

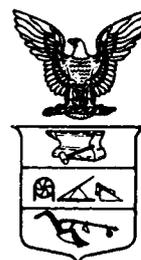
**THE CONSUMER
PRICE INDEX**

FEBRUARY 1966

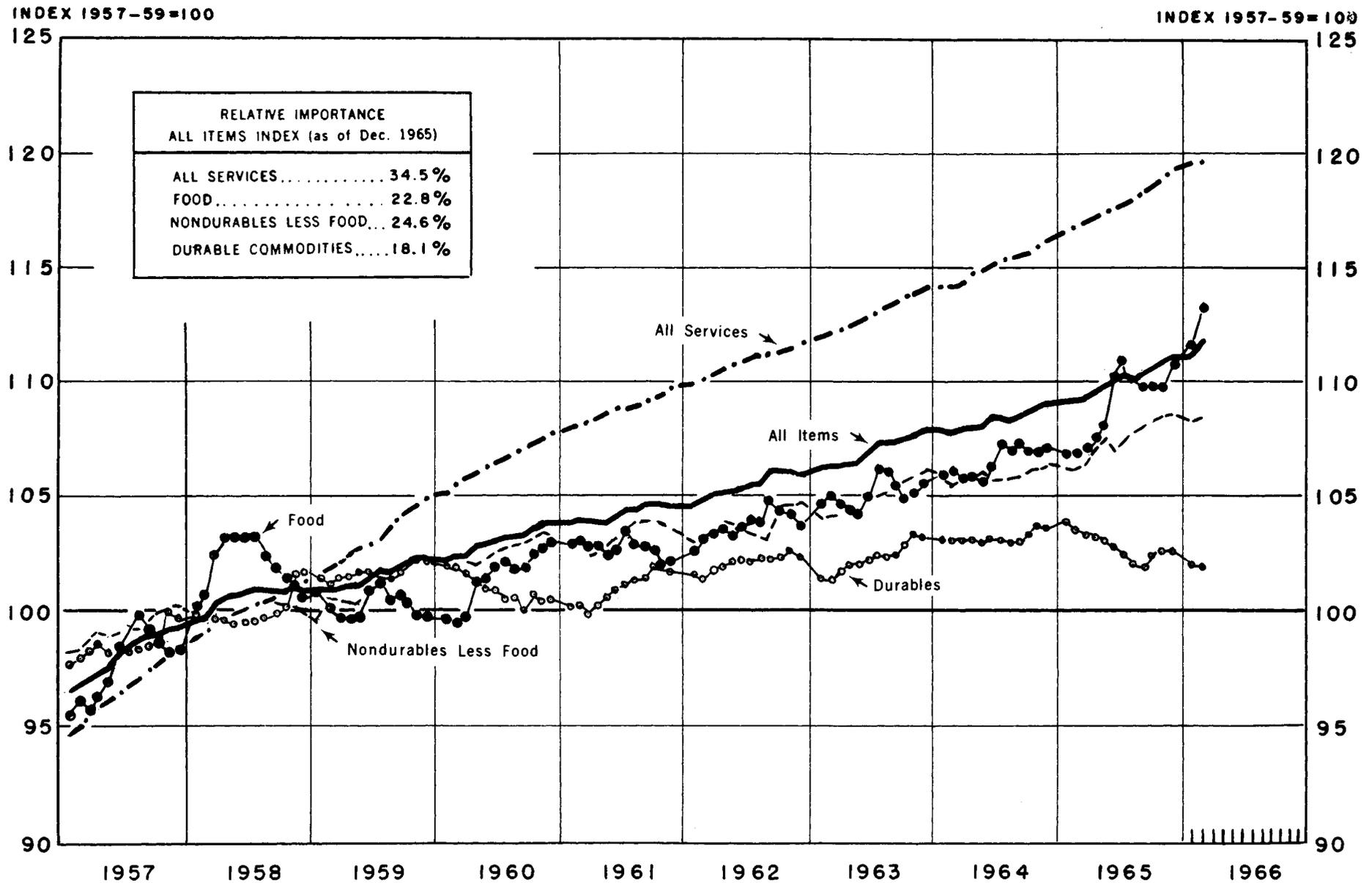
**U.S. CITY AVERAGE
and
SELECTED AREAS**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
W. Willard Wirtz, Secretary**

**BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
Arthur M. Ross, Commissioner**



CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES: COMMODITIES AND SERVICES



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Latest Data: February 1966

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U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR FEBRUARY 1966

The Consumer Price Index rose by 0.5 percent in February, the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics announced today. Higher food prices, chiefly for fresh vegetables, meats, and poultry, were responsible for three-fourths of the February increase, which was the largest for any month since June 1965 and the largest for any February since 1951. At 111.6 percent of its 1957-59 average, the index was 2.5 percent above a year ago.

Price Changes, January-February 1966

Food prices averaged 1.5 percent higher in February--the third consecutive monthly increase. Fresh vegetable prices rose 10-1/2 percent to a record level for February, as supplies were further reduced by adverse weather in many parts of the country. Prices of cucumbers and green peppers rose sharply in response to curtailed supplies caused by the late January freeze in Florida. Excessive January rains delayed the maturity and harvesting of winter crops in Texas, contributing to the rise in onion and carrot prices. Unusually rainy and cool weather in California and Arizona delayed harvesting of the cabbage and lettuce crops. Fresh fruit prices advanced 4-1/2 percent largely as a result of seasonally higher prices for bananas and apples. Because of the Florida freeze, prices of oranges did not decline as much as usual, and grapefruit prices rose by 10 percent.

Meat prices continued to rise in February, advancing nearly 2 percent. Continuing strong demand in the face of reduced slaughter pushed prices of all cuts of beef and veal and nearly all cuts of pork to record levels. Poultry prices advanced 8 percent, reflecting seasonal reductions in supplies and increased consumer demand resulting from the continuing rise in prices for meats. Egg prices rose by nearly 4 percent in February, as a result of severe weather conditions which delayed shipments in many areas, and increased military procurement.

Many other items of living expense also showed moderate price increases in February. Charges for consumer services continued to rise, led by higher charges for professional medical and hospital services. Higher mortgage interest rates, and increased charges for property taxes and insurance, home maintenance and repairs, and housekeeping services were the principal factors underlying the 0.2 percent increase in the housing index.

Prices of apparel and household textiles went back to regular levels following January special reduced-price sales. Women's and girls' spring coats returned to the market at higher prices than at the end of the season last spring. Footwear prices continued to rise, responding primarily to higher costs of leather. A rise in gasoline prices reflected cessation of price wars in some areas. Heating fuel prices rose seasonally.

New and used cars were the only major items for which prices went down and their decline was less than usual in February. Appliance and furniture prices were steady.

Price Trends, February 1965 to February 1966

The February index was 2.5 percent above a year ago, primarily because of higher food prices, which accounted for more than one-half of the over-the-year increase, and higher charges for nearly all consumer services. Food prices averaged more than 6 percent above a year earlier. Continuing shortages and rising demand for meats raised prices by nearly 19 percent. Pork prices averaged 37 percent higher reflecting the 5 percent cut in production in late 1965. Beef and veal prices were 9 percent above a year ago because of increased demand resulting from short supplies of pork. Meat shortages were also partially responsible for the rise in poultry prices since February 1965.

Prices of fresh vegetables averaged 6 percent higher than in February 1965. Seasonal declines in production and adverse weather conditions have caused a larger than normal increase since September. However, potato prices were down almost 30 percent from their unusually high levels of a year ago, benefiting from a 30 percent increase in the fall crop. Prices of citrus fruits, bananas, and orange juice also were lower over the year, reflecting plentiful supplies. Egg prices were 27 percent above last year's depressed levels, as a result of strong civilian demand and increased military purchases.

Consumer service prices rose by 2.4 percent over the year, compared to a 2.3 percent increase during the previous 12 months. Charges were higher for nearly all consumer services, reflecting widespread and persistent increases for a variety of items, including housekeeping and home maintenance services, professional medical fees, hospital charges, and automobile insurance premiums. Residential property taxes and insurance premiums were also higher.

Prices of nondurable goods other than food averaged 2 percent above a year ago, as a result of higher prices for apparel, footwear, gasoline, and tobacco products. Cigarette taxes were increased by an average of 2-1/2 cents per pack in 22 States during 1965. Prices of durable goods averaged 1-1/2 percent lower than in February 1965 partly as a result of last summer's Federal excise tax cuts and a 6-percent decrease in used car prices.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments

About 156,000 workers will receive increases in their cost-of-living allowances as a result of the February Consumer Price Index.

Based on the change in the national index since November 1965, increases of 2 cents an hour will go to about 137,000, 1 cent to about 1,900, and 3 cents to 7,350 workers. About 1,625 will receive 1 cent an hour and 1,000 will receive 4 cents, based on monthly and semiannual changes in the national index, respectively.

In addition, about 4,300 workers in Battle Creek will receive 3 cents an hour, and 3,000 in Washington, D.C. will receive 4 cents, based on quarterly changes in the Detroit and Washington indexes, respectively.

TABLE 1: Consumer Price Index--United States City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers
Major group, subgroup, and special group indexes, February 1966
and percent changes from selected dates

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)				February 1965 Unadjusted	Percent change to February 1966 from --				
	February 1966		January 1966			January 1966		November 1965		February
	Unad- justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad- justed	Seasonally adjusted		Unad- justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad- justed	Seasonally adjusted	1965 Unadjusted
All items -----	111.6	-----	111.0	-----	108.9	0.5	-----	0.9	-----	2.5
Food -----	113.1	113.1	111.4	111.6	106.6	1.5	1.3	3.1	2.8	6.1
Food at home -----	111.8	111.8	109.8	110.0	104.8	1.8	1.6	3.7	3.3	6.7
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.2	-----	113.0	-----	110.7	.2	-----	1.6	-----	2.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.7	115.7	112.9	112.9	99.5	2.5	2.5	6.6	7.0	16.3
Dairy products -----	107.0	106.7	106.6	105.9	105.2	.4	.8	1.1	1.4	1.7
Fruits and vegetables -----	116.5	117.7	111.3	113.9	113.3	4.7	3.3	6.0	2.9	2.8
Other foods at home -----	103.5	103.3	102.9	102.1	100.9	.6	1.2	.6	1.2	2.6
Food away from home -----	120.8	-----	120.4	-----	116.3	.3	-----	1.0	-----	31.9
Housing -----	109.4	-----	109.2	-----	108.2	.2	-----	.2	-----	1.1
Shelter ^{1/} -----	112.1	-----	112.0	-----	110.2	.1	-----	.5	-----	1.7
Rent -----	109.8	-----	109.7	-----	108.5	.1	-----	.5	-----	1.2
Homeownership ^{2/} -----	113.3	-----	113.1	-----	110.9	.2	-----	.7	-----	2.2
Fuel and utilities ^{3/} -----	106.5	106.3	106.4	106.0	107.4	.1	.3	- 1.3	- 1.3	.8
Fuel oil and coal ^{4/} -----	109.0	106.5	108.9	106.6	106.7	.1	- .1	1.7	- .1	2.2
Gas and electricity -----	108.2	-----	107.9	-----	107.8	.3	-----	.2	-----	.4
Household furnishings and operation -	103.8	-----	103.6	-----	102.8	.2	-----	.5	-----	1.0
Apparel and upkeep ^{5/} -----	107.6	108.0	107.3	107.8	105.8	.3	.2	- .5	.5	1.7
Men's and boys' -----	108.6	109.0	108.6	109.0	106.2	0	0	- .5	.5	2.3
Women's and girls' -----	103.1	103.8	102.6	103.6	101.9	.5	.2	- 1.4	.4	1.2
Footwear -----	116.2	116.3	115.6	115.6	111.6	.5	.6	1.0	1.2	4.1
Transportation -----	111.1	111.4	111.2	110.8	110.6	- .1	.5	- .4	.5	.5
Private -----	109.6	110.0	109.6	109.2	109.1	0	.7	- .5	.5	.5
Public -----	122.0	-----	122.0	-----	121.2	0	-----	.3	-----	.7
Health and recreation -----	117.1	-----	116.9	-----	114.7	.2	-----	.6	-----	2.1
Medical care -----	124.5	-----	124.2	-----	121.0	.2	-----	.9	-----	2.9
Personal care -----	110.8	-----	110.4	-----	110.1	.4	-----	1.1	-----	.6
Reading and recreation -----	115.9	-----	115.7	-----	115.2	.2	-----	.4	-----	.6
Other goods and services ^{6/} -----	113.6	-----	113.4	-----	109.4	.2	-----	.3	-----	3.8
Special groups:										
All items less shelter -----	111.4	-----	110.8	-----	108.6	.5	-----	.9	-----	2.6
All items less food -----	111.3	-----	111.1	-----	109.8	.2	-----	.1	-----	1.4
Commodities ^{7/} -----	108.0	108.1	107.4	107.5	105.5	.6	.6	.8	1.0	2.4
Nondurables -----	110.6	110.7	109.6	109.7	106.3	.9	.8	1.6	1.7	4.0
Durables ^{2/} ^{8/} -----	101.8	101.9	101.9	101.9	103.3	- .1	0	- .6	- .1	- 1.5
Services ^{9/} -----	119.7	-----	119.5	-----	116.9	.2	-----	.6	-----	2.4
Commodities less food ^{7/} -----	105.4	105.6	105.3	105.4	104.7	.1	.2	- .2	.4	.7
Nondurables less food -----	108.3	108.6	108.0	108.1	106.1	.3	.5	0	.6	2.1
Apparel commodities -----	106.5	107.0	106.2	106.8	104.9	.3	.2	- .7	.7	1.5
Apparel less footwear -----	104.6	105.2	104.3	104.9	103.5	.3	.3	- 1.0	.4	1.1
Nondurables less food and apparel -	109.3	-----	109.1	-----	106.8	.2	-----	.4	-----	2.3
New cars -----	97.2	96.8	97.4	96.6	101.0	- .2	.2	- 1.5	- .1	- 3.8
Used cars -----	114.0	117.3	114.8	116.5	121.7	- .7	.7	- 4.0	- .1	- 6.3
Household durables ^{10/} -----	96.1	-----	96.1	-----	97.8	0	-----	.1	-----	- 1.7
Housefurnishings -----	97.8	97.9	97.6	97.9	98.1	.2	0	.2	.4	- .3
Services less rent ^{9/} -----	122.0	-----	121.8	-----	118.9	.2	-----	.6	-----	2.6
Household services less rent -----	118.1	-----	117.9	-----	116.2	.2	-----	0	-----	1.6
Transportation services -----	122.6	-----	122.5	-----	118.2	.1	-----	1.3	-----	3.7
Medical care services -----	129.9	-----	129.5	-----	125.5	.3	-----	1.1	-----	3.5
Other services ^{11/} -----	124.1	-----	123.8	-----	120.4	.2	-----	.9	-----	3.1
All items index on other bases:										
1947-49=100 -----	136.9	-----	136.2	-----	133.6	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1939=100 -----	230.5	-----	229.2	-----	224.9	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:										
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	\$0.896	-----	\$0.901	-----	\$0.918	- .6	-----	- .9	-----	- 2.4
1947-49=\$1.00 -----	.730	-----	.734	-----	.749	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1939=\$1.00 -----	.434	-----	.436	-----	.445	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

^{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/} Called "Solid and petroleum fuels" prior to 1964.

^{5/} Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, jewelry, and apparel upkeep services not shown separately.

^{6/} Includes tobacco, alcoholic beverages, and funeral, legal, and bank service charges.

^{7/} Includes home purchase costs which were classified under services prior to 1964.

^{8/} Also includes auto parts, toys, and recreational goods not shown separately.

^{9/} Excludes home purchase costs which were classified under this heading prior to 1964.

^{10/} Called "Durables less cars" prior to 1964.

^{11/} Includes the services components of apparel, personal care, reading and recreation, and other goods and services.

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 <u>1/</u>	Pricing Schedule <u>2/</u>	Indexes			Percent change from:	
		1957-59=100	1947-49=100	Other bases	November 1965	February 1965
		February 1966			November 1965	February 1965
U.S. City Average -----	M	111.6	136.9		0.9	2.5
Chicago -----	M	109.3	137.8		.8	2.5
Detroit -----	M	108.8	134.2		1.1	4.0
Los Angeles-Long Beach --	M	113.4	141.4		.5	1.3
New York -----	M	114.2	137.6		.9	2.8
Philadelphia -----	M	112.4	138.0		.9	2.3
		January 1966			October 1965	January 1965
Boston -----	1	113.9	141.1		0.3	1.4
Houston -----	1	110.0	135.5		.6	<u>3/</u> 2.4
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	1	110.5	136.7		.4	1.7
Pittsburgh -----	1	111.0	136.8		.3	1.8
		February 1966			November 1965	February 1965
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	2	-----	-----	105.8	1.1	3.3
Cleveland -----	2	108.1	134.3		.3	2.0
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	2	-----	-----	103.4	.7	3.4
Milwaukee -----	2	109.5	138.1		.7	2.3
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	2	-----	-----	101.2	.9	1.2
Seattle -----	2	112.6	141.5		.7	2.6
Washington -----	2	111.9	134.7		1.3	2.8
		December 1965			September 1965	December 1964
Atlanta -----	3	109.2	135.2		0.9	1.7
Baltimore -----	3	110.9	137.6		.8	2.1
Cincinnati -----	3	107.9	131.3		.7	.9
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	3	-----	-----	103.9	1.6	2.9
Kansas City -----	3	114.6	141.8		.3	<u>4/</u> 2.9
St. Louis -----	3	111.5	138.4		1.5	2.3
San Francisco-Oakland --	3	113.6	144.2		.8	1.8

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.

3/ Change from February 1965.

4/ Change from January 1965.

TABLE 3: Consumer Price Index--The United States and Selected Areas ^{1/}
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Major Groups
Percent changes from January 1966 to February 1966

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7
Food -----	1.5	2.0	1.0	.7	1.9	2.2
Housing -----	.2	.3	.4	.3	.3	0
Apparel and upkeep -----	.3	.1	.6	.6	.8	1.2
Transportation -----	.1	.1	.5	1.0	0	0
Health and recreation -----	.2	.2	.3	.4	.1	.2
Medical care -----	.2	.3	.5	.2	.2	.2
Personal care -----	.4	.8	.4	.7	.5	.5
Reading and recreation -----	.2	.2	.6	.1	.3	.1
Other goods and services --	.2	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)

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

TABLE 4: Consumer Price Index--United States City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers
Major group indexes, selected dates
(1957-59=100)

Date	All items	Food	Housing	Apparel and upkeep	Transportation	Health and recreation				
						Total	Medical care	Personal care	Reading and recreation	Other goods and services
1966: Feb.	111.6	113.1	109.4	107.6	111.1	117.1	124.5	110.8	115.9	113.6
Jan.	111.0	111.4	109.2	107.3	111.2	116.9	124.2	110.4	115.7	113.4
1965: Dec.	111.0	110.6	109.4	108.1	111.6	116.6	123.7	110.0	115.4	113.4
Nov.	110.6	109.7	109.2	108.1	111.5	116.4	123.4	109.6	115.4	113.3
Oct.	110.4	109.7	109.0	107.8	111.2	116.2	123.0	109.2	115.2	113.3
Sept.	110.2	109.7	108.6	107.2	111.0	115.8	122.8	109.2	114.8	112.7
Aug.	110.0	110.1	108.2	106.4	111.0	115.6	122.8	109.0	114.3	112.6
July	110.2	110.9	108.3	106.1	111.5	115.3	122.7	108.7	114.6	111.5
June	110.1	110.1	108.2	106.9	111.2	115.7	122.2	111.0	115.7	111.0
May	109.6	107.9	108.2	106.8	111.4	115.6	121.8	111.0	115.9	110.6
Apr.	109.3	107.3	108.2	106.3	111.0	115.4	121.6	110.7	115.9	110.3
Mar.	109.0	106.9	108.2	106.0	110.6	114.9	121.4	110.4	115.4	109.5
Feb.	108.9	106.6	108.2	105.8	110.6	114.7	121.0	110.1	115.2	109.4
Annual Average: 1965	109.9	108.8	108.5	106.8	111.1	115.6	122.3	109.9	115.2	111.4
1964	108.1	106.4	107.2	105.7	109.3	113.6	119.4	109.2	114.1	108.8
1963	106.7	105.1	106.0	104.8	107.8	111.4	117.0	107.9	111.5	107.1
1962	105.4	103.6	104.8	103.6	107.2	109.4	114.2	106.5	109.6	105.3
1961	104.2	102.6	103.9	103.0	105.0	107.3	111.3	104.6	107.2	104.6
1960	103.1	101.4	103.1	102.2	103.8	105.4	108.1	104.1	104.9	103.8
1955	93.3	94.0	94.1	95.9	89.7	91.4	88.6	90.0	92.1	94.3

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas 1/
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups
February 1966 indexes and percent changes from November 1965

Group	U.S. City Average	Buffalo (Nov.1963= 100)	Chicago	Cleve- land	Dallas (Nov.1963= 100)	Detroit	Los Angeles- Long Beach	Mil- waukee	New York	Phila- delphia
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)										
All items -----	111.6	105.8	109.3	108.1	103.4	108.8	113.4	109.5	114.2	112.4
Food -----	113.1	108.2	114.2	109.8	108.6	110.0	112.9	112.6	114.2	111.9
Food at home -----	111.8	108.4	114.3	108.6	109.2	108.8	109.9	112.1	111.5	110.5
Cereals and bakery products ----	113.2	100.3	114.3	108.4	105.6	106.7	117.8	100.5	114.7	108.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.7	115.1	118.0	116.0	117.8	116.9	106.0	118.3	114.4	110.7
Dairy products -----	107.0	101.7	114.9	100.9	104.5	105.7	110.4	111.1	103.0	112.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	116.5	111.4	113.9	114.5	107.8	105.4	123.9	115.6	117.1	115.6
Other foods at home -----	103.5	106.3	106.4	98.8	103.8	100.1	96.7	107.1	103.7	103.5
Food away from home -----	120.8	107.5	114.7	116.1	106.4	117.6	124.3	116.9	126.9	119.9
Housing -----	109.4	103.2	106.2	102.7	100.2	101.9	114.8	106.2	114.3	110.9
Shelter -----	112.1	102.6	107.5	101.0	101.6	101.8	120.6	105.1	118.0	113.9
Rent -----	109.8	101.6	-----	101.7	99.6	97.1	-----	103.5	118.5	-----
Homeownership -----	113.3	102.8	108.2	100.8	102.7	103.0	123.7	105.9	117.0	115.1
Fuel and utilities -----	106.5	104.2	103.2	113.5	96.8	100.8	101.6	109.3	105.5	105.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	109.0	101.7	105.6	-----	-----	100.6	-----	115.9	114.1	112.6
Gas and electricity -----	108.2	107.4	105.1	116.8	97.8	104.3	110.8	101.9	108.2	101.9
Household furnishings and operation	103.8	104.0	105.0	100.9	99.0	100.5	103.7	107.2	109.4	104.8
Apparel and upkeep -----	107.6	106.9	103.0	106.3	100.3	108.4	108.4	106.2	110.2	112.2
Men's and boys' -----	108.6	107.4	101.4	110.8	103.1	105.1	111.7	108.9	112.3	107.7
Women's and girls' -----	103.1	107.5	98.1	99.3	98.6	110.0	105.1	102.4	103.7	108.6
Footwear -----	116.2	106.5	113.8	117.7	99.9	115.5	115.3	112.0	117.3	116.6
Transportation -----	111.1	105.0	108.9	111.1	100.6	110.2	117.1	111.1	109.0	117.3
Private -----	109.6	104.9	109.0	108.6	100.5	108.6	113.1	111.2	111.4	113.0
Public -----	122.0	106.3	109.1	125.8	103.1	114.7	140.0	111.2	101.7	136.7
Health and recreation -----	117.1	107.3	112.7	116.6	106.8	119.0	111.8	113.0	121.3	116.3
Medical care -----	124.5	106.3	132.2	134.0	106.7	131.2	121.7	117.7	125.6	128.8
Personal care -----	110.8	105.5	112.1	109.4	106.4	113.2	108.9	112.4	108.4	107.8
Reading and recreation -----	115.9	107.1	100.3	109.7	106.7	113.8	103.9	112.7	124.3	112.3
Other goods and services -----	113.6	110.0	(2/)	111.5	107.5	3/ 113.1	3/ 108.4	109.7	(2/)	(2/)
Percent changes November 1965 to February 1966										
All items -----	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.3	0.7	1.1	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.9
Food -----	3.1	3.2	3.4	2.9	2.9	3.3	2.3	3.0	3.3	3.5
Food at home -----	3.7	3.8	4.2	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.0	3.3	4.0	4.0
Cereals and bakery products ----	1.6	.6	2.8	.7	-.3	1.3	-.9	.7	3.4	.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	6.6	5.8	6.4	6.7	5.6	7.0	6.5	6.6	6.1	6.2
Dairy products -----	1.1	1.1	2.9	.8	3.3	-.2	1.5	.9	1.0	2.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	6.0	8.8	5.1	5.3	6.2	5.9	5.3	5.4	6.6	6.6
Other foods at home -----	.6	.8	1.3	-.1	1.0	.6	.2	.8	1.0	2.3
Food away from home -----	1.0	.7	.5	.4	.9	1.6	.1	1.5	1.0	1.1
Housing -----	.2	.1	.5	-1.0	.2	.5	.6	-.6	.4	.1
Shelter -----	.5	.6	1.3	-1.1	.6	1.3	1.0	-.5	.6	.4
Rent -----	.5	-.1	-----	.6	-.1	4/ .2	-----	-.3	4/ .3	-----
Homeownership -----	.7	.8	1.8	-1.4	1.0	1.5	1.1	-.7	.9	.5
Fuel and utilities -----	-1.3	-3.2	-2.0	-1.8	-1.7	-1.5	-2.6	-1.5	-2.0	-1.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	1.7	0	0	-----	-----	0	-----	0	1.8	2.3
Gas and electricity -----	.2	-3.1	-.3	-.1	.1	-.1	-.6	0	-.4	-.1
Household furnishings and operation	.5	.9	-.1	.1	.3	-.1	.5	0	1.3	.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	-.5	.7	-1.6	.5	.3	-.4	.4	.6	-1.7	-.4
Men's and boys' -----	-.5	.3	-3.1	-.5	1.4	-.9	.4	-.5	-.4	-2.6
Women's and girls' -----	-1.4	.9	-2.6	1.2	-.1	-.2	.5	1.3	-4.2	.4
Footwear -----	1.0	1.0	.6	1.3	-.1	-.5	1.4	1.0	.4	.3
Transportation -----	-.4	.6	-.5	-.7	-1.6	-.3	-2.2	.4	.6	-.1
Private -----	-.5	.5	-.7	-.8	-1.7	-.4	-2.2	.5	.5	-.2
Public -----	.3	1.3	1.3	-.1	0	.3	.7	0	0	0
Health and recreation -----	.6	.9	.6	.4	.9	1.6	.5	.8	.5	.4
Medical care -----	.9	1.0	.8	.8	2.2	2.0	.7	1.0	1.4	.8
Personal care -----	1.1	1.2	2.2	1.4	.8	2.1	2.8	-.4	-.1	.7
Reading and recreation -----	.4	1.0	.4	.1	.3	2.5	-.4	.8	.3	.5
Other goods and services -----	.3	.6	(2/)	.1	0	0	.3	1.1	(2/)	(2/)

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas 1/
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups--Continued

Group	February 1966			1965 Average						
	San Diego (Feb. 1965=100)	Seattle	Washington	Buffalo (Nov. 1963=100)	Cleveland	Dallas (Nov. 1963=100)	Milwaukee	San Diego (Feb. 1965=100)	Seattle	Washington
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)										
All items -----	101.2	112.6	111.9	103.5	106.9	101.4	108.2	100.1	111.0	109.6
All items (1947-49=100) -----	-----	-----	-----	-----	132.8	-----	136.4	-----	139.5	132.0
Food -----	106.6	112.9	113.2	104.1	104.8	103.9	107.7	102.7	110.3	108.4
Food at home -----	106.6	110.6	111.5	104.0	103.3	103.9	106.8	102.3	108.0	105.9
Cereals and bakery products -----	103.5	106.7	110.1	99.0	106.8	103.8	99.7	102.5	108.7	110.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	113.4	114.8	114.3	105.3	104.5	107.1	107.4	105.1	106.5	102.7
Dairy products -----	100.6	112.3	107.7	99.8	97.1	100.0	108.1	99.7	112.7	107.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	105.6	115.7	114.3	109.1	111.1	105.6	113.2	101.3	114.1	109.7
Other foods at home -----	104.3	102.2	105.7	104.6	97.6	101.0	103.7	100.9	101.5	102.5
Food away from home -----	106.7	123.4	122.0	104.5	113.8	103.7	114.0	103.6	120.7	119.2
Housing -----	99.9	111.1	110.1	102.0	103.2	99.4	106.3	98.7	110.8	108.1
Shelter -----	100.9	115.2	112.3	100.8	101.4	100.2	104.9	100.0	114.6	109.7
Rent -----	100.1	109.3	114.9	101.1	101.0	99.8	102.7	100.0	108.5	113.7
Homeownership -----	101.2	116.5	110.0	100.7	101.4	100.3	106.2	100.0	115.9	106.5
Fuel and utilities -----	95.9	5/109.2	102.4	106.5	115.7	98.6	111.9	92.1	110.6	101.3
Fuel oil and coal -----	-----	104.0	105.6	99.0	-----	-----	116.4	-----	103.6	101.4
Gas and electricity -----	100.0	6/99.0	104.0	109.6	117.0	97.8	102.9	100.0	99.3	98.2
Household furnishings and operation -----	99.5	103.6	106.9	102.3	100.4	98.1	106.6	99.2	103.2	106.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	98.9	111.0	109.8	104.5	105.2	99.1	106.0	99.2	108.7	108.4
Men's and boys' -----	101.5	115.9	108.4	105.4	109.0	99.3	109.0	100.9	113.3	106.2
Women's and girls' -----	95.9	109.8	105.3	104.8	98.9	98.6	102.3	97.6	106.9	105.5
Footwear -----	102.7	118.5	119.5	103.6	114.9	97.9	110.2	100.7	115.2	115.9
Transportation -----	99.1	113.2	110.1	103.6	111.6	100.3	111.0	100.4	112.5	110.2
Private -----	98.8	111.7	108.9	103.5	109.3	100.1	111.0	100.4	110.8	109.1
Public -----	103.6	125.1	117.7	104.7	124.0	102.9	111.2	100.9	125.7	117.4
Health and recreation -----	100.8	115.0	117.7	105.0	115.4	104.1	111.9	100.1	112.5	116.1
Medical care -----	103.2	121.1	135.7	104.1	132.5	103.5	115.1	100.9	117.3	132.1
Personal care -----	96.3	109.0	111.3	103.6	106.9	103.4	113.8	98.4	108.0	109.8
Reading and recreation -----	101.3	108.6	116.1	105.3	109.2	105.2	112.1	100.6	107.1	115.2
Other goods and services -----	100.2	118.6	105.8	106.6	110.5	104.1	108.1	99.9	115.5	105.1
Percent changes										
November 1965 to February 1966										
All items -----	0.9	0.7	1.3	2.4	1.6	1.3	2.1	(2/)	1.2	1.4
Food -----	2.8	3.4	3.6	2.6	2.6	3.4	2.6	-----	1.5	2.3
Food at home -----	3.6	4.0	4.7	2.4	2.7	3.6	2.9	-----	1.6	2.0
Cereals and bakery products -----	-.2	3.6	-.8	2.0	-.1	3.0	1.7	-----	-2.0	1.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	7.1	5.8	7.9	6.5	7.0	8.2	6.9	-----	4.4	7.3
Dairy products -----	.9	.4	.5	.1	2.0	1.0	.7	-----	1.8	1.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	4.8	8.0	10.0	-.4	1.0	1.5	1.0	-----	.8	-1.4
Other foods at home -----	2.0	2.1	1.9	.5	-.1	1.0	1.3	-----	.6	-1.5
Food away from home -----	.8	1.6	.7	3.3	2.7	2.7	1.4	-----	.9	2.7
Housing -----	.3	-.4	.8	.7	1.1	-.2	2.2	-----	.1	1.4
Shelter -----	1.0	-.4	.7	0	.4	.2	3.2	-----	.4	2.8
Rent -----	.2	.1	.6	.9	-.1	-.3	.9	-----	-.4	1.8
Homeownership -----	1.3	-.6	1.0	-.2	.5	.4	4.0	-----	.5	3.6
Fuel and utilities -----	-1.9	-1.6	1.8	2.3	5.1	-.9	1.0	-----	-.5	-4.2
Fuel oil and coal -----	-----	0	2.8	2.6	-----	-----	2.8	-----	-.8	.3
Gas and electricity -----	0	-.1	7.7	3.0	8.0	-1.1	-1.1	-----	-.3	-8.0
Household furnishings and operation -----	-.4	.1	.3	1.5	.5	-.6	0	-----	.6	1.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	.4	.9	.4	3.5	.9	-.4	1.5	-----	.6	.6
Men's and boys' -----	-.4	1.0	-.2	3.6	2.6	0	.9	-----	1.3	.8
Women's and girls' -----	1.1	1.5	.2	3.8	0	-1.0	2.4	-----	.5	-.5
Footwear -----	.7	.8	1.1	3.6	.6	-.3	2.2	-----	1.4	2.4
Transportation -----	.8	-.4	-.2	3.8	1.5	1.0	3.5	-----	2.6	.9
Private -----	.8	-.4	-.2	3.8	1.5	1.0	4.0	-----	2.3	.8
Public -----	.4	-.6	.2	2.7	1.6	1.6	0	-----	4.5	1.9
Health and recreation -----	.4	.4	1.0	3.6	2.0	2.4	1.2	-----	2.3	1.5
Medical care -----	1.6	.7	1.5	2.6	3.0	2.0	3.9	-----	4.2	2.9
Personal care -----	-1.5	1.9	1.2	2.4	2.9	2.7	1.5	-----	.9	1.2
Reading and recreation -----	.1	.6	1.3	3.2	1.0	1.8	-1.3	-----	-.1	.8
Other goods and services -----	.4	-.7	.1	6.1	1.8	3.7	1.1	-----	3.8	1.1

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.
2/ Not available.
3/ 1965 annual averages for Detroit and Los Angeles-Long Beach are 111.3 and 108.2, respectively.
4/ Change from December 1965.
5/ Corrected indexes: November and December 1964, 111.6; January 1965, 110.9; February through September 1965, 110.5; October 1965, 110.6; November and December 1965, 111.0.
6/ Corrected indexes: November 1964 through October 1965, 99.3; November and December 1965, 99.1.

TABLE 6: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Food and its Subgroups
February 1966 indexes and percent changes from January 1966

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 -----	113.1	111.8	113.2	115.7	107.0	116.5	103.5	120.8
Atlanta -----	111.9	111.9	107.4	117.0	105.2	116.8	108.3	111.9
Baltimore -----	115.5	112.7	118.7	115.7	106.2	118.4	103.4	126.7
Boston -----	115.4	112.9	114.7	117.6	104.7	120.4	103.7	126.3
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100)	108.2	108.4	100.3	115.1	101.7	111.4	106.3	107.5
Chicago -----	114.2	114.3	114.3	118.0	114.9	113.9	106.4	114.7
Cincinnati -----	110.9	109.9	107.6	118.2	101.6	118.4	97.6	117.9
Cleveland -----	109.8	108.6	108.4	116.0	100.9	114.5	98.8	116.1
Dallas (Nov.1963=100)	108.6	109.2	105.6	117.8	104.5	107.8	103.8	106.4
Detroit -----	110.0	108.8	106.7	116.9	105.7	105.4	100.1	117.6
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	106.4	106.9	103.5	110.8	99.5	113.5	101.4	105.0
Houston -----	113.6	112.0	116.8	112.1	105.9	118.4	105.2	121.4
Kansas City -----	116.4	116.4	117.4	119.8	117.3	117.6	107.7	117.1
Los Angeles-Long Beach	112.9	109.9	117.8	106.0	110.4	123.9	96.7	124.3
Minneapolis-St. Paul --	111.3	110.5	107.1	114.7	110.3	114.4	104.9	113.8
New York -----	114.2	111.5	114.7	114.4	103.0	117.1	103.7	126.9
Philadelphia -----	111.9	110.5	108.8	110.7	112.5	115.6	103.5	119.9
Pittsburgh -----	111.7	111.2	113.0	120.7	98.4	114.7	103.6	114.2
St. Louis -----	116.3	114.5	112.3	120.7	113.7	116.6	105.8	121.1
San Francisco-Oakland -	113.8	111.0	111.3	112.8	108.3	119.4	101.0	126.5
Seattle -----	112.9	110.6	106.7	114.8	112.3	115.7	102.2	123.4
Washington -----	113.2	111.5	110.1	114.3	107.7	114.3	105.7	122.0
Percent changes January 1966 to February 1966								
U.S. City Average -----	1.5	1.8	0.2	2.5	0.4	4.7	0.6	0.3
Atlanta -----	1.3	1.5	- .1	2.6	.2	5.4	- .3	.2
Baltimore -----	2.5	3.1	0	2.8	.8	9.9	2.2	.4
Boston -----	1.6	2.0	- .2	2.1	.6	6.6	.5	.2
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100)	2.1	2.4	1.3	2.2	- .3	7.2	1.5	.4
Chicago -----	2.0	2.5	.6	2.8	2.1	4.9	1.5	.1
Cincinnati -----	1.8	2.2	- 1.5	3.2	- .2	6.6	.1	0
Cleveland -----	2.7	3.1	1.7	3.3	3.4	7.6	.8	-.3
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) -	.9	1.0	- .4	1.3	.2	4.1	- .4	.7
Detroit -----	1.0	1.1	- .3	1.7	- .5	3.3	.3	.3
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	.2	.1	0	1.3	.1	- 2.1	- .1	.7
Houston -----	.4	.5	- 1.3	1.5	.4	1.5	- .8	.2
Kansas City -----	1.0	1.1	2.0	2.2	0	.9	0	.6
Los Angeles-Long Beach	.7	.8	.5	1.9	1.1	.6	- .2	.1
Minneapolis-St. Paul --	.9	1.0	- .9	1.6	0	2.0	1.3	.2
New York -----	1.9	2.3	.9	2.7	- .2	6.4	1.2	.5
Philadelphia -----	2.2	2.5	- .6	3.4	1.7	5.3	1.8	.6
Pittsburgh -----	1.8	2.1	1.2	2.5	- .1	5.9	1.0	0
St. Louis -----	1.7	2.0	2.5	2.9	- .1	3.3	.9	0
San Francisco-Oakland -	.8	1.0	- 1.1	1.5	- .2	3.2	.7	.2
Seattle -----	1.3	1.5	.9	3.1	0	2.3	.1	.3
Washington -----	2.4	3.1	- 1.1	3.2	- .2	10.8	2.4	.3

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

TABLE 7: Consumer Price Index--Food, Groups, and Items
February 1966 indexes and percent charges January 1966 to February 1966
U.S. City Average
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index	Percent Change	Item or Group	Index	Percent Change
Total food -----	113.1	1.5	Fruits and vegetables -----	116.5	4.7
Food away from home -----	120.8	.3	Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	121.5	8.0
Restaurant meals -----	121.0	.4	Apples -----	115.3	4.2
Snacks <u>1/</u> -----	104.7	0	Bananas -----	91.7	11.8
Food at home -----	111.8	1.8	Oranges -----	108.7	- .4
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.2	.2	Orange juice, fresh <u>1/</u> -----	82.9	- 1.3
Flour -----	109.4	- .5	Grapefruit -----	130.9	10.3
Cracker meal <u>1/</u> -----	114.8	.2	Grapes * -----	*	*
Corn flakes -----	118.6	0	Strawberries * -----	*	*
Rice -----	106.4	- .1	Watermelon * -----	*	*
Bread, white -----	118.3	.6	Potatoes -----	120.9	4.1
Bread, whole wheat <u>1/</u> -----	106.5	.2	Onions -----	101.7	7.2
Cookies -----	98.7	0	Asparagus * <u>1/</u> -----	*	*
Layer cake <u>1/</u> -----	99.6	.4	Cabbage -----	171.8	34.5
Cinnamon rolls <u>1/</u> -----	103.1	.6	Carrots -----	115.4	11.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.7	2.5	Celery -----	123.1	10.2
Meats -----	118.8	1.9	Cucumbers <u>1/</u> -----	174.8	42.0
Beef and veal -----	111.4	1.8	Lettuce -----	149.9	6.0
Steak, round -----	109.4	2.8	Peppers, green <u>1/</u> -----	177.4	11.6
Steak, sirloin <u>2/</u> -----	105.5	1.0	Spinach <u>1/</u> -----	98.6	2.3
Steak, porterhouse <u>1/</u> -----	109.3	.3	Tomatoes -----	126.7	2.3
Rump roast <u>1/</u> -----	105.3	1.3	Processed fruits and vegetables -----	110.6	.3
Rib roast -----	118.3	0	Fruit cocktail, canned -----	103.8	- .1
Chuck roast -----	106.5	3.1	Pears, canned <u>1/</u> -----	110.5	.4
Hamburger -----	111.5	2.3	Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned <u>1/</u> --	97.1	- 1.8
Beef liver <u>1/</u> -----	104.4	1.1	Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	92.0	- .1
Veal cutlets -----	125.8	3.5	Lemonade concentrate, frozen <u>2/</u> -----	91.2	1.9
Pork -----	133.2	1.8	Beets, canned <u>1/</u> -----	100.8	.7
Chops -----	130.1	1.4	Peas, green, canned -----	115.8	- .5
Loin roast <u>2/</u> -----	139.7	1.9	Tomatoes, canned -----	109.3	.8
Pork sausage <u>1/</u> -----	141.0	3.5	Dried beans -----	124.7	1.1
Ham, whole -----	129.6	- .6	Broccoli, frozen <u>1/</u> -----	96.3	.6
Picnics <u>1/</u> -----	136.0	3.1	Other food at home -----	103.5	.6
Bacon -----	144.3	1.8	Eggs -----	109.1	3.9
Other meats -----	118.8	2.0	Fats and oils:		
Lamb chops <u>1/</u> -----	120.8	3.5	Margarine -----	101.8	0
Frankfurters -----	118.0	1.5	Salad dressing, Italian <u>1/</u> -----	100.8	- .3
Ham, canned <u>1/</u> -----	127.7	3.2	Salad or cooking oil <u>1/</u> -----	111.6	.4
Bologna sausage <u>1/</u> -----	114.9	.8	Sugar and sweets -----	110.6	- .4
Salami sausage <u>1/</u> -----	111.4	.9	Sugar -----	108.8	- .1
Liverwurst <u>1/</u> -----	114.0	1.6	Grape jelly -----	115.7	0
Poultry -----	97.5	8.1	Chocolate bar -----	93.3	- 1.7
Frying chicken -----	99.1	9.9	Syrup, chocolate flavored <u>1/</u> -----	99.8	.1
Chicken breasts <u>1/</u> -----	105.4	6.3	Nonalcoholic beverages -----	99.2	0
Turkey <u>1/</u> -----	105.3	1.0	Coffee, can and bag -----	93.2	.1
Fish -----	113.1	1.0	Coffee, instant <u>3/</u> -----	96.6	- .4
Shrimp, frozen <u>1/</u> -----	96.5	.7	Tea -----	99.4	- .5
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	121.5	1.5	Cola drink -----	127.9	.2
Tuna fish, canned -----	104.4	2.0	Carbonated fruit drink <u>1/</u> -----	102.2	.1
Sardines, canned <u>1/</u> -----	105.1	0	Prepared and partially prepared foods <u>1/</u>	99.5	.2
Dairy products -----	107.0	.4	Bean soup, canned <u>1/</u> -----	97.4	- .4
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	105.4	.7	Chicken soup, canned <u>1/</u> -----	98.4	- .4
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	108.4	.5	Spaghetti, canned <u>1/</u> -----	104.0	.9
Milk, fresh, skim <u>1/</u> -----	101.6	.7	Mashed potatoes, instant <u>1/</u> -----	103.2	.1
Milk, evaporated -----	105.7	.3	Potatoes, french fried, frozen <u>2/</u> -----	86.3	1.2
Ice cream -----	93.6	- .1	Baby foods, canned -----	104.7	- .1
Cheese, American process -----	122.4	1.4	Sweet pickle relish <u>1/</u> -----	102.9	.6
Butter -----	104.6	- 1.5	Pretzels <u>1/</u> -----	99.7	- .1

1/ December 1963=100.
2/ April 1960=100.
3/ July 1961=100.
* Priced only in season.

TABLE 8. Consumer Price Index--Scranton
 All items and commodity groups
 February 1966 and 1965 average
 (1957-59=100)

Group	February 1966			1965 Average	
	Index	Percent change from --		Index	Percent change from 1964
		November 1965	February 1965		
All items -----	113.9	2.0	3.5	111.0	1.6
All items (1947-49=100) -----	135.9	----	----	132.4	----
Food -----	112.1	4.1	5.4	107.7	2.0
Food at home -----	110.3	4.0	5.4	106.1	2.2
Cereals and bakery products	112.4	.5	1.1	111.3	3.1
Meats, poultry, and fish --	119.1	7.6	18.0	106.4	7.3
Dairy products -----	102.9	.6	.9	101.1	0
Fruits and vegetables -----	109.0	7.0	- 4.0	113.1	- 1.1
Other foods at home -----	103.8	1.9	3.6	100.5	- .7
Housing -----	108.3	1.1	.4	107.5	.4
Rent -----	110.1	.3	.7	109.6	1.1
Gas and electricity -----	104.8	0	0	104.8	- .7
Solid and petroleum fuels ---	105.2	1.6	- .5	102.3	1.3
Housefurnishings -----	97.6	1.9	2.4	95.7	.2
Household operation -----	111.7	- 1.3	- .9	113.0	.5
Apparel -----	108.3	.3	3.3	106.2	1.1
Men's and boys' -----	111.2	.5	2.8	109.5	1.4
Women's and girls' -----	105.3	.2	3.4	103.3	.7
Footwear -----	113.4	.2	4.1	110.1	1.7
Other apparel -----	103.2	.2	2.6	101.8	1.3
Transportation -----	109.1	- .7	.4	109.6	- .2
Private -----	106.6	- .8	.5	107.2	- .3
Public -----	125.3	0	0	125.3	.3
Medical care -----	133.9	- .1	8.3	128.4	8.8
Personal care -----	120.3	.8	.6	119.5	2.9
Reading and recreation -----	155.8	4.6	14.1	143.7	5.0
Other goods and services -----	113.4	.3	.5	113.0	.3

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).

BLS Regional Offices

1371 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

341 Ninth Avenue
New York, New York 10001

219 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604

450 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California 94103

18 Oliver Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

1365 Ontario Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44114