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

the consumer price index

for April 1974

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Price Movements

April 1974

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.6 percent in April to 144.0 percent of its 1967 base. The rise was due to higher prices for many consumer goods and services, notably used cars, apparel commodities, energy items, and restaurant meals. The effect of these increases, however, was partially offset by lower prices for some grocery store foods, particularly meats. The April CPI was 10.2 percent higher than a year ago.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI rose 0.6 percent in April, about half as much as in each of the preceding 3 months. The food index—which includes food at home and away from home—declined 0.4 percent, the first decrease since September of last year. The index

for nonfood commodities, however, rose 1.1 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis to mark the fourth consecutive month of rapid rise in this index. The services index increased 0.6 percent, slightly less than the monthly increase in the first 3 months of this year.

Monthly changes in detail (not seasonally adjusted)

Food. The index for food purchased in grocery stores—usually unchanged in April—declined 0.7 percent. Beef prices fell sharply after a smaller decrease in March. Pork, poultry, and egg prices continued to drop and fresh vegetable prices also declined in April. The de-

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

Month	Changes from preceding month							Changes in all items	
								Compound annual rate	From 12 months ago
	All items		Food		Commodities less food		Serv-ices	From 3 months ago	
	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed
1973:									
April	0.7	0.6	1.5	1.4	0.7	0.4	0.4	8.9	5.1
May .....	.6	.6	1.0	1.2	.6	.3	.4	8.6	5.5
June .....	.7	.6	1.4	1.2	.6	.4	.4	7.5	5.9
July .....	.2	.2	.8	.3	-.2	.2	.2	5.5	5.7
August	1.8	1.9	6.0	6.1	.2	.3	.7	11.1	7.5
September .....	.3	.4	-.7	-.3	.4	.3	.9	10.2	7.4
October .....	.8	.8	.1	.7	.9	.5	1.1	13.1	7.9
November .....	.7	.8	1.1	1.4	.7	.7	.6	8.3	8.4
December .....	.7	.6	.9	.5	.6	.6	.6	9.2	8.8
1974:									
January .....	.9	1.1	1.6	1.7	.6	1.3	.7	10.2	9.4
February	1.3	1.2	2.5	2.2	1.0	1.1	.7	12.2	10.0
March	1.1	1.1	1.0	.6	1.5	1.4	.8	14.2	10.2
April .....	.6	.6	-.3	-.4	1.3	1.1	.6	12.1	10.2

NOTE: In accordance with longstanding policy, seasonal adjustment factors have been recalculated to reflect developments during the preceding 12 months. For this reason, some of the seasonally adjusted figures shown above differ from those previously reported. New seasonal factors affected changes in the All Items index in 4 of the past 12 months, in each case by 0.1 percentage point. New factors are introduced annually with release of the index for April. Those to be used through March 1975 can be found in table 3 of this release.

cline in meat prices at the retail level came in the wake of the declines in wholesale prices for livestock and meats which began in January. Transportation problems in January caused by the truckers' strike, gasoline shortages, and winter road conditions led to large back-ups of supplies of live cattle. Attempts to market them have since been hampered by slow retail demand. To avoid continued feeding of the already overweight and overfinished animals, sellers have accepted large price cuts. Pork supplies, relative to demand, also have been ample—16 percent more hogs were slaughtered in March than in February. Poultry prices have also been declining in recent months as a result of rising supplies combined with consumer resistance to higher prices as well as lower prices for competitive red meats and lower feed prices.

Price declines for these products in April more than offset price rises for most other foods, including processed fruits and vegetables, dairy products, cereal and bakery products, and sugar and sugar-based products. In response to sharp advances in world sugar prices, wholesale prices for sugar rose 61 percent in the first four months of this year; by April they were 88 percent higher than a year ago. Reflecting increases in wholesale prices, sugar prices at the retail level have risen almost 37 percent through April this year or nearly 60 percent above April 1973 levels. Higher sugar prices also have contributed to price increases for a number of foods such as manufactured dairy products, non-alcoholic beverages, candy bars, and bakery products. Declines since late February in wholesale prices for flour—a major ingredient in cereal and bakery products—have not as yet had a noticeable impact on prices at the retail level.

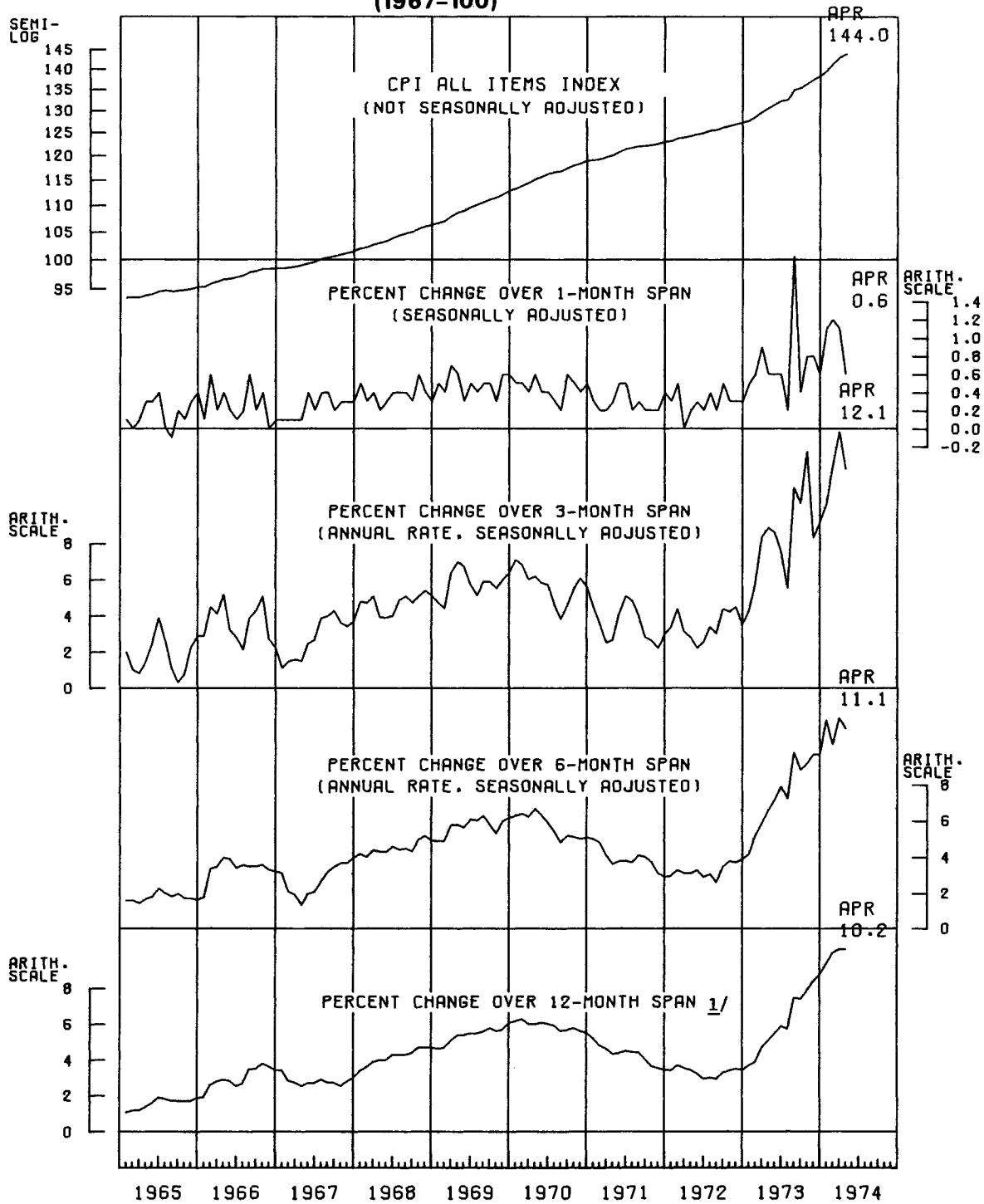
The index for food away from home—restaurant meals and snacks—increased 1.2 percent in April, almost twice the monthly increase in the first quarter of this year.

Nonfood commodities. The index for nonfood commodities increased 1.3 percent in April, considerably

more than is usual for this month. Over a fourth of the rise resulted from sharply higher prices for used cars. The April rise in used car prices reversed the steady decline from July 1973 through March 1974. Prices of apparel commodities increased more than usual in April. The index for gasoline and motor oil continued to rise, but the monthly increase (1.7 percent) was the smallest since these prices began advancing rapidly in October of last year. (For changes in prices and indexes for gasoline in 23 metropolitan areas, see tables 11 and 12.) The index for fuel oil and coal rose in April after declining slightly in March. Instead of declining as usual in April, the new car index increased, as mid-December increases in manufacturers' prices continued to be reflected at the retail level. In addition, higher transportation charges to the consumer were also behind the increase. Prices also rose for a variety of other nonfood commodities such as furniture, appliances, housekeeping supplies, toilet goods, newspapers, and alcoholic beverages.

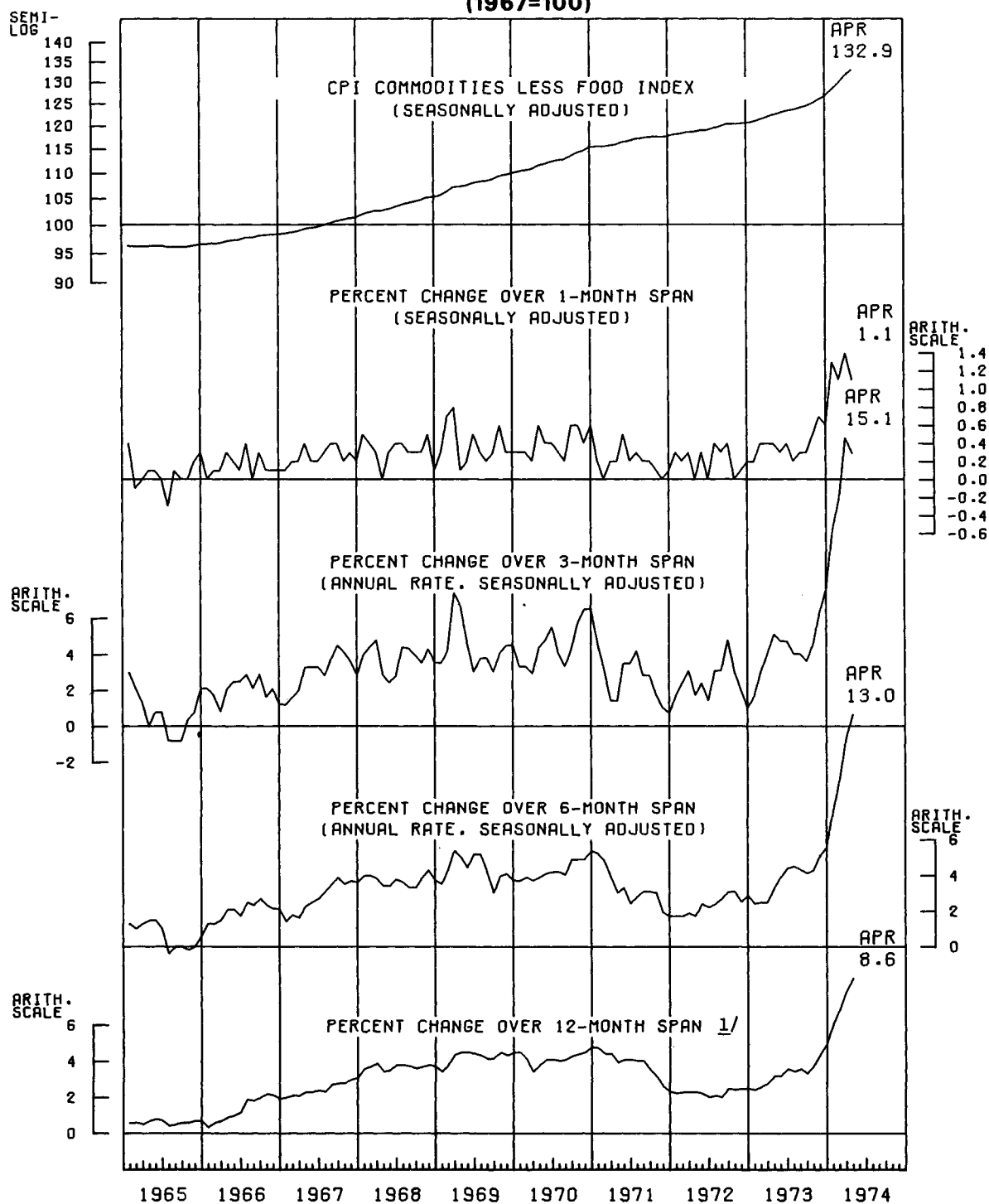
Services. The services index rose 0.6 percent in April. Residential rents increased 0.3 percent; prices of other household services advanced 0.8 percent. Increases in charges for gas and electricity were somewhat smaller than earlier this year. Water and sewerage charges rose sharply and charges for domestic and laundering services increased more than in recent months. The 0.6-percent rise in the index for medical care services was about half as much as in March, because of less rapid increases in physicians' fees and most hospital services. Among transportation services, charges for auto repairs and auto insurance continued to increase. After declining in the past 3 years, charges for auto insurance rates have been moving up this year. The increase mostly reflected elimination of dividends due to poor underwriting experience in 1973. Charges for other services such as drycleaning, barber and beauty shop, and recreational services also continued to increase.

**Chart 1. All items index and its rates of change, 1965-74
(1967=100)**



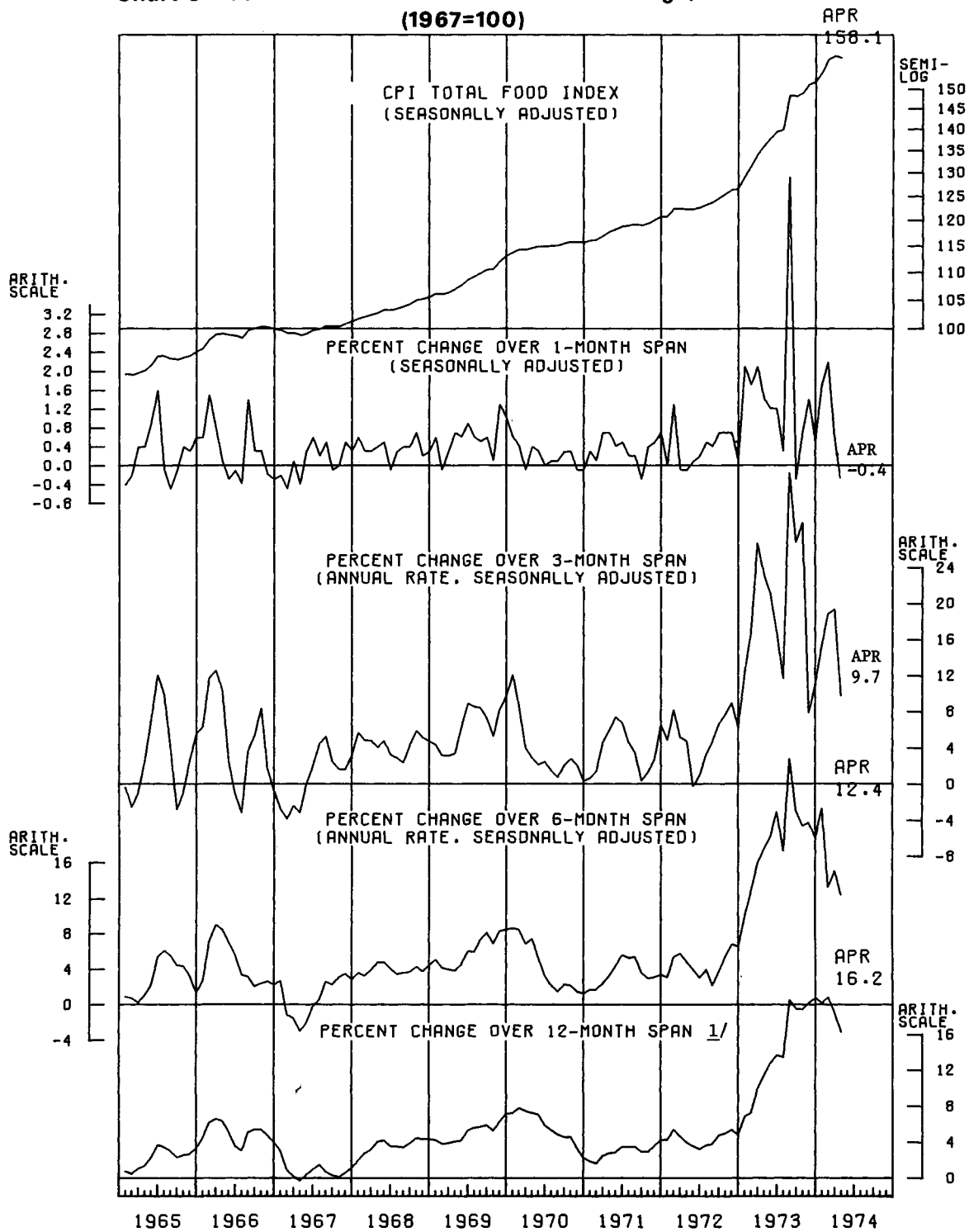
1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.
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Chart 2. Commodities less food index and its rates of change, 1965-74
(1967=100)



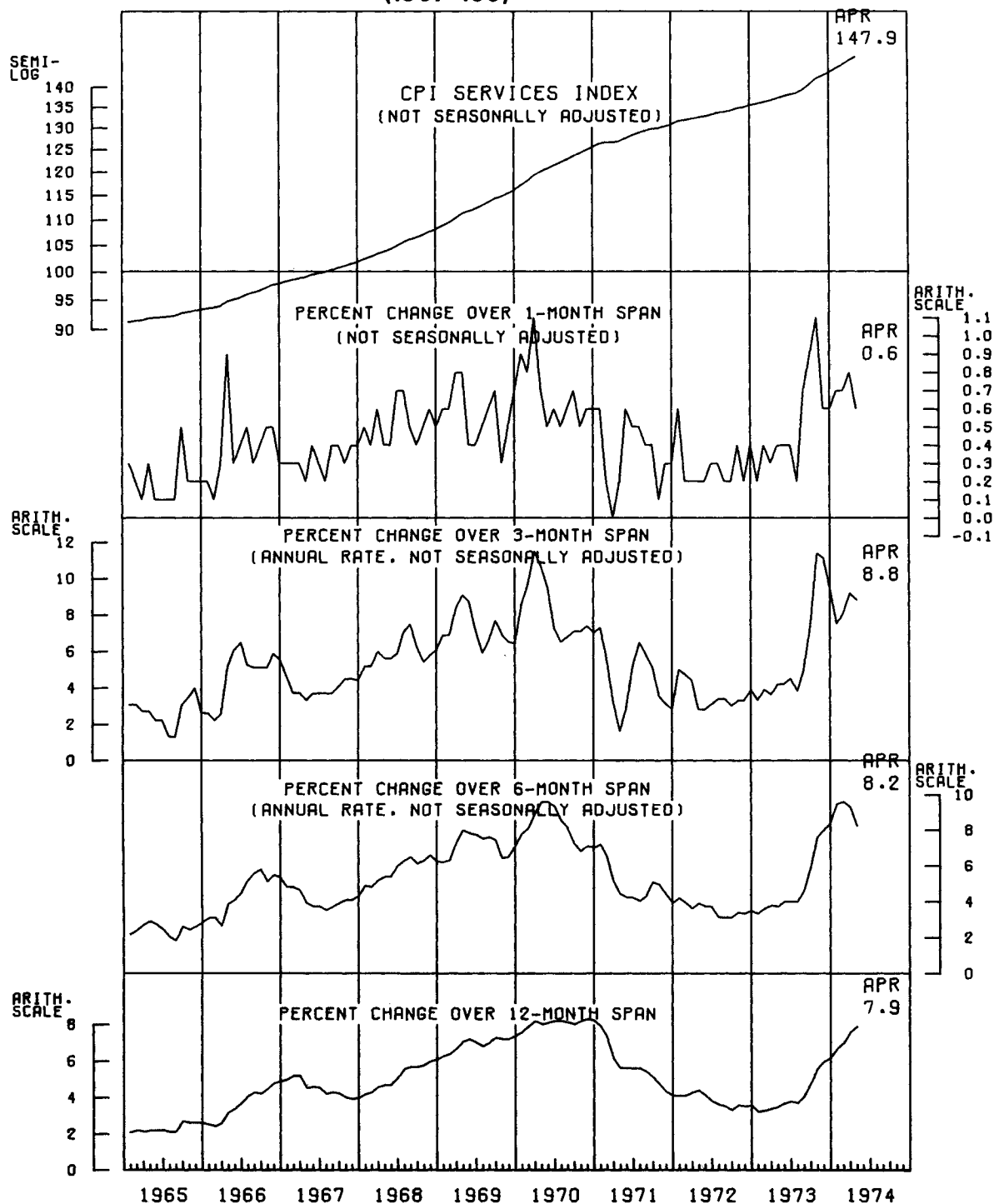
^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
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Chart 3. Total food index and its rates of change, 1965-74
(1967=100)



^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
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**Chart 4. Services index and its rates of change, 1965-74
(1967=100)**



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Table 1. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, by commodity and service groups, and expenditure classes

Group	Relative importance December 1973	Unadjusted indexes 1967=100 unless otherwise noted		Unadjusted percent change to April 1974 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		March 1974	April 1974	April 1973	March 1974	January to February	February to March	March to April
		Commodity and service groups						
All items	100.000	143.1	144.0	10.2	0.6	1.2	1.1	0.6
All items (1957-59=100)	-	166.4	167.5	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities	63.454	141.0	141.9	11.4	.6	1.5	1.0	.6
Food	24.810	159.1	158.6	16.2	-.3	2.2	.6	-.4
Food at home	19.633	160.6	159.4	16.9	-.7	2.6	.4	-.7
Cereals and bakery products	2.644	158.6	161.4	34.3	1.8	2.8	2.7	1.7
Meats, poultry, and fish	6.988	171.6	164.4	5.8	-4.2	1.7	-3.0	-3.9
Dairy products	3.023	151.5	153.7	26.2	1.5	1.8	1.5	1.7
Fruits and vegetables	3.145	162.5	163.0	15.0	.3	3.7	3.1	-1.2
Other foods at home	3.832	150.2	151.8	22.1	1.1	4.0	1.9	1.6
Foods away from home	5.177	153.7	155.6	13.6	1.2	.7	.9	1.0
Commodities less food	38.644	131.1	132.8	8.6	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.1
Nondurables less food	22.978	136.1	137.7	11.7	1.2	1.6	1.9	1.0
Apparel commodities ¹	8.569	132.1	133.6	5.9	1.1	1.1	1.0	.8
Men's and boys ¹	2.661	131.8	134.2	6.6	1.8	1.4	1.3	1.1
Women's and girls	3.815	131.6	132.4	5.1	.6	.8	1.1	.8
Footwear	1.504	134.9	136.3	5.1	1.0	.4	.7	.7
Nondurables less food and apparel	14.409	138.5	140.1	15.1	1.2	2.0	2.2	1.1
Gasoline and motor oil	3.162	157.4	160.1	39.6	1.7	5.8	6.8	2.2
Tobacco products	1.993	139.4	139.6	2.3	.1	*.2	*.3	*.1
Alcoholic beverages	2.349	127.1	128.3	5.5	.9	*.6	*.4	*.9
Fuel oil and coal	.872	201.5	206.5	61.0	2.5	3.5	-.5	3.0
Other nondurables	6.033	126.7	128.1	6.8	1.1	.7	1.1	.8
Durable commodities	15.666	124.3	126.1	4.2	1.4	.4	.7	1.3
Household durables	4.566	123.7	125.1	6.3	1.1	.6	.7	1.0
New cars	1.917	112.8	113.3	2.0	.4	.2	.5	.7
Used cars	1.849	102.2	110.7	-5.6	8.3	*-3.7	*-1.8	*8.3
Other durables	7.334	134.7	135.3	6.2	.4	1.0	1.4	.5
Services	36.546	147.0	147.9	7.9	.6	*.7	*.8	*.6
Rent	4.873	128.4	128.8	4.5	.3	*.5	*.3	*.3
Services less rent	31.673	150.4	151.4	8.5	.7	*.7	*.9	*.7
Household services less rent	15.463	158.8	160.1	11.5	.8	1.2	1.0	.9
Transportation	5.090	139.6	140.1	2.6	.4	0	.8	.4
Medical care services	5.423	152.7	153.6	7.6	.6	.9	.7	.6
Other services	5.698	*37.6	138.4	6.5	.6	.7	.6	.5
Special indexes:								
All items less food	75.190	138.4	139.7	8.2	.9	1.0	1.0	.9
Nondurable commodities	47.788	147.2	147.8	14.0	.4	2.0	1.1	.4
Apparel commodities less footwear	7.064	131.6	133.0	6.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	.8
Services less medical care services	31.123	146.2	147.1	8.0	.6	*.6	*.8	*.6
Insurance and finance	9.707	158.8	159.3	9.2	.3	.4	.4	.5
Utilities and public transportation	5.318	138.2	139.3	7.9	.8	.8	1.0	.8
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	4.457	165.3	167.3	11.5	1.2	1.0	2.2	1.2
Appliances (including radio and TV)	1.489	106.5	106.9	1.4	.4	*.2	*.3	*.4
Expenditure classes								
All items	100.000	143.1	144.0	10.2	0.6	1.2	1.1	0.6
Food	24.810	159.1	158.6	16.2	-.3	2.2	.6	-.4
Housing	33.321	144.9	146.0	9.9	.8	.9	1.0	.8
Shelter ²	21.459	149.4	150.2	8.8	.5	.7	.7	.7
Rent	4.873	128.4	128.8	4.5	.3	*.5	*.3	*.3
Homeownership ³	16.184	157.2	158.2	10.2	.6	.9	1.0	.8
Fuel and utilities ⁴	4.820	144.9	147.0	17.5	1.4	1.6	.9	1.5
Gas and electricity	2.390	140.0	142.0	13.1	1.4	2.2	2.1	1.4
Household furnishings and operation	7.042	132.6	134.0	8.4	1.1	.9	1.7	.9
Apparel and upkeep	9.945	132.2	133.6	6.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	.8
Transportation	12.602	132.0	134.4	9.6	1.8	1.5	2.2	1.5
Private	11.233	130.4	133.1	10.6	2.1	1.4	2.4	1.6
Public	1.369	146.6	146.3	1.7	-.2	.1	.1	.1
Health and recreation	18.946	135.4	136.3	5.5	.7	*.6	*.7	*.7
Medical care	6.229	144.8	145.6	6.9	.6	.7	.8	.4
Personal care	2.513	131.8	133.1	7.5	1.0	.8	.7	.9
Reading and recreation	5.346	129.5	130.4	4.2	.7	.7	.5	.4
Other goods and services	4.859	132.8	133.6	4.2	.6	.4	.4	.6
Special indexes:								
All items less shelter	78.541	141.5	142.4	10.5	.6	1.2	1.1	.6
All items less medical care	93.771	143.1	144.0	10.3	.6	1.1	1.1	.6
All items less mortgage interest costs	95.951	141.7	142.6	9.7	.6	1.2	1.1	.6
CPI - domestically produced farm foods ⁵	17.583	161.7	159.9	16.7	-1.1	*3.1	*.9	*1.1
CPI - selected beef cuts ⁶	2.290	176.8	167.5	3.7	-5.3	*8.5	*-1.9	*-5.3
Purchasing power of consumer dollar:								
1967=\$1.00	-	\$0.699	\$0.694	-9.3	-.7	-	-	-
1957-59=\$1.00	-	.601	.597	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, and jewelry not shown separately.
² Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.
³ Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.
⁴ Also includes residential telephones, fuel oil, coal, water, and sewerage service not shown separately.
⁵ Calculated from the CPI food at home component by excluding fish, nonalcoholic beverages, bananas, chocolate candy bars, chocolate syrup and about half of the index weight for sugar.
⁶ Calculated from the CPI beef and veal component by excluding veal cutlets and beef liver.
* Not seasonally adjusted.

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

Table 2.. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, by commodity and service groups, and expenditure classes

Group	Seasonally adjusted indexes (1967=100)				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for						
	January 1974	February 1974	March 1974	April 1974	3 months ending in			6 months ending in			
					July 1973	October 1973	January 1974	April 1974	October 1973	April 1974	
	Commodity and service groups										
All items -----	-	-	-	-	5.5	13.1	10.2	12.1	9.2	11.1	
Commodities -----	137.6	139.7	141.1	141.9	6.1	13.6	12.9	13.1	9.8	13.0	
Food -----	154.5	157.9	158.8	158.1	11.6	29.0	15.3	9.7	20.0	12.4	
Food at home -----	155.2	159.3	160.0	158.9	10.7	32.6	15.5	9.9	21.2	12.7	
Cereals and bakery products -----	150.0	154.2	158.4	161.1	12.2	60.5	35.6	33.1	34.2	34.3	
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	172.0	174.9	169.7	163.1	4.2	42.4	4.3	-19.1	21.8	-8.2	
Dairy products -----	146.2	148.9	151.2	153.7	7.8	50.3	28.2	22.2	27.3	25.1	
Fruits and vegetables -----	152.1	157.8	162.7	160.7	22.9	-6.1	21.4	24.6	7.4	23.0	
Other foods at home -----	141.4	147.1	149.9	152.3	17.4	23.0	14.5	34.6	20.2	24.1	
Food away from home -----	151.8	152.9	154.2	155.8	11.9	19.1	12.8	11.0	15.4	11.9	
Commodities less food -----	128.3	129.7	131.5	132.9	4.0	4.6	11.0	15.1	4.3	13.0	
Nondurables less food -----	131.8	133.9	136.4	137.7	5.3	5.2	17.8	19.1	5.3	18.5	
Apparel commodities ¹ -----	129.8	131.2	132.5	133.6	2.9	5.1	3.5	12.2	4.0	7.8	
Men's and boys' -----	128.7	130.5	132.2	133.7	3.6	2.9	4.1	16.5	3.2	10.1	
Women's and girls' -----	129.6	130.6	132.1	133.1	1.3	7.4	.9	11.2	4.3	6.0	
Footwear -----	133.4	134.0	134.9	135.9	3.4	4.0	5.3	7.7	3.7	6.5	
Nondurables less food and apparel -----	133.0	135.6	138.6	140.1	6.0	4.9	28.2	23.1	5.5	25.6	
Gasoline and motor oil -----	139.6	147.7	157.7	161.2	14.2	6.5	75.4	77.8	10.3	76.6	
Tobacco products (not seasonally adjusted) -----	138.7	139.0	139.4	139.6	3.9	1.2	1.5	2.6	2.5	2.0	
Alcoholic beverages (not seasonally adjusted) -----	125.9	126.6	127.1	128.3	4.0	3.0	7.3	7.8	3.5	7.6	
Fuel oil and coal -----	193.6	200.4	199.3	205.3	18.0	29.6	247.5	26.5	23.7	109.6	
Other nondurables -----	124.5	125.4	126.8	127.8	2.7	4.7	8.5	11.0	3.7	9.7	
Durable commodities -----	123.5	124.0	124.9	126.5	1.7	3.7	1.6	10.1	2.7	5.8	
Household durables -----	122.2	122.9	123.8	125.0	5.6	4.1	6.1	9.5	4.8	7.8	
New cars -----	111.2	111.4	112.0	112.8	4.0	0	-2.1	5.9	2.0	1.8	
Used cars (not seasonally adjusted) -----	107.0	103.0	102.2	110.7	19.7	-13.0	-33.5	14.6	2.1	-12.7	
Other durables -----	131.9	133.2	135.0	135.7	.3	6.4	6.3	12.0	3.3	9.1	
Services (not seasonally adjusted) -----	144.8	145.8	147.0	147.9	3.8	11.4	7.5	8.8	7.6	8.2	
Rent (not seasonally adjusted) -----	127.3	128.0	128.4	128.8	4.0	4.9	4.5	4.8	4.4	4.7	
Services less rent (not seasonally adjusted) -----	148.0	149.1	150.4	151.4	4.1	12.5	7.9	9.5	8.2	8.7	
Household services less rent -----	155.5	157.3	158.8	160.3	5.4	17.2	11.0	12.9	11.2	12.0	
Transportation services -----	138.1	138.1	139.2	139.7	2.7	3.0	.3	4.7	2.8	2.5	
Medical care services -----	150.0	151.3	152.4	153.3	4.0	12.8	4.9	9.1	8.3	7.0	
Other services -----	135.9	136.9	137.7	138.4	5.7	6.9	6.1	7.6	6.3	6.8	
Special indexes:											
All items less food -----	135.7	137.1	138.5	139.7	4.4	7.2	9.0	12.3	5.8	10.7	
Nondurable commodities -----	142.7	145.5	147.1	147.7	7.9	17.4	16.0	14.8	12.6	15.4	
Apparel commodities less footwear -----	129.1	130.5	132.0	133.1	2.9	5.5	2.8	13.0	4.2	7.8	
Services less medical care services (not seasonally adjusted) -----	144.1	145.0	146.2	147.1	4.2	11.5	7.9	8.6	7.8	8.2	
Insurance and finance -----	157.4	158.1	158.8	159.6	2.2	22.7	7.2	5.7	12.0	6.4	
Utilities and public transportation -----	135.2	136.3	137.6	138.7	3.1	7.0	10.7	10.8	5.0	10.7	
Housekeeping and home maintenance service -----	160.4	162.0	165.6	167.6	7.4	8.6	11.2	19.2	8.0	15.1	
Appliances (including radio and TV) (not seasonally adjusted) -----	106.0	106.2	106.5	106.9	0	1.1	1.1	3.4	.6	2.3	
	Expenditure classes										
All items -----	-	-	-	-	5.5	13.1	10.2	12.1	9.2	11.1	
Food -----	154.5	157.9	158.8	158.1	11.6	29.0	15.3	9.7	20.0	12.4	
Housing -----	142.1	143.4	144.9	146.1	4.3	11.8	12.1	11.7	8.0	11.9	
Shelter ² -----	147.3	148.4	149.5	150.5	4.1	13.8	8.3	9.0	8.9	8.6	
Rent (not seasonally adjusted) -----	127.3	128.0	128.4	128.8	4.0	4.9	4.5	4.8	4.4	4.7	
Homeownership ³ -----	154.6	156.0	157.5	158.7	3.7	16.6	9.9	11.0	10.0	10.5	
Fuel and utilities ⁴ -----	140.7	142.9	144.2	146.4	4.6	10.6	40.6	17.2	7.5	28.4	
Gas and electricity -----	133.6	136.5	139.3	141.2	3.9	8.5	16.5	24.8	6.2	20.6	
Household furnishings and operation -----	129.4	130.5	132.7	133.9	4.3	6.2	8.8	14.7	5.2	11.7	
Apparel and upkeep -----	129.8	131.2	132.5	133.6	3.5	5.5	3.8	12.2	4.5	7.9	
Transportation -----	127.8	129.7	132.5	134.5	5.3	2.3	9.3	22.7	3.8	15.8	
Private -----	126.2	128.0	131.1	133.2	5.4	2.6	11.5	24.1	4.0	17.7	
Public -----	145.7	145.8	146.0	146.2	2.8	2.8	-.3	1.4	2.8	.5	
Health and recreation (not seasonally adjusted) -----	133.7	134.5	135.4	136.3	3.4	5.6	4.9	8.0	4.5	6.5	
Medical care -----	142.5	143.5	144.7	145.3	3.9	11.2	4.6	8.1	7.5	6.3	
Personal care -----	129.9	130.9	131.8	133.0	5.3	6.5	8.4	9.9	5.9	9.2	
Reading and recreation -----	128.3	129.2	129.9	130.4	2.9	3.2	3.8	6.7	3.1	5.3	
Other goods and services -----	131.9	132.4	132.9	133.7	3.5	1.9	6.0	5.6	2.7	5.8	
Special indexes:											
All items less shelter -----	138.2	139.9	141.5	142.3	6.7	11.5	11.5	12.4	9.0	11.9	
All items less medical care -----	140.0	141.6	143.2	144.0	5.3	13.3	11.0	11.9	9.2	11.5	
All items less mortgage interest costs -----	138.6	140.2	141.7	142.5	6.3	10.7	10.1	11.7	8.5	10.9	
CPI - domestically produced farm foods (not seasonally adjusted) -----	155.5	160.3	161.7	159.9	13.8	25.9	15.8	11.8	19.7	13.8	
CPI - selected beef cuts (not seasonally adjusted) -----	166.2	180.3	176.8	167.5	3.8	15.0	-6.0	3.2	9.2	-1.5	

¹ Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, and jewelry not shown separately.

² Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

³ Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.

⁴ Also includes residential telephone, fuel oil, coal, water, and sewage service not shown separately.

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

Table 3. Consumer Price Index—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			
		April 1974			April 1973	January 1974	March 1974
U. S. city average -----	M	144.0	167.5		10.2	3.1	0.6
Chicago -----	M	143.0	162.5		10.1	3.1	.6
Detroit -----	M	145.5	167.2		9.9	2.8	.4
Los Angeles-Long Beach -----	M	139.2	163.7		9.7	3.0	1.2
N. Y.-Northeastern N. J. -----	M	150.9	179.5		9.7	2.8	.1
Philadelphia -----	M	148.2	173.1		11.1	3.8	.8
		April 1974			April 1973	January 1974	
Boston -----	1	145.3	174.0		9.7	2.3	
Houston -----	1	143.1	163.7		9.7	2.9	
Minneapolis-St. Paul -----	1	145.2	168.3		11.0	3.5	
Pittsburgh -----	1	144.2	165.8		9.9	3.5	
		February 1974			February 1973	November 1973	
Buffalo -----	2	144.2		³ 158.5	10.7	4.0	
Cleveland -----	2	142.1	160.4		9.4	3.3	
Dallas -----	2	139.6		³ 150.9	9.3	2.9	
Milwaukee -----	2	139.0	157.0		9.4	2.4	
San Diego -----	2	140.2		⁴ 147.4	9.4	2.7	
Seattle -----	2	135.8	159.6		10.3	3.3	
Washington -----	2	144.0	167.8		10.2	3.3	
		March 1974			March 1973	December 1973	
Atlanta -----	3	144.1	165.7		10.8	3.7	
Baltimore -----	3	147.3	171.0		11.7	4.7	
Cincinnati -----	3	141.3	160.4		8.9	3.4	
Honolulu -----	3	137.7		⁵ 148.5	9.3	3.7	
Kansas City -----	3	138.6	164.5		8.8	3.1	
St. Louis -----	3	138.2	161.4		9.5	3.3	
San Francisco-Oakland -----	3	139.2	165.6		8.2	3.0	

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 4. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas ¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups, percent change from March 1974 to April 1974

Group	U. S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York-Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.6	0.6	0.4	1.2	0.1	0.8
Food -----	-.3	-.6	-.9	.8	-.4	-.4
Housing -----	.8	.9	.3	1.0	.0	2.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.1	-1.0	.1
Transportation -----	1.8	1.5	1.9	2.2	1.1	1.0
Health and recreation -----	.7	1.2	.8	1.2	.5	.6
Medical care -----	.6	0	.6	.3	.7	.4
Personal care -----	1.0	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Reading and recreation -----	.7	2.5	1.1	1.6	0	.6
Other goods and services -----	.6	.9	.4	1.3	.6	.3

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

² Not available.

Table 5. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, April 1974, index and percent changes from January 1974

Group	U.S. city average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Houston	Los Angeles— Long Beach	Minne- apolis	New York— North- eastern New Jersey	Phila- delphia	Pitts- burgh
Indexes (1967=100)										
All items -----	144.0	145.3	143.0	145.5	143.1	139.2	145.2	150.9	148.2	144.2
Food -----	158.6	157.3	158.4	161.8	161.1	153.0	160.3	162.5	162.4	161.1
Food at home -----	159.4	158.5	159.8	163.3	159.4	154.9	159.8	163.2	162.4	160.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	161.4	159.4	170.0	179.2	160.3	158.5	173.3	160.0	160.4	162.9
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	164.4	164.4	160.6	169.2	168.4	165.3	167.3	167.3	168.6	161.3
Dairy products -----	153.7	149.2	151.0	154.9	161.9	146.5	158.4	158.6	153.9	154.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	163.0	163.6	165.2	158.2	151.0	152.4	150.9	172.9	168.0	170.0
Other food at home -----	151.8	149.9	154.0	153.3	150.5	145.7	151.5	152.9	154.8	155.0
Food away from home -----	155.6	152.9	152.6	156.1	167.0	147.7	162.2	160.5	162.7	164.3
Housing -----	146.0	151.2	140.7	145.9	143.1	140.1	149.5	157.2	153.2	143.2
Shelter -----	150.2	153.6	144.7	153.8	146.6	142.4	156.4	161.5	162.8	151.7
Rent, residential -----	128.8	141.3	(²)	128.5	114.4	(²)	126.1	142.1	(²)	122.0
Homeownership costs -----	158.2	159.1	153.4	158.8	157.6	147.5	161.5	176.2	170.3	160.1
Fuel and utilities -----	147.0	159.9	137.8	138.8	136.1	141.5	146.1	168.3	150.3	131.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	206.5	195.9	201.4	211.0	-	-	217.9	206.7	200.5	-
Gas and electricity -----	142.0	149.6	131.1	138.9	133.5	159.0	142.7	173.0	149.1	139.6
Household furnishings and operation -----	134.0	139.7	130.4	126.5	140.3	131.8	131.8	139.7	137.5	133.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	133.6	136.3	131.0	129.2	140.5	130.5	133.8	132.6	130.2	137.2
Men's and boys' -----	134.2	134.3	129.8	129.8	133.6	124.4	134.0	136.8	137.3	130.3
Women's and girls' -----	132.4	136.4	132.9	120.8	152.0	133.4	133.7	126.3	120.0	143.2
Footwear -----	136.3	137.0	130.7	145.2	136.8	135.0	137.2	133.1	137.5	141.7
Transportation -----	134.4	130.5	137.1	137.3	127.9	135.0	132.7	142.5	137.2	134.3
Private -----	133.1	128.8	132.9	135.7	125.8	136.3	132.9	137.3	135.9	133.5
Public -----	146.3	140.9	163.9	155.8	161.2	110.1	129.2	162.7	145.0	140.2
Health and recreation -----	136.3	134.3	139.1	141.2	137.9	130.6	137.0	142.1	140.5	136.9
Medical care -----	145.6	144.0	144.6	157.7	146.8	142.7	140.1	155.3	156.5	141.7
Personal care -----	133.1	132.0	(²)	134.2	139.5	(²)	134.4	(²)	131.9	128.1
Reading and recreation -----	130.4	133.2	133.5	132.7	127.8	121.5	137.2	133.9	134.1	132.9
Other goods and services -----	133.6	127.7	141.3	132.7	134.5	127.0	134.5	141.5	134.6	140.3
Percent changes January 1974 to April 1974										
All items -----	3.1	2.3	3.1	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.5	2.8	3.8	3.5
Food -----	3.2	2.7	2.0	2.3	3.5	2.2	4.0	2.9	3.6	3.9
Food at home -----	3.3	2.7	2.0	2.0	3.6	1.8	4.1	2.8	4.0	4.1
Cereals and bakery products -----	7.8	4.0	9.3	11.0	7.7	8.8	11.1	6.6	7.5	9.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	-2.8	-1.9	-5.5	-4.5	-9	-5.7	-3.1	-1.7	-1.3	-2.9
Dairy products -----	5.1	3.6	3.6	4.3	7.3	6.8	7.5	4.6	5.2	7.4
Fruits and vegetables -----	8.9	8.6	10.3	8.1	3.7	5.1	6.8	7.9	10.2	9.8
Other food at home -----	5.5	4.8	5.1	3.2	6.4	4.2	5.7	3.7	6.2	5.8
Food away from home -----	2.6	2.5	1.6	3.8	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.3	2.2	2.2
Housing -----	2.7	1.5	3.6	1.7	2.4	2.0	3.5	2.4	4.5	3.2
Shelter -----	1.9	-3	3.3	2	-1	9	3.0	1.9	3.8	3.1
Rent, residential -----	1.2	8	(²)	4.8	1.0	(²)	1.2	4.6	(²)	4
Homeownership costs -----	2.2	-8	4.4	-1	-5	1.0	3.2	1.9	4.5	3.7
Fuel and utilities -----	4.4	5.2	4.8	4.6	9.0	3.1	5.3	4.3	5.7	2.6
Fuel oil and coal -----	6.1	4.7	5.1	13.3	-	-	1.4	-4.9	8.6	-
Gas and electricity -----	5.7	8.1	5.7	4.8	2.0	5.4	8.7	15.2	6.8	2.9
Household furnishings and operation -----	3.9	3.6	4.2	5.3	4.5	5.6	3.9	2.9	5.4	4.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	3.7	4.4	5.1	5.6	3.0	5.6	3.8	5.5	5.0	4.3
Men's and boys' -----	5.1	7.4	7.2	5.5	7.1	6.3	5.6	9.0	11.9	4.7
Women's and girls' -----	3.6	4.4	5.7	8.1	2.8	6.5	1.5	6.2	2.3	5.1
Footwear -----	2.5	2.2	4.4	3.8	6	3.1	5.8	1.8	3.2	4.0
Transportation -----	4.9	3.6	3.3	6.2	4.9	5.6	5.2	2.9	4.3	4.8
Private -----	5.5	4.2	3.9	6.8	5.3	6.4	5.4	3.7	5.1	5.6
Public -----	2	1	2	2	2	-8.9	4	5	1	1
Health and recreation -----	1.9	1.1	2.8	1.9	1.0	2.5	1.5	1.7	1.8	2.1
Medical care -----	2.4	1.3	1.9	2.3	8	2.1	1.5	3.1	1.8	2.0
Personal care -----	2.5	4.0	(²)	1.3	9	(²)	1.7	(²)	2.7	1.8
Reading and recreation -----	1.6	2	3.5	2.3	1.3	2.7	2.7	8	1.7	2.0
Other goods and services -----	1.4	9	2.8	1.3	1.1	2.1	3	7	1.7	2.5

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

² Not available.

³ Revised index: January 1974, 124.4.

⁴ Change from February 1974.

Table 6. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, April 1974, and percent changes from March 1974

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)								
U.S. city average	158.6	159.4	161.4	164.4	153.7	163.0	151.8	155.6
Atlanta	162.0	163.9	167.8	167.1	159.6	170.7	156.0	155.5
Baltimore	161.6	162.3	160.0	168.5	155.4	165.4	155.8	158.5
Boston	157.3	158.5	159.4	164.4	149.2	163.6	149.9	152.9
Buffalo	157.4	157.5	164.3	163.2	149.5	163.7	145.1	157.2
Chicago	158.4	159.8	170.0	160.6	151.0	165.2	154.0	152.6
Cincinnati	159.7	161.7	169.3	163.3	164.2	157.8	156.9	152.2
Cleveland	156.8	158.1	160.2	157.0	163.3	167.8	147.1	150.5
Dallas	154.1	152.9	155.4	157.3	150.2	149.1	149.6	158.4
Detroit	161.8	163.3	179.2	169.2	154.9	158.2	153.3	156.1
Honolulu	156.1	157.3	172.2	161.1	145.1	153.5	149.7	151.8
Houston	161.1	159.4	160.3	168.4	161.9	151.0	150.5	167.0
Kansas City	159.8	161.0	165.1	163.3	172.4	153.4	153.3	155.8
Los Angeles-Long Beach	153.0	154.9	158.5	165.3	146.5	152.4	145.7	147.7
Milwaukee	154.8	155.8	160.7	159.8	153.8	155.5	148.7	(²)
Minneapolis-St. Paul	160.3	159.8	173.3	167.3	158.4	150.9	151.5	162.2
N. Y.-Northeastern N. J.	162.5	163.2	160.0	167.3	158.6	172.9	152.9	160.5
Philadelphia	162.4	162.4	160.4	168.6	153.9	168.0	154.8	162.7
Pittsburgh	161.1	160.5	162.9	161.3	154.0	170.0	155.0	164.3
St. Louis	156.8	157.3	169.6	156.4	158.1	160.2	147.8	150.6
San Diego	153.2	153.5	153.9	165.3	148.2	147.3	143.0	(²)
San Francisco-Oakland	152.3	155.7	154.6	163.0	149.2	153.8	150.5	140.4
Seattle	152.5	155.1	156.0	168.3	149.9	143.8	149.5	144.2
Washington	163.5	163.5	165.0	163.0	147.1	181.3	161.7	163.2
Percent changes March 1974 to April 1974								
U.S. city average	-0.3	-0.7	1.8	-4.2	1.5	0.3	1.1	1.2
Atlanta	-.5	-.7	1.6	-4.4	.3	1.2	1.3	.3
Baltimore .....	.1	-.4	2.2	-3.7	2.4	-.4	2.2	2.4
Boston	-.4	-.8	-.7	-2.8	.5	.5	.4	1.7
Buffalo	-.3	-.6	3.6	-5.4	1.9	1.5	1.8	1.5
Chicago	-.6	-.9	4.0	-5.5	.7	1.7	1.1	.7
Cincinnati	-.2	-.4	-1.6	-3.4	1.2	1.5	2.8	.5
Cleveland	-.9	-1.1	.0	-4.8	.9	3.6	-.7	.3
Dallas	-1.0	-1.5	.3	-4.4	1.1	-1.5	.4	.3
Detroit	-.9	-1.3	1.7	-4.0	-.9	-.7	.1	1.5
Honolulu	-.5	.2	1.4	-1.2	1.0	.0	1.3	1.3
Houston	-.2	-.6	.9	-3.3	1.6	-.4	1.0	1.2
Kansas City .....	.1	-.5	3.6	-3.8	-.2	.9	.9	1.9
Los Angeles-Long Beach .....	.8	.3	4.8	-4.3	5.9	1.1	.2	2.4
Milwaukee	-.8	-1.0	.9	-4.8	1.6	-.4	1.4	(²)
Minneapolis-St. Paul	-.3	-.5	2.5	-4.0	2.1	-.2	.3	.1
N. Y.-Northeastern N. J.	-.4	-.9	1.5	-3.6	1.9	.0	.1	1.5
Philadelphia	-.4	-.7	1.6	-4.1	1.1	.3	1.6	1.3
Pittsburgh	-1.0	-1.5	.5	-6.2	2.5	.2	1.0	1.5
St. Louis	-1.1	-.4	2.2	-5.2	.1	-1.1	.9	.8
San Diego	-.5	-.7	3.8	-5.7	5.3	.3	.0	(²)
San Francisco-Oakland	-.5	-.1	2.2	-3.0	5.7	-.7	1.4	1.6
Seattle	-.7	-.8	1.2	-3.1	.1	-.5	-.6	.1
Washington .....	.1	.1	3.1	-3.5	.4	2.3	2.1	.4

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

² Not available.

Table 7. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, April 1974 indexes and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100)

Item and group	Index		Percent change to April 1974 from—		
	April 1974		April 1973	March 1974	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food	158.6	158.1	16.2	-0.3	-0.4
Food away from home	155.6	155.8	13.6	1.2	1.0
Restaurant meals	156.3	156.5	13.8	1.0	.8
Snacks	152.4	152.4	12.6	2.9	2.7
Food at home	159.4	158.9	16.9	-.7	-.7
Cereals and bakery products	161.4	161.1	34.3	1.8	1.7
Flour	183.2	182.5	60.8	2.2	2.2
Cracker meal	176.6	176.1	27.2	1.6	1.7
Corn flakes	122.4	122.3	21.1	2.2	2.2
Rice	243.2	242.0	100.0	1.0	1.0
Bread, white	157.4	157.7	32.8	.7	.9
Bread, whole wheat	159.8	159.6	26.7	1.6	1.5
Cookies	131.7	131.2	17.0	4.4	4.1
Layer cakes	149.1	148.7	19.4	1.5	1.5
Cinnamon rolls	154.9	155.1	24.7	3.2	3.0
Meats, poultry, and fish	164.4	163.1	5.8	-4.2	-3.9
Meats	164.8	163.5	5.6	-4.8	-4.4
Beef and veal	170.0	167.3	4.4	-4.7	-5.3
Steak, round	163.1	159.4	2.5	-4.6	-4.9
Steak, sirloin	151.9	150.7	.2	-4.1	-4.7
Steak, porterhouse	154.2	153.9	1.4	-2.7	-2.7
Rump roast	160.1	157.4	3.7	-4.1	-4.3
Rib roast	165.0	163.9	2.5	-3.2	-2.8
Chuck roast	172.4	167.1	-.1	-9.1	-8.8
Hamburger	182.9	181.6	7.3	-6.7	-6.7
Beef liver	174.9	173.3	12.0	-.4	-1.8
Veal cutlets	199.6	198.0	5.8	-2.0	-2.8
Pork	158.2	158.4	5.0	-6.4	-4.5
Chops	148.7	151.6	3.3	-5.6	-1.2
Loin roast	156.3	158.0	2.2	-7.8	-4.5
Pork sausage	180.2	179.7	8.6	-5.3	-5.0
Ham, whole	159.8	157.3	12.5	-4.5	-4.1
Picnics	168.3	166.1	4.4	-5.2	-3.5
Bacon	151.7	151.4	2.6	-9.0	-8.7
Other meats	162.8	162.6	9.3	-2.9	-2.5
Lamb chops	151.8	151.8	4.3	-2.4	-2.1
Frankfurters	167.5	166.8	7.4	-3.6	-3.5
Ham, canned	163.3	162.0	16.8	-2.7	-2.5
Bologna sausage	168.6	168.3	7.2	-4.3	-4.5
Salami sausage	163.1	162.8	9.8	-1.9	-2.2
Liverwurst	163.1	163.1	11.1	-2.0	-2.2
Poultry	147.0	144.8	-2.1	-3.3	-4.0
Frying chicken	147.2	143.8	-5.5	-3.3	-4.5
Chicken breasts	143.9	142.1	-.9	-1.8	-3.1
Turkey	149.4	149.4	15.8	-4.7	-4.5
Fish	186.9	186.2	19.7	.9	.8
Shrimp, frozen	177.0	176.6	18.5	-1.2	-1.3
Fish, fresh or frozen	216.9	217.1	21.0	.9	.5
Tuna fish, canned	166.9	165.9	20.2	2.2	1.8
Sardines, canned	187.2	186.8	19.2	1.8	1.4
Dairy products	153.7	153.7	26.2	1.5	1.7
Milk, fresh, grocery	155.8	155.8	29.4	1.4	1.9
Milk, fresh, skim	166.7	166.7	30.2	1.6	1.9
Milk, evaporated	167.7	168.4	29.8	2.0	2.2
Ice cream	127.5	127.9	16.7	1.8	2.2
Cheese, American process	173.8	173.1	31.4	1.6	1.2
Butter	115.7	116.4	12.1	.4	1.0

See footnote at end of table.

Table 7. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, April 1974 indexes and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Index		Percent change to April 1974 from—		
	April 1974		April 1973	March 1974	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food—Continued					
Food at home—Continued					
Fruits and vegetables	163.0	160.7	15.0	0.3	-1.2
Fresh fruits and vegetables	159.6	156.3	4.6	-1.7	-3.9
Fresh fruits	140.7	141.7	2.9	3.5	-1.1
Apples	158.8	163.4	18.3	2.5	-4.4
Bananas	93.2	90.3	-12.8	1.5	-2.9
Oranges	136.5	144.8	.6	-1.7	.2
Orange juice, fresh	136.9	137.7	3.9	.2	.6
Grapefruit	132.1	149.9	3.9	-5.5	-9.9
Grapes	(1)	-	(1)	(1)	(1)
Strawberries	155.7	142.8	6.1	(1)	(1)
Watermelon	(1)	-	(1)	(1)	(1)
Fresh vegetables	175.1	166.9	5.9	-4.6	-5.9
Potatoes	272.0	277.6	58.7	3.1	1.9
Onions	156.8	157.6	-37.7	-15.5	-16.6
Asparagus	149.3	159.0	2.6	-24.8	-3.5
Cabbage	144.9	138.1	-13.6	-9.1	-7.5
Carrots	129.9	138.5	.9	-4.1	2.7
Celery	128.3	139.8	-3.2	-2.8	8.4
Cucumbers	145.9	107.8	-14.4	-3.4	-12.4
Lettuce	128.1	130.1	-20.2	-6.6	-11.9
Peppers, green	146.0	118.0	-21.4	4.2	-5.4
Spinach	175.4	174.7	13.6	.5	.1
Tomatoes	135.2	126.7	1.2	-18.8	-23.3
Processed fruits and vegetables	168.0	167.7	33.7	3.2	2.9
Fruit cocktail, canned	145.3	144.4	12.5	1.0	.5
Pears, canned	135.2	135.3	9.6	.9	.7
Pineapple-grapefruit juice drink	125.1	124.5	4.9	.5	0
Orange juice concentrate, frozen	139.7	139.6	.5	-2.2	-1.8
Lemonade concentrate, frozen	130.4	129.1	7.9	2.8	2.5
Beets, canned	154.9	154.6	15.5	1.7	1.6
Peas, green, canned	119.7	119.0	8.8	.5	-4.4
Tomatoes, canned	141.7	141.7	14.8	2.6	2.4
Dried beans	421.3	424.7	196.5	8.3	8.9
Broccoli, frozen	132.6	131.9	9.9	1.1	.5
Other food at home	151.8	152.3	22.1	1.1	1.6
Eggs	160.4	165.2	15.6	-8.8	-5.3
Fats and oils:					
Margarine	190.1	189.7	58.9	3.8	3.4
Salad dressing, Italian	123.9	123.8	12.2	1.6	1.6
Salad or cooking oil	193.6	193.2	57.1	7.0	6.5
Sugar and sweets	169.9	169.1	35.4	4.7	4.6
Sugar	190.2	190.0	59.4	10.3	10.3
Grape jelly	152.0	151.5	14.7	3.7	3.8
Chocolate bar	187.9	188.3	41.3	2.6	2.2
Syrup, chocolate flavored	151.1	149.9	31.0	2.4	2.3
Nonalcoholic beverages	145.7	145.6	14.5	2.6	2.5
Coffee, can and bag	153.8	153.6	18.6	2.5	2.3
Coffee, instant	148.8	148.5	15.4	3.4	3.2
Tea	116.0	116.1	5.0	.4	.4
Carbonated drink, cola flavored	146.5	146.4	12.3	3.6	3.8
Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	146.7	146.4	12.5	3.1	2.9
Prepared and partially prepared foods	134.1	133.8	14.1	1.1	1.1
Bean soup, canned	146.3	145.9	24.6	.4	.3
Chicken soup, canned	123.8	123.3	17.6	.5	.5
Spaghetti, canned	132.2	132.3	8.0	-9.9	-6.6
Mashed potatoes, instant	128.7	128.7	10.0	1.3	1.5
Potatoes, french fried, frozen	135.5	135.4	19.9	5.0	5.0
Baby foods	132.0	131.9	17.0	.9	.8
Sweet pickle relish	142.3	140.8	7.6	.1	0
Pretzels	130.8	130.3	11.8	1.2	.9

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 1974, and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to April 1974 from:	
		March 1974	April 1974	April 1973	March 1974
Housing		144.9	146.0	9.9	0.8
Shelter ¹		149.4	150.2	8.8	.5
Rent, residential		128.4	128.8	4.5	.3
Homeownership ²		157.2	158.2	10.2	.6
Mortgage interest rates		134.0	134.1	13.8	.1
Property taxes		151.2	151.0	-.7	-.1
Property insurance premiums		123.8	124.0	-.6	.2
Maintenance and repairs		162.2	165.0	11.4	1.7
Maintenance and repair commodities ³		145.1	148.2	10.4	2.1
Exterior house paint		127.4	130.1	9.1	2.1
Interior house paint		125.1	127.2	6.4	1.7
Maintenance and repair services		169.6	172.2	11.7	1.5
Repainting living and dining rooms		179.8	181.2	8.4	.8
Reshingling roofs		180.5	184.3	14.2	2.1
Residing house		159.5	162.8	15.4	2.1
Replacing sink		166.5	169.1	10.7	1.6
Repairing furnace		170.7	171.7	7.6	.6
Fuel and utilities		144.9	147.0	17.5	1.4
Fuel oil and coal		201.5	206.5	61.0	2.5
Fuel oil, No. 2		201.5	205.9	63.2	2.2
Gas and electricity		140.0	142.0	13.1	1.4
Gas		138.4	139.8	10.0	1.0
Electricity		141.4	144.1	16.2	1.9
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services		121.0	121.1	4.8	.1
Residential water and sewerage services		151.2	154.2	5.3	2.0
Household furnishings and operation ⁴		132.6	134.0	8.4	1.1
Housefurnishings		124.6	126.1	6.9	1.2
Textiles		125.9	127.5	10.1	1.3
Sheets		130.2	133.8	13.2	2.8
Curtains, tailored		122.1	122.9	8.4	.7
Bedspreads		126.1	130.6	16.2	3.6
Draperies, fabric		144.3	146.1	15.3	1.2
Pillows, bed		110.3	110.3	1.9	0
Slipcovers and throws, ready made		121.6	120.9	4.7	-.6
Furniture and bedding		131.4	132.9	7.5	1.1
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser	Mar. 70	115.8	117.4	9.0	1.4
Sofas, upholstered		126.6	127.9	4.6	1.0
Cocktail tables	Dec. 71	110.5	111.0	8.0	.5
Dining room chairs	Mar. 70	115.8	117.5	9.5	1.5
Recliners, upholstered	Dec. 71	103.7	104.3	4.6	.6
Sofas, dual purpose		125.7	126.8	7.5	.9
Pedding, mattress and box springs	June 70	112.8	114.1	7.6	1.2
Aluminum folding chairs		(⁵)	140.2	9.4	(⁵)
Cribs		132.6	132.9	10.4	.2
Floor coverings		112.5	114.0	5.9	1.3
Broadloom carpeting, manmade fibers		106.5	108.1	5.8	1.5
Vinyl sheet goods		125.3	126.0	4.9	.6
Vinyl asbestos tile		127.4	129.6	8.3	1.7
Appliances excluding radio and T.V.		111.1	111.6	1.9	.5
Washing machines, electric automatic		112.1	112.8	1.8	.6
Vacuum cleaners		104.4	104.5	.7	.1
Refrigerator-freezers, electric		109.2	109.4	1.1	.2
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric		111.2	111.4	1.3	.2
Clothes dryers, electric		115.4	116.4	1.9	.9
Air conditioners, demountable		(⁵)	112.4	2.3	(⁵)
Room heaters, electric, portable		112.2	(⁵)	3.2	(⁵)
Garbage disposal units		113.9	114.6	3.2	.6
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, fine china		140.1	140.7	9.2	.4
Flatware, stainless steel		140.3	143.7	9.6	2.4
Table lamps, with shade		130.3	131.5	3.0	.9
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type		129.3	130.6	7.4	1.0
Electric drills, hand-held		109.8	111.1	4.4	1.2
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents		121.6	122.1	8.6	.4
Paper napkins		148.1	152.4	10.0	2.9
Toilet tissue		142.3	145.2	14.2	2.0
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic services, general housework		156.3	158.6	9.8	1.5
Baby sitter services		148.7	149.8	6.5	.7
Postal charges		175.4	175.4	19.6	0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service		161.9	165.1	13.2	2.0
Licensed day care services, preschool child		137.5	138.1	7.2	.4
Washing machine repairs		159.6	160.6	9.1	.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, April 1974, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to April 1974 from:	
		March 1974	April 1974	April 1973	March 1974
Apparel and upkeep ⁶		132.2	133.6	6.2	1.1
Apparel commodities		132.1	133.6	5.9	1.1
Apparel commodities less footwear		131.6	133.0	6.0	1.1
Men's and boys'		131.8	134.2	6.6	1.8
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends		134.6	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Suits, year round weight		132.7	135.4	1.3	2.0
Suits, tropical weight		160.7	164.2	12.4	2.2
Jackets, lightweight		122.1	123.2	4.9	.9
Slacks, wool or wool blends		116.4	116.4	.6	0
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends		141.1	140.6	-1.7	-.4
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton		130.3	134.6	14.0	3.3
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton		132.7	135.0	13.4	1.7
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton		118.3	121.5	8.6	2.7
T-shirts, chiefly cotton		135.6	139.0	16.1	2.5
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers		119.8	120.2	3.1	.3
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton		133.5	137.0	14.9	2.6
Boys':					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blends		111.5	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Sport coats, wool or wool blends		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blends		150.4	153.4	15.3	2.0
Undershorts, cotton		135.1	137.7	12.8	1.9
Women's and girls'		131.6	132.4	5.1	.6
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blends		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Sweaters, wool or acrylic		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Skirts, wool, wool blend or manmade fibers		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Skirts, cotton or polyester/cotton		135.1	139.6	13.2	3.3
Blouses, cotton or manmade fibers		131.6	132.9	6.6	1.0
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fibers		138.7	138.8	3.1	.1
Slips, nylon		113.9	114.8	3.5	.8
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot		124.2	125.2	5.2	.8
Girdles, manmade blend		121.7	122.8	3.5	.9
Brassieres, nylon lace		129.6	130.7	5.2	.8
Hose or panty hose, seamless		91.8	92.0	-2.4	.2
Anklets or knee-length socks, various fibers		118.3	118.5	3.7	.2
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton		119.1	121.4	8.9	1.9
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic		159.6	161.2	8.7	1.0
Girl's:					
Raincoats, vinyl, cotton or polyester blends		115.2	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Skirts, wool, wool blends or acrylic		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Dresses, cotton, manmade fibers or blends		124.1	127.1	3.7	2.4
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Slips, polyester blends		112.5	113.7	4.1	1.1
Handbags, plastic		142.8	144.3	15.5	1.1
Footwear		134.9	136.3	5.1	1.0
Men's:					
Shoes, street		137.9	138.9	5.1	.7
Shoes, work, high		144.2	146.0	10.3	1.2
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump		132.8	135.0	3.8	1.7
Shoes, evening, pump		127.0	127.8	3.3	.6
Shoes, casual		136.1	137.2	5.5	.8
Houseslipppers, scuff		131.7	132.1	3.6	.3
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford		136.4	137.4	3.7	.7
Sneakers, boys, oxford type		133.5	135.8	8.1	1.7
Dress shoes, girls, strap or pump		139.7	141.5	4.7	1.3
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze or disposable		130.5	134.2	13.4	2.8
Yard goods, polyester blend		144.8	146.3	21.1	1.0
Wrist watches, men's and women's		123.8	124.8	4.8	.8
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses		130.7	131.8	9.7	.8
Automatic laundry service		121.5	122.1	4.8	.5
Laundry, men's shirts		137.7	138.7	9.1	.7
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment		144.7	145.8	6.6	.8
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift		128.1	128.9	7.1	.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, April 1974, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to April 1974 from:	
		March 1974	April 1974	April 1973	March 1974
Transportation -----		132.0	134.4	9.6	1.8
Private -----		130.4	133.1	10.6	2.1
Automobiles, new -----		112.8	113.3	2.0	.4
Automobiles, used -----		102.2	110.7	-5.6	8.3
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		158.7	161.4	41.8	1.7
Motor oil, premium -----		140.0	142.8	12.9	2.0
Tires, new, tubeless -----		113.0	114.1	2.6	1.0
Auto repairs and maintenance ⁸ -----		150.3	151.8	7.9	1.0
Auto insurance rates -----		138.0	138.6	.1	.4
Auto registration -----		128.9	128.9	4.2	0
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		154.8	155.4	2.2	.4
Public -----		146.6	146.3	1.7	-.2
Local transit fares -----		148.7	148.4	-.9	-.2
Taxicab fares -----		145.4	145.4	7.1	0
Railroad fares, coach -----		127.1	127.1	3.9	0
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		141.5	141.5	7.1	0
Bus fares, intercity -----		159.0	159.0	10.0	0
Health and recreation -----		135.4	136.3	5.5	.7
Medical care -----		144.8	145.6	6.9	.6
Drugs and prescriptions -----		107.3	107.6	1.8	.3
Over-the-counter items -----		114.3	114.6	2.1	.3
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		96.3	96.4	1.8	.1
Aspirin compounds -----		118.3	118.5	.9	.2
Liquid tonics -----		103.6	104.0	2.8	.4
Adhesive bandages, packages -----		130.5	130.8	3.7	.2
Cold tablets or capsules -----		115.8	115.7	1.1	-.1
Cough syrup -----		117.6	118.5	3.0	.8
Prescriptions -----		101.5	101.6	1.3	.1
Anti-infectives -----		68.0	68.1	-4.2	.1
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		136.5	137.5	7.1	.7
Ataractics -----		104.7	104.7	1.1	0
Antispasmodics -----		108.8	108.8	1.3	0
Cough preparations -----		143.2	143.2	5.8	0
Cardiovasculars and antihypertensives -----		113.9	114.0	1.0	.1
Analgesics, internal -----		112.0	111.9	.4	-.1
Anti-obesity -----		120.2	120.8	3.8	.5
Hormones -----		93.6	93.8	2.5	.2
Professional services:					
Physicians' fees -----		145.0	145.8	6.5	.6
General physician, office visits -----		148.1	149.1	8.0	.7
General physician, house visits -----		145.3	145.9	3.5	.4
Obstetrical cases -----		143.0	144.1	5.2	.8
Pediatric care, office visits -----		147.8	148.4	6.3	.4
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		136.8	136.9	3.0	.1
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		134.8	135.3	3.7	.4
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		137.6	138.0	5.3	.3
Dentists' fees -----		141.5	142.9	5.5	1.0
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		144.2	145.8	5.8	1.1
Extractions, adult -----		141.1	142.6	6.2	1.1
Dentures, full upper -----		136.3	137.2	4.0	.7
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		134.3	135.2	6.0	.7
Routine laboratory tests, urinalysis -----		128.3	129.0	6.4	.5
Hospital service charges -----	Jan. 72	110.2	110.7	5.5	.5
Semiprivate rooms -----		191.4	192.0	6.2	.3
Operating room charges -----		189.7	191.4	7.3	.9
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----		135.6	137.2	4.6	1.2
Laboratory tests, urinalysis -----	Jan. 72	108.4	108.0	4.9	-.4
Anti-infectives, tetracycline, HCL -----	Jan. 72	100.3	100.1	2.5	-.2
Tranquilizer, chlordiazepoxide, HCL and meprobamate -----	Jan. 72	107.1	107.7	5.2	.6
Electrocardiogram -----	Jan. 72	109.3	109.3	4.6	0
Intravenous solution, saline -----	Jan. 72	107.2	107.3	3.6	.1
Physical therapy, whirlpool bath -----	Jan. 72	110.9	112.7	6.0	1.6
Oxygen, inhalation therapy -----	Jan. 72	108.2	108.4	5.1	.2
Personal care -----		131.8	133.1	7.5	1.0
Toilet goods -----		126.5	128.2	7.5	1.3
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		110.1	111.7	.9	1.5
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		150.5	155.6	23.5	3.4
Hand lotions, liquid -----		129.7	130.3	2.9	.5
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		109.3	109.6	1.0	.3
Face powder, pressed -----		150.8	152.6	6.8	1.2
Deodorants, aerosol -----		106.0	106.5	1.7	.5
Cleansing tissues -----		142.6	146.6	16.9	2.8
Home permanent wave kits -----		110.3	109.5	.2	-.7
Personal care services -----		137.4	138.3	7.6	.7
Men's haircuts -----		139.9	140.8	8.1	.6
Beauty shop services -----		135.6	136.6	7.3	.7
Women's haircuts -----		143.8	144.9	10.3	.8
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		138.9	140.0	6.9	.8
Permanent waves, cold -----		120.1	120.7	4.9	.5

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, April 1974, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to April 1974 from:	
		March 1974	April 1974	April 1973	March 1974
Health and recreation—Continued					
Reading and recreation ¹		129.5	130.4	4.2	0.7
Recreational goods		112.3	112.9	4.0	.5
TV sets, portable and console		98.0	98.1	-.1	.1
TV replacement tubes		137.1	138.1	2.8	.7
Radios, portable and table model		100.7	101.3	2.1	.6
Tape recorders, portable		94.9	94.9	2.6	0
Phonograph records, stereophonic		110.3	110.7	2.3	.4
Movie cameras, super 8, zoom lens		90.9	91.4	3.0	.6
Film, 35mm, color		108.7	109.5	1.3	.7
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core		104.1	104.1	-.2	0
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover		130.0	130.7	2.8	.5
Fishing rods, fresh-water spincasting		111.6	112.3	2.9	.6
Bowling balls		116.5	117.4	1.7	.8
Bicycles, boys'		128.7	129.9	7.3	.9
Tricycles		120.6	121.1	5.9	.4
Dog food, canned or boxed		142.6	143.5	23.3	.6
Recreational services		135.7	136.6	3.9	.7
Indoor movie admissions		151.3	152.2	3.7	.6
Adult		149.4	150.1	3.4	.5
Children's		156.5	158.1	4.8	1.0
Drive-in movie admissions, adult		153.7	155.5	4.7	1.2
Bowling fees, evening		129.3	129.9	5.5	.5
Golf green fees		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
TV repair, color picture tube replacement		100.5	100.6	1.1	.1
Film developing, color		116.4	116.0	-.3	-.3
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery		144.1	147.0	9.1	2.0
Magazines, single copy and subscription		133.7	133.7	-1.8	0
Piano lessons, beginner		131.7	132.2	5.3	.4
Other goods and services		132.8	133.6	4.2	.6
Tobacco products		139.4	139.6	2.3	.1
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size		140.9	141.1	2.1	.1
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size		141.3	141.5	2.0	.1
Cigars, domestic, regular size		117.6	118.1	5.2	.4
Alcoholic beverages		127.1	128.3	5.5	.9
Beer		120.1	121.6	5.8	1.2
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon		109.8	109.8	.6	0
Wine, dessert and table		145.0	145.8	10.9	.6
Beer away from home		140.5	142.1	5.8	1.1
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult		132.9	133.5	7.1	.5
Bank service charges, checking accounts		103.7	103.3	-3.0	-.4
Legal services, short form will		172.7	173.1	9.3	.2

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 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 Priced only in season.

⁶ Also includes men's sport shirts, women's and girls' lightweight coats, women's slacks, bathing suits, girls' shorts, earrings, and zippers not shown separately.

⁷ Also includes storage batteries and drivers' license fees not shown separately.

⁸ Includes prices for water pump, replacement, motor tune-up, automatic transmission repair, exhaust system repair, front-end alignment, and chassis lubrication.

⁹ Also includes outboard motors, nondurable toys, college tuition fees, paperback books, and college textbooks not shown separately.

Table 9. Consumer Price Index—seasonal adjustment factors for use with 1974 indexes calculated from data through March 1974

Group	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Commodity and service groups												
All items -----	99.81	99.87	99.94	99.99	100.04	100.11	100.17	100.11	100.00	100.00	99.95	100.00
All items (1957-59=100) -----	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities -----	99.6	99.7	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.2	100.3	100.1	100.1	100.0	100.0	100.0
Food -----	99.5	99.8	100.2	100.3	100.1	100.2	100.7	100.7	100.2	99.5	99.2	99.6
Food at home -----	99.4	99.8	100.4	100.3	100.1	100.3	101.0	100.8	100.3	99.3	99.0	99.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	99.8	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.1	99.8	100.0	100.1	100.1	100.0	99.8	99.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	98.4	99.6	101.1	100.8	99.8	100.2	101.3	101.5	100.9	100.3	98.6	97.5
Dairy products -----	100.1	100.3	100.2	100.0	100.0	99.6	100.0	99.9	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.9
Fruits and vegetables -----	98.4	98.8	99.9	101.4	102.3	104.6	104.4	102.0	98.3	95.8	96.9	97.1
Other foods at home -----	101.8	100.6	100.2	99.7	99.1	98.4	99.0	99.7	100.6	100.4	99.8	100.8
Food away from home -----	99.9	99.8	99.7	99.9	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.1	100.2	100.3	100.3	100.1
Commodities less food -----	99.7	99.6	99.7	99.9	100.2	100.3	99.9	99.8	99.9	100.3	100.3	100.3
Nondurables less food -----	99.6	99.7	99.8	100.0	100.2	100.1	99.6	99.5	100.3	100.4	100.5	100.4
Apparel commodities -----	99.1	99.3	99.7	100.0	100.5	100.1	99.1	98.8	100.3	101.0	101.3	100.9
Men's and boys' -----	99.2	99.0	99.7	100.4	100.7	100.6	99.1	99.2	100.0	100.7	100.9	100.7
Women's and girls' -----	98.6	99.6	99.6	99.5	100.3	99.8	99.8	98.1	100.5	101.6	102.0	101.5
Footwear -----	99.7	99.6	100.0	100.3	100.4	100.1	99.6	99.7	100.0	100.2	100.3	100.1
Nondurables less food and apparel -----	99.9	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.3	100.2	100.0	100.0
Gasoline and motor oil -----	100.1	99.6	99.8	99.3	99.8	99.5	100.1	100.0	101.0	100.8	99.9	100.3
Tobacco products -----	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Alcoholic beverages -----	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Fuel oil and coal -----	100.5	100.8	101.1	100.6	100.1	99.7	99.1	99.6	99.6	99.5	99.6	99.7
Other nondurables -----	99.7	99.9	99.9	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.1	100.0	99.9	99.9	99.9	100.0
Durable commodities -----	99.8	99.5	99.5	99.7	100.1	100.5	100.4	100.1	99.8	100.2	100.3	100.1
Household durables -----	99.7	99.7	99.9	100.1	100.2	100.3	100.2	100.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9
New cars -----	101.5	101.2	100.7	100.4	100.2	99.7	99.2	98.7	96.9	100.1	100.5	100.9
Used cars -----	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Other durables -----	100.2	100.0	99.8	99.7	99.8	99.9	99.9	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.3
Services -----	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Rent -----	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Services less rent -----	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Household services less rent -----	100.2	99.9	100.0	99.9	99.7	99.7	99.8	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.3	100.3
Transportation services -----	100.5	100.7	100.3	100.3	100.1	100.1	100.0	99.8	99.6	99.6	99.5	99.6
Medical care services -----	99.8	99.9	100.2	100.2	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	99.7	99.8	99.8
Other services -----	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.0	99.8	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.0
Special indexes:												
All items less food -----	99.9	99.8	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.1	99.9	99.8	99.9	100.2	100.2	100.2
Nondurable commodities -----	99.6	99.8	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.1	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	100.0
Apparel commodities less footwear -----	98.9	99.3	99.7	99.9	100.5	100.1	99.0	98.7	100.3	101.1	101.4	101.1
Services less medical care services -----	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Insurance and finance -----	100.3	100.1	100.0	99.8	99.6	99.6	99.9	99.8	99.9	100.2	100.4	100.4
Utilities and public transportation -----	100.1	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.1	100.0	99.9	99.8	99.6	99.4	99.8	100.0
Housekeeping and home maintenance service -----	99.8	99.7	99.8	99.8	99.9	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.1	99.9	100.1
Appliances (including radio and T. V.) -----	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Expenditure classes												
All items -----	99.81	99.87	99.94	99.99	100.04	100.11	100.17	100.11	100.00	100.00	99.95	100.00
Food -----	99.5	99.8	100.2	100.3	100.1	100.2	100.7	100.7	100.2	99.5	99.2	99.6
Housing -----	100.1	100.0	100.0	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.2	100.3
Shelter -----	100.1	99.9	99.9	99.8	99.7	99.8	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.2	100.3	100.3
Rent -----	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Homeownership -----	100.1	99.9	99.8	99.7	99.6	99.8	99.9	100.0	100.2	100.3	100.4	100.4
Fuel and utilities -----	100.1	100.4	100.5	100.4	100.2	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.6	99.5	99.9	99.9
Gas and electricity -----	100.5	100.6	100.5	100.6	100.5	99.9	99.6	99.5	99.2	99.1	100.0	100.1
Household furnishings and operation -----	99.7	99.7	99.9	100.1	100.2	100.3	100.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	99.2	99.4	99.8	100.0	100.4	100.1	99.1	98.9	100.2	100.8	101.1	100.8
Transportation -----	100.2	99.7	99.6	99.9	100.3	100.5	100.4	100.1	99.2	100.0	100.0	100.1
Private -----	100.0	99.6	99.5	99.9	100.3	100.6	100.5	100.1	99.2	100.1	100.1	100.1
Public -----	100.2	100.3	100.4	100.1	99.8	100.2	100.1	99.7	99.9	99.6	99.4	100.1
Health and recreation -----	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Medical care -----	99.8	99.9	100.1	100.2	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.0	99.8	99.8	99.8
Personal care -----	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.2	100.1	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	99.9	100.0
Reading and recreation -----	100.0	99.8	99.7	100.0	100.1	100.2	100.1	99.9	100.1	100.1	100.1	99.9
Other goods and services -----	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.2	100.1	100.0
Special indexes:												
All items less shelter -----	99.7	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.2	100.2	100.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	99.9
All items less medical care -----	99.8	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
All items less mortgage interest costs -----	99.8	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.1	100.0	100.0	99.9	99.9	99.9
CPI - domestically produced farm foods -----	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
CPI - selected beef cuts -----	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

¹ Series is not seasonally adjusted.

Table 10. Consumer Price Index—food items, seasonal adjustment factors for use with 1974 indexes (calculated from data through March 1974)

Item and group	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Food	99.5	99.8	100.2	100.3	100.1	100.2	100.7	100.7	100.2	99.5	99.2	99.6
Food away from home	99.9	99.8	99.7	99.9	100.0	99.9	99.9	100.1	100.2	100.3	100.3	100.1
Restaurant meals	99.8	99.7	99.7	99.9	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.2	100.2	100.3	100.2	100.0
Snacks	100.3	100.0	99.8	100.0	99.9	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.8	100.3	100.1	100.1
Food at home	99.4	99.8	100.4	100.3	100.1	100.3	101.0	100.8	100.3	99.3	99.0	99.4
Cereals and bakery products	99.8	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.1	99.8	100.0	100.1	100.1	100.0	99.8	99.8
Flour	100.2	100.3	100.4	100.4	100.2	99.5	99.7	99.7	99.6	99.6	99.8	100.4
Cracker meal	99.3	100.1	100.4	100.3	100.4	100.4	100.0	100.2	100.1	99.6	99.6	99.4
Corn flakes	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.1	100.5	100.1	100.5	99.7	99.3	99.7	100.1	100.0
Rice	100.4	100.9	100.6	100.5	100.2	99.8	99.0	99.9	99.8	99.5	99.7	99.9
Bread, white	99.9	99.9	100.0	99.8	99.8	99.5	100.0	100.6	100.7	99.9	99.9	100.0
Bread, whole wheat	100.0	100.2	100.0	100.1	99.7	99.2	99.7	100.0	100.2	100.2	100.4	100.2
Cookies	99.6	99.5	100.1	100.4	100.8	99.2	100.1	100.6	100.2	100.1	99.4	99.8
Layer cakes	99.6	99.8	100.3	100.3	100.0	99.8	99.9	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.0	100.1
Cinnamon rolls	100.1	100.0	99.7	99.9	100.1	100.1	99.7	100.0	99.7	100.4	100.2	100.2
Meats, poultry, and fish	98.4	99.6	101.1	100.8	99.8	100.2	101.3	101.5	100.9	100.3	98.6	97.5
Meats	98.3	99.5	101.2	100.8	99.5	100.1	101.3	101.7	101.0	100.3	98.7	97.5
Beef and veal	98.2	100.3	101.0	101.6	100.4	100.3	101.7	102.0	100.5	99.4	97.9	96.8
Steak, round	98.7	101.5	101.9	102.3	100.7	100.4	100.7	102.0	100.1	98.4	97.5	95.9
Steak, sirloin	98.2	99.3	100.2	100.8	100.2	100.6	103.5	103.0	102.2	99.0	97.2	95.7
Steak, porterhouse	98.3	99.6	100.2	100.2	99.9	100.7	103.3	103.1	102.0	99.2	97.4	96.1
Rump roast	98.5	101.2	101.5	101.7	101.0	100.7	100.3	102.2	100.2	99.0	97.7	96.0
Rib roast	99.2	99.9	101.1	100.7	100.5	99.9	101.2	101.9	101.2	99.9	97.3	97.9
Chuck roast	96.4	101.7	103.5	103.2	101.2	99.7	100.5	102.5	100.0	98.7	96.5	96.1
Hamburger	98.2	100.3	100.7	100.7	100.5	100.4	101.2	101.9	100.4	100.0	98.2	97.5
Beef liver	97.9	98.8	99.5	100.9	101.0	100.4	101.4	100.9	100.7	100.5	99.5	98.6
Veal cutlets	98.4	99.1	100.0	100.8	100.7	100.4	101.5	101.2	100.4	100.0	99.2	98.4
Pork	98.3	99.5	101.9	99.9	98.1	98.9	101.4	102.5	102.0	101.3	99.0	97.2
Chops	97.5	100.2	102.6	98.1	97.0	98.8	102.9	104.3	104.1	100.0	98.5	96.0
Loin roast	97.8	100.1	102.4	98.9	97.3	98.8	101.5	104.0	103.9	100.4	98.7	96.2
Pork sausage	96.6	98.3	100.6	100.3	99.2	99.8	100.7	101.9	102.4	102.8	100.1	97.3
Ham, whole	103.4	100.8	102.0	101.6	98.4	98.3	98.8	99.0	98.8	98.6	99.0	101.2
Picnics	98.0	100.0	103.1	101.3	99.9	98.4	99.6	101.8	100.7	101.2	98.7	97.3
Bacon	97.7	99.0	100.5	100.2	98.3	99.2	100.8	102.3	102.5	103.6	98.9	96.9
Other meats	98.7	99.4	100.5	100.1	100.0	100.1	100.4	100.8	100.6	100.7	99.8	99.0
Lamb chops	99.3	99.9	100.4	100.0	99.6	100.4	101.2	101.1	100.3	99.4	99.4	99.0
Frankfurters	97.9	98.5	100.6	100.4	99.9	99.8	100.4	101.9	101.4	101.3	99.8	98.1
Ham, canned	100.2	100.6	101.1	100.8	100.1	99.3	98.6	99.1	99.7	100.6	100.4	99.7
Bologna sausage	98.1	99.1	101.0	100.2	99.8	100.2	100.6	101.0	101.3	100.9	99.9	98.6
Salami sausage	98.4	99.1	99.9	100.2	99.9	100.4	100.7	101.1	100.6	100.7	100.1	99.0
Liverwurst	98.8	100.1	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.1	100.3	100.5	100.9	100.5	99.6	98.9
Poultry	98.2	98.6	100.8	101.5	100.5	101.5	102.9	101.6	101.6	100.3	96.9	95.7
Frying chicken	98.0	98.3	101.1	102.4	100.9	101.9	103.7	101.8	101.9	99.7	95.7	94.6
Chicken breasts	97.9	98.9	99.9	101.3	100.5	100.3	101.2	102.1	102.3	100.5	97.9	97.2
Turkey	99.1	99.7	100.2	100.0	99.2	100.0	99.9	100.9	100.0	100.9	101.6	98.6
Fish	99.7	100.1	100.2	100.4	100.3	100.2	99.9	99.6	99.8	99.8	99.8	100.0
Shrimp, frozen	99.0	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.4	100.9	100.5	99.7	99.5	99.6	99.9	100.2
Fish, fresh or frozen	100.0	100.5	99.5	99.9	100.3	100.1	100.2	100.3	99.9	99.8	99.7	99.9
Tuna fish, canned	99.9	100.1	100.2	100.6	100.6	100.4	99.7	99.6	99.3	100.0	99.6	99.9
Sardines, canned	100.3	100.4	99.8	100.2	100.2	99.7	99.2	99.3	99.9	100.0	100.4	100.6
Dairy products	100.1	100.3	100.2	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	99.9	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.9
Milk, fresh, grocery	100.1	100.1	100.5	100.0	100.0	99.7	99.8	99.7	99.9	100.2	100.0	99.9
Milk, fresh, skim	99.9	100.0	100.3	100.0	100.3	100.0	99.9	99.6	100.1	100.1	99.9	99.9
Milk, evaporated	99.8	99.7	99.8	99.6	100.3	100.4	100.2	99.7	100.0	100.0	100.6	99.7
Ice cream	100.2	99.8	100.1	99.7	99.6	99.5	100.3	100.1	100.1	99.9	100.1	100.6
Cheese, American process	99.8	100.2	100.0	100.4	100.3	100.4	100.0	100.0	99.8	99.5	99.7	99.9
Butter	100.5	100.3	99.9	99.4	99.4	99.6	99.6	99.7	99.9	100.4	100.7	100.6

See footnote at end of table.

Table 10. Consumer Price Index—food items, seasonal adjustment factors for use with 1974 indexes (calculated from data through March 1974)—Continued

Item and group	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Food—Continued												
Food at home—Continued												
Fruits and vegetables	98.4	98.8	99.9	101.4	102.3	104.6	104.4	102.0	98.3	95.8	96.9	97.1
Fresh fruits and vegetables	97.7	98.0	99.8	102.1	103.8	107.7	107.6	103.4	96.9	93.6	94.9	94.5
Fresh fruits	93.1	94.9	95.8	99.3	99.7	107.7	110.2	107.9	104.3	99.4	94.7	93.0
Apples	90.7	92.8	95.2	97.2	102.4	111.4	118.6	120.1	108.7	88.3	85.7	88.8
Bananas	94.3	99.1	98.7	103.2	100.4	103.5	103.3	102.1	101.3	103.1	97.8	93.4
Oranges	95.7	95.7	96.1	94.3	95.7	97.7	100.4	105.3	105.7	109.0	105.1	99.3
Orange juice, fresh	99.7	99.9	99.8	99.4	99.6	99.9	100.1	100.8	100.4	100.1	100.2	100.1
Grapefruit	86.2	87.6	87.8	88.1	91.6	103.9	108.7	124.6	122.8	120.5	91.3	87.0
Grapes	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	96.2	87.3	96.5	99.5	(1)
Strawberries	(1)	(1)	(1)	109.0	93.6	97.4	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Watermelon	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	119.0	95.3	85.7	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Fresh vegetables	100.6	100.2	103.5	104.9	107.3	108.3	105.3	98.5	90.2	90.3	94.8	96.2
Potatoes	93.5	95.4	96.8	98.0	100.4	110.5	116.5	112.2	97.9	92.6	92.9	93.2
Onions	93.4	100.1	98.2	99.5	102.3	107.6	108.9	108.9	100.8	93.5	92.5	94.3
Asparagus	(1)	(1)	120.5	93.9	96.0	93.5	96.1	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Cabbage	101.5	111.1	106.8	104.9	110.0	105.2	100.1	94.4	89.7	93.2	91.1	92.2
Carrots	102.5	102.0	100.4	93.8	97.4	101.9	103.7	109.7	92.6	100.3	96.1	99.7
Celery	106.2	105.6	102.3	91.8	103.0	101.7	105.3	97.1	94.2	96.3	96.8	99.7
Cucumbers	104.6	123.0	122.7	135.4	106.5	100.6	90.6	75.9	72.9	81.9	86.9	99.0
Lettuce	99.2	92.0	92.9	98.5	101.6	100.7	102.7	106.1	92.6	98.7	105.6	109.5
Peppers, green	94.4	108.0	112.3	123.7	145.0	109.9	95.2	80.8	73.8	72.9	87.5	96.7
Spinach	100.9	101.8	99.9	100.4	99.6	99.0	100.4	100.9	99.1	99.4	97.8	100.9
Tomatoes	111.4	104.4	100.8	106.7	104.9	107.7	107.2	91.6	74.3	82.3	98.2	110.4
Processed fruits and vegetables	100.1	100.0	99.9	100.2	99.8	99.7	99.7	99.9	100.2	100.1	100.2	100.1
Fruit cocktail, canned	100.3	100.0	100.1	100.6	100.1	99.7	99.9	99.4	99.9	99.6	100.2	100.1
Pears, canned	100.0	100.0	99.8	99.9	99.8	99.9	99.8	99.9	100.3	100.1	100.6	100.0
Pineapple-grapefruit juice, drink	100.1	99.8	100.0	100.5	100.0	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	100.2	100.2	99.8
Orange juice concentrate, frozen	99.6	99.4	99.5	100.1	99.8	99.8	100.3	100.6	100.8	99.9	100.2	99.9
Lemonade concentrate, frozen	100.7	100.6	100.7	101.0	100.6	99.6	98.8	98.7	98.8	99.6	100.2	100.6
Beets, canned	99.9	99.6	100.1	100.2	99.9	100.2	99.9	100.4	100.2	100.0	100.0	99.6
Peas, green, canned	100.1	100.0	99.7	100.6	99.6	99.7	99.9	99.6	100.4	99.7	100.3	100.3
Tomatoes, canned	99.6	99.9	99.8	100.0	100.1	100.2	100.0	100.2	100.5	99.9	99.8	99.9
Dried beans	100.8	100.7	99.8	99.2	98.8	98.7	98.5	100.3	100.8	100.9	100.7	100.9
Broccoli, frozen	100.0	99.8	100.0	100.5	100.0	100.3	100.2	99.9	99.9	99.7	99.9	99.8
Other food at home	101.8	100.6	100.2	99.7	99.1	98.4	99.0	99.7	100.6	100.4	99.8	100.8
Eggs	111.4	104.1	100.8	97.1	93.1	88.6	94.2	98.1	106.2	102.5	98.1	105.9
Fats and oils:												
Margarine	100.0	99.8	99.8	100.2	99.9	100.4	99.6	99.7	100.1	100.1	100.1	100.3
Salad dressing, Italian	100.1	99.9	100.1	100.1	100.4	99.7	100.1	99.7	99.9	99.7	100.0	100.2
Salad or cooking oil	100.0	99.9	99.8	100.2	100.2	99.9	99.1	100.1	100.3	100.4	100.0	100.1
Sugar and sweets	99.7	99.8	100.2	100.3	100.4	100.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	99.7	99.8
Sugar	99.7	100.0	100.1	100.1	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.1	100.1	99.9	100.1	100.0
Grape jelly	99.5	100.0	100.5	100.3	100.4	100.3	100.1	99.8	100.0	99.7	99.6	99.6
Chocolate bar	99.7	99.4	99.4	99.8	100.1	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.3	100.3	100.2	100.2
Syrup, chocolate flavored	100.0	100.2	100.7	100.8	100.5	99.9	99.3	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.6	99.8
Nonalcoholic beverages	99.7	100.0	100.0	100.1	100.2	100.1	100.2	100.1	99.8	100.0	99.9	99.7
Coffee, can and bag	99.7	100.1	100.0	100.1	100.1	99.7	100.1	100.3	100.0	100.1	100.1	99.7
Coffee, instant	99.8	100.3	100.0	100.2	100.6	100.6	100.0	99.6	99.6	99.8	99.7	99.7
Tea	99.4	99.8	99.9	99.9	100.2	100.5	100.4	100.2	100.0	100.1	100.0	99.7
Carbonated drink, cola flavored	99.9	99.9	100.3	100.1	100.2	100.4	100.1	99.7	99.7	99.9	100.0	99.8
Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	99.7	99.7	100.0	100.2	100.4	100.4	100.2	100.0	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.7
Prepared and partially prepared foods	99.9	100.0	100.2	100.2	100.1	100.0	99.7	100.1	100.0	100.0	99.9	99.9
Bean soup, canned	100.1	100.3	100.2	100.3	100.2	100.1	99.7	99.9	99.7	99.8	99.9	99.9
Chicken soup, canned	100.0	100.2	100.4	100.4	100.1	99.8	99.6	99.7	100.0	99.8	100.0	100.1
Spaghetti, canned	100.2	100.2	100.2	99.9	99.9	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.1
Mashed potatoes, instant	99.6	100.3	100.2	100.0	100.5	100.7	100.2	100.1	99.7	99.5	99.5	99.6
Potatoes, french fried, frozen	99.9	99.8	100.1	100.1	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.4	100.1	99.9	100.0	99.7
Baby foods	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.0	99.7	99.8	100.0	100.5	100.3	99.9	99.9
Sweet pickle relish	100.3	100.2	100.9	101.1	100.2	99.5	98.8	99.3	99.5	99.7	100.2	100.2
Pretzels	99.3	99.9	100.1	100.4	100.3	100.4	100.1	100.0	100.0	99.7	99.9	99.8
Miscellaneous indexes:												
Housefurnishings	99.6	99.8	100.0	100.1	100.2	100.3	100.1	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.1	100.1
Fuel oil, No. 2	100.4	100.7	101.0	100.5	100.1	100.0	99.3	99.8	99.7	99.6	99.4	99.6
Gas	100.6	100.9	100.7	100.8	100.7	99.6	99.2	99.2	98.9	98.5	100.3	100.4
Natural gas, residential heating	100.5	100.8	100.7	100.8	100.6	99.6	99.3	99.4	99.1	98.5	100.3	100.4
Natural gas, other than residential heating	100.8	101.0	100.8	100.9	100.7	99.5	99.0	99.1	98.8	98.7	100.2	100.3
Natural gas, 10 therms	101.1	101.2	100.9	100.9	100.8	99.4	98.9	99.2	98.7	98.7	100.1	100.0
Natural gas, 25 therms	100.5	100.7	100.7	100.6	100.6	99.8	99.4	99.3	99.1	99.0	100.1	100.2
Natural gas, 40 therms	100.9	101.1	100.9	101.0	100.9	99.4	98.9	99.0	98.6	98.4	100.3	100.6
Electricity	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.4	100.2	100.2	100.0	99.8	99.7	99.6	99.5	99.9
Electricity, 100 kwh	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.1	99.8	99.8	99.7	99.4	100.0
Electricity, 250 kwh	100.2	100.2	100.3	100.4	100.2	100.2	100.0	99.6	99.8	99.6	99.5	99.9
Electricity, 500 kwh	100.1	100.2	100.0	100.5	100.3	100.3	99.9	99.8	99.8	99.6	99.6	99.9

¹ Not available.

Table 11. Consumer Price Index—United States city average and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for regular and premium gasoline

(October 1973=100)

Area ¹	Regular gasoline			Premium gasoline		
	Index		Percent change to April 1974 from—	Index		Percent change to April 1974 from—
	March 1974	April 1974		March 1974	April 1974	March 1974
U. S. city average ² -----	160.6	163.4	1.7	154.0	156.6	1.7
Atlanta -----	130.7	135.3	3.5	128.5	132.9	3.4
Baltimore -----	131.1	135.4	3.3	128.4	133.1	3.7
Boston -----	127.7	128.8	.9	125.1	126.3	1.0
Buffalo -----	134.5	142.2	5.7	132.6	139.5	5.2
Chicago -----	133.0	132.9	-.1	130.2	130.1	-.1
Cincinnati -----	131.0	134.5	2.7	127.8	131.0	2.5
Cleveland -----	130.1	128.8	-1.0	126.6	127.8	.9
Dallas -----	138.6	143.0	3.2	134.7	138.0	2.4
Detroit -----	134.7	137.7	2.2	131.3	134.2	2.2
Honolulu -----	125.9	125.7	-.2	123.7	123.5	-.2
Houston -----	130.5	138.2	5.9	127.4	134.3	5.4
Kansas City -----	130.5	135.6	3.9	127.7	131.9	3.3
Los Angeles—Long Beach -----	131.2	133.7	1.9	128.7	131.1	1.9
Milwaukee -----	136.5	138.4	1.4	133.5	134.9	1.0
Minneapolis—St. Paul -----	128.9	135.7	5.3	126.2	132.2	4.8
New York—Northeastern N. J. -----	129.7	131.8	1.6	128.6	130.0	1.1
Philadelphia -----	135.8	134.6	-.9	131.8	131.6	-.2
Pittsburgh -----	129.0	132.8	2.9	125.0	128.9	3.1
St. Louis -----	129.2	131.7	1.9	126.8	129.5	2.1
San Diego -----	129.9	131.2	1.0	127.6	128.8	.9
San Francisco—Oakland -----	127.3	127.7	.3	125.0	124.5	-.4
Seattle -----	129.3	130.3	.8	126.3	128.2	1.5
Washington -----	127.6	129.2	1.3	124.9	126.5	1.3

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 1967=100.

Table 12. Consumer Price Index—United States city average and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, average prices for regular and premium gasoline

Area ¹	Regular gasoline			Premium gasoline		
	Average price per gallon					
	February 1974	March 1974	April 1974	February 1974	March 1974	April 1974
U. S. city average -----	\$0.491	\$0.528	\$0.537	\$0.527	\$0.564	\$0.573
Atlanta -----	.482	.519	.538	.520	.557	.576
Baltimore -----	.511	.536	.554	.551	.575	.596
Boston -----	.490	.517	.521	.529	.555	.560
Buffalo -----	.492	.542	.573	.530	.581	.611
Chicago -----	.518	.559	.559	.552	.598	.598
Cincinnati -----	.497	.531	.545	.536	.568	.582
Cleveland -----	.502	.530	.524	.542	.563	.569
Dallas -----	.449	.487	.503	.482	.524	.537
Detroit -----	.510	.562	.575	.546	.600	.614
Honolulu -----	.532	.569	.568	.566	.603	.602
Houston -----	.427	.453	.480	.465	.491	.518
Kansas City -----	.480	.499	.518	.518	.538	.556
Los Angeles—Long Beach -----	.495	.530	.540	.530	.566	.577
Milwaukee -----	.471	.526	.533	.508	.564	.570
Minneapolis—St. Paul -----	.482	.509	.536	.520	.548	.574
New York—Northeastern N. J. -----	.517	.549	.558	.552	.589	.596
Philadelphia -----	.486	.543	.538	.528	.584	.583
Pittsburgh -----	.483	.516	.531	.522	.552	.570
St. Louis -----	.499	.525	.535	.535	.562	.574
San Diego -----	.506	.538	.543	.541	.573	.578
San Francisco—Oakland -----	.510	.543	.545	.546	.580	.578
Seattle -----	.480	.521	.525	.519	.558	.567
Washington -----	.495	.528	.535	.537	.569	.576

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.

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. 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 major statistical areas and 17 smaller cities, which were chosen to represent all urban places in the United States. They are collected from about 18,000 establishments—grocery and department stores, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments.

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 five largest areas and every 3 months in other areas. Prices of most goods and services are obtained by

personal visits of the Bureau's trained representatives. Mail questionnaires are used to obtain local transit fares, public utility rates, newspaper prices, fuel prices, and certain other items.

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. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Separate indexes are also published for 23 areas.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date—1967—which equals 100.0. An increase of 22 percent, for example, is shown as 122.0. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: The price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers has risen from \$10 in 1967 to \$12.20.

A Note About Calculating Index Changes

Movements of the indexes from one month to another are usually expressed as percent changes rather than changes in index points because index point changes are affected by the level of the index in relation to its base period while percent changes are not. The example in the accompanying box illustrates the computation of index point and percent changes.

Seasonally adjusted percent changes in the U.S. All Items Index are based on seasonal adjustment factors and seasonally adjusted indexes carried to two decimal places. This procedure helps to eliminate rounding error in the percent changes.

Percent changes for 3-month and 6-month periods are expressed as annual rates and are 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. BLS does not publish annual rates based on data for 1 month.

<i>Index Point Change</i>	
CPI	123.8
Less previous index	<u>123.2</u>
Equals index point change:	0.6
<i>Percent Change</i>	
Index point difference,	<u>0.6</u>
Divided by the previous index,	123.2
Equals,	0.005
Results multiplied by one hundred	0.005×100
Equals percent change:	0.5

A Note on Seasonally Adjusted and Unadjusted Data

Because price data are used for different purposes by different groups, the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes seasonally adjusted as well as unadjusted changes each month.

For analyzing general price trends in the economy, seasonally adjusted changes are usually preferred, since they eliminate the effect of changes that normally occur at the same time and in about the same magnitude every year—such as price movements resulting from changing

climatic conditions, production cycles, model changeovers, holidays, and sales.

The unadjusted data are of primary interest to consumers concerned about the prices they actually pay. Unadjusted data are also used extensively for escalation purposes. Many collective bargaining contract agreements and pension plans, for example, tie compensation changes to the Consumer Price Index unadjusted for seasonal variation.

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 1973 averages.

Average standard errors of percent changes in the CPI based on 1973 data

Component	Standard error		
	Monthly change	Quarterly change	Annual change
All items . . . . .	.04	.06	.08
Food at home . . . . .	.10	.15	.17
Food away from home . . . . .	.14	.26	.29
Housing . . . . .	.06	.10	.17
Apparel and upkeep . . . . .	.19	.26	.29
Transportation . . . . .	.06	.10	.17
Medical care . . . . .	.08	.14	.18
Personal care . . . . .	.14	.20	.39
Reading and recreation . . . . .	.09	.14	.17
Other goods and services . . . . .	.09	.11	.27

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.

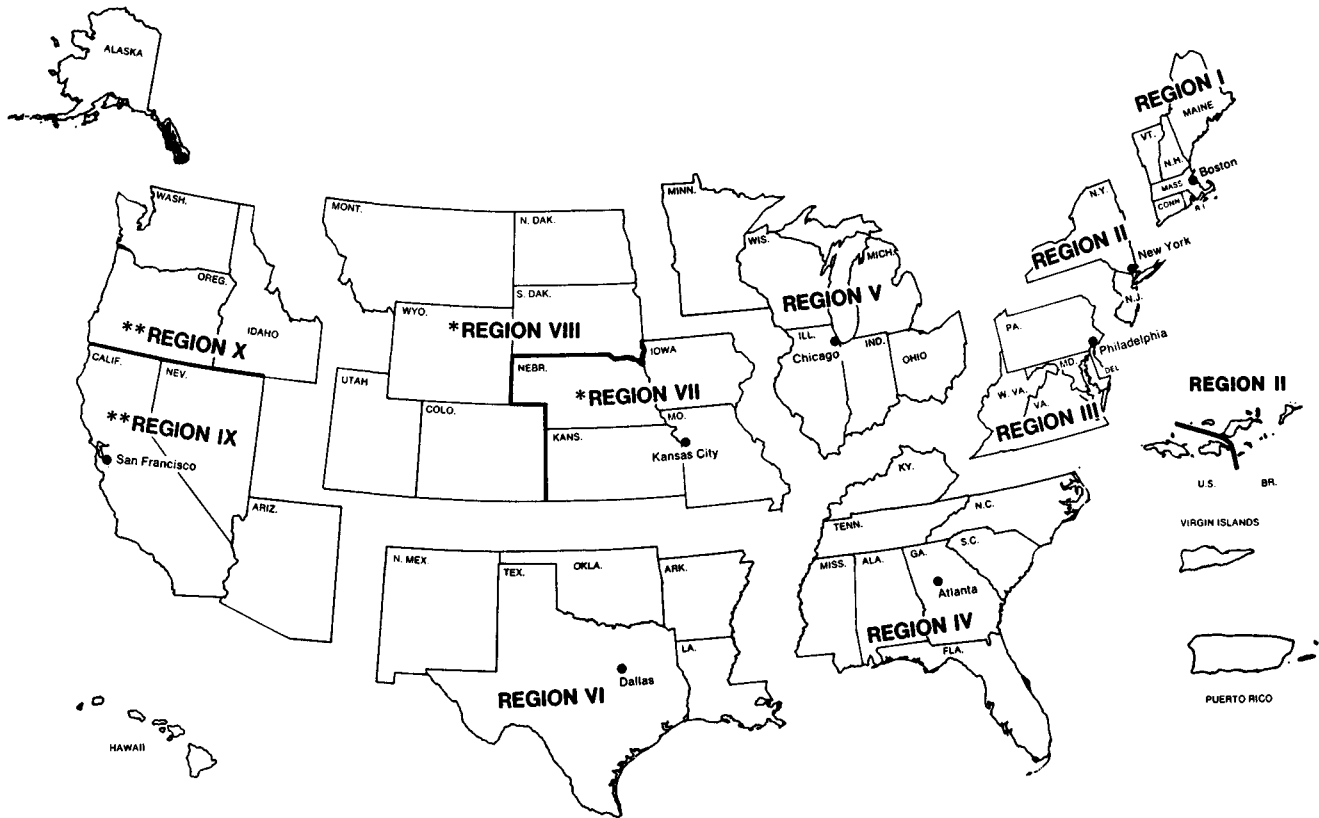
Because the CPI is rounded to one decimal place, some ambiguity may arise in interpreting small index changes. As the table indicates, for example, a month-to-month change of 0.1 percent in the all-items CPI is significant. Because of rounding, however, a change of this size in the published index might 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.

This replaces the table of average errors based on 1971 data which was included in the CPI report through January 1974.

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.

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