



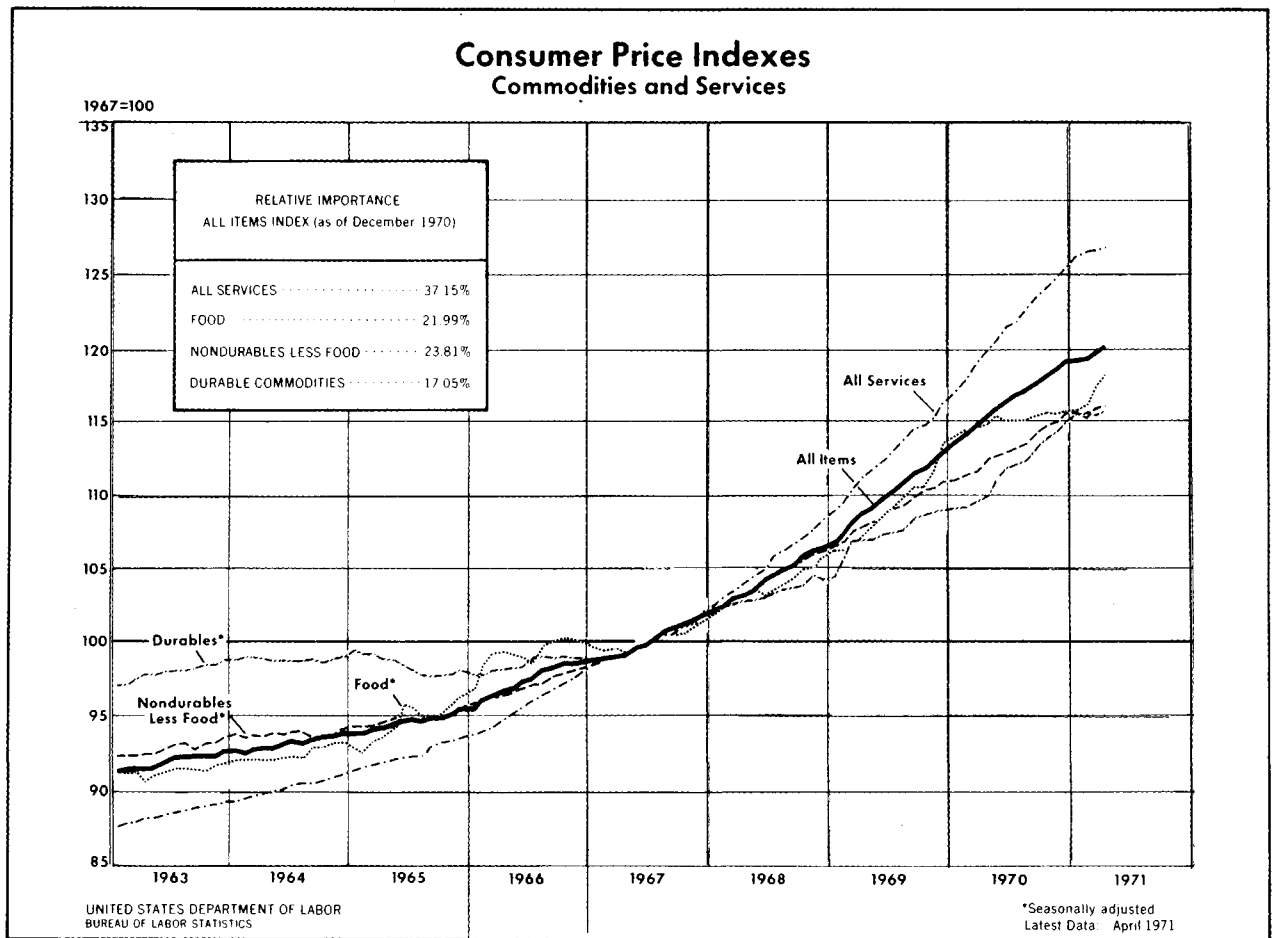
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
J. D. Hodgson, Secretary

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
Geoffrey H. Moore, Commissioner

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
APRIL 1971

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.3 percent in April to 120.2 percent of its 1967 base. The effects of higher prices for most goods and services were moderated by a decline in mortgage interest rates and gasoline prices. Almost three-fourths of the rise that occurred in April was due to higher prices for food, apparel, and used cars. The April CPI was 4.3 percent higher than it was a year ago, the smallest year-to-year change since August 1968.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the April increase was also 0.3 percent. This rate compares with 0.2 in February and March and 0.3 in January. The annual rate of change for the 3 months ending in April was 2.8 percent, the same as in the December-March period and the smallest such increase since the 3-month period ending in June 1967. Food prices rose 0.9 percent in April after seasonal adjustment, the same as in March. Prices of commodities other than food also increased at their March rate of 0.2 percent. Average charges for consumer services, which were unchanged in March, rose 0.2 percent.

Table A. Percent changes in CPI and components, selected periods

Month	Changes from preceding month						Changes in all items at seasonally adjusted compound annual rate			
	All items		Food		Commodities less food		Services	From 3 mos. ago	From 6 mos. ago	From 12 mos. ago
	Unadj.	Seas. adj.	Unadj.	Seas. adj.	Unadj.	Seas. adj.				
April 1970 ---	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.7	6.2	6.7	6.0
May -----	.4	.5	.3	.2	.5	.5	.5	5.9	6.5	6.1
June -----	.5	.4	.3	-.1	.4	.4	.6	5.9	6.0	6.0
July -----	.3	.3	.5	.1	.0	.2	.5	4.8	5.5	5.9
August -----	.2	.3	.1	.0	.1	.3	.6	3.9	4.9	5.6
September ----	.5	.5	-.2	.3	.7	.5	.7	4.5	5.2	5.7
October -----	.5	.5	-.2	.0	1.0	.4	.5	5.2	5.0	5.8
November -----	.3	.3	-.5	.1	.5	.4	.6	5.6	4.7	5.6
December -----	.5	.5	.3	-.1	.3	.7	.6	5.3	4.9	5.5
January 1971--	.1	.3	.2	.0	-.3	.2	.6	4.5	4.9	5.2
February -----	.2	.2	.3	.5	.0	-.1	.2	4.0	4.8	4.8
March -----	.3	.2	.9	.9	.3	.2	.0	2.8	4.1	4.6
April -----	.3	.3	.7	.9	.3	.2	.2	2.8	3.6	4.3

NOTE: In accordance with longstanding policy, seasonal adjustment factors have been recalculated to reflect developments during past 12 months. For this reason, some of the seasonally adjusted figures shown above differ from those previously reported. The new factors, to be used through March 1972, can be found on table 4-A of this report.

Food

Prices of food purchased in grocery stores rose 0.9 percent in April, the third consecutive contraseasonal increase. The March increase of 1.1 percent was the largest in over a year. About two-thirds of the April rise was due to higher prices for fruits and vegetables. Prices of fresh fruits and vegetables, which usually increase about 1 percent in April, advanced 5 percent. Except for lettuce and asparagus, prices rose for most items--particularly green peppers, cucumbers, carrots, strawberries, and citrus fruits. Higher prices reflected smaller supplies as a result of adverse weather conditions during the winter and early spring in California, Florida, and Texas.

Processed fruit and vegetable prices rose 1.1 percent in April, the sharpest monthly increase since December 1967. Although prices rose for all canned and frozen fruits and vegetables, the increase of 2.4 percent in the price of frozen orange juice was especially significant. Prices of frozen orange juice declined steadily from May 1969 through January 1971 before increasing slightly in February and March. Wholesale prices for frozen orange juice concentrates started to increase after the January freeze in Florida. Wholesale prices rose 2.5 percent in February and 5 percent in March; although there was no change in April, the May increase was 10.2 percent.

Prices of beef and veal, cereal and bakery products, and dairy products increased instead of declining as they usually do in April. The 1.5 percent contraseasonal increase in beef and veal prices compares with increases of 1.3 percent in February and 2 percent in March. Usually there is little change in February and March and a decrease of about 0.3 percent in April. The steady rise this year resulted from strong demand and a slight decrease in supplies. The price rise of 0.8 percent for cereal and bakery products was the largest monthly increase since August 1970. Higher prices for white bread reflected a return to regular prices in many areas after sales in February and March. Prices were higher also for whole wheat bread, flour, cracker meal, cookies, and most other bakery and cereal products. Milk prices rose 0.4 percent in April after an increase of 0.5 percent in March; they generally decline in these 2 months.

Pork and egg prices, on the other hand, declined more than they usually do in April in response to increased production and cold storage holdings. Pork prices declined 2.3 percent in April; they had a contraseasonal increase of 2.7 percent in March. The April index was 12.5 percent below the April 1970 level.

Prices of restaurant meals and snacks consumed away from home increased 0.4 percent, about the same as in February and March. The rate of advance in these prices has moderated since April 1970. Prices of food consumed away from home rose 5.1 percent between April 1970 and April 1971, compared with 8.3 percent between April 1969 and April 1970.

Commodities less food

Prices of commodities other than food rose 0.2 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis in April. This rise compares with an increase of 0.2 percent in January and March and a decline of 0.1 percent in February. The rate of advance in the 4-month period was the smallest since late 1966 and early 1967.

In April gasoline prices declined substantially, contrary to their usual seasonal advance. About 40 percent of the April decline of 2.0 percent resulted from lower prices in Los Angeles. In March, higher prices in Los Angeles had just about offset decreases in a number of other cities. Declines in April also were widespread and occurred in cities such as Denver, Pittsburgh, Houston, Minneapolis, and New York. In Chicago and Philadelphia, gasoline prices decreased for the second month in a row.

New car prices decreased 0.4 percent; they usually move down by this amount in April. Used car prices, on the other hand, advanced noticeably for the second month in a row and apparel commodity prices rose more than is usual for April. Increases in prices of used cars and apparel commodities accounted for about three-fourths of the April rise in the prices of commodities other than food.

Men's and boys' apparel prices rose 0.4 percent after seasonal adjustment in April; the increase was 0.8 percent in March. Prices of year-round suits, slacks, and work clothing, which increased in March, continued to rise in April. Prices for lightweight jackets and cotton shirts declined in April trimming some of their March increases. Prices

of women's and girls' apparel, which had declined 0.6 percent in March, rose 0.4 percent in April. In January prices declined and in February they increased. Much of this month-to-month fluctuation in the rate of change was due to changes in the prices of women's dresses. Also the April increase was due to the fact that spring and summer skirts and slacks were reintroduced at the same or higher prices than those which prevailed at the end of the season in 1970, and underwear prices rose substantially. Footwear prices also rose 0.4 percent seasonally adjusted in April. Prices rose for all categories of footwear, particularly children's shoes.

Despite rising wages, materials, and overhead costs, the weakness in retail apparel sales through March had a moderating influence on price rises for apparel commodities. In April, however, sales in apparel stores showed a marked improvement, about 14 percent more than in March. Price rises have been accelerating for the textile and leather products which are used in the production of consumer apparel. Effective February 1, 1971, a large group of textile workers received a 5-percent deferred wage increase. Furthermore, on May 7, 1971, the Argentine government placed a limitation on exports of hides and skins. The wage agreement with the Clothing Manufacturers' Association of America, covering 125,000 workers, will expire at the end of May.

Price increases in April of 1.1 percent for housekeeping supplies, 0.9 percent for newspapers, and 2.9 percent for magazines were larger than those in recent months. The April increase in new home prices was larger than the increases in the first 3 months of 1971 but considerably less than in 1970. Prices of household durables rose 0.3 percent, the same as in February and March. Furniture prices which rose 0.6 percent in March, moved up another 0.6 percent in April. The April rise was attributed mostly to the reintroduction of aluminum folding chairs at higher prices than at the end of the 1970 season. Appliance prices were up 0.2 percent after a decrease of 0.1 percent in March. Prices of floor covering were unchanged in April for the second month in a row; they had increased 0.3 percent in each of the 3 preceding months.

Services

In April, as during the preceding 2 months, the effect of declines in mortgage interest rates moderated the overall rise for consumer services. Estimates are that the index for all consumer services would have risen 0.5 percent in April rather than 0.2 percent if mortgage interest rates had not declined. The CPI for mortgage interest rates dropped 2.9 percent in April, after falling 3.0 percent in February and 4.2 percent in March. The rates for conventional mortgages continued to move down in April. Also, the February decline in the FHA rates from 7.5 to 7.0 percent (excluding 0.5 percent for insurance) was reflected in the April CPI. Usually a 2-month lag occurs before a majority of the FHA loans are made at the lower rates. VA rates were unchanged for the April index.

Charges for most other household services continued to increase. Property insurance rates rose because of higher premiums for fire and extended coverage. In addition, increased deductibles on homeowners insurance policies in New York and New Jersey resulted in a quality adjusted price increase. Residential gas charges rose 0.9 percent, led by a large extra charge for gas purchased in Buffalo, and rate increases in four other cities. Charges for home maintenance services, which rose 1.0 percent in March, increased 0.7 percent in April. As is usual, increases in the spring months were larger than in the winter months.

The rise in the cost of transportation services of 0.8 percent in April was larger than in March. Auto insurance rates rose 1.3 percent because of increases in physical damage and liability insurance rates. Auto registration fees increased 1.7 percent as yearly fees were calculated for cities where automobile registration must be renewed by

April 1. Registration fees were higher because some new cars were heavier than last year's model. On the other hand, the increase of 0.4 percent for local transit fares in April was the smallest since last December.

Charges for medical care services rose 0.6 percent, less than in February and March. Increases in physicians' fees were considerably smaller in April. Other services connected with hospital care, however, continued to increase rapidly.

Seasonally adjusted monthly percent changes in the index and some of its major components for the past 6 months are given in the following tabulation:

	April	March	February	January	December	November
Consumer Price Index:						
All items -----	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.3
Commodities -----	.3	.5	.1	.1	.4	.3
Food -----	.9	.9	.5	0	-.1	.1
Food at home -----	1.0	1.1	.5	-.3	-.2	.1
Apparel commodities --	.3	0	.3	-.1	.3	.3
Nondurables less food						
and apparel -----	0	.2	0	.3	.4	.4
Durables -----	.2	.2	0	.2	.9	.4
Services ^{1/} -----	.2	0	.2	.6	.6	.6
Rent -----	.4	.3	.6	.3	.7	.4
Household services						
less rent -----	-.4	-1.0	-.5	.2	.8	.7
Transportation -----	1.0	.5	1.3	.9	.3	.7
Medical care services	.6	.6	.7	.5	.7	.7
Other services -----	.1	.2	.2	1.1	.3	.3

^{1/} All percent changes are computed from 1967=100 indexes. Percent changes for total services and rent are based on unadjusted indexes.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments

Approximately 72,700 workers will receive cost-of-living escalator adjustments based on the April U.S. city average Consumer Price Index or one of the individual city indexes.

About 55,000 workers will receive hourly wage increases based on the national index. An annual increase of \$11.00 per month will be given to over 28,000 classified employees of the State of Wisconsin. An additional 7,450 employees will receive annual increases ranging from 5 to 10 cents. Quarterly increases of 2 to 4 cents per hour will be given to 16,925 workers including 3,300 employees of the Tecumseh Product Company in Tecumseh, Michigan. About 1,150 workers will receive a semiannual increase of 5 cents and 1,500 workers will receive a monthly increase of 1 cent per hour.

About 17,700 transit workers, including 13,200 in Chicago and Pittsburgh, will receive quarterly pay increases based on indexes for their cities. Workers in Pittsburgh will receive 4 cents per hour and those in Chicago will get 5-1/2 cents.

Approximately 11,500 other workers will not receive adjustments because they have already received the maximum stipulated in their contracts.

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
April 1971 CPI (1967=100)	120.2	Index point difference divided by the index for the previous period: $\frac{120.2 - 119.8}{119.8} \times 100 = 0.3$
less March 1971 index	<u>119.8</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, April 1971

(Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Group	Indexes (1967=100) (unless otherwise specified)				Percent change to April 1971 from:		
	April 1971	March 1971	January 1971	April 1970	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
All items -----	120.2	119.8	119.2	115.2	0.3	0.8	4.3
All items (1957-59=100) -----	139.8	139.3	138.6	134.0	-	-	-
Food -----	117.8	117.0	115.5	114.6	.7	2.0	2.8
Food at home -----	116.1	115.1	113.4	113.4	.9	2.4	2.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.9	113.0	112.4	107.7	.8	1.3	5.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.7	115.6	113.1	117.7	.1	2.3	- 1.7
Dairy products -----	114.6	114.2	113.9	111.0	.4	.6	3.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	120.0	116.0	109.6	114.6	3.4	9.5	4.7
Other foods at home -----	115.8	115.6	117.0	111.7	.2	- 1.0	3.7
Food away from home -----	124.8	124.3	123.4	118.8	.4	1.1	5.1
Housing -----	122.5	122.4	122.7	117.6	.1	-.2	4.2
Shelter ^{1/} -----	126.5	126.7	128.0	121.9	-.2	- 1.2	3.8
Rent -----	114.4	113.9	112.9	109.1	.4	1.3	4.9
Homeownership ^{2/} -----	130.9	131.2	133.4	126.5	-.2	- 1.9	3.5
Fuel and utilities ^{3/} -----	114.1	113.8	112.1	106.7	.3	1.8	6.9
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.3	117.4	116.7	108.3	-.1	.5	8.3
Gas and electricity -----	113.9	113.3	111.5	106.6	.5	2.2	6.8
Household furnishings and operation -----	117.0	116.4	115.4	112.8	.5	1.4	3.7
Apparel and upkeep ^{4/} -----	119.1	118.6	117.6	115.0	.4	1.3	3.6
Men's and boys' -----	120.3	119.4	118.0	116.7	.8	1.9	3.1
Women's and girls' -----	118.7	118.3	117.4	113.9	.3	1.1	4.2
Footwear -----	121.1	120.5	119.8	117.3	.5	1.1	3.2
Transportation -----	118.1	117.8	117.5	111.2	.3	.5	6.2
Private -----	116.2	115.9	115.8	109.7	.3	.3	5.9
New cars -----	113.8	114.3	115.4	106.3	-.4	- 1.4	7.1
Used cars -----	109.8	106.8	107.0	99.7	2.8	2.8	10.1
Gasoline -----	103.7	105.8	107.7	106.7	- 2.0	- 3.7	- 2.8
Public -----	136.4	136.0	133.9	125.5	.3	1.9	8.7
Health and recreation -----	121.2	120.6	119.8	114.9	.5	1.2	5.5
Medical care -----	127.5	126.8	124.9	119.1	.6	2.1	7.1
Personal care -----	116.3	115.8	115.3	112.4	.4	.9	3.5
Reading and recreation -----	118.4	117.7	117.3	111.9	.6	.9	5.8
Other goods and services -----	119.7	119.4	118.9	114.7	.3	.7	4.4
Seasonally Adjusted:							
Food -----	118.2	117.2	115.5	-	.9	2.3	-
Apparel and upkeep -----	119.2	118.8	118.4	-	.3	.7	-
Transportation -----	117.9	118.3	117.3	-	-.3	.5	-
Special Groups:							
All items less food -----	120.9	120.6	120.3	115.4	.2	.5	4.8
All items less medical care -----	119.8	119.4	118.9	115.0	.3	.8	4.2
Commodities less food -----	115.8	115.5	115.2	111.4	.3	.5	3.9
Commodities -----	116.6	116.1	115.4	112.6	.4	1.0	3.6
Nondurables -----	116.9	116.4	115.4	113.4	.4	1.3	3.1
Nondurables less food -----	116.0	115.7	115.3	112.3	.3	.6	3.3
Apparel commodities -----	119.3	118.8	117.8	115.4	.4	1.3	3.4
Durables -----	115.7	115.2	115.2	110.1	.4	.4	5.1
Household durables -----	112.4	112.1	111.5	109.8	.3	.8	2.4
Services -----	126.8	126.6	126.3	120.1	.2	.4	5.6
Services less rent -----	129.1	128.9	128.7	122.1	.2	.3	5.7
Services less medical care -----	126.0	125.9	125.9	119.8	.1	.1	5.2
Insurance and finance -----	136.6	137.3	140.5	132.8	-.5	- 2.8	2.9
Utilities and public transportation -----	119.0	118.6	116.7	111.0	.3	2.0	7.2
Housekeeping and home maintenance services -----	133.7	133.0	131.5	124.2	.5	1.7	7.6
Medical care services -----	132.2	131.4	129.3	122.5	.6	2.2	7.9
Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar:							
1967=\$1.00 -----	\$0.832	\$0.835	\$0.839	\$0.868	-.4	-.8	- 4.3
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	.715	.718	.721	.746	-	-	-

^{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	January 1971	April 1970
		April 1971			March 1971	January 1971	April 1970
U.S. City Average -----	M	120.2	139.8		0.3	0.8	4.3
Chicago -----	M	120.2	136.6		.3	.9	4.9
Detroit -----	M	120.1	138.0		0	.2	3.2
Los Angeles-Long Beach ---	M	116.7	137.2		.2	0	2.8
N.Y.-Northeastern N.J. ---	M	124.6	148.3		.2	1.7	5.9
Philadelphia -----	M	122.6	143.2		.3	1.1	5.5
		April 1971				January 1971	April 1970
Boston -----	1	3/ 121.7	145.9			.8	5.7
Houston -----	1	119.5	136.7			.2	2.8
Minneapolis-St. Paul ----	1	120.3	139.5			.2	3.2
Pittsburgh -----	1	120.9	139.1			1.4	5.0
		February 1971				November 1970	February 1970
Buffalo -----	2	119.6		4/ 131.5		.8	4.9
Cleveland -----	2	121.5	137.2			.2	3.7
Dallas -----	2	119.8		4/ 129.5		.8	3.1
Milwaukee -----	2	119.0	134.3			1.0	4.6
San Diego -----	2	118.2		5/ 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		6/ 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/ Corrected index: January 1971 120.7.

4/ November 1963=100.

5/ February 1965=100.

6/ 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 March 1971 to April 1971

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.3	0.3	0.0	- 0.2	0.2	0.3
Food -----	.7	.6	.7	.3	.8	.3
Housing -----	.1	0	-.6	-.3	.3	-.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	.4	-.3	- 1.0	0	-.7	2.2
Transportation -----	.3	.2	.8	- 2.6	-.1	.7
Health and recreation -----	.5	.2	.2	1.3	.4	.3
Medical care -----	.6	0	.5	2.6	0	.3
Personal care -----	.4	-.1	-.8	.8	1.2	0
Reading and recreation -----	.6	.7	.2	.7	.7	.9
Other goods and services -----	.3	.2	.5	-.1	.2	(2/)

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.
2/ Not available.

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

(1967=100)

Group	Indexes			Percent changes to: April 1971	
	April 1971	March 1971	January 1971	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago
Food -----	118.2	117.2	115.5	0.9	2.3
Food at home -----	116.4	115.3	113.4	1.0	2.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.2	116.1	113.9	.1	2.0
Dairy products -----	115.2	114.4	113.7	.7	1.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	119.0	115.8	110.3	2.8	7.9
Other foods at home -----	115.9	115.8	115.3	.1	.5
Fuel and utilities 1/ -----	113.9	113.7	112.0	.2	1.7
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.2	116.8	115.9	.3	1.1
Apparel and upkeep 2/ -----	119.2	118.8	118.4	.3	.7
Men's and boys' -----	120.1	119.6	118.6	.4	1.3
Women's and girls' -----	119.3	118.8	118.7	.4	.5
Footwear -----	121.0	120.5	120.2	.4	.7
Transportation -----	117.9	118.3	117.3	.3	.5
Private -----	116.1	116.1	115.9	0	.2
New cars -----	113.8	113.8	114.4	0	-.5
Commodities -----	116.7	116.3	115.6	.3	1.0
Commodities less food -----	115.8	115.6	115.5	.2	.3
Nondurables -----	117.0	116.6	115.5	.3	1.3
Nondurables less food -----	116.0	115.8	115.8	.2	.2
Apparel commodities -----	119.4	119.0	118.6	.3	.7
Durables -----	115.7	115.5	115.3	.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 4-A. Consumer Price Index--Seasonal Adjustment Factors for Use with 1971 Indexes, Series 3-71

(Calculated from data through March 1971)

Group	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
All items -----	99.87	99.82	99.96	100.02	99.96	100.08	100.13	100.04	100.01	100.04	100.03	100.06
Food -----	100.0	99.8	99.8	99.7	99.8	100.2	100.6	100.7	100.2	100.0	99.4	99.8
Food at home -----	100.0	99.9	99.8	99.7	99.7	100.3	100.8	100.8	100.3	100.0	99.2	99.7
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	99.3	99.5	99.6	99.6	99.4	100.0	100.8	101.6	101.5	100.5	99.4	98.9
Meats -----	99.3	99.4	99.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	101.0	101.7	101.6	100.8	99.5	98.8
Beef and veal -----	99.4	99.4	99.5	99.2	100.0	100.1	100.7	101.3	101.3	100.5	99.7	98.8
Round steak -----	99.7	99.8	99.6	98.9	100.1	100.3	100.4	101.4	101.3	100.4	99.8	98.4
Rib roast -----	100.7	99.6	99.2	99.5	99.7	99.6	100.2	100.8	101.2	100.4	99.5	99.6
Chuck roast -----	98.7	100.1	100.2	100.8	99.8	98.9	99.9	101.4	101.1	100.7	99.7	98.6
Hamburger -----	99.3	99.4	99.5	99.7	99.8	100.1	100.5	101.3	101.0	100.5	99.7	99.2
Veal cutlets -----	99.1	99.6	100.1	100.2	100.1	100.7	100.9	100.7	100.5	100.0	99.4	98.8
Pork -----	98.9	99.2	99.1	98.1	97.5	100.0	102.2	103.4	103.1	101.7	99.0	98.0
Pork chops -----	98.4	99.2	98.6	96.7	96.4	103.0	103.4	104.7	103.8	101.4	97.9	96.6
Ham, whole -----	103.4	101.3	101.0	99.3	97.4	98.6	98.0	99.5	100.1	100.0	99.7	101.6
Bacon -----	97.3	97.9	98.1	98.4	98.4	101.2	102.2	104.0	104.5	102.5	98.5	97.0
Other meats -----	99.8	99.7	99.7	99.9	99.5	99.9	99.9	100.7	100.5	100.4	100.0	99.9
Frankfurters -----	99.0	98.8	99.2	100.0	99.5	100.1	99.9	101.3	101.6	100.7	100.1	99.7
Frying chickens -----	97.5	99.7	100.4	101.7	99.6	100.6	102.8	102.2	102.4	98.5	97.4	97.1
Fish -----	100.4	100.3	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.1	99.8	99.8	99.7	99.8	99.7	100.1
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	100.2	100.2	99.7	100.1	100.1	99.8	100.0	100.2	100.0	99.8	99.6	100.3
Dairy products -----	100.2	100.0	99.8	99.5	99.8	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.3	100.2	100.3
Fresh milk, grocery -----	100.3	99.9	99.8	99.5	99.6	99.7	99.7	99.8	100.1	100.6	100.6	100.3
Cheese, American process -----	99.9	100.1	100.2	100.1	100.2	100.1	100.1	100.0	99.6	99.8	99.8	99.9
Butter -----	100.4	100.0	99.7	99.7	99.9	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.9	100.5	100.3	100.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	99.4	99.4	100.2	100.8	102.3	103.2	104.4	101.5	97.7	96.4	96.8	98.0
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	98.9	98.9	100.4	101.3	103.8	105.5	107.6	102.3	96.2	94.2	94.6	96.2
Bananas -----	98.2	97.7	100.3	100.2	102.0	101.3	101.3	101.5	102.3	105.3	96.4	93.4
Oranges -----	94.7	95.1	95.4	93.6	95.1	96.1	99.1	104.0	107.0	113.3	107.7	98.9
Grapefruit -----	88.5	89.5	87.6	89.5	93.4	103.2	107.4	122.5	120.8	117.4	90.8	89.4
Strawberries -----	-	-	-	105.7	96.5	97.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Watermelon -----	-	-	-	-	-	120.1	92.2	87.7	-	-	-	-
Grapes -----	-	-	-	-	-	-	123.3	102.6	86.2	89.3	89.6	-
Potatoes -----	93.8	96.1	96.6	98.4	102.6	109.8	116.9	109.6	97.1	92.0	93.1	94.0
Onions -----	92.3	100.3	101.6	102.7	104.3	105.9	106.7	109.1	98.6	93.8	91.9	92.8
Cabbage -----	107.1	110.0	105.8	103.8	106.7	110.5	99.6	91.2	87.1	90.0	89.6	98.4
Carrots -----	103.1	103.7	96.7	96.3	94.9	99.8	102.9	106.2	97.6	96.8	97.5	104.5
Celery -----	103.0	99.5	94.6	92.3	103.1	108.5	118.3	101.1	91.5	92.5	98.2	97.5
Lettuce -----	100.3	90.4	94.6	103.3	104.5	92.7	98.2	99.1	95.1	104.8	108.5	108.5
Tomatoes -----	110.1	100.4	103.6	111.4	113.7	106.6	99.8	83.3	72.3	81.5	96.2	121.2
Frozen orange juice concentrate -----	100.1	100.2	100.4	100.5	100.3	99.9	99.4	100.0	100.2	99.6	99.6	99.9
Other foods at home -----	101.5	101.1	99.8	99.9	98.2	97.8	98.4	100.2	100.8	101.2	99.9	101.2
Eggs -----	108.9	109.0	99.5	98.9	88.5	85.7	88.5	100.2	105.6	107.7	99.4	108.1
Fuel and utilities -----	100.1	100.0	100.1	100.2	100.1	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.8	99.7	100.2	100.2
Fuel oil and coal -----	100.7	100.7	100.5	100.1	99.9	99.3	99.5	99.4	99.7	99.8	100.1	100.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	99.3	99.5	99.8	99.9	100.2	100.1	99.4	99.1	100.2	100.7	100.9	100.7
Men's and boys' -----	99.5	99.3	99.8	100.2	100.2	100.0	99.3	99.4	100.2	100.6	100.9	100.6
Women's and girls' -----	98.9	99.2	99.6	99.5	100.3	100.0	99.2	98.5	100.4	101.3	101.7	101.3
Footwear -----	99.7	99.8	100.0	100.1	100.2	100.0	99.6	99.9	100.0	100.2	100.3	100.2
Transportation -----	100.2	99.7	99.6	100.2	100.2	100.3	100.2	99.7	99.3	100.3	100.3	100.1
Private transportation -----	99.9	99.6	99.8	100.1	100.1	100.3	100.1	99.7	99.2	100.3	100.3	100.4
New cars -----	100.9	100.6	100.4	100.0	99.7	99.3	98.9	98.2	97.0	101.5	102.1	101.4
All commodities -----	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.2	100.1	100.0	100.2	100.1	100.1
Nondurable commodities -----	99.9	99.8	99.8	99.9	99.9	100.1	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.1	100.0	100.1
Durable commodities -----	99.9	99.7	99.7	100.0	100.1	100.2	100.1	99.9	99.6	100.3	100.5	100.1
All commodities less food -----	99.7	99.8	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.1	99.9	99.7	99.9	100.4	100.5	100.2
Nondurable commodities less food -----	99.6	99.7	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.7	99.6	100.1	100.4	100.5	100.3
Apparel commodities -----	99.3	99.4	99.8	99.9	100.2	100.1	99.3	99.1	100.3	100.8	101.1	100.8

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

Group	U.S. City Average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Houston	Los Angeles-Long Beach	Minneapolis-St. Paul	N.Y.-N.E.-N.J.	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh
(Indexes 1967=100 unless otherwise specified)										
All items -----	120.2	2/121.7	120.2	120.1	119.5	116.7	120.3	124.6	122.6	120.9
Food -----	117.8	118.7	118.0	116.2	117.8	114.3	119.0	122.4	119.3	118.4
Food at home -----	116.1	117.4	116.3	115.0	114.3	113.3	116.7	120.1	117.4	116.7
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.9	113.5	116.0	111.4	111.6	111.3	121.3	115.0	117.8	113.7
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.7	120.2	116.2	117.6	115.0	114.2	117.3	120.8	115.7	113.9
Dairy products -----	114.6	115.6	113.2	112.2	113.6	112.4	112.3	117.8	117.5	119.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	120.0	119.5	121.1	116.8	117.0	115.4	116.7	125.0	120.9	123.2
Other foods at home -----	115.8	115.4	115.2	112.8	113.6	112.3	117.0	119.6	116.7	115.9
Food away from home -----	124.8	123.2	124.8	122.2	130.2	117.1	128.9	129.7	127.7	128.8
Housing -----	122.5	124.3	119.4	125.8	122.7	119.1	123.3	126.8	123.6	124.6
Shelter -----	126.5	129.8	123.0	133.8	127.3	121.3	128.0	131.8	128.4	129.8
Rent -----	114.4	122.1	(3/)	115.2	109.6	(3/)	117.7	118.3	(3/)	112.9
Homeownership -----	130.9	133.0	129.0	137.5	133.3	123.0	129.7	141.5	131.2	134.4
Fuel and utilities -----	114.1	110.6	110.9	109.7	113.6	115.8	113.4	113.4	114.5	117.3
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.3	113.1	113.2	113.9	-	-	115.1	118.4	117.8	-
Gas and electricity -----	113.9	113.8	108.6	109.5	120.2	119.4	116.8	109.7	116.3	121.7
Household furnishings and operation -----	117.0	122.8	113.5	111.9	119.0	113.4	115.9	121.8	120.4	118.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	119.1	121.7	116.4	114.4	121.7	116.6	118.5	119.3	120.8	118.5
Men's and boys' -----	120.3	121.3	118.6	117.8	113.1	118.3	123.4	123.9	121.0	118.8
Women's and girls' -----	118.7	121.9	116.4	108.4	130.5	117.0	116.0	114.0	118.7	117.2
Footwear -----	121.1	122.7	115.6	121.0	122.0	116.7	121.5	121.7	124.7	120.8
Transportation -----	118.1	4/119.8	6/125.3	113.7	113.2	113.1	114.4	128.7	122.9	119.6
Private -----	116.2	5/116.7	7/119.8	110.9	110.9	113.2	113.9	124.6	120.0	117.2
Public -----	136.4	138.3	160.3	147.8	149.4	142.3	123.8	144.3	140.0	135.6
Health and recreation -----	121.2	122.9	122.6	122.1	120.2	117.4	121.8	124.7	125.9	121.5
Medical care -----	127.5	130.1	127.8	132.4	117.8	126.0	123.1	134.5	135.1	122.1
Personal care -----	116.3	121.9	(3/)	114.0	115.1	(3/)	117.5	(3/)	117.0	114.3
Reading and recreation -----	118.4	124.7	118.3	118.6	116.9	111.2	124.6	122.4	122.0	117.5
Other goods and services -----	119.7	114.7	124.5	116.8	116.0	114.9	118.9	122.0	(3/)	128.2
Percent changes from January 1971 to April 1971										
All items -----	0.8	0.8	0.9	- 0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	1.7	1.1	1.4
Food -----	2.0	1.5	2.1	1.7	1.1	1.2	1.7	2.6	2.0	2.0
Food at home -----	2.4	1.7	2.5	1.7	1.0	1.4	1.7	3.0	2.3	2.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	1.3	.9	.8	- 2.0	1.4	2.4	2.6	1.7	.5	1.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	2.3	2.4	2.4	1.7	.8	2.0	3.0	2.8	2.3	2.2
Dairy products -----	.6	.3	1.3	.7	.1	1.0	- 4.3	.3	.3	.4
Fruits and vegetables -----	9.5	5.9	11.4	10.7	6.8	5.0	8.4	10.4	10.0	8.9
Other foods at home -----	- 1.0	- .9	- 2.0	- 2.7	- 2.2	- 2.2	- .3	.3	- 1.2	- 1.4
Food away from home -----	1.1	.8	.9	2.0	1.5	.9	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.3
Housing -----	- .2	0	- .6	- 1.6	- .4	- 1.7	- .6	1.7	- 1.0	.8
Shelter -----	- 1.2	- .8	- 1.4	- 2.7	- 2.0	- 2.7	- 1.5	1.6	- 3.5	.2
Rent -----	1.3	1.8	(3/)	8/ .7	.6	(3/)	.9	8/1.1	(3/)	.4
Homeownership -----	- 1.9	- 1.8	- 2.0	- 3.4	- 2.8	- 3.7	- 1.9	.8	- 7.5	- .1
Fuel and utilities -----	1.8	.6	.4	.5	2.5	.9	3.5	.9	3.1	2.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	.5	0	- .3	0	-	-	0	1.5	.6	-
Gas and electricity -----	2.2	1.2	.4	0	3.9	.9	5.4	.8	5.5	3.3
Household furnishings and operation -----	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.5	.3	2.4	2.1	1.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.3	2.1	3.5	3.8	1.2	.9	1.2	1.3	4.5	2.6
Men's and boys' -----	1.9	1.1	2.1	2.6	1.6	4.2	4.6	5.6	3.2	2.9
Women's and girls' -----	1.1	3.8	8.3	8.0	1.3	- .6	- 1.1	- 1.6	6.2	4.2
Footwear -----	1.1	.7	- 1.2	1.5	.2	0	.1	2.3	6.5	1.1
Transportation -----	.5	.2	.3	- 3.4	- 1.2	- .8	- 2.8	2.1	1.9	2.1
Private -----	.3	- .2	.4	- 3.7	- 1.3	- .8	- 3.0	2.5	.3	.2
Public -----	1.9	1.5	0	.1	0	.4	.2	.8	10.6	14.8
Health and recreation -----	1.2	1.3	.9	1.3	.7	2.0	2.1	1.0	.6	.7
Medical care -----	2.1	.9	1.8	1.5	1.2	3.6	1.7	1.5	.9	.9
Personal care -----	.9	3.7	(3/)	.4	.5	(3/)	1.2	(3/)	.3	.5
Reading and recreation -----	.9	1.1	.7	1.0	.5	1.2	3.7	.7	1.6	1.1
Other goods and services -----	.7	.8	.3	1.8	.3	0	.9	.7	(3/)	.1

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.
 2/ Corrected indexes: October 1970=119.4; January 1971=120.7; 1970 annual average=116.7.
 3/ Not available.
 4/ Corrected indexes: October 1970=118.4; January 1971=119.6; 1970 annual average=113.8.
 5/ Corrected indexes: October 1970=115.4; January 1971=116.9; 1970 annual average=110.3.
 6/ Corrected indexes: December 1970=125.1; January 1971=124.9; February 1971=125.1; annual average 118.5.
 7/ Corrected indexes: December 1970=119.6; January 1971=119.3; February 1971=120.2; March 1971=119.5; 1970 annual average=113.6.
 8/ Change from February 1971.

TABLE 6. Consumer Price Index--United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, April 1971 indexes and percent changes from March 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 -----	117.8	116.1	113.9	115.7	114.6	120.0	115.8	124.8
Atlanta -----	118.3	116.3	113.0	114.5	115.1	126.9	115.1	124.9
Baltimore -----	120.1	118.4	116.0	118.8	116.6	118.7	120.4	126.5
Boston -----	118.7	117.4	113.5	120.2	115.6	119.5	115.4	123.2
Buffalo -----	119.9	119.0	116.5	117.0	116.4	127.5	118.1	125.0
Chicago -----	118.0	116.3	116.0	116.2	113.2	121.1	115.2	124.8
Cincinnati -----	117.8	116.6	111.4	114.9	115.5	121.3	119.2	122.0
Cleveland -----	119.5	118.7	115.9	117.1	120.8	122.8	118.2	124.0
Dallas -----	116.9	113.6	114.4	113.2	109.6	116.8	113.8	128.9
Detroit -----	116.2	115.0	111.4	117.6	112.2	116.8	112.8	122.2
Honolulu -----	116.8	113.3	104.7	113.2	114.4	124.2	110.3	127.1
Houston -----	117.8	114.3	111.6	115.0	113.6	117.0	113.6	130.2
Kansas City -----	117.5	114.8	114.6	113.8	120.5	110.6	115.5	125.8
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	114.3	113.3	111.3	114.2	112.4	115.4	112.3	117.1
Milwaukee -----	114.9	113.4	114.5	113.9	111.1	115.5	112.4	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	119.0	116.7	121.3	117.3	112.3	116.7	117.0	128.9
N.Y.- Northeastern N.J. -	122.4	120.1	115.0	120.8	117.8	125.0	119.6	129.7
Philadelphia -----	119.3	117.4	117.8	115.7	117.5	120.9	116.7	127.7
Pittsburgh -----	118.4	116.7	113.7	113.9	119.1	123.2	115.9	128.8
St. Louis -----	117.8	115.5	119.7	112.7	117.3	119.5	112.2	129.0
San Diego -----	116.2	113.5	110.1	117.2	111.6	113.3	111.2	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	115.7	114.3	109.7	114.9	110.9	119.2	115.0	120.6
Seattle -----	114.7	112.2	111.1	111.9	111.4	112.7	113.6	122.6
Washington -----	119.5	115.8	116.8	113.0	109.0	122.5	119.2	129.2
Percent changes March 1971 to April 1971								
U.S. City Average -----	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.1	0.4	3.4	0.2	0.4
Atlanta -----	1.5	1.7	.4	1.7	.4	5.6	.5	.9
Baltimore -----	.3	.3	1.1	-.4	0	.8	.7	0
Boston -----	.5	.5	.4	.8	.3	1.4	-.3	.2
Buffalo -----	1.3	1.5	.2	-.2	.4	7.7	.8	-.1
Chicago -----	.6	.7	.2	.5	.4	3.6	- 1.0	.6
Cincinnati -----	.7	.8	-.3	.4	-.9	4.4	-.1	.2
Cleveland -----	.2	.1	.9	- 1.4	1.6	4.7	- 2.2	.4
Dallas -----	.3	.2	.3	- 1.8	.3	2.8	1.2	.5
Detroit -----	.7	.8	- 1.5	.3	1.3	5.3	- 1.2	.7
Honolulu -----	.5	.6	.5	-.3	-.1	3.2	.3	.2
Houston -----	.9	.8	-.9	.9	0	4.1	.2	1.2
Kansas City -----	.3	.3	.4	-.7	.5	1.1	.6	.6
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	.3	.2	.8	-.5	.1	2.3	- 1.0	.6
Milwaukee -----	.7	.8	2.2	.2	.7	1.9	.3	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	1.9	2.2	1.3	.9	5.6	3.7	.9	.5
N.Y.- Northeastern N. J. -	.8	1.0	.9	.5	.3	3.3	.9	.2
Philadelphia -----	.3	.5	.7	-.1	.1	1.9	.3	.2
Pittsburgh -----	.3	.3	1.3	-.3	.5	1.5	-.9	.4
St. Louis -----	.6	.8	.6	.1	.7	1.5	1.2	0
San Diego -----	0	0	1.3	-.4	0	.7	-.6	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	.7	.8	.9	-.2	.6	3.5	.4	.1
Seattle -----	.3	.3	.6	-.5	1.6	1.7	-.9	0
Washington -----	.8	1.1	2.6	.1	.5	1.0	2.6	.5

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

^{2/} Not available.

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to April 1971 from---		
	April 1971		March 1971		April 1970
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Total food -----	117.8	118.2	0.7	0.9	2.8
Food away from home -----	124.8	-	.4	-	5.1
Restaurant meals -----	124.5	-	.3	-	4.9
Snacks -----	126.2	-	.4	-	5.6
Food at home -----	116.1	116.4	.9	1.0	2.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.9	-	.8	-	5.8
Flour -----	101.3	-	1.5	-	1.5
Cracker meal -----	129.4	-	1.1	-	12.5
Corn flakes -----	110.1	-	.4	-	9.1
Rice -----	108.9	-	0	-	2.7
Bread, white -----	112.1	-	.8	-	4.1
Bread, whole wheat -----	116.6	-	.6	-	5.7
Cookies -----	109.7	-	2.4	-	8.0
Layer cake -----	119.6	-	.4	-	3.5
Cinnamon rolls -----	117.3	-	.2	-	6.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.7	116.2	.1	.1	- 1.7
Meats -----	115.7	116.5	.1	.1	- 2.9
Beef and veal -----	124.2	125.2	1.5	1.8	2.9
Steak, round -----	124.3	125.7	2.6	3.4	2.8
Steak, sirloin -----	120.9	-	1.7	-	3.5
Steak, porterhouse -----	121.7	-	1.8	-	3.1
Rump roast -----	122.7	-	2.0	-	3.1
Rib roast -----	122.5	123.1	.5	.2	2.6
Chuck roast -----	125.6	124.6	.6	0	1.5
Hamburger -----	125.7	126.1	.8	.6	2.3
Beef liver -----	114.0	-	1.0	-	.2
Veal cutlets -----	138.7	138.4	1.9	1.8	8.0
Pork -----	103.6	105.6	- 2.3	- 1.3	- 12.5
Chops -----	105.9	109.5	- 2.3	- .4	- 9.3
Loin roast -----	103.6	-	- 3.2	-	- 10.9
Pork sausage -----	111.7	-	- .3	-	- 8.9
Ham, whole -----	99.4	100.1	- 6.8	- 5.1	- 17.4
Picnics -----	109.2	-	- 1.0	-	- 8.6
Bacon -----	95.6	97.2	- 1.0	- 1.3	- 18.4
Other meats -----	114.3	114.4	- .2	- .3	- 2.4
Lamb chops -----	118.6	-	- .1	-	1.3
Frankfurters -----	115.2	115.2	.9	.1	- 2.0
Ham, canned -----	104.6	-	- 2.9	-	- 11.8
Bologna sausage -----	117.9	-	.5	-	- 1.0
Salami sausage -----	115.4	-	.3	-	- 1.6
Liverwurst -----	114.0	-	0	-	.5
Poultry -----	107.3	-	.5	-	- 1.7
Frying chicken -----	107.5	105.7	0	- 1.3	- .4
Chicken breasts -----	108.7	-	1.9	-	- .4
Turkey -----	105.5	-	- 4.4	-	- 9.1
Fish -----	128.6	128.5	.7	.7	11.1
Shrimp, frozen -----	115.3	-	.7	-	- .5
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	138.5	138.4	.5	.1	13.3
Tuna fish, canned -----	129.0	-	.9	-	15.0
Sardines, canned -----	131.5	-	.5	-	16.2
Dairy products -----	114.6	115.2	.4	.7	3.2
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	114.2	114.8	.4	.8	2.7
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	117.2	-	.3	-	3.1
Milk, fresh, skim -----	119.4	-	1.0	-	4.5
Milk, evaporated -----	115.8	-	.1	-	6.3
Ice cream -----	105.0	-	.4	-	1.3
Cheese, American process -----	120.3	120.2	.8	.8	4.2
Butter -----	105.9	106.2	0	0	2.1

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to April 1971---		
	April 1971		March 1971		Unadjusted
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
Fruits and vegetables -----	120.0	119.0	3.4	2.8	4.7
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	123.6	122.0	5.0	4.1	3.8
Apples -----	113.4	113.5	4.6	1.0	12.6
Bananas -----	95.8	95.6	.2	-.1	- 11.1
Oranges -----	115.9	123.8	-.3	1.6	10.7
Orange juice, fresh -----	119.2	-	2.1	-	- 2.1
Grapefruit -----	118.9	132.8	8.6	6.2	6.4
Grapes 1/ -----	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Strawberries 1/ -----	128.6	121.7	(1/)	(1/)	21.8
Watermelon 1/ -----	(1/)	-	(1/)	-	(1/)
Potatoes -----	113.4	115.2	2.0	.1	- 6.7
Onions -----	97.3	94.7	2.0	.9	- 27.3
Asparagus 1/ -----	123.2	-	- 23.0	-	17.8
Cabbage -----	126.8	122.2	5.9	8.0	- 14.9
Carrots -----	121.2	125.9	11.6	12.1	16.8
Celery -----	107.3	116.3	.8	3.3	- 7.2
Cucumbers -----	173.2	-	28.3	-	6.8
Lettuce -----	109.7	106.2	- 7.5	- 15.3	12.6
Peppers, green -----	215.6	-	35.1	-	10.5
Spinach -----	129.5	-	2.1	-	7.5
Tomatoes -----	147.0	132.0	6.5	-.9	7.5
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	114.7	-	1.1	-	6.1
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	116.8	-	1.4	-	9.8
Pears, canned -----	116.7	-	.7	-	9.8
Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned -----	113.5	-	1.0	-	2.7
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	120.4	119.8	2.4	2.3	- 2.0
Lemonade concentrate, frozen -----	113.0	-	.6	-	4.2
Beets, canned -----	114.0	-	1.4	-	5.1
Peas, green, canned -----	106.5	-	1.2	-	5.1
Tomatoes, canned -----	115.6	-	.3	-	9.4
Dried beans -----	116.0	-	1.8	-	9.8
Broccoli, frozen -----	117.8	-	.9	-	3.8
Other food at home -----	115.8	115.9	.2	.1	3.7
Eggs -----	109.7	110.9	- 1.1	-.5	- 6.4
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	115.3	-	1.1	-	11.1
Salad dressing, Italian -----	109.0	-	1.2	-	8.2
Salad or cooking oil -----	119.0	-	1.4	-	12.7
Sugar and sweets -----	118.7	-	.5	-	4.3
Sugar -----	112.1	-	.6	-	6.1
Grape jelly -----	117.3	-	.9	-	4.4
Chocolate bar -----	130.7	-	.3	-	4.8
Syrup, chocolate flavored -----	113.7	-	.3	-	2.4
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	122.0	-	.2	-	6.1
Coffee, can and bag -----	123.1	-	-.6	-	6.5
Coffee, instant -----	124.1	-	.9	-	5.3
Tea -----	108.5	-	.9	-	5.2
Cola drink -----	125.2	-	.2	-	6.5
Carbonated fruit drink -----	125.6	-	.7	-	6.0
Prepared and partially prepared foods -----	112.3	-	.4	-	3.1
Bean soup, canned -----	113.7	-	.4	-	2.1
Chicken soup, canned -----	106.6	-	-.1	-	.9
Spaghetti, canned -----	117.2	-	.1	-	4.3
Mashed potatoes, instant -----	110.2	-	-.2	-	1.6
Potatoes, french fried, frozen -----	110.4	-	-.2	-	.2
Baby foods, canned -----	110.7	-	.3	-	5.4
Sweet pickle relish -----	115.2	-	.4	-	4.2
Pretzels -----	112.8	-	1.4	-	5.1

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, April 1971 and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to April 1971 from	
		April 1971	March 1971	March 1971	April 1970
Housing -----		122.5	122.4	0.1	4.2
Shelter 1/ -----		126.5	126.7	.2	3.8
Rent -----		114.4	113.9	.4	4.9
Homeownership costs 2/ -----		130.9	131.2	-.2	3.5
Mortgage interest rates -----		118.5	122.0	- 2.9	- 11.0
Property taxes -----		127.8	127.4	.3	6.6
Property insurance rates -----		118.8	117.0	1.5	5.2
Maintenance and repairs -----		131.1	130.4	.5	7.7
Commodities 3/ -----		117.4	116.7	.6	4.4
Exterior house paint -----		115.5	115.5	0	4.0
Interior house paint -----		113.9	113.1	.7	3.1
Services -----		137.1	136.2	.7	9.1
Repainting living and dining rooms -----		144.6	142.9	1.2	13.9
Reshingling house roof -----		140.4	138.9	1.1	11.3
Residing house -----		128.8	128.3	.4	6.3
Sink replacement -----		137.9	137.4	.4	9.4
Furnace repair -----		141.1	140.7	.3	6.9
Fuel and utilities -----		114.1	113.8	.3	6.9
Fuel oil and coal -----		117.3	117.4	-.1	8.3
Fuel oil, #2 -----		116.0	116.0	0	7.5
Gas and electricity -----		113.9	113.3	.5	6.8
Gas -----		115.8	114.8	.9	6.8
Electricity -----		112.1	112.0	.1	6.8
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services -----		106.2	106.0	.2	3.6
Residential water and sewerage services -----		132.6	132.6	0	13.4
Household furnishings and operation 4/ -----		117.0	116.4	.5	3.7
Housefurnishings -----		114.0	113.5	.4	2.6
Textiles -----		111.7	111.3	.4	2.4
Sheets, percale or muslin -----		115.5	114.7	.7	.3
Curtains, tailored, polyester -----		109.3	108.8	.5	.4
Bedspreads, chiefly cotton -----		108.1	108.2	-.1	.7
Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate -----		117.1	117.5	-.3	2.9
Pillows, bed, polyester, acrylic, or kapok -----		108.9	107.5	1.3	5.5
Slipcover, ready made, chiefly cotton -----		111.2	111.0	.2	5.0
Furniture and bedding -----		118.8	118.1	.6	3.1
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser -----	Mar. 70	102.8	102.4	.4	2.4
Living room suites, good and inexpensive quality --		115.0	115.1	-.1	2.0
Lounge chairs, upholstered -----		122.3	121.7	.5	4.0
Dining room chairs -----	Mar. 70	103.5	102.6	.9	3.3
Sofas, upholstered -----		117.9	116.9	.9	4.0
Sofas, dual purpose -----		115.9	117.3	- 1.2	1.2
Bedding mattress and box springs -----	June 70	103.3	102.8	.5	(5/)
Aluminum folding chair -----		115.9	(6/)	(6/)	7.3
Cribs -----		117.1	117.1	0	4.5
Floor coverings -----		106.2	106.2	0	1.4
Broadloom, carpeting, manmade fibers -----		102.2	102.3	-.1	-.6
Vinyl sheet goods -----		114.5	113.2	1.1	6.0
Vinyl asbestos tile -----		116.1	116.7	-.5	5.4
Appliances 7/ -----		105.2	105.0	.2	1.3
Washing machines, electric, automatic -----		108.9	109.0	-.1	1.5
Vacuum cleaners, canister type -----		103.4	102.9	.5	.6
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers electric --		107.9	107.8	.1	2.0
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----		110.6	110.0	.5	1.8
Clothes dryers, electric, automatic -----		112.1	111.5	.5	3.8
Air conditioners, demountable -----		108.9	109.1	-.2	1.9
Room heaters, electric, portable 6/ -----		(6/)	107.1	(6/)	(6/)
Garbage disposal units -----		109.5	109.2	.3	.9
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, earthenware -----		117.0	116.0	.9	6.0
Flatware, stainless steel -----		119.4	119.5	-.1	.6
Table lamps, with shade -----		120.3	119.3	.8	3.9
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type -----		116.3	116.2	.1	1.7
Electric drills, hand held -----		106.3	106.6	-.3	- 2.1
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents -----		109.8	108.1	1.6	3.9
Paper napkins -----		126.6	125.1	1.2	7.7
Toilet tissue -----		123.6	123.3	.2	5.6
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic service, general housework -----		132.3	131.9	.3	5.8
Baby sitter service -----		128.3	127.9	.3	5.3
Postal charges -----		121.0	121.0	0	3.4
Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----		132.1	131.1	.8	7.3
Licensed day care service, preschool child -----		117.4	117.5	-.1	3.7
Washing machine repairs -----		132.9	132.0	.7	9.3

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to April 1971 from:	
		April 1971	March 1971	March 1971	April 1970
Apparel and upkeep 8/ -----		119.1	118.6	0.4	3.6
Apparel commodities -----		119.3	118.8	.4	3.4
Apparel commodities less footwear -----		119.0	118.5	.4	3.5
Men's and boys' -----		120.3	119.4	.8	3.1
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends 6/ -----	(6/)		119.7	(6/)	(6/)
Suits, year round weight -----		129.1	127.4	1.3	4.5
Suits, tropical weight 6/ -----		130.1	(6/)	(6/)	5.3
Jackets, lightweight -----		111.9	113.9	- 1.8	- 1.1
Slacks, wool or wool blends -----		116.8	115.9	.8	1.4
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends -----		132.5	131.5	.8	6.4
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		112.7	112.2	.4	3.9
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		112.8	112.0	.7	3.7
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton -----		112.4	113.0	- .5	2.2
T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----		118.8	119.0	- .2	.1
Socks, cotton or stretch nylon -----		114.8	116.2	- 1.2	- .1
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		113.0	114.2	- 1.1	.9
Boy's:					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend 6/ -----	(6/)		115.9	(6/)	(6/)
Sport coats, wool or wool blend 6/ -----	(6/)		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend -----		121.2	120.9	.2	4.4
Undershorts, cotton -----		119.9	119.8	.1	1.3
Women's and girls' -----		118.7	118.3	.3	4.2
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/)		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Skirts, cotton or polyester blends 6/ -----		115.0	113.1	1.7	- 2.4
Blouses, cotton or polyester blends -----		123.6	122.0	1.3	7.0
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber -----		126.7	125.9	.6	- 2.4
Dresses, street, wool or wool blend 6/ -----	(6/)		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Slips, nylon -----		110.9	110.6	.3	1.6
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot -----		114.7	115.2	- .4	3.7
Girdles, manmade blend -----		114.9	114.6	.3	3.0
Brassieres, nylon lace -----		120.6	119.0	1.3	4.3
Hose, nylon seamless -----		98.9	99.7	- .8	- .6
Anklets, or knee-length socks, various fibers -----		116.5	116.3	.2	1.0
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----		109.4	109.3	.1	2.0
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----		130.2	128.1	1.6	7.4
Girls':					
Raincoats, vinyl cotton, or polyester blends -----	(6/)		113.2	(6/)	(6/)
Skirts, wool, wool blends, or acrylic 6/ -----	(6/)		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Dresses, cotton or polyester blends -----		107.9	104.7	3.1	- 1.3
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton 6/ -----	(6/)		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Slips, polyester blends -----		110.5	110.6	- .1	3.3
Handbags, plastic -----		129.5	127.9	1.3	3.8
Footwear -----		121.1	120.5	.5	3.2
Men's:					
Shoes, street, oxford -----		119.1	118.6	.4	4.0
Shoes, work, high -----		117.9	117.4	.4	4.6
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump -----		123.4	123.0	.3	1.5
Shoes, evening, pump -----		119.9	120.4	- .4	2.8
Shoes, casual -----		123.4	122.3	.9	.6
Houseslippers, scuff -----		120.4	119.9	.4	2.2
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford -----		122.5	120.7	1.5	5.2
Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----		118.4	117.8	.5	4.6
Dress shoes, girls', strap -----		125.5	123.5	1.6	6.0
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze -----		110.9	111.2	- .3	1.5
Yard goods, cotton or polyester blend -----		122.0	121.8	.2	1.2
Wrist watches, men's and women's -----		112.4	121.1	.3	1.6
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses -----		116.3	116.1	.2	3.5
Automatic laundry service -----		115.1	114.9	.2	4.9
Laundry, men's shirts -----		118.8	118.7	.1	4.2
Tailoring charge, hem adjustment -----		127.2	126.9	.2	9.4
Shoe repair, women's heel lift -----		109.9	109.7	.2	2.8

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to April 1971 from:	
		April 1971	March 1971	March 1971	April 1970
Transportation -----		118.1	117.8	0.3	6.2
Private ^{9/} -----		116.2	115.9	.3	5.9
Automobiles, new -----		113.8	114.3	-.4	7.1
Automobiles, used -----		109.8	106.8	2.8	10.1
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		103.7	105.8	- 2.0	- 2.8
Motor oil, premium -----		119.0	118.3	.6	4.9
Tires, new, tubeless -----		114.6	115.1	-.4	2.3
Auto repairs and maintenance ^{10/} -----		127.9	127.0	.7	7.3
Auto insurance rates -----		141.9	140.1	1.3	14.3
Auto registration -----		123.8	121.7	1.7	5.0
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		135.4	134.9	.4	9.9
Public -----		136.4	136.0	.3	8.7
Local transit fares -----		143.7	143.1	.4	9.5
Taxicab fares -----		119.1	119.1	0	4.6
Railroad fares, coach -----		126.2	126.2	0	9.9
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		124.1	124.1	0	6.2
Bus fares, intercity -----		130.6	130.6	0	12.3
Health and recreation -----		121.2	120.6	.5	5.5
Medical care -----		127.5	126.8	.6	7.1
Drugs and prescriptions -----		105.1	104.9	.2	1.9
Over-the-counter items -----		110.4	109.9	.5	5.1
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		98.1	98.2	-.1	.1
Aspirin compounds -----		113.7	112.9	.7	9.2
Liquid tonics -----		101.7	101.7	0	.7
Adhesive bandages, package -----		122.6	120.9	1.4	10.6
Cold tablets or capsules -----		110.4	109.8	.5	2.4
Cough syrup -----		112.9	113.3	-.4	5.5
Prescriptions -----		100.7	100.7	0	-.8
Anti-infectives -----		80.0	80.7	-.9	- 13.1
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		121.9	121.4	.4	5.6
Ataractics -----		101.2	101.4	-.2	.5
Anti-spasmodics -----		106.0	105.7	.3	3.4
Cough preparations -----		124.8	124.5	.2	5.0
Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives -----		110.2	109.8	.4	3.7
Analgesics, internal -----		107.6	107.4	.2	2.5
Anti-obesity -----		112.9	111.6	1.2	6.6
Hormones -----		95.0	94.9	.1	1.0
Professional services: -----					
Physicians' fees -----		128.5	128.0	.4	7.6
General physician, office visits -----		130.6	129.9	.5	8.4
General physician, house visits -----		129.2	128.7	.4	6.8
Obstetrical cases -----		126.9	126.2	.6	5.5
Pediatric care, office visits -----		130.3	130.1	.2	8.3
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		123.6	123.4	.2	4.3
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		121.8	121.6	.2	7.8
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		122.9	122.3	.5	7.1
Dentists' fees -----		125.6	124.8	.6	6.3
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		126.4	125.5	.7	6.2
Extractions, adult -----		126.1	125.2	.7	7.3
Dentures, full upper -----		123.4	122.9	.4	5.5
Other professional services: -----					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		118.6	118.1	.4	5.7
Routine laboratory tests -----		114.9	114.7	.2	3.5
Hospital service charges: -----					
Daily service charges -----		158.8	157.1	1.1	12.5
Semiprivate rooms -----		161.0	159.2	1.1	13.0
Private rooms -----		155.6	154.0	1.0	12.0
Operating room charges -----		154.5	154.0	.3	10.0
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----		124.4	122.5	1.6	9.0
Personal care -----		116.3	115.8	.4	3.5
Toilet goods -----		113.5	112.8	.6	3.4
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		107.5	107.3	.2	.3
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		111.8	109.6	2.0	7.7
Hand lotions, liquid -----		120.3	119.8	.4	2.5
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		106.6	105.0	1.5	4.6
Face powder, pressed -----		123.9	124.0	-.1	4.4
Deodorants, aerosol -----		104.9	105.5	-.6	.7
Cleansing tissues -----		123.2	122.6	.5	3.8
Home permanent wave kits -----		110.4	109.8	.5	1.8
Personal care services -----		119.3	119.0	.3	3.7
Men's haircuts -----		121.7	121.7	0	3.8
Beauty shop services -----		117.6	117.1	.4	3.7
Women's haircuts -----		118.8	118.2	.5	3.8
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		120.7	120.1	.5	4.2
Permanent waves, cold -----		109.5	109.4	.1	2.3

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise Specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to April 1971 from:	
		April 1971	March 1971	March 1971	April 1970
Reading and recreation ^{11/} -----		118.4	117.7	0.6	5.8
Recreational goods -----		106.2	105.8	.4	1.9
TV sets, portable and console -----		100.1	99.9	.2	.6
TV replacement tubes -----		121.6	121.4	.2	6.1
Radios, portable and table model -----		98.3	98.3	0	-.7
Tape recorders, portable -----		95.1	95.8	-.7	0
Phonograph records, stereophonic -----		100.5	99.5	1.0	.7
Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens -----		88.8	90.0	-1.3	-2.6
Film, 35mm, color -----		108.1	108.1	0	1.5
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core -----		104.4	104.1	.3	1.6
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----		123.4	120.5	2.4	5.2
Fishing rods, fresh water spincasting -----		110.2	109.7	.5	-.9
Bowling balls -----		109.5	109.7	-.2	2.3
Bicycles, boys' -----		111.9	110.4	1.4	3.1
Tricycles -----		111.1	110.3	.7	3.4
Dog food, canned or boxed -----		108.0	107.5	.5	3.3
Recreational services -----		124.0	123.3	.6	5.8
Indoor movie admissions -----		136.6	136.1	.4	7.3
Adult -----		136.1	135.7	.3	6.7
Children's -----		137.8	137.0	.6	9.0
Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----		138.0	135.9	1.5	8.4
Bowling fees, evening -----		116.4	115.9	.4	5.0
Golf green fees -----		124.0	(6/)	(6/)	5.6
TV repair, picture tube replacement -----		97.8	97.5	.3	.5
Film developing, color -----		114.7	114.7	0	3.8
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----		129.3	128.2	.9	11.9
Magazines, single copy and subscription -----		126.3	122.8	2.9	8.3
Piano lessons, beginner -----		120.8	120.8	0	4.2
Other goods and services -----		119.7	119.4	.3	4.4
Tobacco products -----		124.3	124.1	.2	4.0
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----		125.9	125.6	.2	4.6
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----		125.7	125.5	.2	4.0
Cigars, domestic, regular size -----		105.9	105.8	.1	.7
Alcoholic beverages -----		116.2	115.8	.3	4.2
Beer -----		112.8	112.1	.6	4.0
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon -----		105.9	105.8	.1	1.5
Wine, dessert and table -----		120.6	119.8	.7	3.5
Away from home -----		125.1	125.1	0	6.1
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult -----		116.2	115.9	.3	3.6
Bank service charges, checking accounts -----		111.4	111.3	.1	5.3
Legal services, short form will -----		133.3	133.3	0	9.4
Other special groups:					
All items less shelter -----		118.6	118.0	.5	4.5
Commodities less food -----		115.8	115.5	.3	3.9
Nondurables less food and apparel -----		114.0	114.0	0	3.2
Household services less rent -----		129.7	130.1	-.3	3.5
Transportation services -----		133.0	132.0	.8	9.8
Other services -----		121.5	121.2	.2	5.6

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

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

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

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

^{5/} 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 recapped tires and drivers' license fees not shown separately.

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

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

Reliability of Percent Changes in the CPI

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