

# News

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Department  
of Labor



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**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: DECEMBER 2004**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.4 percent in December, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The December level of 190.3 (1982-84=100) was 3.3 percent higher than in December 2003.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also decreased 0.4 percent in December, prior to seasonal adjustment. The December level of 186.0 was 3.4 percent higher than in December 2003.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) declined 0.4 percent in December on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The December level of 110.7 (December 1999=100) was 2.9 percent higher than in December 2003. Please note that the indexes for the post-2002 period are subject to revision.

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

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U decreased 0.1 percent in December, following an increase of 0.2 percent in November. The index for food was unchanged in December, with the index for food at home down 0.2 percent. Energy costs fell 1.8 percent in December, following a 0.2 percent increase in November. A 3.7 percent decline in the index for petroleum-based energy more than offset a 0.4 percent increase in the index for energy services. The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.2 percent in December, the same as in each of the preceding two months.

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

| Expenditure Category           | Seasonally adjusted          |      |      |      |      |      |      | Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Dec. '04 | Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Dec. '04 |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|------------------------------------|
|                                | Changes from preceding month |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |                                    |
|                                | 2004                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |                                    |
|                                | June                         | July | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |  |                                    |
| All Items                      | .3                           | -.1  | .1   | .2   | .6   | .2   | -.1  | 3.0  | 3.3                                |
| Food and beverages             | .2                           | .2   | .1   | .0   | .5   | .2   | -.1  | 2.8  | 2.6                                |
| Housing                        | .3                           | .2   | .2   | .2   | .2   | .3   | .2   | 2.5  | 3.0                                |
| Apparel                        | .2                           | -.8  | -.2  | .0   | .2   | .1   | -.4  | -.7  | -.2                                |
| Transportation                 | .8                           | -.8  | -.3  | .2   | 2.3  | -.1  | -.9  | 5.2  | 6.5                                |
| Medical care                   | .3                           | .3   | .2   | .3   | .4   | .2   | .3   | 3.8  | 4.2                                |
| Recreation                     | .3                           | -.2  | -.2  | .2   | .1   | .1   | -.1  | .4   | .7                                 |
| Education and communication    | .2                           | -.1  | .1   | .4   | -.3  | .4   | .0   | .4   | 1.5                                |
| Other goods and services       | .1                           | .3   | .2   | .3   | .2   | .1   | .5   | 3.0  | 2.5                                |
| Special Indexes                |                              |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |                                    |
| Energy                         | 2.6                          | -1.9 | -.3  | -.4  | 4.2  | .2   | -1.8 | 10.4                                       | 16.6                               |
| Food                           | .2                           | .3   | .1   | .0   | .6   | .2   | .0   | 3.0  | 2.7                                |
| All Items less food and energy | .1                           | .1   | .1   | .3   | .2   | .2   | .2   | 2.0  | 2.2                                |

Consumer prices rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of 3.0 percent in the fourth quarter of 2004. This followed increases in the first three quarters at annual rates of 5.1, 4.8, and 0.6 percent, respectively. For the 12 month period ended in December, the CPI rose 3.3 percent. This compares with an increase of 1.9 percent in all of 2003. In 2004, the index for energy rose 16.6 percent, its largest annual increase since an 18.1 percent rise in 1990, and accounted for about 36 percent of the overall advance in the CPI-U. The food index, which rose 3.6 percent in 2003, increased 2.7 percent in 2004. The index for food at home rose 2.4 percent in 2004, following a 4.5 percent increase in 2003. A smaller increase in the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs--up 1.1 percent in 2004 after increasing 11.5 percent in 2003--was largely responsible for the moderation.

Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 2.0 percent SAAR in the fourth quarter, following increases at rates of 2.9, 2.3, and 1.8 percent in the first three quarters of 2004. The 2.2 percent advance in 2004 compares with a 1.1 percent rise in all of 2003. Five of the seven major non-food groups, including the non-energy portions of housing and transportation, advanced more in 2004 than in 2003. In particular, the upturn in prices for new and used vehicles and a larger increase in shelter costs accounted for almost three-fourths of the acceleration in the index for all items less food and energy. The annual rates for selected groups for the last eight years are shown below.

**Percentage change 12 months  
ended in December**

|                                   | 1997 | 1998  | 1999 | 2000 | 2001  | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
|-----------------------------------|------|-------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| All items                         | 1.7  | 1.6   | 2.7  | 3.4  | 1.6   | 2.4  | 1.9  | 3.3  |
| Food and beverages                | 1.6  | 2.3   | 2.0  | 2.8  | 2.8   | 1.5  | 3.5  | 2.6  |
| Housing                           | 2.4  | 2.3   | 2.2  | 4.3  | 2.9   | 2.4  | 2.2  | 3.0  |
| Apparel                           | 1.0  | -.7   | -.5  | -1.8 | -3.2  | -1.8 | -2.1 | -.2  |
| Transportation                    | -1.4 | -1.7  | 5.4  | 4.1  | -3.8  | 3.8  | .3   | 6.5  |
| Medical care                      | 2.8  | 3.4   | 3.7  | 4.2  | 4.7   | 5.0  | 3.7  | 4.2  |
| Recreation                        | 1.5  | 1.2   | .8   | 1.7  | 1.5   | 1.1  | 1.1  | .7   |
| Education and<br>communication    | 3.0  | .7    | 1.6  | 1.3  | 3.2   | 2.2  | 1.6  | 1.5  |
| Other goods and services          | 5.2  | 8.8   | 5.1  | 4.2  | 4.5   | 3.3  | 1.5  | 2.5  |
| <b>Special indexes</b>            |      |       |      |      |       |      |      |      |
| Energy                            | -3.4 | -8.8  | 13.4 | 14.2 | -13.0 | 10.7 | 6.9  | 16.6 |
| Energy commodities                | -6.9 | -15.1 | 29.5 | 15.7 | -24.5 | 23.7 | 6.9  | 26.7 |
| Energy services                   | .2   | -3.3  | 1.2  | 12.7 | -1.5  | .4   | 6.9  | 6.8  |
| All items less energy             | 2.1  | 2.4   | 2.0  | 2.6  | 2.8   | 1.8  | 1.5  | 2.2  |
| Food                              | 1.5  | 2.3   | 1.9  | 2.8  | 2.8   | 1.5  | 3.6  | 2.7  |
| All items less<br>food and energy | 2.2  | 2.4   | 1.9  | 2.6  | 2.7   | 1.9  | 1.1  | 2.2  |

The food and beverages index registered a 0.1 percent decline in December. The index for food at home declined 0.2 percent, reflecting decreases in four of the six major grocery store food groups. The index for fruits and vegetables turned down in December, declining 0.9 percent, but advanced 7.9 percent during the last 12 months. In December, the indexes for fresh fruits and for fresh vegetables declined 0.7 and 1.3 percent, respectively. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, prices for fresh fruits and for fresh vegetables each rose 1.4 percent in December.) The index for processed fruits and vegetables declined 0.5 percent in December. Price declines for cereal and bakery products, for dairy products, and for other food at home also contributed to the drop in the overall food at home index in December. Partially offsetting these declines, the indexes for meats, poultry, fish and eggs and for nonalcoholic beverages each increased 0.4 percent in December. Within the meats, poultry, fish, and eggs group, beef prices turned up in December but declined 0.9 percent during the last 12 months. During the 12 month period ended in December 2003, beef prices had increased 23.5 percent. Egg prices turned up sharply in December, but declined 19.9 percent in 2004 after increasing 30.1 percent in the preceding 12 month period. Prices for pork and for poultry declined in December, but rose 4.7 and 5.1 percent, respectively, in 2004. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.2 and declined 0.1 percent, respectively, in December and rose 3.0 and 2.8 percent in 2004.

The index for housing increased 0.2 percent in December. Shelter costs, which were virtually unchanged in November, increased 0.2 percent in December. Within shelter, the indexes for rent and for owners' equivalent rent each rose 0.2 percent and the index for lodging away from home rose 0.3 percent. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the index for lodging away from home declined 2.6 percent.) During the 12 month period ended in December, the indexes for rent and owners' equivalent rent rose 2.9 and 2.3 percent, respectively. The index for fuels and utilities increased 0.1 percent in December. Charges for natural gas and for electricity increased 1.0 and 0.1 percent, respectively, while the index for fuel oil declined 4.8 percent. During the 12 month period ended in December, charges for natural gas and for electricity rose 16.4 and 2.1 percent, respectively, and fuel oil prices increased 39.5 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations decreased 0.1 percent in December, but rose 0.6 percent during the last 12 months, its first annual increase since a 0.2 percent rise in December 2001.

The transportation index declined 0.9 percent in December, reflecting a 3.7 percent decrease in the index for gasoline. Gasoline prices fell 7.1 percent in the six-month period following the peak level reached in June 2004, but remained 26.1 percent higher than their level in December 2003. The index for new vehicles increased for the third consecutive month--up 0.3 percent in December. (As of December, about 65 percent of the new vehicle sample was represented by 2005 models. The 2005 models will continue to be phased in, with appropriate adjustments for quality change, over the next several months as they replace old models at dealerships.) New vehicle prices were 0.6 percent higher than in December 2003, their first annual increase since a 1.8 percent advance in the 12 months ended in December 1996. The index for used cars and trucks increased 0.4 percent in December, and this index has risen 4.8 percent in the last 12 months after declining 11.8 percent in all of 2003. The index for public transportation declined 1.3 percent in December, reflecting a 2.9 percent drop in airline fares. These fares fell 1.5 percent in all of 2004, their fourth consecutive annual decline.

The index for apparel declined 0.4 percent in December. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices fell 3.4 percent, largely as a result of pre-holiday discounting.) During the 12 month period ended in December, apparel prices declined 0.2 percent, their seventh consecutive annual decline.

Medical care costs rose 0.3 percent in December. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--decreased 0.3 percent, reflecting a drop in nonprescription drugs. The index for medical care services rose 0.5 percent in December. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.3 and 0.8 percent, respectively. In the 12 months ended in December 2004, the index for medical care rose 4.2 percent after increasing 3.7 percent in 2003. The acceleration in 2004 reflects larger increases in the indexes for prescription drugs and professional services--up 3.5 and 4.0 percent, respectively--following increases of 2.5 and 2.8 percent in 2003. Charges for hospital and related services increased 5.2 percent in the 12 month period ended in December 2004 after advancing 6.4 percent in 2003.

The index for recreation declined 0.1 percent in December. Price increases for cable and satellite television and radio service and for pets, pet products and services were more than offset by decreases in the indexes for toys, for sporting goods, and for photography. During the 12 months ended in December, the indexes for cable and for pets increased 4.0 and 4.3 percent, respectively, while prices for toys, for sporting goods and equipment, and for photography all declined.

The index for education and communication was unchanged in December. Educational costs increased 0.5 percent, while communication costs declined 0.4 percent. During the 12 months ended in December, educational

costs rose 6.5 percent, largely as a result of an 8.6 percent rise in the index for college tuition and fees. The index for communication declined 3.2 percent during the last 12 months, reflecting declines in prices for long distance telephone services and for personal computers and peripheral equipment--down 7.7 and 14.2 percent, respectively.

The index for other goods and services increased 0.5 percent in December, reflecting a 0.6 percent increase in the index for tobacco and smoking products. During the 12 months ended in December, these prices increased 3.1 percent after declining 0.4 percent in all of 2003.

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

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

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

| Expenditure Category           | Seasonally adjusted          |      |      |      |      |      |      | Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Dec. '04 | Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Dec. '04 |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|------------------------------------|
|                                | Changes from preceding month |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |                                    |
|                                | 2004                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |                                    |
|                                | June                         | July | Aug. | Sep. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |  |                                    |
| All Items                      | .3                           | -.1  | .1   | .2   | .6   | .2   | -.1  | 2.8  | 3.4                                |
| Food and beverages             | .2                           | .3   | .1   | .0   | .5   | .2   | .0   | 2.8  | 2.6                                |
| Housing                        | .4                           | .3   | .2   | .1   | .2   | .3   | .1   | 2.2  | 3.0                                |
| Apparel                        | .0                           | -.7  | -.4  | .3   | .3   | -.1  | -.3  | -.7  | -.1                                |
| Transportation                 | .7                           | -.9  | -.2  | .4   | 2.3  | -.2  | -.8  | 5.3  | 7.1                                |
| Medical care                   | .3                           | .3   | .2   | .4   | .3   | .3   | .4   | 3.8  | 4.3                                |
| Recreation                     | .2                           | -.3  | -.2  | .2   | .1   | .1   | .0   | .8   | .6                                 |
| Education and communication    | .2                           | -.1  | .0   | .4   | -.3  | .3   | .0   | .0   | .7                                 |
| Other goods and services       | .1                           | .4   | .2   | .3   | .1   | .1   | .5   | 2.8  | 2.5                                |
| Special Indexes                |                              |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |                                    |
| Energy                         | 2.7                          | -2.0 | -.5  | -.3  | 4.3  | .0   | -1.9 | 9.8  | 16.9                               |
| Food                           | .1                           | .3   | .1   | -.1  | .5   | .2   | -.1  | 2.8  | 2.6                                |
| All Items less food and energy | .2                           | .1   | .1   | .3   | .2   | .2   | .1   | 1.9  | 2.1                                |

Consumer Price Index data for January are scheduled for release on Wednesday, February 23, 2005, at 8:30 A.M. (EST).

## **Recalculated Seasonally Adjusted Indexes to be Available on February 18, 2005**

Each year with the release of the January CPI, seasonal adjustment factors are recalculated to reflect price movements from the just-completed calendar year. This routine annual recalculation may result in revisions to seasonally adjusted indexes for the previous 5 years. BLS will make available recalculated seasonally adjusted indexes, as well as recalculated seasonal adjustment factors, for the period January 2000 through December 2004, on Friday, February 18, 2005. This date is two working days before the scheduled release of the January 2005 CPI on Wednesday, February 23, 2005.

The revised indexes and seasonal factors will be available on the internet. The address is <http://www.bls.gov/cpi>. Look under Tables Created by BLS and select Revised Seasonally Adjusted Data, 2004.

For further information please contact Dan Chow or Jeff Wilson on (202) 691-6968.

### **Facilities for Sensory Impaired**

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

### **Brief Explanation of the CPI**

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

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

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

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

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

## Calculating Index Changes

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

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

### Index Point Change

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| CPI                       | 115.7 |
| Less previous index       | 111.2 |
| Equals index point change | 4.5   |

### Percent Change

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

### Regions Defined

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

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

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

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

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

## A Note on Seasonally Adjusted and Unadjusted Data

Because price data are used for different purposes by different groups, the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes seasonally adjusted as well as unadjusted changes each month.

For analyzing general price trends in the economy, seasonally adjusted changes are usually preferred since they eliminate the effect of changes that normally occur at the same time and in about the same magnitude every year--such as price movements resulting from changing climatic conditions, production cycles, model changeovers, holidays, and sales.

The unadjusted data are of primary interest to consumers concerned about the prices they actually pay. Unadjusted data also are used extensively for escalation purposes. Many collective bargaining contract agreements and pension plans, for example, tie compensation changes to the Consumer Price Index unadjusted for seasonal variation.

Seasonal factors used in computing the seasonally adjusted indexes are derived by the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Method. The updated seasonal data at the end of 1977 replaced data from 1967 through 1977. Subsequent annual updates have replaced 5 years of seasonal data, e.g., data from 1999 through 2003 were replaced at the end of 2003. In January 2002, dependently seasonally adjusted series were revised for January 1987-December 2001 as a result of a change in the aggregation weights for dependently adjusted series. For further information, please see "Aggregation of Dependently Adjusted Seasonally Adjusted Series," in the October 2001 issue of the CPI Detailed Report.

The seasonal movement of All items and 54 other aggregations is derived by combining the seasonal movement of 73 selected components. Each year the seasonal status of every series is reevaluated based upon certain statistical criteria. If any of the 73 components change their seasonal adjustment status from seasonally adjusted to not seasonally adjusted, not seasonally adjusted data will be used for the last 5 years, but the seasonally adjusted indexes will be used before that period. Note: 47 of the 73 components are seasonally adjusted for 2004.

Seasonally adjusted data, including the All items index levels, are subject to revision for up to five years after their original release. For this reason, BLS advises against the use of these data in escalation agreements.

Effective with the calculation of the seasonal factors for 1990, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has used an enhanced seasonal adjustment procedure called Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment for some CPI series. Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment allows for better estimates of seasonally adjusted data. Extreme values and/or sharp movements which might distort the seasonal pattern are estimated and removed from the data prior to calculation of seasonal factors. Beginning with the calculation of seasonal factors for 1996, X-12-ARIMA software was used for Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment.

For the fuel oil, natural gas, motor fuels, and educational books and supplies indexes, this procedure was used to offset the effects that extreme price volatility would otherwise have had on the estimates of seasonally adjusted data for those series. For the Nonalcoholic beverages index, the procedure was used to offset the effects of labor and supply problems for coffee. The procedure was used to account for unusual butter fat supply reductions, decreases in milk supply, and large swings in soybean oil inventories affecting the Fats and oils series. For the Water and sewerage maintenance index, the procedure was used to account for a data collection anomaly and dry weather in California. For Dairy products, it mitigated the effects of significant changes in milk production levels and higher demand for cheese. For Electricity, it was used to offset an increase in demand due to warmer than expected weather, increased rates to conserve supplies, and declining natural gas inventories. For New vehicles, New cars, and New trucks, the procedure was used to offset the effects of a model changeover combined with financing incentives.

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



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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

| CPI-U   | Relative importance, December 2003 | Unadjusted indexes   |           | Unadjusted percent change to Dec. 2004 from— |           | Seasonally adjusted percent change from— |              |              |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|--|-----------|--|--------------|--------------|
|   |                                    | Nov. 2004            | Dec. 2004 | Dec. 2003                                    | Nov. 2004 | Sep. to Oct.                             | Oct. to Nov. | Nov. to Dec. |
|   |                                    | Expenditure category |           |  |           |  |              |              |
| All items .....   | 100.000                            | 191.0                | 190.3     | 3.3  | -0.4      | 0.6                                      | 0.2          | -0.1         |
| All items (1967=100) .....  | -                                  | 572.2                | 570.1     | -  | -         | -  | -            | -            |
| Food and beverages .....  | 15.384                             | 188.6                | 188.9     | 2.6  | .2        | .5                                       | .2           | -.1          |
| Food .....  | 14.383                             | 188.2                | 188.5     | 2.7  | .2        | .6                                       | .2           | .0           |
| Food at home .....  | 8.256                              | 188.1                | 188.5     | 2.4  | .2        | .8                                       | .3           | -.2          |
| Cereals and bakery products .....                                 | 1.202                              | 206.8                | 206.4     | 1.7  | -.2       | .4                                       | .3           | -.2          |
| Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....                              | 2.320                              | 182.4                | 183.1     | 1.1  | .4        | -.3                                      | -.5          | .4           |
| Dairy and related products .....                                  | .842                               | 180.9                | 180.1     | 4.1  | -.4       | -.2                                      | -.7          | -.4          |
| Fruits and vegetables .....                                       | 1.221                              | 248.3                | 250.8     | 7.9  | 1.0       | 6.0                                      | 3.3          | -.9          |
| Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....               | .905                               | 139.6                | 140.6     | .9   | .7        | -.3                                      | .3           | .4           |
| Other food at home .....  | 1.765                              | 164.4                | 163.6     | .4   | -.5       | .3                                       | -.5          | -.5          |
| Sugar and sweets .....  | .305                               | 163.1                | 161.3     | .2   | -1.1      | -.4                                      | 1.2          | -1.2         |
| Fats and oils .....   | .251                               | 167.8                | 167.4     | 6.2  | -.2       | -.8                                      | -.1          | .1           |
| Other foods .....   | 1.210                              | 178.9                | 178.3     | -.7  | -.3       | .7                                       | -1.0         | -.4          |
| Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....                    | .308                               | 110.5                | 110.8     | .9   | .3        | -.5                                      | .5           | .3           |
| Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....                            | 6.127                              | 189.6                | 189.9     | 3.0  | .2        | .3                                       | .1           | .2           |
| Other food away from home <sup>2</sup> .....                      | .332                               | 126.7                | 127.0     | 3.3  | .2        | .7                                       | -.1          | .4           |
| Alcoholic beverages <sup>1</sup> .....                            | 1.001                              | 194.0                | 193.9     | 2.8  | -.1       | .1                                       | .2           | -.1          |
| Housing .....   | 42.089                             | 190.8                | 190.7     | 3.0  | -.1       | .2                                       | .3           | .2           |
| Shelter .....   | 32.878                             | 219.9                | 219.8     | 2.7  | .0        | .1                                       | .0           | .2           |
| Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....                      | 6.157                              | 213.2                | 213.9     | 2.9  | .3        | .2                                       | .2           | .2           |
| Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....                         | 2.954                              | 121.9                | 118.7     | 5.1  | -2.6      | .2                                       | -.5          | .3           |
| Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> ..... | 23.383                             | 226.8                | 227.2     | 2.3  | .2        | .2                                       | .0           | .2           |
| Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....             | .385                               | 117.7                | 118.7     | 3.8  | .8        | -.3                                      | 1.2          | .8           |
| Fuels and utilities .....   | 4.741                              | 165.6                | 165.7     | 7.9  | .1        | -.2                                      | 2.1          | .1           |
| Fuels .....   | 3.830                              | 147.8                | 148.0     | 8.4  | .1        | -.2                                      | 2.5          | .1           |
| Fuel oil and other fuels .....                                    | .231                               | 186.6                | 183.7     | 34.1   | -1.6      | 8.1                                      | 3.5          | -3.6         |
| Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....                    | 3.599                              | 152.7                | 153.0     | 6.8  | .2        | -.9                                      | 2.4          | .4           |
| Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....  | .910                               | 126.2                | 126.3     | 5.4  | .1        | .3                                       | .2           | .2           |
| Household furnishings and operations .....                        | 4.470                              | 125.8                | 125.5     | .6   | -.2       | 1.0                                      | -.2          | -.1          |
| Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....                         | .704                               | 127.0                | 127.0     | 3.6  | .0        | .1                                       | .6           | .0           |
| Apparel .....   | 3.975                              | 123.0                | 118.8     | -.2  | -3.4      | .2                                       | .1           | -.4          |
| Men's and boys' apparel .....                                     | 1.024                              | 118.9                | 116.3     | -1.4   | -2.2      | -1.1                                     | .2           | .6           |
| Women's and girls' apparel .....                                  | 1.704                              | 116.8                | 110.0     | -.8  | -5.8      | 1.8                                      | -.1          | -1.9         |
| Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....                              | .195                               | 120.3                | 118.6     | -.5  | -1.4      | -.8                                      | -.2          | .9           |
| Footwear .....  | .778                               | 121.8                | 120.3     | 1.5  | -1.2      | -1.1                                     | .2           | .6           |
| Transportation .....  | 16.881                             | 167.2                | 164.8     | 6.5  | -1.4      | 2.3                                      | -.1          | -.9          |
| Private transportation .....                                      | 15.817                             | 163.6                | 161.3     | 7.0  | -1.4      | 2.3                                      | -.2          | -.8          |
| New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....                    | 7.912                              | 95.2                 | 95.4      | 1.1  | .2        | .2                                       | .4           | .1           |
| New vehicles .....  | 4.817                              | 137.9                | 138.8     | .6   | .7        | .4                                       | .7           | .3           |
| Used cars and trucks <sup>1</sup> .....                           | 2.007                              | 136.7                | 137.3     | 4.8  | .4        | .2                                       | -.1          | .4           |
| Motor fuel .....  | 3.249                              | 171.9                | 161.2     | 26.1   | -6.2      | 8.6                                      | -1.8         | -3.7         |
| Gasoline (all types) .....  | 3.222                              | 171.0                | 160.4     | 26.1   | -6.2      | 8.6                                      | -1.8         | -3.7         |
| Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....              | .369                               | 109.9                | 109.9     | 2.0  | .0        | .2                                       | .4           | .0           |
| Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....                        | 1.349                              | 202.9                | 203.3     | 2.7  | .2        | .4                                       | .6           | .3           |
| Public transportation .....                                       | 1.064                              | 208.6                | 205.4     | -.1  | -1.5      | 1.4                                      | 2.4          | -1.3         |
| Medical care .....  | 6.074                              | 314.1                | 314.9     | 4.2  | .3        | .4                                       | .2           | .3           |
| Medical care commodities .....                                    | 1.499                              | 271.2                | 270.8     | 2.2  | -.1       | .4                                       | .1           | -.3          |
| Medical care services .....                                       | 4.575                              | 326.0                | 327.3     | 4.9  | .4        | .4                                       | .3           | .5           |
| Professional services .....                                       | 2.749                              | 274.2                | 274.6     | 4.0  | .1        | .1                                       | .3           | .3           |
| Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....                  | 1.489                              | 425.0                | 428.0     | 5.2  | .7        | .4                                       | .4           | .8           |

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

| CPI-U  | Relative importance, December 2003 | Unadjusted indexes |           | Unadjusted percent change to Dec. 2004 from— |           | Seasonally adjusted percent change from— |              |              |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|--|-----------|--|--------------|--------------|
|  |                                    | Nov. 2004          | Dec. 2004 | Dec. 2003                                    | Nov. 2004 | Sep. to Oct.                             | Oct. to Nov. | Nov. to Dec. |
| <b>Expenditure category</b>  |                                    |                    |           |  |           |  |              |              |
| Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....                                      | 5.872                              | 108.7              | 108.5     | 0.7  | -0.2      | 0.1                                      | 0.1          | -0.1         |
| Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....                                 | 1.736                              | 104.0              | 103.9     | .6   | -1        | .2                                       | -.4          | .2           |
| Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....                     | 5.948                              | 112.7              | 112.6     | 1.5  | -1        | -.3                                      | .4           | .0           |
| Education <sup>2</sup> .....                                       | 2.841                              | 148.4              | 148.5     | 6.5  | .1        | .4                                       | .6           | .5           |
| Educational books and supplies .....                               | .219                               | 354.4              | 355.9     | 3.8  | .4        | .3                                       | 1.1          | .8           |
| Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....                    | 2.623                              | 428.7              | 428.9     | 6.8  | .0        | .4                                       | .6           | .4           |
| Communication <sup>2</sup> .....                                   | 3.107                              | 85.6               | 85.4      | -3.2   | -2        | -.9                                      | .1           | -.4          |
| Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....        | 2.925                              | 83.5               | 83.3      | -3.4   | -2        | -.8                                      | .1           | -2           |
| Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....                            | 2.315                              | 94.9               | 94.8      | -2.5   | -1        | -.7                                      | .3           | -1           |
| Information technology, hardware and services <sup>1 5</sup> ..... | .610                               | 14.3               | 14.2      | -7.2   | -7        | -1.4                                     | -1.4         | -7           |
| Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 2</sup> .....   | .230                               | 14.2               | 13.9      | -14.2  | -2.1      | -2.7                                     | -2.7         | -2.1         |
| Other goods and services .....                                     | 3.776                              | 307.0              | 307.8     | 2.5  | .3        | .2                                       | .1           | .5           |
| Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....                    | .806                               | 481.7              | 484.8     | 3.1  | .6        | -.1                                      | -.1          | .6           |
| Personal care .....  | 2.970                              | 183.0              | 183.3     | 2.4  | .2        | .3                                       | .2           | .4           |
| Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....                          | .680                               | 153.8              | 153.4     | .0   | -3        | .3                                       | -.1          | -3           |
| Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....                          | .650                               | 200.0              | 201.2     | 3.6  | .6        | .2                                       | .3           | .6           |
| Miscellaneous personal services .....                              | 1.448                              | 296.9              | 297.7     | 3.7  | .3        | .1                                       | .3           | .5           |
| <b>Commodity and service group</b>                                 |                                    |                    |           |  |           |  |              |              |
| Commodities .....  | 40.117                             | 157.2              | 155.8     | 3.6  | -9        | 1.3                                      | -.1          | -.4          |
| Food and beverages .....   | 15.384                             | 188.6              | 188.9     | 2.6  | .2        | .5                                       | .2           | -.1          |
| Commodities less food and beverages .....                          | 24.733                             | 139.4              | 137.2     | 4.2  | -1.6      | 1.8                                      | -.2          | -.7          |
| Nondurables less food and beverages .....                          | 13.458                             | 162.0              | 157.4     | 7.3  | -2.8      | 3.8                                      | .9           | -.7          |
| Apparel .....  | 3.975                              | 123.0              | 118.8     | -2   | -3.4      | .2                                       | .1           | -.4          |
| Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....                | 9.483                              | 190.2              | 185.2     | 10.4   | -2.6      | 3.8                                      | -.5          | -1.7         |
| Durables .....   | 11.275                             | 115.3              | 115.5     | .4   | .2        | .3                                       | .1           | .2           |
| Services .....   | 59.883                             | 224.6              | 224.6     | 3.1  | .0        | .1                                       | .3           | .2           |
| Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....                                 | 32.494                             | 229.0              | 228.9     | 2.7  | .0        | .1                                       | -.1          | .3           |
| Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....              | .385                               | 117.7              | 118.7     | 3.8  | .8        | -.3                                      | 1.2          | .8           |
| Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....                     | 3.599                              | 152.7              | 153.0     | 6.8  | .2        | -.9                                      | 2.4          | .4           |
| Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....   | .910                               | 126.2              | 126.3     | 5.4  | .1        | .3                                       | .2           | .2           |
| Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....                          | .704                               | 127.0              | 127.0     | 3.6  | .0        | .1                                       | .6           | .0           |
| Transportation services .....                                      | 6.319                              | 222.8              | 221.8     | 1.9  | -.4       | .4                                       | .6           | -.3          |
| Medical care services .....  | 4.575                              | 326.0              | 327.3     | 4.9  | .4        | .4                                       | .3           | .5           |
| Other services .....   | 10.896                             | 264.2              | 264.3     | 2.7  | .0        | .0                                       | .4           | .2           |
| <b>Special indexes</b>   |                                    |                    |           |  |           |  |              |              |
| All items less food .....  | 85.617                             | 191.5              | 190.6     | 3.4  | -5        | .6                                       | .2           | -.1          |
| All items less shelter .....                                       | 67.122                             | 181.9              | 180.9     | 3.5  | -5        | .8                                       | .2           | -.2          |
| All items less medical care .....                                  | 93.926                             | 184.7              | 183.9     | 3.2  | -.4       | .6                                       | .2           | -.1          |
| Commodities less food .....  | 25.734                             | 141.4              | 139.3     | 4.1  | -1.5      | 1.7                                      | -.1          | -.7          |
| Nondurables less food .....  | 14.459                             | 163.9              | 159.5     | 6.9  | -2.7      | 3.6                                      | .7           | -.7          |
| Nondurables less food and apparel .....                            | 10.484                             | 189.7              | 185.1     | 9.7  | -2.4      | 3.5                                      | -.5          | -1.6         |
| Nondurables .....  | 28.842                             | 175.6              | 173.3     | 4.8  | -1.3      | 2.2                                      | .5           | -.3          |
| Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....                   | 27.389                             | 236.4              | 236.5     | 3.5  | .0        | .0                                       | .9           | .3           |
| Services less medical care services .....                          | 55.308                             | 216.1              | 216.0     | 2.9  | .0        | .1                                       | .3           | .3           |
| Energy .....   | 7.080                              | 158.6              | 153.7     | 16.6   | -3.1      | 4.2                                      | .2           | -1.8         |
| All items less energy .....  | 92.920                             | 196.0              | 195.8     | 2.2  | -1        | .3                                       | .2           | .1           |
| All items less food and energy .....                               | 78.537                             | 198.1              | 197.8     | 2.2  | -2        | .2                                       | .2           | .2           |
| Commodities less food and energy commodities .....                 | 22.254                             | 140.6              | 139.8     | .6   | -6        | .4                                       | .1           | -.1          |
| Energy commodities .....   | 3.480                              | 173.6              | 163.4     | 26.7   | -5.9      | 8.5                                      | -1.4         | -3.7         |
| Services less energy services .....                                | 56.283                             | 231.9              | 231.9     | 2.8  | .0        | .2                                       | .2           | .2           |
| Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00) .....     | -                                  | \$.524             | \$.525    | -  | -         | -  | -            | -            |
| Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00) .....        | -                                  | \$.175             | \$.175    | -  | -         | -  | -            | -            |

<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.

- Data not available.

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

**Table 2. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Seasonally adjusted U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

| CPI-U   | Seasonally adjusted indexes |              |              |              | Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for |              |              |                 |              |              |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
|   |                             |              |              |              | 3 months ended—                                    |              |              | 6 months ended— |              |              |
|   | Sep.<br>2004                | Oct.<br>2004 | Nov.<br>2004 | Dec.<br>2004 | Mar.<br>2004                                       | June<br>2004 | Sep.<br>2004 | Dec.<br>2004    | June<br>2004 | Dec.<br>2004 |
| <b>Expenditure category</b>                                       |                             |              |              |              |  |              |              |                 |              |              |
| All items .....   | 189.7                       | 190.9        | 191.2        | 191.1        | 5.1  | 4.8          | 0.6          | 3.0             | 4.9          | 1.8          |
| Food and beverages .....  | 187.5                       | 188.5        | 188.9        | 188.8        | 1.5  | 4.9          | 1.3          | 2.8             | 3.2          | 2.0          |
| Food .....  | 187.0                       | 188.1        | 188.4        | 188.4        | 1.3  | 5.1          | 1.3          | 3.0             | 3.2          | 2.2          |
| Food at home .....  | 186.6                       | 188.1        | 188.6        | 188.3        | -2   | 6.7          | -6           | 3.7             | 3.2          | 1.5          |
| Cereals and bakery products .....                                 | 206.6                       | 207.4        | 208.1        | 207.7        | 2.2  | 1.6          | 1.2          | 2.1             | 1.9          | 1.7          |
| Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....                              | 183.4                       | 182.9        | 181.9        | 182.6        | -3.7   | 8.5          | 2.0          | -1.7            | 2.2          | .1           |
| Dairy and related products .....                                  | 181.6                       | 181.2        | 180.0        | 179.2        | .0   | 47.9         | -16.4        | -5.2            | 21.6         | -11.0        |
| Fruits and vegetables .....                                       | 228.9                       | 242.6        | 250.5        | 248.3        | -2.2   | -2.6         | 2.5          | 38.5            | -2.4         | 19.1         |
| Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....               | 140.7                       | 140.3        | 140.7        | 141.3        | .6   | -9           | 2.3          | 1.7             | -1           | 2.0          |
| Other food at home .....  | 165.1                       | 165.6        | 164.8        | 163.9        | 4.2  | 1.5          | -1.0         | -2.9            | 2.8          | -1.9         |
| Sugar and sweets .....  | 163.5                       | 162.8        | 164.7        | 162.8        | .7   | -2           | 2.0          | -1.7            | .2           | .1           |
| Fats and oils .....   | 170.0                       | 168.6        | 168.5        | 168.6        | 20.3   | 14.4         | -4.6         | -3.3            | 17.3         | -3.9         |
| Other foods .....   | 179.4                       | 180.7        | 178.9        | 178.1        | 2.0  | -1.1         | -.7          | -2.9            | .4           | -1.8         |
| Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....                    | 110.5                       | 109.9        | 110.5        | 110.8        | 7.1  | -2.8         | -1.4         | 1.1             | 2.0          | -.2          |
| Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....                            | 188.9                       | 189.4        | 189.6        | 189.9        | 3.3  | 2.6          | 4.1          | 2.1             | 3.0          | 3.1          |
| Other food away from home <sup>2</sup> .....                      | 125.5                       | 126.4        | 126.3        | 126.8        | 5.0  | 3.3          | 1.0          | 4.2             | 4.1          | 2.6          |
| Alcoholic beverages <sup>1</sup> .....                            | 193.4                       | 193.6        | 194.0        | 193.9        | 4.5  | 3.4          | 2.1          | 1.0             | 4.0          | 1.6          |
| Housing .....   | 190.7                       | 191.1        | 191.6        | 191.9        | 3.5  | 4.1          | 2.3          | 2.5             | 3.8          | 2.4          |
| Shelter .....   | 220.4                       | 220.7        | 220.8        | 221.3        | 3.4  | 3.2          | 3.0          | 1.6             | 3.3          | 2.3          |
| Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....                      | 212.4                       | 212.8        | 213.2        | 213.6        | 2.3  | 3.7          | 2.9          | 2.3             | 3.0          | 2.6          |
| Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....                         | 128.5                       | 128.7        | 128.1        | 128.5        | 8.1  | 3.9          | 9.6          | .0              | 6.0          | 4.7          |
| Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> ..... | 226.1                       | 226.5        | 226.6        | 227.0        | 2.5  | 3.1          | 2.0          | 1.6             | 2.8          | 1.8          |
| Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....             | 116.6                       | 116.3        | 117.7        | 118.7        | 2.8  | 3.9          | 1.4          | 7.4             | 3.4          | 4.3          |
| Fuels and utilities .....   | 163.7                       | 163.4        | 166.8        | 166.9        | 5.5  | 15.0         | 2.5          | 8.1             | 10.2         | 5.2          |
| Fuels .....   | 145.9                       | 145.6        | 149.2        | 149.3        | 5.6  | 16.7         | 1.7          | 9.7             | 11.0         | 5.6          |
| Fuel oil and other fuels .....                                    | 169.3                       | 183.0        | 189.4        | 182.6        | 25.6   | 27.7         | 48.8         | 35.3            | 26.7         | 41.9         |
| Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....                    | 151.7                       | 150.4        | 154.0        | 154.6        | 4.2  | 16.2         | -1.0         | 7.9             | 10.0         | 3.3          |
| Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....  | 125.6                       | 126.0        | 126.2        | 126.4        | 6.8  | 6.7          | 5.6          | 2.6             | 6.8          | 4.1          |
| Household furnishings and operations .....                        | 124.9                       | 126.2        | 125.9        | 125.8        | 1.9  | .0           | -1.9         | 2.9             | 1.0          | .5           |
| Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....                         | 126.1                       | 126.2        | 127.0        | 127.0        | 3.3  | 3.6          | 4.6          | 2.9             | 3.5          | 3.7          |
| Apparel .....   | 120.1                       | 120.3        | 120.4        | 119.9        | 2.0  | 2.0          | -4.2         | -.7             | 2.0          | -2.5         |
| Men's and boys' apparel .....                                     | 116.8                       | 115.5        | 115.7        | 116.4        | .3   | 1.4          | -5.9         | -1.4            | .8           | -3.7         |
| Women's and girls' apparel .....                                  | 112.0                       | 114.0        | 113.9        | 111.7        | 2.5  | 3.6          | -7.5         | -1.1            | 3.0          | -4.3         |
| Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....                              | 118.8                       | 117.8        | 117.6        | 118.7        | 3.4  | -8.4         | 3.8          | -.3             | -2.7         | 1.7          |
| Footwear .....  | 121.2                       | 119.9        | 120.1        | 120.8        | 1.7  | -1.7         | 7.6          | -1.3            | .0           | 3.0          |
| Transportation .....  | 163.4                       | 167.1        | 167.0        | 165.5        | 14.9   | 10.9         | -3.8         | 5.2             | 12.9         | .6           |
| Private transportation .....                                      | 159.9                       | 163.6        | 163.2        | 161.9        | 16.3   | 11.7         | -3.4         | 5.1             | 14.0         | .7           |
| New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....                    | 94.4                        | 94.6         | 95.0         | 95.1         | -.4  | -.4          | 2.6          | 3.0             | -.4          | 2.8          |
| New vehicles .....  | 136.0                       | 136.5        | 137.5        | 137.9        | .9   | .9           | -4.6         | 5.7             | .9           | .4           |
| Used cars and trucks <sup>1</sup> .....                           | 136.5                       | 136.8        | 136.7        | 137.3        | .6   | -1.8         | 19.3         | 2.4             | -.6          | 10.5         |
| Motor fuel .....  | 160.9                       | 174.7        | 171.5        | 165.2        | 87.1   | 51.7         | -19.6        | 11.1            | 68.5         | -5.5         |
| Gasoline (all types) .....  | 160.1                       | 173.8        | 170.7        | 164.4        | 86.6   | 52.3         | -20.0        | 11.2            | 68.6         | -5.7         |
| Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....              | 109.3                       | 109.5        | 109.9        | 109.9        | .4   | 1.5          | 4.1          | 2.2             | .9           | 3.2          |
| Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....                        | 200.7                       | 201.5        | 202.7        | 203.3        | .8   | 3.3          | 1.6          | 5.3             | 2.0          | 3.4          |
| Public transportation .....                                       | 204.3                       | 207.1        | 212.0        | 209.3        | 1.7  | -3.4         | -8.3         | 10.2            | -.9          | .5           |
| Medical care .....  | 312.6                       | 313.9        | 314.6        | 315.5        | 5.8  | 3.8          | 3.5          | 3.8             | 4.8          | 3.6          |
| Medical care commodities .....                                    | 270.9                       | 271.9        | 272.1        | 271.3        | 2.9  | 3.2          | 2.2          | .6              | 3.0          | 1.4          |
| Medical care services .....                                       | 324.0                       | 325.4        | 326.4        | 327.9        | 6.8  | 4.1          | 3.8          | 4.9             | 5.4          | 4.3          |
| Professional services .....                                       | 273.6                       | 273.9        | 274.8        | 275.5        | 7.0  | 2.9          | 3.4          | 2.8             | 4.9          | 3.1          |
| Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....                  | 421.2                       | 423.0        | 424.6        | 428.0        | 5.5  | 5.5          | 3.0          | 6.6             | 5.5          | 4.8          |

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Seasonally adjusted U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

| CPI-U  | Seasonally adjusted indexes |              |              |              | Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for |              |              |                 |              |              |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
|  |                             |              |              |              | 3 months ended—                                    |              |              | 6 months ended— |              |              |
|  | Sep.<br>2004                | Oct.<br>2004 | Nov.<br>2004 | Dec.<br>2004 | Mar.<br>2004                                       | June<br>2004 | Sep.<br>2004 | Dec.<br>2004    | June<br>2004 | Dec.<br>2004 |
| <b>Expenditure category</b>  |                             |              |              |              |  |              |              |                 |              |              |
| Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....                                      | 108.7                       | 108.8        | 108.9        | 108.8        | 2.2  | 1.1          | -0.7         | 0.4             | 1.7          | -0.2         |
| Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....                                 | 104.4                       | 104.6        | 104.2        | 104.4        | .4   | 1.2          | .4           | .0              | .8           | .2           |
| Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....                     | 112.1                       | 111.8        | 112.2        | 112.2        | 1.8  | 1.8          | 1.8          | .4              | 1.8          | 1.1          |
| Education <sup>2</sup> .....                                       | 145.6                       | 146.2        | 147.1        | 147.8        | 6.5  | 6.7          | 6.6          | 6.2             | 6.6          | 6.4          |
| Educational books and supplies .....                               | 351.1                       | 352.1        | 356.1        | 359.1        | 2.0  | 4.4          | -2           | 9.4             | 3.2          | 4.5          |
| Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....                    | 420.2                       | 421.9        | 424.4        | 426.3        | 7.0  | 6.8          | 7.2          | 5.9             | 6.9          | 6.5          |
| Communication <sup>2</sup> .....                                   | 86.4                        | 85.6         | 85.7         | 85.4         | -2.7   | -2.3         | -2.7         | -4.5            | -2.5         | -3.6         |
| Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....        | 84.1                        | 83.4         | 83.5         | 83.3         | -2.3   | -4.6         | -2.8         | -3.8            | -3.4         | -3.3         |
| Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....                            | 95.3                        | 94.6         | 94.9         | 94.8         | -2.0   | -3.7         | -2.1         | -2.1            | -2.9         | -2.1         |
| Information technology, hardware and services <sup>1 5</sup> ..... | 14.7                        | 14.5         | 14.3         | 14.2         | -2.6   | -7.7         | -5.3         | -12.9           | -5.2         | -9.2         |
| Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 2</sup> .....   | 15.0                        | 14.6         | 14.2         | 13.9         | -9.5   | -7.4         | -12.3        | -26.3           | -8.5         | -19.6        |
| Other goods and services .....                                     | 306.3                       | 306.8        | 307.2        | 308.6        | 2.8  | 1.3          | 3.2          | 3.0             | 2.1          | 3.1          |
| Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....                    | 482.9                       | 482.3        | 481.7        | 484.8        | 2.7  | 2.0          | 5.9          | 1.6             | 2.4          | 3.7          |
| Personal care .....  | 182.3                       | 182.8        | 183.2        | 183.9        | 2.7  | 1.3          | 2.2          | 3.6             | 2.0          | 2.9          |
| Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....                          | 153.5                       | 154.0        | 153.8        | 153.4        | 2.9  | -1.8         | -8           | -3              | .5           | -5           |
| Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....                          | 199.1                       | 199.4        | 200.0        | 201.2        | 3.1  | 2.3          | 4.5          | 4.3             | 2.7          | 4.4          |
| Miscellaneous personal services .....                              | 296.2                       | 296.5        | 297.5        | 298.9        | 4.1  | 3.5          | 3.6          | 3.7             | 3.8          | 3.6          |
| <b>Commodity and service group</b>                                 |                             |              |              |              |  |              |              |                 |              |              |
| Commodities .....  | 155.0                       | 157.0        | 156.9        | 156.2        | 7.4  | 6.4          | -2.0         | 3.1             | 6.9          | .5           |
| Food and beverages .....   | 187.5                       | 188.5        | 188.9        | 188.8        | 1.5  | 4.9          | 1.3          | 2.8             | 3.2          | 2.0          |
| Commodities less food and beverages .....                          | 136.7                       | 139.1        | 138.8        | 137.8        | 11.0   | 7.3          | -4.0         | 3.3             | 9.1          | -4           |
| Nondurables less food and beverages .....                          | 155.2                       | 161.1        | 162.5        | 161.4        | 13.7   | 8.2          | -7.8         | 17.0            | 10.9         | 3.8          |
| Apparel .....  | 120.1                       | 120.3        | 120.4        | 119.9        | 2.0  | 2.0          | -4.2         | -7              | 2.0          | -2.5         |
| Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....                | 184.3                       | 191.3        | 190.4        | 187.1        | 28.9   | 19.0         | -8.4         | 6.2             | 23.8         | -1.4         |
| Durables .....   | 114.6                       | 115.0        | 115.1        | 115.3        | .7   | -1.7         | .3           | 2.5             | -5           | 1.4          |
| Services .....   | 224.3                       | 224.5        | 225.2        | 225.6        | 3.5  | 3.7          | 2.7          | 2.3             | 3.6          | 2.5          |
| Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....                                 | 229.5                       | 229.8        | 229.6        | 230.2        | 3.6  | 3.6          | 2.5          | 1.2             | 3.6          | 1.8          |
| Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....              | 116.6                       | 116.3        | 117.7        | 118.7        | 2.8  | 3.9          | 1.4          | 7.4             | 3.4          | 4.3          |
| Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....                     | 151.7                       | 150.4        | 154.0        | 154.6        | 4.2  | 16.2         | -1.0         | 7.9             | 10.0         | 3.3          |
| Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....   | 125.6                       | 126.0        | 126.2        | 126.4        | 6.8  | 6.7          | 5.6          | 2.6             | 6.8          | 4.1          |
| Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....                          | 126.1                       | 126.2        | 127.0        | 127.0        | 3.3  | 3.6          | 4.6          | 2.9             | 3.5          | 3.7          |
| Transportation services .....                                      | 220.8                       | 221.6        | 222.9        | 222.3        | 2.0  | 1.5          | 1.3          | 2.7             | 1.7          | 2.0          |
| Medical care services .....  | 324.0                       | 325.4        | 326.4        | 327.9        | 6.8  | 4.1          | 3.8          | 4.9             | 5.4          | 4.3          |
| Other services .....   | 263.0                       | 262.9        | 263.9        | 264.4        | 2.8  | 2.5          | 3.1          | 2.1             | 2.7          | 2.6          |
| <b>Special indexes</b>   |                             |              |              |              |  |              |              |                 |              |              |
| All items less food .....  | 190.2                       | 191.4        | 191.7        | 191.5        | 5.5  | 4.8          | .6           | 2.8             | 5.1          | 1.7          |
| All items less shelter .....                                       | 179.9                       | 181.3        | 181.7        | 181.4        | 5.8  | 5.5          | -2           | 3.4             | 5.7          | 1.6          |
| All items less medical care .....                                  | 183.4                       | 184.5        | 184.8        | 184.7        | 4.8  | 5.0          | .4           | 2.9             | 4.9          | 1.6          |
| Commodities less food .....  | 138.8                       | 141.1        | 140.9        | 139.9        | 10.8   | 6.8          | -3.7         | 3.2             | 8.8          | -3           |
| Nondurables less food .....  | 157.6                       | 163.2        | 164.4        | 163.3        | 12.9   | 7.8          | -7.0         | 15.3            | 10.3         | 3.5          |
| Nondurables less food and apparel .....                            | 184.2                       | 190.7        | 189.7        | 186.6        | 26.8   | 17.9         | -8.2         | 5.3             | 22.3         | -1.7         |
| Nondurables .....  | 171.4                       | 175.1        | 176.0        | 175.5        | 6.9  | 7.5          | -4.3         | 9.9             | 7.2          | 2.6          |
| Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....                   | 235.0                       | 235.1        | 237.1        | 237.7        | 2.5  | 4.6          | 2.6          | 4.7             | 3.5          | 3.6          |
| Services less medical care services .....                          | 215.7                       | 216.0        | 216.7        | 217.3        | 2.7  | 3.8          | 2.3          | 3.0             | 3.2          | 2.6          |
| Energy .....   | 152.4                       | 158.8        | 159.1        | 156.2        | 38.6   | 33.5         | -9.8         | 10.4            | 36.0         | -3           |
| All items less energy .....  | 195.3                       | 195.8        | 196.1        | 196.3        | 2.7  | 2.7          | 1.7          | 2.1             | 2.7          | 1.9          |
| All items less food and energy .....                               | 197.5                       | 197.9        | 198.2        | 198.5        | 2.9  | 2.3          | 1.8          | 2.0             | 2.6          | 1.9          |
| Commodities less food and energy commodities .....                 | 139.4                       | 139.9        | 140.0        | 139.9        | 1.4  | .3           | -9           | 1.4             | .9           | .3           |
| Energy commodities .....   | 162.2                       | 176.0        | 173.5        | 167.1        | 82.5   | 50.2         | -16.5        | 12.6            | 65.5         | -3.0         |
| Services less energy services .....                                | 231.7                       | 232.1        | 232.5        | 232.9        | 3.4  | 3.0          | 3.0          | 2.1             | 3.2          | 2.5          |

<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.

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<br>1 | All items |           |           |           |                                  |           |           |                                  |           |           |
|--|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|  |                       | Indexes   |           |           |           | Percent change to Dec.2004 from— |           |           | Percent change to Nov.2004 from— |           |           |
|  |                       | Sep. 2004 | Oct. 2004 | Nov. 2004 | Dec. 2004 | Dec. 2003                        | Oct. 2004 | Nov. 2004 | Nov. 2003                        | Sep. 2004 | Oct. 2004 |
| U.S. city average .....                                  | M                     | 189.9     | 190.9     | 191.0     | 190.3     | 3.3                              | -0.3      | -0.4      | 3.5                              | 0.6       | 0.1       |
| <b>Region and area size<sup>2</sup></b>                  |                       |           |           |           |           |                                  |           |           |                                  |           |           |
| Northeast urban .....                                    | M                     | 201.2     | 202.5     | 202.6     | 201.9     | 3.6                              | -3        | -3        | 3.8                              | .7        | .0        |
| Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....                       | M                     | 203.2     | 204.5     | 204.6     | 204.1     | 3.6                              | -2        | -2        | 3.7                              | .7        | .0        |
| Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....        | M                     | 119.2     | 120.1     | 120.1     | 119.2     | 3.7                              | -7        | -7        | 4.2                              | .8        | .0        |
| Midwest urban .....                                      | M                     | 183.6     | 184.5     | 184.8     | 183.8     | 3.0                              | -4        | -5        | 3.3                              | .7        | .2        |
| Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....                       | M                     | 185.9     | 186.8     | 186.9     | 185.7     | 2.7                              | -6        | -6        | 3.0                              | .5        | .1        |
| Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....        | M                     | 116.8     | 117.4     | 117.7     | 117.3     | 3.5                              | -1        | -3        | 3.6                              | .8        | .3        |
| Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....        | M                     | 176.4     | 177.1     | 177.7     | 177.2     | 3.3                              | .1        | -3        | 3.7                              | .7        | .3        |
| South urban .....  | M                     | 182.8     | 183.7     | 183.7     | 183.3     | 3.3                              | -2        | -2        | 3.5                              | .5        | .0        |
| Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....                       | M                     | 184.0     | 185.0     | 185.0     | 184.9     | 3.2                              | -1        | -1        | 3.3                              | .5        | .0        |
| Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....        | M                     | 116.9     | 117.4     | 117.4     | 117.1     | 3.4                              | -3        | -3        | 3.6                              | .4        | .0        |
| Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....        | M                     | 181.2     | 182.8     | 182.5     | 181.9     | 3.9                              | -5        | -3        | 4.0                              | .7        | -.2       |
| West urban .....   | M                     | 193.8     | 195.0     | 195.1     | 194.2     | 3.1                              | -4        | -5        | 3.5                              | .7        | .1        |
| Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....                       | M                     | 196.4     | 197.5     | 197.6     | 196.5     | 3.1                              | -5        | -6        | 3.5                              | .6        | .1        |
| Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....        | M                     | 118.4     | 119.2     | 119.3     | 119.0     | 3.3                              | -2        | -3        | 3.8                              | .8        | .1        |
| <b>Size classes</b>                                      |                       |           |           |           |           |                                  |           |           |                                  |           |           |
| A <sup>4</sup> .....                                     | M                     | 173.6     | 174.6     | 174.6     | 174.0     | 3.1                              | -3        | -3        | 3.4                              | .6        | .0        |
| B/C <sup>3</sup> .....                                   | M                     | 117.4     | 118.1     | 118.2     | 117.7     | 3.4                              | -3        | -4        | 3.8                              | .7        | .1        |
| D .....  | M                     | 181.8     | 182.9     | 183.0     | 182.4     | 3.3                              | -3        | -3        | 3.6                              | .7        | .1        |
| <b>Selected local areas<sup>5</sup></b>                  |                       |           |           |           |           |                                  |           |           |                                  |           |           |
| Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI .....                     | M                     | 190.0     | 190.8     | 190.7     | 189.6     | 2.2                              | -6        | -6        | 2.7                              | .4        | -.1       |
| Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ...              | M                     | 194.5     | 196.3     | 196.9     | 195.2     | 4.4                              | -6        | -9        | 5.2                              | 1.2       | .3        |
| New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA .....    | M                     | 205.9     | 207.3     | 207.2     | 206.8     | 3.8                              | -2        | -2        | 3.9                              | .6        | .0        |
| Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT .....                | 1                     | 209.8     | -         | 211.7     | -         | -                                | -         | -         | 2.5                              | .9        | -         |
| Cleveland-Akron, OH .....                                | 1                     | 183.8     | -         | 183.2     | -         | -                                | -         | -         | 3.2                              | -.3       | -         |
| Dallas-Fort Worth, TX .....                              | 1                     | 179.7     | -         | 179.9     | -         | -                                | -         | -         | 2.3                              | .1        | -         |
| Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV <sup>6</sup> .....     | 1                     | 120.8     | -         | 120.9     | -         | -                                | -         | -         | 3.6                              | .1        | -         |
| Atlanta, GA .....  | 2                     | -         | 183.9     | -         | 183.2     | 2.3                              | -4        | -         | -                                | -         | -         |
| Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI .....                        | 2                     | -         | 187.6     | -         | 185.3     | 2.2                              | -1.2      | -         | -                                | -         | -         |
| Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX .....                     | 2                     | -         | 171.8     | -         | 170.0     | 3.6                              | -1.0      | -         | -                                | -         | -         |
| Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL .....                          | 2                     | -         | 187.0     | -         | 188.6     | 3.9                              | .9        | -         | -                                | -         | -         |
| Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD ..... | 2                     | -         | 200.2     | -         | 197.8     | 4.7                              | -1.2      | -         | -                                | -         | -         |
| San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....                 | 2                     | -         | 200.3     | -         | 199.5     | 2.2                              | -4        | -         | -                                | -         | -         |
| Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA .....                       | 2                     | -         | 196.5     | -         | 195.1     | 2.1                              | -7        | -         | -                                | -         | -         |

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

M - Every month.

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

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

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

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

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

<sup>5</sup> In addition, the following metropolitan areas are published semiannually and appear in Tables 34 and 39 of the January and July issues of the CPI Detailed Report: Anchorage, AK; Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN; Denver-Boulder-Greeley, CO; Honolulu, HI; Kansas City, MO-KS; Milwaukee-Racine, WI; Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI; Phoenix-Mesa, AZ; Pittsburgh, PA; Portland-Salem, OR-WA; St. Louis, MO-IL; San Diego, CA;

Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL.

<sup>6</sup> Indexes on a November 1996=100 base.

- Data not available.

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

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

**Table 4. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

| Expenditure category  | Relative importance, December 2003 | Unadjusted indexes |           | Unadjusted percent change to Dec. 2004 from— |           | Seasonally adjusted percent change from— |              |              |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|--|-----------|--|--------------|--------------|
|   |                                    | Nov. 2004          | Dec. 2004 | Dec. 2003                                    | Nov. 2004 | Sep. to Oct.                             | Oct. to Nov. | Nov. to Dec. |
|   |                                    |                    |           |  |           |  |              |              |
| All items .....   | 100.000                            | 186.8              | 186.0     | 3.4  | -0.4      | 0.6                                      | 0.2          | -0.1         |
| All items (1967=100) .....  | -                                  | 556.3              | 554.2     | -  | -         | -  | -            | -            |
| Food and beverages .....  | 17.151                             | 188.1              | 188.4     | 2.6  | .2        | .5                                       | .2           | .0           |
| Food .....  | 16.061                             | 187.6              | 187.9     | 2.6  | .2        | .5                                       | .2           | -.1          |
| Food at home .....  | 9.637                              | 187.3              | 187.6     | 2.3  | .2        | .8                                       | .2           | -.1          |
| Cereals and bakery products .....                                 | 1.364                              | 206.8              | 206.3     | 1.7  | -.2       | .3                                       | .4           | -.4          |
| Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....                              | 2.908                              | 182.4              | 183.2     | 1.2  | .4        | -.4                                      | -.6          | .4           |
| Dairy and related products .....                                  | .955                               | 180.8              | 179.9     | 4.2  | -.5       | -.4                                      | -.6          | -.5          |
| Fruits and vegetables .....                                       | 1.344                              | 246.4              | 248.6     | 8.2  | .9        | 6.2                                      | 3.5          | -.9          |
| Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....               | 1.076                              | 138.9              | 140.0     | 1.0  | .8        | -.4                                      | .1           | .7           |
| Other food at home .....  | 1.991                              | 163.8              | 163.2     | .4   | -.4       | .2                                       | -.4          | -.5          |
| Sugar and sweets .....  | .321                               | 162.1              | 160.6     | .1   | -.9       | -.4                                      | .9           | -.1.2        |
| Fats and oils .....   | .303                               | 167.7              | 167.3     | 6.1  | -.2       | -.9                                      | -.1          | .1           |
| Other foods .....   | 1.366                              | 179.2              | 178.6     | -.8  | -.3       | .7                                       | -.9          | -.5          |
| Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....                    | .350                               | 111.1              | 111.3     | .9   | .2        | -.6                                      | .7           | .2           |
| Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....                            | 6.424                              | 189.5              | 189.7     | 3.0  | .1        | .3                                       | .1           | .1           |
| Other food away from home <sup>2</sup> .....                      | .252                               | 126.8              | 127.0     | 3.2  | .2        | .7                                       | .0           | .3           |
| Alcoholic beverages <sup>1</sup> .....                            | 1.090                              | 194.2              | 194.2     | 2.8  | .0        | -.1                                      | .2           | .0           |
| Housing .....   | 39.114                             | 186.4              | 186.4     | 3.0  | .0        | .2                                       | .3           | .1           |
| Shelter .....   | 30.151                             | 213.4              | 213.5     | 2.5  | .0        | .2                                       | .0           | .1           |
| Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....                      | 8.065                              | 212.4              | 213.0     | 2.9  | .3        | .3                                       | .1           | .2           |
| Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....                         | 1.722                              | 121.8              | 118.6     | 4.6  | -2.6      | .0                                       | -.9          | .5           |
| Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> ..... | 20.026                             | 205.8              | 206.1     | 2.2  | .1        | .2                                       | .0           | .0           |
| Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....             | .337                               | 118.1              | 118.9     | 3.9  | .7        | -.3                                      | 1.4          | .7           |
| Fuels and utilities .....   | 5.079                              | 164.5              | 164.7     | 7.6  | .1        | -.2                                      | 2.0          | .1           |
| Fuels .....   | 4.146                              | 146.2              | 146.4     | 8.1  | .1        | -.5                                      | 2.4          | .1           |
| Fuel oil and other fuels .....                                    | .216                               | 186.5              | 183.4     | 34.7   | -1.7      | 8.3                                      | 3.2          | -3.8         |
| Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....                    | 3.930                              | 151.7              | 152.0     | 6.7  | .2        | -1.0                                     | 2.3          | .3           |
| Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....  | .933                               | 126.4              | 126.5     | 5.5  | .1        | .3                                       | .2           | .1           |
| Household furnishings and operations .....                        | 3.884                              | 121.5              | 121.3     | .7   | -.2       | .9                                       | -.2          | .1           |
| Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....                         | .318                               | 129.2              | 129.3     | 4.4  | .1        | .2                                       | 1.0          | .1           |
| Apparel .....   | 4.357                              | 122.6              | 118.6     | -.1  | -3.3      | .3                                       | -.1          | -.3          |
| Men's and boys' apparel .....                                     | 1.120                              | 118.6              | 115.7     | -1.8   | -2.4      | -.9                                      | .1           | .3           |
| Women's and girls' apparel .....                                  | 1.727                              | 116.9              | 110.2     | -3   | -5.7      | 2.1                                      | -.3          | -1.9         |
| Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....                              | .250                               | 123.1              | 121.4     | .0   | -1.4      | -.9                                      | -.1          | .9           |
| Footwear .....  | 1.011                              | 120.6              | 119.4     | 1.4  | -1.0      | -1.0                                     | .1           | .8           |
| Transportation .....  | 19.145                             | 165.8              | 163.4     | 7.1  | -1.4      | 2.3                                      | -.2          | -.8          |
| Private transportation .....                                      | 18.348                             | 163.2              | 160.9     | 7.5  | -1.4      | 2.4                                      | -.3          | -.8          |
| New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....                    | 9.305                              | 94.0               | 94.3      | 1.6  | .3        | .3                                       | .3           | .1           |
| New vehicles .....  | 4.864                              | 138.9              | 139.8     | .4   | .6        | .4                                       | .7           | .2           |
| Used cars and trucks <sup>1</sup> .....                           | 3.487                              | 137.5              | 138.1     | 4.9  | .4        | .2                                       | -.1          | .4           |
| Motor fuel .....  | 3.967                              | 172.3              | 161.7     | 26.2   | -6.2      | 8.6                                      | -1.9         | -3.5         |
| Gasoline (all types) .....  | 3.936                              | 171.6              | 160.9     | 26.1   | -6.2      | 8.6                                      | -1.9         | -3.6         |
| Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....              | .456                               | 109.4              | 109.3     | 1.9  | -.1       | .2                                       | .5           | -.1          |
| Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....                        | 1.365                              | 204.9              | 205.3     | 2.8  | .2        | .4                                       | .6           | .2           |
| Public transportation .....                                       | .797                               | 207.1              | 204.2     | .3   | -1.4      | 1.3                                      | 2.6          | -1.1         |
| Medical care .....  | 4.969                              | 313.6              | 314.4     | 4.3  | .3        | .3                                       | .3           | .4           |
| Medical care commodities .....                                    | 1.142                              | 264.9              | 264.4     | 1.9  | -.2       | .3                                       | .0           | -.3          |
| Medical care services .....                                       | 3.827                              | 326.3              | 327.7     | 5.1  | .4        | .2                                       | .4           | .5           |
| Professional services .....                                       | 2.256                              | 276.9              | 277.2     | 4.0  | .1        | .1                                       | .4           | .1           |
| Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....                  | 1.254                              | 421.0              | 424.2     | 5.2  | .8        | .4                                       | .4           | .8           |

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<br>Expenditure category                                      | Relative importance, December 2003 | Unadjusted indexes |           | Unadjusted percent change to Dec. 2004 from— |           | Seasonally adjusted percent change from— |              |              |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|--|-----------|--|--------------|--------------|
|  |                                    | Nov. 2004          | Dec. 2004 | Dec. 2003                                    | Nov. 2004 | Sep. to Oct.                             | Oct. to Nov. | Nov. to Dec. |
| <b>Expenditure category</b>  |                                    |                    |           |  |           |  |              |              |
| Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....                                      | 5.697                              | 106.3              | 106.1     | 0.6  | -0.2      | 0.1                                      | 0.1          | 0.0          |
| Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....                                 | 1.928                              | 103.3              | 103.2     | .7   | -1        | .4                                       | -5           | .3           |
| Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....                     | 5.645                              | 110.6              | 110.5     | .7   | -1        | -3                                       | .3           | .0           |
| Education <sup>2</sup> .....                                       | 2.299                              | 146.8              | 147.0     | 6.2  | .1        | .6                                       | .5           | .5           |
| Educational books and supplies .....                               | .215                               | 356.1              | 357.6     | 4.0  | .4        | .4                                       | 1.0          | .7           |
| Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....                    | 2.084                              | 415.6              | 415.8     | 6.4  | .0        | .5                                       | .5           | .4           |
| Communication <sup>2</sup> .....                                   | 3.345                              | 87.2               | 87.0      | -3.0   | -2        | -9                                       | .1           | -5           |
| Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....        | 3.194                              | 85.7               | 85.5      | -3.2   | -2        | -8                                       | .1           | -2           |
| Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....                            | 2.622                              | 95.1               | 95.0      | -2.5   | -1        | -7                                       | .3           | -1           |
| Information technology, hardware and services <sup>1 5</sup> ..... | .572                               | 14.9               | 14.8      | -6.3   | -7        | -1.3                                     | -7           | -7           |
| Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 2</sup> .....   | .205                               | 13.9               | 13.7      | -13.8  | -1.4      | -3.4                                     | -2.8         | -1.4         |
| Other goods and services .....                                     | 3.923                              | 314.9              | 315.9     | 2.5  | .3        | .1                                       | .1           | .5           |
| Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....                    | 1.248                              | 482.5              | 485.7     | 3.0  | .7        | -2                                       | -1           | .7           |
| Personal care .....  | 2.675                              | 181.7              | 181.9     | 2.3  | .1        | .3                                       | .3           | .3           |
| Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....                          | .737                               | 154.3              | 153.8     | -1   | -3        | .2                                       | .0           | -3           |
| Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....                          | .610                               | 200.6              | 201.8     | 3.5  | .6        | .1                                       | .4           | .6           |
| Miscellaneous personal services .....                              | 1.152                              | 297.5              | 298.4     | 4.1  | .3        | .1                                       | .4           | .5           |
| <b>Commodity and service group</b>                                 |                                    |                    |           |  |           |  |              |              |
| Commodities .....  | 44.582                             | 158.1              | 156.6     | 3.9  | -9        | 1.3                                      | -1           | -4           |
| Food and beverages .....   | 17.151                             | 188.1              | 188.4     | 2.6  | .2        | .5                                       | .2           | .0           |
| Commodities less food and beverages .....                          | 27.430                             | 141.0              | 138.8     | 4.8  | -1.6      | 1.8                                      | -3           | -7           |
| Nondurables less food and beverages .....                          | 14.671                             | 165.9              | 160.9     | 8.0  | -3.0      | 4.2                                      | .8           | -6           |
| Apparel .....  | 4.357                              | 122.6              | 118.6     | -1   | -3.3      | .3                                       | -1           | -3           |
| Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....                | 10.315                             | 196.5              | 190.8     | 11.4   | -2.9      | 4.2                                      | -4           | -1.9         |
| Durables .....   | 12.759                             | 114.8              | 115.1     | 1.0  | .3        | .4                                       | .3           | .2           |
| Services .....   | 55.418                             | 220.4              | 220.5     | 2.9  | .0        | .1                                       | .3           | .2           |
| Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....                                 | 29.813                             | 205.5              | 205.6     | 2.5  | .0        | .1                                       | .0           | .1           |
| Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....              | .337                               | 118.1              | 118.9     | 3.9  | .7        | -3                                       | 1.4          | .7           |
| Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....                     | 3.930                              | 151.7              | 152.0     | 6.7  | .2        | -1.0                                     | 2.3          | .3           |
| Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....   | .933                               | 126.4              | 126.5     | 5.5  | .1        | .3                                       | .2           | .1           |
| Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....                          | .318                               | 129.2              | 129.3     | 4.4  | .1        | .2                                       | 1.0          | .1           |
| Transportation services .....                                      | 6.241                              | 223.4              | 222.7     | 2.2  | -3        | .3                                       | .5           | -1           |
| Medical care services .....  | 3.827                              | 326.3              | 327.7     | 5.1  | .4        | .2                                       | .4           | .5           |
| Other services .....   | 10.020                             | 256.3              | 256.5     | 2.2  | .1        | .0                                       | .3           | .2           |
| <b>Special indexes</b>   |                                    |                    |           |  |           |  |              |              |
| All items less food .....  | 83.939                             | 186.4              | 185.5     | 3.5  | -5        | .6                                       | .1           | -1           |
| All items less shelter .....                                       | 69.849                             | 179.1              | 178.0     | 3.7  | -6        | .8                                       | .2           | -2           |
| All items less medical care .....                                  | 95.031                             | 181.3              | 180.6     | 3.4  | -4        | .7                                       | .1           | -1           |
| Commodities less food .....  | 28.520                             | 142.9              | 140.7     | 4.6  | -1.5      | 1.7                                      | -3           | -6           |
| Nondurables less food .....  | 15.761                             | 167.6              | 162.9     | 7.6  | -2.8      | 4.0                                      | .7           | -6           |
| Nondurables less food and apparel .....                            | 11.405                             | 195.4              | 190.3     | 10.6   | -2.6      | 4.0                                      | -6           | -1.6         |
| Nondurables .....  | 31.823                             | 177.5              | 175.1     | 5.1  | -1.4      | 2.3                                      | .5           | -4           |
| Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....                   | 25.605                             | 209.8              | 209.9     | 3.4  | .0        | .0                                       | .8           | .3           |
| Services less medical care services .....                          | 51.592                             | 212.3              | 212.4     | 2.8  | .0        | .0                                       | .3           | .2           |
| Energy .....   | 8.114                              | 158.5              | 153.3     | 16.9   | -3.3      | 4.3                                      | .0           | -1.9         |
| All items less energy .....  | 91.886                             | 191.1              | 191.0     | 2.2  | -1        | .3                                       | .2           | .1           |
| All items less food and energy .....                               | 75.825                             | 192.2              | 192.0     | 2.1  | -1        | .2                                       | .2           | .1           |
| Commodities less food and energy commodities .....                 | 24.337                             | 140.6              | 139.9     | .9   | -5        | .3                                       | .1           | .1           |
| Energy commodities .....   | 4.183                              | 173.7              | 163.4     | 26.7   | -5.9      | 8.6                                      | -1.7         | -3.6         |
| Services less energy services .....                                | 51.488                             | 228.0              | 228.1     | 2.7  | .0        | .1                                       | .2           | .1           |
| Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00) .....     | -                                  | \$.535             | \$.537    | -  | -         | -  | -            | -            |
| Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00) .....        | -                                  | \$.180             | \$.180    | -  | -         | -  | -            | -            |

<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.

- 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— |              |              |
|   | Sep.<br>2004                | Oct.<br>2004 | Nov.<br>2004 | Dec.<br>2004 | Mar.<br>2004                                       | June<br>2004 | Sep.<br>2004 | Dec.<br>2004    | June<br>2004 | Dec.<br>2004 |
| <b>Expenditure category</b>                                       |                             |              |              |              |  |              |              |                 |              |              |
| All items .....   | 185.3                       | 186.5        | 186.8        | 186.6        | 5.4  | 4.9          | 0.7          | 2.8             | 5.2          | 1.7          |
| Food and beverages .....  | 187.0                       | 188.0        | 188.3        | 188.3        | 1.3  | 5.1          | 1.3          | 2.8             | 3.2          | 2.0          |
| Food .....  | 186.5                       | 187.5        | 187.9        | 187.8        | 1.1  | 5.1          | 1.3          | 2.8             | 3.1          | 2.1          |
| Food at home .....  | 185.9                       | 187.3        | 187.7        | 187.5        | -2   | 7.2          | -9           | 3.5             | 3.4          | 1.3          |
| Cereals and bakery products .....                                 | 206.5                       | 207.1        | 208.0        | 207.2        | 2.6  | 1.6          | 1.2          | 1.4             | 2.1          | 1.3          |
| Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....                              | 183.6                       | 182.9        | 181.8        | 182.6        | -3.5   | 8.8          | 2.0          | -2.2            | 2.5          | -1           |
| Dairy and related products .....                                  | 181.6                       | 180.9        | 179.9        | 179.0        | -9   | 51.3         | -16.9        | -5.6            | 22.4         | -11.4        |
| Fruits and vegetables .....                                       | 226.4                       | 240.5        | 248.9        | 246.7        | -2.4   | -3.1         | 2.7          | 41.0            | -2.8         | 20.3         |
| Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....               | 140.2                       | 139.7        | 139.9        | 140.9        | .0   | .0           | 2.3          | 2.0             | .0           | 2.2          |
| Other food at home .....  | 164.7                       | 165.1        | 164.4        | 163.5        | 4.2  | 1.5          | -1.0         | -2.9            | 2.8          | -1.9         |
| Sugar and sweets .....  | 163.1                       | 162.5        | 163.9        | 161.9        | 1.0  | -7           | 3.0          | -2.9            | .1           | .0           |
| Fats and oils .....   | 169.9                       | 168.4        | 168.3        | 168.4        | 20.0   | 16.1         | -5.5         | -3.5            | 18.0         | -4.5         |
| Other foods .....   | 179.7                       | 180.9        | 179.3        | 178.4        | 1.8  | -1.1         | -9           | -2.9            | .3           | -1.9         |
| Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1 2</sup> .....                    | 111.0                       | 110.3        | 111.1        | 111.3        | 7.1  | -2.8         | -1.4         | 1.1             | 2.0          | -2           |
| Food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....                            | 188.8                       | 189.3        | 189.5        | 189.7        | 3.1  | 2.6          | 4.4          | 1.9             | 2.8          | 3.1          |
| Other food away from home <sup>2</sup> .....                      | 125.5                       | 126.4        | 126.4        | 126.8        | 3.3  | 3.3          | 1.6          | 4.2             | 3.3          | 2.9          |
| Alcoholic beverages <sup>1</sup> .....                            | 194.0                       | 193.9        | 194.2        | 194.2        | 5.0  | 3.2          | 2.7          | .4              | 4.1          | 1.6          |
| Housing .....   | 186.1                       | 186.4        | 186.9        | 187.1        | 3.6  | 4.0          | 2.4          | 2.2             | 3.8          | 2.3          |
| Shelter .....   | 213.5                       | 213.9        | 213.9        | 214.2        | 3.3  | 3.1          | 2.7          | 1.3             | 3.2          | 2.0          |
| Rent of primary residence <sup>3</sup> .....                      | 211.6                       | 212.2        | 212.4        | 212.8        | 2.7  | 3.7          | 2.9          | 2.3             | 3.2          | 2.6          |
| Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....                         | 128.7                       | 128.7        | 127.5        | 128.2        | 9.8  | 1.0          | 10.6         | -1.5            | 5.3          | 4.3          |
| Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>3 4</sup> ..... | 205.1                       | 205.5        | 205.6        | 205.7        | 2.6  | 2.8          | 2.0          | 1.2             | 2.7          | 1.6          |
| Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....             | 116.8                       | 116.5        | 118.1        | 118.9        | 2.8  | 4.6          | 1.0          | 7.4             | 3.7          | 4.2          |
| Fuels and utilities .....   | 163.0                       | 162.6        | 165.8        | 165.9        | 6.1  | 14.5         | 2.2          | 7.3             | 10.2         | 4.7          |
| Fuels .....   | 144.8                       | 144.1        | 147.6        | 147.7        | 5.7  | 16.5         | 1.7          | 8.3             | 10.9         | 4.9          |
| Fuel oil and other fuels .....                                    | 169.6                       | 183.6        | 189.4        | 182.2        | 24.8   | 29.0         | 53.4         | 33.2            | 26.9         | 42.9         |
| Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....                    | 151.0                       | 149.5        | 153.0        | 153.5        | 4.8  | 16.0         | -1.1         | 6.8             | 10.2         | 2.8          |
| Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....  | 125.7                       | 126.1        | 126.4        | 126.5        | 7.9  | 6.0          | 5.6          | 2.6             | 7.0          | 4.1          |
| Household furnishings and operations .....                        | 120.6                       | 121.7        | 121.5        | 121.6        | 2.3  | -7           | -2.0         | 3.4             | .8           | .7           |
| Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....                         | 127.6                       | 127.9        | 129.2        | 129.3        | 5.3  | 5.2          | 1.9          | 5.4             | 5.2          | 3.7          |
| Apparel .....   | 119.7                       | 120.0        | 119.9        | 119.5        | 3.0  | .7           | -3.3         | -7              | 1.8          | -2.0         |
| Men's and boys' apparel .....                                     | 116.5                       | 115.4        | 115.5        | 115.8        | 1.7  | -3           | -5.9         | -2.4            | .7           | -4.2         |
| Women's and girls' apparel .....                                  | 111.8                       | 114.1        | 113.8        | 111.6        | 4.0  | 2.9          | -7.2         | -7              | 3.4          | -4.0         |
| Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....                              | 121.5                       | 120.4        | 120.3        | 121.4        | 7.4  | -10.8        | 4.4          | -3              | -2.1         | 2.0          |
| Footwear .....  | 119.9                       | 118.7        | 118.8        | 119.8        | .3   | -2.0         | 8.1          | -3              | -8           | 3.8          |
| Transportation .....  | 162.1                       | 165.9        | 165.6        | 164.2        | 16.0   | 11.5         | -2.9         | 5.3             | 13.8         | 1.1          |
| Private transportation .....                                      | 159.6                       | 163.4        | 162.9        | 161.6        | 16.7   | 12.3         | -2.7         | 5.1             | 14.5         | 1.1          |
| New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....                    | 93.3                        | 93.6         | 93.9         | 94.0         | -4   | -9           | 4.9          | 3.0             | -6           | 3.9          |
| New vehicles .....  | 137.1                       | 137.6        | 138.5        | 138.8        | .6   | .6           | -4.3         | 5.1             | .6           | .3           |
| Used cars and trucks <sup>1</sup> .....                           | 137.3                       | 137.6        | 137.5        | 138.1        | .9   | -1.8         | 19.2         | 2.4             | -5           | 10.5         |
| Motor fuel .....  | 161.5                       | 175.4        | 172.0        | 165.9        | 85.8   | 53.4         | -19.7        | 11.4            | 68.8         | -5.4         |
| Gasoline (all types) .....  | 160.7                       | 174.6        | 171.2        | 165.1        | 85.7   | 53.6         | -20.2        | 11.4            | 68.9         | -5.7         |
| Motor vehicle parts and equipment <sup>1</sup> .....              | 108.7                       | 108.9        | 109.4        | 109.3        | .4   | 1.5          | 3.4          | 2.2             | .9           | 2.8          |
| Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....                        | 202.7                       | 203.6        | 204.9        | 205.3        | .8   | 3.2          | 2.0          | 5.2             | 2.0          | 3.6          |
| Public transportation .....                                       | 202.1                       | 204.8        | 210.1        | 207.7        | 3.3  | -4.0         | -8.6         | 11.6            | -4           | 1.0          |
| Medical care .....  | 312.2                       | 313.0        | 314.0        | 315.1        | 6.1  | 3.8          | 3.8          | 3.8             | 5.0          | 3.8          |
| Medical care commodities .....                                    | 264.8                       | 265.7        | 265.7        | 265.0        | 2.6  | 2.8          | 2.3          | .3              | 2.7          | 1.3          |
| Medical care services .....                                       | 324.6                       | 325.4        | 326.7        | 328.4        | 7.1  | 4.2          | 4.3          | 4.8             | 5.6          | 4.5          |
| Professional services .....                                       | 276.2                       | 276.6        | 277.7        | 278.1        | 7.4  | 2.7          | 3.6          | 2.8             | 5.0          | 3.2          |
| Hospital and related services <sup>3</sup> .....                  | 417.3                       | 418.9        | 420.6        | 423.8        | 5.7  | 5.5          | 3.0          | 6.4             | 5.6          | 4.7          |

See footnotes at end of table.



**Table 5. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Seasonally adjusted U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

| CPI-W  | Seasonally adjusted indexes |              |              |              | Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for |              |              |                 |              |              |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|--------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
|  |                             |              |              |              | 3 months ended—                                    |              |              | 6 months ended— |              |              |
|  | Sep.<br>2004                | Oct.<br>2004 | Nov.<br>2004 | Dec.<br>2004 | Mar.<br>2004                                       | June<br>2004 | Sep.<br>2004 | Dec.<br>2004    | June<br>2004 | Dec.<br>2004 |
| <b>Expenditure category</b>  |                             |              |              |              |  |              |              |                 |              |              |
| Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....                                      | 106.3                       | 106.4        | 106.5        | 106.5        | 2.3  | 0.8          | -1.1         | 0.8             | 1.5          | -0.2         |
| Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....                                 | 103.6                       | 104.0        | 103.5        | 103.8        | .4   | 1.6          | .0           | .8              | 1.0          | .4           |
| Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....                     | 110.3                       | 110.0        | 110.3        | 110.3        | 1.5  | .7           | 1.1          | .0              | 1.1          | .5           |
| Education <sup>2</sup> .....                                       | 144.2                       | 145.0        | 145.7        | 146.4        | 6.8  | 5.5          | 6.3          | 6.2             | 6.2          | 6.3          |
| Educational books and supplies .....                               | 353.1                       | 354.5        | 357.9        | 360.5        | 2.1  | 4.3          | 1.0          | 8.7             | 3.2          | 4.8          |
| Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....                    | 407.9                       | 409.9        | 411.9        | 413.7        | 7.1  | 5.9          | 7.0          | 5.8             | 6.5          | 6.4          |
| Communication <sup>2</sup> .....                                   | 88.0                        | 87.2         | 87.3         | 86.9         | -2.2   | -2.7         | -2.2         | -4.9            | -2.4         | -3.6         |
| Information and information processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....        | 86.3                        | 85.6         | 85.7         | 85.5         | -1.8   | -4.5         | -2.7         | -3.7            | -3.1         | -3.2         |
| Telephone services <sup>1 2</sup> .....                            | 95.5                        | 94.8         | 95.1         | 95.0         | -2.0   | -3.3         | -2.5         | -2.1            | -2.7         | -2.3         |
| Information technology, hardware and services <sup>1 5</sup> ..... | 15.2                        | 15.0         | 14.9         | 14.8         | -2.5   | -7.4         | -5.1         | -10.1           | -5.0         | -7.6         |
| Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1 2</sup> .....   | 14.8                        | 14.3         | 13.9         | 13.7         | -9.7   | -7.5         | -10.1        | -26.6           | -8.6         | -18.8        |
| Other goods and services .....                                     | 314.4                       | 314.7        | 315.1        | 316.6        | 2.5  | 1.3          | 3.6          | 2.8             | 1.9          | 3.2          |
| Tobacco and smoking products <sup>1</sup> .....                    | 483.9                       | 483.0        | 482.5        | 485.7        | 2.3  | 2.3          | 6.0          | 1.5             | 2.3          | 3.7          |
| Personal care .....  | 180.9                       | 181.4        | 181.9        | 182.5        | 2.7  | .9           | 2.2          | 3.6             | 1.8          | 2.9          |
| Personal care products <sup>1</sup> .....                          | 154.0                       | 154.3        | 154.3        | 153.8        | 2.6  | -1.8         | -.8          | -.5             | .4           | -.6          |
| Personal care services <sup>1</sup> .....                          | 199.7                       | 199.9        | 200.6        | 201.8        | 2.9  | 2.5          | 4.5          | 4.3             | 2.7          | 4.4          |
| Miscellaneous personal services .....                              | 296.5                       | 296.9        | 298.1        | 299.6        | 4.2  | 3.9          | 4.2          | 4.2             | 4.1          | 4.2          |
| <b>Commodity and service group</b>                                 |                             |              |              |              |  |              |              |                 |              |              |
| Commodities .....  | 155.9                       | 157.9        | 157.8        | 157.1        | 7.6  | 6.7          | -1.3         | 3.1             | 7.1          | .9           |
| Food and beverages .....   | 187.0                       | 188.0        | 188.3        | 188.3        | 1.3  | 5.1          | 1.3          | 2.8             | 3.2          | 2.0          |
| Commodities less food and beverages .....                          | 138.3                       | 140.8        | 140.4        | 139.4        | 11.9   | 7.8          | -3.1         | 3.2             | 9.9          | .0           |
| Nondurables less food and beverages .....                          | 158.4                       | 165.1        | 166.4        | 165.4        | 15.2   | 8.9          | -8.6         | 18.9            | 12.0         | 4.2          |
| Apparel .....  | 119.7                       | 120.0        | 119.9        | 119.5        | 3.0  | .7           | -3.3         | -.7             | 1.8          | -2.0         |
| Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....                | 189.8                       | 197.7        | 196.9        | 193.1        | 32.1   | 20.3         | -9.5         | 7.1             | 26.1         | -1.5         |
| Durables .....   | 114.1                       | 114.5        | 114.8        | 115.0        | .4   | -1.7         | 2.1          | 3.2             | -.7          | 2.7          |
| Services .....   | 219.9                       | 220.1        | 220.8        | 221.2        | 3.4  | 3.7          | 2.4          | 2.4             | 3.6          | 2.4          |
| Rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....                                 | 205.7                       | 205.9        | 206.0        | 206.2        | 3.2  | 3.2          | 2.6          | 1.0             | 3.2          | 1.8          |
| Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1 2</sup> .....              | 116.8                       | 116.5        | 118.1        | 118.9        | 2.8  | 4.6          | 1.0          | 7.4             | 3.7          | 4.2          |
| Gas (piped) and electricity <sup>3</sup> .....                     | 151.0                       | 149.5        | 153.0        | 153.5        | 4.8  | 16.0         | -1.1         | 6.8             | 10.2         | 2.8          |
| Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....   | 125.7                       | 126.1        | 126.4        | 126.5        | 7.9  | 6.0          | 5.6          | 2.6             | 7.0          | 4.1          |
| Household operations <sup>1 2</sup> .....                          | 127.6                       | 127.9        | 129.2        | 129.3        | 5.3  | 5.2          | 1.9          | 5.4             | 5.2          | 3.7          |
| Transportation services .....                                      | 221.4                       | 222.1        | 223.3        | 223.0        | 2.4  | 1.6          | 1.6          | 2.9             | 2.0          | 2.3          |
| Medical care services .....  | 324.6                       | 325.4        | 326.7        | 328.4        | 7.1  | 4.2          | 4.3          | 4.8             | 5.6          | 4.5          |
| Other services .....   | 255.5                       | 255.4        | 256.2        | 256.6        | 2.7  | 1.9          | 2.5          | 1.7             | 2.3          | 2.1          |
| <b>Special indexes</b>   |                             |              |              |              |  |              |              |                 |              |              |
| All items less food .....  | 185.0                       | 186.2        | 186.4        | 186.2        | 6.1  | 5.1          | .7           | 2.6             | 5.6          | 1.6          |
| All items less shelter .....                                       | 177.1                       | 178.6        | 178.9        | 178.5        | 6.2  | 6.1          | -.2          | 3.2             | 6.1          | 1.5          |
| All items less medical care .....                                  | 179.9                       | 181.1        | 181.3        | 181.1        | 5.4  | 5.1          | .4           | 2.7             | 5.2          | 1.6          |
| Commodities less food .....  | 140.3                       | 142.7        | 142.3        | 141.4        | 11.4   | 7.7          | -2.8         | 3.2             | 9.6          | .1           |
| Nondurables less food .....  | 160.5                       | 167.0        | 168.1        | 167.1        | 14.7   | 7.7          | -7.6         | 17.5            | 11.1         | 4.2          |
| Nondurables less food and apparel .....                            | 189.1                       | 196.6        | 195.4        | 192.2        | 29.5   | 19.6         | -9.5         | 6.7             | 24.5         | -1.7         |
| Nondurables .....  | 173.1                       | 177.0        | 177.9        | 177.2        | 7.6  | 7.4          | -4.1         | 9.8             | 7.5          | 2.6          |
| Services less rent of shelter <sup>4</sup> .....                   | 208.7                       | 208.8        | 210.4        | 211.0        | 2.2  | 4.6          | 2.5          | 4.5             | 3.4          | 3.5          |
| Services less medical care services .....                          | 211.9                       | 212.0        | 212.7        | 213.2        | 2.7  | 3.7          | 2.3          | 2.5             | 3.2          | 2.4          |
| Energy .....   | 152.4                       | 159.0        | 159.0        | 156.0        | 41.1   | 34.9         | -10.5        | 9.8             | 38.0         | -.9          |
| All items less energy .....  | 190.3                       | 190.8        | 191.1        | 191.2        | 2.4  | 2.6          | 1.9          | 1.9             | 2.5          | 1.9          |
| All items less food and energy .....                               | 191.4                       | 191.8        | 192.1        | 192.3        | 2.8  | 1.9          | 1.9          | 1.9             | 2.4          | 1.9          |
| Commodities less food and energy commodities .....                 | 139.5                       | 139.9        | 140.0        | 140.1        | 1.4  | .0           | .6           | 1.7             | .7           | 1.2          |
| Energy commodities .....   | 162.5                       | 176.5        | 173.5        | 167.3        | 82.4   | 51.9         | -17.1        | 12.3            | 66.4         | -3.5         |
| Services less energy services .....                                | 227.6                       | 227.9        | 228.3        | 228.6        | 3.5  | 2.7          | 2.9          | 1.8             | 3.1          | 2.3          |

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

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

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

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

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

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<br>1 | All items |           |           |           |                                  |           |           |                                  |           |           |
|--|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|  |                       | Indexes   |           |           |           | Percent change to Dec.2004 from— |           |           | Percent change to Nov.2004 from— |           |           |
|  |                       | Sep. 2004 | Oct. 2004 | Nov. 2004 | Dec. 2004 | Dec. 2003                        | Oct. 2004 | Nov. 2004 | Nov. 2003                        | Sep. 2004 | Oct. 2004 |
| U.S. city average .....                                  | M                     | 185.4     | 186.5     | 186.8     | 186.0     | 3.4                              | -0.3      | -0.4      | 3.7                              | 0.8       | 0.2       |
| <b>Region and area size<sup>2</sup></b>                  |                       |           |           |           |           |                                  |           |           |                                  |           |           |
| Northeast urban .....                                    | M                     | 197.7     | 199.0     | 199.4     | 198.7     | 3.7                              | -2        | -4        | 3.9                              | .9        | .2        |
| Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....                       | M                     | 198.4     | 199.7     | 200.2     | 199.6     | 3.6                              | -1        | -3        | 3.8                              | .9        | .3        |
| Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....        | M                     | 119.2     | 120.1     | 120.2     | 119.4     | 3.6                              | -6        | -7        | 4.2                              | .8        | .1        |
| Midwest urban .....                                      | M                     | 178.6     | 179.5     | 179.8     | 178.8     | 3.1                              | -4        | -6        | 3.4                              | .7        | .2        |
| Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....                       | M                     | 180.2     | 181.1     | 181.2     | 180.1     | 2.9                              | -6        | -6        | 3.1                              | .6        | .1        |
| Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....        | M                     | 115.9     | 116.6     | 116.9     | 116.4     | 3.6                              | -2        | -4        | 3.7                              | .9        | .3        |
| Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....        | M                     | 173.7     | 174.4     | 175.2     | 174.9     | 3.4                              | .3        | -2        | 3.6                              | .9        | .5        |
| South urban .....  | M                     | 179.7     | 180.6     | 180.7     | 180.3     | 3.5                              | -2        | -2        | 3.7                              | .6        | .1        |
| Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....                       | M                     | 181.4     | 182.5     | 182.5     | 182.4     | 3.4                              | -1        | -1        | 3.5                              | .6        | .0        |
| Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....        | M                     | 115.4     | 115.9     | 116.0     | 115.6     | 3.4                              | -3        | -3        | 3.7                              | .5        | .1        |
| Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....        | M                     | 180.7     | 182.3     | 182.2     | 181.5     | 4.2                              | -4        | -4        | 4.4                              | .8        | -1        |
| West urban .....   | M                     | 188.8     | 190.0     | 190.2     | 189.4     | 3.3                              | -3        | -4        | 3.7                              | .7        | .1        |
| Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....                       | M                     | 189.9     | 191.0     | 191.2     | 190.2     | 3.4                              | -4        | -5        | 3.7                              | .7        | .1        |
| Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 <sup>3</sup> .....        | M                     | 117.8     | 118.7     | 118.9     | 118.6     | 3.3                              | -1        | -3        | 3.8                              | .9        | .2        |
| <b>Size classes</b>                                      |                       |           |           |           |           |                                  |           |           |                                  |           |           |
| A <sup>4</sup> .....                                     | M                     | 171.8     | 172.8     | 173.0     | 172.4     | 3.4                              | -2        | -3        | 3.5                              | .7        | .1        |
| B/C <sup>3</sup> .....                                   | M                     | 116.5     | 117.2     | 117.3     | 116.9     | 3.5                              | -3        | -3        | 3.8                              | .7        | .1        |
| D .....  | M                     | 179.7     | 180.8     | 181.1     | 180.6     | 3.6                              | -1        | -3        | 3.8                              | .8        | .2        |
| <b>Selected local areas<sup>5</sup></b>                  |                       |           |           |           |           |                                  |           |           |                                  |           |           |
| Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI .....                     | M                     | 183.1     | 184.0     | 184.2     | 183.1     | 2.4                              | -5        | -6        | 2.8                              | .6        | .1        |
| Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ...              | M                     | 187.8     | 189.8     | 190.3     | 188.5     | 4.6                              | -7        | -9        | 5.4                              | 1.3       | .3        |
| New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA .....    | M                     | 200.6     | 201.9     | 202.2     | 201.8     | 3.7                              | .0        | -2        | 3.9                              | .8        | .1        |
| Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT .....                | 1                     | 208.8     | -         | 211.0     | -         | -                                | -         | -         | 2.6                              | 1.1       | -         |
| Cleveland-Akron, OH .....                                | 1                     | 174.8     | -         | 173.9     | -         | -                                | -         | -         | 3.3                              | -5        | -         |
| Dallas-Fort Worth, TX .....                              | 1                     | 180.0     | -         | 180.5     | -         | -                                | -         | -         | 2.8                              | .3        | -         |
| Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV <sup>6</sup> .....     | 1                     | 120.4     | -         | 120.4     | -         | -                                | -         | -         | 3.7                              | .0        | -         |
| Atlanta, GA .....  | 2                     | -         | 181.7     | -         | 181.5     | 2.8                              | -1        | -         | -                                | -         | -         |
| Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI .....                        | 2                     | -         | 183.0     | -         | 180.7     | 2.7                              | -1.3      | -         | -                                | -         | -         |
| Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX .....                     | 2                     | -         | 169.5     | -         | 167.7     | 3.4                              | -1.1      | -         | -                                | -         | -         |
| Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL .....                          | 2                     | -         | 185.1     | -         | 186.6     | 4.3                              | .8        | -         | -                                | -         | -         |
| Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD ..... | 2                     | -         | 199.8     | -         | 197.9     | 4.7                              | -1.0      | -         | -                                | -         | -         |
| San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....                 | 2                     | -         | 196.4     | -         | 195.9     | 2.5                              | -3        | -         | -                                | -         | -         |
| Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA .....                       | 2                     | -         | 191.6     | -         | 190.3     | 2.7                              | -7        | -         | -                                | -         | -         |

<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, 2001-2002 | Unadjusted indexes |           | Unadjusted percent change to Dec. 2004 from— |           |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|--|-----------|
|  |                                | Nov. 2004          | Dec. 2004 | Dec. 2003                                    | Nov. 2004 |
| <b>Expenditure category</b>                |                                |                    |           |  |           |
| All items .....                            | 100.000                        | 111.1              | 110.7     | 2.9  | -0.4      |
| Food and beverages .....                   | 15.076                         | 112.3              | 112.4     | 2.5  | .1        |
| Food .....                                 | 14.086                         | 112.3              | 112.4     | 2.5  | .1        |
| Food at home .....                         | 8.062                          | 111.2              | 111.4     | 2.1  | .2        |
| Food away from home .....                  | 6.023                          | 113.7              | 113.8     | 2.9  | .1        |
| Alcoholic beverages .....                  | .990                           | 112.4              | 112.2     | 2.6  | -.2       |
| Housing .....                              | 41.793                         | 114.7              | 114.6     | 2.9  | -.1       |
| Shelter .....                              | 32.380                         | 116.2              | 116.1     | 2.6  | -.1       |
| Fuels and utilities .....                  | 4.643                          | 126.4              | 126.5     | 6.9  | .1        |
| Household furnishings and operations ..... | 4.771                          | 95.8               | 95.5      | .2   | -.3       |
| Apparel .....                              | 4.317                          | 92.9               | 89.8      | -.4  | -3.3      |
| Transportation .....                       | 17.315                         | 110.1              | 108.9     | 5.8  | -1.1      |
| Private transportation .....               | 16.206                         | 110.5              | 109.4     | 6.3  | -1.0      |
| Public transportation .....                | 1.109                          | 103.5              | 101.7     | -.4  | -1.7      |
| Medical care .....                         | 5.783                          | 122.9              | 123.1     | 4.1  | .2        |
| Medical care commodities .....             | 1.466                          | 115.5              | 115.3     | 2.1  | -.2       |
| Medical care services .....                | 4.317                          | 125.4              | 125.9     | 4.8  | .4        |
| Recreation .....                           | 5.978                          | 103.4              | 103.2     | .0   | -.2       |
| Education and communication .....          | 6.004                          | 99.7               | 99.5      | .3   | -.2       |
| Education .....                            | 2.560                          | 136.4              | 136.5     | 6.3  | .1        |
| Communication .....                        | 3.444                          | 78.0               | 77.7      | -4.0   | -.4       |
| Other goods and services .....             | 3.734                          | 114.8              | 115.1     | 2.4  | .3        |
| <b>Commodity and service group</b>         |                                |                    |           |  |           |
| Services .....                             | 58.567                         | 117.0              | 116.9     | 2.8  | -.1       |
| Commodities .....                          | 41.433                         | 103.6              | 102.8     | 2.9  | -.8       |
| Durables .....                             | 12.521                         | 87.1               | 87.2      | .1   | .1        |
| Nondurables .....                          | 28.912                         | 111.5              | 110.2     | 4.3  | -1.2      |
| All items less food and energy .....       | 78.985                         | 108.8              | 108.5     | 1.9  | -.3       |
| Energy .....                               | 6.929                          | 138.1              | 134.2     | 15.6   | -2.8      |

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

**Table 1A. 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)

| <b>CPI-U</b>  | Annual<br>average<br>2003 | Annual<br>average<br>2004 | Percent<br>change<br>from 2003<br>to 2004 |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Expenditure category</b>                                     |                           |                           |   |
| All items .....   | 184.0                     | 188.9                     | 2.7                                       |
| All items (1967=100) .....                                      | 551.1                     | 565.8                     | -   |
| Food and beverages .....  | 180.5                     | 186.6                     | 3.4                                       |
| Food .....  | 180.0                     | 186.2                     | 3.4                                       |
| Food at home .....  | 179.4                     | 186.2                     | 3.8                                       |
| Cereals and bakery products .....                               | 202.8                     | 206.0                     | 1.6                                       |
| Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....                            | 169.3                     | 181.7                     | 7.3                                       |
| Dairy and related products .....                                | 167.9                     | 180.2                     | 7.3                                       |
| Fruits and vegetables .....                                     | 225.9                     | 232.7                     | 3.0                                       |
| Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....             | 139.8                     | 140.4                     | .4  |
| Other food at home .....  | 162.6                     | 164.9                     | 1.4                                       |
| Sugar and sweets .....  | 162.0                     | 163.2                     | .7  |
| Fats and oils .....   | 157.4                     | 167.8                     | 6.6                                       |
| Other foods .....   | 178.8                     | 179.7                     | .5  |
| Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1</sup> .....                    | 110.3                     | 110.4                     | .1  |
| Food away from home .....                                       | 182.1                     | 187.5                     | 3.0                                       |
| Other food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....                    | 121.3                     | 125.3                     | 3.3                                       |
| Alcoholic beverages .....                                       | 187.2                     | 192.1                     | 2.6                                       |
| Housing .....   | 184.8                     | 189.5                     | 2.5                                       |
| Shelter .....   | 213.1                     | 218.8                     | 2.7                                       |
| Rent of primary residence .....                                 | 205.5                     | 211.0                     | 2.7                                       |
| Lodging away from home <sup>1</sup> .....                       | 119.3                     | 125.9                     | 5.5                                       |
| Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>2</sup> ..... | 219.9                     | 224.9                     | 2.3                                       |
| Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1</sup> .....             | 114.8                     | 116.2                     | 1.2                                       |
| Fuels and utilities .....                                       | 154.5                     | 161.9                     | 4.8                                       |
| Fuels .....   | 138.2                     | 144.4                     | 4.5                                       |
| Fuel oil and other fuels .....                                  | 139.5                     | 160.5                     | 15.1                                      |
| Gas (piped) and electricity .....                               | 145.0                     | 150.6                     | 3.9                                       |
| Household furnishings and operations .....                      | 126.1                     | 125.5                     | -.5                                       |
| Apparel .....   | 120.9                     | 120.4                     | -.4                                       |
| Men's and boys' apparel .....                                   | 118.0                     | 117.5                     | -.4                                       |
| Women's and girls' apparel .....                                | 113.1                     | 113.0                     | -.1                                       |
| Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....                            | 122.1                     | 118.5                     | -2.9                                      |
| Footwear .....  | 119.6                     | 119.3                     | -.3                                       |
| Transportation .....  | 157.6                     | 163.1                     | 3.5                                       |
| Private transportation .....                                    | 153.6                     | 159.4                     | 3.8                                       |
| New and used motor vehicles <sup>1</sup> .....                  | 96.5                      | 94.2                      | -2.4                                      |
| New vehicles .....  | 137.9                     | 137.1                     | -.6                                       |
| Used cars and trucks .....                                      | 142.9                     | 133.3                     | -6.7                                      |
| Motor fuel .....  | 135.8                     | 160.4                     | 18.1                                      |
| Gasoline (all types) .....                                      | 135.1                     | 159.7                     | 18.2                                      |
| Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....                         | 107.8                     | 108.7                     | .8  |
| Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....                      | 195.6                     | 200.2                     | 2.4                                       |
| Public transportation .....                                     | 209.3                     | 209.1                     | -.1                                       |
| Medical care .....  | 297.1                     | 310.1                     | 4.4                                       |
| Medical care commodities .....                                  | 262.8                     | 269.3                     | 2.5                                       |
| Medical care services .....                                     | 306.0                     | 321.3                     | 5.0                                       |
| Professional services .....                                     | 261.2                     | 271.5                     | 3.9                                       |
| Hospital and related services .....                             | 394.8                     | 417.9                     | 5.9                                       |
| Recreation <sup>1</sup> .....                                   | 107.5                     | 108.6                     | 1.0                                       |
| Video and audio <sup>1</sup> .....                              | 103.6                     | 104.2                     | .6  |

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1A. 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)

| <b>CPI-U</b>   | Annual<br>average<br>2003 | Annual<br>average<br>2004 | Percent<br>change<br>from 2003<br>to 2004 |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Expenditure category</b>                                      |                           |                           |   |
| Education and communication <sup>1</sup> .....                   | 109.8                     | 111.6                     | 1.6                                       |
| Education <sup>1</sup> .....                                     | 134.4                     | 143.7                     | 6.9                                       |
| Educational books and supplies .....                             | 335.4                     | 351.0                     | 4.7                                       |
| Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....                  | 386.7                     | 414.3                     | 7.1                                       |
| Communication <sup>1</sup> .....                                 | 89.7                      | 86.7                      | -3.3                                      |
| Information and information processing <sup>1</sup> .....        | 87.8                      | 84.6                      | -3.6                                      |
| Telephone services <sup>1</sup> .....                            | 98.3                      | 95.8                      | -2.5                                      |
| Information technology, hardware and services <sup>3</sup> ..... | 16.1                      | 14.8                      | -8.1                                      |
| Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1</sup> .....   | 17.6                      | 15.3                      | -13.1                                     |
| Other goods and services .....                                   | 298.7                     | 304.7                     | 2.0                                       |
| Tobacco and smoking products .....                               | 469.0                     | 478.0                     | 1.9                                       |
| Personal care .....  | 178.0                     | 181.7                     | 2.1                                       |
| Personal care products .....                                     | 153.5                     | 153.9                     | .3  |
| Personal care services .....                                     | 193.2                     | 197.6                     | 2.3                                       |
| Miscellaneous personal services .....                            | 283.5                     | 293.9                     | 3.7                                       |
| <b>Commodity and service group</b>                               |                           |                           |   |
| Commodities .....  | 151.2                     | 154.7                     | 2.3                                       |
| Food and beverages .....   | 180.5                     | 186.6                     | 3.4                                       |
| Commodities less food and beverages .....                        | 134.5                     | 136.7                     | 1.6                                       |
| Nondurables less food and beverages .....                        | 149.7                     | 157.2                     | 5.0                                       |
| Apparel .....  | 120.9                     | 120.4                     | -.4                                       |
| Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....              | 171.5                     | 183.9                     | 7.2                                       |
| Durables .....   | 117.5                     | 114.8                     | -2.3                                      |
| Services .....   | 216.5                     | 222.8                     | 2.9                                       |
| Rent of shelter <sup>2</sup> .....                               | 221.9                     | 227.9                     | 2.7                                       |
| Transportation services .....                                    | 216.3                     | 220.6                     | 2.0                                       |
| Other services .....   | 254.4                     | 261.3                     | 2.7                                       |
| <b>Special indexes</b>   |                           |                           |   |
| All items less food .....  | 184.7                     | 189.4                     | 2.5                                       |
| All items less shelter .....                                     | 174.6                     | 179.3                     | 2.7                                       |
| All items less medical care .....                                | 178.1                     | 182.7                     | 2.6                                       |
| Commodities less food .....                                      | 136.5                     | 138.8                     | 1.7                                       |
| Nondurables less food .....                                      | 151.9                     | 159.3                     | 4.9                                       |
| Nondurables less food and apparel .....                          | 172.1                     | 183.8                     | 6.8                                       |
| Nondurables .....  | 165.3                     | 172.2                     | 4.2                                       |
| Services less rent of shelter <sup>2</sup> .....                 | 226.4                     | 233.5                     | 3.1                                       |
| Services less medical care services .....                        | 208.7                     | 214.5                     | 2.8                                       |
| Energy .....   | 136.5                     | 151.4                     | 10.9                                      |
| All items less energy .....                                      | 190.6                     | 194.4                     | 2.0                                       |
| All items less food and energy .....                             | 193.2                     | 196.6                     | 1.8                                       |
| Commodities less food and energy commodities .....               | 140.9                     | 139.6                     | -.9                                       |
| Energy commodities .....   | 136.7                     | 161.2                     | 17.9                                      |
| Services less energy services .....                              | 223.8                     | 230.2                     | 2.9                                       |
| Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00) .....   | \$ .544                   | \$ .530                   | -   |
| Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00) .....      | \$ .182                   | \$ .177                   | -   |

<sup>1</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

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

<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

- Data not available.

**Table 4A. 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)

| <b>CPI-W</b>   | Annual<br>average<br>2003 | Annual<br>average<br>2004 | Percent<br>change<br>from 2003<br>to 2004 |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Expenditure category</b>                                      |                           |                           |   |
| All items .....  | 179.8                     | 184.5                     | 2.6                                       |
| All items (1967=100) .....                                       | 535.6                     | 549.5                     | -   |
| Food and beverages .....   | 179.9                     | 186.2                     | 3.5                                       |
| Food .....   | 179.4                     | 185.7                     | 3.5                                       |
| Food at home .....   | 178.5                     | 185.4                     | 3.9                                       |
| Cereals and bakery products .....                                | 202.8                     | 206.0                     | 1.6                                       |
| Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....                             | 169.2                     | 181.8                     | 7.4                                       |
| Dairy and related products .....                                 | 167.6                     | 180.0                     | 7.4                                       |
| Fruits and vegetables .....                                      | 224.3                     | 230.4                     | 2.7                                       |
| Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....              | 139.1                     | 139.7                     | .4  |
| Other food at home .....   | 162.2                     | 164.5                     | 1.4                                       |
| Sugar and sweets .....   | 161.6                     | 162.5                     | .6  |
| Fats and oils .....  | 157.4                     | 167.8                     | 6.6                                       |
| Other foods .....  | 179.2                     | 180.1                     | .5  |
| Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1</sup> .....                     | 110.8                     | 110.9                     | .1  |
| Food away from home .....  | 182.0                     | 187.4                     | 3.0                                       |
| Other food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....                     | 121.5                     | 125.1                     | 3.0                                       |
| Alcoholic beverages .....  | 187.1                     | 192.4                     | 2.8                                       |
| Housing .....  | 180.4                     | 185.0                     | 2.5                                       |
| Shelter .....  | 206.9                     | 212.2                     | 2.6                                       |
| Rent of primary residence .....                                  | 204.7                     | 210.2                     | 2.7                                       |
| Lodging away from home <sup>1</sup> .....                        | 119.8                     | 126.4                     | 5.5                                       |
| Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>2</sup> .....  | 199.7                     | 204.1                     | 2.2                                       |
| Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1</sup> .....              | 114.7                     | 116.4                     | 1.5                                       |
| Fuels and utilities .....  | 153.9                     | 161.2                     | 4.7                                       |
| Fuels .....  | 137.0                     | 143.2                     | 4.5                                       |
| Fuel oil and other fuels .....                                   | 138.7                     | 160.0                     | 15.4                                      |
| Gas (piped) and electricity .....                                | 144.1                     | 149.8                     | 4.0                                       |
| Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>1</sup> ..... | 117.3                     | 124.1                     | 5.8                                       |
| Household furnishings and operations .....                       | 121.9                     | 121.1                     | -.7                                       |
| Household operations <sup>1</sup> .....                          | 122.9                     | 126.8                     | 3.2                                       |
| Apparel .....  | 120.0                     | 120.0                     | .0  |
| Men's and boys' apparel .....                                    | 117.5                     | 117.3                     | -.2                                       |
| Women's and girls' apparel .....                                 | 112.1                     | 112.8                     | .6  |
| Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....                             | 124.1                     | 121.3                     | -2.3                                      |
| Footwear .....   | 119.1                     | 118.2                     | -.8                                       |
| Transportation .....   | 156.3                     | 161.5                     | 3.3                                       |
| Private transportation .....                                     | 153.5                     | 158.8                     | 3.5                                       |
| New and used motor vehicles <sup>1</sup> .....                   | 96.0                      | 92.8                      | -3.3                                      |
| New vehicles .....   | 139.0                     | 138.1                     | -.6                                       |
| Used cars and trucks .....                                       | 143.7                     | 134.1                     | -6.7                                      |
| Motor fuel .....   | 136.1                     | 160.9                     | 18.2                                      |
| Gasoline (all types) .....                                       | 135.5                     | 160.2                     | 18.2                                      |
| Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....                          | 107.3                     | 108.2                     | .8  |
| Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....                       | 197.3                     | 202.0                     | 2.4                                       |
| Public transportation .....                                      | 206.0                     | 207.1                     | .5  |
| Medical care .....   | 296.3                     | 309.5                     | 4.5                                       |
| Medical care commodities .....                                   | 257.4                     | 263.2                     | 2.3                                       |
| Medical care services .....                                      | 305.9                     | 321.5                     | 5.1                                       |
| Professional services .....                                      | 263.4                     | 274.0                     | 4.0                                       |
| Hospital and related services .....                              | 391.2                     | 414.0                     | 5.8                                       |

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 4A. 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)

| <b>CPI-W</b>   | Annual<br>average<br>2003 | Annual<br>average<br>2004 | Percent<br>change<br>from 2003<br>to 2004 |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Expenditure category</b>                                      |                           |                           |   |
| Recreation <sup>1</sup> .....                                    | 105.5                     | 106.3                     | 0.8                                       |
| Video and audio <sup>1</sup> .....                               | 102.9                     | 103.4                     | .5  |
| Education and communication <sup>1</sup> .....                   | 109.0                     | 110.0                     | .9  |
| Education <sup>1</sup> .....                                     | 133.8                     | 142.5                     | 6.5                                       |
| Educational books and supplies .....                             | 336.5                     | 352.2                     | 4.7                                       |
| Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....                  | 377.3                     | 402.5                     | 6.7                                       |
| Communication <sup>1</sup> .....                                 | 91.2                      | 88.3                      | -3.2                                      |
| Information and information processing <sup>1</sup> .....        | 89.9                      | 86.8                      | -3.4                                      |
| Telephone services <sup>1</sup> .....                            | 98.5                      | 96.0                      | -2.5                                      |
| Information technology, hardware and services <sup>3</sup> ..... | 16.7                      | 15.3                      | -8.4                                      |
| Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>1</sup> .....   | 17.3                      | 15.0                      | -13.3                                     |
| Other goods and services .....                                   | 307.0                     | 312.6                     | 1.8                                       |
| Tobacco and smoking products .....                               | 470.5                     | 478.8                     | 1.8                                       |
| Personal care .....  | 177.0                     | 180.4                     | 1.9                                       |
| Personal care products .....                                     | 154.2                     | 154.4                     | .1  |
| Personal care services .....                                     | 193.9                     | 198.2                     | 2.2                                       |
| Miscellaneous personal services .....                            | 283.3                     | 294.0                     | 3.8                                       |
| <b>Commodity and service group</b>                               |                           |                           |   |
| Commodities .....  | 151.8                     | 155.4                     | 2.4                                       |
| Food and beverages .....   | 179.9                     | 186.2                     | 3.5                                       |
| Commodities less food and beverages .....                        | 135.8                     | 138.1                     | 1.7                                       |
| Nondurables less food and beverages .....                        | 152.1                     | 160.6                     | 5.6                                       |
| Apparel .....  | 120.0                     | 120.0                     | .0  |
| Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....              | 175.6                     | 189.6                     | 8.0                                       |
| Durables .....   | 117.4                     | 114.0                     | -2.9                                      |
| Services .....   | 212.6                     | 218.6                     | 2.8                                       |
| Rent of shelter <sup>2</sup> .....                               | 199.2                     | 204.3                     | 2.6                                       |
| Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1</sup> .....              | 114.7                     | 116.4                     | 1.5                                       |
| Gas (piped) and electricity .....                                | 144.1                     | 149.8                     | 4.0                                       |
| Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>1</sup> ..... | 117.3                     | 124.1                     | 5.8                                       |
| Household operations <sup>1</sup> .....                          | 122.9                     | 126.8                     | 3.2                                       |
| Transportation services .....                                    | 216.2                     | 220.9                     | 2.2                                       |
| Medical care services .....                                      | 305.9                     | 321.5                     | 5.1                                       |
| Other services .....   | 248.5                     | 254.1                     | 2.3                                       |
| <b>Special indexes</b>   |                           |                           |   |
| All items less food .....  | 179.7                     | 184.1                     | 2.4                                       |
| All items less shelter .....                                     | 171.9                     | 176.4                     | 2.6                                       |
| All items less medical care .....                                | 174.8                     | 179.1                     | 2.5                                       |
| Commodities less food .....                                      | 137.7                     | 140.0                     | 1.7                                       |
| Nondurables less food .....                                      | 154.2                     | 162.6                     | 5.4                                       |
| Nondurables less food and apparel .....                          | 175.9                     | 189.0                     | 7.4                                       |
| Nondurables .....  | 166.4                     | 173.9                     | 4.5                                       |
| Services less rent of shelter <sup>2</sup> .....                 | 201.3                     | 207.4                     | 3.0                                       |
| Services less medical care services .....                        | 205.2                     | 210.6                     | 2.6                                       |
| Energy .....   | 135.9                     | 151.3                     | 11.3                                      |
| All items less energy .....                                      | 186.1                     | 189.5                     | 1.8                                       |
| All items less food and energy .....                             | 187.9                     | 190.6                     | 1.4                                       |
| Commodities less food and energy commodities .....               | 141.1                     | 139.4                     | -1.2                                      |
| Energy commodities .....   | 136.8                     | 161.5                     | 18.1                                      |
| Services less energy services .....                              | 220.2                     | 226.2                     | 2.7                                       |
| Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00) .....   | \$.556                    | \$.542                    | -   |
| Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00) .....      | \$.187                    | \$.182                    | -   |

<sup>1</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

<sup>2</sup> Indexes on a December 1984=100 base

<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.

- Data not available.