.

The index for transportation declined 1.1 percent in March after rising 1.9 percent in February. The gasoline index, which rose 8.3 percent in February, declined 4.0 percent in March. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices rose 1.0 percent in March.)

The index for new and used motor vehicles was virtually unchanged in March, as a 0.6 percent increase in the new vehicles index offset a 1.7 percent decline in the index for used cars and trucks. The index for public transportation declined 1.0 percent in March as the airline fare index fell 2.3 percent. This was the seventh straight monthly decline for the airline fares index; it has decreased 7.7 percent over the last 12 months. The transportation index has declined 13.1 percent since March 2008, with the index for gasoline down 39.3 percent.

Among other CPI groups, the index for apparel turned down in March, declining 0.2 percent after rising 1.3 percent in February. (On a not seasonally adjusted basis, apparel prices rose 3.1 percent in March and were up 1.4 percent over the past year.) The medical care index rose 0.2 percent in March and has increased 2.8 percent over the past year. The index for recreation was virtually unchanged in March and was up 1.7 percent over the past year. The index for education and communication rose 0.2 percent in March, with the education index up 0.5 percent and the communication index virtually unchanged. The index for other goods and services rose 2.7 percent in March due to the 11.0 percent increase in the tobacco and smoking products index.

Year-to-Date Change

For the first three months of 2009, consumer prices increase at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR) of 2.2 percent. This compares to a 0.1 percent increase for all of 2008. The index for energy, which fell 21.3 percent in 2008, advanced at a 7.9 SAAR in the first quarter of 2009. Petroleum-based energy costs rose at a 29.1 percent rate and energy services decreased at an 8.5 percent rate. The food index fell at a SAAR of 0.8 percent in the first quarter of 2009 after rising 5.9 percent during 2008. The food at home index, which rose 6.6 percent during 2008, fell at a 3.6 percent SAAR in the first quarter of 2009.

Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose at a 2.2 percent SAAR during the first quarter of 2009 after increasing 1.8 percent during 2008. Advances during the first quarter in the indexes for tobacco, new vehicles, medical care, and apparel contributed to the rise, while declines in the indexes for lodging away from home and public transportation mitigated the increase.

Table Q1. Annual percent changes in the CPI for All Urban Consumers, 2002-2009

Expenditure Category	Percentage change 12 months ended in December							SAAR 3 mos. ended Mar. 2009
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
All items	2.4	1.9	3.3	3.4	2.5	4.1	0.1	2.2
Food and beverages	1.5	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.2	4.8	5.8	-.7
Housing	2.4	2.2	3.0	4.0	3.3	3.0	2.4	-.5
Apparel	-1.8	-2.1	-.2	-1.1	.9	-.3	-1.0	5.3
Transportation	3.8	.3	6.5	4.8	1.6	8.3	-13.3	8.8
Medical care	5.0	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.2	2.6	4.0
Recreation	1.1	1.1	.7	1.1	1.0	.8	1.8	1.8
Education and communication	2.2	1.6	1.5	2.4	2.3	3.0	3.6	2.9
Other goods and services	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.4	13.5
Special indexes:								
Energy	10.7	6.9	16.6	17.1	2.9	17.4	-21.3	7.9
Energy commodities	23.7	6.9	26.7	16.7	6.1	29.4	-40.5	29.1
Energy services .....	.4	6.9	6.8	17.6	-.6	3.4	7.7	-8.5
All items less energy	1.8	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.8	2.4	1.7
Food	1.5	3.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	4.9	5.9	-.8
All items less food and energy	1.9	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.4	1.8	2.2

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

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.2 percent in March, prior to seasonal adjustment. The index value of 207.218 was 0.9 percent lower than in March 2008. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-W decreased 0.1 percent in March.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Mar. 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Mar. 2009	
	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009		
All items	0.0	-1.0	-2.1	-1.0	0.3	0.4	-0.1	2.6	-0.9
Food and beverages .....	.5	.4	.2	.1	.0	-.2	-.1	-1.1	4.4
Housing	-.1	.0	.0	.0	.0	.1	-.1	-.1	1.8
Apparel .....	.0	-1.0	.0	-.6	.6	1.0	-.3	5.4	1.1
Transportation	-.1	-5.3	-10.9	-5.6	1.5	2.0	-1.3	8.8	-15.2
Medical care .....	.3	.1	.2	.3	.4	.4	.2	4.1	2.9
Recreation .....	.2	.1	.0	-.1	.0	.4	.0	1.9	1.5
Education and communication .....	.0	.2	.2	.3	.2	.2	.2	2.2	3.3
Other goods and services ...	.2	.3	.1	.1	.4	.2	3.9	19.5	7.6
Special indexes:									
Energy	-.8	-8.2	-17.8	-9.7	1.9	3.6	-3.1	9.5	-24.0
Food .....	.5	.4	.2	.1	.0	-.2	-.1	-1.1	4.5
All items less food and energy .....	.1	.0	.1	.0	.2	.2	.2	2.6	1.8

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

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.2 percent in March on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The index has decreased 0.8 percent over the past year. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

Upcoming release

Consumer Price Index data for April are scheduled for release on Friday, May 15, 2009, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

Consumer Price Movements April 2009

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.2 percent in April before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. This index has fallen 0.7 percent over the last 12 months, due primarily to a 25.2 percent drop in energy prices. The year-over-year declines in March and April are the first since 1955.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U was unchanged in April after declining 0.1 percent in March. The energy index declined for the second straight month, falling 2.4 percent after declining 3.0 percent in March. The indexes for motor fuel, fuel oil, natural gas, and electricity all declined in April. The food index declined as well, falling 0.2 percent in April after a 0.1 percent decrease in March. The index for food away from home increased, but the food at home index fell 0.6 percent with none of the six major grocery store food groups posting an increase. Over the past year, the food index has risen 3.3 percent while the energy index has declined 25.2 percent.

Offsetting the declines in the food and energy indexes was a 0.3 percent increase in the index for all items less food and energy. Over 40 percent of the increase was due to a second consecutive large increase in the tobacco index. The index rose 9.3 percent in April as an increase in the federal excise tax on cigarettes went into effect. A larger increase in the index for medical care, an increase in the index for new vehicles, and an upturn in the lodging away from home index also contributed to the April increase. The index for all items less food and energy has risen 1.9 percent over the past year.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Apr. 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Apr. 2009	
	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009		
All items	-0.8	-1.7	-0.8	0.3	0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.9	-0.7
Food and beverages .....	.4	.2	.1	.1	-.1	-.1	-.2	-1.6	3.3
Housing .....	.0	-.1	.0	.0	.0	-.1	-.1	-.9	1.0
Apparel	-.7	.1	-.6	.3	1.3	-.2	-.2	3.5	.9
Transportation	-4.8	-9.7	-5.0	1.3	1.9	-1.1	-.4	1.8	-13.4
Medical care .....	.2	.2	.3	.4	.3	.2	.4	3.7	3.0
Recreation .....	.2	.0	-.2	.0	.4	.0	-.4	.0	1.2
Education and communication .....	.2	.2	.3	.3	.2	.2	.3	2.8	3.4
Other goods and services ...	.3	.0	.0	.3	.2	2.7	2.6	24.2	7.9
Special indexes:									
Energy	-7.8	-16.9	-9.3	1.7	3.3	-3.0	-2.4	-8.5	-25.2
Food .....	.4	.2	.0	.1	-.1	-.1	-.2	-1.7	3.3
All items less food and energy .....	.0	.1	.0	.2	.2	.2	.3	2.5	1.9

The food and beverages index declined 0.2 percent in April following a 0.1 percent decrease in March. A 0.3 percent increase in the food away from home index was more than offset by a 0.6 percent decline in the food at home index and a 0.1 percent fall in the index for alcoholic beverages. This was the fifth consecutive decline in the food at home index and it has declined 1.6 percent since its November peak. The dairy and related products index had the largest decline among the major grocery store food groups for the third month in a row. It decreased 1.3 percent in April and has fallen 5.1 percent over the past year. The index for cereals and bakery products, other food at home, and nonalcoholic beverages also declined in April. The index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs was unchanged in April, as was the fruits and vegetables index. The food index has risen 3.3 percent over the past year, with the food at home index up 2.3 percent.

The housing index fell 0.1 percent in April, the same decline as in March. The shelter index, however, rose 0.2 percent in April after being unchanged the previous two months. The index for lodging away from home turned up in April, rising 0.5 percent after falling in each of the six previous months. The indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent rose 0.2 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively. In contrast, the index for household energy fell 2.2 percent in April after declining 1.8 percent in March. The index for natural gas declined sharply, falling 7.0 percent, while the index for fuel oil fell 0.3 percent and the electricity index decreased 0.6

percent. The index for household furnishings and operations was unchanged in April. Over the past year, the housing index has risen 1.0 percent with the shelter index up 1.6 percent and the index for household energy down 4.7 percent.

The index for transportation fell 0.4 percent in April after declining 1.1 percent in March. Following a 4.0 percent decrease in March, the gasoline index declined 2.8 percent in April. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices rose 5.3 percent in April.) The index for new and used motor vehicles rose 0.4 percent in April. The new vehicles index rose 0.4 percent, while the used cars and trucks index declined only 0.1 percent in April after falling 1.7 percent in March. The index for public transportation declined for the eighth straight month, falling 0.8 percent as the airline fare index declined 1.5 percent. The transportation index has decreased 13.4 percent since April 2008, with several of its components declining over the period. The index for gasoline fell 39.5 percent and the index for public transportation decreased 5.9 percent, while the indexes for new vehicles and for used cars and trucks declined 0.2 percent and 11.4 percent, respectively.

Among other CPI groups, the index for medical care rose 0.4 percent in April after a 0.2 percent increase in March as the indexes for prescription drugs and hospital services posted larger increases. The index for education and communication rose 0.3 percent in April with education index up 0.4 percent and the index for communication rising 0.1 percent. The index for other goods and services posted another sharp increase due to higher tobacco prices, rising 2.6 percent in April. The 9.3 percent increase in the tobacco index followed an 11.0 percent increase in March and the index has risen 28.8 percent over the past year. The indexes for recreation and apparel both declined in April, falling 0.4 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively.

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

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.3 percent in April, prior to seasonal adjustment. The index value of 207.925 was 1.3 percent lower than in April 2008. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-W was unchanged in April.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Apr. 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Apr. 2009	
	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009		
All items	-1.0	-2.1	-1.0	0.3	0.4	-0.1	0.0	1.1	-1.3
Food and beverages .....	.4	.2	.1	.0	-.2	-.1	-.2	-1.9	3.4
Housing .....	.0	.0	.0	.0	.1	-.1	-.1	-.7	1.3
Apparel	-1.0	.0	-.6	.6	1.0	-.3	-.3	1.3	.7
Transportation	-5.3	-10.9	-5.6	1.5	2.0	-1.3	-.5	.6	-15.5
Medical care .....	.1	.2	.3	.4	.4	.2	.4	3.8	3.1
Recreation .....	.1	.0	-.1	.0	.4	.0	-.3	.6	1.3
Education and communication .....	.2	.2	.3	.2	.2	.2	.2	2.3	3.1
Other goods and services ...	.3	.1	.1	.4	.2	3.9	3.8	36.8	11.3
Special indexes:									
Energy	-8.2	-17.8	-9.7	1.9	3.6	-3.1	-2.4	-7.9	-26.1
Food .....	.4	.2	.1	.0	-.2	-.1	-.2	-2.0	3.4
All items less food and energy .....	.0	.1	.0	.2	.2	.2	.3	3.0	2.0

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

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent in April on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The index has decreased 1.1 percent over the past year. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

Upcoming release

Consumer Price Index data for May are scheduled for release on Wednesday, June 17, 2009, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS MAY 2009

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent in May before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Over the last 12 months the index has fallen 1.3 percent. This is the largest decline since April 1950 and is due mainly to a 27.3 percent decline in the energy index.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U increased 0.1 percent in May after being unchanged in April. The index for energy, which had declined the previous two months, rose 0.2 percent in May as an increase in the gasoline index more than offset declines in other energy indexes. The food index decreased for the fourth consecutive month, falling 0.2 percent as the indexes for all major grocery store food groups declined.

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.1 percent in May following a 0.3 percent increase in April. The smaller increase was partly due to the tobacco and smoking products index, which turned down in May after rising sharply in March and April. In May, the indexes for shelter, new and used motor vehicles, and medical care posted increases, while the public transportation index fell 1.0 percent and the indexes for apparel and tobacco declined slightly. The index for all items less food and energy has increased 1.8 percent over the last 12 months.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended May 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended May 2009	
	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009		
All items	-1.7	-0.8	0.3	0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.2	-1.3
Food and beverages .....	.2	.1	.1	-.1	-.1	-.2	-.2	-2.0	2.7
Housing	-.1	.0	.0	.0	-.1	-.1	-.1	-1.0	.5
Apparel .....	.1	-.6	.3	1.3	-.2	-.2	-.2	-2.3	.8
Transportation	-9.7	-5.0	1.3	1.9	-1.1	-.4	.8	-2.6	-14.3
Medical care .....	.2	.3	.4	.3	.2	.4	.3	3.5	3.2
Recreation .....	.0	-.2	.0	.4	.0	-.4	.0	-1.6	1.1
Education and communication .....	.2	.3	.3	.2	.2	.3	.3	3.1	3.4
Other goods and services ...	.0	.0	.3	.2	2.7	2.6	-.2	22.3	7.3
Special indexes:									
Energy	-16.9	-9.3	1.7	3.3	-3.0	-2.4	.2	-18.9	-27.3
Food .....	.2	.0	.1	-.1	-.1	-.2	-.2	-2.2	2.7
All items less food and energy .....	.1	.0	.2	.2	.2	.3	.1	2.3	1.8

The food and beverages index declined 0.2 percent in May, the same decline as in April. The food away from home index rose 0.1 percent and the index for alcoholic beverages advanced 0.3 percent. These increases were more than offset by a 0.5 percent decline in the food at home index, which has now declined six months in a row. The decline was broad, with the indexes for all six major grocery store food groups decreasing. The largest declines were in the fruits and vegetables index, which fell 1.0 percent, and the index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs, which decreased 0.9 percent as the eggs index declined 6.5 percent. The index for dairy and related products fell 0.5 percent in May and has declined 5.6 percent over the past year. The indexes for cereals and bakery products, for nonalcoholic beverages, and for other food at home all posted slight decreases in May. The food at home index has risen 1.5 percent over the last 12 months, the smallest increase since December 2006.

The housing index fell 0.1 percent in May, the third straight such decline. The index for shelter rose 0.1 percent, with the indexes for rent, for owners' equivalent rent, and for lodging away from home all rising 0.1 percent. However, the household energy index declined for the tenth straight month, falling 1.8 percent. The fuel oil index fell 3.3 percent, the index for natural gas declined 5.7 percent, and the index for electricity declined 0.4 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations was unchanged in

May for the second month in a row. Over the past year, the housing index has risen 0.5 percent. The shelter index has risen 1.5 percent while the index for household energy has declined 8.7 percent.

The index for transportation rose 0.8 percent in May following declines in April and March. The gasoline index increased 3.1 percent in May after declining 2.8 percent in April. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices rose 9.6 percent in May.) The index for new and used motor vehicles increased 0.5 percent in May. The new vehicles index rose 0.5 percent in May, its fifth straight monthly increase following five straight monthly declines. The index for used cars and trucks posted its first increase in over a year, rising 1.0 percent. In contrast, the index for public transportation continued to decline, falling 1.0 percent. The airline fare index fell 1.5 percent in May and has declined 18.5 percent from its August 2008 peak. Over the last year, the transportation index has declined 14.3 percent with the index for motor fuel down 39.9 percent. The public transportation index has fallen 9.0 percent over the period and the index for used cars and trucks has declined 10.0 percent. These declines contrast with a 0.4 percent increase in the new vehicles index.

Among other CPI groups, the index for medical care rose 0.3 percent in May after a 0.4 percent increase in April. The index for prescription drugs rose 0.6 percent in May after advancing 0.5 percent in April, while the hospital services index rose 0.1 percent in May after a 1.0 percent increase in April. The index for education and communication rose 0.3 percent in May with the education component rising 0.5 percent and the communication component increasing 0.1 percent. After declining 0.4 percent in April, the recreation index was unchanged in May. The apparel index declined 0.2 percent in May, the third straight such decrease. The index for other goods and services also declined 0.2 percent as the tobacco and smoking products index declined 0.3 percent.

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

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.4 percent in May, prior to seasonal adjustment. The index value of 208.774 was 1.9 percent lower than in May 2008. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-W rose 0.1 percent in May.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended May 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended May 2009	
	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009		
All items	-2.1	-1.0	0.3	0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.1	-1.9
Food and beverages .....	.2	.1	.0	-.2	-.1	-.2	-.2	-2.1	2.8
Housing .....	.0	.0	.0	.1	-.1	-.1	.0	-1.1	.8
Apparel .....	.0	-.6	.6	1.0	-.3	-.3	.0	-2.6	.8
Transportation	-10.9	-5.6	1.5	2.0	-1.3	-.5	.9	-3.4	-16.3
Medical care .....	.2	.3	.4	.4	.2	.4	.3	3.8	3.3
Recreation .....	.0	-.1	.0	.4	.0	-.3	.0	-1.3	1.2
Education and communication .....	.2	.3	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	2.4	3.0
Other goods and services ...	.1	.1	.4	.2	3.9	3.8	-.2	34.4	10.5
Special indexes:									
Energy	-17.8	-9.7	1.9	3.6	-3.1	-2.4	.4	-18.5	-28.0
Food .....	.2	.1	.0	-.2	-.1	-.2	-.3	-2.4	2.7
All items less food and energy .....	.1	.0	.2	.2	.2	.3	.2	3.0	2.0

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

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent in May on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The index has decreased 1.4 percent over the past year. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

Upcoming release

Consumer Price Index data for June are scheduled for release on Wednesday, July 15, 2009, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS JUNE 2009

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.9 percent in June before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Over the last 12 months the index has fallen 1.4 percent, as a 25.5 percent decline in the energy index has more than offset increases of 2.1 percent in the food index and 1.7 percent in the index for all items less food and energy.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U increased 0.7 percent in June after rising 0.1 percent in May. The acceleration was largely caused by the gasoline index, which rose 17.3 percent in June and accounted for over 80 percent of the increase in the all items index. The index for energy rose 7.4 percent in June, with a decline in the electricity index partly offsetting the sharp increase in gasoline. The food index, which had fallen each of the last four months, was unchanged in June.

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.2 percent in June following a 0.1 percent increase in May. Most components of all items less food and energy posted increases; the indexes for shelter and medical care rose slightly, while the indexes for new vehicles, used cars and trucks, recreation, and apparel all increased at least 0.5 percent. The index for airline fares did decline in June, falling 0.6 percent.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended June 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended June 2009	
	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009	June 2009		
All items	-8	.3	.4	-1	.0	.1	.7	3.3	-1.4
Food and beverages .....	.1	.1	-1	-1	-2	-2	.1	-1.3	2.2
Housing .....	.0	.0	.0	-1	-1	-1	.0	-6	.1
Apparel	-6	.3	1.3	-2	-2	-2	.7	1.5	1.5
Transportation	-5.0	1.3	1.9	-1.1	-4	.8	4.2	19.9	-13.2
Medical care .....	.3	.4	.3	.2	.4	.3	.2	3.6	3.2
Recreation	-2	.0	.4	.0	-4	.0	.5	.3	1.5
Education and communication .....	.3	.3	.2	.2	.3	.3	.2	2.9	3.0
Other goods and services ...	.0	.3	.2	2.7	2.6	-2	.3	10.9	7.1
Special indexes:									
Energy	-9.3	1.7	3.3	-3.0	-2.4	.2	7.4	22.1	-25.5
Food .....	.0	.1	-1	-1	-2	-2	.0	-1.5	2.1
All items less food and energy .....	.0	.2	.2	.2	.3	.1	.2	2.4	1.7

The food and beverages index turned up in June, rising 0.1 percent after declining 0.2 percent in May. The food away from home index rose 0.1 percent and the index for alcoholic beverages increased 0.2 percent. The food at home index, which had declined six months in a row, was unchanged in June. Among major grocery store food groups, the fruits and vegetables index had the largest increase, rising 1.1 percent after declining 1.0 percent in May. This was mostly offset by another decline in the index for dairy and related products, which fell 0.9 percent, its seventh consecutive decrease. The other groups within food at home were relatively stable this month; the indexes for cereals and bakery products and other food at home were unchanged, while the index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs declined 0.2 percent and the nonalcoholic beverages index rose 0.1 percent. Over the last year, the food at home index has risen 0.8 percent.

After declining in each of the three previous months, the housing index was unchanged in June. The index for shelter rose 0.1 percent for the second straight month, as did the indexes of two of its major components, rent and owners' equivalent rent. Also within shelter, the index for lodging away from home rose 0.3 percent in June but has fallen 6.9 percent over the last year. The household energy index continued its decline, falling 1.0 percent, its eleventh consecutive monthly decrease. The June decrease was driven by the electricity index, which fell 1.9 percent in June after a 0.4 percent decrease in May. The index for natural gas rose in June, increasing 1.3 percent after falling in each of the ten previous months. The index for household furnishings and operations was unchanged in June for the third month in a row. Over the past year, the housing index has risen 0.1 percent, with the shelter index rising 1.3 percent and the index for household energy declining 10.8 percent.

The index for transportation rose 4.2 percent in June after a 0.8 percent increase in May. The motor fuel index advanced 17.2 percent in June, accounting for about 95 percent of the increase in the transportation group. The indexes for new vehicles rose 0.7 percent in June after a 0.5 percent increase in May, and the index for used cars and trucks increased 0.9 percent in June following a 1.0 percent increase in May. However, the index for public transportation continued to decline, falling 0.5 percent as the index for airline fares fell 0.6 percent. Over the last year, the transportation index has declined 13.2 percent with the motor fuel index down 35.2 percent. The public transportation index has decreased 12.1 percent over this period and the index for used cars and trucks has declined 8.6 percent. In contrast to these declines, the new vehicles index has risen 0.9 percent over the last year.

Among other CPI groups, the indexes for medical care and for education and communication both rose 0.2 percent in June after increasing 0.3 percent in May. The index for apparel turned up in June, rising 0.7 percent after declining 0.2 percent in each of the previous three months. The index for recreation rose 0.5 percent in June, the largest one month increase in the index since April 2001. Increases in the indexes for admissions and for cable and satellite television and radio contributed to the rise. The index for other goods and services rose 0.3 percent in June, with the tobacco and smoking products index increasing 0.8 percent and the personal care index rising 0.1 percent.

Year-to-date change

The CPI-U all items index advanced at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR) of 3.3 percent in the second quarter of 2009 after increasing at a 2.2 percent rate in the first quarter. This brings the year-to-date SAAR to 2.7 percent and compares with a 0.1 percent increase in all of 2008. The index for energy, which fell 21.3 percent during 2008, rose at a 14.8 percent SAAR in the first six months of 2009. Energy commodities increased at a 52.1 percent rate in the first half of the year, while energy services declined at a 13.6 percent rate. The index for food declined at a 1.1 percent SAAR in the first six months of 2009 after rising 5.9 percent in all of 2008. The food at home index declined at a 3.8 percent rate during the first half of 2009 after rising 6.6 percent in 2008.

The CPI-U excluding food and energy advanced at a 2.4 percent SAAR in the second quarter of 2009 after rising at a 2.2 percent rate in the first quarter. The increase at a 2.3 percent annual rate over the first six months of 2009 compares to a 1.8 percent increase in 2008. Acceleration in the indexes for new vehicles, tobacco, apparel, and medical care all contributed to the larger rate of increase, while slower rates of increase in the indexes for shelter and recreation and a downturn in the public transportation index mitigated the rise. The annual rates for selected groups for the last seven-and-one-half years are shown below.

Table Q2. Annual percent changes in the CPI for All Urban Consumers, 2002-2009

Expenditure Category	Percentage change 12 months ended in December							SAAR 6 mos. ended June 2009
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
All items	2.4	1.9	3.3	3.4	2.5	4.1	0.1	2.7
Food and beverages	1.5	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.2	4.8	5.8	-1.0
Housing	2.4	2.2	3.0	4.0	3.3	3.0	2.4	-.6
Apparel	-1.8	-2.1	-.2	-1.1	.9	-.3	-1.0	3.3
Transportation	3.8	.3	6.5	4.8	1.6	8.3	-13.3	14.2
Medical care	5.0	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.2	2.6	3.8
Recreation	1.1	1.1	.7	1.1	1.0	.8	1.8	1.0
Education and communication	2.2	1.6	1.5	2.4	2.3	3.0	3.6	2.9
Other goods and services	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.4	12.2
Special indexes:								
Energy	10.7	6.9	16.6	17.1	2.9	17.4	-21.3	14.8
Energy commodities	23.7	6.9	26.7	16.7	6.1	29.4	-40.5	52.1
Energy services .....	.4	6.9	6.8	17.6	-.6	3.4	7.7	-13.6
All items less energy	1.8	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.8	2.4	1.7
Food	1.5	3.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	4.9	5.9	-1.1
All items less food and energy	1.9	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.4	1.8	2.3

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

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 1.1 percent in June, prior to seasonal adjustment. The index value of 210.972 was 2.0 percent lower than in June 2008. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-W rose 0.9 percent in June.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended June 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended June 2009	
	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009	June 2009		
All items	-1.0	.3	.4	-.1	.0	.1	.9	4.2	-2.0
Food and beverages .....	.1	.0	-.2	-.1	-.2	-.2	.0	-1.4	2.1
Housing .....	.0	.0	.1	-.1	-.1	.0	-.1	-.9	.3
Apparel	-.6	.6	1.0	-.3	-.3	.0	.7	1.6	1.6
Transportation	-5.6	1.5	2.0	-1.3	-.5	.9	4.8	22.9	-14.9
Medical care .....	.3	.4	.4	.2	.4	.3	.2	3.8	3.3
Recreation	-.1	.0	.4	.0	-.3	.0	.4	.4	1.4
Education and communication .....	.3	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.1	2.2	2.6
Other goods and services ...	.1	.4	.2	3.9	3.8	-.2	.3	16.6	10.2
Special indexes:									
Energy	-9.7	1.9	3.6	-3.1	-2.4	.4	8.1	25.8	-25.9
Food .....	.1	.0	-.2	-.1	-.2	-.3	.0	-1.6	2.1
All items less food and energy .....	.0	.2	.2	.2	.3	.2	.2	2.9	1.9

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

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.9 percent in June on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The index has decreased 1.3 percent over the past year. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

Upcoming release

Consumer Price Index data for July are scheduled for release on Friday, August 14, 2009, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS JULY 2009

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.2 percent in July before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Over the last 12 months the index has fallen 2.1 percent, as a 28.1 percent decline in the energy index since its July 2008 peak has more than offset increases of 0.9 percent in the food index and 1.5 percent in the index for all items less food and energy.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U was unchanged in July following a 0.7 percent increase in June. Small declines in the food and energy indexes offset a small increase in the index for all items less food and energy. The food index declined 0.3 percent in July with all six major grocery store food groups posting declines. The energy index, which rose 7.4 percent in June, fell 0.4 percent in July. Decreases in the indexes for gasoline, fuel oil, and electricity more than offset an increase in the index for natural gas.

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.1 percent in July following a 0.2 percent increase in June. The indexes for new vehicles, tobacco, medical care and apparel all continued to increase in July, and the index for airline fares turned up after a long series of declines. In contrast to these increases, the shelter index decreased in July as the index for lodging away from home fell and the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent were unchanged.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended July 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended July 2009	
	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009	June 2009	July 2009		
All items	0.3	0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.0	3.4	-2.1
Food and beverages .....	.1	-.1	-.1	-.2	-.2	.1	-.2	-1.4	1.1
Housing .....	.0	.0	-.1	-.1	-.1	.0	-.2	-1.0	-.7
Apparel .....	.3	1.3	-.2	-.2	-.2	.7	.6	4.5	1.1
Transportation	1.3	1.9	-1.1	-.4	.8	4.2	.2	22.7	-14.1
Medical care .....	.4	.3	.2	.4	.3	.2	.2	2.8	3.2
Recreation .....	.0	.4	.0	-.4	.0	.5	.0	2.1	1.2
Education and communication .....	.3	.2	.2	.3	.3	.2	.3	3.1	2.8
Other goods and services ...	.3	.2	2.7	2.6	-.2	.3	.8	3.3	7.5
Special indexes:									
Energy	1.7	3.3	-3.0	-2.4	.2	7.4	-.4	32.5	-28.1
Food .....	.1	-.1	-.1	-.2	-.2	.0	-.3	-1.8	.9
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.2	.3	.1	.2	.1	1.7	1.5

The food and beverages index, which rose 0.1 percent in June, fell 0.2 percent in July. The decrease was caused by the food at home index, which declined for the seventh time in the last eight months, falling 0.5 percent. All six major grocery store food group indexes fell, with the largest decreases being a 1.3 percent decline in the index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs and a 0.6 percent decline in the dairy and related products index, which has now fallen for eight months in a row. The cereals and bakery products index posted the smallest decrease of the six groups, falling 0.1 percent. The indexes for fruits and vegetables, for nonalcoholic beverages, and for other food at home all declined 0.3 percent in July. The food at home index has declined 2.6 percent from its peak in November 2008. In contrast to the decline in the food at home index, the food away from home index rose 0.1 percent in July and the index for alcoholic beverages increased 0.3 percent.

The housing index fell 0.2 percent in July after being unchanged in June. The index for shelter fell 0.2 percent and the household energy index declined 0.3 percent. Within the shelter group, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent were both unchanged in July after rising 0.1 percent in June. The index for lodging away from home turned down in July, falling 2.1 percent after increasing 0.3 percent in June, and has fallen 8.9 percent over the past 12 months. Within household energy, a 0.9 percent increase in the index for natural gas was more than offset by declines in the other indexes, including a 0.6 percent decrease in the electricity index and a 1.5 percent fall in the fuel oil index. The index for household furnishings and operations, unchanged for each

of the previous three months, declined 0.1 percent in July. For the past 12 months, the housing index has declined 0.7 percent, with the shelter index up 0.9 percent and the household energy index down 14.1 percent.

After rising 4.2 percent in June, the transportation index increased 0.2 percent in July. Most of the moderation was due to the motor fuel index, which fell 0.4 percent in July after rising 17.2 percent in June. The new vehicle index increased 0.5 percent in July after rising 0.7 percent in June, and the index for used cars and trucks was unchanged in July after rising 0.9 percent in June. The public transportation index, however, turned up in July, rising 1.9 percent after declining 0.5 percent in June. The turnaround was mostly due to the index for airline fares, which rose 2.1 percent in July after declining in each of the previous ten months. Over the past 12 months, the transportation index has fallen 14.1 percent, with several of its components declining. The gasoline index fell 37.3 percent while the index for airline fares declined 16.6 percent and the index for used cars and trucks decreased 7.9 percent. However, the new vehicle index has risen 1.2 percent over the past 12 months.

Among other CPI groups, the medical care index rose 0.2 percent in July, the same increase as in June. Within that group, the index for hospital and related services rose 0.7 percent while the index for prescription drugs was unchanged. Over the last 12 months, the medical care index has risen 3.2 percent. The index for other goods and services rose 0.8 percent in July after advancing 0.3 percent in June. The larger increase was driven by the tobacco index, which rose 2.2 percent as excise tax increases in several states went into effect in July. The tobacco index has now risen 27.8 percent over the past year. The apparel index advanced 0.6 percent in July after a 0.7 percent increase in June. The index for education and communication rose 0.3 percent in July after rising 0.2 percent in June, while the index for recreation was unchanged in July after rising 0.5 percent in June.

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

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) declined 0.2 percent in July, prior to seasonal adjustment. The index value of 210.526 was 2.7 percent lower than in July 2008. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-W was unchanged in July.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted								Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended July 2009
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended July 2009	
	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009	June 2009	July 2009		
All items	0.3	0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.9	0.0	4.4	-2.7
Food and beverages .....	.0	-.2	-.1	-.2	-.2	.0	-.2	-1.6	1.0
Housing .....	.0	.1	-.1	-.1	.0	-.1	-.1	-.8	-.5
Apparel .....	.6	1.0	-.3	-.3	.0	.7	.6	5.5	1.3
Transportation	1.5	2.0	-1.3	-.5	.9	4.8	.1	25.8	-15.9
Medical care .....	.4	.4	.2	.4	.3	.2	.2	3.0	3.4
Recreation .....	.0	.4	.0	-.3	.0	.4	.0	1.6	1.1
Education and communication .....	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.1	.3	2.8	2.4
Other goods and services ...	.4	.2	3.9	3.8	-.2	.3	1.0	4.3	10.7
Special indexes:									
Energy	1.9	3.6	-3.1	-2.4	.4	8.1	-.4	36.8	-28.5
Food .....	.0	-.2	-.1	-.2	-.3	.0	-.3	-1.9	.8
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.2	.3	.2	.2	.1	2.1	1.8

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

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 0.2 percent in July on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The index has decreased 1.9 percent over the past year. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

Upcoming release

Consumer Price Index data for August are scheduled for release on Wednesday, September 16, 2009, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

Upcoming Changes to the Consumer Price Index news release

Beginning with the next edition of the *Consumer Price Index* news release scheduled for publication on September 16, 2009, the Bureau of Labor Statistics will introduce changes in the presentation of the text section of the release. There will be no changes to the data or to the format and content of the tables. A sample of the revamped *Consumer Price Index* news release will be posted on the BLS Web site on Friday, August 14. For further information, please see http://www.bls.gov/bls/changes_to_text_sections_of_nrs.htm.

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS AUGUST 2009

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.4 percent in August, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The index has decreased 1.5 percent over the last 12 months on a not seasonally adjusted basis.

The 0.4 percent seasonally adjusted increase in the CPI-U was driven by a 9.1 percent rise in the gasoline index. This increase accounted for almost the entire advance in the energy index and over 80 percent of the overall increase. Despite the August increase, the gasoline index has fallen 30.0 percent over the last 12 months.

The indexes for food and for all items less food and energy both posted slight increases in August. The food index rose 0.1 percent following a 0.3 percent decline in July. The food at home index, which fell 0.5 percent in July, was unchanged in August. Of the six major grocery store food group indexes, three rose in August and three declined. The index for all items less food and energy also rose 0.1 percent in August, the second consecutive such increase. Increases in the indexes for used cars and trucks, medical care, public transportation and lodging away from home offset a decline in the new vehicle index. The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.4 percent over the last 12 months, the smallest 12-month increase in the index since February 2004.

Table A. Percent changes in CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average

	Seasonally adjusted changes from preceding month							Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Aug. 2009
	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009	June 2009	July 2009	Aug. 2009	
All items	0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.4	-1.5
Food	-.1	-.1	-.2	-.2	.0	-.3	.1	.4
Food at home	-.4	-.4	-.6	-.5	.0	-.5	.0	-1.6
Food away from home ¹ .....	.3	.1	.3	.1	.1	.1	.1	3.0
Energy	3.3	-3.0	-2.4	.2	7.4	-.4	4.6	-23.0
Energy commodities	6.9	-4.7	-2.6	2.3	16.2	-.4	8.5	-30.8
Gasoline (all types)	8.3	-4.0	-2.8	3.1	17.3	-.8	9.1	-30.0
Fuel oil	-3.8	-8.5	-.3	-3.3	4.8	-1.5	6.2	-39.9
Energy services .....	.0	-1.4	-2.2	-1.7	-1.2	-.3	.0	-10.6
Electricity .....	.5	-.2	-.6	-.4	-1.9	-.6	-.1	-1.2
Utility (piped) gas service	-1.6	-4.8	-7.0	-5.7	1.3	.9	.4	-32.7
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.2	.3	.1	.2	.1	.1	1.4
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	.4	.4	.5	.2	.3	.2	-.3	1.1
New vehicles .....	.8	.6	.4	.5	.7	.5	-1.3	.5
Used cars and trucks	-1.7	-1.7	-.1	1.0	.9	.0	1.9	-5.4
Apparel	1.3	-.2	-.2	-.2	.7	.6	-.1	.6
Medical care commodities .....	.6	.2	.3	.4	.1	-.1	.5	3.7
Services less energy services .....	.1	.1	.2	.1	.1	.0	.2	1.6
Shelter .....	.0	.0	.2	.1	.1	-.2	.1	.9
Transportation services .....	.4	-.1	.3	-.1	-.1	.5	.6	1.4
Medical care services .....	.3	.2	.4	.3	.2	.3	.2	3.2

¹ Not seasonally adjusted.

Consumer Price Index Data for August 2009

Energy

The energy index rose 4.6 percent in August after falling 0.4 percent in July. The energy commodities index rose 8.5 percent as the gasoline index rose 9.1 percent in August following a 0.8 percent decline in July. (Before seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices rose 3.3 percent in August.) The index for energy services was unchanged in August, with a 0.1 percent decline in the electricity index offsetting a 0.4 percent increase in the index for natural gas. Over the past 12 months, the energy index has fallen 23.0 percent, with the gasoline index falling 30.0 percent, the index for natural gas declining 32.7 percent, and the electricity index decreasing 1.2 percent.

Food

The food index rose 0.1 percent in August, with the index for food away from home rising 0.1 percent and the food at home index unchanged. Within the latter group, the index for fruits and vegetables fell 0.7 percent in August following a 0.3 percent decline in July. The index for dairy and related products fell 0.4 percent in August, its ninth consecutive decline, and the index for cereals and bakery products decreased 0.1 percent. Offsetting these declines were increases of 0.4 percent in the indexes for meats, poultry, fish and eggs and for nonalcoholic beverages and a 0.2 percent increase in the index for other food at home. The food at home index has declined 2.5 percent since its November 2008 peak. Over the past 12 months, the food index has risen 0.4 percent, with the food away from home index rising 3.0 percent and the food at home index declining 1.6 percent.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.1 percent in August, the same increase as in July. Advances in the indexes for used cars and public transportation contributed to the increase. The used cars and trucks index, which was unchanged in July, rose 1.9 percent in August. The public transportation index rose 1.3 percent in August as the airline fares index rose 1.7 percent. Also contributing was an upturn in the lodging away from home index, which rose 0.5 percent in August after declining 2.1 percent in July. This increase drove an upturn in the shelter index, which rose 0.1 percent in August after a 0.2 percent decline in July. The rent index was unchanged and the index for owners' equivalent rent increased 0.1 percent. The medical care index rose 0.3 percent in August after a 0.2 percent increase in July, and the index for recreation edged up 0.1 percent. In contrast to these increases, the index for new vehicles fell 1.3 percent in August, partly due to "cash for clunkers" incentives. Also declining in August were the indexes for apparel, which fell 0.1 percent, and communication, which declined 0.2 percent.

Not seasonally adjusted CPI measures

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 1.5 percent over the last 12 months to an index level of 215.834 (1982-84=100). For the month, the index increased 0.2 percent prior to seasonal adjustment.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 1.9 percent over the last 12 months to an index level of 211.156 (1982-84=100). For the month, the index increased 0.3 percent prior to seasonal adjustment.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 1.5 percent over the last 12 months. For the month, the index increased 0.2 percent on a not seasonally adjusted basis. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

The Consumer Price Index for September 2009 is scheduled to be released on Thursday, October 15, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. (EDT).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS SEPTEMBER 2009

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.2 percent in September, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The increase was less than the 0.4 percent rise in August. The index has decreased 1.3 percent over the last 12 months on a not seasonally adjusted basis.

The seasonally adjusted increase in the all items index was broad based, although tempered by a decline in the food index. The all items less food and energy index increased 0.2 percent in September after increasing 0.1 percent in each of the previous two months. Contributing to this increase were advances in the indexes for lodging away from home, medical care, new vehicles, used cars and trucks, and public transportation. The increase occurred despite declines in the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent, the first decreases in those indexes since 1992. The energy index also increased in September, as increases in the indexes for gasoline, fuel oil and electricity more than offset a decline in the index for natural gas.

In contrast to these increases, the food index declined, falling for the sixth time in the last eight months. The index for food away from home increased, but the food at home index declined as the indexes for fruits and vegetables and for meats, poultry, fish and eggs fell sharply. Both the food and energy indexes have declined over the past 12 months. The decline in the food index is the first 12-month decrease in that index in over 40 years.

Table A. Percent changes in CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average

	Seasonally adjusted changes from preceding month							Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Sep. 2009
	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	May 2009	June 2009	July 2009	Aug. 2009	Sep. 2009	
All items	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.4	0.2	-1.3
Food	-1	-2	-2	.0	-3	.1	-1	-2
Food at home	-4	-6	-5	.0	-5	.0	-3	-2.5
Food away from home ¹ .....	.1	.3	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	2.6
Energy	-3.0	-2.4	.2	7.4	-4	4.6	.6	-21.6
Energy commodities	-4.7	-2.6	2.3	16.2	-4	8.5	1.1	-30.1
Gasoline (all types)	-4.0	-2.8	3.1	17.3	-8	9.1	1.0	-29.7
Fuel oil	-8.5	-3	-3.3	4.8	-1.5	6.2	1.5	-36.0
Energy services	-1.4	-2.2	-1.7	-1.2	-3	.0	.1	-8.0
Electricity	-.2	-.6	-.4	-1.9	-6	-.1	.6	-.1
Utility (piped) gas service	-4.8	-7.0	-5.7	1.3	.9	.4	-1.7	-28.0
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.3	.1	.2	.1	.1	.2	1.5
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	.4	.5	.2	.3	.2	-.3	.3	1.6
New vehicles .....	.6	.4	.5	.7	.5	-1.3	.4	1.6
Used cars and trucks	-1.7	-.1	1.0	.9	.0	1.9	1.6	-2.7
Apparel	-.2	-.2	-.2	.7	.6	-.1	.1	1.1
Medical care commodities .....	.2	.3	.4	.1	-.1	.5	.6	4.1
Services less energy services .....	.1	.2	.1	.1	.0	.2	.1	1.5
Shelter .....	.0	.2	.1	.1	-.2	.1	.0	.7
Transportation services	-.1	.3	-.1	-.1	.5	.6	.7	2.0
Medical care services .....	.2	.4	.3	.2	.3	.2	.4	3.3

¹ Not seasonally adjusted.

Consumer Price Index Data for September 2009

Food

After rising 0.1 percent in August, the food index declined 0.1 percent in September. The index for food away from home rose 0.1 percent while the food at home index declined 0.3 percent, its eighth decline in the last 10 months. The September decrease was driven by declines in the indexes for fruits and vegetables, which fell 1.2 percent, and for meats, poultry, fish and eggs, which decreased 1.0 percent. The index for nonalcoholic beverages was unchanged in September, while the other grocery store food groups posted increases. After declining for nine straight months, the index for dairy and related products rose 0.5 percent in September. The cereals and bakery products index increased 0.3 percent and the index for other food at home rose 0.1 percent. Over the past year, the food at home index has decreased 2.5 percent, with the fruits and vegetables, dairy, and meat groups all posting significant declines. The food index has declined 0.2 percent since September 2008, the first 12-month decrease since April 1967.

Energy

The energy index rose 0.6 percent in September after increasing 4.6 percent in August. The index for energy commodities rose 1.1 percent, with the gasoline index increasing 1.0 percent. (Before seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices fell 2.1 percent in September.) The index for energy services, which was unchanged in August, rose 0.1 percent in September. The electricity index rose 0.6 percent while the index for natural gas declined 1.7 percent. Over the past 12 months, the energy index has fallen 21.6 percent with all its major components declining. The gasoline index decreased 29.7 percent, the index for natural gas declined 28.0 percent, and the electricity index fell 0.1 percent.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.2 percent in September after increasing 0.1 percent in both July and August. One contributor to the increase was the medical care index, which rose 0.4 percent in September. The index for medical care commodities rose 0.6 percent in September, with the prescription drugs index rising 0.6 percent and the index for nonprescription drugs advancing 1.1 percent. Several transportation indexes contributed to the increase in the index for all items less food and energy. The new vehicles index, which declined 1.3 percent in August, rose 0.4 percent in September. The index for used cars and trucks increased sharply for the second month in a row, rising 1.6 percent, and the index for public transportation rose 2.1 percent as the airline fares index increased 3.4 percent. The tobacco index rose 1.0 percent in September and has risen 26.1 percent since February. The shelter index was unchanged in September, as a 1.5 percent increase in the index for lodging away from home was offset by declines of 0.1 percent in the heavily weighted rent and owners' equivalent rent indexes. For the past 12 months, the index for all items less food and energy has risen 1.5 percent. The indexes for shelter, new vehicles, medical care and tobacco have all risen during the period, while the indexes for used cars and trucks and public transportation have declined.

Not seasonally adjusted CPI measures

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 1.3 percent over the last 12 months to an index level of 215.969 (1982-84=100). For the month, the index increased 0.1 percent prior to seasonal adjustment.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 1.7 percent over the last 12 months to an index level of 211.322 (1982-84=100). For the month, the index increased 0.1 percent prior to seasonal adjustment.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 1.4 percent over the last 12 months. For the month, the index increased 0.1 percent on a not seasonally adjusted basis. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

The Consumer Price Index for October 2009 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, November 18, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. (EST).

CONSUMER PRICE Movements OCTOBER 2009

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.3 percent in October, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The index has decreased 0.2 percent over the last 12 months on a not seasonally adjusted basis.

The seasonally adjusted all items increase largely reflected advances in the indexes for energy and for new and used motor vehicles. The energy index rose for the fifth time in the last six months, advancing 1.5 percent as the indexes for gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, and electricity all increased. The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.2 percent in October, the same increase as in September. The indexes for used cars and trucks and for new vehicles both rose sharply and together they accounted for over 90 percent of the increase in the index for all items less food and energy. The indexes for airline fares and medical care also increased, while the shelter index was unchanged and the indexes for apparel and recreation declined.

The food index also increased in October, rising 0.1 percent after declining in two of the previous three months. The index for food away from home increased slightly, while the food at home index was unchanged. Within the food at home group, the index for dairy and related products rose significantly, while the fruits and vegetables index declined for the fourth straight month.

Table A. Percent changes in CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average

	Seasonally adjusted changes from preceding month							Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Oct. 2009
	Apr. 2009	May 2009	June 2009	July 2009	Aug. 2009	Sep. 2009	Oct. 2009	
All items	0.0	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.3	-0.2
Food	-2	-2	.0	-3	.1	-.1	.1	-.6
Food at home	-6	-5	.0	-5	.0	-3	.0	-2.8
Food away from home ¹ .....	.3	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	2.2
Energy	-2.4	.2	7.4	-4	4.6	.6	1.5	-14.0
Energy commodities	-2.6	2.3	16.2	-4	8.5	1.1	1.9	-18.7
Gasoline (all types)	-2.8	3.1	17.3	-8	9.1	1.0	1.6	-17.9
Fuel oil	-3	-3.3	4.8	-1.5	6.2	1.5	6.3	-26.3
Energy services	-2.2	-1.7	-1.2	-3	.0	.1	.9	-7.1
Electricity	-6	-4	-1.9	-6	-.1	.6	.6	-.6
Utility (piped) gas service	-7.0	-5.7	1.3	.9	.4	-1.7	1.9	-24.0
All items less food and energy .....	.3	.1	.2	.1	.1	.2	.2	1.7
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	.5	.2	.3	.2	-.3	.3	.4	2.3
New vehicles .....	.4	.5	.7	.5	-1.3	.4	1.6	3.8
Used cars and trucks	-.1	1.0	.9	.0	1.9	1.6	3.4	2.3
Apparel	-2	-2	.7	.6	-.1	.1	-.4	1.4
Medical care commodities .....	.3	.4	.1	-.1	.5	.6	.2	4.3
Services less energy services .....	.2	.1	.1	.0	.2	.1	.1	1.5
Shelter .....	.2	.1	.1	-2	.1	.0	.0	.7
Transportation services .....	.3	-.1	-.1	.5	.6	.7	.4	2.7
Medical care services .....	.4	.3	.2	.3	.2	.4	.2	3.2

¹ Not seasonally adjusted.

Consumer Price Index Data for October 2009

Food

The food index rose 0.1 percent in October after declining 0.1 percent in September. The index for food away from home increased 0.1 percent while the food at home index was unchanged. Within the food at home group, the index for dairy and related products rose 1.0 percent in October after a 0.5 percent increase in September, and the index for other food at home advanced 0.3 percent. These increases were offset by a 0.7 percent decline in the fruits and vegetables index and 0.2 percent decreases in the indexes for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs and for nonalcoholic beverages. The index for cereals and bakery products was unchanged in October. Over the past 12 months, the food index has declined 0.6 percent with the food at home index down 2.8 percent.

Energy

The energy index rose 1.5 percent in October after increasing 0.6 percent in September. The index for energy commodities rose 1.9 percent, with the gasoline index increasing 1.6 percent. (Before seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices fell 0.8 percent in October.) The index for fuel oil rose 6.3 percent. The index for energy services, which increased 0.1 percent in September, rose 0.9 percent in October. The electricity index increased 0.6 percent while the index for natural gas rose 1.9 percent in October after declining 1.7 percent in September. Over the past 12 months, the energy index has fallen 14.0 percent with the gasoline index declining 17.9 percent.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.2 percent in October, the same increase as in September. Most of the advance was due to increases in transportation indexes. The new vehicles index rose 1.6 percent and the index for used cars and trucks rose 3.4 percent, its third consecutive substantial increase. The index for airline fares rose for the fourth straight month, increasing 1.7 percent in October. Outside of the transportation group, the changes within all items less food and energy were largely modest. The medical care index rose 0.2 percent in October after increasing 0.4 percent in September. The shelter index was unchanged in October, as it was in September. The rent index decreased 0.1 percent, the index for owners' equivalent rent was unchanged, and the index for lodging away from home rose 0.4 percent. Posting declines in October were the indexes for recreation and apparel, which both fell 0.4 percent. For the past 12 months, the index for all items less food and energy has risen 1.7 percent.

Not seasonally adjusted CPI measures

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.2 percent over the last 12 months to an index level of 216.177 (1982-84=100). For the month, the index increased 0.1 percent prior to seasonal adjustment.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 0.3 percent over the last 12 months to an index level of 211.549 (1982-84=100). For the month, the index increased 0.1 percent prior to seasonal adjustment.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 0.5 percent over the last 12 months. For the month, the index increased 0.1 percent on a not seasonally adjusted basis. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

The Consumer Price Index for November 2009 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, December 16, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. (EST).

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS NOVEMBER 2009

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.4 percent in November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Over the last 12 months the index increased 1.8 percent before seasonal adjustment, the first positive 12-month change since February 2009.

The seasonally adjusted increase in the all items index was due to a 4.1 percent increase in the energy index. The index for gasoline rose sharply and the indexes for electricity, fuel oil, and natural gas also increased, creating the fourth consecutive rise in the energy index and the largest increase since August. In contrast, the index for all items less food and energy was unchanged in November, after ten consecutive monthly increases. Declines in shelter indexes offset increases in the indexes for new and used motor vehicles, medical care, airline fares, and tobacco.

The food index rose slightly in November. As in October, the food away from home index rose modestly while the index for food at home was unchanged. Within the latter, three grocery store food groups posted increases while three declined.

Table A. Percent changes in CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average

	Seasonally adjusted changes from preceding month							Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Nov. 2009
	May 2009	June 2009	July 2009	Aug. 2009	Sep. 2009	Oct. 2009	Nov. 2009	
All items	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	1.8
Food	-.2	.0	-.3	.1	-.1	.1	.1	-.7
Food at home	-.5	.0	-.5	.0	-.3	.0	.0	-2.9
Food away from home ¹ .....	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.2	2.1
Energy .....	.2	7.4	-.4	4.6	.6	1.5	4.1	7.4
Energy commodities	2.3	16.2	-.4	8.5	1.1	1.9	6.3	19.6
Gasoline (all types)	3.1	17.3	-.8	9.1	1.0	1.6	6.4	23.6
Fuel oil	-3.3	4.8	-1.5	6.2	1.5	6.3	9.0	-6.9
Energy services	-1.7	-1.2	-.3	.0	.1	.9	1.4	-5.1
Electricity	-.4	-1.9	-.6	-.1	.6	.6	1.4	.1
Utility (piped) gas service	-5.7	1.3	.9	.4	-1.7	1.9	1.5	-18.6
All items less food and energy .....	.1	.2	.1	.1	.2	.2	.0	1.7
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	.2	.3	.2	-.3	.3	.4	.2	2.6
New vehicles .....	.5	.7	.5	-1.3	.4	1.6	.6	4.9
Used cars and trucks	1.0	.9	.0	1.9	1.6	3.4	2.0	5.8
Apparel	-.2	.7	.6	-.1	.1	-.4	-.3	1.0
Medical care commodities .....	.4	.1	-.1	.5	.6	.2	.0	3.8
Services less energy services .....	.1	.1	.0	.2	.1	.1	.0	1.4
Shelter .....	.1	.1	-.2	.1	.0	.0	-.2	.3
Transportation services	-.1	-.1	.5	.6	.7	.4	.6	3.6
Medical care services .....	.3	.2	.3	.2	.4	.2	.4	3.5

¹ Not seasonally adjusted.

Consumer Price Index Data for November 2009

Food

The food index rose 0.1 percent in November, the same increase as in October. The index for food away from home increased 0.2 percent while the food at home index was unchanged. Among the food at home groups, the dairy and related products index declined 0.7 percent in November after rising 1.0 percent in October, and the index for other food at home also declined in November following an October increase. In contrast, the indexes for fruits and vegetables and for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs both increased in November after declining in October. The index for nonalcoholic beverages fell for the second straight month, declining 0.3 percent in November, and the index for cereals and bakery products rose 0.1 percent in November after being unchanged in October. Over the past year, the food index has declined 0.7 percent. The food at home index has fallen 2.9 percent over the last 12 months, with five of the six grocery store food groups declining, but the index for food away from home has risen 2.1 percent.

Energy

The energy index rose 4.1 percent in November after increasing 1.5 percent in October. The index for energy commodities rose 6.3 percent, with the gasoline index increasing 6.4 percent. (Before seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices rose 4.1 percent in November.) The rise in the gasoline index accounted for over three-quarters of the total energy increase. The remainder of the increase was due to advances in all of the other energy components. The index for fuel oil rose 9.0 percent in November following a 6.3 percent increase in October. The index for energy services increased 1.4 percent in November, with the electricity index rising 1.4 percent and the index for natural gas advancing 1.5 percent. The energy index has risen 7.4 percent over the past 12 months, with the gasoline index rising 23.6 percent.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was unchanged in November after rising 0.2 percent in October. The heavily weighted index for shelter, unchanged in October, declined 0.2 percent in November. Within the shelter group, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent both declined 0.1 percent and the lodging away from home index fell 1.5 percent. Also declining in November were the indexes for household furnishings and operations and for apparel, both down 0.3 percent. Several indexes posted increases to offset these declines. The new vehicles index rose 0.6 percent in November, its tenth increase in the last eleven months. The index for used cars and trucks advanced 2.0 percent in November and has now risen 11.1 percent since April. The index for airline fares rose 3.8 percent in November and has increased 13.3 percent since June. The medical care index increased 0.3 percent in November and the index for tobacco advanced 1.0 percent. Over the past 12 months, the index for all items less food and energy has risen 1.7 percent.

Not seasonally adjusted CPI measures

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 1.8 percent over the last 12 months to an index level of 216.330 (1982-84=100). For the month, the index increased 0.1 percent prior to seasonal adjustment.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 2.3 percent over the last 12 months to an index level of 212.003 (1982-84=100). For the month, the index increased 0.2 percent prior to seasonal adjustment.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 1.6 percent over the last 12 months. For the month, the index was unchanged on a not seasonally adjusted basis. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

The Consumer Price Index for December 2009 is scheduled to be released on Friday, January 15, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. (EST).

Expenditure Weight Update

Effective with the January 2010 release 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 2007-08 period. The updated expenditure weights for these indexes will replace the 2005-2006 weights that were introduced effective with the January 2008 CPI release. CPI expenditure weights will continue to be updated at two year intervals subsequent to the 2010 updating.

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS DECEMBER 2009

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the December Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.1 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Over the last 12 months, the index increased 2.7 percent before seasonal adjustment.

The seasonally adjusted increase in the all items index was broad based, with the indexes for food, energy, and all items less food and energy all posting modest increases. Within the latter group, a sharp rise in the index for used cars and trucks was the largest contributor to the 0.1 percent increase, while the indexes for airline fares, apparel, and lodging away from home rose as well. In contrast, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent were unchanged and the index for new vehicles declined.

Grocery store food indexes showed broad-based increases, leading to the food index rising 0.2 percent, its largest one-month advance in over a year. The energy index also rose 0.2 percent; this was its smallest increase in five months. The indexes for fuel oil and gasoline rose, but the electricity index was unchanged and the natural gas index declined.

Table A. Percent changes in CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average

	Seasonally adjusted changes from preceding month							Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Dec. 2009
	June 2009	July 2009	Aug. 2009	Sep. 2009	Oct. 2009	Nov. 2009	Dec. 2009	
All items	0.7	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1	2.7
Food .....	.0	-.3	.1	-.1	.1	.1	.2	-.5
Food at home .....	.0	-.5	.0	-.3	.0	.0	.3	-2.4
Food away from home ¹ .....	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.2	.1	1.9
Energy	7.4	-.4	4.6	.6	1.5	4.1	.2	18.2
Energy commodities	16.2	-.4	8.5	1.1	1.9	6.3	.5	46.5
Gasoline (all types)	17.3	-.8	9.1	1.0	1.6	6.4	.2	53.5
Fuel oil	4.8	-1.5	6.2	1.5	6.3	9.0	1.1	6.5
Energy services	-1.2	-.3	.0	.1	.9	1.4	-.1	-5.4
Electricity	-1.9	-.6	-.1	.6	.6	1.4	.0	-.5
Utility (piped) gas service	1.3	.9	.4	-1.7	1.9	1.5	-.7	-18.1
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.1	.1	.2	.2	.0	.1	1.8
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	.3	.2	-.3	.3	.4	.2	.2	3.0
New vehicles .....	.7	.5	-1.3	.4	1.6	.6	-.3	4.9
Used cars and trucks .....	.9	.0	1.9	1.6	3.4	2.0	2.5	9.2
Apparel .....	.7	.6	-.1	.1	-.4	-.3	.4	1.9
Medical care commodities .....	.1	-.1	.5	.6	.2	.0	-.1	3.3
Services less energy services .....	.1	.0	.2	.1	.1	.0	.1	1.4
Shelter .....	.1	-.2	.1	.0	.0	-.2	.0	.3
Transportation services	-.1	.5	.6	.7	.4	.6	.3	3.9
Medical care services .....	.2	.3	.2	.4	.2	.4	.2	3.4

¹ Not seasonally adjusted.

Year in Review

For the 12 month period ending December 2009, the CPI-U rose 2.7 percent, compared to 0.1 percent for 2008. The larger increase was primarily due to the energy index, which rose 18.2 percent during 2009 after falling 21.3 percent in 2008. The energy upturn was caused by the gasoline index, which rose 53.5 percent in 2009 after declining 43.1 percent in 2008. The household energy index, in contrast, declined 4.9 percent during 2009 with the index for natural gas falling 18.1 percent and the electricity index declining 0.5 percent. The food index, which rose 5.9 percent in 2008, fell 0.5 percent for the 12 months ending December 2009, the first December-to-December decline since 1961. The index for food away from home rose 1.9 percent while the food at home index fell 2.4 percent. Within food at home, all six major grocery food groups posted declines in 2009 after rising in 2008. The dairy and related products group declined the most, falling 7.6 percent, its largest annual decline since 1938.

The index for all items less food and energy rose 1.8 percent during 2009, the same increase as in 2008. This identical increase was the result of offsetting factors. Pushing the index higher were vehicle prices, which rose in 2009 after declining in 2008. The indexes for new vehicles rose 4.9 percent in 2009 and the index for used cars and trucks increased 9.2 percent. Additionally, the apparel index turned up in 2009, rising 1.9 percent after declining in each of the previous two years. The medical care index rose more rapidly in 2009, increasing 3.4 percent after a 2.6 percent increase the previous year, and the tobacco index increased 30.1 percent in

2009 after rising 6.3 percent in 2008. Largely offsetting these accelerations was the shelter index, which posted its smallest annual increase since its inception in 1953. It increased only 0.3 percent after increasing 1.9 percent in 2008, with the indexes for both rent and owners' equivalent rent increasing 0.7 percent. Also, the indexes for recreation and for household furnishings and operations both declined in 2009 after rising in 2008.

Consumer Price Index Data for December 2009

Food

The food index rose 0.2 percent in December after rising 0.1 percent in each of the previous two months. The food at home index increased 0.3 percent, its largest increase since October 2008. Among the major grocery store food groups, the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs was unchanged while the other five groups all posted increases. The index for cereals and bakery products rose 0.6 percent, while the dairy and related products index increased 0.5 percent after declining 0.7 percent in November. The indexes for fruits and vegetables and for other food at home both rose 0.3 percent while the index for nonalcoholic beverages increased 0.2 percent. The index for food away from home increased in December, rising 0.1 percent after increasing 0.2 percent in November.

Energy

The energy index, which increased 4.1 percent in November, rose 0.2 percent in December. The index for energy commodities increased 0.5 percent, with the gasoline index rising 0.2 percent after increasing 6.4 percent in November. (Before seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices declined 1.5 percent in December.) The index for household energy was unchanged in December. The fuel oil index rose 1.1 percent after a 9.0 percent increase in the previous month, but the index for natural gas fell 0.7 percent. The index for electricity, which increased 1.4 percent in November, was unchanged in December.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.1 percent in December after being unchanged in November. The index for used cars and trucks rose 2.5 percent in December, accounting for almost half of the increase in the all items less food and energy index. The index for airline fares also continued to rise, increasing 2.4 percent in December after advancing 3.8 percent in November. Also increasing were the apparel index, which rose 0.4 percent, and the medical care index, which rose 0.1 percent. The shelter index, which declined 0.2 percent in November, was unchanged in December. The indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent were both unchanged after declining in November, while the index for lodging away from home rose 0.5 percent in December. The index for new vehicles declined in December, falling 0.3 percent after increasing in each of the previous three months. The recreation index also declined in December, falling 0.4 percent as televisions, sporting goods and toys were among many recreation components that posted declines.

Not seasonally adjusted CPI measures

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 2.7 percent over the last 12 months to an index level of 215.949 (1982-84=100). For the month, the index decreased 0.2 percent prior to seasonal adjustment.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 3.4 percent over the last 12 months to an index level of 211.703 (1982-84=100). For the month, the index decreased 0.1 percent prior to seasonal adjustment.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 2.8 percent over the last 12 months. For the month, the index declined 0.2 percent on a not seasonally adjusted basis. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

The Consumer Price Index for January 2010 is scheduled to be released on Friday, February 19, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. (EST).