

July 1968

the consumer price index



U S CITY AVERAGE
AND
SELECTED AREAS

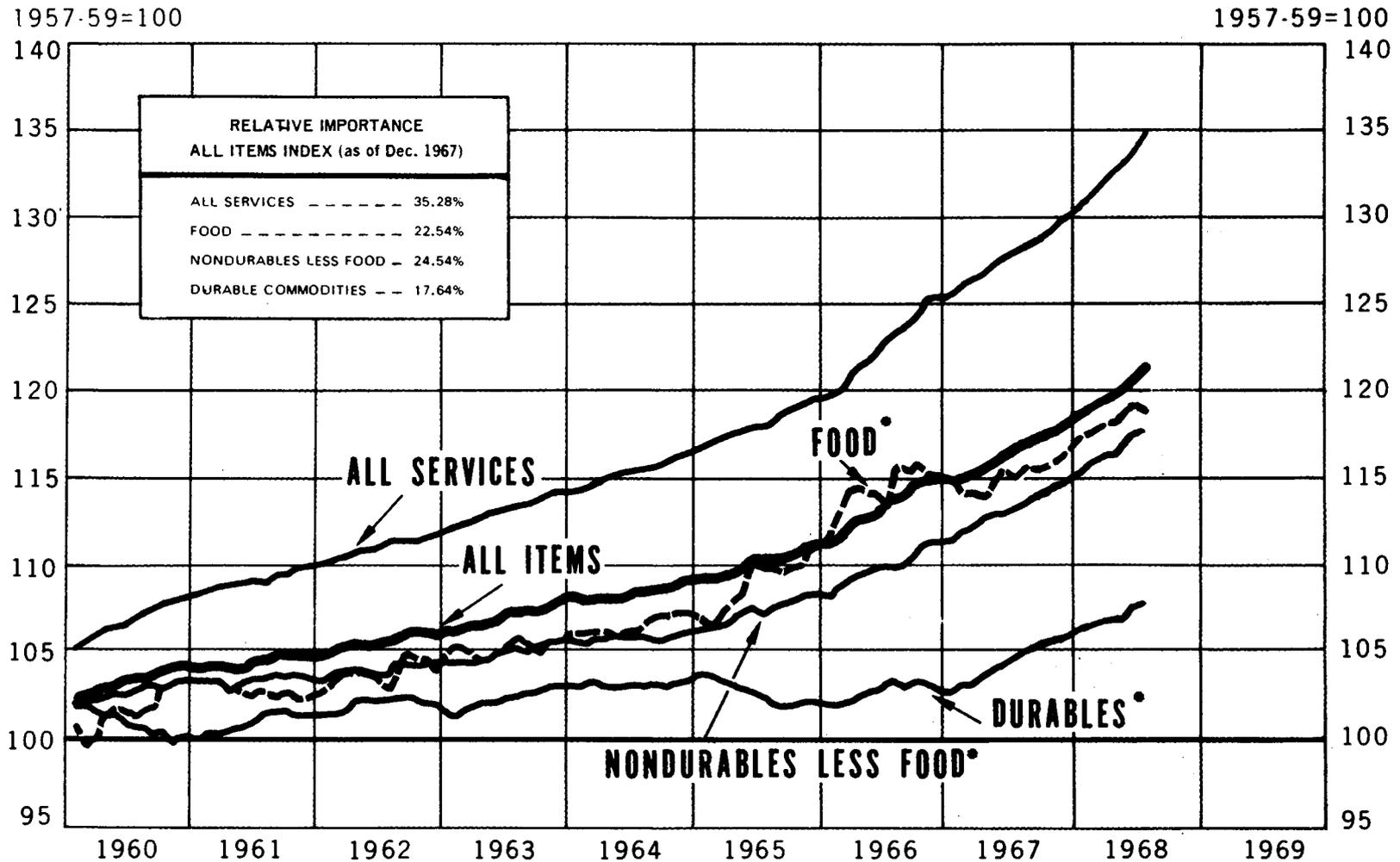


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES: COMMODITIES AND SERVICES

*(Seasonally Adjusted)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR JULY 1968

The Consumer Price Index went up 0.5 percent in July, the same as in June, to 121.5 (1957-59=100), for an increase of 4.3 percent since July 1967. Leading the upswing were higher prices for consumer services and food, consumer services accounting for more than half of the rise and food contributing about one-third. The cost of durable goods advanced modestly, as did nondurables other than food. Apparel prices declined less than usual for July and provided only a partial offset to increases in other sectors.

Prices advanced half again as much in the first seven months of 1968 as they did in the same period of 1967. This more rapid rate of increase must be attributed largely to the cost of consumer services which advanced 3.7 percent compared with 2.0 percent in the first seven months of 1967. Similar comparisons for commodities show food up 3.3 percent vs. 1.0 percent; other nondurables 2.1 percent vs. 1.3 percent, and durables 1.4 percent, only slightly more than during the same period of last year.

Food

Grocery store food prices rose 0.8 percent in July, less than usual for the month, and restaurant meals were up 0.5 percent. Fruits, vegetables, meats, poultry and dairy products showed less-than-seasonal increases. Seasonally adjusted, fruits and vegetables averaged 1.7 percent lower largely because of price reductions for watermelons, green peppers, cucumbers and onions as peak harvest periods were reached in many areas. Supplies of potatoes, lettuce, carrots and celery were in temporarily tight supply due to unfavorable harvesting weather and some gaps in production which resulted in larger than usual price rises for these items.

Pork prices failed to show their usual seasonal strength because of heavy cold storage holdings. Beef and veal were relatively stable on the average, but frankfurters were off 1.7 percent as a result of sales promotions. Poultry prices rose fractionally despite large storage holdings; but over the year reduced production has resulted in a 1.7 percent increase.

Dairy products posted a relatively small increase of 0.1 percent in July and on a seasonally adjusted basis fell 0.3 percent. The easing in dairy products prices is partially a reflection of a flattening-out of seasonal swings in milk production. Poor monetary return on dairying in recent years has forced out many marginal producers and the April 1 support price increase has encouraged other producers to increase production. Over the year, dairy products have increased 4.0 percent, primarily because of higher fresh milk prices.

Services

Charges for consumer services rose 0.7 percent in July, significantly more than the average for earlier months this year. The increases in July were particularly large for mortgage interest and medical care services. Rents were raised 0.2 percent, and motel and hotel rates were up 0.9 percent as the peak vacation season approached.

After a 4½ percent climb in July, mortgage interest charges were nearly 14 percent above a year ago, just before the recent sharp uptrend began. The recent increase in the interest rate ceiling on FHA insured loans as well as advancing interest rates on conventionally financed mortgages were reflected in the July index. Most other services

associated with homeownership were also higher, particularly property taxes and insurance and charges for home decoration and repair.

Medical care service costs, which had shown some signs of easing in the last quarter, resumed their rapid climb with a 0.7 percent advance. Charges for hospital services led the increase, mainly because of higher salaries for hospital personnel; there were also some increases in hospital supply costs. Dentists' fees moved ahead firmly to cover advancing overhead and dental supply costs, and physicians' fees also edged higher.

Charges for most housekeeping services have been advancing steadily for some time, largely because of difficulty in hiring domestic workers. Charges for barber and beauty shop services, most recreational facilities, laundry, dry cleaning, and automobile repairs also were raised in July.

Nondurable goods less food

Although apparel prices declined slightly in July, higher prices for tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, and many other nondurable commodities caused an advance of 0.1 percent in the index for nondurables less food.

Apparel and upkeep showed a smaller than usual 0.2 percent decline in July, primarily the result of clearance sales for women's apparel. Men's and boys' wear held firm. Footwear prices responded to very strong demand and advanced contraseasonally; price increases for children's shoes lead the list.

Gasoline and motor oil prices were unchanged on the average as lower prices in some cities were offset by gains in others. Fuel oil and coal rose 0.3 percent, due chiefly to higher fuel oil prices. Suppliers still have not offered their usual summer discounts on fuel oil, and prices are now close to 4.0 percent above those of a year ago.

Alcoholic beverages, primarily beer, advanced significantly in July, and both cigarettes and cigars were more expensive because of higher state tobacco taxes.

Durables

Durables were up 0.2 percent in July as most items continued their rather moderate advance. New car prices declined 0.3 percent, as dealers offered larger price concessions to clear out end-of-year inventories and make room for 1969 models. On the other hand, most other durable goods were higher. With the exception of end-of-season close-out sales on lawn chairs, higher prices were reported for all furniture items, reflecting rising lumber, fabric, freight, and labor costs. Prices went up for all major appliances, mainly because of increases at the wholesale level. Higher prices for black and white television sets and table radios balanced lower prices for color television sets and portable radios.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments

About a million workers will receive pay increases based on the national and city indexes for July. The majority of those affected, about 800,000, are employed in the automobile, automotive parts, and farm and construction equipment industries. These workers will receive an added 8 cents per hour, the maximum permitted, in the first annual adjustment under their 3-year contracts negotiated in 1967 and 1968. Another 100,000 workers employed in the aerospace industry will receive a 4-cent increase based on the rise in the national index since April. Increases for the balance of about 100,000 will range from 1 cent to 6 cents.

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

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)					Percent change to July 1968 from--				
	July 1968		June 1968		July 1967	June 1968		April 1968		July 1967
	Unad- justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad- justed	Seasonally adjusted	unadjusted	Unad- justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad- justed	Seasonally adjusted	unadjusted
All items -----	121.5	-----	120.9	-----	116.5	0.5	-----	1.3	-----	4.3
Food -----	120.0	119.0	119.1	119.2	116.0	.8	- 0.2	1.4	0.3	3.4
Food at home -----	116.7	115.5	115.8	115.9	113.3	.8	- .3	1.4	- .2	3.0
Cereals and bakery products -----	119.2	-----	118.6	-----	118.2	.5	-----	.8	-----	.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	114.0	113.4	113.2	114.0	112.3	.7	- .5	1.2	- .3	1.5
Dairy products -----	121.0	121.5	120.9	121.9	116.4	.1	- .3	1.9	1.8	4.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	132.2	123.4	130.0	125.5	124.4	1.7	- 1.7	3.0	- 2.6	6.3
Other foods at home -----	103.3	104.6	102.5	104.3	100.2	.8	.3	.3	1.1	3.1
Food away from home -----	136.5	-----	135.7	-----	129.7	.6	-----	1.6	-----	5.2
Housing -----	119.5	-----	118.7	-----	114.3	.7	-----	1.7	-----	4.5
Shelter 1/ -----	124.2	-----	122.9	-----	117.9	1.1	-----	2.4	-----	5.3
Rent -----	115.1	-----	114.9	-----	112.4	.2	-----	.6	-----	2.4
Homeownership 2/ -----	127.8	-----	126.1	-----	120.2	1.3	-----	3.1	-----	6.3
Fuel and utilities 3/ -----	110.6	111.0	110.3	110.6	108.9	.3	.4	.5	1.0	1.6
Fuel oil and coal 4/ -----	115.7	117.7	115.4	117.2	111.4	.3	.4	1.5	3.7	3.9
Gas and electricity -----	109.5	-----	109.4	-----	108.3	.1	-----	0	-----	1.1
Household furnishings and operation -	113.1	-----	112.9	-----	108.2	.2	-----	.8	-----	4.5
Apparel and upkeep 5/ -----	119.7	120.3	119.9	119.9	113.7	-.2	.3	1.1	1.5	5.3
Men's and boys' -----	120.1	120.7	120.1	120.1	113.9	0	.5	.8	1.3	5.4
Women's and girls' -----	115.7	116.4	116.5	116.5	109.2	-.7	- .1	1.0	1.4	6.0
Footwear -----	132.0	132.5	131.7	131.7	125.4	.2	.6	1.2	1.8	5.3
Transportation -----	119.8	119.6	119.7	119.8	116.2	.1	-.2	.7	.4	3.1
Private -----	117.6	117.4	117.4	117.5	114.1	.2	-.1	.7	.4	3.1
Public -----	138.5	-----	138.4	-----	132.7	.1	-----	.9	-----	4.4
Health and recreation -----	130.2	-----	129.7	-----	123.6	.4	-----	1.1	-----	5.3
Medical care -----	145.1	-----	144.4	-----	136.9	.5	-----	1.1	-----	6.0
Personal care -----	120.4	-----	120.1	-----	115.5	.2	-----	1.2	-----	4.2
Reading and recreation -----	125.9	-----	125.6	-----	119.8	.2	-----	.8	-----	5.1
Other goods and services 6/ -----	123.9	-----	123.5	-----	117.8	.3	-----	1.1	-----	5.2
Special groups:										
All items less shelter -----	120.8	-----	120.4	-----	116.1	.3	-----	1.0	-----	4.0
All items less food -----	122.1	-----	121.6	-----	116.8	.4	-----	1.2	-----	4.5
All items less medical care -----	120.1	-----	119.5	-----	115.2	.5	-----	1.4	-----	4.3
Commodities 7/ -----	115.5	115.3	115.1	115.1	111.5	.3	.2	1.0	.7	3.6
Nondurables -----	118.7	118.3	118.2	118.3	114.3	.4	0	1.2	.7	3.8
Durables 7/ 8/ -----	107.6	107.6	107.4	107.4	104.4	.2	.2	.7	.6	3.1
Services 9/ -----	134.9	-----	133.9	-----	127.7	.7	-----	1.8	-----	5.6
Commodities less food 7/ -----	113.2	113.3	113.0	113.0	109.1	.2	.3	.9	1.0	3.8
Nondurables less food -----	117.6	117.8	117.5	117.5	112.8	.1	.3	1.0	1.2	4.3
Apparel commodities -----	118.9	119.5	119.1	119.1	112.6	-.2	.3	1.1	1.4	5.6
Apparel commodities less footwear -----	116.3	116.9	116.6	116.6	110.0	-.3	.3	1.1	1.5	5.7
Nondurables less food and apparel -	116.9	-----	116.6	-----	113.0	.3	-----	.9	-----	3.5
New cars -----	99.8	100.6	100.1	100.7	97.0	-.3	-.1	.5	.5	2.9
Used cars -----	(10/)	(10/)	(10/)	(10/)	124.8	(10/)	(10/)	(10/)	(10/)	(10/)
Household durables 11/ -----	101.5	-----	101.3	-----	98.1	.2	-----	.7	-----	3.5
Housefurnishings -----	104.8	104.9	104.7	104.6	100.8	.1	.3	.6	1.0	4.0
Services less rent 9/ -----	139.3	-----	138.1	-----	131.2	.9	-----	2.0	-----	6.2
Household services less rent -----	135.6	-----	133.7	-----	127.0	1.4	-----	3.1	-----	6.8
Transportation services -----	133.5	-----	133.3	-----	128.3	.2	-----	.6	-----	4.1
Medical care services -----	156.6	-----	155.5	-----	146.0	.7	-----	1.5	-----	7.3
Other services 12/ -----	139.2	-----	138.9	-----	131.6	.2	-----	1.2	-----	5.8
All items index on other bases:										
1947-49=100 -----	149.1	-----	148.4	-----	142.9	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1939=100 -----	250.9	-----	249.7	-----	240.6	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:										
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	\$0.823	-----	\$0.827	-----	\$0.858	-.5	-----	- 1.3	-----	- 4.1
1947-49=\$1.00 -----	.671	-----	.674	-----	.700	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1939=\$1.00 -----	.399	-----	.400	-----	.416	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

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/ Not available due to insufficient data.

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

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

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

Area 1/	Pricing Schedule 2/	Indexes			Percent change from:		
		1957-59=100	1947-49=100	Other bases	June 1968	April 1968	July 1967
		July 1968			June 1968	April 1968	July 1967
U.S. City Average -----	M	121.5	149.1		0.5	1.3	4.3
Chicago -----	M	118.9	149.9		.5	1.3	4.6
Detroit -----	M	120.3	148.3		.4	1.5	4.6
Los Angeles-Long Beach ---	M	122.3	152.5		.3	1.0	4.1
New York -----	M	124.2	149.7		.5	1.4	4.3
Philadelphia -----	M	122.6	150.5		.5	1.3	5.1
		July 1968				April 1968	July 1967
Boston -----	1	124.7	154.5			0.9	4.0
Houston -----	1	119.3	147.0			1.1	4.4
Minneapolis-St. Paul ----	1	121.8	150.7			1.2	5.4
Pittsburgh -----	1	120.0	147.9			.5	4.3
		May 1968				February 1968	May 1967
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) ---	2	-----	-----	114.3		1.8	4.4
Cleveland -----	2	119.1	147.9			1.1	6.5
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) ---	2	-----	-----	112.7		2.2	4.8
Milwaukee -----	2	115.9	146.1			.8	3.3
San Diego (Feb.1965=100) -	2	-----	-----	108.7		.9	4.4
Seattle -----	2	121.1	152.2			.7	3.7
Washington -----	2	121.0	145.6			1.6	4.6
		June 1968				March 1968	June 1967
Atlanta -----	3	119.0	147.4			1.0	3.7
Baltimore -----	3	120.6	149.7			1.6	4.2
Cincinnati -----	3	118.6	144.4			1.3	4.9
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100) --	3	-----	-----	111.5		.6	3.7
Kansas City -----	3	124.1	153.6			2.0	5.7
St. Louis -----	3	121.3	150.6			.9	4.1
San Francisco-Oakland ----	3	124.2	157.6			1.2	4.9

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

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

M - Every month.

1 - January, April, July, and October.

2 - February, May, August, and November.

3 - March, June, September, and December.

TABLE 3: Consumer Price Index--The United States and Selected Areas ^{1/}
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Major Groups
Percent change from June 1968 to July 1968

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.5
Food -----	.8	1.0	.6	.6	.9	.8
Housing -----	.7	.7	1.0	.7	.5	.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	-.2	-1.2	-.8	.7	-.6	-.2
Transportation -----	.1	.3	-.2	-1.1	.5	.5
Health and recreation -----	.4	.5	.2	.4	.7	.8
Medical care -----	.5	.1	0	.6	1.3	2.1
Personal care -----	.2	.4	.3	.8	-.3	-.3
Reading and recreation -----	.2	.3	-.9	.4	.3	.2
Other goods and services ---	.3	1.2	1.6	.2	1.2	(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
1968: July	121.5	120.0	119.5	119.7	119.8	130.2	145.1	120.4	125.9	123.9
June	120.9	119.1	118.7	119.9	119.7	129.7	144.4	120.1	125.6	123.5
May	120.3	118.8	117.8	119.5	119.1	129.2	144.0	119.6	125.3	122.6
Apr.	119.9	118.3	117.5	118.4	119.0	128.8	143.5	119.0	124.9	122.5
Mar.	119.5	117.9	117.2	117.6	119.0	128.3	142.9	118.4	124.2	122.4
Feb.	119.0	117.4	116.9	116.6	118.6	127.5	141.9	117.6	123.0	122.1
Jan.	118.6	117.0	116.4	115.9	118.7	127.1	141.2	117.6	122.7	121.9
1967: Dec.	118.2	116.2	116.0	116.8	117.9	126.6	140.4	117.2	122.2	121.4
Nov.	117.8	115.6	115.5	116.6	118.3	126.2	139.7	116.9	122.0	121.0
Oct.	117.5	115.7	115.3	116.0	117.7	125.5	139.0	116.5	121.4	120.3
Sept.	117.1	115.9	115.0	115.1	116.8	124.9	138.5	116.4	120.5	119.7
Aug.	116.9	116.6	114.7	113.8	116.4	124.2	137.5	116.1	120.0	118.8
July	116.5	116.0	114.3	113.7	116.2	123.6	136.9	115.5	119.8	117.8
Annual Average: 1967	116.3	115.2	114.3	114.0	115.9	123.8	136.7	115.5	120.1	118.2
1966	113.1	114.2	111.1	109.6	112.7	119.0	127.7	112.2	117.1	114.9
1965	109.9	108.8	108.5	106.8	111.1	115.6	122.3	109.9	115.2	111.4
1964	108.1	106.4	107.2	105.7	109.3	113.6	119.4	109.2	114.1	108.8
1963	106.7	105.1	106.0	104.8	107.8	111.4	117.0	107.9	111.5	107.1
1962	105.4	103.6	104.8	103.6	107.2	109.4	114.2	106.5	109.6	105.3
1957	98.0	97.8	98.5	99.5	96.5	97.0	95.5	97.1	96.9	98.5

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas ^{1/}
 For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups
 July 1968 indexes and percent changes from April 1968

Group	U.S. City Average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Houston	Los Angeles- Long Beach	Minn- neapolis- St. Paul	New York	Phila- delphia	Pitts- burgh
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)										
All items -----	121.5	124.7	118.9	120.3	119.3	122.3	121.8	124.2	122.6	120.0
Food -----	120.0	123.2	121.3	118.6	119.9	118.0	118.1	120.8	120.1	116.3
Food at home -----	116.7	118.3	119.9	115.9	116.2	112.6	115.3	115.9	115.5	113.8
Cereals and bakery products -----	119.2	121.1	124.3	112.2	126.7	121.1	109.2	117.3	115.3	117.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	114.0	120.0	116.0	117.9	111.2	104.6	112.4	114.7	110.9	116.4
Dairy products -----	121.0	115.5	134.1	125.1	119.6	119.3	126.6	112.1	127.2	109.7
Fruits and vegetables -----	132.2	131.9	130.3	123.3	131.3	135.2	126.6	136.3	131.3	129.0
Other foods at home -----	103.3	104.4	104.7	101.7	103.4	95.4	106.1	102.3	100.4	100.2
Food away from home -----	136.5	144.8	128.3	133.8	136.2	137.7	130.8	141.9	144.4	132.8
Housing -----	119.5	126.2	115.5	115.7	117.1	124.1	121.2	122.8	118.9	118.2
Shelter -----	124.2	134.1	118.2	119.7	116.0	131.1	129.0	126.4	120.8	117.7
Rent -----	115.1	129.1	110.6	-----	104.5	114.8	114.2	-----	115.5	112.6
Homeownership -----	127.8	136.2	121.9	123.2	120.3	136.4	131.7	126.3	122.1	119.0
Fuel and utilities -----	110.6	109.5	108.6	103.5	117.1	106.1	103.7	110.5	109.6	117.9
Fuel oil and coal -----	115.7	119.8	108.5	106.4	-----	-----	109.5	121.1	122.2	-----
Gas and electricity -----	109.5	102.0	108.2	104.9	129.5	112.3	98.6	111.0	102.7	118.3
Household furnishings and operation	113.1	120.8	112.7	109.3	121.1	111.8	111.4	120.2	116.7	116.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	119.7	119.6	114.6	117.1	115.9	119.7	116.8	123.6	126.0	120.6
Men's and boys' -----	120.1	111.5	112.8	116.8	116.1	123.3	125.0	127.8	120.4	114.8
Women's and girls' -----	115.7	115.2	110.1	115.8	112.0	118.8	108.1	117.0	121.6	114.1
Footwear -----	132.0	132.3	128.3	124.6	133.7	128.0	128.1	130.7	133.7	136.5
Transportation -----	119.8	122.4	117.7	119.4	116.6	124.7	120.7	120.6	128.5	120.9
Private -----	117.6	116.7	116.9	116.8	112.9	120.1	119.1	119.6	123.0	116.3
Public -----	138.5	135.9	124.2	136.7	150.4	154.5	128.9	127.3	155.7	134.1
Health and recreation -----	130.2	129.8	125.3	132.5	127.7	124.2	131.1	135.6	130.5	129.7
Medical care -----	145.1	147.1	152.8	153.5	133.1	142.2	153.5	148.7	154.0	152.8
Personal care -----	120.4	122.2	119.1	126.8	131.7	115.4	121.1	116.1	114.8	111.0
Reading and recreation -----	125.9	133.2	109.9	124.8	124.4	111.1	128.9	136.9	120.7	119.7
Other goods and services -----	123.9	115.8	117.4	119.7	120.9	120.5	113.8	131.6	(3/)	126.7
Percent changes April 1968 to July 1968										
All items -----	1.3	0.9	1.3	1.5	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.5
Food -----	1.4	1.5	2.2	2.1	1.6	.9	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.5
Food at home -----	1.4	1.5	2.2	2.2	1.6	.8	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	.8	.2	2.5	1.1	.9	2.3	1.5	.8	1.3	1.7
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	1.2	1.1	2.8	2.6	2.6	1.2	.9	1.1	1.4	1.8
Dairy products -----	1.9	2.0	2.4	.3	2.9	.8	4.0	1.5	2.7	-.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	3.0	5.2	2.0	6.0	1.3	-1.9	1.5	5.7	2.0	4.0
Other foods at home -----	.3	-.7	1.0	.2	0	1.4	1.8	.1	1.1	-.4
Food away from home -----	1.6	1.8	2.2	1.6	1.9	1.4	.9	1.6	.6	1.9
Housing -----	1.7	1.5	1.7	2.8	1.7	1.1	1.8	1.4	1.5	.2
Shelter -----	2.4	1.8	2.3	3.9	3.1	1.5	2.3	2.0	2.0	.2
Rent -----	.6	.5	2/ .5	-----	.8	2/ .3	1.1	-----	2/ .4	.9
Homeownership -----	3.1	2.4	3.0	4.5	3.8	1.8	2.6	3.0	2.3	-.1
Fuel and utilities -----	.5	.1	.6	.2	-1.8	0	.3	.4	.6	.2
Fuel oil and coal -----	1.5	0	-.5	-.7	-----	-----	-3.1	1.8	2.3	-----
Gas and electricity -----	0	.2	.1	.5	-2.9	-.1	-.3	.1	0	.3
Household furnishings and operation	.8	1.9	.4	1.0	1.1	.3	.8	.5	1.2	.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.1	-.1	-.1	.6	.9	1.4	-.3	.7	.1	-.8
Men's and boys' -----	.8	-.1	-.8	1.2	.4	.7	-.2	.2	.4	1.6
Women's and girls' -----	1.0	-2.5	-.3	1.0	.6	1.9	-.9	-.2	-.4	-3.8
Footwear -----	1.2	.6	.5	-1.7	1.1	1.3	.2	.6	-1.5	.7
Transportation -----	.7	.1	.3	.3	.2	1.4	.6	1.3	1.3	.8
Private -----	.7	-.1	.3	.3	.2	1.4	.7	1.0	1.5	.8
Public -----	.9	.7	.2	.6	.1	.6	0	1.8	.1	.1
Health and recreation -----	1.1	.7	.9	.2	.3	.6	.5	1.7	1.9	.6
Medical care -----	1.1	1.4	-.1	-.3	1.1	1.6	.6	2.4	4.1	3.0
Personal care -----	1.2	2.3	2.0	.3	.6	-.5	.3	.4	1.4	.5
Reading and recreation -----	.8	.2	1.0	-.4	-.7	.5	1.3	.2	.6	-.3
Other goods and services -----	1.1	0	1.2	1.4	.1	.2	-.4	3.1	(3/)	-.7

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

^{2/} Change from May 1968.

^{3/} Not available.

TABLE 6: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Food and its Subgroups
July 1968 indexes and percent changes from June 1968

Area ^{1/}	Total food	Food at home						Food away from home
		Total	Cereals and bakery products	Meats, poultry, and fish	Dairy products	Fruits and vegetables	Other foods at home	
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)								
U.S. City Average -----	120.0	116.7	119.2	114.0	121.0	132.2	103.3	136.5
Atlanta -----	117.1	114.3	113.5	113.5	114.2	129.0	107.0	127.2
Baltimore -----	121.8	117.5	123.0	115.9	117.0	135.6	104.2	139.4
Boston -----	123.2	118.3	121.1	120.0	115.5	131.9	104.4	144.8
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	115.7	114.0	105.4	112.4	116.6	129.5	108.3	125.7
Chicago -----	121.3	119.9	124.3	116.0	134.1	130.3	104.7	128.3
Cincinnati -----	117.6	114.1	113.9	114.2	116.6	129.9	100.0	135.6
Cleveland -----	117.3	114.5	114.2	115.8	119.4	129.2	99.5	133.5
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	113.8	111.7	110.2	113.1	122.3	115.6	103.2	121.7
Detroit -----	118.6	115.9	112.2	117.9	125.1	123.3	101.7	133.8
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	111.3	110.5	112.4	111.4	112.8	113.1	103.8	113.7
Houston -----	119.9	116.2	126.7	111.2	119.6	131.3	103.4	136.2
Kansas City -----	123.0	120.2	123.7	118.1	127.2	130.7	107.7	132.9
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	118.0	112.6	121.1	104.6	119.3	135.2	95.4	137.7
Milwaukee -----	118.5	117.0	109.9	115.0	129.5	132.2	104.1	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	118.1	115.3	109.2	112.4	126.6	126.6	106.1	130.8
New York -----	120.8	115.9	117.3	114.7	112.1	136.3	102.3	141.9
Philadelphia -----	120.1	115.5	115.3	110.9	127.2	131.3	100.4	144.4
Pittsburgh -----	116.3	113.8	117.5	116.4	109.7	129.0	100.2	132.8
St. Louis -----	123.8	120.1	120.2	119.8	133.7	133.3	101.8	138.6
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	111.8	109.2	108.0	114.9	108.5	111.6	100.8	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	119.2	115.0	117.1	111.3	116.2	136.4	100.7	138.0
Seattle -----	118.8	114.2	109.3	113.0	125.5	127.3	100.8	138.4
Washington -----	121.6	117.8	111.3	113.4	125.4	133.2	109.7	137.0
Percent changes June 1968 to July 1968								
U.S. City Average -----	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.1	1.7	0.8	0.6
Atlanta -----	.3	.2	0	-.6	.4	1.7	.2	.6
Baltimore -----	.4	.3	-.3	.2	-.4	2.0	.5	.7
Boston -----	1.1	1.3	.2	1.1	-.3	3.0	1.8	.6
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	.2	.1	.4	.3	0	-.6	.5	.5
Chicago -----	1.0	.9	1.6	1.2	.1	1.0	.6	1.4
Cincinnati -----	1.1	1.2	1.5	1.5	.6	.9	1.6	.4
Cleveland -----	.3	.4	1.5	.7	-1.6	.5	.4	.2
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	-.3	-.4	-.1	-.4	.1	-3.1	1.2	.2
Detroit -----	.6	.7	.5	1.4	.1	-.5	1.0	.5
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	-.4	-.6	1.5	-.9	-.3	-2.9	.5	-.2
Houston -----	.7	.5	.5	1.9	-.3	-1.6	.8	1.3
Kansas City -----	.1	0	.2	.2	-.1	-.9	.7	.1
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	.6	.6	.9	.7	-.1	.2	1.1	.7
Milwaukee -----	.2	.3	1.1	.1	.2	-.8	1.0	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	.5	.6	.2	.8	.2	0	1.3	.4
New York -----	.9	1.1	0	.7	.4	3.7	.9	.4
Philadelphia -----	.8	.9	.1	.3	.1	3.1	1.0	.4
Pittsburgh -----	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.0	-.5	2.7	.7	.7
St. Louis -----	0	-.1	.2	.6	-.1	-1.3	-.4	.4
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	.4	.5	.4	.6	.1	1.3	0	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	.9	1.1	-.3	.5	0	4.2	1.4	.3
Seattle -----	.2	0	0	-.1	.6	-2.0	.9	.9
Washington -----	.6	.8	-.2	-.5	.5	2.9	1.7	.3

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

^{2/} Not available.

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

Item or Group	Index		Percent changes to July 1968 from--			
	July 1968		June 1968		July 1967	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	
Total food -----	120.0	119.0	0.8	- 0.2	3.4	
Food away from home -----	136.5	-----	.6	-----	5.2	
Restaurant meals -----	136.7	-----	.5	-----	5.2	
Snacks <u>1/</u> -----	118.2	-----	.7	-----	5.3	
Food at home -----	116.7	115.5	.8	- .3	3.0	
Cereals and bakery products -----	119.2	-----	.5	-----	.8	
Flour -----	112.5	-----	.2	-----	- 1.7	
Cracker meal <u>1/</u> -----	117.1	-----	- .1	-----	.3	
Corn flakes -----	128.4	-----	.1	-----	- .3	
Rice -----	110.7	-----	.3	-----	2.4	
Bread, white -----	124.7	-----	.8	-----	1.5	
Bread, whole wheat <u>1/</u> -----	115.1	-----	.8	-----	.9	
Cookies -----	100.8	-----	.7	-----	- .2	
Layer cake <u>1/</u> -----	109.3	-----	.8	-----	3.7	
Cinnamon rolls <u>1/</u> -----	107.1	-----	.2	-----	- .3	
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	114.0	113.4	.7	- .5	1.5	
Meats -----	116.6	116.1	.7	- 1.0	1.3	
Beef and veal -----	117.7	117.9	.3	- .4	3.9	
Steak, round -----	112.1	112.8	.4	.7	4.1	
Steak, sirloin <u>2/</u> -----	111.0	-----	- .7	-----	3.2	
Steak, porterhouse <u>1/</u> -----	116.2	-----	- .2	-----	3.5	
Rump roast <u>1/</u> -----	108.4	-----	.6	-----	3.5	
Rib roast -----	126.1	126.5	.8	.1	5.5	
Chuck roast -----	110.1	112.2	1.4	.1	5.1	
Hamburger -----	120.2	120.0	.3	.2	3.6	
Beef liver <u>1/</u> -----	108.6	-----	1.8	-----	.9	
Veal cutlets -----	143.7	143.3	.3	.2	7.2	
Pork -----	116.3	113.9	2.1	- 1.1	- 2.4	
Chops -----	123.0	118.8	5.9	4.5	1.3	
Loin roast <u>2/</u> -----	127.8	-----	3.6	-----	- .2	
Pork sausage <u>1/</u> -----	123.3	-----	.4	-----	- 1.0	
Ham, whole -----	108.9	110.0	- 1.0	- 1.4	- .5	
Picnics <u>1/</u> -----	115.7	-----	2.7	-----	- 3.5	
Bacon -----	115.4	112.0	- 1.2	- 5.5	- 9.1	
Other meats -----	118.9	119.0	- .2	- .2	1.2	
Lamb chops <u>1/</u> -----	130.0	-----	.7	-----	4.5	
Frankfurters -----	115.0	115.6	- 1.7	- 1.1	- 1.3	
Ham, canned <u>1/</u> -----	112.8	-----	- .5	-----	- .9	
Bologna sausage <u>1/</u> -----	118.8	-----	.0	-----	1.7	
Salami sausage <u>1/</u> -----	114.4	-----	.4	-----	2.3	
Liverwurst <u>1/</u> -----	116.4	-----	.3	-----	.7	
Poultry -----	91.6	-----	.1	-----	1.7	
Frying chicken -----	92.8	90.4	.0	- 3.0	3.1	
Chicken breasts <u>1/</u> -----	102.7	-----	.2	-----	1.7	
Turkey <u>1/</u> -----	96.9	-----	.0	-----	- 5.1	
Fish -----	124.1	124.3	.4	.4	2.4	
Shrimp, frozen <u>1/</u> -----	109.0	-----	1.0	-----	- 1.2	
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	125.8	126.1	.6	.4	1.0	
Tuna fish, canned -----	110.9	-----	- .2	-----	1.1	
Sardines, canned <u>1/</u> -----	121.8	-----	.2	-----	8.5	
Dairy products -----	121.0	121.5	.1	- .3	4.0	
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	118.9	119.6	.1	- 1.1	5.0	
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	124.3	-----	.3	-----	5.8	
Milk, fresh, skim <u>1/</u> -----	118.2	-----	.3	-----	5.5	
Milk, evaporated -----	121.0	-----	.2	-----	3.2	
Ice cream -----	97.8	-----	- .9	-----	- 1.4	
Cheese, American process -----	139.8	140.2	.3	.3	2.9	
Butter -----	116.9	117.5	.1	0	1.4	

See footnotes at end of table.

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

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to July 1968 from--		
	July 1968		June 1968		July 1967
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Fruits and vegetables -----	132.2	123.4	1.7	- 1.7	6.3
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	145.7	129.9	2.8	- 2.5	6.0
Apples -----	200.2	159.1	8.0	.8	23.3
Bananas -----	96.3	95.8	2.0	2.2	2.0
Oranges -----	144.1	144.4	4.4	2.8	28.0
Orange juice, fresh 1/ -----	85.5	-----	.9	-----	19.2
Grapefruit -----	177.1	158.3	1.8	- .9	21.5
Grapes 3/ -----	194.9	148.2	(4/)	(4/)	6.7
Strawberries 3/ -----	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Watermelon 3/ -----	109.5	112.3	-29.2	-12.9	- .8
Potatoes -----	163.5	150.7	1.9	11.6	16.2
Onions -----	151.2	141.0	- 5.0	- 2.0	11.9
Asparagus 1/3/ -----	121.4	-----	2.5	-----	12.4
Cabbage -----	142.6	142.0	- 4.0	8.1	2.5
Carrots -----	118.9	112.1	5.5	6.5	7.8
Celery -----	137.7	121.8	16.2	6.3	5.0
Cucumbers 1/ -----	110.7	-----	- 9.3	-----	-13.7
Lettuce -----	134.5	144.3	17.7	31.1	-24.9
Peppers, green 1/ -----	152.4	-----	-19.9	-----	-10.2
Spinach 1/ -----	105.7	-----	2.1	-----	.8
Tomatoes -----	131.5	122.9	5.0	1.3	- 6.1
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	115.3	-----	- .1	-----	6.8
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	108.6	-----	- .3	-----	10.3
Pears, canned 1/ -----	118.1	-----	.3	-----	22.5
Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned 1/ -----	95.2	-----	- .2	-----	.4
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	88.4	91.2	1.1	1.4	26.1
Lemonade concentrate, frozen 2/ -----	86.3	-----	- 2.9	-----	- .5
Beets, canned 1/ -----	111.7	-----	.4	-----	4.2
Peas, green, canned -----	121.3	-----	.6	-----	- .3
Tomatoes, canned -----	130.6	-----	- .2	-----	4.8
Dried beans -----	123.7	-----	0	-----	9.9
Broccoli, frozen 1/ -----	100.3	-----	- .3	-----	.4
Other food at home -----	103.3	104.6	.8	.3	3.1
Eggs -----	88.9	96.9	6.0	2.1	12.2
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	103.7	-----	- .2	-----	.1
Salad dressing, Italian 1/ -----	102.7	-----	.2	-----	1.4
Salad or cooking oil 1/ -----	121.5	-----	- .4	-----	- 1.1
Sugar and sweets -----	118.3	-----	.6	-----	2.9
Sugar -----	113.0	-----	- .2	-----	.3
Grape jelly -----	119.0	-----	.2	-----	2.1
Chocolate bar -----	112.0	-----	2.2	-----	6.2
Syrup, chocolate flavored 1/ -----	101.9	-----	0	-----	2.8
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	101.1	-----	- .2	-----	2.2
Coffee, can and bag -----	87.7	-----	- .1	-----	.1
Coffee, instant 5/ -----	98.6	-----	- .2	-----	2.6
Tea -----	100.8	-----	- .1	-----	- .3
Cola drink -----	147.5	-----	- .1	-----	6.2
Carbonated fruit drink 1/ -----	115.1	-----	- .6	-----	5.9
Prepared and partially prepared foods 1/ -----	102.4	-----	.1	-----	1.6
Bean soup, canned 1/ -----	100.4	-----	- .1	-----	.3
Chicken soup, canned 1/ -----	96.1	-----	.1	-----	- .3
Spaghetti, canned 1/ -----	111.8	-----	0	-----	2.0
Mashed potatoes, instant 1/ -----	101.8	-----	- .5	-----	0
Potatoes, french fried, frozen 2/ -----	87.3	-----	.8	-----	3.4
Baby foods, canned -----	108.2	-----	1.2	-----	1.6
Sweet pickle relish 1/ -----	107.9	-----	- .7	-----	2.6
Pretzels 1/ -----	105.8	-----	0	-----	2.8

1/ December 1963=100.

2/ April 1960=100.

3/ Priced only in season.

4/ Not available.

5/ July 1961=100.

TABLE 8: Consumer Price Index--Portland, Oregon
 All items and commodity groups
 July 1968 indexes and percent changes from selected dates
 (1957-59=100)

Group	Index	Percent change from --	
		April 1968	July 1967
All items -----	122.5		
All items (1947-49=100) -----	151.8	1.0	3.6
Food -----	119.3	.5	2.9
Food at home -----	114.7	0	2.0
Cereals and bakery products --	113.3	1.4	1.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	121.1	-.8	2.6
Dairy products -----	125.6	.6	.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	116.3	0	3.9
Other foods at home -----	99.7	0	1.4
Housing -----	122.9	1.5	3.6
Rent -----	115.6	.3	1.9
Gas and electricity -----	102.5	0	0
Solid and petroleum fuels -----	113.3	.4	3.8
Housefurnishings -----	98.8	-.1	1.8
Household operation -----	120.9	-.2	-.2
Apparel -----	120.3	.3	4.8
Men's and boys' -----	123.7	.6	3.9
Women's and girls' -----	116.8	.4	6.0
Footwear -----	130.1	.3	5.9
Other apparel -----	107.8	-.6	1.8
Transportation -----	117.9	.8	1.9
Private -----	114.3	1.0	2.2
Public -----	139.7	0	.6
Medical care -----	141.0	.6	4.5
Personal care -----	129.0	4.1	8.6
Reading and recreation -----	127.5	0	4.9
Other goods and services -----	121.6	2.1	3.7

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

	June 1968 to July 1968		April 1968 to July 1968		Jan. 1968 to April 1968		Oct. 1967 to Jan. 1968		July 1967 to Oct. 1967		July 1967 to July 1968	
	CPI	WPI	CPI	WPI	CPI	WPI	CPI	WPI	CPI	WPI	CPI*	WPI*
*ALL ITEMS -----	0.5	0.4	1.3	0.7	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9	- 0.4	4.3	2.4
CONSUMER PRODUCTS -----	0	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.8	- 0.3	3.5	2.6
<u>Nondurable</u> -----	- 0.3	.9	.6	1.0	1.0	1.7	1.1	1.1	.8	- 1.1	3.6	2.7
Food and beverages at home -----	.4	1.6	.2	1.3	1.3	1.9	1.2	1.5	.5	- 1.6	2.9	3.1
Apparel and accessories -----	.3	.2	1.4	.8	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.1	.5	5.6	3.8
Household furnishings and supplies -----	0	0	1.3	.6	.9	1.9	.5	0	.1	.5	2.8	3.1
Gasoline and motor oil -----	- .2	.2	.6	1.0	.3	4.2	.6	-3.8	.7	- 2.6	1.5	1.4
Other nondurables -----	0	.2	.8	.3	.4	.6	1.3	-.4	1.7	.3	4.2	.7
<u>Durable</u> -----	.2	.1	.8	.4	.7	-.2	.7	.8	1.1	1.5	3.3	2.5
New passenger cars -----	- .1	-.2	.5	.1	.3	-.5	.1	.1	2.6	2.6	2.9	2.3
Appliances -----	.2	.2	.5	-.1	0	.6	.4	.3	.5	.2	1.3	1.0
Furniture and floor coverings -----	.3	.3	.9	.9	1.6	.6	1.2	1.0	1.0	.8	4.8	3.5
*Other durables -----	.4	.6	.9	.3	1.2	.2	.9	1.1	.7	1.7	3.8	3.3
*CONSUMER SERVICES -----	0.7	-	1.8	-	1.3	-	1.3	-	1.1	-	5.6	-
*Insurance and finance -----	2.0	-	4.1	-	.9	-	1.5	-	1.0	-	7.7	-
*Rent -----	.2	-	.6	-	.6	-	.6	-	.5	-	2.4	-
*Utilities and public transportation -----	.2	-	.5	-	.6	-	.5	-	.3	-	1.9	-
*Housekeeping and home maintenance services -----	.5	-	1.8	-	2.1	-	2.1	-	1.8	-	8.1	-
*Medical care services -----	.7	-	1.5	-	1.9	-	1.8	-	1.8	-	7.3	-
*Personal care services -----	.3	-	1.4	-	1.7	-	1.2	-	1.0	-	5.4	-
*Other services -----	.2	-	1.1	-	2.2	-	1.3	-	1.1	-	5.8	-
WHOLESALE PRICES:												
<u>Type of Product:</u>												
Farm products -----	-	-1.4	-	0.7	-	3.2	-	0.5	-	- 3.3	-	1.1
Processed foods and feeds -----	-	.7	-	1.1	-	2.0	-	.2	-	-.7	-	2.5
*Industrial commodities -----	-	.1	-	.1	-	.9	-	.9	-	.8	-	2.7
<u>Industrial Materials and Equipment:</u>												
Chemicals and allied products -----	-	.3	-	.3	-	.5	-	.2	-	.1	-	.1
Rubber and rubber products -----	-	.9	-	1.4	-	.2	-	.6	-	2.8	-	5.1
Lumber and wood products -----	-	2.0	-	3.1	-	5.0	-	2.0	-	2.4	-	13.2
Pulp, paper and allied products -----	-	.3	-	0	-	.4	-	1.0	-	.2	-	.8
*Metals and metal products -----	-	.3	-	1.7	-	1.0	-	2.1	-	.9	-	2.3
Machinery and equipment -----	-	.3	-	.6	-	.6	-	1.2	-	.7	-	3.2
<u>Stage of Processing at Wholesale:</u>												
Finished goods -----	-	.4	-	.7	-	1.2	-	.9	-	.1	-	2.9
Consumer -----	-	.5	-	.9	-	1.1	-	.9	-	.2	-	2.8
Producer -----	-	.3	-	.5	-	.8	-	1.1	-	1.3	-	3.7
Intermediate materials, supplies and components -----	-	0	-	0	-	1.0	-	.8	-	.5	-	2.4
Crude materials -----	-	-1.2	-	.3	-	2.7	-	.2	-	- 1.7	-	.9

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

*Based on data unadjusted for seasonal variations.

Reliability of Percent Changes in the CPI

A system of "replicated" samples introduced into the index structure in the 1964 revision permits an estimate of sampling error for the CPI. ^{1/} The table below shows standard errors for monthly, quarterly, and annual percent changes in the CPI for all items and for nine commodity groupings based on 1967 averages. The figures may be interpreted as follows: the chances are about 95 out of 100 that the percent change in the CPI as computed differs from the corresponding "complete coverage" change by less than twice the standard error. Data also are shown in terms of the relative error of the standard error of percent changes. The relative errors tend to decrease markedly for successively longer time periods, as expected.

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

Standard and Relative Errors of Percent Changes in the
CPI Based on 1967 Data

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

This replaces the table of average standard errors based on 1965 data which was included in the CPI report through January 1968.

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

Composition of Index Groupings Appearing in Table 9

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

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

2/ Same as apparel commodities.

3/ Includes registration and license fees and parking fees.

Brief Explanation of the CPI

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

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

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

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

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

*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

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

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

BLS Regional Offices

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450 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, California 94102	John F. Kennedy Fed. Bldg. Boston, Massachusetts 02203	911 Walnut Street Kansas City, Missouri 64106
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