

*the consumer price index*

U.S. CITY AVERAGE  
AND  
SELECTED AREAS



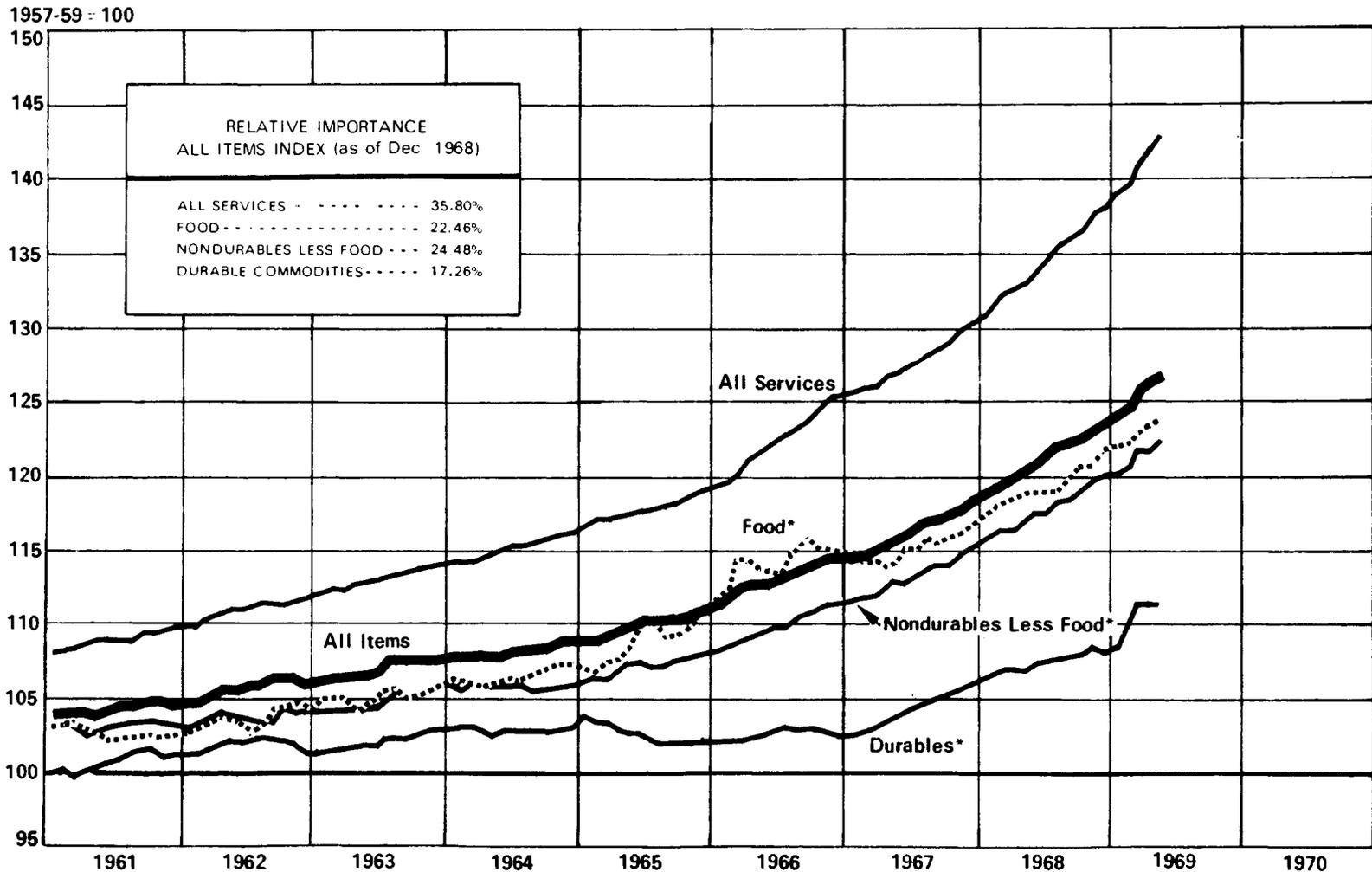
*for May 1969*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

July 1969

## Consumer Price Indexes: Commodities and Services



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR • George P. Shultz, Secretary  
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\* Seasonally Adjusted  
 Latest Data: May 1969

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MAY 1969

Retail prices rose 0.3 percent in May, considerably less than in the two preceding months. The rise brought the Consumer Price Index to 126.8 (1957-59=100). The May increase, smallest since January, brought the rise in retail prices since the beginning of the year to 2.5 percent; the index has risen 5.4 percent since May 1968. In contrast, during the first five months of last year, retail prices rose less (1.8 percent) to a point 4.1 percent higher than year-earlier levels.

Charges for consumer services, particularly medical care and services associated with homeownership, moved up significantly and accounted for about half of the index advance in May. The remainder of the rise resulted about equally from a contraseasonal increase for food, up 0.4 percent despite a sharp decline for eggs, and higher prices for other nondurable commodities, particularly apparel. Prices of consumer durable goods declined fractionally as a significant decrease for used cars offset the continued uptrend in prices of houses and durable household goods.

Almost half of the 5.4 percent year-to-year increase in the Consumer Price Index was due to the rise of more than 7 percent in costs of services, particularly household services. Higher prices for nondurable commodities, principally food and apparel, were responsible for nearly two-fifths of the index's advance; the 4.1 percent increase for durable goods accounted for the remainder.

### Services

The rate of increase in prices of consumer services slowed appreciably in May from the annual rate of about 10 percent in the previous 2 months. Smaller increases were recorded for all major groups of services; household services, other than rent, registered the most significant slowdown. The May rise left service costs 7.3 percent higher than they were a year ago and 3.3 percent above their December 1968 level.

Mortgage interest charges rose appreciably, but by substantially smaller percentages than in March and April when rate increases on V.A. and F.H.A. loans were reflected in the index. Costs to homeowners for maintenance and repair services increased 1 percent in May and accounted for about one-third of the rise in non-rent household services. Charges for these services, up 4 percent so far this year have played an important role in the continued advance in household services. They have risen nearly 9 percent since May 1968. Higher prices for baby sitting, domestic, and licensed day care services and washing machine repairs were behind the sizeable rise in housekeeping services in May.

Prices of medical care services in May posted their smallest monthly rise so far this year. Their annual rate of increase dropped from more than 10 percent to about 7 percent. The May advance, led by higher prices for professional services, was more in line with the average rate of increase during 1968. Hospital daily service charges increased 0.4 percent in May, their smallest monthly rise in nearly a year.

The increase in transportation services was comparatively moderate and in large part was due to higher automobile insurance premiums and private parking fees. About two-thirds of the 6.7 percent over-the-year increase in transportation services resulted from higher costs for public transportation and automobile liability and physical damage insurance.

Costs of "other" services continued to drift up in May, due largely to higher prices for men's haircuts, legal fees, movie admissions and golfing fees.

Since May last year, the increase in costs of consumer services has stemmed primarily from advances for household and medical care services. Taken together, higher prices for transportation and "other" services accounted for about one-fourth of the 12 month increase.

### Food

Retail food prices rose 0.5 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis in May, primarily on the strength of increases for meats and several fresh vegetables. Since the beginning of the year retail prices of food have advanced 2.3 percent, slightly less than in the similar period of last year. Consumers paid about 4 percent more for food in May this year than they did in May 1968. Prices of food purchased in grocery stores were up 3.6 percent over the 12 months while prices of restaurant meals and other food consumed away from home climbed 5.7 percent.

Prices of meats, poultry, and fish averaged contraseasonally higher in May, primarily because of higher prices for beef, veal, and pork. More than half of the rise in prices of food purchased for home consumption since May of last year was the result of a 6.7 percent increase in meat prices. The strength in meat prices, up 5.4 percent this year, apparently stems from the high level of consumer demand. Poultry prices were lower in May, because of promotional efforts aimed at increasing summer demand, while fish prices rose fractionally, reflecting somewhat smaller supplies of shrimp and several important types of fin fish.

Prices of fresh vegetables contributed significantly to the May rise in food prices. Tomatoes, celery and green peppers rose sharply because of tighter supplies that resulted from declining production and, for tomatoes, smaller imports from Mexico. Higher prices for fresh and evaporated milk and for cheese were largely responsible for the greater-than-seasonal rise in retail prices of dairy products. Declining milk output apparently is the major factor behind the sustained uptrend in dairy product prices, up nearly 3 percent over last year.

Egg prices posted the only significant decline in May; they dropped nearly twice as much as usual for the month in response to reduced consumer demand.

### Nondurable goods other than food

Higher prices for apparel continued to be the key factor behind the rise for nondurable commodities other than food in May. Prices for these commodities accounted for more than four-fifths of the 0.4 percent increase. Prices for nondurables other than food have climbed 1.7 percent this year, virtually the same rate as in the similar period last year.

Apparel prices maintained their strong uptrend as prices for women's clothing, especially skirts, street dresses, and swimming suits, jumped sharply. Men's suits and shirts, and all types of footwear, particularly women's, bore higher price tags. So far this year, apparel prices have advanced about two percent, or approximately two-thirds as much as in the similar 1968 period. The slowdown this year may represent a lessening of cost pressures at the manufacturing or retailing levels since consumer demand apparently is still quite strong.

Gasoline prices at retail averaged fractionally lower in May after several months of increases which reflected boosts in wholesale prices. Strong competitive conditions in several metropolitan areas reportedly were the cause of the slight drop. Prices of magazines and books were up rather sharply and costs of alcoholic beverages continued their trend upward.

Higher prices for apparel accounted for about half of the 4.6 percent rise in prices of nondurable commodities other than food over the past year. The remainder of the advance was due to increases for gasoline, alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, reading materials, and toilet goods.

### Durables

Retail prices of consumer durables averaged slightly lower in May, but stood 4.1 percent higher than their level of a year ago. Since the first of the year, prices for durable commodities have advanced 2.4 percent. The increase in the similar 1968 period was only one-third as large.

Used car prices moved down, after very sharp increases earlier in the year, despite indications of sustained strength in demand. New car prices were off fractionally, but by less than usual for the month. Prices of furniture continued to climb strongly in May; the continued increase reflected higher wholesale prices and retailing costs. Since the beginning of the last quarter of 1968, wholesale prices of household furniture have advanced 3½ percent. At the retail level, over the same period, furniture prices have increased nearly 5 percent.

Purchase prices of houses were up significantly in May as were prices for durable commodities used in home maintenance and repairs. A surge in prices of pine shelving, the reflection of unusually large increases for lumber prices in general, has led the nearly 6 percent advance in maintenance and repair commodities since the first of the year.

Approximately nine-tenths of the over-the-year increase for durable goods in May was due to higher prices for houses and household durables, particularly furniture and durable housefurnishings. Prices of new cars were 1½ percent higher than last year, while used cars, despite their strength earlier this year, were at the same level as last May.

### Cost-of-Living Adjustments

Approximately 173,000 workers will receive cost-of-living pay increases based on the May Consumer Price Index. About 73,000 workers in the meatpacking industry will receive an 8-cent hourly increase based on the change in the national index between November 1968 and May 1969. Approximately 27,000 aerospace workers will receive increases amounting to 5 cents an hour and 20,000 tobacco workers will get a 2-cent hourly increase based on a quarterly review of the national CPI. About 1500 transit workers in Milwaukee, Wisconsin are due to receive 1-cent hourly increases and 2800 transit employees in Washington, D. C. will receive an increase of 9 cents based on the change in indexes for those areas since February. Also, 3400 employees of the Kellogg Company in Battle Creek, Michigan will get an increase of 8 cents an hour based on a quarterly review of the Detroit index. An additional 35,000 workers who are covered by contract escalator provisions subject to adjustment on the May index will not receive increases this month because they have already reached the maximum adjustments stipulated in their contracts.

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

(Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise noted)				Percent change to May 1969 from:		
	May 1969	April 1969	Feb. 1969	May 1968	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
	All items -----	126.8	126.4	124.6	120.3	0.3	1.8
All items (1947-49=100) -----	155.6	155.0	152.9	147.6	-----	-----	-----
<b>Food</b> -----	123.7	123.2	121.9	118.8	.4	1.5	4.1
Food at home -----	119.8	119.3	118.1	115.6	.4	1.4	3.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	121.6	121.3	120.8	118.4	.2	.7	2.7
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	119.9	118.4	116.2	113.0	1.3	3.2	6.1
Dairy products -----	123.6	122.9	122.8	120.2	.6	.7	2.8
Fruits and vegetables -----	130.0	127.9	124.7	130.7	1.6	4.3	.5
Other foods at home -----	107.1	109.0	109.4	101.9	- 1.7	- 2.1	5.1
Food away from home -----	142.8	142.2	140.7	135.1	.4	1.5	5.7
<b>Housing</b> -----	125.8	125.3	123.3	117.8	.4	2.0	6.8
Shelter 1/ -----	132.4	131.6	128.9	121.6	.6	2.7	8.9
Rent -----	118.1	117.8	117.2	114.6	.3	.8	3.1
Homeownership 2/ -----	138.0	137.1	133.6	124.3	.7	3.3	11.0
Fuel and utilities 3/ -----	112.6	112.6	111.8	110.3	.0	.7	2.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.5	117.4	116.9	115.3	.1	.5	1.9
Gas and electricity -----	111.2	111.2	110.2	109.5	.0	.9	1.6
Household furnishings and operation -----	117.4	116.9	115.8	112.5	.4	1.4	4.4
<b>Apparel and upkeep 4/</b> -----	126.6	125.6	123.9	119.5	.8	2.2	5.9
Men's and boys' -----	128.1	127.3	125.3	119.8	.6	2.2	6.9
Women's and girls' -----	122.4	121.0	119.3	116.2	1.2	2.6	5.3
Footwear -----	139.6	138.4	136.8	131.2	.9	2.0	6.4
<b>Transportation</b> -----	124.0	124.6	122.0	119.1	- .5	1.6	4.1
Private -----	121.2	121.9	119.3	116.8	- .6	1.6	3.8
New cars -----	101.8	101.9	102.3	100.3	- .1	.5	1.5
Used cars -----	126.8	131.2	122.6	126.7	- 3.4	3.4	.1
Gasoline -----	117.3	117.8	114.5	-----	- .4	2.4	-----
Public -----	148.0	148.0	145.5	137.3	.0	1.7	7.8
<b>Health and recreation</b> -----	135.7	135.1	133.7	129.2	.4	1.5	5.0
Medical care -----	154.5	153.6	151.3	144.0	.6	2.1	7.3
Personal care -----	125.8	125.5	124.1	119.6	.2	1.4	5.2
Reading and recreation -----	130.2	129.6	128.4	125.3	.5	1.4	3.9
Other goods and services -----	126.9	126.6	125.8	122.6	.2	.9	3.5
<b>Seasonally Adjusted:</b>							
Food -----	124.2	123.6	122.0	119.3	.5	1.8	-----
Apparel and upkeep -----	126.3	125.7	124.5	119.3	.5	1.4	-----
Transportation -----	124.1	124.6	122.4	119.2	- .4	1.4	-----
<b>Special Groups:</b>							
All items less food -----	127.9	127.5	125.6	121.0	.3	1.8	5.7
All items less medical care -----	125.2	124.7	123.0	118.9	.4	1.8	5.3
<b>Commodities</b> -----	119.6	119.3	117.8	114.7	.3	1.5	4.3
Nondurables -----	123.0	122.5	121.1	117.8	.4	1.6	4.4
Nondurables less food -----	122.4	121.9	120.5	117.0	.4	1.6	4.6
Apparel commodities -----	126.0	124.9	123.1	118.7	.9	2.4	6.1
Durables -----	111.3	111.4	109.7	106.9	- .1	1.5	4.1
Household durables -----	105.6	105.0	103.7	101.1	.6	1.8	4.5
<b>Services</b> -----	142.7	142.0	139.7	133.0	.5	2.1	7.3
Services less rent -----	148.1	147.4	144.6	137.1	.5	2.4	8.0
Insurance and finance (Dec.1965=100) -----	127.9	127.1	123.0	113.0	.6	4.0	13.2
Utilities and public transportation (Dec.1965=100) -----	107.4	107.5	106.4	103.9	- .1	.9	3.4
Housekeeping and home maintenance services (Dec.1965=100) -----	126.4	125.3	123.2	117.2	.9	2.6	7.8
Medical care services -----	168.2	167.2	164.3	155.0	.6	2.4	8.5
<b>Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar:</b>							
1957-59=\$1 -----	\$0.789	\$0.791	\$0.803	\$0.831	- .3	- 1.7	- 5.1
1939=\$1 -----	.382	.383	.389	.403	-----	-----	-----

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.

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	April 1969	February 1969	May 1968
		May 1969			April 1969	February 1969	May 1968
U.S. City Average -----	M	126.8	155.6		0.3	1.8	5.4
Chicago -----	M	123.6	155.8		.3	1.4	4.9
Detroit -----	M	126.4	155.8		.6	2.4	6.3
Los Angeles-Long Beach ---	M	126.9	158.2		.0	1.4	5.0
New York -----	M	130.8	157.6		.2	1.9	6.4
Philadelphia -----	M	127.5	156.5		-.1	1.2	4.9
		April 1969				January 1969	April 1968
Boston -----	1	129.8	160.9			1.5	5.0
Houston -----	1	125.5	154.6			1.9	6.4
Minneapolis-St. Paul ----	1	125.1	154.8			1.8	3.9
Pittsburgh -----	1	126.0	155.3			1.6	5.5
		May 1969				February 1969	May 1968
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) ---	2	125.3	155.7	120.2		2.5	5.2
Cleveland -----	2					1.8	5.2
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) ----	2			119.4		2.2	5.9
Milwaukee -----	2	122.8	154.9			1.7	6.0
San Diego (Feb.1965=100) -	2			114.4		1.4	5.2
Seattle -----	2	127.6	160.3			1.4	5.4
Washington -----	2	128.8	155.0			2.0	6.4
		March 1969				December 1968	March 1968
Atlanta -----	3	124.9	154.7			2.3	6.0
Baltimore -----	3	125.7	156.0			1.4	5.9
Cincinnati -----	3	122.7	149.4			1.3	4.8
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100) --	3			115.6		1.5	4.3
Kansas City -----	3	128.1	158.6			2.1	5.3
St. Louis -----	3	125.4	155.6			1.6	4.3
San Francisco-Oakland ----	3	128.9	163.6			1.7	5.1

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 <sup>1/</sup>  
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Major Groups  
Percent Change from April 1969 to May 1969

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.3	0.3	0.6	0	0.2	- 0.1
Food -----	.4	.7	.7	0.3	.2	- 1.0
Housing -----	.4	.3	.7	.2	.4	.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	.8	.8	.2	.8	.5	- .5
Transportation -----	.5	.6	.3	- 1.9	.5	- .5
Health and recreation -----	.4	.5	.4	.5	.4	.4
Medical care -----	.6	.5	.4	.7	.6	.7
Personal care -----	.2	.4	.1	.7	.1	.6
Reading and recreation -----	.5	.7	.7	.0	.2	.1
Other goods and services -----	.2	.3	.1	.6	.4	<u>2/</u>

<sup>1/</sup> See footnote 1, table 2.

<sup>2/</sup> Not available.

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

Group	Indexes			Percent changes to: May 1969 From:	
	May 1969	April 1969	February 1969	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago
Food -----	124.2	123.6	122.0	0.5	1.8
Food at home -----	120.3	119.7	118.2	.5	1.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	121.5	119.4	116.2	1.8	4.6
Dairy products -----	124.1	123.5	122.9	.5	1.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	127.1	126.4	125.6	.6	1.2
Other foods at home -----	108.4	109.4	109.3	- .9	- .8
Fuel and utilities <sup>1/</sup> -----	112.6	112.6	111.6	0	.9
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.7	117.0	115.3	.6	2.1
Apparel and upkeep <sup>2/</sup> -----	126.3	125.7	124.5	.5	1.4
Men's and boys' -----	128.0	127.2	126.1	.6	1.5
Women's and girls' -----	121.9	121.4	120.3	.4	1.3
Footwear -----	139.5	138.3	137.1	.9	1.8
Transportation -----	124.1	124.6	122.4	- .4	1.4
Private -----	121.2	121.9	119.7	- .6	1.3
New cars -----	102.0	101.8	101.9	.2	.1
Commodities -----	119.8	119.4	118.0	.3	1.5
Commodities less food -----	117.5	117.2	115.9	.3	1.4
Nondurables -----	123.1	122.7	121.3	.3	1.5
Nondurables less food -----	122.3	121.9	120.7	.3	1.3
Apparel commodities -----	125.6	125.0	123.7	.5	1.5
Durables -----	111.3	111.4	109.9	- .1	1.3

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

<sup>2/</sup> Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, jewelry, and apparel upkeep services not shown separately.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas <sup>1/</sup>  
 For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups  
 May 1969 Index and Percent Changes from February 1969

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles- Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)						
All items -----	126.8	123.6	126.4	126.9	130.8	127.5
Food -----	123.7	125.3	122.7	121.6	124.9	123.1
Food at home -----	119.8	123.3	119.9	116.3	119.1	118.0
Cereals and bakery products ----	121.6	126.5	116.0	122.7	120.4	120.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	119.9	123.3	125.8	110.9	120.5	114.7
Dairy products -----	123.6	136.6	129.7	120.6	114.3	133.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	130.0	128.2	120.3	137.1	132.1	127.1
Other foods at home -----	107.1	106.9	104.9	99.0	107.0	102.1
Food away from home -----	142.8	134.6	138.2	141.2	149.3	149.9
Housing -----	125.8	119.0	122.9	131.1	130.1	124.7
Shelter -----	132.4	122.9	130.3	139.8	134.9	129.5
Rent -----	118.1	112.8	-----	118.5	-----	119.1
Homeownership -----	138.0	127.6	135.5	146.9	138.5	132.1
Fuel and utilities -----	112.6	107.4	103.7	109.5	113.5	109.6
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.5	110.2	110.0	-----	124.0	122.5
Gas and electricity -----	111.2	105.5	104.6	114.3	112.4	102.7
Household furnishings and operation	117.4	115.9	111.4	115.3	127.0	121.0
Apparel and upkeep -----	126.6	120.8	123.1	123.7	132.9	132.4
Men's and boys' -----	128.1	119.9	123.9	127.7	138.6	130.9
Women's and girls' -----	122.4	115.9	117.8	122.8	127.2	123.4
Footwear -----	139.6	134.5	137.8	133.9	140.6	146.9
Transportation -----	124.0	124.6	124.9	125.9	126.7	134.2
Private -----	121.2	120.2	122.3	121.3	127.0	126.6
Public -----	148.0	153.4	140.6	155.3	128.8	176.5
Health and recreation -----	135.7	130.3	139.2	128.5	142.9	135.0
Medical care -----	154.5	162.7	164.9	149.7	161.0	162.4
Personal care -----	125.8	125.2	134.1	119.0	122.3	119.2
Reading and recreation -----	130.2	114.0	131.2	113.0	141.9	125.6
Other goods and services -----	126.9	118.6	121.5	124.0	137.2	2/
Percent change from February 1969 to May 1969						
All items -----	1.8	1.4	2.4	1.4	1.9	1.2
Food -----	1.5	1.9	2.3	1.7	1.5	.2
Food at home -----	1.4	2.2	2.7	2.2	1.2	-.2
Cereals and bakery products ----	.7	.6	.4	1.7	.6	.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	3.2	4.2	5.4	4.1	2.6	2.0
Dairy products -----	.7	.5	.5	1.3	.1	.4
Fruits and vegetables -----	4.3	7.3	6.2	4.7	2.6	-.5
Other foods at home -----	- 2.1	- 3.2	- 1.8	- 1.8	- 1.6	- 4.1
Food away from home -----	1.5	.7	.8	.7	2.1	1.5
Housing -----	2.0	.6	2.9	2.0	2.1	2.0
Shelter -----	2.7	.7	4.2	2.5	2.0	2.7
Rent -----	.8	2/1.0	---	2/ 1.5	---	2/ 1.3
Homeownership -----	3.3	.6	5.0	2.8	3.2	2.9
Fuel and utilities -----	.7	-.1	.2	.7	.6	.0
Fuel oil and coal -----	.5	.7	.0	---	.7	.0
Gas and electricity -----	.9	-.3	.2	1.5	1.2	.0
Household furnishings and operation	1.4	.7	.7	.8	3.1	2.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	2.2	1.4	.2	.6	3.0	1.0
Men's and boys' -----	2.2	1.9	.7	1.2	3.8	2.3
Women's and girls' -----	2.6	2.0	-.3	.0	3.4	.2
Footwear -----	2.0	.4	1.3	1.1	3.2	1.1
Transportation -----	1.6	1.7	3.4	-.1	1.2	1.0
Private -----	1.6	1.9	3.5	-.1	1.2	1.0
Public -----	1.7	.9	2.5	.5	1.1	1.1
Health and recreation -----	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.4	2	1.4
Medical care -----	2.1	2.8	2.1	2.4	3.1	2.3
Personal care -----	1.4	1.8	2.8	1.4	1.2	1.6
Reading and recreation -----	1.4	1.7	1.5	.5	1.9	1.5
Other goods and services -----	.9	.3	.3	.7	2.1	.2

<sup>1/</sup> 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  
May 1969 Index and Percent Changes from February 1969

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 -----	120.2	125.3	119.4	122.8	114.4	127.6	128.8
Food -----	118.9	122.3	118.2	123.3	116.4	123.6	128.3
Food at home -----	116.8	119.5	114.9	121.3	112.6	118.5	123.1
Cereals and bakery products -----	109.2	116.6	109.3	114.1	110.5	114.8	116.4
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	117.7	123.5	119.5	123.4	122.1	120.6	123.0
Dairy products -----	119.5	124.0	121.3	131.9	110.7	127.7	125.4
Fruits and vegetables -----	125.4	127.6	117.2	129.2	110.4	130.7	132.6
Other foods at home -----	111.3	106.5	107.3	108.5	103.5	102.8	115.9
Food away from home -----	131.4	138.5	130.7	134.9	126.8	144.9	148.3
Housing -----	118.8	120.9	120.3	120.6	117.2	131.2	124.5
Shelter -----	121.5	123.1	127.0	123.4	124.6	144.7	128.7
Rent -----	109.1	106.2	106.8	110.5	116.4	126.4	122.6
Homeownership -----	123.8	126.1	136.9	127.6	127.9	149.8	130.7
Fuel and utilities -----	113.4	114.5	105.0	114.3	99.4	114.8	105.6
Fuel oil and coal -----	110.6	-----	-----	122.1	-----	115.2	116.5
Gas and electricity -----	116.2	115.0	100.9	106.0	100.0	98.1	103.8
Household furnishings and operation -----	115.2	114.1	115.0	117.6	107.7	113.3	122.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	129.7	124.9	119.8	125.3	112.2	123.5	135.1
Men's and boys' -----	131.4	128.6	124.7	124.2	119.0	125.9	132.0
Women's and girls' -----	132.7	118.7	118.6	122.4	108.3	122.5	136.4
Footwear -----	133.5	137.4	117.2	139.5	119.7	140.0	146.0
Transportation -----	115.6	126.7	112.8	120.0	109.5	121.0	124.7
Private -----	116.2	121.2	112.7	119.0	109.7	120.0	121.4
Public -----	107.8	163.3	115.0	134.0	106.0	130.6	144.7
Health and recreation -----	122.6	137.9	123.6	127.6	113.2	130.6	138.8
Medical care -----	126.9	173.1	133.5	147.2	122.5	147.7	176.1
Personal care -----	118.8	121.9	119.2	126.7	104.2	127.9	126.1
Reading and recreation -----	119.8	123.2	120.7	124.0	108.1	120.7	131.4
Other goods and services -----	123.3	129.1	114.4	116.6	114.7	126.9	119.5
Percent Changes February 1969 to May 1969							
All items -----	2.5	1.8	2.2	1.7	1.4	1.4	2.0
Food -----	1.5	1.9	1.7	1.6	2.3	1.7	1.8
Food at home -----	1.3	2.1	1.6	1.7	2.6	2.2	1.8
Cereals and bakery products -----	1.0	1.3	-.2	3.6	1.8	4.6	1.7
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	2.0	3.1	3.6	3.1	5.5	4.1	3.0
Dairy products -----	.5	3.0	.5	.2	1.7	.9	.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.4	6.8	5.6	6.0
Other foods at home -----	- 1.4	-.8	- 1.4	- 2.4	- 4.0	- 3.4	- 1.9
Food away from home -----	2.4	.7	2.3	1.1	1.6	.3	1.9
Housing -----	2.9	1.5	3.1	2.5	1.7	1.5	2.6
Shelter -----	3.4	2.2	4.4	3.0	2.3	1.8	3.4
Rent -----	.6	.7	.9	1.0	3.0	.8	.7
Homeownership -----	3.9	2.4	5.8	3.6	1.9	2.1	4.8
Fuel and utilities -----	2.4	.0	.1	1.5	.0	1.5	.2
Fuel oil and coal -----	2.0	---	---	.6	---	4.9	.0
Gas and electricity -----	3.5	-.1	.0	2.6	.0	.2	.4
Household furnishings and operation -----	2.1	-.2	1.6	1.5	.8	.5	1.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	6.1	2.1	2.3	3.7	1.0	1.9	2.9
Men's and boys' -----	4.6	1.0	2.2	1.2	-.3	1.1	2.0
Women's and girls' -----	8.1	3.8	4.0	6.8	1.3	4.0	5.5
Footwear -----	8.9	1.3	- 1.4	2.4	4.5	1.1	-.1
Transportation -----	1.6	2.9	2.1	-.6	1.4	-.7	1.5
Private -----	1.6	1.6	2.3	-.8	1.5	-.9	1.8
Public -----	1.6	11.0	.3	2.8	.0	.8	.5
Health and recreation -----	1.5	1.5	1.5	.9	.4	1.4	1.0
Medical care -----	1.8	3.2	1.8	1.1	1.3	2.1	.9
Personal care -----	.7	.6	.2	- 1.0	- 2.2	3.4	1.2
Reading and recreation -----	.8	1.1	2.3	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.4
Other goods and services -----	2.3	.2	.6	1.1	.3	.1	.5

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.

2/ Not available.

3/ Change from March 1969.

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

Area <sup>1/</sup>	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 -----	123.7	119.8	121.6	119.9	123.6	130.0	107.1	142.8
Atlanta -----	121.2	117.6	114.1	118.6	117.2	128.5	111.8	134.4
Baltimore -----	126.2	121.3	125.7	121.8	120.1	133.4	109.6	146.7
Boston -----	127.8	122.5	127.4	124.7	119.6	132.8	109.2	150.4
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	118.9	116.8	109.2	117.7	119.5	125.4	111.3	131.4
Chicago -----	125.3	123.3	126.5	123.3	136.6	128.2	106.9	134.6
Cincinnati -----	120.7	117.1	117.1	118.8	119.3	129.5	103.7	139.2
Cleveland -----	122.3	119.5	116.6	123.5	124.0	127.6	106.5	138.5
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	118.2	114.9	109.3	119.5	121.3	117.2	107.3	130.7
Detroit -----	122.7	119.9	116.0	125.8	129.7	120.3	104.9	138.2
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	116.1	114.8	111.2	117.3	114.4	118.3	110.5	119.8
Houston -----	125.2	121.0	125.7	116.0	129.7	135.1	108.5	143.5
Kansas City -----	127.5	124.2	124.0	125.8	133.7	128.0	111.7	139.1
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	121.6	116.3	122.7	110.9	120.6	137.1	99.0	141.2
Milwaukee -----	123.3	121.3	114.1	123.4	131.9	129.2	108.5	134.9
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	121.3	117.4	114.5	117.7	123.8	122.5	110.4	139.2
New York -----	124.9	119.1	120.4	120.5	114.3	132.1	107.0	149.3
Philadelphia -----	123.1	118.0	120.0	114.7	133.0	127.1	102.1	149.9
Pittsburgh -----	120.9	118.2	123.3	122.5	115.6	126.3	105.5	138.2
St. Louis -----	126.9	122.8	123.9	124.7	131.2	134.0	105.7	143.4
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	116.4	112.6	110.5	122.1	110.7	110.4	103.5	126.8
San Francisco-Oakland --	122.7	117.5	118.0	116.1	117.8	135.3	103.6	145.7
Seattle -----	123.6	118.5	114.8	120.6	127.7	130.7	102.8	144.9
Washington -----	128.3	123.1	116.4	123.0	125.4	132.6	115.9	148.3
Percent Changes April 1969 to May 1969								
U.S. City Average -----	0.4	0.4	0.2	1.3	0.6	1.6	- 1.7	0.4
Atlanta -----	.5	.7	.2	.8	.2	2.0	- 2.9	.3
Baltimore -----	.1	.2	.3	.0	.0	1.9	- 2.3	.1
Boston -----	.2	.2	.2	1.0	.3	.7	- 1.5	.5
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	.6	.6	1.1	1.2	.3	2.3	- 1.9	.6
Chicago -----	.7	.8	.5	1.6	1.2	1.4	- 1.2	.1
Cincinnati -----	.4	.3	1.4	.7	.7	1.2	- .7	.4
Cleveland -----	1.8	2.0	.3	3.4	3.0	1.2	1.2	.4
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	1.1	1.0	.5	2.9	.1	2.3	- 1.2	1.4
Detroit -----	.7	.7	.1	1.9	.7	1.7	- 1.8	.3
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	.3	.2	.7	1.6	.3	- 2.4	.7	.3
Houston -----	.7	.7	.4	1.4	.0	3.1	- 1.2	.6
Kansas City -----	.7	.6	.0	1.5	.5	2.1	- 1.3	1.0
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	.3	.3	1.4	1.4	.2	1.0	- 2.3	.4
Milwaukee -----	.3	.2	1.3	1.1	.2	.0	- 2.0	2/
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	.5	.4	.3	1.1	.7	2.3	- 1.8	.9
New York -----	.2	.1	.1	1.2	.2	.7	- 2.4	.4
Philadelphia -----	- 1.0	- 1.4	.1	.5	.4	- 1.2	- 5.4	.4
Pittsburgh -----	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.7	.4	2.0	- .3	.9
St. Louis -----	.4	.5	1.1	1.1	.2	1.9	- 1.4	.1
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	1.0	.7	1.2	2.1	.8	3.2	- 3.5	2/
San Francisco-Oakland --	.3	.3	.1	.9	.3	3.0	- 2.9	.6
Seattle -----	.3	.4	.9	.8	.3	1.2	- .9	.1
Washington -----	.5	.6	2.3	1.1	.2	3.5	- 2.5	.7

<sup>1/</sup> See footnote 1, table 2.

<sup>2/</sup> Not available.

TABLE 7: Consumer Price Index--United States City Average  
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Food Items  
May 1969 Indexes and Percent Changes from Selected Dates  
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent Change to May 1969 from--		
	May 1969		April 1969		May 1968
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Total food -----	123.7	124.2	0.4	0.5	4.1
Food away from home -----	142.8	-----	.4	-----	5.7
Restaurant meals -----	143.0	-----	.5	-----	5.7
Snacks <u>1/</u> -----	124.1	-----	.3	-----	6.0
Food at home -----	119.8	120.3	.4	.5	3.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	121.6	-----	.2	-----	2.7
Flour -----	112.2	-----	.4	-----	-.4
Cracker meal <u>1/</u> -----	119.3	-----	1.2	-----	1.7
Corn flakes -----	127.9	-----	-.4	-----	-.1
Rice -----	112.0	-----	.3	-----	1.8
Bread, white -----	127.1	-----	-.1	-----	3.1
Bread, whole wheat <u>1/</u> -----	119.6	-----	.1	-----	4.7
Cookies -----	100.9	-----	-.2	-----	1.1
Layer cake <u>1/</u> -----	113.9	-----	1.4	-----	5.4
Cinnamon rolls <u>1/</u> -----	111.9	-----	-.2	-----	4.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	119.9	121.5	1.3	1.8	6.1
Meats -----	123.4	125.9	1.8	2.6	6.7
Beef and veal -----	127.9	128.7	2.2	1.7	9.2
Steak, round -----	124.1	125.5	2.2	1.9	9.9
Steak, sirloin <u>2/</u> -----	120.7	-----	3.0	-----	8.9
Steak, porterhouse <u>1/</u> -----	125.2	-----	3.0	-----	8.2
Rump roast <u>1/</u> -----	117.2	-----	1.6	-----	7.6
Rib roast -----	138.1	139.5	3.4	3.8	11.4
Chuck roast -----	121.5	122.9	1.9	2.9	11.5
Hamburger -----	131.4	133.0	2.4	2.9	10.3
Beef liver <u>1/</u> -----	109.6	-----	-.5	-----	2.8
Veal cutlets -----	154.2	154.4	2.4	2.9	8.9
Pork -----	118.8	124.5	1.1	2.9	4.2
Chops -----	122.4	128.7	.3	.9	5.0
Loin roast <u>2/</u> -----	129.8	-----	1.3	-----	5.8
Pork sausage <u>1/</u> -----	130.0	-----	2.0	-----	5.9
Ham, whole -----	111.1	114.8	2.9	4.6	1.8
Picnics <u>1/</u> -----	121.5	-----	.3	-----	7.5
Bacon -----	118.4	123.3	.9	1.6	.9
Other meats -----	124.0	124.5	1.5	1.7	4.3
Lamb chops <u>1/</u> -----	136.2	-----	1.9	-----	6.2
Frankfurters -----	122.2	122.8	1.5	2.2	5.1
Ham, canned <u>1/</u> -----	116.6	-----	1.1	-----	1.3
Bologna sausage <u>1/</u> -----	123.7	-----	1.1	-----	4.7
Salami sausage <u>1/</u> -----	118.6	-----	1.7	-----	4.5
Liverwurst <u>1/</u> -----	120.6	-----	1.5	-----	4.3
Poultry -----	93.3	-----	- 2.1	-----	2.5
Frying chicken -----	94.7	95.4	- 3.3	-.7	2.6
Chicken breasts <u>1/</u> -----	104.4	-----	- 2.2	-----	1.8
Turkey <u>1/</u> -----	98.7	-----	5.7	-----	3.2
Fish -----	129.5	129.4	.9	.9	5.4
Shrimp, frozen <u>1/</u> -----	118.2	-----	1.2	-----	10.8
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	132.0	131.9	1.4	1.3	5.8
Tuna fish, canned -----	114.0	-----	.8	-----	3.2
Sardines, canned <u>1/</u> -----	123.7	-----	.0	-----	2.1
Dairy products -----	123.6	124.1	.6	.5	2.8
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	120.7	121.6	.2	.3	2.0
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	127.3	-----	.4	-----	3.2
Milk, fresh, skim <u>1/</u> -----	121.7	-----	.2	-----	3.6
Milk, evaporated -----	123.8	-----	.7	-----	4.1
Ice cream -----	98.8	-----	1.9	-----	.6
Cheese, American process -----	146.1	146.0	1.7	1.7	5.6
Butter -----	117.9	118.4	.4	.5	.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  
May 1969 Indexes and Percent Changes from Selected Dates--Continued  
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent Change to May 1969 from--		
	May 1969		April 1969		May 1968
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Fruits and vegetables -----	130.0	127.1	1.6	0.6	- 0.5
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	140.9	135.9	2.4	.8	- 1.3
Apples -----	171.4	162.3	2.4	- 3.2	.5
Bananas -----	96.3	94.4	5.0	4.5	- 7.0
Oranges -----	126.2	132.1	- .2	- 3.3	-11.0
Orange juice, fresh 1/ -----	91.2	-----	.5	-----	8.1
Grapefruit -----	137.3	143.9	2.1	- 4.0	-17.9
Grapes 3/ -----	(3/)	-----	(3/)	-----	(3/)
Strawberries 3/ -----	121.5	123.6	-17.6	-11.6	- .4
Watermelon 3/ -----	(3/)	-----	(3/)	-----	(3/)
Potatoes -----	143.8	134.8	1.8	- 7.6	1.2
Onions -----	130.5	125.2	5.0	.3	-24.0
Asparagus 3/ 1/ -----	118.9	-----	- 21.9	-----	- 3.3
Cabbage -----	152.6	140.4	2.6	- 1.0	- 5.5
Carrots -----	109.7	113.1	- 3.8	- 5.0	- 2.9
Celery -----	134.3	137.6	18.6	14.4	20.8
Cucumbers 1/ -----	161.1	-----	.5	-----	1.3
Lettuce -----	149.3	145.0	-10.1	-22.2	30.9
Peppers, green 1/ -----	188.0	-----	14.8	-----	-11.2
Spinach 1/ -----	109.6	-----	- 3.4	-----	7.1
Tomatoes -----	173.8	150.2	46.4	39.6	6.6
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	116.3	-----	.3	-----	.6
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	106.0	-----	.5	-----	- 2.8
Pears, canned 1/ -----	109.0	-----	.4	-----	- 7.9
Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned 1/ -----	99.1	-----	.5	-----	4.1
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	103.7	104.9	1.6	3.6	19.7
Lemonade concentrate, frozen 2/ -----	92.5	-----	.2	-----	2.8
Beets, canned 1/ -----	113.4	-----	.3	-----	2.4
Peas, green, canned -----	121.1	-----	.2	-----	.3
Tomatoes, canned -----	123.8	-----	.2	-----	- 5.5
Dried beans -----	125.4	-----	.6	-----	1.6
Broccoli, frozen 1/ -----	103.2	-----	2.1	-----	2.3
Other food at home -----	107.1	108.4	- 1.7	.9	5.1
Eggs -----	97.4	106.6	-11.3	- 4.7	18.9
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	102.8	-----	.2	-----	- 1.0
Salad dressing, Italian 1/ -----	103.2	-----	.3	-----	.3
Salad or cooking oil 1/ -----	122.7	-----	.3	-----	.7
Sugar and sweets -----	124.7	-----	.2	-----	6.9
Sugar -----	115.0	-----	.5	-----	1.9
Grape jelly -----	123.1	-----	.5	-----	4.0
Chocolate bar -----	124.5	-----	.0	-----	16.5
Syrup, chocolate flavored 1/ -----	106.4	-----	.1	-----	4.4
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	102.7	-----	.1	-----	1.6
Coffee, can and bag -----	86.6	-----	.2	-----	- .9
Coffee, instant 4/ -----	103.0	-----	.9	-----	5.0
Tea -----	100.8	-----	.2	-----	.4
Cola drink -----	153.8	-----	.0	-----	4.1
Carbonated fruit drink 1/ -----	120.4	-----	.5	-----	3.9
Prepared and partially prepared foods 1/ -----	106.0	-----	.2	-----	3.8
Bean soup, canned 1/ -----	105.2	-----	.7	-----	4.3
Chicken soup, canned 1/ -----	98.2	-----	.7	-----	2.3
Spaghetti, canned 1/ -----	116.2	-----	.2	-----	3.7
Mashed potatoes, instant 1/ -----	107.7	-----	1.2	-----	5.4
Potatoes, french fried, frozen 2/ -----	90.6	-----	.7	-----	4.4
Baby foods, canned -----	110.9	-----	.2	-----	4.9
Sweet pickle relish 1/ -----	112.5	-----	.6	-----	3.8
Pretzels 1/ -----	106.8	-----	.1	-----	1.2

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  
 May 1969 indexes and percent changes from selected dates  
 (1957-59=100)

Group	Index	Percent change from --	
		February 1969	May 1968
All items -----	128.1	1.5	5.5
All items (1947-49=100) -----	152.7		
Food -----	123.4	1.5	4.8
Food at home -----	120.5	1.5	5.0
Cereals and bakery products --	126.0	2.4	4.7
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	125.5	2.2	6.7
Dairy products -----	122.2	2.6	4.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	118.0	3.0	.9
Other foods at home -----	109.7	- 1.9	6.0
Housing -----	122.8	1.7	7.4
Rent -----	118.4	1.4	4.0
Gas and electricity -----	105.8	0	0
Solid and petroleum fuels -----	110.6	- 3.7	6.6
Housefurnishings -----	111.7	.9	4.9
Household operation -----	123.6	1.4	2.1
Apparel -----	124.4	.4	2.8
Men's and boys' -----	124.7	.6	2.5
Women's and girls' -----	120.9	.2	1.9
Footwear -----	138.0	.1	4.6
Other apparel -----	112.9	1.6	4.8
Transportation -----	120.3	2.3	4.1
Private -----	115.8	1.0	2.8
Public -----	150.8	11.4	12.0
Medical care -----	165.3	2.5	11.2
Personal care -----	136.3	.4	5.0
Reading and recreation -----	170.6	.8	3.2
Other goods and services -----	130.8	.8	3.9

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

Item or Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent Change to May 1969 From:	
		May 1969	April 1969	April 1969	May 1968
Housing -----		125.8	125.3	0.4	6.8
Shelter 1/ -----		132.4	131.6	.6	8.9
Rent -----		118.1	117.8	.3	3.1
Homeownership costs 2/ -----		138.0	137.1	.7	11.0
Mortgage interest rates -----		134.3	133.5	.6	----
Property taxes -----	Dec.63	128.3	128.1	.2	----
Property insurance rates -----		146.9	146.0	.6	----
Maintenance and repairs -----		139.6	138.4	.9	----
Commodities 3/ -----	Dec.63	117.5	117.0	.4	----
Exterior house paint -----		115.9	116.2	-.3	----
Interior house paint -----	Dec.63	111.6	111.7	-.1	----
Services -----	Dec.63	134.2	132.9	1.0	----
Repainting living and dining rooms -----		171.5	167.9	2.1	----
Reshingling roofs -----		152.3	151.4	.6	----
Residing houses -----	Dec.63	127.6	126.5	.9	----
Replacing sinks -----	Dec.63	135.3	134.7	.4	----
Repairing furnaces -----	Dec.63	136.4	135.0	1.0	----
Fuel and utilities -----		112.6	112.6	.0	2.1
Fuel oil and coal -----		117.5	117.4	.1	1.9
Fuel oil, #2 -----		114.9	114.8	.1	----
Gas and electricity -----		111.2	111.2	.0	1.6
Gas -----		116.4	116.5	-.1	----
Electricity -----		105.5	105.4	.1	----
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services -----		103.4	103.3	.1	----
Residential water and sewerage services -----		143.4	143.4	.0	----
Household furnishings and operation 4/ -----		117.4	116.9	.4	4.4
Housefurnishings -----		108.8	108.3	.5	4.2
Textiles -----		114.4	114.6	-.2	----
Sheets, percale or muslin -----		118.3	121.0	- 2.2	----
Curtains, tailored, polyester marquisette -----		111.1	110.4	.6	----
Bedspreads, chiefly cotton, tufted -----		117.3	117.3	.0	----
Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate -----		122.1	121.3	.7	----
Pillows, bed, polyester or acrylic filling -----	Dec.63	108.7	109.2	-.5	----
Slipcovers, ready made, chiefly cotton -----	Dec.63	109.4	109.3	.1	----
Furniture and bedding -----		121.6	120.5	.9	----
Bedroom suites, good or inexpensive quality -----		124.4	123.0	1.1	----
Living room suites, good and inexpensive quality -----		123.3	122.4	.7	----
Lounge chairs, upholstered -----	Dec.63	114.6	113.3	1.1	----
Dining room suites -----	Dec.63	126.7	125.7	.8	----
Sofas, upholstered -----	Dec.63	114.3	113.3	.9	----
Sofas, dual purpose -----		116.2	116.0	.2	----
Sleep sets, Hollywood bed type -----	Dec.63	111.6	110.9	.6	----
Box springs -----	Dec.63	122.8	121.6	1.0	----
Aluminum folding chairs 5/ -----	June 64	114.5	112.4	1.9	----
Cribs -----	Dec.63	117.1	115.8	1.1	----
Floor coverings -----		106.2	106.2	.0	----
Rugs, soft surface -----		104.2	104.4	-.2	----
Rugs, hard surface -----		111.1	110.3	.7	----
Tile, vinyl -----	Dec.63	108.0	107.7	.3	----
Appliances 7/ -----	Dec.63	85.6	85.6	.0	----
Washing machines, electric, automatic -----		90.2	90.1	.1	----
Vacuum cleaners, canister type -----		81.4	81.2	.2	----
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers electric -----		84.9	84.8	.1	----
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----		97.0	97.1	-.1	----
Clothes dryers, electric, automatic -----	Dec.63	99.1	98.9	.2	----
Air conditioners, demountable 5/ -----	June 64	99.2	99.3	-.1	----
Room heaters, electric, portable 5/ -----	Dec.63	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Garbage disposal units -----	Dec.63	103.6	103.1	.5	----
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, earthenware -----		132.5	132.2	.2	----
Flatware, stainless steel -----	Dec.63	118.1	118.1	.0	----
Table lamps, with shade -----	Dec.63	113.6	113.0	.5	----
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type 5/ -----	June 64	116.2	115.7	.4	----
Electric drills, hand held -----	Dec.63	102.3	102.2	.1	----
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents -----		106.1	105.7	.4	----
Paper napkins -----		127.1	127.0	.1	----
Toilet tissue -----		118.0	117.7	.3	----
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic service, general housework -----		171.9	171.1	.5	----
Baby sitter service -----	Dec.63	133.1	131.9	.9	----
Postal charges -----		165.5	165.5	.0	----
Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----	Dec.63	139.6	139.0	.4	----
Licensed day care service, preschool child -----	Dec.63	127.2	125.3	1.5	----
Washing machine repairs -----	Dec.63	131.0	129.2	1.4	----

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

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

Item and Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent change to May 1969	
		May 1969	April 1969	April 1969	From: May 1968
Apparel and upkeep 8/ -----		126.6	125.6	0.8	5.9
Apparel commodities -----		126.0	124.9	.9	6.1
Apparel commodities less footwear -----		123.4	122.2	1.0	6.2
Men's and boys' -----		128.1	127.3	.6	6.9
Men's:		(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Topcoats, wool 5/ -----		150.1	148.1	1.4	----
Suits, year round weight -----		130.0	128.1	1.5	----
Suits, tropical weight 5/ -----	June 64	125.3	124.6	.6	----
Jackets, lightweight -----	Dec. 63	126.3	126.5	- .2	----
Slacks, wool or wool blend -----		114.3	114.2	.1	----
Slacks, cotton or manmade blend -----		116.5	116.0	.4	----
Trousers, work, cotton -----		122.6	122.2	.3	----
Shirts, work, cotton -----		121.3	120.5	.7	----
Shirts, business, cotton -----		128.8	129.0	- .2	----
T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----		119.4	118.9	.4	----
Socks, cotton -----		111.5	111.6	- .1	----
Handkerchiefs, cotton -----	Dec. 63				
Boy's:		(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend 5/ -----	Dec. 63	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Sport coats, wool or wool blend 5/ -----	Dec. 63	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend -----		126.0	125.2	.6	----
Undershirts, cotton -----		126.1	125.6	.4	----
Women's and girls' -----		122.4	121.0	1.2	5.3
Women's:		(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blend 5/ -----	Dec. 63	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton 5/ -----	Dec. 63	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Sweaters, wool or acrylic 5/ -----	Dec. 63	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Skirts, wool or wool blend 5/ -----	Sept. 61	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Skirts, cotton or cotton blend 5/ -----	Mar. 62	134.4	124.4	8.0	----
Blouses, cotton -----		123.4	123.2	.2	----
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber -----		147.7	148.8	- .7	----
Dresses, street, wool or wool blend 5/ -----		(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Dresses, street, cotton 5/ -----		150.5	148.5	1.3	----
Housedresses, cotton -----		147.3	146.4	.6	----
Slips, nylon -----		110.1	110.3	- .2	----
Panties, acetate -----		108.8	108.5	.3	----
Girdles, manmade blend -----		119.0	119.1	- .1	----
Brassieres, cotton -----	Dec. 63	120.8	120.7	.1	----
Hose, nylon seamless -----		99.1	98.7	.4	----
Anklets, cotton -----	Dec. 63	116.6	115.2	1.2	----
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----	Dec. 63	108.6	108.4	.2	----
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----	Dec. 63	113.0	112.1	.8	----
Girl's:		(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Raincoats, vinyl plastic or chiefly cotton 5/ -----	Dec. 63	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Skirts, wool or wool blend 5/ -----		134.1	134.1	.0	----
Dresses, cotton -----		107.0	107.0	.0	----
Slacks, cotton 5/ -----	Dec. 63	1/	1/	1/	----
Slips, cotton blend -----	Dec. 63	107.0	107.0	.0	----
Robes, duster style, quilted tricot or percale 5/ -----	Dec. 63	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	----
Handbags -----	Dec. 63	108.5	108.8	- .3	----
Footwear -----		139.6	138.4	.9	6.4
Men's:					
Shoes, street, oxford -----		138.2	136.7	1.1	----
Shoes, work, high -----		136.1	135.2	.7	----
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump -----		148.0	147.2	.5	----
Shoes, evening, pump -----	Dec. 63	119.1	118.0	.9	----
Shoes, casual, pump -----	Dec. 63	127.1	125.5	1.3	----
Houseslippers, scuff -----	Dec. 63	123.9	123.4	.4	----
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford -----		139.4	138.2	.9	----
Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----	Dec. 63	115.8	115.8	.0	----
Dress shoes, girls', strap -----	Dec. 63	130.7	129.1	1.2	----
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze -----		102.7	102.3	.4	----
Yard goods, cotton -----		120.5	119.3	1.0	----
Wrist watches, men's and women's -----	Dec. 63	102.1	102.0	.1	----
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses -----		129.8	129.9	- .1	----
Automatic laundry service -----	Dec. 63	110.3	108.4	1.8	----
Laundry, men's shirts -----	Dec. 63	122.1	122.2	- .1	----
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment -----	Dec. 63	123.5	122.7	.7	----
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift -----		120.1	120.1	.0	----

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

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

Item and Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent change to May 1969 From:	
		May 1969	April 1969	April 1969	May 1968
Transportation -----		124.0	124.6	- 0.5	4.1
Private 9/ -----		121.2	121.9	- .6	3.8
Automobiles, new -----		101.8	101.9	- .1	1.5
Automobiles, used -----		126.8	131.2	- 3.4	.1
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		117.3	117.8	- .4	----
Motor oil, premium -----		136.7	136.0	.5	----
Tires, new, tubeless -----		115.6	115.7	- .1	----
Auto repairs and maintenance 10/ -----		132.9	132.3	.5	----
Auto insurance rates -----		158.1	157.2	.6	----
Auto registration -----		134.2	134.2	.0	----
Parking fees, private and municipal -----	Dec. 63	118.3	118.1	.2	----
Public -----		148.0	148.0	.0	7.8
Local transit fares -----		159.6	159.6	.0	----
Taxicab fares -----	Dec. 63	124.8	124.8	.0	----
Railroad fares, coach -----		114.6	114.6	.0	----
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----	Dec. 63	110.7	110.7	.0	----
Bus fares, intercity -----	Dec. 63	118.6	118.6	.0	----
Health and recreation -----		135.7	135.1	.4	5.0
Medical care -----		154.5	153.6	.6	7.3
Drugs and prescriptions -----		99.3	99.0	.3	----
Over-the-counter items -----	Dec. 63	107.0	106.8	.2	----
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----	Dec. 63	92.4	92.2	.2	----
Aspirin compounds -----	Dec. 63	106.2	106.3	- .1	----
Liquid tonics -----	Dec. 63	100.9	100.9	.0	----
Adhesive bandages, package -----	Dec. 63	116.9	116.6	.3	----
Cold tablets or capsules -----	Dec. 63	109.3	109.3	.0	----
Cough syrup -----	Dec. 63	115.1	114.5	.5	----
Prescriptions -----		88.6	88.3	.3	----
Anti-infectives -----	Mar. 60	63.1	62.5	1.0	----
Sedatives and hypnotics -----	Mar. 60	106.4	106.1	.3	----
Ataractics -----	Mar. 60	90.0	89.7	.3	----
Anti-spasmodics -----	Mar. 60	101.1	100.9	.2	----
Cough preparations -----	Mar. 60	109.3	108.5	.7	----
Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives -----	Mar. 60	96.9	96.9	.0	----
Analgesics, internal -----	Mar. 67	103.0	103.0	.0	----
Anti-obesity -----	Mar. 67	102.6	102.4	.2	----
Hormones -----	Mar. 67	94.9	94.7	.2	----
Professional services:					
Physicians' fees -----		154.3	153.3	.7	----
Family doctor, office visits -----		155.8	154.9	.6	----
Family doctor, house visits -----		162.9	162.4	.3	----
Obstetrical cases -----		148.6	147.4	.8	----
Pediatric care, office visits -----	Dec. 63	140.2	139.9	.2	----
Psychiatrist, office visits -----	Dec. 63	129.2	126.6	2.1	----
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----	Dec. 63	123.9	123.2	.6	----
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		147.3	146.5	.5	----
Dentists' fees -----		143.6	142.9	.5	----
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		144.6	144.0	.4	----
Extractions, adult -----		142.6	141.8	.6	----
Dentures, full upper -----	Dec. 63	127.3	126.5	.6	----
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		130.8	129.5	1.0	----
Routine laboratory tests -----	Dec. 63	117.6	115.6	1.7	----
Hospital service charges:					
Daily service charges -----		252.4	251.4	.4	----
Semiprivate rooms -----		248.4	247.4	.4	----
Private rooms -----		244.4	243.5	.4	----
Operating room charges -----	Dec. 63	164.8	163.0	1.1	----
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----	Dec. 63	122.1	121.8	.2	----
Personal care -----		125.8	125.5	.2	5.2
Toilet goods -----		110.4	110.4	.0	----
Toothpaste, standard dentrifice -----		113.2	114.1	- .8	----
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		123.9	124.2	- .2	----
Hand lotions, liquid -----	Dec. 63	107.7	107.0	.7	----
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		102.3	101.9	.4	----
Face powder, pressed -----		124.0	124.4	- .3	----
Deodorants, cream or roll-on -----	Dec. 63	95.4	95.1	.3	----
Cleansing tissues -----		107.9	108.0	- .1	----
Home permanent refills -----		98.4	97.5	.9	----
Personal care services -----		144.7	144.2	.3	----
Men's haircuts -----		153.1	152.3	.5	----
Beauty shop services -----		135.7	135.4	.2	----
Women's haircuts -----	Dec. 63	121.7	121.4	.2	----
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		152.1	151.7	.3	----
Permanent waves, cold -----		106.5	106.1	.4	----

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

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

Item and Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent change to May 1969 From:	
		May 1969	April 1969	April 1969	May 1968
Reading and recreation <sup>11/</sup> -----		130.2	129.6	.5	3.9
Recreational goods -----	Dec.63	98.6	98.4	.2	----
TV sets, portable and console -----		80.1	80.1	.0	----
TV replacement tubes -----	Dec.63	115.6	115.3	.3	----
Radios, portable and table model -----		76.6	76.5	.1	----
Tape recorders, portable -----	Dec.63	91.7	91.7	.0	----
Phonograph records, stereophonic -----	Dec.63	97.5	96.6	.9	----
Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens -----	Dec.63	85.0	84.9	.1	----
Film, 35mm, color -----	Dec.63	99.0	98.9	.1	----
Golf balls, liquid center -----	Dec.63	104.2	104.3	-.1	----
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----	Dec.63	113.1	112.6	.5	----
Fishing rods, fresh water spincast -----	Dec.63	117.5	118.0	-.5	----
Bowling balls -----	Dec.63	98.5	98.5	.0	----
Bicycle, boys' -----	Dec.63	109.0	108.6	.4	----
Tricycles -----	Dec.63	108.5	107.9	.6	----
Dog food, canned or boxed -----	Dec.63	107.6	108.4	-.7	----
Recreational services -----	Dec.63	129.2	128.7	.4	----
Indoor movie admissions -----		197.4	196.3	.6	----
Adult -----		192.0	191.5	.3	----
Children's -----		215.6	212.5	1.5	----
Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----	Dec.63	157.0	156.0	.6	----
Bowling fees, evening -----	Dec.63	110.6	110.8	-.2	----
Golf greens fees -----	Dec.63	133.8	130.9	2.2	----
TV repairs, picture tube replacement -----		102.3	103.3	- 1.0	----
Film developing, black and white -----	Dec.63	120.0	120.5	-.4	----
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----		153.7	153.2	.3	----
Magazines, single copy and subscription -----	Dec.63	126.3	119.3	5.9	----
Piano lessons, beginner -----	Dec.63	122.2	122.2	.0	----
Other goods and services -----		126.9	126.6	.2	3.5
Tobacco products -----		142.3	142.1	.1	----
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----		148.3	149.1	.1	----
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----	Mar.59	147.0	140.9	.1	----
Cigars, domestic, regular size -----		106.1	106.0	.1	----
Alcoholic beverages -----		116.8	116.5	.3	----
Beer -----		114.2	113.9	.3	----
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon -----		109.2	109.2	.0	----
Wine, dessert and table -----	Dec.63	108.8	108.6	.2	----
Away from home -----	Dec.63	120.5	119.9	.5	----
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult -----	Dec.63	114.6	114.0	.5	----
Bank service charges, checking accounts -----	Dec.63	107.9	107.8	.1	----
Legal services, short form will -----	Dec.63	132.9	130.8	1.6	----
<b>Other special groups:</b>					
All items less shelter -----		125.4	125.0	.3	4.5
Commodities less food -----		117.5	117.2	.3	4.4
Nondurables less food and apparel -----		120.3	120.2	.1	3.7
Household services less rent -----		145.0	144.2	.6	9.8
Transportation services -----		141.8	141.4	.3	6.7
Other services -----		144.7	144.2	.3	4.6

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

<sup>2/</sup> Also includes home purchase costs not shown separately.

<sup>3/</sup> Also includes pine shelving, furnace air filters, packaged dry cement mix, and shrubbery not shown separately.

<sup>4/</sup> Also includes venetian blinds, nails, carpet sweepers, air deodorizers, steel wool scouring pads, envelopes, reupholstering, and moving expenses.

<sup>5/</sup> Priced only in season.

<sup>6/</sup> Not available.

<sup>7/</sup> Also includes radios and television sets, shown separately under reading and recreation.

<sup>8/</sup> 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.

<sup>9/</sup> Also includes recapped tires and drivers' license fees not shown separately.

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

<sup>11/</sup> 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 are usually expressed as percentage changes rather than changes in index points because index point changes are affected by the level of the index in relation to its base period while percentages are not. The following example illustrates the computation of index point and percentage changes:

Index Point Change	Percentage Change
May 1969 CPI (1957-59=100)      126.8	Index point difference divided by the
less April      1969 index      126.4	index for the previous period:
Index point difference =      0.4	$\frac{126.8 - 126.4}{126.4} \times 100 = .3 \text{ percent}$

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. <sup>1/</sup> 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.

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

Brief Explanation of the CPI

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

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

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

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

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

\*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

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

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

BLS Regional Offices

1371 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30309	341 Ninth Avenue New York, New York 10001	219 South Dearborn Street Chicago, Illinois 60604
450 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, California 94102	John F. Kennedy Fed. Bldg. Boston, Massachusetts 02203	911 Walnut Street Kansas City, Missouri 64106
411 N. Akard Street Dallas, Texas 75201	1317 Filbert Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107	