

# CPI Detailed Report for August 1975



Consumer Price Index  
U.S. and City Averages

U.S. Department of Labor  
Bureau of Labor Statistics



# CPI Detailed Report

For August 1975

Consumer Price Index U.S. and City Averages



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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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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# Price Movements

## August 1975

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.3 percent in August. Higher prices for clothing, used cars, gasoline, medical care services, auto insurance, pork, and sugar were partially offset by lower prices for beef, fresh vegetables, and some other foods. The August CPI was 162.8 (1967=100), 8.6 percent higher than a year ago.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI increased 0.2 percent in August, compared with increases of 1.2 percent in July and 0.8 percent in June. The slowdown in August occurred primarily because the food component was unchanged following increases of 1.5 and 1.7 percent in the preceding 2 months. The increase in the nonfood commodities index was 0.5 percent, smaller than the 0.9 percent in July and within the range of monthly increases during the first 6 months of this year. The services index

increased 0.5 percent in August, about the same as the average monthly increase in the March-July period (table A).

### Monthly changes in detail

*Food.* The food index, which includes food purchased in grocery stores as well as restaurant meals and snacks, declined 0.3 percent in August, the usual decline for this month. Prices of grocery store food declined a seasonal 0.5 percent. Contributing to the decline was a downturn in beef and fresh vegetable prices. Beef prices declined for the first time in 5 months because of larger supplies resulting from expanded marketings—particularly of nonfed cattle—and reduced consumer demand for the

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

Month	Changes from preceding month							Changes in all items	
	All items		Food		Commodities less food		Services <sup>1</sup>	Compound annual rate	From 12 months ago
	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	From 3 months ago	
								Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed
<b>1974:</b>									
August .....	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.8	1.3	1.3	1.0	12.3	11.0
September .....	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.1	1.1	1.2	13.4	12.0
October .....	.9	.9	.7	1.3	.9	.7	.8	13.6	12.0
November .....	.8	.9	1.0	1.1	.8	.8	.9	12.7	12.1
December .....	.7	.8	1.1	.9	.4	.6	.9	11.0	12.2
<b>1975:</b>									
January .....	.5	.6	.7	.9	0	.5	.7	9.8	11.7
February .....	.7	.5	.4	-.3	.7	.8	.8	8.2	11.1
March .....	.4	.3	-.2	-.6	.8	.5	.4	6.0	10.3
April .....	.5	.6	-.1	.4	.8	.8	.6	5.8	10.2
May .....	.4	.4	.4	.5	.6	.2	.2	5.0	9.5
June .....	.8	.8	1.5	1.5	.5	.5	.7	7.1	9.3
July .....	1.1	1.2	2.4	1.7	.7	.9	.5	9.5	9.7
August .....	.3	.2	-.3	0	.5	.5	.5	8.7	8.6

<sup>1</sup> Not seasonally adjusted; data contain little or no seasonal movements.

lower grades of beef. Fresh vegetable prices, which rose sharply in June and July, declined as supplies from many areas became available. Prices for cereal and bakery products decreased for the fifth consecutive month. Flour prices fell, reflecting lower wholesale prices during the first 6 months of this year. Prices for bread and most other bakery products were down because of lower ingredient costs. All types of fats and oil products also continued to move down in price because of reduced demand coupled with competition from cheaper imported vegetable oil—mainly palm oil.

These declines were offset partially by higher prices for some other foods. Pork prices continued to rise in response to reduced hog slaughter and pork production. The short supply of pork moving into retail channels still found buyers despite higher prices. Poultry prices also rose, but considerably less than in recent months. Among dairy products, cheese and butter prices were higher, reflecting strong demand and increased prices for fluid milk used to manufacture processed dairy products. Sugar prices rose substantially in August, 14.9 percent, following a decline of about 57 percent in the first 7 months of this year. Raw sugar prices began rising in July, spurred by increased demand for refined sugar, especially by commercial canners. Concern over the status of European beet sugar crops because of hot, dry weather, and over possible damage to cane crops in Brazil and Argentina due to frosts and flooding, added to the upward pressure on sugar prices. Among non-alcoholic beverages, coffee prices rose for the first time this year. Because of frost damage to Brazilian crops and anticipation of reduced supplies next year, green coffee prices at the wholesale level have been advancing since June. Also, political disturbances in Angola—one of the top five coffee-producing countries—have disrupted shipments from that country.

The index for food away from home—restaurant meals and snacks—rose 0.6 percent in August, the same as in July.

*Commodities other than food.* The index for nonfood commodities rose 0.5 percent in August. Higher prices for apparel—reflecting the introduction of fall items—

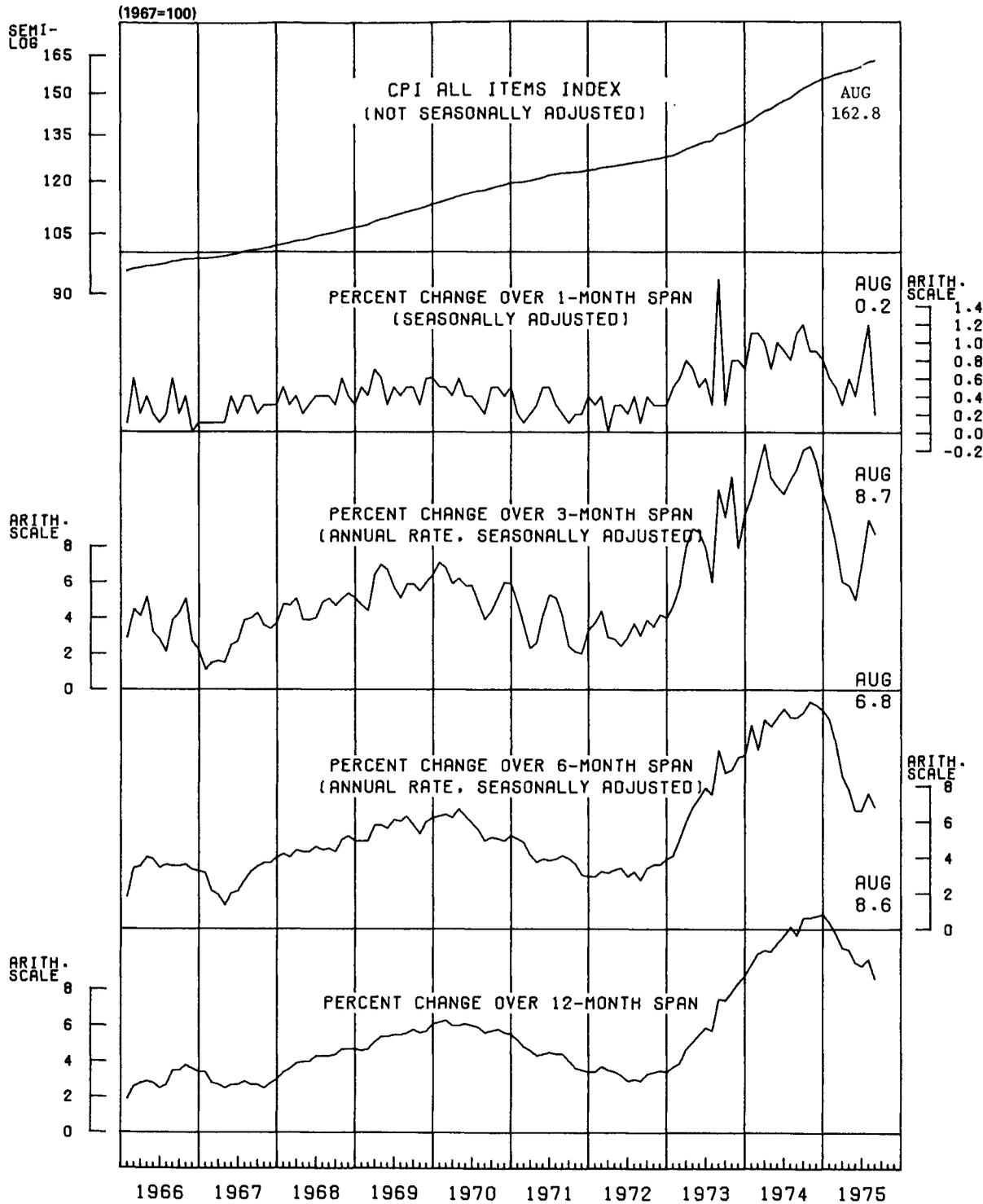
made up about two-fifths of the rise in the nonfood commodities index. The new car index—which usually shows a large decline in August—increased slightly, reflecting higher prices for smaller cars. Inventories of small cars are very low relative to the industry total. Prices also rose for many other nonfood commodities in August, but increases were smaller than in recent months for many items—notably used cars, gasoline and motor oil, and fuel oil and coal.

Price changes for fuel products in August reflected to some extent the uncertainty over the future of price controls and allocations which were due to expire on August 31. Some refiners held back projected price increases. Other refiners raised wholesale prices for gasoline early in the month to pass through cost increases which they had incurred in late 1974 and early this year. Crude oil costs were rising then but consumer demand for gasoline was not strong enough to permit the full rise in prices. In July and August, consumption of gasoline was near record levels. The supply, however, was more than adequate to meet the demand because refiners had increased production when the pickup in demand became apparent in late spring. The supply was ample enough to produce scattered price cutting in some areas.

Special promotions and sales contributed to smaller price increases in August than in July for other non-food commodities such as housekeeping supplies, toilet goods, drugs and prescriptions, and appliances.

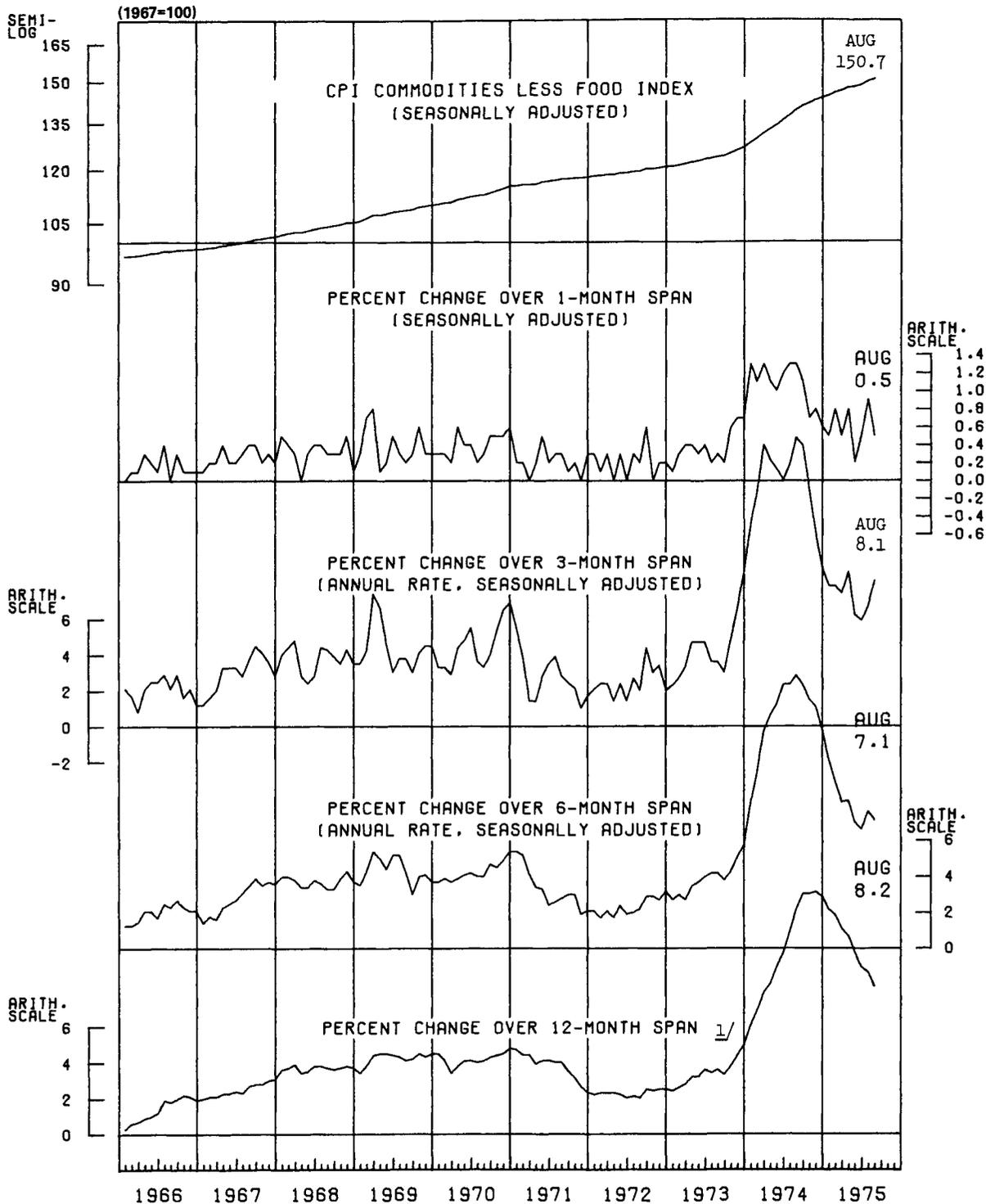
*Services.* Indexes for all major categories of services rose in August. Among household services, mortgage interest rates, charges for babysitters, and natural gas prices increased after declining in July. In medical care services, fees charged for physicians', dentists', and other professional services rose about as much as in recent months. The increase of 0.9 percent in charges for hospital services was much smaller than in July. In the transportation services category, charges for auto insurance rose 1.3 percent. Auto insurance charges have risen more than 5 percent so far this year in contrast to an increase of 0.7 percent for all of 1974.

**Chart 1. All items index and its rate of change, 1966-75**



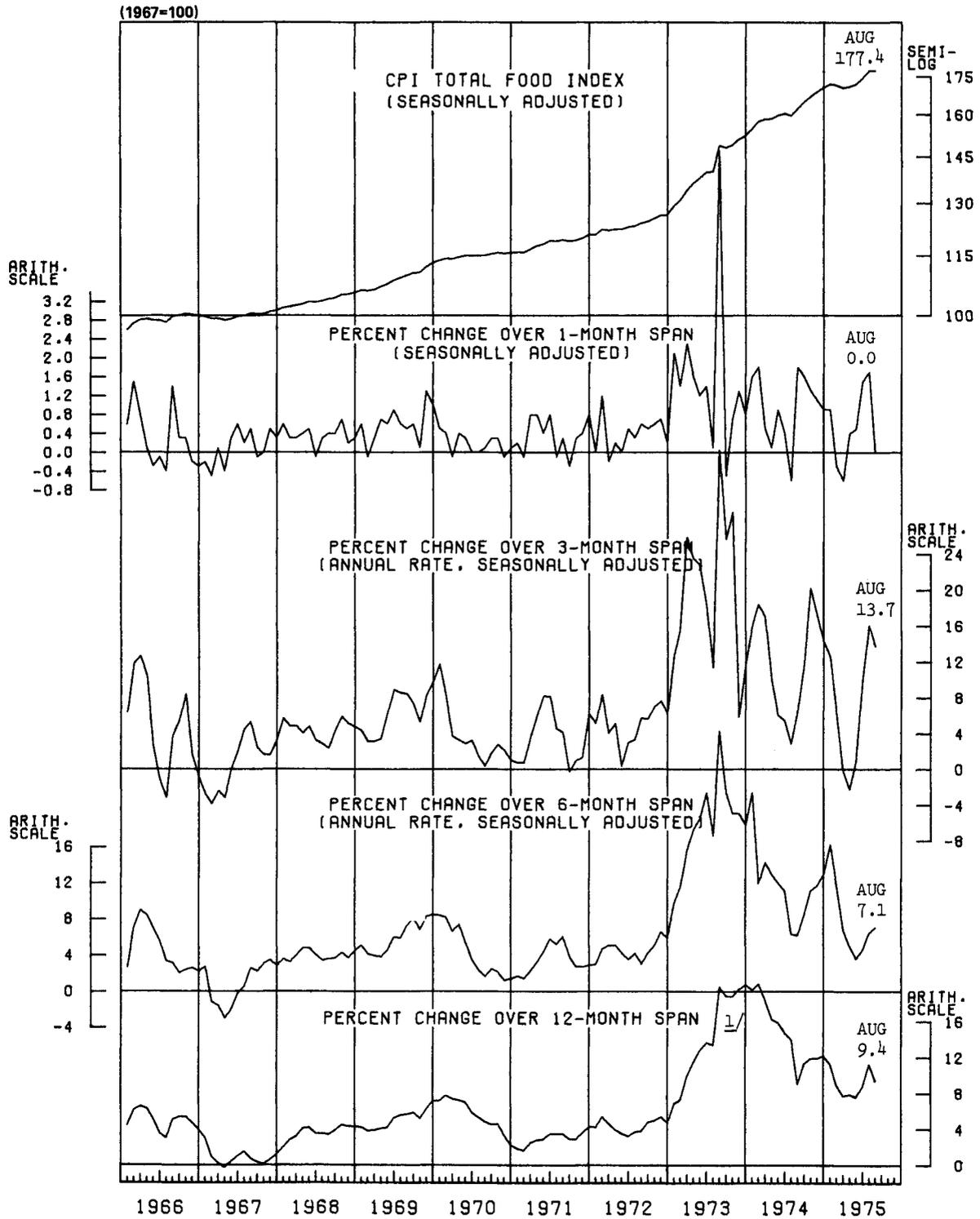
1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.  
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**Chart 2. Commodities less food index and its rates of change, 1966-75**



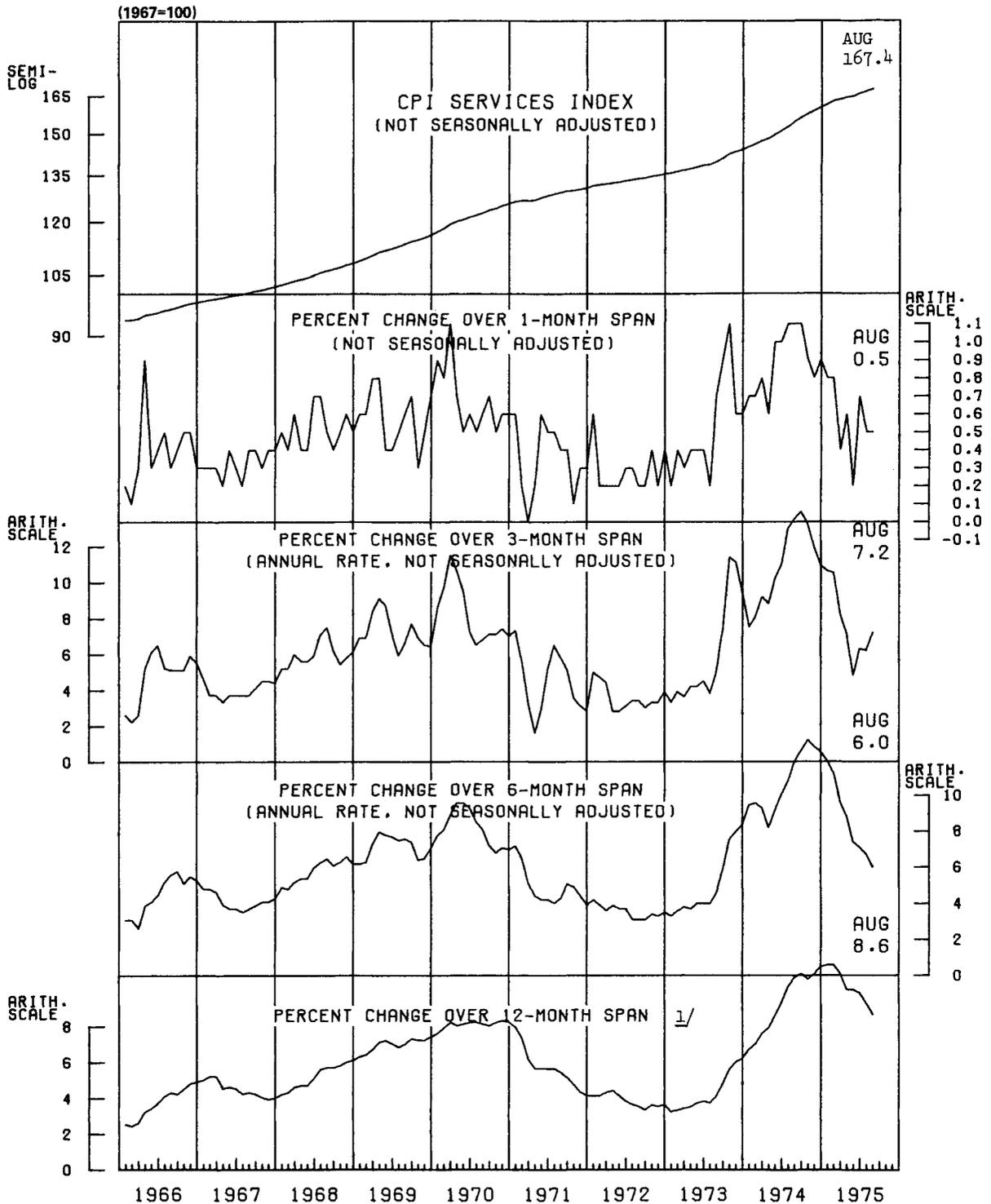
<sup>1/</sup> Computed from the unadjusted series.  
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**Chart 3. Total food index and its rates of change, 1966-75**



1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.  
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**Chart 4. Services index and its rates of change, 1966-75**



<sup>1/</sup> 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 1975 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		December 1974	July 1975	August 1975	August 1974	July 1975	May to June	June to July
<b>Commodity and service groups</b>								
All items	100.000	162.3	162.8	8.6	0.3	0.8	1.2	0.2
All items (1957-59=100)	-	188.8	189.4	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities	63.762	160.1	160.4	8.7	.2	.8	1.5	.2
Food	24.785	178.6	178.1	9.4	-.3	1.5	1.7	0
Food at home	19.657	179.9	179.0	9.8	-.5	1.9	1.9	0
Cereals and bakery products	2.882	184.6	182.6	8.6	-1.1	-.4	-.3	-1.0
Meats, poultry, and fish	6.140	187.7	189.7	17.0	1.1	5.8	3.5	1.5
Dairy products	2.887	153.4	154.3	2.4	.6	.1	.5	.8
Fruits and vegetables	3.111	188.8	177.9	5.8	-5.8	2.4	5.6	-2.9
Other foods at home	4.637	177.6	179.5	7.9	1.1	-1.6	-.8	-.1
Food away from home	5.128	174.2	175.3	8.3	.6	.2	.5	.5
Commodities less food	38.977	149.9	150.7	8.2	.5	.5	.9	.5
Nondurables less food	23.255	152.2	153.0	6.5	.5	.5	1.1	.5
Apparel commodities <sup>1</sup>	8.273	139.8	141.1	2.2	.9	.1	.7	1.1
Men's and boys'	2.617	140.5	141.1	2.0	.4	-.4	.4	.1
Women's and girls'	3.611	136.5	138.7	1.5	1.6	.3	1.4	1.8
Footwear	1.438	143.1	143.9	2.9	.6	-.1	-.1	.2
Nondurables less food and apparel	14.982	159.5	160.1	8.8	.4	.9	1.1	.5
Gasoline and motor oil	3.888	176.3	177.4	7.4	.6	3.0	3.3	1.1
Tobacco products	1.936	154.0	154.4	5.6	.3	*.2	*.3	*.3
Alcoholic beverages	2.315	142.2	142.8	6.4	.4	*.1	*.1	*.4
Fuel oil and coal	1.028	234.1	235.7	6.7	.7	.8	2.2	.3
Other nondurables	6.316	151.7	152.0	11.8	.2	.3	.5	.3
Durable commodities	15.722	146.9	147.5	10.7	.4	.3	.8	.5
Household durables	4.575	140.6	141.0	7.2	.3	0	.3	.3
New automobiles	1.905	126.6	126.8	7.4	.2	.4	-.2	.8
Used automobiles	2.026	153.2	156.1	18.3	1.9	*3.7	*3.9	*1.9
Other durables	7.217	155.6	155.8	11.8	.1	.2	.6	-.1
Services	36.238	166.6	167.4	8.6	.5	*.7	*.5	*.5
Rent	4.568	137.3	138.0	5.2	.5	*.4	*.3	*.5
Services less rent	31.670	171.9	172.7	9.0	.5	.7	.6	.5
Household services less rent	15.856	184.8	185.6	9.8	.4	1.0	.3	.2
Transportation services	4.796	151.1	151.9	6.4	.5	.3	.5	.8
Medical care services	5.473	180.4	181.7	11.6	.7	.7	1.1	.6
Other services	5.545	152.0	152.4	6.6	.3	.3	.5	.5
<b>Special indexes:</b>								
All items less food	75.215	157.6	158.3	8.4	.4	.5	.8	.6
Nondurable commodities	48.040	165.0	165.2	8.0	.1	1.0	1.6	.2
Apparel commodities less footwear	6.835	139.1	140.6	2.2	1.1	.1	.8	1.2
Services less medical care services	30.765	164.4	165.1	8.0	.4	*.7	*.4	*.4
Insurance and finance	9.634	179.7	180.7	9.1	.6	.9	.1	.5
Utilities and public transportation	5.246	156.6	157.2	9.9	.4	1.2	.6	.4
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	4.691	193.9	194.7	7.6	.4	.4	.4	.4
Appliances (including radio and TV)	1.445	118.3	118.7	7.1	.3	*.3	*.3	*.3
<b>Expenditure classes</b>								
All items	100.000	162.3	162.8	8.6	0.3	0.8	1.2	0.2
Food	24.785	178.6	178.1	9.4	-.3	1.5	1.7	0
Housing	33.766	167.1	167.7	9.7	.4	.6	.5	.3
Shelter <sup>2</sup>	21.293	170.2	170.7	9.3	.3	.5	.4	.2
Rent	4.568	137.3	138.0	5.2	.5	*.4	*.3	*.5
Homeownership <sup>3</sup>	16.335	182.3	182.8	10.5	.3	.5	.3	.1
Fuel and utilities <sup>4</sup>	5.008	168.0	168.9	10.7	.5	1.3	.8	.7
Gas and electricity	2.548	170.4	171.2	15.3	.5	2.0	.9	.6
Household furnishings and operation	7.465	158.3	158.8	10.4	.3	.4	.2	.3
Apparel and upkeep	9.633	141.1	142.3	3.0	.9	.1	.8	.9
Transportation	12.715	152.6	153.6	8.7	.7	1.2	1.8	1.0
Private	11.450	152.3	153.4	9.2	.7	1.4	1.9	1.1
Public	1.266	155.0	155.0	4.2	0	.3	.8	.3
Health and recreation	18.723	154.0	154.6	8.4	.4	.3	.5	.4
Medical care	6.241	169.8	170.9	11.2	.6	.7	1.0	.6
Personal care	2.519	151.2	151.4	8.7	.1	.2	.7	.1
Reading and recreation	5.222	144.4	144.7	7.0	.2	0	.3	.5
Other goods and services	4.742	147.6	148.1	6.2	.3	0	.1	.2
<b>Special indexes:</b>								
All items less shelter	78.707	160.3	160.8	8.4	.3	.9	1.4	.3
All items less medical care	93.759	162.0	162.4	8.5	.2	.8	1.2	.2
All items less mortgage interest costs	95.615	160.3	160.7	8.4	.2	.8	1.3	.2
CPI - domestically produced farm foods <sup>5</sup>	17.214	178.8	177.6	9.6	-.7	*2.2	*3.4	*-.7
CPI - selected beef cuts <sup>6</sup>	1.976	188.3	184.3	10.0	-2.1	*6.9	*6.0	*-2.1
<b>Purchasing power of consumer dollar:</b>								
1967= \$1.00	-	\$ 0.616	\$ 0.614	-7.9	-.3	-	-	-
1957-59= \$1.00	-	.530	.528	-	-	-	-	-

<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.

<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, and expenditure classes**

Group	Seasonally adjusted indexes (1967=100)				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
	May 1975	June 1975	July 1975	August 1975	3 months ending in			6 months ending in		
					November 1974	February 1975	May 1975	August 1975	February 1975	August 1975
<b>Commodity and service groups</b>										
All items	-	-	-	-	12.7	8.2	5.0	8.7	10.4	6.8
Commodities	156.3	157.6	159.9	160.2	12.8	7.3	4.2	10.4	10.0	7.2
Food	171.8	174.4	177.4	177.4	17.3	6.3	.9	13.7	11.7	7.1
Food at home	171.6	174.9	177.3	178.3	19.2	4.3	.2	16.6	11.5	8.1
Cereals and bakery products	186.4	185.6	185.0	183.1	23.4	22.6	-1.5	-6.9	23.0	-4.2
Meats, poultry, and fish	169.7	179.5	185.7	188.4	12.2	-7.7	19.2	51.9	1.7	34.6
Dairy products	153.1	153.3	154.0	155.2	3.5	5.1	-4.3	5.6	4.3	.5
Fruits and vegetables	165.2	169.1	178.6	173.4	14.1	-3.3	-6.5	21.4	5.1	6.5
Other foods at home	184.9	182.0	180.5	180.4	44.1	19.6	-13.3	-9.4	31.3	-11.3
Food away from home	173.0	173.3	174.2	175.0	10.5	13.4	4.8	4.7	12.0	4.7
Commodities less food	147.8	148.5	149.9	150.7	10.7	7.8	6.2	8.1	9.2	7.1
Nondurables less food	150.2	151.0	152.7	153.5	7.7	5.0	4.4	9.1	6.3	6.7
Apparel commodities <sup>1</sup>	140.1	140.2	141.2	142.7	2.3	0	-6	7.6	1.2	3.5
Men's and boys'	141.8	141.3	141.8	142.0	6.2	2.9	-1.4	.6	4.5	-4
Women's and girls'	136.3	136.7	138.6	141.1	-1.4	-5.9	-3	14.8	-3.7	7.0
Footwear	143.9	143.8	143.7	144.0	6.4	4.3	.6	.3	5.4	.4
Nondurables less food and apparel	156.1	157.5	159.3	160.1	9.3	8.5	6.7	10.7	8.9	8.6
Gasoline and motor oil	164.1	169.0	174.6	176.5	-8.9	0	9.0	33.8	-4.6	20.8
Tobacco products (not seasonally adjusted)	153.3	153.6	154.0	154.4	7.9	10.6	1.3	2.9	9.2	2.1
Alcoholic beverages (not seasonally adjusted)	141.9	142.1	142.2	142.8	11.8	8.1	3.5	2.6	9.9	3.0
Fuel oil and coal	229.7	231.5	236.5	237.1	12.2	-1.4	3.2	13.5	5.2	8.2
Other nondurables	150.5	150.9	151.7	152.2	21.6	15.4	6.9	4.6	18.4	5.8
Durable commodities	144.8	145.2	146.3	147.1	14.9	11.5	10.3	6.5	13.2	8.4
Household durables	139.9	139.9	140.3	140.7	13.1	8.2	5.6	2.3	10.6	4.0
New automobiles	126.8	127.3	127.1	128.1	16.0	-1.3	11.5	4.2	7.0	7.8
Used automobiles (not seasonally adjusted)	142.2	147.5	153.2	156.1	32.4	-21.0	28.7	45.2	2.3	36.7
Other durables	154.6	154.9	155.8	155.6	10.8	19.5	15.0	2.6	15.0	8.6
Services (not seasonally adjusted)	164.5	165.7	166.6	167.4	12.2	10.2	4.8	7.2	11.2	6.0
Rent (not seasonally adjusted)	136.4	136.9	137.3	138.0	5.9	6.1	3.9	4.8	6.0	4.3
Services less rent (not seasonally adjusted)	169.9	171.1	172.1	172.9	11.6	11.0	6.4	7.3	11.3	6.8
Household services less rent	182.8	184.6	185.2	185.6	15.0	12.9	5.4	6.3	13.9	5.8
Transportation services	149.6	150.1	150.9	152.1	7.2	4.2	7.9	6.9	5.7	7.4
Medical care services	177.0	178.2	180.2	181.2	12.9	14.6	9.3	9.8	13.8	9.6
Other services	150.8	151.2	152.0	152.7	8.9	9.6	2.7	5.1	9.3	3.9
<b>Special indexes:</b>										
All items less food	155.6	156.4	157.6	158.5	11.1	8.8	6.1	7.7	9.9	6.9
Nondurable commodities	160.6	162.2	164.8	165.2	12.0	6.5	1.8	12.0	9.2	6.7
Apparel commodities less footwear	139.4	139.5	140.6	142.3	2.0	-6	-1.1	8.6	.7	3.6
Services less medical care services (not seasonally adjusted)	162.6	163.7	164.4	165.1	12.3	9.2	4.3	6.3	10.7	5.3
Insurance and finance	178.4	180.0	180.2	181.1	13.4	11.4	5.8	6.2	12.4	6.0
Utilities and public transportation	154.0	155.9	156.8	157.5	10.1	11.4	8.8	9.4	10.7	9.1
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	191.8	192.5	193.3	194.1	15.2	7.7	2.8	4.9	11.4	3.8
Appliances (including radio and TV) (not seasonally adjusted)	117.6	117.9	118.3	118.7	14.0	6.8	4.2	3.8	10.4	4.0
<b>Expenditure classes</b>										
All items	-	-	-	-	12.7	8.2	5.0	8.7	10.4	6.8
Food	171.8	174.4	177.4	177.4	17.3	6.3	.9	13.7	11.7	7.1
Housing	165.6	166.6	167.4	167.9	13.4	12.2	7.6	5.7	12.8	6.6
Shelter <sup>2</sup>	168.9	169.7	170.4	170.7	12.3	13.9	6.9	4.3	13.1	5.6
Rent (not seasonally adjusted)	136.4	136.9	137.3	138.0	5.9	6.1	3.9	4.8	6.0	4.3
Homeownership <sup>3</sup>	181.2	182.1	182.7	182.8	14.2	16.1	8.6	3.6	15.2	6.1
Fuel and utilities <sup>4</sup>	165.0	167.2	168.5	169.6	12.0	9.5	9.8	11.6	10.7	10.7
Gas and electricity	166.3	169.6	171.1	172.1	15.3	19.7	11.9	14.7	17.5	13.3
Household furnishings and operation	157.2	157.8	158.1	158.6	20.6	13.4	4.4	3.6	16.9	4.0
Apparel and upkeep	141.2	141.3	142.4	143.7	3.5	1.4	0	7.3	2.5	3.6
Transportation	147.0	148.8	151.5	153.0	8.2	2.5	7.4	17.4	5.3	12.3
Private	146.2	148.3	151.1	152.8	8.2	2.3	7.7	19.3	5.2	13.4
Public	153.0	153.5	154.7	155.2	4.1	4.9	2.4	5.9	4.5	4.1
Health and recreation (not seasonally adjusted)	152.6	153.0	153.8	154.4	10.8	12.3	5.7	4.8	11.5	5.2
Medical care	166.8	167.9	169.6	170.6	11.7	14.7	9.1	9.4	13.2	9.3
Personal care	149.8	150.1	151.2	151.4	14.8	11.3	4.7	4.3	13.0	4.5
Reading and recreation	143.8	143.8	144.3	145.0	9.8	10.2	4.9	3.4	10.0	4.1
Other goods and services	147.4	147.4	147.5	147.8	10.5	9.9	3.9	1.1	10.2	2.5
<b>Special indexes:</b>										
All items less shelter	156.7	158.1	160.3	160.8	11.8	7.3	3.9	10.9	9.5	7.3
All items less medical care	158.9	160.1	162.0	162.4	12.0	8.3	4.7	9.1	10.1	6.9
All items less mortgage interest costs	157.1	158.3	160.3	160.7	11.2	8.4	4.7	9.5	9.8	7.1
CPI - domestically produced farm foods (not seasonally adjusted)	169.1	172.9	178.8	177.6	11.3	7.2	-5	21.7	9.2	10.0
CPI - selected beef cuts (not seasonally adjusted)	166.3	177.7	188.3	184.3	-12.9	-16.4	33.2	50.8	-14.7	41.7

<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 city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, August 1975 indexes, and percent changes from selected dates**

(1967=100)

Item and group	Index		Percent change to August 1975 from—			Item and group	Index		Percent change to August 1975 from—		
	August 1975		Aug. 1975		July 1975		August 1975		Aug. 1974		July 1975
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted		Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food	178.1	177.4	9.4	-0.3	0	Food—Continued					
Food away from home	175.3	175.0	8.3	.6	.5	Food at home—Continued					
Restaurant meals	174.1	173.8	17.7	.6	.3	Fruits and vegetables—Continued					
Snacks	181.1	181.3	11.1	.5	.5	Fresh fruits and vegetables—Continued					
Food at home	179.0	178.3	9.8	-.5	0	Fresh fruits—Continued					
Cereals and bakery products	182.6	183.1	8.6	-1.1	-1.0	Oranges	164.0	155.6	4.7	3.0	-2.3
Flour	157.3	159.2	-7.4	-2.3	-2.1	Orange juice, fresh	147.8	146.8	4.8	.8	.1
Cracker meal	235.3	236.0	20.9	-2.9	-2.7	Grapefruit	207.0	168.0	21.6	4.5	-8.2
Corn flakes	166.3	167.5	21.5	-2.2	1.0	Grapes	196.3	181.4	-5.0	-21.5	-15.8
Rice	218.2	218.4	-10.2	.5	-.5	Strawberries	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Bread, white	161.8	161.8	1.8	-1.5	-1.5	Watermelon	158.9	185.0	-10.1	-18.1	-9.3
Bread, whole wheat	174.0	174.2	4.8	-1.1	-1.2	Fresh vegetables	181.0	183.6	12.4	-12.8	-3.1
Cookies	184.9	185.3	22.3	.7	.5	Potatoes	245.0	220.9	17.3	-10.3	-3.4
Layer cake	189.7	190.1	18.2	-1.8	-2.2	Onions	279.3	256.2	76.0	16.1	13.5
Cinnamon rolls	195.2	189.2	19.2	-.5	.7	Asparagus	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Meats, poultry, and fish	189.7	188.4	17.0	1.1	1.5	Cabbage	138.3	144.4	-1.6	-13.0	-7.4
Meats	190.4	188.9	17.0	1.0	1.4	Carrots	162.8	151.0	3.9	-11.7	-13.5
Beef and veal	182.5	179.3	8.0	-2.1	-2.0	Celery	163.0	165.0	5.8	-6.9	2.5
Steak, round	184.1	179.8	10.4	-2.6	-6.0	Cucumbers	118.9	144.5	-8.5	-26.7	-14.5
Steak, sirloin	188.9	183.0	16.0	-2.3	-2.0	Lettuce	144.4	143.3	.1	5.2	12.0
Steak, porterhouse	198.0	191.9	20.1	-1.8	-1.7	Peppers, green	134.3	161.0	4.3	-32.1	-20.2
Rump roast	179.6	175.6	10.6	-1.8	-5.0	Spinach	188.6	188.4	9.1	-1.1	.3
Rib roast	211.4	207.9	24.1	-2.9	-3.3	Tomatoes	136.3	156.1	6.2	-40.8	-27.3
Chuck roast	192.3	186.9	11.8	-3.8	-7.5	Processed fruits and vegetables	174.8	174.8	-.7	.1	-.5
Hamburger	171.8	169.4	.2	-1.2	-1.4	Fruit cocktail, canned	177.3	178.4	8.0	-1.1	.3
Beef liver	145.9	145.6	-6.4	-2.2	-1.6	Pears, canned	163.0	163.8	9.8	-1.3	-1.1
Veal cutlets	194.0	191.9	-2.9	-2.2	-1.9	Pineapple-grapefruit drink, canned	175.0	175.2	23.1	.9	1.1
Pork	214.3	212.6	34.9	4.6	5.0	Orange juice concentrate, frozen	153.2	152.9	8.2	-.3	-.3
Chops	201.7	196.0	27.8	0	1.4	Lemonade concentrate, frozen	185.5	187.4	25.3	.9	.9
Loin roast	216.1	210.0	31.3	-.1	-2.8	Beets, canned	187.8	186.7	12.6	-.3	-1.2
Sausage	238.8	237.1	40.7	8.7	8.0	Peas, green, canned	161.8	162.1	17.1	-1.2	-1.0
Ham, whole	187.6	192.4	28.7	4.5	5.4	Tomatoes, canned	177.5	177.1	17.2	.1	-.2
Picnics	199.4	198.8	31.4	8.8	5.8	Dried beans	203.1	202.1	-47.9	1.7	.2
Bacon	235.9	234.7	46.2	7.9	7.9	Broccoli, frozen	153.0	153.3	11.8	-.3	-.1
Other meats	174.5	173.5	12.6	2.6	2.1	Other food at home	179.5	180.4	7.9	1.1	-.1
Lamb chops	179.3	177.2	11.9	1.0	1.3	Eggs	151.1	155.8	3.5	4.5	-2.2
Frankfurters	177.1	175.0	15.1	4.1	2.7	Fats and oils:	189.3	189.7	5.4	-1.3	-2.1
Ham, canned	176.3	179.3	20.7	4.3	4.1	Margarine	208.8	210.3	1.8	-1.3	-1.3
Bologna sausage	178.8	177.4	11.3	1.1	.3	Salad dressing, Italian	154.3	155.2	19.1	-.8	-.6
Salami sausage	165.4	164.4	6.0	1.8	1.7	Salad or cooking oil	204.8	207.9	-.9	-1.5	-1.5
Liverwurst	169.9	169.9	11.2	3.6	3.4	Sugar and sweets	236.0	236.7	16.0	3.1	3.5
Poultry	174.3	173.8	24.4	-.9	.9	Sugar	256.2	257.0	-11.3	14.9	15.7
Frying chicken	181.1	180.4	27.7	.5	.8	Grape jelly	234.6	233.9	26.2	-.3	-.2
Chicken breasts	171.2	168.5	20.0	-.4	-1.1	Chocolate bar	240.8	240.1	25.0	0	-.3
Turkey	146.2	146.9	12.5	4.4	4.4	Syrup, chocolate flavored	214.8	216.5	36.3	-.2	-.6
Fish	205.1	206.5	9.4	1.1	1.7	Nonalcoholic beverages	175.1	174.6	6.9	.6	.8
Shrimp, frozen	185.6	187.3	13.3	2.5	3.7	Coffee	166.1	164.5	-1.4	1.0	.1
Fish, fresh or frozen	220.3	220.3	1.7	.8	.7	Coffee, instant	173.4	173.2	4.4	.2	.5
Tuna fish, canned	172.2	172.9	1.1	.5	1.1	Tea	150.5	150.0	22.2	2.7	2.6
Sardines, canned	240.6	242.1	21.1	-.9	.7	Carbonated drink, cola flavored	197.0	197.4	12.7	-.5	-.1
Dairy products	154.3	155.2	2.4	.6	.8	Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	200.4	199.6	15.3	-.4	-.5
Milk, fresh, grocery	149.6	150.8	-.9	-1.1	.1	Prepared and partially prepared foods	161.8	161.8	6.6	.1	-.1
Milk, fresh, skim	165.2	166.7	.6	-.2	.4	Bean soup, canned	177.4	178.3	-1.7	-.3	.3
Milk, evaporated	181.9	181.9	1.9	0	-.2	Chicken soup, canned	135.1	135.0	1.4	-.4	-.7
Ice cream	150.0	150.9	11.4	-.2	.7	Spaghetti, canned	163.2	162.9	8.3	-.1	-.2
Cheese, American process	175.2	175.7	7.4	1.9	1.9	Mashed potatoes, instant	156.0	155.5	7.2	-.1	.1
Butter	123.5	125.0	13.1	6.5	6.0	Potatoes, french fried, frozen	166.5	166.3	1.2	.9	1.0
Fruits and vegetables	177.9	173.4	5.8	-5.8	-2.9	Baby foods	161.5	161.3	13.7	-.1	-.1
Fresh fruits and vegetables	180.0	173.6	10.5	-9.3	-3.8	Sweet pickle relish	171.1	172.3	16.6	.7	.4
Fresh fruits	179.1	166.1	8.1	-4.3	-2.5	Pretzels	162.2	162.4	7.3	-.3	.1
Apples	211.0	178.4	13.4	2.3	2.1						
Bananas	148.4	145.5	21.4	-7.7	-5.9						

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

**Table 4. Consumers Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, August 1975, and percent changes from selected dates**

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to Aug. 1975 from—	
		July 1975	August 1975	August 1974	July 1975
Housing .....		167.1	167.7	9.7	0.4
Shelter <sup>1</sup> .....		170.2	170.7	9.3	.3
Rent, residential .....		137.3	138.0	5.2	.5
Homeownership <sup>2</sup> .....		182.3	182.8	10.5	.3
Mortgage interest rates .....		140.0	140.5	-1.1	.4
Property taxes .....		158.4	158.9	5.7	.3
Property insurance premiums .....		131.8	132.7	6.9	.7
Maintenance and repairs .....		188.1	188.5	6.9	.2
Maintenance and repair commodities <sup>3</sup> .....		162.0	162.0	3.9	0
Exterior house paint .....		154.6	154.1	8.4	-3
Interior house paint .....		147.2	148.2	9.3	.7
Maintenance and repair services .....		199.3	200.0	7.9	.4
Repainting living and dining rooms .....		211.1	211.8	8.7	.3
Reshingling house roof .....		218.5	219.9	7.6	.6
Residing house .....		187.6	187.8	6.8	.1
Replacing sink .....		195.5	196.2	8.5	.4
Repairing furnace .....		194.3	194.8	9.1	.3
Fuel and utilities .....		168.0	168.9	10.7	.5
Fuel oil and coal .....		234.1	235.7	6.7	.7
Fuel oil, No. 2 .....		229.4	231.3	5.6	.8
Gas and electricity .....		170.4	171.2	15.3	.5
Gas .....		172.8	173.4	18.8	.3
Electricity .....		168.2	169.2	12.2	.6
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services .....		125.5	126.1	4.0	.5
Residential water and sewerage services .....		169.4	170.3	9.0	.5
Household furnishings and operation <sup>4</sup> .....		158.3	158.8	10.4	.3
Housefurnishings .....		144.4	144.6	8.4	.1
Textiles .....		138.9	138.6	4.0	-2
Sheets, full, flat .....		138.8	138.7	4.2	-1
Curtains, tailored .....		134.3	133.0	1.4	-1.0
Bedspreads .....		143.5	141.2	1.7	-1.6
Drapery fabrics .....		167.4	168.4	4.8	.6
Pillows, bed .....		115.2	115.7	6.6	.4
Slipcovers and throws, ready-made .....		133.2	133.8	5.7	.5
Furniture and bedding .....		147.4	147.8	7.4	.3
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser .....	Mar. 70	127.4	127.9	3.6	.4
Sofas, upholstered .....		138.3	139.0	4.9	.5
Cocktail tables .....	Dec. 71	125.3	123.3	4.8	-1.6
Dining room chairs .....	Mar. 70	129.6	129.5	6.0	-1
Recliners, upholstered .....	Dec. 71	108.0	110.7	2.1	2.5
Sofas, dual purpose .....		137.5	136.5	4.2	-7
Bedding, mattress and box springs .....	June 70	130.7	131.0	7.9	.2
Aluminum folding chairs .....		173.4	175.7	39.3	1.3
Cribs .....		149.3	148.9	7.8	-3
Floor coverings .....		129.5	130.4	6.7	.7
Broadloom carpeting .....		118.4	119.3	4.1	.8
Vinyl sheet goods .....		152.3	154.0	13.8	1.1
Vinyl floor tile .....		158.3	158.5	10.1	.1
Appliances (excluding radio and TV) .....		128.2	128.5	9.7	.2
Washing machines, electric .....		131.2	132.2	11.3	.8
Vacuum cleaners .....		117.4	117.3	7.8	-1
Refrigerators, refrigerator-freezers, electric .....		129.0	128.8	10.8	-2
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric .....		130.2	130.5	11.3	.2
Clothes dryers, electric .....		136.6	137.9	11.8	1.0
Air conditioners, demountable .....		124.8	123.7	8.8	-9
Room heaters, electric, portable .....	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )
Garbage disposal units .....		129.0	129.4	8.4	.3
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, fine china .....		176.7	177.2	13.5	.3
Flatware, stainless steel .....		174.0	173.8	13.7	-1
Table lamps, with shade .....		145.6	146.1	5.6	.3
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type .....		153.4	153.2	15.7	-1
Electric drills, hand-held .....		123.6	124.7	8.9	.9
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents .....		162.1	163.0	18.7	.6
Paper napkins .....		208.5	206.5	20.8	-1.0
Toilet tissue .....		211.8	212.6	34.5	.4
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic services, general housework .....		196.0	197.0	5.2	.5
Baby sitter services .....		192.0	193.1	10.6	.6
Postal charges .....		175.3	175.3	0	0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service .....		187.7	188.5	8.4	.4
Licensed day care services, preschool child .....		153.7	154.6	6.9	.6
Washing machine repairs .....		187.1	188.3	11.8	.6

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 4. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, August 1975, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued**

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to Aug. 1975 from—	
		July 1975	August 1975	August 1974	July 1975
Apparel and upkeep <sup>6</sup> .....		141.1	142.3	3.0	0.9
Apparel commodities .....		139.8	141.1	2.2	.9
Apparel commodities less footwear .....		139.1	140.6	2.2	1.1
Men's and boys' <sup>7</sup> .....		140.5	141.1	2.0	.4
Men's:					
Topcoats and all-weather coats .....		141.9	142.7	1.6	.6
Suits, year round weight .....		136.7	138.0	3.5	1.0
Sport jackets .....	June 74	93.9	96.6	-1.2	2.9
Jackets, lightweight .....		134.6	134.7	6.0	.1
Slacks, heavyweight .....		118.1	118.4	1.5	.3
Slacks, lightweight .....		141.9	141.9	.8	0
Trousers, work .....		150.7	151.0	5.9	.2
Shirts, work .....		151.3	151.2	3.4	-.1
Shirts, business or dress .....		127.6	127.8	2.1	.2
T-shirts .....		154.0	153.8	6.6	-.1
Socks .....		128.7	128.7	4.4	0
Handkerchiefs .....		152.9	152.7	3.8	-.1
Boys':					
Coats, heavyweight .....	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
Sport coats, wool or wool blends .....	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
Dungarees .....	171.5	174.1	4.8	1.5	
Undershorts .....	151.3	150.0	3.2	-.9	
Handkerchiefs .....	136.5	138.7	1.5	1.6	
Women's and girls' <sup>8</sup> :					
Coats, heavyweight .....	(5)	148.6	(7)	(5)	(5)
Carcoats, heavyweight .....	(5)	148.7	(7)	(5)	(5)
Sweaters .....	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)
Skirts, winter weight .....	(5)	151.1	(7)	(5)	(5)
Skirts, summer weight .....	141.5	146.8	10.0	3.7	
Blouses .....	138.8	138.5	2.5	-.2	
Dresses, street, year round weight .....	139.8	142.9	2.6	2.2	
Slips .....	117.2	117.4	.4	.2	
Panties .....	140.0	140.6	7.2	.4	
Girdles .....	125.5	129.1	3.8	2.9	
Brassieres .....	143.2	144.5	7.0	.9	
Hose or panty hose, nylon .....	92.5	92.9	.5	.4	
Anklets or knee-length socks .....	132.1	129.4	2.2	-2.0	
Gloves, fabric .....	128.7	127.9	4.5	-.6	
Handbags .....	167.8	169.0	1.1	.7	
Girls':					
Raincoats .....	(5)	127.3	(6)	(5)	(5)
Skirts, fall and winter .....	(5)	149.6	11.5	(5)	(5)
Dresses .....	127.1	130.3	-5.2	2.5	
Slacks, fall and winter .....	167.0	165.2	1.0	-1.1	
Slips .....	126.9	128.0	8.2	.9	
Handbags .....	138.9	141.9	-4.1	2.2	
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers .....	181.9	182.3	11.7	.2	
Yard goods .....	159.1	159.5	-.7	.3	
Wrist watches, men's and women's .....	136.1	137.1	7.9	.7	
Handbags .....	143.1	143.9	2.9	.6	
Footwear:					
Men's:					
Shoes, street .....	146.9	147.3	2.2	.3	
Shoes, work, high .....	158.9	158.7	5.2	-.1	
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump .....	136.4	137.2	.7	.6	
Shoes, evening, pump .....	131.2	131.6	1.9	.3	
Shoes, casual .....	142.1	145.9	4.7	2.7	
House slippers, scuff .....	140.5	140.7	2.4	.1	
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford .....	143.7	144.5	1.8	.6	
Sneakers, boys', oxford type .....	149.0	149.5	6.0	.3	
Dress shoes, girls' .....	152.3	153.3	4.4	.7	
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning .....	150.8	151.4	9.6	.4	
Automatic laundry service .....	134.3	135.2	8.1	.7	
Laundry, men's shirts .....	152.7	153.7	4.8	.7	
Tailoring charges .....	152.7	153.2	3.2	.3	
Shoe repairs .....	141.3	141.9	7.0	.4	
Transportation:					
Private: <sup>9</sup>					
Automobiles, new .....	152.6	153.6	8.7	.7	
Automobiles, used .....	152.3	153.4	9.2	.7	
Gasoline, regular and premium .....	126.6	126.8	7.4	.2	
Motor oil .....	153.2	156.1	18.3	1.9	
Tires .....	177.9	179.0	7.5	.6	
Auto repairs (mechanical) and maintenance .....	155.7	156.4	5.3	.4	
Auto insurance premiums .....	126.1	125.7	2.9	-.3	
Auto registration fees .....	177.2	178.1	12.0	.5	
Parking fees, private and municipal .....	143.6	145.4	5.2	1.3	
Auto registration fees .....	130.8	130.8	1.5	0	
Parking fees, private and municipal .....	173.2	173.5	8.2	.2	

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 4. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, August 1975, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued**

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to August 1975 from—	
		July 1975	August 1975	August 1974	July 1975
<b>Transportation—Continued</b>					
Public:					
Local transit fares		155.0	155.0	4.2	0
Taxicab fares		148.7	148.8	.8	.1
Railroad fares, coach		168.0	168.1	9.1	.1
Airplane fares, chiefly coach		152.4	152.4	8.4	0
Bus fares, intercity		161.7	161.7	9.1	0
		192.6	192.6	20.8	0
<b>Health and recreation</b>					
Medical care <sup>10</sup>		154.0	154.6	8.4	.4
Drugs and prescriptions		169.8	170.9	11.2	.6
Over-the-counter items		119.4	119.7	8.2	.3
Multiple vitamin concentrates		131.2	131.3	10.4	.1
Aspirin compounds		103.0	102.9	5.6	-.1
Liquid tonics		134.2	133.4	6.6	-.6
Adhesive bandages, packages		116.9	116.7	8.9	-.2
Cold tablets or capsules		166.3	168.1	20.9	1.1
Cough syrup		125.2	125.0	7.2	-.2
Prescriptions		134.9	135.0	9.8	.1
Anti-infectives		109.6	110.0	6.2	.4
Sedatives and hypnotics		71.2	71.5	3.5	.4
Ataractics		154.1	154.7	7.7	.4
Antispasmodics		105.7	105.6	.6	-.1
Cough preparations		125.5	127.0	14.4	1.2
Cardiovasculars and antihypertensives		164.7	165.9	11.0	.7
Analgesics, internal		118.1	118.2	1.9	.1
Anti-obesity		119.9	120.1	6.5	.2
Hormones		(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
		103.7	104.2	8.9	.5
Professional services:					
Physicians' fees		169.7	171.0	10.8	.8
General physician, office visits		173.8	175.2	10.8	.8
General physician, house visits		170.5	171.5	11.3	.6
Obstetrical cases		167.5	169.2	11.0	1.0
Pediatric care, office visits		173.2	173.9	11.6	.4
Psychiatrist, office visits		153.4	154.2	7.7	.5
Herniorrhaphy, adult		151.8	153.4	9.2	1.1
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy		165.5	167.1	12.8	1.0
Dentists' fees		163.0	163.6	9.4	.4
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface		168.1	168.6	10.1	.3
Extractions, adult		161.6	162.0	9.1	.2
Dentures, full upper		153.8	154.9	8.1	.7
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses		150.3	150.9	7.4	.4
Routine laboratory tests		154.0	153.5	9.5	-.3
Hospital service charges	Jan. 72	133.2	134.4	14.1	.9
Semiprivate rooms		239.0	241.0	16.3	.8
Operating room charges		240.6	243.0	18.1	1.0
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper GI		156.8	157.8	9.8	.6
Laboratory tests	Jan. 72	128.5	129.0	12.4	.4
Anti-infectives	Jan. 72	111.2	111.4	6.5	.2
Tranquilizers	Jan. 72	117.4	121.1	10.9	3.2
Electrocardiogram	Jan. 72	126.7	126.5	10.8	-.2
Intravenous solution	Jan. 72	128.4	128.4	16.5	0
Physical therapy	Jan. 72	137.0	138.7	16.4	1.2
Oxygen, inhalation therapy	Jan. 72	119.3	122.3	7.9	2.5
Personal care		151.2	151.4	8.7	.1
Toilet goods		150.8	150.8	10.9	0
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice		131.0	131.0	13.4	0
Toilet soap, hard-milled		196.6	196.0	6.2	-.3
Hand lotions		153.8	154.6	13.6	.5
Shaving cream		126.0	125.0	12.2	-.8
Face powder		150.5	152.0	-1.7	1.0
Deodorants		118.5	118.0	11.7	-.4
Cleansing tissues		201.8	202.0	26.0	.1
Home permanent wave kits		119.8	120.4	6.9	.5
Personal care services		151.5	151.9	6.4	.3
Men's haircuts		153.5	154.2	5.5	.5
Beauty shop services		150.1	150.4	7.1	.2
Women's haircuts		164.1	164.8	10.2	.4
Shampoo and wave sets, plain		152.8	153.0	6.6	.1
Permanent waves, cold		130.0	130.0	4.6	0
Reading and recreation <sup>11</sup>		144.4	144.7	7.0	.2
Recreational goods		123.6	124.0	6.9	.3
TV sets, portable and console		101.3	101.7	2.6	.4
TV replacement tubes		157.2	158.1	13.0	.6
Radios, portable and table models		103.9	104.2	1.4	.3
Tape recorders, portable		95.2	95.2	-.3	0
Phonograph records, stereophonic		122.7	122.7	7.5	0
Movie cameras, 8mm		94.1	94.3	2.1	.2
Film, 35mm, color		118.6	118.8	4.0	.2
Golf balls		104.6	104.4	-.4	-.2

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 4. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, August 1975, and percent changes from selected dates—Continued**

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to August 1975 from—	
		July 1975	August 1975	August 1974	July 1975
Health and recreation—Continued					
Reading and recreation—Continued					
Recreational goods—Continued					
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover .....		145.3	145.0	5.8	-0.2
Fishing rods, fresh-water spin-casting .....		121.1	121.7	8.8	.5
Bowling balls .....		126.7	126.9	3.6	.2
Bicycles, boys' .....		144.5	144.4	5.4	-.1
Tricycles .....		138.0	140.1	11.3	1.5
Dog food, canned or boxed .....		169.6	168.5	13.6	-.6
Recreational services		148.9	149.2	5.2	.2
Indoor movie admissions .....		172.2	172.6	7.8	.2
Adult .....		167.5	167.6	6.5	.1
Children's .....		185.2	186.6	11.2	.8
Drive-in movie admissions .....		174.1	173.6	3.5	-.3
Bowling fees, evening .....		137.0	137.3	5.8	.2
Golf green fees .....		151.9	153.7	4.0	1.2
TV repair .....		105.0	105.3	3.1	.3
Film developing .....		122.5	121.3	2.3	-1.0
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery .....		175.4	175.4	9.1	0
Magazines, single copy and subscription .....		170.4	170.4	21.0	0
Piano lessons, beginner .....		139.0	139.5	3.9	.4
Other goods and services		147.6	148.1	6.2	.3
Tobacco products		154.0	154.4	5.6	.3
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size .....		155.9	156.4	5.7	.3
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size .....		156.8	157.1	5.9	.2
Cigars, domestic, regular size .....		124.5	124.6	3.1	.1
Alcoholic beverages		142.2	142.8	6.4	.4
Beer, at home .....		140.7	140.6	8.1	-.1
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon .....		113.7	114.8	3.1	1.0
Wine, dessert and table .....		154.7	154.9	4.5	.1
Beer, away from home .....		157.1	158.2	6.5	.7
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult .....		143.4	144.4	5.9	.7
Bank service charges, checking account .....		120.2	121.2	15.6	.8
Legal services, short form will .....		188.5	188.8	6.1	.2

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

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

<sup>3</sup> Also includes pine shavings, 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> Not available.

<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, front-end alignment, and chassis lubrication; does not include prices for auto body repairs. In the CPI this component represents consumers' direct, out-of-pocket expenses for automobile repairs and maintenance.

<sup>10</sup> Also includes health insurance not shown separately.

<sup>11</sup> Also includes outboard motors, nondurable toys, college tuition fees, paperback books, and college textbooks, not shown separately.

(\*) Discontinued.

**Table 5. 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	May 1975	July 1975
		August 1975			August 1974	May 1975	July 1975
U.S. city average	M	162.8	189.4		8.6	2.2	0.3
Chicago	M	159.1	180.8		7.6	2.3	.5
Detroit	M	161.4	185.5		6.9	2.0	.2
Los Angeles—Long Beach	M	158.8	186.7		9.6	1.2	.4
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J.	M	167.5	199.3		6.7	1.9	.5
Philadelphia	M	165.6	193.5		7.9	2.2	.4
		July 1975			July 1974	April 1975	
Boston	1	163.0	195.2		8.9	2.5	
Houston	1	165.8	189.7		12.0	2.7	
Minneapolis—St. Paul	1	161.9	187.6		8.9	3.3	
Pittsburgh	1	161.7	185.9		9.0	2.5	
		August 1975			August 1974	May 1975	
Buffalo	2	163.5		<sup>3</sup> 179.7	7.9	1.9	
Cleveland	2	162.4	183.3		8.3	1.8	
Dallas	2	160.6		<sup>3</sup> 173.6	8.9	3.1	
Milwaukee	2	159.2	179.8		9.3	2.4	
San Diego	2	162.5		<sup>4</sup> 170.8	8.4	2.3	
Seattle	2	157.3	184.8		10.0	1.8	
Washington	2	163.4	190.3		7.0	2.1	
		June 1975			June 1974	March 1975	
Atlanta	3	160.9	185.1		9.3	1.5	
Baltimore	3	164.7	191.2		8.8	1.1	
Cincinnati	3	160.8	182.5		10.4	3.1	
Honolulu	3	153.6		<sup>5</sup> 165.6	8.8	1.5	
Kansas City	3	157.2	186.6		9.7	1.6	
St. Louis	3	156.7	183.0		11.0	2.8	
San Francisco—Oakland	3	158.6	188.7		10.3	1.7	

<sup>1</sup> Area coverage includes the urban portion of the corresponding Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) except for New York and Chicago which have more extensive Standard Consolidated Areas. Area definitions were established for the 1980 Census and exclude 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>4</sup> November 1963=100.

<sup>5</sup> February 1965=100.

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

NOTE: Price changes within areas are found in the Consumer Price Index; differences in living costs among areas are found in family budgets.

**Table 6. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas <sup>1</sup> for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups, percent change from July 1975 to August 1975**

Expenditure class	U.S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles—Long Beach	New York—Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
All items	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.4
Food	-.3	.2	-.6	-.3	-.2	-.3
Housing	.4	.1	.6	.3	.6	.5
Apparel and upkeep	.9	1.4	.1	1.5	3.0	2.5
Transportation	.7	1.6	.1	.8	.6	.5
Health and recreation	.4	.6	.9	.9	.1	-.1
Medical care	.6	1.2	2.1	1.0	.3	-.1
Personal care	.1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Reading and recreation	.2	-.4	0	1.3	.3	-.9
Other goods and services	.3	.6	.7	.6	.2	.6

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table 5.

<sup>2</sup> Not available.

**Table 7. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas<sup>1</sup> for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, August 1975 index, and percent changes from May 1975**

Group	U.S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles—Long Beach	New York—Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
Indexes (1967=100)						
All items .....	162.8	159.1	161.4	158.8	167.5	165.6
Food .....	178.1	176.9	173.8	171.7	182.6	183.0
Food at home .....	179.0	178.0	173.4	174.2	184.6	182.1
Cereals and bakery products .....	182.6	179.5	186.4	183.7	186.2	181.4
Meats, poultry, and fish .....	189.7	190.1	181.1	186.8	189.8	196.7
Dairy products .....	154.3	145.7	157.7	150.5	157.7	153.9
Fruits and vegetables .....	177.9	185.6	161.2	165.1	192.1	180.2
Other food at home .....	179.5	175.6	173.1	174.3	187.2	182.6
Food away from home .....	175.3	172.9	176.2	164.9	177.0	186.9
Housing .....	167.7	156.8	163.2	163.0	173.0	171.1
Shelter .....	170.7	160.0	169.8	166.9	173.7	181.0
Rent, residential .....	138.0	( <sup>2</sup> )	136.4	( <sup>2</sup> )	154.2	( <sup>2</sup> )
Homeownership .....	182.8	172.4	176.4	176.7	188.0	190.1
Fuel and utilities .....	168.9	151.7	159.2	157.2	186.6	165.2
Fuel oil and coal .....	235.7	226.0	229.3	-	240.8	224.2
Gas and electricity .....	171.2	151.4	167.9	181.2	198.3	168.2
Household furnishings and operation .....	158.8	150.4	145.7	152.5	163.4	156.5
Apparel and upkeep .....	142.3	136.6	138.1	137.3	142.0	136.0
Men's and boys' .....	141.1	131.4	143.7	131.8	134.2	138.7
Women's and girls' .....	138.7	136.4	128.1	135.5	140.6	124.6
Footwear .....	143.9	138.3	145.0	139.9	140.8	143.9
Transportation .....	153.6	156.3	152.4	157.1	159.6	155.2
Private .....	153.4	154.9	151.5	159.0	157.0	156.0
Public .....	155.0	165.4	162.1	121.8	169.7	151.0
Health and recreation .....	154.6	155.7	162.7	149.2	159.5	159.7
Medical care .....	170.9	172.7	191.9	167.9	182.8	188.1
Personal care .....	151.4	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	147.6	( <sup>2</sup> )
Reading and recreation .....	144.7	146.2	144.3	135.5	148.5	146.5
Other goods and services .....	148.1	151.1	150.6	143.1	153.7	150.4
Percent changes May 1975 to August 1975						
All items .....	2.2	2.3	2.0	1.2	1.9	2.2
Food .....	3.7	3.9	3.1	2.8	3.8	4.2
Food at home .....	4.3	4.5	3.2	3.1	4.8	4.7
Cereals and bakery products .....	-2.4	-3.4	-4.8	-1.0	-1.5	-4.3
Meats, poultry, and fish .....	12.8	11.2	10.4	10.5	11.2	13.6
Dairy products .....	.5	1.1	1.3	.2	.5	.3
Fruits and vegetables .....	5.3	7.2	2.0	1.4	7.2	5.9
Other food at home .....	-1.8	-1.3	-1.1	-1.2	-1.1	-1.5
Food away from home .....	1.4	1.7	2.4	2.2	.7	2.2
Housing .....	1.5	.5	.6	-1.3	1.2	.8
Shelter .....	1.5	.5	.6	-2.1	1.2	1.1
Rent, residential .....	1.2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Homeownership .....	1.5	.4	.5	-2.8	.9	1.1
Fuel and utilities .....	2.1	.5	.1	.1	2.1	1.7
Fuel oil and coal .....	2.4	6.1	5.3	-	1.7	1.7
Gas and electricity .....	2.3	-1.0	-8	.1	3.7	2.7
Household furnishings and operation .....	.9	.7	1.0	.8	.7	-.4
Apparel and upkeep .....	.4	.1	1.1	.8	.9	.7
Men's and boys' .....	-1.2	-2.7	-6	1.0	-3.3	-2.3
Women's and girls' .....	1.5	1.8	3.9	.9	4.3	3.7
Footwear .....	-.4	-.3	-1.2	-.9	-.5	-.1
Transportation .....	4.2	5.3	4.3	4.7	3.2	3.6
Private .....	4.5	6.2	4.5	4.8	3.8	4.3
Public .....	1.6	.3	2.0	1.5	1.0	-.2
Health and recreation .....	1.3	2.2	1.9	1.6	.6	1.8
Medical care .....	2.5	4.5	4.5	2.3	1.7	4.7
Personal care .....	1.0	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	-.4	( <sup>2</sup> )
Reading and recreation .....	.6	1.0	-.6	2.0	-.4	-.7
Other goods and services .....	.7	.8	.7	1.1	0	.5

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 7. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas<sup>1</sup> for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, August 1975 index, and percent changes from May 1975—Continued**

Group	Buffalo	Cleveland	Dallas	Milwaukee	San Diego	Seattle	Washington
Indexes (1967=100)							
All items	163.5	162.4	160.6	159.2	162.5	157.3	163.4
Food	174.6	178.6	175.5	174.9	175.4	171.6	185.2
Food at home	174.2	179.3	174.6	175.7	173.3	175.0	186.0
Cereals and bakery products	186.1	185.6	173.2	184.3	179.5	183.3	184.3
Meats, poultry, and fish	184.9	189.4	186.1	184.3	189.9	192.5	191.0
Dairy products	146.8	153.1	149.8	150.3	152.1	157.3	145.9
Fruits and vegetables	165.3	175.3	174.7	183.5	162.7	159.3	202.0
Other food at home	178.6	181.1	173.8	172.4	167.1	173.5	194.8
Food away from home	177.1	175.5	179.0	170.9	180.2	160.7	182.6
Housing	172.4	158.5	160.2	157.3	173.0	165.5	162.0
Shelter	164.2	160.1	165.0	155.0	188.0	171.7	162.1
Rent, residential	142.0	124.5	122.7	137.9	149.5	132.1	141.5
Homeownership	168.4	166.4	184.0	160.4	204.0	183.3	174.1
Fuel and utilities	214.3	160.3	150.6	170.9	150.1	160.1	164.5
Fuel oil and coal	237.6	-	-	241.4	-	220.8	236.0
Gas and electricity	228.0	169.7	156.9	176.9	165.6	130.9	180.0
Household furnishings and operation	164.4	151.3	154.9	154.1	145.9	154.3	160.1
Apparel and upkeep	154.7	144.6	142.3	152.0	139.9	138.9	143.7
Men's and boys'	178.2	143.6	148.9	155.6	142.4	142.8	150.0
Women's and girls'	148.4	145.0	132.4	149.4	135.5	128.8	132.4
Footwear	140.5	140.8	141.7	155.1	140.2	137.8	150.4
Transportation	149.6	157.9	161.4	154.7	157.4	138.9	154.7
Private	148.8	154.5	161.7	151.6	159.0	143.0	155.4
Public	156.4	180.4	158.1	191.0	128.9	115.1	151.8
Health and recreation	150.1	164.0	154.7	151.4	147.1	147.4	158.2
Medical care	156.6	182.2	165.5	166.6	163.2	160.5	180.9
Personal care	152.4	164.3	158.6	158.4	146.2	149.6	147.8
Reading and recreation	145.0	150.0	145.6	145.1	136.7	142.2	141.8
Other goods and services	147.1	158.4	145.7	141.6	140.2	139.7	159.7
Percent changes May 1975 to August 1975							
All items	1.9	1.8	3.1	2.4	2.3	1.8	2.1
Food	2.0	4.4	3.7	4.4	2.6	2.4	4.7
Food at home	2.1	4.7	4.4	4.8	2.2	2.5	5.8
Cereals and bakery products	-4.6	-2.2	-4.8	-2.0	-1.1	-2.5	-3.0
Meats, poultry, and fish	11.0	12.9	14.7	14.4	9.0	10.8	14.7
Dairy products	-3.1	0	5	1.6	.9	0	.8
Fruits and vegetables	0	4.6	5.9	6.1	-.8	-.1	11.2
Other food at home	-1.1	.1	-2.2	-2.9	-2.8	-2.1	-1.9
Food away from home	1.4	3.3	1.1	2.9	3.2	2.2	1.8
Housing	2.0	.9	3.2	2.0	2.2	1.8	1.1
Shelter	1.3	.9	3.1	1.6	2.5	2.0	.9
Rent, residential	1.9	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.7
Homeownership	1.2	.8	3.5	1.6	2.8	2.1	.6
Fuel and utilities	5.3	1.3	8.7	5.3	2.0	2.1	.9
Fuel oil and coal	4.9	-	-	7.1	-	2.8	3.1
Gas and electricity	5.9	1.9	14.7	6.6	3.6	3.8	-.3
Household furnishings and operation	.8	.7	.6	.9	1.0	1.1	1.3
Apparel and upkeep	1.6	-.3	1.6	-.2	-1.5	-.5	-.8
Men's and boys'	1.5	-.8	2.0	-.5	-1.2	1.2	-2.4
Women's and girls'	2.1	-2.0	1.5	.5	-3.3	-2.5	-1.3
Footwear	-.1	2.5	.6	.6	-.3	-1.1	.2
Transportation	3.2	3.1	5.1	3.5	4.7	3.3	3.1
Private	3.3	3.6	5.5	5.5	4.5	3.6	3.7
Public	.8	1.1	-.1	-13.3	8.1	1.1	.5
Health and recreation	.9	.6	1.6	1.3	1.8	1.6	1.5
Medical care	1.6	-.6	3.0	3.3	2.4	2.3	1.6
Personal care	.7	4.3	.8	2.9	2.0	2.1	.6
Reading and recreation	1.2	0	1.0	-.1	2.0	.6	.7
Other goods and services	0	1.0	.1	.1	.6	1.5	2.9

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table 5.

<sup>2</sup> Not available.

<sup>3</sup> Change from June 1975.

**Table 8. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, August 1975 indexes, and percent changes from July 1975**

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 .....	178.1	179.0	182.6	189.7	154.3	177.9	179.5	175.3
Atlanta .....	183.6	186.8	184.9	197.4	166.3	189.3	184.6	172.8
Baltimore .....	180.8	181.4	177.7	190.5	152.5	185.4	184.6	178.1
Boston .....	178.3	178.9	186.1	186.4	147.3	184.8	180.4	175.5
Buffalo .....	174.6	174.2	186.1	184.9	146.8	165.3	178.6	177.1
Chicago .....	176.9	178.0	179.5	190.1	145.7	185.6	175.6	172.9
Cincinnati .....	179.9	184.1	185.4	192.4	160.5	188.7	183.8	164.3
Cleveland .....	178.6	179.3	185.6	189.4	153.1	175.3	181.1	175.5
Dallas .....	175.5	174.6	173.2	186.1	149.8	174.7	173.8	179.0
Detroit .....	173.8	173.4	186.4	181.1	157.7	161.2	173.1	176.2
Honolulu .....	178.6	177.9	190.5	183.0	166.4	166.6	176.4	180.1
Houston .....	183.1	181.0	174.1	195.7	166.2	177.2	176.7	190.3
Kansas City .....	180.1	182.1	183.8	189.1	172.8	174.1	183.7	173.7
Los Angeles—Long Beach .....	171.7	174.2	183.7	186.8	150.5	165.1	174.3	164.9
Milwaukee .....	174.9	175.7	184.3	184.3	150.3	183.5	172.4	170.9
Minneapolis—St. Paul .....	181.9	179.5	194.9	191.3	159.3	175.3	175.9	192.7
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J. ....	182.6	184.6	186.2	189.8	157.7	192.1	187.2	177.0
Philadelphia .....	183.0	182.1	181.4	196.7	153.9	180.2	182.6	186.9
Pittsburgh .....	180.1	179.2	191.4	187.9	144.6	184.2	179.5	185.1
St. Louis .....	177.6	179.1	194.8	186.3	158.0	176.2	176.9	170.7
San Diego .....	175.4	173.3	179.5	189.9	152.1	162.7	167.1	180.2
San Francisco—Oakland .....	173.1	177.8	182.0	194.0	152.0	164.2	178.6	156.5
Seattle .....	171.6	175.0	183.3	192.5	157.3	159.3	173.5	160.7
Washington .....	185.2	186.0	184.3	191.0	145.9	202.0	194.8	182.6
Percent changes July 1975 to August 1975								
U.S. city average .....	-0.3	-0.5	-1.1	1.1	0.6	-5.8	1.1	0.6
Atlanta .....	-.6	-1.0	-2.2	1.4	.7	-6.7	-.8	.5
Baltimore .....	-.8	-1.0	-.8	.5	1.1	-0.8	1.0	-.1
Boston .....	-.1	-.1	-1.4	1.4	-.9	-3.1	-.5	-.6
Buffalo .....	-2.4	-2.8	-4.1	-.4	-.3	-12.4	-.4	-.2
Chicago .....	-.2	-.3	-.2	1.2	1.6	-4.1	2.0	-.1
Cincinnati .....	-.6	-.6	-4.7	1.5	-1.0	-3.4	1.5	-.4
Cleveland .....	0	-.3	-3.2	1.0	.8	-5.1	2.5	2.0
Dallas .....	-.2	-.4	-1.2	.3	1.2	-4.7	1.1	-.6
Detroit .....	-.6	-.9	-2.2	.3	.8	-6.8	1.5	-.9
Honolulu .....	.4	.5	-1.4	1.6	1.4	-1.9	1.7	-.4
Houston .....	-.2	-.1	-1.5	2.1	0	-4.2	-.4	1.2
Kansas City .....	-.1	-.1	-.3	1.8	-.2	-5.4	-.9	-.9
Los Angeles—Long Beach .....	-.3	-.6	-.8	.5	.2	-6.1	1.7	-.7
Milwaukee .....	1.1	.6	-.1	1.6	2.0	-2.3	-.9	2.9
Minneapolis—St. Paul .....	.8	1.0	2.3	1.9	1.8	-2.4	1.1	-.5
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J. ....	-.2	-.3	-.7	.1	0	-3.1	1.6	-.5
Philadelphia .....	-.3	-.4	-4.1	1.2	1.1	-4.3	1.6	-.5
Pittsburgh .....	-1.2	-1.5	-.2	-.6	-2.2	-6.9	1.3	-.4
St. Louis .....	-.9	-1.1	-1.6	1.3	1.2	-8.6	.8	-.1
San Diego .....	.3	-.8	-1.6	-.3	.4	-5.6	1.9	2.3
San Francisco—Oakland .....	-1.1	-1.6	-.5	.2	.3	-10.3	-.8	-.4
Seattle .....	-.3	-.7	-.9	.1	1.2	-6.3	.9	1.4
Washington .....	.2	0	-.8	.7	1.7	-3.3	1.1	-.7

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table 5.

<sup>2</sup> Change from May 1975.

**Table 9. Consumer Price Index—Regular and premium gasoline indexes, selected areas and U.S. city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers**

(October 1973=100)

Area <sup>1</sup>	Regular gasoline			Premium gasoline		
	Index		Percent change to August 1975 from—	Index		Percent change to August 1975 from—
	July 1975	August 1975	July 1975	July 1975	August 1975	July 1975
U.S. city average <sup>2</sup>	180.0	181.1	0.6	172.7	173.8	0.6
Atlanta	150.4	149.7	-.5	147.6	147.1	-.3
Baltimore	148.4	150.3	1.3	145.0	146.9	1.3
Boston	148.2	148.8	.4	144.3	144.7	.3
Buffalo	150.0	150.7	.5	149.1	149.6	.3
Chicago	145.2	145.6	.3	141.5	142.5	.7
Cincinnati	146.8	147.7	.6	143.0	143.7	.5
Cleveland	147.2	148.3	.7	144.1	144.3	.1
Dallas	158.1	157.3	-.5	152.1	152.1	0
Detroit	143.8	143.3	-.3	140.5	140.1	-.3
Honolulu	153.9	154.2	.2	150.3	150.8	.3
Houston	156.8	156.6	-.1	152.3	152.6	.2
Kansas City	146.4	148.7	1.6	143.0	145.8	2.0
Los Angeles—Long Beach	145.9	145.6	-.2	142.9	143.6	.5
Milwaukee	145.8	145.9	.1	142.9	144.0	.8
Minneapolis—St. Paul	148.2	149.5	.9	145.7	147.6	1.3
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J.	142.1	143.0	.6	142.8	143.6	.6
Philadelphia	146.2	147.0	.5	144.0	145.5	1.0
Pittsburgh	147.6	149.7	1.4	143.2	145.0	1.3
St. Louis	143.6	144.9	.9	141.4	142.8	1.0
San Diego	146.8	147.6	.5	144.3	145.1	.6
San Francisco—Oakland	144.7	146.7	1.4	142.2	143.5	.9
Seattle	143.4	145.0	1.1	139.8	141.3	1.1
Washington	146.0	146.8	.5	143.2	144.3	.8

<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—Regular and premium gasoline prices, selected areas and U.S. city averages for urban wage earners and clerical workers**

Area <sup>1</sup>	Regular gasoline			Premium gasoline		
	Average price per gallon					
	June 1975	July 1975	August 1975	June 1975	July 1975	August 1975
U.S. city average	\$0.567	\$0.591	\$0.595	\$0.607	\$0.632	\$0.637
Atlanta	.578	.598	.595	.622	.639	.637
Baltimore	.587	.607	.615	.629	.649	.658
Boston	.561	.600	.602	.602	.640	.642
Buffalo	.571	.604	.607	.609	.653	.655
Chicago	.577	.611	.612	.618	.650	.655
Cincinnati	.573	.595	.598	.614	.635	.638
Cleveland	.576	.599	.604	.615	.641	.642
Dallas	.525	.556	.553	.564	.592	.592
Detroit	.567	.600	.598	.608	.642	.641
Honolulu	.673	.695	.697	.710	.732	.735
Houston	.516	.544	.544	.560	.587	.588
Kansas City	.530	.559	.568	.575	.602	.614
Los Angeles—Long Beach	.567	.589	.588	.605	.629	.632
Milwaukee	.531	.561	.562	.574	.604	.609
Minneapolis—St. Paul	.557	.586	.591	.605	.633	.641
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J.	.572	.602	.606	.619	.654	.658
Philadelphia	.565	.584	.587	.618	.638	.645
Pittsburgh	.568	.590	.599	.610	.633	.641
St. Louis	.559	.584	.589	.601	.627	.633
San Diego	.580	.607	.611	.618	.648	.651
San Francisco—Oakland	.597	.618	.626	.637	.660	.666
Seattle	.562	.577	.584	.602	.618	.625
Washington	.579	.604	.607	.626	.652	.657

<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 montly, quarterly, and annual

**Average standard errors of percent changes in the CPI based on 1974 data**

Component	Standard error		
	Monthly change	Quarterly change	Annual change
All items .....	.05	.07	.12
Food at home .....	.10	.19	.40
Food away from home .....	.13	.23	.42
Housing .....	.09	.15	.23
Apparel and upkeep ..	.21	.28	.33
Transportation .....	.07	.10	.20
Medical care .....	.16	.21	.28
Personal care .....	.19	.24	.34
Reading and recreation .....	.16	.21	.27
Other goods and services .....	.13	.18	.28

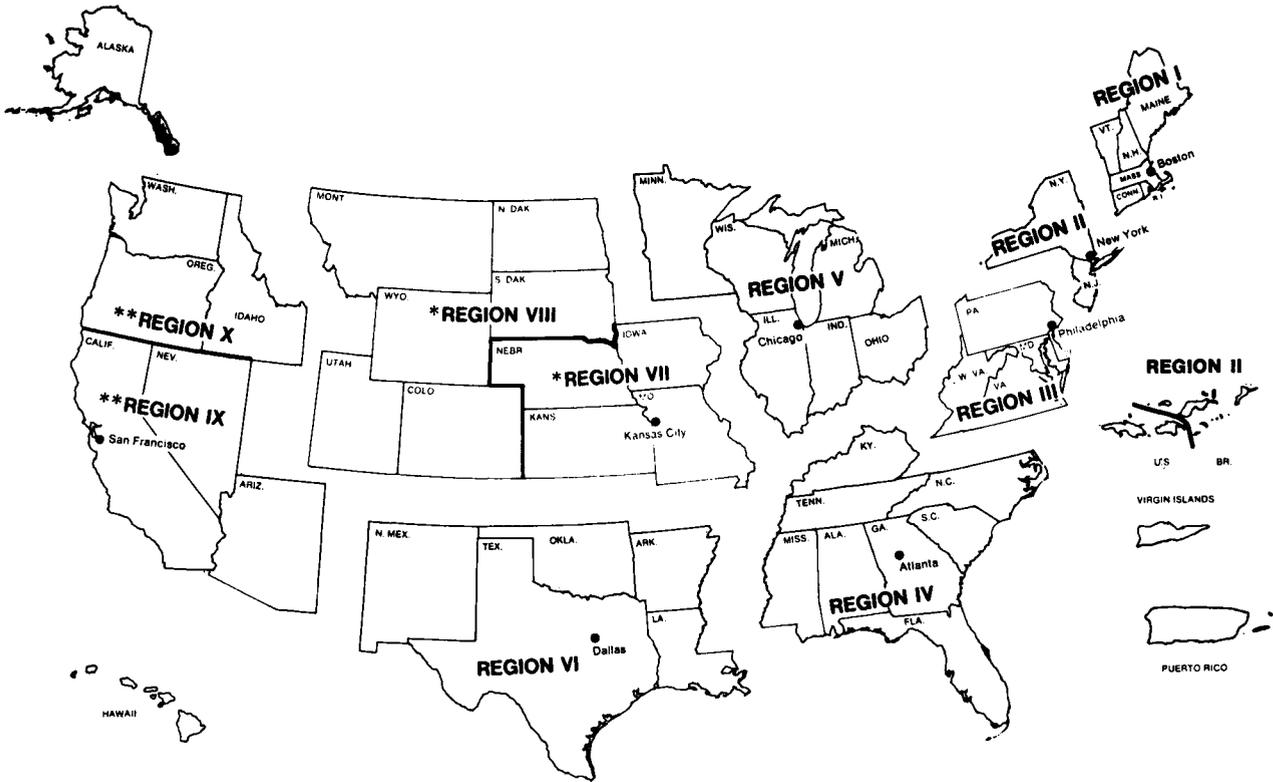
*percent changes* in the CPI for all items and for nine commodity groupings based on 1974 averages. The figures may be interpreted as follows: The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the percent change in the CPI as computed differs from the corresponding "complete coverage" change by less than twice the standard error.

Because the CPI is rounded to one decimal place, some ambiguity may arise in interpreting small index changes. 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 for a one-month period is almost always significant.

This replaces the table of average errors based on 1973 data which was included in the CPI report through January 1975.

<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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