

MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL OFFICE CPI ANNOUNCEMENT

Table 1. Consumer Price Indexes, U.S. city average and selected areas, August 2008 (1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted) (not seasonally adjusted)

Item	All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)										Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)									
	U.S. city average		Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City		Washington-Baltimore (1)		Northeast region		South region		U.S. city average		Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City		Washington-Baltimore (1)		Northeast region		South region	
	Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from	
	Aug 2008	Aug 2007	Aug 2008	Aug 2007	Aug 2008	Aug 2007	Aug 2008	Aug 2007	Aug 2008	Aug 2007	Aug 2008	Aug 2007	Aug 2008	Aug 2007	Aug 2008	Aug 2007	Aug 2008	Aug 2007	Aug 2008	Aug 2007
All items (2)	219.086	5.4	228.337	4.4	-	-	233.788	5.5	212.387	5.6	215.247	5.9	228.212	5.0	-	-	230.790	6.2	210.362	6.2
All items (1967 = 100) (3)	656.284	-	659.653	-	-	-	368.145	-	344.521	-	641.155	-	662.878	-	-	-	360.481	-	340.704	-
Food and beverages (2)	216.419	5.9	203.201	3.4	-	-	220.693	5.7	213.936	6.2	215.850	6.0	206.799	3.6	-	-	220.013	5.8	212.831	6.2
Food (2)	216.422	6.1	203.080	3.5	-	-	220.373	5.8	214.720	6.5	215.812	6.2	206.025	3.7	-	-	219.787	5.9	213.698	6.5
Food at home	217.259	7.5	217.116	5.3	136.493	6.7	221.916	7.3	213.761	7.9	216.214	7.4	218.474	5.0	136.011	6.7	220.531	7.1	212.442	7.9
Food away from home (4)	217.063	4.5	180.370	1.4	-	-	221.490	3.9	219.336	4.7	217.002	4.6	181.452	1.8	-	-	221.932	4.2	218.297	4.6
Alcoholic beverages (4)	215.094	3.3	202.158	2.0	-	-	223.754	4.9	201.936	2.7	214.931	3.2	208.297	1.8	-	-	221.256	4.8	199.275	2.1
Housing (2)	219.148	3.8	236.167	2.9	-	-	247.506	4.5	203.177	4.3	214.743	4.2	236.893	3.2	-	-	243.022	4.9	202.344	4.7
Shelter	247.985	2.4	276.859	1.3	154.922	3.6	288.753	2.1	221.549	3.0	240.038	2.5	279.851	1.6	155.170	4.1	281.120	2.2	219.779	3.0
Rent of primary residence (2) (7)	244.181	3.8	256.267	2.9	163.865	5.7	276.510	4.4	220.161	4.0	243.010	3.6	256.267	2.9	163.878	5.7	273.830	4.2	219.164	3.9
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (5) (7)	252.957	2.5	280.050	1.4	152.509	3.5	294.241	1.9	223.382	3.1	229.219	2.5	249.054	1.4	151.991	3.5	258.885	1.9	208.109	3.0
Fuels and utilities	235.650	15.3	234.266	11.5	-	-	251.685	22.1	234.735	14.3	233.373	15.3	235.153	10.4	-	-	247.982	22.4	233.874	14.1
Household energy	217.455	17.3	217.511	11.8	207.492	15.2	240.427	24.0	208.740	16.0	213.807	17.1	216.086	10.5	200.671	13.3	235.804	24.3	205.781	15.7
Gas (piped) and electricity (7)	218.656	14.7	224.802	6.3	199.209	13.6	231.892	16.5	208.618	15.0	216.557	14.9	226.519	6.1	196.269	12.3	230.415	17.6	206.788	14.8
Electricity (7)	200.795	9.1	210.970	3.4	193.141	9.4	209.483	12.2	194.855	11.8	199.151	9.5	210.969	3.4	188.828	9.0	208.904	13.4	193.101	12.1
Utility (piped) gas service (7)	272.982	29.3	254.720	13.1	197.469	35.6	272.050	24.4	282.007	31.5	273.160	29.8	254.715	13.1	202.641	35.9	270.258	25.7	284.248	30.8
Household furnishings and operations	128.013	1.2	125.706	3.1	-	-	128.708	0.3	127.379	1.3	123.944	1.4	120.478	3.3	-	-	122.658	0.6	122.221	1.6
Apparel (2)	116.376	1.7	98.789	-1.5	-	-	115.467	1.3	127.809	2.0	116.214	1.8	100.717	1.3	-	-	116.108	2.2	128.116	1.7
Transportation (2)	206.739	12.1	209.522	12.7	-	-	203.979	11.5	205.229	12.1	207.796	12.8	219.314	14.2	-	-	209.204	12.9	204.725	12.8
Private transportation	201.779	11.8	205.959	12.5	-	-	197.550	11.4	203.327	11.9	204.348	12.8	217.227	14.1	-	-	204.601	13.0	203.108	12.7
Motor fuel	323.822	35.9	338.371	36.9	310.231	35.1	314.987	35.1	321.692	35.8	325.116	36.0	338.350	36.9	309.854	35.2	314.882	35.1	321.690	35.9
Gasoline	321.511	35.6	331.966	36.3	310.047	34.9	312.446	34.8	318.729	35.3	322.930	35.6	331.966	36.3	309.724	35.0	312.483	34.7	318.807	35.4
Medical care (2)	364.477	3.3	418.465	3.9	-	-	388.040	3.3	348.195	3.6	364.652	3.4	406.657	3.8	-	-	384.790	3.2	350.989	4.0
Recreation (6)	113.786	2.4	122.572	3.9	-	-	116.027	2.5	114.541	2.4	110.698	2.3	121.234	5.0	-	-	115.724	3.2	111.200	2.2
Education and communication (6)	124.653	3.6	125.390	3.2	-	-	128.371	5.1	120.754	3.0	120.809	3.3	120.248	3.5	-	-	122.722	4.5	116.863	2.8
Other goods and services (2)	346.990	4.1	389.079	1.7	-	-	373.378	5.3	333.652	3.7	360.102	4.6	395.326	1.8	-	-	404.383	6.8	343.961	4.0
Energy (2)	266.283	27.2	260.773	22.7	247.122	24.7	271.624	29.1	255.247	26.6	267.624	27.8	258.838	22.7	245.145	23.4	270.671	29.6	256.629	27.1

Footnotes:

- (1) For Washington Baltimore, Dec. 1997=100 unless otherwise noted.
- (2) For Washington-Baltimore, Nov. 1996=100.
- (3) For the Northeast and the South, Dec. 1977=100.
- (4) For Washington-Baltimore, Nov. 1997=100.
- (5) For the CPI-U in the U.S., Philadelphia, Northeast, and South, Dec. 1982 = 100.
- For the CPI-W in these areas, Dec. 1984 = 100.
- (6) Indexes are on the Dec. 1997=100 base.
- (7) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

Area definitions:

The **Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, Pa.-N.J.-Del.-Md.** area includes Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia Counties in Pennsylvania; Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties in New Jersey; New Castle County in Delaware; and Cecil County in Maryland.

The **Washington-Baltimore, D.C.-Md.-Va.-W.Va.** area includes the District of Columbia; Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Carroll, Charles, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, Queen Anne's, and Washington Counties and Baltimore City in Maryland; Arlington, Clarke, Fairfax, Fauquier, King George, Loudoun, Prince William, Rappahannock, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and Warren Counties, and Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, and Manassas Park Cities in Virginia; and Berkeley and Jefferson Counties in West Virginia.

The **Northeast region** includes the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

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

Table 2. Consumer Price Index and percent change, all items, U.S. city average and selected areas 1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted (not seasonally adjusted)

Area	All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)					Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)				
	Index		Percent change to Aug 2008 from --			Index		Percent change to Aug 2008 from --		
	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Aug 2007	Jun 2008	Jul 2008	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Aug 2007	Jun 2008	Jul 2008
U.S. city average	219.964	219.086	5.4	0.1	-0.4	216.304	215.247	5.9	0.0	-0.5
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, Ill.-Ind.-Wis.	217.459	215.971	4.9	0.1	-0.7	211.020	209.435	5.4	0.2	-0.8
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, Calif.	229.886	228.484	5.1	-0.2	-0.6	223.245	221.230	5.7	-0.5	-0.9
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Conn.-Pa.	240.273	240.550	5.4	0.8	0.1	235.446	235.510	6.1	0.7	0.0
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, Mass.-N.H.-Maine-Conn.	241.258	-	-	-	-	240.511	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, Ohio	206.941	-	-	-	-	198.063	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas	206.413	-	-	-	-	210.830	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, D.C.-Md.-Va.-W.Va. (Nov. 1996=100)	142.065	-	-	-	-	141.622	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, Ga.	-	211.404	5.0	-0.3	-	-	211.113	5.5	-0.4	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, Mich.	-	209.484	4.9	0.9	-	-	205.492	5.5	1.0	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, Texas	-	192.723	4.9	-0.4	-	-	193.206	5.9	-0.3	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, Fla.	-	225.473	5.8	0.2	-	-	224.597	6.4	0.3	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, Pa.-N.J.-Del.-Md.	-	228.337	4.4	0.0	-	-	228.212	5.0	-0.1	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, Calif.	-	225.411	4.2	0.1	-	-	221.385	4.6	0.0	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, Wash.	-	227.745	5.4	-0.1	-	-	223.273	6.2	-0.1	-

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Official Business

Consumer Price Index, August 2008

Note to CPI users:

This announcement details Consumer Price Indexes for two population groups: All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) and Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). Both indexes reflect 1982-84 spending patterns. Monthly percent changes are shown for the U.S. and five large areas; bimonthly data are presented for the remaining areas. Area indexes do not measure differences in the levels of prices among cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.

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

This announcement is primarily intended for those users requiring the current indexes on a regular basis. More detailed information may be obtained by writing this office, calling (215) 597-3282, or faxing (215) 861-5720.

Sheila Watkins
Regional Commissioner

Discontinuance of mailing list:

As of April 1, 2008, subscribers will no longer receive paper copies of the Mid-Atlantic CPI Announcement (Philadelphia Blue Card) in the mail. The Mid-Atlantic CPI Announcement will continue to be available through the Bureau's Web site at http://www.bls.gov/xg_shells/ro3xg01a.htm.

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