

the consumer price index

U.S. CITY AVERAGE AND SELECTED AREAS











for May 1970

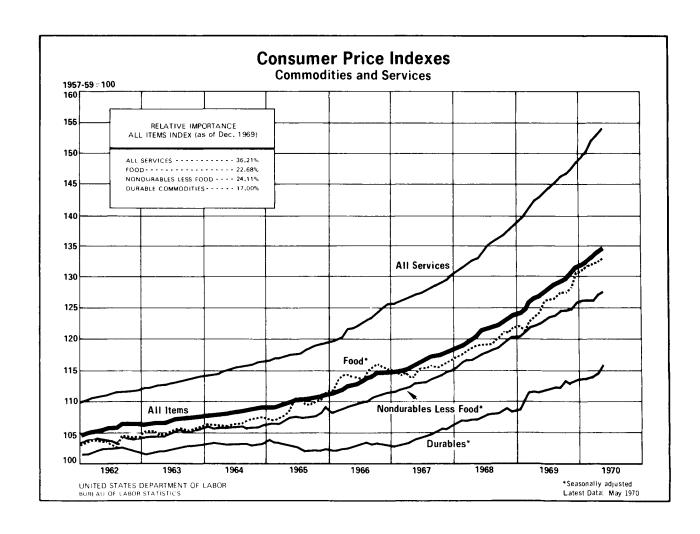
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
J. D. Hodgson, Secretary
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
Geoffrey H. Moore, Commissioner

the consumer price index

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



THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MAY 1970

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	
All 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-than-seasonal 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 year-earlier 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 shippards 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) less April 1970 index Index point difference =	134.6 134.0 0.6	Index point difference divided by the index for the previous period: $\frac{134.6 - 134.0}{134.0} \times 100 = 0.4$

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

(Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100 unless otherwise noted)			Percent c	1970 from		
	May 1970	April 1970	February 1970	May 1969	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago	l Year Ago
All items	134.6	134.0	132.5	126.8	0.4	1.6	6.2
All items (1947-49=100)	165.2	164.4	162.5	155.6	-	-	-
Food	132.4	132.0	131.5	123.7	.3	.7	7.0
Food at home	127.8	127.4	127.4	119.8	.3	.3	6.7
Cereals and bakery products	128.0	127.6	126.3	121.6	.3	1.3	5.3
Meats, poultry, and fish	130.5	130.9	129.7	119.9	3	.6	8.8
Dairy products	129.9	129.5	128.8	123.6	.3	.9	5.1
Fruits and vegetables	136.8	134.7	132.4	130.0	1.6	3.3	5.2
Other foods at home	113.7	113.8	118.1	107.1	1	-3.7	6.2
Food away from home	154.7	154.0	151.5	142.8	.5	2.1	8.3
Housing	135.1 144.7	134.4 143.7	132.2 140.9	125.8 132.4	.5	2.2	7.4 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	.3	3.2	11.1
Fuel and utilities 3/	116.4	116.3	114.9	112.6	1 .1	1.3	3.4
Fuel oil and coal	121.0	120.9	120.6	117.5		.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
					11	1	
Apparel and upkeep 4/	131.9	131.1	130.0	126.6	.6	1.5	4.2
Men's and boys'	133.9	133.4	131.0	128.1	.4	2.2	4.5
Women's and girls'	126.6 147.6	125.2 147.2	125.4 145.0	122.4 139.6	1.1	1.0	3.4
}	147.6	147.2	143.0	139.6	.3	1.0	
Transportation	129.9	128.9	127.3	124.0	.8	2.0	4.8
Private	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
Used cars	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
Public	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
Medical care	163.6	162.8	160.1	154.5	.5	2.2	5.9
Personal care	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 1.3	3.8
Other goods and services	136.1	135.6	134.3	126.9	.4	1.3	/.2
Seasonally Adjusted:							
Food	132.9	132.4	131.8	-	.4	.8	-
Apparel and upkeep	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
All items less medical care	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
Apparel commodities	131.2	130.4	129.3	126.0	.6	1.5	4.1
Durables	115.9	114.8	113.7	111.3	1.0	1.9	4.1
Household durables	108.0	107.8	106.9	105.6	.2	1.0	2.3
Services	154.1	153.4	150.7	142.7	.5	2.3	8.0
Services less rent	161.0	160.1 149.4	157 • 1 146 • 8	148.1 5/	.6	2.5	8.7
Services less medical care	150.1 145.4	149.4	146.8 1 3 9.9	$\frac{27}{127.9}$.6	3.9	<u>5</u> / 13.7
Insurance and finance (Dec.1965=100) Utilities and public transportation	143.4	144.)		Ì		-	
(Dec.1965=100)	113.7	113.4	112.2	107.4	.3	1.3	5.9
Housekeeping and home maintenance services	127 (126 6	124 7	. 106 /		1.9	8.5
(Dec.1965=100) Medical care services	137.2 179.3	136.4 178.4	134.7 175.2	126.4 168.2	.6	2.3	6.6
Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar:							
1957-59=\$1	\$0.743	\$0.746	\$0.755	\$0.789	5	- 1.6	- 5.8
1939=\$1	.360	.362	.366	.382	[- 115	•
	.500	-52		.552			

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

^{1/} Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.
2/ Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.
3/ Also includes telephone, water, and sewerage service not shown separately.
4/ Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, jewelry, and apparel upkeep services not shown separately.
5/ Not available.

TABLE 2. Consumer Price Index -- The United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items most recent index and percent changes from selected dates

		1_	Indexes				
Area <u>1</u> /	Pricing Schedule <u>2</u> /	1957-59=100	1947-49=100	Other bases	Pe	om:	
			May 1970		April 1970	February 1970	May 1969
U.S. City Average	м	134.6	165.2		0.4	1.6	6.2
Chicago Detroit	м м м м	131.1 134.9 133.8 140.7 136.5	165.3 166.3 166.8 169.5 167.6		.7 .8 .2 .4	1.4 2.0 1.7 1.9	6.1 6.7 5.4 7.6 7.1
			April 1970			January 1970	April 1969
Boston	1 1 1	137.9 132.9 135.1 132.4	170.8 163.7 167.2 163.1			1.3 1.5 1.7 2.3	6.2 5.9 8.0 5.1
			May 1970			February 1970	May 1969
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) Cleveland Dallas (Nov.1963=100) Milwaukee San Diego (Feb.1965=100) - Seattle	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	134.3 130.0 133.9 136.7	166.7 164.0 168.3 164.6	127.0 127.1 120.9		1.4 1.5 1.2 1.2 1.9 1.3	5.7 7.2 6.4 5.9 5.7 4.9 6.1
			March 1970			December 1969	March 1969
Atlanta	3 3 3 3 3 3	131.9 133.5 129.2 134.6 132.4 136.1	163.3 165.6 157.2 166.6 164.3 172.8	122.0		1.5 1.2 1.2 1.9 1.1 1.3	5.6 6.2 5.3 5.5 5.1 5.6 5.6

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.

 $[\]underline{2}$ / Foods, fuels, and several other items priced every month in all cities; most other goods and services priced as indicated:

M - Every month.

January, April, July, and October.
 February, May, August, and November.

^{3 -} March, June, September, and December.

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

TABLE 3. Consumer Price Index--The United States and Selected Areas $\underline{1}/$ For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Major Groups Percent change from April 1970 to May 1970

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles- Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
All items	0.4	0.7	ი.8	0.2	0.4	0.6
Food	.3 .5 .6 .8 .4 .5 .4	.4 .9 1.6 .5 .1 .2 (2/) .3	.7 .5 2 2.0 .8 .3 (2/) 1.2	.5 .4 1.1 -1.4 .4 .4 (2/) .5	.2 .7 .6 .6 .1 .1 (2/) .3	.5 .7 .4 .9 .1 .4 (2/) .2 (2/)

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

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

Carrie		Indexes		Percent changes From:	to: May 1970
Group	May 1970	\pril 1970	February 1970	l Month Ago	3 Months
Food	132.9	132.4	131.8	0.4	0.0
Food at home	128.4	127.8	127.7	.5	0.8
Meats, poultry, and fish	132.2	132.1	130.2		•5
Dairy products	130.3	130.2	128.9	1 : 1	1.5
Fruits and vegetables	134.0	133.5	133.5	.4	1.1
Other foods at home	115.3	113.9	117.4	1.2	.4 - 1.8
Fuel and utilities 1/	116.4	116.2	114.8	.2	1.4
Fuel oil and coal	121.1	120.5	119.4	.5	1.4
Apparel and upkeep 2/	131.5	131.2	130.7	.2	.5
Men's and boys'	133.6	133.3	131.8	.2	1.4
Women's and girls'	126.1	125.6	126.5	.4	3
Footwear	147.3	147.2	145.3	.1	1.4
Transportation	129.9	128.8	127.7	.9	1.7
Private	125.9	124.5	123.8	1.1	1.7
New cars	104.4	104.4	104.2	.0	.2
Commodities	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
Nondurables less food	127.5	127.0	126.1	.4	1.1
Apparel commodities	130.8	130.5	130.1	. 2	•5
Durables	115.9	114.7	113.9	1.0	1.8
			1	1	

^{2/} Not available.

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

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

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles- Long Beach	New York	Philadelph
		Indexes (1957-59=100 u	nless otherwise	specified)	
	10/ (1		,	
All items	134.6	131.1	134.9	133.8	140.7	136.5
700d	132.4	133.1	122.1	100 1	126.0	120.0
Food at home	127.8	131.0	132.1	128.1	136.0	132.3
	128.0		129.6	122.3	128.2	126.3
Cereals and bakery products	130.5	134.1	124.6	125.7	124.4	129.8
Meats, poultry, and fish		134.7	138.6	120.6	131.6	124.2
Dairy products	129.9	138.5	137.9	127.9	122.9	136.8
Fruits and vegetables	136.8	133.3	127.1	135.1	143.5	136.0
Other foods at home	113.7	114.3	112.9	105.3	113.7	109.8
Food away from home	154.7	143.0	146.4	149.1	168.5	164.2
lousing	135.1	128.3	135.2	139.7	140.3	135.4
Shelter	144.7	135.3	147.3	151.0	148.0	1 .
Rent	123.0	116.2	(2/)			145.0
Homeownership	153.3	144.6	155.4	125.6	(2/)	126.0
	116.4	110.7		159.5	157.0	150.0
Fuel and utilities	121.0		107.5	112.7	115.6	114.8
Fuel oil and coal		114.4	114.0		127.0	126.4
Gas and electricity	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
pparel and upkeep	131.9	124.6	126.3	130.5	127.0	
Men's and boys'	133.9	123.5	127.1	1	137.8	137.7
Women's and girls'	126.6	119.0		132.0	145.1	135.5
Footwear	147.6	141.9	118.2	133.6	128.9	125.9
rootwear	147.0	141.9	147.1	140.1	148.7	157.1
ransportation	129.9	130.5	127.0	131.0	142.8	141.6
Private	125.9	126.9	124.2	126.3		1
Public	166.6	154.6	145.3	160.0	135.6 175.6	134.6 179.1
			1		173.0	1/5.1
ealth and recreation	142.9	137.9	147.2	134.2	150.2	144.5
Medical care	163.6	171.8	178.7	161.4	170.3	174.9
Personal care	130.3	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	124.4	(2/)
Reading and recreation	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	
Ĭ				120.0		(2/)
-		Percer	t changes fro	m February 1970	to May 1970	
11 ftems	1.6	1.4	2.0	1.7	1.9	1.6
ood	.7	1	1.5	.7	1.0	.2
Food at home	.3	2	1.3	.6		
Cereals and bakery products	1.3	1.2	.4		1	2
	.6		4	1.5	1	2.7
Meats, poultry, and fish	.9	.2	.8	.9	1.1	.6
Dairy products		.4	1.2	3.1	•7	.1
Fruits and vegetables	3.3	3.0	7.9	2.3	2.1	1.2
Other foods at home	- 3.7	- 5.0	- 2.6	- 3.4	- 4.7	- 4.9
Food away from home					, .	
, i	2.1	.6	2.4	1.0	4.1	1.9
ousing	2.2	1.7	3.1	1.5	3.3	3.1
ousing	2.2 2.7	1.7 2.1	3.1 3.7	1.5 1.8	3.3 4.2	3.1 4.0
ousing	2.2 2.7 1.0	1.7 2.1 <u>3</u> / 1.0	3.1 3.7 (<u>2</u> /)	1.5 1.8 <u>3</u> / 1.9	3.3 4.2 (<u>2</u> /)	3.1
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2	1.7 2.1 <u>3</u> / 1.0 2.6	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2	1.5 1.8 <u>3</u> / 1.9 1.7	3.3 4.2	3.1 4.0
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2	3.1 3.7 (<u>2</u> /) 4.2 1.7	1.5 1.8 <u>3</u> / 1.9	3.3 4.2 (<u>2</u> /)	3.1 4.0 <u>3</u> / 1.8
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2	1.5 1.8 3/1.9 1.7 .8	3.3 4.2 (<u>2</u> /) 6.4	3.1 4.0 <u>3</u> / 1.8 4.6
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 .3	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3	3.1 3.7 (<u>2</u> /) 4.2 1.7	1.5 1.8 <u>3</u> / 1.9 1.7	3.3 4.2 (<u>2</u> /) 6.4 1.7	3.1 4.0 <u>3</u> / 1.8 4.6 2.0
Shelter Shelter Rent Rent Fuel and utilities Fuel oil and coal	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3	3.1 3.7 (<u>2</u> /) 4.2 1.7	1.5 1.8 3/1.9 1.7 .8	3.3 4.2 (<u>2</u> /) 6.4 1.7	3.1 4.0 <u>3</u> / 1.8 4.6 2.0
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 .3	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1	1.5 1.8 3/1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 .2 3 2.1	3.1 4.0 2/ 1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 .3 1.0 1.4	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3 1.1	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1	1.5 1.8 3/1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4 .7	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 .2 3 2.1	3.1 4.0 3/1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 .3 1.0 1.4	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3 1.1	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1 1.9	1.5 1.8 3/1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4 .7 2.0 2.2	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 .2 3 2.1	3.1 4.0 2/ 1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 .3 1.0 1.4	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3 1.1 2.8 4.7 2.9	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1 1.9	1.5 1.8 3/ 1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4 .7 2.0 2.2 3.4	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 .2 3 2.1 .8 3.0 -1.2	3.1 4.0 2/ 1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 .3 1.0 1.4 1.5 2.2 1.0	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3 1.1	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1 1.9	1.5 1.8 3/1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4 .7 2.0 2.2	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 .2 3 2.1	3.1 4.0 2/ 1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 1.0 1.4 1.5 2.2 1.0 1.8	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3 1.1 2.8 4.7 2.9 2.3	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1 1.9	1.5 1.8 3/ 1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4 .7 2.0 2.2 3.4	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 .2 3 2.1 .8 3.0 -1.2	3.1 4.0 3/ 1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1 .0 2.5 - 2.6 1.7
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 .3 1.0 1.4 1.5 2.2 1.0	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3 1.1 2.8 4.7 2.9 2.3	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1 1.9 .6 .1 -1.3 6.1	1.5 1.8 3/ 1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4 .7 2.0 2.2 3.4 1.3	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 .2 3 2.1 .8 3.0 -1.2 2.3	3.1 4.0 2/ 1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1 .0 2.5 - 2.6 1.7
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 1.0 1.4 1.5 2.2 1.0 1.8	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3 1.1 2.8 4.7 2.9 2.3	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1 1.9 .6 .1 -1.3 6.1	1.5 1.8 3/ 1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4 .7 2.0 2.2 3.4 1.3 3.1	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 .2 3 2.1 .8 3.0 -1.2 2.3	3.1 4.0 3/ 1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1 .0 2.5 - 2.6 1.7
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 .3 1.0 1.4 1.5 2.2 1.0 1.8	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3 1.1 2.8 4.7 2.9 2.3 2.0 2.3	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1 1.9 .6 .1 -1.3 6.1 1.0 1.1	1.5 1.8 3/ 1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4 .7 2.0 2.2 3.4 1.3 3.1 3.2 .9	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 -2 3 2.1 .8 3.0 -1.2 2.3 1.5 1.6	3.1 4.0 3/ 1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1 .0 2.5 - 2.6 1.7
Shelter Rent Rent Homeownership Fuel and utilities Fuel oil and coal Gas and electricity Household furnishings and operation pparel and upkeep Men's and boys' Footwear Cansportation Private Public Palth and recreation	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 .3 1.0 1.4 1.5 2.2 1.0 1.8 2.0 2.1 .7	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3 1.1 2.8 4.7 2.9 2.3 2.0 2.3 .0 1.3	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1 1.9 .6 .1 -1.3 6.1 1.0 1.1 .0	1.5 1.8 3/1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4 .7 2.0 2.2 3.4 1.3 3.1 3.2 .9	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 .2 3 2.1 .8 3.0 -1.2 2.3 1.5 1.6 1.1	3.1 4.0 2/ 1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1 .0 2.5 - 2.6 1.7 2.2 2.7 .2
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 .3 1.0 1.4 1.5 2.2 1.0 1.8 2.0 2.1 .7	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3 1.1 2.8 4.7 2.9 2.3 2.0 2.3 .0 1.3 2.1	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1 1.9 .6 .1 -1.3 6.1 1.0 1.1 .0	1.5 1.8 3/1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4 .7 2.0 2.2 3.4 1.3 3.1 3.2 .9 1.7 3.4	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 .23 2.1 .8 3.0 -1.2 2.3 1.5 1.6 1.1 1.8 2.3	3.1 4.0 3/ 1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1 .0 2.5 - 2.6 1.7
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 .3 1.0 1.4 1.5 2.2 1.0 1.8 2.0 2.1 .7	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3 1.1 2.8 4.7 2.9 2.3 2.0 2.3 .0 1.3 2.1 (2/)	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1 1.9 .6 .1 -1.3 6.1 1.0 1.1 .0 2.0 2.9 (2/)	1.5 1.8 3/ 1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4 .7 2.0 2.2 3.4 1.3 3.1 3.2 .9 1.7 3.4 (2/)	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 .2 3 2.1 .8 3.0 -1.2 2.3 1.5 1.6 1.1	3.1 4.0 2/ 1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1 .0 2.5 - 2.6 1.7 2.2 2.7 .2
Shelter	2.2 2.7 1.0 3.2 1.3 .3 1.0 1.4 1.5 2.2 1.0 1.8 2.0 2.1 .7	1.7 2.1 3/ 1.0 2.6 .2 .3 .3 1.1 2.8 4.7 2.9 2.3 2.0 2.3 .0 1.3 2.1	3.1 3.7 (2/) 4.2 1.7 .3 .1 1.9 .6 .1 -1.3 6.1 1.0 1.1 .0	1.5 1.8 3/1.9 1.7 .8 - 1.4 .7 2.0 2.2 3.4 1.3 3.1 3.2 .9 1.7 3.4	3.3 4.2 (2/) 6.4 1.7 .23 2.1 .8 3.0 -1.2 2.3 1.5 1.6 1.1 1.8 2.3	3.1 4.0 2/ 1.8 4.6 2.0 .0 2.8 2.1 .0 2.5 - 2.6 1.7 2.2 2.7 .2

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

Group	Buffalo (Nov.63=100)	Cleveland	Dallas (Nov.63=100	Milwaukee)	San viego (Feb.65=100)	Seattle	washington
		Index	es (1957-59=1	00 unless oth	erwise 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
Food at home	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
Dairy products	126.2	133.4	123.6	130.3	116.9	130.6	129.3
Fruits and vegetables	137.5	134.2	124.0	133.4	108.6	131.0	140.0
Other foods at home	120.8	113.8	112.7	113.2	110.3	111.4	122.4
Food away from home	139.3	148.4	140.7	147.6	131.2	157.5	161.2
Housing	126.9	130.5	129.2	127.0	127.5	138.8	132.4
Shelter	131.2	134.1	138.8	129.6	140.2	155.7	138.5
Rent	113.1	109.3	111.1	115.3	124.8	128.2	127.6
Homeownership	134.6	138.6	152.5	134.2	146.8	163.6	143.1
Fuel and utilities	118.5	119.7	110.3	123.7	99.1	116.2	108.1
Fuel oil and coal	116.1		1	132.9		116.2	121.0
Gas and electricity	121.1	117.9	106.1	118.6	100.0	98.1	107.0
Household furnishings and operation	120.8	120.9	119.7	122.8	110.0	117.4	128.1
Apparel and upkeep	132.9	131.7	125.7	135.1	117.9	128.8	141.4
Men's and boys'	142.8	133.6	133.6	131.6	124.5	130.8	139.0
Women's and girls'	130.1	124.1	121.6	134.0	116.5	128.4	142.2
Footwear	138.1	151.4	127.0	151.0	124.5	147.9	153.7
Transportation	121.0	132.7	116.9	126.1	111.4	124.8	132.9
Private	120.7	127.7	116.1	122.2	111.6	124.0	129.1
Public	124.1	165.9	128.3	178.8	107.2	132.8	155.7
Health and recreation	127.6	148.7	132.7	137.0	118.3	136.0	147.7
Medical care	134.3	187.1	144.3	155.6	130.0	154.8	189.6
Personal care	123.4	130.9	124.5	134.8	106.8	129.7	128.4
Reading and recreation	123.8	130.1	127.6	131.4	112.5	125.5	138.1
Other goods and services	127.3	142.3	126.9	129.0	119.4	132.9	131.2
		Pero	ent changes	from February	1970 to May 1970		
All items	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.9	1.3	1.6
Food	.9	1.9	.1	5	.8	1.1	.0
Food at home	.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
Dairy products	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
Other foods at home	3	- 3.1	- 5.9	- 4.6	- 5.2	- 2.8	- 3.6
Food away from home	1.8	2.6	2.8	1.5	1.0	1.6	2.9
Housing	1.7	1.4	1.8	.5	2.2	1.6	2.0
Shelter	1.9	1.1	2.7	.2	2.9	2.2	2.5
Rent	.9	.4	.7	1.3	1.5	2	1.2
Homeownership	2.1	1.2	3.4	2	3.3	2.8	3.2
Fuel and utilities	1.5	4.0	4	1.4	.0	.3	٠3
Fuel oil and coal	.0			1.2	· .	.8	•0
Gas and electricity Household furnishings and operation	.0	1.3 1.2	7	2.1 1.2	.0 1.2	.0	.8
Apparel and upkeep	1.3	1.9	5	1.6	2.3	1.7	2.6
Men's and boys'	1.8	.3 4.5	.7 - 2.7	1.3	1.5 4.9	9	3.0
Women's and girls'	6.1	.3	1.3	2.2	.0	4.6 1.4	4.5 .5
	1.2	1.0	2.5	5.0	2.4	.7	2.8
Transportation			2.7	3.8	2.5	.6	3.4
Transportation Private Public	1.3	1.2 .0	.2	16.6	.7	1.5	.0
Private Public	1.3	.0					
Private Public Health and recreation	1.3	.0 1.2	1.6	1.4	1.6	.9	1.4
Private Public Health and recreation Medical care	1.3 .0 1.8 2.2	.0 1.2 1.4	1.6	1.4	1.6 2.8	.9 1.0	1.4 .9
Private Public Health and recreation Medical care Personal care	1.3 .0 1.8 2.2 1.7	.0 1.2 1.4 2.0	1.6 1.8 - 1.2	1.4 .9 .2	1.6 2.8 1.1	.9 1.0 .1	1.4 .9 1.4
Private Public Health and recreation Medical care	1.3 .0 1.8 2.2	.0 1.2 1.4	1.6	1.4	1.6 2.8	.9 1.0	1.4 .9

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

TABLE 6. Consumer Price Index--United States and Selected Areas For Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, Food and its Subgroups May 1970 Indexes and percent changes from April 1970

				Food	l at home	,, 		1
Area <u>1</u> /	Total food	Total	Cereals and bakery products	Meats, poultry, and fish	Dairy products	Fruits and vegetables	Other foods at home	Food away from home
			Indexes (1957-59=100 ur	less otherwise	specified)		
U.S. City Average	132.4	127.8	128.0	130.5	129.9	136.8	113.7	154.
Atlanta	130.0	126.2	120.7	129.7	127.3	137.1	117.6	143.
Baltimore	136.5	130.1	134.1	134.7	127.6	140.5	114.2	163.
Boston)	136.6	130.6	131.9	135.9	124.6	143.9	114.8	162.
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	128.1	126.2	114.0	129.1	126.2	137.5	120.8	1 -
Chicago	133.1	131.0	134.1	134.7	138.5	133.3		139.
Cincinnati	129.1	125.3	123.8	130.6	125.5	135.3	114.3	143.
Cleveland	130.8	127.8	121.5	134.0	133.4		111.1	148.
Dallas (Nov.1963=100)	126.0	122.1	116.9	130.2		134.2	113.8	148.
Detroit	132.1	129.6	124.6	138.6	123.6	124.0	112.7	140.
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	123.2	120.5	116.6		137.9	127.1	112.9	146.
	133.4	127.0		126.5	116.9	121.8	114.0	131.8
Houston	136.8	132.3	133.6	125.9	132.0	137.2	112.3	160.6
Kansas City	128.1		134.7	135.2	142.4	131.6	119.2	152.8
Los Angeles-Long Beach -		122.3	125.7	120.6	127.9	135.1	105.3	149.1
Milwaukee	129.4	126.1	118.9	131.6	130.3	133.4	113.2	147.6
Minneapolis-St. Paul	131.3	126.8	123.1	130.2	139.0	128.1	115.4	152.4
New York	136.0	128.2	124.4	131.6	122.9	143.5	113.7	168.5
Philadelphia	132.3	126.3	129.8	124.2	136.8	136.0	109.8	164.2
Pittsburgh	128.8	125.7	125.5	132.6	120.8	137.0	112.0	
St. Louis	136.3	131.7	134.0	137.0	139.7	139.8	_	148.3
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)	122.3	119.0	114,5	133.6	116.9	108.6	111.6	154.9
San Francisco-Oakland	129.0	123.3	124.1	125.5	123.1	134.6	110.3	131.2
Seattle	130.6	124.1	116.8	129.3	130.6	131.0	108.3	154.1
Washington	136.2	129.4	125.3	128.8	129.3	140.0	111.4	157.5
		<u> </u>	Perc	ent Changes Ar	oril 1970 to Ma	L 1970	!	-
J.S. City Average	0.3	0.3	0.3	- 0.3	0.3	1.6	- 0.1	0.5
	_				1	1.0	• • • • •	1 ".
Atlanta	5	8	1.1	- 1.1	2	.2	- 2.2	.2
Baltimore	.4	.5	1 .3	.7	1	1.6	1	.3
Boston	•5	.4	.5	.1	.1	1.1	.7	.6
Buffalo (Nov.1963=100) -	- •2	5	1.6	5	.6	- 1.9	- 1.1	.9
Chicago	.4	.4	1	2	•2	3.7	3	.4
Cincinnati	.4	.4	1.4	2	.5	1.0	.2	. 2
Cleveland	.8	.7	.7	.8	1.0	.9	.3	1.5
Dallas (Nov.1963=100)	.4	.1	.9	.2	- 1.1	.3	.1	1.2
Detroit	-7	.8	.6	2	.0	5.1	5	.3
Honolulu (Dec.1963=100)	2	2	.2	6	.1	.5	8	.3
louston	3	4	.2	- 1.5	.3	1 .4	2	1 .1
Cansas City	.3	.2	4	2	.4	1.5	.4	
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	•5	.7	.8	.0	2.4	1.7	.4	.4
filwaukee	.1	2	9	4	- 2.6	2.6		.1
	.1	.2	.7	7	I		.4	(2/
Minneapolis-St. Paul	.2	.4	1	7	.0	1.9	5	0.0
New York	.6	.6	.9	1 .1		1.3	4	-1
hiladelphia	.4	.3	.8		.5	2.0	• 3	.5
ittsburgh	1	2		3	1	3.1	9	.6
St. Louis	.8		.2	- 1.2	1	.2	.6	.2
San Diego (Feb.1965=100)		.8	1.1	•1	2.4	.2	.8	(2/
San Francisco-Oakland	•2	.2	.0	9	.3	2.6	.1	.0
	.4	.3	.4	8	.2	2.5	.1	.6
Seattle	3	5	.2	- 2.8	1		1	

^{1/} See footnote 1, table 2.
2/ Not available.

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

		dex		e to May 1970 from	
Item or Group	May 1		\pril 19		Nay
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	1969 Unadjuste
tal food	132.4	132.9	0,3	0.4	7.0
Food away from home	154.7	_	.5	_	8.3
Restaurant meals	154.8	l -	.4		8.3
Snacks 1/	134,6		.4	-	8.5
Food at home	127.8	128.4	.3	.5	6.7
Cereals and bakery products	128.0		.3	-	5.3
Flour	113.2		9	_	.9
Cracker meal <u>1</u> /	135.7	-	1.0	l -	13.7
Corn flakes	130.5	-	.4	-	2.0
Rice	115.0	-	.2	-	2.7
Bread, white	134.1	-	.6	-	5.5
Bread, whole wheat $\underline{1}/$	125.3	-	3	-	4.8
Cookies	104.7	-	1.3	-	3.8
Layer cake <u>1</u> /	121.5		2	-	6.7
Cinnamon rolls 1/	118.5	-	.3	-	5.9
Meats, poultry, and fish	130.5	132.2	3	.1	8.8
Meats	135.0	137.3	4	1	9.4
Beef and veal	135.9	136.4	4	9	6.3
Steak, round	129.0	129.9	- 1.6	- 2.2	3.9
Steak, sirloin <u>2</u> /	124.3	-	2	-	3.0
Steak, porterhouse 1/	129.2	-	- 1.0	-	3.2
Rump roast 1/	124.2	-	7	-	6.0
Rib roast	142.7	143.5	1	1	3.3
Chuck roast	128.0	128.6	- 1.5	8	5.3
Hamburger	142.8	144.1	•3	.4	8.7
Beef liver 1/	121.8	-	.6	-	11.1
Veal cutlets	171.8	172.0	.4	.5	11.4
Pork	134.8	139.8	8	.0	13.5
Chops	135.1	141.0	4	.4	10.4
Loin roast <u>2</u> /	143.6	_	.1	-	10.6
Pork sausage 1/	150.4	- 1	1	-	15.7
Ham, whole	129.0	132.6	- 3.4	- 2.8	16.1
Picnics 1/	138.5	[<u>-</u>]	- 1.0	-	14.0
Bacon	137.1	141.0	8	5	15.8
Other meats	137.9	138.7	1	0	11.2
Lamb chops 1/	141.2	_	6	- 1	3.7
Frankfurters	138.2	139.5	.6	1.2	13.1
Ham, canned $\underline{1}/$	136.7	-	- 1.2	-	17.2
Bologna sausage 1/	139.5	-	1	_	12.8
Salami sausage 1/	132.0	_	.2	-	11.3
Liverwurst <u>1</u> /	132.9	-	.8	-	10.2
Poultry	97.1	-	.0	_	4.1
Frying chicken	95.3	96.6	1	3.3	.5
Chicken breasts 1/	109.2	-	2	-	4.5
Turkey 1/	119.5	-	.4	-	21.1
Fish	142.3	142.2	.9	.ģ	9.9
Shrimp, frozen <u>1</u> /	127.8	i -	.8	- 1	8.1
Fish, fresh or frozen	153.0	152.8	.3	.1	15.9
Tuna fish, canned	125.0	-	1.2	-	10.5
Sardines, canned <u>1</u> /	130.8	i -	1.2	-	5.7
Dairy products	129.9	130.3	.3	.1	5.1
Milk, fresh, grocery	126.6	127.4	.1	•0	4.9
Milk, fresh, delivered	134.0	l -	.1		5.3
Milk, fresh, skim 1/	129.2	- 1	.7	_	5.2
Milk, evaporated	129.7	-	1.4		4.8
Ice cream	103.4	-	.7		4.7
Cheese, American process	157.2	156.9	1	4	7.6
Butter	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 changes from selected dates--Continued
(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

		dex	Percent Chang	to May 1970 from	
Item or Group	May		April	1970	May
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	1969 Unadjusted
Fruits and vegetables	136.8	134.0	1.6	0.4	5.2
Fresh fruits and vegetables	151.5	146.5	2.4	.5	7.5
Apples	149.7	143.0	5.9	1.1	
Bananas	101.6	99.4	.2	- 2.4	- 12.7
Oranges	123.7	129.3	1.1		5.5
Orange juice, fresh 1/	90.1	127.5	.2	- 1.3	- 2.0
Grapefruit	160.1	170.0	. –		- 1.2
Grapes *	(3/)	(3/)	5.1	3	16.6
Strawberries *	128.1		(<u>3</u> /)	(3/)	$(\underline{3}/)$
Watermelon *	li .	134.6	- 5.0	7.4	5.4
Potatoes	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)	(3/)
Onions	166.9	160.8	4.4	- 1.0	16.1
Unions	180.0	174.6	4	- 4.8	37.9
Asparagus * 1/	138.9	-	16.4	-	16.8
Cabbage	194.3	180.6	- 3.9	- 8.0	27.3
Carrots	117.3	122.7	1.7	3.0	6.9
Celery	160.5	162.3	24.7	17.3	19.5
Cucumbers 1/	154.6	-	- 27.8	-	- 4.0
Lettuce	138.9	137.3	10.9	10.5	- 7.0
Peppers, green 1/	344.4	-	14.9	i -	83.2
Spinach 1/	117.5	-	- 2.0	-	7.2
Tomatoes	145.2	123.9	- 8.7	- 14.4	- 16.5
Processed fruits and vegetables	118.3	1 -	.3	_	1.7
Fruit cocktail, canned	106.3	l -	.1	l <u>-</u>	.3
Pears, canned 1/	105.6	١ .	.7	l <u>-</u>	- 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	1 7.0	.5		4.9
Beets, canned 1/	115.9	•		-	
Peas, green, canned	122.0]	3 9	-	2.2
Tomatoes, canned	133.3	1 -		} -	.7
Dried beans	121.3	-	2.0	-	7.7
Broccoli, frozen 1/		-	2	-	- 3.3
Other food at home	112.9	1	1	-	9.4
Eggs	113.7	115.3	1	1.2	6.2
	97.7	108.1	- 5.7	3.3	.3
Fats and oils:				ı	į
Margarine	111.4	-	2.4	-	8.4
Salad dressing, Italian 1/	103.2	-	.9	-	.0
Salad or cooking oil 1/	134.7	-	2.7	1 -	9.8
Sugar and sweets	131.8	-	1.0	-	5.7
Sugar	119.6	-	.6	-	4.0
Grape jelly	132.3	-	.8	l -	7.5
Chocolate bar	133.2	-	2.4	1 -	7.0
Syrup, chocolate flavored 1/	110.6	_	.3	ļ <u>-</u>	3.9
Nonalcoholic beverages	115.2	_	1.1	1 .	12.2
Coffee, can and bag	103.6	i <u>.</u>	1.4		19.6
Coffee, instant 4/	114.7	_	1.5	-	11.4
Tea	104.8		1.2	-	4.0
Cola drink	163.0	_	1)	-	
Carbonated fruit drink 1/	-	•	.6		6.0
Prepared and partially prepared foods 1/	130.0	-	1.2	-	8.0
Bean soup, canned 1/	1	-	.3	· -	3.9
	111.1	-	.5		5.6
Chicken soup, canned 1/	102.3	-	.3	-	4.2
Spaghetti, canned 1/	123.2	-	.4	-	5.0
Mashed potatoes, instant 1/	110.7	-	1	1 -	2.8
Potatoes, french fried, frozen 2/	93.5	-	.3	-	3.2
Baby foods, canned	112.5	-	.4	-	1.4
Sweet pickle relish 1/	117.6	-	3	-	4.5
Pretzels <u>1</u> /	110.1	I .	.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 Indexes for Selected Items and Croups May 1970

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

Item or Group	Other	In	dexes	Percent Change to May 1970 From:		
	Index Bases	May 1970	\pril 1970	April 1970	May 1969	
Housing		135.1 144.7	134.4	0.5	7.4	
Shelter 1/	l	123.0	122.6	.3	9.3 4.1	
Homeownership costs 2/	1	153.3	152.1	.8	11.1	
Mortgage interest rates	ļ	149.2	149.1	.1	11.1	
Property taxes	Dec.63	139.4	138.2	.9	8.7	
Property insurance rates	500.05	153.2	153.6	.3	4.3	
Maintenance and repairs	1	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	
Interior house paint	Dec.63	115.0	114.6	.3	3.0	
Services	Dec.63	147.9	146.7	.8 2.0	10.2	
Repainting living and dining rooms	1	191.7 167.1	187.9 165.6	.9	11.8	
Reshingling roofsResiding houses	Dog 63	137.4	137.1	.2	7.7	
Replacing sinks	Dec.63 Dec.63	150.4	149.1	.9	11.2	
Repairing furnaces	Dec.63	153.7	152.9	.5	12.7	
Fuel and utilities	Dec.05	116.4	116.3		3.4	
Fuel oil and coal		121.0	120.9	.1	3.0	
Fuel oil. #2		118.0	117.8	.2	2.7	
Gas and electricity		115.8	115.7	.1	4.1	
Gas		123.2	123.1	.1	5.8	
Electricity		108.2	198.0	.2	2.6	
Other utilities:						
Residential telephone services		104.9	104.8	•1	1.5	
Residential water and sewerage services		151.0	151.0	0.0	5.3	
Household furnishings and operation $4/$		122.5	122.0	.4	4.3	
Housefurnishings		112.2 116.2	112.0	.2	3.1	
Textiles		121.8	123.6	- 1.5	3.0	
Sheets, percale or muslinCurtains, tailored, polyester marquisette		113.2	113.3	1	1.9	
Bedspreads, chiefly cotton, tufted		116.8	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	
Furniture and bedding		126.6	126.0	.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	
Dining room suites	Dec.63	100.2	100.2	.0	(5/)	
Sofas, upholstered	Dec.63	119.1	118.7	.3	4.2	
Sofas, dual purpose		123.3	122.6	.6	6.1	
Aluminum folding chairs 6/	June 64	114.7	111.8	2.6	.2	
Floor coverings	Dec.63	121.4	120.0	1.2	3.7	
Rugs, soft surface		107.4	106.9	.5	1.1	
Rugs, hard surface		104.2 113.7	103.8	.4	.0	
Tile, vinyl	Dec.63	113.7	113.7	1.0	2.3	
Appliances 7/	Dec. 03	87.1	87.1	1.2	4.7	
Washing machines, electric, automatic	1	92.9	92.9	.0	1.8	
Vacuum cleaners, canister type		81.5	81.6	- :1	3.0	
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers electric		87.3	87.5	2	2.8	
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric	ŀ	100.2	100.7	5	3.3	
Clothes dryers, electric, automatic	Dec.63	101.9	102.1	2	2.8	
Air conditioners, demountable 6/	June 64	101.3	101.3	.0	2.1	
Room heaters, electric, portable 6/	Dec.63	(<u>6</u> /)	(<u>6</u> /)	(6/)	(6/)	
Garbage disposal units	Dec.63	107.4	107.2	.2	3.7	
Other housefurnishings:		100 -			ŀ	
Dinnerware, earthenware	D- (2)	138.3	138.1	.1	4.4	
Flatware, stainless steel	Dec.63	120.8	120.7	.1	2.3	
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type 6/	Dec.63 June 64	121.4 120.1	121.2	.2	6.9	
Electric drills, hand held	Dec.63	103.3	120.5	3	3.4	
Housekeeping supplies:	DCC.03	1	103.3	.0	1.0	
Laundry soaps and detergents		110.0	109.8	•2	3 7	
Paper napkins		1 3 8.5	136.4	1.5	3.7 9.0	
Toilet tissue		129.4	127.8	1.3	9.7	
Housekeeping services:	ļ	•		1	''	
Domestic service, general housework		185.5	184.8	.4	7.9	
Baby sitter service	Dec.63	141.5	140.9	.4	5.3	
Postal charges		165.5	165.5	.0	.0	
Laundry, flatwork, finished service	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)

Item and Group	Other	Indexes		Percent change to May 1970	
Item and Group	Index Bases	May 1970 April 1970		From: April 1970 May 1969	
	Bages		1 API 1 1770	ADITI 1970	- Fiay 1509_
parel and upkeep <u>8</u> /		131.9	131.1	0.6	4.2
Apparel commodities		131.2	130.4	.6	4.1
Apparel commodities less footwear	j	128.0	127.1	.7	3.7
Men's and boys'		133.9	133.4	.4	4.5
Men's:	1				į
Topcoats, wool 6/	i	(6/)	(<u>6</u> /)	(6/)	(6/)
Suits, year round weight	Tuno 64	160.2	159.8	.3	6.7
Suits, tropical weight 6/	June 64 Dec.63	138.4	137.4	•7	6.5
Slacks, wool or wool blend	Dec. 03	125.1	125.3	2	2
Slacks, cotton or manmade blend		132.7	131.8	.7	5.1
Trousers, work, cotton	} }	123.4	123.0	-3	8.0
Shirts, work, cotton	! !	117.1	117.2	1	.5
Shirts, business, cotton		126.5	126.4	•1	3.2
T-shirts, chiefly cotton	í 1	124.2	124.1	•1	2.4
Socks, cotton		134.6	134.1	.4	4.5
Handkerchiefs, cotton	Dec.63	122.6	122.6	•0	2.7
Boy's:	Dec. 03	115.1	114.4	.6	3.2
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend 6/	Dec.63	46.13	44.1		1
Sport coats, wool or wool blend 6/	Dec.63	(<u>6</u> /)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend	200.03	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Undershirts, cotton		130.1	129.5	•5	3.3
Women's and girls'		131.6	130.9	• • • • •	4.4
Women's:		126.6	125.2	1.1	3.4
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blend 6/		(6/)	(61)	,,,	
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton 6/	Dec.63	$(\frac{6}{6})$	(<u>6</u> /)	(6/	(6/)
Sweaters, wool or acrylic 6/	Dec.63	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Skirts, wool or wool blend 6/	Sept.61	(6/)	(6/)	$(\frac{6}{6})$	(6/)
Skirts, cotton or cotton blend 6/	Mar.62		(6/	(<u>6</u> /)	(6/)
Blouses, cotton		136.3	135.2	.8	1.4
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber	1 1	129.7	127.1	2.0	5.1
Dresses, street, wool or wool blend 6/	1	156.5	158.9	- 1.5	6.0
Dresses, street, cotton 6/	, ,	(<u>6</u> /) (<u>6</u> /)	$(\frac{6}{6})$	(6/)	(6/)
Housedresses, cotton	1	(6/)	$(\frac{6}{6})$	(6/)	(6/)
Slips, nylon		115.6	$\left(\frac{6}{11}\right)$	(<u>6</u> /)	(6/)
Panties, acetate	1 1	113.3	114.7	.8	5.0
Girdles, manmade blend		121.4	112.7	.5	4.1
Brassieres, cotton	Dec.63	129.2	121.3 128.4	•1	2.0
Hose, nylon seamless	1 1	99.1	i	.6	7.0
Anklets, cotton	Dec.63	120.1	98.9	.2	.0
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton	Dec.63	111.2	120.1 110.6	.0	3.0
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic	Dec.63	119.3		.5	2.4
Girl's:	! !	117.3	118.8	.4	5.6
Raincoats, vinyl plastic or chiefly cotton 6/	Dec.63	(6/)	(6/)	(61)	
Skirts, wool or wool blend 6/		$(\frac{6}{6})$	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Dresses, cotton		129.4	_	(6/)	(6/)
Slacks, cotton 6/	Dec.63	(6/)	135.1	- 4.2	3.5
Slips, cotton blend	Dec.63	107.3	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Robes, duster style, quilted tricot or		107.3	107.5	2	.3
percale 6 /	Dec.63	(6/)	1613	1613	
Handbags	Dec.63	117.4	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Footwear	1	147.6	115.7	1.5	8.2
Men's:	1 1	147.0	17/12	.3	5.7
Shoes, street, oxford]	145.3	144.7		E 1
Shoes, work, high	1 1	142.9	142.6	.4	5.1
Women's:		,	1.2.0		5.0
Shoes, street, pump	1	157.3	157.3	.0	6.3
Shoes, evening, pump	Dec.63	126.7	125.8	.7	6.4
Shoes, casual, pump	Dec.63	138.7	138.3	.3	9.1
Houseslippers, scuff	Dec.63	127.7	127.7	.0	3.1
Children's:					3.1
Shoes, oxford		146.6	146.3	.2	5.2
Sneakers, boys', oxford type	Dec.63	122.6	122.0	.5	5.9
Dress shoes, girls', strap	Dec.63	138.3	137.5	.6	5.8
Miscellaneous apparel:			1 -2.13).0
Diapers, cotton gauze	1	104.9	104.8	.1	2.1
Yard goods, cotton		127.6	126.8	.6	5.9
Wrist watches, men's and women's	Dec.63	103.8	103.7	.1	1.7
Apparel services:	1			1	1 ***
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses		136.0	135.7	.2	4.8
Automatic laundry service	Dec.63	113.2	113.1	.1	2.6
Laundry, men's shirts	Dec.63	129.0	128.8	.2	5.7
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment	Dec.63	128.8	128.4	•3	
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift	1 3	126.5	126.3	.2	4.3 5.3

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 Index	Indexes		Percent change to May 1970 From:	
area and oroup	Bases	May 1970	April 1970	April 1970	May 1969
ransportation		129.9	128.9	0.8	4.8
Private 9/		125.9	124.9	.8	3.9
Automobiles, new		104.1	104.3	2	2.3
Automobiles, used		127.5	121.1	5.3	.6
Gasoline, regular and premium	l	118.6	119.2	5	1.1
Motor oil, premium		142.8	142.6	.1	4.5
Tires, new, tubeless	1	118.6	118.6	.0	2.6
Auto repairs and maintenance 10/	1	142.9	142.1	.6	7.5
Auto insurance rates	ĺ	179.5	178.6	.5	13.5
Auto registration	Dog 62	140.9	140.9	.0	5.0
Public	Dec.63	132.3	131.7	.5	11.8
Local transit fares		166.6 185.2	165.8 183.9	.5	12.6 16.0
Taxicab fares	Dec.63	131.5	131.5	.0	5.4
Railroad fares, coach		121.1	121.1	.0	5.7
Airplane fares, chiefly coach	Dec.63	117.8	117.8	.0	6.4
Bus fares, intercity	Dec.63	128.6	128.6	.0	8.4
ealth and recreation	ł	142.9	142.3	.4	5.3
Medical care		163.6	162.8	.5	5.9
Drugs and prescriptions		101.4	100.9	.5	2.1
Over-the-counter items	Dec.63	109.2	108.6	.6	2.1
Multiple vitamin concentrates	Dec.63	92.7	92.0	.8	.3
Aspirin compounds	Dec.63	109.2	108.1	1.0	2.8
Liquid tonics	Dec.63	101.9	101.9	.0	1.0
Adhesive bandages, package	Dec.63	121.4	119.8	1.3	3.8
Cold tablets or capsules	Dec.63	112.7	112.6	.1	3.1
Cough syrup	Dec.63	116.4	116.0	.3	1.1
Prescriptions	W (0	90.5	90.3	.2	2.1
Anti-infectivesSedatives and hypnotics	Mar.60	63.1	63.0	.2	.0
Ataractics	Mar.60 Mar.60	114.2 90.7	113.7	:4	7.3
Anti-spamodics	Mar.60	102.4	90.7 102.2	.0	.8
Cough preparations	Mar.60	118.0	118.1	1	1.3 8.0
Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives	Mar.60	100.4	100.0	.4	3.6
Analgesics, internal	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:	ŀ				
Physicians' fees	ł I	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	D 63	161.1	159.2	1.2	8.4
Pediatric care, office visitsPsychiatrist, office visits	Dec.63	151.3	148.7	1.7	7.9
Herniorrhaphy, adult	Dec.63 Dec.63	135.0 129.6	134.7 128.7	•2	4.5
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy	Dec.03	156.1	154.2	1.2	4.6 6.0
Dentists' fees		151.2	150.7	.3	5.3
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface		153.3	152.5	.5	6.0
Extractions, adult		148.9	148.9	.0	4.4
Dentures, full upper	Dec.63	133.2	132.7	.4	4.6
Other professional services:		-			1
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of					
eyeglasses		136.9	136.7	.1	4.7
Routine laboratory tests	Dec.63	121.3	121.2	.1	3.1
Hospital service charges:		202 1	0000		
Daily service charges	ļ l	283.1	282.3	.3	12.2
Private rooms		279.8	279.1	1 .3	12.6
Operating room charges	Dec.63	272.3 180.9	271.4	.3	11.4
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I	Dec.63	129.4	180.3 128.1	1.0	9.8 6.0
Personal care	200.05	130.3	129.8	.4	3.6
Toilet goods		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
Hand lotions, liquid	Dec.63	111.5	111.3	.2	3.5
Shaving cream, aerosol		102.1	102.3	2	2
Face powder, pressed	l	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 Men's haircuts		151.3	150.5	•5	4.6
Beauty shop services		161.0	159.7	.8	5.2
Women's haircuts	Dec.63	141.2	140.9	.2	4.1
Shampoo and wave sets, plain	עפניסט	126.4	126.3	•1	3.9
Permanent waves, cold	! 1	159.0 109.6	158.6 109.4	.3	4.5 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 Index	Indexes		'Percent change to May 1970 From:	
	Bases	May 1970	April 1970	April 1970	May 1969
Reading and recreation 11/		135.2	134.4	0.6	3.8
Recreational goods	Dec.63	99.9	99.6	.3	1.3
TV sets, portable and console	Dec.03	80.1	80.0	.1	.0
TV replacement tubes	Dec.63	118.3	117.5	1 :7	2.3
Radios, portable and table model	Dec. 63	76.6	76.5	l ii	2.3
Tape recorders, portable	Dec.63	90.4	90.3	1 :1	- 1.4
Phonograph records, stereophonic	Dec.63	98.3	97.8	.5	.8
Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens	Dec. 63	82.0	81.4	.7	- 3.5
Film, 35mm, color	Dec. 63	100.0	99.7	',3	1.0
Golf balls, liquid center	Dec. 63	104.2	103.8	.3	1.0
	Dec.63	117.9		.6	1
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover		117.9	117.2	.0	4.2
Fishing rods, fresh water spincast	Dec.63	101.7	119.0	1	
Bowling balls	Dec . 63		101.5	•2	3.2
Bicycle, boys'	Dec . 63	110.5	110.8	3	1.4
Tricycles	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
Adult	i	212.8	210.9	.9	10.8
Children's	I	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
TV repairs, picture tube replacement	1	98.6	98.7	1	- 3.6
Film developing, black and white	Dec.63	117.7	117.6	.1	- 1.9
Reading and education:	1 .	ļ	1		
Newspapers, street sale and delivery		161.5	160.4	.7	5.1
Magazines, single copy and subscription	Dec.63	130.5	129.3	.9	3.3
Piano lessons, beginner	Dec.63	128.2	128.2	.0	4.9
Other goods and services		136.1	135.6	.4	7.2
Tobacco products	1 .	156.7	156.4	.2	10.1
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size	1	164.4	164.1	.2	10.1
	Mar.59	157.2	156.8	.3	11.5
Cigars, domestic, regular size		108.6	108.6	.0	2.4
Alcoholic beverages		123.1	122.5	.5	5.4
Beer	1	118.5	118.2	.3	3.8
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon		112.5	111.8	.6	3.0
Wine, dessert and table	Dec.63	119.4	118.9	.4	9.7
Away from home	Dec.63	129.3	128.4	.7	7.3
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:	Dec. 03	127.3	120.4	• ,	,.,
Funeral services, adult	Dec.63	119.3	119.0	.3	4.1
Bank service charges, checking accounts	Dec. 63	110.0	110.0	.0	1.9
Legal services, short form will	Dec.63	146.1	145.6	.3	9.9
POPOT SELATORS' SHOTE TOTA MITT	Dec. 03	1-0.1	0,00	.3	9.9
ther special groups:					
.11 items less shelter	1	132.1	131.5	.5	5.3
Commodities less food		122.3	121.6	.6	4.1
Nondurables less food and apparel		125.3	125.0	.0	4.2
dousehold services less rent		160.0	159.1	.6	10.3
		100.0	1 137.1	• 0	TO.3
	ł	156 1	1500	/.	10.1
Transportation services		156.1 152.3	155.5 151.4	.4	10.1 5.3

- Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.
- 2/ Also includes home purchase costs not shown separatel-
- 3/ Also includes pine shelving, furnace air filters, packaged dry cement mix, and shrubbery not shown separately.
 3/ Also includes venetian blinds, nails, carpet sweepers, air deodorizers, steel wool scouring pads, envelopes, reupholstering, and moving expenses.
 - 5/ Not available.
 - 6/ Priced only in season.
- 7/ Also includes radios and television sets, shown separately under reading and recreation.
 8/ Also includes men's sport shirts, women's and girls' lightweight coats, women's slacks, cocktail dresses, bathing suits, girls' shorts, earrings, and zippers not shown separately.

 9/ Also includes recapped tires and drivers' license fees not shown separately.
- 10/ Includes prices for water pump replacement, motor tune-up, automatic transmission repair, exhaust system repair, front end alignment, and chassis lubrication.
- 11/ Also includes outboard motors, nondurable toys, college tuition fees, paperback books, and college textbooks, not shown separately.

Reliability of Percent Changes in the CPI

A system of "replicated" samples introduced into the index structure in the 1964 revision permits an estimate of sampling error for the CPI. 1/ The table below shows standard errors for monthly, quarterly, and annual percent changes in the CPI for all items and for nine commodity groupings based on 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 E	rror	Relative Error			
	Monthly Change	Quarterly Change	Annual Change	Monthly Change	Quarterly Change	Annual Change	
All items	.03	.05	.07	.07	.04	.01	
Food at home	.07	.11	.13	.10	.07	.03	
Food away from home	.08	.14	.28	.13	.08	.05	
Housing	.06	.09	.15	.10	•06	.02	
Apparel	.14	.23	.22	.25	.18	.04	
Transportation	.08	.13	.14	.13	.10	.04	
Medical care	.13	.19	.36	.24	.12	.05	
Personal care	.12	.20	.32	.36	.20	.07	
Reading and recreation	.09	.13	.20	.33	. 1.5	.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," <u>Journal of the American</u> Statistical Association, September 1967.

Brief Explanation of the CPI

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

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

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

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

Alabama - Florence
Alaska - Anchorage
California - Bakersfield*
Colorado - Denver*
Connecticut - Hartford*
Florida - Orlando*
Indiana - Indianapolis*
Indiana - Logansport
Illinois - Champaign-Urbana*
Iowa - Cedar Rapids*
Kansas - Wichita*

Louisiana - Baton Rouge*
Maine - Portland*
Massachusetts - Southbridge
Michigan - Niles
Minnesota - Crookston
Mississippi - Vicksburg
New Jersey - Millville
New York - Kingston
North Carolina - Durham*
North Dakota - Devils Lake
Ohio - Dayton*

Ohio - Findlay
Oklahoma - Mangum
Oregon - Klamath Falls
Pennsylvania - Lancaster*
South Carolina - Union
Tennessee - Nashville*
Texas - Austin*
Texas - McAllen
Utah - Orem
Virginia - Martinsville
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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