



the consumer price index

for October 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-months 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 change from selected dates	10
Table 4. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups, percent change from September 1973 to October 1973	10
Table 5. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, October 1973 and percent changes from July 1973	11
Table 6. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, October 1973, and percent changes from September 1973	12
Table 7. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, October 1973 indexes and percent change from selected dates	13
Table 8. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, October 1973, and percent changes from selected dates	15

Price Movements

October 1973

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.8 percent in October to 136.6 percent of its 1967 base. Increases in mortgage interest costs and health insurance and higher prices for gasoline, fuel oil, and apparel commodities contributed significantly to the rise. Declines in meat and poultry prices were more than offset by large increases in prices of restaurant meals and many foods purchased in grocery stores. (See table 1.) The October CPI was 7.9 percent higher than it was a year ago.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the September-to-October increase in the CPI was also 0.8 percent. The food index and the nonfood commodities index each increased 0.5 percent after seasonal adjustment. The unadjusted services index rose 1.1 percent. For the 6 months ended in October, the CPI rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 9.2 percent. The rate of advance in the last 3 months was faster than it was in the first 3 months because of sharp increase in food prices in

August and the acceleration in charges for services (See table 2.)

Monthly changes in detail (not seasonally adjusted)

Food. The index for food purchased in grocery stores declined 0.3 percent, while the index for food away from home—restaurant meals and snacks—rose 1.8 percent. The index for grocery store foods moved down for the second consecutive month, but the decline was smaller than in September and half as large as the usual decline for October.

Poultry, egg, and pork prices continued to decline from their high August levels as a result of slow retail demand and ample supplies. In addition, prices for beef and veal and other meats recorded large declines in October due to increased supplies. Following the removal of price controls on beef on September 9, the market was flooded by overweight animals of excessive

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

Month	Changes from preceding month							Changes in all items		
	All items		Food		Commodities less food		Services	From 3 months ago	From 6 months ago	From 12 months ago
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted			
1972:										
October	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.4	0	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	.4	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
September .....	.3	.3	-.7	-.1	.4	.1	.9	10.3	8.8	7.4
October .....	.8	.8	.1	.5	.9	.5	1.1	13.0	9.2	7.9

finish, while the demand had slackened because of consumer resistance to high prices.

Prices rose for most other foods purchased in grocery stores. Cereal and bakery products rose 5.0 percent in October, after a record increase of 6.2 percent in September. These increases followed earlier advances at the wholesale level. In the 3 months ending in September, wholesale prices for cereal and bakery products rose over 17 percent; increases were over 24 percent for flour and for milled rice. In the same period, wholesale prices for wheat had advanced by over 75 percent. Retail prices for salad oils also continued to post large increases in October as a result of higher wholesale prices for refined soybean oil. Prices of all types of dairy products and processed fruits and vegetables also increased. In the latter group, dried bean prices rose substantially, reflecting smaller 1973 production and low stocks in storage. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices, which usually decline in October, edged up slightly following their substantial decline in September.

Commodities less food. The index for nonfood commodities rose 0.9 percent, about twice the usual increase for October. Over a third of the increase was due to higher prices for gasoline and fuel oil. The increases reflected the Cost-of-Living Council's regulations, which went into effect on September 28. The regulations determined ceiling prices for gasoline and fuel oil as the actual selling price on May 15, 1973, plus all wholesale product cost increases between May 15 and September 28, 1973. From October 15 to October 30, retail product prices were frozen. After November 1, 1973, retailers could pass through all wholesale product costs, but only once a month.

A larger-than-seasonal increase in apparel prices contributed to the rise in the nonfood commodities index. The increases occurred as winter apparel items were reintroduced at higher prices than they were last season. Prices of women's and girls' apparel moved up at a sharper-than-usual rate for the third consecutive month. An important factor in the increases has been the sharp rise in the prices of fabrics as well as buttons, belts, and other trims. The demand for apparel commodities has remained generally good this year, and is considerably stronger than it was in 1972.

New car prices rose as the 1974 models were introduced into the CPI, but the increase was less than usual. The rise in the new car index was moderated by

large quality adjustments—mostly for the cost of government required safety equipment—combined with price controls—which kept down price increases for the new models.¹ Used car prices declined more than is usual for October. The decline occurred mostly on big cars.

Services. The services index rose 1.1 percent. Almost half of the October rise was due to increases in mortgage interest costs. The rise in mortgage interest costs reflected continued increases in interest rates on conventional loans and the rise from 8.25 to 9.00 percent for FHA loans. The increase in the health insurance component of the services index, which resulted from the regular annual adjustment for retained earnings of health insurance companies, also contributed significantly to the October increase. Dentists' fees and charges for semi-private hospital rooms increased more than they have in recent months. Charges rose for all types of utilities. Charges for men's hair cuts, beauty shop services, and the laundering of men's shirts continued to show large increases.

Diffusion of individual price changes

Approximately 118,000 individual prices were collected directly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in October for use in the index. Approximately 80 percent of these quotations (accounting for about 40 percent of the weight of the CPI market basket) represent monthly comparisons. Fifty-five percent of these monthly comparisons showed no change between September and October, 26 percent showed an increase, and 19 percent a decrease, as can be seen in table B. The proportion of nonfood commodity prices increasing in October was considerably larger and the proportions decreasing and showing no change were smaller than in September.

The October index also includes approximately 23,000 price comparisons from periods before September, 18,000 of which cover the quarterly span from July to October. About 25 percent of these quarterly price comparisons increased, the same as in the June-to-September period. In addition, about 4,700 rental units were surveyed in October and 27 percent of these reported rent increases from April 1973, about the same as for the 6-month period ended in September.

¹ For a report on quality changes for 1974 model passenger cars, see press release, U.S.O.L.-73-541, dated November 7, 1973.

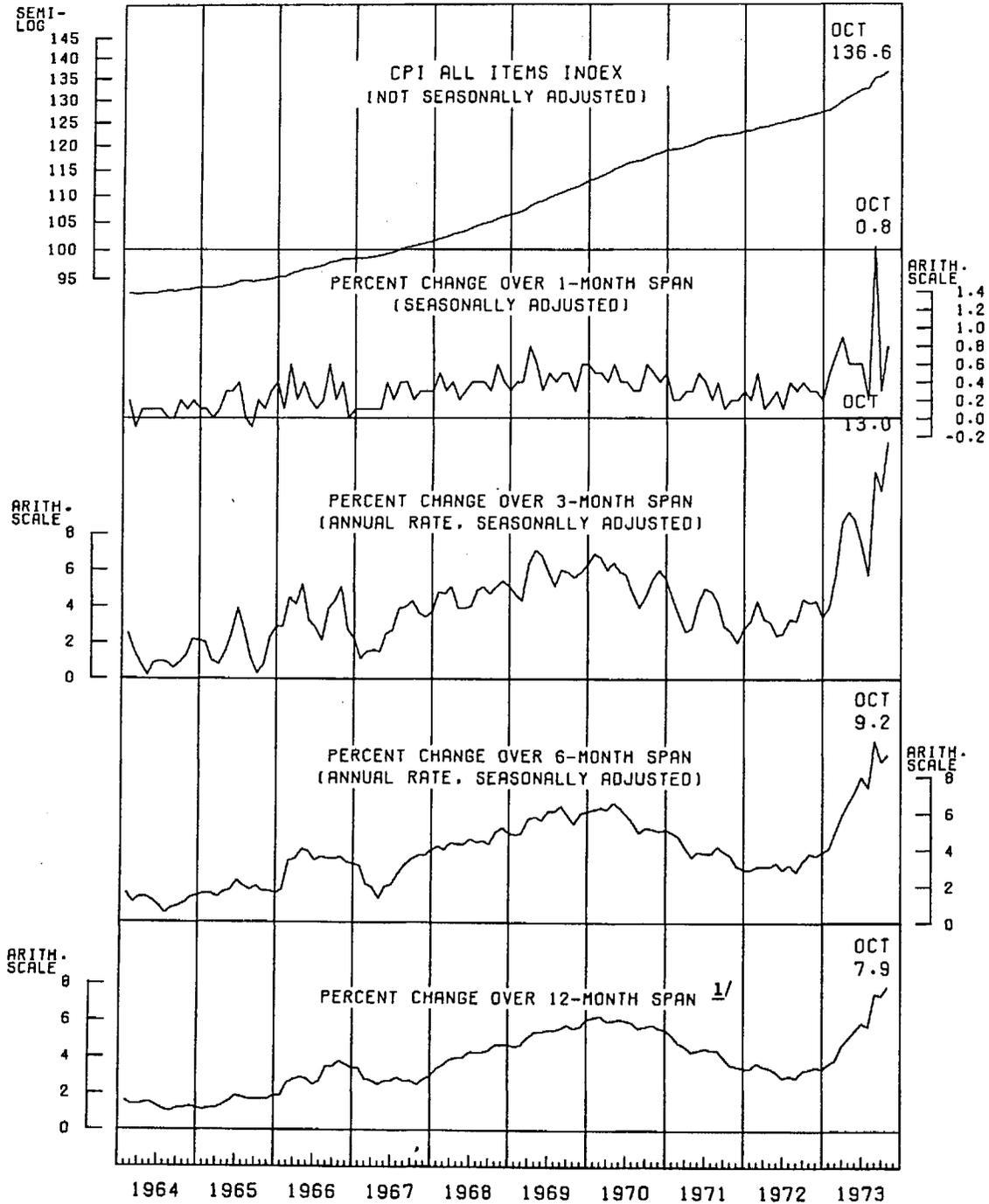
Table B. Percent distribution of monthly price comparisons¹

Item	1972			December 1972 to January 1973	1973		
	September to October	October to November	November to December		January to February	February to March	March to April
All items ²	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	15	14	14	21	27	26	24
Decreases	11	11	9	10	9	8	10
No change	74	75	77	69	64	66	66
Food at home	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	17	16	17	23	31	30	27
Decreases	12	12	10	8	10	9	12
No change	71	72	73	69	59	61	61
Commodities less food	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	6	6	6	7	12	11	11
Decreases	6	5	4	8	4	5	4
No change	88	89	90	85	84	84	85
Services	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	4	4	3	9	5	4	4
Decreases	5	2	3	27	4	2	3
No change	91	94	94	64	91	94	93
1973—Continued							
	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
Increases	20	20	16	29	23	26	26
Decreases	11	11	9	9	18	19	19
No change	69	69	75	62	59	55	55
Food at home	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	23	23	18	34	26	29	29
Decreases	13	12	10	10	21	22	22
No change	64	65	62	56	53	49	49
Commodities less food	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	9	13	8	7	10	23	23
Decreases	5	5	6	5	11	5	5
No change	86	82	86	88	79	72	72
Services	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases	6	3	2	5	5	6	6
Decreases	3	2	2	2	4	3	3
No change	91	95	96	93	91	91	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.

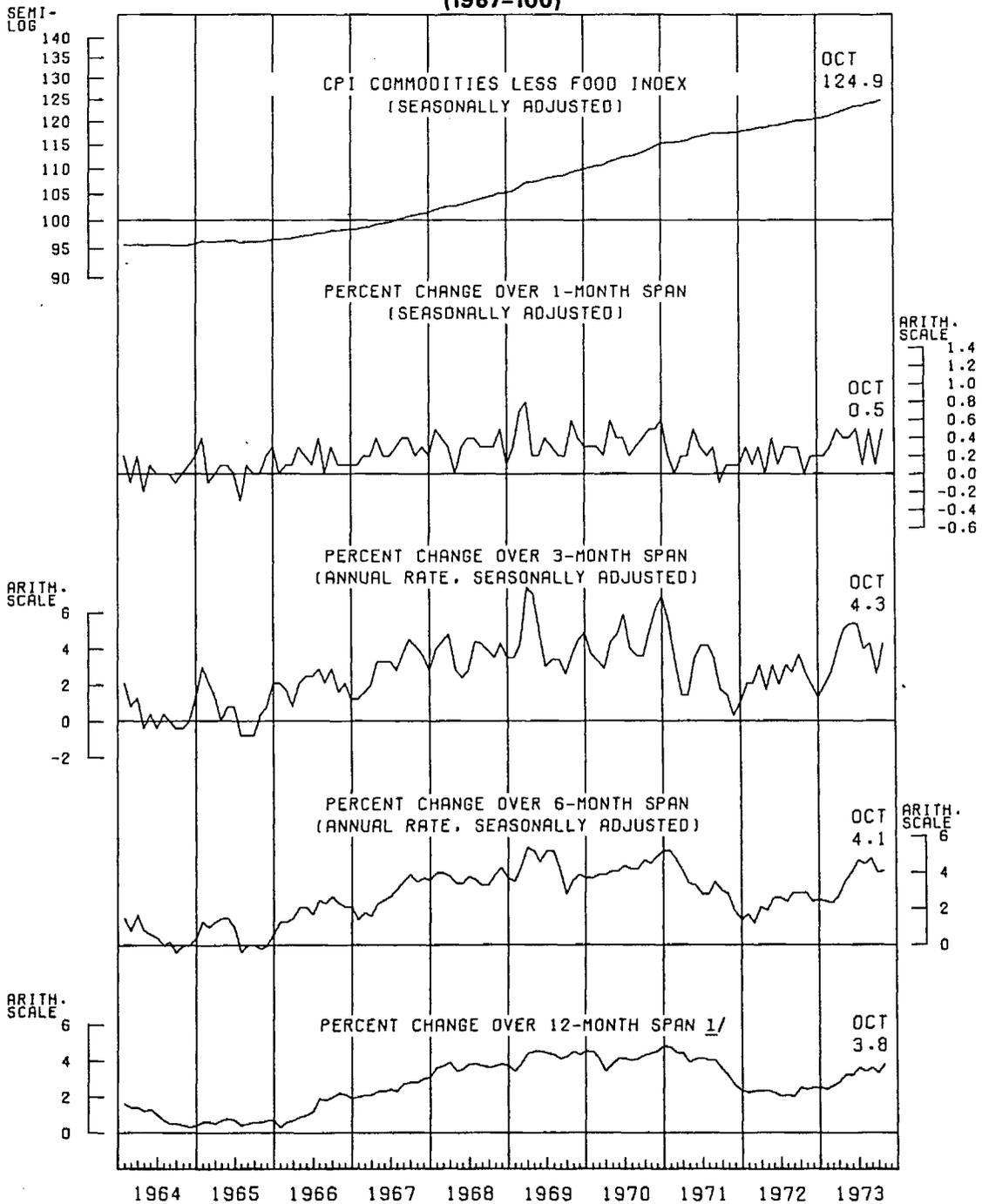
² Based on approximately 95,000 individual quotations.

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



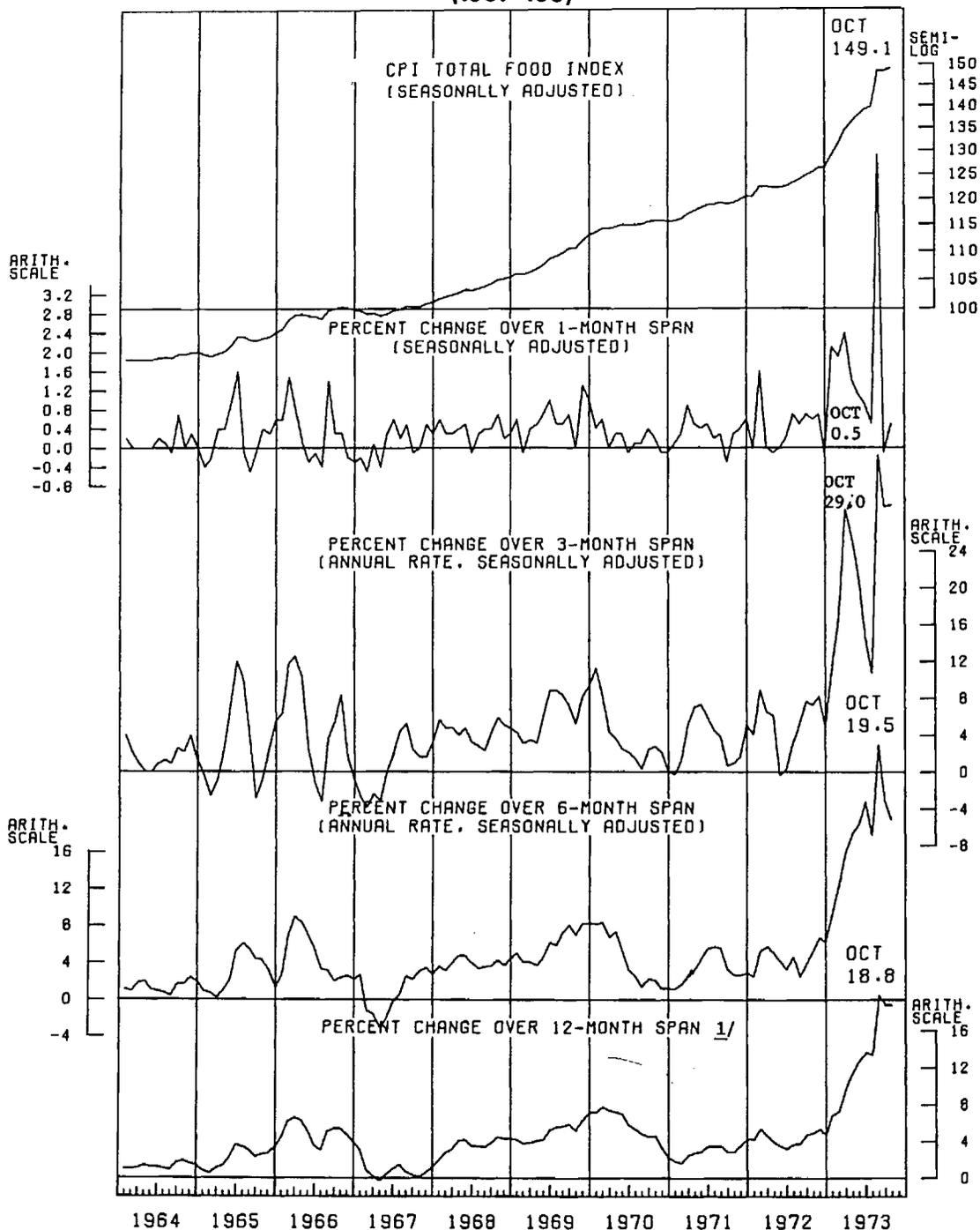
^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
 BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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



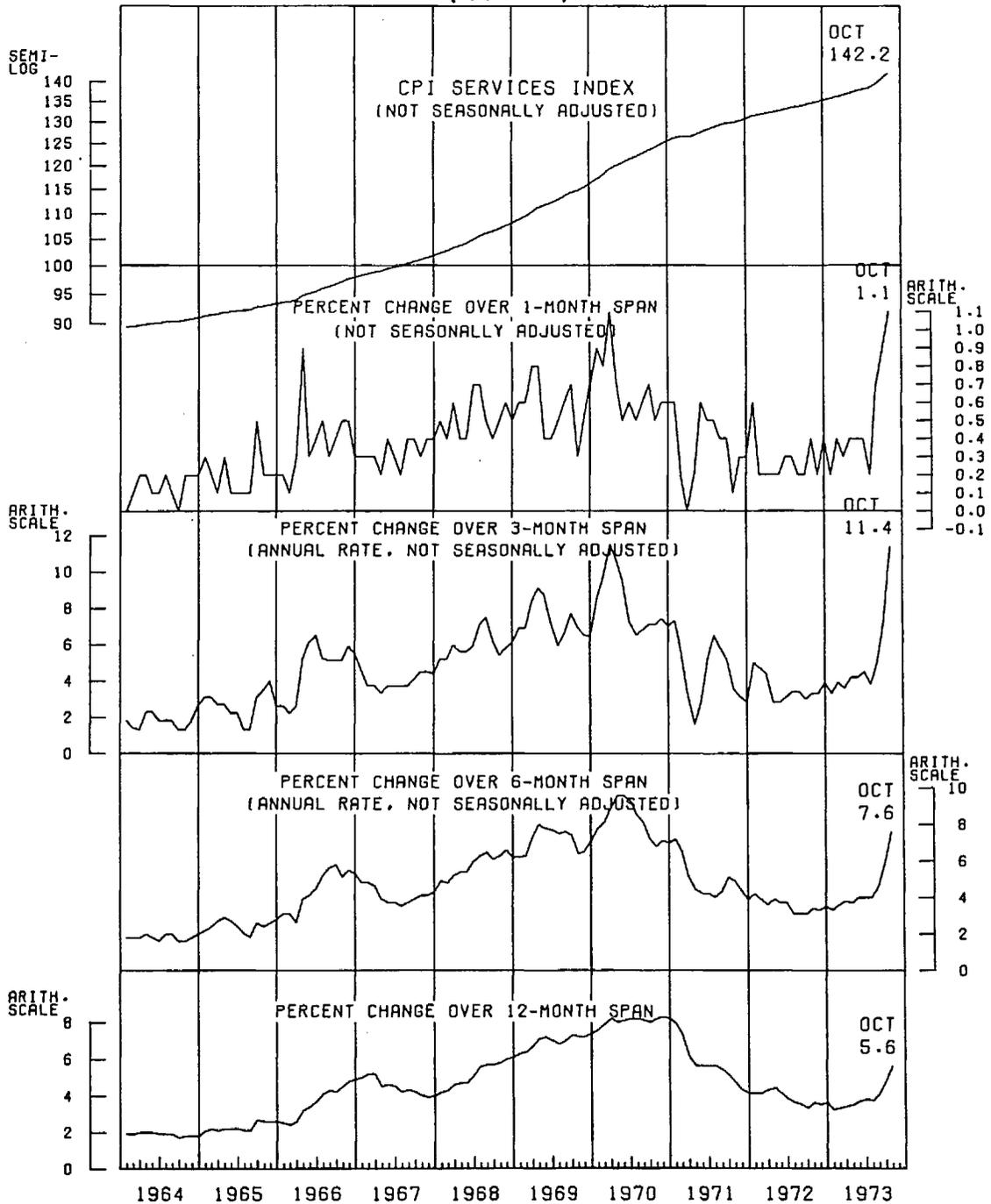
1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
 BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

**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	Unadjusted indexes 1967= 100 unless otherwise noted		Unadjusted percent change to October 1973 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from		
	December 1972	September 1973	October 1973	October 1972	September 1973	July to August	August to September	September to October
Commodity and service groups								
All items	100.000	135.5	136.6	7.9	0.8	1.9	0.3	0.8
All items (1957-59= 100)	-	157.6	158.8	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities	62,552	132.8	133.5	9.2	.5	2.6	.1	.5
Food	22,492	148.3	148.4	18.8	.1	6.1	-1.1	.5
Food at home	17,494	149.2	148.7	21.1	-3	7.7	-7.7	.3
Cereals and bakery products	2,243	132.4	139.0	21.3	5.0	1.1	6.3	5.0
Meats, poultry, and fish	6,016	180.2	170.7	30.0	-5.3	16.4	-1.6	-4.2
Dairy products	2,685	130.3	137.3	17.3	5.4	*2.0	*2.9	*5.4
Fruits and vegetables	2,999	137.3	138.8	11.5	1.1	1.1	-7.2	3.6
Other foods at home	3,552	135.9	137.2	16.3	1.0	4.5	-1.1	.9
Food away from home	4,998	145.1	147.7	11.2	1.8	1.0	1.9	1.8
Commodities less food	40,059	124.3	125.4	3.8	.9	.5	.1	.5
Nondurables less food	23,415	125.5	127.0	4.7	1.2	.2	-1.1	1.0
Apparel commodities ¹	8,960	128.7	130.0	4.1	1.0	1.0	.1	.3
Men's and boys'	2,799	127.3	128.3	3.6	.8	.8	-1.1	.1
Women's and girls'	3,982	129.5	131.4	4.4	1.5	1.3	.5	.4
Footwear	1,572	131.3	132.0	4.3	.5	4.3	.3	.3
Nondurables less food and apparel	14,455	123.8	125.3	5.0	1.2	0	.1	1.1
Gasoline and motor oil	2,902	118.6	122.3	10.0	3.1	-5	-9	3.0
Tobacco products	2,103	138.0	138.2	2.9	.1	*0	*1	*1
Alcoholic beverages	2,459	123.2	123.7	2.8	.4	*-3	*7	*4
Fuel oil and coal	.655	133.6	141.1	19.5	5.6	.9	.6	5.7
Other nondurables	6,335	121.3	121.9	2.9	.5	.2	.3	.5
Durable commodities	16,644	122.6	123.2	2.6	.5	.5	.4	-1
Household durables	4,772	120.1	120.4	4.0	.2	.3	.4	.2
New cars	2,060	109.1	111.9	1.6	2.6	.4	.6	-1.9
Used cars	2,056	120.3	118.5	2.9	-1.5	*-1.1	*-8	*-1.5
Other durables	7,756	129.2	130.0	2.0	.6	.6	.4	.6
Services	37,448	140.6	142.2	5.6	1.1	*7	*9	*1.1
Rent	5,059	125.4	125.9	4.7	.4	*6	*3	*4
Services less rent	32,389	143.4	145.2	5.8	1.3	*6	*1.1	*1.3
Household services less rent	15,486	149.3	151.7	7.8	1.6	.9	1.7	1.7
Transportation services	5,473	137.2	137.4	.9	.1	.5	.1	.1
Medical care services	5,575	145.1	147.8	5.6	1.9	.2	.6	2.3
Other services	5,855	133.3	134.0	5.5	.5	*3	*9	*5
Special indexes:								
All items less food	77,508	131.8	133.1	4.7	1.0	.5	.6	.8
Nondurable commodities	45,907	136.5	137.4	11.6	.7	3.3	-1.1	.7
Apparel commodities less footwear	7,388	128.1	129.6	4.0	1.2	1.2	-1.1	.4
Services less medical care services	31,873	140.0	141.4	5.7	1.0	*7	*1.1	*1.0
Insurance and finance	9,829	151.9	155.0	6.8	2.0	1.2	2.1	1.9
Utilities and public transportation	5,522	130.4	131.0	3.6	.5	.4	.6	.7
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	4,502	155.5	156.4	7.2	.6	.4	.8	.8
Appliances (including radio and T. V.)	1,621	105.5	105.7	-2	.2	*-1	*2	*2
Expenditure classes								
All items	100.000	135.5	136.6	7.9	0.8	1.9	0.3	0.8
Food	22,492	148.3	148.4	18.8	.1	6.1	-1.1	.5
Housing	33,859	136.6	138.1	5.9	1.1	*7	*1.0	*1.1
Shelter ²	21,830	142.9	144.7	6.4	1.3	.9	1.3	1.3
Rent	5,059	125.4	125.9	4.7	.4	*6	*3	*4
Homeownership ³	16,355	149.2	151.5	6.8	1.5	1.1	1.4	1.6
Fuel and utilities ⁴	4,708	126.8	128.6	6.6	1.4	.6	.6	1.5
Gas and electricity	2,434	126.5	127.4	5.4	.7	.2	.7	.9
Household furnishings and operation	7,321	126.1	126.7	4.0	.5	.3	.6	.6
Apparel and upkeep	10,370	128.3	129.6	4.3	1.0	.9	.1	.5
Transportation	13,134	123.9	125.0	3.1	.9	-1	.3	-2
Private	11,665	121.6	122.9	3.5	1.1	.1	.2	-1
Public	1,469	145.5	145.2	.8	-2	.5	.3	.2
Health and recreation	19,768	131.1	132.1	3.9	.8	*2	*5	*8
Medical care	6,447	138.3	140.6	5.0	1.7	.2	.5	2.1
Personal care	2,573	126.3	127.3	5.4	.8	*3	*5	*8
Reading and recreation	5,656	126.8	127.2	2.6	.3	0	.4	.3
Other goods and services	5,093	129.9	130.3	3.1	.3	-2	.2	.3
Special indexes:								
All items less shelter	78,170	133.6	134.5	8.3	.7	2.1	.1	.7
All items less medical care	93,553	135.4	136.4	8.1	.7	2.0	.3	.7
All items less mortgage interest costs	96,298	134.4	135.2	7.6	.6	1.7	.1	.6
CPI - domestically produced farm foods ⁵	15,519	150.7	149.9	22.4	-5	*8.1	*-1.5	*-5
CPI - selected beef cuts ⁶	2,060	176.4	168.8	24.9	-4.3	*7.2	*9	*-4.3
Purchasing power of consumer dollar:								
1967= \$ 1.00	-	\$ 0.738	\$ 0.732	-7.3	-8	-	-	-
1957-59= \$ 1.00	-	.635	.630	-	-	-	-	-

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 telephones, 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					
	July 1973	August 1973	September 1973	October 1973	3 months ending in				6 months ending in	
					January 1973	April 1973	July 1973	October 1973	April 1973	October 1973
Commodity and service groups										
All items	-	-	-	-	4.0	9.2	5.7	13.0	6.6	9.2
Commodities	129.4	132.7	132.8	133.5	5.0	12.1	6.4	13.3	8.5	9.8
Food	139.9	148.5	148.3	149.1	11.3	25.4	10.7	29.0	18.1	19.5
Food at home	139.5	150.2	149.1	149.6	14.0	29.4	10.4	32.3	21.4	20.8
Cereals and bakery products	123.4	124.7	132.5	139.1	6.1	12.2	12.6	61.5	9.1	34.8
Meats, poultry, and fish	155.8	181.3	178.4	170.9	19.2	61.6	2.6	44.8	38.8	21.9
Dairy products (not seasonally adjusted)	124.1	126.6	130.3	137.3	7.0	9.4	7.8	49.8	8.2	27.1
Fruits and vegetables	148.2	149.9	144.1	144.1	7.6	29.2	24.1	-10.6	17.9	5.3
Other foods at home	129.9	135.7	135.6	136.8	15.8	7.4	19.7	23.0	11.5	21.3
Food away from home	140.9	142.3	145.0	147.6	4.9	8.3	11.9	20.4	6.6	16.1
Commodities less food	123.6	124.2	124.3	124.9	2.0	5.1	4.0	4.3	3.5	4.1
Nondurables less food	124.9	125.2	125.1	126.4	2.0	7.1	5.0	4.9	4.5	4.9
Apparel commodities ¹	127.0	128.3	128.4	128.8	1.0	7.3	2.2	5.8	4.1	4.0
Men's and boys'	126.4	127.4	127.3	127.4	5.0	3.6	2.9	3.2	4.3	3.1
Women's and girls'	126.8	128.4	129.0	129.5	-1.0	10.4	0	8.8	4.6	4.3
Footwear	130.4	130.9	131.3	131.7	2.2	8.1	3.1	4.0	5.1	3.6
Nondurables less food and apparel	123.5	123.5	123.6	125.0	2.4	6.8	5.7	4.9	4.6	5.3
Gasoline and motor oil	119.5	118.9	117.8	121.3	5.2	13.9	15.0	6.2	9.5	10.5
Tobacco products (not seasonally adjusted)	137.8	137.8	138.0	138.2	-0.3	7.0	3.9	1.2	3.3	2.5
Alcoholic beverages (not seasonally adjusted)	122.8	122.4	123.2	123.7	1.3	3.0	4.0	3.0	2.2	3.5
Fuel oil and coal	132.1	133.3	134.1	141.7	4.8	29.0	13.8	32.4	16.3	22.7
Other nondurables	120.6	120.9	121.3	121.9	1.4	3.4	2.4	4.4	2.4	3.4
Durable commodities	122.0	122.6	123.1	123.0	0	5.1	2.0	3.3	2.5	2.7
Household durables	119.3	119.6	120.1	120.4	1.7	4.5	5.9	3.7	3.1	4.8
New cars	112.0	112.5	113.2	111.0	1.1	5.2	4.0	-3.5	3.1	.2
Used cars (not seasonally adjusted)	122.7	121.3	120.3	118.5	-8.1	16.9	19.7	-13.0	3.7	2.1
Other durables	127.8	128.6	129.1	129.9	-1.6	3.5	-0.3	6.7	.9	3.2
Services (not seasonally adjusted)	138.4	139.3	140.6	142.2	3.3	4.2	3.8	11.4	3.7	7.6
Rent (not seasonally adjusted)	124.4	125.0	125.4	125.9	5.1	4.7	4.0	4.9	4.9	4.4
Services less rent (not seasonally adjusted)	141.0	141.9	143.4	145.2	3.2	3.8	4.1	12.5	3.5	8.2
Household services less rent	145.4	146.7	149.2	151.7	4.6	2.8	6.0	18.5	3.7	12.1
Transportation services	137.0	137.7	137.9	138.1	-4.6	2.1	3.0	3.3	-1.3	3.1
Medical care services	143.6	143.9	144.8	148.2	2.9	3.2	3.4	13.4	3.0	8.3
Other services (not seasonally adjusted)	131.7	132.1	133.3	134.0	3.5	5.7	5.7	7.2	4.6	6.4
Special indexes:										
All items less food	130.4	131.0	131.8	132.8	2.5	4.8	4.1	7.6	3.7	5.8
Nondurable commodities	132.1	136.5	136.4	137.4	6.7	15.5	7.6	17.0	11.0	12.2
Apparel commodities less footwear	126.3	127.8	127.7	128.2	1.3	7.3	1.6	6.2	4.3	3.9
Services less medical care services (not seasonally adjusted)	137.6	138.5	140.0	141.4	3.3	3.9	4.2	11.5	3.6	7.8
Insurance and finance	147.2	149.0	152.1	155.0	0	1.9	3.9	22.9	1.0	13.0
Utilities and public transportation	129.5	130.0	130.8	131.7	2.5	2.5	2.5	7.0	2.5	4.7
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	153.1	153.7	155.0	156.2	6.7	5.5	7.9	8.3	6.1	8.1
Appliances (including radio and TV) (not seasonally adjusted)	105.4	105.3	105.5	105.7	-0.8	-1.1	0	1.1	-0.9	.6
Expenditure classes										
All items	-	-	-	-	4.0	9.2	5.7	13.0	6.6	9.2
Food	139.9	148.5	148.3	149.1	11.3	25.4	10.7	29.0	18.1	19.5
Housing (not seasonally adjusted)	134.2	135.2	136.6	138.1	3.4	4.0	4.3	12.1	3.7	8.1
Shelter ²	139.7	141.0	142.8	144.6	3.3	3.3	4.7	14.8	3.3	9.6
Rent (not seasonally adjusted)	124.4	125.0	125.4	125.9	5.1	4.7	4.0	4.9	4.9	4.4
Homeownership ³	145.3	146.9	148.9	151.3	2.6	2.8	4.8	17.6	2.7	11.0
Fuel and utilities ⁴	125.8	126.6	127.3	129.2	5.0	6.7	3.6	11.3	5.9	7.3
Gas and electricity	126.0	126.2	127.1	128.2	7.8	3.3	3.6	7.2	5.5	5.4
Household furnishings and operation	124.9	125.3	126.0	126.7	2.7	3.0	4.6	5.9	2.8	5.2
Apparel and upkeep	126.7	127.9	128.0	128.6	2.0	6.6	2.6	6.1	4.3	4.3
Transportation	124.6	124.5	124.9	124.6	-0.7	7.5	6.0	0	3.3	3.0
Private	122.2	122.3	122.6	122.5	0	8.4	5.1	1.0	4.1	3.0
Public	144.6	145.3	145.8	146.1	-3.8	-0.8	3.7	4.2	-2.3	3.9
Health and recreation (not seasonally adjusted)	130.3	130.5	131.1	132.1	1.9	4.5	3.4	5.6	3.2	4.5
Medical care	137.0	137.3	138.0	140.9	3.0	2.1	3.3	11.9	2.5	7.5
Personal care (not seasonally adjusted)	125.3	125.7	126.3	127.3	3.4	6.7	4.9	6.5	5.0	5.7
Reading and recreation	126.2	126.2	126.7	127.1	.3	3.9	3.2	2.9	2.1	3.1
Other goods and services	129.5	129.3	129.5	129.9	2.2	5.8	3.1	1.2	4.0	2.2
Special indexes:										
All items less shelter	130.7	133.5	133.6	134.5	4.6	10.6	6.0	12.1	7.5	9.0
All items less medical care	132.4	135.0	135.4	136.4	4.5	9.4	6.0	12.6	6.9	9.2
All items less mortgage interest costs	131.9	134.2	134.4	135.2	4.2	9.8	6.0	10.4	7.0	8.2
CPI - domestically produced farm foods (not seasonally adjusted)	141.5	153.0	150.7	149.9	16.3	34.6	13.8	25.9	25.1	19.7
CPI - selected beef cuts (not seasonally adjusted)	163.0	174.8	176.4	168.8	20.3	69.2	3.8	15.0	42.7	9.2

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 telephones, fuel oil, coal, water, and sewerage service 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	October 1972	July 1973	September 1973
October 1973							
U. S. city average -----	M	136.6	158.8		7.9	2.9	0.8
Chicago -----	M	135.7	154.1		8.2	3.3	.8
Detroit -----	M	137.9	158.5		8.4	3.1	.4
Los Angeles—Long Beach -----	M	132.3	155.6		6.8	2.5	.8
N. Y.—Northeastern N. J -----	M	143.1	170.3		7.4	2.8	.6
Philadelphia -----		139.4	162.8		8.3	3.4	.9
October 1973							
Boston -----	1	138.7	166.2		7.6	3.4	
Houston -----	1	136.2	155.8		7.8	3.6	
Minneapolis—St. Paul -----	1	136.3	158.0		7.2	2.4	
Pittsburgh -----	1	136.6	157.1		8.0	3.0	
August 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	
September 1973							
Atlanta -----	3	137.0	157.6		8.0	3.3	
Baltimore -----	3	137.5	159.6		7.7	2.9	
Cincinnati -----	3	134.4	152.6		6.4	2.7	
Honolulu -----	3	129.6		⁵ 139.7	5.3	1.6	
Kansas City -----	3	132.5	157.3		5.6	2.1	
St. Louis -----	3	132.5	154.5		7.0	3.3	
San Francisco—Oakland -----	3	134.5	160.0		7.1	2.9	

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 areas ¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups, percent change from September 1973 to October 1973

Group	U. S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles—Long Beach	New York—Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.9
Food -----	.1	.8	-.5	-.4	0	.1
Housing -----	1.1	.8	.4	2.3	.8	1.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.0	-.3	1.0	-.6	.4	1.4
Transportation -----	.9	1.3	1.2	.4	.7	1.0
Health and recreation -----	.8	1.1	.8	.8	.9	.7
Medical care -----	1.7	1.7	1.1	1.9	1.7	1.9
Personal care -----	.8	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Reading and recreation -----	.3	.4	.5	.3	.7	0
Other goods and services -----	.3	.9	.6	.6	.5	.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, October 1973, index and percent changes from July 1973

Group	U. S. city average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Houston	Los Angeles—Long Beach	Minneapolis	New York—North-eastern New Jersey	Phila-delphia	Pitts-burgh
Indexes (1967=100)										
All items	136.6	138.7	135.7	137.9	136.2	132.3	136.3	143.1	139.4	136.6
Food	148.4	147.9	151.1	152.1	151.8	141.9	149.1	152.1	149.5	149.4
Food at home	148.7	148.5	152.6	153.7	149.8	143.0	148.2	152.1	148.3	148.5
Cereals and bakery products	139.0	142.0	144.2	151.3	140.3	131.2	149.9	140.8	138.7	137.4
Meats, poultry, and fish	170.7	167.2	171.5	176.7	172.5	168.9	172.7	169.7	170.4	168.6
Dairy products	137.3	139.1	141.2	135.9	144.9	128.5	141.8	138.3	134.7	137.6
Fruits and vegetables	138.8	142.0	146.1	138.0	138.6	129.3	130.2	149.1	137.6	141.5
Other food at home	137.2	133.6	138.3	140.1	134.7	134.6	136.9	139.5	136.8	138.3
Food away from home	147.7	145.6	145.1	146.0	158.6	138.8	152.9	152.6	154.5	154.4
Housing	138.1	143.6	131.2	139.4	136.9	135.4	139.5	146.8	142.2	136.4
Shelter	144.7	151.7	135.8	149.9	143.5	139.3	146.2	154.7	153.9	145.3
Rent, residential	125.9	138.3	(²)	125.8	112.6	(²)	123.7	138.3	(²)	121.3
Homeownership costs	151.5	157.8	141.5	154.8	154.2	144.3	150.0	167.0	159.9	152.1
Fuel and utilities	128.6	134.1	121.1	122.0	121.0	132.4	133.2	137.2	130.6	124.5
Fuel oil and coal	141.1	144.5	137.9	133.2	-	-	153.7	148.5	135.2	-
Gas and electricity	127.4	128.8	121.0	123.7	123.8	141.9	130.7	138.4	137.3	131.0
Household furnishings and operation	126.7	132.0	123.6	118.3	133.1	123.3	124.0	132.3	128.0	125.3
Apparel and upkeep	129.6	131.9	127.6	125.5	135.8	125.0	128.4	129.8	127.7	133.1
Men's and boys'	128.3	126.3	125.0	123.7	122.7	118.1	125.3	127.0	128.9	124.8
Women's and girls'	131.4	134.3	132.7	121.0	151.1	129.7	133.2	131.0	125.1	142.0
Footwear	132.0	133.9	125.5	137.7	133.5	130.2	129.6	130.2	132.2	134.2
Transportation	125.0	123.5	129.6	125.3	117.7	124.1	121.3	136.4	128.3	125.3
Private	122.9	120.7	124.7	122.9	115.1	124.4	120.8	129.2	125.7	123.2
Public	145.2	140.1	160.6	154.5	160.3	117.7	130.6	163.9	143.5	139.3
Health and recreation	132.1	132.4	133.2	135.7	134.2	126.8	132.8	137.7	136.6	132.2
Medical care	140.6	141.3	140.2	151.8	143.1	138.7	134.8	148.0	153.4	136.5
Personal care	127.3	127.1	(²)	130.1	131.6	(²)	128.3	(²)	125.6	125.1
Reading and recreation	127.2	132.7	128.3	128.6	125.2	118.5	132.4	131.2	130.3	127.6
Other goods and services	130.3	126.2	133.5	125.5	132.6	124.3	132.9	139.2	130.8	135.9
Percent changes July 1973 to October 1973										
All items	2.9	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.6	2.5	2.4	2.8	3.4	3.0
Food	5.3	6.1	6.4	6.6	7.1	4.3	5.2	4.9	5.4	5.7
Food at home	5.5	6.2	7.1	6.9	7.6	4.5	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.6
Cereals and bakery products	12.6	13.9	12.0	18.0	17.9	8.9	11.0	12.8	10.3	12.9
Meats, poultry, and fish	8.2	6.9	8.5	7.7	7.7	7.5	6.6	7.3	8.0	8.9
Dairy products	10.6	13.3	13.1	10.0	15.3	6.7	12.7	8.1	8.4	12.7
Fruits and vegetables	-9.7	-5.2	-4.1	-6.3	-4.8	-10.0	-8.9	-6.3	-7.9	-10.9
Other food at home	6.8	4.6	5.9	8.2	6.7	7.1	5.9	5.7	6.5	6.0
Food away from home	4.8	5.9	3.6	5.8	5.6	3.7	5.3	3.9	6.0	5.5
Housing	2.9	3.8	2.8	2.1	2.7	3.4	2.6	2.2	3.7	2.0
Shelter	3.6	4.0	3.4	2.2	2.7	4.1	3.2	2.1	5.0	2.0
Rent, residential	1.3	1.7	(²)	3.8	.1	(²)	.8	1.7	(²)	1.3
Homeownership costs	4.3	5.2	4.7	2.4	3.5	5.0	3.5	2.5	6.0	2.2
Fuel and utilities	2.3	5.9	1.7	1.7	2.4	1.8	1.4	3.6	3.2	2.9
Fuel oil and coal	7.1	5.7	9.9	6.6	-	-	17.7	10.6	4.6	-
Gas and electricity	1.5	2.1	.8	1.6	3.1	3.1	.1	3.2	3.9	4.3
Household furnishings and operation	1.4	1.1	1.7	2.0	2.9	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.6
Apparel and upkeep	3.0	3.7	3.5	5.4	7.3	2.2	3.0	4.8	4.5	6.1
Men's and boys'	2.3	2.4	3.1	3.1	3.1	.5	.6	1.4	6.5	1.4
Women's and girls'	4.7	5.0	5.2	9.2	13.6	3.4	7.0	9.0	4.8	11.3
Footwear	1.6	4.0	1.0	5.3	3.6	1.4	-6.6	2.8	4.5	4.7
Transportation	.2	.2	.6	.2	.3	-6.6	-2.2	.2	-1.1	.2
Private	.2	.1	.7	-1.1	.3	-6.6	-2.2	.2	-2.2	.3
Public	.2	-1.1	0	3.4	.3	-1.4	-2.2	.2	-1.1	0
Health and recreation	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.4	.7	1.5	1.8	1.3
Medical care	2.4	2.2	2.7	2.4	2.3	2.9	2.5	2.5	3.5	2.0
Personal care	1.6	2.0	1.5	1.1	1.5	-1.3	.5	1.0	1.0	3.6
Reading and recreation	.8	.8	.4	1.7	-2.2	.5	-1.1	1.6	1.8	0
Other goods and services	.6	.4	1.1	.7	1.3	1.6	.8	.8	.2	1.1

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.
² Not available.
³ Change from August 1973.

Table 6. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, October 1973, and percent changes from September 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	148.4	148.7	139.0	170.7	137.3	138.3	137.2	147.7
Atlanta	152.5	153.1	140.7	174.1	144.7	151.7	139.1	150.3
Baltimore	151.4	151.8	134.4	175.3	136.7	145.6	139.4	149.4
Boston	147.9	148.5	142.0	167.2	139.1	142.0	133.6	145.6
Buffalo	147.3	147.1	139.7	169.3	139.0	135.1	132.7	148.6
Chicago	151.1	152.6	144.2	171.5	141.2	146.1	138.3	145.1
Cincinnati	149.9	151.2	141.3	171.0	145.5	142.6	138.8	144.8
Cleveland	147.8	148.8	136.7	167.5	148.0	138.7	134.4	143.2
Dallas	144.9	143.4	134.2	163.8	130.9	133.3	134.6	150.6
Detroit	152.1	153.7	151.3	176.7	135.9	138.0	140.1	146.0
Honolulu	141.6	140.3	122.0	158.5	130.4	135.7	132.7	145.1
Houston	151.8	149.8	140.3	172.5	144.9	138.6	134.7	158.6
Kansas	149.1	150.2	142.3	170.6	154.1	131.7	137.6	145.8
Los Angeles—Long Beach	141.9	143.0	131.2	168.9	128.5	129.3	134.6	138.8
Milwaukee	145.6	146.8	142.6	167.1	139.6	134.4	133.3	(¹)
Minneapolis—St. Paul	149.1	148.2	149.9	172.7	141.8	130.2	136.9	152.9
N. Y.—Northeastern N. J.	152.1	152.1	140.8	169.7	138.3	149.1	139.5	152.6
Philadelphia	149.5	148.3	138.7	170.4	134.7	137.6	136.8	154.5
Pittsburgh	149.4	148.5	137.4	168.6	137.6	141.5	138.3	154.4
St. Louis	147.4	147.1	146.1	164.8	143.3	137.0	131.7	148.9
San Diego	144.1	143.7	132.1	168.8	128.7	128.3	135.1	(¹)
San Francisco—Oakland	143.0	145.3	133.2	166.2	130.6	132.1	140.3	135.1
Seattle	141.1	142.0	129.6	169.2	132.1	121.4	135.9	138.2
Washington	153.8	153.1	137.4	173.1	132.7	157.8	141.8	155.1
Percent changes September 1973 to October 1973								
United States	0.1	-0.3	5.0	-5.3	5.4	1.1	1.0	1.8
Atlanta	.9	.7	5.2	-3.7	8.6	.9	1.3	1.3
Baltimore	-1.1	-1.5	4.1	-3.3	4.8	-2.3	1.3	1.1
Boston	1.7	1.5	6.8	-2.9	9.8	1.4	.7	2.8
Buffalo	.1	0	3.2	-5.0	6.7	3.4	.5	.8
Chicago	.8	.7	5.4	-4.4	6.6	6.0	.6	1.4
Cincinnati	-2.2	-1.9	2.8	-6.4	6.0	1.5	.9	2.4
Cleveland	-1.5	-2.0	2.7	-7.9	6.6	.6	-7.7	1.4
Dallas	-2.2	-3.2	3.9	-8.9	3.6	-3.1	-1.1	1.3
Detroit	-5	-1.2	7.4	-7.1	1.6	4.9	.9	2.9
Honolulu	1.9	2.1	5.4	2.5	1.0	.1	1.5	1.6
Houston	.3	-5	8.3	-5.9	5.3	.3	.7	3.0
Kansas City	.1	-1.1	4.0	-5.8	9.5	.1	.9	.8
Los Angeles—Long Beach	-4	-1.2	5.3	-6.4	1.8	1.7	.3	2.1
Milwaukee	.6	.7	5.0	-4.9	6.0	6.3	1.2	(²)
Minneapolis—St. Paul	.3	-3	3.2	-5.0	6.3	-3	-1.1	2.8
N. Y.—Northeastern N. J.	0	-5	5.1	-4.6	5.3	.6	.6	1.5
Philadelphia	.1	-2	3.8	-4.6	5.0	2.7	.6	1.3
Pittsburgh	-1	-7	3.1	-6.7	5.4	4.4	1.2	3.0
St. Louis	-5	-9	4.9	-5.7	7.5	-3.0	.3	1.5
San Diego	-1.6	-2.2	5.6	-8.2	2.1	2.6	-4	(²)
San Francisco—Oakland	-1.3	-1.6	7.2	-7.7	2.0	2.2	.7	-1
Seattle	.8	.8	4.9	-1.7	4.1	-1.1	1.7	.9
Washington	1.5	1.7	3.3	-2.0	6.5	5.7	2.4	.6

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

² Not available.

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

(1967=100)

Item and group	Index		Percent change to October 1973 from—		
	October 1973		October 1972	September 1973	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food	148.4	149.1	18.8	0.1	0.5
Food away from home	147.7	147.6	11.2	1.8	1.8
Restaurant meals	148.8	148.7	11.9	1.8	1.9
Snacks	142.6	142.3	7.9	2.1	1.8
Food at home	148.7	149.6	21.1	-3	.3
Cereals and bakery products	139.0	139.1	21.3	5.0	5.0
Flour	156.2	156.7	56.2	16.4	16.5
Cracker meal	151.8	152.1	11.9	3.5	3.8
Corn flakes	107.2	107.3	7.4	.8	.5
Rice	158.0	158.5	44.4	15.2	15.4
Bread, white	140.4	140.5	24.9	3.6	4.1
Bread, whole wheat	142.9	142.8	18.5	2.9	2.9
Cookies	120.2	120.3	9.1	2.4	2.9
Layer cakes	137.4	137.8	14.3	2.2	2.5
Cinnamon rolls	139.0	138.7	14.4	2.8	2.1
Meats, poultry, and fish	170.7	170.9	30.0	-5.3	-4.2
Meats	172.7	172.7	30.1	-4.5	-3.4
Beef and veal	170.6	171.5	24.3	-3.6	-2.3
Steak, round	160.0	161.5	20.7	-6.7	-5.4
Steak, sirloin	153.2	154.0	17.3	-3.9	-1.5
Steak, porterhouse	154.5	154.7	15.2	-4.0	-2.0
Rump roast	156.8	157.1	18.3	-5.3	-4.7
Rib roast	167.4	168.9	21.8	-2.7	-1.9
Chuck roast	177.8	179.8	31.7	-7.3	-5.9
Hamburger	188.3	189.1	34.8	-2.5	-1.6
Beef liver	170.1	169.9	26.3	2.6	3.3
Veal cutlets	195.4	196.4	17.6	.4	.8
Pork	177.2	175.6	37.2	-7.4	-6.2
Chops	156.6	155.7	20.1	-7.0	-4.3
Loin roast	168.7	167.2	29.5	-8.1	-6.2
Pork sausage	211.3	208.4	53.7	-5.4	-4.5
Ham, whole	167.2	169.9	42.4	-8.2	-7.6
Picnics	188.8	188.2	46.0	-7.2	-7.1
Bacon	185.7	181.2	44.2	-8.2	-6.9
Other meats	171.0	170.8	33.8	-1.9	-1.6
Lamb chops	145.9	146.0	10.7	-5.6	-5.0
Frankfurters	184.0	183.3	42.3	-4.0	-3.1
Ham, canned	170.4	170.7	42.5	2.8	2.0
Bologna sausage	183.8	183.6	37.5	-2.1	-1.3
Salami sausage	171.6	171.4	31.4	-.5	-.2
Liverwurst	171.6	170.9	40.7	-2.2	-2.0
Poultry	157.7	158.8	40.8	-15.2	-13.0
Frying chicken	154.6	156.3	38.8	-19.9	-17.4
Chicken	149.2	148.8	29.0	-11.2	-10.5
Turkey	180.8	180.1	62.3	5.9	5.3
Fish	170.8	171.1	17.1	2.2	2.1
Shrimp frozen	167.4	168.1	21.0	2.9	2.9
Fish, fresh or frozen	200.2	200.4	25.8	2.6	2.7
Tuna fish, canned	147.8	147.9	9.8	1.2	.8
Sardines, canned	168.4	168.2	11.5	2.1	1.9
Dairy products	137.3	-	17.3	5.4	0
Milk, fresh, grocery	136.7	137.0	18.0	6.0	6.1
Milk, fresh, delivered	139.0	-	15.2	5.3	0
Milk, fresh, skdm	147.0	147.1	20.5	6.5	6.8
Milk, evaporated	141.2	141.1	17.9	3.8	3.8
Ice cream	119.6	120.0	12.5	3.9	4.5
Cheese, American process	145.7	146.4	16.3	4.7	4.9
Butter	128.0	127.7	21.4	6.0	5.6

See footnote at end of table.

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

(1967=100)

Item and group	Index		Percent change to October 1973 from—		
	October 1973		October 1972	September 1973	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food—Continued					
Food at home—Continued					
Fruits and vegetables	138.8	144.1	11.5	1.1	3.6
Fresh fruits and vegetables	141.6	150.6	11.8	.2	4.2
Fresh fruits	140.8	142.2	10.6	-.4	5.1
Apples	137.4	156.5	21.5	-11.2	9.7
Bananas	111.1	106.8	9.8	.4	-2.2
Oranges	157.7	145.2	17.5	6.9	5.1
Orange juice, fresh	132.3	131.6	1.4	-.8	-1.0
Grapefruit	185.7	162.6	-1.1	4.0	13.9
Grapes	159.1	175.0	-6.4	13.2	11.5
Strawberries	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Watermelon	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Fresh vegetables	142.4	157.5	12.7	.6	2.4
Potatoes	169.1	181.0	31.2	-4.6	.3
Onions	137.3	142.6	-2.3	-2.6	2.2
Asparagus	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)	(¹)
Cabbage	178.4	198.0	40.9	11.6	6.9
Carrots	139.3	139.7	.6	7.3	1.2
Celery	136.6	145.6	1.5	-3.7	-5.3
Cucumbers	127.4	163.3	35.2	26.0	18.6
Lettuce	125.8	124.6	0	-4.4	-11.7
Peppers, green	114.3	154.5	9.8	-2.1	-.5
Spinach	163.2	163.5	16.2	-.3	-1.4
Tomatoes	111.2	135.3	-4.7	7.9	-3.9
Processed fruits and vegetables	134.7	134.7	11.1	2.7	2.9
Fruit cocktail, canned	132.6	133.0	8.9	1.9	2.3
Pears, canned	127.1	126.7	5.8	1.3	1.3
Pineapple-grapefruit juice drink	121.5	121.3	5.2	.9	.7
Orange juice concentrate, frozen	136.4	136.4	1.1	1.1	1.2
Lemonade concentrate, frozen	121.1	121.5	2.9	1.1	.2
Beets, canned	145.6	145.9	17.5	-1.1	.1
Peas, green, canned	112.5	112.7	5.1	1.2	1.7
Tomatoes, canned	127.3	127.3	8.0	.9	1.2
Dried beans	194.0	194.2	37.6	12.8	13.2
Broccoli, frozen	124.5	124.9	5.3	1.1	1.5
Other food at home	137.2	136.8	16.3	1.0	.9
Eggs	179.2	175.9	56.5	-4.9	-4.4
Fats and oils:					
Margarine	158.1	158.7	35.0	7.5	7.4
Salad dressing, Italian	114.9	115.0	4.9	3.1	3.1
Salad or cooking oil	153.9	154.1	28.1	13.1	13.2
Sugar and sweets	131.2	131.3	8.5	1.2	1.3
Sugar	132.3	132.3	14.6	4.2	4.3
Grape jelly	135.6	136.0	7.6	.4	.7
Chocolate bar	138.5	137.9	6.0	-1.1	-2.2
Syrup, chocolate flavored	118.0	118.5	6.7	.8	.8
Nonalcoholic beverages	133.2	133.1	8.6	.8	.5
Coffee, can and bag	140.4	140.1	14.7	1.0	.6
Coffee, instant	132.9	133.2	8.0	-.3	-.4
Tea	111.6	111.5	1.7	.5	.5
Carbonated drink, cola flavored	133.2	133.2	3.5	1.5	1.2
Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	132.9	132.8	3.9	.6	.5
Prepared and partially prepared foods	120.9	120.9	5.1	1.1	1.1
Bean soup, canned	123.1	123.2	5.8	1.7	1.7
Chicken soup, canned	110.1	110.3	5.7	2.1	2.2
Spaghetti, canned	125.0	124.8	2.9	.5	.2
Mashed potatoes, instant	119.2	119.4	6.2	.4	.6
Potatoes, french fried, frozen	118.1	118.0	6.0	1.4	1.5
Baby foods	116.6	116.3	5.8	1.0	1.3
Sweet pickle relish	132.6	132.6	3.9	1.0	.6
Pretzels	120.0	119.9	5.1	.5	.6

¹ Priced only in season.

Table 8. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, October 1973, and percent changes from selected dates

(1967= 100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to October 1973 from:	
		September 1973	October 1973	October 1972	September 1973
Housing		136.6	138.1	5.9	1.1
Shelter ¹		142.9	144.7	6.4	1.3
Rent, residential		125.4	125.9	4.7	.4
Homeownership ²		149.2	151.5	6.8	1.5
Mortgage interest rates		127.6	132.7	13.1	4.0
Property taxes		152.7	152.7	2.3	0
Property insurance premiums		123.9	123.8	.2	-.1
Maintenance and repairs		153.9	154.6	8.6	.5
Maintenance and repair commodities ³		139.9	140.0	10.9	.1
Exterior house paint		120.5	120.8	3.5	-.2
Interior house paint		121.3	122.4	4.3	-.9
Maintenance and repair services		159.9	161.0	7.7	-.7
Repainting living and dining rooms		173.4	174.7	7.4	-.7
Reshingling house roof		166.4	167.1	6.4	-.4
Residing house		146.9	147.9	7.7	-.7
Replacing sink		158.0	159.1	7.7	-.7
Repairing furnace		166.5	167.5	9.4	.6
Fuel and utilities		126.8	128.6	6.6	1.4
Fuel oil and coal		133.6	141.1	19.5	5.6
Fuel oil, No. 2		132.4	140.0	20.0	5.7
Gas and electricity		126.5	127.4	5.4	.7
Gas		127.3	128.4	5.2	-.9
Electricity		125.8	126.5	5.5	.6
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services		117.1	117.5	2.3	.3
Residential water and sewerage services		147.1	147.4	6.2	-.2
Household furnishings and operation ⁴		126.1	126.7	4.0	.5
Housefurnishings		119.8	120.3	2.9	.4
Textiles		116.3	117.6	2.5	1.1
Sheets		119.4	121.7	4.1	1.9
Curtains, tailored		114.7	114.9	1.7	.2
Bedspreads		109.8	112.4	.8	2.4
Drapery fabric		129.8	130.4	4.4	.5
Pillows, bed		105.9	107.9	.2	1.9
Slipcovers and throws, ready made		117.6	118.0	3.3	.3
Furniture and bedding		127.0	127.3	4.8	-.2
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser	Mar. 70	111.6	112.0	6.3	-.4
Sofas, upholstered		125.3	125.2	3.7	-.1
Cocktail tables	Dec. 71	105.6	106.2	4.9	-.6
Dining room chairs	Mar. 70	110.4	111.4	7.2	-.9
Recliners, upholstered	Dec. 71	99.6	100.1	1.6	-.5
Sofas, dual purpose		121.7	121.8	3.5	.1
Bedding, mattress and box springs	June 70	109.4	109.6	4.3	-.2
Aluminum folding chairs		(^b)	(^b)	(^b)	(^b)
Cribs		127.2	127.5	7.7	-.2
Floor coverings		109.1	109.4	2.6	.3
Broadloom carpeting, manmade fibers		103.9	104.2	2.8	.3
Vinyl sheet goods		122.1	122.9	3.1	.7
Vinyl asbestos tile		120.1	120.2	2.0	.1
Appliances (excluding radio and T. V.)		109.8	110.0	.1	-.2
Washing machines, electric, automatic		111.1	111.0	-.1	-.1
Vacuum cleaners, canister type		104.3	104.4	.6	-.1
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers, electric		108.2	108.5	.2	.3
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric		110.3	110.8	-.7	-.5
Clothes dryers, electric		114.5	114.5	-.3	0
Air conditioners, demountable		(^b)	(^b)	(^b)	(^b)
Room heaters, electric, portable		(^b)	108.6	.2	(^b)
Garbage disposal units		112.4	112.5	1.0	.1
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, fine china		133.2	133.0	5.7	-.2
Flatware, stainless steel		133.3	133.5	3.2	-.2
Table lamps, with shade		128.4	127.9	1.8	-.4
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type		(^b)	(^b)	(^b)	(^b)
Electric drills, hand-held		107.1	107.3	.1	-.2
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents		113.9	115.2	3.4	1.1
Paper napkins		139.6	139.2	4.3	-.3
Toilet tissue		130.7	131.2	6.2	.4
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic services, general housework		151.4	152.3	8.2	.6
Baby sitter services		144.8	145.8	5.4	-.7
Postal charges		146.6	146.6	0	0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service		152.0	153.1	9.2	.7
Licensed day care services, preschool child		133.0	133.9	7.4	-.7
Washing machine repairs		150.5	151.0	6.2	.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 1973, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to October 1973 from:	
		September 1973	October 1973	October 1972	September 1973
Apparel and upkeep ⁷		128.3	129.6	4.3	1.0
Apparel commodities		128.7	130.0	4.1	1.0
Apparel commodities less footwear		128.1	129.6	4.0	1.2
Men's and boys'		127.3	128.3	3.6	.8
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends		132.5	133.9	2.9	1.1
Suits, year round weight		133.9	135.8	1.8	1.4
Suits, tropical weight	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	5.3	(⁶)
Jackets, lightweight		119.8	119.9	1.7	.8
Slacks, wool or wool blends		116.9	117.8	1.7	.8
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends		137.1	138.3	-3.3	-9
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton		122.5	123.1	7.2	.5
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton		123.1	123.4	6.9	.2
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton		116.2	116.8	4.5	.5
T-shirts, chiefly cotton		124.1	124.3	4.6	.2
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers		118.0	117.8	2.4	-.2
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton		122.1	122.7	4.7	.5
Boy's:					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blends	(⁶)	(⁶)	126.0	3.7	(⁶)
Sport coats, wool or wool blends	(⁶)	(⁶)	122.5	.5	(⁶)
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blends		141.2	142.3	10.7	.8
Undershorts, cotton		125.0	125.8	4.7	.6
Women's and girls'		129.5	131.4	4.4	1.5
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blends		138.4	142.3	6.1	2.8
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton		139.2	141.6	4.0	1.7
Sweaters, wool or acrylic	(⁶)	(⁶)	138.9	7.4	(⁶)
Skirts, wool, wool blend or manmade fibers	(⁶)	(⁶)	148.7	5.1	(⁶)
Skirts, cotton or polyester/cotton	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)
Blouses, cotton or manmade fibers		127.7	129.2	3.3	1.2
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fibers		138.4	139.9	6.4	1.1
Slips, nylon		111.6	111.4	.3	-.2
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot		120.3	121.1	2.0	.7
Girdles, manmade blend		119.8	119.6	1.2	-.2
Brassieres, nylon lace		124.4	124.9	1.5	.4
Hose or panty hose, nylon seamless		94.3	93.5	-1.2	-.8
Anklelets or knee-length socks, various fibers		114.3	114.4	.6	.1
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton		113.1	113.3	2.3	.2
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic		155.3	157.2	7.5	1.2
Girls':					
Raincoats, vinyl, cotton or polyester blends	(⁶)	(⁶)	122.7	5.0	(⁶)
Skirts, wool, wool blends or acrylic		121.0	127.6	5.4	5.5
Dresses, cotton, manmade fibers or blends		117.2	124.7	.3	6.4
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton		140.4	142.7	1.9	1.6
Slips, blends		110.2	109.9	-.2	-.3
Handbags, plastic		133.4	135.7	9.6	1.7
Footwear		131.3	132.0	4.3	.5
Men's:					
Shoes, street		133.5	134.4	6.9	.7
Shoes, work, high		139.7	140.4	12.5	.5
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump		130.3	131.5	2.6	.9
Shoes, evening, pump		125.5	125.6	1.6	.1
Shoes, casual		131.2	132.2	4.8	.8
House-slippers, scuff		129.8	130.0	3.1	.2
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford		134.2	134.4	4.2	.1
Sneakers, boys', oxford type		125.5	126.8	1.6	1.0
Dress shoes, girls', strap or pump		134.0	134.7	2.7	.5
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze		119.2	119.4	2.1	.2
Yard goods, cotton		126.5	131.9	10.6	4.3
Wrist watches, men's and women's		121.1	120.5	3.1	-.5
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses		123.4	124.2	5.2	.6
Automatic laundry service		118.3	118.6	3.0	.3
Laundry, men's shirts		130.3	131.7	6.5	1.1
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment		140.5	142.6	6.3	1.5
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift		123.8	124.4	5.3	.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, October 1973, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to October 1973 from:	
		September 1973	October 1973	October 1972	September 1973
Transportation		123.9	125.0	3.1	0.9
Private		121.6	122.9	3.5	1.1
Automobiles, new		109.1	111.9	1.6	2.6
Automobiles, used		120.3	118.5	2.9	-1.5
Gasoline, regular and premium		117.8	121.8	10.5	3.4
Motor oil, premium		128.7	129.2	3.7	.4
Tires, new, tubeless		108.8	108.3	-5.7	-5.5
Auto repairs and maintenance ¹		143.8	144.4	5.9	.4
Auto insurance rates		138.0	137.5	-1.5	-.4
Auto registration		123.7	123.7	-3.0	0
Parking fees, private and municipal		153.8	153.8	4.0	0
Public		145.5	145.2	.8	-.2
Local transit fares		150.6	150.2	-.4	-.3
Taxicab fares		138.3	138.3	3.4	0
Railroad fares, coach		122.8	122.6	.5	-.2
Airplane fares, chiefly coach		137.1	137.1	3.9	0
Bus fares, intercity		145.9	145.9	2.7	0
Health and recreation		131.1	132.1	3.9	.8
Medical care		138.3	140.6	5.0	1.7
Drugs and prescriptions		106.1	106.1	.4	0
Over-the-counter items		112.6	112.8	1.0	.2
Multiple vitamin concentrates		95.3	95.2	-.3	-.1
Aspirin compounds		117.4	117.7	.5	.3
Liquid tonics		101.8	101.8	.8	0
Adhesive bandages, packages		126.6	127.6	2.2	.8
Cold tablets or capsules		114.9	114.8	.5	-.1
Cough syrup		115.6	115.7	1.2	.1
Prescriptions		100.7	100.5	-.1	-.2
Anti-infectives		70.7	70.2	-3.7	-7.7
Sedatives and hypnotics		130.3	130.6	1.8	.2
Ataractics		103.9	103.9	.6	0
Antispasmodics		108.0	107.9	-.1	-.1
Cough preparations		138.4	138.4	5.1	0
Cardiovasculars and antihypertensives		113.6	113.7	1.5	.1
Analgesics, internal		111.3	110.8	1.0	-.4
Anti-obesity		117.9	118.1	1.0	.2
Hormones		91.4	91.5	-1.4	.1
Professional services:					
Physicians' fees		139.6	139.9	3.9	.2
General physician, office visits		141.2	141.6	4.4	.3
General physician, house visits		143.4	143.6	4.2	.1
Obstetrical cases		139.1	139.6	3.8	.4
Pediatric care, office visits		141.8	142.0	3.6	.1
Psychiatrist, office visits		134.2	134.3	3.7	.1
Hemiorrhaphy, adult		132.0	132.1	2.6	.1
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy		133.5	133.9	2.6	.3
Dentists' fees		137.0	138.2	3.7	.9
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface		139.5	140.4	4.0	.6
Extractions, adult		136.1	137.4	3.2	1.0
Dentures, full upper		132.9	134.3	3.2	1.1
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses		130.9	131.2	4.5	.2
Routine laboratory tests, urinalysis		124.0	124.2	2.4	.2
Hospital service charges	Jan. 72	106.3	107.0	4.0	.7
Semiprivate rooms		183.6	185.2	5.3	.9
Operating room charges		180.2	181.5	5.8	.7
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I.		132.1	133.0	2.5	.7
Laboratory tests, urinalysis	Jan. 72	105.6	105.7	3.1	.1
Anti-infectives, tetracycline, HCL	Jan. 72	97.1	97.0	-2.1	-.1
Tranquilizers, chlordiazepoxide, HCL and meprobamate	Jan. 72	105.3	105.3	3.0	0
Electrocardiogram	Jan. 72	104.9	105.4	1.9	.5
Intravenous solution, saline	Jan. 72	103.8	104.6	1.9	.8
Physical therapy, whirlpool bath	Jan. 72	108.0	107.2	4.7	-.7
Oxygen, inhalation therapy	Jan. 72	103.8	105.5	3.4	1.6
Personal care		126.3	127.3	5.4	.8
Toilet goods		120.4	121.1	3.0	.6
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice		110.2	110.5	.3	.3
Toilet soap, hard milled		129.9	130.2	6.6	.2
Hand lotions, liquid		126.7	126.9	-.7	-.2
Shaving cream, aerosol		108.8	109.3	2.1	.5
Face powder, pressed		148.4	149.4	9.5	.7
Deodorants, aerosol		104.7	105.1	1.5	.4
Cleansing tissues		124.5	127.8	2.3	2.7
Home permanent wave kits		109.3	109.4	-.3	.1
Personal care services		132.6	133.9	7.8	1.0
Men's haircuts		135.3	136.8	8.2	1.1
Beauty shop services		130.8	131.9	7.6	.8
Women's haircuts		136.3	137.7	11.1	1.0
Shampoo and wave sets, plain		134.4	135.7	7.3	1.0
Permanent waves, cold		117.4	117.7	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 1973, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to October 1973 from:	
		September 1973	October 1973	October 1972	September 1973
Health and recreation—Continued					
Reading and recreation ¹		126.8	127.2	2.6	0.3
Recreational goods		109.7	110.1	1.7	.4
TV sets, portable and console		97.8	97.9	-1.5	-.1
TV replacement tubes		135.6	135.4	1.8	-.1
Radios, portable and table model		99.6	100.2	1.3	.6
Tape recorders, portable		93.9	94.7	-.1	-.9
Phonograph records, stereophonic		108.5	108.7	.6	.2
Movie cameras, super 8, zoom lens		90.5	90.6	2.3	.1
Film, 35mm, color		107.8	107.6	-.6	-.2
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core		103.7	103.7	-1.8	0
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover		127.2	128.3	1.9	.9
Fishing rods, fresh-water spincasting		110.3	110.0	1.9	-.3
Bowling balls		115.8	116.2	1.5	.3
Bicycles, boys'		124.1	124.7	6.0	.5
Tricycles		116.5	116.9	2.0	.3
Dog food, canned or boxed		126.0	128.2	15.4	1.7
Recreational services		133.2	133.4	3.6	.2
Indoor movie admissions		149.3	149.2	5.1	-.1
Adult		146.9	146.7	4.3	-.1
Children's		156.2	156.1	7.4	-.1
Drive-in movie admissions, adult		150.5	150.3	1.9	-.1
Bowling fees, evening		123.3	125.4	4.5	1.7
Golf green fees		138.4	137.6	5.0	-.6
TV repair, color picture tube replacement		100.8	100.6	2.4	-.2
Film developing, color		116.2	115.6	-.4	-.5
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery		136.4	136.6	2.6	.1
Magazines, single copy and subscription		136.2	136.2	2.1	0
Piano lessons, beginner		128.4	129.0	3.7	.5
Other goods and services		129.9	130.3	3.1	.3
Tobacco products		138.0	138.2	2.9	.1
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size		139.7	139.9	2.9	.1
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size		140.2	140.4	3.1	.1
Cigars, domestic, regular size		113.2	113.6	2.2	.4
Alcoholic beverages		123.2	123.7	2.8	.4
Beer		116.2	116.5	2.0	.3
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon		109.5	109.5	.6	0
Wine, dessert and table		137.3	138.7	8.4	1.0
Beer away from home		135.6	135.6	3.1	.7
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult		128.5	128.9	5.6	.3
Bank service charges, checking accounts		107.0	104.7	-2.0	-2.1
Legal services, short form will		164.6	168.1	10.3	2.1

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 Revised indexes: April 1973, 146.5; May 1973, 146.5; June 1973, 146.8; July 1973, 147.0; August 1973, 147.1; September 1973, 147.1.

⁵ Also includes window shades, nails, carpet sweepers, air deodorizers, steel wool scouring pads, envelopes, reupholstering, and moving expenses.

⁶ Priced only in season.

⁷ Also includes men's sport shirts, women's and girls' lightweight coats, women's slacks, 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	0.005x100
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.

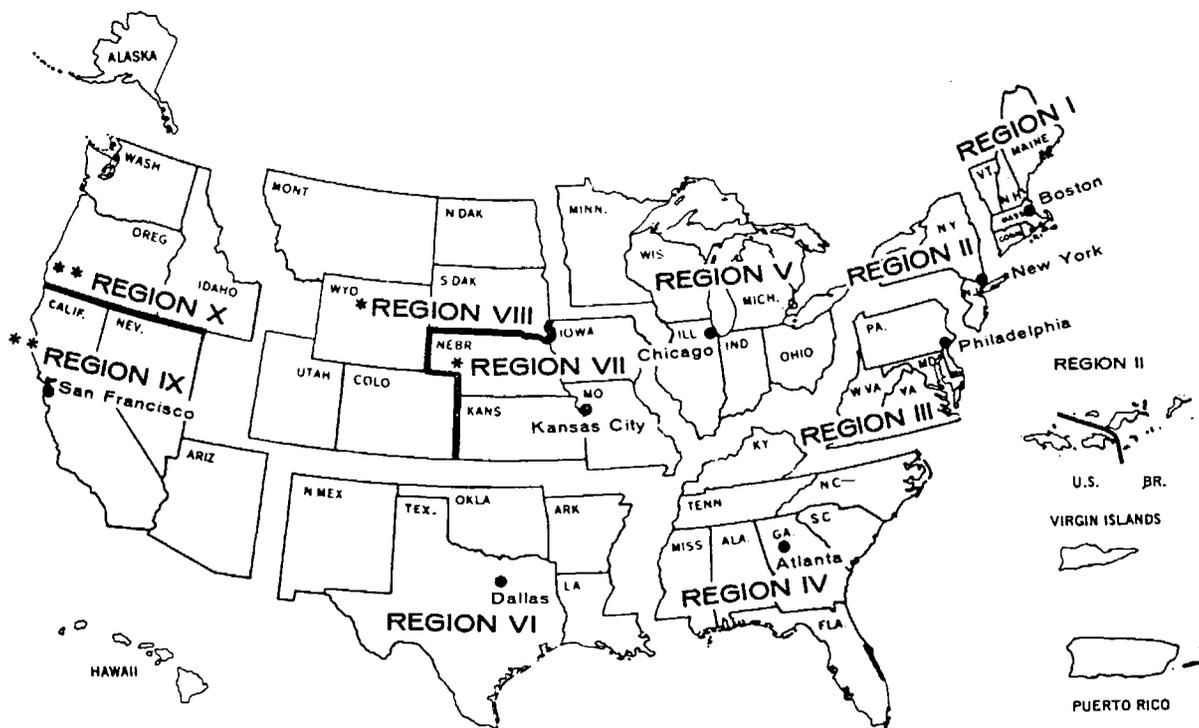
Because the CPI is rounded to one decimal place, some ambiguity may arise in interpreting small index changes. As the table indicates, for example, a month-to-month change of 0.1 percent in the all-items CPI is significant. Because of rounding, however, a change of this size in the published index might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