

News

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Department
of Labor



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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: NOVEMBER 2003

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.3 percent in November, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The November level of 184.5 (1982-84=100) was 1.8 percent higher than in November 2002.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also decreased 0.3 percent in November, prior to seasonal adjustment. The November level of 180.2 was 1.6 percent higher than in November 2002.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U, which was unchanged in October, declined 0.2 percent in November. Energy costs declined 3.0 percent, following a 3.9 percent drop in October. Within energy, the index for petroleum-based energy declined 4.4 percent and the index for energy services fell 1.4 percent. The index for food rose 0.4 percent with the index for food at home up 0.7 percent. A 3.2 percent increase in the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs, reflecting a sharp rise in beef prices, accounted for the advance in grocery store food prices. The index for all items less food and energy declined 0.1 percent in November, following a 0.2 percent increase in October. Downturns in the indexes for apparel, for household furnishings and operations, and for public transportation, coupled with moderation in the index for shelter, were responsible for the deceleration between October and November.

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Nov. '03	Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Nov. '03
	Changes from preceding month								
	2003								
	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.		
All Items	.0	.2	.2	.3	.3	.0	-.2	.2	1.8
Food and beverages	.3	.4	.1	.3	.2	.6	.4	5.0	3.1
Housing	.4	.1	.2	.1	.1	.3	-.1	.9	2.2
Apparel	-.3	.4	.0	.1	.5	.2	-.5	1.0	-1.9
Transportation	-1.3	.3	.2	1.1	.9	-1.6	-1.3	-7.8	.3
Medical care	.4	.3	.5	.2	.5	.3	.3	4.5	3.5
Recreation	.3	.1	.0	.0	.2	.0	.1	1.1	1.3
Education and communication	-.2	-.1	.5	.5	.1	.0	.1	.7	1.4
Other goods and services	.0	.0	.4	.1	.1	.1	-.1	.5	1.5
Special Indexes									
Energy	-3.1	.8	.4	2.7	3.0	-3.9	-3.0	-14.9	6.2
Food	.3	.4	.1	.3	.2	.6	.4	5.0	3.2
All Items less food and energy	.3	.0	.2	.1	.1	.2	-.1	.8	1.1

See pages 4 - 6 for notes on planned changes in the CPI in 2004.

During the first 11 months of 2003, the CPI-U rose at a 1.8 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR). This compares with an increase of 2.4 percent for all of 2002. The index for energy, which rose 10.7 percent in 2002, advanced at a 7.1 percent SAAR in the first 11 months of 2003. Petroleum-based energy costs increased at a 7.8 percent annual rate and charges for energy services rose at a 6.5 percent annual rate. The food index has increased at a 3.3 percent SAAR thus far this year, following a 1.5 percent rise for all of 2002. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U advanced at a 1.1 percent SAAR in the first 11 months, following a 1.9 percent rise in all of 2002.

The food and beverages index rose 0.4 percent in November. The index for food at home increased 0.7 percent, the same as in October. The index for meats, poultry, fish and eggs rose 3.2 percent, reflecting a sharp increase in meat prices. Beef prices, which rose 3.8 percent in October, increased 7.4 percent in November, their largest advance since a 7.5 percent rise in June 1978. The indexes for pork and for other meats increased 0.3 and 1.6 percent, respectively; the index for poultry rose 0.9 percent. The indexes for fruits and vegetables and for cereal and bakery products increased 0.4 and 0.1 percent, respectively. Within the former group, the indexes for fresh fruits and for processed fruits and vegetables increased 1.6 and 0.1 percent, respectively, while the index for fresh vegetables declined 0.4 percent. Each of the other major grocery store food groups--nonalcoholic beverages, dairy products, and other food at home--registered a decline in November, down 1.6, 0.3 and 0.5 percent, respectively. The other two components of the food and beverages index--food away from home and alcoholic beverages--each increased 0.3 percent.

The index for housing declined 0.1 percent in November after increasing 0.3 percent in October. Each of the three major housing groups contributed to the deceleration. Shelter costs, which rose 0.4 percent in October, were unchanged in November. Within shelter, the index for rent and for owners' equivalent rent rose 0.2 and 0.1 percent, respectively, while the index for lodging away from home fell 1.1 percent. The index for fuels and utilities declined 0.9 percent in November. Declines in the indexes for natural gas and for electricity--down 3.1 and 0.6 percent, respectively--more than offset a 1.0 percent increase in the index for fuel oil. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, fuel oil prices increased 2.9 percent and charges for natural gas rose 1.0 percent, while charges for electricity fell 3.4 percent.) The index for household furnishings and operations, which turned up in October, declined 0.3 percent in November.

The transportation index decreased for the second consecutive month--down 1.3 percent in November. The index for gasoline declined 5.0 percent, after falling 6.8 percent in October. Despite the recent declines, gasoline prices are still 5.5 percent higher than in November 2002. The index for new vehicles was unchanged in November. (As of November, nearly 60 percent of the new vehicle sample was represented by 2004 models. The 2004 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. For a report on quality changes for the 2004 vehicles represented in the Producer Price Index sample, see news release USDL-03-721, dated November 14, 2003.) New vehicle prices are 2.1 percent lower than in November 2002. The index for used cars and trucks decreased 2.3 percent in November, and this index has declined 11.3 percent in the last 12 months. The index for public transportation turned down in November, reflecting a 2.6 percent decline in airline fares.

The index for apparel declined 0.5 percent in November, its first decrease since May. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, apparel prices fell 1.4 percent, largely reflecting discounting of prices for women's and girls' wear.)

Medical care costs rose 0.3 percent in November and are 3.5 percent higher than a year ago. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--decreased 0.3 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.5 percent in November. The indexes for professional services and for hospital and related services increased 0.1 and 1.2 percent, respectively.

The index for recreation, which was unchanged in October, increased 0.1 percent in November. The indexes for admissions to movies, theaters, and concerts, for toys, and for sporting goods, each of which declined in October, turned up in November.

The index for education and communication increased 0.1 percent in November. Educational costs increased 0.4 percent, while communication costs declined 0.2 percent. Within the communication group, the index for telephone services rose 0.1 percent, as an increase in charges for cellular telephone services more than offset a decrease in long distance charges. The index for personal computers and peripheral equipment, which

turned up in October, declined 1.2 percent in November. During the last 12 months, these prices have fallen 18.5 percent.

The index for other goods and services declined 0.1 percent in November. The indexes for tobacco and smoking products and for personal care each turned down in November, following small increases in the preceding month.

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 0.3 percent in November.

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 Nov. '03	Un-adjusted 12-mos. ended Nov. '03
	Changes from preceding month								
	2003								
	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.		
All Items	-.1	.2	.1	.4	.3	-.2	-.3	-.7	1.6
Food and beverages	.3	.4	.1	.3	.3	.6	.5	5.7	3.3
Housing	.3	.1	.2	.2	.1	.2	-.1	.4	2.3
Apparel	-.1	.4	-.5	.3	.7	.4	-.5	2.4	-1.6
Transportation	-1.5	.3	.1	1.1	.8	-1.8	-1.7	-10.3	-.4
Medical care	.4	.3	.4	.2	.5	.4	.3	4.9	3.6
Recreation	.2	.0	.2	.0	.0	-.1	.3	.8	1.0
Education and communication	-.2	-.2	.5	.4	-.1	.0	.1	.0	.7
Other goods and services	-.1	.0	.5	.2	.0	.1	-.2	-.4	.9
Special Indexes									
Energy	-3.4	1.1	.4	3.0	3.3	-4.0	-3.2	-15.2	6.1
Food	.3	.4	.1	.3	.3	.6	.5	5.7	3.4
All Items less food and energy	.2	.1	.1	.1	.0	.1	-.1	.0	.7

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

The C-CPI-U declined 0.4 percent in November on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The November level of 107.7 (December 1999=100) was 1.3 percent higher than in November 2002. Table 7 contains the most recent indexes for all items and the component series that are published. Data are published monthly in the CPI Detailed Report and are available on the CPI home page: <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/>. Please note that the indexes for the post-2001 period are subject to revision.

Consumer Price Index data for December are scheduled for release on Thursday, January 15, 2004, at 8:30 A.M. (EST). Releases for the remainder of 2004:

Feb.20	Aug. 17
Mar.17	Sep. 16
Apr. 14	Oct. 19
May 14	Nov. 17
June 15	Dec. 17
July 16	Jan. 19, 2005

Planned Changes in the Consumer Price Index in 2004

Expenditure Weight Update

Effective with release of data for January 2004, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) will update the consumption expenditure weights in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) and Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) to the 2001-02 period. The updated expenditure weights for these indexes will replace the 1999-2000 weights that were introduced effective with the January 2002 CPI release. As originally announced by BLS in December 1998, CPI expenditure weights will continue to be updated at two-year intervals subsequent to the 2004 updating.

For the first six months of 2004, BLS will continue to calculate and publish selected CPI-U and CPI-W "overlap" indexes using the 1999-2000 expenditure pattern that was introduced into the CPI in 2002. These indexes will be compiled on a not seasonally adjusted basis. Comparison of these index series to the corresponding updated series will enable users of the CPI to observe the effects of the expenditure weight change. The subsequent expenditure updates scheduled in 2006 and every two years thereafter also will be accompanied by the publication of overlap indexes for a six-month period using the previous expenditure pattern.

C-CPI-U Index Revisions

As scheduled, effective with release of data for January 2004, the Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) will undergo its second annual index revision. C-CPI-U indexes for the 12 months of 2002 will be issued in final form and values for the 12 months of 2003 will be revised and issued as interim. Calculation of the preliminary versions of the C-CPI-U--the initial version for January and the subsequent months of 2004 and the interim (revised initial) indexes for 2003--will employ the 2001-02 expenditure weights also used in the CPI-U and CPI-W. Note that the final values of the C-CPI-U employ monthly expenditure weights corresponding to the price collection period in their calculation. Thus, in calculation of the final (revised interim) C-CPI-U values for the months of 2002, the biennial 1999-2000 expenditure weights will be replaced with separate monthly expenditure weights.

Elementary Index Formula Changes

Effective with release of data for January 2004, a geometric mean formula will replace the arithmetic mean formula in the calculation of the elementary indexes in the CPI-U, CPI-W, and C-CPI-U for (1) cable and satellite television and radio services (formerly cable TV) and for (2) eyeglasses and eye care. The geometric mean formula at the elementary index level is more appropriate for use in categories in which the consumer may alter his or her spending in response to changing prices within that category. Since the original decision to employ an arithmetic mean was made by BLS in 1998, changes in the markets for the above-mentioned categories have led to increased opportunity for consumer substitution behavior within those categories. The BLS introduced the geometric mean formula for calculating most of the basic components of the CPI-U and CPI-W with release of the CPI for January 1999.

The BLS will continue to evaluate the appropriateness of the formula used in the calculation of the elementary item indexes and on an annual basis may change or adjust the formula for constructing these indexes. A description of the 1999 adoption of the geometric mean formula is available on the internet at <http://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/1998/10/contents.htm>

Title Changes

The following index and average price series will have new titles beginning in January 2004. These series are continuous. The new titles serve to clarify the content of each series.

Index series with new titles

Item code	Old title	New title
SEHF02	Utility natural gas service	Utility (piped) gas service
SERA02	Cable television	Cable and satellite television and radio service
SEED01	Telephone services, local charges	Land-line telephone services, local charges
SEED02	Telephone services, long distance charges	Land-line telephone services, long distance charges
SS27051	Interstate toll calls	Land-line interstate toll calls
SS27061	Intrastate toll calls	Land-line intrastate toll calls
SEED03	Cellular telephone services	Wireless telephone services
SEEE	Information and information processing other than telephone services	Information technology, hardware, and services
SEEE03	Computer information processing services	Internet services and electronic information providers
SEEE04	Other information processing equipment	Telephone hardware, calculators, and other consumer information items

Average price series with new titles

Item code	Old title	New title
72620	Utility natural gas per therm	Utility (piped) gas per therm
72601	Utility natural gas – 40 therms	Utility (piped) gas – 40 therms
72611	Utility natural gas – 100 therms	Utility (piped) gas – 100 therms

Expanded Collection of Price Data

During the last year, the CPI program completed its conversion to Computer Assisted Data Collection (CADC). Due to the efficiencies gained from the conversion to CADC, BLS will extend data collection to cover the entire month, beginning with data for January 2004.

The new data collection process utilizes hand-held computers called penpads, along with software developed by BLS staff, to collect price and other item characteristic data in stores each month. Data collection instructions are transmitted electronically from Washington to each data collector's penpad. After completing collection the field staff transmit data back to Washington. This electronic collection provides numerous benefits. Many data edits can take place during collection. The accuracy and efficiency of data entry and review are improved by having field staff directly enter data rather than filling out paper survey forms by hand for later computer input by clerical staff. The progress of data collection also can be monitored more effectively throughout the month.

Lastly, the introduction of CADC reduces the time required to transmit and process data. With electronic collection and transmission, the CPI will be able to eliminate the mailing and data entry functions, allowing the BLS to collect prices during the entire index month without compromising the timeliness of the CPI release, which takes place during the middle of the subsequent month.

CPI data collection is scheduled in terms of business days--weekdays excluding holidays. Currently, data collection covers three pricing periods, each comprising six business days in most months and five days in November and December. Consequently, the last day of scheduled data collection is usually the 18th business day of the month. This has allowed time during the end of the month for the mailing of paper schedules back to the Washington Office and the data entry of the information on these schedules. Starting in January 2004, the three pricing periods will have variable lengths, between six and eight business days long. The third pricing period now normally will end on the last business day of the month.

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 1998 through 2002 were replaced at the end of 2002. 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: 44 of the 73 components are seasonally adjusted for 2003.

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 a large increase in coffee prices due to adverse weather. The procedure was used to account for unusual butter fat supply reductions and decreases in milk supply 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. It was used to offset an increase in demand due to warmer than expected weather and increased rates to conserve supplies for Electricity. 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 a complete list of series that used Intervention Analysis Seasonal Adjustment, a list of unusual events modeled for them, or for a description of intervention analysis please write to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, Washington, DC 20212 or by calling Daniel Chow on (202) 691-6968 or sending e-mail to Chow_Dan@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 2002	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Nov. 2003 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Nov. 2002	Oct. 2003	Aug. to Sep.	Sep. to Oct.	Oct. to Nov.
		Expenditure category						
All items	100.000	185.0	184.5	1.8	-0.3	0.3	0.0	-0.2
All items (1967=100)	-	554.3	552.7	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	15.583	182.2	182.9	3.1	.4	.2	.6	.4
Food	14.554	181.7	182.4	3.2	.4	.2	.6	.4
Food at home	8.338	181.5	182.4	3.9	.5	.3	.7	.7
Cereals and bakery products	1.281	203.1	202.5	2.1	-3	-1	-2	.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	2.222	174.0	179.3	10.6	3.0	.7	1.8	3.2
Dairy and related products ¹ .....	.876	171.8	171.2	2.5	-3	1.7	.9	-3
Fruits and vegetables	1.234	226.3	227.5	3.5	.5	-7	.9	.4
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	.954	140.5	137.9	-9	-1.9	-1	.5	-1.6
Other food at home	1.771	163.0	162.0	.6	-6	.2	.1	-5
Sugar and sweets .....	.314	162.5	161.7	2.0	-5	-1	.3	.4
Fats and oils .....	.252	159.7	157.3	2.5	-1.5	.2	1.0	-6
Other foods	1.205	178.7	177.9	-2	-4	.3	-1	-7
Other miscellaneous foods ^{1 2} .....	.287	110.7	109.0	-1.2	-1.5	1.0	-3	-1.5
Food away from home ¹	6.216	183.3	183.8	2.2	.3	.1	.3	.3
Other food away from home ² .....	.388	122.3	122.7	2.5	.3	.0	.4	.3
Alcoholic beverages	1.029	188.1	188.6	1.9	.3	.6	.1	.3
Housing	40.854	185.7	185.1	2.2	-3	.1	.3	-1
Shelter	31.728	214.7	214.2	2.2	-2	.1	.4	.0
Rent of primary residence ³	6.467	206.9	207.5	2.7	.3	.2	.0	.2
Lodging away from home ^{2 3}	2.654	120.9	115.0	1.6	-4.9	-3	2.3	-1.1
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{3 4}	22.243	221.4	221.9	2.1	.2	.1	.3	.1
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2} .....	.365	116.0	114.3	2.6	-1.5	.1	.1	-1.5
Fuels and utilities	4.469	155.0	152.9	6.5	-1.4	.2	-8	-9
Fuels	3.604	138.2	135.7	6.9	-1.8	.1	-1.1	-1.2
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.205	131.4	134.8	10.7	2.6	-1.9	-1.3	1.1
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	3.399	145.6	142.6	6.7	-2.1	.3	-1.1	-1.4
Water and sewer and trash collection services ² .....	.864	118.8	119.4	4.5	.5	.3	.5	.6
Household furnishings and operations	4.658	125.1	124.9	-2.3	-2	-4	.2	-3
Household operations ^{1 2} .....	.820	122.6	122.4	2.1	-2	.4	.2	-2
Apparel	4.220	124.8	123.1	-1.9	-1.4	.5	.2	-5
Men's and boys' apparel	1.065	120.8	121.4	-1.5	.5	1.7	.3	.3
Women's and girls' apparel	1.738	118.8	115.7	-1.9	-2.6	-1	1.0	-1.1
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.193	125.2	123.0	-3.5	-1.8	1.1	-9	-1.9
Footwear .....	.853	121.8	121.0	-1.4	-7	.8	-1	-3
Transportation	17.293	157.1	155.7	.3	-9	.9	-1.6	-1.3
Private transportation	16.121	153.0	151.7	.1	-8	.9	-1.7	-1.4
New and used motor vehicles ²	8.170	94.6	94.6	-4.3	.0	-1.0	-7	-4
New vehicles	4.864	136.5	137.5	-2.1	.7	-4	-3	.0
Used cars and trucks	2.025	135.1	132.0	-11.3	-2.3	-3.1	-3.0	-2.3
Motor fuel	3.119	136.6	131.2	5.5	-4.0	6.2	-6.8	-4.9
Gasoline (all types)	3.091	136.0	130.6	5.5	-4.0	6.3	-6.8	-5.0
Motor vehicle parts and equipment ¹ .....	.416	107.9	107.9	.7	.0	-2	.2	.0
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.418	196.9	197.2	2.3	.2	.2	.2	.3
Public transportation	1.172	211.3	207.9	2.8	-1.6	-5	1.1	-5
Medical care	5.961	299.9	300.8	3.5	.3	.5	.3	.3
Medical care commodities	1.387	264.7	264.0	1.9	-3	.4	.1	-3
Medical care services	4.574	309.1	310.6	4.1	.5	.5	.4	.5
Professional services ³	2.808	263.0	263.0	2.5	.0	.3	.3	.1
Hospital and related services ³	1.451	400.7	405.6	6.5	1.2	.6	.3	1.2

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-U Expenditure category	Relative importance, December 2002	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Nov. 2003 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—			
		Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Nov. 2002	Oct. 2003	Aug. to Sep.	Sep. to Oct.	Oct. to Nov.	
Recreation ²	5.943	107.6	107.8	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	
Video and audio ²	1.638	103.5	103.8	.8	.3	.3	.2	.1	
Education and communication ²	5.798	110.9	110.8	1.4	-1	.1	.0	.1	
Education ²	2.835	139.1	139.0	6.9	-1	.6	.4	.4	
Educational books and supplies .....	.236	339.7	336.0	3.7	-1.1	-1.0	.5	-7
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.599	401.1	401.2	7.2	.0	.7	.4	.4	
Communication ²	2.963	88.4	88.2	-3.9	-2	-4	-2	-2	
Information and information processing ^{1 2}	2.765	86.4	86.2	-4.2	-2	-3	-3	-2	
Telephone services ^{1 2}	2.273	97.1	97.2	-2.6	.1	-4	-3	.1	
Information and information processing other than telephone services ^{1 5} .....	.492	15.6	15.4	-11.0	-1.3	-6	.0	-1.3
Personal computers and peripheral equipment ^{1 2} .....	.210	16.5	16.3	-18.5	-1.2	-2.4	1.2	-1.2
Other goods and services	4.350	300.2	300.0	1.5	-1	.1	.1	-1	
Tobacco and smoking products ¹ .....	.992	469.5	469.1	-3	-1	-7	.2	-1
Personal care ¹	3.358	179.1	179.0	2.0	-1	.3	.1	-1	
Personal care products ¹ .....	.680	153.6	153.2	-6	-3	-1	.1	-3
Personal care services ¹ .....	.897	195.6	194.2	2.3	-7	.8	.1	-7
Miscellaneous personal services	1.573	285.8	287.0	3.8	.4	.4	.1	.6	
Commodity and service group									
Commodities	40.822	151.4	150.9	.2	-3	.4	-6	-5	
Food and beverages	15.583	182.2	182.9	3.1	.4	.2	.6	.4	
Commodities less food and beverages	25.239	134.1	132.9	-1.7	-9	.5	-1.3	-1.0	
Nondurables less food and beverages	13.824	151.2	149.0	.7	-1.5	.9	-1.4	-5	
Apparel	4.220	124.8	123.1	-1.9	-1.4	.5	.2	-5	
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	9.604	171.6	169.1	1.9	-1.5	1.4	-2.6	-1.6	
Durables	11.416	115.2	115.1	-4.5	-1	-9	-7	-5	
Services	59.178	218.4	217.9	2.9	-2	.2	.3	.0	
Rent of shelter ⁴	31.364	223.5	223.0	2.2	-2	.1	.4	.1	
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2} .....	.365	116.0	114.3	2.6	-1.5	.1	.1	-1.5
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	3.399	145.6	142.6	6.7	-2.1	.3	-1.1	-1.4	
Water and sewer and trash collection services ² .....	.864	118.8	119.4	4.5	.5	.3	.5	.6
Household operations ^{1 2} .....	.820	122.6	122.4	2.1	-2	.4	.2	-2
Transportation services	6.722	218.9	218.6	3.1	-1	.1	.8	-2	
Medical care services	4.574	309.1	310.6	4.1	.5	.5	.4	.5	
Other services	11.071	257.2	257.3	3.0	.0	.4	.1	.2	
Special indexes									
All items less food	85.446	185.6	184.9	1.5	-4	.3	-2	-3	
All items less shelter	68.272	175.5	174.9	1.5	-3	.4	-3	-3	
All items less medical care	94.039	179.1	178.5	1.7	-3	.3	-1	-3	
Commodities less food	26.268	136.1	135.0	-1.5	-8	.5	-1.2	-1.0	
Nondurables less food	14.853	153.3	151.3	.7	-1.3	.9	-1.3	-5	
Nondurables less food and apparel	10.633	172.2	170.0	1.9	-1.3	1.7	-2.0	-1.6	
Nondurables	29.406	166.8	166.1	2.0	-4	.5	-5	.1	
Services less rent of shelter ⁴	27.815	228.7	228.2	3.6	-2	.4	.1	.0	
Services less medical care services	54.604	210.5	209.9	2.7	-3	.3	.3	.0	
Energy	6.723	136.9	133.1	6.2	-2.8	3.0	-3.9	-3.0	
All items less energy	93.277	191.7	191.6	1.4	-1	.1	.3	.0	
All items less food and energy	78.724	194.3	193.9	1.1	-2	.1	.2	-1	
Commodities less food and energy commodities	22.945	140.4	139.9	-2.6	-4	-4	-3	-4	
Energy commodities	3.324	137.0	132.1	5.8	-3.6	5.8	-6.6	-4.4	
Services less energy services	55.779	225.8	225.6	2.6	-1	.2	.4	.0	
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00)	-	\$.540	\$.542	-	-	-	-	-	
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00)	-	\$.180	\$.181	-	-	-	-	-	

¹ Not seasonally adjusted.

² Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

³ This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

⁴ Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

⁵ 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—		
	Aug. 2003	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Feb. 2003	May 2003	Aug. 2003	Nov. 2003	May 2003	Nov. 2003
Expenditure category										
All items	184.5	185.0	185.0	184.6	4.3	0.0	2.6	0.2	2.1	1.4
Food and beverages	180.9	181.3	182.3	183.1	2.7	1.6	3.2	5.0	2.2	4.1
Food	180.4	180.8	181.8	182.6	2.7	1.6	3.4	5.0	2.2	4.2
Food at home	179.7	180.3	181.6	182.8	3.5	1.1	4.1	7.1	2.3	5.6
Cereals and bakery products	203.7	203.5	203.1	203.3	5.3	2.0	1.8	-8	3.6	.5
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	169.2	170.4	173.4	178.9	8.1	1.7	8.7	25.0	4.9	16.6
Dairy and related products ¹	167.5	170.3	171.8	171.2	.2	-4.2	5.2	9.1	-2.0	7.1
Fruits and vegetables	228.5	227.0	229.0	230.0	.2	2.5	8.9	2.7	1.4	5.7
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	139.6	139.5	140.2	138.0	.6	4.4	-3.9	-4.5	2.5	-4.2
Other food at home	162.7	163.0	163.2	162.4	2.5	-5	1.2	-7	1.0	.2
Sugar and sweets	162.3	162.2	162.7	163.3	2.3	2.5	.5	2.5	2.4	1.5
Fats and oils	157.0	157.3	158.9	157.9	13.1	-4.0	-8	2.3	4.2	.8
Other foods	178.9	179.4	179.2	177.9	.2	-2	1.6	-2.2	.0	-3
Other miscellaneous foods ^{1 2}	109.9	111.0	110.7	109.0	.7	-1.4	-7	-3.2	-4	-2.0
Food away from home ¹	182.6	182.8	183.3	183.8	2.0	1.8	2.4	2.7	1.9	2.6
Other food away from home ²	121.3	121.3	121.8	122.2	3.4	1.7	1.7	3.0	2.5	2.3
Alcoholic beverages	186.9	188.0	188.1	188.6	.9	2.6	.4	3.7	1.7	2.0
Housing	185.3	185.4	185.9	185.7	3.6	2.9	1.3	.9	3.2	1.1
Shelter	213.7	214.0	214.9	214.9	2.3	2.5	1.7	2.3	2.4	2.0
Rent of primary residence ³	206.3	206.8	206.9	207.3	3.2	3.2	2.4	2.0	3.2	2.2
Lodging away from home ^{2 3}	119.8	119.4	122.2	120.8	-6.6	12.2	-1.7	3.4	2.4	.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{3 4}	220.4	220.7	221.4	221.7	3.0	1.1	2.0	2.4	2.0	2.2
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2}	115.8	115.9	116.0	114.3	10.1	.7	5.4	-5.1	5.3	.0
Fuels and utilities	156.2	156.5	155.2	153.8	16.4	15.2	1.3	-6.0	15.8	-2.4
Fuels	139.8	140.0	138.4	136.7	20.1	17.8	.3	-8.6	18.9	-4.2
Fuel oil and other fuels	137.6	135.0	133.3	134.8	132.5	-32.4	3.6	-7.9	25.4	-2.3
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	147.0	147.4	145.8	143.7	15.3	21.9	.3	-8.7	18.6	-4.3
Water and sewer and trash collection services ²	117.9	118.3	118.9	119.6	2.1	4.6	5.6	5.9	3.3	5.8
Household furnishings and operations	125.5	125.0	125.3	124.9	.0	-4.6	-2.5	-1.9	-2.3	-2.2
Household operations ^{1 2}	121.8	122.3	122.6	122.4	7.2	-2.3	1.7	2.0	2.3	1.8
Apparel	120.6	121.2	121.5	120.9	-5.1	-5.2	2.0	1.0	-5.1	1.5
Men's and boys' apparel	115.9	117.9	118.3	118.7	-7.4	-3.0	-4.4	10.0	-5.2	2.6
Women's and girls' apparel	113.2	113.1	114.2	113.0	-5.8	-4.5	3.2	-7	-5.1	1.3
Infants' and toddlers' apparel	123.2	124.5	123.4	121.1	-9.5	2.3	.3	-6.6	-3.8	-3.2
Footwear	119.2	120.1	120.0	119.6	1.3	-11.9	4.8	1.3	-5.5	3.1
Transportation	158.6	160.0	157.5	155.4	11.9	-7.6	6.3	-7.8	1.7	-1.0
Private transportation	154.6	156.0	153.3	151.2	12.8	-8.5	6.5	-8.5	1.6	-1.3
New and used motor vehicles ²	96.5	95.5	94.8	94.4	-3.6	-1.2	-3.6	-8.4	-2.4	-6.1
New vehicles	138.1	137.6	137.2	137.2	-4.8	-1.4	.6	-2.6	-3.1	-1.0
Used cars and trucks	143.1	138.6	134.5	131.4	2.2	-1.1	-13.5	-28.9	.5	-21.6
Motor fuel	138.6	147.2	137.2	130.5	78.0	-37.2	40.5	-21.4	5.7	5.1
Gasoline (all types)	138.0	146.7	136.7	129.9	78.0	-37.4	41.2	-21.5	5.6	5.3
Motor vehicle parts and equipment ¹	107.9	107.7	107.9	107.9	3.8	-1.5	.4	.0	1.1	.2
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	195.9	196.2	196.5	197.0	3.4	1.7	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.2
Public transportation	211.3	210.3	212.6	211.5	-2.5	12.1	1.9	.4	4.5	1.1
Medical care	298.1	299.5	300.5	301.4	2.5	3.0	4.0	4.5	2.8	4.2
Medical care commodities	263.9	264.9	265.2	264.5	1.1	1.7	3.7	.9	1.4	2.3
Medical care services	306.9	308.5	309.7	311.2	3.0	3.4	4.0	5.7	3.2	4.9
Professional services ³	261.7	262.6	263.5	263.8	1.7	4.1	1.2	3.2	2.9	2.2
Hospital and related services ³	397.6	400.0	401.1	406.0	6.1	2.3	9.3	8.7	4.2	9.0

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—		
	Aug. 2003	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Feb. 2003	May 2003	Aug. 2003	Nov. 2003	May 2003	Nov. 2003
Expenditure category										
Recreation ²	107.6	107.8	107.8	107.9	2.7	1.1	0.4	1.1	1.9	0.7
Video and audio ²	103.6	103.9	104.1	104.2	.0	.4	.4	2.3	.2	1.4
Education and communication ²	110.1	110.2	110.2	110.3	3.4	-1.8	3.3	.7	.7	2.0
Education ²	136.1	136.9	137.4	137.9	6.4	5.6	10.6	5.4	6.0	8.0
Educational books and supplies	339.9	336.5	338.3	336.0	7.7	4.8	7.1	-4.5	6.3	1.1
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	391.7	394.5	396.0	397.6	6.3	5.6	11.1	6.2	6.0	8.6
Communication ²	89.0	88.6	88.4	88.2	.4	-8.8	-3.5	-3.5	-4.3	-3.5
Information and information processing ^{1 2}	87.0	86.7	86.4	86.2	.4	-9.4	-4.0	-3.6	-4.6	-3.8
Telephone services ^{1 2}	97.8	97.4	97.1	97.2	2.8	-9.2	-1.2	-2.4	-3.4	-1.8
Information and information processing other than telephone services ^{1 5}	15.7	15.6	15.6	15.4	-8.9	-11.3	-16.0	-7.4	-10.1	-11.8
Personal computers and peripheral equipment ^{1 2}	16.7	16.3	16.5	16.3	-16.8	-21.1	-25.9	-9.2	-19.0	-18.0
Other goods and services	299.6	299.9	300.2	300.0	2.6	.8	2.0	.5	1.7	1.3
Tobacco and smoking products ¹	471.8	468.7	469.5	469.1	2.0	-5.9	5.4	-2.3	-2.0	1.5
Personal care ¹	178.4	179.0	179.1	179.0	2.8	2.7	1.1	1.4	2.8	1.2
Personal care products ¹	153.5	153.4	153.6	153.2	-2.3	.8	-3	-8	-8	-5
Personal care services ¹	193.9	195.4	195.6	194.2	2.1	4.5	1.9	.6	3.3	1.2
Miscellaneous personal services	284.3	285.5	285.8	287.6	4.1	3.8	2.7	4.7	3.9	3.7
Commodity and service group										
Commodities	151.5	152.1	151.2	150.5	5.2	-5.2	3.5	-2.6	-.1	.4
Food and beverages	180.9	181.3	182.3	183.1	2.7	1.6	3.2	5.0	2.2	4.1
Commodities less food and beverages	134.8	135.5	133.7	132.4	6.7	-8.8	3.6	-6.9	-1.3	-1.8
Nondurables less food and beverages	150.5	151.8	149.7	148.9	15.4	-18.0	13.5	-4.2	-2.7	4.3
Apparel	120.6	121.2	121.5	120.9	-5.1	-5.2	2.0	1.0	-5.1	1.5
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	173.9	176.4	171.9	169.2	20.4	-13.7	15.6	-10.4	1.9	1.8
Durables	117.2	116.1	115.3	114.7	-2.0	-3.6	-4.3	-8.3	-2.8	-6.3
Services	217.3	217.8	218.5	218.4	3.4	3.8	2.2	2.0	3.6	2.1
Rent of shelter ⁴	222.5	222.8	223.7	223.9	2.0	2.6	1.8	2.5	2.3	2.2
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2}	115.8	115.9	116.0	114.3	10.1	.7	5.4	-5.1	5.3	.0
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	147.0	147.4	145.8	143.7	15.3	21.9	.3	-8.7	18.6	-4.3
Water and sewer and trash collection services ²	117.9	118.3	118.9	119.6	2.1	4.6	5.6	5.9	3.3	5.8
Household operations ^{1 2}	121.8	122.3	122.6	122.4	7.2	-2.3	1.7	2.0	2.3	1.8
Transportation services	217.2	217.5	219.3	218.8	2.1	5.6	2.1	3.0	3.8	2.5
Medical care services	306.9	308.5	309.7	311.2	3.0	3.4	4.0	5.7	3.2	4.9
Other services	255.3	256.3	256.6	257.0	4.4	1.6	3.2	2.7	3.0	2.9
Special indexes										
All items less food	185.2	185.8	185.5	184.9	4.5	-.2	2.4	-.6	2.1	.9
All items less shelter	175.1	175.8	175.3	174.8	5.2	-1.1	3.0	-.7	2.0	1.2
All items less medical care	178.6	179.1	179.0	178.5	4.2	-.2	2.7	-.2	1.9	1.2
Commodities less food	136.7	137.4	135.7	134.4	6.6	-8.4	3.3	-6.6	-1.2	-1.8
Nondurables less food	152.6	154.0	152.0	151.2	14.0	-16.4	12.1	-3.6	-2.4	3.9
Nondurables less food and apparel	173.4	176.4	172.8	170.0	19.5	-12.9	11.9	-7.6	2.0	1.7
Nondurables	165.9	166.8	166.0	166.1	8.1	-7.7	7.8	.5	-.1	4.1
Services less rent of shelter ⁴	227.5	228.5	228.7	228.7	4.4	5.3	2.9	2.1	4.9	2.5
Services less medical care services	209.5	210.1	210.7	210.6	3.2	4.3	1.7	2.1	3.7	1.9
Energy	138.7	142.9	137.3	133.2	44.9	-12.4	17.2	-14.9	12.6	-.1
All items less energy	190.9	191.1	191.6	191.6	1.7	1.1	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5
All items less food and energy	193.6	193.7	194.1	194.0	1.5	1.0	1.2	.8	1.3	1.0
Commodities less food and energy commodities	140.7	140.2	139.8	139.3	-1.9	-2.8	-1.4	-3.9	-2.4	-2.7
Energy commodities	139.2	147.3	137.6	131.5	81.1	-36.9	37.7	-20.4	6.9	4.7
Services less energy services	224.5	225.0	225.9	226.0	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.7	2.7	2.5

¹ Not seasonally adjusted.

² Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

³ This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in

January, 1999.

⁴ Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

⁵ 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 1	All items										
		Indexes				Percent change to Nov.2003 from—			Percent change to Oct.2003 from—			
		Aug. 2003	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Nov. 2002	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Oct. 2002	Aug. 2003	Sep. 2003	
U.S. city average	M	184.6	185.2	185.0	184.5	1.8	-0.4	-0.3	2.0	0.2	-0.1	
Region and area size²												
Northeast urban	M	194.3	195.0	195.4	195.1	2.6	.1	-2	2.9	.6	.2	
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	196.6	197.3	197.7	197.3	2.9	.0	-2	3.2	.6	.2	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	114.4	115.0	115.2	115.3	1.9	.3	.1	1.9	.7	.2	
Midwest urban	M	178.8	179.5	179.1	178.9	1.6	-3	-1	1.6	.2	-2	
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	181.2	182.0	181.7	181.4	1.7	-3	-2	1.7	.3	-2	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	113.6	113.9	113.6	113.6	1.7	-3	.0	1.5	.0	-3	
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	172.1	172.3	171.8	171.4	.6	-5	-2	.9	-.2	-3	
South urban	M	177.9	178.3	178.1	177.5	1.5	-4	-3	1.8	.1	-1	
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	179.8	180.1	180.1	179.1	1.7	-6	-6	2.0	.2	.0	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	113.4	113.8	113.6	113.3	1.3	-4	-3	1.8	.2	-2	
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	175.9	176.3	175.6	175.4	1.4	-5	-1	1.6	-.2	-4	
West urban	M	189.2	189.6	189.4	188.5	1.5	-6	-5	1.9	.1	-1	
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	191.7	192.3	191.9	191.0	1.4	-7	-5	1.9	.1	-2	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	115.5	115.6	115.5	114.9	1.6	-6	-5	1.9	.0	-1	
Size classes												
A ⁴	M	169.0	169.6	169.5	168.9	1.9	-4	-4	2.2	.3	-1	
B/C ³	M	113.9	114.3	114.1	113.9	1.5	-3	-2	1.8	.2	-2	
D	M	177.1	177.4	176.9	176.6	1.2	-5	-2	1.5	-.1	-3	
Selected local areas⁵												
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI	M	184.5	186.1	185.8	185.6	1.3	-3	-1	1.6	.7	-2	
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ..	M	186.9	188.2	187.8	187.1	1.7	-6	-4	2.2	.5	-2	
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA	M	199.1	199.6	200.0	199.4	3.1	-1	-3	3.3	.5	.2	
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT	1	-	206.8	-	206.5	3.0	-1	-	-	-	-	
Cleveland-Akron, OH	1	-	178.5	-	177.6	2.4	-5	-	-	-	-	
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	177.0	-	175.9	1.3	-6	-	-	-	-	
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV ⁶	1	-	117.2	-	116.7	2.4	-4	-	-	-	-	
Atlanta, GA	2	181.7	-	180.1	-	-	-	-	.4	-.9	-	
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI	2	183.6	-	183.3	-	-	-	-	1.6	-.2	-	
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	164.1	-	166.1	-	-	-	-	2.2	1.2	-	
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	180.9	-	181.6	-	-	-	-	2.6	.4	-	
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	191.1	-	190.3	-	-	-	-	2.4	-.4	-	
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	196.3	-	196.3	-	-	-	-	1.0	.0	-	
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA	2	194.4	-	193.7	-	-	-	-	1.5	-.4	-	

¹ 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.

² Regions defined as the four Census regions. See technical notes.

³ Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.

⁴ Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

⁵ 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.

⁶ Indexes on a November 1996=100 base.

- Data not available.

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

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.

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W Expenditure category	Relative importance, December 2002	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Nov. 2003 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Nov. 2002	Oct. 2003	Aug. to Sep.	Sep. to Oct.	Oct. to Nov.
All items	100.000	180.7	180.2	1.6	-0.3	0.3	-0.2	-0.3
All items (1967=100)	-	538.2	536.7	-	-	-	-	-
Food and beverages	17.072	181.7	182.4	3.3	.4	.3	.6	.5
Food	16.071	181.2	181.9	3.4	.4	.3	.6	.5
Food at home	9.646	180.7	181.6	4.1	.5	.4	.7	.7
Cereals and bakery products	1.449	203.2	202.4	2.1	-4	.0	-2	.0
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	2.773	173.8	179.2	10.5	3.1	.7	1.8	3.2
Dairy and related products ¹ .....	.977	171.7	171.0	2.5	-4	1.9	.9	-4
Fruits and vegetables	1.337	224.9	225.3	3.3	.2	-7	.9	.2
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	1.118	139.8	137.3	-9	-1.8	.1	.4	-1.4
Other food at home	1.992	162.5	161.6	.6	-6	.3	.1	-6
Sugar and sweets .....	.337	162.1	161.4	2.0	-4	.0	.3	.4
Fats and oils .....	.302	159.6	157.3	2.5	-1.4	-1	1.1	-6
Other foods	1.353	179.0	178.3	-3	-4	.5	-3	-8
Other miscellaneous foods ^{1 2} .....	.308	111.2	109.5	-1.4	-1.5	1.1	-1	-1.5
Food away from home ¹	6.425	183.3	183.7	2.2	.2	.2	.3	.2
Other food away from home ² .....	.278	122.5	122.9	2.4	.3	-1	.5	.3
Alcoholic beverages	1.001	188.1	188.8	2.3	.4	.5	.2	.3
Housing	38.134	181.3	180.9	2.3	-2	.1	.2	-1
Shelter	29.422	208.3	208.2	2.2	.0	.1	.3	.0
Rent of primary residence ³	8.456	206.1	206.6	2.6	.2	.1	.1	.1
Lodging away from home ^{2 3}	1.499	121.7	116.2	1.9	-4.5	-1	1.8	-9
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{3 4}	19.144	201.0	201.4	2.0	.2	.1	.3	.1
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2} .....	.323	116.0	114.4	2.9	-1.4	.1	.2	-1.4
Fuels and utilities	4.783	154.3	152.3	6.5	-1.3	.2	-8	-9
Fuels	3.902	137.0	134.7	6.9	-1.7	.2	-1.2	-1.2
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	.192	130.7	134.4	11.1	2.8	-1.4	-1.0	1.4
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	3.710	144.6	141.9	6.8	-1.9	.3	-1.2	-1.3
Water and sewer and trash collection services ² .....	.880	118.9	119.5	4.5	.5	.3	.5	.5
Household furnishings and operations	3.929	120.9	120.7	-2.4	-2	-5	.1	-2
Household operations ^{1 2} .....	.357	123.7	123.7	2.4	.0	.4	.2	.0
Apparel	4.638	123.9	122.6	-1.6	-1.0	.7	.4	-5
Men's and boys' apparel	1.176	120.0	121.1	-1.3	.9	1.6	.3	.8
Women's and girls' apparel	1.801	118.2	115.3	-1.6	-2.5	.1	1.1	-1.0
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	.244	127.7	125.0	-3.6	-2.1	1.3	-7	-2.5
Footwear	1.136	121.1	120.4	-1.7	-6	.8	.0	-6
Transportation	19.666	155.4	153.6	-4	-1.2	.8	-1.8	-1.7
Private transportation	18.751	152.5	150.8	-5	-1.1	.8	-2.0	-1.7
New and used motor vehicles ²	9.568	93.5	93.1	-5.7	-4	-1.5	-1.3	-7
New vehicles	4.682	137.8	138.7	-2.0	.7	-3	-4	.1
Used cars and trucks	3.783	135.9	132.8	-11.3	-2.3	-3.2	-2.9	-2.4
Motor fuel	3.836	136.9	131.5	5.4	-3.9	6.3	-6.6	-5.2
Gasoline (all types)	3.803	136.4	130.9	5.3	-4.0	6.2	-6.6	-5.2
Motor vehicle parts and equipment ¹ .....	.524	107.5	107.5	.9	.0	-1	.3	.0
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	1.458	198.6	198.9	2.4	.2	.2	.3	.2
Public transportation .....	.915	208.7	205.8	3.7	-1.4	-3	1.1	-5
Medical care	4.747	299.1	300.1	3.6	.3	.5	.4	.3
Medical care commodities	1.012	259.2	258.5	2.0	-3	.4	.1	-3
Medical care services	3.735	309.1	310.6	4.1	.5	.5	.5	.5
Professional services ³	2.265	265.2	265.2	2.5	.0	.3	.4	.1
Hospital and related services ³	1.177	397.5	402.4	6.8	1.2	.7	.5	1.2

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W Expenditure category	Relative importance, December 2002	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Nov. 2003 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—			
		Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Nov. 2002	Oct. 2003	Aug. to Sep.	Sep. to Oct.	Oct. to Nov.	
		Recreation ²	5.567	105.4	105.6	1.0	0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.3
Video and audio ²	1.795	102.8	103.0	.8	.2	.2	.2	.2	
Education and communication ²	5.604	109.7	109.6	.7	-1	-1	.0	.1	
Education ²	2.472	138.1	138.0	6.4	-1	.4	.3	.3	
Educational books and supplies .....	.217	340.6	337.5	3.8	-9	-1.0	.4	-3
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	2.256	390.1	390.2	6.6	.0	.4	.3	.3	
Communication ²	3.132	89.9	89.8	-3.8	-1	-3	-3	-1	
Information and information processing ^{1 2}	2.972	88.5	88.4	-3.9	-1	-3	-3	-1	
Telephone services ^{1 2}	2.536	97.3	97.4	-2.7	.1	-4	-3	.1	
Information and information processing other than telephone services ^{1 5} .....	.436	16.2	15.9	-11.2	-1.9	-1.2	.6	-1.9
Personal computers and peripheral equipment ^{1 2} .....	.191	16.2	16.0	-18.8	-1.2	-1.8	1.3	-1.2
Other goods and services	4.571	308.2	307.7	.9	-2	.0	.1	-2	
Tobacco and smoking products ¹	1.542	470.7	470.2	-5	-1	-7	.2	-1	
Personal care ¹	3.030	178.0	177.7	1.6	-2	.3	.1	-2	
Personal care products ¹ .....	.786	154.1	153.8	-8	-2	-2	.1	-2
Personal care services ¹ .....	.896	196.3	194.8	2.2	-8	.8	.1	-8
Miscellaneous personal services	1.170	285.6	286.7	3.7	.4	.4	.1	.4	
Commodity and service group									
Commodities	45.066	151.9	151.3	.0	-4	.4	-7	-5	
Food and beverages	17.072	181.7	182.4	3.3	.4	.3	.6	.5	
Commodities less food and beverages	27.994	135.2	133.8	-2.0	-1.0	.4	-1.5	-1.2	
Nondurables less food and beverages	15.152	153.6	151.4	.8	-1.4	1.0	-1.4	-6	
Apparel	4.638	123.9	122.6	-1.6	-1.0	.7	.4	-5	
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	10.514	175.7	172.9	1.9	-1.6	1.5	-2.7	-1.9	
Durables	12.842	114.7	114.2	-5.3	-4	-1.1	-1.0	-7	
Services	54.934	214.4	214.1	2.9	-1	.2	.2	.0	
Rent of shelter ⁴	29.099	200.6	200.5	2.2	.0	.3	.2	.1	
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2} .....	.323	116.0	114.4	2.9	-1.4	.1	.2	-1.4
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	3.710	144.6	141.9	6.8	-1.9	.3	-1.2	-1.3	
Water and sewer and trash collection services ² .....	.880	118.9	119.5	4.5	.5	.3	.5	.5
Household operations ^{1 2} .....	.357	123.7	123.7	2.4	.0	.4	.2	.0
Transportation services	6.706	219.0	218.8	3.5	-1	.2	.9	-3	
Medical care services	3.735	309.1	310.6	4.1	.5	.5	.5	.5	
Other services	10.123	250.7	250.7	2.4	.0	.3	.1	.1	
Special indexes									
All items less food	83.929	180.4	179.7	1.2	-4	.3	-3	-4	
All items less shelter	70.578	172.6	171.9	1.3	-4	.4	-4	-4	
All items less medical care	95.253	175.6	175.0	1.4	-3	.3	-2	-3	
Commodities less food	28.995	137.0	135.8	-1.8	-9	.5	-1.4	-1.2	
Nondurables less food	16.153	155.7	153.7	.9	-1.3	1.0	-1.3	-6	
Nondurables less food and apparel	11.514	176.1	173.6	2.0	-1.4	1.9	-2.3	-1.7	
Nondurables	32.224	168.1	167.3	2.1	-5	.5	-3	-1	
Services less rent of shelter ⁴	25.835	203.2	202.7	3.6	-2	.4	.1	-1	
Services less medical care services	51.199	206.9	206.5	2.8	-2	.3	.1	.0	
Energy	7.738	136.3	132.4	6.1	-2.9	3.3	-4.0	-3.2	
All items less energy	92.262	187.0	187.0	1.2	.0	.1	.2	.0	
All items less food and energy	76.191	188.6	188.4	.7	-1	.0	.1	-1	
Commodities less food and energy commodities	24.967	140.3	139.7	-3.1	-4	-6	-4	-4	
Energy commodities	4.028	137.2	132.1	5.5	-3.7	5.8	-6.3	-5.0	
Services less energy services	51.224	222.1	222.1	2.6	.0	.2	.4	.0	
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982-84=\$1.00)	-	\$.553	\$.555	-	-	-	-	-	
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=\$1.00)	-	\$.186	\$.186	-	-	-	-	-	

¹ Not seasonally adjusted.

² Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

³ This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

⁴ Indexes on a December 1984=100 base

⁵ 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—		
	Aug. 2003	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Feb. 2003	May 2003	Aug. 2003	Nov. 2003	May 2003	Nov. 2003
Expenditure category										
All items	180.4	180.9	180.6	180.1	4.6	-0.4	2.9	-0.7	2.0	1.1
Food and beverages	180.2	180.8	181.8	182.7	2.7	1.6	3.2	5.7	2.2	4.4
Food	179.7	180.2	181.3	182.2	3.0	1.4	3.4	5.7	2.2	4.5
Food at home	178.8	179.5	180.8	182.0	3.7	.9	4.4	7.4	2.3	5.8
Cereals and bakery products	203.7	203.7	203.2	203.2	6.0	1.6	2.0	-1.0	3.8	.5
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	169.0	170.2	173.2	178.8	7.9	1.7	8.7	25.3	4.8	16.7
Dairy and related products ¹	167.0	170.2	171.7	171.0	.5	-4.7	4.7	9.9	-2.1	7.3
Fruits and vegetables	227.0	225.5	227.5	227.9	.2	2.4	9.3	1.6	1.3	5.4
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	138.8	139.0	139.5	137.6	-.3	5.3	-4.8	-3.4	2.5	-4.1
Other food at home	162.3	162.8	162.9	162.0	2.3	-.7	1.5	-.7	.7	.4
Sugar and sweets	162.0	162.0	162.5	163.2	1.5	3.5	.0	3.0	2.5	1.5
Fats and oils	157.3	157.2	159.0	158.1	12.5	-3.5	.0	2.0	4.2	1.0
Other foods	179.3	180.2	179.7	178.3	.2	-1.3	2.3	-2.2	-.6	.0
Other miscellaneous foods ^{1 2}	110.1	111.3	111.2	109.5	-.4	-1.4	-1.4	-2.2	-.9	-1.8
Food away from home ¹	182.4	182.7	183.3	183.7	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.9	1.9	2.6
Other food away from home ²	121.5	121.4	122.0	122.4	3.4	2.0	1.0	3.0	2.7	2.0
Alcoholic beverages	186.9	187.9	188.3	188.8	2.0	2.4	.6	4.1	2.2	2.4
Housing	181.0	181.1	181.4	181.2	3.7	3.2	1.6	.4	3.4	1.0
Shelter	207.4	207.7	208.4	208.5	2.4	2.4	1.8	2.1	2.4	1.9
Rent of primary residence ³	205.5	205.8	206.1	206.4	3.2	3.0	2.4	1.8	3.1	2.1
Lodging away from home ^{2 3}	120.5	120.4	122.6	121.5	-4.9	11.3	-1.6	3.4	2.9	.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence ^{3 4}	200.1	200.4	201.0	201.2	2.5	1.4	1.8	2.2	1.9	2.0
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2}	115.7	115.8	116.0	114.4	10.1	.4	6.1	-4.4	5.1	.7
Fuels and utilities	155.6	155.9	154.6	153.2	15.9	15.6	1.8	-6.0	15.7	-2.2
Fuels	138.6	138.9	137.3	135.7	19.2	18.0	.9	-8.1	18.6	-3.7
Fuel oil and other fuels	136.3	134.4	133.0	134.9	129.4	-32.5	2.7	-4.0	24.4	-.7
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	146.1	146.5	144.8	142.9	15.1	21.4	.8	-8.5	18.2	-3.9
Water and sewer and trash collection services ²	118.0	118.4	119.0	119.6	2.1	4.6	6.0	5.5	3.3	5.8
Household furnishings and operations	121.4	120.8	120.9	120.7	.0	-5.7	-1.6	-2.3	-2.9	-2.0
Household operations ^{1 2}	122.9	123.4	123.7	123.7	6.8	-1.3	1.6	2.6	2.7	2.1
Apparel	119.5	120.3	120.8	120.2	-5.4	-4.2	1.0	2.4	-4.8	1.7
Men's and boys' apparel	115.4	117.2	117.6	118.5	-7.4	-3.7	-4.1	11.2	-5.6	3.3
Women's and girls' apparel	112.3	112.4	113.6	112.5	-7.1	-3.2	3.6	.7	-5.2	2.2
Infants' and toddlers' apparel	125.2	126.8	125.9	122.8	-10.2	3.6	.0	-7.5	-3.6	-3.8
Footwear	118.5	119.4	119.4	118.7	1.0	-9.2	1.0	.7	-4.3	.8
Transportation	157.4	158.7	155.8	153.2	13.1	-8.5	6.1	-10.3	1.7	-2.4
Private transportation	154.6	155.9	152.8	150.2	13.6	-9.2	6.2	-10.9	1.6	-2.7
New and used motor vehicles ²	96.1	94.7	93.5	92.8	-2.4	-1.6	-5.2	-13.0	-2.0	-9.2
New vehicles	139.2	138.8	138.3	138.5	-5.0	-1.4	.9	-2.0	-3.2	-.6
Used cars and trucks	143.9	139.3	135.2	132.0	1.9	-1.3	-13.2	-29.2	.3	-21.6
Motor fuel	139.1	147.8	138.0	130.8	76.2	-37.4	42.6	-21.8	5.1	5.6
Gasoline (all types)	138.6	147.2	137.5	130.3	75.6	-37.3	43.2	-21.9	4.9	5.8
Motor vehicle parts and equipment ¹	107.3	107.2	107.5	107.5	3.8	-1.1	.4	.7	1.3	.6
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	197.5	197.9	198.4	198.7	4.0	1.0	2.1	2.5	2.5	2.3
Public transportation	208.2	207.6	209.9	208.9	-1.8	14.3	1.6	1.4	5.9	1.5
Medical care	297.1	298.5	299.7	300.7	2.8	2.9	3.7	4.9	2.8	4.3
Medical care commodities	258.3	259.4	259.7	259.0	1.6	2.1	3.0	1.1	1.8	2.0
Medical care services	306.7	308.2	309.7	311.2	3.1	3.2	3.9	6.0	3.2	4.9
Professional services ³	263.9	264.7	265.7	266.0	1.7	4.1	1.2	3.2	2.9	2.2
Hospital and related services ³	393.4	396.1	397.9	402.8	6.7	2.3	8.6	9.9	4.5	9.2

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

CPI-W	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ended—			6 months ended—		
	Aug. 2003	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Feb. 2003	May 2003	Aug. 2003	Nov. 2003	May 2003	Nov. 2003
Expenditure category										
Recreation ²	105.6	105.6	105.5	105.8	2.3	0.4	0.8	0.8	1.3	0.8
Video and audio ²	102.8	103.0	103.2	103.4	.0	.4	.4	2.4	.2	1.4
Education and communication ²	109.2	109.1	109.1	109.2	3.0	-2.5	2.6	.0	.2	1.3
Education ²	135.6	136.1	136.5	136.9	5.7	5.6	10.4	3.9	5.7	7.1
Educational books and supplies	341.0	337.6	339.0	337.9	7.7	4.9	7.0	-3.6	6.3	1.6
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	382.5	384.2	385.5	386.7	5.4	5.7	10.9	4.5	5.5	7.7
Communication ²	90.5	90.2	89.9	89.8	.4	-8.7	-3.5	-3.1	-4.2	-3.3
Information and information processing ^{1 2}	89.1	88.8	88.5	88.4	.9	-9.2	-3.9	-3.1	-4.3	-3.5
Telephone services ^{1 2}	98.0	97.6	97.3	97.4	2.4	-9.2	-1.2	-2.4	-3.6	-1.8
Information and information processing other than telephone services ^{1 5}	16.3	16.1	16.2	15.9	-8.6	-10.9	-15.5	-9.5	-9.8	-12.5
Personal computers and peripheral equipment ^{1 2}	16.3	16.0	16.2	16.0	-20.5	-16.1	-29.7	-7.2	-18.4	-19.2
Other goods and services	308.0	307.9	308.2	307.7	1.8	-.5	2.6	-.4	.7	1.1
Tobacco and smoking products ¹	473.2	469.9	470.7	470.2	1.7	-6.6	5.6	-2.5	-2.5	1.5
Personal care ¹	177.4	177.9	178.0	177.7	1.8	2.8	1.1	.7	2.3	.9
Personal care products ¹	154.3	154.0	154.1	153.8	-2.6	.5	.3	-1.3	-1.0	-.5
Personal care services ¹	194.6	196.1	196.3	194.8	2.1	4.2	2.1	.4	3.2	1.2
Miscellaneous personal services	284.4	285.5	285.9	287.0	3.4	4.1	3.3	3.7	3.7	3.5
Commodity and service group										
Commodities	152.2	152.8	151.7	150.9	5.7	-5.4	3.5	-3.4	.0	.0
Food and beverages	180.2	180.8	181.8	182.7	2.7	1.6	3.2	5.7	2.2	4.4
Commodities less food and beverages	136.2	136.8	134.8	133.2	7.9	-9.5	3.6	-8.5	-1.2	-2.6
Nondurables less food and beverages	152.8	154.4	152.2	151.3	16.7	-19.4	14.2	-3.9	-3.0	4.8
Apparel	119.5	120.3	120.8	120.2	-5.4	-4.2	1.0	2.4	-4.8	1.7
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	178.3	181.0	176.2	172.9	23.0	-16.0	17.9	-11.6	1.7	2.1
Durables	117.2	115.9	114.7	113.9	-1.3	-3.3	-5.3	-10.8	-2.3	-8.1
Services	213.4	213.9	214.4	214.3	3.7	3.9	2.1	1.7	3.8	1.9
Rent of shelter ⁴	199.6	200.1	200.6	200.9	2.3	2.2	1.6	2.6	2.3	2.1
Tenants' and household insurance ^{1 2}	115.7	115.8	116.0	114.4	10.1	.4	6.1	-4.4	5.1	.7
Gas (piped) and electricity ³	146.1	146.5	144.8	142.9	15.1	21.4	.8	-8.5	18.2	-3.9
Water and sewer and trash collection services ²	118.0	118.4	119.0	119.6	2.1	4.6	6.0	5.5	3.3	5.8
Household operations ^{1 2}	122.9	123.4	123.7	123.7	6.8	-1.3	1.6	2.6	2.7	2.1
Transportation services	217.1	217.5	219.4	218.7	2.9	6.0	2.2	3.0	4.4	2.6
Medical care services	306.7	308.2	309.7	311.2	3.1	3.2	3.9	6.0	3.2	4.9
Other services	249.3	250.0	250.2	250.4	3.8	1.0	2.9	1.8	2.4	2.4
Special indexes										
All items less food	180.3	180.9	180.3	179.5	4.8	-.7	2.5	-1.8	2.0	.3
All items less shelter	172.4	173.1	172.4	171.7	5.5	-1.6	3.1	-1.6	1.9	.7
All items less medical care	175.3	175.8	175.4	174.9	4.7	-.7	2.8	-.9	2.0	.9
Commodities less food	138.0	138.7	136.7	135.1	7.5	-9.1	3.6	-8.1	-1.2	-2.5
Nondurables less food	155.0	156.5	154.5	153.5	15.5	-17.9	13.4	-3.8	-2.6	4.4
Nondurables less food and apparel	177.3	180.7	176.6	173.6	22.3	-14.9	13.2	-8.1	2.0	2.0
Nondurables	167.1	167.9	167.4	167.3	8.8	-8.1	7.8	.5	.0	4.1
Services less rent of shelter ⁴	202.3	203.1	203.4	203.1	4.6	5.6	3.0	1.6	5.1	2.3
Services less medical care services	206.0	206.6	206.9	206.9	3.2	4.0	2.2	1.8	3.6	2.0
Energy	138.2	142.7	137.0	132.6	46.0	-14.6	19.8	-15.2	11.7	.8
All items less energy	186.4	186.5	186.8	186.8	1.5	.9	1.3	.9	1.2	1.1
All items less food and energy	188.2	188.2	188.4	188.2	1.3	.9	.9	.0	1.1	.4
Commodities less food and energy commodities	141.0	140.2	139.6	139.0	-1.7	-3.0	-2.0	-5.6	-2.4	-3.8
Energy commodities	139.6	147.7	138.4	131.5	78.4	-37.2	40.6	-21.3	5.9	5.2
Services less energy services	220.9	221.3	222.2	222.3	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.5

¹ Not seasonally adjusted.

² Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

³ This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series converted to a geometric means estimator in

January, 1999.

⁴ Indexes on a December 1984=100 base

⁵ 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 1	All items										
		Indexes				Percent change to Nov.2003 from—			Percent change to Oct.2003 from—			
		Aug. 2003	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Nov. 2002	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	Oct. 2002	Aug. 2003	Sep. 2003	
U.S. city average	M	180.3	181.0	180.7	180.2	1.6	-0.4	-0.3	1.9	0.2	-0.2	
Region and area size²												
Northeast urban	M	190.7	191.9	192.1	191.9	2.7	.0	-1	3.0	.7	.1	
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	191.8	193.0	193.2	192.8	2.9	-1	-2	3.4	.7	.1	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	114.5	115.1	115.3	115.4	2.0	.3	.1	2.1	.7	.2	
Midwest urban	M	174.1	174.6	174.1	173.9	1.3	-4	-1	1.3	.0	-3	
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	175.5	176.4	176.0	175.7	1.6	-4	-2	1.6	.3	-2	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	113.0	113.2	112.7	112.7	1.3	-4	.0	1.2	-3	-4	
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	169.8	170.0	169.3	169.1	.5	-5	-1	.7	-3	-4	
South urban	M	174.8	175.3	174.9	174.3	1.1	-6	-3	1.5	.1	-2	
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	177.0	177.5	177.3	176.4	1.8	-6	-5	2.1	.2	-1	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	112.1	112.4	112.1	111.9	.7	-4	-2	1.1	.0	-3	
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000)	M	175.5	175.9	174.8	174.5	.6	-8	-2	.9	-4	-6	
West urban	M	184.2	185.0	184.4	183.5	1.4	-8	-5	2.0	.1	-3	
Size A - More than 1,500,000	M	185.3	186.1	185.4	184.4	1.4	-9	-5	2.0	.1	-4	
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 ³	M	114.8	115.3	115.0	114.6	1.5	-6	-3	1.9	.2	-3	
Size classes												
A ⁴	M	167.2	168.0	167.7	167.1	1.9	-5	-4	2.3	.3	-2	
B/C ³	M	113.1	113.5	113.2	113.0	1.2	-4	-2	1.4	.1	-3	
D	M	175.3	175.6	174.9	174.5	.8	-6	-2	1.1	-2	-4	
Selected local areas⁵												
Chicago-Gary-Kenosha, IL-IN-WI	M	178.3	179.8	179.1	179.1	1.2	-4	.0	1.5	.4	-4	
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA ..	M	180.5	181.9	181.2	180.5	2.0	-8	-4	2.7	.4	-4	
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA	M	194.1	195.0	195.2	194.7	3.1	-2	-3	3.4	.6	.1	
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-ME-CT	1	-	206.2	-	205.6	3.2	-3	-	-	-	-	
Cleveland-Akron, OH	1	-	169.5	-	168.3	2.1	-7	-	-	-	-	
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX	1	-	176.7	-	175.6	1.5	-6	-	-	-	-	
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV ⁶	1	-	116.9	-	116.1	2.3	-7	-	-	-	-	
Atlanta, GA	2	179.4	-	177.6	-	-	-	-	.7	-1.0	-	
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI	2	177.5	-	178.2	-	-	-	-	1.8	.4	-	
Houston-Galveston-Brazoria, TX	2	162.5	-	164.0	-	-	-	-	2.3	.9	-	
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	2	178.3	-	179.0	-	-	-	-	2.6	.4	-	
Philadelphia-Wilmington-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD	2	189.2	-	190.2	-	-	-	-	2.5	.5	-	
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	2	192.3	-	191.9	-	-	-	-	1.0	-.2	-	
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA	2	188.2	-	187.8	-	-	-	-	1.2	-.2	-	

¹ 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.

² Regions defined as the four Census regions. See technical notes.

³ Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.

⁴ Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

⁵ 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.

⁶ Indexes on a November 1996=100 base.

- Data not available.

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

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.

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)

C-CPI-U	Relative importance, 1999-2000	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to Nov. 2003 from—	
		Oct. 2003	Nov. 2003	Nov. 2002	Oct. 2003
Expenditure category					
All items	100.000	108.1	107.7	1.3	-0.4
Food and beverages	15.451	109.0	109.3	2.8	.3
Food	14.432	109.0	109.3	2.9	.3
Food at home	8.335	108.2	108.5	3.4	.3
Food away from home	6.096	109.9	110.2	2.1	.3
Alcoholic beverages	1.019	108.9	109.1	1.8	.2
Housing	40.040	111.9	111.4	1.9	-.4
Shelter	30.643	113.6	113.2	2.1	-.4
Fuels and utilities	4.376	119.7	117.9	6.1	-1.5
Household furnishings and operations	5.020	95.6	95.4	-2.8	-.2
Apparel	4.819	95.1	93.9	-2.3	-1.3
Transportation	17.770	105.0	104.1	-.2	-.9
Private transportation	16.520	105.0	104.2	-.4	-.8
Public transportation	1.250	104.7	102.9	2.4	-1.7
Medical care	5.563	117.3	117.6	3.3	.3
Medical care commodities	1.330	112.7	112.4	1.8	-.3
Medical care services	4.233	118.8	119.3	3.8	.4
Recreation	6.124	102.9	103.0	.6	.1
Education and communication	6.068	97.3	97.0	-1.1	-.3
Education	2.546	127.7	127.6	6.9	-.1
Communication	3.522	79.4	79.0	-6.5	-.5
Other goods and services	4.164	112.3	112.2	1.4	-.1
Commodity and service group					
Services	57.098	113.9	113.6	2.7	-.3
Commodities	42.902	100.7	100.3	-.5	-.4
Durables	12.953	87.2	87.0	-5.2	-.2
Nondurables	29.949	107.0	106.5	1.6	-.5
All items less food and energy	78.851	106.8	106.5	.6	-.3
Energy	6.717	121.7	118.2	6.0	-2.9

Indexes for 2003 are initial estimates. Indexes for 2002 are interim adjustments.
NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.