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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: MAY 1997

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) declined 0.1 percent before seasonal adjustment in May to a level of 160.1 (1982-84=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. For the 12-month period ended in May, the CPI-U increased 2.2 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was unchanged in May, prior to seasonal adjustment. The May 1997 CPI-W level of 157.2 was 2.1 percent higher than the index in May 1996.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.1 percent in May, the same as in each of the preceding two months. The food index, which declined 0.2 percent in April, advanced 0.4 percent in May. Grocery store food prices rose 0.6 percent, reflecting a sharp turnaround in the index for fruits and vegetables. The energy index declined for the third consecutive month, down 2.4 percent in May. The index for petroleum-based energy fell 3.6 percent, and the index for energy services declined 1.3 percent. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 0.2 percent, following an increase of 0.3 percent in April. The smaller advance in May reflects downturns in the indexes for airline fares and tobacco and smoking products and a deceleration in the index for apparel and upkeep.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Un- adjusted	
	Changes from preceding month							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended	12-mos. ended
	1996	1997							
Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	May '97	May '97	
All Items	.3	.3	.1	.3	.1	.1	.1	.8	2.2

Food and beverages	.4	.0	-.2	.3	.0	-.2	.4	.8	3.0
Housing	.3	.2	.3	.3	.0	.2	.1	1.3	2.6
Apparel and upkeep	.3	.1	.4	.2	-.3	.9	.1	3.1	1.2
Transportation	.3	.6	-.2	-.1	.1	-.4	-.8	-4.6	.0
Medical care	.3	.2	.2	.2	.4	.3	.3	3.8	3.0
Entertainment	.2	.3	.0	.2	.2	.1	.2	1.7	2.1
Other goods and services	.4	.1	.4	.5	.5	.8	.2	5.9	4.2
Special Indexes:									
Energy	1.2	1.5	.8	.3	-1.7	-1.5	-2.4	-20.5	-2.7
Food	.4	.0	-.3	.3	.0	-.2	.4	.8	3.0
All items less food and energy	.2	.2	.1	.2	.2	.3	.2	2.9	2.5

For the first five months of 1997, the CPI-U advanced at a 1.4 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 slower rate thus far in 1997. The food index rose at a 0.6 percent SAAR thus far in 1997, following a 4.3 percent increase in 1996. The energy index, which increased 8.6 percent in 1996, declined at a 10.6 percent SAAR in the first five months of 1997. The CPI-U excluding food and energy advanced at a 2.6 percent SAAR in the first five months of 1997, the same rate as the 2.6 percent rise for all of 1996.

The food and beverage index rose 0.4 percent in May. The index for grocery store food prices, which declined 0.4 percent in April, advanced 0.6 percent in May, reflecting a sharp upturn in the index for fruits and vegetables--up 1.8 percent in May after declining 3.4 percent in April. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, fruit and vegetable prices were, on average, unchanged.). The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, which turned up in April, following declines in the first three months of 1997, rose 0.5 percent in May. The index for beef rose 1.1 percent in May after increasing 0.6 percent in April. The 0.2 percent decrease in the index for dairy products was the seventh consecutive month that this component failed to increase after registering increases totaling 8.5 percent in the preceding five-month period. The indexes for cereal and bakery products and for other food at home rose 0.3 and 0.1 percent, respectively. In the latter group, coffee prices continued to surge upwards--up 2.8 percent in May and 14.1 percent in the last three months. Declines in prices for prepared foods helped to mitigate this increase. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--

increased 0.1 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively.

The housing component rose 0.1 percent in May. Shelter costs increased 0.3 percent, the same as in April. In May, within shelter, renters' costs rose 0.2 percent; homeowners' costs, 0.3 percent; and maintenance and repair costs, 0.5 percent. The index for fuel and other utilities declined for the third consecutive month, down 0.6 percent in May. The index for household fuels fell 1.1 percent, reflecting declines in the indexes for natural gas, fuel oil, and electricity--down 2.9, 0.5, and 0.4 percent, respectively. Charges for natural gas have decreased 9.8 percent in the past three months after increasing 17.3 percent in the preceding 11-month period. The index for household furnishings and operation increased 0.4 percent in May; a 1.4 percent rise in the index for furniture and bedding was partially offset by declines in prices for most other housefurnishings and major appliances.

The transportation component fell 0.8 percent in May, its fourth decline in five months this year. The index for gasoline declined 4.1 percent, its largest drop since a 4.6 percent decrease in March 1991. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices, which normally increase sharply at this time of year with the advent of the driving season, fell 0.2 percent.) New vehicle purchase costs also declined in May; the index for new vehicle prices fell 0.2 percent, and automobile finance charges decreased 2.5 percent. The May downturn in finance charges followed increases in each of the first four months of 1997 totaling 2.2 percent. The index for used cars declined 0.9 percent in May. Public transportation costs, which rose substantially in March and April, decelerated in May. The index for airline fares, which rose 4.5 and 1.2 percent in the two preceding months, reflecting, in part, the reimposition of the 10 percent federal tax on airline fares effective March 7, declined 1.3 percent in May.

The index for apparel and upkeep, which increased 0.9 percent in April, rose 0.1 percent in May. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel commodity prices fell 0.7 percent in May, largely reflecting seasonal price declines for women's and girls' clothing.)

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

Entertainment costs, which rose 0.1 percent in April, increased 0.2 percent in May. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, this index was unchanged as

a 0.1 percent decline in entertainment commodities was offset by a 0.1 percent increase in entertainment services.)

The index for other goods and services rose 0.2 percent in May, following an increase of 0.8 percent in April. The index for tobacco and smoking products, which rose 2.4 percent in April, declined 0.5 percent in May.

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 May.

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 May `97	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended May `97
	Changes from preceding month								
	Nov. 1996	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May		
All Items	.3	.3	.1	.2	.1	.0	.0	.3	2.1
Food and beverages	.4	.1	-.2	.2	.1	-.2	.4	1.0	3.1
Housing	.3	.2	.3	.2	.1	.1	.1	1.3	2.5
Apparel and upkeep	.3	.1	.4	.4	-.3	1.0	.2	3.4	1.1
Transportation	.3	.6	.0	.0	-.1	-.6	-1.0	-6.4	-.4
Medical care	.3	.2	.2	.2	.3	.3	.3	3.7	3.0
Entertainment	.3	.3	.0	.1	.1	.1	.1	1.0	2.0
Other goods and services	.4	.0	.6	.4	.5	1.0	.1	6.4	4.3
Special Indexes:									
Energy	1.4	1.5	.9	.3	-1.8	-1.9	-2.4	-21.9	-2.9
Food	.3	.1	-.3	.3	.1	-.2	.3	.8	3.0
All items less food and energy	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	.3	.2	2.9	2.4

After seasonal adjustment, the level of the CPI-U for All Items was 160.1 in May; 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 June are scheduled for release on Wednesday, July 16, 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 May 1997 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Apr. 1997	May 1997	May 1996	Apr. 1997	Feb. to Mar.	Mar. to Apr.	Apr. to May
All items	100.000	160.2	160.1	2.2	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
All items (1967=100)	-	479.7	479.6	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	17.484	157.1	157.1	3.0	.0	.0	-.2	.4
Food	15.913	156.6	156.6	3.0	.0	.0	-.2	.4
Food at home	10.040	157.5	157.5	3.2	.0	-.2	-.4	.6
Cereals and bakery products	1.479	176.9	176.9	1.9	.0	.3	-.4	.3
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.002	147.7	147.7	4.6	.0	-.9	.4	.5
Dairy products 1/	1.245	145.7	145.4	5.7	-.2	-.1	-.3	-.2
Fruits and vegetables 2/	1.974	186.4	186.4	1.2	.0	.1	-3.4	1.8
Other food at home	2.340	146.9	147.1	2.9	.1	.1	1.0	.1
Sugar and sweets .....	.331	147.9	147.9	3.1	.0	-.6	1.1	-.1
Fats and oils .....	.246	142.4	142.0	1.4	-.3	-.1	.0	-.1
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.724	131.9	133.4	3.2	1.1	1.3	1.9	1.4
Other prepared food	1.039	161.1	160.4	3.1	-.4	-.4	.5	-.4
Food away from home	5.873	156.2	156.3	2.8	.1	.3	.1	.1
Alcoholic beverages	1.571	162.3	162.8	2.8	.3	-.1	.1	.3
Housing 2/	41.203	155.8	155.9	2.6	.1	.0	.2	.1
Shelter	28.194	175.3	175.3	3.1	.0	.2	.3	.3
Renters' costs 3/ 4/	7.994	186.3	185.3	3.6	-.5	.3	.3	.2
Rent, residential	5.731	165.5	165.9	2.9	.2	.3	.2	.4
Other renters' costs 4/	2.263	228.0	222.9	5.2	-2.2	.3	.4	-.3
Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/	20.000	180.2	180.6	2.8	.2	.2	.3	.3
Owners' equivalent rent 3/	19.616	180.5	180.9	2.8	.2	.1	.3	.3
Household insurance 3/ 4/ .....	.383	163.8	164.5	3.1	.4	-.5	.4	.5
Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/ .....	.200	142.5	143.2	3.2	.5	.1	.1	.5
Maintenance and repair services 1/ 4/ .....	.123	148.9	149.9	3.6	.7	.0	.3	.7
Maintenance and repair commodities 1/ 4/ .....	.077	133.6	134.1	2.4	.4	.3	-.5	.4
Fuel and other utilities 2/	7.102	128.9	129.0	1.8	.1	-.8	-.2	-.6
Fuels	3.878	115.3	115.3	1.1	.0	-1.5	-.8	-1.1
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities .....	.424	102.1	100.4	.8	-1.7	-3.3	-2.1	-.4

Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	3.453	121.7	121.9	1.1	.2	-1.3	-.6	-1.3
Other utilities and public services 4/	3.224	160.8	161.1	2.7	.2	.1	.2	.1
Household furnishings and operation 2/ .	5.908	125.5	125.8	1.1	.2	.0	.1	.4
Housefurnishings 4/	3.332	111.1	111.5	.3	.4	-.3	-.2	.7
Housekeeping supplies	1.093	143.3	143.0	1.4	-.2	.0	.4	-.1
Housekeeping services 4/	1.482	151.1	151.3	2.7	.1	.5	.4	.1
Apparel and upkeep	5.330	136.1	135.3	1.2	-.6	-.3	.9	.1
Apparel commodities 4/	4.786	132.7	131.8	1.1	-.7	-.4	1.1	.2
Men's and boys' apparel	1.280	131.4	132.0	1.9	.5	-.2	1.8	.2
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.102	131.9	129.9	1.7	-1.5	-.6	.8	.6
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/ ....	.186	133.7	133.8	2.6	.1	2.0	3.1	.1
Footwear .....	.718	129.3	129.1	.6	-.2	-.4	1.2	-.3
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	.500	148.1	146.0	-3.8	-1.4	-.3	-.7	-.6
Apparel services 1/ 4/ .....	.545	162.6	162.9	2.2	.2	.1	.1	.2
Transportation	17.140	144.8	144.4	.0	-.3	.1	-.4	-.8
Private transportation	15.499	141.3	141.0	-.5	-.2	-.2	-.6	-.9
New vehicles	4.955	145.2	144.6	.8	-.4	.1	.0	-.2
New cars	3.952	142.6	142.1	.6	-.4	.1	.0	-.1
Used cars	1.278	154.3	153.9	-2.3	-.3	1.2	-1.6	-.9
Motor fuel	3.171	106.0	105.7	-7.0	-.3	-2.1	-2.5	-4.0
Gasoline	-	105.4	105.2	-7.1	-.2	-2.1	-2.6	-4.1
Maintenance and repairs	1.533	161.9	162.2	3.0	.2	.2	.2	.2
Other private transportation 4/.....	4.562	177.3	177.0	2.3	-.2	.3	.2	.0
Other private transportation commodities 4/.....	.589	104.7	104.7	-.2	.0	-.3	-.1	.1
Other private transportation services 4/	3.973	194.5	194.2	2.7	-.2	.4	.2	.1
Public transportation	1.642	189.8	188.1	4.4	-.9	2.2	1.2	.2
Medical care	7.346	233.8	234.2	3.0	.2	.4	.3	.3
Medical care commodities	1.273	215.2	215.6	2.8	.2	.5	.2	.4
Medical care services	6.073	238.1	238.5	3.0	.2	.3	.3	.3
Professional medical services	3.472	214.7	215.2	3.6	.2	.5	.3	.3
Entertainment 4/	4.352	162.2	162.2	2.1	.0	.2	.1	.2
Entertainment commodities 4/	1.957	144.1	143.9	.8	-.1	.0	-.2	-.1
Entertainment services 4/	2.395	183.3	183.5	3.3	.1	.3	.3	.3
Other goods and services 2/	7.145	222.7	223.1	4.2	.2	.5	.8	.2
Tobacco and smoking products	1.601	243.2	243.8	4.6	.2	.4	2.4	-.5
Personal care 1/	1.145	152.7	152.6	1.5	-.1	.2	.6	-.1

Toilet goods and personal care									
appliances 1/ .....	.588	144.5	144.1	-.8	-.3	.2	.6	-.3
Personal care services 1/ .....	.557	162.0	162.3	4.2	.2	.3	.5	.2
Personal and educational expenses 4/ ...	4.398	256.0	256.6	4.8	.2	.5	.3	.5	
School books and supplies .....	.264	235.8	235.9	5.0	.0	.3	.5	.6
Personal and educational services 4/ .	4.134	257.7	258.3	4.7	.2	.5	.3	.5	

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-			
		Apr. 1997	May 1997	May 1997 from- May 1996	Apr. 1997	Feb. to Mar.	Mar. to Apr.	Apr. to May	
All items	100.000	160.2	160.1	2.2	-.1	.1	.1	.1	
Commodities	42.873	142.3	142.1	1.2	-.1	-.2	-.1	-.1	
Food and beverages	17.484	157.1	157.1	3.0	.0	.0	-.2	.4	
Commodities less food and beverages	25.389	133.2	132.9	-.1	-.2	-.3	.0	-.5	
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	15.147	135.8	135.4	-.1	-.3	-.8	.1	-.7	
Apparel commodities 4/	4.786	132.7	131.8	1.1	-.7	-.4	1.1	.2	
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.362	140.6	140.4	-.7	-.1	-.6	-.4	-1.1	
Durables	10.242	129.6	129.4	.1	-.2	.0	-.2	.0	
Services	57.127	178.3	178.4	3.1	.1	.2	.3	.2	
Rent of shelter 3/	27.577	182.4	182.4	3.1	.0	.3	.3	.3	
Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	8.698	143.7	144.0	2.1	.2	-.3	-.1	-.3	
Transportation services	7.148	185.4	184.9	3.1	-.3	.8	.4	.1	
Medical care services	6.073	238.1	238.5	3.0	.2	.3	.3	.3	
Other services	7.631	207.7	208.0	4.1	.1	.4	.3	.4	
Special indexes									
All items less food	84.087	160.8	160.7	2.1	-.1	.1	.2	-.1	
All items less shelter	71.806	155.8	155.7	1.9	-.1	.0	.0	.0	
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	80.000	161.2	161.1	2.1	-.1	.1	.1	-.1	

All items less medical care	92.654	156.0	155.9	2.2	-.1	.0	.1	.0
Commodities less food	26.960	134.4	134.1	.1	-.2	-.2	-.1	-.4
Nondurables less food	16.718	137.4	137.0	.1	-.3	-.7	.1	-.4
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.932	141.7	141.7	-.2	.0	-.7	-.4	-1.0
Nondurables	32.631	146.6	146.4	1.5	-.1	-.4	-.1	-.2
Services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/	29.550	186.8	186.9	3.0	.1	.3	.3	.1
Services less medical care services	51.054	172.8	172.8	3.0	.0	.3	.2	.1
Energy	7.049	110.0	109.9	-2.7	-.1	-1.7	-1.5	-2.4
All items less energy	92.951	166.8	166.8	2.6	.0	.2	.2	.2
All items less food and energy	77.038	169.4	169.3	2.5	-.1	.2	.3	.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities	23.364	143.5	143.3	1.1	-.1	.1	.3	.1
Energy commodities	3.596	105.8	105.3	-6.2	-.5	-2.2	-2.4	-3.6
Services less energy services	53.674	184.1	184.1	3.2	.0	.3	.3	.3
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:								
1982-84=\$1.00 1/	-	\$.624	\$.625	-2.2	.2	-.2	-.2	.2
1967=\$1.00 1/	-	.208	.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				
	Feb. 1997	Mar. 1997	Apr. 1997	May 1997	Aug. 1996	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
						Nov. 1996	Feb. 1997	May 1997	Nov. 1996	May 1997
All items	-	-	-	-	2.3	3.6	2.5	0.8	3.0	1.6
Food and beverages	156.8	156.8	156.5	157.1	5.9	5.3	.5	.8	5.6	.6
Food	156.5	156.5	156.2	156.8	6.2	5.3	.3	.8	5.7	.5

Food at home	157.5	157.2	156.5	157.4	8.4	6.0	-.8	-.3	7.2	-.5
Cereals and bakery products	176.4	177.0	176.3	176.9	2.1	4.4	.2	1.1	3.3	.7
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	148.4	147.1	147.7	148.5	11.4	7.0	.0	.3	9.2	.1
Dairy products 1/	146.2	146.1	145.7	145.4	22.0	13.6	-8.1	-2.2	17.7	-5.2
Fruits and vegetables 2/.....	187.7	187.8	181.5	184.7	7.7	6.4	-2.1	-6.2	7.0	-4.2
Other food at home	144.8	145.0	146.5	146.7	1.7	2.5	2.2	5.4	2.1	3.8
Sugar and sweets	146.9	146.0	147.6	147.4	4.0	2.2	4.8	1.4	3.1	3.1
Fats and oils	142.1	142.0	142.0	141.8	3.5	2.3	.8	-.8	2.9	.0
Nonalcoholic beverages	127.3	129.0	131.5	133.3	-.6	-4.3	-.6	20.2	-2.5	9.3
Other prepared food	160.6	160.0	160.8	160.1	2.3	7.6	3.8	-1.2	5.0	1.3
Food away from home	155.6	156.0	156.2	156.3	2.9	4.0	2.6	1.8	3.5	2.2
Alcoholic beverages	161.8	161.6	161.8	162.3	3.1	3.8	3.0	1.2	3.4	2.1
Housing 2/	155.6	155.6	155.9	156.1	2.7	3.2	3.1	1.3	2.9	2.2
Shelter	174.0	174.3	174.9	175.4	3.1	2.8	3.3	3.3	3.0	3.3
Renters' costs 3/ 4/.....	183.4	183.9	184.5	184.8	3.9	3.1	4.3	3.1	3.5	3.7
Rent, residential	164.6	165.1	165.5	166.1	2.8	2.7	2.5	3.7	2.7	3.1
Other renters' costs 4/	223.1	223.7	224.6	224.0	6.7	3.9	8.9	1.6	5.3	5.2
Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/	179.5	179.8	180.4	180.9	2.8	2.7	2.7	3.2	2.7	2.9
Owners' equivalent rent 3/	179.9	180.1	180.7	181.3	2.8	2.7	2.9	3.1	2.7	3.0
Household insurance 3/ 4/	164.3	163.5	164.2	165.0	4.6	7.1	-.5	1.7	5.8	.6
Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/	142.3	142.4	142.5	143.2	2.6	4.1	3.4	2.6	3.3	3.0
Maintenance and repair services 1/ 4/	148.4	148.4	148.9	149.9	6.8	1.4	2.2	4.1	4.0	3.1
Maintenance and repair commodities 1/ 4/	133.9	134.3	133.6	134.1	-3.9	8.6	4.9	.6	2.2	2.7
Fuel and other utilities 2/.....	131.6	130.5	130.2	129.4	2.9	5.1	6.3	-6.5	4.0	-.3
Fuels	119.4	117.6	116.7	115.4	2.1	7.2	9.6	-12.7	4.6	-2.2
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities	106.1	102.6	100.4	100.0	-14.5	54.7	-1.1	-21.1	15.0	-11.7
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	126.2	124.6	123.9	122.3	4.0	3.0	10.5	-11.8	3.5	-1.3
Other utilities and public services 4/ ..	160.0	160.2	160.6	160.8	3.4	3.3	2.0	2.0	3.3	2.0
Household furnishings and operation 2/ ...	125.1	125.1	125.2	125.7	1.3	1.0	.3	1.9	1.1	1.1
Housefurnishings 4/	111.2	110.9	110.7	111.5	.0	.0	.0	1.1	.0	.5
Housekeeping supplies	142.5	142.5	143.0	142.9	.9	1.4	2.3	1.1	1.1	1.7
Housekeeping services 4/	149.7	150.5	151.1	151.3	3.9	3.3	-.5	4.3	3.6	1.9
Apparel and upkeep	132.6	132.2	133.4	133.6	-5.3	4.4	2.8	3.1	-.6	2.9
Apparel commodities 4/	128.8	128.3	129.7	129.9	-6.1	4.8	2.5	3.5	-.8	3.0
Men's and boys' apparel	128.3	128.0	130.3	130.5	-.6	3.5	-1.5	7.0	1.4	2.7
Women's and girls' apparel	126.6	125.8	126.8	127.5	-10.4	6.7	8.7	2.9	-2.2	5.7
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/	127.2	129.7	133.7	133.8	-15.3	5.2	1.6	22.4	-5.6	11.5
Footwear	126.7	126.2	127.7	127.3	.0	1.6	-.9	1.9	.8	.5
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	147.9	147.5	146.5	145.6	-6.5	2.2	-4.2	-6.1	-2.2	-5.1
Apparel services 1/ 4/	162.2	162.4	162.6	162.9	2.3	1.5	3.3	1.7	1.9	2.5

Transportation	145.3	145.4	144.8	143.6	-1.4	4.8	1.4	-4.6	1.7	-1.7
Private transportation	142.7	142.4	141.6	140.3	-2.0	3.8	3.4	-6.6	.9	-1.7
New vehicles	144.4	144.6	144.6	144.3	2.5	1.4	-.6	-.3	2.0	-.4
New cars	141.9	142.0	142.0	141.8	3.2	.3	-.6	-.3	1.7	-.4
Used cars	155.8	157.7	155.1	153.7	-3.3	-1.3	.5	-5.3	-2.3	-2.4
Motor fuel	111.8	109.5	106.8	102.5	-17.6	13.6	13.1	-29.3	-3.2	-10.6
Gasoline	111.3	109.0	106.2	101.8	-17.3	12.8	13.6	-30.0	-3.4	-10.8
Maintenance and repairs	161.2	161.5	161.9	162.2	3.1	4.1	2.3	2.5	3.6	2.4
Other private transportation 4/.....	176.1	176.7	177.0	177.0	4.0	1.4	1.8	2.1	2.7	1.9
Other private transportation										
commodities 4/.....	105.1	104.8	104.7	104.8	.0	.4	.0	-1.1	.2	-.6
services 4/	193.1	193.9	194.3	194.4	4.5	1.7	2.1	2.7	3.1	2.4
Public transportation	181.9	185.9	188.1	188.4	4.5	13.8	-13.3	15.1	9.1	-.1
Medical care	232.3	233.2	233.8	234.5	2.8	3.0	2.3	3.8	2.9	3.1
Medical care commodities	213.5	214.5	215.0	215.8	2.5	1.9	2.7	4.4	2.2	3.5
Medical care services	236.4	237.2	237.9	238.5	3.0	3.1	2.2	3.6	3.0	2.9
Professional medical services	212.7	213.7	214.4	215.0	3.5	3.9	2.9	4.4	3.7	3.6
Entertainment 4/	161.4	161.7	161.8	162.1	2.3	2.5	2.0	1.7	2.4	1.9
Entertainment commodities 4/	144.2	144.2	143.9	143.8	2.0	1.7	.6	-1.1	1.8	-.3
Entertainment services 4/	181.6	182.1	182.7	183.3	2.7	3.4	3.1	3.8	3.1	3.5
Other goods and services 2/.....	221.3	222.3	224.1	224.5	3.6	3.4	3.9	5.9	3.5	4.9
Tobacco and smoking products	237.6	238.5	244.2	242.9	1.6	5.1	2.7	9.2	3.3	5.9
Personal care 1/	151.5	151.8	152.7	152.6	.5	1.9	.8	2.9	1.2	1.9
Toilet goods and personal care										
appliances 1/	143.3	143.6	144.5	144.1	-.8	-.8	-3.8	2.3	-.8	-.8
Personal care services 1/	160.7	161.2	162.0	162.3	1.8	5.5	5.4	4.0	3.6	4.7
Personal and educational expenses 4/	255.0	256.3	257.0	258.4	5.1	3.2	5.3	5.4	4.2	5.4
School books and supplies	233.2	234.0	235.1	236.6	6.0	5.0	3.0	6.0	5.5	4.5
Personal and educational services 4/ ...	256.5	257.8	258.5	259.9	5.1	3.1	5.5	5.4	4.1	5.4

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)

Commodity and service group	Seasonally adjusted indexes					Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for				
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Aug.	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
	1997	1997	1997	1997	1996	Nov. 1996	Feb. 1997	May 1997	Nov. 1996	May 1997
All items	-	-	-	-	2.3	3.6	2.5	.8	3.0	1.6
Commodities	142.1	141.8	141.7	141.5	.3	4.7	1.7	-1.7	2.4	.0
Food and beverages	156.8	156.8	156.5	157.1	5.9	5.3	.5	.8	5.6	.6
Commodities less food and beverages	133.1	132.7	132.7	132.0	-3.3	4.3	2.1	-3.3	.5	-.6
Nondurables less food and beverages	135.7	134.6	134.8	133.9	-5.8	6.8	4.2	-5.2	.3	-.6
Apparel commodities 4/	128.8	128.3	129.7	129.9	-6.1	4.8	2.5	3.5	-.8	3.0
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	142.3	141.4	140.8	139.3	-6.4	6.5	6.1	-8.2	-.1	-1.3
Durables	129.6	129.6	129.3	129.3	.6	.6	.0	-.9	.6	-.5
Services	177.6	178.0	178.5	178.8	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.7	3.3	2.9
Rent of shelter 3/	181.3	181.8	182.3	182.8	3.2	2.7	3.1	3.4	3.0	3.2
Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	145.7	145.2	145.0	144.6	3.4	3.4	4.8	-3.0	3.4	.8
Transportation services	182.7	184.1	184.9	185.0	4.1	4.9	-1.5	5.1	4.5	1.8
Medical care services	236.4	237.2	237.9	238.5	3.0	3.1	2.2	3.6	3.0	2.9
Other services	206.9	207.8	208.4	209.3	3.8	3.4	4.4	4.7	3.6	4.5
Special indexes										
All items less food	160.2	160.3	160.6	160.5	1.5	3.3	2.8	.8	2.4	1.8
All items less shelter	155.5	155.5	155.5	155.5	1.8	4.0	2.1	.0	2.9	1.0
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	160.8	160.9	161.0	160.9	2.0	3.8	2.3	.2	2.9	1.3
All items less medical care	155.5	155.5	155.7	155.7	2.1	3.7	2.6	.5	2.9	1.6
Commodities less food	134.4	134.1	134.0	133.4	-2.7	4.0	2.4	-2.9	.6	-.3
Nondurables less food	137.1	136.2	136.3	135.7	-5.2	6.8	3.9	-4.0	.6	-.1
Nondurables less food and apparel	143.1	142.1	141.5	140.1	-2.8	7.1	3.7	-8.1	2.0	-2.4
Nondurables	146.5	145.9	145.7	145.4	1.1	5.4	2.8	-3.0	3.2	-.1
Services less rent of shelter 3/	186.2	186.7	187.2	187.3	3.6	3.8	2.4	2.4	3.7	2.4
Services less medical care services	172.0	172.5	172.9	173.1	3.4	3.3	2.8	2.6	3.4	2.7
Energy	114.9	112.9	111.2	108.5	-7.3	10.3	10.8	-20.5	1.1	-6.2
All items less energy	165.9	166.2	166.6	167.0	2.7	3.5	1.7	2.7	3.1	2.2
All items less food and energy	168.3	168.7	169.2	169.5	2.2	2.9	2.2	2.9	2.6	2.5
Commodities less food and energy commodities	142.2	142.3	142.7	142.8	-.3	2.0	1.1	1.7	.9	1.4
Energy commodities	111.3	108.8	106.2	102.4	-17.4	17.6	11.5	-28.3	-1.5	-10.6

Services less energy services 182.9 183.4 184.0 184.5 3.4 3.1 2.7 3.5 3.3 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 May 1997 from-			Percent change to Apr. 1997 from-		
		Feb. 1997	Mar. 1997	Apr. 1997	May 1997	May 1996	Mar. 1997	Apr. 1997	Apr. 1996	Feb. 1997	Mar. 1997
U.S. city average	M	159.6	160.0	160.2	160.1	2.2	0.1	-0.1	2.5	0.4	0.1
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	166.9	167.3	167.1	166.8	2.3	-.3	-.2	2.6	.1	-.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	167.7	168.1	167.7	167.5	2.4	-.4	-.1	2.5	.0	-.2
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	164.2	164.8	165.4	164.7	2.3	-.1	-.4	3.0	.7	.4
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000 3/.....	M	165.3	165.6	165.6	165.2	2.7	-.2	-.2	2.7	.2	.0
North Central urban	M	155.9	155.9	156.1	156.3	2.4	.3	.1	2.5	.1	.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	156.5	156.6	156.9	157.0	2.5	.3	.1	2.6	.3	.2
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	154.4	154.6	154.8	155.4	2.5	.5	.4	2.4	.3	.1
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000 3/.....	M	158.3	158.1	158.2	158.3	2.3	.1	.1	2.8	-.1	.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	152.1	152.1	152.1	152.2	2.0	.1	.1	2.1	.0	.0
South urban	M	156.1	156.5	156.7	156.6	2.0	.1	-.1	2.3	.4	.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	155.2	155.4	155.7	155.5	1.8	.1	-.1	2.2	.3	.2
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	158.9	159.7	159.8	159.7	2.4	.0	-.1	2.7	.6	.1
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000 3/.....	M	155.6	155.7	156.0	156.1	1.9	.3	.1	1.9	.3	.2
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	155.5	156.0	156.1	156.0	2.0	.0	-.1	2.4	.4	.1

West urban	M	160.1	160.8	161.1	161.1	2.2	.2	.0	2.5	.6	.2
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	160.1	160.9	161.2	161.1	2.2	.1	-.1	2.5	.7	.2
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000 3/.....	M	165.4	166.3	166.5	166.5	2.5	.1	.0	2.7	.7	.1
Size classes											
A 4/	M	144.1	144.4	144.5	144.5	2.3	.1	.0	2.4	.3	.1
B 3/	M	159.5	160.1	160.4	160.4	2.4	.2	.0	2.8	.6	.2
C 3/	M	159.6	159.8	160.0	160.0	2.3	.1	.0	2.4	.3	.1
D	M	156.2	156.4	156.5	156.4	1.9	.0	-.1	2.3	.2	.1
Selected local areas											
Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	161.1	161.0	160.9	161.1	2.7	.1	.1	2.9	-.1	-.1
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	159.2	159.8	159.9	159.5	1.3	-.2	-.3	1.4	.4	.1
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton,	M	170.1	170.7	170.2	169.9	2.1	-.5	-.2	2.5	.1	-.3
PA-NJ-DE-MD 5/	M	165.8	166.1	166.0	166.0	2.6	-.1	.0	2.4	.1	-.1
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA 5/ ..	M	157.9	159.2	159.6	159.8	3.0	.4	.1	3.7	1.1	.3
Baltimore, MD 6/	1	-	157.1	-	155.5	1.0	-1.0	-	-	-	-
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	-	168.1	-	166.7	3.0	-.8	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	-	155.4	-	155.6	2.5	.1	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	-	158.5	-	157.9	3.5	-.4	-	-	-	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL 7/	1	-	152.2	-	152.1	2.7	-.1	-	-	-	-
Washington, DC-MD-VA 6/	1	-	161.9	-	162.1	1.9	.1	-	-	-	-
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		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Apr. 1997	May 1997	May 1997 from- May 1996	Apr. 1997	Feb. to Mar.	Mar. to Apr.	Apr. to May
All items	100.000	157.2	157.2	2.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
All items (1967=100)	-	468.3	468.3	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	19.436	156.5	156.6	3.1	.1	.1	-.2	.4
Food	17.749	156.1	156.1	3.0	.0	.1	-.2	.3
Food at home	11.387	156.6	156.6	3.2	.0	-.1	-.3	.5
Cereals and bakery products	1.688	176.6	176.7	2.0	.1	.4	-.4	.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.535	147.3	147.4	4.7	.1	-.8	.5	.5
Dairy products 1/	1.387	145.4	145.1	5.6	-.2	-.1	-.3	-.2
Fruits and vegetables 2/	2.086	185.2	185.4	1.0	.1	.3	-3.3	1.7
Other food at home	2.691	146.4	146.6	2.9	.1	.1	1.0	.2
Sugar and sweets .....	.373	147.9	147.9	3.1	.0	-.7	1.2	-.1
Fats and oils .....	.282	142.1	141.7	1.4	-.3	.1	-.1	-.1
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.841	131.1	132.4	2.8	1.0	1.1	1.8	1.2
Other prepared food	1.194	161.0	160.3	3.2	-.4	-.5	.7	-.4
Food away from home	6.362	156.2	156.2	2.8	.0	.3	.0	.0
Alcoholic beverages	1.687	161.7	162.2	2.9	.3	.1	.0	.4
Housing 2/	38.747	152.4	152.6	2.5	.1	.1	.1	.1

Shelter	25.867	170.1	170.3	3.0	.1	.2	.3	.3
Renters' costs 3/ 4/.....	8.079	161.8	161.6	3.3	-.1	.3	.4	.3
Rent, residential	6.580	165.2	165.6	2.9	.2	.2	.3	.3
Other renters' costs 4/	1.499	226.9	222.9	5.1	-1.8	.3	.7	.2
Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	17.599	164.3	164.6	2.8	.2	.2	.2	.2
Owners' equivalent rent 3/	17.277	164.6	164.9	2.8	.2	.2	.2	.3
Household insurance 3/ 4/ .....	.322	148.5	149.1	2.1	.4	-.3	.4	.3
Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/ .....	.189	141.0	141.7	3.1	.5	.1	.1	.5
Maintenance and repair								
services 1/ 4/ .....	.105	150.9	151.9	3.5	.7	.0	.4	.7
Maintenance and repair								
commodities 1/ 4/ .....	.084	128.2	128.6	2.5	.3	.3	-.4	.3
Fuel and other utilities 2/	7.344	128.6	128.7	1.9	.1	-.8	-.4	-.5
Fuels	3.979	114.7	114.7	1.1	.0	-1.4	-.9	-1.1
Fuel oil and other household fuel								
commodities .....	.391	101.7	100.0	.9	-1.7	-3.5	-2.2	-.4
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy								
services).....	3.588	121.2	121.5	1.3	.2	-1.2	-.8	-1.2
Other utilities and public								
services 4/	3.365	161.5	161.8	2.7	.2	.1	.2	.1
Household furnishings and operation 2/ .	5.536	124.0	124.3	1.1	.2	.0	.0	.5
Housefurnishings 4/	3.261	109.7	110.2	.4	.5	-.1	-.3	.7
Housekeeping supplies	1.129	143.9	143.7	1.7	-.1	.1	.4	-.1
Housekeeping services 4/	1.145	153.7	153.9	2.5	.1	.3	.5	.1
Apparel and upkeep	5.348	135.5	134.7	1.1	-.6	-.3	1.0	.2
Apparel commodities 4/	4.838	132.3	131.5	1.1	-.6	-.3	1.0	.2
Men's and boys' apparel	1.286	131.1	131.7	1.9	.5	-.2	1.8	.0
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.053	130.7	129.0	1.5	-1.3	-.4	.4	.6
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/ ....	.240	134.9	134.9	2.6	.0	2.0	3.2	.0
Footwear .....	.799	130.3	130.1	.6	-.2	-.5	1.3	-.3
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	.461	149.3	146.8	-3.1	-1.7	-.9	.4	-.7
Apparel services 1/ 4/ .....	.510	161.7	161.9	2.0	.1	.1	.1	.1
Transportation	19.190	144.2	143.8	-.4	-.3	-.1	-.6	-1.0
Private transportation	17.934	141.8	141.5	-.7	-.2	-.1	-.8	-1.0
New vehicles	4.893	146.4	145.9	1.0	-.3	.2	.1	-.3
New cars	3.533	142.3	141.8	.7	-.4	.2	-.1	-.1
Used cars	2.320	155.7	155.3	-2.1	-.3	1.3	-1.6	-.9
Motor fuel	3.921	105.9	105.7	-6.9	-.2	-2.2	-2.7	-3.8
Gasoline	-	105.4	105.2	-7.1	-.2	-2.2	-2.7	-4.1
Maintenance and repairs	1.616	162.9	163.2	3.0	.2	.4	.2	.2
Other private transportation 4/.....	5.185	172.8	172.5	2.3	-.2	.3	.2	-.1
Other private transportation								
commodities 4/.....	.742	103.7	103.8	-.2	.1	.0	-.3	.2

Other private transportation services 4/	4.442	190.3	189.9	2.6	-.2	.3	.3	-.1
Public transportation	1.256	186.8	185.2	3.7	-.9	1.7	1.2	-.1
Medical care	6.251	233.2	233.6	3.0	.2	.3	.3	.3
Medical care commodities	1.047	212.3	212.9	2.8	.3	.3	.2	.5
Medical care services	5.204	237.9	238.2	3.0	.1	.4	.3	.3
Professional medical services	2.973	216.0	216.5	3.7	.2	.5	.3	.3
Entertainment 4/	4.015	159.7	159.7	2.0	.0	.1	.1	.1
Entertainment commodities 4/	2.036	143.0	142.8	.6	-.1	.0	-.4	.0
Entertainment services 4/	1.979	183.6	183.8	3.4	.1	.4	.5	.2
Other goods and services 2/	7.012	219.8	220.2	4.3	.2	.5	1.0	.1
Tobacco and smoking products	2.117	242.7	243.4	4.4	.3	.4	2.3	-.5
Personal care 1/	1.107	152.6	152.6	1.5	.0	.1	.7	.0
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 1/ .....	.610	145.4	145.0	-.7	-.3	.1	.8	-.3
Personal care services 1/ .....	.497	162.1	162.4	4.2	.2	.2	.6	.2
Personal and educational expenses 4/ ...	3.788	251.8	252.5	5.1	.3	.5	.3	.6
School books and supplies .....	.232	237.4	237.5	5.3	.0	.3	.6	.7
Personal and educational services 4/ .	3.556	253.3	254.0	5.1	.3	.5	.3	.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 May 1997 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Apr. 1997	May 1997	May 1996	Apr. 1997	Feb. to Mar.	Mar. to Apr.	Apr. to May
All items	100.000	157.2	157.2	2.1	.0	.1	.0	.0
Commodities	47.057	142.2	142.1	1.1	-.1	-.1	-.2	-.2
Food and beverages	19.436	156.5	156.6	3.1	.1	.1	-.2	.4
Commodities less food and beverages	27.621	133.4	133.2	-.2	-.1	-.3	-.2	-.5
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	16.215	135.6	135.3	-.3	-.2	-.7	.0	-.7
Apparel commodities 4/	4.838	132.3	131.5	1.1	-.6	-.3	1.0	.2

Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	11.377	140.3	140.2	-.9	-.1	-.8	-.4	-1.3
Durables	11.407	129.3	129.2	.0	-.1	.0	-.3	.1
Services	52.943	175.3	175.5	3.0	.1	.2	.2	.2
Rent of shelter 3/	25.329	163.7	163.9	3.0	.1	.2	.3	.3
Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	8.553	132.0	132.3	2.1	.2	-.4	-.1	-.3
Transportation services	7.314	182.8	182.4	2.9	-.2	.6	.4	-.1
Medical care services	5.204	237.9	238.2	3.0	.1	.4	.3	.3
Other services	6.542	204.6	205.0	4.3	.2	.4	.3	.4

Special indexes

All items less food	82.251	157.3	157.3	1.9	.0	.1	.1	-.1
All items less shelter	74.133	153.8	153.8	1.8	.0	.0	-.1	-.1
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	82.401	147.6	147.6	1.9	.0	.0	.0	-.1
All items less medical care	93.749	153.6	153.6	2.1	.0	.0	.1	-.1
Commodities less food	29.308	134.6	134.4	.0	-.1	-.3	-.1	-.5
Nondurables less food	17.901	137.1	136.9	.0	-.1	-.9	-.1	-.7
Nondurables less food and apparel	13.064	141.4	141.4	-.4	.0	-.8	-.4	-1.2
Nondurables	35.651	146.4	146.2	1.5	-.1	-.3	-.1	-.3
Services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/	27.613	166.4	166.5	3.0	.1	.2	.1	.1
Services less medical care services	47.738	170.0	170.1	3.0	.1	.2	.2	.2
Energy	7.901	109.6	109.5	-2.9	-.1	-1.8	-1.9	-2.4
All items less energy	92.099	163.9	163.9	2.6	.0	.2	.2	.2
All items less food and energy	74.350	165.9	165.9	2.4	.0	.2	.3	.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities	24.996	143.1	142.9	1.1	-.1	.1	.2	.0
Energy commodities	4.312	105.8	105.5	-6.2	-.3	-2.3	-2.7	-3.5
Services less energy services	49.354	181.3	181.4	3.1	.1	.3	.3	.2
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:								
1982-84=\$1.00 1/	-	\$.636	\$.636	-2.0	.0	-.2	-.2	.0
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				
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Aug.	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
	1997	1997	1997	1997	1996	Nov. 1996	Feb. 1997	May 1997	Nov. 1996	May 1997
All items	-	-	-	-	1.8	3.9	2.3	0.3	2.9	1.3
Food and beverages	156.3	156.4	156.1	156.7	5.9	5.3	.3	1.0	5.6	.6
Food	155.9	156.0	155.7	156.2	6.2	5.3	.3	.8	5.8	.5
Food at home	156.5	156.3	155.8	156.6	7.9	6.4	-1.3	.3	7.1	-.5
Cereals and bakery products	176.0	176.7	176.0	176.7	2.3	4.2	.0	1.6	3.3	.8
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	147.9	146.7	147.4	148.2	11.8	6.8	-.3	.8	9.2	.3
Dairy products 1/	146.0	145.8	145.4	145.1	21.7	14.3	-8.3	-2.4	17.9	-5.4
Fruits and vegetables 2/.....	186.7	187.2	181.0	184.1	6.7	6.0	-2.7	-5.5	6.4	-4.1
Other food at home	144.4	144.5	145.9	146.2	2.0	2.3	2.2	5.1	2.1	3.7
Sugar and sweets	146.9	145.9	147.7	147.5	3.7	2.0	5.3	1.6	2.8	3.5
Fats and oils	141.6	141.8	141.7	141.6	3.5	2.3	.3	.0	2.9	.1
Nonalcoholic beverages	126.9	128.3	130.6	132.2	-.6	-4.0	-.6	17.8	-2.3	8.2
Other prepared food	160.4	159.6	160.7	160.0	2.6	7.6	3.6	-1.0	5.1	1.3
Food away from home	155.7	156.2	156.2	156.2	3.2	3.7	2.9	1.3	3.5	2.1
Alcoholic beverages	160.9	161.0	161.0	161.7	3.1	4.1	2.3	2.0	3.6	2.1
Housing 2/	152.2	152.3	152.5	152.7	2.7	3.0	2.9	1.3	2.8	2.1
Shelter	169.1	169.5	170.0	170.5	2.9	2.7	3.1	3.4	2.8	3.2
Renters' costs 3/ 4/.....	160.0	160.4	161.0	161.5	3.6	2.8	3.3	3.8	3.2	3.6
Rent, residential	164.3	164.7	165.2	165.7	3.0	2.7	2.5	3.5	2.9	3.0
Other renters' costs 4/	221.8	222.4	223.9	224.3	6.5	2.4	7.4	4.6	4.5	6.0
Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/	163.7	164.1	164.5	164.9	2.8	2.5	3.0	3.0	2.6	3.0
Owners' equivalent rent 3/	164.0	164.4	164.8	165.3	2.8	2.5	3.0	3.2	2.6	3.1
Household insurance 3/ 4/	148.9	148.4	149.0	149.4	2.5	6.7	-2.4	1.3	4.6	-.5
Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/	140.7	140.9	141.0	141.7	1.5	5.6	2.3	2.9	3.5	2.6
Maintenance and repair services 1/ 4/	150.3	150.3	150.9	151.9	6.1	2.4	1.1	4.3	4.3	2.7
Maintenance and repair commodities 1/ 4/	128.3	128.7	128.2	128.6	-4.4	10.0	3.8	.9	2.6	2.4
Fuel and other utilities 2/.....	131.2	130.2	129.7	129.0	3.2	5.4	6.0	-6.5	4.3	-.5
Fuels	118.7	117.0	115.9	114.6	2.9	7.2	9.3	-13.1	5.0	-2.6
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities	106.0	102.3	100.0	99.6	-13.1	54.2	-.8	-22.1	15.8	-12.0

Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	125.7	124.2	123.2	121.7	4.7	3.3	10.1	-12.1	4.0	-1.6
Other utilities and public services 4/ .	160.7	160.9	161.3	161.5	3.1	3.8	2.0	2.0	3.5	2.0
Household furnishings and operation 2/ ...	123.6	123.6	123.6	124.2	1.3	.7	.3	2.0	1.0	1.1
Housefurnishings 4/	109.8	109.7	109.4	110.2	.4	-.4	.0	1.5	.0	.7
Housekeeping supplies	143.1	143.2	143.8	143.7	2.0	1.1	2.3	1.7	1.6	2.0
Housekeeping services 4/	152.6	153.0	153.7	153.9	3.8	2.9	.0	3.5	3.4	1.7
Apparel and upkeep	131.8	131.4	132.7	132.9	-6.0	4.1	3.4	3.4	-1.1	3.4
Apparel commodities 4/	128.5	128.1	129.4	129.6	-6.7	4.2	3.5	3.5	-1.4	3.5
Men's and boys' apparel	128.1	127.8	130.1	130.1	-1.2	4.2	-1.2	6.4	1.4	2.5
Women's and girls' apparel	125.9	125.4	125.9	126.7	-11.0	4.7	10.8	2.6	-3.5	6.6
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/	128.1	130.7	134.9	134.9	-13.8	3.2	1.3	23.0	-5.7	11.6
Footwear	127.7	127.0	128.6	128.2	.9	1.3	-1.6	1.6	1.1	.0
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	147.7	146.3	146.9	145.8	-9.5	8.1	-5.0	-5.0	-1.1	-5.0
Apparel services 1/ 4/	161.3	161.5	161.7	161.9	2.0	1.0	3.3	1.5	1.5	2.4
Transportation	145.2	145.1	144.2	142.8	-1.9	4.6	2.5	-6.4	1.3	-2.1
Private transportation	143.2	143.0	141.9	140.5	-2.5	4.0	3.4	-7.3	.7	-2.1
New vehicles	145.6	145.9	146.0	145.6	2.5	1.7	-.5	.0	2.1	-.3
New cars	141.5	141.8	141.7	141.5	3.2	.3	-.6	.0	1.7	-.3
Used cars	157.1	159.1	156.5	155.1	-3.0	-1.5	1.0	-5.0	-2.3	-2.0
Motor fuel	112.0	109.5	106.5	102.5	-17.6	14.9	13.1	-29.9	-2.7	-10.9
Gasoline	111.4	109.0	106.1	101.8	-17.4	14.1	13.2	-30.3	-2.9	-11.2
Maintenance and repairs	161.9	162.5	162.8	163.2	3.3	4.1	1.5	3.3	3.7	2.4
Other private transportation 4/.....	171.8	172.3	172.6	172.5	4.1	1.4	1.4	1.6	2.7	1.5
Other private transportation commodities 4/.....	104.0	104.0	103.7	103.9	.4	.0	-.8	-.4	.2	-.6
Other private transportation services 4/	189.0	189.6	190.1	189.9	4.8	1.5	1.9	1.9	3.2	1.9
Public transportation	179.9	182.9	185.1	184.9	4.6	13.0	-12.1	11.6	8.7	-1.0
Medical care	231.6	232.4	233.0	233.7	2.8	3.0	2.3	3.7	2.9	3.0
Medical care commodities	211.0	211.7	212.1	213.1	2.3	2.1	2.9	4.0	2.2	3.5
Medical care services	236.0	236.9	237.6	238.2	3.0	3.1	2.1	3.8	3.0	2.9
Professional medical services	213.9	215.0	215.7	216.3	3.5	4.1	2.9	4.6	3.8	3.7
Entertainment 4/	159.0	159.2	159.3	159.4	2.6	2.3	1.8	1.0	2.4	1.4
Entertainment commodities 4/	143.1	143.1	142.5	142.5	1.7	1.7	.6	-1.7	1.7	-.6
Entertainment services 4/	181.6	182.3	183.3	183.6	3.2	3.2	2.7	4.5	3.2	3.6
Other goods and services 2/.....	217.7	218.7	220.8	221.1	3.1	3.6	4.1	6.4	3.3	5.3
Tobacco and smoking products	237.2	238.2	243.7	242.4	.9	4.9	2.9	9.1	2.9	5.9
Personal care 1/	151.4	151.6	152.6	152.6	.3	2.4	.3	3.2	1.3	1.7
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 1/	144.2	144.3	145.4	145.0	-1.1	-.5	-3.3	2.2	-.8	-.5

Personal care services 1/	160.8	161.2	162.1	162.4	1.8	5.7	5.4	4.0	3.8	4.7
Personal and educational expenses 4/	250.6	251.8	252.6	254.1	5.1	3.5	6.1	5.7	4.3	5.9
School books and supplies	234.8	235.6	236.9	238.5	6.3	5.7	2.9	6.5	6.0	4.7
Personal and educational services 4/ ...	252.0	253.3	254.1	255.5	5.0	3.3	6.3	5.7	4.2	6.0

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				
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Aug.	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
	1997	1997	1997	1997	1996	Nov. 1996	Feb. 1997	May 1997	Nov. 1996	May 1997
All items	-	-	-	-	1.8	3.9	2.3	.3	2.9	1.3
Commodities	142.2	142.0	141.7	141.4	.3	4.4	2.0	-2.2	2.3	-.1
Food and beverages	156.3	156.4	156.1	156.7	5.9	5.3	.3	1.0	5.6	.6
Commodities less food and beverages	133.5	133.1	132.8	132.1	-3.6	4.0	3.1	-4.1	.2	-.6
Nondurables less food and beverages	135.7	134.7	134.7	133.7	-6.1	7.2	4.2	-5.8	.3	-.9
Apparel commodities 4/	128.5	128.1	129.4	129.6	-6.7	4.2	3.5	3.5	-1.4	3.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	142.4	141.2	140.7	138.9	-7.2	7.5	6.7	-9.5	-.1	-1.7
Durables	129.4	129.4	129.0	129.1	.3	.6	.0	-.9	.5	-.5
Services	174.7	175.1	175.5	175.8	3.3	3.1	3.0	2.5	3.2	2.8
Rent of shelter 3/	162.9	163.2	163.7	164.2	3.0	2.5	3.3	3.2	2.8	3.2
Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	134.0	133.4	133.2	132.8	3.1	3.4	5.2	-3.5	3.3	.8
Transportation services	180.6	181.6	182.4	182.3	4.4	3.8	-.7	3.8	4.1	1.6
Medical care services	236.0	236.9	237.6	238.2	3.0	3.1	2.1	3.8	3.0	2.9
Other services	203.7	204.6	205.3	206.1	4.1	3.2	4.9	4.8	3.7	4.8

Special indexes

All items less food	156.8	156.9	157.0	156.9	1.0	3.4	2.9	.3	2.2	1.5
All items less shelter	153.7	153.7	153.6	153.4	1.6	4.3	2.1	-.8	2.9	.7
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	147.4	147.4	147.4	147.3	1.7	3.9	2.5	-.3	2.8	1.1
All items less medical care	153.3	153.3	153.4	153.3	2.1	3.8	2.4	.0	3.0	1.2
Commodities less food	134.8	134.4	134.2	133.5	-3.0	4.0	3.0	-3.8	.4	-.4
Nondurables less food	137.3	136.1	136.0	135.1	-5.2	7.4	4.5	-6.3	.9	-1.0
Nondurables less food and apparel	143.1	141.9	141.3	139.6	-3.4	7.4	4.6	-9.4	1.9	-2.7
Nondurables	146.3	145.8	145.6	145.2	1.1	5.4	2.5	-3.0	3.2	-.3
Services less rent of shelter 3/	166.2	166.5	166.7	166.8	3.5	4.0	2.9	1.5	3.7	2.2
Services less medical care services	169.4	169.7	170.1	170.4	3.4	3.2	2.9	2.4	3.3	2.6
Energy	114.9	112.8	110.7	108.0	-8.0	11.1	11.2	-21.9	1.1	-6.8
All items less energy	162.9	163.3	163.6	163.9	2.8	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.0	2.0
All items less food and energy	164.9	165.3	165.8	166.1	2.2	2.5	2.2	2.9	2.4	2.6
Commodities less food and energy commodities	141.9	142.1	142.4	142.4	-.3	2.0	1.1	1.4	.9	1.3
Energy commodities	111.7	109.1	106.2	102.5	-17.1	17.5	11.9	-29.1	-1.3	-10.9
Services less energy services	180.3	180.9	181.5	181.9	3.4	3.0	2.5	3.6	3.2	3.0

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 May 1997 from-			Percent change to Apr. 1997 from-		
		Feb. 1997	Mar. 1997	Apr. 1997	May 1997	May 1996	Mar. 1997	Apr. 1997	Apr. 1996	Feb. 1997	Mar. 1997
U.S. city average	M	156.8	157.0	157.2	157.2	2.1	0.1	0.0	2.3	0.3	0.1
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	164.2	164.5	164.4	164.1	2.2	-.2	-.2	2.6	.1	-.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	163.9	164.2	163.9	163.8	2.2	-.2	-.1	2.4	.0	-.2

Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	161.9	162.6	163.1	162.3	2.1	-.2	-.5	2.9	.7	.3
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000 3/.....	M	166.8	167.0	167.0	166.9	2.6	-.1	-.1	2.5	.1	.0
North Central urban	M	152.4	152.4	152.6	152.8	2.3	.3	.1	2.4	.1	.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	152.3	152.3	152.6	152.7	2.3	.3	.1	2.4	.2	.2
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	150.5	150.5	150.8	151.5	2.5	.7	.5	2.4	.2	.2
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000 3/.....	M	155.6	155.3	155.4	155.6	2.3	.2	.1	2.7	-.1	.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	150.3	150.1	150.0	150.2	2.0	.1	.1	2.0	-.2	-.1
South urban	M	154.5	154.8	155.1	155.1	2.0	.2	.0	2.2	.4	.2
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	153.2	153.4	153.6	153.6	1.7	.1	.0	2.0	.3	.1
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	155.0	155.6	155.8	155.7	2.2	.1	-.1	2.6	.5	.1
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000 3/.....	M	155.5	155.5	155.8	156.0	1.9	.3	.1	1.8	.2	.2
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	155.8	156.1	156.3	156.3	1.8	.1	.0	2.2	.3	.1
West urban	M	156.8	157.4	157.8	157.8	2.0	.3	.0	2.3	.6	.3
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	155.2	155.9	156.2	156.1	1.9	.1	-.1	2.2	.6	.2
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000 3/.....	M	162.1	163.1	163.3	163.2	2.4	.1	-.1	2.6	.7	.1
Size classes											
A 4/	M	143.0	143.2	143.4	143.3	2.1	.1	-.1	2.3	.3	.1
B 3/	M	156.5	157.0	157.3	157.3	2.3	.2	.0	2.6	.5	.2
C 3/	M	158.7	158.8	159.0	159.1	2.2	.2	.1	2.3	.2	.1
D	M	155.4	155.4	155.6	155.6	1.8	.1	.0	2.1	.1	.1
Selected local areas											
Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	155.9	155.6	155.3	155.5	2.4	-.1	.1	2.5	-.4	-.2
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	153.6	154.2	154.3	154.0	1.1	-.1	-.2	1.2	.5	.1
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	166.2	166.6	166.1	166.0	2.0	-.4	-.1	2.4	-.1	-.3
Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD 5/	M	164.9	165.3	165.1	165.2	2.4	-.1	.1	2.4	.1	-.1
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA 5/ ..	M	155.0	156.2	156.7	156.8	2.5	.4	.1	3.2	1.1	.3
Baltimore, MD 6/	1	-	155.9	-	154.3	1.0	-1.0	-	-	-	-
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	-	166.8	-	165.6	3.0	-.7	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	-	147.5	-	147.8	2.6	.2	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	-	156.2	-	155.6	3.0	-.4	-	-	-	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL 7/	1	-	151.1	-	151.2	2.6	.1	-	-	-	-
Washington, DC-MD-VA 6/	1	-	159.1	-	159.7	1.9	.4	-	-	-	-
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	-

- 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.