



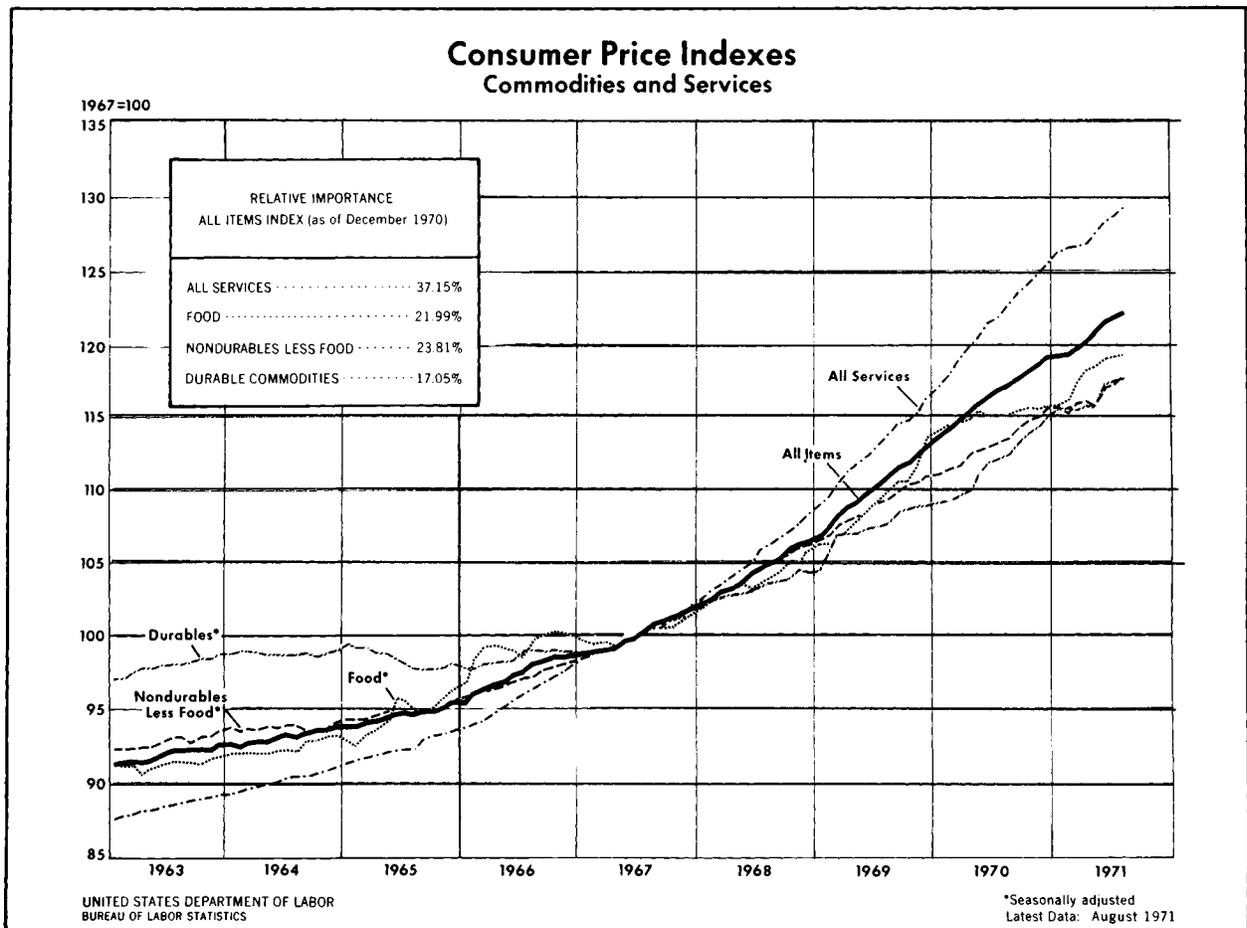
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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OFFICE OF PRICES
AND LIVING CONDITIONS
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the consumer price index

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



THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
FOR
AUGUST 1971

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.3 percent in August to 122.2 percent of its 1967 base. Prices for gasoline, household and medical care services, and some food items increased in August, but prices for fresh vegetables, automobiles, and clothing declined. The August index was 4.5 percent higher than it was a year ago. Because the August index is based on prices collected both before and after the announcement of the wage-price freeze on August 15, the index does not reflect the effect of the freeze.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the increase in the August index was 0.4 percent. Food prices increased 0.1 percent, the same as in July. The advance of 0.5 percent in the index of nonfood commodities was larger than in July. Charges for services rose 0.5 percent, the same as in the 2 preceding months.

TABLE A. 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.			
August 1970 ---	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.6	3.9	4.9	5.6
September -----	.5	.5	-.2	.3	.7	.5	.7	4.5	5.2	5.7
October -----	.5	.5	-.2	.0	1.0	.4	.5	5.2	5.0	5.8
November -----	.3	.3	-.5	.1	.5	.4	.6	5.6	4.7	5.6
December -----	.5	.5	.3	-.1	.3	.7	.6	5.3	4.9	5.5
January 1971 --	.1	.3	.2	.0	-.3	.2	.6	4.5	4.9	5.2
February -----	.2	.2	.3	.5	.0	-.1	.2	4.0	4.8	4.8
March -----	.3	.2	.9	.9	.3	.2	.0	2.8	4.1	4.6
April -----	.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
June -----	.6	.5	.8	.5	.4	.3	.5	5.3	4.0	4.5
July -----	.2	.2	.5	.1	-.1	.1	.5	4.9	3.9	4.4
August -----	.3	.4	.2	.1	.3	.5	.5	4.4	4.3	4.5

The seasonally adjusted annual rate of change in the CPI during the 6 months ending in August was 4.3 percent, compared with 4.8 percent for the 6 months ending in February, and 4.9 percent in the 6 months ending in August of 1970. The moderation in the rate of advance resulted from a slower rise in prices of services, much of which was due to the earlier decline in mortgage interest rates. Food prices rose at a faster rate than for the 6 months ending in February 1971 and in August of 1970. However, the rate of increase in food prices in August was not as large as in July. The rate of change for prices of nonfood commodities during the 6 months ending in August was 4.0 percent, compared with 2.8 percent for the 6 months ending in July, and 4.4 percent for the 6 months ending in August 1970. (See charts on pages 7, 8, 9, and 10.)

The Wage Price Freeze

On August 15, the President announced a number of economic policy changes. A major action in the domestic area was a 90-day freeze on prices, wages, and rents. A set of tax actions also was proposed, including repeal by Congress of the excise tax on automobiles; restoration of a tax credit for investment in machinery and equipment at 10 percent for the first year and 5 percent thereafter; and acceleration, by 1 year, of the liberalization of personal tax exemptions and deductions now scheduled for January 1973. The revenue loss associated with these proposed measures would be offset by cutting about \$4-3/4 billion from Federal expenditures in fiscal year 1972. To strengthen the Nation's position in the world economy, a temporary 10 percent surcharge was imposed on dutiable imports and convertibility of dollars into gold was suspended. A Cost of Living Council was established both to administer the freeze and to recommend policies to be followed after the 90-day freeze ends.

The bulk of the items included in the CPI are covered by the wage-price freeze. However, not all of the items included in the index are priced every month in all 56 cities. About one-half of the market basket purchased by urban wage earners and clerical workers is priced every month; another 40 percent is collected every 3 months on a rotating basis, and the remainder, including items such as rent, property taxes, and college tuition, are priced every 6 to 12 months. Changes in these prices before the freeze may show up as increases in the index in subsequent months.

In addition to the consequences of not pricing every item every month in every place, the movement of the indexes in future months will reflect the fact that some items have been exempted from the freeze. These items are: raw agricultural products; mortgage interest rates; sales, property, and other taxes; and some imported goods subject to the new import surcharge which may be passed along to the retail level. Also some prices in effect at the beginning of the freeze may have been below seasonal highs which, under certain conditions, are the permissible ceiling prices and, therefore, may rise or fall under the permissible ceiling in subsequent months. Raw agricultural items--fresh fruits, vegetables, and eggs--account for 2.2 percent of the CPI market basket. Mortgage interest rates, FHA, VA, and conventional, represent 4.2 percent of the CPI market basket. Rate changes, for the most part, are included in the index when they become established in the market rather than when they are announced.

Prices for the August CPI were collected throughout the month, many of them before the President's announcement on August 15. Food prices, which represent approximately 17 percent of the CPI market basket, usually are collected in all 56 cities during the first week of every month. For the August index, prices were collected in grocery stores on August 3, 4, and 5. In addition, a large proportion of prices of nonfood commodities and services were collected during the first 2 weeks of August. Even when prices were collected after the effective date of the freeze, price changes recorded could have occurred before August 15. For example, prices collected on August 20 may not have changed since August 15, but still may have been higher or lower than they were previously. Moreover, some prices in effect at the beginning of the freeze may have been below their permissible ceiling.

Food

The index for food purchased in grocery stores--which was based entirely on prices collected in the first week of August as noted previously--was unchanged for the first time since January. The index for fruits and vegetables declined--also for the first time since January--as large supplies of vegetables from summer crops caused widespread price decreases. Fresh fruit prices, on the other hand, rose contraseasonally. Apple and banana prices rose more than seasonally and grape prices declined much less than is usual for August. Prices of processed fruit and vegetables continued to advance strongly, particularly frozen orange juice and dried beans. Prices of dried beans this August were more than 21 percent higher than in August 1970 due to a smaller-than-average crop for 1971.

The cereal and bakery products price index recorded its first monthly decrease since early 1968, primarily because of lower prices for white bread and corn flakes. Competitive pressure forced bread prices down in some parts of the country. Reports of record corn output this season contributed to the decline in corn flake prices. Corn production was increased this year mainly to offset actual and predicted declines in supplies caused by a blight epidemic in the 1970 crop. Corn prices continued to advance this spring because of the drought and a possibility of another corn blight. Subsequently, the weather improved and the threat of a blight disappeared, leading to expectation of a record harvest for this year.

The index for dairy products showed no change in August as increases for butter, fresh milk purchased in grocery stores, and evaporated milk offset decreases for skim milk, cheese, and ice cream.

The meats, poultry, and fish index increased 0.6 percent, smaller than usual for August. Prices of frying chicken declined seasonally, and beef prices increased less than they usually do. The increase in pork prices, however, was larger than usual reflecting reductions in production and cold storage holdings in July. Pork prices moved up on a seasonally adjusted basis for the first time in 5 months. The steady uptrend in fish prices continued due to smaller supplies of shrimp, haddock, and Maine sardines.

Among other foods purchased in grocery stores, egg prices rose 4.3 percent, considerably less than usual for August. Egg prices this August were 6 percent lower than a year ago as production was up from last summer and supplies of other high protein foods were larger.

Prices of restaurant meals and snacks rose 0.5 percent, the same as in June and July. Rising food prices earlier this year and higher wage costs were factors contributing to these increases.

Commodities less food

The index of nonfood commodities rose 0.3 percent instead of declining seasonally. The seasonally adjusted increase of 0.5 percent was the largest monthly increase this year, except for the 0.7 percent recorded in May. The faster rise in August was primarily due to the largest increase in gasoline prices in more than a year. On the other hand, August sales caused a seasonal decline in prices of apparel commodities, especially women's and girls' clothing. In addition, the indexes for new and used cars declined.

Gasoline prices rose 3.7 percent in August. After declining in February, March, and April, prices rose in May and June, but declined again in July because of pressure exerted by the major oil companies to maintain volume sales. With the August increase, the index for gasoline was at a level slightly higher than it was in January of this year, and 3.1 percent above August 1970.

The index for tires, which had moved down slightly in the first 6 months of this year, rose strongly for the second consecutive month--0.9 percent in August following 1.2 percent in July. Wholesale tire prices were raised 3.4 percent in July.

Automobile prices declined in August--slightly less than seasonally for used cars and slightly more than usual for new cars. The refunding of the excise tax by one U.S. automobile company in advance of Congressional approval of the proposal to eliminate the excise tax on new cars accounted for about one-third of the 0.8 percent decline in the index for new cars. The new car index was affected slightly by the price increase announced by a large foreign automobile manufacturer after the President's announcement of August 15.

The index for apparel commodities declined 0.3 percent, slightly more than is usual for August. Women's and girls' apparel prices recorded larger-than-seasonal decline of 0.9 percent as end-of-season sales continued, particularly for bathing suits and summer skirts. Hosiery and glove prices were also lower. Prices increased, however, for dresses made primarily of manmade fibers, which were on sale in July. Dress prices traditionally rise for fall and winter items and new stock for fall wear was available in many outlets in August. Men's and boys' apparel prices decreased 0.3 percent instead of edging up as they usually do in August. Seasonal clearance sales in men's slacks, and sport and dress shirts accounted for much of the decline. Footwear prices, which had declined 0.7 percent in July because of clearance sales, rose 0.5 percent in August.

The index for household durables rose 0.2 percent, instead of decreasing slightly as it usually does in August. Furniture and bedding prices averaged unchanged for the second consecutive month as lower prices for seasonal items on sale such as folding aluminum chairs were offset by higher prices for upholstered furniture and bedding. Prices of floor coverings, which had decreased slightly in July, rose 0.5 percent in August. Broadloom carpets, which were on sale in July, returned to regular prices and prices for hard surface floorings rose, because of higher costs for vinyl roll goods. Prices declined for vinyl asbestos floor tiles because of sales in many outlets. Prices of appliances, including radio and television sets, averaged unchanged, after moving up in the preceding 4 months.

Following an increase of 1.3 percent in July, prices of tobacco products rose 0.8 percent in August. Higher taxes on cigarettes accounted for much of the rise in both months. In August, cigar prices also rose.

Services

Charges for consumer services rose 0.5 percent in August, the same as in the preceding 2 months. Most of the August increase was due to higher charges for household and medical care services. Charges for household services increased 0.8 percent, about the same as in the preceding 3 months. The mortgage interest rate index, which had declined in the first 6 months of 1971, rose 0.6 percent, the second consecutive monthly rise due to upward movements in rates for conventional mortgages. The increase of 1.3 percent in residential property taxes was larger than in June or July and reflected annual changes in Boston, Seattle, and other cities. Changes in property, sales, and other taxes, which are exempt from the freeze, accounted for about 10 percent of the 0.3 percent rise in the August CPI.

Utility rates were higher in August--for gas, electricity, and telephone. Charges for home maintenance and repair services rose 0.8 percent in August, the same as in July; increases were particularly large for interior painting, house roof reshingling, and furnace repairing. Since these services are priced quarterly in all cities on a rotating basis the August index reflects changes from May to August in the 17 cities in which prices were collected. The index for rent rose 0.3 percent in August; increases occurred in New York, Detroit, Milwaukee, Buffalo, and Washington, D. C.

The index for medical care services rose 0.5 percent in August, slightly less than in July. The rise of 0.6 percent for hospital charges in August continued to reflect the effects of higher wages that resulted from labor contracts negotiated at mid-year. In July, hospital charges advanced 1.2 percent. Physicians' fees rose 0.7 percent, the largest increase since March, as a result of higher operating expenses including malpractice insurance costs. Dentists' fees rose 0.3 percent, a much smaller increase than occurred in July.

The rise in the transportation services index remained moderate. In sharp contrast with increases of about 3 percent in January and February of this year, the auto insurance index increased a slight 0.1 percent in August, the same as in July. Charges for auto

repairs rose 0.5 percent in August. Although this was not as large as most monthly increases this year, the uptrend in auto repair charges has been steady over the past year; higher costs for replacement parts and labor have contributed to the rise. After holding steady in June and July, due to offsetting influences, parking fees rose 1.3 percent in August; both municipal and private parking lot fees increased in a number of cities. Local-transit fares, which advanced at a rapid pace in 1970 and in the first 4 months of 1971, have been holding almost steady since. In August, they rose a slight 0.1 percent. In apparel services, charges for drycleaning held steady after declining in July, but tailoring charges rose 0.5 percent, the largest increase since February. Charges for men's haircut rose 0.6 percent in August, the largest monthly increase in a year. Movie admission charges, which have been increasing at a slower rate since early this year, declined in August for the first time since November 1970.

Seasonally adjusted monthly percent changes in the index and some of its major components for the past 3 months, 3-month changes for the past half year, and 6-month changes for the past year are given in the following tabulation:

	1 month change			3-month change ending:		6-month change ending:	
	1971			1971		1971	
	Aug.	July	June	August	May	August	February
All items	0.4	0.2	0.5	1.1	1.0	2.1	2.4
Food	.1	.1	.5	.7	2.0	2.7	.9
Food at home	0	.2	.3	.5	2.3	2.8	.4
Food away from home	.5	.4	.5	1.4	1.1	2.5	2.5
Commodities less food	.5	.1	.3	.9	1.0	2.0	2.2
Nondurables less food	.5	.2	.3	.9	.8	1.7	1.9
Apparel commodities	-.1	0	0	-.1	1.1	1.0	2.1
Gasoline and motor oil	3.4	-.6	.7	3.5	-2.1	1.3	2.0
Durables	.1	.2	.6	.9	1.0	1.9	2.7
New cars	-.1	.3	.4	.7	-.3	.4	6.6
Household durables	.4	.2	.5	1.1	.4	1.5	1.2
Services*	.5	.5	.5	1.5	.7	2.2	3.2
Rent*	.3	.2	.4	1.0	1.0	1.9	2.8
Household less rent	.8	.7	.8	2.2	-.6	1.6	2.7
Medical care	.5	.6	.5	1.7	1.9	3.6	3.7
Transportation	.4	.2	.8	1.5	1.8	3.4	5.1
Other services	.2	.2	.3	.7	.7	1.4	3.1

* Not seasonally adjusted.

A NOTE ABOUT CALCULATING INDEX CHANGES

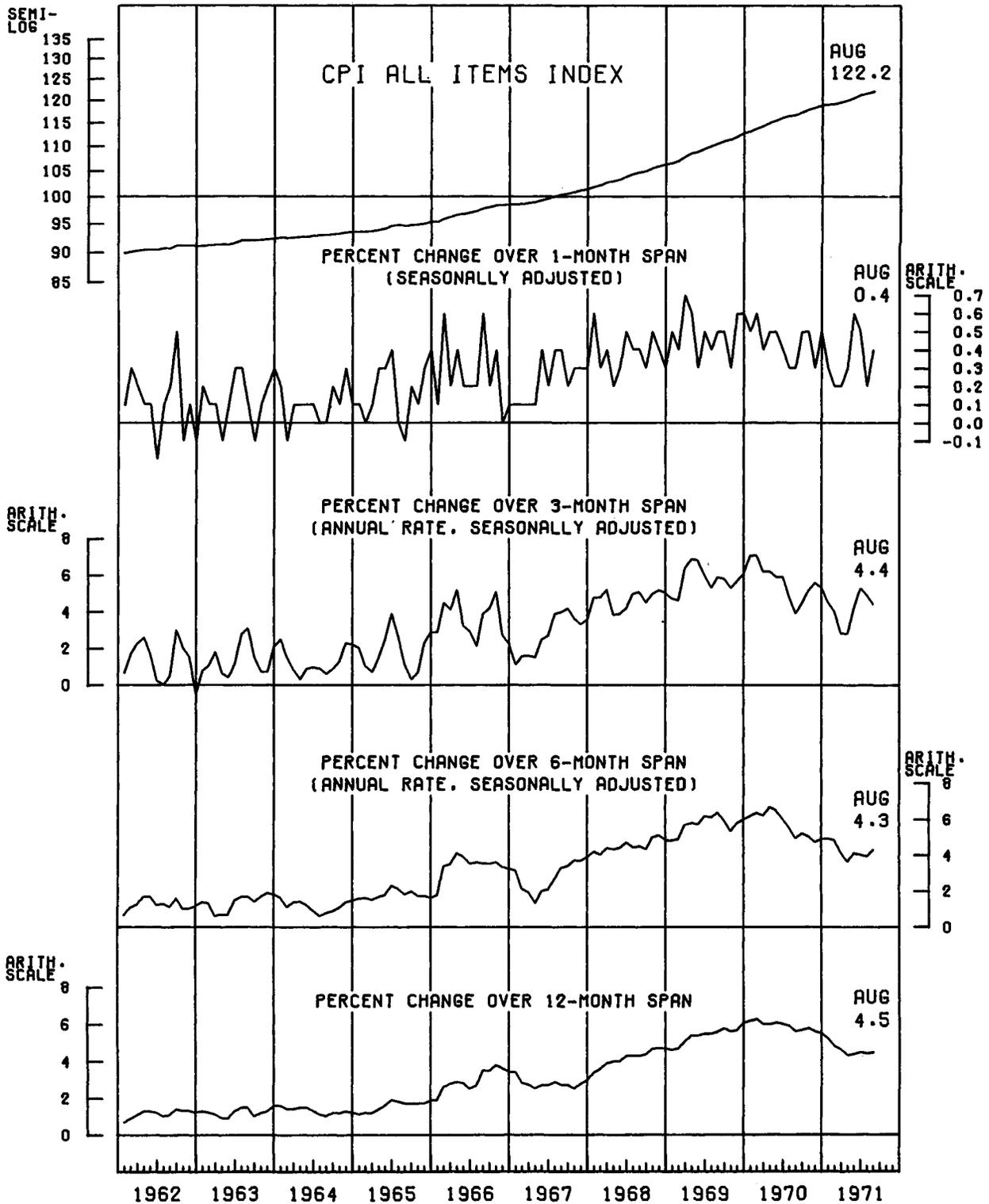
Effective with the February 1970 release, and continuing thereafter, percent changes expressed as annual rates will be computed according to the standard formula for compound growth rates. These data indicate what the percent change would be if the current rate were maintained for a 12-month period.

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
August 1971 CPI (1967=100)	122.2	Index point difference divided by the index for the previous period:
less July index	<u>121.8</u>	
index point difference =	0.4	
		$\frac{122.2 - 121.8}{121.8} \times 100 = 0.3$

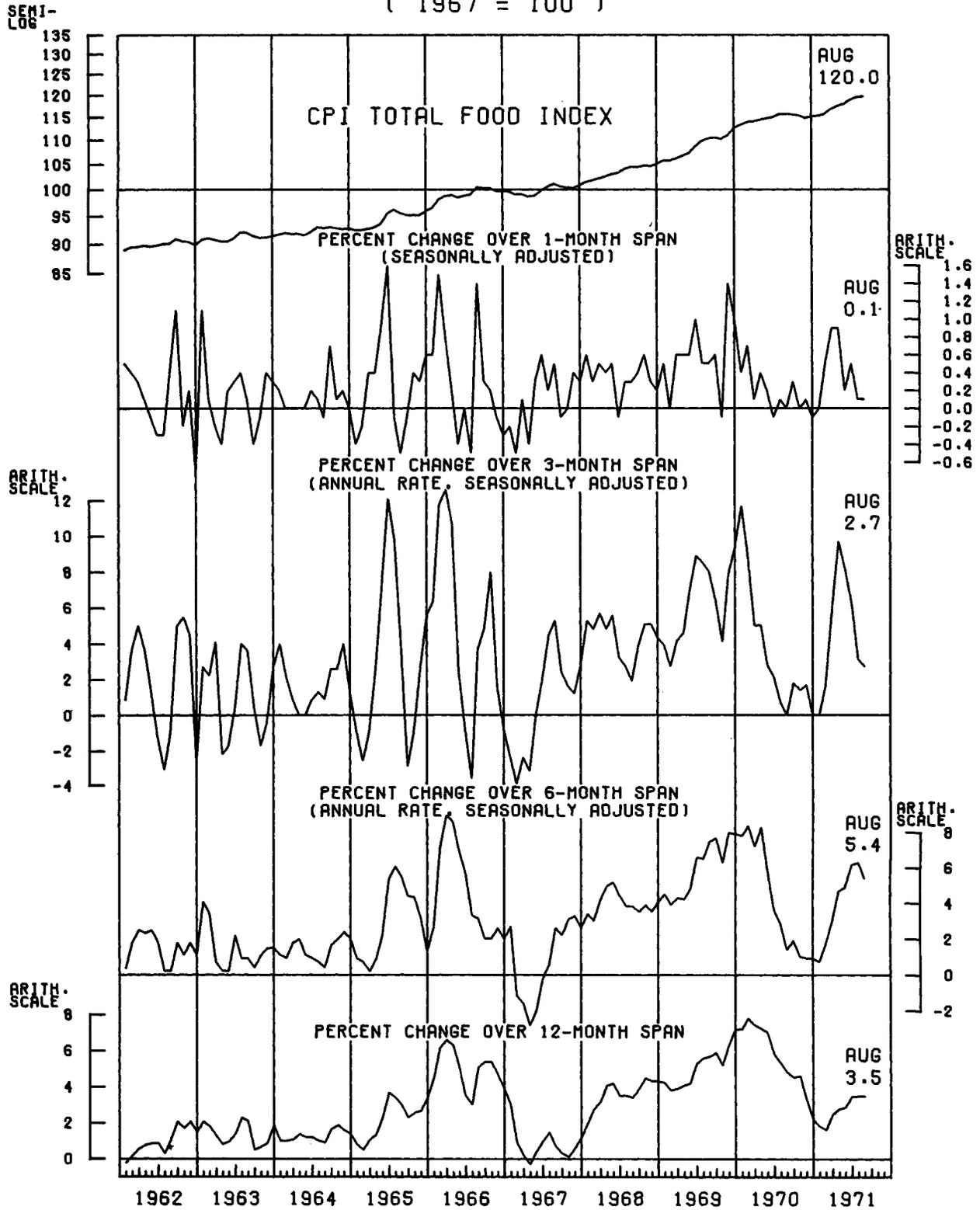
Effective with the July 1970 release, and continuing thereafter, seasonally adjusted percent changes in the U.S. All Items Index will be based on seasonal adjustment factors and seasonally adjusted indexes carried to two decimal places. This procedure will help to eliminate rounding error in the percent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

ALL ITEMS INDEX AND ITS RATE OF CHANGE 1962 - 71 (1967 = 100)



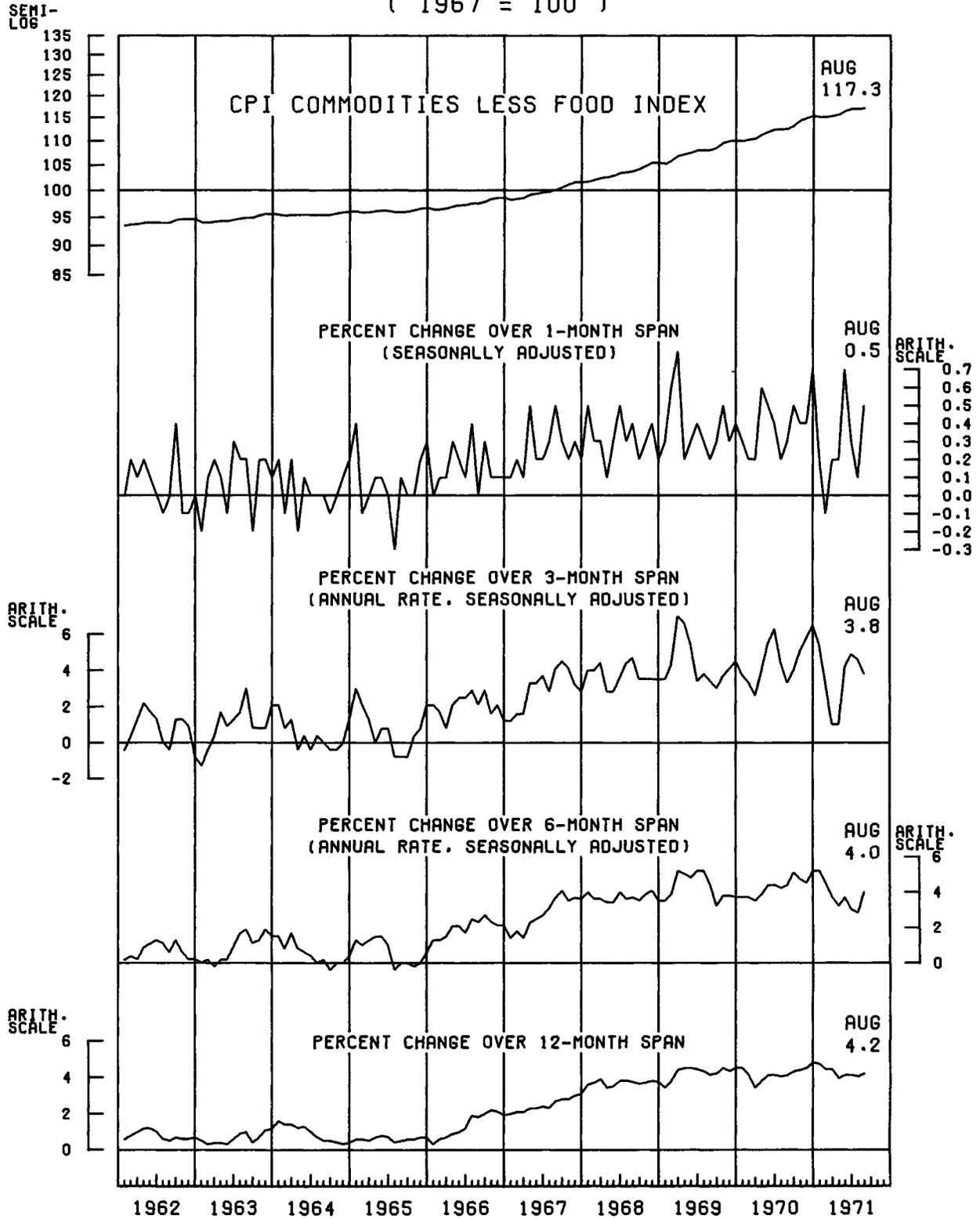
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TOTAL FOOD INDEX AND ITS RATE OF CHANGE 1962 - 71 (1967 = 100)



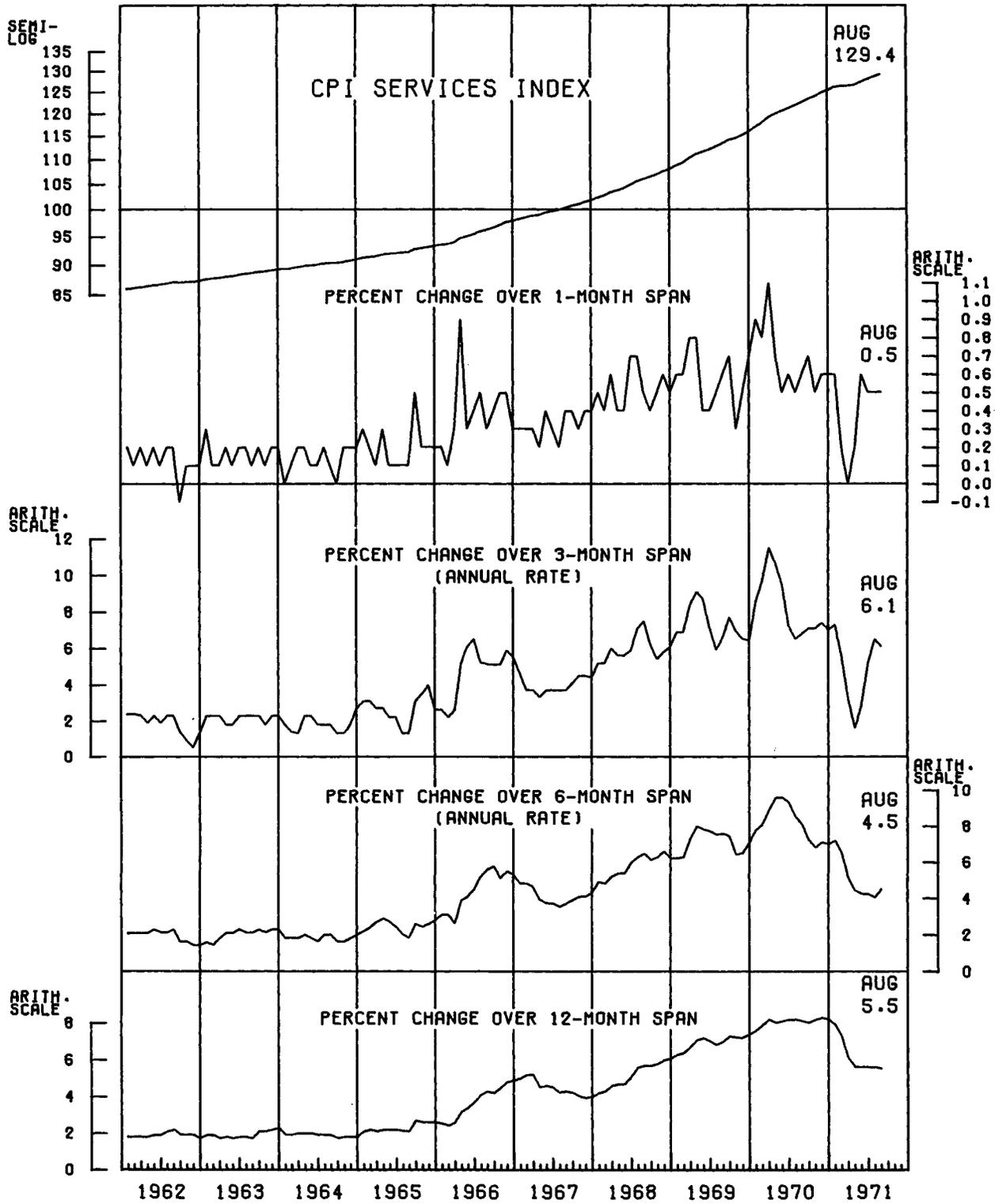
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COMMODITIES LESS FOOD INDEX AND ITS RATE OF CHANGE 1962 - 71 (1967 = 100)



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SERVICES INDEX AND ITS RATE OF CHANGE 1962 - 71 (1967 = 100)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

TABLE 1. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, August 1971
(Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Group	Indexes (1967=100) (unless otherwise specified)				Percent change to August 1971 from:		
	August 1971	July 1971	May 1971	August 1970	1 Month ago	3 Months ago	1 Year ago
All items -----	122.2	121.8	120.8	116.9	0.3	1.2	4.5
All items (1957-59=100) -----	142.1	141.7	140.5	136.0	-	-	-
Food -----	120.0	119.8	118.2	115.9	.2	1.5	3.5
Food at home -----	118.1	118.1	116.3	114.5	0	1.5	3.1
Cereals and bakery products -----	114.5	114.8	114.1	109.8	-.3	.4	4.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	118.7	118.0	115.8	117.8	.6	2.5	.8
Dairy products -----	116.0	116.0	115.1	112.1	0	.8	3.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	123.6	126.0	121.4	114.9	-1.9	1.8	7.6
Other foods at home -----	116.7	115.7	115.5	113.9	.9	1.0	2.5
Food away from home -----	127.1	126.5	125.3	121.0	.5	1.4	5.0
Housing -----	125.1	124.5	123.2	119.9	.5	1.5	4.3
Shelter ^{1/} -----	129.5	128.8	127.2	124.9	.5	1.8	3.7
Rent -----	115.8	115.4	114.7	110.5	.3	1.0	4.8
Homeownership ^{2/} -----	134.4	133.5	131.6	130.0	.7	2.1	3.4
Fuel and utilities ^{3/} -----	116.3	115.5	114.4	108.0	.7	1.7	7.7
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.8	117.5	117.2	110.1	.3	.5	7.0
Gas and electricity -----	115.7	114.7	114.4	107.3	.9	1.1	7.8
Household furnishings and operation -----	119.1	118.9	118.1	113.9	.2	.8	4.6
Apparel and upkeep ^{4/} -----	119.0	119.3	120.2	115.4	-.3	-1.0	3.1
Men's and boys' -----	119.6	119.9	121.2	116.5	-.3	-1.3	2.7
Women's and girls' -----	118.2	119.3	120.4	114.3	-.9	-1.8	3.4
Footwear -----	121.5	120.9	121.7	117.8	.5	-.2	3.1
Transportation -----	120.1	119.5	118.8	112.7	.5	1.1	6.6
Private -----	118.1	117.4	117.0	111.0	.6	.9	6.4
New cars -----	112.9	113.8	113.9	105.5	-.8	-.9	7.0
Used cars -----	112.5	113.5	112.8	106.3	-.9	-.3	5.8
Gasoline -----	107.9	104.1	104.0	104.7	3.7	3.8	3.1
Public -----	139.1	139.0	136.4	129.4	.1	2.0	7.5
Health and recreation -----	123.1	122.6	121.6	117.2	.4	1.2	5.0
Medical care -----	130.0	129.3	128.1	122.0	.5	1.5	6.6
Personal care -----	117.5	117.1	116.5	113.7	.3	.9	3.3
Reading and recreation -----	119.7	119.6	118.9	114.2	.1	.7	4.8
Other goods and services -----	121.8	121.2	119.9	116.8	.5	1.6	4.3
<u>Seasonally Adjusted:</u>							
Food -----	119.2	119.1	118.4	-	.1	.7	-
Apparel and upkeep -----	120.1	120.0	120.0	-	.1	.1	-
Transportation -----	120.5	119.3	118.6	-	1.0	1.6	-
<u>Special Groups:</u>							
All items less food -----	122.9	122.4	121.6	117.2	.4	1.1	4.9
All items less medical care -----	121.8	121.4	120.4	116.7	.3	1.2	4.4
Commodities less food -----	117.3	117.0	116.6	112.6	.3	.6	4.2
Commodities -----	118.3	118.1	117.2	113.8	.2	.9	4.0
Nondurables -----	118.6	118.3	117.4	114.5	.3	1.0	3.6
Nondurables less food -----	117.2	116.7	116.6	113.0	.4	.5	3.7
Apparel commodities -----	119.1	119.5	120.5	115.6	-.3	-1.2	3.0
Durables -----	117.4	117.5	116.6	112.2	-.1	.7	4.6
Household durables -----	113.4	113.2	112.7	110.4	.2	.6	2.7
Services -----	129.4	128.8	127.5	122.7	.5	1.5	5.5
Services less rent -----	131.9	131.2	129.8	124.9	.5	1.6	5.6
Services less medical care -----	128.6	127.9	126.7	122.3	.5	1.5	5.2
Insurance and finance -----	139.2	138.3	137.0	135.9	.7	1.6	2.4
Utilities and public transportation -----	121.6	120.8	119.3	112.8	.7	1.9	7.8
Housekeeping and home maintenance services -----	139.4	138.5	136.0	127.4	.6	2.5	9.4
Medical care services -----	135.1	134.4	132.9	125.8	.5	1.7	7.4
<u>Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar:</u>							
1967=\$1.00 -----	\$0.818	\$0.821	\$0.828	\$0.855	-.4	-1.2	-4.3
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	.704	.706	.712	.735	-	-	-

^{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	July 1971	May 1971	August 1970
		August 1971			July 1971	May 1971	August 1970
U.S. City Average -----	M	122.2	142.1		0.3	1.2	4.5
Chicago -----	M	121.6	138.1		.6	.8	3.8
Detroit -----	M	122.9	141.2		.9	1.7	4.3
Los Angeles-Long Beach ---	M	119.6	140.6		.4	1.3	4.7
N.Y.-Northeastern N.J. ---	M	126.9	151.1		.1	1.4	5.9
Philadelphia -----	M	123.7	144.5		0	.2	4.7
		July 1971				April 1971	July 1970
Boston -----	1	122.9	147.2			1.0	5.6
Houston -----	1	121.3	138.8			1.5	3.8
Minneapolis-St. Paul -----	1	121.9	141.3			1.3	3.4
Pittsburgh -----	1	121.8	140.1			.7	4.1
		August 1971				May 1971	August 1970
Buffalo -----	2	122.9		3/ 135.1		1.2	5.6
Cleveland -----	2	123.3	139.1			1.1	2.7
Dallas -----	2	122.8		3/ 132.7		2.0	3.5
Milwaukee -----	2	121.5	137.2			2.0	4.6
San Diego -----	2	120.9		4/ 127.0		1.2	4.3
Seattle -----	2	117.7	138.3			1.9	2.7
Washington -----	2	123.6	144.0			1.1	4.5
		June 1971				March 1971	June 1970
Atlanta -----	3	122.3	140.7			1.6	5.0
Baltimore -----	3	123.5	143.4			1.1	6.0
Cincinnati -----	3	120.7	137.0			.8	4.4
Honolulu -----	3	118.5		5/ 127.7		1.5	3.6
Kansas City -----	3	120.6	143.1			1.2	3.8
St. Louis -----	3	119.9	140.0			1.4	4.4
San Francisco-Oakland ----	3	119.9	142.7			.7	3.8

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 difference 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 July 1971 to August 1971

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York-Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.3	0.6	0.9	0.4	0.1	0.0
Food -----	.2	.2	.4	0	.1	.3
Housing -----	.5	.8	.4	.5	.2	-.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	-.3	.9	.4	-.6	-.1	-.7
Transportation -----	.5	1.0	3.6	1.4	.2	-.1
Health and recreation -----	.4	.1	.6	.1	.2	0
Medical care -----	.5	.4	.6	.2	.5	.1
Personal care -----	.3	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	.1	.2	.4	.1	-.3	.1
Other goods and services -----	.5	-.2	.4	.3	.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: August 1971	
	August 1971	July 1971	May 1971	From: 1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago
Food -----	119.2	119.1	118.4	0.1	0.7
Food at home -----	117.2	117.2	116.6	0	.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.8	117.1	116.5	-.3	.3
Dairy products -----	116.0	116.1	115.3	-.1	.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	121.8	120.7	118.7	.9	2.6
Other foods at home -----	116.5	117.6	117.6	-.9	-.9
Fuel and utilities <u>1/</u> -----	116.4	115.6	114.3	.7	1.8
Fuel oil and coal -----	118.5	118.1	117.3	.3	1.0
Apparel and upkeep <u>2/</u> -----	120.1	120.0	120.0	.1	.1
Men's and boys' -----	120.3	120.7	121.0	-.3	-.6
Women's and girls' -----	120.0	120.3	120.0	-.2	0
Footwear -----	121.6	121.4	121.5	.2	.1
Transportation -----	120.5	119.3	* 118.6	1.0	1.6
Private -----	118.5	117.3	116.9	1.0	1.4
New cars -----	115.0	115.1	114.2	-.1	.7
Commodities -----	118.2	117.9	117.2	.3	.9
Commodities less food -----	117.7	117.1	116.6	.5	.9
Nondurables -----	118.4	118.1	117.5	.3	.8
Nondurables less food -----	117.7	117.1	116.6	.5	.9
Apparel commodities -----	120.2	120.3	120.3	-.1	-.1
Durables -----	117.5	117.4	116.5	.1	.9

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, August 1971 index and percent changes from May 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 -----	122.2	121.6	122.9	119.6	126.9	123.7
Food -----	120.0	120.7	119.4	115.8	124.9	121.8
Food at home -----	118.1	119.5	118.5	114.6	122.1	119.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	114.5	119.0	116.0	111.8	115.3	118.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	118.7	119.9	121.0	116.4	123.9	118.9
Dairy products -----	116.0	115.4	113.4	114.2	118.5	119.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	123.6	123.6	121.8	116.4	128.7	123.1
Other foods at home -----	116.7	119.1	116.1	112.6	120.4	118.1
Food away from home -----	127.1	125.3	124.0	119.0	133.8	131.4
Housing -----	125.1	120.4	128.8	124.1	130.0	124.7
Shelter -----	129.5	124.0	137.8	127.0	134.6	131.8
Rent -----	115.8	(2/)	117.2	(2/)	120.1	(2/)
Homeownership -----	134.4	129.9	141.9	130.0	145.2	134.9
Fuel and utilities -----	116.3	111.5	111.2	121.9	119.7	111.0
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.8	113.2	113.9	-	120.2	111.9
Gas and electricity -----	115.7	109.2	112.0	124.3	113.7	112.9
Household furnishings and operation -----	119.1	115.0	112.8	115.3	123.9	120.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	119.0	116.0	115.4	117.9	118.9	116.7
Men's and boys' -----	119.6	115.2	116.5	115.8	122.2	116.0
Women's and girls' -----	118.2	116.2	111.7	120.9	114.3	115.7
Footwear -----	121.5	117.8	120.0	120.3	119.5	120.5
Transportation -----	120.1	127.3	116.8	116.5	130.6	124.4
Private -----	118.1	122.0	114.2	116.7	125.9	121.7
Public -----	139.1	161.1	148.8	113.4	148.8	140.7
Health and recreation -----	123.1	123.4	124.6	118.3	127.3	127.8
Medical care -----	130.0	129.7	135.4	127.5	137.4	140.0
Personal care -----	117.5	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	116.9	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	119.7	119.5	121.3	111.1	123.8	123.9
Other goods and services -----	121.8	124.2	118.0	116.6	125.6	(2/)
Percent changes from May 1971 to August 1971						
All items -----	1.2	0.8	1.7	1.3	1.4	0.2
Food -----	1.5	2.5	1.6	1.0	1.7	1.8
Food at home -----	1.5	3.2	1.9	1.0	1.4	1.8
Cereals and bakery products -----	.4	2.9	1.0	1.2	.2	.7
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	2.5	4.0	2.4	1.6	2.2	2.6
Dairy products -----	.8	1.5	- 1.0	.4	.4	1.4
Fruits and vegetables -----	1.8	4.3	3.0	.3	1.6	2.3
Other foods at home -----	1.0	2.5	2.5	.5	1.6	1.2
Food away from home -----	1.4	.2	.9	1.4	2.6	2.1
Housing -----	1.5	.8	2.2	1.7	2.2	- .6
Shelter -----	1.8	1.0	3.0	1.6	1.8	- .1
Rent -----	1.0	(2/)	.4	(2/)	.7	(2/)
Homeownership -----	2.1	1.2	3.2	1.8	2.2	- .4
Fuel and utilities -----	1.7	.4	.9	5.3	5.5	- 3.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	.5	.3	.7	-	1.5	- 5.0
Gas and electricity -----	1.1	.2	1.4	4.0	3.6	- 3.9
Household furnishings and operation -----	.8	.6	.2	.7	1.1	- .2
Apparel and upkeep -----	- 1.0	- 1.2	- .3	- .4	- 1.4	- 3.7
Men's and boys' -----	- 1.3	- 2.1	- .9	- .9	- 2.9	- 4.6
Women's and girls' -----	- 1.8	- 2.8	- .1	- 1.3	- 1.0	- 3.0
Footwear -----	- .2	2.0	- .9	1.6	- 1.8	- 3.5
Transportation -----	1.1	.4	1.3	2.3	1.2	.9
Private -----	.9	.4	1.4	2.4	.7	1.0
Public -----	2.0	.5	.7	1.0	3.1	.5
Health and recreation -----	1.2	.3	1.8	.3	1.7	1.4
Medical care -----	1.5	.9	2.1	.7	1.6	3.5
Personal care -----	.9	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	1.8	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	.7	.5	1.8	- .1	.4	1.4
Other goods and services -----	1.6	- .2	.6	.3	2.9	(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, August 1971 index and percent changes from May 1971--Continued

Group	Buffalo	Cleveland	Dallas	Milwaukee	San Diego	Seattle	Washington
(Indexes 1967=100 unless otherwise specified)							
All items -----	122.9	123.3	122.8	121.5	120.9	117.7	123.5
Food -----	122.0	119.0	119.5	117.6	118.2	117.0	122.2
Food at home -----	120.8	118.0	116.1	115.9	115.2	114.9	118.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	118.6	111.8	113.9	117.0	112.4	110.4	116.2
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	120.5	117.4	115.9	117.7	119.1	115.4	115.7
Dairy products -----	117.5	119.9	111.4	113.2	113.5	115.5	110.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	127.9	124.6	123.2	118.5	116.0	116.5	130.7
Other foods at home -----	119.2	116.1	115.3	112.9	111.4	114.8	120.7
Food away from home -----	128.8	125.1	131.7	124.0	125.6	123.9	131.4
Housing -----	126.0	122.4	125.9	124.5	128.0	120.6	123.0
Shelter -----	125.8	124.0	131.2	129.2	137.5	125.9	126.5
Rent -----	115.5	111.8	111.7	115.2	131.0	107.0	115.6
Homeownership -----	127.7	126.1	140.0	133.7	140.3	131.2	132.8
Fuel and utilities -----	132.1	119.1	114.8	115.0	112.9	110.4	109.6
Fuel oil and coal -----	119.9	-	-	118.4	-	118.7	117.5
Gas and electricity -----	136.7	120.0	109.6	117.3	109.4	106.1	112.7
Household furnishings and operation -----	122.4	118.2	120.0	118.3	111.4	114.1	120.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	122.5	121.6	119.5	121.8	118.2	115.5	122.6
Men's and boys' -----	135.3	120.0	124.7	121.0	120.4	116.9	123.6
Women's and girls' -----	118.3	121.9	116.4	119.3	121.8	114.8	124.1
Footwear -----	121.4	125.4	122.2	126.7	117.3	117.5	123.2
Transportation -----	119.2	125.7	120.3	120.5	116.4	109.5	124.6
Private -----	118.4	122.1	118.3	117.9	116.0	109.6	120.6
Public -----	127.2	149.8	145.1	152.1	123.1	109.3	146.8
Health and recreation -----	121.6	129.7	124.5	121.3	116.9	118.6	125.6
Medical care -----	123.9	143.5	129.8	127.7	122.6	124.1	138.5
Personal care -----	116.6	118.2	120.5	117.7	111.2	113.4	115.7
Reading and recreation -----	122.8	121.4	119.8	120.5	113.9	116.5	119.1
Other goods and services -----	120.5	128.4	124.8	118.2	117.0	117.5	124.2
Percent changes from May 1971 to August 1971							
All items -----	1.2	1.1	2.0	2.0	1.2	1.9	1.1
Food -----	1.6	-.3	1.9	1.6	.8	.9	1.8
Food at home -----	1.5	-.4	1.8	1.8	.8	1.0	2.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	1.4	- 2.2	- 1.0	.9	1.8	- 1.3	-.9
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	3.6	-.3	2.5	3.4	.3	2.3	2.7
Dairy products -----	1.6	-.1	.2	- 1.5	.3	.7	.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	- 1.2	2.2	4.6	.3	1.0	.7	6.0
Other foods at home -----	.8	- 2.0	1.4	.9	1.0	.8	1.3
Food away from home -----	2.2	.8	1.9	1.1	1.0	.7	.8
Housing -----	1.9	1.7	1.9	3.1	1.3	2.7	1.6
Shelter -----	1.2	2.6	2.5	5.0	1.0	3.8	1.9
Rent -----	1.6	.5	0	1.7	.7	-.3	1.6
Homeownership -----	1.2	2.9	3.4	5.9	1.2	4.8	2.2
Fuel and utilities -----	6.2	.8	.3	0	6.2	1.6	.6
Fuel oil and coal -----	1.0	-	-	0	-	0	0
Gas and electricity -----	5.5	1.3	.6	0	.1	5.0	1.3
Household furnishings and operation -----	1.0	-.8	1.0	.3	.3	.8	.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	- 2.0	-.7	.8	- 1.6	.2	- 1.4	-.6
Men's and boys' -----	-.4	-.5	1.2	- 1.2	.8	.2	.1
Women's and girls' -----	- 5.4	- 1.9	.7	- 4.0	-.7	- 3.9	-.1
Footwear -----	2.0	2.0	1.3	.2	1.3	-.3	- 1.8
Transportation -----	1.9	.9	3.4	4.7	2.0	2.9	.2
Private -----	2.0	.9	3.6	5.2	2.1	3.3	.2
Public -----	1.0	.8	.4	.5	1.1	.8	.5
Health and recreation -----	1.0	2.0	1.8	.7	.9	2.3	1.0
Medical care -----	1.9	3.4	.5	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.6
Personal care -----	-.7	.2	.8	- 1.3	-.2	-.2	.2
Reading and recreation -----	.6	0	.8	.5	.4	.2	.8
Other goods and services -----	1.4	3.4	6.8	.9	1.3	6.7	.6

1/ See footnote 1, table 2.

2/ Not available

3/ Change from June 1971.

TABLE 6. Consumer Price Index--United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, August 1971 indexes and percent changes from July 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 -----	120.0	118.1	114.5	118.7	116.0	123.6	116.7	127.1
Atlanta -----	119.3	116.8	114.0	114.4	116.6	128.5	115.1	127.3
Baltimore -----	122.6	121.2	118.7	121.5	118.0	127.3	120.0	127.9
Boston -----	119.2	117.6	111.8	121.4	115.2	123.0	112.6	125.1
Buffalo -----	122.0	120.8	118.6	120.5	117.5	127.9	119.2	128.8
Chicago -----	120.7	119.5	119.0	119.9	115.4	123.6	119.1	125.3
Cincinnati -----	119.7	118.5	114.2	117.1	117.4	124.1	118.7	124.3
Cleveland -----	119.0	118.0	111.8	117.4	119.9	124.6	116.1	125.1
Dallas -----	119.5	116.1	113.9	115.9	111.4	123.2	115.3	131.7
Detroit -----	119.4	118.5	116.0	121.0	113.4	121.8	116.1	124.0
Honolulu -----	119.6	117.0	105.6	119.0	114.9	130.0	112.6	126.9
Houston -----	120.5	116.5	112.2	115.8	115.1	124.0	115.9	134.3
Kansas City -----	120.3	118.2	116.5	117.5	123.8	118.1	116.2	127.2
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	115.8	114.6	111.8	116.4	114.2	116.4	112.6	119.0
Milwaukee -----	117.6	115.9	117.0	117.7	113.2	118.5	112.9	124.0
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	122.1	120.5	123.4	120.8	118.4	122.8	118.3	129.4
N.Y. Northeastern N.J. -	124.9	122.1	115.3	123.9	118.5	128.7	120.4	133.8
Philadelphia -----	121.8	119.6	118.8	118.9	119.5	123.1	118.1	131.4
Pittsburgh -----	120.1	118.4	113.7	116.3	119.5	125.4	118.7	130.4
St. Louis -----	120.0	118.0	120.1	115.8	118.4	128.3	111.4	129.3
San Diego -----	118.2	115.2	112.4	119.1	113.5	116.0	111.4	125.6
San Francisco-Oakland --	116.6	114.8	109.9	116.6	114.7	116.1	114.3	122.7
Seattle -----	117.0	114.9	110.4	115.4	115.5	116.5	114.8	123.9
Washington -----	122.2	118.6	116.2	115.7	110.5	130.7	120.7	131.4
Percent changes July 1971 to August 1971								
U.S. City Average -----	0.2	0.0	- 0.3	0.6	0.0	- 1.9	0.9	0.5
Atlanta -----	.2	.3	.8	.1	.5	- .5	.3	.1
Baltimore -----	.5	.5	1.5	1.1	.1	- .9	.5	.6
Boston -----	.2	.1	-.8	.6	0	- .9	1.0	.6
Buffalo -----	.5	.5	-.2	1.3	.2	.1	.5	.5
Chicago -----	.2	.2	.5	.9	-.3	- 3.3	1.7	0
Cincinnati -----	.4	.4	-.8	2.3	0	- 1.5	.6	.2
Cleveland -----	- 1.1	- 1.2	-.9	- 1.4	- 1.2	- 2.4	0	-.2
Dallas -----	.6	.6	0	.8	-.1	.7	.9	.5
Detroit -----	.4	.6	- 1.0	1.6	.4	- .9	1.0	.1
Honolulu -----	2.7	3.4	.4	3.2	.5	8.2	3.3	.7
Houston -----	.3	0	-.4	-.2	.3	- 1.4	1.4	1.3
Kansas City -----	.6	.8	-.9	2.2	-.1	-.9	1.6	.3
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	0	-.3	-.2	.4	.1	- 2.8	-.3	.9
Milwaukee -----	0	-.3	-.3	1.1	-.8	- 3.7	.4	1.1
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	.2	.3	-.1	.4	0	0	.9	.2
N.Y. Northeastern N.J. -	.1	-.1	-.6	.6	.1	- 2.4	1.3	.6
Philadelphia -----	.3	.3	-.7	.2	.6	-.9	1.6	1.0
Pittsburgh -----	-.2	-.3	- 1.0	-.2	0	- 2.3	1.8	.3
St. Louis -----	.3	.3	0	1.6	1.6	- 2.9	.7	.2
San Diego -----	-.1	-.5	.8	-.9	0	- 2.9	.5	1.0
San Francisco-Oakland --	-.5	-.8	-.4	.5	.2	- 4.4	-.6	.1
Seattle -----	.3	.2	- 1.0	1.6	.3	- 2.1	.7	.6
Washington -----	.7	.8	-.5	.9	.2	1.1	1.3	.5

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

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to August 1971 from--		
	August 1971		July 1971		August 1970
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Total food -----	120.0	119.2	0.2	0.1	3.5
Food away from home -----	127.1	-	.5	-	5.0
Restaurant meals -----	126.9	-	.6	-	5.0
Snacks -----	128.2	-	.2	-	4.9
Food at home -----	118.1	117.2	0	0	3.1
Cereals and bakery products -----	114.5	-	-.3	-	4.3
Flour -----	101.2	-	-.1	-	1.9
Cracker meal -----	131.1	-	.2	-	9.7
Corn flakes -----	105.6	-	-3.1	-	3.2
Rice -----	109.9	-	.3	-	3.5
Bread, white -----	112.9	-	-.9	-	2.1
Bread, whole wheat -----	118.7	-	.3	-	5.9
Cookies -----	110.0	-	.1	-	4.1
Layer cake -----	121.2	-	.7	-	4.8
Cinnamon rolls -----	119.1	-	.3	-	6.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	118.7	116.8	.6	-.3	.8
Meats -----	118.4	116.4	.7	0	.8
Beef and veal -----	126.8	125.2	.2	-.4	4.5
Steak, round -----	125.3	123.6	.7	-.2	5.3
Steak, sirloin -----	125.0	-	-1.3	-	4.3
Steak, porterhouse -----	128.1	-	0	-	6.5
Rump roast -----	124.1	-	1.4	-	5.2
Rib roast -----	129.9	128.9	.5	-.1	7.9
Chuck roast -----	126.0	124.3	.7	-.7	2.6
Hamburger -----	127.1	125.5	-.3	-1.1	2.3
Beef liver -----	114.3	-	-.2	-	.5
Veal cutlets -----	145.5	144.5	.6	.8	10.7
Pork -----	106.9	103.4	2.1	1.0	-9.7
Chops -----	113.1	108.0	4.7	3.4	-6.1
Loin roast -----	111.1	-	4.2	-	-6.3
Pork sausage -----	111.4	-	.5	-	-8.7
Ham, whole -----	102.9	103.4	-.1	-1.6	-9.4
Picnics -----	107.4	-	1.7	-	-6.9
Bacon -----	96.6	92.9	-.1	-1.8	-17.9
Other meats -----	116.4	115.6	.3	-.5	-.1
Lamb chops -----	124.2	-	.6	-	5.7
Frankfurters -----	115.7	114.2	.9	-.5	-1.2
Ham, canned -----	106.6	-	.7	-	-5.7
Bologna sausage -----	119.8	-	.3	-	.5
Salami sausage -----	117.6	-	.2	-	.3
Liverwurst -----	114.2	-	-1.1	-	-.2
Poultry -----	112.1	-	0	-	4.3
Frying chicken -----	111.7	109.3	-.5	.1	5.3
Chicken breasts -----	113.5	-	2.2	-	4.9
Turkey -----	112.6	-	.4	-	-1.1
Fish -----	131.9	132.2	.7	.7	11.2
Shrimp, frozen -----	119.9	-	.9	-	3.5
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	142.4	142.1	.4	.1	12.8
Tuna fish, canned -----	129.1	-	0	-	11.1
Sardines, canned -----	136.3	-	1.5	-	17.0
Dairy products -----	116.0	116.0	0	-.1	3.5
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	115.2	115.4	.1	0	3.6
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	118.1	-	0	-	3.1
Milk, fresh, skim -----	120.3	-	.2	-	4.2
Milk, evaporated -----	121.2	-	.7	-	6.8
Ice cream -----	106.5	-	.7	-	.4
Cheese, American process -----	122.0	122.0	-.1	0	5.1
Butter -----	105.7	105.9	.1	.1	.8

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to August 1971 from--		
	August 1971		July 1971		August 1970
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
Fruits and vegetables -----	123.6	121.8	- 1.9	0.9	7.6
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	127.4	124.5	- 3.6	1.3	7.3
Apples -----	139.0	114.7	2.1	.8	7.1
Bananas -----	99.5	98.0	2.2	1.9	- .9
Oranges -----	135.3	130.1	5.1	.2	13.2
Orange juice, fresh -----	128.2	-	1.1	-	4.6
Grapefruit -----	175.9	143.6	4.6	- 8.3	12.5
Grapes 1/ -----	169.7	165.4	- 1.0	19.0	28.4
Strawberries 1/ -----	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Watermelon 1/ -----	119.0	135.7	- 11.9	- 7.4	15.5
Potatoes -----	127.7	116.5	- 4.7	1.7	- 7.5
Onions -----	115.2	105.6	3.7	1.4	- 5.4
Asparagus 1/ -----	(1/)	-	(1/)	-	(1/)
Cabbage -----	109.4	120.0	- 14.1	- 6.2	- 7.6
Carrots -----	162.7	153.2	- .6	- 3.6	44.9
Celery -----	125.6	124.2	2.7	20.1	18.7
Cucumbers -----	90.0	-	- 17.8	-	11.1
Lettuce -----	124.0	125.1	- 1.1	- 2.0	6.6
Peppers, green -----	105.2	-	20.1	-	11.1
Spinach -----	129.0	-	- .6	-	10.3
Tomatoes -----	122.0	146.5	- 20.9	- 5.2	18.6
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	117.9	-	.9	-	8.0
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	119.1	-	.1	-	9.9
Pears, canned -----	117.4	-	.4	-	7.1
Grapefruit-pineapple juice, canned -----	114.1	-	.5	-	3.3
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	133.6	133.6	2.5	1.9	9.2
Lemonade concentrate, frozen -----	114.8	-	.9	-	7.6
Beets, canned -----	116.6	-	.8	-	5.9
Peas, green, canned -----	107.6	-	.4	-	6.3
Tomatoes, canned -----	116.2	-	.3	-	4.2
Dried beans -----	128.1	-	2.7	-	21.3
Broccoli, frozen -----	118.7	-	.4	-	4.6
Other food at home -----	116.7	116.5	.9	- .9	2.5
Eggs -----	109.7	109.5	4.3	- 7.9	- 6.0
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	116.4	-	.7	-	8.8
Salad dressing, Italian -----	110.0	-	- .2	-	6.7
Salad or cooking oil -----	121.6	-	1.6	-	9.5
Sugar and sweets -----	120.3	-	.5	-	3.6
Sugar -----	113.2	-	.5	-	4.2
Grape jelly -----	121.7	-	1.1	-	6.9
Chocolate bar -----	131.7	-	.3	-	1.6
Syrup, chocolate flavored -----	113.4	-	.1	-	1.7
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	122.0	-	0	-	2.1
Coffee, can and bag -----	121.8	-	0	-	- 1.0
Coffee, instant -----	125.2	-	.2	-	4.2
Tea -----	108.0	-	- .5	-	1.8
Cola drink -----	126.7	-	.2	-	5.8
Carbonated fruit drink -----	127.5	-	.2	-	5.2
Prepared and partially prepared foods ---	113.5	-	.4	-	3.5
Bean soup, canned -----	114.8	-	1.0	-	2.1
Chicken soup, canned -----	106.3	-	- .1	-	.6
Spaghetti, canned -----	117.6	-	.4	-	3.4
Mashed potatoes, instant -----	111.9	-	- .4	-	2.7
Potatoes, french fried, frozen -----	110.9	-	.1	-	- .1
Baby foods, canned -----	111.8	-	.7	-	4.7
Sweet pickle relish -----	118.9	-	1.3	-	7.9
Pretzels -----	114.1	-	- .3	-	5.3

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, August 1971 and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to August 1971 from	
		August 1971	July 1971	July 1971	August 1970
Housing -----		125.1	124.5	0.5	4.3
Shelter 1/ -----		129.5	128.8	.5	3.7
Rent -----		115.8	115.4	.3	4.8
Homeownership costs 2/ -----		134.4	133.5	.7	3.4
Mortgage interest rates -----		118.1	117.4	.6	- 11.3
Property taxes -----		132.2	130.5	1.3	7.8
Property insurance rates -----		121.5	121.5	0	6.3
Maintenance and repairs -----		135.8	134.7	.8	8.4
Commodities 3/ -----		120.6	119.9	.6	4.7
Exterior house paint -----		115.3	115.7	-.3	1.9
Interior house paint -----		115.2	114.2	.9	3.4
Services -----		142.4	141.2	.8	9.9
Repainting living and dining rooms -----		151.3	149.6	1.1	12.0
Reshingling house roof -----		148.8	147.2	1.1	14.2
Residing house -----		132.1	131.1	.8	6.7
Sink replacement -----		143.0	142.2	.6	10.4
Furnace repair -----		145.9	144.5	1.0	8.6
Fuel and utilities -----		116.3	115.5	.7	7.7
Fuel oil and coal -----		117.8	117.5	.3	7.0
Fuel oil, #2 -----		116.4	116.1	.3	6.6
Gas and electricity -----		115.7	114.7	.9	7.8
Gas -----		116.8	116.1	.6	7.4
Electricity -----		114.6	113.5	1.0	8.2
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services -----		110.3	108.9	1.3	7.1
Residential water and sewerage services -----		135.0	135.0	0	9.9
Household furnishings and operation 4/ -----		119.1	118.9	.2	4.6
Household furnishings -----		114.8	114.7	.1	3.0
Textiles -----		111.1	111.3	-.2	2.4
Sheets, percale or muslin -----		110.2	112.0	- 1.6	- 2.4
Curtains, tailored, polyester -----		111.5	110.7	.7	2.0
Bedspreads, chiefly cotton -----		107.0	106.7	.3	.3
Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate -----		118.9	119.3	-.3	3.8
Pillows, bed, polyester, acrylic, or kapok -----		106.4	106.5	-.1	6.0
Slipcover, throws, ready made chiefly cotton -----		112.4	112.2	.2	2.8
Furniture and bedding -----		119.6	119.6	0	3.5
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser -----	Mar. 70	104.5	104.5	0	3.6
Living room suites, good and inexpensive quality -----		116.2	115.7	.4	2.1
Lounge chairs, upholstered -----		125.1	124.3	.6	5.7
Dining room chairs -----	Mar. 70	102.9	103.2	-.3	2.7
Sofas, upholstered -----		117.5	116.8	.6	3.2
Sofas, dual purpose -----		116.5	116.4	.1	.9
Bedding, mattress and box springs -----	June 70	104.0	103.9	.1	4.4
Aluminum folding chair 5/ -----		112.8	115.7	- 2.5	4.9
Cribs -----		118.0	118.9	-.8	3.9
Floor coverings -----		106.8	106.3	.5	1.6
Broadloom, carpeting, manmade fibers -----		102.7	102.1	.6	-.2
Vinyl sheet goods -----		115.9	114.9	.9	7.0
Vinyl asbestos tile -----		116.4	116.9	-.4	3.8
Appliances 6/ -----		105.7	105.7	0	1.4
Washing machines, electric, automatic -----		109.9	109.7	.2	2.2
Vacuum cleaners, canister type -----		104.3	104.3	0	1.8
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers electric -----		108.2	108.3	-.1	2.3
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----		111.4	111.7	-.3	2.1
Clothes dryers, electric, automatic -----		113.2	113.1	.1	4.1
Air conditioners, demountable -----		111.0	111.4	-.4	3.5
Room heaters, electric, portable 5/ -----		(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)
Garbage disposal units -----		110.2	110.1	.1	.2
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, chinaware -----		118.9	118.4	.4	5.9
Flatware, stainless steel -----		121.5	120.4	.9	1.3
Table lamps, with shade -----		122.3	121.9	.3	5.4
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type -----		115.2	116.9	- 1.5	1.3
Electric drills, hand held -----		106.3	105.9	.4	-.4
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents -----		111.1	110.6	.5	4.0
Paper napkins -----		128.1	127.6	.4	5.9
Toilet tissue -----		122.6	124.0	- 1.1	2.9
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic service, general housework -----		134.9	134.5	.3	5.2
Baby sitter service -----		130.7	130.5	.2	5.9
Postal charges -----		146.6	146.6	0	25.3
Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----		134.6	133.9	.5	7.6
Licensed day care service, preschool child -----		119.0	118.0	.8	3.4
Washing machine repairs -----		137.3	137.3	0	9.2

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to August 1971 from:	
		August 1971	July 1971	July 1971	August 1970
Apparel and upkeep 7/ -----		119.0	119.3	- 0.3	3.1
Apparel commodities -----		119.1	119.5	- .3	3.0
Apparel commodities less footwear 1 -----		118.6	119.3	- .6	3.0
Men's and boys' -----		119.6	119.9	- .3	2.7
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends 5/ -----	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)
Suits, year round weight -----	127.7	127.1	.5	3.6	
Suits, tropical weight 5/ -----	(5/)	125.1	(5/)	(5/)	
Jackets, lightweight -----	112.1	112.2	- .1	-.6	
Slacks, wool or wool blends -----	115.4	117.3	- 1.6	1.0	
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends -----	130.9	131.0	- .1	4.7	
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----	113.7	113.5	.2	3.5	
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----	114.0	113.9	.1	4.0	
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton -----	112.4	113.1	- .6	.8	
T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----	119.0	119.4	- .3	-.2	
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers -----	114.9	114.9	0	-.1	
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton -----	115.2	115.2	0	2.1	
Boy's:					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend 5/ -	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	
Sport coats, wool or wool blend 5/ -----	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend -----	122.7	122.6	.1	4.5	
Undershorts, cotton -----	119.9	119.1	.7	.8	
Women's and girls' -----	118.2	119.3	- .9	3.4	
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blend 5/ -----	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton 5/ -----	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	
Sweaters, wool or acrylic 5/ -----	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	
Skirts, wool, wool blend or manmade fibers 5/ -	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	
Skirts, cotton or polyester/cotton -----	102.9	114.7	- 10.3	- 6.1	
Blouses, cotton or manmade fibers -----	119.1	121.8	- 2.2	.6	
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber -----	126.8	124.5	1.8	- 2.2	
Dresses, street, wool or wool blend 5/ -----	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	
Slips, nylon -----	111.1	110.9	.2	1.8	
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot -----	115.7	115.7	0	3.0	
Girdles, manmade blend -----	116.8	116.3	.4	4.3	
Brassieres, nylon lace -----	121.2	121.2	0	4.4	
Hose, or panty hose, nylon seamless -----	98.6	99.2	- .6	- 1.3	
Anklets, or knee-length socks, various fibers -	114.8	115.6	- .7	.2	
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----	109.7	110.5	- .7	1.2	
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----	134.2	132.1	1.6	9.3	
Girls':					
Raincoats, vinyl, cotton, or polyester blends 5/	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	
Skirts, wool, wool blends, or acrylic 5/ -----	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	
Dresses, cotton, manmade fibers or blends -----	107.4	105.2	2.1	1.6	
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton 5/ -----	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	
Slips, polyester blends -----	109.8	110.4	- .5	2.3	
Handbags, plastic -----	126.9	129.7	- 2.2	.4	
Footwear -----	121.5	120.9	.5	3.1	
Men's:					
Shoes, street oxford -----	119.2	119.4	- .2	4.1	
Shoes, work, high -----	119.5	118.9	.5	4.5	
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump -----	122.9	122.0	.7	1.8	
Shoes, evening, pump -----	119.6	118.8	.7	1.0	
Shoes, casual -----	123.5	122.9	.5	1.1	
Houseslippers, scuff -----	123.5	122.5	.8	3.3	
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford -----	122.4	122.1	.2	4.0	
Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----	119.4	119.4	0	4.6	
Dress shoes, girls', strap or pump -----	126.4	124.4	1.6	6.0	
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze or disposable -----	112.5	112.3	.2	2.4	
Yard goods, polyester blend -----	121.9	122.4	- .4	2.3	
Wrist watches, men's and women's -----	113.7	113.3	.4	2.6	
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses ----	116.8	116.8	0	3.1	
Automatic laundry service -----	113.2	112.9	.3	2.0	
Laundry, men's shirts -----	119.2	119.1	.1	3.1	
Tailoring charge, hem adjustment -----	129.0	128.3	.5	6.1	
Shoe repair, women's heel lift -----	112.4	112.3	.1	3.9	

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to August 1971 from:	
		August 1971	July 1971	July 1971	August 1970
Transportation -----		120.1	119.5	0.5	6.6
Private 8/ -----		118.1	117.4	.6	6.4
Automobiles, new -----		112.9	113.8	-.8	7.0
Automobiles, used -----		112.5	113.5	-.9	5.8
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		107.9	104.1	3.7	3.1
Motor oil, premium -----		121.0	120.5	.4	5.4
Tires, new, tubeless -----		117.3	116.2	.9	3.8 ¹
Auto repairs and maintenance 9/ -----		131.0	130.3	.5	7.8
Auto insurance rates -----		142.9	142.7	.1	11.6
Auto registration -----		123.7	123.8	-.1	4.9
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		136.7	134.9	1.3	8.5
Public -----		139.1	139.0	.1	7.5
Local transit fares -----		144.0	143.8	.1	5.6
Taxicab fares -----		131.7	131.7	0	11.9
Railroad fares, coach -----		127.4	127.4	0	10.6
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		129.6	129.6	0	10.8
Bus fares, intercity -----		132.9	132.9	0	13.0
Health and recreation -----		123.1	122.6	.4	5.0
Medical care -----		130.0	129.3	.5	6.6
Drugs and prescriptions -----		105.6	105.5	.1	1.1
Over-the-counter items -----		110.2	110.0	.2	3.1
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		95.3	95.4	-.1	- 3.1
Aspirin compounds -----		114.2	114.3	-.1	5.5
Liquid tonics -----		101.3	101.2	.1	.4
Adhesive bandages, package -----		123.8	123.2	.5	7.5
Cold tablets or capsules -----		112.2	111.8	.4	3.7
Cough syrup -----		111.3	111.2	.1	2.5
Prescriptions -----		101.7	101.6	.1	-.5
Anti-infectives -----		80.0	80.4	-.5	13.8
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		123.8	123.9	-.1	5.9
Ataractics -----		102.3	101.2	1.1	1.7
Anti-spasmodics -----		108.1	108.1	0	4.4
Cough preparations -----		127.3	126.8	.4	6.2
Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives -----		112.0	111.7	.3	4.7
Analgesics, internal -----		108.2	108.2	0	2.5
Anti-obesity -----		116.6	115.9	.6	7.2
Hormones -----		94.8	94.6	.2	-.6
Professional services:					
Physicians' fees -----		131.2	130.3	.7	7.0
General physician, office visits -----		132.7	132.2	.4	7.3
General physician, house visits -----		132.0	131.6	.3	6.6
Obstetrical cases -----		130.9	129.0	1.5	6.3
Pediatric care, office visits -----		133.4	132.6	.6	7.2
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		125.7	125.1	.5	4.5
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		124.3	123.6	.6	7.0
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		128.0	125.0	2.4	7.9
Dentists' fees -----		127.9	127.5	.3	6.3
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		129.3	128.7	.5	6.5
Extractions, adult -----		127.4	127.3	.1	6.6
Dentures, full upper -----		125.6	125.1	.4	5.5
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		121.9	120.5	1.2	6.6
Routine laboratory tests -----		117.2	115.7	1.3	5.2
Hospital service charges:					
Daily service charges -----		163.5	162.5	.6	11.8
Semiprivate rooms -----		165.8	164.8	.6	12.2
Private rooms -----		160.0	159.0	.6	11.3
Operating room charges -----		156.7	157.8	-.7	8.2
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----		126.4	125.9	.4	6.8
Personal care -----		117.5	117.1	.3	3.3
Toilet goods -----		114.5	114.2	.3	3.3
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		107.7	107.2	.5	.7
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		116.8	115.4	1.2	8.3
Hand lotions, liquid -----		119.0	117.5	1.3	3.2
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		106.9	107.3	-.4	5.0
Face powder, pressed -----		124.0	123.8	.2	2.3
Deodorants, aerosol -----		106.0	105.7	.3	.6
Cleansing tissues -----		124.2	124.8	-.5	3.3
Home permanent wave kits -----		111.5	111.7	-.2	2.4
Personal care services -----		120.6	120.2	.3	3.3
Men's haircuts -----		123.2	122.5	.6	2.5
Beauty shop services -----		118.8	118.5	.3	4.1
Women's haircuts -----		119.2	119.2	0	3.8
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		122.2	122.0	.2	4.6
Permanent waves, cold -----		110.8	110.3	.5	3.2

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise Specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to August 1971 from:	
		August 1971	July 1971	July 1971	August 1970
Reading and recreation ^{10/} -----		119.7	119.6	0.1	4.8
Recreational goods -----		106.9	106.8	.1	2.0
TV sets, portable and console -----		99.9	99.9	0	.4
TV replacement tubes -----		122.1	122.2	-.1	2.6
Radios, portable and table model -----		98.4	98.4	0	-.7
Tape recorders, portable -----		93.6	94.1	-.5	-.3
Phonograph records, stereophonic -----		105.8	104.9	.9	6.2
Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens -----		89.3	89.3	0	-2.7
Film, 35mm, color -----		108.4	108.6	-.2	1.4
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core -----		104.6	104.5	.1	1.5
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----		125.3	125.8	-.4	4.9
Fishing rods, fresh water spincasting -----		110.0	110.5	-.5	-.6
Bowling balls -----		112.2	111.8	.4	3.6
Bicycles, boys' -----		114.0	113.9	.1	4.8
Tricycles -----		111.9	111.6	.3	2.7
Dog food, canned or boxed -----		110.3	109.6	.6	4.7
Recreational services -----		126.1	126.1	0	5.3
Indoor movie admissions -----		138.2	138.8	-.4	4.5
Adult -----		138.4	138.6	-.1	4.7
Children's -----		137.8	139.2	-1.0	4.5
Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----		142.5	141.9	.4	6.8
Bowling fees, evening -----		116.1	116.3	-.2	5.5
Golf green fees -----		128.8	128.6	.2	5.6
TV repair, color picture tube replacement -----		98.1	98.2	-.1	1.9
Film developing, color -----		117.7	117.4	.3	5.8
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----		130.5	130.4	.1	8.1
Magazines, single copy and subscription -----		126.3	126.3	0	7.3
Piano lessons, beginner -----		120.7	120.7	0	3.3
Other goods and services -----		121.8	121.2	.5	4.3
Tobacco products -----		127.9	126.9	.8	4.1
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----		129.6	128.5	.9	4.4
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----		129.6	128.6	.8	4.2
Cigars, domestic, regular size -----		107.3	106.3	.9	1.6
Alcoholic beverages -----		117.4	117.0	.3	4.2
Beer -----		113.3	113.3	0	3.6
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon -----		107.0	106.3	.7	1.2
Wine, dessert and table -----		123.9	123.0	.7	5.4
Away from home -----		126.8	126.2	.5	5.9
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult -----		118.3	117.7	.5	4.3
Bank service charges, checking accounts -----		110.9	110.8	.1	4.6
Legal services, short form will -----		133.9	133.6	.2	6.8
Other special groups:					
All items less shelter -----		120.3	120.0	.3	4.7
Commodities less food -----		117.3	117.0	.3	4.2
Nondurables less food and apparel -----		116.2	115.1	1.0	4.1
Household services less rent -----		133.6	132.5	.8	4.3
Transportation services -----		134.5	134.3	.1	8.6
Other services -----		122.8	122.6	.2	4.5

^{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/} Priced only in season.

^{6/} Also includes radios and television sets, shown separately under reading and recreation.

^{7/} 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.

^{8/} Also includes storage batteries and drivers' license fees not shown separately.

^{9/} Includes prices for water pump replacement, motor tune-up, automatic transmission repair, exhaust system repair, front end alignment, and chassis lubrication.

^{10/} 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.

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