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FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

Patrick C. Jackman (202) 606-7000	USDL-96-378
CPI QUICKLINE: (202) 606-6994	TRANSMISSION OF MATERIAL IN
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: AUGUST 1996

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.2 percent before seasonal adjustment in August to a level of 157.3 (1982-84=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. For the 12-month period ended in August, the CPI-U increased 2.9 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.1 percent in August, prior to seasonal adjustment. The August 1996 CPI-W level of 154.5 was 2.9 percent higher than the index in August 1995.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.1 percent in August, following a 0.3 percent increase in July. The energy index declined for the third consecutive month--down 0.6 percent in August and 3.2 percent for the 3-month period--after increasing 9.4 percent in the 6-month period ended in May. The index for petroleum-based energy declined 1.6 percent in August, while the index for energy services rose 0.6 percent. The food index rose 0.4 percent in August, reflecting sharp increases in prices for meats and for dairy products. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 0.1 percent, following a 0.3 percent increase in July. The deceleration in August was due to a substantially

smaller increase in shelter costs and a larger decline in the index for apparel and upkeep.

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

Expenditure Category	Changes from preceding month 1996								Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Aug. '96	Aug. '96	
All Items	.2	.4	.4	.3	.1	.3	.1	1.8	2.9	
Food and beverages	.1	.5	.3	.1	.7	.5	.3	5.9	3.6	
Housing	.2	.3	.3	.2	.1	.4	.2	2.7	2.9	
Apparel and upkeep	-.9	.6	-.4	.1	-.4	-.1	-1.4	-7.1	-1.5	
Transportation	.5	.7	1.1	.7	-.4	-.2	-.2	-3.3	2.6	
Medical care	.2	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.2	3.0	3.4	
Entertainment	.8	.1	-.1	.4	.3	.1	.2	2.0	3.3	
Other goods and services	.4	.4	.3	.4	.2	.4	.3	3.8	4.1	
Special Indexes:										
Energy	.4	1.4	3.2	1.1	-2.2	-.4	-.6	-12.2	3.9	
Food	.1	.6	.3	.1	.7	.5	.4	6.5	3.6	
All items less food and energy	.2	.3	.1	.2	.2	.3	.1	2.2	2.6	

See page 4 for the announcement of a change in the hospital and related service component of the CPI.

During the first 8 months of 1996, the CPI-U rose at a 3.2 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with a 2.5 percent increase for all of 1995. Increases in the food and energy components, which acted as moderating influences throughout most of the past 5 years, have been responsible for the acceleration thus far in 1996. Energy costs, which declined last year, have increased at a 7.3 percent rate, with petroleum-based energy advancing at a 10.9 percent SAAR. The food index has risen at a 4.2 percent annual rate in the first 8 months after increasing 2.1 percent in all of 1995. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 2.7 percent rate in the first 8 months of 1996. This compares with a 3.0 percent increase for all of 1995.

The food and beverage index rose 0.3 percent in August. The index for grocery store foods increased 0.5 percent, the same as in July.

Increases in the indexes for dairy products and for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs--up 2.0 and 0.9 percent, respectively--accounted for all of the August advance. The index for dairy products has risen 5.1 percent in the past 3 months and 8.9 percent since August 1995. Within the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, price increases for beef, pork, and poultry each accelerated in August, advancing 1.7, 2.1, and 1.2 percent, respectively. During the 12-month period ended in August, beef prices have risen 1.1 percent, and pork and poultry prices have advanced 12.9 and 8.2 percent, respectively. Each of the other major grocery store food groups either declined or was unchanged in August. The index for fruits and vegetables declined 0.3 percent as a decrease in fresh fruit prices more than offset small increases in the indexes for fresh vegetables and for processed fruits and vegetables. The indexes for cereal and bakery products and other food at home were unchanged and down 0.1 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.2 and 0.3 percent, respectively, in August.

The housing component, which rose 0.4 percent in July, advanced 0.2 percent in August. Shelter costs increased 0.1 percent in August, following a rise of 0.5 percent in July. Within shelter, renters' costs rose 0.1 percent, and homeowners' and maintenance and repair costs each rose 0.2 percent. The index for fuel and other utilities increased 0.4 percent in August. The index for household fuels increased 0.5 percent in August, and the index for other utilities and public services rose 0.3 percent. Among household fuels, the indexes for electricity and for fuel oil increased 0.8 and 0.9 percent, respectively, while the index for natural gas was unchanged. Within the index for other utilities and public services, the index for telephone services rose 0.2 percent, resulting from a 2.0 percent rise in charges for intrastate toll calls. The index for household furnishings and operation rose 0.2 percent in August, following a 0.1 percent increase in July.

The transportation index declined for the third consecutive month--down 0.2 percent in August--primarily as a result of another decrease in the index for motor fuels. The index for gasoline, which increased 18.2 percent in the period from November 1995 through May, has declined 7.6 percent in the past 3 months, including a 2.0 percent drop in August. As of August, the gasoline index was 11.6 percent below its peak level of December 1990. The index for new vehicle prices rose 0.1 percent in August. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, new vehicle prices fell 0.2 percent.) The index for automobile finance charges increased 1.8 percent in August and has risen 3.9 percent in the past 3 months. The index for used cars was unchanged in August, following declines in each of the 4 preceding months. The index for public transportation decreased

0.1 percent, reflecting price declines for airline fares and for other intercity transportation fares.

The index for apparel and upkeep declined for the third consecutive month--down 1.4 percent in August. The slower introduction of higher priced fall-winter wear, coupled with large seasonal price declines for spring and summer wear, was responsible for the August decrease. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, clothing prices declined 0.2 percent in August.)

Medical care costs rose 0.2 percent in August to a level 3.4 percent above a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, non-prescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.2 percent in August. The index for medical care services also rose 0.2 percent in August. Charges for professional services and for hospital and related services each increased 0.3 percent.

Entertainment costs rose 0.2 percent in August. The indexes for reading materials and for sporting goods and equipment each rose 0.5 percent and in aggregate accounted for over three-fourths of the August entertainment advance.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.3 percent in August, following a 0.4 percent rise in July. Advances in the indexes for college tuition and for school books and supplies--up 1.0 and 1.2 percent, respectively--accounted for about three-fourths of the August 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 0.1 percent in August.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Aug. '96	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Aug '96
	Changes from preceding month								
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.		
All Items	.2	.5	.4	.3	.1	.2	.1	1.3	2.9
Food and beverages	.1	.5	.3	.1	.7	.4	.4	6.2	3.6
Housing	.1	.3	.3	.2	.1	.4	.2	2.7	2.9
Apparel and upkeep	-.7	.6	-.2	.2	-.6	.0	-1.5	-8.2	-1.2
Transportation	.3	.9	1.1	.6	-.6	-.4	-.1	-4.4	2.7

Medical care	.2	.2	.3	.3	.3	.3	.1	2.8	3.3
Entertainment	.8	.0	-.1	.4	.3	.0	.3	2.3	3.3
Other goods and services	.4	.3	.3	.4	.1	.4	.2	3.2	3.9
Special Indexes:									
Energy	.2	1.8	3.3	1.1	-2.0	-.9	-.5	-13.2	4.0
Food	.1	.6	.3	.1	.8	.5	.3	6.5	3.7
All items less food and energy	.2	.3	.1	.2	.1	.2	.1	1.7	2.5

Consumer Price Index data for September are scheduled for release on Wednesday, October 16, 1996, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

Changing the Hospital and Related Services Component of the Consumer Price Index

Effective with the release of data for January 1997, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) will introduce improvements in the way in which the Hospital and related services component of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) is calculated. Two complementary changes will be made:

Items within the hospital and related services component will be reclassified into two main groups, or item strata--Hospital services and Nursing home services, instead of the current three--Hospital rooms, Other inpatient services, and Hospital outpatient services.

The definition of the specific items selected for pricing within individual hospitals will be broadened substantially. These newly defined items will be reselected using new procedures in the majority of the hospitals from which price data currently are collected for the CPI.

Additional information on these changes was published in the June 1996 CPI Detailed Report and is available on the Internet. (Go to gopher://stats.bls.gov and access [/pub/special.requests/cpi/hospital.txt](http://pub/special.requests/cpi/hospital.txt).) This information may also be obtained by writing to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, 2 Massachusetts

Ave. NE, Room 3260, Washington, DC 20212, or by telephoning Elaine Cardenas at (202) 606-6985 ext. 251.

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Expenditure category	Relative importance,	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
	December 1995	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	July 1996	May to June	June to July	July to Aug.
All items	100.000	157.0	157.3	2.9	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1
All items (1967=100)	-	470.4	471.1	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	17.332	153.6	154.2	3.6	.4	.7	.5	.3
Food	15.766	153.2	153.7	3.6	.3	.7	.5	.4
Food at home	9.880	154.1	154.8	4.3	.5	1.0	.5	.5
Cereals and bakery products	1.473	174.8	175.0	3.7	.1	.1	.2	.0
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	2.936	143.9	145.6	5.0	1.2	1.5	.6	.9
Dairy products	1.169	142.0	144.6	8.9	1.8	1.5	1.5	2.0
Fruits and vegetables	1.936	184.0	182.1	4.7	-1.0	2.0	.5	-.3
Other food at home	2.365	142.9	143.2	1.3	.2	.1	.2	-.1
Sugar and sweets .....	.327	144.6	144.6	4.3	.0	.5	.5	-.2
Fats and oils .....	.248	140.5	140.9	2.5	.3	.7	-.6	.8
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.763	127.5	128.5	-2.1	.8	-.6	-.1	.5
Other prepared food	1.027	156.8	156.4	2.8	-.3	.6	.4	-.5
Food away from home	5.886	152.8	153.1	2.5	.2	.2	.3	.2
Alcoholic beverages	1.566	158.5	158.9	2.8	.3	.2	.1	.3
Housing	41.346	153.6	154.0	2.9	.3	.1	.4	.2
Shelter	28.289	171.9	172.3	3.3	.2	.2	.5	.1
Renters' costs 1/	7.988	183.0	183.4	3.7	.2	.2	.8	.1
Rent, residential	5.762	162.2	162.5	2.7	.2	.2	.3	.1
Other renters' costs	2.227	225.4	225.9	5.7	.2	.0	2.1	-.1
Homeowners' costs 1/	20.102	176.6	177.0	3.1	.2	.2	.3	.2
Owners' equivalent rent 1/	19.716	176.9	177.3	3.1	.2	.1	.3	.1
Household insurance 1/ .....	.386	162.0	162.3	2.3	.2	.5	.5	.1
Maintenance and repairs 2/ .....	.199	139.4	139.7	3.2	.2	.0	.4	.2

Maintenance and repair services 2/ .	.122	146.3	147.1	4.8	.5	-.1	1.2	.5
Maintenance and repair commodities 2/ .....	.077	130.1	129.6	.6	-.4	.0	-.6	-.4
Fuel and other utilities	7.014	129.0	129.4	2.9	.3	-.2	.5	.4
Fuels	3.792	117.4	117.9	2.9	.4	-.9	.9	.5
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities .....	.356	92.3	92.2	6.5	-.1	-4.1	-1.6	.5
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	3.436	125.6	126.1	2.5	.4	-.5	1.1	.6
Other utilities and public services 2/	3.222	157.5	158.0	3.2	.3	.4	-.1	.3
Household furnishings and operation	6.043	124.7	124.8	1.1	.1	.1	.1	.2
Housefurnishings	3.445	111.2	111.3	-.2	.1	.1	-.3	.3
Housekeeping supplies	1.116	141.1	141.1	2.2	.0	-.2	.4	.1
Housekeeping services	1.482	148.6	148.6	3.3	.0	.3	.5	.0
Apparel and upkeep	5.516	128.3	128.1	-1.5	-.2	-.4	-.1	-1.4
Apparel commodities	4.967	124.5	124.2	-2.0	-.2	-.5	-.1	-1.5
Men's and boys' apparel	1.303	125.1	126.2	1.4	.9	-.4	-.2	.2
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.195	118.5	118.1	-4.4	-.3	-.8	.0	-2.7
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 2/ ....	.195	125.7	125.1	-2.3	-.5	-1.0	-2.6	-.5
Footwear .....	.732	125.6	124.7	.9	-.7	.5	-.1	-.6
Other apparel commodities .....	.542	151.5	149.3	-3.9	-1.5	-.4	.7	-2.3
Apparel services 2/ .....	.550	159.9	160.3	1.9	.3	.2	.1	.3
Transportation	16.953	143.5	142.8	2.6	-.5	-.4	-.2	-.2
Private transportation	15.430	140.5	139.9	2.6	-.4	-.6	-.2	-.2
New vehicles	5.027	143.2	142.9	2.1	-.2	.3	.2	.1
New cars	4.015	141.0	140.7	2.0	-.2	.4	.2	.3
Used cars	1.342	156.9	156.6	-.3	-.2	-1.1	-.1	.0
Motor fuel	2.908	108.9	106.4	5.2	-2.3	-3.6	-1.9	-2.0
Gasoline	-	108.8	106.1	5.0	-2.5	-3.2	-2.7	-2.0
Maintenance and repairs	1.535	158.1	158.6	2.7	.3	.2	.3	.3
Other private transportation	4.618	173.5	174.1	2.2	.3	.4	.3	.5
Other private transportation commodities .....	.608	104.7	104.8	-.2	.1	.5	-.5	.1
Other private transportation services	4.010	189.7	190.4	2.5	.4	.4	.4	.5
Public transportation	1.523	182.7	181.4	2.4	-.7	2.0	-.5	-.1
Medical care	7.362	228.7	229.2	3.4	.2	.3	.3	.2
Medical care commodities	1.282	211.0	211.1	3.1	.0	.4	.0	.2
Medical care services	6.081	232.9	233.4	3.5	.2	.2	.3	.2
Professional medical services	3.465	208.7	209.2	3.6	.2	.1	.4	.3

Entertainment	4.367	159.0	159.2	3.3	.1	.3	.1	.2
Entertainment commodities	1.975	142.9	143.2	3.0	.2	.2	.0	.1
Entertainment services	2.392	178.0	178.0	3.5	.0	.3	.2	.1
Other goods and services	7.123	214.6	216.3	4.1	.8	.2	.4	.3
Tobacco and smoking products	1.610	233.3	233.4	2.6	.0	.1	.4	.0
Personal care 2/	1.170	150.0	150.5	2.2	.3	-.5	.3	.3
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 2/ .....	.613	144.4	145.0	1.3	.4	-1.0	.3	.4
Personal care services 2/ .....	.557	156.3	156.5	3.2	.1	.1	.3	.1
Personal and educational expenses	4.342	245.8	248.7	5.2	1.2	.4	.4	.5
School books and supplies .....	.258	224.7	227.6	6.8	1.3	.1	.3	1.2
Personal and educational services	4.084	247.6	250.5	5.2	1.2	.4	.4	.5

Commodity and service group

All items	100.000	157.0	157.3	2.9	.2	.1	.3	.1
Commodities	42.916	139.5	139.5	2.3	.0	-.1	.1	-.1
Food and beverages	17.332	153.6	154.2	3.6	.4	.7	.5	.3
Commodities less food and beverages	25.584	130.9	130.5	1.5	-.3	-.6	-.2	-.4
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	15.075	132.3	131.6	1.8	-.5	-1.0	-.4	-.8
Apparel commodities	4.967	124.5	124.2	-2.0	-.2	-.5	-.1	-1.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.108	139.3	138.5	3.7	-.6	-1.2	-.6	-.4
Durables	10.509	129.1	128.9	.9	-.2	.1	-.1	.1
Services	57.084	174.8	175.3	3.2	.3	.2	.5	.2
Rent of shelter 1/	27.671	178.9	179.3	3.3	.2	.2	.4	.3
Household services less rent of shelter 1/	8.681	143.9	144.4	2.9	.3	-.1	.5	.3
Transportation services	7.068	180.3	180.6	2.6	.2	.7	.2	.3
Medical care services	6.081	232.9	233.4	3.5	.2	.2	.3	.2
Other services	7.583	200.6	201.9	4.2	.6	.3	.3	.3

Special indexes

All items less food	84.234	157.7	157.9	2.7	.1	.0	.2	.1
All items less shelter	71.711	152.8	152.9	2.7	.1	.1	.2	.0
All items less homeowners' costs 1/	79.898	158.1	158.3	2.8	.1	.1	.3	.0
All items less medical care	92.638	153.0	153.2	2.8	.1	.1	.3	.1
Commodities less food	27.150	132.0	131.7	1.5	-.2	-.5	-.2	-.4
Nondurables less food	16.641	133.8	133.2	1.8	-.4	-.9	-.4	-.7
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.674	140.2	139.5	3.5	-.5	-.8	-.6	-.3
Nondurables	32.407	143.1	143.1	2.7	.0	-.1	.1	-.2
Services less rent of shelter 1/	29.414	183.1	183.7	3.3	.3	.2	.4	.3
Services less medical care services	51.004	169.4	169.9	3.2	.3	.2	.5	.2

Energy	6.700	112.5	111.6	3.9	-.8	-2.2	-.4	-.6
All items less energy	93.300	163.1	163.4	2.8	.2	.2	.3	.1
All items less food and energy	77.534	165.5	165.8	2.6	.2	.2	.3	.1
Commodities less food and energy commodities	23.885	140.3	140.3	1.0	.0	.0	.0	-.1
Energy commodities	3.264	107.2	105.0	5.3	-2.1	-3.7	-2.0	-1.6
Services less energy services	53.648	179.9	180.4	3.3	.3	.3	.3	.2
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:								
1982-84=\$1.00 2/	-	\$.637	\$.636	-2.8	-.2	-.2	-.2	-.2
1967=\$1.00 2/	-	.213	.212	-	-	-	-	-

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				
	May	June	July	Aug.	Nov.	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
	1996	1996	1996	1996	1995	Feb. 1996	May 1996	Aug. 1996	Feb. 1996	Aug. 1996
All items	-	-	-	-	2.1	3.2	4.5	1.8	2.6	3.1
Food and beverages	152.4	153.4	154.1	154.6	2.7	1.6	4.0	5.9	2.2	5.0
Food	152.0	153.1	153.8	154.4	2.7	1.3	4.0	6.5	2.0	5.2
Food at home	152.4	154.0	154.8	155.5	3.3	.5	5.1	8.4	1.9	6.8
Cereals and bakery products	173.8	173.9	174.3	174.3	4.4	4.3	5.0	1.2	4.3	3.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	141.6	143.7	144.5	145.8	7.7	1.7	-1.4	12.4	4.7	5.3
Dairy products	137.8	139.9	142.0	144.8	3.7	8.3	3.0	21.9	6.0	12.0
Fruits and vegetables	182.2	185.9	186.9	186.3	-.4	-6.8	17.8	9.3	-3.7	13.5
Other food at home	142.6	142.8	143.1	143.0	-.3	.3	4.0	1.1	.0	2.6
Sugar and sweets	143.1	143.8	144.5	144.2	2.3	7.1	4.6	3.1	4.7	3.9
Fats and oils	139.8	140.8	139.9	141.0	3.5	.6	2.3	3.5	2.0	2.9

Nonalcoholic beverages	129.2	128.4	128.3	129.0	-3.6	-6.3	1.9	-.6	-4.9	.6
Other prepared food	155.3	156.2	156.8	156.0	.5	2.9	5.9	1.8	1.7	3.8
Food away from home	152.0	152.3	152.8	153.1	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.9	2.3	2.7
Alcoholic beverages	158.0	158.3	158.5	158.9	2.1	3.7	3.4	2.3	2.9	2.8
Housing	152.2	152.3	152.9	153.2	2.7	3.2	2.9	2.7	3.0	2.8
Shelter	170.1	170.4	171.2	171.4	3.7	3.4	2.9	3.1	3.5	3.0
Renters' costs 1/	178.4	178.7	180.2	180.3	3.0	4.2	3.0	4.3	3.6	3.6
Rent, residential	161.4	161.8	162.3	162.5	2.6	3.0	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.6
Other renters' costs	212.7	212.6	217.1	216.8	4.2	6.9	3.9	7.9	5.5	5.9
Homeowners' costs 1/	175.9	176.2	176.7	177.0	4.0	2.8	3.0	2.5	3.4	2.8
Owners' equivalent rent 1/	176.3	176.5	177.1	177.3	4.0	3.0	3.0	2.3	3.5	2.6
Household insurance 1/	159.8	160.6	161.4	161.6	-1.0	2.8	2.5	4.6	.9	3.6
Maintenance and repairs 2/	138.8	138.8	139.4	139.7	2.4	2.4	5.4	2.6	2.4	4.0
Maintenance and repair services 2/ ...	144.7	144.6	146.3	147.1	4.3	3.4	4.8	6.8	3.9	5.8
Maintenance and repair commodities 2/	130.9	130.9	130.1	129.6	-.3	.3	6.7	-3.9	.0	1.2
Fuel and other utilities	127.2	126.9	127.5	128.0	.0	4.9	4.9	2.5	2.4	3.7
Fuels	114.2	113.2	114.2	114.8	-1.1	5.9	5.1	2.1	2.3	3.6
Fuel oil and other household fuel										
commodities	99.4	95.3	93.8	94.3	-3.6	41.1	16.4	-19.0	16.7	-2.9
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy										
services).....	121.0	120.4	121.7	122.4	-.7	2.7	3.7	4.7	1.0	4.2
Other utilities and public services 2/ .	156.9	157.6	157.5	158.0	1.3	3.4	5.3	2.8	2.4	4.0
Household furnishings and operation	124.3	124.4	124.5	124.7	1.3	1.3	.6	1.3	1.3	1.0
Housefurnishings	111.1	111.2	110.9	111.2	-1.1	1.1	-1.1	.4	.0	-.4
Housekeeping supplies	140.8	140.5	141.1	141.3	4.7	1.4	1.7	1.4	3.1	1.6
Housekeeping services	147.3	147.8	148.6	148.6	3.9	1.9	3.6	3.6	2.9	3.6
Apparel and upkeep	132.3	131.8	131.7	129.9	.3	-.6	1.2	-7.1	-.2	-3.0
Apparel commodities	128.7	128.1	128.0	126.1	.3	-.9	.9	-7.8	-.3	-3.6
Men's and boys' apparel	128.2	127.7	127.4	127.6	.3	5.2	1.9	-1.9	2.7	.0
Women's and girls' apparel	125.5	124.5	124.5	121.1	1.0	-4.9	.6	-13.3	-2.0	-6.6
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 2/	130.4	129.1	125.7	125.1	5.4	15.3	-11.4	-15.3	10.3	-13.4
Footwear	126.7	127.3	127.2	126.4	1.6	1.6	1.0	-.9	1.6	.0
Other apparel commodities	151.3	150.7	151.8	148.3	-6.3	-5.2	4.1	-7.7	-5.7	-2.0
Apparel services 2/.....	159.4	159.7	159.9	160.3	-.3	3.3	2.3	2.3	1.5	2.3
Transportation	144.3	143.7	143.4	143.1	-1.7	5.3	10.6	-3.3	1.7	3.4
Private transportation	141.6	140.7	140.4	140.1	-1.7	6.3	10.5	-4.2	2.2	2.9
New vehicles	143.2	143.7	144.0	144.2	1.7	1.7	2.0	2.8	1.7	2.4
New cars	140.8	141.4	141.7	142.1	1.7	1.7	1.1	3.7	1.7	2.4
Used cars	157.6	155.9	155.7	155.7	1.0	9.0	-5.4	-4.7	4.9	-5.1
Motor fuel	112.8	108.7	106.6	104.5	-14.8	25.6	55.6	-26.3	3.5	7.1
Gasoline	112.5	108.9	106.0	103.9	-14.1	24.7	56.4	-27.2	3.5	6.7
Maintenance and repairs	157.5	157.8	158.2	158.6	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.8	2.6	2.6

Other private transportation	172.9	173.6	174.1	174.9	2.1	.7	1.4	4.7	1.4	3.0
Other private transportation commodities	104.9	105.4	104.9	105.0	-.8	.4	-.8	.4	-.2	-.2
Other private transportation services	189.1	189.9	190.6	191.5	2.4	.9	1.7	5.2	1.6	3.4
Public transportation	180.8	184.4	183.5	183.4	-2.9	-5.7	13.4	5.9	-4.3	9.6
Medical care	227.7	228.3	228.9	229.4	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.0	3.6	3.2
Medical care commodities	209.9	210.7	210.7	211.1	3.4	3.5	3.5	2.3	3.5	2.9
Medical care services	231.6	232.1	232.9	233.4	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.1	3.8	3.2
Professional medical services	207.5	207.7	208.5	209.2	3.8	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.7	3.5
Entertainment	158.8	159.2	159.3	159.6	3.7	5.8	1.8	2.0	4.7	1.9
Entertainment commodities	142.8	143.1	143.1	143.3	3.8	6.1	.8	1.4	4.9	1.1
Entertainment services	177.6	178.2	178.5	178.7	3.8	5.6	2.3	2.5	4.7	2.4
Other goods and services	215.5	215.9	216.8	217.5	4.7	3.6	4.6	3.8	4.2	4.2
Tobacco and smoking products	231.9	232.2	233.1	233.0	4.8	-.5	4.4	1.9	2.1	3.2
Personal care 2/	150.3	149.6	150.0	150.5	4.4	1.1	2.7	.5	2.7	1.6
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 2/	145.3	143.9	144.4	145.0	4.5	-1.9	3.4	-.8	1.3	1.3
Personal care services 2/	155.8	155.9	156.3	156.5	4.8	4.5	1.6	1.8	4.7	1.7
Personal and educational expenses	246.8	247.8	248.8	250.1	4.4	6.0	5.2	5.5	5.2	5.3
School books and supplies	225.4	225.6	226.2	229.0	8.9	7.3	4.6	6.5	8.1	5.5
Personal and educational services	248.3	249.3	250.4	251.6	4.2	5.7	5.3	5.4	5.0	5.4
Commodity and service group										
All items	-	-	-	-	2.1	3.2	4.5	1.8	2.6	3.1
Commodities	140.0	139.9	140.0	139.8	.9	3.3	5.6	-.6	2.1	2.5
Food and beverages	152.4	153.4	154.1	154.6	2.7	1.6	4.0	5.9	2.2	5.0
Commodities less food and beverages	132.5	131.7	131.4	130.9	-.3	4.4	6.9	-4.7	2.0	.9
Nondurables less food and beverages	134.7	133.3	132.8	131.8	-.9	7.3	10.1	-8.3	3.1	.5
Apparel commodities	128.7	128.1	128.0	126.1	.3	-.9	.9	-7.8	-.3	-3.6
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	141.0	139.3	138.4	137.8	-2.7	12.0	16.2	-8.8	4.4	3.0
Durables	129.2	129.3	129.2	129.3	1.3	2.2	.0	.3	1.7	.2
Services	173.5	173.9	174.7	175.0	2.9	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.1	3.4
Rent of shelter 1/	177.3	177.6	178.3	178.8	3.5	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.2
Household services less rent of shelter 1/	141.8	141.7	142.4	142.8	1.2	2.3	5.2	2.9	1.7	4.0
Transportation services	179.4	180.7	181.0	181.6	1.1	-.2	4.4	5.0	.5	4.7
Medical care services	231.6	232.1	232.9	233.4	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.1	3.8	3.2
Other services	201.2	201.9	202.5	203.2	3.7	5.6	3.7	4.0	4.7	3.8

Special indexes

All items less food	157.4	157.4	157.7	157.8	1.8	3.7	4.4	1.0	2.8	2.7
All items less shelter	152.7	152.8	153.1	153.1	1.6	3.0	5.1	1.1	2.3	3.1
All items less homeowners' costs 1/	157.7	157.9	158.3	158.3	1.6	3.1	4.7	1.5	2.3	3.1
All items less medical care	152.5	152.6	153.0	153.1	1.9	3.2	4.6	1.6	2.6	3.1
Commodities less food	133.6	132.9	132.6	132.1	-.3	4.4	6.5	-4.4	2.0	.9
Nondurables less food	136.0	134.8	134.3	133.4	-.9	7.2	9.7	-7.4	3.1	.8
Nondurables less food and apparel	141.3	140.1	139.2	138.8	-.9	8.9	13.8	-6.9	3.9	2.9
Nondurables	143.7	143.6	143.7	143.4	.9	4.4	6.7	-.8	2.6	2.8
Services less rent of shelter 1/	181.8	182.2	182.9	183.5	2.5	3.2	3.6	3.8	2.8	3.7
Services less medical care services	168.0	168.3	169.1	169.4	2.7	3.2	3.4	3.4	2.9	3.4
Energy	112.7	110.2	109.8	109.1	-7.4	14.3	25.4	-12.2	2.9	4.9
All items less energy	162.7	163.1	163.6	163.8	2.8	2.5	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.9
All items less food and energy	165.3	165.6	166.1	166.2	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.2	2.7	2.5
Commodities less food and energy										
commodities	141.2	141.2	141.2	141.0	1.7	1.7	1.1	-.6	1.7	.3
Energy commodities	111.4	107.3	105.2	103.5	-13.5	26.8	51.0	-25.5	4.7	6.1
Services less energy services	178.8	179.4	180.0	180.4	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.6	3.1	3.5

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 Aug. 1996 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	July 1996	May to June	June to July	July to Aug.
All items	100.000	154.3	154.5	2.9	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
All items (1967=100)	-	459.7	460.2	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	19.262	153.1	153.7	3.6	.4	.7	.4	.4

Food	17.581	152.8	153.4	3.7	.4	.8	.5	.3
Food at home	11.206	153.3	154.1	4.3	.5	1.0	.6	.5
Cereals and bakery products	1.682	174.5	174.8	3.7	.2	.1	.2	.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.453	143.6	145.3	5.1	1.2	1.4	.7	.9
Dairy products	1.300	141.9	144.3	8.9	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.7
Fruits and vegetables	2.052	183.4	181.8	4.8	-.9	1.9	.6	-.2
Other food at home	2.719	142.6	142.8	1.4	.1	.2	.2	.0
Sugar and sweets .....	.369	144.6	144.5	4.3	-.1	.4	.5	-.1
Fats and oils .....	.285	140.2	140.6	2.3	.3	.9	-.8	.8
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.885	127.1	128.0	-2.0	.7	-.6	-.1	.5
Other prepared food	1.180	156.6	156.3	2.9	-.2	.6	.4	-.4
Food away from home	6.374	152.7	153.1	2.6	.3	.2	.3	.3
Alcoholic beverages	1.681	157.8	158.2	2.9	.3	.2	.1	.3
Housing	38.888	150.4	150.7	2.9	.2	.1	.4	.2
Shelter	25.976	166.9	167.3	3.2	.2	.2	.4	.1
Renters' costs 1/	8.091	159.1	159.4	3.4	.2	.3	.6	.1
Rent, residential	6.616	161.9	162.2	2.8	.2	.2	.3	.1
Other renters' costs	1.475	226.0	226.5	5.7	.2	.3	1.7	-.1
Homeowners' costs 1/	17.695	161.0	161.4	3.1	.2	.2	.3	.1
Owners' equivalent rent 1/	17.366	161.3	161.7	3.1	.2	.1	.3	.2
Household insurance 1/ .....	.329	147.8	148.0	1.6	.1	.2	.5	.0
Maintenance and repairs 2/ .....	.189	137.9	138.0	2.3	.1	.0	.3	.1
Maintenance and repair services 2/ ..	.105	148.2	149.0	4.2	.5	-.1	1.0	.5
Maintenance and repair commodities 2/ .....	.085	124.8	124.1	.0	-.6	.1	-.6	-.6
Fuel and other utilities	7.247	128.7	129.2	3.1	.4	-.2	.4	.5
Fuels	3.887	117.0	117.5	3.1	.4	-.8	.9	.5
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities .....	.327	92.1	92.1	6.5	.0	-3.9	-1.5	.5
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	3.560	125.1	125.7	2.7	.5	-.5	1.1	.6
Other utilities and public services 2/	3.360	158.0	158.5	3.3	.3	.4	-.1	.3
Household furnishings and operation	5.666	123.2	123.3	.9	.1	.2	.1	.2
Housefurnishings	3.367	109.8	110.0	-.2	.2	.2	-.2	.2
Housekeeping supplies	1.149	141.6	141.8	2.5	.1	-.2	.5	.2
Housekeeping services	1.150	151.1	151.2	2.9	.1	.3	.5	.1
Apparel and upkeep	5.533	127.9	127.5	-1.2	-.3	-.6	.0	-1.5
Apparel commodities	5.017	124.3	123.8	-1.6	-.4	-.7	.0	-1.6
Men's and boys' apparel	1.310	124.7	125.7	1.2	.8	-.6	-.2	.1
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.148	118.1	117.4	-3.7	-.6	-1.0	.1	-2.9
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 2/ ....	.251	126.8	126.7	-1.9	-.1	-1.1	-2.5	-.1
Footwear .....	.812	126.8	126.1	1.4	-.6	.5	.2	-.4

Other apparel commodities .....	.495	150.9	147.8	-3.8	-2.1	-.8	.9	-3.7
Apparel services 2/ .....	.516	159.3	159.6	1.7	.2	.1	.2	.2
Transportation	19.020	143.3	142.6	2.7	-.5	-.6	-.4	-.1
Private transportation	17.847	141.1	140.5	2.6	-.4	-.6	-.4	-.1
New vehicles	4.958	144.3	144.0	2.2	-.2	.3	.2	.2
New cars	3.591	140.6	140.3	2.0	-.2	.4	.3	.3
Used cars	2.432	158.1	157.8	-.1	-.2	-1.1	-.3	-.1
Motor fuel	3.584	108.8	106.3	5.2	-2.3	-3.2	-2.7	-1.7
Gasoline	-	108.7	106.0	5.0	-2.5	-3.2	-2.5	-1.9
Maintenance and repairs	1.619	158.9	159.6	2.8	.4	.3	.2	.4
Other private transportation	5.255	169.2	169.7	2.2	.3	.4	.4	.5
Other private transportation commodities .....	.767	103.8	104.0	-.2	.2	.5	-.5	.2
Other private transportation services	4.488	185.7	186.3	2.6	.3	.3	.5	.5
Public transportation	1.173	180.6	179.4	3.9	-.7	1.2	-.6	.0
Medical care	6.262	228.2	228.5	3.3	.1	.3	.3	.1
Medical care commodities	1.055	208.5	208.5	2.9	.0	.4	.2	-.1
Medical care services	5.208	232.6	233.1	3.5	.2	.3	.3	.2
Professional medical services	2.965	209.9	210.4	3.5	.2	.1	.4	.2
Entertainment	4.029	156.7	157.0	3.3	.2	.3	.0	.3
Entertainment commodities	2.053	141.8	142.2	2.9	.3	.1	-.1	.3
Entertainment services	1.976	178.2	178.3	3.7	.1	.4	.2	.2
Other goods and services	7.006	211.6	213.0	3.9	.7	.1	.4	.2
Tobacco and smoking products	2.135	233.2	233.0	2.5	-.1	.1	.4	-.2
Personal care 2/	1.132	150.0	150.4	2.0	.3	-.5	.3	.3
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 2/ .....	.635	145.0	145.6	1.3	.4	-1.0	.3	.4
Personal care services 2/ .....	.497	156.2	156.5	3.2	.2	.1	.1	.2
Personal and educational expenses	3.739	241.4	244.2	5.3	1.2	.4	.5	.5
School books and supplies .....	.227	225.5	228.8	6.9	1.5	.1	.2	1.5
Personal and educational services	3.512	242.9	245.7	5.2	1.2	.4	.5	.4
Commodity and service group								
All items	100.000	154.3	154.5	2.9	.1	.1	.2	.1
Commodities	47.052	139.7	139.6	2.4	-.1	-.1	.0	-.1
Food and beverages	19.262	153.1	153.7	3.6	.4	.7	.4	.4
Commodities less food and beverages	27.790	131.4	130.9	1.6	-.4	-.6	-.3	-.5
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	16.074	132.4	131.6	2.1	-.6	-1.0	-.4	-.8
Apparel commodities	5.017	124.3	123.8	-1.6	-.4	-.7	.0	-1.6

Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	11.057	139.2	138.2	3.6	-.7	-1.2	-.7	-.5
Durables	11.716	129.0	128.9	.9	-.1	.0	.0	.0
Services	52.948	172.0	172.5	3.3	.3	.2	.4	.2
Rent of shelter 1/	25.430	160.6	161.0	3.2	.2	.3	.4	.2
Household services less rent of shelter 1/	8.531	132.3	132.7	2.9	.3	-.1	.5	.4
Transportation services	7.279	178.1	178.4	2.9	.2	.5	.3	.4
Medical care services	5.208	232.6	233.1	3.5	.2	.3	.3	.2
Other services	6.501	197.4	198.7	4.2	.7	.4	.4	.3

Special indexes

All items less food	82.419	154.5	154.6	2.7	.1	-.1	.1	.0
All items less shelter	74.024	151.0	151.2	2.8	.1	.1	.1	.1
All items less homeowners' costs 1/	82.305	145.0	145.1	2.8	.1	.0	.2	.1
All items less medical care	93.738	150.8	151.0	2.8	.1	.1	.2	.1
Commodities less food	29.471	132.4	132.0	1.6	-.3	-.6	-.3	-.5
Nondurables less food	17.756	133.8	133.1	2.1	-.5	-.9	-.4	-.6
Nondurables less food and apparel	12.739	140.0	139.2	3.5	-.6	-1.0	-.7	-.3
Nondurables	35.336	143.1	143.0	3.0	-.1	-.1	.0	-.1
Services less rent of shelter 1/	27.518	163.3	163.8	3.3	.3	.2	.5	.2
Services less medical care services	47.740	166.8	167.3	3.2	.3	.2	.5	.2
Energy	7.470	112.2	111.1	4.0	-1.0	-2.0	-.9	-.5
All items less energy	92.530	160.3	160.6	2.8	.2	.3	.2	.1
All items less food and energy	74.949	162.2	162.5	2.5	.2	.1	.2	.1
Commodities less food and energy commodities	25.560	140.1	140.0	1.0	-.1	-.1	.1	-.2
Energy commodities	3.911	107.6	105.3	5.3	-2.1	-3.2	-2.6	-1.5
Services less energy services	49.388	177.2	177.7	3.3	.3	.2	.3	.2
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:								
1982-84=\$1.00 2/	-	\$.648	\$.647	-2.9	-.2	.0	-.2	-.2
1967=\$1.00 2/	-	.218	.217	-	-	-	-	-

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				
	May	June	July	Aug.	Nov.	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
	1996	1996	1996	1996	1995	Feb. 1996	May 1996	Aug. 1996	Feb. 1996	Aug. 1996
All items	-	-	-	-	2.1	3.2	4.8	1.3	2.7	3.0
Food and beverages	151.9	153.0	153.6	154.2	3.0	1.6	3.8	6.2	2.3	5.0
Food	151.4	152.6	153.3	153.8	3.0	1.6	3.8	6.5	2.3	5.1
Food at home	151.6	153.1	154.0	154.7	3.3	.8	4.9	8.4	2.0	6.6
Cereals and bakery products	173.5	173.7	174.0	174.1	4.4	4.3	5.0	1.4	4.3	3.2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	141.2	143.2	144.2	145.5	7.4	1.7	-1.4	12.7	4.5	5.4
Dairy products	137.7	139.8	141.9	144.3	4.3	8.0	3.6	20.6	6.1	11.8
Fruits and vegetables	181.8	185.2	186.3	186.0	-.2	-7.4	18.6	9.6	-3.9	14.0
Other food at home	142.1	142.4	142.7	142.7	.0	.3	3.7	1.7	.1	2.7
Sugar and sweets	143.1	143.7	144.4	144.2	2.0	6.8	5.2	3.1	4.4	4.1
Fats and oils	139.4	140.7	139.6	140.7	3.5	.6	1.4	3.8	2.0	2.6
Nonalcoholic beverages	128.7	127.9	127.8	128.5	-2.4	-6.9	2.2	-.6	-4.7	.8
Other prepared food	154.9	155.9	156.6	155.9	.3	3.7	5.1	2.6	2.0	3.8
Food away from home	152.0	152.3	152.7	153.1	2.4	2.4	2.7	2.9	2.4	2.8
Alcoholic beverages	157.3	157.6	157.8	158.2	2.6	3.1	3.1	2.3	2.9	2.7
Housing	149.0	149.1	149.7	150.0	2.5	3.0	3.3	2.7	2.8	3.0
Shelter	165.5	165.8	166.5	166.7	3.5	3.0	3.2	2.9	3.2	3.1
Renters' costs 1/	156.2	156.6	157.6	157.7	2.9	4.0	2.9	3.9	3.4	3.4
Rent, residential	161.1	161.5	162.0	162.2	2.6	3.3	2.5	2.8	2.9	2.6
Other renters' costs	212.9	213.6	217.3	217.0	3.8	7.3	4.0	7.9	5.5	6.0
Homeowners' costs 1/	160.4	160.7	161.2	161.4	3.9	2.6	3.3	2.5	3.2	2.9
Owners' equivalent rent 1/	160.7	160.9	161.4	161.7	4.1	2.5	3.3	2.5	3.3	2.9
Household insurance 1/	146.4	146.7	147.4	147.4	-.3	2.5	1.4	2.8	1.1	2.1
Maintenance and repairs 2/	137.5	137.5	137.9	138.0	2.1	.3	5.4	1.5	1.2	3.4
Maintenance and repair services 2/ ...	146.8	146.7	148.2	149.0	4.3	1.4	5.1	6.1	2.8	5.6
Maintenance and repair commodities 2/	125.5	125.6	124.8	124.1	-.6	-.3	5.6	-4.4	-.5	.5
Fuel and other utilities	126.8	126.5	127.0	127.6	.3	4.3	5.5	2.5	2.3	4.0
Fuels	113.4	112.5	113.5	114.1	-.7	5.5	5.1	2.5	2.4	3.8
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities	98.9	95.0	93.6	94.1	-3.6	41.2	14.5	-18.0	16.7	-3.1
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	120.4	119.8	121.1	121.8	-.3	2.4	4.4	4.7	1.0	4.6

Other utilities and public services 2/ .	157.5	158.2	158.0	158.5	1.3	3.7	5.5	2.6	2.5	4.0
Household furnishings and operation	122.8	123.0	123.1	123.3	1.0	1.0	.3	1.6	1.0	1.0
Housefurnishings	109.7	109.9	109.7	109.9	-1.1	.7	-1.1	.7	-.2	-.2
Housekeeping supplies	141.2	140.9	141.6	141.9	4.1	2.6	1.4	2.0	3.4	1.7
Housekeeping services	150.1	150.6	151.4	151.5	4.1	1.1	3.0	3.8	2.6	3.4
Apparel and upkeep	131.8	131.0	131.0	129.0	.6	.6	2.5	-8.2	.6	-3.0
Apparel commodities	128.7	127.8	127.8	125.7	.6	.3	2.5	-9.0	.5	-3.4
Men's and boys' apparel	128.0	127.2	127.0	127.1	.3	5.5	2.2	-2.8	2.9	-.3
Women's and girls' apparel	125.3	124.0	124.1	120.5	1.0	-2.5	2.3	-14.5	-.8	-6.5
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 2/	131.5	130.1	126.8	126.7	5.7	14.1	-10.8	-13.8	9.8	-12.3
Footwear	127.5	128.1	128.4	127.9	2.6	.0	1.9	1.3	1.3	1.6
Other apparel commodities	151.4	150.2	151.5	145.9	-3.6	-7.2	10.7	-13.8	-5.5	-2.3
Apparel services 2/.....	158.8	159.0	159.3	159.6	-.8	3.4	2.3	2.0	1.3	2.2
Transportation	144.1	143.3	142.7	142.5	-1.4	6.2	10.6	-4.4	2.3	2.9
Private transportation	142.2	141.3	140.7	140.5	-1.7	6.6	10.8	-4.7	2.3	2.8
New vehicles	144.2	144.7	145.0	145.3	1.7	2.0	2.0	3.1	1.8	2.5
New cars	140.4	140.9	141.3	141.7	1.4	2.0	.9	3.8	1.7	2.3
Used cars	158.9	157.2	156.8	156.7	1.0	9.7	-5.1	-5.4	5.3	-5.3
Motor fuel	112.6	109.0	106.1	104.3	-14.1	23.6	56.3	-26.4	3.0	7.3
Gasoline	112.2	108.6	105.9	103.9	-14.9	25.2	54.7	-26.5	3.3	6.7
Maintenance and repairs	158.3	158.8	159.1	159.7	2.9	2.8	1.8	3.6	2.9	2.7
Other private transportation	168.7	169.3	170.0	170.8	2.2	.0	1.9	5.1	1.1	3.5
Other private transportation commodities	104.0	104.5	104.0	104.2	-.4	.4	-1.5	.8	.0	-.4
Other private transportation services	185.1	185.6	186.6	187.6	2.7	.0	2.6	5.5	1.3	4.1
Public transportation	178.8	181.0	180.0	180.0	2.1	-.9	12.3	2.7	.6	7.4
Medical care	227.0	227.6	228.3	228.6	3.7	3.6	3.4	2.8	3.7	3.1
Medical care commodities	207.1	208.0	208.5	208.3	3.0	3.4	2.8	2.3	3.2	2.5
Medical care services	231.3	231.9	232.6	233.1	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.1	3.8	3.3
Professional medical services	208.6	208.8	209.7	210.1	3.6	4.2	3.1	2.9	3.9	3.0
Entertainment	156.4	156.9	156.9	157.3	3.5	6.1	1.3	2.3	4.8	1.8
Entertainment commodities	141.7	141.9	141.8	142.2	3.5	6.5	.3	1.4	5.0	.8
Entertainment services	177.7	178.4	178.7	179.0	3.3	5.9	2.7	3.0	4.6	2.9
Other goods and services	211.9	212.2	213.1	213.6	5.2	2.9	4.3	3.2	4.0	3.8
Tobacco and smoking products	231.9	232.1	233.0	232.5	5.0	-.7	4.4	1.0	2.1	2.7
Personal care 2/	150.3	149.6	150.0	150.4	4.4	.5	3.0	.3	2.5	1.6
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 2/	146.0	144.6	145.0	145.6	4.5	-2.2	3.9	-1.1	1.1	1.4
Personal care services 2/	155.8	156.0	156.2	156.5	4.8	4.2	1.8	1.8	4.5	1.8

Personal and educational expenses	241.8	242.8	243.9	245.0	5.3	5.9	4.6	5.4	5.6	5.0
School books and supplies	226.2	226.4	226.8	230.2	9.6	7.3	3.6	7.3	8.4	5.4
Personal and educational services	243.2	244.2	245.4	246.4	5.0	5.7	4.7	5.4	5.4	5.1

Commodity and service group

All items	-	-	-	-	2.1	3.2	4.8	1.3	2.7	3.0
Commodities	140.1	140.0	140.0	139.8	.9	3.6	5.9	-.9	2.2	2.5
Food and beverages	151.9	153.0	153.6	154.2	3.0	1.6	3.8	6.2	2.3	5.0
Commodities less food and beverages	132.8	132.0	131.6	131.0	-.6	5.4	7.2	-5.3	2.3	.8
Nondurables less food and beverages	134.8	133.4	132.8	131.7	-2.2	9.0	11.8	-8.9	3.3	.9
Apparel commodities	128.7	127.8	127.8	125.7	.6	.3	2.5	-9.0	.5	-3.4
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	140.8	139.1	138.1	137.4	-3.3	12.7	16.6	-9.3	4.4	2.8
Durables	129.1	129.1	129.1	129.1	.6	3.5	-.9	.0	2.0	-.5
Services	170.7	171.1	171.8	172.2	3.2	2.9	3.6	3.6	3.0	3.6
Rent of shelter 1/	159.4	159.8	160.4	160.7	3.4	3.4	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.2
Household services less rent of shelter 1/	130.3	130.2	130.8	131.3	1.3	2.5	5.1	3.1	1.9	4.1
Transportation services	177.3	178.1	178.6	179.3	2.5	.5	4.2	4.6	1.5	4.4
Medical care services	231.3	231.9	232.6	233.1	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.1	3.8	3.3
Other services	197.8	198.5	199.2	199.8	4.0	5.5	3.7	4.1	4.8	3.9

Special indexes

All items less food	154.2	154.1	154.3	154.3	1.9	3.8	4.8	.3	2.8	2.5
All items less shelter	150.9	151.0	151.2	151.3	1.6	3.3	5.2	1.1	2.5	3.1
All items less homeowners' costs 1/	144.7	144.7	145.0	145.1	1.7	3.4	5.1	1.1	2.6	3.1
All items less medical care	150.4	150.5	150.8	150.9	2.2	3.3	4.7	1.3	2.7	3.0
Commodities less food	134.0	133.2	132.8	132.2	-.3	5.0	7.2	-5.3	2.3	.8
Nondurables less food	135.9	134.7	134.1	133.3	-1.8	8.2	10.7	-7.4	3.1	1.2
Nondurables less food and apparel	141.3	139.9	138.9	138.5	-2.1	10.3	15.2	-7.7	3.9	3.1
Nondurables	143.4	143.3	143.3	143.2	.9	5.0	6.7	-.6	2.9	3.0
Services less rent of shelter 1/	162.0	162.3	163.1	163.5	2.8	2.8	3.8	3.8	2.8	3.8
Services less medical care services	165.5	165.8	166.6	167.0	3.0	2.7	3.7	3.7	2.9	3.7
Energy	112.6	110.3	109.3	108.7	-7.1	13.9	27.8	-13.2	2.9	5.4
All items less energy	159.9	160.3	160.7	160.9	2.8	2.6	3.1	2.5	2.7	2.8
All items less food and energy	162.2	162.4	162.8	162.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	1.7	2.8	2.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities	141.0	140.8	140.9	140.6	1.7	2.3	1.1	-1.1	2.0	.0
Energy commodities	111.6	108.0	105.2	103.6	-13.5	25.2	52.1	-25.7	4.1	6.3
Services less energy services	176.5	176.9	177.5	177.9	3.3	3.0	3.7	3.2	3.2	3.5

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 Aug. 1996 from-			Percent change to July 1996 from-		
		May 1996	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	June 1996	July 1996	July 1995	May 1996	June 1996
U.S. city average	M	156.6	156.7	157.0	157.3	2.9	0.4	0.2	3.0	0.3	0.2
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	163.0	163.1	163.4	164.0	2.7	.6	.4	2.6	.2	.2
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	163.6	163.8	164.1	164.7	2.7	.5	.4	2.7	.3	.2
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000	M	161.0	160.9	161.8	162.2	2.7	.8	.2	2.7	.5	.6
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000	M	160.9	161.0	161.5	161.8	2.1	.5	.2	2.3	.4	.3
North Central urban	M	152.7	152.9	153.2	153.4	3.0	.3	.1	3.0	.3	.2
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	153.2	153.5	153.7	154.0	2.8	.3	.2	2.8	.3	.1
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000	M	151.6	152.0	152.4	152.8	3.4	.5	.3	3.0	.5	.3
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000	M	154.7	154.1	154.6	154.7	3.2	.4	.1	3.3	-.1	.3
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	149.2	149.8	150.4	150.4	3.2	.4	.0	3.0	.8	.4
South urban	M	153.5	154.0	154.0	154.1	2.9	.1	.1	3.2	.3	.0
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	152.7	153.2	153.2	153.1	2.5	-.1	-.1	3.0	.3	.0
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000	M	155.9	156.3	156.7	156.9	3.2	.4	.1	3.4	.5	.3
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000	M	153.2	153.8	153.7	154.0	3.1	.1	.2	3.6	.3	-.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	152.9	153.0	152.5	152.6	3.2	-.3	.1	3.0	-.3	-.3
West urban	M	157.6	157.5	157.9	158.0	2.8	.3	.1	2.9	.2	.3
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	157.6	157.3	158.0	158.1	2.6	.5	.1	2.6	.3	.4
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000	M	162.4	162.4	162.4	162.6	3.6	.1	.1	3.6	.0	.0

Size classes

A 3/	M	141.3	141.4	141.7	141.9	2.7	.4	.1	2.8	.3	.2
B	M	156.6	156.9	157.4	157.6	3.1	.4	.1	3.1	.5	.3
C	M	156.4	156.5	156.8	157.0	3.0	.3	.1	3.3	.3	.2
D	M	153.5	153.7	153.7	154.0	3.5	.2	.2	3.1	.1	.0

Selected local areas

Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	156.9	157.6	157.7	158.1	2.8	.3	.3	2.7	.5	.1
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	157.5	156.7	157.6	157.3	1.9	.4	-.2	2.0	.1	.6
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	166.4	166.5	166.7	167.2	2.7	.4	.3	2.7	.2	.1
Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD ..	M	161.8	162.3	162.8	163.6	2.5	.8	.5	2.5	.6	.3
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	M	155.1	155.2	155.9	155.6	2.7	.3	-.2	2.9	.5	.5
Baltimore, MD	1	153.9	-	155.7	-	-	-	-	2.8	1.2	-
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	161.8	-	162.0	-	-	-	-	2.7	.1	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	151.8	-	152.1	-	-	-	-	2.7	.2	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	152.6	-	152.4	-	-	-	-	2.8	-.1	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL	1	148.1	-	149.9	-	-	-	-	3.0	1.2	-
Washington, DC-MD-VA	1	159.0	-	160.1	-	-	-	-	2.6	.7	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	2	-	149.4	-	149.5	3.0	.1	-	-	-	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI	2	-	151.9	-	152.7	2.6	.5	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	-	142.8	-	142.8	1.9	.0	-	-	-	-
Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, PA	2	-	153.2	-	153.6	2.3	.3	-	-	-	-

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 Aug. 1996 from-			Percent change to July 1996 from-		
		May 1996	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	June 1996	July 1996	July 1995	May 1996	June 1996
U.S. city average	M	154.0	154.1	154.3	154.5	2.9	0.3	0.1	2.9	0.2	0.1
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	160.6	160.6	160.9	161.4	2.7	.5	.3	2.7	.2	.2
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	160.2	160.4	160.5	161.0	2.7	.4	.3	2.8	.2	.1
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000	M	158.9	158.7	159.7	160.0	2.8	.8	.2	2.8	.5	.6
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000	M	162.7	162.5	162.9	163.2	2.1	.4	.2	2.3	.1	.2
North Central urban	M	149.4	149.5	149.8	149.9	3.0	.3	.1	3.0	.3	.2
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	149.3	149.6	149.7	149.9	2.8	.2	.1	2.8	.3	.1
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000	M	147.8	148.0	148.3	148.7	3.3	.5	.3	2.9	.3	.2
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000	M	152.1	151.5	151.9	151.9	3.1	.3	.0	3.3	-.1	.3
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	147.3	148.0	148.5	148.5	3.1	.3	.0	3.0	.8	.3
South urban	M	152.1	152.6	152.6	152.7	3.0	.1	.1	3.2	.3	.0
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	151.0	151.6	151.6	151.4	2.6	-.1	-.1	3.0	.4	.0
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000	M	152.3	152.6	152.9	153.1	3.2	.3	.1	3.4	.4	.2
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000	M	153.1	153.7	153.6	153.9	3.0	.1	.2	3.4	.3	-.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	153.5	153.6	152.8	153.1	3.2	-.3	.2	3.0	-.5	-.5
West urban	M	154.7	154.5	154.9	154.9	2.8	.3	.0	2.9	.1	.3
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	153.2	152.9	153.4	153.4	2.5	.3	.0	2.6	.1	.3
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000	M	159.4	159.2	159.3	159.5	3.6	.2	.1	3.6	-.1	.1
Size classes											
A 3/	M	140.4	140.6	140.8	140.9	2.7	.2	.1	2.8	.3	.1
B	M	153.8	154.0	154.4	154.6	3.1	.4	.1	3.1	.4	.3
C	M	155.7	155.7	155.8	156.0	3.0	.2	.1	3.2	.1	.1
D	M	152.8	153.1	153.0	153.3	3.4	.1	.2	3.1	.1	-.1

Selected local areas

Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	151.9	152.6	152.7	152.9	2.8	.2	.1	2.7	.5	.1
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	152.3	151.5	152.3	151.9	1.8	.3	-.3	2.0	.0	.5
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	162.8	162.8	162.8	163.3	2.8	.3	.3	2.8	.0	.0
Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD ..	M	161.3	161.7	162.1	163.0	2.4	.8	.6	2.3	.5	.2
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	M	153.0	152.9	153.4	153.0	2.5	.1	-.3	2.7	.3	.3
Baltimore, MD	1	152.8	-	154.6	-	-	-	-	2.7	1.2	-
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	160.8	-	160.9	-	-	-	-	2.7	.1	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	144.0	-	144.3	-	-	-	-	2.9	.2	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	151.0	-	150.8	-	-	-	-	2.9	-.1	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL	1	147.4	-	149.0	-	-	-	-	2.6	1.1	-
Washington, DC-MD-VA	1	156.7	-	157.6	-	-	-	-	2.7	.6	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	2	-	149.6	-	149.5	3.2	-.1	-	-	-	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI	2	-	147.1	-	148.0	2.8	.6	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	-	142.2	-	142.2	1.7	.0	-	-	-	-
Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, PA	2	-	146.9	-	147.2	2.4	.2	-	-	-	-

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.