

the consumer price index

U.S. CITY AVERAGE
AND
SELECTED AREAS



for October 1972

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

February 1973



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for October 1972

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics

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

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Price Movements

October 1972

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.3 percent in October to 126.6 of its 1967 base. Over a third of the rise was due to higher prices for apparel. Increases for used cars, health insurance, and property taxes also contributed to the rise. The effects of these increases were moderated somewhat by lower prices for beef, some fresh fruits and vegetables, and gasoline. The October index was 3.4 percent higher than it was a year ago.

After seasonal adjustment, the October increase was also 0.3 percent. In the 6-month period ending in October, the CPI rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 3.7 percent. Prices in the last 3 months of the period rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.1 percent compared with 3.3 percent in the first 3 months. In October, the food index rose 0.2 percent after seasonal adjustment, down from 0.6 percent in September and 0.5 percent in August. After seasonal adjustment, the nonfood commodities index declined 0.1 percent following increases of 0.4 percent in September and 0.3 percent in August. The services index rose 0.4 percent in October, more than the 0.2-percent increase in each of the 2 preceding months; the faster rate of increase

was due to the regular annual adjustment to the health insurance component of the index.

Comparative seasonally adjusted annual rates of change in the CPI before and during the Economic Stabilization Program that began in August 1971 are as follows:

	1971 before Phase I (December 1970-- August 1971)	3 months, Phase I (August 1971-- November 1971)
	All items	3.8	1.9
Food	5.0	1.7
Commodities less food	2.9	0
Services	4.5	3.1

	11 months, Phase II (November 1971-- October 1972)	14 months, Phases I and II (August 1971-- October 1972)
	All items	3.5	3.2
Food	4.7	4.0
Commodities less food	2.6	2.0
Services	3.6	3.5

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

Month	Changes from preceding month							Changes in all items at seasonally adjusted compound annual rates		
	All items		Food		Commodities less food		Services	From 3 mos. ago	From 6 mos. ago	From 12 mos. ago
	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed			
October 1971	0.2	0.2	-0.2	-0.1	0.5	0	0.1	2.6	3.7	3.6
November .....	.2	.2	.1	.8	.1	0	.3	1.9	3.0	3.5
December .....	.4	.3	1.1	.6	0	.2	.3	2.6	2.8	3.4
January 1972 .....	.1	.3	0	-1	-3	.2	.6	3.2	2.9	3.4
February .....	.5	.6	1.6	1.8	.1	.3	.2	4.8	3.4	3.7
March .....	.2	0	.2	0	.3	.2	.2	3.6	3.1	3.5
April .....	.2	.2	0	-1	.3	.2	.2	3.1	3.2	3.4
May .....	.3	.3	-1	-1	.6	.5	.2	2.1	3.5	3.2
June .....	.2	.1	.6	.2	.2	0	.3	2.2	2.9	2.9
July .....	.4	.4	1.0	.6	0	.3	.3	3.3	3.2	3.0
August .....	.2	.2	.3	.5	.1	.3	.2	2.9	2.5	2.9
September .....	.4	.5	.2	.6	.7	.4	.2	4.6	3.4	3.3
October .....	.3	.3	.1	.2	.4	-1	.4	4.1	3.7	3.4

Food

The index for food purchased in grocery stores was unchanged in October before seasonal adjustment; it usually declines slightly. Prices of fresh fruits, poultry and beef decreased but by less than is usual for this time of year. Fresh vegetable prices declined on average instead of rising seasonally. These declines were offset by sharp, contraseasonal advances in pork prices and a contraseasonal price rise for sugar. Prices increased for some other foods such as coffee, dairy products, and eggs. The index for food away from home—restaurant meals and snacks—rose 0.2 percent, the smallest increase in 8 months.

Commodities less food

The index for nonfood commodities rose 0.4 percent before seasonal adjustment, slightly less than usual for October. Almost three-fourths of the rise was due to a sharper than usual increase in apparel prices.

Prices of apparel commodities rose more than usual mainly as a result of sharp increases for winter items priced for the first time this season in several cities. In addition to increases in the winter seasonal items, year-round items, particularly men's year-round suits and women's year-round dresses, increased sharply. These increases were due, in part, to higher wholesale prices for fabric and finished apparel products that retailers passed on in the face of strong demand. Footwear prices also rose more than is usual in October. Higher wholesale prices and the cessation of sales were mainly responsible for the rise.

The increase in the new car index, which reflects the introduction of 1973 models into the CPI, was substantially less than usual for October and the smallest September to October increase since 1957. One factor that influenced the small price in October was the fact that the auto companies were required to make extensive changes to meet Federal safety and environmental requirements, which resulted in large quality improvement allowances. Some quality improvements postponed during last year's price freeze were made on 1973 models, contributing to the quality allowance. Also important was the fact that the large price increases that normally occur at new model introduction were not approved by the Price Commission. Used car prices advanced sharply for the second consecutive month. Prices also rose for most household durables, home maintenance and repair commodities and books.

Services

The index for consumer services rose 0.4 percent in October. About 30 percent of the rise was due to the

regular annual adjustment to the health component of the index. The adjustment resulted in an acceleration in the rate of increase for the medical care services index to 0.7 percent in October from 0.2 percent in September. Physicians' and dentists' fees and hospital charges continued to increase at a slower rate than they did earlier this year. Increases for semiprivate rooms continued to decelerate, but charges for operating rooms accelerated. Property taxes, charges for residential gas, most apparel services, and men's haircuts increased more than in September, but charges for auto insurance continued to decline and movie admission prices were lower.

Diffusion of individual price changes

Approximately 120,000 individual prices were collected directly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in October for use in the index. Approximately 80 percent of these quotations represent monthly comparisons. As can be seen from table B, 74 percent of these monthly comparisons remained unchanged, 11 percent decreased, and 15 percent increased between September and October. The proportion of nonfood commodity prices increasing was less than in September and about the same as in August. The October index also includes 23,000 price comparisons to October from periods before September, of which 18,500 cover the quarterly span from July to October. About 15 percent of these increased, compared with about 16 percent in last month's index. In addition, about 4,500 rental units were surveyed in October and about 21 percent of these reported rent increases from April. (See table B.)

Introduction of additional series on food prices

Effective with next month's release of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), for November 1972, the Bureau of Labor Statistics will initiate monthly publications of two additional index series. The additional series, entitled (1) domestically produced farm foods and (2) selected beef cuts, will be derived from existing index data and published monthly in table 1 of the CPI press release and detailed report.

As well as being published by BLS, the new series will be used by the Economic Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in its monthly report, Price Spreads for Farm Foods and in the Marketing and Transportation Situation. The new BLS series on domestically produced farm foods will serve as the basis for estimating changes in the retail value of U.S. farm foods in these publications. The series for domestically produced farm foods will be calculated by excluding the following items from the food-at-home component of the CPI: fish, nonalcoholic beverages, bananas, chocolate

candy bars, chocolate syrup, and about half of the index weight for sugar. These exclusions are items which are not produced on U.S. farms or items that contain ingredients not produced domestically. The new series for selected beef cuts will be calculated by excluding

veal cutlets and beef liver from the CPI for beef and veal. The new indexes will be on the current standard reference base, 1967=100. Data for the new series covering the period from November 1971 will be published in the release for November 1972.

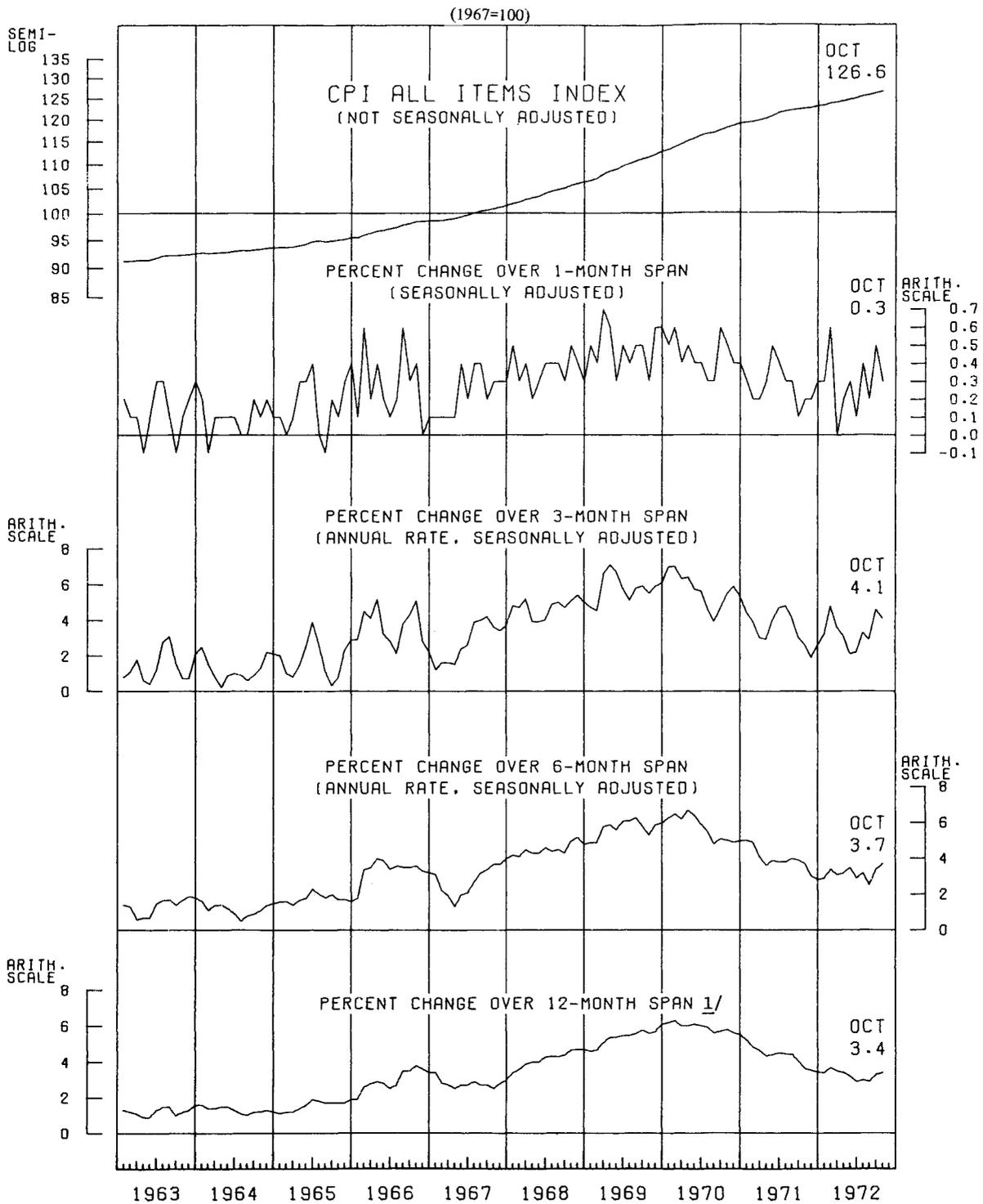
Table B. Percent distribution of monthly price comparisons, ¹ January–October 1972

Groups	January to February	February to March	March to April	April to May	May to June	June to July	July to August	August to September	September to October
All items ²	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	22	15	14	13	15	18	16	15	15
Decreases	8	10	12	12	11	10	11	10	11
No change	70	75	74	75	74	72	73	75	74
Food at home	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	24	16	15	14	17	20	18	16	17
Decreases	9	12	13	13	12	11	13	12	12
No change	67	72	72	73	71	69	69	72	71
Commodities less food	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	8	10	7	8	6	8	8	11	7
Decreases	7	5	7	6	7	7	6	5	6
No change	85	85	86	86	87	85	86	84	88
Services	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	8	3	6	7	5	4	3	4	4
Decreases	3	1	4	5	3	3	3	2	5
No change	89	96	90	88	92	93	94	94	91

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.

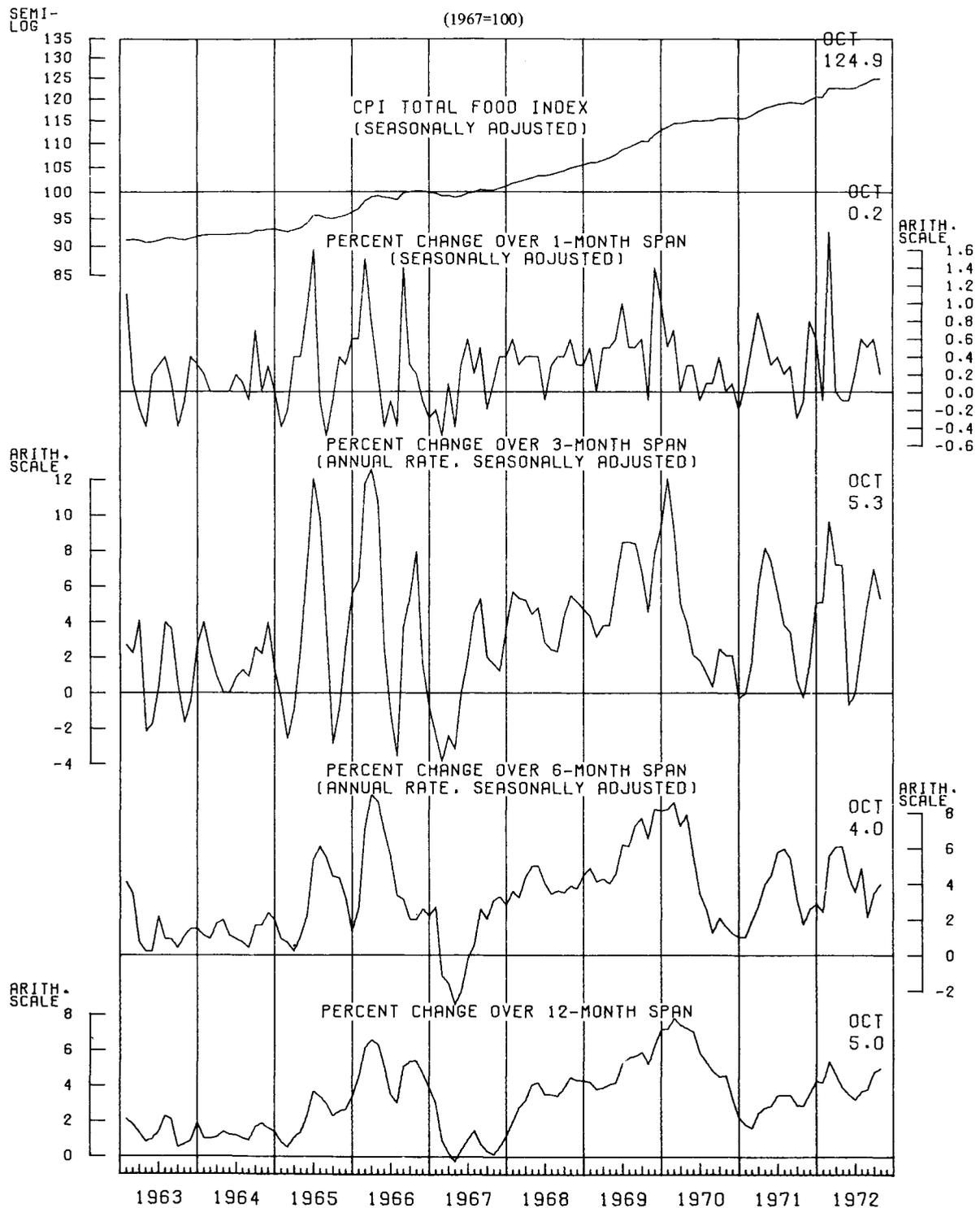
² Based on approximately 98,000 individual quotations.

Chart 1. All items index and its rate of change, 1963-72



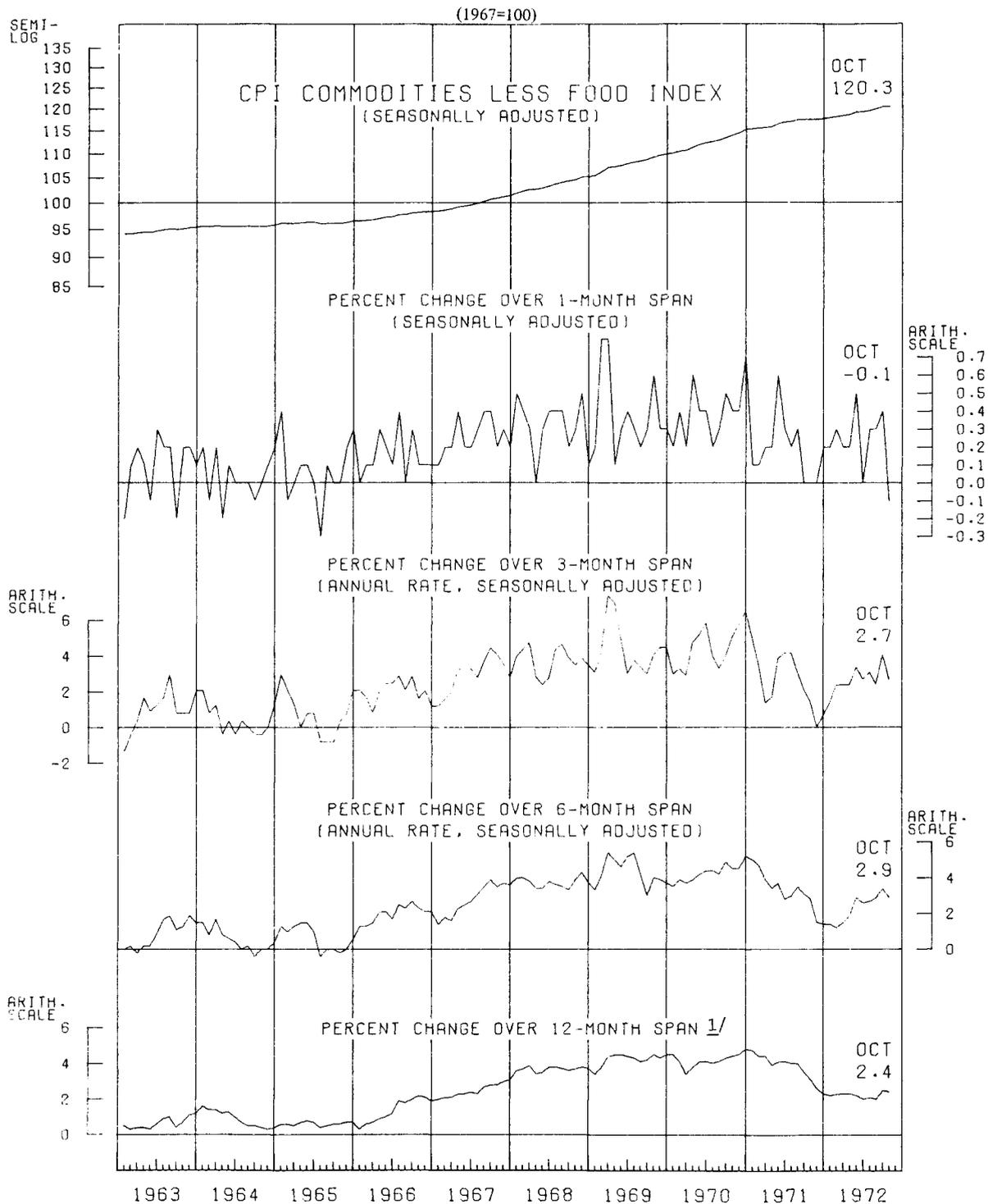
^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
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Chart 2. Total food index and its rate of change, 1963-72



1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.
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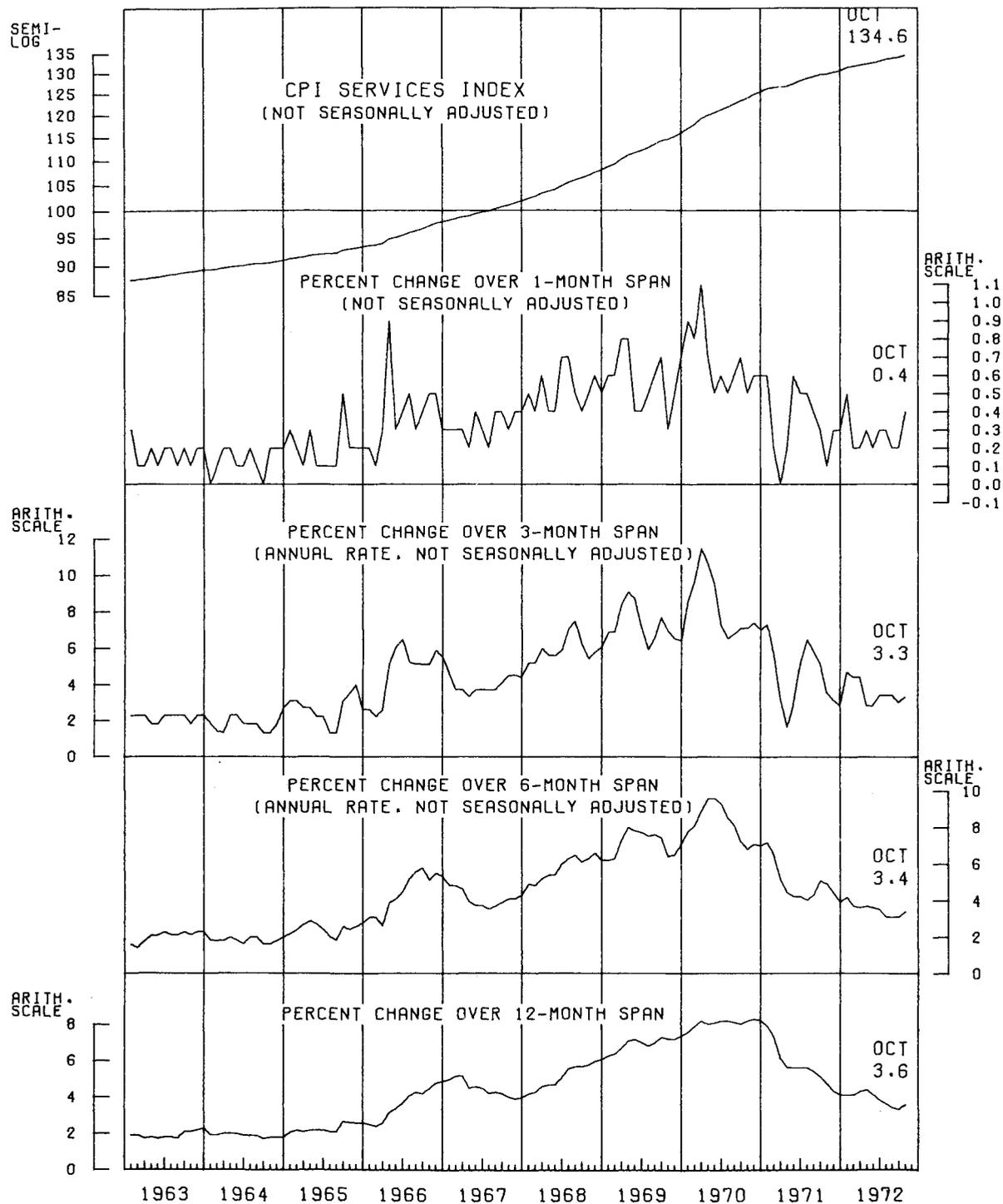
Chart 3. Commodities less food index and its rate of change, 1963-72



^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
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Chart 4. Services index and its rate of change, 1963-72

(1967=100)



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

Groups	Relative importance	Unadjusted indexes		Unadjusted percent change to		Seasonally adjusted percent change from			
	December	1967=100 unless otherwise noted	October 1972	September 1972	October 1972 from	October 1971	September to October	August to September	July to August
	1971	October 1972	September 1972	September 1972	October 1971	September to October	August to September	July to August	
Commodity and service groups									
All items	100.00	126.6	126.2	0.3	3.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	
All items (1957-59=100)		147.2	146.8	-	-	-	-	-	
Commodities	62.59	122.3	122.0	.2	3.3	.1	.7	.2	
Food	22.19	124.9	124.8	.1	5.0	.2	.6	.5	
Food at home	17.23	122.8	122.8	0	5.3	.1	.7	.3	
Cereals and bakery products	2.28	144.6	144.6	0	.3	0	.2	0	
Meats, poultry, and fish	5.64	131.3	130.9	.3	10.9	1.3	.2	.2	
Dairy products	2.72	117.1	116.9	.2	.9	.2	.3	-.2	
Fruits and vegetables	3.03	124.5	125.7	-1.0	7.7	.7	2.1	2.3	
Other foods at home	3.56	118.0	117.6	.3	1.5	.1	.9	-.7	
Food away from home	4.96	132.8	132.5	.2	3.8	.1	.5	.4	
Commodities less food	40.40	120.8	120.3	.4	2.4	-.1	.4	.3	
Nondurables less food	23.63	121.3	120.8	.4	2.2	.1	.6	.2	
Apparel commodities ¹	9.03	124.9	123.5	1.1	2.4	.6	.8	-.1	
Men's and boys'	2.82	123.8	122.5	1.1	1.6	.4	1.0	0	
Women's and girls'	4.02	125.9	123.9	1.6	2.6	.7	1.1	-.2	
Footwear	1.57	126.5	125.7	.6	3.1	.4	.2	.2	
Nondurables less food and apparel	14.60	119.3	119.3	0	2.1	-.1	.6	.3	
Gasoline and motor oil	2.92	111.2	111.5	-.3	1.4	-.7	1.9	1.0	
Tobacco products	2.09	134.3	134.2	.1	4.2	*.1	*.1	*.1	
Alcoholic beverages	2.50	120.3	120.2	.1	2.0	*.1	*.3	*.3	
Fuel oil and coal	.67	118.1	118.0	.1	.3	-.1	0	.2	
Other nondurables	6.42	118.5	118.3	.2	2.2	.3	.3	.1	
Durables commodities	16.77	120.1	119.8	.3	2.6	-.4	.5	.3	
Household durables	4.83	115.8	115.6	.2	1.9	.1	.3	.2	
New cars	2.12	110.1	109.6	.5	.9	-3.9	.3	.5	
Used cars	1.98	115.2	113.6	1.4	3.1	*1.4	*1.1	*-.3	
Other durables	7.84	127.4	127.5	-.1	3.1	-.2	-.1	.3	
Services	37.41	134.6	134.1	.4	3.6	*.4	*.2	*.2	
Rent	5.05	120.3	119.9	.3	3.4	*.3	*.3	*.3	
Services less rent	32.36	137.2	136.7	.4	3.6	*.4	*.2	*.2	
Household services less rent	15.36	140.7	140.3	.3	4.5	.4	.2	.1	
Transportation services	5.57	136.2	136.3	-.1	1.7	-.1	.2	.4	
Medical care services	5.55	139.9	138.9	.7	3.9	1.3	.1	.1	
Other services	5.88	127.0	126.7	.2	2.6	.2	.5	.2	
Special indexes:									
All items less food	77.81	127.1	126.7	.3	2.9	.1	.4	.2	
Nondurable commodities	45.82	123.1	122.8	.2	3.6	.2	.7	.2	
Apparel commodities less footwear	7.46	124.6	123.0	1.3	2.2	.7	.8	0	
Services less medical care services	31.86	133.8	133.4	.3	3.6	*.3	*.2	*.2	
Insurance and finance	9.85	145.1	144.7	.3	3.6	.2	.1	.1	
Utilities and public transportation	5.51	126.5	126.2	.2	4.3	.5	.5	.1	
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	4.46	145.9	145.6	.2	3.8	.4	0	.3	
Expenditure classes									
All items	100.00	126.6	126.2	0.3	3.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	
Food	22.19	124.9	124.8	.1	5.0	.2	.6	.5	
Housing	33.84	130.4	130.1	.2	3.6	*.2	*.2	*.3	
Shelter ²	21.72	136.0	135.7	.2	4.1	.2	.1	.3	
Rent	5.05	120.3	119.9	.3	3.4	*.3	*.3	*.3	
Homeownership ³	16.25	141.8	141.5	.2	4.5	.2	.1	.3	
Fuel and utilities ⁴	4.71	120.6	120.3	.2	4.0	.3	.5	0	
Gas and electricity	2.43	120.9	120.5	.3	4.5	.4	.3	-.2	
Household furnishings and operation	7.41	121.8	121.6	.2	1.9	.2	.3	.2	
Apparel and upkeep	10.45	124.3	123.1	1.0	2.2	.3	.8	.1	
Transportation	13.27	121.2	121.0	.2	1.6	-.8	1.1	.5	
Private	11.80	118.8	118.6	.2	1.4	-.9	1.3	.8	
Public	1.47	144.1	144.0	.1	3.4	.6	.5	.6	
Health and recreation	19.87	127.2	126.8	.3	3.0	*.3	*.2	*.2	
Medical care	6.46	133.9	133.1	.6	3.3	1.1	.1	.2	
Personal care	2.58	120.8	120.5	.2	2.5	.2	.3	.1	
Reading and recreation	5.71	124.0	123.7	.2	2.9	.2	.5	.1	
Other goods and services	5.12	126.4	126.2	.2	3.1	.1	-.1	.1	
Special indexes:									
All items less shelter	78.28	124.2	123.8	.3	3.2	.3	.6	.2	
All items less medical care	93.54	126.2	125.9	.2	3.4	.2	.5	.2	
All items less mortgage interest costs	96.25	125.7	125.4	.2	3.4	.2	.5	.2	
Purchasing power of consumer dollar:									
1967=\$1.00	-	\$0.790	\$0.792	-.3	-3.2	-	-	-	
1957-59=\$1.00	-	.679	.681	-	-	-	-	-	

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.

* Not seasonally adjusted.

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

Table 2. 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	1957-57=100	Other bases	September 1972	July 1972	October 1971
		October 1972			September 1972	July 1972	October 1971
U. S. City average	M	126.6	147.2		0.3	0.9	3.4
Chicago	M	125.4	142.5		.1	.8	3.0
Detroit	M	127.2	146.2		-.1	.4	3.6
Los Angeles-Long Beach	M	123.9	145.7		.1	1.0	3.1
N. Y.—Northeastern N. J.	M	133.2	158.5		.2	1.4	4.5
Philadelphia	M	128.7	150.3		.2	1.3	3.0
		October 1972				July 1972	October 1971
Boston	1	128.9	154.4			1.4	3.5
Houston	1	126.4	144.6			1.0	3.3
Minneapolis-St. Paul	1	127.2	147.4			1.4	3.1
Pittsburgh	1	126.5	145.5			.8	2.9
		August 1972				May 1972	August 1971
Buffalo	2	126.8		³ 139.3		0.6	3.3
Cleveland	2	126.2	142.5			.1	2.4
Dallas	2	125.5		³ 135.7		.7	2.3
Milwaukee	2	124.6	140.7			1.5	2.6
San Diego	2	125.1		⁴ 131.5		1.2	3.8
Seattle	2	119.9	140.9			.9	2.0
Washington	2	127.7	148.8			1.7	3.4
		September 1972				June 1972	September 1971
Atlanta	3	126.9	146.0			1.7	4.1
Baltimore	3	127.7	148.3			1.8	2.7
Cincinnati	3	126.3	143.3			1.4	4.0
Honolulu	3	123.1		⁵ 132.7		.7	1.6
Kansas City	3	125.5	149.0			1.3	3.3
St. Louis	3	123.6	144.4			1.4	2.6
San Francisco-Oakland	3	125.6	149.5			1.2	4.1

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

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

- M - Every month.
- 1 - January, April, July, and October.
- 2 - February, May, August, and November.
- 3 - March, June, September, and December.
- ³ November 1963=100.
- ⁴ February 1965=100.
- ⁵ December 1963=100.

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

Table 3. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups percent changes from September 1972 to October 1972

Group	U. S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles—Long Beach	New York—Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
All items	0.3	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Food	.1	-.4	.2	.1	-.3	.6
Housing	.2	-.1	-1.0	-.1	-.7	.2
Apparel and upkeep	1.0	.1	.9	.0	.0	.5
Transportation	.2	-.2	.3	.4	-.1	-.2
Health and recreation	.3	.2	.7	.2	.3	.3
Medical care	.6	.6	1.0	.5	.6	.6
Personal care	.2	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Reading and recreation	.2	.2	.3	-.2	.2	.1
Other goods and services	.2	.0	.3	-.1	.3	.1

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

Group	Indexes			Percent change to October 1972 from:	
	October 1972	September 1972	July 1972	1 month ago	3 months ago
Food	124.9	124.7	123.3	0.2	1.3
Food at home	122.8	122.7	121.4	.1	1.2
Cereal and bakery products	114.5	114.5	114.3	0	.2
Meat, poultry, and fish	131.0	129.3	128.7	1.3	1.8
Dairy products	117.0	116.8	116.7	.2	.3
Fruits and vegetables	129.7	128.8	123.3	.7	5.2
Other food at home	117.1	117.0	116.7	.1	.3
Fuel and utilities ¹	121.1	120.7	120.1	.3	.8
Fuel oil and coal	118.3	118.4	118.2	-.1	.1
Apparel and upkeep ²	123.3	122.9	121.8	.3	1.2
Men's and boys'	122.9	122.4	121.2	.4	1.4
Women's and girls'	124.2	123.3	122.2	.7	1.6
Footwear	126.2	125.7	125.2	.4	.8
Transportation	121.0	122.0	120.1	-.8	.7
Private	118.7	119.8	117.4	-.9	1.1
New cars	108.8	113.2	112.3	-3.9	-3.1
Commodities	122.2	122.1	121.0	-.1	1.0
Commodities less food	120.3	120.4	119.5	-.1	.7
Nondurables	123.0	122.7	121.5	-.2	1.2
Nondurables less food	120.7	120.6	119.7	.1	.8
Apparel commodities	123.8	123.1	122.2	-.6	1.3
Durables	119.9	120.4	119.4	-.4	.4

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 areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, October 1972, and percent changes from July 1972

Group	U. S. City Average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Houston	Los Angeles—Long Beach	Minneapolis—St. Paul	New York—Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh
Indexes (1967=100)										
All items	126.6	128.9	125.4	127.2	126.4	123.9	127.2	133.2	128.7	126.5
Food	124.9	126.0	125.3	123.8	127.5	121.8	126.1	130.0	125.6	123.7
Food at home	122.8	124.6	123.9	122.5	123.1	121.1	124.1	126.6	122.7	121.7
Cereals and bakery products	114.6	115.1	115.2	117.0	110.0	111.5	122.3	117.5	114.6	111.3
Meats, poultry, and fish	131.3	134.2	132.9	133.8	131.7	131.0	134.4	133.4	130.2	129.7
Dairy products	117.1	118.3	117.6	112.3	118.7	115.5	117.7	119.9	119.6	116.0
Fruits and vegetables	124.5	128.2	123.1	116.6	127.8	121.2	120.5	133.2	125.4	125.6
Other food at home	118.0	117.5	119.1	118.0	118.7	117.2	120.5	119.3	115.1	117.3
Food away from home	132.8	131.1	130.9	129.8	142.7	123.8	134.9	140.7	137.9	135.4
Housing	130.4	134.6	124.7	133.9	129.5	128.6	132.6	138.6	133.1	131.0
Shelter	136.0	143.5	129.1	143.2	135.4	131.6	138.6	145.9	143.4	138.8
Rent	120.3	131.2	(²)	121.2	111.1	(²)	121.6	129.3	(²)	117.8
Homeownership costs	141.8	149.0	135.7	147.6	143.8	135.4	141.5	158.3	148.1	144.8
Fuel and utilities	120.6	118.4	115.5	116.7	116.3	126.3	124.7	125.1	118.5	121.2
Fuel oil and coal	118.1	117.1	114.1	113.9	-	-	115.1	120.4	112.3	-
Gas and electricity	120.9	121.5	115.4	118.2	117.6	133.6	125.3	124.2	123.9	126.3
Household furnishings and operation	121.8	126.5	117.1	116.8	125.7	119.3	120.3	127.9	123.2	120.4
Apparel and upkeep	124.3	127.9	122.7	121.2	128.9	121.1	123.0	125.8	123.1	126.3
Men's and boys'	123.8	122.2	118.7	121.4	118.2	118.6	122.0	125.0	125.1	121.6
Women's and girls'	125.9	131.8	127.9	118.5	142.7	123.8	124.3	127.1	119.7	131.9
Footwear	126.5	131.0	119.8	126.1	126.9	124.6	127.1	126.3	128.8	127.9
Transportation	121.2	120.8	125.1	116.8	113.7	120.9	117.6	133.8	125.4	122.2
Private	118.8	118.0	119.6	114.2	111.0	121.1	117.0	126.1	122.4	119.8
Public	144.1	138.2	160.4	148.5	158.5	117.0	127.3	163.1	142.8	138.1
Health and recreation	127.2	129.0	128.3	130.2	129.6	121.4	127.8	132.5	131.3	127.3
Medical care	133.9	135.8	132.9	143.3	136.9	130.3	127.4	141.2	144.3	130.4
Personal care	120.8	121.9	(²)	123.3	125.6	(²)	124.4	(²)	120.3	119.7
Reading and recreation	124.0	130.7	124.4	125.9	122.8	114.2	128.7	129.0	126.4	125.7
Other goods and services	126.4	123.9	130.8	121.8	128.8	119.8	128.7	133.1	127.9	129.3
Percent changes from July 1972 to October 1972										
All items	0.9	1.4	0.8	0.4	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.8
Food .....	.6	1.6	.8	-.3	2.2	.4	.6	.4	1.3	.6
Food at home .....	.3	1.5	.6	-.6	1.6	.2	.6	.1	1.4	.4
Cereals and bakery products .....	.2	1.7	1.9	1.1	-.1	-.3	-.9	.3	1.7	-.1
Meats, poultry, and fish	1.1	1.7	.8	-.1	2.7	-.1	2.1	.0	1.6	1.7
Dairy products	-.3	1.5	1.1	-.6	-.3	-.5	-.5	.2	1.0	-.4
Fruits and vegetables	-3.0	-1.0	-3.5	-7.5	-.5	-2.5	-3.0	-2.1	-.9	-3.9
Other food at home	2.3	4.0	2.6	3.1	3.2	2.6	2.3	2.3	3.2	2.2
Food away from home	1.1	1.7	1.4	-.9	3.8	1.0	.9	1.1	.9	1.0
Housing .....	.7	1.0	-.3	-.4	.2	.7	1.1	1.6	1.5	.2
Shelter .....	.7	1.3	-.5	-1.0	.1	.5	1.5	2.2	2.1	-.1
Rent .....	.9	1.5	(²)	3.4	.1	(²)	.4	3.9	(²)	.7
Homeownership costs .....	.8	1.2	-1.1	-1.3	.1	.4	1.7	2.3	2.3	-.3
Fuel and utilities .....	.5	.4	.3	.5	.0	2.0	.2	.2	.7	.9
Fuel oil and coal .....	.3	.0	.6	.0	-	-	.0	.0	.4	-
Gas and electricity .....	.5	1.0	.0	.8	.1	2.5	.2	.6	1.2	1.4
Household furnishings and operation .....	.6	.6	-.2	1.3	.7	1.0	.7	1.0	.9	.5
Apparel and upkeep	2.6	3.8	5.9	3.7	4.6	1.7	4.9	4.7	4.6	3.7
Men's and boys'	2.8	1.7	4.1	5.4	3.1	3.4	3.7	6.7	6.6	.6
Women's and girls'	3.9	7.2	11.0	5.0	10.4	1.1	8.7	6.3	6.1	8.1
Footwear	1.5	2.1	1.4	-.1	.6	1.3	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.6
Transportation .....	.7	1.3	.2	.3	-1.6	2.6	1.2	.5	.1	.3
Private .....	.8	1.5	.3	.2	-1.8	2.8	1.2	.5	.0	.3
Public .....	.6	.7	.0	.7	.6	.3	.6	.2	.4	.1
Health and recreation .....	.7	.8	.5	1.2	1.2	.7	.9	.6	.5	1.0
Medical care .....	.9	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.3	.9	1.2	.7	1.5	.5
Personal care .....	.7	.2	(²)	1.4	2.5	(²)	4.1	(²)	-.8	3.5
Reading and recreation .....	.8	1.2	.3	1.8	.7	.3	.2	.6	.2	1.2
Other goods and services .....	.5	.4	-.2	.3	.5	.4	.2	.5	.2	.2

¹ See footnote 1, table 2.
² Not available.
³ Change from August 1972.

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

Area ¹	Total food	Food at home					Food away from home	
		Total	Cereals and bakery products	Meats, poultry, and fish	Dairy products	Fruits and vegetables		Other foods at home
Indexes (1967=100)								
U.S. city average -----	124.9	122.8	114.6	131.3	117.1	124.5	118.0	132.8
Atlanta -----	126.6	124.7	116.9	130.6	117.9	137.0	118.5	132.5
Baltimore -----	126.9	125.2	114.2	131.5	119.7	131.6	121.0	133.4
Boston -----	126.0	124.6	115.1	134.2	118.3	128.2	117.5	131.1
Buffalo -----	124.1	122.5	115.4	130.8	116.6	122.2	118.8	132.7
Chicago -----	125.3	123.9	115.2	132.9	117.6	123.1	119.1	130.9
Cincinnati -----	125.4	124.4	115.5	130.7	118.5	128.6	120.4	128.9
Cleveland -----	124.8	124.1	112.4	132.5	121.4	126.8	117.7	129.2
Dallas -----	124.7	121.7	113.2	131.1	111.0	124.5	117.4	135.7
Detroit -----	123.8	122.5	117.0	133.8	112.3	116.6	118.0	129.8
Honolulu -----	123.7	120.9	105.2	126.5	119.4	127.7	118.6	131.9
Houston -----	127.5	123.1	110.0	131.7	118.7	127.8	118.7	142.7
Kansas City -----	124.8	123.0	117.0	129.0	125.9	120.0	118.4	130.7
Los Angeles-Long Beach -----	121.8	121.1	111.5	131.0	115.5	121.2	117.2	123.6
Milwaukee -----	122.1	120.3	114.6	129.5	114.7	120.4	114.5	(²)
Minneapolis-St. Paul -----	126.1	124.1	122.3	134.4	117.7	120.5	120.5	134.9
N. Y.-Northeastern N. J. -----	130.0	126.6	117.5	133.4	119.9	133.2	119.3	140.7
Philadelphia -----	125.6	122.7	114.6	130.2	119.6	125.4	115.1	137.9
Pittsburgh -----	123.7	121.7	111.3	129.7	116.0	125.6	117.3	135.4
St. Louis -----	123.4	121.3	118.8	126.5	120.5	124.0	113.6	133.3
San Diego -----	124.6	122.0	113.3	134.9	115.1	118.1	115.7	(²)
San Francisco-Oakland -----	122.8	121.7	112.4	130.7	116.6	118.7	119.1	127.0
Seattle -----	122.0	120.0	111.7	129.2	116.2	114.8	119.0	128.6
Washington -----	128.8	125.0	116.3	128.1	113.1	137.8	123.9	138.5
Percent changes September 1972 to October 1972								
U.S. city average -----	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2	-1.0	0.3	0.2
Atlanta -----	.3	.3	-.7	.6	-.3	1.6	.2	.2
Baltimore -----	.4	.3	.4	.9	.4	-1.6	1.1	.6
Boston -----	.5	.5	.1	.5	.5	-.5	1.7	.8
Buffalo -----	.0	-.1	.7	.4	.0	-1.9	.3	.2
Chicago -----	.4	.3	.3	.4	.9	-.6	.6	.7
Cincinnati -----	-.3	-.5	-1.6	-.2	.0	-.9	-.3	.2
Cleveland -----	-.5	-.5	-.5	-.5	.1	.9	-2.0	.0
Dallas -----	.5	.5	-.1	1.2	.1	-.2	.5	.3
Detroit -----	.2	.2	-.1	.5	-.1	-.3	.2	.1
Honolulu -----	-.1	-.2	-.8	-.9	.2	.3	.9	.2
Houston -----	1.1	.6	-.3	1.2	-.3	.6	.6	2.5
Kansas City -----	-.2	-.2	-.3	-.5	-.2	-.2	.1	.1
Los Angeles-Long Beach -----	.1	.1	-.5	.2	.1	-.3	.7	.2
Milwaukee -----	.2	.3	-.5	-.7	1.5	1.3	1.0	(²)
Minneapolis-St. Paul -----	.4	.4	.5	.4	-.2	.8	.4	.2
N. Y.-Northeastern N. J. -----	-.3	-.4	.3	-.4	.1	-1.3	-.3	.0
Philadelphia -----	-.6	-.6	.2	.1	1.1	-.4	1.7	.4
Pittsburgh -----	.2	.2	-.2	.3	1.0	-1.0	.5	.2
St. Louis -----	-.3	-.4	-1.0	-.1	.1	-1.8	.7	.2
San Diego -----	.2	.3	.0	.9	.2	-1.7	1.1	(²)
San Francisco-Oakland -----	.1	.2	.1	1.2	.4	-1.2	-.8	.1
Seattle -----	.2	.1	.6	.0	-.1	-.5	.3	.5
Washington -----	-.1	-.4	-2.1	1.0	.2	-3.0	.3	.5

¹ See footnote 1, table 2.

² Not available.

Table 7. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, October 1972 indexes and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100)

Item or group	Index		Percent change to October 1972 from—		
	October 1972		September 1972		October 1971 unadjusted
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
Total food.....	124.9	124.9	0.1	0.2	0.5
Food away from home.....	132.8	132.5	.2	.1	3.8
Restaurant meals.....	133.0	132.7	.3	.2	4.2
Snacks.....	132.2	131.7	.3	-.3	2.1
Food at home.....	122.8	122.8	.0	.1	5.3
Cereals and bakery products.....	114.6	114.5	.0	.0	.3
Flour.....	100.0	100.0	.6	.7	-1.1
Cracker meal.....	135.6	135.6	-.4	-.4	3.0
Corn flakes.....	99.8	100.1	.0	-.2	-3.7
Rice.....	109.4	109.5	.1	.2	-.5
Bread, white.....	112.4	112.4	-.5	.0	.3
Bread, whole wheat.....	120.6	120.2	.0	-.2	1.2
Cookies.....	110.2	110.1	-.4	.1	.3
Layer cake.....	120.2	120.6	.2	.6	-.4
Cinnamon rolls.....	121.5	121.3	.6	.2	1.6
Meats, poultry and fish.....	131.3	131.0	.3	1.3	10.9
Meats.....	132.7	132.2	.3	1.2	12.2
Beef and veal.....	137.3	137.2	-.7	.3	8.0
Steak, round.....	132.6	132.7	-.8	.2	5.7
Steak, sirloin.....	130.6	130.3	-3.4	-1.2	4.2
Steak, porterhouse.....	134.1	133.4	-2.5	-.8	5.3
Rump roast.....	132.5	132.2	-.8	-.2	5.8
Rib roast.....	137.4	137.8	-1.1	.4	6.3
Chuck roast.....	135.0	135.3	-1.1	-.2	7.5
Hamburger.....	139.7	139.7	.4	1.1	9.5
Beef liver.....	134.7	134.3	.3	.5	17.3
Veal cutlets.....	167.0	167.0	.9	1.4	13.8
Pork.....	129.2	127.7	1.7	3.1	22.1
Chops.....	130.4	129.2	-.9	1.7	18.8
Loin roast.....	130.3	128.6	.1	1.7	19.9
Pork sausage.....	137.5	135.3	1.7	2.7	21.9
Ham, whole.....	117.4	118.1	1.6	2.4	15.1
Picnics.....	129.3	128.7	.9	.8	19.8
Bacon.....	128.8	126.2	6.3	8.0	33.3
Other meats.....	127.8	127.4	.9	1.0	9.7
Lamb chops.....	131.8	131.7	.8	1.3	6.8
Frankfurters.....	129.3	128.7	.5	1.4	11.5
Ham, canned.....	119.6	119.7	2.9	2.6	10.9
Bologna sausage.....	133.7	133.4	.3	.7	11.3
Salami sausage.....	130.6	130.3	1.2	1.7	11.8
Liverwurst.....	122.0	121.4	-.2	-.1	6.6
Poultry.....	112.0	112.6	-.5	2.0	1.8
Frying chicken.....	111.4	112.6	-1.2	2.0	2.2
Chicken breasts.....	115.7	115.0	1.2	2.3	4.0
Turkey.....	111.4	110.4	.8	.2	-2.0
Fish.....	145.8	146.1	1.0	1.0	9.8
Shrimp, frozen.....	138.3	138.9	.5	.7	15.2
Fish, fresh or frozen.....	159.1	159.4	1.9	2.0	11.3
Tuna fish, canned.....	134.6	134.6	1.1	.7	4.4
Sardines, canned.....	151.0	151.0	.5	-.1	8.6
Dairy products.....	117.1	117.0	.2	.2	.9
Milk, fresh, grocery.....	115.8	115.5	.1	-.1	.4
Milk, fresh delivered.....	120.7	120.5	.1	-.1	2.2
Milk, fresh skim.....	122.0	121.8	-.1	.2	1.4
Milk, evaporated.....	119.8	119.6	1.0	1.3	-1.3
Ice cream.....	106.3	106.4	-.5	-.1	.2
Cheese, American process.....	125.3	125.6	-.2	-.2	2.6
Butter.....	105.4	105.2	.7	.3	-.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 7. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, October 1972 indexes and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100)

Item or group	Index		Percent change to October 1972 from—		
	October 1972		September 1972		October 1971 unadjusted
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
Fruits and vegetables	124.5	129.7	-1.0	0.7	7.7
Fresh fruits and vegetables	126.7	135.5	-1.7	.9	11.5
Fresh fruits	127.3	129.2	-3.5	1.7	9.8
Apples	113.1	131.1	-16.3	6.2	11.1
Bananas	101.2	96.3	-1.2	-4.0	-4.6
Oranges	134.2	121.2	.2	-3.0	-2.1
Orange juice, fresh	130.5	129.6	.3	.4	1.1
Grapefruit	187.8	164.2	2.7	8.7	22.3
Grapes	169.9	196.2	15.3	16.6	42.1
Strawberries	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Watermelon	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Fresh vegetables	126.3	140.3	-.2	-1.1	13.0
Potatoes	128.9	139.4	-3.5	1.0	15.9
Onions	140.5	146.7	-10.8	-7.0	28.0
Asparagus	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Cabbage	126.6	141.8	1.9	-2.0	19.0
Carrots	138.5	144.3	15.5	16.7	18.1
Celery	134.6	148.7	2.4	2.5	20.7
Cucumbers	94.2	121.4	5.6	-14.3	-2.5
Lettuce	125.8	122.0	5.6	-5.9	2.1
Peppers, green	104.1	140.1	-9.0	-10.4	6.8
Spinach	140.4	139.1	-1.5	-4.2	7.3
Tomatoes	116.7	143.0	5.9	-7.5	10.1
Processed fruits and vegetables	121.2	121.2	.2	.3	2.4
Fruit cocktail, canned	121.8	121.8	.4	.8	1.5
Pears, canned	120.1	120.1	.7	1.1	2.2
Pineapple-grapefruit juice drink	115.5	115.0	.3	.0	.9
Orange juice concentrate, frozen	134.9	134.5	-.8	-.1	-.8
Lemonade concentrate, frozen	117.7	118.1	.9	-.7	1.6
Beets, canned	123.9	124.0	.4	.6	5.5
Peas, green, canned	107.0	107.2	-1.0	-.5	.0
Tomatoes, canned	117.9	118.0	-.1	-.1	1.9
Dried beans	141.0	141.1	.9	1.1	8.0
Broccoli, frozen	118.2	118.3	-.3	.0	.3
Other food at home	118.0	117.1	.3	.1	1.5
Eggs	114.5	109.8	.4	.1	7.3
Fats and oils:					
Margarine	117.1	117.5	-.5	-1.3	-.8
Salad dressing, Italian	109.5	109.5	-.2	-.3	-.4
Salad or cooking oil	120.1	120.5	.3	.7	-2.7
Sugar and sweets	120.9	120.8	.2	.2	.7
Sugar	115.4	115.3	.5	.7	1.8
Grape jelly	126.0	126.3	.2	.3	4.0
Chocolate bar	130.6	129.8	.2	.2	-.7
Syrup, chocolate flavored	110.6	110.8	.1	.1	-2.1
Nonalcoholic beverages	122.6	122.6	.7	.6	1.2
Coffee, can and bag	122.4	122.3	1.5	1.2	2.6
Coffee, instant	123.1	123.1	.1	-.1	-1.8
Tea	109.7	109.7	.4	.5	1.8
Carbonated drink, cola flavored	128.7	128.7	.5	.3	1.1
Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	127.9	127.6	.1	-.1	.1
Prepared and partially prepared foods	115.0	114.9	.0	.0	1.4
Bean soup, canned	116.3	116.4	.2	.2	1.4
Chicken soup, canned	104.2	104.2	-.5	-.5	-2.2
Spaghetti, canned	121.5	121.4	.6	.4	3.2
Mashed potatoes, instant	112.2	112.3	-.1	-.1	1.6
Potatoes, french fried, frozen	111.4	111.2	-.4	-.4	1.4
Baby foods	110.2	109.9	.0	.5	-1.3
Sweet pickle relish	127.6	127.7	.9	.8	6.3
Pretzels	114.2	114.1	-1.0	-.9	-.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, October 1972, and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100)

Item or group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to October 1972 from:	
		October 1972	September 1972	September 1972	October 1971
Housing		130.4	130.1	0.2	3.6
Shelter ¹		136.0	135.7	.2	4.1
Rent		120.3	119.9	.3	3.4
Homeownership ²		141.8	141.5	.2	4.5
Mortgage interest rates		117.3	117.2	.1	-1.5
Property taxes		149.3	147.2	1.4	10.9
Property insurance premiums		123.6	123.6	0	1.0
Maintenance and repairs		142.4	142.2	.1	3.9
Commodities ³		126.2	125.9	.2	4.4
Exterior house paint		116.7	117.9	-1.0	.2
Interior house paint		117.4	117.2	.2	1.6
Services		149.5	149.2	.2	3.8
Repainting living and dining rooms		162.7	162.5	.1	6.3
Reshingling house roof		157.1	156.7	.3	4.2
Residing house		137.3	137.1	.1	3.2
Replacing sink		147.7	147.7	0	3.0
Repairing furnace		153.1	152.9	.1	2.6
Fuel and utilities		120.6	120.3	.2	4.0
Fuel oil and coal		118.1	118.0	.1	.3
Fuel oil, No. 2		116.7	116.6	.1	.3
Gas and electricity		120.9	120.5	.3	4.5
Gas		122.0	121.3	.6	4.5
Electricity		119.9	119.8	.1	4.6
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services		114.9	114.6	.3	5.3
Residential water and sewerage services		138.8	138.8	0	2.8
Household furnishings and operation ⁴		121.8	121.6	.2	1.9
Housefurnishings		116.9	116.7	.2	1.6
Textiles		114.7	114.5	.2	2.2
Sheets		116.9	116.0	.8	3.1
Curtains, tailored		113.0	112.2	.7	1.3
Bedspreads		111.5	111.4	.1	3.4
Drapery fabric		124.9	124.5	.3	4.5
Pillows, bed		107.7	108.1	-.4	-1.5
Slipcovers and throws, ready-made		114.2	114.7	-.4	1.5
Furniture and bedding		121.5	121.4	.1	1.3
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser	Mar. 70	105.4	105.4	0	.7
Sofas, upholstered		120.7	120.5	.2	1.1
Cocktail tables	Dec. 71	101.2	101.2	0	(⁶)
Dining room chairs	Mar. 70	103.9	104.0	-.1	.6
Recliners, upholstered	Dec. 71	98.5	98.5	0	(⁶)
Sofas, dual purpose		117.7	117.5	.2	1.1
Bedding, mattress and box springs	June 70	105.1	105.2	-.1	1.0
Aluminum folding chairs		(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)
Cribs		118.4	118.0	.3	.3
Floor coverings		106.6	106.6	0	.1
Broadloom, carpeting, man-made fibers		101.4	101.3	.1	-.9
Vinyl sheet goods		119.2	119.1	.1	2.8
Vinyl asbestos tile		117.9	118.4	-.4	1.0
Appliances ⁷		105.9	105.7	.2	.1
Washington machines, electric, automatic		110.9	110.6	.3	.8
Vacuum cleaners, canister type		103.8	103.6	.2	-.3
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers, electric		108.3	108.1	.2	0
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric		111.6	110.8	.7	-.4
Clothes dryers, electric		114.8	114.7	.1	1.5
Air conditioners, demountable		(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)
Room heaters, electric, portable		108.4	(⁶)	(⁶)	.4
Garbage disposal units		111.4	110.9	.5	1.1
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, fine china		125.8	126.2	-.3	5.4
Flatware, stainless steel		129.4	128.6	.6	6.0
Table lamps, with shade		125.6	124.7	.7	3.0
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type		(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)
Electric drills, hand-held		107.2	107.2	0	0
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents		111.4	111.3	.1	.5
Paper napkins		133.5	131.2	1.8	3.6
Toilet tissue		123.5	124.9	-1.1	-1.3
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic service, general housework		140.8	140.5	.2	4.1
Babysitter services		138.3	137.9	.3	4.5
Postal charges		146.6	146.6	0	0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service		140.2	139.8	.3	3.5
Licensed day care services, preschool child		124.7	124.0	.6	4.4
Washing machine repairs		142.2	141.7	.4	3.3

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, October 1972, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

Item or group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to October 1972 from:	
		October 1972	September 1972	September 1972	October 1971
Apparel and upkeep ⁸		124.3	123.1	1.0	2.2
Apparel commodities		124.9	123.5	1.1	2.4
Apparel commodities less footwear		124.6	123.0	1.3	2.2
Men's and boys'		123.8	122.5	1.1	1.6
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends		130.1	127.4	2.1	5.4
Suits, year round weight		133.4	131.0	1.8	.8
Suits, tropical weight	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)
Jackets, lightweight		113.9	113.6	.3	.9
Slacks, wool or wool blends		115.8	115.8	0	-2.0
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends		143.0	137.7	3.8	6.8
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton		114.8	114.9	-.1	.7
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton		115.4	115.3	.1	.7
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton		111.8	111.7	.1	-1.1
T-shirts, chiefly cotton		118.8	118.4	.3	-1.1
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers		115.0	115.7	-.6	-.6
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton		117.2	117.0	.2	1.3
Boys':					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blends		121.5	(⁶)	(⁶)	1.9
Sport coats wool or wool blends		121.9	(⁶)	(⁶)	-4.8
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blends		128.5	127.7	.6	4.3
Undershorts, cotton		120.2	120.3	-.1	.5
Women's and girls'		125.9	123.9	1.6	2.6
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blends		134.1	129.5	3.6	5.4
Carcots, heavyweight, cotton	(⁶)	136.2	(⁶)	(⁶)	4.5
Sweaters, wool or acrylic		129.3	(⁶)	(⁶)	4.3
Skirts, wool, wool blend, or manmade fibers		141.5	141.3	.1	4.3
Skirts, cotton or polyester/cotton	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)
Blouses, cotton or manmade fibers		125.1	124.3	.6	4.3
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fibers		131.5	130.2	1.0	1.6
Slips, nylon		111.1	111.4	-.3	0
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot		118.7	118.8	-.1	2.9
Girdles, manmade blend		118.2	117.9	.3	.4
Brassieres, nylon lace		123.0	122.9	.1	0
Hose, or panty hose, nylon seamless		94.6	95.8	-1.3	-3.6
Anklets or knee-length socks, various fibers		113.7	113.7	0	-.8
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton		110.7	111.0	-.3	1.1
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic		146.3	144.2	1.5	8.5
Girls':					
Raincoats, vinyl, cotton, or polyester blends		116.9	(⁶)	(⁶)	-1.4
Skirts, wool, wool blends or acrylic		121.1	111.8	8.3	11.1
Dresses, cotton, manmade fibers, or blends		124.3	121.2	2.6	12.7
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton		140.0	135.3	3.5	6.2
Slips, polyester blends		110.1	110.3	-.2	-.7
Handbags, plastic		123.8	123.7	.1	-4.3
Footwear		126.5	125.7	.6	3.1
Men's:					
Shoes, street		125.7	125.1	.5	4.9
Shoes, work, high		124.8	123.7	.9	3.9
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump		128.2	127.5	.5	3.0
Shoes, evening, pump		123.6	123.1	.4	2.1
Shoes, casual		126.2	124.2	1.6	.4
Houseslippers, scuff		126.1	125.8	.2	2.1
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford		129.0	128.2	.6	4.2
Sneakers, boys', oxford type		124.8	124.3	.4	4.3
Dress shoes, girls', strap or pump		131.1	130.5	.5	2.1
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze or disposable		117.0	116.9	.1	3.7
Yard goods, polyester blend		119.3	119.4	-.1	-2.3
Wrist watches, men's and women's		116.9	116.7	.2	3.2
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses		118.1	117.8	.3	.8
Automatic laundry service		115.2	115.1	.1	1.7
Laundry, men's shirts		123.7	122.5	1.0	3.8
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment		134.1	133.9	.1	3.2
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift		118.1	117.1	.9	3.6

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, October 1972, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item or group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to October 1972 from:	
		October 1972	September 1972	September 1972	October 1972
Transportation -----		121.2	121.0	0.2	1.6
Private ⁹ -----		118.8	118.6	.2	1.4
Automobiles, new -----		110.1	109.6	.5	.9
Automobiles, used -----		115.2	113.6	1.4	3.1
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		110.2	110.6	-.4	1.3
Motor oil, premium -----		124.6	124.5	.1	2.4
Tires, new, tubeless -----		114.8	115.3	-.4	-2.4
Auto repairs and maintenance ¹⁰ -----		136.4	136.3	.1	3.9
Auto insurance rates -----		139.7	140.4	-.5	-1.5
Auto registration -----		127.5	127.5	0	3.1
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		147.9	147.2	.5	8.4
Public -----		144.1	144.0	.1	3.4
Local transit fares -----		150.8	150.6	.1	4.7
Taxicab fares -----		133.7	133.7	0	1.5
Railroad fares, coach -----		122.0	122.0	0	-4.5
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		131.9	131.9	0	1.8
Bus fares, intercity -----		¹¹ 142.1	142.1	0	4.6
Health and recreation -----		127.2	126.8	.3	3.0
Medical care -----		133.9	133.1	.6	3.3
Drugs and prescriptions -----		105.7	105.7	0	.1
Over-the-counter items -----		111.7	111.6	.1	1.2
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		95.5	95.3	.2	.1
Liquid tonics -----		101.0	101.2	-.2	.1
Aspirin compounds -----		117.1	117.1	0	1.1
Cold tablets or capsules -----		114.2	114.1	.1	2.0
Cough syrup -----		114.3	113.5	.7	2.6
Adhesive bandages, packages -----		124.8	124.6	.2	1.0
Prescriptions -----		100.6	100.7	-.1	-1.0
Anti-infectives -----		72.9	73.4	-.7	-8.4
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		128.3	127.9	.3	3.6
Analgesics, internal -----		109.7	109.6	.1	1.9
Ataractics -----		103.3	103.3	0	.8
Antispasmodics -----		108.0	108.1	-.1	.1
Cardiovasculars and antihyper-					
tensives -----		112.0	111.8	.2	0
Anti-obesity -----		116.9	118.0	-.9	-.1
Cough preparations -----		131.7	131.8	-.1	3.4
Hormones -----		92.8	92.9	-.1	-2.0
Professional services:					
Physicians' fees -----		134.6	134.4	.1	2.2
General physician, office visits -----		135.6	135.5	.1	2.0
General physician house visits -----		137.8	137.8	0	2.9
Obstetrical cases -----		134.5	134.4	.1	2.3
Pediatric care, office visits -----		137.0	136.3	.5	2.5
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		129.5	129.2	.2	2.9
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		128.8	128.8	0	2.9
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		130.5	130.5	0	1.8
Dentists' fees -----		133.3	133.1	.2	2.9
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one					
surface -----		135.0	134.6	.3	3.1
Extractions, adult -----		133.1	133.1	0	3.3
Dentures, full upper -----		130.1	129.8	.2	1.9
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and					
dispensing of eyeglasses -----		125.6	125.5	.1	2.4
Routine laboratory tests -----		121.3	121.1	.2	3.0
Hospital service charges -----	Jan. 72	102.9	102.8	.1	(⁵)
Semiprivate rooms -----		175.8	175.6	.1	5.3
Operating room charges -----		171.6	170.8	.5	7.9
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----		129.7	129.6	.1	2.5
Laboratory tests, urinalysis -----	Jan. 72	102.5	102.4	.1	(⁵)
Anti-infectives, tetracycline, HCL -----	Jan. 72	99.1	100.0	-.9	(⁵)
Tranquilizer, chlordiazepoxide, HCL -----	Jan. 72	102.2	102.2	0	(⁵)
Electrocardiogram -----	Jan. 72	103.4	102.8	.6	(⁵)
Intravenous solution, saline -----	Jan. 72	102.7	102.4	.3	(⁵)
Physical therapy, whirlpool bath -----	Jan. 72	102.4	102.3	.1	(⁵)
Oxygen, inhalation therapy -----	Jan. 72	102.0	101.9	.1	(⁵)
Personal care -----		120.8	120.5	.2	2.5
Toilet goods -----		117.6	117.6	0	2.3
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		110.2	110.6	-.4	1.3
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		122.1	122.3	-.2	3.1
Hand lotions, liquid -----		127.8	126.8	.8	6.1
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		107.0	107.3	-.3	-.1
Face powder, pressed -----		136.4	134.3	1.6	10.1
Deodorants, aerosol -----		103.5	104.6	-1.1	-2.6
Cleansing tissues -----		124.9	124.9	0	1.9
Home permanent wave kits -----		109.7	109.7	0	-1.9
Personal care services -----		124.2	123.6	.5	2.6
Men's haircuts -----		126.4	125.8	.5	2.2
Beauty shop services -----		122.6	122.1	.4	2.9
Women's haircuts -----		125.9	123.2	.6	3.4
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		126.5	126.0	.4	3.2
Permanent waves, cold -----		112.9	112.7	.2	1.7

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, October 1972, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item or group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to October 1972 from:	
		October 1972	September 1972	September 1972	October 1972
Reading and recreation ¹²		124.0	123.7	0.2	2.9
Recreational goods		108.3	108.2	.1	1.0
TV sets, portable and console		99.4	99.0	.4	-8
TV replacement tubes		133.0	133.1	-.1	7.2
Radios, portable and table model		98.9	99.2	-.3	.8
Tape recorders, portable		94.8	94.9	-.1	2.3
Phonograph records, stereophonic		108.0	107.6	.4	1.4
Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens		88.6	88.4	.2	-7
Film, 35mm, color		108.2	108.1	.1	-1
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core		105.6	105.5	.1	.8
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover		125.9	126.0	-.1	.2
Fishing rods, freshwater spincasting		108.0	107.8	.2	-2.5
Bowling balls		114.5	114.0	.4	1.7
Bicycles, boys'		117.6	117.3	.3	3.2
Tricycles		114.6	115.1	-.4	2.4
Dog food, canned or boxed		111.1	110.5	.5	.5
Recreational services		128.8	128.8	0	2.1
Indoor movie admissions		142.0	143.2	-.8	2.7
Adult		140.7	142.4	-1.2	2.0
Children's		145.4	145.2	.1	4.5
Drive-in movie admissions, adult		147.5	146.6	.6	3.7
Bowling fees, evening		120.0	118.7	1.1	2.8
Golf green fees		131.1	131.5	-.3	2.2
TV repair, color picture tube replacement		98.2	98.1	.1	-2
Film developing, color		116.1	116.1	0	-1.7
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery		133.1	133.1	0	2.0
Magazines, single copy and subscription		133.4	133.4	0	6.9
Piano lessons, beginner		124.4	123.9	.4	2.4
Other goods and services		126.4	126.2	.2	3.1
Tobacco products		134.3	134.2	.1	4.2
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size		136.0	135.9	.1	4.5
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size		136.2	136.2	0	4.1
Cigars, domestic, regular size		111.2	111.3	-.1	2.3
Alcoholic beverages		120.3	120.2	.1	2.0
Beer		114.2	114.2	0	.5
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon		108.9	108.8	.1	2.0
Wine, dessert and table		128.0	127.8	.2	2.6
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult		122.1	121.7	.3	2.8
Bank service charges, checking accounts		106.8	107.1	-.3	-2.3
Legal services, short form will		152.4	150.4	1.3	8.9
Other special groups:					
All items less shelter		124.2	123.8	.3	3.2
Commodities less food		120.8	120.3	.4	2.4
Nondurables less food and apparel		119.3	119.3	0	2.1
Household services less rent		140.7	140.3	.3	4.5
Transportation services		136.2	136.3	-.1	1.7
Other services		127.0	126.7	.2	2.6

¹ Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.
² Also includes home purchases costs not shown separately.
³ Also includes pine shelving, furnace filters, packaged dry cement mix, and shrubbery not shown separately.
⁴ Also includes venetian blinds, nails, carpet sweepers, air deodorizers, steel wool scouring pads, envelops, reupholstering, and moving expenses.
⁵ Not available.
⁶ Priced only in season.
⁷ Also includes radios and television sets, shown separately under reading and recreation.
⁸ Also includes men's sport shirts, women's and girls' lightweight coats, women's slacks, cocktail dresses, bathing suits, girls' shorts, earrings, and zippers not shown separately.
⁹ Also includes recapped tires and drivers' license fees not shown separately.
¹⁰ Includes prices for water pump replacement, motor tune-up, automatic transmission repair exhaust system repair, front-end alignment, and chassis lubrication.
¹¹ Revised indexes: June 1972, 142.1; July 1972, 142.1; August 1972, 142.1.
¹² Also includes outboard motors, nondurable toys, college tuition fees, paperback books, and college textbooks, not shown separately.

Brief Explanation of the CPI

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures average changes in prices of goods and services usually bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers. 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 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 also are 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

are about 95 out of 100 that the percent change in the CPI as computed differs from the corresponding "complete coverage" change by less than twice the standard error.

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

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

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

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

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

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

A Note About Calculating Index Changes

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

Movements of the indexes from 1 month to another are usually expressed as percent changes rather than changes in index points because index point changes are affected by the level of the index in relation to its base period while percent changes are not. The following example illustrates the computation of index point and percent changes:

CPI	123.8
less previous index	<u>123.2</u>
index point difference =	0.6

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

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

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

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