

CAPITAL DISTRICT DATA

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1998

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 5

Regional Taxable Sales

CDRPC recently received the latest report from the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, Office of Tax Policy Analysis, on Taxable Sales and Purchases Subject to Sales and Use Tax by County and Industry. The report presents taxable sales data (not sales tax revenue) in six-month increments for the 18-month period between March 1996 and August 1997. Data for the most recent six-month period (March 1997 through August 1997) are provisional due to late payments, amended tax returns, audit changes, missing industry identification codes, and incorrect allocation of sales to some counties by vendors.

Information on taxable sales by industry sector may be used to analyze the importance of various sectors as sources of county sales tax revenues and for analyzing county economic activity by sector. However, taxable sales for many industry sectors represent only a part of gross sales, and do not reflect aggregate economic activity in these industries. Also, neither Rensselaer County nor Saratoga County have a tax on residential energy sales, so their taxable Electric & Gas sales are not comparable to those of Albany and Schenectady counties.

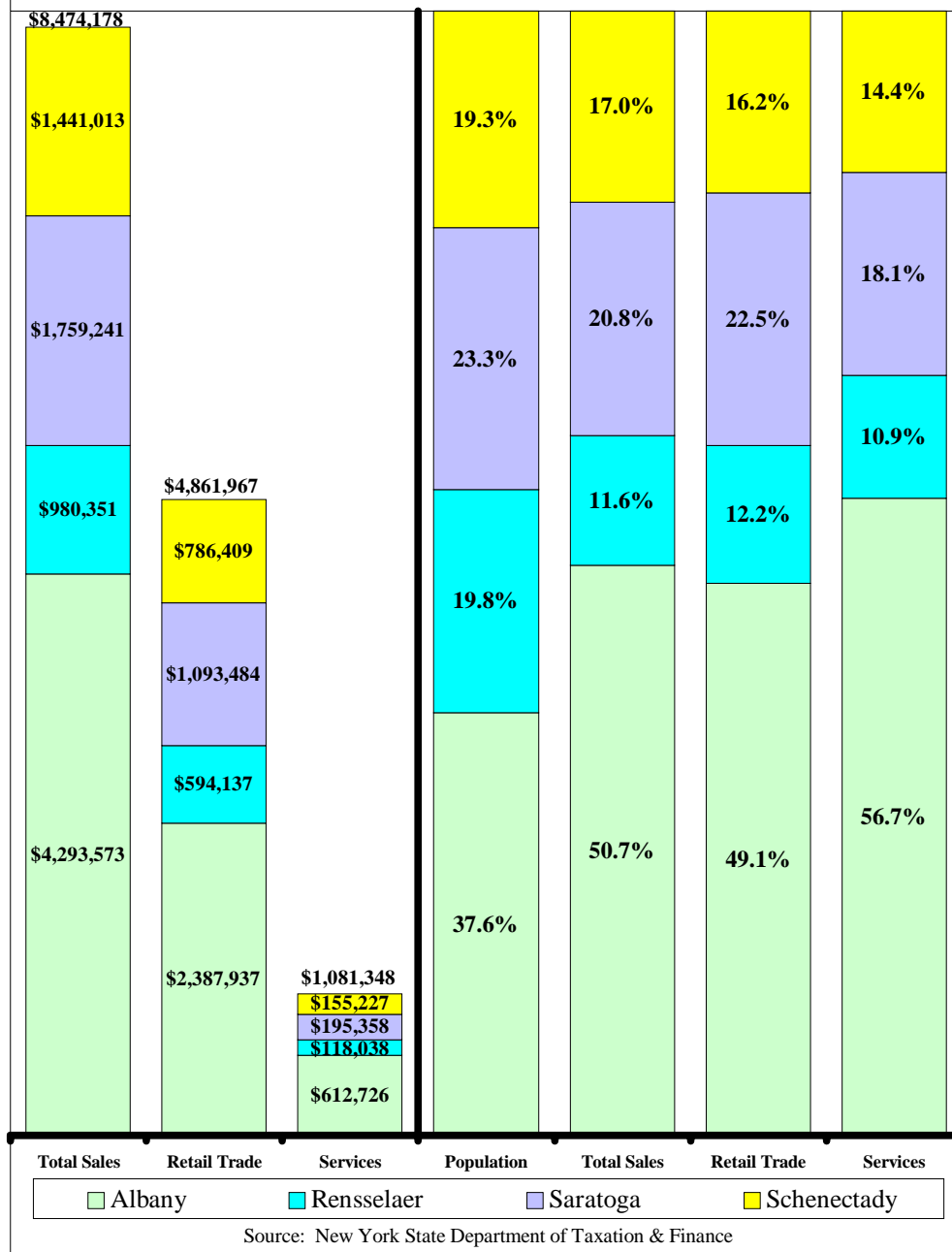
The major sector category "All Other Industries" includes Transportation and F.I.R.E. (Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate). Under the Service Sector, Personal Services include Laundry & Cleaning, Photographic Studios, Beauty and Barber Shops,

Shoe Repair, and Funeral Services. Business Services include Advertising, Consumer Credit Reporting, Mailing and Reproduction, Services to Dwellings, News Syndicates, Personnel Supply Services, and Computer and Data Processing.

Capital District Taxable Sales Distribution: September 1996 - August 1997

Sales in 1,000s of 1997 Constant Dollars

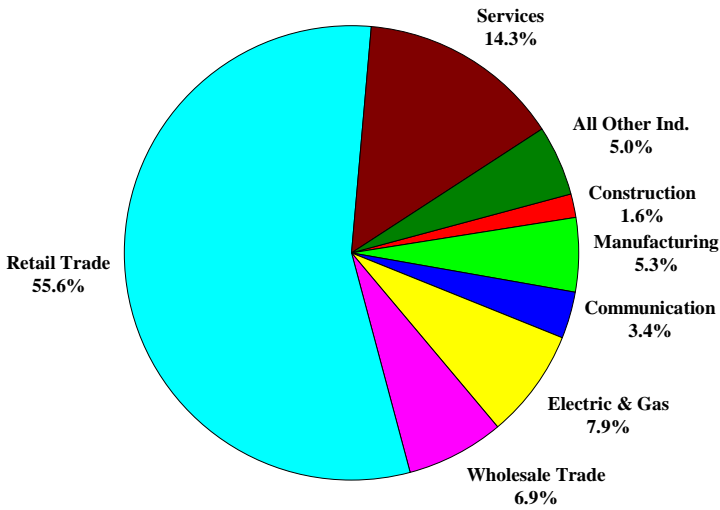
Percent Share of Capital District Total



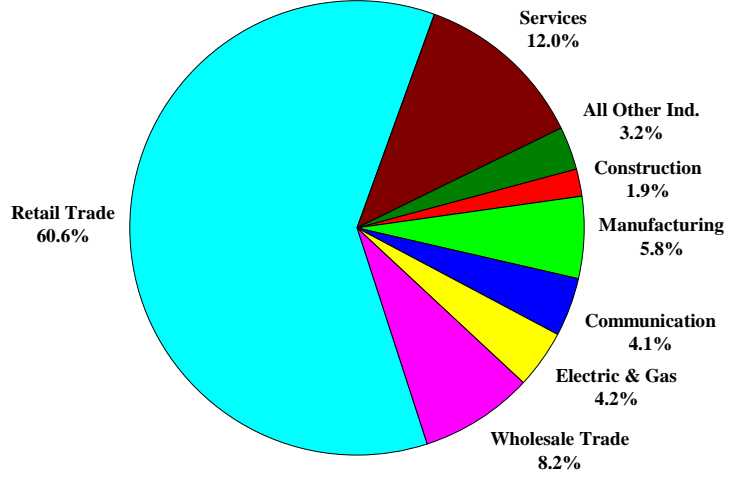
Capital District Regional Planning Commission
31 YEARS SERVICE TO ALBANY, RENNELAER, SARATOGA, & SCHENECTADY COUNTIES

Distribution of Total Taxable Sales by Sector September 1996 to August 1997

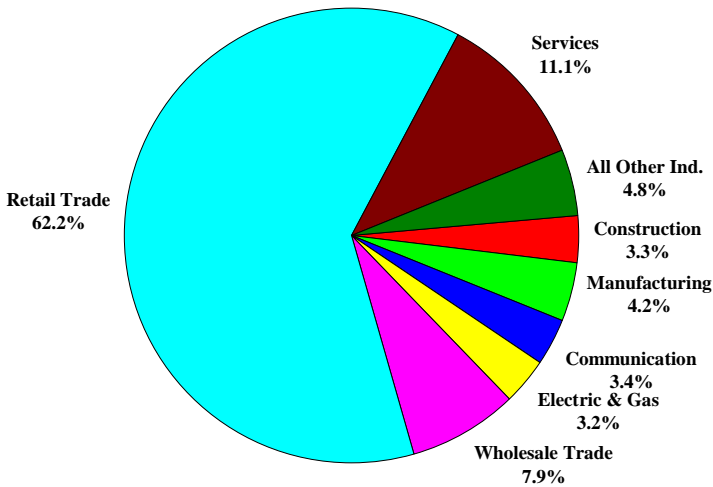
Albany County



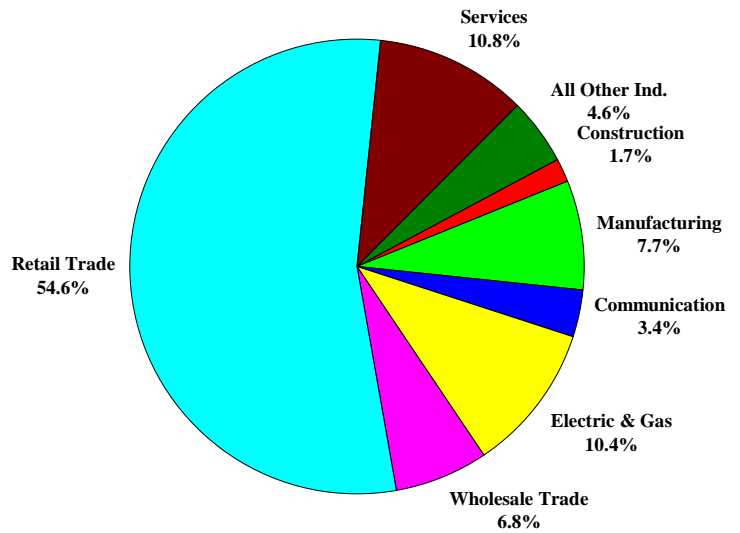
Rensselaer County



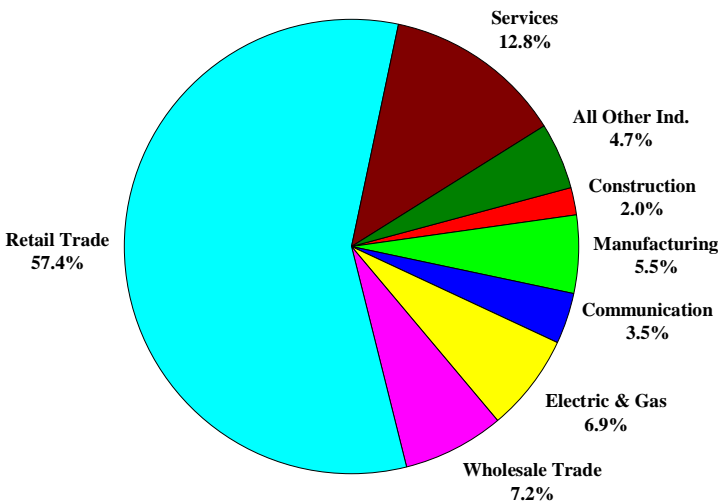
Saratoga County



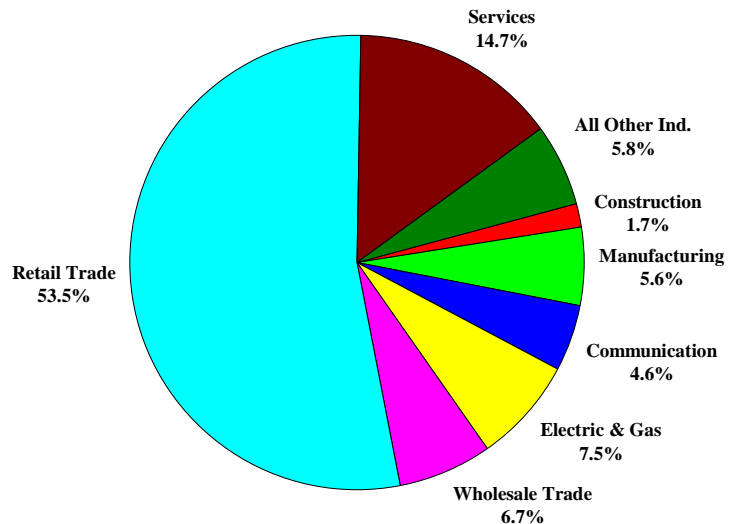
Schenectady County



Capital District



New York State



Capital District Annual Taxable Sales by County

Industry	Albany County			Rensselaer County		
	Sep 94 - Aug 95	Sep 95 - Aug 96	Sep 96 - Aug 97	Sep 94 - Aug 95	Sep 95 - Aug 96	Sep 96 - Aug 97
Construction	\$ 69,317	\$ 66,499	\$ 67,954	\$ 19,142	\$ 19,946	\$ 18,870
Manufacturing	\$ 218,592	\$ 221,603	\$ 225,788	\$ 57,816	\$ 56,193	\$ 56,736
Communication	\$ 150,324	\$ 147,493	\$ 145,373	\$ 42,490	\$ 39,762	\$ 40,390
Electric & Gas	\$ 330,722	\$ 339,885	\$ 341,281	\$ 41,811	\$ 41,573	\$ 40,713
Wholesale Trade	\$ 286,846	\$ 288,525	\$ 295,866	\$ 62,108	\$ 79,375	\$ 80,452
Retail Trade	\$ 2,477,301	\$ 2,417,648	\$ 2,387,937	\$ 604,141	\$ 588,272	\$ 594,137
Building Materials	164,017	158,517	162,491	42,692	39,937	40,328
General Merchandise	498,828	473,203	461,792	85,723	82,729	87,696
Food	190,890	186,710	183,953	92,137	91,561	90,876
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	483,716	479,331	481,231	199,806	205,857	207,908
Apparel	236,490	212,332	198,735	9,223	7,946	7,601
Furniture	178,275	202,740	206,861	26,443	23,378	25,357
Eating & Drinking	299,711	286,821	283,373	76,013	69,827	67,612
Miscellaneous Retail	425,374	417,993	409,501	72,103	67,036	66,758
Services	\$ 581,772	\$ 602,625	\$ 612,726	\$ 109,203	\$ 117,625	\$ 118,038
Hotels	99,818	94,698	94,477	4,492	4,243	4,121
Personal Services	16,564	16,506	16,607	2,019	2,196	2,298
Business Services	186,551	196,542	205,785	32,747	38,494	37,292
Auto Repair	163,692	160,601	158,982	37,034	37,553	38,130
Other Services	115,148	134,278	136,876	32,912	35,139	36,196
All Other Industries	\$ 185,777	\$ 199,840	\$ 216,647	\$ 44,010	\$ 30,975	\$ 31,016
Total Taxable Sales	\$ 4,300,651	\$ 4,284,117	\$ 4,293,573	\$ 980,719	\$ 973,722	\$ 980,351
Industry	Saratoga County			Schenectady County		
	Sep 94 - Aug 95	Sep 95 - Aug 96	Sep 96 - Aug 97	Sep 94 - Aug 95	Sep 95 - Aug 96	Sep 96 - Aug 97
Construction	\$ 43,279	\$ 56,608	\$ 57,418	\$ 25,200	\$ 25,175	\$ 25,199
Manufacturing	\$ 71,281	\$ 73,478	\$ 73,554	\$ 146,309	\$ 117,463	\$ 110,976
Communication	\$ 61,607	\$ 60,268	\$ 60,623	\$ 50,524	\$ 49,020	\$ 48,748
Electric & Gas	\$ 57,389	\$ 55,110	\$ 56,305	\$ 141,689	\$ 144,631	\$ 149,626
Wholesale Trade	\$ 107,554	\$ 133,631	\$ 138,229	\$ 82,595	\$ 97,031	\$ 97,835
Retail Trade	\$ 1,130,285	\$ 1,092,163	\$ 1,093,484	\$ 785,162	\$ 777,618	\$ 786,409
Building Materials	110,303	103,322	107,828	49,446	44,724	48,794
General Merchandise	176,654	166,768	167,509	123,198	127,465	124,422
Food	136,331	136,184	134,232	95,304	99,123	101,091
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	307,419	306,227	313,227	228,219	231,935	238,471
Apparel	48,897	44,134	41,166	38,112	34,191	32,029
Furniture	52,759	49,497	48,016	47,663	41,726	38,186
Eating & Drinking	141,840	127,562	126,331	88,640	83,277	80,634
Miscellaneous Retail	156,083	158,469	155,176	114,580	115,178	122,781
Services	\$ 181,087	\$ 191,209	\$ 195,358	\$ 157,276	\$ 151,585	\$ 155,227
Hotels	27,689	28,323	28,144	8,883	8,207	8,108
Personal Services	6,187	5,447	5,249	4,664	4,402	4,349
Business Services	50,250	53,240	55,033	66,288	58,081	57,436
Auto Repair	55,723	54,588	55,889	44,942	45,791	45,292
Other Services	41,237	49,611	51,042	32,499	35,104	40,043
All Other Industries	\$ 94,670	\$ 74,938	\$ 84,271	\$ 81,019	\$ 62,421	\$ 66,993
Total Taxable Sales	\$ 1,747,153	\$ 1,737,405	\$ 1,759,241	\$ 1,469,775	\$ 1,424,944	\$ 1,441,013

Source: N.Y.S. Department of Taxation & Finance

Sales in 1,000s of 1997 Constant Dollars

Prepared by CDRPC

Total constant-dollar taxable sales for the Capital District showed a \$54 million, 0.6% increase for the latest 12-month period, following an 0.9% decline for the September 1995-August 1996 period. This still compares unfavorably with consecutive increases in constant-dollar taxable sales of 1.4% and 1.3% for New York State. Albany County constant-dollar taxable sales were up 0.2% for the latest 12-month period, Rensselaer County sales were up 0.7%, Saratoga County sales were up 1.3%, and Schenectady County taxable sales were up 1.1%.

Taxable Retail Trade sales, accounting for well over half of each area's total taxable sales, showed a \$13.7 million, 0.3% inflation-adjusted decline at the Regional level for the latest 12-month period, following a 2.4% decline during the September 1995-August 1996 period. Again, this compares quite unfavorably with the consecutive 0.8% and 0.4% constant-dollar increases at the State level. Albany County constant-dollar taxable retail sales were down 1.2% during the latest 12-month period, Rensselaer County retail sales were up 1.0%, Saratoga



Capital District Regional Planning Commission

5 Computer Drive West, 2nd Floor, Albany, New York 12205
 518/453-0850 Fax: 453-0856 e-mail: cdrpc@cdrpc.org
 FTP Site at: ftp://ftp.albany.net/pub/users/cdrpc
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Henry E. Dennis, Jr. Chairman
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Regional Taxable Sales - continued

County retail sales were up 0.1%, and Schenectady County constant-dollar retail sales were up by 1.1%.

The second-ranked sector, Services, showed an \$18.3 million, 1.7% constant-dollar increase at the Regional level for the latest 12-month period, compared to a Statewide increase of 3.6%. Albany County taxable services sales were up 1.7%, Rensselaer County services sales were up 0.4%, Saratoga County services sales were up 2.2%, and Schenectady County constant-dollar taxable services sales were up 2.4%.

The largest percentage change in constant-dollar taxable sales for all the Region's counties except Rensselaer occurred in the "All Other Industries"

category. In this category, Albany County showed an 8.4% constant-dollar increase, Saratoga County had a 12.5% constant-dollar increase, and Schenectady County posted a 7.3% constant-dollar increase. The largest sector percentage change in Rensselaer County taxable sales was a 5.4% constant-dollar decline in Communications sales.

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The complete report, *Capital District Taxable Sales—1998 Edition, Vol. 2*, is available from CDRPC for \$10. The 50-page report includes taxable sales by industrial sector for the Region, its four counties, and the State for the ten most recent 12-month reporting periods.

Employment, Unemployment, & Unemployment Rates

Employment	Aug 97	Sep 97	Oct 97	Nov 97	Dec 97	Jan 98	Feb 98	Mar 98	Apr 98	May 98	Jun 98	Jul 98	Aug 98
Albany County	151.0	148.0	149.4	149.9	152.2	150.1	150.5	150.9	151.6	150.9	154.3	154.8	154.7
Rensselaer County	78.4	76.9	77.6	77.8	77.0	75.9	76.1	76.3	76.7	76.3	78.0	78.3	78.2
Saratoga County	99.0	97.1	98.0	98.3	97.9	96.5	96.7	97.0	97.4	97.0	99.2	99.5	99.4
Schenectady County	71.8	70.4	71.1	71.3	70.2	69.2	69.4	69.6	69.9	69.6	71.2	71.4	71.3
Capital District Region	400.2	392.4	396.1	397.3	397.3	391.7	392.7	393.8	395.6	393.8	402.7	404.0	403.6
Unemployment	Aug 97	Sep 97	Oct 97	Nov 97	Dec 97	Jan 98	Feb 98	Mar 98	Apr 98	May 98	Jun 98	Jul 98	Aug 98
Albany County	5.0	5.5	5.5	5.2	5.0	5.9	6.1	5.6	4.6	5.3	4.8	4.3	4.2
Rensselaer County	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.4	4.1	4.3	4.1	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.0
Saratoga County	3.3	3.7	3.9	4.1	4.2	5.0	5.0	4.6	3.4	3.6	3.3	2.8	3.0
Schenectady County	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.1	3.2	2.9	2.8	3.1
Capital District Region	15.1	16.2	16.4	15.9	15.7	18.4	19.0	17.7	14.3	15.4	14.1	12.9	13.3
Unemployment Rates	Aug 97	Sep 97	Oct 97	Nov 97	Dec 97	Jan 98	Feb 98	Mar 98	Apr 98	May 98	Jun 98	Jul 98	Aug 98
Albany County	3.2%	3.6%	3.6%	3.4%	3.2%	3.8%	3.9%	3.6%	2.9%	3.4%	3.0%	2.7%	2.6%
Rensselaer County	4.3%	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%	4.2%	5.1%	5.3%	5.1%	4.0%	4.1%	3.8%	3.7%	3.7%
Saratoga County	3.2%	3.7%	3.8%	4.0%	4.1%	4.9%	4.9%	4.5%	3.4%	3.6%	3.2%	2.7%	2.9%
Schenectady County	4.4%	4.7%	4.6%	4.2%	4.2%	4.7%	4.9%	4.7%	4.2%	4.4%	3.9%	3.8%	4.2%
Capital District Region	3.6%	4.0%	4.0%	3.8%	3.8%	4.5%	4.6%	4.3%	3.5%	3.8%	3.4%	3.1%	3.2%
New York State	6.2%	6.1%	6.1%	5.9%	5.7%	6.6%	6.8%	6.5%	5.7%	5.5%	5.3%	5.6%	5.1%
United States	4.8%	4.7%	4.4%	4.3%	4.4%	5.2%	5.0%	5.0%	4.1%	4.2%	4.7%	4.7%	4.5%

Source: New York State Department of Labor

Employment & Unemployment figures in 1,000s

Consumer Price Index

1997 Percent Change in CPI: 2.3%

Unadjusted CPI	Aug 97	Sep 97	Oct 97	Nov 97	Dec 97	Jan 98	Feb 98	Mar 98	Apr 98	May 98	Jun 98	Jul 98	Aug 98
U.S. City Average	160.8	161.2	161.6	161.5	161.3	161.6	161.9	162.2	162.5	162.8	163.0	163.2	163.4
Northeast Urban Average	167.8	168.4	168.7	168.5	168.4	168.8	169.1	169.3	169.5	169.4	169.6	169.9	170.5
% Change From Same Month in Previous Year	Aug 96- Aug 97	Sep 96- Sep 97	Oct 96- Oct 97	Nov 96- Nov 97	Dec 96- Dec 97	Jan 97- Jan 98	Feb 97- Feb 98	Mar 97- Mar 98	Apr 97- Apr 98	May 97- May 98	Jun 97- Jun 98	Jul 97- Jul 98	Aug 97- Aug 98
U.S. City Average	2.2%	2.2%	2.1%	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%	1.6%
Northeast Urban Average	2.3%	2.3%	2.2%	1.9%	1.6%	1.6%	1.3%	1.2%	1.4%	1.6%	1.6%	1.4%	1.6%

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

1982-84 = 100

Note: Data are NOT Seasonally Adjusted