

# CPI Detailed Report

For August 1974

Consumer Price Index U.S. and City Averages



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The CPI Detailed Report is a monthly report on consumer price movements including statistical tables and technical notes.

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November 1974

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# Price Movements

August 1974

The Consumer Price Index rose 1.3 percent in August to 150.2 percent of its 1967 base. The rise was due to higher prices for a wide range of consumer goods and services, notably meats, apparel commodities, mortgage interest costs, and medical care services. The effect of these increases was partially offset by lower prices for fresh vegetables and gasoline.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the rise in the August CPI was also 1.3 percent. This increase compares with an 0.8 percent rise in July and an average monthly increase of 1 percent during the first 6 months of this year. The food index increased 1.4 percent in August following a decline in July, and the index for nonfood commodities continued to rise at a rapid pace. The services index increased 1.1 percent in August, about the same as in May, June, and July.

The August CPI was 11.2 percent higher than a year ago. The food index was up 9.0 percent from a year ago, nonfood commodities were up 13.1 percent, and services were up 10.7 percent.

## Monthly changes in detail (not seasonally adjusted)

*Food.* The index of food purchased in grocery stores which usually declines slightly in August rose 1.5 percent. The index for beef and pork increased much more than they usually do. For beef, it was the first increase since February. Increases in retail meat prices reflected increases in prices for livestock and meats at the wholesale level since mid-June. Wholesale prices rose primarily in response to the cattle holding action by owners and feed-lot operators that began in mid-June and anticipated shortages precipitated by the proposed sell-off of up to half a million young pigs. Retail poultry prices increased instead of declining as they usually do in August and egg prices rose for the first time since February. These increases were due to rising wholesale prices caused by rising demand and short supplies.

Because of higher prices for ingredients and for non-agricultural inputs, prices continued to rise for other grocery store food items such as cereal and bakery prod-

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

Month	Changes from preceding month							Changes in all items	
								Compound annual rate	From 12 months ago
	All items		Food		Commodities less food		Services	From 3 months ago	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted
<b>1973:</b>									
August .....	1.8	1.9	6.0	6.1	0.2	0.3	0.7	11.1	7.5
September .....	.3	.4	-.7	-.3	.4	.3	.9	10.2	7.4
October .....	.8	.8	.1	.7	.9	.5	1.1	13.1	7.9
November .....	.7	.8	1.1	1.4	.7	.7	.6	8.3	8.4
December .....	.7	.6	.9	.5	.6	.6	.6	9.2	8.8
<b>1974:</b>									
January .....	.9	1.1	1.6	1.7	.6	1.3	.7	10.2	9.4
February .....	1.3	1.2	2.5	2.2	1.0	1.1	.7	12.2	10.0
March .....	1.1	1.1	1.0	.6	1.5	1.4	.8	14.2	10.2
April .....	.6	.6	.3	-.4	1.3	1.1	.6	12.1	10.2
May .....	1.1	1.1	.7	.9	1.6	1.3	1.0	11.4	10.7
June .....	1.0	1.0	.4	.3	1.4	1.3	1.0	10.9	11.1
July .....	.8	.8	.1	-.4	1.0	1.3	1.1	11.7	11.8
August .....	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.1	12.9	11.2

ucts, sugar and sweets, nonalcoholic beverages, prepared and partially prepared food, and processed fruits and vegetables. In addition, prices for fats and oils rose sharply in August after several months of moderate increases. Wholesale prices for refined vegetable oil, especially soybean oil, have been rising in anticipation of a reduction in soybean production due to the drought in producing areas.

The effect of price increases on the food-at-home index was partially offset by price declines for some food items—notably fresh vegetables. Increased production and harvesting from local areas caused substantial and widespread price declines among fresh vegetables. Dairy products prices continued to decline as supplies of milk, cheese, and butter were plentiful as a result of the spring and early summer seasonal bulge in milk production. The fish index declined primarily because of lower prices for shrimp. There is a large inventory of shrimp as many of the major importing countries have cut back on purchases to increase money reserves for crude oil and petroleum products.

The index for food away from home—restaurant meals and snacks—rose 0.9 percent in August, slightly less than in recent months.

*Nonfood commodities.* The index for nonfood commodities increased 1.4 percent in August instead of edging down seasonally. Over a third of the rise was due to higher prices for apparel commodities, which usually decline in August. Prices also rose for a wide range of other nonfood commodities. Increases were large among household durables—furniture, floor coverings, and particularly appliances. Even with the decline in housing starts and the corresponding drop in demand, the replacement market for appliances has been sufficiently strong to allow retailers to pass on manufacturers' price increases. Many outlets, however, are reporting that the sales pace is slowing as consumers are becoming reluctant to buy appliances at the new higher prices.

Prices for housekeeping supplies and toilet goods, particularly soaps, continued to rise rapidly. Higher prices for tallow, a beef byproduct used in soap production, accounted for the increase in soap prices. The cutback

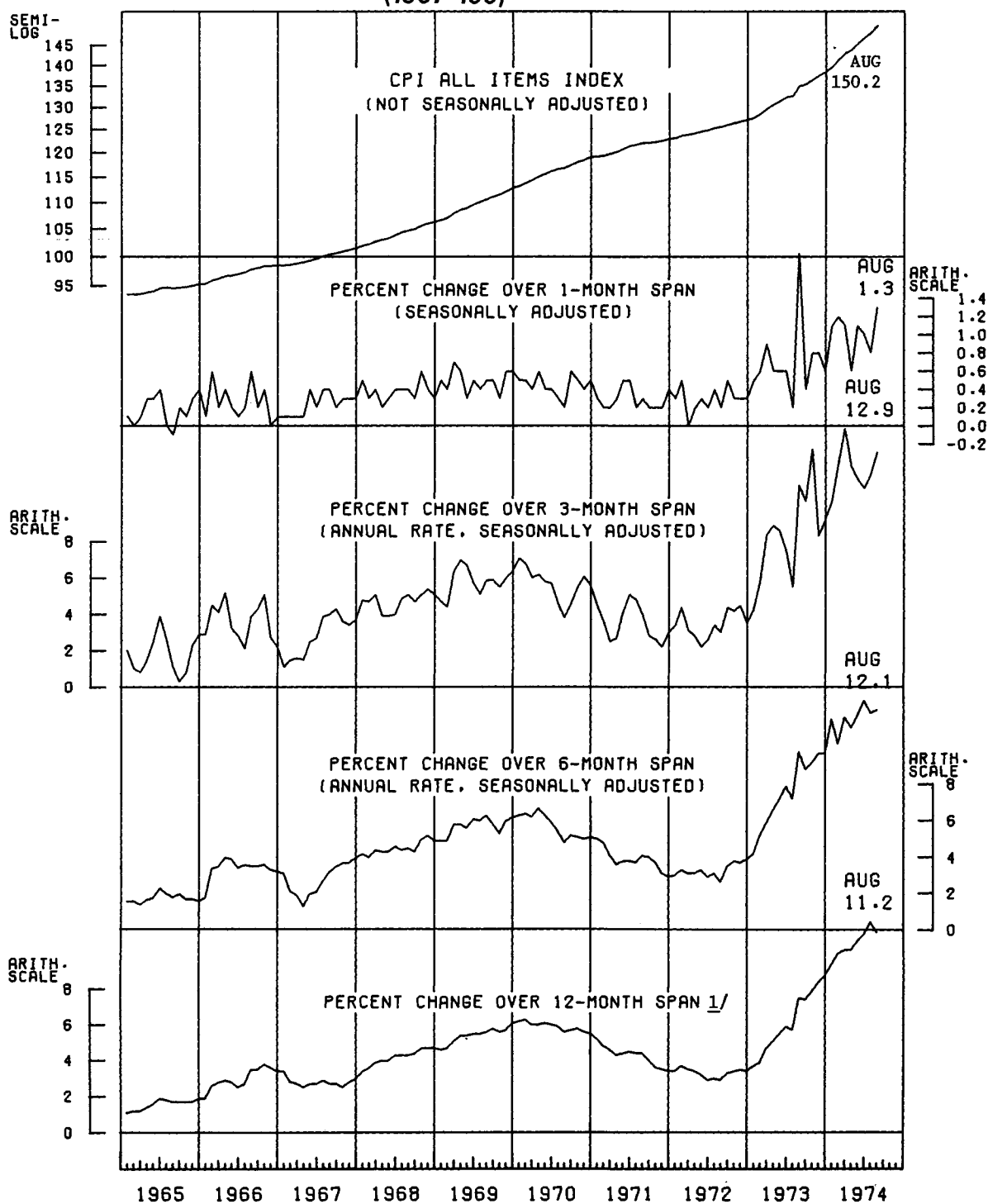
in beef marketing that took place in the summer of 1973 caused a domestic shortage of tallow. The concurrent domestic price freeze on tallow prompted U.S. tallow producers to sell in Western European markets for higher prices. Although the domestic conditions which led to higher prices have changed, exports of tallow are still large and have kept prices at a high level. Synthetic detergent prices have risen because of the rising price of petrochemicals. The rise in drugs and prescription prices also accelerated in August. The largest increase among over-the-counter drugs was for aspirin. Higher prices for materials (salicylic acid, benzol, and acetic anhydride) caused wholesale prices for acetic-salicylic acid (aspirin) to increase almost 59 percent this July. Among alcoholic beverages, beer prices rose sharply reflecting higher grain costs.

Used car prices continued to rise but the increase in August was smaller than in recent months. The new car index increased slightly, contrary to its usual seasonal decline at this time of the year. The index rose in response to the June and July price increases by three major domestic automobile producers. In addition, rising sales for 1974 model cars—because of fear of higher prices on 1975 models—kept concessions from rising as much as they usually do at the close of the model year.

Prices for fuel oil continued to rise as higher crude oil costs were passed through to finished products. Gasoline prices, however, declined for the first time since September of last year.

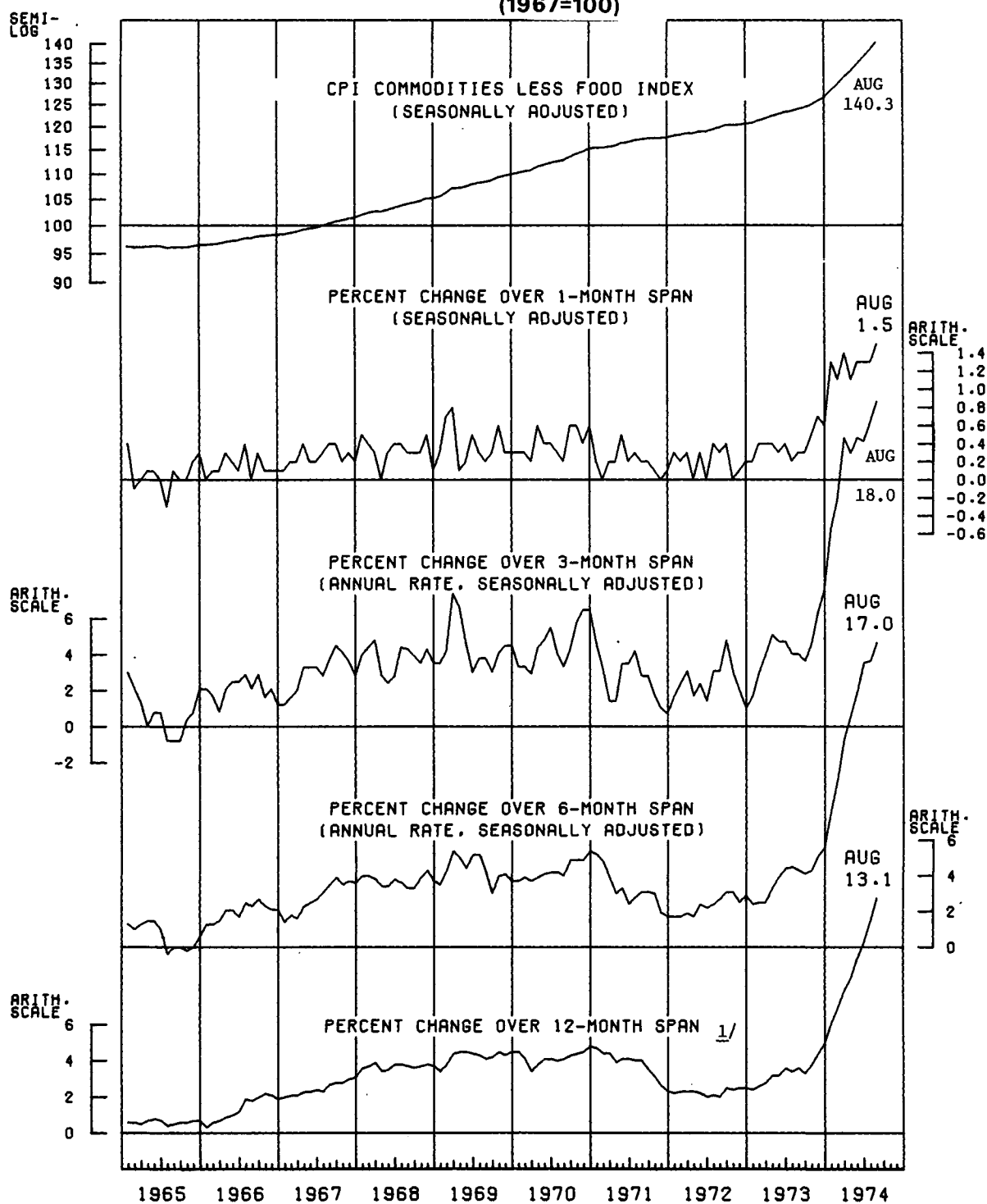
The services index rose 1.1 percent in August. Over a fourth of this increase was due to a rise in mortgage interest costs which reflects earlier increases in interest rates on conventionally financed loans as well as the previously announced rate increase for FHA insured loans (from 9.25 to 9.50). There were large increases in charges for other household services such as home repair and housekeeping services and for utilities—gas, electricity, and water and sewerage. Charges for medical care services—particularly hospital services—continued to rise sharply. Charges for auto repairs and other services such as haircuts, drycleaning, funeral services, and bank service charges on checking accounts also increased.

**Chart 1. All items index and its rate of change, 1965-74  
(1967=100)**



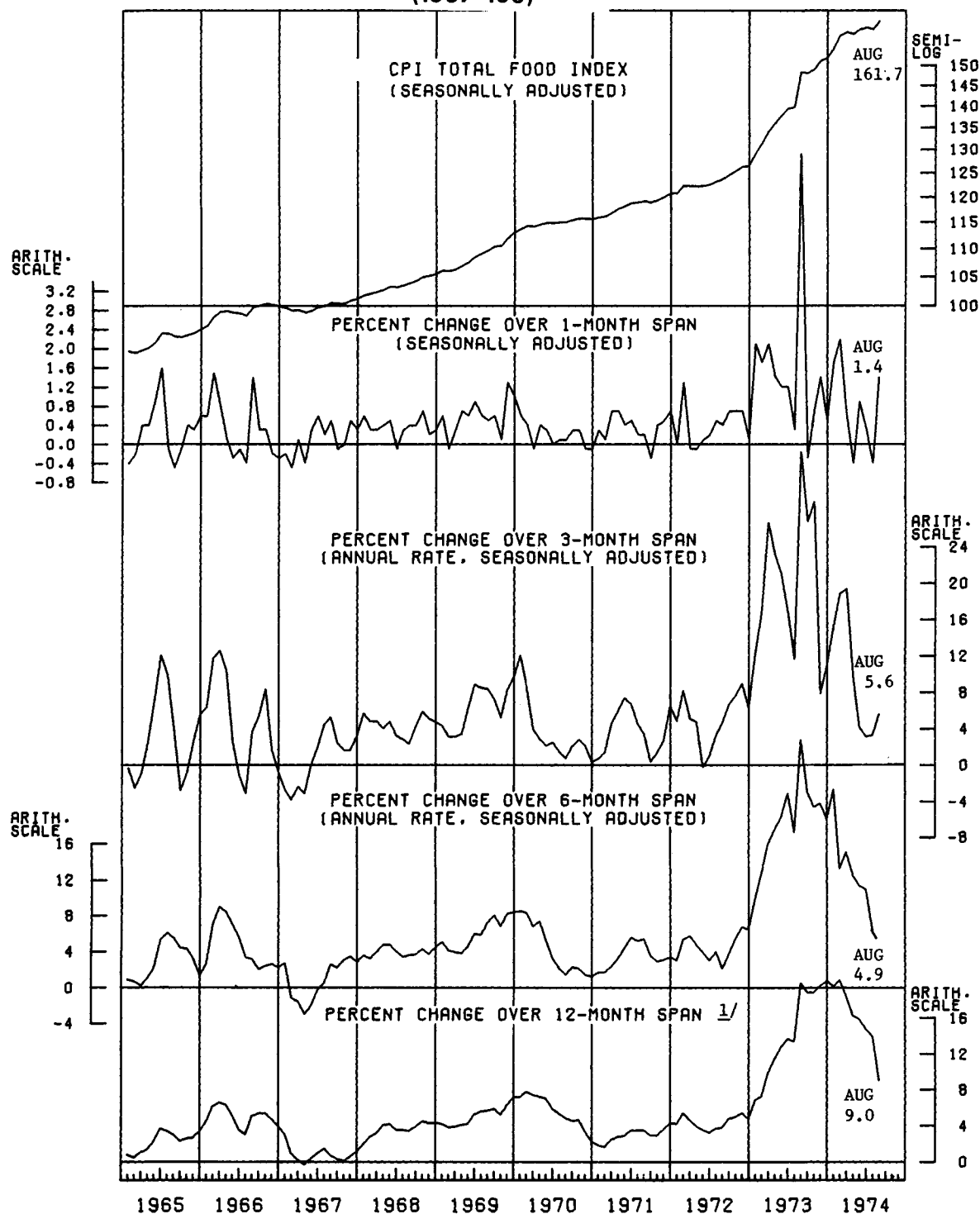
1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.  
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**Chart 2. Commodities less food index and its rates of change, 1965-74**  
(1967=100)



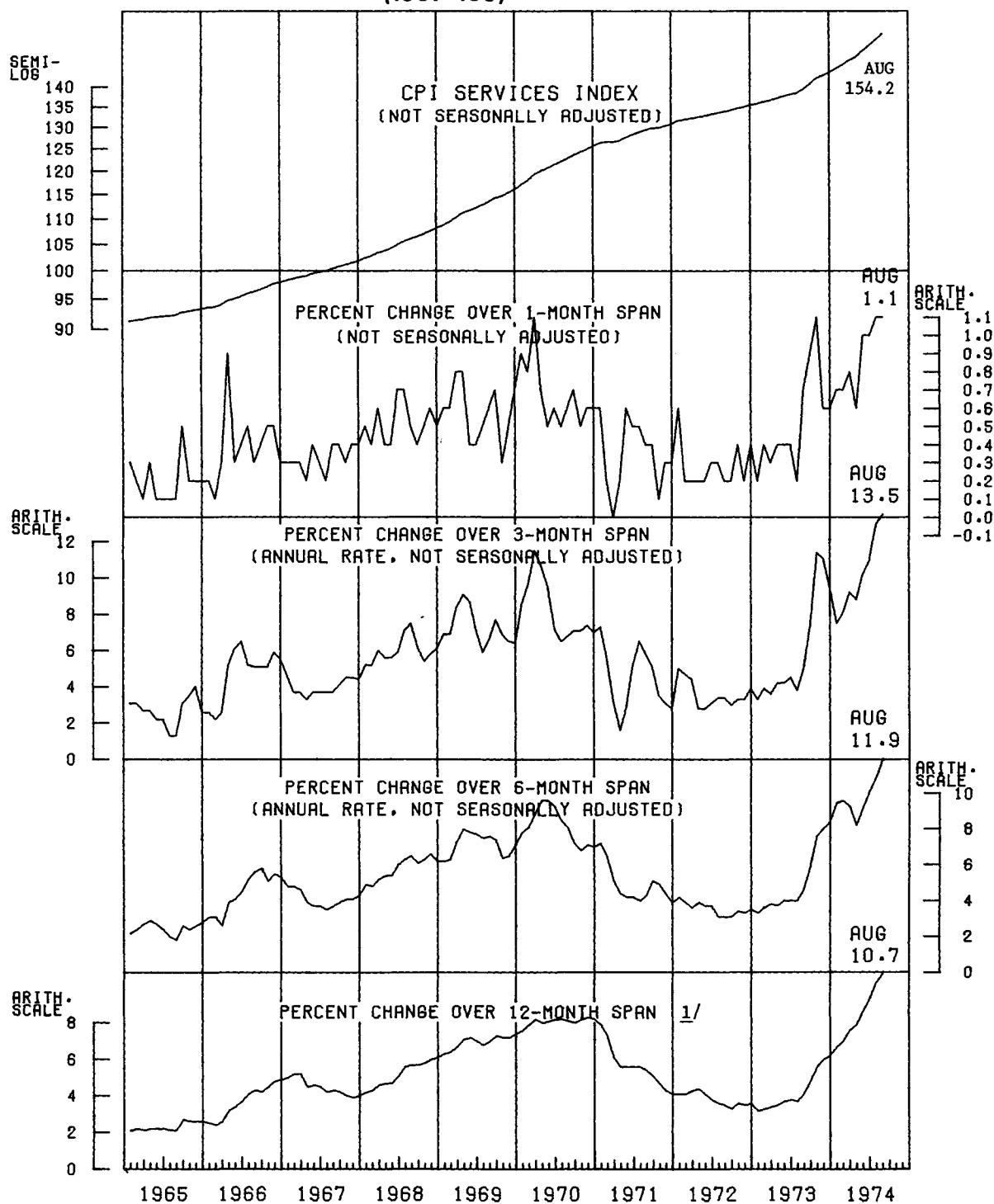
1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.  
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**Chart 3. Total food index and its rates of change, 1965-74**  
(1967=100)



1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.  
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**Chart 4. Services index and its rates of change, 1965-74  
(1967=100)**



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

Group	Relative importance	Unadjusted indexes 1967= 100 unless otherwise noted		Unadjusted percent change to August 1974 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
	December 1973	July 1974	August 1974	August 1973	July 1974	May to June	June to July	July to August
Commodity and service groups								
All items -----	100.000	148.3	150.2	11.2	1.3	1.0	0.8	1.3
All items (1957-59= 100) -----	-	172.5	174.6	--	-	-	-	-
Commodities -----	63.454	146.1	148.0	11.4	1.3	.9	.6	1.5
Food -----	24.810	160.5	162.8	9.0	1.4	.3	-.4	1.4
Food at home -----	19.633	160.6	163.0	7.7	1.5	.1	-.9	1.7
Cereals and bakery products -----	2.644	166.7	168.2	34.9	.9	.9	.7	.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	6.988	154.6	162.1	-11.9	4.9	-2.6	-1.4	4.7
Dairy products -----	3.023	151.6	150.7	19.0	-.6	-.4	-1.6	-.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	3.146	178.7	168.2	10.2	-5.9	.7	-2.2	-3.7
Other foods at home -----	3.832	158.4	166.4	22.7	5.1	2.8	2.0	4.3
Food away from home -----	5.177	160.4	161.9	13.7	.9	1.1	1.1	.7
Commodities less food -----	38.644	138.1	140.0	13.1	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.5
Nondurables less food -----	22.978	141.8	143.7	15.2	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.4
Apparel commodities <sup>1</sup> -----	8.569	135.0	138.0	9.0	2.2	.9	.5	2.6
Men's and boys' -----	2.661	136.0	138.4	9.6	1.8	1.0	.7	1.7
Women's and girls' -----	3.815	132.9	136.6	8.4	2.8	.5	.4	3.5
Footwear -----	1.504	136.9	139.9	7.1	2.2	.3	.1	2.1
Nondurables less food and apparel -----	14.409	145.9	147.2	19.1	.9	1.5	1.1	.9
Gasoline and motor oil -----	3.162	166.3	165.2	38.4	-.7	1.2	-.1	-.5
Tobacco products -----	1.993	144.9	146.2	6.1	.9	*1.6	*1.5	*.9
Alcoholic beverages -----	2.349	131.8	134.2	9.6	1.8	*.7	*1.4	*1.8
Fuel oil and coal -----	.872	218.5	220.9	66.3	1.1	1.9	2.7	.6
Other nondurables -----	6.033	134.1	135.9	12.4	1.3	1.9	1.4	1.4
Durable commodities -----	15.666	133.0	134.8	10.0	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.7
Household durables -----	4.566	129.5	131.5	9.9	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.7
New cars -----	1.917	118.0	118.1	6.8	.1	2.1	1.9	.6
Used cars -----	1.849	140.2	144.7	19.3	3.2	*9.6	*4.9	*3.2
Other durables -----	7.334	137.9	139.3	8.2	1.0	.6	.6	.9
Services -----	36.546	152.5	154.2	10.7	1.1	*1.0	*1.1	*1.1
Rent -----	4.873	130.3	130.9	4.7	.5	*.4	*.4	*.5
Services less rent -----	31.673	156.6	158.4	11.6	1.1	*1.0	*1.2	*1.1
Household services less rent -----	15.463	166.5	169.0	15.1	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.3
Transportation services -----	5.090	142.3	142.7	4.1	.3	.7	.6	.5
Medical care services -----	5.423	160.2	162.8	12.8	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.6
Other services -----	5.698	142.2	143.0	8.3	.6	.6	.9	.8
Special indexes:								
All items less food -----	75.190	144.7	146.5	11.9	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.4
Nondurable commodities -----	47.788	150.9	153.0	12.0	1.4	.7	.3	1.5
Apparel commodities less footwear -----	7.064	134.6	137.6	9.3	2.2	.9	.7	2.5
Services less medical care services -----	31.123	151.4	152.8	10.3	.9	*.9	*1.1	*.9
Insurance and finance -----	9.707	163.5	165.6	11.2	1.3	.9	1.0	1.3
Utilities and public transportation -----	5.318	141.9	143.0	10.1	.8	.6	.7	.9
Housekeeping and home maintenance service -----	4.457	178.5	181.0	17.5	1.4	1.6	1.9	1.4
Appliances (including radio and T. V. ) -----	1.489	109.3	110.8	5.2	1.4	*.7	*.9	*1.4
Expenditure classes								
All items -----	100.000	148.3	150.2	11.2	1.3	1.0	0.8	1.3
Food -----	24.810	160.5	162.8	9.0	1.4	.3	-.4	1.4
Housing -----	33.321	150.9	152.8	13.0	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.3
Shelter <sup>2</sup> -----	21.459	154.4	156.1	10.6	1.1	.9	1.0	1.0
Rent -----	4.873	130.3	130.9	4.7	.5	*.4	*.4	*.5
Homeownership <sup>3</sup> -----	16.184	163.2	165.4	12.5	1.3	.9	1.2	1.2
Fuel and utilities -----	4.820	150.9	152.6	20.8	1.1	.9	1.0	1.1
Gas and electricity -----	2.390	146.2	148.5	18.0	1.6	1.0	1.5	1.6
Household furnishings and operation -----	7.042	141.4	143.9	14.8	1.8	1.5	1.7	2.0
Apparel and upkeep -----	9.945	135.3	138.1	9.2	2.1	.8	.7	2.3
Transportation -----	12.602	142.6	143.4	15.2	.6	2.0	1.4	.9
Private -----	11.233	141.9	142.8	16.8	.6	2.1	1.6	1.1
Public -----	1.369	148.6	148.7	2.6	.1	1.2	.1	.4
Health and recreation -----	18.946	141.0	142.6	9.3	1.1	*1.2	*1.1	*1.1
Medical care -----	6.229	151.4	153.7	11.7	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.5
Personal care -----	2.513	137.8	139.3	10.8	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.1
Reading and recreation -----	5.346	134.6	135.2	7.2	.4	1.0	1.0	.6
Other goods and services -----	4.859	137.7	139.4	7.7	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.2
Special indexes:								
All items less shelter -----	78.541	146.8	148.6	11.3	1.2	1.0	.9	1.3
All items less medical care -----	93.771	148.2	150.0	11.1	1.2	1.0	.6	1.4
All items less mortgage interest costs -----	95.951	146.7	148.5	10.7	1.2	.9	.8	1.3
CPI - domestically produced farm foods <sup>4</sup> -----	17.583	159.7	162.0	5.9	1.4	*-.1	*-.3	*1.4
CPI - selected beef cuts <sup>5</sup> -----	2.290	159.1	167.6	-4.1	5.3	*-.9	*-1.7	*5.3
Purchasing power of consumer dollar:								
1967= \$ 1.00 -----	-	\$ 0.674	\$ 0.666	-10.0	-1.2	-	-	-
1957-59= \$ 1.00 -----	-	.580	.573	-	-	-	-	-

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

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

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

<sup>4</sup> Also includes residential telephones, fuel oil, coal, water, and sewerage service not shown separately.

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

<sup>6</sup> Calculated from the CPI beef and veal component by excluding veal cutlets and beef liver.

\* Not seasonally adjusted.

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



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

Group	Seasonally adjusted indexes (1967=100)				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for						
	May 1974	June 1974	July 1974	August 1974	3 months ending in				6 months ending in		
					November 1973	February 1974	May 1974	August 1974	February 1974	August 1974	
	Commodity and service groups										
All items -----	-	-	-	-	8.3	12.2	11.4	12.9	10.2	12.1	
Commodities -----	143.6	144.9	145.7	147.9	6.2	15.7	11.6	12.5	10.8	12.1	
Food -----	159.5	160.0	159.4	161.7	7.8	18.9	4.1	5.6	13.2	4.9	
Food at home -----	160.2	160.4	159.0	161.7	4.1	21.9	2.3	3.8	12.6	3.0	
Cereals and bakery products -----	164.1	165.6	166.7	168.0	89.0	24.1	28.3	9.9	53.2	18.7	
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	158.1	154.8	152.6	159.7	-23.1	12.6	-31.9	2.0	-6.9	-16.6	
Dairy products -----	154.6	154.0	151.6	150.9	54.7	23.3	16.2	-9.2	38.1	2.7	
Fruits and vegetables -----	173.7	175.0	171.2	164.9	-3.4	28.2	46.8	-18.8	11.3	9.2	
Other foods at home -----	152.6	156.9	160.0	166.9	6.6	28.4	15.8	43.1	17.0	28.7	
Food away from home -----	157.1	158.8	160.6	161.7	21.2	10.0	11.4	12.2	15.5	11.8	
Commodities less food -----	134.6	136.4	138.2	140.3	6.3	12.6	16.0	18.0	9.4	17.0	
Nondurables less food -----	139.2	140.9	142.4	144.4	8.6	20.1	16.8	15.8	14.2	16.3	
Apparel commodities <sup>1</sup> -----	134.3	135.5	136.2	139.7	3.2	6.7	9.8	17.1	4.9	13.4	
Men's and boys' -----	134.8	136.2	137.2	139.5	1.6	8.7	13.8	14.7	5.1	14.3	
Women's and girls' -----	133.3	133.9	134.5	139.2	3.8	3.1	8.5	18.9	3.5	13.6	
Footwear -----	136.9	137.3	137.4	140.3	3.7	5.6	8.9	10.3	4.6	9.6	
Nondurables less food and apparel -----	142.2	144.3	145.9	147.2	12.5	28.7	20.9	14.8	20.4	17.8	
Gasoline and motor oil -----	164.2	166.2	166.1	165.2	26.8	84.7	52.7	2.5	53.0	25.1	
Tobacco products (not seasonally adjusted) -----	140.6	142.8	144.9	146.2	1.5	2.0	4.7	16.9	1.7	10.6	
Alcoholic beverages (not seasonally adjusted) -----	129.1	130.0	131.8	134.2	6.4	7.6	8.1	16.8	7.0	12.4	
Fuel oil and coal -----	210.8	124.8	220.5	221.8	88.5	170.9	22.4	22.6	126.0	22.5	
Other nondurables -----	129.7	132.2	134.0	135.9	5.7	9.5	14.4	20.5	7.6	17.4	
Durable commodities -----	128.4	130.5	132.5	134.7	1.3	3.6	15.0	21.1	2.5	18.0	
Household durables -----	126.2	127.8	129.2	131.4	4.4	7.1	11.2	17.5	5.8	14.3	
New cars -----	114.4	116.8	119.0	119.7	-1.8	-7.7	11.2	19.9	-1.2	15.5	
Used cars (not seasonally adjusted) -----	121.9	133.6	140.2	144.7	-16.1	-38.1	96.2	98.5	-27.9	97.4	
Other durables -----	136.4	137.2	138.0	139.2	5.1	9.5	10.0	8.5	7.3	9.2	
Services (not seasonally adjusted) -----	149.4	150.9	152.5	154.2	11.1	8.1	10.2	13.5	9.6	11.9	
Rent (not seasonally adjusted) -----	129.3	129.8	130.3	130.9	4.2	5.5	4.1	5.0	4.9	4.6	
Services less rent (not seasonally adjusted) -----	153.1	154.7	156.6	158.4	12.4	8.5	11.2	14.6	10.4	12.9	
Household services less rent -----	162.6	164.5	166.8	169.0	17.1	12.6	14.2	16.7	14.8	15.4	
Transportation services -----	140.4	141.4	142.3	143.0	2.1	0	6.8	7.6	1.0	7.2	
Medical care services -----	155.2	157.8	160.0	162.6	12.5	7.8	10.7	20.5	10.1	15.5	
Other services -----	140.2	141.0	142.2	143.3	7.1	6.7	10.0	9.1	6.9	9.6	
Special indexes:											
All items less food -----	141.4	143.2	144.8	146.8	7.8	10.6	13.1	16.2	9.2	14.7	
Nondurable commodities -----	149.2	150.2	150.6	152.8	7.5	20.1	10.6	10.0	13.6	10.3	
Apparel commodities less footwear -----	133.9	135.1	136.0	139.4	3.2	6.0	10.8	17.5	4.6	14.1	
Services less medical care services (not seasonally adjusted) -----	148.5	149.8	151.4	152.8	11.4	7.8	10.0	12.1	9.6	11.0	
Insurance and finance -----	160.7	162.1	163.7	165.9	18.6	6.3	6.7	13.6	12.3	10.1	
Utilities and public transportation -----	140.1	141.0	142.0	143.3	6.9	12.3	11.6	9.5	9.6	10.5	
Housekeeping and home maintenance service -----	172.0	174.8	178.1	180.6	10.3	11.9	27.1	21.6	11.1	24.3	
Appliances (including radio and TV) (not seasonally adjusted) -----	107.5	108.3	109.3	110.8	1.9	1.5	5.0	12.9	1.7	8.9	
	Expenditure classes										
All items -----	-	-	-	-	8.3	12.2	11.4	12.9	10.2	12.1	
Food -----	159.5	160.0	159.4	161.7	7.8	18.9	4.1	5.6	13.2	4.9	
Housing -----	147.7	149.3	151.1	153.0	11.7	13.0	12.5	15.1	12.3	13.8	
Shelter <sup>2</sup> -----	151.8	153.1	154.6	156.1	12.1	9.1	9.5	11.8	10.6	10.6	
Rent (not seasonally adjusted) -----	129.3	129.8	130.3	130.9	4.2	5.5	4.1	5.0	4.9	4.6	
Homeownership <sup>3</sup> -----	160.0	161.5	163.4	165.4	14.3	10.9	10.7	14.2	12.6	12.4	
Fuel and utilities <sup>4</sup> -----	148.3	149.7	151.2	152.9	18.9	36.5	16.0	13.0	27.4	14.5	
Gas and electricity -----	143.2	144.6	146.8	149.2	11.2	22.3	21.1	17.8	16.6	19.5	
Household furnishings and operation -----	136.7	138.8	141.1	143.9	7.2	9.7	20.4	22.8	8.5	21.6	
Apparel and upkeep -----	134.5	135.6	136.5	139.6	3.8	6.7	10.4	16.1	5.2	13.2	
Transportation -----	137.2	140.0	142.0	143.3	4.6	13.0	25.2	19.0	8.7	22.1	
Private -----	136.2	139.0	141.2	142.7	5.0	14.6	28.2	20.5	9.7	24.3	
Public -----	146.6	148.3	148.5	149.1	.6	.8	2.2	7.0	.7	4.6	
Health and recreation (not seasonally adjusted) -----	137.7	139.4	141.0	142.6	6.6	5.9	9.9	15.0	6.2	12.4	
Medical care -----	147.1	149.3	151.2	153.5	11.2	6.7	10.4	18.6	8.9	14.4	
Personal care -----	134.6	136.4	137.8	139.3	8.2	8.7	11.8	14.7	8.4	13.2	
Reading and recreation -----	131.9	133.2	134.5	135.3	3.9	5.8	8.6	10.7	4.8	9.7	
Other goods and services -----	134.5	135.9	137.6	139.3	4.4	5.3	6.5	15.1	4.9	10.7	
Special indexes:											
All items less shelter -----	143.9	145.4	146.7	148.6	6.8	13.0	11.9	13.7	9.8	12.8	
All items less medical care -----	145.5	147.0	147.9	149.9	7.9	12.5	11.5	12.7	10.2	12.1	
All items less mortgage interest costs -----	144.1	145.4	146.6	148.5	6.4	11.9	11.6	12.8	9.1	12.2	
CPI - domestically produced farm foods (not seasonally adjusted) -----	160.4	160.2	159.7	162.0	-4.6	26.3	.2	4.1	9.8	2.1	
CPI - selected beef cuts (not seasonally adjusted) -----	163.3	161.9	159.1	167.6	-19.8	41.2	-32.7	11.0	6.4	-13.6	

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

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

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

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

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

Table 3. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items most recent index and percent changes from selected dates

Area <sup>1</sup>	Pricing schedule <sup>2</sup>	Indexes			Percent change from:		
		1967= 100	1957-59= 100	Other bases			
		August 1974			August 1973	May 1974	July 1974
U. S. city average -----	M	150.2	174.6		11.2	3.2	1.3
Chicago -----	M	148.3	168.4		10.3	2.9	1.2
Detroit -----	M	151.3	173.8		10.6	3.2	1.0
Los Angeles-Long Beach -----	M	145.4	170.9		11.1	3.4	1.5
N. Y.-Northeastern N. J. -----	M	157.0	186.8		10.8	3.0	1.6
Philadelphia -----	M	153.8	179.6		12.2	2.9	1.1
		July 1974			July 1973	April 1974	
Boston -----	1	149.9	179.6		11.8	3.2	
Houston -----	1	148.2	169.5		12.7	3.6	
Minneapolis-St. Paul -----	1	149.0	172.6		11.9	2.6	
Pittsburgh -----	1	148.6	170.9		12.1	3.1	
		August 1974			August 1973	May 1974	
Buffalo -----	2	151.8		<sup>3</sup> 166.8	11.1	2.8	
Cleveland -----	2	150.1	169.5		10.4	2.7	
Dallas -----	2	147.9		<sup>3</sup> 159.9	10.6	3.2	
Milwaukee -----	2	145.9	164.8		9.5	2.7	
San Diego -----	2	150.3		<sup>4</sup> 157.9	11.8	3.4	
Seattle -----	2	143.2	168.3		11.2	2.7	
Washington -----	2	152.9	178.1		12.1	3.5	
		June 1974			June 1973	March 1974	
Atlanta -----	3	147.5	169.6		11.2	2.4	
Baltimore -----	3	151.7	176.1		13.5	3.0	
Cincinnati -----	3	146.1	165.8		11.6	3.4	
Honolulu -----	3	141.4		<sup>5</sup> 152.4	10.9	2.7	
Kansas City -----	3	143.6	170.5		10.6	3.6	
St. Louis -----	3	141.4	165.2		10.4	2.3	
San Francisco-Oakland -----	3	144.1	171.4		10.3	3.5	

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

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

M - Every month.

1 - January, April, July, and October.

2 - February, May, August, and November.

3 - March, June, September, and December.

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

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

<sup>5</sup> December 1963= 100.

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

Table 4. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas <sup>1</sup> for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups, percent change from July 1974 to August 1974

Group	U. S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York-Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
All items -----	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.1
Food -----	1.4	.6	1.0	1.4	1.7	1.1
Housing -----	1.3	1.0	.3	2.2	1.1	1.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	2.1	4.2	5.6	1.7	5.2	2.2
Transportation -----	.6	.5	.3	.7	.3	.5
Health and recreation -----	1.1	1.0	.7	.7	1.1	.3
Medical care -----	1.5	.9	1.7	1.3	2.5	.1
Personal care -----	1.1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Reading and recreation -----	.4	.8	.2	.2	-.7	.4
Other goods and services -----	1.2	2.2	.5	.5	1.2	.1

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

<sup>2</sup> Not available.

Table 5. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas<sup>1</sup> for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, August 1974, and percent changes from May 1974

Group	U. S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles— Long Beach	New York— Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
Indexes (1967=100)						
All items -----	150.2	148.3	151.3	145.4	157.0	153.8
Food -----	162.8	161.4	164.2	157.6	167.8	166.3
Food at home -----	163.0	162.3	164.8	159.9	168.3	164.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	168.2	171.1	185.5	165.4	169.4	172.9
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	162.1	159.8	164.2	163.8	164.9	166.3
Dairy products -----	150.7	145.5	152.7	148.9	153.1	149.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	168.2	170.9	159.1	157.6	188.2	167.7
Other food at home -----	166.4	168.0	166.8	160.8	168.4	165.9
Food away from home -----	161.9	157.8	161.6	150.9	166.5	173.7
Housing -----	152.8	145.6	152.0	146.8	161.9	159.2
Shelter -----	156.1	149.1	160.0	148.9	164.3	168.6
Rent, residential -----	130.9	( <sup>2</sup> )	130.5	( <sup>2</sup> )	144.2	( <sup>2</sup> )
Homeownership -----	165.4	158.8	165.9	155.4	179.2	176.9
Fuel and utilities -----	152.6	140.6	144.0	146.5	173.7	156.9
Fuel oil and coal -----	220.9	215.7	213.5	-	222.8	208.9
Gas and electricity -----	148.5	133.1	146.8	167.9	178.4	158.6
Household furnishings and operation -----	143.9	138.0	132.7	139.9	148.9	143.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	138.1	135.9	138.5	134.8	139.7	132.5
Men's and boys' -----	138.4	131.0	144.5	128.3	136.8	135.9
Women's and girls' -----	136.6	140.7	130.8	137.2	139.1	124.1
Footwear -----	139.9	134.0	145.9	137.3	137.0	138.9
Transportation -----	143.4	146.7	143.8	144.0	150.6	145.9
Private -----	142.8	144.2	142.7	145.5	147.1	145.7
Public -----	148.7	162.9	155.6	115.9	164.1	147.2
Health and recreation -----	142.6	144.5	147.9	136.0	149.8	147.6
Medical care -----	153.7	152.6	165.4	151.0	165.1	165.3
Personal care -----	139.3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	140.9	( <sup>2</sup> )
Reading and recreation -----	135.2	137.5	136.8	125.5	140.9	139.9
Other goods and services -----	139.4	146.4	142.0	130.7	147.9	142.7
Percent changes May 1974 to August 1974						
All items -----	3.2	2.9	3.2	3.4	3.0	2.9
Food -----	1.9	1.6	1.1	2.2	3.1	2.0
Food at home -----	1.6	1.4	.8	2.2	3.1	1.2
Cereals and bakery products -----	2.4	1.0	4.0	2.6	4.2	4.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	2.2	3.7	-.2	2.8	2.1	2.8
Dairy products -----	-2.5	-4.4	-3.0	-.3	-3.2	-3.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	-5.3	-6.1	-6.9	-3.3	.6	-7.9
Other food at home -----	10.1	9.4	10.8	7.8	11.7	9.6
Food away from home -----	3.1	2.8	2.3	1.8	3.0	5.5
Housing -----	3.5	2.9	3.3	4.5	2.2	3.0
Shelter -----	3.2	2.6	3.7	4.6	1.4	3.3
Rent, residential -----	1.2	( <sup>2</sup> )	3.8	( <sup>2</sup> )	3.8	( <sup>2</sup> )
Homeownership -----	3.8	3.3	4.1	5.6	1.2	3.8
Fuel and utilities -----	2.7	1.8	1.1	3.0	2.6	1.3
Fuel oil and coal -----	4.7	4.0	-2.3	-	4.4	2.1
Gas and electricity -----	3.2	2.3	2.2	5.0	3.1	1.0
Household furnishings and operation -----	5.0	4.7	3.5	5.1	4.3	3.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	2.3	3.4	6.7	1.8	3.8	1.6
Men's and boys' -----	2.0	.8	11.5	1.5	-.9	-.4
Women's and girls' -----	2.2	5.0	7.8	1.5	9.3	2.9
Footwear -----	1.8	2.9	.2	1.4	1.2	.4
Transportation -----	4.2	4.3	3.4	4.3	3.7	4.1
Private -----	4.5	5.3	3.6	4.2	4.5	4.6
Public -----	1.6	-.6	-.1	5.4	.9	1.5
Health and recreation -----	3.6	3.3	4.0	2.8	3.1	3.8
Medical care -----	4.4	4.2	3.8	3.9	4.9	4.0
Personal care -----	3.3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	3.0	( <sup>2</sup> )
Reading and recreation -----	2.4	2.2	2.9	1.5	1.1	3.1
Other goods and services -----	3.7	4.5	6.2	2.8	3.3	4.5

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, August 1974, and percent changes from May 1974—Continued

Group	Buffalo	Cleveland	Dallas	Milwaukee	San Diego	Seattle	Washington
Indexes (1967= 100)							
All items -----	151.8	150.1	147.9	145.9	150.3	143.2	152.9
Food -----	161.2	162.7	159.5	158.5	162.7	157.2	168.2
Food at home -----	160.4	163.3	157.5	158.6	161.0	159.3	168.3
Cereals and bakery products -----	172.7	170.8	161.6	166.4	161.4	166.0	172.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	162.5	155.0	156.6	155.2	168.3	164.9	163.8
Dairy products -----	149.2	160.8	145.3	148.0	148.9	148.9	141.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	161.8	174.5	158.7	163.6	160.4	148.0	184.2
Other food at home -----	156.8	164.9	162.4	164.0	159.0	165.5	179.0
Food away from home -----	165.5	160.0	167.1	157.6	166.6	150.3	167.5
Housing -----	157.8	145.4	145.7	141.6	158.5	147.5	153.3
Shelter -----	154.9	146.6	150.1	139.8	173.4	152.4	156.0
Rent, residential -----	133.3	119.0	117.1	129.1	142.4	119.3	132.7
Homeownership -----	158.9	151.4	164.7	143.0	186.4	162.2	169.6
Fuel and utilities -----	183.1	148.9	129.4	147.2	135.2	146.0	151.9
Fuel oil and coal -----	229.3	-	-	223.3	-	211.8	224.1
Gas and electricity -----	187.4	154.2	125.2	140.5	147.2	115.4	161.3
Household furnishings and operation -----	147.3	138.6	145.1	142.7	131.6	136.7	145.8
Apparel and upkeep -----	148.0	142.6	137.6	142.7	137.2	131.4	142.1
Men's and boys' -----	175.2	137.4	144.5	148.2	139.5	134.6	143.9
Women's and girls' -----	140.9	149.5	131.9	135.7	136.7	121.8	137.2
Footwear -----	134.3	138.1	137.9	150.9	136.1	136.2	144.5
Transportation -----	141.6	149.1	151.0	145.7	144.7	130.4	144.3
Private -----	140.5	145.4	150.9	141.0	146.3	134.0	143.5
Public -----	152.2	173.6	151.7	202.5	116.9	109.5	149.7
Health and recreation -----	139.5	150.0	142.6	140.3	135.3	134.2	146.8
Medical care -----	144.3	166.4	150.0	150.7	147.8	143.4	165.7
Personal care -----	139.3	147.3	147.8	143.6	132.5	134.9	134.3
Reading and recreation -----	135.8	136.9	133.2	137.6	128.1	129.8	134.7
Other goods and services -----	138.5	146.7	138.9	132.7	130.1	130.0	148.2
Percent changes May 1974 to August 1974							
All items -----	2.8	2.7	3.2	2.7	3.4	2.7	3.5
Food -----	.9	1.8	2.3	1.5	3.4	1.4	2.4
Food at home -----	.7	1.6	2.0	1.1	3.9	1.1	3.1
Cereals and bakery products -----	2.2	4.0	1.8	1.8	3.9	4.8	3.4
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	2.1	1.1	2.3	-4	5.2	2.3	5.7
Dairy products -----	-2.0	-4.1	-3.1	-4.5	0	-2.4	-4.3
Fruits and vegetables -----	-8.3	-4.6	-3.3	-2.6	-6	-9.4	-6.1
Other food at home -----	8.4	11.0	8.5	10.5	8.7	9.1	11.7
Food away from home -----	2.2	2.7	3.5	3.1	1.9	2.0	.7
Housing -----	3.9	3.8	3.5	3.0	4.2	3.3	4.6
Shelter -----	1.8	4.3	3.4	2.8	4.3	3.9	4.6
Rent, residential -----	1.7	.8	.8	.9	1.1	2.7	1.7
Homeownership -----	1.9	4.7	4.2	3.3	5.3	4.2	5.9
Fuel and utilities -----	8.2	2.3	1.6	1.5	3.0	.8	5.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	-2	-	-	4.7	-	1.9	3.9
Gas and electricity -----	12.4	3.3	3.2	.7	5.1	0	9.6
Household furnishings and operation -----	6.4	3.1	4.8	4.8	4.4	3.2	4.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	3.1	2.4	1.3	1.9	-1.1	1.7	1.4
Men's and boys' -----	7.7	-.9	1.5	1.6	1.4	3.4	3.2
Women's and girls' -----	.3	5.3	-.3	1.7	-5.9	-3.9	-3.6
Footwear -----	2.0	1.2	2.2	5.1	.8	6.4	2.5
Transportation -----	3.5	1.0	5.6	4.2	4.1	4.7	3.9
Private -----	4.4	1.0	6.0	3.8	4.0	4.7	4.4
Public -----	-5.4	.7	.6	8.2	6.7	4.8	1.5
Health and recreation -----	2.3	2.8	3.1	2.9	3.4	2.7	3.7
Medical care -----	3.1	2.8	3.7	3.6	5.1	2.5	5.1
Personal care -----	4.7	4.0	2.5	3.0	2.6	2.4	2.1
Reading and recreation -----	.7	1.7	3.0	2.1	2.4	1.3	2.2
Other goods and services -----	2.0	3.3	2.6	2.9	2.8	4.4	5.1

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

<sup>2</sup> Not available.

<sup>3</sup> Change from June 1974.

Table 6. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, August 1974, and percent changes from July 1974

Area <sup>1</sup>	Total food	Food at home						Food away from home
		Total	Cereals and bakery products	Meats, poultry, and fish	Dairy products	Fruits and vegetables	Other foods at home	
	Indexes (1967= 100)							
U. S. city average -----	162.8	163.0	168.2	162.1	150.7	168.2	166.4	161.9
Atlanta -----	166.3	168.0	174.2	167.0	158.1	170.2	170.2	160.5
Baltimore -----	165.5	165.4	164.7	165.9	149.8	174.3	168.3	165.9
Boston -----	162.8	163.4	168.9	163.6	149.6	169.5	164.3	160.3
Buffalo -----	161.2	160.4	172.7	162.5	149.2	161.8	156.8	165.5
Chicago -----	161.4	162.3	171.1	159.8	145.5	170.9	168.0	157.8
Cincinnati -----	165.0	167.6	175.9	163.7	164.0	165.1	174.6	155.2
Cleveland -----	162.7	163.3	170.8	155.0	160.8	174.5	164.9	160.0
Dallas -----	159.5	157.5	161.6	156.6	145.3	158.7	162.4	167.1
Detroit -----	164.2	164.8	185.5	164.2	152.7	159.1	166.8	161.6
Honolulu -----	160.3	160.3	177.9	158.3	154.0	155.6	158.3	159.6
Houston -----	166.0	163.7	164.5	164.0	162.2	163.0	164.5	173.8
Kansas City -----	163.9	165.1	165.4	161.7	169.9	160.7	169.5	160.0
Los Angeles-Long Beach -----	157.6	159.9	165.4	163.8	148.9	157.6	160.8	150.9
Milwaukee -----	158.5	158.6	166.4	155.2	148.0	163.6	164.0	157.6
Minneapolis-St. Paul -----	165.4	164.8	179.0	164.2	154.9	160.6	168.6	168.1
N. Y.-Northeastern N. J. -----	167.8	168.3	169.4	164.9	153.1	188.2	168.4	166.5
Philadelphia -----	166.3	164.6	172.9	166.3	149.2	167.7	165.9	173.7
Pittsburgh -----	164.6	163.3	171.2	161.1	142.5	174.0	168.5	172.3
St. Louis -----	159.8	159.9	173.2	153.3	151.3	165.3	164.0	159.1
San Diego -----	162.7	161.0	161.4	168.3	148.9	160.4	159.0	166.6
San Francisco-Oakland -----	157.1	160.7	160.6	163.5	148.1	161.5	164.8	144.8
Seattle -----	157.2	159.3	166.0	164.9	148.9	148.0	165.5	150.3
Washington -----	168.2	168.3	172.8	163.8	141.6	184.2	179.0	167.5
	Percent changes July 1974 to August 1974							
U. S. city average -----	1.4	1.5	0.9	4.9	-0.6	-5.9	5.1	0.9
Atlanta -----	2.2	2.7	.3	5.9	-1.3	-5.4	8.1	.5
Baltimore -----	1.5	1.7	-.3	4.7	-1.0	-4.4	5.1	1.0
Boston -----	.7	.7	2.3	2.6	.1	-6.3	3.9	.6
Buffalo -----	.8	.8	.1	4.4	-.9	-7.7	4.9	.9
Chicago -----	.6	.7	-1.9	3.6	-.4	-6.7	5.2	.6
Cincinnati -----	1.1	1.3	-.1	5.8	-.7	-6.4	5.1	.1
Cleveland -----	2.2	2.3	1.0	5.1	-.6	-3.8	6.5	1.4
Dallas -----	2.4	2.9	.9	8.8	-2.1	-3.4	4.0	.9
Detroit -----	1.0	1.1	-.6	4.5	.7	-7.1	4.2	.1
Honolulu -----	2.2	1.8	.5	4.0	1.4	-.6	1.5	3.3
Houston -----	2.0	2.4	1.1	5.8	-.4	-2.4	4.0	.6
Kansas City -----	2.0	2.4	-.6	5.1	-.4	-.7	4.8	.8
Los Angeles-Long Beach -----	1.4	1.6	.6	6.8	.5	-7.3	3.3	.5
Milwaukee -----	2.4	2.3	.5	4.0	.3	-3.3	6.6	<sup>2</sup> 3.1
Minneapolis-St. Paul -----	1.5	1.7	1.8	4.4	-2.8	-2.0	4.9	1.0
N. Y.-Northeastern N. J. -----	1.7	1.9	1.6	4.0	-.8	-3.2	5.7	1.0
Philadelphia -----	1.1	1.3	3.4	4.2	-1.1	-7.7	5.3	.3
Pittsburgh -----	1.0	1.1	.9	4.8	-.5	-8.9	6.0	.9
St. Louis -----	1.4	1.5	.2	4.5	-2.4	-4.2	6.1	1.1
San Diego -----	2.2	2.4	1.4	6.3	.7	-4.2	3.4	<sup>2</sup> 1.9
San Francisco-Oakland -----	1.5	1.8	1.7	5.7	0	-5.9	3.5	.6
Seattle -----	1.2	1.1	2.1	5.6	-1.0	-8.5	3.9	1.6
Washington -----	2.3	3.1	1.9	9.2	-1.5	-7.1	6.7	.3

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

<sup>2</sup> Change from May 1974.

Table 7. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, August 1974 indexes, and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100)

Item and group	Index		Percent change to August 1974 from—		
	August 1974		August 1973	July 1974	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food .....	162.8	161.7	9.0	1.4	1.4
Food away from home .....	161.9	161.7	13.7	.9	.7
Restaurant meals .....	161.7	161.4	12.9	.9	.6
Snacks .....	163.0	163.2	17.9	1.3	1.3
Food at home .....	163.0	161.7	7.7	1.5	1.7
Cereals and bakery products .....	168.2	168.0	34.9	.9	.8
Flour .....	169.9	170.4	42.7	-.5	-.5
Cracker meal .....	194.6	194.2	35.3	2.1	1.9
Corn flakes .....	136.9	137.3	29.4	.6	1.4
Rice .....	242.9	243.1	89.5	-.5	-1.4
Bread, white .....	158.9	158.0	27.3	-.7	-1.3
Bread, whole wheat .....	166.0	166.0	27.7	1.5	1.2
Cookies .....	151.2	150.3	33.8	5.2	4.7
Layer cakes .....	160.5	160.3	26.5	2.7	2.4
Cinnamon rolls .....	163.7	163.7	27.5	.4	.1
Meats, poultry, and fish .....	162.1	159.7	-11.9	4.9	4.7
Meats .....	162.8	160.1	-9.6	5.7	5.3
Beef and veal .....	169.0	165.7	-3.6	5.0	4.7
Steak, round .....	166.8	163.5	-2.3	5.1	3.7
Steak, sirloin .....	162.8	158.1	1.8	7.3	7.8
Steak, porterhouse .....	164.8	159.8	2.2	6.9	7.1
Rump roast .....	162.4	158.9	-1.6	4.2	2.3
Rib roast .....	170.4	167.2	-.1	5.3	4.5
Chuck roast .....	172.0	167.8	-9.7	7.0	4.9
Hamburger .....	171.4	168.2	-9.3	4.5	3.8
Beef liver .....	155.9	154.5	-4.4	2.8	3.3
Veal cutlets .....	199.8	197.4	2.2	2.1	2.4
Pork .....	158.8	154.9	-19.4	8.8	7.6
Chops .....	157.8	151.3	-19.1	3.3	1.9
Loin roast .....	164.6	158.3	-22.2	3.8	1.3
Pork sausage .....	169.7	166.5	-19.0	7.1	5.8
Ham, whole .....	145.8	147.3	-16.4	10.7	10.5
Picnics .....	151.8	149.1	-23.3	5.1	2.8
Bacon .....	161.3	157.7	-17.6	21.8	20.1
Other meats .....	155.0	153.8	-6.8	3.2	2.8
Lamb chops .....	160.3	158.7	3.6	.2	.4
Frankfurters .....	153.9	151.0	-14.5	7.4	5.8
Ham, canned .....	146.1	147.4	-7.3	3.0	2.5
Bologna sausage .....	160.6	158.5	-8.5	4.1	3.3
Salami sausage .....	156.1	154.4	-5.4	2.6	2.3
Liverwurst .....	152.8	152.0	-7.8	2.2	1.9
Poultry .....	140.1	137.9	-37.8	2.9	4.2
Frying chicken .....	141.8	139.3	-42.0	3.4	5.4
Chicken breasts .....	142.7	139.8	-29.6	2.7	1.8
Turkey .....	129.9	128.7	-18.1	.1	-.9
Fish .....	187.4	188.2	13.4	-.4	-.1
Shrimp, frozen .....	163.8	164.3	2.9	-3.0	-2.3
Fish, fresh or frozen .....	216.7	216.1	11.6	.1	0
Tuna fish, canned .....	170.4	171.1	17.6	-.3	-.2
Sardines, canned .....	198.6	200.0	21.8	.9	.8
Dairy products .....	150.7	150.9	19.0	-.6	-.5
Milk, fresh, grocery .....	150.9	151.4	19.9	-1.0	-.9
Milk, fresh, skim .....	164.2	164.9	22.0	-.5	-.2
Milk, evaporated .....	178.5	179.0	31.7	2.2	2.6
Ice cream .....	134.6	134.5	20.7	.3	.5
Cheese, American process .....	163.2	163.2	18.7	-1.8	-1.8
Butter .....	109.2	109.5	2.0	.2	.1

See footnote at end of table.

Table 7. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, August 1974 indexes, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Index		Percent change to August 1974 from—		
	August 1974		August 1973	July 1974	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food—Continued					
Food at home—Continued					
Fruits and vegetables	168.2	164.9	10.2	-5.9	-3.7
Fresh fruits and vegetables	162.9	157.5	-3.3	-10.9	-7.4
Fresh fruits	165.7	153.7	10.9	.6	2.7
Apples	186.1	155.0	10.7	-1.6	-2.8
Bananas	122.2	119.7	3.9	-2.3	-1.2
Oranges	156.6	148.7	6.2	5.6	.7
Orange juice, fresh	141.0	139.9	6.2	1.9	1.2
Grapefruit	170.3	136.7	-7.3	10.5	-3.6
Grapes	206.7	214.9	30.9	-5.0	19.0
Strawberries	(1)	-	(1)	(1)	(1)
Watermelon	176.8	206.3	36.9	5.1	16.9
Fresh vegetables	161.0	163.5	-12.4	-18.5	-12.9
Potatoes	208.8	186.1	-17.3	-24.9	-22.0
Onions	158.7	145.7	-7.1	7.4	7.4
Asparagus	(1)	-	(1)	(1)	(1)
Cabbage	140.5	148.8	-20.1	-12.3	-7.0
Carrots	156.7	142.8	-2.2	-1.1	-6.5
Celery	154.1	158.7	-20.2	-11.1	-3.6
Cucumbers	130.0	171.3	25.4	-10.3	7.1
Lettuce	144.2	135.9	-22.0	-20.5	-23.0
Peppers, green	128.8	159.4	-2.4	-31.4	-19.2
Spinach	172.8	171.3	1.3	-3.3	-3.8
Tomatoes	128.3	140.1	-9.6	-23.1	-10.0
Processed fruits and vegetables	176.0	176.2	36.3	2.0	1.8
Fruit cocktail, canned	164.1	165.1	26.8	6.8	7.3
Pears, canned	148.4	148.5	18.1	6.2	6.0
Pineapple-grapefruit juice drink	142.2	142.5	18.6	7.2	7.1
Orange juice concentrate, frozen	141.6	140.8	4.3	.5	.2
Lemonade concentrate, frozen	148.0	149.9	24.2	9.4	9.5
Beets, canned	166.8	166.1	15.9	4.2	3.6
Peas, green, canned	138.2	138.8	25.2	8.0	8.4
Tomatoes, canned	151.5	151.2	20.6	2.9	2.7
Dried beans	389.6	388.4	146.9	-6.8	-8.5
Broccoli, frozen	136.9	137.0	11.1	.8	1.1
Other food at home	166.4	166.9	22.7	5.1	4.3
Eggs	146.0	148.8	-26.4	14.2	9.7
Fats and oils:					
Margarine	205.2	205.8	56.2	5.6	5.4
Salad dressing, Italian	129.6	130.0	17.0	.1	.5
Salad or cooking oil	203.0	202.8	56.9	5.6	4.6
Sugar and sweets	203.4	203.4	57.9	4.3	4.3
Sugar	288.9	288.6	131.9	8.5	8.3
Grape jelly	185.9	186.3	37.6	5.8	6.2
Chocolate bar	192.6	192.2	40.0	.5	.5
Syrup, chocolate flavored	157.6	158.1	34.8	.6	.3
Nonalcoholic beverages	163.8	163.6	24.2	3.6	3.7
Coffee, can	168.5	168.0	21.6	3.1	2.9
Coffee, instant	166.1	166.8	24.7	3.1	3.5
Tea	123.2	123.0	10.9	2.3	2.6
Carbonated drink, cola flavored	174.8	175.3	33.1	5.4	5.9
Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	173.8	173.8	32.1	4.2	4.4
Prepared and partially prepared foods	151.8	151.6	28.2	3.6	3.2
Bean soup, canned	180.5	180.7	52.7	3.4	3.3
Chicken soup, canned	133.3	133.7	26.0	1.2	1.1
Spaghetti, canned	150.7	150.9	21.5	3.9	3.9
Mashed potatoes, instant	145.5	145.4	23.1	2.2	2.4
Potatoes, french fried, frozen	164.5	163.8	43.3	7.4	6.8
Baby foods	142.0	142.0	23.6	1.1	.9
Sweet pickle relish	146.8	147.8	11.9	4.3	3.7
Pretzels	151.2	151.2	28.6	5.1	5.1

<sup>1</sup> Priced only in season.

Table 8. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, August 1974, and percent changes from selected dates

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to August 1974 from:	
		July 1974	August 1974	August 1973	July 1974
Housing -----		150.9	152.8	13.0	1.3
Shelter <sup>1</sup> -----		154.4	156.1	10.6	1.1
Rent, residential -----		130.3	130.9	4.7	.5
Homeownership <sup>2</sup> -----		163.2	165.4	12.5	1.3
Mortgage interest rates -----		139.7	142.1	16.7	1.7
Property taxes -----		149.8	150.3	-1.5	.3
Property insurance premiums -----		124.1	124.1	-.1	0
Maintenance and repairs -----		174.1	176.4	15.3	1.3
Maintenance and repair commodities <sup>3</sup> -----		154.9	155.9	11.5	.6
Exterior house paint -----		136.3	142.1	18.1	4.3
Interior house paint -----		133.5	135.6	13.0	1.6
Maintenance and repair services -----		182.4	185.3	16.8	1.6
Repainting living and dining rooms -----		192.4	194.8	13.1	1.2
Reshingling house roof -----		200.3	204.3	23.4	2.0
Residing house -----		172.9	175.9	20.0	1.7
Replacing sink -----		177.0	180.8	15.8	2.1
Repairing furnace -----		177.4	178.6	9.2	.7
Fuel and utilities -----		150.9	152.6	20.8	1.1
Fuel oil and coal -----		218.5	220.9	66.3	1.1
Fuel oil, No. 2 -----		217.7	219.1	66.0	.6
Gas and electricity -----		146.2	148.5	18.0	1.6
Gas -----		143.3	146.0	15.2	1.9
Electricity -----		148.9	150.8	20.6	1.3
Other utilities: -----					
Residential telephone services -----		121.2	121.2	3.6	0
Residential water and sewerage services -----		154.7	156.3	6.3	1.0
Household furnishings and operation <sup>4</sup> -----		141.4	143.9	14.8	1.8
Housefurnishings -----		131.0	133.4	11.9	1.8
Textiles -----		131.6	133.3	16.1	1.3
Sheets -----		135.4	133.1	15.8	-1.7
Curtains, tailored -----		126.6	131.2	13.7	3.6
Bedspreeds -----		137.7	138.9	27.1	.9
Drapery fabric -----		155.4	160.7	24.6	3.4
Pillows, bed -----		108.3	108.5	5.2	.2
Slipcovers and throws, ready-made -----		125.4	126.6	8.7	1.0
Furniture and bedding -----		136.5	137.6	9.0	.8
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser -----	Mar. 70	121.9	123.4	11.5	1.2
Sofas, upholstered -----		132.1	132.5	6.3	.3
Cocktail tables -----	Dec. 71	116.1	117.7	11.9	1.4
Dining room chairs -----	Mar. 70	122.3	122.2	11.7	-.1
Recliners, upholstered -----	Dec. 71	106.9	108.4	8.8	1.4
Sofas, dual purpose -----		129.4	131.0	8.8	1.2
Bedding, mattress and box springs -----	June 70	119.3	121.4	11.5	1.8
Aluminum folding chairs -----		126.5	126.1	-1.2	-.3
Cribs -----		138.3	138.1	9.3	-.1
Floor coverings -----		119.7	122.2	12.7	2.1
Broadloom carpeting, manmade fibers -----		112.7	114.6	11.2	1.7
Vinyl sheet goods -----		132.0	135.3	11.3	2.5
Vinyl asbestos tile -----		139.8	144.0	19.9	3.0
Appliances (excluding radio and T. V. ) -----		115.0	117.1	6.8	1.8
Washing machines, electric, automatic -----		116.2	118.8	7.0	2.2
Vacuum cleaners -----		108.0	108.8	4.6	.7
Refrigerators freezers, electric -----		113.2	116.2	7.7	2.7
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric -----		114.7	117.3	6.3	2.3
Clothes dryers, electric -----		121.3	123.4	8.2	1.7
Air conditioners, demountable -----		114.2	113.7	3.5	-.4
Room heaters, electric, portable -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Garbage disposal units -----		117.1	119.4	6.6	2.0
Other housefurnishings: -----					
Dinnerware, fine china -----		149.4	156.1	18.1	4.5
Flatware, stainless steel -----		149.1	152.9	15.5	2.5
Table lamps, with shade -----		136.0	138.3	6.7	1.7
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type -----		132.3	132.4	9.3	.1
Electric drills, hand-held -----		113.4	114.5	7.0	1.0
Housekeeping supplies: -----					
Laundry soaps and detergents -----		132.3	137.3	21.1	3.8
Paper napkins -----		167.2	171.0	22.8	2.3
Toilet tissue -----		157.0	158.1	21.6	.7
Housekeeping services: -----					
Domestic services, general housework -----		185.6	187.3	27.7	.9
Baby sitter services -----		172.4	174.6	21.9	1.3
Postal charges -----		175.3	175.3	19.6	0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service -----		172.4	173.9	16.2	.9
Licensed day care services, preschool child -----		142.0	144.6	10.4	1.8
Washing machine repairs -----		165.3	168.4	12.2	1.9

See footnotes at end of table.



Table 8. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, August 1974, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued  
(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to August 1974 from:	
		July 1974	August 1974	August 1973	July 1974
Apparel and upkeep <sup>6</sup> -----		135.3	138.1	9.2	2.1
Apparel commodities -----		135.0	138.0	9.0	2.2
Apparel commodities less footwear -----		134.6	137.6	9.3	2.2
Men's and boys' -----		136.0	138.4	9.6	1.8
Men's: -----					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	140.4	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Suits, year round weight -----	June 74	131.1	133.3	.7	1.7
Sport jacket -----		95.8	97.8	0	2.1
Jackets, lightweight -----		125.5	127.1	7.3	1.3
Slacks, wool or wool blends -----		115.7	116.7	2.0	.9
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends -----		141.0	140.8	2.5	-.1
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		142.2	142.6	17.3	.3
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		143.6	146.2	19.5	1.8
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton -----		122.0	125.2	9.8	2.6
T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----		143.5	144.3	17.0	.6
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers -----		122.0	123.3	4.7	1.1
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		144.4	147.1	21.5	1.9
Boys': -----					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blends -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Sport coat, wool or wool blends -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blends -----		163.8	166.1	18.6	1.4
Undershorts, cotton -----		142.5	145.3	16.8	2.0
Women's and girls' -----		132.9	136.6	8.4	2.8
Women's: -----					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blends -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Sweaters, wool or acrylic -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Skirts, wool, wool blend or manmade fibers -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Skirts, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		130.9	133.4	13.6	1.9
Blouses, cotton or manmade fibers -----		131.7	135.1	7.2	2.6
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fibers -----		138.4	139.3	2.2	.7
Slips, nylon -----		114.9	116.9	5.0	1.7
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot -----		128.9	131.2	9.3	1.8
Girdles, manmade blend -----		122.5	124.4	4.2	1.6
Brassieres, nylon lace -----		132.5	135.1	7.4	2.0
Hose or panty hose, nylon seamless -----		92.2	92.4	-1.6	.2
Anklets or knee-length socks, various fibers -----		124.3	126.6	11.6	1.9
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----		121.4	122.4	9.3	.8
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----		162.7	167.1	8.7	2.7
Girls': -----					
Raincoats, vinyl, cotton or polyester blends -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Skirts, wool, wool blends or acrylic -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	134.2	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Dresses, cotton, manmade fibers or blends -----		133.0	137.4	12.4	3.3
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton -----		( <sup>5</sup> )	163.5	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Slips, polyester blends -----		116.8	118.3	7.5	1.3
Handbags, plastic -----		146.0	147.9	13.6	1.3
Footwear -----		136.9	139.9	7.1	2.2
Men's: -----					
Shoes, street -----		142.8	144.1	7.7	.9
Shoes, work, high -----		148.6	150.9	8.7	1.5
Women's: -----					
Shoes, street, pump -----		131.3	136.3	5.5	3.8
Shoes, evening, pump -----		127.3	129.2	3.5	1.5
Shoes, casual -----		135.4	139.4	7.6	3.0
Houseslipppers, scuff -----		134.9	137.4	6.8	1.9
Children's: -----					
Shoes, oxford -----		139.6	141.9	6.8	1.6
Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----		138.7	141.1	12.2	1.7
Dress shoes, girls', strap or pump -----		140.6	146.8	10.2	4.4
Miscellaneous apparel: -----					
Diapers, cotton gauze or disposable -----		159.1	163.2	37.0	2.6
Yard goods, polyester blend -----		159.7	160.7	28.9	.6
Wrist watches, men's and women's -----		126.2	127.1	5.4	.7
Apparel services: -----					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses -----		136.3	138.1	13.0	1.3
Automatic laundry service -----		125.1	125.1	5.9	0
Laundry, men's shirts -----		145.3	146.6	13.0	.9
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment -----		148.2	148.4	6.4	.1
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift -----		132.0	132.6	8.2	.5

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, August 1974, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to August 1974 from:	
		July 1974	August 1974	August 1973	July 1974
Transportation -----		142.6	143.4	15.2	0.6
Private <sup>7</sup> -----		141.9	142.8	16.8	.6
Automobiles, new -----		118.0	118.1	6.8	.1
Automobiles, used -----		140.2	144.7	19.3	3.2
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		167.7	166.5	40.3	-.7
Motor oil, premium -----		147.3	148.5	15.7	.8
Tires, new, tubeless -----		120.9	122.1	11.9	1.0
Auto repairs and maintenance <sup>8</sup> -----		157.0	159.0	11.3	1.3
Auto insurance rates -----		138.4	138.2	0	-.1
Auto registration -----		128.9	128.9	4.2	0
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		159.4	160.4	4.4	.6
Public -----		148.6	148.7	2.6	.1
Local transit fares -----		147.5	147.6	-1.8	.1
Taxicab fares -----		154.1	154.1	11.4	0
Railroad fares, coach -----		140.5	140.6	14.7	.1
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		148.2	148.2	10.2	0
Bus fares, intercity -----		159.5	159.5	9.3	0
Health and recreation -----		141.0	142.6	9.3	1.1
Medical care -----		151.4	153.7	11.7	1.5
Drugs and prescriptions -----		109.5	110.6	4.4	1.0
Over-the-counter items -----		117.5	118.9	5.8	1.2
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		97.6	97.4	2.7	-.2
Aspirin compounds -----		122.5	125.1	6.6	2.1
Liquid tonics -----		106.4	107.2	5.5	.8
Adhesive bandages, packages -----		136.7	139.0	10.1	1.7
Cold tablets or capsules -----		116.1	116.6	1.4	.4
Cough syrup -----		121.2	123.0	6.4	1.5
Prescriptions -----		102.7	103.6	3.1	.9
Anti-infectives -----		68.7	69.1	-2.5	.6
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		140.5	143.7	11.0	2.3
Ataractics -----		104.5	105.0	1.2	.5
Antispasmodics -----		110.1	111.0	2.9	.8
Cough preparations -----		147.3	149.5	8.5	1.5
Cardiovasculars and antihypertensives -----		115.5	116.0	2.7	.4
Analgesics, internal -----		112.9	112.8	1.4	-.1
Anti-obesity -----		121.4	122.1	4.0	.6
Hormones -----		94.9	95.7	4.7	.8
Professional services: -----					
Physicians' fees -----		152.3	154.3	11.3	1.3
General physician, office visits -----		156.0	158.1	13.1	1.3
General physician, house visits -----		152.6	154.1	8.6	1.0
Obstetrical cases -----		151.0	152.4	9.9	.9
Pediatric care, office visits -----		154.2	155.8	10.1	1.0
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		142.0	143.2	6.9	.8
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		139.2	140.5	6.6	.9
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		145.4	148.2	11.2	1.9
Dentists' fees -----		147.4	149.6	9.4	1.5
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		150.2	153.2	10.1	2.0
Extractions, adult -----		147.3	148.5	9.3	.8
Dentures, full upper -----		141.7	143.3	7.9	1.1
Other professional services: -----					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		139.7	140.5	7.6	.6
Routine laboratory tests, urinalysis -----		136.2	140.2	13.2	2.9
Hospital service charges -----	Jan. 72	115.3	117.8	11.1	2.2
Semiprivate rooms -----		202.6	207.3	13.6	2.3
Operating room charges -----		199.5	205.8	14.5	3.2
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----		140.1	143.7	8.8	2.6
Laboratory tests, urinalysis -----	Jan. 72	111.2	114.8	9.1	3.2
Anti-infectives, tetracycline, HCL -----	Jan. 72	104.5	104.6	7.4	.1
Tranquilizers, chlorthalidoxepoxide, HCL and meprobamate -----	Jan. 72	108.7	109.2	3.7	.5
Electrocardiogram -----	Jan. 72	112.1	114.2	9.1	1.9
Intravenous solution, saline -----	Jan. 72	108.9	110.2	6.2	1.2
Physical therapy, whirlpool bath -----	Jan. 72	115.8	119.2	10.5	2.9
Oxygen, inhalation therapy -----	Jan. 72	111.6	113.3	9.2	1.5
Personal care -----		137.8	139.3	10.8	1.1
Toilet goods -----		134.1	136.0	13.2	1.4
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		114.7	115.5	5.7	.7
Toilet soap, hard-milled -----		178.2	184.5	43.7	3.5
Hand lotions, liquid -----		134.2	136.1	7.2	1.4
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		110.4	111.4	2.5	.9
Face powder, pressed -----		156.4	154.7	4.4	-1.1
Deodorants, aerosol -----		103.7	105.6	4	1.8
Cleansing tissues -----		156.1	160.3	28.5	2.7
Home permanent wave kits -----		112.3	112.6	3.0	.3
Personal care services -----		141.7	142.8	8.5	.8
Men's haircuts -----		144.7	146.2	9.2	1.0
Beauty shop services -----		139.5	140.4	8.0	.6
Women's haircuts -----		148.0	149.6	10.7	1.1
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		142.6	143.5	7.5	.6
Permanent waves, cold -----		124.3	124.3	6.1	0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, August 1974, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to August 1974 from:	
		July 1974	August 1974	August 1973	July 1974
Health and recreation—Continued					
Reading and recreation <sup>1</sup> -----		134.6	135.2	7.2	0.4
Recreational goods -----		115.1	116.0	5.9	.8
TV sets, portable and console -----		98.6	99.1	1.7	.5
TV replacement tubes -----		139.9	139.9	3.8	0
Radios, portable and table model -----		102.1	102.8	3.4	.7
Tape recorders, portable -----		95.4	95.5	1.8	.1
Phonograph records, stereophonic -----		113.4	114.1	5.4	.6
Movie cameras, super 8, zoom lens -----		91.9	92.4	2.4	.5
Film, 35mm, color -----		113.5	114.2	6.2	.6
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core -----		104.8	104.8	1.0	0
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover -----		134.3	137.1	8.5	2.1
Fishing rods, fresh-water spincasting -----		115.0	111.9	1.6	-2.7
Bowling balls -----		121.1	122.5	5.7	1.2
Bicycles, boys' -----		135.5	137.0	10.3	1.1
Tricycles -----		124.0	125.9	8.4	1.5
Dog food, canned or boxed -----		146.2	148.3	18.4	1.4
Recreational services -----		141.6	141.8	6.7	.1
Indoor movie admissions -----		160.0	160.1	7.6	.1
Adult -----		158.1	157.4	7.3	-.4
Children's -----		165.2	167.8	8.5	1.6
Drive-in movie admissions, adult -----		167.3	167.7	10.8	.2
Bowling fees, evening -----		129.4	129.8	6.0	.3
Golf green fees -----		147.4	147.8	7.1	.3
TV repair, color picture tube replacement -----		101.6	102.1	1.7	.5
Film developing, color -----		118.9	118.6	2.2	-.3
Reading and education: -----					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery -----		160.3	160.8	17.9	.3
Magazines, single copy and subscription -----		140.8	140.8	3.5	0
Piano lessons, beginner -----		133.4	134.2	6.2	.6
Other goods and services -----		137.7	139.4	7.7	1.2
Tobacco products -----		144.9	146.2	6.1	.9
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size -----		146.6	148.0	6.1	1.0
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size -----		147.1	148.4	5.9	.9
Cigars, domestic, regular size -----		119.9	120.8	6.7	.8
Alcoholic beverages -----		131.8	134.2	9.6	1.8
Beer -----		126.2	130.1	13.0	3.1
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon -----		110.5	111.3	2.1	.7
Wine, dessert and table -----		147.4	148.3	8.3	.6
Beer away from home -----		146.6	148.6	10.0	1.4
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses: -----					
Funeral services, adult -----		135.4	136.3	6.8	.7
Bank service charges, checking accounts -----		103.4	104.8	-2.1	1.4
Legal services, short form will -----		177.8	177.9	8.9	.1

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

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

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

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

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

<sup>6</sup> Also includes men's sport shirts, women's and girls' lightweight coats, women's slacks, bathing suits, girls' shorts, earrings, and zippers not shown separately.

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

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

<sup>9</sup> Also includes outboard motors, nondurable toys, college tuition fees, paperback books, and college textbooks, not shown separately.

Table 9. Consumer Price Index—United States city average and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for regular and premium gasoline

(October 1973=100)

Area <sup>1</sup>	Regular gasoline			Premium gasoline		
	Index		Percent change to August 1974 from—	Index		Percent change to August 1974 from—
	July 1974	August 1974		July 1974	August 1974	
U. S. city average <sup>2</sup> .....	169.9	168.6	-0.8	162.3	161.3	-0.6
Atlanta .....	142.6	139.8	-2.0	138.4	136.6	-1.3
Baltimore .....	139.1	137.8	-.9	136.5	135.4	-.8
Boston .....	137.0	136.5	-.4	133.5	133.3	-.1
Buffalo .....	144.4	144.0	-.3	141.5	140.3	-.8
Chicago .....	137.8	136.7	-.8	133.1	132.8	-.2
Cincinnati .....	140.6	139.9	-.5	136.5	136.2	-.2
Cleveland .....	136.1	135.5	-.4	132.8	133.0	.2
Dallas .....	145.2	145.5	.2	141.0	141.5	.4
Detroit .....	137.6	135.1	-1.8	134.2	131.7	-1.9
Honolulu .....	133.0	133.8	.6	130.0	130.9	.7
Houston .....	141.8	141.9	.1	138.6	138.2	-.3
Kansas City .....	141.4	139.3	-1.5	138.1	136.0	-1.5
Los Angeles-Long Beach .....	135.9	134.5	-1.0	132.5	131.9	-.5
Milwaukee .....	140.6	138.6	-1.4	136.8	136.2	-.4
Minneapolis-St. Paul .....	141.2	137.9	-2.3	136.1	134.8	-1.0
New York-Northeastern N. J. ....	139.7	138.2	-1.1	137.5	136.5	-.7
Philadelphia .....	139.7	138.6	-.8	135.5	135.4	-.1
Pittsburgh .....	137.2	136.6	-.4	133.4	132.6	-.6
St. Louis .....	137.1	135.4	-1.2	134.5	133.3	-.9
San Diego .....	135.1	133.4	-1.3	132.7	131.7	-.8
San Francisco-Oakland .....	136.8	136.4	-.3	132.9	132.8	-.1
Seattle .....	134.3	134.9	.4	130.9	131.8	.7
Washington .....	136.0	135.6	-.3	132.1	132.1	0

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

<sup>2</sup> 1967=100.

Table 10. Consumer Price Index—United States city average and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, average prices for regular and premium gasoline

Area <sup>1</sup>	Regular gasoline			Premium gasoline		
			Average price per gallon			
	June 1974	July 1974		June 1974	July 1974	August 1974
U. S. city average <sup>1</sup> .....	\$0.556	\$0.558	\$0.554	\$0.591	\$0.594	\$0.591
Atlanta .....	.559	.567	.555	.592	.599	.592
Baltimore .....	.569	.569	.564	.607	.611	.606
Boston .....	.546	.554	.552	.583	.592	.591
Buffalo .....	.577	.582	.580	.613	.619	.614
Chicago .....	.580	.580	.575	.611	.611	.610
Cincinnati .....	.569	.569	.567	.607	.606	.605
Cleveland .....	.569	.554	.552	.606	.591	.592
Dallas .....	.515	.511	.512	.547	.548	.550
Detroit .....	.577	.574	.564	.611	.614	.602
Honolulu .....	.599	.601	.605	.632	.633	.638
Houston .....	.498	.492	.493	.536	.534	.533
Kansas City .....	.535	.540	.532	.574	.582	.573
Los Angeles-Long Beach .....	.550	.549	.543	.587	.583	.580
Milwaukee .....	.545	.541	.534	.575	.578	.576
Minneapolis-St. Paul .....	.554	.558	.545	.587	.591	.585
New York-Northeastern N. J. ....	.590	.592	.585	.628	.630	.625
Philadelphia .....	.557	.558	.554	.598	.601	.600
Pittsburgh .....	.546	.549	.546	.585	.589	.586
St. Louis .....	.558	.557	.550	.594	.596	.591
San Diego .....	.558	.559	.552	.596	.596	.591
San Francisco-Oakland .....	.576	.584	.582	.611	.617	.616
Seattle .....	.546	.541	.543	.585	.579	.583
Washington .....	.561	.563	.561	.600	.602	.602

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

## Brief Explanation of the CPI

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures average changes in prices of goods and services usually bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers. It is based on prices of about 400 items which were selected to represent the movement of prices of all goods and services purchased by wage earners and clerical workers. Prices for these items are obtained in urban portions of 39 major statistical areas and 17 smaller cities, which were chosen to represent all urban places in the United States. They are collected from about 18,000 establishments—grocery and department stores, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments.

Prices of foods, fuels, and a few other items are obtained every month in all 56 locations. Prices of most other commodities and services are collected every month in the five largest areas and every 3 months in other areas. Prices of most goods and services are obtained by

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

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights which represent their importance in the spending of all wage earners and clerical workers. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Separate indexes are also published for 23 areas.

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

## A Note About Calculating Index Changes

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

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

Percent changes for 3-month and 6-month periods are expressed as annual rates and are computed according to the standard formula for compound growth rates. These data indicate what the percent change would be if the current rate were maintained for a 12-month

period. BLS does not publish annual rates based on data for 1 month.

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

## A Note on Seasonally Adjusted and Unadjusted Data

Because price data are used for different purposes by different groups, the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes seasonally adjusted as well as unadjusted changes each month.

For analyzing general price trends in the economy, seasonally adjusted changes are usually preferred, since they eliminate the effect of changes that normally occur at the same time and in about the same magnitude every year—such as price movements resulting from changing

climatic conditions, production cycles, model changeovers, holidays, and sales.

The unadjusted data are of primary interest to consumers concerned about the prices they actually pay. Unadjusted data are also used extensively for escalation purposes. Many collective bargaining contract agreements and pension plans, for example, tie compensation changes to the Consumer Price Index unadjusted for seasonal variation.

## Reliability of Percent Changes in the CPI

A system of "replicated" samples introduced into the index structure in the 1964 revision permits an estimate of sampling error for the CPI.<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 1973 averages.

**Average standard errors of percent changes in the CPI based on 1973 data**

Component	Standard error		
	Monthly change	Quarterly change	Annual change
All items . . . . .	.04	.06	.08
Food at home . . . . .	.10	.15	.17
Food away from home . . . . .	.14	.26	.29
Housing . . . . .	.06	.10	.17
Apparel and upkeep . . . . .	.19	.26	.29
Transportation . . . . .	.06	.10	.17
Medical care . . . . .	.08	.14	.18
Personal care . . . . .	.14	.20	.39
Reading and recreation . . . . .	.09	.14	.17
Other goods and services . . . . .	.09	.11	.27

The figures may be interpreted as follows: The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the percent change in the CPI as computed differs from the corresponding "complete coverage" change by less than twice the standard error.

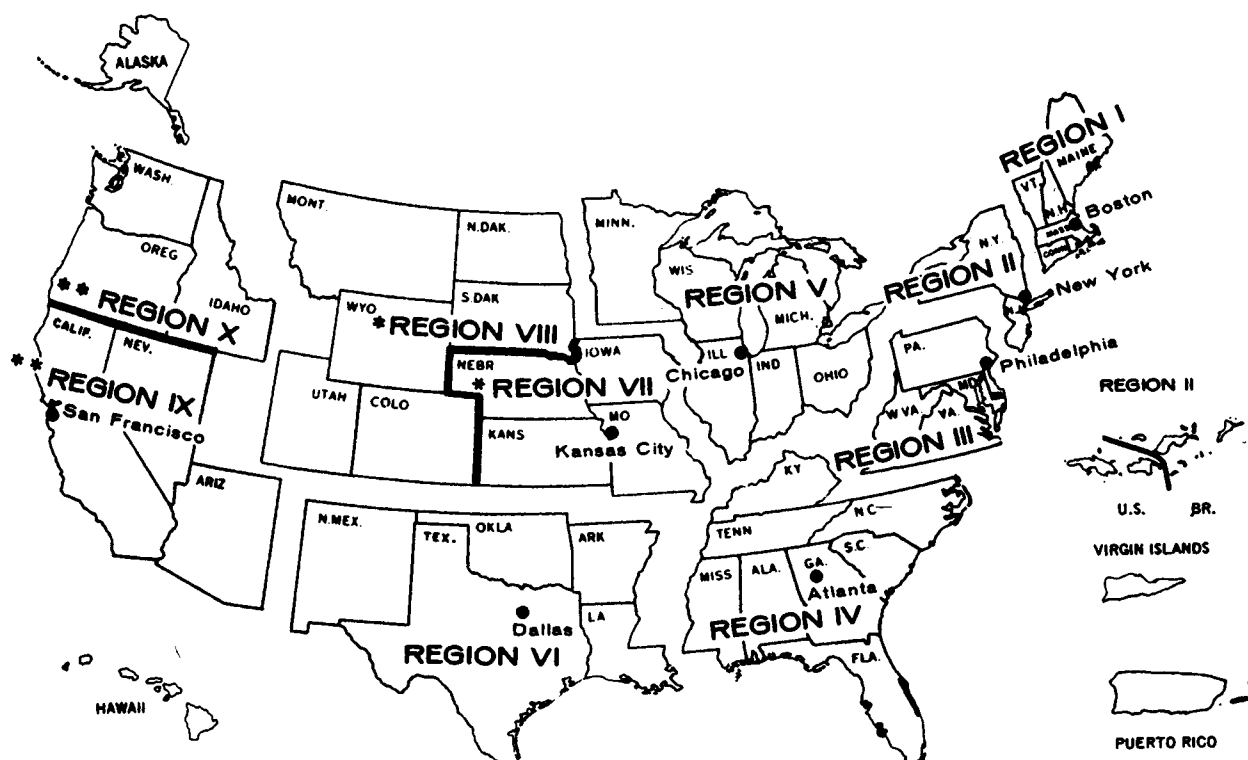
Because the CPI is rounded to one decimal place, some ambiguity may arise in interpreting small index changes. As the table indicates, for example, a month-to-month change of 0.1 percent in the all-items CPI is significant. Because of rounding, however, a change of this size in the published index might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

This replaces the table of average errors based on 1971 data which was included in the CPI report through January 1974.

<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.

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