

TEXT

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: MARCH 1996

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.5 percent before seasonal adjustment in March to a level of 155.7 (1982-84=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. For the 12-month period ended in March, the CPI-U increased 2.8 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also rose 0.5 percent in March, prior to seasonal adjustment. The March 1996 CPI-W level of 152.9 was 2.8 percent higher than the index in March 1995.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.4 percent in March, following increases of 0.4 and 0.2 percent in the first 2 months of 1996. Each of the three groups--food, energy, and all items less food and energy--contributed to the larger advance in March. The food index, which had risen 0.1 percent in each of the 3 preceding months, increased 0.6 percent in March. A 6.0 percent rise in the index for fresh fruits and vegetables accounted for about 85 percent of the March increase. The energy index registered its fourth consecutive increase--up 1.4 percent in March--after declining throughout most of 1995. The index for petroleum-based energy increased 3.5 percent in March, more than offsetting a 0.6 percent decline in the index for energy services.

Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent after increasing 0.2 percent in March. Within this index, an upturn in the index for apparel and upkeep more than offset the deceleration in the indexes for public transportation and entertainment.

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

Expenditure Category	Changes from preceding month							Compound	Un-
	1995			1996				annual rate	adjusted
	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	3-mos. Mar. '96	12-mos. Mar. '96
All Items	.1	.3	.1	.2	.4	.2	.4	4.0	2.8
Food and beverages	.3	.3	.0	.1	.1	.1	.5	3.2	2.8
Housing	.1	.3	.2	.3	.3	.2	.3	3.2	2.9
Apparel and upkeep	-.2	.3	.0	.1	.7	-.9	.6	1.5	.3
Transportation	-.1	.1	-.4	.1	.7	.5	.7	8.0	2.3
Medical care	.4	.2	.3	.4	.4	.2	.3	3.2	3.8
Entertainment	.3	.3	.4	.4	.3	.8	.1	4.7	3.8
Other goods and services	.4	.4	.4	.2	.2	.4	.4	4.4	4.4
Special Indexes:									
Energy	-1.3	.3	-.9	1.1	1.9	.4	1.4	15.8	2.8
Food	.3	.3	.0	.1	.1	.1	.6	3.2	2.8
All items less food and energy	.2	.3	.1	.1	.3	.2	.3	3.5	2.8

During the first 3 months of 1996, The CPI-U rose at a 4.0 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with a 2.5 percent increase for all of 1995. The food index has increased at a 3.2 percent SAAR and energy at a 15.8 percent SAAR thus far in 1996.

Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U increased at a 3.5 percent SAAR in the first 3 months of 1996. This compares with a 3.0 percent increase in all of 1995. The indexes for apparel and upkeep and public transportation increased at a faster pace during the first quarter of 1996 than during all of 1995 and were largely responsible for the acceleration in the overall index for all items less food and energy. The rates for selected groups during the last 8 and 1/4 years are shown below.

	Percent change 12 months								SAAR
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	3 months ended in March 1996
All Items	4.4	4.6	6.1	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.5	4.0
Food & beverages	5.1	5.5	5.3	2.5	1.6	2.7	2.7	2.1	3.2
Housing	4.0	3.9	4.5	3.4	2.6	2.7	2.2	3.0	3.2
Apparel & upkeep	4.7	1.0	5.1	3.4	1.4	.9	-1.6	.1	1.5
Transportation	3.0	4.0	10.4	-1.5	3.0	2.4	3.8	1.5	8.0
Medical care	6.9	8.5	9.6	7.9	6.6	5.4	4.9	3.9	3.2
Entertainment	4.6	5.1	4.3	3.9	2.8	2.8	2.3	3.3	4.7
Other goods and services	7.0	8.2	7.6	8.0	6.5	2.7	4.2	4.3	4.4
Special Indexes									
Energy	.5	5.1	18.1	-7.4	2.0	-1.4	2.2	-1.3	15.8
Food	5.2	5.6	5.3	1.9	1.5	2.9	2.9	2.1	3.2
All items less food and energy	4.7	4.4	5.2	4.4	3.3	3.2	2.6	3.0	3.5

The food and beverage index rose 0.5 percent in March. The index for grocery store foods, which registered no change in each of the preceding 2 months, increased 0.9 percent in March. The index for fresh fruits and vegetables advanced 6.0 percent; the index for fresh vegetables rose 10.0 percent and that for fresh fruits rose 2.6 percent. Among the other major grocery store foods, the indexes for cereal and bakery products and for other food at home each increased 0.5 percent, while the indexes for dairy products and for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs each declined 0.2 percent. Within the latter group, price declines for beef and for poultry offset price increases for pork, for fish and seafood, and for eggs. The drop in the beef and veal index--down 1.0 percent in March--was its fourth consecutive decline and the largest monthly fall since a 1.1 percent decrease in January 1992. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.1 and 0.3 percent, respectively, in March.

The housing component rose 0.3 percent in March, following an increase of 0.2 percent in February. Shelter costs increased 0.2 percent for the second consecutive month. Within shelter, renters' costs rose 0.3 percent; homeowners' costs, 0.2 percent; and maintenance and repair costs, 0.4 percent. The index for fuel and utilities, which

rose 0.6 percent in February, increased 0.2 percent in March. The index for household fuels fell 0.3 percent, as a result of a 2.7 percent decrease in the index for natural gas. Partially offsetting this decline, the index for electricity increased 0.3 percent and the index for fuel oil rose 3.0 percent. The index for other utilities and public services rose 1.0 percent, reflecting increases in the index for telephone services and water and sewerage treatment--up 0.6 and 2.6 percent, respectively. The index for household furnishings and operation rose 0.2 percent in March, following a 0.2 percent decline in February.

The transportation index advanced 0.7 percent in March, following an increase of 0.5 percent in February. The index for motor fuels, which fell 0.2 percent in February after increasing 3.8 percent in January, turned back up in March, advancing 3.6 percent and accounting for 90 percent of the overall transportation increase. Despite the sharp increase thus far in 1996, gasoline prices remain well below their peak level of December 1990, 11.3 percent lower as of March. Automobile purchase costs continued their pattern of very little movement evident since the introduction of the 1996 models. The index for new car prices increased 0.1 percent in March and the index for automobile finance charges also rose 0.1 percent, its first increase in 6 months. The index for used cars rose 0.8 percent in March. The index for public transportation increased 0.2 percent. A decline in airline fares--down 1.9 percent in March after increasing 5.9 percent in February--was more than offset by a 1.0 percent increase in other intercity transportation costs and a 4.0 percent rise in intracity transportation costs.

The index for apparel and upkeep, which declined 0.9 percent in February, increased 0.6 percent in March. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, clothing prices rose 3.0 percent, reflecting seasonal price increases associated with the continued introduction of the 1996 spring-summer wear.)

Medical care costs rose 0.3 percent in March to a level 3.8 percent above a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, non-prescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.2 percent in March. The index for medical care services rose 0.3 percent in March. Charges for professional services and hospital and related services increased 0.2 and 0.6 percent, respectively.

Entertainment costs rose 0.1 percent in March, following a 0.8 percent rise in February. The indexes for toys, hobbies, and music equipment and for admissions to movies, theaters, concerts, and sporting events, which increased 2.3 and 1.4 percent, respectively, in February,

rose 0.1 and declined 0.1 percent, respectively, in March.

The index for other goods and services advanced 0.4 percent in March, the same as in February. In March, the indexes for tobacco and smoking products and for legal service fees rose 0.7 and 0.8 percent, respectively, accounting for about one half of the overall 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 rose 0.5 percent in March.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted Changes from preceding month							Compound Annual rate 3-mos. ended	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended
	1995			1996				Mar. '96	Mar. '96
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar		
All Items	.1	.3	.1	.2	.4	.2	.5	4.3	2.8
Food and beverages	.4	.3	.1	.1	.1	.1	.5	3.2	2.9
Housing	.1	.3	.1	.3	.3	.1	.3	3.3	2.9
Apparel and upkeep	.0	.3	-.2	.2	.7	-.7	.6	2.5	.5
Transportation	-.1	.1	-.3	.4	.9	.3	.9	8.3	2.4
Medical care	.4	.2	.3	.4	.4	.2	.2	3.1	3.8
Entertainment	.3	.1	.4	.3	.4	.8	.0	4.8	3.7
Other goods and services	.5	.4	.4	.1	.2	.4	.3	3.7	4.2
Special Indexes:									
Energy	-1.2	.2	-.8	1.0	2.1	.2	1.8	17.7	3.2
Food	.4	.3	.0	.2	.1	.1	.6	3.2	2.9
All items less food and energy	.3	.3	.2	.2	.3	.2	.3	3.3	2.8

Consumer Price Index data for April are scheduled for release on Tuesday, May 14, 1996, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

commodities 2/ .....	.077	128.8	129.0	.6	.2	-.4	.2	.2
Fuel and other utilities	7.014	125.0	125.2	2.4	.2	.5	.6	.2
Fuels	3.792	112.5	111.9	1.9	-.5	.6	.7	-.3
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities .....	.356	97.7	99.3	11.6	1.6	7.5	.2	2.2
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	3.436	119.1	118.2	.9	-.8	-.2	.8	-.6
Other utilities and public services 2/	3.222	154.9	156.4	3.0	1.0	.3	.3	1.0
Household furnishings and operation	6.043	124.3	124.6	1.6	.2	.2	-.2	.2
Housefurnishings	3.445	111.4	111.7	.4	.3	.3	-.4	.0
Housekeeping supplies	1.116	140.4	140.9	3.8	.4	.4	-.2	.9
Housekeeping services	1.482	146.3	146.6	2.6	.2	.0	.2	.2
Apparel and upkeep	5.516	131.2	134.8	.3	2.7	.7	-.9	.6
Apparel commodities	4.967	127.8	131.6	.2	3.0	.7	-1.0	.6
Men's and boys' apparel	1.303	126.4	129.1	1.5	2.1	1.1	.2	.8
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.195	124.6	129.9	-1.2	4.3	1.3	-2.5	.2
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 2/ ....	.195	134.4	133.3	4.9	-.8	2.2	2.2	-.8
Footwear .....	.732	125.8	128.1	1.7	1.8	-.6	1.4	.8
Other apparel commodities .....	.542	149.7	154.7	-.2	3.3	-.6	-2.1	2.1
Apparel services 2/ .....	.550	158.5	158.9	.8	.3	.3	.2	.3
Transportation	16.953	140.4	141.2	2.3	.6	.7	.5	.7
Private transportation	15.430	137.5	138.3	2.3	.6	.8	.2	.8
New vehicles	5.027	143.5	143.6	2.1	.1	.1	.3	.1
New cars	4.015	141.3	141.5	1.8	.1	.1	.3	.1
Used cars	1.342	157.5	157.3	1.6	-.1	.8	.7	.8
Motor fuel	2.908	98.2	101.4	4.0	3.3	3.8	-.2	3.6
Gasoline	-	97.8	101.1	4.0	3.4	3.7	-.3	3.7
Maintenance and repairs	1.535	156.6	156.9	2.8	.2	.4	.1	.2
Other private transportation	4.618	173.2	172.5	1.4	-.4	-.1	.4	-.3
Other private transportation commodities .....	.608	105.4	105.3	.7	-.1	.0	.1	.1
Other private transportation services	4.010	189.2	188.3	1.5	-.5	-.1	.5	-.4
Public transportation	1.523	177.4	178.9	2.5	.8	-.5	3.3	.2
Medical care	7.362	226.2	226.6	3.8	.2	.4	.2	.3
Medical care commodities	1.282	208.5	208.9	2.6	.2	.5	.2	.2
Medical care services	6.081	230.3	230.7	4.0	.2	.4	.2	.3
Professional medical services	3.465	206.1	206.5	3.7	.2	.3	.2	.2
Entertainment	4.367	158.3	158.4	3.8	.1	.3	.8	.1
Entertainment commodities	1.975	142.5	142.7	3.9	.1	.3	.8	.1

Entertainment services	2.392	177.0	177.0	3.7	.0	.2	.7	.0
Other goods and services	7.123	212.6	213.0	4.4	.2	.2	.4	.4
Tobacco and smoking products	1.610	229.8	230.8	3.7	.4	-.3	.4	.7
Personal care 2/	1.170	149.3	149.4	2.3	.1	.1	.1	.1
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 2/ .....	.613	144.1	144.0	1.3	-.1	-.3	.3	-.1
Personal care services 2/ .....	.557	155.2	155.3	3.4	.1	.5	.1	.1
Personal and educational expenses	4.342	243.7	244.1	5.2	.2	.5	.5	.5
School books and supplies .....	.258	224.7	225.2	5.9	.2	1.0	.4	.6
Personal and educational services	4.084	245.4	245.7	5.2	.1	.4	.5	.4
Commodity and service group								
All items	100.000	154.9	155.7	2.8	.5	.4	.2	.4
Commodities	42.916	138.0	139.2	2.4	.9	.5	.0	.7
Food and beverages	17.332	151.3	152.1	2.8	.5	.1	.1	.5
Commodities less food and beverages	25.584	129.9	131.3	2.1	1.1	.8	-.1	.8
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	15.075	130.3	132.6	2.6	1.8	1.4	-.1	1.1
Apparel commodities	4.967	127.8	131.6	.2	3.0	.7	-1.0	.6
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.108	134.6	136.2	3.9	1.2	1.7	.4	1.6
Durables	10.509	129.4	129.5	1.4	.1	.2	.2	.2
Services	57.084	172.2	172.6	3.2	.2	.3	.4	.2
Rent of shelter 1/	27.671	176.3	177.0	3.4	.4	.3	.2	.3
Household services less rent of shelter 1/	8.681	139.5	139.6	2.0	.1	-.1	.4	.2
Transportation services	7.068	178.5	178.5	2.0	.0	-.1	1.0	-.1
Medical care services	6.081	230.3	230.7	4.0	.2	.4	.2	.3
Other services	7.583	199.0	199.2	4.2	.1	.4	.6	.3
Special indexes								
All items less food	84.234	155.7	156.5	2.9	.5	.5	.3	.4
All items less shelter	71.711	150.8	151.6	2.6	.5	.4	.2	.5
All items less homeowners' costs 1/	79.898	155.9	156.9	2.8	.6	.5	.2	.4
All items less medical care	92.638	150.9	151.7	2.8	.5	.4	.2	.4
Commodities less food	27.150	131.0	132.4	2.2	1.1	.8	-.1	.8
Nondurables less food	16.641	131.8	134.0	2.7	1.7	1.2	-.1	1.0
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.674	135.9	137.3	3.7	1.0	1.3	.1	1.3
Nondurables	32.407	141.0	142.5	2.7	1.1	.8	.1	.8
Services less rent of shelter 1/	29.414	180.2	180.4	3.0	.1	.2	.6	.1
Services less medical care services	51.004	166.8	167.2	3.1	.2	.2	.4	.2
Energy	6.700	104.9	106.1	2.8	1.1	1.9	.4	1.4
All items less energy	93.300	161.6	162.3	2.9	.4	.3	.2	.3

All items less food and energy	77.534	164.2	164.9	2.8	.4	.3	.2	.3
Commodities less food and energy commodities	23.885	140.8	141.9	1.8	.8	.4	-.1	.4
Energy commodities	3.264	98.3	101.4	4.9	3.2	4.2	-.2	3.5
Services less energy services	53.648	177.6	178.1	3.3	.3	.3	.3	.2
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:								
1982-84=\$1.00 2/	-	\$.645	\$.642	-2.7	-.5	-.5	-.5	-.5
1967=\$1.00 2/	-	.215	.214	-	-	-	-	-

1/ Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

2/ Not seasonally adjusted.

- Data not available.

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

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Expenditure category	Seasonally adjusted indexes					Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for				
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	June	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
	1995	1996	1996	1996	1995	Sept. 1995	Dec. 1995	Mar. 1996	Sept. 1995	Mar. 1996
All items	-	-	-	-	3.5	1.6	2.4	4.0	2.5	3.2
Food and beverages	150.5	150.7	150.9	151.7	3.6	2.7	1.9	3.2	3.1	2.6
Food	150.2	150.3	150.5	151.4	3.6	2.7	1.9	3.2	3.1	2.6
Food at home	150.5	150.5	150.5	151.9	4.4	3.3	1.9	3.8	3.8	2.8
Cereals and bakery products	170.2	171.8	171.7	172.5	3.2	3.1	4.3	5.5	3.2	4.9
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	142.0	142.1	142.1	141.8	-.3	6.6	6.7	-.6	3.1	3.0
Dairy products	135.1	135.4	136.8	136.5	1.2	1.5	7.1	4.2	1.4	5.6
Fruits and vegetables	176.8	175.1	174.9	181.9	19.1	2.0	-8.8	12.0	10.2	1.1
Other food at home	141.4	141.5	141.2	141.9	1.1	1.7	.6	1.4	1.4	1.0
Sugar and sweets	139.5	141.4	141.5	142.1	3.6	3.2	2.9	7.7	3.4	5.3
Fats and oils	138.9	139.3	139.0	139.7	.0	4.2	3.2	2.3	2.1	2.8
Nonalcoholic beverages	130.5	129.5	128.6	129.0	-1.8	1.2	-4.5	-4.5	-.3	-4.5
Other prepared food	152.7	153.1	153.1	154.2	3.0	1.3	2.7	4.0	2.1	3.3

commodities	105.0	105.0	105.1	105.2	1.5	.8	-.4	.8	1.2	.2
Other private transportation services	187.6	187.4	188.3	187.6	2.6	3.0	.4	.0	2.8	.2
Public transportation	170.5	169.6	175.2	175.6	35.5	-13.0	-16.6	12.5	8.6	-3.1
Medical care	224.6	225.4	225.8	226.4	3.9	4.2	3.6	3.2	4.1	3.4
Medical care commodities	206.7	207.7	208.1	208.5	1.4	2.2	3.2	3.5	1.8	3.3
Medical care services	228.5	229.3	229.7	230.3	4.4	4.7	3.8	3.2	4.6	3.5
Professional medical services	204.6	205.2	205.6	206.1	3.9	4.0	4.0	3.0	4.0	3.5
Entertainment	156.5	156.9	158.1	158.3	2.9	3.7	4.2	4.7	3.3	4.4
Entertainment commodities	140.9	141.3	142.5	142.7	2.6	3.2	4.7	5.2	2.9	4.9
Entertainment services	174.9	175.3	176.6	176.6	2.8	4.3	3.7	3.9	3.6	3.8
Other goods and services	211.7	212.2	213.1	214.0	4.2	4.9	4.1	4.4	4.5	4.2
Tobacco and smoking products	229.0	228.4	229.4	231.1	5.5	5.2	.7	3.7	5.4	2.2
Personal care 2/	148.9	149.1	149.3	149.4	1.9	2.2	3.9	1.3	2.1	2.6
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 2/	144.1	143.7	144.1	144.0	1.7	.6	3.1	-.3	1.1	1.4
Personal care services 2/	154.3	155.0	155.2	155.3	2.1	3.8	5.1	2.6	3.0	3.8
Personal and educational expenses	241.4	242.5	243.7	244.8	4.4	5.6	5.5	5.8	5.0	5.6
School books and supplies	219.8	222.1	222.9	224.3	3.6	4.8	7.0	8.4	4.2	7.7
Personal and educational services	242.9	243.9	245.1	246.2	4.3	5.7	5.3	5.5	5.0	5.4
Commodity and service group										
All items	-	-	-	-	3.5	1.6	2.4	4.0	2.5	3.2
Commodities	137.4	138.1	138.1	139.1	2.4	.6	1.8	5.0	1.5	3.4
Food and beverages	150.5	150.7	150.9	151.7	3.6	2.7	1.9	3.2	3.1	2.6
Commodities less food and beverages	129.4	130.4	130.3	131.3	1.9	-.9	1.6	6.0	.5	3.8
Nondurables less food and beverages	129.8	131.6	131.5	132.9	2.2	-3.0	2.2	9.9	-.5	6.0
Apparel commodities	128.8	129.7	128.4	129.2	-2.8	.9	1.6	1.2	-.9	1.4
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	133.1	135.3	135.8	138.0	4.6	-5.5	2.1	15.6	-.6	8.6
Durables	128.7	129.0	129.2	129.5	.9	1.3	.9	2.5	1.1	1.7
Services	170.9	171.4	172.1	172.4	4.1	2.6	2.6	3.6	3.4	3.1
Rent of shelter 1/	175.0	175.6	176.0	176.5	4.0	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.4
Household services less rent of shelter 1/	139.5	139.4	140.0	140.3	1.5	.6	3.5	2.3	1.0	2.9
Transportation services	175.9	175.7	177.5	177.3	9.3	-.9	-3.1	3.2	4.1	.0
Medical care services	228.5	229.3	229.7	230.3	4.4	4.7	3.8	3.2	4.6	3.5
Other services	197.6	198.3	199.4	199.9	3.2	4.8	4.4	4.7	4.0	4.6

Special indexes

All items less food	154.6	155.3	155.7	156.3	3.5	1.6	2.1	4.5	2.5	3.3
All items less shelter	149.9	150.5	150.8	151.5	3.3	1.4	1.6	4.3	2.3	3.0
All items less homeowners' costs 1/	154.9	155.6	155.9	156.6	3.2	1.3	1.8	4.5	2.2	3.1
All items less medical care	149.9	150.5	150.8	151.4	3.3	1.6	2.2	4.1	2.5	3.1
Commodities less food	130.5	131.6	131.5	132.5	1.9	-.6	1.2	6.3	.6	3.7
Nondurables less food	131.4	133.0	132.9	134.2	2.5	-2.4	2.5	8.8	.0	5.6
Nondurables less food and apparel	134.8	136.6	136.8	138.6	4.9	-4.1	3.0	11.8	.3	7.3
Nondurables	140.2	141.3	141.4	142.5	2.9	.0	1.7	6.7	1.4	4.2
Services less rent of shelter 1/	178.8	179.2	180.2	180.4	3.9	2.5	2.0	3.6	3.2	2.8
Services less medical care services	165.5	165.9	166.6	167.0	3.5	2.7	2.5	3.7	3.1	3.1
Energy	104.1	106.1	106.5	108.0	5.8	-10.5	1.9	15.8	-2.6	8.7
All items less energy	160.7	161.2	161.5	162.0	3.3	2.5	2.3	3.3	2.9	2.8
All items less food and energy	163.3	163.8	164.2	164.7	3.0	2.8	2.2	3.5	2.9	2.9
Commodities less food and energy										
commodities	140.4	140.9	140.8	141.3	.9	2.0	1.7	2.6	1.4	2.2
Energy commodities	96.6	100.7	100.5	104.0	12.2	-18.9	-1.2	34.3	-4.6	15.2
Services less energy services	176.2	176.7	177.3	177.7	4.3	3.0	2.5	3.4	3.6	3.0

1/ Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

2/ Not seasonally adjusted.

- Data not available.

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

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Expenditure category	Relative importance, December 1995	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 1996 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Feb. 1996	Mar. 1996	Mar. 1995	Feb. 1996	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.
All items	100.000	152.2	152.9	2.8	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.5
All items (1967=100)	-	453.2	455.6	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	19.262	150.7	151.5	2.9	.5	.1	.1	.5
Food	17.581	150.3	151.1	2.9	.5	.1	.1	.6
Food at home	11.206	150.5	151.6	3.3	.7	.0	.0	.9

Cereals and bakery products	1.682	171.7	171.6	3.9	-.1	1.0	-.1	.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.453	142.1	142.3	3.0	.1	.1	-.1	-.2
Dairy products	1.300	136.9	136.6	3.6	-.2	.4	1.0	-.1
Fruits and vegetables	2.052	176.5	182.7	5.8	3.5	-1.1	-.2	4.5
Other food at home	2.719	141.5	142.1	1.3	.4	.0	-.1	.5
Sugar and sweets .....	.369	141.6	142.3	4.3	.5	1.3	.1	.6
Fats and oils .....	.285	139.6	139.9	2.3	.2	.4	-.2	.4
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.885	129.4	129.2	-2.3	-.2	-.7	-.8	.3
Other prepared food	1.180	153.2	154.4	2.8	.8	.2	.1	.6
Food away from home	6.374	150.9	151.1	2.2	.1	.2	.3	.1
Alcoholic beverages	1.681	156.1	156.8	2.7	.4	.4	.5	.3
Housing	38.888	148.0	148.5	2.9	.3	.3	.1	.3
Shelter	25.976	164.6	165.1	3.3	.3	.3	.1	.3
Renters' costs 1/	8.091	156.0	157.0	3.1	.6	.5	.3	.3
Rent, residential	6.616	160.1	160.3	2.5	.1	.3	.3	.1
Other renters' costs	1.475	214.0	219.6	5.3	2.6	1.3	.8	.9
Homeowners' costs 1/	17.695	159.3	159.6	3.4	.2	.2	.1	.3
Owners' equivalent rent 1/	17.366	159.5	159.8	3.4	.2	.2	.1	.3
Household insurance 1/ .....	.329	145.6	145.9	1.2	.2	-.3	.5	.1
Maintenance and repairs 2/ .....	.189	135.7	136.3	1.9	.4	-.2	.1	.4
Maintenance and repair services 2/ .	.105	145.0	145.8	2.9	.6	-.1	.3	.6
Maintenance and repair								
commodities 2/ .....	.085	123.8	124.1	.8	.2	-.5	.2	.2
Fuel and other utilities	7.247	124.6	125.0	2.5	.3	.4	.6	.5
Fuels	3.887	111.8	111.5	2.2	-.3	.6	.7	.0
Fuel oil and other household fuel								
commodities .....	.327	97.6	99.1	11.5	1.5	7.4	.3	2.1
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy								
services).....	3.560	118.4	117.9	1.4	-.4	.0	.8	-.2
Other utilities and public								
services 2/	3.360	155.4	157.0	3.1	1.0	.3	.4	1.0
Household furnishings and operation	5.666	122.9	123.2	1.5	.2	.2	-.2	.2
Housefurnishings	3.367	110.0	110.2	.3	.2	.2	-.3	.1
Housekeeping supplies	1.149	140.7	141.3	4.0	.4	.5	-.1	.7
Housekeeping services	1.150	149.4	149.6	2.4	.1	-.1	.1	.1
Apparel and upkeep	5.533	130.2	133.9	.5	2.8	.7	-.7	.6
Apparel commodities	5.017	127.0	130.9	.5	3.1	.8	-.8	.6
Men's and boys' apparel	1.310	126.3	128.9	1.7	2.1	1.0	.2	.9
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.148	123.3	128.6	-.9	4.3	1.5	-2.3	.1
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 2/ ....	.251	135.3	134.7	5.7	-.4	1.9	2.3	-.4
Footwear .....	.812	126.3	128.8	1.6	2.0	-.9	1.3	1.0
Other apparel commodities .....	.495	146.9	153.7	-.6	4.6	-.7	-1.8	2.4
Apparel services 2/ .....	.516	157.9	158.2	.7	.2	.3	.2	.2

Transportation	19.020	140.0	140.9	2.4	.6	.9	.3	.9	
Private transportation	17.847	138.0	138.8	2.3	.6	.9	.1	.9	
New vehicles	4.958	144.5	144.5	2.1	.0	.2	.2	.2	
New cars	3.591	141.0	141.0	1.7	.0	.1	.3	.1	
Used cars	2.432	158.6	158.3	1.8	-.2	.9	.8	.6	
Motor fuel	3.584	98.1	101.4	4.2	3.4	3.7	-.5	3.9	
Gasoline	-	97.8	101.2	4.3	3.5	4.0	-.5	3.9	
Maintenance and repairs	1.619	157.6	157.9	2.9	.2	.4	.1	.2	
Other private transportation	5.255	168.8	168.1	1.1	-.4	-.1	.2	-.2	
Other private transportation commodities .....	.767	104.6	104.4	.6	-.2	.0	.2	-.1
Other private transportation services	4.488	185.0	184.1	1.2	-.5	-.1	.2	-.3	
Public transportation	1.173	174.6	177.2	4.2	1.5	-.4	2.4	.8	
Medical care	6.262	225.6	226.0	3.8	.2	.4	.2	.2	
Medical care commodities	1.055	206.1	206.5	2.5	.2	.6	.0	.1	
Medical care services	5.208	230.1	230.4	4.1	.1	.3	.2	.2	
Professional medical services	2.965	207.2	207.6	3.8	.2	.2	.4	.1	
Entertainment	4.029	156.0	156.1	3.7	.1	.4	.8	.0	
Entertainment commodities	2.053	141.4	141.7	3.7	.2	.4	.9	.0	
Entertainment services	1.976	176.9	176.9	3.7	.0	.4	.6	.1	
Other goods and services	7.006	209.6	209.9	4.2	.1	.2	.4	.3	
Tobacco and smoking products	2.135	229.8	230.7	3.6	.4	-.3	.4	.7	
Personal care 2/	1.132	149.2	149.3	2.2	.1	.1	.1	.1	
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 2/ .....	.635	144.6	144.6	1.2	.0	-.2	.1	.0
Personal care services 2/ .....	.497	155.1	155.2	3.3	.1	.5	.1	.1
Personal and educational expenses	3.739	239.3	239.5	5.2	.1	.5	.5	.3	
School books and supplies .....	.227	225.8	226.3	5.9	.2	1.1	.3	.5
Personal and educational services	3.512	240.7	240.9	5.2	.1	.4	.5	.3	
Commodity and service group									
All items	100.000	152.2	152.9	2.8	.5	.4	.2	.5	
Commodities	47.052	137.9	139.1	2.5	.9	.6	.0	.7	
Food and beverages	19.262	150.7	151.5	2.9	.5	.1	.1	.5	
Commodities less food and beverages	27.790	130.0	131.4	2.2	1.1	.9	.0	.8	
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	16.074	129.7	132.2	2.9	1.9	1.4	.0	1.1	
Apparel commodities	5.017	127.0	130.9	.5	3.1	.8	-.8	.6	
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	11.057	134.0	135.7	3.9	1.3	1.7	.4	1.6	

Durables	11.716	129.3	129.3	1.4	.0	.3	.3	.0	
Services	52.948	169.4	169.8	3.2	.2	.2	.3	.2	
Rent of shelter 1/	25.430	158.4	158.9	3.3	.3	.3	.2	.3	
Household services less rent of shelter 1/	8.531	128.0	128.4	2.2	.3	-.1	.5	.4	
Transportation services	7.279	176.3	176.4	2.1	.1	-.1	.5	.1	
Medical care services	5.208	230.1	230.4	4.1	.1	.3	.2	.2	
Other services	6.501	195.8	195.9	4.2	.1	.4	.5	.2	
Special indexes									
All items less food	82.419	152.4	153.2	2.8	.5	.5	.2	.4	
All items less shelter	74.024	148.9	149.8	2.7	.6	.4	.2	.5	
All items less homeowners' costs 1/	82.305	142.8	143.7	2.7	.6	.4	.2	.5	
All items less medical care	93.738	148.7	149.5	2.7	.5	.4	.2	.5	
Commodities less food	29.471	131.0	132.4	2.2	1.1	.9	.0	.8	
Nondurables less food	17.756	131.3	133.6	2.8	1.8	1.3	.0	1.1	
Nondurables less food and apparel	12.739	135.3	136.9	3.8	1.2	1.4	.2	1.5	
Nondurables	35.336	140.5	142.1	2.8	1.1	.8	.1	.9	
Services less rent of shelter 1/	27.518	160.5	160.7	2.9	.1	.2	.4	.1	
Services less medical care services	47.740	164.2	164.6	3.1	.2	.2	.3	.2	
Energy	7.470	104.2	105.8	3.2	1.5	2.1	.2	1.8	
All items less energy	92.530	158.8	159.5	2.8	.4	.3	.2	.4	
All items less food and energy	74.949	161.0	161.7	2.8	.4	.3	.2	.3	
Commodities less food and energy commodities	25.560	140.4	141.4	1.9	.7	.4	.1	.4	
Energy commodities	3.911	98.4	101.5	4.9	3.2	4.0	-.4	3.7	
Services less energy services	49.388	175.0	175.5	3.3	.3	.2	.3	.3	
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:									
1982-84=\$1.00 2/	-	\$.657	\$.654	-2.7	-.5	-.6	-.3	-.5	
1967=\$1.00 2/	-	.221	.219	-	-	-	-	-	

1/ Indexes on a December 1984=100 base.

2/ Not seasonally adjusted.

- Data not available.

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

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Expenditure category	Seasonally adjusted indexes					Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for				
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	June	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
	1995	1996	1996	1996	1995	Sept. 1995	Dec. 1995	Mar. 1996	Sept. 1995	Mar. 1996
All items	-	-	-	-	3.3	1.3	2.4	4.3	2.3	3.4
Food and beverages	150.1	150.3	150.5	151.3	3.0	3.3	1.9	3.2	3.2	2.6
Food	149.7	149.8	150.0	150.9	3.0	3.0	2.2	3.2	3.0	2.7
Food at home	149.8	149.8	149.8	151.1	3.9	3.8	1.9	3.5	3.9	2.7
Cereals and bakery products	169.9	171.6	171.4	172.1	3.2	3.2	4.1	5.3	3.2	4.7
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	141.7	141.8	141.7	141.4	-.6	6.6	7.1	-.8	2.9	3.0
Dairy products	134.7	135.2	136.5	136.3	1.2	2.1	6.2	4.8	1.7	5.5
Fruits and vegetables	176.5	174.5	174.2	182.1	17.6	2.7	-8.4	13.3	9.9	1.9
Other food at home	141.0	141.0	140.8	141.5	1.2	2.0	.6	1.4	1.6	1.0
Sugar and sweets	139.4	141.2	141.3	142.2	3.3	3.2	2.9	8.3	3.3	5.6
Fats and oils	138.7	139.2	138.9	139.5	.3	3.9	2.9	2.3	2.1	2.6
Nonalcoholic beverages	129.9	129.0	128.0	128.4	-1.8	2.2	-4.5	-4.5	.2	-4.5
Other prepared food	152.5	152.8	153.0	153.9	3.2	1.1	2.9	3.7	2.1	3.3
Food away from home	150.3	150.6	151.0	151.1	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.2
Alcoholic beverages	154.7	155.3	156.1	156.5	1.8	2.4	1.8	4.7	2.1	3.3
Housing	147.1	147.6	147.8	148.3	2.5	2.5	3.0	3.3	2.5	3.2
Shelter	163.5	164.0	164.2	164.7	3.6	3.0	3.5	3.0	3.3	3.2
Renters' costs 1/	153.9	154.6	155.1	155.6	2.9	2.4	2.4	4.5	2.7	3.4
Rent, residential	159.3	159.7	160.1	160.3	2.6	1.8	3.1	2.5	2.2	2.8
Other renters' costs	206.5	209.2	210.8	212.8	5.0	4.8	-1.0	12.8	4.9	5.7
Homeowners' costs 1/	158.7	159.0	159.1	159.6	3.7	3.1	4.4	2.3	3.4	3.3
Owners' equivalent rent 1/	159.0	159.3	159.4	159.8	3.7	3.4	4.4	2.0	3.5	3.2
Household insurance 1/	145.6	145.2	145.9	146.0	1.7	-4.1	6.0	1.1	-1.2	3.5
Maintenance and repairs 2/	135.8	135.5	135.7	136.3	2.1	1.8	2.4	1.5	2.0	1.9
Maintenance and repair services 2/ ...	144.7	144.6	145.0	145.8	2.0	1.7	4.8	3.1	1.8	4.0
Maintenance and repair commodities 2/	124.2	123.6	123.8	124.1	2.3	1.6	-.3	-.3	2.0	-.3
Fuel and other utilities	123.9	124.4	125.1	125.7	1.0	-.3	3.6	5.9	.3	4.8
Fuels	110.5	111.2	112.0	112.0	.0	-1.5	4.8	5.5	-.7	5.2
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities	88.7	95.3	95.6	97.6	3.7	-.5	1.8	46.6	1.6	22.2
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	118.2	118.2	119.1	118.9	.0	-1.7	4.9	2.4	-.9	3.6
Other utilities and public services 2/ .	154.3	154.8	155.4	157.0	2.4	1.0	1.8	7.2	1.7	4.5
Household furnishings and operation	122.7	122.9	122.7	123.0	.0	4.4	.7	1.0	2.2	.8

Housefurnishings	110.1	110.3	110.0	110.1	-1.1	3.7	-1.4	.0	1.3	-.7
Housekeeping supplies	140.1	140.8	140.7	141.7	.9	6.6	4.1	4.6	3.7	4.4
Housekeeping services	149.0	148.8	149.0	149.1	1.9	3.9	3.6	.3	2.9	1.9
Apparel and upkeep	131.0	131.9	131.0	131.8	-2.4	.9	1.2	2.5	-.8	1.8
Apparel commodities	127.9	128.9	127.9	128.7	-2.2	.9	.9	2.5	-.6	1.7
Men's and boys' apparel	125.8	127.1	127.3	128.5	-.6	-1.6	.6	8.9	-1.1	4.7
Women's and girls' apparel	125.6	127.5	124.6	124.7	-1.9	-2.5	3.9	-2.8	-2.2	.5
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 2/	129.8	132.3	135.3	134.7	-14.8	37.7	-8.2	16.0	8.3	3.2
Footwear	126.4	125.3	126.9	128.2	-1.9	4.9	-1.9	5.8	1.4	1.9
Other apparel commodities	151.4	150.3	147.6	151.1	-2.3	-.5	1.1	-.8	-1.4	.1
Apparel services 2/.....	157.1	157.6	157.9	158.2	-1.5	.8	.8	2.8	-.4	1.8
Transportation	138.9	140.1	140.5	141.7	5.9	-4.5	.6	8.3	.6	4.4
Private transportation	137.1	138.4	138.6	139.8	4.5	-4.0	.9	8.1	.1	4.4
New vehicles	142.9	143.2	143.5	143.8	3.2	1.7	1.1	2.5	2.4	1.8
New cars	139.6	139.7	140.1	140.2	2.6	1.2	1.2	1.7	1.9	1.4
Used cars	158.3	159.8	161.0	161.9	-2.7	-3.0	4.1	9.4	-2.9	6.7
Motor fuel	97.6	101.2	100.7	104.6	16.5	-22.1	-1.2	31.9	-4.7	14.2
Gasoline	97.2	101.1	100.6	104.5	16.9	-22.7	-2.0	33.6	-4.9	14.4
Maintenance and repairs	156.8	157.4	157.6	157.9	2.9	3.1	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.7
Other private transportation	167.7	167.6	167.9	167.5	1.9	2.7	.2	-.5	2.3	-.1
Other private transportation commodities	104.2	104.2	104.4	104.3	1.2	1.2	-.4	.4	1.2	.0
Other private transportation services	183.7	183.5	183.9	183.4	2.2	2.9	.4	-.7	2.6	-.1
Public transportation	170.2	169.6	173.7	175.1	26.3	-10.6	-6.8	12.0	6.3	2.2
Medical care	223.9	224.7	225.1	225.6	3.7	4.4	3.7	3.1	4.1	3.4
Medical care commodities	204.3	205.6	205.7	206.0	1.0	2.4	3.0	3.4	1.7	3.2
Medical care services	228.2	228.9	229.4	229.9	4.4	4.9	3.8	3.0	4.7	3.4
Professional medical services	205.7	206.2	207.0	207.2	4.1	3.8	4.2	2.9	3.9	3.6
Entertainment	154.1	154.7	155.9	155.9	3.0	3.8	3.4	4.8	3.4	4.1
Entertainment commodities	139.7	140.3	141.6	141.6	2.4	3.5	3.2	5.6	2.9	4.4
Entertainment services	174.8	175.5	176.5	176.6	3.1	4.0	3.7	4.2	3.6	4.0
Other goods and services	208.5	208.9	209.7	210.4	4.4	5.0	3.7	3.7	4.7	3.7
Tobacco and smoking products	229.2	228.4	229.4	230.9	5.5	4.7	1.2	3.0	5.1	2.1
Personal care 2/	148.9	149.1	149.2	149.3	1.9	2.2	3.6	1.1	2.1	2.3
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 2/	144.7	144.4	144.6	144.6	1.7	.6	2.8	-.3	1.1	1.3
Personal care services 2/	154.2	154.9	155.1	155.2	1.9	4.3	4.5	2.6	3.1	3.6
Personal and educational expenses	236.9	238.0	239.1	239.8	4.5	6.0	5.4	5.0	5.2	5.2
School books and supplies	221.2	223.6	224.2	225.4	3.2	5.1	7.6	7.8	4.2	7.7

Personal and educational services	238.3	239.3	240.4	241.1	4.4	6.2	5.2	4.8	5.3	5.0
Commodity and service group										
All items	-	-	-	-	3.3	1.3	2.4	4.3	2.3	3.4
Commodities	137.3	138.1	138.1	139.1	3.0	.3	1.5	5.3	1.6	3.4
Food and beverages	150.1	150.3	150.5	151.3	3.0	3.3	1.9	3.2	3.2	2.6
Commodities less food and beverages	129.4	130.5	130.5	131.6	2.5	-1.5	1.2	7.0	.5	4.1
Nondurables less food and beverages	129.3	131.1	131.1	132.6	3.1	-3.9	2.2	10.6	-.5	6.3
Apparel commodities	127.9	128.9	127.9	128.7	-2.2	.9	.9	2.5	-.6	1.7
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	132.7	134.9	135.5	137.7	5.5	-6.1	1.8	15.9	-.5	8.7
Durables	128.6	129.0	129.4	129.4	1.3	.6	1.3	2.5	.9	1.9
Services	168.3	168.7	169.2	169.6	3.4	2.7	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1
Rent of shelter 1/	157.4	157.9	158.2	158.6	3.7	3.1	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.2
Household services less rent of shelter 1/	128.1	128.0	128.7	129.2	1.3	.0	4.2	3.5	.6	3.8
Transportation services	174.7	174.6	175.5	175.6	6.2	.5	-.2	2.1	3.3	.9
Medical care services	228.2	228.9	229.4	229.9	4.4	4.9	3.8	3.0	4.7	3.4
Other services	194.3	195.1	196.0	196.4	3.4	4.9	4.2	4.4	4.2	4.3
Special indexes										
All items less food	151.4	152.1	152.4	153.0	3.3	1.1	2.7	4.3	2.2	3.5
All items less shelter	148.1	148.7	149.0	149.8	3.1	1.1	1.9	4.7	2.1	3.3
All items less homeowners' costs 1/	142.0	142.6	142.9	143.6	3.2	1.1	2.0	4.6	2.2	3.3
All items less medical care	147.8	148.4	148.7	149.4	3.1	1.4	2.2	4.4	2.2	3.3
Commodities less food	130.5	131.7	131.7	132.8	2.5	-1.2	.9	7.2	.6	4.0
Nondurables less food	130.8	132.5	132.5	134.0	2.8	-3.3	2.2	10.2	-.3	6.1
Nondurables less food and apparel	134.2	136.1	136.4	138.4	5.2	-4.7	2.4	13.1	.2	7.6
Nondurables	139.8	140.9	141.1	142.3	2.6	-.3	2.0	7.3	1.2	4.7
Services less rent of shelter 1/	159.5	159.8	160.5	160.7	3.1	2.6	2.8	3.0	2.8	2.9
Services less medical care services	163.2	163.5	164.0	164.4	3.6	2.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Energy	103.5	105.7	105.9	107.8	7.9	-12.2	1.6	17.7	-2.7	9.3
All items less energy	158.0	158.4	158.7	159.3	2.6	2.9	2.3	3.3	2.7	2.8
All items less food and energy	160.3	160.8	161.1	161.6	2.8	2.6	2.5	3.3	2.7	2.9
Commodities less food and energy commodities	140.0	140.5	140.6	141.1	.6	2.0	1.7	3.2	1.3	2.5
Energy commodities	97.0	100.9	100.5	104.2	15.3	-20.4	-1.2	33.2	-4.2	14.7
Services less energy services	174.0	174.4	174.9	175.4	3.8	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.2

1/ Indexes on a December 1984=100 base.

2/ Not seasonally adjusted.

- Data not available.

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

Table 3. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: Selected areas, all items index

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Area	Pricing schedule 1/	Indexes				Percent change to Mar. 1996 from-			Percent change to Feb. 1996 from-		
		Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Feb. 1996	Mar. 1996	Mar. 1995	Jan. 1996	Feb. 1996	Feb. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996
U.S. city average	M	153.5	154.4	154.9	155.7	2.8	0.8	0.5	2.7	0.9	0.3
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	160.5	161.4	162.2	162.8	3.0	.9	.4	2.9	1.1	.5
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	161.1	162.2	163.0	163.7	3.2	.9	.4	3.0	1.2	.5
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000	M	158.6	158.7	159.2	160.2	2.8	.9	.6	2.2	.4	.3
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000	M	158.6	159.8	160.6	160.8	2.7	.6	.1	2.9	1.3	.5
North Central urban	M	149.5	150.2	150.8	151.7	3.0	1.0	.6	2.8	.9	.4
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	150.3	151.0	151.7	152.6	2.8	1.1	.6	2.5	.9	.5
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000	M	148.0	148.6	149.5	150.4	2.9	1.2	.6	3.0	1.0	.6
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000	M	151.5	152.2	152.4	153.1	3.2	.6	.5	3.2	.6	.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	145.8	146.5	146.9	147.7	3.5	.8	.5	3.2	.8	.3
South urban	M	150.3	151.1	151.5	152.4	3.0	.9	.6	2.8	.8	.3
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	149.5	150.4	150.6	151.5	2.4	.7	.6	2.2	.7	.1
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000	M	152.4	153.2	154.1	155.0	3.1	1.2	.6	3.0	1.1	.6
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000	M	150.3	151.1	151.4	152.2	3.8	.7	.5	3.6	.7	.2
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	149.1	149.9	150.1	151.6	3.4	1.1	1.0	2.7	.7	.1
West urban	M	154.3	155.3	155.8	156.4	2.4	.7	.4	2.2	1.0	.3
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	154.4	155.4	155.9	156.6	2.0	.8	.4	1.8	1.0	.3
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000	M	158.6	159.8	160.8	161.4	4.0	1.0	.4	3.7	1.4	.6
Size classes											
A 3/	M	138.6	139.5	140.0	140.7	2.6	.9	.5	2.4	1.0	.4

B	M	153.4	153.9	154.7	155.5	2.9	1.0	.5	2.8	.8	.5
C	M	153.5	154.4	154.8	155.5	3.5	.7	.5	3.3	.8	.3
D	M	150.1	150.9	151.1	152.1	3.4	.8	.7	3.1	.7	.1

Selected local areas

Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	153.8	154.6	155.2	156.3	2.4	1.1	.7	1.9	.9	.4
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	154.6	155.7	156.2	157.3	1.7	1.0	.7	1.1	1.0	.3
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	163.7	164.8	165.7	166.5	3.5	1.0	.5	3.4	1.2	.5
Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD ..	M	159.1	160.3	161.2	162.0	2.5	1.1	.5	2.2	1.3	.6
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	M	152.1	152.9	153.2	152.9	1.2	.0	-.2	1.8	.7	.2
Baltimore, MD	1	-	151.6	-	153.0	1.8	.9	-	-	-	-
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	-	162.2	-	162.8	2.8	.4	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	-	149.0	-	150.9	2.4	1.3	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	-	152.0	-	152.4	2.5	.3	-	-	-	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL	1	-	147.2	-	148.9	3.0	1.2	-	-	-	-
Washington, DC-MD-VA	1	-	156.8	-	158.4	2.1	1.0	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	2	145.5	-	146.2	-	-	-	-	2.0	.5	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI	2	150.3	-	151.3	-	-	-	-	2.7	.7	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	140.9	-	141.5	-	-	-	-	1.6	.4	-
Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, PA	2	150.0	-	151.1	-	-	-	-	2.6	.7	-

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

M - Every month.

1 - January, March, May, July, September, and November.

2 - February, April, June, August, October, and December.

2/ Regions defined as the four Census regions. See map in technical notes.

3/ Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

- Data not available.

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

Table 6. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers: Selected areas, all items index

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Area	Pricing schedule 1/	Indexes				Percent change to Mar. 1996 from-			Percent change to Feb. 1996 from-		
		Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Feb. 1996	Mar. 1996	Mar. 1995	Jan. 1996	Feb. 1996	Feb. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996
U.S. city average	M	150.9	151.7	152.2	152.9	2.8	0.8	0.5	2.6	0.9	0.3
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	158.0	158.8	159.4	160.1	3.0	.8	.4	2.7	.9	.4
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	157.6	158.5	159.2	160.0	3.2	.9	.5	2.8	1.0	.4
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000	M	156.5	156.5	156.9	158.1	2.7	1.0	.8	2.1	.3	.3
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000	M	160.4	161.4	162.0	162.1	2.5	.4	.1	2.8	1.0	.4
North Central urban	M	146.3	147.0	147.5	148.3	2.8	.9	.5	2.7	.8	.3
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	146.4	147.1	147.7	148.6	2.7	1.0	.6	2.4	.9	.4
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000	M	144.5	145.0	145.7	146.6	2.8	1.1	.6	2.8	.8	.5
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000	M	148.9	149.6	149.8	150.4	3.3	.5	.4	3.2	.6	.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	144.1	144.7	144.9	145.7	3.3	.7	.6	3.2	.6	.1
South urban	M	148.9	149.7	150.0	150.8	2.9	.7	.5	2.8	.7	.2
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	147.8	148.6	148.7	149.5	2.3	.6	.5	2.3	.6	.1
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000	M	148.9	149.6	150.3	151.1	2.9	1.0	.5	2.7	.9	.5
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000	M	150.3	151.1	151.3	152.0	3.8	.6	.5	3.6	.7	.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	149.5	150.4	150.4	152.1	3.7	1.1	1.1	2.7	.6	.0
West urban	M	151.3	152.2	152.7	153.4	2.4	.8	.5	2.2	.9	.3
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	150.0	150.9	151.2	152.1	2.0	.8	.6	1.7	.8	.2
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000	M	155.5	156.6	157.6	158.2	3.9	1.0	.4	3.5	1.4	.6
Size classes											
A 3/	M	137.7	138.5	138.9	139.7	2.6	.9	.6	2.4	.9	.3
B	M	150.7	151.1	151.8	152.6	2.8	1.0	.5	2.6	.7	.5
C	M	152.7	153.5	153.9	154.4	3.4	.6	.3	3.3	.8	.3
D	M	149.4	150.2	150.3	151.4	3.5	.8	.7	3.1	.6	.1
Selected local areas											
Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	149.0	149.7	150.2	151.3	2.4	1.1	.7	1.8	.8	.3
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	149.4	150.4	150.9	151.9	1.7	1.0	.7	1.1	1.0	.3

N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	159.9	160.9	161.7	162.5	3.4	1.0	.5	3.3	1.1	.5
Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD ..	M	158.7	159.7	160.5	161.3	2.4	1.0	.5	1.9	1.1	.5
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	M	149.6	150.5	150.5	150.7	1.2	.1	.1	1.5	.6	.0
Baltimore, MD	1	-	150.3	-	151.8	1.8	1.0	-	-	-	-
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	-	161.1	-	161.7	3.1	.4	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	-	141.5	-	143.1	2.4	1.1	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	-	150.0	-	150.3	2.5	.2	-	-	-	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL	1	-	146.5	-	148.0	2.8	1.0	-	-	-	-
Washington, DC-MD-VA	1	-	153.9	-	155.4	2.0	1.0	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	2	145.4	-	145.9	-	-	-	-	2.2	.3	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI	2	145.5	-	146.5	-	-	-	-	2.7	.7	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	140.5	-	140.8	-	-	-	-	1.4	.2	-
Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, PA	2	143.7	-	144.7	-	-	-	-	2.6	.7	-

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

M - Every month.

1 - January, March, May, July, September, and November.

2 - February, April, June, August, October, and December.

2/ Regions defined as the four Census regions. See map in technical notes.

3/ Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

- Data not available.

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