



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.*

# *the consumer price index*

for November 1973

## 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 .....	5
Table 1. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, by commodity and service groups, and expenditure classes .....	9
Table 2. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, by commodity and service groups, and expenditure classes .....	10
Table 3. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items most recent index and percent changes from selected dates .....	11
Table 4. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups, percent change from October 1973 to November 1973 .....	11
Table 5. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, November 1973 and percent changes from August 1973 ..	12
Table 6. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, November 1973 and percent changes from August 1973 ..	14
Table 7. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, November 1973 indexes and percent changes from selected dates .....	15
Table 8. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, November 1973, and percent changes from selected dates .....	17

# Price Movements

## November 1973

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.7 percent in November to 137.6 of its 1967 base. Higher prices for gasoline, fuel oil, natural gas, electricity, and coal accounted for about a third of the November increase. Higher prices for restaurant meals and most types of food purchased in grocery stores—except meats, poultry, and eggs—contributed significantly to the rise. The November CPI was 8.4 percent higher than a year ago.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the November increase in the CPI was 0.8 percent, the same as it was in October. The food index rose 1.4 percent after seasonal adjustment, following an increase of 0.5 percent in October and a decline of 0.1 percent in September. The increase of 0.7 percent in the nonfood commodities index after seasonal adjustment was larger than it was in recent months. The increase of 0.6 percent in the services index was smaller than it has been in recent months, but larger than increases earlier in the year. For the 6 months ended

in November, the CPI rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 9.7 percent. The rate of advance was slower in the last 3 months than it was in the first 3 months of the period.

### Monthly changes in detail (not seasonally adjusted)

The index for food purchased in grocery stores, which usually declines in November, rose 0.9 percent, after decreasing in the preceding 2 months. The index for food away from home—restaurant meals and snacks—rose 1.4 percent. Meat, poultry, and egg prices continued to move down and the declines were larger than usual, reflecting lower wholesale prices as supplies were more than ample. However, these declines were more than offset by higher prices for most other foods purchased in grocery stores. Prices increased for most dairy products, cereal and bakery products, and processed fruits and vegetables.

**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	compound annual rates		From 12 months ago
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	From 3 months ago	From 6 months ago	
								Seasonally adjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
<b>1972:</b>										
November .....	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.2	4.3	3.7	3.5
December .....	.3	.2	.5	-.1	.1	.2	.4	3.4	3.9	3.4
<b>1973:</b>										
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
November .....	.7	.8	1.1	1.4	.7	.7	.6	8.0	9.7	8.4

**Table B. Regular and premium gasoline price indexes and average prices for selected areas, October and November 1973**

(October 1973=100)

Area and size <sup>1</sup>	Regular gasoline			Premium gasoline		
	October 1973	November 1973	Index	October 1973	November 1973	Index
	Average price per gallon		Index	Average price per gallon		Index
Population 1,400,000 or more:						
Baltimore .....	\$0.409	\$0.427	104.4	\$0.448	\$0.466	104.0
Boston .....	.405	.420	103.7	.444	.459	103.5
Chicago .....	.421	.440	104.6	.459	.477	103.9
Cleveland .....	.407	.431	105.9	.445	.469	105.4
Detroit .....	.418	.433	103.6	.457	.471	103.1
Los Angeles .....	.404	.421	104.2	.440	.455	103.3
New York .....	.424	.436	102.9	.458	.470	102.6
Philadelphia .....	.400	.406	101.6	.443	.452	101.9
Pittsburgh .....	.400	.413	103.3	.442	.455	102.9
St. Louis .....	.407	.420	103.2	.443	.457	103.1
San Francisco .....	.427	.443	103.8	.464	.480	103.4
Washington .....	.414	.425	102.8	.456	.468	102.8
Population 250,000-1,399,999:						
Atlanta .....	.397	.412	103.6	.433	.449	103.6
Buffalo .....	.403	.416	103.2	.438	.452	103.2
Cincinnati .....	.405	.434	107.1	.444	.474	106.7
Dallas .....	.352	.365	103.7	.389	.400	102.8
Honolulu .....	.452	.465	102.8	.487	.498	102.3
Houston .....	.347	.361	104.0	.386	.399	103.5
Kansas City .....	.382	.400	104.7	.421	.438	104.1
Milwaukee .....	.385	.406	105.4	.423	.445	105.3
Minneapolis—St. Paul ...	.395	.407	103.0	.434	.446	102.6
San Diego .....	.414	.426	102.9	.449	.460	102.5
Seattle .....	.403	.414	102.9	.442	.454	102.6
U.S. average <sup>2</sup> .....	.402	.418	127.2	.439	.454	124.1

<sup>1</sup> 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 and populations are those established for the 1960 Census and do not include revisions made since 1960.

<sup>2</sup> The U.S. average for gasoline, regular and premium, is based on 1967=100.

In the latter category, prices of dried beans rose sharply as a result of lower production and small consumer stocks combined with increased domestic and exports demand for this high-protein food.

The index for nonfood commodities, which usually shows little change in November, rose 0.7 percent. Almost six-tenths of the rise was due to price increases of about 10 percent for fuel oil for residential use and nearly 4 percent for gasoline. The Cost of Living Council regulations allowed retailers to pass through wholesale costs for fuel oil and for gasoline—the latter on a once

a month basis. Fuel oil and gasoline prices at the retail level in November were 31.8 percent and 14.7 percent above their year earlier levels respectively. The gasoline component in the November CPI is based on a retail gasoline service station sample that has been completely revised and enlarged in 23 of the 56 areas in which price data are collected for the CPI. (See further details on pages , and .) Apparel prices increased more than they usually do in November. New car prices increased slightly as is usual for November. The effect of these increases on the nonfood commodities index was moderated by declines in used car prices.

**Table C. Percent distribution of monthly price comparisons <sup>1</sup>**

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 <sup>2</sup> .....	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	October to November
All items <sup>2</sup> .....	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases .....	20	20	16	29	23	26	25
Decreases .....	11	11	9	9	18	19	16
No change .....	69	69	75	62	59	55	59
Food at home .....	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases .....	23	23	18	34	26	29	27
Decreases .....	13	12	10	10	21	22	19
No change .....	64	65	72	56	53	49	54
Commodities less food .....	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases .....	9	13	8	7	10	23	33
Decreases .....	5	5	6	5	11	5	4
No change .....	86	82	86	88	79	72	63
Services .....	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Increases .....	6	3	2	5	5	6	5
Decreases .....	3	2	2	2	4	3	1
No change .....	91	95	96	93	91	91	94

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Based on approximately 97,000 individual quotations.

The services index rose 0.6 percent. Higher charges for gas and electricity and an increase in mortgage interest costs accounted for about half the rise in the index. Mortgage interest rates continued to move up, but at a

slower pace than they did in the 3 preceding months. The bulk of the price increases for residential gas came from the change from summer to winter rates. Electricity charges rose as a result of higher prices paid by utility

companies for fuel. Charges for most other household services, as well as charges for dry cleaning, shirt laundering, and recreational services increased. The index for medical care services rose 0.3 percent, about the same as the monthly increase recorded during most of 1973. The index for transportation services was unchanged as increases for auto repairs and parking fees were offset by declines in local transit fares.

#### **BLS announces new retail price information for gasoline**

Effective with release of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for November 1973, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor has improved the gasoline component of the CPI and initiated publication of new monthly retail gasoline price measures for the United States and for 23 large metropolitan areas.

- The retail gasoline service station sample has been completely revised and enlarged in 23 of the 56 areas in which price data are collected for the CPI.
- In addition, new indexes of price change and average retail prices for both regular and premium grade gasoline for each of the 23 metropolitan areas for which a CPI is published have been prepared. These data appear in table B.

These data will be published each month in a press release at the same time that the monthly CPI is issued. The data will also be published subsequently in the Bureau's monthly detailed report on the CPI and in its monthly report, "Retail Prices and Price Indexes for Fuels and Utilities," which also contains retail price information for a variety of energy items including fuel oil, natural gas, and electricity.

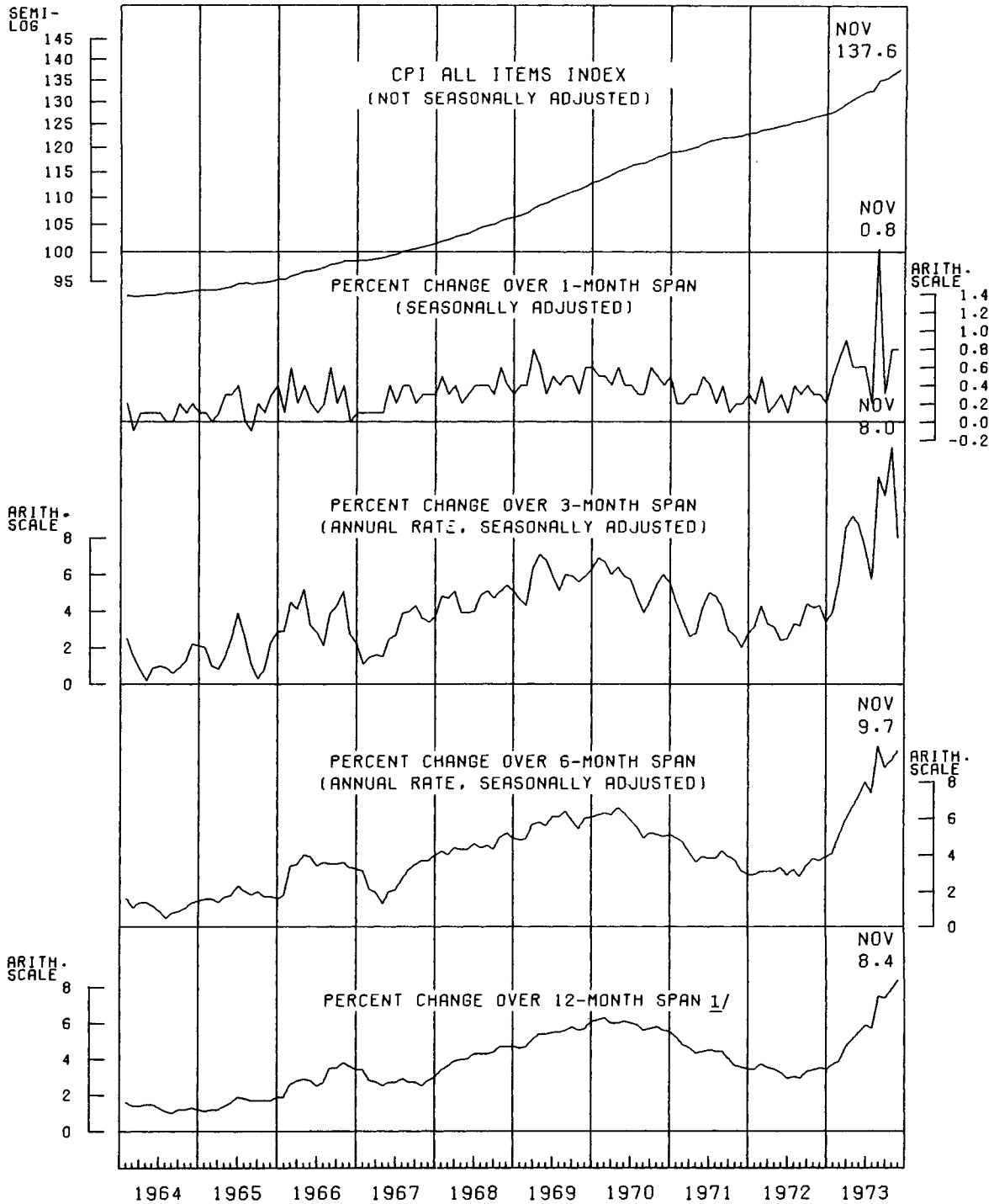
BLS undertook the program to improve and expand retail price data for gasoline in June of this year. The objectives of this program, which is funded by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, are to improve the accuracy and timeliness of the gasoline component of the CPI as well as to provide previously unavailable data on average prices and price indexes for individual large metropolitan areas.

#### **Diffusion of individual price changes**

Approximately 120,000 individual prices were collected directly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in November 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. About 59 percent of these monthly comparisons showed no change between October and November, 25 percent showed an increase, and 16 percent a decrease, as can be seen from table C. The proportion of nonfood commodity prices increasing in November was considerably larger and the proportions decreasing and showing no change were smaller than in October. The proportions of food and service prices increasing were slightly smaller in November than in October.

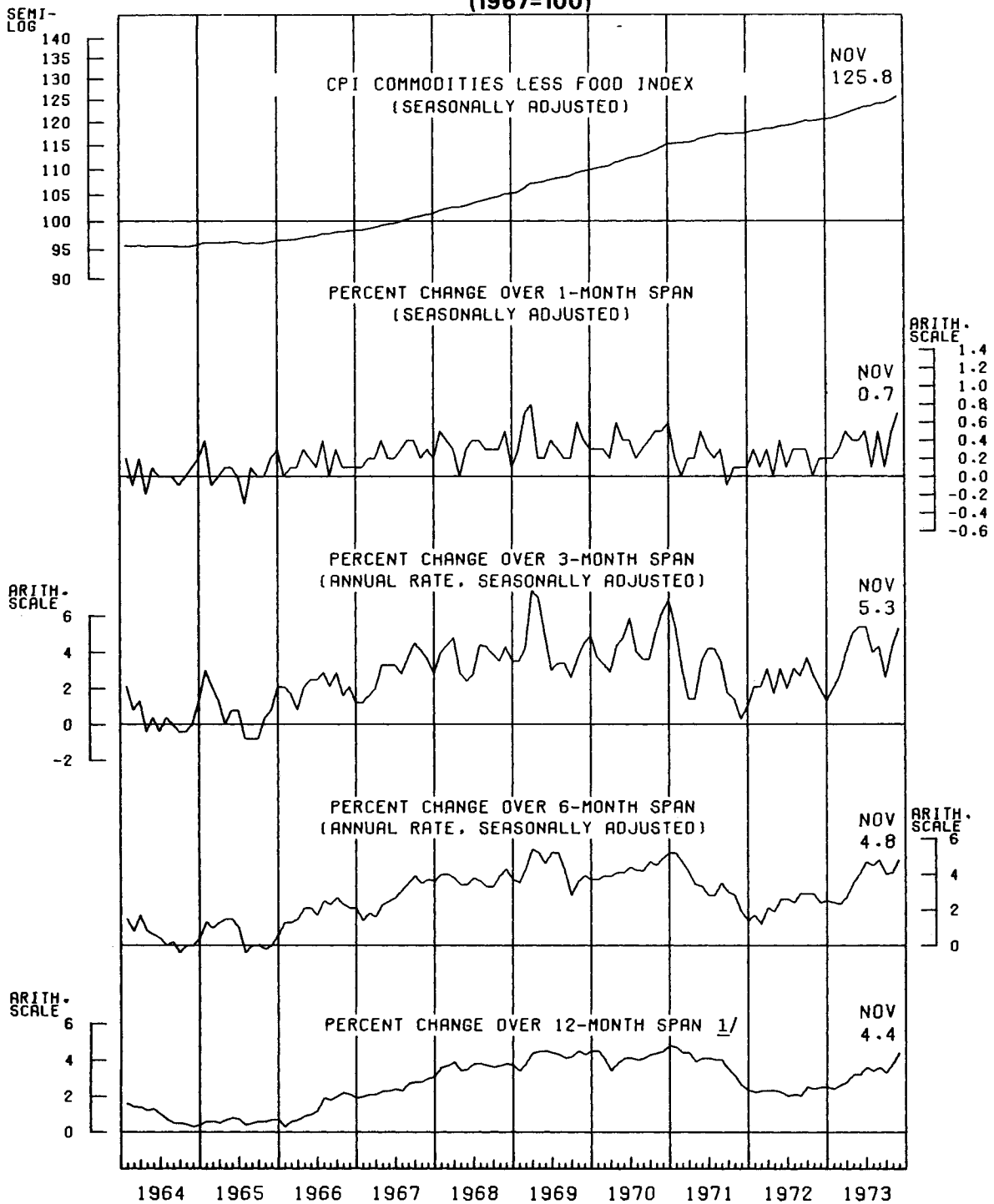
The November index also includes approximately 23,000 price comparisons from periods before October, 18,000 of which cover the quarterly span from August to November. About 24 percent of these quarterly price comparisons increased, about the same as the proportion in the July-to-October period. In addition, about 4,800 rental units were surveyed in November and 27 percent of these reported rent increases from May 1973, about the same as for the 6-month period ended in October.

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



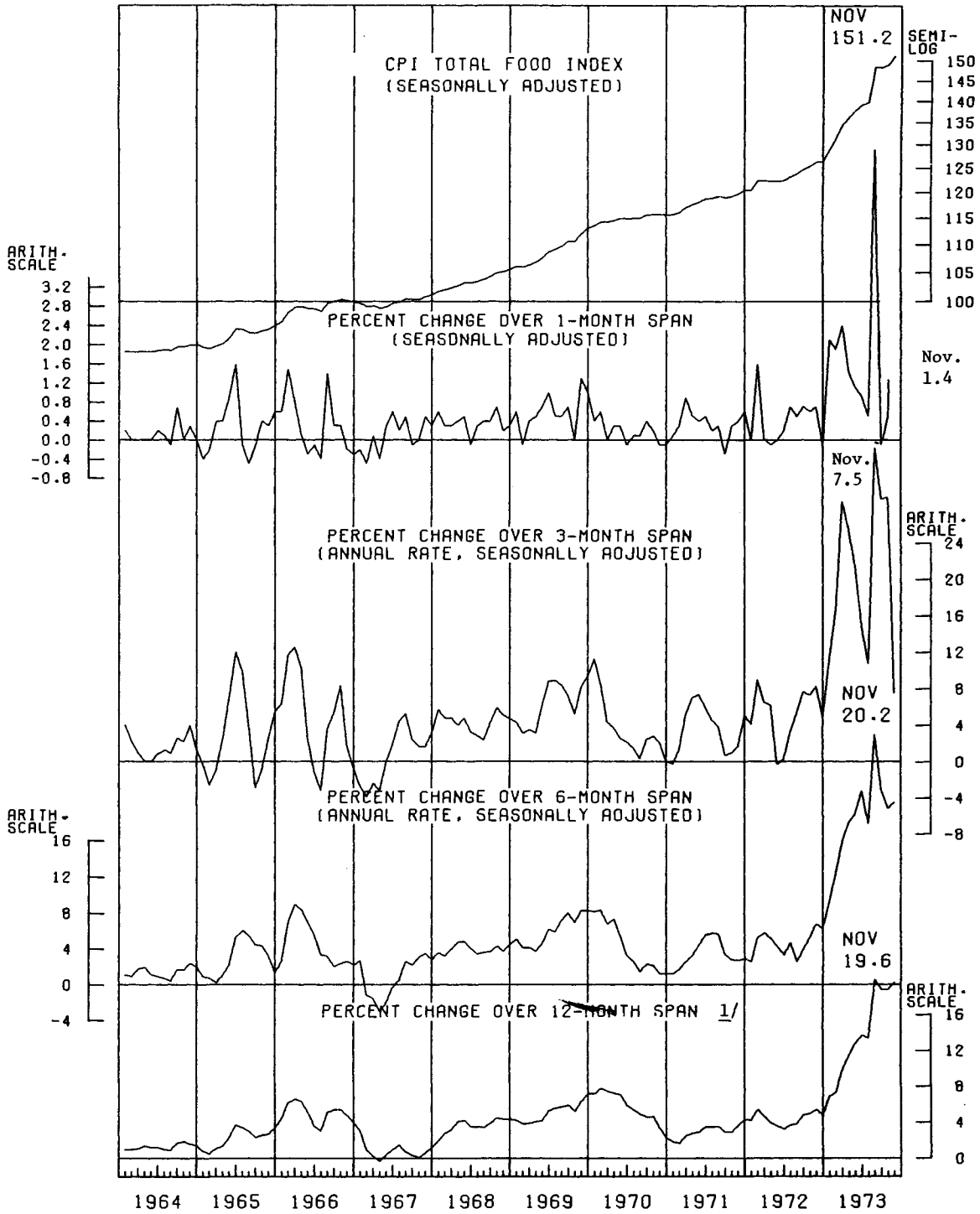
1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.  
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**Chart 2. Commodities less food index and its rates of change, 1964-73  
(1967=100)**



<sup>1/</sup> Computed from the unadjusted series.  
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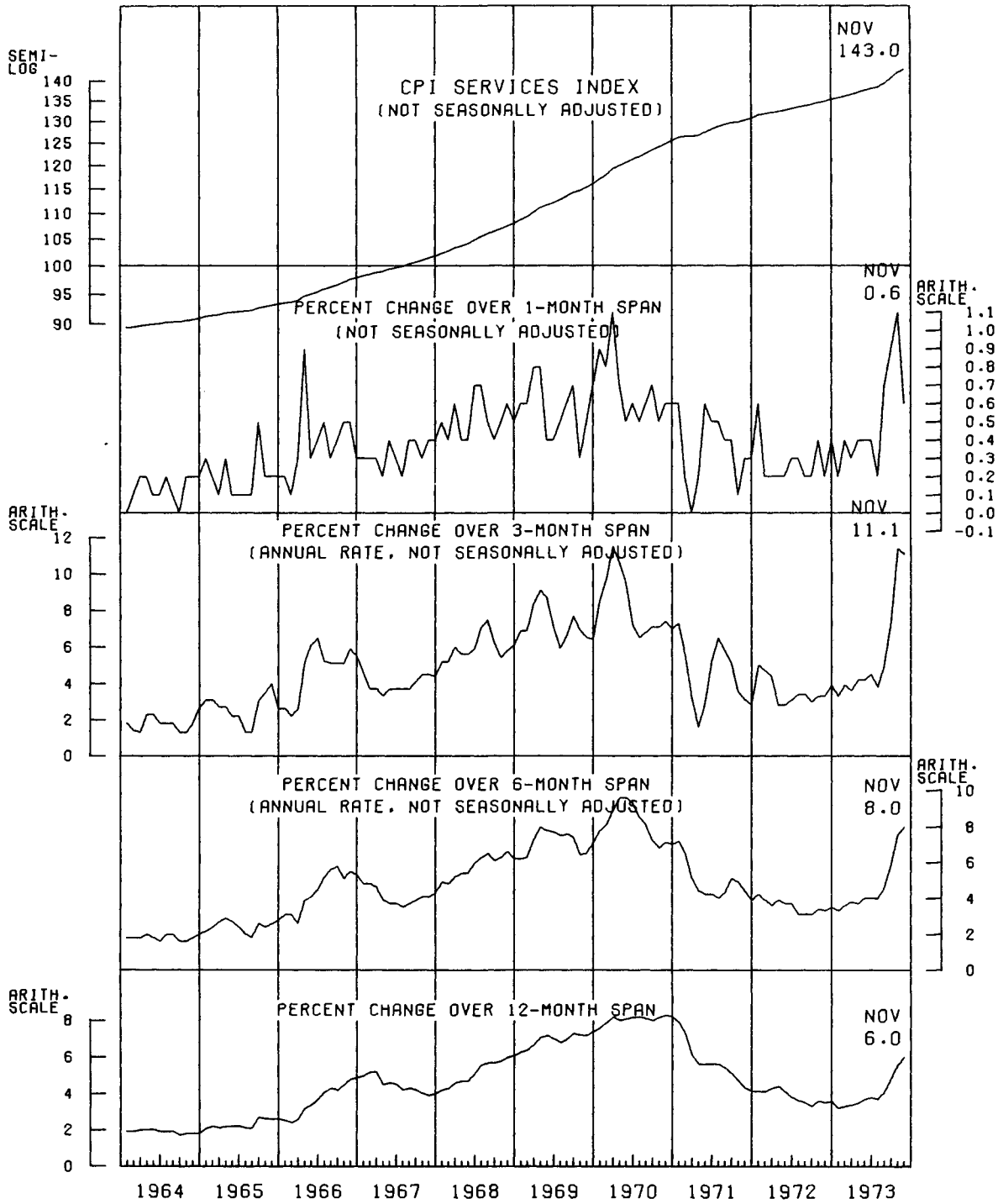
**Chart 3. Total food index and its rates of change, 1964-73  
(1967=100)**



<sup>1/</sup> Computed from the unadjusted series.  
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**Chart 4. Services index and its rates of change, 1964-73  
(1967=100)**



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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					
	August 1973	September 1973	October 1973	November 1973	3 months ending in			6 months ending in		
					February 1973	May 1973	August 1973	November 1973	May 1973	November 1973
Commodity and service groups										
All items	-	-	-	-	5.7	8.7	11.4	8.0	7.2	9.7
Commodities	132.7	132.8	133.5	134.7	6.7	12.1	14.4	6.2	9.3	10.2
Food	148.5	148.3	149.1	151.2	16.8	21.3	34.5	7.5	19.0	20.2
Food at home	150.2	149.1	149.6	151.6	20.0	24.0	42.0	3.8	22.0	21.4
Cereals and bakery products	124.7	132.5	139.1	146.1	9.3	15.0	9.2	88.4	12.2	43.4
Meats, poultry, and fish	181.3	178.4	170.9	169.3	37.4	37.4	82.9	-24.0	37.4	17.9
Dairy products (not seasonally adjusted)	126.6	130.3	137.3	141.2	11.7	7.5	11.5	54.7	9.6	31.4
Fruits and vegetables	149.9	139.1	144.1	147.8	15.6	21.4	25.6	-5.5	18.5	8.9
Other foods at home	135.7	135.6	136.8	138.0	14.2	15.6	31.6	7.0	14.9	18.6
Food away from home	142.3	145.0	147.6	149.6	4.9	13.1	9.8	22.2	8.9	15.8
Commodities less food	124.2	124.3	124.9	125.8	2.7	5.4	4.3	5.3	4.0	4.8
Nondurables less food	125.2	125.1	126.4	127.9	3.0	6.4	4.3	8.9	4.7	6.6
Apparel commodities <sup>1</sup>	128.3	128.4	128.8	129.1	1.6	7.3	5.1	2.5	4.4	3.8
Men's and boys'	127.4	127.3	127.4	127.6	2.6	5.6	4.2	.6	4.1	2.4
Women's and girls'	128.4	129.0	129.5	129.7	-6	9.7	5.1	4.1	4.4	4.6
Footwear	130.9	131.3	131.7	132.2	4.5	5.7	3.1	4.0	5.1	3.6
Nondurables less food and apparel	123.5	123.6	125.0	127.3	3.7	6.1	4.0	12.9	4.9	8.3
Gasoline and motor oil	118.9	117.8	121.3	126.7	7.0	13.0	8.1	28.9	9.9	18.1
Tobacco products (not seasonally adjusted)	137.8	138.0	138.2	138.3	.6	7.6	2.4	1.5	4.1	1.9
Alcoholic beverages (not seasonally adjusted)	122.4	123.2	123.7	124.3	2.7	1.7	2.3	6.4	2.2	4.3
Fuel oil and coal	133.3	134.1	141.7	155.8	25.6	9.5	13.0	86.6	17.3	45.2
Other nondurables	120.9	121.3	121.9	122.6	1.7	2.4	3.4	5.7	2.0	4.6
Durable commodities	122.6	123.1	123.0	122.9	1.7	4.4	3.0	1.0	3.0	2.0
Household durables	119.6	120.1	120.4	120.8	2.1	6.0	4.5	4.1	4.0	4.3
New cars	112.5	113.2	111.0	111.0	2.6	5.2	5.1	-5.2	3.9	-2
Used cars (not seasonally adjusted)	121.3	120.3	118.5	116.1	-11.8	32.5	2.3	-16.1	8.1	-7.3
Other durables	128.6	129.1	129.9	130.2	.3	2.2	1.9	5.1	1.3	3.5
Services (not seasonally adjusted)	139.3	140.6	142.2	143.0	3.9	4.2	5.0	11.1	4.0	8.0
Rent (not seasonally adjusted)	125.0	125.4	125.9	126.3	6.1	4.7	4.3	4.2	5.4	4.2
Services less rent (not seasonally adjusted)	141.9	143.4	145.2	146.1	3.2	4.1	5.2	12.4	3.7	8.7
Household services less rent	146.7	149.2	151.7	153.0	5.8	3.1	6.8	18.3	4.4	12.4
Transportation services	137.7	137.9	138.1	138.1	-4.9	3.6	3.6	1.2	-7	2.4
Medical care services	143.9	144.8	148.2	148.8	2.6	3.4	3.1	14.3	3.0	8.6
Other services (not seasonally adjusted)	132.1	133.3	134.0	134.8	3.8	6.4	4.7	8.4	5.1	6.5
Special indexes:										
All items less food	131.0	131.8	132.8	133.7	3.5	4.8	4.1	8.5	4.1	6.3
Nondurable commodities	136.5	136.4	137.4	139.0	9.7	13.6	19.3	7.5	11.6	13.3
Apparel commodities less footwear	127.8	127.7	128.2	128.5	1.3	7.3	5.8	2.2	4.3	4.0
Services less medical care services (not seasonally adjusted)	138.5	140.0	141.4	142.3	3.6	3.9	5.4	11.4	3.8	8.4
Insurance and finance	149.0	152.1	155.0	156.3	1.1	2.5	6.7	21.1	1.8	13.7
Utilities and public transportation	130.0	130.8	131.7	132.4	1.6	3.5	2.5	7.6	2.5	5.0
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	153.7	155.0	156.2	157.3	7.0	6.3	7.1	9.7	6.7	8.4
Appliances (including radio and T. V.) (not seasonally adjusted)	105.3	105.5	105.7	105.8	-1.5	-4	-4	1.9	-9	.8
Expenditure classes										
All items	-	-	-	-	5.7	8.7	11.4	8.0	7.2	9.7
Food	148.5	148.3	149.1	151.2	16.8	21.3	34.5	7.5	19.0	20.2
Housing (Not seasonally adjusted)	135.2	136.6	138.1	139.4	3.7	4.0	5.8	13.0	3.9	9.4
Shelter <sup>2</sup>	141.0	142.8	144.6	145.5	4.8	3.8	5.9	13.4	4.3	9.6
Rent (not seasonally adjusted)	125.0	125.4	125.9	126.3	6.1	4.7	4.3	4.2	5.4	4.2
Homeownership <sup>3</sup>	146.9	148.9	151.3	152.4	4.0	3.7	6.5	15.8	3.8	11.1
Fuel and utilities <sup>4</sup>	126.6	127.3	129.2	132.0	7.8	4.6	4.2	18.2	6.2	11.0
Gas and electricity	126.2	127.1	128.2	129.7	6.7	3.6	3.2	11.6	5.1	7.3
Household furnishings and operation	125.3	126.0	126.7	127.5	2.3	3.0	5.3	7.2	2.6	6.2
Apparel and upkeep	127.9	128.0	128.6	129.1	2.0	6.6	5.5	3.8	4.3	4.6
Transportation	124.5	124.9	124.6	125.7	0	6.8	4.0	3.9	3.3	3.9
Private	122.3	122.6	122.5	123.6	1.4	6.5	4.0	4.3	3.9	4.2
Public	145.3	145.8	146.1	145.6	-3.3	.3	3.7	.8	-1.5	2.2
Health and recreation (not seasonally adjusted)	130.5	131.1	132.1	132.6	2.2	4.8	2.8	6.6	3.5	4.7
Medical care	137.3	138.0	140.9	141.3	2.7	2.7	3.0	12.2	2.7	7.5
Personal care (not seasonally adjusted)	125.7	126.3	127.3	128.1	4.7	6.7	4.2	7.9	5.7	6.0
Reading and recreation	126.2	126.7	127.1	127.4	1.6	3.3	2.2	3.9	2.4	3.1
Other goods and services	129.3	129.5	129.9	130.5	3.5	5.5	1.2	3.8	4.5	2.5
Special indexes:										
All items less shelter	133.5	133.6	134.5	135.7	5.9	10.2	12.6	6.8	8.0	9.6
All items less medical care	135.0	135.4	136.4	137.5	5.5	9.7	11.8	7.6	7.6	9.7
All items less mortgage interest costs	134.2	134.4	135.2	136.3	5.5	9.4	10.8	6.4	7.4	8.6
CPI—domestically produced farm foods (not seasonally adjusted)	153.0	150.7	149.9	151.2	25.9	26.2	50.2	-4.6	26.0	19.7
CPI—selected beef cuts (not seasonally adjusted)	174.8	176.4	168.8	165.4	55.8	28.5	37.9	-19.8	41.5	5.1

<sup>1</sup> Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, and jewelry not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup> Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

<sup>3</sup> Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.

<sup>4</sup> Also includes residential telephone, 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—The United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items most recent index and percent changes from selected dates

Area <sup>1</sup>	Pricing schedule <sup>2</sup>	Indexes			Percent change from:		
		1967=100	1957-59=100	Other bases	November 1972	August 1973	October 1973
				November 1973			
U.S. City average -----	M	137.6	160.0		8.4	1.9	0.7
Chicago -----	M	136.1	154.6		8.3	1.2	.3
Detroit -----	M	139.0	159.7		9.1	1.6	.8
Los Angeles-Long Beach -----	M	133.6	157.1		7.5	2.1	1.0
N. Y.—Northeastern N. J. -----	M	144.4	171.9		8.3	1.9	.9
Philadelphia -----	M	140.5	164.2		8.9	2.5	.8
				October 1973			
					October 1972	July 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	
				November 1973			
					November 1972	August 1973	
Buffalo -----	2	138.6		<sup>3</sup> 152.3	7.8	1.5	
Cleveland -----	2	137.5	155.3		7.5	1.2	
Dallas -----	2	135.6		<sup>3</sup> 146.6	7.9	1.4	
Milwaukee -----	2	135.7	153.2		8.6	1.9	
San Diego -----	2	136.5		<sup>4</sup> 143.5	7.6	1.6	
Seattle -----	2	131.4	154.4		8.4	2.0	
Washington -----	2	139.4	162.4		7.5	2.2	
				September 1973			
					September 1972	June 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		<sup>5</sup> 139.7	5.3	1.6	
Kansas City -----	3	132.5	157.3		5.6	2.1	
St. Louis -----	3	132.3	154.5		7.0	3.3	
San Francisco—Oakland -----	3	134.5	160.0		7.1	2.9	

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> November 1963=100.

<sup>4</sup> February 1965=100.

<sup>5</sup> 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—The United States and selected areas<sup>1</sup> for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups, percent change from October 1973 to November 1973

Group	U.S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles—Long Beach	New York—Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.7	0.3	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.8
Food -----	1.1	-.2	.8	2.0	1.3	1.7
Housing -----	.9	.7	1.1	1.0	1.2	.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	.7	.6	-.3	.2	.6	.2
Transportation -----	.6	.3	.6	1.0	.5	.2
Health and recreation -----	.4	.2	.7	-.1	.4	.1
Medical care -----	.2	.2	.8	-.1	.3	.3
Personal care -----	.6	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Reading and recreation -----	.2	0	.6	-.5	0	-.1
Other goods and services -----	.4	.2	1.0	-.1	.6	.2

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table 3.

<sup>2</sup> Not available.

Table 5. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas<sup>1</sup> for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, November 1973 and percent changes from August 1973

Group	U. S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York-Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
Indexes (1967= 100)						
All items -----	137.6	136.1	139.0	133.6	144.4	140.5
Food -----	150.0	150.8	153.3	144.7	154.1	152.1
Food at home -----	150.1	151.9	154.6	146.1	154.1	151.3
Cereals and bakery products -----	145.8	152.3	155.6	140.5	146.6	146.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	167.4	166.2	173.1	167.7	167.9	167.4
Dairy products -----	141.2	140.1	142.5	135.5	143.4	140.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	143.7	146.8	141.2	134.4	154.9	146.6
Other food at home -----	137.9	138.5	141.1	135.8	140.6	139.9
Food away from home -----	149.7	146.2	148.3	140.6	154.2	155.7
Housing -----	139.4	132.1	140.9	136.7	148.6	143.5
Shelter -----	145.6	136.5	150.9	140.5	155.7	155.4
Rent, residential -----	126.3	124.0	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	124.2	132.0
Homeownership -----	132.6	142.1	156.0	145.5	168.8	161.5
Fuel and utilities -----	132.1	123.0	126.4	137.0	144.0	132.4
Fuel oil and coal -----	155.6	144.8	142.6	( <sup>2</sup> )	175.9	144.9
Gas and electricity -----	129.8	123.0	129.4	149.7	139.9	137.0
Household furnishings and operation -----	127.5	124.4	119.7	123.6	133.1	128.8
Apparel and upkeep -----	130.5	128.4	125.1	125.2	130.6	127.9
Men's and boys' -----	128.9	123.8	124.4	118.4	129.1	128.8
Women's and girls' -----	132.2	133.5	119.1	129.6	129.6	125.6
Footwear -----	132.6	126.7	138.4	130.3	130.4	132.9
Transportation -----	125.8	130.0	126.1	125.4	137.1	128.6
Private -----	123.8	125.1	123.7	125.8	130.1	126.0
Public -----	144.6	160.6	154.5	117.7	163.9	143.5
Health and recreation -----	132.6	133.5	136.7	126.7	138.3	136.8
Medical care -----	140.9	140.5	153.0	138.6	148.4	153.8
Personal care -----	128.1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	127.8	( <sup>2</sup> )
Reading and recreation -----	127.5	128.3	129.4	117.9	131.2	130.2
Other goods and services -----	130.8	133.8	126.8	124.2	140.0	131.0
Percent changes August 1973 to November 1973						
All items -----	1.9	1.2	1.6	2.1	1.9	2.5
Food -----	.4	-1.3	-.8	2.0	.9	1.1
Food at home -----	-.8	-2.4	-2.4	1.1	-.3	0
Cereals and bakery products -----	16.9	17.9	18.9	17.2	16.5	16.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	-9.0	-11.5	-12.1	-7.6	-7.4	-8.2
Dairy products -----	11.5	10.0	11.2	10.7	11.2	10.9
Fruits and vegetables -----	-5.8	-6.6	-3.5	1.5	-3.3	-2.5
Other food at home -----	1.7	.7	1.4	1.8	1.6	2.4
Food away from home -----	5.1	3.2	6.9	4.5	4.7	5.9
Housing -----	3.1	2.5	2.8	3.1	2.4	4.6
Shelter -----	3.2	2.4	2.3	3.2	1.7	5.8
Rent, residential -----	1.0	3.6	( <sup>2</sup> )	1.1	( <sup>2</sup> )	3.8
Homeownership -----	3.8	3.0	2.6	3.6	2.4	6.7
Fuel and utilities -----	4.6	2.8	5.4	5.1	8.1	4.2
Fuel oil and coal -----	17.2	12.7	14.1	( <sup>2</sup> )	27.0	12.1
Gas and electricity -----	3.2	2.2	6.5	8.5	4.6	3.6
Household furnishings and operation -----	1.8	2.3	3.0	1.4	1.4	2.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	3.2	3.0	2.7	1.5	3.7	4.8
Men's and boys' -----	2.1	2.9	2.2	-.5	1.9	5.1
Women's and girls' -----	4.9	4.3	2.8	2.4	5.2	8.2
Footwear -----	1.5	1.4	3.9	1.1	1.1	1.9
Transportation -----	1.0	1.3	1.1	.9	.7	.7
Private -----	1.2	1.5	.9	1.0	.9	.8
Public -----	-.2	0	3.4	-1.4	.1	-.1
Health and recreation -----	1.6	1.6	2.3	1.1	2.1	1.3
Medical care -----	2.4	2.8	2.9	2.1	2.6	2.6
Personal care -----	1.9	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	2.5	( <sup>2</sup> )
Reading and recreation -----	1.1	.4	2.5	0	1.4	.6
Other goods and services -----	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.3	2.2	.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas<sup>1</sup> for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, November 1973 and percent changes from August 1973—Continued

Group	Buffalo	Cleveland	Dallas	Milwaukee	San Diego	Seattle	Washington
Indexes (1967=100)							
All items -----	138.6	137.5	135.6	135.7	136.5	131.4	139.4
Food -----	149.1	149.2	146.8	147.7	146.5	143.4	155.3
Food at home -----	149.0	149.9	145.1	145.3	145.3	144.3	154.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	148.2	142.7	139.4	146.0	138.2	138.6	148.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	166.3	164.2	161.4	166.9	164.6	166.0	169.7
Dairy products -----	140.6	148.9	138.6	139.5	136.9	138.0	136.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	142.8	143.3	137.9	139.3	131.3	125.3	158.3
Other food at home -----	133.7	136.9	134.5	132.8	136.2	137.6	144.0
Food away from home -----	149.8	146.3	153.0	146.9	149.2	140.7	157.3
Housing -----	142.1	132.6	135.3	133.5	145.5	135.0	138.7
Shelter -----	145.5	135.0	141.6	135.5	161.2	142.7	143.0
Rent, residential -----	128.6	116.1	114.6	125.4	138.6	111.1	127.3
Homeownership -----	148.8	138.3	153.8	138.7	170.8	152.0	152.2
Fuel and utilities -----	145.7	128.6	122.0	135.8	121.1	124.3	130.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	151.9	-	-	160.1	-	139.2	156.6
Gas and electricity -----	145.9	124.1	117.6	137.6	125.5	109.9	130.4
Household furnishings and operation -----	129.6	125.7	128.3	126.4	117.0	123.2	130.8
Apparel and upkeep -----	136.6	135.1	131.4	136.9	130.8	125.4	133.2
Men's and boys' -----	147.9	130.1	134.0	137.1	127.7	127.7	134.3
Women's and girls' -----	137.5	141.7	132.5	137.0	140.5	122.8	133.8
Footwear -----	126.8	134.8	133.0	137.2	128.5	128.1	135.6
Transportation -----	124.9	132.0	126.1	128.4	124.0	113.4	127.6
Private -----	122.0	127.5	124.5	123.7	124.9	115.5	124.3
Public -----	157.8	161.1	146.5	186.0	107.8	101.3	146.1
Health and recreation -----	131.3	138.9	133.1	130.2	125.5	125.5	134.3
Medical care -----	132.4	153.5	139.6	137.7	134.0	132.8	147.6
Personal care -----	125.7	133.2	133.9	132.0	123.3	123.0	125.3
Reading and recreation -----	133.4	128.4	125.9	129.0	119.4	123.4	126.5
Other goods and services -----	130.9	136.3	131.4	124.3	123.6	121.6	134.1
Percent changes August 1973 to November 1973							
All items -----	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.9	1.6	2.0	2.2
Food -----	0	-1.8	-1.6	1.3	-.2	-.6	1.8
Food at home -----	-.5	-3.0	-3.2	-.5	-.9	-.1	-.9
Cereals and bakery products -----	18.1	16.4	14.4	13.9	15.5	16.0	16.9
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	-9.1	-12.6	-11.8	-6.2	-10.7	-6.3	-6.3
Dairy products -----	12.3	10.9	13.6	11.2	12.9	10.3	10.7
Fruits and vegetables -----	-5.4	-6.9	-8.5	-1.7	-.7	-9.2	-1.7
Other food at home -----	1.6	.5	-.7	-.2	.3	2.1	3.8
Food away from home -----	2.9	5.1	4.3	4.8	3.1	3.6	4.2
Housing -----	2.9	2.5	3.4	2.2	3.0	3.4	3.4
Shelter -----	3.2	3.2	4.3	2.2	3.9	4.2	3.9
Rent, residential -----	1.1	.6	.8	1.2	.8	1.7	1.1
Homeownership -----	3.7	3.6	5.7	2.5	5.0	4.8	5.5
Fuel and utilities -----	1.3	.1	1.4	2.5	1.9	3.0	2.6
Fuel oil and coal -----	16.0	-	-	14.8	-	9.5	19.0
Gas and electricity -----	-.4	.1	1.6	.1	3.9	-.5	1.0
Household furnishings and operation -----	2.9	1.4	2.3	2.2	-.6	1.8	2.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	.5	4.1	1.4	3.3	2.3	2.1	1.8
Men's and boys' -----	-2.2	5.9	3.6	1.9	1.9	0	3.4
Women's and girls' -----	1.9	5.6	.7	5.7	2.6	2.9	-.3
Footwear -----	-.2	1.4	.6	2.5	1.5	3.9	-.3
Transportation -----	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.7	.4	1.0	1.2
Private -----	1.2	2.9	1.5	2.0	.4	1.0	1.5
Public -----	0	-6.5	0	0	-.1	1.0	0
Health and recreation -----	1.9 <sup>2</sup>	.9	2.1	1.2	1.3	1.6	1.7
Medical care -----	1.7	1.8	2.4	2.2	2.4	1.9	2.1
Personal care -----	-.6	1.8	1.2	3.8	-.7	2.2	2.7
Reading and recreation -----	4.1	-.1	2.9	.4	.4	1.8	1.3
Other goods and services -----	.8	.7	.8	.1	1.1	.7	.9

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table 3.

<sup>2</sup> Not available.

<sup>3</sup> Change from September 1973.

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

Area <sup>1</sup>	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 -----	150.0	150.1	145.8	167.4	141.2	143.7	137.9	149.7
Atlanta -----	152.7	153.0	148.2	170.3	146.7	151.9	137.7	151.6
Baltimore -----	153.8	154.5	148.0	171.1	141.8	153.3	140.6	150.8
Boston -----	149.5	150.3	148.6	166.0	139.0	146.6	135.9	146.6
Buffalo -----	149.1	149.0	148.2	166.3	140.6	142.8	133.7	149.8
Chicago -----	150.8	151.9	152.3	166.2	140.1	146.8	138.5	146.2
Cincinnati -----	150.6	151.7	151.7	167.1	148.4	142.8	138.9	146.5
Cleveland -----	149.2	149.9	142.7	164.2	148.9	143.3	136.9	146.3
Dallas -----	146.8	145.1	139.4	161.4	138.6	137.9	134.5	153.0
Detroit -----	153.3	154.6	155.6	173.1	142.5	141.2	141.1	148.3
Honolulu -----	144.4	143.7	139.5	157.4	136.2	135.0	135.2	145.8
Houston -----	152.1	149.8	145.9	166.2	147.0	143.8	135.3	160.0
Kansas City -----	149.9	150.6	146.9	165.8	156.7	135.9	138.4	147.6
Los Angeles—Long Beach ----- <sup>2</sup>	144.7	146.1	140.5	167.7	135.5	134.4	135.8	140.6
Milwaukee -----	147.7	147.8	146.0	166.9	139.5	139.3	132.8	146.9
Minneapolis—St. Paul -----	150.1	149.2	153.8	170.9	142.4	135.4	136.9	154.0
N. Y.—Northeastern N. J. -----	154.1	154.1	146.6	167.9	143.4	154.9	140.6	154.2
Philadelphia -----	152.1	151.3	146.1	167.4	140.1	146.6	139.9	155.7
Pittsburgh -----	151.4	150.6	145.0	165.9	138.8	149.6	139.8	152.7
St. Louis -----	148.5	148.1	151.5	163.1	145.3	139.8	132.0	150.1
San Diego -----	146.5	145.3	138.2	164.6	136.9	131.3	136.2	149.2
San Francisco—Oakland -----	143.6	145.7	138.3	161.9	137.5	134.6	139.1	136.0
Seattle -----	143.4	144.3	138.6	166.0	138.0	125.3	137.6	140.7
Washington -----	155.3	154.4	148.3	169.7	136.3	158.3	144.0	157.3
Percent changes October 1973 to November 1973								
U. S. city average -----	1.1	0.9	4.9	-1.9	2.8	3.5	0.5	1.4
Atlanta -----	.1	-.1	5.3	-2.2	1.4	.1	-1.0	.9
Baltimore -----	1.6	1.8	10.1	-2.4	3.7	5.3	.9	.9
Boston -----	1.1	1.2	4.6	-.7	-.1	3.2	1.7	.7
Buffalo -----	1.2	1.3	6.1	-1.8	1.2	5.7	.8	.8
Chicago -----	-.2	-.5	5.6	-3.1	-.8	.5	.1	.8
Cincinnati -----	.5	.3	7.4	-2.3	2.0	1.1	.1	1.2
Cleveland -----	.9	.7	4.4	-2.0	6.6	3.3	1.9	2.2
Dallas -----	1.3	1.2	3.9	-1.5	5.9	3.5	-.1	1.6
Detroit -----	.8	.6	2.8	-2.0	4.9	2.3	.7	1.6
Honolulu -----	2.0	2.4	14.3	-.7	4.4	-.5	1.9	.5
Houston -----	.2	0	4.0	-3.7	1.4	3.8	.4	.9
Kansas City -----	.5	.3	3.2	-2.8	1.7	3.2	.6	1.2
Los Angeles—Long Beach -----	2.0	2.2	7.1	-.7	5.4	3.9	-.9	1.3
Milwaukee -----	1.4	.7	2.4	-.1	-.1	3.6	-.4	( <sup>2</sup> )
Minneapolis—St. Paul -----	.7	.7	2.6	-1.0	.4	4.0	0	.7
N. Y.—Northeastern N. J. -----	1.3	1.3	4.1	-1.1	3.7	3.9	.8	1.0
Philadelphia -----	1.7	2.0	5.3	-1.8	4.0	6.5	2.3	.8
Pittsburgh -----	1.3	1.4	5.5	-1.6	.9	5.7	1.1	1.5
St. Louis -----	.7	.7	3.7	-1.0	1.4	2.0	.2	.8
San Diego -----	1.7	1.1	4.6	-2.5	6.4	2.3	.8	( <sup>2</sup> )
San Francisco—Oakland -----	.4	.3	3.8	-2.6	5.3	1.9	-.9	.7
Seattle -----	1.6	1.6	6.9	-1.9	4.5	3.2	1.3	1.8
Washington -----	1.0	.8	7.9	-2.0	2.7	.3	1.6	1.4

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table 3.  
<sup>2</sup> Not available.

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

(1967=100)

Item and group	Index		Percent changes to November 1973 from—		
	November 1973		November 1973	October 1973	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food	150.0	151.2	19.6	1.1	1.4
Food away from home	149.7	149.6	12.3	1.4	1.4
Restaurant meals	151.0	150.8	13.1	1.5	1.4
Snacks	143.4	143.4	8.3	-.6	-.8
Food at home	150.1	151.6	21.6	-.9	1.3
Cereals and bakery products	145.8	146.1	26.8	4.9	5.0
Flour	162.6	162.9	60.2	4.1	4.0
Cracker meal	155.6	156.4	14.8	2.5	2.8
Corn flakes	107.8	107.7	8.1	-.6	-.4
Rice	208.1	209.1	89.5	31.7	31.9
Bread, white	144.7	145.0	27.8	3.1	3.2
Bread, whole wheat	146.4	146.3	21.1	2.4	2.5
Cookies	120.0	121.0	9.0	-.2	-.6
Layer cakes	138.7	139.0	15.5	-.9	-.9
Cinnamon rolls	143.5	143.4	17.5	3.2	3.4
Meats, poultry, and fish	167.4	169.3	27.3	-1.9	-.9
Meats	169.2	171.1	27.3	-2.0	-.9
Beef and veal	167.7	170.3	21.8	-1.7	-.7
Steak, round	158.9	161.5	18.3	-.7	0
Steak, sirloin	149.5	152.6	13.1	-2.4	-.9
Steak, porterhouse	150.5	153.3	11.2	-2.6	-.9
Rump roast	155.6	158.1	17.1	-.8	-.6
Rib roast	164.0	166.8	20.3	-2.0	-1.2
Chuck roast	170.2	174.4	26.4	-4.3	-3.0
Hamburger	183.7	185.9	32.1	-2.4	-1.7
Beef liver	169.7	170.9	25.8	-.2	-.6
Veal cutlets	196.7	198.3	17.4	-.2	1.0
Pork	172.2	173.8	33.9	-2.8	-1.0
Chops	156.4	158.3	20.3	-.1	1.7
Loin roast	167.3	169.0	28.3	-.8	1.1
Pork sausage	200.6	200.2	46.0	-5.1	-3.9
Ham, whole	169.0	171.2	40.5	1.1	-.8
Picnics	181.8	184.0	42.6	-3.7	-2.2
Bacon	173.7	176.2	38.0	-6.5	-2.8
Other meats	168.5	168.8	30.7	-1.5	-1.2
Lamb chops	143.5	144.1	8.5	-1.6	-1.3
Frankfurters	178.2	178.4	37.4	-3.2	-2.7
Ham, canned	171.6	171.6	40.5	-.7	-.5
Bologna sausage	179.6	180.7	34.4	-2.3	-1.6
Salami sausage	170.1	170.1	28.6	-.9	-.8
Liverwurst	169.1	169.6	37.1	1.5	-.8
Poultry	149.7	153.2	35.8	-5.1	-3.5
Frying chicken	144.7	149.3	32.9	-6.4	-4.5
Chicken breasts	144.7	146.9	26.5	-3.0	-1.3
Turkey	178.5	177.6	58.5	-1.3	-1.4
Fish	175.8	176.5	18.8	2.9	3.2
Shrimp, frozen	172.9	174.3	22.1	3.3	3.7
Fish, fresh or frozen	207.4	208.4	26.7	3.6	4.0
Tuna fish, canned	150.6	151.2	11.7	1.9	2.2
Sardines, canned	173.1	172.8	14.1	2.8	2.7
Dairy products	141.2	-	20.0	2.8	0
Milk, fresh, grocery	142.2	142.3	22.3	4.0	3.9
Milk, fresh, delivered	143.2	-	18.2	3.0	0
Milk, fresh skim	150.9	151.2	23.0	2.7	2.8
Milk, evaporated	147.1	146.8	21.4	4.2	4.0
Ice cream	122.5	122.5	14.8	2.4	2.1
Cheese, American process	153.1	153.6	21.1	5.1	4.9
Butter	121.1	120.9	14.8	-5.4	-5.3

See footnote at end of table.



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

1967=100)

Item and group	Index		Percent changes to November 1973 from—		
	November 1973		November 1972	October 1973	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food—Continued					
Food at home—Continued					
Fruits and vegetables	143.7	147.8	13.6	3.5	2.6
Fresh fruits and vegetables	145.1	152.3	12.0	2.5	1.1
Fresh fruits	139.9	147.7	14.1	-6.6	3.9
Apples	142.2	166.9	26.0	3.5	6.6
Bananas	107.3	110.4	7.3	-3.4	3.4
Oranges	155.3	148.3	20.3	-1.5	2.1
Orange juice, fresh	133.5	133.0	2.1	.9	1.1
Grapefruit	138.7	152.1	1.2	-25.3	-6.5
Grapes	170.5	170.0	2.4	7.2	-2.9
Strawberries	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Watermelon	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Fresh vegetables	149.4	156.3	10.6	4.9	-8
Potatoes	180.2	191.7	33.3	6.6	5.9
Onions	140.5	149.9	-3	2.3	5.1
Asparagus	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Cabbage	153.4	168.8	23.1	-14.0	-14.7
Carrots	135.2	142.6	.4	-2.9	2.1
Celery	131.6	134.4	-1.7	-3.7	-7.7
Cucumbers	142.9	173.2	45.7	12.2	6.1
Lettuce	126.7	112.4	-8.5	.7	-9.8
Peppers, green					
Spinach	159.4	162.5	12.9	-2.3	-6
Tomatoes	135.3	139.3	-9.1	21.7	3.0
Processed fruits and vegetables	141.6	141.5	16.0	5.1	5.0
Fruit cocktail, canned	135.9	135.8	10.5	2.5	2.1
Pears, canned	129.3	129.0	7.1	1.7	1.8
Pineapple-grapefruit juice drink	121.5	121.0	4.2	0	-2
Orange juice concentrate, frozen	138.1	138.2	1.2	1.2	1.3
Lemonade concentrate, frozen	122.5	122.6	2.7	1.2	.9
Beets, canned	146.5	146.5	16.3	.6	.4
Peas, green canned	113.6	113.0	5.5	1.0	.3
Tomatoes, canned	130.8	130.9	10.4	2.7	2.8
Dried beans	241.6	241.8	72.1	24.5	24.5
Broccoli, frozen	125.8	126.2	6.3	1.0	1.0
Other food at home	137.9	138.0	16.8	.5	.9
Eggs	169.1	170.1	48.9	-5.6	-3.3
Fat and oils:					
Margarine	161.0	161.5	37.6	1.8	1.8
Salad dressing, italian	117.3	117.3	6.9	2.1	2.0
Salad or cooking oil	158.6	159.1	32.8	3.1	3.2
Sugar and sweets	135.6	135.7	12.0	3.4	3.4
Sugar	136.6	136.6	18.0	3.3	3.3
Grape jelly	140.2	140.8	11.4	3.4	3.5
Chocolate bar	139.0	138.7	6.3	.4	.6
Syrup, chocolate flavored	126.2	126.7	13.8	6.9	6.9
Nonalcoholic beverages	134.2	134.2	9.2	.8	.8
Coffee, can and bag	141.2	141.1	15.0	.6	.7
Coffee, instant	134.9	135.2	9.2	1.5	1.5
Tea	111.9	111.9	2.2	.3	.4
Carbonated drink, cola flavored	134.4	134.4	3.9	.9	.9
Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	134.3	134.3	4.8	1.1	1.1
Prepared and partially prepared foods	123.3	123.4	6.8	2.0	2.1
Bean soup, canned	126.7	127.0	8.8	2.9	3.1
Chicken soup, canned	115.1	115.3	9.9	4.5	4.5
Spaghetti, canned	125.9	125.6	3.3	.7	.6
Mashed potatoes, instant	120.4	120.6	7.1	1.0	1.0
Potatoes, french fried, frozen	120.7	121.2	8.3	2.2	2.7
Baby foods	118.5	118.5	8.1	1.6	1.9
Sweet pickle relish	134.8	134.5	4.6	1.7	1.4
Pretzels	122.0	122.2	5.9	1.7	1.9

<sup>1</sup> 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, November 1973, and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to November 1973 from:	
		October 1973	November 1973	November 1972	October 1973
Housing		138.1	139.4	6.6	0.9
Shelter <sup>1</sup>		144.7	145.6	6.9	.6
Rent, residential		125.9	126.3	4.8	.3
Homeownership <sup>2</sup>		151.5	152.6	7.5	.7
Mortgage interest rates		132.7	134.2	14.2	1.1
Property taxes		152.7	153.6	2.7	.6
Property insurance premiums		123.8	123.7	0	-.1
Maintenance and repairs		154.6	155.3	8.7	.5
Maintenance and repair commodities <sup>3</sup>		140.0	140.2	10.7	.1
Exterior house paint		120.8	122.2	3.8	1.2
Interior house paint		122.4	121.5	3.1	-.7
Maintenance and repair services		161.0	161.8	8.0	.5
Repainting living and dining rooms		174.7	175.3	7.7	.3
Reshingling house roof		167.1	168.3	7.0	.7
Residing house		147.9	149.0	8.3	.7
Replacing sink		159.1	159.3	7.5	.1
Repairing furnace		167.5	168.5	9.5	.6
Fuel and utilities		128.6	132.1	8.5	2.7
Fuel oil and coal		141.1	155.6	30.4	10.3
Fuel oil, No. 2		140.0	154.2	31.8	10.1
Gas and electricity		127.4	129.8	6.2	1.9
Gas		128.4	132.3	6.2	3.0
Electricity		126.5	127.5	6.3	.8
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services		117.5	117.5	2.3	0
Residential water and sewerage services		147.4	148.5	4.9	.7
Household furnishings and operation <sup>4</sup>		126.7	127.5	4.4	.6
Housefurnishings		120.3	121.1	3.4	.7
Textiles		117.6	119.7	4.0	1.8
Sheets		121.7	123.3	4.5	1.3
Curtains, tailored		114.9	119.1	5.5	3.7
Bedspreads		112.4	115.2	1.5	2.5
Drapery fabric		130.4	133.1	7.4	2.1
Pillows, bed		107.9	109.0	.6	1.0
Slipcovers and throws, ready made		118.0	118.2	3.9	.2
Furniture and bedding		127.3	128.2	5.2	.7
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser	Mar. 70	112.0	112.9	6.8	.8
Sofas, upholstered		125.2	126.1	4.0	.7
Cocktail tables	Dec. 71	106.2	107.4	5.6	1.1
Dining room chairs	Mar. 70	111.4	112.3	7.1	.8
Recliners, upholstered	Dec. 71	100.1	101.8	3.6	1.7
Sofas, dual purpose		121.8	122.3	3.6	.4
Bedding, mattress and box springs	June 70	109.6	109.9	4.5	.3
Aluminum folding chairs		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Cribs		127.5	127.7	7.3	.2
Floor coverings		109.4	109.6	2.8	.2
Broadloom carpeting, manmade fibers		104.2	104.1	2.7	-.1
Vinyl sheet goods		122.9	124.3	4.0	1.1
Vinyl asbestos tile		120.2	120.4	1.9	.2
Appliances(excluding radio and T. V.)		110.0	110.2	.3	.2
Washing machines, electric, automatic		111.0	111.2	.5	.2
Vacuum cleaners		104.4	104.6	.9	.2
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers, electric		108.5	108.6	.3	.1
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric		110.8	110.7	-.3	-.1
Clothes dryers, electric		114.5	114.8	-.3	.3
Air conditioners, demountable		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Room heaters, electric, portable		108.6	109.5	.4	.8
Garbage disposal units		112.5	112.5	1.3	0
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, fine china		133.0	134.4	6.1	1.1
Flatware, stainless steel		133.5	132.9	2.7	-.4
Table lamps, with shade		127.9	127.9	1.3	0
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Electric drills, hand-held		107.3	107.2	.6	-.1
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents		115.2	116.1	4.2	.8
Paper napkins		139.2	139.1	4.2	-.1
Toilet tissue		131.2	132.1	5.1	.7
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic services, general housework		152.3	153.3	8.3	.7
Baby sitter services		145.8	146.3	5.6	.3
Postal charges		146.6	146.6	0	0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service		153.1	154.2	9.8	.7
Licensed day care services, preschool child		133.9	135.2	7.6	1.0
Washing machine repairs		151.0	151.4	6.1	.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, November 1973, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to November 1973 from:	
		October 1973	November 1973	November 1972	October 1973
Apparel and upkeep <sup>6</sup> -----		129.6	130.5	4.4	0.7
Apparel commodities -----		130.0	130.8	4.1	.6
Apparel commodities less footwear -----		129.6	130.4	4.1	.6
Men's and boys' -----		128.3	128.9	3.3	.5
Men's: -----					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends -----		133.9	137.1	3.5	2.4
Suits, year round weight -----		135.8	136.4	2.2	.4
Suits, tropical weight -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Jackets, lightweight -----		119.9	119.9	5.2	0
Slacks, wool or wool blends -----		117.8	118.0	1.6	.2
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends -----		138.3	138.9	-3.0	-.4
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		123.1	123.6	7.2	.8
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		123.4	124.4	7.4	.8
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton -----		116.8	117.6	4.3	-.7
T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----		124.3	124.4	5.2	-.1
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers -----		117.8	118.0	2.1	.2
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		122.7	123.6	5.6	-.7
Boys': -----					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blends -----		126.0	123.6	-3.4	-1.9
Sport coats, wool or wool blends -----		122.5	122.1	-.5	-.3
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blends -----		142.3	143.1	11.0	.6
Undershorts, cotton -----		125.8	126.4	4.9	.5
Women's and girls' -----		131.4	132.2	4.5	.6
Women's: -----					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blends -----		142.3	143.6	5.5	.9
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton -----		141.6	147.4	7.6	4.1
Sweaters, wool or acrylic -----		138.9	138.9	7.3	0
Skirts, wool, wool blend or manmade fibers -----		148.7	155.5	6.4	4.6
Skirts, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Blouses, cotton or manmade fibers -----		129.2	128.5	2.3	-.5
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber -----		139.9	139.8	5.7	-.1
Slips, nylon -----		111.4	111.6	-.9	-.2
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot -----		121.1	121.8	2.5	-.6
Girdles, manmade blend -----		119.6	120.1	1.6	-.4
Brassiers, nylon lace -----		124.9	127.0	2.6	1.7
Hose or panty hose, nylon seamless -----		93.5	92.2	-3.3	-1.4
Anklets or knee-length socks, various fibers -----		114.4	114.5	-.3	-.1
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----		113.3	114.4	3.2	1.0
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----		157.2	158.0	7.0	.5
Girls': -----					
Raincoats, vinyl, cotton, or polyester blends -----		122.7	124.3	7.9	1.3
Skirts, wool, wool blends or acrylic -----		127.6	125.6	5.1	-1.6
Dresses, cotton, manmade fibers or blends -----		124.7	125.6	1.1	-.7
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton -----		142.7	146.2	4.4	2.5
Slips, polyester blends -----		109.9	109.9	-.2	0
Handbags, plastic -----		135.7	137.3	9.7	1.2
Footwear -----		132.0	132.6	4.3	.5
Men's: -----					
Shoes, street -----		134.4	135.3	6.7	.7
Shoes, work, high -----		140.4	141.0	11.9	.4
Women's: -----					
Shoes, street, pump -----		131.5	131.9	2.4	.3
Shoes, evening, pump -----		125.6	126.3	2.2	.6
Shoes, casual -----		132.2	132.5	3.5	.2
Houseslipppers, scuff -----		130.0	130.6	3.1	.5
Children's: -----					
Shoes, oxford -----		134.4	134.3	3.9	-.1
Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----		126.8	127.8	2.1	.8
Dress shoes, girls', strap or pump -----		134.7	135.6	3.9	.7
Miscellaneous apparel: -----					
Diapers, cotton gauze or disposable -----		119.4	121.1	3.6	1.4
Yard goods, polyester blend -----		131.9	134.8	13.0	2.2
Wrist watches, men's and women's -----		120.5	121.6	3.8	.9
Apparel services: -----					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses -----		124.2	125.9	6.3	1.4
Automatic laundry service -----		118.6	119.1	2.9	.4
Laundry, men's shirts -----		131.7	132.5	6.9	.6
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment -----		142.6	142.4	5.1	-.1
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift -----		124.4	125.0	5.5	.5

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to November 1973 from:	
		October 1973	November 1973	November 1972	October 1973
<b>Transportation</b>		125.0	125.8	3.6	0.6
<b>Private<sup>7</sup></b>		122.9	123.8	4.0	.7
Automobiles, new		111.9	112.2	1.8	.3
Automobiles, used		118.5	116.1	-.1	-2.0
Gasoline, regular and premium		121.8	126.3	14.7	3.7
Motor oil, premium		129.2	130.4	4.7	.9
Tires, new, tubeless		108.3	109.9	-4.1	1.5
Auto repairs and maintenance <sup>8</sup>		144.4	144.9	6.1	.3
Auto insurance rates		137.5	137.4	-1.7	-.1
Auto registration		123.7	123.7	-3.1	0
Parking fees, private and municipal		153.8	155.5	4.5	1.1
<b>Public</b>		145.2	144.6	-.3	-.4
Local transit fares		150.2	149.2	-1.1	-.7
Taxicab fares		138.3	138.3	3.4	0
Railroad fares, coach		122.6	122.6	.5	0
Airplane fares, chiefly coach		137.1	137.1	3.9	0
Bus fares, intercity		145.9	145.9	2.7	0
<b>Health and recreation</b>		132.1	132.6	4.1	.4
<b>Medical care</b>		140.6	140.9	5.1	.2
<b>Drugs and prescriptions</b>		106.1	106.2	.6	.1
<b>Over-the-counter items</b>		112.8	112.8	1.0	0
Multiple vitamin concentrates		95.2	95.7	.4	.5
Aspirin compounds		117.7	117.8	.6	.1
Liquid tonics		101.8	101.9	.8	.1
Adhesive bandages, packages		127.6	127.8	2.2	.2
Cold tablets or capsules		114.8	114.5	.2	-.3
Cough syrup		115.7	115.4	1.5	-.3
<b>Prescriptions</b>		100.5	100.6	.1	.1
Anti-infectives		70.2	70.0	-3.7	-.3
Sedatives and hypnotics		130.6	130.8	2.3	.2
Ataractics		103.9	103.7	-.2	-.2
Anti-spasmodics		107.9	107.9	-.1	0
Cough preparations		138.4	139.0	5.3	.4
Cardiovasculars and antihypertensives		113.7	114.0	1.7	.3
Analgesics, internal		110.8	111.1	1.1	.3
Anti-obesity		118.1	118.9	1.5	.7
Hormones		91.5	91.4	-1.4	-.1
<b>Professional services:</b>					
<b>Physicians' fees</b>		139.9	140.3	4.1	.3
General physician, office visits		141.6	141.9	4.6	.2
General physician, house visits		143.6	143.7	4.1	.1
Obstetrical cases		139.6	139.9	3.9	.2
Pediatric care, office visits		142.0	142.1	3.1	.1
Psychiatrist, office visits		134.3	135.1	3.3	.6
Herniorrhaphy, adult		132.1	132.5	2.6	.3
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy		133.9	135.0	3.5	.8
<b>Dentists' fees</b>		138.2	138.4	3.7	.1
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface		140.4	140.7	4.1	.2
Extractions, adult		137.4	137.5	3.2	.1
Dentures, full upper		134.3	134.6	3.4	.2
<b>Other professional services:</b>					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses		131.2	131.8	4.4	.5
Routine laboratory tests, urinalysis		124.2	124.5	2.6	.2
<b>Hospital service charges<sup>9</sup></b>	Jan. 72	107.0	107.2	4.1	.2
Semiprivate rooms		185.2	185.8	5.6	.3
Operating room charges		181.5	182.2	5.4	.4
X-ray diagnostic series, upper G.I.		133.0	133.3	2.5	.2
Laboratory tests, urinalysis	Jan. 72	105.7	105.8	3.5	.1
Anti-infectives, tetracycline, HCL	Jan. 72	97.0	96.0	-3.1	-1.0
Tranquilizers, chlordiazepoxide, HCL and meprobamate	Jan. 72	105.3	106.2	4.3	.9
Electrocardiogram	Jan. 72	105.4	105.2	1.6	-.2
Intravenous solution, saline	Jan. 72	104.6	104.7	2.2	.1
Physical therapy, whirlpool bath	Jan. 72	107.2	107.3	4.5	.1
Oxygen, inhalation therapy	Jan. 72	105.5	106.9	4.9	1.3
<b>Personal care</b>		127.3	128.1	5.9	.6
<b>Toilet goods</b>		121.1	122.1	3.7	.8
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice		110.5	110.1	-.4	-.4
Toilet soap, hard milled		130.2	136.3	10.5	4.7
Hand lotions, liquid		126.9	126.5	-.8	-.3
Shaving cream, aerosol		109.3	109.2	1.7	-.1
Face powder, pressed		149.4	149.8	7.8	.3
Deodorants, aerosol		105.1	105.4	1.5	.3
Cleansing tissues		127.8	129.4	6.3	1.3
Home permanent wave kits		109.4	109.2	-.5	-.2
<b>Personal care services</b>		133.9	134.4	8.0	.4
Men's haircuts		136.8	136.9	8.1	.1
Beauty shop services		131.9	132.7	8.0	.6
Women's haircuts		137.7	139.1	11.6	1.0
Shampoo and wave sets, plain		135.7	136.4	7.7	.5
Permanent waves, cold		117.7	118.1	4.4	.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, November 1973, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to November 1973 from:	
		October 1973	November 1973	November 1972	October 1973
Health and recreation—Continued					
Reading and recreation <sup>10</sup>		127.2	127.5	2.7	0.2
Recreational goods		110.1	110.2	1.8	.1
TV sets, portable and console		97.9	97.9	-1.4	0
TV replacement tubes		135.4	135.4	1.7	0
Radios, portable and table model		100.2	99.8	.6	-.4
Tape recorders, portable		94.7	94.4	.1	-.3
Phonograph records, stereophonic		108.7	108.8	1.3	.1
Movie cameras, super 8, zoom lens		90.6	90.7	2.4	.1
Film, 35mm, color		107.6	107.6	-.5	0
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core		103.7	103.5	-1.9	-.2
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover		128.3	128.5	2.0	.2
Fishing rods, fresh-water spin-casting		110.0	110.1	1.9	.1
Bowling balls		116.2	115.9	1.5	-.3
Bicycles, boys'		124.7	125.1	6.4	.3
Tricycles		116.9	116.9	1.7	0
Dog food, canned or boxed		128.2	132.1	18.6	3.0
Recreational services		133.4	134.2	3.7	.6
Indoor movie admissions		149.2	149.5	5.4	.3
Adult		146.7	147.1	4.6	.2
Children's		156.1	156.2	7.3	.1
Drive-in movie admissions, adult		150.3	151.1	2.2	.5
Bowling fees, evening		125.4	127.7	4.7	1.8
Golf green fees		137.6	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
TV repair, color picture tube replacement		100.6	100.3	1.8	-.3
Film developing, color		115.6	115.9	-.2	.3
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery		136.6	137.2	3.0	.4
Magazines, single copy and subscription		136.2	133.7	-.3	-1.8
Piano lessons, beginner		129.0	129.7	3.6	.5
Other goods and services		130.3	130.8	3.5	.4
Tobacco products		138.2	138.3	3.0	.1
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size		139.9	140.0	2.9	.1
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size		140.4	140.5	3.1	.1
Cigars, domestic, regular size		113.6	114.4	3.0	.7
Alcoholic beverages		123.7	124.3	3.2	.5
Beer		116.5	117.1	2.6	.5
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon		109.5	109.4	-.6	-.1
Wine, dessert and table		138.7	140.6	9.6	1.4
Beer away from home		136.5	137.2	3.4	.5
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult		128.9	129.5	5.9	.5
Bank service charges, checking accounts		104.7	104.7	-2.1	0
Legal services, short form will		168.1	168.8	10.6	.4

<sup>1</sup> Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup> Also includes home purchase costs not shown separately.

<sup>3</sup> Also includes pine shelving, furnace filters, packaged dry cement mix, and shrubbery not shown separately.

<sup>4</sup> Also includes window shades, nails, carpet sweepers, air deodorizers, steel wool scouring pads, envelopes, reupholstering and moving expenses.

<sup>5</sup> Priced only in season.

<sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> Also includes storage batteries and drivers' license fees not shown separately.

<sup>8</sup> Includes prices for water pump replacement, motor tune-up, automatic transmission repair, exhaust system repair, front end alignment, and chassis lubrication.

<sup>9</sup> Indexes in the September 1973 report were transposed. The corrected indexes are: August 1973, 106.0; September 1973, 106.3

<sup>10</sup> 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.<sup>1</sup> 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.

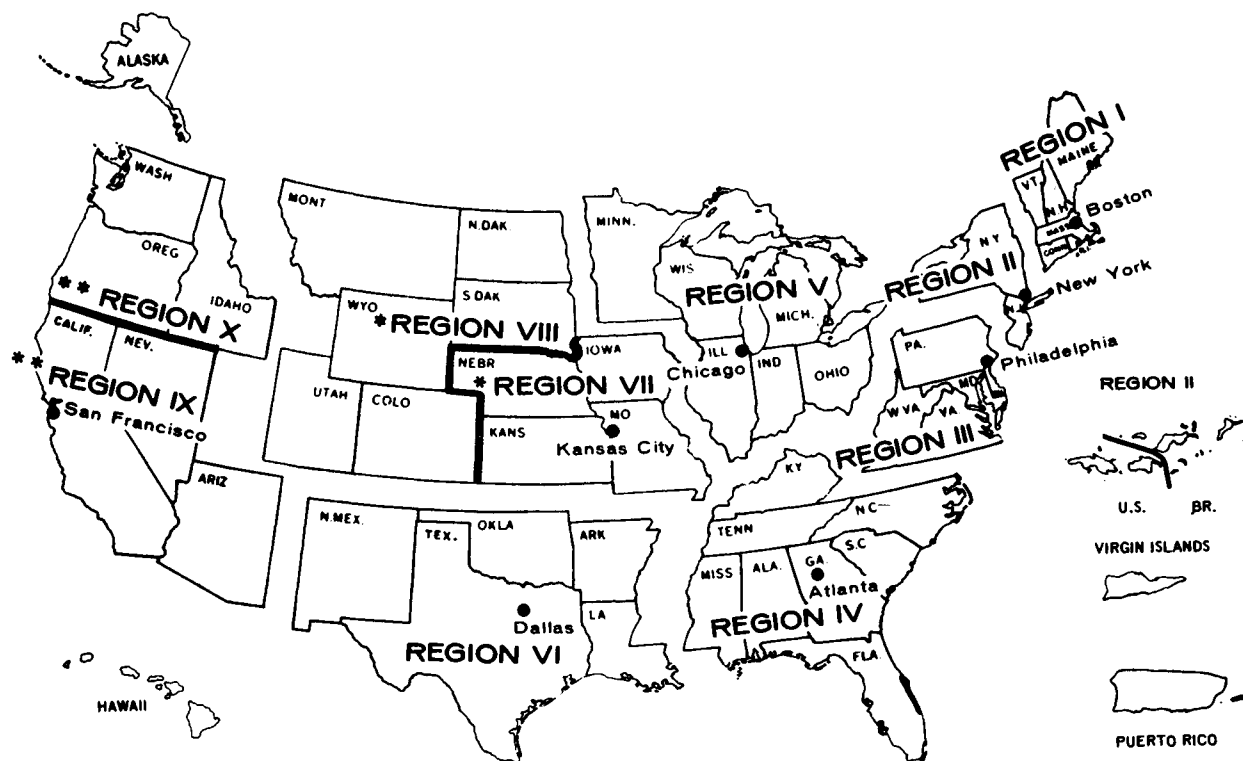
Because the CPI is rounded to one decimal place, some ambiguity may arise in interpreting small index changes. As the table indicates, for example, a month-to-month change of 0.1 percent in the all-items CPI is significant. Because of rounding, however, a change of this size in the published index might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

<sup>1</sup> 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  
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 Phone: 353-1880 (Area Code 312)

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 1515 Broadway  
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 Phone: 971-5405 (Area Code 212)

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 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**  
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 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)

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