

MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL OFFICE CPI ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Item	All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)										Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)									
	U.S. city average		Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City		Washington-Baltimore (1)		Northeast region		South region		U.S. city average		Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City		Washington-Baltimore (1)		Northeast region		South region	
	Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from		Percent change from	
	Sep 2008	Sep 2007	Sep 2008	Sep 2007	Sep 2008	Sep 2007	Sep 2008	Sep 2007	Sep 2008	Sep 2007	Sep 2008	Sep 2007	Sep 2008	Sep 2007	Sep 2008	Sep 2007	Sep 2008	Sep 2007	Sep 2008	Sep 2007
All items (2)	218.783	4.9	-	-	142.036	5.5	232.841	5.2	212.650	5.4	214.935	5.4	-	-	141.679	5.5	229.949	5.7	210.572	5.9
All items (1967 = 100) (3)	655.376	-	-	-	-	-	366.653	-	344.947	-	640.226	-	-	-	-	-	359.168	-	341.045	-
Food and beverages (2)	217.672	6.0	-	-	139.410	5.4	222.510	6.2	215.049	5.9	217.098	6.1	-	-	137.839	4.9	221.866	6.4	213.865	5.9
Food (2)	217.696	6.2	-	-	140.852	5.7	222.287	6.4	215.831	6.1	217.090	6.3	-	-	139.113	5.1	221.731	6.5	214.728	6.1
Food at home	218.629	7.6	222.175	6.6	137.697	6.4	223.897	7.8	214.855	7.3	217.594	7.5	223.846	6.6	137.027	6.1	222.518	7.7	213.473	7.3
Food away from home (4)	218.225	4.5	-	-	142.375	5.1	223.347	4.6	220.484	4.6	218.147	4.6	-	-	140.155	4.1	223.841	4.9	219.341	4.5
Alcoholic beverages (4)	216.055	3.7	-	-	119.364	2.2	224.228	4.7	203.064	3.3	215.728	3.6	-	-	120.269	2.3	221.570	4.7	200.368	2.7
Housing (2)	218.184	3.5	-	-	151.671	5.0	244.361	3.9	202.951	4.2	213.954	3.8	-	-	153.847	5.4	240.303	4.2	202.197	4.4
Shelter	247.737	2.4	275.013	0.9	154.309	4.4	287.076	2.3	221.545	3.0	240.163	2.5	279.085	1.2	155.390	4.6	280.336	2.3	219.978	3.0
Rent of primary residence (2) (7)	244.926	3.8	256.532	2.7	164.570	5.6	276.956	4.1	220.882	4.1	243.741	3.6	256.532	2.7	164.589	5.6	274.247	3.9	219.825	3.9
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence (5) (7)	253.493	2.4	279.648	0.9	153.206	4.2	294.573	1.7	223.725	3.0	229.670	2.4	248.696	0.9	152.692	4.3	259.201	1.8	208.383	2.9
Fuels and utilities	228.450	11.8	-	-	197.859	11.7	237.234	15.7	231.671	12.2	226.709	12.1	-	-	194.026	11.1	233.503	16.0	231.366	12.3
Household energy	209.501	13.1	210.638	9.0	205.055	12.5	224.987	16.8	205.462	13.5	206.544	13.3	209.949	8.1	199.654	11.7	220.482	17.0	203.126	13.6
Gas (piped) and electricity (7)	210.950	10.9	220.700	5.4	197.297	11.1	216.936	10.6	205.399	12.6	209.442	11.4	222.478	5.2	195.465	10.8	215.313	11.6	204.162	12.7
Electricity (7)	198.579	7.7	208.136	2.7	197.484	11.2	197.014	6.8	194.994	11.0	197.036	8.1	208.135	2.7	193.147	10.9	195.729	7.5	193.191	11.2
Utility (piped) gas service (7)	247.788	19.0	247.463	11.5	174.887	14.4	251.863	17.6	257.124	21.0	248.702	20.0	247.458	11.5	180.261	16.2	251.148	19.7	260.640	21.4
Household furnishings and operations	128.584	1.9	-	-	102.681	1.7	128.767	0.8	128.350	2.3	124.500	2.2	-	-	98.451	3.0	123.271	1.6	122.880	2.4
Apparel (2)	121.168	1.4	-	-	95.933	0.0	123.837	2.6	131.481	1.3	120.990	1.7	-	-	94.715	-1.4	123.618	2.9	131.817	1.2
Transportation (2)	203.861	10.5	-	-	142.709	12.2	200.550	10.3	204.357	11.6	204.785	11.1	-	-	140.217	11.0	204.845	11.3	203.831	12.3
Private transportation	199.153	10.3	-	-	142.637	12.0	194.266	10.3	202.663	11.5	201.476	11.0	-	-	140.309	10.9	200.299	11.4	202.325	12.2
Motor fuel	315.078	31.8	318.344	32.2	300.079	33.9	299.487	31.5	321.149	35.3	316.717	31.8	318.323	32.2	299.716	34.0	299.398	31.4	321.454	35.3
Gasoline	313.535	31.7	312.236	31.7	299.959	33.8	297.278	31.3	319.382	35.3	315.324	31.8	312.236	31.7	299.648	33.9	297.317	31.2	319.818	35.3
Medical care (2)	365.036	3.2	-	-	140.865	3.5	388.311	3.2	348.105	3.5	365.250	3.3	-	-	140.373	3.6	384.927	3.1	350.958	3.9
Recreation (6)	114.032	2.4	-	-	117.400	1.6	116.159	2.5	114.782	2.4	110.904	2.2	-	-	114.407	1.5	115.776	3.0	111.576	2.1
Education and communication (6)	125.505	3.5	-	-	131.330	3.1	129.150	4.8	121.500	2.9	121.439	3.2	-	-	122.383	1.5	123.498	4.4	117.167	2.5
Other goods and services (2)	348.166	4.0	-	-	157.226	4.6	374.085	4.9	335.877	3.6	361.125	4.4	-	-	175.923	7.3	405.279	6.3	345.598	3.7
Energy (2)	258.020	23.1	249.093	19.0	241.537	22.4	256.169	23.5	253.336	25.1	259.864	23.8	247.441	19.2	240.432	21.7	255.360	24.1	255.223	25.8

Footnotes:

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

Area definitions:

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

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

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

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

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

Area	All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)					Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)				
	Index		Percent change to Sep 2008 from --			Index		Percent change to Sep 2008 from --		
	Aug 2008	Sep 2008	Sep 2007	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Aug 2008	Sep 2008	Sep 2007	Jul 2008	Aug 2008
U.S. city average	219.086	218.783	4.9	-0.5	-0.1	215.247	214.935	5.4	-0.6	-0.1
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, Ill.-Ind.-Wis.	215.971	215.465	4.4	-0.9	-0.2	209.435	209.084	4.8	-0.9	-0.2
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, Calif.	228.484	227.449	4.5	-1.1	-0.5	221.230	220.285	5.0	-1.3	-0.4
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Conn.-Pa.	240.550	240.089	5.2	-0.1	-0.2	235.510	234.703	5.6	-0.3	-0.3
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, Mass.-N.H.-Maine-Conn.	-	238.519	4.7	-1.1	-	-	238.133	4.7	-1.0	-
Cleveland-Akron, Ohio	-	206.219	4.7	-0.3	-	-	197.260	5.0	-0.4	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas	-	205.883	5.7	-0.3	-	-	209.666	6.4	-0.6	-
Washington-Baltimore, D.C.-Md.-Va.-W.Va. (Nov. 1996=100)	-	142.036	5.5	0.0	-	-	141.679	5.5	0.0	-
Atlanta, Ga.	211.404	-	-	-	-	211.113	-	-	-	-
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, Mich.	209.484	-	-	-	-	205.492	-	-	-	-
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, Texas	192.723	-	-	-	-	193.206	-	-	-	-
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, Fla.	225.473	-	-	-	-	224.597	-	-	-	-
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, Pa.-N.J.-Del.-Md.	228.337	-	-	-	-	228.212	-	-	-	-
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, Calif.	225.411	-	-	-	-	221.385	-	-	-	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, Wash.	227.745	-	-	-	-	223.273	-	-	-	-

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**Official Business**

## Consumer Price Index, September 2008

Note to CPI users:

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

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

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

Sheila Watkins  
Regional Commissioner

### **Discontinuance of mailing list:**

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

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