

FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

Patrick C. Jackman (202) 606-7000 USDL-98-243
 CPI QUICKLINE: (202) 606-6994 TRANSMISSION OF
 FOR CURRENT AND HISTORICAL MATERIAL IN THIS
 INFORMATION: (202) 606-7828 RELEASE IS EMBARGOED
 MEDIA CONTACT: (202) 606-5902 UNTIL 8:30 A.M. (EDT)
 INTERNET ADDRESS: Tuesday, June 16, 1998
<http://stats.bls.gov/cpihome.htm>

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: MAY 1998

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.2 percent in May, before seasonal adjustment, to a level of 162.8 (1982-84=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. For the 12-month period ended in May, the CPI-U has increased 1.7 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.3 percent in May, prior to seasonal adjustment. The May 1998 CPI-W level of 159.5 was 1.5 percent higher than the index in May 1997.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent in May after increasing 0.2 percent in April. The food index increased 0.6 percent. Grocery store food prices advanced 0.8 percent in May, following declines of 0.1 percent in each of the preceding three months, largely as a result of sharp increases in prices for fruits and vegetables. The energy index registered its first increase since last September--up 0.3 percent in May. The index for petroleum-based energy increased 0.8 percent, while the index for energy services was unchanged. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U, which rose 0.3 percent in April, increased 0.2 percent in May. A smaller increase in cigarette prices and a large decline in airline fares, coupled with a downturn in the index for household furnishings and operations, were responsible for the moderation.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted					Un- Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended May `98	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended May `98
	Changes from preceding month 1997	1998	1998	1998	1998		
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May

All Items	.1	.1	.0	.1	.0	.2	.3	2.2	1.7
Food and beverages	.2	.1	.3	.0	.0	.1	.5	2.3	2.3
Housing	.3	.1	.1	.1	.2	.4	.3	3.3	2.4
Apparel	.1	.2	-.5	.2	-.2	-.1	.4	.6	.0
Transportation	-.6	-.3	-.3	-.4	-.5	-.1	.1	-2.0	-1.7
Medical care	.3	.3	.1	.3	.3	.4	.3	4.3	3.1
Recreation	-	-	.3	.3	.4	.0	.0	1.6	1.6
Education and communication	-	-	.0	-.1	.3	.3	.3	3.7	2.6
Other goods and services	.4	.4	.4	.8	-.3	1.0	.7	5.8	6.1
Special Indexes									
Energy	.0	-1.8	-2.4	-2.2	-1.2	-.1	.3	-4.2	-5.6
Food	.1	.0	.3	.0	.0	.1	.6	2.5	2.4
All Items less food and energy	.1	.2	.2	.3	.1	.3	.2	2.6	2.2

Beginning with release of the data for January 1999, the BLS will introduce a new formula for calculating the basic components of the CPI. See page 4 for more details.

During the first five months of 1998, the CPI-U rose at a 1.5-percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 1.7 percent for all of 1997. Declines in energy costs have continued to act as a moderating influence on overall consumer price index movements thus far in 1998, decreasing at a 12.9-percent annual rate after declining 3.4 percent in all of 1997. Food costs, which rose 1.5 percent in 1997, have risen at a 2.3-percent SAAR in the first five months of 1998. Excluding food and energy, The CPI-U has advanced at a 2.7-percent rate thus far in 1998, compared with a 2.2 percent rise for all of 1997. The larger rate of advance this year is primarily due to a sharp rise in the index for tobacco and smoking products--up at a SAAR of 16.2 percent.

The food and beverages index rose 0.5 percent in May. The index for grocery store food prices rose 0.8 percent, following declines of 0.1 percent in each of the preceding three months. About 95 percent of the May advance was the result of a 5.3 percent rise in the index for fruits and vegetables. The index for fresh fruits and for fresh vegetables increased 1.4 and 11.9 percent, respectively; processed fruits and vegetables rose 1.4 percent. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs registered its first increase since November, advancing 0.3 percent in May. The indexes for beef, for pork, and for poultry increased 0.4, 0.5, and 0.8 percent, respectively. Despite the May increases, prices for each of these items were lower than a year earlier. The index for cereal and bakery products increased 0.4 percent. Each of the three other major

grocery store food groups recorded declines in May. The index for nonalcoholic beverages registered its third consecutive decrease--down 0.5 percent in May--reflecting declines in prices for coffee and carbonated drinks. The index for dairy products fell 0.3 percent, and the index for other food at home declined 0.1 percent. The other two components of the food and beverage index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.2 percent and remained unchanged, respectively.

The housing component rose 0.3 percent in May. Shelter costs rose 0.4 percent, the same as in April. Within shelter, the index for rent rose 0.4 percent; owners' equivalent rent, 0.3 percent; and the cost of lodging away from home, 1.0 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the latter index declined 1.4 percent.) The index for fuels and utilities increased 0.1 percent in May. The index for household fuels was unchanged; the index for electricity rose 0.1 percent, the index for natural gas was unchanged, and the index for fuel oil declined 0.5 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations, which increased 0.4 percent in April, decreased 0.2 percent in May, reflecting price declines for most housefurnishings.

The transportation component, which declined in each of the preceding six months, rose 0.1 percent in May. The upturn was largely due to the turnaround in the index for gasoline, which registered its first increase since September--up 0.8 in May. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices rose 3.4 percent.) The index for new and used vehicle prices was unchanged in May; the index for new vehicles declined 0.3 percent, while the index for used car and truck prices advanced 1.2 percent. Public transportation costs declined 0.8 percent in May. The index for airline fares, which increased 8.2 percent during the first three months of 1998, declined for the second consecutive month--down 2.4 percent in May.

The index for apparel increased 0.4 percent in May, following declines in each of the preceding two months. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices fell 0.4 percent.)

Medical care costs rose 0.3 percent in May to a level 3.1 percent above a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.7 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.2 percent. Charges for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.2 and 0.1 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation costs was unchanged for the second consecutive month. Declines in the prices for sporting goods, for video and audio equipment, and for toys were largely offset by an increase in

food and energy .1 .2 .2 .2 .1 .4 .2 2.6 2.0

Consumer Price Index data for June are scheduled for release on Tuesday, July 14, 1998, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

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 April to May, the Old Series CPI-U and the Old Series CPI-W rose 0.2 and 0.3 percent, respectively. Note these series are not seasonally adjusted.

Planned change in the Consumer Price Index Formula

On April 16, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced its decision to use a new formula for calculating the basic components of the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) and the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). This change will become effective with data for January 1999.

The new formula, the geometric mean estimator, will be used in index categories that comprise approximately 61 percent of total consumer spending represented by the CPI-U. The remaining index categories, which are shown in the table below, will continue to be calculated as they are currently. Based upon BLS research, it is expected that planned use of the new formula will reduce the annual rate of increase in the CPI by approximately 0.2 percentage point per year.

The geometric mean estimator will be introduced in both the CPI-U and the CPI-W effective with data for January 1999, in accord with the past practice of introducing methodological changes at the beginning of a calendar year. BLS will continue to publish "overlap" CPI-U and CPI-W series using the current calculation method for the first six months of 1999. These indexes will not be published regularly for months subsequent to June 1999, but will be available upon request.

Additional information on this change will be published in the April 1998 CPI Detailed Report and is available on the Internet (<http://stats.bls.gov/cpihome.htm>). This information may also be obtained by writing to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, 2 Massachusetts Ave. N.E., Room 3615 Washington, D.C. 20212 or by calling (202) 606-7000.

Arithmetic Mean (Laspeyres) Formula

1. Selected shelter services:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| A) Rent of primary residence | B) Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence | C) Housing at school, excluding board |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|

2. Selected utilities and government charges:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| A) Electricity | C) Residential water and sewerage maintenance | E) Telephone services, local charges |
| B) Utility natural gas service | D) State and local registration, license, and motor vehicle property tax | F) Cable television |

3. Selected medical care services:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| A) Physicians' services | C) Eyeglasses and eye care | E) Hospital services |
| B) Dental services | D) Services by other medical professionals | F) Nursing homes and adult daycare |

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.)

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

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.

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 May 1998 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Apr. 1998	May 1998	May 1997	Apr. 1998	Feb. to Mar.	Mar. to Apr.	Apr. to May
Expenditure category								
All items	100.000	162.5	162.8	1.7	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3
All items (1967=100)	-	486.8	487.7	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	16.310	160.2	160.7	2.3	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.5
Food	15.326	159.8	160.3	2.4	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.6
Food at home	9.646	160.2	160.7	2.0	0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.8
Cereals and bakery products	1.536	180.2	180.5	2.0	0.2	0.4	-0.2	0.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	2.629	146.3	146.2	-1.0	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.3
Dairy and related products (1).....	1.037	148.5	148.1	1.9	-0.3	0.5	0.1	-0.3
Fruits and vegetables	1.394	197.5	203.9	9.4	3.2	-1.0	0.2	5.3
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	1.077	133.9	132.9	-0.4	-0.7	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5
Other food at home	1.972	149.6	149.3	1.5	-0.2	0.3	0.0	-0.1
Sugar and sweets .....	.377	150.1	149.5	1.1	-0.4	0.9	-0.7	-0.4
Fats and oils .....	.291	140.7	141.2	-0.6	0.4	0.6	-1.1	0.6

Other foods	1.305	165.0	164.7	2.7	-0.2	0.1	0.4	-0.1
Other miscellaneous foods (1) (2).....	.309	101.7	101.4	-	-0.3	1.1	0.2	-0.3
Food away from home (1).....	5.680	160.2	160.6	2.8	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other food away from home (1) (2).....	.172	100.6	100.6	-	0.0	-0.1	0.3	0.0
Alcoholic beverages .....	.983	165.2	165.2	1.5	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0
Housing	39.560	159.5	159.7	2.4	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3
Shelter	29.788	181.0	181.2	3.4	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.4
Rent of primary residence	6.885	170.7	171.1	3.1	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.4
Lodging away from home (2).....	2.327	110.2	108.7	-	-1.4	-0.4	1.2	1.0
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (3).....	20.199	186.4	186.8	3.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3
Tenants' and household insurance (1) (2)..	.377	100.4	99.6	-	-0.8	0.1	0.1	-0.8
Fuels and utilities	4.942	127.0	127.9	-0.9	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.1
Fuels	4.018	112.3	113.2	-1.8	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.0
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.261	92.8	91.8	-8.6	-1.1	0.4	-0.7	0.0
Gas (piped) and electricity	3.757	119.4	120.5	-1.1	0.9	0.2	0.4	0.0
Household furnishings and operations	4.831	127.0	126.6	0.6	-0.3	0.1	0.4	-0.2
Apparel	4.944	135.8	135.3	0.0	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.4
Men's and boys' apparel	1.390	133.4	133.5	1.1	0.1	0.6	-0.6	-0.4
Women's and girls' apparel	1.990	130.9	129.7	-0.2	-0.9	0.1	-0.1	1.0
Infants' and toddlers' apparel (1).....	.268	126.6	126.9	-5.2	0.2	1.1	1.8	0.2
Footwear .....	.895	127.9	128.3	-0.6	0.3	-0.8	-0.2	0.6
Transportation	17.578	141.5	142.0	-1.7	0.4	-0.5	-0.1	0.1
Private transportation	16.240	137.7	138.4	-1.8	0.5	-0.6	-0.1	0.1
New and used motor vehicles (2).....	7.899	100.1	99.9	-1.2	-0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0
New vehicles	5.063	144.3	143.3	-0.9	-0.7	0.1	0.0	-0.3
Used cars and trucks (1).....	1.880	148.2	150.0	-2.5	1.2	-0.7	0.6	1.2
Motor fuel	2.995	91.7	94.7	-10.4	3.3	-3.5	-0.9	0.9
Gasoline (all types)	2.976	91.1	94.2	-10.5	3.4	-3.5	-1.0	0.8
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	.560	100.5	100.6	-1.1	0.1	0.0	-0.5	0.1
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.603	165.7	165.9	2.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Public transportation	1.338	193.4	190.4	1.2	-1.6	0.4	-0.2	-0.8
Medical care	5.614	240.7	241.4	3.1	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Medical care commodities	1.222	220.2	221.5	2.7	0.6	0.0	0.7	0.7
Medical care services	4.392	245.4	245.9	3.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2
Professional services	2.808	221.1	221.7	3.0	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.2
Hospital and related services	1.334	285.6	285.6	3.0	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.1
Recreation (2).....	6.145	101.1	101.0	1.6	-0.1	0.4	0.0	0.0
Video and audio (1) (2).....	1.763	101.4	101.2	2.3	-0.2	0.2	0.0	-0.2

Education and communication (2).....	5.528	99.9	100.1	2.6	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Education (2).....	2.615	100.7	100.9	5.3	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.5
Educational books and supplies .....	.194	248.8	248.9	5.5	0.0	0.6	0.8	0.6
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.421	290.0	290.5	5.3	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.5
Communication (1) (2).....	2.913	99.3	99.4	-1.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Information and information processing (1)								
(2).....	2.706	99.2	99.3	-1.3	0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.1
Telephone services (1) (2).....	2.357	100.5	101.1	-	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.6
Information and information processing								
other than telephone services (1) (4)	.350	42.8	41.5	-18.3	-3.0	-2.0	-1.4	-3.0
Personal computers and peripheral								
equipment (1) (2).....	.234	86.6	82.7	-	-4.5	-2.8	-2.4	-4.5
Other goods and services	4.321	234.7	236.7	6.1	0.9	-0.3	1.0	0.7
Tobacco and smoking products .....	.894	263.5	270.0	10.7	2.5	-2.6	3.8	1.7
Personal care (1).....	3.427	155.9	156.6	2.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4
Personal care products (1).....	.737	147.3	149.3	3.6	1.4	0.4	0.0	1.4
Personal care services (1).....	.963	165.2	165.4	1.9	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1
Miscellaneous personal services	1.465	233.5	234.0	4.0	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2

Commodity and service group

Commodities	42.635	142.0	142.3	0.1	0.2	-0.4	0.1	0.4
Food and beverages	16.310	160.2	160.7	2.3	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.5
Commodities less food and beverages	26.326	131.0	131.3	-1.2	0.2	-0.5	0.2	0.2
Nondurables less food and beverages	14.729	133.0	134.0	-1.0	0.8	-1.0	0.1	0.7
Apparel	4.944	135.8	135.3	0.0	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.4
Nondurables less food, beverages, and								
apparel	9.785	136.6	138.4	-1.4	1.3	-1.0	0.0	0.9
Durables	11.596	128.1	127.6	-1.4	-0.4	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
Services	57.365	183.2	183.4	2.8	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3
Rent of shelter (3).....	29.410	188.4	188.6	3.4	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.4
Transportation services	6.984	188.3	187.8	1.6	-0.3	0.2	-0.1	-0.2
Other services	10.625	215.6	216.1	3.9	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3

Special indexes

All items less food	84.674	163.0	163.3	1.6	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
All items less shelter	70.212	156.9	157.3	1.0	0.3	-0.1	0.2	0.2
All items less medical care	94.386	158.1	158.4	1.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3
Commodities less food	27.309	132.4	132.7	-1.0	0.2	-0.5	0.1	0.2
Nondurables less food	15.712	135.0	135.9	-0.8	0.7	-0.9	0.0	0.7
Nondurables less food and apparel	10.768	138.4	140.1	-1.1	1.2	-1.0	0.1	0.7
Nondurables	31.039	146.7	147.5	0.8	0.5	-0.4	0.0	0.6
Services less rent of shelter (3).....	27.955	190.8	191.1	2.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3

Services less medical care services	52.973	177.4	177.6	2.8	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2
Energy	7.013	101.9	103.8	-5.6	1.9	-1.2	-0.1	0.3
All items less energy	92.987	170.4	170.5	2.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3
All items less food and energy	77.661	173.0	173.1	2.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities	24.053	143.8	143.6	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1
Energy commodities	3.256	91.8	94.6	-10.2	3.1	-3.1	-0.9	0.8
Services less energy services	53.608	189.7	189.8	3.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar	-	\$.615	\$.614	-	-	-	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar - old base	-	\$.205	\$.205	-	-	-	-	-

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					
	Feb. 1998	Mar. 1998	Apr. 1998	May 1998	3 months ended--				6 months ended--	
					Aug. 1997	Nov. 1997	Feb. 1998	May 1998	Nov. 1997	May 1998
Expenditure category										
All items	162.0	162.0	162.4	162.9	2.0	2.3	0.5	2.2	2.1	1.4
Food and beverages	159.7	159.7	159.8	160.6	3.1	2.0	1.3	2.3	2.6	1.8
Food	159.4	159.4	159.5	160.4	3.1	2.0	1.3	2.5	2.6	1.9
Food at home	159.7	159.5	159.4	160.7	3.6	1.3	0.5	2.5	2.4	1.5

Cereals and bakery products	179.4	180.1	179.7	180.5	2.3	1.8	1.3	2.5	2.0	1.9
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	147.2	146.6	146.5	146.9	1.4	-1.6	-3.7	-0.8	-0.1	-2.3
Dairy and related products (1).....	147.7	148.4	148.5	148.1	-5.4	10.4	1.9	1.1	2.2	1.5
Fruits and vegetables	194.9	193.0	193.3	203.5	12.2	2.5	6.8	18.9	7.3	12.7
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	134.1	133.7	133.1	132.5	12.3	-4.6	-3.5	-4.7	3.5	-4.1
Other food at home	148.8	149.3	149.3	149.2	5.3	-0.3	0.8	1.1	2.5	0.9
Sugar and sweets	149.4	150.7	149.6	149.0	1.1	2.5	1.9	-1.1	1.8	0.4
Fats and oils	141.0	141.8	140.3	141.1	-0.8	-0.8	-0.8	0.3	-0.8	-0.3
Other foods	163.8	164.0	164.7	164.5	2.8	2.8	3.2	1.7	2.8	2.5
Other miscellaneous foods (1) (2).....	100.4	101.5	101.7	101.4	-	-	-	4.0	-	-
Food away from home (1).....	159.6	159.9	160.2	160.6	2.8	3.1	2.5	2.5	3.0	2.5
Other food away from home (1) (2).....	100.4	100.3	100.6	100.6	-	-	-	0.8	-	-
Alcoholic beverages	164.8	164.7	164.7	164.7	2.5	1.7	1.7	-0.2	2.1	0.7
Housing	158.6	158.9	159.5	159.9	2.1	3.4	1.0	3.3	2.7	2.2
Shelter	179.5	179.9	180.6	181.3	3.2	3.0	3.4	4.1	3.1	3.7
Rent of primary residence	169.7	170.3	170.7	171.3	3.2	3.1	2.6	3.8	3.2	3.2
Lodging away from home (2).....	100.3	99.9	101.1	102.1	-	-	-	7.4	-	-
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (3).....	185.5	185.9	186.6	187.2	3.4	2.7	3.5	3.7	3.0	3.6
Tenants' and household insurance (1) (2)..	100.2	100.3	100.4	99.6	-	-	-	-2.4	-	-
Fuels and utilities	127.9	128.3	128.7	128.8	1.2	6.3	-12.1	2.8	3.7	-4.9
Fuels	112.7	113.1	113.5	113.5	0.0	9.7	-17.9	2.9	4.7	-8.1
Fuel oil and other fuels	91.9	92.3	91.7	91.7	-14.0	-0.4	-17.7	-0.9	-7.4	-9.7
Gas (piped) and electricity	120.3	120.6	121.1	121.1	1.6	10.8	-18.0	2.7	6.1	-8.2
Household furnishings and operations	126.1	126.2	126.7	126.4	-1.3	0.6	2.3	1.0	-0.3	1.6
Apparel	132.7	132.5	132.4	132.9	-2.1	1.2	-0.9	0.6	-0.4	-0.2
Men's and boys' apparel	132.0	132.8	132.0	131.5	1.9	0.9	3.4	-1.5	1.4	0.9
Women's and girls' apparel	125.3	125.4	125.3	126.5	-5.6	3.2	-2.5	3.9	-1.3	0.6
Infants' and toddlers' apparel (1).....	123.1	124.4	126.6	126.9	-18.1	-4.0	-8.9	12.9	-11.3	1.4
Footwear	127.1	126.1	125.8	126.5	2.2	1.6	-4.3	-1.9	1.9	-3.1
Transportation	142.4	141.7	141.5	141.7	1.1	-1.1	-4.1	-2.0	0.0	-3.0
Private transportation	138.8	138.0	137.9	138.1	1.7	-1.4	-5.3	-2.0	0.1	-3.7
New and used motor vehicles (2).....	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.2	-	-	-	0.4	-	-
New vehicles	143.5	143.7	143.7	143.2	-0.6	-1.4	-0.6	-0.8	-1.0	-0.7
Used cars and trucks (1).....	148.4	147.3	148.2	150.0	-13.3	-2.4	2.2	4.4	-8.0	3.3
Motor fuel	96.4	93.0	92.2	93.0	10.8	-4.8	-29.2	-13.4	2.7	-21.7
Gasoline (all types)	95.9	92.5	91.6	92.3	11.7	-5.2	-29.6	-14.2	2.9	-22.3
Motor vehicle parts and equipment	101.1	101.1	100.6	100.7	0.4	-1.6	-1.6	-1.6	-0.6	-1.6
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	165.5	165.7	165.7	165.9	2.5	1.5	4.0	1.0	2.0	2.5
Public transportation	191.4	192.1	191.7	190.2	-5.4	1.7	11.9	-2.5	-1.9	4.5

Medical care	238.9	239.6	240.6	241.4	2.1	2.7	3.1	4.3	2.4	3.7
Medical care commodities	218.0	218.1	219.7	221.2	0.4	1.5	3.0	6.0	0.9	4.5
Medical care services	243.5	244.3	245.2	245.7	2.4	3.0	3.2	3.7	2.7	3.4
Professional services	219.2	220.0	220.8	221.3	2.6	2.2	3.2	3.9	2.4	3.5
Hospital and related services	284.0	284.6	285.6	285.9	2.0	3.6	3.6	2.7	2.8	3.2
Recreation (2).....	100.6	101.0	101.0	101.0	-	-	-	1.6	-	-
Video and audio (1) (2).....	101.2	101.4	101.4	101.2	4.5	1.2	3.6	0.0	2.9	1.8
Education and communication (2).....	99.9	100.2	100.5	100.8	-	-	-	3.7	-	-
Education (2).....	100.7	101.2	101.8	102.3	-	-	-	6.5	-	-
Educational books and supplies	244.9	246.3	248.3	249.9	7.1	3.2	3.5	8.4	5.1	5.9
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	289.0	290.3	292.0	293.5	5.6	4.5	4.8	6.4	5.0	5.6
Communication (1) (2).....	99.2	99.3	99.3	99.4	-3.1	1.2	-3.5	0.8	-1.0	-1.4
Information and information processing (1) (2).....	99.1	99.3	99.2	99.3	-3.1	1.2	-3.9	0.8	-1.0	-1.6
Telephone services (1) (2).....	100.0	100.4	100.5	101.1	-	-	-	4.5	-	-
Information and information processing other than telephone services (1) (4)	44.3	43.4	42.8	41.5	-19.0	-4.9	-25.0	-23.0	-12.2	-24.0
Personal computers and peripheral equipment (1) (2).....	91.3	88.7	86.6	82.7	-	-	-	-32.7	-	-
Other goods and services	233.7	233.0	235.4	237.0	4.3	5.6	6.8	5.8	5.0	6.3
Tobacco and smoking products	261.2	254.3	264.0	268.4	2.8	10.9	18.6	11.5	6.8	15.0
Personal care (1).....	155.0	155.5	155.9	156.6	-0.3	4.8	1.8	4.2	2.2	3.0
Personal care products (1).....	146.7	147.3	147.3	149.3	-1.7	7.4	1.7	7.3	2.8	4.4
Personal care services (1).....	164.3	164.7	165.2	165.4	1.0	2.0	2.0	2.7	1.5	2.3
Miscellaneous personal services	231.6	232.4	232.8	233.3	7.5	2.8	2.6	3.0	5.1	2.8
Commodity and service group										
Commodities	141.8	141.3	141.4	141.9	0.9	1.1	-1.4	0.3	1.0	-0.6
Food and beverages	159.7	159.7	159.8	160.6	3.1	2.0	1.3	2.3	2.6	1.8
Commodities less food and beverages	131.0	130.3	130.5	130.7	-0.3	0.0	-3.0	-0.9	-0.2	-2.0
Nondurables less food and beverages	133.0	131.7	131.8	132.7	1.5	0.9	-5.2	-0.9	1.2	-3.1
Apparel	132.7	132.5	132.4	132.9	-2.1	1.2	-0.9	0.6	-0.4	-0.2
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	137.7	136.3	136.3	137.5	4.1	-0.3	-8.3	-0.6	1.9	-4.5
Durables	127.8	127.8	127.7	127.4	-2.8	-1.2	-0.3	-1.2	-2.0	-0.8
Services	182.3	182.7	183.4	183.9	2.7	3.1	2.0	3.6	2.9	2.8
Rent of shelter (3).....	187.1	187.6	188.2	189.0	3.1	3.3	3.3	4.1	3.2	3.7
Transportation services	187.8	188.2	188.1	187.8	0.7	1.1	4.6	0.0	0.9	2.3
Other services	214.4	215.2	216.1	216.8	4.1	2.5	3.2	4.6	3.3	3.9

Special indexes

All items less food	162.3	162.4	162.8	163.2	1.8	2.3	0.2	2.2	2.0	1.2
All items less shelter	156.6	156.5	156.8	157.1	1.8	1.8	-0.8	1.3	1.8	0.3
All items less medical care	157.5	157.5	157.8	158.3	2.1	2.3	0.3	2.0	2.2	1.1
Commodities less food	132.6	131.9	132.0	132.2	-0.3	0.3	-2.7	-1.2	0.0	-1.9
Nondurables less food	135.0	133.8	133.8	134.7	1.5	0.9	-4.3	-0.9	1.2	-2.6
Nondurables less food and apparel	139.4	138.0	138.1	139.1	3.7	0.0	-7.4	-0.9	1.9	-4.2
Nondurables	146.5	145.9	145.9	146.8	2.5	1.9	-1.9	0.8	2.2	-0.5
Services less rent of shelter (3).....	189.9	190.6	191.2	191.7	1.9	3.7	-0.2	3.8	2.8	1.8
Services less medical care services	176.5	177.0	177.6	178.0	2.6	3.5	1.6	3.4	3.0	2.5
Energy	104.3	103.0	102.9	103.2	4.5	2.9	-22.9	-4.2	3.7	-14.0
All items less energy	169.6	169.8	170.2	170.7	1.9	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.0	2.5
All items less food and energy	172.2	172.4	172.9	173.3	1.7	2.1	2.8	2.6	1.9	2.7
Commodities less food and energy										
commodities	142.9	142.8	143.0	143.2	-1.4	1.1	1.1	0.8	-0.1	1.0
Energy commodities	95.9	92.9	92.1	92.8	7.5	-4.1	-28.5	-12.3	1.6	-20.8
Services less energy services	188.6	189.0	189.7	190.2	2.8	2.8	3.5	3.4	2.8	3.5

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 schedule (1)	Indexes				Percent change to May1998 from--			Percent change to Apr.1998 from--		
		Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	May	Mar.	Apr.	Apr.	Feb.	Mar.
		1998	1998	1998	1998	1997	1998	1998	1997	1998	1998
U.S. city average	M	161.9	162.2	162.5	162.8	1.7	0.4	0.2	1.4	0.4	0.2

Region and area size(2)

Northeast urban	M	169.1	169.3	169.5	169.4	1.6	0.1	-0.1	1.4	0.2	0.1
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	170.1	170.2	170.2	170.2	1.6	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.1	0.0
Size B/C 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	101.4	101.7	102.1	101.8	1.5	0.1	-0.3	1.4	0.7	0.4
Midwest urban (4).....	M	158.0	158.4	159.0	159.4	2.0	0.6	0.3	1.9	0.6	0.4
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	158.9	159.5	160.1	160.5	2.2	0.6	0.2	2.0	0.8	0.4
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	101.6	101.6	101.9	102.3	1.8	0.7	0.4	1.6	0.3	0.3
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	152.7	152.9	153.2	153.4	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.2
South urban	M	157.8	158.2	158.5	158.8	1.4	0.4	0.2	1.1	0.4	0.2
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	156.7	157.2	157.6	157.7	1.4	0.3	0.1	1.2	0.6	0.3
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	101.6	101.8	102.0	102.2	1.2	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.4	0.2
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	157.9	158.4	159.1	159.3	2.1	0.6	0.1	1.9	0.8	0.4
West urban	M	163.2	163.3	163.6	164.3	2.0	0.6	0.4	1.6	0.2	0.2
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	163.6	163.8	164.2	165.0	2.4	0.7	0.5	1.9	0.4	0.2
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	102.3	102.3	102.2	102.4	0.9	0.1	0.2	0.8	-0.1	-0.1

Size classes

A (5).....	M	146.4	146.6	147.0	147.3	1.9	0.5	0.2	1.7	0.4	0.3
B/C (3).....	M	101.7	101.8	102.0	102.2	1.3	0.4	0.2	1.1	0.3	0.2
D	M	157.8	158.1	158.5	158.8	1.5	0.4	0.2	1.3	0.4	0.3

Selected local areas(6)

Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI	M	163.1	164.1	164.8	165.6	2.8	0.9	0.5	2.4	1.0	0.4
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA	M	161.1	161.4	161.8	162.3	1.8	0.6	0.3	1.2	0.4	0.2
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA	M	172.7	173.0	173.0	173.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.2	0.0
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT	1	-	171.3	-	170.9	2.5	-0.2	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH	1	-	158.6	-	159.2	2.3	0.4	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	153.0	-	153.0	-	0.0	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV (7).....	1	-	101.6	-	101.5	1.0	-0.1	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA	2	159.5	-	160.8	-	-	-	-	-	0.8	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI	2	158.5	-	159.1	-	-	-	-	2.0	0.4	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	146.1	-	146.3	-	-	-	-	0.8	0.1	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	160.2	-	160.2	-	-	-	-	-	0.0	-

Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	167.0	-	167.1	-	-	-	-	0.7	0.1	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	163.2	-	164.6	-	-	-	-	3.1	0.9	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA	2	166.5	-	166.4	-	-	-	-	-	-0.1	-

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 May 1998 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Apr. 1998	May 1998	May 1997	Apr. 1998	Feb. to Mar. Mar.	Mar. to Apr. Apr.	Apr. to May May
Expenditure category								
All items	100.000	159.1	159.5	1.5	0.3	-0.1	0.3	0.3
All items (1967=100)	-	473.9	475.2	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	17.903	159.5	159.9	2.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.6
Food	16.861	159.1	159.6	2.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.6
Food at home	10.785	159.1	159.6	1.9	0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.8
Cereals and bakery products	1.678	179.9	180.3	2.0	0.2	0.4	-0.2	0.5
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.125	146.0	145.8	-1.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.1	0.3

Dairy and related products (1).....	1.135	148.2	147.8	1.9	-0.3	0.5	0.1	-0.3
Fruits and vegetables	1.447	196.3	202.8	9.4	3.3	-0.9	0.2	5.2
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	1.215	132.7	131.6	-0.6	-0.8	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5
Other food at home	2.185	148.9	148.7	1.4	-0.1	0.3	-0.1	0.0
Sugar and sweets .....	.420	150.0	149.4	1.0	-0.4	1.0	-0.7	-0.5
Fats and oils .....	.332	140.4	141.1	-0.4	0.5	0.4	-1.0	0.8
Other foods	1.432	165.0	164.6	2.7	-0.2	0.1	0.4	0.0
Other miscellaneous foods (1) (2).....	.344	101.7	101.5	-	-0.2	1.3	-0.1	-0.2
Food away from home (1).....	6.076	160.2	160.6	2.8	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other food away from home (1) (2).....	.212	100.6	100.6	-	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
Alcoholic beverages	1.042	164.2	164.1	1.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.1
Housing	36.450	155.8	156.1	2.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Shelter	27.033	175.5	175.7	3.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3
Rent of primary residence	8.347	170.3	170.8	3.1	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4
Lodging away from home (2).....	1.346	110.3	108.6	-	-1.5	0.0	1.5	0.5
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (3).....	17.016	169.9	170.2	3.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4
Tenants' and household insurance (1) (2)..	.324	100.5	99.7	-	-0.8	0.3	0.0	-0.8
Fuels and utilities	5.053	126.9	127.9	-0.6	0.8	0.3	0.4	-0.1
Fuels	4.143	111.8	112.9	-1.6	1.0	0.4	0.4	-0.1
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.229	93.1	92.0	-8.0	-1.2	0.8	-0.5	0.0
Gas (piped) and electricity	3.914	118.9	120.2	-1.1	1.1	0.3	0.5	-0.1
Household furnishings and operations	4.365	125.6	125.2	0.7	-0.3	0.1	0.4	-0.2
Apparel	5.300	134.0	133.7	-0.7	-0.2	-0.5	0.2	0.3
Men's and boys' apparel	1.503	132.9	133.1	1.1	0.2	0.6	-0.2	-0.5
Women's and girls' apparel	1.985	128.3	127.4	-1.2	-0.7	-0.3	-0.1	0.9
Infants' and toddlers' apparel (1).....	.337	126.9	127.4	-5.6	0.4	1.1	1.9	0.4
Footwear	1.082	128.4	129.0	-0.8	0.5	-1.1	-0.1	0.5
Transportation	19.847	140.3	141.1	-1.9	0.6	-0.6	0.0	0.1
Private transportation	18.790	137.7	138.6	-2.0	0.7	-0.6	-0.1	0.2
New and used motor vehicles (2).....	9.285	100.1	100.1	-1.4	0.0	-0.1	0.2	0.1
New vehicles	5.304	145.5	144.5	-1.0	-0.7	0.2	0.1	-0.4
Used cars and trucks (1).....	3.162	149.5	151.3	-2.6	1.2	-0.7	0.5	1.2
Motor fuel	3.682	91.9	95.0	-10.1	3.4	-3.2	-1.0	0.9
Gasoline (all types)	3.658	91.3	94.5	-10.2	3.5	-3.4	-0.9	0.7
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	.694	99.9	99.9	-0.8	0.0	-0.1	-0.5	0.0
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.664	166.8	167.0	2.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Public transportation	1.057	190.1	187.4	1.2	-1.4	0.3	-0.2	-0.7
Medical care	4.591	239.9	240.6	3.0	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Medical care commodities .....	.906	217.0	218.3	2.5	0.6	0.1	0.7	0.7

Medical care services	3.684	245.1	245.6	3.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2
Professional services	2.372	222.5	223.2	3.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Hospital and related services	1.097	281.7	281.7	3.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2
Recreation (2).....	5.969	101.0	100.9	1.5	-0.1	0.3	0.1	-0.2
Video and audio (1) (2).....	1.968	101.4	101.1	2.2	-0.3	0.2	0.0	-0.3
Education and communication (2).....	5.396	100.1	100.3	2.6	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.4
Education (2).....	2.402	100.7	100.9	5.4	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.5
Educational books and supplies .....	.192	251.2	251.3	5.8	0.0	0.5	0.8	0.8
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.211	284.4	284.9	5.4	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.4
Communication (1) (2).....	2.994	99.5	99.7	-0.8	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2
Information and information processing (1) (2).....	2.841	99.5	99.7	-0.8	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2
Telephone services (1) (2).....	2.547	100.5	101.2	-	0.7	0.4	0.1	0.7
Information and information processing other than telephone services (1) (4) .....	.294	44.1	42.6	-17.8	-3.4	-2.2	-1.6	-3.4
Personal computers and peripheral equipment (1) (2).....	.191	86.0	81.9	-	-4.8	-3.1	-2.6	-4.8
Other goods and services	4.544	232.3	234.8	6.6	1.1	-0.6	1.4	0.8
Tobacco and smoking products	1.300	263.6	270.1	11.0	2.5	-2.8	4.1	1.5
Personal care (1).....	3.244	155.9	156.7	2.7	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.5
Personal care products (1).....	.832	148.4	150.5	3.8	1.4	0.4	0.1	1.4
Personal care services (1).....	.964	165.5	165.7	2.0	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.1
Miscellaneous personal services	1.226	232.5	233.0	3.7	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Commodity and service group								
Commodities	47.234	141.6	142.1	0.0	0.4	-0.5	0.2	0.3
Food and beverages	17.903	159.5	159.9	2.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.6
Commodities less food and beverages	29.331	130.9	131.4	-1.4	0.4	-0.7	0.2	0.2
Nondurables less food and beverages	15.928	132.3	133.6	-1.3	1.0	-1.1	0.2	0.7
Apparel	5.300	134.0	133.7	-0.7	-0.2	-0.5	0.2	0.3
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.628	136.0	138.2	-1.4	1.6	-1.2	0.1	1.0
Durables	13.403	127.6	127.3	-1.5	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	-0.3
Services	52.766	179.9	180.3	2.7	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
Rent of shelter (3).....	26.708	169.0	169.2	3.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.2
Transportation services	6.824	185.7	185.4	1.6	-0.2	0.2	0.1	-0.1
Other services	10.006	212.4	213.0	3.9	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
Special indexes								
All items less food	83.139	159.0	159.4	1.3	0.3	-0.1	0.3	0.3

Expenditure category

All items	158.7	158.6	159.0	159.5	2.1	1.8	0.3	2.0	1.9	1.1
Food and beverages	159.2	159.2	159.2	160.1	3.1	1.8	1.3	2.3	2.4	1.8
Food	158.7	158.7	158.8	159.7	3.1	2.0	1.0	2.5	2.6	1.8
Food at home	158.7	158.6	158.4	159.7	3.4	1.3	0.3	2.5	2.3	1.4
Cereals and bakery products	179.1	179.8	179.4	180.3	1.8	2.0	1.4	2.7	1.9	2.0
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	146.8	146.3	146.1	146.5	1.4	-1.9	-3.7	-0.8	-0.3	-2.3
Dairy and related products (1).....	147.4	148.1	148.2	147.8	-5.7	11.1	1.6	1.1	2.4	1.4
Fruits and vegetables	194.4	192.6	193.0	203.0	12.5	2.1	7.1	18.9	7.2	12.8
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	132.8	132.4	131.9	131.2	10.7	-4.1	-3.5	-4.7	3.1	-4.1
Other food at home	148.2	148.7	148.6	148.6	4.7	-0.3	1.1	1.1	2.2	1.1
Sugar and sweets	149.2	150.7	149.6	148.9	1.1	1.9	1.9	-0.8	1.5	0.5
Fats and oils	140.8	141.4	140.0	141.1	-0.6	-0.8	-0.8	0.9	-0.7	0.0
Other foods	163.8	163.9	164.5	164.5	3.0	2.2	3.7	1.7	2.6	2.7
Other miscellaneous foods (1) (2).....	100.5	101.8	101.7	101.5	-	-	-	4.0	-	-
Food away from home (1).....	159.6	159.9	160.2	160.6	3.1	3.1	2.5	2.5	3.1	2.5
Other food away from home (1) (2).....	100.3	100.3	100.6	100.6	-	-	-	1.2	-	-
Alcoholic beverages	163.8	163.6	163.7	163.6	2.5	1.2	1.5	-0.5	1.9	0.5
Housing	155.0	155.4	155.9	156.3	2.1	3.4	0.5	3.4	2.8	1.9
Shelter	174.4	174.8	175.4	176.0	3.1	2.8	3.5	3.7	3.0	3.6
Rent of primary residence	169.4	170.0	170.3	171.0	3.2	3.2	2.6	3.8	3.2	3.2
Lodging away from home (2).....	100.1	100.1	101.6	102.1	-	-	-	8.2	-	-
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (3).....	169.1	169.5	170.0	170.6	3.2	2.7	3.6	3.6	2.9	3.6
Tenants' and household insurance (1) (2)..	100.2	100.5	100.5	99.7	-	-	-	-2.0	-	-
Fuels and utilities	127.6	128.0	128.5	128.4	1.6	6.6	-12.2	2.5	4.1	-5.1
Fuels	112.1	112.5	112.9	112.8	0.0	10.1	-18.0	2.5	4.9	-8.3
Fuel oil and other fuels	91.8	92.5	92.0	92.0	-13.3	-0.4	-17.4	0.9	-7.1	-8.7
Gas (piped) and electricity	119.7	120.0	120.6	120.5	1.3	11.6	-18.3	2.7	6.3	-8.4
Household furnishings and operations	124.7	124.8	125.3	125.0	-1.3	0.6	2.6	1.0	-0.3	1.8
Apparel	131.1	130.5	130.7	131.1	-2.1	0.6	-2.7	0.0	-0.8	-1.4
Men's and boys' apparel	131.1	131.9	131.7	131.1	1.9	0.9	1.2	0.0	1.4	0.6
Women's and girls' apparel	123.4	123.0	122.9	124.0	-5.3	1.6	-4.4	2.0	-1.9	-1.3
Infants' and toddlers' apparel (1).....	123.1	124.5	126.9	127.4	-17.9	-4.0	-12.0	14.7	-11.2	0.5
Footwear	128.0	126.6	126.5	127.1	2.2	2.2	-4.8	-2.8	2.2	-3.8
Transportation	141.3	140.4	140.4	140.6	1.1	-1.7	-4.7	-2.0	-0.3	-3.3
Private transportation	138.7	137.9	137.8	138.1	1.4	-2.0	-5.6	-1.7	-0.3	-3.7
New and used motor vehicles (2).....	100.1	100.0	100.2	100.3	-	-	-	0.8	-	-
New vehicles	144.6	144.9	145.0	144.4	-0.5	-1.6	-0.8	-0.6	-1.1	-0.7

Used cars and trucks (1).....	149.9	148.8	149.5	151.3	-13.2	-1.9	1.9	3.8	-7.7	2.8
Motor fuel	96.4	93.3	92.4	93.2	11.2	-6.2	-28.4	-12.6	2.1	-20.9
Gasoline (all types)	96.0	92.7	91.9	92.5	13.0	-5.9	-29.0	-13.8	3.1	-21.8
Motor vehicle parts and equipment	100.6	100.5	100.0	100.0	1.2	-1.6	-0.4	-2.4	-0.2	-1.4
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	166.5	166.7	166.8	167.0	2.7	1.7	3.7	1.2	2.2	2.4
Public transportation	188.1	188.7	188.4	187.0	-3.2	1.8	9.0	-2.3	-0.8	3.2
Medical care	238.1	238.8	239.8	240.5	2.1	2.8	3.1	4.1	2.4	3.6
Medical care commodities	214.9	215.1	216.6	218.1	-0.4	2.3	2.3	6.1	0.9	4.2
Medical care services	243.2	244.0	244.9	245.4	2.4	2.9	3.4	3.7	2.6	3.5
Professional services	220.8	221.3	222.0	222.7	2.8	2.6	3.3	3.5	2.7	3.4
Hospital and related services	280.3	280.8	281.4	282.0	2.2	3.5	3.8	2.4	2.9	3.1
Recreation (2).....	100.6	100.9	101.0	100.8	-	-	-	0.8	-	-
Video and audio (1) (2).....	101.2	101.4	101.4	101.1	4.5	1.2	3.6	-0.4	2.9	1.6
Education and communication (2).....	99.9	100.3	100.5	100.9	-	-	-	4.1	-	-
Education (2).....	100.7	101.2	101.8	102.3	-	-	-	6.5	-	-
Educational books and supplies	247.4	248.7	250.7	252.6	7.4	3.7	3.8	8.7	5.5	6.2
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	283.2	284.7	286.4	287.5	5.1	5.3	4.8	6.2	5.2	5.5
Communication (1) (2).....	99.3	99.5	99.5	99.7	-3.1	1.6	-3.2	1.6	-0.8	-0.8
Information and information processing (1) (2).....	99.3	99.5	99.5	99.7	-3.1	1.6	-3.2	1.6	-0.8	-0.8
Telephone services (1) (2).....	100.0	100.4	100.5	101.2	-	-	-	4.9	-	-
Information and information processing other than telephone services (1) (4)	45.8	44.8	44.1	42.6	-18.0	0.0	-25.5	-25.2	-9.4	-25.3
Personal computers and peripheral equipment (1) (2).....	91.1	88.3	86.0	81.9	-	-	-	-34.7	-	-
Other goods and services	230.9	229.6	232.8	234.6	3.7	6.6	8.2	6.6	5.1	7.4
Tobacco and smoking products	261.1	253.9	264.4	268.3	3.0	10.8	19.2	11.5	6.8	15.3
Personal care (1).....	155.0	155.5	155.9	156.7	-0.5	5.1	1.8	4.5	2.2	3.1
Personal care products (1).....	147.6	148.2	148.4	150.5	-1.6	7.7	1.4	8.1	2.9	4.7
Personal care services (1).....	164.5	164.9	165.5	165.7	1.0	2.2	2.0	3.0	1.6	2.5
Miscellaneous personal services	230.6	231.3	231.8	232.3	5.7	3.0	3.2	3.0	4.3	3.1
Commodity and service group										
Commodities	141.6	140.9	141.2	141.6	0.9	0.6	-1.4	0.0	0.7	-0.7
Food and beverages	159.2	159.2	159.2	160.1	3.1	1.8	1.3	2.3	2.4	1.8
Commodities less food and beverages	130.9	130.0	130.3	130.6	-0.3	-0.3	-3.3	-0.9	-0.3	-2.1
Nondurables less food and beverages	132.6	131.1	131.3	132.2	1.5	0.6	-5.8	-1.2	1.0	-3.5
Apparel	131.1	130.5	130.7	131.1	-2.1	0.6	-2.7	0.0	-0.8	-1.4
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	137.5	135.8	135.9	137.2	4.4	-0.3	-8.5	-0.9	2.0	-4.8

						1997	1998	1998	1997	1998	1998
U.S. city average	M	158.5	158.7	159.1	159.5	1.5	0.5	0.3	1.2	0.4	0.3
Region and area size(2)											
Northeast urban	M	165.9	166.0	166.3	166.4	1.4	0.2	0.1	1.2	0.2	0.2
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	165.8	165.8	166.0	166.1	1.4	0.2	0.1	1.3	0.1	0.1
Size B/C 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	101.1	101.3	101.5	101.5	1.2	0.2	0.0	0.9	0.4	0.2
Midwest urban (4).....	M	154.2	154.4	155.0	155.6	1.8	0.8	0.4	1.6	0.5	0.4
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	154.2	154.7	155.4	155.9	2.1	0.8	0.3	1.8	0.8	0.5
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	101.4	101.3	101.7	102.1	1.7	0.8	0.4	1.6	0.3	0.4
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	150.8	150.7	150.9	151.3	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.1
South urban	M	155.7	156.0	156.4	156.7	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.8	0.4	0.3
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	154.3	154.7	155.1	155.3	1.1	0.4	0.1	1.0	0.5	0.3
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	101.1	101.3	101.5	101.8	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.2
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	158.0	158.2	159.1	159.6	2.1	0.9	0.3	1.8	0.7	0.6
West urban	M	159.4	159.4	159.6	160.3	1.6	0.6	0.4	1.1	0.1	0.1
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	158.0	158.1	158.5	159.4	2.1	0.8	0.6	1.5	0.3	0.3
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	102.2	102.1	102.0	102.2	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.6	-0.2	-0.1
Size classes											
A (5).....	M	144.8	145.0	145.4	145.8	1.7	0.6	0.3	1.4	0.4	0.3
B/C (3).....	M	101.3	101.4	101.6	101.9	1.2	0.5	0.3	0.9	0.3	0.2
D	M	156.8	156.8	157.3	157.8	1.4	0.6	0.3	1.1	0.3	0.3
Selected local areas(6)											
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI	M	157.4	158.3	159.0	159.9	2.8	1.0	0.6	2.4	1.0	0.4
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA	M	155.0	155.1	155.6	156.2	1.4	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.3
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA	M	168.2	168.2	168.5	168.6	1.6	0.2	0.1	1.4	0.2	0.2
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT	1	-	169.3	-	168.9	2.0	-0.2	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH	1	-	150.1	-	151.2	2.3	0.7	-	-	-	-

Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	152.8	-	152.8	-	0.0	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV (7).....	1	-	101.3	-	101.3	0.8	0.0	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA	2	156.6	-	157.7	-	-	-	-	-	0.7	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI	2	152.9	-	153.5	-	-	-	-	1.7	0.4	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	144.7	-	144.8	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.1	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	157.3	-	157.4	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	166.1	-	166.5	-	-	-	-	0.8	0.2	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	159.6	-	160.8	-	-	-	-	2.6	0.8	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA	2	162.2	-	161.9	-	-	-	-	-	-0.2	-

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 importan- ce, December 1997	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to May 1998 from-	
		Apr. 1998	May 1998	May 1997	Apr. 1998
Expenditure category					

All items	100.000	162.6	162.9	1.7	0.2
All items (1967=100)	-	487.1	488.1	-	-
Food and beverages	17.465	160.1	160.6	2.2	.3
Food	15.886	159.6	160.2	2.3	.4
Food at home	9.964	160.0	160.7	2.0	.4
Cereals and bakery products	1.476	180.1	180.6	2.1	.3
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	2.921	146.4	146.1	-1.1	-.2
Dairy products	1.218	148.6	148.4	2.1	-.1
Fruits and vegetables	1.982	194.9	200.1	7.3	2.7
Other food at home	2.366	149.6	148.9	1.2	-.5
Sugar and sweets .....	.332	150.0	149.5	1.1	-.3
Fats and oils .....	.241	140.8	141.2	-.6	.3
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.747	134.7	133.0	-.3	-1.3
Other prepared food	1.046	165.2	165.0	2.9	-.1
Food away from home	5.923	160.1	160.6	2.8	.3
Alcoholic beverages	1.578	164.9	164.9	1.3	.0
Housing	41.469	159.5	159.6	2.4	.1
Shelter	28.640	181.0	181.1	3.3	.1
Renters' costs (1).....	8.169	192.7	192.3	3.8	-.2
Rent, residential	5.810	170.7	171.1	3.1	.2
Other renters' costs	2.359	237.9	234.6	5.2	-1.4
Homeowners' costs (1).....	20.269	185.9	186.3	3.2	.2
Owners' equivalent rent (1).....	19.881	186.3	186.7	3.2	.2
Household insurance (1).....	.388	167.6	166.3	1.1	-.8
Maintenance and repairs .....	.202	146.5	146.4	2.2	-.1
Maintenance and repair services .....	.126	156.0	156.1	4.1	.1
Maintenance and repair commodities ..	.076	133.4	133.1	-.7	-.2
Fuel and other utilities	7.015	128.6	129.2	.2	.5
Fuels	3.769	112.3	112.8	-2.2	.4
Fuel oil and other household fuel					
commodities .....	.368	93.1	92.1	-8.3	-1.1
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy					
services).....	3.401	119.4	120.2	-1.4	.7
Other utilities and public services ...	3.246	165.0	165.6	2.8	.4
Household furnishings and operation	5.814	126.7	126.3	.4	-.3
Housefurnishings	3.232	111.1	110.4	-1.0	-.6
Housekeeping supplies	1.090	145.4	145.5	1.7	.1
Housekeeping services	1.492	154.9	155.3	2.6	.3
Apparel and upkeep	5.291	135.4	134.9	-.3	-.4
Apparel commodities	4.748	131.6	131.1	-.5	-.4
Men's and boys' apparel	1.292	133.2	133.4	1.1	0.2

Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.072	129.4	128.4	-1.2	-.8
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.182	126.9	127.2	-4.9	.2
Footwear .....	.719	128.3	128.6	-.4	.2
Other apparel commodities .....	.484	147.8	145.6	-.3	-1.5
Apparel services .....	.543	165.6	166.0	1.9	.2
Transportation	16.620	141.6	142.0	-1.7	.3
Private transportation	15.054	137.5	138.2	-2.0	.5
New vehicles	4.829	144.3	143.3	-.9	-.7
New cars	3.842	141.6	140.6	-1.1	-.7
Used cars	1.195	148.0	149.8	-2.7	1.2
Motor fuel	2.925	91.6	94.9	-10.2	3.6
Gasoline	-	91.1	94.3	-10.4	3.5
Maintenance and repairs	1.546	165.7	166.0	2.3	.2
Other private transportation	4.560	179.2	179.3	1.3	.1
Other private transportation commodities .....	.574	103.3	103.3	-1.3	.0
Other private transportation services	3.986	197.3	197.3	1.6	.0
Public transportation	1.566	193.3	189.8	.9	-1.8
Medical care	7.426	240.6	241.2	3.0	.2
Medical care commodities	1.280	220.0	221.6	2.8	.7
Medical care services	6.145	245.4	245.8	3.1	.2
Professional medical services	3.518	221.1	221.7	3.0	.3
Entertainment	4.339	164.7	164.6	1.5	-0.1
Entertainment commodities	1.924	144.3	144.1	.1	-.1
Entertainment services	2.415	188.1	188.2	2.6	.1
Other goods and services	7.390	234.4	236.3	5.9	.8
Tobacco and smoking products	1.688	263.7	270.2	10.8	2.5
Personal care	1.152	155.8	156.9	2.8	.7
Toilet goods and personal care appliances .....	.589	147.6	149.5	3.7	1.3
Personal care services .....	.564	165.1	165.1	1.7	.0
Personal and educational expenses	4.550	268.5	269.0	4.8	.2
School books and supplies .....	.273	248.2	248.3	5.3	.0
Personal and educational services	4.277	270.3	270.8	4.8	.2
Commodity and service group					
All items	100.000	162.6	162.9	1.7	.2
Commodities	42.255	142.1	142.6	.4	.4

Food and beverages	17.465	160.1	160.6	2.2	.3
Commodities less food and beverages	24.791	131.3	131.8	-.8	.4
Nondurables less food and beverages ...	14.865	133.4	134.6	-.6	.9
Apparel commodities	4.748	131.6	131.1	-.5	-.4
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.117	137.4	139.4	-.7	1.5
Durables	9.926	128.4	127.9	-1.2	-.4
Services	57.745	183.2	183.4	2.8	.1
Rent of shelter (1).....	28.016	188.4	188.6	3.4	.1
Household services less rent of shelter (1).....	8.687	145.0	145.5	1.0	.3
Transportation services	7.097	188.6	187.9	1.6	-.4
Medical care services	6.145	245.4	245.8	3.1	.2
Other services	7.799	215.4	215.7	3.7	.1

Special indexes

All items less food	84.114	163.2	163.4	1.7	.1
All items less shelter	71.360	157.1	157.5	1.2	.3
All items less homeowners' costs (1).....	79.731	163.1	163.4	1.4	.2
All items less medical care	92.574	158.2	158.5	1.7	.2
Commodities less food	26.369	132.7	133.2	-.7	.4
Nondurables less food	16.443	135.3	136.4	-.4	.8
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.695	139.2	141.1	-.4	1.4
Nondurables	32.329	146.9	147.7	.9	.5
Services less rent of shelter (1).....	29.728	191.0	191.2	2.3	.1
Services less medical care services	51.599	177.4	177.6	2.8	.1
Energy	6.695	101.8	103.6	-5.7	1.8
All items less energy	93.305	170.5	170.7	2.3	.1
All items less food and energy	77.419	173.2	173.2	2.3	.0
Commodities less food and energy commodities	23.076	144.2	144.2	.6	.0
Energy commodities	3.293	92.0	94.8	-10.0	3.0
Services less energy services	54.343	189.7	189.8	3.1	.1
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:					
1982-84=\$1.00	-	\$.615	\$.614	-	-
1967=\$1.00	-	\$.205	\$.205	-	-

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)

Item and group	Relative importan- ce, December 1997	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to May 1998 from-	
		Apr. 1998	May 1998	May 1997	Apr. 1998
Expenditure category					
All items	100.000	159.2	159.7	1.6	0.3
All items (1967=100)	-	474.3	475.6	-	-
Food and beverages	19.434	159.3	159.8	2.0	.3
Food	17.739	159.0	159.5	2.2	.3
Food at home	11.309	158.9	159.5	1.9	.4
Cereals and bakery products	1.689	179.7	180.2	2.0	.3
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.441	146.0	145.8	-1.1	-.1
Dairy products	1.358	148.2	148.1	2.1	-.1
Fruits and vegetables	2.100	193.4	198.7	7.2	2.7
Other food at home	2.722	149.0	148.3	1.2	-.5
Sugar and sweets .....	.376	149.9	149.3	.9	-.4
Fats and oils .....	.277	140.4	140.7	-.7	.2
Nonalcoholic beverages .....	.863	133.4	131.7	-.5	-1.3
Other prepared food	1.206	165.2	165.0	2.9	-.1
Food away from home	6.430	160.2	160.6	2.8	.2
Alcoholic beverages	1.695	163.9	163.9	1.0	.0
Housing	39.037	155.9	156.1	2.3	.1
Shelter	26.305	175.6	175.8	3.2	.1
Renters' costs (1).....	8.250	167.4	167.4	3.6	.0
Rent, residential	6.686	170.4	170.8	3.1	.2
Other renters' costs	1.564	237.8	234.8	5.3	-1.3
Homeowners' costs (1).....	17.864	169.4	169.8	3.2	.2
Owners' equivalent rent (1).....	17.538	169.8	170.2	3.2	.2
Household insurance (1).....	.327	152.1	151.0	1.3	-.7

Maintenance and repairs .....	.191	144.2	143.9	1.6	-.2
Maintenance and repair services .....	.107	156.9	157.0	3.4	.1
Maintenance and repair commodities ..	.084	128.4	127.7	-.7	-.5
Fuel and other utilities	7.274	128.5	129.1	.3	.5
Fuels	3.875	111.7	112.3	-2.1	.5
Fuel oil and other household fuel commodities .....	.338	93.1	92.1	-7.9	-1.1
Gas (piped) and electricity (energy services).....	3.537	118.8	119.7	-1.5	.8
Other utilities and public services ...	3.399	166.0	166.6	3.0	.4
Household furnishings and operation	5.458	125.1	124.7	.3	-.3
Housefurnishings	3.171	109.8	109.0	-1.1	-.7
Housekeeping supplies	1.130	146.1	146.4	1.9	.2
Housekeeping services	1.157	157.9	158.2	2.8	.2
Apparel and upkeep	5.311	133.8	133.3	-1.0	-.4
Apparel commodities	4.801	130.3	129.7	-1.4	-0.5
Men's and boys' apparel	1.298	132.4	132.5	.6	.1
Women's and girls' apparel.....	2.019	127.4	126.3	-2.1	-.9
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.233	127.9	128.3	-4.9	.3
Footwear .....	.800	129.1	129.4	-.5	.2
Other apparel commodities .....	.450	144.8	142.3	-3.1	-1.7
Apparel services .....	.510	164.6	165.0	1.9	.2
Transportation	18.597	140.3	141.0	-1.9	.5
Private transportation	17.389	137.5	138.4	-2.2	.7
New vehicles	4.781	145.5	144.5	-1.0	-.7
New cars	3.439	141.1	140.1	-1.2	-.7
Used cars	2.179	149.6	151.4	-2.5	1.2
Motor fuel	3.608	91.8	95.0	-10.1	3.5
Gasoline	-	91.3	94.5	-10.2	3.5
Maintenance and repairs	1.634	166.8	167.0	2.3	.1
Other private transportation	5.188	174.4	174.5	1.2	.1
Other private transportation commodities .....	.727	102.6	102.7	-1.1	.1
Other private transportation services	4.460	192.8	192.8	1.5	.0
Public transportation	1.208	190.1	186.8	.9	-1.7
Medical care	6.331	239.9	240.6	3.0	.3
Medical care commodities	1.054	217.3	218.9	2.8	.7
Medical care services	5.276	245.0	245.5	3.1	.2
Professional medical services	3.020	222.5	223.1	3.0	.3
Entertainment	4.006	161.9	161.8	1.3	-0.1

Entertainment commodities	2.005	142.9	142.7	-.1	-.1
Entertainment services	2.001	188.7	188.9	2.8	.1
Other goods and services	7.285	232.1	234.4	6.4	1.0
Tobacco and smoking products	2.237	263.6	270.4	11.1	2.6
Personal care	1.116	155.7	156.8	2.8	.7
Toilet goods and personal care					
appliances .....	.612	148.4	150.2	3.6	1.2
Personal care services .....	.504	165.3	165.4	1.8	.1
Personal and educational expenses	3.932	264.2	264.7	4.8	.2
School books and supplies .....	.241	250.4	250.5	5.5	.0
Personal and educational services	3.692	265.6	266.2	4.8	.2

Commodity and service group

All items	100.000	159.2	159.7	1.6	.3
Commodities	46.401	141.8	142.4	.2	.4
Food and beverages	19.434	159.3	159.8	2.0	.3
Commodities less food and beverages	26.967	131.1	131.8	-1.1	.5
Nondurables less food and beverages ...	15.915	132.7	134.1	-.9	1.1
Apparel commodities	4.801	130.3	129.7	-1.4	-.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and					
apparel	11.114	136.8	139.2	-.7	1.8
Durables	11.052	127.9	127.5	-1.3	-.3
Services	53.599	180.0	180.3	2.7	.2
Rent of shelter (1).....	25.761	169.1	169.3	3.3	.1
Household services less rent of shelter					
(1).....	8.554	133.0	133.6	1.0	.5
Transportation services	7.302	185.8	185.3	1.6	-.3
Medical care services	5.276	245.0	245.5	3.1	.2
Other services	6.706	212.4	212.7	3.8	.1

Special indexes

All items less food	82.261	159.2	159.6	1.5	.3
All items less shelter	73.695	154.8	155.3	1.0	.3
All items less homeowners' costs (1).....	82.136	149.0	149.4	1.2	.3
All items less medical care	93.669	155.4	155.8	1.4	.3
Commodities less food	28.662	132.5	133.1	-1.0	.5
Nondurables less food	17.610	134.6	135.9	-.7	1.0
Nondurables less food and apparel	12.809	138.6	140.7	-.5	1.5
Nondurables	35.349	146.3	147.3	.8	.7
Services less rent of shelter (1).....	27.838	169.9	170.2	2.2	.2

Services less medical care services	48.322	174.5	174.7	2.7	0.1
Energy	7.483	101.0	102.9	-6.0	1.9
All items less energy	92.517	167.2	167.4	2.1	.1
All items less food and energy	74.778	169.4	169.5	2.2	.1
Commodities less food and energy commodities	24.717	143.5	143.6	.5	.1
Energy commodities	3.946	92.2	95.0	-10.0	3.0
Services less energy services	50.062	186.8	186.9	3.0	.1
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:					
1982-84=\$1.00	-	\$.628	\$.626	-	-
1967=\$1.00	-	\$.211	\$.210	-	-

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 May1998 from--		
		Feb. 1998	Mar. 1998	Apr. 1998	May 1998	Feb. 1998	Mar. 1998	Apr. 1998
U.S. city average	M	162.0	162.2	162.6	162.9	0.6	0.4	0.2
Selected local areas								
Chicago-Gary-Lake County, IL-IN-WI	M	163.0	163.8	164.7	165.4	1.5	1.0	.4
Los Angeles-Anaheim-Riverside, CA	M	161.2	161.3	161.7	162.0	.5	.4	.2
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT	M	172.8	173.1	173.1	173.1	.2	.0	.0
Boston-Lawrence-Salem, MA-NH.....	1	-	171.2	-	170.9	-	-.2	-
Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, OH	1	-	157.9	-	158.7	-	.5	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	153.3	-	153.4	-	.1	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor, MI	2	158.7	-	159.3	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	146.5	-	146.4	-	-	-	-

Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	160.6	-	160.1	-	-	-	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Trenton, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	167.4	-	167.1	-	-	-	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	163.5	-	164.8	-	-	-	-

Region and area size

Northeast urban	M	169.2	169.3	169.5	169.4	.1	.1	-.1
Midwest urban (2).....	M	158.1	158.4	159.1	159.5	.9	.7	.3
South urban	M	157.9	158.5	158.9	159.1	.8	.4	.1
West urban	M	163.3	163.3	163.6	164.3	.6	.6	.4

Population size classes

A (3).....	M	146.4	146.6	147.0	147.2	.5	.4	.1
D	M	158.0	158.2	158.7	159.0	.6	.5	.2

Region/Population size class cross classifications

Northeast Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	170.1	170.2	170.2	170.2	.1	.0	.0
Midwest Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	158.8	159.3	160.0	160.4	1.0	.7	.3
South Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	156.8	157.6	157.8	157.8	.6	.1	.0
West Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	163.6	163.7	164.2	164.9	.8	.7	.4
Midwest Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	153.1	153.3	153.5	153.7	.4	.3	.1
South Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	158.0	158.4	159.1	159.5	.9	.7	.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	Indexes	Percent change to May1998 from--
------	------------------	---------	----------------------------------

50,000) M 158.0 158.3 159.2 159.8 1.1 .9 .4

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.