

the consumer price index

U.S. CITY AVERAGE
AND
SELECTED AREAS

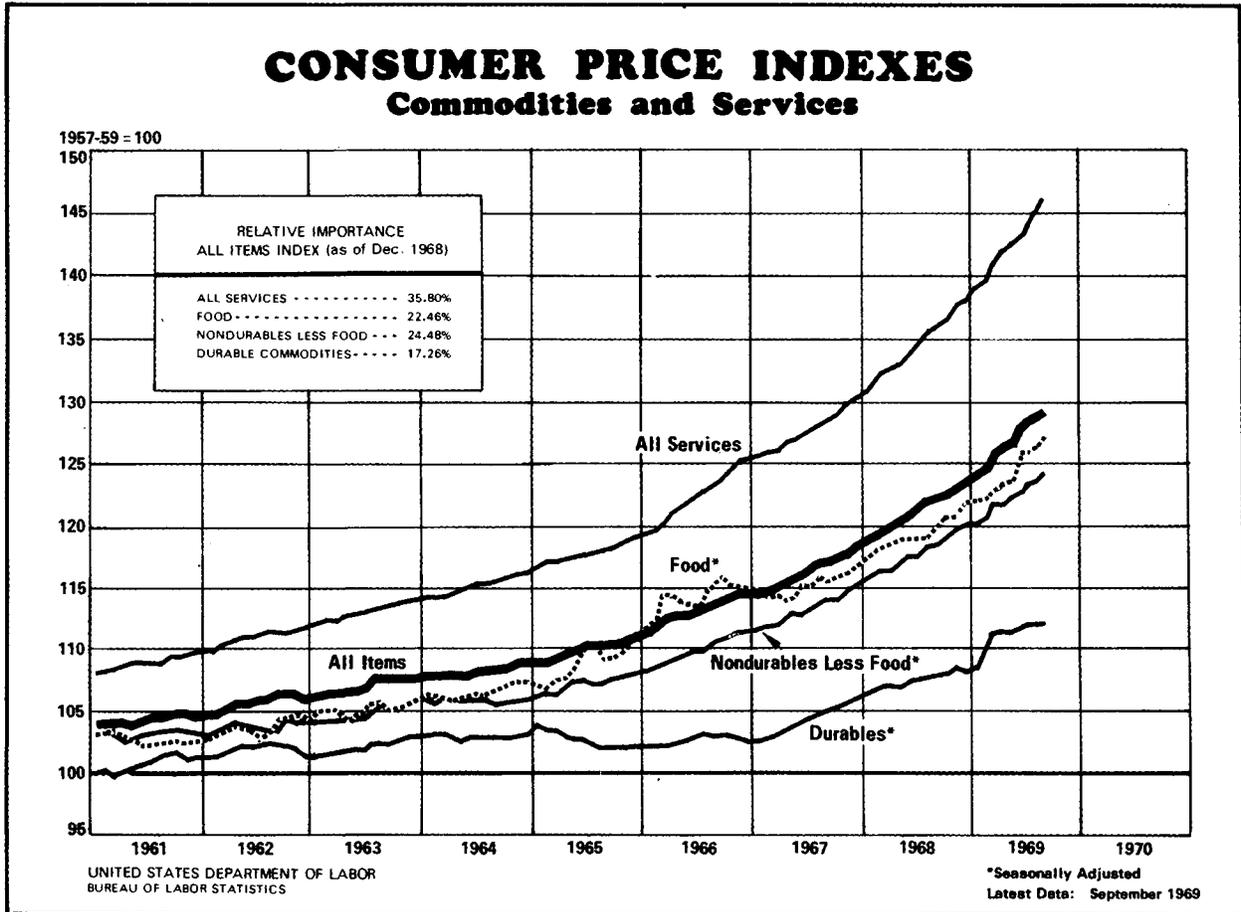


for September 1969

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
November 1969

The Consumer Price Index

A monthly report on consumer price movements,
including statistical tables and technical notes



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR • George P. Shultz, Secretary
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS • Geoffrey H. Moore, Commissioner

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR SEPTEMBER, 1969

The Consumer Price Index continued to advance rapidly in September and rose 0.5 percent to 129.3 (1957-59=100). The increase was due largely to a sharp rise in apparel prices and a continuation of the strong uptrend in charges for consumer services. Food prices failed to show their usual September decline principally because of higher prices for pork and restaurant meals. Prices of new and used cars were lower due to the approach of the 1970 model year; a seasonal drop of 0.3 percent for consumer durable goods resulted.

The September rise brought the increase in retail prices to 1.3 percent in the third quarter, the smallest advance for any 3 month period this year. The slower third quarter pace reflects smaller increases for commodities, particularly food and durable goods, than in the previous two quarters. The rise in service prices accelerated in the third quarter, due largely to boosts in mortgage interest costs. The 1.9-percent increase was only slightly below the first quarter's very steep climb of 2 percent.

In September, the all items index stood 5.8 percent above its level of a year ago and 4.5 percent higher than December 1968. In contrast, retail prices rose 3.4 percent in the first 9 months of 1968 to a point 4.4 percent above a year earlier.

A large part of the run-up in retail prices since last September resulted from continued increases for consumer services, particularly household and medical care services. Food prices rose nearly 6 percent over the year and constituted about 25 percent of the all items rise. Prices of other nondurable goods were also significantly higher and contributed about 20 percent of the index's advance. Durable goods on the average posted the smallest price increase and were responsible for 10 percent of the average rise in retail prices.

Nondurables goods other than food

Retail prices of nondurable goods other than foods posted their largest monthly increase in recent years in September; they advanced about twice as much as is usual for the month. A very sharp upturn in prices of apparel commodities was responsible for about four-fifths of the increase. Higher prices for cigarettts and alcoholic beverages accounted for most of the remainder.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, prices of nondurable commodities other than food rose in the third quarter at about the same annual rate, 4.8 percent, as in the first two quarters of this year. The continued steep uptrend in these prices stems principally from sustained strength in prices of apparel commodities. However, substantial price increases for cigarettes and alcoholic beverages also have contributed to the fast pace of advance.

Prices of all types of apparel were up more than is usual for September. Prices of women's apparel advanced nearly twice as much as usual; they posted their largest monthly rise in over 7 years and constituted about 65 percent of the increase in clothing prices overall. Sharp price rises were recorded for women's dresses and winter coats and skirts. The seasonal upturn in September results from the introduction of fall and winter lines at prices above the clearance levels in effect when prices of these items were last reported for the index. Pressure on prices of clothing at the retail level stems from a combination of increased costs of manufacturing and of retailing apparel and continued strength in consumer demand. So far this year, wholesale prices of apparel commodities have advanced 3.8 percent while retail prices have risen 3.6 percent.

Cigarette prices were substantially higher in September for the fourth consecutive month. The increases are due both to higher manufacturers' prices and increased local tax levies. Except for gasoline prices, down slightly because of competitive pricing in some areas, most other nondurable commodities moved higher in September.

Over the past 12 months, retail prices of nondurable commodities other than food averaged 4.6 percent higher. The 5.4-percent increase for apparel commodities over the span was responsible for over 40 percent of the rise. Among the more significant increases for remaining nondurable goods were 7.2 percent for tobacco products, 4.3 percent for alcoholic beverages, and 3.4 percent for gasoline and motor oil.

Services

Charges for consumer services rose at their recently accelerated rate of 0.7 percent in September as all major types of services continued to advance rapidly. Household services less rent rose 0.9 percent and were responsible for about half of the rise. Prices of medical care, transportation and "other" services were about equally responsible for the remainder.

In the third quarter, costs of consumer services rose 1.9 percent. This increase compares with advances of 2.0 and 1.7 percent in the first and second quarters, respectively. The acceleration in the third quarter resulted from a larger increase for household services less rent.

Mortgage interest costs rose again in September and continued an upward trend evident since the beginning of the year. Prices paid by homeowners for maintenance services averaged 1.6 percent higher, the largest monthly increase on record, and stood nearly 9 percent higher than their levels at the first of the year. Consumers also paid more for residential gas and electricity in September for a variety of reasons, including higher utility taxes and increased costs of providing these services.

Charges for rental of houses and apartments, and hotel and motel rooms both moved up in September; the latter posted an unusually large rise, 1.1 percent.

Higher physicians' fees were responsible partially for the sustained climb in costs of medical care services. Since the beginning of the year, physicians' fees have advanced 6 percent; over the same 1968 period they rose 4 percent. Charges for dentists' services have shown a similar accelerated rise while hospital daily service charges have risen at virtually the same rate this year as last.

Transportation services posted a substantial increase in September, because of an unusually large rise in automobile insurance rates. So far in 1969 auto insurance rates have been advancing at an annual rate of about 12 percent, the fastest pace in several years. Rising numbers of accidents and higher costs of auto body repairs and claim settlements are reported as major factors behind the steep increase.

Since September 1968, charges for consumer services have averaged 7.4 percent higher. Costs of household services less rent were responsible for about half of the increase, reflecting advances for mortgage interest, home maintenance services, and property taxes and insurance. Medical care and transportation services were 8.8 and 7.6 percent higher over the year. Among the major groups of services, prices for "other" services registered the smallest rise, up 4.9 percent.

Food

Retail food prices averaged 0.6 percent higher on a seasonally adjusted basis in September. Prices of food purchased in grocery stores were unchanged before adjustment for seasonal variation, but climbed 0.7 percent when seasonally adjusted. Prices of restaurant meals and snacks, which exhibit negligible seasonality, maintained their steep untrend; they advanced 0.6 percent.

Compared with the second quarter, the rate of increase in food prices slowed in the third quarter, both before and after seasonal adjustment. The most significant slow down occurred for prices of meats, poultry, and fish which fell from a seasonally adjusted annual rate of advance of nearly 30 percent in the second quarter to a rate of 4 percent in the third. Unadjusted, the total rise in food prices in the first 9 months of this year amounted to 5.2 percent, compared with 3.6 percent in 1968.

Most of the September increase in food prices was due to advances for pork and restaurant meals. Prices of fruits and vegetables were down less than usual at this season. Beef prices dropped slightly and contraseasonally for the second consecutive month while cereal and bakery products and dairy products continued to climb. Egg prices, which usually move higher in September, declined slightly, apparently because of pressure from larger supplies.

All cuts of pork were more expensive; price increases averaged somewhat larger than usual. Declining supplies and continued strength in demand for pork as a substitute for higher-priced beef appear to explain the September rise for pork.

The unusual strength in prices of fruits and vegetables was due largely to declines in prices of apples, grapes, and to a smaller degree of potatoes and onions. Delayed maturing of the fall apple crop and the consequent delay in marketings probably accounts for the relative strength in prices of this item. Grape prices remained comparatively high in September despite a seasonal expansion in supplies.

Since September 1968, retail prices of food have averaged 5.9 percent higher because of increases of 5.8 and 6.3 percent, respectively, in prices of grocery store food and restaurant meals and snacks. More than half of the 12-month increase in prices of food purchased for home consumption resulted from substantial run ups for beef, pork, and poultry. Much of the climb in meat prices since last September is probably due to a combination of continued rapid growth in consumer demand for beef and a comparatively small increase in beef supplies. Higher prices for poultry in large part reflect increased demand because of higher beef prices.

Durables

Retail prices of consumer durable goods declined 0.3 percent in September; the decrease was seasonal and resulted from lower prices for new and used cars. Prices of houses and household durables continued to advance and partially offset the decrease for auto purchases.

Despite the September drop, prices of durable goods advanced on a seasonally adjusted basis in the third quarter, although at a slower rate than in the first or second quarters. The relatively slow rise in large part reflects weakness in automobile prices and a significant decline in the rate of increase for household durables in the third quarter.

The September decrease brought the increase in prices of durable goods so far this year to 2.7 percent compared with 1.4 percent in 1968 when prices of houses and household durables rose much less.

New car prices fell 1.5 percent in September as dealer concessions increased. In September dealers usually try to work off inventories of outgoing models in preparation for the new model year. The large decrease for used-car prices probably reflects a slackening in demand because of price reductions for new cars. Furniture prices maintained their steady uptrend, probably because of pressure from rising costs. Appliance prices were unchanged in September and prices of floor coverings reversed their recent weakness and climbed 0.7 percent.

Since September 1968, retail prices of consumer durable goods have advanced 3.7 percent. A large part of this rise resulted from price increases for houses. Used-car prices were appreciably lower, and new-car prices about 1 percent higher, in September 1969 compared with September 1968. Price increases for furniture and other durable housefurnishings made up about 65 percent of the 4.1 percent over-the-year rise in prices of household durables.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments

Approximately 54,000 workers will receive cost-of-living wage increases, based on the Consumer Price Index for September. About 22,000 workers, mostly in the aerospace industry, will receive increases of 8 or 9 cents an hour, reflecting the change in the national index since September 1968. Nearly 21,000 workers, mostly in public transit and aerospace will get hourly increases ranging from 3 to 5 cents, based on the change in the National CPI between June and September.

An additional 5,400 workers in various industries will receive increases ranging from 2 to 7 cents an hour, based on yearly or semiannual reviews of the national CPI.

Approximately 12,000 other workers whose escalation reviews are tied to the September index will not receive an adjustment because they have already reached the maximums stipulated in their contracts.

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 percentage changes are not. The following example illustrates the computation of index point and percentage changes:

Index Point Change		Percentage Change
September 1969 CPI (1957=59=100)	129.3	Index point difference divided by the index for the previous period: $\frac{129.3 - 128.7}{128.7} \times 100 = .5 \text{ percent}$
less August 1969 index	<u>128.7</u>	
Index point difference =	0.6	

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

(Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise noted)				Percent change to Sept., 1969 from:		
	September 1969	August 1969	June 1969	September 1968	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
All items -----	129.3	128.7	127.6	122.2	0.5	1.3	5.8
All items (1947-49=100) -----	158.6	157.9	156.6	150.0			
Food -----	127.5	127.4	125.5	120.4	.1	1.6	5.9
Food at home -----	123.6	123.6	121.8	116.8	.0	1.5	5.8
Cereals and bakery products -----	123.0	122.6	122.0	119.8	.3	.8	2.7
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	129.0	127.9	125.3	115.5	.9	3.0	11.7
Dairy products -----	125.5	125.0	124.0	121.6	.4	1.2	3.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	126.8	130.2	130.8	122.9	-2.6	-3.1	3.2
Other foods at home -----	110.5	110.5	106.6	107.4	.0	3.7	2.9
Food away from home -----	146.7	145.8	143.7	138.0	.6	2.1	6.3
Housing -----	128.6	127.8	126.3	120.4	.6	1.8	6.8
Shelter ^{1/} -----	136.1	135.1	133.0	125.3	.7	2.3	8.6
Rent -----	119.7	119.3	118.5	115.7	.3	1.0	3.5
Homeownership ^{2/} -----	142.6	141.3	138.7	129.1	.9	2.8	10.5
Fuel and utilities ^{3/} -----	113.3	113.0	112.7	110.5	.3	.5	2.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	118.1	117.7	117.5	115.8	.3	.5	2.0
Gas and electricity -----	112.0	111.5	111.3	109.3	.4	.6	2.5
Household furnishings and operation -----	119.0	118.5	117.9	113.9	.4	.9	4.5
Apparel and upkeep ^{4/} -----	128.7	126.6	127.0	122.2	1.7	1.3	5.3
Men's and boys' -----	130.0	128.7	128.5	123.2	1.0	1.2	5.5
Women's and girls' -----	124.6	120.8	122.7	118.5	3.1	1.5	5.1
Footwear -----	142.3	141.5	140.1	134.0	.6	1.6	6.2
Transportation -----	123.6	124.2	124.6	119.5	-.5	-.8	3.4
Private -----	120.5	121.3	121.8	117.2	-.7	-1.1	2.8
New cars -----	99.5	101.0	101.8	98.4	-1.5	-2.3	1.1
Used cars -----	121.4	125.4	128.2	126.7	-3.2	-5.3	-4.2
Gasoline -----	117.7	118.0	118.6	113.9	-.3	-.8	3.3
Public -----	150.3	149.7	149.1	138.7	.4	.8	8.4
Health and recreation -----	138.4	137.7	136.3	131.1	.5	1.5	5.6
Medical care -----	157.6	156.8	155.2	146.4	.5	1.5	7.7
Personal care -----	127.3	126.8	126.2	121.5	.4	.9	4.8
Reading and recreation -----	131.6	131.2	130.4	126.7	.3	.9	3.9
Other goods and services -----	131.3	130.1	127.9	124.4	.9	2.7	5.5
Seasonally Adjusted:							
Food -----	127.1	126.4	125.5	120.0	.6	1.3	---
Apparel and upkeep -----	128.4	127.4	126.9	122.0	.8	1.2	---
Transportation -----	124.0	124.2	124.7	119.9	-.2	-.6	---
Special Groups:							
All items less food -----	130.0	129.3	128.4	123.0	.5	1.2	5.7
All items less medical care -----	127.6	127.0	126.0	120.8	.5	1.3	5.6
Commodities -----	121.7	121.4	120.5	116.1	.2	1.0	4.8
Nondurables -----	125.8	125.2	124.1	119.6	.5	1.4	5.2
Nondurables less food -----	124.4	123.3	123.0	118.9	.9	1.1	4.6
Apparel commodities -----	128.1	125.9	126.4	121.5	1.7	1.3	5.4
Durables -----	111.6	111.9	111.7	107.6	-.3	-.1	3.7
Household durables -----	106.2	106.0	105.8	102.0	.2	.4	4.1
Services -----	146.0	145.0	143.3	136.0	.7	1.9	7.4
Services less rent -----	151.7	150.7	148.8	140.5	.7	1.9	8.0
Services less medical care -----	141.8	140.9	139.2	132.4	.6	1.9	7.1
Insurance and finance (Dec.1965=100) -----	132.1	130.9	128.4	118.5	.9	2.9	11.5
Utilities and public transportation (Dec.1965=100) -----	108.4	108.1	107.8	104.2	.3	.6	4.0
Housekeeping and home maintenance services (Dec.1965=100) -----	130.9	129.4	127.4	119.9	1.2	2.7	9.2
Medical care services -----	172.2	171.1	169.1	158.2	.6	1.8	8.8
Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar:							
1957-59=\$1 -----	\$0.774	\$0.777	\$0.784	\$0.818	-.4	-1.3	-5.4
1939=\$1 -----	.375	.376	.380	.396	---	---	---

^{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 1/	Pricing Schedule 2/	Indexes			Percent change from:		
		1957-59=100	1947-49=100	Other bases	August 1969	June 1969	September 1968
		September 1969			August 1969	June 1969	September 1968
U.S. City Average -----	M	129.3	158.6		0.5	1.3	5.8
Chicago -----	M	127.2	160.4		.9	2.1	6.2
Detroit -----	M	128.6	158.6		.1	1.0	6.1
Los Angeles-Long Beach ---	M	129.6	161.6		.5	1.3	5.5
New York -----	M	133.5	160.8		.8	1.4	6.0
Philadelphia -----	M	131.0	160.8		.6	2.2	5.8
		July 1969				April 1969	July 1968
Boston -----	1	132.1	163.7			1.8	5.9
Houston -----	1	127.0	156.4			1.2	6.5
Minneapolis-St. Paul ----	1	128.0	158.4			2.3	5.1
Pittsburgh -----	1	127.7	157.4			1.3	6.4
		August 1969				May 1969	August 1968
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) ---	2			121.2		.8	4.8
Cleveland -----	2	127.3	158.1			1.6	6.1
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) ----	2			121.2		1.5	6.6
Milwaukee -----	2	123.9	156.3			.9	5.5
San Diego (Feb.1965=100) -	2			116.0		1.4	5.5
Seattle -----	2	129.5	162.7			1.5	5.1
Washington -----	2	130.8	157.5			1.6	6.3
		September 1969				June 1969	September 1968
Atlanta -----	3	128.6	159.2			2.0	6.1
Baltimore -----	3	130.4	161.9			2.0	6.5
Cincinnati -----	3	125.5	152.8			.7	4.3
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100) --	3			118.1		1.3	4.7
Kansas City -----	3	131.4	162.6			.8	5.6
St. Louis -----	3	129.2	160.4			1.7	5.3
San Francisco-Oakland ---	3	132.8	168.5			1.5	5.8

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 August 1969 to September 1969

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	* Los Angeles-Long Beach	* New York	* Philadelphia
All items -----	0.5	0.9	0.1	0.5	0.8	0.6
Food -----	.1	-.2	-.6	.1	.3	.0
Housing -----	.6	1.0	.7	.9	.9	.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.7	5.1	2.9	2.4	3.3	3.5
Transportation -----	-.5	-.2	-2.8	-.4	-.8	-.8
Health and recreation -----	.5	.5	.9	.4	.3	.7
* Medical care -----	.5	1.3	.9	.5	.0	.5
Personal care -----	.4	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	.3	-.2	.4	.4	.6	.3
Other goods and services -----	.9	.6	.9	.0	.4	(2/)

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

^{2/} Not available.

* Correction: July to August--L.A., 0.5; N.Y., 0.8; Phila., 0.2.

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: Sept. 1969	
	September 1969	August 1969	June 1969	From: 1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago
Food -----	127.1	126.4	125.5	0.6	1.3
Food at home -----	123.2	122.4	121.8	.7	1.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	126.8	126.4	125.6	.3	1.0
Dairy products -----	125.1	124.9	124.5	.2	.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	131.0	127.8	127.0	2.5	3.1
Other foods at home -----	109.3	110.2	108.3	-.8	.9
Fuel and utilities ^{1/} -----	113.4	113.1	112.9	.3	.4
Fuel oil and coal -----	119.1	119.1	119.2	.0	-.1
Apparel and upkeep ^{2/} -----	128.4	127.4	126.9	.8	1.2
Men's and boys' -----	129.5	129.2	128.5	.2	.8
Women's and girls' -----	124.1	122.3	122.6	1.5	1.2
Footwear -----	142.3	141.8	140.1	.4	1.6
Transportation -----	124.0	124.2	124.7	-.2	-.6
Private -----	120.9	121.3	121.8	-.3	-.7
New cars -----	102.4	102.5	102.4	-.1	.0
Commodities -----	121.7	121.3	120.5	.3	1.0
Commodities less food -----	118.8	118.4	118.0	.3	.7
Nondurables -----	125.5	125.0	124.2	.4	1.0
Nondurables less food -----	124.3	123.7	123.0	.5	1.1
Apparel commodities -----	127.7	126.8	126.3	.7	1.1
Durables -----	112.0	112.0	111.7	.0	.3

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

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

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas 1/
 For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups
 September 1969 Index and Percent Changes from June 1969

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles- Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)						
All items -----	129.3	127.2	128.6	129.6	133.5	131.0
Food -----	127.5	130.2	126.5	124.0	129.1	127.2
Food at home -----	123.6	128.9	124.1	118.3	123.4	122.3
Cereals and bakery products -----	123.0	125.7	118.8	122.8	121.8	120.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	129.0	133.9	135.9	118.2	128.9	122.9
Dairy products -----	125.5	138.7	132.7	123.0	115.9	133.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	126.8	129.9	113.4	129.2	131.8	127.3
Other foods at home -----	110.5	113.0	109.3	100.5	110.9	107.4
Food away from home -----	146.7	137.0	140.6	144.9	153.3	153.3
Housing -----	128.6	123.3	126.3	134.8	132.6	128.9
Shelter -----	136.1	128.4	135.2	144.3	138.0	136.5
Rent -----	119.7	113.8	(2/)	120.5	(2/)	121.4
Homeownership -----	142.6	135.5	141.2	152.3	142.5	140.4
Fuel and utilities -----	113.3	109.0	104.5	111.8	113.7	112.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	118.1	110.2	110.0	---	124.4	122.5
Gas and electricity -----	112.0	107.9	106.0	118.8	112.5	107.0
Household furnishings and operation -----	119.0	118.0	112.0	117.5	129.1	121.0
Apparel and upkeep -----	128.7	124.4	125.7	126.4	136.6	136.5
Men's and boys' -----	130.0	122.0	126.7	128.8	141.6	133.3
Women's and girls' -----	124.6	122.0	121.5	126.9	131.5	129.0
Footwear -----	142.3	137.4	138.9	136.2	144.6	151.6
Transportation -----	123.6	124.9	121.5	128.0	126.4	133.1
Private -----	120.5	120.4	118.7	123.4	126.5	125.1
Public -----	150.3	154.0	141.5	156.7	129.4	178.6
Health and recreation -----	138.4	133.7	141.9	130.2	145.2	139.5
Medical care -----	157.6	165.7	169.1	152.0	164.1	170.3
Personal care -----	127.3	126.6	(2/)	120.2	(2/)	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	131.6	114.5	132.4	114.6	144.1	126.0
Other goods and services -----	131.3	126.7	124.2	125.4	140.5	133.7
Percent Changes June 1969 to September 1969						
All items -----	1.3	2.1	1.0	1.3	1.4	2.2
Food -----	1.6	2.1	1.6	.8	2.0	2.2
Food at home -----	1.5	2.3	1.7	.3	2.1	2.3
Cereals and bakery products -----	.8	-.6	1.7	-.4	.3	.7
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	3.0	3.7	3.4	.9	3.0	3.2
Dairy products -----	1.2	.3	2.5	2.0	.9	.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	-3.1	.2	-6.7	-4.5	-.5	-.5
Other foods at home -----	3.7	4.8	5.1	2.7	4.2	5.7
Food away from home -----	2.1	1.6	1.4	2.4	1.9	1.9
Housing -----	1.8	3.1	1.9	2.7	1.7	3.3
Shelter -----	2.3	4.1	2.7	3.1	1.9	5.5
Rent -----	1.0	3/ .9	(2/)	3/ 1.7	(2/)	3/ 1.9
Homeownership -----	2.8	5.5	3.0	3.6	2.7	6.4
Fuel and utilities -----	.5	1.7	.7	2.1	.2	2.6
Fuel oil and coal -----	.5	.0	.0	---	.3	.0
Gas and electricity -----	.6	2.7	1.1	3.9	.2	4.2
Household furnishings and operation -----	.9	.8	-.2	1.2	1.7	-.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.3	2.2	2.2	1.9	2.6	3.6
Men's and boys' -----	1.2	1.7	2.5	.9	1.9	2.8
Women's and girls' -----	1.5	3.7	3.1	2.8	3.1	5.6
Footwear -----	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.7	3.2	3.1
Transportation -----	-.8	-.3	-3.0	-1.1	-.6	-1.3
Private -----	-1.1	-.4	-3.2	-1.1	-.7	-1.5
Public -----	.8	.1	.4	.2	-.2	.3
Health and recreation -----	1.5	2.2	1.4	.9	1.0	2.1
Medical care -----	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.2	.8	4.2
Personal care -----	.9	.7	(2/)	.8	(2/)	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	.9	.2	.2	.9	1.5	.2
Other goods and services -----	2.7	6.1	1.7	.7	1.4	2.8

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
 September 1969 Index and Percent Changes from June 1969

Group	Atlanta	Baltimore	Cincinnati	Honolulu (12/63=100)	Kansas City	San Francisco	St. Louis
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)							
All items -----	128.6	130.4	125.5	118.1	131.4	132.8	129.2
Food -----	126.7	131.8	123.6	119.1	131.9	124.9	132.6
Food at home -----	123.6	126.8	120.0	117.2	128.4	119.3	127.9
Cereals and bakery products -----	115.5	126.9	115.5	112.1	128.2	119.7	125.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	128.1	132.4	129.3	122.6	134.3	123.9	136.2
Dairy products -----	124.6	121.3	119.2	114.8	137.1	119.9	134.9
Fruits and vegetables -----	131.2	136.8	125.2	120.5	126.4	121.1	135.2
Other foods at home -----	116.9	113.5	106.0	110.1	114.6	107.1	108.0
Food away from home -----	138.2	152.5	142.2	125.1	144.5	149.5	151.8
Housing -----	131.9	127.5	119.7	123.5	125.8	142.2	122.6
Shelter -----	137.0	134.0	122.3	133.2	129.6	156.3	127.8
Rent -----	115.4	117.0	106.5	118.6	109.8	145.7	112.2
Homeownership -----	143.6	141.2	129.7	143.2	137.8	161.3	131.8
Fuel and utilities -----	114.7	111.0	108.5	100.6	121.8	105.2	110.2
Fuel oil and coal -----	--	119.6	118.0	--	--	--	117.8
Gas and electricity -----	111.7	103.4	108.9	99.8	122.8	109.4	111.4
Household furnishings and operation -----	126.6	124.6	116.3	108.6	115.9	118.9	120.2
Apparel and upkeep -----	128.7	134.5	133.6	117.0	137.4	132.7	128.7
Men's and boys' -----	131.9	136.8	137.2	113.7	134.6	130.8	128.3
Women's and girls' -----	120.8	127.7	126.5	119.0	138.2	129.6	127.6
Footwear -----	138.8	160.0	154.8	115.0	151.2	139.3	142.1
Transportation -----	118.9	125.9	123.4	107.1	125.7	124.8	125.7
Private -----	114.6	122.4	118.8	110.2	122.5	125.9	122.0
Public -----	160.1	142.1	163.1	92.3	151.7	119.8	156.7
Health and recreation -----	136.5	136.1	137.6	118.2	145.2	135.6	141.2
Medical care -----	158.2	173.1	167.4	132.1	162.9	154.7	149.7
Personal care -----	132.0	129.2	122.6	110.4	128.1	136.6	131.5
Reading and recreation -----	131.3	127.7	127.9	111.0	141.0	119.8	138.6
Other goods and services -----	120.6	120.0	126.5	117.5	139.0	131.0	140.2
Percent Changes June 1969 to September 1969							
All items -----	2.0	2.0	0.7	1.3	0.8	1.5	1.7
Food -----	3.2	3.0	1.4	2.4	1.6	.5	3.1
Food at home -----	3.5	3.2	1.4	1.9	1.3	-.1	2.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	1.7	.5	.3	.8	.8	.3	1.9
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	3.6	4.3	3.6	3.1	1.6	1.3	4.1
Dairy products -----	6.3	.8	-.3	.2	2.4	1.8	2.7
Fruits and vegetables -----	.3	3.8	-2.3	2.1	-1.1	-8.7	.0
Other foods at home -----	4.8	4.0	2.8	1.5	2.5	3.5	3.3
Food away from home -----	2.3	2.2	1.6	3.8	2.4	2.6	4.8
Housing -----	2.6	2.9	.2	1.6	1.3	2.6	1.0
Shelter -----	3.9	4.9	.0	2.5	1.7	3.6	1.2
Rent -----	.8	.9	1.2	2.2	.6	1.5	.4
Homeownership -----	4.9	6.5	-.7	2.5	2.0	4.5	1.4
Fuel and utilities -----	.2	.3	1.0	.3	1.4	.0	-.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	--	.0	5.5	--	--	--	.0
Gas and electricity -----	.2	.6	1.2	.4	2.5	.0	-.2
Household furnishings and operation -----	1.0	-.1	.3	-.7	.3	.5	1.2
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.7	2.4	2.8	.9	2.5	2.3	1.5
Men's and boys' -----	.6	2.3	3.2	1.4	1.5	2.3	2.7
Women's and girls' -----	3.7	3.2	4.2	.3	5.4	3.5	.6
Footwear -----	1.3	1.3	.8	1.5	1.5	1.0	1.5
Transportation -----	-.3	-.9	-1.0	-.7	-2.3	.4	.2
Private -----	-1.2	-1.1	-1.4	-.9	-2.5	-.3	.2
Public -----	11.6	.1	2.0	.0	.3	14.0	.4
Health and recreation -----	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.2	2.5
Medical care -----	2.1	3.9	1.3	1.8	.8	1.4	1.0
Personal care -----	.7	-.8	.4	1.9	.8	.7	.0
Reading and recreation -----	.6	.2	-.4	.9	-.6	1.2	1.5
Other goods and services -----	1.3	-.1	2.6	-.1	4.7	.8	7.0

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

^{2/} Not available.

^{3/} Change from July 1969.

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

Area ^{1/}	Total food	Food at home						Food away from home
		Total	Cereals and bakery products	Meats, poultry, and fish	Dairy products	Fruits and vegetables	Other foods at home	
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)								
U.S. City Average -----	127.5	123.6	123.0	129.0	125.5	126.8	110.5	146.7
Atlanta -----	126.7	123.6	115.5	128.1	124.6	131.2	116.9	138.2
Baltimore -----	131.8	126.8	126.9	132.4	121.3	136.8	113.5	152.5
Boston -----	131.4	126.1	127.2	133.1	121.5	132.8	111.3	154.8
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	121.8	119.7	108.9	127.4	122.1	118.1	114.4	134.0
Chicago -----	130.2	128.9	125.7	133.9	138.7	129.9	113.0	137.0
Cincinnati -----	123.6	120.0	115.5	129.3	119.2	125.2	106.0	142.2
Cleveland -----	125.1	122.1	114.2	128.9	125.1	128.0	110.3	142.7
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	122.0	119.1	110.4	129.1	124.0	116.2	110.5	133.3
Detroit -----	126.5	124.1	118.8	135.9	132.7	113.4	109.3	140.6
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	119.1	117.2	112.1	122.6	114.8	120.5	110.1	125.1
Houston -----	129.2	124.1	125.9	124.6	128.0	135.5	109.6	151.2
Kansas City -----	131.9	128.4	128.2	134.3	137.1	126.4	114.6	144.5
Los Angeles-Long Beach--	124.0	118.3	122.8	118.2	123.0	129.2	100.5	144.9
Milwaukee -----	127.9	125.6	116.3	132.5	135.2	126.7	112.4	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	125.9	121.9	116.3	128.7	126.8	122.2	113.3	144.6
New York -----	129.1	123.4	121.8	128.9	115.9	131.8	110.9	153.3
Philadelphia -----	127.2	122.3	120.8	122.9	133.5	127.3	107.4	153.3
Pittsburgh -----	123.2	120.4	122.0	130.0	115.9	120.3	109.3	141.4
St. Louis -----	132.6	127.9	125.5	136.2	134.9	135.2	108.0	151.8
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	118.3	114.7	110.3	129.6	112.4	102.5	106.9	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	124.9	119.3	119.7	123.9	119.9	121.1	107.1	149.5
Seattle -----	125.9	119.5	114.2	126.8	128.0	121.4	105.4	152.5
Washington -----	131.6	126.2	115.9	130.2	125.5	132.4	118.9	152.0
Percent Changes August 1969 to September 1969								
U.S. City Average -----	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.9	0.4	-2.6	0.0	0.6
Atlanta -----	.3	.2	1.0	1.6	-.1	-1.3	-.8	.9
Baltimore -----	.8	.6	.2	1.8	.7	-.2	-.5	1.1
Boston -----	-.3	-.6	.0	-.4	.5	-3.8	.7	.8
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	-.6	-.9	.1	1.0	.4	-8.2	.8	.8
Chicago -----	-.2	-.4	-.1	.6	.1	-3.1	-.6	.3
Cincinnati -----	.3	.3	-.1	1.4	.0	-.8	-.6	.5
Cleveland -----	-.1	-.2	-2.6	-1.2	3.0	-.4	.5	.8
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	.1	.0	.1	.3	-.2	-.3	-.1	.5
Detroit -----	-.6	-.8	-.2	-.4	.8	-5.4	.5	.3
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	.9	.5	1.1	-.8	.2	1.3	1.8	2.5
Houston -----	.2	.2	.4	.7	-.2	-.3	-.4	.3
Kansas City -----	.5	.4	.0	1.4	1.5	-1.3	-.3	.8
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	.1	-.1	.6	-.3	.1	-.5	.1	.7
Milwaukee -----	.2	.1	2.0	1.2	.5	-3.9	-.3	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	-.4	-.6	-1.9	2.1	-2.1	-2.9	-.4	.5
New York -----	.3	.1	-.4	1.2	.3	-2.9	.7	.8
Philadelphia -----	.0	-.1	-.3	1.2	.2	-3.4	.2	.3
Pittsburgh -----	-.6	-.7	.5	-.2	.3	-3.5	-.4	.1
St. Louis -----	1.1	.9	.6	1.7	.7	1.5	-.2	1.7
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	-.3	-.3	.0	-.6	.1	-1.1	.3	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	.0	-.3	.1	.5	-.3	-2.3	.2	.9
Seattle -----	-.2	-.7	-.3	-1.5	-.2	-.8	.0	1.0
Washington -----	-.7	-1.2	.7	-1.1	.0	-3.1	-1.2	.5

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

^{2/} Not available.

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

Item or Group	Index		Perchange to September 1969 from--		
	September 1969		August 1969		September 1968
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Total food -----	127.5	127.1	0.1	0.6	5.9
Food away from home -----	146.7	--	.6	--	6.3
Restaurant meals -----	147.2	--	.7	--	6.4
Snacks <u>1/</u> -----	126.2	--	.5	--	6.0
Food at home -----	123.6	123.2	.0	.7	5.8
Cereals and bakery products -----	123.0	--	.3	--	2.7
Flour -----	111.2	--	-.2	--	-.7
Cracker meal <u>1/</u> -----	125.8	--	.9	--	7.2
Corn flakes -----	129.4	--	.0	--	.7
Rice -----	112.9	--	.3	--	2.0
Bread, white -----	128.8	--	.5	--	2.3
Bread, whole wheat <u>1/</u> -----	121.6	--	1.1	--	4.2
Cookies -----	101.0	--	.1	--	.1
Layer cake <u>1/</u> -----	113.2	--	-.5	--	2.9
Cinnamon rolls <u>1/</u> -----	113.2	--	.4	--	4.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	129.0	126.8	.9	.3	11.7
Meats -----	133.1	131.0	.9	.8	12.8
Beef and veal -----	135.0	133.5	-.3	-1.0	13.4
Steak, round -----	128.1	127.2	-1.4	-1.2	12.9
Steak, sirloin <u>2/</u> -----	128.3	--	.7	--	13.0
Steak, porterhouse <u>1/</u> -----	132.9	--	.2	--	11.8
Rump roast <u>1/</u> -----	122.1	--	-1.1	--	11.1
Rib roast -----	145.9	144.6	-.4	-1.3	15.2
Chuck roast -----	127.2	126.2	-1.2	-1.9	15.6
Hamburger -----	140.9	139.6	.3	-.4	15.4
Beef liver <u>1/</u> -----	117.8	--	.9	--	9.7
Veal cutlets -----	162.8	162.6	.4	.4	13.0
Pork -----	133.7	129.3	2.7	3.4	13.9
Chops -----	137.6	132.6	1.4	3.1	11.9
Loin roast <u>2/</u> -----	143.0	--	1.2	--	11.1
Pork sausage <u>1/</u> -----	149.6	--	2.5	--	16.9
Ham, whole -----	121.8	120.1	4.1	2.8	8.6
Picnics <u>1/</u> -----	135.5	--	.7	--	17.0
Bacon -----	135.6	129.0	5.4	6.3	17.2
Other meats -----	132.6	132.1	1.1	1.1	10.2
Lamb chops <u>1/</u> -----	139.7	--	.3	--	8.2
Frankfurters -----	135.4	133.9	1.3	1.1	14.1
Ham, canned <u>1/</u> -----	122.6	--	1.7	--	6.3
Bologna sausage <u>1/</u> -----	136.2	--	1.3	--	13.2
Salami sausage <u>1/</u> -----	127.0	--	.8	--	10.0
Liverwurst <u>1/</u> -----	128.0	--	1.3	--	9.6
Poultry -----	102.0	--	.6	--	7.9
Frying chicken -----	103.8	101.4	.5	.3	8.1
Chicken breasts <u>1/</u> -----	113.8	--	.7	--	7.9
Turkey <u>1/</u> -----	105.9	--	1.1	--	6.8
Fish -----	132.2	132.3	.5	.5	5.9
Shrimp, frozen <u>1/</u> -----	121.0	--	.2	--	10.5
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	138.6	138.9	1.0	1.2	9.9
Tuna fish, canned -----	114.9	--	.4	--	2.7
Sardines, canned <u>1/</u> -----	124.2	--	.6	--	1.2
Dairy products -----	125.5	125.1	.4	.2	3.2
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	122.8	122.1	.4	.2	2.7
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	129.4	--	.5	--	3.6
Milk, fresh, skim <u>1/</u> -----	124.8	--	.4	--	4.9
Milk, evaporated -----	124.1	--	.0	--	2.3
Ice cream -----	100.1	--	.6	--	1.0
Cheese, American process -----	148.9	149.5	.3	.7	6.0
Butter -----	118.3	118.2	.3	-.3	1.5

See footnotes at end of table.

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

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to September 1969 from--		
	September 1969		August 1969		September 1968
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Fruits and vegetables -----	126.8	131.0	-2.6	2.5	3.2
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	134.9	142.3	-4.3	4.2	4.9
Apples -----	174.6	171.7	-8.3	11.1	3.5
Bananas -----	99.6	96.5	2.3	2.6	4.5
Oranges -----	132.1	121.1	- .5	-5.4	-20.9
Orange juice, fresh 1/ -----	92.1	--	.1	--	5.6
Grapefruit -----	205.9	173.5	5.8	5.4	9.0
Grapes 3/ -----	137.8	171.6	-6.5	16.2	20.3
Strawberries 3/ -----	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Watermelon 3/ -----	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Potatoes -----	144.5	151.2	-9.1	1.3	9.5
Onions -----	139.0	140.1	-8.7	3.8	.8
Asparagus 3/1/ -----	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Cabbage -----	135.6	155.0	-2.0	3.0	2.6
Carrots -----	128.3	132.3	-8.1	.4	17.5
Celery -----	120.1	127.8	-7.8	-1.2	20.7
Cucumbers 1/ -----	111.7	--	-8.8	--	14.1
Lettuce -----	130.8	136.5	5.3	6.8	6.9
Peppers, green 1/ -----	147.8	--	1.0	--	20.3
Spinach 1/ -----	118.0	--	.7	--	15.6
Tomatoes -----	103.2	139.6	-11.3	-2.8	8.3
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	116.9	--	.2	--	.7
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	106.6	--	.3	--	-2.3
Pears, canned 1/ -----	108.2	--	-.6	--	-7.4
Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned 1/ --	101.8	--	.8	--	4.0
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	99.4	100.0	-.6	-.8	10.9
Lemonade concentrate, frozen 2/ -----	93.3	--	.9	--	6.3
Beets, canned 1/ -----	113.1	--	.3	--	1.5
Peas, green, canned -----	122.9	--	.2	--	.7
Tomatoes, canned -----	124.1	--	-.4	--	-3.6
Dried beans -----	125.0	--	.0	--	-.4
Broccoli, frozen 1/ -----	107.5	--	.7	--	5.3
Other food at home -----	110.5	109.3	.0	-.8	2.9
Eggs -----	113.8	106.5	-.5	-8.5	4.0
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	102.2	--	-.2	--	.4
Salad dressing, Italian 1/ -----	102.3	--	.0	--	.2
Salad or cooking oil 1/ -----	123.6	--	.0	--	1.4
Sugar and sweets -----	126.0	--	.5	--	4.4
Sugar -----	116.4	--	-.1	--	2.5
Grape jelly -----	124.7	--	.6	--	4.2
Chocolate bar -----	126.5	--	1.1	--	5.9
Syrup, chocolate flavored 1/ -----	106.5	--	.0	--	4.7
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	103.7	--	-.1	--	2.1
Coffee, can and bag -----	86.6	--	-.1	--	-.9
Coffee, instant 4/ -----	103.8	--	-.1	--	5.0
Tea -----	102.0	--	-.2	--	1.4
Cola drink -----	156.8	--	-.1	--	4.7
Carbonated fruit drink 1/ -----	123.4	--	.2	--	4.7
Prepared and partially prepared foods 1/	106.9	--	.2	--	3.3
Bean soup, canned 1/ -----	105.6	--	.2	--	4.7
Chicken soup, canned 1/ -----	98.1	--	-.2	--	2.0
Spaghetti, canned 1/ -----	117.2	--	-.1	--	4.1
Mashed potatoes, instant 1/ -----	108.9	--	.4	--	5.9
Potatoes, french fried, frozen 2/ -----	92.7	--	.2	--	4.7
Baby foods, canned -----	112.7	--	.5	--	2.0
Sweet pickle relish 1/ -----	112.6	--	.5	--	1.8
Pretzels 1/ -----	107.6	--	.0	--	1.2

1/ December 1963=100.

2/ April 1960=100.

3/ Priced only in season.

4/ July 1961=100.

TABLE 8: Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers
Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, September 1969
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent change to September 1969 From:	
		September 1969	August 1969	August 1969	September 1968
Housing -----		128.6	127.8	0.6	6.8
Shelter <u>1/</u> -----		136.1	135.1	.7	8.6
Rent -----		119.7	119.3	.3	3.5
Homeownership costs <u>2/</u> -----		142.6	141.3	.9	10.5
Mortgage interest rates -----		138.2	137.1	.8	10.0
Property taxes -----	Dec. 63	130.4	129.9	.4	5.4
Property insurance rates -----		149.5	150.3	-.5	3.6
Maintenance and repairs -----		143.8	142.4	1.0	9.4
Commodities <u>3/</u> -----	Dec. 63	116.7	117.2	-.4	6.9
Exterior house paint -----		117.6	116.5	.9	5.1
Interior house paint -----	Dec. 63	113.1	113.1	.0	3.6
Services -----	Dec. 63	140.4	138.2	1.6	10.6
Repainting living and dining rooms -----		179.7	178.3	.8	11.1
Reshingling roofs -----		161.4	157.6	2.4	11.9
Residing houses -----	Dec. 63	133.0	130.0	2.3	9.9
Replacing sinks -----	Dec. 63	140.4	139.0	1.0	9.5
Repairing furnaces -----	Dec. 63	142.8	141.2	1.1	11.0
Fuel and utilities -----		113.3	113.0	.3	2.5
Fuel oil and coal -----		118.1	117.7	.3	2.0
Fuel oil, #2 -----		115.4	115.2	.2	1.8
Gas and electricity -----		112.0	111.5	.4	2.5
Gas -----		116.7	116.1	.5	2.0
Electricity -----		106.8	106.4	.4	2.9
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services -----		103.6	103.6	.0	1.1
Residential water and sewerage services -----		145.3	145.3	.0	7.5
Household furnishings and operation <u>4/</u> -----		119.0	118.5	.4	4.5
Housefurnishings -----		109.9	109.4	.5	4.3
Textiles -----		115.2	113.8	1.2	3.9
Sheets, percale or muslin -----		119.8	116.2	3.1	.8
Curtains, tailored, polyester marquisette -----		112.0	112.0	.0	4.6
Bedspreads, chiefly cotton, tufted -----		116.9	115.7	1.0	3.6
Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate -----		124.5	125.0	-.4	5.5
Pillows, bed, polyester or acrylic filling -----	Dec. 63	108.8	104.7	3.9	3.3
Slipcovers, ready made, chiefly cotton -----	Dec. 63	110.0	110.3	-.3	5.4
Furniture and bedding -----		122.9	122.4	.4	5.9
Bedroom suites, good or inexpensive quality -----		127.2	125.8	1.1	7.2
Living room suites, good and inexpensive quality -----		124.9	124.8	.1	4.7
Lounge chairs, upholstered -----	Dec. 63	119.0	117.9	.9	8.2
Dining room suites -----	Dec. 63	127.5	126.0	1.2	6.0
Sofas, upholstered -----	Dec. 63	114.8	115.1	-.3	3.8
Sofas, dual purpose -----		118.8	118.6	.2	6.3
Sleep sets, Hollywood bed type -----	Dec. 63	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)
Box springs -----	Dec. 63	123.7	123.2	.4	6.7
Aluminum folding chairs <u>6/</u> -----	June 64	(6/)	108.4	(6/)	(6/)
Cribs -----	Dec. 63	117.1	118.0	-.8	4.8
Floor coverings -----		107.0	106.3	.7	1.9
Rugs, soft surface -----		104.9	104.1	.8	1.5
Rugs, hard surface -----		111.8	111.6	.2	2.7
Tile, vinyl -----	Dec. 63	109.3	108.5	.7	2.6
Appliances <u>7/</u> -----	Dec. 63	86.0	86.0	.0	.9
Washing machines, electric, automatic -----		91.0	90.8	.2	2.0
Vacuum cleaners, canister type -----		81.3	82.1	-1.0	1.1
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers electric -----		85.8	85.7	.1	2.0
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----		98.1	98.2	-.1	2.5
Clothes dryers, electric, automatic -----	Dec. 63	99.6	99.7	-.1	1.9
Air conditioners, demountable <u>6/</u> -----	June 64	(6/)	99.8	(6/)	(6/)
Room heaters, electric, portable <u>6/</u> -----	Dec. 63	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Garbage disposal units -----	Dec. 63	104.3	103.9	.4	1.8
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, earthenware -----		134.3	133.5	.6	4.2
Flatware, stainless steel -----	Dec. 63	119.8	119.6	.2	3.0
Table lamps, with shade -----	Dec. 63	116.0	115.4	.5	6.8
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type <u>6/</u> -----	June 64	(6/)	115.9	(6/)	(6/)
Electric drills, hand held -----	Dec. 63	103.8	103.7	.1	3.9
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents -----		107.4	107.4	.0	1.1
Paper napkins -----		128.6	128.0	.5	2.7
Toilet tissue -----		120.7	119.1	1.3	4.4
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic service, general housework -----		175.1	173.9	.7	7.6
Baby sitter service -----	Dec. 63	135.6	134.9	.5	7.2
Postal charges -----		165.5	165.5	.0	2.2
Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----	Dec. 63	142.7	141.4	.9	8.7
Licensed day care service, preschool child -----	Dec. 63	130.3	129.7	.5	4.7
Washing machine repairs -----	Dec. 63	134.4	133.5	.7	9.1

TABLE 8: Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers -- Continued
Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, September 1969

and Percent Changes from Selected Dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent change to September 1969 From:	
		September 1969	August 1969	August 1969	September 1968
Apparel and upkeep 8/ -----		128.7	126.6	1.7	5.3
Apparel commodities -----		128.1	125.9	1.7	5.4
Apparel commodities less footwear -----		125.3	122.8	2.0	5.3
Men's and boys' -----		130.0	128.7	1.0	5.5
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool 6/ -----		144.0	(6/)	(6/)	5.1
Suits, year round weight -----		154.5	150.7	2.5	9.3
Suits, tropical weight 6/ -----	June 64	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Jackets, lightweight -----	Dec. 63	125.2	125.0	.2	4.7
Slacks, wool or wool blend -----		128.9	127.1	1.4	4.4
Slacks, cotton or manmade blend -----		115.2	114.5	.6	8.9
Trousers, work, cotton -----		116.9	116.8	.1	3.6
Shirts, work, cotton -----		123.2	123.3	-.1	3.4
Shirts, business, cotton -----		121.8	121.6	.2	2.3
T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----		130.6	130.6	.0	3.4
Socks, cotton -----		121.6	121.6	.0	4.6
Handkerchiefs, cotton -----	Dec. 63	112.7	112.4	.3	5.3
Boy's:					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend 6/ -----	Dec. 63	113.5	(6/)	(6/)	1.6
Sport coats, wool or wool blend 6/ -----	Dec. 63	122.5	(6/)	(6/)	6.3
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend -----		127.4	127.4	.0	5.2
Undershirts, cotton -----		126.9	128.4	.4	5.5
Women's and girls' -----		124.6	120.8	3.1	5.1
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blend 6/ -----		136.0	(6/)	(6/)	5.5
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton 6/ -----	Dec. 63	135.4	(6/)	(6/)	6.6
Sweaters, wool or acrylic 6/ -----	Dec. 63	117.1	(6/)	(6/)	2.8
Skirts, wool or wool blend 6/ -----	Sept. 61	129.4	(6/)	(6/)	10.1
Skirts, cotton or cotton blend 6/ -----	Mar. 62	(6/)	121.8	(6/)	(6/)
Blouses, cotton -----		122.7	122.2	.4	3.0
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber -----		152.5	147.3	3.5	8.1
Dresses, street, wool or wool blend 6/ -----		140.8	(6/)	(6/)	8.1
Dresses, street, cotton 6/ -----		(6/)	136.6	(6/)	(6/)
Housedresses, cotton -----		149.0	150.0	-.7	15.0
Slips, nylon -----		111.9	111.6	.3	2.6
Panties, acetate -----		109.9	109.1	.7	3.5
Girdles, manmade blend -----		119.5	119.4	.1	5.9
Brassieres, cotton -----	Dec. 63	122.9	122.5	.3	4.2
Hose, nylon seamless -----		99.2	98.8	.4	.2
Anklets, cotton -----	Dec. 63	118.4	118.2	.2	4.7
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----	Dec. 63	109.0	109.3	-.3	3.5
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----	Dec. 63	114.8	114.1	.6	7.5
Girl's:					
Raincoats, vinyl plastic or chiefly cotton 6/ -----	Dec. 63	120.8	(6/)	(6/)	1.7
Skirts, wool or wool blend 6/ -----		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Dresses, cotton -----		136.9	135.4	1.1	8.1
Slacks, cotton 6/ -----	Dec. 63	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Slips, cotton blend -----	Dec. 63	107.7	108.0	-.3	1.7
Robes, duster style, quilted tricot or percale 6/ -----	Dec. 63	119.2	(6/)	(6/)	4.2
Handbags -----	Dec. 63	108.9	108.3	.6	5.6
Footwear -----		142.3	141.5	.6	6.2
Men's:					
Shoes, street, oxford -----		140.1	138.7	1.0	6.1
Shoes, work, high -----		138.4	138.1	.2	6.0
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump -----		150.8	149.9	.6	6.4
Shoes, evening, pump -----	Dec. 63	122.3	121.8	.4	6.5
Shoes, casual, pump -----	Dec. 63	129.6	128.9	.5	6.8
Houseslipppers, scuff -----	Dec. 63	126.4	125.4	.8	7.3
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford -----		141.4	140.7	.5	4.7
Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----	Dec. 63	118.9	118.1	.7	4.5
Dress shoes, girls', strap -----	Dec. 63	134.1	133.1	.8	7.3
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze -----		103.9	104.0	-.1	2.7
Yard goods, cotton -----		123.2	123.2	.0	9.4
Wrist watches, men's and women's -----	Dec. 63	102.7	102.5	.2	4.7
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses -----		132.0	131.7	.2	4.6
Automatic laundry service -----	Dec. 63	111.3	111.0	.3	4.3
Laundry, men's shirts -----	Dec. 63	123.4	123.2	.2	4.7
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment -----	Dec. 63	126.5	125.4	.9	7.6
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift -----		123.1	121.3	1.5	2.8

TABLE 8: Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers -- Continued
Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, September 1969

and Percent Changes from Selected Dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent change to September 1969 From:	
		September 1969	August 1969	August 1969	September 1968
Transportation -----		123.6	124.2	-.5	3.4
Private 9/ -----		120.5	121.3	-.7	2.8
Automobiles, new -----		99.5	101.0	-1.5	1.1
Automobiles, used -----		121.4	125.4	-3.2	-4.2
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		117.7	118.0	-.3	3.3
Motor oil, premium -----		139.1	138.7	.3	4.5
Tires, new, tubeless -----		117.0	116.0	.9	4.5
Auto repairs and maintenance 10/ -----		135.2	134.5	.5	6.5
Auto insurance rates -----		163.2	160.3	1.8	10.6
Auto registration -----		134.2	134.2	.0	5.3
Parking fees, private and municipal -----	Dec. 63	120.0	119.8	.2	6.3
Public -----		150.3	149.7	.4	8.4
Local transit fares -----		161.7	160.8	.6	9.4
Taxicab fares -----	Dec. 63	127.5	127.5	.0	3.7
Railroad fares, coach -----		115.1	114.9	.2	7.2
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----	Dec. 63	111.6	112.1	-.4	8.0
Bus fares, intercity -----	Dec. 63	127.0	122.9	3.3	8.5
Health and recreation -----		138.4	137.7	.5	5.6
Medical care -----		157.6	156.8	.5	7.7
Drugs and prescriptions -----		99.3	99.3	.0	1.3
Over-the-counter items -----	Dec. 63	106.9	107.0	-.1	.6
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----	Dec. 63	92.4	92.4	.0	-1.6
Aspirin compounds -----	Dec. 63	105.5	106.8	-1.2	.2
Liquid tonics -----	Dec. 63	100.9	100.9	.0	.0
Adhesive bandages, package -----	Dec. 63	117.0	116.5	.4	1.7
Cold tablets or capsules -----	Dec. 63	109.1	109.2	-.1	1.0
Cough syrup -----	Dec. 63	115.1	114.8	.3	1.4
Prescriptions -----		88.8	88.7	.1	2.1
Anti-infectives -----	Mar. 60	62.9	62.9	.0	.8
Sedatives and hypnotics -----	Mar. 60	107.8	107.6	.2	5.8
Ataractics -----	Mar. 60	89.8	89.7	.1	.1
Anti-spasmodics -----	Mar. 60	101.2	101.0	.2	.8
Cough preparations -----	Mar. 60	111.1	110.8	.3	7.8
Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives -----	Mar. 60	97.7	97.6	.1	3.6
Analgesics, internal -----	Mar. 67	103.1	103.1	.0	2.2
Anti-obesity -----	Mar. 67	103.6	103.3	.3	4.8
Hormones -----	Mar. 67	93.9	93.9	.0	.0
Professional services:					
Physicians' fees -----		158.0	156.8	.8	7.8
Family doctor, office visits -----		160.3	158.7	1.0	8.2
Family doctor, house visits -----		165.6	163.9	1.0	7.3
Obstetrical cases -----		153.2	152.8	.3	8.1
Pediatric care, office visits -----	Dec. 63	144.1	142.8	.9	10.7
Psychiatrist, office visits -----	Dec. 63	131.7	130.9	.6	9.2
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----	Dec. 63	124.6	124.3	.2	3.9
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		149.1	149.0	.1	5.4
Dentists' fees -----		146.0	145.5	.3	7.4
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		147.1	146.4	.5	8.0
Extractions, adult -----		145.3	144.7	.4	7.9
Dentures, full upper -----	Dec. 63	128.9	128.8	.1	5.9
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		132.4	132.2	.2	4.7
Routine laboratory tests -----	Dec. 63	118.5	118.6	-.1	3.7
Hospital service charges:					
Daily service charges -----		261.9	259.9	.8	13.0
Semiprivate rooms -----		258.4	256.3	.8	13.5
Private rooms -----		252.6	250.8	.7	12.2
Operating room charges -----	Dec. 63	168.7	167.5	.7	15.2
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----	Dec. 63	124.6	123.2	1.1	5.1
Personal care -----		127.3	126.8	.4	4.8
Toilet goods -----		111.7	111.4	.3	4.7
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		113.8	113.4	.4	6.6
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		126.3	123.3	2.4	2.5
Hand lotions, liquid -----	Dec. 63	111.1	111.2	-.1	10.3
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		102.1	102.1	.0	-.7
Face powder, pressed -----		126.8	126.6	.2	5.5
Deodorants, cream or roll-on -----	Dec. 63	95.3	95.5	-.2	2.9
Cleansing tissues -----		108.4	109.3	-.8	2.5
Home permanent refills -----		99.2	99.1	.1	8.4
Personal care services -----		146.5	145.8	.5	4.9
Men's haircuts -----		154.8	154.5	.2	5.4
Beauty shop services -----		137.5	136.6	.7	4.6
Women's haircuts -----	Dec. 63	123.2	121.9	1.1	4.3
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		154.6	153.6	.7	5.5
Permanent waves, cold -----		107.0	106.9	.1	2.6

**TABLE 8: Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers -- Continued**

Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, September 1969

and Percent Changes from Selected Dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and Group	Other Index Bases	Indexes		Percent change to September 1969 From:	
		September 1969	August 1969	August 1969	September 1968
Reading and recreation ^{11/} -----		131.6	131.2	0.3	3.9
Recreational goods -----	Dec. 63	99.0	98.8	.2	1.6
TV sets, portable and console -----		80.0	79.7	.4	- .5
TV replacement tubes -----	Dec. 63	115.7	115.4	.3	4.3
Radios, portable and table model -----		76.9	76.5	.5	.0
Tape recorders, portable -----	Dec. 63	91.5	91.4	.1	.0
Phonograph records, stereophonic -----	Dec. 63	97.6	97.7	-.1	1.1
Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens -----	Dec. 63	83.5	83.4	.1	-2.3
Film, 35mm, color -----	Dec. 63	99.6	99.2	.4	.9
Golf balls, liquid center -----	Dec. 63	103.2	103.2	.0	-.4
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----	Dec. 63	114.8	115.0	-.2	6.5
Fishing rods, fresh water spincast -----	Dec. 63	118.2	118.1	.1	3.1
Bowling balls -----	Dec. 63	99.2	98.7	.5	1.8
Bicycle, boys' -----	Dec. 63	109.9	109.5	.4	3.3
Tricycles -----	Dec. 63	111.6	111.2	.4	3.6
Dog food, canned or boxed -----	Dec. 63	108.4	108.6	-.2	1.6
Recreational services -----	Dec. 63	131.7	131.1	.5	5.3
Indoor movie admissions -----		206.5	204.2	1.1	10.2
Adult -----		201.6	198.8	1.4	9.8
Children's -----		223.2	222.1	.5	11.4
Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----	Dec. 63	164.1	163.5	.4	8.2
Bowling fees, evening -----	Dec. 63	110.9	110.3	.5	3.4
Golf greens fees -----	Dec. 63	135.9	135.8	.1	6.3
TV repairs, picture tube replacement -----		101.0	101.0	.0	-2.3
Film developing, black and white -----	Dec. 63	118.3	118.4	-.1	-.8
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----		155.9	155.8	.1	4.5
Magazines, single copy and subscription -----	Dec. 63	126.3	126.3	.0	7.9
Piano lessons, beginner -----	Dec. 63	126.1	123.8	1.9	6.2
Other goods and services -----		131.3	130.1	.9	5.5
Tobacco products -----		150.6	148.7	1.3	7.2
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----		158.0	155.8	1.4	7.3
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----	Mar. 59	150.0	148.1	1.3	7.6
Cigars, domestic, regular size -----		109.6	108.7	.8	4.6
Alcoholic beverages -----		119.1	118.2	.8	4.3
Beer -----		116.4	115.3	1.0	3.7
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon -----		110.4	110.1	.3	1.5
Wine, dessert and table -----	Dec. 63	112.0	110.6	1.3	5.5
Away from home -----	Dec. 63	123.0	122.3	.6	6.1
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult -----	Dec. 63	116.5	115.9	.5	4.6
Bank service charges, checking accounts -----	Dec. 63	108.3	108.4	-.1	1.4
Legal services, short form will -----	Dec. 63	138.8	137.8	.7	11.2
Other special groups:					
All items less shelter -----		127.6	127.1	.4	5.0
Commodities less food -----		118.7	118.2	.4	4.2
Nondurables less food and apparel -----		122.2	121.7	.4	4.1
Household services less rent -----		149.5	148.2	.9	9.1
Transportation services -----		144.0	143.1	.6	7.6
Other services -----		147.2	146.5	.5	4.9

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

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

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

^{4/} Also includes venetian blinds, nails, carpet sweepers, air deodorizers, steel wool scouring pads, envelopes, reupholstering, and moving expenses.

^{5/} Discontinued

^{6/} Priced only in season.

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

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

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

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

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

Reliability of Percent Changes in the CPI

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

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

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

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

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

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

Brief Explanation of the CPI

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

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

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

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

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

*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

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

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

BLS Regional Offices

1371 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30309	341 Ninth Avenue New York, New York 10001	219 South Dearborn Street Chicago, Illinois 60604
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