

January 1969

the consumer price index

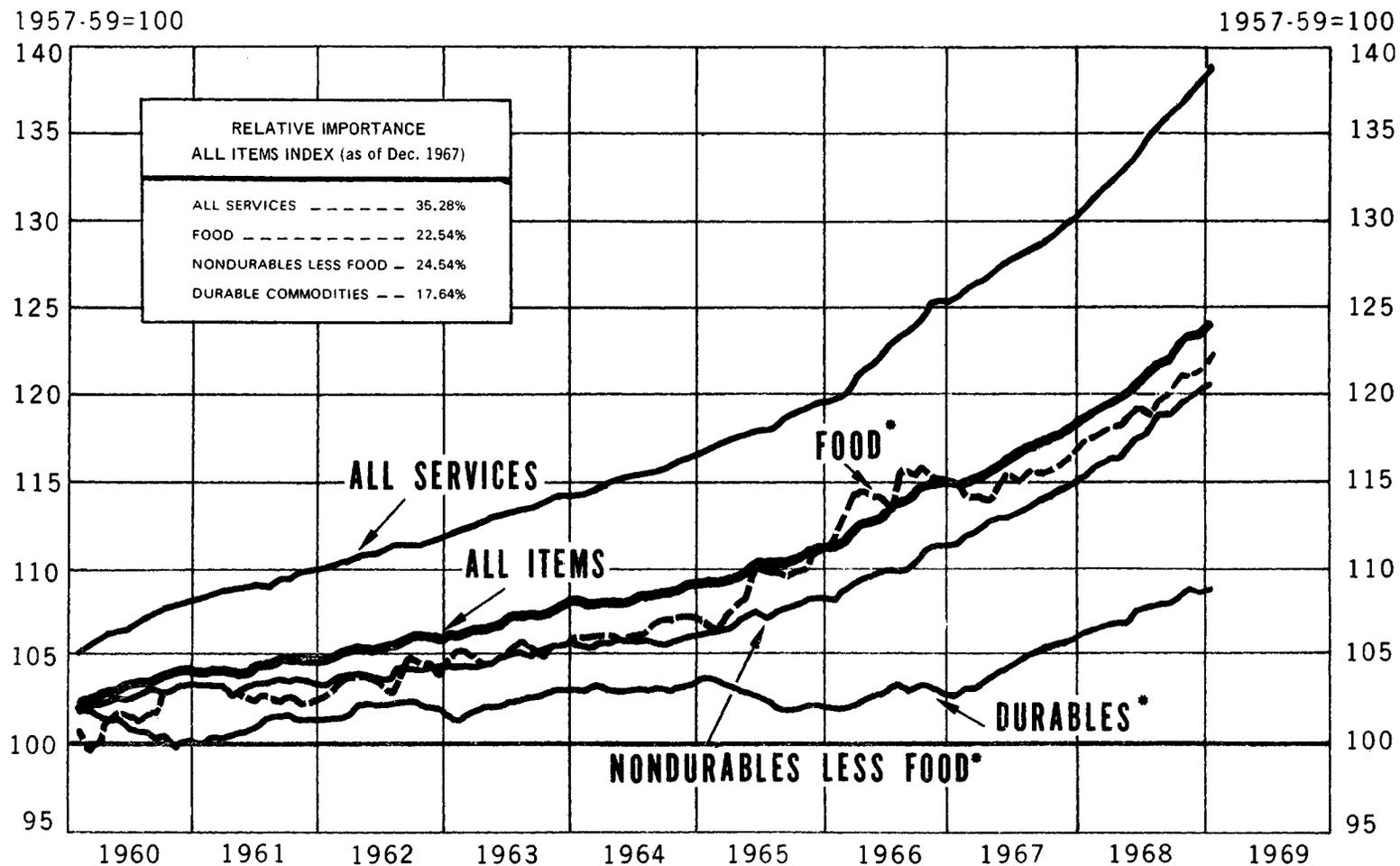
U.S. CITY AVERAGE
AND
SELECTED AREAS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES: COMMODITIES AND SERVICES

*(Seasonally Adjusted)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR FEBRUARY 1969

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.3 percent in January to 124.1 (1957-59=100). This increase matched the January 1968 increase, largest for that month since 1958, although it was smaller than the average monthly increase during 1968. The January index was 4.6 percent higher than a year ago.

Prices were higher for nearly all important items except apparel and new and used cars, but decreases for apparel were less than usual for January. The advancing costs of most consumer services, particularly those associated with automobile operation, homeownership, and medical care, led the upswing and were responsible for more than two-thirds of the increase. A larger than usual rise in food prices accounted for much of the remainder of the increase.

Nearly half of the index rise in the past 12 months has resulted from increasing charges for services. Nondurable commodities less food, principally apparel, accounted for nearly one-fourth of the over-the-year increase; food and durable goods were responsible for the remainder.

Services

Consumer services continued upward in January; they increased 0.7 percent over December. The increase was somewhat more than the average monthly advance in 1968, 0.5 percent. Automobile services jumped sharply in a number of cities, especially New York, as insurance premiums were raised, and some States boosted automobile registration and drivers' permit fees. Most automobile repair and maintenance services also were higher.

Charges for medical care services moved higher. They advanced 0.9 percent because of increased dentists' and doctors' fees and hospital service charges. Fees for housekeeping services rose moderately in January as domestic workers continued to command higher wages and charges for laundry continued to rise. Over the year housekeeping services climbed 6.6 percent. Home maintenance and repair services, conventional mortgage interest charges, real estate taxes, and property insurance were all higher, but rent, up 0.2 percent, eased slightly from the rate of advance exhibited during the preceding 5 months. Hotel and motel rates posted one of their sharpest advances in recent years and household gas and electricity rates and personal care services edged higher.

Food

Food prices in grocery stores rose significantly more than usual in January by jumping 0.8 percent, primarily a result of higher meat and egg prices. Restaurant meals continued their long-term uptrend, but the 0.3 percent rise was the smallest in several months.

Nearly all cuts of beef were higher as production dropped substantially. Pork prices rose despite small production gains. Poultry prices were unchanged on the average; lower prices for frying chickens offset an increase in the cost of turkeys. Egg prices registered an unusual and exceptionally large gain for the month as the effects of curtailed production and reduced cold storage supplies continued. Over the year, retail egg prices increased nearly 41 percent.

Prices of fruits and vegetables increased in January, but the advance was smaller than usual for this time of year. Among fresh fruits, bananas and apples were sharply higher and outweighed decreases for most other fruits, particularly citrus fruits which were

in more abundant supply. Fresh vegetables advanced slightly as rain and freezing weather curtailed yields in many winter producing areas. However, ample tomato supplies from Florida and Mexico dropped tomato prices sharply. Canned fruits and vegetables were generally lower because of large 1968 packs, but orange concentrate prices rose due to tight supplies and an expected drop in the 1968-69 pack after the freezing weather in mid-December.

Dairy products rose 0.1 percent as higher cheese and butter prices were offset only partially by lower prices for fresh whole and skim milk.

Durable goods

Durable goods prices fell 0.1 percent in January, chiefly because of lower new and used car prices. The drop in used car prices was due largely to an influx of late model cars from rental and leasing companies. Severe winter weather and seasonally lower demand also contributed to lower prices. New car prices fell, as dealers offered higher concessions and inventories reached record levels, but the drop was less than usual for January. (On January 1, manufacturers' suggested retail prices were increased to reflect the addition of head restraints as standard equipment, but adjustments in the index were made for the value of these.)

Most other durable goods prices were higher in January although the gains were small. Furniture price changes were mixed. The influence of generally higher wholesale prices was offset partially by widespread January furniture sales. Floor coverings were again higher because of increased mill prices, and appliance prices edged up despite year-end sales on ranges, dryers, and color and black-and-white television receivers. A continued strong market for automobile replacement tires permitted retailers to pass on higher wholesale prices.

Nondurable goods other than food

Apparel prices declined 0.7 percent as a result of widespread clearance sales, especially for women's coats, wool dresses, and skirts. Despite these reductions, apparel prices advanced on a seasonally adjusted basis, indicating that sale price reductions were not as steep or widespread as in the past. Footwear prices were unchanged on the average; reduced prices for men's and women's shoes were balanced by higher price tags on children's shoes.

The usual January sales were also responsible for a decline in textile house-furnishings, particularly pillows, bedspreads, and non-permanent press cotton sheets. Curtains and drapery fabrics rose slightly although some scattered sale prices were reported.

Gasoline and motor oil prices advanced sharply in January, due largely to increases for gasoline in the Los Angeles area, where frequent "price wars" have occurred. Significant increases in gasoline prices also were reported in several other cities in January. Fuel oil prices rose moderately; the most notable increase occurred in New York.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments

More than 630,000 workers will receive cost-of-living wage increases based on the January Consumer Price Index. About 500,000 employees in the trucking industry will receive a 4-cent-an-hour increase, the maximum permitted for this second annual review under their 3-year contract. Other advances, based on quarterly, semiannual, or annual changes in the national or city indexes, will range from 1 to 8 cents an hour.

NOTE: Changes in Publication Policy

Beginning with this report, detailed Consumer Price Index data for selected items and groups, formerly issued quarterly in a separate report, will be published monthly and included in the report as table 9. The former quarterly release was discontinued with the publication of data for December 1968.

In addition, data for selected seasonally adjusted series, formerly shown on table 1 are now shown separately on table 4 of this report.

TABLE 1: Consumer Price Index--United States City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, January 1969
(Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise noted)				Percent change to January 1969 from:		
	January 1969	December 1968	October 1968	January 1968	One month ago	Three months ago	A year ago
All items -----	124.1	123.7	122.9	118.6	0.3	1.0	4.6
All items (1947-49=100) -----	152.3	151.8	150.9	145.5	---	---	---
Food -----	122.0	121.2	120.9	117.0	.7	.9	4.3
Food at home -----	118.3	117.4	117.2	113.8	.8	.9	4.0
Cereals and bakery products -----	120.5	120.1	119.8	118.3	.3	.6	1.9
Meats, poultry and fish -----	115.6	114.4	115.4	111.6	1.0	.2	3.6
Dairy products -----	122.7	122.6	122.3	118.5	-.1	.3	3.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	127.0	126.4	123.4	124.1	.5	2.9	2.3
Other foods at home -----	109.8	108.4	108.6	101.9	1.3	1.1	7.8
Food away from home -----	140.3	139.9	138.9	132.9	.3	1.0	5.6
Housing -----	122.7	122.3	120.9	116.4	.3	1.5	5.4
Shelter ^{1/} -----	128.2	127.6	126.0	120.2	.5	1.7	6.7
Rent -----	116.9	116.7	116.0	113.7	.2	.8	2.8
Homeownership ^{2/} -----	132.7	132.0	130.0	122.9	.5	2.1	8.0
Fuel and utilities ^{3/} -----	111.7	111.5	110.4	109.5	.2	1.2	2.0
Fuel oil and coal -----	116.7	116.2	115.9	113.7	.4	.7	2.6
Gas and electricity -----	110.2	110.0	109.1	108.9	.2	1.0	1.2
Household furnishings and operation -----	115.2	115.1	114.2	110.6	.1	.9	4.2
Apparel and upkeep ^{4/} -----	123.4	124.3	123.3	115.9	-.7	.1	6.5
Men's and boys' -----	124.9	125.3	124.1	116.3	-.3	.6	7.4
Women's and girls' -----	118.7	120.8	120.1	111.4	- 1.7	- 1.2	6.6
Footwear -----	136.3	136.3	134.9	128.1	0	1.0	6.4
Transportation -----	120.7	120.2	120.6	118.7	.4	.1	1.7
Private -----	117.9	117.5	118.4	116.6	.3	-.4	1.1
New cars -----	102.3	102.7	102.8	101.0	-.4	-.5	1.3
Used cars -----	115.5	118.7	(5/)	125.8	- 2.7	(5/)	- 8.2
Gasoline -----	114.5	113.3	(5/)	111.1	1.1	(5/)	(5/)
Public -----	144.8	6/ 144.3	138.7	135.5	.3	4.4	6.9
Health and recreation -----	133.3	132.8	131.9	127.1	.4	1.1	4.9
Medical care -----	150.2	149.1	147.4	141.2	.7	1.9	6.4
Personal care -----	123.7	123.4	122.1	117.6	.2	1.3	5.2
Reading and recreation -----	128.4	128.2	127.5	122.7	.2	.7	4.6
Other goods and services ^{7/} -----	125.6	125.6	125.1	121.9	0	.4	3.0
Seasonally Adjusted:							
Food -----	122.2	121.6	120.9	117.2	.5	1.1	---
Apparel and upkeep -----	124.1	123.7	122.6	116.6	.3	1.2	---
Transportation -----	120.5	120.2	120.4	118.5	.2	.1	---
Special Groups:							
All items less food -----	124.9	124.7	123.8	119.3	.2	.9	4.7
All items less medical care -----	122.5	122.2	121.5	117.3	.2	.8	4.4
Commodities ^{8/} -----	117.4	117.2	116.8	113.2	.2	.5	3.7
Nondurables ^{8/} -----	121.0	120.7	120.2	116.0	.2	.7	4.3
Nondurables less food -----	120.1	120.3	119.7	115.1	-.2	.3	4.3
Apparel commodities -----	122.6	123.7	122.7	114.8	-.9	-.1	6.8
Durables ^{8/} -----	108.6	108.7	108.5	106.3	-.1	.1	2.2
Household durables -----	103.3	103.0	102.3	99.6	.3	1.0	3.7
Services ^{8/} -----	139.0	138.1	136.6	130.8	.7	1.8	6.3
Services less rent -----	143.9	142.9	141.2	134.6	.7	1.9	6.9
Insurance and finance (Dec.1965=100) ^{9/} -----	122.3	120.9	119.5	111.5	1.2	2.3	9.7
Utilities and public transportation (Dec.1965=100) ^{10/} -----	106.2	105.8	104.1	103.1	.4	2.0	3.0
Housekeeping and home maintenance services (Dec.1965=100) -----	122.5	121.9	120.5	114.2	.5	1.7	7.3
Medical care services -----	162.8	161.4	159.4	151.4	.9	2.1	7.5
Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar:							
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	\$0.806	\$0.808	\$0.814	\$0.843	-.2	- 1.0	- 4.4
1939=\$1.00 -----	.390	.392	.394	.408	---	---	---

^{1/} Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

^{2/} Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.

^{3/} Also includes telephone, water, and sewerage service not shown separately.

^{4/} Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, jewelry, and apparel upkeep services not shown separately.

^{5/} Not available.

^{6/} Corrected index.

^{7/} Includes tobacco, alcoholic beverages, and funeral, legal, and bank service charges.

^{8/} The composition of these groups is shown in the January 1969 issue of the full report on the Consumer Price Index.

^{9/} Includes mortgage interest, taxes and insurance, automobile insurance and other auto expenses.

^{10/} Includes gas and electricity, telephone, water and sewer, public transportation.

TABLE 2: Consumer Price Index--The United States and Selected Areas
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, All Items
Most recent index and percent changes from selected dates

Area 1/	Pricing Schedule 2/	Indexes			Percent change from:		
		1957-59=100	1947-49=100	Other bases	January 1969	October 1968	January 1968
		January 1969			January 1969	October 1968	January 1968
U.S. City Average -----	M	124.1	152.3		0.3	1.0	4.6
Chicago -----	M	121.4	153.1		.3	1.0	4.7
Detroit -----	M	122.8	151.3		.2	.9	5.3
Los Angeles-Long Beach ---	M	124.7	155.5		.4	.7	3.5
New York -----	M	127.8	153.9		.5	1.0	5.7
Philadelphia -----	M	125.2	153.6		.1	.6	4.7
		January 1969				October 1968	January 1968
Boston -----	1	127.9	158.5			1.0	5.1
Houston -----	1	123.2	151.7			1.7	5.6
Minneapolis-St. Paul ----	1	122.9	152.1			.7	3.0
Pittsburgh -----	1	124.0	152.8			1.1	5.5
		November 1968				August 1968	November 1967
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) ---	2			116.9		1.0	5.1
Cleveland -----	2	121.8	151.3			1.5	6.2
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) ----	2			115.4		1.5	5.8
Milwaukee -----	2	118.7	149.7			1.1	3.7
San Diego (Feb.1965=100) -	2			111.2		1.1	4.4
Seattle -----	2	124.5	156.4			1.1	4.4
Washington -----	2	124.9	150.3			1.5	6.0
		December 1968				September 1968	December 1967
Atlanta -----	3	122.1	151.2			.7	4.5
Baltimore -----	3	124.0	153.9			1.3	5.6
Cincinnati -----	3	121.1	147.3			.7	4.4
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100) --	3			113.9		1.0	3.8
Kansas City -----	3	125.5	155.2			.9	4.4
St. Louis -----	3	123.4	153.2			.6	3.8
San Francisco-Oakland ---	3	126.7	160.9			1.0	4.5

1/ Area coverage includes the urban portion of the corresponding Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) except for New York and Chicago where the more extensive Standard Consolidated Areas are used. Area definitions are those established for the 1960 Census and do not include revisions made since 1960.

2/ Foods, fuels, and several other items priced every month in all cities; most other goods and services priced as indicated:

M - Every month.

1 - January, April, July, and October.

2 - February, May, August, and November.

3 - March, June, September, and December.

TABLE 3: Consumer Price Index--The United States and Selected Areas ^{1/}
 For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Major Groups
 Percent change from December 1968 to January 1969

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles- Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.1
Food -----	.7	1.2	.9	.3	.8	.7
Housing -----	.3	.6	.2	.2	.3	-.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	-.7	-2.7	-1.4	-.6	-1.8	-1.6
Transportation -----	.4	.4	-.3	2.6	2.5	.2
Health and recreation -----	.4	.2	.7	.1	.6	.3
Medical care -----	.7	.3	1.1	.5	2.4	.4
Personal care -----	.2	-.2	-.4	-.3	.2	-.3
Reading and recreation -----	.2	.5	1.3	-.3	.4	1.0
Other goods and services -----	0	.3	0	-.1	-.5	(2/)

^{1/} See footnote 1, Table A-2.

^{2/} Not available.

TABLE 4: Consumer Price Index -- United States City Average For
 Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for Selected Groups
 Seasonally Adjusted
 (1957-59=100)

Group	Indexes			Percent changes to January 1969	
	January 1969	December 1968	October 1968	From: One Month Ago	Three Months Ago
Food -----	122.2	121.6	120.9	0.5	1.1
Food at home -----	118.5	117.8	117.2	.6	1.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.3	115.2	114.3	1.0	1.7
Dairy products -----	122.3	122.1	121.7	.2	.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	129.6	129.8	128.4	-.2	.9
Other foods at home -----	109.4	107.3	107.3	2.0	2.0
Fuel and utilities ^{1/} -----	111.5	111.3	110.3	.2	1.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	115.1	114.5	116.4	.5	-1.0
Apparel and upkeep ^{2/} -----	124.1	123.7	122.7	.3	1.2
Men's and boys' -----	125.4	124.7	123.6	.6	1.5
Women's and girls' -----	120.0	119.7	118.9	.3	.9
Footwear -----	136.6	136.2	134.5	.3	1.5
Transportation -----	120.5	120.2	120.4	.2	.1
Private -----	117.9	117.5	118.2	.3	-.3
New cars -----	101.6	101.3	102.0	.3	-.5
Commodities -----	117.6	117.2	116.6	.3	.9
Nondurables -----	121.4	120.8	120.1	.5	1.2
Nondurables less food -----	120.5	120.1	119.5	.3	1.0
Apparel commodities -----	123.5	123.0	122.0	.4	1.3
Durables -----	108.7	108.5	108.3	.2	.4

^{1/} Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

^{2/} Also includes infant's wear sewing materials, jewelry, and apparel upkeep services not shown separately.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas ^{1/}
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups
January 1969 indexes and percent changes from October 1968

Group	U.S. City Average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Houston	Los Angeles-Long Beach	Minneapolis-St. Paul	New York	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)										
All items -----	124.1	127.9	121.4	122.8	123.2	124.7	122.9	127.8	125.2	124.0
Food -----	122.0	125.1	124.0	119.5	123.4	119.6	120.5	123.3	122.7	119.6
Food at home -----	118.3	119.7	122.3	116.4	119.3	114.0	117.0	118.0	118.1	117.1
Cereals and bakery products -----	120.5	123.6	127.5	115.1	127.1	120.5	113.2	119.0	118.5	120.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.6	120.0	119.3	118.5	111.5	105.3	114.5	116.9	112.1	118.6
Dairy products -----	122.7	118.3	135.9	128.8	128.4	119.1	127.9	114.2	131.3	115.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	127.0	129.6	123.9	111.9	130.0	134.3	119.6	130.6	129.3	125.6
Other foods at home -----	109.8	109.3	111.8	107.9	110.8	100.8	112.4	109.7	107.4	108.7
Food away from home -----	140.3	148.3	132.5	136.5	141.3	140.1	136.2	146.0	147.1	135.8
Housing -----	122.7	129.2	117.6	119.1	121.6	127.4	121.0	126.8	121.6	122.7
Shelter -----	128.2	138.6	121.2	124.7	120.3	135.0	127.4	131.9	125.6	124.1
Rent ^{2/} -----	116.9	132.7	111.7	-----	105.1	116.8	116.2	-----	117.6	114.3
Homeownership -----	132.7	141.0	125.7	128.9	126.0	141.0	129.3	134.2	127.7	126.8
Fuel and utilities -----	111.7	109.4	^{3/} 107.4	103.4	125.1	108.7	106.7	112.7	109.6	119.7
Fuel oil and coal -----	116.7	119.8	109.4	110.0	-----	-----	114.2	122.4	122.5	-----
Gas and electricity -----	110.2	101.8	^{4/} 105.7	104.3	144.4	112.6	102.9	111.1	102.7	121.0
Household furnishings and operation -----	115.2	123.2	114.5	110.5	124.3	113.7	112.8	121.3	117.1	118.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	123.4	123.5	116.4	121.3	121.5	122.4	119.4	127.9	129.6	125.6
Men's and boys' -----	124.9	114.7	117.5	120.5	121.7	125.7	128.8	131.9	127.8	121.8
Women's and girls' -----	118.7	118.7	108.2	117.8	117.7	121.4	110.2	122.0	121.6	118.1
Footwear -----	136.3	138.1	131.6	133.8	141.2	132.8	131.0	135.1	141.7	140.7
Transportation -----	120.7	127.8	121.4	119.3	118.5	126.0	120.5	124.1	129.7	122.7
Private -----	117.9	117.8	116.7	116.6	113.8	121.5	119.0	124.0	124.4	116.6
Public -----	144.8 ^{5/}	171.2	152.1	137.2	171.8	154.5	128.6	127.4	155.9	148.5
Health and recreation -----	133.3	133.4	127.9	136.4	131.6	126.5	134.2	139.5	132.9	134.7
Medical care -----	150.2	155.9	157.4	160.0	140.6	145.4	157.2	155.5	158.3	157.8
Personal care -----	123.7	124.2	122.9	131.0	133.6	116.8	123.7	120.8	116.2	115.7
Reading and recreation -----	128.4	135.8	112.0	129.1	127.9	112.6	132.0	139.3	123.9	123.6
Other goods and services -----	125.6	117.1	118.3	120.4	121.8	122.8	116.5	134.2	(^{6/})	133.0
Percent changes October 1968 to January 1969										
All items -----	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.7	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.6	1.1
Food -----	.9	.8	1.2	.3	.9	.8	1.2	.9	1.0	1.7
Food at home -----	.9	.7	1.5	.1	1.0	.9	.7	.9	.9	1.8
Cereals and bakery products -----	.6	2.7	3.2	-.9	1.0	.8	1.2	-.2	1.4	1.2
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	.2	-1.1	1.3	-.2	1.1	-.2	.7	.9	-.2	.9
Dairy products -----	.3	.7	.7	.2	.4	.3	.4	.3	1.5	.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	2.9	1.7	.9	-.2	1.9	3.9	1.4	1.3	1.9	4.7
Other foods at home -----	1.1	1.7	1.7	1.3	.6	.4	.3	1.6	1.5	2.6
Food away from home -----	1.0	1.0	.5	.7	.6	.4	2.9	.8	1.2	.9
Housing -----	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.6	3.0	1.2	1.3	1.6	.6	1.8
Shelter -----	1.7	1.5	1.6	2.5	3.2	1.2	1.5	2.0	1.4	2.4
Rent -----	.8	1.5	^{7/} .2	-----	.1	^{7/} .6	.4	-----	^{7/} .7	.7
Homeownership -----	2.1	1.5	2.0	2.8	4.2	1.2	1.7	3.1	1.4	2.8
Fuel and utilities -----	1.2	-.1	.1	-.1	5.2	2.5	1.6	2.0	0	1.4
Fuel oil and coal -----	.7	-.2	.6	3.4	-----	-----	0	1.3	.3	-----
Gas and electricity -----	1.0	-.2	0	-.6	8.7	.1	2.6	.1	0	2.2
Household furnishings and operation -----	.9	1.4	.7	.2	1.6	.4	.4	.1	-.8	.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	.1	-1.1	-2.3	-.5	.9	0	.3	-1.2	-1.5	-.2
Men's and boys' -----	.6	-2.0	.3	-.9	3.1	.1	2.2	.2	-.4	3.5
Women's and girls' -----	-1.2	-2.3	-7.0	-1.6	-1.8	-1.1	-2.0	-3.6	-4.5	-4.3
Footwear -----	1.0	1.0	-.2	1.7	2.1	1.5	.5	.5	.8	.6
Transportation -----	.1	3.9	2.8	-.3	1.1	.2	-1.5	1.9	.3	.1
Private -----	-.4	.4	-.6	-.3	.3	.2	-1.5	2.4	.4	-1.4
Public -----	4.4	25.9	22.5	0	14.2	0	0	.1	0	10.7
Health and recreation -----	1.1	.4	1.1	1.7	1.2	.8	1.3	1.1	1.1	.7
Medical care -----	1.9	1.6	2.1	2.6	3.2	1.4	1.2	2.8	1.1	1.2
Personal care -----	1.3	-.6	1.0	1.8	-.3	.4	3.4	1.7	.3	1.2
Reading and recreation -----	.7	0	.8	1.9	.2	-.2	.7	.5	2.5	1.4
Other goods and services -----	.4	0	.4	.4	.4	1.2	1.1	-.1	(^{5/})	-1.6

^{1/} See footnote 1, table 2.

^{2/} 1968 annual average for Chicago, Los Angeles-Long Beach and Philadelphia are 110.4, 114.9 and 115.5, respectively.

^{3/} Corrected indexes: October 1968, 107.3; November 1968, 107.3; December 1968, 107.3.

^{4/} Corrected indexes: October 1968, 105.7; November 1968, 105.7; December 1968, 105.7.

^{5/} Corrected index for December 1968 is 144.3.

^{6/} Not available.

^{7/} Change from November 1968.

TABLE 5A: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas ^{1/}
 For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups
 Year 1968 Indexes and Percent Changes from Year 1967

Group	Boston	Houston	Minneapolis- St. Paul	Pittsburgh
	Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)			
All items -----	124.7	119.3	121.2	120.4
All items (1947-49=100) -----	154.5	147.0	149.9	148.4
Food -----	122.7	119.7	117.3	115.9
Food at home -----	117.7	116.0	114.4	113.3
Cereals and bakery products -----	121.1	126.1	109.5	117.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	119.6	109.8	112.0	115.9
Dairy products -----	115.4	120.5	124.5	111.7
Fruits and vegetables -----	127.7	129.5	122.5	122.6
Other foods at home -----	105.6	105.0	106.8	102.1
Food away from home -----	144.2	136.0	130.8	132.2
Housing -----	125.7	116.7	119.7	118.8
Shelter -----	133.6	115.0	126.5	118.7
Rent -----	129.4	104.2	114.1	112.5
Homeownership -----	135.4	119.0	128.7	120.4
Fuel and utilities -----	109.5	119.6	104.2	118.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	119.9	-----	112.7	-----
Gas and electricity -----	101.9	134.1	99.6	118.5
Household furnishings and operation -----	119.9	120.7	111.1	116.6
Apparel and upkeep -----	120.8	116.7	117.2	121.7
Men's and boys' -----	113.0	116.1	124.9	115.1
Women's and girls' -----	117.2	113.8	109.2	116.6
Footwear -----	132.9	134.4	128.4	136.8
Transportation -----	122.8	116.7	120.9	121.1
Private -----	116.8	112.9	119.4	116.4
Public -----	138.3	152.1	128.2	135.2
Health and recreation -----	130.2	128.1	131.3	130.5
Medical care -----	148.4	133.8	153.6	152.0
Personal care -----	121.6	131.6	120.9	111.8
Reading and recreation -----	133.4	125.4	128.7	120.1
Other goods and services -----	116.2	120.8	114.5	129.3
	Percent changes 1967 to 1968			
All items -----	4.1	4.3	4.6	4.7
Food -----	2.8	3.4	3.8	4.2
Food at home -----	2.3	3.3	3.5	3.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	- 1.9	1.0	1.2	.9
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	3.0	2.8	2.0	2.9
Dairy products -----	2.3	2.9	3.9	3.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	5.4	7.2	6.7	8.1
Other foods at home -----	1.5	2.7	3.7	2.5
Food away from home -----	4.3	3.8	5.4	8.4
Housing -----	4.1	5.2	5.5	4.7
Shelter -----	5.1	6.0	5.9	5.2
Rent -----	2.7	2.2	2.9	1.8
Homeownership -----	6.1	7.2	6.4	6.2
Fuel and utilities -----	.4	2.7	1.9	1.3
Fuel oil and coal -----	1.4	-----	4.3	-----
Gas and electricity -----	.3	4.8	1.3	1.9
Household furnishings and operation -----	6.2	5.7	6.1	6.2
Apparel and upkeep -----	6.0	5.6	4.2	5.8
Men's and boys' -----	6.1	5.8	5.2	5.3
Women's and girls' -----	5.8	7.1	3.0	7.1
Footwear -----	6.2	6.2	4.7	5.4
Transportation -----	3.1	2.9	3.2	3.5
Private -----	2.9	2.7	3.2	3.7
Public -----	3.8	6.0	3.7	1.6
Health and recreation -----	5.1	4.2	5.0	6.0
Medical care -----	8.1	5.4	5.2	5.6
Personal care -----	4.0	5.5	5.4	1.9
Reading and recreation -----	5.8	4.2	6.2	4.4
Other goods and services -----	2.1	1.6	2.9	9.9

^{1/} See footnote 1, Table 2.

TABLE 6: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Food and its Subgroups
January 1969 Indexes and Percent Changes from December 1968

Area ^{1/}	Total food	Food at home					Food away from home	
		Total	Cereals and bakery products	Meats, poultry, and fish	Dairy products	Fruits and vegetables		Other foods at home
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)								
U.S. City Average -----	122.0	118.3	120.5	115.6	122.7	127.0	109.8	140.3
Atlanta -----	119.7	116.2	112.4	114.5	116.9	121.4	116.5	132.3
Baltimore -----	124.8	120.1	123.7	118.1	119.2	132.2	112.1	144.6
Boston -----	125.1	119.7	123.6	120.0	118.3	129.6	109.3	148.3
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	117.5	115.9	108.1	113.8	118.5	125.8	113.9	127.6
Chicago -----	124.0	122.3	127.5	119.3	135.9	123.9	111.8	132.5
Cincinnati -----	118.7	115.3	114.8	116.4	119.2	123.8	105.2	136.6
Cleveland -----	119.9	116.9	116.1	117.9	121.1	125.3	107.3	137.4
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	116.7	114.0	110.6	114.7	120.9	115.5	110.3	127.1
Detroit -----	119.5	116.4	115.1	118.5	128.8	111.9	107.9	136.5
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	115.6	114.8	112.1	115.1	113.5	126.6	106.7	118.2
Houston -----	123.4	119.3	127.1	111.5	128.4	130.0	110.8	141.3
Kansas City -----	125.0	122.1	125.0	120.9	130.3	123.2	114.0	135.6
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	119.6	114.0	120.5	105.3	119.1	134.3	100.8	140.1
Milwaukee -----	121.4	119.7	112.1	118.4	130.9	126.4	112.4	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	120.5	117.0	113.2	114.5	127.9	119.6	112.4	136.2
New York -----	123.3	118.0	119.0	116.9	114.2	130.6	109.7	146.0
Philadelphia -----	122.7	118.1	118.5	112.1	131.3	129.3	107.4	147.1
Pittsburgh -----	119.6	117.1	120.0	118.6	115.3	125.6	108.7	135.8
St. Louis -----	125.8	121.7	125.0	121.3	131.7	128.8	108.5	142.4
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	113.4	109.9	108.3	114.6	108.7	106.8	107.4	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	120.1	114.8	115.8	111.0	116.3	128.9	106.0	143.4
Seattle -----	121.4	115.9	110.1	115.2	124.9	127.1	105.5	144.2
Washington -----	125.5	120.9	114.6	118.3	123.8	127.2	118.9	143.3
Percent Changes December 1968 to January 1969								
U.S. City Average -----	0.7	0.8	0.3	1.0	0.1	0.5	1.3	0.3
Atlanta -----	.5	.6	-.6	1.4	0	-1.9	1.9	.2
Baltimore -----	.7	.8	-1.2	.3	.1	1.8	2.5	.4
Boston -----	.4	.3	1.3	.1	.2	-.4	1.0	.3
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	.4	.4	-.5	1.0	-.4	.4	.9	.4
Chicago -----	1.2	1.6	3.2	2.3	.2	-.3	1.9	.2
Cincinnati -----	.3	.3	-.8	1.7	.3	-2.4	1.5	.1
Cleveland -----	.6	.5	.1	0	-1.5	1.5	2.5	.7
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	.7	.8	.5	.6	0	.6	1.6	.5
Detroit -----	.9	1.0	-.5	.9	.3	2.1	2.0	.4
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	1.5	1.5	-.3	1.1	.1	6.7	.2	1.4
Houston -----	.4	.6	.3	-.2	.4	.7	1.7	.1
Kansas City -----	.5	.7	-.3	2.0	-.3	-1.4	1.4	.3
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	.3	.4	.5	.2	0	-1.0	1.4	.1
Milwaukee -----	.8	1.0	1.2	1.2	.2	.2	1.8	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	1.0	.9	2.4	1.6	0	-.3	.7	1.4
New York -----	.8	.9	.4	1.4	.3	.5	1.4	.3
Philadelphia -----	.7	.8	.4	.6	.3	1.1	1.5	.3
Pittsburgh -----	.7	.8	0	.3	.3	1.7	1.4	.5
St. Louis -----	.7	.8	.4	1.9	.2	-.1	.7	.4
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	.4	.6	0	1.5	-.2	-.7	1.5	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	.4	.6	-.7	.1	-.9	3.4	.9	0
Seattle -----	.7	.9	2.5	1.0	-.2	-.1	1.5	.3
Washington -----	.5	.7	-1.0	1.4	-.7	.3	1.5	.1

^{1/} See footnote 1, table 2.
^{2/} Not available.

TABLE 7: Consumer Price Index--United States City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Food Items
January 1969 indexes and percent changes from selected dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent changes to January 1969		
	January 1969		December 1968		January 1968
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Total food -----	122.0	122.2	0.7	0.5	4.3
Food away from home -----	140.3	-----	.3	-----	5.6
Restaurant meals -----	140.4	-----	.3	-----	5.4
Snacks 1/ -----	122.2	-----	.5	-----	6.4
Food at home -----	118.3	118.5	.8	.6	4.0
Cereals and bakery products -----	120.5	-----	.3	-----	1.9
Flour -----	110.4	-----	.2	-----	2.5
Cracker meal 1/ -----	117.6	-----	.1	-----	.3
Corn flakes -----	129.6	-----	.2	-----	.5
Rice -----	111.2	-----	.1	-----	1.9
Bread, white -----	126.6	-----	.5	-----	2.8
Bread, whole wheat 1/ -----	117.1	-----	.7	-----	2.7
Cookies -----	101.1	-----	.5	-----	.7
Layer cake 1/ -----	110.5	-----	0	-----	3.1
Cinnamon rolls 1/ -----	111.1	-----	1.9	-----	4.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.6	116.3	1.0	1.0	3.6
Meats -----	118.6	119.0	1.3	1.1	3.7
Beef and veal -----	121.1	121.5	2.0	2.4	4.5
Steak, round -----	116.8	117.5	3.6	4.9	4.8
Steak, sirloin 2/ -----	114.7	-----	3.2	-----	5.4
Steak, porterhouse 1/ -----	119.4	-----	2.3	-----	5.3
Rump roast 1/ -----	111.5	-----	2.5	-----	2.8
Rib roast -----	132.5	130.9	2.5	1.6	6.0
Chuck roast -----	113.1	113.7	2.4	3.6	4.5
Hamburger -----	124.0	124.4	.7	.7	4.7
Beef liver 1/ -----	106.4	-----	.2	-----	.5
Veal cutlets -----	145.0	145.4	.8	.3	5.2
Pork -----	115.7	116.5	.7	.5	3.3
Chops -----	120.1	121.1	1.8	- 1.0	5.4
Loin roast 2/ -----	126.2	-----	1.3	-----	4.3
Pork sausage 1/ -----	124.5	-----	.7	-----	3.0
Ham, whole -----	114.5	111.5	1.9	.9	2.2
Picnics 1/ -----	117.9	-----	.6	-----	4.1
Bacon -----	112.6	116.7	-.4	.7	.8
Other meats -----	121.2	121.4	.4	.7	2.5
Lamb chops 1/ -----	130.6	-----	.5	-----	4.9
Frankfurters -----	118.1	118.8	.2	.4	1.5
Ham, canned 1/ -----	116.4	-----	.8	-----	1.1
Bologna sausage 1/ -----	121.5	-----	.2	-----	3.2
Salami sausage 1/ -----	116.8	-----	.6	-----	2.5
Liverwurst 1/ -----	117.5	-----	-.1	-----	1.6
Poultry -----	90.8	-----	0	-----	2.8
Frying chicken -----	90.9	94.1	-.3	.1	2.7
Chicken breasts 1/ -----	103.6	-----	0	-----	3.4
Turkey 1/ -----	100.4	-----	2.0	-----	2.4
Fish -----	127.0	126.5	.6	.2	3.5
Shrimp, frozen 1/ -----	114.5	-----	1.8	-----	6.4
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	128.1	127.7	.5	-.1	2.5
Tuna fish, canned -----	112.4	-----	.3	-----	2.3
Sardines, canned 1/ -----	123.6	-----	0	-----	3.2
Dairy products -----	122.7	122.3	.1	.2	3.5
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	120.5	119.9	-.2	-.1	3.6
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	126.4	-----	.1	-----	4.5
Milk, fresh, skim 1/ -----	120.3	-----	-.6	-----	5.1
Milk, evaporated -----	121.7	-----	.2	-----	3.7
Ice cream -----	99.4	-----	.4	-----	.9
Cheese, American process -----	142.1	142.1	.6	.6	4.5
Butter -----	117.8	117.3	.6	.9	1.0

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7: Consumer Price Index--United States City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Food Items
January 1969 indexes and percent changes from selected dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent changes to January 1969		January 1968 Unadjusted
	January 1969		December 1968		
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
Fruits and vegetables -----	127.0	129.6	0.5	- 0.2	2.3
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	136.4	141.2	.9	- .5	3.3
Apples -----	156.0	175.3	4.0	.7	11.9
Bananas -----	92.9	103.3	5.8	13.0	15.5
Oranges -----	127.1	134.1	- 3.3	1.7	- 7.2
Orange juice, fresh 1/ -----	87.4	-----	-----	-----	10.6
Grapefruit -----	143.1	162.6	- 5.4	- 5.3	2.6
Grapes 3/ -----	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Strawberries 3/ -----	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Watermelon 3/ -----	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Potatoes -----	133.7	143.0	.2	- 1.7	9.5
Onions -----	131.5	142.6	- .4	.1	3.1
Asparagus 1/3/ -----	(3/)	-----	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Cabbage -----	174.3	167.0	11.5	2.3	20.0
Carrots -----	114.2	114.4	1.4	3.2	- 32.7
Celery -----	117.7	115.7	6.3	3.4	- 7.7
Cucumbers 1/ -----	237.8	-----	9.5	-----	58.0
Lettuce -----	143.9	139.0	3.8	- 2.5	- 13.1
Peppers, green 1/ -----	167.2	-----	4.4	-----	- 1.6
Spinach 1/ -----	110.2	-----	2.9	-----	8.1
Tomatoes -----	135.9	125.7	- 18.1	- 6.1	.4
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	115.3	-----	-.3	-----	.8
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	107.2	-----	-.6	-----	-.7
Pears, canned 1/ -----	110.9	-----	-.5	-----	- 4.5
Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned 1/ --	98.4	-----	-.1	-----	3.7
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	92.6	89.8	.9	.9	15.9
Lemonade concentrate, frozen 2/ -----	90.7	-----	.1	-----	.8
Beets, canned 1/ -----	113.3	-----	.1	-----	3.3
Peas, green, canned -----	120.7	-----	-.7	-----	- 1.8
Tomatoes, canned -----	125.7	-----	-.6	-----	- 2.9
Dried beans -----	124.9	-----	-.5	-----	2.3
Broccoli, frozen 1/ -----	101.2	-----	0	-----	1.0
Other food at home -----	109.8	109.4	1.3	2.0	7.8
Eggs -----	119.8	116.5	6.8	11.3	40.6
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	102.6	-----	-.1	-----	- 1.5
Salad dressing, Italian 1/ -----	101.6	-----	.3	-----	- 1.2
Salad or cooking oil 1/ -----	123.2	-----	.7	-----	-.1
Sugar and sweets -----	122.7	-----	.6	-----	5.8
Sugar -----	113.5	-----	0	-----	.4
Grape jelly -----	121.6	-----	.8	-----	3.8
Chocolate bar -----	123.0	-----	.1	-----	16.4
Syrup, chocolate flavored 1/ -----	103.7	-----	1.5	-----	2.0
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	102.3	-----	0	-----	2.9
Coffee, can and bag -----	87.2	-----	-.2	-----	.5
Coffee, instant 4/ -----	99.7	-----	-.9	-----	2.7
Tea -----	101.8	-----	.6	-----	2.9
Cola drink -----	152.1	-----	.3	-----	6.2
Carbonated fruit drink 1/ -----	119.2	-----	.2	-----	6.0
Prepared and partially prepared foods 1/	104.3	-----	.4	-----	2.5
Bean soup, canned 1/ -----	101.2	-----	.4	-----	.4
Chicken soup, canned 1/ -----	96.5	-----	.6	-----	.4
Spaghetti, canned 1/ -----	114.6	-----	.2	-----	2.8
Mashed potatoes, instant 1/ -----	102.6	-----	-.1	-----	0
Potatoes, french fried, frozen 2/ -----	89.7	-----	.8	-----	5.2
Baby foods, canned -----	111.8	-----	.6	-----	4.7
Sweet pickle relish 1/ -----	112.4	-----	.4	-----	3.9
Pretzels 1/ -----	106.7	-----	.2	-----	2.4

1/ December 1963=100.

2/ April 1960=100.

3/ Priced only in season.

4/ July 1961=100.

OLD SERIES

TABLE 8: Consumer Price Index-- Portland, Oregon
 All items and commodity groups, January 1969 and 1968 average indexes
 and percent changes from selected dates
 (1957-59=100)

Group	January 1969			1968 average	
	Index	Percent change from --		Index	Percent Change from 1967
		October 1968	January 1968		
All items -----	125.3	1.1	4.6	122.3	3.5
All items (1947-49=100) -----	155.3			151.6	
Food -----	122.5	1.7	5.0	119.3	3.4
Food at home -----	116.9	1.8	3.7	114.6	2.6
Cereals and bakery products --	112.6	- .4	.8	112.5	.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	123.3	.4	3.4	121.7	3.2
Dairy products -----	127.6	.9	2.3	125.6	1.4
Fruits and vegetables -----	115.5	6.4	4.5	113.3	7.0
Other foods at home -----	105.4	2.1	6.3	101.0	.9
Housing -----	125.6	1.4	4.6	122.5	3.0
Rent -----	116.9	.7	1.9	115.6	1.9
Gas and electricity -----	102.5	0	0	102.5	0
Solid and petroleum fuels -----	113.3	0	3.8	112.5	3.0
Housefurnishings -----	99.1	- .8	1.6	98.9	1.9
Household operation -----	123.6	.1	2.0	121.9	.9
Apparel -----	122.6	- .6	6.1	120.4	4.4
Men's and boys' -----	123.2	- .2	3.2	122.7	3.5
Women's and girls' -----	120.7	- 2.1	8.8	117.6	5.3
Footwear -----	134.5	1.0	6.9	130.4	5.7
Other apparel -----	110.1	.6	4.7	108.1	2.4
Transportation -----	119.8	1.5	2.5	117.7	2.4
Private -----	113.9	- .4	.7	113.8	2.3
Public -----	153.9	10.2	10.2	140.9	2.9
Medical care -----	145.7	1.3	4.0	141.8	5.2
Personal care -----	129.3	- .5	7.9	126.5	6.8
Reading and recreation -----	132.1	1.3	5.1	128.3	4.3
Other goods and services -----	122.3	.2	2.9	120.7	2.7

TABLE 9: Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers
Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, January 1969
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent Change to January 1969 From:	
		January 1969	December 1968	December 1968	
Housing -----		122.7	122.3		0.3
Shelter <u>1/</u> -----		128.2	127.6		.5
Rent -----		116.9	116.7		.2
Homeownership costs <u>2/</u> -----		132.7	132.0		.5
Mortgage interest rates -----		125.4	125.3		.1
Property taxes -----	Dec. 63	126.1	125.1		.8
Property insurance rates -----		145.7	145.6		.1
Maintenance and repairs -----		134.3	133.5		.6
Commodities <u>3/</u> -----	Dec. 63	112.1	111.2		.8
Exterior house paint -----		114.0	113.4		.5
Interior house paint -----	Dec. 63	109.9	110.2		-.3
Services -----	Dec. 63	129.6	129.0		.5
Repainting living and dining rooms -----		165.5	164.9		.4
Reshingling roofs -----		148.5	147.5		.7
Residing houses -----	Dec. 63	122.9	122.3		.5
Replacing sinks -----	Dec. 63	130.8	130.0		.6
Repairing furnaces -----	Dec. 63	130.8	130.4		.3
Fuel and utilities -----		111.7	111.5		.2
Fuel oil and coal -----		116.7	116.2		.4
Fuel oil, #2 -----		114.0	113.5		.4
Gas and electricity -----		110.2	110.0		.2
Gas -----		116.0	115.6		.3
Electricity -----		104.0	103.9		.1
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services -----		103.0	102.9		.1
Residential water and sewerage services -----		141.6	141.6		0
Household furnishings and operation <u>4/</u> -----		115.2	115.1		.1
Housefurnishings -----		106.6	106.6		0
Textiles -----		111.7	113.7		- 1.8
Sheets, percale or muslin -----		117.5	121.2		- 3.1
Curtains, tailored, polyester marquisette -----		108.1	107.9		.2
Bedspreads, chiefly cotton, tufted -----		111.2	113.7		- 2.2
Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate -----		119.7	119.3		.3
Pillows, bed, polyester or acrylic filling -----	Dec. 63	105.9	111.8		- 5.3
Slipcovers, ready made, chiefly cotton -----	Dec. 63	108.4	108.9		-.5
Furniture and bedding -----		117.6	117.4		.2
Bedroom suites, good or inexpensive quality -----		120.6	120.7		-.1
Living room suites, good and inexpensive quality -----		120.4	120.3		.1
Lounge chairs, upholstered -----	Dec. 63	111.3	111.7		-.4
Dining room suites -----	Dec. 63	123.6	121.2		2.0
Sofas, upholstered -----	Dec. 63	112.1	111.6		.4
Sofas, dual purpose -----		113.2	113.0		.2
Sleep sets, Hollywood bed type -----	Dec. 63	108.2	108.8		-.6
Box springs -----	Dec. 63	117.2	116.8		.3
Aluminum folding chairs <u>5/</u> -----	June 64	(6/)	(6/)		(6/)
Cribs -----	Dec. 63	113.4	113.5		-.1
Floor coverings -----		105.8	105.5		.3
Rugs, soft surface -----		104.0	103.6		.4
Rugs, hard surface -----		110.0	109.6		.4
Tile, vinyl -----	Dec. 63	107.3	107.2		.1
Appliances <u>7/</u> -----		85.5	85.5		0
Washing machines, electric, automatic -----		90.0	89.8		.2
Vacuum cleaners, canister type -----		81.2	80.9		.4
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers electric -----		84.6	84.6		0
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----		96.6	96.7		-.1
Clothes dryers, electric, automatic -----	Dec. 63	98.6	98.7		-.1
Air conditioners, demountable <u>8/</u> -----	June 64	(6/)	(6/)		(6/)
Room heaters, electric, portable <u>9/</u> -----	Dec. 63	97.7	97.2		.5
Garbage disposal units -----	Dec. 63	103.0	102.9		.1
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, earthenware -----		130.9	130.0		.7
Flatware, stainless steel -----	Dec. 63	118.2	118.2		0
Table lamps, with shade -----	Dec. 63	109.6	109.3		.3
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type <u>10/</u> -----	June 64	(6/)	(6/)		(6/)
Electric drills, hand held -----	Dec. 63	101.2	100.9		.3
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents -----		105.3	105.4		.1
Paper napkins -----		127.0	126.5		.4
Toilet tissue -----		116.1	115.5		.5
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic service, general housework -----		168.7	168.4		.2
Baby sitter service -----	Dec. 63	129.4	129.0		.3
Postal charges -----		165.5	165.5		0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----	Dec. 63	134.4	133.4		.7
Licensed day care service, preschool child -----	Dec. 63	123.4	123.3		.1
Washing machine repairs -----	Dec. 63	125.8	125.2		.5

TABLE 9: Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers -- Continued
Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, January 1969
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent change to January 1969 From:	
		January 1969	December 1968	December 1968	
Apparel and upkeep 8/ -----		123.4	124.3	- 0.7	
Apparel commodities -----		122.6	123.7	- .9	
Apparel commodities less footwear -----		119.9	121.2	- 1.1	
Men's and boys' -----		124.9	125.3	- .3	
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool 5/ -----		139.4	140.1	- .5	
Suits, year round weight -----		144.1	146.1	- 1.4	
Suits, tropical weight 5/ -----	June 64	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Jackets, lightweight -----	Dec.63	122.3	120.6	1.4	
Slacks, wool or wool blend -----		125.1	126.3	- 1.0	
Slacks, cotton or manmade blend -----		107.7	108.9	- 1.1	
Trousers, work, cotton -----		115.2	114.4	.7	
Shirts, work, cotton -----		120.7	120.6	.1	
Shirts, business, cotton -----		120.5	120.1	.3	
T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----		127.9	127.3	.5	
Socks, cotton -----		116.6	116.9	- .3	
Handkerchiefs, cotton -----	Dec.63	109.9	109.2	.6	
Boy's:					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend 5/ -----	Dec.63	109.2	111.5	- 2.1	
Sport coats, wool or wool blend 5/ -----	Dec.63	117.6	118.4	- .7	
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend -----		123.8	123.1	.6	
Undershirts, cotton -----		123.1	122.2	.7	
Women's and girls' -----		118.7	120.8	- 1.7	
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blend 5/ -----		119.9	130.0	- 7.8	
Carcots, heavyweight, cotton 5/ -----	Dec.63	121.4	131.9	- 8.0	
Sweaters, wool or acrylic 5/ -----	Dec.63	111.5	114.7	- 2.8	
Skirts, wool or wool blend 5/ -----	Sept.61	118.3	127.9	- 7.5	
Skirts, cotton or cotton blend 5/ -----	Mar.62	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Blouses, cotton -----		121.9	122.5	- .5	
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber -----		143.7	145.2	- 1.0	
Dresses, street, wool or wool blend 5/ -----		128.0	136.8	- 6.4	
Dresses, street, cotton 5/ -----		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Housedresses, cotton -----		141.3	139.8	1.1	
Slips, nylon -----		109.8	109.6	.2	
Panties, acetate -----		107.9	108.1	- .2	
Girdles, manmade blend -----		116.4	113.9	2.2	
Brassieres, cotton -----	Dec.63	118.8	118.8	0	
Hose, nylon seamless -----		98.2	99.5	- 1.3	
Anklets, cotton -----	Dec.63	114.0	113.9	.1	
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----	Dec.63	105.7	105.5	.2	
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----	Dec.63	109.7	109.1	.5	
Girl's:					
Raincoats, vinyl plastic or chiefly cotton 5/ -----	Dec.63	116.3	117.1	- .7	
Skirts, wool or wool blend 5/ -----		115.0	118.9	- 3.3	
Dresses, cotton -----		130.6	131.2	- .5	
Slacks, cotton 5/ -----	Dec.63	119.9	123.9	- 3.2	
Slips, cotton blend -----	Dec.63	106.0	106.1	- .1	
Robes, duster style, quilted tricot or percale 5/ -----	Dec.63	109.4	115.6	- 5.4	
Handbags -----	Dec.63	106.6	107.4	- .7	
Footwear -----		136.3	136.3	0	
Men's:					
Shoes, street, Oxford -----		134.0	135.0	- .7	
Shoes, work, high -----		132.6	131.3	.5	
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump -----		144.0	144.8	- .6	
Shoes, evening, pump -----	Dec.63	117.1	116.3	.7	
Shoes, casual, pump -----	Dec.63	121.5	123.1	- 1.3	
Houseslippers, scuff -----	Dec.63	122.1	121.5	.5	
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford -----		137.2	126.7	.4	
Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----	Dec.63	115.5	114.9	.5	
Dress shoes, girls', strap -----	Dec.63	127.0	126.8	.2	
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze -----		101.3	101.9	- .6	
Yard goods, cotton -----		115.0	114.8	.2	
Wrist watches, men's and women's -----	Dec.63	100.4	100.3	.1	
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses -----		128.3	128.0	.2	
Automatic laundry service -----	Dec.63	107.8	107.9	- .1	
Laundry, men's shirts -----	Dec.63	120.7	119.9	.7	
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment -----	Dec.63	120.1	119.9	.2	
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift -----		120.7	120.4	.2	

TABLE 9: Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers -- Continued

Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, January 1969
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent change to January 1969	
		January 1969	December 1968	From:	
				December 1968	
Transportation -----		120.7	120.2	0.4	
Private 9/ -----		117.9	117.5	.3	
Automobiles, new -----		102.3	102.7	.4	
Automobiles, used -----		115.5	118.7	- 2.7	
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		114.5	113.3	1.1	
Motor oil, premium -----		134.1	134.0	.1	
Tires, new, tubeless -----		115.0	114.3	.6	
Auto repairs and maintenance 10/ -----		130.3	128.9	1.1	
Auto insurance rates -----		154.7	150.0	3.1	
Auto registration -----		131.0	127.4	2.8	
Parking fees, private and municipal -----	Dec.63	116.0	115.9	.1	
Public -----		144.8	144.3	.3	
Local transit fares -----		157.3	156.5	.5	
Taxicab fares -----	Dec.63	124.8	124.8	0	
Railroad fares, coach -----		108.4	108.4	0	
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----	Dec.63	103.3	103.3	0	
Bus fares, intercity -----	Dec.63	117.8	117.8	0	
Health and recreation -----		133.3	132.8	.4	
Medical care -----		150.2	149.1	.7	
Drugs and prescriptions -----		98.6	98.5	.1	
Over-the-counter items -----	Dec.63	106.7	106.6	.1	
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----	Dec.63	92.9	92.2	.8	
Aspirin compounds -----	Dec.63	105.2	105.7	-.5	
Liquid tonics -----	Dec.63	100.9	100.9	0	
Adhesive bandages, package -----	Dec.63	116.4	116.3	.1	
Cold tablets or capsules -----	Dec.63	107.8	107.7	.1	
Cough syrup -----	Dec.63	115.5	115.6	-.1	
Prescriptions -----		87.8	87.6	.2	
Anti-infectives -----	Mar.60	62.4	62.2	.3	
Sedatives and hypnotics -----	Mar.60	104.3	103.4	.9	
Ataractics -----	Mar.60	89.8	89.8	0	
Anti-spasmodics -----	Mar.60	101.1	100.7	.4	
Cough preparations -----	Mar.60	105.1	104.5	.6	
Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives -----	Mar.60	95.4	95.1	.3	
Analgesics, internal -----	Mar.67	101.8	101.5	.3	
Anti-obesity -----	Mar.67	101.9	101.4	.5	
Hormones -----	Mar.67	94.9	95.5	-.6	
Professional services:					
Physicians' fees -----		149.7	149.1	.4	
Family doctor, office visits -----		151.0	150.5	.3	
Family doctor, house visits -----		157.6	157.0	.4	
Obstetrical cases -----		144.1	142.9	.8	
Pediatric care, office visits -----	Dec.63	134.7	133.3	1.1	
Psychiatrist, office visits -----	Dec.63	123.7	123.3	.3	
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----	Dec.63	121.3	121.2	.1	
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		145.5	145.3	.1	
Dentists' fees -----		138.9	137.3	1.2	
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		139.1	137.3	1.3	
Extractions, adult -----		138.3	137.6	.5	
Dentures, full upper -----	Dec.63	124.0	122.5	1.2	
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		127.8	127.6	.2	
Routine laboratory tests -----	Dec.63	114.3	114.2	.1	
Hospital service charges:					
Daily service charges -----		243.1	239.3	1.6	
Semiprivate rooms -----		239.0	235.1	1.7	
Private rooms -----		235.8	232.3	1.5	
Operating room charges -----	Dec.63	155.1	150.9	2.8	
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----	Dec.63	119.9	119.0	.8	
Personal care -----		123.7	123.4	.2	
Toilet goods -----		108.7	108.6	.1	
Toothpaste, standard dentrifice -----		112.8	111.3	1.3	
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		122.6	122.9	-.2	
Hand lotions, liquid -----	Dec.63	105.1	104.3	.8	
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		102.6	102.8	-.2	
Face powder, pressed -----		120.4	120.8	-.3	
Deodorants, cream or roll-on -----	Dec.63	93.9	94.7	-.8	
Cleansing tissues -----		106.2	106.5	-.3	
Home permanent refills -----		95.4	94.6	.8	
Personal care services -----		142.1	141.6	.4	
Men's haircuts -----		150.0	149.7	.2	
Beauty shop services -----		133.5	133.0	.4	
Women's haircuts -----	Dec.63	120.3	119.7	.5	
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		149.0	148.3	.5	
Permanent waves, cold -----		105.1	104.9	.2	

TABLE 9: Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers -- Continued

Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, January 1969
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent change to January 1969 From:	
		January 1969	December 1968	December 1968	
Reading and recreation ^{11/} -----		128.4	128.2		0.2
Recreational goods -----	Dec.63	97.8	97.9		-.1
TV sets, portable and console -----		80.3	80.5		-.2
TV replacement tubes -----	Dec.63	114.8	114.0		-.7
Radios, portable and table model -----		76.7	76.8		-.1
Tape recorders, portable -----	Dec.63	90.6	91.2		-.7
Phonograph records, stereophonic -----	Dec.63	95.6	96.7		-1.1
Movie cameras, Super,8, zoom lens -----	Dec.63	85.0	85.3		-.4
Film, 35mm, color -----	Dec.63	98.6	98.6		0
Golf balls, liquid center -----	Dec.63	103.8	103.7		.1
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----	Dec.63	109.9	109.8		.1
Fishing rods, fresh water spincast -----	Dec.63	116.2	115.7		.4
Bowling balls -----	Dec.63	97.9	98.1		-.2
Bicycle, boys' -----	Dec.63	107.2	106.7		.5
Tricycles -----	Dec.63	107.8	107.7		.1
Dog food, canned or boxed -----	Dec.63	106.9	106.9		0
Recreational services -----	Dec.63	126.6	126.3		.2
Indoor movie admissions -----		192.6	190.3		1.2
Adult -----		187.9	185.3		1.4
Children's -----		208.5	207.0		.7
Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----	Dec.63	153.9	153.7		.1
Bowling fees, evening -----	Dec.63	109.8	109.2		.5
Golf greens fees -----	Dec.63	124.8	127.2		-1.9
TV repairs, picture tube replacement -----		102.6	102.6		0
Film developing, black and white -----	Dec.63	120.1	120.2		-.1
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----		152.1	151.3		.5
Magazines, single copy and subscription -----	Dec.63	119.3	119.3		0
Piano lessons, beginner -----	Dec.63	121.3	121.1		.2
Other goods and services -----		125.6	125.6		0
Tobacco products -----		141.6	141.3		.2
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----		148.5	148.0		.3
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----	Mar.59	140.5	140.4		.1
Cigars, domestic, regular size -----		105.6	105.4		.2
Alcoholic beverages -----		115.3	115.6		-.3
Beer -----		112.8	112.6		.2
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon -----		109.0	109.0		0
Wine, dessert and table -----	Dec.63	107.4	107.1		.3
Away from home -----	Dec.63	118.1	119.3		-1.0
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult -----	Dec.63	112.5	112.3		.2
Bank service charges, checking accounts -----	Dec.63	106.9	106.6		.3
Legal services, short form will -----	Dec.63	128.3	127.6		.5
Other special groups:					
All items less shelter -----		123.1	122.7		.3
Commodities less food -----		115.0	115.2		-.2
Nondurables less food and apparel -----		118.6	118.3		.3
Household services less rent -----		139.8	139.2		.4
Transportation services -----		139.2	136.8		1.8
Other services -----		142.3	142.0		.2

^{1/} Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

^{2/} Also includes home purchase costs not shown separately.

^{3/} Also includes pine shelving, furnace air filters, packaged dry cement mix, and shrubbery not shown separately.

^{4/} Also includes venetian blinds, nails, carpet sweepers, air deodorizers, steel wool scouring pads, envelopes, reupholstering, and moving expenses.

^{5/} Priced only in season.

^{6/} Not available.

^{7/} Also includes radios and television sets, shown separately under reading and recreation.

^{8/} Also includes men's sport shirts, women's and girls' lightweight coats, women's slacks, cocktail dresses, bathing suits, girls' shorts, earrings, and zippers not shown separately.

^{9/} Also includes recapped tires and drivers' license fees not shown separately.

^{10/} Includes prices for water pump replacement, motor tune-up, automatic transmission repair, exhaust system repair, front end alignment, and chassis lubrication.

^{11/} Also includes outboard motors, nondurable toys college tuition fees, paperback books, and college textbooks, not shown separately.

Reliability of Percent Changes in the CPI

A system of "replicated" samples introduced into the index structure in the 1964 revision permits an estimate of sampling error for the CPI. ^{1/} The table below shows standard errors for monthly, quarterly, and annual percent changes in the CPI for all items and for nine commodity groupings based on 1968 averages. The figures may be interpreted as follows: the chances are about 95 out of 100 that the percent change in the CPI as computed differs from the corresponding "complete coverage" change by less than twice the standard error. Data also are shown in terms of the relative error of the standard error of percent changes. The relative errors tend to decrease markedly for successively longer time periods, as expected.

Because the CPI is rounded to one decimal place, some ambiguity may arise in interpreting small index changes. The table below indicates, for example, that a month-to-month change of 0.1 percent in the all-items CPI is significant. Because of rounding, however, a change of this size in the published index might result from a much smaller change in the unrounded value. Hence, any particular change of 0.1 percent may or may not be significant. On the other hand, a published change of 0.2 percent is almost always significant, regardless of the time period to which it relates.

Standard and Relative Errors of Percent Changes in the
CPI Based on 1968 Data

Component	Standard Error			Relative Error		
	Monthly Change	Quarterly Change	Annual Change	Monthly Change	Quarterly Change	Annual Change
All items -----	.03	.05	.08	.08	.04	.02
Food at home -----	.08	.13	.24	.18	.13	.08
Food away from home -----	.08	.15	.18	.17	.11	.04
Housing -----	.05	.08	.13	.12	.06	.03
Apparel -----	.15	.22	.31	.21	.14	.06
Transportation -----	.06	.10	.15	.17	.16	.05
Medical care -----	.10	.13	.24	.20	.09	.04
Personal care -----	.13	.19	.47	.30	.16	.12
Reading and recreation ----	.09	.13	.22	.22	.11	.05
Other goods and services --	.08	.17	.36	.29	.19	.08

This replaces the table of average errors based on 1967 data which was included in the CPI report through December 1968.

^{1/} The method of deriving these estimates is described in a paper by Marvin Wilkerson, "Measurement of Sampling Error in the Consumer Price Index," Journal of the American Statistical Association, September 1967.

Brief Explanation of the CPI

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures average changes in prices of goods and services usually bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers, both families and single persons living alone. It is based on prices of about 400 items which were selected to represent the movement of prices of all goods and services purchased by wage earners and clerical workers. Prices for these items are obtained in urban portions of 39 Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's) and 17 smaller cities, which were chosen to represent all urban places in the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii. They are collected from grocery and department stores, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments which wage earners and clerical workers patronize.

Prices of foods, fuels, and a few other items are obtained every month in all 56 locations. Prices of most other commodities and services are collected every month in the 5 largest SMSA's and every 3 months in other SMSA's and cities. Mail questionnaires are used to obtain local transit fares, public utility rates, newspaper prices, fuel prices, and certain other items which change in price infrequently. Prices of most other goods and services are obtained by personal visits of the Bureau's trained representatives.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights which represent their importance in the spending of all wage earners and clerical workers. SMSA and city data are then combined in the total index with weights based on the 1960 populations of SMSA's and cities they represent. Index numbers are computed on the base 1957-59=100, and are also available on the bases of 1947-49=100 and 1939=100.

The national index (the United States city average) includes prices from the 23 SMSA's for which separate indexes are published in this report, as well as from the following additional locations:

Alabama - Florence	Louisiana - Baton Rouge*	Ohio - Findlay
Alaska - Anchorage	Maine - Portland*	Oklahoma - Mangum
California - Bakersfield*	Massachusetts - Southbridge	Oregon - Klamath Falls
Colorado - Denver*	Michigan - Niles	Pennsylvania - Lancaster*
Connecticut - Hartford*	Minnesota - Crookston	South Carolina - Union
Florida - Orlando*	Mississippi - Vicksburg	Tennessee - Nashville*
Indiana - Indianapolis*	New Jersey - Millville	Texas - Austin*
Indiana - Logansport	New York - Kingston	Texas - McAllen
Illinois - Champaign-Urbana*	North Carolina - Durham*	Utah - Orem
Iowa - Cedar Rapids*	North Dakota - Devils Lake	Virginia - Martinsville
Kansas - Wichita*	Ohio - Dayton*	Wisconsin - Green Bay*

*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

Comparisons of indexes for individual SMSA's show only that prices in one location changed more or less than in another. The SMSA indexes cannot be used to measure differences in price levels or in living costs between areas.

A description of the index and historical tables of index numbers for the United States city average and for 23 large SMSA's are available on request to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, D. C. 20212 or any of its regional offices (addresses below).

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