

## Gasoline Prices push Consumer Price Index (CPI) Up:

The Labor Department's closely watched index for tracking inflation, the consumer-price index (CPI), increased 0.8% in March, before seasonal adjustment, to a level of 171.1. With gasoline prices surging upward, the Consumer Price Index has steadily increased. For the 12-month period ending in March 2000, the CPI increased 3.7%. The index for petroleum-based energy increased 9.1%.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ALL URBAN CONSUMERS					
U.S. City Average			Seattle-Tacoma		
Year	CPI	Annual Change %	Year	CPI	Annual Change %
1980	82.4	13.5%	1980	82.7	16.6%
1981	90.9	10.3%	1981	91.8	11.0%
1982	97.6	7.4%	1982	97.7	6.4%
1983	101.3	3.8%	1983	99.3	1.6%
1984	105.3	3.9%	1984	103.0	3.7%
1985	109.3	3.8%	1985	105.6	2.5%
1986	110.5	1.1%	1986	106.7	1.0%
1987	115.4	4.4%	1987	109.2	2.3%
1988	120.5	4.4%	1988	112.9	3.4%
1989	126.1	4.6%	1989	118.2	4.7%
1990	133.8	6.1%	1990	126.8	7.3%
1991	137.9	3.1%	1991	134.1	5.8%
1992	141.9	2.9%	1992	139.0	3.7%
1993	145.8	2.7%	1993	142.9	2.8%
1994	149.7	2.7%	1994	147.8	3.4%
1995	153.5	2.5%	1995	152.3	3.0%
1996	158.6	3.3%	1996	157.5	3.4%
1997	161.3	1.7%	1997	163.0	3.5%
1998	163.9	1.6%	1998	167.8	6.5%
1999	168.3	2.7%	1999	174.4	3.9%
Feb. 2000	169.7		Feb. 2000	176.0	
<i>Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics</i>					

A wealth of statistics can be obtained by going to the web site for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. That web site is: <http://stats.bls.gov/>.