

February 1969

the consumer price index

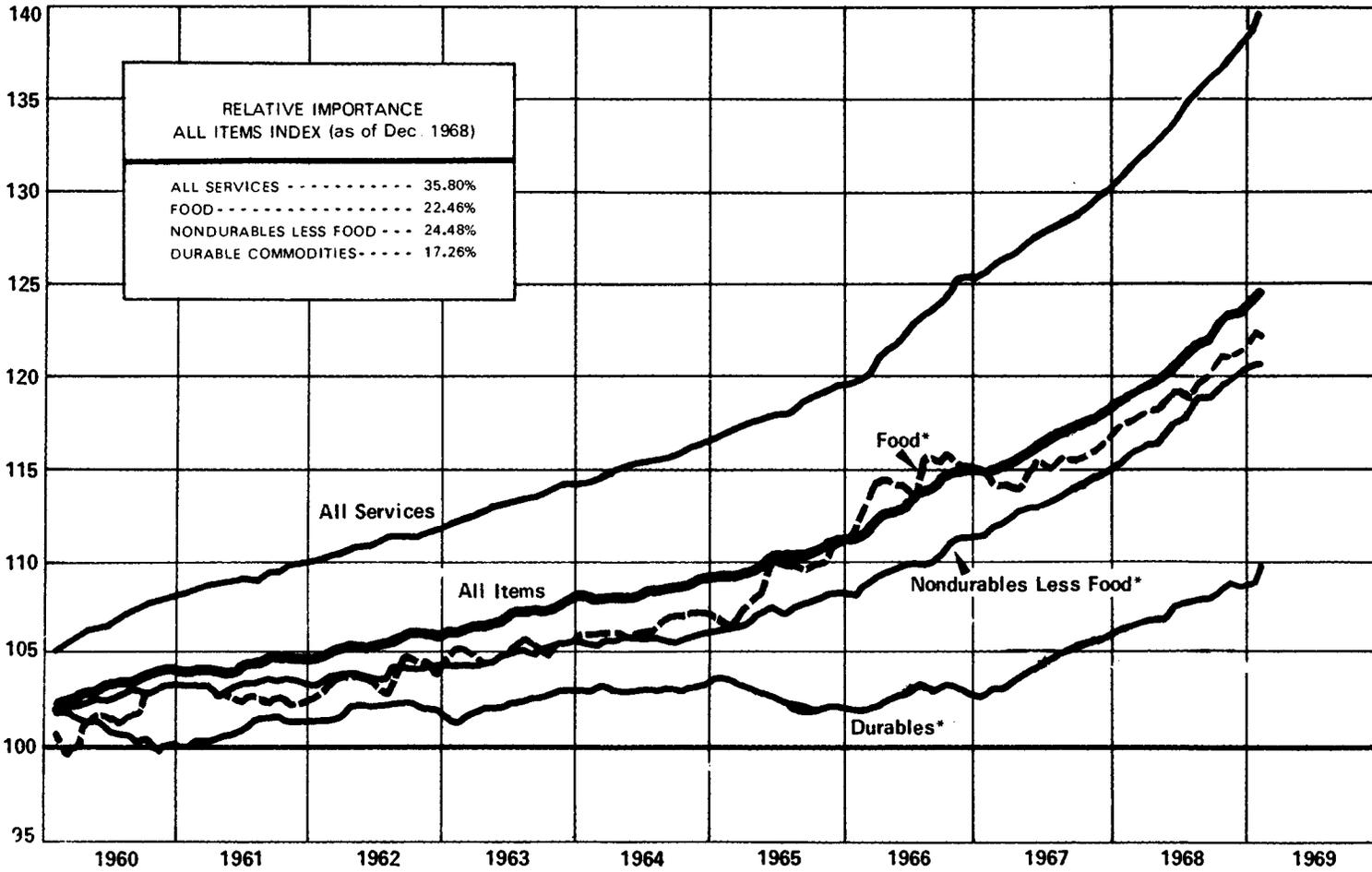
U.S. CITY AVERAGE
AND
SELECTED AREAS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Consumer Price Indexes: Commodities and Services

1957-59 = 100



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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* Seasonally Adjusted
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR FEBRUARY 1969

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.4 percent in February to 124.6 (1957-59=100). The advance was equal to the average monthly rate of increase recorded in 1968, after slowdowns in December and January. Used car prices jumped over 6 percent but remained slightly below year-ago levels, and apparel prices continued to advance strongly. Although increases were widespread, service charges accounted for a significantly smaller percentage of the increase in February compared with the previous two months, but they were still responsible for over two-fifths of the month's increase.

Since February 1968, prices have risen 4.7 percent, led by higher service charges, especially for household services except rent. Costs of food and apparel also were significant factors in the increase over the year.

Durables

Reversing the declines of the past two months, durable commodity prices rose 1 percent for the largest monthly increase since November 1958. Altogether, they accounted for over two-fifths of February's total rise--the same percentage as that for services. A large part of the advance was caused by the sharp upturn in used car prices. New car prices remained unchanged from January, instead of the usual decline.

Household durables were responsible for most of the remainder of the advance in durable goods. February's rise for furniture and bedding, 0.6 percent, was three times the January increase. Prices of floor coverings went up 0.3 percent for the third consecutive month; most other housefurnishings rose slightly, especially large appliances.

Services

Consumer service charges advanced 0.5 percent in February, slightly less than the January rise of 0.7 percent.

The strong advance in mortgage interest rates to homebuyers resumed in February after a slow-down in the last quarter of 1968. Property tax increases were recorded in many cities as reassessments and rate boosts continued across the nation. In addition, homeowners' insurance costs increased 0.6 percent over the month. Homeowners also paid more for maintenance and repair services such as reshingling roofs and interior painting, both up 0.6 percent, and housekeeping services rose 0.8 percent. Residential rents continued to rise and hotel and motel room rates also increased, particularly in the Southern Region.

Hospital room rates advanced 1.3 percent and the average for professional medical and dental fees was 0.7 percent higher, led by an increase of 3.2 percent for pediatric care. Widespread increases also were reported for automobile insurance, up 0.6 percent, as underwriting experience continued to be unfavorable. Automobile repair costs also increased sharply. Local transit fares, mainly in the Philadelphia areas, were the primary factors in the 0.5 percent rise in the public transportation component. The pervasive character of increases in service charges extended to dry cleaning and laundry, barber and beauty shops, funerals, and piano lessons.

Nondurables less food

Prices of nondurable commodities except food rebounded from their January decline with an increase of 0.3 percent. Apparel commodities prices rose as they returned to normal levels after January clearances. Women's and girls' apparel prices moved up somewhat more than seasonally when retailers introduced spring coats at higher prices; year-round items and lingerie also cost more. Men's and boys' clothing prices advanced contraseasonally, as tailored suits and coats continued to move up and prices increased for men's slacks, jackets, work trousers, business shirts, T-shirts, socks, handkerchiefs, and boys' dungarees, undershirts and sport coats. Strong demand buoyed footwear prices, which advanced 0.4 percent.

House paint increased nearly 2 percent, and prices of housekeeping supplies also moved higher over the month. Textile housefurnishings were up nearly 1 percent as prices returned to their "pre-white sale" levels; toilet goods prices rose five times as much as they had in January.

Food

Grocery store food prices fell 0.2 percent in February mainly because of lower prices for fresh vegetables and eggs. Meals eaten away from home continued to move higher but at the slower rate noted in January. Prices have risen steadily for this component for over five years.

Fresh vegetable prices dropped 6.3 percent when more ample supplies became available from winter vegetable production. Largest reductions were 28 percent for cucumbers, 20 percent for lettuce, 12 percent for cabbage, and 5 percent for celery. Egg prices dropped 3 percent as purchases slowed after January's increase; as a result, supplies began to accumulate in stores. Prices also were reduced for citrus fruits, many canned fruits and vegetables, milk sold in grocery stores, coffee, tea, sirloin and porterhouse steaks, rib roasts, and hams.

Averages for meat, poultry, and fish prices were higher despite a few reductions for beef; pork and poultry were up and fish prices rose in response to reduced imports and declining inventories. Reduced supplies caused by cut-backs in imports, bad weather, or lower storage holdings resulted in higher banana, green pepper, potato, and apple prices, which have been rising for five consecutive months. Discontinuance of some sales promotions in January resulted in higher prices for bread and other baked goods; dairy products prices rose contraseasonally as price increases were recorded for home delivered milk, skim milk, and American cheese. Retail prices of fats and oils were fractionally higher and diminishing supplies of cocoa beans brought higher prices for chocolate products.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments

About 69,000 workers will receive cost-of-living pay increases based on the February Consumer Price Index. About 39,500 workers, mostly in the aerospace and chemical industries, will receive 2 or 3-cent hourly increases, based on the advance in the national index over the past 3 months. Another 23,700 workers, chiefly in the communications and automotive equipment industries, will get increases ranging from 1 to 8 cents, or 2-1/2 percent, the maximum permitted on annual or semiannual reviews. In addition, 6,200 workers will receive increases ranging from 3 to 5 cents an hour based on changes in indexes for individual metropolitan areas.

TABLE 1: Consumer Price Index--United States City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, February 1969

(Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise noted)				Percent change to February 1969 from --		
	February 1969	January 1969	November 1968	February 1968	One month ago	Three months ago	A year ago
All items -----	124.6	124.1	123.4	119.0	0.4	1.0	4.7
All items (1947-49=100) -----	152.9	152.3	151.4	146.0	-----	-----	-----
Food -----	121.9	122.0	120.5	117.4	-.1	1.2	3.8
Food at home -----	118.1	118.3	116.6	114.2	-.2	1.3	3.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	120.8	120.5	120.1	118.2	.2	.6	2.2
Meats, poultry and fish -----	116.2	115.6	114.6	112.0	.5	1.4	3.8
Dairy products -----	122.8	122.7	122.6	118.5	.1	.2	3.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	124.7	127.0	123.8	124.9	-1.8	.7	-.2
Other foods at home -----	109.4	109.8	106.7	102.6	-.4	2.5	6.6
Food away from home -----	140.7	140.3	139.4	133.3	.3	.9	5.6
Housing -----	123.3	122.7	121.7	116.9	.5	1.3	5.5
Shelter ^{1/} -----	128.9	128.2	126.9	120.8	.5	1.6	6.7
Rent -----	117.2	116.9	116.3	113.9	.3	.8	2.9
Homeownership ^{2/} -----	133.6	132.7	131.1	123.5	.7	1.9	8.2
Fuel and utilities ^{3/} -----	111.8	111.7	111.3	109.8	.1	.4	1.8
Fuel oil and coal -----	116.9	116.7	115.9	113.8	.2	.9	2.7
Gas and electricity -----	110.2	110.2	109.9	109.3	0	.3	.8
Household furnishings and operation -----	115.8	115.2	114.8	111.2	.5	.9	4.1
Apparel and upkeep ^{4/} -----	123.9	123.4	124.0	116.6	.4	-.1	6.3
Men's and boys' -----	125.3	124.9	125.0	116.8	.3	.2	7.3
Women's and girls' -----	119.3	118.7	120.7	112.4	.5	-1.2	6.1
Footwear -----	136.8	136.3	135.7	129.1	.4	.8	6.0
Transportation -----	122.0	120.7	121.2	118.6	1.1	.7	2.9
Private -----	119.3	117.9	118.9	116.4	1.2	.3	2.5
New cars -----	102.3	102.3	103.8	100.8	0	-1.4	1.5
Used cars -----	122.6	115.5	(5/)	123.6	6.1	(5/)	-.8
Gasoline -----	114.5	114.5	(5/)	(5/)	0	(5/)	(5/)
Public -----	145.5	144.8	139.4	136.2	.5	4.4	6.8
Health and recreation -----	133.7	133.3	132.4	127.5	.3	1.0	4.9
Medical care -----	151.3	150.2	148.2	141.9	.7	2.1	6.6
Personal care -----	124.1	123.7	122.8	117.6	.3	1.1	5.5
Reading and recreation -----	128.4	128.4	128.0	123.0	0	.3	4.4
Other goods and services ^{6/} -----	125.8	125.6	125.4	122.1	.2	.3	3.0
<u>Seasonally Adjusted:</u>							
Food -----	122.1	122.2	121.0	117.6	-.1	.9	-----
Apparel and upkeep -----	124.5	124.1	123.1	117.2	.3	1.1	-----
Transportation -----	122.5	120.5	120.7	119.1	1.7	1.5	-----
<u>Special Groups:</u>							
All items less food -----	125.6	124.9	124.4	119.7	.6	1.0	4.9
All items less medical care -----	123.0	122.5	121.9	117.6	.4	.9	4.6
Commodities -----	117.8	117.4	117.1	113.5	.3	.6	3.8
Nondurables -----	121.1	121.0	120.3	116.4	.1	.7	4.0
Nondurables less food -----	120.5	120.1	120.2	115.6	.3	.2	4.2
Apparel commodities -----	123.1	122.6	123.4	115.6	.4	-.2	6.5
Durables -----	109.7	108.6	109.3	106.4	1.0	.4	3.1
Household durables -----	103.7	103.3	102.8	99.9	.4	.9	3.8
Services -----	139.7	139.0	137.4	131.3	.5	1.7	6.4
Services less rent -----	144.6	143.9	142.0	135.2	.5	1.8	7.0
Insurance and finance (Dec.1965=100) ^{7/} -----	123.0	122.3	120.2	112.0	.6	2.3	9.8
Utilities and public transportation (Dec.1965=100) ^{8/} -----	106.4	106.2	105.0	103.4	.2	1.3	2.9
Housekeeping and home maintenance services (Dec.1965=100) -----	123.2	122.5	121.2	115.0	.6	1.7	7.1
Medical care services -----	164.3	162.8	160.3	152.3	.9	2.5	7.9
<u>Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar:</u>							
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	\$0.803	\$0.806	\$0.810	\$0.840	-.4	-.9	-4.4
1939=\$1.00 -----	.389	.390	.392	.407	-----	-----	-----

^{1/} Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.^{2/} Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.^{3/} Also includes telephone, water, and sewerage service not shown separately.^{4/} Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, jewelry, and apparel upkeep services not shown separately.^{5/} Not available.^{6/} Includes tobacco, alcoholic beverages, and funeral, legal, and bank service charges.^{7/} Includes mortgage interest, taxes and insurance, automobile insurance and other auto expenses.^{8/} Includes gas and electricity, telephone, water and sewer, public transportation.

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

Area <u>1/</u>	Pricing Schedule <u>2/</u>	Indexes			Percent change from:		
		1957-59=100	1947-49=100	Other bases	January 1969	November 1968	February 1968
		February 1969			January 1969	November 1968	February 1968
U.S. City Average -----	M	124.6	152.9		0.4	1.0	4.7
Chicago -----	M	121.9	153.7		.4	1.3	4.6
Detroit -----	M	123.4	152.1		.5	1.1	5.2
Los Angeles-Long Beach ---	M	125.2	156.1		.4	.8	3.7
New York -----	M	128.3	154.5		.4	1.1	5.6
Philadelphia -----	M	126.0	154.7		.6	.9	4.9
		January 1969				October 1968	January 1968
Boston -----	1	127.9	158.5			1.0	5.1
Houston -----	1	123.2	151.7			1.7	5.6
Minneapolis-St. Paul ----	1	122.9	152.1			.7	3.0
Pittsburgh -----	1	124.0	152.8			1.1	5.5
		February 1969				November 1968	February 1968
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) ---	2			117.3		0.3	4.5
Cleveland -----	2	123.1	152.9			1.1	4.5
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) ----	2			116.8		1.2	5.9
Milwaukee -----	2	120.8	152.4			1.8	5.0
San Diego (Feb.1965=100) -	2			112.8		1.4	4.7
Seattle -----	2	125.9	158.2			1.1	4.7
Washington -----	2	126.3	152.0			1.1	6.0
		December 1968				September 1968	December 1967
Atlanta -----	3	122.1	151.2			0.7	4.5
Baltimore -----	3	124.0	153.9			1.3	5.6
Cincinnati -----	3	121.1	147.3			.7	4.4
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100) --	3			113.9		1.0	3.8
Kansas City -----	3	125.5	155.2			.9	4.4
St. Louis -----	3	123.4	153.2			.6	3.8
San Francisco-Oakland ---	3	126.7	160.9			1.0	4.5

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

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

M - Every month.

1 - January, April, July, and October.

2 - February, May, August, and November.

3 - March, June, September, and December.

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

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6
Food -----	.1	.8	.3	0	.2	.2
Housing -----	.5	.6	.3	.9	.5	.6
Apparel and upkeep -----	.4	2.3	1.2	.5	.9	1.2
Transportation -----	1.1	.9	1.3	0	.9	2.5
Health and recreation -----	.3	.2	.4	.2	.2	.2
Medical care -----	.7	.6	.9	.6	.5	.3
Personal care -----	.3	.1	.5	.4	0	.9
Reading and recreation -----	0	.1	.2	.2	0	.1
Other goods and services -----	.2	.1	.6	.2	.1	(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 for Selected Groups
Seasonally Adjusted
(1957-59=100)

Group	Indexes			Percent change to February 1969	
	February 1969	January 1969	November 1968	From: One Month Ago	From: Three Months Ago
Food -----	122.1	122.2	121.0	- 0.1	0.9
Food at home -----	118.3	118.5	117.2	- .2	.9
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.3	116.3	114.7	0	1.4
Dairy products -----	122.8	122.3	122.0	.4	.7
Fruits and vegetables -----	125.6	129.6	128.2	- 3.1	- 2.0
Other foods at home -----	109.3	109.4	106.2	- .1	2.9
Fuel and utilities ^{1/} -----	111.6	111.5	111.2	.1	.4
Fuel oil and coal -----	115.4	115.1	115.7	.3	- .3
Apparel and upkeep ^{2/} -----	124.5	124.1	123.1	.3	1.1
Men's and boys' -----	125.9	125.4	124.1	.4	1.5
Women's and girls' -----	120.1	120.0	119.3	.1	.7
Footwear -----	137.1	^{3/} 136.7	135.3	.3	1.3
Transportation -----	122.5	120.5	120.7	1.7	1.5
Private -----	119.7	117.9	118.3	1.5	1.2
New cars -----	101.9	101.6	101.9	.3	0
Commodities -----	118.0	117.6	117.0	.3	.9
Nondurables -----	121.3	121.4	120.4	- .1	.7
Nondurables less food -----	120.7	120.5	119.7	.2	.8
Apparel commodities -----	123.8	123.5	122.4	.2	1.1
Durables -----	109.9	108.7	108.9	1.1	.9

^{1/} Also includes telephone, water, and sewerage not shown separately.

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

^{3/} Corrected.

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

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 -----	124.6	117.3	121.9	123.1	116.8	123.4	125.2
Food -----	121.9	117.2	123.0	120.0	116.2	119.9	119.6
Food at home -----	118.1	115.3	120.7	117.0	113.1	116.8	113.8
Cereals and bakery products -----	120.8	108.1	125.7	115.1	109.5	115.5	120.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.2	115.4	118.3	119.8	115.3	119.4	106.5
Dairy products -----	122.8	118.9	135.9	120.4	120.7	129.1	119.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	124.7	120.4	119.5	122.6	112.7	113.3	130.9
Other foods at home -----	109.4	112.9	110.4	107.4	108.8	106.8	100.8
Food away from home -----	140.7	128.3	133.6	137.5	127.8	137.1	140.2
Housing -----	123.3	115.4	118.3	119.1	116.7	119.4	128.5
Shelter -----	128.9	117.5	122.0	120.5	121.7	125.0	136.4
Rent -----	117.2	108.4	-----	105.5	105.8	107.3	-----
Homeownership -----	133.6	119.2	126.9	123.1	129.4	129.1	142.9
Fuel and utilities -----	111.8	110.7	107.5	114.5	104.9	103.5	108.7
Fuel oil and coal -----	116.9	108.4	109.4	-----	-----	110.0	-----
Gas and electricity -----	110.2	112.3	105.8	115.1	100.9	104.4	112.6
Household furnishings and operation -----	115.8	112.8	115.1	114.3	113.2	110.6	114.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	123.9	122.3	119.1	122.3	117.1	122.8	123.0
Men's and boys' -----	125.3	125.6	117.7	127.3	122.0	123.0	126.2
Women's and girls' -----	119.3	122.8	113.6	114.4	114.0	118.2	122.8
Footwear -----	136.8	122.6	134.0	135.7	118.9	136.0	132.4
Transportation -----	122.0	113.8	122.5	123.1	110.5	120.8	126.0
Private -----	119.3	114.4	118.0	119.3	110.2	118.2	121.4
Public -----	145.5	106.1	152.1	147.1	114.6	137.2	154.5
Health and recreation -----	133.7	120.8	128.2	135.9	121.8	137.0	126.7
Medical care -----	151.3	124.7	158.3	167.8	131.1	161.5	146.2
Personal care -----	124.1	118.0	123.0	121.2	119.0	130.4	117.3
Reading and recreation -----	128.4	118.8	112.1	121.8	118.0	129.3	112.4
Other goods and services -----	125.8	120.5	118.2	128.9	113.7	121.1	123.1
Percent changes November 1968 to February 1969							
All items -----	1.0	0.3	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.1	0.8
Food -----	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.0
Food at home -----	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.3	.8	1.4	1.1
Cereals and bakery products -----	.6	.9	.3	-.8	-1.0	0	1.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	1.4	2.7	1.5	2.2	.7	1.3	1.4
Dairy products -----	.2	0	.6	-.4	-.6	.6	.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	.7	0	-.9	-.2	2.1	1.2	-.2
Other foods at home -----	2.5	1.5	2.8	3.3	2.0	3.4	2.4
Food away from home -----	.9	1.2	1.2	.9	2.0	1.1	.4
Housing -----	1.3	-.3	1.5	1.4	2.0	1.1	1.7
Shelter -----	1.6	-1.2	2.0	1.3	3.0	1.5	1.9
Rent -----	.8	.7	-----	.5	.6	2/ .7	-----
Homeownership -----	1.9	-1.5	2.8	1.4	4.0	1.6	2.4
Fuel and utilities -----	.4	1.0	.2	0	.3	.2	1.6
Fuel oil and coal -----	.9	0	.6	-----	-----	3.4	-----
Gas and electricity -----	.3	1.5	.1	.1	.6	-.1	.1
Household furnishings and operation -----	.9	.8	.8	2.1	.7	.1	.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	-.1	-1.1	-.3	.8	.9	-.1	.7
Men's and boys' -----	.2	.8	-.2	-.2	.2	1.0	.9
Women's and girls' -----	-1.2	-1.7	-2.3	1.5	0	-2.5	.6
Footwear -----	.8	-4.9	1.6	.5	3.5	2.3	.4
Transportation -----	.7	.9	3.4	-.8	-.4	.4	-.9
Private -----	.3	.9	.2	-.5	-.4	.5	-1.1
Public -----	4.4	0	22.5	-3.0	.1	0	0
Health and recreation -----	1.0	.8	.9	1.7	1.5	1.8	.5
Medical care -----	2.1	1.3	1.8	2.9	3.9	3.5	1.6
Personal care -----	1.1	3.7	.7	2.3	.6	.2	.3
Reading and recreation -----	.3	-.3	.7	.8	-.4	1.5	-.4
Other goods and services -----	.3	-.4	0	1.0	.8	.6	.4

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
 February 1969 indexes and percent changes from November 1968

Group	Milwaukee	New York	Philadelphia	San Diego (Feb. 1965=100)	Seattle	Washington
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)						
All items -----	120.8	128.3	126.0	112.8	125.9	126.3
Food -----	121.4	123.1	122.9	113.8	121.5	126.0
Food at home -----	119.3	117.7	118.2	109.8	116.0	120.9
Cereals and bakery products -----	110.1	119.7	120.0	108.5	109.7	114.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	119.7	117.4	112.5	115.7	115.8	119.4
Dairy products -----	131.6	114.2	132.5	108.8	126.5	125.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	123.7	128.8	127.7	103.4	123.8	125.1
Other foods at home -----	111.2	108.7	106.5	107.8	106.4	118.1
Food away from home -----	133.4	146.2	147.7	124.8	144.5	145.5
Housing -----	117.7	127.4	122.3	115.2	129.3	121.4
Shelter -----	119.8	132.2	126.1	121.8	142.1	124.5
Rent -----	109.4	127.4	-----	113.0	125.4	121.7
Homeownership -----	123.2	134.2	128.4	125.5	146.7	124.7
Fuel and utilities -----	112.6	112.8	109.6	99.4	113.1	105.4
Fuel oil and coal -----	121.4	123.1	122.5	-----	109.8	116.5
Gas and electricity -----	103.3	111.1	102.7	100.0	97.9	103.4
Household furnishings and operation -----	115.9	123.2	118.5	106.8	112.7	120.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	120.8	129.0	131.1	111.1	121.2	131.3
Men's and boys' -----	122.7	133.5	128.0	119.4	124.5	129.4
Women's and girls' -----	114.6	123.0	123.2	106.9	117.8	129.3
Footwear -----	136.2	136.3	145.3	114.6	138.5	146.1
Transportation -----	120.7	125.2	132.9	108.0	121.9	122.8
Private -----	120.0	125.5	125.4	108.1	121.1	119.3
Public -----	130.4	127.4	174.6	106.0	129.5	144.0
Health and recreation -----	126.5	139.8	133.2	112.7	128.8	137.4
Medical care -----	145.6	156.2	158.7	120.9	144.7	174.5
Personal care -----	128.0	120.8	117.3	106.5	123.7	124.6
Reading and recreation -----	122.4	139.3	123.8	107.0	119.4	129.6
Other goods and services -----	115.3	134.4	(3/)	114.3	126.8	118.9
Percent changes November 1968 to February 1969						
All items -----	1.8	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.1	1.1
Food -----	1.6	1.1	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.5
Food at home -----	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.1	1.8	1.3
Cereals and bakery products -----	.6	.5	1.9	.2	2.1	- 1.4
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	2.8	2.3	.5	2.7	1.3	1.3
Dairy products -----	.2	.2	2.3	-.1	1.0	.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	.8	-.6	1.4	- 2.8	1.1	1.1
Other foods at home -----	3.0	2.5	2.6	3.2	3.3	3.6
Food away from home -----	1.3	.6	1.0	1.5	.6	2.2
Housing -----	1.5	1.4	.5	2.6	1.8	.8
Shelter -----	1.8	1.8	.3	3.9	2.7	1.1
Rent -----	.8	2/	-----	2.2	.6	.8
Homeownership -----	2.1	2.1	.3	4.7	3.2	1.3
Fuel and utilities -----	.8	.4	.1	-.2	0	-.2
Fuel oil and coal -----	0	2.0	.3	-----	0	.3
Gas and electricity -----	1.4	.2	.1	0	0	-.5
Household furnishings and operation -----	1.2	1.2	.7	.5	.6	.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.9	-.8	-.2	-.5	.2	.5
Men's and boys' -----	.5	.2	.2	1.1	-.1	-.5
Women's and girls' -----	1.6	- 2.8	- 3.1	- 2.5	.4	.7
Footwear -----	4.1	.7	3.6	- 1.6	.1	2.0
Transportation -----	4.3	2.5	2.0	.4	.2	1.2
Private -----	4.6	3.1	.2	.4	0	.3
Public -----	.2	.1	12.0	0	.5	5.6
Health and recreation -----	.8	.9	1.0	1.3	.9	1.5
Medical care -----	2.0	3.0	1.2	2.1	1.8	3.1
Personal care -----	.5	.5	.9	.4	2.6	2.4
Reading and recreation -----	-.2	.5	1.4	.8	.3	.2
Other goods and services -----	1.0	-.3	(3/)	1.4	-.1	.3

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

^{2/} Change from December 1968.

^{3/} Not available.

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

Group	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 -----	114.8	119.6	113.0	116.8	109.4	122.3	122.0
All items (1947-49=100) -----	(2/)	148.6	(2/)	147.3	(2/)	153.7	146.9
Food -----	114.6	116.7	113.7	118.2	111.3	118.8	121.3
Food at home -----	113.0	114.0	111.6	116.4	108.7	113.9	117.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	105.4	113.5	109.0	108.9	107.7	109.2	112.9
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	111.9	115.3	113.4	115.4	114.2	113.1	114.6
Dairy products -----	115.3	120.2	120.9	128.2	108.1	124.3	123.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	124.4	124.6	114.2	127.3	108.0	126.6	125.8
Other foods at home -----	108.9	100.9	104.5	105.7	102.6	101.2	111.0
Food away from home -----	124.2	132.7	121.5	129.5	119.1	139.3	137.4
Housing -----	112.8	115.5	111.5	113.9	109.8	123.9	117.7
Shelter -----	114.3	116.5	114.9	115.0	113.9	133.5	120.5
Rent -----	106.4	104.5	103.9	107.5	108.2	122.4	119.5
Homeownership -----	115.8	118.6	120.3	117.5	116.2	136.3	119.6
Fuel and utilities -----	109.2	114.9	102.3	111.4	99.5	112.7	104.2
Fuel oil and coal -----	108.4	-----	-----	118.9	-----	109.7	115.0
Gas and electricity -----	110.2	115.6	99.4	101.9	100.0	97.9	102.1
Household furnishings and operation -----	110.9	110.5	109.2	112.8	104.8	110.7	116.8
Apparel and upkeep -----	120.9	118.6	112.9	116.3	108.1	118.9	126.3
Men's and boys' -----	119.9	123.8	116.4	118.9	114.5	121.8	123.6
Women's and girls' -----	122.6	110.5	111.8	111.7	104.0	116.2	124.3
Footwear -----	125.6	133.6	112.1	128.5	114.2	134.9	138.5
Transportation -----	111.6	121.7	109.3	114.6	106.6	120.6	119.5
Private -----	112.1	118.2	109.0	113.6	106.7	119.9	117.4
Public -----	106.4	144.6	113.9	130.0	105.5	128.6	132.9
Health and recreation -----	117.6	130.7	117.5	122.9	110.1	125.2	132.2
Medical care -----	121.2	155.7	124.2	138.4	116.8	139.1	164.8
Personal care -----	112.9	116.4	113.4	124.2	103.3	117.6	119.0
Reading and recreation -----	115.7	119.1	115.1	119.3	105.4	116.7	126.2
Other goods and services -----	118.7	127.0	112.7	113.8	112.4	125.0	116.0
Percent changes 1967 to 1968							
All items -----	4.5	5.9	4.5	3.5	4.1	4.1	4.7
Food -----	4.2	4.8	3.6	3.2	3.4	3.7	4.7
Food at home -----	3.9	4.6	2.9	3.3	2.2	2.9	4.3
Cereals and bakery products -----	1.4	1.0	1.4	.9	.4	1.4	.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	1.8	3.6	1.9	2.6	1.7	2.0	3.7
Dairy products -----	4.6	5.9	2.5	5.0	1.9	3.1	2.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	9.5	9.6	7.1	8.4	6.6	9.2	8.5
Other foods at home -----	3.1	3.5	2.2	2.0	1.5	1.5	5.1
Food away from home -----	6.0	6.2	6.4	3.2	7.1	6.1	5.4
Housing -----	4.4	6.4	5.1	4.0	5.0	5.4	3.6
Shelter -----	5.7	7.9	5.2	5.3	6.4	7.1	4.1
Rent -----	2.1	1.7	2.6	2.0	5.8	4.7	1.9
Homeownership -----	6.5	9.0	6.6	6.4	6.7	7.8	5.1
Fuel and utilities -----	1.0	.4	4.0	.5	4.0	.9	.3
Fuel oil and coal -----	4.6	-----	-----	2.3	-----	3.0	3.3
Gas and electricity -----	.5	.9	1.3	0	4.7	.1	1.3
Household furnishings and operation -----	3.4	5.1	5.0	2.8	2.7	3.6	4.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	6.7	6.1	5.7	4.2	6.0	2.8	7.4
Men's and boys' -----	9.0	6.4	7.4	6.1	7.8	2.8	6.0
Women's and girls' -----	7.0	6.7	5.8	2.9	7.2	1.2	9.5
Footwear -----	5.2	4.9	6.2	5.0	3.0	5.1	7.9
Transportation -----	2.7	4.8	3.5	1.1	2.3	1.7	3.7
Private -----	2.8	4.5	3.1	.5	2.4	1.8	3.5
Public -----	0	7.7	8.0	8.8	1.2	1.7	5.7
Health and recreation -----	4.6	7.1	4.7	3.7	4.1	4.0	5.8
Medical care -----	3.9	8.4	6.1	5.7	2.6	5.9	9.4
Personal care -----	3.1	3.7	5.4	3.6	4.9	2.9	4.9
Reading and recreation -----	6.7	5.2	4.4	4.0	3.2	4.4	4.8
Other goods and services -----	4.0	9.2	2.1	1.7	6.4	2.3	3.1

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.

2/ Not available.

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

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 -----	121.9	118.1	120.8	116.2	122.8	124.7	109.4	140.7
Atlanta -----	120.0	116.5	113.4	115.3	117.2	121.0	116.3	132.5
Baltimore -----	124.1	119.3	123.8	118.2	119.3	127.1	111.8	144.8
Boston -----	126.0	120.8	125.8	122.6	118.8	127.4	110.3	148.5
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) --	117.2	115.3	108.1	115.4	118.9	120.4	112.9	128.3
Chicago -----	123.0	120.7	125.7	118.3	135.9	119.5	110.4	133.6
Cincinnati -----	118.8	115.3	115.8	116.5	119.4	122.7	105.0	137.1
Cleveland -----	120.0	117.0	115.1	119.8	120.4	122.6	107.4	137.5
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	116.2	113.1	109.5	115.3	120.7	112.7	108.8	127.8
Detroit -----	119.9	116.8	115.5	119.4	129.1	113.3	106.8	137.1
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	115.7	114.9	111.7	115.6	113.7	123.8	109.1	118.1
Houston -----	123.8	119.7	126.3	112.6	128.9	131.2	110.5	141.5
Kansas City -----	125.5	122.6	125.0	122.2	130.4	123.8	113.8	135.9
Los Angeles-Long Beach --	119.6	113.8	120.6	106.5	119.1	130.9	100.8	140.2
Milwaukee -----	121.4	119.3	110.1	119.7	131.6	123.7	111.2	133.4
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	119.3	115.7	111.3	115.4	122.4	118.4	111.7	135.7
New York -----	123.1	117.7	119.7	117.4	114.2	128.8	108.7	146.2
Philadelphia -----	122.9	118.2	120.0	112.5	132.5	127.7	106.5	147.7
Pittsburgh -----	118.7	116.0	119.0	119.5	115.3	121.0	106.5	136.1
St. Louis -----	125.2	121.0	124.0	120.7	131.5	127.4	108.1	142.5
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	113.8	109.8	108.5	115.7	108.8	103.4	107.8	124.8
San Francisco-Oakland --	120.2	114.9	117.5	111.3	116.9	125.3	107.2	143.6
Seattle -----	121.5	116.0	109.7	115.8	126.5	123.8	106.4	144.5
Washington -----	126.0	120.9	114.5	119.4	125.1	125.1	118.1	145.5
Percent Changes January 1969 to February 1969								
U.S. City Average -----	- 0.1	- 0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	- 1.8	- 0.4	0.3
Atlanta -----	.3	.3	.9	.7	.3	-.3	-.2	.2
Baltimore -----	-.6	-.7	.1	.1	.1	-3.9	-.3	.1
Boston -----	.7	.9	1.8	2.2	.4	-1.7	-.9	.1
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) --	-.3	-.5	0	1.4	.3	-4.3	-.9	.5
Chicago -----	-.8	-1.3	-1.4	-.8	0	-3.6	-1.3	.8
Cincinnati -----	.1	0	.9	.1	.2	-.9	-.2	.4
Cleveland -----	.1	.1	-.9	1.6	-.6	-2.2	-.1	.1
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	-.4	-.8	-1.0	.5	-.2	-2.4	-1.4	.6
Detroit -----	.3	.3	.3	.8	.2	1.3	-1.0	.4
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	.1	.1	-.4	.4	.2	-2.2	2.2	-.1
Houston -----	.3	.3	-.6	1.0	.4	.9	-.3	.1
Kansas City -----	.4	.4	0	1.1	.1	.5	-.2	.2
Los Angeles-Long Beach --	0	-.2	.1	1.1	0	-2.5	0	.1
Milwaukee -----	0	-.3	-1.8	1.1	.5	-2.1	-1.1	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	-1.0	-1.1	-1.7	.8	-4.3	-1.0	-.6	-.4
New York -----	-.2	-.3	.6	.4	0	-1.4	-.9	.1
Philadelphia -----	.2	.1	1.3	.4	.9	-1.2	-.8	.4
Pittsburgh -----	-.8	-.9	-.8	.8	0	-3.7	-2.0	.2
St. Louis -----	-.5	-.6	-.8	-.5	-.2	-1.1	-.4	.1
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	.4	-.1	.2	1.0	.1	-3.2	.4	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	.1	.1	1.5	.3	.5	-2.8	1.1	.1
Seattle -----	.1	.1	-.4	.5	1.3	-2.6	.9	.2
Washington -----	.4	0	-.1	.9	1.1	-1.7	-.7	1.5

^{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 1969 Indexes and Percent Changes January 1969 to February 1969
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to February 1969 from--		
	February 1969		January 1969		February 1968
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Total food -----	121.9	122.1	- 0.1	- 0.1	3.8
Food away from home -----	140.7	-----	.3	-----	5.6
Restaurant meals -----	140.8	-----	.3	-----	5.4
Snacks 1/ -----	122.4	-----	.2	-----	6.3
Food at home -----	118.1	118.3	- .2	- .2	3.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	120.8	-----	.2	-----	2.2
Flour -----	111.7	-----	1.2	-----	- 1.3
Cracker meal 1/ -----	117.6	-----	0	-----	.3
Corn flakes -----	129.4	-----	- .2	-----	.4
Rice -----	111.6	-----	.4	-----	2.0
Bread, white -----	126.8	-----	.2	-----	3.3
Bread, whole wheat 1/ -----	118.5	-----	1.2	-----	3.9
Cookies -----	99.5	-----	- 1.6	-----	- .6
Layer cake 1/ -----	111.3	-----	.7	-----	3.5
Cinnamon rolls 1/ -----	111.5	-----	.4	-----	4.7
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.2	116.3	.5	0	3.8
Meats -----	119.0	119.1	.3	.1	3.6
Beef and veal -----	121.3	121.5	.2	0	4.3
Steak, round -----	117.0	116.7	.2	- .7	4.0
Steak, sirloin 2/ -----	113.8	-----	- .8	-----	3.8
Steak, porterhouse 1/ -----	118.6	-----	- .7	-----	3.9
Rump roast 1/ -----	111.9	-----	.4	-----	3.0
Rib roast -----	130.8	131.1	- 1.3	.2	5.8
Chuck roast -----	114.0	113.3	.8	- .4	4.2
Hamburger -----	124.4	124.6	.3	.2	4.9
Beef liver 1/ -----	108.1	-----	1.6	-----	3.3
Veal cutlets -----	146.1	145.4	.8	0	5.4
Pork -----	116.6	117.4	.8	.8	3.1
Chops -----	121.9	122.6	1.5	1.2	4.7
Loin roast 2/ -----	127.8	-----	1.3	-----	4.5
Pork sausage 1/ -----	125.5	-----	.8	-----	3.7
Ham, whole -----	112.4	111.5	- 1.8	0	1.2
Picnics 1/ -----	118.4	-----	.4	-----	4.0
Bacon -----	113.6	116.3	.9	- .3	.5
Other meats -----	121.4	121.5	.2	.1	2.7
Lamb chops 1/ -----	131.9	-----	1.0	-----	5.1
Frankfurters -----	118.5	119.5	.3	.6	2.5
Ham, canned 1/ -----	115.0	-----	- 1.2	-----	- .5
Bologna sausage 1/ -----	121.8	-----	.2	-----	3.3
Salami sausage 1/ -----	116.7	-----	- .1	-----	2.7
Liverwurst 1/ -----	118.4	-----	.8	-----	1.6
Poultry -----	92.3	-----	1.7	-----	4.9
Frying chicken -----	93.0	91.4	2.3	- 2.9	5.2
Chicken breasts 1/ -----	103.9	-----	.3	-----	3.4
Turkey 1/ -----	100.5	-----	.1	-----	4.8
Fish -----	127.7	127.3	.6	.6	3.9
Shrimp, frozen 1/ -----	115.6	-----	1.0	-----	7.3
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	128.3	127.5	.2	- .2	2.6
Tuna fish, canned -----	113.3	-----	.8	-----	3.4
Sardines, canned 1/ -----	123.9	-----	.2	-----	2.7
Dairy products -----	122.8	122.8	.1	.4	3.6
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	120.3	120.3	- .2	.3	3.4
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	126.7	-----	.2	-----	4.7
Milk, fresh, skim 1/ -----	121.1	-----	.7	-----	5.8
Milk, evaporated -----	121.8	-----	.1	-----	3.8
Ice cream -----	99.4	-----	0	-----	1.5
Cheese, American process -----	142.7	142.4	.4	.2	4.2
Butter -----	117.6	117.7	- .2	.3	.9

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 1969 Indexes and Percent Changes January 1969 to February 1969
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to February 1969 from--		
	February 1969		January 1969		February 1968
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Fruits and vegetables -----	124.7	125.6	- 1.8	- 3.1	- 0.2
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	132.3	134.0	- 3.0	- 5.1	- .6
Apples -----	160.1	173.5	2.6	- 1.0	10.1
Bananas -----	94.7	96.4	1.9	- 6.7	4.1
Oranges -----	126.6	134.3	- .4	.1	- 9.6
Orange juice, fresh 1/ -----	88.0	-----	.7	-----	9.3
Grapefruit -----	141.6	159.5	- 1.0	- 1.9	.4
Grapes 3/ -----	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Strawberries 3/ -----	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Watermelon -----	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Potatoes -----	136.4	141.6	2.0	- 1.0	12.4
Onions -----	128.2	133.1	- 2.5	- 6.7	- 6.4
Asparagus 1/ 3/ -----	(3/)	-----	(3/)	-----	(3/)
Cabbage -----	153.8	139.1	- 11.8	- 16.7	- 4.9
Carrots -----	114.3	113.5	.1	.8	- 37.1
Celery -----	111.6	110.9	- 5.2	- 4.1	- 7.4
Cucumbers 1/ -----	171.5	-----	- 27.9	-----	- 10.6
Lettuce -----	115.3	113.8	- 19.9	- 18.1	8.2
Peppers, green 1/ -----	192.1	-----	14.9	-----	15.2
Spinach 1/ -----	110.3	-----	.1	-----	4.0
Tomatoes -----	133.2	126.9	- 2.0	1.0	- 5.9
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	115.3	-----	0	-----	.4
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	106.9	-----	- .3	-----	- .8
Pears, canned 1/ -----	110.1	-----	- .7	-----	- 5.7
Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned 1/ -----	98.7	-----	.3	-----	4.4
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	94.8	95.3	2.4	6.1	15.5
Lemonade concentrate, frozen 2/ -----	91.2	-----	.6	-----	.2
Beets, canned 1/ -----	113.2	-----	- .1	-----	2.9
Peas, green, canned -----	120.1	-----	- .5	-----	- 1.8
Tomatoes, canned -----	124.9	-----	- .6	-----	- 3.6
Dried beans -----	125.3	-----	.3	-----	1.9
Broccoli, frozen 1/ -----	100.7	-----	- .5	-----	.2
Other food at home -----	109.4	109.3	- .4	- .1	6.6
Eggs -----	116.2	112.4	- 3.0	- 3.5	30.3
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	102.3	-----	.3	-----	- 1.5
Salad dressing, Italian 1/ -----	102.3	-----	.7	-----	.4
Salad or cooking oil 1/ -----	123.5	-----	.2	-----	1.1
Sugar and sweets -----	123.1	-----	.3	-----	6.1
Sugar -----	113.5	-----	0	-----	.7
Grape jelly -----	121.6	-----	0	-----	3.8
Chocolate bar -----	123.1	-----	.1	-----	16.1
Syrup, chocolate flavored 1/ -----	104.7	-----	1.0	-----	2.9
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	102.2	-----	- .1	-----	2.4
Coffee, can and bag -----	87.0	-----	- .2	-----	.1
Coffee, instant 4/ -----	99.7	-----	0	-----	2.6
Tea -----	101.5	-----	- .3	-----	1.4
Cola drink -----	152.4	-----	.2	-----	5.8
Carbonated fruit drink 1/ -----	119.1	-----	- .1	-----	5.1
Prepared and partially prepared foods 1/ -----	104.5	-----	.2	-----	2.6
Bean soup, canned 1/ -----	102.4	-----	1.2	-----	1.6
Chicken soup, canned 1/ -----	96.2	-----	- .3	-----	.3
Spaghetti, canned 1/ -----	115.1	-----	.4	-----	3.2
Mashed potatoes, instant 1/ -----	103.2	-----	.6	-----	.3
Potatoes, french fried, frozen 2/ -----	89.0	-----	- .8	-----	4.8
Baby foods, canned -----	111.8	-----	0	-----	5.0
Sweet pickle relish 1/ -----	112.3	-----	- .1	-----	3.2
Pretzels 1/ -----	106.9	-----	.2	-----	1.9

1/ December 1963=100.

2/ April 1960=100.

3/ Priced only in season.

4/ July 1961=100.

OLD SERIES

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

Group	February 1969			1968 average	
	Index	Percent change from --		Index	Percent Change from 1967
		November 1968	February 1968		
All items -----	126.2	1.0	4.2	122.8	4.1
All items (1947-49=100) -----	150.5			146.5	
Food -----	121.6	1.5	4.8	118.4	4.2
Food at home -----	118.7	1.6	5.0	115.5	3.9
Cereals and bakery products --	123.0	-.1	2.9	121.0	1.2
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	122.8	2.9	5.7	118.5	3.1
Dairy products -----	119.1	.3	5.8	116.6	5.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	114.6	.4	1.0	116.3	7.6
Other foods at home -----	111.8	2.5	8.2	105.8	3.2
Housing -----	120.7	1.3	4.1	116.7	3.6
Rent -----	116.8	1.1	3.0	114.3	1.5
Gas and electricity -----	105.8	0	0	105.8	1.0
Solid and petroleum fuels -----	114.8	2.4	5.5	107.9	4.7
Housefurnishings -----	110.7	1.3	4.4	107.2	5.9
Household operation -----	121.9	.6	1.7	120.7	2.5
Apparel -----	123.9	-.5	3.7	121.8	5.1
Men's and boys' -----	124.0	-1.2	3.9	122.6	4.0
Women's and girls' -----	120.7	-1.1	2.4	119.5	5.8
Footwear -----	137.8	1.7	6.5	132.7	6.0
Other apparel -----	111.1	1.5	4.3	108.0	4.1
Transportation -----	117.6	.3	2.4	116.0	2.7
Private -----	114.7	.3	2.7	113.0	2.9
Public -----	135.4	.6	.6	134.6	1.1
Medical care -----	161.3	3.4	9.1	151.3	5.7
Personal care -----	135.8	1.5	4.5	131.2	3.6
Reading and recreation -----	169.3	.2	2.6	166.5	2.7
Other goods and services -----	129.7	-.2	3.2	127.7	7.9

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

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

Item or Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent change to February 1969 From:	
		February 1969	January 1969	January 1969	
Housing -----		123.3	122.7		0.5
Shelter ^{1/} -----		128.9	128.2		.5
Rent -----		117.2	116.9		.3
Homeownership costs ^{2/} -----		133.6	132.7		.7
Mortgage interest rates -----		126.1	125.4		.6
Property taxes -----		126.4	126.1		.2
Property insurance rates -----	Dec. 63	146.0	145.7		.2
Maintenance and repairs -----		135.4	134.3		.8
Commodities ^{3/} -----	Dec. 63	113.9	112.1		1.6
Exterior house paint -----		114.6	114.0		.5
Interior house paint -----	Dec. 63	111.2	109.9		1.2
Services -----	Dec. 63	130.1	129.6		.4
Repainting living and dining rooms -----		166.5	165.5		.6
Reshingling roofs -----		149.4	148.5		.6
Residing houses -----	Dec. 63	123.3	122.9		.3
Replacing sinks -----	Dec. 63	131.1	130.8		.2
Repairing furnaces -----	Dec. 63	131.5	130.8		.5
Fuel and utilities -----		111.8	111.7		.1
Fuel oil and coal -----		116.9	116.7		.2
Fuel oil, #2 -----		114.3	114.0		.3
Gas and electricity -----		110.2	110.2		0
Gas -----		116.1	116.0		.1
Electricity -----		104.0	104.0		0
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services -----		103.1	103.0		.1
Residential water and sewerage services -----		141.6	141.6		0
Household furnishings and operation ^{4/} -----		115.8	115.2		.5
Housefurnishings -----		107.1	106.6		.5
Textiles -----		112.7	111.7		.9
Sheets, percale or muslin -----		119.6	117.5		1.8
Curtains, tailored, polyester marquisette -----		108.0	108.1		-.1
Bedspreads, chiefly cotton, tufted -----		113.5	111.2		2.1
Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate -----		120.1	119.7		.3
Pillows, bed, polyester or acrylic filling -----	Dec. 63	107.9	105.9		1.9
Slipcovers, ready made, chiefly cotton -----	Dec. 63	108.0	108.4		-.4
Furniture and bedding -----		118.3	117.6		.6
Bedroom suites, good or inexpensive quality ---		121.2	120.6		.5
Living room suites, good and inexpensive quality		121.2	120.4		.7
Lounge chairs, upholstered -----	Dec. 63	112.0	111.3		.6
Dining room suites -----	Dec. 63	124.5	123.6		.7
Sofas, upholstered -----	Dec. 63	112.0	112.1		-.1
Sofas, dual purpose -----		114.1	113.2		.8
Sleep sets, Hollywood bed type -----	Dec. 63	109.3	108.2		1.0
Box springs -----	Dec. 63	119.7	117.2		2.1
Aluminum folding chairs ^{5/} -----	June 64	(6/)	(6/)		(6/)
Cribs -----	Dec. 63	113.2	113.4		-.2
Floor coverings -----		106.1	105.8		.3
Rugs, soft surface -----		104.5	104.0		.5
Rugs, hard surface -----		110.0	110.0		0
Tile, vinyl -----	Dec. 63	106.8	107.3		-.5
Appliances ^{7/} -----		85.4	85.5		-.1
Washing machines, electric, automatic -----		90.0	90.0		0
Vacuum cleaners, canister type -----		81.1	81.2		-.1
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers electric		84.7	84.6		.1
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----		96.5	96.6		-.1
Clothes dryers, electric, automatic -----	Dec. 63	98.4	98.6		-.2
Air conditioners, demountable ^{8/} -----	June 64	(6/)	(6/)		(6/)
Room heaters, electric, portable ^{9/} -----	Dec. 63	97.5	97.7		-.2
Garbage disposal units -----	Dec. 63	103.2	103.0		.2
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, earthenware -----		131.8	130.9		.7
Flatware, stainless steel -----	Dec. 63	117.0	118.2		-1.0
Table lamps, with shade -----	Dec. 63	111.3	109.6		1.6
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type ^{5/} -----	June 64	(6/)	(6/)		(6/)
Electric drills, hand held -----	Dec. 63	101.7	101.2		.5
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents -----		105.3	105.3		0
Paper napkins -----		127.6	127.0		.5
Toilet tissue -----		116.5	116.1		.3
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic service, general housework -----		169.8	168.7		.7
Baby sitter service -----	Dec. 63	130.1	129.4		.5
Postal charges -----		165.5	165.5		0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----	Dec. 63	136.6	134.4		1.6
Licensed day care service, preschool child ----	Dec. 63	123.7	123.4		.2
Washing machine repairs -----	Dec. 63	127.3	125.8		1.2

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

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

Item or Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent change to February 1969 From:	
		February 1969	January 1969	January 1969	
Apparel and upkeep $\frac{3}{2}$ -----		123.9	123.4		0.4
Apparel commodities -----		123.1	122.6		.4
Apparel commodities less footwear -----		120.5	119.9		.5
Men's and boys' -----		125.3	124.9		.3
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool $\frac{5}{2}$ -----		137.5	139.4		- 1.4
Suits, year round weight -----		144.6	144.1		.3
Suits, tropical weight $\frac{5}{2}$ -----	June 64	(6/)	(6/)		(6/)
Jackets, lightweight -----	Dec.63	122.7	122.3		.3
Slacks, wool or wool blend -----		123.4	125.1		- 1.4
Slacks, cotton or manmade blend -----		111.0	107.7		3.1
Trousers, work, cotton -----		115.1	115.2		- .1
Shirts, work, cotton -----		121.1	120.7		.3
Shirts, business, cotton -----		120.1	120.5		- .3
T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----		128.7	127.9		.6
Socks, cotton -----		117.5	116.6		.8
Handkerchiefs, cotton -----	Dec.63	110.9	109.9		.9
Boy's:					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend $\frac{5}{2}$ -----	Dec.63	108.2	109.2		- .9
Sport coats, wool or wool blend $\frac{5}{2}$ -----	Dec.63	(6/)	117.6		(6/)
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend -----		124.9	123.8		.9
Undershirts, cotton -----		124.0	123.1		.7
Women's and girls' -----		119.3	118.7		.5
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blend $\frac{5}{2}$ -----		(6/)	119.9		(6/)
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton $\frac{5}{2}$ -----	Dec.63	(6/)	121.4		(6/)
Sweaters, wool or acrylic $\frac{5}{2}$ -----	Dec.63	(6/)	111.5		(6/)
Skirts, wool or wool blend $\frac{5}{2}$ -----	Sept.61	104.4	118.3		-11.7
Skirts, cotton or cotton blend $\frac{5}{2}$ -----	Mar.62	(6/)	(6/)		(6/)
Blouses, cotton -----		121.2	121.9		- .6
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber -----		146.3	143.7		1.8
Dresses, street, wool or wool blend $\frac{5}{2}$ -----		(6/)	128.0		(6/)
Dresses, street, cotton $\frac{5}{2}$ -----		(6/)	(6/)		(6/)
Housedresses, cotton -----		142.5	141.3		.8
Slips, nylon -----		109.4	109.8		- .4
Panties, acetate -----		108.1	107.9		.2
Girdles, manmade blend -----		118.2	116.4		1.5
Brassieres, cotton -----	Dec.63	119.1	118.8		.3
Hose, nylon seamless -----		98.0	98.2		- .2
Anklets, cotton -----	Dec.63	114.6	114.0		.5
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----	Dec.63	106.7	105.7		.9
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----	Dec.63	110.8	109.7		1.0
Girl's:					
Raincoats, vinyl plastic or chiefly cotton $\frac{5}{2}$ -----	Dec.63	118.9	116.3		2.2
Skirts, wool or wool blend $\frac{5}{2}$ -----		(6/)	115.0		(6/)
Dresses, cotton -----		132.5	130.6		1.5
Slacks, cotton $\frac{5}{2}$ -----	Dec.63	117.7	119.9		- 1.8
Slips, cotton blend -----	Dec.63	106.6	106.0		.6
Robes, duster style, quilted tricot or percale $\frac{5}{2}$ -----	Dec.63	(6/)	109.4		(6/)
Handbags -----	Dec.63	107.7	106.6		1.0
Footwear -----		136.8	136.3		.4
Men's:					
Shoes, street, oxford -----		134.4	134.0		.3
Shoes, work, high -----		133.5	132.6		.7
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump -----		144.9	144.0		.6
Shoes, evening, pump -----	Dec.63	117.4	117.1		.3
Shoes, casual, pump -----	Dec.63	122.5	121.5		.8
Houseslippers, scuff -----	Dec.63	122.7	122.1		.5
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford -----		137.1	137.2		- .1
Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----	Dec.63	115.7	115.5		.2
Dress shoes, girls', strap -----	Dec.63	127.7	127.0		.6
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze -----		101.9	101.3		.6
Yard goods, cotton -----		115.8	115.0		.7
Wrist watches, men's and women's -----	Dec.63	100.9	100.4		.5
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses --		129.1	128.3		.6
Automatic laundry service -----	Dec.63	107.9	107.8		.1
Laundry, men's shirts -----	Dec.63	121.3	120.7		.5
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment -----	Dec.63	121.3	120.1		1.0
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift -----		119.6	120.7		- .9

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

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

Item and Group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to February 1969 from:	
		February 1969	January 1969	January 1969	
Transportation -----		122.0	120.7		1.1
Private <u>9/</u> -----		119.3	117.9		1.2
Automobiles, new -----		102.3	102.3		0
Automobiles, used -----		122.6	115.5		6.1
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		114.5	114.5		0
Motor oil, premium -----		134.6	134.1		.4
Tires, new, tubeless -----		114.9	115.0		-.1
Auto repairs and maintenance <u>10/</u> -----		131.1	130.3		.6
Auto insurance rates -----		155.7	154.7		.6
Auto registration -----		130.7	131.0		-.2
Parking fees, private and municipal -----	Dec.63	116.5	116.0		.4
Public -----		145.5	144.8		.5
Local transit fares -----		158.4	157.3		.7
Taxicab fares -----	Dec.63	124.8	124.8		0
Railroad fares, coach -----		108.4	108.4		0
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----	Dec.63	103.3	103.3		0
Bus fares, intercity -----	Dec.63	117.8	117.8		0
Health and recreation -----		133.7	133.3		.3
Medical care -----		151.3	150.2		.7
Drugs and prescriptions -----		98.6	98.6		0
Over-the-counter items -----	Dec.63	106.4	106.7		-.3
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----	Dec.63	92.2	92.9		.8
Aspirin compounds -----	Dec.63	105.6	105.2		.4
Liquid tonics -----	Dec.63	101.0	100.9		.1
Adhesive bandages, package -----	Dec.63	116.5	116.4		.1
Cold tablets or capsules -----	Dec.63	108.1	107.8		.3
Cough syrup -----	Dec.63	113.8	115.5		-1.5
Prescriptions -----		88.0	87.8		.2
Anti-infectives -----	Mar.60	62.4	62.4		0
Sedatives and hypnotics -----	Mar.60	105.0	104.3		.7
Ataractics -----	Mar.60	89.8	89.8		0
Anti-spasmodics -----	Mar.60	101.1	101.1		0
Cough preparations -----	Mar.60	106.4	105.1		1.2
Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives -----	Mar.60	95.9	95.4		.5
Analgesics, internal -----	Mar.67	102.1	101.8		.3
Anti-obesity -----	Mar.67	102.1	101.9		.2
Hormones -----	Mar.67	94.7	94.9		-.2
Professional services: -----					
Physicians' fees -----		151.1	149.7		.9
Family doctor, office visits -----		152.0	151.0		.7
Family doctor, house visits -----		158.8	157.6		.8
Obstetrical cases -----		145.9	144.1		1.2
Pediatric care, office visits -----	Dec.63	139.0	134.7		3.2
Psychiatrist, office visits -----	Dec.63	125.2	123.7		1.2
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----	Dec.63	122.8	121.3		1.2
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		146.3	145.5		.5
Dentists' fees -----		139.4	138.9		.4
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		140.2	139.1		.8
Extractions, adult -----		138.4	138.3		.1
Dentures, full upper -----	Dec.63	124.1	124.0		.1
Other professional services: -----					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		128.5	127.8		.5
Routine laboratory tests -----	Dec.63	115.1	114.3		.7
Hospital service charges: -----					
Daily service charges -----		246.2	243.1		1.3
Semiprivate rooms -----		242.2	239.0		1.3
Private rooms -----		238.4	235.8		1.1
Operating room charges -----	Dec.63	158.1	155.1		1.9
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----	Dec.63	120.3	119.9		.3
Personal care -----		124.1	123.7		.3
Toilet goods -----		109.2	108.7		.5
Toothpaste, standard dentrifice -----		113.3	112.8		.4
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		123.5	122.6		.7
Hand lotions, liquid -----	Dec.63	105.4	105.1		.3
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		102.4	102.6		-.2
Face powder, pressed -----		121.4	120.4		.8
Deodorants, cream or roll-on -----	Dec.63	93.9	93.9		0
Cleansing tissues -----		106.8	106.2		.6
Home permanent refills -----		96.0	95.4		.6
Personal care services -----		142.5	142.1		.3
Men's haircuts -----		150.5	150.0		.3
Beauty shop services -----		133.9	133.5		.3
Women's haircuts -----	Dec.63	120.5	120.3		.2
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		149.7	149.0		.5
Permanent waves, cold -----		105.3	105.1		.2

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

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

Item and Group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to February 1969 from:	
		February 1969	January 1969	January 1969	
Reading and recreation ^{11/} -----		128.4	128.4		0
Recreational goods -----	Dec.63	97.7	97.8		- 0.1
TV sets, portable and console -----		80.1	80.3		- .2
TV replacement tubes -----	Dec.63	114.7	114.8		- .1
Radios, portable and table model -----		76.3	76.7		- .5
Tape recorders, portable -----	Dec.63	91.1	90.6		.6
Phonograph records, stereophonic -----	Dec.63	95.9	95.6		.3
Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens -----	Dec.63	84.5	85.0		- .6
Film, 35mm, color -----	Dec.63	98.6	98.6		0
Golf balls, liquid center -----	Dec.63	104.0	103.8		.2
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----	Dec.63	110.4	109.9		.5
Fishing rods, fresh water spincast -----	Dec.63	116.3	116.2		.1
Bowling balls -----	Dec.63	97.9	97.9		0
Bicycle, boys' -----	Dec.63	107.3	107.2		.1
Tricycles -----	Dec.63	107.2	107.8		- .6
Dog food, canned or boxed -----	Dec.63	107.4	106.9		.5
Recreational services -----	Dec.63	126.7	126.6		.1
Indoor movie admissions -----		192.6	192.6		0
Adult -----		188.2	187.9		.2
Children's -----		207.4	208.5		- .5
Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----	Dec.63	153.6	153.9		- .2
Bowling fees, evening -----	Dec.63	110.1	109.8		.3
Golf greens fees -----	Dec.63	125.0	124.8		.2
TV repairs, picture tube replacement -----		102.6	102.6		0
Film developing, black and white -----	Dec.63	120.0	120.1		- .1
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----		152.3	152.1		.1
Magazines, single copy and subscription -----	Dec.63	119.3	119.3		0
Piano lessons, beginner -----	Dec.63	121.6	121.3		.2
Other goods and services -----		125.8	125.6		.2
Tobacco products -----		141.7	141.6		.1
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----		148.6	148.5		.1
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----	Mar.59	140.5	140.5		0
Cigars, domestic, regular size -----		105.9	105.6		.3
Alcoholic beverages -----		115.6	115.3		.3
Beer -----		113.0	112.8		.2
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon -----		108.9	109.0		- .1
Wine, dessert and table -----	Dec.63	107.8	107.4		.4
Away from home -----	Dec.63	118.8	118.1		.6
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult -----	Dec.63	113.1	112.5		.5
Bank service charges, checking accounts -----	Dec.63	107.4	106.9		.5
Legal services, short form will -----	Dec.63	128.2	128.3		- .1
Other special groups:					
All items less shelter -----		123.5	123.1		.3
Commodities less food -----		115.7	115.0		.6
Nondurables less food and apparel -----		118.9	118.6		.3
Household services less rent -----		140.6	139.8		.6
Transportation services -----		139.8	139.2		.4
Other services -----		142.7	142.3		.3

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

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

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

^{4/} Also includes venetian blinds, nails, carpet sweepers, air deodorizers, steel wool scouring pads, envelopes, reupholstering, and moving expenses not shown separately.

^{5/} Priced only in season.

^{6/} Not available.

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

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

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

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

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

A NOTE ABOUT CALCULATING INDEX CHANGES

Movements of the indexes from one date to another usually are expressed as percentage changes rather than as changes in index points because index point changes are affected by the level of the index in relation to its base period, but percentage changes are not. The following example illustrates the computation of index point and percentage changes:

Index Point Change	Percentage Change
February 1969 CPI (1957-59=100)	124.6
less January 1969 index	<u>124.1</u>
Index point difference =	.5
	Index point difference divided by the index for the previous period: $\frac{124.6 - 124.1}{124.1} \times 100 = .4 \text{ percent}$

Reliability of Percent Changes in the CPI

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

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

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

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

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

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

Brief Explanation of the CPI

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

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

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

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

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

*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

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

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

BLS Regional Offices

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