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August 21, 2015

Ms. Luly Massaro, Clerk  
Division of Public Utilities and Carriers  
89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, RI 02888

**Re: *Pawtucket Water Supply Board, General Rate Filing***  
***Docket No. 4550***

Dear Luly:

Enclosed please find an original and nine (9) copies of the following document:

1. The Pawtucket Water Supply Board's Responses to the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities And Carriers' Data Requests (Set 5).

Please note that an electronic copy of this document has been provided to the service list.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Keough Jr.

JAK/kf  
Enclosures  
cc: Karen Lyons, Esquire

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 4550

Response Of The Pawtucket Water Supply Board

To The Division of Public Utilities And Carriers'

Data Requests

Set 5

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**DIV. 5-1:**

1. With reference to page 6 of the Rebuttal Testimony of Mr. Woodcock, please provide the following information to which he refers:

- a) A copy of the paper co-authored with Mr. Russell on the cost of water and inflation.
- b) Copies of the national water surveys discussing the price of water and inflation.
- c) A copy of the analysis of the CPI-U and the index for water and sewer maintenance.

**Response:**

a) See attached

b) See attached from Raftelis/AWWA 2012 Water and Wastewater Rate Survey, Black & Veatch 2012/13 Survey, and University of North Carolina Finance Center

c) See attached

**Prepared by:**

C. Woodcock

# What Will Water Rates Be Like in the 1990s?

*David F. Russell and Christopher P.N. Woodcock*

The prices many municipal suppliers and private water utilities charge for water have increased dramatically over the past decade; in some cases they have doubled or tripled. For example, in 1980 a major water authority in the Northeast was charging \$1.01/1,000 gal. The comparable rate today is \$2.05. In a large southwestern community, rates during the six warmest months increased from \$0.74 to \$2.07 per 1,000 gal in the 1980s. Overall charges for water service increased at an average compound rate of about 7 percent per year during the last decade. Many factors led to these increases, including general inflation, higher capital costs, and more stringent environmental regulations. When amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act are fully implemented and as pressure increases to preserve and protect the nation's water resources, it is reasonable to expect that price increases will follow this trend and may surpass it during the 1990s. These increases will strongly influence the use and management of this valuable resource. In addition to continued dramatic overall rate increases, the 1990s will be characterized by increasing block rates, other conservation-based charges, and more widespread adoption of impact fees. This article concludes with some insights into the effects of such changes on the water industry and its customers.

This article describes and summarizes the changes and trends in water rates during the 1980s and postulates on the major changes that can be expected in the 1990s. Included are both the magnitude of change in prices charged per unit of consumption (per 1,000 gal) and the direction of change, i.e., the types of rates or rate structures employed.

The prices many municipal suppliers and private water utilities charge for water have increased dramatically over the past decade; in some cases, they have doubled or tripled. For example, in 1980 a major water authority in the Northeast was charging \$1.01/1,000 gal. Its comparable rate today is \$2.05. For a large community in the Southwest, rates during the six warmest months increased from \$0.74 to \$2.07 per 1,000 gal in the 1980s. (For examples from other utilities, see Table 1.)

Overall charges for water increased at an average compound rate of about 7 percent per year during the last decade. This is nearly double the rate of inflation for the same period. Many factors led to these increases, including general inflation, higher capital costs, and more stringent environmental regulations. When amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) are fully implemented and as pressure increases to preserve and

protect the nation's water resources, it is reasonable to expect that price increases will follow this trend and may surpass it during the 1990s. For example, charges for water service to a typical household in many communities in eastern Massachusetts are expected to double by the mid-1990s and may approach \$500/year by the end of the decade. Clearly, these increases will strongly influence use and management of this valuable resource.

Although not the sole contributing factor, the magnitude of these increases has forced the industry and the public to re-examine the types of charges and the rate structures used. Historically, water service was charged based on a flat fee per customer for unmetered accounts and on a declining-block rate structure for metered accounts. Today, almost all major purveyors meter customer consumption and charge in some relation to the amount of water consumed. With declining-block rates, charges per unit of consumption (\$/1,000 gal) decrease as consumption levels increase. This was predicated on the belief that economies of scale and demand patterns allowed for such a decreasing cost phenomenon. The use of declining-block rates has waned during the 1980s; instead, more and more water utilities are opting for uniform rates (constant charge per 1,000

gal for all consumption) or in some cases for increasing-block rates, which have taken a foothold during this past decade. Rates based on marginal (or incremental) costs that encourage water conservation have also increased. In addition to these shifts, this article considers a range of structures being increasingly adopted or considered throughout the country, including seasonal rates, separate customer classes, demand and service charges, lifeline rates, and impact fees.

In addition to continued dramatic overall rate increases, the 1990s will likely be characterized by conservation-based charges, more widespread adoption of impact fees, and an increased awareness of social and economic issues. The following sections consider water rates during the 1980s, the impact of inflation and other key factors, likely changes in both the level and types of charges, effects on customers, and insights into the effects of such changes on the water industry and its customers.

## Rates during the 1980s compared

Thirty water systems that differed in size and location were selected, and their rates at the beginning and end of the 1980s were compared. Table 1 contains a listing of the rates for each water utility surveyed and the state it is located in. The rates shown are given as uniform consumption charges per 1,000 gal. In each case, the rate listed is the rate applicable to the residential (or domestic-service) classification. In cases in which the consumption charge is not uniform (e.g., decreasing or increasing), an average rate was computed that would result in the same total charge for a typical customer who consumed 89,760 gal (or 12,000 cu ft) per year. (For example, if a utility charged \$1.00/1,000 gal for the first 44,880 gal and \$0.50/1,000 gal for all use above that level, the uniform rate shown would be  $\$0.75/1,000 \text{ gal} - \frac{1}{2} \times \$1.00 + \frac{1}{2} \times \$0.50 = \$0.75$ .) When appropriate, a similar adjustment to the uniform rate was made to compensate for service or customer charges. (For

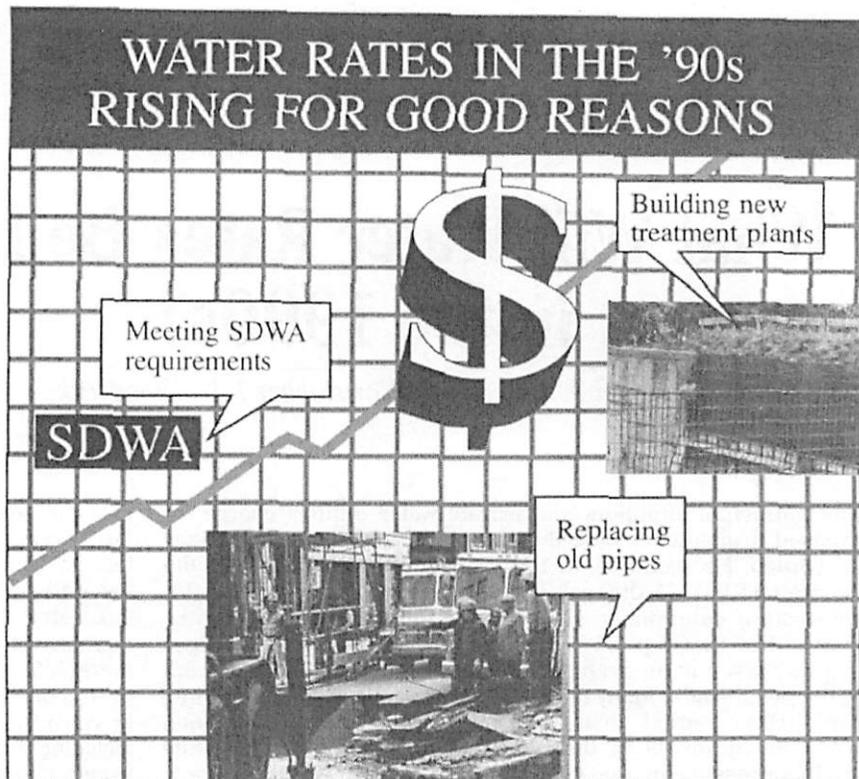
example, if a municipality included a service charge of \$44.88, the corresponding uniform rate would include an incremental adjustment of \$0.50/1,000 gal—\$44.88/89.76.)

The total increase over 10 years is shown in the third column of figures, and the percentage change is shown in the fourth column. The sample included communities from 19 states throughout the country ranging in size from moderate (less than 100,000 population) to very large (more than 1,000,000 population). Most have populations in the range of 100,000–300,000. The average rate in 1979 was \$0.82/1,000 gal, with a low of \$0.32/1,000 gal and a high of \$2.00/1,000 gal. The range in 1989 was from a low of \$0.59/1,000 gal to a high of \$3.00/1,000 gal, with a sample average of \$1.61/1,000 gal. This sample is believed to be representative of national averages, but the validity of this assumption was not statistically tested.

The percentage increases range from a low of 32 percent for a Georgia utility to a high of 400 percent for a Michigan utility. The average percentage increase for the group was 97 percent. This translates to an average annual compound growth rate of 7 percent. Compared with most other services or goods, these are relatively large increases, nearly double the rate of inflation over the same period. Although commercial and industrial rates may differ in magnitude, it is assumed that the percentage changes for these classes over the decade would, in most communities, reflect similar percentage increases realized by residential customers.

#### Inflation partly responsible for higher rates

One of the primary factors leading to a higher cost of water is the general level of price inflation. As the prices of all input factors increase, so too must the price of the final product or service. Thus, if the prices of labor, chemicals, power, and all other input factors used to gather, treat, and distribute potable water all increase by 5 percent in a given year, the local water department would have to raise



rates by 5 percent to remain self-sufficient. (A private water company would increase its rates by this amount to maintain the same level of profitability or return to investors.) Inflation is a major reason water rates have increased in the past decade. Three common indexes—the Municipal Cost Index (MCI), the Consumer Price Index (CPI), and the Gross National Product Implicit Price Deflator (IPD)—can be used to show the extent to which inflation contributed to water rate increases.

The MCI, designed to show the effects of inflation on the cost of providing municipal services, may be the best measure of the effects of general price increases on the prices charged for water in the public sector. The MCI is based on monthly data compiled by the US Department of Commerce and Labor and on other independently gathered data to

produce a composite cost picture directly related to municipal operations. Components include changes in the cost of materials and supplies, wages, and contract services. Also factored in are weighted averages of other price indexes measuring consumer cost changes, industrial commodity wholesale prices, and construction contract costs. The MCI reflects only changes in price over specified periods of time at the national level. Values of the three indexes are summarized in Table 2. Except for 1980 and 1981, when inflation was running in the double digits, the MCI has experi-

enced low or moderate annual increases. Since 1981 it has stayed within the range of 1 to 4 percent. The average compound growth of this index was approximately 4.4 percent per year during the 1980s. Using this index as a measure, if no other factors influenced the price of water, one would expect water rates to have increased by about 50 percent during the last decade. This percentage represents about half the actual increases in water rates.

Two other measures of inflation were also considered for comparison purposes. The CPI is a statistical measure of prices charged for major goods and services such as food, housing, clothing, transportation, health care, and recreation. It measures the purchasing power of the consumer's dollar by comparing the cost of a "market basket" of goods and services over time. The IPD is de-

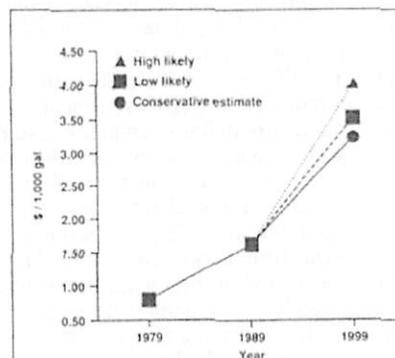


Figure 1. Past and projected average water rates

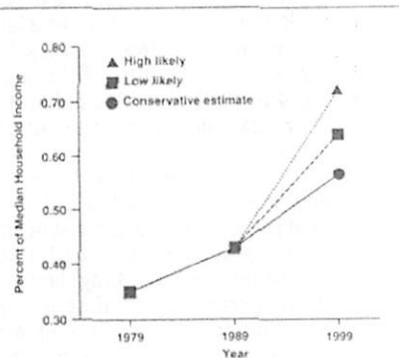


Figure 2. Typical water bill as a percentage of median family income

viewed as the ratio of current- to constant-dollar gross national product (GNP). It is a weighted average of the prices of the nation's total output. Thus, changes in the IPD reflect both changes in prices and changes in the composition of the GNP. Each of these indexes grew at rates comparable to the MCI. As shown in Table 2, the average compound growth rates for the CPI and the IPD were 5.5 percent and 4.9 percent, respectively. In summary, it is reasonable to assume that about half the increase in water rates is attributable to general inflation effects.

#### Other factors also affect rates

Several factors other than general inflation led to increasing water rates during the 1980s. Although half of the increase may be attributable to inflation, a combination of six other factors, listed below, make up most of the balance:

- (1) growth-induced expansion of capital facilities,
- (2) replacement of old and deteriorating facilities,
- (3) added facilities and processes required by more stringent environmental regulations,
- (4) higher cost of borrowing to finance capital improvements,
- (5) increasing number of municipal systems switching to self-sustaining operations, and
- (6) rates designed in order to induce conservation.

During the 1980s the economy was expanding, leading to growth in the number of customers and increased use by commercial and industrial customers. Total consumption in many communities grew at an average compound rate of 1 to 3 percent per year. This growth necessitated system expansion for all types of facilities: source of supply and treatment, the transmission and distribution system, and individual service connections and meters. This expansion of facilities (factor 1) cost several billion dollars in principal and interest payments, most of which was passed on to system users through rates and special fees. While the industry was adding facilities at an accelerated rate, it was also expending large sums to renew and replace an aging infrastructure (factor 2), much of which has been in the ground for 50 to 100 years.

More stringent environmental regulations (factor 3) also added to capital projects by requiring more sophisticated treatment facilities, enhanced monitoring and detection systems, and increased operating costs, particularly in the use of chemicals and the staffing of supply and treatment facilities with more qualified managers and operators. The cost to consumers of these capital improvements was further exacerbated by the cost associated with borrowing the needed funds (factor 4). The demand for funds was high across all sectors of the economy.

TABLE 1  
Ten-year comparison of water rates, survey of 30 water utilities

Location of Utility	1979 Rate \$/1,000 gal	1989 Rate \$/1,000 gal	Total Increase \$/1,000 gal	Percent Increase
Arizona	0.96	1.97	1.01	105.21
California	0.86	1.20	0.34	39.53
Colorado	0.68	1.12	0.44	64.71
Connecticut	1.33	3.00	1.67	125.56
Connecticut	1.03	2.07	1.04	100.97
Connecticut	2.00	2.86	0.86	43.00
Connecticut	0.70	2.95	2.25	321.43
Florida	1.11	1.79	0.68	61.26
Florida	0.69	1.45	0.76	110.14
Florida	0.68	0.95	0.27	39.71
Georgia	0.73	0.96	0.23	31.51
Louisiana	1.30	2.21	0.91	70.00
Massachusetts	1.01	1.99	0.98	97.03
Massachusetts	0.54	1.66	1.12	207.41
Massachusetts	0.64	1.48	0.84	131.25
Massachusetts	0.67	1.46	0.79	117.91
Michigan	0.41	0.69	0.28	68.29
Michigan	0.41	2.05	1.64	400.00
Mississippi	0.99	2.06	1.07	108.08
New Hampshire	0.95	1.72	0.77	81.05
New York	0.75	1.15	0.40	53.33
North Carolina	0.80	1.58	0.78	97.50
Ohio	0.41	1.22	0.81	197.56
Ohio	0.40	1.26	0.86	215.00
Pennsylvania	0.78	1.28	0.50	64.10
Rhode Island	0.32	0.59	0.27	84.38
Tennessee	0.58	0.88	0.30	51.72
Texas	1.34	2.12	0.78	58.21
Texas	0.63	1.28	0.65	103.17
Washington	0.86	1.34	0.48	55.81
Total	24.56	48.34	23.78	96.75
Sample average	0.82	1.61	0.79	96.75
Average annual growth rate—percent	7.01			
Sample range (low)—percent	2.70			
Sample range (high)—percent	14.90			

This led to significantly higher interest rates on bonds issued by municipalities. On average, interest rates were about 2 percent higher on these bonds in the 1980s than in the 1970s. (For example, the average interest rate on high-grade municipal bonds as rated by Standard & Poors during the 1970s was about 6.5 percent; during the 1980s the comparable rate was about 9 percent.) This translates to about a 30 percent increase in debt service costs. Therefore, not only did the amount of borrowed funds increase substantially, but the cost per dollar borrowed increased. This combination of factors, in conjunction with other market conditions, strained municipal bonding capabilities and greatly increased the cost of providing service. Ultimately, user fees rose.

The fifth factor relates to a shift in source of funds rather than an absolute increase. To make rates reflect total costs more accurately and to reduce the general tax burden, many communities have chosen to put certain municipal services on a self-sustaining basis. Thus, in some communities where part of the cost of providing water service was formerly covered by general fund revenue (prop-

erty taxes), water customers now carry this burden via their rates. During the 1980s many communities shifted partly or fully to this "enterprise fund" approach of covering all costs via fees and charges.

Last, there was a growing movement, particularly in the last half of the 1980s, to rates designed to induce conservation (factor 6). These structural changes are discussed at greater length later in this article. However, these rates all result in higher unit charges to one or more classes of customer. As customers respond by using less water, the water utility must raise its rates to recover the same amount of revenue. In many cases it was not water rates alone but water and sewer rates based on water use that caused this shift.

#### Rates expected to continue increasing

Given recent trends and an assessment of the underlying causes just outlined, it is likely that the combined effects of inflation and factors 1, 4, and 5 will continue to lead to higher water rates in the 1990s. (The fourth factor has reversed in the last year or two, but it is likely to increase once the economy improves.) Collectively, these four factors could lead to a

**TABLE 2**  
Comparison of historic inflation indexes

Year	Municipal Cost Index		Consumer Price Index		Implicit Price Deflator	
	Index	Percent Change	Index	Percent Change	Index	Percent Change
1979	78.1		72.6		78.6	
1980	86.0	9.19	82.4	11.89	85.7	8.28
1981	94.9	9.38	90.0	9.35	94.0	8.83
1982	99.3	4.43	96.5	5.80	100.0	6.00
1983	103.5	4.06	99.6	3.11	103.9	3.75
1984	105.7	2.08	103.9	4.14	107.7	3.53
1985	106.5	0.75	107.6	3.44	110.9	2.89
1986	108.0	1.39	109.6	1.82	113.9	2.63
1987	111.7	3.31	113.6	3.52	117.7	3.23
1988	116.2	3.87	118.3	3.97	121.3	2.97
1989	119.9	3.09	124.0	4.60	126.3	3.96
1990	125.3	4.31	132.0	6.06	131.5	3.95
(1989 index)/(1979 index)	1.54		1.71		1.61	
Compound growth rate—percent	4.4		5.5		4.9	

**TABLE 3**  
Comparison of typical water bills

Parameter	Historic (1979-89)			
	1979 Bill	1989 Bill	Total Increase	Percent Increase
Sample average	\$73.48	\$144.63	\$71.15	97%
Parameter	Projected (1989-99)			
	1989 Bill	1999 Bill	Total Increase	Percent Increase
Conservative case	\$145	\$290	\$145	100%
Low likely case	\$145	\$319	\$174	120%
High likely case	\$145	\$363	\$218	150%

60 or 70 percent increase in rates before the end of the decade. However, factors 2, 3, and 6 may have a significantly greater impact in the 1990s. Although some renewal and replacement projects accelerated in the 1980s, many systems were either neglected or "patched up" with short-term fixes. The infrastructure supporting the water industry is continuing to age and deteriorate. Major replacement projects will have to be performed in this decade.

Perhaps the largest single factor that will affect water prices is improvements required by the SDWA and its amendments. The precise effects on rates of these and other environmental regulations are difficult to quantify at this time. However, it is likely that the combined effects of these laws and regulations could cause rates to increase by at least 20 to 30 percent (some estimates have exceeded 50 percent). Similarly, the trend toward higher rates that encourage conservation will accelerate as the 1990s unfold. This last factor will have a greater effect on relatively large customers, but medium to large residential users will also notice these increases.

Therefore, it is conservatively projected that on average, water rates will at least double (increase by a factor of 2) in this decade. Furthermore, these increases could be in the range of 2.2 to 2.5 times 1989 levels. Using these estimated factor increases, Figure 1 compares average rates in 1979 and 1989 and gives a range of likely levels in 1999. Three scenarios for the forecast period are included; the conservative level as a minimum and a high and low value spanning the likely range.

The average value for the sample in 1989 is \$1.61/1,000 gal. Using this as a basis for projecting average rates in the year 1999 results in the following levels: conservative case—\$3.22/1,000 gal, low likely case—\$3.54/1,000 gal, and high likely case—\$4.03/1,000 gal.

#### Higher rates to affect consumers

Consumers have seen their water bills double over the past decade; this trend is expected to continue, with increases exceeding these levels in the 1990s. Table 3 shows the change in total charges over the past 10 years and gives a range of likely prices in the future. Here a "typical customer" is defined as a household

using just less than 30,000 gal of water per year. The average bill from the sample increased from \$73.48 in 1979 to \$144.63 in 1989. Given the same level of increase, the bill would increase to \$290 by 2000. Furthermore, it is likely that the increase will be in the range of 120 to 150 percent, resulting in typical bills from \$319 to \$363.

To demonstrate the effect on customers' spending power and budgets, computations have been made of the percentages of household disposable income these bills represent in 1979, 1989, and 1999. A comparison of these percentages is shown in Figure 2. Although these percentages were once negligible, they have become significant over the past few decades and will continue to increase during the 1990s. Because of this, customers will become much more aware of their use of water, leading to less waste and greater price-induced conservation. This is particularly true for commercial and industrial customers and for discretionary residential use, e.g., lawn sprinkling and car washing. These uses will be affected to a higher degree because they are more sensitive to price changes.

#### Structure of water rates to change

Rates that reflect the overall increase in the cost of water service will rise in the 1990s. In addition, the structure of water rates will change. "Structure" refers to the type or form of the rate schedule and determines who the increased costs will be collected from and how they will be collected.

Several issues seem to influence the direction of water rate structures. One is the increased concern for water conservation. The regulatory requirements of the SDWA aren't the only factors increasing costs. As systems grow, the cost of developing new supplies increases the cost of water. The least expensive supplies tend to be developed first. As additional water is needed, utilities must look to more remote locations with substantial development or transmission costs. They may also have to consider supplies of poorer quality that will require expensive treatment. Because consumers do not want to pay the higher costs for new supplies, they are encouraging some water utilities to make do with what they have.

This leads to the second issue, increased consumer activism. When water was relatively inexpensive, customers generally did not care what rate structures were used. However, as the cost of water service increases, customers are becoming more involved. They want to know why rates are structured one way or another. They demand that nontraditional issues be considered, including social welfare concerns. Utilities need to consider the issues raised by increased consumer activism. Members of water

boards, city councils, and other bodies that adopt rates must respond to the public, or they will be voted out of office and replaced by board members who will respond to these issues.

The third major issue that will affect water rates is that lower-income customers will be less able to afford water service as rates increase. Services such as cable television, even telephone service, can be disconnected, but people cannot live without water. Water utilities will be obliged to provide at least minimum service to lower-income customers.

The last issue that will influence rate structures in the 1990s is perceptions within the financial community of the creditworthiness of water utilities. As new construction is needed, utilities will have to borrow money. Rather than use the credit capacity of a city or county, there will be a trend for utilities to use revenue bonds—borrowings supported only by rate revenues and not by the taxing power of the community.

To borrow money at favorable interest rates, utilities will have to provide assurances that revenues will continue to be adequate to support the new debt. Concern has already been evident on Wall Street that water rates may be reaching a point at which they are becoming unaffordable. The concern is that when this point is reached, ratepayers will stop paying their bills, revenues will drop off, and bondholders may not be paid on time. That point may not have been reached yet, but it may be approaching. To address this concern, water utilities may need to develop new rate structures that provide a more stable form of revenue. In light of these issues, several changes in water rate structures are likely to occur.

To meet the goals of water conservation, rates will increasingly be set to discourage water use. There was a clear trend away from declining-block rates in the 1980s; they are outlawed in Massachusetts. Their use will continue to decrease during the 1990s. By 2000, they may constitute only a relatively small proportion of all rate structures.

In place of declining-block rates will be more uniform or flat rates, increasing-block rates, and seasonal rates. All of these rate structures will be used to reduce overall consumption or to lessen peak-season demands.

Some believe that rate setting is already too political, but the increase in consumer activism will cause the decisions on rate structures to become even more political. City councils, mayors, and commissioners will respond more to their constituents in deciding what type of rate structure is best. As a reaction to constituents' concerns about the cost of expansion projects, it is expected that greater use will be made of impact or development fees to pay for system expansion. These charges keep rates to ex-

isting voters down and affect only people who do not vote (yet).

To meet social welfare concerns, it is expected that use of lifeline rates and low-income discounts will increase. (Lifeline rates usually include a discount or lower-than-cost charges for an initial block of use large enough to cover the minimum health and sanitary requirements of an average residential household.) These rate structures will be adopted far less quickly than conservation rates. Many utilities have historically rejected taking part in a welfare role to meet social goals or programs, and this resistance will probably continue. However, as more and more utilities begin to address the concerns of low-income customers, it will be harder to resist.

Taking personal income into consideration when setting a water rate structure was once unheard of. The federal government allowed this to be done with wastewater rates under its construction grants program. Seeing this, in addition to the cost of water service becoming more and more difficult to afford, water utilities are now beginning to adopt lifeline rates and low-income discounts. This trend will continue.

To guarantee income stability that supports their debt, utilities will increasingly use fixed charges to help recover fixed costs. Minimum charges with "free" water allowances are being replaced by service charges and no allowances. "Free" water is viewed by many as encouraging water use, which is contrary to conservation goals. As customers become used to fixed charges, the amount can be expected to increase.

**Changes will affect large-volume users.** The impact of these changes will fall most heavily on larger-volume users. As declining-block rates are replaced with uniform or increasing-block rates, the bills to larger customers will increase. The subsidy for lifeline rates or low-income discounts will be provided mostly by larger users.

As a result, it can be expected that the larger users will become more proactive in the rate-setting process. At times, this may lead to legal challenges. Many customers will also use water much more efficiently, resulting in large reductions in their consumption levels and thus lower water sales.

In other cases, the larger customers will try to work with the utilities. In some cases, they will try to contract for lower rates. To retain a community's industrial base, many utilities will tend to enter into such contracts. As a result, the burden will start to fall more heavily on smaller industrial, commercial, and institutional customers.

Another change will be rate structures developed for each customer class. This can help reduce the impacts on some larger users.

## Summary and conclusions

Continued large rate increases can be expected in the 1990s. These increases will result in more customer and political involvement in the rate-setting process as water bills become more significant portions of household and business budgets. The increased involvement in the rate-setting process will lead to new and innovative rate structures that try to meet the sometimes conflicting goals of various interest groups.

Managers of water utilities should be aware of these major changes and prepare for them. They should take the following measures to minimize effects on customers and to ensure that revenues are adequate to maintain efficient and effective operations now as well as in the future.

- Closely monitor national and regional trends in the level and types of water rates being adopted.
- Anticipate the need for additional rate revenues and customers' concerns about current usage charges and likely changes.
- Phase in needed rate increases whenever possible. Most customers prefer several smaller increases spread over 10 years to one or two large increases.
- Develop a public relations campaign for all rate increases. It should include early and frequent warnings to customers concerning needed changes; information releases to all media to explain the need for the increase, what will change, and how it will affect individual customers; and provisions for implementation and customer assistance throughout the transition.
- Evaluate utility and community objectives and develop rate structures responsive to these objectives.



**About the authors:** David F. Russell is a principal management consultant at Camp Dresser & McKee Inc. (CDM), 10 Cambridge Center, Cambridge, MA 02142. He has prepared and presented expert testimony in numerous rate cases before state commissions. An engineer and economist with 20 years' experience in the utility industry, he served previously as chief engineer with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities. Russell has a BS degree in electrical engineering and an MA degree in economics, both from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J. For the past seven years he has been a senior management consultant at CDM, serving private and public utilities nationwide. He is a member of NSPE, APPA, WEF, and AWWA. Christopher P.N. Woodcock, an associate at CDM, is a member of AWWA's Rates and Charges Subcommittee.

## Declining Per Capita Water Consumption

The 2010 Water and Wastewater Rate Survey report discussed in detail the concept of the “new normal,” which encapsulates a number of trends still facing the water and wastewater industry today. These trends include everything from decreasing opportunities for external funding to increasing challenges associated with regulation, garnering public support for rate increases, and asset repair and replacement. In the United States, the decline in per capita water consumption is one of the most pervasive ongoing trends, and it can have significant revenue implications for utilities both now and in the future.

Though the rate of decline depends on a number of factors, including location, any lingering effects of the economic downturn, and the prevalence of water conservation technologies and programs, utilities across the United States are struggling to address the trend’s financial and operational ramifications. Nationally, the four primary factors causing the decline in consumption are:

1. Acceptance of a general conservation ethos;
2. Prevalence of water efficient fixtures and appliances;
3. Elasticity impact of increasing water rates; and
4. Impacts of the economic recession that began in approximately 2008.

Since the advent of the Clean Air Act in 1970 and the Water Pollution Control Act in 1972, environmental matters have risen in national prominence and the public consciousness. Increasingly, individuals, corporations, and government entities at all levels have drawn a link between decreased resource use and economic savings, which has led to widespread

conservation and public education efforts. These programs exist everywhere from the national scale, e.g., USEPA’s Water Sense program, to the local level, e.g., programs in schools to teach children to conserve water and energy. The conservation ethos has evolved and is now widely accepted as good practice.

Federal legislation (the Energy Policy Acts of 1992 and 2005 and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007) have led to requirements that mandate more efficient fixtures and appliances. Unlike with energy, where devices requiring a charge are continually introduced, few new technologies in the home require water as an input. Most homes have reached build-out with respect to fixtures and appliances, meaning that fewer additional fixtures or appliances are coming into homes overall. This leaves only replacements, which are likely more efficient than the devices they are replacing. Residential water consumption has also been affected by improvements in landscape design and irrigation strategies.

Water rates have increased faster than inflation, which is a trend that is likely to continue. For example, this survey found that between 1996 and 2012, rates had increased by an annual average of 4.90%, while the Consumer Price Index (CPI) had increased by 2.50%. Regulatory requirements will likely continue to become more stringent, necessitating additional expenditures by utilities to meet compliance. Furthermore, the federal government is likely to rely on regulation through unfunded mandates, forcing utilities to address rising costs by raising rates.

As demonstrated by Figure 1, the vast majority of costs for a utility are fixed. As consumption declines, rates need to increase to ensure sufficient revenue recovery, which indicates that declining consumption is, to a degree, self-perpetuating.

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# 50 LARGEST CITIES WATER/WASTEWATER RATE SURVEY

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A BLACK & VEATCH 2012/2013 REPORT





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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This survey of water and sewer rates is provided by Black & Veatch Management Consulting as a service to the water and sewer industry. A typical bill has been calculated for various residential, commercial and industrial user profiles, focusing on the top 50 cities as determined by population. This year, we have included a minimum bill or zero usage typical bill as part of the survey. The specific cities included in the survey have changed over time as warranted by population shifts in some communities. Since 2001 Black & Veatch Management Consulting has produced 6 surveys. The results of the 2013 survey reflect rates in effect as of April 2, 2013.

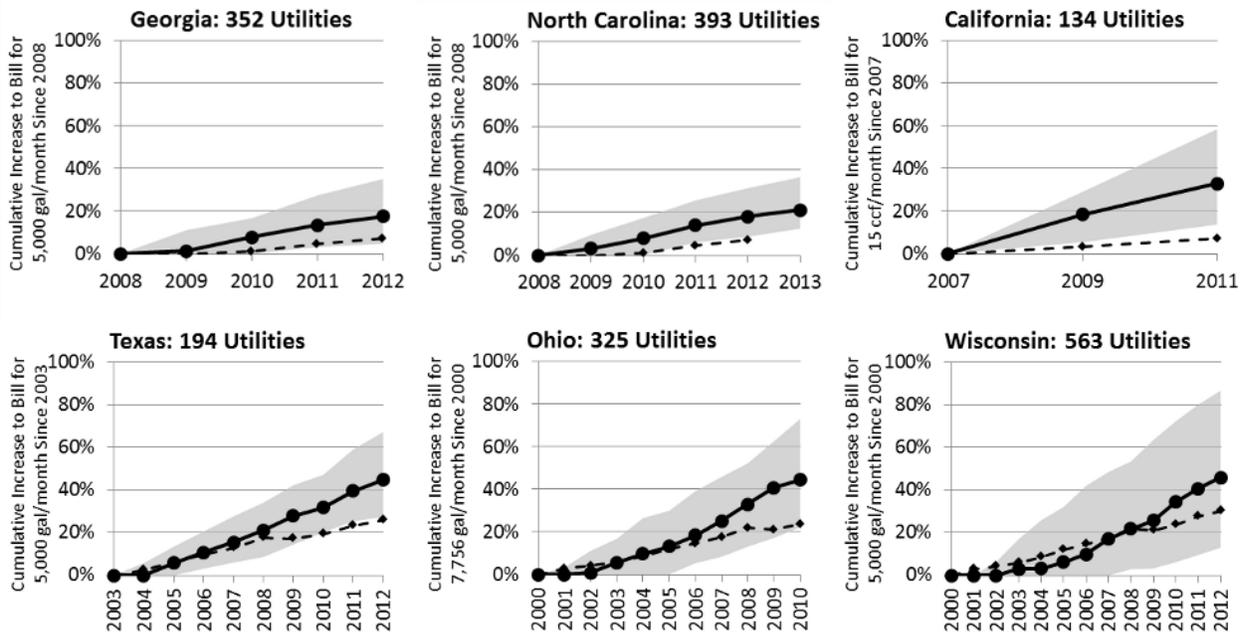
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### AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL TYPICAL BILLS CONTINUE TO SEE UPWARD PRESSURE

Since 2001, the typical bills for a residential user consuming 7,500 gallons per month (1,000 cubic feet) have increased at a rate of over two and a half times the rate of increase in the consumer price index, defined as the Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI U average annual index.

Figure 1 illustrates the trend in the average typical bill for a resident consuming 7,500 gallons per month across all top 50 cities since the 2001 survey. Note that in most regions the actual dollar impact on consumers tends to be slightly less than these figures as a result of ongoing reductions in water consumption.

## Cumulative Bill Increases for Water or Combined Water and Wastewater in 1,961 Utilities in Six States Compared to CPI by Region



Data analyzed by the Environmental Finance Center at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and

## Cumulative Bill Increases for Water or Combined Water and Wastewater in 1,961 Utilities in Six States Compared to CPI by Region

Municipalities; Environmental Finance Center, Ohio EPA, Texas Municipal League, and Wisconsin Public Service Commission; Regional Consumer Price Indices by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

— Interquintile range (middle 50% of utilities)  
 — Cumulative regional CPI inflation since reference year

# Water Rate Increases Among 1,961 Utilities in Six States in the Last Decade

OCTOBER 30, 2013 / SHADI ESKAF / 1 COMMENT

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*Shadi Eskaf is a Senior Project Director for the Environmental Finance Center at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.*



Our research shows that water rates have been rising faster than CPI inflation in the past few years for hundreds of utilities, particularly after the financial crisis. In some states, however, there were also many utilities whose rates failed to keep pace with inflation.

From a rate-setting perspective, utilities that raised rates more frequently had a double advantage over utilities that raised rates only occasionally or rarely. First: the average annual rate increase was lower than the one-time rate increases of utilities that occasionally raised rates, reducing the rate shock that customers experienced when rates rose. Second: despite the lower average rate increases, utilities that raised rates more frequently accumulated, on average, a larger total increase in rates in a five-year period than utilities that raised rates only

occasionally.

## Trends of Rate Increases

Rate changes are crucial for a utility's financial health in order to keep revenues consistent with changing (usually rising) costs and to compensate for long-term trends of [declining water use](#). A previous blog post reported that [operating expenses were growing faster than operating revenues for many utilities](#), especially between 2008 and 2010. Infrastructure capital needs and costs are also on the rise. Since water utilities obtain most of their revenues from customer charges, it is often necessary to adjust rates to ensure financial sustainability.

The nationwide trend of rising water rates has been noticed and reported on recently by [national news sites](#), [prominent online water news networks](#), [blogs](#), and [academic studies](#). These reports invariably provide statistics on the percent increases of water rates over time, either for specific utilities or aggregated statistics for a small sample of utilities across the country. Because it is difficult to obtain historic water rates data, the sample sizes tend to be small (30-100 is typical) and focused mostly on large utilities.

Expanding on these efforts, as part of the research for [Water Research Foundation project #4366](#), the EFC at UNC compiled and analyzed historic water or combined water and wastewater rates for 1,961 local government utilities in six states, including many small and large water systems. The data were obtained from annual or biennial statewide rates surveys in [California](#), [Georgia](#), [North Carolina](#), [Ohio](#) and [Texas](#), and directly from the [Wisconsin Public Service Commission](#) that regulates the rates government-owned utilities in the State of Wisconsin charge their customers.

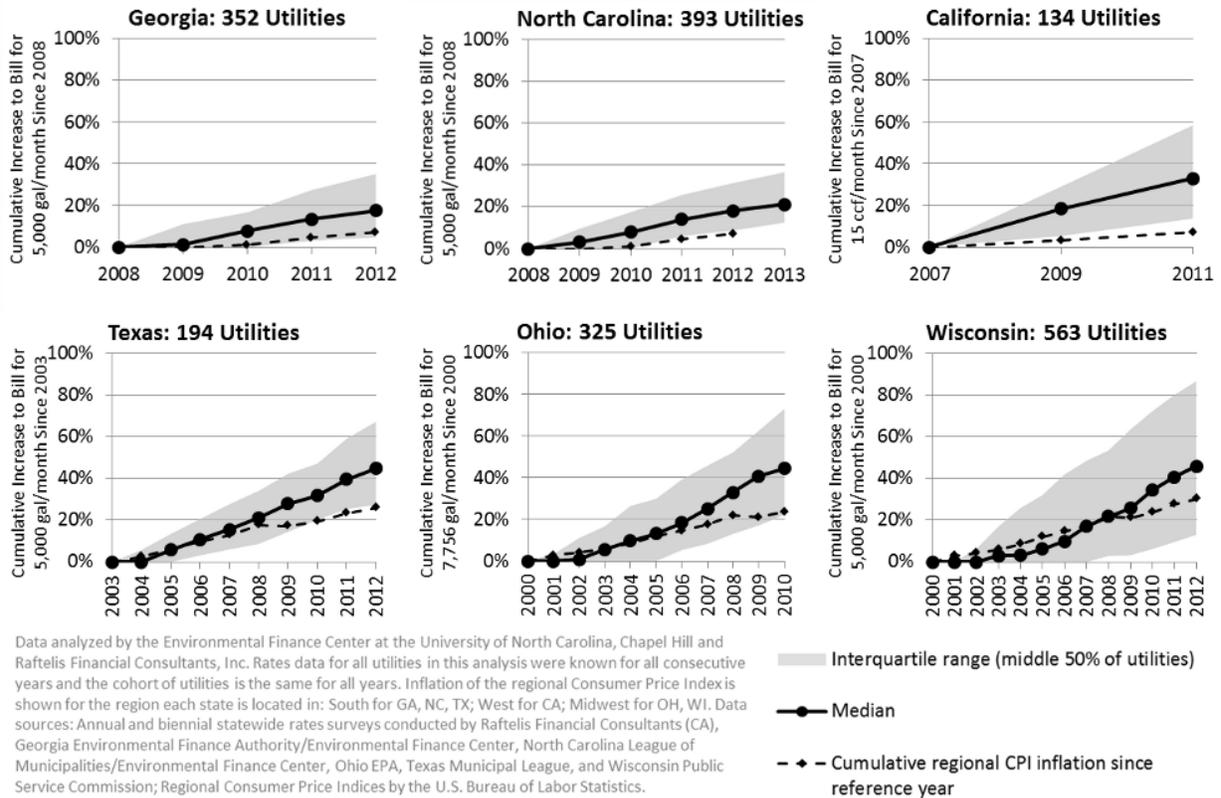
## How Much are Rates Rising?

The figure below, which you can click to enlarge, shows how the monthly water or monthly water and wastewater bill for a specific consumption point rose each year for the same cohort of 1,961 utilities in six states. The graphs also include the cumulative Consumer Price Index inflation in the corresponding region for comparison. Rates for the majority of utilities rose faster than inflation in the past few years, although there are significant variations across utilities between and within states. For example, by 2012, half of 194 local government utilities in Texas had a monthly total bill for 5,000 gallons that, in nominal terms, was at least 45% higher than in 2003. The middle half of these utilities had bills that were 27% to 67% higher in 2012 than in 2003, showing considerable variability in rate increases within the state alone. In those ten years, the Consumer Price Index for the South region rose by a total of 26%, indicating that more than three-quarters of the 194 Texas utilities raised water and/or combined rates between 2003-2012 faster than inflation and the rise of other consumer goods.

Though the exact size of the cumulative rate increases varied from state to state, water/combined rates rose faster than inflation in all six states. Prior to 2007, the median rate increase in Ohio and Texas was on par with inflation, and was in fact below inflation in Wisconsin. After 2007, CPI stagnated in all regions during the recession (resulting in deflation in one year), but water/combined rates continued to rise at a steady rate, resulting in more utilities raising rates faster than cumulative inflation in their region during that time period in all three states. In North Carolina, Georgia, and California, the majority of utilities also raised rates faster than regional CPI inflation since 2007 or 2008.

There were, nonetheless, many utilities whose rate increases did not keep pace with inflation, particularly prior to 2007. It is possible that these utilities were in a financial position that did not require them to generate additional revenue.

## Cumulative Bill Increases for Water or Combined Water and Wastewater in 1,961 Utilities in Six States Compared to CPI by Region



Cumulative Bill Increases for Water or Combined Water and Wastewater in 1,961 Utilities in Six States Compared to CPI by Region – click to enlarge

Although CPI inflation has very little or almost nothing to do with rising utility costs or capital needs, it is useful to consider these results from the point of view of the consumer. What this all means is that at a time when incomes were/are stagnating or declining on average, and consumer products' prices also leveled off for a few short years, the price for water rose at a more substantial rate in most communities. This likely created more affordability issues for utilities in recent years than in the past ([read here about addressing customer affordability](#)).

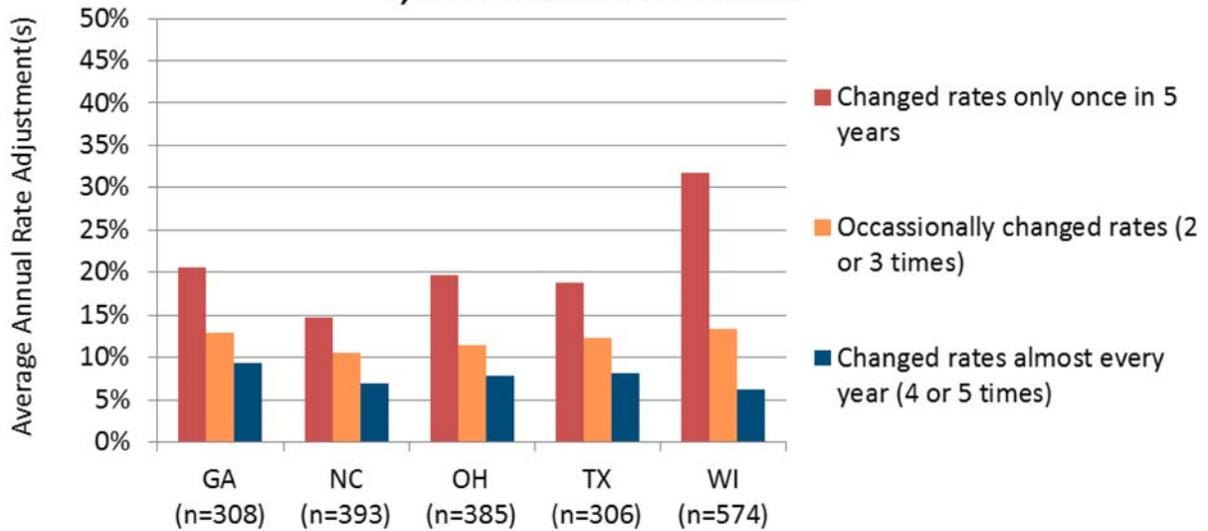
### How are Utilities Raising Rates?

From the utilities' perspective, rising costs and declining water use necessitates rate increases. There are generally two ways to go about this: raise rates a little at

a time frequently, or hold off on rate increases for a couple or few years and then have a significant rate increase all at once. There are, of course, other ways to go about rate increases, including [linking rates to cost indices like CPI](#), but most utilities have rate increases in those two ways. Our research shows that, from the perspective of the utility and possibly the customer, utilities that chose to raise rates frequently performed better than utilities that chose to avoid rate increases for a few years.

Firstly, utilities that increased rates less frequently tended to have larger rate increases than utilities that increased rates more frequently. This trend is illustrated in the next graph. The average one-time rate adjustments are (sometimes drastically) higher for utilities that changed rates only once in five years compared to utilities that changed rates almost every year. In Ohio, for example, utilities that increased their rates only once in the five year period averaged a 19% rate increase, compared to an average increase of 7%/year for Ohio utilities that raised rates almost every year in the same time period. Lower rate increases are easier for customers to adjust to. No one wants to see their water bill go up by 30% or more in one year, even if rates had not been raised for several years.

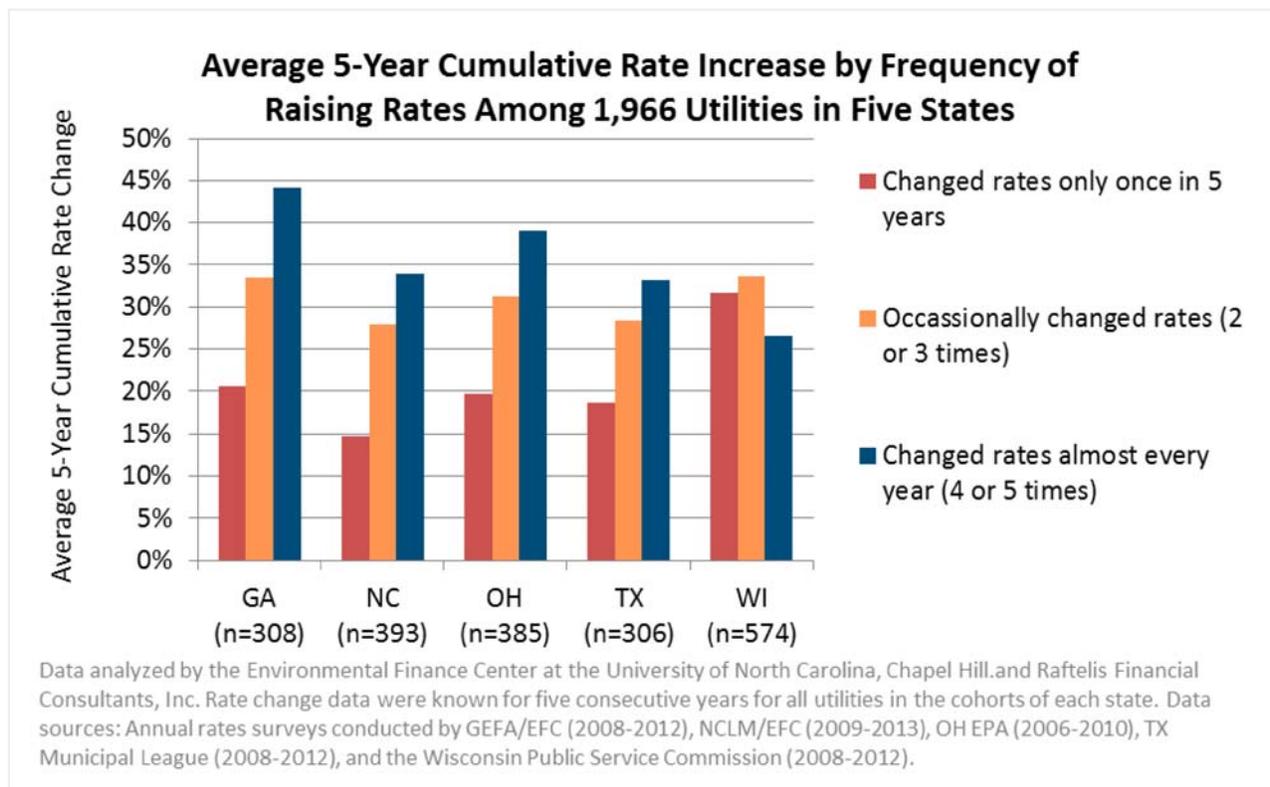
### Average Rate Adjustment by Frequency of Raising Rates Among 1,966 Utilities in Five States



Data analyzed by the Environmental Finance Center at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. Rate change data were known for five consecutive years for all utilities in the cohorts of each state. Data sources: Annual rates surveys conducted by GEFA/EFC (2008-2012), NCLM/EFC (2009-2013), OH EPA (2006-2010), TX Municipal League (2008-2012), and the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (2008-2012).

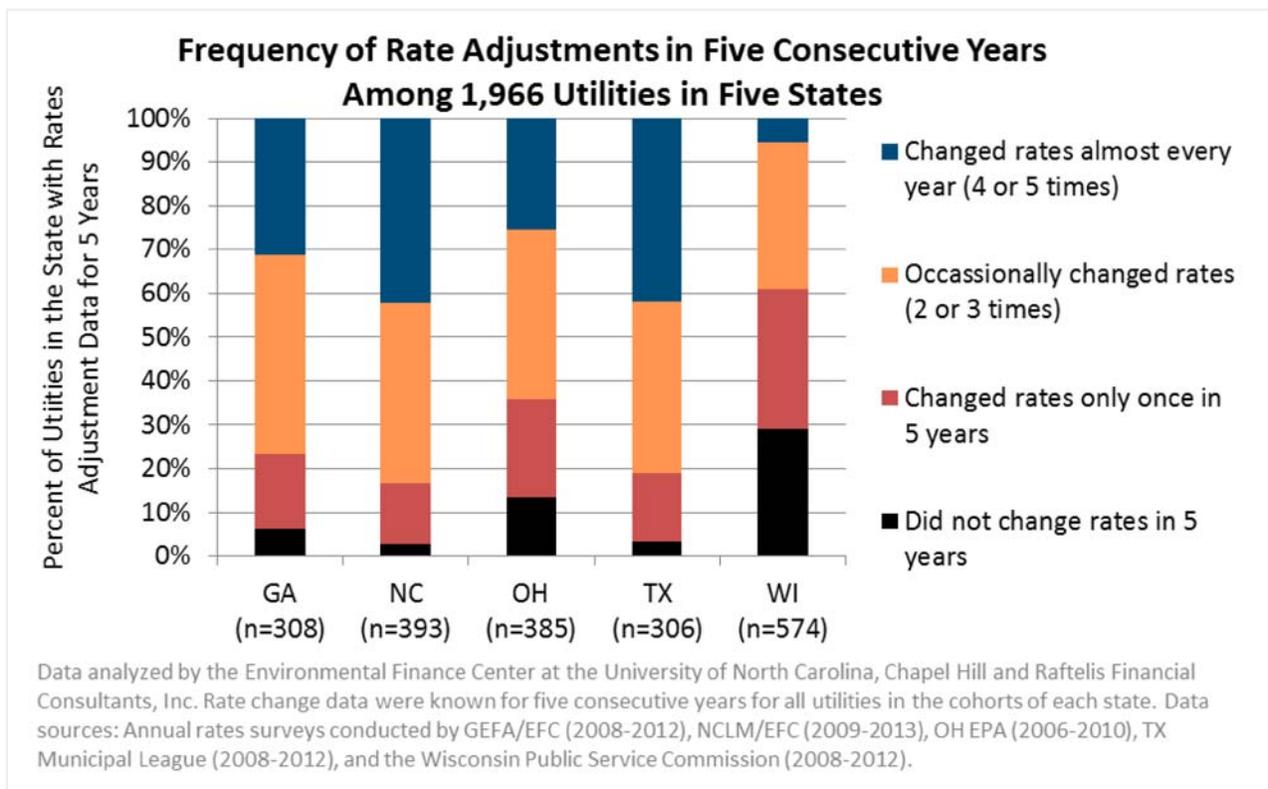
Average Rate Adjustment by Frequency of Raising Rates Among 1,966 Utilities in Five States – click to enlarge

Secondly, utilities that raised rates frequently had generally, in the long-run, accumulated a larger total increase in rates than utilities that raised rates infrequently, despite raising rates only by smaller percentages each year. This is shown in the next graph. The cumulative effect of more frequent, smaller rate increases generally outsized the larger, one-time rate increases. For example, although the utilities in Georgia that raised rates almost every year only raised rates by an average of about 9% per year, the cumulative rate increases amounted to an average of 44% after five years. By comparison, the Georgia utilities that raised rates only once in five years had a rate increase of 20%.



Average 5-Year Cumulative Rate Increase by Frequency of Raising Rates Among 1,966 Utilities in Five States – click to enlarge

From a utility’s perspective, it seems that there are long-term financial and short-term customer service benefits to raising rates frequently: the annual rate increases can be small in size, avoiding customer rate shock, while enabling the utilities to accumulate greater rate increases over time than if the utility maintains the same rates for several years and requires a very large one-time rate increase. Is this what most utilities opted to do in these five states? Not quite. Only 25%-42% of utilities in each state adjusted their rates almost every single year in Georgia, North Carolina, Ohio and Texas, compared to 17%-36% of utilities that did not adjust rates or adjusted rates only once in those five years. Rate adjustments were much less frequent in Wisconsin where the [Public Service Commission](#) regulates rate increases for government-owned utilities.



Frequency of Rate Adjustments in Five Consecutive Years Among 1,966 Utilities in Five States – click to enlarge

Whether a utility increases rates annually or only once every five years, ultimately rate adjustments should reflect changes to utility operating and capital expenses, while being mindful of customer affordability problems. Although this blog post focused on rate increases, reducing costs should also be a high priority for utilities (but not at the expense of delaying necessary expenses which could then lead, in the long-run, to poor service and may harm public health). There are many ways to reduce energy costs, non-revenue water, and even operating and capital costs through partnerships with other utilities.

*More on rates, revenues and financial strategies is and will be posted on this blog, and a comprehensive report will soon be published by the Water Research Foundation. Special thanks to my colleagues at the Environmental Finance Center at UNC: Jeff Hughes, Mary Tiger, Sarah Royster and Dayne Batten.*

◀ AFFORDABILITY ◀ CALIFORNIA ◀ COST INDEX ◀ CPI ◀ GEORGIA ◀ INFLATION  
◀ NORTH CAROLINA ◀ OHIO ◀ PRICE OF WATER ◀ RATE INCREASES ◀ RATES  
◀ TEXAS ◀ TRENDS ◀ WATER RESEARCH FOUNDATION ◀ WISCONSIN

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[For the times \(of residential electricity use in N.C.\), they are a-changin'](#)

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# CPI Detailed Report

## Data for May 2015

### Editors

Malik Crawford  
Jonathan Church  
Bradley Akin

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**Table 25. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Item and group	Unadjusted indexes								
	December								May 2015
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Expenditure category</b>									
All items .....	210.036	210.228	215.949	219.179	225.672	229.601	233.049	234.812	237.805
All items (1967=100) .....	629.174	629.751	646.887	656.563	676.014	687.782	698.110	703.393	712.357
Food and beverages .....	206.936	218.839	218.049	221.278	231.130	235.230	237.820	245.585	245.846
Food .....	206.704	218.805	217.637	220.946	231.301	235.390	237.869	245.976	246.187
Food at home .....	205.208	218.683	213.359	216.955	229.982	232.901	233.802	242.457	241.019
Cereals and bakery products .....	226.461	253.063	251.019	250.592	265.997	268.057	269.267	270.635	273.595
Cereals and cereal products .....	196.793	222.639	219.487	217.695	233.416	231.829	231.100	230.374	235.494
Flour and prepared flour mixes .....	190.014	229.875	220.166	217.174	243.127	248.703	242.265	237.671	250.703
Breakfast cereal .....	207.828	217.930	218.174	215.281	229.277	227.388	227.894	230.769	230.513
Rice, pasta, cornmeal .....	183.958	233.018	226.189	226.682	242.236	238.598	237.153	232.171	242.946
Rice <sup>1 2</sup> .....	122.254	170.418	155.502	158.927	167.799	167.815	171.260	166.519	168.551
Bakery products .....	242.268	269.187	267.776	268.150	283.268	288.074	290.740	293.386	294.995
Bread <sup>1</sup> .....	147.354	165.774	160.007	161.828	172.602	175.201	176.485	178.530	177.363
White bread <sup>2</sup> .....	272.159	304.713	294.248	296.565	313.739	320.943	319.586	322.479	324.282
Bread other than white <sup>2</sup> .....	276.643	313.310	301.685	308.012	336.796	336.206	342.906	345.531	338.993
Fresh biscuits, rolls, muffins <sup>1</sup> .....	139.977	158.809	154.706	157.861	167.936	170.193	171.088	174.411	173.388
Cakes, cupcakes, and cookies .....	228.738	248.707	255.349	254.335	265.564	269.148	273.812	275.390	276.262
Cookies <sup>2</sup> .....	222.193	241.011	251.261	248.848	256.852	261.442	267.829	267.330	265.737
Fresh cakes and cupcakes <sup>2</sup> .....	235.227	256.070	258.666	259.820	274.773	278.849	280.855	285.085	289.296
Other bakery products .....	217.459	240.851	242.453	239.450	252.331	258.199	259.926	261.042	267.537
Fresh sweetrolls, coffeecakes, doughnuts <sup>2</sup> .....	233.009	250.349	251.485	252.893	268.619	283.198	290.058	291.793	291.920
Crackers, bread, and cracker products <sup>2</sup> .....	247.888	277.864	280.837	273.082	292.419	296.519	297.476	300.566	308.786
Frozen and refrigerated bakery products, pies, tarts, turnovers <sup>2</sup> .....	225.129	248.467	254.335	251.263	262.387	263.113	265.957	264.660	270.231
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	198.755	208.890	201.003	212.019	228.853	232.262	239.102	261.055	257.106
Meats, poultry, and fish .....	196.639	208.647	201.129	212.086	229.117	232.586	239.028	260.725	257.799
Meats .....	195.558	206.864	196.202	210.276	229.980	231.735	236.919	267.048	263.120
Beef and veal .....	212.808	226.019	215.426	228.652	254.850	266.552	271.159	321.776	325.578
Uncooked ground beef .....	186.936	207.712	195.073	207.192	231.838	244.927	249.188	297.063	298.428
Uncooked beef roasts <sup>1</sup> .....	155.076	162.822	158.812	166.610	188.284	194.383	200.336	241.682	243.162
Uncooked beef steaks <sup>1</sup> .....	152.557	154.867	147.026	154.997	172.004	179.126	181.030	209.999	217.178
Uncooked other beef and veal <sup>1</sup> .....	143.603	152.620	151.342	167.701	182.286	189.896	194.112	240.653	232.526
Pork .....	178.818	187.918	173.178	192.548	208.192	201.255	210.393	227.644	214.751
Bacon, breakfast sausage, and related products <sup>1</sup> .....	126.273	129.126	122.472	137.223	148.528	145.011	156.954	160.793	150.689
Bacon and related products <sup>2</sup> .....	219.140	219.838	211.750	240.821	270.693	265.930	291.393	288.576	259.630
Breakfast sausage and related products <sup>1 2</sup> .....	122.097	127.313	120.341	130.414	137.789	132.089	141.866	152.226	150.370
Ham .....	175.954	185.401	169.673	188.865	199.586	194.993	198.996	225.163	213.419
Ham, excluding canned <sup>2</sup> .....	198.301	208.760	190.435	212.167	224.696	218.436	222.560	254.600	238.527
Pork chops .....	167.482	178.470	164.203	176.732	191.979	184.854	190.611	209.774	196.751
Other pork including roasts and picnics <sup>1</sup> ..	111.596	120.335	107.138	120.875	132.587	125.407	127.792	143.761	137.021
Other meats .....	187.239	198.096	193.250	200.808	214.316	211.665	212.066	227.727	224.498
Frankfurters <sup>2</sup> .....	186.345	193.675	183.973	197.805	213.640	211.069	207.167	232.177	223.014
Lunchmeats <sup>1 2</sup> .....	120.873	129.323	128.646	130.727	137.693	136.945	138.267	146.350	145.756
Lamb and organ meats <sup>2</sup> .....	231.966	253.332	257.675	299.496	327.846	302.379	301.471	327.856	322.173
Lamb and mutton <sup>1 2</sup> .....	NA	156.461	155.167	179.880	216.114	180.400	170.624	176.160	172.695
Poultry .....	193.998	205.222	202.158	204.707	214.514	226.643	233.437	237.278	235.867
Chicken <sup>1</sup> .....	127.324	134.248	131.427	133.206	137.090	145.255	150.393	153.611	150.656
Fresh whole chicken <sup>2</sup> .....	202.199	218.072	208.519	218.928	227.648	235.802	248.403	255.908	253.259
Fresh and frozen chicken parts <sup>2</sup> .....	194.487	202.195	201.295	201.153	205.784	220.471	225.068	228.645	222.509
Other poultry including turkey <sup>1</sup> .....	116.282	124.859	126.405	127.525	143.313	149.864	151.408	150.663	158.661
Fish and seafood .....	221.633	238.759	238.671	248.725	265.682	265.475	277.682	289.586	288.711
Fresh fish and seafood <sup>1</sup> .....	132.385	140.429	138.441	149.266	158.030	155.660	165.671	174.909	175.366
Processed fish and seafood <sup>1</sup> .....	115.420	126.573	128.506	128.957	139.151	141.151	144.965	149.279	147.952
Shelf stable fish and seafood <sup>2</sup> .....	148.631	170.862	176.701	175.188	186.889	199.706	198.600	201.154	200.040
Frozen fish and seafood <sup>2</sup> .....	245.839	260.713	266.261	273.467	296.058	289.603	308.027	324.060	320.722
Eggs .....	234.018	212.819	198.747	210.791	224.215	226.670	239.794	265.375	246.821
Dairy and related products .....	205.299	210.838	194.792	202.056	218.458	219.443	218.376	229.870	221.039
Milk <sup>1</sup> .....	149.692	144.817	129.538	136.085	148.665	151.449	151.661	158.192	146.907
Fresh whole milk <sup>2</sup> .....	221.014	211.209	184.074	194.452	212.882	219.157	218.632	230.103	211.834
Fresh milk other than whole <sup>1 2</sup> .....	149.603	145.893	133.648	139.991	152.623	154.122	154.654	161.038	150.779
Cheese and related products .....	202.189	219.187	198.738	207.360	223.445	223.601	221.310	239.549	233.116
Ice cream and related products .....	188.522	199.080	194.929	199.994	217.932	215.061	216.416	223.901	213.496
Other dairy and related products <sup>1</sup> .....	136.064	139.584	134.255	136.106	144.322	144.436	142.295	147.541	146.942
Fruits and vegetables .....	272.482	281.706	273.189	277.089	283.550	288.516	288.136	297.429	293.011

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 25. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Item and group	Unadjusted indexes								
	December								May 2015
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Expenditure category</b>									
Fresh fruits and vegetables .....	326.064	327.943	315.247	322.087	325.075	332.405	331.492	344.932	335.385
Fresh fruits .....	344.733	338.252	325.602	335.845	334.015	352.393	345.395	357.915	352.788
Apples .....	292.707	304.060	273.996	284.299	304.597	344.961	323.923	316.514	324.199
Bananas .....	182.356	211.145	193.304	196.940	204.013	204.104	201.906	200.464	201.280
Citrus fruits <sup>1</sup> .....	186.752	186.888	187.089	204.075	196.409	202.769	208.489	219.822	232.439
Oranges, including tangerines <sup>2</sup> .....	348.722	362.266	377.682	394.652	395.553	408.569	427.519	443.228	464.706
Other fresh fruits <sup>1</sup> .....	134.596	122.430	120.840	122.394	118.771	125.522	121.944	129.506	120.020
Fresh vegetables .....	306.142	315.835	303.191	306.775	314.280	310.458	315.671	330.043	315.840
Potatoes .....	274.694	335.346	278.568	293.671	315.537	292.126	313.252	307.533	333.387
Lettuce .....	295.313	300.040	329.458	304.919	304.989	295.211	301.064	314.445	303.752
Tomatoes .....	378.746	337.763	348.514	311.927	315.907	331.061	330.412	384.810	314.359
Other fresh vegetables .....	300.382	311.165	293.958	314.163	320.226	318.008	319.855	327.225	318.554
Processed fruits and vegetables <sup>1</sup> .....	128.488	145.854	145.397	144.007	154.065	154.256	154.779	155.373	160.143
Canned fruits and vegetables <sup>1</sup> .....	127.028	147.963	149.489	146.923	155.275	156.100	159.547	159.292	164.418
Canned fruits <sup>1 2</sup> .....	125.693	139.051	139.841	136.168	147.415	149.702	151.560	152.286	158.571
Canned vegetables <sup>1 2</sup> .....	131.871	157.030	159.591	157.333	165.062	164.240	168.798	168.766	172.913
Frozen fruits and vegetables <sup>1</sup> .....	129.831	140.185	135.621	135.910	149.250	147.205	143.679	145.799	149.977
Frozen vegetables <sup>2</sup> .....	179.760	195.634	188.807	188.774	206.012	201.556	197.121	198.928	206.026
Other processed fruits and vegetables including dried <sup>1</sup> .....	129.286	148.092	148.847	147.800	156.601	159.122	159.050	159.390	164.146
Dried beans, peas, and lentils <sup>1 2</sup> .....	139.039	176.320	176.524	172.090	195.782	197.969	195.994	205.107	207.297
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	153.648	162.750	161.216	159.229	168.520	168.204	165.767	166.978	166.795
Juices and nonalcoholic drinks <sup>1</sup> .....	117.609	126.154	124.645	122.283	127.526	128.378	127.728	127.822	127.376
Carbonated drinks .....	138.194	151.095	151.851	149.589	159.013	159.079	155.629	157.881	158.320
Frozen noncarbonated juices and drinks <sup>1</sup> .....	143.465	149.073	150.282	149.810	169.472	167.736	172.675	176.729	176.275
Nonfrozen noncarbonated juices and drinks <sup>1</sup> .....	114.034	120.207	116.601	113.993	116.896	118.261	118.896	117.754	116.814
Beverage materials including coffee and tea <sup>1</sup> .....	109.195	112.894	112.391	113.310	125.197	121.842	116.614	119.604	120.252
Coffee .....	175.083	185.929	180.802	185.379	221.236	211.723	195.725	202.772	207.532
Roasted coffee <sup>2</sup> .....	180.752	189.098	185.174	191.511	231.504	221.087	201.214	209.577	215.874
Instant and freeze dried coffee <sup>2</sup> .....	184.030	207.297	196.843	199.021	210.585	210.585	207.489	208.007	205.507
Other beverage materials including tea <sup>1</sup> .....	121.631	123.849	124.960	124.029	126.698	126.541	127.355	128.569	125.558
Other food at home .....	174.057	190.203	189.921	190.147	200.566	204.626	203.720	206.831	209.272
Sugar and sweets .....	178.631	193.312	198.712	203.098	210.846	213.265	207.795	210.019	216.413
Sugar and artificial sweeteners .....	162.521	173.015	179.643	191.919	199.499	197.000	178.971	179.248	191.519
Candy and chewing gum <sup>1</sup> .....	118.555	128.689	132.313	134.049	138.172	140.308	139.408	141.883	145.266
Other sweets <sup>1</sup> .....	127.536	138.640	141.122	142.349	151.239	154.711	151.621	151.259	153.761
Fats and oils .....	176.068	206.710	197.391	200.476	227.601	231.540	226.091	228.352	226.094
Butter and margarine <sup>1</sup> .....	137.454	163.439	150.847	164.832	183.182	182.281	181.251	202.213	193.839
Butter <sup>2</sup> .....	168.121	181.703	160.781	195.956	199.637	194.493	196.193	240.358	221.879
Margarine <sup>2</sup> .....	193.811	246.153	234.357	237.245	285.391	289.844	282.490	289.968	289.257
Salad dressing <sup>1</sup> .....	113.085	124.935	125.704	127.917	138.083	138.353	136.045	130.185	130.478
Other fats and oils including peanut butter <sup>1</sup> .....	125.054	151.240	142.856	138.535	164.205	170.837	164.288	160.210	161.111
Peanut butter <sup>1 2</sup> .....	117.962	133.912	132.636	127.215	161.810	184.152	170.331	164.221	163.103
Other foods .....	188.325	203.902	203.832	202.776	211.986	216.708	217.204	220.909	223.480
Soups .....	211.165	229.675	224.677	221.226	226.858	227.765	227.870	226.529	244.446
Frozen and freeze dried prepared foods .....	157.409	167.801	166.386	164.252	169.202	169.600	167.933	171.202	171.588
Snacks .....	187.632	211.835	215.081	215.730	231.599	240.261	242.341	246.823	249.324
Spices, seasonings, condiments, sauces .....	191.486	204.785	208.868	206.760	217.254	222.847	223.367	228.318	234.683
Salt and other seasonings and spices <sup>1 2</sup> .....	115.302	117.672	121.482	121.107	132.684	133.780	134.655	141.105	145.558
Olives, pickles, relishes <sup>1 2</sup> .....	117.241	132.534	130.724	127.279	127.752	136.069	133.597	133.807	135.190
Sauces and gravies <sup>1 2</sup> .....	110.635	119.993	124.327	123.617	127.154	131.056	131.568	133.791	135.464
Other condiments <sup>2</sup> .....	211.775	222.149	217.733	234.488	258.486	263.720	256.219	260.940	277.170
Baby food <sup>1</sup> .....	133.326	140.918	139.287	138.061	148.108	151.937	152.123	155.245	154.482
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>1</sup> .....	115.267	123.791	122.422	122.419	126.293	129.455	130.119	132.149	131.622
Prepared salads <sup>2 3</sup> .....	100.000	105.705	107.366	107.253	110.563	112.984	116.321	120.827	119.331
Food away from home .....	210.233	220.684	224.789	227.722	234.435	240.359	245.300	252.628	255.322
Full service meals and snacks <sup>1</sup> .....	132.413	137.620	140.112	141.962	146.057	149.583	152.736	157.454	158.711
Limited service meals and snacks <sup>1</sup> .....	132.959	140.918	143.407	144.795	149.265	153.136	156.133	161.080	163.041
Food at employee sites and schools <sup>1</sup> .....	128.545	135.998	139.858	143.335	148.359	153.468	157.276	160.136	160.985
Food at elementary and secondary schools <sup>2 4</sup> .....	107.685	114.392	117.561	120.445	124.494	128.976	131.727	134.766	134.925
Food from vending machines and mobile vendors <sup>1</sup> .....	120.438	128.587	131.765	134.605	138.306	141.887	143.585	144.278	146.406

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 25. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Item and group	Unadjusted indexes								
	December								May 2015
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Expenditure category</b>									
Other food away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	145.814	154.062	156.990	160.681	164.095	167.816	171.467	174.949	179.463
Alcoholic beverages .....	208.704	217.975	222.082	224.215	227.335	231.572	235.804	238.856	239.800
Alcoholic beverages at home .....	179.709	187.666	190.510	190.623	191.132	193.216	196.080	197.387	197.357
Beer, ale, and other malt beverages at home .....	185.387	195.197	200.240	202.702	205.549	208.832	213.561	215.011	214.457
Distilled spirits at home .....	179.844	184.756	188.000	186.995	187.243	187.688	190.720	192.522	193.671
Whiskey at home <sup>2</sup> .....	183.048	190.333	195.242	192.612	198.788	198.752	203.893	206.904	208.854
Distilled spirits, excluding whiskey, at home <sup>2</sup> .....	177.552	179.735	183.543	183.774	182.003	182.884	184.852	186.376	187.098
Wine at home .....	163.500	169.743	169.730	167.647	165.685	166.932	167.757	168.717	168.837
Alcoholic beverages away from home .....	270.329	282.390	289.055	295.568	304.349	313.606	320.953	328.025	331.239
Beer, ale, and other malt beverages away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	136.117	141.613	145.617	149.311	151.782	155.315	158.750	162.107	164.011
Wine away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	148.241	155.850	159.749	162.340	164.439	169.624	173.661	177.053	178.559
Distilled spirits away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	144.053	149.577	152.055	153.786	159.903	165.262	169.759	173.488	177.085
Housing .....	210.933	216.073	215.523	216.142	220.193	224.032	228.892	234.658	237.175
Shelter .....	242.372	247.085	247.863	248.972	253.716	259.298	265.881	273.598	277.563
Rent of primary residence <sup>5</sup> .....	239.102	247.278	248.999	250.986	257.189	264.098	271.688	280.874	284.245
Lodging away from home <sup>1</sup> .....	133.545	129.157	122.638	125.665	128.131	129.021	130.549	138.799	156.841
Housing at school, excluding board <sup>5 6</sup> .....	381.548	399.369	419.367	437.049	453.990	473.068	488.924	502.226	502.806
Other lodging away from home including hotels and motels .....	278.872	268.348	253.003	258.098	261.853	261.272	262.821	281.985	328.040
Owners' equivalent rent of residences <sup>5 6</sup> .....	249.532	254.875	256.727	257.452	261.982	267.480	274.135	281.288	284.473
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>5 6</sup> .....	249.532	254.875	256.727	257.444	261.960	267.454	274.112	281.261	284.442
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>1</sup> .....	117.003	120.019	123.812	126.194	129.480	133.852	137.331	144.970	146.364
Fuels and utilities .....	203.006	215.184	208.760	212.505	217.674	218.496	224.407	231.150	228.748
Household energy .....	183.516	194.335	184.886	186.338	189.711	187.642	192.224	197.092	193.538
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	299.296	256.209	262.649	298.037	340.512	335.590	345.274	297.829	266.112
Fuel oil .....	319.208	252.024	268.396	312.718	369.085	382.532	375.607	303.844	272.874
Propane, kerosene, and firewood <sup>7</sup> .....	324.116	323.105	309.643	334.070	356.672	314.912	359.010	342.350	303.641
Energy services <sup>5</sup> .....	185.155	199.487	188.724	188.443	189.891	187.880	192.394	199.592	197.083
Electricity <sup>5</sup> .....	173.357	188.342	187.388	188.711	192.777	191.879	198.043	204.275	207.683
Utility (piped) gas service <sup>5</sup> .....	220.496	232.548	190.497	185.106	178.193	173.098	172.898	182.908	162.639
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>1</sup> .....	146.878	156.390	165.204	174.543	182.758	193.237	200.203	209.414	212.542
Water and sewerage maintenance <sup>5</sup> .....	319.460	341.965	365.664	390.362	411.067	438.486	455.317	480.698	488.981
Garbage and trash collection <sup>8</sup> .....	353.439	371.093	379.248	387.884	398.720	410.416	422.237	428.187	431.234
Household furnishings and operations .....	126.066	128.535	127.119	123.931	125.170	125.202	123.409	122.237	123.207
Window and floor coverings and other linens <sup>1</sup> .....	79.801	76.079	73.655	68.488	68.666	65.978	63.625	61.338	61.091
Floor coverings <sup>1</sup> .....	119.083	120.576	117.287	113.039	114.497	110.168	106.969	107.817	108.686
Window coverings <sup>1</sup> .....	85.646	85.257	79.977	73.405	73.982	74.770	73.934	72.199	68.954
Other linens <sup>1</sup> .....	68.305	62.517	61.602	57.039	56.861	53.298	50.653	48.044	48.318
Furniture and bedding .....	123.506	123.379	123.373	117.780	120.117	119.669	116.859	114.983	115.645
Bedroom furniture .....	142.055	142.693	139.258	136.893	139.848	135.805	134.516	131.275	132.257
Living room, kitchen, and dining room furniture <sup>1</sup> .....	90.510	89.411	91.131	87.879	89.506	89.624	88.970	87.322	87.570
Other furniture <sup>1</sup> .....	85.986	87.597	86.892	76.982	78.528	80.770	73.716	74.289	75.046
Infants' furniture <sup>2 4</sup> .....	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	94.016	NA	NA
Appliances <sup>1</sup> .....	89.273	90.507	88.124	84.545	85.781	87.386	84.061	79.679	79.955
Major appliances <sup>1</sup> .....	99.903	101.990	99.009	94.399	97.398	101.180	95.261	88.705	88.868
Laundry equipment <sup>2</sup> .....	115.994	116.576	112.673	105.824	110.060	118.631	107.840	99.811	101.027
Other appliances <sup>1</sup> .....	75.756	75.935	74.307	71.954	71.208	70.605	69.964	67.795	68.151
Other household equipment and furnishings <sup>1</sup> .....	74.948	74.767	72.130	68.762	66.048	64.481	61.571	59.145	59.573
Clocks, lamps, and decorator items .....	70.179	68.602	65.126	60.678	56.640	54.549	50.700	47.754	47.599
Indoor plants and flowers <sup>9</sup> .....	124.005	129.884	126.116	124.904	126.551	125.934	125.067	127.435	129.270
Dishes and flatware <sup>1</sup> .....	72.305	71.721	70.080	64.725	60.432	58.346	56.464	52.681	55.910
Nonelectric cookware and tableware <sup>1</sup> .....	93.341	95.330	95.600	96.306	96.837	96.892	94.738	91.257	91.519
Tools, hardware, outdoor equipment and supplies <sup>1</sup> .....	93.772	94.010	92.642	90.678	91.302	91.534	90.914	90.985	91.874
Tools, hardware and supplies <sup>1</sup> .....	99.028	99.541	97.073	96.160	98.667	99.656	100.007	100.822	100.756
Outdoor equipment and supplies <sup>1</sup> .....	91.213	91.115	90.115	87.697	87.663	87.594	86.605	86.365	87.647
Housekeeping supplies .....	170.743	182.569	183.109	183.510	189.372	190.079	188.169	186.667	187.551
Household cleaning products <sup>1</sup> .....	112.712	120.558	122.280	120.308	124.149	123.181	120.335	119.232	119.751
Household paper products <sup>1</sup> .....	138.930	154.754	155.772	160.884	165.304	169.083	170.053	168.823	169.339
Miscellaneous household products <sup>1</sup> .....	113.655	117.609	115.953	115.954	120.085	120.379	119.532	118.675	119.482
Household operations <sup>1</sup> .....	142.100	150.689	150.172	150.648	152.729	156.143	159.228	163.689	166.495
Domestic services <sup>1</sup> .....	139.648	143.688	144.263	145.702	145.843	148.275	152.971	154.837	155.496
Gardening and lawn care services <sup>1</sup> .....	141.672	NA	156.052	155.049	157.354	160.398	161.853	169.012	172.410

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 25. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Item and group	Unadjusted indexes								
	December								May 2015
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Expenditure category</b>									
Moving, storage, freight expense <sup>1</sup> .....	128.413	127.430	124.592	124.331	125.183	128.856	129.125	131.813	138.538
Repair of household items <sup>1</sup> .....	165.089	173.193	178.830	NA	193.882	202.256	209.290	217.559	218.247
Apparel .....	118.257	117.078	119.357	118.071	123.470	125.656	126.461	123.942	127.083
Men's and boys' apparel .....	112.026	110.767	110.633	109.711	115.997	118.525	119.602	116.073	122.014
Men's apparel .....	116.489	114.775	115.301	114.499	120.884	122.304	123.200	119.488	126.594
Men's suits, sport coats, and outerwear .....	121.449	116.071	113.718	113.731	113.764	112.448	115.218	107.041	114.970
Men's furnishings .....	126.721	134.123	136.207	137.818	147.287	153.606	156.248	152.544	159.124
Men's shirts and sweaters <sup>1</sup> .....	81.560	78.307	79.733	76.847	82.609	81.807	81.842	78.128	79.288
Men's pants and shorts .....	108.284	104.650	104.203	105.013	111.249	114.011	113.014	114.222	128.360
Boys' apparel .....	95.216	95.395	93.228	91.932	97.771	103.696	105.311	102.442	104.624
Women's and girls' apparel .....	109.418	105.456	108.304	105.739	110.918	111.974	113.944	109.866	112.514
Women's apparel .....	110.570	106.734	109.851	107.530	111.875	113.103	116.714	112.640	116.064
Women's outerwear .....	96.725	95.894	100.512	98.933	103.085	106.233	113.548	117.620	104.149
Women's dresses .....	115.453	110.886	112.306	106.405	110.535	112.928	120.974	122.950	123.196
Women's suits and separates <sup>1</sup> .....	87.306	82.653	83.985	80.974	82.259	83.851	85.853	78.825	84.751
Women's underwear, nightwear, sportswear and accessories <sup>1</sup> .....	88.867	88.612	93.355	94.905	102.812	101.795	103.725	103.447	105.712
Girls' apparel .....	103.475	98.956	100.550	96.881	105.860	106.134	100.679	96.612	95.722
Footwear .....	122.258	124.093	128.492	126.585	128.208	133.908	132.589	136.275	137.549
Men's footwear .....	120.906	125.664	127.787	126.710	130.094	135.305	134.511	136.979	140.226
Boys' and girls' footwear .....	125.993	131.745	133.820	134.677	136.851	141.361	143.894	152.718	153.305
Women's footwear .....	120.615	118.767	125.675	122.015	122.166	128.628	125.344	127.439	127.794
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	113.779	112.568	112.695	112.558	118.032	119.652	117.580	118.080	117.664
Jewelry and watches <sup>7</sup> .....	134.325	143.607	146.340	154.308	165.037	163.629	163.132	156.184	156.988
Watches <sup>7</sup> .....	113.726	117.491	114.260	113.415	114.934	120.221	120.953	119.730	122.505
Jewelry <sup>7</sup> .....	139.691	150.122	154.017	163.966	176.775	171.656	170.502	161.753	161.768
Transportation .....	189.984	164.628	188.318	198.280	208.585	211.853	212.911	199.777	206.386
Private transportation .....	186.134	159.411	183.766	193.545	203.809	206.874	207.997	194.641	200.528
New and used motor vehicles <sup>1</sup> .....	94.754	91.408	96.421	97.046	99.795	99.743	100.440	99.544	101.749
New vehicles .....	136.664	132.308	138.857	138.567	142.953	145.181	145.766	146.524	147.889
New cars and trucks <sup>1 2</sup> .....	94.727	91.677	96.214	96.051	99.085	100.627	101.022	101.580	102.523
New cars <sup>2</sup> .....	136.371	134.930	139.728	138.147	143.619	145.163	143.360	144.274	145.190
New trucks <sup>2 8</sup> .....	141.191	133.657	142.520	143.915	147.210	150.343	152.481	154.410	156.163
Used cars and trucks .....	136.943	125.883	137.406	142.454	148.140	145.234	148.183	141.957	150.713
Leased cars and trucks <sup>10</sup> .....	93.464	99.045	99.405	94.799	92.041	88.319	85.476	85.350	83.930
Car and truck rental <sup>1</sup> .....	113.982	118.241	125.705	124.766	124.088	125.249	126.563	126.545	126.429
Motor fuel .....	258.132	149.132	224.730	256.025	282.501	287.408	284.445	225.165	239.141
Gasoline (all types) .....	256.790	146.102	224.260	255.319	280.713	285.606	282.773	223.404	238.170
Gasoline, unleaded regular <sup>2</sup> .....	256.775	143.918	223.353	254.854	280.216	284.770	281.449	220.773	235.406
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade <sup>2 11</sup> .....	261.983	152.838	230.558	261.556	287.561	292.754	290.346	233.546	249.380
Gasoline, unleaded premium <sup>2</sup> .....	247.369	148.343	218.751	246.748	271.078	277.218	276.812	226.066	241.972
Other motor fuels <sup>1</sup> .....	248.393	185.983	203.092	234.947	280.326	284.725	278.685	245.509	209.609
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	123.928	133.077	134.781	139.223	147.499	148.761	145.664	144.693	144.581
Tires .....	113.060	119.796	121.348	126.263	134.417	134.666	129.637	127.212	126.929
Vehicle accessories other than tires <sup>1</sup> .....	132.574	145.311	147.139	149.905	157.340	160.930	163.124	165.908	166.236
Vehicle parts and equipment other than tires <sup>2</sup> .....	131.420	139.882	142.377	143.371	147.661	151.360	153.799	156.046	156.913
Motor oil, coolant, and fluids <sup>2</sup> .....	240.510	298.121	292.337	311.036	354.170	364.251	363.480	372.142	371.558
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	226.120	239.356	245.417	250.134	255.644	258.845	263.081	268.588	270.764
Motor vehicle body work .....	236.039	245.361	251.006	257.224	261.779	267.804	273.488	279.096	280.621
Motor vehicle maintenance and servicing .....	204.331	219.020	224.018	225.972	231.079	235.363	237.716	242.940	243.900
Motor vehicle repair <sup>1</sup> .....	139.602	146.705	150.735	154.745	158.184	159.292	162.609	165.886	167.865
Motor vehicle insurance .....	336.915	350.308	366.799	383.024	396.193	414.773	428.640	448.933	456.995
Motor vehicle fees <sup>1</sup> .....	142.248	147.741	163.829	166.101	169.269	172.915	175.764	176.374	177.743
State motor vehicle registration and license fees <sup>1 5</sup> .....	139.320	142.812	163.132	165.409	167.554	166.728	168.543	166.789	167.626
Parking and other fees <sup>1</sup> .....	147.630	156.704	165.205	167.462	172.468	183.453	188.058	192.196	194.291
Parking fees and tolls <sup>1 2</sup> .....	153.178	166.315	176.892	179.394	186.142	201.702	207.399	212.922	215.541
Automobile service clubs <sup>1 2</sup> .....	119.323	117.295	119.061	120.437	122.479	125.245	125.593	125.132	126.329
Public transportation .....	233.408	237.638	245.203	257.172	266.958	273.364	273.161	265.356	283.640
Airline fare .....	255.873	259.566	270.667	286.438	299.315	305.733	301.357	287.175	319.401
Other intercity transportation .....	156.648	155.454	149.138	153.604	152.822	154.882	156.185	155.159	149.308

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 25. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Item and group	Unadjusted indexes								
	December								May 2015
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Expenditure category</b>									
Intercity bus fare <sup>2 3</sup> .....	100.000	108.182	108.660	115.331	120.111	NA	NA	NA	NA
Intercity train fare <sup>2 3</sup> .....	100.000	108.295	105.854	115.324	107.558	117.639	112.993	117.243	108.453
Ship fare <sup>1 2</sup> .....	72.918	67.057	64.686	62.534	63.221	61.273	62.321	61.123	59.193
Intracity transportation .....	232.378	244.260	256.436	264.284	275.715	286.139	295.758	299.041	303.940
Intracity mass transit <sup>2 12</sup> .....	-	-	100.000	104.471	109.135	112.476	116.854	118.118	120.178
Medical care .....	357.661	367.133	379.516	391.946	405.629	418.654	427.089	439.720	447.213
Medical care commodities .....	293.610	298.361	308.221	317.199	327.254	332.684	333.801	349.750	354.647
Medicinal drugs <sup>12</sup> .....	-	-	100.000	103.070	106.523	108.276	108.742	114.134	115.815
Prescription drugs .....	374.389	379.943	396.526	412.786	429.817	437.905	441.589	469.778	478.566
Nonprescription drugs <sup>12</sup> .....	-	-	100.000	98.975	99.089	99.742	98.445	98.278	98.228
Medical equipment and supplies <sup>12</sup> .....	-	-	100.000	99.945	99.594	101.529	99.878	100.803	100.575
Medical care services .....	376.940	388.267	401.452	415.079	430.005	445.955	457.296	468.393	476.800
Professional services .....	304.784	313.886	321.827	330.651	337.907	344.409	351.594	357.631	361.010
Physicians' services <sup>5</sup> .....	306.304	315.233	323.124	334.112	342.966	349.910	356.469	361.659	365.214
Dental services <sup>5</sup> .....	366.225	379.603	391.677	402.386	411.438	422.937	434.955	442.874	451.798
Eyeglasses and eye care <sup>7</sup> .....	172.811	173.377	176.391	176.933	178.161	178.704	180.765	185.379	184.343
Services by other medical professionals <sup>5 7</sup> .....	200.312	207.850	211.524	215.427	218.223	220.029	224.580	229.057	228.027
Hospital and related services .....	515.677	543.585	581.968	621.176	653.839	684.005	710.891	743.152	766.486
Hospital services <sup>5 13</sup> .....	189.908	201.053	216.570	232.953	246.377	258.486	269.365	282.547	292.257
Inpatient hospital services <sup>2 5 13</sup> .....	183.595	194.073	209.075	228.222	242.364	252.510	263.581	278.103	286.683
Outpatient hospital services <sup>2 5 7</sup> .....	442.085	466.736	504.843	530.654	556.975	587.688	610.065	637.750	659.993
Nursing homes and adult day services <sup>5 13</sup> .....	161.981	167.097	173.095	178.531	183.780	190.397	196.142	201.872	206.058
Care of invalids and elderly at home <sup>4</sup> .....	106.602	108.281	109.971	111.595	113.724	114.787	115.179	117.263	117.720
Health insurance <sup>4</sup> .....	115.727	111.697	108.325	104.030	110.334	121.310	122.373	121.715	123.372
Recreation <sup>1</sup> .....	111.705	113.674	113.212	112.345	113.499	114.442	114.855	114.875	116.190
Video and audio <sup>1</sup> .....	102.691	101.629	99.873	97.167	98.225	98.515	99.010	98.702	100.058
Televisions .....	15.352	12.378	8.983	7.271	6.025	4.969	4.277	3.561	3.472
Cable and satellite television and radio service <sup>8</sup> .....	353.432	359.854	368.083	369.132	383.032	396.775	407.644	416.436	423.620
Other video equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	22.009	18.833	16.947	14.663	13.066	11.494	10.680	10.596	10.743
Video discs and other media, including rental of video and audio <sup>1</sup> .....	77.808	79.629	77.022	74.972	80.274	77.583	73.451	71.232	73.505
Video discs and other media <sup>1 2</sup> .....	64.303	61.029	55.958	51.710	51.151	47.868	43.108	40.382	41.677
Rental of video or audio discs and other media <sup>1 2</sup> .....	95.867	101.515	100.789	102.103	117.446	116.812	116.060	117.684	121.259
Audio equipment .....	53.242	50.650	48.213	46.261	43.415	40.689	39.128	36.267	36.141
Audio discs, tapes and other media <sup>1</sup> .....	105.202	104.528	95.165	92.277	89.448	88.664	90.758	87.473	87.572
Pets, pet products and services <sup>1</sup> .....	136.947	150.242	152.943	154.783	160.427	162.915	164.992	166.919	167.484
Pets and pet products .....	170.641	191.503	193.281	191.867	197.465	199.510	200.117	200.634	198.785
Pet food <sup>1 2</sup> .....	122.446	141.485	142.867	142.663	147.809	152.099	153.766	154.418	152.958
Purchase of pets, pet supplies, accessories <sup>1 2</sup> .....	114.293	117.639	118.375	115.550	118.038	115.223	114.391	114.795	114.001
Pet services including veterinary <sup>1</sup> .....	169.281	179.657	185.234	193.868	203.330	208.260	214.295	220.099	225.431
Pet services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	144.294	153.922	155.941	159.003	166.151	169.767	174.785	177.896	180.265
Veterinarian services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	174.382	185.269	192.436	201.702	211.015	216.164	223.093	229.527	235.848
Sporting goods .....	116.125	119.632	118.314	117.671	117.640	118.800	117.054	114.470	114.271
Sports vehicles including bicycles .....	138.424	139.862	139.648	142.569	147.899	150.199	149.239	147.635	150.829
Sports equipment .....	95.030	100.316	98.056	94.616	90.352	90.681	88.429	85.645	83.822
Photography <sup>1</sup> .....	81.737	80.236	80.606	77.780	79.602	76.774	76.067	76.047	74.956
Photographic equipment and supplies .....	79.082	74.245	72.637	65.128	65.107	60.142	57.776	56.477	55.075
Film and photographic supplies <sup>1 2</sup> .....	86.304	86.915	89.475	88.957	95.798	100.568	104.095	128.412	126.487
Photographic equipment <sup>1 2</sup> .....	38.800	35.196	33.844	29.258	28.774	26.206	23.784	23.233	22.628
Photographers and film processing <sup>1</sup> .....	106.295	108.430	111.306	112.976	117.366	117.674	119.636	122.229	121.659
Photographer fees <sup>1 2</sup> .....	117.023	117.795	120.763	118.872	124.788	124.739	126.977	128.388	128.373
Film processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	99.692	102.004	105.993	109.581	113.184	113.484	115.099	119.462	118.588
Other recreational goods <sup>1</sup> .....	62.868	60.213	58.316	56.206	54.431	52.194	49.846	47.935	47.510
Toys .....	68.585	63.944	59.985	57.098	54.433	51.207	48.515	45.908	45.355
Toys, games, hobbies and playground equipment <sup>1 2</sup> .....	67.586	64.308	62.449	59.454	58.505	56.911	55.683	54.053	54.105
Sewing machines, fabric and supplies <sup>1</sup> .....	86.794	88.423	92.515	94.105	97.989	100.910	96.491	96.552	97.709
Music instruments and accessories <sup>1</sup> .....	95.018	96.680	97.671	96.452	95.271	95.987	97.431	99.802	98.636
Other recreation services <sup>1</sup> .....	140.427	143.750	144.023	145.282	146.309	149.746	151.385	152.622	156.180
Club dues and fees for participant sports and group exercises <sup>1</sup> .....	123.864	125.014	122.918	123.325	125.494	125.963	127.923	128.377	129.237
Admissions .....	307.108	316.607	319.307	323.606	322.494	335.936	340.305	342.560	356.964

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 25. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Item and group	Unadjusted indexes								
	December								May 2015
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Expenditure category</b>									
Admission to movies, theaters, and concerts <sup>1 2</sup>	148.620	152.546	153.725	156.175	156.006	161.796	163.864	164.586	168.981
Admission to sporting events <sup>1 2</sup>	163.370	172.671	174.389	175.814	174.767	185.548	189.859	195.071	208.506
Fees for lessons or instructions <sup>7</sup>	248.080	257.231	264.055	266.872	268.184	277.304	278.052	283.713	285.536
Recreational reading materials	208.036	215.325	221.333	220.181	221.146	226.532	233.323	238.568	241.266
Newspapers and magazines <sup>1</sup>	122.709	128.653	134.986	135.196	139.136	147.729	155.909	163.421	165.435
Recreational books <sup>1</sup>	104.305	106.299	106.493	105.098	102.471	100.332	100.051	99.132	100.146
Education and communication <sup>1</sup>	121.506	125.921	128.883	130.548	132.728	134.694	136.857	137.410	137.400
Education <sup>1</sup>	176.927	186.916	195.672	203.343	212.745	220.818	228.578	236.066	238.219
Educational books and supplies	434.352	464.544	496.580	513.904	540.742	578.816	607.855	635.884	642.547
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	510.016	538.309	562.610	584.840	611.633	633.523	655.130	676.032	682.138
College tuition and fees	559.190	591.804	627.061	652.495	691.768	719.677	747.746	773.407	776.379
Elementary and high school tuition and fees	556.271	590.037	613.370	637.450	661.200	684.254	710.442	738.567	741.538
Child care and nursery school <sup>9</sup>	219.405	230.326	235.532	244.308	249.713	256.385	261.922	267.799	274.583
Technical and business school tuition and fees <sup>1</sup>	183.016	189.275	196.480	204.472	215.928	222.158	228.799	232.899	233.047
Communication <sup>1</sup>	83.282	84.737	84.809	83.913	82.990	82.496	82.344	80.681	80.015
Postage and delivery services <sup>1</sup>	132.091	136.357	143.156	146.000	152.285	158.134	167.946	174.356	174.580
Postage	208.927	215.400	226.626	229.846	238.782	247.741	263.671	274.517	274.517
Delivery services <sup>1</sup>	189.551	199.456	202.732	228.422	254.464	267.265	275.890	279.056	282.741
Information and information processing <sup>1</sup>	80.546	81.886	81.728	80.730	79.599	78.975	78.607	76.846	76.182
Telephone services <sup>1</sup>	98.792	101.688	102.707	101.739	101.397	101.654	101.636	99.484	98.469
Wireless telephone services <sup>1</sup>	64.011	64.361	63.629	61.339	59.931	59.447	58.249	55.894	54.537
Land-line telephone services <sup>12</sup>	-	-	100.000	102.225	104.131	106.131	109.350	111.372	113.279
Information technology, hardware and services <sup>14</sup>	10.215	9.906	9.423	9.232	8.818	8.528	8.392	8.182	8.139
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>3</sup>	100.000	88.529	77.960	73.559	64.348	58.764	54.869	49.089	48.667
Computer software and accessories <sup>1</sup>	50.722	50.180	48.930	43.791	43.187	40.079	37.237	36.807	37.244
Internet services and electronic information providers <sup>1</sup>	73.176	75.899	75.642	76.396	75.987	75.797	76.922	78.188	78.092
Telephone hardware, calculators, and other consumer information items <sup>1</sup>	36.945	36.230	34.994	33.708	31.733	30.246	28.704	25.867	24.563
Other goods and services	337.633	349.220	377.330	384.502	391.043	396.814	404.097	410.642	412.841
Tobacco and smoking products	566.696	602.644	783.794	827.680	847.063	862.945	890.438	916.707	920.372
Cigarettes <sup>1</sup>	229.969	244.647	319.378	337.573	345.001	351.585	362.727	373.859	375.648
Tobacco products other than cigarettes <sup>1</sup>	163.226	172.664	210.845	219.980	229.262	232.482	240.420	243.854	242.297
Personal care	197.643	202.774	205.823	207.196	210.257	213.099	216.109	218.850	220.101
Personal care products	158.236	161.397	162.275	160.656	160.825	161.147	162.399	162.901	163.185
Hair, dental, shaving, and miscellaneous personal care products <sup>1</sup>	103.861	104.966	104.825	103.631	101.995	102.435	103.244	102.898	104.215
Cosmetics, perfume, bath, nail preparations and implements	176.418	181.661	183.917	182.363	185.648	185.555	186.989	188.856	186.976
Personal care services	219.656	226.281	228.343	230.159	232.302	236.460	240.709	244.345	244.802
Haircuts and other personal care services <sup>1</sup>	134.026	138.068	139.326	140.435	141.742	144.279	146.872	149.091	149.369
Miscellaneous personal services	329.908	339.698	348.697	356.475	367.912	375.951	384.416	392.415	397.696
Legal services <sup>7</sup>	262.910	274.810	283.418	292.614	300.480	306.049	314.281	318.795	321.825
Funeral expenses <sup>7</sup>	256.560	270.369	278.644	284.595	291.088	297.379	305.028	308.825	312.282
Laundry and dry cleaning services <sup>1</sup>	130.834	137.122	140.340	143.423	145.339	148.520	150.331	153.625	154.897
Apparel services other than laundry and dry cleaning <sup>1</sup>	139.205	149.481	155.624	159.478	167.815	169.959	175.850	179.051	181.222
Financial services <sup>7</sup>	273.241	258.195	262.572	264.654	283.390	290.867	298.333	308.869	317.257
Checking account and other bank services <sup>1 2</sup>	129.839	122.325	124.260	126.498	135.703	141.021	147.674	147.782	150.552
Tax return preparation and other accounting fees <sup>1 2</sup>	163.279	171.238	173.992	177.595	187.775	191.202	197.658	209.768	216.641
Miscellaneous personal goods <sup>1</sup>	87.487	88.754	89.262	87.660	86.792	86.228	84.333	83.865	82.884
Stationery, stationery supplies, gift wrap <sup>2</sup>	154.060	155.308	157.926	156.653	157.573	157.618	155.801	155.753	153.453
Infants' equipment <sup>2 4</sup>	95.663	98.654	NA	95.827	92.346	88.974	87.757	87.101	85.698
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>									
Commodities	170.511	163.582	172.572	176.015	183.345	185.204	185.620	181.926	184.263
Commodities less food and beverages	150.162	135.720	148.441	151.854	157.921	158.782	158.269	149.965	153.084
Nondurables less food and beverages	188.635	161.681	185.689	193.856	204.529	207.019	206.868	191.838	196.477
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel	236.735	192.948	231.169	245.458	259.668	262.409	261.666	238.493	244.171

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 25. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories-Continued**

(1982-84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Item and group	Unadjusted indexes								May 2015
	December								
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>									
Durables .....	112.093	108.811	111.477	110.512	112.277	111.563	110.704	108.500	110.197
Services .....	249.225	256.731	259.055	262.074	267.737	273.694	280.102	287.129	290.770
Rent of shelter <sup>6</sup> .....	252.669	257.567	258.303	259.418	264.341	270.122	276.978	284.934	289.079
Transportation services .....	236.504	246.287	256.014	263.264	269.858	276.982	281.680	286.585	292.994
Other services .....	289.945	300.067	306.436	310.824	318.043	324.870	331.067	335.162	337.863
All items less food .....	210.610	208.855	215.703	218.921	224.805	228.709	232.314	233.079	236.510
All items less shelter .....	199.734	198.127	205.888	209.996	217.260	220.582	222.834	222.267	224.911
All items less medical care .....	202.600	202.442	207.860	210.712	216.875	220.408	223.631	224.921	227.707
Commodities less food .....	152.344	138.536	151.052	154.443	160.453	161.405	161.014	152.990	156.062
Nondurables less food .....	189.844	165.032	187.864	195.703	205.966	208.549	208.623	194.603	199.037
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	233.014	194.403	229.250	242.401	255.567	258.414	258.079	237.355	242.584
Nondurables .....	198.422	189.557	202.064	208.028	218.411	221.668	222.790	218.358	220.974
Apparel less footwear .....	112.990	111.235	112.993	111.887	117.890	119.237	120.472	116.574	120.045
Services less rent of shelter <sup>6</sup> .....	263.966	275.370	279.896	285.481	292.487	299.113	305.482	311.948	315.271
Services less medical care services .....	238.894	246.090	247.793	250.191	255.271	260.580	266.629	273.341	276.655
Energy .....	217.506	171.158	202.301	217.953	232.300	233.473	234.542	209.785	214.330
All items less energy .....	210.890	215.930	219.048	221.045	226.795	231.043	234.768	239.186	242.047
All items less food and energy .....	212.356	216.100	220.025	221.795	226.740	231.033	235.000	238.775	242.119
Commodities less food and energy commodities ..	140.014	139.228	143.383	142.830	145.929	146.387	146.277	145.127	147.014
Energy commodities .....	261.976	155.745	228.186	259.903	287.363	291.815	289.461	230.195	242.315
Services less energy services .....	255.785	262.636	266.237	269.572	275.643	282.400	289.001	296.021	300.264
Domestically produced farm food .....	211.109	224.865	218.813	223.186	236.613	240.239	241.358	251.370	249.655
Utilities and public transportation .....	191.955	201.511	199.834	201.759	205.245	207.478	211.039	213.925	214.939

<sup>1</sup> Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.  
<sup>2</sup> Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.  
<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 2007=100 base.  
<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 2005=100 base.  
<sup>5</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.  
<sup>6</sup> Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.  
<sup>7</sup> Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.  
<sup>8</sup> Indexes on a December 1983=100 base.

<sup>9</sup> Indexes on a December 1990=100 base.  
<sup>10</sup> Indexes on a December 2001=100 base.  
<sup>11</sup> Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.  
<sup>12</sup> Indexes on a December 2009=100 base.  
<sup>13</sup> Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.  
<sup>14</sup> Indexes on a December 1988=100 base.  
 NA Data not adequate for publication.  
 - Data not available.  
 NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.

**Table 26. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories**

Item and group	Percent change from previous December								
	December								May 2015
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Expenditure category</b>									
All items .....	4.1	0.1	2.7	1.5	3.0	1.7	1.5	0.8	1.3
Food and beverages .....	4.8	5.8	-4	1.5	4.5	1.8	1.1	3.3	.1
Food .....	4.9	5.9	-5	1.5	4.7	1.8	1.1	3.4	.1
Food at home .....	5.6	6.6	-2.4	1.7	6.0	1.3	.4	3.7	-6
Cereals and bakery products .....	5.4	11.7	-8	-2	6.1	.8	.5	.5	1.1
Cereals and cereal products .....	4.1	13.1	-1.4	-8	7.2	-7	-3	-3	2.2
Flour and prepared flour mixes .....	7.4	21.0	-4.2	-1.4	12.0	2.3	-2.6	-1.9	5.5
Breakfast cereal .....	2.7	4.9	.1	-1.3	6.5	-8	.2	1.3	-1
Rice, pasta, cornmeal .....	5.2	26.7	-2.9	.2	6.9	-1.5	-6	-2.1	4.6
Rice <sup>1 2</sup> .....	4.2	39.4	-8.8	2.2	5.6	.0	2.1	-2.8	1.2
Bakery products .....	6.0	11.1	-5	.1	5.6	1.7	.9	.9	.5
Bread <sup>2</sup> .....	10.5	12.5	-3.5	1.1	6.7	1.5	.7	1.2	-7
White bread <sup>1</sup> .....	11.3	12.0	-3.4	.8	5.8	2.3	-4	.9	.6
Bread other than white <sup>1</sup> .....	10.1	13.3	-3.7	2.1	9.3	-2	2.0	.8	-1.9
Fresh biscuits, rolls, muffins <sup>2</sup> .....	4.5	13.5	-2.6	2.0	6.4	1.3	.5	1.9	-6
Cakes, cupcakes, and cookies .....	5.8	8.7	2.7	-4	4.4	1.3	1.7	.6	.3
Cookies <sup>1</sup> .....	2.8	8.5	4.3	-1.0	3.2	1.8	2.4	-2	-6
Fresh cakes and cupcakes <sup>1</sup> .....	8.4	8.9	1.0	.4	5.8	1.5	.7	1.5	1.5
Other bakery products .....	2.4	10.8	.7	-1.2	5.4	2.3	.7	.4	2.5
Fresh sweetrolls, coffeecakes, doughnuts <sup>1</sup> .....	3.4	7.4	.5	.6	6.2	5.4	2.4	.6	.0
Crackers, bread, and cracker products <sup>1</sup> .....	1.4	12.1	1.1	-2.8	7.1	1.4	.3	1.0	2.7
Frozen and refrigerated bakery products, pies, tarts, turnovers <sup>1</sup> .....	3.6	10.4	2.4	-1.2	4.4	.3	1.1	-5	2.1
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	5.4	5.1	-3.8	5.5	7.9	1.5	2.9	9.2	-1.5
Meats, poultry, and fish .....	4.0	6.1	-3.6	5.4	8.0	1.5	2.8	9.1	-1.1
Meats .....	3.3	5.8	-5.2	7.2	9.4	.8	2.2	12.7	-1.5
Beef and veal .....	5.0	6.2	-4.7	6.1	11.5	4.6	1.7	18.7	1.2
Uncooked ground beef .....	5.2	11.1	-6.1	6.2	11.9	5.6	1.7	19.2	.5
Uncooked beef roasts <sup>2</sup> .....	5.1	5.0	-2.5	4.9	13.0	3.2	3.1	20.6	.6
Uncooked beef steaks <sup>2</sup> .....	5.1	1.5	-5.1	5.4	11.0	4.1	1.1	16.0	3.4
Uncooked other beef and veal <sup>2</sup> .....	4.0	6.3	-8	10.8	8.7	4.2	2.2	24.0	-3.4
Pork .....	1.4	5.1	-7.8	11.2	8.1	-3.3	4.5	8.2	-5.7
Bacon, breakfast sausage, and related products <sup>2</sup> .....	3.2	2.3	-5.2	12.0	8.2	-2.4	8.2	2.4	-6.3
Bacon and related products <sup>1</sup> .....	3.8	.3	-3.7	13.7	12.4	-1.8	9.6	-1.0	-10.0
Breakfast sausage and related products <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.3	4.3	-5.5	8.4	5.7	-4.1	7.4	7.3	-1.2
Ham .....	1.4	5.4	-8.5	11.3	5.7	-2.3	2.1	13.1	-5.2
Ham, excluding canned <sup>1</sup> .....	1.2	5.3	-8.8	11.4	5.9	-2.8	1.9	14.4	-6.3
Pork chops .....	.8	6.6	-8.0	7.6	8.6	-3.7	3.1	10.1	-6.2
Other pork including roasts and picnics <sup>2</sup> .....	-4	7.8	-11.0	12.8	9.7	-5.4	1.9	12.5	-4.7
Other meats .....	1.8	5.8	-2.4	3.9	6.7	-1.2	.2	7.4	-1.4
Frankfurters <sup>1</sup> .....	4.9	3.9	-5.0	7.5	8.0	-1.2	-1.8	12.1	-3.9
Lunchmeats <sup>1 2</sup> .....	1.5	7.0	-5	1.6	5.3	-5	1.0	5.8	-4
Lamb and organ meats <sup>1</sup> .....	-	9.2	1.7	16.2	9.5	-7.8	-3	8.8	-1.7
Lamb and mutton <sup>1 2</sup> .....	-	-	-8	15.9	20.1	-16.5	-5.4	3.2	-2.0
Poultry .....	6.3	5.8	-1.5	1.3	4.8	5.7	3.0	1.6	-6
Chicken <sup>2</sup> .....	7.4	5.4	-2.1	1.4	2.9	6.0	3.5	2.1	-1.9
Fresh whole chicken <sup>1</sup> .....	8.7	7.9	-4.4	5.0	4.0	3.6	5.3	3.0	-1.0
Fresh and frozen chicken parts <sup>1</sup> .....	7.3	4.0	-4	-1	2.3	7.1	2.1	1.6	-2.7
Other poultry including turkey <sup>2</sup> .....	1.4	7.4	1.2	.9	12.4	4.6	1.0	-5	5.3
Fish and seafood .....	4.7	7.7	.0	4.2	6.8	-1	4.6	4.3	-3
Fresh fish and seafood <sup>2</sup> .....	5.2	6.1	-1.4	7.8	5.9	-1.5	6.4	5.6	.3
Processed fish and seafood <sup>2</sup> .....	4.1	9.7	1.5	.4	7.9	1.4	2.7	3.0	-9
Shelf stable fish and seafood <sup>1</sup> .....	3.2	15.0	3.4	-9	6.7	6.9	-6	1.3	-6
Frozen fish and seafood <sup>1</sup> .....	5.1	6.1	2.1	2.7	8.3	-2.2	6.4	5.2	-1.0
Eggs .....	32.6	-9.1	-6.6	6.1	6.4	1.1	5.8	10.7	-7.0
Dairy and related products .....	13.4	2.7	-7.6	3.7	8.1	.5	-5	5.3	-3.8
Milk <sup>2</sup> .....	19.3	-3.3	-10.6	5.1	9.2	1.9	.1	4.3	-7.1
Fresh whole milk <sup>1</sup> .....	22.0	-4.4	-12.8	5.6	9.5	2.9	-2	5.2	-7.9
Fresh milk other than whole <sup>1 2</sup> .....	16.9	-2.5	-8.4	4.7	9.0	1.0	.3	4.1	-6.4
Cheese and related products .....	13.0	8.4	-9.3	4.3	7.8	.1	-1.0	8.2	-2.7
Ice cream and related products .....	3.6	5.6	-2.1	2.6	9.0	-1.3	.6	3.5	-4.6
Other dairy and related products <sup>2</sup> .....	11.8	2.6	-3.8	1.4	6.0	.1	-1.5	3.7	-4
Fruits and vegetables .....	5.9	3.4	-3.0	1.4	2.3	1.8	-1	3.2	-1.5

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 26. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories-Continued**

Item and group	Percent change from previous December								
	December								May 2015
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Expenditure category</b>									
Fresh fruits and vegetables .....	6.4	0.6	-3.9	2.2	0.9	2.3	-0.3	4.1	-2.8
Fresh fruits .....	5.8	-1.9	-3.7	3.1	-.5	5.5	-2.0	3.6	-1.4
Apples .....	5.9	3.9	-9.9	3.8	7.1	13.3	-6.1	-2.3	2.4
Bananas .....	4.5	15.8	-8.4	1.9	3.6	.0	-1.1	-.7	.4
Citrus fruits <sup>2</sup> .....	.9	.1	.1	9.1	-3.8	3.2	2.8	5.4	5.7
Oranges, including tangerines <sup>1</sup> .....	-5.9	3.9	4.3	4.5	.2	3.3	4.6	3.7	4.8
Other fresh fruits <sup>2</sup> .....	8.2	-9.0	-1.3	1.3	-3.0	5.7	-2.9	6.2	-7.3
Fresh vegetables .....	7.0	3.2	-4.0	1.2	2.4	-1.2	1.7	4.6	-4.3
Potatoes .....	3.0	22.1	-16.9	5.4	7.4	-7.4	7.2	-1.8	8.4
Lettuce .....	4.8	1.6	9.8	-7.4	.0	-3.2	2.0	4.4	-3.4
Tomatoes .....	18.9	-10.8	3.2	-10.5	1.3	4.8	-.2	16.5	-18.3
Other fresh vegetables .....	4.3	3.6	-5.5	6.9	1.9	-.7	.6	2.3	-2.6
Processed fruits and vegetables <sup>2</sup> .....	4.0	13.5	-.3	-1.0	7.0	.1	.3	.4	3.1
Canned fruits and vegetables <sup>2</sup> .....	4.0	16.5	1.0	-1.7	5.7	.5	2.2	-.2	3.2
Canned fruits <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.8	10.6	.6	-2.6	8.3	1.6	1.2	.5	4.1
Canned vegetables <sup>1 2</sup> .....	4.7	19.1	1.6	-1.4	4.9	-.5	2.8	.0	2.5
Frozen fruits and vegetables <sup>2</sup> .....	3.3	8.0	-3.3	.2	9.8	-1.4	-2.4	1.5	2.9
Frozen vegetables <sup>1</sup> .....	.6	8.8	-3.5	.0	9.1	-2.2	-2.2	.9	3.6
Other processed fruits and vegetables including dried <sup>2</sup> .....	5.5	14.5	.5	-.7	6.0	1.6	.0	.2	3.0
Dried beans, peas, and lentils <sup>1 2</sup> .....	12.5	26.8	.1	-2.5	13.8	1.1	-1.0	4.6	1.1
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials .....	3.5	5.9	-.9	-1.2	5.8	-.2	-1.4	.7	-.1
Juices and nonalcoholic drinks <sup>2</sup> .....	3.5	7.3	-1.2	-1.9	4.3	.7	-.5	.1	-.3
Carbonated drinks .....	3.4	9.3	.5	-1.5	6.3	.0	-2.2	1.4	.3
Frozen noncarbonated juices and drinks <sup>2</sup> .....	13.4	3.9	.8	-.3	13.1	-1.0	2.9	2.3	-.3
Nonfrozen noncarbonated juices and drinks <sup>2</sup> .....	3.0	5.4	-3.0	-2.2	2.5	1.2	.5	-1.0	-.8
Beverage materials including coffee and tea <sup>2</sup> .....	3.4	3.4	-.4	.8	10.5	-2.7	-4.3	2.6	.5
Coffee .....	5.6	6.2	-2.8	2.5	19.3	-4.3	-7.6	3.6	2.3
Roasted coffee <sup>1</sup> .....	8.7	4.6	-2.1	3.4	20.9	-4.5	-9.0	4.2	3.0
Instant and freeze dried coffee <sup>1</sup> .....	-2.4	12.6	-5.0	1.1	10.1	-3.9	-1.5	.2	-1.2
Other beverage materials including tea <sup>2</sup> .....	2.3	1.8	.9	-.7	2.2	-.1	.6	1.0	-2.3
Other food at home .....	3.2	9.3	-.1	.1	5.5	2.0	-.4	1.5	1.2
Sugar and sweets .....	3.6	8.2	2.8	2.2	3.8	1.1	-2.6	1.1	3.0
Sugar and artificial sweeteners .....	-.5	6.5	3.8	6.8	3.9	-1.3	-9.2	.2	6.8
Candy and chewing gum <sup>2</sup> .....	4.8	8.5	2.8	1.3	3.1	1.5	-.6	1.8	2.4
Other sweets <sup>2</sup> .....	3.4	8.7	1.8	.9	6.2	2.3	-2.0	-.2	1.7
Fats and oils .....	5.6	17.4	-4.5	1.6	13.5	1.7	-2.4	1.0	-1.0
Butter and margarine <sup>2</sup> .....	6.1	18.9	-7.7	9.3	11.1	-.5	-.6	11.6	-4.1
Butter <sup>1</sup> .....	2.2	8.1	-11.5	21.9	1.9	-2.6	.9	22.5	-7.7
Margarine <sup>1</sup> .....	9.5	27.0	-4.8	1.2	20.3	1.6	-2.5	2.6	-.2
Salad dressing <sup>2</sup> .....	3.6	10.5	.6	1.8	7.9	.2	-1.7	-4.3	.2
Other fats and oils including peanut butter <sup>2</sup> .....	6.6	20.9	-5.5	-3.0	18.5	4.0	-3.8	-2.5	.6
Peanut butter <sup>1 2</sup> .....	8.7	13.5	-1.0	-4.1	27.2	13.8	-7.5	-3.6	-.7
Other foods .....	2.6	8.3	.0	-.5	4.5	2.2	.2	1.7	1.2
Soups .....	-.1	8.8	-2.2	-1.5	2.5	.4	.0	-.6	7.9
Frozen and freeze dried prepared foods .....	3.8	6.6	-.8	-1.3	3.0	.2	-1.0	1.9	.2
Snacks .....	4.5	12.9	1.5	.3	7.4	3.7	.9	1.8	1.0
Spices, seasonings, condiments, sauces .....	3.5	6.9	2.0	-1.0	5.1	2.6	.2	2.2	2.8
Salt and other seasonings and spices <sup>1 2</sup> .....	5.8	2.1	3.2	-.3	9.6	.8	.7	4.8	3.2
Olives, pickles, relishes <sup>1 2</sup> .....	4.1	13.0	-1.4	-2.6	.4	6.5	-1.8	.2	1.0
Sauces and gravies <sup>1 2</sup> .....	1.1	8.5	3.6	-.6	2.9	3.1	.4	1.7	1.3
Other condiments <sup>1</sup> .....	6.3	4.9	-2.0	7.7	10.2	2.0	-2.8	1.8	6.2
Baby food <sup>2</sup> .....	3.7	5.7	-1.2	-.9	7.3	2.6	.1	2.1	-.5
Other miscellaneous foods <sup>2</sup> .....	.1	7.4	-1.1	.0	3.2	2.5	.5	1.6	-.4
Prepared salads <sup>1 3</sup> .....	-.1	5.7	1.6	-.1	3.1	2.2	3.0	3.9	-1.2
Food away from home .....	4.0	5.0	1.9	1.3	2.9	2.5	2.1	3.0	1.1
Full service meals and snacks <sup>2</sup> .....	3.9	3.9	1.8	1.3	2.9	2.4	2.1	3.1	.8
Limited service meals and snacks <sup>2</sup> .....	4.1	6.0	1.8	1.0	3.1	2.6	2.0	3.2	1.2
Food at employee sites and schools <sup>2</sup> .....	2.8	5.8	2.8	2.5	3.5	3.4	2.5	1.8	.5
Food at elementary and secondary schools <sup>1 4</sup> .....	3.2	6.2	2.8	2.5	3.4	3.6	2.1	2.3	.1
Food from vending machines and mobile vendors <sup>2</sup> .....	3.4	6.8	2.5	2.2	2.7	2.6	1.2	.5	1.5

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 26. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories-Continued**

Item and group	Percent change from previous December								
	December								May 2015
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Expenditure category</b>									
Other food away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	4.8	5.7	1.9	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.0	2.6
Alcoholic beverages .....	3.8	4.4	1.9	1.0	1.4	1.9	1.8	1.3	.4
Alcoholic beverages at home .....	3.3	4.4	1.5	.1	.3	1.1	1.5	.7	.0
Beer, ale, and other malt beverages at home .....	4.3	5.3	2.6	1.2	1.4	1.6	2.3	.7	-.3
Distilled spirits at home .....	.6	2.7	1.8	-.5	.1	.2	1.6	.9	.6
Whiskey at home <sup>1</sup> .....	2.3	4.0	2.6	-1.3	3.2	.0	2.6	1.5	.9
Distilled spirits, excluding whiskey, at home <sup>1</sup> .....	.2	1.2	2.1	.1	-1.0	.5	1.1	.8	.4
Wine at home .....	3.2	3.8	.0	-1.2	-1.2	.8	.5	.6	.1
Alcoholic beverages away from home .....	4.6	4.5	2.4	2.3	3.0	3.0	2.3	2.2	1.0
Beer, ale, and other malt beverages away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	3.4	4.0	2.8	2.5	1.7	2.3	2.2	2.1	1.2
Wine away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	5.8	5.1	2.5	1.6	1.3	3.2	2.4	2.0	.9
Distilled spirits away from home <sup>1 2</sup> .....	5.8	3.8	1.7	1.1	4.0	3.4	2.7	2.2	2.1
Housing .....	3.0	2.4	-.3	.3	1.9	1.7	2.2	2.5	1.1
Shelter .....	3.1	1.9	.3	.4	1.9	2.2	2.5	2.9	1.4
Rent of primary residence <sup>5</sup> .....	4.0	3.4	.7	.8	2.5	2.7	2.9	3.4	1.2
Lodging away from home <sup>2</sup> .....	4.6	-3.3	-5.0	2.5	2.0	.7	1.2	6.3	13.0
Housing at school, excluding board <sup>5 6</sup> .....	5.1	4.7	5.0	4.2	3.9	4.2	3.4	2.7	.1
Other lodging away from home including hotels and motels .....	4.5	-3.8	-5.7	2.0	1.5	-.2	.6	7.3	16.3
Owners' equivalent rent of residences <sup>5 6</sup> .....	2.8	2.1	.7	.3	1.8	2.1	2.5	2.6	1.1
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence <sup>5 6</sup> .....	2.8	2.1	.7	.3	1.8	2.1	2.5	2.6	1.1
Tenants' and household insurance <sup>2</sup> .....	-.1	2.6	3.2	1.9	2.6	3.4	2.6	5.6	1.0
Fuels and utilities .....	5.4	6.0	-3.0	1.8	2.4	.4	2.7	3.0	-1.0
Household energy .....	5.3	5.9	-4.9	.8	1.8	-1.1	2.4	2.5	-1.8
Fuel oil and other fuels .....	28.3	-14.4	2.5	13.5	14.3	-1.4	2.9	-13.7	-10.6
Fuel oil .....	32.5	-21.0	6.5	16.5	18.0	3.6	-1.8	-19.1	-10.2
Propane, kerosene, and firewood <sup>7</sup> .....	19.2	-.3	-4.2	7.9	6.8	-11.7	14.0	-4.6	-11.3
Energy services <sup>5</sup> .....	3.4	7.7	-5.4	-.1	.8	-1.1	2.4	3.7	-1.3
Electricity <sup>5</sup> .....	5.2	8.6	-.5	.7	2.2	-.5	3.2	3.1	1.7
Utility (piped) gas service <sup>5</sup> .....	-.4	5.5	-18.1	-2.8	-3.7	-2.9	-.1	5.8	-11.1
Water and sewer and trash collection services <sup>2</sup> .....	5.4	6.5	5.6	5.7	4.7	5.7	3.6	4.6	1.5
Water and sewerage maintenance <sup>5</sup> .....	5.6	7.0	6.9	6.8	5.3	6.7	3.8	5.6	1.7
Garbage and trash collection <sup>8</sup> .....	4.8	5.0	2.2	2.3	2.8	2.9	2.9	1.4	.7
Household furnishings and operations .....	-.7	2.0	-1.1	-2.5	1.0	.0	-1.4	-.9	.8
Window and floor coverings and other linens <sup>2</sup> .....	-3.2	-4.7	-3.2	-7.0	.3	-3.9	-3.6	-3.6	-.4
Floor coverings <sup>2</sup> .....	-.3	1.3	-2.7	-3.6	1.3	-3.8	-2.9	.8	.8
Window coverings <sup>2</sup> .....	-2.6	-.5	-6.2	-8.2	.8	1.1	-1.1	-2.3	-4.5
Other linens <sup>2</sup> .....	-4.2	-8.5	-1.5	-7.4	-.3	-6.3	-5.0	-5.2	.6
Furniture and bedding .....	-2.1	-.1	.0	-4.5	2.0	-.4	-2.3	-1.6	.6
Bedroom furniture .....	-1.6	.4	-2.4	-1.7	2.2	-2.9	-.9	-2.4	.7
Living room, kitchen, and dining room furniture <sup>2</sup> .....	-1.9	-1.2	1.9	-3.6	1.9	.1	-.7	-1.9	.3
Other furniture <sup>2</sup> .....	-3.4	1.9	-.8	-11.4	2.0	2.9	-8.7	.8	1.0
Infants' furniture <sup>1 4</sup> .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Appliances <sup>2</sup> .....	1.4	1.4	-2.6	-4.1	1.5	1.9	-3.8	-5.2	.3
Major appliances <sup>2</sup> .....	2.8	2.1	-2.9	-4.7	3.2	3.9	-5.8	-6.9	.2
Laundry equipment <sup>1</sup> .....	3.2	.5	-3.3	-6.1	4.0	7.8	-9.1	-7.4	1.2
Other appliances <sup>2</sup> .....	-.5	.2	-2.1	-3.2	-1.0	-.8	-.9	-3.1	.5
Other household equipment and furnishings <sup>2</sup> .....	-4.8	-.2	-3.5	-4.7	-3.9	-2.4	-4.5	-3.9	.7
Clocks, lamps, and decorator items .....	-9.6	-2.2	-5.1	-6.8	-6.7	-3.7	-7.1	-5.8	-.3
Indoor plants and flowers <sup>9</sup> .....	2.0	4.7	-2.9	-1.0	1.3	-.5	-.7	1.9	1.4
Dishes and flatware <sup>2</sup> .....	-2.6	-.8	-2.3	-7.6	-6.6	-3.5	-3.2	-6.7	6.1
Nonelectric cookware and tableware <sup>2</sup> .....	3.0	2.1	.3	.7	.6	.1	-2.2	-3.7	.3
Tools, hardware, outdoor equipment and supplies <sup>2</sup> .....	-1.1	.3	-1.5	-2.1	.7	.3	-.7	.1	1.0
Tools, hardware and supplies <sup>2</sup> .....	-1.1	.5	-2.5	-.9	2.6	1.0	.4	.8	-.1
Outdoor equipment and supplies <sup>2</sup> .....	-1.0	-.1	-1.1	-2.7	.0	-.1	-1.1	-.3	1.5
Housekeeping supplies .....	1.5	6.9	.3	.2	3.2	.4	-1.0	-.8	.5
Household cleaning products <sup>2</sup> .....	-.2	7.0	1.4	-1.6	3.2	-.8	-2.3	-.9	.4
Household paper products <sup>2</sup> .....	3.8	11.4	.7	3.3	2.7	2.3	.6	-.7	.3
Miscellaneous household products <sup>2</sup> .....	2.0	3.5	-1.4	.0	3.6	.2	-.7	-.7	.7
Household operations <sup>2</sup> .....	2.2	6.0	-.3	.3	1.4	2.2	2.0	2.8	1.7
Domestic services <sup>2</sup> .....	1.7	2.9	.4	1.0	.1	1.7	3.2	1.2	.4
Gardening and lawn care services <sup>2</sup> .....	-	-	-	-6	1.5	1.9	.9	4.4	2.0

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 26. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories-Continued**

Item and group	Percent change from previous December								
	December								May 2015
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Expenditure category</b>									
Moving, storage, freight expense <sup>2</sup> .....	-0.1	-0.8	-2.2	-0.2	0.7	2.9	0.2	2.1	5.1
Repair of household items <sup>2</sup> .....	4.2	4.9	3.3	-	-	4.3	3.5	4.0	.3
Apparel .....	-3	-1.0	1.9	-1.1	4.6	1.8	.6	-2.0	2.5
Men's and boys' apparel .....	-1.0	-1.1	-1	-8	5.7	2.2	.9	-3.0	5.1
Men's apparel .....	-2.4	-1.5	.5	-7	5.6	1.2	.7	-3.0	5.9
Men's suits, sport coats, and outerwear .....	1.0	-4.4	-2.0	.0	.0	-1.2	2.5	-7.1	7.4
Men's furnishings .....	-3.8	5.8	1.6	1.2	6.9	4.3	1.7	-2.4	4.3
Men's shirts and sweaters <sup>2</sup> .....	-7.1	-4.0	1.8	-3.6	7.5	-1.0	.0	-4.5	1.5
Men's pants and shorts .....	1.4	-3.4	-4	.8	5.9	2.5	-9	1.1	12.4
Boys' apparel .....	4.2	.2	-2.3	-1.4	6.4	6.1	1.6	-2.7	2.1
Women's and girls' apparel .....	-7	-3.6	2.7	-2.4	4.9	1.0	1.8	-3.6	2.4
Women's apparel .....	-9	-3.5	2.9	-2.1	4.0	1.1	3.2	-3.5	3.0
Women's outerwear .....	-4.9	-9	4.8	-1.6	4.2	3.1	6.9	3.6	-11.5
Women's dresses .....	2.7	-4.0	1.3	-5.3	3.9	2.2	7.1	1.6	.2
Women's suits and separates <sup>2</sup> .....	-3	-5.3	1.6	-3.6	1.6	1.9	2.4	-8.2	7.5
Women's underwear, nightwear, sportswear and accessories <sup>2</sup> .....	-2.3	-3	5.4	1.7	8.3	-1.0	1.9	-3	2.2
Girls' apparel .....	.7	-4.4	1.6	-3.6	9.3	.3	-5.1	-4.0	-9
Footwear .....	-6	1.5	3.5	-1.5	1.3	4.4	-1.0	2.8	.9
Men's footwear .....	-2.0	3.9	1.7	-8	2.7	4.0	-6	1.8	2.4
Boys' and girls' footwear .....	2.1	4.6	1.6	.6	1.6	3.3	1.8	6.1	.4
Women's footwear .....	-9	-1.5	5.8	-2.9	.1	5.3	-2.6	1.7	.3
Infants' and toddlers' apparel .....	-3	-1.1	.1	-1	4.9	1.4	-1.7	.4	-4
Jewelry and watches <sup>7</sup> .....	4.0	6.9	1.9	5.4	7.0	-9	-3	-4.3	.5
Watches <sup>7</sup> .....	-1.7	3.3	-2.7	-7	1.3	4.6	.6	-1.0	2.3
Jewelry <sup>7</sup> .....	5.0	7.5	2.6	6.5	7.8	-2.9	-7	-5.1	.0
Transportation .....	8.3	-13.3	14.4	5.3	5.2	1.6	.5	-6.2	3.3
Private transportation .....	8.3	-14.4	15.3	5.3	5.3	1.5	.5	-6.4	3.0
New and used motor vehicles <sup>2</sup> .....	.0	-3.5	5.5	.6	2.8	-.1	.7	-.9	2.2
New vehicles .....	-3	-3.2	4.9	-.2	3.2	1.6	.4	.5	.9
New cars and trucks <sup>1 2</sup> .....	-3	-3.2	4.9	-.2	3.2	1.6	.4	.6	.9
New cars <sup>1</sup> .....	-4	-1.1	3.6	-1.1	4.0	1.1	-.6	-.1	.6
New trucks <sup>1 8</sup> .....	-2	-5.3	6.6	1.0	2.3	2.1	1.4	1.3	1.1
Used cars and trucks .....	.5	-8.1	9.2	3.7	4.0	-2.0	2.0	-4.2	6.2
Leased cars and trucks <sup>10</sup> .....	.6	6.0	.0	-4.3	-2.9	-4.0	-3.2	-.1	-1.7
Car and truck rental <sup>2</sup> .....	-1.2	3.7	6.3	-.7	-.5	.9	1.0	.0	-.1
Motor fuel .....	29.5	-42.2	50.7	13.9	10.3	1.7	-1.0	-20.8	6.2
Gasoline (all types) .....	29.6	-43.1	53.5	13.8	9.9	1.7	-1.0	-21.0	6.6
Gasoline, unleaded regular <sup>1</sup> .....	29.7	-44.0	55.2	14.1	10.0	1.6	-1.2	-21.6	6.6
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade <sup>1 11</sup> .....	29.6	-41.7	50.9	13.4	9.9	1.8	-.8	-19.6	6.8
Gasoline, unleaded premium <sup>1</sup> .....	28.6	-40.0	47.5	12.8	9.9	2.3	-.1	-18.3	7.0
Other motor fuels <sup>2</sup> .....	24.1	-25.1	9.2	15.7	19.3	1.6	-2.1	-11.9	-14.6
Motor vehicle parts and equipment .....	3.7	7.4	1.3	3.3	5.9	.9	-2.1	-.7	-.1
Tires .....	2.8	6.0	1.3	4.1	6.5	.2	-3.7	-1.9	-.2
Vehicle accessories other than tires <sup>2</sup> .....	5.1	9.6	1.3	1.9	5.0	2.3	1.4	1.7	.2
Vehicle parts and equipment other than tires <sup>1</sup> .....	4.6	6.4	1.8	.7	3.0	2.5	1.6	1.5	.6
Motor oil, coolant, and fluids <sup>1</sup> .....	7.2	24.0	-1.9	6.4	13.9	2.8	-.2	2.4	-.2
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair .....	3.3	5.9	2.5	1.9	2.2	1.3	1.6	2.1	.8
Motor vehicle body work .....	3.5	3.9	2.3	2.5	1.8	2.3	2.1	2.1	.5
Motor vehicle maintenance and servicing .....	3.0	7.2	2.3	.9	2.3	1.9	1.0	2.2	.4
Motor vehicle repair <sup>2</sup> .....	3.5	5.1	2.7	2.7	2.2	.7	2.1	2.0	1.2
Motor vehicle insurance .....	.5	4.0	4.7	4.4	3.4	4.7	3.3	4.7	1.8
Motor vehicle fees <sup>2</sup> .....	2.0	3.9	10.9	1.4	1.9	2.2	1.6	.3	.8
State motor vehicle registration and license fees <sup>2 5</sup> .....	1.3	2.5	14.2	1.4	1.3	-.5	1.1	-1.0	.5
Parking and other fees <sup>2</sup> .....	3.7	6.1	5.4	1.4	3.0	6.4	2.5	2.2	1.1
Parking fees and tolls <sup>1 2</sup> .....	4.6	8.6	6.4	1.4	3.8	8.4	2.8	2.7	1.2
Automobile service clubs <sup>1 2</sup> .....	1.0	-1.7	1.5	1.2	1.7	2.3	.3	-.4	1.0
Public transportation .....	7.2	1.8	3.2	4.9	3.8	2.4	-.1	-2.9	6.9
Airline fare .....	10.6	1.4	4.3	5.8	4.5	2.1	-1.4	-4.7	11.2
Other intercity transportation .....	1.3	-.8	-4.1	3.0	-.5	1.3	.8	-.7	-3.8

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 26. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories-Continued**

Item and group	Percent change from previous December									
	December								May 2015	
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014		
<b>Expenditure category</b>										
Intercity bus fare <sup>1 3</sup> .....	-	8.2	0.4	6.1	4.1	-	-	-	-	-
Intercity train fare <sup>1 3</sup> .....	-	8.3	-2.3	8.9	-6.7	9.4	-3.9	3.8	-7.5	
Ship fare <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.3	-8.0	-3.5	-3.3	1.1	-3.1	1.7	-1.9	-3.2	
Intracity transportation .....	2.1	5.1	5.0	3.1	4.3	3.8	3.4	1.1	1.6	
Intracity mass transit <sup>1 12</sup> .....	-	-	-	4.5	4.5	3.1	3.9	1.1	1.7	
Medical care .....	5.2	2.6	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.2	2.0	3.0	1.7	
Medical care commodities .....	2.7	1.6	3.3	2.9	3.2	1.7	.3	4.8	1.4	
Medicinal drugs <sup>12</sup> .....	-	-	-	3.1	3.4	1.6	.4	5.0	1.5	
Prescription drugs .....	3.3	1.5	4.4	4.1	4.1	1.9	.8	6.4	1.9	
Nonprescription drugs <sup>12</sup> .....	-	-	-	-1.0	.1	.7	-1.3	-2	-1	
Medical equipment and supplies <sup>12</sup> .....	-	-	-	-1	-4	1.9	-1.6	.9	-2	
Medical care services .....	5.9	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.7	2.5	2.4	1.8	
Professional services .....	4.2	3.0	2.5	2.7	2.2	1.9	2.1	1.7	.9	
Physicians' services <sup>5</sup> .....	4.1	2.9	2.5	3.4	2.7	2.0	1.9	1.5	1.0	
Dental services <sup>5</sup> .....	5.8	3.7	3.2	2.7	2.2	2.8	2.8	1.8	2.0	
Eyeglasses and eye care <sup>7</sup> .....	1.5	.3	1.7	.3	.7	.3	1.2	2.6	-6	
Services by other medical professionals <sup>5 7</sup> .....	3.1	3.8	1.8	1.8	1.3	.8	2.1	2.0	-4	
Hospital and related services .....	8.1	5.4	7.1	6.7	5.3	4.6	3.9	4.5	3.1	
Hospital services <sup>5 13</sup> .....	8.3	5.9	7.7	7.6	5.8	4.9	4.2	4.9	3.4	
Inpatient hospital services <sup>1 5 13</sup> .....	7.6	5.7	7.7	9.2	6.2	4.2	4.4	5.5	3.1	
Outpatient hospital services <sup>1 5 7</sup> .....	9.9	5.6	8.2	5.1	5.0	5.5	3.8	4.5	3.5	
Nursing homes and adult day services <sup>5 13</sup> .....	4.8	3.2	3.6	3.1	2.9	3.6	3.0	2.9	2.1	
Care of invalids and elderly at home <sup>4</sup> .....	3.4	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.9	.9	.3	1.8	.4	
Health insurance <sup>4</sup> .....	8.8	-3.5	-3.0	-4.0	6.1	9.9	.9	-5	1.4	
Recreation <sup>2</sup> .....	.8	1.8	-4	-8	1.0	.8	.4	.0	1.1	
Video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	-1	-1.0	-1.7	-2.7	1.1	.3	.5	-3	1.4	
Televisions .....	-18.3	-19.4	-27.4	-19.1	-17.1	-17.5	-13.9	-16.7	-2.5	
Cable and satellite television and radio service <sup>8</sup> .....	2.5	1.8	2.3	.3	3.8	3.6	2.7	2.2	1.7	
Other video equipment <sup>2</sup> .....	-13.0	-14.4	-10.0	-13.5	-10.9	-12.0	-7.1	-8	1.4	
Video discs and other media, including rental of video and audio <sup>2</sup> .....	.5	2.3	-3.3	-2.7	7.1	-3.4	-5.3	-3.0	3.2	
Video discs and other media <sup>1 2</sup> .....	-6.0	-5.1	-8.3	-7.6	-1.1	-6.4	-9.9	-6.3	3.2	
Rental of video or audio discs and other media <sup>1 2</sup> .....	4.0	5.9	-7	1.3	15.0	-5	-6	1.4	3.0	
Audio equipment .....	-4.8	-4.9	-4.8	-4.0	-6.2	-6.3	-3.8	-7.3	-3	
Audio discs, tapes and other media <sup>2</sup> .....	-7	-6	-9.0	-3.0	-3.1	-9	2.4	-3.6	.1	
Pets, pet products and services <sup>2</sup> .....	5.5	9.7	1.8	1.2	3.6	1.6	1.3	1.2	.3	
Pets and pet products .....	4.9	12.2	.9	-7	2.9	1.0	.3	.3	-9	
Pet food <sup>1 2</sup> .....	5.4	15.5	1.0	-1	3.6	2.9	1.1	.4	-9	
Purchase of pets, pet supplies, accessories <sup>1 2</sup> .....	3.1	2.9	.6	-2.4	2.2	-2.4	-7	.4	-7	
Pet services including veterinary <sup>2</sup> .....	6.3	6.1	3.1	4.7	4.9	2.4	2.9	2.7	2.4	
Pet services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	4.1	6.7	1.3	2.0	4.5	2.2	3.0	1.8	1.3	
Veterinarian services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	7.0	6.2	3.9	4.8	4.6	2.4	3.2	2.9	2.8	
Sporting goods .....	-9	3.0	-1.1	-5	.0	1.0	-1.5	-2.2	-2	
Sports vehicles including bicycles .....	-3	1.0	-2	2.1	3.7	1.6	-6	-1.1	2.2	
Sports equipment .....	-1.8	5.6	-2.3	-3.5	-4.5	.4	-2.5	-3.1	-2.1	
Photography <sup>2</sup> .....	-3.5	-1.8	.5	-3.5	2.3	-3.6	-9	.0	-1.4	
Photographic equipment and supplies .....	-6.9	-6.1	-2.2	-10.3	.0	-7.6	-3.9	-2.2	-2.5	
Film and photographic supplies <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.1	.7	2.9	-6	7.7	5.0	3.5	23.4	-1.5	
Photographic equipment <sup>1 2</sup> .....	-14.7	-9.3	-3.8	-13.6	-1.7	-8.9	-5.6	-6.1	-2.6	
Photographers and film processing <sup>2</sup> .....	-4	2.0	2.7	1.5	3.9	.3	1.7	2.2	-5	
Photographer fees <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.1	.7	2.5	-1.6	5.0	.0	1.8	1.1	.0	
Film processing <sup>1 2</sup> .....	-8	2.3	3.9	3.4	3.3	.3	1.4	3.8	-7	
Other recreational goods <sup>2</sup> .....	-5.3	-4.2	-3.2	-3.6	-3.2	-4.1	-4.5	-3.8	-9	
Toys .....	-5.7	-6.8	-6.2	-4.8	-4.7	-5.9	-5.3	-5.4	-1.2	
Toys, games, hobbies and playground equipment <sup>1 2</sup> .....	-3.4	-4.9	-2.9	-4.8	-1.6	-2.7	-2.2	-2.9	.1	
Sewing machines, fabric and supplies <sup>2</sup> .....	-6.3	1.9	4.6	1.7	4.1	3.0	-4.4	.1	1.2	
Music instruments and accessories <sup>2</sup> .....	-1.9	1.7	1.0	-1.2	-1.2	.8	1.5	2.4	-1.2	
Other recreation services <sup>2</sup> .....	2.4	2.4	.2	.9	.7	2.3	1.1	.8	2.3	
Club dues and fees for participant sports and group exercises <sup>2</sup> .....	1.5	.9	-1.7	.3	1.8	.4	1.6	.4	.7	
Admissions .....	2.4	3.1	.9	1.3	-3	4.2	1.3	.7	4.2	

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 26. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories-Continued**

Item and group	Percent change from previous December								
	December								May 2015
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Expenditure category</b>									
Admission to movies, theaters, and concerts <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.0	2.6	0.8	1.6	-0.1	3.7	1.3	0.4	2.7
Admission to sporting events <sup>1 2</sup> .....	4.7	5.7	1.0	.8	-6	6.2	2.3	2.7	6.9
Fees for lessons or instructions <sup>7</sup> .....	3.8	3.7	2.7	1.1	.5	3.4	.3	2.0	.6
Recreational reading materials .....	1.1	3.5	2.8	-.5	.4	2.4	3.0	2.2	1.1
Newspapers and magazines <sup>2</sup> .....	1.4	4.8	4.9	.2	2.9	6.2	5.5	4.8	1.2
Recreational books <sup>2</sup> .....	-.7	1.9	.2	-1.3	-2.5	-2.1	-.3	-.9	1.0
Education and communication <sup>2</sup> .....	3.0	3.6	2.4	1.3	1.7	1.5	1.6	.4	.0
Education <sup>2</sup> .....	5.6	5.6	4.7	3.9	4.6	3.8	3.5	3.3	.9
Educational books and supplies .....	8.7	7.0	6.9	3.5	5.2	7.0	5.0	4.6	1.0
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare .....	5.4	5.5	4.5	4.0	4.6	3.6	3.4	3.2	.9
College tuition and fees .....	6.1	5.8	6.0	4.1	6.0	4.0	3.9	3.4	.4
Elementary and high school tuition and fees .....	5.5	6.1	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.8	4.0	.4
Child care and nursery school <sup>9</sup> .....	3.9	5.0	2.3	3.7	2.2	2.7	2.2	2.2	2.5
Technical and business school tuition and fees <sup>2</sup> .....	4.9	3.4	3.8	4.1	5.6	2.9	3.0	1.8	.1
Communication <sup>2</sup> .....	-.2	1.7	.1	-1.1	-1.1	-6	-.2	-2.0	-.8
Postage and delivery services <sup>2</sup> .....	4.4	3.2	5.0	2.0	4.3	3.8	6.2	3.8	.1
Postage .....	3.9	3.1	5.2	1.4	3.9	3.8	6.4	4.1	.0
Delivery services <sup>2</sup> .....	10.5	5.2	1.6	12.7	11.4	5.0	3.2	1.1	1.3
Information and information processing <sup>2</sup> .....	-.1	1.7	-.2	-1.2	-1.4	-.8	-.5	-2.2	-.9
Telephone services <sup>2</sup> .....	2.1	2.9	1.0	-.9	-.3	.3	.0	-2.1	-1.0
Wireless telephone services <sup>2</sup> .....	-.9	.5	-1.1	-3.6	-2.3	-.8	-2.0	-4.0	-2.4
Land-line telephone services <sup>12</sup> .....	-	-	-	2.2	1.9	1.9	3.0	1.8	1.7
Information technology, hardware and services <sup>14</sup> .....	-8.8	-3.0	-4.9	-2.0	-4.5	-3.3	-1.6	-2.5	-.5
Personal computers and peripheral equipment <sup>3</sup> .....	-13.6	-11.5	-11.9	-5.6	-12.5	-8.7	-6.6	-10.5	-.9
Computer software and accessories <sup>2</sup> .....	-6.4	-1.1	-2.5	-10.5	-1.4	-7.2	-7.1	-1.2	1.2
Internet services and electronic information providers <sup>2</sup> .....	-5.2	3.7	-.3	1.0	-.5	-.3	1.5	1.6	-.1
Telephone hardware, calculators, and other consumer information items <sup>2</sup> .....	-8.3	-1.9	-3.4	-3.7	-5.9	-4.7	-5.1	-9.9	-5.0
Other goods and services .....	3.3	3.4	8.0	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.6	.5
Tobacco and smoking products .....	7.5	6.3	30.1	5.6	2.3	1.9	3.2	3.0	.4
Cigarettes <sup>2</sup> .....	7.8	6.4	30.5	5.7	2.2	1.9	3.2	3.1	.5
Tobacco products other than cigarettes <sup>2</sup> .....	3.5	5.8	22.1	4.3	4.2	1.4	3.4	1.4	-.6
Personal care .....	2.2	2.6	1.5	.7	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	.6
Personal care products .....	-.5	2.0	.5	-1.0	.1	.2	.8	.3	.2
Hair, dental, shaving, and miscellaneous personal care products <sup>2</sup> .....	-.3	1.1	-.1	-1.1	-1.6	.4	.8	-.3	1.3
Cosmetics, perfume, bath, nail preparations and implements .....	-.6	3.0	1.2	-.8	1.8	-.1	.8	1.0	-1.0
Personal care services .....	3.4	3.0	.9	.8	.9	1.8	1.8	1.5	.2
Haircuts and other personal care services <sup>2</sup> .....	3.4	3.0	.9	.8	.9	1.8	1.8	1.5	.2
Miscellaneous personal services .....	3.5	3.0	2.6	2.2	3.2	2.2	2.3	2.1	1.3
Legal services <sup>7</sup> .....	2.9	4.5	3.1	3.2	2.7	1.9	2.7	1.4	1.0
Funeral expenses <sup>7</sup> .....	4.8	5.4	3.1	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.6	1.2	1.1
Laundry and dry cleaning services <sup>2</sup> .....	3.1	4.8	2.3	2.2	1.3	2.2	1.2	2.2	.8
Apparel services other than laundry and dry cleaning <sup>2</sup> .....	3.6	7.4	4.1	2.5	5.2	1.3	3.5	1.8	1.2
Financial services <sup>7</sup> .....	3.9	-5.5	1.7	.8	7.1	2.6	2.6	3.5	2.7
Checking account and other bank services <sup>1 2</sup> .....	2.5	-5.8	1.6	1.8	7.3	3.9	4.7	.1	1.9
Tax return preparation and other accounting fees <sup>1 2</sup> .....	4.3	4.9	1.6	2.1	5.7	1.8	3.4	6.1	3.3
Miscellaneous personal goods <sup>2</sup> .....	.7	1.4	.6	-1.8	-1.0	-.6	-2.2	-.6	-1.2
Stationery, stationery supplies, gift wrap <sup>1</sup> .....	1.6	.8	1.7	-.8	.6	.0	-1.2	.0	-1.5
Infants' equipment <sup>1 4</sup> .....	-1.5	3.1	-	-	-3.6	-3.7	-1.4	-.7	-1.6
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>									
Commodities .....	5.2	-4.1	5.5	2.0	4.2	1.0	.2	-2.0	1.3
Commodities less food and beverages .....	5.4	-9.6	9.4	2.3	4.0	.5	-.3	-5.2	2.1
Nondurables less food and beverages .....	10.4	-14.3	14.8	4.4	5.5	1.2	-.1	-7.3	2.4
Nondurables less food, beverages, and apparel .....	14.2	-18.5	19.8	6.2	5.8	1.1	-.3	-8.9	2.4

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 26. Historical Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and detailed expenditure categories-Continued**

Item and group	Percent change from previous December								
	December								May 2015
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>									
Durables .....	-1.1	-2.9	2.5	-0.9	1.6	-0.6	-0.8	-2.0	1.6
Services .....	3.3	3.0	.9	1.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.5	1.3
Rent of shelter <sup>6</sup> .....	3.1	1.9	.3	.4	1.9	2.2	2.5	2.9	1.5
Transportation services .....	2.5	4.1	3.9	2.8	2.5	2.6	1.7	1.7	2.2
Other services .....	3.2	3.5	2.1	1.4	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.2	.8
All items less food .....	4.0	-8	3.3	1.5	2.7	1.7	1.6	.3	1.5
All items less shelter .....	4.5	-8	3.9	2.0	3.5	1.5	1.0	-3	1.2
All items less medical care .....	4.0	-1	2.7	1.4	2.9	1.6	1.5	.6	1.2
Commodities less food .....	5.3	-9.1	9.0	2.2	3.9	.6	-2	-5.0	2.0
Nondurables less food .....	9.9	-13.1	13.8	4.2	5.2	1.3	.0	-6.7	2.3
Nondurables less food and apparel .....	13.2	-16.6	17.9	5.7	5.4	1.1	-1	-8.0	2.2
Nondurables .....	7.5	-4.5	6.6	3.0	5.0	1.5	.5	-2.0	1.2
Apparel less footwear .....	-3	-1.6	1.6	-1.0	5.4	1.1	1.0	-3.2	3.0
Services less rent of shelter <sup>6</sup> .....	3.6	4.3	1.6	2.0	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.1	1.1
Services less medical care services .....	3.1	3.0	.7	1.0	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.5	1.2
Energy .....	17.4	-21.3	18.2	7.7	6.6	.5	.5	-10.6	2.2
All items less energy .....	2.8	2.4	1.4	.9	2.6	1.9	1.6	1.9	1.2
All items less food and energy .....	2.4	1.8	1.8	.8	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.4
Commodities less food and energy commodities .....	.1	-6	3.0	-4	2.2	.3	-1	-8	1.3
Energy commodities .....	29.4	-40.5	46.5	13.9	10.6	1.5	-8	-20.5	5.3
Services less energy services .....	3.3	2.7	1.4	1.3	2.3	2.5	2.3	2.4	1.4
Domestically produced farm food .....	6.0	6.5	-2.7	2.0	6.0	1.5	.5	4.1	-7
Utilities and public transportation .....	3.6	5.0	-8	1.0	1.7	1.1	1.7	1.4	.5

<sup>1</sup> Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

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

<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 2007=100 base.

<sup>4</sup> Indexes on a December 2005=100 base.

<sup>5</sup> This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator.

All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

<sup>6</sup> Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

<sup>7</sup> Indexes on a December 1986=100 base.

<sup>8</sup> Indexes on a December 1983=100 base.

<sup>9</sup> Indexes on a December 1990=100 base.

<sup>10</sup> Indexes on a December 2001=100 base.

<sup>11</sup> Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

<sup>12</sup> Indexes on a December 2009=100 base.

<sup>13</sup> Indexes on a December 1996=100 base.

<sup>14</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.

## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 4550

Response Of The Pawtucket Water Supply Board

To The Division of Public Utilities And Carriers'

Data Requests

Set 5

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that on August 20, 2015, I sent a copy of the within to all parties set forth on the attached Service List by electronic mail and copies to Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk, by electronic mail and regular mail.

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