

CONSUMER PRICE MOVEMENTS DECEMBER 2008

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 1.0 percent in December, before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The December level of 210.228 (1982-84=100) was 0.1 percent higher than in December 2007.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased 1.2 percent in December, prior to seasonal adjustment. The December level of 204.813 (1982-84=100) was 0.5 percent lower than in December 2007.

The Chained Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) decreased 1.3 percent in December on a not seasonally adjusted basis. The December level of 120.661 (December 1999=100) was 0.5 percent lower than in December 2007. Please note that the indexes for the post-2006 period are subject to revision.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U decreased 0.7 percent in December, the third consecutive decline. The index is now only 0.1 percent higher than in December 2007. Declining energy prices, particularly for gasoline, again drove most of the decline. The energy index declined 8.3 percent in December. Within energy, the gasoline index fell 17.2 percent and accounted for almost 90 percent of the decrease in the all items index. The index for household energy declined 0.7 percent. Excluding energy, the index was virtually unchanged for the third straight month. The food index declined 0.1 percent in December, the first (cont.)

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

Expenditure Category	Seasonally adjusted							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Dec. 2008	Un- adjusted 12-mos. ended Dec. 2008
	Changes from preceding month								
	June 2008	July 2008	Aug. 2008	Sep. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008		
All items	1.1	0.8	-0.1	0.0	-1.0	-1.7	-0.7	-12.7	0.1
Food and beverages .....	.7	.9	.6	.6	.3	.2	.0	1.7	5.8
Housing .....	.5	.6	-1	-1	.0	-1	.0	-7	2.4
Apparel .....	.1	1.2	.5	-1	-1.0	.3	-9	-6.4	-1.0
Transportation	3.8	1.7	-1.5	-6	-5.4	-9.8	-4.4	-55.6	-13.3
Medical care .....	.2	.1	.2	.3	.2	.2	.3	2.8	2.6
Recreation .....	.1	.4	.5	.2	.1	.0	-2	-4	1.8
Education and communication .....	.5	.5	.2	.1	.2	.2	.3	3.0	3.6
Other goods and services ...	.4	.4	.2	.2	.3	.0	.0	.8	3.4
Special indexes:									
Energy	6.6	4.0	-3.1	-1.9	-8.6	-17.0	-8.3	-76.6	-21.3
Food .....	.8	.9	.6	.6	.3	.2	-1	1.4	5.9
All items less food and energy .....	.3	.3	.2	.1	-1	.0	.0	-3	1.8

decrease since April 2006, as many meat, dairy, fruit, and vegetable indexes decreased. The index for all items excluding food and energy was virtually unchanged in December. Continuing decreases in the indexes for lodging away from home, airline fare, and new and used motor vehicles, along with downturns in the indexes for apparel and recreation, offset increases in other indexes including rent and owners' equivalent rent, medical care, and education.

For the 12 month period ending December 2008, the CPI-U rose 0.1 percent. This was the smallest calendar year increase since a 0.7 percent decline in 1954 and compares with a 4.1 percent increase for the 12 months ended December 2007. Consumer prices declined at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate (SAAR) of 12.7 percent in the fourth quarter of 2008. This followed increases during the first three quarters at rates of 3.1, 7.9, and 2.6 percent, respectively. The index for energy declined at a SAAR of 76.6 percent during the fourth quarter and fell 21.3 percent for the 12 months ending December after rising 17.4 percent during 2007. Petroleum-based energy prices declined 40.5 percent during 2008 while prices for energy services rose 7.7 percent. The food index rose 5.9 percent in 2008 compared to 4.9 percent in 2007, with grocery store food prices rising 6.6 percent in 2008 compared to 5.6 percent in 2007. In both cases, the 2008 increases were the largest since 1980. Among the grocery store food groups, the

Submitted by Sup. Santiago
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at Board Hearing of 6/16/09

IMPORTANT NOTICE: As of April 1, 2008, subscribers will no longer receive paper copies of the Pacific Cities CPI Summary in the mail. The Pacific Cities CPI summary will continue to be available on the internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ro9/pachist.htm>.

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES PACIFIC CITIES AND U. S. CITY AVERAGE
APRIL 2009
ALL ITEMS INDEXES
(1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

MONTHLY DATA	All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)						Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)					
	Indexes			Percent Change			Indexes			Percent Change		
				Year ending	1 Month ending					Year ending	1 Month ending	
Apr. 2008	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Apr. 2009	Apr. 2008	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Mar. 2009	Apr. 2009	Apr. 2009	
U. S. City Average.....	214.823	212.709	213.240	-0.4	-0.7	0.2	210.698	207.218	207.925	-0.9	-1.3	0.3
(1967=100).....	643.515	637.182	638.771	-	-	-	627.606	617.239	619.344	-	-	-
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange Co.....	224.625	221.376	221.693	-1.0	-1.3	0.1	217.914	213.013	213.405	-1.6	-2.1	0.2
(1967=100).....	663.643	654.042	654.979	-	-	-	644.002	629.518	630.676	-	-	-
West	219.437	217.357	217.910	-0.5	-0.7	0.3	214.355	210.661	211.386	-1.2	-1.4	0.3
(Dec. 1977 = 100)	354.708	351.345	352.239	-	-	-	344.885	338.942	340.108	-	-	-
West - A*.....	222.689	221.124	221.790	-0.4	-0.4	0.3	216.055	212.965	213.646	-0.9	-1.1	0.3
(Dec. 1977 = 100)	363.126	360.574	361.659	-	-	-	349.751	344.748	345.851	-	-	-
West - B/C**(Dec. 1996=100).....	133.694	131.775	131.912	-0.8	-1.3	0.1	133.570	130.674	131.103	-1.5	-1.8	0.3

BI-MONTHLY DATA	All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)						Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)					
	Indexes			Percent Change			Indexes			Percent Change		
				Year ending	2 Months ending					Year ending	2 Months ending	
Apr. 2008	Feb. 2009	Apr. 2009	Feb. 2009	Apr. 2009	Apr. 2009	Apr. 2008	Feb. 2009	Apr. 2009	Feb. 2009	Apr. 2009	Apr. 2009	
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose.....	222.074	222.166	223.854	1.2	0.8	0.8	217.913	216.797	218.587	0.9	0.3	0.8
(1967=100).....	682.718	683.001	688.188	-	-	-	663.563	660.165	665.616	-	-	-
Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton.....	223.196	224.737	225.918	1.4	1.2	0.5	218.483	218.752	220.208	1.1	0.8	0.7
(1967=100).....	680.387	685.085	688.685	-	-	-	648.020	648.819	653.138	-	-	-

* A = 1,500,000 population and over

** B/C = less than 1,500,000 population

Dash (-) = Not Available.

Release date May 15, 2009. The next monthly releases are scheduled to be issued on June 17, 2009, and the next bi-monthly releases are scheduled to be issued on July 15, 2009. The The next semi-annual releases are scheduled to be issued on August 14, 2009.

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