



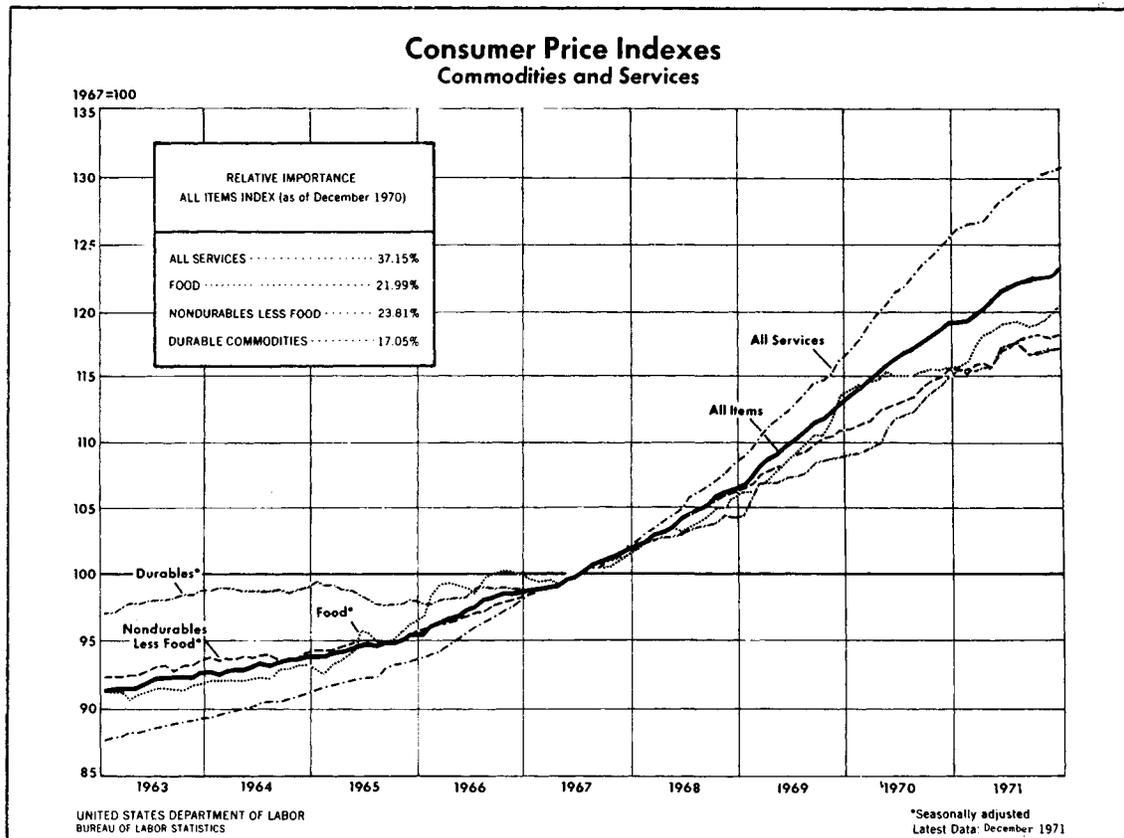
# the consumer price index

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BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS  
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OFFICE OF PRICES  
AND LIVING CONDITIONS  
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a monthly report  
on consumer price movements  
including statistical tables  
and technical notes.



THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
FOR  
DECEMBER 1971

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.4 percent in December to 123.1 percent of its 1967=100 base. Almost two-thirds of the rise was due to higher prices for food, particularly fresh vegetables, which are exempt from the Economic Stabilization Program.

The increase in December after seasonal adjustment was also 0.4 percent. This rate compares with an average monthly increase of a little more than 0.1 percent in the period from August to November, which corresponds roughly to Phase I of the Economic Stabilization Program, and an average monthly rate of 0.3 percent in the 6 months preceding the program. The food price index rose 0.7 percent in December, the same as in November. Prices of non-food commodities, which were unchanged from August to November, rose 0.3 percent. The index for services rose 0.3 percent, the same as in November.

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

Month	Changes from preceding month							Changes in all items at seasonally adjusted compound annual rate		
	All items		Food		Commodities less food		Serv-ices	From 3 mos. ago	From 6 mos. ago	From 12 mos. ago
	Unadj.	Seas. adj.	Unadj.	Seas. adj.	Unadj.	Seas. adj.	Unadj.			
December 1970	0.5	0.5	0.3	-0.1	0.3	0.7	0.6	5.3	4.9	5.5
January 1971	.1	.3	.2	0	-.3	.2	.6	4.5	4.9	5.2
February ...	.2	.2	.3	.5	0	-.1	.2	4.0	4.8	4.8
March .....	.3	.2	.9	.9	.3	.2	0	2.8	4.1	4.6
April .....	.3	.3	.7	.9	.3	.2	.2	2.8	3.6	4.3
May .....	.5	.6	.3	.2	.7	.7	.6	4.2	4.1	4.4
June .....	.6	.5	.8	.5	.4	.3	.5	5.3	4.0	4.5
July .....	.2	.2	.5	.1	-.1	.1	.5	4.9	3.9	4.4
August .....	.2	.3	.2	.1	.1	.3	.5	4.0	4.1	4.4
September ..	.1	.1	-.8	-.3	.3	0	.3	2.6	3.9	4.0
October ....	.2	.1	-.2	0	.5	0	.2	2.4	3.6	3.6
November ...	.2	.2	.1	.7	.1	0	.3	1.7	2.8	3.5
December ...	.4	.4	1.1	.7	0	.3	.3	2.8	2.7	3.4

Impact of the Economic Stabilization Program

The November to December change in the index reflects changes in some prices that are collected only every 3 months or less frequently and thus does not exclusively represent changes in Phase II. As in past months, the index continued to reflect changes in items exempt from regulation under the Economic Stabilization Program. The increase in the December index of 0.4 percent is cut in half to 0.2 percent when the effects of identifiable items exempt from Phase I and still exempt in Phase II--raw agricultural products, taxes, and mortgage interest rates--are removed. The result is the same when the additional effect of 3 components of the index exempted from Phase II regulations as of December--homes, used cars, and postal rates--is also removed.

Almost half of the 0.2 percent increase in items not specifically identified as exempt from the Stabilization Program was due to increases in prices of services, particularly gas and electricity. Scattered increases for a number of commodities, especially non-exempt food purchased in grocery stores, account for the other half.

The above analysis is based on the contribution to the change between November and December of individual index components weighted by their relative importance in the CPI market basket. As during previous months, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has continued to analyze the 120,000 individual prices used in the index by separating prices for those items which are priced each month from those which are priced only every 3 months or less frequently. Analysis of the monthly price comparisons used in the December index, which account for about 80 percent of the 120,000 quotations used, indicates that 77 percent did not change between November and December, 7 percent decreased, and 16 percent increased. (See Table B.) The number of increases was larger than in November, particularly for food and services.

Table B. Percent distribution of November to December price comparisons

Groups	Total	No change	Decrease	Increase*
Total	100.0	77.0	7.3	15.7
Total excluding raw agricultural products	100.0	84.6	5.9	9.5
Food at home	100.0	74.5	8.1	17.4
Raw agricultural products	100.0	38.3	14.2	46.5
Other	100.0	83.1	6.6	10.3
Nonfood commodities	100.0	88.4	5.2	6.4
Services	100.0	92.7	1.5	5.8

\* Regulations of the Stabilization Program permit certain types of increases but it is not possible to determine from data used in the CPI whether allowable increases account for all increases shown in the above table.

The December index also includes about 23,000 price comparisons to December from periods prior to November. Almost 18,000 of these cover the quarterly span from September to December. About 7-1/2 percent of these prices increased as compared with 9 percent last month. As was done for the September, October, and November indexes, the Bureau of Labor Statistics collected special additional information on the price change between November and December for some items for which prices are collected for the index on a quarterly basis. Analysis of the 5,000 prices for services and restaurant meals covered by this special collection shows that 2.5 percent of the prices increased between November and December. In addition to the 18,000 prices discussed above, about 5,000 rental units were surveyed for the index in December and almost 2 percent rose between November and December as compared with 1 percent in the previous month. About 1.5 percent of the total rental units surveyed showed increases in excess of 2.5 percent, and a little more than 1 percent had increases in excess of 5 percent.

In the 4 months after the stabilization program was announced, the CPI rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 2.4 percent compared with 3.8 percent in the 8 months preceding the price freeze. For the year ending in December 1971, the CPI rose 3.4 percent, the smallest increase in 4 years. Increases from December 1970 to December 1971 were the smallest since 1967 for services and the smallest since 1966 for nonfood commodities. Food prices rose more than in 1970 but less than in 1969. (See table C.)

Table C. Percent changes in CPI and components at seasonally adjusted annual rate compounded 8 months before and 4 months after the announcement of the New Economic Stabilization Program and for 12 months ending December 1969, 1970 and 1971

Groups	8 months ending August 1971	4 months ending December 1971	12 months ending December		
			1971	1970	1969
All items -----	3.8	2.4	3.4	5.5	6.1
Food -----	4.8	3.3	4.3	2.2	7.2
Food at home -----	4.7	3.6	4.2	1.3	7.2
Meats, poultry and fish -----	2.4	9.0	4.6	-0.6	11.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	12.1	13.1	12.5	-1.6	4.5
Cereal and bakery products* -----	3.9	-1.8	2.0	5.9	3.9
Dairy products -----	3.6	-0.5	2.2	3.9	4.0
Other food at home -----	2.5	-3.3	.5	1.4	7.5
Food away from home* -----	5.4	2.6	4.5	6.1	7.2
Commodities less food -----	2.9	.9	2.3	4.8	4.4
Nondurables less food -----	3.0	1.8	2.7	4.1	4.4
Apparel commodities -----	1.9	2.5	2.2	3.8	5.3
Nondurables less food and apparel* -----	3.6	1.6	2.9	4.4	4.0
Durables -----	2.5	.3	1.7	5.8	4.5
New cars -----	-1.6	-6.3	-3.2	6.7	2.1
Used cars* -----	4.1	-13.5	-2.1	7.4	4.4
Household durables -----	2.7	.5	2.0	2.8	3.4
Services* -----	4.6	3.3	4.1	8.2	7.4
Rent* -----	4.3	2.9	3.8	4.6	3.7
Household less rent -----	2.1	6.2	3.4	9.6	9.5
Medical care -----	7.3	1.3	5.3	8.3	7.1
Transportation -----	8.1	-0.2	5.3	10.3	8.5
Other services -----	4.2	3.2	3.8	5.6	4.9

\* Not seasonally adjusted.

### Services

The rate of advance in the Consumer Price Index for services in 1971 was 4.1 percent, the smallest in 4 years. Sharp declines in mortgage interest rates early in the year accounted for much of the slowdown. By mid-year rises in transportation, medical care and a number of other services were decelerating. After the wage-price-rent freeze went into effect, all categories of services showed a pronounced slowdown.

Charges for transportation services decelerated significantly during 1971. The increase in 1971 was 5.3 percent, about half as much as in 1970. The slowdown began in the second quarter of the year as the increase in charges leveled off for auto-related services, particularly, auto insurance rates and parking fees, and for local-transit fares. (See Table D.)

Auto insurance rates, which rose 10.7 percent in 1970, increased 7.3 percent in 1971. After a sharp advance in the first quarter and a moderate rise in the second, auto insurance rates leveled out in the third quarter, and in the fourth quarter they declined for the first time since early 1968. The price freeze caused postponement of some rate increases, and many

companies were either lowering rates or holding the line as a result of improved underwriting experience for physical damage insurance. Frequent rate increases in the past few years and a slower rise in claims produced additional revenue. Auto bodily injury liability insurance, on the other hand, continued to show a deficit.

Parking fees rose 5.6 percent in 1971, about half as much as in 1970; most of the increase occurred in the first quarter. The increase in 1971 was more in line with yearly changes before 1970. Charges for auto repairs accelerated until the wage-price-rent freeze was announced; because of the sharp slowdown after August the increase of 6.6 percent in 1971 was slightly smaller than in 1970. The slowdown in public transportation charges was mostly in local-transit fares, which rose 3.4 percent in 1971 compared with 20 percent in 1970. Railroad and intercity bus fares also increased less than in 1970, but taxicab and airlines fares increased at a more rapid pace.

Table D. Percent changes in CPI and components

	3-month ending 1/				
	1970	1971			
	December	March	June	September	December
All items	5.3	2.8	5.3	2.6	2.8
Food	0	6.0	6.3	-0.3	5.5
Food at home	-0.7	5.7	6.0	-1.4	7.0
Meats, poultry and fish	-1.0	3.9	4.6	-0.3	10.3
Fruits and vegetables	-4.1	10.7	20.0	-6.1	28.0
Cereal and bakery products*	4.8	5.1	4.3	1.4	-2.8
Dairy products	3.2	3.9	4.6	1.0	-0.7
Other food at home	-1.0	4.3	5.3	-8.9	2.1
Food away from home*	4.0	5.0	5.2	5.5	2.2
Commodities less food	6.5	1.0	4.9	1.7	1.4
Nondurables less food	5.0	1.4	3.9	4.2	1.0
Apparel commodities	4.9	1.0	4.4	.7	2.3
Nondurables less food and apparel*	5.5	1.8	3.2	6.1	.7
Durables	7.6	1.4	6.0	-1.0	.7
New cars	16.0	4.7	3.2	-18.7	0
Used cars*	16.6	-9.5	30.3	-8.5	-14.9
Household durables	3.3	1.1	4.0	2.1	.7
Services*	7.0	3.2	5.2	5.1	3.1
Rent*	6.3	4.7	4.6	3.2	2.8
Household less rent	9.3	-4.8	4.7	7.2	7.0
Medical care	7.8	7.3	7.5	6.1	.3
Transportation	7.9	11.1	9.1	1.2	0
Other services	4.8	6.2	3.3	4.7	1.3

1/ 3-month percent changes at seasonally adjusted annual rates compounded except where indicated by \* which are not seasonally adjusted.

Charges for medical care rose 5.3 percent, the smallest increase since the mid-1960's. Prices rose almost as much as they did in 1970 during the first three quarters of the year, before decelerating sharply in the fourth quarter. The regular annual adjustment for retained earnings of health insurance companies accounted for part of the fourth quarter slowdown. The rise in physicians' fees and hospital services charges showed a moderating trend before the freeze, and slowed considerably during the freeze. Physicians' fees rose 4.6 percent in 1971, less than the 8.1 percent increase in 1970. Hospital daily service charges rose 8.9 percent, a more moderate rise than the 13.5 percent recorded in 1970.

The Consumer Price Index for rent increased 3.8 percent, somewhat less than in 1970. Following a large advance in the fourth quarter of 1970, the rise in rents began to ease. By the fourth quarter the rate of increase was noticeably less than in the first and second quarters of 1971.

Charges for household services other than rent increased 3.4 percent in 1971, compared with 9.7 percent in 1970; the smaller increase in 1971 resulted primarily from a decline in mortgage interest rates in the first half of the year and the wage-price-rent freeze, which halted the rise for most of these services.

The sharpest decline in mortgage interest rates occurred in the first quarter of 1971, as a result of lower interest rates on FHA, VA, and conventional mortgage loans. Conventional rates continued to move down in the second quarter, but rose slightly in the third quarter and early in the fourth quarter before moving down again in November and December. In 1971, the index for mortgage interest rates declined 11 percent, after increases of over 11 percent in both 1968 and 1969 and of 6.7 percent in 1970.

Property taxes (which along with mortgage interest rates, were exempt from the freeze) rose 9.1 percent in 1971, almost as much as they did in 1970, as State and local governments continued to be confronted with the need for additional funds to operate school systems.

Property insurance rates, which increased 2.4 percent in 1970, rose 6.1 percent in 1971, the sharpest increase in 5 years. Most of the increase, however, took place before August and reflected higher premiums for both fire and extended coverage and homeowners' insurance. One of the factors contributing to higher property insurance premiums was the removal of discounts previously given for prepaid 3-year policies. Removal of the discounts generates additional premium revenue by encouraging the writing of annual policies, which reduce the period between the introduction of revised rates and receipts based on these revised rates.

Charges for home repair accelerated in the first three quarters of 1971, reflecting sharp advances in materials costs, particularly for asphalt strip shingles. Price increases were held down in the fourth quarter by the freeze. Home repair charges rose 8.2 percent in 1971, about the same as they did in 1970.

Increases in utility charges accounted for about 17 percent of the rise in the services index in 1971. The rise in charges for gas and electricity, which accelerated in 1970 after years of relatively modest increases, continued at a sharp pace in the first 8 months of 1971. The wage-price-rent freeze halted the rise between August and November. In December, however, the rise resumed with widespread rate increases and adjustments for fuel costs. In 1971, charges for gas increased over 8 percent after rising 5.8 percent in 1970 and electricity rose 5.6 percent, about the same as it did in 1970. Adjustments for fuel costs contributed significantly to the rise in utility charges in 1970 and in 1971. The rise in wholesale prices for natural gas continued to accelerate in 1971; although coal prices did not rise as much as they had in 1970, the increase in 1971 was still substantial; and prices of other fuels of low sulphur content necessary to comply with stronger air pollution controls rose sharply. Rate increases reflected rising costs for labor, transportation, equipment, and particularly construction. The latter was the single most important

cost factor in the rise of 6.3 percent in telephone rates in 1971. In 1970, telephone rates rose 2.5 percent. Expanding demand and rising costs led utility companies to ask for rate increases in order to attract capital to finance construction of new facilities. Utility taxes imposed by State and municipal governments also contributed to higher gas, electricity, and telephone bills. Although higher local taxes and service charges were important factors in the rise of 12.9 percent in water and sewerage rates in 1970, public distaste and resistance to these charges were factors in the smaller rise of 5.8 percent in 1971. A slower rise in average hourly earnings of sanitation workers was another moderating influence.

Postal charges rose over 21 percent in 1971--the largest increase in years--as postage was raised in May for all major categories of domestic mail, except parcel post. For domestic services, baby sitters, and day care services, price increases in 1971 were somewhat smaller than in 1970.

Increases in charges for most other services such as dry cleaning, laundering, tailoring, barber and beauty shops, movie admission, personal care, recreation, and legal services rose less in 1971 than in 1970--3.8 percent compared with 5.6 percent. Charges for these services--which are more susceptible to discretionary spending than most household or medical care services--moderated after the first quarter of 1971.

#### Commodities less food

The CPI for nonfood commodities rose 2.3 percent for the year ending in December 1971, the smallest increase since 1966. The slowdown stemmed from declines over the year in used and new car prices due to elimination of the auto excise tax and smaller increases for most other commodities including apparel, household durables, houses, tobacco products, and alcoholic beverages. The price movements of most of these commodities at the retail level reflected similar movements at the wholesale level, where the index of nonfood commodities rose 1.7 percent in 1971, also the smallest increase since 1966.

The CPI for nonfood commodities slowed markedly early in 1971, as retail sales showed little improvement from the depressed levels of 1970, except for autos. However, price rises accelerated late in the second quarter and early in the third quarter--in the months immediately preceding the announcement of the Economic Stabilization Program. Rising costs for labor and materials, efforts to improve profit margins, and anticipated strengthening in demand from strong housing activity were factors which contributed to the acceleration in prices. From August to November--roughly equivalent to Phase I of the Program--the price index for nonfood commodities decreased slightly at wholesale and showed no change at retail. In December, both the WPI and CPI for nonfood commodities rose, mostly because of higher prices for new cars.

Autos and auto-related goods. In the first and second quarters of 1971, dealer concessions on new cars did not increase as much as they usually do. Production and sales continued to recover from low levels recorded during the strike. By late second quarter, however, auto sales started to level out, causing prices to decline seasonally.

The announcement of the wage-price-rent freeze resulted in a spurt in auto sales and lower prices. Generally, higher prices for new (1972) models would have helped dealers sell their 1971 inventory of new cars. However, the freeze on prices of 1972 models moderated this stimulus, and auto manufacturers instituted wholesale price reductions on the 1971 model cars shortly after the wage-price-rent freeze went into effect. Domestic new car sales reached record levels in September, October, and November. Sales of imported cars, on the other hand, declined from August to November. The East, West, and Gulf Coast dock strikes and higher prices due to the import surcharge and currency revaluation contributed to the decrease in sales.

The decline in the CPI for new cars in the August-November period also reflects the recomputation of the index for the repeal of the Federal excise tax on new cars. Since the Revenue Act of 1971 provided for refund of the tax to purchasers of new cars retroactive to August 15, the indexes for August, September, and October were recomputed to take account of the refunds. (See the Consumer Price Index report for November.) In December, retail prices for new cars increased in response to higher manufacturer-to-dealer prices effective in late November and early December.

Strong sales of new cars also increased used car supplies in 1971. In the first two quarters of 1971, used car prices rose more slowly than they did in 1970. In the third and fourth quarters, prices declined. The repeal of the excise tax on new cars may have contributed also to the decline in used car prices. The removal of the excise tax on new cars narrows the difference between prices of new cars and used cars. In order to stimulate demand for used cars, dealers probably decreased prices and trade-in values of these cars.

Gasoline prices at the end of 1971 were at just about the same level as they were at the end of 1970. After an industry-wide increase in December 1970, prices declined through July of 1971. A sharp advance in August brought these prices slightly above the level at the start of the year, but they moved down again in the fourth quarter. For the first time since 1964, gasoline prices did not show an increase over the year. Tire prices rose 2.3 percent in 1971; most of the increase occurred early in the third quarter. Wholesale prices for tires were raised industry-wide in July and these increases were reflected at the retail level before the NEP was announced. In the fourth quarter, tire prices increased about seasonally. In the preceding 4 years, increases in the fourth quarter were much larger.

Household durables. Price increases for household durables, both at wholesale and retail slowed markedly in the first quarter, but accelerated in the second quarter and early third quarter. In the 3 months ending in August, retail prices of household durables rose at a 4.3 percent annual rate, the sharpest since mid-1969. The increase at retail reflected large advances in wholesale prices, particularly for furniture. Although sales in furniture stores weakened in the second and third quarters after a surge in late 1970, prices were raised due partly to higher prices for lumber and other materials, and partly in anticipation of increased demand because of the strong rise in housing construction. In late 1971, sales in furniture and appliance stores showed considerable improvement. Since the pickup occurred during the price freeze, higher prices accounted for a much smaller share of the overall advance in dollar volume than was the case in late 1970. In the 4 months since the NEP was announced, wholesale prices for furniture and household durables held steady, and retail prices increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 0.5 percent. For the year ending in December 1971, retail prices for household durables rose 2.0 percent and wholesale prices 1.4 percent--the smallest increases in 4 years at both levels.

Apparel. Price rises for apparel commodities, which moderated significantly in 1970, slowed further in 1971. The slowdown began in the first quarter, when prices were marked down on winter apparel items. Price increases were larger in the second quarter because of higher prices for spring and summer clothing, but were reduced widely early in the third quarter. These fluctuations indicated continued consumer resistance to higher prices and selectivity in apparel purchases. Early in the third quarter, wholesale prices for apparel increased at the sharpest rate in 2 years, after moderate increases in the first half of 1971. The increases were partly due to higher wages following major labor agreements in the apparel industry and to higher prices for materials. These wholesale price increases were reflected in some fall and winter clothing that appeared in retail stores before the wage-price-rent freeze. For the year, apparel commodity prices rose 2.2 percent at retail and 1.7 percent at wholesale, the smallest increases since the mid-1960's. In response to slower price rises and a general improvement in the economy, apparel sales strengthened late in the year. In December, retail sales in stores rose 5 percent higher than the December 1970 level.

Other nonfood commodities. Price increases in 1971 for other nonfood commodities ranged from 1.5 percent or less for textile housefurnishings and drugs and prescriptions, to 3.5 percent for alcoholic beverages, about 4 percent for housekeeping supplies and tobacco products, and as much as 6.4 percent for newspapers, magazines, and books. Part of the increase in the prices of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages was due to higher taxes. Rising production costs accounted for much of the increase in the prices of reading materials. The increases in 1971 for all of these commodities were smaller than they were in 1970. Except for reading materials, price increases in the first three quarters of 1971 were smaller than during the same period of 1970, and the wage-price-rent freeze held down increases in the fourth quarter.

### Food

The index of food purchased in grocery stores rose at a rapid pace during the first 7 months of 1971. During the August-October period the trend was reversed abruptly as food prices declined on average, primarily in response to increased supplies of raw agricultural products including grains, milk, eggs, and fresh fruits and vegetables. Price declines for fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and eggs--items exempt from price controls--were particularly sharp. In November and December, however, the index of grocery store foods rose again as reduced supplies resulted in higher prices for fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as meats.

Fresh fruit and vegetable prices, which declined 5.6 percent in 1971, rose 17.2 percent in 1971, accounting for almost 40 percent of the rise in the food at home index. Prices of fresh vegetables were up 23.6 percent. Reduced planting and adverse growing and harvesting weather resulted in small supplies and higher prices for fresh vegetables through most of 1971; prices rose almost 55 percent for lettuce, over 43 percent for cabbage and celery, over 35 percent for green peppers, and about 23 percent for tomatoes. In contrast, potato prices rose 1.3 percent, less than they did in 1970. Fresh fruit prices increased 8.2 percent. Late maturing of 1971-72 citrus crops and reduced imports of bananas were factors that kept fresh fruit prices from declining as much as they usually do in late 1971. Adverse weather conditions early in the year also contributed to price increases for fresh fruits in 1971. Higher prices for fresh market crops were reflected also in prices of processed fruits and vegetables, which rose 5.9 percent; most of this increase occurred before the price freeze.

The price index for the meats, poultry, and fish group also reversed its 1970 trend; it increased 4.6 percent in 1971 compared with a decline of 0.6 percent in 1970. Beef and veal prices rose 8.1 percent, considerably more than the 2.5 percent increase in 1970. Prices rose sharply in the first two quarters of 1971 and at yearend. Early in the year, adverse weather conditions temporarily affected livestock marketings, resulting in higher meat prices. After cattle marketings resumed, in early spring, wholesale price increases for beef became smaller, but retail beef prices continued to rise at a fast pace because of strong demand. Price increases were smaller than usual in the summer, as production outpaced demand. However, production and cold storage holdings declined from August to December. Reduced supplies reflected a decline of 17 percent in the number of Federally-inspected cattle slaughtered in early December compared with early September. Although retail beef prices declined in October and November, the declines were smaller than usual, and in December prices rose sharply.

Retail pork prices, which declined 9.5 percent in 1970, rose 2 percent in 1971, primarily because of sharp increases in the fourth quarter. Wholesale pork prices rose almost 18 percent and hog prices over 30 percent in 1971. Prices rose despite large increases in hog marketings and in production in the fourth quarter. The expected decreases in pork production during the first part of 1972 because of smaller pig crops in 1971 appeared to be exerting an unusual upward influence on prices.

Poultry prices declined 0.4 percent in 1971, compared with a decline of 2 percent in 1970. A large increase in production kept prices down but not as much as in 1970 because of strong demand. Fish prices rose 7.1 percent, less than in 1970 when they rose 11.9 percent. Although smaller than in 1970, price increases for canned tuna and sardines, and fresh and frozen fish were still substantial because of lower imports, partly due to the dock strikes, and smaller U.S. landings of edible fish. Imports account for about 55 percent of U.S. fish consumption. Frozen shrimp prices increased considerably more than in 1970.

Prices of cereal and bakery products, which rose 5.9 percent in 1970, increased 2.0 percent in 1971, the smallest rise since 1968. After a pronounced slowdown in the third quarter, prices declined in the fourth quarter. In addition to the price freeze, a near record output of wheat and corn had a moderating influence on prices of all of the items in this category. The increase of 2.2 percent in the prices of dairy products in 1971 compares with increases of about 4 percent in each of the 3 preceding years. Most of the increase occurred before the price freeze and was largely due to the higher government support rate to milk manufacturers. On the other hand, reduced government support rates on butter fat allowed butter prices to fall slightly.

Egg prices, which declined almost 25 percent in 1970, decreased 7.5 percent in 1971. However, egg prices were increasing by the fourth quarter as production stabilized and demand increased with the holiday season.

The wage-price-rent freeze in Phase I had a marked effect on the price index for food away from home. Prices of restaurant meals and snacks increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 2.2 percent in the fourth quarter, compared with a rate of more than 5 percent in the first three quarters. These prices rose more than 7 percent in 1969 and 6 percent in 1970. Although food costs were higher in 1971 than in 1970, labor costs--another important factor in restaurant prices--increased at a slower pace. Average hourly earnings for nonsupervisory workers in eating and drinking places rose 2.6 in the 11 months from December 1970 to November 1971, compared with 6.1 percent for the same period in 1970. Another moderating influence on restaurant prices before the freeze was the slackening in rate of spending in restaurants caused by high prices and the economic slowdown. By late 1971, however, as price increases were held down by the Economic Stabilization Program and the economy showed an improvement, spending in restaurants was rising.

## A NOTE ABOUT CALCULATING INDEX CHANGES

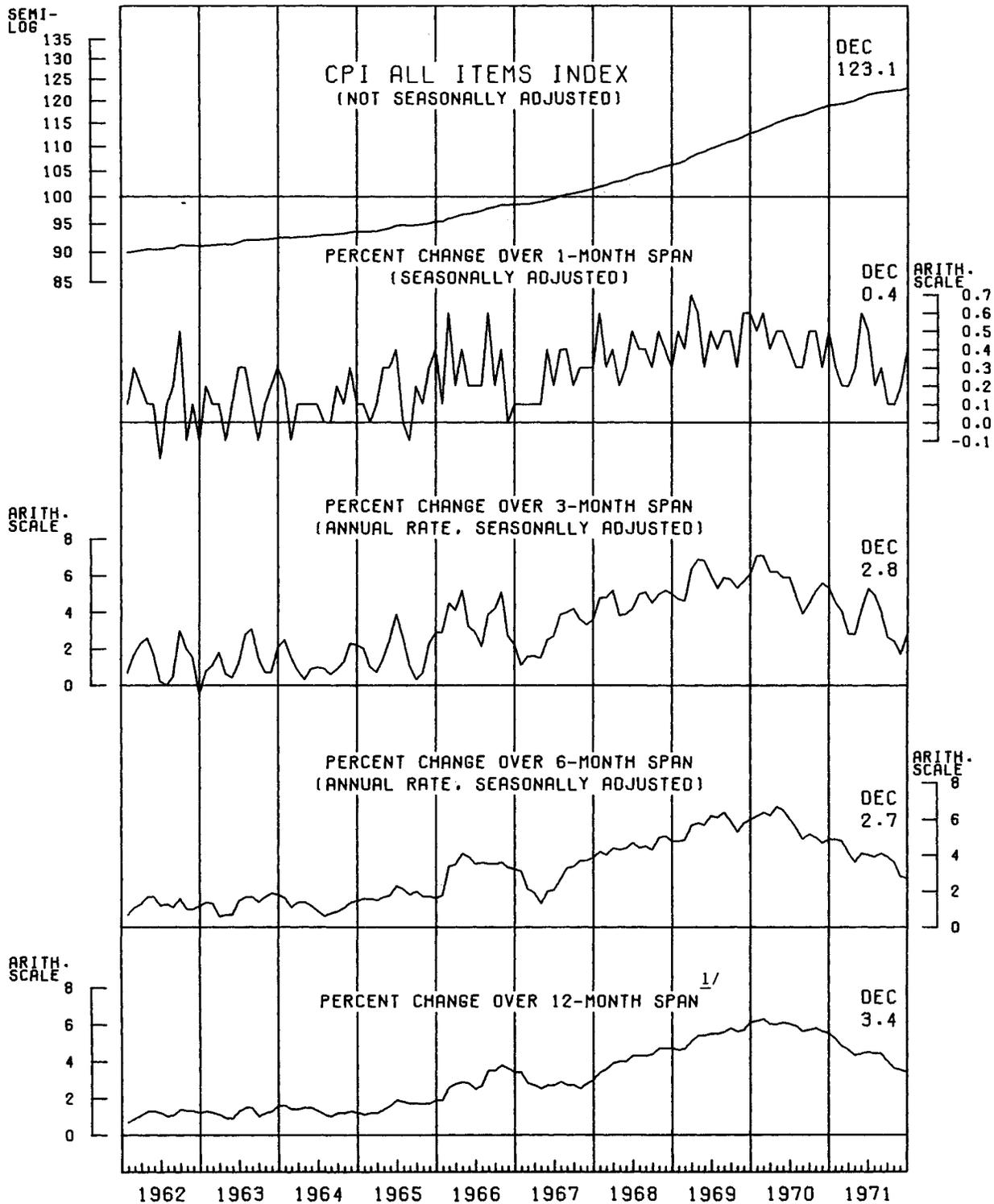
Effective with the February 1970 release, and continuing thereafter, percent changes expressed as annual rates will be computed according to the standard formula for compound growth rates. These data indicate what the percent change would be if the current rate were maintained for a 12-month period.

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

Index Point Change		Percent Change
December 1971 CPI (1967=100)	123.1	Index point difference divided by the index for the previous period: $\frac{123.1 - 122.6}{122.6} \times 100 = 0.4$
less November index	<u>122.6</u>	
index point difference =	0.5	

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

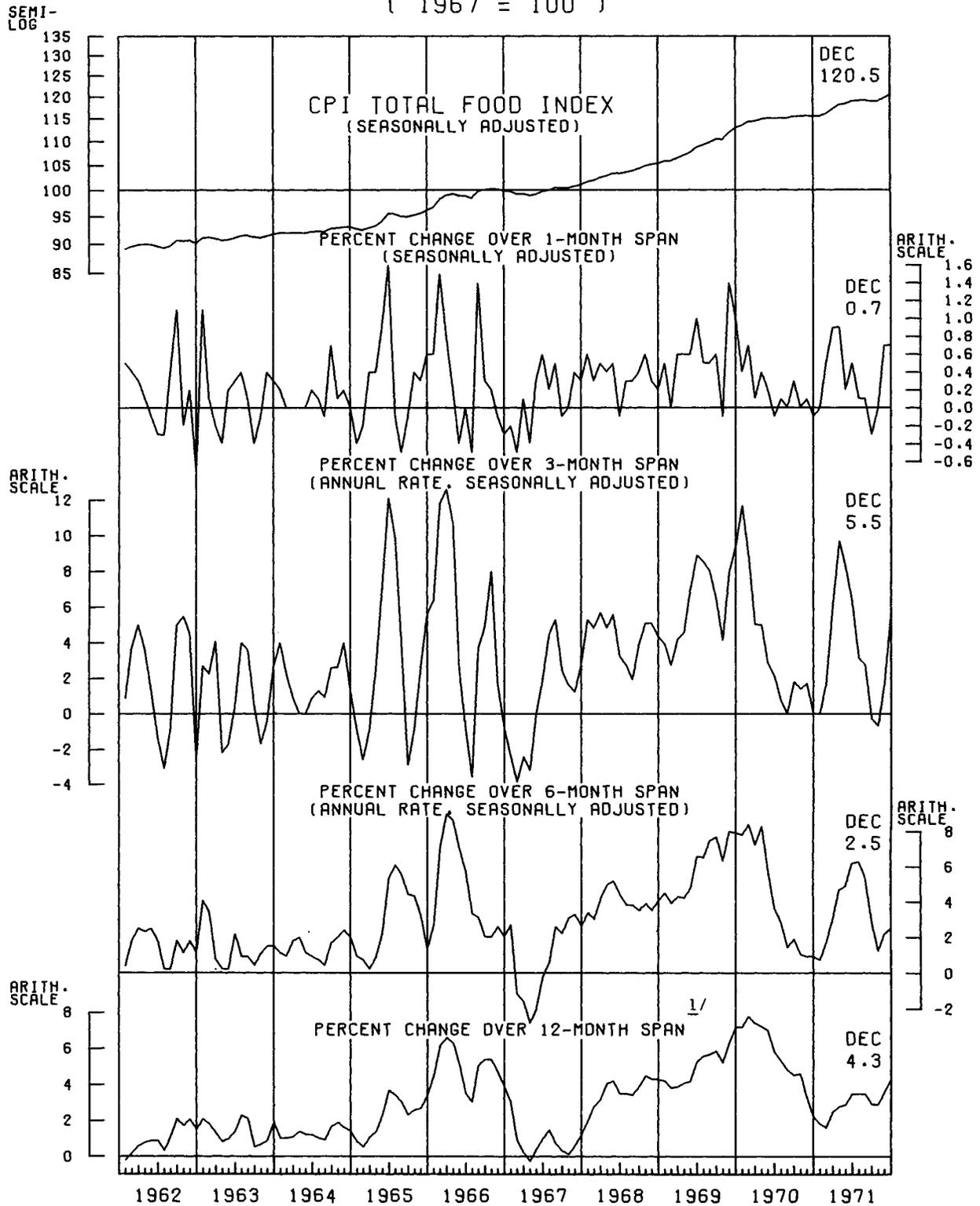
ALL ITEMS INDEX AND ITS RATE OF CHANGE 1962-71  
( 1967 = 100 )



1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.

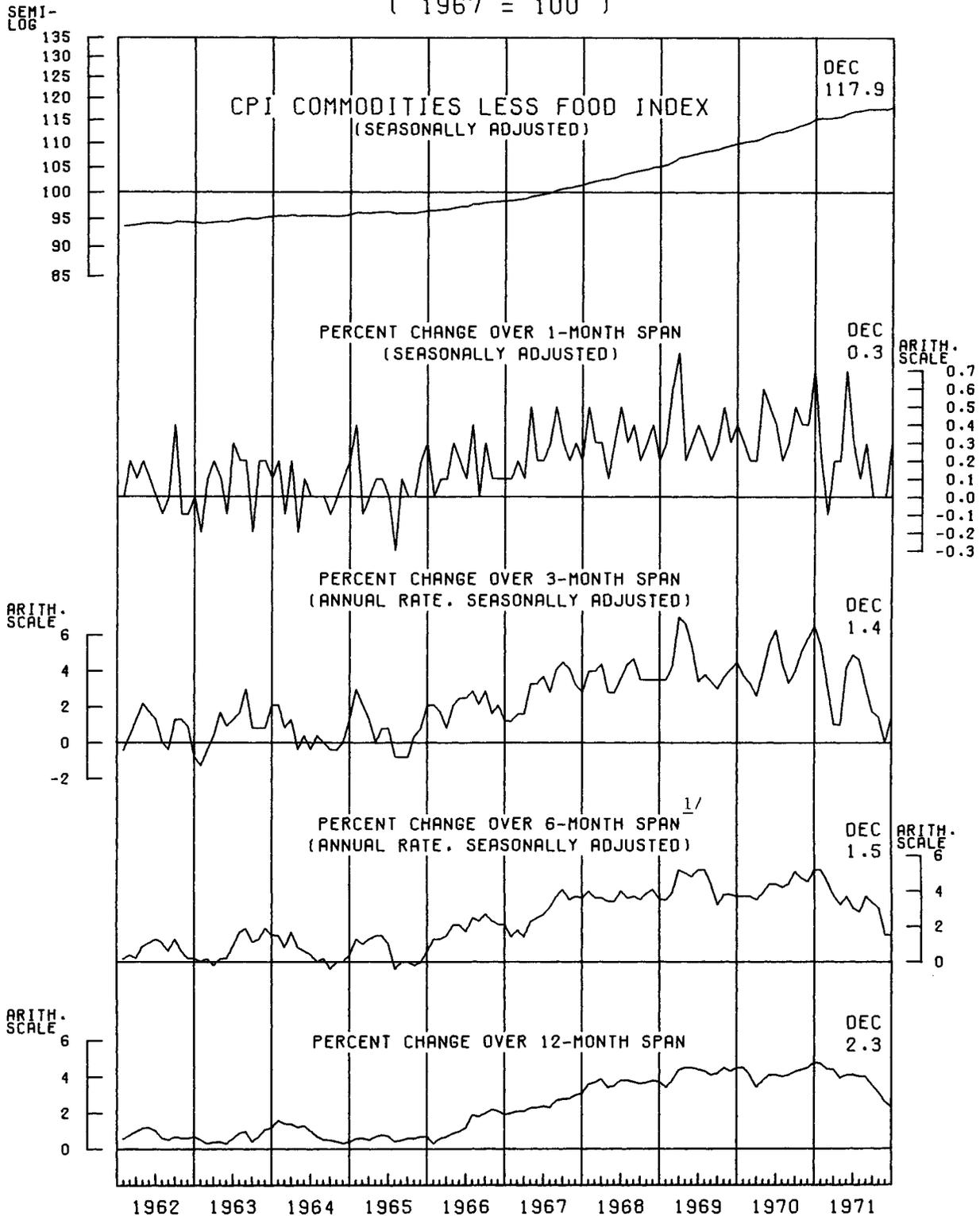
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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



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

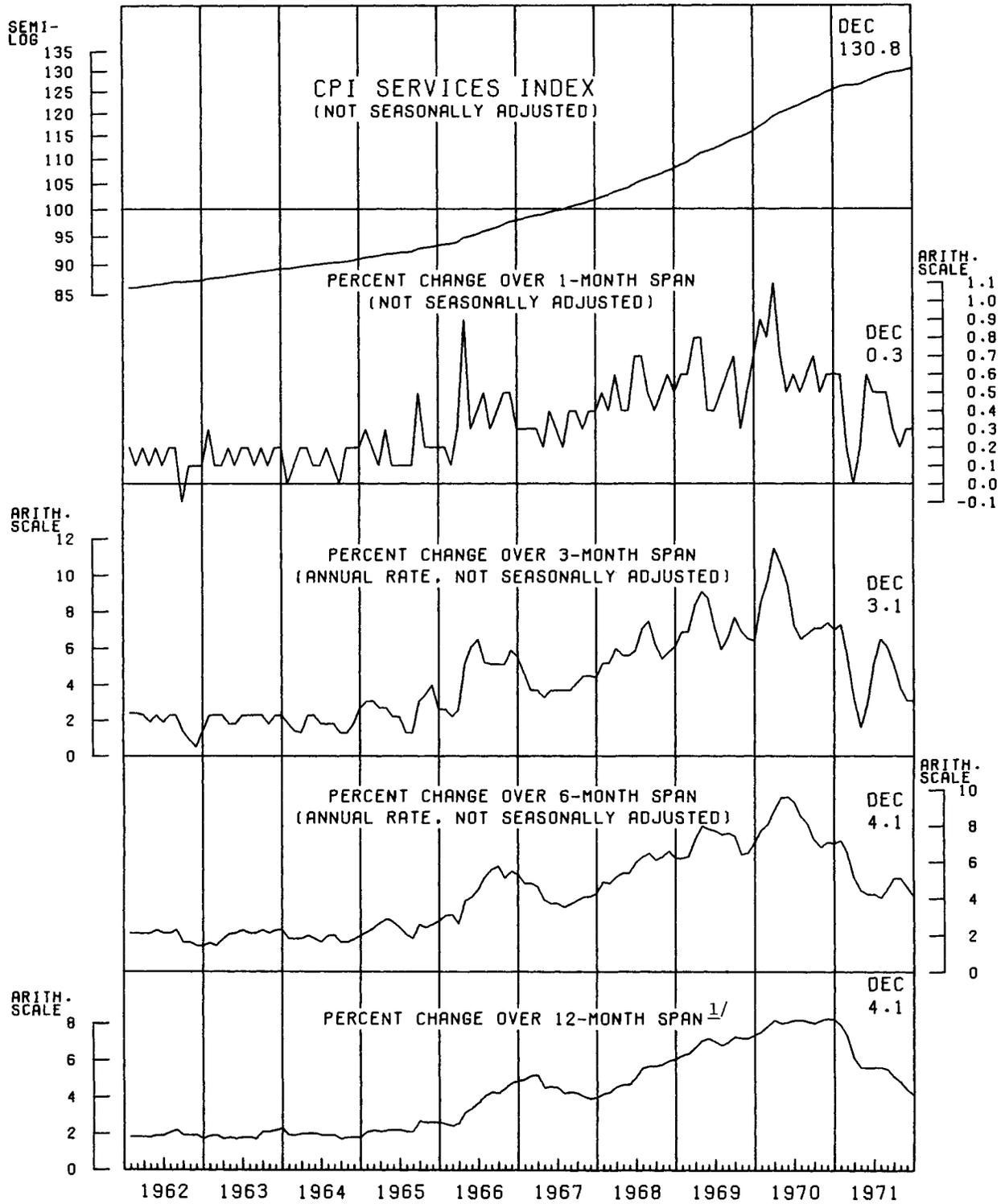
COMMODITIES LESS FOOD INDEX AND ITS RATE OF CHANGE 1962-71  
( 1967 = 100 )



1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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



1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.

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, December 1971

(Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Group	Indexes (1967=100) (unless otherwise specified)				Percent change to December 1971 from:		
	December 1971	November 1971	September 1971	December 1970	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
All items -----	123.1	122.6	122.2	119.1	0.4	0.7	3.4
All items (1957-59=100) -----	143.1	142.6	142.1	138.5	-	-	-
<b>Food</b> -----	120.3	119.0	119.1	115.3	1.1	1.0	4.3
Food at home -----	118.2	116.7	116.9	113.4	1.3	1.1	4.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.8	114.1	114.6	111.6	-.3	-.7	2.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	118.9	118.1	119.1	113.7	.7	-.2	4.6
Dairy products -----	116.1	115.9	116.1	113.6	.2	0	2.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	124.4	117.8	116.6	110.6	5.6	6.7	12.5
Other foods at home -----	116.6	115.6	115.5	116.0	.9	1.0	.5
Food away from home -----	128.3	128.2	127.6	122.8	.1	.5	4.5
<b>Housing</b> -----	126.8	126.4	125.5	122.6	.3	1.0	3.4
Shelter <sup>1/</sup> -----	131.6	131.3	130.1	127.9	.2	1.2	2.9
Rent -----	116.9	116.6	116.1	112.6	.3	.7	3.8
Homeownership <sup>2/</sup> -----	137.0	136.7	135.1	133.4	.2	1.4	2.7
Fuel and utilities <sup>3/</sup> -----	117.9	116.8	116.3	111.3	.9	1.4	5.9
Fuel oil and coal -----	118.1	118.1	117.8	114.9	0	.3	2.8
Gas and electricity -----	118.2	116.2	115.7	110.7	1.7	2.2	6.8
Household furnishings and operation -----	119.6	119.5	119.4	115.3	.1	.2	3.7
<b>Apparel and upkeep</b> <sup>4/</sup> -----	121.8	121.9	120.6	119.2	-.1	1.0	2.2
Men's and boys' -----	121.6	121.8	120.8	119.6	-.2	.7	1.7
Women's and girls' -----	123.2	123.4	121.3	120.5	-.2	1.6	2.2
Footwear -----	123.1	123.2	122.2	119.8	-.1	.7	2.8
<b>Transportation</b> -----	118.6	118.8	118.6	116.9	-.2	0	1.5
Private -----	116.3	116.6	116.4	115.2	-.3	-.1	-.1
New cars -----	110.4	109.6	105.6	114.1	.7	4.5	-3.2
Used cars -----	107.2	110.2	111.6	109.5	-2.7	-3.9	-2.1
Gasoline -----	107.3	106.9	108.7	107.4	.4	-1.3	-.1
Public -----	139.7	139.3	139.3	133.4	.3	.3	4.7
<b>Health and recreation</b> -----	123.9	123.7	123.6	119.1	.2	.2	4.0
Medical care -----	130.1	129.7	130.4	124.2	.3	-.2	4.8
Personal care -----	117.9	117.9	117.6	115.0	0	.3	2.5
Reading and recreation -----	121.1	120.8	120.5	116.2	.2	.5	4.2
Other goods and services -----	123.0	122.8	122.4	118.5	.2	.5	3.8
<b>Seasonally Adjusted:</b>							
Food -----	120.5	119.7	118.9	-	.7	1.3	-
Apparel and upkeep -----	121.0	120.8	120.4	-	.2	.5	-
Transportation -----	118.5	118.4	119.4	-	.1	-.8	-
<b>Special Groups:</b>							
All items less food -----	123.9	123.7	123.1	120.2	.2	.6	3.1
All items less medical care -----	122.7	122.3	121.7	118.8	.3	.8	3.3
Commodities less food -----	118.1	118.1	117.4	115.5	0	.6	2.3
Commodities -----	118.9	118.5	118.1	115.6	.3	.7	2.9
Nondurables -----	119.5	118.9	118.7	115.6	.5	.7	3.4
Nondurables less food -----	118.8	118.7	118.2	115.7	.1	.5	2.7
Apparel commodities -----	122.2	122.4	120.9	119.6	-.2	1.1	2.2
Durables -----	117.2	117.4	116.4	115.2	-.2	.7	1.7
Household durables -----	113.7	113.6	113.5	111.5	.1	.2	2.0
Services -----	130.8	130.4	129.8	125.6	.3	.8	4.1
Services less rent -----	133.3	132.9	132.3	128.0	.3	.8	4.1
Services less medical care -----	130.1	129.7	128.9	125.3	.3	.9	3.8
Insurance and finance -----	141.3	140.9	139.2	140.0	.3	1.5	.9
Utilities and public transportation -----	123.1	121.9	121.6	116.0	1.0	1.2	6.1
Housekeeping and home maintenance services -----	141.2	140.8	140.4	130.9	.3	.6	7.9
Medical care services -----	135.3	134.8	135.6	128.5	.4	-.2	5.3
<b>Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar:</b>							
1967=\$1.00 -----	\$0.812	\$0.816	\$0.818	\$0.840	-.5	-.7	-3.3
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	.699	.701	.704	.722	-	-	-

<sup>1/</sup> Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.  
<sup>2/</sup> Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.  
<sup>3/</sup> Also includes telephone, water, and sewerage service not shown separately.  
<sup>4/</sup> Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, jewelry, and apparel upkeep services not shown separately.

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

TABLE IA. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1971 Annual Average index  
(unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Group	Indexes (1967=100)		Percent change to 1971 from-- 1970 Average
	1971 Average	1970 Average	
All items -----	121.3	116.3	4.3
All items (1957-59=100) -----	141.0	135.3	-
<b>Food</b> -----	118.4	114.9	3.0
Food at home -----	116.4	113.7	2.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.9	108.9	4.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.9	116.5	.3
Dairy products -----	115.3	111.8	3.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	119.1	113.4	5.0
Other foods at home -----	115.9	114.1	1.6
Food away from home -----	126.1	119.9	5.2
<b>Housing</b> -----	124.3	118.9	4.5
Shelter <sup>1/</sup> -----	128.8	123.6	4.2
Rent -----	115.2	110.1	4.6
Homeownership <sup>2/</sup> -----	133.7	128.5	4.0
Fuel and utilities <sup>3/</sup> -----	115.1	107.6	7.0
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.5	110.1	6.9
Gas and electricity -----	114.7	107.3	6.9
Household furnishings and operation -----	118.1	113.4	4.1
<b>Apparel and upkeep <sup>4/</sup></b> -----	119.8	116.1	3.2
Men's and boys' -----	120.3	117.1	2.7
Women's and girls' -----	120.1	116.0	3.5
Footwear -----	121.5	117.7	3.2
<b>Transportation</b> -----	118.6	112.7	5.2
Private -----	116.6	111.1	5.0
New cars -----	112.0	107.6	4.1
Used cars -----	110.2	104.3	5.7
Gasoline -----	106.3	105.6	.7
Public -----	137.7	128.5	7.2
<b>Health and recreation</b> -----	122.2	116.2	5.2
Medical care -----	128.4	120.6	6.5
Personal care -----	116.8	113.2	3.2
Reading and recreation -----	119.3	113.4	5.2
Other goods and services -----	120.9	116.0	4.2
<u>Special Groups:</u>			
All items less food-----	122.1	116.7	4.6
All items less medical care-----	120.9	116.1	4.1
<b>Commodities</b> -----	117.4	113.5	3.4
Nondurables-----	117.7	114.0	3.2
Nondurables less food-----	117.0	113.1	3.4
Apparel commodities-----	120.1	116.5	3.1
Durables-----	116.5	111.8	4.2
Household durables-----	112.9	110.2	2.5
<b>Services</b> -----	128.4	121.6	5.6
Services less rent-----	130.9	123.7	5.8
Services less medical care-----	127.7	121.3	5.3
Insurance and finance-----	139.0	134.4	3.4
Utilities and public transportation-----	120.2	112.3	7.0
Hospital and home maintenance services-----	137.1	126.3	8.6
Medical care services-----	133.3	124.2	7.3
<u>Purchasing Power of Consumer Dollar:</u>			
1967=\$1.00-----	\$0.824	\$0.860	- 4.2
1957-59=\$1.00-----	.709	.740	-

See footnotes, table 1.

TABLE 2. Consumer Price Index--The United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items most recent index and percent changes from selected dates

Area <u>1/</u>	Pricing Schedule <u>2/</u>	Indexes			Percent change from:		
		1967=100	1957-59=100	Other bases	November 1971	September 1971	December 1970
		December 1971			November 1971	September 1971	December 1970
U.S. City Average -----	M	123.1	143.1		0.4	0.7	3.4
Chicago -----	M	122.3	139.0		.4	.5	2.6
Detroit -----	M	123.7	142.1		.2	.7	3.5
Los Angeles-Long Beach ---	M	120.1	141.2		0	.1	2.8
New York -----	M	128.0	152.3		.3	.5	4.6
Philadelphia -----	M	125.0	145.9		.2	.3	3.1
		October 1971				July 1971	October 1970
Boston -----	1	124.5	149.1			1.3	4.3
Houston -----	1	122.4	140.0			.9	3.8
Minneapolis-St. Paul ----	1	123.4	143.1			1.2	3.5
Pittsburgh -----	1	122.9	141.3			.9	3.4
		November 1971				August 1971	November 1970
Buffalo -----	2	123.1		<u>3/</u> 135.3		0.2	3.7
Cleveland -----	2	124.4	140.4			1.0	2.6
Dallas -----	2	122.4		<u>3/</u> 132.3		-.2	2.9
Milwaukee -----	2	120.9	136.5			-.4	2.6
San Diego -----	2	120.9		<u>4/</u> 127.1		.2	2.7
Seattle -----	2	117.6	138.2			0	2.3
Washington -----	2	124.2	144.7			.6	4.1
		December 1971				September 1971	December 1970
Atlanta -----	3	123.5	142.0			1.2	3.4
Baltimore -----	3	125.1	145.3			.6	3.6
Cincinnati -----	3	121.9	138.4			.4	2.9
Honolulu -----	3	121.1		<u>5/</u> 130.6		-.1	4.7
Kansas City -----	3	121.4	144.1			-.1	2.0
St. Louis -----	3	120.9	141.3			.3	2.8
San Francisco-Oakland ----	3	121.8	145.0			.7	2.8

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

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

- M - Every month.
- 1 - January, April, July, and October.
- 2 - February, May, August, and November.
- 3 - March, June, September, and December.

3/ November 1963=100.

4/ February 1965=100.

5/ December 1963=100.

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

TABLE 3. Consumer Price Index--The United States and selected areas <sup>1/</sup> for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups percent change from November 1971 to December 1971

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York-Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.4	0.4	.2	0	0.3	0.2
Food -----	1.1	.3	1.2	.7	.7	1.2
Housing -----	.3	.6	.1	0	.6	-.2
Apparel and upkeep -----	-.1	-.1	-.8	-.3	0	-.4
Transportation -----	-.2	.6	-.5	-.5	-.3	.2
Health and recreation -----	.2	.2	.5	-.1	.1	.1
Medical care -----	.3	.2	.8	0	.4	0
Personal care -----	0	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	.2	.2	.6	-.4	.3	.2
Other goods and services -----	.2	.5	.1	.3	-.1	(2/)

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

TABLE 4. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers for selected groups, seasonally adjusted (1967=100)

Group	Indexes			Percent changes to: December 1971	
	December 1971	November 1971	September 1971	1 Month Ago	3 Months Ago
Food -----	120.5	119.7	118.9	0.7	1.3
Food at home -----	118.6	117.6	116.6	.9	1.7
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	120.2	118.8	117.3	1.2	2.5
Dairy products -----	115.8	115.7	116.0	.1	-.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	126.9	121.7	119.3	4.3	6.4
Other foods at home -----	115.2	115.7	114.6	-.4	.5
Fuel and utilities <sup>1/</sup> -----	117.7	116.6	116.5	.9	1.0
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.7	118.0	118.2	-.3	-.4
Apparel and upkeep <sup>2/</sup> -----	121.0	120.8	120.4	.2	.5
Men's and boys' -----	120.9	120.7	120.6	.2	.2
Women's and girls' -----	121.6	121.3	120.8	.2	.7
Footwear -----	122.9	122.8	122.2	.1	.6
Transportation -----	118.5	118.4	119.4	.1	-.8
Private -----	115.8	116.3	117.3	-.4	-1.3
New cars -----	108.9	107.3	108.9	1.5	0
Commodities -----	118.8	118.4	118.1	.3	.6
Commodities less food -----	117.9	117.5	117.5	.3	.3
Nondurables -----	119.4	118.9	118.5	.4	.8
Nondurables less food -----	118.4	118.1	118.1	.3	.3
Apparel commodities -----	121.2	121.1	120.5	.1	.6
Durables -----	117.1	116.8	116.9	.3	.2

<sup>1/</sup> Also includes telephone, water, and sewerage service not shown separately.

<sup>2/</sup> Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, jewelry, and apparel upkeep services not shown separately.

TABLE 5. Consumer Price Index--United States and selected areas 1/ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, December 1971 index and percent changes from September 1971

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York-Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
Indexes (1967=100)						
All items -----	123.1	122.3	123.7	120.1	128.0	125.0
Food -----	120.3	119.6	119.2	116.6	125.2	122.0
Food at home -----	118.2	118.0	117.6	115.6	122.1	119.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.8	115.0	114.4	110.2	115.2	115.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	118.9	120.4	121.4	117.9	123.7	120.1
Dairy products -----	116.1	115.2	115.2	114.2	118.7	119.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	124.4	119.8	116.2	121.0	130.2	124.1
Other foods at home -----	116.6	116.3	115.6	112.6	119.3	117.1
Food away from home -----	128.3	126.0	126.4	119.5	135.0	132.8
Housing -----	126.8	122.5	131.1	125.3	132.0	127.4
Shelter -----	131.6	126.4	140.5	128.2	137.2	136.0
Rent -----	116.9	(2/)	118.4	(2/)	121.7	(2/)
Homeownership -----	137.0	133.1	145.0	131.4	148.6	139.8
Fuel and utilities -----	117.9	113.6	113.1	123.8	121.6	112.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	118.1	113.4	113.9	-	120.2	111.9
Gas and electricity -----	118.2	113.2	115.0	126.2	117.9	116.2
Household furnishings and operation	119.6	116.3	113.8	116.3	124.6	120.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	121.8	120.5	117.1	119.0	122.4	120.0
Men's and boys' -----	121.6	118.4	117.3	117.1	121.1	124.8
Women's and girls' -----	123.2	124.8	114.4	121.9	122.8	115.9
Footwear -----	123.1	117.0	121.9	121.8	122.0	124.0
Transportation -----	118.6	125.3	114.6	114.9	128.9	123.9
Private -----	116.3	119.6	111.8	114.8	123.7	120.8
Public -----	139.7	161.3	149.0	115.3	148.7	142.3
Health and recreation -----	123.9	124.0	126.1	118.8	127.8	128.2
Medical care -----	130.1	129.1	137.6	126.8	137.8	139.6
Personal care -----	117.9	117.9	(2/)	112.7	(2/)	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	121.1	120.8	121.4	112.3	125.3	125.6
Other goods and services -----	123.0	125.1	120.8	118.0	125.8	124.0
Percent changes from September 1971 to December 1971						
All items -----	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.5	0.3
Food -----	1.0	.2	.7	1.3	.8	.5
Food at home -----	1.1	.1	.3	1.8	.9	.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	-7	-3.7	-1.8	.1	-7	-3.4
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	-2	0	-6	.9	-5	.5
Dairy products -----	0	-3	-2	0	.2	0
Fruits and vegetables -----	6.7	3.2	2.8	7.7	6.2	3.8
Other foods at home -----	1.0	.7	1.8	.8	.7	.7
Food away from home -----	.5	.4	1.9	.2	.6	.7
Housing -----	1.0	1.7	.7	.2	1.0	.1
Shelter -----	1.2	2.0	.6	0	1.2	-.7
Rent -----	.7	(2/)	(2/).4	(2/)	(2/).6	(2/)
Homeownership -----	1.4	2.8	.6	0	1.2	-.9
Fuel and utilities -----	1.4	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.4
Fuel oil and coal -----	.3	.2	0	-	0	0
Gas and electricity -----	2.2	3.7	2.6	1.5	3.6	2.9
Household furnishings and operation	.2	.6	.1	.1	0	.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.0	.1	.7	-.7	-.5	-.8
Men's and boys' -----	.7	0	-.3	-.8	-2.4	.1
Women's and girls' -----	1.6	.2	1.1	-1.2	-.1	-2.8
Footwear -----	.7	-.6	1.2	-.1	.7	.7
Transportation -----	0	-.3	.5	-1.0	.2	1.1
Private -----	-.1	-.4	.5	-1.2	.2	1.2
Public -----	.3	.1	.1	1.6	-.1	1.1
Health and recreation -----	.2	0	1.0	.1	.2	.3
Medical care -----	-.2	-.6	.9	-.7	.4	-.4
Personal care -----	.3	.3	(2/)	-.6	(2/)	(2/)
Reading and recreation -----	.5	.5	-.2	.3	.3	.6
Other goods and services -----	.5	.2	2.1	1.1	0	0

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, December 1971 index and percent changes from September 1971--Continued

Group	Atlanta	Baltimore	Cincinnati	Honolulu	Kansas City	San Francisco	St. Louis
(Indexes 1967=100)							
All items -----	123.5	125.1	121.9	121.1	121.4	121.8	120.9
Food -----	119.6	123.2	120.7	120.9	120.8	118.9	119.4
Food at home -----	116.9	121.4	119.3	118.1	118.3	117.6	117.0
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.2	117.9	113.1	104.7	117.0	110.0	120.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	114.1	121.4	117.1	121.2	117.8	118.7	113.9
Dairy products -----	116.4	118.0	118.3	114.3	124.1	114.8	119.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	129.6	129.9	128.1	129.4	117.0	127.4	124.4
Other foods at home -----	115.9	119.5	119.3	116.1	117.0	114.7	111.8
Food away from home -----	128.3	130.1	125.8	129.0	128.5	123.6	130.9
Housing -----	129.7	129.1	122.1	122.8	123.7	128.2	121.0
Shelter -----	134.5	136.8	126.2	128.0	128.5	132.7	123.0
Rent -----	115.3	111.3	108.7	125.9	109.9	127.1	108.0
Homeownership -----	140.4	147.6	134.2	129.4	135.7	135.5	127.2
Fuel and utilities -----	123.4	114.5	118.7	108.8	115.2	121.0	117.3
Fuel oil and coal -----	-	114.9	-	-	-	-	120.1
Gas and electricity -----	121.7	116.1	115.1	104.3	116.9	117.7	120.9
Household furnishings and operation -----	122.2	120.9	113.3	113.5	116.8	117.3	119.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	116.6	124.2	122.1	119.1	124.4	119.6	120.8
Men's and boys' -----	121.8	128.7	124.8	112.6	123.0	118.4	116.2
Women's and girls' -----	111.8	120.4	117.4	124.0	126.9	121.2	125.1
Footwear -----	114.6	127.6	129.9	113.5	127.9	120.6	124.4
Transportation -----	115.6	117.6	121.7	121.7	115.9	117.4	120.7
Private -----	113.8	116.9	116.5	123.3	114.6	116.4	118.4
Public -----	140.6	121.5	162.3	112.9	137.0	134.6	145.5
Health and recreation -----	126.6	126.7	123.5	119.9	122.6	118.6	122.6
Medical care -----	137.2	139.5	132.5	126.0	126.8	124.2	123.9
Personal care -----	123.3	120.6	121.0	118.1	120.0	114.6	122.3
Reading and recreation -----	121.9	124.8	119.2	120.4	116.7	114.3	116.3
Other goods and services -----	117.9	119.6	119.9	113.5	126.0	117.7	127.8
Percent changes from September 1971 to December 1971							
All items -----	1.2	0.6	0.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.7	0.3
Food -----	.5	.8	1.7	-.4	.7	2.9	.5
Food at home -----	.5	1.0	2.0	-.9	.7	3.8	.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	-.8	.8	-1.4	-1.1	.2	-1.1	.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	-1.2	.7	.3	.7	0	2.1	-1.0
Dairy products -----	-.2	0	.6	-.5	-.1	-.1	.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	4.5	2.4	9.0	-5.5	2.7	16.9	3.2
Other foods at home -----	1.6	1.3	1.2	.9	1.3	1.8	1.0
Food away from home -----	.4	.2	.6	1.1	.5	.1	.8
Housing -----	2.4	1.6	-.2	-.3	.5	1.1	.1
Shelter -----	3.3	2.4	-.5	-.5	.5	1.5	-.2
Rent -----	.5	.5	.1	.5	.4	.7	.2
Homeownership -----	4.2	3.1	-.7	-.9	.6	2.0	-.3
Fuel and utilities -----	2.1	.1	.1	-.1	1.7	.7	1.6
Fuel oil and coal -----	-	0	-	-	-	-	.3
Gas and electricity -----	3.5	.1	.2	-.1	2.8	1.3	2.7
Household furnishings and operation -----	.5	.1	.3	.1	-.3	0	0
Apparel and upkeep -----	.1	-.3	-.6	1.2	-1.5	-1.0	-.1
Men's and boys' -----	.7	-.5	-.5	.7	-4.3	-1.6	.3
Women's and girls' -----	-1.7	.1	-1.7	2.1	-1.0	-1.8	-1.0
Footwear -----	.6	-.4	.9	-1.2	0	-.1	1.0
Transportation -----	.8	-.2	1.2	-.1	-1.9	-.4	1.3
Private -----	.9	-.3	0	-.1	-1.4	-.4	1.5
Public -----	0	0	9.1	0	-9.8	.3	.3
Health and recreation -----	.4	0	-.1	.3	.6	-.1	.1
Medical care -----	-.4	-.4	-.6	.1	-.1	-.6	-.8
Personal care -----	1.8	.8	.1	-1.1	1.2	.7	-.1
Reading and recreation -----	.9	.1	.1	1.2	1.1	-.5	.9
Other goods and services -----	.2	.1	0	.2	.2	.8	.7

<sup>1/</sup> See footnote 1, table 2.

<sup>2/</sup> Not available.

<sup>3/</sup> Change from October 1971.

TABLE 5-A. Consumer Price Index--United States and selected areas l/ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, 1971 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1970-71

Group	U.S. City Average	Atlanta	Baltimore	Chicago	Cincinnati	Detroit	Honolulu
Indexes (1967=100)							
All items -----	121.3	121.7	123.4	120.8	120.7	121.7	118.9
All items (1957-59=100) -----	141.0	142.7	143.3	137.3	137.0	139.8	-
Food -----	118.4	118.1	121.0	118.5	118.4	117.3	118.1
Food at home -----	116.4	115.6	119.2	116.9	117.0	116.1	115.0
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.9	113.0	116.3	117.2	113.0	114.5	104.9
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.9	113.5	119.8	117.3	115.0	119.1	116.4
Dairy products -----	115.3	115.7	117.3	114.3	117.1	113.4	114.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	119.1	124.1	122.1	118.5	121.3	114.9	125.3
Other foods at home -----	115.9	115.0	119.3	116.6	118.5	114.4	112.5
Food away from home -----	126.1	126.1	127.7	125.0	123.5	123.3	126.9
Housing -----	124.3	127.0	126.9	120.3	121.2	128.3	120.3
Shelter -----	128.8	131.6	133.9	124.0	125.5	137.3	125.1
Rent -----	115.2	113.8	110.2	-	108.1	116.4	124.0
Homeownership -----	133.7	136.9	143.9	130.1	133.5	141.4	125.8
Fuel and utilities -----	115.1	119.5	112.5	111.4	117.0	110.7	107.2
Fuel oil and coal -----	117.5	-	115.0	113.2	-	113.7	-
Gas and electricity -----	114.7	116.6	112.5	109.2	112.6	111.4	104.2
Household furnishings and operation -----	118.1	120.6	120.2	114.5	112.5	112.6	111.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	119.8	116.0	123.4	117.4	122.3	115.5	117.6
Men's and boys' -----	120.3	119.8	128.2	117.5	124.6	117.3	111.5
Women's and girls' -----	120.1	113.7	119.5	118.7	119.1	111.2	121.5
Footwear -----	121.5	113.3	126.9	116.5	128.8	120.6	115.1
Transportation -----	118.6	115.2	117.5	125.4	120.0	114.6	120.2
Private -----	116.6	113.5	117.1	119.7	116.2	111.8	122.1
Public -----	137.7	139.3	119.8	147.4	150.0	148.4	109.4
Health and recreation -----	122.2	124.5	124.6	123.0	122.4	123.4	118.3
Medical care -----	128.4	136.1	135.9	128.4	131.8	134.1	124.7
Personal care -----	116.8	120.8	118.4	117.3	120.1	-	117.3
Reading and recreation -----	119.3	119.5	122.9	119.1	117.3	119.9	117.1
Other goods and services -----	120.9	115.0	118.8	124.5	119.3	117.7	113.2
Percent changes 1970-71							
All items -----	4.3	4.5	5.5	3.9	4.3	3.7	4.1
Food -----	3.0	2.9	3.1	2.7	3.0	1.8	3.5
Food at home -----	2.4	1.9	2.7	2.2	2.3	.6	3.0
Cereals and bakery products -----	4.6	6.0	5.7	4.4	4.1	3.2	-.9
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	.3	1.0	-.2	-.4	-.7	1.7	2.6
Dairy products -----	3.1	3.2	3.5	3.8	5.0	-.2	3.9
Fruits and vegetables -----	5.0	4.8	6.7	5.5	5.5	3.6	9.1
Other foods at home -----	1.6	.6	2.1	1.6	.9	1.1	.8
Food away from home -----	5.2	6.2	4.2	4.7	5.6	7.2	4.7
Housing -----	4.5	4.2	7.8	3.4	4.1	3.3	4.0
Shelter -----	4.2	2.5	9.8	2.9	4.0	3.1	3.6
Rent -----	4.6	3.5	3.1	-	2.3	4.4	5.0
Homeownership -----	4.0	2.2	12.2	3.0	4.6	2.8	2.9
Fuel and utilities -----	7.0	12.5	5.8	5.7	7.5	5.8	6.8
Fuel oil and coal -----	6.9	-	4.8	4.1	-	3.6	-
Gas and electricity -----	6.9	8.7	8.7	4.4	6.7	7.8	3.5
Household furnishings and operation -----	4.1	4.4	4.2	4.0	2.8	2.9	3.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	3.2	2.7	3.5	3.6	2.8	3.1	2.2
Men's and boys' -----	2.7	3.1	3.6	2.4	3.4	.5	1.2
Women's and girls' -----	3.5	.4	2.5	6.0	1.1	6.3	4.0
Footwear -----	3.2	2.5	5.0	.6	3.5	1.8	2.2
Transportation -----	5.2	6.2	4.4	5.9	5.8	4.3	7.8
Private -----	5.0	5.8	4.6	5.4	4.5	3.0	7.1
Public -----	7.2	9.9	3.5	-1.1	15.3	17.7	12.2
Health and recreation -----	5.2	6.6	6.6	4.9	5.4	5.7	4.0
Medical care -----	6.5	7.8	10.4	7.1	7.6	7.8	5.3
Personal care -----	3.2	6.2	3.5	3.0	3.2	-	4.5
Reading and recreation -----	5.2	5.0	5.0	4.7	5.0	4.9	4.6
Other goods and services -----	4.2	6.5	5.9	3.6	4.7	5.7	1.1

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 5-A. Consumer Price Index--United States and selected areas <sup>1/</sup> for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, 1971 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1970-71--Continued

Group	Kansas City	Los Angeles- Long Beach	New York	Philadelphia	St. Louis	San Francisco- Oakland
Indexes (1967=100)						
All items -----	120.5	118.5	125.9	123.5	119.6	120.2
All items (1957-59=100) -----	145.8	139.4	149.8	144.2	139.7	143.0
Food -----	118.6	114.9	123.1	120.1	118.0	116.1
Food at home -----	116.1	113.7	120.3	117.9	115.7	114.4
Cereals and bakery products ----	115.7	110.6	115.0	117.7	119.6	109.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	115.2	115.3	121.9	117.4	113.2	115.7
Dairy products -----	122.3	113.4	118.1	118.5	117.7	113.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	113.0	115.0	124.6	119.3	121.4	116.9
Other foods at home -----	115.3	112.8	118.8	116.7	111.0	114.5
Food away from home -----	126.6	118.0	132.0	129.8	128.9	121.9
Housing -----	121.7	122.8	128.7	125.7	119.5	125.3
Shelter -----	126.2	125.7	133.6	133.4	122.1	129.6
Rent -----	109.0	-	119.3	-	107.6	125.4
Homeownership -----	132.8	128.6	144.2	137.1	126.1	131.6
Fuel and utilities -----	112.9	118.6	116.7	112.3	113.5	116.0
Fuel oil and coal -----	-	-	119.1	114.8	117.1	-
Gas and electricity -----	113.3	121.8	112.1	113.9	115.1	114.8
Household furnishings and operation	115.5	114.7	122.9	120.1	117.7	116.0
Apparel and upkeep -----	124.4	118.0	120.5	119.2	119.1	119.0
Men's and boys' -----	126.1	116.7	122.7	121.1	115.6	119.4
Women's and girls' -----	125.9	121.1	117.9	116.8	122.6	120.3
Footwear -----	126.0	119.4	120.5	122.2	122.2	119.6
Transportation -----	118.4	114.9	129.0	123.1	119.3	118.0
Private -----	116.6	115.0	124.4	120.3	117.0	117.0
Public -----	149.0	113.1	146.8	139.4	144.9	133.3
Health and recreation -----	120.7	117.6	126.0	126.9	121.8	118.0
Medical care -----	124.4	125.7	135.8	137.4	123.5	123.1
Personal care -----	117.6	112.6	-	-	121.2	113.9
Reading and recreation -----	114.6	111.3	123.5	123.2	115.4	114.1
Other goods and services -----	125.4	116.2	123.9	124.3	126.6	117.4
Percent changes 1970-1971						
All items -----	4.1	3.7	5.8	4.8	3.8	3.8
Food -----	2.2	2.4	4.4	3.7	2.3	3.2
Food at home -----	1.5	2.0	3.7	3.3	1.2	2.8
Cereals and bakery products ----	4.2	4.1	6.7	3.6	4.2	3.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	- 2.2	- .7	3.2	1.6	- 3.7	.5
Dairy products -----	5.1	3.9	3.3	4.4	5.8	4.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	3.3	5.7	5.1	6.0	4.0	7.5
Other foods at home -----	1.0	.3	1.9	2.8	1.6	1.5
Food away from home -----	4.3	3.7	6.5	5.4	7.1	4.5
Housing -----	3.1	4.4	7.7	5.2	4.0	2.8
Shelter -----	3.8	4.0	8.5	6.2	3.6	1.6
Rent -----	2.5	-	7.6	-	1.9	5.1
Homeownership -----	4.1	4.0	9.2	6.4	3.9	.1
Fuel and utilities -----	.7	9.3	9.7	4.8	4.2	8.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	-	-	8.9	5.4	5.9	-
Gas and electricity -----	- .1	9.8	8.7	6.0	4.1	6.7
Household furnishings and operation	3.0	3.3	4.4	3.6	5.2	4.2
Apparel and upkeep -----	2.6	3.1	2.5	2.9	3.3	4.3
Men's and boys' -----	5.2	2.5	1.9	2.5	1.1	4.0
Women's and girls' -----	.3	3.3	1.6	4.9	3.7	5.5
Footwear -----	4.2	3.4	3.3	.4	6.6	3.2
Transportation -----	7.3	4.8	5.5	6.1	6.7	5.5
Private -----	7.8	4.9	6.0	5.2	6.7	5.3
Public -----	1.4	3.1	4.1	11.4	7.3	7.7
Health and recreation -----	5.0	3.3	6.5	5.8	4.1	4.2
Medical care -----	6.3	4.9	8.4	8.0	4.3	6.0
Personal care -----	2.2	2.6	-	-	3.9	2.4
Reading and recreation -----	3.7	2.5	6.6	8.0	2.7	3.8
Other goods and services -----	6.0	2.4	5.9	2.6	5.1	2.4

<sup>1/</sup> See footnote 1, table 2.

TABLE 6. Consumer Price Index--United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, December 1971 indexes and percent changes from November 1971

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	
(1967=100)								
U.S. City Average -----	120.3	118.2	113.8	118.9	116.1	124.4	116.6	128.3
Atlanta -----	119.6	116.9	113.2	114.1	116.4	129.6	115.9	128.3
Baltimore -----	123.2	121.4	117.9	121.4	118.0	129.9	119.5	130.1
Boston -----	119.9	118.1	112.7	121.8	114.5	123.7	113.7	126.5
Buffalo -----	120.9	119.4	118.7	118.5	117.3	123.9	118.7	129.3
Chicago -----	119.6	118.0	115.0	120.4	115.2	119.8	116.3	126.0
Cincinnati -----	120.7	119.3	113.1	117.1	118.3	128.1	119.3	125.8
Cleveland -----	119.2	118.1	108.0	118.9	120.7	126.7	114.6	125.7
Dallas -----	120.6	117.2	114.0	117.2	111.5	125.5	116.4	132.8
Detroit -----	119.2	117.6	114.4	121.4	115.2	116.2	115.6	126.4
Honolulu -----	120.9	118.1	104.7	121.2	114.3	129.4	116.1	129.0
Houston -----	121.5	117.5	111.5	118.2	115.2	125.1	116.5	135.4
Kansas City -----	120.8	118.3	117.0	117.8	124.1	117.0	117.0	128.5
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	116.6	115.6	110.2	117.9	114.2	121.0	112.6	119.5
Milwaukee -----	117.2	115.3	116.1	116.9	113.3	116.1	113.7	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	120.6	118.3	121.5	119.3	115.0	118.6	117.9	130.6
New York -----	125.2	122.1	115.2	123.7	118.7	130.2	119.3	135.0
Philadelphia -----	122.0	119.5	115.1	120.1	119.5	124.1	117.1	132.8
Pittsburgh -----	120.9	119.1	115.9	117.5	119.0	124.7	119.4	131.8
St. Louis -----	119.4	117.0	120.3	113.9	119.2	124.4	111.8	130.9
San Diego -----	119.5	116.3	110.6	120.7	113.2	122.7	110.6	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	118.9	117.6	110.0	118.7	114.8	127.4	114.7	123.6
Seattle -----	118.2	116.1	110.7	116.0	115.5	122.7	114.5	125.1
Washington -----	122.0	118.4	118.3	115.3	110.6	128.2	121.3	131.1
Percent changes from November 1971 to December 1971								
U.S. City Average -----	1.1	1.3	-0.3	0.7	0.2	5.6	0.9	0.1
Atlanta -----	.8	1.0	-.3	-.1	.2	6.1	.7	0
Baltimore -----	1.2	1.5	.3	.5	.3	6.0	1.4	.2
Boston -----	.9	1.3	.8	1.2	-.3	4.2	.2	0
Buffalo -----	.9	1.1	-.3	-.3	-.1	5.5	1.3	0
Chicago -----	.3	.4	-3.6	2.1	-.1	.7	.3	.2
Cincinnati -----	1.5	1.8	.4	.7	.5	5.7	1.7	.4
Cleveland -----	.7	.9	-2.5	.8	.2	5.0	.2	0
Dallas -----	1.8	2.3	.4	2.0	.1	6.0	2.2	0
Detroit -----	1.2	1.3	.2	.7	.2	4.5	1.3	.6
Honolulu -----	.4	.5	.3	.3	-.2	2.2	.2	.1
Houston -----	1.3	1.6	.1	2.1	.3	4.3	1.0	0
Kansas City -----	.8	.9	.2	.3	-.3	5.0	.5	.4
Los Angeles-Long Beach -	.7	1.0	-.3	1.2	-.1	3.7	.2	0
Milwaukee -----	.8	.9	-.3	0	-.1	5.2	1.0	(2/)
Minneapolis-St. Paul ---	1.2	1.5	.4	1.0	-1.1	5.7	1.6	0
New York -----	.7	1.0	-.5	.7	.2	4.3	.5	-.1
Philadelphia -----	1.2	1.4	-.9	.5	0	6.3	1.7	.2
Pittsburgh -----	1.3	1.5	.9	1.2	-.5	4.6	1.4	.1
St. Louis -----	.8	.9	.3	-1.2	-.3	6.7	.6	.5
San Diego -----	.8	1.0	-.2	.8	-.4	5.0	.2	(2/)
San Francisco-Oakland --	1.7	2.2	.1	1.8	0	7.8	1.1	.1
Seattle -----	1.5	1.9	1.3	.3	.3	9.7	0	0
Washington -----	.7	.9	1.1	.2	0	2.6	1.1	0

<sup>1/</sup> See footnote 1, table 2.

<sup>2/</sup> Not available.

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

(1967=100)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to December 1971 from		December 1970
	December 1971		November 1971		
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
Total food -----	120.3	120.5	1.1	0.7	4.3
Food away from home -----	128.3	-	.1	-	4.5
Restaurant meals -----	128.0	-	.1	-	4.4
Snacks -----	129.6	-	.2	-	4.3
Food at home -----	118.2	118.6	1.3	.9	4.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.8	-	-.3	-	2.0
Flour -----	100.5	-	-.6	-	.8
Cracker meal -----	131.9	-	.2	-	7.7
Corn flakes -----	103.0	-	-.5	-	-5.1
Rice -----	110.0	-	.2	-	2.4
Bread, white -----	111.4	-	-.5	-	.5
Bread, whole wheat -----	118.5	-	-.7	-	3.1
Cookies -----	109.3	-	.6	-	3.2
Layer cake -----	120.8	-	.2	-	2.0
Cinnamon rolls -----	118.5	-	-.6	-	3.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	118.9	120.2	.7	1.2	4.6
Meats -----	119.1	120.5	.8	1.4	5.0
Beef and veal -----	128.0	129.6	1.1	2.0	8.1
Steak, round -----	126.3	128.4	.9	2.3	9.2
Steak, sirloin -----	125.5	-	1.6	-	10.1
Steak, porterhouse -----	127.5	-	1.4	-	11.3
Rump roast -----	124.4	-	.3	-	8.2
Rib roast -----	131.8	132.3	2.3	2.2	10.8
Chuck roast -----	128.9	130.7	2.4	3.5	9.4
Hamburger -----	129.1	130.1	1.2	1.6	5.6
Beef liver -----	114.6	-	-.1	-	1.2
Veal cutlets -----	148.0	149.8	.5	1.1	11.6
Pork -----	107.2	109.4	.8	1.9	2.0
Chops -----	111.2	115.1	.6	1.9	8.3
Loin roast -----	109.7	-	.5	-	5.0
Pork sausage -----	111.4	-	-.5	-	-1.4
Ham, whole -----	105.9	104.2	3.4	1.5	-2.2
Picnics -----	111.3	-	2.4	-	1.7
Bacon -----	97.3	100.3	-.1	1.4	-2.7
Other meats -----	116.6	116.7	.1	.2	1.7
Lamb chops -----	124.4	-	-.1	-	5.0
Frankfurters -----	115.2	115.5	-.6	-.3	0
Ham, canned -----	107.8	-	-.5	-	0
Bologna sausage -----	120.1	-	.2	-	2.5
Salami sausage -----	117.4	-	.9	-	1.5
Liverwurst -----	114.1	-	.3	-	1.0
Poultry -----	107.5	-	-.6	-	-.4
Frying chicken -----	106.2	109.4	-.6	-.3	-1.4
Chicken breasts -----	109.8	-	.1	-	3.0
Turkey -----	111.4	-	-1.3	-	1.5
Fish -----	133.2	133.1	.2	-.2	7.1
Shrimp, frozen -----	120.4	-	-.2	-	5.0
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	142.7	142.3	0	-.7	8.5
Tuna fish, canned -----	128.7	-	.4	-	3.8
Sardines, canned -----	140.9	-	.9	-	10.8
Dairy products -----	116.1	115.8	.2	.1	2.2
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	115.2	114.9	0	.3	2.2
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	118.5	-	.3	-	2.0
Milk, fresh, skim -----	120.1	-	0	-	1.9
Milk, evaporated -----	120.6	-	.3	-	4.7
Ice cream -----	107.2	-	.8	-	1.0
Cheese, American process -----	122.1	122.2	-.2	-.2	3.1
Butter -----	105.4	105.1	-.3	-.3	-.4

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1967=100)

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to December 1971 from		December 1970
	December 1971		November 1971		
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	
Fruits and vegetables -----	124.4	126.9	5.6	4.3	12.5
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	128.2	133.3	9.3	7.5	17.2
Apples -----	102.1	117.6	3.7	.2	5.4
Bananas -----	92.2	98.7	-2.0	1.1	6.2
Oranges -----	128.4	129.8	-3.5	5.0	8.3
Orange juice, fresh -----	130.5	-	.5	-	8.0
Grapefruit -----	120.6	134.9	-4.9	-3.4	15.7
Grapes 1/ -----	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Strawberries 1/ -----	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Watermelon 1/ -----	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)	(1/)
Potatoes -----	112.4	119.6	2.0	1.0	1.3
Onions -----	105.5	113.7	-.7	-1.6	9.7
Asparagus 1/ -----	(1/)	-	(1/)	-	(1/)
Cabbage -----	158.3	160.9	39.7	27.2	43.5
Carrots -----	134.2	128.4	11.3	3.8	28.1
Celery -----	161.3	165.4	24.9	25.8	43.6
Cucumbers -----	125.2	-	19.4	-	14.5
Lettuce -----	173.0	159.4	18.0	18.0	54.9
Peppers, green -----	148.3	-	25.1	-	35.7
Spinach -----	140.0	-	6.9	-	10.5
Tomatoes -----	169.1	139.5	38.9	10.3	22.8
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	118.8	-	.3	-	5.9
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	120.2	-	.3	-	5.8
Pears, canned -----	116.5	-	-.3	-	2.1
Pineapple-grapefruit juice, drink -----	114.4	-	-.6	-	2.0
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	135.6	135.7	.2	-.1	14.9
Lemonade concentrate, frozen -----	116.9	-	1.4	-	5.7
Beets, canned -----	117.0	-	-.2	-	4.6
Peas, green, canned -----	108.6	-	.6	-	3.6
Tomatoes, canned -----	115.1	-	-.5	-	.4
Dried beans -----	133.2	-	1.0	-	22.0
Broccoli, frozen -----	117.9	-	.1	-	1.8
Other food at home -----	116.6	115.2	.9	-.4	.5
Eggs -----	110.5	102.2	7.1	-1.5	-7.5
Fats and oils:					
Margarine -----	117.7	-	-.1	-	4.8
Salad dressing, Italian -----	110.9	-	.3	-	5.3
Salad or cooking oil -----	123.5	-	0	-	8.9
Sugar and sweets -----	120.1	-	.1	-	2.0
Sugar -----	113.5	-	0	-	2.3
Grape jelly -----	121.6	-	.2	-	5.2
Chocolate bar -----	131.3	-	0	-	.7
Syrup, chocolate flavored -----	112.7	-	.2	-	-.4
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	120.5	-	-.3	-	-1.1
Coffee, can and bag -----	118.5	-	-.4	-	-5.7
Coffee, instant -----	125.1	-	0	-	.7
Tea -----	106.0	-	-1.7	-	-.4
Cola drink -----	127.1	-	0	-	4.0
Carbonated fruit drink -----	127.9	-	.2	-	4.0
Prepared and partially prepared foods -----	113.3	-	.1	-	2.2
Bean soup, canned -----	114.7	-	0	-	1.2
Chicken soup, canned -----	105.7	-	-.3	-	-.8
Spaghetti, canned -----	117.5	-	-.2	-	1.2
Mashed potatoes, instant -----	111.0	-	.3	-	2.7
Potatoes, french fried, frozen -----	109.3	-	.7	-	-.5
Baby foods, canned -----	111.1	-	-.2	-	1.4
Sweet pickle relish -----	121.2	-	.5	-	7.6
Pretzels -----	114.5	-	.4	-	4.2

1/ Priced only in season.

TABLE 7A. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items 1971 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1970 to 1971

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to 1971 from:
	1971	1970	1970
	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted
Total food -----	118.4	114.9	3.0
Food away from home -----	126.1	119.9	5.2
Restaurant meals -----	125.8	119.7	5.1
Snacks -----	127.5	120.9	5.5
Food at home -----	116.4	113.7	2.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	113.9	108.9	4.6
Flour -----	101.0	99.0	2.0
Cracker meal -----	129.8	117.0	10.9
Corn flakes -----	107.3	103.2	4.0
Rice -----	109.4	106.2	3.0
Bread, white -----	112.3	109.1	2.9
Bread, whole wheat -----	117.5	111.4	5.5
Cookies -----	108.7	103.5	5.0
Layer cake -----	120.1	115.5	4.0
Cinnamon rolls -----	118.2	111.4	6.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	116.9	116.5	.3
Meats -----	116.7	117.6	-.8
Beef and veal -----	124.9	119.5	4.5
Steak, round -----	123.5	118.2	4.5
Steak, sirloin -----	122.8	116.4	5.5
Steak, porterhouse -----	124.1	117.1	6.0
Rump roast -----	122.4	116.8	4.8
Rib roast -----	126.2	119.1	6.0
Chuck roast -----	124.4	120.5	3.2
Hamburger -----	126.2	122.5	3.0
Beef liver -----	113.7	113.4	.3
Veal cutlets -----	141.7	129.3	9.6
Pork -----	105.0	115.9	-9.4
Chops -----	107.4	115.8	-7.3
Loin roast -----	106.6	115.1	-7.4
Pork sausage -----	111.4	120.2	-7.3
Ham, whole -----	103.9	114.9	-9.6
Picnics -----	108.0	116.4	-7.2
Bacon -----	96.6	114.0	-15.3
Other meats -----	115.6	116.0	-.3
Lamb chops -----	121.5	117.1	3.8
Frankfurters -----	115.1	116.3	-1.0
Ham, canned -----	107.2	114.0	-6.0
Bologna sausage -----	118.8	118.4	.3
Salami sausage -----	116.3	116.2	.1
Liverwurst -----	114.3	113.7	.5
Poultry -----	109.0	108.4	.6
Frying chicken -----	108.5	107.4	1.0
Chicken breasts -----	109.5	108.1	1.3
Turkey -----	111.1	113.7	-2.3
Fish -----	130.2	118.0	10.3
Shrimp, frozen -----	117.6	115.8	1.6
Fish, fresh or frozen -----	140.2	124.3	12.8
Tuna fish, canned -----	128.4	115.4	11.3
Sardines, canned -----	134.7	116.6	15.5
Dairy products -----	115.3	111.8	3.1
Milk, fresh, grocery -----	114.6	111.6	2.7
Milk, fresh, delivered -----	117.6	114.3	2.9
Milk, fresh, skim -----	119.7	115.6	3.5
Milk, evaporated -----	118.6	111.9	6.0
Ice cream -----	106.2	104.8	1.3
Cheese, American process -----	121.0	115.6	4.7
Butter -----	105.8	104.5	1.2

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 7A. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items 1971 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1970 to 1971--Continued

Item or Group	Index		Percent change to 1971 from:
	1971	1970	1970
	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted
Fruits and vegetables -----	119.1	113.4	5.0
Fresh fruits and vegetables -----	121.0	116.3	4.0
Apples -----	114.2	106.9	6.8
Bananas -----	95.5	101.5	-5.9
Oranges -----	125.5	114.2	9.9
Orange juice, fresh -----	124.3	121.9	2.0
Grapefruit -----	135.7	126.3	-7.4
Grapes 1/ -----	143.8	126.3	13.9
Strawberries 1/ -----	114.1	103.4	10.3
Watermelon 1/ -----	141.7	124.1	14.2
Potatoes -----	117.3	121.6	-3.5
Onions -----	104.4	116.9	-10.7
Asparagus 1/ -----	131.0	122.9	6.6
Cabbage -----	122.2	131.9	-7.4
Carrots -----	129.9	110.4	17.7
Celery -----	118.5	122.7	-3.4
Cucumbers -----	120.1	116.3	3.3
Lettuce -----	124.1	108.4	14.5
Peppers, green -----	142.9	140.6	1.6
Spinach -----	129.2	120.8	7.0
Tomatoes -----	131.8	119.2	10.6
Processed fruits and vegetables -----	116.2	109.2	6.4
Fruit cocktail, canned -----	117.9	108.3	8.9
Pears, canned -----	116.7	109.1	7.0
Pineapple-grapefruit juice, drink -----	113.6	110.7	2.6
Orange juice concentrate, frozen -----	127.2	122.4	3.9
Lemonade concentrate, frozen -----	113.9	107.8	5.7
Beets, canned -----	115.1	109.3	5.3
Peas, green, canned -----	106.6	101.8	4.7
Tomatoes, canned -----	115.6	109.0	6.1
Dried beans -----	122.8	106.3	15.5
Broccoli, frozen -----	117.7	113.8	3.4
Other food at home -----	115.9	114.1	1.6
Eggs -----	108.4	125.6	-13.7
Fats and oils:			
Margarine -----	116.0	106.0	9.4
Salad dressing, Italian -----	109.3	102.6	6.5
Salad or cooking oil -----	120.1	108.5	10.7
Sugar and sweets -----	119.3	115.1	3.6
Sugar -----	112.5	107.4	4.7
Grape jelly -----	119.3	113.4	5.2
Chocolate bar -----	130.9	127.0	3.1
Syrup, chocolate flavored -----	113.2	111.3	1.7
Nonalcoholic beverages -----	121.6	117.4	3.6
Coffee, can and bag -----	121.8	119.0	2.4
Coffee, instant -----	124.7	119.4	4.4
Tea -----	107.6	105.0	2.5
Cola drink -----	125.9	119.0	5.8
Carbonated fruit drink -----	126.4	120.1	5.2
Prepared and partially prepared foods -----	112.7	109.4	3.0
Bean soup, canned -----	114.1	112.2	1.7
Chicken soup, canned -----	106.4	105.7	.7
Spaghetti, canned -----	117.3	113.4	3.4
Mashed potatoes, instant -----	110.8	108.5	2.1
Potatoes, french fried, frozen -----	110.1	110.2	-1.1
Baby foods, canned -----	110.9	106.7	3.9
Sweet pickle relish -----	117.4	110.4	6.3
Pretzels -----	113.1	107.7	5.0

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, December 1971 and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to December 1971 from	
		December 1971	November 1971	November 1971	December 1970
Housing -----		126.8	126.4	0.3	3.4
Shelter 1/ -----		131.6	131.3	.2	2.9
Rent -----		116.9	116.6	.3	3.8
Homeownership costs 2/ -----		137.0	136.7	.2	2.7
Mortgage interest rates -----		118.6	118.9	-.3	-11.0
Property taxes -----		137.6	136.3	1.0	9.1
Property insurance rates -----		122.4	122.4	0	6.1
Maintenance and repairs -----		137.4	137.1	.2	7.2
Commodities 3/ -----		120.8	120.8	0	4.4
Exterior house paint -----		116.8	116.5	.3	1.9
Interior house paint -----		115.4	115.3	.1	1.9
Services -----		144.6	144.1	.3	8.2
Repainting living and dining rooms -----		154.0	153.6	.3	9.5
Reshingling house roof -----		151.6	150.6	.7	12.3
Residing house -----		133.3	133.2	.1	5.6
Sink replacement -----		143.7	143.6	.1	6.1
Furnace repair -----		150.2	149.1	.7	9.3
Fuel and utilities -----		117.9	116.8	.9	5.9
Fuel oil and coal -----		118.1	118.1	0	2.8
Fuel oil, #2 -----		116.4	116.4	0	2.6
Gas and electricity -----		118.2	116.2	1.7	6.8
Gas -----		120.5	118.1	2.0	8.1
Electricity -----		116.0	114.5	1.3	5.6
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services -----		110.7	110.2	.5	6.3
Residential water and sewerage services -----		136.4	136.4	0	5.8
Household furnishings and operation 4/ -----		119.6	119.5	.1	3.7
Housefurnishings -----		115.3	115.1	.2	2.1
Textiles -----		113.1	112.9	.2	1.5
Sheets, percale or muslin -----		116.5	116.5	0	-.3
Curtains, tailored, polyester -----		110.6	110.9	-.3	1.3
Bedspreads, chiefly cotton -----		108.8	108.4	.4	.1
Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate -----		119.1	119.0	.1	1.4
Pillows, bed, polyester, acrylic, or kapok -----		110.1	109.5	.5	3.9
Slipcover, throws, ready made chiefly cotton -----		113.2	112.8	.4	3.1
Furniture and bedding -----		120.1	119.9	.2	2.4
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser -----	Mar. 70	104.7	104.8	-.1	2.9
Living room suites, good and inexpensive quality -----		116.9	116.6	.3	2.1
Lounge chairs, upholstered -----		125.0	125.0	0	3.3
Dining room chairs -----	Mar. 70	103.5	103.4	.1	1.7
Sofas, upholstered -----		119.5	119.1	.3	2.8
Sofas, dual purpose -----		116.9	116.4	.4	.5
Bedding, mattress and box springs -----	June 70	104.4	103.9	.5	3.0
Aluminum folding chair 5/ -----		(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)
Cribs -----		118.8	119.2	-.3	1.5
Floor coverings -----		106.6	106.3	.3	.9
Broadloom, carpeting, manmade fibers -----		102.1	101.8	.3	-.7
Vinyl sheet goods -----		116.5	116.3	.2	5.4
Vinyl asbestos tile -----		117.4	117.0	.3	3.4
Appliances 6/ -----		105.8	105.7	.1	.9
Washing machines, electric, automatic -----		110.0	110.0	0	1.8
Vacuum cleaners, canister type -----		103.6	103.9	-.3	.7
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers, electric -----		108.3	108.2	.1	1.1
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----		111.3	111.0	.3	1.6
Clothes dryers, electric, automatic -----		113.0	113.0	0	2.6
Air conditioners, demountable 5/ -----		(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)
Room heaters, electric, portable 5/ -----		108.9	108.5	.4	.4
Garbage disposal units -----		110.4	110.3	.1	.1
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, chinaware -----		119.4	119.2	.2	5.0
Flatware, stainless steel -----		121.8	122.0	-.2	1.8
Table lamps, with shade -----		121.8	122.2	-.3	2.6
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type 5/ -----		(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)
Electric drills, hand held -----		106.9	106.9	0	.2
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents -----		110.8	110.6	.2	4.1
Paper napkins -----		128.6	128.9	-.2	6.0
Toilet tissue -----		123.8	123.6	.2	1.9
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic service, general housework -----		136.1	136.0	.1	3.7
Baby sitter service -----		132.8	132.4	.3	5.1
Postal charges -----		146.6	146.6	0	21.2
Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----		136.3	135.6	.5	6.3
Licensed day care service, preschool child -----		119.4	119.1	.3	2.5
Washing machine repairs -----		138.2	138.2	0	7.4

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to December 1971 from:	
		December 1971	November 1971	November 1971	December 1970
Apparel and upkeep 7/ -----		121.8	121.9	-0.1	2.2
Apparel commodities -----		122.2	122.4	-.2	2.2
Apparel commodities less footwear -----		122.1	122.3	-.2	2.1
Men's and boys' -----		121.6	121.8	-.2	1.7
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends 5/ -----		124.2	124.4	-.2	-.5
Suits, year round weight -----		131.5	133.0	-1.1	2.7
Suits, tropical weight 5/ -----		(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)
Jackets, lightweight -----		114.3	114.2	.1	.9
Slacks, wool or wool blends -----		116.8	117.6	-.7	-.2
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends -----		134.7	134.7	0	4.5
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton ----		114.0	114.0	0	3.1
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		114.5	114.8	-.3	3.5
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton -----		114.4	114.4	0	5.0
T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----		118.2	118.4	-.2	-1.3
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers -----		115.8	115.7	.1	0
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton ----		116.1	115.7	.3	.8
Boy's:					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend 5/ -		118.3	120.3	-1.7	-2.6
Sport coats, wool or wool blend 5/ -----		121.3	118.3	2.5	-.8
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend -----		125.8	125.2	.5	5.2
Undershorts, cotton -----		119.6	119.6	0	.7
Women's and girls' -----		123.2	123.4	-.2	2.2
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blend 5/ ----		126.0	127.7	-1.3	3.3
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton 5/ -----		128.5	130.3	-1.4	1.6
Sweaters, wool or acrylic 5/ -----		123.5	123.6	-.1	5.2
Skirts, wool, wool blend or manmade fibers 5/ -		142.1	142.1	0	6.8
Skirts, cotton or polyester/cotton 5/ -----		(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)
Blouses, cotton or manmade fibers -----		121.6	122.2	-.5	.2
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber -----		130.1	131.1	-.8	-1.4
Dresses, street, wool or wool blend 5/ -----		142.7	143.8	-.8	5.2
Slips, nylon -----		111.2	110.4	.7	.6
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot -----		116.2	116.2	0	2.7
Girdles, manmade blend -----		118.1	117.9	.2	3.0
Brassiers, nylon lace -----		123.4	123.4	0	4.8
Hose, or panty hose, nylon seamless -----		98.3	98.2	.1	-2.2
Anklets, or knee-length socks, various fibers -		116.4	115.6	.7	.4
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----		109.8	109.7	.1	.6
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----		138.2	136.8	1.0	8.5
Girls':					
Raincoats, vinyl cotton, or polyester blends --		119.3	119.5	-.2	.1
Skirts, wool, wool blends, or acrylic 5/ ----		108.6	107.1	1.4	-2.2
Dresses, cotton, manmade fibers or blends ----		109.3	109.4	-.1	5.1
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton 5/ -----		131.7	131.5	.2	-.2
Slips, polyester blends -----		111.9	111.3	.5	3.3
Handbags, plastic -----		129.3	130.0	-.5	.5
Footwear -----		123.1	123.2	-.1	2.8
Men's:					
Shoes, street -----		121.0	121.1	-.1	2.8
Shoes, work, high -----		120.6	120.4	.2	3.8
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump -----		125.1	125.2	-.1	2.1
Shoes, evening, pump -----		121.1	121.0	.1	.9
Shoes, casual -----		125.8	126.0	-.2	2.2
Houseclippers, scuff -----		123.4	123.6	-.2	2.2
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford -----		124.1	124.4	-.2	4.1
Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----		120.3	119.9	.3	4.4
Dress shoes, girls', strap or pump -----		128.4	128.6	-.2	4.7
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze or disposable -----		113.3	113.3	0	2.9
Yard goods, polyester blend -----		121.9	122.3	-.3	-.2
Wrist watches, men's and women's -----		113.8	113.8	0	2.2
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses ----		117.1	117.0	.1	2.0
Automatic laundry service -----		113.9	113.8	.1	.8
Laundry, men's shirts -----		120.4	119.2	1.0	2.0
Tailoring charge, hem adjustment -----		131.6	131.2	.3	4.9
Shoe repair, women's heel lift -----		113.8	114.0	-.2	4.5

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to December 1971 from:	
		December 1971	November 1971	November 1971	December 1970
Transportation -----		118.6	118.8	-0.2	1.5
Private <sup>3/</sup> -----		116.3	116.6	-.3	1.0
Automobiles, new -----		110.4	109.6	.7	-3.2
Automobiles, used -----		107.2	110.2	-2.7	-2.1
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		107.3	106.9	.4	-1
Motor oil, premium -----		121.9	121.8	.1	4.2
Tires, new, tubeless -----		118.3	118.8	-.4	2.3
Auto repairs and maintenance <sup>2/</sup> -----		131.9	131.6	.2	6.6
Auto insurance rates -----		141.8	141.8	0	7.3
Auto registration -----		123.7	123.7	0	4.9
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		137.4	136.8	.4	5.6
Public -----		139.7	139.3	.3	4.7
Local transit fares -----		144.4	144.0	.3	3.4
Taxicab fares -----		132.8	131.7	.8	11.6
Railroad fares, coach -----		128.2	127.6	.5	2.9
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		129.6	129.6	0	6.3
Bus fares, intercity -----		136.1	135.9	.1	5.6
Health and recreation -----		123.9	123.7	.2	4.0
Medical care -----		130.1	129.7	.3	4.8
Drugs and prescriptions -----		105.6	105.7	-.1	1.3
Over-the-counter items -----		110.2	110.5	-.3	1.4
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		95.1	95.4	-.3	-2.4
Aspirin compounds -----		114.0	115.4	-1.2	1.7
Liquid tonics -----		100.8	100.8	0	-9
Adhesive bandages, package -----		124.1	123.6	.4	5.1
Cold tablets or capsules -----		112.9	113.2	-.3	3.6
Cough syrup -----		111.3	111.2	.1	-2
Prescriptions -----		101.7	101.6	.1	1.5
Anti-infectives -----		79.1	79.4	-.4	-3.5
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		124.8	124.6	.2	4.4
Ataractics -----		102.6	102.6	0	1.9
Anti-spasmodics -----		108.0	107.8	.2	3.2
Cough preparations -----		127.2	127.2	0	3.9
Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives -----		112.1	112.0	.1	3.8
Analgesics, internal -----		108.3	107.9	.4	1.9
Anti-obesity -----		117.3	117.0	.3	5.3
Hormones -----		94.8	94.6	.2	-3
Professional services:					
Physicians' fees -----		132.2	132.0	.2	5.2
General physician, office visits -----		133.3	133.1	.2	4.6
General physician, house visits -----		134.6	134.1	.4	6.8
Obstetrical cases -----		131.6	131.5	.1	5.6
Pediatric care, office visits -----		135.3	134.7	.4	7.0
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		127.3	127.2	.1	4.4
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		126.4	126.2	.2	5.1
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		128.7	128.7	0	6.5
Dentists' fees -----		130.0	129.8	.2	6.4
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		131.3	131.0	.2	6.7
Extractions, adult -----		129.6	129.4	.2	6.0
Dentures, full upper -----		127.7	127.7	0	5.9
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		122.9	122.9	0	5.4
Routine laboratory tests -----		118.6	117.8	.7	4.8
Hospital service charges:					
Daily service charges -----		165.5	164.6	.5	8.9
Semiprivate rooms -----		167.9	167.0	.5	9.2
Private rooms -----		162.0	161.1	.6	8.5
Operating room charges -----		162.6	159.0	2.3	8.9
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----		126.9	126.6	.2	5.6
Personal care -----		117.9	117.9	0	2.5
Toilet goods -----		114.8	114.8	0	2.6
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		109.3	108.3	.9	2.1
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		119.7	118.8	.8	9.0
Hand lotions, liquid -----		120.4	120.0	.3	2.3
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		107.3	107.8	-.5	3.3
Face powder, pressed -----		122.0	122.4	-.3	-4.5
Deodorants, aerosol -----		105.9	105.9	0	1.5
Cleansing tissues -----		121.8	123.6	-1.5	.7
Home permanent wave kits -----		111.6	111.7	-.1	2.3
Personal care services -----		121.2	121.2	0	2.5
Men's haircuts -----		123.9	123.7	.2	2.1
Beauty shop services -----		119.2	119.4	-.2	2.8
Women's haircuts -----		119.9	120.2	-.2	2.0
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		122.6	122.7	-.1	3.2
Permanent waves, cold -----		111.3	111.4	-.1	2.6

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

(1967=100 unless otherwise Specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to December 1971 from	
		December 1971	November 1971	November 1971	December 1970
Reading and recreation <sup>10/</sup> -----		121.1	120.8	0.2	4.2
Recreational goods -----		107.3	107.2	.1	1.7
TV sets, portable and console -----		100.3	100.3	0	-1
TV replacement tubes -----		124.7	124.5	.2	3.1
Radios, portable and table model -----		98.4	98.4	0	-6
Tape recorders, portable -----		93.1	92.5	.6	-3.0
Phonograph records, stereophonic -----		107.1	106.5	.6	7.5
Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens -----		88.9	88.9	0	-1.6
Film, 35mm, color -----		108.7	108.5	.2	1.1
Golf balls liquid center or solid core -----		105.2	104.8	.4	1.3
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----		125.7	125.5	.2	4.4
Fishing rods, fresh water spincasting -----		110.7	110.8	-.1	1.0
Bowling balls -----		113.0	112.7	.3	2.4
Bicycles, boys' -----		113.3	113.6	-.3	4.9
Tricycles -----		112.2	111.7	.4	2.7
Dog food, canned or boxed -----		110.2	110.8	-.5	3.2
Recreational services -----		126.4	126.6	-.2	3.6
Indoor movie admissions -----		137.9	138.7	-.6	2.9
Adult -----		137.4	138.2	-.6	2.6
Children's -----		139.1	140.1	-.7	3.8
Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----		142.5	142.3	.1	4.2
Bowling fees, evening -----		117.6	117.7	-.1	4.0
Golf green fees <sup>5/</sup> -----		(5/)	(5/)	(5/)	(5/)
TV repair, color picture tube replacement -----		98.6	98.5	-.1	2.4
Film developing, color -----		118.2	118.3	-.1	3.4
Reading and education: -----					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----		130.7	130.6	.1	3.6
Magazines, single copy and subscription -----		124.9	124.8	.1	1.7
Piano lessons, beginner -----		121.5	121.5	0	1.9
Other goods and services -----		123.0	122.8	.2	3.8
Tobacco products -----		129.2	129.0	.2	4.3
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----		130.6	130.3	.2	4.1
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----		131.1	130.8	.2	4.6
Cigars, domestic, regular size -----		109.5	109.3	.2	3.6
Alcoholic beverages -----		118.4	118.3	.1	3.5
Beer -----		113.8	113.7	.1	2.8
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon -----		107.0	106.8	.1	1.1
Wine, dessert and table -----		125.1	124.9	.2	6.1
Away from home -----		128.8	128.8	0	4.6
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses: -----					
Funeral services, adult -----		119.2	119.1	.1	3.9
Bank service charges, checking accounts -----		109.5	109.3	.2	-1.4
Legal services, short form will -----		141.4	140.2	.9	6.9
<b>Other special groups:</b> -----					
All items less shelter -----		120.9	120.4	.4	3.5
Commodities less food -----		118.1	118.1	0	2.3
Nondurables less food and apparel -----		116.8	116.5	.3	2.9
Household services less rent -----		136.1	135.4	.5	3.4
Transportation services -----		134.2	134.0	.1	5.3
Other services -----		124.1	124.0	.1	3.8

<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 air filters, packaged dry cement mix, and shrubbery not shown separately.

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

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

<sup>6/</sup> Also includes radios and television sets, shown separately under reading and recreation.

<sup>7/</sup> Also includes men's sweaters, sport shirts, women's and girls' lightweight coats, women's slacks, cocktail dresses, bathing suits, girls' robes, cotton and polyester blend skirts, shorts, earrings, and zippers not shown separately.

<sup>8/</sup> Also includes storage batteries and drivers' license fees not shown separately.

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

<sup>10/</sup> Also includes outboard motors, nondurable toys, college tuition fees, paperback books, and college textbooks, not shown separately.

TABLE 8A. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1971 annual average indexes for selected items and groups and percent changes from previous year

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to 1971 from 1970
		1971 Average	1970 Average	
Housing -----		124.3	118.9	4.5
Shelter 1/ -----		128.8	123.6	4.2
Rent -----		115.2	110.1	4.6
Homeownership costs 2/ -----		133.7	128.5	4.0
Mortgage interest rates -----		120.4	132.1	-8.9
Property taxes -----		131.1	121.0	8.3
Property insurance rates -----		119.9	113.4	5.7
Maintenance and repairs -----		133.7	124.0	7.8
Commodities 3/ -----		119.0	113.7	4.7
Exterior house paint -----		115.9	112.4	3.1
Interior house paint -----		114.5	111.3	2.9
Services -----		140.0	128.4	9.0
Repainting living and dining rooms -----		148.3	132.5	11.9
Reshingling house roof -----		144.8	129.6	11.7
Residing house -----		130.6	122.6	6.5
Sink replacement -----		140.6	128.8	9.2
Furnace repair -----		144.3	133.6	8.0
Fuel and utilities -----		115.1	107.6	7.0
Fuel oil and coal -----		117.5	110.1	6.7
Fuel oil, #2 -----		116.1	109.3	6.2
Gas and electricity -----		114.7	107.3	6.9
Gas -----		116.3	108.5	7.2
Electricity -----		113.2	106.2	6.6
Other utilities:				
Residential telephone services -----		108.0	102.5	5.4
Residential water and sewerage services -----		133.4	120.4	10.8
Household furnishings and operation 4/ -----		118.1	113.4	4.1
Housefurnishings -----		114.3	111.4	2.6
Textiles -----		111.6	109.2	2.2
Sheets, percale or muslin -----		113.9	113.6	.3
Curtains, tailored, polyester -----		110.0	108.5	1.4
Bedspreads, chiefly cotton -----		107.8	107.0	.7
Drapery fabric, cotton or rayon/acetate -----		118.4	114.5	3.4
Pillows, bed, polyester, acrylic, or kapok -----		107.6	103.2	4.3
Slipcover, ready made, chiefly cotton -----		111.8	108.0	3.5
Furniture and bedding -----		119.1	115.5	3.1
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser -----	Mar. 70	103.6	100.9	2.7
Living room suites, good and inexpensive quality -----		115.7	113.1	2.3
Lounge chairs, upholstered -----		123.6	118.2	4.6
Dining room chairs -----	Mar. 70	103.0	100.6	2.4
Sofas, upholstered -----		117.5	114.0	3.1
Sofas, dual purpose -----		116.4	114.7	1.5
Bedding, mattress and box springs -----	June 70	103.4	100.3	3.1
Aluminum folding chair 5/ -----		115.8	109.3	5.9
Cribs -----		117.9	113.6	3.8
Floor coverings -----		106.3	105.0	1.2
Broadloom, carpeting, manmade fibers -----		102.3	102.8	-.5
Vinyl sheet goods -----		114.7	108.7	5.5
Vinyl asbestos tile -----		116.6	111.3	4.8
Appliances 6/ -----		105.5	104.1	1.3
Washing machines, electric, automatic -----		109.4	107.3	2.0
Vacuum cleaners, canister type -----		103.8	102.6	1.2
Refrigerators or refrigerator-freezers, electric -----		108.1	105.8	2.2
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----		111.0	108.5	2.3
Clothes dryers, electric, automatic -----		112.4	108.4	3.7
Air conditioners, demountable -----		110.2	107.1	2.9
Room heaters, electric, portable 5/ -----		108.1	107.0	1.0
Garbage disposal units -----		110.1	109.1	.9
Other housefurnishings:				
Dinnerware, chinaware -----		117.8	111.5	5.7
Flatware, stainless steel -----		120.4	119.1	1.1
Table lamps, with shade -----		121.0	116.0	4.3
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type -----		116.4	114.0	2.1
Electric drills, hand held -----		106.7	107.6	-.8
Housekeeping supplies:				
Laundry soaps and detergents -----		109.8	106.0	3.6
Paper napkins -----		126.7	118.7	6.7
Toilet tissue -----		123.6	117.8	4.9
Housekeeping services:				
Domestic service, general housework -----		133.8	126.8	5.5
Baby sitter service -----		130.0	123.0	5.7
Postal charges -----		138.1	117.7	17.3
Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----		133.3	124.3	7.2
Licensed day care service, preschool child -----		118.2	114.5	3.2
Washing machine repairs -----		135.3	123.8	9.3

TABLE 8A. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1971 annual average indexes for selected items and groups and percent changes from previous year

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to 1971 from 1970
		1971 Average	1970 Average	
Apparel and upkeep 7/		119.8	116.1	3.2
Apparel commodities		120.1	116.5	3.1
Apparel commodities less footwear 1		119.9	116.3	3.1
Men's and boys'		120.3	117.1	2.7
Men's:				
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends 5/		122.3	119.3	2.5
Suits, year round weight		129.0	123.9	4.1
Suits, tropical weight 5/		129.2	123.0	5.0
Jackets, lightweight		112.5	113.1	-.5
Slacks, wool or wool blends		116.8	115.4	1.2
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends		132.3	124.5	6.3
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton		113.0	109.3	3.4
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton		113.3	109.2	3.8
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton		112.7	110.5	2.0
T-shirts, chiefly cotton		119.0	118.8	.2
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers		115.5	114.9	.5
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton		114.9	113.0	1.7
Boy's:				
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blend 5/		118.3	115.5	2.4
Sport coats, wool or wool blend 5/		122.0	122.3	-.2
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blend		122.5	117.1	4.6
Undershorts, cotton		119.5	118.5	.8
Women's and girls'		120.1	116.0	3.5
Women's:				
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blend 5/		122.9	119.9	2.5
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton 5/		127.2	121.7	4.5
Sweaters, wool or acrylic 5/		120.8	113.4	6.5
Skirts, wool, wool blend or manmade fibers 5/		131.7	124.8	5.5
Skirts, cotton or polyester/cotton 5/		114.0	115.6	-1.4
Blouses, cotton or manmade fibers 5/		121.9	117.3	3.9
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fiber		127.6	129.4	-1.4
Dresses, street, wool or wool blend 5/		140.4	130.4	7.7
Slips, nylon		110.7	109.3	1.3
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot		115.2	111.8	3.0
Girdles, manmade blend		116.2	111.9	3.8
Brassiers, nylon lace		120.9	115.6	4.6
Hose, nylon seamless		98.9	99.8	-.9
Anklets, or knee-length socks, various fibers		115.8	115.7	.1
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton		109.6	108.2	1.3
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic		132.4	123.0	7.6
Girls':				
Raincoats, vinyl, cotton, or polyester blends		116.5	113.7	2.5
Skirts, wool, wool blends, or acrylic 5/		106.8	109.7	-2.6
Dresses, cotton, manmade fibers or blends		107.4	106.1	1.2
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton 5/		131.3	122.9	6.8
Slips, polyester blends		110.4	107.6	2.6
Handbags, plastic		129.0	126.3	2.1
Footwear		121.5	117.7	3.2
Men's:				
Shoes, street		119.6	114.8	4.2
Shoes, work, high		118.7	113.7	4.4
Women's:				
Shoes, street, pump		123.4	120.7	2.2
Shoes, evening, pump		120.2	117.8	2.0
Shoes, casual		124.1	122.1	1.6
House slippers, scuff		121.9	118.9	2.5
Children's:				
Shoes, oxford		122.3	117.2	4.4
Sneakers, boys', oxford type		118.8	113.5	4.7
Dress shoes, girls', strap or pump		125.8	119.5	5.3
Miscellaneous apparel:				
Diapers, cotton gauze or disposable		112.0	109.5	2.3
Yard goods, polyester blend		122.1	120.5	1.3
Wrist watches, men's and women's		113.0	110.8	2.0
Apparel services:				
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses		116.6	112.9	3.3
Automatic laundry service		113.8	110.7	2.8
Laundry, men's shirts		119.1	115.0	3.6
Tailoring charge, hem adjustment		128.5	119.9	7.2
Shoe repair, women's heel lift		112.0	107.5	4.2

TABLE 8A. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1971 annual average indexes for selected items and groups and percent changes from previous year

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to 1971 from 1970
		1971 Average	1970 Average	
Transportation -----		118.6	112.7	5.2
Private 8/ -----		116.6	111.1	5.0
Automobiles, new -----		112.0	107.6	4.1
Automobiles, used -----		110.2	104.3	5.7
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		106.3	105.6	.7
Motor oil, premium -----		120.0	114.4	4.9
Tires, new, tubeless -----		116.3	113.1	2.8
Auto repairs and maintenance <u>9/</u> -----		129.2	120.6	7.1
Auto insurance rates -----		141.4	126.7	11.6
Auto registration -----		123.2	117.8	4.6
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		135.3	124.0	9.1
Public -----		137.7	128.5	7.2
Local transit fares -----		143.4	134.5	6.6
Taxicab fares -----		126.5	116.2	8.9
Railroad fares, coach -----		126.8	117.4	8.0
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		126.9	118.5	7.1
Bus fares, intercity -----		132.7	118.4	12.1
Health and recreation -----		122.2	116.2	5.2
Medical care -----		128.4	120.6	6.5
Drugs and prescriptions -----		105.4	103.6	1.7
Over-the-counter items -----		110.2	106.2	3.8
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		96.6	98.0	-1.4
Aspirin compounds -----		114.1	106.8	6.8
Liquid tonics -----		101.3	101.0	.3
Adhesive bandages, package -----		122.6	113.8	7.7
Cold tablets or capsules -----		111.3	107.8	3.2
Cough syrup -----		112.4	107.8	4.3
Prescriptions -----		101.3	101.2	.1
Anti-infectives -----		80.2	89.9	-10.8
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		122.9	116.2	5.8
Ataractics -----		101.7	100.4	1.3
Anti-spasmodics -----		107.1	103.1	3.9
Cough preparations -----		126.0	119.0	5.9
Cardiovasculars and anti-hypertensives -----		111.1	106.6	4.2
Analgesics, internal -----		107.8	105.3	2.4
Anti-obesity -----		114.9	107.8	6.6
Hormones -----		94.9	94.8	.1
Professional services: -----				
Physicians' fees -----		129.8	121.4	6.9
General physician, office visits -----		131.4	122.6	7.2
General physician, house visits -----		131.0	122.4	7.0
Obstetrical cases -----		129.0	121.8	5.9
Pediatric care, office visits -----		132.0	122.7	7.6
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		124.8	119.4	4.5
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		123.4	115.0	7.3
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		125.2	117.1	6.9
Dentists' fees -----		127.0	119.4	6.4
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		128.0	120.3	6.4
Extractions, adult -----		126.9	118.6	7.0
Dentures, full upper -----		124.9	118.3	5.6
Other professional services: -----				
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		120.3	113.5	6.0
Routine laboratory tests -----		116.1	111.4	4.2
Hospital service charges: -----				
Daily service charges -----		160.8	143.9	11.7
Semiprivate rooms -----		163.1	145.4	12.2
Private rooms -----		157.5	141.7	11.2
Operating room charges -----		156.2	142.4	9.7
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----		124.9	116.3	7.4
Personal care -----		116.8	113.2	3.2
Toilet goods -----		113.8	110.4	3.1
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		107.7	107.0	.7
Toilet soap, hard milled -----		114.1	106.5	7.1
Hand lotions, liquid -----		119.5	116.5	2.6
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		106.6	102.2	4.3
Face powder, pressed -----		123.5	119.7	3.2
Deodorants, aerosol -----		105.6	104.6	1.0
Cleansing tissues -----		123.3	118.9	3.7
Home permanent wave kits -----		110.9	108.8	1.9
Personal care services -----		120.0	116.0	3.4
Men's haircuts -----		122.6	119.0	3.0
Beauty shop services -----		118.2	113.9	3.8
Women's haircuts -----		119.1	115.0	3.6
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		121.4	116.5	4.2
Permanent waves, cold -----		110.2	107.2	2.8

TABLE 8A. Consumer Price Index--United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1971 annual average indexes for selected items and groups and percent changes from previous year

(1967=100 unless otherwise specified)

Item and group	Other index bases	Indexes		Percent change to 1971. from 1970
		1971 Average	1970 Average	
Reading and recreation <sup>10/</sup> -----		119.3	113.4	5.2
Recreational goods -----		106.6	104.6	1.9
TV sets, portable and console -----		100.1	99.8	.3
TV replacement tubes -----		122.5	117.4	4.3
Radios, portable and table model -----		98.5	98.8	-.3
Tape recorders, portable -----		94.2	94.9	-.7
Phonograph records, stereophonic -----		103.5	99.9	3.6
Movie cameras, Super 8, zoom lens -----		89.4	91.4	-2.2
Film, 35mm, color -----		108.3	106.8	1.4
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core -----		104.5	103.2	1.3
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----		124.1	118.5	4.7
Fishing rods, fresh water spincasting -----		110.1	110.4	-.3
Bowling balls -----		111.4	107.9	3.2
Bicycles, boys' -----		112.6	108.7	3.6
Tricycles -----		111.2	108.8	2.2
Dog food, canned or boxed -----		109.0	104.8	4.0
Recreational services -----		125.2	119.0	5.2
Indoor movie admissions -----		137.6	130.0	5.8
Adult -----		137.4	130.1	5.6
Children's -----		138.0	129.3	6.7
Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----		140.1	131.0	6.9
Bowling fees, evening -----		116.3	111.3	4.5
Golf green fees -----		127.5	121.2	5.2
TV repair, color picture tube replacement -----		98.0	96.9	1.1
Film developing, color -----		116.7	111.4	4.8
Reading and education:				
Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----		129.6	119.4	8.5
Magazines, single copy and subscription -----		125.1	117.9	6.1
Piano lessons, beginner -----		121.0	116.9	3.5
Other goods and services -----		120.9	116.0	4.2
Tobacco products -----		126.4	121.2	4.3
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----		127.9	122.4	4.5
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----		128.1	122.5	4.6
Cigars, domestic, regular size -----		107.1	105.4	1.6
Alcoholic beverages -----		116.9	112.3	4.1
Beer -----		112.9	108.9	3.7
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon -----		106.4	105.0	1.3
Wine, dessert and table -----		122.3	116.7	4.8
Away from home -----		126.4	119.6	5.7
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:				
Funeral services, adult -----		117.2	112.9	3.8
Bank service charges, checking accounts -----		110.6	107.2	3.2
Legal services, short form will -----		135.5	124.7	8.7
Other special groups:				
All items less shelter -----		119.3	114.4	4.3
Commodities less food -----		116.8	112.5	3.8
Nondurables less food and apparel -----		115.2	111.2	3.6
Household services less rent -----		132.6	126.8	4.6
Transportation services -----		133.1	123.1	8.1
Other services -----		122.5	116.7	5.0

<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 air filters, packaged dry cement mix, and shrubbery not shown separately.

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

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

<sup>6/</sup> Also includes radios and television sets, shown separately under reading and recreation.

<sup>7/</sup> Also includes men's sweaters, sport shirts, women's and girls' lightweight coats, women's slacks, cocktail dresses, bathing suits, girls' robes, cotton and polyester blend skirts, shorts, earrings, and zippers not shown separately.

<sup>8/</sup> Also includes storage batteries and drivers' license fees not shown separately.

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

<sup>10/</sup> Also includes outboard motors, nondurable toys, college tuition fees, paperback books, and college textbooks, not shown separately.

Reliability of Percent Changes in the CPI

A system of "replicated" samples introduced into the index structure in the 1964 revision permits an estimate of sampling error for the CPI. <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 1970 averages. The figures may be interpreted as follows: the chances are about 95 out of 100 that the percent change in the CPI as computed differs from the corresponding "complete coverage" change by less than twice the standard error.

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

Average Standard Errors of Percent Changes in the  
CPI Based on 1970 Data

Component	Standard Error		
	Monthly Change	Quarterly Change	Annual Change
All Items -----	.04	.06	.09
Food at home -----	.08	.13	.18
Food away from home -----	.11	.21	.36
Housing -----	.06	.10	.19
Apparel -----	.15	.26	.29
Transportation -----	.10	.16	.19
Medical care -----	.12	.15	.29
Personal care -----	.13	.23	.34
Reading and recreation -----	.11	.17	.23
Other goods and services -----	.10	.16	.41

This replaces the table of average errors based on 1969 data which was included in the CPI report through December 1970.

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

Brief Explanation of the CPI

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures average changes in prices of goods and services usually bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers, both families and single persons living alone. It is based on prices of about 400 items which were selected to represent the movement of prices of all goods and services purchased by wage earners and clerical workers. Prices for these items are obtained in urban portions of 39 Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's) and 17 smaller cities, which were chosen to represent all urban places in the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii. They are collected from grocery and department stores, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments which wage earners and clerical workers patronize.

Prices of foods, fuels, and a few other items are obtained every month in all 56 locations. Prices of most other commodities and services are collected every month in the 5 largest SMSA's and every 3 months in other SMSA's and cities. Mail questionnaires are used to obtain local transit fares, public utility rates, newspaper prices, fuel prices, and certain other items which change in price infrequently. Prices of most other goods and services are obtained by personal visits of the Bureau's trained representatives.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights which represent their importance in the spending of all wage earners and clerical workers. SMSA and city data are then combined in the total index with weights based on the 1960 populations of SMSA's and cities they represent. Index numbers are computed on the base 1967=100, and are also available on the base of 1957-59=100.

The national index (the United States city average) includes prices from the 23 SMSA's for which separate indexes are published in this report, as well as from the following additional locations:

Alabama - Florence	Louisiana - Baton Rouge*	Ohio - Findlay
Alaska - Anchorage	Maine - Portland*	Oklahoma - Mangum
California - Bakersfield*	Massachusetts - Southbridge	Oregon - Klamath Falls
Colorado - Denver*	Michigan - Niles	Pennsylvania - Lancaster*
Connecticut - Hartford*	Minnesota - Crookston	South Carolina - Union
Florida - Orlando*	Mississippi - Vicksburg	Tennessee - Nashville*
Indiana - Indianapolis*	New Jersey - Millville	Texas - Austin*
Indiana - Logansport	New York - Kingston	Texas - McAllen
Illinois - Champaign-Urbana*	North Carolina - Durham*	Utah - Orem
Iowa - Cedar Rapids*	North Dakota - Devils Lake	Virginia - Martinsville
Kansas - Wichita*	Ohio - Dayton*	Wisconsin - Green Bay*

\*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

Comparisons of indexes for individual SMSA's show only that prices in one location changed more or less than in another. The SMSA indexes cannot be used to measure differences in price levels or in living costs between areas.

A description of the index and historical tables of index numbers for the United States city average and for 23 large SMSA's are available on request to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, D. C. 20212 or any of its regional offices.

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