



FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

Stephen B. Reed (202) 691-7000

CPI QUICKLINE: (202) 691-6994

FOR CURRENT AND HISTORICAL

INFORMATION: (202) 691-5200

MEDIA CONTACT: (202) 691-5902

INTERNET ADDRESS: <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/>

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**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: SEPTEMBER 2008**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.1 percent in September, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The September level of 218.783 (1982-84=100) was 4.9 percent higher than in September 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 0.1 percent in September, prior to seasonal adjustment. The September level of 214.935 (1982-84=100) was 5.4 percent higher than in September 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 0.1 percent in September on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The September level of 125.774 (December 1999=100) was 4.3 percent higher than in September 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

**CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)**

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U was virtually unchanged in September following a 0.1 percent decrease in August. The index for energy fell 1.9 percent in September following a 3.1 percent decline in August. The motor fuel index declined 0.8 percent in September but was 31.8 percent higher than a year ago. The index for household energy fell 3.4 percent in September after a 1.6 percent decrease in August. The food index advanced 0.6 percent in September, the same increase as in August. The index for food at home rose 0.6 percent in September after a 0.8 percent rise in August and is up 7.6 percent over the past year. The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.1 percent in September, decelerating for the second straight month. Contributing to the deceleration were downturns in the indexes for apparel and for airline fares, a smaller (cont.)

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Sep. 2008	Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Sep. 2008
	Changes from preceding month								
	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008		
All items .....	.3	.2	.6	1.1	.8	-.1	.0	2.6	4.9
Food and beverages .....	.2	.9	.3	.7	.9	.6	.6	8.5	6.0
Housing .....	.4	.3	.5	.5	.6	-.1	-.1	1.8	3.5
Apparel .....	-1.3	.5	-.3	.1	1.2	.5	-.1	6.6	1.4
Transportation .....	.7	-.7	2.0	3.8	1.7	-1.5	-.6	-1.7	10.5
Medical care .....	.1	.2	.2	.2	.1	.2	.3	2.5	3.2
Recreation .....	.3	-.1	.1	.1	.4	.5	.2	4.6	2.4
Education and communication .....	.3	.4	.4	.5	.5	.2	.1	3.3	3.5
Other goods and services ...	.4	.5	.4	.4	.4	.2	.2	3.3	4.0
Special indexes:									
Energy .....	1.9	.0	4.4	6.6	4.0	-3.1	-1.9	-4.9	23.1
Food .....	.2	.9	.3	.8	.9	.6	.6	8.7	6.2
All items less food and energy .....	.2	.1	.2	.3	.3	.2	.1	2.7	2.5

increase in the index for recreation, and a steeper decline in the index for new and used motor vehicles. These more than offset an upturn in the index for lodging away from home and larger increases in the indexes for medical care and owners' equivalent rent.

Consumer prices increased at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR) of 2.6 percent in the third quarter of 2008 following increases in the first and second quarters at annual rates of 3.1 and 7.9 percent, respectively. This brings the year-to-date annual rate to 4.5 percent and compares with an increase of 4.1 percent for all of 2007. The index for energy fell at a 4.9 percent annual rate in the third quarter of 2008, following increases at rates of 8.6 percent and 53.6 percent in the first two quarters, respectively. So far this year, the energy index has risen at a 16.6 percent rate after increasing 17.4 percent in all of 2007. Within energy, petroleum-based energy costs (energy commodities) advanced at a 19.1 percent rate and energy services (gas and electricity) rose at a 12.4 percent rate in the first nine months of 2008. The food index rose at a 7.5 percent SAAR in the first nine months of 2008, compared to a 4.9 percent increase in all of 2007. The larger increase reflects acceleration in all of the major grocery store food groups except dairy and related products. The cereals and bakery products index and the fruits and vegetables index rose the fastest, rising at a 14.2 percent and 12.1 percent SAAR, respectively.

The CPI-U excluding food and energy rose at a 2.7 percent SAAR in the third quarter following increases at rates of 2.0 and 2.5 percent in the first and second quarter, respectively. The index increased over the first nine months of 2008 at a 2.4 percent SAAR, which matches the 2.4 percent increase during all of 2007. Deceleration in the shelter and medical care indexes, as well as the index for new and used motor vehicles, were offset by a larger increase in the recreation index and upturns in the indexes for apparel and for household furnishings and operations.

Expenditure Category	Percentage change 12 months ended in December							SAAR 9 mos. ended Sep. 2008
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	
All items .....	1.6	2.4	1.9	3.3	3.4	2.5	4.1	4.5
Food and beverages .....	2.8	1.5	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.2	4.8	7.2
Housing .....	2.9	2.4	2.2	3.0	4.0	3.3	3.0	3.5
Apparel .....	-3.2	-1.8	-2.1	-.2	-1.1	.9	-.3	.9
Transportation .....	-3.8	3.8	.3	6.5	4.8	1.6	8.3	7.2
Medical care .....	4.7	5.0	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.2	2.6
Recreation .....	1.5	1.1	1.1	.7	1.1	1.0	.8	2.5
Education and communication .....	3.2	2.2	1.6	1.5	2.4	2.3	3.0	3.9
Other goods and services .....	4.5	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.3	4.3
Special indexes:								
Energy .....	-13.0	10.7	6.9	16.6	17.1	2.9	17.4	16.6
Energy commodities .....	-24.5	23.7	6.9	26.7	16.7	6.1	29.4	19.1
Energy services .....	-1.5	.4	6.9	6.8	17.6	-.6	3.4	12.4
All items less energy .....	2.8	1.8	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.8	3.2
Food .....	2.8	1.5	3.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	4.9	7.5
All items less food and energy .....	2.7	1.9	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.4	2.4

The food and beverages index rose 0.6 percent in September, the second straight such increase. The index for food at home, which rose 0.8 percent in August, increased 0.6 percent in September. The index for cereals and bakery products turned up in September, rising 1.1 percent after a 0.1 percent decline in August. The indexes for nonalcoholic beverages and other food at home accelerated in September, increasing 0.7 percent and 1.1 percent respectively after increases of 0.4 percent and 0.7 percent in August. The index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs rose 1.0 percent in September, the third straight such increase. Within this group, the index for eggs increased 2.6 percent in September after a 5.7 percent decrease in August, while the index for beef and veal decelerated, rising 0.2 percent in September after a 2.4 percent increase in August. Turning down in September were the indexes for dairy and related products, down 0.6 percent after rising 0.4 percent in August, and for fruits and vegetables, down 0.5 percent after advancing 2.1 percent in August. The indexes for food away from home and for alcoholic beverages both increased 0.5 percent in September.

The index for housing declined 0.1 percent in September, the same decline as in August. The shelter index increased 0.3 percent in September after a 0.1 percent increase in August. The index for rent increased 0.3 percent for the third month in a row while the index for owners' equivalent rent rose 0.2 percent after a 0.1 percent increase in August. The index for lodging away from home turned up in September, increasing 0.9 percent after a 1.1 percent decrease in August. The index for household energy declined 3.4 percent in September, but was still 13.1 percent above its September 2007 level. Within household energy, the indexes for fuel oil and for natural gas fell sharply, declining 7.8 percent and 8.3 percent respectively, while the index for electricity fell 0.9 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations, which rose 0.2 percent in August, increased 0.5 percent in September.

The transportation index declined in September, falling 0.6 percent after a 1.5 percent decrease in August. The index for gasoline decreased 0.6 percent following a 4.2 percent decrease in August. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices fell 2.5 percent in September but were 31.7 percent above their September 2007 level.) The index for new vehicles declined for the second straight month, falling 0.7 percent after a 0.6 percent decrease in August. The index for used cars and trucks fell sharply in September, declining 1.8 percent after a 0.3 percent fall in August. The index for public transportation decreased 1.0 percent in September after a 1.1 percent increase in August, as the index for airline fare turned down, declining 1.7 percent in September after rising 1.6 percent in August. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the index for airline fare decreased 3.6 percent in September but was 17.5 percent higher than in September 2007.)

The index for apparel declined 0.1 percent in September after increasing 0.5 percent in August. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices rose 4.1 percent in September and were 1.4 percent higher than in September 2007.)

The medical care index rose 0.3 percent in September after rising 0.2 percent in August, and was 3.2 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--increased 0.2 percent in September after a 0.1 percent increase in August. The index for medical care services increased 0.4 percent in September. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.2 percent and 0.6 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation increased 0.2 percent in September, following a 0.5 percent increase in August. The index for video and audio rose 0.1 percent in September after a 0.5 percent increase in August. The indexes for pets, pet products and services rose 1.0 percent in September and the index for photography rose 0.8 percent. The index for recreation services decreased 0.1 percent in September.

The index for education and communication increased 0.1 percent in September after a 0.2 percent increase in August. The index for education rose 0.4 percent in September. The index for college textbooks rose 1.0 percent after a 3.4 percent increase in August. The index for college tuition and fees rose 0.3 percent in September. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, charges for college tuition and fees rose 1.8 percent in September and are up 6.7 percent since September 2007.) The communication index declined in September, falling 0.2 percent for the second consecutive month. Within communication, the index for telephone services was virtually unchanged while the index for information technology, hardware and services declined 1.1 percent.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.2 percent in September, the same increase as in August. The index for tobacco and smoking products was virtually unchanged and the index for personal care rose 0.3 percent.

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

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

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 Sep. 2008	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Sep. 2008
	Changes from preceding month								
	Mar. 2008	Apr. 2008	May 2008	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008		
All items .....	0.4	0.2	0.7	1.2	0.9	-0.2	-0.1	2.5	5.4
Food and beverages .....	.2	.9	.3	.8	.9	.6	.6	8.7	6.1
Housing .....	.5	.4	.5	.5	.7	.0	-.2	1.9	3.8
Apparel .....	-1.2	.2	-.2	.0	.8	1.0	.0	7.6	1.7
Transportation .....	.7	-.7	2.1	4.0	1.8	-1.7	-.7	-2.4	11.1
Medical care .....	.1	.2	.1	.2	.1	.3	.3	2.8	3.3
Recreation .....	.3	-.2	.0	.2	.4	.5	.2	4.7	2.2
Education and communication .....	.2	.4	.3	.5	.5	.2	.0	3.2	3.2
Other goods and services ...	.4	.4	.5	.6	.5	.2	.2	3.6	4.4
Special indexes:									
Energy .....	1.9	-.2	4.5	6.8	4.0	-3.2	-1.7	-4.1	23.8
Food .....	.2	1.0	.3	.8	.9	.6	.6	8.9	6.3
All items less food and energy .....	.1	.1	.2	.3	.3	.2	.1	2.5	2.4

Consumer Price Index data for October are scheduled for release on Wednesday, November 19, 2008, at 8:30 A.M. (EST).

## **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.

## **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.

## Note on Sampling Error in the Consumer Price Index

The CPI is a statistical estimate that is subject to sampling error because it is based upon a sample of retail prices and not the complete universe of all prices. BLS calculates and publishes estimates of the 1-month, 2-month, 6-month and 12-month percent change standard errors annually, for the CPI-U. These standard error estimates can be used to construct confidence intervals for hypothesis testing. For example, the estimated standard error of the 1 month percent change is 0.06 percent for the U.S. All Items Consumer Price Index. This means that if we repeatedly sample from the universe of all retail prices using the same methodology, and estimate a percentage change for each sample, then 95% of these estimates would be within 0.12 percent of the 1 month percentage change based on all retail prices. For a 1-month change of 0.2 percent in the All Items CPI for All Urban Consumers, we are 95 percent confident that the actual percent change based on all retail prices would fall between 0.08 and 0.32 percent. For the latest data, including information on how to use the estimates of standard error, see “Variance Estimates for Changes in the Consumer Price Index, January 2005-December 2005” in the CPI Detailed Report, February 2006. These data are available on the CPI home page (<http://www.bls.gov/cpi>), using the following link <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/cpivar2006.pdf>

## 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	202.416
Less previous index	201.800
Equals index point change	.616

### Percent Change

Index point difference	.616
Divided by the previous index	201.800
Equals	0.003
Results multiplied by one hundred	0.003x100
Equals percent change	0.3

## 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 before adjustment for seasonal variation.

Seasonal factors used in computing the seasonally adjusted indexes are derived by the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Method. Seasonally adjusted indexes and seasonal factors are computed annually. Each year, the last 5 years of seasonally adjusted data are revised. Data from January 2003 through December 2007 were replaced in January 2008. Exceptions to the usual revision schedule were: the updated seasonal data at the end of 1977 replaced data from 1967 through 1977; and, 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 in the aggregation of the dependent series for the last 5 years, but the seasonally adjusted indexes will be used before that period. Note: 48 of the 73 components are seasonally adjusted for 2008.

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 seasonal factors introduced in January 2008, BLS adjusted 20 series using Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment, including selected food and beverage items, motor fuels, electricity and vehicles. For example, this procedure was used for the Motor fuel series to offset the effects of events such as damage to oil refineries from Hurricane Katrina.

For a complete list of Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment series and explanations, please refer to the article "Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment," located on our website at <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/cpisapage.htm>.

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 Jeff Wilson at (202) 691-6968, or by e-mail at [Wilson.Jeff@bls.gov](mailto:Wilson.Jeff@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 2007	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Sep. 2008 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Sep. 2007	Aug. 2008	June to July	July to Aug.	Aug. to Sep.
All items .....	100.000	219.086	218.783	4.9	-0.1	0.8	-0.1	0.0
All items (1967=100) .....	-	656.284	655.376	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	14.914	216.419	217.672	6.0	.6	.9	.6	.6
Food .....	13.833	216.422	217.696	6.2	.6	.9	.6	.6
Food at home .....	7.660	217.259	218.629	7.6	.6	1.2	.8	.6
Cereals and bakery products .....	1.030	250.080	250.924	12.3	.3	1.8	-.1	1.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	1.807	207.488	209.937	5.9	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0
Dairy and related products .....	.887	214.748	213.533	4.9	-.6	1.6	.4	-.6
Fruits and vegetables .....	1.156	283.296	285.986	10.4	.9	1.2	2.1	-.5
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	.928	160.055	161.499	4.2	.9	.7	.4	.7
Other food at home .....	1.852	186.991	187.944	7.9	.5	1.0	.7	1.1
Sugar and sweets .....	.277	187.813	189.929	6.6	1.1	.4	.6	1.7
Fats and oils .....	.205	203.059	206.274	18.5	1.6	2.4	1.1	1.7
Other foods .....	1.369	200.961	201.388	6.5	.2	.9	.6	.8
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.404	121.033	121.144	5.7	.1	1.7	.4	.1
Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	6.173	217.063	218.225	4.5	.5	.6	.3	.5
Other food away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.297	151.133	152.040	3.6	.6	.8	.0	.6
Alcoholic beverages .....	1.080	215.094	216.055	3.7	.4	.4	.4	.5
Housing .....	42.427	219.148	218.184	3.5	-.4	.6	-.1	-.1
Shelter .....	32.596	247.985	247.737	2.4	-.1	.2	.1	.3
Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....	5.765	244.181	244.926	3.8	.3	.3	.3	.3
Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	2.564	149.146	143.597	-.6	-3.7	.7	-1.1	.9
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> .....	23.942	252.957	253.493	2.4	.2	.1	.1	.2
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.325	118.562	119.944	2.7	1.2	-.3	-.2	1.2
Fuels and utilities .....	5.128	235.650	228.450	11.8	-3.1	3.3	-1.1	-2.8
Household energy .....	4.215	217.455	209.501	13.1	-3.7	3.8	-1.6	-3.4
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.351	367.794	349.164	38.2	-5.1	1.3	-6.5	-5.8
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	3.864	218.656	210.950	10.9	-3.5	4.0	-1.1	-3.2
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	.913	154.134	154.264	6.2	.1	.7	1.3	.3
Household furnishings and operations .....	4.702	128.013	128.584	1.9	.4	.4	.2	.5
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.737	149.169	150.193	6.7	.7	.2	.6	.7
Apparel .....	3.731	116.376	121.168	1.4	4.1	1.2	.5	-.1
Men's and boys' apparel .....	.935	110.180	112.720	.3	2.3	.0	.3	-.3
Women's and girls' apparel .....	1.600	104.211	111.774	.7	7.3	2.0	2.0	-.3
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.185	109.558	113.494	-.1	3.6	-.3	-.8	1.3
Footwear .....	.679	121.982	124.907	1.4	2.4	1.3	-1.6	-.4
Transportation .....	17.688	206.739	203.861	10.5	-1.4	1.7	-1.5	-.6
Private transportation .....	16.583	201.779	199.153	10.3	-1.3	1.7	-1.6	-.6
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	7.191	93.260	92.480	-1.6	-.8	.2	-.4	-.9
New vehicles .....	4.632	133.404	132.399	-1.9	-.8	.2	-.6	-.7
Used cars and trucks <sup>1</sup> .....	1.773	135.405	132.916	-3.1	-1.8	-.1	-.3	-1.8
Motor fuel .....	5.482	323.822	315.078	31.8	-2.7	4.1	-4.2	-.8
Gasoline (all types) .....	5.215	321.511	313.535	31.7	-2.5	4.1	-4.2	-.6
Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	.356	130.327	131.048	7.2	.6	1.0	.9	.6
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	1.123	236.125	237.121	5.7	.4	.6	.6	.4
Public transportation .....	1.106	268.487	261.318	13.3	-2.7	1.1	1.1	-1.0
Medical care .....	6.231	364.477	365.036	3.2	.2	.1	.2	.3
Medical care commodities .....	1.601	295.003	295.461	1.4	.2	-.2	.1	.2
Medical care services .....	4.630	385.990	386.579	3.8	.2	.2	.3	.4
Professional services .....	2.626	312.396	312.527	3.3	.0	.2	.3	.2
Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....	1.467	535.501	537.728	6.6	.4	.3	.6	.6

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 Expenditure category	Relative importance, December 2007	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Sep. 2008 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Sep. 2007	Aug. 2008	June to July	July to Aug.	Aug. to Sep.
<b>Expenditure category</b>								
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	5.647	113.786	114.032	2.4	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.2
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	1.843	102.546	102.706	-1	.2	.0	.5	.1
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	6.086	124.653	125.505	3.5	.7	.5	.2	.1
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	2.944	183.184	186.148	6.1	1.6	.5	.6	.4
Educational books and supplies .....	.207	458.989	462.787	7.6	.8	.8	2.6	.4
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	2.736	527.230	536.082	6.0	1.7	.4	.5	.4
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	3.142	84.701	84.524	1.0	-2	.5	-2	-2
Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.975	81.815	81.635	.8	-2	.6	-2	-2
Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.342	101.301	101.311	2.5	.0	.7	.0	.0
Information technology, hardware and services <sup>1 5</sup> .....	.634	10.012	9.901	-5.5	-1.1	-2	-7	-1.1
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 6</sup> .....	.242	92.921	90.797	-14.2	-2.3	-1.0	-1.9	-2.3
Other goods and services .....	3.277	346.990	348.166	4.0	.3	.4	.2	.2
Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....	.731	597.361	597.581	6.8	.0	1.2	.1	.0
Personal care .....	2.546	201.623	202.486	3.2	.4	.1	.3	.3
Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....	.639	159.252	159.643	1.3	.2	.1	.2	.2
Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....	.629	224.151	224.614	3.2	.2	.1	.2	.2
Miscellaneous personal services .....	1.044	341.053	343.431	4.8	.7	.1	.4	.5
<b>Commodity and service group</b>								
Commodities .....	41.269	179.148	179.117	6.6	.0	1.2	-.5	-.1
Food and beverages .....	14.914	216.419	217.672	6.0	.6	.9	.6	.6
Commodities less food and beverages .....	26.356	158.179	157.621	7.0	-.4	1.3	-1.1	-.5
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	15.519	207.284	206.919	13.1	-2	1.2	-1.8	-.9
Apparel .....	3.731	116.376	121.168	1.4	4.1	1.2	.5	-.1
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	11.787	268.740	265.100	17.0	-1.4	2.2	-2.0	-1.4
Durables .....	10.837	110.779	110.077	-1.5	-.6	.2	-.3	-.6
Services .....	58.731	258.638	258.059	3.8	-2	.5	.1	.0
Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	32.271	258.547	258.255	2.4	-1	.2	.1	.3
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.325	118.562	119.944	2.7	1.2	-3	-.2	1.2
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	3.864	218.656	210.950	10.9	-3.5	4.0	-1.1	-3.2
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	.913	154.134	154.264	6.2	.1	.7	1.3	.3
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.737	149.169	150.193	6.7	.7	.2	.6	.7
Transportation services .....	5.350	248.806	248.047	5.9	-.3	.5	.8	.1
Medical care services .....	4.630	385.990	386.579	3.8	.2	.2	.3	.4
Other services .....	10.641	297.923	299.598	3.9	.6	.4	.4	.2
<b>Special indexes</b>								
All items less food .....	86.167	219.552	218.991	4.7	-.3	.8	-.3	-.1
All items less shelter .....	67.404	210.264	209.936	6.2	-.2	1.1	-.2	-.2
All items less medical care .....	93.769	211.653	211.321	5.1	-.2	.9	-.2	-.1
Commodities less food .....	27.436	160.341	159.825	6.9	-.3	1.3	-1.1	-.4
Nondurables less food .....	16.599	207.769	207.483	12.5	-.1	1.3	-2.0	-.9
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	12.868	262.470	259.278	15.9	-1.2	2.1	-2.2	-1.4
Nondurables .....	30.432	212.882	213.274	9.6	.2	1.1	-.9	-.3
Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	26.460	278.606	277.615	5.5	-.4	1.0	.2	-.3
Services less medical care services .....	54.101	248.198	247.563	3.8	-.3	.6	.2	-.1
Energy .....	9.698	266.283	258.020	23.1	-3.1	4.0	-3.1	-1.9
All items less energy .....	90.302	215.873	216.397	3.0	.2	.4	.3	.2
All items less food and energy .....	76.469	216.476	216.862	2.5	.2	.3	.2	.1
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	21.602	139.785	140.528	.5	.5	.5	.1	-.2
Energy commodities .....	5.834	328.240	318.918	32.3	-2.8	3.9	-4.4	-1.1
Services less energy services .....	54.867	262.867	262.980	3.2	.0	.3	.2	.3
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00) .....	-	\$.456	\$.457	-	-	-	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00) .....	-	\$.152	\$.153	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Not seasonally adjusted.

<sup>2</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>3</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

<sup>5</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

<sup>6</sup> Indexes on a December 2007=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 Expenditure category	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Dec. 2007	Mar. 2008	June 2008	Sep. 2008	Mar. 2008	Sep. 2008
All items .....	217.403	219.181	218.880	218.813	6.2	3.1	7.9	2.6	4.6	5.2
Food and beverages .....	213.612	215.539	216.778	217.996	2.6	5.1	8.1	8.5	3.9	8.3
Food .....	213.542	215.545	216.807	218.029	2.6	5.3	8.5	8.7	3.9	8.6
Food at home .....	213.706	216.227	217.949	219.225	2.5	5.9	11.5	10.7	4.2	11.1
Cereals and bakery products .....	244.840	249.210	249.024	251.760	6.8	15.7	15.2	11.8	11.2	13.5
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	203.295	205.361	207.479	209.534	.7	2.6	7.8	12.9	1.6	10.3
Dairy and related products .....	211.086	214.537	215.356	214.066	2.4	.7	11.1	5.8	1.5	8.4
Fruits and vegetables .....	281.911	285.411	291.493	290.047	5.2	3.9	20.9	12.1	4.6	16.4
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	158.735	159.796	160.411	161.609	-1.6	7.3	3.9	7.4	2.7	5.7
Other food at home .....	183.140	184.951	186.154	188.124	2.5	6.3	11.7	11.3	4.4	11.5
Sugar and sweets .....	185.209	185.865	186.956	190.197	3.4	5.3	6.6	11.2	4.4	8.9
Fats and oils .....	196.211	200.870	202.996	206.381	10.2	8.6	34.5	22.4	9.4	28.3
Other foods .....	196.980	198.743	199.930	201.577	.8	6.3	9.5	9.7	3.5	9.6
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....	118.453	120.510	121.033	121.144	2.2	7.3	3.9	9.4	4.8	6.6
Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	215.015	216.376	217.063	218.225	2.8	4.5	4.7	6.1	3.6	5.4
Other food away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	149.873	151.120	151.133	152.040	-2.5	7.8	3.6	5.9	2.5	4.7
Alcoholic beverages .....	213.246	214.173	215.105	216.276	3.0	2.9	3.1	5.8	2.9	4.4
Housing .....	216.918	218.267	218.101	217.891	3.5	3.4	5.2	1.8	3.4	3.5
Shelter .....	246.612	247.090	247.258	247.971	2.9	2.0	2.3	2.2	2.5	2.3
Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....	242.837	243.535	244.296	244.977	4.9	3.1	3.5	3.6	4.0	3.5
Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	144.426	145.394	143.846	145.173	-2.8	-2.5	.8	2.1	-2.6	1.5
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> .....	252.299	252.610	252.970	253.493	3.2	2.5	2.2	1.9	2.8	2.0
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	119.092	118.764	118.562	119.944	.8	2.4	4.8	2.9	1.6	3.8
Fuels and utilities .....	226.160	233.540	230.876	224.377	10.4	13.7	28.8	-3.1	12.0	11.7
Household energy .....	207.912	215.751	212.286	205.021	11.4	15.6	34.2	-5.4	13.5	12.7
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	396.000	401.283	375.211	353.309	78.2	49.2	116.7	-36.6	63.1	17.2
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	206.565	214.896	212.549	205.785	6.5	12.8	27.9	-1.5	9.6	12.2
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	150.831	151.857	153.832	154.269	5.7	5.0	4.8	9.4	5.3	7.1
Household furnishings and operations .....	127.369	127.919	128.222	128.917	-3	2.5	.5	5.0	1.1	2.7
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	148.006	148.290	149.169	150.193	4.0	8.5	8.5	6.0	6.3	7.2
Apparel .....	118.107	119.574	120.157	120.005	3.1	-4.7	1.0	6.6	-9	3.7
Men's and boys' apparel .....	113.139	113.090	113.420	113.108	-2.1	3.9	-4	-1	.9	-3
Women's and girls' apparel .....	105.698	107.860	110.057	109.678	6.0	-16.6	.6	15.9	-5.9	8.0
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	112.922	112.638	111.741	113.172	4.8	-3.4	-2.6	.9	.7	-9
Footwear .....	124.489	126.047	124.023	123.572	2.0	2.4	4.3	-2.9	2.2	.6
Transportation .....	205.915	209.358	206.303	205.036	21.1	2.4	22.3	-1.7	11.3	9.7
Private transportation .....	201.450	204.899	201.552	200.367	21.6	1.8	22.2	-2.1	11.2	9.4
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	93.909	94.052	93.702	92.900	-1	-1.4	-.7	-4.2	-.8	-2.5
New vehicles .....	134.990	135.300	134.548	133.567	-5	-2.7	-.1	-4.2	-1.6	-2.1
Used cars and trucks <sup>1</sup> .....	135.980	135.840	135.405	132.916	-6	.8	-3.6	-8.7	.1	-6.2
Motor fuel .....	321.618	334.732	320.647	317.962	81.1	3.0	69.2	-4.5	36.6	27.1
Gasoline (all types) .....	319.107	332.237	318.255	316.443	80.9	1.8	69.1	-3.3	35.7	27.9
Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	127.824	129.118	130.327	131.048	5.5	8.0	4.8	10.5	6.7	7.6
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	233.321	234.818	236.340	237.284	3.0	6.3	6.6	7.0	4.7	6.8
Public transportation .....	258.462	261.275	264.183	261.556	14.0	11.5	23.6	4.9	12.7	13.8
Medical care .....	363.618	363.852	364.710	365.836	5.0	3.2	2.1	2.5	4.1	2.3
Medical care commodities .....	295.102	294.438	294.694	295.231	4.4	4.3	-3.0	.2	4.3	-1.4
Medical care services .....	384.727	385.353	386.458	387.816	5.1	2.8	4.0	3.3	4.0	3.6
Professional services .....	311.068	311.739	312.575	313.273	3.7	2.1	4.7	2.9	2.9	3.8
Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....	532.592	534.172	537.549	540.539	8.7	6.5	5.4	6.1	7.6	5.7

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 Expenditure category	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
					Dec. 2007	Mar. 2008	June 2008	Sep. 2008	Mar. 2008	Sep. 2008
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	112.831	113.264	113.876	114.120	1.9	2.3	0.6	4.6	2.1	2.6
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	102.181	102.195	102.658	102.801	1.7	.3	-4.5	2.4	1.0	-1.1
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	123.613	124.226	124.505	124.615	2.6	3.2	5.1	3.3	2.9	4.2
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	180.749	181.582	182.734	183.462	6.9	5.3	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.1
Educational books and supplies .....	444.469	447.821	459.494	461.555	7.0	1.2	6.4	16.3	4.1	11.2
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	520.969	523.254	525.789	527.863	6.9	5.6	5.9	5.4	6.3	5.7
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	84.393	84.840	84.702	84.526	-1.9	1.0	4.3	.6	-5	2.5
Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	81.513	81.965	81.815	81.635	-2.1	1.0	3.8	.6	-6	2.2
Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	100.677	101.339	101.301	101.311	-4	1.0	6.8	2.5	.3	4.7
Information technology, hardware and services <sup>1 5</sup> .....	10.071	10.087	10.012	9.901	-9.6	1.2	-6.7	-6.6	-4.4	-6.6
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 6</sup> .....	95.663	94.711	92.921	90.797	-20.2	1.4	-17.4	-18.8	-10.0	-18.1
Other goods and services .....	345.693	346.962	347.715	348.540	3.0	4.5	5.2	3.3	3.7	4.2
Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....	589.904	596.782	597.361	597.581	5.1	5.9	10.9	5.3	5.5	8.0
Personal care .....	201.392	201.660	202.169	202.768	2.4	4.1	3.6	2.8	3.2	3.2
Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....	158.868	158.989	159.252	159.643	1.5	.5	1.1	2.0	1.0	1.5
Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....	223.520	223.719	224.151	224.614	3.9	5.8	1.4	2.0	4.8	1.7
Miscellaneous personal services .....	340.085	340.264	341.606	343.441	3.3	5.4	6.4	4.0	4.4	5.2
<b>Commodity and service group</b>										
Commodities .....	178.550	180.657	179.687	179.530	10.3	2.6	12.0	2.2	6.4	7.0
Food and beverages .....	213.612	215.539	216.778	217.996	2.6	5.1	8.1	8.5	3.9	8.3
Commodities less food and beverages .....	158.506	160.622	158.775	158.058	15.0	1.1	14.2	-1.1	7.8	6.3
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	208.661	211.267	207.465	205.585	27.1	8.4	26.1	-5.8	17.4	9.0
Apparel .....	118.107	119.574	120.157	120.005	3.1	-4.7	1.0	6.6	-9	3.7
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	269.755	275.611	270.166	266.376	29.0	13.3	34.9	-4.9	20.9	13.3
Durables .....	111.258	111.425	111.140	110.513	-3	-1.1	-1.9	-2.7	-7	-2.3
Services .....	255.872	257.269	257.642	257.662	3.6	3.5	5.1	2.8	3.5	4.0
Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	257.040	257.575	257.717	258.498	2.8	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.2
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	119.092	118.764	118.562	119.944	.8	2.4	4.8	2.9	1.6	3.8
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	206.565	214.896	212.549	205.785	6.5	12.8	27.9	-1.5	9.6	12.2
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	150.831	151.857	153.832	154.269	5.7	5.0	4.8	9.4	5.3	7.1
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	148.006	148.290	149.169	150.193	4.0	8.5	8.5	6.0	6.3	7.2
Transportation services .....	245.102	246.409	248.277	248.422	3.7	5.5	8.7	5.5	4.6	7.1
Medical care services .....	384.727	385.353	386.458	387.816	5.1	2.8	4.0	3.3	4.0	3.6
Other services .....	295.504	296.752	297.887	298.481	3.5	3.6	4.3	4.1	3.6	4.2
<b>Special indexes</b>										
All items less food .....	218.065	219.806	219.250	218.972	6.8	2.7	7.8	1.7	4.8	4.7
All items less shelter .....	208.438	210.755	210.264	209.885	7.9	3.6	10.7	2.8	5.7	6.7
All items less medical care .....	209.955	211.774	211.433	211.322	6.3	3.1	8.3	2.6	4.7	5.4
Commodities less food .....	160.607	162.695	160.922	160.257	14.4	1.2	13.8	-9	7.6	6.2
Nondurables less food .....	209.702	212.335	208.004	206.042	26.3	6.0	28.3	-6.8	15.7	9.3
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	263.688	269.125	263.228	259.597	29.5	10.4	34.2	-6.1	19.6	12.3
Nondurables .....	212.718	215.067	213.122	212.583	14.9	5.9	18.8	-3	10.3	8.9
Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	274.317	276.996	277.598	276.660	3.9	5.1	9.5	3.5	4.5	6.5
Services less medical care services .....	245.531	246.945	247.327	247.172	3.2	3.5	5.6	2.7	3.4	4.2
Energy .....	260.316	270.602	262.107	257.086	45.6	8.6	53.6	-4.9	25.8	20.9
All items less energy .....	214.624	215.529	216.080	216.528	2.6	2.5	3.4	3.6	2.6	3.5
All items less food and energy .....	215.526	216.230	216.650	216.956	2.6	2.0	2.5	2.7	2.3	2.6
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	140.156	140.792	140.885	140.655	.7	-1	-1	1.4	.3	.7
Energy commodities .....	327.625	340.411	325.603	321.888	80.9	5.6	71.8	-6.8	38.3	26.5
Services less energy services .....	261.005	261.729	262.367	263.046	3.4	2.9	3.6	3.2	3.1	3.4

<sup>1</sup> Not seasonally adjusted.

<sup>2</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>3</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

<sup>5</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

<sup>6</sup> Indexes on a December 2007=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 Sep.2008 from—			Percent change to Aug.2008 from—		
		June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Sep. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Aug. 2007	June 2008	July 2008
U.S. city average .....	M	218.815	219.964	219.086	218.783	4.9	-0.5	-0.1	5.4	0.1	-0.4
<b>Region and area size<sup>2</sup></b>											
Northeast urban .....	M	232.649	234.545	233.788	232.841	5.2	-7	-4	5.5	.5	-3
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	234.518	236.460	236.107	235.314	4.9	-5	-3	5.3	.7	-1
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	138.542	139.623	138.537	137.723	5.8	-1.4	-6	6.1	.0	-8
Midwest urban .....	M	208.968	210.071	209.351	209.252	4.8	-4	.0	5.4	.2	-3
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	209.813	211.003	210.341	210.283	4.5	-3	.0	5.3	.3	-3
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	134.018	134.595	133.969	133.982	5.1	-5	.0	5.6	.0	-5
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	205.122	206.435	206.251	205.522	5.1	-4	-4	5.9	.6	-1
South urban .....	M	212.324	213.304	212.387	212.650	5.4	-3	.1	5.6	.0	-4
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	214.359	215.373	214.496	214.854	5.2	-2	.2	5.4	.1	-4
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	134.980	135.643	135.004	135.093	5.3	-4	.1	5.6	.0	-5
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	214.739	215.274	214.655	215.258	7.1	.0	.3	6.9	.0	-3
West urban .....	M	223.040	223.867	222.823	222.132	4.3	-8	-3	4.9	-1	-5
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	226.767	227.562	226.541	225.910	4.4	-7	-3	5.0	-1	-4
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	135.283	136.021	135.207	134.834	4.5	-9	-3	4.9	-1	-6
<b>Size classes</b>											
A <sup>4</sup> .....	M	199.840	200.941	200.278	199.982	4.7	-5	-1	5.2	.2	-3
B/C <sup>3</sup> .....	M	135.330	136.055	135.315	135.160	5.2	-7	-1	5.5	.0	-5
D .....	M	211.989	212.555	212.138	211.740	5.4	-4	-2	5.9	.1	-2
<b>Selected local areas<sup>5</sup></b>											
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI .....	M	215.738	217.459	215.971	215.465	4.4	-9	-2	4.9	.1	-7
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ...	M	229.033	229.886	228.484	227.449	4.5	-1.1	-5	5.1	-2	-6
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA .....	M	238.580	240.273	240.550	240.089	5.2	-1	-2	5.4	.8	.1
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT ....	1	-	241.258	-	238.519	4.7	-1.1	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH .....	1	-	206.941	-	206.219	4.7	-3	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX .....	1	-	206.413	-	205.883	5.7	-3	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV <sup>6</sup> .....	1	-	142.065	-	142.036	5.5	.0	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA .....	2	212.032	-	211.404	-	-	-	-	5.0	-3	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI .....	2	207.593	-	209.484	-	-	-	-	4.9	.9	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX .....	2	193.567	-	192.723	-	-	-	-	4.9	-4	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL .....	2	225.079	-	225.473	-	-	-	-	5.8	.2	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD .....	2	228.408	-	228.337	-	-	-	-	4.4	.0	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....	2	225.181	-	225.411	-	-	-	-	4.2	.1	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA .....	2	228.068	-	227.745	-	-	-	-	5.4	-1	-

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Regions defined as the four Census regions. See technical notes.

<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> 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)

Expenditure category	CPI-W	Relative importance, December 2007	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Sep. 2008 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
			Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Sep. 2007	Aug. 2008	June to July	July to Aug.	Aug. to Sep.
All items .....	100.000		215.247	214.935	5.4	-0.1	0.9	-0.2	-0.1
All items (1967=100) .....	-		641.155	640.226	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	15.926		215.850	217.098	6.1	.6	.9	.6	.6
Food .....	14.901		215.812	217.090	6.3	.6	.9	.6	.6
Food at home .....	8.595		216.214	217.594	7.5	.6	1.2	.8	.6
Cereals and bakery products .....	1.110		250.842	251.448	12.3	.2	1.8	.0	.9
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	2.192		207.211	209.515	5.8	1.1	1.0	1.2	.9
Dairy and related products .....	.965		214.139	212.841	4.6	-6	1.7	.3	-7
Fruits and vegetables .....	1.218		282.171	284.612	10.6	.9	1.2	1.9	-4
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	1.094		159.024	160.850	4.1	1.1	.8	.2	1.0
Other food at home .....	2.016		186.458	187.467	8.1	.5	.9	.7	1.1
Sugar and sweets .....	.279		186.860	188.914	7.1	1.1	.4	.7	1.6
Fats and oils .....	.232		203.721	207.069	18.3	1.6	2.1	1.1	1.7
Other foods .....	1.504		201.119	201.632	6.6	.3	.8	.6	.9
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.438		121.443	121.589	6.1	.1	1.8	.4	.1
Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	6.305		217.002	218.147	4.6	.5	.6	.4	.5
Other food away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.218		150.301	151.321	3.8	.7	.6	.0	.7
Alcoholic beverages .....	1.025		214.931	215.728	3.6	.4	.5	.4	.5
Housing .....	39.994		214.743	213.954	3.8	-4	.7	.0	-2
Shelter .....	30.397		240.038	240.163	2.5	.1	.2	.1	.2
Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....	7.979		243.010	243.741	3.6	.3	.3	.3	.3
Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	1.233		148.368	142.591	-8	-3.9	-1	-1.0	.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> .....	20.888		229.219	229.670	2.4	.2	.1	.1	.2
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.297		118.894	120.279	2.7	1.2	-2	-1	1.2
Fuels and utilities .....	5.637		233.373	226.709	12.1	-2.9	3.3	-1.0	-2.6
Household energy .....	4.670		213.807	206.544	13.3	-3.4	3.8	-1.4	-3.2
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.323		363.535	345.907	36.9	-4.8	1.4	-5.6	-5.8
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	4.347		216.557	209.442	11.4	-3.3	4.0	-1.1	-2.9
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	.966		154.475	154.628	6.3	.1	.7	1.4	.3
Household furnishings and operations .....	3.960		123.944	124.500	2.2	.4	.5	.2	.6
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.339		152.083	152.850	6.7	.5	.3	.5	.5
Apparel .....	3.998		116.214	120.990	1.7	4.1	.8	1.0	.0
Men's and boys' apparel .....	1.031		110.513	112.973	.9	2.2	-6	1.0	-3
Women's and girls' apparel .....	1.619		104.584	112.304	1.3	7.4	1.5	2.9	.4
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.251		111.593	115.764	-1	3.7	-5	-1.3	1.5
Footwear .....	.821		122.026	124.873	1.7	2.3	1.4	-1.6	-4
Transportation .....	20.054		207.796	204.785	11.1	-1.4	1.8	-1.7	-7
Private transportation .....	19.287		204.348	201.476	11.0	-1.4	1.8	-1.8	-7
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	7.952		92.287	91.305	-1.9	-1.1	.1	-4	-1.1
New vehicles .....	4.172		134.540	133.504	-1.9	-8	.2	-5	-8
Used cars and trucks <sup>1</sup> .....	3.103		136.186	133.669	-3.1	-1.8	-1	-3	-1.8
Motor fuel .....	6.940		325.116	316.717	31.8	-2.6	4.1	-4.2	-8
Gasoline (all types) .....	6.597		322.930	315.324	31.8	-2.4	4.1	-4.2	-6
Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	.446		130.228	131.072	7.3	.6	1.0	1.0	.6
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	1.169		238.583	239.571	5.6	.4	.7	.6	.4
Public transportation .....	.767		264.755	258.142	12.7	-2.5	1.0	.8	-1.1
Medical care .....	5.192		364.652	365.250	3.3	.2	.1	.3	.3
Medical care commodities .....	1.295		286.880	287.397	1.3	.2	-2	.2	.2
Medical care services .....	3.897		387.420	388.036	3.9	.2	.1	.4	.4
Professional services .....	2.159		314.893	314.977	3.3	.0	.2	.3	.2
Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....	1.260		532.065	534.394	7.2	.4	.3	.7	.6

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 2007	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Sep. 2008 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Sep. 2007	Aug. 2008	June to July	July to Aug.	Aug. to Sep.
<b>Expenditure category</b>								
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	5.341	110.698	110.904	2.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.2
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	1.987	102.643	102.819	.4	.2	.1	.4	.2
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	5.987	120.809	121.439	3.2	.5	.5	.2	.0
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	2.377	180.819	183.613	6.1	1.5	.5	.8	.3
Educational books and supplies .....	.204	461.104	465.570	7.4	1.0	.8	2.4	.7
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	2.174	509.241	517.389	6.0	1.6	.5	.7	.2
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	3.609	87.369	87.224	1.2	-.2	.5	-.1	-.2
Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	3.488	85.355	85.208	1.1	-.2	.6	-.2	-.2
Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.869	101.339	101.350	2.3	.0	.6	.0	.0
Information technology, hardware and services <sup>1 5</sup> .....	.619	10.525	10.414	-5.0	-1.1	-.1	-.7	-1.1
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 6</sup> .....	.228	92.931	90.722	-14.2	-2.4	-1.1	-1.9	-2.4
Other goods and services .....	3.508	360.102	361.125	4.4	.3	.5	.2	.2
Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....	1.183	599.823	600.293	7.0	.1	1.2	.1	.1
Personal care .....	2.325	199.501	200.284	3.2	.4	.2	.2	.3
Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....	.647	159.345	159.730	1.3	.2	.1	.1	.2
Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....	.560	224.464	224.910	3.3	.2	.1	.2	.2
Miscellaneous personal services .....	.910	342.974	345.175	4.8	.6	.1	.4	.5
<b>Commodity and service group</b>								
Commodities .....	44.745	182.846	182.647	7.4	-.1	1.3	-.6	-.1
Food and beverages .....	15.926	215.850	217.098	6.1	.6	.9	.6	.6
Commodities less food and beverages .....	28.819	163.761	162.971	8.1	-.5	1.4	-1.2	-.5
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	17.315	218.454	217.828	14.7	-.3	1.3	-1.9	-.9
Apparel .....	3.998	116.214	120.990	1.7	4.1	.8	1.0	.0
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	13.318	287.124	283.056	18.8	-1.4	2.5	-2.6	-1.6
Durables .....	11.504	111.357	110.451	-1.5	-.8	.1	-.3	-.7
Services .....	55.255	253.304	252.861	3.9	-.2	.6	.2	-.1
Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	30.100	231.445	231.541	2.5	.0	.2	.1	.3
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.297	118.894	120.279	2.7	1.2	-.2	-.1	1.2
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	4.347	216.557	209.442	11.4	-3.3	4.0	-1.1	-2.9
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	.966	154.475	154.628	6.3	.1	.7	1.4	.3
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.339	152.083	152.850	6.7	.5	.3	.5	.5
Transportation services .....	5.266	246.041	245.722	5.1	-.1	.5	.7	.1
Medical care services .....	3.897	387.420	388.036	3.9	.2	.1	.4	.4
Other services .....	10.042	286.389	287.792	3.6	.5	.5	.4	.2
<b>Special indexes</b>								
All items less food .....	85.099	214.950	214.361	5.3	-.3	.9	-.3	-.2
All items less shelter .....	69.603	208.544	208.068	6.7	-.2	1.2	-.3	-.2
All items less medical care .....	94.808	208.900	208.563	5.5	-.2	.9	-.2	-.1
Commodities less food .....	29.844	165.689	164.937	7.9	-.5	1.4	-1.2	-.5
Nondurables less food .....	18.341	218.562	218.010	14.0	-.3	1.3	-1.8	-.8
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	14.343	279.753	276.112	17.6	-1.3	2.3	-2.4	-1.4
Nondurables .....	33.241	218.473	218.725	10.5	.1	1.1	-.8	-.2
Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	25.155	246.834	245.787	5.5	-.4	1.1	.2	-.4
Services less medical care services .....	51.358	243.354	242.868	3.9	-.2	.6	.2	-.1
Energy .....	11.610	267.624	259.864	23.8	-2.9	4.0	-3.2	-1.7
All items less energy .....	88.390	209.718	210.325	3.1	.3	.4	.3	.2
All items less food and energy .....	73.489	208.857	209.329	2.4	.2	.3	.2	.1
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	22.581	140.802	141.428	.7	.4	.4	.1	-.2
Energy commodities .....	7.264	328.310	319.507	32.2	-2.7	4.0	-4.3	-1.1
Services less energy services .....	50.908	257.072	257.411	3.2	.1	.3	.3	.2
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00) .....	-	\$.465	\$.465	-	-	-	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00) .....	-	\$.156	\$.156	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Not seasonally adjusted.  
<sup>2</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.  
<sup>3</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.  
<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1984=100 base

<sup>5</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.  
<sup>6</sup> Indexes on a December 2007=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)

Expenditure category	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Dec. 2007	Mar. 2008	June 2008	Sep. 2008	Mar. 2008	Sep. 2008
<b>CPI-W</b>										
All items .....	213.601	215.507	215.130	214.946	7.0	3.3	9.0	2.5	5.1	5.7
Food and beverages .....	212.937	214.883	216.195	217.401	2.5	5.1	8.4	8.7	3.8	8.5
Food .....	212.814	214.813	216.160	217.375	2.5	5.2	8.7	8.9	3.9	8.8
Food at home .....	212.594	215.085	216.812	218.085	2.4	5.8	11.4	10.7	4.1	11.1
Cereals and bakery products .....	245.533	249.875	249.930	252.230	6.4	16.0	15.7	11.4	11.1	13.5
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	202.831	204.852	207.265	209.114	.8	2.4	7.5	13.0	1.6	10.2
Dairy and related products .....	210.453	214.042	214.768	213.317	2.5	-2	10.9	5.6	1.2	8.2
Fruits and vegetables .....	280.522	283.919	289.447	288.190	5.2	4.1	22.7	11.4	4.6	16.9
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	157.651	158.971	159.322	160.916	-2.0	7.5	2.8	8.5	2.6	5.6
Other food at home .....	182.718	184.409	185.692	187.670	2.7	6.5	12.1	11.3	4.6	11.7
Sugar and sweets .....	184.097	184.838	186.049	189.095	3.9	6.6	6.6	11.3	5.2	8.9
Fats and oils .....	197.297	201.406	203.666	207.065	9.9	7.8	36.3	21.3	8.8	28.6
Other foods .....	197.277	198.916	200.172	201.892	1.0	6.4	9.6	9.7	3.7	9.7
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....	118.879	121.015	121.443	121.589	3.8	7.4	3.9	9.4	5.6	6.6
Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	214.851	216.177	217.002	218.147	2.6	4.4	5.1	6.3	3.5	5.7
Other food away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	149.306	150.232	150.301	151.321	-3.6	7.8	5.9	5.5	1.9	5.7
Alcoholic beverages .....	213.293	214.434	215.219	216.292	2.6	3.0	3.0	5.7	2.8	4.3
Housing .....	212.511	213.943	213.851	213.496	3.9	3.6	5.9	1.9	3.8	3.9
Shelter .....	239.047	239.431	239.715	240.297	3.2	2.1	2.6	2.1	2.7	2.3
Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....	241.841	242.535	243.215	243.875	4.6	3.0	3.5	3.4	3.8	3.5
Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	144.505	144.351	142.928	144.035	-1.6	-5.2	4.8	-1.3	-3.4	1.7
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> .....	228.635	228.943	229.239	229.663	3.1	2.6	2.0	1.8	2.8	1.9
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	119.293	119.006	118.894	120.279	.9	2.1	4.5	3.3	1.5	3.9
Fuels and utilities .....	223.395	230.774	228.472	222.522	10.1	13.1	28.3	-1.6	11.6	12.4
Household energy .....	203.870	211.612	208.571	202.000	10.9	15.0	33.5	-3.6	13.0	13.4
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	388.227	393.808	371.762	350.353	75.4	45.0	108.2	-33.7	59.5	17.5
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	204.597	212.785	210.473	204.284	6.6	12.8	28.7	-6	9.6	13.1
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	151.009	152.020	154.174	154.652	5.8	4.7	4.7	10.0	5.2	7.3
Household furnishings and operations .....	123.200	123.832	124.141	124.860	-2	2.6	1.0	5.5	1.2	3.2
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	150.867	151.290	152.083	152.850	4.0	7.6	10.0	5.4	5.8	7.7
Apparel .....	117.920	118.892	120.050	120.102	2.6	-3.1	.2	7.6	-3	3.8
Men's and boys' apparel .....	113.486	112.842	113.971	113.679	.1	4.3	-1.5	.7	2.2	-4
Women's and girls' apparel .....	105.595	107.177	110.267	110.689	3.8	-15.1	-.8	20.7	-6.1	9.4
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	115.785	115.245	113.771	115.496	2.8	.7	-2.9	-1.0	1.8	-1.9
Footwear .....	124.267	126.005	124.021	123.558	2.0	4.2	2.7	-2.3	3.1	.2
Transportation .....	207.141	210.841	207.328	205.872	22.6	2.8	23.7	-2.4	12.3	9.9
Private transportation .....	203.949	207.657	203.988	202.585	23.1	2.5	23.7	-2.6	12.3	9.7
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	92.928	93.007	92.659	91.646	-4	-9	-1.3	-5.4	-6	-3.4
New vehicles .....	136.143	136.460	135.721	134.684	-8	-2.4	-.2	-4.2	-1.6	-2.2
Used cars and trucks <sup>1</sup> .....	136.790	136.639	136.186	133.669	-6	.8	-3.7	-8.8	.1	-6.3
Motor fuel .....	322.859	336.117	321.941	319.245	81.0	3.5	68.6	-4.4	36.9	27.0
Gasoline (all types) .....	320.576	333.854	319.790	317.912	80.9	2.0	69.1	-3.3	35.8	27.9
Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	127.750	128.997	130.228	131.072	5.5	8.5	4.6	10.8	7.0	7.6
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	235.703	237.365	238.826	239.756	2.9	6.4	6.1	7.1	4.6	6.6
Public transportation .....	256.314	258.873	261.046	258.294	12.3	11.4	24.9	3.1	11.8	13.5
Medical care .....	363.629	363.864	364.964	366.132	5.1	3.2	2.1	2.8	4.2	2.4
Medical care commodities .....	286.749	286.207	286.645	287.227	4.6	3.6	-3.5	.7	4.1	-1.4
Medical care services .....	386.038	386.607	387.963	389.352	5.2	3.1	4.0	3.5	4.2	3.7
Professional services .....	313.396	314.053	315.066	315.757	3.8	2.1	4.4	3.0	2.9	3.7
Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....	529.160	530.663	534.373	537.382	8.9	7.4	6.1	6.4	8.2	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—		
	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Dec. 2007	Mar. 2008	June 2008	Sep. 2008	Mar. 2008	Sep. 2008
<b>Expenditure category</b>										
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	109.737	110.173	110.748	110.998	1.5	2.5	0.2	4.7	2.0	2.4
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	102.166	102.269	102.685	102.922	2.1	1.1	-4.4	3.0	1.6	-8
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	119.805	120.439	120.740	120.747	1.9	2.6	5.1	3.2	2.2	4.2
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	178.167	179.067	180.563	181.030	6.9	5.2	5.8	6.6	6.0	6.2
Educational books and supplies .....	446.991	450.380	461.173	464.432	6.6	.4	6.5	16.5	3.4	11.4
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	502.545	504.965	508.443	509.542	6.9	5.7	5.7	5.7	6.3	5.7
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	87.016	87.490	87.369	87.225	-1.6	.8	4.7	1.0	-4	2.8
Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	85.007	85.484	85.355	85.208	-1.7	.8	4.4	.9	-5	2.7
Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	100.723	101.375	101.339	101.350	-6	.8	6.8	2.5	.1	4.6
Information technology, hardware and services <sup>1 5</sup> .....	10.585	10.600	10.525	10.414	-8.3	.9	-5.8	-6.3	-3.8	-6.1
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 6</sup> .....	95.766	94.691	92.931	90.722	-19.9	1.1	-16.8	-19.5	-10.0	-18.1
Other goods and services .....	358.283	360.084	360.634	361.459	3.2	4.8	6.1	3.6	4.0	4.8
Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....	592.248	599.180	599.823	600.293	5.3	6.1	11.1	5.5	5.7	8.3
Personal care .....	199.288	199.599	199.951	200.567	2.3	4.1	3.7	2.6	3.2	3.1
Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....	159.052	159.237	159.345	159.730	1.9	.8	.8	1.7	1.4	1.3
Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....	223.838	223.994	224.464	224.910	4.0	5.8	1.4	1.9	4.9	1.7
Miscellaneous personal services .....	341.405	341.783	343.214	345.068	3.1	5.2	6.6	4.4	4.1	5.5
<b>Commodity and service group</b>										
Commodities .....	182.091	184.380	183.312	183.072	11.4	3.1	13.3	2.2	7.1	7.6
Food and beverages .....	212.937	214.883	216.195	217.401	2.5	5.1	8.4	8.7	3.8	8.5
Commodities less food and beverages .....	163.920	166.283	164.264	163.433	16.9	1.8	16.0	-1.2	9.1	7.1
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	219.911	222.730	218.408	216.425	30.2	9.3	29.4	-6.2	19.3	10.2
Apparel .....	117.920	118.892	120.050	120.102	2.6	-3.1	.2	7.6	-3	3.8
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	288.571	295.649	287.973	283.308	36.3	11.7	40.6	-7.1	23.4	14.3
Durables .....	111.778	111.904	111.513	110.738	.3	-3	-2.2	-3.7	.0	-2.9
Services .....	250.646	252.098	252.502	252.363	3.6	3.5	5.5	2.8	3.6	4.1
Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	230.376	230.750	231.020	231.740	3.3	2.0	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.4
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	119.293	119.006	118.894	120.279	.9	2.1	4.5	3.3	1.5	3.9
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	204.597	212.785	210.473	204.284	6.6	12.8	28.7	-6	9.6	13.1
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	151.009	152.020	154.174	154.652	5.8	4.7	4.7	10.0	5.2	7.3
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	150.867	151.290	152.083	152.850	4.0	7.6	10.0	5.4	5.8	7.7
Transportation services .....	243.223	244.333	246.033	246.228	2.7	4.7	7.8	5.0	3.7	6.4
Medical care services .....	386.038	386.607	387.963	389.352	5.2	3.1	4.0	3.5	4.2	3.7
Other services .....	283.979	285.261	286.423	286.893	3.0	3.2	4.1	4.2	3.1	4.1
<b>Special indexes</b>										
All items less food .....	213.542	215.430	214.752	214.323	7.8	2.9	9.0	1.5	5.3	5.2
All items less shelter .....	206.640	209.123	208.500	208.034	8.6	3.8	11.8	2.7	6.2	7.2
All items less medical care .....	207.249	209.190	208.771	208.547	7.1	3.3	9.4	2.5	5.2	5.9
Commodities less food .....	165.803	168.143	166.189	165.404	16.3	1.9	15.6	-1.0	8.9	7.0
Nondurables less food .....	219.878	222.640	218.543	216.742	28.2	9.2	27.9	-5.6	18.3	9.9
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	281.115	287.558	280.555	276.627	32.8	11.2	38.2	-6.2	21.5	13.9
Nondurables .....	218.042	220.363	218.559	218.036	15.8	7.6	19.5	.0	11.6	9.3
Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	242.816	245.434	245.949	244.940	3.4	5.0	10.2	3.5	4.2	6.8
Services less medical care services .....	240.801	242.231	242.706	242.484	3.1	3.4	6.1	2.8	3.3	4.5
Energy .....	261.655	272.093	263.479	258.926	47.5	8.3	54.1	-4.1	26.4	21.6
All items less energy .....	208.598	209.458	210.097	210.452	2.5	2.6	3.5	3.6	2.6	3.6
All items less food and energy .....	208.116	208.747	209.244	209.425	2.5	2.1	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.5
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	141.128	141.700	141.896	141.581	.6	.6	.0	1.3	.6	.7
Energy commodities .....	327.093	340.121	325.564	322.124	80.7	5.5	70.2	-5.9	38.1	26.5
Services less energy services .....	255.507	256.168	256.890	257.459	3.4	2.7	3.6	3.1	3.0	3.3

<sup>1</sup> Not seasonally adjusted.

<sup>2</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>3</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1984=100 base

<sup>5</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

<sup>6</sup> Indexes on a December 2007=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 Sep.2008 from—			Percent change to Aug.2008 from—		
		June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Sep. 2007	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Aug. 2007	June 2008	July 2008
U.S. city average .....	M	215.223	216.304	215.247	214.935	5.4	-0.6	-0.1	5.9	0.0	-0.5
<b>Region and area size<sup>2</sup></b>											
Northeast urban .....	M	229.829	231.488	230.790	229.949	5.7	-7	-4	6.2	.4	-3
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	230.120	231.808	231.465	230.579	5.4	-5	-4	6.0	.6	-1
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	139.286	140.253	139.329	138.881	6.5	-1.0	-3	6.6	.0	-7
Midwest urban .....	M	204.867	206.038	205.121	205.023	5.2	-5	.0	5.9	.1	-4
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	204.509	205.761	204.989	205.002	5.0	-4	.0	5.6	.2	-4
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	134.409	135.037	134.236	134.215	5.6	-6	.0	6.2	-1	-6
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	204.023	205.452	204.812	204.064	5.4	-7	-4	6.4	.4	-3
South urban .....	M	210.469	211.438	210.362	210.572	5.9	-4	.1	6.2	-1	-5
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	213.549	214.379	213.439	213.579	5.5	-4	.1	6.0	-1	-4
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	134.222	134.952	134.179	134.285	5.8	-5	.1	6.1	.0	-6
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	216.357	216.901	216.031	216.762	7.7	-1	.3	7.5	-2	-4
West urban .....	M	218.508	219.248	217.854	217.028	4.8	-1.0	-4	5.4	-3	-6
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	220.603	221.232	219.827	219.169	4.9	-9	-3	5.6	-4	-6
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	135.738	136.478	135.464	134.873	4.8	-1.2	-4	5.4	-2	-7
<b>Size classes</b>											
A <sup>4</sup> .....	M	199.028	200.009	199.187	198.842	5.2	-6	-2	5.8	.1	-4
B/C <sup>3</sup> .....	M	135.240	135.986	135.138	135.003	5.7	-7	-1	6.1	-1	-6
D .....	M	211.236	211.929	211.233	210.844	5.8	-5	-2	6.4	.0	-3
<b>Selected local areas<sup>5</sup></b>											
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI .....	M	209.021	211.020	209.435	209.084	4.8	-9	-2	5.4	.2	-8
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ...	M	222.435	223.245	221.230	220.285	5.0	-1.3	-4	5.7	-5	-9
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA .....	M	233.776	235.446	235.510	234.703	5.6	-3	-3	6.1	.7	.0
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT ....	1	-	240.511	-	238.133	4.7	-1.0	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH .....	1	-	198.063	-	197.260	5.0	-4	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX .....	1	-	210.830	-	209.666	6.4	-6	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV <sup>6</sup> .....	1	-	141.622	-	141.679	5.5	.0	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA .....	2	212.013	-	211.113	-	-	-	-	5.5	-4	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI .....	2	203.524	-	205.492	-	-	-	-	5.5	1.0	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX .....	2	193.742	-	193.206	-	-	-	-	5.9	-3	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL .....	2	223.849	-	224.597	-	-	-	-	6.4	.3	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD .....	2	228.429	-	228.212	-	-	-	-	5.0	-1	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....	2	221.454	-	221.385	-	-	-	-	4.6	.0	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA .....	2	223.573	-	223.273	-	-	-	-	6.2	-1	-

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Regions defined as the four Census regions. See technical notes.

<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> 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)

<b>C-CPI-U</b>	Relative importance, 2005-2006	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Sep. 2008 from—	
		Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Sep. 2007	Aug. 2008
<b>Expenditure category</b>					
All items .....	100.000	125.843	125.774	4.3	-0.1
Food and beverages .....	14.726	127.106	127.824	5.9	.6
Food .....	13.648	127.307	128.041	6.0	.6
Food at home .....	7.557	125.255	126.023	7.3	.6
Food away from home .....	6.091	130.051	130.741	4.5	.5
Alcoholic beverages .....	1.077	124.950	125.484	3.7	.4
Housing .....	42.421	130.003	129.521	3.3	-.4
Shelter .....	32.409	130.741	130.655	2.4	-.1
Fuels and utilities .....	5.004	173.245	168.047	11.3	-3.0
Household furnishings and operations .....	5.008	96.144	96.455	1.3	.3
Apparel .....	3.988	86.236	89.952	1.0	4.3
Transportation .....	17.393	135.388	133.713	8.8	-1.2
Private transportation .....	16.285	135.808	134.260	8.5	-1.1
Public transportation .....	1.108	131.800	128.320	13.1	-2.6
Medical care .....	6.085	141.848	142.011	2.9	.1
Medical care commodities .....	1.615	124.943	125.116	1.4	.1
Medical care services .....	4.470	148.191	148.349	3.5	.1
Recreation .....	5.935	106.026	106.174	1.4	.1
Education and communication .....	6.196	108.467	109.058	2.7	.5
Education .....	2.771	169.625	172.330	5.9	1.6
Communication .....	3.425	74.293	74.072	.2	-.3
Other goods and services .....	3.257	128.634	129.384	3.8	.6
<b>Commodity and service group</b>					
Services .....	58.427	133.970	133.734	3.6	-.2
Commodities .....	41.573	115.695	115.828	5.4	.1
Durables .....	11.817	82.845	82.250	-2.1	-.7
Nondurables .....	29.756	133.199	133.796	8.5	.4
All items less food and energy .....	77.561	117.757	117.985	2.2	.2
Energy .....	8.790	225.983	218.818	22.5	-3.2

Indexes for 2008 are initial estimates. Indexes for 2007 are interim adjustments.  
NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.