



All Items	.2	.2	.1	.1	.0	.1	.0	.2	1.4
Food and beverages	.1	.2	.2	.1	.3	.0	.0	1.0	1.9
Housing	.3	.3	.3	.1	.1	.1	.2	1.5	2.1
Apparel	.2	.1	.1	.2	-.5	.2	-.2	-2.1	.3
Transportation	.3	.0	-.6	-.3	-.3	-.4	-.6	-5.2	-2.6
Medical care	.2	.2	.3	.3	.1	.3	.3	2.9	2.7
Recreation	-	-	-	-	.3	.3	.4	4.1	1.6
Education and communication	-	-	-	-	.0	-.1	.3	.8	2.5
Other goods and services	.3	.7	.4	.4	.4	.8	-.3	3.9	5.0
Special Indexes									
Energy	.9	-.2	.0	-1.8	-2.4	-2.2	-1.2	-21.1	-8.6
Food	.1	.3	.1	.0	.3	.0	.0	1.3	2.0
All Items less food and energy	.2	.2	.1	.2	.2	.3	.1	2.4	2.1

For the first 3-months of 1998, the CPI-U advanced at a 0.2 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 1.7 percent in all of 1997. Falling energy prices were responsible for the deceleration in the first quarter of 1998. The energy index, which decreased 3.4 percent in 1997, declined at a 21.1 percent SAAR in the first three months of 1998. Petroleum-based energy costs fell at a 33.3 percent SAAR, while charges for energy services decreased at a 9.4 percent annual rate. The food index rose at a 1.3 percent SAAR thus far in 1998, following a 1.5 percent increase in 1997. Grocery store food prices increased at a 0.5 percent SAAR in the first 3 months, as the declines in the indexes for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs and for nonalcoholic beverages were more than offset by increases in the four other major grocery store food groups. The CPI-U excluding food and energy advanced at a 2.4 percent SAAR in the first 3 months of 1998, following a 2.2 percent rise for all of 1997, which was the smallest annual increase in this index since a 1.5 percent rise in 1965. The rates for selected groups for the last four and one-quarter years are shown below.

Percent change

	12 months ended in December				SAAR 3 months
	1994	1995	1996	1997	ended in Mar. 1998
All Items	2.7	2.5	3.3	1.7	0.2
Food and					

beverages	2.7	2.1	4.2	1.6	1.0
Housing	2.2	3.0	2.9	2.4	1.5
Apparel	-1.6	0.1	-0.2	1.0	-2.1
Transportation	3.8	1.5	4.4	-1.4	-5.2
Medical care	4.9	3.9	3.0	2.8	2.9
Recreation	1.4	2.8	3.0	1.5	4.1
Education and communication	3.3	4.0	3.4	3.0	0.8
Other goods and services	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.2	3.9
Special indexes					
Energy	2.2	-1.3	8.6	-3.4	-21.1
Energy commodities	5.2	-3.3	13.8	-6.9	-33.3
Energy services	-0.6	0.8	3.8	0.2	-9.4
All items less energy	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.1	2.1
Food	2.9	2.1	4.3	1.5	1.3
All Items less food and energy	2.6	3.0	2.6	2.2	2.4
Shelter	3.0	3.5	2.9	3.4	2.7

In March, the food and beverages index was unchanged for the second consecutive month. The index for grocery store food prices declined 0.1 percent in March, the same as in February. Decreases in the indexes for fruits and vegetables, for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, and for nonalcoholic beverages more than offset moderate increases in the other major grocery store food groups. The index for fruits and vegetables declined 1.0 percent in March, reflecting decreases in the indexes for both fresh fruits--down 2.6 percent--and fresh vegetables--down 0.3 percent. The index for processed fruits and vegetables rose 0.8 percent. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs declined for the fourth consecutive month--down 0.4 percent in March. The index for beef increased 0.3 percent in March as beef prices registered their first increase since September. This increase was more than offset by price declines for pork, for poultry, for fish, and for eggs. The index for nonalcoholic beverages decreased 0.3 percent. On the other hand, the other three major groups--dairy and related products, cereal and bakery products, and other food at home--increased 0.5, 0.4 and 0.3 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverage index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.2 and declined 0.1

percent, respectively.

The housing component rose 0.2 percent in March, following increases of 0.1 percent in each of the first two months of the year. Shelter costs rose 0.2 percent. Within shelter, the index for rent rose 0.4 percent, owners' equivalent rent increased 0.2 percent, and the cost of lodging away from home decreased 0.4 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the latter index rose 1.7 percent.) The index for fuels and utilities, which registered declines in each of the three preceding months, increased 0.3 percent in March. The index for household fuels rose 0.4 percent; the index for natural gas increased 2.3 percent, the index for fuel oil was unchanged, and the index for electricity declined 0.5 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, prices for fuel oil fell 1.5 percent and charges for natural gas and electricity declined 0.3 and 0.2 percent, respectively.) The index for household furnishings and operation increased 0.1 percent in March.

The transportation component declined for the fifth consecutive month, down 0.6 percent in March. For the third consecutive month, a sharp drop in the index for motor fuels more than offset a large increase in the index for airline fares. The index for gasoline fell 3.5 percent in March and has declined 14.0 percent in the last six months. As of March, gasoline prices were 24.0 percent lower than their peak level of November 1990. The index for new and used vehicle prices declined 0.2 percent; a decline of 1.5 percent in used car and truck prices more than offset a 0.1 percent rise in the index for new vehicles. Public transportation costs rose 0.4 percent in March. The index for airline fares increased substantially for the third consecutive month, up 2.0 percent in March, following increases of 2.7 and 3.2 percent in January and February, respectively.

The index for apparel declined 0.2 percent in March, following a 0.2 percent increase in February. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices rose 2.3 percent, reflecting the introduction of higher priced spring-summer wear.)

Medical care costs rose 0.3 percent in March to a level 2.7 percent above a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--was virtually unchanged. The index for medical care services rose 0.3 percent. Charges for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.4 and 0.2 percent, respectively.

Recreation costs rose 0.4 percent in March, following increases of 0.3 percent in both January and February. Recreational services costs



Energy	.9	-.2	-.2	-1.9	-2.5	-2.1	-1.3	-21.2	-8.9
Food	.1	.2	.2	-.1	.4	-.1	.0	1.3	1.9
All Items less food and energy	.2	.2	.1	.2	.2	.2	.1	1.9	1.9

Consumer Price Index data for April are scheduled for release on Thursday, May 14, 1998, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

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CPI (Old Series)

For the first six months of 1998, BLS also will calculate Old Series CPI-U and Old Series CPI-W based on the 1982-84 expenditure pattern used in the CPI from 1987 through 1997. These Old Series data are contained in tables 1(OS)-4(OS). From February to March, the Old Series CPI-U and the Old Series CPI-W each rose 0.1 percent. Note these series are not seasonally adjusted.

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Overview of Publication Changes

Beginning in 1998, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) introduced 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 were taken in order to ameliorate the effects of these changes. Beginning with the release of the January 1997 index, data series that were to be changed or dropped from publication have been footnoted in all BLS published tables. This provided an early warning for 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 are 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 formerly available seven major groups to the new total of eight.

Formerly the major groups were: 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 remained 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 developed an updated area sample design, decided on new local area indexes and changed the frequency of publication for local area indexes in order to better reflect these new demographics.

In addition to the national index, the BLS formerly published indexes for 29 metropolitan areas. In 1998, it continues 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 formerly published separately, constitute a new Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area. A single index is now published for this consolidated area.

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

\* Monthly indexes are now published for the three largest metropolitan areas. Because of sample design considerations, indexes for the Philadelphia and San Francisco areas, both formerly published monthly, are now published every other month following the release of the December, 1997 index.

\* Bimonthly indexes are published for the next 11 largest areas, including Atlanta and Seattle, which used to have semiannual average indexes.

\* Semiannual average indexes are now published for 12 additional areas, including Pittsburgh and St. Louis, which formerly had bimonthly indexes.

\* The BLS continues to publish separate indexes for the four Census regions of the United States. However, beginning in 1998, there are only two area size classes for metropolitan areas, instead of the former 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 former 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 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 are currently published, beginning in January, 1998:

1. Metropolitan Areas for which a local index is 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 is published bimonthly:



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

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

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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

Atlanta, GA

Dallas-Fort Worth, TX

Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX

Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI

Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL

Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA

3. Metropolitan Areas for which a local index is 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

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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 substantially 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.

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A Note on Seasonally Adjusted and Unadjusted Data

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

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

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

Seasonal factors used in computing the seasonally adjusted indexes are derived by the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Method. The updated seasonal data at the end of 1977 replaced data from 1967 through 1977. Subsequent annual updates have replaced 5 years of seasonal data, e.g., data from 1993 through 1997 were replaced at the end of 1997. The seasonal movement of all items

and 54 other aggregations is derived by combining the seasonal movement of 73 selected components. Each year the seasonal status of every series is reevaluated based upon certain statistical criteria. If any of the 73 components change their seasonal adjustment status from seasonally adjusted to not seasonally adjusted, not seasonally adjusted data will be used for the last 5 years, but the seasonally adjusted indexes will be used before that period.

Seasonally adjusted data, including 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.

Effective with the calculation of the seasonal factors for 1990, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has used an enhanced seasonal adjustment procedure called Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment for some CPI series. Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment allows for better estimates of seasonally adjusted data. Extreme values and/or sharp movements which might distort the seasonal pattern are estimated and removed from the data prior to calculation of seasonal factors. Beginning with the calculation of seasonal factors for 1996, X-12-ARIMA software was used for Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment.

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

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

(202) 606-6968.

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-U	Relative importance, December 1997	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 1998 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Feb. 1998	Mar. 1998	Mar. 1997	Feb. 1998	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.
Expenditure category								
All items .....	100.000	161.9	162.2	1.4	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0
All items (1967=100) .....	-	484.9	485.8	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	16.310	159.8	160.1	1.9	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0
Food .....	15.326	159.4	159.7	2.0	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0
Food at home .....	9.646	160.0	160.2	1.6	0.1	0.4	-0.1	-0.1
Cereals and bakery products .....	1.536	179.7	179.6	1.6	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	0.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	2.629	147.5	147.2	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-0.4
Dairy and related products (1).....	1.037	147.7	148.4	1.6	0.5	0.3	-0.4	0.5
Fruits and vegetables .....	1.394	193.8	196.1	3.6	1.2	2.9	-0.8	-1.0
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	1.077	134.8	134.2	3.6	-0.4	-0.2	0.1	-0.3
Other food at home .....	1.972	149.1	149.5	2.7	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.3
Sugar and sweets .....	.377	149.6	150.8	3.1	0.8	0.5	-0.4	0.9
Fats and oils .....	.291	141.5	142.2	-0.1	0.5	-1.1	0.7	0.6
Other foods .....	1.305	164.2	164.3	2.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other miscellaneous foods (1) (2).....	.309	100.4	101.5	-	1.1	0.4	0.0	1.1
Food away from home (1).....	5.680	159.6	159.9	2.5	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2
Other food away from home (1) (2).....	.172	100.4	100.3	-	-0.1	0.1	0.3	-0.1
Alcoholic beverages .....	.983	165.0	165.1	1.9	0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Housing .....	39.560	158.8	159.2	2.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Shelter .....	29.788	180.1	180.8	3.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2

Rent of primary residence .....	6.885	169.9	170.3	3.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4
Lodging away from home (2).....	2.327	109.3	111.2	-	1.7	-0.2	0.5	-0.4
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (3).....	20.199	185.5	185.9	3.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
Tenants' and household insurance (1) (2)...	.377	100.2	100.3	-	0.1	0.3	-0.1	0.1
Fuels and utilities .....	4.942	127.4	127.1	-2.2	-0.2	-1.2	-0.9	0.3
Fuels .....	4.018	112.8	112.5	-4.0	-0.3	-1.6	-1.3	0.4
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.261	95.2	94.4	-10.5	-0.8	-2.1	-2.3	0.4
Gas (piped) and electricity .....	3.757	119.7	119.4	-3.2	-0.3	-1.5	-1.2	0.2
Household furnishings and operations .....	4.831	126.1	126.3	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1
Apparel .....	4.944	131.9	134.9	0.3	2.3	-0.5	0.2	-0.2
Men's and boys' apparel .....	1.390	130.8	133.6	3.4	2.1	0.2	0.0	0.6
Women's and girls' apparel .....	1.990	124.3	129.9	-0.2	4.5	-1.0	0.7	0.1
Infants' and toddlers' apparel (1).....	.268	123.1	124.4	-4.1	1.1	-0.8	-1.4	1.1
Footwear .....	.895	126.6	126.5	-0.4	-0.1	-0.5	-1.3	-0.8
Transportation .....	17.578	142.1	141.2	-2.6	-0.6	-0.3	-0.4	-0.6
Private transportation .....	16.240	138.4	137.4	-2.9	-0.7	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6
New and used motor vehicles (2).....	7.899	100.2	99.9	-1.7	-0.3	0.1	0.0	-0.2
New vehicles .....	5.063	144.4	144.4	-0.7	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.1
Used cars and trucks (1).....	1.880	148.4	146.1	-5.4	-1.5	0.1	0.2	-1.5
Motor fuel .....	2.995	94.1	90.9	-14.6	-3.4	-3.7	-3.3	-3.5
Gasoline (all types) .....	2.976	93.5	90.3	-14.7	-3.4	-3.6	-3.4	-3.5
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	.560	101.4	101.2	-1.0	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	0.0
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	1.603	165.5	165.7	2.6	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1
Public transportation .....	1.338	191.2	193.7	3.0	1.3	1.6	1.4	0.4
Medical care .....	5.614	239.3	239.8	2.7	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3
Medical care commodities .....	1.222	218.4	218.5	1.8	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0
Medical care services .....	4.392	244.2	244.8	3.0	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.3
Professional services .....	2.808	219.7	220.4	2.9	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4
Hospital and related services .....	1.334	285.2	285.2	3.1	0.0	-0.1	0.5	0.2
Recreation (2).....	6.145	100.7	101.0	1.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
Video and audio (1) (2).....	1.763	101.2	101.4	2.3	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.2
Education and communication (2).....	5.528	99.8	99.9	2.5	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.3
Education (2).....	2.615	100.4	100.5	5.1	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.5
Educational books and supplies .....	.194	246.9	247.5	5.1	0.2	-0.2	0.7	0.6
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	2.421	289.2	289.5	5.2	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.4
Communication (1) (2).....	2.913	99.2	99.3	-1.3	0.1	-0.4	-0.4	0.1
Information and information processing (1) (2).....	2.706	99.1	99.3	-1.4	0.2	-0.4	-0.5	0.2
Telephone services (1) (2).....	2.357	100.0	100.4	-	0.4	-0.1	0.1	0.4

Information and information processing								
other than telephone services (1) (4)	.350	44.3	43.4	-17.2	-2.0	-2.5	-4.1	-2.0
Personal computers and peripheral								
equipment (1) (2).....	.234	91.3	88.7	-	-2.8	-3.1	-5.8	-2.8
Other goods and services .....	4.321	233.1	232.4	5.0	-0.3	0.4	0.8	-0.3
Tobacco and smoking products .....	.894	261.2	254.1	6.7	-2.7	0.7	2.9	-2.6
Personal care (1).....	3.427	155.0	155.5	2.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
Personal care products (1).....	.737	146.7	147.3	2.6	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.4
Personal care services (1).....	.963	164.3	164.7	2.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2
Miscellaneous personal services .....	1.465	232.1	232.8	4.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.3
Commodity and service group								
Commodities .....	42.635	141.5	141.5	-0.4	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.4
Food and beverages .....	16.310	159.8	160.1	1.9	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0
Commodities less food and beverages .....	26.326	130.5	130.4	-1.9	-0.1	-0.4	-0.2	-0.5
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	14.729	132.1	132.1	-2.1	0.0	-1.1	-0.1	-1.0
Apparel .....	4.944	131.9	134.9	0.3	2.3	-0.5	0.2	-0.2
Nondurables less food, beverages, and								
apparel .....	9.785	137.2	135.6	-3.3	-1.2	-1.2	-0.6	-1.0
Durables .....	11.596	128.2	127.9	-1.5	-0.2	0.2	-0.2	-0.2
Services .....	57.365	182.4	182.9	2.6	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2
Rent of shelter (3).....	29.410	187.5	188.1	3.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Transportation services .....	6.984	187.9	188.4	1.9	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.2
Other services .....	10.625	214.4	215.1	3.8	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4
Special indexes								
All items less food .....	84.674	162.3	162.6	1.2	0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.1
All items less shelter .....	70.212	156.4	156.5	0.6	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
All items less medical care .....	94.386	157.5	157.8	1.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0
Commodities less food .....	27.309	131.9	131.8	-1.7	-0.1	-0.4	-0.2	-0.5
Nondurables less food .....	15.712	134.1	134.1	-1.8	0.0	-0.9	-0.1	-0.9
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	10.768	138.9	137.5	-2.8	-1.0	-1.1	-0.6	-1.0
Nondurables .....	31.039	146.1	146.2	0.0	0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.4
Services less rent of shelter (3).....	27.955	190.1	190.6	2.1	0.3	-0.1	0.0	0.4
Services less medical care services .....	52.973	176.6	177.2	2.6	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3
Energy .....	7.013	103.2	101.6	-8.6	-1.6	-2.4	-2.2	-1.2
All items less energy .....	92.987	169.6	170.1	2.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1
All items less food and energy .....	77.661	172.1	172.6	2.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1
Commodities less food and energy								
commodities .....	24.053	142.7	143.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	-0.1
Energy commodities .....	3.256	94.3	91.3	-14.4	-3.2	-3.5	-3.3	-3.1
Services less energy services .....	53.608	188.8	189.4	3.0	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2

Purchasing power of the consumer dollar .....	-	\$ .618	\$ .617	-	-	-	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar - old base .....	-	\$ .206	\$ .206	-	-	-	-	-

- 1 Not seasonally adjusted.
- 2 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
- 3 Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.
- 4 Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.
- 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)

CPI-U	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
	Dec. 1997	Jan. 1998	Feb. 1998	Mar. 1998	3 months ended--			6 months ended--		
					June 1997	Sep. 1997	Dec. 1997	Mar. 1998	Sep. 1997	Mar. 1998
Expenditure category										
All items .....	161.9	161.9	162.0	162.0	1.5	2.3	1.5	0.2	1.9	0.9
Food and beverages .....	159.3	159.7	159.7	159.7	2.1	2.8	1.8	1.0	2.4	1.4
Food .....	158.9	159.4	159.4	159.4	2.1	2.8	1.5	1.3	2.4	1.4
Food at home .....	159.3	159.9	159.7	159.5	2.3	2.6	1.0	0.5	2.4	0.8
Cereals and bakery products .....	179.1	179.0	179.4	180.1	1.1	1.4	1.8	2.3	1.2	2.0
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	147.7	147.3	147.2	146.6	4.4	0.3	-3.2	-2.9	2.3	-3.1
Dairy and related products (1).....	147.8	148.3	147.7	148.4	-5.4	-1.7	12.5	1.6	-3.5	6.9
Fruits and vegetables .....	190.9	196.5	194.9	193.0	-1.5	9.1	1.9	4.5	3.7	3.2
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	134.3	134.0	134.1	133.7	20.0	5.1	-6.6	-1.8	12.3	-4.2
Other food at home .....	148.7	148.7	148.8	149.3	7.7	3.3	-0.5	1.6	5.5	0.5
Sugar and sweets .....	149.3	150.0	149.4	150.7	5.0	1.4	2.4	3.8	3.2	3.1

Fats and oils .....	141.5	140.0	141.0	141.8	-0.8	1.7	-2.0	0.9	0.4	-0.6
Other foods .....	163.4	163.6	163.8	164.0	2.5	2.8	3.2	1.5	2.6	2.4
Other miscellaneous foods (1) (2).....	100.0	100.4	100.4	101.5	-	-	-	6.1	-	-
Food away from home (1).....	159.0	159.2	159.6	159.9	1.5	3.1	3.1	2.3	2.3	2.7
Other food away from home (1) (2).....	100.0	100.1	100.4	100.3	-	-	-	1.2	-	-
Alcoholic beverages .....	164.5	164.9	164.8	164.7	2.0	2.7	2.2	0.5	2.4	1.3
Housing .....	158.3	158.4	158.6	158.9	2.3	2.1	2.6	1.5	2.2	2.0
Shelter .....	178.7	179.0	179.5	179.9	3.5	2.8	3.9	2.7	3.1	3.3
Rent of primary residence .....	169.1	169.5	169.7	170.3	3.4	3.2	3.1	2.9	3.3	3.0
Lodging away from home (2).....	100.0	99.8	100.3	99.9	-	-	-	-0.4	-	-
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (3).....	184.5	184.9	185.5	185.9	3.4	2.9	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.2
Tenants' and household insurance (1) (2)..	100.0	100.3	100.2	100.3	-	-	-	1.2	-	-
Fuels and utilities .....	130.7	129.1	127.9	128.3	-1.2	0.9	0.0	-7.1	-0.2	-3.6
Fuels .....	116.0	114.2	112.7	113.1	-4.7	0.0	-1.7	-9.6	-2.4	-5.8
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	96.1	94.1	91.9	92.3	-14.6	-11.6	-0.4	-14.9	-13.1	-7.9
Gas (piped) and electricity .....	123.6	121.8	120.3	120.6	-3.5	1.3	-1.9	-9.4	-1.1	-5.7
Household furnishings and operations .....	125.4	125.7	126.1	126.2	1.6	-1.3	0.6	2.6	0.2	1.6
Apparel .....	133.2	132.5	132.7	132.5	2.4	-0.9	1.2	-2.1	0.8	-0.5
Men's and boys' apparel .....	131.7	132.0	132.0	132.8	3.5	4.1	2.5	3.4	3.8	2.9
Women's and girls' apparel .....	125.6	124.4	125.3	125.4	3.2	-3.1	-0.9	-0.6	0.0	-0.8
Infants' and toddlers' apparel (1).....	125.8	124.8	123.1	124.4	10.2	-17.4	-2.8	-4.4	-4.6	-3.6
Footwear .....	129.5	128.8	127.1	126.1	-0.3	3.8	5.8	-10.1	1.7	-2.5
Transportation .....	143.5	143.0	142.4	141.6	-4.1	3.1	-3.3	-5.2	-0.6	-4.2
Private transportation .....	140.3	139.6	138.8	137.9	-4.4	3.2	-3.3	-6.7	-0.7	-5.0
New and used motor vehicles (2).....	100.0	100.1	100.1	99.9	-	-	-	-0.4	-	-
New vehicles .....	143.4	143.6	143.5	143.7	-0.8	-0.6	-1.9	0.8	-0.7	-0.6
Used cars and trucks (1).....	147.9	148.1	148.4	146.1	-6.6	-9.2	-0.8	-4.8	-7.9	-2.8
Motor fuel .....	103.5	99.7	96.4	93.0	-20.3	20.0	-14.7	-34.8	-2.2	-25.4
Gasoline (all types) .....	103.0	99.3	95.9	92.5	-20.7	21.9	-15.7	-35.0	-1.7	-26.0
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	101.3	101.0	101.1	101.1	-0.8	-0.4	-2.0	-0.8	-0.6	-1.4
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	164.7	165.0	165.5	165.7	3.3	1.2	3.5	2.5	2.2	3.0
Public transportation .....	185.8	188.8	191.4	192.1	-0.2	0.2	-1.9	14.3	0.0	5.9
Medical care .....	237.9	238.2	238.9	239.6	2.8	2.1	3.4	2.9	2.4	3.2
Medical care commodities .....	217.4	217.8	218.0	218.1	2.6	0.4	3.0	1.3	1.5	2.1
Medical care services .....	242.4	242.6	243.5	244.3	2.9	2.4	3.5	3.2	2.6	3.4
Professional services .....	218.1	218.7	219.2	220.0	3.0	2.4	2.6	3.5	2.7	3.1
Hospital and related services .....	282.8	282.6	284.0	284.6	2.9	2.3	4.4	2.6	2.6	3.5
Recreation (2).....	100.0	100.3	100.6	101.0	-	-	-	4.1	-	-
Video and audio (1) (2).....	100.0	100.6	101.2	101.4	2.0	1.2	0.4	5.7	1.6	3.0



Education and communication (2).....	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.2	-	-	-	0.8	-	-
Education (2).....	100.0	100.4	100.7	101.2	-	-	-	4.9	-	-
Educational books and supplies .....	243.8	243.2	244.9	246.3	7.2	4.4	4.7	4.2	5.8	4.4
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	286.8	288.1	289.0	290.3	5.3	4.8	5.3	5.0	5.1	5.2
Communication (1) (2).....	100.0	99.6	99.2	99.3	0.4	-3.5	0.8	-2.8	-1.6	-1.0
Information and information processing (1)										
(2).....	100.0	99.6	99.1	99.3	0.4	-3.9	0.8	-2.8	-1.8	-1.0
Telephone services (1) (2).....	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.4	-	-	-	1.6	-	-
Information and information processing										
other than telephone services (1) (4)	47.4	46.2	44.3	43.4	-17.8	-10.8	-8.8	-29.7	-14.3	-19.9
Personal computers and peripheral										
equipment (1) (2).....	100.0	96.9	91.3	88.7	-	-	-	-38.1	-	-
Other goods and services .....	230.8	231.8	233.7	233.0	4.8	4.7	5.9	3.9	4.7	4.9
Tobacco and smoking products .....	252.1	253.8	261.2	254.3	5.0	8.5	9.8	3.5	6.7	6.6
Personal care (1).....	154.0	154.6	155.0	155.5	2.7	-0.3	3.4	4.0	1.2	3.7
Personal care products (1).....	145.3	146.1	146.7	147.3	1.7	-1.4	4.5	5.6	0.1	5.1
Personal care services (1).....	163.9	164.3	164.3	164.7	3.5	0.5	2.7	2.0	2.0	2.3
Miscellaneous personal services .....	231.2	231.6	231.6	232.4	4.9	4.7	4.6	2.1	4.8	3.4

#### Commodity and service group

Commodities .....	142.1	141.9	141.8	141.3	-0.6	2.0	-0.3	-2.2	0.7	-1.3
Food and beverages .....	159.3	159.7	159.7	159.7	2.1	2.8	1.8	1.0	2.4	1.4
Commodities less food and beverages .....	131.8	131.3	131.0	130.3	-2.4	1.5	-1.5	-4.5	-0.5	-3.0
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	134.6	133.1	133.0	131.7	-2.6	3.9	-1.5	-8.3	0.6	-5.0
Apparel .....	133.2	132.5	132.7	132.5	2.4	-0.9	1.2	-2.1	0.8	-0.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and										
apparel .....	140.2	138.5	137.7	136.3	-4.7	6.8	-3.9	-10.7	0.9	-7.3
Durables .....	127.7	128.0	127.8	127.6	-2.1	-2.2	-1.6	-0.3	-2.1	-0.9
Services .....	181.7	181.9	182.3	182.7	2.7	2.5	2.9	2.2	2.6	2.6
Rent of shelter (3).....	186.3	186.6	187.1	187.6	3.3	2.9	4.0	2.8	3.1	3.4
Transportation services .....	185.9	187.1	187.8	188.2	1.7	1.3	0.6	5.0	1.5	2.8
Other services .....	213.5	214.0	214.4	215.2	4.5	2.5	3.6	3.2	3.5	3.4

#### Special indexes

All items less food .....	162.3	162.2	162.3	162.4	1.3	2.3	1.5	0.2	1.8	0.9
All items less shelter .....	156.8	156.7	156.6	156.5	0.5	2.1	0.8	-0.8	1.3	0.0
All items less medical care .....	157.4	157.4	157.5	157.5	1.0	2.3	1.5	0.3	1.7	0.9
Commodities less food .....	133.3	132.8	132.6	131.9	-2.1	1.5	-1.2	-4.1	-0.3	-2.7
Nondurables less food .....	136.3	135.1	135.0	133.8	-2.0	3.3	-1.2	-7.1	0.6	-4.2
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	141.7	140.2	139.4	138.0	-3.6	6.1	-3.0	-10.0	1.1	-6.6
Nondurables .....	147.1	146.8	146.5	145.9	-0.8	3.3	0.5	-3.2	1.2	-1.4

Services less rent of shelter (3).....	190.0	189.9	189.9	190.6	2.4	2.4	2.1	1.3	2.4	1.7
Services less medical care services .....	176.1	176.3	176.5	177.0	2.8	2.6	3.0	2.1	2.7	2.5
Energy .....	109.3	106.7	104.3	103.0	-11.8	8.3	-7.7	-21.1	-2.3	-14.7
All items less energy .....	168.9	169.2	169.6	169.8	2.4	1.9	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2
All items less food and energy .....	171.4	171.7	172.2	172.4	2.6	1.7	2.4	2.4	2.1	2.4
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	142.5	142.6	142.9	142.8	0.6	-0.3	0.6	0.8	0.1	0.7
Energy commodities .....	102.8	99.2	95.9	92.9	-19.7	16.1	-13.2	-33.3	-3.5	-23.9
Services less energy services .....	187.6	188.0	188.6	189.0	3.1	2.6	3.3	3.0	2.9	3.1

- 1 Not seasonally adjusted.  
2 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.  
3 Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.  
4 Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.  
- 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 (CPI-U): Selected areas, all items index

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-U	Pricing sched- ule (1)	All items									
		Indexes				Percent change to Mar.1998 from--			Percent change to Feb.1998 from--		
		Dec. 1997	Jan. 1998	Feb. 1998	Mar. 1998	Mar. 1997	Jan. 1998	Feb. 1998	Feb. 1997	Dec. 1997	Jan. 1998
U.S. city average .....	M	161.3	161.6	161.9	162.2	1.4	0.4	0.2	1.4	0.4	0.2
Region and area size(2)											
Northeast urban .....	M	168.4	168.8	169.1	169.3	1.2	0.3	0.1	1.3	0.4	0.2
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	169.1	169.5	170.1	170.2	1.2	0.4	0.1	1.4	0.6	0.4
Size B/C 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	101.3	101.6	101.4	101.7	1.2	0.1	0.3	1.2	0.1	-0.2
Midwest urban (4).....	M	157.3	157.6	158.0	158.4	1.6	0.5	0.3	1.3	0.4	0.3
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	158.1	158.5	158.9	159.5	1.9	0.6	0.4	1.5	0.5	0.3

Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	101.0	101.2	101.6	101.6	1.4	0.4	0.0	1.4	0.6	0.4
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	153.0	152.9	152.7	152.9	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.4	-0.2	-0.1
South urban .....	M	157.3	157.6	157.8	158.2	1.1	0.4	0.3	1.1	0.3	0.1
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	156.3	156.6	156.7	157.2	1.2	0.4	0.3	1.0	0.3	0.1
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	101.3	101.5	101.6	101.8	0.9	0.3	0.2	1.0	0.3	0.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	157.0	157.5	157.9	158.4	1.5	0.6	0.3	1.5	0.6	0.3
West urban .....	M	162.8	163.0	163.2	163.3	1.6	0.2	0.1	1.9	0.2	0.1
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	163.1	163.3	163.6	163.8	1.8	0.3	0.1	2.2	0.3	0.2
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	102.0	102.3	102.3	102.3	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.3	0.0

Size classes

A (5).....	M	145.7	146.0	146.4	146.6	1.5	0.4	0.1	1.6	0.5	0.3
B/C (3).....	M	101.4	101.6	101.7	101.8	1.1	0.2	0.1	1.2	0.3	0.1
D .....	M	157.5	157.7	157.8	158.1	1.1	0.3	0.2	1.0	0.2	0.1

Selected local areas(6)

Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI .....	M	162.8	162.8	163.1	164.1	1.9	0.8	0.6	1.2	0.2	0.2
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA .....	M	161.2	161.0	161.1	161.4	1.0	0.2	0.2	1.2	-0.1	0.1
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA .....	M	171.9	172.1	172.7	173.0	1.3	0.5	0.2	1.5	0.5	0.3
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT .....	1	-	171.2	-	171.3	1.9	0.1	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH .....	1	-	158.2	-	158.6	2.1	0.3	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX .....	1	152.5	152.1	-	153.0	-	0.6	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV (7).....	1	-	101.0	-	101.6	0.8	0.6	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA .....	2	159.4	-	159.5	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI .....	2	157.1	-	158.5	-	-	-	-	2.0	0.9	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX .....	2	145.6	-	146.1	-	-	-	-	1.1	0.3	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL .....	2	159.3	-	160.2	-	-	-	-	-	0.6	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD .....	2	166.4	-	167.0	-	-	-	-	0.7	0.4	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....	2	162.6	-	163.2	-	-	-	-	3.4	0.4	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA .....	2	165.0	-	166.5	-	-	-	-	-	0.9	-

- 1 Areas on pricing schedule 2 (see Table 10) will appear next month.
- 2 Regions defined as the four Census regions. See map in technical notes.
- 3 Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.

4 The 'North Central' region has been renamed the 'Midwest' region by the Census Bureau. It is composed of the same geographic entities.

5 Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

6 In addition, the following metropolitan areas are published semiannually and appear in Tables 34 and 39 of the January and July issues of the CPI Detailed Report: Anchorage, AK; Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN; Denver-Boulder-Greeley, CO; Honolulu, HI; Kansas City, MO-KS; Milwaukee-Racine, WI; Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI; Pittsburgh, PA; Portland-Salem, OR-WA; St. Louis, MO-IL; San Diego, CA; Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL.

7 Indexes on a November 1996=100 base.

- Data not available.

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

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)

CPI-W	Relative importance, December 1997	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 1998 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Feb. 1998	Mar. 1998	Mar. 1997	Feb. 1998	Dec. to Jan. Jan.	Jan. to Feb. Feb.	Feb. to Mar. Mar.
Expenditure category								
All items .....	100.000	158.5	158.7	1.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
All items (1967=100) .....	-	472.2	472.7	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	17.903	159.2	159.4	1.9	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0
Food .....	16.861	158.8	159.1	1.9	0.2	0.4	-0.1	0.0
Food at home .....	10.785	158.9	159.2	1.6	0.2	0.4	-0.1	-0.1
Cereals and bakery products .....	1.678	179.4	179.3	1.6	-0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	3.125	147.2	146.9	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-0.3
Dairy and related products (1).....	1.135	147.4	148.1	1.6	0.5	0.3	-0.3	0.5
Fruits and vegetables .....	1.447	192.4	194.8	3.5	1.2	3.6	-1.1	-0.9
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	1.215	133.6	133.1	3.3	-0.4	-0.2	0.1	-0.3
Other food at home .....	2.185	148.5	148.9	2.6	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3
Sugar and sweets .....	.420	149.5	151.0	3.3	1.0	0.5	-0.5	1.0
Fats and oils .....	.332	141.4	141.9	-0.2	0.4	-0.9	0.6	0.4
Other foods .....	1.432	164.1	164.3	2.6	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1

Other miscellaneous foods (1) (2).....	.344	100.5	101.8	-	1.3	0.5	0.0	1.3
Food away from home (1).....	6.076	159.6	159.9	2.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other food away from home (1) (2).....	.212	100.3	100.3	-	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0
Alcoholic beverages .....	1.042	163.9	164.0	1.5	0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.1
Housing .....	36.450	155.1	155.5	2.0	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.3
Shelter .....	27.033	174.6	175.2	3.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
Rent of primary residence .....	8.347	169.6	170.0	3.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.4
Lodging away from home (2).....	1.346	108.6	110.8	-	2.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (3).....	17.016	169.1	169.5	3.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2
Tenants' and household insurance (1) (2)..	.324	100.2	100.5	-	0.3	0.4	-0.2	0.3
Fuels and utilities .....	5.053	127.1	126.9	-2.1	-0.2	-1.2	-0.9	0.3
Fuels .....	4.143	112.2	111.9	-3.9	-0.3	-1.6	-1.2	0.4
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.229	95.1	94.5	-10.3	-0.6	-2.1	-2.2	0.8
Gas (piped) and electricity .....	3.914	119.2	118.9	-3.3	-0.3	-1.5	-1.2	0.3
Household furnishings and operations .....	4.365	124.7	125.0	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1
Apparel .....	5.300	130.4	133.0	-0.6	2.0	-0.5	-0.2	-0.5
Men's and boys' apparel .....	1.503	130.1	132.8	3.1	2.1	0.2	-0.2	0.6
Women's and girls' apparel .....	1.985	122.3	127.3	-1.5	4.1	-0.9	0.3	-0.3
Infants' and toddlers' apparel (1).....	.337	123.1	124.5	-4.7	1.1	-0.9	-1.8	1.1
Footwear .....	1.082	127.4	127.1	-0.6	-0.2	-0.5	-1.5	-1.1
Transportation .....	19.847	140.9	139.9	-3.0	-0.7	-0.5	-0.4	-0.8
Private transportation .....	18.790	138.4	137.2	-3.3	-0.9	-0.6	-0.6	-0.7
New and used motor vehicles (2).....	9.285	100.2	99.7	-2.2	-0.5	0.1	0.0	-0.4
New vehicles .....	5.304	145.5	145.6	-0.7	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.2
Used cars and trucks (1).....	3.162	149.9	147.6	-5.2	-1.5	0.1	0.1	-1.5
Motor fuel .....	3.682	94.1	91.0	-14.4	-3.3	-3.6	-3.1	-3.2
Gasoline (all types) .....	3.658	93.6	90.5	-14.4	-3.3	-3.6	-3.2	-3.4
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	.694	100.9	100.7	-0.6	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	-0.1
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	1.664	166.5	166.7	2.6	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1
Public transportation .....	1.057	187.9	190.2	2.8	1.2	0.9	1.2	0.3
Medical care .....	4.591	238.7	239.1	2.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Medical care commodities .....	.906	215.4	215.5	1.6	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1
Medical care services .....	3.684	244.0	244.5	3.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3
Professional services .....	2.372	221.0	221.8	3.0	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2
Hospital and related services .....	1.097	281.4	281.4	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.2
Recreation (2).....	5.969	100.7	101.0	1.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Video and audio (1) (2).....	1.968	101.2	101.4	2.4	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.2
Education and communication (2).....	5.396	99.8	100.0	2.5	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.4

Education (2).....	2.402	100.4	100.5	5.2	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.5
Educational books and supplies .....	.192	249.4	250.0	5.4	0.2	-0.3	0.9	0.5
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.211	283.5	283.9	5.3	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.5
Communication (1) (2).....	2.994	99.3	99.5	-1.0	0.2	-0.3	-0.4	0.2
Information and information processing (1)								
(2).....	2.841	99.3	99.5	-1.0	0.2	-0.4	-0.3	0.2
Telephone services (1) (2).....	2.547	100.0	100.4	-	0.4	-0.1	0.1	0.4
Information and information processing								
other than telephone services (1) (4)	.294	45.8	44.8	-15.6	-2.2	-2.5	-4.0	-2.2
Personal computers and peripheral								
equipment (1) (2).....	.191	91.1	88.3	-	-3.1	-3.4	-5.7	-3.1
Other goods and services .....	4.544	230.6	229.3	5.2	-0.6	0.5	1.1	-0.6
Tobacco and smoking products .....	1.300	261.1	253.7	6.7	-2.8	0.8	3.0	-2.8
Personal care (1).....	3.244	155.0	155.5	2.6	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
Personal care products (1).....	.832	147.6	148.2	2.7	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.4
Personal care services (1).....	.964	164.5	164.9	2.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2
Miscellaneous personal services .....	1.226	231.1	231.7	3.8	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.3

#### Commodity and service group

Commodities .....	47.234	141.3	141.1	-0.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.5
Food and beverages .....	17.903	159.2	159.4	1.9	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0
Commodities less food and beverages .....	29.331	130.5	130.1	-2.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.2	-0.7
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	15.928	131.5	131.2	-2.7	-0.2	-1.0	-0.2	-1.1
Apparel .....	5.300	130.4	133.0	-0.6	2.0	-0.5	-0.2	-0.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and								
apparel .....	10.628	136.7	134.8	-3.6	-1.4	-1.4	-0.4	-1.2
Durables .....	13.403	127.7	127.3	-1.8	-0.3	0.2	-0.1	-0.3
Services .....	52.766	179.1	179.6	2.5	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3
Rent of shelter (3).....	26.708	168.1	168.6	3.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Transportation services .....	6.824	185.3	185.8	1.9	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2
Other services .....	10.006	211.2	211.9	3.8	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4

#### Special indexes

All items less food .....	83.139	158.4	158.5	0.9	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1
All items less shelter .....	72.967	154.1	154.2	0.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2
All items less medical care .....	95.409	154.8	154.9	0.9	0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.1
Commodities less food .....	30.373	131.8	131.5	-2.0	-0.2	-0.5	-0.2	-0.7
Nondurables less food .....	16.970	133.5	133.2	-2.3	-0.2	-1.0	-0.3	-0.9
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	11.670	138.3	136.6	-3.2	-1.2	-1.5	-0.4	-1.4
Nondurables .....	33.831	145.6	145.6	-0.3	0.0	-0.1	-0.4	-0.3
Services less rent of shelter (3).....	26.057	169.2	169.6	2.0	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.4
Services less medical care services .....	49.082	173.6	174.1	2.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.4

Energy .....	7.825	102.4	100.8	-8.9	-1.6	-2.5	-2.1	-1.3
All items less energy .....	92.175	166.3	166.7	2.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
All items less food and energy .....	75.315	168.2	168.6	1.9	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	26.463	142.1	142.3	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.3
Energy commodities .....	3.910	94.3	91.4	-14.2	-3.1	-3.5	-3.0	-3.0
Services less energy services .....	48.852	185.8	186.4	3.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar .....	-	\$ .631	\$ .630	-	-	-	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar - old base .....	-	\$ .212	\$ .212	-	-	-	-	-

- 1 Not seasonally adjusted.
- 2 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.
- 3 Indexes on a December 1984=100 base
- 4 Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.
- 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): Seasonally adjusted U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
	Dec. 1997	Jan. 1998	Feb. 1998	Mar. 1998	3 months ended--				6 months ended--	
					June 1997	Sep. 1997	Dec. 1997	Mar. 1998	Sep. 1997	Mar. 1998
Expenditure category										
All items .....	158.7	158.7	158.7	158.6	1.0	2.3	1.3	-0.3	1.7	0.5
Food and beverages .....	158.7	159.2	159.2	159.2	2.1	2.6	1.5	1.3	2.3	1.4
Food .....	158.2	158.8	158.7	158.7	2.1	2.8	1.3	1.3	2.5	1.3
Food at home .....	158.3	158.9	158.7	158.6	2.3	2.3	0.8	0.8	2.3	0.8
Cereals and bakery products .....	178.9	178.6	179.1	179.8	1.1	1.1	2.3	2.0	1.1	2.1

Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	147.4	147.0	146.8	146.3	4.4	0.3	-2.9	-3.0	2.3	-2.9
Dairy and related products (1).....	147.5	147.9	147.4	148.1	-5.4	-1.7	12.6	1.6	-3.5	7.0
Fruits and vegetables .....	189.7	196.5	194.4	192.6	-1.5	8.9	0.4	6.3	3.6	3.3
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	132.9	132.7	132.8	132.4	17.9	4.3	-6.4	-1.5	10.9	-4.0
Other food at home .....	147.9	148.1	148.2	148.7	7.4	3.0	-0.8	2.2	5.2	0.7
Sugar and sweets .....	149.2	149.9	149.2	150.7	5.3	1.1	2.4	4.1	3.2	3.3
Fats and oils .....	141.3	140.0	140.8	141.4	-0.8	1.4	-1.7	0.3	0.3	-0.7
Other foods .....	163.1	163.6	163.8	163.9	2.5	3.0	2.7	2.0	2.8	2.4
Other miscellaneous foods (1) (2).....	100.0	100.5	100.5	101.8	-	-	-	7.4	-	-
Food away from home (1).....	159.0	159.3	159.6	159.9	1.5	3.1	3.1	2.3	2.3	2.7
Other food away from home (1) (2).....	100.0	100.1	100.3	100.3	-	-	-	1.2	-	-
Alcoholic beverages .....	163.6	164.0	163.8	163.6	2.0	2.2	2.0	0.0	2.1	1.0
Housing .....	154.8	154.8	155.0	155.4	2.1	2.1	2.4	1.6	2.1	2.0
Shelter .....	173.5	174.0	174.4	174.8	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.0	3.1	3.2
Rent of primary residence .....	168.7	169.2	169.4	170.0	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.1
Lodging away from home (2).....	100.0	100.1	100.1	100.1	-	-	-	0.4	-	-
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (3).....	168.1	168.5	169.1	169.5	3.0	3.2	2.9	3.4	3.1	3.1
Tenants' and household insurance (1) (2)..	100.0	100.4	100.2	100.5	-	-	-	2.0	-	-
Fuels and utilities .....	130.4	128.8	127.6	128.0	-1.2	0.9	0.3	-7.2	-0.2	-3.5
Fuels .....	115.3	113.5	112.1	112.5	-4.7	0.0	-1.7	-9.4	-2.4	-5.6
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	95.9	93.9	91.8	92.5	-15.3	-11.6	0.4	-13.4	-13.5	-6.8
Gas (piped) and electricity .....	123.0	121.1	119.7	120.0	-3.8	1.3	-1.9	-9.4	-1.3	-5.7
Household furnishings and operations .....	123.9	124.2	124.7	124.8	1.6	-1.3	0.6	2.9	0.2	1.8
Apparel .....	132.0	131.3	131.1	130.5	2.5	-0.9	0.0	-4.5	0.8	-2.3
Men's and boys' apparel .....	131.2	131.4	131.1	131.9	4.8	4.1	1.5	2.2	4.4	1.8
Women's and girls' apparel .....	124.1	123.0	123.4	123.0	2.3	-3.4	-2.8	-3.5	-0.6	-3.2
Infants' and toddlers' apparel (1).....	126.5	125.3	123.1	124.5	9.8	-15.5	-5.5	-6.2	-3.6	-5.8
Footwear .....	130.5	129.9	128.0	126.6	0.0	3.5	6.4	-11.4	1.7	-2.9
Transportation .....	142.6	141.9	141.3	140.2	-4.6	3.1	-3.6	-6.6	-0.8	-5.1
Private transportation .....	140.3	139.5	138.7	137.7	-5.0	3.2	-3.9	-7.2	-1.0	-5.6
New and used motor vehicles (2).....	100.0	100.1	100.1	99.7	-	-	-	-1.2	-	-
New vehicles .....	144.6	144.7	144.6	144.9	-0.8	-0.5	-2.2	0.8	-0.7	-0.7
Used cars and trucks (1).....	149.5	149.7	149.9	147.6	-6.0	-9.1	-0.5	-5.0	-7.6	-2.8
Motor fuel .....	103.2	99.5	96.4	93.3	-20.0	19.1	-15.4	-33.2	-2.4	-24.8
Gasoline (all types) .....	102.9	99.2	96.0	92.7	-20.1	21.5	-16.0	-34.1	-1.5	-25.6
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	100.6	100.5	100.6	100.5	0.0	-0.8	-1.2	-0.4	-0.4	-0.8
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	165.8	166.0	166.5	166.7	3.2	1.5	3.5	2.2	2.4	2.8
Public transportation .....	184.1	185.8	188.1	188.7	0.7	0.9	-0.6	10.4	0.8	4.7
Medical care .....	237.2	237.6	238.1	238.8	2.8	2.1	3.4	2.7	2.4	3.1



Medical care commodities .....	214.6	215.0	214.9	215.1	2.7	0.2	2.8	0.9	1.4	1.9
Medical care services .....	242.2	242.5	243.2	244.0	2.9	2.4	3.7	3.0	2.6	3.4
Professional services .....	219.6	220.0	220.8	221.3	3.0	2.6	3.0	3.1	2.8	3.1
Hospital and related services .....	278.9	278.8	280.3	280.8	2.7	2.5	4.3	2.8	2.6	3.5
Recreation (2).....	100.0	100.3	100.6	100.9	-	-	-	3.6	-	-
Video and audio (1) (2).....	100.0	100.5	101.2	101.4	2.0	1.6	0.4	5.7	1.8	3.0
Education and communication (2).....	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.3	-	-	-	1.2	-	-
Education (2).....	100.0	100.3	100.7	101.2	-	-	-	4.9	-	-
Educational books and supplies .....	246.1	245.3	247.4	248.7	8.8	4.2	4.5	4.3	6.5	4.4
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	281.2	282.1	283.2	284.7	5.7	4.9	5.6	5.1	5.3	5.3
Communication (1) (2).....	100.0	99.7	99.3	99.5	0.8	-3.5	0.8	-2.0	-1.4	-0.6
Information and information processing (1) (2).....	100.0	99.6	99.3	99.5	0.8	-3.5	0.8	-2.0	-1.4	-0.6
Telephone services (1) (2).....	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.4	-	-	-	1.6	-	-
Information and information processing other than telephone services (1) (4) .....	48.9	47.7	45.8	44.8	-15.6	-10.6	-4.8	-29.6	-13.1	-18.1
Personal computers and peripheral equipment (1) (2).....	100.0	96.6	91.1	88.3	-	-	-	-39.2	-	-
Other goods and services .....	227.4	228.5	230.9	229.6	4.8	5.2	6.2	3.9	5.0	5.1
Tobacco and smoking products .....	251.6	253.6	261.1	253.9	5.0	8.7	9.4	3.7	6.8	6.5
Personal care (1).....	153.9	154.5	155.0	155.5	2.9	-0.3	3.5	4.2	1.3	3.8
Personal care products (1).....	146.1	147.0	147.6	148.2	2.0	-0.8	3.9	5.9	0.6	4.9
Personal care services (1).....	164.1	164.5	164.5	164.9	3.8	0.7	2.7	2.0	2.2	2.3
Miscellaneous personal services .....	230.0	230.5	230.6	231.3	4.0	4.5	4.5	2.3	4.3	3.4
Commodity and service group										
Commodities .....	142.0	141.8	141.6	140.9	-1.1	2.0	-0.3	-3.1	0.4	-1.7
Food and beverages .....	158.7	159.2	159.2	159.2	2.1	2.6	1.5	1.3	2.3	1.4
Commodities less food and beverages .....	131.7	131.2	130.9	130.0	-3.0	1.8	-2.1	-5.1	-0.6	-3.6
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	134.2	132.9	132.6	131.1	-3.2	4.3	-2.3	-8.9	0.4	-5.7
Apparel .....	132.0	131.3	131.1	130.5	2.5	-0.9	0.0	-4.5	0.8	-2.3
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	140.1	138.1	137.5	135.8	-5.3	7.1	-3.6	-11.7	0.7	-7.8
Durables .....	127.3	127.5	127.4	127.0	-2.8	-2.5	-1.2	-0.9	-2.6	-1.1
Services .....	178.6	178.8	179.1	179.6	2.8	2.5	2.7	2.3	2.6	2.5
Rent of shelter (3).....	167.2	167.6	167.9	168.3	3.5	2.9	3.4	2.7	3.2	3.0
Transportation services .....	183.8	184.7	185.2	185.5	2.0	1.8	0.9	3.8	1.9	2.3
Other services .....	210.2	210.7	211.2	212.0	4.8	2.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.5

Special indexes

All items less food .....	158.4	158.3	158.3	158.2	0.8	2.3	1.0	-0.5	1.5	0.3
All items less shelter .....	154.6	154.5	154.4	154.1	0.3	2.1	0.3	-1.3	1.2	-0.5
All items less medical care .....	154.9	154.8	154.9	154.7	1.0	2.4	1.0	-0.5	1.7	0.3
Commodities less food .....	133.3	132.7	132.4	131.5	-2.7	1.5	-1.5	-5.3	-0.6	-3.4
Nondurables less food .....	136.0	134.7	134.3	133.1	-2.3	3.6	-1.7	-8.3	0.6	-5.1
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	141.8	139.7	139.2	137.3	-5.3	7.3	-1.7	-12.1	0.8	-7.0
Nondurables .....	146.7	146.5	145.9	145.5	-0.8	3.6	-0.5	-3.2	1.4	-1.9
Services less rent of shelter (3).....	169.3	169.1	169.0	169.7	2.4	2.2	2.4	0.9	2.3	1.7
Services less medical care services .....	173.2	173.4	173.4	174.1	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.1	2.7	2.3
Energy .....	108.7	106.0	103.8	102.4	-12.8	9.1	-8.7	-21.2	-2.5	-15.2
All items less energy .....	165.7	166.0	166.3	166.4	2.2	1.7	2.2	1.7	2.0	2.0
All items less food and energy .....	167.7	168.0	168.4	168.5	2.4	1.5	2.2	1.9	1.9	2.0
Commodities less food and energy										
commodities .....	142.0	142.1	142.4	142.0	0.3	-0.6	0.6	0.0	-0.1	0.3
Energy commodities .....	102.8	99.2	96.2	93.3	-19.4	16.0	-14.2	-32.1	-3.3	-23.7
Services less energy services .....	184.9	185.4	185.9	186.4	3.4	2.7	2.9	3.3	3.0	3.1

1 Not seasonally adjusted.

2 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

3 Indexes on a December 1984=100 base

4 Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

- 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 (CPI-W): Selected areas, all items index

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W	Pricing schedule (1)	Indexes				Percent change to Mar.1998 from--			Percent change to Feb.1998 from--		
		Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Feb.	Dec.	Jan.
		1997	1998	1998	1998	1997	1998	1998	1997	1997	1998
U.S. city average .....	M	158.2	158.4	158.5	158.7	1.1	0.2	0.1	1.1	0.2	0.1

Region and area size(2)



PA-NJ-DE-MD .....	2	165.7	-	166.1	-	-	-	-	0.7	0.2	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....	2	159.4	-	159.6	-	-	-	-	3.0	0.1	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA .....	2	160.6	-	162.2	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	-

- 1 Areas on pricing schedule 2 (see Table 10) will appear next month.
  - 2 Regions defined as the four Census regions. See map in technical notes.
  - 3 Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.
  - 4 The 'North Central' region has been renamed the 'Midwest' region by the Census Bureau. It is composed of the same geographic entities.
  - 5 Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.
  - 6 In addition, the following metropolitan areas are published semiannually and appear in Tables 34 and 39 of the January and July issues of the CPI Detailed Report: Anchorage, AK; Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN; Denver-Boulder-Greeley, CO; Honolulu, HI; Kansas City, MO-KS; Milwaukee-Racine, WI; Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI; Pittsburgh, PA; Portland-Salem, OR-WA; St. Louis, MO-IL; San Diego, CA; Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL.
  - 7 Indexes on a November 1996=100 base.
- Data not available.

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

Table 1(OS). Old Series 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)

Item and group	Relative importance, December 1997	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 1998 from-	
		Feb. 1998	Mar. 1998	Mar. 1997	Feb. 1998
Expenditure category					
All items .....	100.000	162.0	162.2	1.4	0.1
All items (1967=100) .....	-	485.2	486.0	-	-
Food and beverages .....	17.465	159.8	160.0	1.8	.1
Food .....	15.886	159.3	159.6	1.9	.2
Food at home .....	9.964	159.9	160.1	1.5	.1
Cereals and bakery products .....	1.476	179.5	179.5	1.6	.0

Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	2.921	147.2	147.0	-.5	-.1
Dairy products .....	1.218	147.9	148.8	1.8	.6
Fruits and vegetables .....	1.982	193.8	194.9	3.0	.6
Other food at home .....	2.366	149.5	149.7	2.9	.1
Sugar and sweets .....	.332	149.5	150.6	2.9	.7
Fats and oils .....	.241	141.8	142.2	-.1	.3
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.747	135.1	134.9	4.2	-.1
Other prepared food .....	1.046	164.4	164.5	2.6	.1
Food away from home .....	5.923	159.6	159.8	2.4	.1
Alcoholic beverages .....	1.578	164.9	164.8	1.7	-.1
Housing .....	41.469	158.8	159.2	2.1	.3
Shelter .....	28.640	180.1	180.7	3.1	.3
Renters' costs (1).....	8.169	191.5	192.7	3.2	.6
Rent, residential .....	5.810	169.9	170.3	3.1	.2
Other renters' costs .....	2.359	235.2	239.1	3.2	1.7
Homeowners' costs (1).....	20.269	185.1	185.5	3.2	.2
Owners' equivalent rent (1).....	19.881	185.4	185.8	3.2	.2
Household insurance (1).....	.388	167.3	167.5	2.6	.1
Maintenance and repairs .....	.202	146.0	146.3	2.7	.2
Maintenance and repair services .....	.126	154.7	154.5	4.1	-.1
Maintenance and repair commodities ..	.076	134.0	135.0	.5	.7
Fuel and other utilities .....	7.015	128.5	128.6	-1.0	.1
Fuels .....	3.769	112.7	112.4	-4.1	-.3
Fuel oil and other household fuel					
commodities .....	.368	95.3	94.6	-10.3	-.7
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy					
services).....	3.401	119.5	119.3	-3.3	-.2
Other utilities and public services ...	3.246	164.1	164.8	2.7	.4
Household furnishings and operation .....	5.814	125.9	126.1	.6	.2
Housefurnishings .....	3.232	110.1	110.3	-.7	.2
Housekeeping supplies .....	1.090	145.3	145.6	2.0	.2
Housekeeping services .....	1.492	154.3	154.3	2.5	.0
Apparel and upkeep .....	5.291	131.6	134.6	.1	2.3
Apparel commodities .....	4.748	127.6	130.8	-.2	2.5
Men's and boys' apparel .....	1.292	130.7	133.2	3.1	1.9
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.072	123.0	128.5	-1.2	4.5
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.182	122.8	124.2	-4.2	1.1
Footwear .....	.719	126.9	127.2	.2	.2
Other apparel commodities .....	.484	146.4	145.9	-2.4	-.3
Apparel services .....	.543	164.8	165.3	1.8	.3
Transportation .....	16.620	142.1	141.3	-2.5	-.6
Private transportation .....	15.054	138.3	137.3	-3.0	-.7

New vehicles .....	4.829	144.3	144.4	-.7	.1
New cars .....	3.842	141.6	141.7	-.8	.1
Used cars .....	1.195	148.3	146.0	-5.4	-1.6
Motor fuel .....	2.925	94.1	90.8	-14.7	-3.5
Gasoline .....	-	93.5	90.3	-14.7	-3.4
Maintenance and repairs .....	1.546	165.5	165.7	2.6	.1
Other private transportation .....	4.560	179.6	179.5	1.2	-.1
Other private transportation					
commodities .....	.574	104.3	104.0	-1.0	-.3
Other private transportation services					
.....	3.986	197.4	197.4	1.5	.0
Public transportation .....	1.566	191.1	193.8	3.0	1.4
Medical care .....	7.426	239.4	239.9	2.8	.2
Medical care commodities .....	1.280	218.4	218.5	1.8	.0
Medical care services .....	6.145	244.3	244.8	3.0	.2
Professional medical services .....	3.518	219.7	220.4	2.9	.3
Entertainment .....	4.339	164.0	164.6	1.5	0.4
Entertainment commodities .....	1.924	144.6	144.5	.0	-.1
Entertainment services .....	2.415	186.4	187.8	2.8	.8
Other goods and services .....	7.390	233.2	232.0	4.8	-.5
Tobacco and smoking products .....	1.688	261.3	254.1	6.7	-2.8
Personal care .....	1.152	155.0	155.6	2.5	.4
Toilet goods and personal care					
appliances .....	.589	147.0	147.6	2.8	.4
Personal care services .....	.564	164.1	164.6	2.1	.3
Personal and educational expenses .....	4.550	267.6	268.0	4.8	.1
School books and supplies .....	.273	247.1	247.8	5.3	.3
Personal and educational services .....	4.277	269.4	269.7	4.7	.1
Commodity and service group					
All items .....	100.000	162.0	162.2	1.4	.1
Commodities .....	42.255	141.6	141.6	-.3	.0
Food and beverages .....	17.465	159.8	160.0	1.8	.1
Commodities less food and beverages .....	24.791	130.7	130.5	-1.8	-.2
Nondurables less food and beverages ...	14.865	132.4	132.2	-2.1	-.2
Apparel commodities .....	4.748	127.6	130.8	-.2	2.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and					
apparel .....	10.117	138.0	136.0	-3.0	-1.4
Durables .....	9.926	128.3	128.1	-1.4	-.2
Services .....	57.745	182.4	183.0	2.7	.3

Rent of shelter (1).....	28.016	187.4	188.1	3.2	.4
Household services less rent of shelter (1).....	8.687	144.6	144.7	.3	.1
Transportation services .....	7.097	188.1	188.8	2.1	.4
Medical care services .....	6.145	244.3	244.8	3.0	.2
Other services .....	7.799	214.2	215.0	3.7	.4

Special indexes

All items less food .....	84.114	162.4	162.7	1.3	.2
All items less shelter .....	71.360	156.6	156.7	.7	.1
All items less homeowners' costs (1).....	79.731	162.4	162.7	.9	.2
All items less medical care .....	92.574	157.6	157.9	1.3	.2
Commodities less food .....	26.369	132.1	132.0	-1.6	-.1
Nondurables less food .....	16.443	134.5	134.3	-1.7	-.1
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	11.695	139.8	138.1	-2.3	-1.2
Nondurables .....	32.329	146.3	146.3	.1	.0
Services less rent of shelter (1).....	29.728	190.3	190.8	2.2	.3
Services less medical care services .....	51.599	176.7	177.2	2.6	.3
Energy .....	6.695	103.1	101.5	-8.7	-1.6
All items less energy .....	93.305	169.6	170.1	2.2	.3
All items less food and energy .....	77.419	172.2	172.7	2.2	.3
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	23.076	143.0	143.4	.3	.3
Energy commodities .....	3.293	94.5	91.5	-14.2	-3.2
Services less energy services .....	54.343	188.8	189.4	3.0	.3
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:					
1982-84=\$1.00 .....	-	\$ .617	\$ .616	-	-
1967=\$1.00 .....	-	\$ .206	\$ .206	-	-

1 Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

- Data not available.

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

Table 2(OS). Old Series 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)

	Relative	Unadjusted	Unadjusted
	importan-	indexes	percent change
			to

Item and group	ce,			Mar. 1998 from-	
	December 1997	Feb. 1998	Mar. 1998	Mar. 1997	Feb. 1998
Expenditure category					
All items .....	100.000	158.7	158.8	1.1	0.1
All items (1967=100) .....	-	472.6	473.0	-	-
Food and beverages .....	19.434	159.1	159.3	1.8	.1
Food .....	17.739	158.7	158.9	1.8	.1
Food at home .....	11.309	158.7	159.0	1.5	.2
Cereals and bakery products .....	1.689	179.2	179.1	1.5	-.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	3.441	146.9	146.7	-.5	-.1
Dairy products .....	1.358	147.6	148.4	1.8	.5
Fruits and vegetables .....	2.100	192.0	193.4	2.8	.7
Other food at home .....	2.722	148.8	149.0	2.7	.1
Sugar and sweets .....	.376	149.4	150.6	3.0	.8
Fats and oils .....	.277	141.4	141.7	-.4	.2
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.863	133.9	133.7	3.7	-.1
Other prepared food .....	1.206	164.2	164.4	2.7	.1
Food away from home .....	6.430	159.6	159.9	2.5	.2
Alcoholic beverages .....	1.695	163.8	163.8	1.4	.0
Housing .....	39.037	155.2	155.6	2.0	.3
Shelter .....	26.305	174.7	175.2	3.1	.3
Renters' costs (1).....	8.250	166.3	167.1	3.2	.5
Rent, residential .....	6.686	169.6	169.9	3.2	.2
Other renters' costs .....	1.564	234.2	237.7	3.4	1.5
Homeowners' costs (1).....	17.864	168.7	169.1	3.2	.2
Owners' equivalent rent (1).....	17.538	169.0	169.4	3.1	.2
Household insurance (1).....	.327	151.8	152.0	2.6	.1
Maintenance and repairs .....	.191	143.8	144.1	2.3	.2
Maintenance and repair services .....	.107	155.8	155.5	3.5	-.2
Maintenance and repair commodities ..	.084	128.7	129.7	.8	.8
Fuel and other utilities .....	7.274	128.4	128.5	-.8	.1
Fuels .....	3.875	112.1	111.8	-4.0	-.3
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities .....	.338	95.2	94.5	-10.3	-.7
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy					



services).....	3.537	119.1	118.8	-3.3	-.3
Other utilities and public services ...	3.399	165.1	165.8	2.9	.4
Household furnishings and operation .....	5.458	124.5	124.5	.5	.0
Housefurnishings .....	3.171	108.9	109.0	-.7	.1
Housekeeping supplies .....	1.130	146.1	146.4	2.0	.2
Housekeeping services .....	1.157	157.3	157.3	2.6	.0
Apparel and upkeep .....	5.311	130.1	132.8	-.7	2.1
Apparel commodities .....	4.801	126.4	129.2	-1.0	2.2
Men's and boys' apparel .....	1.298	130.4	132.7	3.0	1.8
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.019	121.1	126.0	-2.5	4.0
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.233	123.3	124.9	-4.4	1.3
Footwear .....	.800	127.3	127.7	-.2	.3
Other apparel commodities .....	.450	143.4	142.7	-4.5	-.5
Apparel services .....	.510	163.9	164.4	1.8	.3
Transportation .....	18.597	140.9	139.9	-3.0	-.7
Private transportation .....	17.389	138.2	137.1	-3.4	-.8
New vehicles .....	4.781	145.5	145.6	-.7	.1
New cars .....	3.439	141.2	141.2	-.9	.0
Used cars .....	2.179	149.9	147.6	-5.2	-1.5
Motor fuel .....	3.608	94.0	90.9	-14.5	-3.3
Gasoline .....	-	93.5	90.4	-14.5	-3.3
Maintenance and repairs .....	1.634	166.5	166.7	2.6	.1
Other private transportation .....	5.188	174.7	174.7	1.1	.0
Other private transportation					
commodities .....	.727	103.6	103.3	-.8	-.3
Other private transportation services					
.....	4.460	192.9	192.9	1.4	.0
Public transportation .....	1.208	188.2	190.3	2.8	1.1
Medical care .....	6.331	238.8	239.3	2.8	.2
Medical care commodities .....	1.054	215.6	215.8	1.7	.1
Medical care services .....	5.276	244.0	244.5	3.0	.2
Professional medical services .....	3.020	221.1	221.9	3.0	.4
Entertainment .....	4.006	161.2	161.8	1.4	0.4
Entertainment commodities .....	2.005	143.1	143.0	-.3	-.1
Entertainment services .....	2.001	186.8	188.3	3.0	.8
Other goods and services .....	7.285	230.8	229.1	5.1	-.7
Tobacco and smoking products .....	2.237	261.3	254.0	6.9	-2.8
Personal care .....	1.116	155.0	155.6	2.6	.4
Toilet goods and personal care					
appliances .....	.612	147.8	148.4	2.8	.4

Personal care services .....	.504	164.4	164.9	2.3	.3
Personal and educational expenses .....	3.932	263.1	263.6	4.8	.2
School books and supplies .....	.241	249.4	250.0	5.4	.2
Personal and educational services .....	3.692	264.6	265.0	4.7	.2

Commodity and service group

All items .....	100.000	158.7	158.8	1.1	.1
Commodities .....	46.401	141.4	141.2	-.6	-.1
Food and beverages .....	19.434	159.1	159.3	1.8	.1
Commodities less food and beverages .....	26.967	130.6	130.2	-2.2	-.3
Nondurables less food and beverages ...	15.915	131.9	131.3	-2.6	-.5
Apparel commodities .....	4.801	126.4	129.2	-1.0	2.2
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	11.114	137.5	135.3	-3.3	-1.6
Durables .....	11.052	127.8	127.4	-1.7	-.3
Services .....	53.599	179.3	179.7	2.6	.2
Rent of shelter (1).....	25.761	168.2	168.7	3.2	.3
Household services less rent of shelter (1).....	8.554	132.8	132.9	.2	.1
Transportation services .....	7.302	185.4	185.9	2.0	.3
Medical care services .....	5.276	244.0	244.5	3.0	.2
Other services .....	6.706	211.1	211.9	3.8	.4

Special indexes

All items less food .....	82.261	158.5	158.6	1.0	.1
All items less shelter .....	73.695	154.3	154.3	.4	.0
All items less homeowners' costs (1).....	82.136	148.4	148.5	.7	.1
All items less medical care .....	93.669	154.9	155.0	1.0	.1
Commodities less food .....	28.662	132.0	131.5	-2.0	-.4
Nondurables less food .....	17.610	133.9	133.3	-2.3	-.4
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	12.809	139.2	137.3	-2.7	-1.4
Nondurables .....	35.349	145.8	145.7	-.2	-.1
Services less rent of shelter (1).....	27.838	169.4	169.8	2.1	.2
Services less medical care services .....	48.322	173.7	174.2	2.5	0.3
Energy .....	7.483	102.3	100.6	-9.1	-1.7
All items less energy .....	92.517	166.4	166.7	2.0	.2
All items less food and energy .....	74.778	168.4	168.8	2.0	.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	24.717	142.4	142.5	.0	.1
Energy commodities .....	3.946	94.4	91.5	-14.1	-3.1
Services less energy services .....	50.062	185.9	186.4	3.0	.3

Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:

1982-84=\$1.00 .....	-	\$ .630	\$ .630	-	-
1967=\$1.00 .....	-	\$ .212	\$ .211	-	-

1 Indexes on a December 1984=100 base.

- Data not available.

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

Table 3(OS) Old Series Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Selected areas, all items index

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Area	Pricing sched- ule (1)	Indexes				Percent change to Mar.1998 from--		
		Dec. 1997	Jan. 1998	Feb. 1998	Mar. 1998	Dec. 1997	Jan. 1998	Feb. 1998
U.S. city average .....	M	161.3	161.6	162.0	162.2	0.6	0.4	0.1
Selected local areas								
Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI .....	M	162.8	162.5	163.0	163.8	.6	.8	.5
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA .....	M	161.2	161.0	161.2	161.3	.1	.2	.1
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	171.9	172.1	172.8	173.1	.7	.6	.2
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH.....	1	-	171.0	-	171.2	-	.1	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH .....	1	-	158.0	-	157.9	-	-.1	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX .....	1	152.5	152.2	-	153.3	.5	.7	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI .....	2	157.1	-	158.7	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX .....	2	145.6	-	146.5	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL .....	2	159.3	-	160.6	-	-	-	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	166.4	-	167.4	-	-	-	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....	2	162.6	-	163.5	-	-	-	-
Region and area size								
Northeast urban .....	M	168.4	168.8	169.2	169.3	.5	.3	.1
Midwest urban (2).....	M	157.3	157.6	158.1	158.4	.7	.5	.2

South urban .....	M	157.3	157.7	157.9	158.5	.8	.5	.4
West urban .....	M	162.8	163.0	163.3	163.3	.3	.2	.0

Population size classes

A (3).....	M	145.7	146.0	146.4	146.6	.6	.4	.1
D .....	M	157.5	157.9	158.0	158.2	.4	.2	.1

Region/Population size class cross classifications

Northeast Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	169.1	169.5	170.1	170.2	.7	.4	.1
Midwest Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	158.1	158.3	158.8	159.3	.8	.6	.3
South Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	156.3	156.7	156.8	157.6	.8	.6	.5
West Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	163.1	163.2	163.6	163.7	.4	.3	.1
Midwest Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	153.0	153.0	153.1	153.3	.2	.2	.1
South Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	157.0	157.7	158.0	158.4	.9	.4	.3

1 The 'All items' index size B/C is on a December 1996=100 base.

2 The 'North Central' region has been renamed the 'Midwest' region by the Census Bureau. It is composed of the same geographic entities.

3 Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

- Data not available.

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

Table 4(OS) Old Series Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Selected areas, all items index

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Area	Pricing schedule (1)	Indexes				Percent change to Mar.1998 from--		
		Dec. 1997	Jan. 1998	Feb. 1998	Mar. 1998	Dec. 1997	Jan. 1998	Feb. 1998
U.S. city average .....	M	158.2	158.4	158.7	158.8	0.4	0.3	0.1

Selected local areas

Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI .....	M	157.3	156.8	157.2	157.9	.4	.7	.4
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA .....	M	155.3	155.1	155.2	155.1	-.1	.0	-.1
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	167.7	167.7	168.3	168.5	.5	.5	.1
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH.....	1	-	169.5	-	169.5	-	.0	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH .....	1	-	149.9	-	149.7	-	-.1	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX .....	1	152.7	152.2	-	152.5	-.1	.2	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI .....	2	151.7	-	153.0	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX .....	2	144.5	-	145.1	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL .....	2	156.8	-	157.8	-	-	-	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	165.7	-	166.3	-	-	-	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....	2	159.4	-	160.1	-	-	-	-

Region and area size

Northeast urban .....	M	165.5	165.8	166.1	166.1	.4	.2	.0
Midwest urban (2).....	M	153.7	153.9	154.3	154.5	.5	.4	.1
South urban .....	M	155.6	155.8	155.8	156.2	.4	.3	.3
West urban .....	M	159.2	159.3	159.4	159.3	.1	.0	-.1

Population size classes

A (3).....	M	144.4	144.6	144.8	145.0	.4	.3	.1
D .....	M	156.7	156.8	156.8	156.9	.1	.1	.1

Region/Population size class cross classifications

Northeast Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	165.2	165.4	165.9	165.8	.4	.2	-.1
Midwest Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	153.6	153.7	154.2	154.5	.6	.5	.2
South Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	154.2	154.4	154.3	154.8	.4	.3	.3
West Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	157.9	157.9	158.1	158.0	.1	.1	-.1
Midwest Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	151.0	151.0	151.0	151.0	.0	.0	.0
South Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	157.5	157.7	158.0	158.3	.5	.4	.2

1 The 'All items' index size B/C is on a December 1996=100 base.

2 The 'North Central' region has been renamed the 'Midwest' region by the Census Bureau. It is composed of the same geographic entities.

3 Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

- Data not available.

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