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INFORMATION: (202) 606-7828 UNTIL 8:30 A.M. (EST)
MEDIA CONTACT: (202) 606-5902 Tuesday, December 16, 1997
INTERNET ADDRESS:
<http://stats.bls.gov/cpihome.htm>

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: NOVEMBER 1997

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) declined 0.1 percent before seasonal adjustment in November to a level of 161.5 (1982-84=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. For the 12-month period ended in November, the CPI-U has increased 1.8 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) remained unchanged in November, prior to seasonal adjustment. The November 1997 CPI-W level of 158.5 was 1.7 percent higher than the index in November 1996.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.1 percent in November, following increases of 0.2 percent in each of the preceding four months. The food index increased 0.2 percent in November. Grocery store food prices increased 0.1 percent in November, as another sharp increase in prices for dairy products was largely offset by a decline in the index for nonalcoholic beverages. The energy index, which increased 0.1 percent in October, declined 0.2 percent in November. The index for petroleum-based energy declined 1.9 percent, while the index for energy services rose 1.6 percent. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 0.1 percent after advancing 0.2 percent in October. The smaller advance in November reflects a sharp downturn in airline fares and smaller increases in the indexes for tobacco and smoking products and for shelter.

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

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Expenditure Category	Changes from preceding month 1997							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended	Adjusted 12-mos. Ended
	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Nov. '97	Nov. '97
All Items	.1	.1	.2	.2	.2	.2	.1	2.3	1.8
Food and beverages	.4	.2	.3	.4	.1	.2	.1	1.5	1.7
Housing	.1	.3	.2	.1	.3	.3	.3	3.4	2.5
Apparel and upkeep	.1	-.2	.2	-1.0	.3	.1	.2	2.1	1.0
Transportation	-.8	-.3	.1	.6	.4	.1	-.7	-.8	-.6
Medical care	.3	.2	.0	.2	.2	.1	.3	2.4	2.6
Entertainment	.2	.5	.1	.2	-.2	.2	-.2	-1.2	1.4
Other goods and services	.2	.2	.3	.6	.3	.7	.3	5.4	4.9
Special Indexes:									
Energy	-2.4	.0	-.1	1.7	1.3	.1	-.2	4.8	-.4
Food	.4	.2	.3	.4	.1	.2	.2	1.8	1.7
All items less Food and energy	.2	.1	.2	.1	.2	.2	.1	2.1	2.2

Beginning with release of the CPI for January 1998 on February 24, 1998, the BLS will introduce a new geographic area sample, a revised item structure, and updated expenditure weights into the CPI. See page 4 for further details.

For the first 11 months of 1997, the CPI-U advanced at a 1.8 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 3.3 percent in all of 1996. The energy and food components have been largely responsible for the moderation thus far in 1997. The energy index has declined at a 2.1 percent SAAR, while food prices have risen at a 1.8 percent annual rate. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U has risen at a 2.1 percent SAAR in the first 11 months of 1997, following a 2.6 percent increase in all of 1996.

The food and beverage index rose 0.1 percent in November. The index for grocery store food prices, which increased 0.2 percent in October, rose 0.1 percent in November. Another sharp increase in the index for dairy products--up 0.9 percent after increasing 1.5 percent in October--was largely offset by a 0.3 percent drop in the index for the other food at home category. This decrease was due to a decline in prices for nonalcoholic beverages as coffee prices fell 2.2 percent and the index for carbonated drinks declined 0.6 percent. The index for fruits and vegetables rose 0.4 percent in November after registering a 0.3 percent increase in October. The index for fresh vegetables rose 3.3 percent, while the index for fresh fruits declined 2.4 percent in November. The index for processed fruits and

vegetables rose 0.6 percent. The other two major grocery store food groups--cereal and bakery products and meats, poultry, fish, and eggs--each increased 0.1 percent. Within the latter group, prices for beef and pork each declined in November, while poultry and egg prices rose 1.2 and 3.2 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.3 and 0.1 percent, respectively.

The housing component rose 0.3 percent in November, the same as in each of the two preceding months. Shelter costs rose 0.2 percent. Within shelter, renters' costs were unchanged as a decline in the index for lodging while out of town offset a 0.2 percent rise in residential rents. Homeowners' costs rose 0.3 percent and maintenance and repair costs increased 0.1 percent. The index for fuel and other utilities, which increased 0.3 percent in October, advanced 0.9 percent in November. The index for household fuels rose 1.5 percent, reflecting increases of 3.1 percent in the index for natural gas, 0.9 percent in the index for electricity, and 0.1 percent in the index for fuel oil. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, charges for electricity fell 1.5 percent, reflecting the shift to off-season rates in some areas.) The index for other utilities and public services rose 0.3 percent. The index for telephone services rose 0.2 percent, as charges for intrastate toll calls increased 1.2 percent after declining 0.6 percent in October. The index for household furnishings and operation increased 0.1 percent in November, the same as in each of the two preceding months.

The transportation component, which increased 0.1 percent in October, declined 0.7 percent in November. The indexes for motor fuels and new vehicles declined for the second consecutive month and public transportation costs turned down in November. The index for gasoline, which declined 0.6 percent in October, fell 2.3 percent in November. New vehicle purchase costs declined again in November; the index for new vehicle prices decreased 0.2 percent and automobile finance charges dropped 1.1 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, new vehicle prices increased 0.5 percent. As of November, about 45 percent of the new vehicle sample was represented by 1998 models. The 1998 models will continue to be phased in over the next several months as they replace old models at dealerships.) The index for used cars declined 0.1 percent. Public transportation costs declined 2.3 percent in November. The index for airline fares, which rose 3.8 percent in October, declined 3.9 percent in November. Other intercity transportation costs also declined in November, decreasing 0.3 percent.

The index for apparel and upkeep increased 0.2 percent in November, following a 0.1 percent rise in October. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel commodity prices fell 0.1 percent.)

Medical care costs rose 0.3 percent in November to a level 2.6 percent above a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.2 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.4 percent. Charges for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.1 and 0.4 percent, respectively.

Entertainment costs, which rose 0.2 percent in October, decreased 0.2 percent in November, reflecting declines in most entertainment commodity and service categories.

The index for other goods and services rose 0.3 percent in November, following an increase of 0.7 percent in October. The moderation was largely due to a smaller increase in the index for tobacco and smoking products, which rose 0.1 percent, following increases of 1.4 and 1.5 percent in the two preceding months.

CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers rose 0.1 percent in November.

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 Nov. '97	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Nov. '97
	Changes from preceding month								
	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.		
All Items	.0	.1	.2	.2	.3	.2	.1	2.0	1.7
Food and beverages	.4	.2	.3	.4	.1	.2	.1	1.5	1.7
Housing	.1	.3	.2	.0	.3	.2	.4	3.7	2.5
Apparel and upkeep	.2	-.3	.2	-1.0	.2	.1	.1	1.2	.9
Transportation	-1.0	-.4	.1	.7	.4	-.1	-.7	-1.4	-1.0
Medical care	.3	.2	.1	.2	.2	.2	.3	2.6	2.6
Entertainment	.1	.5	.1	.4	-.2	.1	-.2	-1.7	1.3
Other goods and services	.1	.0	.3	.5	.5	.8	.4	6.8	5.1
Special Indexes:									
Energy	-2.4	0	-.2	2.0	1.2	.1	-.3	4.1	-.7
Food	.3	.3	.3	.3	.1	.2	.1	1.8	1.6

All items less										
food and energy	.2	.1	.2	.0	.2	.2	.1	1.9		2.0

After seasonal adjustment, the level of the CPI-U for All Items was 161.8 in November; the seasonally adjusted CPI-W for All Items was 158.6.

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 December are scheduled for release on Tuesday, January 13, 1998, at 8:30 A.M. (EST). Releases for the remainder of 1998:

Feb. 24	Aug. 18
Mar. 19	Sep. 17
Apr. 14	Oct. 16
May 14	Nov. 17
June 16	Dec. 15
July 14	Jan. 14, 1999

Planned CPI Publication Changes

Beginning in 1998, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) will introduce a new geographic area sample, a revised item structure and updated expenditure weights into the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Approximately every ten years the CPI undertakes this type of revision in order to keep the index up-to-date. Since World War II, revisions of the CPI have been introduced in 1953, 1964, 1978, and 1987.

Because the changes the CPI undergoes during each revision can have a major impact on our users, special steps are taken in order to ameliorate the effects of these changes. Beginning with the release of the

January, 1997 index, data series that are changing or being dropped from publication have been footnoted in all BLS published tables. This provided an early warning to users to reconsider their use of those indexes and provided time for them to make changes in their use. The 1998 CPI Revision contains substantial changes in both the items being presented and the frequency of local area index publication.

Changes to the Item Structure

Effective in 1998, there will be considerable changes to both the items being priced and the manner in which they are being aggregated in the CPI. The most notable change in presentation is a reconstruction of several major groups with a resulting change from the currently available seven major groups to the new total of eight.

Currently the major groups are: Food and Beverages, Housing, Apparel and Upkeep, Transportation, Medical Care, Entertainment and Other Goods and Services. Three of these groups-- Food and Beverages, Transportation, and Medical care will remain the same. The Apparel group was modified to exclude apparel upkeep products and services. The Entertainment group has been slightly redefined into a major group called Recreation and a new major group, Education and Communication, has been formed from past subelements of the Housing, Entertainment and Other Goods and Services groups

Other important changes in our item structure at lower levels are an expansion of our Food Away from Home index, a reorientation of our car and truck indexes to a vehicle index, and the expansion of our information processing equipment index.

For a complete listing of the new CPI Publication Structure see Table X.

Changes to the Geographic Structure

In each revision, the CPI geographic sample is selected to be representative of the current demographics of the United States. The 1998 revision utilizes the 1990 Census of population. The CPI develops an updated area

sample design, decides on new local area indexes and changes the frequency of publication for local area indexes in order to better reflect these new demographics.

In addition to the national index, the BLS currently publishes indexes for 29 metropolitan areas. In 1998, it will continue to publish indexes for all but two of these areas--Buffalo-Niagara Falls, NY, and New Orleans, LA. Due to the revised Metropolitan Area (MA) definitions issued by the Office of Management and Budget(OMB), two other areas, Washington, DC, and Baltimore, MD, which the BLS currently publishes separately, constitute a new Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area. A single index will be published for this consolidated area.

The new publication plan for local area indexes, to begin with the index for January 1998, is summarized below:

- * Monthly indexes will be published for the three largest metropolitan areas. Because of sample design considerations, indexes for the Philadelphia and San Francisco areas, both currently published monthly, will be published every other month following the release of the December, 1997 index.

- * Bimonthly indexes will be published for the next 11 largest areas, including Atlanta and Seattle, which currently have semiannual average indexes.

- * Semiannual average indexes will be published for 12 additional areas, including Pittsburgh and St. Louis, which currently have bimonthly indexes.

- * The BLS will continue to publish separate indexes for the four Census regions of the United States. However, beginning in 1998, there will only be two area size classes for metropolitan areas, instead of the current three: Size A - areas with a population greater than 1.5 million; and Size B/C - areas with less than 1.5 million population. This cutoff of 1.5 million in population reflects a rise from the current cutoff of 1.2 million and is important since cities in size class

A are those for which the Bureau publishes city level indexes. The B/C size class is a combination of the old Size B and Size C metropolitan areas. In addition to the two metropolitan area size indexes for each region, separate Size D indexes for urban non-metropolitan areas will continue to be published for both the Midwest and the South. Separate indexes for Northeast and West urban nonmetropolitan areas were discontinued in 1987.

The following is the full list of areas for which indexes will be published, beginning in January, 1998:

1. Metropolitan Areas for which a local index will be published monthly:

New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA

2. Metropolitan Areas for which a local index will be published bimonthly:

In Odd Months (i.e. January,
March, etc.)

In Even Months (i.e.
February, April, etc.)

Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-
ME-CT

Philadelphia-Wilmington-
Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD

Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-
VA-WV

San Francisco-Oakland-San
Jose, CA

Cleveland-Akron, OH

Houston-Galveston-Brazoria,
TX

Atlanta, GA
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX

Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA

3. Metropolitan Areas for which a local index will be published
semiannually (In January and July)

Pittsburgh, PA
Kansas City, MO-KS
Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL
Denver-Boulder-Greeley, CO
Portland-Salem, OR-WA

Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN
Milwaukee-Racine, WI
St. Louis, MO-IL
Anchorage, AK
Honolulu, HI
San Diego, CA

Using a hedonic model to adjust prices of personal computers in the Consumer Price Index for changes in quality

Effective with the release of data for January 1998, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) will introduce an improved quality adjustment technique in the new stratum of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) called Personal Computers and Peripheral Equipment.

Currently, personal computers are part of the Information Processing Equipment stratum. As previously announced, beginning with the CPI for January 1998, Information Processing Equipment will become an expenditure class entitled Information and Information Processing Other Than Telephone Services. Personal Computers and Peripheral Equipment will be one of four strata in that expenditure class.

Analysts in the Producer Price Index (PPI) program have developed and implemented a regression procedure, called a hedonic model, that decomposes the price of personal computers into implicit prices for each important feature and component of the computer. This model, which has been used in the PPI since 1991, provides a way to estimate the value of changes or improvements. The CPI has used similar hedonic methods to adjust apparel prices for many years.

Starting with the CPI for January 1998, when a personal computer or selected item of peripheral equipment, such as a modem, in the CPI sample improves in some way, a regression-based quality adjustment will be made. The value of the improvement, as derived from the PPI regression estimates, will be deducted from the observed price change for the product. (Conversely, if a model deteriorates, the value of the difference will be added to the price.)

Additional information on these changes will be published in the June 1997 CPI Detailed Report and is available on the Internet (at <http://stats.bls.gov/cpihome.htm>). This information can also be obtained by writing to Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, Room 3260, 2 Massachusetts Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20212 or by telephoning Joseph Chelena at (202) 606-6982 ext. 255.

commodities 1/ 4/ .....	.077	132.7	132.7	.3	.0	-.8	.5	.0
Fuel and other utilities 2/	7.102	130.8	131.1	2.1	.2	.6	.3	.9
Fuels	3.878	117.4	117.7	1.7	.3	1.0	.4	1.5
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities .....	.424	95.3	96.6	-8.8	1.4	.1	-.3	.6
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	3.453	125.1	125.3	3.0	.2	1.1	.5	1.6
Other utilities and public services 4/	3.224	162.5	162.8	2.5	.2	.3	.1	.3
Household furnishings and operation 2/ .	5.908	125.4	125.2	.3	-.2	.1	.1	.1
Housefurnishings 4/	3.332	110.1	109.7	-1.0	-.4	-.1	.1	-.1
Housekeeping supplies	1.093	143.3	143.4	1.1	.1	.1	-.1	.1
Housekeeping services 4/	1.482	153.3	153.7	2.7	.3	.3	.1	.5
Apparel and upkeep	5.330	134.9	134.7	1.0	-.1	.3	.1	.2
Apparel commodities 4/	4.786	131.2	131.1	.9	-.1	.3	.1	.2
Men's and boys' apparel	1.280	133.1	133.0	1.4	-.1	.4	.2	-.5
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.102	128.3	128.8	1.7	.4	1.0	-.5	1.0
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/ ....	.186	126.2	126.0	-.6	-.2	-.5	-.4	-.2
Footwear .....	.718	130.6	129.3	1.3	-1.0	-.5	1.5	-.5
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	.500	145.5	143.6	-3.6	-1.3	-1.0	.3	-.1
Apparel services 1/ 4/ .....	.545	163.7	163.4	1.6	-.2	.1	.0	-.2
Transportation	17.140	144.5	143.9	-.6	-.4	.4	.1	-.7
Private transportation	15.499	140.9	140.6	-.6	-.2	.4	-.2	-.5
New vehicles	4.955	143.3	144.0	-.6	.5	.1	-.3	-.2
New cars	3.952	140.6	141.3	-.7	.5	.0	-.2	-.1
Used cars	1.278	147.9	147.6	-5.7	-.2	-.1	-.5	-.1
Motor fuel	3.171	106.7	104.6	-3.0	-2.0	1.7	-.5	-2.1
Gasoline	-	106.5	104.1	-2.8	-2.3	1.8	-.6	-2.3
Maintenance and repairs	1.533	163.9	164.0	2.2	.1	-.1	.2	.2
Other private transportation 4/.....	4.562	178.4	179.0	1.6	.3	.1	-.1	-.1
Other private transportation commodities 4/.....	.589	104.3	104.5	-.6	.2	-.2	-.3	.0
Other private transportation services 4/	3.973	196.0	196.6	1.9	.3	.2	.0	-.1
Public transportation	1.642	190.9	185.9	-.7	-2.6	1.2	2.7	-2.3
Medical care	7.346	235.8	236.4	2.6	.3	.2	.1	.3
Medical care commodities	1.273	215.6	215.8	1.8	.1	.1	.0	.2
Medical care services	6.073	240.5	241.2	2.7	.3	.2	.1	.4
Professional medical services	3.472	216.8	217.1	2.9	.1	.1	.2	.1
Entertainment 4/	4.352	163.1	162.9	1.4	-.1	-.2	.2	-.2
Entertainment commodities 4/	1.957	144.3	144.3	.2	.0	.1	-.2	-.2

Entertainment services 4/	2.395	184.9	184.6	2.4	-.2	-.5	.5	-.3
Other goods and services 2/	7.145	229.4	229.9	4.9	.2	.3	.7	.3
Tobacco and smoking products	1.601	250.2	250.7	6.1	.2	1.4	1.5	.1
Personal care 1/	1.145	153.3	154.3	2.1	.7	.1	.4	.7
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 1/ .....	.588	144.5	146.1	1.0	1.1	.1	.6	1.1
Personal care services 1/ .....	.557	163.4	163.5	3.1	.1	.1	.4	.1
Personal and educational expenses 4/ ...	4.398	265.6	265.8	5.1	.1	-.1	.5	.4
School books and supplies .....	.264	242.4	242.4	5.1	.0	-.1	.7	.2
Personal and educational services 4/ .	4.134	267.5	267.8	5.1	.1	-.1	.5	.4

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 Nov. 1997 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Oct. 1997	Nov. 1997	Nov. 1996	Oct. 1997	Aug. to Sept.	Sept. to Oct.	Oct. to Nov.
All items	100.000	161.6	161.5	1.8	-.1	.2	.2	.1
Commodities	42.873	142.4	142.3	.6	-.1	.3	.0	-.1
Food and beverages	17.484	158.7	158.9	1.7	.1	.1	.2	.1
Commodities less food and beverages	25.389	132.5	132.2	-.3	-.2	.4	.0	-.2
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	15.147	135.8	135.3	.4	-.4	.7	.1	-.3
Apparel commodities 4/	4.786	131.2	131.1	.9	-.1	.3	.1	.2
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.362	141.3	140.6	.2	-.5	.8	-.1	-.6
Durables	10.242	127.8	127.9	-1.3	.1	-.1	-.1	-.1
Services	57.127	181.0	181.0	2.9	.0	.2	.3	.2
Rent of shelter 3/	27.577	185.0	185.0	3.1	.0	.2	.3	.3
Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	8.698	146.4	146.7	2.7	.2	.6	.4	.8

Transportation services	7.148	186.9	186.2	1.4	-.4	.3	.6	-.6	
Medical care services	6.073	240.5	241.2	2.7	.3	.2	.1	.4	
Other services	7.631	212.7	212.7	3.9	.0	-.2	.4	.1	
Special indexes									
All items less food	84.087	162.2	162.1	1.9	-.1	.3	.2	.1	
All items less shelter	71.806	156.9	156.8	1.4	-.1	.3	.2	.1	
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	80.000	162.4	162.2	1.6	-.1	.2	.2	.1	
All items less medical care	92.654	157.4	157.3	1.8	-.1	.3	.2	.1	
Commodities less food	26.960	133.8	133.5	-.1	-.2	.4	-.1	-.2	
Nondurables less food	16.718	137.4	137.0	.7	-.3	.7	.1	-.2	
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.932	142.5	141.9	.5	-.4	.8	-.1	-.3	
Nondurables	32.631	147.4	147.3	1.2	-.1	.4	.0	.1	
Services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/	29.550	189.8	189.8	2.7	.0	.3	.4	.2	
Services less medical care services	51.054	175.5	175.4	2.9	-.1	.2	.5	.1	
Energy	7.049	111.5	110.7	-.4	-.7	1.3	.1	-.2	
All items less energy	92.951	168.3	168.3	2.1	.0	.2	.2	.1	
All items less food and energy	77.038	170.8	170.8	2.2	.0	.2	.2	.1	
Commodities less food and energy commodities	23.364	142.7	142.8	.4	.1	.2	.1	.0	
Energy commodities	3.596	105.7	103.9	-3.7	-1.7	1.5	-.4	-1.9	
Services less energy services	53.674	186.7	186.7	2.9	.0	.2	.3	.1	
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:									
1982-84=\$1.00 1/	-	\$.619	\$.619	-1.9	.0	-.3	-.2	.0	
1967=\$1.00 1/	-	.207	.207	-	-	-	-	-	

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)

Seasonally adjusted indexes

Seasonally adjusted annual rate
percent change for
3 months ended- 6 months ended-

Expenditure category	Aug. 1997	Sept. 1997	Oct. 1997	Nov. 1997	Feb. 1997	May 1997	Aug. 1997	Nov. 1997	May 1997	Nov. 1997
All items	-	-	-	-	2.5	0.8	2.0	2.3	1.6	2.1
Food and beverages	158.6	158.7	159.0	159.2	.5	.8	3.9	1.5	.6	2.7
Food	158.3	158.4	158.7	159.0	.3	.8	3.9	1.8	.5	2.8
Food at home	159.2	159.1	159.4	159.6	-.8	-.3	4.7	1.0	-.5	2.8
Cereals and bakery products	178.0	178.3	178.7	178.9	.2	1.1	2.5	2.0	.7	2.3
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	149.4	149.1	148.7	148.8	.0	.3	2.4	-1.6	.1	.4
Dairy products 1/	143.4	143.5	145.7	147.0	-8.1	-2.2	-5.4	10.4	-5.2	2.2
Fruits and vegetables 2/.....	191.4	190.8	191.4	192.1	-2.1	-6.2	15.3	1.5	-4.2	8.2
Other food at home	148.7	149.0	148.8	148.3	2.2	5.4	5.6	-1.1	3.8	2.2
Sugar and sweets	147.6	148.4	147.9	148.5	4.8	1.4	.5	2.5	3.1	1.5
Fats and oils	141.5	142.5	141.7	141.4	.8	-.8	-.8	-.3	.0	-.6
Nonalcoholic beverages	137.1	136.9	136.6	135.0	-.6	20.2	11.9	-6.0	9.3	2.6
Other prepared food	161.5	162.1	162.3	162.3	3.8	-1.2	3.5	2.0	1.3	2.8
Food away from home	157.4	157.8	158.0	158.4	2.6	1.8	2.8	2.6	2.2	2.7
Alcoholic beverages	163.4	163.7	163.8	164.0	3.0	1.2	2.7	1.5	2.1	2.1
Housing 2/	156.9	157.3	157.7	158.2	3.1	1.3	2.1	3.4	2.2	2.7
Shelter	176.6	177.0	177.5	177.9	3.3	3.3	2.8	3.0	3.3	2.9
Renters' costs 3/ 4/.....	185.7	186.4	187.6	187.6	4.3	3.1	2.0	4.2	3.7	3.1
Rent, residential	167.3	167.8	168.2	168.6	2.5	3.7	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.0
Other renters' costs 4/	223.8	224.8	228.6	227.5	8.9	1.6	-.4	6.8	5.2	3.1
Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/	182.4	182.6	182.9	183.5	2.7	3.2	3.4	2.4	2.9	2.9
Owners' equivalent rent 3/	182.8	183.0	183.3	183.9	2.9	3.1	3.4	2.4	3.0	2.9
Household insurance 3/ 4/	165.7	166.8	166.7	166.9	-.5	1.7	1.7	2.9	.6	2.3
Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/	145.5	142.6	144.7	144.9	3.4	2.6	6.6	-1.6	3.0	2.4
Maintenance and repair services 1/ 4/	154.4	150.2	153.4	153.7	2.2	4.1	12.6	-1.8	3.1	5.1
Maintenance and repair commodities 1/ 4/	133.1	132.1	132.7	132.7	4.9	.6	-2.9	-1.2	2.7	-2.1
Fuel and other utilities 2/.....	129.9	130.7	131.1	132.3	6.3	-6.5	1.6	7.6	-.3	4.5
Fuels	115.4	116.5	117.0	118.8	9.6	-12.7	.0	12.3	-2.2	6.0
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities	96.7	96.8	96.5	97.1	-1.1	-21.1	-12.6	1.7	-11.7	-5.7
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	122.8	124.1	124.7	126.7	10.5	-11.8	1.6	13.3	-1.3	7.3
Other utilities and public services 4/ ..	162.0	162.5	162.7	163.2	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	3.0
Household furnishings and operation 2/ ...	125.1	125.2	125.3	125.4	.3	1.9	-1.9	1.0	1.1	-.5
Housefurnishings 4/	110.1	110.0	110.1	110.0	.0	1.1	-4.9	-.4	.5	-2.7
Housekeeping supplies	143.1	143.3	143.1	143.2	2.3	1.1	.6	.3	1.7	.4
Housekeeping services 4/	152.7	153.1	153.3	154.0	-.5	4.3	3.8	3.4	1.9	3.6

Apparel and upkeep	132.2	132.6	132.7	132.9	2.8	3.1	-4.1	2.1	2.9	-1.0
Apparel commodities 4/	128.3	128.7	128.8	129.1	2.5	3.5	-4.8	2.5	3.0	-1.2
Men's and boys' apparel	130.5	131.0	131.2	130.6	-1.5	7.0	.0	.3	2.7	.2
Women's and girls' apparel	124.3	125.5	124.9	126.1	8.7	2.9	-9.7	5.9	5.7	-2.2
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/	127.3	126.7	126.2	126.0	1.6	22.4	-18.1	-4.0	11.5	-11.3
Footwear	128.1	127.4	129.3	128.6	-.9	1.9	2.5	1.6	.5	2.1
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	145.2	143.7	144.1	144.0	-4.2	-6.1	-1.1	-3.3	-5.1	-2.2
Apparel services 1/ 4/	163.6	163.7	163.7	163.4	3.3	1.7	1.7	-.5	2.5	.6
Transportation	144.2	144.8	144.9	143.9	1.4	-4.6	1.7	-.8	-1.7	.4
Private transportation	141.2	141.7	141.4	140.7	3.4	-6.6	2.6	-1.4	-1.7	.6
New vehicles	144.3	144.4	144.0	143.7	-.6	-.3	.0	-1.7	-.4	-.8
New cars	141.7	141.7	141.4	141.2	-.6	-.3	-.3	-1.4	-.4	-.8
Used cars	148.0	147.8	147.0	146.8	.5	-5.3	-14.0	-3.2	-2.4	-8.8
Motor fuel	106.2	108.0	107.5	105.2	13.1	-29.3	15.2	-3.7	-10.6	5.3
Gasoline	105.9	107.8	107.2	104.7	13.6	-30.0	17.1	-4.5	-10.8	5.8
Maintenance and repairs	163.4	163.2	163.5	163.9	2.3	2.5	3.0	1.2	2.4	2.1
Other private transportation 4/.....	178.0	178.2	178.1	178.0	1.8	2.1	2.3	.0	1.9	1.1
Other private transportation										
commodities 4/.....	105.0	104.8	104.5	104.5	.0	-1.1	.8	-1.9	-.6	-.6
Other private transportation										
services 4/	195.5	195.8	195.8	195.6	2.1	2.7	2.3	.2	2.4	1.2
Public transportation	184.5	186.7	191.7	187.2	-13.3	15.1	-8.0	6.0	-.1	-1.3
Medical care	235.5	235.9	236.1	236.9	2.3	3.8	1.7	2.4	3.1	2.1
Medical care commodities	215.5	215.7	215.6	216.0	2.7	4.4	-.6	.9	3.5	.2
Medical care services	239.8	240.3	240.5	241.4	2.2	3.6	2.2	2.7	2.9	2.4
Professional medical services	216.3	216.6	217.0	217.3	2.9	4.4	2.4	1.9	3.6	2.2
Entertainment 4/	163.4	163.0	163.3	162.9	2.0	1.7	3.2	-1.2	1.9	1.0
Entertainment commodities 4/	144.7	144.9	144.6	144.3	.6	-1.1	2.5	-1.1	-.3	.7
Entertainment services 4/	185.1	184.2	185.1	184.6	3.1	3.8	4.0	-1.1	3.5	1.4
Other goods and services 2/.....	226.9	227.5	229.1	229.9	3.9	5.9	4.3	5.4	4.9	4.9
Tobacco and smoking products	243.2	246.5	250.2	250.4	2.7	9.2	.5	12.4	5.9	6.3
Personal care 1/	152.5	152.7	153.3	154.3	.8	2.9	-.3	4.8	1.9	2.2
Toilet goods and personal care										
appliances 1/	143.5	143.7	144.5	146.1	-3.8	2.3	-1.7	7.4	-.8	2.8
Personal care services 1/	162.7	162.8	163.4	163.5	5.4	4.0	1.0	2.0	4.7	1.5
Personal and educational expenses 4/	262.8	262.5	263.7	264.7	5.3	5.4	7.0	2.9	5.4	4.9
School books and supplies	241.2	241.0	242.6	243.1	3.0	6.0	8.0	3.2	4.5	5.6
Personal and educational services 4/ ...	264.3	264.0	265.2	266.2	5.5	5.4	6.9	2.9	5.4	4.9

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) - Continued

Commodity and service group	Seasonally adjusted indexes					Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for				
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Feb.	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	May	Aug.	Nov.	May	Nov.
	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997
All items	-	-	-	-	2.5	.8	2.0	2.3	1.6	2.1
Commodities	141.9	142.3	142.3	142.2	1.7	-1.7	1.1	.8	.0	1.0
Food and beverages	158.6	158.7	159.0	159.2	.5	.8	3.9	1.5	.6	2.7
Commodities less food and beverages	131.8	132.3	132.3	132.0	2.1	-3.3	-.6	.6	-.6	.0
Nondurables less food and beverages	134.3	135.2	135.3	134.9	4.2	-5.2	1.2	1.8	-.6	1.5
Apparel commodities 4/	128.3	128.7	128.8	129.1	2.5	3.5	-4.8	2.5	3.0	-1.2
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	140.3	141.4	141.3	140.5	6.1	-8.2	2.9	.6	-1.3	1.7
Durables	128.2	128.1	128.0	127.9	.0	-.9	-3.4	-.9	-.5	-2.2
Services	180.0	180.4	181.0	181.4	3.0	2.7	2.7	3.1	2.9	2.9
Rent of shelter 3/	184.1	184.4	185.0	185.5	3.1	3.4	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.0
Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	145.2	146.1	146.7	147.9	4.8	-3.0	1.7	7.6	.8	4.6
Transportation services	185.1	185.7	186.9	185.8	-1.5	5.1	.2	1.5	1.8	.9
Medical care services	239.8	240.3	240.5	241.4	2.2	3.6	2.2	2.7	2.9	2.4
Other services	211.9	211.5	212.4	212.7	4.4	4.7	5.1	1.5	4.5	3.3
Special indexes										
All items less food	161.2	161.7	162.0	162.2	2.8	.8	1.8	2.5	1.8	2.1
All items less shelter	156.1	156.5	156.8	156.9	2.1	.0	1.6	2.1	1.0	1.8
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	161.6	162.0	162.4	162.5	2.3	.2	1.8	2.2	1.3	2.0
All items less medical care	156.5	156.9	157.2	157.3	2.6	.5	2.1	2.1	1.6	2.1

Commodities less food	133.3	133.8	133.7	133.4	2.4	-2.9	-.3	.3	-.3	.0
Nondurables less food	135.9	136.9	137.0	136.7	3.9	-4.0	.6	2.4	-.1	1.5
Nondurables less food and apparel	142.0	143.2	143.0	142.5	3.7	-8.1	5.5	1.4	-2.4	3.5
Nondurables	146.5	147.1	147.1	147.3	2.8	-3.0	3.1	2.2	-.1	2.6
Services less rent of shelter 3/	188.3	188.9	189.6	190.0	2.4	2.4	2.2	3.7	2.4	2.9
Services less medical care services	174.3	174.7	175.5	175.7	2.8	2.6	2.8	3.3	2.7	3.0
Energy	110.2	111.6	111.7	111.5	10.8	-20.5	6.4	4.8	-6.2	5.6
All items less energy	167.7	168.0	168.3	168.5	1.7	2.7	1.7	1.9	2.2	1.8
All items less food and energy	170.1	170.4	170.8	171.0	2.2	2.9	1.4	2.1	2.5	1.8
Commodities less food and energy										
commodities	142.0	142.3	142.4	142.4	1.1	1.7	-2.2	1.1	1.4	-.6
Energy commodities	105.2	106.8	106.4	104.4	11.5	-28.3	11.4	-3.0	-10.6	3.9
Services less energy services	185.8	186.1	186.7	186.9	2.7	3.5	2.8	2.4	3.1	2.6

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 Nov. 1997 from-			Percent change to Oct. 1997 from-		
		Aug. 1997	Sept. 1997	Oct. 1997	Nov. 1997	Nov. 1996	Sept. 1997	Oct. 1997	Oct. 1996	Aug. 1997	Sept. 1997
U.S. city average	M	160.8	161.2	161.6	161.5	1.8	0.2	-0.1	2.1	0.5	0.2
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	167.8	168.4	168.7	168.5	1.9	.1	-.1	2.2	.5	.2
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	168.4	169.2	169.5	169.3	2.0	.1	-.1	2.3	.7	.2
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	166.2	166.0	166.0	165.8	1.7	-.1	-.1	2.2	-.1	.0
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000 3/.....	M	166.8	167.1	167.6	167.5	1.9	.2	-.1	2.3	.5	.3
North Central urban	M	157.2	157.5	157.7	157.7	1.7	.1	.0	2.1	.3	.1

Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	158.0	158.3	158.4	158.4	2.0	.1	.0	2.3	.3	.1
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	156.3	156.2	156.7	156.9	1.6	.4	.1	1.8	.3	.3
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000 3/.....	M	158.8	159.6	159.7	159.3	1.4	-.2	-.3	2.0	.6	.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	152.6	153.4	153.2	153.7	1.2	.2	.3	1.4	.4	-.1
South urban	M	157.1	157.5	157.8	157.8	1.7	.2	.0	1.9	.4	.2
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	155.9	156.4	156.7	156.4	1.7	.0	-.2	2.0	.5	.2
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	160.8	160.6	160.9	161.2	1.9	.4	.2	2.0	.1	.2
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000 3/.....	M	156.1	156.7	157.2	157.3	1.7	.4	.1	1.6	.7	.3
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	156.4	157.1	156.9	157.1	1.6	.0	.1	1.7	.3	-.1
West urban	M	161.5	162.1	162.8	162.8	2.3	.4	.0	2.3	.8	.4
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	161.7	162.3	163.1	162.8	2.3	.3	-.2	2.4	.9	.5
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000 3/.....	M	166.8	167.4	168.3	169.2	3.2	1.1	.5	3.1	.9	.5
Size classes											
A 4/	M	145.1	145.6	146.0	145.8	2.0	.1	-.1	2.3	.6	.3
B 3/	M	161.2	161.2	161.5	161.6	1.7	.2	.1	2.0	.2	.2
C 3/	M	160.5	161.0	161.5	161.6	2.0	.4	.1	2.1	.6	.3
D	M	156.8	157.4	157.6	157.8	1.3	.3	.1	1.4	.5	.1
Selected local areas											
Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	162.5	162.1	162.5	162.9	2.2	.5	.2	2.3	.0	.2
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	159.7	160.5	161.1	160.7	1.5	.1	-.2	1.4	.9	.4
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	170.8	171.7	172.3	172.0	2.1	.2	-.2	2.4	.9	.3
Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD 5/	M	166.8	168.6	167.7	166.4	1.3	-1.3	-.8	1.7	.5	-.5
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA 5/ ..	M	161.2	161.6	162.5	162.6	3.6	.6	.1	3.6	.8	.6
Baltimore, MD 6/	1	-	156.7	-	156.0	.8	-.4	-	-	-	-
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	-	167.8	-	169.4	1.9	1.0	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	-	157.3	-	157.1	2.1	-.1	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	-	158.5	-	159.5	2.0	.6	-	-	-	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL 7/	1	-	155.1	-	152.9	1.0	-1.4	-	-	-	-
Washington, DC-MD-VA 6/	1	-	163.6	-	161.8	.4	-1.1	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	2	151.2	-	152.8	-	-	-	-	1.4	1.1	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI	2	156.9	-	157.9	-	-	-	-	2.7	.6	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	145.4	-	147.3	-	-	-	-	2.9	1.3	-
Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, PA 7/	2	157.5	-	157.9	-	-	-	-	2.2	.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-		
		Oct. 1997	Nov. 1997	Nov. 1997 from- Nov. 1996	Oct. 1997	Aug. to Sept.	Sept. to Oct.	Oct. to Nov.
All items	100.000	158.5	158.5	1.7	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.1
All items (1967=100)	-	472.3	472.2	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	19.436	158.1	158.3	1.7	.1	.1	.2	.1
Food	17.749	157.7	157.9	1.6	.1	.1	.2	.1
Food at home	11.387	158.0	158.1	1.1	.1	.0	.3	.1
Cereals and bakery products	1.688	178.0	177.8	1.5	-.1	.2	.3	.1

Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.535	148.5	149.0	.3	.3	-.3	-.2	.0
Dairy products 1/	1.387	145.5	146.8	-1.6	.9	.1	1.6	.9
Fruits and vegetables 2/	2.086	187.7	188.4	1.7	.4	-.4	.5	.2
Other food at home	2.691	148.4	147.0	2.8	-.9	.3	-.1	-.4
Sugar and sweets .....	.373	148.0	147.3	2.3	-.5	.5	-.3	.4
Fats and oils .....	.282	141.4	140.2	-.2	-.8	.5	-.4	-.1
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.841	135.2	133.3	5.2	-1.4	-.1	-.1	-1.1
Other prepared food	1.194	162.3	161.3	2.0	-.6	.4	.1	-.1
Food away from home	6.362	158.2	158.6	2.5	.3	.3	.2	.3
Alcoholic beverages	1.687	162.8	162.8	2.0	.0	.0	.1	.1
Housing 2/	38.747	154.4	154.5	2.5	.1	.3	.2	.4
Shelter	25.867	172.7	172.8	3.0	.1	.2	.3	.2
Renters' costs 3/ 4/.....	8.079	163.6	162.7	3.2	-.6	.3	.4	.1
Rent, residential	6.580	167.9	168.4	3.1	.3	.3	.2	.2
Other renters' costs 4/	1.499	224.6	215.6	4.0	-4.0	.4	1.2	-.4
Homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	17.599	167.1	167.6	2.9	.3	.2	.2	.3
Owners' equivalent rent 3/	17.277	167.4	167.9	2.9	.3	.2	.2	.3
Household insurance 3/ 4/ .....	.322	151.3	151.4	.9	.1	.5	.1	.1
Maintenance and repairs 1/ 4/ .....	.189	142.6	142.8	2.1	.1	-1.9	1.1	.1
Maintenance and repair								
services 1/ 4/ .....	.105	154.4	154.7	3.2	.2	-2.7	1.4	.2
Maintenance and repair								
commodities 1/ 4/ .....	.084	127.8	127.9	.6	.1	-.6	.5	.1
Fuel and other utilities 2/	7.344	130.6	130.9	2.2	.2	.7	.4	1.0
Fuels	3.979	116.8	117.3	1.9	.4	1.0	.6	1.5
Fuel oil and other household fuel								
commodities .....	.391	95.0	96.4	-8.8	1.5	.1	-.2	.5
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy								
services).....	3.588	124.6	124.9	3.1	.2	1.1	.6	1.7
Other utilities and public								
services 4/	3.365	163.3	163.6	2.6	.2	.3	.1	.3
Household furnishings and operation 2/ .	5.536	123.9	123.7	.3	-.2	.1	.1	.0
Housefurnishings 4/	3.261	109.0	108.5	-.9	-.5	-.1	.1	-.2
Housekeeping supplies	1.129	143.9	144.2	1.3	.2	.3	.0	.2
Housekeeping services 4/	1.145	156.2	156.6	2.8	.3	.3	.1	.4
Apparel and upkeep	5.348	133.9	133.6	.9	-.2	.2	.1	.1
Apparel commodities 4/	4.838	130.5	130.2	.9	-.2	.2	.1	.2
Men's and boys' apparel	1.286	132.4	132.7	1.4	.2	.3	-.1	-.3
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.053	126.8	127.0	1.6	.2	.7	-.6	.8
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/ ....	.240	127.7	127.1	-.5	-.5	-.1	-.5	-.5
Footwear .....	.799	131.8	130.4	1.2	-1.1	-.5	1.7	-.7
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	.461	145.4	143.5	-3.5	-1.3	-1.2	1.0	.1
Apparel services 1/ 4/ .....	.510	162.8	162.6	1.6	-.1	.1	.0	-.1

Transportation	19.190	143.6	143.1	-1.0	-.3	.4	-.1	-.7
Private transportation	17.934	141.1	140.8	-1.0	-.2	.3	-.1	-.6
New vehicles	4.893	144.7	145.1	-.6	.3	.1	-.1	-.4
New cars	3.533	140.2	140.8	-.8	.4	.0	-.2	-.3
Used cars	2.320	149.4	149.2	-5.4	-.1	-.2	-.5	-.1
Motor fuel	3.921	106.6	104.4	-3.4	-2.1	1.4	-.5	-2.2
Gasoline	-	106.3	104.0	-3.2	-2.2	1.6	-.6	-2.4
Maintenance and repairs	1.616	164.9	165.1	2.3	.1	.0	.1	.2
Other private transportation 4/.....	5.185	173.8	174.3	1.4	.3	.1	-.1	.0
Other private transportation								
commodities 4/.....	.742	103.6	103.6	-.6	.0	-.2	-.2	-.1
services 4/	4.442	191.6	192.3	1.7	.4	.1	.0	.0
Public transportation	1.256	187.8	183.9	-.3	-2.1	1.2	2.2	-1.7
Medical care	6.251	235.2	235.8	2.6	.3	.2	.2	.3
Medical care commodities	1.047	212.9	213.1	1.9	.1	.2	.0	.3
Medical care services	5.204	240.3	240.8	2.6	.2	.2	.2	.2
Professional medical services	2.973	218.1	218.5	3.0	.2	.1	.2	.2
Entertainment 4/	4.015	160.6	160.3	1.3	-.2	-.2	.1	-.2
Entertainment commodities 4/	2.036	143.1	142.9	.1	-.1	.1	-.3	-.3
Entertainment services 4/	1.979	185.3	184.9	2.5	-.2	-.4	.4	-.3
Other goods and services 2/	7.012	226.1	226.7	5.1	.3	.5	.8	.4
Tobacco and smoking products	2.117	249.9	250.5	6.2	.2	1.4	1.5	.1
Personal care 1/	1.107	153.3	154.3	2.0	.7	.1	.5	.7
Toilet goods and personal care								
appliances 1/ .....	.610	145.4	147.1	1.2	1.2	.2	.5	1.2
Personal care services 1/ .....	.497	163.5	163.7	3.2	.1	.1	.3	.1
Personal and educational expenses 4/ ...	3.788	260.8	261.2	5.3	.2	.2	.4	.3
School books and supplies .....	.232	244.7	244.7	5.2	.0	.0	.6	.3
Personal and educational services 4/ .	3.556	262.4	262.8	5.2	.2	.2	.4	.3

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) - Continued

Commodity and service group	Relative importance, December 1996	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-			
		Oct. 1997	Nov. 1997	Nov. 1996	Oct. 1997	Aug. to Sept.	Sept. to Oct.	Oct. to Nov.	
All items	100.000	158.5	158.5	1.7	.0	.3	.2	.1	
Commodities	47.057	142.3	142.1	.4	-.1	.2	.1	-.1	
Food and beverages	19.436	158.1	158.3	1.7	.1	.1	.2	.1	
Commodities less food and beverages	27.621	132.7	132.3	-.5	-.3	.4	.0	-.4	
Nondurables less food and beverages ..	16.215	135.7	135.1	.4	-.4	.7	.1	-.4	
Apparel commodities 4/	4.838	130.5	130.2	.9	-.2	.2	.1	.2	
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	11.377	141.2	140.5	.2	-.5	.8	-.1	-.6	
Durables	11.407	127.3	127.3	-1.7	.0	.0	-.1	-.3	
Services	52.943	178.0	178.1	2.8	.1	.3	.3	.3	
Rent of shelter 3/	25.329	166.2	166.3	3.1	.1	.3	.2	.2	
Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	8.553	134.5	134.8	2.7	.2	.6	.4	.8	
Transportation services	7.314	184.2	184.0	1.5	-.1	.2	.4	-.2	
Medical care services	5.204	240.3	240.8	2.6	.2	.2	.2	.2	
Other services	6.542	209.4	209.5	4.0	.0	.0	.4	.1	
Special indexes									
All items less food	82.251	158.6	158.5	1.7	-.1	.3	.2	.1	
All items less shelter	74.133	154.8	154.7	1.2	-.1	.3	.2	.0	
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	82.401	148.6	148.5	1.4	-.1	.3	.2	.1	
All items less medical care	93.749	154.9	154.9	1.7	.0	.3	.2	.1	
Commodities less food	29.308	133.9	133.5	-.4	-.3	.3	.0	-.3	
Nondurables less food	17.901	137.3	136.7	.5	-.4	.8	.0	-.3	
Nondurables less food and apparel	13.064	142.4	141.7	.4	-.5	.8	-.1	-.5	
Nondurables	35.651	147.2	147.0	1.1	-.1	.3	.1	-.1	
Services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/	27.613	169.0	169.1	2.7	.1	.3	.4	.3	
Services less medical care services	47.738	172.7	172.8	2.9	.1	.3	.4	.2	
Energy	7.901	111.0	110.1	-.7	-.8	1.2	.1	-.3	
All items less energy	92.099	165.2	165.3	1.9	.1	.1	.2	.1	
All items less food and energy	74.350	167.1	167.2	2.0	.1	.2	.2	.1	
Commodities less food and energy commodities	24.996	142.2	142.2	.3	.0	.2	.1	.0	
Energy commodities	4.312	105.8	104.0	-3.9	-1.7	1.2	-.4	-2.1	

Services less energy services	49.354	183.9	184.0	2.9	.1	.2	.3	.1
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:								
1982-84=\$1.00 1/	-	\$.631	\$.631	-1.7	.0	-.3	-.2	.0
1967=\$1.00 1/	-	.212	.212	-	-	-	-	-

- 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				
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Feb.	3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	May	Aug.	Nov.	May	Nov.
						1997	1997	1997	1997	1997
All items	-	-	-	-	2.3	0.3	2.1	2.0	1.3	2.0
Food and beverages	158.1	158.2	158.5	158.7	.3	1.0	3.6	1.5	.6	2.6
Food	157.6	157.8	158.1	158.3	.3	.8	3.6	1.8	.5	2.7
Food at home	158.2	158.2	158.6	158.7	-1.3	.3	4.1	1.3	-.5	2.7
Cereals and bakery products	177.5	177.9	178.4	178.6	.0	1.6	1.8	2.5	.8	2.2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	149.1	148.7	148.4	148.4	-.3	.8	2.5	-1.9	.3	.3
Dairy products 1/	143.0	143.2	145.5	146.8	-8.3	-2.4	-5.7	11.1	-5.4	2.4
Fruits and vegetables 2/.....	190.9	190.2	191.1	191.4	-2.7	-5.5	15.6	1.1	-4.1	8.1
Other food at home	147.9	148.3	148.2	147.6	2.2	5.1	4.7	-.8	3.7	1.9
Sugar and sweets	147.5	148.2	147.7	148.3	5.3	1.6	.0	2.2	3.5	1.1
Fats and oils	141.3	142.0	141.4	141.2	.3	.0	-.8	-.3	.1	-.6
Nonalcoholic beverages	135.6	135.4	135.2	133.7	-.6	17.8	10.7	-5.5	8.2	2.3
Other prepared food	161.4	162.1	162.3	162.1	3.6	-1.0	3.5	1.7	1.3	2.6
Food away from home	157.4	157.8	158.1	158.5	2.9	1.3	3.1	2.8	2.1	3.0
Alcoholic beverages	162.8	162.8	163.0	163.2	2.3	2.0	2.7	1.0	2.1	1.9

services 4/	191.2	191.4	191.4	191.4	1.9	1.9	2.8	.4	1.9	1.6
Public transportation	182.3	184.4	188.4	185.2	-12.1	11.6	-5.5	6.5	-1.0	.3
Medical care	234.7	235.1	235.6	236.2	2.3	3.7	1.7	2.6	3.0	2.2
Medical care commodities	212.5	212.9	212.9	213.6	2.9	4.0	-1.1	2.1	3.5	.5
Medical care services	239.5	240.0	240.5	241.1	2.1	3.8	2.2	2.7	2.9	2.4
Professional medical services	217.7	218.0	218.4	218.9	2.9	4.6	2.6	2.2	3.7	2.4
Entertainment 4/	161.0	160.6	160.7	160.3	1.8	1.0	4.1	-1.7	1.4	1.1
Entertainment commodities 4/	143.6	143.7	143.3	142.9	.6	-1.7	3.1	-1.9	-.6	.6
Entertainment services 4/	185.6	184.8	185.5	184.9	2.7	4.5	4.4	-1.5	3.6	1.4
Other goods and services 2/.....	222.7	223.9	225.6	226.4	4.1	6.4	2.9	6.8	5.3	4.9
Tobacco and smoking products	242.7	246.1	249.9	250.2	2.9	9.1	.5	12.9	5.9	6.5
Personal care 1/	152.4	152.6	153.3	154.3	.3	3.2	-.5	5.1	1.7	2.2
Toilet goods and personal care appliances 1/	144.4	144.7	145.4	147.1	-3.3	2.2	-1.6	7.7	-.5	2.9
Personal care services 1/	162.8	163.0	163.5	163.7	5.4	4.0	1.0	2.2	4.7	1.6
Personal and educational expenses 4/	257.5	257.9	259.0	259.8	6.1	5.7	5.5	3.6	5.9	4.5
School books and supplies	243.1	243.1	244.5	245.2	2.9	6.5	7.9	3.5	4.7	5.7
Personal and educational services 4/ ...	258.8	259.2	260.3	261.2	6.3	5.7	5.3	3.8	6.0	4.5

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) - Continued

Commodity and service group	Seasonally adjusted indexes					Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for				
						3 months ended-		6 months ended-		
	Aug. 1997	Sept. 1997	Oct. 1997	Nov. 1997	Feb. 1997	May 1997	Aug. 1997	Nov. 1997	May 1997	Nov. 1997

Commodity and service group

All items	-	-	-	-	2.3	.3	2.1	2.0	1.3	2.0
Commodities	141.9	142.2	142.3	142.1	2.0	-2.2	1.4	.6	-.1	1.0
Food and beverages	158.1	158.2	158.5	158.7	.3	1.0	3.6	1.5	.6	2.6
Commodities less food and beverages	131.9	132.4	132.4	131.9	3.1	-4.1	-.6	.0	-.6	-.3
Nondurables less food and beverages	134.3	135.2	135.3	134.7	4.2	-5.8	1.8	1.2	-.9	1.5
Apparel commodities 4/	128.0	128.2	128.3	128.5	3.5	3.5	-4.8	1.6	3.5	-1.7
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	140.2	141.3	141.2	140.3	6.7	-9.5	3.8	.3	-1.7	2.0
Durables	127.7	127.7	127.6	127.2	.0	-.9	-4.3	-1.6	-.5	-2.9
Services	176.9	177.4	177.9	178.4	3.0	2.5	2.5	3.4	2.8	3.0
Rent of shelter 3/	165.3	165.8	166.2	166.6	3.3	3.2	2.7	3.2	3.2	2.9
Household services less rent of shelter 3/ 4/.....	133.4	134.2	134.8	135.9	5.2	-3.5	1.8	7.7	.8	4.7
Transportation services	183.0	183.4	184.1	183.7	-.7	3.8	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5
Medical care services	239.5	240.0	240.5	241.1	2.1	3.8	2.2	2.7	2.9	2.4
Other services	208.4	208.3	209.1	209.3	4.9	4.8	4.5	1.7	4.8	3.1

Special indexes

All items less food	157.5	158.0	158.3	158.4	2.9	.3	1.5	2.3	1.5	1.9
All items less shelter	154.1	154.5	154.8	154.8	2.1	-.8	1.8	1.8	.7	1.8
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	147.9	148.3	148.6	148.7	2.5	-.3	1.6	2.2	1.1	1.9
All items less medical care	154.1	154.5	154.8	154.9	2.4	.0	2.1	2.1	1.2	2.1
Commodities less food	133.4	133.8	133.8	133.4	3.0	-3.8	-.3	.0	-.4	-.1
Nondurables less food	135.9	137.0	137.0	136.6	4.5	-6.3	2.4	2.1	-1.0	2.2
Nondurables less food and apparel	141.8	142.9	142.8	142.1	4.6	-9.4	6.5	.8	-2.7	3.6
Nondurables	146.5	147.0	147.1	147.0	2.5	-3.0	3.6	1.4	-.3	2.5
Services less rent of shelter 3/	167.8	168.3	169.0	169.5	2.9	1.5	2.4	4.1	2.2	3.3
Services less medical care services	171.5	172.0	172.7	173.1	2.9	2.4	2.6	3.8	2.6	3.2
Energy	110.0	111.3	111.4	111.1	11.2	-21.9	7.6	4.1	-6.8	5.8
All items less energy	164.6	164.8	165.2	165.4	1.5	2.5	1.7	2.0	2.0	1.8
All items less food and energy	166.5	166.8	167.1	167.3	2.2	2.9	1.0	1.9	2.6	1.5
Commodities less food and energy commodities	141.5	141.8	141.9	141.9	1.1	1.4	-2.5	1.1	1.3	-.7
Energy commodities	105.7	107.0	106.6	104.4	11.9	-29.1	13.1	-4.8	-10.9	3.7
Services less energy services	183.2	183.6	184.1	184.3	2.5	3.6	2.9	2.4	3.0	2.7

1/ Not seasonally adjusted.

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

3/ Indexes on a December 1984=100 base.

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

See Table X for a comparable index series.

- Data not available.

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.

Table 6. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers: Selected areas, all items index

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Area	Pricing schedule 1/	Indexes				Percent change to Nov. 1997 from-			Percent change to Oct. 1997 from-		
		Aug. 1997	Sept. 1997	Oct. 1997	Nov. 1997	Nov. 1996	Sept. 1997	Oct. 1997	Oct. 1996	Aug. 1997	Sept. 1997
U.S. city average	M	157.8	158.3	158.5	158.5	1.7	0.1	0.0	1.9	0.4	0.1
Region and area size 2/											
Northeast urban.....	M	164.9	165.6	165.8	165.7	1.7	.1	-.1	2.1	.5	.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	164.5	165.4	165.5	165.5	1.8	.1	.0	2.1	.6	.1
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	163.7	163.4	163.5	163.2	1.6	-.1	-.2	2.1	-.1	.1
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000 3/.....	M	167.8	168.6	168.9	168.9	1.7	.2	.0	2.2	.7	.2
North Central urban	M	153.6	153.9	154.0	154.0	1.5	.1	.0	2.0	.3	.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	153.6	153.9	153.9	153.8	1.7	-.1	-.1	2.1	.2	.0
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	152.3	152.3	152.7	153.0	1.5	.5	.2	1.7	.3	.3
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000 3/.....	M	156.1	156.9	156.9	156.5	1.3	-.3	-.3	2.1	.5	.0
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	150.9	151.5	151.1	151.6	1.0	.1	.3	1.3	.1	-.3
South urban	M	155.5	155.9	156.1	156.2	1.6	.2	.1	1.7	.4	.1
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	154.0	154.5	154.7	154.5	1.6	.0	-.1	1.8	.5	.1
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	156.5	156.6	156.8	157.1	1.7	.3	.2	1.9	.2	.1
Size C - 50,000 to 450,000 3/.....	M	155.9	156.4	156.9	157.1	1.6	.4	.1	1.4	.6	.3
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	157.0	157.7	157.3	157.5	1.5	-.1	.1	1.6	.2	-.3
West urban	M	158.0	158.6	159.3	159.2	2.1	.4	-.1	2.2	.8	.4
Size A - More than 1,250,000	M	156.5	157.2	157.9	157.7	2.2	.3	-.1	2.3	.9	.4
Size C - 50,000 to 330,000 3/.....	M	163.5	164.1	164.9	165.6	3.0	.9	.4	2.9	.9	.5
Size classes											
A 4/	M	143.9	144.4	144.7	144.6	1.8	.1	-.1	2.1	.6	.2
B 3/	M	158.0	158.0	158.3	158.4	1.5	.3	.1	1.9	.2	.2
C 3/	M	159.4	160.0	160.4	160.5	1.8	.3	.1	1.9	.6	.3
D	M	156.0	156.6	156.7	156.9	1.2	.2	.1	1.3	.4	.1

Selected local areas

Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	156.7	156.4	156.9	157.2	1.8	.5	.2	2.1	.1	.3
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	154.0	154.7	155.4	154.9	1.3	.1	-.3	1.4	.9	.5
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	166.7	167.7	168.1	168.0	2.0	.2	-.1	2.3	.8	.2
Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD 5/	M	165.9	167.9	166.8	165.9	1.2	-1.2	-.5	1.6	.5	-.7
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA 5/ ..	M	158.1	158.6	159.5	159.5	3.4	.6	.0	3.4	.9	.6
Baltimore, MD 6/	1	-	155.6	-	154.6	.7	-.6	-	-	-	-
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH	1	-	166.2	-	167.8	1.5	1.0	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	-	149.2	-	149.1	2.0	-.1	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1	-	156.1	-	157.0	1.6	.6	-	-	-	-
St. Louis-East St. Louis, MO-IL 7/	1	-	154.0	-	151.9	.9	-1.4	-	-	-	-
Washington, DC-MD-VA 6/	1	-	161.1	-	159.1	.3	-1.2	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	2	151.1	-	152.8	-	-	-	-	1.4	1.1	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI	2	151.6	-	152.4	-	-	-	-	2.4	.5	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	144.9	-	146.3	-	-	-	-	2.7	1.0	-
Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, PA 7/	2	151.0	-	151.3	-	-	-	-	2.2	.2	-

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

M - Every month.

1 - January, March, May, July, September, and November.

2 - February, April, June, August, October, and December.

2/ Regions defined as the four Census regions. See map in technical notes.

3/ 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.