## the consumer

U.S. CITY AVERAGE

AND
SELECTED AREAS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
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## the consumer price index

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
J. D. Hodgson, Secretary
bureau of labor statistics Geoffrey H. Moore, Commissioner
a monthly report
on consumer price movements including statistical tables and technical notes.


The Consumer Price Index rose 0.4 percent in May to 134.6 percent of its $1957-59$ base. The increase was less than April's 0.6 percent rise because of smaller price increases for most services and for commodities other than food. The rise in prices of food and consumer durable goods accelerated from April's pace.

After seasonal adjustment, the CPI rose 0.5 percent in May, the same rate as in the previous month. Prices of both food and consumer durable goods were up contraseasonally and by more than in April. Poultry and egg prices fell less than seasonally and prices of fruits, vegetables, and dairy products rose more than is usual for May. The rate of increase in prices of nondurable goods other than food slowed significantly as gasoline declined after their appreciable rise last month. Apparel commodity prices, after seasonal adjustment, rose at April's pace.

In the 12 months ending in May 1970 retail prices rose 6.2 percent. Charges for consumer services moved up by 8 percent, largely on the strength of increases for household services, and were responsible for nearly half of the advance in the overall index. Prices of commodities averaged 5.2 percent higher, led by price increases for food, clothing, and houses. Percent changes in the CPI and its major components, along with each component's contribution to the overall change, over the 12 month periods ending in May 1969 and May 1970 are given below.

|  | May 1969-70 |  | May 1968-69 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Percent change | Contribution to change | Percent change | Contribution to change |
| A11 items | 6.2 | 100.0 | 5.4 | 100.0 |
| Commodities | 5.2 | 53.2 | 4.3 | 51.9 |
| Food | 7.0 | 25.3 | 4.1 | 17.4 |
| Nondurables less food .. | 4.2 | 16.4 | 4.6 | 21.1 |
| Durables ................ | 4.1 | 11.5 | 4.1 | 13.4 |
| Services | 8.0 | 46.8 | 7.3 | 48.1 |

## Services

Charges for consumer services climbed 0.5 percent in May, the smallest monthly rise since last November. Higher prices for household services, especially residential rents, mortgage interest costs, property taxes and insurance, and home maintenance and repair services led the increase for services. The overall importance of price increases for transportation, medical care and "other" services combined equalled that of household services. The rise in charges for medical care services was the smallest since late 1969 as the rate of advance in physicians' and dentists' fees slowed.

Prices of "other" services rose significantly for the second consecutive month on the strength of increases for college tuition and indoor movie admissions. Less significant increases were recorded for auto repairs and maintenance, other automotive services, and public transportation as a whole.

Since May 1969, the increase in service charges has been 8.0 percent. Over one-fourth of this rise was due to increases in mortgage interest costs which reflect both rate increases and higher house prices. Large increases were also recorded for automobile services, home maintenance and repair services, property taxes and insurance, and rent. Smaller, but still significant, gains were made in prices of public transportation, doctors' and dentists' services, gas and electricity, housekeeping services, and health insurance.

Food
Retail food prices, which usually decline slightly in May, rose 0.3 percent in May as prices of food purchased in grocery stores and restaurant meals and snacks advanced 0.3 and 0.5 percent, respectively. The increase in prices of food away from home, although substantial, was among the smallest recorded in the past year and significantly smaller than last month's 1 percent gain.

The contraseasonal rise in prices of food purchased for home consumption resulted primarily from less-than-seasonal declines in prices of poultry and eggs and larger-thanseasonal increases in prices of fresh fruits and vegetables and dairy products. Despite the strength in prices of fresh poultry, prices of meats, poultry, and fish posted their smallest average rise on a seasonally adjusted basis since their slight decline last October. Prices of beef and veal declined contraseasonally, 0.9 percent after adjustment, as weakness in prices of nearly all cuts of beef was apparent. Movement of prices of pork and other meats was seasonal, down 0.8 and 0.1 percent, respectively.

Coffee prices rose significantly again in May in continued response to shortage in supplies of green coffee resulting from weather damage to Brazilian crops. Other foods showing large price increases in May were margarine, salad or cooking oil, tea bags, soft drinks, and candy bars. The increase in prices of margarine and salad or cooking oil, the most notable advances in this group, in large part reflects a tightness in world supplies of food fats and oils.

Retail food prices rose 7 percent in the 12 months ending in May 1970. Price increases for food at home totalling 6.7 percent made up about three-fourths of the advance. Higher prices for beef, pork, fresh vegetables, milk, bakery products, and nonalcoholic beverages all played important parts in the rise in prices of grocery store food. Prices of restaurant meals and other foods consumed away from home were 8.3 percent higher than their year-earlier level in May. As in April this was the largest year-to-year increase on record.

Nondurables other than food
Retail prices of nondurable goods other than food rose 0.4 percent on both an unadjusted and seasonally adjusted basis in May; the rise marked the thirty-fifth consecutive month in which prices for these goods have averaged higher on a seasonally adjusted basis.

Price increases for apparel commodities, particularly women's and girls', were responsible for the major part of the May advance; they amounted to 0.2 percent after seasonal adjustment. Retail prices of gasoline, which climbed sharply in April in response to higher wholesale prices, declined fractionally in May. The drop helped to slow the overall rate of increase in prices of nondurables other than food.

Prices of housekeeping supplies advanced sharply led by higher prices for household paper products. Important price increases were also reported for alcoholic beverages, home-delivered newspapers, magazines and books, and over-the-counter drug items in May.

Since May, last year retail prices of nondurable commodities other than food have advanced 4.2 percent. About one-third of this rise resulted from higher prices for apparel, particularly for men's and women's clothing and women's footwear. Approximately half of the remainder of the advance was due to increases of 10.1 and 5.4 percent, respectively, in prices of tobacco products (primarily cigarettes) and alcoholic beverages.

## Durables

Retail prices of consumer durable goods posted their largest monthly increase in more than a year in May, primarily on the strength of a sharp rise in prices of used cars. House prices together with the increase for used cars made up about eight-tenths of the advance for durables. Prices of new cars declined seasonally and prices of household durables posted their smallest monthly rise since the beginning of the year as appliance prices declined fractionally.

The rise in used car prices followed a smaller rise in April and apparently stemmed from an increase in demand brought about by consumers moving away from new cars or late model used cars. Used car prices declined steadily from July 1969 through March 1970 and, despite the substantial increases in the past 2 months, were only 0.6 percent higher than yearearlier levels in May.

Over the year, prices of consumer durable goods rose 4.1 percent primarily because of a relatively large increase in prices of houses. Price increases for household durables, particularly appliances and furniture, were also important in the rise.

## Cost-of-Living Adjustments

Approximately 128,200 workers will receive cost-of-living wage increases based on the Consumer Price Index for May. About 72,400 aerospace workers will receive an 8-cent hourly pay increase based on the rise in the national index since May 1969. An additional 2,100 workers will receive hourly increases of 8 or 23 cents, based on the rise in the index over the same period. About 2,200 workers in the machinery industry will get an increase of 9 cents an hour, as a result of the rise in the national CPI since November 1969. About 22,500 workers will get increases based on the rise in the index between February and May, including 7,000 in farm equipment ( 6 cents) and 13,800 , mainly in the chemical, machinery and aerospace industries (5 cents).

About 20,000 workers in Pacific coast shipyards will receive increases of 4 cents an hour, based on the rise in the index for Seattle since May 1969, and 2,000 retail clerks in Los Angeles and 5,000 bakery workers in New York will receive increases of 3 cents an hour and 2 percent, respectively, as a result of the increases in the indexes for those areas.

An additional 43,300 workers whose escalation reviews are tied to the May CPI will not receive pay adjustments this month because they have already reached the maximums 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 indicated 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, and percent changes are not. The following example illustrates the computation of index point and percent changes:

Index Point Change Percentage Change

| May 1970 CPI (1957-59=100) | 134.6 | Index point difference divided by the |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| less April 1970 index | $\frac{134.0}{0.6}$ | index for the previous period: |
| Index point difference $=$ |  | $\frac{134.6-134.0}{134.0} \times 100=0.4$ |

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

| Group | (Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated) |  |  |  | Percent change to May 1970 f |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Indexes(1957-59 $=100$ unless otherwise noted) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & 1970 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 1970 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { February } \\ 1970 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | May 1050 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \text { Month } \\ & \text { Ago } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3 \text { Montns } \\ & \text { Ago } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 1 Year Ago |
|  | 134.6 | 134.0 | 132.5 | 126.8 | 0.4 | 1.6 | 6.2 |
|  | 165.2 | 164.4 | 162.5 | 155.6 | - | - | - |
| Food | 132.4 | 132.0 | 131.5 | 123.7 | . 3 | . 7 | 7.0 |
|  | 127.8 | 127.4 | 127.4 | 119.8 | . 3 | . 3 | 6.7 |
|  | 128.0 | 127.6 | 126.3 | 121.6 | . 3 | 1.3 | 5.3 |
|  | 130.5 | 130.9 | 129.7 | 119.9 | -. 3 | . 6 | 8.8 |
|  | 129.9 | 129.5 | 128.8 | 123.6 | . 3 | . 9 | 5.1 |
|  | 136.8 | 134.7 | 132.4 | 130.0 | 1.6 | 3.3 | 5.2 |
|  | 113.7 | 113.8 | 118.1 | 107.1 | -. 1 | -3.7 | 6.2 |
|  | 154.7 | 154.0 | 151.5 | 142.8 | . 5 | 2.1 | 8.3 |
|  | 135.1 | 134.4 | 132.2 | 125.8 | . 5 | 2.2 | 7.4 |
|  | 144.7 | 143.7 | 140.9 | 132.4 | . 7 | 2.7 | 9.3 |
| Rent --- | 123.0 | 122.6 | 121.8 | 118.1 | . 3 | 1.0 | 4.1 |
| Homeownership 2/ | 153.3 | 152.1 | 148.5 | 138.0 | . 8 | 3.2 | 11.1 |
|  | 116.4 | 116.3 | 114.9 | 112.6 | . 1 | 1.3 | 3.4 |
|  | 121.0 | 120.9 | 120.6 | 117.5 | . 1 | . 3 | 3.0 |
| Gas and electricity | 115.8 | 115.7 | 114.6 | 111.2 | . 1 | 1.0 | 4.1 |
| Household furnishings and operation -------- | 122.5 | 122.0 | 120.8 | 117.4 | . 4 | 1.4 | 4.3 |
|  | 131.9 | 131.1 | 130.0 | 126.6 | . 6 | 1.5 | 4.2 |
|  | 133.9 | 133.4 | 131.0 | 128.1 | . 4 | 2.2 | 4.5 |
|  | 126.6 | 125.2 | 125.4 | 122.4 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 3.4 |
| Footwear ----- | 147.6 | 147.2 | 145.0 | 139.6 | . 3 | 1.8 | 5.7 |
|  | 129.9 | 128.9 | 127.3 | 124.0 | . 8 | 2.0 | 4.8 |
|  | 125.9 | 124.9 | 123.3 | 121.2 | . 8 | 2.1 | 3.9 |
| New cars | 104.1 | 104.3 | 104.6 | 101.8 | -. 2 | -. 5 | 2.3 |
|  | 127.5 | 121.1 | 117.8 | 126.8 | 5.3 | 8.2 | . 6 |
| Gasoline | 118.6 | 119.2 | 116.7 | 117.3 | -. 5 | 1.6 | 1.1 |
|  | 166.6 | 165.8 | 165.4 | 148.0 | . 5 | . 7 | 12.6 |
| Health and recreation ------------------------------ | 142.9 | 142.3 | 140.7 | 135.7 | . 4 | 1.6 | 5.3 |
|  | 163.6 | 162.8 | 160.1 | 154.5 | . 5 | 2.2 | 5.9 |
|  | 130.3 | 129.8 | 129.0 | 125.8 | . 4 | 1.0 | 3.6 |
| Reading and recreation | 135.2 | 134.4 | 133.2 | 130.2 | . 6 | 1.5 | 3.8 |
| Other goods and services | 136.1 | 135.6 | 134.3 | 126.9 | . 4 | 1.3 | 7.2 |
| Seasonally Adjusted: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 132.9 | 132.4 | 131.8 | - | . 4 | . 8 | - |
|  | 131.5 | 131.2 | 130.7 | - | . 2 | . 6 | - |
| Transportation - | 129.9 | 128.8 | 127.7 | - | . 9 | 1.7 | - |
| Special Groups: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All items less food | 135.5 | 134.8 | 133.0 | 127.9 | . 5 | 1.9 | 5.9 |
|  | 132.9 | 132.2 | 130.8 | 125.2 | . 5 | 1.6 | 6.2 |
| Commodities | 125.8 | 125.2 | 124.2 | 119.6 | . 5 | 1.3 | 5.2 |
| Nondurables | 129.8 | 129.3 | 128.4 | 123.0 | . 4 | 1.1 | 5.5 |
| Nondurables less food | 127.5 | 127.0 | 125.8 | 122.4 | . 4 | 1.4 | 4.2 |
|  | 131.2 | 130.4 | 129.3 | 126.0 | . 6 | 1.5 | 4.1 |
|  | 115.9 | 114.8 | 113.7 | 111.3 | 1.0 | 1.9 | 4.1 |
|  | 108.0 | 107.8 | 106.9 | 105.6 | . 2 | 1.0 | 2.3 |
|  | 154.1 | 153.4 | 150.7 | 142.7 | . 5 | 2.3 | 8.0 |
|  | 161.0 | 160.1 | 157.1 | 148.1 | . 6 | 2.5 | 8.7 |
| Services less medical care --------.----------- | 150.1 | 149.4 | 146.8 | 51 | . 5 | 2.2 | 51 |
| Insurance and finance (Dec. $1965=100$ ) ------ | 145.4 | 144.5 | 139.9 | 127.9 | . 6 | 3.9 | 13.7 |
| Utilities and public transportation <br> (Dec. $1965=100$ ) | 113.7 | 113.4 | 112.2 | 107.4 | . 3 | 1.3 | 5.9 |
| Housekeeping and home maintenance services <br> (Dec.1965=100) | 137.2 | 136.4 | 134.7 | 126.4 | . 6 | 1.9 | 8.5 |
| Medical care services -------------------- | 179.3 | 178.4 | 175.2 | 168.2 | . 5 | 2.3 | 6.6 |
| Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$0.743 | \$0.746 | \$0.755 | \$0.789 | -. 5 | - 1.6 | - 5.8 |
|  | .360 | . 362 | . 366 | . 382 | - | - | - |

$1 /$ 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 sewerare service not shown separately.
4/ Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, jewelry, and apparel upkeep services not shown separately.
5/ llot available.
Note: Index applies to montl as a whole not to any specific date.

TABLE 2. Consumer ?rice Index-The United States and selected areas for urban ware earners and clerical workers, all items most recent index and percent chanoes from selected dates

| Area 1/ | Pricing Schedule 2/ | Indexes |  |  | Percent change from: |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 1957-59=100 | $1947-49=100$ | Other bases |  |  |  |
| U.S. City Average -.-.-.--* | M | May 1970 |  |  | April <br> 1970 | $\begin{gathered} \text { February } \\ 1970 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { May } \\ 1969 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
|  |  | 134.6 | 165.2 |  | 0.4 | 1.6 | 6.2 |
| Chicago ------------------ | M | 131.1 | 165.3 |  | . 7 | 1.4 | 6.1 |
| Detroit -------------------- | M | 134.9 | 166.3 |  | . 8 | 2.0 | 6.7 |
| Los Angeles-Long Beach --~ | M | 133.8 | 166.8 |  | . 2 | 1.7 | 5.4 |
| New York -...------------- | M | 140.7 | 169.5 |  | . 4 | 1.9 | 7.́ |
| Philadelphia -------------- | M | 136.5 | 167.6 |  | . 6 | 1.6 | 7.1 |
| Boston <br>  <br> Minneapolis-St. Paul -..-- <br> Pittsburgh |  | April 1970 |  |  |  | January 1970 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { April } \\ 1960 \end{array}$ |
|  | 1 | $\begin{aligned} & 137.9 \\ & 132.9 \\ & 135.1 \\ & 132.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 170.8 \\ & 153.7 \\ & 167.2 \\ & 163.1 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | 6.2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 1.5 | 5.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 1.7 | 8.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 2.3 | 5.1 |
|  |  | May 1970 |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { February } \\ 1970 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { May } \\ 1069 \end{array}$ |
| Buffalo (Nov. 1963=100) <br> Cleveland $\qquad$ <br> Dallas (Nov.1963=100) <br> Milwaukee $\qquad$ <br> San Diego (Feb.1965=100) - <br>  <br> Washington $\qquad$ | 2 | 134.3 | 166.7 | 127.0 |  | 1.4 | 5.7 |
|  | 2 |  |  |  |  | 1.5 | 7.2 |
|  | 2 | 130.0 | 164.0 | 127.1 |  | 1.2 | 6.4 |
|  | 2 |  |  | 120.9 |  | 1.2 | 5.9 |
|  | 2 |  | 168.3 |  |  | 1.9 | 5.7 |
|  | 2 | 133.9 |  |  |  | 1.3 | 4.9 |
|  | 2 | 136.7 | 164.6 |  |  | 1.6 | 6.1 |
|  |  | March 1970 |  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { December } \\ 1969 \end{gathered}$ | March 1969 |
| Atlanta ------------------- | 3 | 131.9 | 163.3 | 122.0 |  | 1.5 | 5.6 |
|  | 3 | 133.5 | 165.6 |  |  | 1.2 | 6.2 |
| Cincinnati --------------- | 3 | 129.2 | 157.2 |  |  | 1.2 | 5.3 |
| Honolulu (Dec. 1963=100) --. | 3 |  | 165.5 |  |  | 1.9 | 5.5 |
| Kansas City -------------- | 3 | 134.6 |  |  |  | 1.1 | 5.1 |
| St. Louis ---------------- | 3 | 132.4 | 164.3 |  |  | 1.3 | 5.6 |
| San Francisco-0akland ---- | 3 | 136.1 | 172.8 |  |  | 1.2 | 5.6 |

for New York and Chicago where the more extensive Standard Consolidated Areas are used. Area definitions are those estab-
lished for the 1960 Census and do not include revisions made since 1960.
2/ Foods, fuels, and several other items priced every month in all cities; most other goods and services priced as indicated:

M - Every month.
1 - January, April, July, and October.
2 - February, May, August, and November.
3 - March, June, September, and December.
Note: The Consumer Price Index cannot be used for measurin differences in living costs amonc areas; it indicates price change within areas. Estimates of differences in livinc costs among areas are found in the family budgets.

TABLE 3. Consumer Price Index--The United States and Selected Areas $\underline{1 /}$
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Major Groups nercent chance from ipril 1070 to May 1070

| Group | U.S. City <br> Average | Chicago | Detroit | Los Angeles- Long Beach | New York | Philadelphia |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| All items ---------- | 0.4 | 0.7 | 8.8 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.6 |
|  | . 3 | . 4 | .7 | . 5 | - 2 | . 5 |
| Housing ------------------------------ | . 5 | . 9 | . 5 | . 4 | . 7 | . 7 |
| Apparel and upkeep -------------------- | . 6 | 1.6 | -. 2 | 1.1 | .5 | . 4 |
| Transportation ------------------------- | . 8 | . 5 | 2.0 | - 1.4 | . 5 | - |
|  | . 4 | . 1 | . 8 | . 4 | .1 | . 1 |
|  | . 5 | - 2 | . 3 | . 4 | 1 | . 4 |
| Personal care ------------------------ | . 4 | (2) | (2/) | (2) | (2/) | (2/) |
| Reading and recreation ------------- | . 5 | . 3 | 1.2 | . $\overline{6}$ | .3 | .2 |
| Other goods and services ------------ | . 4 |  | . 8 | . 2 | . 3 | (21) |

1/ See footnote 1, table 2 .
2/ Mot available.

TABLE 4. Consumer Price Index -- United States City Average for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers for Selected Groups

Seasonally Adjusted
( $1957-59=100$ )

| Group | Indexes |  |  | Percent changes to: May 1970 From: |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Say 1970 | ipril 1970 | February 1970 | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \text { Month } \\ & \text { Ago } \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 3 fonths Ago |
| Food | 132.9 | 132.4 | 131.8 | 0.4 | 0.8 |
|  | 128.4 | 127.3 | 127.7 | . 5 | . .5 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish m-----m-m-m | 132.2 | 132.1 | 130.2 | . 1 | 1.5 |
|  | 130.3 | 130.2 | 128.9 | . 1 | 1.1 |
|  | 134.0 | 133.5 | 133.5 | . 4 | . 4 |
|  | 115.3 | 113.9 | 117.4 | 1.2 | - 1.8 |
|  | 116.4 | 116.2 | 114.8 | . 2 | 1.4 |
|  | 121.1 | 120.5 | 119.4 | . 5 | 1.4 |
|  | 131.5 | 131.2 | 130.7 | . 2 | . 5 |
| Men's and boys' | 133.6 | 133.3 | 131.8 | . 2 | 1.4 |
|  | 125.1 | 125.6 | 125.5 | . 4 | -. 3 |
|  | 147.3 | 147.2 | 145.3 | .1 | 1.4 |
|  | 129.9 | 128.8 | 127.7 | . 9 | 1.7 |
|  | 125.9 | 124.5 | 123.8 | 1.1 | 1.7 |
| New cars - | 104.4 | 104.4 | 104.2 | . 0 | + 2 |
|  | 125.9 | 125.3 | 124.4 | . 5 | 1.2 |
| Commodities less food | 122.3 | 121.6 | 120.6 | . 6 | 1.4 |
| Nondurable | 130.1 | 129.4 | 128.7 | . 5 | 1.1 |
| Mondurables less food | 127.5 | 127.0 | 126.1 | . 4 | 1.1 |
| Apparel commodities ---.-.-...-... | 130.8 | 130.5 | 130.1 | . 2 | . 5 |
|  | 115.9 | 114.7 | 113.9 | 1.0 | 1.8 |

$1 /$ Also includes telephone, water, and sewerage service not shown separately.
$\underline{2}^{\prime}$ Also includes infants' wear, sewinc materials, jewelry, and apparel upkeep services not shown separately.

TABLE 5. Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas 1/ For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups May 1970 index and percent changes from February 1970

| Group | U.S. City Aversge | Chicago | Detroit | Los AngelesLonp Reach | New York | Philadelphia |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified) |  |  |  |  |  |
| All items ------------------------------ | 134.6 | 131.1 | 134.9 | 133.8 | 140.7 | 136.5 |
|  | 132.4 | 133.1 | 132.1 | 128.1 | 136.0 | 132.3 |
|  | 127.8 | 131.0 | 129.6 | 122.3 | 128.2 | 126.3 |
| Cereais and bakery products ----- | 128.0 | 134.1 | 124.6 | 125.7 | 124.4 | 129.8 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish ------- | 130.5 | 134.7 | 138.6 | 120.6 | 131.6 | 124.2 |
|  | 129.9 | 138.5 | 137.9 | 127.9 | 122.9 | 136.8 |
| Fruits and vegetables ------------1 | 136.8 | 133.3 | 127.1 | 135.1 | 143.5 | 136.0 |
|  | 113.7 | 114.3 | 112.9 | 105.3 | 113.7 | 109.8 |
|  | 154.7 | 143.0 | 146.4 | 149.1 | 168.5 | 164.2 |
|  | 135.1 | 128.3 | 135.2 | 139.7 | 140.3 | 135.4 |
| Shelter | 144.7 | 135.3 | 147.3 | 151.0 | 148.0 | 145.0 |
|  | 123.0 | 116.2 | (2/) | 125.6 | (2/) | 126.0 |
|  | 153.3 | 144.6 | 155.4 | 159.5 | 157.0 | 150.0 |
|  | 116.4 | 110.7 | 107.5 | 112.7 | 115.6 | 114.8 |
| Fuel oil and coal ---------------10-1 | 121.0 | 114.4 | 114.0 | - | 127.0 | 126.4 |
| Gas and electricity -------------10-1 | 115.8 | 110.9 | 107.9 | 121.7 | 112.2 | 109.5 |
| Household furnishings and operation | 122.5 | 119.5 | 115.5 | 118.9 | 134.8 | 126.3 |
|  | 131.9 | 124.6 | 126.3 | 130.5 | 137.8 | 137.7 |
|  | 133.9 | 123.5 | 127.1 | 132.0 | 145.1 | 135.5 |
|  | 126.6 | 119.0 | 118.2 | 133.6 | 128.9 | 125.9 |
|  | 147.6 | 141.9 | 147.1 | 140.1 | 148.7 | 157.1 |
|  | 129.9 | 130.5 | 127.0 | 131.0 | 142.8 | 141.6 |
|  | 125.9 | 126.9 | 124.2 | 126.3 | 135.6 | 134.6 |
|  | 166.6 | 154.6 | 145.3 | 160.0 | 175.6 | 179.1 |
| Health and recreation -----------------10 | 142.9 | 137.9 | 147.2 | 134.2 | 150.2 | 144.5 |
|  | 163.6 | 171.8 | 178.7 | 161.4 | 170.3 | 174.9 |
| Personal care -----------------------10-1 | 130.3 | (2/) | (2/) | (2/) | 124.4 | (21) |
|  | 135.2 | 117.9 | 134.1 | 116.7 | 148.4 | 127.8 |
| Other goods and services ----------- | 136.1 | 130.2 | 130.9 | 126.6 | 146.1 | (2/) |
|  | Percent changes from February 1970 to May 1970 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1.6 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.6 |
|  | . 7 | -. 1 | 1.5 | . 7 | 1.0 | . 2 |
|  | . 3 | -. 2 | 1.3 | . 6 | -. 1 | -. 2 |
| Cereals and bakery products ----- | 1.3 | 1.2 | . 4 | 1.5 | -. 1 | 2.7 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish -------- | . 6 | . 2 | . 8 | . 9 | 1.1 | . 6 |
| Dairy products ---------------------- | -9 | . 4 | 1.2 | 3.1 | . 7 | . 1 |
| Fruits and vegetables ------------1-1 | 3.3 | 3.0 | 7.9 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 1.2 |
|  | - 3.7 | - 5.0 | - 2.6 | - 3.4 | - 4.7 | - 4.9 |
|  | 2.1 | . 6 | 2.4 | 1.0 | 4.1 | 1.9 |
|  | 2.2 | 1.7 | 3.1 | 1.5 | 3.3 | 3.1 |
|  | 2.7 | 2.1 | 3.7 | 1.8 | 4.2 | 4.0 |
|  | 1.0 | $3 / 1.0$ | (2/) | 3/1.9 | (21) | 3/ 1.8 |
|  | 3.2 | 2.6 | 4.2 | $-1.7$ | 6.4 | - 4.6 |
|  | 1.3 | . 2 | 1.7 | . 8 | 1.7 | 2.0 |
| Fuel oil and coal | . 3 | . 3 | . 3 | - | . 2 | . 0 |
| Gas and electricity ------------- Hous ehold furnishings and operation | 1.0 1.4 | . 3 | .1 1.9 | 1.4 | -. 3 | 2.8 |
| Household furnishings and operation | 1.4 | 1.1 | 1.9 | . 7 | 2.1 | 2.1 |
| Apparel and upkeep | 1.5 | 2.8 | . 6 | 2.0 | . 8 | . 0 |
|  | 2.2 | 4.7 | . 1 | 2.2 | 3.0 | 2.5 |
|  | 1.0 | 2.9 | - 1.3 | 3.4 | - 1.2 | - 2.6 |
|  | 1.8 | 2.3 | 6.1 | 1.3 | 2.3 | 1.7 |
|  | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 3.1 | 1.5 | 2.2 |
|  | 2.1 | 2.3 | 1.1 | 3.2 | 1.6 | 2.7 |
|  | . 7 | . 0 | . 0 | . 9 | 1.1 | . 2 |
|  | 1.6 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 1.3 |
|  | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.9 | 3.4 | 2.3 | 1.8 |
|  | 1.0 | (2) | (21) | (2) | . 6 | (21) |
| Reading and recreation -------------1 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.1 | . 6 |
|  | 1.3 | . 5 | 4.6 | .6 | 1.8 | (2) |

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 5. Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas 1/ For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Commodity Groups--Continued May 1970 index and percent changes from February 1970

| Group | $\left(\begin{array}{c} \text { Buffalo } \\ \text { (Nov. } 63=100 \end{array}\right.$ | Cleveland | $\square$ $(\text { Nov. } 63=100)$ | itilwaukee | san viego (Feb. 65=100) | seattle | washington |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Indexes ( $1957-59=100$ unless otherwise specified) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| All items | 127.0 | 134.3 | 127.1 | 130.0 | 120.9 | 133.9 | 136.7 |
| Food | 128.1 | 130.8 | 126.0 | 129.4 | 122.3 | 130.6 | 136.2 |
|  | 126.2 | 127.8 | 122.1 | 126.1 | 119.0 | 124.1 | 129.4 |
| Cereals and bakery products ---- | 114.0 | 121.5 | 116.9 | 118.9 | 114.5 | 116.8 | 125.3 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish ------- | 129.1 | 134.0 | 130.2 | 131.6 | 133.6 | 129.3 | 128.8 |
|  | 126.2 | 133.4 | 123.6 | 130.3 | 116.9 | 130.6 | 129.3 |
|  | 137.5 | 134.2 | 124.0 | 133.4 | 108.6 | 131.0 | 140.0 |
|  | 120.8 | 113.8 | 112.7 | 113.2 | 110.3 | 111.4 | 122.4 |
|  | 139.3 | 148.4 | 140.7 | 147.6 | 131.2 | 157.5 | 161.2 |
|  | 126.9 | 130.5 | 129.2 | 127.0 | 127.5 | 138.8 | 132.4 |
| Shelter $\qquad$ | 131.2 | 134.1 | 138.8 | 129.6 | 140.2 | 155.7 | 138.5 |
|  | 113.1 | 109.3 | 111.1 | 115.3 | 124.8 | 128.2 | 127.6 |
|  | 134.6 | 138.6 | 152.5 | 134.2 | 146.8 | 163.6 | 143.1 |
|  | 118.5 | 119.7 | 110.3 | 123.7 | 99.1 | 116.2 | 108.1 |
|  | 116.1 | 117.9 | 106.1 | 132.9 | 100.0 | 116.2 | 121.0 |
| Gas and electricity ------------ Household furnishings and operation | 120.8 | 120.9 | 119.7 | 122.8 | 110.0 | 117.4 | 128.1 |
|  | 132.9 | 131.7 | 125.7 | 135.1 | 117.9 | 128.8 | 141.4 |
| Men's and boys' $\qquad$ | 142.8 | 133.6 | 133.6 | 131.6 | 124.5 | 130.8 | 139.0 |
|  | 130.1 | 124.1 | 121.6 | 134.0 | 116.5 | 128.4 | 142.2 |
|  | 138.1 | 151.4 | 127.0 | 151.0 | 124.5 | 147.9 | 153.7 |
|  | 121.0 | 132.7 | 116.9 | 126.1 | 111.4 | 124.8 | 132.9 |
|  | 120.7 | 127.7 | 116.1 | 122.2 | 111.6 | 124.0 | 129.1 |
|  | 124.1 | 165.9 | 128.3 | 178.8 | 107.2 | 132.8 | 155.7 |
| Health and recreation ----------------1 | 127.6 | 148.7 | 132.7 | 137.0 | 118,3 | 136.0 | 147.7 |
|  | 134.3 | 187.1 | 144.3 | 155.6 | 130.0 | 154.8 | 139.6 |
|  | 123.4 | 130.9 | 124.5 | 134.8 | 106.8 | 129.7 | 128.4 |
| Reading and recreation ------------1 | 123.8 | 130.1 | 127.6 | 131.4 | 112.5 | 125.5 | 138.1 |
|  | 127.3 | 142.3 | 126.9 | 129.0 | 119.4 | 132.9 | 131.2 |
|  | Percent changes from February 1970 to May 1970 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.9 | 1.3 | 1.6 |
|  | . 9 | 1.9 | . 1 | -. 5 | . 8 | 1.1 | . 0 |
|  | . 6 | 1.8 | -. 8 | - 1.0 | . 8 | 1.0 | - 1.1 |
| Cereals and bakery products ----- | 3.4 | 3.0 | 1.5 | - . 1 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.0 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish --...--- | . 5 | 2.8 | . 8 | . 2 | 1.7 | 1.6 | - 3.4 |
|  | 1.2 | 4.5 | - 2.1 | - 5.9 | 3.0 | . 5 | 1.2 |
| Fruits and vegetables ----------- | -. 4 | 2.4 | 3.3 | 6.4 | 3.1 | 4.3 | 3.7 |
|  | -. 3 | - 3.1 | - 5.9 | - 4.6 | - 5.2 | - 2.8 | - 3.6 |
|  | 1.8 | 2.6 | 2.8 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 2.9 |
|  | 1.7 | 1.4 | 1.8 | . 5 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 2.0 |
|  | 1.9 | 1.1 | 2.7 | . 2 | 2.9 | 2.2 | 2.5 |
| Rent | . 9 | . 4 | . 7 | 1.3 | 1.5 | -. 2 | 1.2 |
|  | 2.1 | 1.2 | 3.4 | -. 2 | 3.3 | 2.8 | 3.2 |
|  | 1.5 | 4.0 | -. 4 | 1.4 | . 0 | . 3 | . 3 |
|  | . 0 | - | - | 1.2 | - | . 8 | . 0 |
| Gas and electricity ----m-n-m-m- | . 0 | 1.3 | -. 7 | 2.1 | . 0 | . 0 | . 8 |
| Household furnishings and operation | . 8 | 1.2 | . 7 | 1.2 | 1.2 | . 9 | . 8 |
|  | 1.3 | 1.9 | -. 5 | 1.6 | 2.3 | 1.7 | 2.6 |
|  | 1.8 | . 3 | . 7 | 1.3 | 1.5 | -. 9 | 3.0 |
|  | -. 5 | 4.5 | -2.7 | 2.2 | 4.9 | 4.6 | 4.5 |
|  | 6.1 | . 3 | 1.3 | . 8 | . 0 | 1.4 | . 5 |
|  | 1.2 | 1.0 | 2.5 | 5.0 | 2.4 | . 7 | 2.8 |
|  | 1.3 | 1.2 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 2.5 | . 6 | 3.4 |
|  | . 0 | . 0 | . 2 | 16.6 | . 7 | 1.5 | . 0 |
|  | 1.8 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.6 | . 9 | 1.4 |
|  | 2.2 | 1.4 | 1.8 | . 9 | 2.8 | 1.0 | . 9 |
|  | 1.7 | 2.0 | - 1.2 | . 2 | 1.1 | . 1 | 1.4 |
| Reading and recreation ------------1 | 2.6 | 1.4 | 3.2 | 4.0 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.3 |
| Other goods and services -----------10-1 | . 3 | . 6 | 1.3 | . 0 | . 3 | 1.0 | 2.1 |

1/ see footnote 1 , table 2.
2/ Not available.
3/ Change from March 1970.

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

| Item or Group | Index |  | Percent Change to May 1970 from -- |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | May 1970 |  | lpril 1970 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & 1960 \\ & \text { Unadiusted } \end{aligned}$ |
|  | Unadiusted | $\begin{gathered} \text { Seasonally } \\ \text { adjusted } \end{gathered}$ | Unadjusted | Seasonally adjusted |  |
|  | 132.4 | 132.9 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 7.0 |
|  | 154.7 | - | . 5 | - | 8.3 |
|  | 154.8 | - | . 4 | - | 8.3 |
|  | 134.6 | - | . 4 | - | 8.5 |
|  | 127.8 | 128.4 | . 3 | . 5 | 6.7 |
|  | 128.0 | - | . 3 | - | 5.3 |
| Flour ---------------------------------1/- | 113.2 | - | -. 9 | - | . 9 |
|  | 135.7 | - | 1.0 | - | 13.7 |
|  | 130.5 | - | . 4 | - | 2.0 |
|  | 115.0 | - | . 2 | - | 2.7 |
|  | 134.1 | - | . 6 | - | 5.5 |
|  | 125.3 | - | - . 3 | - | 4.8 |
|  | 104.7 | - | 1.3 | - | 3.8 |
|  | 121.5 | - | -. 2 | - | 6.7 |
|  | 118.5 | - | . 3 | - | 5.9 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish ----------------1- | 130.5 | 132.2 | -. 3 | . 1 | 8.8 |
|  | 135.0 | 137.3 | -. 4 | -. 1 | 0.4 |
|  | 135.9 | 136.4 | - . 4 | -. 9 | 5.3 |
|  | 129.0 | 129.9 | - 1.6 | - 2.2 | 3.0 |
|  | 124.3 | - | -. 2 | - | 3.0 |
|  | 129.2 | - | - 1.0 | - | 3.2 |
|  | 124.2 | - | -. 7 | - | 5.0 |
|  | 142.7 | 143.5 | - . 1 | -. 1 | 3.3 |
|  | 128.0 | 128.6 | - 1.5 | -. 8 | 5.3 |
|  | 142.8 | 144.1 | . 3 | . 4 | 8.7 |
|  | 121.8 | - | . 6 | - | 11.1 |
|  | 171.8 | 172.0 | . 4 | . 5 | 11.4 |
|  | 134.8 | 139.8 | -. 8 | . | 13.5 |
|  | 135.1 | 141.0 | -. 4 | . 4 | 10.4 |
|  | 143.6 | - | . 1 | - | 10.5 |
|  | 150.4 | - | -. 1 | - | 15.7 |
|  | 129.0 | 132.6 | - 3.4 | - 2.8 | 15.1 |
|  | 138.5 | - | - 1.0 | - | 14.0 |
|  | 137.1 | 141.0 | - . 8 | -. 5 | 15.8 |
|  | 137.9 | 138.7 | -. 1 | -. 0 | 11.2 |
|  | 141.2 | - | -. 6 | - | 3.7 |
|  | 138.2 | 139.5 | . 5 | 1.2 | 13.1 |
|  | 136.7 | - | - 1.2 | - | 17.2 |
|  | 139.5 | - | - . 1 | - | 12.8 |
| Salami sausage 1/ -----------------10 | 132.0 | - | . 2 | - | 11.3 |
|  | 132.9 | - | . 8 | - | 10.2 |
|  | 07.1 | - | . 0 | - | 4.1 |
|  | 05.3 | 66 | -. 1 | 3.3 | . 5 |
|  | 109.2 | - | -. 2 | - | 4.5 |
|  | 110.5 | - | . 4 | - | 21.1 |
|  | 142.3 | 142.2 | . 9 | . 9 | 0.9 |
|  | 127.8 | - | . 8 | - | 8.1 |
|  | 153.0 | 152.8 | . 3 | . 1 | 15.0 |
|  | 125.0 | - | 1.2 | - | 10.5 |
|  | 130.8 | - | 1.2 | - | 5.7 |
|  | 129.9 | 130.3 | . 3 | . 1 | 5.1 |
|  | 125.5 | 127.4 | .! | .0 | 4.9 |
|  | 134.0 | - | . 1 | - | 5.3 |
|  | 129.2 | - | .7 | - | 5.2 |
|  | 120.7 | - | 1.4 | - | 4.8 |
|  | 103.4 | - | . 7 | - | 4.7 |
| Cheese, American process -------------- | 157.2 | 156.9 | -. 1 | -. 4 | 7.6 |
|  | 121.0 | 121.5 | . 7 | . 7 | 2.6 |

See footnotes at end of table.
table 7. Consumer Price Index--United States City Average For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Food Items
May 1970 Indexes and percent chanpes from selected dates-Continued (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

| Item or Group | Index |  | Percent Change to May 1970 from-- |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | May 1970 |  | april 1970 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & 1069 \\ & \text { Unadjusted } \end{aligned}$ |
|  | Unadjusted | Seasonally adjusted | Unadjusted | Seasonally adjusted |  |
|  | 136.8 | 134.0 | 1.6 | 0.4 | 5.2 |
|  | 151.5 | 146.5 | 2.4 | . 5 | 7.5 |
|  | 140.7 | 143.0 | 5.9 | 1.1 | - 12.7 |
|  | 101.6 | 99.4 | . 2 | - 2.4 | 5.5 |
|  | 123.7 | 129.3 | 1.1 | - 1.3 | - 2.0 |
|  | 90.1 | - | . 2 | - | - 1.2 |
|  | 160.1 | 170.0 | 5.1 | - . 3 | 15.6 |
|  | (31) | (3/) | (3/) | (31) | (3) |
|  | 128.1 | 134.6 | - 5.0 | 7.4 | 5.4 |
|  | (3/) | (31) | (3/) | (3) | (3/) |
|  | 166.9 | 160.8 | 4.4 | - 1.0 | 16.1 |
|  | 180.0 | 174.6 | - . 4 | - 4.8 | 37.9 |
|  | 138.9 | - | 16.4 | - | 16.8 |
|  | 104.3 | 180.6 | - 3.9 | -8.0 | 27.3 |
|  | 117.3 | 122.7 | 1.7 | 3.0 | 5.9 |
|  | 160.5 | 162.3 | 24.7 | 17.3 | 10.5 |
|  | 154.6 | - | - 27.8 | - | - 4.0 |
|  | 138.9 | 137.3 | 10.9 | 10.5 | - 7.0 |
|  | 344.4 | - | 14.9 | - | 83.2 |
|  | 117.5 | - | - 2.0 | - | 7.2 |
|  | 145.2 | 123.9 | - 8.7 | - 14.4 | - 16.5 |
| Processed fruits and vegetables --------- | 118.3 | - | . 3 | - | 1.7 |
|  | 106.3 | - | . 1 | - | . 3 |
|  | 105.6 | - | . 7 | - | - 3.1 |
| Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned 1/ -- | 105.5 | - | . 3 | - | 6.5 |
| Orange juice concentrate, frozen ----- | 92.4 | 91.8 | -. 2 | . 8 | - 10.9 |
| Lemonade concentrate, frozen 2/ ------- | 97.0 | - | . 5 | - | 4.9 |
|  | 115.9 | - | -. 3 | - | 2.2 |
|  | 122.0 | - | -. 9 | - | . 7 |
|  | 133.3 | - | 2.0 | - | 7.7 |
|  | 121.3 | - | -. 2 | - | - 3.3 |
|  | 112.9 | - | -. 1 | - | 0.4 |
|  | 113.7 | 115.3 | -. 1 | 1.2 | 6.2 |
| Eggs | 97.7 | 108.1 | - 5.7 | 3.3 | . 3 |
| Fats and oils: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 111.4 | - | 2.4 | - | 8.4 |
| Salad dressing, Italian 1/ ----------- | 103.2 | - | . 9 | - | . 0 |
|  | 134.7 | - | 2.7 | - | 9.8 |
|  | 131.8 | - | 1.0 | - | 5.7 |
|  | 119.6 | - | . 5 | - | 4.0 |
|  | 132.3 | - | . 8 | - | 7.5 |
|  | 133.2 | - | 2.4 | - | 7.0 |
| Syrup, chocolate flavored 1/ --------- | 110.6 | - | . 3 | - | 3.0 |
|  | 115.2 | - | 1.1 | - | 12.2 |
|  | 103.6 | - | 1.4 | - | 19.5 |
|  | 114.7 | - | . 5 | - | 11.4 |
|  | 104.8 | - | 1.2 | - | 4.0 |
|  | 163.0 | - | . 6 | - | 6.0 |
| Carbonated fruit drink $1 /$ - | 130.0 | - | 1.2 | - | 8.0 |
| Prepared and partially prepared foods 1/ | 110.1 | - | . 3 | - | 3.9 |
| Bean soup, canned $1 /$ - | 111.1 | - | . 5 | - | 5.5 |
| Chicken soup, canned 1/ <br> Spaghetti canned $1 /$ | 102.3 | - | . 3 | - | 4.2 |
| Spaghetti, canned 1/ <br> Mashed potatoes, instant 1/ | 123.2 110.7 | - | . 4 | - | 5.0 |
| Potatoes, french fried, frozen 2/ | 110.7 93.5 | - | .1 | - | 2.8 |
| Baby foods, canned -- | 112.5 | - | . 4 | - | 3.2 1.4 |
|  | 117.6 | - | - . 3 | - | 4.5 |
|  | 110.1 | - | . 1 | - | 3.1 |

1/ December 1963=100.
2) April $1960=100$.

3/ Priced only in season.
4/ July 1961=100.

TABLE 8. Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers Jndexes for Selected Items and Groups May 197?
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

| Item or Group | Other <br> Index <br> Bases | Indexes |  | Percent Change to May 1970 From: |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | May 1070 | Ipril 1970 | April 1970 | May 1969 |
| Housing |  | 135.1 | 134.4 | 0.5 | 7.4 |
|  |  | 144.7 | 143.7 | - 7 | 9.3 |
| Rent =- |  | 123.0 | 122.6 | . 3 | 4.1 |
| Homeownership costs 2/ |  | 153.3 | 152.1 | . 8 | 11.1 |
|  |  | 149.2 | 149.1 | . 1 | 11.1 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 139.4 | 138.2 | . 9 | 8.7 |
|  |  | 153.2 | 153.6 | . 3 | 4.3 |
|  |  | 149.9 | 148.8 | . 7 | 7.4 |
| Commodities 3/ | Dec. 63 | 118.4 | 117.8 | . 5 | . 8 |
| Exterior house paint |  | 119.9 | 119.9 | . 0 | 3.5 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 115.0 | 114.6 | . 3 | 3.0 |
| Services | Dec. 63 | 147.9 | 146.7 | . 8 | 10.2 |
| Repainting living and dining rooms --------- |  | 191.7 | 187.9 | 2.0 | 11.8 |
|  |  | 167.1 | 165.6 | . 9 | 9.7 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 137.4 | 137.1 | . 2 | 7.7 |
| Replacing sinks | Dec. 63 | 150.4 | 149.1 | . 9 | 11.2 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 153.7 | 152.9 | . 5 | 12.7 |
|  |  | 116.4 | 116.3 | . 1 | 3.4 |
|  |  | 121.0 | 120.9 | . 1 | 3.0 |
| Fuel oil, \#2 |  | 118.0 | 117.8 | . 2 | 2.7 |
|  |  | 115.8 | 115.7 | . 1 | 4.1 |
|  |  | 123.2 | 123.1 | . 1 | 5.8 |
|  |  | 108.2 | 108.0 | . 2 | 2.6 |
| Other utilities: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Residential telephone services --------------------- |  | 104.9 | 104.8 | . 1 | 1.5 |
| Residential water and sewerage services --------- |  | 151.0 | 151.0 | . 0 | 5.3 |
| Household furnishings and operation 4/ ----------------10 |  | 122.5 | 122.0 | . 4 | 4.3 |
|  |  | 112.2 | 112.0 | . 2 | 3.1 |
|  |  | 116.2 | 116.7 | -. 4 | 1.5 |
| Sheets, percale or muslin -------------------------- |  | 121.8 | 123.6 | - 1.5 | 3.0 |
| Curtains, tailored, polyester marquisette ----- |  | 113.2 | 113.3 | -. 1 | 1.9 |
| Bedspreads, chiefly cotton, tufted ------------ |  | 115.8 | 117.8 | -. 8 | -. 4 |
| Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate ------ |  | 127.3 | 127.0 | . 2 | 4.3 |
| Pillows, bed, polyester or acrylic filling ---- | Dec. 63 | 106.3 | 107.4 | - 1.0 | - 2.2 |
| Slipcovers, ready made, chiefly cotton -------- | Dec. 63 | 112.7 | 111.8 | . 8 | 3.0 |
|  |  | 125.6 | 125.0 | . 5 | 4.1 |
| Bedroom suites, good or inexpensive quality --- |  | 100.5 | 100.4 | . 1 | (5/) |
| Living room suites, good and inexpensive quality |  | 128.1 | 127.9 | . 2 | 3.9 |
| Lounge chairs, upholstered ------------------------ | Dec. 63 | 122.5 | 121.9 | . 5 | 6.9 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 100.2 | 100.2 | . 0 | (5/) |
|  | Dec. 63 | 119.1 | 118.7 | . 3 | 4.2 |
| Sofas, dual purpose |  | 123.3 | 122.6 | . 6 | 6.1 |
|  | June 64 | 114.7 | 111.8 | 2.6 | . 2 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 121.4 | 120.0 | 1.2 | 3.7 |
|  |  | 107.4 | 102.9 | . 5 | 1.1 |
|  |  | 104.2 | 103.8 | . 4 | . 0 |
|  |  | 113.7 | 113.7 | . 0 | 2.3 |
| Tile, vinyl | Dec. 63 | 113.1 | 111.8 | 1.2 | 4.7 |
|  |  | 87.1 | 87.1 | . 0 | 1.8 |
| Washing machines, electric, automatic --------- |  | 92.9 | 92.9 | . 0 | 3.0 |
| Vacuum cleaners, canister type ------------------- |  | 81.5 | 81.6 | -. 1 | . 1 |
| Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers electric |  | 87.3 | 87.5 | -. 2 | 2.8 |
| Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -------- |  | 100.2 | 100.7 | -. 5 | 3.3 |
| Clothes dryers, electric, automatic ------------ | Dec. 63 | 101.9 | 102.1 | -. 2 | 2.8 |
|  | June 64 | 101.3 | 101.3 | . 0 | 2.1 |
|  | Dec. 63 | (5/) | (61) | (6/) | (6/) |
|  | Dec. 63 | $1 \overline{0} 7.4$ | $1 \overline{0} 7.2$ | .$\overline{2}$ | 3.7 |
| Other housefurnishings: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dinnerware, earthenware ----------------------------- |  | 138.3 | 138.1 | . 1 | 4.4 |
| Flatware, stainless steel -------------------------- | Dec. 63 | 120.8 | 120.7 | . 1 | 2.3 |
| Table lamps, with shade --------------------------- | Dec. 63 | 121.4 | 121.2 | . 2 | 6.9 |
| Lawn mowers, power, rotary type 6/ -------------- | June 64 | 120.1 | 120.5 | -. 3 | 3.4 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 103.3 | 103.3 | . 0 | 1.0 |
| Housekeeping supplies: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 110.0 | 109.8 | . 2 | 3.7 |
|  |  | 138.5 | 136.4 | 1.5 | 9.0 |
| Toilet tissue Housekeeping services: |  | 129.4 | 127.8 | 1.3 | 9.7 |
| Domestic service, general housework ----------- |  | 185.5 | 184.8 | . 4 | 7.9 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 141.5 | 140.9 | . 4 | 5.3 |
|  |  | 165.5 | 155.5 | . 0 | . 0 |
| Laundry, flatwork, finished service ------------1-1 | Dec. 63 | 150.0 | 149.8 | . 1 | 7.4 |
| Licensed day care service, preschool child ---- | Dec. 63 | 132.5 | 132.1 | . 3 | 4.2 |
| Washing machine repairs -------------------------\| | Dec. 63 | 140.4 | 139.8 | . 4 | 7.2 |

TABLE 8 . Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average
For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers -- Continued
Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, May 1970
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)


TABLE 8 Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates (1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

| Item and Group | Other <br> Index <br> Bases | Indexes |  | Percent change to May 1970 From: |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | May 1970 | April 1970 | Apri1 1970 | May 1969 |
|  |  | 129.9 | 128.9 | 0.8 | 4.8 |
|  |  | 125.9 | 124.9 | . 8 | 3.9 |
|  |  | 104.1 | 104.3 | -. 2 | 2.3 |
|  |  | 127.5 | 121.1 | 5.3 | . 6 |
|  |  | 118.6 | 119.2 | -. 5 | 1.1 |
| Motor oil, premium -------- |  | 142.8 | 142.6 | . 1 | 4.5 |
|  |  | 118.6 | 118.6 | . 0 | 2.6 |
|  |  | 142.9 | 142.1 | . 6 | 7.5 |
|  |  | 179.5 | 178.6 | . 5 | 13.5 |
|  |  | 140.9 | 140.9 | . 0 | 5.0 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 132.3 | 131.7 | . 5 | 11.8 |
|  |  | 166.6 | 165.8 | . 5 | 12.6 |
| Local transit fares |  | 185.2 | 183.9 | . 7 | 16.0 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 131.5 | 131.5 | . 0 | 5.4 |
| Railroad fares, coach |  | 121.1 | 121.1 | . 0 | 5.7 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 117.8 | 117.8 | . 0 | 6.4 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 128.6 | 128.6 | .0 | 8.4 |
| Health and recreation |  | 142.9 | 142.3 | . 4 | 5.3 |
|  |  | 163.6 | 162.8 | . 5 | 5.9 |
|  |  | 101.4 | 100.9 | . 5 | 2.1 |
| Over-the-counter items | Dec. 63 | 109.2 | 108.6 | . 6 | 2.1 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 92.7 | 92.0 | . 8 | . 3 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 109.2 | 108.1 | 1.0 | 2.8 |
| Liquid tonics | Dec. 63 | 101.9 | 101.9 | . 0 | 1.0 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 121.4 | 119.8 | 1.3 | 3.8 |
| Cold tablets or capsules | Dec. 63 | 112.7 | 112.6 | . 1 | 3.1 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 116.4 | 116.0 | . 3 | 1.1 |
|  |  | 90.5 | 90.3 | . 2 | 2.1 |
|  | Mar. 60 | 63.1 | 63.0 | . 2 | . 0 |
|  | Mar. 60 | 114.2 | 113.7 | . 4 | 7.3 |
|  | Mar. 60 | 90.7 | 90.7 | . 0 | . 8 |
|  | Mar. 60 | 102.4 | 102.2 | . 2 | 1.3 |
|  | Mar 60 | 118.0 | 118.1 | -. 1 | 8.0 |
| Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives ---------- | Mar. 60 | 100.4 | 100.0 | . 4 | 3.6 |
|  | Mar. 67 | 105.2 | 105.3 | -. 1 | 2.1 |
| Anti-obesity | Mar 67 | 107.2 | 106.0 | 1.1 | 4.5 |
| Hormones | Mar. 67 | 94.2 | 93.6 | . 6 | - . 7 |
| Professional services: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Physicians' fees |  | 165.6 | 164.3 | . 8 | 7.3 |
| General physician, office visits --------------- |  | 168.3 | 167.3 | . 6 | 8.0 |
| General physician, house visits ----------------- |  | 173.6 | 172.5 | . 6 | 6.6 |
| Obstetrical cases |  | 161.1 | 159.2 | 1.2 | 8.4 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 151.3 | 148.7 | 1.7 | 7.9 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 135.0 | 134.7 | . 2 | 4.5 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 129.6 | 128.7 | . 7 | 4.6 |
|  |  | 156.1 | 154.2 | 1.2 | 6.0 |
|  |  | 151.2 | 150.7 | . 3 | 5.3 |
| Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface ----------- |  | 153.3 | 152.5 | . 5 | 6.0 |
|  |  | 148.9 | 148.9 | . 0 | 4.4 |
| Dentures, full upper | Dec. 63 | 133.2 | 132.7 | . 4 | 4.6 |
| Other professional services: |  |  |  |  |  |
| Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses $\qquad$ |  | 136.9 | 136.7 | . 1 | 4.7 |
| Routine laboratory tests Hospital service charges: | Dec. 63 | 121.3 | 121.2 | . 1 | 3.1 |
|  |  | 283.1 | 282.3 | . 3 | 12.2 |
|  |  | 279.8 | 279.1 | . 3 | 12.6 |
|  |  | 272.3 | 271.4 | . 3 | 11.4 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 180.9 | 180.3 | . 3 | 9.8 |
| X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. | Dec. 63 | 129.4 | 128.1 | 1.0 | 6.0 |
| Personal care |  | 130.3 | 129.8 | . 4 | 3.6 |
|  |  | 113.3 | 113.0 | . 3 | 2.6 |
| Toothpaste, standard dentrifrice --------------------- |  | 114.4 | 114.7 | -. 3 | 1.1 |
| Toilet soap, hard milled |  | 126.2 | 124.3 | 1.5 | 1.9 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 111.5 | 111.3 | . 2 | 3.5 |
|  |  | 102.1 | 102.3 | -. 2 | -. 2 |
| Face powder, pressed |  | 131.6 | 131.0 | . 5 | 6.1 |
| Deodorants, cream or roll-on | Dec. 63 | 95.8 | 95.9 | - . 1 | . 4 |
| Cleansing tissues |  | 116.4 | 116.0 | . 3 | 7.9 |
| Home permanent refills |  | 98.4 | 98.3 | . 1 | . 0 |
| Personal care services |  | 151.3 | 150.5 | . 5 | 4.6 |
| Men's haircuts <br> Beauty shop services $\qquad$ |  | 161.0 | 159.7 | . 8 | 5.2 |
| Beauty shop services <br> Women's haircuts |  | 141.2 | 140.9 | .2 | 4.1 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 125.4 | 126.3 | . 1 | 3.9 |
|  |  | 159.0 | 158.6 | . 3 | 4.5 |
| Permanent waves, cold ----------------------------1 |  | 109.6 | 109.4 | . 2 | 2.9 |

TABLE 8 . Consumer Price Index--U.S. City Average For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers -- Continued Indexes for Selected Items and Groups, May 1970
and Percent Changes from Selected Dates
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

| Item and Group | Other <br> Index <br> Bases | Indexes |  | Percent change to May 1970From: |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | May 1970 | Apri1 1970 | April 1970 | May 1969 |
|  |  | 135.2 | 134.4 | 0.6 | 3.8 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 99.9 | 99.6 | . 3 | 1.3 |
| TV sets, portable and console |  | 80.1 | 80.0 | . 1 | . 0 |
| TV replacement tubes | Dec. 63 | 118.3 | 117.5 | . 7 | 2.3 |
|  |  | 76.6 | 76.5 | . 1 | . 0 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 90.4 | 90.3 | . 1 | - 1.4 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 98.3 | 97.8 | . 5 | . 8 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 82.0 | 81.4 | . 7 | - 3.5 |
| Film, 35mm, color | Dec. 63 | 100.0 | 99.7 | . 3 | 1.0 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 104.2 | 103.8 | . 4 | . 0 |
| Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover | Dec. 63 | 117.9 | 117.2 | . 6 | 4.2 |
| Fishing rods, fresh water spincast | Dec. 63 | 119.0 | 119.0 | . 0 | 1.3 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 101.7 | 101.5 | . 2 | 3.2 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 110.5 | 110.8 | -. 3 | 1.4 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 113.1 | 111.6 | 1.3 | 4.2 |
| Dog food, canned or boxed | Dec. 63 | 110.8 | 110.4 | . 4 | 3.0 |
| Recreational services | Dec. 63 | 135.9 | 135.0 | . 7 | 5.2 |
| Indoor movie admissions |  | 217.9 | 215.4 | 1.2 | 10.4 |
|  |  | 212.8 | 210.9 | . 9 | 10.8 |
| Children's |  | 234.8 | 230.6 | 1.8 | 8.9 |
| Drive-in movie admissions, adult | Dec. 63 | 168.9 | 168.1 | . 5 | 7.6 |
| Bowling fees, evening | Dec. 63 | 115.2 | 115.2 | . 0 | 4.2 |
| Golf greens fees | Dec. 63 | 141.5 | 139.3 | 1.6 | 5.8 |
|  |  | 98.6 | 98.7 | -. 1 | - 3.6 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 117.7 | 117.6 | . 1 | - 1.9 |
| Reading and education: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 161.5 | 160.4 | . 7 | 5.1 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 130.5 | 129.3 | . 9 | 3.3 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 128.2 | 128.2 | . 0 | 4.9 |
|  |  | 136.1 | 135.6 | . 4 | 7.2 |
|  |  | 156.7 | 156.4 | . 2 | 10.1 |
|  |  | 164.4 | 164.1 | . 2 | 10.1 |
|  | Mar 59 | 157.2 | 156.8 | . 3 | 11.5 |
|  |  | 108.6 | 108.6 | . 0 | 2.4 |
|  |  | 123.1 | 122.5 | . 5 | 5.4 |
|  |  | 118.5 | 118.2 | . 3 | 3.8 |
| Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon ------- |  | 112.5 | 111.8 | . 6 | 3.0 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 119.4 | 118.9 | . 4 | 9.7 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 129.3 | 128.4 | . 7 | 7.3 |
| Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses: Funeral services, adult |  |  |  |  |  |
| Funeral services, adult | $\text { Dec. } 63$ | 119.3 | 119.0 | . 3 | 4.1 |
| Bank service charges, checking accounts | Dec. 63 | 110.0 | 110.0 | . 0 | 1.9 |
|  | Dec. 63 | 146.1 | 145.6 | . 3 | 9.9 |
| Other special groups: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 132.1 | 131.5 | . 5 | 5.3 |
|  |  | 122.3 | 121.6 | . 5 | 4.1 |
|  |  | 125.3 | 125.0 | . 2 | 4.2 |
|  |  | 160.0 | 159.1 | . 6 | 10.3 |
|  |  | 156.1 | 155.5 | .4 | 10.1 |
|  |  | 152.3 | 151.4 | .6 | 5.3 |

1/ Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.
$\frac{1}{2}$ / Also includes home purchase costs not shown sedaratel-
3/. Also includes pine shelving, furnace air filles, 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.
ㄱ/ Also includes radios and television sets, shown separately under reading and recreation.
$\overline{8} /$ 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.
$1 \overline{0} /$ 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 1969 averages. The figures may be interpreted as follows: the chances are about 95 out of 100 that the percent change in the CPI as computed differs from the corresponding "complete coverage" change by less than twice the standard error. Data also are shown in terms of the relative error of the standard error of percent changes. The relative errors tend to decrease markedly for successively longer time periods, as expected.

Because the CPI is rounded to one decimal place, some ambiguity may arise in interpreting small index changes. The table below indicates, for example, that a month-to-month change of 0.1 percent in the all-items CPI is significant. Because of rounding, however, a change of this size in the published index might result from a much smaller change in the unrounded value. Hence, any particular change of 0.1 percent may or may not be significant. On the other hand, a published change of 0.2 percent is almost always significant, regardless of the time period to which it relates.

> Standard and Relative Errors of Percent Changes in the CPI Based on 1969 Data

| Component | Standard Error |  |  | Relative Error |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Monthly Change | Quarterly Change | Annual Change | Month1y Change | Quarterly Change | Annual Change |
| A11 items ---------------- | . 03 | . 05 | . 07 | . 07 | . 04 | . 01 |
| Food at home-------------- | . 07 | . 11 | . 13 | . 10 | . 07 | . 03 |
| Food away from home ----- | . 08 | . 14 | . 28 | . 13 | . 08 | . 05 |
| Housing ------------------ | . 06 | . 09 | . 15 | . 10 | . 06 | . 02 |
| Appare1 ------------------ | . 14 | . 23 | . 22 | . 25 | . 18 | . 04 |
| Transportation ---------- | . 08 | . 13 | . 14 | . 13 | . 10 | . 04 |
| Medical care -------------- | . 13 | . 19 | . 36 | . 24 | . 12 | . 05 |
| Personal care ----------- | . 12 | . 20 | . 32 | . 36 | . 20 | . 07 |
| Reading and recreation -- | . 09 | . 13 | . 20 | . 33 | . 15 | . 05 |
| Other goods and services- | . 13 | . 20 | . 34 | . 25 | . 14 | . 08 |

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

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 Hawail. They are collected from grocery and department stores, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments which wage earners and clerical workers patronize.

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

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

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

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

## *Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

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

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

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