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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: MARCH 1999

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.3 percent in March, before seasonal adjustment, to a level of 165.0 (1982-84=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. For the 12-month period ended in March, the CPI-U has increased 1.7 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.2 percent in March, prior to seasonal adjustment. The March level of 161.4 was 1.7 percent higher than the index in March 1998.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.2 percent in March, following increases of 0.1 percent in each of the preceding three months. The food index, which increased 0.1 percent in February, declined 0.2 percent in March. The index for food at home fell 0.5 percent in March, largely as a result of a 2.2 percent decline in the index for fruits and vegetables. The energy index registered its first increase since last October--advancing 1.6 percent in March. The index for petroleum-based energy increased 3.5 percent, and the index for energy services increased 0.3 percent. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U increased 0.1 percent in March, the same as in each of the first two months of 1999.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Mar. '99	Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Mar. '99
	Changes from preceding month								
	Sep. 1998	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan. 1999	Feb.	Mar.		
All Items	.1	.2	.2	.1	.1	.1	.2	1.5	1.7
Food and beverages	.0	.5	.2	.1	.4	.2	-.2	1.5	2.2
Housing	.2	.2	.3	.1	-.1	.1	.2	1.2	2.3
Apparel	-.6	.0	-.1	-.6	-1.1	-.2	-.3	-6.2	-1.6

Transportation	-.4	.1	-.1	-.4	-.1	-.1	.7	1.7	-.6
Medical care	.3	.2	.2	.3	.3	.2	.2	3.3	3.5
Recreation	.1	-.2	.1	.1	.4	-.1	.0	1.2	.8
Education and communication	.1	.1	.3	-.2	.3	.1	.0	1.6	.9
Other goods and services	.9	.3	-.3	4.2	2.0	-.1	-.6	5.0	9.0
Special Indexes									
Energy	-1.2	.1	-.3	-1.1	-.2	.0	1.6	5.8	-3.1
Food	.1	.5	.1	.1	.5	.1	-.2	1.7	2.3
All Items less food and energy	.2	.2	.1	.3	.1	.1	.1	.9	2.1

For the first three months of 1999, the CPI-U advanced at a 1.5 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 1.6 percent in all of 1998. While the overall rates of change in these two periods were virtually the same, the composition was notably different. The energy index, which decreased 8.8 percent in 1998, increased at a 5.8 percent SAAR in the first three months of 1999. Petroleum-based energy costs rose at a 12.6 percent SAAR, and charges for energy services increased at a 1.0 percent annual rate. The food index increased at a 1.7 percent SAAR thus far in 1999, following a 2.3 percent rise in 1998. Grocery store food prices increased at a 0.5 percent SAAR in the first 3 months, as increases in the indexes for dairy products, for nonalcoholic beverages, and for cereal and bakery products more than offset declines in the indexes for fruits and vegetables, for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, and for other food at home. The CPI-U excluding food and energy advanced at a 0.9 percent SAAR in the first 3 months of 1999, following a 2.4 percent rise for all of 1998. Smaller increases in the indexes for shelter and for cigarettes coupled with a larger decline in the index for apparel were largely responsible for the deceleration. The rates for selected groups for the last five and one-quarter years are shown below.

	Percentage change					
	12 months ended in December ended in March					SAAR 3 months
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
All items	2.7	2.5	3.3	1.7	1.6	1.5
Food and beverages	2.7	2.1	4.2	1.6	2.3	1.5
Housing	2.2	3.0	2.9	2.4	2.3	1.2
Apparel	-1.6	0.1	-0.2	1.0	-0.7	-6.2
Transportation	3.8	1.5	4.4	-1.4	-1.7	1.7

Medical care	4.9	3.9	3.0	2.8	3.4	3.3
Recreation	1.4	2.8	3.0	1.5	1.2	1.2
Education and communication	3.3	4.0	3.4	3.0	0.7	1.6
Other goods and services	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.2	8.8	5.0
Special indexes						
Energy	2.2	-1.3	8.6	-3.4	-8.8	5.8
Energy commodities	5.2	-3.3	13.8	-6.9	-15.1	12.6
Energy services	-0.6	0.8	3.8	0.2	-3.3	1.0
All items less energy	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.1	2.4	0.9
Food	2.9	2.1	4.3	1.5	2.3	1.7
All items less food and energy	2.6	3.0	2.6	2.2	2.4	0.9

The food and beverages index declined 0.2 percent in March. The index for food at home, which rose 0.1 percent in February, decreased 0.5 percent in March. The downturn was largely due to another decrease in the index for fruits and vegetables--down 2.2 percent in March, following a 1.1 percent drop in February. In March, the index for fresh vegetables fell 5.2 percent and the index for fresh fruits declined 0.8 percent. The index for processed fruits and vegetables declined 0.2 percent. Declines in the indexes for dairy products, for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, and for other food at home also contributed to the March food decrease. The index for dairy products, which increased 9.5 percent in the 7-month period ended in February, declined 0.5 percent in March, reflecting sharp drops in the basic formula support prices. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, which rose 0.9 percent in February, turned back down in March, declining 0.2 percent. Prices for beef and veal, pork, and fish and seafood each declined in March, while poultry prices rose 0.6 percent, their first increase in five months.. Among the other major grocery store food groups, the indexes for cereal and bakery products and for nonalcoholic beverages rose 0.2 and 0.1 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverage index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.2 percent and declined 0.1 percent, respectively, in March.

The housing component rose 0.2 percent in March. Shelter costs, which increased 0.2 percent in February, advanced 0.3 percent in March. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and for owners' equivalent rent rose 0.2 and 0.1 percent, respectively, while the cost of lodging away from home increased 1.8 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the cost of lodging while away from home increased 3.6 percent in March and has

advanced 10.3 percent in the first three months of 1999.) The index for fuels and utilities rose 0.2 percent in March. The index for household fuels increased 0.3 percent, as increases in the indexes for fuel oil and for electricity more than offset a 0.1 percent decline in the index for natural gas. The indexes for fuel oil and for electricity increased 0.9 and 0.3 percent, respectively. The index for household furnishings and operations declined 0.1 percent in March, reflecting discounting on home furnishings.

The transportation component turned up in March, increasing 0.7 percent after registering declines in each of the preceding four months. A sharp upturn in the index for motor fuels and another advance in airline fares more than offset further declines in the prices for new and used vehicles. The index for gasoline rose 3.7 percent in March, its largest monthly advance since a 4.5 percent rise in August 1997. Despite the March advance, gasoline prices have fallen 5.0 percent over the last 12 months and are 27.8 percent lower than their peak level in November 1990. Public transportation costs increased 3.0 percent in March, reflecting a 4.7 percent rise in airline fares. In the four-month period ended in March, airline fares have risen 10.2 percent. On the other hand, the index for new vehicles fell 0.2 percent and the index for used cars and trucks declined 0.6 percent in March.

The index for apparel declined for the fifth consecutive month, down 0.3 percent in March. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices rose 2.3 percent, reflecting further introduction of higher-priced spring-summer wear.)

Medical care costs rose 0.2 percent in March to a level 3.5 percent above a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.4 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.2 percent. Charges for physicians' services and for hospital services each increased 0.2 percent.

The index for recreation costs, which declined 0.1 percent in February, was unchanged in March. A 0.5 percent decline in the index for video and audio equipment and services offset small increases in most other recreational goods and services.

The index for education and communication was unchanged in March. Educational costs rose 0.4 percent, while the index for communication declined 0.3 percent. Within the latter group, decreases in the indexes for personal computers and peripheral equipment and for telephone services--down 3.5 and 0.2 percent, respectively--more than offset a 2.8 percent increase in the index for delivery services.

The index for other goods and services declined 0.6 percent in March, following a 0.1 percent decrease in February. The index for tobacco and smoking products declined for the second consecutive month--down 3.5 percent in March--following increases totaling 39.6 percent in the 12-month period ended in January. The recent declines reflect discounting of selected major brands.

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

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

Table B. Percent changes in CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Mar.'99	Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Mar.'99
	Changes from preceding month								
	1998								
	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.		
All Items	.1	.2	.2	.2	.2	.0	.1	1.2	1.7
Food and beverages	.1	.4	.2	.1	.4	.1	-.2	1.5	2.2
Housing	.2	.2	.3	.2	.0	.1	.3	1.5	2.1
Apparel	-.3	.4	-.1	-.5	-1.1	-.4	-.4	-7.4	-1.4
Transportation	-.4	.2	-.1	-.5	-.1	-.4	.6	.6	-.7
Medical care	.3	.2	.2	.2	.3	.2	.3	3.3	3.5
Recreation	.1	-.3	.1	.1	.4	-.2	-.1	.4	.3
Education and communication	.2	.1	.3	-.2	.3	.2	.0	2.0	1.0
Other goods and services	1.3	.2	-.5	5.8	2.5	-.2	-1.0	5.0	11.5
Special Indexes									
Energy	-1.1	.2	-.4	-1.3	-.1	-.2	2.0	7.1	-3.3
Food	.1	.4	.2	.0	.5	.1	-.2	1.7	2.2
All Items less food and energy	.2	.1	.2	.4	.1	.0	.0	.5	2.1

Consumer Price Index data for April are scheduled for release on Friday, May 14, 1999, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CPI (Old Series)

For the first six months of 1999, BLS will also publish Old Series

CPI-U and Old Series CPI-W based on the former method of calculating the elementary aggregates, that is, employing an arithmetic mean in all index categories. These old series data are contained in tables 1 (LAS)-4 (LAS). From February to March, the Old Series CPI-U and the Old Series CPI-W rose 0.3 and 0.2 percent, respectively. These series are not seasonally adjusted. (The unadjusted CPI-U and CPI-W using the new method of calculating the elementary aggregates also rose 0.3 and 0.2 percent, respectively, in March.)

Consumer Price Index Formula Changed

On April 16, 1998, 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 is 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 have been. 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 has been 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 former 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 was published in the April 1998 CPI Detailed Report and is available on the Internet (<http://stats.bls.gov/cpihome.htm>). This information also may 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 B) Owners' equivalent C) Housing at school,

residence rent of primary excluding board
 residence

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

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 1994 through 1998 were replaced at the end of 1998. 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 wholesale tobacco prices and legal fees passed on to consumers. 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. The procedure was used to account for unusual butter fat supply reductions affecting the Fats and oils series. 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 or sending e-mail to Gallagher_C@BLS.GOV.

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 1998	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 1999 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Feb. 1999	Mar. 1999	Mar. 1998	Feb. 1999	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.
Expenditure category								
All items	100.000	164.5	165.0	1.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
All items (1967=100)	-	492.9	494.4	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	16.408	163.8	163.7	2.2	-0.1	0.4	0.2	-0.2
Food	15.422	163.3	163.3	2.3	0.0	0.5	0.1	-0.2
Food at home	9.691	163.8	163.4	2.0	-0.2	0.5	0.1	-0.5
Cereals and bakery products	1.544	183.8	183.5	2.2	-0.2	0.8	-0.4	0.2

Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	2.569	147.0	146.8	-0.3	-0.1	-0.8	0.9	-0.2
Dairy and related products (1).....	1.088	162.3	161.5	8.8	-0.5	2.3	0.7	-0.5
Fruits and vegetables	1.440	200.3	199.9	1.9	-0.2	2.2	-1.1	-2.2
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	1.049	134.5	134.5	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.1
Other food at home	2.002	153.3	152.9	2.3	-0.3	-0.2	0.1	-0.2
Sugar and sweets .....	.377	151.3	151.0	0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3
Fats and oils .....	.309	150.9	149.4	5.1	-1.0	-2.0	0.2	-0.9
Other foods	1.316	168.2	168.1	2.3	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0
Other miscellaneous foods (1) (2).....	.320	105.9	104.9	3.3	-0.9	-0.8	1.7	-0.9
Food away from home (1).....	5.730	163.8	164.2	2.7	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Other food away from home (1) (2).....	.175	103.7	103.7	3.4	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0
Alcoholic beverages .....	.986	168.6	168.4	2.0	-0.1	0.1	0.4	-0.1
Housing	39.828	162.3	162.8	2.3	0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.2
Shelter	30.283	185.5	186.3	3.0	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.3
Rent of primary residence (3).....	7.007	175.6	176.0	3.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Lodging away from home (2) (3).....	2.376	110.5	114.5	3.0	3.6	-1.8	-0.5	1.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (3) (4).....	20.529	191.3	191.5	3.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1
Tenants' and household insurance (1) (2)..	.371	100.1	100.2	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.4	0.1
Fuels and utilities	4.735	126.0	125.9	-0.9	-0.1	-0.2	0.2	0.2
Fuels	3.801	110.6	110.5	-1.8	-0.1	-0.4	0.3	0.3
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.227	86.2	86.2	-8.7	0.0	-0.1	-1.4	1.0
Gas (piped) and electricity (3).....	3.574	118.0	117.9	-1.3	-0.1	-0.4	0.4	0.3
Household furnishings and operations	4.810	126.7	126.7	0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.1
Apparel	4.831	129.7	132.7	-1.6	2.3	-1.1	-0.2	-0.3
Men's and boys' apparel	1.358	129.9	131.4	-1.6	1.2	-0.5	0.6	-0.8
Women's and girls' apparel	1.939	120.6	126.3	-2.8	4.7	-1.9	-0.4	0.4
Infants' and toddlers' apparel (1).....	.272	126.4	125.6	1.0	-0.6	0.3	-2.8	-0.6
Footwear .....	.876	124.8	126.4	-0.1	1.3	-0.9	-1.3	0.7
Transportation	16.999	139.8	140.6	-0.6	0.6	-0.1	-0.1	0.7
Private transportation	15.653	135.9	136.4	-0.8	0.4	-0.2	-0.3	0.5
New and used motor vehicles (2).....	7.843	99.9	99.6	-0.5	-0.3	-0.4	-0.7	-0.2
New vehicles	4.983	143.8	143.4	-0.7	-0.3	0.1	-0.3	-0.2
Used cars and trucks (1).....	1.914	148.3	147.4	0.1	-0.6	-1.6	-1.5	-0.6
Motor fuel	2.493	83.6	86.3	-5.1	3.2	0.0	-0.3	3.6
Gasoline (all types)	2.476	83.1	85.8	-5.0	3.2	0.1	-0.5	3.7
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	.549	100.9	100.1	-1.1	-0.8	-0.1	-0.4	-0.6
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.624	170.4	170.6	3.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Public transportation (1).....	1.346	193.1	198.8	2.6	3.0	1.1	1.4	3.0
Medical care	5.713	247.7	248.3	3.5	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2

Medical care commodities	1.252	226.8	227.7	4.2	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.4
Medical care services	4.461	252.6	253.1	3.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2
Professional services (3).....	2.854	226.8	227.4	3.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3
Hospital and related services (3).....	1.354	296.2	296.6	4.0	0.1	0.6	0.5	0.3
Recreation (2).....	6.120	101.8	101.8	0.8	0.0	0.4	-0.1	0.0
Video and audio (1) (2).....	1.748	101.6	101.2	-0.2	-0.4	0.4	-0.5	-0.5
Education and communication (2).....	5.478	100.9	100.8	0.9	-0.1	0.3	0.1	0.0
Education (2).....	2.694	105.3	105.4	4.9	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.4
Educational books and supplies .....	.203	261.3	261.4	5.6	0.0	-0.7	1.2	0.3
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.492	303.3	303.5	4.8	0.1	0.4	0.7	0.4
Communication (1) (2).....	2.783	96.9	96.6	-2.7	-0.3	0.2	-0.4	-0.3
Information and information processing (1)								
(2).....	2.580	96.5	96.1	-3.2	-0.4	0.0	-0.4	-0.4
Telephone services (1) (2).....	2.327	100.4	100.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.4	-0.3	-0.2
Information and information processing								
other than telephone services (1) (5)	.253	33.3	32.4	-25.3	-2.7	-2.9	-1.5	-2.7
Personal computers and peripheral								
equipment (1) (2).....	.148	59.7	57.6	-35.1	-3.5	-4.4	-2.8	-3.5
Other goods and services	4.624	255.0	253.3	9.0	-0.7	2.0	-0.1	-0.6
Tobacco and smoking products	1.159	348.7	335.9	32.2	-3.7	6.6	-1.4	-3.5
Personal care (1).....	3.465	159.4	160.0	2.9	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4
Personal care products (1).....	.742	149.8	150.8	2.4	0.7	0.8	-0.1	0.7
Personal care services (1).....	.973	169.3	169.9	3.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4
Miscellaneous personal services	1.491	240.6	241.1	3.6	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1
Commodity and service group								
Commodities	42.109	142.2	142.6	0.8	0.3	0.2	-0.2	-0.1
Food and beverages	16.408	163.8	163.7	2.2	-0.1	0.4	0.2	-0.2
Commodities less food and beverages	25.702	129.6	130.2	-0.2	0.5	0.1	-0.4	0.0
Nondurables less food and beverages	14.345	131.9	133.2	0.8	1.0	0.2	-0.2	0.3
Apparel	4.831	129.7	132.7	-1.6	2.3	-1.1	-0.2	-0.3
Nondurables less food, beverages, and								
apparel	9.514	138.0	138.5	2.1	0.4	0.9	-0.4	0.7
Durables	11.356	126.4	126.0	-1.6	-0.3	-0.3	-0.6	-0.2
Services	57.891	186.9	187.6	2.6	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.3
Rent of shelter (4).....	29.912	193.1	193.9	3.1	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.4
Transportation services	6.963	189.3	190.7	1.2	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.8
Other services	10.768	221.1	221.3	2.9	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.1

Special indexes

Expenditure category

All items	164.4	164.6	164.7	165.0	2.2	1.5	2.0	1.5	1.9	1.7
Food and beverages	162.8	163.5	163.8	163.4	2.3	2.3	3.0	1.5	2.3	2.2
Food	162.5	163.3	163.5	163.2	2.3	2.5	2.8	1.7	2.4	2.2
Food at home	162.7	163.5	163.7	162.9	2.3	1.8	3.5	0.5	2.0	2.0
Cereals and bakery products	182.9	184.4	183.6	183.9	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	146.7	145.5	146.8	146.5	-0.3	0.3	-0.5	-0.5	0.0	-0.5
Dairy and related products (1).....	157.6	161.2	162.3	161.5	-0.8	13.6	12.9	10.3	6.2	11.6
Fruits and vegetables	200.4	204.8	202.6	198.1	12.5	-6.4	8.2	-4.5	2.6	1.6
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	132.8	133.4	133.7	133.9	-1.8	-2.1	1.8	3.4	-1.9	2.6
Other food at home	153.2	152.9	153.1	152.8	2.7	6.0	1.8	-1.0	4.3	0.4
Sugar and sweets	151.3	151.1	151.0	150.6	-0.5	1.1	1.9	-1.8	0.3	0.0
Fats and oils	153.2	150.2	150.5	149.1	3.4	29.0	1.8	-10.3	15.5	-4.4
Other foods	167.4	167.6	167.9	167.9	3.2	2.7	2.2	1.2	2.9	1.7
Other miscellaneous foods (1) (2).....	104.9	104.1	105.9	104.9	4.0	4.4	5.1	0.0	4.2	2.5
Food away from home (1).....	163.0	163.5	163.8	164.2	2.0	3.5	2.2	3.0	2.8	2.6
Other food away from home (1) (2).....	103.3	103.5	103.7	103.7	2.8	6.9	2.4	1.6	4.8	2.0
Alcoholic beverages	167.5	167.6	168.3	168.1	1.5	2.4	2.7	1.4	2.0	2.1
Housing	162.0	161.9	162.1	162.5	2.8	2.3	2.5	1.2	2.5	1.9
Shelter	184.6	184.6	184.9	185.4	3.6	3.6	3.1	1.7	3.6	2.4
Rent of primary residence (3).....	174.9	175.3	175.6	176.0	3.6	3.5	3.7	2.5	3.6	3.1
Lodging away from home (2) (3).....	103.8	101.9	101.4	103.2	6.5	8.1	0.0	-2.3	7.3	-1.2
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (3) (4).....	190.6	190.8	191.3	191.5	3.5	3.2	3.2	1.9	3.4	2.6
Tenants' and household insurance (1) (2)..	99.9	99.7	100.1	100.2	-4.7	0.4	2.9	1.2	-2.2	2.0
Fuels and utilities	127.0	126.8	127.1	127.4	-0.9	-4.0	-0.3	1.3	-2.5	0.5
Fuels	111.2	110.8	111.1	111.4	-1.8	-5.2	-0.7	0.7	-3.5	0.0
Fuel oil and other fuels	84.9	84.8	83.6	84.4	-7.6	-9.8	-14.1	-2.3	-8.7	-8.4
Gas (piped) and electricity (3).....	119.1	118.6	119.1	119.4	-1.3	-4.9	0.0	1.0	-3.1	0.5
Household furnishings and operations	127.0	127.0	126.7	126.6	1.3	-0.3	1.9	-1.3	0.5	0.3
Apparel	132.3	130.8	130.6	130.2	1.8	0.3	-2.7	-6.2	1.1	-4.5
Men's and boys' apparel	131.0	130.3	131.1	130.1	-1.5	-2.7	0.3	-2.7	-2.1	-1.2
Women's and girls' apparel	124.6	122.2	121.7	122.2	3.5	1.9	-8.2	-7.5	2.7	-7.9
Infants' and toddlers' apparel (1).....	129.6	130.0	126.4	125.6	1.0	0.6	15.9	-11.8	0.8	1.1
Footwear	128.2	127.1	125.5	126.4	5.5	1.3	-1.2	-5.5	3.3	-3.4
Transportation	140.6	140.4	140.2	141.2	-1.4	-0.8	-1.4	1.7	-1.1	0.1

Private transportation	137.1	136.8	136.4	137.1	-0.6	-1.4	-1.2	0.0	-1.0	-0.6
New and used motor vehicles (2).....	100.9	100.5	99.8	99.6	0.4	2.4	0.8	-5.1	1.4	-2.2
New vehicles	143.4	143.5	143.0	142.7	-2.5	2.5	-0.6	-1.9	0.0	-1.2
Used cars and trucks (1).....	153.1	150.6	148.3	147.4	10.1	2.7	3.2	-14.1	6.3	-5.8
Motor fuel	86.4	86.4	86.1	89.2	-6.2	-13.9	-11.6	13.6	-10.2	0.2
Gasoline (all types)	85.9	86.0	85.6	88.8	-6.7	-14.0	-11.2	14.2	-10.4	0.7
Motor vehicle parts and equipment	101.1	101.0	100.6	100.0	0.4	0.0	-0.4	-4.3	0.2	-2.4
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	169.6	169.8	170.2	170.6	2.4	3.4	3.6	2.4	2.9	3.0
Public transportation (1).....	188.4	190.4	193.1	198.8	-10.9	4.3	-3.7	24.0	-3.6	9.2
Medical care	246.1	246.9	247.5	248.1	4.1	3.9	2.8	3.3	4.0	3.1
Medical care commodities	226.1	226.2	226.6	227.5	6.0	5.3	3.1	2.5	5.7	2.8
Medical care services	250.3	251.3	252.1	252.6	3.6	3.5	2.6	3.7	3.5	3.2
Professional services (3).....	225.4	226.1	226.4	227.0	4.2	2.9	2.7	2.9	3.6	2.8
Hospital and related services (3).....	291.7	293.5	295.0	296.0	3.0	4.0	2.9	6.0	3.5	4.5
Recreation (2).....	101.2	101.6	101.5	101.5	1.2	0.8	0.0	1.2	1.0	0.6
Video and audio (1) (2).....	101.3	101.7	101.2	100.7	0.8	2.0	-1.2	-2.3	1.4	-1.8
Education and communication (2).....	100.7	101.0	101.1	101.1	2.4	-1.2	0.8	1.6	0.6	1.2
Education (2).....	104.7	105.0	105.8	106.2	5.2	4.0	4.7	5.9	4.6	5.3
Educational books and supplies	258.2	256.4	259.4	260.3	5.6	5.6	8.0	3.3	5.6	5.6
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	300.0	301.2	303.3	304.4	5.1	3.7	4.5	6.0	4.4	5.3
Communication (1) (2).....	97.1	97.3	96.9	96.6	0.4	-5.9	-3.2	-2.0	-2.8	-2.6
Information and information processing (1) (2).....	96.9	96.9	96.5	96.1	0.0	-6.3	-3.2	-3.3	-3.2	-3.2
Telephone services (1) (2).....	100.3	100.7	100.4	100.2	4.0	-2.7	-1.6	-0.4	0.6	-1.0
Information and information processing other than telephone services (1) (5)	34.8	33.8	33.3	32.4	-23.4	-33.2	-19.2	-24.9	-28.5	-22.1
Personal computers and peripheral equipment (1) (2).....	64.2	61.4	59.7	57.6	-33.8	-46.2	-22.8	-35.2	-40.4	-29.3
Other goods and services	251.0	255.9	255.6	254.1	7.2	6.6	17.7	5.0	6.9	11.2
Tobacco and smoking products	331.9	353.9	349.0	336.9	22.8	25.4	87.1	6.2	24.1	40.9
Personal care (1).....	158.3	158.9	159.4	160.0	3.4	1.8	2.0	4.4	2.6	3.2
Personal care products (1).....	148.7	149.9	149.8	150.8	5.3	-0.3	-1.1	5.8	2.5	2.3
Personal care services (1).....	168.3	168.8	169.3	169.9	1.5	4.4	2.9	3.9	2.9	3.4
Miscellaneous personal services	238.8	239.4	240.4	240.7	3.3	3.6	4.1	3.2	3.5	3.7
Commodity and service group										
Commodities	142.5	142.8	142.5	142.4	1.1	0.6	1.4	-0.3	0.9	0.6
Food and beverages	162.8	163.5	163.8	163.4	2.3	2.3	3.0	1.5	2.3	2.2
Commodities less food and beverages	130.5	130.6	130.1	130.1	0.6	-0.6	0.3	-1.2	0.0	-0.5
Nondurables less food and beverages	132.8	133.0	132.7	133.1	2.1	-0.9	1.2	0.9	0.6	1.1

Apparel	132.3	130.8	130.6	130.2	1.8	0.3	-2.7	-6.2	1.1	-4.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	138.0	139.3	138.7	139.7	2.1	-1.2	3.0	5.0	0.4	4.0
Durables	127.2	126.8	126.0	125.7	-0.9	0.0	-0.6	-4.6	-0.5	-2.7
Services	186.3	186.5	186.9	187.5	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.5	2.5
Rent of shelter (4).....	192.5	192.5	192.7	193.4	3.9	3.9	3.0	1.9	3.9	2.4
Transportation services	188.1	188.4	189.1	190.6	-2.1	0.9	0.6	5.4	-0.6	3.0
Other services	219.8	220.8	221.3	221.6	3.6	2.2	2.2	3.3	2.9	2.8

Special indexes

All items less food	164.6	164.7	164.8	165.2	2.0	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.6
All items less shelter	158.0	158.4	158.4	158.5	1.3	0.8	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.4
All items less medical care	159.7	159.9	159.9	160.2	1.8	1.5	2.0	1.3	1.7	1.6
Commodities less food	132.2	132.2	131.7	131.8	0.3	-0.3	0.6	-1.2	0.0	-0.3
Nondurables less food	134.9	135.1	134.7	135.2	1.8	-0.3	1.2	0.9	0.7	1.0
Nondurables less food and apparel	139.9	141.1	140.5	141.5	2.3	-1.1	3.2	4.7	0.6	3.9
Nondurables	147.8	148.3	148.2	148.5	2.5	0.3	1.9	1.9	1.4	1.9
Services less rent of shelter (4).....	193.3	193.5	193.8	194.4	2.3	1.3	1.9	2.3	1.8	2.1
Services less medical care services	180.5	180.5	180.9	181.4	3.0	2.3	2.7	2.0	2.6	2.4
Energy	99.0	98.8	98.8	100.4	-3.4	-9.0	-5.1	5.8	-6.3	0.2
All items less energy	173.0	173.2	173.3	173.4	2.6	2.4	2.6	0.9	2.5	1.8
All items less food and energy	175.6	175.7	175.8	176.0	2.6	2.3	2.5	0.9	2.5	1.7
Commodities less food and energy commodities	144.4	144.4	143.8	143.3	1.7	1.1	2.5	-3.0	1.4	-0.3
Energy commodities	86.2	86.2	85.8	88.8	-6.2	-13.6	-12.0	12.6	-10.0	-0.4
Services less energy services	193.1	193.4	193.8	194.4	2.8	3.0	2.5	2.7	2.9	2.6

1 Not seasonally adjusted.

2 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

3 This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

4 Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

5 Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

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)

All items

Prici-

Indexes

Percent change to

Percent change to

NY-NJ-CT-PA	M	174.7	175.0	175.1	175.5	1.4	0.3	0.2	1.4	0.2	0.1
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT	1	-	174.1	-	174.8	2.0	0.4	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH	1	-	160.6	-	161.2	1.6	0.4	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	155.0	-	156.4	2.2	0.9	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV (6).....	1	-	102.8	-	103.2	1.6	0.4	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA	2	161.6	-	161.9	-	-	-	-	1.5	0.2	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI	2	161.2	-	161.2	-	-	-	-	1.7	0.0	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	146.1	-	146.6	-	-	-	-	0.3	0.3	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	161.1	-	161.4	-	-	-	-	0.7	0.2	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	169.0	-	168.6	-	-	-	-	1.0	-0.2	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	167.4	-	169.4	-	-	-	-	3.8	1.2	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA	2	169.4	-	170.6	-	-	-	-	2.5	0.7	-

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 Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

5 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.

6 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 1998	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 1999 from-		Seasonally adjusted percent change from-		
		Feb. 1999	Mar. 1999	Mar. 1998	Feb. 1999	Dec. to Jan. Jan.	Jan. to Feb. Feb.	Feb. to Mar. Mar.

Expenditure category

All items	100.000	161.1	161.4	1.7	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1
All items (1967=100)	-	479.8	480.9	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	18.011	163.0	162.9	2.2	-0.1	0.4	0.1	-0.2
Food	16.966	162.6	162.6	2.2	0.0	0.5	0.1	-0.2
Food at home	10.832	162.6	162.3	1.9	-0.2	0.6	0.1	-0.4
Cereals and bakery products	1.689	183.5	183.2	2.2	-0.2	0.8	-0.4	0.2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.055	146.7	146.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.8	1.0	-0.3
Dairy and related products (1).....	1.193	162.2	161.5	9.0	-0.4	2.4	0.7	-0.4
Fruits and vegetables	1.492	199.3	198.7	2.0	-0.3	2.6	-1.4	-2.2
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	1.184	133.4	133.6	0.4	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.2
Other food at home	2.220	152.6	152.3	2.3	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	-0.2
Sugar and sweets .....	.420	151.3	151.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1
Fats and oils .....	.354	150.6	148.9	4.9	-1.1	-1.8	0.2	-1.1
Other foods	1.446	168.1	168.0	2.3	-0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0
Other miscellaneous foods (1) (2).....	.355	105.9	105.0	3.1	-0.8	-0.7	1.6	-0.8
Food away from home (1).....	6.133	163.8	164.1	2.6	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Other food away from home (1) (2).....	.216	103.7	103.8	3.5	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Alcoholic beverages	1.045	167.6	167.3	2.0	-0.2	0.1	0.5	-0.4
Housing	36.685	158.4	158.8	2.1	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.3
Shelter	27.496	179.9	180.5	3.0	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3
Rent of primary residence (3).....	8.500	175.3	175.6	3.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Lodging away from home (2) (3).....	1.379	110.3	114.2	3.1	3.5	-2.1	-0.5	1.6
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (3) (4).....	17.296	174.2	174.5	2.9	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Tenants' and household insurance (1) (2)..	.320	100.4	100.6	0.1	0.2	-0.2	0.3	0.2
Fuels and utilities	4.850	125.8	125.8	-0.9	0.0	-0.2	0.2	0.4
Fuels	3.928	110.2	110.0	-1.7	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	0.5
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.201	86.8	86.8	-8.1	0.0	0.0	-1.4	1.1
Gas (piped) and electricity (3).....	3.727	117.5	117.3	-1.3	-0.2	-0.3	0.2	0.4
Household furnishings and operations	4.339	124.8	124.9	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2
Apparel	5.199	128.5	131.1	-1.4	2.0	-1.1	-0.4	-0.4
Men's and boys' apparel	1.474	129.9	131.6	-0.9	1.3	-0.7	0.8	-0.5
Women's and girls' apparel	1.948	118.8	123.9	-2.7	4.3	-1.9	-0.9	0.0
Infants' and toddlers' apparel (1).....	.344	127.2	126.5	1.6	-0.6	-0.1	-2.8	-0.6
Footwear	1.057	125.4	126.8	-0.2	1.1	-0.9	-1.2	0.5
Transportation	19.166	138.3	139.1	-0.7	0.6	-0.1	-0.4	0.6
Private transportation	18.109	135.6	136.2	-0.9	0.4	-0.2	-0.5	0.6
New and used motor vehicles (2).....	9.250	99.9	99.5	-0.5	-0.4	-0.5	-0.9	-0.2
New vehicles	5.224	145.0	144.5	-0.8	-0.3	0.1	-0.5	-0.2

Used cars and trucks (1).....	3.216	149.6	148.7	-0.1	-0.6	-1.6	-1.4	-0.6
Motor fuel	3.066	83.5	86.4	-5.1	3.5	0.2	-0.6	4.0
Gasoline (all types)	3.045	83.0	85.9	-5.1	3.5	0.2	-0.5	3.9
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	.682	100.5	99.8	-0.9	-0.7	0.0	-0.2	-0.5
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.690	171.8	172.0	3.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Public transportation (1).....	1.056	189.1	194.1	2.1	2.6	0.9	1.2	2.6
Medical care	4.672	246.9	247.5	3.5	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3
Medical care commodities .....	.926	223.2	223.9	3.9	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.3
Medical care services	3.746	252.3	252.8	3.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3
Professional services (3).....	2.415	228.3	228.9	3.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2
Hospital and related services (3).....	1.114	292.4	292.8	4.1	0.1	0.8	0.4	0.3
Recreation (2).....	5.925	101.3	101.3	0.3	0.0	0.4	-0.2	-0.1
Video and audio (1) (2).....	1.951	101.4	101.0	-0.4	-0.4	0.4	-0.6	-0.5
Education and communication (2).....	5.361	101.2	101.0	1.0	-0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0
Education (2).....	2.478	105.5	105.6	5.1	0.1	0.4	0.8	0.4
Educational books and supplies .....	.200	263.9	264.0	5.6	0.0	-0.6	1.2	0.3
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.278	297.8	298.0	5.0	0.1	0.4	0.8	0.4
Communication (1) (2).....	2.883	97.7	97.4	-2.1	-0.3	0.3	-0.4	-0.3
Information and information processing (1) (2).....	2.733	97.4	97.1	-2.4	-0.3	0.1	-0.4	-0.3
Telephone services (1) (2).....	2.519	100.5	100.4	0.0	-0.1	0.4	-0.3	-0.1
Information and information processing other than telephone services (1) (5) .....	.213	34.4	33.5	-25.2	-2.6	-2.8	-1.7	-2.6
Personal computers and peripheral equipment (1) (2).....	.120	59.3	56.9	-35.6	-4.0	-4.5	-2.9	-4.0
Other goods and services	4.981	258.3	255.6	11.5	-1.0	2.5	-0.2	-1.0
Tobacco and smoking products	1.694	348.9	336.0	32.4	-3.7	6.4	-1.3	-3.5
Personal care (1).....	3.287	159.6	160.3	3.1	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4
Personal care products (1).....	.838	150.8	151.6	2.3	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.5
Personal care services (1).....	.975	169.6	170.2	3.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4
Miscellaneous personal services	1.253	240.8	241.4	4.2	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.2
Commodity and service group								
Commodities	46.764	142.2	142.5	1.0	0.2	0.2	-0.3	-0.1
Food and beverages	18.011	163.0	162.9	2.2	-0.1	0.4	0.1	-0.2
Commodities less food and beverages	28.753	129.9	130.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	-0.5	0.0
Nondurables less food and beverages	15.564	131.8	133.1	1.4	1.0	0.4	-0.5	0.5
Apparel	5.199	128.5	131.1	-1.4	2.0	-1.1	-0.4	-0.4
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.365	138.2	138.7	2.9	0.4	1.2	-0.5	0.7

Durables	13.189	126.1	125.7	-1.4	-0.3	-0.4	-0.7	-0.3
Services	53.236	183.5	184.0	2.4	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3
Rent of shelter (4).....	27.175	173.2	173.8	3.1	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.2
Transportation services	6.800	186.8	187.8	1.1	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.6
Other services	10.144	217.7	217.8	2.8	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.2

Special indexes

All items less food	83.034	160.6	161.1	1.6	0.3	0.1	-0.1	0.2
All items less shelter	72.504	155.8	156.1	1.2	0.2	0.2	-0.1	0.1
All items less medical care	95.328	157.1	157.5	1.7	0.3	0.2	-0.1	0.1
Commodities less food	29.798	131.3	131.8	0.2	0.4	0.1	-0.5	0.0
Nondurables less food	16.609	134.0	135.1	1.4	0.8	0.4	-0.5	0.4
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.410	140.0	140.5	2.9	0.4	0.9	-0.4	0.6
Nondurables	33.575	147.7	148.3	1.9	0.4	0.3	-0.1	0.2
Services less rent of shelter (4).....	26.061	172.3	172.6	1.8	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3
Services less medical care services	49.490	177.8	178.2	2.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Energy	6.994	96.1	97.5	-3.3	1.5	-0.1	-0.2	2.0
All items less energy	93.006	170.0	170.2	2.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	-0.1
All items less food and energy	76.040	171.9	172.2	2.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0
Commodities less food and energy								
commodities	26.531	143.7	143.7	1.0	0.0	0.0	-0.5	-0.5
Energy commodities	3.267	83.8	86.6	-5.3	3.3	0.2	-0.7	3.7
Services less energy services	49.509	190.9	191.5	2.7	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar	-	\$.621	\$.619	-	-	-	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar - old								
base	-	\$.208	\$.208	-	-	-	-	-

1 Not seasonally adjusted.

2 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

3 This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

4 Indexes on a December 1984=100 base

5 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)

Seasonally adjusted indexes Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent
change for

CPI-W					3 months ended--				6 months ended--	
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	June	Sep.	Dec.	Mar.	Sep.	Mar.
	1998	1999	1999	1999	1998	1998	1998	1999	1998	1999
Expenditure category										
All items	161.0	161.3	161.3	161.5	2.0	1.5	2.3	1.2	1.8	1.8
Food and beverages	162.2	162.9	163.1	162.8	2.0	2.5	2.8	1.5	2.3	2.1
Food	161.7	162.5	162.7	162.4	2.0	2.5	2.5	1.7	2.3	2.1
Food at home	161.5	162.4	162.6	161.9	2.0	2.0	2.8	1.0	2.0	1.9
Cereals and bakery products	182.6	184.0	183.3	183.6	2.5	2.7	1.3	2.2	2.6	1.8
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	146.2	145.1	146.5	146.1	-0.3	0.3	-1.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.7
Dairy and related products (1).....	157.4	161.1	162.2	161.5	-1.1	13.9	13.2	10.8	6.2	12.0
Fruits and vegetables	199.9	205.0	202.1	197.7	12.8	-6.7	8.4	-4.3	2.6	1.8
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	131.5	132.3	132.5	132.8	-1.8	-2.1	1.5	4.0	-2.0	2.8
Other food at home	152.5	152.2	152.4	152.1	2.7	5.7	1.9	-1.0	4.2	0.4
Sugar and sweets	151.3	151.2	150.9	150.7	-1.1	1.1	2.1	-1.6	0.0	0.3
Fats and oils	152.6	149.8	150.1	148.5	4.3	27.3	1.9	-10.3	15.2	-4.4
Other foods	167.2	167.5	167.8	167.8	3.2	2.7	1.7	1.4	2.9	1.6
Other miscellaneous foods (1) (2).....	104.9	104.2	105.9	105.0	2.8	4.8	4.7	0.4	3.8	2.5
Food away from home (1).....	163.0	163.5	163.8	164.1	2.3	3.0	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.6
Other food away from home (1) (2).....	103.4	103.6	103.7	103.8	2.8	7.3	2.4	1.6	5.0	2.0
Alcoholic beverages	166.5	166.7	167.5	166.9	1.5	2.7	2.9	1.0	2.1	1.9
Housing	158.2	158.2	158.4	158.8	2.3	2.1	2.6	1.5	2.2	2.0
Shelter	179.2	179.3	179.7	180.2	3.5	3.2	3.2	2.3	3.3	2.7
Rent of primary residence (3).....	174.5	174.9	175.3	175.6	3.3	3.5	3.8	2.5	3.4	3.1
Lodging away from home (2) (3).....	104.1	101.9	101.4	103.0	6.6	6.9	3.5	-4.2	6.7	-0.4
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (3) (4).....	173.5	173.8	174.2	174.6	3.3	3.1	2.8	2.6	3.2	2.7
Tenants' and household insurance (1) (2)..	100.3	100.1	100.4	100.6	-4.7	0.4	3.7	1.2	-2.2	2.4
Fuels and utilities	126.8	126.5	126.7	127.2	-0.9	-4.0	0.0	1.3	-2.5	0.6
Fuels	110.6	110.3	110.4	110.9	-1.8	-5.2	-0.7	1.1	-3.5	0.2
Fuel oil and other fuels	85.3	85.3	84.1	85.0	-5.9	-10.5	-13.7	-1.4	-8.3	-7.8
Gas (piped) and electricity (3).....	118.4	118.1	118.3	118.8	-1.3	-5.2	0.0	1.4	-3.3	0.7
Household furnishings and operations	125.3	125.2	124.8	124.6	0.6	-0.3	1.3	-2.2	0.2	-0.5

Apparel	131.4	129.9	129.4	128.9	2.2	0.6	-0.6	-7.4	1.4	-4.1
Men's and boys' apparel	130.9	130.0	131.1	130.5	-0.6	-3.6	1.9	-1.2	-2.1	0.3
Women's and girls' apparel	123.5	121.1	120.0	120.0	3.0	3.6	-5.6	-10.9	3.3	-8.3
Infants' and toddlers' apparel (1).....	130.9	130.8	127.2	126.5	2.9	1.3	17.2	-12.8	2.1	1.1
Footwear	128.8	127.7	126.2	126.8	5.5	1.6	-1.5	-6.1	3.5	-3.8
Transportation	139.4	139.2	138.7	139.6	-0.6	-1.7	-1.4	0.6	-1.1	-0.4
Private transportation	137.0	136.7	136.0	136.8	-0.3	-1.7	-1.2	-0.6	-1.0	-0.9
New and used motor vehicles (2).....	101.1	100.6	99.7	99.5	1.2	2.0	1.2	-6.2	1.6	-2.6
New vehicles	144.7	144.8	144.1	143.8	-2.7	2.2	0.0	-2.5	-0.3	-1.2
Used cars and trucks (1).....	154.3	151.8	149.6	148.7	9.7	2.4	2.9	-13.7	6.0	-5.8
Motor fuel	86.3	86.5	86.0	89.4	-5.4	-15.0	-12.0	15.2	-10.3	0.7
Gasoline (all types)	85.8	86.0	85.6	88.9	-6.3	-14.7	-12.1	15.3	-10.6	0.7
Motor vehicle parts and equipment	100.4	100.4	100.2	99.7	-0.4	0.0	-0.4	-2.8	-0.2	-1.6
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	170.9	171.2	171.6	172.0	2.7	3.6	3.8	2.6	3.1	3.2
Public transportation (1).....	185.1	186.8	189.1	194.1	-9.5	2.2	-3.0	20.9	-3.9	8.3
Medical care	245.2	245.9	246.4	247.2	4.3	3.7	2.7	3.3	4.0	3.0
Medical care commodities	222.6	222.6	223.0	223.6	5.9	5.4	2.6	1.8	5.7	2.2
Medical care services	250.1	251.0	251.5	252.3	4.0	3.3	2.6	3.6	3.6	3.1
Professional services (3).....	227.0	227.7	228.0	228.5	4.4	3.1	2.7	2.7	3.7	2.7
Hospital and related services (3).....	287.6	289.9	291.2	292.2	3.0	3.9	2.7	6.6	3.4	4.6
Recreation (2).....	100.8	101.2	101.0	100.9	0.4	0.8	-0.4	0.4	0.6	0.0
Video and audio (1) (2).....	101.2	101.6	101.0	100.5	0.4	2.0	-1.2	-2.7	1.2	-2.0
Education and communication (2).....	100.9	101.2	101.4	101.4	2.8	-1.2	0.8	2.0	0.8	1.4
Education (2).....	104.7	105.1	105.9	106.3	5.2	4.0	4.7	6.3	4.6	5.5
Educational books and supplies	260.5	259.0	262.1	263.0	5.1	5.2	8.2	3.9	5.1	6.0
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	294.2	295.5	297.8	298.9	4.9	3.9	4.6	6.5	4.4	5.6
Communication (1) (2).....	97.8	98.1	97.7	97.4	1.2	-5.1	-2.8	-1.6	-2.0	-2.2
Information and information processing (1)										
(2).....	97.7	97.8	97.4	97.1	1.2	-5.5	-2.8	-2.4	-2.2	-2.6
Telephone services (1) (2).....	100.4	100.8	100.5	100.4	4.0	-2.3	-1.6	0.0	0.8	-0.8
Information and information processing										
other than telephone services (1) (5)	36.0	35.0	34.4	33.5	-24.2	-30.2	-21.1	-25.0	-27.3	-23.1
Personal computers and peripheral										
equipment (1) (2).....	64.0	61.1	59.3	56.9	-34.3	-43.3	-26.0	-37.5	-38.9	-32.0
Other goods and services	253.0	259.3	258.7	256.1	8.8	9.2	23.9	5.0	9.0	14.1
Tobacco and smoking products	332.6	353.8	349.3	337.0	22.6	26.5	88.1	5.4	24.5	40.8
Personal care (1).....	158.3	159.1	159.6	160.3	3.4	2.3	1.5	5.2	2.8	3.3
Personal care products (1).....	149.6	150.7	150.8	151.6	5.8	-0.5	-1.3	5.5	2.6	2.0
Personal care services (1).....	168.6	169.1	169.6	170.2	1.7	4.4	2.9	3.9	3.1	3.4

Miscellaneous personal services	238.4	239.5	240.4	240.9	3.5	4.7	4.1	4.3	4.1	4.2
Commodity and service group										
Commodities	142.6	142.9	142.5	142.4	1.4	0.6	2.3	-0.6	1.0	0.8
Food and beverages	162.2	162.9	163.1	162.8	2.0	2.5	2.8	1.5	2.3	2.1
Commodities less food and beverages	130.9	131.0	130.3	130.3	0.9	-0.6	1.9	-1.8	0.2	0.0
Nondurables less food and beverages	132.8	133.3	132.6	133.2	2.1	-0.3	2.8	1.2	0.9	2.0
Apparel	131.4	129.9	129.4	128.9	2.2	0.6	-0.6	-7.4	1.4	-4.1
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	138.2	139.8	139.1	140.1	2.4	-1.5	5.4	5.6	0.4	5.5
Durables	127.2	126.7	125.8	125.4	-0.3	0.3	-0.3	-5.5	0.0	-3.0
Services	182.9	183.1	183.5	184.1	2.7	2.0	2.4	2.7	2.4	2.5
Rent of shelter (4).....	172.8	172.8	173.1	173.5	3.9	3.3	3.5	1.6	3.6	2.6
Transportation services	185.7	185.9	186.5	187.7	-1.1	0.2	0.9	4.4	-0.4	2.6
Other services	216.4	217.4	217.8	218.2	3.8	2.1	2.1	3.4	2.9	2.7
Special indexes										
All items less food	160.5	160.7	160.6	160.9	2.0	1.3	2.0	1.0	1.6	1.5
All items less shelter	155.9	156.2	156.0	156.1	1.6	0.5	2.1	0.5	1.0	1.3
All items less medical care	157.0	157.3	157.2	157.4	1.8	1.3	2.3	1.0	1.6	1.7
Commodities less food	132.5	132.6	131.9	131.9	1.2	-0.6	1.8	-1.8	0.3	0.0
Nondurables less food	134.7	135.3	134.6	135.2	2.1	-0.6	2.7	1.5	0.8	2.1
Nondurables less food and apparel	140.0	141.3	140.8	141.6	2.9	-1.4	5.3	4.7	0.7	5.0
Nondurables	147.6	148.1	148.0	148.3	2.5	0.8	2.2	1.9	1.7	2.1
Services less rent of shelter (4).....	171.9	172.1	172.3	172.8	2.4	1.2	1.4	2.1	1.8	1.8
Services less medical care services	177.4	177.5	177.8	178.2	2.8	2.3	2.5	1.8	2.5	2.2
Energy	98.0	97.9	97.7	99.7	-3.4	-9.8	-5.9	7.1	-6.7	0.4
All items less energy	169.7	170.1	170.1	170.0	2.4	2.4	2.9	0.7	2.4	1.8
All items less food and energy	171.9	172.1	172.1	172.1	2.6	2.4	2.8	0.5	2.5	1.6
Commodities less food and energy commodities	144.6	144.6	143.9	143.2	2.0	1.7	4.0	-3.8	1.8	0.0
Energy commodities	86.3	86.5	85.9	89.1	-5.4	-14.7	-12.0	13.6	-10.2	0.0
Services less energy services	190.3	190.6	191.0	191.6	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.7

1 Not seasonally adjusted.

2 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

3 This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

4 Indexes on a December 1984=100 base

5 Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

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 sched- ule (1)	All items									
		Indexes				Percent change to Mar.1999 from--			Percent change to Feb.1999 from--		
		Dec. 1998	Jan. 1999	Feb. 1999	Mar. 1999	Mar. 1998	Jan. 1999	Feb. 1999	Feb. 1998	Dec. 1998	Jan. 1999
U.S. city average	M	160.7	161.0	161.1	161.4	1.7	0.2	0.2	1.6	0.2	0.1
Region and area size(2)											
Northeast urban	M	168.2	168.4	168.3	168.5	1.5	0.1	0.1	1.4	0.1	-0.1
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	168.2	168.5	168.1	168.3	1.5	-0.1	0.1	1.4	-0.1	-0.2
Size B/C 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	102.3	102.4	102.6	102.8	1.5	0.4	0.2	1.5	0.3	0.2
Midwest urban	M	156.0	156.6	156.5	156.9	1.6	0.2	0.3	1.5	0.3	-0.1
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	156.5	157.1	157.2	157.5	1.8	0.3	0.2	1.9	0.4	0.1
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	102.0	102.3	102.2	102.6	1.3	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.2	-0.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	153.3	153.6	153.4	153.4	1.8	-0.1	0.0	1.7	0.1	-0.1
South urban	M	157.8	157.9	158.0	158.4	1.5	0.3	0.3	1.5	0.1	0.1
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	156.0	156.4	156.4	156.9	1.4	0.3	0.3	1.4	0.3	0.0
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	102.5	102.5	102.6	102.8	1.5	0.3	0.2	1.5	0.1	0.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	160.8	161.1	161.0	161.5	2.1	0.2	0.3	1.9	0.1	-0.1
West urban	M	161.8	162.4	162.7	163.2	2.4	0.5	0.3	2.1	0.6	0.2
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	160.8	161.6	161.9	162.3	2.7	0.4	0.2	2.5	0.7	0.2
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	103.3	103.4	103.6	104.0	1.9	0.6	0.4	1.4	0.3	0.2
Size classes											
A (4).....	M	146.9	147.4	147.4	147.7	1.9	0.2	0.2	1.8	0.3	0.0
B/C (3).....	M	102.5	102.6	102.6	102.9	1.5	0.3	0.3	1.3	0.1	0.0

D	M	159.2	159.6	159.4	159.8	1.9	0.1	0.3	1.7	0.1	-0.1
Selected local areas(5)											
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI	M	159.6	160.5	160.6	161.1	1.8	0.4	0.3	2.0	0.6	0.1
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA	M	157.2	157.8	158.1	158.3	2.1	0.3	0.1	2.0	0.6	0.2
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA	M	170.5	170.8	170.6	170.8	1.5	0.0	0.1	1.4	0.1	-0.1
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT	1	-	172.2	-	172.3	1.8	0.1	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH	1	-	152.7	-	152.9	1.9	0.1	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	154.6	-	155.8	2.0	0.8	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV (6).....	1	-	102.7	-	102.8	1.5	0.1	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA	2	158.8	-	159.1	-	-	-	-	1.6	0.2	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI	2	155.9	-	155.8	-	-	-	-	1.9	-0.1	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	144.8	-	145.0	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.1	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	158.7	-	158.8	-	-	-	-	1.0	0.1	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	168.5	-	167.8	-	-	-	-	1.0	-0.4	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	163.7	-	165.7	-	-	-	-	3.8	1.2	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA	2	164.9	-	166.0	-	-	-	-	2.3	0.7	-

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 Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

5 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.

6 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(LAS). Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U-XL): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group using a Laspeyres Estimator

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

	Relative	Unadjusted	Unadjusted
	importance,	indexes	percent change to
			Mar. 1999 from-

CPI-U	December 1998	Feb.	Mar.	Mar.	Feb.
		1999	1999	1998	1999
Expenditure category					
All items	100.000	164.7	165.2	1.8	0.3
All items (1967=100)	-	493.3	494.9	-	-
Food and beverages	16.408	163.8	163.7	2.2	-0.1
Food	15.422	163.4	163.3	2.3	-0.1
Food at home	9.691	163.8	163.5	2.1	-0.2
Cereals and bakery products	1.544	183.8	183.4	2.1	-0.2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	2.569	147.3	147.0	-0.1	-0.2
Dairy and related products	1.088	162.2	161.4	8.8	-0.5
Fruits and vegetables	1.440	200.4	200.4	2.2	0.0
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	1.049	134.4	134.4	0.1	0.0
Other food at home	2.002	153.1	152.8	2.2	-0.2
Sugar and sweets .....	.377	151.2	151.0	0.1	-0.1
Fats and oils .....	.309	150.6	149.1	4.9	-1.0
Other foods	1.316	168.1	168.0	2.3	-0.1
Other miscellaneous foods (1).....	.320	105.8	104.9	3.3	-0.9
Food away from home	5.730	163.9	164.2	2.7	0.2
Other food away from home (1).....	.175	103.7	103.7	3.4	0.0
Alcoholic beverages .....	.986	168.6	168.4	2.0	-0.1
Housing	39.828	162.4	163.0	2.4	0.4
Shelter	30.283	185.6	186.5	3.2	0.5
Rent of primary residence	7.007	175.6	176.0	3.3	0.2
Lodging away from home (1).....	2.376	111.3	116.1	4.4	4.3
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (2).....	20.529	191.3	191.5	3.0	0.1
Tenants' and household insurance (1).....	.371	100.1	100.2	-0.1	0.1
Fuels and utilities	4.735	126.0	125.9	-0.9	-0.1
Fuels	3.801	110.6	110.5	-1.8	-0.1
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.227	86.2	86.2	-8.7	0.0
Gas (piped) and electricity	3.574	118.0	117.9	-1.3	-0.1
Household furnishings and operations	4.810	126.8	127.0	0.6	0.2
Apparel	4.831	130.9	133.7	-0.9	2.1
Men's and boys' apparel	1.358	130.6	132.0	-1.2	1.1

Women's and girls' apparel	1.939	122.4	127.9	-1.5	4.5
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.272	127.0	125.6	1.0	-1.1
Footwear .....	.876	125.8	127.2	0.6	1.1
Transportation	16.999	139.8	140.7	-0.5	0.6
Private transportation	15.653	135.9	136.5	-0.7	0.4
New and used motor vehicles (1).....	7.843	99.9	99.7	-0.4	-0.2
New vehicles	4.983	143.8	143.4	-0.7	-0.3
Used cars and trucks	1.914	148.4	147.5	0.1	-0.6
Motor fuel	2.493	83.6	86.3	-5.1	3.2
Gasoline (all types)	2.476	83.1	85.8	-5.0	3.2
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	.549	100.9	100.3	-0.9	-0.6
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.624	170.4	170.6	3.0	0.1
Public transportation	1.346	192.6	198.4	2.4	3.0
Medical care	5.713	247.7	248.4	3.6	0.3
Medical care commodities	1.252	226.9	228.1	4.4	0.5
Medical care services	4.461	252.6	253.1	3.4	0.2
Professional services	2.854	226.8	227.4	3.2	0.3
Hospital and related services	1.354	296.2	296.6	4.0	0.1
Recreation (1).....	6.120	102.0	102.0	1.0	0.0
Video and audio (1).....	1.748	101.5	101.1	-0.3	-0.4
Education and communication (1).....	5.478	100.9	100.8	0.9	-0.1
Education (1).....	2.694	105.3	105.4	4.9	0.1
Educational books and supplies .....	.203	260.9	261.1	5.5	0.1
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.492	303.2	303.4	4.8	0.1
Communication (1).....	2.783	97.0	96.7	-2.6	-0.3
Information and information processing					
(1).....	2.580	96.5	96.2	-3.1	-0.3
Telephone services (1).....	2.327	100.4	100.3	-0.1	-0.1
Information and information processing					
other than telephone services (3)...	.253	33.3	32.5	-25.1	-2.4
Personal computers and peripheral					
equipment (1).....	.148	59.8	57.7	-34.9	-3.5
Other goods and services	4.624	254.8	253.3	9.0	-0.6
Tobacco and smoking products	1.159	347.8	335.8	32.2	-3.5
Personal care	3.465	159.4	160.1	3.0	0.4
Personal care products .....	.742	149.3	150.2	2.0	0.6
Personal care services .....	.973	169.4	170.1	3.3	0.4
Miscellaneous personal services	1.491	240.9	241.5	3.7	0.2

Commodity and service group

Commodities	42.109	142.4	142.8	0.9	0.3
Food and beverages	16.408	163.8	163.7	2.2	-0.1
Commodities less food and beverages	25.702	129.8	130.4	0.0	0.5
Nondurables less food and beverages	14.345	132.3	133.6	1.1	1.0
Apparel	4.831	130.9	133.7	-0.9	2.1
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	9.514	137.9	138.6	2.2	0.5
Durables	11.356	126.5	126.1	-1.5	-0.3
Services	57.891	187.0	187.7	2.6	0.4
Rent of shelter (2).....	29.912	193.2	194.2	3.2	0.5
Transportation services	6.963	189.4	190.7	1.2	0.7
Other services	10.768	221.2	221.5	3.0	0.1

Special indexes

All items less food	84.578	164.9	165.6	1.8	0.4
All items less shelter	69.717	158.2	158.6	1.3	0.3
All items less medical care	94.287	160.1	160.6	1.8	0.3
Commodities less food	26.688	131.4	132.0	0.2	0.5
Nondurables less food	15.331	134.4	135.7	1.2	1.0
Nondurables less food and apparel	10.500	139.9	140.6	2.3	0.5
Nondurables	30.753	148.1	148.8	1.8	0.5
Services less rent of shelter (2).....	27.979	193.8	194.3	1.9	0.3
Services less medical care services	53.429	181.0	181.7	2.5	0.4
Energy	6.294	97.3	98.5	-3.1	1.2
All items less energy	93.706	173.4	173.9	2.2	0.3
All items less food and energy	78.284	175.9	176.5	2.3	0.3
Commodities less food and energy commodities	23.967	144.0	144.2	0.8	0.1
Energy commodities	2.720	83.9	86.4	-5.4	3.0
Services less energy services	54.316	194.1	194.9	2.9	0.4
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00)	-	\$.607	\$.605	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00)	-	\$.203	\$.202	-	-

1 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

2 Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

3 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(LAS). Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W-XL): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group using a Laspeyres Estimator

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W	Relative importance, December 1998	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 1999 from-	
		Feb. 1999	Mar. 1999	Mar. 1998	Feb. 1999
Expenditure category					
All items	100.000	161.2	161.6	1.8	0.2
All items (1967=100)	-	480.1	481.3	-	-
Food and beverages	18.011	163.1	163.0	2.3	-0.1
Food	16.966	162.7	162.6	2.2	-0.1
Food at home	10.832	162.6	162.3	1.9	-0.2
Cereals and bakery products	1.689	183.4	183.1	2.1	-0.2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.055	146.9	146.6	-0.2	-0.2
Dairy and related products	1.193	162.1	161.3	8.9	-0.5
Fruits and vegetables	1.492	199.3	199.2	2.3	-0.1
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	1.184	133.3	133.4	0.2	0.1
Other food at home	2.220	152.5	152.1	2.1	-0.3
Sugar and sweets .....	.420	151.1	151.1	0.1	0.0
Fats and oils .....	.354	150.2	148.7	4.8	-1.0
Other foods	1.446	167.9	167.8	2.1	-0.1
Other miscellaneous foods (1).....	.355	105.7	104.9	3.0	-0.8
Food away from home	6.133	163.9	164.2	2.7	0.2
Other food away from home (1).....	.216	103.7	103.8	3.5	0.1
Alcoholic beverages	1.045	167.7	167.3	2.0	-0.2
Housing	36.685	158.5	158.9	2.2	0.3
Shelter	27.496	180.0	180.6	3.1	0.3
Rent of primary residence	8.500	175.3	175.6	3.3	0.2
Lodging away from home (1).....	1.379	111.0	115.2	4.0	3.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (2).....	17.296	174.2	174.5	2.9	0.2
Tenants' and household insurance (1).....	.320	100.4	100.6	0.1	0.2
Fuels and utilities	4.850	125.8	125.8	-0.9	0.0

Fuels	3.928	110.2	110.0	-1.7	-0.2
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.201	86.8	86.8	-8.1	0.0
Gas (piped) and electricity	3.727	117.5	117.3	-1.3	-0.2
Household furnishings and operations	4.339	124.9	125.1	0.1	0.2
Apparel	5.199	129.7	132.1	-0.7	1.9
Men's and boys' apparel	1.474	130.4	132.1	-0.5	1.3
Women's and girls' apparel	1.948	120.4	125.4	-1.5	4.2
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.344	128.0	126.6	1.7	-1.1
Footwear	1.057	126.3	127.6	0.4	1.0
Transportation	19.166	138.4	139.1	-0.7	0.5
Private transportation	18.109	135.7	136.3	-0.8	0.4
New and used motor vehicles (1).....	9.250	99.9	99.5	-0.5	-0.4
New vehicles	5.224	144.9	144.5	-0.8	-0.3
Used cars and trucks	3.216	149.7	148.8	0.0	-0.6
Motor fuel	3.066	83.5	86.4	-5.1	3.5
Gasoline (all types).....	3.045	83.0	85.9	-5.1	3.5
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	.682	100.5	100.0	-0.7	-0.5
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.690	171.8	172.1	3.2	0.2
Public transportation	1.056	188.7	193.7	1.8	2.6
Medical care	4.672	247.0	247.6	3.6	0.2
Medical care commodities .....	.926	223.4	224.3	4.1	0.4
Medical care services	3.746	252.3	252.8	3.4	0.2
Professional services	2.415	228.3	228.9	3.2	0.3
Hospital and related services	1.114	292.4	292.8	4.1	0.1
Recreation (1).....	5.925	101.4	101.4	0.4	0.0
Video and audio (1).....	1.951	101.4	101.0	-0.4	-0.4
Education and communication (1).....	5.361	101.2	101.1	1.1	-0.1
Education (1).....	2.478	105.5	105.6	5.1	0.1
Educational books and supplies .....	.200	263.5	263.7	5.5	0.1
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.278	297.7	297.9	4.9	0.1
Communication (1).....	2.883	97.7	97.4	-2.1	-0.3
Information and information processing (1).....	2.733	97.5	97.1	-2.4	-0.4
Telephone services (1).....	2.519	100.6	100.4	0.0	-0.2
Information and information processing other than telephone services (3)...	.213	34.5	33.5	-25.2	-2.9
Personal computers and peripheral equipment (1).....	.120	59.4	57.0	-35.4	-4.0
Other goods and services	4.981	258.0	255.6	11.5	-0.9

Tobacco and smoking products	1.694	348.0	335.9	32.4	-3.5
Personal care	3.287	159.6	160.3	3.1	0.4
Personal care products .....	.838	150.3	151.1	2.0	0.5
Personal care services .....	.975	169.7	170.4	3.3	0.4
Miscellaneous personal services	1.253	241.1	241.7	4.3	0.2
Commodity and service group					
Commodities	46.764	142.3	142.6	1.1	0.2
Food and beverages	18.011	163.1	163.0	2.3	-0.1
Commodities less food and beverages	28.753	130.1	130.6	0.4	0.4
Nondurables less food and beverages	15.564	132.2	133.4	1.7	0.9
Apparel	5.199	129.7	132.1	-0.7	1.9
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.365	138.1	138.8	3.0	0.5
Durables	13.189	126.2	125.8	-1.3	-0.3
Services	53.236	183.6	184.1	2.5	0.3
Rent of shelter (2).....	27.175	173.3	173.9	3.1	0.3
Transportation services	6.800	186.9	187.9	1.1	0.5
Other services	10.144	217.8	218.0	2.9	0.1
Special indexes					
All items less food	83.034	160.8	161.3	1.8	0.3
All items less shelter	72.504	155.9	156.2	1.3	0.2
All items less medical care	95.328	157.2	157.6	1.7	0.3
Commodities less food	29.798	131.6	132.0	0.4	0.3
Nondurables less food	16.609	134.3	135.4	1.7	0.8
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.410	139.9	140.5	2.9	0.4
Nondurables	33.575	147.9	148.5	2.0	0.4
Services less rent of shelter (2).....	26.061	172.3	172.7	1.8	0.2
Services less medical care services	49.490	177.8	178.3	2.4	0.3
Energy	6.994	96.1	97.5	-3.3	1.5
All items less energy	93.006	170.1	170.4	2.2	0.2
All items less food and energy	76.040	172.0	172.4	2.3	0.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities	26.531	144.0	144.0	1.2	0.0
Energy commodities	3.267	83.8	86.6	-5.3	3.3
Services less energy services	49.509	191.0	191.6	2.8	0.3
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00)	-	\$.620	\$.619	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00)	-	\$.208	\$.208	-	-

1 Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

2 Index is on a December 1984=100 base.

3 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(LAS). Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U-XL): Selected areas, all items index using a Laspeyres Estimator

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-U	Pricing schedule (1)	Indexes				Percent change to Mar.1999 from--		
		Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
		1998	1999	1999	1999	1998	1999	1999
U.S. city average	M	163.9	164.4	164.7	165.2	0.8	0.5	0.3
Region and area size(2)								
Northeast urban	M	171.2	171.6	171.7	172.1	0.5	0.3	0.2
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	172.2	172.6	172.6	173.1	0.5	0.3	0.3
Size B/C 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	102.5	102.8	103.0	103.3	0.8	0.5	0.3
Midwest urban	M	159.8	160.4	160.6	161.2	0.9	0.5	0.4
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	161.0	161.6	161.9	162.5	0.9	0.6	0.4
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	102.3	102.6	102.7	103.1	0.8	0.5	0.4
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	155.0	155.6	155.7	155.8	0.5	0.1	0.1
South urban	M	159.6	160.0	160.2	160.8	0.8	0.5	0.4
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	158.3	158.9	159.1	159.8	0.9	0.6	0.4
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	102.8	102.9	103.1	103.4	0.6	0.5	0.3
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	160.4	160.9	161.1	161.7	0.8	0.5	0.4
West urban	M	165.8	166.5	167.0	167.5	1.0	0.6	0.3
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	166.5	167.3	167.9	168.4	1.1	0.7	0.3
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	103.4	103.7	103.9	104.3	0.9	0.6	0.4

Size classes

A (4).....	M	148.4	148.9	149.1	149.6	0.8	0.5	0.3
B/C (3).....	M	102.7	103.0	103.1	103.5	0.8	0.5	0.4
D	M	160.2	160.6	160.8	161.3	0.7	0.4	0.3

Selected local areas

Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI	M	165.1	166.0	166.4	166.9	1.1	0.5	0.3
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA	M	163.5	164.2	164.7	165.2	1.0	0.6	0.3
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA	M	174.7	175.2	175.4	175.8	0.6	0.3	0.2
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT	1	-	174.1	-	175.2	-	0.6	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH	1	-	160.6	-	161.1	-	0.3	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	155.2	-	156.4	-	0.8	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV (5).....	1	-	102.8	-	103.4	-	0.6	-
Atlanta, GA	2	161.6	-	162.1	-	-	-	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI	2	161.2	-	161.3	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	146.1	-	146.8	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	161.1	-	161.4	-	-	-	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	169.0	-	168.7	-	-	-	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	167.4	-	169.5	-	-	-	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA	2	169.4	-	170.8	-	-	-	-

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

M - Every month.

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

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

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

3 Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.

4 Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

5 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(LAS). Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W-XL): Selected areas, all items index using a Laspeyres Estimator

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W	Pricing schedule (1)	Indexes				Percent change to Mar.1999 from--		
		Dec. 1998	Jan. 1999	Feb. 1999	Mar. 1999	Dec. 1998	Jan. 1999	Feb. 1999
U.S. city average	M	160.7	161.1	161.2	161.6	0.6	0.3	0.2
Region and area size(2)								
Northeast urban	M	168.2	168.5	168.4	168.7	0.3	0.1	0.2
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	168.2	168.5	168.3	168.5	0.2	0.0	0.1
Size B/C 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	102.3	102.5	102.7	102.8	0.5	0.3	0.1
Midwest urban	M	156.0	156.6	156.6	157.1	0.7	0.3	0.3
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	156.5	157.1	157.2	157.6	0.7	0.3	0.3
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	102.0	102.3	102.3	102.7	0.7	0.4	0.4
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	153.3	153.7	153.5	153.5	0.1	-0.1	0.0
South urban	M	157.8	158.0	158.1	158.5	0.4	0.3	0.3
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	156.0	156.5	156.5	157.0	0.6	0.3	0.3
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	102.5	102.5	102.7	102.9	0.4	0.4	0.2
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	160.8	161.2	161.2	161.7	0.6	0.3	0.3
West urban	M	161.8	162.5	162.8	163.3	0.9	0.5	0.3
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	160.8	161.6	162.0	162.4	1.0	0.5	0.2
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 (3).....	M	103.3	103.5	103.7	104.1	0.8	0.6	0.4
Size classes								
A (4).....	M	146.9	147.4	147.5	147.8	0.6	0.3	0.2
B/C (3).....	M	102.5	102.6	102.7	103.0	0.5	0.4	0.3
D	M	159.2	159.6	159.5	159.9	0.4	0.2	0.3
Selected local areas								
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI	M	159.6	160.5	160.6	161.1	0.9	0.4	0.3

Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA	M	157.2	157.9	158.1	158.5	0.8	0.4	0.3
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA	M	170.5	170.9	170.8	171.0	0.3	0.1	0.1
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT	1	-	172.2	-	172.7	-	0.3	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH	1	-	152.8	-	152.9	-	0.1	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	154.8	-	155.9	-	0.7	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV (5).....	1	-	102.7	-	103.0	-	0.3	-
Atlanta, GA	2	158.8	-	159.3	-	-	-	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI	2	155.9	-	155.9	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	144.8	-	145.2	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	158.7	-	158.8	-	-	-	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	168.5	-	167.9	-	-	-	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	163.7	-	165.8	-	-	-	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA	2	164.9	-	166.2	-	-	-	-

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

M - Every month.

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

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

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

3 Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.

4 Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

5 Indexes on a November 1996=100 base.

- Data not available.

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