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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: FEBRUARY 1997

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.3 percent before seasonal adjustment in February to a level of 159.6 (1982-84=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. For the 12-month period ended in February, the CPI-U increased 3.0 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also rose 0.3 percent in February, prior to seasonal adjustment. The February 1997 CPI-W level of 156.8 was 3.0 percent higher than the index in February 1996.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent in February, following an increase of 0.1 percent in January. The food index, which declined 0.3 percent in January, advanced 0.3 percent in February. The index for grocery store food prices increased 0.5 percent, reflecting an 8.9 percent rise in the index for fresh vegetables. The energy index--up 0.3 percent in February--continued to increase, but by less than in recent months. The index for petroleum-based energy turned down in February, declining 0.2 percent, while the index for energy services rose 0.7 percent. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 0.2 percent. This compares with a 0.1 percent rise in January, but was the same as the average monthly increase in all of 1996.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted		Un- Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended
	Changes from preceding month 1996	1997		

	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Feb. '97	Feb. '97
97									
All Items	.2	.3	.3	.3	.3	.1	.3	2.5	3.0
Food and beverages	.4	.5	.5	.4	.0	-.2	.3	.5	3.7
Housing	.2	.2	.3	.3	.2	.3	.3	3.1	3.0
Apparel and upkeep	-.9	.5	.2	.3	.1	.4	.2	2.8	.5
Transportation	.0	.5	.3	.3	.6	-.2	-.1	1.4	3.1
Medical care	.2	.3	.2	.3	.2	.2	.2	2.3	2.9
Entertainment	.2	.1	.3	.2	.3	.0	.2	2.0	2.2
Other goods and services	.4	.1	.3	.4	.1	.4	.5	3.9	3.8
Special Indexes:									
Energy	-.2	.2	1.1	1.2	1.5	.8	.3	10.8	7.8
Food	.4	.5	.5	.4	.0	-.3	.3	.3	3.8
All items less food and energy	.1	.3	.2	.2	.2	.1	.2	2.2	2.5

The food and beverage index increased 0.3 percent in February. The index for grocery store food prices, which fell 0.6 percent in January, increased 0.5 percent in February. The February food advance reflects a sharp upturn in the index for fruits and vegetables, which rose 3.0 percent after declining 2.0 percent in January. The index for fresh vegetables increased 8.9 percent as a result of a late January freeze in the Southeastern part of the country. The index for fresh fruits increased 1.3 percent, while the index for processed fruits and vegetables declined slightly. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, fresh fruit prices fell 3.2 percent.) The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs declined for the second consecutive month--down 0.2 percent in February. In this group, prior to seasonal adjustment, price declines were registered for beef, pork, poultry, fish and seafood, and eggs. The 1.1 percent decrease in the index for dairy products was the fourth consecutive month in which the index failed to advance after increases totaling 8.5 percent in the preceding five-month period. The indexes for cereal and bakery products and for other food at home increased 0.1 and 0.2 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--each increased 0.2 percent.

The housing component rose 0.3 percent in February. Shelter costs also increased 0.3 percent. Within shelter, renters' costs and homeowners' costs each rose 0.3 percent, and maintenance and repair costs increased 0.6 percent. The rise in renters' costs reflected a 0.9 percent increase in the index for other renters' costs; residential rents rose 0.1 percent. The index for fuel and other utilities rose 0.3 percent in February. The index for household fuels increased 0.5 percent, as a 1.6 percent decline

in fuel oil prices partially offset increases in charges for natural gas and electricity of 1.2 and 0.5 percent, respectively. For the 12-month period ended in February, charges for natural gas have increased 14.4 percent. In February, the index for other utilities and public services was unchanged. The index for household furnishings and operation, which declined 0.2 percent in January, increased 0.2 percent in February, reflecting a return to regular prices after widespread sales in January.

The transportation component, which declined 0.2 percent in January, fell 0.1 percent in February. Public transportation costs fell sharply for the second consecutive month. The index for airline fares, which increased 2.3 percent in December, fell 3.2 percent in January and 2.6 percent in February. The declines in early 1997 reflect, in part, the lapse of the 10 percent federal tax on airline fares on January 1; the tax was reimposed effective March 7. The index for gasoline, which had advanced 6.6 percent in the preceding four months, was unchanged in February. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices declined 0.5 percent in February.) The index for gasoline prices has risen 13.3 percent in the last 14 months, and as of February was 5.4 percent below its peak level of December 1990. New vehicle purchase costs continued to show little change in February; the index for new vehicle prices was unchanged, while automobile finance charges increased 0.2 percent. The index for used cars increased 0.5 percent in February. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, used car prices fell 0.2 percent.)

The index for apparel and upkeep increased for the sixth consecutive month in February--up 0.2 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, clothing prices rose 1.9 percent in February, reflecting the introduction of higher-priced spring-summer wear.)

Medical care costs rose 0.2 percent in February to a level 2.9 percent above a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.3 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.2 percent. Charges for professional services and hospital and related services each increased 0.1 percent.

Entertainment costs, which were unchanged on average in January, rose 0.2 percent in February, principally as a result of a 0.8 percent increase in the index for admissions to movies, theaters, concerts, and sporting events.

The index for other goods and services rose 0.5 percent in February. Increases in the indexes for tobacco and smoking products and for personal expenses--up 0.6 and 0.8 percent, respectively--were largely responsible for

the February rise 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 0.2 percent in February.

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 Feb. '97	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Feb. '97
	Changes from preceding month								
	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.		
All Items	.1	.3	.4	.3	.3	.1	.2	2.3	3.0
Food and beverages	.4	.4	.5	.4	.1	-.2	.2	.3	3.8
Housing	.2	.1	.3	.3	.2	.3	.2	2.9	3.0
Apparel and upkeep	-1.0	.5	.2	.3	.1	.4	.4	3.4	.7
Transportation	.0	.4	.4	.3	.6	.0	.0	2.5	3.1
Medical care	.2	.3	.2	.3	.2	.2	.2	2.3	2.9
Entertainment	.3	.1	.3	.3	.3	.0	.1	1.8	2.1
Other goods and services	.3	.2	.3	.4	.0	.6	.4	4.1	3.7
Special Indexes:									
Energy	-.3	.1	1.2	1.4	1.5	.9	.3	11.2	8.2
Food	.4	.4	.6	.3	.1	-.3	.3	.3	3.8
All items less food and energy	.1	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	2.2	2.4

After seasonal adjustment, the level of the CPI-U for All Items was 159.8 in February; the seasonally adjusted CPI-W for All Items was 156.9.

Beginning with January 1997 data, BLS is reporting the level of the seasonally adjusted U.S. City Average All Items CPI-U and CPI-W in this monthly news release. Effective with the release of January 1998 data in February 1998, the seasonally adjusted All Items indexes will be fully integrated into the releases, appearing in tables 2 and 5 and in the text where relevant.

Like other seasonally adjusted CPI data, the All Items index levels are subject to revision for up to five years after their original release. For this reason, BLS advises against the use of these data in escalation

agreements.

Consumer Price Index data for March are scheduled for release on Tuesday, April 15, 1997, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

A Note on Seasonally Adjusted and Unadjusted Data

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

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

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

Seasonal factors used in computing the seasonally adjusted indexes are derived by the X-11-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Method (1988). The updated seasonal data at the end of 1977 replaced data from 1967 through 1977. Subsequent annual updates have replaced 5 years of seasonal data, e.g., data from 1992 through 1996 were replaced at the end of 1996. The seasonal movement of all items and 47 other aggregations is derived by combining the seasonal movement of 60 selected components. Each year the seasonal status of every series is reevaluated based upon certain statistical criteria. If any of the 60 components change their seasonal adjustment status from seasonally adjusted to not seasonally adjusted, not seasonally adjusted data will be used for the last 5 years, but the seasonally adjusted indexes will be used before that period.

Effective with the calculation of the seasonal factors for 1990, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has used an enhanced seasonal adjustment procedure called Intervention

All items	100.000	159.1	159.6	3.0	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3
All items (1967=100)	-	476.7	478.2	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	17.484	156.9	156.9	3.7	.0	.0	-.2	.3
Food	15.913	156.5	156.5	3.8	.0	.0	-.3	.3
Food at home	10.040	157.9	157.7	4.2	-.1	-.1	-.6	.5
Cereals and bakery products	1.479	176.5	176.7	2.7	.1	.2	-.2	.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.002	149.6	148.8	4.5	-.5	.6	-.4	-.2
Dairy products 1/	1.245	147.8	146.2	6.6	-1.1	-.5	-.5	-1.1
Fruits and vegetables 2/	1.974	187.3	187.4	5.5	.1	-1.5	-2.0	3.0
Other food at home	2.340	144.8	145.4	2.5	.4	.3	.1	.2
Sugar and sweets .....	.331	146.9	147.2	4.0	.2	.6	.6	.0
Fats and oils .....	.246	142.3	142.7	2.1	.3	.1	-.1	.1
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.724	128.3	128.5	-1.1	.2	.2	.2	-.5
Other prepared food	1.039	159.4	160.6	4.7	.8	.3	-.1	.8
Food away from home	5.873	155.3	155.6	3.1	.2	.2	.3	.2
Alcoholic beverages	1.571	161.1	161.8	3.3	.4	.3	.2	.2
Housing 2/	41.203	155.1	155.8	3.0	.5	.2	.3	.3
Shelter	28.194	173.6	174.6	3.1	.6	.2	.3	.3
Renters' costs 3/ 4/	7.994	182.7	185.3	3.6	1.4	.1	.6	.3
Rent, residential	5.731	164.4	164.8	2.7	.2	.2	.2	.1
Other renters' costs 4/	2.263	217.3	226.4	5.7	4.2	-.2	1.4	.9
Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/	20.000	179.1	179.5	2.8	.2	.2	.2	.3
Owners' equivalent rent 3/	19.616	179.5	179.9	2.8	.2	.2	.2	.3
Household insurance 3/ 4/ .....	.383	162.6	163.8	3.3	.7	-1.2	.2	.9
Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/ .....	.200	141.5	142.3	3.9	.6	.3	.0	.6
Maintenance and repair								
services 1/ 4/ .....	.123	148.2	148.4	3.8	.1	.3	.1	.1
Maintenance and repair								
commodities 1/ 4/ .....	.077	132.5	133.9	4.0	1.1	.2	-.1	1.1
Fuel and other utilities 2/	7.102	130.8	131.0	4.8	.2	.5	.7	.3
Fuels	3.878	119.1	119.2	6.0	.1	.8	1.0	.5
Fuel oil and other household fuel								
commodities .....	.424	111.5	109.6	12.2	-1.7	2.9	-1.2	-1.9
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy								
services)	3.453	124.9	125.3	5.2	.3	.4	1.4	.7
Other utilities and public								
services 4/	3.224	159.7	160.2	3.4	.3	.3	.3	.0
Household furnishings and operation 2/ .	5.908	124.9	125.2	.7	.2	.2	-.2	.2
Housefurnishings 4/	3.332	110.8	111.2	-.2	.4	.2	-.4	.2
Housekeeping supplies	1.093	142.3	142.5	1.5	.1	.0	.4	.1
Housekeeping services 4/	1.482	149.6	149.9	2.5	.2	.3	-.5	.1

Apparel and upkeep	5.330	129.6	131.9	.5	1.8	.1	.4	.2
Apparel commodities 4/	4.786	125.8	128.2	.3	1.9	.0	.5	.2
Men's and boys' apparel	1.280	127.0	127.3	.7	.2	-.5	1.0	-.9
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.102	121.5	126.1	1.2	3.8	.7	.6	.7
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/ ....	.186	127.9	127.2	-5.4	-.5	.2	.8	-.5
Footwear .....	.718	125.0	126.3	.4	1.0	.3	-.8	.2
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	.500	145.6	146.9	-1.9	.9	-1.9	.1	.7
Apparel services 1/ 4/ .....	.545	161.7	162.2	2.3	.3	.4	.1	.3
Transportation	17.140	145.0	144.8	3.1	-.1	.6	-.2	-.1
Private transportation	15.499	141.8	141.9	3.2	.1	.6	.1	.2
New vehicles	4.955	145.4	145.4	1.3	.0	.1	-.2	.0
New cars	3.952	143.0	142.9	1.1	-.1	.1	-.2	.0
Used cars	1.278	154.7	154.4	-2.0	-.2	-.4	.1	.5
Motor fuel	3.171	108.6	108.1	10.1	-.5	2.5	.6	.0
Gasoline	-	107.9	107.4	9.8	-.5	2.5	.7	.0
Maintenance and repairs	1.533	161.1	161.2	2.9	.1	.2	.4	-.1
Other private transportation 4/.....	4.562	176.2	177.1	2.3	.5	.0	-.1	.5
Other private transportation								
commodities 4/.....	.589	105.2	105.4	.0	.2	-.1	-.2	.3
services 4/	3.973	193.0	194.1	2.6	.6	.0	-.1	.6
Public transportation	1.642	185.8	182.4	2.8	-1.8	1.4	-2.9	-2.0
Medical care	7.346	231.8	232.7	2.9	.4	.2	.2	.2
Medical care commodities	1.273	212.8	213.9	2.6	.5	.1	.2	.3
Medical care services	6.073	236.3	237.1	3.0	.3	.2	.2	.2
Professional medical services	3.472	212.2	213.2	3.4	.5	.2	.4	.1
Entertainment 4/	4.352	161.3	161.8	2.2	.3	.3	.0	.2
Entertainment commodities 4/	1.957	144.2	144.3	1.3	.1	.3	-.3	.1
Entertainment services 4/	2.395	181.3	182.1	2.9	.4	.3	.2	.3
Other goods and services 2/	7.145	220.0	220.7	3.8	.3	.1	.4	.5
Tobacco and smoking products	1.601	236.4	237.4	3.3	.4	-.3	.4	.6
Personal care 1/	1.145	151.6	151.5	1.5	-.1	-.5	.7	-.1
Toilet goods and personal care								
appliances 1/ .....	.588	143.6	143.3	-.6	-.2	-1.3	.6	-.2
Personal care services 1/ .....	.557	160.7	160.7	3.5	.0	.4	.9	.0
Personal and educational expenses 4/ ...	4.398	254.0	255.0	4.6	.4	.4	.3	.6
School books and supplies .....	.264	234.5	235.3	4.7	.3	.4	-.1	.4
Personal and educational services 4/ .	4.134	255.8	256.7	4.6	.4	.4	.4	.6

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) - Continued

Commodity and service group	Relative importance, December 1996	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-			
		Jan. 1997	Feb. 1997	Feb. 1996	Jan. 1997	Nov. to Dec.	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.	
All items	100.000	159.1	159.6	3.0	.3	.3	.1	.3	
Commodities	42.873	141.5	141.8	2.8	.2	.2	.0	.2	
Food and beverages	17.484	156.9	156.9	3.7	.0	.0	-.2	.3	
Commodities less food and beverages	25.389	132.1	132.6	2.1	.4	.3	.2	.1	
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	15.147	133.8	134.6	3.3	.6	.7	.1	.3	
Apparel commodities 4/	4.786	125.8	128.2	.3	1.9	.0	.5	.2	
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.362	141.0	141.0	4.8	.0	1.1	.3	.1	
Durables	10.242	129.7	129.8	.3	.1	.1	-.2	.1	
Services	57.127	177.0	177.7	3.2	.4	.3	.2	.2	
Rent of shelter 3/	27.577	180.6	181.6	3.0	.6	.2	.3	.3	
Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	8.698	144.6	145.0	3.9	.3	.2	.6	.4	
Transportation services	7.148	183.5	183.4	2.7	-.1	.4	-.7	-.1	
Medical care services	6.073	236.3	237.1	3.0	.3	.2	.2	.2	
Other services	7.631	205.9	206.7	3.9	.4	.3	.3	.4	
Special indexes									
All items less food	84.087	159.6	160.2	2.9	.4	.3	.2	.2	
All items less shelter	71.806	155.0	155.3	3.0	.2	.3	.1	.2	
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	80.000	160.2	160.8	3.1	.4	.3	.1	.2	
All items less medical care	92.654	155.0	155.5	3.0	.3	.3	.1	.3	
Commodities less food	26.960	133.3	133.8	2.1	.4	.4	.1	.1	
Nondurables less food	16.718	135.4	136.2	3.3	.6	.7	.1	.2	
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.932	142.0	142.1	4.6	.1	.7	.1	.1	
Nondurables	32.631	145.5	145.9	3.5	.3	.3	.1	.3	
Services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/	29.550	185.9	186.4	3.4	.3	.3	.1	.2	
Services less medical care services	51.054	171.5	172.2	3.2	.4	.3	.2	.2	

Energy	7.049	113.3	113.1	7.8	-.2	1.5	.8	.3
All items less energy	92.951	165.3	165.9	2.7	.4	.1	.1	.2
All items less food and energy	77.038	167.5	168.3	2.5	.5	.2	.1	.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities	23.364	141.5	142.2	1.0	.5	.1	.1	.1
Energy commodities	3.596	109.2	108.6	10.5	-.5	2.6	.4	-.2
Services less energy services	53.674	182.4	183.1	3.1	.4	.3	.1	.3
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:								
1982-84=\$1.00 1/	-	\$.628	\$.626	-2.9	-.3	.0	-.5	-.3
1967=\$1.00 1/	-	.210	.209	-	-	-	-	-

1/ Not seasonally adjusted.

2/ This index series will undergo a change in composition in January, 1998.

3/ Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

4/ This index series will no longer appear in its present form after December, 1997.
See Table X for a comparable index series.

- 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				
	Nov. 1996	Dec. 1996	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1997	May 1996	3 months ended-			6 months ended-	
						Aug. 1996	Nov. 1996	Feb. 1997	Aug. 1996	Feb. 1997
All items	-	-	-	-	3.7	2.3	3.6	2.5	3.0	3.1
Food and beverages	156.6	156.6	156.3	156.8	3.2	5.9	5.3	.5	4.5	2.9
Food	156.4	156.4	156.0	156.5	3.2	6.2	5.3	.3	4.7	2.7
Food at home	157.8	157.7	156.7	157.5	3.5	8.4	6.0	-.8	5.9	2.6
Cereals and bakery products	176.3	176.6	176.3	176.4	4.3	2.1	4.4	.2	3.2	2.3
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	148.4	149.3	148.7	148.4	.0	11.4	7.0	.0	5.6	3.5
Dairy products 1/	149.3	148.6	147.8	146.2	1.2	22.0	13.6	-8.1	11.1	2.2
Fruits and vegetables 2/	188.7	185.9	182.2	187.7	10.0	7.7	6.4	-2.1	8.8	2.1
Other food at home	144.0	144.4	144.5	144.8	3.1	1.7	2.5	2.2	2.4	2.4
Sugar and sweets	145.2	146.0	146.9	146.9	4.6	4.0	2.2	4.8	4.3	3.5

Fats and oils	141.8	142.0	141.9	142.1	2.0	3.5	2.3	.8	2.8	1.6
Nonalcoholic beverages	127.5	127.7	127.9	127.3	.9	-.6	-4.3	-.6	.2	-2.5
Other prepared food	159.1	159.6	159.4	160.6	5.0	2.3	7.6	3.8	3.7	5.7
Food away from home	154.6	154.9	155.3	155.6	2.7	2.9	4.0	2.6	2.8	3.3
Alcoholic beverages	160.6	161.1	161.4	161.8	3.4	3.1	3.8	3.0	3.2	3.4
Housing 2/	154.4	154.7	155.2	155.6	2.9	2.7	3.2	3.1	2.8	3.2
Shelter	172.6	172.9	173.4	174.0	2.9	3.1	2.8	3.3	3.0	3.1
Renters' costs 3/ 4/.....	181.5	181.7	182.8	183.4	3.0	3.9	3.1	4.3	3.4	3.7
Rent, residential	163.6	164.0	164.4	164.6	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.8	2.6
Other renters' costs 4/	218.4	218.0	221.1	223.1	3.7	6.7	3.9	8.9	5.2	6.4
Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/	178.3	178.6	179.0	179.5	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7
Owners' equivalent rent 3/	178.6	179.0	179.3	179.9	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.8	2.8
Household insurance 3/ 4/	164.5	162.5	162.9	164.3	2.3	4.6	7.1	-.5	3.4	3.2
Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/	141.1	141.5	141.5	142.3	5.4	2.6	4.1	3.4	4.0	3.8
Maintenance and repair services 1/ 4/	147.6	148.0	148.2	148.4	4.8	6.8	1.4	2.2	5.8	1.8
Maintenance and repair										
commodities 1/ 4/	132.3	132.6	132.5	133.9	6.7	-3.9	8.6	4.9	1.2	6.7
Fuel and other utilities 2/.....	129.6	130.3	131.2	131.6	4.9	2.9	5.1	6.3	3.9	5.7
Fuels	116.7	117.6	118.8	119.4	4.3	2.1	7.2	9.6	3.2	8.4
Fuel oil and other household fuel										
commodities	106.4	109.5	108.2	106.1	20.9	-14.5	54.7	-1.1	1.7	23.7
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy										
services).....	123.1	123.6	125.3	126.2	3.0	4.0	3.0	10.5	3.5	6.7
Other utilities and public services 4/ .	159.2	159.6	160.0	160.0	5.0	3.4	3.3	2.0	4.2	2.7
Household furnishings and operation 2/ ...	125.0	125.2	124.9	125.1	.6	1.3	1.0	.3	1.0	.6
Housefurnishings 4/	111.2	111.4	111.0	111.2	-.7	.0	.0	.0	-.4	.0
Housekeeping supplies	141.7	141.7	142.3	142.5	1.4	.9	1.4	2.3	1.1	1.8
Housekeeping services 4/	149.9	150.3	149.6	149.7	3.3	3.9	3.3	-.5	3.6	1.3
Apparel and upkeep	131.7	131.8	132.3	132.6	.6	-5.3	4.4	2.8	-2.4	3.6
Apparel commodities 4/	128.0	128.0	128.6	128.8	.3	-6.1	4.8	2.5	-2.9	3.7
Men's and boys' apparel	128.8	128.2	129.5	128.3	1.6	-.6	3.5	-1.5	.5	.9
Women's and girls' apparel	124.0	124.9	125.7	126.6	1.0	-10.4	6.7	8.7	-4.9	7.7
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/	126.7	126.9	127.9	127.2	-11.4	-15.3	5.2	1.6	-13.4	3.4
Footwear	127.0	127.4	126.4	126.7	1.0	.0	1.6	-.9	.5	.3
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	149.5	146.7	146.8	147.9	1.3	-6.5	2.2	-4.2	-2.6	-1.1
Apparel services 1/ 4/	160.9	161.5	161.7	162.2	2.3	2.3	1.5	3.3	2.3	2.4
Transportation	144.8	145.7	145.4	145.3	7.9	-1.4	4.8	1.4	3.1	3.1
Private transportation	141.5	142.3	142.4	142.7	8.0	-2.0	3.8	3.4	2.9	3.6
New vehicles	144.6	144.7	144.4	144.4	2.0	2.5	1.4	-.6	2.3	.4
New cars	142.1	142.2	141.9	141.9	1.7	3.2	.3	-.6	2.4	-.1
Used cars	155.6	155.0	155.1	155.8	-3.7	-3.3	-1.3	.5	-3.5	-.4
Motor fuel	108.4	111.1	111.8	111.8	38.4	-17.6	13.6	13.1	6.8	13.4

Gasoline	107.8	110.5	111.3	111.3	37.0	-17.3	12.8	13.6	6.4	13.2
Maintenance and repairs	160.3	160.7	161.3	161.2	2.6	3.1	4.1	2.3	2.8	3.2
Other private transportation 4/.....	175.3	175.3	175.2	176.1	1.6	4.0	1.4	1.8	2.8	1.6
Other private transportation commodities 4/.....	105.1	105.0	104.8	105.1	-.4	.0	.4	.0	-.2	.2
Other private transportation services 4/	192.1	192.1	192.0	193.1	1.9	4.5	1.7	2.1	3.2	1.9
Public transportation	188.5	191.2	185.6	181.9	8.4	4.5	13.8	-13.3	6.4	-.7
Medical care	231.0	231.5	231.9	232.3	3.2	2.8	3.0	2.3	3.0	2.6
Medical care commodities	212.1	212.4	212.8	213.5	3.1	2.5	1.9	2.7	2.8	2.3
Medical care services	235.1	235.6	236.0	236.4	3.3	3.0	3.1	2.2	3.2	2.7
Professional medical services	211.2	211.6	212.4	212.7	3.3	3.5	3.9	2.9	3.4	3.4
Entertainment 4/	160.6	161.1	161.1	161.4	1.8	2.3	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.3
Entertainment commodities 4/	144.0	144.4	144.0	144.2	.8	2.0	1.7	.6	1.4	1.1
Entertainment services 4/	180.2	180.8	181.1	181.6	2.3	2.7	3.4	3.1	2.5	3.3
Other goods and services 2/.....	219.2	219.4	220.3	221.3	4.4	3.6	3.4	3.9	4.0	3.6
Tobacco and smoking products	236.0	235.3	236.2	237.6	3.9	1.6	5.1	2.7	2.7	3.9
Personal care 1/	151.2	150.5	151.6	151.5	2.7	.5	1.9	.8	1.6	1.3
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 1/	144.7	142.8	143.6	143.3	3.4	-.8	-.8	-3.8	1.3	-2.3
Personal care services 1/	158.6	159.2	160.7	160.7	1.6	1.8	5.5	5.4	1.7	5.4
Personal and educational expenses 4/	251.7	252.7	253.5	255.0	5.0	5.1	3.2	5.3	5.1	4.3
School books and supplies	231.5	232.5	232.2	233.2	5.1	6.0	5.0	3.0	5.6	4.0
Personal and educational services 4/ ...	253.1	254.1	255.0	256.5	5.0	5.1	3.1	5.5	5.0	4.3

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Seasonally adjusted indexes					Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for				
Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	May	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
					Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	Aug.	Feb.

	1996	1996	1997	1997	1996	1996	1996	1997	1996	1997
Commodity and service group										
All items	-	-	-	-	3.7	2.3	3.6	2.5	3.0	3.1
Commodities	141.5	141.8	141.8	142.1	4.4	.3	4.7	1.7	2.3	3.2
Food and beverages	156.6	156.6	156.3	156.8	3.2	5.9	5.3	.5	4.5	2.9
Commodities less food and beverages	132.4	132.8	133.0	133.1	5.3	-3.3	4.3	2.1	.9	3.2
Nondurables less food and beverages	134.3	135.2	135.3	135.7	8.8	-5.8	6.8	4.2	1.2	5.5
Apparel commodities 4/	128.0	128.0	128.6	128.8	.3	-6.1	4.8	2.5	-2.9	3.7
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	140.2	141.8	142.2	142.3	13.6	-6.4	6.5	6.1	3.1	6.3
Durables	129.6	129.7	129.5	129.6	.3	.6	.6	.0	.5	.3
Services	176.3	176.8	177.2	177.6	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.3	3.1
Rent of shelter 3/	179.9	180.3	180.8	181.3	3.0	3.2	2.7	3.1	3.1	2.9
Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	144.0	144.3	145.1	145.7	4.4	3.4	3.4	4.8	3.9	4.1
Transportation services	183.4	184.1	182.9	182.7	3.6	4.1	4.9	-1.5	3.9	1.7
Medical care services	235.1	235.6	236.0	236.4	3.3	3.0	3.1	2.2	3.2	2.7
Other services	204.7	205.4	206.1	206.9	3.7	3.8	3.4	4.4	3.7	3.9
Special indexes										
All items less food	159.1	159.6	159.9	160.2	3.9	1.5	3.3	2.8	2.7	3.1
All items less shelter	154.7	155.1	155.2	155.5	4.0	1.8	4.0	2.1	2.9	3.0
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	159.9	160.3	160.5	160.8	4.2	2.0	3.8	2.3	3.1	3.1
All items less medical care	154.5	154.9	155.1	155.5	3.8	2.1	3.7	2.6	2.9	3.2
Commodities less food	133.6	134.1	134.2	134.4	5.0	-2.7	4.0	2.4	1.1	3.2
Nondurables less food	135.8	136.7	136.8	137.1	8.4	-5.2	6.8	3.9	1.4	5.3
Nondurables less food and apparel	141.8	142.8	142.9	143.1	10.6	-2.8	7.1	3.7	3.7	5.4
Nondurables	145.5	146.0	146.1	146.5	4.9	1.1	5.4	2.8	3.0	4.1
Services less rent of shelter 3/	185.1	185.7	185.9	186.2	3.8	3.6	3.8	2.4	3.7	3.1
Services less medical care services	170.8	171.3	171.7	172.0	3.4	3.4	3.3	2.8	3.4	3.1
Energy	112.0	113.7	114.6	114.9	18.4	-7.3	10.3	10.8	4.7	10.5
All items less energy	165.2	165.4	165.5	165.9	2.8	2.7	3.5	1.7	2.7	2.6
All items less food and energy	167.4	167.7	167.9	168.3	2.7	2.2	2.9	2.2	2.5	2.5
Commodities less food and energy commodities	141.8	141.9	142.0	142.2	1.1	-.3	2.0	1.1	.4	1.6
Energy commodities	108.3	111.1	111.5	111.3	36.7	-17.4	17.6	11.5	6.2	14.5
Services less energy services	181.7	182.2	182.4	182.9	3.2	3.4	3.1	2.7	3.3	2.9

1/ Not seasonally adjusted.

2/ This index series will undergo a change in composition in January, 1998.

3/ Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

4/ This index series will no longer appear in its present form after December, 1997.
 See Table X for a comparable index series.
 - 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 Feb. 1997 from-			Percent change to Jan. 1997 from-		
		Nov. 1996	Dec. 1996	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1997	Feb. 1996	Dec. 1996	Jan. 1997	Jan. 1996	Nov. 1996	Dec. 1996
U.S. city average	M	158.6	158.6	159.1	159.6	3.0	0.6	0.3	3.0	0.3	0.3
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	165.4	165.7	166.2	166.9	2.9	.7	.4	3.0	.5	.3
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	166.0	166.2	166.8	167.7	2.9	.9	.5	2.8	.5	.4
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	163.1	164.3	164.2	164.2	3.1	-.1	.0	3.5	.7	-.1
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000 3/.....	M	164.3	164.6	164.7	165.3	2.9	.4	.4	3.1	.2	.1
North Central urban	M	155.0	155.3	155.5	155.9	3.4	.4	.3	3.5	.3	.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	155.3	155.5	156.0	156.5	3.2	.6	.3	3.3	.5	.3
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	154.5	154.5	154.3	154.4	3.3	-.1	.1	3.8	-.1	-.1
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000 3/.....	M	157.1	157.7	157.8	158.3	3.9	.4	.3	3.7	.4	.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	151.9	151.9	152.2	152.1	3.5	.1	-.1	3.9	.2	.2
South urban	M	155.1	155.1	155.7	156.1	3.0	.6	.3	3.0	.4	.4
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	153.8	154.0	154.9	155.2	3.1	.8	.2	3.0	.7	.6
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	158.2	158.2	158.5	158.9	3.1	.4	.3	3.5	.2	.2
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000 3/.....	M	154.7	154.4	155.0	155.6	2.8	.8	.4	2.6	.2	.4
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	154.6	154.4	154.8	155.5	3.6	.7	.5	3.3	.1	.3
West urban	M	159.2	158.7	159.6	160.1	2.8	.9	.3	2.8	.3	.6
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	159.1	158.7	159.6	160.1	2.7	.9	.3	2.7	.3	.6
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000 3/.....	M	163.9	163.9	164.9	165.4	2.9	.9	.3	3.2	.6	.6

Size classes

A 4/	M	142.9	142.9	143.6	144.1	2.9	.8	.3	2.9	.5	.5
B 3/	M	158.9	159.0	159.2	159.5	3.1	.3	.2	3.4	.2	.1
C 3/	M	158.5	158.6	159.1	159.6	3.1	.6	.3	3.0	.4	.3
D	M	155.8	155.5	155.9	156.2	3.4	.5	.2	3.3	.1	.3

Selected local areas

Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	159.4	159.7	160.4	161.1	3.8	.9	.4	3.8	.6	.4
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	158.4	158.3	159.1	159.2	1.9	.6	.1	2.2	.4	.5
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton,	M	168.4	168.5	169.1	170.1	2.7	.9	.6	2.6	.4	.4
PA-NJ-DE-MD 5/	M	164.3	164.3	165.1	165.8	2.9	.9	.4	3.0	.5	.5
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA 5/ ..	M	156.9	156.0	157.0	157.9	3.1	1.2	.6	2.7	.1	.6
Baltimore, MD 6/	1	154.8	-	155.8	-	-	-	-	2.8	.6	-
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	166.3	-	167.7	-	-	-	-	3.4	.8	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	153.8	-	153.8	-	-	-	-	3.2	.0	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	156.4	-	158.1	-	-	-	-	4.0	1.1	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL 7/	1	151.4	-	151.5	-	-	-	-	2.9	.1	-
Washington, DC-MD-VA 6/	1	161.2	-	161.6	-	-	-	-	3.1	.2	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	2	-	150.0	-	150.7	3.1	.5	-	-	-	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI	2	-	154.3	-	155.4	2.7	.7	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	-	143.6	-	144.5	2.1	.6	-	-	-	-
Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, PA 7/	2	-	155.4	-	156.2	3.4	.5	-	-	-	-

- 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/ Starting in January, 1998, a new Size Class B/C will be introduced, composed of current Size Class B and Size Class C cities. There will be no individual Size Class B or Size Class C.
- 4/ Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.
- 5/ Indexes for the cities of Philadelphia and San Francisco will no longer be published on a monthly basis starting in January, 1998. Beginning in February, 1998 they will be published on a bi-monthly basis.
- 6/ Indexes for the cities of Washington and Baltimore will no longer be published separately after December, 1997. Beginning in January, 1998 the two cities will be published as a Washington-Baltimore combined metropolitan area.
- 7/ Indexes for the cities of Pittsburgh and St. Louis will no longer be published on a bi-monthly basis after December, 1997. Beginning in July, 1998 they will be published semi-annually, each January and July.

- 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 1996	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Feb. 1997 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Jan. 1997	Feb. 1997	Feb. 1996	Jan. 1997	Nov. to Dec.	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.
All items	100.000	156.3	156.8	3.0	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2
All items (1967=100)	-	465.7	467.0	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	19.436	156.4	156.4	3.8	.0	.1	-.2	.2
Food	17.749	156.1	156.0	3.8	-.1	.1	-.3	.3
Food at home	11.387	157.1	156.8	4.2	-.2	-.1	-.6	.3
Cereals and bakery products	1.688	176.2	176.4	2.7	.1	.2	-.1	-.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.535	149.3	148.4	4.4	-.6	.7	-.5	-.3
Dairy products 1/	1.387	147.6	146.0	6.6	-1.1	-.5	-.6	-1.1
Fruits and vegetables 2/	2.086	186.1	186.1	5.4	.0	-1.6	-1.7	2.7
Other food at home	2.691	144.4	145.0	2.5	.4	.3	.0	.2
Sugar and sweets .....	.373	146.8	147.2	4.0	.3	.6	.5	.2
Fats and oils .....	.282	141.9	142.3	1.9	.3	.2	-.3	.1
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.841	127.9	128.0	-1.1	.1	.2	.0	-.4
Other prepared food	1.194	159.3	160.4	4.7	.7	.3	-.1	.7
Food away from home	6.362	155.4	155.7	3.2	.2	.2	.3	.2
Alcoholic beverages	1.687	160.4	161.1	3.2	.4	.4	.1	.1
Housing 2/	38.747	151.8	152.4	3.0	.4	.2	.3	.2
Shelter	25.867	168.6	169.4	2.9	.5	.2	.2	.3
Renters' costs 3/ 4/	8.079	159.4	160.9	3.1	.9	.1	.4	.3
Rent, residential	6.580	164.1	164.4	2.7	.2	.2	.2	.1
Other renters' costs 4/	1.499	216.3	224.9	5.1	4.0	-.1	1.3	.6
Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/	17.599	163.3	163.7	2.8	.2	.2	.2	.3
Owners' equivalent rent 3/	17.277	163.7	164.0	2.8	.2	.2	.2	.3

Household insurance 3/ 4/ .....	.322	147.4	148.5	2.0	.7	-1.7	.4	.7
Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/ .....	.189	140.1	140.7	3.7	.4	.1	.0	.4
Maintenance and repair services 1/ 4/ .....	.105	150.0	150.3	3.7	.2	.1	-.1	.2
Maintenance and repair commodities 1/ 4/ .....	.084	127.3	128.3	3.6	.8	.0	.2	.8
Fuel and other utilities 2/	7.344	130.5	130.7	4.9	.2	.4	.8	.3
Fuels	3.979	118.5	118.5	6.0	.0	.6	1.1	.5
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities .....	.391	111.6	109.4	12.1	-2.0	3.1	-1.2	-2.0
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	3.588	124.5	124.8	5.4	.2	.3	1.4	.7
Other utilities and public services 4/	3.365	160.3	160.9	3.5	.4	.1	.3	.1
Household furnishings and operation 2/ .	5.536	123.4	123.7	.7	.2	.2	-.2	.1
Housefurnishings 4/	3.261	109.5	109.8	-.2	.3	.4	-.5	.1
Housekeeping supplies	1.129	142.8	143.1	1.7	.2	.0	.4	.1
Housekeeping services 4/	1.145	152.6	152.9	2.3	.2	.3	-.3	.1
Apparel and upkeep	5.348	128.7	131.1	.7	1.9	.1	.4	.4
Apparel commodities 4/	4.838	125.1	127.6	.5	2.0	.0	.5	.4
Men's and boys' apparel	1.286	127.0	127.2	.7	.2	-.4	.9	-.9
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.053	119.9	124.8	1.2	4.1	.8	.6	1.1
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/ ....	.240	128.5	128.1	-5.3	-.3	.3	.3	-.3
Footwear .....	.799	126.0	127.2	.7	1.0	.2	-.7	.1
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	.461	144.6	145.7	-.8	.8	-2.6	.4	1.0
Apparel services 1/ 4/ .....	.510	160.8	161.3	2.2	.3	.3	.2	.3
Transportation	19.190	144.6	144.4	3.1	-.1	.6	.0	.0
Private transportation	17.934	142.4	142.4	3.2	.0	.6	.1	.1
New vehicles	4.893	146.6	146.7	1.5	.1	.0	-.1	-.1
New cars	3.533	142.7	142.5	1.1	-.1	.1	-.2	-.1
Used cars	2.320	155.9	155.7	-1.8	-.1	-.3	.1	.4
Motor fuel	3.921	108.8	108.2	10.3	-.6	2.6	.6	-.1
Gasoline	-	108.2	107.5	9.9	-.6	2.8	.5	-.2
Maintenance and repairs	1.616	162.0	162.1	2.9	.1	.1	.4	-.2
Other private transportation 4/.....	5.185	171.9	172.6	2.3	.4	-.2	.1	.4
Other private transportation commodities 4/.....	.742	104.2	104.3	-.3	.1	-.1	-.2	.1
Other private transportation services 4/	4.442	189.0	190.0	2.7	.5	-.2	.2	.5
Public transportation	1.256	183.6	180.3	3.3	-1.8	1.8	-2.7	-2.2
Medical care	6.251	231.1	232.1	2.9	.4	.2	.2	.2
Medical care commodities	1.047	210.1	211.4	2.6	.6	.2	.1	.4

Medical care services	5.204	235.9	236.8	2.9	.4	.3	.2	.0
Professional medical services	2.973	213.3	214.3	3.4	.5	.3	.2	.2
Entertainment 4/	4.015	158.8	159.2	2.1	.3	.3	.0	.1
Entertainment commodities 4/	2.036	142.9	143.1	1.2	.1	.3	-.3	.1
Entertainment services 4/	1.979	181.4	182.2	3.0	.4	.3	.2	.1
Other goods and services 2/	7.012	216.7	217.4	3.7	.3	.0	.6	.4
Tobacco and smoking products	2.117	236.1	237.0	3.1	.4	-.3	.6	.5
Personal care 1/	1.107	151.6	151.4	1.5	-.1	-.6	.8	-.1
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 1/ .....	.610	144.4	144.2	-.3	-.1	-1.3	.6	-.1
Personal care services 1/ .....	.497	160.8	160.8	3.7	.0	.4	.9	.0
Personal and educational expenses 4/ ...	3.788	249.7	250.8	4.8	.4	.4	.5	.6
School books and supplies .....	.232	236.2	236.9	4.9	.3	.5	-.1	.3
Personal and educational services 4/ .	3.556	251.1	252.3	4.8	.5	.4	.6	.6

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Commodity and service group	Relative importance, December 1996	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Feb. 1997 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Jan. 1997	Feb. 1997	Feb. 1996	Jan. 1997	Nov. to Dec.	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.
All items	100.000	156.3	156.8	3.0	.3	.3	.1	.2
Commodities	47.057	141.5	141.8	2.8	.2	.3	.0	.2
Food and beverages	19.436	156.4	156.4	3.8	.0	.1	-.2	.2
Commodities less food and beverages	27.621	132.4	132.9	2.2	.4	.5	.2	.2
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	16.215	133.7	134.5	3.7	.6	.7	.1	.2
Apparel commodities 4/	4.838	125.1	127.6	.5	2.0	.0	.5	.4
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	11.377	140.9	140.8	5.1	-.1	1.2	.3	.1
Durables	11.407	129.5	129.5	.2	.0	.0	-.1	.1

Services	52.943	174.2	174.9	3.2	.4	.3	.2	.2	
Rent of shelter 3/	25.329	162.3	163.0	2.9	.4	.2	.4	.2	
Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	8.553	132.9	133.3	4.1	.3	.2	.7	.4	
Transportation services	7.314	181.3	181.3	2.8	.0	.3	-.3	-.1	
Medical care services	5.204	235.9	236.8	2.9	.4	.3	.2	.0	
Other services	6.542	202.7	203.5	3.9	.4	.4	.4	.3	
Special indexes									
All items less food	82.251	156.3	156.8	2.9	.3	.3	.2	.2	
All items less shelter	74.133	153.2	153.5	3.1	.2	.3	.1	.1	
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	82.401	146.8	147.3	3.2	.3	.3	.1	.2	
All items less medical care	93.749	152.8	153.2	3.0	.3	.3	.1	.2	
Commodities less food	29.308	133.5	134.0	2.3	.4	.4	.1	.1	
Nondurables less food	17.901	135.3	136.0	3.6	.5	.7	.1	.3	
Nondurables less food and apparel	13.064	141.8	141.8	4.8	.0	.8	.1	.2	
Nondurables	35.651	145.4	145.7	3.7	.2	.3	.1	.2	
Services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/	27.613	165.7	166.2	3.6	.3	.2	.2	.3	
Services less medical care services	47.738	169.0	169.6	3.3	.4	.2	.3	.2	
Energy	7.901	113.0	112.7	8.2	-.3	1.5	.9	.3	
All items less energy	92.099	162.5	163.0	2.6	.3	.1	.1	.2	
All items less food and energy	74.350	164.1	164.8	2.4	.4	.2	.2	.2	
Commodities less food and energy commodities	24.996	141.0	141.7	.9	.5	.0	.1	.2	
Energy commodities	4.312	109.4	108.6	10.4	-.7	2.7	.4	-.3	
Services less energy services	49.354	179.8	180.4	3.1	.3	.2	.2	.2	
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:									
1982-84=\$1.00 1/	-	\$.640	\$.638	-2.9	-.3	-.2	-.2	-.3	
1967=\$1.00 1/	-	.215	.214	-	-	-	-	-	

1/ Not seasonally adjusted.

2/ This index series will undergo a change in composition in January, 1998.

3/ Indexes on a December 1984=100 base.

4/ This index series will no longer appear in its present form after December, 1997.

See Table X for a comparable index series.

- 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				
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	May	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
	1996	1996	1997	1997	1996	Aug. 1996	Nov. 1996	Feb. 1997	Aug. 1996	Feb. 1997
All items	-	-	-	-	4.0	1.8	3.9	2.3	2.9	3.1
Food and beverages	156.2	156.3	156.0	156.3	3.5	5.9	5.3	.3	4.7	2.7
Food	155.8	155.9	155.5	155.9	3.2	6.2	5.3	.3	4.7	2.7
Food at home	157.0	156.9	156.0	156.5	3.8	7.9	6.4	-1.3	5.8	2.5
Cereals and bakery products	176.0	176.3	176.2	176.0	4.3	2.3	4.2	.0	3.3	2.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	148.0	149.1	148.3	147.9	.0	11.8	6.8	-.3	5.7	3.2
Dairy products 1/	149.2	148.5	147.6	146.0	1.5	21.7	14.3	-8.3	11.1	2.4
Fruits and vegetables 2/.....	188.0	185.0	181.8	186.7	12.0	6.7	6.0	-2.7	9.4	1.5
Other food at home	143.6	144.1	144.1	144.4	3.2	2.0	2.3	2.2	2.6	2.3
Sugar and sweets	145.0	145.9	146.6	146.9	4.9	3.7	2.0	5.3	4.3	3.6
Fats and oils	141.5	141.8	141.4	141.6	1.4	3.5	2.3	.3	2.5	1.3
Nonalcoholic beverages	127.1	127.4	127.4	126.9	.9	-.6	-4.0	-.6	.2	-2.3
Other prepared food	159.0	159.5	159.3	160.4	5.1	2.6	7.6	3.6	3.8	5.6
Food away from home	154.6	154.9	155.4	155.7	2.9	3.2	3.7	2.9	3.1	3.3
Alcoholic beverages	160.0	160.6	160.8	160.9	3.1	3.1	4.1	2.3	3.1	3.2
Housing 2/	151.1	151.4	151.9	152.2	3.3	2.7	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.0
Shelter	167.8	168.2	168.6	169.1	3.2	2.9	2.7	3.1	3.1	2.9
Renters' costs 3/ 4/.....	158.7	158.9	159.6	160.0	2.9	3.6	2.8	3.3	3.2	3.1
Rent, residential	163.3	163.7	164.1	164.3	2.5	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.8	2.6
Other renters' costs 4/	217.9	217.6	220.5	221.8	4.4	6.5	2.4	7.4	5.5	4.9
Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/	162.5	162.9	163.2	163.7	3.3	2.8	2.5	3.0	3.0	2.7
Owners' equivalent rent 3/	162.8	163.2	163.5	164.0	3.3	2.8	2.5	3.0	3.0	2.7
Household insurance 3/ 4/	149.8	147.3	147.9	148.9	1.4	2.5	6.7	-2.4	1.9	2.0
Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/	139.9	140.1	140.1	140.7	5.4	1.5	5.6	2.3	3.4	4.0
Maintenance and repair services 1/ 4/	149.9	150.1	150.0	150.3	5.1	6.1	2.4	1.1	5.6	1.8
Maintenance and repair commodities 1/ 4/	127.1	127.1	127.3	128.3	5.6	-4.4	10.0	3.8	.5	6.9
Fuel and other utilities 2/.....	129.3	129.8	130.8	131.2	4.5	3.2	5.4	6.0	3.9	5.7
Fuels	116.1	116.8	118.1	118.7	4.7	2.9	7.2	9.3	3.8	8.2
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities	106.2	109.5	108.2	106.0	19.0	-13.1	54.2	-.8	1.7	23.7
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	122.7	123.1	124.8	125.7	3.4	4.7	3.3	10.1	4.1	6.7
Other utilities and public services 4/	159.9	160.1	160.6	160.7	5.0	3.1	3.8	2.0	4.0	2.9

Household furnishings and operation 2/ ...	123.5	123.8	123.5	123.6	.7	1.3	.7	.3	1.0	.5
Housefurnishings 4/	109.8	110.2	109.7	109.8	-.7	.4	-.4	.0	-.2	-.2
Housekeeping supplies	142.3	142.3	142.9	143.1	1.4	2.0	1.1	2.3	1.7	1.7
Housekeeping services 4/	152.6	153.0	152.5	152.6	3.0	3.8	2.9	.0	3.4	1.5
Apparel and upkeep	130.7	130.8	131.3	131.8	1.2	-6.0	4.1	3.4	-2.4	3.7
Apparel commodities 4/	127.4	127.4	128.0	128.5	1.3	-6.7	4.2	3.5	-2.8	3.8
Men's and boys' apparel	128.5	128.0	129.2	128.1	1.3	-1.2	4.2	-1.2	.0	1.4
Women's and girls' apparel	122.7	123.7	124.5	125.9	1.6	-11.0	4.7	10.8	-4.9	7.7
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/	127.7	128.1	128.5	128.1	-10.8	-13.8	3.2	1.3	-12.3	2.2
Footwear	128.2	128.5	127.6	127.7	1.9	.9	1.3	-1.6	1.4	-.2
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	149.6	145.7	146.3	147.7	4.1	-9.5	8.1	-5.0	-2.9	1.4
Apparel services 1/ 4/	160.0	160.5	160.8	161.3	2.3	2.0	1.0	3.3	2.2	2.1
Transportation	144.3	145.2	145.2	145.2	8.2	-1.9	4.6	2.5	3.0	3.5
Private transportation	142.0	142.8	143.0	143.2	8.0	-2.5	4.0	3.4	2.6	3.7
New vehicles	145.8	145.8	145.7	145.6	2.0	2.5	1.7	-.5	2.2	.6
New cars	141.7	141.9	141.6	141.5	1.4	3.2	.3	-.6	2.3	-.1
Used cars	156.7	156.3	156.4	157.1	-3.7	-3.0	-1.5	1.0	-3.3	-.3
Motor fuel	108.6	111.4	112.1	112.0	38.4	-17.6	14.9	13.1	6.8	14.0
Gasoline	108.0	111.0	111.6	111.4	37.0	-17.4	14.1	13.2	6.4	13.6
Maintenance and repairs	161.3	161.5	162.2	161.9	2.3	3.3	4.1	1.5	2.8	2.8
Other private transportation 4/.....	171.2	170.9	171.1	171.8	1.9	4.1	1.4	1.4	3.0	1.4
Other private transportation commodities 4/.....	104.2	104.1	103.9	104.0	-.8	.4	.0	-.8	-.2	-.4
Other private transportation services 4/	188.1	187.8	188.1	189.0	2.4	4.8	1.5	1.9	3.6	1.7
Public transportation	185.8	189.1	184.0	179.9	9.5	4.6	13.0	-12.1	7.0	-.3
Medical care	230.3	230.8	231.2	231.6	3.4	2.8	3.0	2.3	3.1	2.6
Medical care commodities	209.5	209.9	210.1	211.0	2.9	2.3	2.1	2.9	2.6	2.5
Medical care services	234.8	235.4	235.9	236.0	3.5	3.0	3.1	2.1	3.3	2.6
Professional medical services	212.4	213.0	213.5	213.9	3.3	3.5	4.1	2.9	3.4	3.5
Entertainment 4/	158.3	158.8	158.8	159.0	2.1	2.6	2.3	1.8	2.3	2.0
Entertainment commodities 4/	142.9	143.3	142.9	143.1	1.1	1.7	1.7	.6	1.4	1.1
Entertainment services 4/	180.4	181.0	181.4	181.6	3.0	3.2	3.2	2.7	3.1	2.9
Other goods and services 2/.....	215.5	215.6	216.8	217.7	4.3	3.1	3.6	4.1	3.7	3.9
Tobacco and smoking products	235.5	234.8	236.1	237.2	3.9	.9	4.9	2.9	2.4	3.9
Personal care 1/	151.3	150.4	151.6	151.4	3.0	.3	2.4	.3	1.6	1.3
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 1/	145.4	143.5	144.4	144.2	3.9	-1.1	-.5	-3.3	1.4	-1.9
Personal care services 1/	158.7	159.4	160.8	160.8	1.8	1.8	5.7	5.4	1.8	5.6
Personal and educational expenses 4/	246.9	247.9	249.2	250.6	4.8	5.1	3.5	6.1	4.9	4.8
School books and supplies	233.1	234.2	234.0	234.8	4.5	6.3	5.7	2.9	5.4	4.3

Personal and educational services 4/ ...	248.2	249.2	250.6	252.0	4.7	5.0	3.3	6.3	4.9	4.8
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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 - Continued

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Commodity and service group	Seasonally adjusted indexes					Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for				
	Nov. 1996	Dec. 1996	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1997	May 1996	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		Feb. 1997
						Aug. 1996	Nov. 1996	Feb. 1997	Aug. 1996	
All items	-	-	-	-	4.0	1.8	3.9	2.3	2.9	3.1
Commodities	141.5	141.9	141.9	142.2	5.0	.3	4.4	2.0	2.6	3.2
Food and beverages	156.2	156.3	156.0	156.3	3.5	5.9	5.3	.3	4.7	2.7
Commodities less food and beverages	132.5	133.1	133.3	133.5	6.0	-3.6	4.0	3.1	1.1	3.5
Nondurables less food and beverages	134.3	135.2	135.4	135.7	10.1	-6.1	7.2	4.2	1.7	5.7
Apparel commodities 4/	127.4	127.4	128.0	128.5	1.3	-6.7	4.2	3.5	-2.8	3.8
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	140.1	141.8	142.2	142.4	14.6	-7.2	7.5	6.7	3.1	7.1
Durables	129.4	129.4	129.3	129.4	-.3	.3	.6	.0	.0	.3
Services	173.4	173.9	174.3	174.7	3.6	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.5	3.0
Rent of shelter 3/	161.6	161.9	162.5	162.9	3.1	3.0	2.5	3.3	3.1	2.9
Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	132.3	132.6	133.5	134.0	4.7	3.1	3.4	5.2	3.9	4.3
Transportation services	180.9	181.4	180.8	180.6	3.7	4.4	3.8	-.7	4.0	1.6
Medical care services	234.8	235.4	235.9	236.0	3.5	3.0	3.1	2.1	3.3	2.6
Other services	201.3	202.1	203.0	203.7	3.7	4.1	3.2	4.9	3.9	4.0
Special indexes										
All items less food	155.7	156.2	156.5	156.8	4.3	1.0	3.4	2.9	2.6	3.1
All items less shelter	152.9	153.3	153.5	153.7	4.4	1.6	4.3	2.1	3.0	3.2

All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	146.5	146.9	147.1	147.4	4.3	1.7	3.9	2.5	3.0	3.2
All items less medical care	152.4	152.8	153.0	153.3	4.1	2.1	3.8	2.4	3.1	3.1
Commodities less food	133.8	134.4	134.6	134.8	5.6	-3.0	4.0	3.0	1.2	3.5
Nondurables less food	135.8	136.7	136.9	137.3	8.4	-5.2	7.4	4.5	1.4	5.9
Nondurables less food and apparel	141.5	142.6	142.8	143.1	11.3	-3.4	7.4	4.6	3.7	6.0
Nondurables	145.4	145.9	146.0	146.3	5.8	1.1	5.4	2.5	3.4	3.9
Services less rent of shelter 3/	165.0	165.4	165.7	166.2	4.1	3.5	4.0	2.9	3.8	3.5
Services less medical care services	168.2	168.6	169.1	169.4	3.5	3.4	3.2	2.9	3.4	3.0
Energy	111.9	113.6	114.6	114.9	20.2	-8.0	11.1	11.2	5.1	11.1
All items less energy	162.3	162.5	162.6	162.9	2.8	2.8	3.3	1.5	2.8	2.4
All items less food and energy	164.0	164.3	164.6	164.9	2.5	2.2	2.5	2.2	2.4	2.3
Commodities less food and energy commodities	141.5	141.5	141.6	141.9	1.1	-.3	2.0	1.1	.4	1.6
Energy commodities	108.6	111.5	112.0	111.7	36.6	-17.1	17.5	11.9	6.4	14.7
Services less energy services	179.2	179.6	180.0	180.3	3.5	3.4	3.0	2.5	3.5	2.7

1/ Not seasonally adjusted.

2/ This index series will undergo a change in composition in January, 1998.

3/ Indexes on a December 1984=100 base.

4/ This index series will no longer appear in its present form after December, 1997.

See Table X for a comparable index series.

- 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 Feb. 1997 from-			Percent change to Jan. 1997 from-		
		Nov. 1996	Dec. 1996	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1997	Feb. 1996	Dec. 1996	Jan. 1997	Jan. 1996	Nov. 1996	Dec. 1996
U.S. city average	M	155.9	155.9	156.3	156.8	3.0	0.6	0.3	3.0	0.3	0.3
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	163.0	163.2	163.5	164.2	3.0	.6	.4	3.0	.3	.2
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	162.6	162.6	163.1	163.9	3.0	.8	.5	2.9	.3	.3
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	160.7	162.0	162.0	161.9	3.2	-.1	-.1	3.5	.8	.0
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000 3/.....	M	166.0	166.3	166.3	166.8	3.0	.3	.3	3.0	.2	.0

North Central urban	M	151.7	151.9	152.1	152.4	3.3	.3	.2	3.5	.3	.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	151.3	151.5	151.9	152.3	3.1	.5	.3	3.3	.4	.3
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	150.8	150.7	150.5	150.5	3.3	-.1	.0	3.8	-.2	-.1
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000 3/.....	M	154.5	155.1	155.2	155.6	3.9	.3	.3	3.7	.5	.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	150.1	150.3	150.5	150.3	3.7	.0	-.1	4.0	.3	.1
South urban	M	153.7	153.7	154.2	154.5	3.0	.5	.2	3.0	.3	.3
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	152.0	152.3	153.1	153.2	3.0	.6	.1	3.0	.7	.5
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	154.5	154.5	154.7	155.0	3.1	.3	.2	3.4	.1	.1
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000 3/.....	M	154.7	154.5	154.9	155.5	2.8	.6	.4	2.5	.1	.3
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	155.1	155.0	155.3	155.8	3.6	.5	.3	3.3	.1	.2
West urban	M	155.9	155.4	156.3	156.8	2.7	.9	.3	2.7	.3	.6
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	154.3	153.8	154.7	155.2	2.6	.9	.3	2.5	.3	.6
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000 3/.....	M	160.8	160.7	161.7	162.1	2.9	.9	.2	3.3	.6	.6
Size classes											
A 4/	M	142.0	141.9	142.5	143.0	3.0	.8	.4	2.9	.4	.4
B 3/	M	156.0	156.2	156.3	156.5	3.1	.2	.1	3.4	.2	.1
C 3/	M	157.7	157.9	158.2	158.7	3.1	.5	.3	3.1	.3	.2
D	M	155.1	154.9	155.3	155.4	3.4	.3	.1	3.4	.1	.3
Selected local areas											
Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	154.4	154.6	155.3	155.9	3.8	.8	.4	3.7	.6	.5
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	152.9	152.7	153.6	153.6	1.8	.6	.0	2.1	.5	.6
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	164.7	164.7	165.1	166.2	2.8	.9	.7	2.6	.2	.2
Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD 5/	M	164.0	163.6	164.4	164.9	2.7	.8	.3	2.9	.2	.5
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA 5/ ..	M	154.2	153.1	154.1	155.0	3.0	1.2	.6	2.4	-.1	.7
Baltimore, MD 6/	1	153.6	-	154.6	-	-	-	-	2.9	.7	-
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	165.4	-	166.6	-	-	-	-	3.4	.7	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	146.2	-	146.2	-	-	-	-	3.3	.0	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	154.6	-	156.0	-	-	-	-	4.0	.9	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL 7/	1	150.5	-	150.6	-	-	-	-	2.8	.1	-
Washington, DC-MD-VA 6/	1	158.7	-	158.9	-	-	-	-	3.2	.1	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	2	-	150.2	-	150.8	3.4	.4	-	-	-	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI	2	-	149.4	-	150.3	2.6	.6	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	-	143.0	-	143.6	2.0	.4	-	-	-	-
Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, PA 7/	2	-	148.8	-	149.6	3.4	.5	-	-	-	-

- 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/ Starting in January, 1998, a new Size Class B/C will be introduced, composed of current Size Class B and Size Class C cities. There will be no individual Size Class B or Size Class C.
 - 4/ Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.
 - 5/ Indexes for the cities of Philadelphia and San Francisco will no longer be published on a monthly basis starting in January, 1998. Beginning in February, 1998 they will be published on a bi-monthly basis.
 - 6/ Indexes for the cities of Washington and Baltimore will no longer be published separately after December, 1997. Beginning in January, 1998 the two cities will be published as a Washington-Baltimore combined metropolitan area.
 - 7/ Indexes for the cities of Pittsburgh and St. Louis will no longer be published on a bi-monthly basis after December, 1997. Beginning in July, 1998 they will be published semi-annually, each January and July.
 - 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.