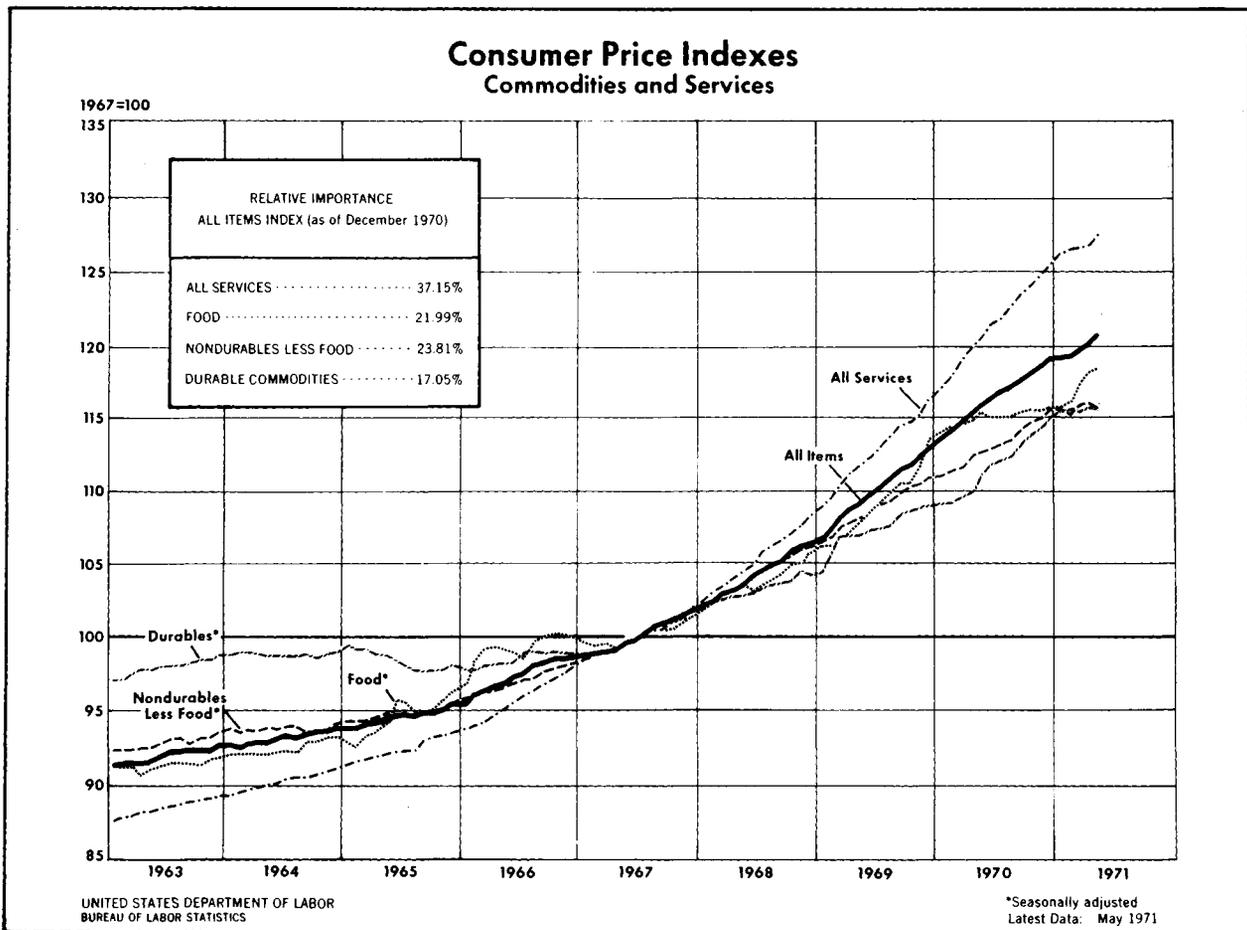




U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
 J. D. Hodgson, Secretary
 BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
 Geoffrey H. Moore, Commissioner

the consumer price index

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



THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
FOR
MAY 1971

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.5 percent in May to 120.8 of its 1967 base. Higher prices for apparel, used cars, homes, and postage accounted for half the increase. The May CPI was 4.4 percent higher than it was a year ago.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the May rise was 0.6 percent compared with increases of 0.2 to 0.3 percent in each of the first 4 months of this year. In the 3 months ending in May, the CPI rose at an annual rate of 4.2 percent. The 3-month rate was 2.8 percent in March and in April. The annual rate of change for the 6 months ending in May was 4.1 percent--higher than the 3.6-percent rate for the 6 months ending in April, but below the 6.5-percent rate in the 6 months ending in May of last year. Food prices rose 0.2 percent in May after seasonal adjustment, much less than in February, March, and April. Prices of nonfood commodities and services, however, increased more than in the preceding 3 months.

Percent changes in CPI and components, selected periods

Month	Changes from preceding month							Changes in all items at seasonally adjusted compound annual rate		
	All items		Food		Commodities less food		Services	From 3 mos. ago	From 6 mos. ago	From 12 mos. ago.
	Unadj.	Seas. adj.	Unadj.	Seas. adj.	Unadj.	Seas. adj.	Unadj.			
May 1970 -----	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.5	5.9	6.5	6.1
June -----	.5	.4	.3	-.1	.4	.4	.6	5.9	6.0	6.0
July -----	.3	.3	.5	.1	.0	.2	.5	4.8	5.5	5.9
Aug. -----	.2	.3	.1	.0	.1	.3	.6	3.9	4.9	5.6
Sept. -----	.5	.5	-.2	.3	.7	.5	.7	4.5	5.2	5.7
Oct. -----	.5	.5	-.2	.0	1.0	.4	.5	5.2	5.0	5.8
Nov. -----	.3	.3	-.5	.1	.5	.4	.6	5.6	4.7	5.6
Dec. -----	.5	.5	.3	-.1	.3	.7	.6	5.3	4.9	5.5
Jan. 1971 -----	.1	.3	.2	.0	-.3	.2	.0	4.5	4.9	5.2
Feb. -----	.2	.2	.3	.5	.0	.1	.2	4.0	4.8	4.8
Mar. -----	.3	.2	.9	.9	.3	.2	.0	2.8	4.1	4.6
Apr. -----	.3	.3	.7	.9	.3	.2	.2	2.8	3.6	4.3
May -----	.5	.6	.3	.2	.7	.7	.6	4.2	4.1	4.4

Food

Prices of food purchased in grocery stores rose 0.2 percent in May, compared with increases of 1.1 percent in March and 0.9 percent in April. The May slowdown resulted from smaller price increases for fruits and vegetables, cereal and bakery products, and beef, as well as declines in pork and egg prices. The decline of 3.3 percent in egg prices, however, was much smaller than usual for May. Prices of dairy products and restaurant meals and snacks away from home continued to advance.

Meat prices, which rose 2.0 percent in March and 0.1 percent in April, decreased 0.1 percent in May--the first decline since January of this year. Pork prices moved down 1.4 percent in May after falling 2.3 percent in April--sharper than usual declines in both months--as cold storage holdings continued to rise. Competition from lower pork prices was a factor in the smaller-than-usual increase in beef and veal prices in May.

They rose 0.3 percent after rising 1.2 percent in February, 2.0 percent in March, and 1.5 percent in April. Chicken prices declined but not as much as they usually do in May. Turkey prices advanced sharply. Fish prices continued to rise.

Fresh fruit and vegetable prices rose 1.6 percent in May after advancing about 5 percent in each of the 3 preceding months. The May increase was smaller than seasonal as larger supplies resulted in sharp price declines for strawberries, bananas, green peppers, and cucumbers. In addition, price rises for potatoes, cabbages, apples, and celery were smaller than usual. On the other hand, prices rose more than seasonally for lettuce, tomatoes, onions, and carrots because of reduced planting of spring crops and poor weather. Strong demand from processors of citrus fruits pushed up prices for fresh oranges. The May increase of 0.3 percent in processed fruit and vegetable prices was smaller than the rise of 1.1 percent in April.

Prices of dairy products rose 0.4 percent in April and again in May. The April increase was contraseasonal and the May rise was slightly larger than usual. Prices of most dairy items advanced in April and May except butter. The higher support rate for "manufacturing" milk and strong demand for cheese and skim milk contributed to higher prices for these dairy products. The support price for manufacturing milk for the 1971/72 marketing year, which started April 1, was raised to \$4.93 per 100 pounds--85 percent of the March parity equivalent price--up from \$4.66 in the previous year. To achieve this support level, Commodity Credit Corporation raised its purchase prices 2-3/4 cents per pound for Cheddar cheese (to 54-3/4 cents) and 4-1/2 cents per pound for nonfat dry milk (to 31.7 cents). The support purchase price for butter, however, was lowered 2 cents per pound (to 68-3/4 cents, Grade A at New York). The lower support purchase price for butter was made possible by the Agriculture Act of 1970 which suspended until April 1974 the requirement to support butterfat in farm-separated cream. (See Dairy Situation, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, May 1971.)

Commodities Other Than Food

Prices of commodities other than food, which usually do not change much between April and May, rose 0.7 percent. This was the same as the seasonally adjusted increase in December of last year and considerably larger than the increase in the first 4 months of this year. About three-fourths of the May rise resulted from higher prices for apparel, homes, and used cars. Prices of new cars and gasoline increased instead of declining as they usually do in May. Prices of most other nonfood commodities, including furniture, housekeeping supplies, newspapers, and drugs and prescriptions continued to increase. Cigarette prices rose because of higher taxes in Massachusetts. Prices declined for a few items, notably carpets and textile housefurnishings.

Apparel prices rose 1.0 percent in May. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the increase was 0.8 percent, the sharpest since August 1968. Prices of men's and boys' apparel which have been rising rapidly since February--0.8 percent in March and 0.4 percent in April--on a seasonally adjusted basis, rose 0.7 percent in May. They usually show no change between April and May. Prices rose for every item in the men's and boys' apparel category, particularly tropical weight and year-round suits, and slacks. Rising manufacturers' costs for wages, fabrics, and overhead contributed to higher prices. In addition, increases in other costs of retailers, particularly wages, were reflected in the price rises.

Women's and girls' apparel prices rose 1.4 percent in May, almost twice the usual increase. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the May increase was 0.6 percent and followed a rise of 0.4 percent in April--the first time this year that women's and girls' apparel prices advanced in 2 consecutive months. Reintroduction of women's bathing suits and cotton skirts and girls' cotton dresses and shorts at higher prices.

than those which prevailed in the 1970 season accounted for a large portion of the May rise. Prices also increased for handbags, gloves, and nylon hose. Prices of women's dresses and cotton blouses, which rose in April, edged down slightly in May.

Gasoline and motor oil prices rose 0.4 percent, instead of declining as they usually do in May. From January through April, gasoline and motor oil prices declined steadily. The May increase reflected, in part, an attempt by the industry to strengthen retail gasoline prices with the advent of the heavy travel season. However, competitive pressures present in many cities--such as Atlanta, Milwaukee, Dallas, and Los Angeles--provided some offset.

New car prices, which usually decline about 0.3 percent between April and May, increased 0.1 percent. The increase reflected a slight decline in the level of concessions offered to purchasers by new car dealers. May sales of domestic cars were 7 percent higher than the units sold in May 1970. Sales of domestic cars for the January through May period were 9.1 percent higher than they were a year ago; however, imported car sales rose 32.0 percent for the period. Prices of used cars rose 2.7 percent in May. An increase in prices for used cars is usual in the spring months when the demand for used cars is strongest. The increase this year, however, was about half as large as in May of last year.

Following large increases in 1970, home prices leveled out in the first 3 months of this year. However, prices rose slightly in April and somewhat more in May. (For a discussion of factors which influence the behavior of home prices, see "Trends in home-ownership and rental costs," by Robert C. Joiner, Monthly Labor Review, July 1970.)

Services

In May charges for consumer services rose 0.6 percent, about the same as the average monthly rate of increase prevailing for several months prior to February 1971. In February, March, and April the effects of decreases in mortgage interest rates moderated the rise in service costs. The much smaller decline, about 1 percent, in the mortgage interest rate index in May--entirely due to lower conventional mortgage rates--had no significant effect on the service index in May. Postal charges, which rose 21.2 percent, were responsible for one-fourth of the May rise in services. Higher rates were imposed on all important categories of domestic mail, except regular parcel post. The residential property tax index rose 1.4 percent, mainly as a result of a sharp rate increase and large assessment increases in Los Angeles. Residential natural gas charges rose 0.7 percent, the result of increases in a number of cities. Home maintenance and repair costs rose 0.6 percent in May as charges for interior repainting and roof reshingling were raised.

The rise in the cost of transportation services in May was much smaller than the increases in recent months. Public transportation fares were unchanged. Parking fees declined, and charges for auto repairs rose only slightly.

The medical care services index continued to advance at about the same rate as it did in the preceding 3 months.

Recreational services rose 0.8 percent as prices of indoor movie admissions, golf green fees, and film developing charges increased.

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

	May	April	March	February	January	December
Consumer Price Index:						
All items -----	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5
Commodities -----	.4	.3	.5	.1	.1	.4
Food -----	.2	.9	.9	.5	0	-.1
Food at home -----	.2	1.0	1.1	.5	-.3	-.2
Apparel commodities ---	.8	.3	0	.3	-.1	.3
Nondurables less food and apparel <u>1/</u> -----	.3	0	.2	0	.3	.4
Durables -----	.7	.2	.2	0	.2	.9
Services <u>1/</u> -----	.6	.2	0	.2	.6	.6
Rent <u>1/</u> -----	.3	.4	.3	.6	.3	.7
Household services less rent -----	.8	-.4	-1.0	-.5	.2	.8
Transportation -----	.4	1.0	.5	1.3	.9	.3
Medical care services -	.7	.6	.6	.7	.5	.7
Other services -----	.4	.1	.2	.2	1.1	.3

1/ Percent changes are based on unadjusted indexes.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments

Approximately 43,000 workers will receive cost-of-living escalator adjustments based on the May U.S. city average Consumer Price Index or one of the individual city indexes.

About 23,000 workers will receive wage increases based on the national index. About 9,800 workers, including 6,000 employees of the Dow Chemical Company in Midland, Michigan, will receive an increase of 3 cents per hour. About 4,500 employees of the Caterpillar Tractor Company in Joliet, Illinois, plus 4,000 other workers will receive increases of 4 cents per hour.

About 20,000 employees of firms belonging to the Pacific Coast Shipbuilders Association in Northern California, Oregon, and Washington will receive an increase of 3 cents per hour based on the index for Seattle, Washington.

Approximately 9,000 other workers will not receive adjustments because they have already received the maximum stipulated in their contracts.

A NOTE ABOUT CALCULATING INDEX CHANGES

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

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

Index Point Change		Percent Change
May 1971 CPI (1967=100)	120.8	Index point difference divided by the index for the previous period: $\frac{120.8 - 120.2}{120.2} \times 100 = 0.5$
less April index	<u>120.2</u>	
index point difference =	0.6	

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

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

(Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Group	Indexes (1967=100) (unless otherwise specified)				Percent change to May 1971 from:		
	May 1971	April 1971	February 1971	May 1970	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
All items -----	120.8	120.2	119.4	115.7	0.5	1.2	4.4
All items (1957-59=100) -----	140.5	139.8	138.9	134.6	-	-	-
Food -----	118.2	117.8	115.9	114.9	.3	2.0	2.9
Food at home -----	116.3	116.1	113.9	113.8	.2	2.1	2.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	114.1	113.9	112.8	108.0	.2	1.2	5.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.8	115.7	113.6	117.4	.1	1.9	-1.4
Dairy products -----	115.1	114.6	114.0	111.3	.4	1.0	3.4
Fruits and vegetables -----	121.4	120.0	112.6	116.4	1.2	7.8	4.3
Other foods at home -----	115.5	115.8	115.7	111.6	-.3	-.2	3.5
Food away from home -----	125.3	124.8	123.9	119.4	.4	1.1	4.9
Housing -----	123.2	122.5	122.6	118.2	.6	.5	4.2
Shelter ^{1/} -----	127.2	126.5	127.3	122.7	.6	-.1	3.7
Rent -----	114.7	114.4	113.6	109.4	.3	1.0	4.8
Homeownership ^{2/} -----	131.6	130.9	132.3	127.5	.5	-.5	3.2
Fuel and utilities ^{3/} -----	114.4	114.1	113.1	106.8	.3	1.1	7.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.2	117.3	117.2	108.4	-.1	0	8.1
Gas and electricity -----	114.4	113.9	112.8	106.7	.4	1.4	7.2
Household furnishings and operation -----	118.1	117.0	115.9	113.2	.9	1.9	4.3
Apparel and upkeep ^{4/} -----	120.2	119.1	118.1	115.7	.9	1.8	3.9
Men's and boys' -----	121.2	120.3	117.9	117.1	.7	2.8	3.5
Women's and girls' -----	120.4	118.7	118.5	115.2	1.4	1.6	4.5
Footwear -----	121.7	121.1	119.9	117.6	.5	1.5	3.5
Transportation -----	118.8	118.1	117.5	112.1	.6	1.1	6.0
Private -----	117.0	116.2	115.8	110.5	.7	1.0	5.9
New cars -----	113.9	113.8	115.2	106.1	.1	-1.1	7.4
Used cars -----	112.8	109.8	105.5	104.9	2.7	6.9	7.5
Gasoline -----	104.0	103.7	106.0	106.2	.3	-1.9	-2.1
Public -----	136.4	136.4	134.4	126.1	0	1.5	8.2
Health and recreation -----	121.6	121.2	120.2	115.4	.3	1.2	5.4
Medical care -----	128.1	127.5	125.8	119.7	.5	1.8	7.0
Personal care -----	116.5	116.3	115.4	112.8	.2	1.0	3.3
Reading and recreation -----	118.9	118.4	117.5	112.6	.4	1.2	5.6
Other goods and services -----	119.9	119.7	119.1	115.1	.2	.7	4.2
Seasonally Adjusted:							
Food -----	118.4	118.2	116.1	-	.2	2.0	-
Apparel and upkeep -----	120.0	119.2	118.7	-	.7	1.1	-
Transportation -----	118.6	117.9	117.9	-	.6	.6	-
Special Groups:							
All items less food -----	121.6	120.9	120.4	116.0	.6	1.0	4.8
All items less medical care -----	120.4	119.8	119.1	115.6	.5	1.1	4.2
Commodities less food -----	116.6	115.8	115.2	112.0	.7	1.2	4.1
Commodities -----	117.2	116.6	115.5	113.1	.5	1.5	3.6
Nondurables -----	117.4	116.9	115.7	113.9	.4	1.5	3.1
Nondurables less food -----	116.6	116.0	115.4	112.7	.5	1.0	3.5
Apparel commodities -----	120.5	119.3	118.3	116.1	1.0	1.9	3.8
Durables -----	116.6	115.7	115.0	111.1	.8	1.4	5.0
Household durables -----	112.7	112.4	111.8	110.0	.3	.8	2.5
Services -----	127.5	126.8	126.6	120.7	.6	.7	5.6
Services less rent -----	129.8	129.1	129.0	122.8	.5	.6	5.7
Services less medical care -----	126.7	126.0	126.1	120.4	.6	.5	5.2
Insurance and finance -----	137.0	136.6	139.5	133.6	.3	-1.8	2.5
Utilities and public transportation -----	119.3	119.0	117.7	111.3	.3	1.4	7.2
Housekeeping and home maintenance services -----	136.0	133.7	132.1	125.0	1.7	3.0	8.8
Medical care services -----	132.9	132.2	130.2	123.1	.5	2.1	8.0
Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar:							
1967=\$1.00 -----	\$0.828	\$0.832	\$0.838	\$0.864	-.5	-1.2	-4.2
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	.712	.715	.720	.743	-	-	-

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

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

3/ Also includes telephone, water, and sewerage service not shown separately.

4/ Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, jewelry, and apparel upkeep services not shown separately.

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

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

Area 1/	Pricing Schedule 2/	Indexes			Percent change from:		
		1967=100	1957-59=100	Other bases	April 1971	February 1971	May 1970
		May 1971			April 1971	February 1971	May 1970
U.S. City Average -----	M	120.8	140.5		0.5	1.2	4.4
Chicago -----	M	120.6	137.0		.3	1.0	4.5
Detroit -----	M	120.9	138.9		.7	.8	3.0
Los Angeles-Long Beach ---	M	118.1	138.9		1.2	1.6	3.8
New York -----	M	125.2	148.9		.5	1.4	5.9
Philadelphia -----	M	123.4	144.1		.7	1.3	5.6
		April 1971				January 1971	April 1970
Boston -----	1	121.7	145.9			0.8	5.7
Houston -----	1	119.5	136.7			.2	2.8
Minneapolis-St. Paul ----	1	120.3	139.5			.2	3.2
Pittsburgh -----	1	120.9	139.1			1.4	5.0
		May 1971				February 1971	May 1970
Buffalo -----	2	121.4		4/ 133.4		1.5	5.0
Cleveland -----	2	122.0	137.7			.4	2.5
Dallas -----	2	120.4		4/ 130.2		.5	2.4
Milwaukee -----	2	119.1	134.5			.1	3.5
San Diego -----	2	119.5		5/ 125.6		1.1	3.9
Seattle -----	2	115.5	135.8			.8	1.3
Washington -----	2	122.2	142.4			1.1	4.2
		March 1971				December 1970	March 1970
Atlanta -----	3	120.4	138.5			0.8	5.0
Baltimore -----	3	122.1	141.8			1.2	6.2
Cincinnati -----	3	119.8	136.0			1.1	5.3
Honolulu -----	3	116.7		6/ 125.8		.9	3.1
Kansas City -----	3	119.2	141.4			.2	5.1
St. Louis -----	3	118.2	138.0			.5	4.2
San Francisco-Oakland ----	3	119.1	141.7			.5	4.1

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

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

M - Every month.

1 - January, April, July, and October.

2 - February, May, August, and November.

3 - March, June, September, and December.

4/ November 1963=100.

5/ February 1965=100.

6/ December 1963=100.

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

TABLE 3. Consumer Price Index--The United States and selected areas 1/for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups percent change from April 1971 to May 1971

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.5	0.3	0.7	1.2	0.5	0.7
Food -----	.3	.3	1.1	.3	.3	.3
Housing -----	.6	0	.2	2.4	.3	1.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	.9	.9	1.1	1.5	1.1	.3
Transportation -----	.6	1.2	1.4	.7	.3	.3
Health and recreation -----	.3	.2	.2	.5	.4	.1
Medical care -----	.5	.3	.2	.5	.6	.1
Personal care -----	.2	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	.4	.5	.4	0	.7	.2
Other goods and services -----	.2	0	.4	1.2	.1	(2/)

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

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

(1967=100)

Group	Indexes			Percent changes to: May 1971	
	May 1971	April 1971	February 1971	From: 1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago
Food -----	118.4	118.2	116.1	0.2	2.0
Food at home -----	116.6	116.4	114.0	.2	2.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.5	116.2	114.2	.3	2.0
Dairy products -----	115.3	115.2	114.0	.1	1.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	118.7	119.0	113.3	.3	4.8
Other foods at home -----	117.6	115.9	114.4	1.5	2.8
Fuel and utilities <u>1/</u> -----	114.3	113.9	113.1	.4	1.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.3	117.2	116.4	.1	.8
Apparel and upkeep <u>2/</u> -----	120.0	119.2	118.7	.7	1.1
Men's and boys' -----	121.0	120.1	118.7	.7	1.9
Women's and girls' -----	120.0	119.3	119.5	.6	.4
Footwear -----	121.5	121.0	120.1	.4	1.2
Transportation -----	118.6	117.9	117.9	.6	.6
Private -----	116.9	116.1	116.3	.7	.5
New cars -----	114.2	113.8	114.5	.4	.3
Commodities -----	117.2	116.7	115.7	.4	1.3
Commodities less food -----	116.6	115.8	115.4	.7	1.0
Nondurables -----	117.5	117.0	115.9	.4	1.4
Nondurables less food -----	116.6	116.0	115.7	.5	.8
Apparel commodities -----	120.3	119.4	119.0	.8	1.1
Durables -----	116.5	115.7	115.3	.7	1.0

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

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

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

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York-Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
(Indexes 1967=100 unless otherwise specified)						
All items -----	120.8	120.6	120.9	118.1	125.2	123.4
Food -----	118.2	117.7	117.5	114.6	122.8	119.6
Food at home -----	116.3	115.8	116.3	113.5	120.4	117.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	114.1	115.7	114.8	110.5	115.1	118.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.8	115.3	118.2	114.6	121.2	115.9
Dairy products -----	115.1	113.7	114.6	113.7	118.0	117.9
Fruits and vegetables -----	121.4	118.5	118.3	116.1	126.7	120.3
Other foods at home -----	115.5	116.2	113.3	112.0	118.5	116.7
Food away from home -----	125.3	125.1	122.9	117.3	130.4	128.7
Housing -----	123.2	119.4	126.0	122.0	127.2	125.4
Shelter -----	127.2	122.8	133.8	125.0	132.2	131.9
Rent -----	114.7	110.1	(2/)	116.0	(2/)	118.1
Homeownership -----	131.6	128.4	137.5	127.7	142.1	135.4
Fuel and utilities -----	114.4	111.1	110.2	115.8	113.5	114.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.2	112.9	113.1	-	118.4	117.8
Gas and electricity -----	114.4	109.0	110.4	119.5	109.7	116.3
Household furnishings and operation -----	118.1	114.3	112.6	114.5	122.6	120.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	120.2	117.4	115.7	118.4	120.6	121.2
Men's and boys' -----	121.2	117.7	117.6	116.8	125.9	121.6
Women's and girls' -----	120.4	119.5	111.8	122.5	115.5	119.3
Footwear -----	121.7	115.5	121.1	118.4	121.7	124.9
Transportation -----	118.8	126.8	115.3	113.9	129.0	123.3
Private -----	117.0	121.5	112.6	114.0	125.0	120.5
Public -----	136.4	160.3	147.8	112.3	144.3	140.0
Health and recreation -----	121.6	123.0	122.4	118.0	125.2	126.0
Medical care -----	128.1	128.5	132.6	126.6	135.3	135.3
Personal care -----	116.5	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	114.8	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	118.9	118.9	119.1	111.2	123.3	122.2
Other goods and services -----	119.9	124.5	117.3	116.3	122.1	(2/)
Percent changes from February 1971 to May 1971						
All items -----	1.2	1.0	0.8	1.6	1.4	1.3
Food -----	2.0	1.7	2.5	1.5	2.2	1.5
Food at home -----	2.1	1.8	2.7	1.6	2.6	1.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	1.2	-9	2.2	.7	1.6	1.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	1.9	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.4	.9
Dairy products -----	1.0	1.7	3.7	2.3	.4	.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	7.8	6.6	7.8	5.3	7.6	6.3
Other foods at home -----	-2	-6	-8	-1.8	.9	-4
Food away from home -----	1.1	1.1	1.7	.9	1.1	1.6
Housing -----	.5	-2	-6	1.4	1.3	.6
Shelter -----	-1	-8	-1.5	1.5	1.3	-2
Rent -----	1.0	3/ .5	(2/)	3/ .7	(2/)	3/ .7
Homeownership -----	-5	-1.4	-1.9	1.6	1.4	-7
Fuel and utilities -----	1.1	.3	1.0	.6	.4	2.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	0	-5	-7	-	.8	0
Gas and electricity -----	1.4	.6	1.0	1.0	.5	5.0
Household furnishings and operation -----	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.2	1.7	1.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.8	1.9	.8	1.8	1.1	3.6
Men's and boys' -----	2.8	1.0	1.2	.1	5.9	3.4
Women's and girls' -----	1.6	3.9	.5	3.9	-2.0	4.1
Footwear -----	1.5	.8	1.3	1.4	1.3	5.9
Transportation -----	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.6	.5	.7
Private -----	1.0	1.8	1.6	1.7	.4	.9
Public -----	1.5	0	.1	.4	.6	.1
Health and recreation -----	1.2	1.0	.8	2.4	1.1	.2
Medical care -----	1.8	1.0	.8	3.8	1.6	.5
Personal care -----	1.0	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	1.6	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	1.2	1.5	.7	.9	1.3	.7
Other goods and services -----	.7	.1	1.2	1.5	.5	(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, May 1971 index and percent changes from February 1971--Continued

Group	Buffalo	Cleveland	Dallas	Milwaukee	San Diego	Seattle	Washington
(Indexes 1967=100 unless otherwise specified)							
All items -----	121.4	122.0	120.4	119.1	119.5	115.5	122.2
Food -----	120.1	119.3	117.3	115.7	117.3	116.0	120.0
Food at home -----	119.0	118.5	114.0	113.9	114.3	113.8	116.0
Cereals and bakery products -----	117.0	114.3	115.0	116.0	110.4	111.8	117.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.3	117.7	113.1	113.8	118.8	112.8	112.7
Dairy products -----	115.7	120.0	111.2	111.5	113.2	114.7	109.8
Fruits and vegetables -----	129.4	121.9	117.8	118.1	114.8	115.7	123.3
Other foods at home -----	118.3	118.5	113.7	111.9	110.3	113.9	119.2
Food away from home -----	126.0	124.1	129.3	122.6	124.4	123.0	130.4
Housing -----	123.6	120.3	123.6	120.7	126.3	117.4	121.1
Shelter -----	124.3	120.9	128.0	123.1	136.1	121.3	124.1
Rent -----	113.7	111.2	111.7	113.3	130.1	107.3	113.8
Homeownership -----	126.2	122.5	135.4	126.2	138.7	125.2	129.9
Fuel and utilities -----	124.4	118.1	114.5	115.0	106.3	108.7	108.9
Fuel oil and coal -----	118.7	-	-	118.4	-	118.7	117.5
Gas and electricity -----	129.6	118.5	109.0	117.3	109.3	101.0	111.2
Household furnishings and operation -----	121.2	119.2	118.8	117.9	111.1	113.2	119.8
Apparel and upkeep -----	125.0	122.4	118.5	123.8	118.0	117.1	123.3
Men's and boys' -----	135.8	120.6	123.2	122.5	119.5	116.7	123.5
Women's and girls' -----	125.1	124.3	115.6	124.3	122.7	119.5	124.2
Footwear -----	119.0	123.0	120.6	126.4	115.8	117.9	125.5
Transportation -----	117.0	124.6	116.4	115.1	114.1	106.4	124.4
Private -----	116.1	121.0	114.2	112.1	113.6	106.1	120.4
Public -----	125.9	148.6	144.5	151.4	121.8	108.4	146.0
Health and recreation -----	120.4	127.1	122.3	120.5	115.9	115.9	124.4
Medical care -----	121.6	138.8	129.1	125.7	121.0	122.4	136.3
Personal care -----	117.4	118.0	119.6	119.3	111.4	113.6	115.5
Reading and recreation -----	122.1	121.4	118.9	119.9	113.5	116.3	118.1
Other goods and services -----	118.8	124.2	116.8	117.2	115.5	110.1	123.5
Percent changes from February 1971 to May 1971							
All items -----	1.5	0.4	0.5	0.1	1.1	0.8	1.1
Food -----	3.0	.6	1.8	2.3	1.5	1.8	2.5
Food at home -----	3.3	.6	2.2	2.4	1.5	2.1	2.7
Cereals and bakery products -----	1.7	0	1.8	2.7	1.9	1.1	4.4
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	2.0	1.6	1.3	1.2	3.1	2.5	1.4
Dairy products -----	-3	-1.2	2.7	2.7	1.3	3.3	1.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	14.1	3.7	7.4	8.8	3.4	5.6	5.8
Other foods at home -----	.7	-1.5	-1	-5	-2.6	-1.6	2.4
Food away from home -----	1.3	.6	.9	1.7	1.3	.8	2.1
Housing -----	.9	-.4	-.7	-.6	-.4	-.1	-.2
Shelter -----	-.5	-.8	-1.8	-1.3	-.8	-1.0	-1.0
Rent -----	1.4	.5	.3	1.2	.8	-.1	1.2
Homeownership -----	-.9	-1.1	-2.6	-1.9	-1.5	-1.2	-2.1
Fuel and utilities -----	3.2	.3	0	-.1	.4	.2	1.7
Fuel oil and coal -----	0	-	-	-1.8	-	0	0
Gas and electricity -----	4.7	.3	-.1	.2	.6	.5	3.3
Household furnishings and operation -----	3.1	1.0	1.5	1.1	.7	2.0	1.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	3.6	2.3	1.4	0	1.5	2.8	2.1
Men's and boys' -----	5.2	3.0	2.3	2.9	1.4	-.8	2.2
Women's and girls' -----	4.9	2.7	.2	-2.0	2.3	6.7	2.1
Footwear -----	.9	1.6	.4	.2	1.4	1.4	2.3
Transportation -----	0	.5	.7	-2.6	3.1	.4	1.6
Private -----	0	.7	.7	-2.9	3.2	.5	1.9
Public -----	0	0	0	0	-.5	.1	0
Health and recreation -----	.6	.8	.7	1.1	1.2	.9	1.1
Medical care -----	1.6	2.2	1.2	.9	1.9	.7	1.2
Personal care -----	1.5	-.9	.8	.8	1.3	-.8	.3
Reading and recreation -----	-.3	.5	.7	2.0	1.2	2.3	.9
Other goods and services -----	.1	.3	-.3	.3	.3	.1	1.4

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

^{2/} Not available.

^{3/} Change from March 1971.

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

Area 1/	Total food	Food at home						Food away from home
		Total	Cereals and bakery products	Meats, poultry, and fish	Dairy products	Fruits and vegetables	Other foods at home	
(Indexes 1967=100 unless otherwise specified)								
U.S. City Average -----	118.2	116.3	114.1	115.8	115.1	121.4	115.5	125.3
Atlanta -----	118.1	115.8	113.5	112.2	115.3	127.5	115.5	125.3
Baltimore -----	120.2	118.6	116.4	118.3	116.4	121.6	119.6	126.5
Boston -----	117.8	116.3	113.3	118.8	115.0	120.1	112.1	123.2
Buffalo -----	120.1	119.0	117.0	116.3	115.7	129.4	118.3	126.0
Chicago -----	117.7	115.8	115.7	115.3	113.7	118.5	116.2	125.1
Cincinnati -----	118.5	117.5	112.6	114.4	117.7	124.8	118.3	122.3
Cleveland -----	119.3	118.5	114.3	117.7	120.0	121.9	118.5	124.1
Dallas -----	117.3	114.0	115.0	113.1	111.2	117.8	113.7	129.3
Detroit -----	117.5	116.3	114.8	118.2	114.6	118.3	113.3	122.9
Honolulu -----	116.7	113.2	104.5	113.1	115.0	122.8	110.7	127.0
Houston -----	118.3	114.9	112.4	115.0	114.1	119.0	114.1	130.4
Kansas City -----	117.5	114.8	114.7	113.4	120.8	112.6	114.1	126.1
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	114.6	113.5	110.5	114.6	113.7	116.1	112.0	117.3
Milwaukee -----	115.7	113.9	116.0	113.8	111.5	118.1	111.9	122.6
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	119.3	117.1	120.9	117.7	113.5	117.8	116.7	129.2
New York -----	122.8	120.4	115.1	121.2	118.0	126.7	118.5	130.4
Philadelphia -----	119.6	117.5	118.0	115.9	117.9	120.3	116.7	128.7
Pittsburgh -----	119.0	117.3	115.0	112.9	119.3	127.3	116.2	129.2
St. Louis -----	117.9	115.5	120.1	110.3	118.4	125.1	110.7	129.0
San Diego -----	117.3	114.3	110.4	118.8	113.2	114.8	110.3	124.4
San Francisco-Oakland --	115.9	114.5	109.9	115.2	112.6	119.3	114.0	120.9
Seattle -----	116.0	113.8	111.8	112.8	114.7	115.7	113.9	123.0
Washington -----	120.0	116.0	117.3	112.7	109.8	123.3	119.2	130.4
Percent changes April 1971 to May 1971								
U.S. City Average -----	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4	1.2	-0.3	0.4
Atlanta -----	-.2	-.4	.4	-2.0	.2	.5	.3	.3
Baltimore -----	.1	.2	.3	-.4	-.2	2.4	-.7	0
Boston -----	-.8	-.9	-.2	-1.2	-.5	.5	-2.9	0
Buffalo -----	.2	.0	.4	-.6	-.6	1.5	.2	.8
Chicago -----	-.3	-.4	-.3	-.8	.4	-2.1	.9	.2
Cincinnati -----	.6	.8	1.1	-.4	1.9	2.9	-.8	.2
Cleveland -----	-.2	-.2	-1.4	.5	-.7	-.7	.3	.1
Dallas -----	.3	.4	.5	-.1	1.5	.9	-.1	.3
Detroit -----	1.1	1.1	3.1	.5	2.1	1.3	.4	.6
Honolulu -----	-.1	-.1	-.2	-.1	.5	-1.1	.4	-.1
Houston -----	.4	.5	.7	0	.4	1.7	.4	.2
Kansas City -----	0	0	.1	-.4	.2	1.8	-1.2	.2
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	.3	.2	-.7	.4	1.2	.6	-.3	.2
Milwaukee -----	.7	.4	1.3	-.1	.4	2.3	-.4	1.7
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	.3	.3	-.3	.3	1.1	.9	-.3	.2
New York -----	.3	.2	.1	.3	.2	1.4	-.9	.5
Philadelphia -----	.3	.1	.2	.2	.3	-.5	0	.8
Pittsburgh -----	.5	.5	1.1	-.9	.2	3.3	.3	.3
St. Louis -----	.1	0	.3	-2.1	.9	4.7	-1.3	0
San Diego -----	.9	.7	.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	-.8	1.3
San Francisco-Oakland --	.2	.2	.2	.3	1.5	.1	-.9	.2
Seattle -----	1.1	1.4	.6	.8	3.0	2.7	.3	.3
Washington -----	.4	.2	.4	-.3	.7	.7	0	.9

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to May 1971 from--		May 1970 Unadjusted
	May 1971		April 1971		
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
Total food -----	118.2	118.4	0.3	0.2	2.9
Food away from home -----	125.3		.4		4.9
Restaurant meals -----	125.0		.4		4.9
Snacks -----	126.7		.4		5.5
Food at home -----	116.3	116.6	.2	.2	2.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	114.1		.2		5.6
Flour -----	101.6		.3		2.6
Cracker meal -----	130.1		.5		12.0
Corn flakes -----	110.2		.1		8.8
Rice -----	109.1		.2		2.7
Bread, white -----	112.2		.1		3.6
Bread, whole wheat -----	117.0		.3		6.5
Cookies -----	109.8		.1		6.8
Layer cake -----	119.5		-.1		3.6
Cinnamon rolls -----	118.0		.6		7.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.8	116.5	.1	.3	-1.4
Meats -----	115.6	116.4	-.1	-.1	-2.5
Beef and veal -----	124.6	124.6	.3	-.5	3.7
Steak, round -----	123.8	123.7	-.4	-1.6	4.0
Steak, sirloin -----	122.5		1.3		5.1
Steak, porterhouse -----	123.1		1.2		5.4
Rump roast -----	123.1		.3		4.1
Rib roast -----	125.4	125.8	2.4	2.2	5.1
Chuck roast -----	125.1	125.4	-.4	.6	2.7
Hamburger -----	125.9	126.2	.2	.1	2.2
Beef liver -----	113.5		-.4		-.9
Veal cutlets -----	139.6	139.5	.6	.8	8.3
Pork -----	102.2	104.8	-1.4	-.8	-12.9
Chops -----	102.5	106.3	-3.2	-2.9	-11.9
Loin roast -----	102.5		-1.1		-11.9
Pork sausage -----	109.3		-2.1		-10.8
Ham, whole -----	102.4	105.1	3.0	5.0	-12.0
Picnics -----	106.8		-2.2		-9.7
Bacon -----	95.3	96.8	-.3	-.4	-18.1
Other meats -----	114.9	115.5	.5	1.0	-1.9
Lamb chops -----	119.4		.7		2.6
Frankfurters -----	114.4	115.0	-.7	-.2	-3.2
Ham, canned -----	107.1		2.4		-8.6
Bologna sausage -----	118.4		.4		-.4
Salami sausage -----	115.5		.1		-1.6
Liverwurst -----	114.4		.4		.1
Poultry -----	107.8		.5		-1.3
Frying chicken -----	107.3	107.7	-.2	1.9	-.5
Chicken breasts -----	108.3		-.4		-.6
Turkey -----	109.6		3.9		-5.9
Fish -----	129.4	129.1	.6	.5	10.8
Shrimp, frozen -----	116.2		.8		-.5
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	140.0		1.1		14.2
Tuna fish, canned -----	128.8		-.2		13.5
Sardines, canned -----	132.8		1.0		16.0
Dairy products -----	115.1	115.3	.4	.1	3.4
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	114.8	115.3	.5	.4	3.2
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	117.6		.3		3.3
Milk, fresh, skim -----	120.2		.7		4.3
Milk, evaporated -----	117.0		1.0		5.9
Ice cream -----	105.4		.4		1.0
Cheese, American process -----	120.7	120.5	.3	.2	4.7
Butter -----	105.6	105.7	-.3	-.5	1.1

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to May 1971 from--		May 1970 Unadjusted
	May 1971		April 1971		
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
Fruits and vegetables -----	121.4	118.7	1.2	-.3	4.3
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	125.6	121.0	1.6	-.8	3.0
Apples -----	116.2	111.0	2.5	-2.2	8.9
Bananas -----	94.1	92.3	-1.8	-3.5	-12.9
Oranges -----	120.9	127.1	4.3	2.7	14.3
Orange juice, fresh -----	121.6		2.0		-.2
Grapefruit -----	124.3	133.1	4.5	.2	5.8
Grapes 1/ -----	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Strawberries 1/ -----	109.4	113.4	-14.9	-6.8	9.1
Watermelon 1/ -----	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Potatoes -----	115.7	112.8	2.0	-2.1	-8.8
Onions -----	103.4	99.1	6.3	4.6	-22.4
Asparagus 1/ -----	123.3		.1		1.2
Cabbage -----	129.8	121.6	2.4	-.5	-9.4
Carrots -----	133.7	140.9	10.3	11.9	26.6
Celery -----	107.6	104.4	.3	-10.2	-25.4
Cucumbers -----	151.5		-12.5		29.4
Lettuce -----	125.3	119.9	14.2	12.9	15.9
Peppers, green -----	212.2		-1.6		-5.4
Spinach -----	129.2		-.2		9.4
Tomatoes -----	152.2	133.9	3.5	1.4	22.0
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	151.1		.3		6.3
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	117.2		.3		10.0
Pears, canned -----	116.6		-.1		9.0
Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned -----	113.3		-.2		2.3
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	121.0	120.6	.5	.7	-1.2
Lemonade concentrate, frozen -----	113.2		.2		3.9
Beets, canned -----	114.4		.4		5.7
Peas, green, canned -----	106.3		-.2		5.9
Tomatoes, canned -----	115.3		-.3		7.0
Dried beans -----	119.1		2.7		13.0
Broccoli, frozen -----	117.9		.1		4.0
Other food at home -----	115.5	117.6	-.3	1.5	3.5
Eggs -----	106.1	119.9	-3.3	8.1	-4.0
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	116.1		.7		9.2
Salad dressing, Italian -----	109.7		.6		8.0
Salad or cooking oil -----	119.1		.1		9.8
Sugar and sweets -----	119.0		.3		3.6
Sugar -----	112.2		.1		5.6
Grape jelly -----	118.5		1.0		4.6
Chocolate bar -----	130.7		0		2.3
Syrup, chocolate flavored -----	113.6		-.1		2.1
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	121.8		-.2		4.8
Coffee, can and bag -----	122.6		-.4		4.6
Coffee, instant -----	124.3		.2		4.9
Tea -----	107.7		-.7		3.3
Cola drink -----	125.7		.4		6.3
Carbonated fruit drink -----	125.9		.2		5.0
Prepared and partially prepared foods ---	112.5		.2		3.0
Bean soup, canned -----	113.6		-.1		1.4
Chicken soup, canned -----	106.5		-.1		.6
Spaghetti, canned -----	117.0		-.2		3.7
Mashed potatoes, instant -----	110.8		.5		2.0
Potatoes, french fried, frozen -----	110.1		-.3		-.4
Baby foods, canned -----	110.6		-.1		4.9
Sweet pickle relish -----	116.5		1.1		5.7
Pretzels -----	113.4		.5		5.6

1/ Priced only in season.

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to from	
		May 1971	April 1971	April 1971	May 1970
Housing -----		123.2	122.5	0.6	4.2
Shelter 1/ -----		127.2	126.5	.6	3.7
Rent -----		114.7	114.4	.3	4.8
Homeownership costs 2/ -----		131.6	130.9	.5	3.2
Mortgage interest rates -----		117.3	118.5	-1.0	-11.9
Property taxes -----		129.6	127.8	1.4	7.2
Property insurance rates -----		119.3	118.8	.4	6.0
Maintenance and repairs -----		131.9	131.1	.6	7.6
Commodities 3/ -----		118.1	117.4	.6	4.5
Exterior house paint -----		116.0	115.5	.4	4.4
Interior house paint -----		113.4	113.9	-.4	2.3
Services -----		137.9	137.1	.6	8.8
Repainting living and dining rooms -----		146.2	144.6	1.1	13.0
Reshingling house roof -----		141.9	140.4	1.1	11.4
Residing house -----		129.0	128.8	.2	6.2
Sink replacement -----		138.9	137.9	.7	9.2
Furnace repair -----		141.6	141.1	.4	6.7
Fuel and utilities -----		114.4	114.1	.3	7.1
Fuel oil and coal -----		117.2	117.3	-.1	8.1
Fuel oil, #2 -----		115.9	116.0	-.1	7.2
Gas and electricity -----		114.4	113.9	.4	7.2
Gas -----		116.6	115.8	.7	7.5
Electricity -----		112.4	112.1	.3	6.8
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services -----		106.2	106.2	0	3.5
Residential water and sewerage services -----		132.6	132.6	0	13.4
Household furnishings and operation 4/ -----		118.1	117.0	.9	4.3
Housefurnishings -----		114.1	114.0	.1	2.5
Textiles -----		110.8	111.7	-.8	2.0
Sheets, percale or muslin -----		111.7	115.5	-3.3	-1.5
Curtains, tailored, polyester -----		108.2	109.3	-1.0	-6
Bedspreads, chiefly cotton -----		107.6	108.1	-.5	1.1
Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate -----		117.7	117.1	.5	3.2
Pillows, bed, polyester, acrylic, or kapok -----		108.0	108.9	-.8	5.8
Slipcover, throws, ready made chiefly cotton -----		111.2	111.2	0	4.2
Furniture and bedding -----		119.1	118.8	.3	2.9
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser -----	Mar. 70	103.3	102.8	.5	2.8
Living room suites, good and inexpensive quality --		115.3	115.0	.3	2.0
Lounge chairs, upholstered -----		123.6	122.3	1.1	4.7
Dining room chairs -----	Mar. 70	102.8	103.5	-.7	2.6
Sofas, upholstered -----		116.6	117.9	-1.1	2.5
Sofas, dual purpose -----		116.7	115.9	.7	1.4
Bedding, mattress and box springs -----	June 70	103.3	103.3	0	(5/)
Aluminum folding chair 6/ -----		118.0	115.9	1.8	6.5
Cribs -----		117.5	117.1	.3	3.5
Floor coverings -----		106.0	106.2	-.2	.8
Broadloom carpeting, manmade fibers -----		101.9	102.2	-.3	-1.3
Vinyl sheet goods -----		114.4	114.5	-.1	5.9
Vinyl asbestos tile -----		116.3	116.1	.2	4.4
Appliances 7/ -----		105.3	105.2	.1	1.3
Washing machines, electric, automatic -----		109.3	108.9	.4	1.9
Vacuum cleaners, canister type -----		103.6	103.4	.2	1.0
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers, electric -----		107.9	107.9	0	2.2
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----		111.3	110.6	.6	3.0
Clothes dryers, electric, automatic -----		112.2	112.1	.1	4.1
Air conditioners, demountable -----		110.0	108.9	1.0	2.9
Room heaters, electric, portable 6/ -----		(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Garbage disposal units -----		109.6	109.5	.1	.8
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, chinaware -----		117.9	117.0	.8	6.6
Flatware, stainless steel -----		119.3	119.4	-.1	.4
Table lamps, with shade -----		121.0	120.3	.6	4.3
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type -----		116.8	116.3	.4	2.5
Electric drills, hand held -----		106.4	106.3	.1	-2.0
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents -----		110.5	109.8	.6	4.3
Paper napkins -----		127.5	126.6	.7	6.8
Toilet tissue -----		124.5	123.6	.7	5.0
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic service, general housework -----		133.0	132.3	.5	6.0
Baby sitter service -----		128.4	128.3	.1	4.9
Postal charges -----		146.6	121.0	21.2	25.3
Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----		132.8	132.1	.5	7.7
Licensed day care service, preschool child -----		117.5	117.4	.1	3.5
Washing machine repairs -----		134.9	132.9	1.5	10.5

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to from:	
		May 1971	April 1971	April 1971	May 1970
Apparel and upkeep 8/ -----		120.2	119.1	.9	3.9
Apparel commodities -----		120.5	119.3	1.0	3.8
Apparel commodities less footwear -----		120.3	119.0	1.1	3.9
Men's and boys' -----		121.2	120.3	.7	3.5
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends 6/ -----	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)
Suits, year round weight -----	129.7	129.1	.5	4.8	
Suits, tropical weight 6/ -----	131.6	130.1	1.2	5.9	
Jackets, lightweight -----	112.6	111.9	.6	-4	
Slacks, wool or wool blends -----	117.3	116.8	.4	1.1	
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends -----	133.0	132.5	.4	6.5	
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----	112.8	112.7	.1	4.1	
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----	113.4	112.8	.5	4.1	
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton -----	113.7	112.4	1.2	3.3	
T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----	119.2	118.8	.3	.1	
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers -----	116.2	114.8	1.2	1.1	
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton -----	115.3	113.0	2.0	2.3	
Boy's:					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend 6/ -----	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Sport coats, wool or wool blend 6/ -----	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend -----	122.0	121.2	.7	4.5	
Undershorts, cotton -----	120.0	119.9	.1	.8	
Women's and girls' -----	120.4	118.7	1.4	4.5	
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blend 6/ -----	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton 6/ -----	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Sweaters, wool or acrylic 6/ -----	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Skirts, wool, wool blend or manmade fibers 6/ -----	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Skirts, cotton or polyester/cotton -----	119.4	115.0	3.8	.6	
Blouses, cotton or manmade fibers -----	123.5	123.6	-1	4.7	
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber -----	126.6	126.7	-1	-1.0	
Dresses, street, wool or wool blend 6/ -----	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Slips, nylon -----	107.5	110.9	-4	.5	
Fannies, acetate or nylon tricot -----	115.0	114.7	.3	3.4	
Girdles, manmade blend -----	114.7	114.9	-2	2.8	
Brassieres, nylon lace -----	120.6	120.6	0	3.7	
Hose, or panty hose, nylon seamless -----	99.4	98.9	.5	-3	
Anklets or knee-length socks, various fibers -----	116.7	116.5	.2	1.1	
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----	109.8	109.4	.4	1.8	
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----	132.3	130.2	1.6	8.7	
Girls':					
Raincoats, vinyl, cotton, or polyester blends 6/ -----	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Skirts, wool, wool blends, or acrylic 6/ -----	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Dresses, cotton, manmade fibers or blends -----	111.1	107.9	3.0	6.1	
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton 6/ -----	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	(6/)	
Slips, polyester blends -----	110.2	110.5	-.3	3.2	
Handbags, plastic -----	131.2	129.5	1.3	3.6	
Footwear -----	121.7	121.1	.5	3.5	
Men's:					
Shoes, street oxford -----	119.7	119.1	.5	4.1	
Shoes, work, high -----	118.1	117.9	.2	4.5	
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump -----	123.9	123.4	.4	1.9	
Shoes, evening, pump -----	120.5	119.9	.5	2.6	
Shoes, casual -----	125.2	123.4	1.5	1.7	
Houseslippers, scuff -----	121.0	120.4	.5	2.7	
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford -----	122.4	122.5	-.1	5.0	
Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----	118.8	118.4	.3	4.5	
Dress shoes, girls', strap or pump -----	125.6	125.5	.1	5.5	
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze or disposable -----	111.8	110.9	.8	2.2	
Yard goods, polyester blend -----	122.5	122.0	.4	.9	
Wrist watches, men's and women's -----	112.7	112.4	.3	1.8	
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses -----	117.1	116.3	.7	3.9	
Automatic laundry service -----	112.6	115.1	-2.2	2.6	
Laundry, men's shirts -----	119.0	118.8	.2	4.2	
Tailoring charge, hem adjustment -----	127.6	127.2	.3	9.3	
Shoe repair, women's heel lift -----	112.3	109.9	2.2	4.9	

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to from:	
		May 1971	April 1971	April 1971	May 1970
Transportation -----		118.8	118.1	.6	6.0
Private ^{9/} -----		117.0	116.2	.7	5.9
Automobiles, new -----		113.9	113.8	.1	7.4
Automobiles, used -----		112.8	109.8	2.7	7.5
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		104.0	103.7	.3	-2.1
Motor oil, premium -----		119.3	119.0	.3	5.0
Tires, new, tubeless -----		114.8	114.6	.2	2.5
Auto repairs and maintenance ^{10/} -----		128.4	127.9	.4	7.1
Auto insurance rates -----		142.1	141.9	.1	13.9
Auto registration -----		123.8	123.8	.0	5.0
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		134.9	135.4	-.4	9.0
Public -----		136.4	136.4	0	8.2
Local transit fares -----		143.7	143.7	0	8.8
Taxicab fares -----		119.1	119.1	0	4.6
Railroad fares, coach -----		126.2	126.2	0	9.9
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		124.1	124.1	0	6.2
Bus fares, intercity -----		130.6	130.6	0	12.3
Health and recreation -----		121.6	121.2	.3	5.4
Medical care -----		128.1	127.5	.5	7.0
Drugs and prescriptions -----		105.5	105.1	.4	1.8
Over-the-counter items -----		110.7	110.4	.3	4.8
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		97.6	98.1	-.5	-1.1
Aspirin compounds -----		114.0	113.7	.3	8.4
Liquid tonics -----		101.4	101.7	-.3	.4
Adhesive bandages, package -----		123.1	122.6	.4	9.5
Cold tablets or capsules -----		111.6	110.4	1.1	3.5
Cough syrup -----		113.4	112.9	.4	5.6
Prescriptions -----		101.1	100.7	.4	-.6
Anti-infectives -----		80.2	80.0	.3	-13.1
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		122.4	121.9	.4	5.6
Ataractics -----		100.8	101.2	-.4	.1
Anti-spasmodics -----		107.4	106.0	1.3	4.6
Cough preparations -----		125.8	124.8	.8	5.9
Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives -----		111.2	110.2	.9	4.2
Analgesics, internal -----		107.8	107.6	.2	2.8
Anti-obesity -----		114.8	112.9	1.7	7.2
Hormones -----		94.9	95.0	-.1	.2
Professional services:					
Physicians' fees -----					
General physician, office visits -----		129.2	128.5	.5	7.4
General physician, house visits -----		130.9	130.6	.2	7.9
Obstetrical cases -----		130.0	129.2	.6	6.8
Pediatric care, office visits -----		128.8	126.9	1.5	5.7
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		132.2	130.3	1.5	8.0
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		124.1	123.6	.4	4.5
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		122.7	121.8	.7	7.8
Dentists' fees -----		124.1	122.9	1.0	6.8
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		126.0	125.6	.3	6.2
Extractions, adult -----		126.8	126.4	.3	5.9
Dentures, full upper -----		126.4	126.1	.2	7.6
Other professional services:		123.8	123.4	.3	5.4
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		119.6	118.6	.8	6.4
Routine laboratory tests -----		115.2	114.9	.3	3.7
Hospital service charges:					
Daily service charges -----		159.6	158.8	.5	12.8
Semiprivate rooms -----		161.7	161.0	.4	13.2
Private rooms -----		156.4	155.6	.5	12.2
Operating room charges -----		155.2	154.5	.5	10.1
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----		124.8	124.4	.3	8.3
Personal care -----		116.5	116.3	.2	3.3
Toilet goods -----		113.5	113.5	0	3.1
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		107.3	107.5	-.2	.4
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		112.2	111.8	.4	6.6
Hand lotions, liquid -----		118.1	120.3	-1.8	.4
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		107.1	106.6	.5	5.3
Face powder, pressed -----		123.9	123.9	0	3.9
Deodorants, aerosol -----		105.1	104.9	.2	1.0
Cleansing tissues -----		124.4	123.2	1.0	4.5
Home permanent wave kits -----		110.7	110.4	.3	1.9
Personal care services -----		119.6	119.3	.3	3.5
Men's haircuts -----		121.8	121.7	.1	3.0
Beauty shop services -----		118.0	117.6	.3	3.9
Women's haircuts -----		119.0	118.8	.2	3.9
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		121.2	120.7	.4	4.4
Permanent waves, cold -----		110.1	109.5	.5	2.7

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise Specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to from:	
		May 1971	April 1971	April 1971	May 1970
Reading and recreation ^{11/} -----		118.9	118.4	.4	5.6
Recreational goods -----		106.4	106.2	.2	1.8
TV sets, portable and console -----		100.0	100.1	-.1	.4
TV replacement tubes -----		121.9	121.6	.2	5.6
Radios, portable and table model -----		98.4	98.3	-.1	-.7
Tape recorders, portable -----		94.7	95.1	-.4	-.5
Phonograph records, stereophonic -----		102.3	100.5	1.8	2.0
Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens -----		89.3	88.8	.6	-2.7
Film, 35mm, color -----		108.1	108.1	0	1.2
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core -----		104.5	104.4	.1	1.3
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----		124.5	123.4	.9	5.5
Fishing rods, fresh water spincasting -----		110.4	110.2	.2	-.7
Bowling balls -----		110.5	109.5	.9	3.1
Bicycles, boys' -----		112.5	111.9	.5	4.0
Tricycles -----		111.3	111.1	.2	2.2
Dog food, canned or boxed -----		108.4	108.0	.4	3.3
Recreational services -----		125.0	124.0	.8	5.9
Indoor movie admissions -----		138.3	136.6	1.2	7.4
Adult -----		138.0	136.1	1.4	7.2
Children's -----		139.1	137.8	.9	8.1
Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----		139.3	138.0	.9	8.9
Bowling fees, evening -----		116.0	116.4	-.3	4.6
Golf green fees -----		125.8	124.0	1.5	5.5
TV repair, color picture tube replacement -----		98.1	97.8	.3	.9
Film developing, color -----		116.2	114.7	1.3	5.1
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----		129.8	129.3	.4	11.6
Magazines, single copy and subscription -----		126.3	126.3	0	7.3
Piano lessons, beginner -----		120.8	120.8	0	4.2
Other goods and services -----		119.9	119.7	.2	4.2
Tobacco products -----		124.7	124.3	.3	4.2
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----		126.3	125.9	.3	4.7
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----		126.1	125.7	.3	4.0
Cigars, domestic, regular size -----		105.9	105.9	0	.7
Alcoholic beverages -----		116.4	116.2	.2	3.9
Beer -----		112.7	112.8	-.1	3.6
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon -----		106.0	105.9	.1	1.0
Wine, dessert and table -----		121.2	120.6	.5	3.7
Away from home -----		125.6	125.1	.4	5.8
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult -----		116.3	116.2	.1	3.5
Bank service charges, checking accounts -----		111.5	111.4	.1	5.4
Legal services, short form will -----		133.3	133.3	0	9.0
Other special groups:					
All items less shelter -----		119.2	118.6	.5	4.6
Commodities less food -----		116.6	115.8	.7	4.1
Nondurables less food and apparel -----		114.3	114.0	.3	3.2
Household services less rent -----		130.7	129.7	.8	3.7
Transportation services -----		133.1	133.0	.1	9.5
Other services -----		122.0	121.5	.4	5.4

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

2/ Also includes home purchase costs not shown separately.

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

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

5/ Not available.

6/ Prices only in season.

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

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

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

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

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

Reliability of Percent Changes in the CPI

A system of "replicated" samples introduced into the index structure in the 1964 revision permits an estimate of sampling error for the CPI. ^{1/} The table below shows standard errors for monthly, quarterly, and annual percent changes in the CPI for all items and for nine commodity groupings based on 1970 averages. The figures may be interpreted as follows: the chances are about 95 out of 100 that the percent change in the CPI as computed differs from the corresponding "complete coverage" change by less than twice the standard error.

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

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

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

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

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

Brief Explanation of the CPI

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

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

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

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

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

*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

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

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

Bureau of Labor Statistics Regional Offices

REGION I – Boston

Mr. Wendell D. Macdonald
Regional Director
U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
1603-B Federal Office Building
Boston, Massachusetts 02203
Phone: 223-6727
(Area Code 617)

Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
Rhode Island
Vermont

REGION II – New York

Mr. Herbert Bienstock
Regional Director
U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
341 Ninth Avenue, Room 1025
New York, New York 10001
Phone: 971-5401
(Area Code 212)

Canal Zone
New Jersey
New York
Puerto Rico
Virgin Islands

REGION III – Philadelphia

Mr. Frederick W. Mueller
Regional Director
U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Penn Square Building, Room 406
1317 Filbert Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19107
Phone: 597-7816
(Area Code 215)

Delaware
District of Columbia
Maryland
Pennsylvania
Virginia
West Virginia

REGION IV – Atlanta

Mr. Brunswick A. Bagdon
Regional Director
U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
1371 Peachtree Street NE.
Atlanta, Georgia 30309
Phone: 526-5416
(Area Code 404)

Alabama
Florida
Georgia
Kentucky
Mississippi
North Carolina
South Carolina
Tennessee

REGION V – Chicago

Mr. William E. Rice
Regional Director
U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
219 S. Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604
Phone: 353-7226
(Area Code 312)

Illinois
Indiana
Michigan
Minnesota
Ohio
Wisconsin

REGION VI – Dallas

Mr. Jack F. Strickland
Regional Director
U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
1100 Commerce Street, Room 6B7
Dallas, Texas 75202
Phone: 749-3641
(Area Code 214)

Arkansas
Louisiana
New Mexico
Oklahoma
Texas

REGIONS VII and VIII – Kansas City

Mr. Elliott A. Browar
Regional Director
U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Federal Office Building
911 Walnut Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
Phone: 374-2378
(Area Code 816)

Region VII

Iowa
Kansas
Missouri
Nebraska

Region VIII

Colorado
Montana
North Dakota
South Dakota
Utah
Wyoming

REGIONS IX and X – San Francisco

Mr. Charles A. Roumasset
Regional Director
U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
450 Golden Gate Avenue
Box 36017
San Francisco, California 94102
Phone: 556-3178
(Area Code 415)

Region IX

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Hawaii
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Region X

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Idaho
Oregon
Washington