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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: SEPTEMBER 1996

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent before seasonal adjustment in September to a level of 157.8 (1982-84=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. For the 12-month period ended in September, the CPI-U increased 3.0 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.4 percent in September, prior to seasonal adjustment. The September 1996 CPI-W level of 155.1 was 3.0 percent higher than the index in September 1995.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent in September, following a 0.1 percent increase in August. The food index rose 0.5 percent in September, again reflecting sharp increases in the indexes for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs and for dairy products. The energy index, which declined 3.2 percent in the 3-month period ended in August after advancing 9.4 percent in the prior 6-month period, was unchanged in September. The index for petroleum-based energy increased 0.1 percent, while the index for energy services declined 0.1 percent. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent, following a 0.1 percent increase in August. About two-thirds of the acceleration in this index from August to September was due to a sharp turnaround in the index for apparel and upkeep--up 0.5 percent after declining 1.4 percent in August. Increases in the indexes for airline fares and for new vehicles also contributed to the larger advance in September.

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

Seasonally adjusted

Un-
Compound adjusted

Expenditure Category	Changes from preceding month 1996							annual rate 3-mos. ended	12-mos. ended
	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Sep.'96	Sep.'96
All Items	.4	.4	.3	.1	.3	.1	.3	2.6	3.0
Food and beverages	.5	.3	.1	.7	.5	.3	.5	5.0	3.7
Housing	.3	.3	.2	.1	.4	.2	.2	3.2	2.9
Apparel and upkeep	.6	-.4	.1	-.4	-.1	-1.4	.5	-3.9	-.9
Transportation	.7	1.1	.7	-.4	-.2	-.2	.5	.3	3.2
Medical care	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.2	.2	2.7	3.3
Entertainment	.1	-.1	.4	.3	.1	.2	.1	1.3	3.2
Other goods and services	.4	.3	.4	.2	.4	.3	.0	3.2	3.9
Special Indexes:									
Energy	1.4	3.2	1.1	-2.2	-.4	-.6	.0	-3.9	5.2
Food	.6	.3	.1	.7	.5	.4	.5	5.3	3.8
All items less food and energy	.3	.1	.2	.2	.3	.1	.3	2.7	2.7

Consumer prices rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of 2.6 percent in the third quarter. This follows increases of 4.0 and 3.1 percent in the first and second quarters, respectively, and brings the year-to-date annual rate to 3.2 percent. This compares with an increase of 2.5 percent for all of 1995. The food and energy components have moved up sharply thus far in 1996, after acting as moderating influences on overall consumer price movements throughout most of the past 5 years. Through the first 9 months of 1996, energy costs have risen at a 6.5 percent annual rate. The index for petroleum-based energy goods advanced at an annual rate of 9.8 percent and the index for energy services at a 3.6 percent annual rate. The food index has increased at a 4.4 percent annual rate in the first 9 months of 1996, following an advance of 2.1 percent in all of 1995. Grocery store foods have risen at a 5.4 percent rate in 1996 with the sharpest advance occurring in the index for dairy products--up at a SAAR of 12.1 percent thus far in 1996.

Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose at a 2.7 percent annual rate in the third quarter and has advanced at a 2.8 percent annual rate thus far in 1996. This compares with an increase of 3.0 percent for all of 1995. Within this category, the index for commodities less food and energy has risen at a 1.0 percent annual rate, following a 1.7 percent increase in all of 1995. A larger decline in the index for apparel commodities in 1996 (at a SAAR) than in 1995--down 2.2 percent relative to down 0.1 percent--was primarily responsible for the moderation. The index for services less energy has advanced at a 3.5 percent rate in

1996, virtually the same as the 3.6 percent rise in 1995. The rates for selected groups during the past 8-3/4 years are shown below.

	Percent change 12 months ended in December									SAAR
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	9-months ended in September
All Items	4.4	4.6	6.1	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.5	3.2	
Food and beverages	5.1	5.5	5.3	2.5	1.6	2.7	2.7	2.1	4.3	
Housing	4.0	3.9	4.5	3.4	2.6	2.7	2.2	3.0	2.8	
Apparel and upkeep	4.7	1.0	5.1	3.4	1.4	.9	-1.6	.1	-1.7	
Transportation	3.0	4.0	10.4	-1.5	3.0	2.4	3.8	1.5	4.6	
Medical care	6.9	8.5	9.6	7.9	6.6	5.4	4.9	3.9	3.1	
Entertainment	4.6	5.1	4.3	3.9	2.8	2.8	2.3	3.3	2.7	
Other goods and services	7.0	8.2	7.6	8.0	6.5	2.7	4.2	4.3	3.7	
Special Indexes										
Energy	.5	5.1	18.1	-7.4	2.0	-1.4	2.2	-1.3	6.5	
Food	5.2	5.6	5.3	1.9	1.5	2.9	2.9	2.1	4.4	
All items less food and energy	4.7	4.4	5.2	4.4	3.3	3.2	2.6	3.0	2.8	

The food and beverage index rose 0.5 percent in September. The index for grocery store foods increased 0.6 percent, following a 0.5 percent rise in August. Increases in the indexes for dairy products and for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs--up 1.7 and 1.1 percent, respectively--accounted for four-fifths of the September advance. The index for dairy products has risen 6.8 percent in the past 4 months and 10.9 percent since September 1995. Within the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, pork prices increased 1.6 percent in September and have risen 13.4 percent in the last 12 months. The index for beef, which had risen 3.6 percent during the 3-month period ended in August, increased 0.2 percent in September. Over the past 12 months, beef prices have

risen 1.1 percent. Prices for poultry increased 0.8 percent in September to a level 6.8 percent above a year ago. Among the other major grocery store food groups, the index for fruits and vegetables declined 0.1 percent as a decrease in fresh vegetable prices more than offset increases in the prices for fresh fruits and for processed fruits and vegetables. The indexes for cereal and bakery products and for other food at home rose 0.2 and 0.5 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.3 and 0.5 percent, respectively, in September.

The housing component rose 0.2 percent in September, the same as in August. Shelter costs increased 0.2 percent in September, following a rise of 0.1 percent in August. Within shelter, homeowners' costs rose 0.2 percent, and renters' costs and maintenance and repair costs each rose 0.1 percent. The indexes for household fuels and for other utilities and public services each increased 0.2 percent in September. Among household fuels, the indexes for electricity and for fuel oil increased 0.2 and 4.5 percent, respectively, while the index for natural gas declined 0.7 percent. The index for household furnishings and operation rose 0.2 percent in September, the same as in August.

The transportation index, which had declined in each of the 3 preceding months, turned up in September, increasing 0.5 percent. Advances in the indexes for airline fares and new vehicles more than offset another decline 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 8.0 percent in the past 4 months, including a 0.4 percent drop in September. As of September, the gasoline index was 12.0 percent below its peak level of December 1990. The index for new vehicle prices, which rose 0.1 percent in August, increased 0.6 percent in September. As of September, about 10 percent of the new vehicle sample was represented by 1997 models, a noticeably larger proportion than in recent years. The 1997 models will continue to be phased into the index over the next several months as they replace old models at dealerships. The index for automobile finance charges increased 0.9 percent in September and has risen 4.9 percent in the past 4 months. The index for used cars rose 0.3 percent, its first increase in 6 months. The index for airline fares increased 2.9 percent, in part as a result of the re-imposition of the 10 percent Federal tax that went back into effect on August 27.

The index for apparel and upkeep, which declined 1.4 percent in August, turned up in September, advancing 0.5 percent. The proportion of higher priced fall-winter wear in the sample in September was about

normal, in contrast to August, which was characterized by the slower than usual introduction of the seasonal clothing. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, clothing prices rose 2.9 percent in September.)

Medical care costs rose 0.2 percent in September to a level 3.3 percent above a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, non-prescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.1 percent in September. The index for medical care services rose 0.2 percent. Charges for professional services and hospital and related services increased 0.3 and 0.2 percent, respectively.

Entertainment costs rose 0.1 percent in September, following an increase of 0.2 percent in August.

The index for other goods and services was unchanged in September, following a 0.3 percent rise in August. The indexes for college tuition and for school books and supplies, which increased 1.0 and 1.2 percent, respectively, in August, declined 1.0 percent and were unchanged, respectively, in September. (In September, prior to seasonal adjustment, college tuition costs rose 2.2 percent and the index for school books and supplies increased 1.0 percent.) The index for tobacco products increased 0.7 percent in September.

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 0.3 percent in September.

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 Sep'96	Un- adjust ed 12- mos. ended Sep'96
	Changes from preceding month								
	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep		
All Items	.5	.4	.3	.1	.2	.1	.3	2.1	3.0
Food and beverages	.5	.3	.1	.7	.4	.4	.5	5.3	3.8
Housing	.3	.3	.2	.1	.4	.2	.1	3.0	2.9
Apparel and upkeep	.6	-.2	.2	-.6	.0	-1.5	.5	-4.2	-.8
Transportation	.9	1.1	.6	-.6	-.4	-.1	.4	-.6	3.2
Medical care	.2	.3	.3	.3	.3	.1	.2	2.7	3.3

Entertainment	.0	-.1	.4	.3	.0	.3	.1	1.3	3.1
Other goods and services	.3	.3	.4	.1	.4	.2	.2	3.4	3.6
Special Indexes:									
Energy	1.8	3.3	1.1	-2.0	-.9	-.5	.0	-5.7	5.5
Food	.6	.3	.1	.8	.5	.3	.5	5.3	3.8
All items less food and energy	.3	.1	.2	.1	.2	.1	.3	2.5	2.6

Consumer Price Index data for October are scheduled for release on Thursday, November 14, 1996, at 8:30 A.M. (EST).

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, December 1995	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Sept. 1996 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Aug. 1996	Sept. 1996	Sept. 1995	Aug. 1996	June to July	July to Aug.	Aug. to Sept.
All items	100.000	157.3	157.8	3.0	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3
All items (1967=100)	-	471.1	472.7	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	17.332	154.2	155.0	3.7	.5	.5	.3	.5
Food	15.766	153.7	154.6	3.8	.6	.5	.4	.5
Food at home	9.880	154.8	155.9	4.5	.7	.5	.5	.6
Cereals and bakery products	1.473	175.0	174.7	3.7	-.2	.2	.0	.2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	2.936	145.6	147.2	5.5	1.1	.6	.9	1.1
Dairy products	1.169	144.6	146.7	10.9	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.7
Fruits and vegetables	1.936	182.1	183.6	3.1	.8	.5	-.3	-.1
Other food at home	2.365	143.2	143.6	1.8	.3	.2	-.1	.5
Sugar and sweets .....	.327	144.6	145.4	5.1	.6	.5	-.2	1.0
Fats and oils .....	.248	140.9	141.5	3.0	.4	-.6	.8	.6
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.763	128.5	127.9	-2.9	-.5	-.1	.5	-.6
Other prepared food	1.027	156.4	157.5	4.0	.7	.4	-.5	1.0
Food away from home	5.886	153.1	153.5	2.6	.3	.3	.2	.3

Alcoholic beverages	1.566	158.9	159.5	3.2	.4	.1	.3	.5
Housing	41.346	154.0	153.9	2.9	-.1	.4	.2	.2
Shelter	28.289	172.3	172.0	3.1	-.2	.5	.1	.2
Renters' costs 1/	7.988	183.4	180.9	3.3	-1.4	.8	.1	.1
Rent, residential	5.762	162.5	162.9	2.8	.2	.3	.1	.2
Other renters' costs	2.227	225.9	214.8	4.7	-4.9	2.1	-.1	-.1
Homeowners' costs 1/	20.102	177.0	177.5	3.0	.3	.3	.2	.2
Owners' equivalent rent 1/	19.716	177.3	177.9	3.0	.3	.3	.1	.2
Household insurance 1/ .....	.386	162.3	162.3	3.4	.0	.5	.1	.3
Maintenance and repairs 2/ .....	.199	139.7	139.9	3.3	.1	.4	.2	.1
Maintenance and repair services 2/ .	.122	147.1	147.4	5.1	.2	1.2	.5	.2
Maintenance and repair								
commodities 2/ .....	.077	129.6	129.5	.5	-.1	-.6	-.4	-.1
Fuel and other utilities	7.014	129.4	129.8	3.9	.3	.5	.4	.2
Fuels	3.792	117.9	118.4	4.4	.4	.9	.5	.2
Fuel oil and other household fuel								
commodities .....	.356	92.2	95.6	10.4	3.7	-1.6	.5	3.6
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy								
services).....	3.436	126.1	126.2	3.8	.1	1.1	.6	-.1
Other utilities and public								
services 2/	3.222	158.0	158.3	3.3	.2	-.1	.3	.2
Household furnishings and operation	6.043	124.8	125.1	1.1	.2	.1	.2	.2
Housefurnishings	3.445	111.3	111.5	-.2	.2	-.3	.3	.2
Housekeeping supplies	1.116	141.1	141.2	2.1	.1	.4	.1	.1
Housekeeping services	1.482	148.6	149.4	3.3	.5	.5	.0	.5
Apparel and upkeep	5.516	128.1	131.5	-.9	2.7	-.1	-1.4	.5
Apparel commodities	4.967	124.2	127.8	-1.3	2.9	-.1	-1.5	.5
Men's and boys' apparel	1.303	126.2	127.4	.5	1.0	-.2	.2	-.8
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.195	118.1	123.6	-2.6	4.7	.0	-2.7	1.0
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 2/ ....	.195	125.1	131.4	.2	5.0	-2.6	-.5	5.0
Footwear .....	.732	124.7	126.7	-.1	1.6	-.1	-.6	-.2
Other apparel commodities .....	.542	149.3	151.9	-2.2	1.7	.7	-2.3	1.5
Apparel services 2/ .....	.550	160.3	160.4	1.9	.1	.1	.3	.1
Transportation	16.953	142.8	143.2	3.2	.3	-.2	-.2	.5
Private transportation	15.430	139.9	140.0	3.0	.1	-.2	-.2	.3
New vehicles	5.027	142.9	143.2	2.3	.2	.2	.1	.6
New cars	4.015	140.7	141.0	2.3	.2	.2	.3	.5
Used cars	1.342	156.6	157.0	.3	.3	-.1	.0	.3
Motor fuel	2.908	106.4	106.2	6.4	-.2	-1.9	-2.0	-.3
Gasoline	-	106.1	105.7	6.0	-.4	-2.7	-2.0	-.4
Maintenance and repairs	1.535	158.6	160.0	3.2	.9	.3	.3	.8
Other private transportation	4.618	174.1	174.1	2.4	.0	.3	.5	.3

Other private transportation commodities .....	.608	104.8	105.0	.1	.2	-.5	.1	.2
Other private transportation services	4.010	190.4	190.3	2.6	-.1	.4	.5	.4	
Public transportation	1.523	181.4	184.6	4.8	1.8	-.5	-.1	2.0	
Medical care	7.362	229.2	229.4	3.3	.1	.3	.2	.2	
Medical care commodities	1.282	211.1	211.2	3.1	.0	.0	.2	.1	
Medical care services	6.081	233.4	233.6	3.3	.1	.3	.2	.2	
Professional medical services	3.465	209.2	209.6	3.6	.2	.4	.3	.3	
Entertainment	4.367	159.2	159.8	3.2	.4	.1	.2	.1	
Entertainment commodities	1.975	143.2	143.3	2.9	.1	.0	.1	.0	
Entertainment services	2.392	178.0	179.1	3.3	.6	.2	.1	.1	
Other goods and services	7.123	216.3	218.3	3.9	.9	.4	.3	.0	
Tobacco and smoking products	1.610	233.4	234.1	2.6	.3	.4	.0	.7	
Personal care 2/	1.170	150.5	150.8	2.2	.2	.3	.3	.2	
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 2/ .....	.613	145.0	145.1	1.5	.1	.3	.4	.1
Personal care services 2/ .....	.557	156.5	157.2	3.1	.4	.3	.1	.4
Personal and educational expenses	4.342	248.7	252.1	4.7	1.4	.4	.5	-.2	
School books and supplies .....	.258	227.6	229.9	6.0	1.0	.3	1.2	.0
Personal and educational services	4.084	250.5	254.0	4.7	1.4	.4	.5	-.3	
Commodity and service group									
All items	100.000	157.3	157.8	3.0	.3	.3	.1	.3	
Commodities	42.916	139.5	140.3	2.6	.6	.1	-.1	.4	
Food and beverages	17.332	154.2	155.0	3.7	.5	.5	.3	.5	
Commodities less food and beverages	25.584	130.5	131.4	1.8	.7	-.2	-.4	.3	
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	15.075	131.6	133.0	2.3	1.1	-.4	-.8	.2	
Apparel commodities	4.967	124.2	127.8	-1.3	2.9	-.1	-1.5	.5	
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.108	138.5	138.7	4.1	.1	-.6	-.4	-.1	
Durables	10.509	128.9	129.2	1.1	.2	-.1	.1	.3	
Services	57.084	175.3	175.6	3.3	.2	.5	.2	.2	
Rent of shelter 1/	27.671	179.3	179.0	3.1	-.2	.4	.3	.1	
Household services less rent of shelter 1/	8.681	144.4	144.6	3.5	.1	.5	.3	.3	
Transportation services	7.068	180.6	181.6	3.2	.6	.2	.3	.8	
Medical care services	6.081	233.4	233.6	3.3	.1	.3	.2	.2	
Other services	7.583	201.9	203.9	3.9	1.0	.3	.3	.0	

Special indexes

All items less food	84.234	157.9	158.4	2.9	.3	.2	.1	.2
All items less shelter	71.711	152.9	153.8	2.9	.6	.2	.0	.4
All items less homeowners' costs 1/	79.898	158.3	158.9	3.0	.4	.3	.0	.3
All items less medical care	92.638	153.2	153.8	2.9	.4	.3	.1	.3
Commodities less food	27.150	131.7	132.5	1.8	.6	-.2	-.4	.4
Nondurables less food	16.641	133.2	134.5	2.4	1.0	-.4	-.7	.2
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.674	139.5	139.8	3.9	.2	-.6	-.3	.2
Nondurables	32.407	143.1	144.1	3.0	.7	.1	-.2	.3
Services less rent of shelter 1/	29.414	183.7	184.6	3.5	.5	.4	.3	.4
Services less medical care services	51.004	169.9	170.2	3.3	.2	.5	.2	.4
Energy	6.700	111.6	111.7	5.2	.1	-.4	-.6	.0
All items less energy	93.300	163.4	164.0	2.8	.4	.3	.1	.3
All items less food and energy	77.534	165.8	166.4	2.7	.4	.3	.1	.3
Commodities less food and energy commodities	23.885	140.3	141.4	1.2	.8	.0	-.1	.4
Energy commodities	3.264	105.0	105.2	6.8	.2	-2.0	-1.6	.1
Services less energy services	53.648	180.4	180.7	3.3	.2	.3	.2	.2
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:								
1982-84=\$1.00 2/	-	\$.636	\$.634	-2.9	-.3	-.2	-.2	-.3
1967=\$1.00 2/	-	.212	.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				
	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Sept. 1996	Dec. 1995	3 months ended- Mar. 1996	June 1996	Sept. 1996	6 months ended- Mar. 1996	Sept. 1996
All items	-	-	-	-	2.4	4.0	3.1	2.6	3.2	2.8
Food and beverages	153.4	154.1	154.6	155.3	1.9	3.2	4.6	5.0	2.6	4.8

Food	153.1	153.8	154.4	155.1	1.9	3.2	4.6	5.3	2.6	4.9
Food at home	154.0	154.8	155.5	156.5	1.9	3.8	5.6	6.7	2.8	6.1
Cereals and bakery products	173.9	174.3	174.3	174.7	4.3	5.5	3.3	1.9	4.9	2.6
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	143.7	144.5	145.8	147.4	6.7	-.6	5.5	10.7	3.0	8.1
Dairy products	139.9	142.0	144.8	147.2	7.1	4.2	10.3	22.6	5.6	16.3
Fruits and vegetables	185.9	186.9	186.3	186.1	-8.8	12.0	9.1	.4	1.1	4.7
Other food at home	142.8	143.1	143.0	143.7	.6	1.4	2.6	2.5	1.0	2.6
Sugar and sweets	143.8	144.5	144.2	145.6	2.9	7.7	4.9	5.1	5.3	5.0
Fats and oils	140.8	139.9	141.0	141.9	3.2	2.3	3.2	3.2	2.8	3.2
Nonalcoholic beverages	128.4	128.3	129.0	128.2	-4.5	-4.5	-1.8	-.6	-4.5	-1.2
Other prepared food	156.2	156.8	156.0	157.6	2.7	4.0	5.3	3.6	3.3	4.5
Food away from home	152.3	152.8	153.1	153.5	2.2	2.1	2.9	3.2	2.2	3.1
Alcoholic beverages	158.3	158.5	158.9	159.7	1.6	4.7	3.1	3.6	3.1	3.3
Housing	152.3	152.9	153.2	153.5	3.3	3.2	2.1	3.2	3.2	2.7
Shelter	170.4	171.2	171.4	171.7	3.4	3.4	2.6	3.1	3.4	2.9
Renters' costs 1/	178.7	180.2	180.3	180.5	1.8	5.1	2.3	4.1	3.5	3.2
Rent, residential	161.8	162.3	162.5	162.9	2.8	2.5	3.0	2.7	2.7	2.9
Other renters' costs	212.6	217.1	216.8	216.5	.0	11.3	.2	7.5	5.5	3.8
Homeowners' costs 1/	176.2	176.7	177.0	177.4	4.0	2.6	2.8	2.8	3.3	2.8
Owners' equivalent rent 1/	176.5	177.1	177.3	177.7	4.0	2.5	2.8	2.7	3.3	2.8
Household insurance 1/	160.6	161.4	161.6	162.1	4.4	2.0	3.3	3.8	3.2	3.5
Maintenance and repairs 2/	138.8	139.4	139.7	139.9	3.6	2.7	3.8	3.2	3.1	3.5
Maintenance and repair services 2/ ...	144.6	146.3	147.1	147.4	5.2	4.9	2.2	8.0	5.1	5.1
Maintenance and repair commodities 2/	130.9	130.1	129.6	129.5	.6	-.3	6.0	-4.2	.2	.8
Fuel and other utilities	126.9	127.5	128.0	128.3	3.3	5.2	2.9	4.5	4.3	3.7
Fuels	113.2	114.2	114.8	115.0	4.4	4.4	2.5	6.5	4.4	4.5
Fuel oil and other household fuel										
commodities	95.3	93.8	94.3	97.7	1.8	47.1	-9.8	10.5	22.4	-.2
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy										
services).....	120.4	121.7	122.4	122.3	4.8	.3	4.1	6.5	2.6	5.3
Other utilities and public services 2/ .	157.6	157.5	158.0	158.3	1.8	6.7	3.1	1.8	4.2	2.4
Household furnishings and operation	124.4	124.5	124.7	125.0	1.6	1.0	.0	1.9	1.3	1.0
Housefurnishings	111.2	110.9	111.2	111.4	.0	-.7	-.7	.7	-.4	.0
Housekeeping supplies	140.5	141.1	141.3	141.4	4.7	4.1	-2.5	2.6	4.4	.0
Housekeeping services	147.8	148.6	148.6	149.3	3.4	1.7	4.2	4.1	2.5	4.1
Apparel and upkeep	131.8	131.7	129.9	130.5	1.5	1.5	-2.7	-3.9	1.5	-3.3
Apparel commodities	128.1	128.0	126.1	126.7	1.6	1.2	-3.4	-4.3	1.4	-3.8
Men's and boys' apparel	127.7	127.4	127.6	126.6	-.3	8.9	-2.8	-3.4	4.2	-3.1
Women's and girls' apparel	124.5	124.5	121.1	122.3	4.9	-4.0	-3.5	-6.9	.3	-5.2
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 2/	129.1	125.7	125.1	131.4	-7.4	15.1	-12.0	7.3	3.2	-2.8
Footwear	127.3	127.2	126.4	126.1	-2.5	6.5	-.3	-3.7	1.9	-2.0
Other apparel commodities	150.7	151.8	148.3	150.5	.3	-2.6	-5.9	-.5	-1.2	-3.2
Apparel services 2/.....	159.7	159.9	160.3	160.4	.8	3.1	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.9

Transportation	143.7	143.4	143.1	143.8	-1.1	8.0	5.8	.3	3.3	3.0
Private transportation	140.7	140.4	140.1	140.5	.6	7.5	4.4	-.6	4.0	1.9
New vehicles	143.7	144.0	144.2	145.0	.8	2.0	2.8	3.7	1.4	3.2
New cars	141.4	141.7	142.1	142.8	.6	2.3	2.3	4.0	1.4	3.2
Used cars	155.9	155.7	155.7	156.2	4.2	9.7	-12.3	.8	6.9	-6.0
Motor fuel	108.7	106.6	104.5	104.2	-1.6	32.5	16.6	-15.6	14.2	-.8
Gasoline	108.9	106.0	103.9	103.5	-1.2	32.0	18.8	-18.4	14.2	-1.5
Maintenance and repairs	157.8	158.2	158.6	159.8	2.3	2.9	2.3	5.2	2.6	3.7
Other private transportation	173.6	174.1	174.9	175.5	.2	.0	4.5	4.5	.1	4.5
Other private transportation commodities	105.4	104.9	105.0	105.2	-.4	.8	.8	-.8	.2	.0
Other private transportation services	189.9	190.6	191.5	192.3	.4	.0	5.0	5.2	.2	5.1
Public transportation	184.4	183.5	183.4	187.1	-16.6	12.5	21.6	6.0	-3.1	13.5
Medical care	228.3	228.9	229.4	229.8	3.6	3.2	3.4	2.7	3.4	3.0
Medical care commodities	210.7	210.7	211.1	211.4	3.2	3.5	4.3	1.3	3.3	2.8
Medical care services	232.1	232.9	233.4	233.8	3.8	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.5	3.1
Professional medical services	207.7	208.5	209.2	209.8	4.0	3.0	3.1	4.1	3.5	3.6
Entertainment	159.2	159.3	159.6	159.7	4.2	4.7	2.3	1.3	4.4	1.8
Entertainment commodities	143.1	143.1	143.3	143.3	4.7	5.2	1.1	.6	4.9	.8
Entertainment services	178.2	178.5	178.7	178.9	3.7	3.9	3.7	1.6	3.8	2.6
Other goods and services	215.9	216.8	217.5	217.6	4.1	4.4	3.6	3.2	4.2	3.4
Tobacco and smoking products	232.2	233.1	233.0	234.6	.7	3.7	1.9	4.2	2.2	3.1
Personal care 2/	149.6	150.0	150.5	150.8	3.9	1.3	.5	3.2	2.6	1.9
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 2/	143.9	144.4	145.0	145.1	3.1	-.3	-.3	3.4	1.4	1.5
Personal care services 2/	155.9	156.3	156.5	157.2	5.1	2.6	1.6	3.4	3.8	2.5
Personal and educational expenses	247.8	248.8	250.1	249.5	5.5	5.8	5.0	2.8	5.6	3.9
School books and supplies	225.6	226.2	229.0	229.0	7.0	8.4	2.3	6.2	7.7	4.2
Personal and educational services	249.3	250.4	251.6	250.9	5.3	5.5	5.1	2.6	5.4	3.9
Commodity and service group										
All items	-	-	-	-	2.4	4.0	3.1	2.6	3.2	2.8
Commodities	139.9	140.0	139.8	140.4	1.8	5.0	2.3	1.4	3.4	1.9
Food and beverages	153.4	154.1	154.6	155.3	1.9	3.2	4.6	5.0	2.6	4.8
Commodities less food and beverages	131.7	131.4	130.9	131.3	1.6	6.0	1.2	-1.2	3.8	.0
Nondurables less food and beverages	133.3	132.8	131.8	132.0	2.2	9.9	1.2	-3.8	6.0	-1.3
Apparel commodities	128.1	128.0	126.1	126.7	1.6	1.2	-3.4	-4.3	1.4	-3.8
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	139.3	138.4	137.8	137.7	2.1	15.6	3.8	-4.5	8.6	-.4

Durables	129.3	129.2	129.3	129.7	.9	2.5	-.6	1.2	1.7	.3
Services	173.9	174.7	175.0	175.4	2.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.1	3.5
Rent of shelter 1/	177.6	178.3	178.8	179.0	3.3	3.5	2.5	3.2	3.4	2.9
Household services less rent of shelter 1/	141.7	142.4	142.8	143.2	3.5	2.3	4.1	4.3	2.9	4.2
Transportation services	180.7	181.0	181.6	183.0	-3.1	3.2	7.9	5.2	.0	6.5
Medical care services	232.1	232.9	233.4	233.8	3.8	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.5	3.1
Other services	201.9	202.5	203.2	203.1	4.4	4.7	4.1	2.4	4.6	3.2
Special indexes										
All items less food	157.4	157.7	157.8	158.1	2.1	4.5	2.8	1.8	3.3	2.3
All items less shelter	152.8	153.1	153.1	153.7	1.6	4.3	3.5	2.4	3.0	2.9
All items less homeowners' costs 1/	157.9	158.3	158.3	158.8	1.8	4.5	3.4	2.3	3.1	2.8
All items less medical care	152.6	153.0	153.1	153.5	2.2	4.1	3.2	2.4	3.1	2.8
Commodities less food	132.9	132.6	132.1	132.6	1.2	6.3	1.2	-.9	3.7	.2
Nondurables less food	134.8	134.3	133.4	133.7	2.5	8.8	1.8	-3.2	5.6	-.7
Nondurables less food and apparel	140.1	139.2	138.8	139.1	3.0	11.8	4.4	-2.8	7.3	.7
Nondurables	143.6	143.7	143.4	143.8	1.7	6.7	3.1	.6	4.2	1.8
Services less rent of shelter 1/	182.2	182.9	183.5	184.2	2.0	3.6	4.1	4.5	2.8	4.3
Services less medical care services	168.3	169.1	169.4	170.0	2.5	3.7	3.2	4.1	3.1	3.6
Energy	110.2	109.8	109.1	109.1	1.9	15.8	8.4	-3.9	8.7	2.0
All items less energy	163.1	163.6	163.8	164.3	2.3	3.3	2.7	3.0	2.8	2.9
All items less food and energy	165.6	166.1	166.2	166.7	2.2	3.5	2.2	2.7	2.9	2.4
Commodities less food and energy commodities	141.2	141.2	141.0	141.5	1.7	2.6	-.3	.9	2.2	.3
Energy commodities	107.3	105.2	103.5	103.6	-1.2	34.3	13.3	-13.1	15.2	-.8
Services less energy services	179.4	180.0	180.4	180.8	2.5	3.4	3.9	3.2	3.0	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 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 Sept. 1996 from-			Percent change to Aug. 1996 from-		
		June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Sept. 1996	Sept. 1995	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	June 1996	July 1996

U.S. city average	M	156.7	157.0	157.3	157.8	3.0	0.5	0.3	2.9	0.4	0.2
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	163.1	163.4	164.0	164.6	2.9	.7	.4	2.7	.6	.4
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	163.8	164.1	164.7	165.4	2.9	.8	.4	2.7	.5	.4
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000	M	160.9	161.8	162.2	162.2	2.7	.2	.0	2.7	.8	.2
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000	M	161.0	161.5	161.8	162.2	2.3	.4	.2	2.1	.5	.2
North Central urban	M	152.9	153.2	153.4	154.0	3.1	.5	.4	3.0	.3	.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	153.5	153.7	154.0	154.5	2.8	.5	.3	2.8	.3	.2
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000	M	152.0	152.4	152.8	153.3	3.7	.6	.3	3.4	.5	.3
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000	M	154.1	154.6	154.7	155.4	3.2	.5	.5	3.2	.4	.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	149.8	150.4	150.4	151.0	3.2	.4	.4	3.2	.4	.0
South urban	M	154.0	154.0	154.1	154.5	3.1	.3	.3	2.9	.1	.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	153.2	153.2	153.1	153.5	2.9	.2	.3	2.5	-.1	-.1
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000	M	156.3	156.7	156.9	157.3	3.3	.4	.3	3.2	.4	.1
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000	M	153.8	153.7	154.0	154.4	3.3	.5	.3	3.1	.1	.2
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	153.0	152.5	152.6	153.2	3.2	.5	.4	3.2	-.3	.1
West urban	M	157.5	157.9	158.0	158.6	2.9	.4	.4	2.8	.3	.1
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	157.3	158.0	158.1	158.7	2.7	.4	.4	2.6	.5	.1
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000	M	162.4	162.4	162.6	163.0	3.4	.4	.2	3.6	.1	.1
Size classes											
A 3/	M	141.4	141.7	141.9	142.4	2.8	.5	.4	2.7	.4	.1
B	M	156.9	157.4	157.6	157.9	3.1	.3	.2	3.1	.4	.1
C	M	156.5	156.8	157.0	157.4	3.1	.4	.3	3.0	.3	.1
D	M	153.7	153.7	154.0	154.7	3.4	.7	.5	3.5	.2	.2
Selected local areas											
Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	157.6	157.7	158.1	158.3	2.8	.4	.1	2.8	.3	.3
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	156.7	157.6	157.3	158.2	2.3	.4	.6	1.9	.4	-.2
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	166.5	166.7	167.2	168.2	3.1	.9	.6	2.7	.4	.3
Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD ..	M	162.3	162.8	163.6	164.5	2.6	1.0	.6	2.5	.8	.5
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	M	155.2	155.9	155.6	156.3	2.6	.3	.4	2.7	.3	-.2
Baltimore, MD	1	-	155.7	-	155.4	2.4	-.2	-	-	-	-
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	-	162.0	-	163.5	3.1	.9	-	-	-	-

Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	-	152.1	-	153.5	3.0	.9	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	-	152.4	-	154.6	3.8	1.4	-	-	-	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL	1	-	149.9	-	151.0	2.7	.7	-	-	-	-
Washington, DC-MD-VA	1	-	160.1	-	160.8	2.9	.4	-	-	-	-
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 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		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Aug. 1996	Sept. 1996	Sept. 1995	Aug. 1996	June to July	July to Aug.	Aug. to Sept.
All items	100.000	154.5	155.1	3.0	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.3
All items (1967=100)	-	460.2	461.9	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	19.262	153.7	154.5	3.8	.5	.4	.4	.5
Food	17.581	153.4	154.1	3.8	.5	.5	.3	.5
Food at home	11.206	154.1	155.1	4.5	.6	.6	.5	.6
Cereals and bakery products	1.682	174.8	174.3	3.6	-.3	.2	.1	.1

Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.453	145.3	146.8	5.5	1.0	.7	.9	1.0
Dairy products	1.300	144.3	146.4	10.8	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.9
Fruits and vegetables	2.052	181.8	183.2	3.2	.8	.6	-.2	-.2
Other food at home	2.719	142.8	143.2	1.8	.3	.2	.0	.5
Sugar and sweets .....	.369	144.5	145.3	5.1	.6	.5	-.1	.9
Fats and oils .....	.285	140.6	141.2	2.8	.4	-.8	.8	.6
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.885	128.0	127.4	-2.8	-.5	-.1	.5	-.5
Other prepared food	1.180	156.3	157.2	4.0	.6	.4	-.4	1.0
Food away from home	6.374	153.1	153.4	2.6	.2	.3	.3	.2
Alcoholic beverages	1.681	158.2	158.9	3.3	.4	.1	.3	.6
Housing	38.888	150.7	150.8	2.9	.1	.4	.2	.1
Shelter	25.976	167.3	167.2	3.0	-.1	.4	.1	.2
Renters' costs 1/	8.091	159.4	158.1	3.1	-.8	.6	.1	.1
Rent, residential	6.616	162.2	162.6	2.8	.2	.3	.1	.2
Other renters' costs	1.475	226.5	215.0	4.6	-5.1	1.7	-.1	-.2
Homeowners' costs 1/	17.695	161.4	161.9	3.0	.3	.3	.1	.2
Owners' equivalent rent 1/	17.366	161.7	162.2	3.0	.3	.3	.2	.2
Household insurance 1/ .....	.329	148.0	148.0	3.0	.0	.5	.0	.3
Maintenance and repairs 2/ .....	.189	138.0	138.0	2.2	.0	.3	.1	.0
Maintenance and repair services 2/ .	.105	149.0	149.4	4.5	.3	1.0	.5	.3
Maintenance and repair								
commodities 2/ .....	.085	124.1	123.6	-.6	-.4	-.6	-.6	-.4
Fuel and other utilities	7.247	129.2	129.5	4.0	.2	.4	.5	.2
Fuels	3.887	117.5	117.9	4.6	.3	.9	.5	.2
Fuel oil and other household fuel								
commodities .....	.327	92.1	95.4	10.3	3.6	-1.5	.5	3.5
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy								
services).....	3.560	125.7	125.7	4.1	.0	1.1	.6	-.2
Other utilities and public								
services 2/	3.360	158.5	158.8	3.4	.2	-.1	.3	.2
Household furnishings and operation	5.666	123.3	123.6	.9	.2	.1	.2	.2
Housefurnishings	3.367	110.0	110.1	-.4	.1	-.2	.2	.2
Housekeeping supplies	1.149	141.8	141.8	2.3	.0	.5	.2	.1
Housekeeping services	1.150	151.2	152.2	3.0	.7	.5	.1	.4
Apparel and upkeep	5.533	127.5	130.6	-.8	2.4	.0	-1.5	.5
Apparel commodities	5.017	123.8	127.2	-1.0	2.7	.0	-1.6	.4
Men's and boys' apparel	1.310	125.7	127.0	.5	1.0	-.2	.1	-.8
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.148	117.4	122.2	-2.6	4.1	.1	-2.9	.7
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 2/ ....	.251	126.7	132.4	-.2	4.5	-2.5	-.1	4.5
Footwear .....	.812	126.1	127.8	.2	1.3	.2	-.4	-.5
Other apparel commodities .....	.495	147.8	151.4	-1.2	2.4	.9	-3.7	2.3
Apparel services 2/ .....	.516	159.6	159.7	1.8	.1	.2	.2	.1

Transportation	19.020	142.6	142.9	3.2	.2	-.4	-.1	.4	
Private transportation	17.847	140.5	140.7	3.0	.1	-.4	-.1	.3	
New vehicles	4.958	144.0	144.3	2.4	.2	.2	.2	.4	
New cars	3.591	140.3	140.6	2.3	.2	.3	.3	.5	
Used cars	2.432	157.8	158.2	.5	.3	-.3	-.1	.4	
Motor fuel	3.584	106.3	106.2	6.4	-.1	-2.7	-1.7	-.1	
Gasoline	-	106.0	105.8	6.1	-.2	-2.5	-1.9	-.3	
Maintenance and repairs	1.619	159.6	160.8	3.1	.8	.2	.4	.6	
Other private transportation	5.255	169.7	169.8	2.3	.1	.4	.5	.4	
Other private transportation commodities .....	.767	104.0	104.1	.0	.1	-.5	.2	.2
Other private transportation services	4.488	186.3	186.4	2.7	.1	.5	.5	.4	
Public transportation	1.173	179.4	181.8	5.6	1.3	-.6	.0	1.6	
Medical care	6.262	228.5	228.8	3.3	.1	.3	.1	.2	
Medical care commodities	1.055	208.5	208.5	3.0	.0	.2	-.1	.3	
Medical care services	5.208	233.1	233.3	3.3	.1	.3	.2	.2	
Professional medical services	2.965	210.4	210.8	3.6	.2	.4	.2	.4	
Entertainment	4.029	157.0	157.4	3.1	.3	.0	.3	.1	
Entertainment commodities	2.053	142.2	142.2	2.7	.0	-.1	.3	.1	
Entertainment services	1.976	178.3	179.3	3.4	.6	.2	.2	.1	
Other goods and services	7.006	213.0	214.7	3.6	.8	.4	.2	.2	
Tobacco and smoking products	2.135	233.0	233.7	2.5	.3	.4	-.2	.7	
Personal care 2/	1.132	150.4	150.8	2.2	.3	.3	.3	.3	
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 2/ .....	.635	145.6	145.7	1.4	.1	.3	.4	.1
Personal care services 2/ .....	.497	156.5	157.2	3.1	.4	.1	.2	.4
Personal and educational expenses	3.739	244.2	247.3	4.7	1.3	.5	.5	-.1	
School books and supplies .....	.227	228.8	231.5	6.1	1.2	.2	1.5	.2
Personal and educational services	3.512	245.7	248.8	4.6	1.3	.5	.4	-.1	
Commodity and service group									
All items	100.000	154.5	155.1	3.0	.4	.2	.1	.3	
Commodities	47.052	139.6	140.4	2.7	.6	.0	-.1	.4	
Food and beverages	19.262	153.7	154.5	3.8	.5	.4	.4	.5	
Commodities less food and beverages	27.790	130.9	131.7	1.9	.6	-.3	-.5	.3	
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	16.074	131.6	132.8	2.5	.9	-.4	-.8	.1	
Apparel commodities	5.017	123.8	127.2	-1.0	2.7	.0	-1.6	.4	
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	11.057	138.2	138.4	4.0	.1	-.7	-.5	-.1	
Durables	11.716	128.9	129.2	1.2	.2	.0	.0	.5	

Services	52.948	172.5	172.8	3.3	.2	.4	.2	.2
Rent of shelter 1/	25.430	161.0	160.9	3.1	-.1	.4	.2	.1
Household services less rent of shelter 1/	8.531	132.7	133.0	3.7	.2	.5	.4	.1
Transportation services	7.279	178.4	179.2	3.3	.4	.3	.4	.7
Medical care services	5.208	233.1	233.3	3.3	.1	.3	.2	.2
Other services	6.501	198.7	200.5	3.9	.9	.4	.3	.0
Special indexes								
All items less food	82.419	154.6	155.2	2.8	.4	.1	.0	.3
All items less shelter	74.024	151.2	151.9	3.0	.5	.1	.1	.3
All items less homeowners' costs 1/	82.305	145.1	145.7	3.0	.4	.2	.1	.3
All items less medical care	93.738	151.0	151.6	3.0	.4	.2	.1	.3
Commodities less food	29.471	132.0	132.8	2.0	.6	-.3	-.5	.4
Nondurables less food	17.756	133.1	134.3	2.5	.9	-.4	-.6	.1
Nondurables less food and apparel	12.739	139.2	139.5	3.9	.2	-.7	-.3	.1
Nondurables	35.336	143.0	143.9	3.2	.6	.0	-.1	.2
Services less rent of shelter 1/	27.518	163.8	164.5	3.6	.4	.5	.2	.4
Services less medical care services	47.740	167.3	167.6	3.3	.2	.5	.2	.2
Energy	7.470	111.1	111.3	5.5	.2	-.9	-.5	.0
All items less energy	92.530	160.6	161.2	2.8	.4	.2	.1	.4
All items less food and energy	74.949	162.5	163.1	2.6	.4	.2	.1	.3
Commodities less food and energy commodities	25.560	140.0	141.0	1.2	.7	.1	-.2	.4
Energy commodities	3.911	105.3	105.5	6.7	.2	-2.6	-1.5	.2
Services less energy services	49.388	177.7	178.0	3.2	.2	.3	.2	.2
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:								
1982-84=\$1.00 2/	-	\$.647	\$.645	-2.9	-.3	-.2	-.2	-.3
1967=\$1.00 2/	-	.217	.216	-	-	-	-	-

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)

Seasonally adjusted indexes

Seasonally adjusted annual rate
percent change for

Expenditure category						3 months ended-			6 months ended-	
	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Sept. 1996	Dec. 1995	Mar. 1996	June 1996	Sept. 1996	Mar. 1996	Sept. 1996
All items	-	-	-	-	2.4	4.3	3.2	2.1	3.4	2.6
Food and beverages	153.0	153.6	154.2	155.0	1.9	3.2	4.6	5.3	2.6	5.0
Food	152.6	153.3	153.8	154.6	2.2	3.2	4.6	5.3	2.7	5.0
Food at home	153.1	154.0	154.7	155.7	1.9	3.5	5.4	7.0	2.7	6.2
Cereals and bakery products	173.7	174.0	174.1	174.3	4.1	5.3	3.8	1.4	4.7	2.6
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	143.2	144.2	145.5	147.0	7.1	- .8	5.2	11.0	3.0	8.1
Dairy products	139.8	141.9	144.3	147.0	6.2	4.8	10.7	22.2	5.5	16.3
Fruits and vegetables	185.2	186.3	186.0	185.7	-8.4	13.3	7.0	1.1	1.9	4.0
Other food at home	142.4	142.7	142.7	143.4	.6	1.4	2.6	2.8	1.0	2.7
Sugar and sweets	143.7	144.4	144.2	145.5	2.9	8.3	4.3	5.1	5.6	4.7
Fats and oils	140.7	139.6	140.7	141.5	2.9	2.3	3.5	2.3	2.6	2.9
Nonalcoholic beverages	127.9	127.8	128.5	127.8	-4.5	-4.5	-1.5	-.3	-4.5	-.9
Other prepared food	155.9	156.6	155.9	157.5	2.9	3.7	5.3	4.2	3.3	4.7
Food away from home	152.3	152.7	153.1	153.4	2.2	2.1	3.2	2.9	2.2	3.1
Alcoholic beverages	157.6	157.8	158.2	159.1	1.8	4.7	2.8	3.9	3.3	3.4
Housing	149.1	149.7	150.0	150.2	3.0	3.3	2.2	3.0	3.2	2.6
Shelter	165.8	166.5	166.7	167.0	3.5	3.0	2.7	2.9	3.2	2.8
Renters' costs 1/	156.6	157.6	157.7	157.9	2.4	4.5	2.6	3.4	3.4	3.0
Rent, residential	161.5	162.0	162.2	162.6	3.1	2.5	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.9
Other renters' costs	213.6	217.3	217.0	216.6	-1.0	12.8	1.5	5.7	5.7	3.6
Homeowners' costs 1/	160.7	161.2	161.4	161.7	4.4	2.3	2.8	2.5	3.3	2.6
Owners' equivalent rent 1/	160.9	161.4	161.7	162.0	4.4	2.0	2.8	2.8	3.2	2.8
Household insurance 1/	146.7	147.4	147.4	147.9	6.0	1.1	1.9	3.3	3.5	2.6
Maintenance and repairs 2/	137.5	137.9	138.0	138.0	2.4	1.5	3.6	1.5	1.9	2.5
Maintenance and repair services 2/ ...	146.7	148.2	149.0	149.4	4.8	3.1	2.5	7.6	4.0	5.0
Maintenance and repair commodities 2/	125.6	124.8	124.1	123.6	-.3	-.3	4.9	-6.2	-.3	-.8
Fuel and other utilities	126.5	127.0	127.6	127.8	3.6	5.9	2.6	4.2	4.8	3.4
Fuels	112.5	113.5	114.1	114.3	4.8	5.5	1.8	6.6	5.2	4.1
Fuel oil and other household fuel										
commodities	95.0	93.6	94.1	97.4	1.8	46.6	-10.2	10.5	22.2	-.4
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy										
services).....	119.8	121.1	121.8	121.6	4.9	2.4	3.1	6.1	3.6	4.6
Other utilities and public services 2/ .	158.2	158.0	158.5	158.8	1.8	7.2	3.1	1.5	4.5	2.3
Household furnishings and operation	123.0	123.1	123.3	123.6	.7	1.0	.0	2.0	.8	1.0
Housefurnishings	109.9	109.7	109.9	110.1	-1.4	.0	-.7	.7	-.7	.0
Housekeeping supplies	140.9	141.6	141.9	142.0	4.1	4.6	-2.2	3.2	4.4	.4
Housekeeping services	150.6	151.4	151.5	152.1	3.6	.3	4.1	4.0	1.9	4.1

Apparel and upkeep	131.0	131.0	129.0	129.6	1.2	2.5	-2.4	-4.2	1.8	-3.3
Apparel commodities	127.8	127.8	125.7	126.2	.9	2.5	-2.8	-4.9	1.7	-3.8
Men's and boys' apparel	127.2	127.0	127.1	126.1	.6	8.9	-4.0	-3.4	4.7	-3.7
Women's and girls' apparel	124.0	124.1	120.5	121.3	3.9	-2.8	-2.2	-8.4	.5	-5.4
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 2/	130.1	126.8	126.7	132.4	-8.2	16.0	-13.0	7.3	3.2	-3.4
Footwear	128.1	128.4	127.9	127.3	-1.9	5.8	-.3	-2.5	1.9	-1.4
Other apparel commodities	150.2	151.5	145.9	149.2	1.1	-.8	-2.4	-2.6	.1	-2.5
Apparel services 2/.....	159.0	159.3	159.6	159.7	.8	2.8	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.9
Transportation	143.3	142.7	142.5	143.1	.6	8.3	4.6	-.6	4.4	2.0
Private transportation	141.3	140.7	140.5	140.9	.9	8.1	4.4	-1.1	4.4	1.6
New vehicles	144.7	145.0	145.3	145.9	1.1	2.5	2.5	3.4	1.8	2.9
New cars	140.9	141.3	141.7	142.4	1.2	1.7	2.0	4.3	1.4	3.2
Used cars	157.2	156.8	156.7	157.4	4.1	9.4	-11.1	.5	6.7	-5.5
Motor fuel	109.0	106.1	104.3	104.2	-1.2	31.9	17.9	-16.5	14.2	-.8
Gasoline	108.6	105.9	103.9	103.6	-2.0	33.6	16.6	-17.2	14.4	-1.7
Maintenance and repairs	158.8	159.1	159.7	160.7	2.6	2.8	2.3	4.9	2.7	3.6
Other private transportation	169.3	170.0	170.8	171.5	.2	-.5	4.4	5.3	-.1	4.8
Other private transportation										
commodities	104.5	104.0	104.2	104.4	-.4	.4	.8	-.4	.0	.2
services	185.6	186.6	187.6	188.4	.4	-.7	4.9	6.2	-.1	5.5
Public transportation	181.0	180.0	180.0	182.9	-6.8	12.0	14.2	4.3	2.2	9.1
Medical care	227.6	228.3	228.6	229.1	3.7	3.1	3.6	2.7	3.4	3.1
Medical care commodities	208.0	208.5	208.3	208.9	3.0	3.4	3.9	1.7	3.2	2.8
Medical care services	231.9	232.6	233.1	233.6	3.8	3.0	3.5	3.0	3.4	3.2
Professional medical services	208.8	209.7	210.1	211.0	4.2	2.9	3.1	4.3	3.6	3.7
Entertainment	156.9	156.9	157.3	157.4	3.4	4.8	2.6	1.3	4.1	1.9
Entertainment commodities	141.9	141.8	142.2	142.4	3.2	5.6	.9	1.4	4.4	1.1
Entertainment services	178.4	178.7	179.0	179.1	3.7	4.2	4.1	1.6	4.0	2.9
Other goods and services	212.2	213.1	213.6	214.0	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.7	3.5
Tobacco and smoking products	232.1	233.0	232.5	234.2	1.2	3.0	2.1	3.7	2.1	2.9
Personal care 2/	149.6	150.0	150.4	150.8	3.6	1.1	.8	3.2	2.3	2.0
Toilet goods and personal care										
appliances 2/	144.6	145.0	145.6	145.7	2.8	-.3	.0	3.1	1.3	1.5
services 2/	156.0	156.2	156.5	157.2	4.5	2.6	2.1	3.1	3.6	2.6
Personal and educational expenses	242.8	243.9	245.0	244.8	5.4	5.0	5.1	3.3	5.2	4.2
School books and supplies	226.4	226.8	230.2	230.6	7.6	7.8	1.8	7.6	7.7	4.7
Personal and educational services	244.2	245.4	246.4	246.1	5.2	4.8	5.2	3.1	5.0	4.2

Commodity and service group

All items	-	-	-	-	2.4	4.3	3.2	2.1	3.4	2.6
Commodities	140.0	140.0	139.8	140.4	1.5	5.3	2.6	1.1	3.4	1.9
Food and beverages	153.0	153.6	154.2	155.0	1.9	3.2	4.6	5.3	2.6	5.0
Commodities less food and beverages	132.0	131.6	131.0	131.4	1.2	7.0	1.2	-1.8	4.1	-.3
Nondurables less food and beverages	133.4	132.8	131.7	131.8	2.2	10.6	2.4	-4.7	6.3	-1.2
Apparel commodities	127.8	127.8	125.7	126.2	.9	2.5	-2.8	-4.9	1.7	-3.8
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	139.1	138.1	137.4	137.3	1.8	15.9	4.1	-5.1	8.7	-.6
Durables	129.1	129.1	129.1	129.7	1.3	2.5	-.9	1.9	1.9	.5
Services	171.1	171.8	172.2	172.5	3.2	3.1	3.6	3.3	3.1	3.4
Rent of shelter 1/	159.8	160.4	160.7	160.9	3.4	3.1	3.1	2.8	3.2	2.9
Household services less rent of shelter 1/	130.2	130.8	131.3	131.4	4.2	3.5	3.1	3.7	3.8	3.4
Transportation services	178.1	178.6	179.3	180.5	-.2	2.1	5.8	5.5	.9	5.7
Medical care services	231.9	232.6	233.1	233.6	3.8	3.0	3.5	3.0	3.4	3.2
Other services	198.5	199.2	199.8	199.8	4.2	4.4	4.3	2.6	4.3	3.5

Special indexes

All items less food	154.1	154.3	154.3	154.7	2.7	4.3	2.9	1.6	3.5	2.2
All items less shelter	151.0	151.2	151.3	151.8	1.9	4.7	3.2	2.1	3.3	2.7
All items less homeowners' costs 1/	144.7	145.0	145.1	145.5	2.0	4.6	3.1	2.2	3.3	2.7
All items less medical care	150.5	150.8	150.9	151.3	2.2	4.4	3.0	2.1	3.3	2.6
Commodities less food	133.2	132.8	132.2	132.7	.9	7.2	1.2	-1.5	4.0	-.2
Nondurables less food	134.7	134.1	133.3	133.4	2.2	10.2	2.1	-3.8	6.1	-.9
Nondurables less food and apparel	139.9	138.9	138.5	138.6	2.4	13.1	4.4	-3.7	7.6	.3
Nondurables	143.3	143.3	143.2	143.5	2.0	7.3	2.8	.6	4.7	1.7
Services less rent of shelter 1/	162.3	163.1	163.5	164.2	2.8	3.0	4.0	4.8	2.9	4.4
Services less medical care services	165.8	166.6	167.0	167.3	3.0	3.0	3.5	3.7	3.0	3.6
Energy	110.3	109.3	108.7	108.7	1.6	17.7	9.6	-5.7	9.3	1.7
All items less energy	160.3	160.7	160.9	161.5	2.3	3.3	2.5	3.0	2.8	2.8
All items less food and energy	162.4	162.8	162.9	163.4	2.5	3.3	2.0	2.5	2.9	2.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities	140.8	140.9	140.6	141.1	1.7	3.2	-.8	.9	2.5	.0
Energy commodities	108.0	105.2	103.6	103.8	-1.2	33.2	15.4	-14.7	14.7	-.8
Services less energy services	176.9	177.5	177.9	178.3	3.0	3.3	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.3

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 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 Sept. 1996 from-			Percent change to Aug. 1996 from-		
		June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Sept. 1996	Sept. 1995	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	June 1996	July 1996
U.S. city average	M	154.1	154.3	154.5	155.1	3.0	0.5	0.4	2.9	0.3	0.1
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	160.6	160.9	161.4	162.0	2.8	.7	.4	2.7	.5	.3
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	160.4	160.5	161.0	161.8	2.9	.8	.5	2.7	.4	.3
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000	M	158.7	159.7	160.0	159.8	2.5	.1	-.1	2.8	.8	.2
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000	M	162.5	162.9	163.2	163.7	2.2	.5	.3	2.1	.4	.2
North Central urban	M	149.5	149.8	149.9	150.6	3.1	.5	.5	3.0	.3	.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	149.6	149.7	149.9	150.4	2.8	.5	.3	2.8	.2	.1
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000	M	148.0	148.3	148.7	149.5	3.7	.8	.5	3.3	.5	.3
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000	M	151.5	151.9	151.9	152.6	3.2	.5	.5	3.1	.3	.0
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	148.0	148.5	148.5	149.1	3.2	.4	.4	3.1	.3	.0
South urban	M	152.6	152.6	152.7	153.1	3.2	.3	.3	3.0	.1	.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	151.6	151.6	151.4	151.7	3.0	.1	.2	2.6	-.1	-.1
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000	M	152.6	152.9	153.1	153.6	3.3	.5	.3	3.2	.3	.1
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000	M	153.7	153.6	153.9	154.4	3.3	.5	.3	3.0	.1	.2
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	153.6	152.8	153.1	153.9	3.4	.7	.5	3.2	-.3	.2
West urban	M	154.5	154.9	154.9	155.5	3.0	.4	.4	2.8	.3	.0
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	152.9	153.4	153.4	154.0	2.7	.4	.4	2.5	.3	.0
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000	M	159.2	159.3	159.5	159.9	3.5	.4	.3	3.6	.2	.1
Size classes											
A 3/	M	140.6	140.8	140.9	141.4	2.8	.4	.4	2.7	.2	.1
B	M	154.0	154.4	154.6	155.0	3.1	.4	.3	3.1	.4	.1
C	M	155.7	155.8	156.0	156.6	3.1	.5	.4	3.0	.2	.1
D	M	153.1	153.0	153.3	154.0	3.4	.7	.5	3.4	.1	.2

Selected local areas

Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	152.6	152.7	152.9	153.2	2.8	.3	.2	2.8	.2	.1
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	151.5	152.3	151.9	152.7	2.3	.3	.5	1.8	.3	-.3
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	162.8	162.8	163.3	164.4	3.1	1.0	.7	2.8	.3	.3
Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD ..	M	161.7	162.1	163.0	163.7	2.4	1.0	.4	2.4	.8	.6
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	M	152.9	153.4	153.0	153.8	2.5	.3	.5	2.5	.1	-.3
Baltimore, MD	1	-	154.6	-	154.4	2.4	-.1	-	-	-	-
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	-	160.9	-	162.1	3.0	.7	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	-	144.3	-	145.8	3.2	1.0	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	-	150.8	-	152.6	3.9	1.2	-	-	-	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL	1	-	149.0	-	150.1	2.5	.7	-	-	-	-
Washington, DC-MD-VA	1	-	157.6	-	158.2	3.1	.4	-	-	-	-
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.