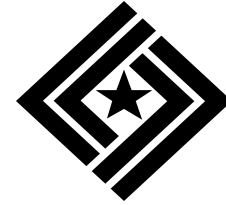


News

United States
Department
of Labor



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UNTIL 8:30 A.M. (EDT)

Wednesday, April 14, 2004

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: MARCH 2004

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.6 percent in March, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The March level of 187.4 (1982-84=100) was 1.7 percent higher than in March 2003.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.5 percent in March, prior to seasonal adjustment. The March level of 182.9 was 1.4 percent higher than in March 2003.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.6 percent in March, prior to seasonal adjustment. The March level of 109.4 (December 1999=100) was 1.4 percent higher than in March 2003. Please note that the indexes for the post-2002 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.5 percent in March, following an increase of 0.3 percent in February. Energy costs advanced sharply for the third consecutive month--up 1.9 percent in March. Within energy, the index for petroleum-based energy increased 5.0 percent, while the index for energy services decreased 1.4 percent. The index for food rose 0.2 percent in March, the same as in February. The index for all items less food and energy, which rose 0.2 percent in February, increased 0.4 percent in March. Upturns in the indexes for lodging while away from home and for apparel accounted for the larger advance in March.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Mar. '04	
	Changes from preceding month								
	2003				2004				Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Mar. '04
	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.		
All Items	.3	-.1	-.2	.2	.5	.3	.5	5.1	1.7
Food and beverages	.3	.4	.4	.5	-.1	.2	.2	1.5	3.2
Housing	.1	.2	-.1	.2	.4	.2	.3	3.5	2.0
Apparel	.2	.2	-.5	-.3	-.3	-.1	.9	2.0	-.1
Transportation	.9	-1.4	-1.3	-.2	1.7	.7	1.1	14.9	-.3
Medical care	.4	.2	.3	.5	.2	.6	.6	5.8	4.5
Recreation	.1	-.1	.2	.1	.0	.3	.3	2.2	1.3
Education and communication	.2	.0	.2	.2	.1	.3	.1	1.8	1.6
Other goods and services	.1	.1	.0	.2	.3	.2	.2	2.8	2.0
Special Indexes									
Energy	3.3	-3.5	-3.0	.3	4.7	1.7	1.9	38.6	.4
Food	.2	.5	.4	.5	.0	.2	.2	1.3	3.2
All Items less food and energy	.1	.2	.0	.1	.2	.2	.4	2.9	1.6

For the first three months of 2004, consumer prices increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of 5.1 percent. This compares with an increase of 1.9 percent for all of 2003. The index for energy, which rose 6.9 percent in 2003, accelerated in the first quarter of 2004, advancing at a 38.6 percent SAAR and accounting for about half of the first quarter advance in the overall CPI-U. Petroleum-based energy costs increased at an 82.5 percent annual rate and charges for energy services rose at a 4.2 percent annual rate. The food index rose at a 1.3 percent SAAR in the first quarter of 2004. The index for grocery store food prices decreased at a 0.2 percent annual rate, reflecting declines in the indexes for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs and for fruits and vegetables--down at annual rates of 3.7 and 2.2 percent, respectively.

Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 2.9 percent SAAR in the first quarter, following a 1.1 percent rise in all of 2003. While many categories advanced at a faster rate in the first quarter of 2004 than in all of 2003, most of the acceleration was accounted for by larger increases in the indexes for shelter and for medical care, and an upturn in the index for apparel. The annual rates for selected groups for the last seven and one-quarter years are shown below.

	Percentage change 12 months ended in December							SAAR 3 mos. ended in March
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
All items	1.7	1.6	2.7	3.4	1.6	2.4	1.9	5.1
Food and beverages	1.6	2.3	2.0	2.8	2.8	1.5	3.5	1.5
Housing	2.4	2.3	2.2	4.3	2.9	2.4	2.2	3.5
Apparel	1.0	-.7	-.5	-1.8	-3.2	-1.8	-2.1	2.0
Transportation	-1.4	-1.7	5.4	4.1	-3.8	3.8	.3	14.9
Medical care	2.8	3.4	3.7	4.2	4.7	5.0	3.7	5.8
Recreation	1.5	1.2	.8	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.1	2.2
Education and communication	3.0	.7	1.6	1.3	3.2	2.2	1.6	1.8
Other goods and services	5.2	8.8	5.1	4.2	4.5	3.3	1.5	2.8
Special indexes								
Energy	-3.4	-8.8	13.4	14.2	-13.0	10.7	6.9	38.6
Energy commodities	-6.9	-15.1	29.5	15.7	-24.5	23.7	6.9	82.5
Energy services	.2	-3.3	1.2	12.7	-1.5	.4	6.9	4.2
All items less energy	2.1	2.4	2.0	2.6	2.8	1.8	1.5	2.7
Food	1.5	2.3	1.9	2.8	2.8	1.5	3.6	1.3
All items less food and energy	2.2	2.4	1.9	2.6	2.7	1.9	1.1	2.9

The food and beverages index increased 0.2 percent in March. The index for food at home, which rose 0.1 percent in February, advanced 0.2 percent in March. The index for fruits and vegetables increased 0.3 percent in March, following a 1.0 percent rise in February. The indexes for fresh fruits and for processed fruits and vegetables each increased 0.6 percent, while the index for fresh vegetables declined 0.3 percent. The index for dairy products rose 0.5 percent in March, following declines in the first two months of 2004. The index for cereals and bakery products also increased 0.5 percent in March, as price increases for bakery products more than offset a decline in cereal prices. The index for other food at home rose 0.6 percent, reflecting a 15.2 percent increase in the index for butter. Partially offsetting these increases were decreases in the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs and for nonalcoholic beverages. The index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs declined 0.3 percent. The index for beef and veal, which rose sharply in 2003, declined for the third consecutive month--down 2.5 percent in March. Despite the recent declines, beef prices were 12.8 percent higher than in March 2003. The indexes for pork and for poultry, each of which declined in February, turned up sharply in March--advancing 1.1 and 2.1 percent, respectively. The index for nonalcoholic beverages decreased 0.2 percent, reflecting a decline in prices for carbonated drinks. The other two components of the food and beverage index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.2 and 0.5 percent, respectively.

The index for housing rose 0.3 percent in March. Shelter costs, which rose 0.1 percent in February, increased 0.6 percent in March, largely as a result of a 3.8 percent advance in the index for lodging away from home. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the index for lodging away from home rose 6.8 percent.) The indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent increased 0.2 and 0.3 percent, respectively. The index for fuels and utilities declined 1.1 percent, following a 0.9 percent increase in February. Prices for each of the three major household fuels declined in March. The index for fuel oil decreased 1.0 percent; the indexes for natural gas and for electricity fell 2.4 and 0.9 percent, respectively. The index for household furnishings and operations, which increased in the first two months of 2004, turned back down in March. A 0.2 percent drop in March brought the index 1.1 percent lower than in March 2003.

The transportation index rose 1.1 percent in March. A 5.5 percent increase in the index for gasoline accounted for over 95 percent of the advance in the overall transportation component. As of March, the price of gasoline was 1.6 percent higher than its previous peak level of March 2003. The index for new vehicles, which rose 0.4 percent in February, turned back down in March, declining 0.1 percent. During the last 12 months, new vehicle prices have fallen 1.0 percent. The index for used cars and trucks rose 0.2 percent in March, but during the last 12 months this index has declined 11.6 percent. Airline fares registered their third consecutive advance, up 1.1 percent in March, and are 0.5 percent higher than a year ago.

The index for apparel increased 0.9 percent in March. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices rose 4.1 percent, reflecting the continued introduction of spring-summer wear.)

Medical care costs rose 0.6 percent in March to a level 4.5 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.2 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.7 percent in March. Charges for physician's services and for hospital and related services increased 0.9 and 0.5 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation rose 0.3 percent in March. Increases in the indexes for pets, pet products and services and for recreational reading materials--recreational books, newspapers, and magazines--each up 0.9 percent--accounted for nearly one-half of the March advance in the index for recreation.

The index for education and communication increased 0.1 percent in March. The education index rose 0.6 percent, while the index for communication costs declined 0.3 percent. Within the latter group, the index for telephone services decreased 0.4 percent, reflecting a decline in long distance charges. The index for personal computers and peripheral equipment declined 1.3 percent in March and 16.8 percent during the last 12 months.

The index for other goods and services rose 0.2 percent in March. The indexes for tobacco and smoking products and for personal care each increased 0.2 percent. Within personal care, the index for legal services advanced 0.8 percent in March, the same as in each of the preceding two months.

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

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers increased 0.5 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. '04	Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Mar. '04
	Changes from preceding month								
	2003				2004				
	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.		
All Items	.3	-.2	-.3	.2	.6	.3	.5	5.4	1.4
Food and beverages	.3	.5	.5	.4	-.1	.2	.2	1.3	3.3
Housing	.2	.1	-.1	.2	.5	.2	.2	3.6	1.8
Apparel	.4	.2	-.4	-.3	-.1	.0	.8	3.0	.3
Transportation	.8	-1.7	-1.6	-.2	1.8	.6	1.3	16.0	-1.1
Medical care	.4	.3	.3	.4	.3	.7	.6	6.1	4.6
Recreation	.0	-.1	.2	.1	-.1	.4	.3	2.3	1.0
Education and communication	.1	.0	.1	.1	.1	.2	.1	1.5	.8
Other goods and services	-.1	.1	-.1	.3	.3	.2	.2	2.5	1.7
Special Indexes									
Energy	3.4	-3.6	-3.1	.3	4.9	1.6	2.2	41.1	.6
Food	.3	.5	.5	.5	-.1	.2	.2	1.1	3.3
All Items less food and energy	-.1	.1	-.1	.1	.2	.2	.3	2.8	1.1

Consumer Price Index data for April are scheduled for release on Friday, May 14, 2004, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

CPI (Old Weights)

For the first six months of 2004, BLS also will calculate Old Weights CPI-U and Old Weights CPI-W based on the 1999-2000 expenditure pattern used in the CPI from 2002 through 2003. These Old Weight data are contained in tables 1(OW)-4(OW). From February to March, the Old Weight CPI-U rose 0.6 percent and the Old Weight CPI-W rose 0.5 percent. Note these series are not seasonally adjusted.

Facilities for Sensory Impaired

Information from this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200, Federal Relay Services: 1-800-877-8339. For a recorded message of Summary CPI data, call (202) 691-5200.

Brief Explanation of the CPI

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time of goods and services purchased by households. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), which covers households of wage earners and clerical workers that comprise approximately 32 percent of the total population and (2) the CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) and the Chained CPI for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U), which cover approximately 87 percent of the total population and include in addition to wage earners and clerical worker households, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPIs are based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 50,000 housing units and approximately 23,000 retail establishments—department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index. Prices of fuels and a few other items are obtained every month in all 87 locations. Prices of most other commodities and services are collected every month in the three largest geographic areas and every other month in other areas. Prices of most goods and services are obtained by personal visits or telephone calls of the Bureau's trained representatives.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights, which represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. For the CPI-U and CPI-W separate indexes are also published by size of city, by region of the country, for cross-classifications of regions and population-size classes, and for 27 local areas. Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices among cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period. For the C-CPI-U data are issued only at the national level. It is important to note that the CPI-U and CPI-W are considered final when released, but the C-CPI-U is issued in preliminary form and subject to two annual revisions.

The index measures price change from a designed reference date. For the CPI-U and the CPI-W the reference base is 1982-84 equals 100.0. The reference base for the C-CPI-U is December 1999 equals 100. An increase of 16.5 percent from the reference base, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period market basket of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65.

For further details visit the CPI home page on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/> or contact our CPI Information and Analysis Section on (202) 691-7000.

Calculating Index Changes

Movements of the indexes from one month to another are usually expressed as percent changes rather than changes in index points, because index point changes are affected by the level of the index in relation to its base period while percent changes are not. The example below illustrates the computation of index point and percent changes.

Percent changes for 3-month and 6-month periods are expressed as annual rates and are computed according to the standard formula for compound growth rates. These data indicate what the percent change would be if the current rate were maintained for a 12-month period.

Index Point Change

CPI	115.7
Less previous index	111.2
Equals index point change	4.5

Percent Change

Index point difference	4.5
Divided by the previous index	111.2
Equals	0.040
Results multiplied by one hundred	0.040x100
Equals percent change	4.0

Regions Defined

The states in the four regions shown in Tables 3 and 6 are listed below.

The Northeast--Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

The Midwest--Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

The South--Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

The West--Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

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 1999 through 2003 were replaced at the end of 2003. In January 2002, dependently seasonally adjusted series were revised for January 1987-December 2001 as a result of a change in the aggregation weights for dependently adjusted series. For further information, please see "Aggregation of Dependently Adjusted Seasonally Adjusted Series," in the October 2001 issue of the CPI Detailed Report.

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. Note: 47 of the 73 components are seasonally adjusted for 2004.

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, natural gas, motor fuels, and educational books and supplies 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 the Nonalcoholic beverages index, the procedure was used to offset the effects of labor and supply problems for coffee. The procedure was used to account for unusual butter fat supply reductions, decreases in milk supply, and large swings in soybean oil inventories affecting the Fats and oils series. For the Water and sewerage maintenance index, the procedure was used to account for a data collection anomaly and dry weather in California. For Dairy products, it mitigated the effects of significant changes in milk production levels and higher demand for cheese.

For Electricity, it was used to offset an increase in demand due to warmer than expected weather, increased rates to conserve supplies, and declining natural gas inventories. For New vehicles, New cars, and New trucks, the procedure was used to offset the effects of a model changeover combined with financing incentives.

For additional information on seasonal adjustment in the CPI, please write to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, Washington, DC 20212 or contact Daniel Chow on (202) 691-6968 by e-mail at Chow.Daniel@bls.gov. If you have general questions about the CPI, please call our information staff at (202) 691-7000.

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 Expenditure category	Relative importance, December 2003	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2004 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Feb. 2004	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.
All items	100.000	186.2	187.4	1.7	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.5
All items (1967=100)	-	557.9	561.5	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	15.384	184.5	184.9	3.2	.2	-.1	.2	.2
Food	14.383	184.1	184.4	3.2	.2	.0	.2	.2
Food at home	8.256	184.0	184.3	3.7	.2	-.3	.1	.2
Cereals and bakery products	1.202	204.4	204.8	1.3	.2	.1	.0	.5
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	2.320	179.7	179.5	8.9	-.1	.0	-.7	-.3
Dairy and related products .....	.842	172.1	171.9	2.9	-.1	-.3	-.2	.5
Fruits and vegetables	1.221	229.7	230.1	2.9	.2	-1.8	1.0	.3
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	.905	141.4	140.8	.4	-.4	.3	.1	-.2
Other food at home	1.765	163.7	165.1	1.5	.9	-.4	.8	.6
Sugar and sweets .....	.305	163.9	163.3	.5	-.4	-.3	.8	-.3
Fats and oils .....	.251	162.3	166.2	5.5	2.4	1.1	1.1	2.5
Other foods	1.210	178.9	180.4	1.0	.8	-.7	.8	.4
Other miscellaneous foods ^{1 2} .....	.308	109.5	111.7	1.5	2.0	-.6	.4	2.0
Food away from home ¹	6.127	185.5	185.8	2.7	.2	.3	.3	.2
Other food away from home ² .....	.332	124.0	124.1	3.1	.1	1.0	.1	.2
Alcoholic beverages ¹	1.001	189.9	190.8	2.3	.5	.4	.3	.5
Housing	42.089	187.0	187.9	2.0	.5	.4	.2	.3
Shelter	32.878	216.0	217.8	2.7	.8	.1	.1	.6
Rent of primary residence ³	6.157	208.8	209.2	2.5	.2	.1	.2	.2
Lodging away from home ²	2.954	120.0	128.1	7.0	6.8	-.2	-1.6	3.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{3 4}	23.383	222.9	223.3	2.0	.2	.1	.2	.3
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2} .....	.385	115.0	115.1	1.0	.1	.4	.2	.1
Fuels and utilities	4.741	156.9	155.2	.5	-1.1	1.6	.9	-1.1
Fuels	3.830	139.5	137.6	-.6	-1.4	1.9	.9	-1.4
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.231	155.1	152.5	-9.8	-1.7	6.8	1.0	-1.8
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	3.599	145.5	143.5	.0	-1.4	1.6	.9	-1.4
Water and sewer and trash collection services ² .....	.910	121.8	122.2	5.4	.3	.5	1.1	.1
Household furnishings and operations	4.470	125.7	125.7	-1.1	.0	.4	.2	-.2
Household operations ^{1 2} .....	.704	123.4	123.6	1.6	.2	.1	.6	.2
Apparel	3.975	118.6	123.5	-.1	4.1	-.3	-.1	.9
Men's and boys' apparel	1.024	117.1	119.8	-1.0	2.3	-.1	.3	-.1
Women's and girls' apparel	1.704	110.3	117.6	.3	6.6	-.7	-.2	1.5
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.195	119.3	121.9	-1.8	2.2	.2	.3	.4
Footwear .....	.778	117.0	120.1	.3	2.6	-.8	.3	1.0
Transportation	16.881	158.8	160.5	-.3	1.1	1.7	.7	1.1
Private transportation	15.817	154.9	156.6	-.4	1.1	1.9	.7	1.2
New and used motor vehicles ²	7.912	94.4	94.2	-3.9	-.2	-.1	.2	-.2
New vehicles	4.817	138.3	137.9	-1.0	-.3	-.1	.4	-.1
Used cars and trucks ¹	2.007	131.0	131.2	-11.6	.2	-.2	.2	.2
Motor fuel	3.249	143.1	150.5	1.6	5.2	8.1	2.5	5.5
Gasoline (all types)	3.222	142.5	149.8	1.6	5.1	8.1	2.5	5.5
Motor vehicle parts and equipment ¹ .....	.369	108.0	107.8	-.1	-.2	.3	.0	-.2
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.349	198.2	198.5	2.2	.2	.1	-.1	.3
Public transportation	1.064	208.1	209.9	1.8	.9	.2	.0	.3
Medical care	6.074	306.0	307.5	4.5	.5	.2	.6	.6
Medical care commodities	1.499	266.7	267.3	2.3	.2	.1	.4	.2
Medical care services	4.575	316.6	318.4	5.2	.6	.3	.7	.7
Professional services	2.749	268.0	269.7	4.1	.6	.2	.8	.7
Hospital and related services ³	1.489	412.5	413.8	6.5	.3	.3	.5	.5

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-U	Relative importance, December 2003	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2004 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Feb. 2004	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.
Expenditure category								
Recreation ²	5.872	108.4	108.8	1.3	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.3
Video and audio ²	1.736	104.1	104.3	.6	.2	-.3	.1	.3
Education and communication ²	5.948	111.2	111.1	1.6	-.1	.1	.3	.1
Education ²	2.841	140.4	140.6	7.2	.1	.5	.5	.6
Educational books and supplies .....	.219	348.6	348.9	4.7	.1	-.5	.4	.6
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.623	404.2	404.7	7.5	.1	.6	.4	.6
Communication ²	3.107	88.1	87.7	-3.9	-.5	-.3	.0	-.3
Information and information processing ^{1 2}	2.925	86.1	85.7	-4.2	-.5	-.1	.0	-.5
Telephone services ^{1 2}	2.315	97.1	96.7	-3.0	-.4	-.2	.1	-.4
Information technology, hardware and services ^{1 5} .....	.610	15.2	15.2	-9.5	.0	.0	-.7	.0
Personal computers and peripheral equipment ^{1 2} .....	.230	16.0	15.8	-16.8	-1.3	.0	-1.2	-1.3
Other goods and services	3.776	302.3	303.1	2.0	.3	.3	.2	.2
Tobacco and smoking products ¹ .....	.806	472.6	473.6	1.4	.2	.6	-.1	.2
Personal care	2.970	180.4	180.9	2.1	.3	.2	.3	.2
Personal care products ¹ .....	.680	154.5	154.5	.8	.0	.3	.5	.0
Personal care services ¹ .....	.650	195.2	195.8	2.1	.3	.2	.3	.3
Miscellaneous personal services	1.448	290.4	291.6	3.6	.4	.3	.3	.4
Commodity and service group								
Commodities	40.117	152.3	153.7	.4	.9	.7	.5	.7
Food and beverages	15.384	184.5	184.9	3.2	.2	-.1	.2	.2
Commodities less food and beverages	24.733	134.2	136.0	-1.4	1.3	1.1	.5	1.0
Nondurables less food and beverages	13.458	151.4	155.3	.5	2.6	1.2	.4	1.6
Apparel	3.975	118.6	123.5	-1	4.1	-.3	-.1	.9
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	9.483	175.6	179.1	.7	2.0	2.8	1.1	2.5
Durables	11.275	115.3	115.1	-3.7	-.2	-.1	.4	-.2
Services	59.883	219.9	221.0	2.7	.5	.3	.2	.4
Rent of shelter ⁴	32.494	224.9	226.8	2.7	.8	.1	.2	.6
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2} .....	.385	115.0	115.1	1.0	.1	.4	.2	.1
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	3.599	145.5	143.5	.0	-1.4	1.6	.9	-1.4
Water and sewer and trash collection services ² .....	.910	121.8	122.2	5.4	.3	.5	1.1	.1
Household operations ^{1 2} .....	.704	123.4	123.6	1.6	.2	.1	.6	.2
Transportation services	6.319	219.3	219.7	2.6	.2	.5	.0	.0
Medical care services	4.575	316.6	318.4	5.2	.6	.3	.7	.7
Other services	10.896	259.2	259.5	2.7	.1	.2	.3	.2
Special indexes								
All items less food	85.617	186.6	188.0	1.5	.8	.5	.3	.5
All items less shelter	67.122	176.7	177.6	1.3	.5	.6	.5	.4
All items less medical care	93.926	180.1	181.3	1.6	.7	.4	.3	.4
Commodities less food	25.734	136.3	138.0	-1.3	1.2	1.0	.6	1.0
Nondurables less food	14.459	153.7	157.5	.6	2.5	1.0	.4	1.7
Nondurables less food and apparel	10.484	176.1	179.4	1.0	1.9	2.2	1.3	2.6
Nondurables	28.842	168.1	170.3	1.9	1.3	.5	.4	.8
Services less rent of shelter ⁴	27.389	230.6	230.7	2.8	.0	.3	.4	-.1
Services less medical care services	55.308	211.7	212.7	2.6	.5	.1	.1	.4
Energy	7.080	140.6	143.1	.4	1.8	4.7	1.7	1.9
All items less energy	92.920	192.7	193.7	1.8	.5	.2	.2	.4
All items less food and energy	78.537	194.9	196.1	1.6	.6	.2	.2	.4
Commodities less food and energy commodities	22.254	139.3	140.3	-1.6	.7	.0	.2	.1
Energy commodities	3.480	144.6	151.3	.8	4.6	8.0	2.5	5.0
Services less energy services	56.283	227.5	228.9	2.9	.6	.2	.1	.5
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00)	-	\$.537	\$.534	-	-	-	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00)	-	\$.179	\$.178	-	-	-	-	-

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 were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

⁴ Indexes on a December 1982=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 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					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	Dec. 2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	June 2003	Sep. 2003	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2004	Sep. 2003	Mar. 2004
Expenditure category										
All items	184.9	185.8	186.3	187.2	-1.1	3.5	-0.4	5.1	1.2	2.3
Food and beverages	184.0	183.9	184.3	184.7	2.7	2.9	5.6	1.5	2.8	3.6
Food	183.5	183.5	183.8	184.1	2.7	2.9	5.9	1.3	2.8	3.6
Food at home	184.0	183.4	183.6	183.9	3.7	3.6	7.7	-2	3.6	3.7
Cereals and bakery products	204.1	204.3	204.2	205.2	1.0	1.6	.8	2.2	1.3	1.5
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	180.5	180.5	179.3	178.8	8.0	9.4	23.6	-3.7	8.7	9.1
Dairy and related products	172.2	171.6	171.3	172.2	-6.1	14.0	4.5	.0	3.5	2.2
Fruits and vegetables	230.3	226.1	228.4	229.0	10.7	-1.2	5.2	-2.2	4.5	1.4
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	140.0	140.4	140.5	140.2	1.7	-2.3	1.2	.6	-3	.9
Other food at home	163.2	162.6	163.9	164.9	1.2	.0	.5	4.2	.6	2.3
Sugar and sweets	162.5	162.0	163.3	162.8	1.5	-1.0	.7	.7	.2	.7
Fats and oils	158.8	160.6	162.3	166.3	-1.3	.5	3.9	20.3	-4	11.8
Other foods	179.3	178.0	179.4	180.2	1.8	.2	-2	2.0	1.0	.9
Other miscellaneous foods ^{1 2}	109.8	109.1	109.5	111.7	5.2	-1.8	-4.3	7.1	1.6	1.3
Food away from home ¹	184.3	184.9	185.5	185.8	2.0	2.0	3.3	3.3	2.0	3.3
Other food away from home ²	122.7	123.9	124.0	124.2	3.7	-7	4.4	5.0	1.5	4.7
Alcoholic beverages ¹	188.7	189.4	189.9	190.8	1.1	1.7	1.7	4.5	1.4	3.1
Housing	186.1	186.8	187.1	187.7	1.5	1.5	1.3	3.5	1.5	2.4
Shelter	215.3	215.6	215.8	217.1	2.3	2.5	2.5	3.4	2.4	2.9
Rent of primary residence ³	207.8	208.1	208.6	209.0	2.8	2.8	2.1	2.3	2.8	2.2
Lodging away from home ²	122.0	121.7	119.8	124.4	10.4	1.7	7.9	8.1	5.9	8.0
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{3 4}	221.9	222.2	222.7	223.3	1.1	2.6	2.0	2.5	1.8	2.3
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2}	114.3	114.8	115.0	115.1	4.3	2.5	-5.4	2.8	3.4	-1.4
Fuels and utilities	155.0	157.5	158.9	157.1	-5	.5	-3.8	5.5	.0	.8
Fuels	137.9	140.5	141.8	139.8	-1.4	-6	-5.9	5.6	-1.0	-3
Fuel oil and other fuels	136.2	145.4	146.9	144.2	-49.8	6.4	-1.2	25.6	-26.9	11.4
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	145.0	147.3	148.6	146.5	3.3	-1.1	-6.1	4.2	1.1	-1.1
Water and sewer and trash collection services ²	119.9	120.5	121.8	121.9	3.5	5.6	5.5	6.8	4.5	6.2
Household furnishings and operations	124.9	125.4	125.7	125.5	-2.8	-3.1	-6	1.9	-3.0	.6
Household operations ^{1 2}	122.6	122.7	123.4	123.6	.7	1.7	1.0	3.3	1.2	2.1
Apparel	120.2	119.8	119.7	120.8	-7	.3	-2.3	2.0	-2	-2
Men's and boys' apparel	118.1	118.0	118.3	118.2	-7.2	2.1	1.0	.3	-2.7	.7
Women's and girls' apparel	112.5	111.7	111.5	113.2	1.4	-1.1	-1.4	2.5	.2	.5
Infants' and toddlers' apparel	119.3	119.5	119.8	120.3	-7	3.6	-12.6	3.4	1.5	-5.0
Footwear	119.0	118.0	118.3	119.5	1.0	1.0	-2.6	1.7	1.0	-5
Transportation	155.3	157.9	159.0	160.8	-12.1	9.5	-11.0	14.9	-1.9	1.1
Private transportation	151.1	153.9	155.0	156.9	-13.5	10.7	-12.0	16.3	-2.1	1.2
New and used motor vehicles ²	94.0	93.9	94.1	93.9	-2.4	-6.8	-6.1	-4	-4.6	-3.3
New vehicles	137.0	136.9	137.5	137.3	-3.1	-6	-1.4	.9	-1.9	-3
Used cars and trucks ¹	131.0	130.8	131.0	131.2	-2.9	-20.9	-21.1	.6	-12.4	-10.9
Motor fuel	130.9	141.5	145.1	153.1	-48.6	75.7	-37.0	87.1	-5.0	8.6
Gasoline (all types)	130.4	141.0	144.5	152.4	-48.8	76.7	-36.9	86.6	-4.9	8.5
Motor vehicle parts and equipment ¹	107.7	108.0	108.0	107.8	-7	.0	.0	.4	-4	.2
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	197.9	198.0	197.8	198.3	2.3	2.1	3.3	.8	2.2	2.0
Public transportation	209.7	210.1	210.0	210.6	8.0	-9	-9	1.7	3.4	.4
Medical care	302.7	303.4	305.3	307.0	3.6	4.5	4.2	5.8	4.1	5.0
Medical care commodities	265.4	265.7	266.7	267.3	.6	5.0	.8	2.9	2.8	1.8
Medical care services	312.6	313.5	315.7	317.8	4.4	4.4	5.3	6.8	4.4	6.1
Professional services	264.9	265.5	267.5	269.4	3.6	2.5	3.5	7.0	3.0	5.2
Hospital and related services ³	407.0	408.4	410.4	412.5	5.9	7.5	6.9	5.5	6.7	6.2

See footnotes at end of table.

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-Continued

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-U	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	Dec. 2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	June 2003	Sep. 2003	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2004	Sep. 2003	Mar. 2004
Expenditure category										
Recreation ²	108.0	108.0	108.3	108.6	1.5	0.7	0.7	2.2	1.1	1.5
Video and audio ²	103.9	103.6	103.7	104.0	1.2	1.2	.0	.4	1.2	.2
Education and communication ²	110.6	110.7	111.0	111.1	-.4	3.3	1.5	1.8	1.5	1.6
Education ²	138.8	139.5	140.2	141.0	6.9	9.0	6.6	6.5	7.9	6.5
Educational books and supplies	345.8	344.0	345.5	347.5	4.2	1.8	11.4	2.0	3.0	6.6
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	399.5	402.0	403.8	406.3	7.1	9.6	6.2	7.0	8.3	6.6
Communication ²	88.1	87.8	87.8	87.5	-7.3	-2.2	-3.6	-2.7	-4.8	-3.1
Information and information processing ^{1 2}	86.2	86.1	86.1	85.7	-9.9	-2.3	-2.3	-2.3	-6.2	-2.3
Telephone services ^{1 2}	97.2	97.0	97.1	96.7	-8.5	-.4	-.8	-2.0	-4.6	-1.4
Information technology, hardware and services ^{1 5}	15.3	15.3	15.2	15.2	-13.5	-14.0	-7.5	-2.6	-13.8	-5.1
Personal computers and peripheral equipment ^{1 2}	16.2	16.2	16.0	15.8	-28.0	-24.7	-2.4	-9.5	-26.4	-6.0
Other goods and services	300.8	301.7	302.3	302.9	1.1	2.7	1.2	2.8	1.9	2.0
Tobacco and smoking products ¹	470.4	473.0	472.6	473.6	-3.1	4.6	1.5	2.7	.6	2.1
Personal care	179.5	179.9	180.4	180.7	2.3	2.3	1.1	2.7	2.3	1.9
Personal care products ¹	153.4	153.8	154.5	154.5	1.3	-1.0	.0	2.9	.1	1.4
Personal care services ¹	194.3	194.6	195.2	195.8	2.3	5.5	-2.2	3.1	3.9	.4
Miscellaneous personal services	288.2	289.1	289.9	291.1	4.3	2.6	3.8	4.1	3.4	4.0
Commodity and service group										
Commodities	150.7	151.7	152.4	153.4	-6.4	4.6	-3.6	7.4	-1.0	1.7
Food and beverages	184.0	183.9	184.3	184.7	2.7	2.9	5.6	1.5	2.8	3.6
Commodities less food and beverages	132.2	133.7	134.4	135.7	-11.7	5.8	-9.1	11.0	-3.3	.4
Nondurables less food and beverages	150.4	152.2	152.8	155.3	-21.3	14.5	-.3	13.7	-5.1	6.5
Apparel	120.2	119.8	119.7	120.8	-.7	.3	-2.3	2.0	-.2	-.2
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	169.3	174.1	176.0	180.4	-23.1	22.4	-15.0	28.9	-3.0	4.7
Durables	114.8	114.7	115.2	115.0	-4.6	-6.3	-4.4	.7	-5.5	-1.9
Services	218.9	219.5	220.0	220.8	2.8	2.6	2.0	3.5	2.7	2.8
Rent of shelter ⁴	224.1	224.3	224.7	226.1	2.2	2.4	2.4	3.6	2.3	3.0
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2}	114.3	114.8	115.0	115.1	4.3	2.5	-5.4	2.8	3.4	-1.4
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	145.0	147.3	148.6	146.5	3.3	-1.1	-6.1	4.2	1.1	-1.1
Water and sewer and trash collection services ²	119.9	120.5	121.8	121.9	3.5	5.6	5.5	6.8	4.5	6.2
Household operations ^{1 2}	122.6	122.7	123.4	123.6	.7	1.7	1.0	3.3	1.2	2.1
Transportation services	218.2	219.2	219.2	219.3	5.1	1.7	1.3	2.0	3.4	1.7
Medical care services	312.6	313.5	315.7	317.8	4.4	4.4	5.3	6.8	4.4	6.1
Other services	257.6	258.0	258.8	259.4	2.2	4.0	2.0	2.8	3.1	2.4
Special indexes										
All items less food	185.2	186.2	186.7	187.7	-1.7	3.5	-1.3	5.5	.9	2.1
All items less shelter	175.1	176.1	176.9	177.6	-2.5	4.0	-1.6	5.8	.7	2.1
All items less medical care	178.9	179.7	180.2	181.0	-1.1	3.2	-.4	4.8	1.0	2.1
Commodities less food	134.3	135.7	136.5	137.8	-11.2	5.4	-8.5	10.8	-3.3	.7
Nondurables less food	152.8	154.3	154.9	157.5	-20.2	14.2	-.3	12.9	-4.5	6.1
Nondurables less food and apparel	170.2	173.9	176.1	180.6	-21.1	19.6	-13.1	26.8	-2.9	4.9
Nondurables	167.4	168.2	168.8	170.2	-8.6	7.0	3.2	6.9	-1.1	5.0
Services less rent of shelter ⁴	229.5	230.2	231.1	230.9	3.4	3.2	2.1	2.5	3.3	2.3
Services less medical care services	211.1	211.4	211.7	212.5	2.7	2.7	2.1	2.7	2.7	2.4
Energy	134.1	140.4	142.8	145.5	-27.5	30.1	-22.2	38.6	-2.9	3.8
All items less energy	191.9	192.2	192.5	193.2	1.5	1.5	1.7	2.7	1.5	2.2
All items less food and energy	194.1	194.4	194.8	195.5	1.3	1.2	.8	2.9	1.3	1.9
Commodities less food and energy commodities	139.1	139.1	139.4	139.6	-2.2	-2.8	-2.8	1.4	-2.5	-.7
Energy commodities	131.9	142.4	146.0	153.3	-48.6	70.2	-35.2	82.5	-6.5	8.8
Services less energy services	226.4	226.9	227.2	228.3	2.7	2.9	2.5	3.4	2.8	3.0

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 were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

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)

CPI-U	Pricing schedule 1	All items									
		Indexes				Percent change to Mar.2004 from—			Percent change to Feb.2004 from—		
		Dec. 2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Feb. 2003	Dec. 2003	Jan. 2004
U.S. city average	M	184.3	185.2	186.2	187.4	1.7	1.2	0.6	1.7	1.0	0.5
Region and area size²											
Northeast urban	M	194.9	195.9	196.8	198.6	2.9	1.4	.9	2.7	1.0	.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	197.1	197.9	198.8	200.7	3.1	1.4	1.0	2.7	.9	.5
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	115.0	116.0	116.6	117.4	2.1	1.2	.7	2.5	1.4	.5
Midwest urban	M	178.4	179.4	180.2	181.0	1.3	.9	.4	1.3	1.0	.4
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	180.9	181.8	182.5	183.1	1.3	.7	.3	1.4	.9	.4
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	113.3	114.1	114.7	115.2	1.4	1.0	.4	1.7	1.2	.5
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	171.5	171.8	173.0	174.1	.6	1.3	.6	.3	.9	.7
South urban	M	177.5	178.2	179.1	180.1	1.5	1.1	.6	1.5	.9	.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	179.2	179.8	180.8	181.8	1.5	1.1	.6	1.4	.9	.6
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	113.3	113.8	114.3	114.9	1.4	1.0	.5	1.6	.9	.4
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	175.1	175.3	176.8	177.7	1.3	1.4	.5	1.1	1.0	.9
West urban	M	188.3	189.4	190.8	192.2	1.5	1.5	.7	1.4	1.3	.7
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	190.6	191.7	193.2	194.5	1.2	1.5	.7	1.2	1.4	.8
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	115.2	116.0	117.0	117.9	2.2	1.6	.8	2.2	1.6	.9
Size classes											
A ⁴	M	168.7	169.4	170.4	171.5	1.8	1.2	.6	1.7	1.0	.6
B/C ³	M	113.8	114.6	115.2	115.9	1.7	1.1	.6	1.9	1.2	.5
D	M	176.5	176.9	177.9	178.9	1.1	1.1	.6	1.1	.8	.6
Selected local areas⁵											
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI	M	185.5	185.4	186.4	186.3	.8	.5	-.1	1.2	.5	.5
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ...	M	187.0	188.5	190.1	191.5	1.8	1.6	.7	1.9	1.7	.8
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA	M	199.3	199.9	201.1	203.4	3.2	1.8	1.1	2.5	.9	.6
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT	1	-	208.4	-	208.7	2.9	.1	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH	1	-	178.4	-	180.0	2.6	.9	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	175.7	-	177.7	.5	1.1	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV ⁶	1	-	117.1	-	118.1	1.9	.9	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA	2	179.0	-	180.8	-	-	-	-	.1	1.0	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI	2	181.3	-	183.4	-	-	-	-	.5	1.2	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	164.1	-	168.5	-	-	-	-	2.7	2.7	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	181.6	-	183.6	-	-	-	-	1.8	1.1	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	189.0	-	191.4	-	-	-	-	2.6	1.3	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	195.3	-	198.1	-	-	-	-	.2	1.4	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA	2	191.0	-	193.5	-	-	-	-	1.2	1.3	-

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

- M - Every month.
- 1 - January, March, May, July, September, and November.
- 2 - February, April, June, August, October, and December.

² Regions defined as the four Census regions. See 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; Phoenix-Mesa, AZ; 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: Local area indexes are byproducts of the national CPI program. Each local index has a smaller sample size than the national index and is, therefore, subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are similar. Therefore, the Bureau of Labor Statistics strongly urges users to consider adopting the national average CPI for use in their escalator clauses.

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 Expenditure category	Relative importance, December 2003	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2004 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Feb. 2004	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.
All items	100.000	181.9	182.9	1.4	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.5
All items (1967=100)	-	541.7	544.8	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	17.151	184.0	184.4	3.3	.2	-.1	.2	.2
Food	16.061	183.5	183.8	3.3	.2	-.1	.2	.2
Food at home	9.637	183.2	183.5	3.8	.2	-.3	.1	.2
Cereals and bakery products	1.364	204.4	204.9	1.4	.2	.1	.1	.4
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	2.908	179.7	179.6	9.0	-.1	-.1	-.6	-.2
Dairy and related products .....	.955	171.7	171.3	2.8	-.2	-.3	-.3	.4
Fruits and vegetables	1.344	227.5	227.8	2.5	.1	-2.0	1.3	.1
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	1.076	140.8	140.1	.4	-.5	.2	.1	-.4
Other food at home	1.991	163.3	164.7	1.6	.9	-.4	.7	.7
Sugar and sweets .....	.321	162.2	162.6	.3	-.4	-.2	.6	-.2
Fats and oils .....	.303	162.2	166.0	5.3	2.3	1.3	.9	2.4
Other foods	1.366	179.4	180.8	1.1	.8	-.8	.7	.5
Other miscellaneous foods ^{1 2} .....	.350	110.1	112.2	1.5	1.9	-.6	.5	1.9
Food away from home ¹	6.424	185.3	185.6	2.5	.2	.3	.3	.2
Other food away from home ² .....	.252	123.8	123.8	2.6	.0	.6	.2	.1
Alcoholic beverages ¹	1.090	190.0	191.2	2.4	.6	.3	.3	.6
Housing	39.114	182.6	183.2	1.8	.3	.5	.2	.2
Shelter	30.151	209.8	211.0	2.5	.6	.3	.0	.4
Rent of primary residence ³	8.065	208.0	208.4	2.5	.2	.2	.3	.2
Lodging away from home ²	1.722	121.1	128.8	7.0	6.4	.7	-1.9	3.6
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{3 4}	20.026	202.3	202.7	2.0	.2	.2	.1	.3
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2} .....	.337	115.1	115.2	1.2	.1	.4	.2	.1
Fuels and utilities	5.079	156.2	154.7	.7	-1.0	1.6	.9	-1.0
Fuels	4.146	138.3	136.6	-.3	-1.2	1.8	.9	-1.3
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.216	154.5	152.0	-9.5	-1.6	6.9	.8	-1.9
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	3.930	144.7	142.9	.2	-1.2	1.6	.8	-1.2
Water and sewer and trash collection services ² .....	.933	121.9	122.4	5.5	.4	.6	1.1	.2
Household furnishings and operations	3.884	121.4	121.4	-1.1	.0	.4	.2	.0
Household operations ^{1 2} .....	.318	124.9	125.4	2.4	.4	-.1	1.0	.4
Apparel	4.357	118.3	122.9	.3	3.9	-.1	.0	.8
Men's and boys' apparel	1.120	117.4	120.0	-.5	2.2	.2	.3	-.1
Women's and girls' apparel	1.727	109.8	117.4	1.3	6.9	-.5	-.4	1.9
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.250	122.2	125.2	-.5	2.5	.7	.7	.4
Footwear	1.011	116.4	118.6	-.8	1.9	-.3	.2	.3
Transportation	19.145	156.8	158.5	-1.1	1.1	1.8	.6	1.3
Private transportation	18.348	154.0	155.7	-1.3	1.1	1.9	.7	1.3
New and used motor vehicles ²	9.305	92.8	92.6	-5.5	-2	-.1	.1	-.1
New vehicles	4.864	139.5	139.0	-1.0	-.4	-.1	.4	-.2
Used cars and trucks ¹	3.487	131.7	132.0	-11.5	.2	-.1	.1	.2
Motor fuel	3.967	143.6	150.9	1.6	5.1	8.1	2.5	5.4
Gasoline (all types)	3.936	143.0	150.3	1.7	5.1	8.1	2.5	5.4
Motor vehicle parts and equipment ¹ .....	.456	107.6	107.4	.2	-.2	.3	.0	-.2
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.365	200.1	200.3	2.2	.1	.0	.0	.2
Public transportation .....	.797	206.2	208.0	3.0	.9	.4	.1	.3
Medical care	4.969	305.4	306.9	4.6	.5	.3	.7	.6
Medical care commodities	1.142	260.9	261.5	2.1	.2	.1	.3	.2
Medical care services	3.827	316.8	318.6	5.3	.6	.3	.8	.6
Professional services	2.256	270.6	272.3	4.2	.6	.2	.8	.7
Hospital and related services ³	1.254	408.7	409.9	6.4	.3	.5	.4	.5

See footnotes at end of table.

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-Continued

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W Expenditure category	Relative importance, December 2003	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2004 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Feb. 2004	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.
Expenditure category								
Recreation ²	5.697	106.2	106.5	1.0	0.3	-0.1	0.4	0.3
Video and audio ²	1.928	103.2	103.5	.6	.3	-.4	.1	.4
Education and communication ²	5.645	110.0	109.8	.8	-.2	.1	.2	.1
Education ²	2.299	139.4	139.6	6.7	.1	.7	.4	.6
Educational books and supplies .....	.215	349.5	349.9	4.8	.1	-.7	.7	.5
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.084	393.3	393.8	7.0	.1	.7	.4	.5
Communication ²	3.345	89.6	89.3	-3.8	-.3	-.3	.1	-.3
Information and information processing ^{1 2}	3.194	88.2	87.9	-4.0	-.3	-.1	.0	-.3
Telephone services ^{1 2}	2.622	97.3	96.9	-3.0	-.4	-.2	.1	-.4
Information technology, hardware and services ^{1 5} .....	.572	15.8	15.7	-9.8	-.6	.0	.0	-.6
Personal computers and peripheral equipment ^{1 2} .....	.205	15.7	15.5	-16.7	-1.3	-.6	-.6	-1.3
Other goods and services	3.923	310.0	310.8	1.7	.3	.3	.2	.2
Tobacco and smoking products ¹	1.248	473.2	474.2	1.1	.2	.5	-.1	.2
Personal care	2.675	179.1	179.7	2.0	.3	.2	.3	.2
Personal care products ¹ .....	.737	155.0	155.0	.8	.0	.2	.5	.0
Personal care services ¹ .....	.610	195.7	196.3	2.0	.3	.1	.3	.3
Miscellaneous personal services	1.152	290.2	291.6	3.7	.5	.3	.3	.4
Commodity and service group								
Commodities	44.582	152.7	154.1	.1	.9	.7	.4	.7
Food and beverages	17.151	184.0	184.4	3.3	.2	-.1	.2	.2
Commodities less food and beverages	27.430	135.2	137.0	-1.9	1.3	1.3	.5	1.0
Nondurables less food and beverages	14.671	154.3	158.4	.7	2.7	1.3	.4	1.9
Apparel	4.357	118.3	122.9	.3	3.9	-.1	.0	.8
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.315	180.2	184.1	.8	2.2	2.9	1.3	2.8
Durables	12.759	114.2	114.0	-4.8	-.2	-.1	.4	-.2
Services	55.418	216.0	216.7	2.6	.3	.4	.2	.2
Rent of shelter ⁴	29.813	202.0	203.2	2.5	.6	.2	.1	.5
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2} .....	.337	115.1	115.2	1.2	.1	.4	.2	.1
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	3.930	144.7	142.9	.2	-1.2	1.6	.8	-1.2
Water and sewer and trash collection services ² .....	.933	121.9	122.4	5.5	.4	.6	1.1	.2
Household operations ^{1 2} .....	.318	124.9	125.4	2.4	.4	-.1	1.0	.4
Transportation services	6.241	219.7	220.0	2.9	.1	.5	.0	.1
Medical care services	3.827	316.8	318.6	5.3	.6	.3	.8	.6
Other services	10.020	252.6	252.9	2.4	.1	.2	.3	.2
Special indexes								
All items less food	83.939	181.4	182.6	1.1	.7	.7	.3	.5
All items less shelter	69.849	173.7	174.7	1.0	.6	.6	.5	.4
All items less medical care	95.031	176.6	177.6	1.3	.6	.6	.3	.5
Commodities less food	28.520	137.1	138.9	-1.8	1.3	1.2	.6	.9
Nondurables less food	15.761	156.4	160.4	.8	2.6	1.2	.4	1.8
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.405	180.2	184.0	.9	2.1	2.4	1.4	2.8
Nondurables	31.823	169.5	171.8	2.0	1.4	.5	.4	.9
Services less rent of shelter ⁴	25.605	204.9	204.9	2.7	.0	.2	.4	-.1
Services less medical care services	51.592	208.2	208.8	2.4	.3	.3	.1	.3
Energy	8.114	140.2	143.0	.6	2.0	4.9	1.6	2.2
All items less energy	91.886	187.9	188.7	1.5	.4	.2	.2	.3
All items less food and energy	75.825	189.1	190.1	1.1	.5	.2	.2	.3
Commodities less food and energy commodities	24.337	139.0	140.0	-2.2	.7	.0	.2	.1
Energy commodities	4.183	144.7	151.5	1.0	4.7	8.0	2.4	5.1
Services less energy services	51.488	223.9	224.9	2.8	.4	.3	.1	.4
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00)	-	\$.550	\$.547	-	-	-	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00)	-	\$.185	\$.184	-	-	-	-	-

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 were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

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)

CPI-W	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	Dec. 2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	June 2003	Sep. 2003	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2004	Sep. 2003	Mar. 2004
Expenditure category										
All items	180.4	181.4	181.9	182.8	-1.8	3.4	-1.1	5.4	0.8	2.1
Food and beverages	183.5	183.4	183.8	184.1	2.7	3.2	5.9	1.3	2.9	3.6
Food	183.1	182.9	183.3	183.6	3.0	3.2	6.1	1.1	3.1	3.6
Food at home	183.2	182.6	182.8	183.1	3.7	4.1	7.8	-2	3.9	3.7
Cereals and bakery products	203.8	204.0	204.2	205.1	1.2	1.6	.0	2.6	1.4	1.3
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	180.5	180.4	179.3	178.9	7.8	9.4	24.1	-3.5	8.6	9.5
Dairy and related products	171.9	171.4	170.9	171.5	-5.6	15.4	3.6	-9	4.4	1.3
Fruits and vegetables	228.1	223.6	226.4	226.7	9.5	-7	4.0	-2.4	4.3	.7
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	139.4	139.7	139.9	139.4	2.3	-2.3	1.4	.0	.0	.7
Other food at home	162.8	162.2	163.4	164.5	1.7	.5	.0	4.2	1.1	2.1
Sugar and sweets	161.8	161.5	162.5	162.2	1.2	.0	-7	1.0	.6	.1
Fats and oils	158.6	160.6	162.1	166.0	-1.3	.3	3.3	20.0	-5	11.4
Other foods	179.8	178.4	179.7	180.6	2.5	.4	-4	1.8	1.5	.7
Other miscellaneous foods ^{1 2}	110.3	109.6	110.1	112.2	5.9	-2.8	-3.5	7.1	1.5	1.6
Food away from home ¹	184.2	184.8	185.3	185.6	1.6	2.2	3.3	3.1	1.9	3.2
Other food away from home ²	123.0	123.7	123.9	124.0	3.0	-3	4.7	3.3	1.3	4.0
Alcoholic beverages ¹	188.9	189.5	190.0	191.2	.0	1.9	2.6	5.0	1.0	3.8
Housing	181.6	182.5	182.8	183.2	1.3	1.6	.9	3.6	1.5	2.2
Shelter	208.8	209.5	209.6	210.5	2.2	2.3	1.9	3.3	2.3	2.6
Rent of primary residence ³	206.8	207.2	207.8	208.2	2.8	2.6	1.8	2.7	2.7	2.2
Lodging away from home ²	122.3	123.2	120.9	125.2	8.8	3.0	5.8	9.8	5.9	7.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{3 4}	201.4	201.9	202.1	202.7	1.2	2.2	2.0	2.6	1.7	2.3
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2}	114.4	114.9	115.1	115.2	4.3	2.8	-4.7	2.8	3.5	-1.0
Fuels and utilities	154.4	156.9	158.3	156.7	.0	.5	-3.8	6.1	.3	1.0
Fuels	136.9	139.4	140.6	138.8	-9	-3	-5.6	5.7	-6	-1
Fuel oil and other fuels	135.3	144.7	145.8	143.0	-48.6	7.7	-2.9	24.8	-25.6	10.1
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	144.2	146.5	147.7	145.9	3.1	-8	-5.9	4.8	1.1	-7
Water and sewer and trash collection services ²	119.9	120.6	121.9	122.2	3.5	5.6	5.2	7.9	4.5	6.5
Household furnishings and operations	120.7	121.2	121.4	121.4	-3.2	-2.3	-1.3	2.3	-2.7	.5
Household operations ^{1 2}	123.8	123.7	124.9	125.4	.7	2.3	1.3	5.3	1.5	3.3
Apparel	119.6	119.5	119.5	120.5	-1.3	1.0	-1.7	3.0	-2	.7
Men's and boys' apparel	117.9	118.1	118.5	118.4	-7.5	1.7	2.1	1.7	-3.0	1.9
Women's and girls' apparel	112.0	111.4	111.0	113.1	1.1	1.1	-1.4	4.0	1.1	1.2
Infants' and toddlers' apparel	121.5	122.4	123.2	123.7	.3	3.9	-12.4	7.4	2.1	-3.0
Footwear	118.1	117.7	117.9	118.2	-7	.0	-3.3	.3	-3	-1.5
Transportation	153.1	155.9	156.9	158.9	-13.0	9.1	-13.2	16.0	-2.6	.4
Private transportation	150.2	153.0	154.1	156.1	-14.1	9.5	-13.6	16.7	-3.0	.4
New and used motor vehicles ²	92.5	92.4	92.5	92.4	-2.8	-9.1	-9.4	-4	-6.0	-5.0
New vehicles	138.2	138.1	138.7	138.4	-3.1	-3	-1.4	.6	-1.7	-4
Used cars and trucks ¹	131.7	131.6	131.7	132.0	-2.9	-20.6	-21.2	.9	-12.2	-10.8
Motor fuel	131.3	141.9	145.5	153.3	-48.4	75.9	-36.9	85.8	-4.7	8.3
Gasoline (all types)	130.8	141.4	144.9	152.7	-48.4	76.4	-36.8	85.7	-4.6	8.3
Motor vehicle parts and equipment ¹	107.3	107.6	107.6	107.4	-4	.4	.4	.4	.0	.4
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	199.7	199.7	199.7	200.1	2.3	2.0	3.5	.8	2.2	2.1
Public transportation	207.1	207.9	208.1	208.8	9.8	.0	-8	3.3	4.8	1.3
Medical care	301.9	302.7	304.7	306.4	3.5	4.4	4.4	6.1	3.9	5.2
Medical care commodities	259.8	260.0	260.9	261.5	.3	5.1	.6	2.6	2.7	1.6
Medical care services	312.5	313.5	315.9	317.9	4.2	4.3	5.4	7.1	4.2	6.3
Professional services	267.2	267.8	270.0	272.0	3.6	2.5	3.7	7.4	3.0	5.5
Hospital and related services ³	403.1	405.1	406.7	408.7	5.5	7.5	6.8	5.7	6.5	6.2

See footnotes at end of table.

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-Continued

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	Dec. 2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	June 2003	Sep. 2003	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2004	Sep. 2003	Mar. 2004
Expenditure category										
Recreation ²	105.8	105.7	106.1	106.4	0.8	0.4	0.8	2.3	0.6	1.5
Video and audio ²	103.1	102.7	102.8	103.2	.8	.8	.4	.4	.8	.4
Education and communication ²	109.4	109.5	109.7	109.8	-1.5	2.6	.7	1.5	.6	1.1
Education ²	137.8	138.7	139.3	140.1	5.9	8.7	5.7	6.8	7.3	6.3
Educational books and supplies	346.7	344.4	346.7	348.5	4.5	2.2	10.7	2.1	3.3	6.3
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	388.7	391.6	393.3	395.4	6.3	9.1	5.4	7.1	7.7	6.2
Communication ²	89.6	89.3	89.4	89.1	-7.1	-2.2	-3.5	-2.2	-4.7	-2.9
Information and information processing ^{1 2}	88.3	88.2	88.2	87.9	-9.7	-2.2	-2.2	-1.8	-6.0	-2.0
Telephone services ^{1 2}	97.4	97.2	97.3	96.9	-8.5	-.4	-.8	-2.0	-4.6	-1.4
Information technology, hardware and services ^{1 5}	15.8	15.8	15.8	15.7	-13.1	-15.7	-7.2	-2.5	-14.4	-4.9
Personal computers and peripheral equipment ^{1 2}	15.9	15.8	15.7	15.5	-26.9	-25.1	-2.5	-9.7	-26.0	-6.2
Other goods and services	308.7	309.5	310.0	310.6	.3	2.8	1.2	2.5	1.5	1.8
Tobacco and smoking products ¹	471.5	473.8	473.2	474.2	-3.6	4.5	1.4	2.3	.3	1.8
Personal care	178.3	178.6	179.1	179.5	2.3	2.0	.9	2.7	2.2	1.8
Personal care products ¹	154.0	154.3	155.0	155.0	1.6	-1.0	.0	2.6	.3	1.3
Personal care services ¹	194.9	195.1	195.7	196.3	2.3	5.5	-2.4	2.9	3.9	.2
Miscellaneous personal services	287.7	288.6	289.6	290.7	4.9	2.3	3.3	4.2	3.6	3.7
Commodity and service group										
Commodities	151.1	152.2	152.8	153.9	-6.8	4.6	-4.4	7.6	-1.3	1.4
Food and beverages	183.5	183.4	183.8	184.1	2.7	3.2	5.9	1.3	2.9	3.6
Commodities less food and beverages	133.0	134.7	135.4	136.8	-12.3	5.8	-10.7	11.9	-3.7	.0
Nondurables less food and beverages	153.1	155.1	155.7	158.6	-23.3	16.4	.0	15.2	-5.5	7.3
Apparel	119.6	119.5	119.5	120.5	-1.3	1.0	-1.7	3.0	-.2	.7
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	173.3	178.3	180.7	185.8	-25.6	25.0	-15.8	32.1	-3.6	5.5
Durables	113.9	113.8	114.2	114.0	-4.9	-8.2	-6.4	.4	-6.6	-3.1
Services	214.8	215.6	216.1	216.6	2.7	2.5	1.7	3.4	2.6	2.5
Rent of shelter ⁴	201.2	201.6	201.8	202.8	2.0	2.4	2.2	3.2	2.2	2.7
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2}	114.4	114.9	115.1	115.2	4.3	2.8	-4.7	2.8	3.5	-1.0
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	144.2	146.5	147.7	145.9	3.1	-.8	-5.9	4.8	1.1	-.7
Water and sewer and trash collection services ²	119.9	120.6	121.9	122.2	3.5	5.6	5.2	7.9	4.5	6.5
Household operations ^{1 2}	123.8	123.7	124.9	125.4	.7	2.3	1.3	5.3	1.5	3.3
Transportation services	218.3	219.4	219.4	219.6	5.5	2.0	1.3	2.4	3.8	1.8
Medical care services	312.5	313.5	315.9	317.9	4.2	4.3	5.4	7.1	4.2	6.3
Other services	251.0	251.5	252.2	252.7	1.6	3.6	1.4	2.7	2.6	2.1
Special indexes										
All items less food	179.7	180.9	181.5	182.4	-2.6	3.6	-2.6	6.1	.4	1.7
All items less shelter	172.0	173.1	173.9	174.6	-3.4	4.0	-2.5	6.2	.2	1.7
All items less medical care	175.2	176.2	176.7	177.5	-1.8	3.2	-1.4	5.4	.7	1.9
Commodities less food	135.0	136.6	137.4	138.7	-11.9	5.4	-10.0	11.4	-3.6	.1
Nondurables less food	155.3	157.1	157.8	160.7	-22.6	16.1	.0	14.7	-5.2	7.1
Nondurables less food and apparel	173.8	177.9	180.4	185.4	-23.3	21.6	-14.2	29.5	-3.5	5.4
Nondurables	168.7	169.6	170.2	171.8	-10.0	8.6	3.1	7.6	-1.2	5.3
Services less rent of shelter ⁴	204.0	204.5	205.3	205.1	3.0	3.2	2.2	2.2	3.1	2.2
Services less medical care services	207.4	208.0	208.2	208.8	2.4	2.4	2.0	2.7	2.4	2.3
Energy	133.4	140.0	142.3	145.4	-28.9	33.0	-23.2	41.1	-2.7	4.1
All items less energy	187.1	187.4	187.7	188.2	1.3	1.1	1.3	2.4	1.2	1.8
All items less food and energy	188.3	188.7	189.0	189.6	.9	.6	.2	2.8	.7	1.5
Commodities less food and energy commodities	138.8	138.8	139.1	139.3	-2.5	-3.9	-3.9	1.4	-3.2	-1.3
Energy commodities	132.0	142.6	146.0	153.4	-48.3	72.1	-35.7	82.4	-5.7	8.3
Services less energy services	222.6	223.3	223.6	224.5	2.6	2.8	2.2	3.5	2.7	2.8

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 were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

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 schedule 1	All items									
		Indexes				Percent change to Mar.2004 from—			Percent change to Feb.2004 from—		
		Dec. 2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Feb. 2003	Dec. 2003	Jan. 2004
U.S. city average	M	179.9	180.9	181.9	182.9	1.4	1.1	0.5	1.5	1.1	0.6
Region and area size²											
Northeast urban	M	191.7	192.6	193.6	195.1	2.8	1.3	.8	2.7	1.0	.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	192.7	193.3	194.3	195.9	3.1	1.3	.8	2.7	.8	.5
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	115.2	116.1	116.7	117.5	2.0	1.2	.7	2.4	1.3	.5
Midwest urban	M	173.4	174.5	175.3	175.8	1.0	.7	.3	1.2	1.1	.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	175.1	176.2	176.9	177.2	1.0	.6	.2	1.3	1.0	.4
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	112.4	113.3	113.8	114.2	1.0	.8	.4	1.2	1.2	.4
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	169.1	169.4	170.6	171.4	.5	1.2	.5	.3	.9	.7
South urban	M	174.2	175.0	175.8	176.7	1.0	1.0	.5	1.1	.9	.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	176.4	177.1	178.0	178.9	1.4	1.0	.5	1.3	.9	.5
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	111.8	112.3	112.7	113.4	.8	1.0	.6	.9	.8	.4
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	174.2	174.6	176.0	176.9	.7	1.3	.5	.7	1.0	.8
West urban	M	183.3	184.3	185.7	187.1	1.3	1.5	.8	1.4	1.3	.8
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	183.9	185.0	186.5	187.9	1.1	1.6	.8	1.1	1.4	.8
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	114.8	115.4	116.4	117.2	1.8	1.6	.7	2.1	1.4	.9
Size classes											
A ⁴	M	166.8	167.6	168.6	169.6	1.7	1.2	.6	1.7	1.1	.6
B/C ³	M	112.9	113.6	114.2	114.9	1.2	1.1	.6	1.4	1.2	.5
D	M	174.3	174.8	175.8	176.7	.6	1.1	.5	.6	.9	.6
Selected local areas⁵											
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI	M	178.8	179.0	179.9	179.7	.4	.4	-.1	1.0	.6	.5
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ...	M	180.2	181.7	183.4	184.9	1.8	1.8	.8	2.1	1.8	.9
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA	M	194.6	194.9	196.3	198.2	3.2	1.7	1.0	2.6	.9	.7
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT	1	-	206.8	-	207.4	2.5	.3	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH	1	-	169.8	-	171.0	2.3	.7	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	175.7	-	177.6	.6	1.1	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV ⁶	1	-	116.5	-	117.6	1.8	.9	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA	2	176.6	-	178.7	-	-	-	-	.3	1.2	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI	2	175.9	-	178.1	-	-	-	-	.7	1.3	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	162.2	-	165.7	-	-	-	-	2.5	2.2	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	178.9	-	180.8	-	-	-	-	1.6	1.1	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	189.0	-	191.2	-	-	-	-	2.9	1.2	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	191.1	-	194.1	-	-	-	-	.2	1.6	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA	2	185.3	-	187.8	-	-	-	-	.9	1.3	-

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

- M - Every month.
- 1 - January, March, May, July, September, and November.
- 2 - February, April, June, August, October, and December.

² Regions defined as the four Census regions. See 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; Phoenix-Mesa, AZ; 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: Local area indexes are byproducts of the national CPI program. Each local index has a smaller sample size than the national index and is, therefore, subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are similar. Therefore, the Bureau of Labor Statistics strongly urges users to consider adopting the national average CPI for use in their escalator clauses.

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

Table 7. Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group

(December 1999=100, unless otherwise noted)

C-CPI-U	Relative importance, 2001-2002	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2004 from—	
		Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Feb. 2004
Expenditure category					
All items	100.000	108.7	109.4	1.4	0.6
Food and beverages	15.076	110.0	110.2	3.0	.2
Food	14.086	110.0	110.2	3.0	.2
Food at home	8.062	109.1	109.2	3.3	.1
Food away from home	6.023	111.2	111.4	2.6	.2
Alcoholic beverages .....	.990	110.0	110.6	2.3	.5
Housing	41.793	112.5	113.1	1.8	.5
Shelter	32.380	114.2	115.1	2.5	.8
Fuels and utilities	4.643	120.5	119.3	.8	-1.0
Household furnishings and operations	4.771	96.0	95.9	-1.4	-1
Apparel	4.317	89.7	93.4	.2	4.1
Transportation	17.315	105.4	106.3	-1.0	.9
Private transportation	16.206	105.5	106.4	-1.2	.9
Public transportation	1.109	103.3	104.3	1.9	1.0
Medical care	5.783	119.8	120.3	4.2	.4
Medical care commodities	1.466	113.7	113.9	2.1	.2
Medical care services	4.317	121.9	122.6	5.1	.6
Recreation	5.978	103.9	104.2	.8	.3
Education and communication	6.004	99.5	99.3	-.2	-.2
Education	2.560	129.3	129.5	7.3	.2
Communication	3.444	80.9	80.6	-5.4	-.4
Other goods and services	3.734	113.2	113.5	1.9	.3
Commodity and service group					
Services	58.567	114.7	115.3	2.5	.5
Commodities	41.433	101.0	101.8	-.2	.8
Durables	12.521	87.3	87.1	-4.4	-.2
Nondurables	28.912	107.3	108.7	1.8	1.3
All items less food and energy	78.985	107.2	107.9	1.2	.7
Energy	6.929	123.6	125.5	.6	1.5

Indexes for 2004 are initial estimates. Indexes for 2003 are interim adjustments.
NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Item and group	Relative importance, December 2003	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2004 from—	
		Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Feb. 2004
Expenditure category					
All items	100.000	186.3	187.5	1.8	0.6
All items (1967=100)	-	558.2	561.6	-	-
Food and beverages	15.832	184.6	184.9	3.2	.2
Food	14.801	184.1	184.4	3.2	.2
Food at home	8.558	184.0	184.3	3.7	.2
Cereals and bakery products	1.293	204.4	204.9	1.4	.2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	2.433	179.4	179.2	8.7	-1.1
Dairy and related products .....	.889	172.2	171.9	2.9	-2.2
Fruits and vegetables	1.252	230.1	230.8	3.2	.3
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	.933	141.4	140.6	.2	-6.6
Other food at home	1.759	163.8	165.1	1.5	.8
Sugar and sweets .....	.311	163.9	163.2	.4	-4.4
Fats and oils .....	.255	162.4	166.0	5.4	2.2
Other foods	1.192	178.9	180.4	1.0	.8
Other miscellaneous foods ¹ .....	.280	109.4	111.6	1.4	2.0
Food away from home	6.243	185.5	185.8	2.7	.2
Other food away from home ¹ .....	.391	124.4	124.4	3.3	.0
Alcoholic beverages	1.031	189.9	190.8	2.3	.5
Housing	40.998	187.0	187.9	2.0	.5
Shelter	31.834	216.1	217.7	2.6	.7
Rent of primary residence ²	6.516	208.8	209.2	2.5	.2
Lodging away from home ¹	2.693	120.9	128.8	7.6	6.5
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{2 3}	22.261	222.9	223.4	2.1	.2
Tenants' and household insurance ¹ .....	.364	114.9	115.0	.9	.1
Fuels and utilities	4.674	156.8	155.2	.5	-1.0
Fuels	3.787	139.4	137.6	-6.6	-1.3
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.220	155.2	152.7	-9.6	-1.6
Gas (piped) and electricity ²	3.568	145.4	143.5	.0	-1.3
Water and sewer and trash collection services ¹ .....	.887	121.8	122.2	5.4	.3
Household furnishings and operations	4.489	125.7	125.7	-1.1	.0
Household operations ¹ .....	.822	123.7	123.9	1.9	.2
Apparel	4.058	119.1	123.6	.0	3.8
Men's and boys' apparel	1.034	116.8	119.2	-1.5	2.1
Women's and girls' apparel	1.673	110.7	118.0	.7	6.6
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.180	119.5	121.5	-2.1	1.7
Footwear .....	.822	117.4	120.1	.3	2.3
Transportation	17.035	158.9	160.6	-2.2	1.1
Private transportation	15.870	155.0	156.7	-4.4	1.1
New and used motor vehicles ¹	7.674	94.4	94.1	-4.0	-3.3
New vehicles	4.686	138.3	137.9	-1.0	-3.3
Used cars and trucks	1.753	131.0	131.2	-11.6	.2
Motor fuel	3.269	143.2	150.6	1.7	5.2
Gasoline (all types)	3.241	142.5	149.9	1.7	5.2
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	.411	108.0	107.9	.0	-1.1
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.426	198.2	198.5	2.2	.2
Public transportation	1.165	208.0	209.7	1.7	.8
Medical care	6.067	306.1	307.6	4.6	.5
Medical care commodities	1.390	266.7	267.3	2.3	.2
Medical care services	4.677	316.7	318.5	5.3	.6
Professional services	2.833	268.0	269.8	4.1	.7
Hospital and related services ²	1.515	413.0	414.0	6.5	.2

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Item and group	Relative importance, December 2003	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2004 from—	
		Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Feb. 2004
Expenditure category					
Recreation ¹	5.897	108.5	108.8	1.3	0.3
Video and audio ¹	1.609	104.3	104.5	.8	.2
Education and communication ¹	5.780	111.3	111.1	1.6	-.2
Education ¹	2.985	140.5	140.6	7.2	.1
Educational books and supplies .....	.246	348.9	349.3	4.8	.1
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.740	404.5	404.8	7.5	.1
Communication ¹	2.794	88.0	87.7	-3.9	-.3
Information and information processing ¹	2.600	86.0	85.6	-4.4	-.5
Telephone services ¹	2.171	97.1	96.7	-3.0	-.4
Information technology, hardware and services ⁴ .....	.429	15.2	15.1	-10.1	-.7
Personal computers and peripheral equipment ¹ .....	.169	16.0	15.8	-16.8	-1.3
Other goods and services	4.333	302.4	303.3	2.0	.3
Tobacco and smoking products .....	.969	472.3	473.2	1.3	.2
Personal care	3.364	180.5	181.1	2.2	.3
Personal care products .....	.668	154.5	154.5	.8	.0
Personal care services .....	.901	195.2	195.8	2.1	.3
Miscellaneous personal services	1.601	290.8	292.1	3.8	.4
Commodity and service group					
Commodities	40.254	152.4	153.7	.4	.9
Food and beverages	15.832	184.6	184.9	3.2	.2
Commodities less food and beverages	24.422	134.4	136.2	-1.3	1.3
Nondurables less food and beverages	13.706	151.6	155.4	.6	2.5
Apparel	4.058	119.1	123.6	.0	3.8
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	9.648	175.6	179.1	.7	2.0
Durables	10.716	115.3	115.1	-3.7	-.2
Services	59.746	220.0	221.0	2.7	.5
Rent of shelter ³	31.470	225.0	226.8	2.7	.8
Tenants' and household insurance ¹ .....	.364	114.9	115.0	.9	.1
Gas (piped) and electricity ²	3.568	145.4	143.5	.0	-1.3
Water and sewer and trash collection services ¹ .....	.887	121.8	122.2	5.4	.3
Household operations ¹ .....	.822	123.7	123.9	1.9	.2
Transportation services	6.774	219.5	219.8	2.6	.1
Medical care services	4.677	316.7	318.5	5.3	.6
Other services	11.183	259.4	259.7	2.8	.1
Special indexes					
All items less food	85.199	186.7	188.0	1.5	.7
All items less shelter	68.166	176.8	177.7	1.4	.5
All items less medical care	93.933	180.2	181.3	1.6	.6
Commodities less food	25.453	136.4	138.2	-1.1	1.3
Nondurables less food	14.737	153.8	157.5	.6	2.4
Nondurables less food and apparel	10.679	176.0	179.3	.9	1.9
Nondurables	29.538	168.2	170.3	1.9	1.2
Services less rent of shelter ³	28.276	230.7	230.8	2.9	.0
Services less medical care services	55.068	211.8	212.7	2.6	.4
Energy	7.056	140.7	143.3	.5	1.8
All items less energy	92.944	192.8	193.8	1.9	.5
All items less food and energy	78.143	195.0	196.2	1.7	.6
Commodities less food and energy commodities	21.965	139.5	140.4	-1.5	.6
Energy commodities	3.488	144.6	151.5	.9	4.8
Services less energy services	56.178	227.6	228.9	2.9	.6
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00)	-	\$.537	\$.533	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00)	-	\$.179	\$.178	-	-

¹ Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

² This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

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 (OW). Old Weight 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 importance, December 2003	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2004 from—	
		Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Feb. 2004
Expenditure category					
All items	100.000	181.9	182.9	1.4	0.5
All items (1967=100)	-	541.7	544.8	-	-
Food and beverages	17.410	184.1	184.4	3.3	.2
Food	16.404	183.6	183.8	3.3	.1
Food at home	9.937	183.3	183.5	3.8	.1
Cereals and bakery products	1.467	204.4	204.9	1.4	.2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	3.043	179.5	179.2	8.7	-2
Dairy and related products .....	.993	171.8	171.5	2.9	-2
Fruits and vegetables	1.355	228.1	228.6	2.9	.2
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	1.096	140.8	140.1	.4	-5
Other food at home	1.982	163.4	164.7	1.6	.8
Sugar and sweets .....	.335	163.5	162.8	.4	-4
Fats and oils .....	.306	162.4	165.9	5.2	2.2
Other foods	1.341	179.3	180.7	1.0	.8
Other miscellaneous foods ¹ .....	.302	109.8	112.0	1.4	2.0
Food away from home	6.466	185.4	185.7	2.6	.2
Other food away from home ¹ .....	.280	124.4	124.4	3.1	.0
Alcoholic beverages	1.007	190.0	191.0	2.2	.5
Housing	38.367	182.6	183.1	1.8	.3
Shelter	29.566	209.6	210.8	2.4	.6
Rent of primary residence ²	8.532	207.9	208.4	2.5	.2
Lodging away from home ¹	1.525	120.6	128.6	6.8	6.6
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{2 3}	19.185	202.3	202.7	2.0	.2
Tenants' and household insurance ¹ .....	.324	114.9	115.0	1.1	.1
Fuels and utilities	5.017	156.2	154.7	.7	-1.0
Fuels	4.111	138.3	136.5	-4	-1.3
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.206	154.8	152.1	-9.4	-1.7
Gas (piped) and electricity ²	3.905	144.7	142.9	.2	-1.2
Water and sewer and trash collection services ¹ .....	.906	121.9	122.4	5.5	.4
Household furnishings and operations	3.784	121.4	121.4	-1.1	.0
Household operations ¹ .....	.360	125.3	125.6	2.5	.2
Apparel	4.483	118.0	122.4	-1	3.7
Men's and boys' apparel	1.147	116.3	118.9	-1.4	2.2
Women's and girls' apparel	1.744	109.4	116.8	.8	6.8
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.230	120.9	122.9	-2.3	1.7
Footwear	1.090	117.1	118.9	-6	1.5
Transportation	19.281	156.9	158.7	-1.0	1.1
Private transportation	18.361	154.1	156.0	-1.1	1.2
New and used motor vehicles ¹	8.868	92.8	92.6	-5.5	-2
New vehicles	4.524	139.6	139.1	-9	-4
Used cars and trucks	3.283	131.7	132.0	-11.5	.2
Motor fuel	4.029	143.6	151.0	1.7	5.2
Gasoline (all types)	3.995	143.0	150.4	1.8	5.2
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	.521	107.5	107.4	.2	-1
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.469	200.0	200.2	2.1	.1
Public transportation .....	.920	205.8	207.5	2.7	.8
Medical care	4.844	305.5	307.1	4.6	.5
Medical care commodities	1.017	261.0	261.6	2.1	.2
Medical care services	3.827	316.9	318.7	5.3	.6
Professional services	2.290	270.4	272.2	4.2	.7
Hospital and related services ²	1.232	409.7	410.7	6.6	.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2 (OW). Old Weight Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group -Continued

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Item and group	Relative importance, December 2003	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2004 from—	
		Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Feb. 2004
Expenditure category					
Recreation ¹	5.515	106.4	106.7	1.2	0.3
Video and audio ¹	1.766	103.5	103.7	.8	.2
Education and communication ¹	5.559	110.0	109.8	-.8	-.2
Education ¹	2.595	139.4	139.6	6.7	.1
Educational books and supplies .....	.226	349.3	349.9	4.8	.2
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.369	393.3	393.7	6.9	.1
Communication ¹	2.965	89.6	89.2	-3.9	-.4
Information and information processing ¹	2.807	88.1	87.8	-4.1	-.3
Telephone services ¹	2.427	97.3	96.9	-3.0	-.4
Information technology, hardware and services ⁴ .....	.381	15.7	15.6	-10.3	-.6
Personal computers and peripheral equipment ¹ .....	.154	15.7	15.5	-16.7	-1.3
Other goods and services	4.540	310.0	310.8	1.7	.3
Tobacco and smoking products	1.508	473.3	474.1	1.1	.2
Personal care	3.033	179.1	179.6	2.0	.3
Personal care products .....	.772	155.2	155.3	1.0	.1
Personal care services .....	.901	195.8	196.4	2.1	.3
Miscellaneous personal services	1.193	290.0	291.4	3.7	.5
Commodity and service group					
Commodities	44.446	152.8	154.2	.1	.9
Food and beverages	17.410	184.1	184.4	3.3	.2
Commodities less food and beverages	27.036	135.3	137.2	-1.7	1.4
Nondurables less food and beverages	15.078	154.2	158.2	.6	2.6
Apparel	4.483	118.0	122.4	-.1	3.7
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.596	180.1	184.1	.8	2.2
Durables	11.957	114.3	114.1	-4.8	-.2
Services	55.554	216.0	216.6	2.6	.3
Rent of shelter ³	29.242	201.9	203.0	2.4	.5
Tenants' and household insurance ¹ .....	.324	114.9	115.0	1.1	.1
Gas (piped) and electricity ²	3.905	144.7	142.9	.2	-1.2
Water and sewer and trash collection services ¹ .....	.906	121.9	122.4	5.5	.4
Household operations ¹ .....	.360	125.3	125.6	2.5	.2
Transportation services	6.796	219.9	220.1	2.9	.1
Medical care services	3.827	316.9	318.7	5.3	.6
Other services	10.194	252.6	252.8	2.3	.1
Special indexes					
All items less food	83.596	181.4	182.6	1.1	.7
All items less shelter	70.434	173.7	174.7	1.0	.6
All items less medical care	95.156	176.6	177.6	1.3	.6
Commodities less food	28.042	137.2	139.1	-1.6	1.4
Nondurables less food	16.085	156.3	160.2	.6	2.5
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.602	180.3	184.0	.9	2.1
Nondurables	32.489	169.5	171.8	2.0	1.4
Services less rent of shelter ³	26.312	204.9	204.9	2.7	.0
Services less medical care services	51.727	208.2	208.7	2.3	.2
Energy	8.139	140.3	143.2	.7	2.1
All items less energy	91.861	187.9	188.7	1.5	.4
All items less food and energy	75.457	189.1	190.1	1.1	.5
Commodities less food and energy commodities	23.808	139.0	140.0	-2.2	.7
Energy commodities	4.234	144.7	151.6	1.1	4.8
Services less energy services	51.649	223.9	224.8	2.7	.4
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00)	-	\$.550	\$.547	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00)	-	\$.185	\$.184	-	-

¹ Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

² This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

³ Indexes on a December 1984=100 base

⁴ Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

- Data not available.

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

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Area	Pricing schedule 1	All items									
		Indexes				Percent change to Mar. 2004 from—			Percent change to Feb. 2004 from—		
		Dec. 2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Feb. 2003	Dec. 2003	Jan. 2004
U.S. city average	M	184.3	185.3	186.3	187.5	1.8	1.2	0.6	1.7	1.1	0.5
Region and area size²											
Northeast urban	M	194.9	195.9	196.7	198.3	2.7	1.2	.8	2.6	.9	.4
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	197.1	197.9	198.7	200.4	3.0	1.3	.9	2.7	.8	.4
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	115.0	115.9	116.5	117.3	2.0	1.2	.7	2.4	1.3	.5
Midwest urban	M	178.4	179.5	180.3	181.0	1.3	.8	.4	1.4	1.1	.4
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	180.9	182.0	182.5	183.1	1.3	.6	.3	1.4	.9	.3
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	113.3	114.1	114.7	115.2	1.4	1.0	.4	1.7	1.2	.5
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	171.5	171.7	173.1	174.3	.8	1.5	.7	.3	.9	.8
South urban	M	177.5	178.2	179.2	180.1	1.5	1.1	.5	1.6	1.0	.6
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	179.2	179.9	181.0	181.9	1.6	1.1	.5	1.5	1.0	.6
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	113.3	113.8	114.3	115.0	1.5	1.1	.6	1.6	.9	.4
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	175.1	175.4	176.8	177.6	1.3	1.3	.5	1.1	1.0	.8
West urban	M	188.3	189.5	191.1	192.4	1.6	1.5	.7	1.6	1.5	.8
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	190.6	191.9	193.6	194.9	1.5	1.6	.7	1.4	1.6	.9
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	115.2	116.0	117.0	117.9	2.2	1.6	.8	2.2	1.6	.9
Size classes											
A ⁴	M	168.7	169.6	170.5	171.6	1.9	1.2	.6	1.8	1.1	.5
B/C ³	M	113.8	114.6	115.2	115.9	1.7	1.1	.6	1.9	1.2	.5
D	M	176.5	176.9	177.9	179.0	1.2	1.2	.6	1.1	.8	.6
Selected local areas⁵											
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI	M	185.5	185.3	186.3	186.3	.8	.5	.0	1.2	.4	.5
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ...	M	187.0	188.6	190.5	191.9	2.0	1.7	.7	2.1	1.9	1.0
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA	M	199.3	200.0	201.2	203.1	3.0	1.6	.9	2.5	1.0	.6
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT	1	-	208.0	-	208.7	2.9	.3	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH	1	-	178.3	-	180.2	2.7	1.1	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	176.1	-	178.2	.8	1.2	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV ⁶	1	-	117.2	-	118.2	2.0	.9	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA	2	179.0	-	181.1	-	-	-	-	.2	1.2	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI	2	181.3	-	183.3	-	-	-	-	.5	1.1	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	164.1	-	168.5	-	-	-	-	2.7	2.7	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	181.6	-	183.5	-	-	-	-	1.8	1.0	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	189.0	-	191.1	-	-	-	-	2.4	1.1	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	195.3	-	199.0	-	-	-	-	.7	1.9	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA	2	191.0	-	193.9	-	-	-	-	1.4	1.5	-

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

- M - Every month.
- 1 - January, March, May, July, September, and November.
- 2 - February, April, June, August, October, and December.

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

³ 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; Phoenix-Mesa, AZ;

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

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

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Area	Pricing schedule 1	All items									
		Indexes				Percent change to Mar. 2004 from—			Percent change to Feb. 2004 from—		
		Dec. 2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Mar. 2004	Mar. 2003	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Feb. 2003	Dec. 2003	Jan. 2004
U.S. city average	M	179.9	180.9	181.9	182.9	1.4	1.1	0.5	1.5	1.1	0.6
Region and area size²											
Northeast urban	M	191.7	192.5	193.5	194.9	2.7	1.2	.7	2.6	.9	.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	192.7	193.2	194.1	195.5	2.9	1.2	.7	2.6	.7	.5
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	115.2	116.2	116.8	117.6	2.1	1.2	.7	2.5	1.4	.5
Midwest urban	M	173.4	174.4	175.2	175.8	1.0	.8	.3	1.1	1.0	.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	175.1	176.1	176.7	177.1	1.0	.6	.2	1.2	.9	.3
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	112.4	113.3	113.8	114.2	1.0	.8	.4	1.2	1.2	.4
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	169.1	169.3	170.6	171.6	.6	1.4	.6	.3	.9	.8
South urban	M	174.2	175.0	175.8	176.8	1.0	1.0	.6	1.1	.9	.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	176.4	177.2	178.2	179.0	1.4	1.0	.4	1.4	1.0	.6
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	111.8	112.3	112.7	113.4	.8	1.0	.6	.9	.8	.4
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	174.2	174.5	175.9	176.9	.7	1.4	.6	.6	1.0	.8
West urban	M	183.3	184.3	185.9	187.2	1.4	1.6	.7	1.5	1.4	.9
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	183.9	185.1	186.7	188.1	1.2	1.6	.7	1.2	1.5	.9
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	114.8	115.4	116.3	117.2	1.8	1.6	.8	2.0	1.3	.8
Size classes											
A ⁴	M	166.8	167.6	168.6	169.5	1.6	1.1	.5	1.7	1.1	.6
B/C ³	M	112.9	113.6	114.2	114.9	1.2	1.1	.6	1.4	1.2	.5
D	M	174.3	174.7	175.8	176.8	.7	1.2	.6	.6	.9	.6
Selected local areas⁵											
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI	M	178.8	178.9	180.0	179.9	.5	.6	-.1	1.1	.7	.6
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ...	M	180.2	181.6	183.5	185.0	1.9	1.9	.8	2.2	1.8	1.0
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA	M	194.6	195.0	196.2	197.9	3.0	1.5	.9	2.6	.8	.6
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT	1	-	206.3	-	207.4	2.5	.5	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH	1	-	169.4	-	170.6	2.1	.7	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	175.8	-	178.2	1.0	1.4	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV ⁶	1	-	116.6	-	117.5	1.7	.8	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA	2	176.6	-	178.6	-	-	-	-	.3	1.1	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI	2	175.9	-	177.8	-	-	-	-	.6	1.1	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	162.2	-	166.1	-	-	-	-	2.7	2.4	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	178.9	-	181.0	-	-	-	-	1.7	1.2	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	189.0	-	190.7	-	-	-	-	2.6	.9	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	191.1	-	194.8	-	-	-	-	.6	1.9	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA	2	185.3	-	187.7	-	-	-	-	.8	1.3	-

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

M - Every month.

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

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

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

³ Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.

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

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