



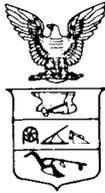
*the consumer price index*

U.S. CITY AVERAGE  
AND  
SELECTED AREAS



*for March 1970*

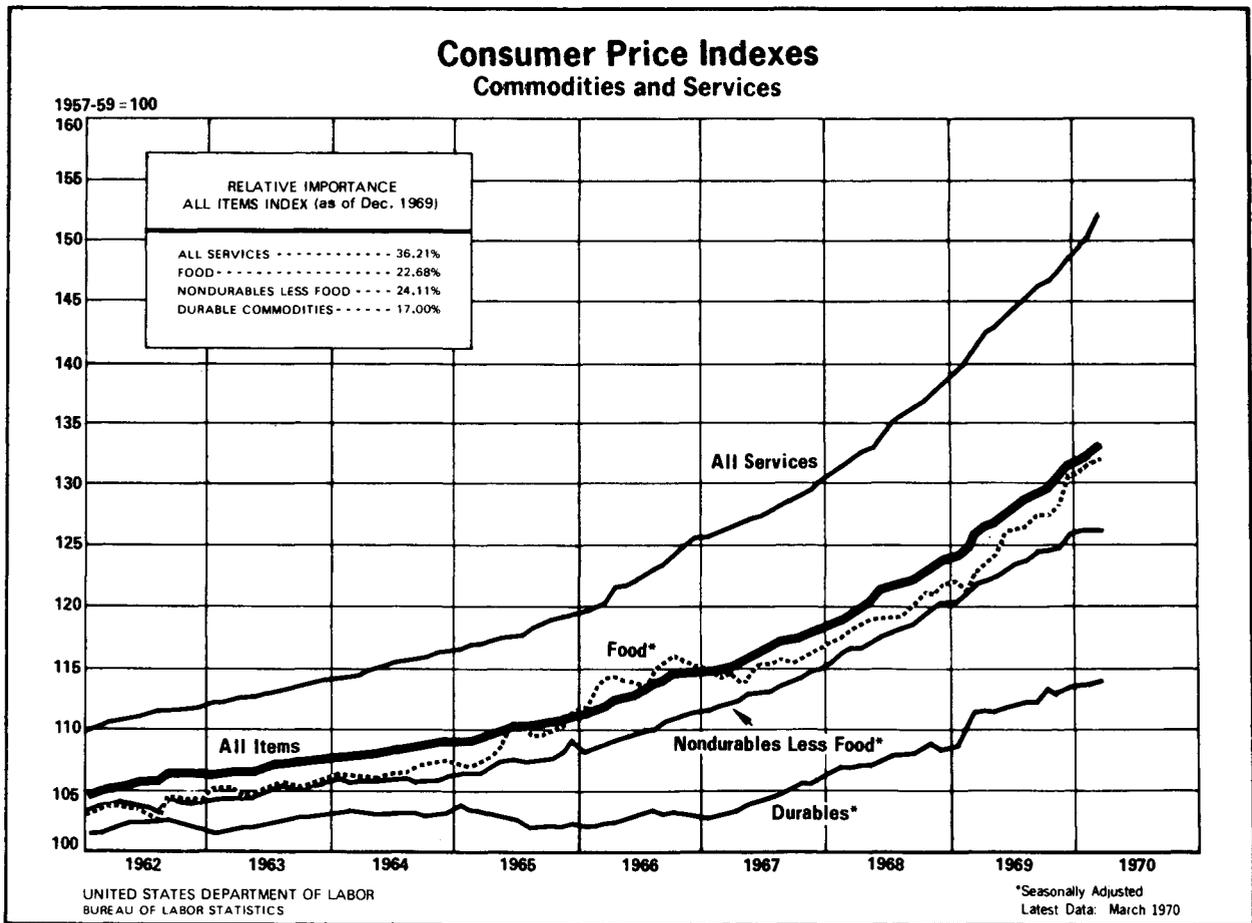
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS  
June 1970



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
George P. Shultz, Secretary  
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS  
Geoffrey H. Moore, Commissioner

# the consumer price index

a monthly report  
on consumer price movements  
including statistical tables  
and technical notes.



THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
FOR  
MARCH 1970

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.5 percent in March to 133.2 (1957-59=100). The rise in charges for consumer-services accelerated sharply, primarily due to large increases for mortgage interest and medical care; services accounted for about 70 percent of the index advance. Prices of commodities were up less than in February because of a substantial slowing in the rate of increase in food prices. Nonfood commodity prices rose somewhat faster in March than in the previous month owing to a larger price rise for durable goods.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the all items index advanced 0.4 percent in March. This compares with increases of 0.5 in February and 0.6 in each of the preceding 3 months. The slower rate reflected smaller increases in prices of food, apparel, and other nondurable commodities in March than in February. Prices of consumer durables, which show no seasonal change between these months, rose 0.4 percent on the strength of increases in house prices.

For perspective, annual rates of change in the CPI and some of its major components in each of the last 4 quarters is presented below. All percentage rates, with the exception of those for services which overall exhibit no seasonality, are seasonally adjusted.

|                          | 1970     |          |          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                          | 1st Qtr. | 4th Qtr. | 3rd Qtr. | 2nd Qtr. |
| All items                | 6.3      | 6.8      | 5.0      | 6.1      |
| Commodities              | 3.3      | 6.8      | 3.6      | 5.8      |
| Food                     | 5.4      | 10.4     | 5.7      | 8.7      |
| Nondurables<br>less food | 2.5      | 4.3      | 3.8      | 5.0      |
| Durables                 | 3.0      | 5.2      | 1.7      | 1.0      |
| Services                 | 11.2     | 6.5      | 7.8      | 7.0      |

The rate of increase in commodity prices declined significantly in the first quarter of this year compared with the last quarter of 1969. On the other hand, price increases for services, particularly home mortgages, transportation and medical care, were notably larger in the more recent quarter.

Since March 1969 consumer prices have advanced 6.1 percent, largely on the strength of higher prices for services and food. Price increases for commodities other than food amounted to about 3-1/2 percent and were responsible for nearly one-fourth of the all items rise.

Food

Retail food prices averaged 0.2 percent higher in March, after seasonal adjustment, their smallest monthly increase since last October. Prices of food purchased for home consumption rose slightly on a seasonally adjusted basis despite a sharp drop in egg prices. Restaurant meals and other food consumed away from home continued to show substantial price increases.

Retail egg prices dropped about twice as much as is usual for March, following a sharp build-up of cold storage holdings in February. Meat prices advanced contra-seasonally, probably in response to a 12 percent decline in red meat production in the previous month.

Poultry prices on the other hand, declined contraseasonally with the initiation of sales promotion efforts designed to reduce stocks. Prices of milk and other dairy products continued to climb in March; they were up 0.7 percent, seasonally adjusted, largely because of sustained strength in demand for cheese. Fruits and vegetables were up less than seasonally (down 0.7 percent after seasonal adjustment) primarily because of weakness in prices of fresh vegetables and apples. Prices of nonalcoholic beverages moved significantly higher for the fifth consecutive month. The persistent climb largely reflects higher prices for both regular and instant coffees which are due in part to a weather-induced tightness in Brazilian coffee supplies.

Since March 1969, retail food prices have advanced 7.5 percent. Price increases for grocery store food also amounted to 7.5 percent and were responsible for eight-tenths of the overall increase. About half of the increase in prices of food purchased for home consumption resulted from a 13.1 percent rise in meat prices. Much of the remainder of the advance was due to increases for dairy products, fresh vegetables, bakery products, eggs, and nonalcoholic beverages.

### Services

Charges for consumer services rose sharply in March, 1.1 percent, largely because of higher prices for home mortgages and medical care services. The increase in mortgage interest charges was primarily the result of the January rise in rates allowable on FHA-insured loans. A relatively sharp rise in physician's fees was responsible for the accelerated pace of advance in medical care services. Prices of transportation services posted a moderate advance, following several months of much steeper increases.

The 11.2 percent annual rate of advance in prices of consumer services during the first quarter of this year was the steepest such rate on record. Most types of services rose substantially faster in the first quarter than in the last quarter of 1969. The acceleration in the rate of increase in transportation services was particularly marked and stemmed from increases in public transit fares, particularly in New York City, and costs of automobile insurance, registration, and repairs. The steeper first-quarter climb in charges for household services was due primarily to increases in rates allowable on V.A. and FHA mortgage loans. Larger increases in physicians' fees and hospital room rates were behind the faster rise in charges for medical care services.

In March 1970, prices of consumer services were 8.1 percent above their year-earlier levels. Approximately three-fifths of this increase stemmed from a rise in costs of household services, other than rent, of nearly 11 percent. In addition to mortgaging costs, higher prices for home maintenance and repairs, residential property taxes and insurance, and housekeeping services played important roles in the advance for household services. Higher prices for transportation services, particularly those associated with automobiles, constituted about one-fifth of the increase in services overall.

### Nondurable Goods other than Food

Retail prices of nondurable goods other than food were up more than seasonally in March, but by less than in February. Prices of apparel, after seasonal adjustment, rose more slowly. Gasoline prices fell appreciably.

In the first quarter this year, prices of nondurable commodities other than food rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 2-1/2 percent; this was the slowest such rate recorded since the first quarter of 1966. Price increases for apparel commodities amounted to 2 percent in the first quarter at a seasonally adjusted annual rate--the slowest such rate since the third quarter of 1965. The rate of advance in prices of other nondurable goods also moderated in the first quarter, largely because of the decline in gasoline prices in March.

Retail prices of nondurable commodities other than food were 3.9 percent above year-earlier levels in March;--this was the smallest twelve-month gain since mid-1968 and compares with an increase of 4.6 percent in the twelve months ending in March 1969. The

slower rate of advance in the more recent period reflected the markedly slower rate of rise in prices of apparel commodities; price increases for nondurable goods, excluding food and apparel, were about the same in both periods.

### Durables

Retail prices of consumer durable goods rose 0.4 percent in March, despite declines in prices of both new and used cars, largely because of further increases in house prices. The drop in new car prices was slightly larger than usual for March and was the first seasonally adjusted decline since September last year when prices moved to year-end clearance levels on 1969 models. Weakness in prices of cars, both new and used, probably reflects sagging sales. New car sales were more than 10 percent below year-earlier levels both in March and in the first quarter.

Prices of durable household goods rose appreciably in March primarily on the strength of higher prices for furniture and bedding. At a seasonally adjusted annual rate, prices of household durables rose about 2-1/2 percent in the first quarter. While this represents an acceleration from the rate recorded in the previous two quarters, it remains among the slowest quarterly rates of increase in about two years.

Since March 1969, retail prices of consumer durable goods have advanced 2.7 percent. Higher prices for houses and household durables were responsible for virtually all of the rise. A sharp drop in used car prices during the period, down nearly 10 percent, provided a significant moderating influence.

### Cost-of-Living Adjustments

Approximately 44,400 workers will receive cost-of-living wage adjustments based the Consumer Price Index for March. About 6,000 airline employees will receive hourly increases of 6 or 9 cents, based on the change in the national CPI since March 1969. Another 9,700 workers, mainly in the aircraft and aerospace industry, will get a 2-1/2 percent pay raise based on the rise in the national index over the same period, while 3,000 mail order employees will receive an increase amounting to 8 cents an hour. Approximately 13,000 employees in interstate transit will receive an hourly pay increase of 3 cents based on the rise in the national index since December 1969. An additional 12,000 workers in various industries will receive increases ranging from 2 to 8 cents an hour, based on the increase in the national CPI over the calendar quarter or over the year.

About 4,000 other employees whose escalator reviews are tied to the March CPI will not receive an adjustment, since they have already received the maximum increases permitted by their contracts.

### A NOTE ABOUT CALCULATING INDEX CHANGES

Effective with the February, 1970 release, and continuing thereafter, percentage changes expressed as annual rates will be computed according to the standard formula for compound growth rates. These data indicate what the percentage change would be if the current rate were maintained for a 12-month period.

Movements of the index from one date to another are usually expressed as percentage changes rather than changes in the 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:

| <u>Index Point Change</u>    |              | <u>Percentage Change</u>  |
|------------------------------|--------------|---|
| March 1970 CPI (1957-59=100) | 133.2        |   |
| less February 1970 index     | <u>132.5</u> |   |
| Index point difference=      | 0.7          |   |
|                              |              | Index point difference divided by<br>the index for the previous period:<br>$\frac{133.2 - 132.5}{132.5} \times 100 = 0.5$ |
|                              |              | 132.5   |

TABLE 1. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, March 1970

(Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

| Group   | Indexes<br>(1957-59=100 unless otherwise noted) |               |               |            | Percent change to March 1970 from: |              |            |
|---|---|---------------|---------------|------------|------------------------------------|--------------|------------|
|   | March 1970                                      | February 1970 | December 1969 | March 1969 | 1 month ago                        | 3 months ago | 1 year ago |
| All items -----   | 133.2   | 132.5         | 131.3         | 125.6      | 0.5                                | 1.4          | 6.1        |
| All items (1947-49=100) -----                                   | 163.4   | 162.5         | 161.1         | 154.1      | -                                  | -            | -          |
| <b>Food</b> -----   | 131.6   | 131.5         | 129.9         | 122.4      | .1                                 | 1.3          | 7.5        |
| Food at home -----  | 127.4   | 127.4         | 125.8         | 118.5      | .0                                 | 1.3          | 7.5        |
| Cereals and bakery products -----                               | 127.0   | 126.3         | 124.9         | 121.2      | .6                                 | 1.7          | 4.8        |
| Meats, poultry, and fish -----                                  | 130.2   | 129.7         | 127.2         | 116.5      | .4                                 | 2.4          | 11.8       |
| Dairy products -----  | 129.4   | 128.8         | 127.6         | 123.0      | .5                                 | 1.4          | 5.2        |
| Fruits and vegetables -----                                     | 133.1   | 132.4         | 132.1         | 127.6      | .5                                 | .8           | 4.3        |
| Other foods at home -----                                       | 116.0   | 118.1         | 116.6         | 108.5      | -1.8                               | -5           | 6.9        |
| Food away from home -----                                       | 152.4   | 151.5         | 149.9         | 141.3      | .6                                 | 1.7          | 7.9        |
| <b>Housing</b> -----  | 133.6   | 132.2         | 130.5         | 124.4      | 1.1                                | 2.4          | 7.4        |
| Shelter 1/ -----  | 142.8   | 140.9         | 138.5         | 130.5      | 1.3                                | 3.1          | 9.4        |
| Rent 1/ -----   | 122.3   | 121.8         | 121.0         | 117.5      | .4                                 | 1.1          | 4.1        |
| Homeownership 2/ -----  | 150.9   | 148.5         | 145.4         | 135.7      | 1.6                                | 3.8          | 11.2       |
| Fuel and utilities 3/ -----                                     | 115.6   | 114.9         | 114.6         | 112.2      | .6                                 | .9           | 3.0        |
| Fuel oil and coal -----   | 120.8   | 120.6         | 119.2         | 117.2      | .2                                 | 1.3          | 3.1        |
| Gas and electricity -----                                       | 114.8   | 114.6         | 113.7         | 110.6      | .2                                 | 1.0          | 3.8        |
| Household furnishings and operation -----                       | 121.6   | 120.8         | 120.0         | 116.4      | .7                                 | 1.3          | 4.5        |
| <b>Apparel and upkeep</b> 4/ -----                              | 130.6   | 130.0         | 130.8         | 124.9      | .5                                 | -.2          | 4.6        |
| Men's and boys' -----   | 132.3   | 131.0         | 132.0         | 126.4      | 1.0                                | .2           | 4.7        |
| Women's and girls' -----  | 125.3   | 125.4         | 127.2         | 120.6      | -.1                                | -1.5         | 3.9        |
| Footwear -----  | 146.3   | 145.0         | 144.4         | 137.6      | .9                                 | 1.3          | 6.3        |
| <b>Transportation</b> -----                                     | 127.1   | 127.3         | 126.4         | 124.3      | -.2                                | .6           | 2.3        |
| Private -----   | 123.0   | 123.3         | 123.4         | 121.6      | -.2                                | -.3          | 1.2        |
| New cars -----  | 104.4   | 104.6         | 104.9         | 102.4      | -.2                                | -.5          | 2.0        |
| Used cars -----   | 117.6   | 117.8         | 123.9         | 130.5      | -.2                                | -5.1         | -9.9       |
| Gasoline -----  | 115.3   | 116.7         | 116.9         | 117.2      | -1.2                               | -1.4         | -1.6       |
| Public -----  | 165.8   | 165.4         | 153.0         | 147.5      | .2                                 | 8.4          | 12.4       |
| <b>Health and recreation</b> -----                              | 141.4   | 140.7         | 139.6         | 134.3      | .5                                 | 1.3          | 5.3        |
| Medical care -----  | 161.6   | 160.1         | 158.1         | 152.5      | .9                                 | 2.2          | 6.0        |
| Personal care -----   | 129.6   | 129.0         | 128.1         | 124.8      | .5                                 | 1.2          | 3.8        |
| Reading and recreation -----                                    | 133.6   | 133.2         | 132.7         | 128.7      | .3                                 | .7           | 3.8        |
| Other goods and services -----                                  | 134.8   | 134.3         | 133.5         | 126.1      | .4                                 | 1.0          | 6.9        |
| <b>Seasonally Adjusted:</b>                                     |   |               |               |            |                                    |              |            |
| Food -----  | 132.0   | 131.8         | 130.3         | -          | .2                                 | 1.3          | -          |
| Apparel and upkeep -----  | 130.9   | 130.7         | 130.2         | -          | .2                                 | .5           | -          |
| Transportation -----  | 127.4   | 127.7         | 126.7         | -          | -.2                                | .6           | -          |
| <b>Special Groups:</b>  |   |               |               |            |                                    |              |            |
| All items less food -----                                       | 133.8   | 133.0         | 131.9         | 126.8      | .6                                 | 1.4          | 5.5        |
| All items less medical care -----                               | 131.5   | 130.8         | 129.7         | 124.0      | .5                                 | 1.4          | 6.0        |
| <b>Commodities</b> -----  | 124.5   | 124.2         | 123.6         | 118.7      | .2                                 | .7           | 4.9        |
| Nondurables -----   | 128.7   | 128.4         | 127.7         | 121.8      | .2                                 | .8           | 5.7        |
| Nondurables less food -----                                     | 126.1   | 125.8         | 125.7         | 121.4      | .2                                 | .3           | 3.9        |
| Apparel commodities -----                                       | 129.9   | 129.3         | 130.3         | 124.3      | .5                                 | -.3          | 4.5        |
| <b>Durables</b> -----   | 114.1   | 113.7         | 113.6         | 111.1      | .4                                 | .4           | 2.7        |
| Household durables -----  | 107.4   | 106.9         | 106.5         | 104.4      | .5                                 | .8           | 2.9        |
| Services -----  | 152.3   | 150.7         | 148.3         | 140.9      | 1.1                                | 2.7          | 8.1        |
| Services less rent -----  | 158.9   | 157.1         | 154.3         | 146.1      | 1.1                                | 3.0          | 8.8        |
| Services less medical care -----                                | 148.3   | 146.8         | 144.4         | 137.0      | 1.0                                | 2.7          | 8.2        |
| Insurance and finance (Dec.1965=100) -----                      | 142.9   | 139.9         | 136.0         | 125.2      | 2.1                                | 5.1          | 14.1       |
| Utilities and public transportation (Dec.1965=100) -----        | 112.8   | 112.2         | 109.8         | 107.0      | .5                                 | 2.7          | 5.4        |
| Housekeeping and home maintenance services (Dec.1965=100) ----- | 135.8   | 134.7         | 133.5         | 124.5      | .8                                 | 1.7          | 9.1        |
| Medical care services -----                                     | 177.0   | 175.2         | 172.8         | 165.8      | 1.0                                | 2.4          | 6.8        |
| <b>Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar:</b>                     |   |               |               |            |                                    |              |            |
| 1957-59=\$1 -----   | \$0.751   | \$0.755       | \$0.762       | \$0.796    | -.5                                | -1.4         | -5.7       |
| 1939=\$1 -----  | .364  | .366          | .369          | .386       | -                                  | -            | -          |

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.

Note: Index applies to month as a whole not to any specific date.

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 |                      |               |               |
|                            |                            | March 1970    |             |             | February 1970        | December 1969 | March 1969    |
| U.S. City Average -----    | M                          | 133.2         | 163.4       |             | 0.5                  | 1.4           | 6.1           |
| Chicago -----              | M                          | 129.9         | 163.9       |             | .5                   | 1.2           | 5.7           |
| Detroit -----              | M                          | 133.1         | 164.1       |             | .7                   | 1.8           | 6.4           |
| Los Angeles-Long Beach --- | M                          | 132.2         | 164.8       |             | .5                   | .8            | 4.4           |
| New York -----             | M                          | 139.1         | 167.6       |             | .7                   | 2.3           | 7.3           |
| Philadelphia -----         | M                          | 135.4         | 166.2       |             | .7                   | 2.4           | 6.6           |
|                            |                            | January 1970  |             |             |                      | October 1969  | January 1969  |
| Boston -----               | 1                          | 136.1         | 168.6       |             |                      | 1.0           | 6.4           |
| Houston -----              | 1                          | 130.9         | 161.2       |             |                      | .8            | 6.3           |
| Minneapolis-St. Paul ----  | 1                          | 132.8         | 164.4       |             |                      | 1.9           | 8.1           |
| Pittsburgh -----           | 1                          | 129.4         | 159.5       |             |                      | .7            | 4.4           |
|                            |                            | February 1970 |             |             |                      | November 1969 | February 1969 |
| Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) --- | 2                          |               |             | 125.3       |                      | 1.7           | 6.8           |
| Cleveland -----            | 2                          | 132.3         | 164.3       |             |                      | 2.2           | 7.5           |
| Dallas (Nov.1963=100) ---  | 2                          |               |             | 125.6       |                      | 1.5           | 7.5           |
| Milwaukee -----            | 2                          | 128.5         | 162.0       |             |                      | 1.2           | 6.4           |
| San Diego (Feb.1965=100) - | 2                          |               |             | 118.6       |                      | 1.4           | 5.1           |
| Seattle -----              | 2                          | 132.2         | 166.2       |             |                      | 1.7           | 5.0           |
| Washington -----           | 2                          | 134.6         | 162.0       |             |                      | 2.0           | 6.6           |
|                            |                            | March 1970    |             |             |                      | December 1969 | March 1969    |
| Atlanta -----              | 3                          | 131.9         | 163.3       |             |                      | 1.5           | 5.6           |
| Baltimore -----            | 3                          | 133.5         | 165.6       |             |                      | 1.2           | 6.2           |
| Cincinnati -----           | 3                          | 129.2         | 157.2       |             |                      | 1.2           | 5.3           |
| Honolulu (Dec.1963=100) -- | 3                          |               |             | 122.0       |                      | 1.9           | 5.5           |
| Kansas City -----          | 3                          | 134.6         | 166.6       |             |                      | 1.1           | 5.1           |
| St. Louis -----            | 3                          | 132.4         | 164.3       |             |                      | 1.3           | 5.6           |
| San Francisco-Oakland ---  | 3                          | 136.1         | 172.8       |             |                      | 1.2           | 5.6           |

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.

Note: The Consumer Price Index cannot be used for measuring differences in living costs among areas; it indicates price change within areas. Estimates of differences in living costs among areas are found in the family budgets.

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 February 1970 to March 1970

| Group                          | U.S. City Average | Chicago   | Detroit   | Los Angeles-Long Beach | New York  | Philadelphia |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| All items -----                | 0.5               | 0.5       | 0.7       | 0.5                    | 0.7       | 0.7          |
| Food -----                     | .1                | -.2       | .5        | -.4                    | .3        | .0           |
| Housing -----                  | 1.1               | .5        | 2.7       | .9                     | 1.3       | 1.7          |
| Apparel and upkeep -----       | .5                | 2.1       | 2.8       | .5                     | .6        | 1.1          |
| Transportation -----           | -.2               | -.2       | -4.1      | .0                     | .2        | .1           |
| Health and recreation -----    | .5                | .7        | .1        | .5                     | .9        | .4           |
| Medical care -----             | .9                | 1.4       | 1.8       | 1.2                    | 1.4       | .6           |
| Personal care -----            | .5                | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u>              | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u>    |
| Reading and recreation -----   | .3                | .4        | -2.4      | .0                     | 1.0       | .6           |
| Other goods and services ----- | .4                | .3        | .1        | .5                     | .8        | <u>1/</u>    |

<sup>1/</sup> See footnote 1, table 2.  
<sup>2/</sup> Not available.

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

| Group                                  | Indexes    |               |               | Percent changes to: Mar. 1970 |              |
|--|------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
|  | March 1970 | February 1970 | December 1969 | From:<br>1 Month Ago          | 3 Months Ago |
| Food -----                             | 132.0      | 131.8         | 130.3         | 0.2                           | 1.3          |
| Food at home -----                     | 127.9      | 127.7         | 126.3         | .2                            | 1.3          |
| Meats, poultry, and fish -----         | 131.1      | 130.4         | 128.4         | .5                            | 2.1          |
| Dairy products -----                   | 129.8      | 128.9         | 127.2         | .7                            | 2.0          |
| Fruits and vegetables -----            | 132.6      | 133.5         | 135.1         | -.7                           | -1.9         |
| Other foods at home -----              | 116.2      | 117.4         | 115.5         | -1.0                          | .6           |
| Fuel and utilities <sup>1/</sup> ----- | 115.5      | 114.8         | 114.5         | .6                            | .9           |
| Fuel oil and coal -----                | 120.1      | 119.5         | 117.9         | .5                            | 1.9          |
| Apparel and upkeep <sup>2/</sup> ----- | 130.9      | 130.7         | 130.2         | .2                            | .5           |
| Men's and boys' -----                  | 132.7      | 131.8         | 131.3         | .7                            | 1.1          |
| Women's and girls' -----               | 125.7      | 126.4         | 126.1         | -.6                           | -.3          |
| Footwear -----                         | 146.4      | 145.3         | 144.3         | .8                            | 1.5          |
| Transportation -----                   | 127.4      | 127.7         | 126.7         | -.2                           | .6           |
| Private -----                          | 123.2      | 123.7         | 123.5         | -.4                           | -.2          |
| New cars -----                         | 104.1      | 104.2         | 103.5         | -.1                           | .6           |
| Commodities -----                      | 124.6      | 124.4         | 123.6         | .2                            | .8           |
| Commodities less food -----            | 120.9      | 120.6         | 120.2         | .2                            | .6           |
| Nondurables -----                      | 128.8      | 128.7         | 127.7         | .1                            | .9           |
| Nondurables less food -----            | 126.2      | 126.1         | 125.5         | .1                            | .6           |
| Nondurables less food and apparel --   | 123.9      | 123.8         | 123.0         | .1                            | .7           |
| Apparel commodities -----              | 130.2      | 130.1         | 129.5         | .1                            | .5           |
| Durables -----                         | 114.3      | 113.9         | 113.5         | .4                            | .7           |

<sup>1/</sup> Also includes telephone, water, and sewerage service not shown separately.

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

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index—United States and Selected Areas 1/  
 For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups  
 March 1970 index and percent changes from December 1969

| Group  | U.S.<br>City<br>Average | Atlanta | Baltimore | Chicago | Cincinnati | Detroit | Honolulu<br>(Dec. 1963=100) |
|--|-------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified) |                         |         |           |         |            |         |                             |
| All items -----                                  | 133.2                   | 131.9   | 133.5     | 129.9   | 129.2      | 133.1   | 122.0                       |
| Food -----                                       | 131.6                   | 130.5   | 136.2     | 133.0   | 127.9      | 130.9   | 123.4                       |
| Food at home -----                               | 127.4                   | 127.0   | 130.1     | 131.0   | 124.1      | 128.7   | 121.2                       |
| Cereals and bakery products -----                | 127.0                   | 119.5   | 133.6     | 133.2   | 122.6      | 123.9   | 116.2                       |
| Meats, poultry, and fish -----                   | 130.2                   | 129.4   | 133.6     | 134.7   | 129.9      | 139.2   | 126.6                       |
| Dairy products -----                             | 129.4                   | 127.2   | 127.7     | 138.2   | 124.7      | 137.0   | 116.1                       |
| Fruits and vegetables -----                      | 133.1                   | 134.4   | 137.7     | 129.7   | 128.8      | 120.0   | 124.1                       |
| Other foods at home -----                        | 116.0                   | 123.3   | 117.5     | 117.4   | 113.0      | 114.7   | 116.0                       |
| Food away from home -----                        | 152.4                   | 143.0   | 162.5     | 142.4   | 147.7      | 143.6   | 130.4                       |
| Housing -----                                    | 133.6                   | 136.9   | 130.5     | 126.8   | 124.9      | 134.6   | 128.0                       |
| Shelter -----                                    | 142.8                   | 144.4   | 136.5     | 133.3   | 130.1      | 146.6   | 139.2                       |
| Rent -----                                       | 122.3                   | 118.1   | 118.0     | 115.7   | 108.9      | (2/)    | 123.7                       |
| Homeownership -----                              | 150.9                   | 152.5   | 144.1     | 141.8   | 140.3      | 154.7   | 150.0                       |
| Fuel and utilities -----                         | 115.6                   | 115.2   | 114.6     | 110.5   | 110.8      | 107.4   | 100.5                       |
| Fuel oil and coal -----                          | 120.8                   | ---     | 124.0     | 114.1   | 133.6      | 114.0   | ---                         |
| Gas and electricity -----                        | 114.8                   | 111.9   | 105.5     | 110.7   | 111.8      | 107.7   | 99.8                        |
| Household furnishings and operation -----        | 121.6                   | 128.7   | 128.5     | 119.1   | 116.4      | 114.6   | 111.5                       |
| Apparel and upkeep -----                         | 130.6                   | 131.2   | 136.7     | 123.7   | 135.0      | 129.1   | 118.6                       |
| Men's and boys' -----                            | 132.3                   | 132.9   | 140.9     | 122.9   | 141.7      | 131.0   | 112.6                       |
| Women's and girls' -----                         | 125.3                   | 123.6   | 127.4     | 117.6   | 124.2      | 121.4   | 122.6                       |
| Footwear -----                                   | 146.3                   | 142.8   | 163.8     | 141.1   | 158.3      | 150.8   | 118.8                       |
| Transportation -----                             | 127.1                   | 119.1   | 127.3     | 127.8   | 125.0      | 120.7   | 111.3                       |
| Private -----                                    | 123.0                   | 114.8   | 123.9     | 123.7   | 120.3      | 117.5   | 116.0                       |
| Public -----                                     | 165.8                   | 160.8   | 142.7     | 154.6   | 165.7      | 145.3   | 89.0                        |
| Health and recreation -----                      | 141.4                   | 139.1   | 139.2     | 137.1   | 140.4      | 144.2   | 121.5                       |
| Medical care -----                               | 161.6                   | 163.7   | 179.7     | 170.7   | 171.1      | 176.8   | 132.1                       |
| Personal care -----                              | 129.6                   | 132.0   | 133.2     | 130.5   | 128.4      | (3/)    | 116.7                       |
| Reading and recreation -----                     | 133.6                   | 133.6   | 130.3     | 116.7   | 131.5      | 132.2   | 113.6                       |
| Other goods and services -----                   | 134.8                   | 121.1   | 120.6     | 129.9   | 126.8      | 125.0   | 124.0                       |
| Percent changes from December 1969 to March 1970 |                         |         |           |         |            |         |                             |
| All items -----                                  | 1.4                     | 1.5     | 1.2       | 1.2     | 1.2        | 1.8     | 1.9                         |
| Food -----                                       | 1.3                     | 1.6     | 1.6       | 1.3     | 1.0        | 1.2     | 2.2                         |
| Food at home -----                               | 1.3                     | 1.6     | 1.2       | 1.2     | 1.1        | 1.3     | 2.0                         |
| Cereals and bakery products -----                | 1.7                     | 1.4     | 4.0       | 2.7     | 1.6        | 1.6     | 3.3                         |
| Meats, poultry, and fish -----                   | 2.4                     | 4.1     | 2.3       | 2.4     | 2.4        | 2.9     | 2.9                         |
| Dairy products -----                             | 1.4                     | 1.9     | 1.8       | 1.2     | 1.2        | 2.2     | .3                          |
| Fruits and vegetables -----                      | .8                      | 1.3     | .7        | -.8     | 2.0        | .3      | -.5                         |
| Other foods at home -----                        | -.5                     | -1.4    | -2.2      | -.7     | 1.6        | -1.4    | 2.7                         |
| Food away from home -----                        | 1.7                     | 1.7     | 2.7       | 1.8     | .5         | .8      | 2.6                         |
| Housing -----                                    | 2.4                     | 2.5     | 1.2       | 2.2     | 2.4        | 3.5     | 2.8                         |
| Shelter -----                                    | 3.1                     | 3.9     | .8        | 2.8     | 3.7        | 4.6     | 3.5                         |
| Rent -----                                       | 1.1                     | 1.3     | .5        | 3/ .9   | .6         | (2/)    | 2.1                         |
| Homeownership -----                              | 3.8                     | 4.5     | .8        | 3.6     | 5.0        | 5.3     | 4.4                         |
| Fuel and utilities -----                         | .9                      | .4      | 2.6       | .7      | .3         | 1.5     | -.1                         |
| Fuel oil and coal -----                          | 1.3                     | ---     | 3.3       | .2      | 5.0        | .6      | ---                         |
| Gas and electricity -----                        | 1.0                     | .2      | .8        | 2.0     | .4         | .1      | .0                          |
| Household furnishings and operation -----        | 1.3                     | .2      | .9        | 1.4     | -.1        | .7      | 1.7                         |
| Apparel and upkeep -----                         | -.2                     | 1.3     | .8        | -1.0    | .9         | 2.5     | .6                          |
| Men's and boys' -----                            | .2                      | .7      | .8        | -.3     | 2.2        | 3.4     | -1.5                        |
| Women's and girls' -----                         | -1.5                    | 1.3     | -.2       | -2.7    | -.2        | .7      | 1.2                         |
| Footwear -----                                   | 1.3                     | 1.5     | .7        | 1.3     | 1.5        | 7.3     | 2.4                         |
| Transportation -----                             | .6                      | -1.1    | -.1       | .1      | -1.0       | -1.5    | 1.5                         |
| Private -----                                    | -.3                     | -1.1    | -.1       | .1      | -1.2       | -1.7    | 1.8                         |
| Public -----                                     | 8.4                     | .0      | .0        | .0      | .7         | .0      | .0                          |
| Health and recreation -----                      | 1.3                     | 1.5     | 1.8       | 1.8     | 1.2        | 1.4     | 1.2                         |
| Medical care -----                               | 2.2                     | 2.7     | 3.7       | 2.8     | 2.0        | 4.8     | .5                          |
| Personal care -----                              | 1.2                     | -.8     | .7        | 1.4     | 1.9        | (2/)    | 5.7                         |
| Reading and recreation -----                     | .7                      | 1.8     | 2.0       | 1.3     | 1.2        | -.8     | -.1                         |
| Other goods and services -----                   | 1.0                     | .4      | .2        | 1.2     | .0         | .1      | 1.6                         |

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas <sup>1/</sup>  
 For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups--Continued  
 March 1970 index and percent changes from December 1969

| Group  | Kansas City | Los Angeles-<br>Long Beach | New York | Philadelphia | St. Louis | San Francisco-<br>Oakland |
|--|-------------|----------------------------|----------|--------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified) |             |                            |          |              |           |                           |
| All items -----                                  | 134.6       | 132.2                      | 139.1    | 135.4        | 132.4     | 136.1                     |
| Food -----                                       | 135.9       | 126.7                      | 135.1    | 132.0        | 136.6     | 128.2                     |
| Food at home -----                               | 131.7       | 120.9                      | 128.3    | 126.3        | 132.1     | 122.6                     |
| Cereals and bakery products -----                | 132.9       | 123.2                      | 124.3    | 128.7        | 133.6     | 122.9                     |
| Meats, poultry, and fish -----                   | 135.3       | 119.6                      | 130.9    | 124.2        | 137.6     | 125.7                     |
| Dairy products -----                             | 141.8       | 124.5                      | 122.3    | 136.4        | 139.2     | 122.1                     |
| Fruits and vegetables -----                      | 127.0       | 132.0                      | 141.8    | 133.6        | 140.3     | 129.9                     |
| Other foods at home -----                        | 120.8       | 106.5                      | 117.3    | 112.4        | 113.1     | 109.6                     |
| Food away from home -----                        | 150.8       | 147.6                      | 163.7    | 162.4        | 154.5     | 152.5                     |
| Housing -----                                    | 130.6       | 139.0                      | 137.6    | 133.5        | 126.9     | 148.5                     |
| Shelter -----                                    | 134.8       | 150.1                      | 143.7    | 142.4        | 132.2     | 164.6                     |
| Rent -----                                       | 111.6       | 124.5                      | (2/)     | 125.1        | 113.0     | 152.0                     |
| Homeownership -----                              | 144.5       | 158.8                      | 150.3    | 146.9        | 137.3     | 170.8                     |
| Fuel and utilities -----                         | 127.3       | 111.9                      | 115.5    | 112.6        | 118.1     | 108.2                     |
| Fuel oil and coal -----                          | ---         | ---                        | 126.8    | 126.4        | 120.6     | ---                       |
| Gas and electricity -----                        | 130.2       | 120.0                      | 112.4    | 106.5        | 122.0     | 113.6                     |
| Household furnishings and operation -----        | 119.3       | 119.0                      | 134.5    | 126.0        | 122.0     | 121.2                     |
| Apparel and upkeep -----                         | 139.4       | 128.5                      | 137.5    | 139.2        | 129.8     | 133.0                     |
| Men's and boys' -----                            | 137.4       | 130.6                      | 143.9    | 135.8        | 128.7     | 130.9                     |
| Women's and girls' -----                         | 139.2       | 129.2                      | 129.0    | 130.1        | 128.6     | 127.9                     |
| Footwear -----                                   | 154.2       | 139.3                      | 148.0    | 155.0        | 144.8     | 142.4                     |
| Transportation -----                             | 126.0       | 127.1                      | 141.0    | 138.7        | 125.7     | 125.5                     |
| Private -----                                    | 120.6       | 122.3                      | 133.8    | 131.3        | 121.7     | 126.6                     |
| Public -----                                     | 195.6       | 160.0                      | 173.7    | 179.1        | 159.7     | 121.4                     |
| Health and recreation -----                      | 148.3       | 132.7                      | 148.9    | 143.3        | 144.5     | 137.7                     |
| Medical care -----                               | 165.4       | 157.9                      | 168.9    | 172.8        | 155.5     | 159.3                     |
| Personal care -----                              | 131.6       | 121.6                      | (2/)     | (2/)         | 135.6     | 136.6                     |
| Reading and recreation -----                     | 144.4       | 115.5                      | 146.9    | 127.8        | 140.1     | 120.5                     |
| Other goods and services -----                   | 142.1       | 126.5                      | 144.7    | 139.9        | 141.7     | 132.6                     |
| Percent changes from December 1969 to March 1970 |             |                            |          |              |           |                           |
| All items -----                                  | 1.1         | 0.8                        | 2.3      | 2.4          | 1.3       | 1.2                       |
| Food -----                                       | 1.1         | .7                         | 1.7      | 1.8          | .8        | .8                        |
| Food at home -----                               | .8          | .6                         | 1.3      | 1.5          | .8        | 1.0                       |
| Cereals and bakery products -----                | 1.2         | -.3                        | 1.1      | 3.2          | 7.1       | .9                        |
| Meats, poultry, and fish -----                   | 2.7         | 3.1                        | 2.7      | 2.1          | .7        | 3.6                       |
| Dairy products -----                             | .5          | .6                         | .7       | 1.0          | -.4       | .7                        |
| Fruits and vegetables -----                      | -.6         | -3.2                       | 2.3      | 2.7          | 1.1       | -.7                       |
| Other foods at home -----                        | -.7         | .7                         | -1.2     | -1.5         | -1.7      | -1.7                      |
| Food away from home -----                        | 1.9         | 1.0                        | 2.4      | 2.9          | .5        | .1                        |
| Housing -----                                    | 3.6         | 2.2                        | 2.2      | 3.3          | 2.4       | 2.8                       |
| Shelter -----                                    | 4.0         | 2.9                        | 1.8      | 4.6          | 2.7       | 3.3                       |
| Rent -----                                       | .8          | 3/ 2.4                     | (2/)     | 3/ 1.9       | .4        | 2.2                       |
| Homeownership -----                              | 5.2         | 3.1                        | 2.5      | 5.3          | 3.3       | 3.8                       |
| Fuel and utilities -----                         | 4.0         | .0                         | 1.5      | .4           | 2.4       | 2.9                       |
| Fuel oil and coal -----                          | ---         | ---                        | 1.8      | 3.2          | 1.1       | ---                       |
| Gas and electricity -----                        | 6.2         | .5                         | -.1      | .1           | 2.3       | 3.8                       |
| Household furnishings and operation -----        | 2.1         | .8                         | 3.5      | 2.6          | 1.7       | 1.3                       |
| Apparel and upkeep -----                         | 1.0         | .9                         | .5       | 1.2          | .3        | -.1                       |
| Men's and boys' -----                            | 1.7         | 1.1                        | 1.7      | 1.6          | -.2       | -1.0                      |
| Women's and girls' -----                         | .4          | .5                         | -1.8     | -.3          | .4        | -.2                       |
| Footwear -----                                   | 1.7         | 2.1                        | 1.9      | 2.2          | 1.0       | .6                        |
| Transportation -----                             | -2.7        | -2.8                       | 7.1      | 2.4          | -.9       | -1.3                      |
| Private -----                                    | -4.6        | -3.0                       | .9       | 2.8          | -1.0      | -1.3                      |
| Public -----                                     | 28.0        | .9                         | 32.7     | .2           | .0        | .3                        |
| Health and recreation -----                      | .7          | 1.1                        | 1.8      | 2.4          | 1.8       | 1.3                       |
| Medical care -----                               | 1.2         | 2.3                        | 2.3      | 2.0          | 3.8       | 1.9                       |
| Personal care -----                              | -.5         | .0                         | (2/)     | (2/)         | 1.9       | .0                        |
| Reading and recreation -----                     | .6          | .4                         | 1.5      | .8           | 1.0       | 1.0                       |
| Other goods and services -----                   | 1.1         | .3                         | 1.6      | 4.0          | .1        | 1.1                       |

<sup>1/</sup> See footnote 1, table 2.  
<sup>2/</sup> Not available.  
<sup>3/</sup> Change from January 1970.

TABLE 6: Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas  
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Food and its Subgroups  
March 1970 Indexes and Percent Changes from February 1970

| Area <sup>1/</sup>                               | Total food | Food at home |                             |                          |                |                       |                     | Food away from home |
|--|------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|  |            | Total        | Cereals and bakery products | Meats, poultry, and fish | Dairy products | Fruits and vegetables | Other foods at home |                     |
| Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified) |            |              |                             |                          |                |                       |                     |                     |
| U.S. City Average -----                          | 131.6      | 127.4        | 127.0                       | 130.2                    | 129.4          | 133.1                 | 116.0               | 152.4               |
| Atlanta -----                                    | 130.5      | 127.0        | 119.5                       | 129.4                    | 127.2          | 134.4                 | 123.3               | 143.0               |
| Baltimore -----                                  | 136.2      | 130.1        | 133.6                       | 133.6                    | 127.7          | 137.7                 | 117.5               | 162.5               |
| Boston -----                                     | 135.4      | 129.6        | 130.9                       | 134.3                    | 124.2          | 141.1                 | 115.7               | 160.4               |
| Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -                         | 127.3      | 125.7        | 112.0                       | 129.4                    | 125.7          | 134.0                 | 122.1               | 137.4               |
| Chicago -----                                    | 133.0      | 131.0        | 133.2                       | 134.7                    | 138.2          | 129.7                 | 117.4               | 142.4               |
| Cincinnati -----                                 | 127.9      | 124.1        | 122.6                       | 129.9                    | 124.7          | 128.8                 | 113.0               | 147.7               |
| Cleveland -----                                  | 129.3      | 126.5        | 120.3                       | 131.5                    | 129.0          | 133.2                 | 116.1               | 145.7               |
| Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --                         | 125.5      | 122.3        | 116.1                       | 128.9                    | 126.7          | 121.0                 | 116.2               | 137.7               |
| Detroit -----                                    | 130.9      | 128.7        | 123.9                       | 139.2                    | 137.0          | 120.0                 | 114.7               | 143.6               |
| Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)                          | 123.4      | 121.2        | 116.2                       | 126.6                    | 116.1          | 124.1                 | 116.0               | 130.4               |
| Houston -----                                    | 132.7      | 126.7        | 131.4                       | 125.3                    | 131.2          | 135.4                 | 114.6               | 158.4               |
| Kansas City -----                                | 135.9      | 131.7        | 132.9                       | 135.3                    | 141.8          | 127.0                 | 120.8               | 150.8               |
| Los Angeles-Long Beach -                         | 126.7      | 120.9        | 123.2                       | 119.6                    | 124.5          | 132.0                 | 106.5               | 147.6               |
| Milwaukee -----                                  | 130.2      | 127.5        | 118.9                       | 132.0                    | 138.7          | 128.5                 | 116.0               | (2/)                |
| Minneapolis-St. Paul ---                         | 131.2      | 126.8        | 122.8                       | 130.7                    | 138.8          | 123.9                 | 118.1               | 151.8               |
| New York -----                                   | 135.1      | 128.3        | 124.3                       | 130.9                    | 122.3          | 141.8                 | 117.3               | 163.7               |
| Philadelphia -----                               | 132.0      | 126.3        | 128.7                       | 124.2                    | 136.4          | 133.6                 | 112.4               | 162.4               |
| Pittsburgh -----                                 | 128.2      | 125.4        | 125.1                       | 132.1                    | 121.0          | 130.8                 | 115.6               | 146.1               |
| St. Louis -----                                  | 136.6      | 132.1        | 133.6                       | 137.6                    | 139.2          | 140.3                 | 113.1               | 154.5               |
| San Diego (Feb.1965=100)                         | 120.8      | 117.4        | 112.0                       | 131.2                    | 113.2          | 106.4                 | 112.6               | (2/)                |
| San Francisco-Oakland --                         | 128.2      | 122.6        | 122.9                       | 125.7                    | 122.1          | 129.9                 | 109.6               | 152.5               |
| Seattle -----                                    | 128.5      | 121.9        | 115.1                       | 127.4                    | 130.0          | 123.4                 | 111.5               | 155.4               |
| Washington -----                                 | 135.7      | 130.0        | 123.8                       | 131.8                    | 128.3          | 134.9                 | 125.0               | 157.3               |
| Percent Changes February 1970 to March 1970      |            |              |                             |                          |                |                       |                     |                     |
| U.S. City Average -----                          | 0.1        | .0           | 0.6                         | 0.4                      | 0.5            | 0.5                   | -1.8                | 0.6                 |
| Atlanta -----                                    | -.2        | -.4          | .7                          | .2                       | .6             | .3                    | -2.5                | .5                  |
| Baltimore -----                                  | .6         | .2           | 2.5                         | 1.1                      | .1             | -.3                   | -2.2                | 1.9                 |
| Boston -----                                     | .3         | .3           | 1.4                         | .2                       | .2             | 2.1                   | -1.9                | .1                  |
| Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -                         | .2         | .2           | 1.6                         | .8                       | .8             | -2.9                  | .7                  | .4                  |
| Chicago -----                                    | -.2        | -.2          | .5                          | .2                       | .1             | .2                    | -2.4                | .1                  |
| Cincinnati -----                                 | .1         | .0           | .8                          | -.5                      | .3             | 1.3                   | -1.1                | .3                  |
| Cleveland -----                                  | .7         | .7           | 1.9                         | .8                       | 1.0            | 1.6                   | -1.1                | .8                  |
| Dallas (Nov.1963=100) --                         | -.3        | -.6          | .8                          | -.2                      | .3             | .8                    | -3.0                | .6                  |
| Detroit -----                                    | .5         | .5           | -.2                         | 1.2                      | .6             | 1.9                   | -1.0                | .4                  |
| Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)                          | .4         | .1           | .1                          | -.2                      | .1             | .9                    | -.4                 | 1.6                 |
| Houston -----                                    | -.5        | -.9          | -.1                         | -.9                      | .1             | -1.3                  | -1.9                | 1.1                 |
| Kansas City -----                                | .1         | -.4          | -1.0                        | .1                       | .4             | .2                    | -1.5                | 1.3                 |
| Los Angeles-Long Beach -                         | -.4        | -.6          | -.5                         | .1                       | .3             | .0                    | -2.3                | .0                  |
| Milwaukee -----                                  | .1         | .1           | -.1                         | .5                       | .1             | 2.5                   | -2.2                | (2/)                |
| Minneapolis-St. Paul ---                         | .5         | .5           | -.9                         | .3                       | 2.9            | 1.3                   | -1.2                | .5                  |
| New York -----                                   | .3         | .0           | -.2                         | .5                       | .2             | .9                    | -1.7                | 1.1                 |
| Philadelphia -----                               | .0         | -.2          | 1.8                         | .6                       | -.1            | -.6                   | -2.6                | .8                  |
| Pittsburgh -----                                 | .2         | .2           | .7                          | -.8                      | .4             | 2.2                   | -.4                 | .2                  |
| St. Louis -----                                  | -.6        | -.8          | .8                          | -.4                      | -.4            | -.8                   | -2.6                | .5                  |
| San Diego (Feb.1965=100)                         | -.4        | -.6          | .3                          | -.2                      | -.3            | 1.0                   | -3.2                | (2/)                |
| San Francisco-Oakland --                         | -.4        | -.6          | .2                          | .2                       | .1             | .6                    | -3.8                | .0                  |
| Seattle -----                                    | -.5        | -.8          | 1.0                         | .1                       | .0             | -1.8                  | -2.7                | .3                  |
| Washington -----                                 | -.4        | -.7          | .8                          | -1.2                     | .4             | -.4                   | -1.6                | .4                  |

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

<sup>2/</sup> Not Available.

TABLE 7: Consumer Price Index--United States City Average  
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Food Items  
March 1970 indexes and percent changes from selected dates  
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

| Item or Group                      | Index      |                     | Percent Change to March 1970 from-- |                     | March 1969 Unadjusted |
|------------------------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
|                                    | March 1970 |                     | February 1970                       |                     |                       |
|                                    | Unadjusted | Seasonally adjusted | Unadjusted                          | Seasonally adjusted |                       |
| Total food -----                   | 131.6      | 132.0               | 0.1                                 | 0.2                 | 7.5                   |
| Food away from home -----          | 152.4      | -                   | .6                                  | -                   | 7.9                   |
| Restaurant meals -----             | 152.5      | -                   | .6                                  | -                   | 7.9                   |
| Snacks <u>1/</u> -----             | 132.4      | -                   | .3                                  | -                   | 7.6                   |
| Food at home -----                 | 127.4      | 127.9               | .0                                  | .2                  | 7.5                   |
| Cereals and bakery products -----  | 127.0      | -                   | .6                                  | -                   | 4.8                   |
| Flour -----                        | 113.1      | -                   | .9                                  | -                   | 1.4                   |
| Cracker meal <u>1/</u> -----       | 132.9      | -                   | 2.1                                 | -                   | 12.8                  |
| Corn flakes -----                  | 130.4      | -                   | .2                                  | -                   | .9                    |
| Rice -----                         | 114.4      | -                   | .2                                  | -                   | 2.5                   |
| Bread, white -----                 | 133.4      | -                   | .6                                  | -                   | 4.7                   |
| Bread, whole wheat <u>1/</u> ----- | 125.6      | -                   | .1                                  | -                   | 5.4                   |
| Cookies -----                      | 102.4      | -                   | .7                                  | -                   | 1.6                   |
| Layer cake <u>1/</u> -----         | 121.3      | -                   | 1.2                                 | -                   | 9.2                   |
| Cinnamon rolls <u>1/</u> -----     | 116.4      | -                   | -.3                                 | -                   | 4.1                   |
| Meats, poultry, and fish -----     | 130.2      | 131.1               | .4                                  | .5                  | 11.8                  |
| Meats -----                        | 134.7      | 135.9               | .6                                  | 1.0                 | 13.1                  |
| Beef and veal -----                | 133.6      | 134.1               | .5                                  | .4                  | 10.0                  |
| Steak, round -----                 | 126.9      | 127.5               | .4                                  | .9                  | 8.6                   |
| Steak, sirloin <u>2/</u> -----     | 121.8      | -                   | 1.2                                 | -                   | 7.3                   |
| Steak, porterhouse <u>1/</u> ----- | 126.8      | -                   | .6                                  | -                   | 7.0                   |
| Rump roast <u>1/</u> -----         | 121.1      | -                   | .8                                  | -                   | 7.8                   |
| Rib roast -----                    | 141.2      | 142.2               | -.4                                 | -.1                 | 9.2                   |
| Chuck roast -----                  | 126.9      | 126.8               | .2                                  | .2                  | 11.0                  |
| Hamburger -----                    | 140.8      | 141.1               | .2                                  | -.1                 | 12.6                  |
| Beef liver <u>1/</u> -----         | 120.5      | -                   | .5                                  | -                   | 11.9                  |
| Veal cutlets -----                 | 168.1      | 167.4               | 1.3                                 | .8                  | 13.8                  |
| Pork -----                         | 137.9      | 139.6               | .5                                  | .9                  | 18.5                  |
| Chops -----                        | 139.7      | 142.4               | .1                                  | 1.1                 | 15.5                  |
| Loin roast <u>2/</u> -----         | 146.1      | -                   | -.1                                 | -                   | 15.4                  |
| Pork sausage <u>1/</u> -----       | 150.6      | -                   | 1.3                                 | -                   | 19.8                  |
| Ham, whole -----                   | 135.3      | 135.0               | 1.0                                 | 1.7                 | 19.6                  |
| Picnics <u>1/</u> -----            | 142.1      | -                   | 1.6                                 | -                   | 20.1                  |
| Bacon -----                        | 138.7      | 141.2               | -.1                                 | -.8                 | 21.3                  |
| Other meats -----                  | 137.3      | 138.0               | 1.0                                 | 1.2                 | 12.5                  |
| Lamb chops <u>1/</u> -----         | 142.2      | -                   | 1.0                                 | -                   | 7.4                   |
| Frankfurters -----                 | 136.1      | 137.5               | 1.4                                 | 1.6                 | 14.2                  |
| Ham, canned <u>1/</u> -----        | 138.3      | -                   | 1.2                                 | -                   | 18.0                  |
| Bologna sausage <u>1/</u> -----    | 138.4      | -                   | .5                                  | -                   | 13.6                  |
| Salami sausage <u>1/</u> -----     | 130.4      | -                   | 1.4                                 | -                   | 11.8                  |
| Liverwurst <u>1/</u> -----         | 131.6      | -                   | .2                                  | -                   | 11.2                  |
| Poultry -----                      | 97.9       | -                   | -1.2                                | -                   | 3.9                   |
| Frying chicken -----               | 96.7       | 94.9                | -1.8                                | -2.9                | 1.3                   |
| Chicken breasts <u>1/</u> -----    | 110.4      | -                   | .0                                  | -                   | 4.8                   |
| Turkey <u>1/</u> -----             | 116.9      | -                   | .9                                  | -                   | 17.3                  |
| Fish -----                         | 139.8      | 139.8               | 1.1                                 | 1.4                 | 9.5                   |
| Shrimp, frozen <u>1/</u> -----     | 127.4      | -                   | 1.0                                 | -                   | 9.4                   |
| Fish, fresh or frozen -----        | 150.9      | 151.4               | 1.9                                 | 2.4                 | 17.3                  |
| Tuna fish, canned -----            | 123.1      | -                   | 1.2                                 | -                   | 9.5                   |
| Sardines, canned <u>1/</u> -----   | 126.9      | -                   | .3                                  | -                   | 2.8                   |
| Dairy products -----               | 129.4      | 129.8               | .5                                  | .7                  | 5.2                   |
| Milk, fresh, grocery -----         | 126.8      | 127.3               | .5                                  | .6                  | 5.1                   |
| Milk, fresh, delivered -----       | 133.5      | -                   | .3                                  | -                   | 5.1                   |
| Milk, fresh, skim <u>1/</u> -----  | 128.4      | -                   | .9                                  | -                   | 5.8                   |
| Milk, evaporated -----             | 127.7      | -                   | .2                                  | -                   | 4.3                   |
| Ice cream -----                    | 102.7      | -                   | .6                                  | -                   | 3.8                   |
| Cheese, American process -----     | 156.4      | 156.6               | 1.0                                 | 1.3                 | 9.8                   |
| Butter -----                       | 119.5      | 119.7               | .0                                  | .3                  | 1.8                   |

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7: Consumer Price Index—United States City Average  
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers. Food Items-- Continued  
March 1970 indexes and percent changes from selected dates  
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

| Item or Group                                  | Index      |                     | Percent Change to March 1970 from-- |                     |            |
|--|------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
|  | March 1970 |                     | February 1970                       |                     | March 1969 |
|  | Unadjusted | Seasonally adjusted | Unadjusted                          | Seasonally adjusted | Unadjusted |
| Fruits and vegetables -----                    | 133.1      | 132.6               | .5                                  | -.7                 | 4.3        |
| Fresh fruits and vegetables -----              | 145.7      | 144.8               | .8                                  | -1.3                | 6.2        |
| Apples -----                                   | 139.6      | 145.0               | 2.8                                 | -1.0                | -15.2      |
| Bananas -----                                  | 101.9      | 103.6               | 5.6                                 | 4.8                 | 11.5       |
| Oranges -----                                  | 125.4      | 133.4               | .7                                  | .8                  | - 1.2      |
| Orange juice, fresh 1/ -----                   | 90.6       | -                   | -.1                                 | -                   | .4         |
| Grapefruit -----                               | 150.6      | 171.5               | -.7                                 | 1.1                 | 12.1       |
| Grapes 3/ -----                                | (3/)       | (3/)                | (3/)                                | (3/)                | (3/)       |
| Strawberries 3/ -----                          | (3/)       | (3/)                | (3/)                                | (3/)                | (3/)       |
| Watermelon 3/ -----                            | (3/)       | (3/)                | (3/)                                | (3/)                | (3/)       |
| Potatoes -----                                 | 153.3      | 158.4               | 1.5                                 | 1.1                 | 10.2       |
| Onions -----                                   | 171.0      | 173.6               | 2.5                                 | 1.1                 | 38.3       |
| Asparagus 1/ 3/ -----                          | 176.6      | -                   | 27.0                                | -                   | 3.0        |
| Cabbage -----                                  | 204.5      | 192.7               | -3.2                                | -1.6                | 36.6       |
| Carrots -----                                  | 122.1      | 124.6               | -16.0                               | -12.7               | 8.1        |
| Celery -----                                   | 136.2      | 142.3               | -5.2                                | - 1.4               | 23.1       |
| Cucumbers 1/ -----                             | 209.1      | -                   | .3                                  | -                   | 43.9       |
| Lettuce -----                                  | 123.0      | 124.6               | .2                                  | -2.3                | -21.2      |
| Peppers, green 1/ -----                        | 265.5      | -                   | -6.5                                | -                   | 37.6       |
| Spinach 1/ -----                               | 118.3      | -                   | -3.0                                | -                   | 7.5        |
| Tomatoes -----                                 | 136.1      | 127.1               | 1.0                                 | -1.6                | - 5.7      |
| Processed fruits and vegetables -----          | 117.3      | -                   | .0                                  | -                   | 1.3        |
| Fruit cocktail, canned -----                   | 105.3      | -                   | .4                                  | -                   | -1.2       |
| Pears, canned 1/ -----                         | 104.9      | -                   | -.5                                 | -                   | -4.7       |
| Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned 1/ -----    | 104.1      | -                   | .4                                  | -                   | 4.7        |
| Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----         | 93.5       | 92.9                | -3.1                                | -4.5                | -6.0       |
| Lemonade concentrate, frozen 2/ -----          | 95.9       | -                   | 1.2                                 | -                   | 4.9        |
| Beets, canned 1/ -----                         | 115.0      | -                   | .8                                  | -                   | 1.3        |
| Peas, green, canned -----                      | 121.8      | -                   | -.3                                 | -                   | 1.0        |
| Tomatoes, canned -----                         | 128.0      | -                   | .6                                  | -                   | 3.0        |
| Dried beans -----                              | 122.0      | -                   | -1.1                                | -                   | -2.2       |
| Broccoli, frozen 1/ -----                      | 112.7      | -                   | .8                                  | -                   | 11.3       |
| Other food at home -----                       | 116.0      | 116.2               | -1.8                                | -1.0                | 6.9        |
| Eggs -----                                     | 122.6      | 123.6               | -13.0                               | -7.4                | 13.0       |
| Fats and oils:                                 |            |                     |                                     |                     |            |
| Margarine -----                                | 106.1      | -                   | .5                                  | -                   | 3.0        |
| Salad dressing, Italian 1/ -----               | 102.2      | -                   | .3                                  | -                   | -.4        |
| Salad or cooking oil 1/ -----                  | 129.1      | -                   | 1.5                                 | -                   | 5.1        |
| Sugar and sweets -----                         | 129.7      | -                   | .9                                  | -                   | 4.8        |
| Sugar -----                                    | 118.2      | -                   | .9                                  | -                   | 3.6        |
| Grape jelly -----                              | 131.5      | -                   | .7                                  | -                   | 7.4        |
| Chocolate bar -----                            | 127.9      | -                   | 1.0                                 | -                   | 3.4        |
| Syrup, chocolate flavored 1/ -----             | 110.1      | -                   | .7                                  | -                   | 4.5        |
| Nonalcoholic beverages -----                   | 112.4      | -                   | 1.5                                 | -                   | 9.7        |
| Coffee, can and bag -----                      | 99.7       | -                   | 2.4                                 | -                   | 14.6       |
| Coffee, instant 4/ -----                       | 113.1      | -                   | 1.9                                 | -                   | 11.8       |
| Tea -----                                      | 103.1      | -                   | -.5                                 | -                   | 1.5        |
| Cola drink -----                               | 161.9      | -                   | 1.0                                 | -                   | 6.0        |
| Carbonated fruit drink 1/ -----                | 127.4      | -                   | 1.1                                 | -                   | 6.8        |
| Prepared and partially prepared foods 1/ ----- | 109.5      | -                   | .5                                  | -                   | 4.2        |
| Bean soup, canned 1/ -----                     | 110.4      | -                   | -.5                                 | -                   | 6.7        |
| Chicken soup, canned 1/ -----                  | 101.8      | -                   | .7                                  | -                   | 5.3        |
| Spaghetti, canned 1/ -----                     | 121.8      | -                   | .6                                  | -                   | 5.3        |
| Mashed potatoes, instant 1/ -----              | 110.5      | -                   | .2                                  | -                   | 5.7        |
| Potatoes, french fried, frozen 2/ -----        | 93.2       | -                   | .4                                  | -                   | 2.8        |
| Baby foods, canned -----                       | 112.0      | -                   | .0                                  | -                   | .8         |
| Sweet pickle relish 1/ -----                   | 117.2      | -                   | 1.0                                 | -                   | 3.9        |
| Pretzels 1/ -----                              | 109.1      | -                   | .7                                  | -                   | 2.2        |

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, March 1970  
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates  
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

| Item or Group  | Other Index Bases | Indexes    |               | Percent Change to March 1970 From: |            |
|--|-------------------|------------|---------------|------------------------------------|------------|
|  |                   | March 1970 | February 1970 | February 1970                      | March 1969 |
| Housing -----  |                   | 133.6      | 132.2         | 1.1                                | 7.4        |
| Shelter 1/ -----                                       |                   | 142.8      | 140.9         | 1.3                                | 9.4        |
| Rent -----   |                   | 122.3      | 121.8         | .4                                 | 4.1        |
| Homeownership costs 2/ -----                           |                   | 150.9      | 148.5         | 1.6                                | 11.2       |
| Mortgage interest rates -----                          |                   | 148.9      | 143.5         | 3.8                                | 15.0       |
| Property taxes -----                                   | Dec.63            | 134.7      | 133.6         | .8                                 | 5.5        |
| Property insurance rates -----                         |                   | 153.2      | 152.8         | .3                                 | 4.9        |
| Maintenance and repairs -----                          |                   | 148.3      | 146.9         | 1.0                                | 7.9        |
| Commodities 3/ -----                                   | Dec.63            | 117.2      | 116.5         | .6                                 | 1.1        |
| Exterior house paint -----                             |                   | 121.0      | 119.8         | 1.0                                | 4.8        |
| Interior house paint -----                             | Dec.63            | 114.7      | 114.8         | -.1                                | 2.8        |
| Services -----   | Dec.63            | 146.2      | 144.7         | 1.0                                | 10.8       |
| Repainting living and dining rooms -----               |                   | 186.8      | 185.4         | .8                                 | 11.8       |
| Reshingling roofs -----                                |                   | 166.1      | 165.4         | .4                                 | 10.4       |
| Residing houses -----                                  | Dec.63            | 136.7      | 135.0         | 1.3                                | 9.1        |
| Replacing sinks -----                                  | Dec.63            | 148.2      | 145.6         | 1.8                                | 10.8       |
| Repairing furnaces -----                               | Dec.63            | 152.4      | 151.3         | .7                                 | 13.3       |
| Fuel and utilities -----                               |                   | 115.6      | 114.9         | .6                                 | 3.0        |
| Fuel oil and coal -----                                |                   | 120.8      | 120.6         | .2                                 | 3.1        |
| Fuel oil, #2 -----                                     |                   | 117.8      | 117.5         | .3                                 | 2.9        |
| Gas and electricity -----                              |                   | 114.8      | 114.6         | .2                                 | 3.8        |
| Gas -----  |                   | 121.9      | 121.5         | .3                                 | 4.9        |
| Electricity -----                                      |                   | 107.5      | 107.4         | .1                                 | 2.9        |
| Other utilities:                                       |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Residential telephone services -----                   |                   | 103.9      | 102.8         | 1.1                                | .8         |
| Residential water and sewerage services -----          |                   | 151.0      | 147.5         | 2.4                                | 5.3        |
| Household furnishings and operation 4/ -----           |                   | 121.6      | 120.8         | .7                                 | 4.5        |
| Housefurnishings -----                                 |                   | 111.7      | 111.1         | .5                                 | 3.6        |
| Textiles -----   |                   | 116.4      | 115.7         | .6                                 | 2.5        |
| Sheets, percale or muslin -----                        |                   | 122.7      | 120.8         | 1.6                                | 2.6        |
| Curtains, tailored, polyester marquisette -----        |                   | 113.7      | 112.7         | .9                                 | 4.0        |
| Bedspreads, chiefly cotton, tufted -----               |                   | 117.1      | 116.6         | .4                                 | .7         |
| Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate -----          |                   | 126.5      | 125.8         | .6                                 | 4.5        |
| Pillows, bed, polyester or acrylic filling -----       | Dec.63            | 107.2      | 106.8         | .4                                 | -.1        |
| Slipcovers, ready made, chiefly cotton -----           | Dec.63            | 112.1      | 112.3         | -.2                                | 3.2        |
| Furniture and bedding -----                            |                   | 125.4      | 124.6         | .6                                 | 4.8        |
| Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser -----             | Mar. 70           | 100.0      | -             | -                                  | -          |
| Living room suites, good and inexpensive quality ----- |                   | 127.3      | 126.1         | 1.0                                | 4.4        |
| Lounge chairs, upholstered -----                       | Dec.63            | 121.0      | 120.0         | .8                                 | 7.4        |
| Dining room chairs -----                               | Mar. 70           | 100.0      | -             | -                                  | -          |
| Sofas, upholstered -----                               | Dec.63            | 118.0      | 116.5         | 1.3                                | 4.7        |
| Sofas, dual purpose -----                              |                   | 120.6      | 120.0         | .5                                 | 5.1        |
| Sleep sets, Hollywood bed type (discontinued) -----    | Dec.63            | -          | -             | -                                  | -          |
| Box springs -----                                      | Dec.63            | 124.2      | 122.5         | 1.4                                | 3.2        |
| Aluminum folding chairs 5/ -----                       | June 64           | (5/)       | (5/)          | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Cribs -----  | Dec.63            | 120.6      | 119.9         | .6                                 | 4.8        |
| Floor coverings -----                                  |                   | 106.9      | 106.9         | .0                                 | .8         |
| Rugs, soft surface -----                               |                   | 103.9      | 104.0         | -.1                                | -.5        |
| Rugs, hard surface -----                               |                   | 113.7      | 113.6         | .1                                 | 3.4        |
| Tile, vinyl -----                                      | Dec.63            | 111.7      | 111.3         | .4                                 | 4.2        |
| Appliances 6/ -----                                    |                   | 86.8       | 86.6          | .2                                 | 1.6        |
| Washing machines, electric, automatic -----            |                   | 92.4       | 92.3          | .1                                 | 2.8        |
| Vacuum cleaners, canister type -----                   |                   | 81.3       | 81.5          | -.2                                | .2         |
| Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers electric -----  |                   | 87.2       | 86.8          | .5                                 | 3.0        |
| Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----           |                   | 100.1      | 99.3          | .8                                 | 3.1        |
| Clothes dryers, electric, automatic -----              | Dec.63            | 101.8      | 101.3         | .5                                 | 3.0        |
| Air conditioners, demountable 5/ -----                 | June 64           | (5/)       | (5/)          | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Room heaters, electric, portable 5/ -----              | Dec.63            | 100.5      | 100.6         | -.1                                | 2.6        |
| Garbage disposal units -----                           | Dec.63            | 106.6      | 105.9         | .7                                 | 3.7        |
| Other housefurnishings:                                |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Dinnerware, earthenware -----                          |                   | 138.1      | 137.1         | .7                                 | 4.6        |
| Flatware, stainless steel -----                        | Dec.63            | 120.4      | 120.1         | .2                                 | 2.9        |
| Table lamps, with shade -----                          | Dec.63            | 119.9      | 118.6         | 1.1                                | 6.7        |
| Lawn mowers, power, rotary type 5/ -----               | June 64           | 120.0      | (5/)          | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Electric drills, hand held -----                       | Dec.63            | 102.8      | 103.0         | -.2                                | .4         |
| Housekeeping supplies:                                 |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Laundry soaps and detergents -----                     |                   | 110.0      | 108.8         | 1.1                                | 4.2        |
| Paper napkins -----                                    |                   | 134.7      | 131.3         | 2.6                                | 5.6        |
| Toilet tissue -----                                    |                   | 126.8      | 123.5         | 2.7                                | 8.6        |
| Housekeeping services:                                 |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Domestic service, general housework -----              |                   | 182.5      | 182.0         | .3                                 | 7.2        |
| Baby sitter service -----                              | Dec.63            | 140.0      | 138.6         | 1.0                                | 6.9        |
| Postal charges -----                                   |                   | 165.5      | 165.5         | .0                                 | .0         |
| Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----              | Dec.63            | 149.1      | 147.9         | .8                                 | 8.1        |
| Licensed day care service, preschool child -----       | Dec.63            | 132.0      | 132.0         | .0                                 | 6.4        |
| Washing machine repairs -----                          | Dec.63            | 139.6      | 138.3         | .9                                 | 8.2        |

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

Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, March 1970  
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates  
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

| Item and Group  | Other Index Bases | Indexes    |               | Percent change to March 1970 From: |            |
|---|-------------------|------------|---------------|------------------------------------|------------|
|   |                   | March 1970 | February 1970 | February 1970                      | March 1969 |
| Apparel and upkeep 7/ -----                             |                   | 130.6      | 130.0         | 0.5                                | 4.6        |
| Apparel commodities -----                               |                   | 129.9      | 129.3         | .5                                 | 4.5        |
| Apparel commodities less footwear -----                 |                   | 126.7      | 126.2         | .4                                 | 4.2        |
| Men's and boys' -----                                   |                   | 132.3      | 131.0         | 1.0                                | 4.7        |
| Men's:  |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Topcoats, wool 5/ -----                                 |                   | 144.1      | 141.1         | 2.1                                | 4.6        |
| Suits, year round weight -----                          |                   | 157.3      | 153.9         | 2.2                                | 7.2        |
| Suits, tropical weight 5/ -----                         | June 64           | 136.6      | (5/)          | (5/)                               | 8.2        |
| Jackets, lightweight -----                              | Dec.63            | 125.3      | 125.6         | -.2                                | 1.8        |
| Slacks, wool or wool blend -----                        |                   | 131.0      | 129.6         | 1.1                                | 4.5        |
| Slacks, cotton or manmade blend -----                   |                   | 120.9      | 119.4         | 1.3                                | 7.1        |
| Trousers, work, cotton -----                            |                   | 116.6      | 116.4         | .2                                 | 1.0        |
| Shirts, work, cotton -----                              |                   | 126.0      | 124.9         | .9                                 | 3.4        |
| Shirts, business, cotton -----                          |                   | 123.7      | 123.2         | .4                                 | 2.7        |
| T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----                          |                   | 132.9      | 133.3         | -.3                                | 2.9        |
| Socks, cotton -----                                     |                   | 121.5      | 121.3         | .2                                 | 2.9        |
| Handkerchiefs, cotton -----                             | Dec.63            | 114.2      | 113.9         | .3                                 | 2.5        |
| Boy's:  |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend 5/ -----     | Dec.63            | 114.6      | 114.3         | .3                                 | 5.4        |
| Sport coats, wool or wool blend 5/ -----                | Dec.63            | (5/)       | (5/)          | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend -----                 |                   | 129.5      | 129.4         | .1                                 | 4.2        |
| Undershirts, cotton -----                               |                   | 130.5      | 129.9         | .5                                 | 4.4        |
| Women's and girls' -----                                |                   | 125.3      | 125.4         | -.1                                | 3.9        |
| Women's:  |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blend 5/ -----         |                   | (5/)       | (5/)          | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton 5/ -----                  | Dec.63            | (5/)       | (5/)          | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Sweaters, wool or acrylic 5/ -----                      | Dec.63            | (5/)       | (5/)          | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Skirts, wool or wool blend 5/ -----                     | Sept.61           | (5/)       | 121.0         | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Skirts, cotton or cotton blend 5/ -----                 | Mar.62            | (5/)       | (5/)          | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Blouses, cotton -----                                   |                   | 125.3      | 124.9         | .3                                 | 1.8        |
| Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber -----            |                   | 158.5      | 158.7         | -.1                                | 6.8        |
| Dresses, street, wool or wool blend 5/ -----            |                   | (5/)       | (5/)          | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Dresses, street, cotton 5/ -----                        |                   | (5/)       | (5/)          | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Housedresses, cotton -----                              |                   | (8/)       | 153.5         | (8/)                               | (8/)       |
| Slips, nylon -----                                      |                   | 114.2      | 114.6         | -.3                                | 4.4        |
| Panties, acetate -----                                  |                   | 113.2      | 112.7         | .4                                 | 4.9        |
| Girdles, manmade blend -----                            |                   | 121.4      | 120.9         | .4                                 | 2.7        |
| Brassieres, cotton -----                                | Dec.63            | 127.4      | 125.6         | 1.4                                | 6.7        |
| Hose, nylon seamless -----                              |                   | 99.0       | 98.3          | .7                                 | -.1        |
| Anklets, cotton -----                                   | Dec.63            | 120.5      | 122.5         | -1.6                               | 5.1        |
| Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----                   | Dec.63            | 110.9      | 111.0         | -.1                                | 2.9        |
| Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----                 | Dec.63            | 118.2      | 118.5         | -.3                                | 6.1        |
| Girl's:   |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Raincoats, vinyl plastic or chiefly cotton 5/ -----     | Dec.63            | 114.8      | 118.9         | -3.4                               | -3.0       |
| Skirts, wool or wool blend 5/ -----                     |                   | (5/)       | (5/)          | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Dresses, cotton -----                                   |                   | 134.0      | 132.3         | 1.3                                | .4         |
| Slacks, cotton 5/ -----                                 | Dec.63            | 125.5      | 125.4         | .1                                 | 6.2        |
| Slips, cotton blend -----                               | Dec.63            | 108.1      | 107.8         | .3                                 | 1.1        |
| Robes, duster style, quilted tricot or percale 5/ ----- | Dec.63            | (5/)       | (5/)          | (5/)                               | (5/)       |
| Handbags -----  | Dec.63            | 115.1      | 114.9         | .2                                 | 6.6        |
| Footwear -----  |                   | 146.3      | 145.0         | .9                                 | 6.3        |
| Men's:  |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Shoes, street, oxford -----                             |                   | 143.8      | 142.3         | 1.1                                | 5.7        |
| Shoes, work, high -----                                 |                   | 142.1      | 141.4         | .5                                 | 5.7        |
| Women's:  |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Shoes, street, pump -----                               |                   | 155.5      | 151.6         | 2.6                                | 6.6        |
| Shoes, evening, pump -----                              | Dec.63            | 125.0      | 124.8         | .2                                 | 6.0        |
| Shoes, casual, pump -----                               | Dec.63            | 136.3      | 135.7         | .4                                 | 10.5       |
| Houseslippers, scuff -----                              | Dec.63            | 128.2      | 127.8         | .3                                 | 4.2        |
| Children's:   |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Shoes, oxford -----                                     |                   | 146.6      | 145.9         | .5                                 | 6.5        |
| Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----                      | Dec.63            | 120.7      | 120.0         | .6                                 | 4.3        |
| Dress shoes, girls', strap -----                        | Dec.63            | 138.0      | 136.6         | 1.0                                | 8.2        |
| Miscellaneous apparel:                                  |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Diapers, cotton gauze -----                             |                   | 104.9      | 104.3         | .6                                 | 3.1        |
| Yard goods, cotton -----                                |                   | 125.9      | 124.6         | 1.0                                | 6.6        |
| Wrist watches, men's and women's -----                  | Dec.63            | 103.8      | 103.8         | .0                                 | 2.4        |
| Apparel services:                                       |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses -----      |                   | 135.2      | 134.6         | .4                                 | 4.5        |
| Automatic laundry service -----                         | Dec.63            | 113.2      | 112.3         | .8                                 | 4.4        |
| Laundry, men's shirts -----                             | Dec.63            | 128.5      | 128.0         | .4                                 | 5.4        |
| Tailoring charges, hem adjustment -----                 | Dec.63            | 127.7      | 127.4         | .2                                 | 4.8        |
| Shoe repairs, women's heel lift -----                   |                   | 125.5      | 125.0         | .4                                 | 4.9        |

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

Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, March 1970  
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates  
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

| Item and Group  | Other Index Bases | Indexes    |               | Percent change to March 1970 From: |            |
|---|-------------------|------------|---------------|------------------------------------|------------|
|   |                   | March 1970 | February 1970 | February 1970                      | March 1969 |
| Transportation -----  |                   | 127.1      | 127.3         | -.2                                | 2.3        |
| Private 9/ -----  |                   | 123.0      | 123.3         | -.2                                | 1.2        |
| Automobiles, new -----  |                   | 104.4      | 104.6         | -.2                                | 2.0        |
| Automobiles, used -----                                       |                   | 117.6      | 117.8         | -.2                                | -9.9       |
| Gasoline, regular and premium -----                           |                   | 115.3      | 116.7         | -1.2                               | -1.6       |
| Motor oil, premium -----                                      |                   | 142.3      | 141.4         | .6                                 | 5.0        |
| Tires, new, tubeless -----                                    |                   | 119.4      | 118.5         | .8                                 | 4.0        |
| Auto repairs and maintenance 10/ -----                        |                   | 141.5      | 140.2         | .9                                 | 7.2        |
| Auto insurance rates -----                                    |                   | 176.4      | 176.0         | .2                                 | 13.0       |
| Auto registration -----                                       |                   | 140.3      | 140.3         | .0                                 | 5.1        |
| Parking fees, private and municipal -----                     | Dec. 63           | 128.6      | 128.2         | .3                                 | 9.7        |
| Public -----  |                   | 165.8      | 165.4         | .2                                 | 12.4       |
| Local transit fares -----                                     |                   | 183.8      | 183.8         | .0                                 | 15.9       |
| Taxicab fares -----   | Dec. 63           | 131.5      | 131.5         | .0                                 | 5.4        |
| Railroad fares, coach -----                                   |                   | 121.1      | 117.2         | 3.3                                | 5.7        |
| Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----                           | Dec. 63           | 117.8      | 117.4         | .3                                 | 6.4        |
| Bus fares, intercity -----                                    | Dec. 63           | 128.6      | 127.9         | .5                                 | 8.4        |
| Health and recreation -----                                   |                   | 141.4      | 140.7         | .5                                 | 5.3        |
| Medical care -----  |                   | 161.6      | 160.1         | .9                                 | 6.0        |
| Drugs and prescriptions -----                                 |                   | 100.3      | 100.0         | .3                                 | 1.5        |
| Over-the-counter items -----                                  | Dec. 63           | 107.8      | 107.2         | .6                                 | 1.1        |
| Multiple vitamin concentrates -----                           | Dec. 63           | 91.7       | 90.8          | 1.0                                | -5         |
| Aspirin compounds -----                                       | Dec. 63           | 107.3      | 107.4         | -.1                                | .8         |
| Liquid tonics -----   | Dec. 63           | 101.5      | 101.2         | .3                                 | .6         |
| Adhesive bandages, package -----                              | Dec. 63           | 119.7      | 118.2         | 1.3                                | 2.8        |
| Cold tablets or capsules -----                                | Dec. 63           | 112.2      | 111.5         | .6                                 | 3.1        |
| Cough syrup -----   | Dec. 63           | 113.5      | 113.0         | .4                                 | .0         |
| Prescriptions -----   |                   | 89.7       | 89.7          | .0                                 | 1.7        |
| Anti-infectives -----   | Mar. 60           | 62.8       | 63.0          | -.3                                | .5         |
| Sedatives and hypnotics -----                                 | Mar. 60           | 112.1      | 112.0         | .1                                 | 5.9        |
| Ataractics -----  | Mar. 60           | 90.0       | 90.0          | .0                                 | .3         |
| Anti-spasmodics -----   | Mar. 60           | 101.7      | 101.6         | .1                                 | .6         |
| Cough preparations -----                                      | Mar. 60           | 117.1      | 115.2         | 1.6                                | 9.7        |
| Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives -----                  | Mar. 60           | 99.0       | 98.8          | .2                                 | 2.6        |
| Analgesics, internal -----                                    | Mar. 67           | 104.7      | 105.0         | -.3                                | 2.2        |
| Anti-obesity -----  | Mar. 67           | 105.8      | 105.5         | .3                                 | 2.9        |
| Hormones -----  | Mar. 67           | 93.9       | 93.6          | .3                                 | -4         |
| Professional services:  |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Physicians' fees -----  |                   | 163.7      | 161.6         | 1.3                                | 7.3        |
| Family doctor, office visits -----                            |                   | 166.6      | 164.0         | 1.6                                | 8.1        |
| Family doctor, house visits -----                             |                   | 171.7      | 169.0         | 1.6                                | 6.3        |
| Obstetrical cases -----                                       |                   | 159.0      | 157.6         | .9                                 | 8.5        |
| Pediatric care, office visits -----                           | Dec. 63           | 148.5      | 147.7         | .5                                 | 6.4        |
| Psychiatrist, office visits -----                             | Dec. 63           | 134.6      | 133.7         | .7                                 | 7.3        |
| Herniorrhaphy, adult -----                                    | Dec. 63           | 127.5      | 126.7         | .6                                 | 3.6        |
| Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----                         |                   | 153.8      | 152.6         | .8                                 | 5.1        |
| Dentists' fees -----  |                   | 148.7      | 148.4         | .2                                 | 6.1        |
| Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----                   |                   | 150.6      | 150.3         | .2                                 | 6.7        |
| Extractions, adult -----                                      |                   | 146.1      | 145.9         | .1                                 | 5.2        |
| Dentures, full upper -----                                    | Dec. 63           | 131.7      | 131.3         | .3                                 | 6.0        |
| Other professional services:                                  |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses ----- |                   | 136.3      | 135.7         | .4                                 | 5.7        |
| Routine laboratory tests -----                                | Dec. 63           | 120.8      | 119.8         | .8                                 | 4.7        |
| Hospital service charges:                                     |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Daily service charges -----                                   |                   | 279.0      | 275.6         | 1.2                                | 12.0       |
| Semiprivate rooms -----                                       |                   | 275.6      | 271.9         | 1.4                                | 12.4       |
| Private rooms -----   |                   | 268.7      | 265.9         | 1.1                                | 11.2       |
| Operating room charges -----                                  | Dec. 63           | 177.7      | 175.4         | 1.3                                | 10.8       |
| X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----                    | Dec. 63           | 127.7      | 125.4         | 1.8                                | 5.2        |
| Personal care -----   |                   | 129.6      | 129.0         | .5                                 | 3.8        |
| Toilet goods -----  |                   | 112.9      | 112.4         | .4                                 | 2.8        |
| Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----                         |                   | 113.9      | 114.3         | -.3                                | .0         |
| Toilet soap, hard milled -----                                |                   | 125.6      | 124.3         | 1.0                                | 1.4        |
| Hand lotions, liquid -----                                    | Dec. 63           | 110.5      | 110.0         | .5                                 | 3.9        |
| Shaving cream, aerosol -----                                  |                   | 102.2      | 102.1         | .1                                 | .3         |
| Face powder, pressed -----                                    |                   | 130.8      | 129.1         | 1.3                                | 6.3        |
| Deodorants, cream or roll-on -----                            | Dec. 63           | 96.1       | 96.1          | .0                                 | 1.3        |
| Cleansing tissues -----                                       |                   | 115.5      | 114.4         | 1.0                                | 7.8        |
| Home permanent refills -----                                  |                   | 98.6       | 98.6          | .0                                 | 2.1        |
| Personal care services -----                                  |                   | 150.1      | 149.5         | .4                                 | 4.8        |
| Men's haircuts -----  |                   | 159.1      | 158.7         | .3                                 | 4.9        |
| Beauty shop services -----                                    |                   | 140.6      | 140.0         | .4                                 | 4.8        |
| Women's haircuts -----  | Dec. 63           | 126.1      | 125.4         | .6                                 | 4.5        |
| Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----                            |                   | 158.3      | 157.5         | .5                                 | 5.5        |
| Permanent waves, cold -----                                   |                   | 109.0      | 108.9         | .1                                 | 3.4        |

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

Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, March 1970  
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates  
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

| Item and Group                                     | Other Index Dates | Indexes    |               | Percent change to March 1970 From: |            |
|--|-------------------|------------|---------------|------------------------------------|------------|
|  |                   | March 1970 | February 1970 | February 1970                      | March 1969 |
| Reading and recreation <sup>11/</sup> -----        |                   | 133.6      | 133.2         | 0.3                                | 3.8        |
| Recreational goods -----                           | Dec. 63           | 99.4       | 99.2          | .2                                 | 1.5        |
| TV sets, portable and console -----                |                   | 79.9       | 79.9          | .0                                 | .1         |
| TV replacement tubes -----                         | Dec. 63           | 117.3      | 117.3         | .0                                 | 2.2        |
| Radios, portable and table model -----             |                   | 76.0       | 76.1          | -.1                                | -.4        |
| Tape recorders, portable -----                     | Dec. 63           | 90.2       | 90.2          | .0                                 | -1.1       |
| Phonograph records, stereophonic -----             | Dec. 63           | 98.1       | 97.9          | .2                                 | 1.8        |
| Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens -----            | Dec. 63           | 81.3       | 81.6          | -.4                                | -4.1       |
| Film, 35mm, color -----                            | Dec. 63           | 99.7       | 99.7          | .0                                 | .8         |
| Golf balls, liquid center -----                    | Dec. 63           | 103.7      | 103.7         | .0                                 | -.5        |
| Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----           | Dec. 63           | 116.8      | 115.6         | 1.0                                | 6.1        |
| Fishing rods, fresh water spincast -----           | Dec. 63           | 119.3      | 115.4         | 3.4                                | 2.3        |
| Bowling balls -----                                | Dec. 63           | 101.2      | 100.5         | .7                                 | 3.7        |
| Bicycle, boys' -----                               | Dec. 63           | 111.4      | 111.2         | .2                                 | 3.3        |
| Tricycles -----                                    | Dec. 63           | 111.2      | 112.0         | -.7                                | 3.4        |
| Dog food, canned or boxed -----                    | Dec. 63           | 109.7      | 109.2         | .5                                 | 1.7        |
| Recreational services -----                        | Dec. 63           | 134.1      | 133.7         | .3                                 | 5.5        |
| Indoor movie admissions -----                      |                   | 212.0      | 210.5         | .7                                 | 9.7        |
| Adult -----  |                   | 207.7      | 206.1         | .8                                 | 10.1       |
| Children's -----                                   |                   | 226.7      | 225.4         | .6                                 | 8.7        |
| Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----             | Dec. 63           | 167.5      | 167.0         | .3                                 | 9.4        |
| Bowling fees, evening -----                        | Dec. 63           | 114.8      | 115.0         | -.2                                | 4.0        |
| Golf greens fees -----                             | Dec. 63           | (8/)       | (8/)          | (8/)                               | (8/)       |
| TV repairs, picture tube replacement -----         |                   | 98.9       | 99.5          | -.6                                | -3.7       |
| Film developing, black and white -----             | Dec. 63           | 117.3      | 117.7         | -.3                                | -2.4       |
| Reading and education:                             |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----         |                   | 160.4      | 159.8         | .4                                 | 5.0        |
| Magazines, single copy and subscription -----      | Dec. 63           | 129.3      | 129.3         | .0                                 | 8.4        |
| Piano lessons, beginner -----                      | Dec. 63           | 127.8      | 127.7         | .1                                 | 5.0        |
| Other goods and services -----                     |                   | 134.8      | 134.3         | .4                                 | 6.9        |
| Tobacco products -----                             |                   | 155.0      | 154.9         | .1                                 | 9.3        |
| Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----      |                   | 162.8      | 162.7         | .1                                 | 9.5        |
| Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----            | Mar. 59           | 154.9      | 154.8         | .1                                 | 10.1       |
| Cigars, domestic, regular size -----               |                   | 108.7      | 108.7         | .0                                 | 2.6        |
| Alcoholic beverages -----                          |                   | 122.0      | 121.4         | .5                                 | 5.3        |
| Beer -----   |                   | 117.7      | 116.9         | .7                                 | 3.7        |
| Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon ----- |                   | 111.6      | 111.3         | .3                                 | 2.5        |
| Wine, dessert and table -----                      | Dec. 63           | 117.4      | 116.8         | .5                                 | 8.7        |
| Away from home -----                               | Dec. 63           | 128.0      | 127.6         | .3                                 | 7.7        |
| Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:     |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| Funeral services, adult -----                      | Dec. 63           | 118.6      | 118.1         | .4                                 | 4.4        |
| Bank service charges, checking accounts -----      | Dec. 63           | 110.1      | 110.0         | .1                                 | 2.4        |
| Legal services, short form will -----              | Dec. 63           | 145.1      | 142.7         | 1.7                                | 12.0       |
| Other special groups:                              |                   |            |               |                                    |            |
| All items less shelter -----                       |                   | 130.7      | 130.3         | .3                                 | 5.1        |
| Commodities less food -----                        |                   | 120.8      | 120.4         | .3                                 | 3.4        |
| Nondurables less food and apparel -----            |                   | 123.9      | 123.7         | .2                                 | 3.5        |
| Household services less rent -----                 |                   | 157.7      | 155.0         | 1.7                                | 10.7       |
| Transportation services -----                      |                   | 154.5      | 154.1         | .3                                 | 9.7        |
| Other services -----                               |                   | 150.3      | 149.8         | .3                                 | 5.0        |

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

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

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

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

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

<sup>6/</sup> Also includes radios and television sets, shown under reading and recreation.

<sup>7/</sup> Also includes men's sport shirts, women's and girls' lightweight coats, women's slacks, cocktail dresses, bathing suits, girls' shorts, earrings, and zippers not shown separately.

<sup>8/</sup> Not available.

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

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

<sup>11/</sup> Also includes outboard motors, nondurable toys, college tuition fees, paperback books, and college textbooks, not shown separately.

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 1969 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 1969 Data

| Component                 | Standard Error |                  |               | Relative Error |                  |               |
|---------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
|                           | Monthly Change | Quarterly Change | Annual Change | Monthly Change | Quarterly Change | Annual Change |
| All items -----           | .03            | .05              | .07           | .07            | .04              | .01           |
| Food at home-----         | .07            | .11              | .13           | .10            | .07              | .03           |
| Food away from home ----  | .08            | .14              | .28           | .13            | .08              | .05           |
| Housing -----             | .06            | .09              | .15           | .10            | .06              | .02           |
| Apparel -----             | .14            | .23              | .22           | .25            | .18              | .04           |
| Transportation -----      | .08            | .13              | .14           | .13            | .10              | .04           |
| Medical care -----        | .13            | .19              | .36           | .24            | .12              | .05           |
| Personal care -----       | .12            | .20              | .32           | .36            | .20              | .07           |
| Reading and recreation -- | .09            | .13              | .20           | .33            | .15              | .05           |
| Other goods and services- | .13            | .20              | .34           | .25            | .14              | .08           |

This replaces the table of average errors based on 1968 data which was included in the CPI report through December 1969.

<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).



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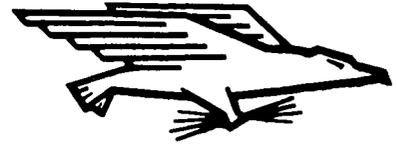
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