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INFORMATION: (202) 606-7828 UNTIL 8:30 A.M. (EST)

MEDIA CONTACT: (202) 606-5902 Tuesday, January 13, 1998

INTERNET ADDRESS:

<http://stats.bls.gov/cpihome.htm>

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: DECEMBER 1997

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) declined 0.1 percent before seasonal adjustment in December to a level of 161.3 (1982-84=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. For the 12-month period ended in December, the CPI-U has increased 1.7 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) declined 0.2 percent in December, prior to seasonal adjustment. The December 1997 CPI-W level of 158.2 was 1.5 percent higher than the index in December 1996.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.1 percent in December, the same as in November. The food index decreased 0.1 percent in December. Grocery store food prices dropped 0.3 percent in December, reflecting declines in the indexes for fruits and vegetables and for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs. The energy index, which declined 0.2 percent in November, fell 1.6 percent in December. The index for petroleum-based energy declined 0.9 percent, and the index for energy services dropped 2.4 percent. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 0.2 percent after advancing 0.1 percent in November. Larger increases in the costs for shelter, for medical care, and for tobacco, coupled with an upturn in the index for entertainment and a smaller decline in airline fares, accounted for the larger advance in December.

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

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

	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.'97	Dec.'97
All Items	.1	.2	.2	.2	.2	.1	.1	1.5	1.7
Food and beverages	.2	.3	.4	.1	.2	.1	.0	1.3	1.6
Housing	.3	.2	.1	.3	.3	.3	.1	2.8	2.4
Apparel and upkeep	-.2	.2	-1.0	.3	.1	.2	.1	1.2	1.0
Transportation	-.3	.1	.6	.4	.1	-.7	-.2	-3.3	-1.4
Medical care	.2	.0	.2	.2	.1	.3	.5	3.6	2.8
Entertainment	.5	.1	.2	-.2	.2	-.2	.3	1.0	1.4
Other goods and services	.2	.3	.6	.3	.7	.3	.4	5.9	5.2
Special Indexes:									
Energy	.0	-.1	1.7	1.3	.1	-.2	-1.6	-6.6	-3.4
Food	.2	.3	.4	.1	.2	.2	-.1	1.3	1.5
All items less food and energy	.1	.2	.1	.2	.2	.1	.2	2.4	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 5 for further details.

For the 12-month period ended in December 1997, the CPI-U rose

1.7 percent. This compares with an advance of 3.3 percent in 1996 and was the smallest annual increase since a 1.1 percent rise in 1986. The food and energy components, which had accelerated in 1996 after acting as moderating influences throughout most of the preceding five years, were largely responsible for the deceleration in 1997. The food index rose 1.5 percent in 1997, following a 4.3 percent increase in 1996. Grocery store food prices rose 1.0 percent after advancing 4.9 percent in 1996. All major grocery store groups showed marked deceleration in 1997, relative to 1996, except for the other food at home group, which rose 2.9 percent after increasing 2.2 percent in 1996. The larger advance in this group was due to the sharp acceleration in coffee prices, which increased 16.9 percent in 1997 after declining 6.7 percent in the previous year. The energy index, which increased 8.6 percent in 1996, declined 3.4 percent in 1997. Petroleum-based energy costs fell 6.9 percent, following a 13.8 percent increase in 1996, while charges for energy services increased 0.2 percent after rising 3.8 percent in 1996.

The CPI-U excluding food and energy advanced 2.2 percent in 1997, following an increase of 2.6 percent in 1996. The 1997 advance represents the smallest annual increase in this index since a 1.5 percent rise in 1965. The deceleration in 1997, while widespread, was

& services	8.2	7.6	8.0	6.5	2.7	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.2
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Special

Indexes

Energy	5.1	18.1	-7.4	2.0	-1.4	2.2	-1.3	8.6	-3.4
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Food	5.6	5.3	1.9	1.5	2.9	2.9	2.1	4.3	1.5
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All items

less food

and energy	4.4	5.2	4.4	3.3	3.2	2.6	3.0	2.6	2.2
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The food and beverage index was unchanged in December. The index for grocery store food prices, which increased 0.1 percent in November, fell 0.3 percent in December. Declines of 1.0 and 0.7 percent, respectively, in the indexes for fruits and vegetables and for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs were responsible for the downturn. Within the latter category, prices for beef, pork, and poultry prices each declined in December and over the past 12 months have fallen 0.7, 1.5, and 1.6 percent, respectively. Recent increases in the index for dairy products--up 0.5 percent in December and 3.0 percent in the

fourth quarter--have not offset declines earlier this year, resulting in a 0.5 percent drop in the 12 months ended in December. The indexes for cereal and bakery products and for other food at home rose 0.2 and 0.1 percent, respectively, in December. During the 12-month period ended in December, these categories have risen 1.5 and 2.9 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--each rose 0.4 percent in December. During the last 12 months, these groups rose 2.6 and 2.2 percent, respectively.

The housing component rose 0.1 percent in December, following increases of 0.3 percent in each of the three preceding months. A sharp downturn in the index for fuel and other utilities--down 1.1 percent in December after increasing 0.9 percent in November--accounted for the deceleration. In December, the index for household fuels fell 2.3 percent, reflecting decreases of 2.7 percent in the index for natural gas and 2.2 percent in the index for electricity; the index for fuel oil rose 0.1 percent. During the 12 months ended in December, charges for natural gas rose 3.3 percent, while the indexes for electricity and fuel oil declined 1.3 and 11.7 percent, respectively. The index for other utilities and public services rose 0.1 percent in December. The index for telephone services declined

slightly in December, but has risen 0.2 percent since December 1996. Shelter costs rose 0.4 percent in December. Within shelter, renters' costs rose 0.7 percent; homeowners' costs, 0.3 percent; and maintenance and repair costs, 0.5 percent. The increase in renters' costs reflects a 1.8 percent rise in the index for lodging while out of town; residential rents rose 0.3 percent. Shelter costs advanced 3.4 percent in the 12 months ended in December 1997, following a 2.9 percent rise in 1996. The index for household furnishings and operation was unchanged in December and was 0.1 percent higher than its level in December 1996.

The transportation index, which declined 0.7 percent in November, fell 0.2 percent in December. The indexes for motor fuels and new vehicles declined for the third consecutive month and public transportation costs decreased for the second month in a row. The index for gasoline, which fell 2.3 percent in November, declined 1.0 percent in December. New vehicle purchase costs declined again in December; the index for new vehicle prices decreased 0.2 percent and automobile finance charges dropped 0.5 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, new vehicle prices increased 0.1 percent. As of December, about 60 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 increased 0.3 percent. Public transportation costs declined 0.9 percent in December. The index for airline fares, which declined 3.9 percent in November, dropped 1.4 percent in December. During the 12 months ended in December, prices for gasoline, new vehicles, used cars, airline fares, and automobile finance charges each declined, with the decreases ranging from 0.9 percent for new vehicles to 6.1 percent for gasoline.

The index for apparel and upkeep increased for the fourth consecutive month--up 0.1 percent in December--to a level 1.0 percent higher than in December 1996. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel commodity prices fell 2.6 percent in December, reflecting pre-holiday discounting.)

The medical care index rose 0.5 percent in December. Each year (December-to-December) these costs have decelerated since registering a 9.6 percent advance in 1990, and the 2.8 percent rise in 1997 represents the smallest annual increase since a 2.8 percent rise in 1965. In December, the index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.6 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.5 percent.

Charges for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.4 and 0.6 percent, respectively, in December and 3.1 and 3.2 percent, respectively, in 1997.

Entertainment costs rose 0.3 percent in December to a level 1.4 percent above a year ago. In 1997, charges for entertainment services increased 2.5 percent, while prices for entertainment commodities--reading materials, sporting goods, and toys and hobbies--decreased 0.1 percent.

The index for other goods and services rose 0.4 percent in December, following an increase of 0.3 percent in November. A larger increase in the index for tobacco and smoking products--up 0.7 percent after increasing 0.1 percent in November--accounted for the larger December rise. During the last 12 months this index rose 5.2 percent, reflecting increases of 7.2 percent for tobacco and smoking products and 5.2 percent for tuition and other school fees.

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 December.

and services	.0	.3	.5	.5	.8	.4	.4	6.4	5.4
Special Indexes:									
Energy	.0	-.2	2.0	1.2	.1	-.3	-1.7	-7.3	-3.8
Food	.3	.3	.3	.1	.2	.1	-.1	1.0	1.5
All items less									
food and energy	.1	.2	.0	.2	.2	.1	.3	2.4	2.1

After seasonal adjustment, the level of the CPI-U for All Items was 161.9 in December; the seasonally adjusted CPI-W for All Items was 158.7.

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 January are scheduled for release

on Tuesday, February 24, 1998, at 8:30 A.M. (EST).

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,

In Even Months (i.e.

March, etc.)

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

Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI

Dallas-Fort Worth, TX

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

Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN

Kansas City, MO-KS

Milwaukee-Racine, WI

Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI

St. Louis, MO-IL

Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL

Anchorage, AK

Denver-Boulder-Greeley, CO

Honolulu, HI

Portland-Salem, OR-WA

San Diego, CA

BLS to Maintain Current Reference Base of 1982-84=100
for most CPI index series

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) previously indicated its intention to change the numerical reference base for both the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) and the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) from their present 1982-84=100 base to a 1993-95=100 base, effective with release of the January 1999 index in February 1999. BLS also indicated that the alternate, or 1967=100 base, would be discontinued in 1999 as well. This plan was initially described in the December 1996 Monthly Labor Review, a publication which contained several articles that dealt with the 1998 CPI Revision.

The BLS has now decided not to implement this rebasing plan. Instead, the BLS will maintain the reference base of 1982-84=100 used for most items. In addition, the 1967=100 reference base will continue to be the alternate base for the All Items indexes. This decision is based in part on the fact that historical data have less precision after rebasing. Rebasing is simply an arithmetic transformation that does not substantively impact the index. Because the rebased index values are smaller, however, the loss of precision due to rounding is more serious. In addition, retaining the old index reference bases would spare users the inconvenience associated with conversion.

Changes in the numerical reference base should not be confused with the plans by BLS to update the market basket of the CPI. With release of the January CPI in February 1998, the expenditure weights applied to CPI categories will be based on consumer spending patterns for 1993-95.

If you have any questions about our plans to maintain the current CPI reference base of 1982-84=100, please contact Patrick Jackman at area code 202-606-6952.

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.

Calculated Seasonally Adjusted Indexes to be Available on February 20, 1998

Each year with the release of the January CPI, seasonal adjustment factors are recalculated to reflect price

movements from the just-completed calendar year. This routine annual recalculation may result in revisions to seasonally adjusted indexes for the previous 5 years. BLS will make available recalculated seasonally adjusted indexes, as well as recalculated seasonal adjustment factors, for the period January 1993 through December 1997, on Friday, February 20, 1998. This date is two working days before the scheduled release of the January 1998 CPI on Tuesday, February 24, 1998.

The revised indexes and seasonal factors will be available on the internet using the BLS FTP server. The address is ftp://146.142.4.23. Select pub, then select special requests, then select cpi. The revised seasonal data will be in the file revseas.cpi.

For further information please contact Claire Gallagher or Richard Kerr 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)

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Expenditure category	Relative importance,	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
	December	Nov.	Dec.	Dec. 1997	from-	Sept. to	Oct. to	Nov. to
	1996	1997	1997	Dec. 1996	Nov. 1997	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
All items	100.000	161.5	161.3	1.7	-0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
All items (1967=100)	-	483.9	483.2	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	17.484	158.9	159.1	1.6	.1	.2	.1	.0
Food	15.913	158.5	158.7	1.5	.1	.2	.2	-.1
Food at home	10.040	159.1	159.2	1.0	.1	.2	.1	-.3
Cereals and bakery products	1.479	178.0	178.4	1.5	.2	.2	.1	.2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.002	149.3	148.4	-1.1	-.6	-.3	.1	-.7
Dairy products 1/	1.245	147.0	147.8	-.5	.5	1.5	.9	.5
+	-							
Fruits and vegetables 2/	1.974	189.5	191.3	2.2	.9	.3	.4	-1.0
+	-							

Housekeeping supplies	1.093	143.4	143.4	1.4	.0	-.1	.1	.3
Housekeeping services 4/	1.482	153.7	153.7	2.4	.0	.1	.5	-.1
+ -								
Apparel and upkeep	5.330	134.7	131.6	1.0	-2.3	.1	.2	.1
Apparel commodities 4/	4.786	131.1	127.7	.9	-2.6	.1	.2	.1
+ -								
Men's and boys' apparel	1.280	133.0	131.2	2.7	-1.4	.2	-.5	.8
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.102	128.8	123.6	.2	-4.0	-.5	1.0	-.7
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/ ....	.186	126.0	125.8	-.9	-.2	-.4	-.2	-.2
+ -								
Footwear .....	.718	129.3	128.2	1.8	-.9	1.5	-.5	.9
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	.500	143.6	139.6	-1.4	-2.8	.3	-.1	.5
+ -								
Apparel services 1/ 4/ .....	.545	163.4	163.8	1.4	.2	.0	-.2	.2
+ - -								
Transportation	17.140	143.9	143.2	-1.4	-.5	.1	-.7	-.2
Private transportation	15.499	140.6	140.0	-1.2	-.4	-.2	-.5	-.1
New vehicles	4.955	144.0	144.1	-.9	.1	-.3	-.2	-.2
New cars	3.952	141.3	141.5	-1.0	.1	-.2	-.1	-.3
Used cars	1.278	147.6	147.9	-4.9	.2	-.5	-.1	.3

	Entertainment services 4/	2.395	184.6	185.1	2.5	.3	.5	-.3	.4
+	-								
	Other goods and services 2/	7.145	229.9	230.1	5.2	.1	.7	.3	.4
+	-								
	Tobacco and smoking products	1.601	250.7	251.2	7.2	.2	1.5	.1	.7
	Personal care 1/	1.145	154.3	154.0	2.3	-.2	.4	.7	-.2
+	-								
	Toilet goods and personal care								
	appliances 1/ .....	.588	146.1	145.3	1.8	-.5	.6	1.1	-.5
+	-								
	Personal care services 1/ .....	.557	163.5	163.9	3.0	.2	.4	.1	.2
+	-								
	Personal and educational expenses 4/ ...	4.398	265.8	266.1	5.2	.1	.5	.4	.4
+	-								
	School books and supplies .....	.264	242.4	242.8	5.1	.2	.7	.2	.5
	Personal and educational services 4/ .	4.134	267.8	268.1	5.2	.1	.5	.4	.4
+	-								
	Commodity and service group								
	All items	100.000	161.5	161.3	1.7	-.1	.2	.1	.1

+

-

+

1/ Not seasonally adjusted.

+

-

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

+

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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)

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Seasonally adjusted indexes

Seasonally adjusted annual rate

percent change for

3 months ended-

6 months ended-

	Sept. 1997	Oct. 1997	Nov. 1997	Dec. 1997	Mar. 1997	June 1997	Sept. 1997	Dec. 1997	June 1997	Dec. 1997
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Expenditure category

All items	-	-	-	-	1.8	1.0	2.5	1.5	1.4	2.0
Food and beverages	158.7	159.0	159.2	159.2	.5	1.5	3.3	1.3	1.0	2.3
Food	158.4	158.7	159.0	158.9	.3	1.5	3.4	1.3	.9	2.3
Food at home	159.1	159.4	159.6	159.2	-1.3	1.3	3.6	.3	.0	1.9
Cereals and bakery products	178.3	178.7	178.9	179.3	.9	1.4	1.6	2.3	1.1	1.9
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	149.1	148.7	148.8	147.8	-5.8	4.1	1.4	-3.4	-.9	-1.1
Dairy products 1/	143.5	145.7	147.0	147.8	-6.6	-5.4	-1.7	12.5	-6.0	5.2
+	-									
Fruits and vegetables 2/.....	190.8	191.4	192.1	190.1	4.2	-5.2	12.4	-1.5	-.6	5.2
+	-									
Other food at home	149.0	148.8	148.3	148.5	1.7	7.7	3.6	-1.3	4.6	1.1
Sugar and sweets	148.4	147.9	148.5	149.2	.0	5.9	.8	2.2	2.9	1.5

Apparel and upkeep	132.6	132.7	132.9	133.0	1.2	3.4	-2.1	1.2	2.3	-.4
Apparel commodities 4/	128.7	128.8	129.1	129.2	.9	3.8	-2.4	1.6	2.4	-.5
+ —										
Men's and boys' apparel	131.0	131.2	130.6	131.6	-.6	5.4	4.1	1.8	2.4	3.0
Women's and girls' apparel	125.5	124.9	126.1	125.2	2.9	5.2	-5.8	-1.0	4.0	-3.4
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/	126.7	126.2	126.0	125.8	9.1	10.2	-17.4	-2.8	9.7	-10.4
+ —										
Footwear	127.4	129.3	128.6	129.8	-3.7	-.6	4.5	7.8	-2.2	6.1
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	143.7	144.1	144.0	144.7	2.2	-3.2	-6.9	2.8	-.5	-2.2
+ —										
Apparel services 1/ 4/	163.7	163.7	163.4	163.8	2.2	2.0	1.2	.2	2.1	.7
+ — —										
Transportation	144.8	144.9	143.9	143.6	-.8	-5.9	4.5	-3.3	-3.4	.6
Private transportation	141.7	141.4	140.7	140.5	.3	-6.8	5.2	-3.3	-3.3	.9
New vehicles	144.4	144.0	143.7	143.4	-.3	-.8	.3	-2.7	-.6	-1.2
New cars	141.7	141.4	141.2	140.8	-.6	-.8	.0	-2.5	-.7	-1.3
Used cars	147.8	147.0	146.8	147.3	7.2	-16.2	-8.0	-1.3	-5.2	-4.7
Motor fuel	108.0	107.5	105.2	104.2	-5.6	-26.5	28.7	-13.3	-16.7	5.6
Gasoline	107.8	107.2	104.7	103.7	-5.3	-26.6	30.3	-14.4	-16.6	5.6
Maintenance and repairs	163.2	163.5	163.9	164.8	2.0	3.3	1.0	4.0	2.6	2.5
Other private transportation 4/.....	178.2	178.1	178.0	178.2	3.2	1.1	2.3	.0	2.2	1.1

	Tobacco and smoking products	246.5	250.2	250.4	252.2	5.6	3.6	10.2	9.6	4.6	9.9
	Personal care 1/	152.7	153.3	154.3	154.0	3.5	2.7	-.3	3.4	3.1	1.6
+	-										
	Toilet goods and personal care										
	appliances 1/	143.7	144.5	146.1	145.3	2.3	1.7	-1.4	4.5	2.0	1.5
+	-										
	Personal care services 1/	162.8	163.4	163.5	163.9	5.1	3.5	.5	2.7	4.3	1.6
+	-										
	Personal and educational expenses 4/	262.5	263.7	264.7	265.8	5.8	5.9	3.9	5.1	5.9	4.5
+	-										
	School books and supplies	241.0	242.6	243.1	244.2	2.6	8.3	3.9	5.4	5.4	4.7
	Personal and educational services 4/ ...	264.0	265.2	266.2	267.3	6.0	5.7	4.0	5.1	5.8	4.6
+	-										
	Commodity and service group										
	All items	-	-	-	-	1.8	1.0	2.5	1.5	1.4	2.0
	Commodities	142.3	142.3	142.2	142.2	.0	-1.4	2.9	-.3	-.7	1.3
	Food and beverages	158.7	159.0	159.2	159.2	.5	1.5	3.3	1.3	1.0	2.3
	Commodities less food and beverages	132.3	132.3	132.0	131.9	-.3	-3.3	2.1	-1.2	-1.8	.5
	Nondurables less food and beverages	135.2	135.3	134.9	135.0	-1.8	-3.2	5.2	-.6	-2.5	2.3
	Apparel commodities 4/	128.7	128.8	129.1	129.2	.9	3.8	-2.4	1.6	2.4	-.5

+	-											
		Nondurables less food, beverages,										
		and apparel	141.4	141.3	140.5	140.8	-1.1	-8.2	9.0	-1.7	-4.7	3.5
		Durables	128.1	128.0	127.9	127.8	-.3	-1.8	-2.8	-.9	-1.1	-1.9
		Services	180.4	181.0	181.4	181.7	2.7	3.0	2.5	2.9	2.8	2.7
		Rent of shelter 3/	184.4	185.0	185.5	186.2	3.4	3.3	2.4	4.0	3.4	3.2
+	-											
		Household services less rent										
		of shelter 3/ 4/.....	146.1	146.7	147.9	146.6	2.5	.8	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.5
+	- -											
		Transportation services	185.7	186.9	185.8	185.9	.0	2.0	1.5	.4	1.0	1.0
		Medical care services	240.3	240.5	241.4	242.6	2.7	3.1	2.2	3.9	2.9	3.0
		Other services	211.5	212.4	212.7	213.5	4.8	5.3	1.9	3.8	5.0	2.9
		Special indexes										
		All items less food	161.7	162.0	162.2	162.4	1.8	1.0	2.5	1.7	1.4	2.1
		All items less shelter	156.5	156.8	156.9	156.8	1.0	.3	2.3	.8	.6	1.5
		All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	162.0	162.4	162.5	162.5	1.5	.5	2.3	1.2	1.0	1.7
+	- -											
		All items less medical care	156.9	157.2	157.3	157.4	1.6	1.0	2.6	1.3	1.3	1.9
		Commodities less food	133.8	133.7	133.4	133.4	.0	-3.2	2.4	-1.2	-1.6	.6

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

+

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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	Indexes				Percent change to Dec. 1997 from-			Percent change to Nov. 1997 from-		
		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.
		1/ 1997	1997	1997	1997	1996	1997	1997	1996	1997	1997
U.S. city average	M	161.2	161.6	161.5	161.3	1.7	-0.2	-0.1	1.8	0.2	-0.1

+

-

Region and area size 2/

+	-											
Northeast urban.....	M	168.4	168.7	168.5	168.4	1.6	-.2	-.1	1.9	.1	-.1	
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	169.2	169.5	169.3	169.1	1.7	-.2	-.1	2.0	.1	-.1	
Size B - 500,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	166.0	166.0	165.8	165.9	1.0	-.1	.1	1.7	-.1	-.1	
+	-											
Size C - 50,000 to 500,000 3/.....	M	167.1	167.6	167.5	167.2	1.6	-.2	-.2	1.9	.2	-.1	
+	-											
North Central urban	M	157.5	157.7	157.7	157.3	1.3	-.3	-.3	1.7	.1	.0	
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	158.3	158.4	158.4	158.1	1.7	-.2	-.2	2.0	.1	.0	
Size B - 360,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	156.2	156.7	156.9	155.8	.8	-.6	-.7	1.6	.4	.1	
+	-											
Size C - 50,000 to 360,000 3/.....	M	159.6	159.7	159.3	159.5	1.1	-.1	.1	1.4	-.2	-.3	
+	-											
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	153.4	153.2	153.7	153.0	.7	-.1	-.5	1.2	.2	.3	
South urban	M	157.5	157.8	157.8	157.3	1.4	-.3	-.3	1.7	.2	.0	
Size A - More than 1,200,000	M	156.4	156.7	156.4	156.3	1.5	-.3	-.1	1.7	.0	-.2	
Size B - 450,000 to 1,200,000 3/.....	M	160.6	160.9	161.2	160.8	1.6	-.1	-.2	1.9	.4	.2	

+		-											
	Size C -	50,000 to 450,000 3/.....	M	156.7	157.2	157.3	155.9	1.0	-.8	-.9	1.7	.4	.1
+		-											
	Size D -	Nonmetropolitan											
		(less than 50,000)	M	157.1	156.9	157.1	157.0	1.7	.1	-.1	1.6	.0	.1
	West urban		M	162.1	162.8	162.8	162.8	2.6	.0	.0	2.3	.4	.0
	Size A -	More than 1,250,000	M	162.3	163.1	162.8	163.1	2.8	.0	.2	2.3	.3	-.2
	Size C -	50,000 to 330,000 3/.....	M	167.4	168.3	169.2	168.5	2.8	.1	-.4	3.2	1.1	.5
+		-											
	Size classes												
	A 4/		M	145.6	146.0	145.8	145.7	2.0	-.2	-.1	2.0	.1	-.1
+		-											
	B 3/		M	161.2	161.5	161.6	161.1	1.3	-.2	-.3	1.7	.2	.1
+		-											
	C 3/		M	161.0	161.5	161.6	160.9	1.5	-.4	-.4	2.0	.4	.1
+		-											
	D		M	157.4	157.6	157.8	157.5	1.3	-.1	-.2	1.3	.3	.1

Selected local areas

Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI.....	M	162.1	162.5	162.9	162.8	1.9	.2	-.1	2.2	.5	.2
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	160.5	161.1	160.7	161.2	1.8	.1	.3	1.5	.1	-.2
N.Y.-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	171.7	172.3	172.0	171.9	2.0	-.2	-.1	2.1	.2	-.2
Phil.-Wilmington-Trenton,											
PA-NJ-DE-MD 5/	M	168.6	167.7	166.4	166.4	1.3	-.8	.0	1.3	-1.3	-.8
+ -											
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA 5/ ..	M	161.6	162.5	162.6	162.6	4.2	.1	.0	3.6	.6	.1
+ -											
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	-	152.8	-	152.5	1.7	-.2	-	-	-	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI	2	-	157.9	-	157.1	1.8	-.5	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	-	147.3	-	145.6	1.4	-1.2	-	-	-	-

Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley, PA 7/ 2 - 157.9 - 157.1 1.1 -.5 - - - -

+

-

+

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

+

-

indicated:

M - Every month.

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

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

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

+

-

3/ Starting in January, 1998, a new Size Class B/C will be introduced, composed of current

+

-

Size Class B and Size Class C cities. There will be no individual Size Class B or Size Class C.

4/ Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

+

-

5/ Indexes for the cities of Philadelphia and San Francisco will no longer be published on a monthly

+

-

basis starting in January, 1998. Beginning in February, 1998 they will be published on a bi-monthly basis.

6/ Indexes for the cities of Washington and Baltimore will no longer be published separately after December, 1997.

+
_

Beginning in January, 1998 the two cities will be published as a Washington-Baltimore combined metropolitan area.

7/ Indexes for the cities of Pittsburgh and St. Louis will no longer be published on a bi-monthly

+
_

basis after December, 1997. Beginning in July, 1998 they will be published semi-annually, each January and July.

- Data not available.

NOTE: Local area CPI indexes are byproducts of the national CPI program. Each local index has a smaller sample size than the national index and is, therefore, subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are similar. Therefore, the Bureau of Labor Statistics strongly urges users to consider adopting the national average CPI for use in their escalator clauses.

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

+

Apparel and upkeep	5.348	133.6	130.3	.8	-2.5	.1	.1	-.1
Apparel commodities 4/	4.838	130.2	126.6	.7	-2.8	.1	.2	-.1
+ —								
Men's and boys' apparel	1.286	132.7	130.7	2.5	-1.5	-.1	-.3	.8
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.053	127.0	121.5	-.2	-4.3	-.6	.8	-1.0
Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/ ....	.240	127.1	126.5	-1.2	-.5	-.5	-.5	-.5
+ —								
Footwear .....	.799	130.4	129.2	1.7	-.9	1.7	-.7	.9
Other apparel commodities 4/.....	.461	143.5	138.5	-.9	-3.5	1.0	.1	.1
+ —								
Apparel services 1/ 4/ .....	.510	162.6	162.9	1.5	.2	.0	-.1	.2
+ — —								
Transportation	19.190	143.1	142.4	-1.7	-.5	-.1	-.7	-.1
Private transportation	17.934	140.8	140.1	-1.6	-.5	-.1	-.6	-.1
New vehicles	4.893	145.1	145.3	-.8	.1	-.1	-.4	-.1
New cars	3.533	140.8	140.9	-1.3	.1	-.2	-.3	-.3
Used cars	2.320	149.2	149.5	-4.7	.2	-.5	-.1	.5
Motor fuel	3.921	104.4	101.7	-6.6	-2.6	-.5	-2.2	-.9
Gasoline	-	104.0	101.2	-6.6	-2.7	-.6	-2.4	-.9
Maintenance and repairs	1.616	165.1	165.7	2.7	.4	.1	.2	.6

Other goods and services 2/	7.012	226.7	226.9	5.4	.1	.8	.4	.4
+ —								
Tobacco and smoking products	2.117	250.5	250.9	7.3	.2	1.5	.1	.7
Personal care 1/	1.107	154.3	153.9	2.3	-.3	.5	.7	-.3
+ —								
Toilet goods and personal care								
appliances 1/ .....	.610	147.1	146.1	1.8	-.7	.5	1.2	-.7
+ —								
Personal care services 1/ .....	.497	163.7	164.1	2.9	.2	.3	.1	.2
+ —								
Personal and educational expenses 4/ ...	3.788	261.2	261.6	5.4	.2	.4	.3	.6
+ —								
School books and supplies .....	.232	244.7	245.2	5.3	.2	.6	.3	.5
Personal and educational services 4/ .	3.556	262.8	263.2	5.4	.2	.4	.3	.6
+ —								
Commodity and service group								
All items	100.000	158.5	158.2	1.5	-.2	.2	.1	.1
Commodities	47.057	142.1	141.6	.1	-.4	.1	-.1	-.1
Food and beverages	19.436	158.3	158.5	1.5	.1	.2	.1	.0
Commodities less food and beverages	27.621	132.3	131.3	-.8	-.8	.0	-.4	.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 5. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

+

Seasonally adjusted indexes

Seasonally adjusted annual rate

percent change for

	Men's and boys' apparel	130.8	130.7	130.3	131.3	-.6	5.1	4.4	1.5	2.2	3.0
	Women's and girls' apparel	124.5	123.7	124.7	123.5	5.6	4.2	-6.8	-3.2	4.9	-5.0
	Infants' and toddlers' apparel 1/	128.3	127.7	127.1	126.5	8.4	9.8	-15.5	-5.5	9.1	-10.6
+	-										
	Footwear	128.3	130.5	129.6	130.8	-4.6	.0	4.2	8.0	-2.3	6.1
	Other apparel commodities 4/.....	142.8	144.2	144.4	144.5	1.7	-.3	-9.0	4.8	.7	-2.3
+	-										
	Apparel services 1/ 4/	162.8	162.8	162.6	162.9	2.5	1.7	1.5	.2	2.1	.9
+	- -										
	Transportation	144.0	143.9	142.9	142.8	-.3	-7.5	4.9	-3.3	-4.0	.7
	Private transportation	141.7	141.5	140.6	140.5	.6	-7.9	4.6	-3.3	-3.7	.6
	New vehicles	145.6	145.4	144.8	144.6	.3	-.8	.0	-2.7	-.3	-1.4
	New cars	141.3	141.0	140.6	140.2	-.3	-1.4	.0	-3.1	-.8	-1.6
	Used cars	149.2	148.5	148.3	149.0	7.4	-15.6	-8.4	-.5	-4.8	-4.5
	Motor fuel	107.8	107.3	104.9	104.0	-6.6	-25.9	26.7	-13.4	-16.8	4.8
	Gasoline	107.8	107.2	104.6	103.7	-7.0	-26.3	29.8	-14.4	-17.2	5.4
	Maintenance and repairs	164.4	164.6	164.9	165.9	2.5	3.2	1.5	3.7	2.9	2.6
	Other private transportation 4/.....	173.7	173.6	173.6	173.7	3.3	1.2	2.1	.0	2.2	1.0
+	-										
	Other private transportation commodities 4/.....	103.9	103.7	103.6	103.6	-.4	.0	-.4	-1.1	-.2	-.8

Toilet goods and personal care											
	appliances 1/	144.7	145.4	147.1	146.1	2.2	2.0	-.8	3.9	2.1	1.5
+	-										
	Personal care services 1/	163.0	163.5	163.7	164.1	4.6	3.8	.7	2.7	4.2	1.7
+	-										
	Personal and educational expenses 4/	257.9	259.0	259.8	261.3	6.4	5.5	4.3	5.4	6.0	4.8
+	-										
	School books and supplies	243.1	244.5	245.2	246.4	2.4	9.7	3.4	5.5	6.0	4.4
	Personal and educational services 4/ ...	259.2	260.3	261.2	262.7	6.7	5.3	4.1	5.5	6.0	4.8
+	-										
Commodity and service group											
	All items	-	-	-	-	1.5	.5	2.6	1.3	1.0	1.9
	Commodities	142.2	142.3	142.1	142.0	.3	-2.2	2.9	-.6	-1.0	1.1
	Food and beverages	158.2	158.5	158.7	158.7	.3	1.5	3.1	1.3	.9	2.2
	Commodities less food and beverages	132.4	132.4	131.9	131.9	.0	-4.4	2.5	-1.5	-2.2	.5
	Nondurables less food and beverages	135.2	135.3	134.7	134.8	-1.5	-4.4	6.1	-1.2	-2.9	2.4
	Apparel commodities 4/	128.2	128.3	128.5	128.4	2.2	3.5	-3.1	.6	2.8	-1.2
+	-										
	Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	141.3	141.2	140.3	140.7	-1.7	-8.8	9.9	-1.7	-5.3	4.0

Durables	127.7	127.6	127.2	127.3	.0	-2.8	-2.5	-1.2	-1.4	-1.9
Services	177.4	177.9	178.4	178.7	2.8	2.8	2.5	3.0	2.8	2.7
Rent of shelter 3/	165.8	166.2	166.6	167.1	3.3	3.7	2.7	3.2	3.5	2.9
+ -										
Household services less rent										
of shelter 3/ 4/.....	134.2	134.8	135.9	134.7	2.4	.6	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.7
+ - -										
Transportation services	183.4	184.1	183.7	183.8	.4	1.8	2.2	.9	1.1	1.5
Medical care services	240.0	240.5	241.1	242.3	2.6	3.1	2.2	3.9	2.8	3.0
Other services	208.3	209.1	209.3	210.2	5.0	5.2	2.1	3.7	5.1	2.9
Special indexes										
All items less food	158.0	158.3	158.4	158.5	1.8	.3	2.6	1.3	1.0	1.9
All items less shelter	154.5	154.8	154.8	154.7	1.0	-.5	2.6	.5	.3	1.6
All items less homeowners' costs 3/ 4/.....	148.3	148.6	148.7	148.7	1.4	.0	2.5	1.1	.7	1.8
+ - -										
All items less medical care	154.5	154.8	154.9	154.9	1.3	.5	2.6	1.0	.9	1.8
Commodities less food	133.8	133.8	133.4	133.4	.0	-4.1	2.4	-1.2	-2.1	.6
Nondurables less food	137.0	137.0	136.6	136.5	-1.7	-4.1	7.0	-1.5	-2.9	2.7
Nondurables less food and apparel	142.9	142.8	142.1	141.9	-1.9	-7.4	11.1	-2.8	-4.7	3.9
Nondurables	147.0	147.1	147.0	146.9	-.3	-1.6	5.1	-.3	-1.0	2.4

- 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	Indexes				Percent change to Dec. 1997 from-			Percent change to Nov. 1997 from-		
		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.
		1/ 1997	1997	1997	1997	1996	1997	1997	1996	1997	1997
U.S. city average	M	158.3	158.5	158.5	158.2	1.5	-0.2	-0.2	1.7	0.1	0.0

Region and area size 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.

Table 1A. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

+

Annual average 1996	Annual average 1997	Percent change from 1996 to 1997
---------------------------	---------------------------	--

+ Expenditure category
 + Expenditure category
 + Expenditure category

All items	156.9	160.5	2.3
All items (1967=100)	469.9	480.8	-
Food and beverages	153.7	157.7	2.6
Food	153.3	157.3	2.6
Food at home	154.3	158.1	2.5
Cereals and bakery products	174.0	177.6	2.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	144.8	148.5	2.6
Dairy products	142.1	145.5	2.4
Fruits and vegetables 1/	183.9	187.5	2.0
-			
Other food at home	142.9	147.3	3.1
Sugar and sweets	143.7	147.8	2.9
Fats and oils	140.5	141.7	.9
Nonalcoholic beverages	128.6	133.4	3.7
Other prepared food	156.2	161.2	3.2
Food away from home	152.7	157.0	2.8
Alcoholic beverages	158.5	162.8	2.7

	Housing 1/	152.8	156.8	2.6
+	-			
	Shelter	171.0	176.3	3.1
	Renters' costs 2/ 3/	180.2	186.4	3.4
+	- -			
	Rent, residential	162.0	166.7	2.9
	Other renters' costs 3/	214.7	225.0	4.8
+	-			
	Homeowners' costs 2/ 3/	176.5	181.5	2.8
+	- -			
	Owners' equivalent rent 2/	176.8	181.9	2.9
+	-			
	Household insurance 2/ 3/	161.0	165.3	2.7
+	- -			
	Maintenance and repairs 3/	139.0	143.7	3.4
+	-			
	Maintenance and repair services 3/	145.5	151.1	3.8
+	-			
	Maintenance and repair commodities 3/	130.2	133.4	2.5
+	-			
	Fuel and other utilities 1/	127.5	130.8	2.6

+				
		-		
	Fuels	115.2	117.9	2.3
	Fuel oil and other household fuel			
	commodities	99.2	99.8	.6
	Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services) ...	122.1	125.1	2.5
	Other utilities and public services 3/	157.2	161.6	2.8
+				
		-		
	Household furnishings and operation 1/	124.7	125.4	.6
+				
		-		
	Housefurnishings 3/	111.3	110.6	-.6
+				
		-		
	Housekeeping supplies	141.1	143.1	1.4
	Housekeeping services 3/	148.0	151.9	2.6
+				
		-		
	Apparel and upkeep	131.7	132.9	.9
	Apparel commodities 3/	128.2	129.1	.7
+				
		-		
	Men's and boys' apparel	127.7	130.1	1.9
	Women's and girls' apparel.....	124.7	126.1	1.1
	Infants' and toddlers' apparel	129.7	129.0	-.5
	Footwear	126.6	127.6	.8
	Other apparel commodities 3/	150.6	145.8	-3.2

+				
		-		
	Apparel services 3/	159.8	163.1	2.1
+				
		-		
	Transportation	143.0	144.3	.9
	Private transportation	140.0	141.0	.7
	New vehicles	143.7	144.3	.4
	New cars	141.4	141.7	.2
	Used cars	157.0	151.1	-3.8
	Motor fuel	106.3	106.2	-.1
	Gasoline	105.9	105.8	-.1
	Maintenance and repairs	158.4	162.7	2.7
	Other private transportation 3/	173.9	177.5	2.1
+				
		-		
	Other private transportation commodities 3/	105.1	104.8	-.3
+				
		-		
	Other private transportation services 3/	190.1	194.7	2.4
+				
		-		
	Public transportation	181.9	186.7	2.6
	Medical care	228.2	234.6	2.8
	Medical care commodities	210.4	215.3	2.3

	Medical care services	232.4	239.1	2.9
	Professional medical services	208.3	215.4	3.4
	Entertainment 3/	159.1	162.5	2.1
+	—			
	Entertainment commodities 3/	143.0	144.2	.8
+	—			
	Entertainment services 3/	178.1	183.8	3.2
+	—			
	Other goods and services 1/	215.4	224.8	4.4
+	—			
	Tobacco and smoking products	232.8	243.7	4.7
	Personal care	150.1	152.7	1.7
	Toilet goods and personal care appliances	144.3	144.2	-.1
	Personal care services	156.6	162.4	3.7
	Personal and educational expenses 3/	247.5	259.7	4.9
+	—			
	School books and supplies	226.9	238.4	5.1
	Personal and educational services 3/	249.3	261.6	4.9
+	—			

Commodity and service group

All items	156.9	160.5	2.3
Commodities	139.9	141.8	1.4
Food and beverages	153.7	157.7	2.6
Commodities less food and beverages	131.5	132.2	.5
Nondurables less food and beverages	133.0	134.6	1.2
Apparel commodities 3/	128.2	129.1	.7
+ —			
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	138.6	140.6	1.4
Durables	129.4	128.7	-.5
Services	174.1	179.4	3.0
Rent of shelter 2/	178.0	183.4	3.0
+ —			
Household services less rent of shelter 2/ 3/	142.0	145.8	2.7
+ — —			
Transportation services	180.5	185.0	2.5
Medical care services	232.4	239.1	2.9
Other services	201.4	209.6	4.1

Special indexes

	All items less food	157.5	161.1	2.3
	All items less shelter	152.8	155.9	2.0
	All items less homeowners' costs 2/ 3/	157.9	161.4	2.2
+	- -			
	All items less medical care	152.8	156.3	2.3
	Commodities less food	132.6	133.4	.6
	Nondurables less food	134.5	136.3	1.3
	Nondurables less food and apparel	139.5	141.8	1.6
	Nondurables	143.5	146.4	2.0
	Services less rent of shelter 2/	182.5	188.1	3.1
+	-			
	Services less medical care services	168.7	173.9	3.1
	Energy	110.1	111.5	1.3
	All items less energy	163.1	167.1	2.5
	All items less food and energy	165.6	169.5	2.4
	Commodities less food and energy commodities	141.3	142.3	.7
	Energy commodities	105.7	105.7	.0
	Services less energy services	179.4	185.0	3.1
	Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:			
	1982-84=\$1.00	\$.638	\$.623	-2.4
	1967=\$1.00 .....	.213	.208	-

+

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

+

-

2/ Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

+

-

3/ 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.

Table 4A. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers: U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

+

Annual average 1996	Annual average 1997	Percent change from 1996 to 1997
---------------------------	---------------------------	--

+ Expenditure category
 + Expenditure category
 + Expenditure category

All items	154.1	157.6	2.3
All items (1967=100)	459.1	469.3	-
Food and beverages	153.2	157.2	2.6
Food	152.8	156.8	2.6
Food at home	153.5	157.2	2.4
Cereals and bakery products	173.6	177.3	2.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	144.5	148.2	2.6
Dairy products	141.9	145.2	2.3
Fruits and vegetables 1/	183.1	186.6	1.9
-			
Other food at home	142.6	146.8	2.9
Sugar and sweets	143.6	147.7	2.9
Fats and oils	140.3	141.4	.8
Nonalcoholic beverages	128.1	132.3	3.3
Other prepared food	156.0	161.1	3.3
Food away from home	152.6	157.0	2.9
Alcoholic beverages	157.9	162.1	2.7

+ -

	Housing 1/	149.6	153.4	2.5
+	-			
	Shelter	166.2	171.2	3.0
	Renters' costs 2/ 3/	157.3	162.4	3.2
+	- -			
	Rent, residential	161.6	166.3	2.9
	Other renters' costs 3/	214.6	224.5	4.6
+	-			
	Homeowners' costs 2/ 3/	160.9	165.5	2.9
+	- -			
	Owners' equivalent rent 2/	161.2	165.8	2.9
+	-			
	Household insurance 2/ 3/	147.1	149.8	1.8
+	- -			
	Maintenance and repairs 3/	137.6	142.0	3.2
+	-			
	Maintenance and repair services 3/	147.6	152.9	3.6
+	-			
	Maintenance and repair commodities 3/	124.9	128.1	2.6
+	-			
	Fuel and other utilities 1/	127.2	130.5	2.6

+				
		-		
	Fuels	114.7	117.3	2.3
	Fuel oil and other household fuel			
	commodities	99.0	99.6	.6
	Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services) ...	121.6	124.6	2.5
	Other utilities and public services 3/	157.7	162.3	2.9
+				
		-		
	Household furnishings and operation 1/	123.2	123.9	.6
+				
		-		
	Housefurnishings 3/	109.9	109.4	- .5
+				
		-		
	Housekeeping supplies	141.5	143.7	1.6
	Housekeeping services 3/	150.9	154.7	2.5
+				
		-		
	Apparel and upkeep	130.9	132.1	.9
	Apparel commodities 3/	127.6	128.6	.8
+				
		-		
	Men's and boys' apparel	127.4	129.9	2.0
	Women's and girls' apparel.....	123.6	124.9	1.1
	Infants' and toddlers' apparel	130.8	130.1	- .5
	Footwear	127.6	128.5	.7
	Other apparel commodities 3/	149.6	145.6	-2.7

+		-			
	Apparel services 3/	.....	159.0	162.2	2.0
+		-			
	Transportation	.....	142.8	143.6	.6
	Private transportation	.....	140.7	141.3	.4
	New vehicles	.....	144.7	145.5	.6
	New cars	.....	141.1	141.3	.1
	Used cars	.....	158.2	152.6	-3.5
	Motor fuel	.....	106.3	106.2	-.1
	Gasoline	.....	105.9	105.8	-.1
	Maintenance and repairs	.....	159.3	163.7	2.8
	Other private transportation 3/	.....	169.6	172.9	1.9
+		-			
	Other private transportation commodities 3/	.....	104.2	103.9	-.3
+		-			
	Other private transportation services 3/	.....	186.1	190.4	2.3
+		-			
	Public transportation	.....	179.6	184.2	2.6
	Medical care	.....	227.6	234.0	2.8
	Medical care commodities	.....	207.8	212.6	2.3

	Medical care services	232.1	238.8	2.9
	Professional medical services	209.5	216.7	3.4
	Entertainment 3/	156.8	160.0	2.0
+	—			
	Entertainment commodities 3/	142.0	143.0	.7
+	—			
	Entertainment services 3/	178.2	184.1	3.3
+	—			
	Other goods and services 1/	212.2	221.6	4.4
+	—			
	Tobacco and smoking products	232.5	243.3	4.6
	Personal care	150.1	152.6	1.7
	Toilet goods and personal care appliances	145.0	145.1	.1
	Personal care services	156.6	162.5	3.8
	Personal and educational expenses 3/	242.9	255.3	5.1
+	—			
	School books and supplies	228.2	240.4	5.3
	Personal and educational services 3/	244.4	256.8	5.1
+	—			

	All items less food	154.3	157.6	2.1
	All items less shelter	151.0	154.0	2.0
	All items less homeowners' costs 2/ 3/	144.8	147.8	2.1
+	- -			
	All items less medical care	150.7	154.0	2.2
	Commodities less food	132.8	133.6	.6
	Nondurables less food	134.3	136.2	1.4
	Nondurables less food and apparel	139.3	141.6	1.7
	Nondurables	143.3	146.2	2.0
	Services less rent of shelter 2/	162.7	167.6	3.0
+	-			
	Services less medical care services	166.2	171.2	3.0
	Energy	109.8	111.1	1.2
	All items less energy	160.4	164.1	2.3
	All items less food and energy	162.3	166.0	2.3
	Commodities less food and energy commodities	140.9	141.9	.7
	Energy commodities	105.9	105.9	.0
	Services less energy services	176.8	182.2	3.1
	Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:			
	1982-84=\$1.00	\$.649	\$.635	-2.2
	1967=\$1.00 .....	.218	.213	-

+

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

+

-

2/ Indexes on a December 1984=100 base.

+

-

3/ 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.