

November 1968

*the consumer price index*

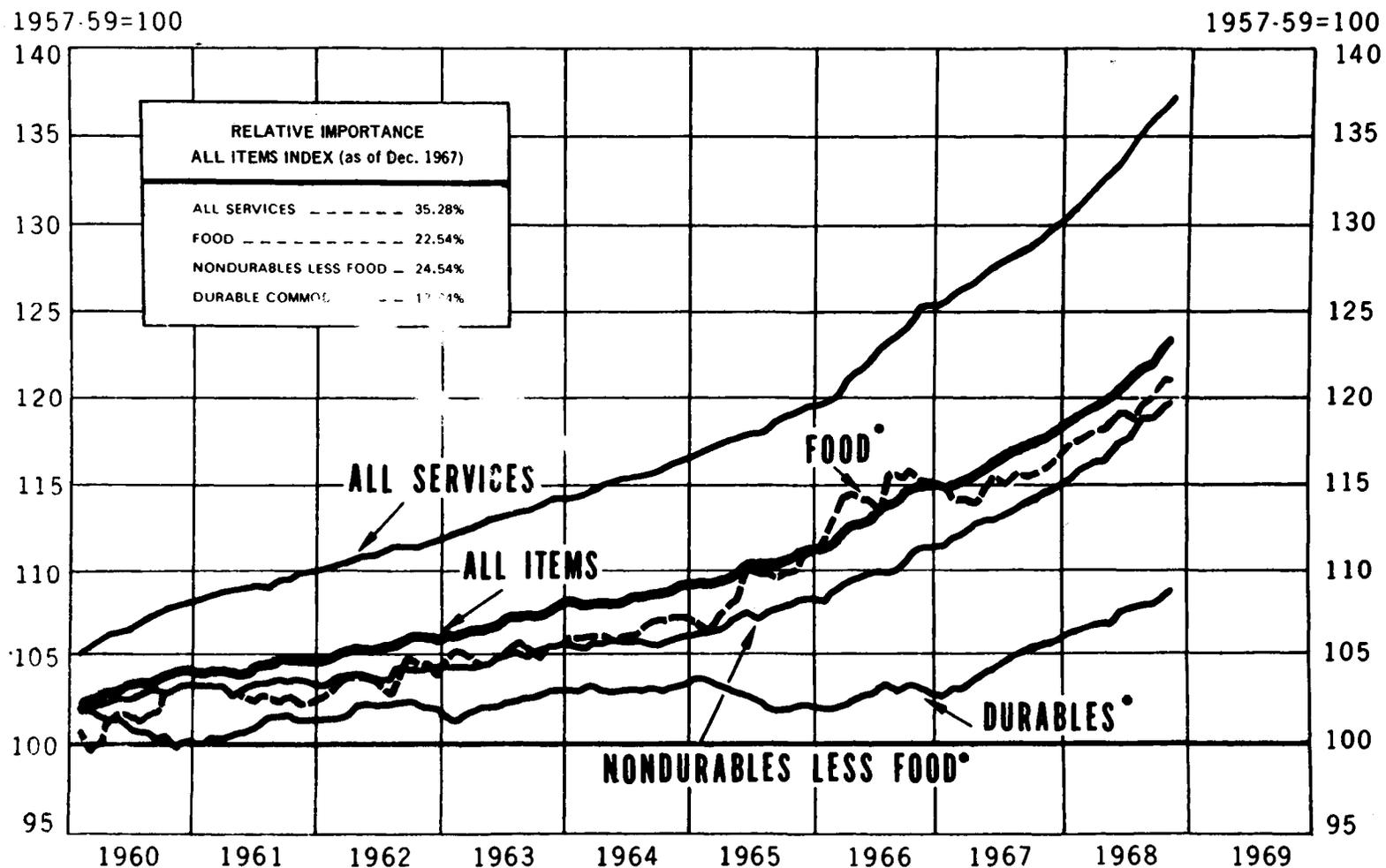
U S CITY AVERAGE  
AND  
SELECTED AREAS

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

Latest Data: November 1968

Released December 27, 1968

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Washington, D. C. 20212

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR NOVEMBER 1968

The Consumer Price Index continued to climb in November. It rose 0.4 percent to 123.4 (1957-59=100), for an increase of 4.8 percent since November 1967. Leading the upswing were higher housing costs, particularly home ownership costs, which accounted for about three-fifths of the November increase. Higher prices also were recorded for apparel, new cars, and all types of consumer services, but retail food prices declined.

The 4.4 percent advance in consumer prices that has been registered thus far this year is considerably higher than the 2.7 percent increase that occurred in the first 11 months of 1967. The more rapid rate of advance is attributable largely to food prices which have climbed 3.7 percent this year compared with only 0.7 percent during the same 1967 period. Charges for consumer services also have gained at an accelerated pace, as have non-durables other than food, chiefly apparel. Durable goods have advanced at a rate only fractionally higher than in 11 months in 1967; the increase largely reflects higher prices for houses and new cars.

Food

Retail food prices posted only their second monthly decline of the year in November, and the 0.3 percent drop was slightly less than usual for the month. Grocery store food prices fell seasonally, 0.5 percent; prices of restaurant meals continued to advance, but at a somewhat slower pace than in recent months.

Egg prices were down sharply as a result of increased production and an unusual upturn in cold storage holdings, but they still remained nearly 23 higher than their year ago level. Meats, poultry, and fish prices did not decline as much as expected for this season despite a substantial decline in pork prices. Strong consumer demand forced beef and veal prices contraseasonally higher in spite of expanded production and larger cold storage holdings. "Other" meats averaged fractionally lower, chiefly on the strength of lower prices for lamb chops and liver sausage. Poultry prices dropped 1.4 percent on the average; frying chickens accounted for most of the drop, a reflection of ample supplies.

Fresh vegetable price changes were mixed but generally higher, largely as a result of marketing delays caused by unfavorable weather in Florida in mid-October. Limited supplies resulted in price increases of 35 percent for cucumbers, 24 percent for tomatoes, 15 percent for green peppers, and 6 percent for celery. Firm demand and tight supplies caused a 3-1/2 percent rise in potato prices, but good stocks of lettuce, spinach, and onions resulted in price decreases for these items. Until the recent freezing weather in Florida, citrus fruit production was running well ahead of last season's level and the potentially large crop, along with heavy supplies of bananas, was instrumental in the overall decline in fresh fruit prices in November. Dairy product prices continued to advance primarily due to the year's short milk supplies.

Services

The cost of consumer services rose 0.6 percent in November, a slightly faster rate of increase than the 0.5 percent average since the beginning of the year. The increases in November were widespread, and nearly all services were affected. Total costs of owning and maintaining a home climbed 0.8 percent, and the service elements of home ownership costs accounted for nearly two-thirds of the increase in service costs. Mortgage interest charges were sharply higher but were mainly a reflection of higher house prices as

interest rates showed little change. Water and sewerage service bills were substantially higher in a number of cities, especially New York. The introduction of winter rate schedules in several cities resulted in significantly higher bills for gas. Insurance rates edged higher; home decoration and repair services continued their long-term uptrend.

Rents averaged 0.3 percent more, as extensive, and in some cases, unusually large increases were posted. Other household and housekeeping services also moved ahead briskly, as acute shortages led to increases for domestic service, and parcel post rates were increased.

Medical care services, led by a 1 percent rise in hospital services, were up 0.5 percent, the result of constantly rising wages and costs of new equipment. The cost of professional services rose 0.5 percent as doctors' and dentists' fees maintained their steady increase.

Charges for recreational services advanced, as movie admissions and bowling fees were higher. Increased local transit charges in several cities almost entirely accounted for the 0.5 percent rise in public transportation.

#### Durable Goods

So far this year durable goods prices have advanced 3.0 percent. More than half of the increase came in October and November, chiefly because of higher house and new car prices. Selling prices of new cars rose 1.0 percent, slightly less than is customary for November, but they were 2.4 percent higher than a year ago, the effect of higher prices and slightly lower concessions for 1969 models.

Household durables prices, which have been relatively stable for several years, also registered a fairly substantial gain, and continued the accelerated rate of advance that became evident this year. Furniture prices jumped 0.7 percent in November; particularly large increases were reported for upholstered furniture which was in strong demand. Appliance prices also crept higher, although television sets averaged unchanged when lower color television prices offset slightly higher prices for monochrome sets.

#### Nondurable Goods Other than Food

Nondurables less food registered a greater-than-seasonal gain in November, but the rate of advance was somewhat slower than the pace of the preceding two months. Apparel commodities led the increase in nondurables and continued their strong upward trend with a rise of 0.6 percent. Men's and boys' fall and winter wear recorded the largest increases, but women's apparel and footwear were also higher. Household textiles, including sheets, drapery fabrics, and bedspreads, were appreciably higher in response to increased manufacturing and retailing costs and very strong consumer demand.

Changes in the retail prices of gasoline and motor oil were mostly minor; most of the 0.3 percent average rise for this item was accounted for by the end of price wars in several cities and subsequent return to "normal" prices.

#### Cost-of-Living Adjustments

About 142,000 workers will receive pay increases as a result of changes reflected in the November Consumer Price Index. Over half of the workers (75,000), in the meat packing industry, will receive 8 cents an hour based on the change in the national index over the past six months. For workers in other industries, increases will range from 1 to 8 cents an hour based on quarterly, semi-annual, or annual changes in the national and city indexes.

NOTE:

Change in Publication Policy Concerning Item Indexes

Beginning with January 1969 data, the detailed item indexes, now published quarterly in the report, "Consumer Price Indexes for Selected Items and Groups," will be published monthly in this report on the Consumer Price Index. The monthly figures for March, June, September, and December will be consistent both with the other months' indexes and with the information published previously in our quarterly reports. The last quarterly report to be published by BLS will show quarterly indexes for December 1968 and the 1968 annual average.

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

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)					Percent change to November 1968 from--				
	November 1968		October 1968		November 1967	October 1968		August 1968		November 1967
	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
All items -----	123.4	-----	122.9	-----	117.8	0.4	-----	1.2	-----	4.8
Food -----	120.5	121.0	120.9	120.9	115.6	-.3	0.1	0	1.1	4.2
Food at home -----	116.6	117.2	117.2	117.2	112.3	-.5	0	-.4	1.2	3.8
Cereals and bakery products -----	120.1	-----	119.8	-----	118.4	-.3	-----	.4	-----	1.4
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	114.6	114.6	115.4	114.3	111.4	-.7	.3	-.6	.5	2.9
Dairy products -----	122.6	121.9	122.3	121.7	117.8	-.2	.2	.9	.2	4.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	123.8	128.0	123.4	128.4	116.7	-.3	-.3	-3.4	1.9	6.1
Other foods at home -----	106.7	106.2	108.6	107.3	101.5	-1.7	-1.0	1.1	.9	5.1
Food away from home -----	139.4	-----	138.9	-----	132.0	.4	-----	1.6	-----	5.6
Housing -----	121.7	-----	120.9	-----	115.5	.7	-----	1.3	-----	5.4
Shelter <sup>1/</sup> -----	126.9	-----	126.0	-----	119.4	.7	-----	1.5	-----	6.3
Rent -----	116.3	-----	116.0	-----	113.2	.3	-----	.8	-----	2.7
Homeownership <sup>2/</sup> -----	131.1	-----	130.0	-----	121.9	.8	-----	1.8	-----	7.5
Fuel and utilities <sup>3/</sup> -----	111.3	111.2	110.4	110.3	109.3	.8	.8	.5	.3	1.8
Fuel oil and coal <sup>4/</sup> -----	115.9	115.6	115.9	116.4	112.7	0	-.7	.2	-1.8	2.8
Gas and electricity -----	109.9	-----	109.1	-----	109.0	.7	-----	.2	-----	.8
Household furnishings and operation -	114.8	-----	114.2	-----	109.3	.5	-----	1.3	-----	5.0
Apparel and upkeep <sup>5/</sup> -----	124.0	123.3	123.3	122.7	116.6	.6	.5	3.1	1.9	6.3
Men's and boys' -----	125.0	124.1	124.1	123.6	116.6	.7	.4	3.1	2.0	7.2
Women's and girls' -----	120.7	119.4	120.1	118.9	113.5	.5	.4	4.2	2.5	6.3
Footwear -----	135.7	135.3	134.9	134.5	127.6	.6	.6	2.0	1.5	6.7
Transportation -----	121.2	120.7	120.6	120.4	118.3	.5	.2	1.0	.6	2.5
Private -----	118.9	118.3	118.4	118.2	116.2	.4	.1	1.0	.5	2.3
Public -----	139.4	-----	138.7	-----	134.6	.5	-----	.6	-----	3.6
Health and recreation -----	132.4	-----	131.9	-----	126.2	.4	-----	1.5	-----	4.9
Medical care -----	148.2	-----	147.4	-----	139.7	.5	-----	1.9	-----	6.1
Personal care -----	122.8	-----	122.1	-----	116.9	.6	-----	1.6	-----	5.0
Reading and recreation -----	128.0	-----	127.5	-----	122.0	.4	-----	1.3	-----	4.9
Other goods and services <sup>6/</sup> -----	125.4	-----	125.1	-----	121.0	.2	-----	1.0	-----	3.6
<b>Special groups:</b>										
All items less shelter -----	122.5	-----	122.2	-----	117.5	-.2	-----	1.1	-----	4.3
All items less food -----	124.4	-----	123.8	-----	118.7	.5	-----	1.5	-----	4.8
All items less medical care -----	121.9	-----	121.5	-----	116.5	.3	-----	1.2	-----	4.6
Commodities <sup>7/</sup> -----	117.1	117.0	116.8	116.6	112.6	.3	.3	1.0	1.0	4.0
Nondurables -----	120.3	120.4	120.2	120.1	115.3	.1	.2	.9	1.2	4.3
Durables <sup>7/ 8/</sup> -----	109.3	108.9	108.5	108.3	106.0	.7	.6	1.5	1.0	3.1
Services <sup>9/</sup> -----	137.4	-----	136.6	-----	129.6	.6	-----	1.4	-----	6.0
Commodities less food <sup>7/</sup> -----	115.3	114.8	114.7	114.5	111.1	.5	.3	1.6	1.0	3.8
Nondurables less food -----	120.2	119.7	119.7	119.5	115.2	.4	.2	1.8	1.0	4.3
Apparel commodities -----	123.4	122.4	122.7	122.0	115.7	.6	.3	3.3	1.7	6.7
Apparel commodities less footwear -	121.0	119.9	120.3	119.5	113.4	.6	.3	3.6	1.9	6.7
Nondurables less food and apparel -	118.3	-----	117.9	-----	114.8	.3	-----	.9	-----	3.0
New cars -----	103.8	101.9	102.8	102.0	101.4	1.0	-.1	4.7	1.5	2.4
Used cars -----	(10/)	(10/)	(10/)	(10/)	125.6	(10/)	(10/)	(10/)	(10/)	(10/)
Household durables <sup>11/</sup> -----	102.8	-----	102.3	-----	98.8	.5	-----	1.2	-----	4.0
Housefurnishings -----	106.5	106.5	105.9	105.9	101.8	.6	.6	1.5	1.2	4.6
Services less rent <sup>9/</sup> -----	142.0	-----	141.2	-----	133.2	.6	-----	1.4	-----	6.6
Household services less rent -----	138.5	-----	137.6	-----	128.6	.7	-----	1.3	-----	7.7
Transportation services -----	135.2	-----	134.6	-----	130.0	.4	-----	1.2	-----	4.0
Medical care services -----	160.3	-----	159.4	-----	149.6	.6	-----	2.0	-----	7.2
Other services <sup>12/</sup> -----	141.5	-----	140.9	-----	133.9	.4	-----	1.3	-----	5.7
All items index on other bases:										
1947-49=100 -----	151.4	-----	150.9	-----	144.5	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1939=100 -----	254.8	-----	253.9	-----	243.3	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar:										
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	\$0.810	-----	\$0.814	-----	\$0.849	-.5	-----	1.2	-----	-4.6
1947-49=\$1.00 -----	.661	-----	.663	-----	.692	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1939=\$1.00 -----	.392	-----	.394	-----	.411	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<sup>10/</sup> Not available due to insufficient data.

<sup>11/</sup> Called "Durables less cars" prior to 1964.

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

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

Area <u>1/</u>	Pricing Schedule <u>2/</u>	Indexes			Percent change from:		
		1957-59=100	1947-49=100	Other bases	October 1968	August 1968	November 1967
		November 1968			October 1968	August 1968	November 1967
U.S. City Average -----	M	123.4	151.4		0.4	1.2	4.8
Chicago -----	M	120.3	151.7		.1	.8	4.2
Detroit -----	M	122.1	150.5		.3	1.2	5.3
Los Angeles-Long Beach ---	M	124.2	154.8		.3	1.1	3.5
New York -----	M	126.9	152.9		.3	1.4	5.5
Philadelphia -----	M	124.9	153.3		.3	1.5	5.3
		October 1968				July 1968	October 1967
Boston -----	1	126.6	156.9			1.5	4.8
Houston -----	1	121.1	149.2			1.5	4.8
Minneapolis-St. Paul ----	1	122.0	151.0			.2	3.0
Pittsburgh -----	1	122.6	151.1			2.2	6.1
		November 1968				August 1968	November 1967
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) ---	2	121.8	151.3	116.9		1.0	5.1
Cleveland -----	2					1.5	6.2
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) ----	2			115.4		1.5	5.8
Milwaukee -----	2	118.7	149.7			1.1	3.7
San Diego (Feb.1965=100) -	2			111.2		1.1	4.4
Seattle -----	2	124.5	156.4			1.1	4.4
Washington -----	2	124.9	150.3			1.5	6.0
		September 1968				June 1968	September 1967
Atlanta -----	3	121.2	150.0			1.8	4.8
Baltimore -----	3	122.4	151.9			1.5	4.1
Cincinnati -----	3	120.3	146.4			1.4	4.9
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100) --	3			112.8		1.2	4.1
Kansas City -----	3	124.4	154.0			.2	3.6
St. Louis -----	3	122.7	152.3			1.2	4.2
San Francisco-Oakland ----	3	125.5	159.3			1.0	4.2

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

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

M - Every month.

1 - January, April, July, and October.

2 - February, May, August, and November.

3 - March, June, September, and December.

TABLE 3: Consumer Price Index—The United States and Selected Areas <sup>1/</sup>  
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Major Groups  
Percent change from October 1968 to November 1968

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Food -----	.3	.7	.8	.3	.3	.3
Housing -----	.7	.3	.8	.4	.6	.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	.6	.3	.8	.2	.5	.2
Transportation -----	.5	.3	.6	1.2	.3	.8
Health and recreation -----	.4	.5	.4	.5	.4	.3
Medical care -----	.5	.9	.1	.3	.3	.1
Personal care -----	.6	.3	1.1	.5	1.2	.3
Reading and recreation -----	.4	.2	.6	.1	0	1.0
Other goods and services -----	.2	.3	.4	1.0	.4	(2/)

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

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

TABLE 4: Consumer Price Index—United States City Average  
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers  
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:											
	Nov.	123.4	120.5	121.7	124.0	121.2	132.4	148.2	122.8	128.0	125.4
	Oct.	122.9	120.9	120.9	123.3	120.6	131.9	147.4	122.1	127.5	125.1
	Sept.	122.2	120.4	120.4	122.2	119.5	131.1	146.4	121.5	126.7	124.4
	Aug.	121.9	120.5	120.1	120.3	120.0	130.5	145.5	120.9	126.3	124.2
	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
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 <sup>1/</sup>  
 For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups  
 November 1968 indexes and percent changes from August 1968

Group	U.S. City Average	Buffalo (Nov.1963=100)	Chicago	Cleveland	Dallas (Nov.1963=100)	Detroit	Los Angeles- Long Beach
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)							
All items -----	123.4	116.9	120.3	121.8	115.4	122.1	124.2
Food -----	120.5	115.7	121.7	118.6	114.9	118.3	118.4
Food at home -----	116.6	113.9	119.5	115.5	112.2	115.2	112.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	120.1	107.1	125.3	116.0	110.6	115.5	119.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	114.6	112.4	116.6	117.2	114.5	117.9	105.0
Dairy products -----	122.6	118.9	135.1	120.9	121.4	128.3	119.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	123.8	120.4	120.6	122.8	110.4	112.0	131.1
Other foods at home -----	106.7	111.2	107.4	104.0	106.7	103.3	98.4
Food away from home -----	139.4	126.8	132.0	136.3	125.3	135.6	139.6
Housing -----	121.7	115.8	116.5	117.5	114.4	118.1	126.4
Shelter -----	126.9	118.9	119.6	118.9	118.1	123.1	133.8
Rent -----	116.3	107.6	111.5	105.0	105.2	-----	116.1
Homeownership -----	131.1	121.0	123.5	121.4	124.4	127.1	139.6
Fuel and utilities -----	111.3	2/ 109.6	106.5	114.5	104.6	103.3	107.0
Fuel oil and coal -----	115.9	108.4	108.7	-----	-----	106.4	-----
Gas and electricity -----	109.9	3/ 110.6	104.2	115.0	100.3	104.5	112.5
Household furnishings and operation -----	114.8	111.9	114.2	112.0	112.4	110.5	113.6
Apparel and upkeep -----	124.0	123.7	119.5	121.3	116.0	122.9	122.2
Men's and boys' -----	125.0	124.6	117.9	127.5	121.7	121.8	125.1
Women's and girls' -----	120.7	124.9	116.3	112.7	114.0	121.2	122.1
Footwear -----	135.7	128.9	131.9	135.0	114.9	133.0	131.9
Transportation -----	121.2	112.8	118.5	124.1	110.9	120.3	127.2
Private -----	118.9	113.4	117.8	119.9	110.6	117.6	122.7
Public -----	139.4	106.1	124.2	151.6	114.5	137.2	154.5
Health and recreation -----	132.4	119.9	127.1	133.6	120.0	134.6	126.1
Medical care -----	148.2	123.1	155.5	163.0	126.2	156.1	143.9
Personal care -----	122.8	113.8	122.1	118.5	118.3	130.1	116.9
Reading and recreation -----	128.0	119.1	111.3	120.8	118.5	127.4	112.9
Other goods and services -----	125.4	121.0	118.2	127.6	112.8	120.4	122.6
Percent changes August 1968 to November 1968							
All items -----	1.2	1.0	0.8	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.1
Food -----	0	.6	.5	.1	.4	.6	.5
Food at home -----	-.4	-.7	-1.1	-.3	-.4	-.9	-.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	.4	1.9	1.9	1.7	.7	.4	-.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	-.6	-1.7	-.6	-.6	-.3	-.8	-1.1
Dairy products -----	.9	2.4	.4	.4	-.4	.2	-.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	-3.4	-6.7	-8.2	-4.4	-2.4	-4.8	3.5
Other foods at home -----	1.1	1.4	.8	2.2	1.2	.6	1.5
Food away from home -----	1.6	.4	2.1	.5	2.4	.7	.8
Housing -----	1.3	1.9	.4	2.0	2.0	2.2	1.4
Shelter -----	1.5	3.7	.7	2.3	1.9	2.9	1.3
Rent -----	.8	.9	4/ .5	.2	.9	-----	4/ .6
Homeownership -----	1.8	4.2	.7	2.7	2.4	3.4	1.4
Fuel and utilities -----	.5	-2.1	-1.9	.2	.8	-.2	.9
Fuel oil and coal -----	.2	0	.2	-----	-----	0	-----
Gas and electricity -----	.2	-3.5	-3.7	.3	1.2	-.4	.2
Household furnishings and operation -----	1.3	.6	1.0	1.8	2.8	1.1	1.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	3.1	1.1	3.8	1.8	2.0	3.5	2.1
Men's and boys' -----	3.1	2.7	2.6	2.7	3.8	2.7	1.9
Women's and girls' -----	4.2	.3	6.2	1.7	1.0	3.8	3.0
Footwear -----	2.0	1.0	2.0	.6	2.0	2.2	2.2
Transportation -----	1.0	.9	.9	1.8	.5	1.1	1.0
Private -----	1.0	1.0	.9	1.2	.5	1.1	1.1
Public -----	.6	-.5	0	5.6	.4	.4	0
Health and recreation -----	1.5	1.3	1.2	2.1	2.0	1.1	1.2
Medical care -----	1.9	1.2	1.4	5.0	1.6	1.5	.8
Personal care -----	1.6	0	1.5	.9	4.5	2.6	1.7
Reading and recreation -----	1.3	2.7	1.3	1.5	2.3	.7	.9
Other goods and services -----	1.0	.6	.6	0	0	.2	1.6

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  
November 1968 indexes and percent changes from August 1968--Continued

Group	Milwaukee	New York	Philadelphia	San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	Seattle	Washington
Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)						
All items -----	118.7	126.9	124.9	111.2	124.5	124.9
Food -----	119.5	121.8	121.1	112.5	119.8	124.1
Food at home -----	117.4	116.3	116.4	108.6	114.0	119.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	110.8	119.1	117.8	108.3	107.4	116.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.4	114.8	111.9	112.7	114.3	117.9
Dairy products -----	131.3	114.0	129.5	108.9	125.2	124.7
Fruits and vegetables -----	122.7	129.6	125.9	106.4	122.4	123.8
Other foods at home -----	108.0	106.1	103.8	104.5	103.0	114.0
Food away from home -----	131.7	145.4	146.3	123.0	143.6	142.3
Housing -----	116.0	125.6	121.7	112.3	127.0	120.4
Shelter -----	117.7	129.9	125.7	117.2	138.4	123.1
Rent -----	108.5	-----	116.8	110.6	124.6	120.7
Homeownership -----	120.7	131.4	128.0	119.9	142.1	123.1
Fuel and utilities -----	111.7	112.3	109.5	99.6	113.1	105.6
Fuel oil and coal -----	121.4	120.7	122.1	-----	109.8	116.2
Gas and electricity -----	101.9	110.9	102.6	100.0	97.9	103.9
Household furnishings and operation -----	114.5	121.7	117.7	106.3	112.0	120.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	118.6	130.0	131.4	111.7	121.0	130.6
Men's and boys' -----	122.1	133.3	127.7	118.1	124.6	130.0
Women's and girls' -----	112.8	126.5	127.1	109.6	117.3	128.4
Footwear -----	130.8	135.4	140.3	116.5	138.3	143.2
Transportation -----	115.7	122.2	130.3	107.6	121.7	121.4
Private -----	114.7	121.7	125.1	107.7	121.1	119.0
Public -----	130.1	127.3	155.9	106.0	128.8	136.4
Health and recreation -----	125.5	138.5	131.9	111.3	127.7	135.4
Medical care -----	142.8	151.7	156.8	118.4	142.1	169.2
Personal care -----	127.4	120.2	116.2	106.1	120.6	121.7
Reading and recreation -----	122.6	138.6	122.1	106.2	119.1	129.3
Other goods and services -----	114.2	134.8	(5/)	112.7	126.9	118.5
Percent changes August 1968 to November 1968						
All items -----	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.1	1.1	1.5
Food -----	-.3	.2	.5	.4	0	.9
Food at home -----	-.6	-.3	.3	-.5	-.7	.1
Cereals and bakery products -----	.8	-.3	2.3	-.7	-2.8	3.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	-.8	-.5	.4	-3.4	-.3	-.1
Dairy products -----	1.2	1.4	1.7	.4	-.4	1.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	-5.5	-2.7	-2.6	.1	-1.8	-4.6
Other foods at home -----	.8	1.0	.6	2.8	.6	1.5
Food away from home -----	1.2	2.0	1.1	2.2	2.0	2.9
Housing -----	1.0	.8	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.0
Shelter -----	1.1	.7	2.6	1.6	2.1	.2
Rent -----	.7	-----	4/ .6	1.3	1.2	.8
Homeownership -----	1.2	.7	3.1	2.0	2.3	0
Fuel and utilities -----	.4	1.6	-.1	.1	.4	.8
Fuel oil and coal -----	2.5	-.6	0	-----	0	.1
Gas and electricity -----	0	0	-.1	0	0	1.1
Household furnishings and operation -----	1.3	.5	1.5	1.6	1.4	3.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.5	4.2	4.5	2.7	1.9	2.8
Men's and boys' -----	1.5	2.4	6.2	1.9	1.6	3.8
Women's and girls' -----	.8	7.2	6.1	5.4	2.2	3.1
Footwear -----	2.3	2.9	1.7	1.1	2.2	2.7
Transportation -----	2.0	1.2	1.1	.7	.2	1.3
Private -----	2.2	1.5	1.3	.7	.3	.8
Public -----	.1	0	0	0	0	3.6
Health and recreation -----	1.9	1.8	1.0	.9	1.2	2.3
Medical care -----	3.0	1.9	1.6	1.1	1.4	2.3
Personal care -----	1.7	3.0	.8	1.6	2.4	2.3
Reading and recreation -----	2.3	.7	1.2	.6	1.0	2.4
Other goods and services -----	.4	2.4	(5/)	.6	.8	2.1

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.

2/ Corrected index August 1968, 112.0.

3/ Corrected index August 1968, 114.6.

4/ Change from September 1968.

5/ Not available.

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

Area <u>1/</u>	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 -----	120.5	116.6	120.1	114.6	122.6	123.8	106.7	139.4
Atlanta -----	118.6	115.2	113.4	114.7	116.5	122.6	111.2	131.1
Baltimore -----	122.6	117.8	125.8	116.4	119.0	128.1	106.9	142.8
Boston -----	123.7	118.2	120.5	120.1	117.6	126.8	106.7	147.5
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	115.7	113.9	107.1	112.4	118.9	120.4	111.2	126.8
Chicago -----	121.7	119.5	125.3	116.6	135.1	120.6	107.4	132.0
Cincinnati -----	117.9	114.4	115.7	115.5	118.2	124.1	102.3	136.1
Cleveland -----	118.6	115.5	116.0	117.2	120.9	122.8	104.0	136.3
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	114.9	112.2	110.6	114.5	121.4	110.4	106.7	125.3
Detroit -----	118.3	115.2	115.5	117.9	128.3	112.0	103.3	135.6
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	114.1	113.5	112.6	114.4	113.7	119.3	107.0	115.9
Houston -----	122.1	117.8	126.7	111.3	127.7	127.8	106.9	140.6
Kansas City -----	124.1	121.2	124.9	119.6	130.8	124.3	111.2	134.5
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	118.4	112.6	119.1	105.0	119.0	131.1	98.4	139.6
Milwaukee -----	119.5	117.4	110.8	116.4	131.3	122.7	108.0	131.7
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	118.7	115.6	110.9	113.0	127.6	119.4	109.8	133.0
New York -----	121.8	116.3	119.1	114.8	114.0	129.6	106.1	145.4
Philadelphia -----	121.1	116.4	117.8	111.9	129.5	125.9	103.8	146.3
Pittsburgh -----	117.2	114.5	119.7	116.7	115.2	119.1	104.6	134.8
St. Louis -----	123.9	119.7	124.9	118.3	133.5	126.2	105.0	141.0
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	112.5	108.6	108.3	112.7	108.9	106.4	104.5	123.0
San Francisco-Oakland --	119.3	113.9	118.1	110.4	117.4	125.7	103.4	142.9
Seattle -----	119.8	114.0	107.4	114.3	125.2	122.4	103.0	143.6
Washington -----	124.1	119.4	116.1	117.9	124.7	123.8	114.0	142.3
Percent changes October 1968 to November 1968								
U.S. City Average -----	- 0.3	- 0.5	0.3	- 0.7	0.2	0.3	- 1.7	0.4
Atlanta -----	- .2	- .5	- .1	- .3	- .5	.3	- 1.6	1.2
Baltimore -----	- 1.5	- 2.1	- .2	- 1.2	.1	- 6.1	- 2.6	.6
Boston -----	- .3	- .6	.1	- 1.0	.1	- .5	- .7	.5
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	.3	.4	1.0	- 1.2	.8	3.7	- .5	0
Chicago -----	- .7	- .8	1.5	- 1.0	.1	- 1.8	- 2.3	.1
Cincinnati -----	.6	.8	- .3	- .6	.3	- 1.1	- 1.9	.1
Cleveland -----	.4	.5	1.8	.3	.7	1.6	- 1.0	.1
Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --	.3	.2	1.1	.8	- .2	1.5	- 1.8	.7
Detroit -----	- .8	- .9	- .5	- .7	- .2	- .1	- 3.0	0
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	1.0	1.3	.6	1.5	0	3.4	.1	0
Houston -----	- .2	- .3	.6	.9	- .2	.2	- 2.9	.1
Kansas City -----	- .2	- .6	- .2	- .5	.3	- .3	- 1.3	.6
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	- .3	- .4	- .4	- .5	.2	1.5	- 2.0	.1
Milwaukee -----	- .1	- .3	- .7	- .7	1.0	1.2	- 1.9	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	- .3	- .5	- .9	- .6	.2	1.2	- 2.1	.5
New York -----	- .3	- .6	- .1	- .9	.1	.5	- 1.8	.4
Philadelphia -----	- .3	- .5	.8	- .4	.1	- .8	- 1.9	.6
Pittsburgh -----	- .3	- .4	.9	- .8	.3	- .8	- 1.2	.1
St. Louis -----	- .6	- .9	.8	- 2.2	- .1	1.3	- 2.3	.4
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	.4	.3	.5	- .5	.6	1.4	- 2.1	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	- .3	- .3	- .8	- .7	.6	2.0	- 2.1	.2
Seattle -----	- .3	- .4	- .3	- .4	- .2	1.2	- 2.1	.1
Washington -----	- .1	- .3	2.1	.3	- .2	- 1.8	- 1.7	.7

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  
November 1968 indexes and percent changes from selected dates  
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to November 1968 from--		
	November 1968		October 1968		November
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	1967 Unadjusted
Total food -----	120.5	121.0	- 0.3	0.1	4.2
Food away from home -----	139.4	-----	.4	-----	5.6
Restaurant meals -----	139.6	-----	.4	-----	5.5
Snacks 1/ -----	121.1	-----	.2	-----	6.2
Food at home -----	116.6	117.2	- .5	0	3.8
Cereals and bakery products -----	120.1	-----	.3	-----	1.4
Flour -----	112.0	-----	- .4	-----	- 1.6
Cracker meal 1/ -----	117.5	-----	.1	-----	.6
Corn flakes -----	129.0	-----	.4	-----	0
Rice -----	111.0	-----	0	-----	1.9
Bread, white -----	126.6	-----	1.0	-----	2.6
Bread, whole wheat 1/ -----	117.5	-----	.3	-----	3.0
Cookies -----	100.1	-----	- .7	-----	- 2.1
Layer cake 1/ -----	110.3	-----	- .1	-----	4.5
Cinnamon rolls 1/ -----	108.3	-----	.5	-----	1.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	114.6	114.6	- .7	.3	2.9
Meats -----	117.4	117.0	- .7	.4	2.5
Beef and veal -----	119.5	119.1	.3	1.1	3.5
Steak, round -----	114.6	113.9	1.1	2.1	2.6
Steak, sirloin 2/ -----	112.4	-----	.2	-----	2.5
Steak, porterhouse 1/ -----	117.4	-----	- .8	-----	4.1
Rump roast 1/ -----	110.1	-----	.7	-----	2.1
Rib roast -----	128.0	128.5	.3	1.6	4.7
Chuck roast -----	111.7	110.8	.4	2.1	2.6
Hamburger -----	122.9	122.4	.1	.7	4.7
Beef liver 1/ -----	107.5	-----	- .7	-----	1.8
Veal cutlets -----	144.7	145.9	.8	1.5	6.2
Pork -----	114.5	114.5	- 2.6	0	1.1
Chops -----	116.6	117.2	- 4.9	- 1.5	.7
Loin roast 2/ -----	124.9	-----	- 3.3	-----	1.6
Pork sausage 1/ -----	126.4	-----	- 1.6	-----	3.2
Ham, whole -----	111.6	111.4	- .5	.5	1.5
Picnics 1/ -----	114.1	-----	- 2.1	-----	- .3
Bacon -----	114.2	115.9	- 1.6	2.9	.3
Other meats -----	120.7	120.3	- .2	-.4	2.1
Lamb chops 1/ -----	129.9	-----	- .7	-----	4.8
Frankfurters -----	118.4	117.6	- .3	-.3	1.5
Ham, canned 1/ -----	116.5	-----	.5	-----	0
Bologna sausage 1/ -----	120.9	-----	- .3	-----	2.5
Salami sausage 1/ -----	116.1	-----	0	-----	2.3
Liverwurst 1/ -----	116.1	-----	- .9	-----	1.1
Poultry -----	91.1	-----	- 1.4	-----	5.1
Frying chicken -----	91.2	93.6	- 1.7	-.6	6.0
Chicken breasts 1/ -----	103.5	-----	- 1.3	-----	3.9
Turkey 1/ -----	101.4	-----	- .1	-----	2.1
Fish -----	125.5	125.9	.2	.2	3.6
Shrimp, frozen 1/ -----	111.5	-----	1.5	-----	4.9
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	126.4	126.4	- .1	-.4	1.8
Tuna fish, canned -----	111.6	-----	- .4	-----	1.9
Sardines, canned 1/ -----	123.3	-----	0	-----	5.8
Dairy products -----	122.6	121.9	.2	.2	4.1
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	120.6	119.5	.1	.3	4.4
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	126.1	-----	.2	-----	5.2
Milk, fresh, skim 1/ -----	120.3	-----	.2	-----	5.2
Milk, evaporated -----	121.7	-----	.4	-----	3.8
Ice cream -----	99.7	-----	.5	-----	1.8
Cheese, American process -----	141.3	140.7	.1	-.5	3.9
Butter -----	117.3	116.5	.2	.2	.9

See footnotes at end of table.

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

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to November 1968 from--		
	November 1968		October 1968		November 1967
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	unadjusted
Fruits and vegetables -----	123.8	128.0	0.3	- 0.3	6.1
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	130.6	138.1	.6	- .2	8.6
Apples -----	142.6	173.5	.6	3.0	12.9
Bananas -----	88.2	91.6	- 9.4	- .9	- 4.8
Oranges -----	162.4	152.5	- 5.0	1.6	26.4
Orange juice, fresh <u>1/</u> -----	87.7	-----	0	-----	16.5
Grapefruit -----	183.1	199.7	- 10.9	8.9	34.1
Grapes <u>3/</u> -----	144.6	145.3	18.8	5.1	10.3
Strawberries <u>3/</u> -----	( <u>3/</u> )	( <u>3/</u> )	( <u>3/</u> )	( <u>3/</u> )	( <u>3/</u> )
Watermelon <u>3/</u> -----	( <u>3/</u> )	( <u>3/</u> )	( <u>3/</u> )	( <u>3/</u> )	( <u>3/</u> )
Potatoes -----	131.9	144.8	3.5	3.0	7.5
Onions -----	130.0	140.4	- 2.8	.4	4.9
Asparagus <u>1/ 3/</u> -----	( <u>3/</u> )	-----	( <u>3/</u> )	-----	( <u>3/</u> )
Cabbage -----	141.2	159.7	- 1.9	- 1.8	22.3
Carrots -----	107.0	110.9	1.9	1.9	- 14.3
Celery -----	106.6	108.4	5.9	2.4	- 10.9
Cucumbers <u>1/</u> -----	134.6	-----	34.9	-----	19.4
Lettuce -----	126.0	115.7	- 16.8	- 23.3	- 4.0
Peppers, green <u>1/</u> -----	148.0	-----	15.4	-----	8.8
Spinach <u>1/</u> -----	103.9	-----	- 3.2	-----	5.9
Tomatoes -----	132.4	145.0	24.2	5.5	23.5
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	115.6	-----	- .1	-----	2.7
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	107.5	-----	- .1	-----	1.1
Pears, canned <u>1/</u> -----	112.9	-----	- .9	-----	2.1
Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned <u>1/</u> -----	98.3	-----	1.3	-----	2.7
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	91.9	90.9	.9	- .5	23.7
Lemonade concentrate, frozen <u>2/</u> -----	89.9	-----	.4	-----	.6
Beets, canned <u>1/</u> -----	113.3	-----	.9	-----	3.9
Peas, green, canned -----	121.3	-----	.4	-----	- 1.1
Tomatoes, canned -----	126.2	-----	- .8	-----	- 2.2
Dried beans -----	125.2	-----	- 1.0	-----	5.0
Broccoli, frozen <u>1/</u> -----	101.1	-----	- 1.0	-----	1.7
Other food at home -----	106.7	106.2	- 1.7	- 1.0	5.1
Eggs -----	102.6	98.7	- 11.5	- 7.4	22.6
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	102.5	-----	- .2	-----	- 1.3
Salad dressing, Italian <u>1/</u> -----	101.3	-----	- .3	-----	- 1.2
Salad or cooking oil <u>1/</u> -----	122.8	-----	.8	-----	.1
Sugar and sweets -----	121.4	-----	.1	-----	4.7
Sugar -----	113.6	-----	- .3	-----	.2
Grape jelly -----	120.2	-----	0	-----	2.6
Chocolate bar -----	121.1	-----	.7	-----	14.7
Syrup, chocolate flavored <u>1/</u> -----	102.3	-----	.2	-----	1.1
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	102.1	-----	.4	-----	2.9
Coffee, can and bag -----	87.5	-----	0	-----	0
Coffee, instant <u>4/</u> -----	100.6	-----	1.2	-----	4.5
Tea -----	100.7	-----	- .1	-----	.3
Cola drink -----	150.6	-----	.7	-----	7.3
Carbonated fruit drink <u>1/</u> -----	118.6	-----	.9	-----	8.1
Prepared and partially prepared foods <u>1/</u> -----	103.8	-----	.2	-----	2.0
Bean soup, canned <u>1/</u> -----	100.5	-----	- .5	-----	0
Chicken soup, canned <u>1/</u> -----	96.1	-----	0	-----	.2
Spaghetti, canned <u>1/</u> -----	113.5	-----	.4	-----	2.3
Mashed potatoes, instant <u>1/</u> -----	102.5	-----	- .1	-----	.5
Potatoes, french fried, frozen <u>2/</u> -----	89.0	-----	.1	-----	5.0
Baby foods, canned -----	111.2	-----	.5	-----	3.6
Sweet pickle relish <u>1/</u> -----	112.0	-----	1.3	-----	3.4
Pretzels <u>1/</u> -----	106.6	-----	.1	-----	1.6

1/ December 1963=100.

2/ April 1960=100.

3/ Priced only in season.

4/ July 1961=100.

OLD SERIES

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

Group	Index	Percent change from --	
		August 1968	November 1967
All items -----	124.9	0.9	4.4
All items (1947-49=100) -----	149.0		
<b>Food</b> -----	119.8	- .3	4.4
Food at home -----	116.8	- .6	4.5
Cereals and bakery products --	123.1	1.8	2.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	119.3	- .9	3.1
Dairy products -----	118.7	.3	6.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	114.1	- 5.6	4.2
Other foods at home -----	109.1	1.9	6.6
<b>Housing</b> -----	119.1	1.4	4.7
Rent -----	115.5	.9	2.2
Gas and electricity -----	105.8	0	1.0
Solid and petroleum fuels -----	112.1	5.1	5.1
Housefurnishings -----	109.3	2.0	6.8
Household operation -----	121.2	.2	3.2
<b>Apparel</b> -----	124.5	1.5	5.2
Men's and boys' -----	125.5	1.0	5.0
Women's and girls' -----	122.1	2.1	4.8
Footwear -----	135.5	1.2	7.3
Other apparel -----	109.5	1.1	4.6
<b>Transportation</b> -----	117.2	.9	2.3
Private -----	114.4	1.1	2.5
Public -----	134.6	0	1.0
<b>Medical care</b> -----	156.0	2.4	7.2
<b>Personal care</b> -----	133.8	2.1	2.8
<b>Reading and recreation</b> -----	168.9	1.1	3.4
<b>Other goods and services</b> -----	130.0	.3	4.8

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

	October 1968 to November 1968		August 1968 to November 1968		May 1968 to August 1968		February 1968 to May 1968		November 1967 to Feb. 1968		November 1967 to November 1968	
	CPI	WPI	CPI	WPI	CPI	WPI	CPI	WPI	CPI	WPI	CPI*	WPI*
<b>*ALL ITEMS</b> -----	0.4	0.5	1.2	0.8	1.3	0.2	1.1	0.5	1.0	1.7	4.8	3.2
<b>CONSUMER PRODUCTS</b> -----	0.2	0.5	1.1	0.9	0.6	- 0.1	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.4	3.9	3.2
<u>Nondurable</u> -----	.3	.7	1.0	.8	.7	- .1	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.6	4.0	3.6
Food and beverages at home -----	-.1	1.0	1.0	1.4	-.3	-.8	1.6	1.9	1.2	2.4	3.6	5.0
Apparel and accessories -----	.3	.2	1.7	1.1	1.5	.8	2.0	.7	1.2	1.3	6.7	3.9
Household furnishings and supplies -----	.1	.1	-.1	-.3	.9	-.6	1.3	1.7	.6	.6	2.8	1.5
Gasoline and motor oil -----	-.1	-.8	.3	-1.7	1.7	1.1	-.9	.4	.6	-1.0	1.6	-1.2
Other nondurables -----	.5	.6	1.1	1.1	.8	.4	.4	.3	1.0	.1	3.2	1.9
<u>Durable</u> -----	.3	0	1.0	.7	.8	.3	.6	-.1	1.0	.8	3.4	1.7
New passenger cars -----	-.1	-.4	1.5	1.4	-.1	.3	-.1	-.5	.9	.3	2.4	1.5
Appliances -----	.1	-.1	.7	-.6	.6	.2	-.1	.2	.4	.5	1.8	.3
Furniture and floor coverings -----	.4	0	1.0	.4	.9	.5	1.3	1.0	1.7	.9	5.0	2.9
*Other durables -----	.5	.1	1.3	.4	.8	.1	1.1	.4	1.0	.8	4.3	1.7
<b>*CONSUMER SERVICES</b> -----	0.6	-	1.4	-	1.9	-	1.3	-	1.3	-	6.0	-
*Insurance and finance -----	.6	-	1.7	-	4.6	-	.9	-	1.6	-	9.1	-
*Rent -----	.3	-	.8	-	.7	-	.6	-	.6	-	2.7	-
*Utilities and public transportation -----	.9	-	.6	-	.5	-	.5	-	.6	-	2.1	-
*Housekeeping and home maintenance services -----	.6	-	1.7	-	1.7	-	1.9	-	2.5	-	8.0	-
*Medical care services -----	.6	-	2.0	-	1.4	-	1.8	-	1.8	-	7.2	-
*Personal care services -----	.4	-	1.7	-	1.2	-	2.2	-	1.1	-	6.2	-
*Other services -----	.4	-	1.1	-	1.1	-	2.2	-	1.2	-	5.7	-
<b>WHOLESALE PRICES:</b>												
<u>Type of Product:</u>												
Farm products -----	-	2.4	-	3.7	-	- 2.6	-	2.4	-	3.5	-	7.0
Processed foods and feeds -----	-	.9	-	.4	-	0	-	1.3	-	1.6	-	3.4
*Industrial commodities -----	-	.2	-	.9	-	.3	-	.3	-	1.1	-	2.6
<u>Industrial Materials and Equipment:</u>												
Chemicals and allied products -----	-	0	-	.4	-	-.2	-	.5	-	-.3	-	-.4
Rubber and rubber products -----	-	-.1	-	.3	-	.9	-	.3	-	.5	-	2.0
Lumber and wood products -----	-	2.6	-	7.0	-	2.9	-	4.1	-	3.6	-	18.8
Pulp, paper and allied products -----	-	.1	-	.3	-	-.3	-	.6	-	1.1	-	.6
*Metals and metal products -----	-	-.1	-	1.0	-	-.4	-	1.4	-	2.1	-	1.3
Machinery and equipment -----	-	.3	-	1.0	-	.7	-	.7	-	1.2	-	3.6
<u>Stage of Processing at Wholesale:</u>												
Finished goods -----	-	.4	-	1.0	-	.2	-	1.0	-	1.1	-	3.3
Consumer -----	-	.4	-	.9	-	.1	-	1.0	-	1.2	-	3.3
Producer -----	-	.3	-	1.0	-	.7	-	.6	-	1.1	-	3.5
Intermediate materials, supplies and components -----	-	0	-	.7	-	.2	-	.2	-	1.2	-	2.4
Crude materials -----	-	2.4	-	3.4	-	- 2.0	-	1.2	-	2.5	-	5.2

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. <sup>1/</sup> The table below shows standard errors for monthly, quarterly, and annual percent changes in the CPI for all items and for nine commodity groupings based on 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.

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

Brief Explanation of the CPI

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

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

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

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

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

\*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

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

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

BLS Regional Offices

1371 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30309	341 Ninth Avenue New York, New York 10001	219 South Dearborn Street Chicago, Illinois 60604
450 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, California 94102	John F. Kennedy Fed. Bldg. Boston, Massachusetts 02203	911 Walnut Street Kansas City, Missouri 64106
411 N. Akard Street Dallas, Texas 75201	Box 1784 William Penn Annex Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19105	

Composition of Index Groupings Appearing in Table 9

	Consumer Price Index	Wholesale Price Index
<b>ALL ITEMS</b> -----	All commodities and services	All Commodities
<b>CONSUMER PRODUCTS</b> -----	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.
<b>Nondurable</b> -----	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.
<b>Durable</b> -----	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.
<b>CONSUMER SERVICES</b> -----	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.	
<b>WHOLESALE PRICES</b>		
Type of product Farm Product Processed foods and feeds Industrial commodities Industrial materials and equipment		Same as the Wholesale Price Indexes for major groups.
Stage of Processing at wholesale Finished goods Consumer Producer Intermediate materials, supplies, and components Crude materials		The Wholesale Price Stage of Processing Indexes. The Consumer Finished Goods index differs from the Consumer Products index in weighting structure and is based on a larger sample of commodities.

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.