



the consumer price index

for August 1973

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Peter J. Brennan, Secretary

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
Julius Shiskin, Commissioner

OFFICE OF PRICES
AND LIVING CONDITIONS
W. John Layng, Assistant Commissioner

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

CONTENTS

	Page
Price movements	1
Charts 1—4. Consumer price indexes for all items and major components, and rates of change over 1-, 3-, 6-, and 12-month spans	4
Table 1. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, by commodity and service groups, and expenditure classes	8
Table 2. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, by commodity and service groups, and expenditure classes	9
Table 3. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items most recent index and percent changes from selected dates	10
Table 4. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups, percent change from July 1973 to August 1973	10
Table 5. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, August 1973, and percent changes from May 1973	11
Table 6. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, August 1973, and percent changes from July 1973	13
Table 7. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, August 1973 indexes and percent changes from selected dates	14
Table 8. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, August 1973, and percent changes from selected dates	16

Price Movements

August 1973

The Consumer Price Index rose 1.8 percent in August to 135.1 percent of its 1967 base. A substantial increase in food prices, primarily for meats, poultry, and eggs, accounted for about 80 percent of the rise in the CPI.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the July-to-August increase in the CPI was 1.9 percent. In the 6-month period that ended in August, the CPI rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 10 percent; over the 12-month period the rate of increase was 7.5 percent.

The August increase in the CPI was the sharpest 1-month rise since September 1947, mainly because of the record 6.1 percent rise in the food index. The non-food commodities index increased 0.5 percent in August after seasonal adjustment, slightly above the average for recent months. The services index rose 0.7 percent, the largest monthly rise in almost 3 years.

The price freeze, in effect since June 13, was terminated for all foods except beef on July 18 and for most other items on August 12. Food prices were col-

lected on August 7th, 8th, and 9th, and prices for other items were collected throughout the month.

Monthly change in detail (not seasonally adjusted)

The index for food purchased in grocery stores rose 7.4 percent; this index usually declines in August. Most of the August increase was due to unusually sharp advances in prices of poultry (45.8 percent), eggs (31.1 percent), and pork (28.4 percent). Beef and veal prices also increased sharply. Prices rose for bread, flour, milk, and most other food items, except fresh fruits and vegetables. Although the decline in fresh fruit prices was more than usual for August, the decline in fresh vegetable prices was less.

Effective July 18—under the first step of Phase IV regulations covering food—retailers were allowed to increase prices on all food, except beef, to reflect price increases for raw agricultural products since June 8.

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	From	From
	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	3 months ago	6 months ago	12 months ago
1972:										
August	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.2	3.2	2.8	2.9
September .....	.4	.4	.2	.7	.7	.3	.2	4.4	3.4	3.3
October .....	.3	.3	.1	.6	.4	0	.4	4.2	3.8	3.4
November .....	.2	.3	.4	.7	.2	.2	.2	4.3	3.7	3.5
December .....	.3	.2	.5	-.1	.1	.2	.4	3.4	3.9	3.4
1973:										
January .....	.3	.5	2.1	2.1	-.5	.2	.2	4.0	4.1	3.7
February .....	.7	.7	1.9	1.9	.3	.3	.4	5.7	5.0	3.9
March .....	.9	.9	2.6	2.4	.5	.5	.3	8.6	5.9	4.7
April .....	.7	.6	1.5	1.4	.7	.4	.3	9.2	6.6	5.1
May .....	.6	.6	1.0	1.1	.6	.4	.4	8.7	7.2	5.5
June .....	.7	.6	1.4	.9	.6	.5	.4	7.4	8.0	5.9
July .....	.2	.2	.8	.5	-.2	.1	.2	5.7	7.4	5.7
August	1.8	1.9	6.0	6.1	.2	.5	.7	11.4	10.0	7.5

Retail price increases were limited to a dollar-for-dollar pass through of increased costs. In August, the wholesale price index for farm products and processed foods and feeds climbed 17.6 percent. Prices of most agricultural products including livestock, poultry, and eggs rose sharply. The largest increases occurred in grains and manufactured animal feeds.

The index for food away from home—restaurant meals and snacks—increased 1.1 percent in August.

The index for nonfood commodities, which usually declines in August, rose 0.2 percent. Prices of apparel rose instead of declining as they usually do in August. Higher prices, particularly for yearround items, were reported as prices returned to regular or higher levels following sales, or rose as a result of higher wholesale prices. Prices for houses, home maintenance and repair commodities, and fuel oil also increased. The effect of these increases was moderated by declines in prices of new and used cars. The decline in new car prices was smaller than usual for August, because concessions on small cars did not increase in August as a result of growing demand and short supply.

The index for consumer services rose 0.7 percent in August. A rise in mortgage interest costs, primarily due to increases in mortgage interest rates, accounted for more than half the rise in the service index. The increase in the mortgage interest rates index reflect higher rates for conventional loans and the increase from 7.0 to 7.5 percent on VA-guaranteed loans announced in July. The residential telephone service index advanced 1.0 percent as rates increased in several cities following the

price freeze. Charges for housekeeping and home maintenance services also increased. The index for residential rents rose 0.6 percent, the largest monthly increase since February 1971. The index for medical care services continued to increase moderately, and the index for transportation services edged up only slightly.

Diffusion of individual price changes

Approximately 117,000 individual prices were collected directly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in August for use in the index. Approximately 80 percent of these quotations (accounting for about 40 percent of the weight of the CPI market basket) represent monthly comparisons. Sixty-two percent of these monthly comparisons showed no change, 29 percent showed an increase, and 9 percent a decrease, as can be seen from table B. The proportion of food prices increasing in August was considerably larger and the proportion showing no change was smaller than in July. The August index also includes approximately 23,000 price comparisons from periods before July, 18,000 of which cover the quarterly span from May to August. About 20 percent of these quarterly price comparisons increased, compared with 17 percent in the April-to-July period. The proportion of restaurant meal prices increasing was much larger in the May-to-August period than in the preceding 3-month period. In addition, about 4,700 rental units were surveyed in August, and 28 percent of these reported rent increases from February 1973, more than the proportion reporting increases for the 6-month period that ended in July.

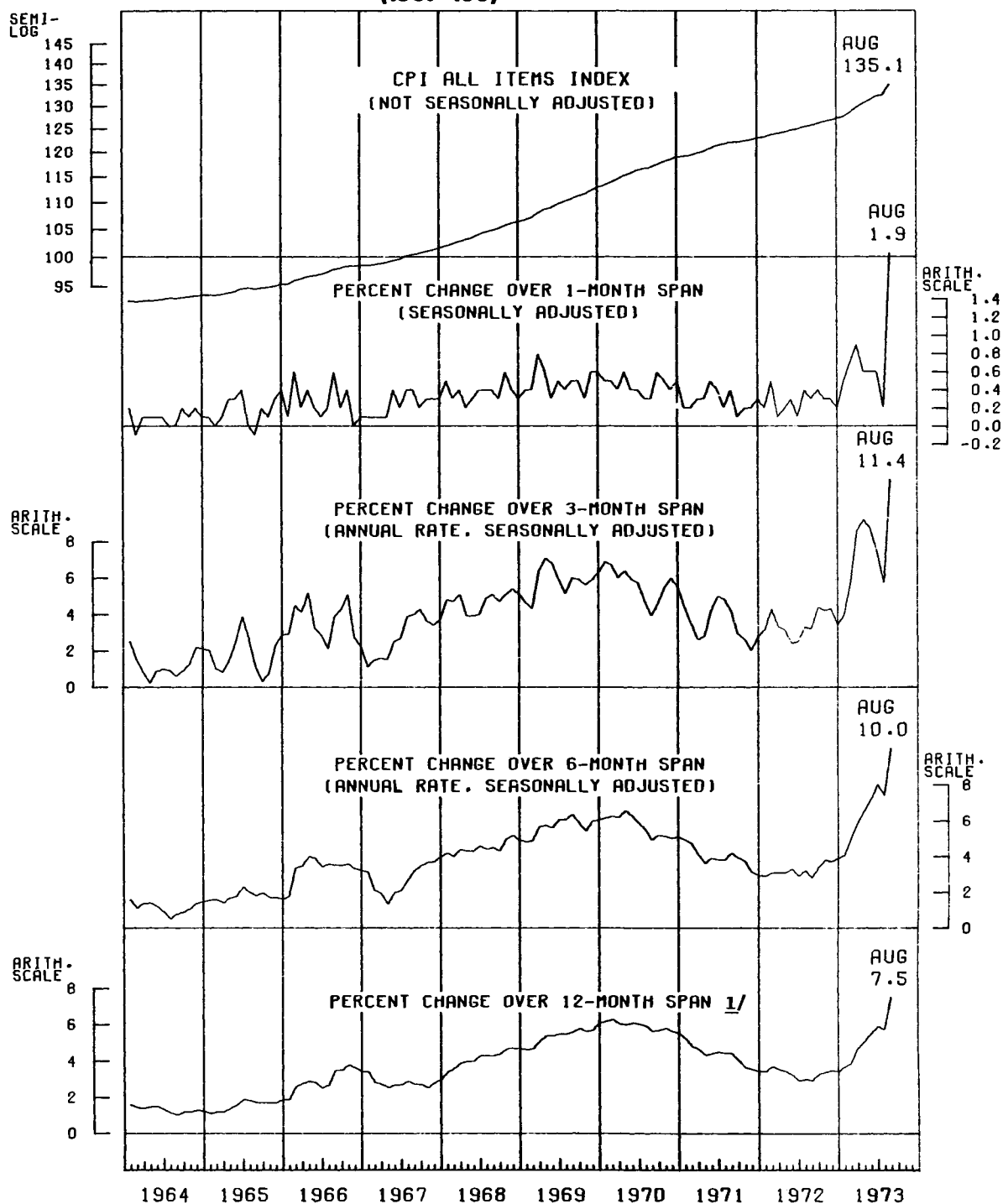
Table B. Percent distribution of monthly price comparisons ¹

Item	1971					
	February to March	March to April	April to May	May to June	June to July	July to August
All items ²	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	15	14	13	15	18	16
Decreases	10	12	12	11	10	11
No change	75	74	75	74	72	73
Food at home	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	16	15	14	17	20	18
Decreases	12	13	13	12	11	13
No change	72	72	73	71	69	69
Commodities less food	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	10	7	8	6	8	8
Decreases	5	7	6	7	7	6
No change	85	86	86	87	85	86
Services	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	3	6	7	5	4	3
Decreases	1	4	5	3	3	3
No change	96	90	88	92	93	94
1972—Continued						December 1972 to January 1973
	August to September	September to October	October to November	November to December		January to February
All items ²	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	15	15	14	14	21	27
Decreases	10	11	11	9	10	9
No change	75	74	75	77	69	64
Food at home	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	16	17	16	17	23	31
Decreases	12	12	12	10	8	10
No change	72	71	72	73	69	59
Commodities less food	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	11	6	6	6	7	12
Decreases	5	6	5	4	8	4
No change	84	88	89	90	85	84
Services	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	4	4	4	3	9	5
Decreases	2	5	2	3	27	4
No change	94	91	94	94	64	91
1973—Continued						
	February to March	March to April	April to May	May to June	June to July	July to August
All items ²	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	26	24	20	20	16	29
Decreases	8	10	11	11	9	9
No change	66	66	69	69	75	62
Food at home	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	30	27	23	23	18	34
Decreases	9	12	13	12	10	10
No change	61	61	64	65	72	56
Commodities less food	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	11	11	9	13	8	7
Decreases	5	4	5	5	6	5
No change	84	85	86	82	86	88
Services	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	4	4	6	3	2	5
Decreases	2	3	3	2	2	2
No change	94	93	91	95	96	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 table.

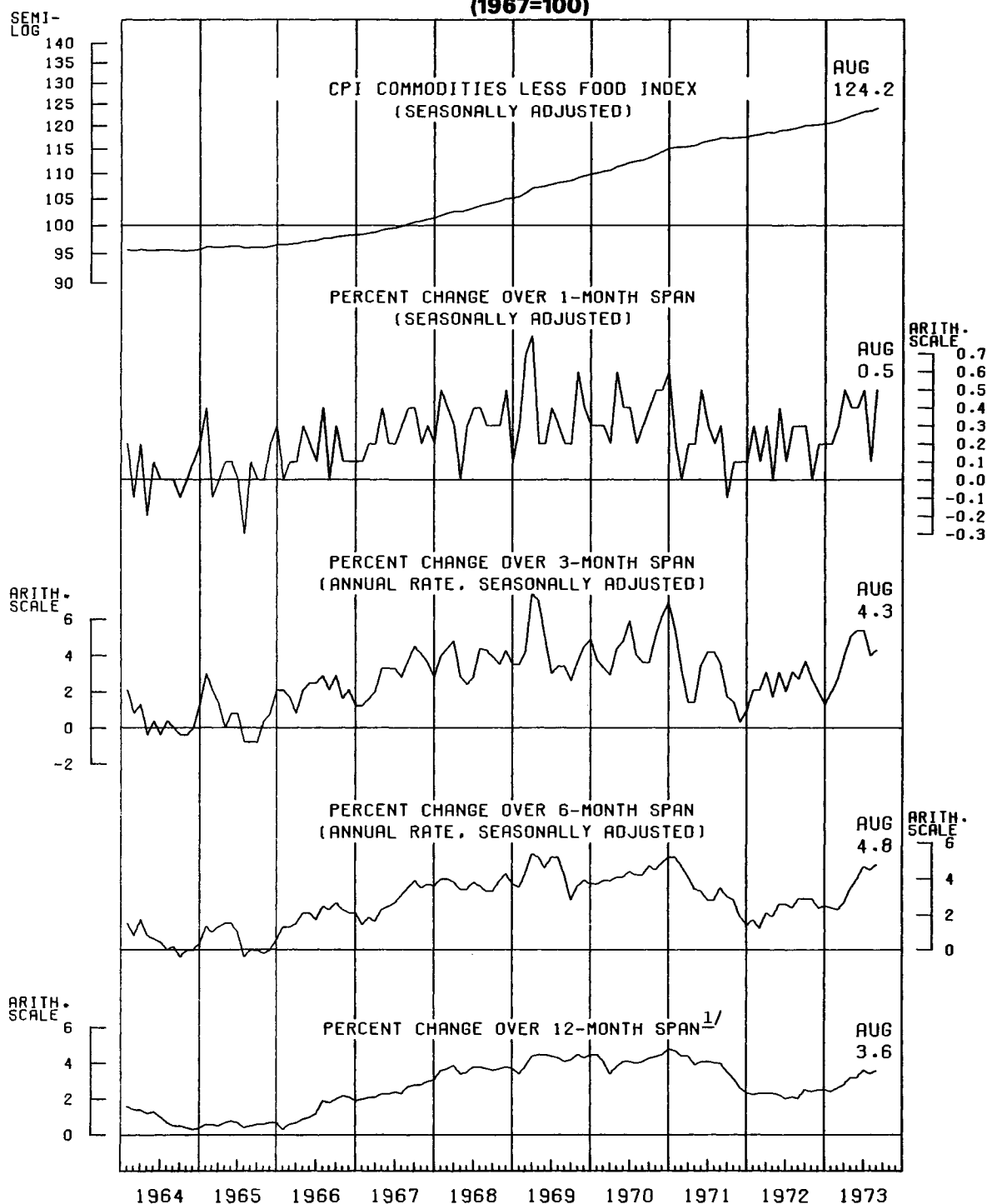
² Based on approximately 98,000 individual quotations.

**Chart 1. All items index and its rate of change, 1964-73
(1967=100)**



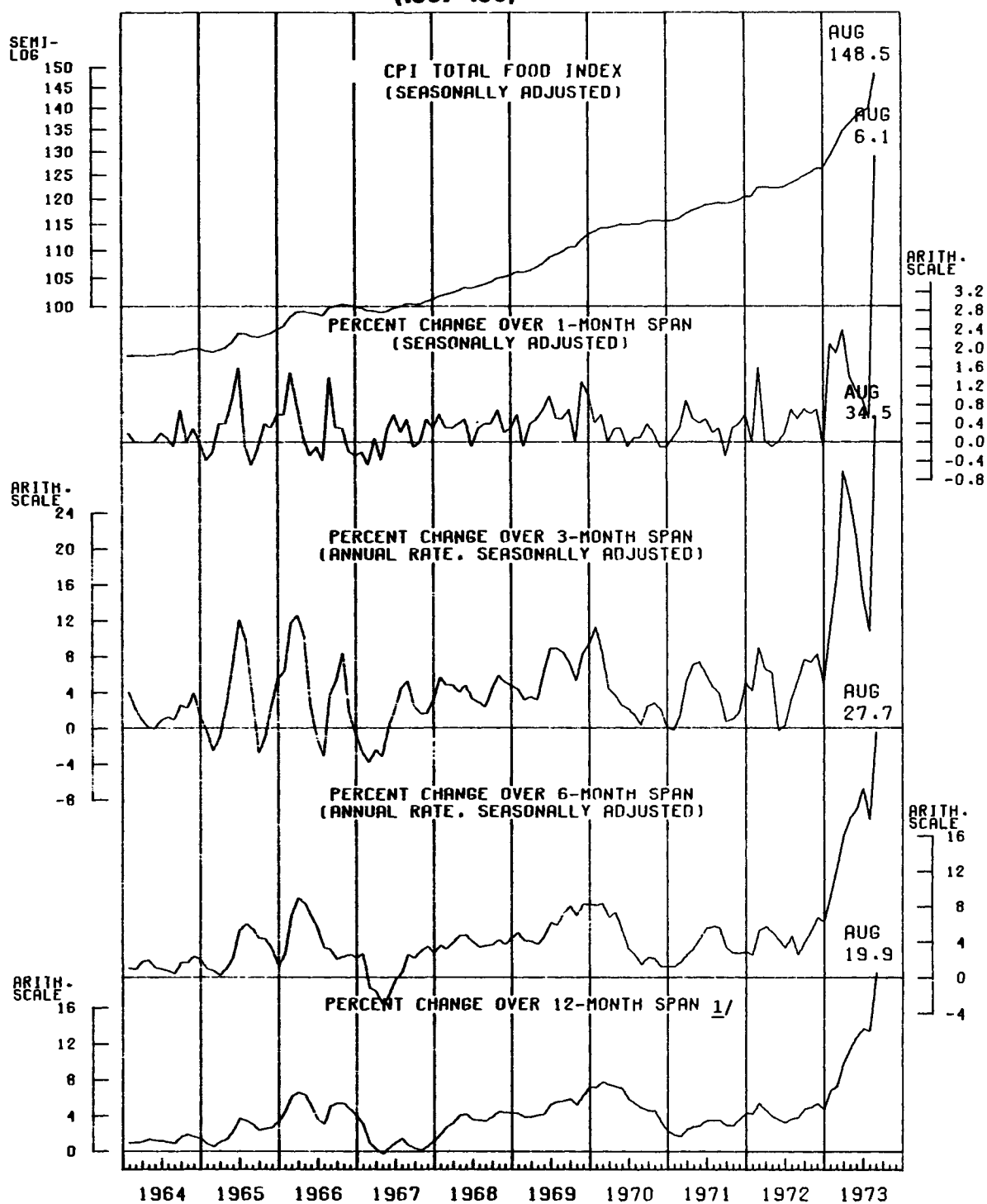
^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Chart 2. Commodities less food index and its rates of change, 1964-73
(1967=100)



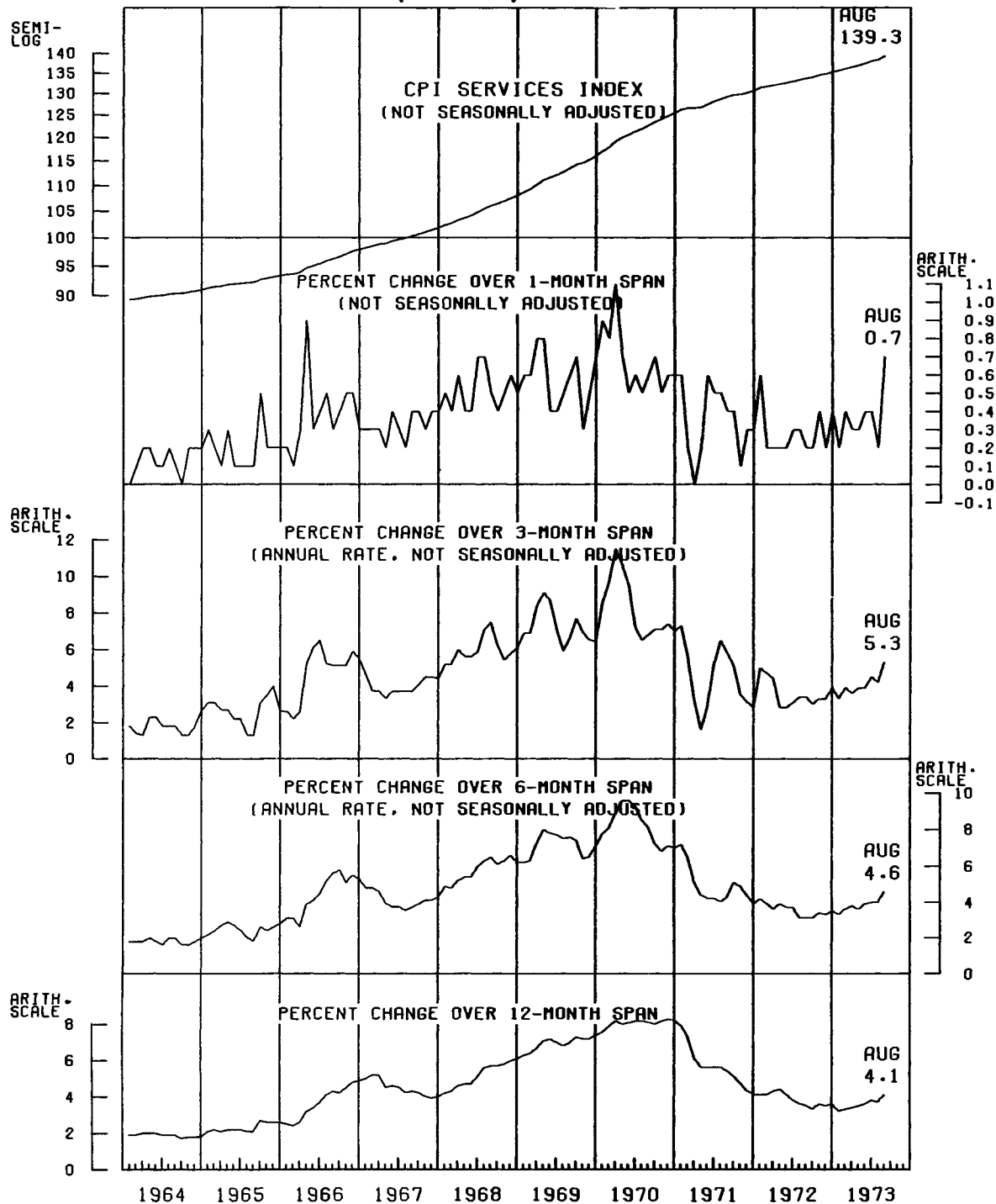
^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

**Chart 3. Total food index and its rates of change, 1964-73
(1967=100)**



^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Chart 4. Services index and its rates of change, 1964-73
(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, by commodity and service groups, and expenditure classes

Group	Relative importance December 1972	Unadjusted indexes 1967=100 unless otherwise noted		Unadjusted percent change to August 1973 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		July 1973	August 1973	August 1972	July 1973	May to June	June to July	July to August
Commodity and service groups								
All items	100.000	132.7	135.1	7.5	1.8	0.6	0.2	1.9
All items (1957-59=100)	-	154.4	157.1	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities	62.552	129.7	132.8	9.4	2.4	.6	.2	2.6
Food	22.492	140.9	149.4	19.9	6.0	.9	.5	6.1
Food at home	17.494	140.9	151.3	23.3	7.4	1.2	.2	7.7
Cereals and bakery products	2.243	123.5	124.7	9.0	1.0	.8	.3	1.1
Meats, poultry, and fish	6.016	157.8	184.0	40.7	16.6	.1	-1.1	16.4
Dairy products	2.685	124.1	126.6	8.6	2.0	*.7	*.0	*2.0
Fruits and vegetables	2.999	153.7	152.6	19.1	-.7	3.3	1.3	1.1
Other foods at home	3.552	128.5	135.6	16.9	5.5	2.8	-.2	4.5
Food away from home	4.998	140.9	142.4	8.0	1.1	.6	.7	1.0
Commodities less food	40.059	123.5	123.8	3.6	.2	.5	.1	.5
Nondurables less food	23.415	124.4	124.7	4.4	.2	.6	.2	.2
Apparel commodities ¹	8.960	126.0	126.6	4.7	.5	.3	-1.1	1.0
Men's and boys'	2.799	125.4	126.3	4.9	.7	.4	-.2	.8
Women's and girls'	3.982	125.5	126.0	5.2	.4	.5	-.5	1.3
Footwear	1.572	129.9	130.6	4.4	.5	0	.4	.4
Nondurables less food and apparel	14.455	123.5	123.6	4.2	.1	.9	.1	0
Gasoline and motor oil	2.902	119.5	119.4	9.0	-.1	2.6	-1.1	-.5
Tobacco products	2.103	137.8	137.8	2.8	0	*.2	*.4	*.0
Alcoholic beverages	2.459	122.8	122.4	2.1	-.3	*.5	*.5	*.3
Fuel oil and coal	.655	131.7	132.8	12.6	.8	2.1	.1	.9
Other nondurables	6.335	120.7	120.9	2.5	.2	.4	.2	.2
Durable commodities	16.644	122.4	122.6	2.4	.2	.1	.2	.5
Household durables	4.772	119.4	119.6	3.6	.2	.6	.3	.3
New cars	2.060	110.9	110.6	0	-.3	.3	.5	.4
Used cars	2.056	122.7	121.3	7.9	-1.1	*1.4	*.3	*-1.1
Other durables	7.756	127.8	128.7	.9	.7	-.1	-.1	.6
Services	37.448	138.4	139.3	4.1	.7	*.4	*.2	*.7
Rent	5.059	124.3	125.0	4.5	.6	*.3	*.3	*.6
Services less rent	32.389	141.0	141.9	4.0	.6	*.4	*.2	*.6
Household services less rent	15.486	145.3	146.8	4.9	1.0	.6	.1	.9
Transportation services	5.473	137.0	137.1	.6	.1	.3	.1	.5
Medical care services	5.575	143.9	144.3	4.1	.3	.5	.1	.2
Other services	5.855	131.7	132.1	4.9	.3	*.5	*.3	*.3
Special indexes:								
All items less food	77.508	130.4	130.9	3.8	.4	.4	.2	.5
Nondurable commodities	45.907	132.4	136.6	12.0	3.2	.8	.3	3.3
Apparel commodities less footwear	7.388	125.2	125.9	4.9	.6	.5	-.2	1.2
Services less medical care services	31.873	137.6	138.5	4.1	.7	*.4	*.2	*.7
Insurance and finance	9.829	146.9	148.9	2.9	1.4	.3	.1	1.2
Utilities and public transportation	5.522	129.5	129.9	3.2	.3	.2	.1	.4
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	4.502	153.3	154.0	6.0	.5	.8	.5	.4
Appliances (including radio and T. V.)	1.621	105.4	105.3	-.4	-.1	*.0	*.0	*-.1
Expenditure classes								
All items	100.000	132.7	135.1	7.5	1.8	0.6	0.2	1.9
Food	22.492	140.9	149.4	19.9	6.0	.9	.5	6.1
Housing	33.859	134.2	135.2	4.1	.7	*.5	*.2	*.7
Shelter ²	21.830	139.7	141.1	4.1	1.0	.4	.1	.9
Rent	5.059	124.3	125.0	4.5	.6	*.3	*.3	*.6
Homeownership ³	16.355	145.2	147.0	4.0	1.2	.3	.1	1.1
Fuel and utilities ⁴	4.708	125.7	126.3	5.2	.5	.5	-.1	.6
Gas and electricity	2.434	125.5	125.8	4.4	.2	.2	.4	.2
Household furnishings and operation	7.321	125.0	125.3	3.4	.2	.5	.5	.3
Apparel and upkeep	10.370	125.8	126.5	4.7	.6	.4	0	.9
Transportation	13.134	124.8	124.5	3.3	-.2	.6	.4	-.1
Private	11.665	122.6	122.3	3.6	-.2	.7	.2	.1
Public	1.469	144.9	144.9	1.1	0	.3	.1	.5
Health and recreation	19.768	130.3	130.5	3.2	.2	*.3	*.2	*.2
Medical care	6.447	137.3	137.6	3.5	.2	.4	.1	.2
Personal care	2.573	125.3	125.7	4.6	.3	*.4	*.3	*.3
Reading and recreation	5.656	126.2	126.1	2.5	-.1	.2	.3	0
Other goods and services	5.093	129.5	129.4	2.7	-.1	.3	.2	-.2
Special indexes:								
All items less shelter	78.170	131.0	133.5	8.4	1.9	.5	.3	2.1
All items less medical care	93.553	132.5	135.0	7.7	1.9	.6	.2	2.0
All items less mortgage interest costs	96.298	132.0	134.2	7.5	1.7	.5	.4	1.7
CPI - domestically produced farm foods ⁵	15.519	141.5	153.0	24.8	8.1	*1.6	*.8	*8.1
CPI - selected beef cuts ⁶	2.060	163.0	174.8	25.9	7.2	*.6	*.5	*7.2
Purchasing power of consumer dollar:								
1967=\$1.00	-	\$0.754	\$0.740	-7.0	-1.9	-	-	-
1957-59=\$1.00	-	.648	.637	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, and jewelry not shown separately.

² Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

³ Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.

⁴ Also includes residential telephone, fuel oil, coal, water, and sewerage service not shown separately.

⁵ Calculated from the CPI food at home component by excluding fish, nonalcoholic beverages, bananas, chocolate candy bars, chocolate syrup and about half of the index weight for sugar.

⁶ Calculated from the CPI beef and veal component by excluding veal cutlets and beef liver.

* Not seasonally adjusted.

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

Table 2. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, by commodity and service groups, and expenditure classes

Group	Seasonally adjusted indexes (1967=100)				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
					3 months ending in				6 months ending in	
	May 1973	June 1973	July 1973	August 1973	November 1972	February 1973	May 1973	August 1973	January 1973	August 1973
Commodity and service groups										
All items -----	-	-	-	-	4.3	5.7	8.7	11.4	5.0	10.0
Commodities -----	128.3	129.1	129.4	132.7	4.7	6.7	12.1	14.4	5.7	13.2
Food -----	137.9	139.2	139.9	148.5	8.3	16.8	21.3	34.5	12.5	27.7
Food at home -----	137.6	139.2	139.5	150.2	9.5	20.0	24.0	42.0	14.6	32.7
Cereals and bakery products -----	122.0	123.0	123.4	124.7	2.8	9.3	15.0	9.2	6.0	12.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	155.9	156.0	155.8	181.3	13.3	37.4	37.4	82.9	24.8	58.5
Dairy products (not seasonally adjusted) -----	123.2	124.1	124.1	126.6	3.8	11.7	7.5	11.5	7.7	9.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	141.6	146.3	148.2	149.9	14.4	15.6	21.4	25.6	15.0	23.5
Other foods at home -----	126.7	130.2	129.9	135.7	7.4	14.2	15.6	31.6	10.8	23.3
Food away from home -----	139.0	139.9	140.9	142.3	4.3	4.9	13.1	9.8	4.6	11.4
Commodities less food -----	122.9	123.5	123.6	124.2	2.0	2.7	5.4	4.3	2.3	4.8
Nondurables less food -----	123.9	124.7	124.9	125.2	4.1	3.0	6.4	4.3	3.5	5.3
Apparel commodities ¹ -----	126.7	127.1	127.0	128.3	5.0	1.6	7.3	5.1	3.3	6.2
Men's and boys' -----	126.1	126.6	126.4	127.4	7.1	2.6	5.6	4.2	4.8	4.9
Women's and girls' -----	126.8	127.4	126.8	128.4	6.7	-6	9.7	5.1	3.0	7.4
Footwear -----	129.9	129.9	130.4	130.9	4.2	4.5	5.7	3.1	4.4	4.4
Nondurables less food and apparel -----	122.3	123.4	123.5	123.5	3.1	3.7	6.1	4.0	3.4	5.0
Gasoline and motor oil -----	116.6	119.6	119.5	118.9	7.9	7.0	13.0	8.1	7.5	10.5
Tobacco products (not seasonally adjusted) -----	137.0	137.3	137.8	137.8	.6	.6	7.6	2.4	.6	5.0
Alcoholic beverages (not seasonally adjusted) -----	121.7	122.3	122.8	122.4	1.7	2.7	1.7	2.3	2.2	2.0
Fuel oil and coal -----	129.3	132.0	132.1	133.3	3.4	25.6	9.5	13.0	14.0	11.2
Other nondurables -----	119.9	120.4	120.6	120.9	2.4	1.7	2.4	3.4	2.0	2.9
Durable commodities -----	121.7	121.8	122.0	122.6	.7	1.7	4.4	3.0	1.2	3.7
Household durables -----	118.3	119.0	119.3	119.6	2.1	2.1	6.0	4.5	2.1	5.2
New cars -----	111.1	111.4	112.0	112.5	-11.9	2.6	5.2	5.1	-4.9	5.2
Used cars (not seasonally adjusted) -----	120.6	122.3	122.7	121.3	13.4	-11.8	32.5	2.3	0	16.5
Other durables -----	128.0	127.9	127.8	128.6	-.9	.3	2.2	1.9	-.3	2.1
Services (not seasonally adjusted) -----	137.5	138.1	138.4	139.3	3.3	3.9	3.9	5.3	3.6	4.6
Rent (not seasonally adjusted) -----	123.5	123.9	124.3	125.0	3.0	5.4	4.7	4.9	4.2	4.8
Services less rent (not seasonally adjusted) -----	140.1	140.7	141.0	141.9	3.6	3.2	4.1	5.2	3.4	4.7
Household services less rent -----	144.3	145.2	145.4	146.7	3.8	5.8	3.1	6.8	4.8	4.9
Transportation services -----	136.5	136.9	137.0	137.7	.6	-4.9	3.6	3.6	-2.2	3.6
Medical care services -----	142.8	143.5	143.6	143.9	7.4	2.6	3.4	3.1	5.0	3.3
Other services (not seasonally adjusted) -----	130.6	131.3	131.7	132.1	4.9	3.8	6.4	4.7	4.3	5.5
Special indexes:										
All items less food -----	129.7	130.2	130.4	131.0	2.9	3.5	4.8	4.1	3.2	4.4
Nondurable commodities -----	130.6	131.7	132.1	136.5	5.7	9.7	13.6	19.3	7.7	16.4
Apparel commodities less footwear -----	126.0	126.6	126.3	127.8	5.4	1.3	7.3	5.8	3.3	6.6
Services less medical care services (not seasonally adjusted) -----	136.7	137.3	137.6	138.5	3.3	3.3	4.2	5.4	3.3	4.8
Insurance and finance -----	146.6	147.1	147.2	149.0	1.4	1.1	2.5	6.7	1.2	4.6
Utilities and public transportation -----	129.2	129.4	129.5	130.0	5.2	1.6	3.5	2.5	3.4	3.0
Housekeeping and home maintenance service -----	151.1	152.3	153.1	153.7	3.6	7.0	6.3	7.1	5.3	6.7
Appliances (including radio and T.V.) (not seasonally adjusted) -----	105.4	105.4	105.4	105.3	.8	-1.5	-.4	-.4	-.4	-.4
Expenditure classes										
All items -----	-	-	-	-	4.3	5.7	8.7	11.4	5.0	10.0
Food -----	137.9	139.2	139.9	148.5	8.3	16.8	21.3	34.5	12.5	27.7
Housing (not seasonally adjusted) -----	133.3	133.9	134.2	135.2	2.8	3.7	4.0	5.8	3.3	4.9
Shelter ² -----	139.0	139.5	139.7	141.0	2.1	4.5	4.1	5.9	3.3	5.0
Rent (not seasonally adjusted) -----	123.5	123.9	124.3	125.0	3.0	5.4	4.7	4.9	4.2	4.8
Homeownership ³ -----	144.6	145.1	145.3	146.9	2.0	4.0	3.7	6.5	3.0	5.1
Fuel and utilities ⁴ -----	125.3	125.9	125.8	126.6	4.4	7.8	4.6	4.2	6.1	4.4
Gas and electricity -----	125.2	125.5	126.0	126.2	4.0	6.7	3.6	3.2	5.4	3.4
Household furnishings and operation -----	123.7	124.3	124.9	125.3	3.0	2.3	3.0	5.3	2.7	4.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	126.2	126.7	126.7	127.9	5.0	2.0	6.6	5.5	3.5	6.0
Transportation -----	123.3	124.1	124.6	124.5	2.7	0	6.8	4.0	1.3	5.3
Private -----	121.1	121.9	122.2	122.3	2.4	1.4	6.5	4.0	1.9	5.3
Public -----	144.0	144.5	144.6	145.3	4.0	-3.3	.3	3.7	.3	2.0
Health and recreation (not seasonally adjusted) -----	129.6	130.0	130.3	130.5	2.9	2.2	4.8	2.8	2.5	3.8
Medical care -----	136.3	136.9	137.0	137.3	5.9	2.7	2.7	3.0	4.3	2.8
Personal care (not seasonally adjusted) -----	124.4	124.9	125.3	125.7	2.7	4.7	6.7	4.2	3.7	5.5
Reading and recreation -----	125.5	125.8	126.2	126.2	3.0	1.6	3.3	2.2	2.3	2.7
Other goods and services -----	128.9	129.3	129.5	129.3	.6	3.5	5.5	1.2	2.1	3.3
Special indexes:										
All items less shelter -----	129.6	130.3	130.7	133.5	5.0	5.9	10.2	12.6	5.4	11.4
All items less medical care -----	131.3	132.1	132.4	135.0	4.2	5.5	9.7	11.8	4.8	10.7
All items less mortgage interest costs -----	130.8	131.4	131.9	134.2	4.6	5.5	9.4	10.8	5.0	10.1
CPI - domestically produced farm foods (not seasonally adjusted) -----	138.2	140.4	141.5	153.0	1.6	25.9	26.2	50.2	13.1	37.7
CPI - selected beef cuts (not seasonally adjusted) -----	161.3	162.2	163.0	174.8	-8.9	55.8	28.5	37.9	19.1	33.1

¹ Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, and jewelry not shown separately.

² Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

³ Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.

⁴ Also includes residential telephone, fuel oil, coal, water, and sewerage not shown separately.

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

Table 3. Consumer Price Index—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			
		August 1973			August 1972	May 1973	July 1973
U.S. city average -----	M	135.1	157.1		7.5	2.7	1.8
Chicago -----	M	134.5	152.8		7.6	2.8	2.4
Detroit -----	M	136.8	157.2		7.8	2.5	2.2
Los Angeles-Long Beach -----	M	130.9	153.9		6.6	2.7	1.4
N. Y.-Northeastern N. J. -----	M	141.7	168.7		7.6	2.7	1.9
Philadelphia -----	M	137.1	160.2		7.6	2.2	1.7
		July 1973			July 1972	April 1973	
Boston -----	1	134.1	160.6		5.6	1.3	
Houston -----	1	131.5	150.5		5.0	.8	
Minneapolis-St. Paul -----	1	133.1	154.2		6.1	1.8	
Pittsburgh -----	1	132.6	152.5		5.7	1.1	
		August 1973			August 1972	May 1973	
Buffalo -----	2	136.6		³ 150.1	7.7	2.6	
Cleveland -----	2	135.9	153.5		7.7	2.4	
Dallas -----	2	133.7		³ 144.5	6.5	2.4	
Milwaukee -----	2	133.2	150.4		6.9	2.5	
San Diego -----	2	134.4		⁴ 141.3	7.4	2.8	
Seattle -----	2	128.8	151.4		7.4	2.0	
Washington -----	2	136.4	158.9		6.8	2.3	
		June 1973			June 1972	March 1973	
Atlanta -----	3	132.6	152.5		6.3	1.9	
Baltimore -----	3	133.6	155.1		6.5	1.3	
Cincinnati -----	3	130.9	148.5		5.1	.8	
Honolulu -----	3	127.5		⁵ 137.5	4.3	1.2	
Kansas City -----	3	129.8	154.0		4.8	1.9	
St. Louis -----	3	128.1	149.7		5.1	1.5	
San Francisco-Oakland -----	3	130.7	155.5		5.3	1.6	

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 4. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups, percent change from July 1973 to August 1973

Group	U.S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York-Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
All items	1.8	2.4	2.2	1.4	1.9	1.7
Food	6.0	7.6	8.3	4.3	5.3	6.1
Housing	.7	1.0	.4	1.2	1.0	.1
Apparel and upkeep	.6	1.1	2.3	.8	1.7	-.2
Transportation	-.2	-.4	-.2	-.5	0	-.5
Health and recreation	.2	.1	.1	.2	-.1	.7
Medical care	.2	.1	.3	.7	.1	1.1
Personal care	.3	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Reading and recreation	-.1	0	-.2	0	.2	1.1
Other goods and services	-.1	0	.2	.2	-.8	.1

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

² Not available.

Table 5. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, August 1973, and percent changes from May 1973

Group	U.S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles— Long Beach	New York— Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
Indexes (1967=100)						
All items	135.1	134.5	136.8	130.9	141.7	137.1
Food	149.4	152.8	154.6	141.9	152.7	150.5
Food at home	151.3	155.6	158.4	144.5	154.6	151.3
Cereals and bakery products	124.7	129.2	130.9	119.9	125.8	126.0
Meats, poultry, and fish	184.0	187.8	196.9	181.4	181.4	182.3
Dairy products	126.6	127.4	128.1	122.4	128.9	126.3
Fruits and vegetables	152.6	157.1	146.3	132.4	160.2	150.4
Other food at home	135.6	137.5	139.1	133.4	138.4	136.6
Food away from home	142.4	141.6	138.7	134.5	147.3	147.0
Housing	135.2	128.9	137.0	132.6	145.1	137.2
Shelter	141.1	133.3	147.5	136.1	153.1	146.9
Rent, residential	125.0	(²)	124.8	(²)	137.4	(²)
Homeownership	147.0	138.0	152.0	140.4	164.9	151.3
Fuel and utilities	126.3	119.6	119.9	129.4	133.2	127.1
Fuel oil and coal	132.8	128.5	125.0	-	138.5	129.3
Gas and electricity	125.8	120.3	121.5	136.3	133.8	³ 132.3
Household furnishings and operation	125.3	121.6	116.2	121.9	131.3	125.7
Apparel and upkeep	126.5	124.7	121.8	123.3	126.0	122.0
Men's and boys'	126.3	120.3	121.7	119.0	126.7	122.5
Women's and girls'	126.0	128.0	115.9	126.6	123.2	116.1
Footwear	130.6	125.0	133.2	128.9	129.0	130.4
Transportation	124.5	128.3	124.7	124.3	136.1	127.7
Private	122.3	123.2	122.6	124.6	128.9	125.0
Public	144.9	160.6	149.4	119.4	163.7	143.6
Health and recreation	130.5	131.4	133.6	125.3	135.4	135.1
Medical care	137.6	136.7	148.7	135.7	144.6	149.9
Personal care	125.7	(²)	(²)	(²)	124.7	(²)
Reading and recreation	126.1	127.8	126.3	117.9	129.4	129.4
Other goods and services	129.4	132.1	124.8	122.6	137.0	130.6
Percent changes May 1973 to August 1973						
All items	2.7	2.8	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.2
Food	8.3	10.1	11.5	6.2	7.6	7.9
Food at home	10.0	11.8	13.8	7.2	9.9	9.3
Cereals and bakery products	2.1	2.0	2.2	.8	1.6	2.1
Meats, poultry, and fish	18.3	20.4	23.3	16.1	17.3	17.2
Dairy products	2.8	2.4	4.1	1.7	2.5	2.3
Fruits and vegetables	5.5	9.2	10.5	-2.2	6.2	3.9
Other food at home	8.1	9.5	9.6	6.9	7.5	8.6
Food away from home	2.5	3.1	1.8	3.2	1.2	1.8
Housing	1.4	.9	-.4	2.9	2.1	.7
Shelter	1.7	.9	-.3	3.5	2.1	.5
Rent, residential	1.2	(²)	4.6	(²)	4.4	(²)
Homeownership	1.9	.9	-.6	4.3	2.0	.3
Fuel and utilities .....	.7	.7	-.1	.2	2.0	2.2
Fuel oil and coal	2.7	3.1	.5	-	7.2	3.2
Gas and electricity .....	.1	.5	-.2	.1	1.0	1.5
Household furnishings and operation	1.1	1.2	-.9	1.3	2.2	.4
Apparel and upkeep	-.2	-1.3	-.6	.5	-.6	-2.7
Men's and boys'	-.3	-.8	.1	-.5	-2.2	-2.1
Women's and girls'	-.9	-3.8	-2.4	-.9	-.3	-5.5
Footwear .....	.2	1.0	2.2	.7	-.4	-.4
Transportation .....	.8	.4	.8	1.2	.7	.1
Private .....	.8	.5	.8	1.2	.9	.2
Public .....	.7	.1	.6	1.8	.2	.1
Health and recreation .....	.7	.5	.2	1.0	.3	1.2
Medical care .....	.7	.6	.9	1.5	.4	1.7
Personal care	1.0	(²)	(²)	(²)	-.6	(²)
Reading and recreation .....	.4	.3	-.5	.7	-.1	1.1
Other goods and services .....	.7	.4	.1	1.2	1.0	.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, August 1973, and percent changes from May 1973—Continued

Group	Buffalo	Cleveland	Dallas	Milwaukee	San Diego	Seattle	Washington
Indexes (1967=100)							
All items	136.6	135.9	133.7	133.2	134.4	128.8	136.4
Food	149.1	152.0	149.2	145.8	146.2	142.5	152.6
Food at home	149.7	154.5	149.9	147.1	146.6	144.5	153.0
Cereals and bakery products	125.5	122.6	121.9	128.2	119.7	119.5	126.9
Meats, poultry, and fish	183.0	187.9	182.9	177.9	184.3	177.2	181.2
Dairy products	125.2	134.3	122.0	125.4	121.3	125.1	123.1
Fruits and vegetables	151.0	154.0	150.7	141.7	132.2	138.0	161.1
Other food at home	131.6	136.2	135.4	133.1	135.8	134.8	138.7
Food away from home	145.6	139.2	146.7	140.2	144.7	135.8	151.0
Housing	138.1	129.4	130.8	130.6	141.3	130.5	134.1
Shelter	141.0	130.8	135.7	132.6	155.2	137.0	137.6
Rent, residential	127.2	115.4	113.7	123.9	137.5	109.2	125.9
Homeownership	143.5	133.5	145.5	135.3	162.7	145.0	144.3
Fuel and utilities	143.8	128.5	120.3	132.5	118.9	120.7	126.8
Fuel oil and coal	130.9	-	-	139.5	-	127.1	131.6
Gas and electricity	145.3	124.0	115.8	137.4	120.8	109.4	129.1
Household furnishings and operation	125.9	124.0	125.4	123.7	116.3	121.0	127.8
Apparel and upkeep	135.9	129.8	129.6	132.5	127.9	122.8	130.9
Men's and boys'	151.2	122.8	129.3	134.5	125.3	127.7	129.9
Women's and girls'	134.9	134.2	131.6	129.6	137.0	119.3	133.4
Footwear	126.6	132.9	132.2	133.9	126.6	123.3	135.2
Transportation	123.6	130.3	124.3	126.2	123.5	112.3	126.1
Private	120.5	123.9	122.6	121.3	124.4	114.4	122.5
Public	157.8	172.3	146.5	186.0	107.7	100.3	146.1
Health and recreation	128.9	137.6	130.4	128.6	123.9	123.5	132.1
Medical care	130.2	150.8	136.3	134.7	130.9	130.3	144.6
Personal care	126.4	130.9	132.3	127.2	122.4	120.4	122.0
Reading and recreation	128.1	128.5	122.3	128.5	118.9	121.2	124.9
Other goods and services	129.9	135.4	130.4	124.2	122.3	120.8	132.9
Percent changes May 1973 to August 1973							
All items	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.8	2.0	2.3
Food	7.9	9.0	9.0	8.4	6.6	6.4	7.8
Food at home	8.7	10.2	10.7	9.8	8.0	7.8	9.4
Cereals and bakery products	3.7	1.2	1.5	3.6	1.6	2.1	.7
Meats, poultry, and fish	18.7	17.9	19.0	18.0	15.5	16.0	17.7
Dairy products	2.5	5.3	4.8	4.6	.7	1.1	3.9
Fruits and vegetables	-1.3	6.2	5.6	1.6	-1.5	.7	3.1
Other food at home	7.8	7.4	8.8	8.7	9.6	8.2	7.6
Food away from home	3.3	2.1	2.8	3.1	3.1	2.0	3.8
Housing	1.0	.2	.8	1.2	2.3	1.3	1.2
Shelter	1.4	-.5	1.0	1.2	2.6	1.9	1.4
Rent, residential	1.1	.7	.8	2.0	.9	1.7	2.3
Homeownership	1.4	-.7	1.1	1.0	3.2	2.0	1.0
Fuel and utilities	.5	2.6	-.2	1.6	.5	.3	1.0
Fuel oil and coal	1.6	-	-	4.5	-	.5	.9
Gas and electricity	.6	-1.4	-.7	1.4	.8	0	1.2
Household furnishings and operation	.2	1.4	.7	.7	2.2	.2	.5
Apparel and upkeep	1.8	1.3	1.0	.2	2.5	-.3	-.6
Men's and boys'	2.3	.8	.8	2.4	1.8	1.6	-1.3
Women's and girls'	2.1	2.0	.3	-2.4	4.4	-2.6	-1.8
Footwear	.6	.7	1.1	.4	.5	-.8	.8
Transportation	1.1	.5	.6	-.2	1.5	.5	.4
Private	.3	.6	.7	-.3	1.6	.5	.4
Public	7.9	.2	.1	.2	.8	.5	.1
Health and recreation	-.4	.4	-.5	.8	1.1	.2	.5
Medical care	.5	.5	-.1	1.4	1.9	1.3	1.1
Personal care	1.7	.8	3.0	1.2	.5	.1	1.1
Reading and recreation	-2.3	.1	-3.0	.4	.3	-.1	-.4
Other goods and services	-.3	.2	.2	.3	1.1	-.6	.4

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

² Not available.

³ Revised index: July 1973, 132.1.

⁴ Change from June 1973.

⁵ Revised index: April 1973, 126.5; May 1973, 126.5.

Table 6. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, August 1973, and percent changes from July 1973

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)							
United States -----	149.4	151.3	124.7	184.0	126.6	152.6	135.6	142.4
Atlanta -----	152.9	154.9	128.2	187.1	132.5	161.6	137.9	146.1
Baltimore -----	151.3	153.5	123.0	182.0	128.5	160.9	137.6	142.2
Boston -----	146.4	148.1	125.9	176.8	122.9	151.8	132.3	139.7
Buffalo -----	149.1	149.7	125.5	183.0	125.2	151.0	131.6	145.6
Chicago -----	152.8	155.6	129.2	187.8	127.4	157.1	137.5	141.6
Cincinnati -----	152.1	155.8	127.6	187.5	132.2	159.3	137.3	138.2
Cleveland -----	152.0	154.5	122.6	187.9	134.3	154.0	136.2	139.2
Dallas -----	149.2	149.9	121.9	182.9	122.0	150.7	135.4	146.7
Detroit -----	154.6	158.4	130.9	196.6	128.1	146.3	139.1	138.7
Honolulu -----	136.1	134.8	115.9	148.9	128.0	136.3	128.0	139.4
Houston -----	151.8	152.0	120.0	190.6	131.6	145.7	134.5	151.1
Kansas City -----	149.5	151.9	125.7	186.9	137.1	141.9	137.0	141.9
Los Angeles-Long Beach -----	141.9	144.5	119.9	181.4	122.4	132.4	132.4	134.5
Milwaukee -----	145.8	147.1	128.2	177.9	125.4	141.7	133.1	140.2
Minneapolis-St. Paul -----	149.1	149.5	135.0	185.3	128.5	142.6	137.1	147.0
N. Y.-Northeastern N. J. -----	152.7	154.6	125.8	181.4	128.9	160.2	138.4	147.3
Philadelphia -----	150.5	151.3	126.0	182.3	126.3	150.4	136.6	147.0
Pittsburgh -----	150.9	151.5	122.9	185.8	123.0	152.8	137.2	147.3
St. Louis -----	149.8	151.3	131.2	180.5	130.8	155.9	131.6	142.9
San Diego -----	146.2	146.6	119.7	184.3	121.3	132.2	135.8	144.7
San Francisco-Oakland -----	144.4	147.5	119.1	180.1	124.2	135.7	138.8	133.8
Seattle -----	142.5	144.5	119.5	177.2	125.1	138.0	134.8	135.8
Washington -----	152.6	153.0	126.9	181.2	123.1	161.1	138.7	151.0
	Percent changes July 1973 to August 1973							
United States -----	6.0	7.4	1.0	16.6	2.0	-0.7	5.5	1.1
Atlanta -----	6.3	7.8	.2	16.5	2.5	.5	6.7	1.2
Baltimore -----	5.7	6.7	.7	14.2	1.3	-.2	5.4	1.5
Boston -----	5.0	5.9	1.0	13.0	.1	1.3	3.6	1.6
Buffalo -----	6.3	7.2	1.3	17.5	1.0	-1.4	4.4	1.3
Chicago -----	7.6	9.2	.4	18.8	2.0	3.2	5.3	1.1
Cincinnati -----	6.2	7.6	1.6	18.4	2.5	-.7	4.1	.7
Cleveland -----	7.0	8.1	.5	15.9	3.4	.4	7.4	1.0
Dallas -----	6.6	8.2	.8	15.7	4.5	2.1	6.2	1.0
Detroit -----	8.3	10.2	2.1	20.1	3.6	-.6	7.4	.5
Honolulu -----	1.6	1.8	.3	2.9	.5	1.4	2.2	.5
Houston -----	7.1	9.2	.8	19.1	4.7	.1	6.5	.6
Kansas City -----	5.9	7.4	-.2	17.3	1.5	-.9	5.8	1.0
Los Angeles-Long Beach -----	4.3	5.6	-.5	15.5	1.7	-7.8	6.1	.5
Milwaukee -----	6.0	6.7	2.2	14.7	3.0	-4.3	6.5	² 3.1
Minneapolis-St. Paul -----	5.2	6.1	-.1	14.4	2.1	-.2	6.0	1.2
N. Y.-Northeastern N. J. -----	5.3	7.1	.8	14.7	.8	.6	4.8	.3
Philadelphia -----	6.1	7.4	.2	15.5	1.6	.7	6.4	.9
Pittsburgh -----	6.7	7.8	1.0	20.0	.7	-3.8	5.1	.7
St. Louis -----	6.7	7.9	.8	18.7	4.7	-2.1	5.4	.9
San Diego -----	5.3	6.5	.5	14.8	.9	-7.1	9.3	² 2.1
San Francisco-Oakland -----	4.4	5.4	.4	16.2	2.1	-11.8	6.6	.8
Seattle -----	4.6	6.0	-.1	14.3	1.0	-1.9	6.3	0
Washington -----	4.8	6.3	-.1	14.2	2.0	-1.5	4.8	1.0

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

² Change from May 1973.

Table 7. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, August 1973 indexes and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100)

Item and group	Index		Percent change to August 1973 from—		
	August 1973		August 1972	July 1973	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food	149.4	148.5	19.9	6.0	6.1
Food away from home	142.4	142.3	8.0	1.1	1.0
Restaurant meals	143.2	142.9	8.5	1.1	.8
Snacks	138.2	138.3	5.0	.6	.7
Food at home	151.3	150.2	23.3	7.4	7.7
Cereals and bakery products	124.7	124.7	9.0	1.0	1.1
Flour	119.1	119.3	20.1	1.2	1.3
Cracker meal	143.8	143.5	5.8	.6	.6
Corn flakes	105.8	106.0	5.9	.4	.3
Rice	128.2	128.3	17.4	.5	.6
Bread, white	124.8	124.4	9.6	2.6	2.0
Bread, whole wheat	130.0	130.0	8.4	1.4	1.3
Cookies	113.0	112.2	3.6	-.4	-.5
Layer cakes	126.9	127.0	5.8	-.2	-.1
Cinnamon rolls	128.4	128.5	7.9	-.5	-.4
Meats, poultry, and fish	184.0	181.3	40.7	16.6	16.4
Meats	180.0	177.0	35.8	14.1	13.8
Beef and veal	175.4	172.6	25.1	6.8	6.7
Steak, round	170.8	168.1	24.7	6.5	6.1
Steak, sirloin	160.0	156.3	17.1	5.4	6.5
Steak, porterhouse	161.2	156.8	15.7	4.4	4.8
Rump roast	165.0	162.7	20.9	5.7	4.6
Rib roast	170.6	167.7	21.0	3.8	3.6
Chuck roast	190.5	186.8	35.9	9.7	8.8
Hamburger	188.9	187.0	34.1	10.1	10.2
Beef liver	163.0	161.4	22.3	4.0	4.4
Veal cutlets	195.5	193.2	18.1	3.0	3.3
Pork	197.0	192.0	57.1	28.4	27.6
Chops	195.0	186.6	52.3	29.2	27.3
Loin roast	211.7	203.8	64.5	35.8	33.2
Pork sausage	209.6	205.7	58.1	24.0	22.6
Ham, whole	174.4	176.5	52.3	23.8	23.5
Picnics	198.0	194.3	54.3	24.5	22.3
Bacon	195.7	191.3	62.1	30.8	29.5
Other meats	166.3	165.1	32.1	10.9	10.4
Lamb chops	154.7	153.2	17.6	5.6	6.3
Frankfurters	180.1	177.6	41.1	15.1	13.7
Ham, canned	157.6	159.0	37.4	11.9	11.3
Bologna sausage	175.5	173.9	33.1	11.8	11.2
Salami sausage	165.0	163.7	28.6	10.3	9.9
Liverwurst	165.8	165.3	36.7	11.3	11.2
Poultry	225.4	221.9	103.8	45.8	47.1
Frying chicken	244.5	239.9	122.9	54.6	56.9
Chicken, breasts	202.7	198.9	77.3	37.6	35.9
Turkey	158.7	158.5	42.5	9.1	8.8
Fish	165.2	165.5	15.7	.9	.9
Shrimp, frozen	159.2	159.0	16.4	.7	1.0
Fish, fresh or frozen	194.2	193.6	25.9	2.2	1.9
Tuna fish, canned	144.9	145.5	9.5	-.6	-.6
Sardines, canned	163.1	164.2	10.4	.9	.7
Dairy products	126.6	-	8.6	2.0	0
Milk, fresh, grocery	125.9	126.2	8.9	2.4	2.6
Milk, fresh, delivered	129.2	-	7.3	1.6	0
Milk, fresh, skim	134.6	135.0	10.6	2.8	3.1
Milk, evaporated	135.5	135.1	14.9	1.0	1.3
Ice cream	111.5	111.4	5.1	1.1	1.0
Cheese, American process	137.5	137.5	10.3	.9	1.1
Butter	107.1	107.3	2.4	4.4	4.4

See footnote at end of table.

Table 7. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, August 1973 indexes and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Index		Percent change to August 1973 from—		
	August 1973		August 1972	July 1973	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food—Continued					
Food at home—Continued					
Fruits and vegetables	152.6	149.9	19.1	-0.7	1.1
Fresh fruits and vegetables	168.4	163.7	26.2	-1.7	1.5
Fresh fruits	149.4	136.7	10.8	-3.4	-2.6
Apples	168.1	140.2	16.3	-5.2	-6.4
Bananas	117.6	116.3	17.4	3.9	4.9
Oranges	147.5	139.2	9.4	8.9	4.3
Orange juice, fresh	132.8	131.6	.7	.2	-.5
Grapefruit	183.8	146.1	1.9	14.8	-1.8
Grapes	157.9	164.3	5.2	-20.4	1.4
Strawberries	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Watermelon	129.1	151.0	3.9	-21.7	-13.4
Fresh vegetables	183.8	187.9	38.8	-.6	5.0
Potatoes	252.4	226.4	70.4	1.5	5.8
Onions	170.9	153.8	9.9	-2.6	-4.6
Asparagus	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Cabbage	175.9	193.3	47.1	5.3	15.5
Carrots	157.0	147.8	25.3	9.6	8.3
Celery	193.0	200.8	54.8	21.4	34.6
Cucumbers	103.7	129.0	-10.5	-18.9	-10.1
Lettuce	184.9	188.7	61.2	-1.9	-5.1
Peppers, green	131.9	165.1	7.8	-9.0	9.6
Spinach	170.5	171.0	19.4	2.6	2.9
Tomatoes	142.0	163.8	17.4	-12.0	1.5
Processed fruits and vegetables	129.1	129.2	7.4	1.2	1.2
Fruit cocktail, canned	129.4	129.7	6.9	.2	.6
Pears, canned	125.7	125.6	6.4	.6	.4
Pineapple-grapefruit juice drink	119.9	120.0	4.2	.3	.3
Orange juice concentrate, frozen	135.8	134.6	.1	-.1	-.7
Lemonade concentrate, frozen	119.2	120.8	3.5	.2	0
Beets, canned	143.9	143.8	17.0	3.2	3.2
Peas, green, canned	110.4	110.4	3.2	.2	.1
Tomatoes, canned	125.6	125.1	7.1	.4	.3
Dried beans	157.8	158.0	14.3	4.5	4.3
Broccoli, frozen	123.2	123.2	4.3	.5	.6
Other food at home	135.6	135.7	16.9	5.5	4.5
Eggs	198.4	200.4	89.0	31.1	23.0
Fats and oils:					
Margarine	131.4	132.1	11.9	4.5	4.8
Salad dressing, Italian	110.8	111.0	1.5	1.2	1.5
Salad or cooking oil	129.4	129.4	7.8	.9	.5
Sugar and sweets	128.8	128.8	6.9	.7	.7
Sugar	124.6	124.4	8.9	.9	.8
Grape jelly	135.1	135.4	8.0	.4	.7
Chocolate bar	137.6	137.2	5.4	.7	.5
Syrup, chocolate flavored	116.9	117.1	5.6	.8	.7
Nonalcoholic beverages	131.9	131.8	9.4	.2	.2
Coffee, can and bag	138.6	138.2	17.1	.3	0
Coffee, instant	133.2	133.7	8.9	0	.3
Tea	111.1	110.8	1.6	-.2	-.1
Carbonated drink, cola flavored	131.3	131.4	2.6	-.3	-.2
Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	131.6	131.5	3.1	.2	.5
Prepared and partially prepared foods	118.4	118.3	3.1	.1	-.2
Bean soup, canned	105.8	106.0	1.2	-.1	0
Spaghetti, canned	124.0	124.4	2.1	.3	.5
Mashed potatoes, instant	118.2	118.0	5.6	-.2	-.3
Potatoes, french fried, frozen	114.8	114.2	3.1	.4	0
Baby foods	114.9	114.7	4.4	.3	-.1
Sweet pickle relish	131.2	132.0	4.5	0	-.7
Pretzels	117.6	117.4	2.0	-.2	-.2

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 1973, and percent changes from selected dates

(1967= 100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to August 1973 from:	
		July 1973	August 1973	August 1972	July 1973
Housing -----		134.2	135.2	4.1	0.7
Shelter ¹ -----		139.7	141.1	4.1	1.0
Rent, residential -----		124.3	125.0	4.5	.6
Homeownership ² -----		145.2	147.0	4.0	1.2
Mortgage interest rates -----		119.1	121.8	3.8	2.3
Property taxes -----		152.6	152.6	4.7	0
Property insurance premiums -----		124.8	124.2	.6	-.5
Maintenance and repairs -----		152.2	153.0	7.8	.5
Maintenance and repair commodities ³ -----		138.7	139.8	11.7	.8
Exterior house paint -----		119.2	120.3	2.3	.9
Interior house paint -----		119.4	120.0	2.1	.5
Maintenance and repair services -----		158.0	158.7	6.4	.4
Repainting living and dining rooms -----		171.5	172.2	6.8	.4
Reshingling house roof -----		165.1	165.6	5.4	.3
Residing house -----		145.9	146.6	7.5	.5
Replacing sink -----		155.2	156.1	6.4	.6
Repairing furnace -----		163.0	163.5	5.5	.3
Fuel and utilities: -----		125.7	126.3	5.2	.5
Fuel oil and coal -----		131.7	132.8	12.6	.8
Fuel oil, No. 2 -----		130.8	132.0	13.2	.9
Gas and electricity -----		125.5	125.8	4.4	.2
Gas -----		126.5	126.7	4.4	.2
Electricity -----		124.6	125.0	4.5	.3
Other utilities: -----					
Residential telephone services -----		115.9	117.1	2.6	1.0
Residential water and sewerage services -----		144.7	144.9	4.4	.1
Household furnishings and operation ⁴ -----		125.0	125.3	3.4	.2
Housefurnishings -----		119.1	119.2	2.5	.1
Textiles -----		115.1	114.8	1.6	-.3
Sheets -----		116.7	114.9	2.9	-1.5
Curtains, tailored -----		115.2	115.4	2.3	.2
Bedspreads -----		110.6	109.3	-.5	-1.2
Drapery fabric -----		127.6	129.0	3.9	1.1
Pillows, bed -----		103.9	103.1	-1.1	-.8
Slipcovers and throws, ready-made -----		116.1	116.5	1.7	.3
Furniture and bedding -----		125.9	126.2	4.2	.2
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser -----	Mar. 70	110.4	100.7	5.4	.3
Sofas, upholstered -----		124.0	124.6	3.5	.5
Cocktail tables -----	Dec. 71	104.2	105.2	3.3	1.0
Dining room chairs -----	Mar. 70	110.1	109.4	6.0	-.6
Recliners, upholstered -----	Dec. 71	99.9	99.6	1.5	-.3
Sofas, dual purpose -----		120.4	120.4	3.2	0
Bedding, mattress and box springs -----	June 70	107.8	108.9	3.8	1.0
Aluminum folding chairs -----		129.4	127.6	3.3	-1.4
Cribs -----		125.5	126.3	6.7	.6
Floor coverings -----		108.6	108.4	1.8	-.2
Broadloom carpeting, manmade fibers -----		103.4	103.1	1.7	-.3
Vinyl sheet goods -----		121.2	121.6	2.4	.3
Vinyl asbestos tile -----		120.0	120.1	1.4	.1
Appliances(excluding radio and T. V.)-----		109.7	109.6	.1	-.1
Washing machines, electric, automatic -----		110.8	111.0	.5	.2
Vacuum cleaners, canister type -----		104.8	104.0	.5	-.8
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers, electric -----		108.0	107.9	.1	-.1
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----		109.5	110.3	-.9	.7
Clothes dryers, electric -----		114.4	114.1	.1	-.3
Air conditioners, demountable -----		110.5	109.9	-.5	-.5
Room heaters, electric, portable -----		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Garbage disposal units -----		111.9	112.0	.9	.1
Other housefurnishings: -----					
Dinnerware, fine china -----		131.3	132.2	5.2	.7
Flatware, stainless steel -----		132.1	132.4	6.2	.2
Table lamps, with shade -----		129.3	129.6	3.8	.2
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type -----		122.2	121.1	1.8	-.9
Electric drills, hand-held -----		106.9	107.0	0	.1
Housekeeping supplies: -----					
Laundry soaps and detergents -----		112.7	113.4	2.1	.6
Paper napkins -----		139.1	139.3	5.6	.1
Toilet tissue -----		129.5	130.0	4.9	.4
Housekeeping services: -----					
Domestic services, general housework -----		146.2	146.7	5.1	.3
Baby sitter services -----		142.7	143.2	4.6	.4
Postal charges -----		146.6	146.6	0	0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----		149.0	149.7	7.3	.5
Licensed day care services, preschool child -----		131.0	131.0	6.5	0
Washing machine repairs -----		149.1	150.1	6.2	.7

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, August 1973, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967= 100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to August 1973 from:	
		July 1973	August 1973	August 1972	July 1973
Apparel and upkeep ⁷		125.8	126.5	4.7	0.6
Apparel commodities		126.0	126.6	4.7	.5
Apparel commodities less footwear		125.2	125.9	4.9	.6
Men's and boys'		125.4	126.3	4.9	.7
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Suits, year round weight	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Suits, tropical weight	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Jackets, lightweight	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Slacks, wool or wool blends	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
T-shirts, chiefly cotton	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Boys':					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blends	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Sport coats, wool or wool blends	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blends	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Undershorts, cotton	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Women's and girls'					
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blends	(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	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Blouses, cotton or manmade fibers	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fibers	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Slips, nylon	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Girdles, manmade blend	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Brassieres, nylon lace	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Hose or panty hose, nylon seamless	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Anklets or knee-length socks, various fibers	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
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	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Slips, polyester blends	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Handbags, plastic	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze or disposable	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Yard goods, polyester blend	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Wrist watches, men's and women's	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Footwear					
Men's:					
Shoes, street	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Shoes, work, high	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Shoes, evening, pump	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Shoes, casual	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Houseslippers, scuff	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Sneakers, boys', oxford type	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Dress shoes, girls', strap or pump	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Automatic laundry service	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Laundry, men's shirts	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)

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, August 1973, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to August 1973 from:	
		July 1973	August 1973	August 1972	July 1973
Transportation -----		124.8	124.5	3.3	-0.2
Private ⁸ -----		122.6	122.3	3.6	-0.2
Automobiles, new -----		110.9	110.6	0	-0.3
Automobiles, used -----		122.7	121.3	7.9	-1.1
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		118.8	118.7	9.5	-0.1
Motor oil, premium -----		128.1	128.4	3.4	0.2
Tires, new, tubeless -----		110.3	109.1	-5.5	-1.1
Auto repairs and maintenance ⁹ -----		142.5	142.9	5.3	0.3
Auto insurance rates -----		138.1	138.2	-2.1	0.1
Auto registration -----		123.7	123.7	-3.0	0
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		154.1	153.6	4.3	-0.3
Public -----		144.9	144.9	1.1	0
Local transit fares -----		150.3	150.3	0	0
Taxicab fares -----		138.3	138.3	3.5	0
Railroad fares, coach -----		122.6	122.6	-0.2	0
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		134.5	134.5	4.1	0
Bus fares, intercity -----		145.9	145.9	2.7	0
Health and recreation -----		130.3	130.5	3.2	0.2
Medical care -----		137.3	137.6	3.5	0.2
Drugs and prescriptions -----		105.9	105.9	0.1	0
Over-the-counter items -----		112.4	112.4	0.8	0
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		94.6	94.8	-0.5	0.2
Aspirin compounds -----		117.6	117.3	0.4	-0.3
Liquid tonics -----		101.8	101.6	0.2	-0.2
Cold tablets or capsules -----		114.8	115.0	0.4	0.2
Adhesive bandages, packages -----		126.3	126.3	1.8	0
Cough syrup -----		115.4	115.6	-1.7	0.2
Prescriptions -----		100.4	100.5	-0.4	0.1
Anti-infectives -----		71.0	70.9	-4.6	-0.1
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		129.0	129.5	1.5	0.4
Ataractics -----		103.8	103.8	0.5	0
Antispasmodics -----		107.9	107.9	-0.1	0
Cough preparations -----		137.6	137.8	4.2	0.1
Cardiovasculars and antihypertensives -----		112.8	112.9	1.1	0.1
Analgesics, internal -----		111.2	111.2	1.3	0
Anti-obesity -----		117.1	117.4	-0.5	0.3
Hormones -----		91.3	91.4	-1.6	0.1
Professional services: -----					
Physicians' fees -----		138.2	138.6	3.3	0.3
General physician, office visits -----		139.5	139.8	3.4	0.2
General physician, house visits -----		141.5	141.9	3.4	0.3
Obstetrical cases -----		138.4	138.7	3.3	0.2
Pediatric care, office visits -----		140.4	141.5	4.0	0.8
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		133.8	133.9	3.6	0.1
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		131.3	131.8	2.5	0.4
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		133.3	133.3	2.2	0
Dentists' fees -----		136.7	136.7	2.9	0
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		139.0	139.1	3.6	0.1
Extractions, adult -----		136.0	135.9	2.3	-0.1
Dentures, full upper -----		132.7	132.8	2.5	0.1
Other professional services: -----					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		129.8	130.6	4.2	0.6
Routine laboratory tests, urinalysis -----		122.5	123.8	2.5	1.1
Hospital service charges -----	Jan. 72	105.6	106.0	3.2	0.4
Semiprivate rooms -----		181.8	182.5	4.1	0.4
Operating room charges -----		179.2	179.7	5.7	0.3
X-ray diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----		131.9	132.1	1.9	0.2
Laboratory tests, urinalysis -----	Jan. 72	104.3	105.2	2.7	0.9
Anti-infectives, tetracycline, HCL -----	Jan. 72	97.6	97.4	-2.6	-0.2
Tranquilizers, chlorthalidopoxide, HCL and meprobamate -----	Jan. 72	104.9	105.3	3.3	0.4
Electrocardiogram -----	Jan. 72	104.5	104.7	1.8	0.2
Intravenous solution, saline -----	Jan. 72	103.8	103.8	1.4	0
Physical therapy, whirlpool bath -----	Jan. 72	106.7	107.9	5.6	1.1
Oxygen, inhalation therapy -----	Jan. 72	103.5	103.8	1.8	0.3
Personal care -----		125.3	125.7	4.6	0.3
Toilet goods -----		119.7	120.1	2.3	0.3
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		109.1	109.3	-0.5	0.2
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		128.0	128.4	5.3	0.3
Hand lotions, liquid -----		125.5	127.0	-1.1	1.2
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		108.8	108.7	1.5	-0.1
Face powder, pressed -----		146.6	148.2	10.4	1.1
Deodorants, aerosol -----		104.9	105.2	0.1	0.3
Cleansing tissues -----		125.0	124.7	0	-0.2
Home permanent wave kits -----		109.5	109.3	-0.3	-0.2
Personal care services -----		131.1	131.6	6.8	0.4
Men's haircuts -----		133.8	133.9	6.8	0.1
Beauty shop services -----		129.3	130.0	6.9	0.5
Women's haircuts -----		134.2	135.2	10.9	0.7
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		132.8	133.5	6.3	0.5
Permanent waves, cold -----		116.8	117.1	4.0	0.3

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, August 1973, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to August 1973 from:	
		July 1973	August 1973	August 1972	July 1973
Health and recreation—Continued					
Reading and recreation ¹⁰					
Recreational goods		126.2	126.1	2.5	-0.1
TV sets, portable and console		109.4	109.5	1.3	.1
TV replacement tubes		97.6	97.4	-2.0	-.2
Radio, portable and table model		134.8	134.8	1.7	0
Tape recorders, portable		99.5	99.4	.2	-.1
Phonograph records, stereophonic		93.4	93.8	-1.4	-.4
Movie cameras, super 8, zoom lens		108.0	108.3	.7	.3
Film, 35mm, color		89.9	90.2	2.2	.3
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core		107.6	107.5	-.6	-.1
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover		103.2	103.8	-1.2	-.6
Fishing rods, fresh-water spincasting		127.0	126.4	0	-.5
Bowling balls		109.7	110.1	2.3	.4
Bicycles, boys'		115.6	115.9	1.6	.3
Tricycles		122.8	124.2	6.1	1.1
Dog food, canned or boxed		116.2	116.1	1.4	-.1
Recreational services		123.9	125.3	13.7	1.1
Indoor movie admissions		133.2	132.9	3.3	-.2
Adult		148.5	148.8	3.8	.2
Children's		146.6	146.7	2.8	.1
Drive-in movie admissions, adult		153.9	154.7	6.7	.5
Bowling fees, evening		152.9	151.3	2.9	-1.0
Golf green fees		123.2	122.4	3.9	-.6
TV repair, color picture tube replacement		137.9	138.0	5.4	.1
Film developing, color		100.2	100.4	2.3	.2
Reading and education:		116.2	116.1	-.3	-.1
Newspapers, street sale and delivery		136.4	136.4	2.5	0
Magazines, single copy and subscription		136.1	136.1	2.0	0
Piano lessons, beginner		126.2	126.4	3.2	.2
Other goods and services		129.5	129.4	2.7	-.1
Tobacco products		137.8	137.8	2.8	0
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size		139.3	139.5	2.6	.1
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size		140.0	140.1	2.9	.1
Cigars, domestic, regular size		113.5	113.2	2.0	-.3
Alcoholic beverages		122.8	122.4	2.1	-.3
Beer		116.0	115.1	1.1	-.8
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon		109.0	109.0	.1	0
Wine, dessert and table		136.8	136.9	7.3	.1
Beer away from home		135.2	135.1	2.7	-.1
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult		126.4	127.6	5.1	.9
Bank service charges, checking accounts		107.0	107.0	0	0
Legal services, short form will		163.3	163.4	8.7	.1

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 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 Priced only in season.

⁶ Not available.

⁷ 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.

⁸ Also includes recapped tires 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.

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. 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 major statistical areas and 17 smaller cities, which were chosen to represent all urban places in the United States. They are collected from about 18,000 establishments—grocery and department stores, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments.

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 five largest areas and every 3 months in other areas. Prices of most goods and services are obtained by

personal visits of the Bureau's trained representatives. Mail questionnaires are used to obtain local transit fares, public utility rates, newspaper prices, fuel prices, and certain other items.

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. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Separate indexes are also published for 23 areas.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date—1967—which equals 100.0. An increase of 22 percent, for example, is shown as 122.0. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: The price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers has risen from \$10 in 1967 to \$12.20.

A Note About Calculating Index Changes

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 example in the accompanying box illustrates the computation of index point and percent changes.

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.

Percent changes for 3-month and 6-month periods are expressed as annual rates and 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. BLS does not publish annual rates based on data for 1 month.

<i>Index Point Change</i>	
CPI	123.8
Less previous index	<u>123.2</u>
Equals index point change:	0.6
<i>Percent Change</i>	
Index point difference,	<u>0.6</u>
Divided by the previous index,	123.2
Equals,	0.005
Results multiplied by one hundred	0.005×100
Equals percent change:	0.5

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 changing

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 pension 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 annual *percent changes* in the CPI for all items and for nine commodity groupings based on 1972 averages.

Average standard errors of percent changes in the CPI based on 1972 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

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.

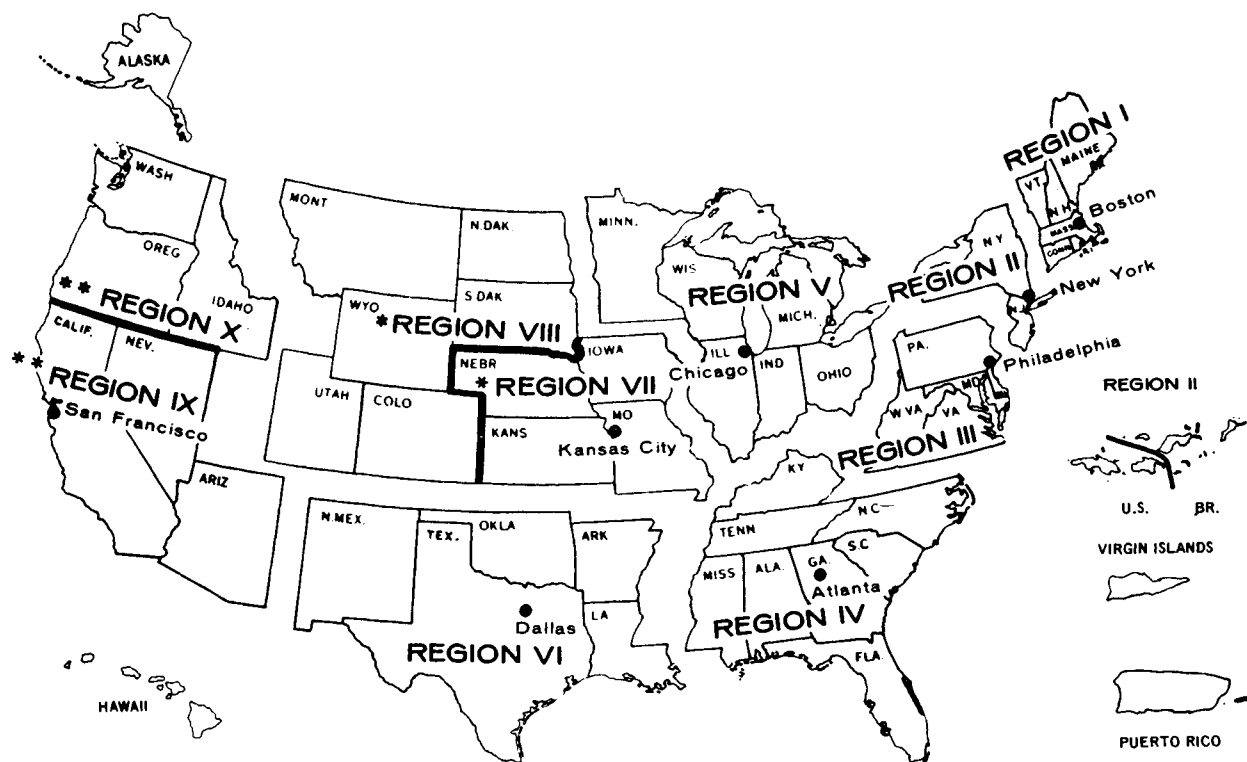
Because the CPI is rounded to one decimal place, some ambiguity may arise in interpreting small index changes. As the table indicates, for example, a month-to-month change of 0.1 percent in the all-items CPI is significant. Because of rounding, however, a change of this size in the published index might 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 1971 data which was included in the CPI report through March 1973.

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

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

REGIONAL OFFICES



Region I
 1603 JFK Federal Building
 Government Center
 Boston, Mass. 02203
 Phone: 223-6762 (Area Code 617)

Region V
 8th Floor, 300 South Wacker Drive
 Chicago, Ill. 60606
 Phone: 353-1880 (Area Code 312)

Region II
 1515 Broadway
 New York, N.Y. 10036
 Phone: 971-5405 (Area Code 212)

Region VI
 1100 Commerce St., Rm. 6B7
 Dallas, Tex. 75202
 Phone: 749-3516 (Area Code 214)

Region III
 P. O. Box 13309
 Philadelphia, Pa. 19101
 Phone: 597-1154 (Area Code 215)

Regions VII and VIII *
 Federal Office Building
 911 Walnut St., 15th Floor
 Kansas City, Mo. 64106
 Phone: 374-2481 (Area Code 816)

Region IV
 Suite 540
 1371 Peachtree St., NE.
 Atlanta, Ga. 30309
 Phone: 526-5418 (Area Code 404)

Regions IX and X **
 450 Golden Gate Ave.
 Box 36017
 San Francisco, Calif. 94102
 Phone: 556-4678 (Area Code 415)

- * Regions VII and VIII are serviced by Kansas City.
- ** Regions IX and X are serviced by San Francisco.