

**OFFICE OF PERSONNEL  
MANAGEMENT**

**2002 and 2003 Nonforeign Area Cost-of-Living Allowance Survey Report: Revised Shelter Analyses**

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice publishes revised shelter (rent) analyses relating to the “2002 Nonforeign Area Cost-of-Living Allowance Survey Report: Caribbean and Washington, DC, Areas” and the “2003 Nonforeign Area Cost-of-Living Allowance Survey Report: Alaska and Washington, DC, Areas.” The Federal Government uses the results of surveys such as these to set cost-of-living allowance (COLA) rates for General Schedule, U.S. Postal Service, and certain other Federal employees in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This notice explains the revised shelter analyses adopted by the Office of Personnel Management based on additional research undertaken after the publication of these two reports.

**DATES:** Comments on this report must be received on or before October 3, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** Send or deliver comments to Donald J. Winstead, Deputy Associate Director for Pay and Performance Policy, Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20415–8200; fax: (202) 606–4264; or e-mail: COLA@opm.gov.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Donald L. Paquin, (202) 606–2838; fax: (202) 606–4264; or e-mail: COLA@opm.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 591.229 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, requires the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to publish nonforeign area cost-of-living allowance (COLA) survey summary reports in the **Federal Register**. On February 9, 2004, OPM published the “2002 Nonforeign Area Cost-of-Living Allowance Survey Report: Caribbean and Washington, DC, Areas” at 69 FR 6020. On March 12, 2004, OPM published the “2003 Nonforeign Area Cost-of-Living Allowance Survey Report: Alaska and Washington, DC, Areas” at 69 FR 12002. Since publishing the results of these surveys, OPM has adopted a new methodology for calculating rent indexes. This notice describes the new methodology, the effect on the rent indexes, and the effect on the final indexes.

**New Shelter (Rental) Analyses**

OPM developed a new methodology for analyzing rental prices in consultation with the Survey Implementation Committee (SIC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The SIC and the TAC were established pursuant to the settlement of *Caraballo, et al. v. United States*, No. 1997–0027 (D.V.I.), August 17, 2000. The SIC advises and assists OPM in the implementation of the new COLA methodology to which the parties agreed. The SIC consists of five plaintiffs’ representatives from the COLA areas and two OPM

representatives. The TAC consists of three economists who have expertise in living-cost measurement. The TAC performs research for and advises the SIC.

As described in the 2002 and 2003 survey reports, OPM hired a contractor, the Center of International and Interarea Comparisons (CIIC), to analyze the housing data and estimate relative rental rates and rental indexes. CIIC is well-known for its work in international price comparisons, and one of its co-directors of research is a member of the TAC. CIIC consulted closely with the TAC and the SIC in analyzing the rental survey results.

As noted in both the 2002 and 2003 survey reports, the TAC recommended that OPM review the issue of which rental equation to use and how to choose among equations as additional rental data become available. OPM agreed to do this. As OPM acquired more rental data and more experience analyzing these data, it became apparent that the hedonic regressions (a form of multiple linear regression) used in the 2002 and 2003 analyses could be improved.

Therefore, in consultation with the SIC and TAC, OPM recomputed the rent indexes for the 2002 Caribbean and 2003 Alaska surveys. Table 1 below shows the new rent indexes. Appendix 1 shows the regression equation in SAS code and the regression results for the 2002 Caribbean survey. (SAS is a proprietary statistical analysis computer software package.) Appendix 2 shows the regression equation in SAS code and the regression results for the 2003 Alaska survey.

TABLE 1.—RENT INDEXES

| Area                            | Previous rent index | New rent index |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Puerto Rico .....               | 65.52               | 70.89          |
| St. Croix, USVI .....           | 67.50               | 71.71          |
| St. Thomas/St. John, USVI ..... | 84.22               | 88.63          |
| Anchorage, Alaska .....         | 86.06               | 89.99          |
| Fairbanks, Alaska .....         | 78.84               | 79.96          |
| Juneau, Alaska .....            | 92.91               | 91.68          |
| Washington, DC, Area .....      | *100.00             | *100.00        |

\*By definition, the index of the base area is always 100.00.

**New COLA Indexes**

Once OPM computed new rent indexes, it became necessary to compute new final overall COLA indexes because

these indexes would have changed compared with those OPM published with the 2002 and 2003 survey reports. Table 2 shows the new final indexes.

Appendix 3 shows the derivation of the Caribbean final indexes. Appendix 4 shows the derivation of the Alaska final indexes.

TABLE 2.—FINAL LIVING-COST INDEXES

| Area                              | Previous final index | New final index |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Puerto Rico .....                 | 103.60               | 105.10          |
| U.S. Virgin Islands .....         | 121.44               | 122.84          |
| Anchorage, Alaska .....           | 112.63               | 113.79          |
| Fairbanks, Alaska .....           | 115.26               | 115.61          |
| Juneau, Alaska .....              | 118.34               | 118.03          |
| Rest of the State of Alaska ..... | 134.80               | 136.00          |

Office of Personnel Management.  
**Linda M. Springer,**  
 Director.

**Appendix 1—2002 Caribbean Survey Hedonic Rental Data Equations and Results**

data temp; set opm.dcpvri;  
 survey\_area = 'XX';  
 location = substr(compnumber,1,1);  
 if location = 'A' then survey\_area = 'SC';  
 if location = 'B' then survey\_area = 'ST';  
 if location = 'C' then survey\_area = 'PR';  
 if location = 'D' then survey\_area = 'DC';  
 \*Q1 yrbuilt;  
 age = 2002 - yrbuilt;  
 agesq = age\*age;  
 if age < 0 then delete;  
 if age ≥ 200 then delete;  
 sqspace = sqfootage\*sqfootage;  
 baths = fullbaths + halfbaths\*.5 +  
 threeqtrbaths\*.75;  
 Extrnl\_Cond = 0;  
 if extrcond = 'A' then Extrnl\_Cond = 1;  
 \*(Good);  
 Neighbor\_Cond = 0;  
 if neighcond = 'A' then Neighbor\_Cond = 1;  
 \*(Desirable);  
 hasgarage = 0;

if garage in ('A' 'B' 'C') then hasgarage = 1;  
 \*(Yes);  
 Dup\_Apartment = 0;  
 if unittype in ('B' 'C' 'E' 'F' 'H') then  
 Dup\_Apartment = 1;  
 \*(Duplex, Triplex, Walkup, In-home, or other  
 apartmnt);  
 Highrise = 0;  
 if unittype = 'G' then Highrise = 1; \*(high rise  
 apartment);  
 Detached\_Town = 0;  
 \*if unittype in ('A' 'D') then Detached\_Town  
 = 1; \*(Detached, Townhouse, Row House);  
 \*omitting the above makes it the base  
 condition;  
 SqftXDup\_Apartment = 0;  
 if unittype in ('B' 'C' 'E' 'F' 'H') then  
 SqftXDup\_Apartment = sqfootage;  
 SqftXHighrise = 0;  
 if unittype = 'G' then SqftXHighrise =  
 sqfootage;  
 SqftXDetached\_Town = 0;  
 if unittype in ('A' 'D') then  
 SqftXDetached\_Town = sqfootage;  
 sqfootagesq = sqfootage\* sqfootage;  
 hasclothesdryer = 0;  
 if cldryer = 'Y' then hasclothesdryer = 1;  
 hasdishwasher = 0;  
 if dishwasher = 'Y' then hasdishwasher = 1;

hasmicrowave = 0;  
 if microwave = 'Y' then hasmicrowave = 1;  
 hassecurity = 0;  
 if gated = 'Y' or accessctl = 'Y' or guards =  
 'Y' or alarms = 'Y' then hassecurity = 1;  
 ExceptionalView = 0;  
 If excvview = 'Y' then ExceptionalView = 1;  
 St\_Croix = 0;  
 if survey\_area = 'SC' then St\_Croix = 1;  
 St\_Thomas = 0;  
 if survey\_area = 'ST' then St\_Thomas = 1;  
 Puerto\_Rico = 0;  
 if survey\_area = 'PR' then Puerto\_Rico = 1;  
 Wash\_DC = 0;  
 \*\*\* if survey\_area = 'WA' then Wash\_DC =  
 1—Omitting this makes DC the base area;  
 lrent = log(rent);  
 PROC REG DATA = temp;  
 MODEL lrent = SqftXDup\_Apartment  
 SqftXHighrise SqftXDetached\_Town  
 sqfootagesq age agesq baths bedrooms  
 Dup\_Apartment Highrise  
 Neighbor\_Cond hasclothesdryer  
 hasdishwasher hasmicrowave  
 Extrnl\_Cond hassecurity ExceptionalView  
 St\_Croix St\_Thomas Puerto\_Rico;  
 TITLE '2002 Caribbean Rental Data—Revised  
 Rental Analyses Federal Register Model';  
 RUN;

**2002 CARIBBEAN RENTAL DATA—REVISED RENTAL ANALYSES FEDERAL REGISTER MODEL**  
 [The REG procedure model: MODEL1 dependent variable: lrent]

|                                   |      |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Number of Observations Read ..... | 1599 |
| Number of Observations Used ..... | 1599 |

Analysis of variance

| Source                | DF   | Sum of squares | Mean square | F Value | Pr > F |
|-----------------------|------|----------------|-------------|---------|--------|
| Model .....           | 20   | 345.01809      | 17.25090    | 388.32  | <.0001 |
| Error .....           | 1578 | 70.10212       | 0.04442     |         |        |
| Corrected Total ..... | 1598 | 415.12021      |             |         |        |

|                      |         |                |        |
|----------------------|---------|----------------|--------|
| Root MSE .....       | 0.21077 | R-Square ..... | 0.8311 |
| Dependent Mean ..... | 7.03692 | Adj R-Sq ..... | 0.8290 |
| Coeff Var .....      | 2.99522 |                |        |

Parameter estimates

| Variable                 | DF | Parameter estimate | Standard error | t Value | Pr >  t |
|--------------------------|----|--------------------|----------------|---------|---------|
| Intercept .....          | 1  | 6.16053            | 0.07083        | 86.97   | <.0001  |
| SqftXDup_Apartment ..... | 1  | 0.00084714         | 0.00006631     | 12.78   | <.0001  |
| SqftXHighrise .....      | 1  | 0.00067673         | 0.00007716     | 8.77    | <.0001  |
| SqftXDetached_Town ..... | 1  | 0.00061692         | 0.00008334     | 7.40    | <.0001  |

| Parameter estimates |    |                    |                |         |         |
|---------------------|----|--------------------|----------------|---------|---------|
| Variable            | DF | Parameter estimate | Standard error | t Value | Pr >  t |
| sqfootagesq         | 1  | - 1.12749E-7       | 2.245397E-8    | - 5.02  | <.0001  |
| age                 | 1  | - 0.00276          | 0.00067933     | - 4.06  | <.0001  |
| agesq               | 1  | 0.00005451         | 0.00000734     | 7.43    | <.0001  |
| baths               | 1  | 0.08207            | 0.01164        | 7.05    | <.0001  |
| BEDROOMS            | 1  | 0.05114            | 0.01034        | 4.94    | <.0001  |
| Dup_Apartment       | 1  | - 0.27875          | 0.05458        | - 5.11  | <.0001  |
| Highrise            | 1  | - 0.15790          | 0.06883        | - 2.29  | 0.0219  |
| Neighbor_Cond       | 1  | 0.18967            | 0.01468        | 12.92   | <.0001  |
| hasclothesdryer     | 1  | 0.06615            | 0.01406        | 4.70    | <.0001  |
| hasdishwasher       | 1  | 0.06214            | 0.01718        | 3.62    | 0.0003  |
| hasmicrowave        | 1  | 0.07894            | 0.01478        | 5.34    | <.0001  |
| Extrnl_Cond         | 1  | 0.09525            | 0.01483        | 6.42    | <.0001  |
| hassecurity         | 1  | 0.08359            | 0.01276        | 6.55    | <.0001  |
| ExceptionalView     | 1  | 0.08695            | 0.02043        | 4.26    | <.0001  |
| St_Croix            | 1  | - 0.34634          | 0.02769        | - 12.51 | <.0001  |
| St_Thomas           | 1  | - 0.13415          | 0.02694        | - 4.98  | <.0001  |
| Puerto_Rico         | 1  | - 0.35453          | 0.02086        | - 16.99 | <.0001  |

**Appendix 2—2003 Alaska Survey Hedonic Rental Data Equations and Results**

data temp; set OPM.ak\_dc\_2003\_w\_census;  
 survey\_area = 'XX';  
 location = substr(compnumber,1,1);  
 if location = 'A' then survey\_area = 'JU';  
 if location = 'B' then survey\_area = 'FB';  
 if location = 'C' then survey\_area = 'AN';  
 if location = 'D' then survey\_area = 'DC';  
 \*Q1 yrbuilt;  
 age = 2003 - yrbuilt;  
 agesq = age\*age;  
 sqsqspace = sqfootage\*sqfootage;  
 baths = fullbaths + halfbaths\*.5 +  
 threeqtrbaths\*.75;  
 Neighbor\_Cond = 0;  
 if neighcond = 'A' then Neighbor\_Cond = 1;  
 \*(Desirable);  
 hasgarage = 0;  
 if garage in ('A' 'B' 'C') then hasgarage = 1;  
 \*(Yes);  
 Dup\_Triplex = 0;  
 if unitttype in ('B' 'C') then Dup\_Triplex = 1;  
 \*(Duplex or Triplex);  
 Non\_Highrise = 0;

if unitttype in ('E' 'F' 'H') then Non\_Highrise = 1; \*(Walkup, In-home, or other apartmnt);  
 Highrise = 0;  
 if unitttype = 'G' then Highrise = 1; \*(high rise apartment);  
 Detached\_Town = 0;  
 \*if unitttype in ('A' 'D') then Detached\_Town = 1; \*(Detached, Townhouse, Row House);  
 \*omitting the above makes it the base condition;  
 SqftXDup\_Triplex = 0;  
 if unitttype in ('B' 'C') then SqftXDup\_Triplex = sqfootage;  
 SqftXNon\_Highrise = 0;  
 if unitttype in ('E' 'F' 'H') then SqftXNon\_Highrise = sqfootage;  
 SqftXHighrise = 0;  
 if unitttype = 'G' then SqftXHighrise = sqfootage;  
 SqftXDetached\_Town = 0;  
 if unitttype in ('A' 'D') then SqftXDetached\_Town = sqfootage;  
 hasclothesdryer = 0;  
 if cldryer = 'Y' then hasclothesdryer = 1;  
 hasfireplace = 0;  
 if fireplace = 'Y' then hasfireplace = 1;

medianincomesq = medianincome\*medianincome;  
 Anchorage = 0;  
 if survey\_area = 'AN' then Anchorage = 1;  
 Fairbanks = 0;  
 if survey\_area = 'FB' then Fairbanks = 1;  
 Juneau = 0;  
 if survey\_area = 'JU' then Juneau = 1;  
 Wash\_DC = 0;  
 \*\*\* if survey\_area = 'WA' then Wash\_DC = 1—Omitting this makes DC the base area;  
 lrent = log(rent);  
 PROC REG DATA = temp;  
 MODEL lrent = temp;  
 MODEL lrent = SqftXDup\_Triplex SqftXNon\_Highrise SqftXHighrise SqftXDetached\_Town age agesq baths bedrooms Dup\_Triplex Non\_Highrise Highrise Neighbor\_Cond hasgarage hasclothesdryer hasfireplace medianincome medianincomesq PctallBA\_PctSchoolAge Anchorage Fairbanks Juneau; TITLE '2003 Alaskan Rental Data—Revised Rental Analyses Federal Register Model'; RUN;

**2003 ALASKAN RENTAL DATA—REVISED RENTAL ANALYSES FEDERAL REGISTER MODEL**

The REG procedure model: MODEL1 dependent variable: lrentj

|                             |      |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Number of Observations Read | 1679 |
| Number of Observations Used | 1679 |

Analysis of variance

| Source          | DF   | Sum of squares | Mean square | F Value | Pr > F |
|-----------------|------|----------------|-------------|---------|--------|
| Model           | 22   | 216.72733      | 9.85124     | 393.42  | <.0001 |
| Error           | 1656 | 41.46655       | 0.02504     |         |        |
| Corrected Total | 1678 | 258.19388      |             |         |        |

|                |         |          |        |
|----------------|---------|----------|--------|
| Root MSE       | 0.15824 | R-Square | 0.8394 |
| Dependent Mean | 7.06679 | Adj R-Sq | 0.8373 |
| Coeff Var      | 2.23922 |          |        |

| Variable           | DF | Parameter estimate | Standard error | t Value | Pr >  t |
|--------------------|----|--------------------|----------------|---------|---------|
| Intercept          | 1  | 6.78428            | 0.04463        | 152.01  | <.0001  |
| SqftXDup_Triplex   | 1  | 0.00012656         | 0.00003471     | 3.65    | 0.0003  |
| SqftXNon_Highrise  | 1  | 0.00026632         | 0.00003630     | 7.34    | <.0001  |
| SqftXHighrise      | 1  | 0.00022895         | 0.00004467     | 5.13    | <.0001  |
| SqftXDetached_Town | 1  | 0.00008622         | 0.00001571     | 5.49    | <.0001  |
| age                | 1  | -0.00426           | 0.00067976     | -6.27   | <.0001  |
| agesq              | 1  | 0.00005692         | 0.00000816     | 6.97    | <.0001  |
| baths              | 1  | 0.02324            | 0.00582        | 3.99    | <.0001  |
| BEDROOMS           | 1  | 0.12778            | 0.00743        | 17.19   | <.0001  |
| Dup_Triplex        | 1  | -0.08525           | 0.04928        | -1.73   | 0.0839  |
| Non_Highrise       | 1  | -0.31060           | 0.03842        | -8.09   | <.0001  |
| Highrise           | 1  | -0.17676           | 0.04867        | -3.63   | 0.0003  |
| Neighbor_Cond      | 1  | 0.25807            | 0.03958        | 6.52    | <.0001  |
| hasgarage          | 1  | 0.11484            | 0.01101        | 10.44   | <.0001  |
| hasclothesdryer    | 1  | 0.05904            | 0.00883        | 6.69    | <.0001  |
| hasfireplace       | 1  | 0.05504            | 0.01017        | 5.41    | <.0001  |
| MedianIncome       | 1  | -0.00000242        | 8.194014E-7    | -2.96   | 0.0031  |
| medianincomesq     | 1  | 2.2724E-11         | 4.80424E-12    | 4.73    | <.0001  |
| PCTAIIIBA          | 1  | 0.39214            | 0.04673        | 8.39    | <.0001  |
| PctSchoolAge       | 1  | -0.71293           | 0.11164        | -6.39   | <.0001  |
| Anchorage          | 1  | -0.11428           | 0.01195        | -9.56   | <.0001  |
| Fairbanks          | 1  | -0.22871           | 0.01345        | -17.01  | <.0001  |
| Juneau             | 1  | -0.09632           | 0.01719        | -5.60   | <.0001  |

APPENDIX 3.—2002 FINAL LIVING-COST RESULTS FOR THE CARIBBEAN COLA AREAS

| Major expenditure group (MEG)         | Primary expenditure group (PEG)     | MEG weight (percent) | PEG weight (percent) | PEG index | MEG index |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>PUERTO RICO</b>                    |                                     |                      |                      |           |           |
| 1. Food                               |                                     | 13.16                |                      |           | 101.85    |
|                                       | Cereals and bakery products         | 0.98                 | 7.45                 | 105.91    |           |
|                                       | Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs      | 1.47                 | 11.16                | 99.40     |           |
|                                       | Dairy products                      | 0.65                 | 4.94                 | 124.86    |           |
|                                       | Fruits and vegetables               | 0.73                 | 5.56                 | 107.05    |           |
|                                       | Processed Foods                     | 1.54                 | 11.68                | 106.42    |           |
|                                       | Other food at home                  | 0.42                 | 3.16                 | 92.62     |           |
|                                       | Nonalcoholic beverages              | 0.49                 | 3.74                 | 133.21    |           |
|                                       | Food away from home                 | 5.93                 | 45.04                | 91.91     |           |
|                                       | Alcoholic beverages                 | 0.96                 | 7.28                 | 123.96    |           |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
| 2. Shelter and Utilities              |                                     | 31.30                |                      |           | 85.20     |
|                                       | Shelter                             | 28.07                | 89.67                | 71.88     |           |
|                                       | Energy Utilities                    | 2.65                 | 8.46                 | 236.07    |           |
|                                       | Water and other public services     | 0.59                 | 1.87                 | 41.54     |           |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
| 3. Household Furnishings and Supplies |                                     | 6.06                 |                      |           | 98.84     |
|                                       | Household operations                | 1.36                 | 22.51                | 64.95     |           |
|                                       | Housekeeping supplies               | 1.06                 | 17.53                | 113.20    |           |
|                                       | Textiles and Area Rugs              | 0.25                 | 4.16                 | 93.40     |           |
|                                       | Furniture                           | 1.05                 | 17.39                | 95.70     |           |
|                                       | Major appliances                    | 0.37                 | 6.03                 | 116.32    |           |
|                                       | Small appliances, misc. housewares  | 0.21                 | 3.46                 | 108.32    |           |
|                                       | Miscellaneous household equipment   | 1.75                 | 28.91                | 114.40    |           |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
| 4. Apparel and services               |                                     | 4.00                 |                      |           | 112.80    |
|                                       | Men and boys                        | 0.75                 | 18.69                | 107.05    |           |
|                                       | Women and girls                     | 1.67                 | 41.66                | 114.32    |           |
|                                       | Children under 2                    | 0.18                 | 4.55                 | 103.86    |           |
|                                       | Footwear                            | 0.70                 | 17.48                | 88.96     |           |
|                                       | Other apparel products and services | 0.71                 | 17.63                | 141.24    |           |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
| 5. Transportation                     |                                     | 16.93                |                      |           | 107.51    |
|                                       | Motor Vehicle Costs                 | 9.09                 | 53.67                | 109.17    |           |
|                                       | Gasoline and motor oil              | 2.71                 | 16.02                | 84.24     |           |
|                                       | Maintenance and repairs             | 1.81                 | 10.72                | 94.31     |           |
|                                       | Vehicle insurance                   | 1.73                 | 10.24                | 122.13    |           |
|                                       | Public transportation               | 1.58                 | 9.35                 | 136.92    |           |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
| 6. Medical                            |                                     | 4.44                 |                      |           | 73.31     |

APPENDIX 3.—2002 FINAL LIVING-COST RESULTS FOR THE CARIBBEAN COLA AREAS—Continued

| Major expenditure group (MEG)  | Primary expenditure group (PEG)     | MEG weight (percent) | PEG weight (percent) | PEG index | MEG index |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 7. Recreation                  | Health insurance                    | 2.08                 | 46.97                | 59.73     |           |
|                                | Medical services                    | 1.43                 | 32.31                | 72.76     |           |
|                                | Drugs and medical Supplies          | 0.92                 | 20.72                | 104.93    |           |
|                                | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
|                                |                                     | 6.23                 |                      |           | 102.99    |
|                                | Fees and admissions                 | 1.46                 | 23.38                | 95.96     |           |
|                                | Television, radios, sound equipment | 0.77                 | 12.38                | 115.85    |           |
|                                | Pets, toys, & playground equipment  | 1.15                 | 18.48                | 98.43     |           |
|                                | Other entertainment supplies, etc.  | 0.97                 | 15.57                | 106.71    |           |
|                                | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
| 8. Education and Communication |                                     | 4.09                 |                      | 132.89    |           |
|                                | Education                           | 0.21                 | 5.06                 | 216.35    |           |
|                                | Communications                      | 3.24                 | 79.32                | 132.97    |           |
|                                | Computers and Computer Services     | 0.64                 | 15.62                | 105.41    |           |
|                                | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
| 9. Miscellaneous               |                                     | 13.79                |                      |           | 103.10    |
|                                | Tobacco products, etc.              | 0.48                 | 3.51                 | 87.91     |           |
|                                | Miscellaneous                       | 2.09                 | 15.12                | 123.28    |           |
|                                | Personal insurance and pensions     | 11.22                | 81.37                | 100.00    |           |
| Overall Price Index            | MEG Total                           | 100.00               |                      |           | 98.10     |
| Plus Adjustment Factor         |                                     |                      |                      |           | 7.00      |
| Index Plus Adjustment Factor   |                                     |                      |                      |           | 105.10    |

ST. CROIX, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

|                                       |                                     |        |        |        |        |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. Food                               |                                     | 13.16  |        |        | 116.05 |
|                                       | Cereals and bakery products         | 0.98   | 7.45   | 129.89 |        |
|                                       | Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs      | 1.47   | 11.16  | 129.25 |        |
|                                       | Dairy products                      | 0.65   | 4.94   | 155.69 |        |
|                                       | Fruits and vegetables               | 0.73   | 5.56   | 108.80 |        |
|                                       | Processed foods                     | 1.54   | 11.68  | 128.02 |        |
|                                       | Other food at home                  | 0.42   | 3.16   | 108.01 |        |
|                                       | Nonalcoholic beverages              | 0.49   | 3.74   | 132.85 |        |
|                                       | Food away from home                 | 5.93   | 45.04  | 105.82 |        |
|                                       | Alcoholic beverages                 | 0.96   | 7.28   | 99.25  |        |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |        | 100.00 |        |        |
|                                       | 2. Shelter and Utilities            | 31.30  |        |        | 100.75 |
|                                       | Shelter                             | 28.07  | 89.67  | 75.16  |        |
|                                       | Energy utilities                    | 2.65   | 8.46   | 343.31 |        |
| Water and other public services       | 0.59                                | 1.87   | 230.60 |        |        |
| PEG Total                             |                                     | 100.00 |        |        |        |
| 3. Household Furnishings and Supplies |                                     | 6.06   |        |        | 126.20 |
|                                       | Household operations                | 1.36   | 22.51  | 58.68  |        |
|                                       | Housekeeping supplies               | 1.06   | 17.53  | 138.03 |        |
|                                       | Textiles and area rugs              | 0.25   | 4.16   | 98.61  |        |
|                                       | Furniture                           | 1.05   | 17.39  | 141.31 |        |
|                                       | Major appliances                    | 0.37   | 6.03   | 127.13 |        |
|                                       | Small appliances, misc. housewares  | 0.21   | 3.46   | 101.87 |        |
|                                       | Miscellaneous household equipment   | 1.75   | 28.91  | 169.19 |        |
| PEG Total                             |                                     | 100.00 |        |        |        |
| 4. Apparel and Services               |                                     | 4.00   |        |        | 102.52 |
|                                       | Men and boys                        | 0.75   | 18.69  | 115.94 |        |
|                                       | Women and girls                     | 1.67   | 41.66  | 98.51  |        |
|                                       | Children under 2                    | 0.18   | 4.55   | 83.57  |        |
|                                       | Footwear                            | 0.70   | 17.48  | 97.20  |        |
|                                       | Other apparel products and services | 0.71   | 17.63  | 107.95 |        |
| PEG Total                             |                                     | 100.00 |        |        |        |
| 5. Transportation                     |                                     | 16.93  |        |        | 111.02 |
|                                       | Motor vehicle costs                 | 9.09   | 53.67  | 112.02 |        |
|                                       | Gasoline and motor oil              | 2.71   | 16.02  | 73.46  |        |
|                                       | Maintenance and repairs             | 1.81   | 10.72  | 88.94  |        |
|                                       | Vehicle insurance                   | 1.73   | 10.24  | 119.53 |        |
|                                       | Public transportation               | 1.58   | 9.35   | 185.59 |        |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |        | 100.00 |        |        |
| 6. Medical                            |                                     | 4.44   |        |        | 102.17 |
|                                       | Health insurance                    | 2.08   | 46.97  | 110.99 |        |

## APPENDIX 3.—2002 FINAL LIVING-COST RESULTS FOR THE CARIBBEAN COLA AREAS—Continued

| Major expenditure group (MEG)  | Primary expenditure group (PEG)     | MEG weight (percent) | PEG weight (percent) | PEG index | MEG index |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 7. Recreation                  | Medical services                    | 1.43                 | 32.31                | 83.05     |           |
|                                | Drugs and medical supplies          | 0.92                 | 20.72                | 111.99    |           |
|                                | PEG Total                           |                      |                      | 100.00    |           |
|                                |                                     | 6.23                 |                      |           | 107.72    |
|                                | Fees and admissions                 | 1.46                 | 23.38                | 85.81     |           |
|                                | Television, radios, sound equipment | 0.77                 | 12.38                | 94.05     |           |
|                                | Pets, toys & playground equipment   | 1.15                 | 18.48                | 124.46    |           |
|                                | Other entertainment supplies, etc   | 0.97                 | 15.57                | 118.42    |           |
|                                | Personal care products              | 0.69                 | 11.10                | 120.92    |           |
|                                | Personal care services              | 0.70                 | 11.29                | 107.77    |           |
| 8. Education and Communication | Reading                             | 0.49                 | 7.80                 | 115.28    |           |
|                                | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
|                                |                                     | 4.09                 |                      |           | 173.59    |
|                                | Education                           | 0.21                 | 5.06                 | 268.97    |           |
|                                | Communications                      | 3.24                 | 79.32                | 180.93    |           |
|                                | Computers and computer services     | 0.64                 | 15.62                | 105.41    |           |
| 9. Miscellaneous               | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
|                                |                                     | 13.79                |                      |           | 105.08    |
|                                | Tobacco products, etc               | 0.48                 | 3.51                 | 52.54     |           |
|                                | Miscellaneous                       | 2.09                 | 15.12                | 144.64    |           |
|                                | Personal insurance and pensions     | 11.22                | 81.37                | 100.00    |           |
|                                |                                     |                      |                      |           |           |
|                                | PEG Total                           |                      |                      |           |           |

## ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

|                                       |                                     |                                 |        |        |        |  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--|
| 1. Food                               |                                     | 13.16%                          |        |        | 118.86 |  |
|                                       | Cereals and bakery products         | 0.98                            | 7.45   | 135.94 |        |  |
|                                       | Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs      | 1.47                            | 11.16  | 133.18 |        |  |
|                                       | Dairy products                      | 0.65                            | 4.94   | 161.42 |        |  |
|                                       | Fruits and vegetables               | 0.73                            | 5.56   | 120.34 |        |  |
|                                       | Processed foods                     | 1.54                            | 11.68  | 139.00 |        |  |
|                                       | Other food at home                  | 0.42                            | 3.16   | 115.51 |        |  |
|                                       | Nonalcoholic beverages              | 0.49                            | 3.74   | 139.29 |        |  |
|                                       | Food away from home                 | 5.93                            | 45.04  | 104.61 |        |  |
|                                       | Alcoholic beverages                 | 0.96                            | 7.28   | 96.20  |        |  |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |                                 | 100.00 |        |        |  |
|                                       |                                     | 31.30                           |        |        | 116.23 |  |
|                                       | 2. Shelter and Utilities            | Shelter                         | 28.07  | 89.67  | 92.42  |  |
|                                       |                                     | Energy utilities                | 2.65   | 8.46   | 343.31 |  |
|                                       |                                     | Water and other public services | 0.59   | 1.87   | 230.60 |  |
| PEG Total                             |                                     |                                 | 100.00 |        |        |  |
| 3. Household Furnishings and Supplies |                                     | 6.06                            |        |        | 126.12 |  |
|                                       | Household operations                | 1.36                            | 22.51  | 63.82  |        |  |
|                                       | Housekeeping supplies               | 1.06                            | 17.53  | 137.67 |        |  |
|                                       | Textiles and area rugs              | 0.25                            | 4.16   | 117.63 |        |  |
|                                       | Furniture                           | 1.05                            | 17.39  | 141.31 |        |  |
|                                       | Major appliances                    | 0.37                            | 6.03   | 121.04 |        |  |
|                                       | Small appliances, misc. housewares  | 0.21                            | 3.46   | 102.41 |        |  |
|                                       | Miscellaneous household equipment   | 1.75                            | 28.91  | 163.62 |        |  |
| PEG Total                             |                                     | 100.00                          |        |        |        |  |
| 4. Apparel and Services               |                                     | 4.00                            |        |        | 101.14 |  |
|                                       | Men and boys                        | 0.75                            | 18.69  | 102.33 |        |  |
|                                       | Women and girls                     | 1.67                            | 41.66  | 97.41  |        |  |
|                                       | Children under 2                    | 0.18                            | 4.55   | 83.57  |        |  |
|                                       | Footwear                            | 0.70                            | 17.48  | 99.03  |        |  |
|                                       | Other apparel products and services | 0.71                            | 17.63  | 115.33 |        |  |
| PEG Total                             |                                     | 100.00                          |        |        |        |  |
| 5. Transportation                     |                                     | 16.93                           |        |        | 119.49 |  |
|                                       | Motor vehicle costs                 | 9.09                            | 53.67  | 111.91 |        |  |
|                                       | Gasoline and motor oil              | 2.71                            | 16.02  | 122.52 |        |  |
|                                       | Maintenance and repairs             | 1.81                            | 10.72  | 80.37  |        |  |
|                                       | Vehicle insurance                   | 1.73                            | 10.24  | 119.53 |        |  |
|                                       | Public transportation               | 1.58                            | 9.35   | 202.62 |        |  |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |                                 | 100.00 |        |        |  |
| 6. Medical                            |                                     | 4.44                            |        |        | 114.18 |  |
|                                       | Health insurance                    | 2.08                            | 46.97  | 110.99 |        |  |
|                                       | Medical services                    | 1.43                            | 32.31  | 121.45 |        |  |
|                                       | Drugs and medical supplies          | 0.92                            | 20.72  | 110.08 |        |  |
| PEG Total                             |                                     | 100.00                          |        |        |        |  |
| 7. Recreation                         |                                     | 6.23                            |        |        | 106.38 |  |

APPENDIX 3.—2002 FINAL LIVING-COST RESULTS FOR THE CARIBBEAN COLA AREAS—Continued

| Major expenditure group (MEG)        | Primary expenditure group (PEG)           | MEG weight (percent) | PEG weight (percent) | PEG index | MEG index |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                                      | Fees and admissions .....                 | 1.46                 | 23.38                | 58.55     | .....     |
|                                      | Television, radios, sound equipment ..... | 0.77                 | 12.38                | 104.26    | .....     |
|                                      | Pets, toys & playground equipment .....   | 1.15                 | 18.48                | 132.35    | .....     |
|                                      | Other entertainment supplies, etc .....   | 0.97                 | 15.57                | 130.73    | .....     |
|                                      | Personal care products .....              | 0.69                 | 11.10                | 113.14    | .....     |
|                                      | Personal care services .....              | 0.70                 | 11.29                | 116.88    | .....     |
|                                      | Reading .....                             | 0.49                 | 7.80                 | 118.17    | .....     |
|                                      | PEG Total .....                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
| 8. Education and Communication ..... |   | 4.09                 |                      |           | 168.47    |
|                                      | Education .....                           | 0.21                 | 5.06                 | 188.50    | .....     |
|                                      | Communications .....                      | 3.24                 | 79.32                | 179.61    | .....     |
|                                      | Computers and computer services .....     | 0.64                 | 15.62                | 105.41    | .....     |
|                                      | PEG Total .....                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
| 9. Miscellaneous .....               |   | 13.79                |                      |           | 102.87    |
|                                      | Tobacco products, etc. ....               | 0.48                 | 3.51                 | 60.63     | .....     |
|                                      | Miscellaneous .....                       | 2.09                 | 15.12                | 128.10    | .....     |
|                                      | Personal insurance and pensions .....     | 11.22                | 81.37                | 100.00    | .....     |
|                                      | PEG Total .....                           |                      |                      |           |           |

APPENDIX 3.—2002 FINAL LIVING-COST RESULTS FOR THE CARIBBEAN COLA AREAS

| Major expenditure group (MEG)               | Primary expenditure group (PEG)           | St. Croix index (percent) | St. Thomas/St. John indexes (percent) | U.S. Virgin Island wtd index |
|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS</b>                  |   |                           |                                       |                              |
| Employment Weights .....                    |   | 44.0                      | 56.0                                  | .....                        |
| 1. Food .....                               |   | 116.05                    | 118.86                                | 117.62                       |
|   | Cereals and bakery products .....         | 129.89                    | 135.94                                | 133.28                       |
|   | Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....      | 129.25                    | 133.18                                | 131.45                       |
|   | Dairy products .....                      | 155.69                    | 161.42                                | 158.90                       |
|   | Fruits and vegetables .....               | 108.80                    | 120.34                                | 115.26                       |
|   | Processed foods .....                     | 128.02                    | 139.00                                | 134.17                       |
|   | Other food at home .....                  | 108.01                    | 115.51                                | 112.21                       |
|   | Nonalcoholic beverages .....              | 132.85                    | 139.29                                | 136.45                       |
|   | Food away from home .....                 | 105.82                    | 104.61                                | 105.14                       |
|   | Alcoholic beverages .....                 | 99.25                     | 96.20                                 | 97.54                        |
| 2. Shelter and Utilities .....              |   | 100.75                    | 116.23                                | 109.42                       |
|   | Shelter .....                             | 75.16                     | 92.42                                 | 84.82                        |
|   | Energy utilities .....                    | 343.31                    | 343.31                                | 343.31                       |
|   | Water and other public services .....     | 230.60                    | 230.60                                | 230.60                       |
| 3. Household Furnishings and Supplies ..... |   | 126.20                    | 126.12                                | 126.15                       |
|   | Household operations .....                | 58.68                     | 63.82                                 | 61.56                        |
|   | Housekeeping supplies .....               | 138.03                    | 137.67                                | 137.83                       |
|   | Textiles and area rugs .....              | 98.61                     | 117.63                                | 109.26                       |
|   | Furniture .....                           | 141.31                    | 141.31                                | 141.31                       |
|   | Major appliances .....                    | 127.13                    | 121.04                                | 123.72                       |
|   | Small appliances, misc. housewares .....  | 101.87                    | 102.41                                | 102.17                       |
|   | Miscellaneous household equipment .....   | 169.19                    | 163.62                                | 166.07                       |
| 4. Apparel and Services .....               |   | 102.52                    | 101.14                                | 101.75                       |
|   | Men and boys .....                        | 115.94                    | 102.33                                | 108.32                       |
|   | Women and girls .....                     | 98.51                     | 97.41                                 | 97.89                        |
|   | Children under 2 .....                    | 83.57                     | 83.57                                 | 83.57                        |
|   | Footwear .....                            | 97.20                     | 99.03                                 | 98.23                        |
|   | Other apparel products and services ..... | 107.95                    | 115.33                                | 112.08                       |
| 5. Transportation .....                     |   | 111.02                    | 119.49                                | 115.76                       |
|   | Motor vehicle costs .....                 | 112.02                    | 111.91                                | 111.96                       |
|   | Gasoline and motor oil .....              | 73.46                     | 122.52                                | 100.93                       |
|   | Maintenance and repairs .....             | 88.94                     | 80.37                                 | 84.14                        |
|   | Vehicle insurance .....                   | 119.53                    | 119.53                                | 119.53                       |
|   | Public transportation .....               | 185.59                    | 202.62                                | 195.13                       |
| 6. Medical .....                            |   | 102.17                    | 114.18                                | 108.90                       |
|   | Health insurance .....                    | 110.99                    | 110.99                                | 110.99                       |
|   | Medical services .....                    | 83.05                     | 121.45                                | 104.56                       |
|   | Drugs and medical supplies .....          | 111.99                    | 110.08                                | 110.92                       |
| 7. Recreation .....                         |   | 107.72                    | 106.38                                | 106.97                       |
|   | Fees and admissions .....                 | 85.81                     | 58.55                                 | 70.55                        |

## APPENDIX 3.—2002 FINAL LIVING-COST RESULTS FOR THE CARIBBEAN COLA AREAS—Continued

| Major expenditure group (MEG)        | Primary expenditure group (PEG)           | St. Croix index (percent) | St. Thomas/St. John indexes (percent) | U.S. Virgin Island wtd index |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                                      | Television, radios, sound equipment ..... | 94.05                     | 104.26                                | 99.77                        |
|                                      | Pets, toys & playground equipment .....   | 124.46                    | 132.35                                | 128.88                       |
|                                      | Other entertainment supplies, etc .....   | 118.42                    | 130.73                                | 125.31                       |
|                                      | Personal care products .....              | 120.92                    | 113.14                                | 116.56                       |
|                                      | Personal care services .....              | 107.77                    | 116.88                                | 112.87                       |
|                                      | Reading .....                             | 115.28                    | 118.17                                | 116.90                       |
| 8. Education and Communication ..... | .....                                     | 173.59                    | 168.47                                | 170.72                       |
|                                      | Education .....                           | 268.97                    | 188.50                                | 223.91                       |
|                                      | Communications .....                      | 180.93                    | 179.61                                | 180.19                       |
|                                      | Computers and computer services .....     | 105.41                    | 105.41                                | 105.41                       |
| 9. Miscellaneous .....               | .....                                     | 105.08                    | 102.87                                | 103.84                       |
|                                      | Tobacco products, etc. ....               | 52.54                     | 60.63                                 | 57.07                        |
|                                      | Miscellaneous .....                       | 144.64                    | 128.10                                | 135.38                       |
|                                      | Personal insurance and pensions .....     | 100.00                    | 100.00                                | 100.00                       |
| Overall Price Index .....            | .....                                     | .....                     | .....                                 | 113.84                       |
| Plus Adjustment Factor .....         | .....                                     | .....                     | .....                                 | 9.00                         |
| Preliminary COLA Rate .....          | .....                                     | .....                     | .....                                 | 122.84                       |

## APPENDIX 4.—2003 FINAL LIVING-COST RESULTS FOR THE ALASKA COLA AREAS

| Major expenditure group (MEG)               | Primary expenditure group (PEG)           | MEG weight (percent) | PEG weight (percent) | PEG index | MEG index |
|---|---|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>ANCHORAGE, ALASKA</b>                    |   |                      |                      |           |           |
| 1. Food .....                               | .....                                     | 12.30                | .....                | .....     | 114.58    |
|   | Cereals and bakery products .....         | 0.93                 | 7.60                 | 117.91    | .....     |
|   | Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....      | 1.40                 | 11.40                | 108.37    | .....     |
|   | Dairy products .....                      | 0.64                 | 5.24                 | 127.58    | .....     |
|   | Fruits and vegetables .....               | 0.71                 | 5.79                 | 169.90    | .....     |
|   | Processed foods .....                     | 1.48                 | 12.04                | 113.79    | .....     |
|   | Other food at home .....                  | 0.37                 | 3.05                 | 115.41    | .....     |
|   | Nonalcoholic beverages .....              | 0.47                 | 3.85                 | 142.08    | .....     |
|   | Food away from home .....                 | 5.41                 | 44.02                | 104.21    | .....     |
|   | Alcoholic beverages .....                 | 0.86                 | 7.01                 | 116.68    | .....     |
|   | PEG Total .....                           | .....                | 100.00               | .....     | 102.42    |
| 2. Shelter and Utilities .....              | .....                                     | 33.18                | .....                | .....     | .....     |
|   | Shelter .....                             | 29.44                | 88.74                | 90.65     | .....     |
|   | Energy utilities .....                    | 3.05                 | 9.20                 | 212.43    | .....     |
|   | Water and other public services .....     | 0.68                 | 2.06                 | 118.15    | .....     |
|   | PEG Total .....                           | .....                | 100.00               | .....     | .....     |
| 3. Household Furnishings and Supplies ..... | .....                                     | 6.07                 | .....                | .....     | 105.32    |
|   | Household operations .....                | 1.53                 | 25.20                | 102.92    | .....     |
|   | Housekeeping supplies .....               | 1.05                 | 17.31                | 103.97    | .....     |
|   | Textiles and area rugs .....              | 0.29                 | 4.76                 | 102.25    | .....     |
|   | Furniture .....                           | 1.15                 | 18.94                | 104.57    | .....     |
|   | Major appliances .....                    | 0.38                 | 6.24                 | 110.38    | .....     |
|   | Small appliances, misc. housewares .....  | 0.20                 | 3.24                 | 114.16    | .....     |
|   | Misc. household equipment .....           | 1.47                 | 24.30                | 107.47    | .....     |
|   | PEG Total .....                           | .....                | 100.00               | .....     | .....     |
| 4. Apparel and Services .....               | .....                                     | 4.01                 | .....                | .....     | 109.63    |
|   | Men and boys .....                        | 0.90                 | 22.43                | 118.23    | .....     |
|   | Women and girls .....                     | 1.58                 | 39.55                | 112.12    | .....     |
|   | Children under 2 .....                    | 0.18                 | 4.60                 | 90.70     | .....     |
|   | Footwear .....                            | 0.67                 | 16.75                | 98.83     | .....     |
|   | Other apparel products and services ..... | 0.67                 | 16.68                | 108.24    | .....     |
|   | PEG Total .....                           | .....                | 100.00               | .....     | .....     |
| 5. Transportation .....                     | .....                                     | 16.35                | .....                | .....     | 112.30    |
|   | Motor vehicle costs .....                 | 8.57                 | 52.43                | 102.17    | .....     |
|   | Gasoline and motor oil .....              | 2.87                 | 17.58                | 107.36    | .....     |
|   | Maintenance and repairs .....             | 1.69                 | 10.32                | 101.97    | .....     |
|   | Vehicle insurance .....                   | 1.79                 | 10.92                | 135.96    | .....     |
|   | Public transportation .....               | 1.43                 | 8.76                 | 165.59    | .....     |
|   | PEG Total .....                           | .....                | 100.00               | .....     | .....     |
| 6. Medical .....                            | .....                                     | 4.75                 | .....                | .....     | 111.51    |
|   | Health insurance .....                    | 2.28                 | 47.95                | 113.65    | .....     |
|   | Medical services .....                    | 1.55                 | 32.53                | 118.98    | .....     |

APPENDIX 4.—2003 FINAL LIVING-COST RESULTS FOR THE ALASKA COLA AREAS—Continued

| Major expenditure group (MEG)              | Primary expenditure group (PEG)     | MEG weight (percent) | PEG weight (percent) | PEG index | MEG index |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 7. Recreation                              | Drugs and medical supplies          | 0.93                 | 19.52                | 93.78     |           |
|  | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
|  |                                     | 7.02                 |                      |           | 97.64     |
|  | Fees and admissions                 | 1.46                 | 20.77                | 92.96     |           |
|  | Television, radios, sound equipment | 0.73                 | 10.36                | 100.15    |           |
|  | Pets, toys, & playground equipment  | 1.04                 | 14.84                | 104.07    |           |
|  | Other entertainment supplies, etc.  | 2.02                 | 28.81                | 101.48    |           |
|  | Personal care products              | 0.82                 | 11.62                | 86.00     |           |
|  | Personal care services              | 0.56                 | 7.90                 | 88.08     |           |
|  | Reading                             | 0.40                 | 5.70                 | 110.95    |           |
| 8. Education and Communication             | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
|  |                                     | 4.05                 |                      |           | 100.37    |
|  | Education                           | 0.18                 | 4.42                 | 29.67     |           |
|  | Communications                      | 3.37                 | 83.30                | 104.60    |           |
| 9. Miscellaneous                           | Computers and computer services     | 0.50                 | 12.29                | 97.09     |           |
|  | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
|  |                                     | 12.28                |                      |           | 108.78    |
|  | Tobacco products, etc               | 0.46                 | 3.75                 | 108.17    |           |
| Overall Price Index Plus Adjustment Factor | Miscellaneous                       | 1.83                 | 14.89                | 156.88    |           |
|  | Personal insurance and pensions     | 9.99                 | 81.35                | 100.00    |           |
|  | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
|  | MEG Total                           | 100.00               |                      |           | 106.79    |
| Index Plus Adjustment Factor               |                                     |                      |                      |           | 7.00      |
|  |                                     |                      |                      |           | 113.79    |

**FAIRBANKS, ALASKA**

|                                       |                                     |       |        |        |        |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. Food                               |                                     | 12.30 |        |        | 116.25 |
|                                       | Cereals and bakery products         | 0.93  | 7.60   | 124.89 |        |
|                                       | Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs      | 1.40  | 11.40  | 111.48 |        |
|                                       | Dairy products                      | 0.64  | 5.24   | 115.91 |        |
|                                       | Fruits and vegetables               | 0.71  | 5.79   | 169.40 |        |
|                                       | Processed foods                     | 1.48  | 12.04  | 120.63 |        |
|                                       | Other food at home                  | 0.37  | 3.05   | 114.36 |        |
|                                       | Nonalcoholic beverages              | 0.47  | 3.85   | 152.88 |        |
|                                       | Food away from home                 | 5.41  | 44.02  | 103.08 |        |
|                                       | Alcoholic beverages                 | 0.86  | 7.01   | 126.87 |        |
| 2. Shelter and Utilities              | PEG Total                           |       | 100.00 |        |        |
|                                       |                                     | 33.18 |        |        | 99.91  |
|                                       | Shelter                             | 29.44 | 88.74  | 80.87  |        |
|                                       | Energy utilities                    | 3.05  | 9.20   | 270.97 |        |
| 3. Household Furnishings and Supplies | Water and other public services     | 0.68  | 2.06   | 155.96 |        |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |       | 100.00 |        |        |
|                                       |                                     | 6.07  |        |        | 109.56 |
|                                       | Household operations                | 1.53  | 25.20  | 99.74  |        |
| 4. Apparel and Services               | Housekeeping supplies               | 1.05  | 17.31  | 115.45 |        |
|                                       | Textiles and area rugs              | 0.29  | 4.76   | 103.65 |        |
|                                       | Furniture                           | 1.15  | 18.94  | 104.57 |        |
|                                       | Major appliances                    | 0.38  | 6.24   | 126.17 |        |
|                                       | Small appliances, misc. housewares  | 0.20  | 3.24   | 125.61 |        |
|                                       | Misc. household equipment           | 1.47  | 24.30  | 114.19 |        |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |       | 100.00 |        |        |
|                                       |                                     | 4.01  |        |        | 106.64 |
| 5. Transportation                     | Men and boys                        | 0.90  | 22.43  | 103.68 |        |
|                                       | Women and girls                     | 1.58  | 39.55  | 104.53 |        |
|                                       | Children under 2                    | 0.18  | 4.60   | 89.89  |        |
|                                       | Footwear                            | 0.67  | 16.75  | 93.82  |        |
|                                       | Other apparel products and services | 0.67  | 16.68  | 133.11 |        |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |       | 100.00 |        |        |
|                                       |                                     | 16.35 |        |        | 112.50 |
|                                       | Motor vehicle costs                 | 8.57  | 52.43  | 101.33 |        |
| 6. Medical                            | Gasoline and motor oil              | 2.87  | 17.58  | 106.31 |        |
|                                       | Maintenance and repairs             | 1.69  | 10.32  | 95.57  |        |
|                                       | Vehicle insurance                   | 1.79  | 10.92  | 130.80 |        |
|                                       | Public transportation               | 1.43  | 8.76   | 188.94 |        |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |       | 100.00 |        |        |
|                                       | 4.75                                |       |        | 112.34 |        |
| Health insurance                      | 2.28                                | 47.95 | 111.83 |        |        |
| Medical services                      | 1.55                                | 32.53 | 123.13 |        |        |
| Drugs and medical supplies            | 0.93                                | 19.52 | 95.63  |        |        |

## APPENDIX 4.—2003 FINAL LIVING-COST RESULTS FOR THE ALASKA COLA AREAS—Continued

| Major expenditure group (MEG)         | Primary expenditure group (PEG)           | MEG weight (percent) | PEG weight (percent) | PEG index | MEG index |
|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 7. Recreation .....                   | PEG Total .....                           | 7.02                 | 100.00               |           | 97.66     |
|                                       | Fees and admissions .....                 | 1.46                 | 20.77                | 92.48     |           |
|                                       | Television, radios, sound equipment ..... | 0.73                 | 10.36                | 99.46     |           |
|                                       | Pets, toys, & playground equipment .....  | 1.04                 | 14.84                | 108.08    |           |
|                                       | Other entertainment supplies etc. ....    | 2.02                 | 28.81                | 106.80    |           |
|                                       | Personal care products .....              | 0.82                 | 11.62                | 83.46     |           |
|                                       | Personal care services .....              | 0.56                 | 7.90                 | 60.47     |           |
|                                       | Reading .....                             | 0.40                 | 5.70                 | 120.53    |           |
|                                       | PEG Total .....                           | 4.05                 | 100.00               |           | 101.90    |
|                                       | 8. Education and Communication .....      | Education .....      | 0.18                 | 4.42      | 13.84     |
| Communications .....                  |   | 3.37                 | 83.30                | 107.28    |           |
| Computers and computer services ..... |   | 0.50                 | 12.29                | 97.09     |           |
| PEG Total .....                       |   | 4.05                 | 100.00               |           | 101.90    |
| 9. Miscellaneous .....                | Tobacco products, etc. ....               | 0.46                 | 3.75                 | 107.12    |           |
|                                       | Miscellaneous .....                       | 1.83                 | 14.89                | 166.87    |           |
|                                       | Personal insurance and pensions .....     | 9.99                 | 81.35                | 100.00    |           |
|                                       | PEG Total .....                           | 12.28                | 100.00               |           | 110.23    |
| Overall Price Index .....             | MEG Total .....                           | 100.00               |                      |           | 106.61    |
| Plus Adjustment Factor .....          |   |                      |                      |           | 9.00      |
| Index Plus Adjustment Factor .....    |   |                      |                      |           | 115.61    |

## JUNEAU, ALASKA

|   |  |                        |        |        |        |
|---|--|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. Food .....                               | Cereals and bakery products .....        | 0.93                   | 7.60   | 122.40 |        |
|   | Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....     | 1.40                   | 11.40  | 116.44 |        |
|   | Dairy products .....                     | 0.64                   | 5.24   | 129.04 |        |
|   | Fruits and vegetables .....              | 0.71                   | 5.79   | 168.34 |        |
|   | Processed foods .....                    | 1.48                   | 12.04  | 119.04 |        |
|   | Other food at home .....                 | 0.37                   | 3.05   | 118.10 |        |
|   | Nonalcoholic beverages .....             | 0.47                   | 3.85   | 171.62 |        |
|   | Food away from home .....                | 5.41                   | 44.02  | 112.67 |        |
|   | Alcoholic beverages .....                | 0.86                   | 7.01   | 112.77 |        |
|   | PEG Total .....                          | 33.18                  | 100.00 |        | 105.77 |
|   | 2. Shelter and Utilities .....           | Shelter .....          | 29.44  | 88.74  | 92.06  |
| Energy utilities .....                      |  | 3.05                   | 9.20   | 236.45 |        |
| Water and other public services .....       |  | 0.68                   | 2.06   | 112.61 |        |
| PEG Total .....                             |  | 33.18                  | 100.00 |        | 105.77 |
| 3. Household Furnishings and Supplies ..... | Household operations .....               | 1.53                   | 25.20  | 104.07 |        |
|   | Housekeeping supplies .....              | 1.05                   | 17.31  | 118.21 |        |
|   | Textiles and area rugs .....             | 0.29                   | 4.76   | 108.66 |        |
|   | Furniture .....                          | 1.15                   | 18.94  | 108.67 |        |
|   | Major appliances .....                   | 0.38                   | 6.24   | 121.35 |        |
|   | Small appliances, misc. housewares ..... | 0.20                   | 3.24   | 104.19 |        |
|   | Misc. household equipment .....          | 1.47                   | 24.30  | 114.25 |        |
|   | PEG Total .....                          | 6.07                   | 100.00 |        | 111.16 |
|   | 4. Apparel and Services .....            | Men and boys .....     | 0.90   | 22.43  | 111.43 |
| Women and girls .....                       |  | 1.58                   | 39.55  | 100.69 |        |
| Children under 2 .....                      |  | 0.18                   | 4.60   | 88.83  |        |
| Footwear .....                              |  | 0.67                   | 16.75  | 106.39 |        |
| Other apparel products and services .....   |  | 0.67                   | 16.68  | 110.38 |        |
| PEG Total .....                             |  | 4.01                   | 100.00 |        | 105.13 |
| Transportation .....                        | Motor vehicle costs .....                | 8.57                   | 52.43  | 98.27  |        |
|   | Gasoline and motor oil .....             | 2.87                   | 17.58  | 115.15 |        |
|   | Maintenance and repairs .....            | 1.69                   | 10.32  | 99.87  |        |
|   | Vehicle insurance .....                  | 1.79                   | 10.92  | 92.71  |        |
|   | Public transportation .....              | 1.43                   | 8.76   | 170.09 |        |
|   | PEG Total .....                          | 16.35                  | 100.00 |        | 107.08 |
|   | 6. Medical .....                         | Health insurance ..... | 2.28   | 47.95  | 111.91 |
| Medical services .....                      |  | 1.55                   | 32.53  | 123.47 |        |
| Drugs and medical supplies .....            |  | 0.93                   | 19.52  | 99.14  |        |
| PEG Total .....                             |  | 4.75                   | 100.00 |        | 113.18 |

APPENDIX 4.—2003 FINAL LIVING-COST RESULTS FOR THE ALASKA COLA AREAS—Continued

| Major expenditure group (MEG)  | Primary expenditure group (PEG)     | MEG weight (percent) | PEG weight (percent) | PEG index | MEG index |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 7. Recreation                  |                                     | 7.02                 |                      |           | 109.42    |
|                                | Fees and admissions                 | 1.46                 | 20.77                | 99.88     |           |
|                                | Television, radios, sound equipment | 0.73                 | 10.36                | 105.97    |           |
|                                | Pets, toys, & playground equipment  | 1.04                 | 14.84                | 107.48    |           |
|                                | Other entertainment supplies, etc.  | 2.02                 | 28.81                | 112.91    |           |
|                                | Personal care products              | 0.82                 | 11.62                | 111.96    |           |
|                                | Personal care services              | 0.56                 | 7.90                 | 83.02     |           |
|                                | Reading                             | 0.40                 | 5.70                 | 169.37    |           |
|                                | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
| 8. Education and Communication |                                     | 4.05                 |                      |           | 103.58    |
|                                | Education                           | 0.18                 | 4.42                 | 22.50     |           |
|                                | Communications                      | 3.37                 | 83.30                | 108.24    |           |
|                                | Computers and computer services     | 0.50                 | 12.29                | 101.15    |           |
|                                | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
| 9. Miscellaneous               |                                     | 12.28                |                      |           | 108.45    |
|                                | Tobacco products, etc.              | 0.46                 | 3.75                 | 119.60    |           |
|                                | Miscellaneous                       | 1.83                 | 14.89                | 151.80    |           |
|                                | Personal insurance and pensions     | 9.99                 | 81.35                | 100.00    |           |
|                                | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |           |           |
| Overall Price Index            | MEG Total                           | 100.00               |                      |           | 109.03    |
| Plus Adjustment Factor         |                                     |                      |                      |           | 9.00      |
| Index Plus Adjustment Factor   |                                     |                      |                      |           | 118.03    |

| Anchorage results             |                                 | Relative to          |                      |              |           | Kodiak relative to |            |           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|------------|-----------|
| Major expenditure group (MEG) | Primary expenditure group (PEG) | MEG weight (percent) | PEG weight (percent) | DC PEG index | MEG index | Anchorage          |            | DC        |
|                               |                                 |                      |                      |              |           | PEG index*         | MEG index* | MEG index |

REST OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

|                                       |                                     |       |         |        |        |        |        |        |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. Food                               |                                     | 12.26 |         |        | 114.58 |        | 145.69 | 166.94 |
|                                       | Cereals and bakery products         | 0.93  | 7.60    | 117.91 |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs      | 1.40  | 11.40   | 108.37 |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | Dairy products                      | 0.64  | 5.24    | 127.58 |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | Fruits and vegetables               | 0.71  | 5.79    | 169.90 |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | Processed foods                     | 1.48  | 12.04   | 113.79 |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | Other food at home                  | 0.37  | 3.05    | 115.41 |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | Nonalcoholic beverages              | 0.47  | 3.85    | 142.08 |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | Food away from home                 | 5.40  | 44.02   | 104.21 |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | Alcoholic beverages                 | 0.86  | 7.01    | 116.68 |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |       | 100.00  |        |        |        |        |        |
| 2. Shelter and Utilities              |                                     | 33.38 |         |        | 102.42 |        | 105.04 | 107.58 |
|                                       | Shelter                             | 29.66 | 88.85   | 90.65  |        | 105.67 |        |        |
|                                       | Energy utilities                    | 3.04  | 9.11    | 212.43 |        | 100.00 |        |        |
|                                       | Water and other public services     | 0.68  | 2.04    | 118.15 |        | 100.00 |        |        |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |       | 100.00% |        |        |        |        |        |
| 3. Household Furnishings and Supplies |                                     | 6.05  |         |        | 105.32 |        | 134.18 | 141.32 |
|                                       | Household operations                | 1.52  | 25.20   | 102.92 |        | 100.00 |        |        |
|                                       | Housekeeping supplies               | 1.05  | 17.31   | 103.97 |        | 145.69 |        |        |
|                                       | Textiles and area rugs              | 0.29  | 4.76    | 102.25 |        | 145.69 |        |        |
|                                       | Furniture                           | 1.15  | 18.94   | 104.57 |        | 145.69 |        |        |
|                                       | Major appliances                    | 0.38  | 6.24    | 110.38 |        | 145.69 |        |        |
|                                       | Small appliances, misc. housewares  | 0.20  | 3.24    | 114.16 |        | 145.69 |        |        |
|                                       | Misc. household equipment           | 1.47  | 24.30   | 107.47 |        | 145.69 |        |        |
|                                       | PEG Total                           |       | 100.00  |        |        |        |        |        |
| 4. Apparel and Services               |                                     | 3.99  |         |        | 109.63 |        | 145.69 | 159.73 |
|                                       | Men and boys                        | 0.90  | 22.43   | 118.23 |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | Women and girls                     | 1.58  | 39.55   | 112.12 |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | Children under 2                    | 0.18  | 4.60    | 90.70  |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | Footwear                            | 0.67  | 16.75   | 98.83  |        |        |        |        |
|                                       | Other apparel products and services | 0.67  | 16.68   | 108.24 |        |        |        |        |

| Anchorage results               |                                     | Relative to          |                      |              |           | Kodiak relative to |            |           |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|------------|-----------|
| Major expenditure group (MEG)   | Primary expenditure group (PEG)     | MEG weight (percent) | PEG weight (percent) | DC PEG index | MEG index | Anchorage          |            | DC        |
|                                 |                                     |                      |                      |              |           | PEG index*         | MEG index* | MEG index |
| 5. Transportation               | PEG Total                           | 16.31                | 100.00               |              | 112.30    |                    | 125.94     | 141.44    |
|                                 | Motor vehicle costs                 | 8.56                 | 52.47                | 102.17       |           | 145.69             |            |           |
|                                 | Gasoline and motor oil              | 2.86                 | 17.56                | 107.36       |           | 111.19             |            |           |
|                                 | Maintenance and repairs             | 1.68                 | 10.31                | 101.97       |           | 100.00             |            |           |
|                                 | Vehicle insurance                   | 1.78                 | 10.91                | 135.96       |           | 100.00             |            |           |
|                                 | Public transportation               | 1.43                 | 8.75                 | 165.59       |           | 100.00             |            |           |
| 6. Medical                      | PEG Total                           | 4.74                 | 100.00               |              | 111.51    |                    | 108.92     | 121.45    |
|                                 | Health insurance                    | 2.27                 | 47.95                | 113.65       |           | 100.00             |            |           |
|                                 | Medical services                    | 1.54                 | 32.53                | 118.98       |           | 100.00             |            |           |
|                                 | Drugs and medical supplies          | 0.92                 | 19.52                | 93.78        |           | 145.69             |            |           |
| 7. Recreation                   | PEG Total                           | 7.00                 | 100.00               |              | 97.64     |                    | 132.59     | 129.46    |
|                                 | Fees and admissions                 | 1.45                 | 20.77                | 92.96        |           | 100.00             |            |           |
|                                 | Television, radios, etc.            | 0.73                 | 10.36                | 100.15       |           | 145.69             |            |           |
|                                 | Pets, toys, & playground equipment. | 1.04                 | 14.84                | 104.07       |           | 145.69             |            |           |
|                                 | Other entertainment supplies, etc.. | 2.02                 | 28.81                | 101.48       |           | 145.69             |            |           |
|                                 | Personal care products              | 0.81                 | 11.62                | 86.00        |           | 145.69             |            |           |
|                                 | Personal care services              | 0.55                 | 7.90                 | 88.08        |           | 100.00             |            |           |
|                                 | Reading                             | 0.40                 | 5.70                 | 110.95       |           | 145.69             |            |           |
| 8. Education and Communication. | PEG Total                           | 4.04                 | 100.00               |              | 100.37    |                    | 105.62     | 106.01    |
|                                 | Education                           | 0.18                 | 4.42                 | 29.67        |           | 100.00             |            |           |
|                                 | Communications                      | 3.36                 | 83.29                | 104.60       |           | 100.00             |            |           |
|                                 | Computers and computer services.    | 0.50                 | 12.29                | 97.09        |           | 145.69             |            |           |
| 9. Miscellaneous                | PEG Total                           | 12.23                | 100.00               |              | 108.78    |                    | 101.71     | 110.64    |
|                                 | Tobacco products, etc               | 0.46                 | 3.75                 | 108.17       |           | 145.69             |            |           |
|                                 | Miscellaneous                       | 1.82                 | 14.89                | 156.88       |           | 100.00             |            |           |
|                                 | Personal insurance and pensions.    | 9.95                 | 81.36                | 100.00       |           | 100.00             |            |           |
| Overall Price Index             | PEG Total                           |                      | 100.00               |              |           |                    |            |           |
| Plus Adjustment Factor          | MEG Total                           | 100.00               |                      |              | 106.79    |                    |            | 127.00    |
| Index Plus Adjustment Factor.   |                                     |                      |                      |              | 7.00      |                    |            | 9.00      |
|                                 |                                     |                      |                      |              | 113.79    |                    |            | 136.00    |

\*Except for rental data and indexes set at 100, all data area from the University of Alaska Fairbanks, March 2003. Rental data are from Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, 2002. Indexes set to 100 assume costs in Kodiak are equal to those in Anchorage.

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 BILLING CODE 6325-39-P

**OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT**

**2004 Nonforeign Area Cost-of-Living Allowance Survey Report: Pacific and Washington, DC, Areas**

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice publishes the "2004 Nonforeign Area Cost-of-Living Allowance Survey Report: Pacific and Washington, DC, Areas." The Federal Government uses the results of surveys such as these to set cost-of-living

allowance (COLA) rates for General Schedule, U.S. Postal Service, and certain other Federal employees in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This report contains the results of the COLA surveys conducted by the Office of Personnel Management in Hawaii, Guam, and the Washington, DC, area during the spring and summer of 2004.

**DATES:** Comments on this report must be received on or before October 3, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** Send or deliver comments to Donald J. Winstead, Deputy Associate Director for Pay and Performance Policy, Strategic Human Resources Policy Division, Office of Personnel Management, Room 7H31, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20415-

8200; fax: (202) 606-4264; or e-mail: COLA@opm.gov.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Donald L. Paquin, (202) 606-2838; fax: (202) 606-4264; or e-mail: COLA@opm.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 591.229 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, requires the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to publish nonforeign area cost-of-living allowance (COLA) survey summary reports in the **Federal Register**. We are publishing the complete "2004 Nonforeign Area Cost-of-Living Allowance Survey Report: Pacific and Washington, DC, Areas" with this notice. This report contains the results of the COLA surveys conducted by OPM