

# News

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## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: MARCH 2009

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

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.2 percent in March, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The index has decreased 0.4 percent over the last year, the first 12 month decline since August 1955.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U decreased 0.1 percent in March after rising 0.4 percent in February. The decrease was due to a downturn in the energy index, which declined 3.0 percent in March after rising 3.3 percent the previous month. All the energy indexes decreased, particularly the indexes for fuel oil, natural gas, and motor fuel. The food index declined 0.1 percent for the second straight month to virtually the same level as October 2008. The food at home index declined 0.4 percent, the second straight such decrease, as the index for dairy and related products continued to decline.

The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.2 percent for the third month in a row. An 11.0 percent increase in the index for tobacco and smoking products accounted for over sixty percent of the March rise, with a 0.6 percent increase in the new vehicles index also contributing. In contrast, the indexes for lodging away from home, used cars and trucks, and airline fares continued to decline. The index for all items less food and energy has risen 1.8 percent over the past year.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Mar. 2009	Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Mar. 2009
	Changes from preceding month								
	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009		
All items .....	.0	-8	-1.7	-8	.3	.4	-1	2.2	-4
Food and beverages .....	.5	.4	.2	.1	.1	-1	-1	-7	4.3
Housing .....	-1	.0	-1	.0	.0	.0	-1	-5	1.4
Apparel .....	-3	-7	.1	-6	.3	1.3	-2	5.3	1.4
Transportation .....	-1	-4.8	-9.7	-5.0	1.3	1.9	-1.1	8.8	-13.1
Medical care .....	.3	.2	.2	.3	.4	.3	.2	4.0	2.8
Recreation .....	.2	.2	.0	-2	.0	.4	.0	1.8	1.7
Education and communication .....	.1	.2	.2	.3	.3	.2	.2	2.9	3.6
Other goods and services ...	.2	.3	.0	.0	.3	.2	2.7	13.5	5.7
Special indexes:									
Energy .....	-1.0	-7.8	-16.9	-9.3	1.7	3.3	-3.0	7.9	-23.0
Food .....	.5	.4	.2	.0	.1	-1	-1	-8	4.4
All items less food and energy .....	.1	.0	.1	.0	.2	.2	.2	2.2	1.8

The food and beverages index declined 0.1 percent in March, the same decrease as in February. A 0.4 percent decrease in the food at home index more than offset 0.1 percent increases in the indexes for food away from home and for alcoholic beverages. Within food at home, the indexes for three of the six major grocery store food groups declined. The largest decline was in the dairy and related products index, which fell 2.4 percent in March, the same decrease as in February, as the milk index declined 4.4 percent. The index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs decreased 0.9 percent, the fifth straight monthly decline, as the index for eggs fell 4.6 percent and the beef index declined 1.4 percent. The index for cereals and bakery products also declined in March, while the other food at home index was virtually unchanged. Registering increases in March were the indexes for fruits and vegetables and for nonalcoholic beverages. The food index has increased 4.4 percent over the past year, with the food at home index up 4.3 percent.

After being virtually unchanged in February, the housing index declined 0.1 percent in March. The shelter index was virtually unchanged in March. The indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent both rose 0.2 percent, but these increases were offset by a 2.4 percent decrease in the index for lodging away from home. This was the sixth straight monthly decline in that index, which has fallen 7.8 percent over the past year. The index for household energy decreased 1.8 percent in March. The indexes for fuel oil and natural gas, which have been falling since last summer, continued to decline in March, with the fuel oil index falling 8.5 percent and the index for natural gas decreasing 4.8 percent. The electricity index turned down in March, falling 0.2 percent after rising 0.5 percent in February. The index for household furnishings and operations rose 0.3 percent in March. Over the past year, the housing index has risen 1.4 percent, with the shelter index up 1.5 percent and the household energy index down 0.5 percent.

The index for transportation declined 1.1 percent in March after rising 1.9 percent in February. The gasoline index, which rose 8.3 percent in February, declined 4.0 percent in March. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, gasoline prices rose 1.0 percent in March.) The index for new and used motor vehicles was virtually unchanged in March, as a 0.6 percent increase in the new vehicles index offset a 1.7 percent decline in the index for used cars and trucks. The index for public transportation declined 1.0 percent in March as the airline fare index fell 2.3 percent. This was the seventh straight monthly decline for the airline fares index; it has decreased 7.7 percent over the last 12 months. The transportation index has declined 13.1 percent since March 2008, with the index for gasoline down 39.3 percent.

Among other CPI groups, the index for apparel turned down in March, declining 0.2 percent after rising 1.3 percent in February. (On a not seasonally adjusted basis, apparel prices rose 3.1 percent in March and were up 1.4 percent over the past year.) The medical care index rose 0.2 percent in March and has increased 2.8 percent over the past year. The index for recreation was virtually unchanged in March and was up 1.7 percent over the past year. The index for education and communication rose 0.2 percent in March, with the education index up 0.5 percent and the communication index virtually unchanged. The index for other goods and services rose 2.7 percent in March due to the 11.0 percent increase in the tobacco and smoking products index.

## Year-to-Date Change

For the first three months of 2009, consumer prices increase at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR) of 2.2 percent. This compares to a 0.1 percent increase for all of 2008. The index for energy, which fell 21.3 percent in 2008, advanced at a 7.9 SAAR in the first quarter of 2009. Petroleum-based energy costs rose at a 29.1 percent rate and energy services decreased at an 8.5 percent rate. The food index fell at a SAAR of 0.8 percent in the first quarter of 2009 after rising 5.9 percent during 2008. The food at home index, which rose 6.6 percent during 2008, fell at a 3.6 percent SAAR in the first quarter of 2009.

Excluding food and energy, the CPU-U rose at a 2.2 percent SAAR during the first quarter of 2009 after increasing 1.8 percent during 2008. Advances during the first quarter in the indexes for tobacco, new vehicles, medical care, and apparel contributed to the rise, while declines in the indexes for lodging away from home and public transportation mitigated the increase.

Expenditure Category	Percentage change 12 months ended in December							SAAR 3 mos. ended Mar. 2009
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	
All items .....	2.4	1.9	3.3	3.4	2.5	4.1	.1	2.2
Food and beverages .....	1.5	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.2	4.8	5.8	-.7
Housing .....	2.4	2.2	3.0	4.0	3.3	3.0	2.4	-.5
Apparel .....	-1.8	-2.1	-.2	-1.1	.9	-.3	-1.0	5.3
Transportation .....	3.8	.3	6.5	4.8	1.6	8.3	-13.3	8.8
Medical care .....	5.0	3.7	4.2	4.3	3.6	5.2	2.6	4.0
Recreation .....	1.1	1.1	.7	1.1	1.0	.8	1.8	1.8
Education and communication .....	2.2	1.6	1.5	2.4	2.3	3.0	3.6	2.9
Other goods and services .....	3.3	1.5	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.4	13.5
Special indexes:								
Energy .....	10.7	6.9	16.6	17.1	2.9	17.4	-21.3	7.9
Energy commodities .....	23.7	6.9	26.7	16.7	6.1	29.4	-40.5	29.1
Energy services .....	.4	6.9	6.8	17.6	-.6	3.4	7.7	-8.5
All items less energy .....	1.8	1.5	2.2	2.2	2.5	2.8	2.4	1.7
Food .....	1.5	3.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	4.9	5.9	-.8
All items less food and energy .....	1.9	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.4	1.8	2.2

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

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased 0.2 percent in March, prior to seasonal adjustment. The index value of 207.218 was 0.9 percent lower than in March 2008. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-W decreased 0.1 percent in March.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Mar. 2009	
	Changes from preceding month								
	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009		
All items .....	.0	-1.0	-2.1	-1.0	.3	.4	-.1	2.6	-.9
Food and beverages .....	.5	.4	.2	.1	.0	-.2	-.1	-1.1	4.4
Housing .....	-.1	.0	.0	.0	.0	.1	-.1	-.1	1.8
Apparel .....	.0	-1.0	.0	-.6	.6	1.0	-.3	5.4	1.1
Transportation .....	-.1	-5.3	-10.9	-5.6	1.5	2.0	-1.3	8.8	-15.2
Medical care .....	.3	.1	.2	.3	.4	.4	.2	4.1	2.9
Recreation .....	.2	.1	.0	-.1	.0	.4	.0	1.9	1.5
Education and communication .....	.0	.2	.2	.3	.2	.2	.2	2.2	3.3
Other goods and services ...	.2	.3	.1	.1	.4	.2	3.9	19.5	7.6
Special indexes:									
Energy .....	-.8	-8.2	-17.8	-9.7	1.9	3.6	-3.1	9.5	-24.0
Food .....	.5	.4	.2	.1	.0	-.2	-.1	-1.1	4.5
All items less food and energy .....	.1	.0	.1	.0	.2	.2	.2	2.6	1.8

## Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U)

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) increased 0.2 percent in March on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The index has decreased 0.8 percent over the past year. Please note that the indexes for the post-2007 period are subject to revision.

### Upcoming release

Consumer Price Index data for April are scheduled for release on Friday, May 15, 2009, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

## **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 2004 through December 2008 were replaced in January 2009. 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: 47 of the 73 components are seasonally adjusted for 2009.

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 2009, BLS adjusted 29 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 2008	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2009 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Feb. 2009	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.
All items .....	100.000	212.193	212.709	-0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	-0.1
All items (1967=100) .....	-	635.637	637.182	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	15.757	219.333	218.794	4.3	-2	.1	-1	-1
Food .....	14.629	219.205	218.600	4.4	-3	.1	-1	-1
Food at home .....	8.156	218.389	217.110	4.3	-6	-1	-4	-4
Cereals and bakery products .....	1.150	254.187	253.698	7.4	-2	.0	-5	-2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	1.898	207.963	206.348	3.3	-8	-1	-1	-9
Dairy and related products <sup>1</sup> .....	.910	204.537	199.687	-3.1	-2.4	-6	-2.4	-2.4
Fruits and vegetables .....	1.194	278.721	274.759	2.4	-1.4	-1.3	.4	.2
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	.982	164.213	165.656	4.8	.9	-1	-4	1.0
Other food at home .....	2.022	192.404	192.234	7.9	-1	.6	-3	.0
Sugar and sweets .....	.300	196.676	197.137	8.2	.2	1.5	.0	.2
Fats and oils .....	.241	205.359	204.776	12.0	-3	-1.9	-1.1	.1
Other foods .....	1.481	206.621	206.367	7.1	-1	.8	-2	.0
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.433	122.580	122.402	4.3	-1	.2	-1.2	-1
Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	6.474	221.968	222.216	4.6	.1	.3	.3	.1
Other food away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.314	154.726	154.414	3.9	-2	-4	.9	-2
Alcoholic beverages .....	1.127	219.682	219.999	3.6	.1	.2	-2	.1
Housing .....	43.421	217.180	217.374	1.4	.1	.0	.0	-1
Shelter .....	33.200	248.878	249.597	1.5	.3	.2	.0	.0
Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....	5.957	248.305	248.639	3.2	.1	.3	.1	.2
Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	2.478	135.809	137.715	-7.8	1.4	-1.1	-1.8	-2.4
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> .....	24.433	255.779	256.321	2.1	.2	.3	.1	.2
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.333	120.683	120.737	2.6	.0	.3	.2	.0
Fuels and utilities .....	5.431	213.520	210.501	.6	-1.4	-7	-1	-1.4
Household energy .....	4.460	192.168	188.736	-5	-1.8	-9	-2	-1.8
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.301	242.264	230.837	-30.5	-4.7	-2.7	-1.8	-7.7
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	4.159	197.886	194.752	2.4	-1.6	-8	.0	-1.4
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	.971	157.638	158.052	5.9	.3	.2	.1	.4
Household furnishings and operations .....	4.790	129.170	129.669	1.8	.4	-1	.2	.3
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.781	150.156	150.914	4.1	.5	-2	-2	.5
Apparel .....	3.691	118.825	122.545	1.4	3.1	.3	1.3	-2
Men's and boys' apparel .....	.923	115.202	117.748	2.4	2.2	1.6	2.8	-3
Women's and girls' apparel .....	1.541	105.777	111.079	.4	5.0	.2	.8	-7
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.183	113.544	115.548	-4	1.8	.5	-1.1	.6
Footwear .....	.688	124.301	126.707	1.8	1.9	-2	.7	.2
Transportation .....	15.314	169.542	169.647	-13.1	.1	1.3	1.9	-1.1
Private transportation .....	14.189	164.871	165.023	-13.6	.1	1.5	2.2	-1.1
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	6.931	92.224	92.109	-2.3	-1	.2	.5	.0
New vehicles .....	4.480	134.186	134.611	-.8	.3	.3	.8	.6
Used cars and trucks .....	1.628	122.837	121.061	-11.8	-1.4	-8	-1.7	-1.7
Motor fuel .....	3.164	167.395	168.404	-39.6	.6	5.3	7.6	-4.4
Gasoline (all types) .....	2.964	166.118	167.826	-39.3	1.0	6.0	8.3	-4.0
Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	.382	134.108	134.484	6.5	.3	.3	.5	.3
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair <sup>1</sup> .....	1.188	241.689	242.118	5.4	.2	.7	.3	.2
Public transportation .....	1.125	231.529	230.735	-5.0	-3	-1.8	-1.9	-1.0
Medical care .....	6.390	372.405	373.189	2.8	.2	.4	.3	.2
Medical care commodities .....	1.625	302.184	302.908	1.9	.2	.4	.6	.2
Medical care services .....	4.765	394.047	394.837	3.1	.2	.5	.3	.2
Professional services .....	2.702	316.992	317.460	2.8	.1	.3	.1	.0
Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....	1.545	558.373	560.995	6.1	.5	.8	.8	.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	Relative importance, December 2008	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2009 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Feb. 2009	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.
<b>Expenditure category</b>								
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	5.741	114.461	114.625	1.7	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	1.822	101.704	102.000	-1.5	.3	-5	.0	.0
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	6.301	126.190	126.187	3.6	.0	.3	.2	.2
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	3.107	187.256	187.298	5.6	.0	.3	.4	.5
Educational books and supplies .....	.221	469.996	472.185	7.3	.5	.3	.3	.5
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	2.886	538.878	538.813	5.4	.0	.3	.5	.5
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	3.194	84.945	84.922	1.7	.0	.2	.0	.0
Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	3.022	82.052	82.022	1.6	.0	.2	.0	.0
Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.408	101.895	101.991	3.0	.1	.2	.0	.1
Information technology, hardware and services <sup>1 5</sup> .....	.614	9.926	9.872	-3.7	-5	.1	.1	-5
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 6</sup> .....	.214	87.696	86.213	-14.1	-1.7	.0	-.9	-1.7
Other goods and services .....	3.386	351.223	361.156	5.7	2.8	.3	.2	2.7
Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....	.776	611.549	679.078	18.1	11.0	.8	.7	11.0
Personal care .....	2.610	203.391	204.117	2.1	.4	.1	.0	.2
Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....	.651	162.508	162.696	2.7	.1	.7	.0	.1
Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....	.647	225.895	227.982	2.3	.9	-2	.1	.9
Miscellaneous personal services .....	1.074	341.188	341.570	1.8	.1	.0	.1	.0
<b>Commodity and service group</b>								
Commodities .....	39.556	165.891	166.645	-4.2	.5	.5	.9	-3
Food and beverages .....	15.757	219.333	218.794	4.3	-.2	.1	-.1	-.1
Commodities less food and beverages .....	23.799	138.702	139.962	-8.9	.9	.8	1.5	-4
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	13.289	167.560	170.200	-13.2	1.6	1.7	2.8	-1.2
Apparel .....	3.691	118.825	122.545	1.4	3.1	.3	1.3	-2
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	9.598	201.554	203.557	-17.8	1.0	2.3	3.3	-1.6
Durables .....	10.510	109.221	109.264	-2.5	.0	-.1	.1	.0
Services .....	60.444	258.328	258.597	2.3	.1	.1	.1	.0
Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	32.867	259.440	260.197	1.5	.3	.2	-.1	-.1
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.333	120.683	120.737	2.6	.0	.3	.2	.0
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	4.159	197.886	194.752	2.4	-1.6	-8	.0	-1.4
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	.971	157.638	158.052	5.9	.3	.2	.1	.4
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.781	150.156	150.914	4.1	.5	-2	-.2	.5
Transportation services .....	5.567	248.114	247.912	3.5	-.1	.3	.4	-.1
Medical care services .....	4.765	394.047	394.837	3.1	.2	.5	.3	.2
Other services .....	11.002	301.471	302.024	3.4	.2	.1	.3	.2
<b>Special indexes</b>								
All items less food .....	85.371	211.076	211.775	-1.1	.3	.3	.5	-.1
All items less shelter .....	66.800	200.184	200.626	-1.3	.2	.3	.6	-.2
All items less medical care .....	93.610	204.265	204.766	-.6	.2	.3	.4	-.2
Commodities less food .....	24.926	141.491	142.728	-8.4	.9	.8	1.4	-4
Nondurables less food .....	14.416	170.665	173.167	-12.2	1.5	1.6	2.6	-1.2
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	10.726	202.323	204.159	-16.0	.9	2.1	3.0	-1.5
Nondurables .....	29.046	192.943	194.105	-4.7	.6	.8	1.2	-.7
Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	27.577	276.739	276.407	3.3	-.1	.1	.2	-.1
Services less medical care services .....	55.679	247.439	247.675	2.2	.1	.1	.0	-.1
Energy .....	7.624	178.741	177.454	-23.0	-.7	1.7	3.3	-3.0
All items less energy .....	92.376	217.325	218.033	2.2	.3	.2	.1	.1
All items less food and energy .....	77.746	217.685	218.639	1.8	.4	.2	.2	.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	21.461	140.270	141.662	.4	1.0	.1	.4	.4
Energy commodities .....	3.465	172.428	172.787	-39.0	.2	4.6	6.9	-4.7
Services less energy services .....	56.285	264.547	265.147	2.3	.2	.2	.1	.1
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00) .....	-	\$ .471	\$ .470	-	-	-	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00) .....	-	\$ .157	\$ .157	-	-	-	-	-

<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—	
	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	June 2008	Sep. 2008	Dec. 2008	Mar. 2009	Sep. 2008	Mar. 2009
All items .....	211.577	212.174	213.007	212.714	6.5	3.1	-12.4	2.2	4.7	-5.4
Food and beverages .....	219.181	219.309	219.076	218.792	7.4	8.2	2.7	-7	7.8	1.0
Food .....	219.082	219.193	218.970	218.651	7.8	8.5	2.5	-8	8.1	.8
Food at home .....	219.179	218.879	217.968	217.202	10.2	10.4	.8	-3.6	10.3	-1.4
Cereals and bakery products .....	255.655	255.719	254.347	253.863	14.2	12.0	6.9	-2.8	13.1	2.0
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	208.726	208.536	208.389	206.465	7.4	11.0	.0	-4.3	9.2	-2.2
Dairy and related products <sup>1</sup> .....	210.838	209.632	204.537	199.687	5.8	8.7	-5.0	-19.5	7.3	-12.5
Fruits and vegetables .....	277.783	274.270	275.374	275.843	19.1	10.5	-14.3	-2.8	14.7	-8.7
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	164.038	163.804	163.173	164.813	3.7	7.3	6.3	1.9	5.5	4.1
Other food at home .....	191.809	192.914	192.419	192.431	11.0	11.0	8.4	1.3	11.0	4.8
Sugar and sweets .....	194.164	197.086	196.990	197.299	6.8	10.2	9.2	6.6	8.5	7.9
Fats and oils .....	209.848	205.904	203.729	204.029	34.3	22.4	7.2	-10.6	28.2	-2.1
Other foods .....	205.566	207.193	206.838	206.741	8.6	9.4	8.5	2.3	9.0	5.3
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....	123.791	124.012	122.580	122.402	3.9	9.4	9.0	-4.4	6.6	2.1
Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	220.684	221.319	221.968	222.216	4.7	6.1	4.6	2.8	5.4	3.7
Other food away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	154.062	153.402	154.726	154.414	3.6	5.9	5.4	.9	4.7	3.1
Alcoholic beverages .....	219.154	219.504	219.141	219.315	3.5	5.2	5.4	.3	4.3	2.8
Housing .....	217.592	217.646	217.621	217.335	4.8	1.9	-.4	-.5	3.3	-.4
Shelter .....	248.519	248.938	248.881	248.899	2.3	2.0	1.0	.6	2.2	.8
Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....	246.928	247.744	248.087	248.490	3.7	3.6	3.0	2.6	3.7	2.8
Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	140.600	139.122	136.561	133.328	-.4	-.5	-9.9	-19.1	-.5	-14.6
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> .....	254.683	255.349	255.687	256.257	2.3	1.9	1.8	2.5	2.1	2.2
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	120.019	120.402	120.683	120.737	4.8	2.9	.3	2.4	3.8	1.3
Fuels and utilities .....	219.092	217.515	217.260	214.254	25.1	-1.2	-9.0	-8.5	11.2	-8.8
Household energy .....	198.564	196.727	196.415	192.927	29.6	-3.1	-11.9	-10.9	12.1	-11.4
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	263.242	256.210	251.478	232.191	60.7	-29.6	-65.9	-39.5	6.4	-54.6
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	203.746	202.120	202.043	199.289	26.8	.0	-4.7	-8.5	12.6	-6.6
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	156.646	157.027	157.141	157.817	5.5	8.6	6.4	3.0	7.0	4.7
Household furnishings and operations .....	128.910	128.759	129.008	129.436	.8	4.5	.2	1.6	2.6	.9
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	150.689	150.438	150.156	150.914	8.5	6.0	1.3	.6	7.2	1.0
Apparel .....	118.221	118.523	120.039	119.744	1.0	4.3	-4.6	5.3	2.6	-.2
Men's and boys' apparel .....	111.478	113.210	116.328	116.007	-.5	-1.4	-4.5	17.3	-.9	5.8
Women's and girls' apparel .....	106.214	106.470	107.374	106.592	.2	10.6	-9.6	1.4	5.3	-4.2
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	113.474	114.014	112.796	113.510	-2.5	.9	-.2	.1	-.8	.0
Footwear .....	124.534	124.325	125.209	125.517	4.1	-1.9	2.2	3.2	1.0	2.7
Transportation .....	167.353	169.489	172.759	170.903	14.8	1.4	-55.5	8.8	7.9	-30.4
Private transportation .....	161.950	164.414	168.067	166.252	14.1	1.3	-57.3	11.1	7.5	-31.1
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	91.321	91.534	91.997	92.016	-1.9	-4.8	-5.6	3.1	-3.4	-1.3
New vehicles .....	131.766	132.132	133.199	134.020	-.5	-4.6	-4.8	7.0	-2.6	1.0
Used cars and trucks .....	126.872	125.893	123.757	121.704	-7.0	-10.7	-13.8	-15.3	-8.9	-14.6
Motor fuel .....	160.675	169.176	182.030	173.947	42.4	5.5	-93.5	37.4	22.6	-70.2
Gasoline (all types) .....	157.460	166.839	180.685	173.498	42.4	6.5	-93.9	47.4	23.2	-70.1
Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	133.077	133.414	134.108	134.484	4.8	10.5	6.3	4.3	7.6	5.3
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair <sup>1</sup> .....	239.356	241.076	241.689	242.118	6.0	7.0	3.8	4.7	6.5	4.3
Public transportation .....	243.444	239.071	234.648	232.294	24.6	3.6	-24.0	-17.1	13.6	-20.6
Medical care .....	368.302	369.914	371.175	371.902	2.2	2.3	2.7	4.0	2.3	3.3
Medical care commodities .....	298.814	299.887	301.710	302.464	-2.1	.6	4.2	5.0	-.7	4.6
Medical care services .....	389.723	391.533	392.512	393.210	3.7	2.9	2.2	3.6	3.3	2.9
Professional services .....	315.052	316.115	316.299	316.416	4.4	2.8	2.4	1.7	3.6	2.1
Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....	545.921	550.035	554.315	557.588	5.5	5.8	4.2	8.8	5.6	6.5

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					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	June 2008	Sep. 2008	Dec. 2008	Mar. 2009	Sep. 2008	Mar. 2009
<b>Expenditure category</b>										
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	114.002	114.022	114.492	114.511	1.2	3.8	0.0	1.8	2.5	0.9
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	102.189	101.677	101.630	101.640	-3.2	1.5	-2.1	-2.1	-9	-2.1
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	125.567	125.900	126.187	126.461	5.1	3.1	3.2	2.9	4.1	3.0
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	185.829	186.426	187.249	188.119	6.0	5.9	5.4	5.0	5.9	5.2
Educational books and supplies .....	465.315	466.752	468.101	470.674	7.6	12.6	4.7	4.7	10.0	4.7
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	534.870	536.592	539.023	541.493	5.9	5.4	5.5	5.0	5.6	5.3
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	84.746	84.926	84.944	84.924	4.3	.6	1.1	.8	2.4	1.0
Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	81.886	82.030	82.052	82.022	3.8	.6	1.2	.7	2.2	1.0
Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	101.688	101.880	101.895	101.991	6.8	2.5	1.5	1.2	4.7	1.3
Information technology, hardware and services <sup>1 5</sup> .....	9.906	9.919	9.926	9.872	-6.7	-6.6	.2	-1.4	-6.6	-6
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 6</sup> .....	88.529	88.522	87.696	86.213	-17.4	-18.8	-9.6	-10.1	-18.1	-9.8
Other goods and services .....	349.529	350.529	351.139	360.782	4.9	3.3	1.3	13.5	4.1	7.2
Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....	602.644	607.403	611.549	679.078	10.9	5.3	3.4	61.2	8.0	29.1
Personal care .....	203.007	203.284	203.328	203.836	3.2	2.8	.7	1.6	3.0	1.2
Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....	161.397	162.588	162.508	162.696	1.1	2.0	4.5	3.3	1.5	3.9
Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....	226.281	225.734	225.895	227.982	1.4	2.0	3.0	3.0	1.7	3.0
Miscellaneous personal services .....	341.063	341.123	341.519	341.437	5.1	3.8	-1.9	.4	4.5	-7
<b>Commodity and service group</b>										
Commodities .....	164.891	165.772	167.199	166.703	8.4	3.4	-28.5	4.5	5.9	-13.6
Food and beverages .....	219.181	219.309	219.076	218.792	7.4	8.2	2.7	-.7	7.8	1.0
Commodities less food and beverages .....	137.385	138.547	140.611	140.043	9.0	.8	-42.6	8.0	4.8	-21.3
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	165.287	168.119	172.896	170.758	22.7	1.3	-60.0	13.9	11.5	-32.5
Apparel .....	118.221	118.523	120.039	119.744	1.0	4.3	-4.6	5.3	2.6	.2
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	198.177	202.707	209.390	206.003	29.3	.6	-69.9	16.8	14.1	-40.7
Durables .....	108.961	108.857	108.993	109.006	-2.1	-2.9	-5.1	.2	-2.5	-2.5
Services .....	258.073	258.406	258.654	258.590	5.0	2.7	.8	.8	3.9	.8
Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	259.268	259.773	259.487	259.349	2.1	2.2	1.3	.1	2.2	.7
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	120.019	120.402	120.683	120.737	4.8	2.9	.3	2.4	3.8	1.3
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	203.746	202.120	202.043	199.289	26.8	.0	-4.7	-8.5	12.6	-6.6
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	156.646	157.027	157.141	157.817	5.5	8.6	6.4	3.0	7.0	4.7
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	150.689	150.438	150.156	150.914	8.5	6.0	1.3	.6	7.2	1.0
Transportation services .....	246.912	247.648	248.567	248.393	8.6	5.2	-2.0	2.4	6.9	.2
Medical care services .....	389.723	391.533	392.512	393.210	3.7	2.9	2.2	3.6	3.3	2.9
Other services .....	300.093	300.534	301.506	302.251	4.3	3.8	2.4	2.9	4.1	2.7
<b>Special indexes</b>										
All items less food .....	210.379	211.055	212.061	211.773	6.2	2.2	-14.6	2.7	4.2	-6.4
All items less shelter .....	199.458	200.133	201.331	200.911	8.5	3.5	-18.2	2.9	6.0	-8.2
All items less medical care .....	203.785	204.338	205.148	204.820	6.7	3.1	-13.3	2.0	4.9	-5.9
Commodities less food .....	140.192	141.335	143.336	142.788	8.7	1.0	-41.2	7.6	4.8	-20.4
Nondurables less food .....	168.525	171.218	175.672	173.638	21.7	1.4	-57.2	12.7	11.1	-30.6
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	199.276	203.422	209.425	206.340	27.5	.6	-66.3	15.0	13.3	-37.8
Nondurables .....	191.854	193.462	195.833	194.522	15.4	3.7	-34.9	5.7	9.4	-17.1
Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	276.902	277.056	277.608	277.380	7.9	3.7	1.0	.7	5.8	.9
Services less medical care services .....	247.630	247.839	247.947	247.779	4.7	2.8	1.2	.2	3.8	.7
Energy .....	178.835	181.938	187.901	182.254	36.9	1.9	-76.7	7.9	18.1	-49.9
All items less energy .....	216.630	216.970	217.276	217.539	3.3	3.2	.5	1.7	3.2	1.1
All items less food and energy .....	216.882	217.265	217.670	218.042	2.5	2.3	.2	2.2	2.4	1.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	139.578	139.745	140.300	140.893	-2	.5	-2.4	3.8	.2	.7
Energy commodities .....	167.125	174.862	186.872	178.146	43.4	3.0	-92.8	29.1	21.6	-69.4
Services less energy services .....	263.696	264.221	264.500	264.698	3.6	2.9	1.2	1.5	3.2	1.4

<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 Mar.2009 from—			Percent change to Feb.2009 from—		
		Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Feb. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009
U.S. city average .....	M	210.228	211.143	212.193	212.709	-0.4	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.5
<b>Region and area size<sup>2</sup></b>											
Northeast urban .....	M	225.091	225.436	226.754	227.309	.2	.8	.2	.7	.7	.6
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	227.681	227.852	229.262	229.749	.3	.8	.2	.8	.7	.6
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	132.830	133.308	133.967	134.411	-1.1	.8	.3	.3	.9	.5
Midwest urban .....	M	199.582	200.815	201.453	202.021	-8	.6	.3	-2	.9	.3
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	200.465	202.001	202.639	203.240	-9	.6	.3	-3	1.1	.3
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	128.018	128.636	129.057	129.334	-6	.5	.2	.1	.8	.3
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	195.383	195.843	196.421	197.267	-1.1	.7	.4	-6	.5	.3
South urban .....	M	203.501	204.288	205.343	206.001	-3	.8	.3	.1	.9	.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	206.414	207.035	207.929	208.529	-3	.7	.3	.2	.7	.4
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	129.099	129.615	130.380	130.873	-4	1.0	.4	.0	1.0	.6
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	204.428	205.766	206.671	206.927	.0	.6	.1	.7	1.1	.4
West urban .....	M	214.685	215.923	217.095	217.357	-5	.7	.1	.3	1.1	.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	218.698	219.806	220.955	221.124	-4	.6	.1	.5	1.0	.5
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	129.725	130.682	131.636	131.775	-8	.8	.1	.1	1.5	.7
<b>Size classes</b>											
A <sup>4</sup> .....	M	192.646	193.412	194.354	194.750	-3	.7	.2	.3	.9	.5
B/C <sup>3</sup> .....	M	129.519	130.135	130.855	131.230	-5	.8	.3	.1	1.0	.6
D .....	M	202.359	203.409	203.999	204.672	-5	.6	.3	.1	.8	.3
<b>Selected local areas<sup>5</sup></b>											
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI .....	M	205.959	207.616	207.367	207.462	-1.9	-1	.0	-1.0	.7	-1
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ...	M	219.620	220.719	221.439	221.376	-1.0	.3	.0	.0	.8	.3
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA .....	M	233.012	233.402	234.663	235.067	.8	.7	.2	1.6	.7	.5
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT .....	1	-	230.806	-	232.155	-4	.6	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH .....	1	-	198.232	-	199.457	-1.5	.6	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX .....	1	-	198.623	-	200.039	.7	.7	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV <sup>6</sup> .....	1	-	137.598	-	138.620	.4	.7	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA .....	2	196.961	-	199.190	-	-	-	-	-2.4	1.1	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI .....	2	197.991	-	201.913	-	-	-	-	-2	2.0	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX .....	2	185.930	-	187.972	-	-	-	-	.2	1.1	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL .....	2	218.324	-	220.589	-	-	-	-	.7	1.0	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD .....	2	218.186	-	220.262	-	-	-	-	-3	1.0	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....	2	218.528	-	222.166	-	-	-	-	1.2	1.7	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA .....	2	222.580	-	224.737	-	-	-	-	1.4	1.0	-

<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)

CPI-W Expenditure category	Relative importance, December 2008	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2009 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Feb. 2009	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.
All items .....	100.000	206.708	207.218	-0.9	0.2	0.3	0.4	-0.1
All items (1967=100) .....	-	615.719	617.239	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	16.942	218.645	218.119	4.4	-2	.0	-2	-1
Food .....	15.865	218.449	217.855	4.5	-3	.0	-2	-1
Food at home .....	9.201	217.111	215.922	4.2	-5	-2	-5	-3
Cereals and bakery products .....	1.249	254.775	254.395	7.4	-1	.0	-6	-1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	2.315	207.656	206.094	3.3	-8	-2	.0	-9
Dairy and related products <sup>1</sup> .....	.992	203.023	198.048	-3.7	-2.5	-7	-2.6	-2.5
Fruits and vegetables .....	1.266	275.884	271.727	2.1	-1.5	-1.3	.2	.1
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	1.167	163.821	165.437	5.0	1.0	-2	-3	1.2
Other food at home .....	2.212	191.620	191.594	7.8	.0	.6	-3	.0
Sugar and sweets .....	.304	195.395	196.015	8.3	.3	1.2	.0	.4
Fats and oils .....	.274	206.185	205.693	12.0	-2	-2.0	-9	-1
Other foods .....	1.634	206.547	206.468	7.1	.0	.9	-3	.0
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.472	122.994	122.837	4.3	-1	.3	-1.2	-1
Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	6.664	222.101	222.336	4.8	.1	.3	.3	.1
Other food away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.233	154.520	154.054	4.7	-3	-2	.7	-3
Alcoholic beverages .....	1.077	220.029	220.500	3.6	.2	.1	-2	.1
Housing .....	41.313	213.192	213.213	1.8	.0	.0	.1	-1
Shelter .....	31.224	242.051	242.605	1.9	.2	.2	.1	.1
Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....	8.279	246.991	247.285	3.1	.1	.3	.1	.2
Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	1.209	136.255	138.008	-6.8	1.3	-1.1	-1.6	-2.3
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> .....	21.430	231.746	232.235	2.1	.2	.3	.1	.2
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.306	120.960	121.099	2.6	.1	.3	.2	.1
Fuels and utilities .....	6.030	212.353	209.400	1.2	-1.4	-8	.0	-1.4
Household energy .....	4.996	190.110	186.809	.3	-1.7	-1.0	.0	-1.8
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.283	246.781	236.237	-28.3	-4.3	-2.1	-2.3	-7.0
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	4.713	196.040	192.922	2.5	-1.6	-1.0	.1	-1.5
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	1.035	158.069	158.460	6.0	.2	.2	.1	.4
Household furnishings and operations .....	4.059	124.865	125.337	1.7	.4	-1	.2	.2
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.360	152.168	153.239	4.0	.7	-4	-1	.7
Apparel .....	3.979	118.766	122.162	1.1	2.9	.6	1.0	-3
Men's and boys' apparel .....	1.024	116.332	118.735	2.5	2.1	2.0	2.8	-5
Women's and girls' apparel .....	1.568	105.538	110.380	-3	4.6	.6	.4	-8
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.249	116.001	117.944	-9	1.7	.5	-8	.4
Footwear .....	.840	124.494	126.858	2.0	1.9	.0	.6	.4
Transportation .....	17.067	165.976	165.978	-15.2	.0	1.5	2.0	-1.3
Private transportation .....	16.284	162.645	162.659	-15.6	.0	1.6	2.1	-1.3
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	7.627	89.728	89.418	-4.3	-3	.1	.0	-3
New vehicles .....	4.057	135.248	135.744	-9	.4	.4	.7	.7
Used cars and trucks .....	2.863	123.443	121.669	-11.9	-1.4	-8	-1.7	-1.7
Motor fuel .....	4.029	168.028	169.060	-39.6	.6	5.3	7.5	-4.4
Gasoline (all types) .....	3.770	166.831	168.574	-39.3	1.0	6.0	8.2	-3.9
Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	.482	134.264	134.485	6.5	.2	.3	.5	.2
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair <sup>1</sup> .....	1.242	244.219	244.650	5.3	.2	.7	.3	.2
Public transportation .....	.784	229.404	229.034	-4.9	-2	-1.5	-2.0	-7
Medical care .....	5.355	372.630	373.541	2.9	.2	.4	.4	.2
Medical care commodities .....	1.320	293.917	294.728	1.9	.3	.3	.6	.3
Medical care services .....	4.035	395.563	396.489	3.2	.2	.5	.3	.2
Professional services .....	2.234	319.663	320.231	2.9	.2	.3	.1	.1
Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....	1.338	554.390	557.167	6.2	.5	.8	.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 2008	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Mar. 2009 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Feb. 2009	Dec. to Jan.	Jan. to Feb.	Feb. to Mar.
<b>Expenditure category</b>								
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	5.454	111.257	111.436	1.5	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.0
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	1.982	101.857	102.153	-1.3	.3	-5	.1	-1
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	6.221	122.092	122.087	3.3	.0	.2	.2	.2
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	2.527	184.765	184.824	5.6	.0	.2	.4	.5
Educational books and supplies .....	.219	473.012	474.880	7.3	.4	.2	.5	.4
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	2.308	520.159	520.146	5.4	.0	.2	.4	.5
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	3.694	87.640	87.615	1.9	.0	.2	.0	.0
Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	3.568	85.624	85.595	1.8	.0	.1	.1	.0
Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.965	101.890	101.977	2.9	.1	.2	.0	.1
Information technology, hardware and services <sup>1 5</sup> .....	.604	10.442	10.378	-3.4	-.6	.1	.2	-.6
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 6</sup> .....	.202	87.622	86.004	-14.2	-1.8	.0	-.6	-1.8
Other goods and services .....	3.668	365.522	380.208	7.6	4.0	.4	.2	3.9
Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....	1.267	615.012	682.115	18.2	10.9	.8	.7	10.9
Personal care .....	2.401	201.426	202.099	2.2	.3	.1	.0	.2
Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....	.662	162.543	162.516	2.4	.0	.9	-.1	.0
Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....	.580	226.088	228.201	2.3	.9	-.3	.1	.9
Miscellaneous personal services .....	.947	343.443	344.021	2.2	.2	-.1	.0	.0
<b>Commodity and service group</b>								
Commodities .....	42.689	166.673	167.514	-5.2	.5	.6	.8	-.3
Food and beverages .....	16.942	218.645	218.119	4.4	-.2	.0	-.2	-.1
Commodities less food and beverages .....	25.747	140.235	141.615	-10.5	1.0	1.1	1.5	-.4
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	14.587	171.698	174.838	-14.8	1.8	2.2	3.1	-1.2
Apparel .....	3.979	118.766	122.162	1.1	2.9	.6	1.0	-.3
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	10.609	208.255	211.287	-19.4	1.5	2.8	3.7	-1.4
Durables .....	11.160	108.592	108.413	-3.7	-.2	-.1	-.1	-.2
Services .....	57.311	253.456	253.591	2.6	.1	.1	.1	.0
Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	30.918	233.365	233.903	1.9	.2	.2	.0	.1
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.306	120.960	121.099	2.6	.1	.3	.2	.1
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	4.713	196.040	192.922	2.5	-1.6	-1.0	.1	-1.5
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	1.035	158.069	158.460	6.0	.2	.2	.1	.4
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	.360	152.168	153.239	4.0	.7	-.4	-.1	.7
Transportation services .....	5.512	248.029	247.862	3.9	-.1	.5	.4	.0
Medical care services .....	4.035	395.563	396.489	3.2	.2	.5	.3	.2
Other services .....	10.432	289.432	290.043	3.2	.2	.1	.3	.3
<b>Special indexes</b>								
All items less food .....	84.135	204.465	205.167	-1.9	.3	.4	.6	-.1
All items less shelter .....	68.776	196.052	196.551	-2.2	.3	.4	.6	-.3
All items less medical care .....	94.645	199.928	200.421	-1.1	.2	.3	.4	-.2
Commodities less food .....	26.824	142.809	144.172	-10.0	1.0	1.0	1.4	-.4
Nondurables less food .....	15.664	174.484	177.487	-13.8	1.7	2.1	2.9	-1.1
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	11.686	208.291	211.094	-17.8	1.3	2.6	3.4	-1.3
Nondurables .....	31.530	194.740	196.174	-5.7	.7	1.1	1.4	-.7
Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	26.392	244.791	244.413	3.4	-.2	.0	.2	-.1
Services less medical care services .....	53.275	243.128	243.223	2.5	.0	.1	.1	.0
Energy .....	9.024	177.033	175.947	-24.0	-.6	1.9	3.6	-3.1
All items less energy .....	90.976	211.279	211.989	2.3	.3	.2	.1	.2
All items less food and energy .....	75.111	210.203	211.178	1.8	.5	.2	.2	.2
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	22.513	140.554	142.077	.1	1.1	.2	.2	.5
Energy commodities .....	4.311	171.978	172.563	-39.1	.3	4.9	7.0	-4.5
Services less energy services .....	52.598	259.643	260.158	2.6	.2	.2	.1	.1
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00) .....	-	\$.484	\$.483	-	-	-	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00) .....	-	\$.162	\$.162	-	-	-	-	-

<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)

CPI-W	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	June 2008	Sep. 2008	Dec. 2008	Mar. 2009	Sep. 2008	Mar. 2009
<b>Expenditure category</b>										
All items .....	206.067	206.778	207.692	207.401	7.1	3.2	-15.3	2.6	5.1	-6.8
Food and beverages .....	218.667	218.714	218.371	218.079	7.7	8.5	2.8	-1.1	8.1	.9
Food .....	218.504	218.536	218.207	217.881	8.0	8.7	2.6	-1.1	8.3	.7
Food at home .....	218.100	217.690	216.694	215.965	10.1	10.4	.9	-3.9	10.3	-1.5
Cereals and bakery products .....	256.440	256.432	254.813	254.555	14.5	11.6	7.4	-2.9	13.0	2.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	208.532	208.092	208.151	206.190	7.0	11.2	.5	-4.4	9.1	-2.0
Dairy and related products <sup>1</sup> .....	209.922	208.530	203.023	198.048	5.7	8.6	-5.4	-20.8	7.1	-13.4
Fruits and vegetables .....	275.625	272.072	272.522	272.783	20.7	10.6	-15.1	-4.1	15.5	-9.8
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	163.589	163.227	162.689	164.563	2.8	8.3	6.9	2.4	5.5	4.6
Other food at home .....	191.118	192.226	191.629	191.720	11.4	10.9	7.9	1.3	11.2	4.5
Sugar and sweets .....	193.170	195.556	195.485	196.202	7.0	10.3	9.4	6.4	8.7	7.9
Fats and oils .....	210.685	206.547	204.738	204.559	35.4	21.6	7.4	-11.1	28.3	-2.3
Other foods .....	205.514	207.338	206.781	206.801	8.8	9.4	7.7	2.5	9.1	5.1
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....	124.144	124.477	122.994	122.837	3.9	9.4	8.7	-4.1	6.6	2.1
Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	220.847	221.497	222.101	222.336	5.1	6.3	5.0	2.7	5.7	3.9
Other food away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	153.646	153.397	154.520	154.054	5.9	5.5	6.3	1.1	5.7	3.6
Alcoholic beverages .....	219.567	219.832	219.285	219.507	3.4	5.3	6.1	-1	4.3	3.0
Housing .....	213.500	213.570	213.680	213.463	5.4	2.1	.0	-.1	3.7	.0
Shelter .....	241.355	241.879	242.000	242.257	2.4	2.1	1.8	1.5	2.3	1.7
Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....	245.683	246.440	246.739	247.150	3.5	3.4	2.9	2.4	3.5	2.7
Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	140.971	139.451	137.170	133.991	.9	-2.0	-6.4	-18.4	-.6	-12.6
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> .....	230.792	231.392	231.675	232.200	2.1	1.9	1.9	2.5	2.0	2.2
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	120.360	120.715	120.960	121.099	4.5	3.3	.3	2.5	3.9	1.4
Fuels and utilities .....	217.920	216.117	216.077	213.084	25.1	.4	-8.2	-8.6	12.1	-8.4
Household energy .....	196.397	194.348	194.282	190.862	29.3	-1.1	-10.8	-10.8	13.1	-10.8
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	266.721	261.002	255.111	237.288	54.3	-25.7	-63.1	-37.4	7.1	-51.9
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	201.987	200.013	200.210	197.294	27.5	1.1	-5.3	-9.0	13.5	-7.2
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	157.070	157.447	157.531	158.223	5.4	9.1	6.5	3.0	7.2	4.7
Household furnishings and operations .....	124.653	124.546	124.754	125.029	1.1	5.0	-.3	1.2	3.0	.5
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	152.814	152.273	152.168	153.239	10.0	5.4	-.1	1.1	7.7	.5
Apparel .....	117.923	118.677	119.854	119.478	-.1	5.7	-6.0	5.4	2.8	-.5
Men's and boys' apparel .....	111.922	114.105	117.255	116.702	-1.1	-.3	-5.2	18.2	-.7	5.9
Women's and girls' apparel .....	106.026	106.642	107.054	106.208	-2.1	15.4	-13.2	.7	6.3	-6.5
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	115.672	116.306	115.319	115.748	-2.5	-.4	-.9	.3	-1.4	-.3
Footwear .....	124.559	124.556	125.352	125.880	2.9	-1.4	2.4	4.3	.7	3.3
Transportation .....	163.954	166.362	169.627	167.435	15.1	1.0	-59.7	8.8	7.8	-33.8
Private transportation .....	160.223	162.806	166.302	164.112	14.7	.9	-60.8	10.1	7.6	-34.3
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	89.570	89.682	89.662	89.419	-3.0	-6.4	-7.2	-.7	-4.7	-4.0
New vehicles .....	132.783	133.378	134.277	135.162	-.5	-4.8	-5.0	7.4	-2.7	1.0
Used cars and trucks .....	127.590	126.534	124.356	122.304	-7.1	-10.8	-13.7	-15.6	-9.0	-14.7
Motor fuel .....	161.274	169.900	182.697	174.688	41.9	5.7	-93.6	37.7	22.5	-70.2
Gasoline (all types) .....	158.198	167.678	181.433	174.331	42.1	6.5	-93.9	47.5	23.0	-70.1
Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	133.295	133.645	134.264	134.485	4.6	10.8	7.0	3.6	7.6	5.3
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair <sup>1</sup> .....	241.855	243.594	244.219	244.650	5.6	7.0	3.9	4.7	6.3	4.3
Public transportation .....	240.296	236.685	231.991	230.256	25.7	2.5	-24.5	-15.7	13.5	-20.2
Medical care .....	368.451	370.068	371.397	372.188	2.3	2.6	2.5	4.1	2.5	3.3
Medical care commodities .....	290.504	291.485	293.339	294.284	-2.2	.8	3.9	5.3	-.7	4.6
Medical care services .....	391.178	393.024	394.081	394.779	3.8	3.2	2.1	3.7	3.5	2.9
Professional services .....	317.551	318.623	318.961	319.150	4.1	2.9	2.5	2.0	3.5	2.2
Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....	541.934	546.425	550.509	553.960	6.1	6.1	3.5	9.2	6.1	6.3

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 Expenditure category	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	June 2008	Sep. 2008	Dec. 2008	Mar. 2009	Sep. 2008	Mar. 2009
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	110.795	110.813	111.309	111.324	0.9	3.6	-0.2	1.9	2.2	0.9
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	102.323	101.794	101.852	101.751	-3.0	2.0	-2.0	-2.2	-5	-2.1
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	121.592	121.817	122.064	122.270	5.2	3.1	2.8	2.2	4.1	2.5
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	183.489	183.869	184.662	185.499	6.0	6.3	5.5	4.5	6.1	5.0
Educational books and supplies .....	468.077	469.011	471.367	473.276	7.6	12.8	4.4	4.5	10.2	4.5
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	516.743	517.817	520.014	522.397	5.8	5.7	5.6	4.4	5.8	5.0
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	87.450	87.598	87.639	87.616	4.7	1.0	1.1	.8	2.8	.9
Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	85.454	85.581	85.624	85.595	4.4	.9	1.2	.7	2.7	.9
Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	101.720	101.876	101.890	101.977	6.8	2.5	1.5	1.0	4.6	1.2
Information technology, hardware and services <sup>1 5</sup> .....	10.406	10.418	10.442	10.378	-5.8	-6.3	-.3	-1.1	-6.1	-7
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 6</sup> .....	88.176	88.178	87.622	86.004	-16.8	-19.5	-10.8	-9.5	-18.1	-10.1
Other goods and services .....	363.328	364.631	365.470	379.874	5.9	3.7	2.2	19.5	4.8	10.5
Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....	605.662	610.503	615.012	682.115	11.1	5.5	3.6	60.9	8.3	29.1
Personal care .....	201.207	201.461	201.381	201.817	3.3	2.8	1.4	1.2	3.0	1.3
Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....	161.295	162.683	162.543	162.516	.8	1.7	4.0	3.1	1.3	3.5
Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....	226.578	225.951	226.088	228.201	1.4	1.9	3.0	2.9	1.7	2.9
Miscellaneous personal services .....	343.848	343.462	343.601	343.711	5.8	4.7	-1.2	-.2	5.2	-7
<b>Commodity and service group</b>										
Commodities .....	165.761	166.831	168.242	167.715	9.1	3.6	-32.5	4.8	6.3	-15.9
Food and beverages .....	218.667	218.714	218.371	218.079	7.7	8.5	2.8	-1.1	8.1	.9
Commodities less food and beverages .....	138.964	140.426	142.519	141.910	9.9	1.1	-47.5	8.8	5.4	-24.4
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	168.682	172.433	177.755	175.626	27.0	.5	-64.9	17.5	13.0	-35.7
Apparel .....	117.923	118.677	119.854	119.478	-.1	5.7	-6.0	5.4	2.8	-.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	203.893	209.548	217.299	214.185	32.5	1.2	-74.2	21.8	15.8	-43.9
Durables .....	108.798	108.637	108.475	108.251	-2.4	-3.7	-6.5	-2.0	-3.1	-4.3
Services .....	253.092	253.417	253.785	253.811	5.3	2.8	1.2	1.1	4.1	1.2
Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	232.887	233.312	233.328	233.478	2.4	2.4	2.0	1.0	2.4	1.5
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....	120.360	120.715	120.960	121.099	4.5	3.3	.3	2.5	3.9	1.4
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....	201.987	200.013	200.210	197.294	27.5	1.1	-5.3	-9.0	13.5	-7.2
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	157.070	157.447	157.531	158.223	5.4	9.1	6.5	3.0	7.2	4.7
Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....	152.814	152.273	152.168	153.239	10.0	5.4	-.1	1.1	7.7	.5
Transportation services .....	245.957	247.099	248.087	248.145	7.6	4.7	.0	3.6	6.1	1.8
Medical care services .....	391.178	393.024	394.081	394.779	3.8	3.2	2.1	3.7	3.5	2.9
Other services .....	288.397	288.590	289.415	290.152	4.2	3.9	2.3	2.5	4.1	2.4
<b>Special indexes</b>										
All items less food .....	203.702	204.532	205.662	205.378	6.9	2.3	-18.3	3.3	4.6	-8.1
All items less shelter .....	195.424	196.211	197.425	196.931	9.1	3.7	-21.9	3.1	6.4	-10.3
All items less medical care .....	199.400	200.078	200.971	200.650	7.3	3.3	-16.2	2.5	5.3	-7.3
Commodities less food .....	141.555	142.991	145.025	144.434	9.7	1.2	-46.1	8.4	5.4	-23.6
Nondurables less food .....	171.591	175.208	180.246	178.203	25.7	.7	-62.5	16.3	12.5	-33.9
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	204.294	209.514	216.564	213.688	30.9	1.1	-71.2	19.7	15.0	-41.3
Nondurables .....	193.307	195.377	198.015	196.725	17.7	3.3	-39.5	7.3	10.3	-19.4
Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....	245.083	245.075	245.607	245.340	8.4	3.9	.9	.4	6.1	.7
Services less medical care services .....	243.176	243.374	243.578	243.498	5.2	2.9	1.6	.5	4.1	1.0
Energy .....	176.692	180.037	186.446	180.751	36.9	3.0	-78.5	9.5	18.8	-51.5
All items less energy .....	210.598	210.987	211.226	211.602	3.3	3.3	.7	1.9	3.3	1.3
All items less food and energy .....	209.372	209.834	210.188	210.707	2.3	2.2	.2	2.6	2.2	1.4
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	140.094	140.375	140.675	141.363	-.4	.3	-3.3	3.7	.0	.1
Energy commodities .....	166.230	174.341	186.476	178.042	42.5	4.1	-93.0	31.6	21.8	-69.6
Services less energy services .....	258.541	259.134	259.521	259.892	3.5	3.0	1.8	2.1	3.2	2.0

<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 Mar.2009 from—			Percent change to Feb.2009 from—		
		Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Feb. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009
U.S. city average .....	M	204.813	205.700	206.708	207.218	-0.9	0.7	0.2	-0.3	0.9	0.5
<b>Region and area size<sup>2</sup></b>											
Northeast urban .....	M	221.446	221.704	222.945	223.626	.2	.9	.3	.6	.7	.6
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	222.628	222.707	224.084	224.597	.4	.8	.2	.8	.7	.6
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	132.938	133.345	133.908	134.558	-2	.9	.5	.0	.7	.4
Midwest urban .....	M	193.987	195.245	195.813	196.453	-1.3	.6	.3	-.7	.9	.3
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	194.120	195.621	196.147	196.855	-1.3	.6	.4	-.7	1.0	.3
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	127.005	127.768	128.167	128.468	-1.1	.5	.2	-.4	.9	.3
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	192.391	192.907	193.527	194.393	-1.8	.8	.4	-1.1	.6	.3
South urban .....	M	199.399	200.067	201.150	201.737	-1.1	.8	.3	-.6	.9	.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	203.121	203.519	204.501	205.066	-1.1	.8	.3	-.5	.7	.5
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	127.055	127.529	128.276	128.686	-1.2	.9	.3	-.7	1.0	.6
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	M	203.054	204.316	205.337	205.744	-.9	.7	.2	-.1	1.1	.5
West urban .....	M	208.088	209.367	210.492	210.661	-1.2	.6	.1	-.2	1.2	.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	M	210.637	211.857	212.890	212.965	-.9	.5	.0	.1	1.1	.5
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....	M	128.641	129.639	130.649	130.674	-1.5	.8	.0	-.4	1.6	.8
<b>Size classes</b>											
A <sup>4</sup> .....	M	190.272	191.023	191.927	192.327	-.7	.7	.2	.0	.9	.5
B/C <sup>3</sup> .....	M	128.157	128.783	129.488	129.833	-1.1	.8	.3	-.5	1.0	.5
D .....	M	199.228	200.057	200.681	201.485	-1.4	.7	.4	-.8	.7	.3
<b>Selected local areas<sup>5</sup></b>											
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI .....	M	198.434	200.222	199.944	200.218	-2.2	.0	.1	-1.3	.8	-.1
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ...	M	211.007	212.454	213.234	213.013	-1.6	.3	-.1	-.5	1.1	.4
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA .....	M	227.223	227.503	228.653	229.064	.9	.7	.2	1.5	.6	.5
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT .....	1	-	230.095	-	231.884	-.3	.8	-	-	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH .....	1	-	188.798	-	190.107	-1.5	.7	-	-	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX .....	1	-	199.416	-	200.770	-.6	.7	-	-	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV <sup>6</sup> .....	1	-	136.359	-	137.539	.0	.9	-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA .....	2	195.310	-	197.528	-	-	-	-	-2.9	1.1	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI .....	2	192.808	-	196.191	-	-	-	-	-.7	1.8	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX .....	2	183.088	-	185.015	-	-	-	-	-.5	1.1	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL .....	2	215.867	-	217.635	-	-	-	-	.3	.8	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD .....	2	217.610	-	219.356	-	-	-	-	-.6	.8	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....	2	213.685	-	216.797	-	-	-	-	.9	1.5	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA .....	2	216.424	-	218.752	-	-	-	-	1.1	1.1	-

<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 Mar. 2009 from—	
		Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Feb. 2009
<b>Expenditure category</b>					
All items .....	100.000	121.901	122.182	-0.8	0.2
Food and beverages .....	14.726	128.622	128.292	4.2	-.3
Food .....	13.648	128.747	128.378	4.3	-.3
Food at home .....	7.557	125.539	124.782	4.1	-.6
Food away from home .....	6.091	132.849	132.990	4.5	.1
Alcoholic beverages .....	1.077	127.399	127.568	3.5	.1
Housing .....	42.421	128.765	128.865	1.2	.1
Shelter .....	32.409	131.107	131.493	1.4	.3
Fuels and utilities .....	5.004	157.776	155.178	.2	-1.6
Household furnishings and operations .....	5.008	95.917	96.311	1.1	.4
Apparel .....	3.988	87.673	90.588	.9	3.3
Transportation .....	17.393	113.341	113.432	-13.1	.1
Private transportation .....	16.285	113.448	113.571	-13.6	.1
Public transportation .....	1.108	113.167	112.767	-5.3	-.4
Medical care .....	6.085	144.662	144.929	2.6	.2
Medical care commodities .....	1.615	127.740	127.992	1.7	.2
Medical care services .....	4.470	150.904	151.174	2.9	.2
Recreation .....	5.935	105.707	105.740	.5	.0
Education and communication .....	6.196	109.693	109.639	3.0	.0
Education .....	2.771	173.166	173.200	5.5	.0
Communication .....	3.425	74.219	74.141	1.0	-.1
Other goods and services .....	3.257	127.284	130.478	2.8	2.5
<b>Commodity and service group</b>					
Services .....	58.427	133.617	133.731	2.0	.1
Commodities .....	41.573	107.718	108.187	-4.6	.4
Durables .....	11.817	80.865	80.852	-3.2	.0
Nondurables .....	29.756	121.408	122.155	-5.2	.6
All items less food and energy .....	77.561	117.964	118.459	1.3	.4
Energy .....	8.790	150.780	149.828	-23.8	-.6

Indexes for 2009 are initial estimates. Indexes for 2008 are interim adjustments.  
NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.