

February 1968

the consumer price index



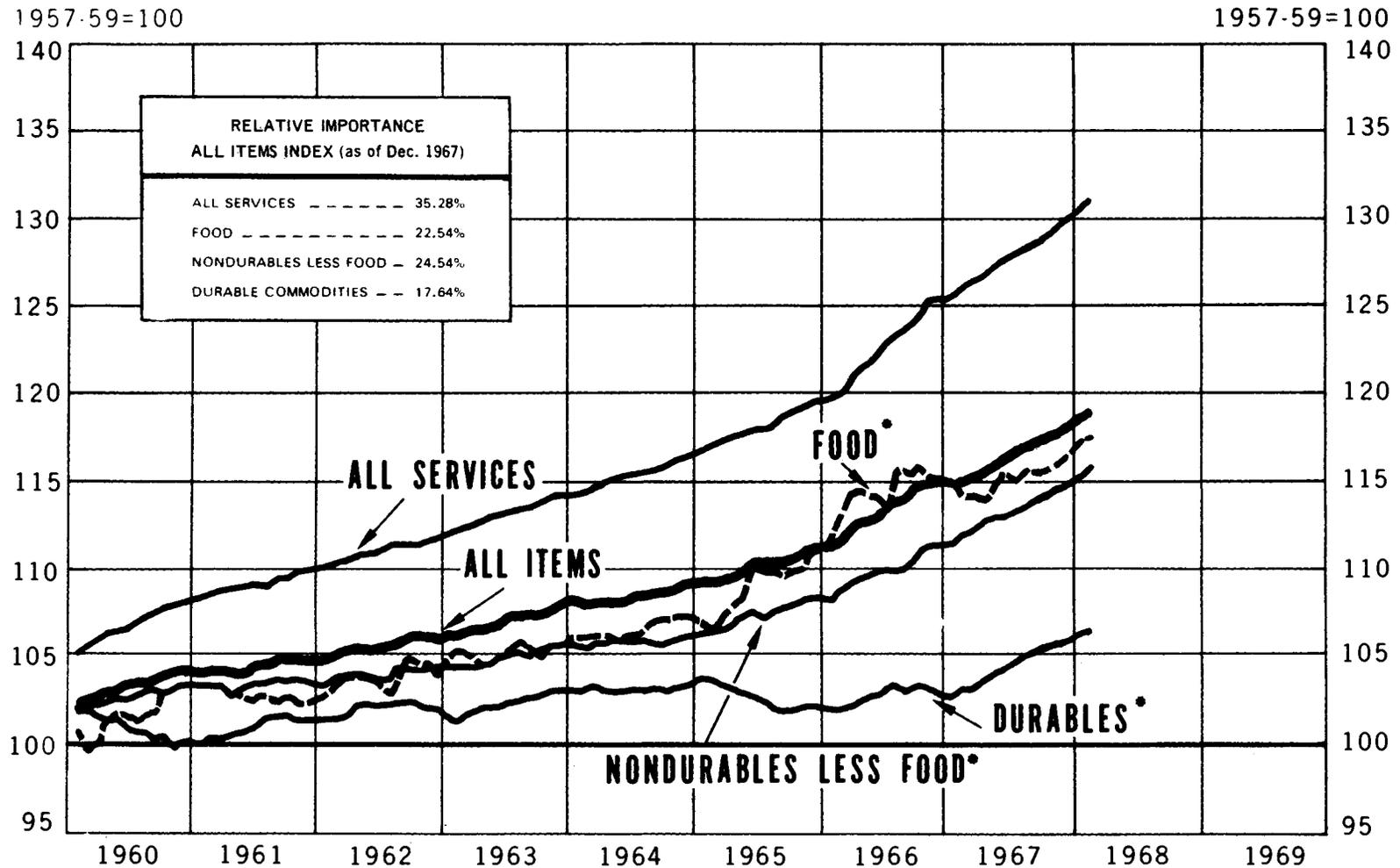
U S CITY AVERAGE
AND
SELECTED AREAS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES: COMMODITIES AND SERVICES

*(Seasonally Adjusted)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR FEBRUARY 1968

The Consumer Price Index increased in February for the thirteenth consecutive month rising 0.3 percent to 119.0 (1957-59=100). Higher consumer service costs accounted for nearly half of the rise again this month, and higher prices for food and other nondurable goods were responsible for much of the remaining change. Most durable goods, except new and used cars, advanced modestly.

Principal contributors to higher service costs were medical care, mortgage interest, housekeeping and home maintenance services and auto repairs. Rising prices for fresh fruits, eggs and pork were responsible for most of the increase in food costs. Since February of 1967 the total index has advanced 3.7 percent, the largest over-the-year increase for any February since 1951, when pressures of the Korean conflict drove prices up 9.5 percent. Over the last quarter, prices have risen at an annual rate of nearly four percent.

Services

The cost of consumer services advanced 0.4 percent in February, maintaining about the same pace as the past three quarters. Medical care charges were up 0.6 percent as doctors' and dentists' fees and hospital service charges moved higher. Higher wages and additional personnel are largely responsible for the higher hospital bills. They are also contributing factors to the increase in professional fees as many physicians and dentists find it necessary to increase the salaries of their office staffs. Real estate taxes and insurance were higher and mortgage interest costs, which eased somewhat in the first half of 1967, were raised again in February as they have been in every month since August of 1967. Housekeeping services cost more, partly reflecting the indirect effects of the new minimum wage provisions on domestic workers, and charges for home decorating and repairs also edged higher. Rent increases averaged 0.2 percent in February and 2.0 percent over the past year, since rents started climbing at a rate in excess of that witnessed in the early 1960's. Auto repair and maintenance costs, hotel and motel rentals, and personal care expenses moved up.

Food

Food prices averaged a seasonally adjusted 0.2 percent higher in February. This was the fifth consecutive monthly increase. Grocery store prices were up 0.3 percent, pork, fresh fruits and vegetables, and eggs accounted for much of the increase. Beef and veal prices were unchanged; pork prices, which usually show a seasonal decline in February, rose 1.0 percent (unadjusted) despite increased production. One factor in higher pork prices may have been the threat of the livestock marketing boycott announced by the National Farmers Organization which caused a surge in demand for meat supplies as packers attempted to build up stocks.

Poultry prices declined 0.3 percent (unadjusted) because of special sales on frying chickens and heavy supplies of turkey. Over the year, beef prices have advanced 4.0 percent as a result of strong demand; pork and poultry prices remain below their year-ago levels.

Fresh fruit and vegetable prices declined a seasonally adjusted 1.9 percent, but they were 0.8 percent higher on an unadjusted basis. Lettuce prices fell nearly 36 percent as substantial quantities from California were marketed. Potato, celery, and green pepper prices were also lower over the month; however, carrot prices attained a record high, 76 percent above their level last year as delayed harvests and reduced winter acreage kept supplies very tight.

Higher fresh fruit prices were primarily the result of a 10 percent increase in banana prices as demand remained strong in the face of a reduction in imports. Apple prices were up slightly and oranges were raised 3.1 percent to a point more than 30 percent above last February, in response to the reduction in the 1967-68 crop.

Egg prices staged a contraseasonal advance rising 6.1 percent (4.7 percent unadjusted) as retailers widened profit margins, despite heavy production and large cold storage supplies. Egg prices were still 2.4 percent lower than in February 1967.

Restaurant meal prices, which include a substantial labor component, continued their persistent climb (uninterrupted for more than four years) rising 0.3 percent to a level 4.6 percent above last year.

Nondurables less food

Nondurable goods other than food advanced 0.4 percent in February. Prices for all apparel segments rose, but increases for women's clothing had the strongest influence, particularly seasonal apparel items such as spring coats and slacks which were introduced at higher price levels. Shoe prices also were higher, despite declines in leather prices, as production costs climbed in response to wage increases and the rising price of non-leather components.

Textile housefurnishings were up sharply as January white sales ended and retailers attempted to adjust to higher wholesale prices.

Cigarette prices generally were unchanged over the month. Recreational non-durables were higher largely as a result of substantially higher roll film prices. Gasoline and motor oil prices rose when gas wars subsided in California and the Kansas City area.

Durables

Both furniture and floor coverings continued upward in February, because demand remained at a high level. Much of the advance reflects wholesale price increases imposed last fall to offset higher material, labor, freight and other production costs. Appliance prices also moved up slightly, although radio and television prices decreased slightly because of the February sales and promotions.

New car prices were seasonally lower in February as a result of minor concession increases but remained 3.6 percent above a year ago. Used cars dropped 1-1/2 percent following sharp increases in January; older models were the primary source of weakness. Prices of used cars were nearly 8-1/2 percent higher than a year ago.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments

About 112,000 workers will receive cost-of-living increases based on the February Consumer Price Index. For 102,000, mostly aerospace workers, the increase will be 3 cents based on the rise in the national index over the past quarter. Other workers will receive increases of from 1 to 3 cents based on quarterly or monthly changes in the national index. About 3,400 employees in Battle Creek, Michigan will receive a 3-cent increase because of the quarterly rise in the Detroit index.

TABLE 1: Consumer Price Index--United States City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers
Major group, subgroup, and special group indexes, February 1968
and percent changes from selected dates

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)					Percent change to February 1968 from --				
	February 1968		January 1968		February 1967	January 1968		November 1967		February 1967
	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	unadjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	unadjusted
All items -----	119.0	-----	118.6	-----	114.8	0.3	-----	1.0	-----	3.7
Food -----	117.4	117.4	117.0	117.2	114.2	.3	0.2	1.6	1.1	2.8
Food at home -----	114.2	114.3	113.8	114.1	111.7	.4	.2	1.7	1.3	2.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	118.2	-----	118.3	-----	118.5	-.1	-----	-.2	-----	-.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	112.0	111.9	111.6	111.9	110.7	.4	0	.5	.6	1.2
Dairy products -----	118.5	118.4	118.5	117.9	116.1	0	.4	.6	1.2	2.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	124.9	125.8	124.1	127.0	114.2	.6	-.9	7.0	4.2	9.4
Other foods at home -----	102.6	102.6	101.9	101.1	102.5	.7	1.5	1.1	1.7	.1
Food away from home -----	133.3	-----	132.9	-----	127.4	.3	-----	1.0	-----	4.6
Housing -----	116.9	-----	116.4	-----	113.3	.4	-----	1.2	-----	3.2
Shelter ^{1/} -----	120.8	-----	120.2	-----	116.8	.5	-----	1.2	-----	3.4
Rent -----	113.9	-----	113.7	-----	111.7	.2	-----	.6	-----	2.0
Homeownership ^{2/} -----	123.5	-----	122.9	-----	118.9	.5	-----	1.3	-----	3.9
Fuel and utilities ^{3/} -----	109.8	109.7	109.5	109.1	108.7	.3	.5	.5	.5	1.0
Fuel oil and coal ^{4/} -----	113.8	111.8	113.7	111.8	111.1	.1	0	1.0	.4	2.4
Gas and electricity -----	109.3	-----	108.9	-----	108.3	.4	-----	.3	-----	.9
Household furnishings and operation -----	111.2	-----	110.6	-----	107.0	.5	-----	1.7	-----	3.9
Apparel and upkeep ^{5/} -----	116.6	117.1	115.9	116.6	111.9	.6	.4	0	1.0	4.2
Men's and boys' -----	116.8	117.5	116.3	116.8	111.8	.4	.6	.2	1.5	4.5
Women's and girls' -----	112.4	113.1	111.4	112.5	107.3	.9	.5	-1.0	.7	4.8
Footwear -----	129.1	129.4	128.1	128.4	123.4	.8	.8	1.2	1.7	4.6
Transportation -----	118.6	119.1	118.7	118.5	113.8	-.1	.5	.3	1.1	4.2
Private -----	116.4	116.9	116.6	116.8	111.8	-.2	.1	.2	1.1	4.1
Public -----	136.2	-----	135.5	-----	130.0	.5	-----	1.2	-----	4.8
Health and recreation -----	127.5	-----	127.1	-----	121.8	.3	-----	1.0	-----	4.7
Medical care -----	141.9	-----	141.2	-----	133.6	.5	-----	1.6	-----	6.2
Personal care -----	117.6	-----	117.6	-----	114.1	0	-----	.6	-----	3.1
Reading and recreation -----	123.0	-----	122.7	-----	118.6	.2	-----	.8	-----	3.7
Other goods and services ^{6/} -----	122.1	-----	121.9	-----	116.3	.2	-----	.9	-----	5.0
Special groups:										
All items less shelter -----	118.5	-----	118.2	-----	114.3	.3	-----	.9	-----	3.7
All items less food -----	119.7	-----	119.3	-----	115.2	.3	-----	.8	-----	3.9
All items less medical care -----	117.6	-----	117.3	-----	113.7	.3	-----	.9	-----	3.4
Commodities ^{7/} -----	113.5	113.7	113.2	113.3	109.9	.3	.4	.8	1.1	3.3
Nondurables -----	116.4	116.6	116.0	116.2	112.7	.3	.3	1.0	1.1	3.3
Durables ^{7/ 8/} -----	106.4	106.7	106.3	106.4	102.8	.1	.3	.4	1.0	3.5
Services ^{9/} -----	131.3	-----	130.8	-----	125.9	.4	-----	1.3	-----	4.3
Commodities less food ^{7/} -----	111.5	111.7	111.2	111.4	107.6	.3	.3	.4	.9	3.6
Nondurables less food -----	115.6	115.9	115.1	115.3	111.5	.4	.5	.3	1.0	3.7
Apparel commodities -----	115.6	116.2	114.8	115.5	110.7	.7	.6	-.1	1.2	4.4
Apparel commodities less footwear -----	112.9	113.6	112.2	113.0	108.2	.6	.5	-.4	1.0	4.3
Nondurables less food and apparel -----	115.5	-----	115.3	-----	111.9	.2	-----	.6	-----	3.2
New cars -----	100.8	100.4	101.0	100.4	97.3	-.2	0	.6	.7	3.6
Used cars -----	123.6	127.0	125.8	128.9	114.0	-1.7	-1.5	-1.6	2.0	8.4
Household durables ^{10/} -----	99.9	-----	99.6	-----	97.7	.3	-----	1.1	-----	2.3
Housefurnishings -----	103.1	103.2	102.6	102.8	100.0	.5	.4	1.3	1.5	3.1
Services less rent ^{9/} -----	135.2	-----	134.6	-----	129.2	.4	-----	1.5	-----	4.6
Household services less rent -----	130.6	-----	129.9	-----	125.5	.5	-----	1.6	-----	4.1
Transportation services -----	131.9	-----	131.5	-----	127.2	.3	-----	1.5	-----	3.7
Medical care services -----	152.3	-----	151.4	-----	141.6	.6	-----	1.8	-----	7.6
Other services ^{11/} -----	135.3	-----	134.8	-----	129.4	.4	-----	1.0	-----	4.6
All items index on other bases:										
1947-49=100 -----	146.0	-----	145.5	-----	140.9	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1939=100 -----	245.7	-----	244.9	-----	237.1	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:										
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	\$0.840	-----	\$0.843	-----	\$0.871	-.4	-----	-1.1	-----	-3.6
1947-49=\$1.00 -----	.685	-----	.687	-----	.710	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1939=\$1.00 -----	.407	-----	.408	-----	.422	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

^{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 1/	Pricing Schedule 2/	Indexes			Percent change from:	
		1957-59=100	1947-49=100	Other bases	November 1967	February 1967
		February 1968			November 1967	February 1967
U.S. City Average -----	M	119.0	146.0		1.0	3.7
Chicago -----	M	116.5	146.9		.9	3.8
Detroit -----	M	117.3	144.6		1.1	3.3
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	M	120.7	150.5		.6	4.3
New York -----	M	121.5	146.4		1.0	3.0
Philadelphia -----	M	120.1	147.5		1.3	4.2
		January 1968			October 1967	January 1967
Boston -----	1	121.7	150.8		0.7	2.6
Houston -----	1	116.7	143.8		1.0	3.3
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	1	119.3	147.6		.8	5.2
Pittsburgh -----	1	117.5	144.8		1.7	3.1
		February 1968			November 1967	February 1967
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	2	-----	-----	112.3	1.0	3.5
Cleveland -----	2	117.8	146.3		2.7	5.7
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	2	-----	-----	110.3	1.1	3.1
Milwaukee -----	2	115.0	145.0		.4	3.2
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	2	-----	-----	107.7	1.1	3.9
Seattle -----	2	120.0	150.8		.7	3.5
Washington -----	2	119.1	143.4		1.1	3.5
		December 1967			September 1967	December 1966
Atlanta -----	3	116.8	144.6		1.0	3.1
Baltimore -----	3	117.4	145.7		-.2	2.5
Cincinnati -----	3	116.0	141.2		1.1	4.3
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	3	-----	-----	109.7	1.2	3.0
Kansas City -----	3	120.2	148.7		.1	2.5
St. Louis -----	3	118.9	147.6		1.0	3.5
San Francisco-Oakland --	3	121.3	153.9		.7	3.5

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 Area ^{1/}
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Major Groups
Percent change from January 1968 to February 1968

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.4
Food -----	.3	.7	.5	.1	.6	.3
Housing -----	.4	.5	.6	.2	.5	.6
Apparel and upkeep -----	.6	1.2	1.8	.9	1.6	1.5
Transportation -----	.1	0	.2	.3	0	-.1
Health and recreation -----	.3	.2	.2	.3	.1	.2
Medical care -----	.5	.9	.5	.3	.2	.3
Personal care -----	0	.4	.5	.5	.2	-.3
Reading and recreation -----	.2	.3	.3	.2	.1	.6
Other goods and services -----	.2	0	.2	1.1	0	(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
1968: Feb.	119.0	117.4	116.9	116.6	118.6	127.5	141.9	117.6	123.0	122.1
Jan.	118.6	117.0	116.4	115.9	118.7	127.1	141.2	117.6	122.7	121.9
1967: Dec.	118.2	116.2	116.0	116.8	117.9	126.6	140.4	117.2	122.2	121.4
Nov.	117.8	115.6	115.5	116.6	118.3	126.2	139.7	116.9	122.0	121.0
Oct.	117.5	115.7	115.3	116.0	117.7	125.5	139.0	116.5	121.4	120.3
Sept.	117.1	115.9	115.0	115.1	116.8	124.9	138.5	116.4	120.5	119.7
Aug.	116.9	116.6	114.7	113.8	116.4	124.2	137.5	116.1	120.0	118.8
July	116.5	116.0	114.3	113.7	116.2	123.6	136.9	115.5	119.8	117.8
June	116.0	115.1	114.1	113.9	115.7	123.2	136.3	115.3	119.7	116.9
May	115.6	113.9	113.9	113.8	115.5	122.8	135.7	115.0	119.6	116.7
Apr.	115.3	113.7	113.6	113.0	115.1	122.6	135.1	114.9	119.4	116.6
Mar.	115.0	114.2	113.3	112.6	114.2	122.2	134.6	114.4	118.9	116.4
Feb.	114.8	114.2	113.3	111.9	113.8	121.8	133.6	114.1	118.6	116.3
Annual Average: 1967	116.3	115.2	114.3	114.0	115.9	123.8	136.7	115.5	120.1	118.2
1966	113.1	114.2	111.1	109.6	112.7	119.0	127.7	112.2	117.1	114.9
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
1957	98.0	97.8	98.5	99.5	96.5	97.0	95.5	97.1	96.9	98.5

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas 1/
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups
February 1968 indexes and percent changes from November 1967

Group	U. S. City Average	Buffalo (Nov.1963=100)	Chicago	Cleveland	Dallas (Nov.1963=100)	Detroit	Los Angeles- Long Beach
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)							
All items -----	119.0	112.3	116.5	117.8	110.3	117.3	120.7
Food -----	117.4	112.1	118.5	114.2	111.4	116.1	116.3
Food at home -----	114.2	110.6	117.4	111.8	109.8	113.5	111.1
Cereals and bakery products -----	118.2	104.0	121.8	111.7	102.3	110.8	118.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	112.0	109.6	114.4	112.2	112.1	114.6	103.0
Dairy products -----	118.5	112.0	129.5	119.8	119.1	124.6	117.9
Fruits and vegetables -----	124.9	122.4	126.4	122.8	114.9	115.5	133.6
Other foods at home -----	102.6	106.3	103.0	98.4	102.6	103.0	94.7
Food away from home -----	133.3	120.7	124.4	128.1	117.8	130.8	135.3
Housing -----	116.9	109.7	113.5	114.4	108.6	111.5	122.5
Shelter -----	120.8	110.5	115.6	115.0	112.3	114.2	128.9
Rent -----	113.9	105.4	-----	103.7	102.8	103.6	-----
Homeownership -----	123.5	111.4	118.6	117.0	117.0	116.8	134.0
Fuel and utilities -----	109.8	107.6	107.9	115.4	98.6	102.6	106.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	113.8	108.4	109.0	-----	-----	107.2	-----
Gas and electricity -----	109.3	107.9	108.1	116.3	98.8	104.4	112.4
Household furnishings and operation -----	111.2	109.2	111.8	109.7	106.5	106.6	111.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	116.6	117.2	111.1	116.5	108.9	114.9	116.9
Men's and boys' -----	116.8	115.1	109.6	121.2	112.0	113.6	120.5
Women's and girls' -----	112.4	118.4	105.1	108.4	107.1	113.2	115.5
Footwear -----	129.1	122.4	125.5	132.8	109.0	126.5	125.7
Transportation -----	118.6	110.6	116.7	120.4	106.8	117.5	124.5
Private -----	116.4	110.9	115.8	117.0	106.3	116.0	120.0
Public -----	136.2	106.5	123.7	141.6	113.8	119.8	153.2
Health and recreation -----	127.5	116.0	122.4	128.3	115.0	130.1	122.2
Medical care -----	141.9	120.0	151.3	150.9	122.1	151.9	138.6
Personal care -----	117.6	110.9	116.2	115.3	108.9	123.8	112.5
Reading and recreation -----	123.0	114.1	106.4	117.6	111.7	121.3	109.9
Other goods and services -----	122.1	116.6	114.2	125.4	112.6	118.3	119.9
Percent changes November 1967 to February 1968							
All items -----	1.0	1.0	0.9	2.7	1.1	1.1	0.6
Food -----	1.6	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.2	.5
Food at home -----	1.7	2.0	2.3	1.6	1.4	1.3	.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	.2	.2	2.1	-.8	- 4.8	- 1.3	- 1.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	.5	-.1	1.4	-.1	.5	-.5	-.5
Dairy products -----	.6	1.1	-.2	2.9	.2	1.5	-.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	7.0	10.8	8.3	6.4	7.6	6.8	4.7
Other foods at home -----	1.1	.5	1.1	1.4	2.0	1.3	.2
Food away from home -----	1.0	1.3	.3	.9	1.4	.8	.5
Housing -----	1.2	.3	1.4	4.9	1.1	1.2	1.1
Shelter -----	1.2	.6	1.9	6.3	1.2	1.6	.8
Rent -----	.6	.5	-----	.3	.7	2/ .5	-----
Homeownership -----	1.3	.6	2.5	7.3	1.5	1.8	.8
Fuel and utilities -----	.5	- 1.5	.7	0	.3	.1	1.3
Fuel oil and coal -----	1.0	3.6	2.0	-----	-----	2.1	-----
Gas and electricity -----	.3	- 2.6	.3	-.1	.5	-.1	1.6
Household furnishings and operation -----	1.7	.7	1.1	2.7	1.5	.6	2.0
Apparel and upkeep -----	0	1.6	- 1.3	1.5	1.4	.2	.3
Men's and boys' -----	.2	1.0	-.9	.5	2.2	1.1	.7
Women's and girls' -----	- 1.0	2.2	- 3.7	1.6	.3	-.5	-.8
Footwear -----	1.2	1.0	1.2	2.3	2.6	.3	2.0
Transportation -----	.3	.4	-.1	.7	.3	1.2	-.9
Private -----	.2	.3	0	.8	-.2	1.3	-.9
Public -----	1.2	0	.2	0	6.0	0	.3
Health and recreation -----	1.0	1.4	.5	1.9	1.1	1.4	1.2
Medical care -----	1.6	.8	1.9	2.9	2.2	2.0	1.2
Personal care -----	.6	.2	-.3	.3	.6	-.2	.7
Reading and recreation -----	.8	2.3	-.4	2.6	.6	3.1	.7
Other goods and services -----	.9	1.7	.4	.7	.6	-.3	2.0

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
 February 1968 indexes and percent changes from November 1967--Continued

Group	Milwaukee	New York	Philadelphia	San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	Seattle	Washington
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)						
All items -----	115.0	121.5	120.1	107.7	120.0	119.1
Food -----	116.2	118.0	117.1	109.2	116.5	117.2
Food at home -----	114.2	113.1	112.5	107.4	111.9	113.0
Cereals and bakery products -----	106.9	117.0	113.6	106.9	109.7	111.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	113.1	113.1	108.5	112.1	108.4	110.0
Dairy products -----	125.5	110.7	123.9	107.0	122.6	119.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	125.2	125.2	124.8	106.2	125.8	117.5
Other foods at home -----	103.8	101.0	98.7	102.0	100.3	108.5
Food away from home -----	127.8	138.8	141.3	114.1	135.8	133.3
Housing -----	111.6	120.3	117.0	107.9	121.3	115.4
Shelter -----	111.8	123.1	118.4	111.2	129.5	118.0
Rent -----	106.7	123.5	-----	105.2	120.4	118.5
Homeownership -----	113.5	121.5	119.5	113.7	131.8	116.3
Fuel and utilities -----	111.3	110.2	109.0	^{3/} 99.5	112.5	103.3
Fuel oil and coal -----	118.4	119.0	119.4	-----	109.3	112.8
Gas and electricity -----	101.9	111.1	102.7	100.0	97.9	101.5
Household furnishings and operation -----	111.5	118.3	114.9	103.8	109.4	114.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	113.3	120.7	123.6	105.1	117.2	121.3
Men's and boys' -----	115.5	122.3	116.9	111.0	119.7	117.2
Women's and girls' -----	108.7	116.3	119.9	99.6	115.3	118.8
Footwear -----	126.8	129.7	132.6	112.4	132.2	134.0
Transportation -----	115.8	119.0	126.6	105.7	120.0	118.1
Private -----	114.8	118.4	120.9	105.7	119.2	116.0
Public -----	130.0	124.7	155.7	105.1	128.2	131.3
Health and recreation -----	120.9	131.9	126.9	108.9	122.7	129.7
Medical care -----	135.9	143.4	146.9	115.7	136.0	160.8
Personal care -----	121.3	114.6	112.6	100.5	116.2	116.7
Reading and recreation -----	116.3	134.0	117.9	104.5	113.2	123.9
Other goods and services -----	113.6	127.5	(4/)	111.7	123.5	114.6
Percent changes November 1967 to February 1968						
All items -----	0.4	1.0	1.3	1.1	0.7	1.1
Food -----	1.3	1.7	1.7	.3	.6	1.0
Food at home -----	1.3	2.0	1.2	.1	.2	1.1
Cereals and bakery products -----	- 2.3	- .8	- .9	- .9	- .8	(4/)
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	.9	1.9	.3	- 1.2	- 3.6	-.3
Dairy products -----	.3	1.9	.2	.8	-.6	0
Fruits and vegetables -----	7.7	6.6	7.0	.8	7.9	6.0
Other foods at home -----	.5	.6	.1	1.7	.9	1.4
Food away from home -----	1.1	.7	4.1	.6	2.0	.8
Housing -----	.4	1.3	.9	2.3	1.5	.9
Shelter -----	.2	.8	-.2	2.7	1.6	.8
Rent -----	.7	^{2/} .4	-----	1.6	1.2	.5
Homeownership -----	-.1	.7	-.3	3.2	1.8	.9
Fuel and utilities -----	.3	.5	.8	0	.3	-.4
Fuel oil and coal -----	1.5	1.3	1.0	-----	1.1	0
Gas and electricity -----	0	.3	.9	0	0	-.7
Household furnishings and operation -----	1.1	3.0	3.2	1.1	1.8	1.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	.4	-.4	.4	1.0	-.3	.9
Men's and boys' -----	1.4	.3	-.6	1.4	0	-.7
Women's and girls' -----	- 1.7	- 1.3	.5	.3	- 1.8	.5
Footwear -----	3.4	.5	.6	-.1	1.5	2.1
Transportation -----	-.2	.1	1.9	1.0	.1	.9
Private -----	-.3	.2	1.0	.9	0	.8
Public -----	1.6	0	7.7	2.2	.5	2.4
Health and recreation -----	.3	.9	1.0	.3	.2	2.0
Medical care -----	.2	1.7	1.6	0	1.2	3.1
Personal care -----	-.2	.7	.9	.6	.0	1.8
Reading and recreation -----	.3	.6	1.6	.6	-.5	1.8
Other goods and services -----	.8	.6	(4/)	0	.1	.7

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

^{2/} Change from December 1967.

^{3/} Corrected index November 1967. 99.5.

^{4/} Not available.

TABLE 5-A: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas 1/
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups
1967 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1966 to 1967

Group	Buffalo (Nov.1963=100)	Cleveland	Dallas (Nov.1963=100)	Milwaukee 2/	San Diego 3/ (Feb.1965=100)	Seattle	Washington
Indexes (1957=59=100 unless otherwise specified)							
All items -----	109.9	112.9	108.1	112.9	105.1	117.5	116.5
All items (1947-49=100) -----	-----	140.2	-----	142.4	-----	147.7	140.3
Food -----	110.0	111.4	109.7	114.5	107.6	114.6	115.9
Food at home -----	108.8	109.0	108.5	112.7	106.4	110.7	112.4
Cereals and bakery products ----	103.9	112.4	107.5	109.9	108.1	110.7	112.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	109.9	111.3	111.3	112.5	112.3	110.9	110.5
Dairy products -----	110.2	113.5	118.0	122.1	106.1	120.6	120.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	113.6	113.7	106.6	117.4	101.3	115.9	115.9
Other foods at home -----	105.6	97.5	102.3	103.6	101.1	99.7	105.6
Food away from home -----	117.2	124.9	114.2	125.5	111.2	131.3	130.4
Housing -----	108.0	108.6	106.1	109.5	104.6	117.6	113.6
Shelter -----	108.1	108.0	109.2	109.2	107.0	124.6	115.8
Rent -----	104.2	102.8	101.3	105.4	102.3	116.9	117.3
Homeownership -----	108.7	108.8	112.9	110.4	108.9	126.4	113.8
Fuel and utilities -----	108.1	115.4	98.4	110.9	95.7	111.7	104.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	103.6	-----	-----	116.2	-----	106.5	111.3
Gas and electricity -----	110.7	116.6	98.1	101.9	95.5	98.0	103.4
Household furnishings and operation	107.3	105.1	104.0	109.7	102.0	106.9	111.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	113.3	111.8	106.8	111.6	102.0	115.7	117.6
Men's and boys' -----	110.0	116.4	108.4	112.1	106.2	118.5	116.6
Women's and girls' -----	114.6	103.6	105.7	108.5	97.0	114.8	113.5
Footwear -----	119.4	127.4	105.6	122.4	110.9	128.4	128.4
Transportation -----	108.7	116.1	105.6	113.3	104.2	118.6	115.2
Private -----	109.0	113.1	105.7	113.0	104.2	117.8	113.4
Public -----	106.4	134.2	105.5	119.5	104.2	126.5	125.7
Health and recreation -----	112.4	122.0	112.2	118.5	105.8	120.4	124.9
Medical care -----	116.6	143.7	117.1	130.9	113.8	131.3	150.7
Personal care -----	109.5	112.2	107.6	119.9	98.5	114.3	113.4
Reading and recreation -----	108.4	113.2	110.2	114.7	102.1	111.8	120.4
Other goods and services -----	114.1	116.3	110.4	111.9	105.6	122.2	112.5
Percent changes 1966 to 1967							
All items -----	2.7	2.9	3.0	2.1	2.9	3.0	2.8
Food -----	1.1	.5	-.3	.5	.9	.4	1.7
Food at home -----	.2	-.4	-1.7	-.4	.3	-.8	.5
Cereals and bakery products ----	2.1	1.0	.3	4.4	1.9	2.4	1.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	-2.4	-2.6	-4.2	-2.9	-.1	-3.8	-.7
Dairy products -----	4.5	5.8	5.1	3.4	3.2	3.3	4.7
Fruits and vegetables -----	.8	-.3	-2.1	.8	0	.3	.3
Other foods at home -----	-.4	-1.6	-2.4	-2.9	-2.1	-2.2	-.4
Food away from home -----	6.3	4.9	5.2	4.1	2.9	4.6	4.9
Housing -----	3.2	3.6	4.2	2.3	3.7	4.2	1.7
Shelter -----	3.8	4.4	5.3	2.9	4.8	5.9	1.6
Rent -----	1.9	1.2	1.5	1.1	1.8	5.0	1.4
Homeownership -----	4.0	5.0	6.9	3.3	6.0	6.0	1.5
Fuel and utilities -----	1.0	.3	.4	.4	1.2	1.4	.8
Fuel oil and coal -----	2.7	-----	-----	.3	-----	2.2	4.8
Gas and electricity -----	.5	-.3	.5	0	.8	-.4	-.1
Household furnishings and operation	2.6	3.2	4.1	2.2	2.2	2.6	2.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	4.8	3.1	4.2	3.7	1.6	3.5	4.8
Men's and boys' -----	1.4	4.2	3.4	1.7	2.5	1.8	5.1
Women's and girls' -----	6.5	2.2	5.7	4.9	-.1	5.0	5.2
Footwear -----	7.8	5.0	3.4	5.6	4.4	4.6	4.4
Transportation -----	2.4	3.1	3.0	1.4	3.8	3.8	3.6
Private -----	2.6	2.5	3.1	1.1	4.0	4.2	2.9
Public -----	.1	6.6	2.3	7.5	-.1	1.0	6.8
Health and recreation -----	3.3	3.7	3.9	3.3	4.1	3.2	4.8
Medical care -----	6.3	6.1	7.0	7.8	7.2	5.4	8.4
Personal care -----	2.5	2.8	1.3	3.9	1.7	3.0	1.9
Reading and recreation -----	2.1	2.3	2.7	1.3	1.4	1.8	2.8
Other goods and services -----	1.9	3.4	1.8	1.3	5.0	2.4	5.0

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.

2/ 1966 annual average indexes, based on unpublished monthly food data are as follows: Food, 113.9; Cereals and bakery products, 105.3; Meats, poultry, and fish, 115.9; Dairy products, 118.1; Fruits and vegetables, 116.5; Other foods at home, 106.7.

3/ Corrected 1966 annual average indexes, based on unpublished monthly data are as follows: Food, 106.6; Cereals and bakery products, 106.1; Meats, poultry and fish, 112.4; Fruits and vegetables, 101.3; Other foods at home, 103.3.

TABLE 6: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Food and its Subgroups
February 1968 indexes and percent changes from January 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 -----	117.4	114.2	118.2	112.0	118.5	124.9	102.6	133.3
Atlanta -----	114.4	111.7	113.5	110.6	113.0	120.3	105.7	124.4
Baltimore -----	118.2	113.6	122.3	110.2	114.5	128.1	102.7	137.4
Boston -----	121.1	116.5	121.8	118.5	113.4	124.3	105.1	141.3
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	112.1	110.6	104.0	109.6	112.0	122.4	106.3	120.7
Chicago -----	118.5	117.4	121.8	114.4	129.5	126.4	103.0	124.4
Cincinnati -----	113.3	109.6	112.0	110.7	112.1	121.0	96.6	131.9
Cleveland -----	114.2	111.8	111.7	112.2	119.8	122.8	98.4	128.1
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	111.4	109.8	102.3	112.1	119.1	114.9	102.6	117.8
Detroit -----	116.1	113.5	110.8	114.6	124.6	115.5	103.0	130.8
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	111.1	111.2	111.5	111.4	112.7	118.3	103.3	110.6
Houston -----	117.4	114.0	125.1	107.3	116.1	129.8	103.2	132.4
Kansas City -----	120.4	117.7	123.0	114.1	126.4	127.1	105.8	130.2
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	116.3	111.1	118.3	103.0	117.9	133.6	94.7	135.3
Milwaukee -----	116.2	114.2	106.9	113.1	125.5	125.2	103.8	127.8
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	114.8	111.7	107.5	109.8	119.3	122.8	103.1	128.8
New York -----	118.0	113.1	117.0	113.1	110.7	125.2	101.0	138.8
Philadelphia -----	117.1	112.5	113.6	108.5	123.9	124.8	98.7	141.3
Pittsburgh -----	113.6	111.1	115.4	113.5	109.9	119.7	100.2	130.0
St. Louis -----	121.3	117.8	119.7	116.8	131.0	127.4	102.7	134.9
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	109.2	107.4	106.9	112.1	107.0	106.2	102.0	114.1
San Francisco-Oakland --	117.2	112.8	117.3	108.9	115.8	130.5	98.7	136.8
Seattle -----	116.5	111.9	109.7	108.4	122.6	125.8	100.3	135.8
Washington -----	117.2	113.0	111.5	110.0	119.5	117.5	108.5	133.3
Percent changes January 1968 to February 1968								
U.S. City Average -----	0.3	0.4	- 0.1	0.4	0	0.6	0.7	0.3
Atlanta -----	-.5	-.6	-.3	-1.6	-0.1	-.7	-.1	.1
Baltimore -----	.4	.4	.2	-.4	0	1.9	.8	.3
Boston -----	.2	.3	.9	.1	0	-.3	1.1	.3
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	.4	.4	-.4	-.5	.2	3.0	-.2	.8
Chicago -----	.7	.9	1.8	.6	0	2.6	-.1	.2
Cincinnati -----	.1	-.1	.2	-.5	.1	.3	.3	.5
Cleveland -----	1.0	1.1	-.9	.6	3.5	2.3	.4	.5
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	.2	0	-5.4	.9	-.2	1.6	.5	.9
Detroit -----	.5	.6	-.3	-.4	-.2	3.5	1.1	.2
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	.5	.6	.5	-.7	3.0	2.3	0	0
Houston -----	.6	.7	-.2	1.1	.1	1.1	.8	.2
Kansas City -----	.3	.3	.6	.8	.1	-.2	.1	.2
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	.1	0	-.3	.6	-.1	-1.7	.7	.3
Milwaukee -----	.3	.2	-1.8	.7	-.2	.1	.6	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	0	0	-.2	0	-.1	.1	0	0
New York -----	.6	.6	-.2	.6	.1	.9	1.5	.2
Philadelphia -----	.3	.2	-.4	.5	.2	.8	-.1	.4
Pittsburgh -----	.2	.2	-.8	.6	-.6	.8	.3	.4
St. Louis -----	-.1	-.2	0	.5	0	-.9	-.6	.1
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	.1	-.1	.2	-.2	.1	-2.0	1.2	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	0	0	.3	1.0	.3	-3.8	1.3	.1
Seattle -----	-.7	-1.1	-.5	-2.6	-.6	-1.8	.8	.6
Washington -----	-.2	-.4	-1.4	-.4	-.6	-1.1	1.1	.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
February 1968 indexes and percent changes from selected dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to February 1968 from --		February 1967 unadjusted
	February 1968		January 1968		
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
Total food -----	117.4	117.4	0.3	0.2	2.8
Food away from home -----	133.3	-----	.3	-----	4.6
Restaurant meals -----	133.6	-----	.3	-----	4.6
Snacks 1/ -----	115.2	-----	.3	-----	4.5
Food at home -----	114.2	114.3	.4	.3	2.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	118.2	-----	-.1	-----	-.3
Flour -----	113.2	-----	0	-----	- 1.5
Cracker meal 1/ -----	117.3	-----	.1	-----	.5
Corn flakes -----	128.9	-----	-.1	-----	.5
Rice -----	109.4	-----	.3	-----	1.7
Bread, white -----	122.8	-----	-.3	-----	- 1.4
Bread, whole wheat 1/ -----	114.0	-----	0	-----	.9
Cookies -----	100.1	-----	-.3	-----	- 1.2
Layer cake 1/ -----	107.5	-----	.3	-----	2.4
Cinnamon rolls 1/ -----	106.5	-----	-.2	-----	- 1.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	112.0	111.9	.4	0	1.2
Meats -----	114.9	114.9	.4	.3	1.8
Beef and veal -----	116.3	116.2	.3	0	4.0
Steak, round -----	112.5	112.3	1.0	0	4.9
Steak, sirloin 2/ -----	109.6	-----	.7	-----	5.2
Steak, porterhouse 1/ -----	114.2	-----	.7	-----	5.7
Rump roast 1/ -----	108.6	-----	.1	-----	4.0
Rib roast -----	123.6	123.2	- 1.1	-.2	4.9
Chuck roast -----	109.4	108.3	1.1	0	5.0
Hamburger -----	118.6	118.7	.2	.1	3.0
Beef liver 1/ -----	104.6	-----	- 1.2	-----	- 2.2
Veal cutlets -----	138.6	137.8	.6	-.4	6.0
Pork -----	113.1	113.9	1.0	1.3	-.4
Chops -----	116.4	117.3	2.2	2.5	2.7
Loin roast 2/ -----	122.3	-----	1.1	-----	.9
Pork sausage 1/ -----	121.0	-----	.1	-----	-.7
Ham, whole -----	111.1	110.0	-.8	1.0	- 1.3
Picnics 1/ -----	113.8	-----	.4	-----	5.2
Bacon -----	113.0	115.3	1.2	-.1	1.9
Other meats -----	118.2	118.1	0	-.2	.2
Lamb chops 1/ -----	125.5	-----	.8	-----	7.7
Frankfurters -----	115.6	116.3	-.7	-.7	-.9
Ham, canned 1/ -----	115.6	-----	.4	-----	3.5
Bologna sausage 1/ -----	117.9	-----	.2	-----	.3
Salami sausage 1/ -----	112.2	-----	- 1.5	-----	-.7
Liverwurst 1/ -----	116.5	-----	.7	-----	.9
Poultry -----	88.0	-----	-.3	-----	- 2.8
Frying chicken -----	88.4	87.2	-.1	- 4.3	- 1.8
Chicken breasts 1/ -----	100.5	-----	.3	-----	-.7
Turkey 1/ -----	95.9	-----	- 2.1	-----	- 9.0
Fish -----	122.9	122.7	.2	.3	.7
Shrimp, frozen 1/ -----	107.7	-----	.1	-----	- 2.2
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	125.1	124.2	.1	-.5	.1
Tuna fish, canned -----	109.6	-----	-.3	-----	- 2.5
Sardines, canned 1/ -----	120.7	-----	.8	-----	7.0
Dairy products -----	118.5	118.4	0	.4	2.1
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	116.4	116.3	.1	.5	3.3
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	121.0	-----	0	-----	4.1
Milk, fresh, skim 1/ -----	114.5	-----	0	-----	3.3
Milk, evaporated -----	117.3	-----	-.1	-----	0
Ice cream -----	97.9	-----	-.6	-----	- 2.2
Cheese, American process -----	137.0	136.6	.7	.7	-.4
Butter -----	116.6	116.7	0	.5	.5

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7: Consumer Price Index--United States City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Food Items
February 1968 indexes and percent changes from selected dates--Continued
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to February 1968 from --		February 1967 unadjusted
	February 1968		January 1968		
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
Fruits and vegetables -----	124.9	125.8	0.6	- 0.9	9.4
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	133.1	135.1	.8	- 1.9	11.5
Apples -----	145.4	158.7	4.3	.1	14.6
Bananas -----	91.0	91.7	13.2	10.3	2.8
Oranges -----	140.0	151.0	2.2	3.1	30.1
Orange juice, fresh 1/ -----	80.5	-----	1.9	-----	5.8
Grapefruit -----	141.1	160.0	1.1	- .8	17.9
Grapes * -----	*	*	*	*	*
Strawberries * -----	*	*	*	*	*
Watermelon * -----	*	*	*	*	*
Potatoes -----	121.4	124.6	- .6	- 4.4	- 10.7
Onions -----	136.9	141.1	7.4	2.9	- 7.1
Asparagus * 1/ -----	*	*	*	-----	*
Cabbage -----	161.8	144.6	11.4	4.5	9.1
Carrots -----	181.8	182.5	7.2	9.3	76.0
Celery -----	120.5	119.1	- 5.5	- 5.9	22.0
Cucumbers 1/ -----	191.9	-----	27.5	-----	18.5
Lettuce -----	106.6	101.3	- 35.6	- 35.7	- 4.1
Peppers, green 1/ -----	166.8	-----	- 1.8	-----	12.9
Spinach 1/ -----	106.1	-----	4.1	-----	7.0
Tomatoes -----	141.5	137.2	4.5	12.0	25.1
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	114.8	-----	.3	-----	6.4
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	107.8	-----	- .2	-----	11.7
Pears, canned 1/ -----	116.7	-----	.5	-----	24.9
Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned 1/ --	94.5	-----	- .4	-----	- .6
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	82.1	82.8	2.8	9.1	3.9
Lemonade concentrate, frozen 2/ -----	91.0	-----	1.1	-----	.4
Beets, canned 1/ -----	110.0	-----	.3	-----	4.3
Peas, green, canned -----	122.3	-----	- .5	-----	1.1
Tomatoes, canned -----	129.5	-----	0	-----	8.7
Dried beans -----	123.0	-----	.7	-----	7.7
Broccoli, frozen 1/ -----	100.9	-----	.7	-----	.8
Other food at home -----	102.6	102.6	.7	1.5	.1
Eggs -----	89.2	86.9	4.7	6.1	- 2.4
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	103.9	-----	- .3	-----	- 2.3
Salad dressing, Italian 1/ -----	102.7	-----	- .1	-----	1.0
Salad or cooking oil 1/ -----	122.1	-----	- 1.0	-----	- 3.6
Sugar and sweets -----	116.0	-----	0	-----	2.2
Sugar -----	112.7	-----	- .3	-----	.5
Grape jelly -----	117.2	-----	.1	-----	.3
Chocolate bar -----	106.0	-----	.3	-----	5.0
Syrup, chocolate flavored 1/ -----	101.7	-----	0	-----	3.0
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	99.8	-----	.4	-----	0
Coffee, can and bag -----	86.9	-----	.1	-----	- 4.9
Coffee, instant 3/ -----	97.2	-----	.1	-----	.5
Tea -----	100.1	-----	1.2	-----	.7
Cola drink -----	144.0	-----	.6	-----	7.2
Carbonated fruit drink 1/ -----	113.3	-----	.8	-----	6.3
Prepared and partially prepared foods 1/	101.9	-----	.1	-----	1.7
Bean soup, canned 1/ -----	100.8	-----	0	-----	4.3
Chicken soup, canned 1/ -----	95.9	-----	- .2	-----	- 1.5
Spaghetti, canned 1/ -----	111.5	-----	0	-----	3.7
Mashed potatoes, instant 1/ -----	102.9	-----	.3	-----	.4
Potatoes, french fried, frozen 2/ -----	84.9	-----	- .5	-----	- .2
Baby foods, canned -----	106.5	-----	- .3	-----	- .3
Sweet pickle relish 1/ -----	108.8	-----	.6	-----	2.6
Pretzels 1/ -----	104.9	-----	.7	-----	4.0

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 1968 and 1967 average indexes
 and percent changes from selected dates
 (1957-59=100)

Group	February 1968			1967 Average	
	Index	Percent change from--		Index	Percent change from 1966
		November 1967	February 1967		
All items -----	121.1	1.3	4.1	118.0	2.7
All items (1947-49=100) -----	144.5			140.8	
Food -----	116.0	1.1	3.5	113.6	.7
Food at home -----	113.0	1.1	3.2	111.2	.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	119.5	-.2	-.1	119.6	3.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.2	.4	2.0	114.9	- 2.5
Dairy products -----	112.6	.5	2.8	110.7	4.4
Fruits and vegetables -----	113.5	3.7	10.8	108.1	-.2
Other foods at home -----	103.3	1.0	1.4	102.5	- 1.3
Housing -----	115.9	1.9	3.7	112.6	3.5
Rent -----	113.4	.4	1.3	112.6	1.5
Gas and electricity -----	105.8	1.0	1.0	104.8	0
Solid and petroleum fuels -----	108.8	2.0	3.4	103.1	1.1
Housefurnishings -----	106.0	3.6	4.7	101.2	2.7
Household operation -----	119.9	2.1	2.4	117.7	2.9
Apparel -----	119.5	1.0	5.6	115.9	4.2
Mens's and boys' -----	119.4	-.1	2.9	117.9	4.8
Women's and girls' -----	117.9	1.2	8.4	113.0	4.1
Footwear -----	129.4	2.5	4.0	125.2	4.5
Other apparel -----	106.5	1.7	3.3	103.7	.5
Transportation -----	114.8	.2	3.3	112.9	2.4
Private -----	111.7	.1	3.7	109.8	1.8
Public -----	134.6	1.0	1.0	133.1	6.2
Medical care -----	147.8	1.6	5.0	143.2	5.4
Personal care -----	130.0	-.2	4.6	126.7	4.3
Reading and recreation -----	165.0	1.0	3.4	162.1	3.0
Other goods and services -----	125.7	1.3	8.5	118.3	3.1

Table 9: Percent Change in Prices for Selected Groups in the Consumer Price Index and the Wholesale Price Index (Seasonally adjusted except where indicated)

	Jan. 1968 to Feb. 1968		Nov. 1967 to Feb. 1968		Aug. 1967 to Nov. 1967		May 1967 to Aug. 1967		Feb. 1967 to May 1967		Feb. 1967 to Feb. 1968	
	CPI	WPI	CPI	WPI	CPI	WPI	CPI	WPI	CPI	WPI	CPI*	WPI*
*ALL ITEMS -----	0.3	0.7	1.0	1.7	0.8	0.1	1.1	0.3	0.7	-0.2	3.7	1.9
CONSUMER PRODUCTS -----	.3	.7	1.2	1.5	.8	-.1	.6	.4	.4	.4	2.9	2.2
<u>Nondurable</u> -----	.5	1.0	1.2	1.9	.9	-.7	.5	.5	.3	.5	2.9	2.0
Food and beverages at home -----	.5	1.5	1.9	2.9	-.2	-.7	.9	.1	-.3	.2	2.3	2.4
Apparel and accessories -----	.6	.4	1.2	1.4	1.2	.9	.8	.4	1.1	.3	4.4	3.0
Household furnishings and supplies -----	.2	.6	.7	.7	0	.2	.4	.7	1.2	1.8	2.2	3.5
Gasoline and motor oil -----	1.6	1.7	1.3	.2	1.1	-6.7	-.9	.4	.8	1.5	2.4	-4.9
Other nondurables -----	.2	.4	1.0	.1	1.8	.2	.7	1.4	.1	.2	3.6	1.9
<u>Durable</u> -----	.2	-.1	.7	.6	1.1	1.2	.8	.6	.1	0	2.7	2.4
New passenger cars -----	0	-.2	.7	.3	1.6	2.0	1.0	0	.2	.1	3.6	2.5
Appliances -----	-.1	.2	.4	.2	.1	.5	.5	.2	-.5	-.3	.5	.6
Furniture and floor coverings -----	.6	.2	1.8	.8	1.1	1.3	.4	.3	.4	.2	3.7	2.6
*Other durables -----	.4	-.2	1.0	.8	.9	.4	.3	1.7	.6	.3	2.7	3.2
*CONSUMER SERVICES -----	.4	-	1.3	-	1.1	-	.9	-	.9	-	4.3	-
*Insurance and finance -----	.4	-	1.6	-	.9	-	.8	-	.3	-	3.8	-
*Rent -----	.2	-	.6	-	.5	-	.4	-	.4	-	2.0	-
*Utilities and public transportation -----	.3	-	.6	-	.4	-	.5	-	.3	-	1.8	-
*Housekeeping and home maintenance services -----	.7	-	2.5	-	1.6	-	1.2	-	1.6	-	7.2	-
*Medical care services -----	.6	-	1.8	-	2.0	-	1.6	-	2.0	-	7.6	-
*Personal care services -----	.3	-	1.1	-	1.0	-	1.3	-	.7	-	4.1	-
*Other services -----	.5	-	1.2	-	1.5	-	.8	-	1.3	-	4.8	-
WHOLESALE PRICES:												
<u>Type of Product:</u>												
Farm products -----	-	2.4	-	4.3	-	-2.0	-	-2.1	-	.2	-	.3
Processed foods and feeds -----	-	1.3	-	2.0	-	-.9	-	.2	-	.2	-	1.4
*Industrial commodities -----	-	.5	-	1.1	-	.8	-	.3	-	0	-	2.2
<u>Industrial Materials and Equipment:</u>												
Chemicals and allied products -----	-	-.1	-	-.3	-	0	-	-.3	-	.2	-	-.4
Rubber and rubber products -----	-	-.1	-	.3	-	1.0	-	2.5	-	0	-	3.9
Lumber and wood products -----	-	2.0	-	3.8	-	2.3	-	1.6	-	-.2	-	7.7
Pulp, paper and allied products -----	-	.6	-	1.1	-	.7	-	.3	-	.2	-	2.3
*Metals and metal products -----	-	1.0	-	2.1	-	1.2	-	.3	-	-.6	-	2.9
Machinery and equipment -----	-	.1	-	1.2	-	.5	-	.4	-	.4	-	2.6
<u>Stage of Processing at Wholesale:</u>												
Finished goods -----	-	.6	-	1.3	-	.5	-	.4	-	.4	-	2.5
Consumer -----	-	.6	-	1.4	-	.2	-	.4	-	.3	-	2.3
Producer -----	-	.2	-	1.1	-	1.2	-	.5	-	.5	-	3.3
Intermediate materials, supplies and components -----	-	.7	-	1.3	-	.4	-	.2	-	-.1	-	1.8
Crude materials -----	-	1.9	-	3.2	-	-1.1	-	-1.9	-	0	-	.1

NOTE: The price changes shown for Consumer Products and components are for roughly comparable classes of finished consumer products from the CPI and WPI. A brief description of the classes of items contained in each group is included at the end of this report. Complete listings of inclusions in the CPI and WPI groupings will be furnished on request.

*Based on data unadjusted for seasonal variations.

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 1967 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 1967 Data

Component	Standard Error			Relative Error		
	Monthly Change	Quarterly Change	Annual Change	Monthly Change	Quarterly Change	Annual Change
All items -----	.03	.05	.07	.12	.07	.03
Food at home -----	.08	.11	.16	.14	.10	.19
Food away from home ----	.06	.12	.27	.16	.10	.05
Housing -----	.04	.07	.14	.18	.11	.05
Apparel -----	.16	.24	.26	.29	.23	.06
Transportation -----	.07	.12	.14	.17	.11	.05
Medical care -----	.12	.17	.26	.23	.10	.04
Personal care -----	.14	.19	.34	.56	.26	.12
Reading and recreation -	.08	.12	.15	.29	.16	.06
Other goods and services	.10	.14	.20	.25	.13	.07

This replaces the table of average standard errors based on 1965 data which was included in the CPI report through January 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).

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 94102	John F. Kennedy Fed. Bldg. Boston, Massachusetts 02203	911 Walnut Street Kansas City, Missouri 64106

	Consumer Price Index	Wholesale Price Index
ALL ITEMS -----	All commodities and services	All Commodities
<u>CONSUMER PRODUCTS</u> -----	All commodities except home purchase, used cars, food and beverages away from home, newspapers, magazines and books.	Nondurable and durable commodities ready for use by home consumers except a few individual consumer products included in WPI groupings of commodities purchased chased primarily by industrial firms.
<u>Nondurable</u> -----	All nondurable commodities except food and beverages away from home and newspapers, magazines and books.	A combination of indexes listed below. <u>1/</u>
Food and beverages at home -----	Food at home, alcoholic beverages at home.	Fresh and dried fruits and vegetables, nuts, and eggs from the farm products group; and the processed foods and feeds group, excluding crude vegetable oils and manufactured animal feeds.
Apparel and accessories -----	Apparel, footwear, and accessories. <u>2/</u>	Apparel and some fabrics and sewing materials, leather footwear, leather gloves, rubber footwear, watches and clocks, jewelry.
Household furnishings and supplies -----	Home maintenance nondurables, fuel oil and coal, textile housefurnishings, housekeeping supplies.	Textile housefurnishings, fuels for home use (except gas), soap and synthetic detergents, sanitary papers and health products, matches, pens and pencils, and prepared paints, and miscellaneous housekeeping supplies.
Gasoline and motor oil -----	Gasoline and motor oil.	Gasoline and automotive motor oil.
Other nondurables -----	Drugs and pharmaceuticals, toilet goods, recreational nondurables, tobacco products.	Pharmaceutical preparations, cosmetics and other toilet preparations, tobacco products, personal brushes, and recreational items such as toys, film, and playing cards.
<u>Durable</u> -----	All durable commodities except home purchase and used cars.	A combination of indexes listed below. <u>1/</u>
New passenger cars -----	New cars.	Passenger cars.
Appliances -----	Household appliances, radio and TV.	Home electronic equipment, room heaters, and household appliances, excluding electric lamps.
Furniture and floor coverings -----	Furniture and floor coverings.	Household furniture and floor coverings.
Other durables -----	Home maintenance durables, other housefurnishings, tires, recreational durables, except radio and TV.	Other durable commodities throughout the WPI which are used for home maintenance, including some household goods, tires and tubes, outboard motors, equipment for home workshops and home gardens, recreational items such as photographic equipment, sporting and athletic goods, musical instruments, and phonograph records, electric lamps, typewriters, luggage and small leather goods, and caskets and morticians goods.
<u>CONSUMER SERVICES</u> -----	All consumer services.	
Insurance and finance -----	Mortgage interest, taxes and insurance, automobile insurance and other auto expenses. <u>3/</u>	
Rent -----	Rent of home or apartment.	
Utilities and public transportation -----	Gas and electricity, telephone, water and sewer, public transportation.	
Housekeeping and home maintenance services --	Housekeeping and home maintenance services.	
Medical care services -----	Medical care except drugs and prescriptions.	
Personal care services -----	Personal care services.	
Other services -----	Hotels, apparel services, auto repairs and maintenance, recreational services, reading and educational services, personal expenses.	
<u>WHOLESALE PRICES</u>		
Type of product		Same as the Wholesale Price Indexes for major groups.
Farm Product		
Processed foods and feeds		
Industrial commodities		
Industrial materials and equipment		
Stage of Processing at wholesale		The Wholesale Price Stage of Processing Indexes.
Finished goods		The Consumer Finished Goods index differs from the Consumer Products index in weighting structure and is based on a larger sample of commodities.
Consumer		
Producer		
Intermediate materials, supplies, and components		
Crude materials		

1/ The classification by durable and nondurable commodities is based on CPI classification and is not necessarily the same as the WPI classification in the Indexes by Durability of Product

2/ Same as apparel commodities.

3/ Includes registration and license fees and parking fees.