



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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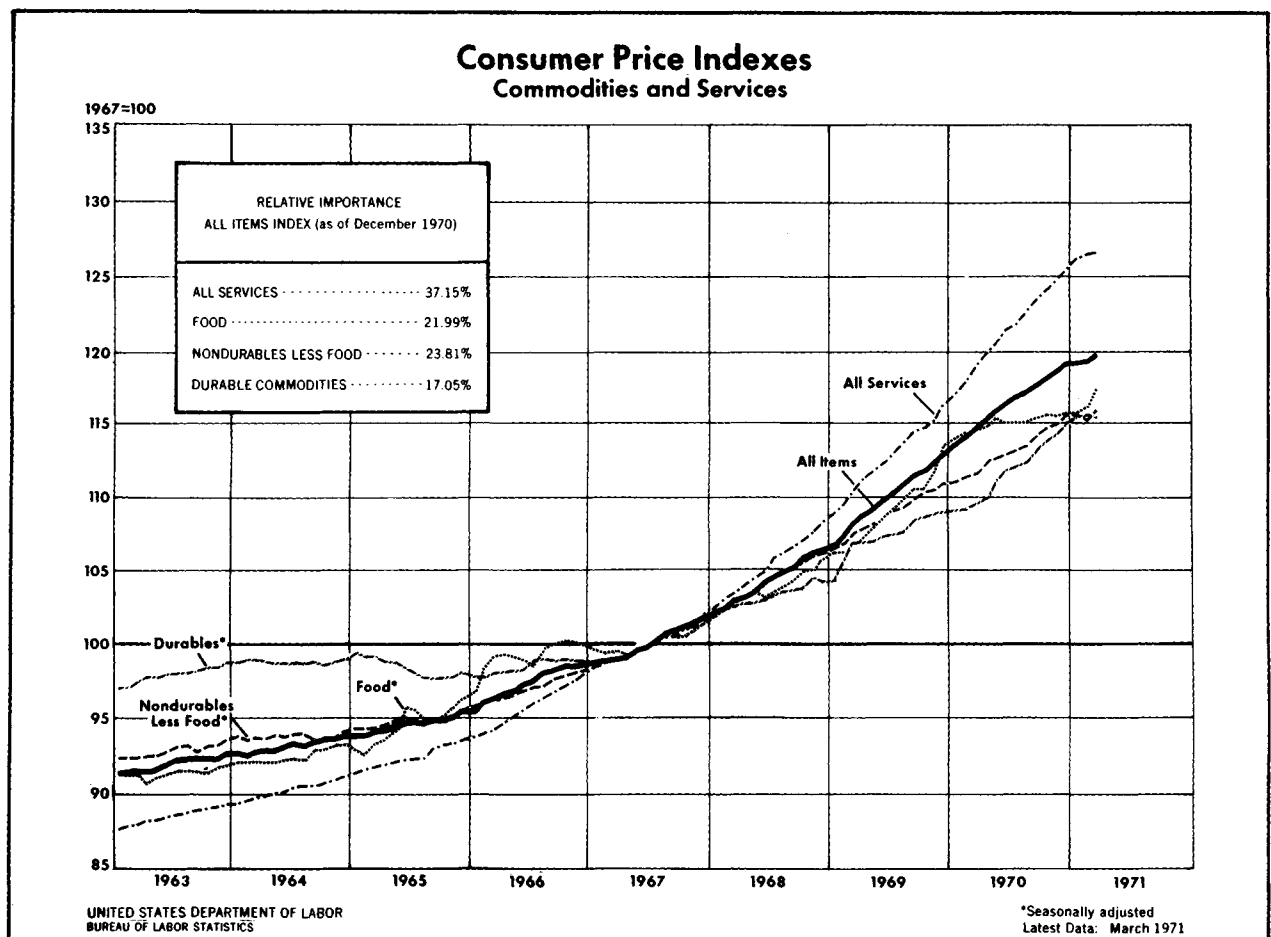
OFFICE OF PRICES

AND LIVING CONDITIONS

Joel Popkin, Assistant Commissioner

the consumer price index

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



THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
FOR
MARCH 1971

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.3 percent in March to 119.8 percent of its 1967 base. The effects of higher prices for most goods and services were moderated by a substantial decline in mortgage interest rates and a decrease in prices of new cars. Over two-thirds of the rise that occurred in March was due to higher prices for food, particularly meats and fresh fruits and vegetables. The March CPI was 4.6 percent higher than it had been a year ago.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the March increase was 0.2 percent, the same as in February. The annual rate of increase in the first quarter of 1971 was 2.7 percent, the smallest increase since the first quarter of 1967. In the 6 months ended in March, the CPI rose at an annual rate of 4.1 percent. Food prices rose 1.1 percent in March, the sharpest monthly rise since late 1969. Commodities less food, which declined slightly in February, increased 0.2 percent. Charges for most types of consumer services continued to rise in March. However, the index for all consumer services was unchanged for the first time since 1964 because of the decline in mortgage interest rates.

Percent Changes in CPI and Components									
Month	All Items		Food		Commodities less food		Services	All Items	
	Month to Month Change		Month to Month Change		Month to Month Change			3 Months	6 Months
	Unadj.	Seas. Adj.	Unadj.	Seas. Adj.	Unadj.	Seas. Adj.	Unadj.	SAAR ^{1/}	SAAR ^{1/}
1970									
March	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	1.1	6.2	6.2
April	.6	.5	.4	.3	.7	.6	.7	6.1	6.7
May	.4	.5	.3	.4	.5	.5	.5	6.1	6.6
June	.5	.4	.3	-.3	.4	.4	.6	6.1	6.1
July	.3	.2	.5	.0	.0	.1	.5	4.9	5.5
August	.2	.2	.1	.0	.1	.2	.6	3.5	4.8
September	.5	.6	-.2	.3	.7	.6	.7	4.2	5.1
October	.5	.5	-.2	.1	1.0	.6	.5	5.1	5.0
November	.3	.3	-.5	-.1	.5	.3	.6	5.8	4.6
December	.5	.5	.3	.2	.3	.7	.6	5.5	4.9
1971									
January	.1	.3	.2	.0	-.3	.2	.6	4.8	4.9
February	.2	.2	.3	.4	.0	-.1	.2	4.0	4.9
March	.3	.2	.9	1.1	.3	.2	.0	2.7	4.1

^{1/} Seasonally adjusted compound annual rate.

Food

Food prices, including food purchased for home consumption and restaurant meals and snacks, rose during the first quarter of 1971. Generally they show no change between December and March. The seasonally adjusted increase of 1.6 percent from December of 1970 to March 1971 was the largest since the fourth quarter of 1969. Average retail prices of food purchased in grocery stores were unchanged in January instead of moving up as they usually do. They rose, however, in February and March, contrary to their usual downward trend during these months. Much of the increase was due to a 3.6 percent seasonally adjusted increase from December to March in wholesale prices of consumer foods.

Sharply higher prices for meats and fresh fruits and vegetables explained much of the overall increase. Retail meat prices, which had declined in the second half of 1970 and in January of this year, moved up in February and March for a seasonally adjusted

increase of 2.0 percent in the first quarter. The increase in March was especially large because of the sharp rise in February at the wholesale level. Beef production fell 5 percent and pork 15 percent from January to February. Beef in cold storage fell 7 percent and pork stocks decreased 2 percent. In March, wholesale prices for pork declined and beef prices leveled out as output rose. These changes were not reflected at the retail level in March. Retail prices for poultry, which had decreased in February, rose more in March than they usually do, mostly due to the drop of 11 percent in production and cold storage stocks during February.

After declining in the fourth quarter of 1970 and in January 1971, prices of fresh fruits and vegetables recorded larger-than-normal increases in February and March. Reduced supplies of fresh fruits and vegetables, due in part to the Florida freezes, caused higher prices in February and again in March for grapefruit, oranges, green peppers, cucumbers, and tomatoes. The sharp rise in lettuce prices was due to interruptions in supplies as production shifted to different areas. Most processed fruit and vegetable items also registered higher prices. Smaller holdings by processors of many items and prospects for lower juice supplies from the Florida citrus crops accounted for the price increases. Prices of fruits and vegetables rose 2.8 percent seasonally adjusted in the first quarter--the sharpest increase since the fourth quarter of 1969.

Among prices of dairy products, milk prices rose in March despite seasonal increases in milk production. Retail cheese prices moved up reflecting wholesale price increases caused by short supplies of several varieties and strong demand. The first quarter seasonally adjusted rise of 1.0 percent for dairy products was larger than the increases in the last 3 quarters of 1970 but half as much as in the first quarter of last year. Egg prices decreased less than they usually do in March; in February, they recorded a large contraseasonal decline. Over the quarter, egg prices were down 0.5 percent after seasonal adjustment.

Prices of restaurant meals and snacks consumed away from home rose 0.3 percent in March, slightly less than the increases in the 2 preceding months. The rise of 1.2 percent in the first quarter was larger than in the last 2 quarters of 1970 but smaller than last year's gain of 1.6 percent in the first quarter and 1.9 percent in the second.

Commodities less food

On a seasonally adjusted basis, prices of nonfood commodities rose 0.2 percent in January, declined 0.1 percent in February, and increased 0.2 percent in March. In March 1971 price rises for used cars, men's apparel, footwear, and furniture were moderated by declines in prices of new cars, women's apparel, and gasoline. The resulting December-March increase of 0.3 percent was considerably smaller than the quarterly advances in 1970 and the smallest since the fourth quarter of 1966.

In the durable goods component, used car prices advanced in March after declining substantially in the first 2 months of this year. New car prices, on the other hand, rose contraseasonally in January, moved down about as much as is usual in February, and declined more than they usually do in March. The decline--the first on a seasonally adjusted basis since March 1970--stemmed partly from the continued recovery in auto production following the General Motors strike. Part of the decline was due to a change in the treatment of anti-pollution devices for autos. In March, the cost of these devices was removed from the index. From October through February, charges for anti-pollution devices were treated in the index as price increases. This change in the treatment did not affect the percent increase in the March All Items CPI.

Prices of household durables edged up 0.1 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis in March, after a rise of 0.3 percent in February. The first quarter increase of 0.4 percent was the smallest since the fourth quarter of 1969. In March, appliance prices declined for the first time in 6 months, and average prices for floor covering were unchanged after they had risen 0.3 percent in each of the 3 preceding months. Furniture prices, however, rose 0.4 percent in March, following an increase of 0.3 percent in February. They had declined 0.3 percent in January. Retail furniture prices rose 0.5 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis in the first quarter of 1971. This increase was about half as large as increases in most quarters of last year.

Among nondurables other than food, men's and boys' apparel prices rose considerably in March. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the March increase was 1.0 percent, and followed a small rise of 0.1 percent in February. In January they had declined 0.4 percent. The March rise was mostly due to the reintroduction of tropical suits at regular or higher prices after widespread sales last July, and also price increases for other year-round items of tailored clothing. Higher prices for tailored clothing resulted mostly from increases at the wholesale level. Despite the large increase in March, the first quarter rise in prices of men's and boys' apparel of 0.7 percent after seasonal adjustment was the smallest quarterly increase since the second quarter of 1966 (except for the 0.1 percent rise in the third quarter of 1970).

Women's and girls' apparel prices moved down 0.8 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis in March, after a rise of 0.7 percent in February. In January, they declined 0.3 percent. Lower prices for women's dresses and blouses were chiefly responsible for the March decline. In March retail prices of women's and girls' apparel were 0.4 percent below their December levels on a seasonally adjusted basis. Except for the decline of 0.1 percent in the first quarter of 1970, this drop was the first quarterly decline since the third quarter of 1965. The behavior of apparel prices in the first quarter indicated continued weakness in the demand for apparel items. Apparel store sales in March were down 7 percent from March 1970. Since prices were higher, the physical volume of sales decreased even more.

Footwear prices rose 0.4 percent after seasonal adjustment in March. Except for a small decline in February, footwear prices have been rising at a fairly steady pace. In the first quarter, they rose 0.8 percent, about the same as the increase during each of the preceding 3 quarters, but half as large as the rise in the first quarter of 1970. Among the factors which contributed to the rise in retail footwear prices were the sharp first quarter increase in wholesale prices, and relatively strong demand, particularly for men's shoes. Shoe store sales in the first 2 months of 1971 were about 10 percent larger than in the same period of 1970.

Among nondurable goods other than food and apparel, prices of gasoline continued to decline in March, although not as much as in February. In March, prices declined in 18 of the cities priced in the CPI. In Los Angeles, however, temporary dealer discounts were removed and prices were restored to normal levels in March following price wars in February.

Prices of alcoholic beverages rose 0.3 percent in March for an increase of 1.2 percent for the first quarter. Most of the rise was due to higher beer prices which stemmed from increased cost for cans and other packaging materials. Higher wages to drivers of beer trucks also contributed to the increase. Prices of housekeeping supplies such as soaps, detergents, and paper napkins rose substantially in March. Prices of newspapers and magazines continued to increase.

Average charges for consumer services were unchanged in March, after a small rise of 0.2 percent in February. During the preceding 10 months, service charges rose an average of 0.6 percent a month. The increase in the first quarter of 0.8 percent was the smallest since the second quarter of 1967. This slowdown was due almost entirely to the drop in mortgage interest rates, a component of household services.

Mortgage interest rates declined 1.4 percent in January, 3.0 percent in February, and 4.2 percent in March for a drop of 8.4 percent in the first quarter. The decline in the mortgage interest rate index in March reflected lower rates for conventional mortgages, as well as the February decline from 7.5 to 7.0 percent for VA rates and the mid-January decline from 8.0 percent to 7.5 (excluding 0.5 percent for insurance) in rates on FHA loans. Usually a 1-month lag occurs for VA and a 2-month lag for FHA before a majority of the loans are made at the lower rates. The March decline in mortgage interest rates is estimated to have lowered the March rise in the All Items CPI by 0.2 percentage points.

Most other household service charges continued to rise in March. Charges for property insurance rose as both fire and extended coverage and homeowners insurance premiums were increased. Charges for all types of home maintenance services averaged 1.0 percent higher, a usual pattern for the spring months after depressed rates of increase in the winter months. Water and sewer rates increased sharply as a result of annual rate changes in many cities. Large increases were registered in Atlanta, Honolulu, and other cities. Housekeeping services rose reflecting in part an increase in the minimum wage for household help.

Increases in the charges for transportation services were significantly smaller in March than in the 2 preceding months. After rising substantially in January and February, auto insurance rates and parking fees recorded considerably smaller increases. On the other hand, local transit, intercity bus, railroad, and airplane fares increased significantly in March. Prices of auto repairs rose 1.0 percent as a result of higher prices for parts and labor. Wholesale prices for replacement parts rose considerably in the first quarter.

Charges for medical care services rose 0.9 percent, the largest rise since March 1970. Continued increases for professional services and most services connected with hospital care were mainly responsible for the rise.

Seasonally adjusted monthly percent changes in the index and some of its major components for the past 3 months, and quarterly changes for the past year are given in the following tabulation:

	1-month change			1971	3-month change ending:			
	1971				1970			
	March	February	January		March	December	September	June
All items	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.7	1.3	1.0	1.5	1.5
Commodities	.4	.1	.1	.6	1.1	.6	1.2	.9
Food	1.1	.4	.0	1.6	.2	.3	.4	1.2
Food at home	1.1	.5	-.4	1.3	.0	.1	.1	1.2
Apparel commodities	.0	.3	-.2	.2	1.3	.9	.9	.6
Nondurables less food and apparel	.1	.0	.4	.4	1.4	.8	1.4	.6
Durables	.2	-.1	.2	.3	1.8	1.2	2.0	.7
Services*	.0	.2	.6	.8	1.7	1.7	1.8	2.8
Rent	.3	.6	.3	1.2	1.5	1.0	.9	1.0
Household services less rent	-.7	-.5	.0	-1.1	1.9	2.1	1.9	3.5
Transportation	.5	1.4	1.6	3.5	2.2	2.0	1.7	4.1
Medical care services	.9	.7	.6	2.3	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.4
Other services	.2	.2	1.0	1.4	1.2	1.2	2.1	1.0

* Changes for services are based on unadjusted indexes.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments

Approximately 43,400 workers and 1,850,000 retirees will receive cost-of-living increases in wages or annuities based on the March U.S. city average Consumer Price Index or one of the individual city indexes.

About 41,000 workers will receive hourly wage increases based on the national index. A 2-1/2 percent annual increase will be given to 10,300 employees of the United Aircraft Corporation. An additional 9,600 employees, including 4,500 employees of the Westinghouse Air Brake Company, will receive annual increases ranging from 4 to 8 cents. Quarterly increases of 2 to 8 cents per hour will be given to 17,250 workers. Most of these workers, who are employed by Greyhound Lines Incorporated, will receive 2 cents per hour. About 1,500 workers will receive a semiannual increase of 2 cents and 2,300 workers will receive a monthly increase of 1 cent per hour.

About 875 local transit workers in Atlanta and 1,600 in Baltimore will receive quarterly pay increases based on indexes for their cities. Workers in Atlanta will receive 3 cents per hour and those in Baltimore will get 5-1/2 cents.

A NOTE ABOUT CALCULATING INDEX CHANGES

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

Movements of the indexes from one date to another are usually expressed as percent 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 percent changes are not. The following example illustrates the computation of index point and percent changes.

Index Point Change		Percent Change
March 1971 CPI (1967=100)	119.8	Index point difference divided by the index for the previous period: $\frac{119.8 - 119.4}{119.4} \times 100 = 0.3$
less February 1971 index	<u>119.4</u>	
index point difference =	0.4	

Effective with the July 1970 release, and continuing thereafter, seasonally adjusted percent changes in the U.S. All Items Index will be based on seasonal adjustment factors and seasonally adjusted indexes carried to two decimal places. This procedure will help to eliminate rounding error in the percent changes.

TABLE 1. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, March 1971

(Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Group	Indexes (1967 = 100) (unless otherwise specified)				Percent change to March 1971 from:		
	March 1971	February 1971	December 1970	March 1970	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
All items -----	119.8	119.4	119.1	114.5	0.3	0.6	4.6
All items (1957-59=100) -----	139.3	138.9	138.5	133.2	-	-	-
Food -----	117.0	115.9	115.3	114.2	.9	1.5	2.5
Food at home -----	115.1	113.9	113.4	113.4	1.1	1.5	1.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.0	112.8	111.6	107.2	.2	1.3	5.4
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.6	113.6	113.7	117.1	1.8	1.7	- 1.3
Dairy products -----	114.2	114.0	113.6	110.9	.2	.5	3.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	116.0	112.6	110.6	113.3	3.0	4.9	2.4
Other foods at home -----	115.6	115.7	116.0	113.8	-.1	-.3	1.6
Food away from home -----	124.3	123.9	122.8	117.6	.3	1.2	5.7
Housing -----	122.4	122.6	122.6	116.9	-.2	-.2	4.7
Shelter 1/ -----	126.7	127.3	127.9	121.1	-.5	-.9	4.6
Rent -----	113.9	113.6	112.6	108.8	.3	1.2	4.7
Homeownership 2/ -----	131.2	132.3	133.4	125.5	-.8	- 1.6	4.5
Fuel and utilities 3/ -----	113.8	113.1	111.3	106.1	.6	2.2	7.3
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.4	117.2	114.9	108.2	.2	2.2	8.5
Gas and electricity -----	113.3	112.8	110.7	105.8	.4	2.3	7.1
Household furnishings and operation -----	116.4	115.9	115.3	112.4	.4	1.0	3.6
Apparel and upkeep 4/ -----	118.6	118.1	119.2	114.6	.4	-.5	3.5
Men's and boys' -----	119.4	117.9	119.6	115.7	1.3	-.2	3.2
Women's and girls' -----	118.3	118.5	120.5	114.0	-.2	- 1.8	3.8
Footwear -----	120.5	119.9	119.8	116.6	.5	.6	3.3
Transportation -----	117.8	117.5	116.9	109.7	.3	.8	7.4
Private -----	115.9	115.8	115.2	108.0	.1	.6	7.3
New cars -----	114.3	115.2	114.1	106.4	-.8	.2	7.4
Used cars -----	106.8	105.5	109.5	96.8	1.2	- 2.5	10.3
Gasoline -----	105.8	106.0	107.4	103.2	-.2	- 1.5	2.5
Public -----	136.0	134.4	133.4	125.5	1.2	1.9	8.4
Health and recreation -----	120.6	120.2	119.1	114.2	.3	1.3	5.6
Medical care -----	126.8	125.8	124.2	118.2	.8	2.1	7.3
Personal care -----	115.8	115.4	115.0	112.2	.3	.7	3.2
Reading and recreation -----	117.7	117.5	116.2	111.2	.2	1.3	5.8
Other goods and services -----	119.4	119.1	118.5	114.0	.3	.8	4.7
<u>Seasonally Adjusted:</u>							
Food -----	117.4	116.1	115.6	-	1.1	1.6	-
Apparel and upkeep -----	118.8	118.7	118.5	-	.1	.3	-
Transportation -----	117.9	117.9	117.0	-	0	.8	-
<u>Special Groups:</u>							
All items less food -----	120.6	120.4	120.2	114.6	.2	.3	5.2
All items less medical care -----	119.4	119.1	118.8	114.3	.3	.5	4.5
Commodities less food -----	115.5	115.2	115.5	110.6	.3	0	4.4
Commodities -----	116.1	115.5	115.6	112.0	.5	.4	3.7
Nondurables -----	116.4	115.7	115.6	112.9	.6	.7	3.1
Nondurables less food -----	115.7	115.4	115.7	111.5	.3	0	3.8
Apparel commodities -----	118.8	118.3	119.6	115.0	.4	-.7	3.3
Durables -----	115.2	115.0	115.2	109.4	.2	0	5.3
Household durables -----	112.1	111.8	111.5	109.4	.3	.5	2.5
Services -----	126.6	126.6	125.6	119.3	0	.8	6.1
Services less rent -----	128.9	129.0	128.0	121.2	-.1	.7	6.4
Services less medical care -----	125.9	126.1	125.3	118.9	-.2	.5	5.9
Insurance and finance -----	137.3	139.5	140.0	131.3	- 1.6	- 1.9	4.6
Utilities and public transportation -----	118.6	117.7	116.0	110.4	.8	2.2	7.4
Housekeeping and home maintenance services -----	133.0	132.1	130.9	123.7	.7	1.6	7.5
Medical care services -----	131.4	130.2	128.5	121.6	.9	2.3	8.1
<u>Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar:</u>							
1967=\$1.00 -----	\$0.835	\$0.838	\$0.840	\$0.873	-.4	-.6	- 4.4
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	.718	.720	.722	.751	-	-	-

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 1/	Pricing Schedule 2/	Indexes			Percent change from:		
		1967=100	1957-59=100	Other bases			
		March 1971			February 1971	December 1970	March 1970
U.S. City Average -----	M	119.8	139.3		0.3	0.6	4.6
Chicago -----	M	119.9	136.2		.4	.6	4.9
Detroit -----	M	120.1	138.0		.1	.5	3.7
Los Angeles-Long Beach ---	M	116.9	137.4		.6	.1	4.0
N.Y. Northeastern N.J. ---	M	124.3	147.9		.6	1.6	6.3
Philadelphia -----	M	122.2	142.7		.3	.7	5.4
		January 1971				October 1970	January 1970
Boston -----	1	120.1	143.9			1.1	5.7
Houston -----	1	119.3	136.5			1.2	4.3
Minneapolis-St. Paul ----	1	120.1	139.2			.8	4.8
Pittsburgh -----	1	119.2	137.1			.3	6.0
		February 1971				November 1970	February 1970
Buffalo -----	2	119.6		3/ 131.5		.8	4.9
Cleveland -----	2	121.5	137.2			.2	3.7
Dallas -----	2	119.8		3/ 129.5		.8	3.1
Milwaukee -----	2	119.0	134.3			1.0	4.6
San Diego -----	2	118.2		4/ 124.3		.4	4.8
Seattle -----	2	114.6	134.6			.3	1.9
Washington -----	2	120.9	140.8			1.3	4.7
		March 1971				December 1970	March 1970
Atlanta -----	3	120.4	138.5			.8	5.0
Baltimore -----	3	122.1	141.8			1.2	6.2
Cincinnati -----	3	119.8	136.0			1.1	5.3
Honolulu -----	3	116.7		5/ 125.8		.9	3.1
Kansas City -----	3	119.2	141.4			.2	5.1
St. Louis -----	3	118.2	138.0			.5	4.2
San Francisco-Oakland ----	3	119.1	141.7			.5	4.1

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

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

M - Every month.

1 - January, April, July, and October.

2 - February, May, August, and November.

3 - March, June, September, and December.

3/ November 1963=100.

4/ February 1965=100.

5/ December 1963=100.

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 ^{1/} for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups percent change from February 1971 to March 1971

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.3
Food -----	.9	1.4	.7	1.0	1.1	.9
Housing -----	-.2	-.2	-.2	-.7	.6	-.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	.4	1.3	.6	.3	.8	1.0
Transportation -----	.3	-.5	-.7	3.6	.3	-.2
Health and recreation -----	.3	.4	.3	.6	.3	-.2
Medical care -----	.8	.5	.2	.7	1.0	.1
Personal care -----	.3	1.0	1.0	2.5	0	.4
Reading and recreation -----	.2	.3	.1	.2	-.1	-.4
Other goods and services -----	.3	-.1	.3	.3	.2	(2/)

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

^{2/} Not available.

TABLE 4. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers for selected groups, seasonally adjusted

(1967=100)

Group	Indexes			Percent changes to: March 1971 From:	
	March 1971	February 1971	December 1970	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago
Food -----	117.4	116.1	115.6	1.1	1.6
Food at home -----	115.4	114.1	113.9	1.1	1.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.4	114.1	114.7	2.0	1.5
Dairy products -----	114.4	114.1	113.3	.3	1.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	115.7	113.5	112.6	1.9	2.8
Other foods at home -----	115.8	115.0	114.9	.7	.8
Fuel and utilities ^{1/} -----	113.7	113.0	111.2	.6	2.2
Fuel oil and coal -----	116.6	116.0	114.3	.5	2.0
Apparel and upkeep ^{2/} -----	118.8	118.7	118.5	.1	.3
Men's and boys' -----	119.8	118.6	119.0	1.0	.7
Women's and girls' -----	118.7	119.6	119.2	-.8	-.4
Footwear -----	120.6	120.1	119.6	.4	.8
Transportation -----	117.9	117.9	117.0	0	.8
Private -----	116.0	116.3	115.3	-.3	.6
New cars -----	114.0	114.7	112.5	-.6	1.3
Commodities -----	116.2	115.7	115.5	.4	.6
Commodities less food -----	115.6	115.4	115.3	.2	.3
Nondurables -----	116.5	115.9	115.5	.5	.9
Nondurables less food -----	115.8	115.6	115.5	.2	.3
Apparel commodities -----	119.0	119.0	118.8	0	.2
Durables -----	115.4	115.2	115.1	.2	.3

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

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

TABLE 5. Consumer Price Index--United States and selected areas 1/ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, March 1971 index and percent changes from December 1970

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles- Long Beach	New York- Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
(Indexes 1967=100 unless otherwise specified)						
All items -----	119.8	119.9	120.1	116.9	124.3	122.2
Food -----	117.0	117.3	115.4	114.0	121.4	118.9
Food at home -----	115.1	115.5	114.1	113.1	118.9	116.8
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.0	115.8	113.1	110.4	114.0	117.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.6	115.6	117.3	114.8	120.2	115.8
Dairy products -----	114.2	112.8	110.8	112.3	117.5	117.4
Fruits and vegetables -----	116.0	116.9	110.9	112.8	121.0	118.6
Other foods at home -----	115.6	116.4	114.2	113.4	118.5	116.4
Food away from home -----	124.3	124.1	121.3	116.4	129.4	127.5
Housing -----	122.4	119.4	126.5	119.4	126.4	124.2
Shelter -----	126.7	123.3	135.0	121.8	131.4	129.9
Rent -----	113.9	109.5	(2/)	115.2	(2/)	117.3
Homeownership -----	131.2	129.4	139.0	123.6	141.7	133.1
Fuel and utilities -----	113.8	111.0	109.6	115.2	113.3	114.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.4	113.5	113.9	-	118.1	117.8
Gas and electricity -----	113.3	108.6	109.4	118.3	109.5	115.8
Household furnishings and operation -----	116.4	112.8	111.7	113.2	121.2	120.0
Apparel and upkeep -----	118.6	116.7	115.5	116.6	120.2	118.2
Men's and boys' -----	119.4	118.7	116.5	117.7	124.1	121.2
Women's and girls' -----	118.3	117.2	112.4	117.7	116.4	121.9
Footwear -----	120.5	115.4	119.8	117.0	120.5	123.9
Transportation -----	117.8	124.4	112.8	116.1	128.8	<u>3/</u> 122.1
Private -----	115.9	118.7	109.9	116.3	124.8	<u>4/</u> 119.1
Public -----	136.0	160.3	147.8	112.3	144.3	140.0
Health and recreation -----	120.6	122.3	121.8	115.9	124.2	125.5
Medical care -----	126.8	127.8	131.8	122.8	134.5	134.7
Personal care -----	115.8	116.9	(2/)	111.6	(2/)	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	117.7	117.5	118.4	110.4	121.6	120.9
Other goods and services -----	119.4	124.3	116.2	115.0	121.7	124.4
Percent changes from December 1970 to March 1971						
All items -----	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.1	1.6	0.7
Food -----	1.5	1.8	.7	.9	2.1	2.2
Food at home -----	1.5	1.9	.3	1.0	2.1	2.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	1.3	1.4	- .4	1.6	2.0	.4
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	1.7	1.9	.3	1.1	2.2	2.5
Dairy products -----	.5	1.3	- .7	1.0	.2	.9
Fruits and vegetables -----	4.9	6.5	1.1	2.3	6.0	8.7
Other foods at home -----	- .3	- .3	.8	- .4	.2	0
Food away from home -----	1.2	1.3	2.3	.7	2.1	1.1
Housing -----	- .2	- .3	- .9	- 1.3	1.4	- .7
Shelter -----	- .9	- .9	- 2.0	- 2.2	1.3	- 2.8
Rent -----	1.2	<u>5/</u> .3	(2/)	<u>5/</u> .4	(2/)	<u>5/</u> .9
Homeownership -----	- 1.6	- 1.4	- 2.5	- 3.2	.9	- 3.8
Fuel and utilities -----	2.2	1.3	3.2	1.4	1.6	3.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	2.2	0	0	-	4.8	4.4
Gas and electricity -----	2.3	2.2	4.2	1.7	.6	5.1
Household furnishings and operation -----	1.0	.7	.9	.8	1.4	1.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	- .5	.3	2.0	- .3	- .7	- .3
Men's and boys' -----	- .2	.7	- 1.7	2.1	2.7	- .4
Women's and girls' -----	- 1.8	.9	6.3	- 2.6	- 4.6	- 1.1
Footwear -----	.6	- 1.8	.3	.7	1.3	1.2
Transportation -----	.8	.1	.1	1.0	2.7	1.8
Private -----	.6	0	.1	1.0	3.1	.3
Public -----	1.9	0	.4	.4	1.3	10.6
Health and recreation -----	1.3	1.3	2.4	.9	1.9	.7
Medical care -----	2.1	2.7	2.5	1.1	2.5	1.1
Personal care -----	.7	1.0	(2/)	1.9	(2/)	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	1.3	1.2	2.7	.7	2.0	1.6
Other goods and services -----	.8	.1*	2.2	.3	2.0	- .4

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.

2/ Not available.

3/ Corrected indexes: February 1971 = 122.4; 1970 Average = 117.6.

4/ Corrected indexes: February 1971 = 139.9; 1970 Average = 134.9.

5/ Change from January 1971.

TABLE 5A. Consumer Price Index--United States and selected areas ^{1/} for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, March 1971 index and percent changes from December 1970

Group	Atlanta	Baltimore	Cincinnati	Honolulu	Kansas City	San Francisco	St. Louis
(Indexes 1967=100 unless otherwise specified)							
All items -----	2/ 120.4	122.1	119.8	116.7	119.2	119.1	118.2
Food -----	116.6	119.8	117.0	116.2	117.1	114.9	117.1
Food at home -----	114.4	118.1	115.7	112.6	114.5	113.4	114.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	112.6	114.7	111.7	104.2	114.1	108.7	119.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	112.6	119.3	114.4	113.5	114.6	115.1	112.6
Dairy products -----	114.6	116.6	116.6	114.5	119.9	110.2	116.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	120.2	117.7	116.2	120.3	109.4	115.2	117.7
Other foods at home -----	114.5	119.6	119.3	110.0	114.8	114.5	110.9
Food away from home -----	123.8	126.5	121.8	126.8	125.1	120.5	129.0
Housing -----	3/ 125.4	125.6	120.9	117.3	119.6	123.4	117.6
Shelter -----	129.5	132.9	125.9	121.9	123.5	127.9	119.8
Rent -----	112.6	109.5	107.7	122.6	108.3	124.2	107.2
Homeownership -----	134.5	142.7	134.3	121.5	129.3	129.7	123.3
Fuel and utilities -----	4/ 120.1	110.3	114.1	103.9	112.7	5/ 113.5	112.9
Fuel oil and coal -----	-	115.5	157.5	-	-	-	120.0
Gas and electricity -----	6/ 116.3	108.0	108.0	104.1	112.8	5/ 113.7	112.8
Household furnishings and operation -----	119.2	119.1	111.7	109.4	113.8	113.9	115.8
Apparel and upkeep -----	116.4	123.4	122.7	117.4	123.8	118.1	117.9
Men's and boys' -----	119.5	128.6	124.2	110.3	126.1	119.0	114.7
Women's and girls' -----	116.0	120.4	121.4	122.1	125.6	119.1	120.7
Footwear -----	113.5	125.9	127.8	115.6	123.7	118.2	121.0
Transportation -----	114.4	116.3	118.1	115.6	118.3	118.1	7/ 116.7
Private -----	112.5	116.2	114.3	118.9	116.4	117.3	8/ 114.2
Public -----	139.8	116.5	147.5	98.0	150.9	131.6	144.4
Health and recreation -----	122.5	122.2	121.7	117.1	119.5	117.4	121.1
Medical care -----	135.0	132.5	131.2	123.7	122.1	121.9	122.4
Personal care -----	119.7	117.1	119.2	116.6	117.0	114.1	119.6
Reading and recreation -----	118.1	121.1	115.9	115.0	113.6	113.5	115.1
Other goods and services -----	110.3	116.2	119.1	113.0	125.4	117.4	126.7
Percent changes from December 1970 to March 1971							
All items -----	0.8	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.2	0.5	0.5
Food -----	.6	2.0	1.2	1.8	1.0	1.1	1.5
Food at home -----	.5	2.3	1.3	1.7	1.0	1.4	.9
Cereals and bakery products -----	1.4	2.0	1.7	- .6	1.0	1.1	1.2
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	- .4	1.7	2.8	2.3	1.5	2.0	- .3
Dairy products -----	- .4	.8	.7	2.4	1.1	.2	1.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	4.9	7.3	.6	5.7	2.9	4.2	2.8
Other foods at home -----	- 1.3	.8	.1	- 1.9	- 1.0	- .5	.5
Food away from home -----	.8	.9	.8	2.3	.9	.2	4.4
Housing -----	.3	1.2	1.3	- .3	- .9	- .6	- .1
Shelter -----	- 2.4	1.0	1.6	- .7	- 1.8	- 1.5	- 1.3
Rent -----	.6	.6	.7	1.4	.7	1.3	.3
Homeownership -----	- 3.3	1.1	2.0	- 2.0	- 2.6	- 2.8	- 1.8
Fuel and utilities -----	12.3	3.0	1.0	2.9	.4	3.7	2.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	-	2.0	.1	-	-	-	8.2
Gas and electricity -----	7.7	4.7	.8	1.7	.4	3.6	.6
Household furnishings and operation -----	1.4	.9	.7	- .8	.8	.9	1.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.1	.5	.6	- .3	- .2	1.2	.9
Men's and boys' -----	1.7	2.1	1.3	- 3.5	- .4	.8	.2
Women's and girls' -----	- .2	- 1.7	- .1	1.2	- .3	1.9	.1
Footwear -----	2.6	1.5	.2	.3	.5	.3	3.2
Transportation -----	.6	0	- 1.3	1.5	- .3	.6	- 2.5
Private -----	- .3	0	- 2.2	1.8	- .2	.7	- 2.8
Public -----	9.5	.1	5.3	0	- .2	0	.1
Health and recreation -----	2.3	1.2	2.6	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.8
Medical care -----	3.7	2.6	4.1	1.4	1.4	3.0	1.7
Personal care -----	2.0	.9	.8	1.9	.9	.5	1.1
Reading and recreation -----	1.9	.9	1.8	1.0	1.0	.4	1.5
Other goods and services -----	.8	.4	2.6	1.1	3.2	.2	2.5

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

^{2/} Corrected Indexes: June 1970 = 116.5; September 1970 = 117.6; December 1970 = 119.4; 1970 Average = 116.5.

^{3/} Corrected Indexes: June 1970 = 122.4; September 1970 = 123.5; December 1970 = 125.0; 1970 Average = 121.9.

^{4/} Corrected Indexes: June 1970 = 108.3; September 1970 = 108.3; December 1970 = 106.9; 1970 Average = 106.2.

^{5/} Corrected Indexes from September 1968 to December 1970, available on request.

^{6/} Corrected Indexes: April 1970 = 110.0; May 1970 = 110.1; June 1970 = 110.4; July 1970 = 110.4; August 1970 = 110.4;

September 1970 = 110.4; October 1970 = 106.7; November 1970 = 108.0; December 1970 = 108.0; January 1971 = 108.2; 1970 Average = 107.3.

^{7/} Corrected Indexes: December 1970 = 119.7; 1970 Average = 111.8.

^{8/} Corrected Indexes: December 1970 = 117.5; 1970 Average = 109.7.

TABLE 5B. Consumer Price Index--United States and selected areas ^{1/} for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, 1970 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1969-70

Group	Buffalo	Cleveland	Dallas	Milwaukee	San Diego	Seattle	Washington
Indexes 1967=100 (unless otherwise specified)							
All items -----	116.1	119.3	117.8	115.8	115.3	114.0	117.6
All items (1957-59=100) -----	^{2/} 127.6	134.7	^{2/} 127.3	130.7	^{3/} 121.2	133.9	137.0
Food -----	116.2	117.5	114.8	113.1	113.6	113.5	117.3
Food at home -----	115.5	117.2	112.4	111.9	111.5	111.5	114.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	110.3	109.3	109.6	109.6	106.2	106.2	111.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.8	119.2	115.1	115.7	117.3	114.8	116.6
Dairy products -----	114.9	117.4	106.8	108.9	109.4	109.4	107.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	116.1	117.0	112.2	109.6	106.5	108.5	116.5
Other foods at home -----	116.5	119.1	113.0	111.5	111.3	113.5	116.9
Food away from home -----	120.0	119.0	123.9	117.9	118.8	120.0	123.9
Housing -----	118.3	120.3	122.1	117.5	122.7	117.8	116.9
Shelter -----	121.5	123.4	127.7	120.5	132.1	124.7	119.9
Rent -----	109.3	107.5	110.1	109.8	123.6	109.1	109.4
Homeownership -----	123.7	126.3	135.8	123.9	135.6	129.3	125.9
Fuel and utilities -----	112.8	107.2	112.4	112.2	104.1	104.6	104.4
Fuel oil and coal -----	113.5	-	-	115.5	-	110.3	110.6
Gas and electricity -----	114.3	106.8	108.6	115.9	105.9	100.3	105.0
Household furnishings and operation -----	113.8	115.6	115.2	112.9	107.9	109.3	115.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	117.7	117.7	117.9	122.0	114.9	111.7	119.6
Men's and boys' -----	129.5	115.6	123.3	118.5	116.9	113.1	118.8
Women's and girls' -----	114.2	118.4	116.3	125.0	118.2	110.7	123.2
Footwear -----	115.1	119.3	119.8	123.8	113.2	114.8	120.3
Transportation -----	111.8	116.6	111.0	110.7	107.7	105.1	116.4
Private -----	111.1	114.6	109.8	107.9	107.5	105.2	113.4
Public -----	118.6	130.5	124.8	144.5	110.6	105.1	132.8
Health and recreation -----	114.8	122.5	118.4	115.9	112.1	113.2	119.1
Medical care -----	115.5	130.9	123.1	119.3	114.8	118.4	127.0
Personal care -----	112.9	116.5	116.4	113.8	108.4	114.0	113.5
Reading and recreation -----	115.2	116.0	115.7	113.9	109.9	112.3	115.0
Other goods and services -----	114.5	122.8	115.6	115.7	113.7	109.2	118.0
Percent changes 1969-70							
All items -----	5.9	6.6	5.8	5.8	5.3	4.4	5.8
Food -----	6.0	6.2	5.1	3.5	4.5	4.5	5.0
Food at home -----	5.9	6.3	4.5	2.5	4.6	4.0	3.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	5.6	5.9	7.0	5.2	4.3	3.8	7.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	5.4	6.2	4.4	2.8	5.9	3.6	2.5
Dairy products -----	5.0	8.1	2.4	-4	4.6	3.4	2.7
Fruits and vegetables -----	5.4	4.7	3.4	.8	1.2	.4	3.6
Other foods at home -----	8.1	6.8	4.9	3.6	5.5	7.4	4.2
Food away from home -----	6.7	5.8	7.6	7.4	3.8	6.1	8.3
Housing -----	7.5	7.2	7.1	6.8	8.3	5.0	6.3
Shelter -----	8.4	7.5	9.3	7.1	11.6	6.4	7.3
Rent -----	3.7	3.4	3.9	4.1	7.9	.6	4.2
Homeownership -----	9.1	8.2	11.5	8.1	13.0	7.9	9.2
Fuel and utilities -----	7.0	7.8	4.5	7.4	.2	1.9	3.3
Fuel oil and coal -----	5.8	-	-	8.3	-	2.7	5.4
Gas and electricity -----	8.1	7.9	4.6	9.2	1.1	.2	4.5
Household furnishings and operation -----	5.9	4.9	3.7	4.8	2.3	2.9	3.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	3.3	4.8	4.6	8.1	4.0	4.5	4.5
Men's and boys' -----	7.5	2.9	6.2	5.1	3.1	5.5	4.6
Women's and girls' -----	.4	4.8	4.1	11.4	5.6	4.6	4.2
Footwear -----	3.2	8.2	6.1	7.7	5.0	5.0	4.2
Transportation -----	5.0	6.8	3.8	4.0	2.9	2.5	7.0
Private -----	4.3	6.4	3.1	2.3	2.6	2.6	5.7
Public -----	13.0	9.5	11.4	25.7	8.3	1.8	13.2
Health and recreation -----	5.0	6.9	6.6	6.3	4.1	3.8	6.3
Medical care -----	6.0	7.8	7.5	5.5	6.3	4.7	7.7
Personal care -----	3.7	5.8	4.3	5.8	1.2	2.8	2.2
Reading and recreation -----	4.4	5.5	5.1	5.6	3.7	3.6	4.8
Other goods and services -----	5.6	8.1	8.9	8.4	3.6	3.8	9.5

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

^{2/} November 1963=100.

^{3/} February 1965=100.

Note: Annual averages for cities shown on this table usually appear in the February report.

TABLE 6. Consumer Price Index--United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, March 1971 indexes and percent changes from February 1971

Area 1/ 	Total food	Food at home						Food away from home
		Total	Cereals and bakery products	Meats, poultry, and fish	Dairy products	Fruits and vegetables	Other foods at home	
(Indexes 1967=100 unless otherwise specified)								
U.S. City Average -----	117.0	115.1	113.0	115.6	114.2	116.0	115.6	124.3
Atlanta -----	116.6	114.4	112.6	112.6	114.6	120.2	114.5	123.8
Baltimore -----	119.8	118.1	114.7	119.3	116.6	117.7	119.6	126.5
Boston -----	118.1	116.8	113.1	119.3	115.3	117.8	115.7	123.0
Buffalo -----	118.4	117.2	116.3	117.2	115.9	118.4	117.2	125.1
Chicago -----	117.3	115.5	115.8	115.6	112.8	116.9	116.4	124.1
Cincinnati -----	117.0	115.7	111.7	114.4	116.6	116.2	119.3	121.8
Cleveland -----	119.3	118.6	114.9	118.8	118.9	117.3	120.9	123.5
Dallas -----	116.6	113.4	114.1	115.3	109.3	113.6	112.5	128.3
Detroit -----	115.4	114.1	113.1	117.3	110.8	110.9	114.2	121.3
Honolulu -----	116.2	112.6	104.2	113.5	114.5	120.3	110.0	126.8
Houston -----	116.8	113.4	112.6	114.0	113.6	112.4	113.4	128.6
Kansas City -----	117.1	114.5	114.1	114.6	119.9	109.4	114.8	125.1
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	114.0	113.1	110.4	114.8	112.3	112.8	113.4	116.4
Milwaukee -----	114.1	112.5	112.0	113.7	110.3	113.4	112.1	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	116.8	114.2	119.8	116.3	106.3	112.5	116.0	128.3
N.Y.-Northeastern N.J. -	121.4	118.9	114.0	120.2	117.5	121.0	118.5	129.4
Philadelphia -----	118.9	116.8	117.0	115.8	117.4	118.6	116.4	127.5
Pittsburgh -----	118.1	116.4	112.2	114.2	118.5	121.4	117.0	128.3
St. Louis -----	117.1	114.6	119.0	112.6	116.5	117.7	110.9	129.0
San Diego -----	116.2	113.5	108.7	117.7	111.6	112.5	111.9	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	114.9	113.4	108.7	115.1	110.2	115.2	114.5	120.5
Seattle -----	114.4	111.9	110.4	112.5	109.6	110.8	114.6	122.6
Washington -----	118.5	114.5	113.8	112.9	108.5	121.3	116.2	128.6
Percent changes February 1971 to March 1971								
U.S. City Average -----	0.9	1.1	0.2	1.8	0.2	3.0	- 0.1	0.3
Atlanta -----	1.0	1.3	1.0	1.5	- .3	3.8	.6	.4
Baltimore -----	1.0	1.2	.9	.5	0	5.7	.1	.4
Boston -----	.3	.4	.7	.3	.1	1.5	- .3	.3
Buffalo -----	1.5	1.7	1.0	2.8	- .2	4.4	- .3	.6
Chicago -----	1.4	1.6	- .9	2.6	.9	5.1	- .4	.2
Cincinnati -----	.6	.6	- .4	1.7	0	.7	.1	.3
Cleveland -----	.6	.7	.5	2.5	- 2.1	- .2	.5	.2
Dallas -----	1.2	1.6	1.0	3.2	.9	3.6	- 1.1	.2
Detroit -----	.7	.8	.7	1.5	.3	1.1	0	.3
Honolulu -----	.7	.4	- .5	.4	2.6	2.0	- 2.3	1.7
Houston -----	1.0	1.2	2.4	2.1	.1	1.3	- .3	.3
Kansas City -----	.9	1.0	.1	2.4	.3	.5	.7	.1
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	1.0	1.3	.6	2.4	1.1	2.3	- .6	.2
Milwaukee -----	.9	1.2	- .8	1.1	1.6	4.5	- .4	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	1.0	1.2	.7	2.7	- 1.2	2.6	.3	.3
N.Y.-Northeastern N. J.-	1.1	1.4	.6	1.5	0	2.8	.9	.3
Philadelphia -----	.9	1.0	.3	.8	.2	4.8	- .7	.6
Pittsburgh -----	1.3	1.6	- .6	2.1	- .3	3.9	1.5	.2
St. Louis -----	1.1	1.1	- .3	2.1	1.1	.7	.6	1.6
San Diego -----	.5	.8	.4	2.2	- .2	1.4	- 1.1	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	.3	.4	- .2	1.4	- .2	- .9	.9	.5
Seattle -----	.4	.4	- .2	2.2	- 1.3	1.1	- 1.0	.5
Washington -----	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.6	0	4.1	- .2	.7

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.

2/ Not available.

TABLE 7. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items March 1971 indexes and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to March 1971 from--		
	March 1971		February 1971		March 1970
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Total food -----	117.0	117.4	0.9	1.1	2.5
Food away from home -----	124.3	-	.3	-	5.7
Restaurant meals -----	124.1	-	.4	-	5.7
Snacks -----	125.7	-	.2	-	6.4
Food at home -----	115.1	115.4	1.1	1.1	1.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.0	-	.2	-	5.4
Flour -----	99.8	-	-.9	-	.9
Cracker meal -----	128.0	-	1.3	-	12.5
Corn flakes -----	109.7	-	.3	-	8.4
Rice -----	108.9	-	.2	-	3.1
Bread, white -----	111.2	-	-.5	-	3.2
Bread, whole wheat -----	115.9	-	.6	-	5.2
Cookies -----	107.1	-	1.0	-	6.5
Layer cake -----	119.1	-	0	-	3.5
Cinnamon rolls -----	117.5	-	.4	-	8.4
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.6	116.4	1.8	2.0	- 1.3
Meats -----	115.6	116.6	1.9	2.3	- 2.4
Beef and veal -----	122.4	122.6	2.0	1.7	3.6
Steak, round -----	121.1	121.6	1.7	2.1	3.4
Steak, sirloin -----	118.9	-	2.4	-	4.0
Steak, porterhouse -----	119.6	-	2.0	-	4.4
Rump roast -----	120.3	-	1.4	-	4.4
Rib roast -----	121.9	122.8	3.2	3.5	3.2
Chuck roast -----	124.8	124.6	4.4	4.4	3.4
Hamburger -----	124.7	124.9	2.0	1.5	2.6
Beef liver -----	112.9	-	.5	-	-.4
Veal cutlets -----	136.1	135.7	1.4	1.0	7.9
Pork -----	106.0	107.3	2.7	3.2	- 11.7
Chops -----	108.4	110.4	5.6	6.7	- 9.9
Loin roast -----	107.0	-	3.5	-	- 9.6
Pork sausage -----	112.0	-	1.0	-	- 8.6
Ham, whole -----	106.6	106.4	.9	1.5	- 12.6
Picnic -----	110.3	-	1.7	-	- 9.1
Bacon -----	96.6	98.3	1.3	.7	- 17.9
Other meats -----	114.5	115.1	.4	.8	- 1.8
Lamb chops -----	118.7	-	.5	-	1.3
Frankfurters -----	114.2	115.4	.8	.9	- 1.9
Ham, canned -----	107.7	-	.1	-	- 9.2
Bologna sausage -----	117.3	-	.7	-	-.6
Salami sausage -----	115.1	-	.3	-	-.8
Liverwurst -----	114.0	-	.2	-	.7
Poultry -----	107.8	-	2.2	-	- 2.1
Frying chicken -----	107.5	105.7	3.2	2.1	- 1.7
Chicken breasts -----	106.7	-	.1	-	- 3.1
Turkey -----	110.4	-	-.3	-	- 3.1
Fish -----	127.7	127.7	.6	.9	11.2
Shrimp, frozen -----	114.5	-	-.5	-	- 1.7
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	137.8	138.2	1.6	2.1	14.0
Tuna fish, canned -----	127.9	-	.6	-	15.3
Sardines, canned -----	130.8	-	.5	-	17.7
Dairy products -----	114.2	114.4	.2	.3	3.0
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	113.7	114.2	.5	.8	2.1
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	116.8	-	.3	-	3.1
Milk, fresh, skim -----	118.2	-	.2	-	3.3
Milk, evaporated -----	115.9	-	.4	-	6.5
Ice cream -----	105.4	-	-.6	-	1.6
Cheese, American process -----	119.4	119.5	.2	.3	4.1
Butter -----	105.9	106.0	.1	.1	2.7

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items March 1971 indexes and percent changes from selected dates--Continued

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to March 1971 from--		
	March 1971		February 1971		March 1970
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Fruits and vegetables -----	116.0	115.7	3.0	1.9	2.4
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	117.7	117.1	4.9	2.7	.4
Apples -----	108.4	112.4	3.7	-.4	8.9
Bananas -----	96.0	97.6	.9	.2	- 11.4
Oranges -----	116.3	123.5	1.0	.7	8.4
Orange juice, fresh -----	116.7	-	-.1	-	- 4.8
Grapefruit -----	109.5	124.7	2.2	4.0	-.9
Grapes 1/ -----	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Strawberries 1/ -----	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Watermelon 1/ -----	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Potatoes -----	111.2	115.2	1.0	.7	- 4.5
Onions -----	95.4	96.7	-.3	- 1.6	- 24.7
Asparagus 1/ -----	159.9	-	(1/)	-	3.2
Cabbage -----	119.7	113.0	- 1.1	.4	- 20.6
Carrots -----	108.6	111.3	-.8	3.2	- 1.2
Celery -----	106.5	111.2	- 1.7	2.5	- 13.0
Cucumbers -----	135.0	-	7.6	-	- 14.8
Lettuce -----	118.6	120.9	9.0	7.5	23.9
Peppers, green -----	159.6	-	24.8	-	- 7.7
Spinach -----	126.8	-	.4	-	6.6
Tomatoes -----	138.0	130.7	5.8	4.5	17.9
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	113.5	-	.4	-	5.7
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	115.2	-	.4	-	9.2
Pears, canned -----	115.9	-	0	-	9.0
Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned -----	112.4	-	.7	-	2.8
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	117.6	116.7	.2	- 1.2	- 5.2
Lemonade concentrate, frozen -----	112.3	-	.4	-	4.2
Beets, canned -----	112.4	-	.2	-	4.7
Peas, green, canned -----	105.2	-	.7	-	5.0
Tomatoes, canned -----	115.2	-	.3	-	11.3
Dried beans -----	113.9	-	.7	-	7.5
Broccoli, frozen -----	116.7	-	0	-	3.1
Other food at home -----	115.6	115.8	-.1	.7	1.6
Eggs -----	110.9	111.6	- 1.6	4.6	- 20.0
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	114.0	-	.3	-	12.6
Salad dressing, Italian -----	107.7	-	.3	-	7.1
Salad or cooking oil -----	117.3	-	.5	-	12.9
Sugar and sweets -----	118.1	-	.2	-	4.4
Sugar -----	111.4	-	0	-	6.0
Grape jelly -----	116.2	-	0	-	3.2
Chocolate bar -----	130.3	-	.4	-	6.3
Syrup, chocolate flavored -----	113.4	-	.2	-	2.3
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	121.8	-	-.2	-	7.4
Coffee, can and bag -----	123.8	-	- 1.0	-	9.8
Coffee, instant -----	123.0	-	-.8	-	5.3
Tea -----	107.5	-	.2	-	4.8
Cola drink -----	124.9	-	1.0	-	6.3
Carbonated fruit drink -----	124.7	-	.3	-	6.1
Prepared and partially prepared foods -----	111.9	-	.3	-	-3.0
Bean soup, canned -----	113.2	-	-.4	-	1.7
Chicken soup, canned -----	106.7	-	.5	-	1.2
Spaghetti, canned -----	117.1	-	.1	-	5.0
Mashed potatoes, instant -----	110.4	-	.1	-	1.8
Potatoes, french fried, frozen -----	110.6	-	.2	-	.4
Baby foods, canned -----	110.4	-	.5	-	5.1
Sweet pickle relish -----	114.7	-	.3	-	4.5
Pretzels -----	111.2	-	1.0	-	4.5

1/ Priced only in season.

TABLE 8. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, March 1971 and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to March 1971 from:	
		March 1971	February 1971	February 1971	March 1970
Housing -----		122.4	122.6	- 0.2	4.7
Shelter 1/ -----		126.7	127.3	- .5	4.6
Rent -----		113.9	113.6	.3	4.7
Homeownership costs 2/ -----		131.2	132.3	- .8	4.5
Mortgage interest rates -----		122.0	127.4	- 4.2	- 8.2
Property taxes -----		127.4	127.1	.2	9.1
Property insurance rates -----		117.0	116.0	.9	3.9
Maintenance and repairs -----		130.4	129.3	.9	7.5
Commodities 3/ -----		116.7	116.4	.3	4.4
Exterior house paint -----		115.5	115.6	- .1	3.0
Interior house paint -----		113.1	113.9	- .7	2.3
Services -----		136.2	134.9	1.0	8.7
Repainting living and dining rooms -----		142.9	141.7	.8	13.3
Reshingling house roof -----		138.9	136.2	2.0	9.7
Residing house -----		128.3	127.4	.7	6.1
Sink replacement -----		137.4	136.4	.7	9.6
Furnace repair -----		140.7	139.1	1.2	6.9
Fuel and utilities -----		113.8	113.1	.6	7.3
Fuel oil and coal -----		117.4	117.2	.2	8.5
Fuel oil, #2 -----		116.0	115.8	.2	7.5
Gas and electricity -----		113.3	112.8	.4	7.1
Gas -----		114.8	114.6	.2	7.0
Electricity -----		112.0	111.2	.7	7.2
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services -----		106.0	105.9	.1	4.2
Residential water and sewerage services -----		132.6	128.9	2.9	13.4
Household furnishings and operation 4/ -----		116.4	115.9	.4	3.6
Housefurnishings -----		113.5	113.2	.3	2.4
Textiles -----		111.3	111.1	.2	2.3
Sheets, percale or muslin -----		114.7	115.7	- .9	.4
Curtains, tailored, polyester -----		108.8	108.7	.1	.5
Bedspreads, chiefly cotton -----		108.2	108.2	0	1.5
Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate -----		117.5	117.7	- .2	3.6
Pillows, bed, polyester, acrylic, or kapok -----		107.5	105.4	2.0	4.4
Slipcover, ready made, chiefly cotton -----		111.0	110.7	.3	4.5
Furniture and bedding -----		118.1	117.4	.6	3.1
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser -----	Mar.70	102.4	101.9	.5	2.4
Living room suites, good and inexpensive quality -----		115.1	114.3	.7	2.5
Lounge chairs, upholstered -----		121.7	120.9	.7	4.3
Dining room chairs -----	Mar.70	102.6	102.2	.4	2.6
Sofas, upholstered -----		116.9	115.8	.9	3.7
Sofas, dual purpose -----		117.3	116.6	.6	4.2
Bedding mattress and box springs -----	June 70	102.8	102.3	.5	(5/)
Aluminum folding chair 6/ -----		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Cribs -----		117.1	116.5	.5	3.9
Floor coverings -----		106.2	106.2	0	1.4
Broadloom, carpeting, manmade fibers -----		102.3	102.5	- .2	- .6
Vinyl sheet goods -----		113.2	112.8	.4	4.8
Vinyl asbestos tile -----		116.7	116.6	.1	6.1
Appliances 7/ -----		105.0	105.1	- .1	1.4
Washing machines, electric, automatic -----		109.0	108.5	.5	2.2
Vacuum cleaners, canister type -----		102.9	103.5	- .6	.5
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers, electric -----		107.8	107.8	0	2.3
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----		110.0	109.9	.1	1.9
Clothes dryers, electric, automatic -----		111.5	110.8	.6	3.5
Air conditioners, window type -----		109.1	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Room heaters, electric, portable 6/ -----		107.1	107.6	- .5	1.3
Garbage disposal units -----		109.2	110.5	- 1.2	1.2
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, chinaware -----		116.0	115.1	.8	5.1
Flatware, stainless steel -----		119.5	119.8	- .3	.9
Table lamps, with shade -----		119.3	118.9	.3	4.2
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type -----		116.2	(6/)	(6/)	2.0
Electric drills, hand held -----		106.6	107.2	- .6	- 1.4
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents -----		108.1	107.4	.7	2.1
Paper napkins -----		125.1	122.9	1.8	7.8
Toilet tissue -----		123.3	122.7	.5	6.1
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic service, general housework -----		131.9	131.5	.3	6.8
Baby sitter service -----		127.9	127.8	.1	5.6
Postal charges -----		121.0	121.0	0	3.4
Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----		131.1	129.9	.9	7.0
Licensed day care service, preschool child -----		117.5	116.9	.5	3.9
Washington machine repairs -----		132.0	131.0	.8	8.7

TABLE 8. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, March 1971 and percent changes from selected dates--Continued

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to March 1971 from:	
		March 1971	February 1971	February 1971	March 1970
Apparel and upkeep 8/ -----		118.6	118.1	0.4	3.5
Apparel commodities -----		118.8	118.3	.4	3.3
Apparel commodities less footwear -----		118.5	118.0	.4	3.3
Men's and boys' -----		119.4	117.9	1.3	3.2
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends 6/ -----		119.7	119.9	-.2	4.0
Suits, year round weight -----		127.4	124.8	2.1	4.8
Suits, tropical weight 6/ -----		127.8	(6/)	(6/)	4.2
Jackets, lightweight -----		113.9	111.2	2.4	.6
Slacks, wool or wool blends -----		115.9	115.0	.8	1.2
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends -----		131.5	130.9	.5	7.4
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		112.2	111.0	1.1	3.9
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		112.0	111.1	.8	3.3
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton -----		113.0	110.4	2.4	3.0
T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----		119.0	119.0	0	1.2
Socks, cotton or stretch nylon -----		116.2	115.3	.8	2.0
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		114.2	113.8	.4	2.1
Boy's:					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend 6/ -----		115.9	116.5	-.5	4.4
Sport coats, wool or wool blend 6/ -----		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend -----		120.9	120.3	.5	4.1
Undershorts, cotton -----		119.8	119.0	.7	1.5
Women's and girls' -----		118.3	118.5	-.2	3.8
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blend 6/ -----		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton 6/ -----		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Sweaters, wool or acrylic 6/ -----		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Skirts, wool, wool blend or manmade fibers 6/ -----		(6/)	114.4	(6/)	(6/)
Skirts, cotton or polyester blends 6/ -----		113.1	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Blouses, cotton or polyester blends -----		122.0	123.4	- 1.1	7.1
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber -----		125.9	128.1	- 1.7	- 2.8
Dresses, street, wool or wool blend 6/ -----		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Slips, nylon -----		110.6	110.7	-.1	1.7
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot -----		115.2	114.6	.5	3.7
Girdles, manmade blend -----		114.6	115.2	-.5	2.7
Brassieres, nylon lace -----		119.0	118.2	.7	3.7
Hose, nylon seamless -----		99.7	100.3	-.6	.1
Anklets, or knee-length socks, various fibers -----		116.3	116.5	-.2	.4
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----		109.3	109.3	0	1.6
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----		128.1	127.9	.2	6.2
Girl's:					
Raincoats, vinyl cotton, or polyester blends -----		113.2	113.3	-.1	5.6
Skirts, wool, wool blends, or acrylic 6/ -----		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Dresses, cotton or polyester blends -----		104.7	103.3	1.4	- 3.4
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton 6/ -----		(6/)	131.1	(6/)	(6/)
Slips, polyester blends -----		110.6	109.0	1.5	2.8
Handbags, plastic -----		127.9	127.6	.2	3.0
Footwear -----		120.5	119.9	.5	3.3
Men's:					
Shoes, street, oxford -----		118.6	117.8	.7	4.2
Shoes, work, high -----		117.4	116.7	.6	4.5
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump -----		123.0	122.2	.7	2.3
Shoes, evening, pump -----		120.4	120.1	.2	4.0
Shoes, casual -----		122.3	121.2	.9	1.2
Housseslippers, scuff -----		119.9	119.7	.2	1.4
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford -----		120.7	120.1	.5	3.5
Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----		117.8	117.2	.5	5.2
Dress shoes, girls', strap -----		123.5	123.0	.4	3.9
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze -----		111.2	110.6	.5	1.6
Yard goods, cotton or polyester blend -----		121.8	121.8	0	1.7
Wrist watches, men's and women's -----		112.1	112.2	-.1	1.3
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses -----		116.1	115.7	.3	3.7
Automatic laundry service -----		114.9	114.8	.1	4.6
Laundry, men's shirts -----		118.7	118.4	.3	4.4
Tailoring charge, hem adjustment -----		126.9	126.7	.2	9.7
Shoe repair, women's heel lift -----		109.7	109.7	0	3.2

TABLE 8. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, March 1971 and percent changes from selected dates--Continued

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to March 1971 from:	
		March 1971	February 1971	February 1971	March 1970
Transportation -----		117.8	117.5	0.3	7.4
Private <u>9/</u> -----		115.9	115.8	.1	7.3
Automobiles, new -----		114.3	115.2	-.8	7.4
Automobiles, used -----		106.8	105.5	1.2	10.3
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		105.8	106.0	-.2	2.5
Motor oil, premium -----		118.3	117.8	.4	4.5
Tires, new, tubeless -----		115.1	115.0	.1	2.1
Auto repairs and maintenance <u>10/</u> -----		127.0	125.8	1.0	7.0
Auto insurance rates -----		140.1	139.9	.1	14.2
Auto registration -----		121.7	121.7	0	3.7
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		134.9	134.1	.6	12.1
Public -----		136.0	134.4	1.2	8.4
Local transit fares -----		143.1	141.2	1.3	9.2
Taxicab fares -----		119.1	119.0	.1	4.6
Railroad fares, coach -----		126.2	125.1	.9	9.9
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		124.1	121.9	1.8	6.2
Bus fares, intercity -----		130.6	128.9	1.3	12.3
Health and recreation -----		120.6	120.2	.3	5.6
Medical care -----		126.8	125.8	.8	7.3
Drugs and prescriptions -----		104.9	104.9	0	2.3
Over-the-counter items -----		109.9	109.8	.1	5.4
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		98.2	97.9	.3	.5
Aspirin compounds -----		112.9	112.9	0	9.2
Liquid tonics -----		101.7	101.6	.1	1.1
Adhesive bandages, package -----		120.9	120.2	.6	9.1
Cold tablets or capsules -----		109.8	109.2	.5	2.2
Cough syrup -----		113.3	114.0	-.6	8.2
Prescriptions -----		100.7	100.8	-.1	-.1
Anti-infectives -----		80.7	81.6	- 1.1	- 12.1
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		121.4	120.9	.4	6.7
Ataractics -----		101.4	101.3	.1	1.5
Anti-spasmodics -----		105.7	105.6	.1	3.6
Cough preparations -----		124.5	124.2	.2	5.6
Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives -----		109.8	109.5	.3	4.4
Analgesics, internal -----		107.4	107.2	.2	2.9
Anti-obesity -----		111.6	111.5	.1	5.6
Hormones -----		94.9	95.1	-.2	.5
Professional services:					
Physicians' fees -----		128.0	126.6	1.1	7.6
General physician, office visits -----		129.9	128.2	1.3	8.3
General physician, house visits -----		128.7	127.0	1.3	6.9
Obstetrical cases -----		126.2	125.7	.4	5.0
Pediatric care, office visits -----		130.1	128.5	1.2	8.3
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		123.4	123.0	.3	4.2
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		121.6	121.1	.4	8.7
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		122.3	121.3	.8	6.8
Dentists' fees -----		124.8	124.2	.5	7.0
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		125.5	125.0	.4	6.7
Extractions, adult -----		125.2	124.5	.6	8.6
Dentures, full upper -----		122.9	122.4	.4	5.9
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		118.1	117.6	.4	5.5
Routine laboratory tests -----		114.7	114.5	.2	3.7
Hospital service charges:					
Daily service charges -----		157.1	155.3	1.2	12.7
Semiprivate rooms -----		159.2	157.4	1.1	13.1
Private rooms -----		154.0	152.3	1.1	12.0
Operating room charges -----		154.0	151.6	1.6	11.3
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----		122.5	122.0	.4	7.7
Personal care -----		115.8	115.4	.3	3.2
Toilet goods -----		112.8	112.3	.4	2.8
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		107.3	106.5	.8	.8
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		109.6	108.5	1.0	4.6
Hand lotions, liquid -----		119.8	120.0	-.2	2.7
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		105.0	105.3	-.3	3.1
Face powder, pressed -----		124.0	123.9	.1	4.6
Deodorants, aerosol -----		105.5	105.2	.3	1.0
Cleansing tissues -----		122.6	121.4	1.0	3.7
Home permanent wave kits -----					
Personal care services -----		109.8	109.4	.4	.9
Men's haircuts -----		119.0	118.6	.3	3.7
Beauty shop services -----		121.7	121.5	.2	4.1
Women's haircuts -----		117.1	116.5	.5	3.5
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		118.2	118.1	.1	3.5
Permanent waves, cold -----		120.1	119.4	.6	4.0
		109.4	108.6	.7	2.5

TABLE 8. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, March 1971 and percent changes from selected dates--Continued

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to March 1971 from:	
		March 1971	February 1971	February 1971	March 1970
Reading and recreation <u>11/</u> -----		117.7	117.5	0.2	5.8
Recreational goods -----		105.8	105.6	.2	1.7
TV sets, portable and console -----		99.9	100.1	-.2	.5
TV replacement tubes -----		121.4	121.1	.2	6.1
Radios, portable and table model -----		98.3	98.6	-.3	0
Tape recorders, portable -----		95.8	95.6	.2	.9
Phonograph records, stereophonic -----		99.5	99.5	0	-.6
Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens -----		90.0	90.3	.3	-1.1
Film, 35mm, color -----		108.1	108.1	0	1.5
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core -----		104.1	104.0	.1	1.4
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----		120.5	120.7	-.2	3.1
Fishing rods, fresh water spincasting -----		109.7	106.7	2.8	-1.6
Bowling balls -----		109.7	109.9	-.2	2.9
Bicycles, boys' -----		110.4	110.2	.2	1.2
Tricycles -----		110.3	109.6	.6	3.1
Dog food, canned or boxed -----		107.5	106.7	.7	3.5
Recreational services -----		123.3	123.2	.1	5.9
Indoor movie admissions -----		136.1	135.5	.4	8.6
Adult -----		135.7	135.6	.1	8.0
Children's -----		137.0	134.9	1.6	10.3
Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----		135.9	135.9	0	7.2
Bowling fees, evening -----		115.9	115.5	.3	4.9
Golf green fees -----		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
TV repair, picture tube replacement -----		97.5	97.2	.3	0
Film developing, color -----		114.7	114.7	0	4.1
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----		128.2	127.7	.4	11.0
Magazines, single copy and subscription -----		122.8	122.8	0	5.3
Piano lessons, beginner -----		120.8	120.6	.2	4.5
Other goods and services -----		119.4	119.1	.3	4.7
Tobacco products -----		124.1	124.1	0	4.8
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----		125.6	125.5	.1	5.2
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----		125.5	125.5	0	5.1
Cigars, domestic, regular size -----		105.8	105.7	.1	.5
Alcoholic beverages -----		115.8	115.4	.3	4.3
Beer -----		112.1	111.6	.4	3.7
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon -----		105.8	105.8	0	1.6
Wine, dessert and table -----		119.8	119.0	.7	4.2
Away from home -----		125.1	124.7	.3	6.5
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult -----		115.9	115.6	.3	3.7
Bank service charges, checking accounts -----		111.3	111.1	.2	5.1
Legal services, short form will -----		133.3	133.1	.2	9.8
Other special groups:					
All items less shelter -----		118.0	117.4	.5	4.6
Commodities less food -----		115.5	115.2	.3	4.4
Nondurables less food and apparel -----		114.0	113.8	.2	4.1
Household services less rent -----		130.1	131.0	-.7	4.8
Transportation services -----		132.0	131.3	.5	9.7
Other services -----		121.2	120.9	.2	6.0

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

2/ Also includes home purchase costs not shown separately.

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

4/ Also includes window shades, nails, carpet sweepers, air deodorizers, steel wool scouring pads, envelopes, reupholstering, and moving expenses.

5/ Not available.

6/ Priced only in season.

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

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

9/ Also includes storage batteries and drivers' license fees not shown separately.

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

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

Reliability of Percent Changes in the CPI

A system of "replicated" samples introduced into the index structure in the 1964 revision permits an estimate of sampling error for the CPI. ^{1/} The table below shows standard errors for monthly, quarterly, and annual percent changes in the CPI for all items and for nine commodity groupings based on 1970 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.

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.

Average Standard Errors of Percent Changes in the
CPI Based on 1970 Data

Component	Standard Error		
	Monthly Change	Quarterly Change	Annual Change
All Items -----	.04	.06	.09
Food at home -----	.08	.13	.18
Food away from home -----	.11	.21	.36
Housing -----	.06	.10	.19
Apparel -----	.15	.26	.29
Transportation -----	.10	.16	.19
Medical care -----	.12	.15	.29
Personal care -----	.13	.23	.34
Reading and recreation -----	.11	.17	.23
Other goods and services -----	.10	.16	.41

This replaces the table of average errors based on 1969 data which was included in the CPI report through December 1970.

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

Brief Explanation of the CPI

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

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

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights which represent their importance in the spending of all wage earners and clerical workers. SMSA and city data are then combined in the total index with weights based on the 1960 populations of SMSA's and cities they represent. Index numbers are computed on the base 1967=100, and are also available on the base of 1957-59=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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