

Travel Prices Increase 4.3 Percent In March

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The March Travel Price Index, rose 4.3 percent compared to March 2005 and 2.6 percent from February 2006. Gasoline price increased 17.0 percent from one year ago. Lodging prices were up 1.1 percent compared to March 2005 and 5.6 percent from last month. Airfares increased 6.7 percent against twelve months earlier and 1.1 percent from previous month.

The Consumer Price Index, or CPI-U, was up 3.4 percent from March 2005. Compared with February 2006, CPI-U increased 0.6 percent.

Developed by the Travel Industry Association of America's (TIA), the Travel Price Index (TPI) measures the seasonally unadjusted inflation rate of the cost of travel away from home in the United States. The TPI is based on U.S. Department of Labor price data collected for the monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI). The TPI is released monthly and is directly comparable to the CPI.

Economic Research: Travel Price Index - March 2006

	March 2006	Previous Month	Previous Year	% Change Previous Month	% Change Previous Year	% Change YTD
RECREATION SERVICES	214.0	213.2	210.9	0.4	1.5	1.2
FOOD AND BEVERAGE	200.0	199.6	194.0	0.2	3.1	3.1
Alcohol Away From Home	251.0	250.7	242.7	0.1	3.4	3.4
Food Away From Home	197.6	197.2	191.7	0.2	3.1	3.0
OTHER LODGING (INCLUDE HOTEL/MOTEL)	295.8	280.1	292.5	5.6	1.1	2.7
TRANSPORTATION	219.7	214.2	196.3	2.5	11.9	14.6
Airline Fares	242.0	239.3	226.8	1.1	6.7	7.9
Intracity Public Transportation	225.2	224.9	215.8	0.1	4.4	5.3
Motor Fuel	205.8	198.1	175.9	3.9	17.0	21.4
Other Intercity Transportation	151.0	152.4	143.4	-0.9	5.3	6.0
CPI-U	199.8	198.7	193.3	0.6	3.4	3.6
TPI	231.2	225.4	221.6	2.6	4.3	5.4

Base Year For Index: 1982-84 = 100

Sources: Travel Industry Association of America and U.S. Department of Labor

TIA (www.tia.org) is the national, non-profit organization representing all components of the \$645 billion travel industry. TIA's mission is to represent the whole of the U.S. travel industry to promote and facilitate increased travel to and within the United States.

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