

# News

U.S. Department of Labor  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Two Pershing Square Building  
2300 Main Street, Suite 1190  
Kansas City, Missouri 64108



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

(816) 285-7000

Media Contact: Jacqueline Michael-Midkiff (816) 285-7001

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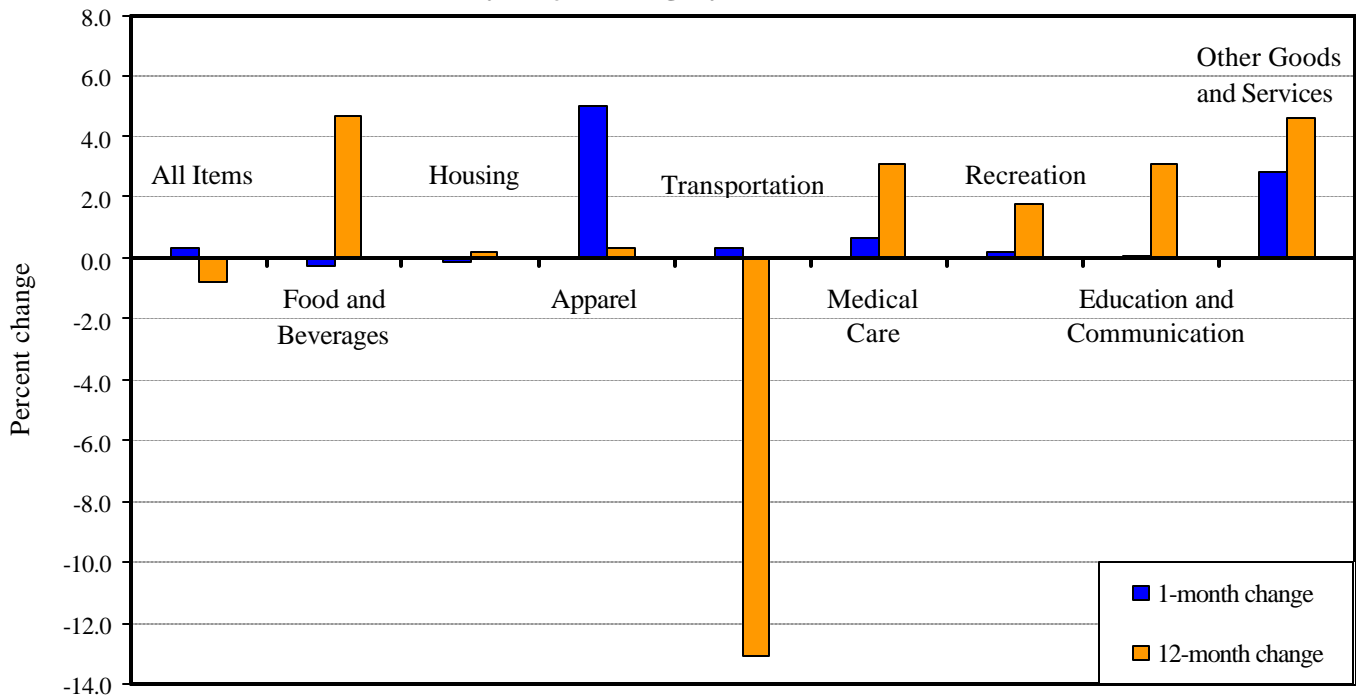
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## MIDWEST REGION CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) – MARCH 2009

**Prices in the Midwest increased 0.3 percent over the month and were 0.8 percent lower over the year**

The Consumer Price Index for the Midwest rose for the third consecutive month, increasing 0.3 percent in March, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. According to Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman, over half of the change in the index was attributable to higher prices for apparel and other goods and services. Despite March's increase, the overall index was 0.8 percent lower than one year ago, the largest over-the-year decline since publication began in 1966.

### 1-Month and 12-Month Percent Changes Ended March 2009 CPI-U by Major Category for the Midwest



Apparel prices had the largest impact on the overall index, rising 5.0 percent over the month following a 2.5 percent increase in February. Apparel prices typically increase in March with the introduction of spring-summer wear, and have averaged an increase of 4.5 percent over the last five years. Apparel prices were 0.3 percent higher than one year ago.

Prices for other goods and services had the second largest impact on the overall March index, accounting for about 20 percent of the change. Upward movement in prices for tobacco and smoking products contributed to the 2.8 percent rise in prices for other goods and services, the largest over-the-month increase since December 1998. From March 2008 to March 2009 costs for other goods and services rose 4.6 percent.

Four major expenditure categories each accounted for approximately 10 percent of the change in the overall index—housing, food and beverages, medical care, and transportation. The housing index, which accounts for 40 percent of the all items index, was down a slight 0.1 percent. Household energy prices fell for the eighth consecutive month and offset higher shelter costs in March. The 2.1 percent decline in the household energy index reflected a 5.6 percent drop in prices for utility (piped) gas service and an increase of 0.2 percent in electricity prices. Shelter costs were up 0.2 percent over the month. Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence rose 0.2 percent and rent of primary residence was unchanged. Over the year, the housing index was up 0.2 percent. Shelter costs were 0.3 percent higher. Within shelter, rent of primary residence and owners' equivalent rent of primary residence rose 2.5 and 1.0 percent, respectively. Household energy prices were down 3.3 percent with prices for electricity up 8.3 percent since March 2008 while prices for utility (piped) gas service fell 15.5 percent. Household furnishings and operations prices rose 2.4 percent over the year.

Lower prices for food at home pushed the index for food and beverages down 0.3 percent in March. Prices for food at home were down 0.8 percent, while prices for alcoholic beverages were up 0.5 percent and costs for food away from home were little changed. Despite the over-the-month decrease, food and beverages prices increased 4.7 percent over the year. Costs for food at home rose 4.3 percent and prices for food away from home advanced 5.3 percent. Alcoholic beverages' prices were 4.0 percent higher than one year ago.

Costs for medical care rose 0.7 percent over the month. Prices for medical care commodities rose 1.2 percent while prices for medical care services were 0.5 percent higher. From March 2008 to March 2009, medical care costs advanced 3.1 percent. Prices for medical care commodities and for medical care services were up 2.9 and 3.2 percent, respectively.

The transportation index increased 0.3 percent in March. Motor fuel prices advanced 2.0 percent and prices for new vehicles rose 0.5 percent while used cars and trucks' prices fell 1.7 percent. Since March 2008, the transportation index recorded the only decline among the major expenditure categories, decreasing 13.1 percent—largely the result of a 39.3 percent drop in motor fuel costs. Prices for new vehicles were 1.1 percent lower over the year and prices for used cars and trucks were down 11.7 percent.

The remaining two major expenditure categories—recreation and education and communication—together accounted for only about 3 percent of the movement in the monthly index. Costs for recreation were up a slight 0.2 percent and education and communication prices were little changed over the month. From March 2008 to March 2009 the indexes for recreation and for education and communication rose 1.8 and 3.1 percent, respectively.

Energy prices, which include prices for motor fuel and household fuels, were 0.3 percent lower over the month and 23.6 percent lower than in March 2008. The special aggregate index for all items less energy rose 0.3 percent over the month and 1.9 percent since March 2008. Excluding the impact of food and energy prices, the Midwest CPI was up 0.5 percent since February and 1.4 percent over the year.

The Midwest Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) stood at 202.021 in March. A typical market basket of goods and services that cost \$100.00 in the 1982-84 base period cost \$202.02 in March 2009. Because regional CPI data are not adjusted for seasonal price variation, consumers and businesses should be cautious in drawing conclusions about long-term retail price trends from short-term changes in the regional indexes.

Consumer Price Index data for April are scheduled for release on Friday, May 15, 2009, at 7:30 A.M. (CT).

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods**

**Midwest** (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from—		
	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All items .....	200.815	201.453	202.021	-0.8	0.6	0.3
All items (December 1977=100) .....	326.737	327.776	328.699	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	213.241	212.823	212.169	4.7	-1.5	-1.3
Food .....	213.081	212.551	211.754	4.7	-1.6	-1.4
Food at home .....	209.791	208.431	206.834	4.3	-1.4	-1.8
Food away from home .....	218.583	219.183	219.471	5.3	.4	.1
Alcoholic beverages .....	214.669	215.557	216.572	4.0	.9	.5
Housing .....	196.430	196.501	196.247	.2	-1.1	-1.1
Shelter .....	224.800	225.322	225.665	.3	.4	.2
Rent of primary residence <sup>1</sup> .....	218.419	218.914	219.022	2.5	.3	.0
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>1 2</sup> .....	227.828	228.191	228.635	1.0	.4	.2
Fuels and utilities .....	202.167	199.591	196.171	-1.9	-3.0	-1.7
Household energy .....	178.250	175.660	171.944	-3.3	-3.5	-2.1
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>1</sup> .....	184.681	182.116	178.424	-2.0	-3.4	-2.0
Electricity <sup>1</sup> .....	162.936	164.248	164.654	8.3	1.1	.2
Utility (piped) gas service <sup>1</sup> .....	219.892	209.644	197.879	-15.5	-10.0	-5.6
Household furnishings and operations .....	123.227	123.657	123.611	2.4	.3	.0
Apparel .....	105.407	108.002	113.350	.3	7.5	5.0
Transportation .....	168.806	170.320	170.771	-13.1	1.2	.3
Private transportation .....	163.389	165.028	165.503	-13.7	1.3	.3
New and used motor vehicles <sup>3</sup> .....	92.649	93.625	93.163	-2.2	.6	-1.5
New vehicles .....	128.328	129.942	130.559	-1.1	1.7	.5
New cars and trucks <sup>3 4</sup> .....	90.581	91.823	92.270	-1.2	1.9	.5
New cars <sup>4</sup> .....	129.926	130.564	130.800	.3	.7	.2
Used cars and trucks .....	126.535	124.278	122.143	-11.7	-3.5	-1.7
Motor fuel .....	167.058	169.345	172.757	-39.3	3.4	2.0
Gasoline (all types) .....	165.570	168.297	172.553	-38.9	4.2	2.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular <sup>4</sup> .....	163.857	166.267	170.718	-39.4	4.2	2.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade <sup>4 5</sup> .....	182.250	186.677	190.592	-38.4	4.6	2.1
Gasoline, unleaded premium <sup>4</sup> .....	167.839	170.637	174.084	-36.9	3.7	2.0
Medical care .....	367.426	369.362	371.831	3.1	1.2	.7
Medical care commodities .....	294.235	296.831	300.305	2.9	2.1	1.2
Medical care services .....	391.847	393.456	395.438	3.2	.9	.5
Professional services .....	335.325	336.544	337.918	3.1	.8	.4
Recreation <sup>3</sup> .....	115.172	116.119	116.300	1.8	1.0	.2
Education and communication <sup>3</sup> .....	127.554	127.673	127.775	3.1	.2	.1
Other goods and services .....	336.650	337.804	347.213	4.6	3.1	2.8
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All items .....	200.815	201.453	202.021	-1.8	.6	.3
Commodities .....	161.129	161.828	163.002	-3.8	1.2	.7
Commodities less food and beverages .....	135.438	136.601	138.537	-8.6	2.3	1.4
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	162.244	164.224	168.267	-12.9	3.7	2.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	199.256	200.848	204.067	-16.7	2.4	1.6
Durables .....	107.668	108.066	108.053	-2.0	.4	.0
Services .....	242.281	242.854	242.782	1.4	.2	.0
Rent of shelter <sup>2</sup> .....	231.095	231.639	231.976	.2	.4	.1
Transportation services .....	254.287	256.986	255.911	4.4	.6	-1.4
Other services .....	291.734	292.982	293.490	2.7	.6	.2

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods-Continued**

**Midwest** (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from—		
	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care .....	192.791	193.372	193.859	-1.1	0.6	0.3
All items less food .....	198.675	199.510	200.308	-1.8	.8	.4
All items less shelter .....	194.219	194.907	195.563	-1.3	.7	.3
Commodities less food .....	138.113	139.268	141.175	-8.1	2.2	1.4
Nondurables .....	187.180	188.032	189.866	-4.4	1.4	1.0
Nondurables less food .....	165.438	167.343	171.180	-11.7	3.5	2.3
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	200.248	201.762	204.743	-14.9	2.2	1.5
Services less rent of shelter <sup>2</sup> .....	268.331	268.969	268.415	2.5	.0	-.2
Services less medical care services .....	230.594	231.098	230.904	1.2	.1	-.1
Energy .....	172.220	171.823	171.311	-23.6	-.5	-.3
All items less energy .....	206.123	206.881	207.572	1.9	.7	.3
All items less food and energy .....	205.416	206.425	207.407	1.4	1.0	.5
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	137.292	138.366	140.178	.7	2.1	1.3
Energy commodities .....	169.454	171.404	174.339	-38.8	2.9	1.7
Services less energy services .....	250.044	250.976	251.313	1.7	.5	.1

<sup>1</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

<sup>2</sup> Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>4</sup> Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

<sup>5</sup> Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

- Data not available.

Regions defined as the four Census regions. Midwest includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

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

**Table 2. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods**

**Midwest** (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from—		
	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All items .....	195.245	195.813	196.453	-1.3	0.6	0.3
All items (December 1977=100) .....	315.755	316.674	317.708	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	213.497	212.921	212.247	4.7	-.6	-.3
Food .....	213.394	212.721	211.899	4.8	-.7	-.4
Food at home .....	209.804	208.446	206.881	4.1	-1.4	-.8
Food away from home .....	219.592	219.922	220.188	5.7	.3	.1
Alcoholic beverages .....	214.360	215.057	216.321	4.1	.9	.6
Housing .....	190.975	191.016	190.661	.5	-.2	-.2
Shelter .....	214.412	214.905	215.200	.7	.4	.1
Rent of primary residence <sup>1</sup> .....	218.960	219.452	219.575	2.6	.3	.1
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>1 2</sup> .....	212.201	212.553	212.961	1.1	.4	.2
Fuels and utilities .....	202.689	200.219	196.884	-1.6	-2.9	-1.7
Household energy .....	178.355	175.841	172.268	-2.9	-3.4	-2.0
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>1</sup> .....	183.521	181.025	177.491	-1.9	-3.3	-2.0
Electricity <sup>1</sup> .....	162.949	164.260	164.755	8.3	1.1	.3
Utility (piped) gas service <sup>1</sup> .....	219.687	209.454	197.762	-15.4	-10.0	-5.6
Household furnishings and operations .....	120.467	121.044	120.826	2.5	.3	-.2
Apparel .....	103.834	106.225	111.462	.2	7.3	4.9
Transportation .....	166.721	167.992	168.456	-14.7	1.0	.3
Private transportation .....	163.333	164.660	165.126	-15.2	1.1	.3
New and used motor vehicles <sup>3</sup> .....	91.437	91.936	91.406	-3.7	.0	-.6
New vehicles .....	131.487	133.029	133.802	-1.1	1.8	.6
Used cars and trucks .....	127.493	125.189	123.033	-11.9	-3.5	-1.7
Motor fuel .....	167.353	169.886	173.316	-39.2	3.6	2.0
Gasoline (all types) .....	165.850	168.837	173.100	-38.9	4.4	2.5
Gasoline, unleaded regular <sup>4</sup> .....	164.036	166.713	171.155	-39.4	4.3	2.7
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade <sup>4 5</sup> .....	181.931	186.592	190.529	-38.4	4.7	2.1
Gasoline, unleaded premium <sup>4</sup> .....	167.615	170.606	174.147	-36.8	3.9	2.1
Medical care .....	369.241	371.440	373.955	3.1	1.3	.7
Medical care commodities .....	288.039	290.619	293.887	2.8	2.0	1.1
Medical care services .....	394.629	396.587	398.683	3.1	1.0	.5
Professional services .....	336.297	337.784	339.339	3.2	.9	.5
Recreation <sup>3</sup> .....	111.121	112.090	112.286	1.5	1.0	.2
Education and communication <sup>3</sup> .....	123.809	123.965	124.058	3.0	.2	.1
Other goods and services .....	354.219	355.897	369.992	7.0	4.5	4.0
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All items .....	195.245	195.813	196.453	-1.3	.6	.3
Commodities .....	161.571	162.204	163.543	-4.6	1.2	.8
Commodities less food and beverages .....	136.338	137.486	139.679	-9.9	2.5	1.6
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	166.821	168.913	173.705	-13.9	4.1	2.8
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	205.074	206.945	211.387	-17.8	3.1	2.1
Durables .....	106.672	106.934	106.696	-3.0	.0	-.2
Services .....	236.029	236.527	236.359	1.5	.1	-.1
Rent of shelter <sup>2</sup> .....	213.103	213.599	213.878	.7	.4	.1
Transportation services .....	251.397	253.741	252.637	4.6	.5	-.4
Other services .....	274.642	275.824	276.286	2.6	.6	.2
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care .....	188.411	188.923	189.500	-1.5	.6	.3
All items less food .....	191.732	192.523	193.425	-2.4	.9	.5

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods-Continued**

**Midwest** (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from—		
	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less shelter .....	190.794	191.395	192.164	-2.0	0.7	0.4
Commodities less food .....	138.840	139.976	142.144	-9.3	2.4	1.5
Nondurables .....	189.777	190.609	192.821	-5.0	1.6	1.2
Nondurables less food .....	169.547	171.554	176.131	-12.8	3.9	2.7
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	205.106	206.860	210.986	-16.1	2.9	2.0
Services less rent of shelter <sup>2</sup> .....	239.172	239.623	238.964	2.4	-.1	-.3
Services less medical care services .....	224.886	225.306	225.031	1.4	.1	-.1
Energy .....	171.674	171.535	171.258	-24.3	-.2	-.2
All items less energy .....	199.626	200.287	201.047	2.0	.7	.4
All items less food and energy .....	197.041	197.982	199.075	1.5	1.0	.6
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	137.109	138.091	140.173	.5	2.2	1.5
Energy commodities .....	170.146	172.391	175.405	-38.6	3.1	1.7
Services less energy services .....	242.963	243.861	244.144	1.9	.5	.1

<sup>1</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

<sup>2</sup> Index is on a December 1984=100 base.

<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>4</sup> Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

<sup>5</sup> Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

- Data not available.

Regions defined as the four Census regions. Midwest includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

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)

Area	All items										
	Pricing schedule 1	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	.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.

<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 All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Regions<sup>1</sup>, by expenditure category and commodity and service group**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Item and group	Northeast			Midwest			South			West		
	Index	Percent change from—		Index	Percent change from—		Index	Percent change from—		Index	Percent change from—	
		Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008		Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009		Mar. 2008	Feb. 2009		Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008
<b>Expenditure category</b>												
All items .....	227.309	0.2	0.2	202.021	-0.8	0.3	206.001	-0.3	0.3	217.357	-0.5	0.1
All items (December 1977=100) .....	357.943	-	-	328.699	-	-	334.163	-	0.3	351.345	-	-
Food and beverages .....	223.369	4.3	-3	212.169	4.7	-3	216.662	4.7	-2	223.231	3.7	-2
Food .....	223.030	4.4	-3	211.754	4.7	-4	217.255	4.8	-2	222.476	3.7	-2
Food at home .....	222.341	4.3	-7	206.834	4.3	-8	213.672	4.6	-6	226.476	3.8	-3
Food away from home .....	226.997	4.4	.1	219.471	5.3	.1	225.168	4.9	.3	216.345	3.6	-1
Alcoholic beverages .....	226.674	3.2	-4	216.572	4.0	.5	207.329	3.8	.3	231.050	3.3	.1
Housing .....	242.790	.9	.2	196.247	.2	-1	202.653	2.5	.1	229.441	1.4	.1
Shelter .....	289.419	1.6	.6	225.665	.3	.2	223.622	2.1	.4	257.906	1.5	.1
Rent of primary residence <sup>2</sup> .....	282.177	4.1	.4	219.022	2.5	.0	223.148	3.0	.1	261.443	3.1	.0
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>2 3</sup> .....	299.165	2.4	.4	228.635	1.0	.2	226.091	2.3	.3	271.540	2.5	.0
Fuels and utilities .....	214.764	-3.0	-1.2	196.171	-1.9	-1.7	215.970	4.7	-2.0	224.750	.4	-2
Household energy .....	200.153	-4.3	-1.4	171.944	-3.3	-2.1	187.590	4.4	-2.5	208.575	-1.1	-4
Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>2</sup> .....	209.525	4.5	-8	178.424	-2.0	-2.0	188.886	5.5	-2.5	211.642	.0	-2
Electricity <sup>2</sup> .....	191.754	6.7	.2	164.654	8.3	.2	184.681	10.5	-1.3	224.496	5.0	.8
Utility (piped) gas service <sup>2</sup> .....	239.528	.2	-2.9	197.879	-15.5	-5.6	201.437	-17.0	-8.9	195.929	-13.0	-3.4
Household furnishings and operations .....	129.155	.8	-4	123.611	2.4	.0	130.141	2.4	.6	135.332	1.2	.9
Apparel .....	122.298	3.0	2.5	113.350	.3	5.0	134.464	1.7	3.3	116.709	.5	2.0
Transportation .....	170.563	-11.2	-1	170.771	-13.1	.3	165.612	-14.9	.3	172.777	-12.2	-2
Private transportation .....	164.358	-11.7	-1	165.503	-13.7	.3	163.725	-15.3	.3	166.828	-12.9	-2
New and used motor vehicles <sup>4</sup> .....	92.407	-5	-4	93.163	-2.2	-5	92.183	-3.0	.2	91.132	-2.9	.0
New vehicles .....	133.613	-7	.0	130.559	-1.1	.5	139.858	.0	.6	132.536	-1.6	.1
New cars and trucks <sup>4 5</sup> .....	92.584	-8	.0	92.270	-1.2	.5	95.143	-1	.6	92.150	-1.6	.1
New cars <sup>5</sup> .....	132.230	-5	.0	130.800	.3	.2	143.538	1.0	.1	135.513	-1	-3
Used cars and trucks .....	126.522	-11.1	-1.4	122.143	-11.7	-1.7	119.241	-12.5	-1.3	119.327	-11.4	-1.5
Motor fuel .....	164.039	-38.3	.7	172.757	-39.3	2.0	165.767	-40.8	1.0	171.055	-39.0	-1.0
Gasoline (all types) .....	162.810	-38.2	1.0	172.553	-38.9	2.5	165.012	-40.5	1.4	170.742	-38.7	-7
Gasoline, unleaded regular <sup>5</sup> .....	162.143	-39.0	1.1	170.718	-39.4	2.7	162.861	-41.4	1.5	169.102	-39.1	-6
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade <sup>5 6</sup> .....	168.526	-36.8	.9	190.592	-38.4	2.1	174.595	-39.2	1.5	161.454	-38.0	-8
Gasoline, unleaded premium <sup>5</sup> .....	162.710	-35.6	.9	174.084	-36.9	2.0	168.256	-37.9	1.0	166.671	-37.0	-7
Medical care .....	395.059	2.5	.0	371.831	3.1	.7	354.392	2.3	.1	381.324	3.4	.1
Medical care commodities .....	324.067	1.9	-6	300.305	2.9	1.2	291.027	1.8	.1	305.849	1.1	.2
Medical care services .....	413.980	2.7	.2	395.438	3.2	.5	374.813	2.5	.1	404.348	4.2	.1
Professional services .....	321.854	2.3	.0	337.918	3.1	.4	314.340	3.0	.2	297.498	2.7	.0
Recreation <sup>4</sup> .....	117.408	2.5	-1	116.300	1.8	.2	115.514	1.4	.3	109.902	1.3	.1
Education and communication <sup>4</sup> .....	130.347	4.4	.1	127.775	3.1	.1	121.773	3.3	.0	125.959	3.6	-1
Other goods and services .....	387.325	7.1	3.0	347.213	4.6	2.8	349.784	5.9	3.5	361.439	5.0	1.9
<b>Commodity and service group</b>												
All items .....	227.309	.2	.2	202.021	-.8	.3	206.001	-.3	.3	217.357	-.5	.1
Commodities .....	171.538	-3.5	.2	163.002	-3.8	.7	167.368	-4.5	.7	165.229	-4.5	.2
Commodities less food and beverages .....	142.048	-8.4	.6	138.537	-8.6	1.4	143.052	-9.5	1.2	136.095	-8.8	.4
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	171.383	-11.7	1.2	168.267	-12.9	2.5	175.875	-14.1	1.9	164.109	-13.7	.7
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	210.862	-16.6	.6	204.067	-16.7	1.6	202.594	-18.8	1.4	198.148	-18.2	.3
Durables .....	107.342	-2.6	-3	108.053	-2.0	.0	112.030	-2.5	.3	108.989	-2.8	.0
Services .....	281.955	2.5	.3	242.782	1.4	.0	245.493	2.8	.1	265.423	2.2	.1
Rent of shelter <sup>3</sup> .....	302.760	1.6	.6	231.976	.2	.1	229.998	2.0	.4	274.344	1.5	.1
Transportation services .....	236.479	3.4	-3	255.911	4.4	-4	252.481	3.2	.0	250.291	3.2	.3
Other services .....	322.942	3.6	.1	293.490	2.7	.2	291.900	3.3	.2	299.407	3.7	.2

See footnotes at end of table.



**Table 4. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Regions<sup>1</sup>, by expenditure category and commodity and service group-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Item and group	Northeast			Midwest			South			West		
	Index	Percent change from—		Index	Percent change from—		Index	Percent change from—		Index	Percent change from—	
	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Feb. 2009	Mar. 2009	Mar. 2008	Feb. 2009
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>												
All items less medical care .....	219.807	0.0	0.3	193.859	-1.1	0.3	197.441	-0.5	0.3	209.637	-0.8	0.1
All items less food .....	228.359	-5	.3	200.308	-1.8	.4	204.038	-1.2	.4	216.727	-1.2	.2
All items less shelter .....	206.178	-6	.1	195.563	-1.3	.3	200.094	-1.4	.3	202.042	-1.6	.2
Commodities less food .....	145.171	-7.9	.5	141.175	-8.1	1.4	145.107	-9.1	1.2	139.636	-8.3	.4
Nondurables .....	197.347	-3.7	.3	189.866	-4.4	1.0	195.499	-5.2	.8	193.607	-5.2	.2
Nondurables less food .....	174.487	-10.8	1.1	171.180	-11.7	2.3	177.472	-13.1	1.8	168.871	-12.5	.7
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	210.590	-15.0	.5	204.743	-14.9	1.5	202.031	-17.2	1.3	200.837	-16.2	.2
Services less rent of shelter <sup>3</sup> .....	283.657	3.6	-1	268.415	2.5	-2	272.248	3.7	-3	283.597	3.2	.2
Services less medical care services .....	272.384	2.5	.3	230.904	1.2	-1	232.876	2.8	-1	255.296	2.0	.1
Energy .....	184.825	-20.6	-6	171.311	-23.6	-3	171.992	-22.2	-1.0	188.002	-25.8	-8
All items less energy .....	233.985	2.5	.3	207.572	1.9	.3	210.539	2.4	.4	221.574	1.8	.2
All items less food and energy .....	237.422	2.1	.4	207.407	1.4	.5	209.726	2.0	.6	222.084	1.5	.3
Commodities less food and energy .....												
commodities .....	144.624	1.4	.7	140.178	.7	1.3	144.470	.5	1.2	137.316	-.5	.6
Energy commodities .....	175.924	-37.4	-4	174.339	-38.8	1.7	169.340	-40.4	.7	174.270	-38.6	-1.2
Services less energy services .....	289.173	2.4	.3	251.313	1.7	.1	251.213	2.6	.3	269.528	2.3	.1

<sup>1</sup> Regions defined as the four Census regions.

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

<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>5</sup> Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

<sup>6</sup> Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

- Data not available.

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