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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: APRIL 1997

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.1 percent before seasonal adjustment in April to a level of 160.2 (1982-84=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. For the 12-month period ended in April, the CPI-U increased 2.5 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also rose 0.1 percent in April, prior to seasonal adjustment. The April 1997 CPI-W level of 157.2 was 2.3 percent higher than the index in April 1996.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.1 percent in April, the same as in March. The food index, which was unchanged in March, declined 0.2 percent in April. Grocery store food prices decreased 0.4 percent, primarily reflecting a sharp drop in fruit and vegetable prices. The energy index declined for the second consecutive month, down 1.5 percent in April. The index for petroleum-based energy fell 2.4 percent, and the index for energy services declined 0.6 percent. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent, following increases of 0.2 percent in each of the two preceding months. The larger advance in April reflects an upturn in the index for apparel and upkeep.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Apr. '97	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Apr. '97
	Changes from preceding month								
	1996	1997							
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.		
All Items	.3	.3	.3	.1	.3	.1	.1	1.5	2.5

Food and beverages	.5	.4	.0	-.2	.3	.0	-.2	.5	2.9
Housing	.3	.3	.2	.3	.3	.0	.2	1.8	2.6
Apparel and upkeep	.2	.3	.1	.4	.2	-.3	.9	3.4	.9
Transportation	.3	.3	.6	-.2	-.1	.1	-.4	-1.6	1.2
Medical care	.2	.3	.2	.2	.2	.4	.3	3.3	3.0
Entertainment	.3	.2	.3	.0	.2	.2	.1	1.7	2.3
Other goods and services	.3	.4	.1	.4	.5	.5	.8	7.1	4.4
Special Indexes:									
Energy	1.1	1.2	1.5	.8	.3	-1.7	-1.5	-11.3	.0
Food	.5	.4	.0	-.3	.3	.0	-.2	.5	2.8
All items less food and energy	.2	.2	.2	.1	.2	.2	.3	3.1	2.7

For the first four months of 1997, the CPI-U advanced at a 1.5 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 3.3 percent in all of 1996. The food and energy components, which had accelerated in 1996 after acting as moderating influences throughout most of the preceding five years, were responsible for the deceleration thus far in 1997. The food and energy indexes have declined at 0.4 and 6.5 percent SAARs, respectively, in the first four months of 1997. The CPI-U excluding food and energy advanced at a 2.7 percent SAAR in the first four months of 1997, about the same rate as the 2.6 percent rise for all of 1996.

The food and beverage index declined 0.2 percent in April. The index for grocery store food prices, which decreased 0.2 percent in March, fell 0.4 percent in April. The April drop reflects small declines in the indexes for cereal and bakery products and for dairy products--down 0.4 and 0.3 percent, respectively--coupled with a 3.4 percent decrease in the index for fruits and vegetables. Fresh vegetable prices, which rose substantially earlier in the year, declined sharply in April. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, fresh vegetable prices fell 5.1 percent in April after advancing 11.6 percent in the three-month period from December through March.) The indexes for fresh fruits and for processed fruits and vegetables declined 1.0 and 0.6 percent, respectively, in April. Partially offsetting the declines noted above, the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs rose 0.4 percent in April, following declines in each of the first three months of the year. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, this index declined 0.1 percent.) The index for other food at home rose 1.0 percent in April, reflecting, in large part, a 6.8 percent increase in coffee prices. Price increases of more than 1.0 percent also were recorded for snacks, for frozen prepared foods, and for the candy and other sweets components. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--each increased 0.1 percent in

April.

The housing component, which was unchanged in March, rose 0.2 percent in April. Each of the three major housing groups--shelter, fuel and other utilities, and household furnishings and operations--contributed to the upturn. Shelter costs increased 0.3 percent, following a 0.2 percent rise in March. In April, within shelter, renters' costs and homeowners' costs each increased 0.3 percent, and maintenance and repair costs rose 0.1 percent. The index for fuel and other utilities declined 0.2 percent in April after falling 0.8 percent in March. The index for household fuels fell 0.8 percent, reflecting declines in prices for fuel oil and natural gas--down 1.8 and 3.0 percent, respectively. The index for natural gas has declined 7.1 percent in the past two months after increasing 17.3 percent in the preceding 11-month period. Charges for electricity rose 0.5 percent in April. The index for household furnishings and operation, which was unchanged in March, increased 0.1 percent in April.

The transportation component declined for the third time in four months--down 0.4 percent in April. The index for gasoline, which declined 2.1 percent in March, fell 2.6 percent in April. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices dropped 0.4 percent in April.) As of April, the index for gasoline was 9.7 percent below its peak level of December 1990. New vehicle purchase costs continued to advance very moderately; the index for new vehicle prices was unchanged, and automobile finance charges increased 0.7 percent. During the 12-month period ended in April, new vehicle prices have increased 1.2 percent and automobile finance charges, 3.0 percent. The index for used cars decreased 1.6 percent in April. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, used car prices fell 0.1 percent.) Public transportation costs rose 1.2 percent in April. The index for airline fares, which rose 4.5 percent in March following the reimposition of the 10 percent federal tax on airline fares effective March 7, increased 1.2 percent in April.

The index for apparel and upkeep turned back up in April, advancing 0.9 percent. It was the largest advance in this index since a 1.1 percent increase in February 1993. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, clothing prices rose 1.3 percent in April, reflecting a return to regular prices from heavy discounting in March associated with the early Easter holiday.)

Medical care costs rose 0.3 percent in April to a level 3.0 percent above a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.2 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.3 percent. Charges for professional services and hospital and related services increased 0.3 and 0.4 percent, respectively.

Entertainment costs rose 0.1 percent in April. Increases in the indexes for fees for participant sports and for admissions to movies, theaters, concerts, and sporting events--up 1.4 and 0.7 percent, respectively--were largely offset by price declines for all entertainment commodity groups--reading materials, sporting goods and equipment, and toys, hobbies, and other entertainment commodities.

The index for other goods and services rose 0.8 percent in April. A 2.4 percent increase in the index for tobacco and smoking products accounted for two-thirds of the April advance 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 was unchanged in April.

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 Apr. '97	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Apr. '97
	Changes from preceding month								
	1996			1997					
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.		
All Items	.4	.3	.3	.1	.2	.1	.0	1.0	2.3
Food and beverages	.5	.4	.1	-.2	.2	.1	-.2	.3	2.8
Housing	.3	.3	.2	.3	.2	.1	.1	1.6	2.6
Apparel and upkeep	.2	.3	.1	.4	.4	-.3	1.0	4.3	1.0
Transportation	.4	.3	.6	.0	.0	-.1	-.6	-2.7	.8
Medical care	.2	.3	.2	.2	.2	.3	.3	3.2	3.0
Entertainment	.3	.3	.3	.0	.1	.1	.1	1.3	2.2
Other goods and services	.3	.4	.0	.6	.4	.5	1.0	7.6	4.6
Special Indexes:									
Energy	1.2	1.4	1.5	.9	.3	-1.8	-1.9	-12.9	-.2
Food	.6	.3	.1	-.3	.3	.1	-.2	.5	2.9
All items less food and energy	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.3	2.9	2.5

After seasonal adjustment, the level of the CPI-U for All Items was 160.0 in April; the seasonally adjusted CPI-W for All Items was 157.0.

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 May are scheduled for release on Tuesday, June 17, 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 Analysis Seasonal Adjustment for some CPI series. Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment allows for better estimates of seasonally adjusted data. Extreme values and/or sharp movements which might distort the seasonal pattern are estimated and removed from the data prior to calculation of seasonal factors. Beginning with the calculation of seasonal factors for 1996, X-12-ARIMA software was used for Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment.

For the fuel oil and the motor fuels indexes, this procedure was used to offset the effects that extreme price volatility would otherwise have had on the estimates of seasonally adjusted data for those series. For some women's apparel indexes and the girls' apparel index, the procedure was used to offset the effects of changes in pricing methodology. For the tobacco and smoking products index, this procedure was used to offset the effects of increases in excise taxes and wholesale tobacco prices. For some alcoholic beverage series, Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment was used to offset the effects of excise tax increases. For the nonalcoholic beverages index, the procedure was used to offset the effects of a large increase in coffee prices due to adverse weather. For the water and sewerage maintenance index, the procedure was used to account for a data collection anomaly.

A description of Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment, as well as a list of unusual events modeled and seasonal factors for these items, may be obtained by writing the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, Washington, DC 20212 or by calling Claire

McAnaw Gallagher on (202) 606-6968.

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 1996	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Apr. 1997 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Mar. 1997	Apr. 1997	Apr. 1996	Mar. 1997	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.	Mar. to Apr.
All items	100.000	160.0	160.2	2.5	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1
All items (1967=100)	-	479.3	479.7	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	17.484	157.1	157.1	2.9	.0	.3	.0	-.2
Food	15.913	156.6	156.6	2.8	.0	.3	.0	-.2
Food at home	10.040	157.7	157.5	2.7	-.1	.5	-.2	-.4
Cereals and bakery products	1.479	176.7	176.9	2.1	.1	.1	.3	-.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.002	147.8	147.7	4.2	-.1	-.2	-.9	.4
Dairy products 1/	1.245	146.1	145.7	6.4	-.3	-1.1	-.1	-.3
+ Fruits and vegetables 2/	1.974	189.3	186.4	-1.1	-1.5	3.0	.1	-3.4
+ Other food at home	2.340	145.5	146.9	2.9	1.0	.2	.1	1.0
Sugar and sweets .....	.331	146.3	147.9	4.0	1.1	.0	-.6	1.1
Fats and oils .....	.246	142.4	142.4	1.8	.0	.1	-.1	.0
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.724	129.5	131.9	1.5	1.9	-.5	1.3	1.9
Other prepared food	1.039	160.3	161.1	3.7	.5	.8	-.4	.5
Food away from home	5.873	156.0	156.2	3.0	.1	.2	.3	.1
Alcoholic beverages	1.571	162.1	162.3	2.8	.1	.2	-.1	.1
Housing 2/	41.203	155.9	155.8	2.6	-.1	.3	.0	.2
+ Shelter	28.194	175.2	175.3	3.1	.1	.3	.2	.3
Renters' costs 3/ 4/	7.994	186.8	186.3	3.7	-.3	.3	.3	.3
+ Rent, residential	5.731	165.1	165.5	2.9	.2	.1	.3	.2
+ Other renters' costs 4/	2.263	231.7	228.0	5.5	-1.6	.9	.3	.4
+ Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/	20.000	179.8	180.2	2.8	.2	.3	.2	.3
+ Owners' equivalent rent 3/	19.616	180.1	180.5	2.8	.2	.3	.1	.3

+	Household insurance 3/ 4/ .....	.383	163.3	163.8	2.8	.3	.9	-.5	.4
+	Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/ .....	.200	142.4	142.5	3.3	.1	.6	.1	.1
+	Maintenance and repair services 1/ 4/ .....	.123	148.4	148.9	3.5	.3	.1	.0	.3
+	Maintenance and repair commodities 1/ 4/ .....	.077	134.3	133.6	2.8	-.5	1.1	.3	-.5
+	Fuel and other utilities 2/	7.102	129.9	128.9	2.8	-.8	.3	-.8	-.2
+	Fuels	3.878	117.2	115.3	2.1	-1.6	.5	-1.5	-.8
	Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities .....	.424	105.5	102.1	.0	-3.2	-1.9	-3.3	-2.1
	Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	3.453	123.4	121.7	2.4	-1.4	.7	-1.3	-.6
	Other utilities and public services 4/	3.224	160.5	160.8	3.5	.2	.0	.1	.2
+	Household furnishings and operation 2/ .	5.908	125.4	125.5	.6	.1	.2	.0	.1
+	Housefurnishings 4/	3.332	111.1	111.1	-.7	.0	.2	-.3	-.2
+	Housekeeping supplies	1.093	142.8	143.3	1.3	.4	.1	.0	.4
+	Housekeeping services 4/	1.482	150.6	151.1	3.1	.3	.1	.5	.4
+	Apparel and upkeep	5.330	134.5	136.1	.9	1.2	.2	-.3	.9
	Apparel commodities 4/	4.786	131.0	132.7	.8	1.3	.2	-.4	1.1
+	Men's and boys' apparel	1.280	129.2	131.4	1.9	1.7	-.9	-.2	1.8
	Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.102	130.1	131.9	1.3	1.4	.7	-.6	.8
	Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/ ....	.186	129.7	133.7	.0	3.1	-.5	2.0	3.1
+	Footwear .....	.718	127.0	129.3	.9	1.8	.2	-.4	1.2
	Other apparel commodities 4/.....	.500	149.5	148.1	-3.5	-.9	.7	-.3	-.7
+	Apparel services 1/ 4/ .....	.545	162.4	162.6	2.4	.1	.3	.1	.1
+	Transportation	17.140	144.9	144.8	1.2	-.1	-.1	.1	-.4
	Private transportation	15.499	141.5	141.3	.7	-.1	.2	-.2	-.6
	New vehicles	4.955	145.4	145.2	1.2	-.1	.0	.1	.0

All items	100.000	160.0	160.2	2.5	.1	.3	.1	.1	
Commodities	42.873	142.0	142.3	1.5	.2	.2	-.2	-.1	
Food and beverages	17.484	157.1	157.1	2.9	.0	.3	.0	-.2	
Commodities less food and beverages	25.389	132.9	133.2	.5	.2	.1	-.3	.0	
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	15.147	135.0	135.8	.8	.6	.3	-.8	.1	
Apparel commodities 4/	4.786	131.0	132.7	.8	1.3	.2	-.4	1.1	
+ Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.362	140.2	140.6	.9	.3	.1	-.6	-.4	
Durables	10.242	129.9	129.6	.1	-.2	.1	.0	-.2	
Services	57.127	178.2	178.3	3.2	.1	.2	.2	.3	
Rent of shelter 3/	27.577	182.3	182.4	3.1	.1	.3	.3	.3	
+ Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	8.698	144.3	143.7	2.9	-.4	.4	-.3	-.1	
+ Transportation services	7.148	184.9	185.4	3.6	.3	-.1	.8	.4	
Medical care services	6.073	237.7	238.1	3.0	.2	.2	.3	.3	
Other services	7.631	207.3	207.7	4.1	.2	.4	.4	.3	
Special indexes									
All items less food	84.087	160.6	160.8	2.4	.1	.2	.1	.2	
All items less shelter	71.806	155.6	155.8	2.2	.1	.2	.0	.0	
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	80.000	161.2	161.2	2.3	.0	.2	.1	.1	
+ All items less medical care	92.654	155.9	156.0	2.4	.1	.3	.0	.1	
Commodities less food	26.960	134.1	134.4	.7	.2	.1	-.2	-.1	
Nondurables less food	16.718	136.6	137.4	1.0	.6	.2	-.7	.1	
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.932	141.4	141.7	1.1	.2	.1	-.7	-.4	
Nondurables	32.631	146.2	146.6	1.9	.3	.3	-.4	-.1	
Services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/	29.550	186.7	186.8	3.4	.1	.2	.3	.3	
+ Services less medical care services	51.054	172.7	172.8	3.3	.1	.2	.3	.2	
Energy	7.049	111.2	110.0	.0	-1.1	.3	-1.7	-1.5	
All items less energy	92.951	166.5	166.8	2.6	.2	.2	.2	.2	
All items less food and energy	77.038	169.0	169.4	2.7	.2	.2	.2	.3	
Commodities less food and energy commodities	23.364	143.0	143.5	1.1	.3	.1	.1	.3	
Energy commodities	3.596	106.6	105.8	-2.1	-.8	-.2	-2.2	-2.4	
Services less energy services	53.674	183.8	184.1	3.3	.2	.3	.3	.3	
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:									
1982-84=\$1.00 1/	-	\$.625	\$.624	-2.5	-.2	-.3	-.2	-.2	
+ 1967=\$1.00 1/	-	.209	.208	-	-	-	-	-	

- + -
- + -
- + 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				
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	July	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
	1997	1997	1997	1997	1996	Oct. 1996	Jan. 1997	Apr. 1997	Oct. 1996	Apr. 1997
All items	-	-	-	-	2.6	3.1	2.8	1.5	2.8	2.2
Food and beverages	156.3	156.8	156.8	156.5	5.1	5.3	.8	.5	5.2	.6
Food	156.0	156.5	156.5	156.2	5.4	5.3	.5	.5	5.3	.5
Food at home	156.7	157.5	157.2	156.5	6.5	6.6	-1.3	-.5	6.5	-.9
Cereals and bakery products	176.3	176.4	177.0	176.3	3.5	2.8	2.1	.0	3.2	1.0
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	148.7	148.4	147.1	147.7	9.0	8.2	2.5	-2.7	8.6	-.1
Dairy products 1/	147.8	146.2	146.1	145.7	15.4	22.2	-4.0	-5.6	18.8	-4.8
Fruits and vegetables 2/	182.2	187.7	187.8	181.5	5.6	4.4	-11.0	-1.5	5.0	-6.4
Other food at home	144.5	144.8	145.0	146.5	1.7	2.5	2.0	5.7	2.1	3.8
Sugar and sweets	146.9	146.9	146.0	147.6	6.3	3.4	4.2	1.9	4.8	3.0
Fats and oils	141.9	142.1	142.0	142.0	1.7	4.7	.9	.3	3.2	.6

	Nonalcoholic beverages	127.9	127.3	129.0	131.5	-3.4	-2.2	.9	11.7	-2.8	6.2
	Other prepared food	159.4	160.6	160.0	160.8	4.2	4.7	2.5	3.6	4.4	3.1
	Food away from home	155.3	155.6	156.0	156.2	3.2	3.4	3.2	2.3	3.3	2.7
	Alcoholic beverages	161.4	161.8	161.6	161.8	2.8	4.4	3.0	1.0	3.6	2.0
	Housing 2/	155.2	155.6	155.6	155.9	2.9	2.6	3.4	1.8	2.8	2.6
+	Shelter	173.4	174.0	174.3	174.9	3.6	2.4	2.8	3.5	3.0	3.2
	Renters' costs 3/ 4/.....	182.8	183.4	183.9	184.5	4.6	2.5	3.8	3.8	3.5	3.8
+	Rent, residential	164.4	164.6	165.1	165.5	3.3	2.5	3.0	2.7	2.9	2.8
	Other renters' costs 4/	221.1	223.1	223.7	224.6	7.3	2.2	6.0	6.5	4.8	6.2
+	Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	179.0	179.5	179.8	180.4	3.2	2.3	2.7	3.2	2.8	2.9
+	Owners' equivalent rent 3/	179.3	179.9	180.1	180.7	3.2	2.3	2.7	3.2	2.8	2.9
+	Household insurance 3/ 4/	162.9	164.3	163.5	164.2	3.8	5.1	-1.0	3.2	4.4	1.1
+	Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/	141.5	142.3	142.4	142.5	4.1	2.3	3.8	2.9	3.2	3.3
+	Maintenance and repair services 1/ 4/	148.2	148.4	148.4	148.9	7.1	2.8	2.5	1.9	4.9	2.2
+	Maintenance and repair commodities 1/ 4/	132.5	133.9	134.3	133.6	.3	1.2	6.3	3.4	.8	4.8
+	Fuel and other utilities 2/.....	131.2	131.6	130.5	130.2	2.2	5.1	7.0	-3.0	3.7	1.9
+	Fuels	118.8	119.4	117.6	116.7	-.3	6.1	10.4	-6.9	2.8	1.4
	Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities	108.2	106.1	102.6	100.4	-20.2	45.9	15.8	-25.9	7.9	-7.3
	Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	125.3	126.2	124.6	123.9	2.0	2.3	10.2	-4.4	2.2	2.6
	Other utilities and public services 4/	160.0	160.0	160.2	160.6	5.5	3.6	3.1	1.5	4.6	2.3
+	Household furnishings and operation 2/.....	124.9	125.1	125.1	125.2	.6	1.0	.0	1.0	.8	.5
+	Housefurnishings 4/	111.0	111.2	110.9	110.7	-1.4	.0	-.4	-1.1	-.7	-.7
+	Housekeeping supplies	142.3	142.5	142.5	143.0	-.3	1.1	2.3	2.0	.4	2.1
+	Housekeeping services 4/	149.6	149.7	150.5	151.1	5.6	3.5	-.8	4.1	4.6	1.6
	Apparel and upkeep	132.3	132.6	132.2	133.4	-2.1	-.6	3.1	3.4	-1.4	3.2
	Apparel commodities 4/	128.6	128.8	128.3	129.7	-2.8	-.6	3.2	3.5	-1.7	3.3

	Toilet goods and personal care appliances 1/	143.6	143.3	143.6	144.5	.6	.6	-2.7	2.5	.6	-.1
+	Personal care services 1/	160.7	160.7	161.2	162.0	1.6	4.2	7.3	3.3	2.8	5.3
+	Personal and educational expenses 4/	253.5	255.0	256.3	257.0	5.0	3.3	4.7	5.6	4.1	5.2
+	School books and supplies	232.2	233.2	234.0	235.1	3.1	7.4	2.8	5.1	5.2	3.9
+	Personal and educational services 4/ ...	255.0	256.5	257.8	258.5	4.9	3.1	4.8	5.6	4.0	5.2
	Commodity and service group										
	All items	-	-	-	-	2.6	3.1	2.8	1.5	2.8	2.2
	Commodities	141.8	142.1	141.8	141.7	.9	3.2	2.3	-.3	2.0	1.0
	Food and beverages	156.3	156.8	156.8	156.5	5.1	5.3	.8	.5	5.2	.6
	Commodities less food and beverages	133.0	133.1	132.7	132.7	-1.8	1.8	3.4	-.9	.0	1.2
	Nondurables less food and beverages	135.3	135.7	134.6	134.8	-2.1	1.8	5.5	-1.5	-.1	2.0
	Apparel commodities 4/	128.6	128.8	128.3	129.7	-2.8	-.6	3.2	3.5	-1.7	3.3
+	Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	142.2	142.3	141.4	140.8	-4.0	2.9	8.9	-3.9	-.6	2.3
	Durables	129.5	129.6	129.6	129.3	.3	.9	-.3	-.6	.6	-.5
	Services	177.2	177.6	178.0	178.5	3.8	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.1
	Rent of shelter 3/	180.8	181.3	181.8	182.3	3.2	2.5	3.2	3.4	2.8	3.3
+	Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	145.1	145.7	145.2	145.0	4.3	3.1	4.8	-.3	3.7	2.2
+	Transportation services	182.9	182.7	184.1	184.9	4.6	5.9	-.4	4.4	5.2	2.0
	Medical care services	236.0	236.4	237.2	237.9	3.3	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.0	3.1
	Other services	206.1	206.9	207.8	208.4	4.3	3.0	4.4	4.5	3.6	4.5
	Special indexes										
	All items less food	159.9	160.2	160.3	160.6	2.1	2.8	3.1	1.8	2.4	2.4
	All items less shelter	155.2	155.5	155.5	155.5	2.1	3.4	2.6	.8	2.8	1.7
	All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	160.5	160.8	160.9	161.0	2.3	3.3	2.8	1.3	2.8	2.0
+	All items less medical care	155.1	155.5	155.5	155.7	2.7	3.2	2.6	1.6	2.9	2.1
	Commodities less food	134.2	134.4	134.1	134.0	-1.8	2.1	3.0	-.6	.2	1.2
	Nondurables less food	136.8	137.1	136.2	136.3	-1.8	1.8	5.4	-1.5	.0	1.9
	Nondurables less food and apparel	142.9	143.1	142.1	141.5	-1.7	4.4	6.1	-3.9	1.3	1.0
	Nondurables	146.1	146.5	145.9	145.7	1.4	3.4	3.6	-1.1	2.4	1.2
	Services less rent of shelter 3/	185.9	186.2	186.7	187.2	4.5	3.5	3.1	2.8	4.0	2.9

+	Services less medical care services	171.7	172.0	172.5	172.9	3.9	3.1	3.3	2.8	3.5	3.1
	Energy	114.6	114.9	112.9	111.2	-5.6	4.5	14.9	-11.3	-.7	.9
	All items less energy	165.5	165.9	166.2	166.6	3.2	3.0	1.7	2.7	3.1	2.2
	All items less food and energy	167.9	168.3	168.7	169.2	2.7	2.4	2.2	3.1	2.6	2.7
	Commodities less food and energy commodities	142.0	142.2	142.3	142.7	.3	1.4	.8	2.0	.9	1.4
	Energy commodities	111.5	111.3	108.8	106.2	-12.3	6.2	20.1	-17.7	-3.5	-.6
	Services less energy services	182.4	182.9	183.4	184.0	4.1	2.9	2.7	3.6	3.5	3.1

+

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 Apr. 1997 from-			Percent change to Mar. 1997 from-		
		Jan. 1997	Feb. 1997	Mar. 1997	Apr. 1997	Apr. 1996	Feb. 1997	Mar. 1997	Mar. 1996	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1997
U.S. city average	M	159.1	159.6	160.0	160.2	2.5	0.4	0.1	2.8	0.6	0.3
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	166.2	166.9	167.3	167.1	2.6	.1	-.1	2.8	.7	.2
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	166.8	167.7	168.1	167.7	2.5	.0	-.2	2.7	.8	.2

+

San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA 5/ ..	M	157.0	157.9	159.2	159.6	3.7	1.1	.3	4.1	1.4	.8
+ -											
Baltimore, MD 6/	1	155.8	-	157.1	-	-	-	-	2.7	.8	-
+ -											
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	167.7	-	168.1	-	-	-	-	3.3	.2	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	153.8	-	155.4	-	-	-	-	3.0	1.0	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	158.1	-	158.5	-	-	-	-	4.0	.3	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL 7/	1	151.5	-	152.2	-	-	-	-	2.2	.5	-
+ -											
Washington, DC-MD-VA 6/	1	161.6	-	161.9	-	-	-	-	2.2	.2	-
+ -											
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	2	-	150.7	-	150.6	1.4	-.1	-	-	-	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI	2	-	155.4	-	156.0	2.4	.4	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	-	144.5	-	145.2	1.5	.5	-	-	-	-
Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, PA 7/	2	-	156.2	-	156.6	2.5	.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/ 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 Apr. 1997 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Mar. 1997	Apr. 1997	Apr. 1996	Mar. 1997	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.	Mar. to Apr.
All items	100.000	157.0	157.2	2.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0
All items (1967=100)	-	467.8	468.3	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	19.436	156.5	156.5	2.8	.0	.2	.1	-.2
Food	17.749	156.1	156.1	2.9	.0	.3	.1	-.2
Food at home	11.387	156.7	156.6	2.8	-.1	.3	-.1	-.3
Cereals and bakery products	1.688	176.4	176.6	2.1	.1	-.1	.4	-.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.535	147.4	147.3	4.1	-.1	-.3	-.8	.5
Dairy products 1/	1.387	145.8	145.4	6.3	-.3	-1.1	-.1	-.3
+ Fruits and vegetables 2/	2.086	188.2	185.2	-1.3	-1.6	2.7	.3	-3.3
+ Other food at home	2.691	145.1	146.4	2.8	.9	.2	.1	1.0
Sugar and sweets .....	.373	146.2	147.9	4.0	1.2	.2	-.7	1.2
Fats and oils .....	.282	142.2	142.1	1.7	-.1	.1	.1	-.1
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.841	128.9	131.1	1.3	1.7	-.4	1.1	1.8
Other prepared food	1.194	160.1	161.0	3.8	.6	.7	-.5	.7
Food away from home	6.362	156.0	156.2	3.0	.1	.2	.3	.0
Alcoholic beverages	1.687	161.5	161.7	2.8	.1	.1	.1	.0
+ Housing 2/	38.747	152.5	152.4	2.6	-.1	.2	.1	.1
+ Shelter	25.867	169.9	170.1	3.0	.1	.3	.2	.3

	Renters' costs 3/ 4/.....	8.079	161.9	161.8	3.3	-.1	.3	.3	.4
+	Rent, residential	6.580	164.7	165.2	2.9	.3	.1	.2	.3
	Other renters' costs 4/	1.499	229.9	226.9	5.2	-1.3	.6	.3	.7
+	Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	17.599	163.9	164.3	2.8	.2	.3	.2	.2
+	Owners' equivalent rent 3/	17.277	164.3	164.6	2.8	.2	.3	.2	.2
+	Household insurance 3/ 4/ .....	.322	148.1	148.5	1.7	.3	.7	-.3	.4
+	Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/ .....	.189	140.9	141.0	3.1	.1	.4	.1	.1
+	Maintenance and repair services 1/ 4/ .....	.105	150.3	150.9	3.4	.4	.2	.0	.4
+	Maintenance and repair commodities 1/ 4/ .....	.084	128.7	128.2	2.6	-.4	.8	.3	-.4
+	Fuel and other utilities 2/	7.344	129.6	128.6	2.7	-.8	.3	-.8	-.4
+	Fuels	3.979	116.5	114.7	2.1	-1.5	.5	-1.4	-.9
	Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities .....	.391	105.3	101.7	.1	-3.4	-2.0	-3.5	-2.2
	Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	3.588	122.9	121.2	2.3	-1.4	.7	-1.2	-.8
	Other utilities and public services 4/	3.365	161.2	161.5	3.5	.2	.1	.1	.2
+	Household furnishings and operation 2/ .	5.536	123.9	124.0	.5	.1	.1	.0	.0
+	Housefurnishings 4/	3.261	109.8	109.7	-.7	-.1	.1	-.1	-.3
+	Housekeeping supplies	1.129	143.5	143.9	1.6	.3	.1	.1	.4
+	Housekeeping services 4/	1.145	153.3	153.7	2.7	.3	.1	.3	.5
+	Apparel and upkeep	5.348	133.8	135.5	1.0	1.3	.4	-.3	1.0
	Apparel commodities 4/	4.838	130.5	132.3	.8	1.4	.4	-.3	1.0
+	Men's and boys' apparel	1.286	128.8	131.1	1.9	1.8	-.9	-.2	1.8
	Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.053	129.2	130.7	.9	1.2	1.1	-.4	.4
	Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/ ....	.240	130.7	134.9	.1	3.2	-.3	2.0	3.2
+	Footwear .....	.799	127.9	130.3	1.0	1.9	.1	-.5	1.3

	Personal and educational expenses 4/ ...	3.788	251.6	251.8	4.9	.1	.6	.5	.3
+	School books and supplies .....	.232	237.1	237.4	4.8	.1	.3	.3	.6
	Personal and educational services 4/ .	3.556	253.0	253.3	4.9	.1	.6	.5	.3
+	-								
	Commodity and service group								
	All items	100.000	157.0	157.2	2.3	.1	.2	.1	.0
	Commodities	47.057	142.0	142.2	1.4	.1	.2	-.1	-.2
	Food and beverages	19.436	156.5	156.5	2.8	.0	.2	.1	-.2
	Commodities less food and beverages	27.621	133.1	133.4	.5	.2	.2	-.3	-.2
	Nondurables less food and beverages ..	16.215	134.8	135.6	.8	.6	.2	-.7	.0
	Apparel commodities 4/	4.838	130.5	132.3	.8	1.4	.4	-.3	1.0
+	Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	11.377	139.9	140.3	.9	.3	.1	-.8	-.4
	Durables	11.407	129.6	129.3	-.1	-.2	.1	.0	-.3
	Services	52.943	175.2	175.3	3.1	.1	.2	.2	.2
	Rent of shelter 3/	25.329	163.5	163.7	3.0	.1	.2	.2	.3
+	Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	8.553	132.6	132.0	2.8	-.5	.4	-.4	-.1
+	Transportation services	7.314	182.3	182.8	3.3	.3	-.1	.6	.4
	Medical care services	5.204	237.4	237.9	3.1	.2	.0	.4	.3
	Other services	6.542	204.1	204.6	4.2	.2	.3	.4	.3
	Special indexes								
	All items less food	82.251	157.1	157.3	2.2	.1	.2	.1	.1
	All items less shelter	74.133	153.7	153.8	2.1	.1	.1	.0	-.1
	All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	82.401	147.5	147.6	2.2	.1	.2	.0	.0
+	All items less medical care	93.749	153.5	153.6	2.3	.1	.2	.0	.1
	Commodities less food	29.308	134.2	134.6	.6	.3	.1	-.3	-.1
	Nondurables less food	17.901	136.4	137.1	1.0	.5	.3	-.9	-.1
	Nondurables less food and apparel	13.064	141.1	141.4	1.1	.2	.2	-.8	-.4
	Nondurables	35.651	146.0	146.4	1.9	.3	.2	-.3	-.1
	Services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/	27.613	166.3	166.4	3.4	.1	.3	.2	.1
+	Services less medical care services	47.738	169.9	170.0	3.2	.1	.2	.2	.2
	Energy	7.901	110.7	109.6	-.2	-1.0	.3	-1.8	-1.9
	All items less energy	92.099	163.5	163.9	2.6	.2	.2	.2	.2
	All items less food and energy	74.350	165.5	165.9	2.5	.2	.2	.2	.3

Commodities less food and energy commodities	24.996	142.5	143.1	1.1	.4	.2	.1	.2
Energy commodities	4.312	106.5	105.8	-2.3	-.7	-.3	-2.3	-2.7
Services less energy services	49.354	181.0	181.3	3.2	.2	.2	.3	.3
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:								
1982-84=\$1.00 1/	-	\$.637	\$.636	-2.3	-.2	-.3	-.2	-.2
+ 1967=\$1.00 1/	-	.214	.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				
	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1997	Mar. 1997	Apr. 1997	July 1996	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
						Oct. 1996	Jan. 1997	Apr. 1997	Oct. 1996	Apr. 1997
All items	-	-	-	-	2.4	3.1	2.9	1.0	2.8	1.9
Food and beverages	156.0	156.3	156.4	156.1	5.1	5.3	1.0	.3	5.2	.6
Food	155.5	155.9	156.0	155.7	5.1	5.6	.5	.5	5.4	.5
Food at home	156.0	156.5	156.3	155.8	6.2	6.7	-1.0	-.5	6.4	-.8
Cereals and bakery products	176.2	176.0	176.7	176.0	3.5	2.6	2.8	-.5	3.0	1.1

	Entertainment services 4/	181.4	181.6	182.3	183.3	4.6	2.7	3.4	4.3	3.7	3.8
+	-										
	Other goods and services 2/.....	216.8	217.7	218.7	220.8	3.6	3.2	4.0	7.6	3.4	5.8
+	Tobacco and smoking products	236.1	237.2	238.2	243.7	2.8	3.5	2.2	13.5	3.1	7.7
	Personal care 1/	151.6	151.4	151.6	152.6	1.1	2.4	1.9	2.7	1.7	2.3
+	Toilet goods and personal care appliances 1/	144.4	144.2	144.3	145.4	.8	1.1	-2.7	2.8	1.0	.0
+	Personal care services 1/	160.8	160.8	161.2	162.1	1.3	4.7	7.3	3.3	3.0	5.3
+	Personal and educational expenses 4/	249.2	250.6	251.8	252.6	4.9	3.5	5.6	5.6	4.2	5.6
+	School books and supplies	234.0	234.8	235.6	236.9	2.5	8.7	3.1	5.1	5.6	4.1
	Personal and educational services 4/ ...	250.6	252.0	253.3	254.1	5.0	3.1	5.8	5.7	4.1	5.7
+	-										
	Commodity and service group										
	All items	-	-	-	-	2.4	3.1	2.9	1.0	2.8	1.9
	Commodities	141.9	142.2	142.0	141.7	.6	3.2	2.6	-.6	1.9	1.0
	Food and beverages	156.0	156.3	156.4	156.1	5.1	5.3	1.0	.3	5.2	.6
	Commodities less food and beverages	133.3	133.5	133.1	132.8	-2.1	1.8	3.7	-1.5	-.2	1.1
	Nondurables less food and beverages	135.4	135.7	134.7	134.7	-2.1	1.8	6.1	-2.1	-.1	2.0
	Apparel commodities 4/	128.0	128.5	128.1	129.4	-2.8	-1.6	3.2	4.4	-2.2	3.8
+	Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	142.2	142.4	141.2	140.7	-4.8	3.5	9.5	-4.2	-.7	2.5
	Durables	129.3	129.4	129.4	129.0	-.3	.9	-.3	-.9	.3	-.6
	Services	174.3	174.7	175.1	175.5	3.6	2.8	3.3	2.8	3.2	3.0
	Rent of shelter 3/	162.5	162.9	163.2	163.7	3.3	2.3	3.3	3.0	2.8	3.1
+	Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	133.5	134.0	133.4	133.2	3.8	3.1	5.3	-.9	3.4	2.1
+	Transportation services	180.8	180.6	181.6	182.4	4.6	5.0	.2	3.6	4.8	1.9
	Medical care services	235.9	236.0	236.9	237.6	3.3	2.6	3.3	2.9	3.0	3.1
	Other services	203.0	203.7	204.6	205.3	4.5	2.8	5.1	4.6	3.7	4.8
	Special indexes										
	All items less food	156.5	156.8	156.9	157.0	1.6	2.6	3.4	1.3	2.1	2.3
	All items less shelter	153.5	153.7	153.7	153.6	1.9	3.5	2.9	.3	2.7	1.6

All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	147.1	147.4	147.4	147.4	2.2	3.4	2.8	.8	2.8	1.8
+ All items less medical care	153.0	153.3	153.3	153.4	2.2	3.2	2.9	1.0	2.7	2.0
Commodities less food	134.6	134.8	134.4	134.2	-1.8	1.8	3.6	-1.2	.0	1.2
Nondurables less food	136.9	137.3	136.1	136.0	-2.1	2.7	5.7	-2.6	.3	1.5
Nondurables less food and apparel	142.8	143.1	141.9	141.3	-2.0	4.4	6.7	-4.1	1.1	1.1
Nondurables	146.0	146.3	145.8	145.6	1.4	3.4	3.9	-1.1	2.4	1.4
Services less rent of shelter 3/	165.7	166.2	166.5	166.7	4.3	3.5	3.2	2.4	3.9	2.8
+ Services less medical care services	169.1	169.4	169.7	170.1	3.9	2.7	3.4	2.4	3.3	2.9
Energy	114.6	114.9	112.8	110.7	-6.0	4.1	16.1	-12.9	-1.1	.5
All items less energy	162.6	162.9	163.3	163.6	3.0	3.0	1.7	2.5	3.0	2.1
All items less food and energy	164.6	164.9	165.3	165.8	2.7	2.2	2.2	2.9	2.5	2.6
Commodities less food and energy										
commodities	141.6	141.9	142.1	142.4	.0	1.1	.9	2.3	.6	1.6
Energy commodities	112.0	111.7	109.1	106.2	-12.3	5.8	21.4	-19.2	-3.6	-.9
Services less energy services	180.0	180.3	180.9	181.5	3.9	3.0	2.7	3.4	3.4	3.0

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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)

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Area	Pricing schedule	Indexes				Percent change to Apr. 1997 from-			Percent change to Mar. 1997 from-		
		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Apr.	Feb.	Mar.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.
		1997	1997	1997	1997	1996	1997	1997	1996	1997	1997
	1/										

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-

U.S. city average	M	156.3	156.8	157.0	157.2	2.3	0.3	0.1	2.7	0.4	0.1
Region and area size 2/											
+											
-											
Northeast urban.....	M	163.5	164.2	164.5	164.4	2.6	.1	-.1	2.7	.6	.2
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	163.1	163.9	164.2	163.9	2.4	.0	-.2	2.6	.7	.2
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	162.0	161.9	162.6	163.1	2.9	.7	.3	2.8	.4	.4
+											
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000 3/.....	M	166.3	166.8	167.0	167.0	2.5	.1	.0	3.0	.4	.1
+											
-											
North Central urban	M	152.1	152.4	152.4	152.6	2.4	.1	.1	2.8	.2	.0
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	151.9	152.3	152.3	152.6	2.4	.2	.2	2.5	.3	.0
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	150.5	150.5	150.5	150.8	2.4	.2	.2	2.7	.0	.0
+											
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000 3/.....	M	155.2	155.6	155.3	155.4	2.7	-.1	.1	3.3	.1	-.2
+											
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	150.5	150.3	150.1	150.0	2.0	-.2	-.1	3.0	-.3	-.1
South urban	M	154.2	154.5	154.8	155.1	2.2	.4	.2	2.7	.4	.2
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	153.1	153.2	153.4	153.6	2.0	.3	.1	2.6	.2	.1
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	154.7	155.0	155.6	155.8	2.6	.5	.1	3.0	.6	.4
+											
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000 3/.....	M	154.9	155.5	155.5	155.8	1.8	.2	.2	2.3	.4	.0
+											
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	155.3	155.8	156.1	156.3	2.2	.3	.1	2.6	.5	.2
West urban	M	156.3	156.8	157.4	157.8	2.3	.6	.3	2.6	.7	.4
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	154.7	155.2	155.9	156.2	2.2	.6	.2	2.5	.8	.5
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000 3/.....	M	161.7	162.1	163.1	163.3	2.6	.7	.1	3.1	.9	.6
+											
-											
Size classes											
A 4/	M	142.5	143.0	143.2	143.4	2.3	.3	.1	2.5	.5	.1
+											
B 3/	M	156.3	156.5	157.0	157.3	2.6	.5	.2	2.9	.4	.3
+											
C 3/	M	158.2	158.7	158.8	159.0	2.3	.2	.1	2.8	.4	.1
+											
D	M	155.3	155.4	155.4	155.6	2.1	.1	.1	2.6	.1	.0

Selected local areas

Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	155.3	155.9	155.6	155.3	2.5	-.4	-.2	2.8	.2	-.2
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	153.6	153.6	154.2	154.3	1.2	.5	.1	1.5	.4	.4
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	165.1	166.2	166.6	166.1	2.4	-.1	-.3	2.5	.9	.2
Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD 5/	M	164.4	164.9	165.3	165.1	2.4	.1	-.1	2.5	.5	.2
+ San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA 5/ ..	M	154.1	155.0	156.2	156.7	3.2	1.1	.3	3.6	1.4	.8
+ -											
Baltimore, MD 6/	1	154.6	-	155.9	-	-	-	-	2.7	.8	-
+ Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	166.6	-	166.8	-	-	-	-	3.2	.1	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	146.2	-	147.5	-	-	-	-	3.1	.9	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	156.0	-	156.2	-	-	-	-	3.9	.1	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL 7/	1	150.6	-	151.1	-	-	-	-	2.1	.3	-
+ Washington, DC-MD-VA 6/	1	158.9	-	159.1	-	-	-	-	2.4	.1	-
+ -											
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	2	-	150.8	-	150.4	1.2	-.3	-	-	-	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI	2	-	150.3	-	151.0	2.3	.5	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	-	143.6	-	144.1	1.3	.3	-	-	-	-
Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, PA 7/	2	-	149.6	-	150.1	2.5	.3	-	-	-	-

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

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- 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.

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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.

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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.

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- 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.