

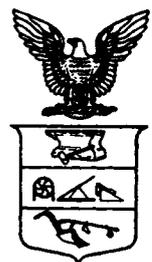
**THE CONSUMER
PRICE INDEX**

MARCH 1966

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

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

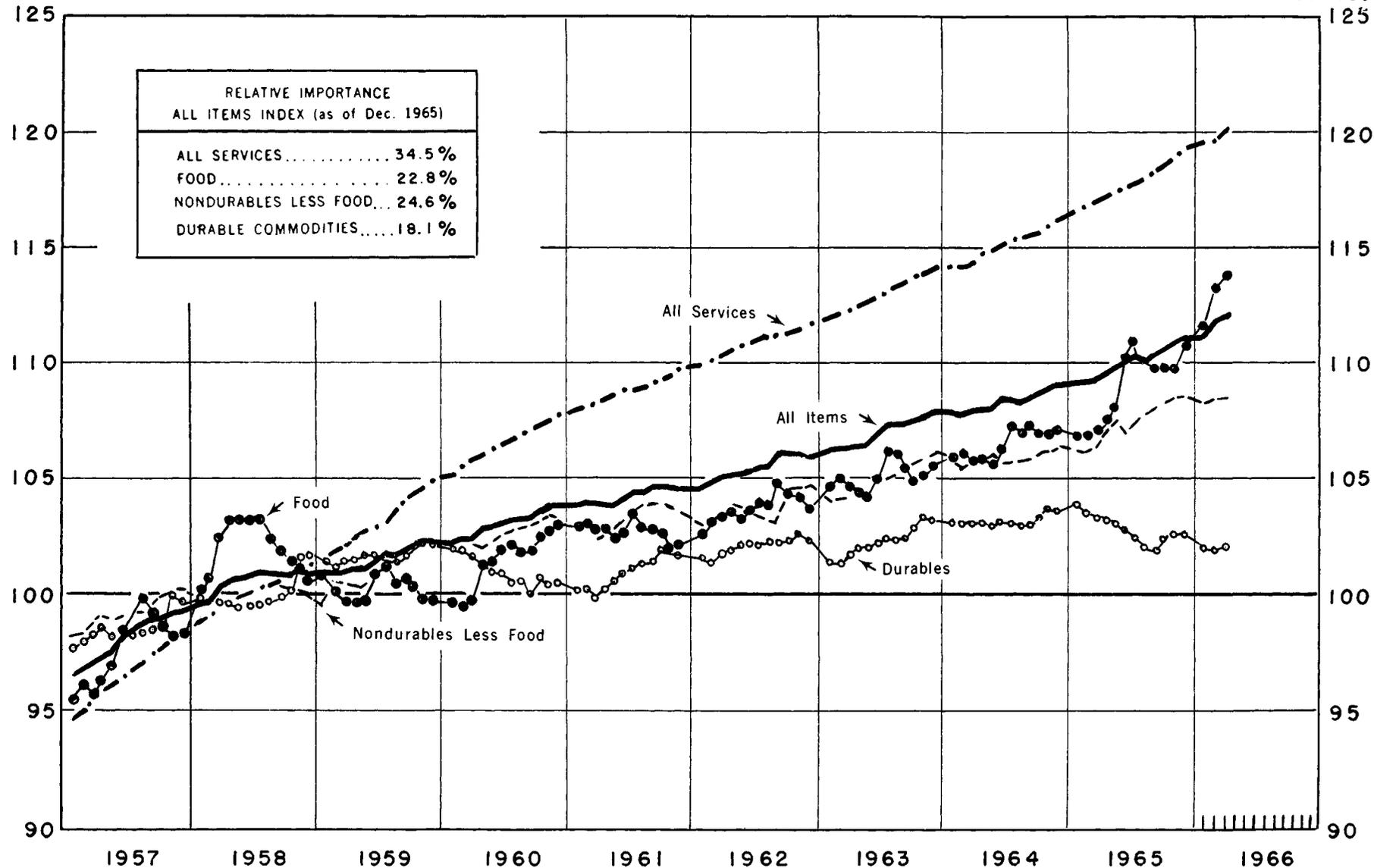
**BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
Arthur M. Ross, Commissioner**



CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES: COMMODITIES AND SERVICES

INDEX 1957-59=100

INDEX 1957-59=100



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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Bureau of Labor Statistics
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MARCH 1966

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.4 percent in March, the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics announced today. Prices of many types of consumer goods and services advanced over the month, bringing the index to 112.0 percent of the 1957-59 average. The March index was 2.8 percent above a year ago, representing the largest year-to-year increase for the month since 1958.

Price Changes, February-March 1966

The increase in living costs during March resulted mostly from higher prices for food, apparel, used cars, and nearly all types of consumer services. Food and apparel prices often go up moderately in March, but this year they increased more than usual. Advances in used car prices also were larger than those which usually take place with the opening of the spring driving season. For services, the increases represented a continuation of their long-term upward trend.

Food prices averaged 0.7 percent higher in March, primarily because of price increases for beef and veal, poultry, and fresh produce. Prices of all cuts of beef and veal rose substantially in response to continuing strong demand and reduced slaughter. Poultry prices advanced 1.7 percent, reflecting seasonally reduced supplies and strong consumer demand. On the other hand, pork prices declined for the first time in four months, because of stiffening consumer resistance to higher prices.

Prices of fresh fruits averaged more than 2 percent higher, chiefly because of a 6.7 percent increase in apple prices, as supplies were reduced by strong demand from both the domestic and export market trade. Below-normal supplies of winter vegetables caused by unfavorable weather conditions brought price increases especially for asparagus, cucumbers, onions, and spinach. Potato prices also advanced, in spite of the large 1965 fall crop, when stocks of old potatoes held in Eastern States were nearly depleted, and marketing of new crop potatoes from south Florida and Texas was delayed by cold weather. On the other hand, substantial decreases occurred over the month in prices of green peppers, lettuce, cabbage, celery, and tomatoes reflecting plentiful supplies.

Sharp price increases for butter and cheese resulted from a decline in production owing to lower milk supplies and high demand during the Lenten season. Prices of salad or cooking oil and margarine also rose substantially in response to price advances in cottonseed and corn oil. Egg prices were down a little, despite a seasonal decrease in production, when supplies were augmented by withdrawals from cold storage.

Homeownership costs rose in March, especially for home maintenance and repairs. Furniture prices also were boosted and charges for housekeeping services advanced due to the short supply of domestic workers which resulted in increased hourly rates.

Apparel prices averaged 0.6 percent higher as several items, including men's tropical suits, women's cotton dresses, and women's and girls' spring coats were marked up. Footwear prices also took another jump. The increase in used car prices was based on brisk demand due to improved weather conditions. Charges for consumer services were led on a continuing uptrend by higher professional medical fees, hospital service charges, and rates for beauty and barber shop services.

Price Trends, March 1965-March 1966

The March index was 2.8 percent above a year ago, primarily because of higher food prices and increased charges for most consumer services. Nearly 1 percent of this increase came during the first quarter of 1966. Food prices averaged 5-1/2 percent higher than during the first quarter of last year, chiefly because of sharply higher meat prices. Fruit and vegetable prices have been only fractionally higher this year. Apple prices have risen as storage stocks have proved insufficient to meet strong demand from both the domestic market and export trade. Grapefruit prices advanced in March when adverse Florida weather delayed harvesting of the 1965-66 crop. Egg prices last month jumped nearly 30 percent above last year's depressed levels as a result of reduced production and heavy military purchases of dried eggs.

Consumer service charges have risen 2.6 percent over the past year, especially for home maintenance and repair services, professional medical fees, and hospital service charges. In addition, widespread increases occurred for barber and beauty shop services and movie admission charges. Transportation services advanced nearly 4 percent, as a result of higher rates for automobile insurance, registration fees, and auto repair charges.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments

About 75,000 workers will receive cost-of-living wage increases as a result of the March Consumer Price Index. Increases based on the national index are as follows:

- a. 2 cents an hour for 34,000 workers (including intercity bus, chemical and aircraft workers) and 3 cents for another 34,000 (mostly aircraft), based on the change in the index since December 1965.
- b. 1 to 3 cents an hour for about 4,000 workers in smaller industries, based on monthly and semiannual changes in the index.

In addition, 2,000 employees of lithographic firms in San Francisco will receive 5.7 cents, based on the quarterly change in the index for San Francisco-Oakland.

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

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)					Percent change to March 1966 from --				
	March 1966		February 1966		March 1965	February 1966		December 1965		March 1965
	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
All items -----	112.0	-----	111.6	-----	109.0	0.4	-----	0.9	-----	2.8
Food -----	113.9	114.2	113.1	113.1	106.9	.7	1.0	3.0	3.1	6.5
Food at home -----	112.6	112.9	111.8	111.8	105.0	.7	1.0	3.4	3.4	7.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.6	-----	113.2	-----	110.9	.4	-----	1.2	-----	2.4
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.9	117.7	115.7	115.7	99.6	1.0	1.7	6.2	6.7	17.4
Dairy products -----	108.1	108.0	107.0	106.7	105.0	1.0	1.2	1.9	2.5	3.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	117.4	117.4	116.5	117.7	115.3	.8	-.3	5.8	2.9	1.8
Other foods at home -----	103.7	104.4	103.5	103.3	100.3	.2	1.1	-.1	1.1	3.4
Food away from home -----	121.2	-----	120.8	-----	116.5	.3	-----	1.1	-----	4.0
Housing -----	109.6	-----	109.4	-----	108.2	.2	-----	.2	-----	1.3
Shelter <u>1/</u> -----	112.3	-----	112.1	-----	110.1	.2	-----	.4	-----	2.0
Rent -----	109.9	-----	109.8	-----	108.7	.1	-----	.4	-----	1.1
Homeownership <u>2/</u> -----	113.5	-----	113.3	-----	110.8	.2	-----	.5	-----	2.4
Fuel and utilities <u>3/</u> -----	106.6	106.3	106.5	106.3	107.4	.1	0	-1.4	-1.3	-.7
Fuel oil and coal <u>4/</u> -----	108.9	106.9	109.0	106.5	106.5	-.1	.4	.3	-.4	2.3
Gas and electricity -----	108.2	-----	108.2	-----	107.7	0	-----	.2	-----	.5
Household furnishings and operation -----	104.0	-----	103.8	-----	103.1	.2	-----	.4	-----	.9
Apparel and upkeep <u>5/</u> -----	108.2	108.5	107.6	108.0	106.0	.6	.5	.1	.8	2.1
Men's and boys' -----	109.0	109.4	108.6	109.0	106.3	.4	.4	-.3	.6	2.5
Women's and girls' -----	103.9	104.4	103.1	103.8	102.1	.8	.6	-.4	1.1	1.8
Footwear -----	116.9	117.0	116.2	116.3	111.7	.6	.6	1.1	1.4	4.7
Transportation -----	111.4	111.8	111.1	111.4	110.6	.3	.4	-.2	.4	.7
Private -----	109.9	110.5	109.6	110.0	109.0	.3	.5	-.2	.6	.8
Public -----	122.1	-----	122.0	-----	121.3	.1	-----	.1	-----	.7
Health and recreation -----	117.6	-----	117.1	-----	114.9	.4	-----	.9	-----	2.3
Medical care -----	125.3	-----	124.5	-----	121.4	.6	-----	1.3	-----	3.2
Personal care -----	111.0	-----	110.8	-----	110.4	.2	-----	.9	-----	.5
Reading and recreation -----	116.6	-----	115.9	-----	115.4	.6	-----	1.0	-----	1.0
Other goods and services <u>6/</u> -----	113.8	-----	113.6	-----	109.5	.2	-----	.4	-----	3.9
SPECIAL GROUPS:										
All items less shelter -----	111.9	-----	111.4	-----	108.7	.4	-----	1.0	-----	2.9
All items less food -----	111.6	-----	111.3	-----	109.9	.3	-----	.3	-----	1.5
Commodities <u>7/</u> -----	108.4	108.6	108.0	108.1	105.6	.4	.5	.9	1.1	2.7
Nondurables -----	111.1	111.4	110.6	110.7	106.6	.5	.6	1.6	1.7	4.4
Durables <u>7/</u> <u>8/</u> -----	102.0	102.1	101.8	101.9	103.2	.2	.2	-.4	-.1	-1.2
Services <u>9/</u> -----	120.1	-----	119.7	-----	117.0	.3	-----	.7	-----	2.6
Commodities less food <u>7/</u> -----	105.6	105.7	105.4	105.6	104.8	.2	.1	-.1	.3	.8
Nondurables less food -----	108.6	108.8	108.3	108.6	106.2	.3	.2	.2	.6	2.3
Apparel commodities -----	107.1	107.4	106.5	107.0	105.0	.6	.4	-.1	.8	2.0
Apparel less footwear -----	105.2	105.6	104.6	105.2	103.7	.6	.4	-.3	.8	1.4
Nondurables less food and apparel -----	109.4	-----	109.3	-----	106.9	.1	-----	.3	-----	2.3
New cars -----	97.1	96.9	97.2	96.8	100.8	-.1	.1	-1.6	-.7	-3.7
Used cars -----	115.4	117.6	114.0	117.3	121.7	1.2	.3	-2.4	-.7	-5.2
Household durables <u>10/</u> -----	96.2	-----	96.1	-----	98.0	.1	-----	.1	-----	-1.8
Housefurnishings -----	98.0	97.8	97.8	97.9	98.4	.2	-.1	.2	0	-.4
Services less rent <u>9/</u> -----	122.5	-----	122.0	-----	119.1	.4	-----	.7	-----	2.9
Household services less rent -----	118.5	-----	118.1	-----	116.2	.3	-----	.1	-----	2.0
Transportation services -----	122.6	-----	122.6	-----	113.4	0	-----	1.1	-----	3.5
Medical care services -----	130.8	-----	129.9	-----	125.9	.7	-----	1.5	-----	3.9
Other services <u>11/</u> -----	125.0	-----	124.1	-----	120.7	.7	-----	1.5	-----	3.6
All items index on other bases:										
1947-49=100 -----	137.4	-----	136.9	-----	133.7	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1939=100 -----	231.3	-----	230.5	-----	225.1	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:										
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	\$0.893	-----	\$0.896	-----	\$0.917	-.3	-----	-.9	-----	-2.6
1947-49=\$1.00 -----	.728	-----	.730	-----	.743	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1939=\$1.00 -----	.432	-----	.434	-----	.444	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

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

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

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

4/ Called "Solid and petroleum fuels" prior to 1964.

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

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

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

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

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

10/ Called "Durables less cars" prior to 1964.

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

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

Area <u>1/</u>	Pricing Schedule <u>2/</u>	Indexes			Percent change from:	
		1957-59=100	1947-49=100	Other bases	December 1965	March 1965
		March 1966			December 1965	March 1965
U.S. City Average -----	M	112.0	137.4		0.9	2.8
Chicago -----	M	109.9	138.6		1.0	3.0
Detroit -----	M	109.4	134.9		1.3	4.4
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	M	113.7	141.8		.4	1.3
New York -----	M	114.8	138.3		1.1	3.2
Philadelphia -----	M	112.7	138.4		.8	2.5
		January 1966			October 1965	January 1965
Boston -----	1	113.9	141.1		0.3	1.4
Houston -----	1	110.0	135.5		.6	<u>3/</u> 2.4
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	1	110.5	136.7		.4	1.7
Pittsburgh -----	1	111.0	136.8		.3	1.8
		February 1966			November 1965	February 1965
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	2	-----	-----	105.8	1.1	3.3
Cleveland -----	2	108.1	134.3		.3	2.0
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	2	-----	-----	103.4	.7	3.4
Milwaukee -----	2	109.5	138.1		.7	2.3
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	2	-----	-----	101.2	.9	1.2
Seattle -----	2	112.6	141.5		.7	2.6
Washington -----	2	111.9	134.7		1.3	2.8
		March 1966			December 1965	March 1965
Atlanta -----	3	110.3	136.6		1.0	2.5
Baltimore -----	3	112.5	139.6		1.4	3.9
Cincinnati -----	3	109.1	132.8		1.1	2.2
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	3	-----	-----	104.4	.5	2.9
Kansas City -----	3	115.3	142.6		.6	<u>4/</u> 2.9
St. Louis -----	3	112.1	139.1		.5	2.8
San Francisco-Oakland --	3	114.9	145.8		1.1	2.4

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

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

M - Every month.

1 - January, April, July, and October.

2 - February, May, August, and November.

3 - March, June, September, and December.

3/ Change from February 1965.

4/ Change from April 1965.

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

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.3
Food -----	.7	.8	1.2	.4	.8	.8
Housing -----	.2	.4	.2	.4	0	-.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	.6	2.1	.9	-.1	1.1	1.2
Transportation -----	.3	-.2	.1	.6	.1	.4
Health and recreation -----	.4	.2	.7	0	.8	.4
Medical care -----	.6	.1	1.6	.2	.9	.7
Personal care -----	.2	.2	-.5	-.5	.4	.5
Reading and recreation -----	.6	.3	.9	-.1	1.2	.2
Other goods and services -----	.2	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)

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

^{2/} Not available.

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

Date	All items	Food	Housing	Apparel and upkeep	Transportation	Health and recreation				
						Total	Medical care	Personal care	Reading and recreation	Other goods and services
1966:										
Mar.	112.0	113.9	109.6	108.2	111.4	117.6	125.3	111.0	116.6	113.8
Feb.	111.6	113.1	109.4	107.6	111.1	117.1	124.5	110.8	115.9	113.6
Jan.	111.0	111.4	109.2	107.3	111.2	116.9	124.2	110.4	115.7	113.4
1965:										
Dec.	111.0	110.6	109.4	108.1	111.6	116.6	123.7	110.0	115.4	113.4
Nov.	110.6	109.7	109.2	108.1	111.5	116.4	123.4	109.6	115.4	113.3
Oct.	110.4	109.7	109.0	107.8	111.2	116.2	123.0	109.2	115.2	113.3
Sept.	110.2	109.7	108.6	107.2	111.0	115.8	122.8	109.2	114.8	112.7
Aug.	110.0	110.1	108.2	106.4	111.0	115.6	122.8	109.0	114.3	112.6
July	110.2	110.9	108.3	106.1	111.5	115.3	122.7	108.7	114.6	111.5
June	110.1	110.1	108.2	106.9	111.2	115.7	122.2	111.0	115.7	111.0
May	109.6	107.9	108.2	106.8	111.4	115.6	121.8	111.0	115.9	110.6
Apr.	109.3	107.3	108.2	106.3	111.0	115.4	121.6	110.7	115.9	110.3
Mar.	109.0	106.9	108.2	106.0	110.6	114.9	121.4	110.4	115.4	109.5
Annual Average:										
1965	109.9	108.8	108.5	106.8	111.1	115.6	122.3	109.9	115.2	111.4
1964	108.1	106.4	107.2	105.7	109.3	113.6	119.4	109.2	114.1	108.8
1963	106.7	105.1	106.0	104.8	107.8	111.4	117.0	107.9	111.5	107.1
1962	105.4	103.6	104.8	103.6	107.2	109.4	114.2	106.5	109.6	105.3
1961	104.2	102.6	103.9	103.0	105.0	107.3	111.3	104.6	107.2	104.6
1960	103.1	101.4	103.1	102.2	103.8	105.4	108.1	104.1	104.9	103.8
1955	93.3	94.0	94.1	95.9	89.7	91.4	88.6	90.0	92.1	94.3

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

Group	U.S. City Average	Atlanta	Baltimore	Chicago	Cincinnati	Detroit	Honolulu (Dec. 1963=100)
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)							
All items -----	112.0	110.3	112.5	109.9	109.1	109.4	104.4
Food -----	113.9	112.4	115.5	115.1	110.9	111.3	106.7
Food at home -----	112.6	112.4	112.5	115.3	109.7	110.2	107.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.6	107.6	119.8	114.2	109.0	106.5	103.2
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.9	118.1	115.4	120.1	116.9	118.8	111.1
Dairy products -----	108.1	105.6	106.7	116.1	105.1	106.9	99.8
Fruits and vegetables -----	117.4	115.3	117.0	113.9	116.4	108.2	114.9
Other foods at home -----	103.7	109.1	103.2	106.7	97.8	100.7	101.2
Food away from home -----	121.2	112.5	127.4	115.2	119.1	118.1	105.0
Housing -----	109.6	109.2	110.2	106.6	103.4	102.1	105.9
Shelter -----	112.3	108.7	112.2	107.9	102.4	101.9	109.3
Rent -----	109.9	105.7	109.6	106.3	103.2	-----	104.9
Homeownership -----	113.5	109.5	113.4	108.9	102.0	103.2	112.4
Fuel and utilities -----	106.6	108.9	105.3	103.2	103.1	100.9	97.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	108.9	-----	109.5	105.6	107.9	100.6	-----
Gas and electricity -----	108.2	110.7	101.5	105.0	106.7	104.4	99.9
Household furnishings and operation -----	104.0	108.0	109.5	105.5	103.4	100.7	101.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	108.2	108.4	110.6	105.2	109.0	109.4	103.1
Men's and boys' -----	109.0	106.2	109.5	105.7	111.1	105.9	99.8
Women's and girls' -----	103.9	102.2	108.4	99.9	101.1	111.2	106.9
Footwear -----	116.9	120.8	126.7	114.9	121.3	117.5	102.3
Transportation -----	111.4	110.2	113.0	108.7	111.2	110.3	97.6
Private -----	109.9	107.8	110.5	108.8	109.5	108.7	99.1
Public -----	122.1	124.5	123.5	109.2	124.1	114.8	90.5
Health and recreation -----	117.6	114.7	114.9	112.9	116.4	119.8	105.1
Medical care -----	125.3	121.7	135.7	132.3	130.2	133.3	106.3
Personal care -----	111.0	113.8	111.7	112.3	106.9	112.6	103.8
Reading and recreation -----	116.6	114.4	109.6	100.6	116.6	114.8	101.4
Other goods and services -----	113.8	109.6	105.6	(2/)	107.4	(2/)	109.9
Percent changes December 1965 to March 1966							
All items -----	0.9	1.0	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.3	0.5
Food -----	3.0	2.4	3.6	3.5	2.9	3.2	.8
Food at home -----	3.4	2.7	4.0	4.2	3.2	3.6	.8
Cereals and bakery products -----	1.2	.5	4.1	2.6	-.5	-.2	-.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	6.2	7.6	4.8	7.2	4.7	6.7	2.7
Dairy products -----	1.9	.8	1.6	3.6	4.4	.9	1.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	5.8	3.8	8.3	3.5	5.3	6.8	-.9
Other foods at home -----	-.1	-1.7	1.1	.6	0	-.4	-.3
Food away from home -----	1.1	1.1	2.2	.7	1.9	1.1	.8
Housing -----	.2	.5	.9	.8	.3	.4	.6
Shelter -----	.4	.2	1.1	1.4	.9	.9	1.4
Rent -----	.4	.2	.4	3/- .2	.1	-----	1.2
Homeownership -----	.5	.2	1.4	2.1	1.2	1.1	1.6
Fuel and utilities -----	-1.4	-1.4	-.1	-1.9	-1.9	-1.3	-2.3
Fuel oil and coal -----	.3	-----	0	0	.8	0	-----
Gas and electricity -----	.2	0	3.5	-.2	-.6	.1	0
Household furnishings and operation -----	.4	2.3	1.5	.3	.6	0	-.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	-.1	1.5	1.4	.1	1.2	.2	.4
Men's and boys' -----	-.3	.2	.6	.6	1.6	-.6	-.7
Women's and girls' -----	-.4	2.2	2.4	-1.3	.6	.5	1.3
Footwear -----	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.2	2.8	.5	.7
Transportation -----	-.2	-1.2	-.3	-1.1	-.2	-.1	-.5
Private -----	-.2	-1.2	-.3	-1.3	-.2	-.2	-.6
Public -----	.1	0	.1	.1	.1	.1	0
Health and recreation -----	.9	2.1	.9	.6	1.1	2.3	.8
Medical care -----	1.3	2.2	.7	.6	1.7	3.7	.6
Personal care -----	.9	2.6	.1	1.7	.5	1.4	1.6
Reading and recreation -----	1.0	3.4	1.9	.8	.6	3.5	1.0
Other goods and services -----	.2	.1	.2	(2/)	1.2	(2/)	.3

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
 March 1966 indexes and percent changes from December 1965--continued

Group	Kansas City	Los Angeles- Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia	St. Louis	San Francisco- Oakland
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)						
All items -----	115.3	113.7	114.8	112.7	112.1	114.9
Food -----	116.7	113.4	115.1	112.8	116.7	114.6
Food at home -----	116.5	110.5	112.5	111.4	115.0	111.9
Cereals and bakery products -----	116.6	116.8	114.9	109.5	112.9	111.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	120.8	108.1	115.3	111.1	121.6	115.4
Dairy products -----	117.5	111.0	103.7	114.0	113.3	109.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	117.5	122.6	120.2	118.6	117.5	119.2
Other foods at home -----	107.2	97.1	104.1	103.2	105.6	100.3
Food away from home -----	117.9	124.5	127.3	120.8	121.5	126.8
Housing -----	109.0	115.3	114.3	110.3	106.9	117.6
Shelter -----	109.5	121.2	117.9	113.1	107.5	123.6
Rent -----	105.0	111.3	-----	110.4	106.3	125.1
Homeownership -----	111.5	124.4	116.8	113.9	107.5	122.8
Fuel and utilities -----	112.1	101.7	105.5	105.1	106.5	101.4
Fuel oil and coal -----	-----	-----	113.9	112.6	105.9	-----
Gas and electricity -----	116.0	111.0	108.3	101.9	110.4	107.6
Household furnishings and operation	103.4	104.2	109.4	104.3	106.2	106.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	111.3	108.3	111.4	113.5	109.3	112.7
Men's and boys' -----	114.2	111.7	112.9	108.9	109.8	109.6
Women's and girls' -----	105.2	104.8	105.5	110.2	106.1	109.3
Footwear -----	119.5	115.3	118.7	118.6	120.4	115.6
Transportation -----	117.2	117.8	109.1	117.8	112.5	112.6
Private -----	115.1	113.7	111.5	113.6	111.0	113.9
Public -----	125.7	139.9	101.7	136.9	117.9	102.2
Health and recreation -----	125.5	111.8	122.3	116.8	117.9	116.8
Medical care -----	133.1	122.0	126.7	129.7	123.3	128.0
Personal care -----	114.1	108.4	108.8	108.3	110.5	119.8
Reading and recreation -----	127.9	103.8	125.8	112.5	121.7	108.8
Other goods and services -----	119.5	(2/)	(2/)	112.2	112.7	111.1
Percent changes December 1965 to March 1966						
All items -----	0.6	0.4	1.1	0.8	0.5	1.1
Food -----	2.0	2.1	3.2	3.0	2.4	2.5
Food at home -----	2.1	2.8	3.8	3.1	2.9	3.0
Cereals and bakery products -----	1.5	- 1.0	2.0	- 1.1	2.8	- .4
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	6.5	7.2	5.5	4.3	4.6	6.5
Dairy products -----	.5	1.8	.8	3.2	.8	1.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	.7	1.3	9.3	8.8	4.8	2.6
Other foods at home -----	- 1.5	.7	- .3	- .3	- .4	.7
Food away from home -----	1.7	0	1.4	1.9	.5	.6
Housing -----	- .1	.5	.1	- .7	- .7	1.1
Shelter -----	.6	.8	.3	- .5	- 1.1	1.9
Rent -----	.4	3/ .3	-----	3/ .4	.1	1.1
Homeownership -----	.8	.8	.3	- .8	- 1.5	2.3
Fuel and utilities -----	- 1.8	- 2.5	- 2.0	- 1.4	- 1.1	- 2.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	-----	-----	.4	.3	.1	-----
Gas and electricity -----	- .1	- .4	.2	0	.5	0
Household furnishings and operation	- 1.0	.9	.7	- .6	.5	.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	- .9	.7	- .1	.7	.4	1.3
Men's and boys' -----	- .6	1.2	- .2	- 1.2	- .3	0
Women's and girls' -----	- 2.4	.8	- .8	1.8	.4	2.8
Footwear -----	.7	1.1	1.0	1.5	1.6	.9
Transportation -----	.1	- 1.7	.6	.4	- .2	0
Private -----	.2	- 1.8	.6	.5	- .2	- .2
Public -----	0	0	0	.1	0	1.2
Health and recreation -----	1.5	.5	1.1	.7	.7	.7
Medical care -----	3.0	.7	1.4	1.2	1.6	1.4
Personal care -----	1.9	1.7	.5	1.0	- .7	.2
Reading and recreation -----	.8	- .1	1.5	.4	.9	.4
Other goods and services -----	.4	(2/)	(2/)	.4	.1	.2

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.

2/ Not available.

3/ Change from January 1966.

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

Area ^{1/}	Total food	Food at home						Food away from home
		Total	Cereals and bakery products	Meats, poultry, and fish	Dairy products	Fruits and vegetables	Other foods at home	
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)								
U.S. City Average -----	113.9	112.6	113.6	116.9	108.1	117.4	103.7	121.2
Atlanta -----	112.4	112.4	107.6	118.1	105.6	115.3	109.1	112.5
Baltimore -----	115.5	112.5	119.8	115.4	106.7	117.0	103.2	127.4
Boston -----	116.0	113.5	115.1	118.3	105.2	121.7	103.9	126.6
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100)	108.0	108.0	98.4	115.5	101.5	110.9	105.8	107.8
Chicago -----	115.1	115.3	114.2	120.1	116.1	113.9	106.7	115.2
Cincinnati -----	110.9	109.7	109.0	116.9	105.1	116.4	97.8	119.1
Cleveland -----	110.1	108.8	109.0	116.5	102.2	113.1	98.6	117.1
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) -	109.0	109.6	106.5	119.1	105.1	107.2	103.4	106.9
Detroit -----	111.3	110.2	106.5	118.8	106.9	108.2	100.7	118.1
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	106.7	107.2	103.2	111.1	99.8	114.9	101.2	105.0
Houston -----	114.3	112.7	119.4	113.3	106.2	117.7	105.5	121.8
Kansas City -----	116.7	116.5	116.6	120.8	117.5	117.5	107.2	117.9
Los Angeles-Long Beach	113.4	110.5	116.8	108.1	111.0	122.6	97.1	124.5
Minneapolis-St. Paul --	112.7	112.2	108.7	115.9	115.2	115.5	105.4	113.9
New York -----	115.1	112.5	114.9	115.3	103.7	120.2	104.1	127.3
Philadelphia -----	112.8	111.4	109.5	111.1	114.0	118.6	103.2	120.8
Pittsburgh -----	111.9	111.5	112.6	121.4	98.8	114.6	103.6	114.3
St. Louis -----	116.7	115.0	112.9	121.6	113.3	117.5	105.6	121.5
San Francisco-Oakland -	114.6	111.9	111.1	115.4	109.2	119.2	100.3	126.8
Seattle -----	113.7	111.5	106.7	117.2	112.8	116.7	102.0	123.7
Washington -----	113.8	112.2	111.8	114.9	111.1	113.6	105.5	122.0
Percent changes February 1966 to March 1966								
U.S. City Average -----	0.7	0.7	0.4	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.2	0.3
Atlanta -----	.4	.4	.2	.9	.4	- 1.3	.7	.5
Baltimore -----	0	- .2	.9	- .3	.5	- 1.2	- .2	.6
Boston -----	.5	.5	.3	.6	.5	1.1	.2	.2
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100)	- .2	- .4	- 1.9	.3	- .2	- .4	- .5	.3
Chicago -----	.8	.9	- .1	1.8	1.0	0	.3	.4
Cincinnati -----	0	- .2	1.3	- 1.1	3.4	- 2.5	.2	1.0
Cleveland -----	.3	.2	.6	.4	1.3	- 1.2	- .2	.9
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) -	.4	.4	.9	1.1	.6	- .6	- .4	.5
Detroit -----	1.2	1.3	- .2	1.6	1.1	2.7	.6	.4
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	.3	.3	- .3	.3	.3	1.2	- .2	0
Houston -----	.6	.6	2.2	1.1	.3	- .6	.3	.3
Kansas City -----	.3	.1	- .7	.8	.2	- .1	- .5	.7
Los Angeles-Long Beach	.4	.5	- .8	2.0	.5	- 1.0	.4	.2
Minneapolis-St. Paul --	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.0	4.4	1.0	.5	.1
New York -----	.8	.9	.2	.8	.7	2.6	.4	.3
Philadelphia -----	.8	.8	.6	.4	1.3	2.6	- .3	.8
Pittsburgh -----	.2	.3	- .4	.6	.4	- .1	0	.1
St. Louis -----	.3	.4	.5	.7	- .4	.8	- .2	.3
San Francisco-Oakland -	.7	.8	- .2	2.3	.8	- .2	- .7	.2
Seattle -----	.7	.8	0	2.1	.4	.9	- .2	.2
Washington -----	.5	.6	1.5	.5	3.2	- .6	- .2	0

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

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

Item or Group	Index	Percent Change	Item or Group	Index	Percent Change
Total food -----	113.9	0.7	Fruits and vegetables -----	117.4	0.8
Food away from home -----	121.2	.3	Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	122.8	1.1
Restaurant meals -----	121.5	.4	Apples -----	123.0	6.7
Snacks <u>1/</u> -----	105.0	.3	Bananas -----	91.2	-.5
Food at home -----	112.6	.7	Oranges -----	108.5	-.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.6	.4	Orange juice, fresh <u>1/</u> -----	83.3	.5
Flour -----	109.7	.3	Grapefruit -----	132.9	1.5
Cracker meal <u>1/</u> -----	114.8	0	Grapes * -----	*	*
Corn flakes -----	118.6	0	Strawberries * -----	*	*
Rice -----	106.4	0	Watermelon * -----	*	*
Bread, white -----	118.6	.3	Potatoes -----	121.8	.7
Bread, whole wheat <u>1/</u> -----	107.4	.8	Onions -----	104.5	2.8
Cookies -----	98.9	.2	Asparagus * <u>1/</u> -----	149.9	(4/)
Layer cake <u>1/</u> -----	100.9	1.3	Cabbage -----	158.4	-7.8
Cinnamon rolls <u>1/</u> -----	103.0	-.1	Carrots -----	114.4	-.9
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.9	1.0	Celery -----	116.6	-5.3
Meats -----	119.8	.8	Cucumbers <u>1/</u> -----	203.2	16.2
Beef and veal -----	113.9	2.2	Lettuce -----	143.9	-4.0
Steak, round -----	111.5	1.9	Peppers, green <u>1/</u> -----	163.5	-7.8
Steak, sirloin <u>2/</u> -----	108.0	2.4	Spinach <u>1/</u> -----	101.6	3.0
Steak, porterhouse <u>1/</u> -----	111.6	2.1	Tomatoes -----	104.7	-17.4
Rump roast <u>1/</u> -----	107.2	1.8	Processed fruits and vegetables -----	110.8	.2
Rib roast -----	119.2	.8	Fruit cocktail, canned -----	103.0	-.8
Chuck roast -----	109.5	2.8	Pears, canned <u>1/</u> -----	109.7	-.7
Hamburger -----	115.2	3.3	Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned <u>1/</u> -----	97.3	.2
Beef liver <u>1/</u> -----	107.3	2.8	Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	94.8	3.0
Veal cutlets -----	127.0	1.0	Lemonade concentrate, frozen <u>2/</u> -----	91.5	.3
Pork -----	131.7	-1.1	Beets, canned <u>1/</u> -----	101.8	1.0
Chops -----	127.0	-2.4	Peas, green, canned -----	116.4	.5
Loin roast <u>2/</u> -----	138.5	-.9	Tomatoes, canned -----	110.2	.8
Pork sausage <u>1/</u> -----	142.7	1.2	Dried beans -----	123.4	-1.0
Ham, whole -----	128.9	-.5	Broccoli, frozen <u>1/</u> -----	96.4	.1
Picnics <u>1/</u> -----	137.3	1.0	Other food at home -----	103.7	.2
Bacon -----	140.5	-2.6	Eggs -----	108.5	-.5
Other meats -----	120.2	1.2	Fats and oils:		
Lamb chops <u>1/</u> -----	120.5	-.2	Margarine -----	103.0	1.2
Frankfurters -----	120.6	2.2	Salad dressing, Italian <u>1/</u> -----	100.5	-.3
Ham, canned <u>1/</u> -----	128.0	.2	Salad or cooking oil <u>1/</u> -----	114.6	2.7
Bologna sausage <u>1/</u> -----	117.0	1.8	Sugar and sweets -----	110.8	.2
Salami sausage <u>1/</u> -----	112.9	1.3	Sugar -----	109.5	.6
Liverwurst <u>1/</u> -----	116.1	1.8	Grape jelly -----	115.9	.2
Poultry -----	99.2	1.7	Chocolate bar -----	93.0	-.3
Frying chicken -----	101.3	2.2	Syrup, chocolate flavored <u>1/</u> -----	100.2	.4
Chicken breasts <u>1/</u> -----	106.0	.6	Nonalcoholic beverages -----	99.3	.1
Turkey <u>1/</u> -----	106.4	1.0	Coffee, can and bag -----	93.3	.1
Fish -----	114.7	1.4	Coffee, instant <u>3/</u> -----	96.5	-.1
Shrimp, frozen <u>1/</u> -----	97.5	1.0	Tea -----	100.0	.6
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	121.8	.2	Cola drink -----	127.9	0
Tuna fish, canned -----	108.3	3.7	Carbonated fruit drink <u>1/</u> -----	101.7	-.5
Sardines, canned <u>1/</u> -----	105.6	.5	Prepared and partially prepared foods <u>1/</u> -----	99.7	.2
Dairy products -----	108.1	1.0	Bean soup, canned <u>1/</u> -----	97.6	.2
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	106.1	.7	Chicken soup, canned <u>1/</u> -----	98.8	.4
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	109.1	.6	Spaghetti, canned <u>1/</u> -----	104.6	.6
Milk, fresh, skim <u>1/</u> -----	102.2	.6	Mashed potatoes, instant <u>1/</u> -----	102.5	-.7
Milk, evaporated -----	106.3	.6	Potatoes, french fried, frozen <u>2/</u> -----	85.9	-.5
Ice cream -----	93.8	.2	Baby foods, canned -----	105.2	.5
Cheese, American process -----	124.6	1.8	Sweet pickle relish <u>1/</u> -----	103.8	.9
Butter -----	109.1	4.3	Pretzels <u>1/</u> -----	99.7	0

1/ December 1963=100.

2/ April 1960=100.

3/ July 1961=100.

4/ Not available.

* Priced only in season.

Brief Explanation of the CPI

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

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

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

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

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

*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

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

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

BLS Regional Offices

1371 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30309	341 Ninth Avenue New York, New York 10001	219 South Dearborn Street Chicago, Illinois 60604
450 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, California 94103	18 Oliver Street Boston, Massachusetts 02110	1365 Ontario Street Cleveland, Ohio 44114