



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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

the consumer price index

for July 1972

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The Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.4 percent in July to 125.5 percent of its 1967 base. Almost two-thirds of the rise was due to higher prices for food, particularly meats. The July Index was 3.0 percent higher than it was a year ago.

After seasonal adjustment, the July increase was also 0.4 percent. In July, the food index, which includes both food purchased in grocery stores and restaurant meals, rose 0.6 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis, following an increase of 0.2 percent in June. The index for non-food commodities, which held steady in June, rose 0.3 percent in July after seasonal adjustment. The services index increased 0.3 percent, the same as it had in June.

In the 6-month period ending in July, the CPI rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 3.2 percent. Prices in the last 3 months of the period rose at about the same rate as they had in the first 3 months. Despite the acceleration in food prices from June to July, the increase was considerably slower in the 3 months ending in July than in the 3 months ending in April; the latter increase was influenced significantly by the large rise in food prices in February. Prices for nonfood commodities and

charges for services rose at a slightly faster rate in the last 3 months compared with the February-April period.

Seasonally adjusted annual rates of change in the CPI before and since the Economic Stabilization Program began last August are as follows:

	8 months before Phase I, December 1970 to August 1971	3 months, Phase I, August 1971 to November 1971
	All items	3.8	1.9
Food	5.0	1.7
Commodities less food	2.9	0
Services	4.6	3.1

	8 months, Phase II, November 1971 to July 1972	11 months, Phases I and II, August 1971 to July 1972
	All items	3.3	2.9
Food	4.4	3.7
Commodities less food	2.6	1.9
Services	3.6	3.5

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

Month	Changes from preceding month							Changes in all items at seasonally adjusted compound annual rates		
	All items		Food		Commodities less food		Services	From 3 mos. ago	From 6 mos. ago	From 12 mos. ago
	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed			
July 1971	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.5	4.8	3.8	4.4
August .....	.2	.3	.2	.3	.1	.3	.5	4.1	4.0	4.4
September .....	.1	.1	-.8	-.3	.3	0	.3	3.0	3.9	4.0
October .....	.2	.2	-.2	-.1	.5	0	.2	2.6	3.7	3.6
November .....	.2	.2	.1	.8	.1	0	.3	1.9	3.0	3.5
December .....	.4	.3	1.1	.6	0	.2	.3	2.6	2.8	3.4
January 1972 .....	.1	.3	0	-.1	-.3	.2	.5	3.2	2.9	3.4
February .....	.5	.6	1.6	1.8	.1	.3	.2	4.8	3.4	3.7
March .....	.2	0	.2	0	.3	.2	.2	3.6	3.1	3.5
April .....	.2	.2	0	-.1	.3	.2	.3	3.1	3.2	3.4
May .....	.3	.3	-.1	-.1	.6	.5	.2	2.1	3.5	3.2
June .....	.2	.1	.6	.2	.2	0	.3	2.2	2.9	2.9
July .....	.4	.4	1.0	.6	0	.3	.3	3.3	3.2	3.0

Food

The food index, which includes both food purchased in grocery stores and restaurant meals, rose 0.6 percent in July on a seasonally adjusted basis. The index rose 0.2 percent in June, after declining 0.1 percent in April and May. The index for food away from home—restaurant meals and snacks—rose 0.3 percent, the average monthly increase this year.

Before seasonal adjustment, the index for food purchased in grocery stores rose 1.2 percent in July and 0.8 percent after seasonal adjustment, considerably more than it had in June. Three-fourths of the July rise resulted from higher prices for meats and poultry. Egg prices also rose sharply, and fresh fruits and vegetable prices were higher. Prices for most other food purchased in grocery stores declined.

The July increase of 2.7 percent for beef and 5.1 percent for pork were sharper than usual for this time of the year. The July rise in retail meat prices was not unexpected in view of sharp advances at the wholesale level in May and June. However, rising meat prices caused consumer resistance to set in, and partly because of this weakening in demand, wholesale beef prices held almost steady in July instead of advancing sharply as they usually do. Wholesale pork prices continued to rise in July, because hog slaughter and pork production declined during June.

Retail poultry prices rose 2.7 percent in July. The increase, which was more than seasonal, reflected higher prices at the wholesale level. Poultry prices at wholesale recorded a large rise in June and an even sharper gain in July mostly because of strong demand. Except for the sharp rise in July and in February, retail poultry prices have been relatively stable since July 1971. Prices this July were 0.3 percent lower than they were in July 1971. In contrast, beef and pork prices were sharply above year-earlier levels in July.

Egg prices in grocery stores rose 8.2 percent in July, somewhat more than they usually do. In June, egg prices declined sharply. These monthly fluctuations tend to obscure the trend in egg prices which has been downward since early 1970. The declines, however, have been smaller this year than they were in 1970 or 1971 because of smaller production caused by reductions in laying flocks. In May and June, production was down 2 percent from a year earlier, the first year-to-year decline since June 1970. Cold storage holdings at the end of June, however, were up 61 percent from the end of June 1971, and prices this July were 3.1 percent below year-earlier levels.

Fresh fruit and vegetable prices, which are also highly volatile, continued to move up in July. Fresh fruit prices rose 2.6 percent, slightly less than usual for July. Prices

of apples and citrus items rose due to seasonal declines in supplies, and table grapes were introduced into the index for the first time this season at higher prices than prevailed at the end of the season in 1971. Banana and watermelon prices fell sharply. Fresh vegetable prices increased 0.6 percent—a contraseasonal rise—as adverse weather conditions and reduced plantings curtailed supplies of onions, potatoes, asparagus, and celery. Prices for carrots, lettuce, and tomatoes declined as production rose.

Prices of dairy products declined contraseasonally for the third consecutive month as milk production continued to outpace consumption. Prices of cereal and bakery products also declined in July for the third straight month. Corn flakes prices continued to move down because of large corn supplies; flour prices declined as a result of slow demand; and bread prices were lower due to promotional sales. In late June, spot market prices for grains started to advance in anticipation of a large grain sale to the Soviet Union; this sale was confirmed on July 8th. Wholesale prices for wheat and flour advanced sharply in July.

Prices declined in July for most other food items purchased in grocery stores. Large supplies of corn and soybeans and low export demand for crude and refined oils contributed to the decline in retail prices of salad and cooking oils. Promotional sales resulted in lower prices for nonalcoholic beverages, sugar and sugar-based items, baby food, and prepared or partially prepared foods such as instant and frozen potatoes. Although these prices at retail declined in July, wholesale prices for coffee, sugar, and chocolate coating increased sharply in June and July as a result of demand-supply imbalance in the world market for green coffee, raw sugar, and cocoa beans. In an effort to hold down retail coffee prices, the Cost-of-Living Council announced a brief freeze from August 16 through September 1 on coffee prices at the factory level. This was followed by new controls effective on September 1, restricting manufacturers' markups and requiring price reductions in line with any future reductions in the cost of raw coffee.

Commodities less food

The index for nonfood commodities was unchanged in July, instead of declining as it usually does at this time of the year. On a seasonally adjusted basis, the index increased 0.3 percent after holding steady in June.

Gasoline prices, which declined contraseasonally in June, rose sharply in July. The end of price wars in some cities, tighter supplies, and tax increases were factors contributing to the July increase.

Used car prices continued to move up in July. However, the current uptrend, which accelerated from March

to May, decelerated in June, and slowed further in July. The downtrend in new car prices continued, but the decline in July, as in June, was smaller than usual for this time of the year. Dealer concessions did not increase as much as usual because domestic new car sales established a new sales record for the fourth consecutive month.

Prices for houses, some durable housefurnishings such as dinnerware, table lamps, and floor coverings, and home maintenance and repair commodities rose significantly in July. Dinnerware prices have moved up steadily this year as a result of wholesale price increases and import taxes. Large increases in table lamp prices in June and July reflected higher manufacturers' prices on new models. Rising costs for material and labor contributed to the increase in prices. The July increase for floor coverings resulted from increases granted by the Price Commission to carpet manufacturers this spring because of rising material costs. Prices for nylon fiber have moved up significantly as a result of strong demand and short supply of nylon carpet yarn. Retail sales for floor coverings which had been low in the 1970-71 period, have improved considerably this year as a result of the housing boom and the overall rise in economic activity. Rising materials costs, especially lumber, contributed to higher prices of commodities for home improvement and repairs.

In the household appliance group, prices increased in July for ranges but declined for vacuum cleaners and air conditioners. Prices declined for furniture and lawn mowers as summer clearance sales continued.

Prices for apparel declined slightly more than they usually do in July. Clearance sales on spring and summer clothing items were widespread. The decrease in footwear prices, however, was considerably smaller than usual. Although prices were lower for some footwear items, average prices for men's and children's footwear continued to rise as many stores passed on higher wholesale prices.

Among other nondurable goods, prices of textile housefurnishings declined 0.7 percent in July as stores began summer white sales. Prices of alcoholic beverages, which declined in June, rose in July as sale prices were removed and some wholesale costs were higher. Prices of tobacco were unchanged after moving up sharply in the first 6 months of this year. The index for drugs and prescriptions, which rose in May and June, declined slightly.

Services

The index for consumer services rose 0.3 percent in July, the same as in June. About two-thirds of the July increase was due to higher charges for most household services.

The 0.5 percent rise in the index for household services in July was more than the increase of 0.3 percent in each of the 3 preceding months. The acceleration in July was largely due to a sharp rise in property insurance rates and mortgage interest costs. The large increase in property insurance rates in July followed a decline in June and moderate increase in April and May. The index for property taxes, which decreased 0.1 percent in June, increased 0.1 percent in July. Increases earlier this year were considerably larger.

Charges for housekeeping services rose 0.4 percent in July, slightly more than in June because of a large increase in charges for babysitters' services. The July increase of 0.4 percent for home maintenance and repairs was about the same as it was in the preceding 4 months.

Charges for most utility services showed little change in July. Charges for gas showed no change after declining sharply in June. Telephone services increased 0.1 percent, following a substantial increase in June, and electricity charges decreased slightly following sharp increases since December 1971. The July decrease in electricity bills reflected lower fuel costs resulting from a temporary surplus of residual fuel and bituminous coal. The increase of 0.8 percent in water and sewerage charges was slightly smaller than earlier increases this year.

The index for medical care services rose 0.3 percent in July, the same amount as it had in June. Physicians' and dentists' fees rose 0.1 and 0.2, respectively, the same as in May and much less than in June. Charges for hospital services and health insurance rose 0.4 percent, compared with 0.2 percent in June and 0.3 percent in April and May. The most significant price advances, 0.8 percent for operating room charges and 0.6 percent for semi-private room rates, were mainly due to increased labor costs.

The index for transportation services rose 0.2 percent after rising 0.1 percent in each of the preceding 3 months. Auto insurance rates increased 0.3 percent in July following declines in April and May and a slight rise in June. Higher liability rates in several cities resulted in the rise. Charges for auto repairs and maintenance rose 0.2 percent as prices for replacement parts and labor charges were higher. The July increase was the same as the increase during the preceding 3 months and considerably less than in the first 3 months of the year. Parking fees, which increased sharply in May and June, rose only 0.1 percent in July. Local transit fares rose 0.3 percent in July compared with 0.5 percent in June.

Diffusion of individual price changes

Approximately 120,000 individual prices were collected directly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in

July for use in the index. Approximately 80 percent of these quotations represent monthly comparisons. As can be seen from the following table, 72 percent of these monthly comparisons remained unchanged, 10 percent decreased, and 18 percent increased between June and July. The proportion of prices increasing was larger than in June and the largest since February. An increase in the number of commodity prices rising, particularly food prices, was primarily responsible for the overall rise. For the services component, the proportion rising was

slightly less than last month.

The July index also includes 23,000 price comparisons to July from periods before June of which 18,000 cover the quarterly span from April to July. About 13 percent of these increased, the same proportion as in last month's index. In addition, a little less than 5,000 rental units were surveyed in July and about 19 percent of these reported rent increases from January. About 2.5 percent of the 5,000 units reported increases between June and July.

Table B. Percent distribution of monthly price comparisons¹

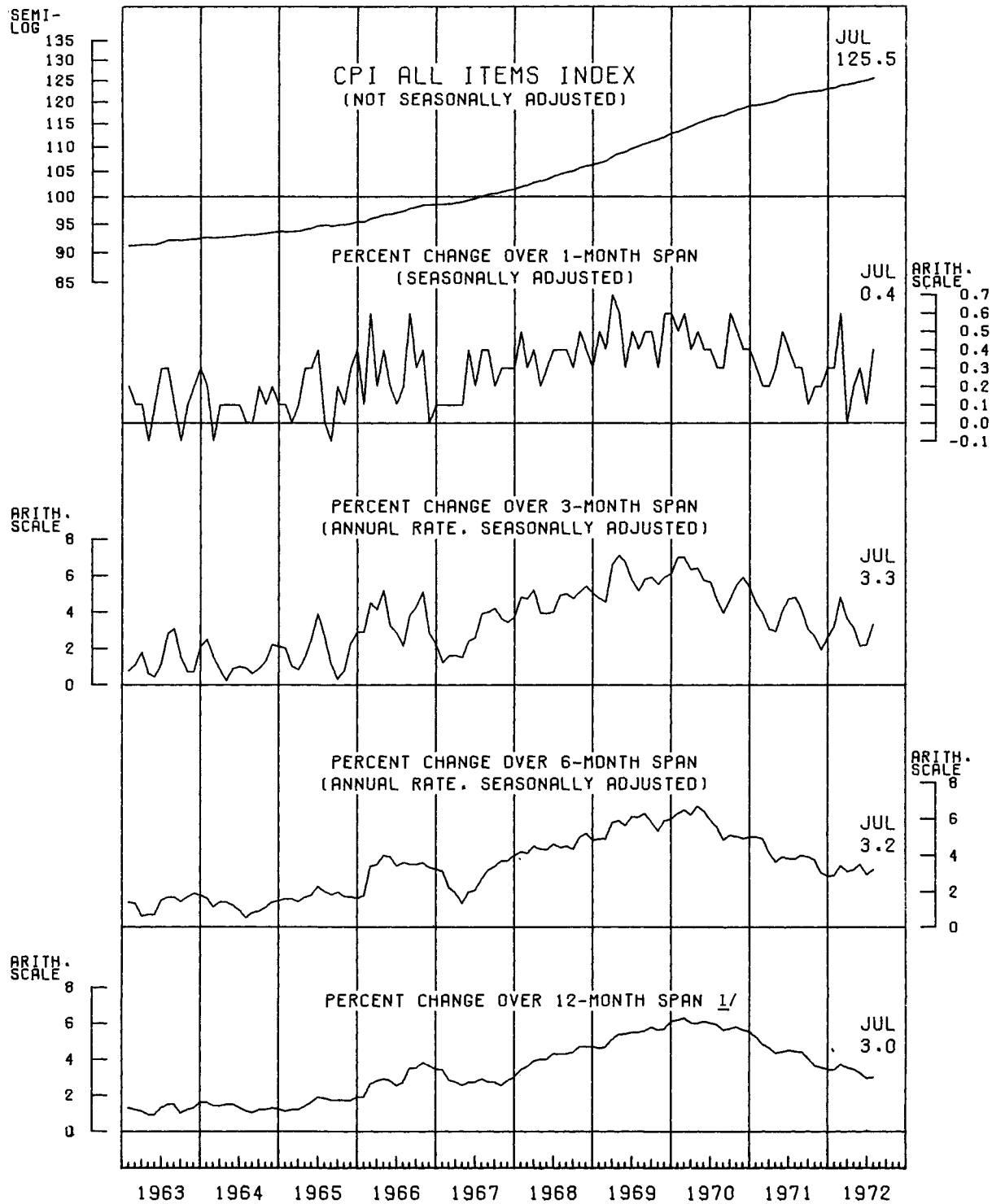
Item	January to February	February to March	March to April	April to May	May to June	June to July
All items ²	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	22	15	14	13	15	18
Decreases	8	10	12	12	11	10
No change	70	75	74	75	74	72
Food at home	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	24	16	15	14	17	20
Decreases	9	12	13	13	12	11
No change	67	72	72	73	71	69
Commodities less food	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	8	10	7	8	6	8
Decreases	7	5	7	6	7	7
No change	85	85	86	86	87	85
Services	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	8	3	6	7	5	4
Decreases	3	1	4	5	3	3
No change	89	96	90	88	92	93

¹ Regulations of the Economic Stabilization Program permit certain types of increases, but it is not possible to determine whether allowable increases accounted for all increases shown in the above table.

² Based on approximately 98,000 individual price quotations.

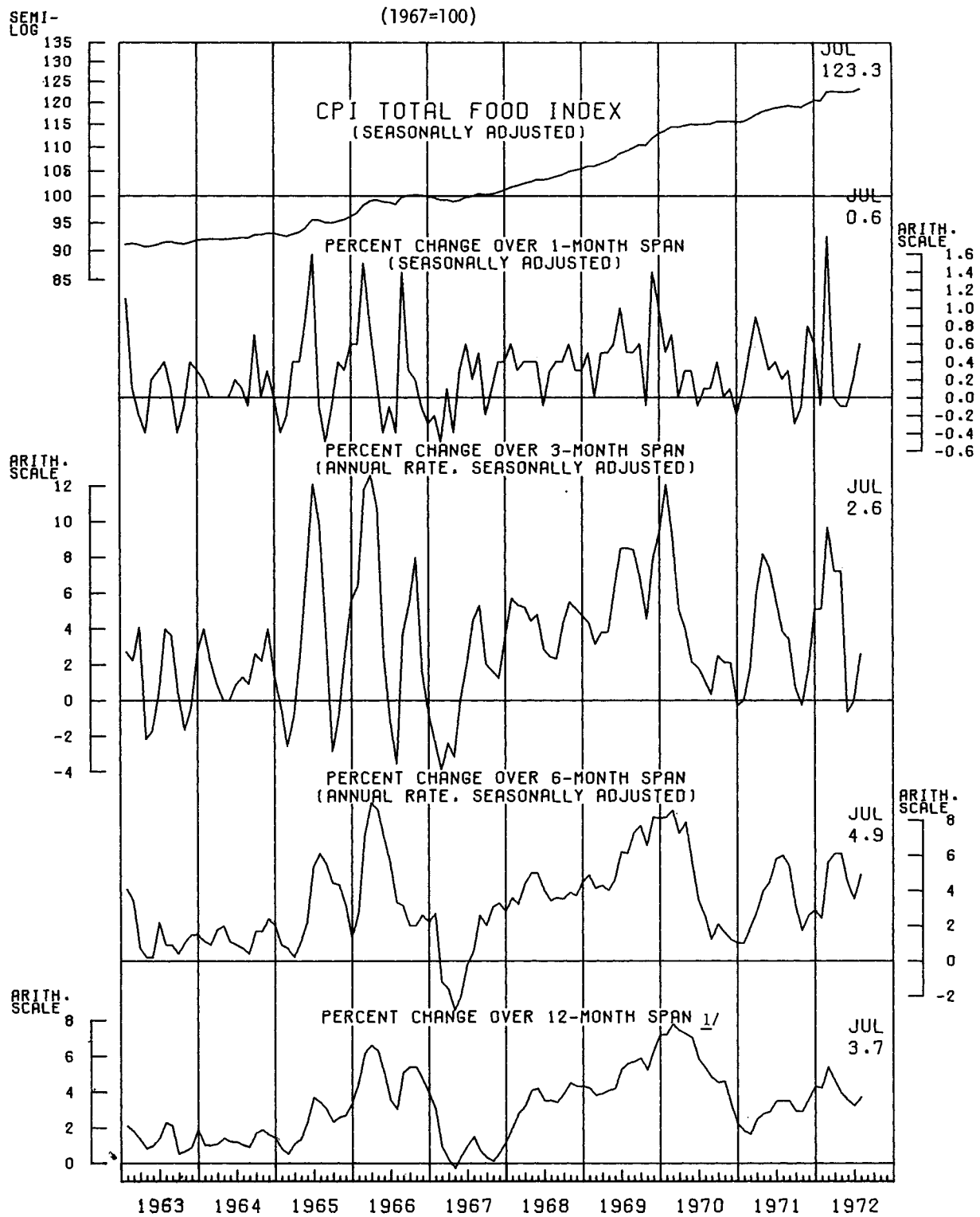
CHART 1. ALL ITEMS INDEX AND ITS RATE OF CHANGE, 1963-72

(1967=100)



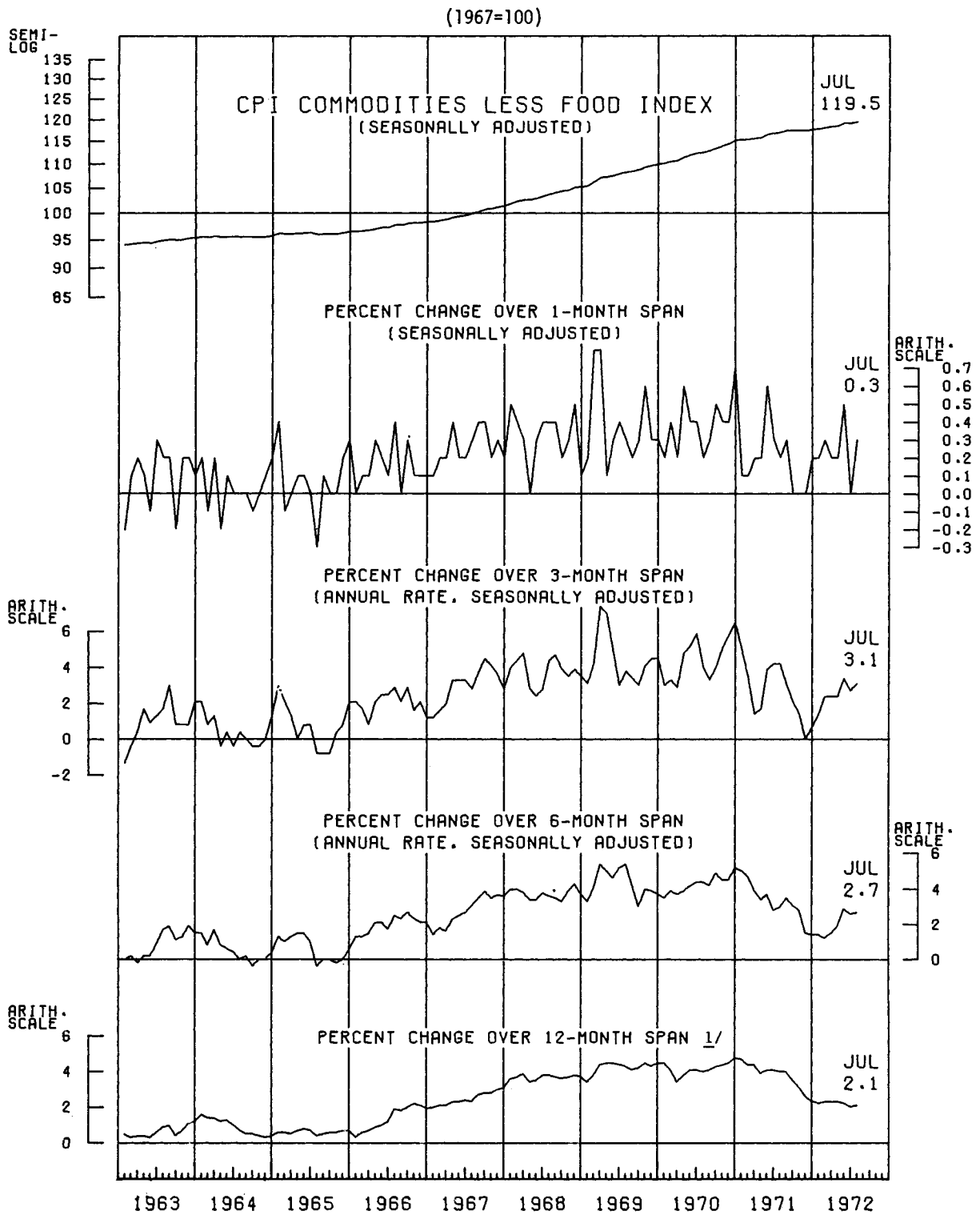
1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.
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CHART 2. TOTAL FOOD INDEX AND ITS RATE OF CHANGE, 1963-72



^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
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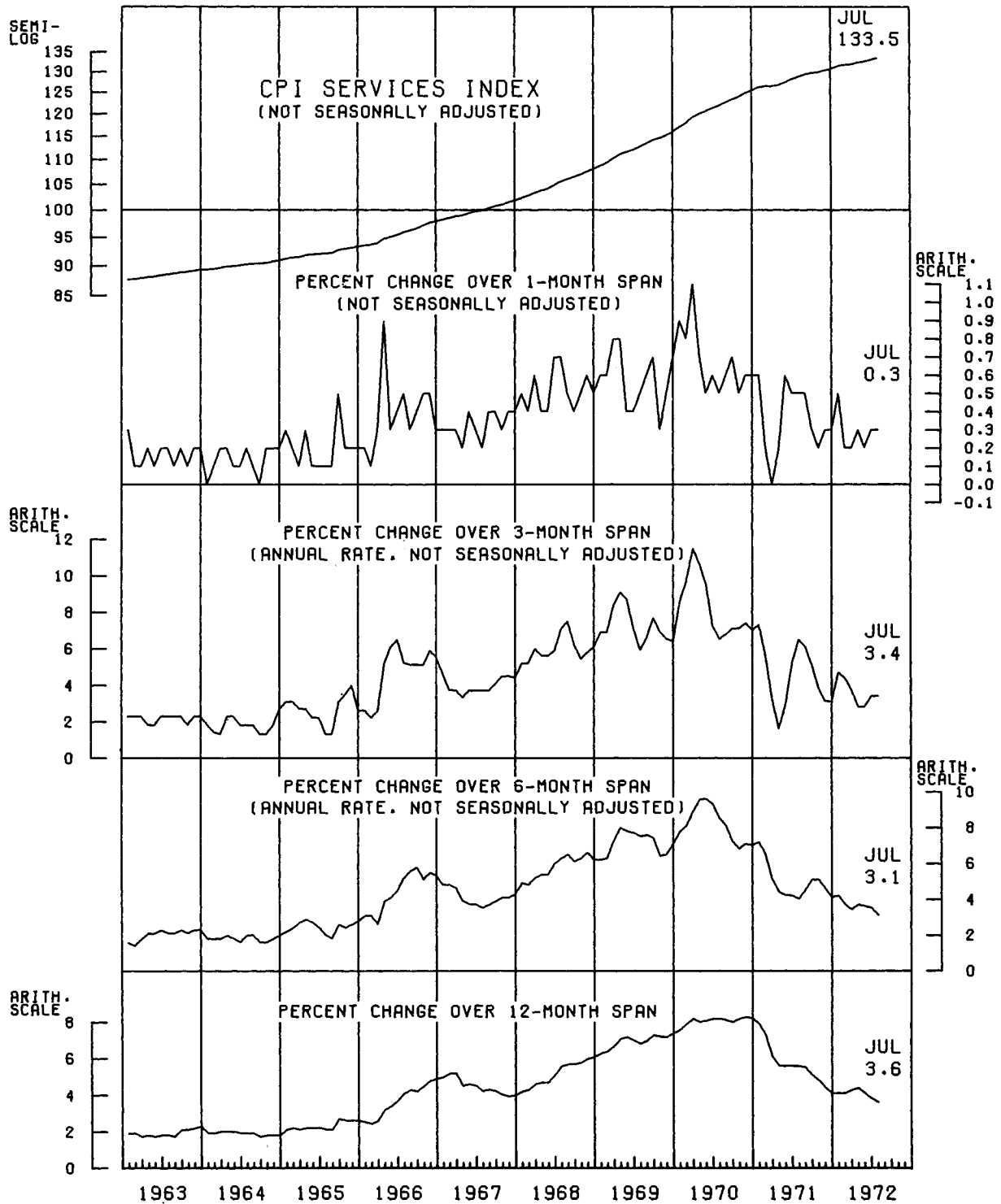
CHART 3. COMMODITIES LESS FOOD INDEX AND ITS RATE OF CHANGE, 1963-72



1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.
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CHART 4. SERVICES INDEX AND ITS RATE OF CHANGE, 1963-72

(1967=100)



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

Groups	Relative importance	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to		Seasonally adjusted percent change from--		
	December	1967=100 unless otherwise noted	1972	June 1972	July 1972 from--	June-July	May-June	April-May
	1971	July 1972	June 1972	June 1972	July 1971	June-July	May-June	April-May
Commodity and service groups								
All items (1967=100)-----	100.00	125.5	125.0	0.4	3.0	0.4	0.1	0.3
All items (1957-59=100)-----	-	145.9	145.4	.4	3.0	-	-	-
Commodities-----	62.59	121.2	120.7	.4	2.6	.4	.2	.3
Food-----	22.19	124.2	123.0	1.0	3.7	.6	.2	-.1
Food at home-----	17.23	122.4	120.9	1.2	3.6	.8	.2	-.2
Cereals and bakery products-----	2.28	114.4	114.5	-.1	-.3	-.3	-.2	-.1
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	5.64	129.9	126.4	2.8	10.1	2.1	.7	-.7
Dairy products-----	2.72	116.8	117.0	-.2	.7	-.2	-.4	-.4
Fruits and vegetables-----	3.03	128.4	127.2	.9	1.9	.5	1.6	.2
Other foods at home-----	3.56	115.3	114.5	.7	-.3	-.1	-.8	1.4
Food away from home-----	4.96	131.3	130.9	.3	3.8	.2	.4	.3
Commodities less food-----	40.40	119.4	119.4	0	2.1	.3	0	.5
Nondurables less food-----	23.63	119.3	119.5	-.2	2.2	.2	-.2	.4
Apparel commodities ^{1/} -----	9.03	121.3	122.4	-.9	1.5	-.1	-.2	.2
Men's and boys'-----	2.82	120.4	121.9	-1.2	.4	-.2	-.3	.2
Women's and girls'-----	4.02	121.2	122.6	-1.1	1.6	-.3	-.3	0
Footwear-----	1.57	124.6	124.7	-.1	3.1	.5	.3	.2
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	14.60	118.2	117.9	.3	2.7	.3	-.2	.5
Gasoline and motor oil-----	2.92	108.1	106.8	1.2	2.7	1.1	-.8	1.5
Tobacco products-----	2.09	134.0	134.0	0	5.6	0*	.6*	.4*
Alcoholic beverages-----	2.50	119.6	119.1	.4	2.2	.4*	-.3*	.2*
Fuel oil and coal-----	.67	117.7	117.8	-.1	.2	-.1	-.5	.3
Other nondurables-----	6.42	117.9	118.0	-.1	2.3	0	.2	.3
Durables commodities-----	16.77	119.6	119.2	.3	1.8	.6	.3	.3
Household durables-----	4.83	115.3	115.1	.2	1.9	.3	.3	.3
New cars-----	2.12	111.0	111.3	-.3	-2.5	.2	.5	-.1
Used cars-----	1.98	112.7	^{2/} 112.0	.6	-.7	.6*	1.8*	3.4*
Other durables-----	7.84	127.2	126.2	.8	3.8	.8	.4	.3
Services-----	37.41	133.5	133.1	.3	3.6	.3*	.3*	.2*
Rent-----	5.05	119.0	118.8	.2	3.1	.2*	.4*	.2*
Services less rent-----	32.36	136.2	135.7	.4	3.8	.4*	.3*	.2*
Household services less rent-----	15.36	139.6	138.9	.5	5.4	.3	.4	.6
Transportation services-----	5.57	136.3	136.0	.2	1.5	.4	.1	.4
Medical care services-----	5.55	138.4	138.0	.3	3.0	.1	.4	.2
Other services-----	5.88	125.8	125.6	.2	2.6	.4	.1	.1
Special indexes:								
All items less food-----	77.81	125.9	125.7	.2	2.9	.2	.2	.4
Nondurable commodities-----	45.82	121.7	121.2	.4	2.9	.4	0	.2
Apparel commodities less footwear-----	7.46	120.7	122.0	-1.1	1.2	-.2	-.2	.1
Services less medical care-----	31.86	132.8	132.4	.3	3.8	.3*	.3*	.2*
Insurance and finance-----	9.85	144.3	143.5	.6	4.3	.6	.6	.6
Utilities and public transportation-----	5.51	126.0	125.8	.2	4.3	.2	.2	.5
Housekeeping and home maintenance service-----	4.46	144.7	144.2	.3	4.5	.4	.3	.3
Expenditure classes								
All items-----	100.00	125.5	125.0	0.4	3.0	0.4	0.1	0.3
Food-----	22.19	124.2	123.0	1.0	3.7	.6	.2	-.1
Housing-----	33.84	129.5	129.0	.4	4.0	.4*	.4*	.2*
Shelter ^{3/} -----	21.72	134.9	134.1	.6	4.7	.5	.4	.5
Rent-----	5.05	119.0	118.8	.2	3.1	.2*	.4*	.2*
Homeownership ^{4/} -----	16.25	140.7	139.6	.8	5.4	.8	.5	.4
Fuel and utilities ^{5/} -----	4.71	120.2	120.1	.1	4.1	0	.3	.3
Gas and electricity-----	2.43	120.3	120.3	0	4.9	.3	.2	.3
Household furnishings and operation-----	7.41	121.1	121.0	.1	1.9	.2	.2	.1
Apparel and upkeep-----	10.45	121.1	122.1	-.8	1.5	-.1	-.2	.2
Transportation-----	13.27	120.3	^{2/} 119.8	.4	.7	.7	0	.5
Private-----	11.80	117.8	^{2/} 117.3	.4	.3	.7	-.1	.6
Public-----	1.47	143.3	143.0	.2	3.1	.4	-.4	.4
Health and recreation-----	19.87	126.3	126.1	.2	3.0	.2*	.2*	.2*
Medical care-----	6.46	132.7	132.4	.2	2.6	.1	.5	.2
Personal care-----	2.58	120.0	120.0	0	2.5	0	.3	.5
Reading and recreation-----	5.71	123.0	122.9	.1	2.8	.2	.3	.1
Other goods and services-----	5.12	125.8	125.6	.2	3.8	-.2	0	.4
Special indexes:								
All items less shelter-----	78.28	123.1	122.7	.3	2.6	.3	.2	.2
All items less medical care-----	93.54	125.1	124.6	.4	3.0	.4	.2	.2
All items less mortgage interest costs-----	96.25	124.6	124.2	.3	3.0	.4	.2	.2
Purchasing power of consumer dollar:								
1967=\$1.00-----	-	\$0.797	\$0.800	-.4	-2.9	-	-	-
1957-59=\$1.00-----	-	.685	.688	-	-	-	-	-

1/ Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, and jewelry not shown separately.
2/ Revised.
3/ Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.
4/ Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.
5/ Also includes residential telephone, fuel oil, coal, water and sewerage service not shown separately.
* Not seasonally adjusted.
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 <u>1/</u>	Pricing Schedule <u>2/</u>	Indexes			Percent change from:		
		1967=100	1957-59=100	Other bases	June 1972	April 1972	July 1971
		July 1972					
U.S. City Average -----	M	125.5	145.9		0.4	1.0	3.0
Chicago -----	M	124.4	141.4		.2	.9	2.9
Detroit -----	M	126.7	145.6		.6	1.4	4.0
Los Angeles-Long Beach ---	M	122.8	144.4		.9	1.2	3.1
N.Y.-Northeastern N.J. ---	M	131.4	156.3		.4	.8	3.6
Philadelphia -----	M	127.0	148.3		.4	.8	2.7
		July 1972				April 1972	July 1971
Boston -----	1	127.1	152.2			0.7	3.4
Houston -----	1	125.2	143.2			.3	3.2
Minneapolis-St. Paul -----	1	125.5	145.5			1.0	3.0
Pittsburgh -----	1	125.5	144.3			.6	3.0
		May 1972				February 1972	May 1971
Buffalo -----	2	126.1		<u>3/</u> 138.5		1.0	3.9
Cleveland -----	2	126.1	142.3			.2	3.4
Dallas -----	2	124.6		<u>3/</u> 134.7		.7	3.5
Milwaukee -----	2	122.8	138.6			.5	3.1
San Diego -----	2	123.8		<u>4/</u> 130.1		1.2	3.6
Seattle -----	2	118.8	139.6			.2	2.9
Washington -----	2	125.6	146.3			.7	2.8
		June 1972				March 1972	June 1971
Atlanta -----	3	124.8	143.5			0.8	2.0
Baltimore -----	3	125.5	145.7			.5	1.6
Cincinnati -----	3	124.6	141.4			1.3	3.2
Honolulu -----	3	122.2		<u>5/</u> 131.7		.2	3.1
Kansas City -----	3	123.9	147.1			1.2	2.7
St. Louis -----	3	121.9	142.4			.9	1.7
San Francisco-Oakland ----	3	124.3	147.9			1.1	3.7

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

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

- M - Every month.
- 1 - January, April, July, and October.
- 2 - February, May, August, and November.
- 3 - March, June, September, and December.

3/ November 1963=100.

4/ February 1965=100.

5/ December 1963=100.

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

Table 3. Consumer Price Index--United States and selected areas ¹/ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups percent changes from June 1972 to July 1972

Group	U. S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York-Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.9	0.4	0.4
Food -----	1.0	.3	1.5	1.1	1.1	.8
Housing -----	.4	.6	.9	.9	.2	.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	-.8	-2.7	-.4	-.8	-1.1	-1.9
Transportation -----	.4	.9	-.3	2.1	.2	-.2
Health and recreation -----	.2	.2	.3	.3	.3	.8
Medical care -----	.2	.4	.1	.6	-.1	.9
Personal care -----	.0	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	.1	-.1	-.2	.3	.5	.2
Other goods and services -----	.2	.1	.2	.1	.7	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 change to July 1972 from:	
	July 1972	June 1972	April 1972	1 month ago	3 month ago
Food -----	123.3	122.6	122.5	0.6	0.7
Food at home -----	121.4	120.4	120.5	.8	.7
Cereal and bakery products -----	114.3	114.6	114.9	-.3	-.5
Meat, poultry, and fish -----	128.7	126.0	126.0	2.1	2.1
Dairy products -----	116.7	116.9	117.9	-.2	-1.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	123.3	122.7	120.5	.5	2.3
Other foods at home -----	116.7	116.8	116.2	-.1	.4
Fuel and utilities ¹ / -----	120.3	120.3	119.7	0	.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	118.2	118.3	118.5	-.1	-.3
Apparel and upkeep ² / -----	121.8	121.9	121.9	-.1	-.1
Men's and boys' -----	121.2	121.5	121.7	-.2	-.4
Women's and girls' -----	122.2	122.6	123.0	-.3	-.7
Footwear -----	125.2	124.6	124.0	.5	1.0
Transportation -----	120.1	3/119.3	118.7	.7	1.2
Private -----	117.4	3/116.6	116.0	.7	1.2
New cars -----	112.3	112.1	111.6	.2	.6
Commodities -----	121.0	120.5	119.9	.4	.9
Commodities less food -----	119.5	119.2	118.6	.3	.8
Nondurables -----	121.5	121.0	120.8	.4	.6
Nondurables less food -----	119.7	119.5	119.2	.2	.4
Apparel commodities -----	122.2	122.3	122.3	-.1	-.1
Durables -----	119.4	118.7	117.9	.6	1.3

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

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

³ Revised.

Table 5. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas ^{1/} for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, July 1972, and percent changes from April 1972

Group	U.S. City Average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Houston	Los Angeles-Long Beach	Minneapolis-St. Paul	New York-Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh
Indexes (1967=100)										
All items -----	125.5	127.1	124.4	126.7	125.2	122.8	125.5	131.4	127.0	125.5
Food -----	124.2	124.0	124.3	124.2	124.8	121.3	125.3	129.5	124.0	123.0
Food at home -----	122.4	122.7	123.1	123.3	121.2	120.8	123.4	126.5	121.0	121.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	114.4	113.2	113.1	115.7	110.1	111.2	123.4	117.2	112.7	111.2
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	129.9	131.9	131.9	133.7	128.2	131.1	131.7	133.4	128.1	127.5
Dairy products -----	116.8	116.5	116.3	113.0	118.4	114.9	117.1	119.7	118.4	115.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	128.4	129.5	127.6	126.1	128.4	124.3	124.2	136.0	126.5	130.7
Other foods at home -----	115.3	113.0	116.1	114.4	115.0	114.2	117.8	116.6	111.5	114.8
Food away from home -----	131.3	128.9	129.1	128.7	137.5	122.6	133.7	139.2	136.7	134.1
Housing -----	129.5	133.3	125.1	134.5	129.2	128.0	131.2	136.1	131.1	130.7
Shelter -----	134.9	141.7	129.8	144.7	135.2	131.0	136.6	142.3	140.5	139.0
Rent -----	119.0	129.3	113.3	(2/)	111.0	118.5	121.1	(2/)	124.6	117.0
Homeownership -----	140.7	147.3	137.2	149.6	143.6	134.8	139.2	154.8	144.7	145.3
Fuel and utilities -----	120.2	117.9	115.1	116.1	116.3	127.1	124.5	124.8	117.7	120.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.7	117.1	113.4	113.9	-	-	115.1	120.4	111.9	-
Gas and electricity -----	120.3	120.3	115.4	117.3	117.5	130.3	125.0	123.5	122.4	124.6
Household furnishings and operation -----	121.1	125.7	117.3	115.3	124.8	118.1	119.5	126.6	122.1	119.8
Apparel and upkeep -----	121.1	123.2	115.9	116.9	123.2	119.1	117.2	120.2	117.7	121.8
Men's and boys' -----	120.4	120.1	114.0	115.2	114.7	114.7	117.6	117.2	117.3	120.9
Women's and girls' -----	121.2	123.0	115.2	112.9	129.3	122.4	114.3	119.6	112.8	122.0
Footwear -----	124.6	128.3	118.2	126.2	126.2	123.0	124.5	123.7	126.4	125.9
Transportation -----	3/120.3	119.3	124.8	116.5	115.6	117.8	116.2	133.2	125.3	121.8
Private -----	6/117.8	116.3	119.2	114.0	113.0	117.8	115.6	125.5	122.4	119.4
Public -----	143.3	137.2	160.4	147.5	157.5	116.7	126.6	162.8	142.3	137.9
Health and recreation -----	126.3	128.0	127.7	128.6	128.1	120.5	126.6	131.7	130.7	126.1
Medical care -----	132.7	134.5	131.6	141.3	135.1	129.1	125.9	140.2	142.1	129.8
Personal care -----	120.0	121.7	(2/)	121.6	122.5	(2/)	119.5	(2/)	121.3	115.6
Reading and recreation -----	123.0	129.2	124.0	123.7	122.0	113.9	128.4	128.2	126.2	124.2
Other goods and services -----	125.8	123.4	131.0	121.4	128.1	119.3	128.5	132.4	127.7	129.1
Percent changes from April 1972 to July 1972										
All items -----	1.0	0.7	0.9	1.4	0.3	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.6
Food -----	1.5	1.2	1.6	2.4	1.0	1.8	2.0	1.6	-.2	.5
Food at home -----	1.7	1.4	1.9	2.7	1.2	2.4	2.3	1.7	-.4	.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	-.5	-1.3	-3.3	.3	-1.9	-.5	-.7	-.0	-3.9	-5.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	3.2	2.8	5.0	4.0	2.5	4.5	3.7	2.3	2.2	4.2
Dairy products -----	-.5	-.3	-.2	-3.2	-.1	-.2	2.0	-.8	-1.6	-3.4
Fruits and vegetables -----	5.2	5.6	3.3	9.5	4.6	4.6	5.0	6.8	2.8	4.6
Other foods at home -----	-.8	-2.1	.3	.0	-.5	.8	-.5	-1.4	-5.0	-2.5
Food away from home -----	1.0	1.1	.7	1.3	.2	.2	.8	1.7	.9	.5
Housing -----	1.0	.8	1.3	1.9	.8	1.6	1.2	1.1	2.3	1.6
Shelter -----	1.4	.9	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.9	.9	1.4	3.5	1.9
Rent -----	.8	1.0	5/1.6	(2/)	.4	5/1.3	.2	(2/)	5/1.6	.6
Homeownership -----	1.6	.9	2.3	2.3	1.1	2.3	1.0	1.7	4.1	2.3
Fuel and utilities -----	-.3	1.0	-.6	2.0	.2	1.8	2.0	1.0	.9	1.4
Fuel oil and coal -----	-.8	.0	.0	.0	-.2	-.2	.0	.0	.0	-.2
Gas and electricity -----	-.1	-.3	-1.1	1.3	-4.5	2.0	2.0	2.2	.7	2.0
Household furnishings and operation -----	.5	-.1	.4	1.0	.6	.3	1.4	-.1	.5	.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	-.6	-.1	-2.6	-.3	-2.3	-.9	-1.3	-2.7	-2.3	-1.8
Men's and boys' -----	-.6	-.1	-2.6	-.3	-2.3	-.9	-1.3	-2.7	-2.3	-1.8
Women's and girls' -----	-1.2	-.7	-2.8	-1.6	-1.9	-1.2	-3.3	-5.4	-4.2	-.9
Footwear -----	-.9	-1.0	-5.1	-1.1	-6.0	-2.0	-1.3	-3.0	-3.3	-5.6
Transportation -----	1.4	.5	1.7	1.0	.0	1.8	1.8	1.1	1.1	1.0
Private -----	1.5	-.6	2.2	1.3	-.1	1.8	1.8	1.3	1.4	1.3
Public -----	.4	-.4	-.6	-1.0	.7	1.2	.9	.2	-.1	-.3
Health and recreation -----	.6	.4	.7	.5	.2	.7	.5	1.3	1.2	.6
Medical care -----	.8	.2	.8	.6	.1	1.2	.9	.9	.9	2.0
Personal care -----	.8	.4	(2/)	1.8	-.2	(2/)	.0	(2/)	.7	.3
Reading and recreation -----	.6	1.0	.3	.2	.2	.7	.0	1.6	.3	.6
Other goods and services -----	.6	-.2	.4	.1	.2	.7	.8	1.5	2.6	-.6

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.
2/ Not available.
3/ Revised index June 1972=119.8.
4/ Revised index June 1972=117.3.
5/ Change from May 1972.

Table 6. Consumer Price Index--United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, July 1972, and percent changes from June 1972

Area ^{1/}	Total food	Food at home						Food away from home
		Total	Cereals and bakery products	Meats, poultry, and fish	Dairy products	Fruits and vegetables	Other foods at home	
Indexes (1967=100)								
U.S. City Average -----	124.2	122.4	114.4	129.9	116.8	128.4	115.3	131.3
Atlanta -----	124.3	122.0	118.2	126.7	118.3	131.3	114.9	131.5
Baltimore -----	125.0	123.1	112.1	127.8	118.7	133.3	117.5	132.4
Boston -----	124.0	122.7	113.2	131.9	116.5	129.5	113.0	128.9
Buffalo -----	124.4	123.2	114.9	129.5	116.9	132.9	115.4	130.9
Chicago -----	124.3	123.1	113.1	131.9	116.3	127.6	116.1	129.1
Cincinnati -----	125.6	124.8	117.9	129.4	119.8	132.7	118.3	128.3
Cleveland -----	124.4	123.8	112.5	130.5	121.2	130.8	116.6	127.5
Dallas -----	123.0	120.0	112.9	128.6	111.1	123.1	114.8	134.1
Detroit -----	124.2	123.3	115.7	133.7	113.0	126.1	114.4	128.7
Honolulu -----	122.1	118.9	106.3	123.4	118.0	126.5	115.0	131.3
Houston -----	124.8	121.2	110.1	128.2	118.4	128.4	115.0	137.5
Kansas City -----	124.1	122.3	117.1	128.2	125.9	120.5	116.2	129.7
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	121.3	120.8	111.2	131.1	114.9	124.3	114.2	122.6
Milwaukee -----	120.9	119.5	114.2	127.7	114.0	125.2	111.0	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	125.3	123.4	^{3/} 123.4	131.7	117.1	124.2	117.8	133.7
N.Y.-Northeastern N.J.--	129.5	126.5	117.2	133.4	119.7	136.0	116.6	139.2
Philadelphia -----	124.0	121.0	112.7	128.1	118.4	126.5	111.5	136.7
Pittsburgh -----	123.0	121.2	111.2	127.5	115.5	130.7	114.8	134.1
St. Louis -----	123.5	121.6	119.4	126.1	119.7	129.8	111.0	132.2
San Diego -----	124.2	121.9	111.8	135.9	114.5	122.2	112.4	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	122.4	121.3	112.8	129.4	115.5	123.1	115.9	126.5
Seattle -----	121.1	119.2	110.3	128.4	115.8	118.3	115.1	127.0
Washington -----	126.1	122.7	117.8	123.7	112.8	135.7	120.9	134.9
Percent changes June 1972 to July 1972								
U.S. City Average -----	1.0	1.2	-0.1	2.8	-0.2	0.9	0.7	0.3
Atlanta -----	.6	.7	.0	2.4	-.6	-.5	.4	.1
Baltimore -----	1.5	1.8	.2	2.5	.1	4.4	.4	.1
Boston -----	.9	1.1	.1	1.8	.3	3.0	-.8	.5
Buffalo -----	1.0	1.0	-.1	2.9	.0	-.2	.4	.5
Chicago -----	.3	.4	-.9	2.2	.2	-2.1	.3	.3
Cincinnati -----	1.0	1.1	.8	3.6	-.2	-1.0	.7	.1
Cleveland -----	1.2	1.4	.2	3.8	-1.1	1.0	.1	.3
Dallas -----	.7	1.0	-.4	3.0	-.5	-1.3	1.1	.1
Detroit -----	1.5	1.9	1.0	3.2	-.3	1.4	2.0	.0
Honolulu -----	.7	.7	.4	.2	.1	3.6	-.7	.6
Houston -----	1.0	1.3	-.6	2.7	.1	2.4	.6	-.1
Kansas City -----	.7	1.0	.1	2.1	-.4	.0	1.5	.1
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	1.1	1.5	-.3	2.9	.1	2.1	1.2	.0
Milwaukee -----	.7	.8	-.1	2.1	.4	.5	.2	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	1.0	1.1	.8	2.2	-.2	1.0	.8	.1
N.Y.-Northeastern N.J.--	1.1	1.5	.3	2.7	-.4	2.2	.7	.2
Philadelphia -----	.8	1.0	-1.9	2.1	-.2	2.6	.5	.3
Pittsburgh -----	1.2	1.4	-1.2	4.0	-.7	1.2	.9	.1
St. Louis -----	1.2	1.4	-.5	4.1	.2	.1	.8	.2
San Diego -----	.6	1.0	-2.1	2.6	-.1	-.6	2.3	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	1.0	1.2	.1	2.4	.1	-.1	1.5	.3
Seattle -----	.6	.7	.1	1.7	-.3	.2	.9	.1
Washington -----	1.0	1.5	-.4	1.6	.9	2.1	1.9	.1

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

^{2/} Not available.

^{3/} Revised index: May 1972, 122.5; June 1972, 122.4.

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

(1967=100)

Item or group	Index		Percent change to July 1972 from--		
	July 1972		June 1972		July 1971 unadjusted
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
Total food -----	124.2	123.3	1.0	0.6	3.7
Food away from home -----	131.3	131.3	.3	.2	3.8
Restaurant meals -----	131.3	131.3	.3	.2	4.0
Snacks -----	131.1	131.1	.1	-.2	2.4
Food at home -----	122.4	121.4	1.2	.8	3.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	114.4	114.3	-.1	-.3	.3
Flour -----	99.2	99.1	-.2	.0	-2.1
Cracker meal -----	135.9	135.9	.0	.2	3.9
Corn flakes -----	100.0	99.8	-.3	-.7	-8.3
Rice -----	109.6	109.6	.3	.4	.0
Bread, white -----	112.7	112.8	-.3	-.6	-1.1
Bread, whole wheat -----	119.7	119.8	.3	-.2	1.1
Cookies -----	109.9	109.1	.4	-.6	.0
Layer cake -----	120.2	120.3	.3	.3	-.1
Cinnamon rolls -----	120.7	120.7	-.5	-.5	1.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	129.9	128.7	2.8	2.1	10.1
Meats -----	131.3	130.1	3.0	2.3	11.6
Beef and veal -----	139.4	138.0	2.7	2.2	10.1
Steak, round -----	137.3	136.5	3.5	3.6	10.4
Steak, sirloin -----	136.9	133.6	3.8	2.8	8.1
Steak, porterhouse -----	139.2	135.7	3.9	2.4	8.7
Rump roast -----	135.6	135.3	2.6	3.1	10.8
Rib roast -----	141.0	139.7	3.1	2.6	9.0
Chuck roast -----	138.4	138.1	4.5	4.1	10.6
Hamburger -----	138.7	137.7	1.5	1.3	8.8
Beef liver -----	133.0	131.4	.0	1.3	16.2
Veal cutlets -----	164.5	162.7	1.5	1.1	13.8
Pork -----	124.0	121.9	5.1	3.1	18.4
Chops -----	130.7	126.8	9.1	5.4	21.0
Loin roast -----	130.1	127.4	9.3	6.3	22.0
Pork sausage -----	129.1	128.1	2.4	2.0	16.4
Ham, whole -----	113.9	115.6	1.7	2.3	10.6
Picnics -----	122.7	122.1	2.3	.7	16.2
Bacon -----	116.3	114.1	2.8	2.2	20.3
Other meats -----	124.0	123.9	1.0	1.0	6.8
Lamb chops -----	131.6	129.7	1.6	.9	6.6
Frankfurters -----	124.4	124.3	1.6	2.0	8.5
Ham, canned -----	113.0	114.6	.2	.8	6.7
Bologna sausage -----	128.9	128.3	.6	.1	8.0
Salami sausage -----	126.8	126.4	1.1	.8	8.0
Liverwurst -----	119.3	118.9	.8	.5	3.3
Poultry -----	111.8	109.5	2.7	1.7	-.3
Frying chicken -----	111.5	108.1	3.6	2.1	-.7
Chicken breasts -----	113.7	113.4	1.2	.8	2.3
Turkey -----	111.6	112.0	.2	.4	-.5
Fish -----	142.0	142.1	.5	.6	8.4
Shrimp, frozen -----	136.5	135.8	.1	-.4	14.9
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	151.5	151.3	1.6	1.5	6.8
Tuna fish, canned -----	133.3	133.7	-.5	.0	3.3
Sardines, canned -----	146.6	147.5	.7	1.2	9.2
Dairy products -----	116.8	116.7	-.2	-.2	.7
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	116.0	116.2	-.3	-.2	.8
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	120.3	120.4	.0	.0	1.9
Milk, fresh, skim -----	121.9	121.9	.0	.1	1.2
Milk, evaporated -----	118.1	117.3	-.6	-.8	-1.9
Ice cream -----	106.5	106.7	-.2	-.2	-.7
Cheese, American process -----	124.5	124.1	.0	.0	2.0
Butter -----	104.7	104.8	-.1	-.1	-.9

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1967=100)

Item or group	Index		Percent change to July 1972 from--		
	July 1972		June 1972		July 1971 unadjusted
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
Fruits and vegetables -----	128.4	123.3	0.9	0.5	1.9
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	134.1	125.6	1.4	.9	1.4
Fresh fruits -----	134.2	121.4	2.6	-.2	1.7
Apples -----	140.3	117.5	6.8	-.1	3.1
Bananas -----	105.0	102.8	-3.1	-5.2	7.8
Oranges -----	126.9	127.0	2.9	.0	-1.4
Orange juice, fresh -----	130.8	130.7	.2	.0	3.2
Grapefruit -----	152.4	135.7	5.0	-.9	-9.4
Grapes, Thompson seedless -----	180.9	144.4	(1/)	(1/)	5.5
Strawberries -----	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Watermelon -----	121.0	129.8	-16.4	8.3	-10.4
Fresh vegetables -----	134.2	129.0	.6	1.9	1.4
Potatoes -----	143.0	122.3	15.5	11.7	6.7
Onions, yellow -----	148.0	138.1	20.4	19.3	33.2
Asparagus, green -----	145.7	154.2	5.5	2.1	14.5
Cabbage -----	122.5	121.4	-1.9	8.1	-3.8
Carrots -----	128.9	120.8	-4.9	-8.2	-21.2
Celery, pascal -----	140.0	121.2	3.5	-2.6	14.5
Cucumbers -----	119.3	141.5	-7.4	1.9	8.9
Lettuce -----	110.8	112.8	-8.4	-13.8	-11.6
Green peppers -----	145.4	157.5	-9.2	13.2	10.5
Spinach -----	137.9	136.3	2.0	-.2	6.2
Tomatoes -----	130.4	127.5	-15.9	-16.3	-15.5
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	120.0	120.1	.1	.0	2.7
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	121.3	121.2	.2	-.4	1.9
Pears, canned -----	117.7	117.8	.0	-.3	.7
Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned -----	115.6	115.8	1.1	1.1	1.9
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	136.0	135.6	.5	.4	4.4
Lemonade concentrate, frozen -----	115.5	117.7	-1.5	.2	1.5
Beets, canned -----	121.4	121.2	.0	-.2	4.9
Peas, green, canned -----	107.6	107.7	.4	-.1	.4
Tomatoes, canned -----	115.8	115.3	.3	.1	-.1
Dried beans -----	137.2	137.5	.2	.2	10.0
Broccoli, frozen -----	118.7	118.7	-.2	-.1	.4
Other food at home -----	115.3	116.7	.7	-.1	-.3
Eggs -----	101.9	112.2	8.2	2.7	-3.1
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	117.4	117.4	-.7	-.1	1.6
Salad dressing, Italian -----	109.5	109.3	.4	.3	-.6
Salad or cooking oil -----	120.1	120.1	-1.2	-1.1	.3
Sugar and sweets -----	120.4	120.4	-.2	-.1	.6
Sugar -----	114.5	114.3	-.3	-.4	1.7
Grape jelly -----	125.0	124.9	.1	.2	3.8
Chocolate bar -----	130.5	130.2	-.1	-.2	-.6
Syrup, chocolate flavored -----	110.4	110.5	-.6	-.5	-2.6
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	120.3	120.2	-.2	.1	-1.4
Coffee, can and bag -----	117.2	117.2	.0	.2	-3.8
Coffee, instant -----	123.4	123.4	-.7	-.2	-1.2
Tea -----	108.8	108.4	-.2	-.2	.3
Cola drink -----	128.2	128.1	.3	.5	1.4
Carbonated fruit drink -----	127.8	127.2	-.4	-.5	.5
Prepared and partially prepared foods ---	114.3	114.4	-.1	-.1	1.1
Bean soup, canned -----	116.2	116.4	-.1	.2	2.2
Chicken soup, canned -----	104.4	104.4	.2	.3	-1.9
Spaghetti, canned -----	119.5	119.9	.5	.7	2.0
Mashed potatoes, instant -----	111.5	111.4	-.7	-.4	-.8
Potatoes, french fried, frozen -----	110.8	110.6	-.2	-.5	.0
Baby foods, canned -----	110.1	110.2	-.3	-.9	-.8
Sweet pickle relish -----	124.1	125.7	-.2	.5	5.7
Pretzels -----	115.1	114.9	-.9	-.9	.5

1/ Priced on in season.

Table 8. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, July 1972, and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to July 1972 from	
		July 1972	June 1972	June 1972	July 1971
Housing		129.5	129.0	.4	4.0
Shelter 1/		134.9	134.1	.6	4.7
Rent		119.0	118.8	.2	3.1
Homeownership costs 2/		140.7	139.6	.8	5.4
Mortgage interest rates		117.2	117.1	-.1	-.2
Property taxes		144.9	144.8	.1	11.0
Property insurance rates		123.4	122.6	.7	1.6
Maintenance and repairs		141.1	140.6	.4	4.8
Commodities 3/		124.2	123.9	.2	3.6
Exterior house paint		117.2	117.4	-.2	1.3
Interior house paint		117.4	117.5	-.1	2.8
Services		148.5	147.8	.5	5.2
Repainting living and dining rooms		160.5	159.5	.6	7.3
Reshingling house roof		156.2	156.2	.0	6.1
Residing house		135.9	135.2	.5	3.7
Sink replacement		146.1	145.8	.2	2.7
Furnace repair		154.6	153.6	.7	7.0
Fuel and utilities		120.2	120.1	.1	4.1
Fuel oil and coal		117.7	117.8	-.1	.2
Fuel oil, #2		116.5	116.5	.0	.3
Gas and electricity		120.3	120.3	.0	4.9
Gas		121.2	121.2	.0	4.4
Electricity		119.4	119.5	-.1	5.2
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services		115.0	114.9	.1	5.6
Residential water and sewerage services		138.8	137.7	.8	2.8
Household furnishings and operation 4/		121.1	121.0	.1	1.9
Housefurnishings		116.4	116.4	.0	1.5
Textiles		113.4	114.2	-.7	1.9
Sheets, percale or muslin		113.4	116.7	-2.8	1.3
Curtains, tailored, polyester		112.5	112.1	.4	1.6
Bedspreads, chiefly cotton		110.3	111.6	-1.2	3.4
Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate		123.9	122.7	1.0	3.9
Pillows, bed, polyester, acrylic, or kapok		104.7	108.1	-3.1	-1.7
Slipcover, throws, ready made, chiefly cotton		114.9	113.8	1.0	2.4
Furniture and bedding		121.3	121.5	-.2	1.4
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser	Mar. 70	104.8	105.1	-.3	.3
Sofas, upholstered		120.6	120.8	-.2	.0
Cocktail table	Dec. 71	100.0	100.4	-.4	(5/)
Dining room chairs	Mar. 70	104.1	105.1	-1.0	.9
Recliner, upholstered	Dec. 71	98.0	98.0	.0	(5/)
Sofas, dual purpose		116.9	116.9	.0	.4
Bedding, mattress and box springs		104.9	104.5	.4	1.0
Aluminum folding chair	June 70	125.8	126.1	-.2	8.7
Cribs		119.3	119.0	.3	.3
Floor coverings		106.8	106.4	.4	.5
Rugs, soft surface		101.7	101.4	.3	-.4
Rugs, hard surface		118.6	117.9	.6	3.2
Tile, vinyl		118.2	118.2	.0	1.1
Appliances 6/		105.8	105.8	.0	.1
Washing machines, electric, automatic		110.6	110.5	.1	.8
Vacuum cleaners, canister type		103.8	104.0	-.2	-.5
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers electric		107.9	107.9	.0	-.4
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric		111.3	111.0	.3	-.4
Clothes dryers, electric, automatic		114.5	114.4	.1	1.2
Air conditioners, demountable		110.9	111.0	-.1	-.4
Room heaters, electric, portable		(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)
Garbage disposal units		111.0	111.0	.0	.8
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, earthenware		125.4	123.7	1.4	5.9
Flatware, stainless steel		123.7	122.9	.7	2.7
Table lamps, with shade		124.4	123.0	1.1	2.1
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type		119.5	120.8	-1.1	2.1
Electric dills, hand held		106.7	106.0	.7	.8
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents		111.1	111.0	.1	.5
Paper napkins		131.7	130.6	.8	3.2
Toilet tissue		124.4	125.2	-.6	.3
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic service, general housework		139.4	139.2	.1	3.6
Baby sitter service		136.6	135.6	.7	4.7
Postal charges		146.6	146.6	.0	.0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service		139.0	138.5	.4	3.8
Licensed day care service, preschool child		122.4	122.2	.2	3.7
Washing machine repairs		141.1	140.8	.2	2.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, July 1972, and percent changes from selected dates--Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to July 1972 from:	
		July 1972	June 1972	June 1972	July 1971
Apparel and upkeep 8/		121.1	122.1	-0.8	1.5
Apparel commodities		121.3	122.4	-.9	1.5
Apparel commodities less footwear		120.7	122.0	-1.1	1.2
Men's and boys'		120.4	121.9	-1.2	.4
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)
Suits, year round weight	128.1	131.8	-2.8	.8	
Suits, tropical weight	131.3	136.8	-4.0	5.0	
Jackets, lightweight	114.0	114.8	-.7	1.6	
Slacks, wool or wool blends	113.5	114.9	-1.2	-3.2	
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends	133.1	133.9	-.6	1.6	
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton	115.0	114.7	.3	1.3	
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton	115.4	115.5	-.1	1.3	
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton	112.1	113.7	-1.4	-.9	
T-shirts, chiefly cotton	117.4	117.4	.0	-1.7	
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers	115.9	116.7	-.7	.9	
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton	116.3	116.2	.1	1.0	
Boy's:					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	
Sport coats, wool or wool blend	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend	127.5	127.3	.2	4.0	
Undershorts, cotton	120.8	120.5	.2	1.4	
Women's and girls'	121.2	122.6	-1.1	1.6	
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blend	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	
Sweaters, wool or acrylic	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	
Skirts, wool, wool blend or manmade fibers	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	
Skirts, cotton or polyester blends	116.7	121.4	-3.9	1.7	
Blouses, cotton or polyester blends	123.4	122.8	.5	1.3	
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber	127.4	128.8	-1.1	2.3	
Dresses, street, wool or wool blend	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	
Slips, nylon	110.8	111.0	-.2	-.1	
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot	118.1	118.1	.0	2.1	
Girdles, manmade blend	116.9	116.9	.0	.5	
Brassieres, cotton	122.1	121.9	.2	.7	
Hose, nylon seamless	96.4	96.0	.4	-2.8	
Anklets, cotton	114.4	114.4	.0	-1.0	
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton	109.9	111.7	-1.6	-.5	
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic	142.8	144.6	-1.2	8.1	
Girls':					
Raincoats, vinyl cotton, or polyester blends	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	
Skirts, wool, wool blends, or acrylic	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	
Dresses, cotton or polyester blends	120.0	119.2	.7	14.1	
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	(7/)	
Slips, polyester blends	110.5	110.2	.3	.1	
Handbags, plastic	122.6	124.7	-1.7	-5.5	
Footwear	124.6	124.7	-.1	3.1	
Men's:					
Shoes, street, oxford	124.2	123.8	.3	4.0	
Shoes, work, high	123.2	120.9	1.9	3.6	
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump	125.1	125.9	-.6	2.5	
Shoes, evening, pump	121.8	122.3	-.4	2.5	
Shoes, casual	122.8	126.1	-2.6	-.1	
Houseslippers, scuff	125.4	124.8	.5	2.4	
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford	127.3	126.9	.3	4.3	
Sneakers, boys', oxford type	124.2	123.5	.6	4.0	
Dress shoes, girls', strap or pump	130.1	129.8	.2	4.6	
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze or disposable	115.3	114.5	.7	2.7	
Yard goods, polyester blend	119.1	119.0	.1	-2.7	
Wrist watches, men's and women's	115.7	115.2	.4	2.1	
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's and women's	117.6	117.5	.1	.7	
Automatic laundry service	114.9	114.8	.1	1.8	
Laundry, men's shirts	121.6	121.0	.5	2.1	
Tailoring charge, hem adjustment	132.9	132.5	.3	3.6	
Shoe repair, women's heel lift	115.6	115.4	.2	2.9	

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, July 1972, and percent changes from selected dates--Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to July 1972 from:	
		July 1972	June 1972	June 1972	July 1971
Transportation -----		120.3	9/119.8	0.4	0.7
Private 10/ -----		117.8	9/117.3	.4	.3
Automobiles, new -----		111.0	111.3	-.3	-2.5
Automobiles, used -----		112.7	9/112.0	.6	-.7
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		106.9	105.6	1.2	2.7
Motor oil, premium -----		123.9	123.4	.4	2.8
Tires, new, tubeless -----		116.0	115.8	.2	-.2
Auto repairs and maintenance 11/ -----		135.2	134.9	.2	3.8
Auto insurance rates -----		141.1	140.7	.3	-1.1
Auto registration -----		127.5	127.5	.0	3.0
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		147.1	147.0	.1	9.0
Public -----		143.3	143.0	.2	3.1
Local transit fares -----		150.3	149.9	.3	4.5
Taxicab fares -----		133.6	133.6	.0	1.4
Railroad fares, coach -----		122.9	122.7	.2	-3.5
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		129.2	129.2	.0	-.3
Bus fares, intercity -----		138.1	138.1	.0	3.9
Health and recreation -----		126.3	126.1	.2	3.0
Medical care -----		132.7	132.4	.2	2.6
Drugs and prescriptions -----		105.6	105.8	-.2	.1
Over-the-counter items -----		111.2	111.6	-.4	1.1
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		95.1	95.0	.1	-.3
Aspirin compounds -----		116.6	118.1	-1.3	2.0
Liquid tonics -----		101.2	101.3	-.1	.0
Adhesive bandages, package -----		123.4	123.6	-.2	.2
Cold tablets or capsules -----		114.2	113.9	.3	2.1
Cough syrup -----		113.5	113.9	-.4	2.1
Prescriptions -----		100.9	100.9	.0	-.7
Anti-infectives -----		74.7	75.4	-.9	-7.1
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		127.4	126.5	.7	2.8
Ataractics -----		103.3	102.9	.4	2.1
Anti-Spasmotics -----		108.0	108.0	.0	-.1
Cough preparations -----		131.9	130.7	.9	4.0
Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives -----		111.5	111.4	.1	-.2
Analgesics, internal -----		109.6	109.5	.1	1.3
Anti-obesity -----		118.0	117.2	.7	1.8
Hormones -----		92.5	92.8	-.3	-2.2
Professional services:					
Physicians' fees -----		134.0	133.9	.1	2.8
General physician, office visits -----		135.1	135.0	.1	2.2
General physician, house visits -----		137.2	137.0	.1	4.3
Obstetrical cases -----		134.2	134.0	.1	4.0
Pediatric care, office visits -----		135.9	135.8	.1	2.5
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		129.2	129.0	.2	3.3
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		128.2	128.2	.0	3.7
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		129.8	130.0	-.2	3.8
Dentists' fees -----		132.7	132.4	.2	4.1
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		134.2	133.9	.2	4.3
Extractions, adult -----		132.8	132.6	.2	4.3
Dentures, full upper -----		129.5	129.1	.3	3.5
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		125.0	125.0	.0	3.7
Routine laboratory tests -----		120.7	120.7	.0	4.3
Hospital service charges -----	Jan. 72	102.4	102.0	.4	(5/)
Semi-private room rates -----		174.9	173.8	.6	6.1
Operating room charges -----		168.6	167.2	.8	6.8
X-ray diagnostic series, upper GI -----		129.3	128.8	.4	2.7
Laboratory test, urinalysis -----	Jan. 72	102.3	102.0	.3	(5/)
Anti-infectives, tetracycline, HCL -----	Jan. 72	99.8	100.1	-.3	(5/)
Tranquilizers, chlordiazepoxid, HCL -----	Jan. 72	101.7	101.9	-.2	(5/)
Electrocardiogram -----	Jan. 72	102.8	102.8	.0	(5/)
Intravenous solution, saline -----	Jan. 72	102.3	102.2	.1	(5/)
Physical therapy, whirlpool bath -----	Jan. 72	102.1	102.0	.1	(5/)
Oxygen, inhalation therapy -----	Jan. 72	102.0	101.9	.1	(5/)
Personal care -----		120.0	120.0	.0	2.5
Toilet goods -----		117.3	117.4	-.1	2.7
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		110.0	109.4	.5	2.6
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		122.5	122.6	-.1	6.2
Hand lotions, liquid -----		124.9	126.0	-.9	6.3
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		107.0	108.2	-1.1	-.3
Face powder, pressed -----		135.0	133.3	1.3	9.0
Deodorants, aerosol -----		105.6	105.5	.1	-.1
Cleansing tissues -----		124.5	125.1	-.5	-.2
Home permanent wave kits -----		109.2	109.1	.1	-2.2
Personal care services -----		122.9	122.7	.2	2.2
Men's haircuts -----		125.3	125.1	.2	2.3
Beauty shop services -----		121.2	121.0	.2	2.3
Women's haircuts -----		121.2	121.1	.1	1.7
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		125.1	124.7	.3	2.5
Permanent waves, cold -----		112.6	112.6	.0	2.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, July 1972, and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to July 1972 from:	
		July 1972	June 1972	June 1972	July 1971
Reading and recreation 12/ -----		123.0	122.9	0.1	2.8
Recreational goods -----		108.1	108.0	.1	1.2
TV sets, portable and console -----		99.4	99.5	-.1	-.5
TV replacement tubes -----		131.8	131.1	.5	7.9
Radios, portable and table model -----		99.1	99.1	.0	.7
Tape recorders, portable -----		94.9	94.7	.2	.9
Phonograph records, stereophonic -----		107.5	107.2	.3	2.5
Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens -----		88.3	88.2	.1	-1.1
Film, 35mm, color -----		108.0	108.1	-.1	-.6
Golf balls, liquid center -----		104.8	105.2	-.4	.3
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----		126.2	126.3	-.1	.3
Fishing rods, fresh water spincasting -----		107.1	107.6	-.5	-3.1
Bowling balls -----		113.9	114.0	-.1	1.9
Bicycles, boys' -----		117.4	117.0	.3	3.1
Tricycles -----		114.3	114.0	.3	2.4
Dog food, canned or boxed -----		111.0	110.6	.4	1.3
Recreational services -----		128.9	128.7	.2	2.2
Indoor movie admissions -----		144.1	142.5	1.1	3.8
Movie admissions, adult -----		143.5	141.5	1.4	3.5
Movie admissions, child -----		145.5	145.2	.2	4.5
Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----		146.7	147.8	-.7	3.4
Bowling fees, evening -----		118.4	118.6	-.2	1.8
Golf green fees -----		130.8	130.7	.1	1.7
TV repair, color picture tube replacement -----		98.0	98.2	-.2	-.2
Film developing, black and white -----		116.5	116.6	-.1	-.8
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----		133.1	132.8	.2	2.1
Magazines, single copy and subscription -----		133.4	133.4	.0	5.6
Piano lessons, beginner -----		122.3	122.2	.1	1.3
Other goods and services -----		125.8	125.6	.2	3.8
Tobacco products -----		134.0	134.0	.0	5.6
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----		135.6	135.6	.0	5.5
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----		136.1	136.1	.0	5.8
Cigars, domestic, regular size -----		110.9	110.9	.0	4.3
Alcoholic beverages -----		119.6	119.1	.4	2.2
Beer -----		113.4	113.1	.3	.1
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon -----		109.0	108.5	.5	2.5
Wine, dessert and table -----		127.5	126.7	.6	3.7
Away from home (beer) -----		131.2	130.7	.4	4.0
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral service, adult -----		121.3	121.1	.2	3.1
Bank service charges, checking accounts -----		107.0	107.4	-.4	-3.4
Legal services, short form will -----		150.2	150.6	-.3	12.4
<u>Other special groups:</u>					
All items less shelter -----		123.1	122.7	.3	2.6
Commodities less food -----		119.4	119.4	.0	2.1
Nondurables less food and apparel -----		118.2	117.9	.3	2.7
Household services less rent -----		139.6	138.9	.5	5.4
Transportation services -----		136.3	136.0	.2	1.5
Other services -----		125.8	125.6	.2	2.6

- 1/ Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.
- 2/ Also includes home purchases costs not shown separately.
- 3/ Also includes pine shelving, furnace filters, packaged dry cement mix, and shrubbery not shown separately.
- 4/ Also includes venetian blinds, nails, carpet sweepers, air deodorizers, steel wool scouring pads, envelopes, reupholstering, and moving expenses.
- 5/ Not available.
- 6/ Also includes radios and television sets, shown separately under reading and recreation.
- 7/ Priced only in season.
- 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/ Revised index.
- 10/ Also includes recapped tires and drivers' license fees not shown separately.
- 11/ Includes prices for water pump replacement, motor tune-up, automatic transmission repair exhaust system repair, front end alignment, and chassis lubrication.
- 12/ Also includes outboard motors, nondurable toys, college tuition fees, paperback books, and college textbooks, not shown separately.

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

*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.

A Note on Seasonally Adjusted and Unadjusted Data

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

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

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

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

Reliability of Percent Changes in the CPI

A system of "replicated" samples introduced into the index structure in the 1964 revision permits an estimate of sampling error for the CPI.¹ The table below shows standard errors for monthly, quarterly, and

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.

Average standard errors of percent changes in the CPI based on 1971 data

Component	Standard error		
	Monthly change	Quarterly change	Annual change
All items .....	.04	.06	.09
Food at home .....	.07	.10	.15
Food away from home .....	.08	.14	.33
Housing .....	.06	.10	.19
Apparel and upkeep .....	.17	.27	.33
Transportation .....	.11	.17	.20
Medical care .....	.09	.14	.28
Personal care .....	.14	.19	.34
Reading and recreation .....	.09	.12	.20
Other goods and services .....	.11	.17	.23

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

This replaces the table of average errors based on 1970 data which was included in the CPI report through December 1971.

annual percent changes in the CPI for all items and for nine commodity groupings based on 1971 averages. The figures may be interpreted as follows: The chances

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.

A Note About Calculating Index Changes

Percent changes expressed as annual rates are computed according to the standard formula for compound growth rates. These data indicate what the percent change would be if the current rate were maintained for a 12-month period.

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

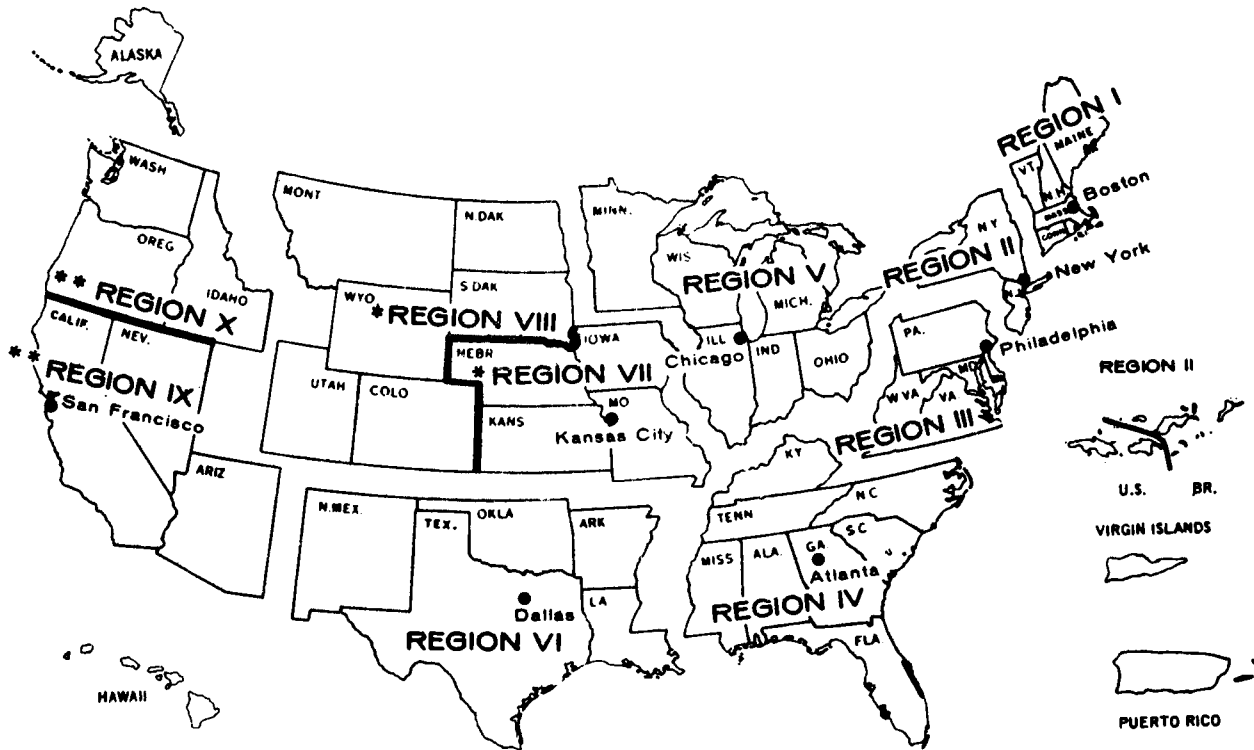
$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{CPI} \qquad \qquad \qquad 123.8 \\
 \text{less previous index} \qquad \underline{123.2} \\
 \text{index point differences} = \qquad \qquad 0.6
 \end{array}$$

Index point difference divided by the index for the previous period:

$$\frac{123.8 - 123.2}{123.2} \times 100 = 0.5$$

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

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