

CPI Detailed Report

August 1976



Consumer Price Index
U.S. City Average
and Selected Areas

U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics





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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October 1976

CPI Detailed Report

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Consumer Price Index: U.S. City Average and Selected Areas

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Price Movements

August 1976

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.5 percent in August before seasonal adjustment to 171.9 percent of its 1967 base. The August CPI was up 5.6 percent from a year ago.

Seasonally adjusted changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI rose 0.5 percent in August, the same as in June and July. The August increase resulted from higher prices for a wide variety of goods and services, notably fruits and vegetables, apparel, and gasoline. These increases were partially offset by lower prices for meats.

The food index increased 0.3 percent in August after seasonal adjustment for the third month of comparatively small increases. Prices of fresh fruits and vegetables advanced sharply in August after declining the preceding 3 months; prices for dairy products and coffee continued to

rise rapidly. Meat and poultry prices, on the other hand, continued to move down. The declines for beef and pork—3.6 percent and 4.0 percent respectively—were larger than in July. In addition, indexes for eggs and fats and oils—which had been rising in recent months—declined in August after seasonal adjustment.

The index for commodities other than food rose 0.6 percent in August after seasonal adjustment, about the same as in the previous 3 months and about twice as much as in the early months of 1976. The apparel commodities index which rose 1.1 percent in August after a 0.6 percent rise in July, caused about one-third of the rise in the non-food commodities index. Approximately 30 percent of the rise in this index was due to continued rapid increases in the indexes for gasoline and motor oil and fuel oil and coal. Prices of used cars continued to rise. The new car index increased 0.4 percent in August after remaining nearly unchanged in June and July. The index for house-

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 | |
| | Unad-justed | Seasonally adjusted | Unad-justed | Seasonally adjusted | Unad-justed | Seasonally adjusted | Unad-justed | Seasonally adjusted | Seasonally adjusted | Unad-justed |
| 1975: | | | | | | | | | | |
| August | 0.3 | 0.4 | -0.3 | -0.2 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 |
| September | .5 | .4 | -.2 | .3 | .5 | .3 | 1.0 | .8 | 7.4 | 7.8 |
| October | .6 | .6 | .7 | .9 | .5 | .3 | .6 | .6 | 5.8 | 7.6 |
| November | .6 | .6 | .4 | .6 | .3 | .3 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 6.8 | 7.3 |
| December | .4 | .5 | .5 | .6 | .1 | .4 | .6 | .6 | 7.3 | 7.0 |
| 1976: | | | | | | | | | | |
| January | .2 | .4 | .1 | -.2 | -.3 | .2 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 6.5 | 6.8 |
| February | .2 | .1 | -.4 | -1.0 | .3 | .3 | .7 | .7 | 4.4 | 6.3 |
| March | .2 | .2 | -.7 | -.8 | .4 | .3 | .6 | .7 | 2.9 | 6.1 |
| April | .4 | .4 | .3 | .6 | .6 | .3 | .3 | .5 | 2.9 | 6.1 |
| May | .6 | .6 | .4 | 1.0 | .8 | .6 | .4 | .4 | 4.9 | 6.2 |
| June | .5 | .5 | .5 | .2 | .6 | .5 | .6 | .6 | 6.1 | 5.9 |
| July | .6 | .5 | .7 | .1 | .4 | .6 | .7 | .6 | 6.3 | 5.4 |
| August | .5 | .5 | .2 | .3 | .6 | .6 | .6 | .6 | 6.0 | 5.6 |

hold durables declined slightly in August, following moderate increases in recent months; appliance prices were unchanged while prices for furniture and floor coverings declined. Prices for alcoholic beverages also declined in August.

The services index rose 0.6 percent in August after seasonal adjustment, the same as in June and July. The rent index increased 0.3 percent, while household services other than rent rose 0.6 percent. Increases of 0.6 percent for medical care services and 0.5 percent for transportation services were about half as large as in July because of a slower rise in charges for hospital services and auto insurance and a slight decline in public transportation charges. Among other service components, the index for personal care services rose sharply in August primarily because of higher charges for beauty shop services.

Monthly changes in detail (not seasonally adjusted)

Food. The index for food purchased in grocery stores increased 0.1 percent in August before seasonal adjustment. Price increases for fresh fruits, eggs, dairy products, coffee, and sugar were offset by lower prices for meats, poultry, fresh vegetables, and cereal and bakery products.

Beef prices declined 2.2 percent, pork 1.3 percent, and poultry 2.3 percent instead of moving up as is usual in August. Beef prices declined—as they have almost steadily since mid-1975—due to large cattle marketings and beef production. Beef output in the first 7 months of this year was up 11 percent from the first 7 months of last year. In contrast, pork production in the first half of this year was down 5 percent from a year earlier, but competitive pressures from the large beef and poultry supplies held down prices. Since mid-year, hog slaughter and pork production have increased substantially, resulting in the recent declines in pork prices at the processors' level and in the August decline at the retail level.

Fresh vegetable prices declined 1.8 percent, much smaller than is usual for August, and fresh fruit prices rose 4.6 percent instead of moving down seasonally. The increase in lettuce prices was particularly sharp as a labor dispute in California and production gaps in other areas led to short supplies. Prices for apples, bananas, oranges, and grapes also increased sharply.

Prices for most cereal and bakery products declined in August. Increased promotional activity and lower ingredient costs contributed to the decline for bakery products. Flour prices moved down in response to lower wheat prices. Rice prices continued to decline due to a large buildup of supplies which resulted from a record world and U.S. rice harvest during the past year.

Among dairy products, butter prices continued to advance rapidly—increasing 5.9 percent in August after a 3.9 percent rise in July. A part of these recent increases was attributed to stockpiling by some producers and bulk buyers to avoid a repetition of severe shortages which occurred last fall. Higher costs for fluid milk, however, are

the principal reason for the rise in butter prices, as well as for other processed dairy products such as cheese, ice cream, and canned evaporated milk. The rise in fluid milk prices stemmed from various factors such as decreased production of butterfat, higher price supports, and increased competition for supplies by processors of cheese, butter, and other products.

Among other foods purchased in grocery stores, coffee prices rose 5.3 percent, continuing the rapid advances of the preceding 4 months. Sugar prices increased 1.0 percent in August, reflecting earlier increases in wholesale prices. Egg prices rose 7.1 percent before seasonal adjustment.

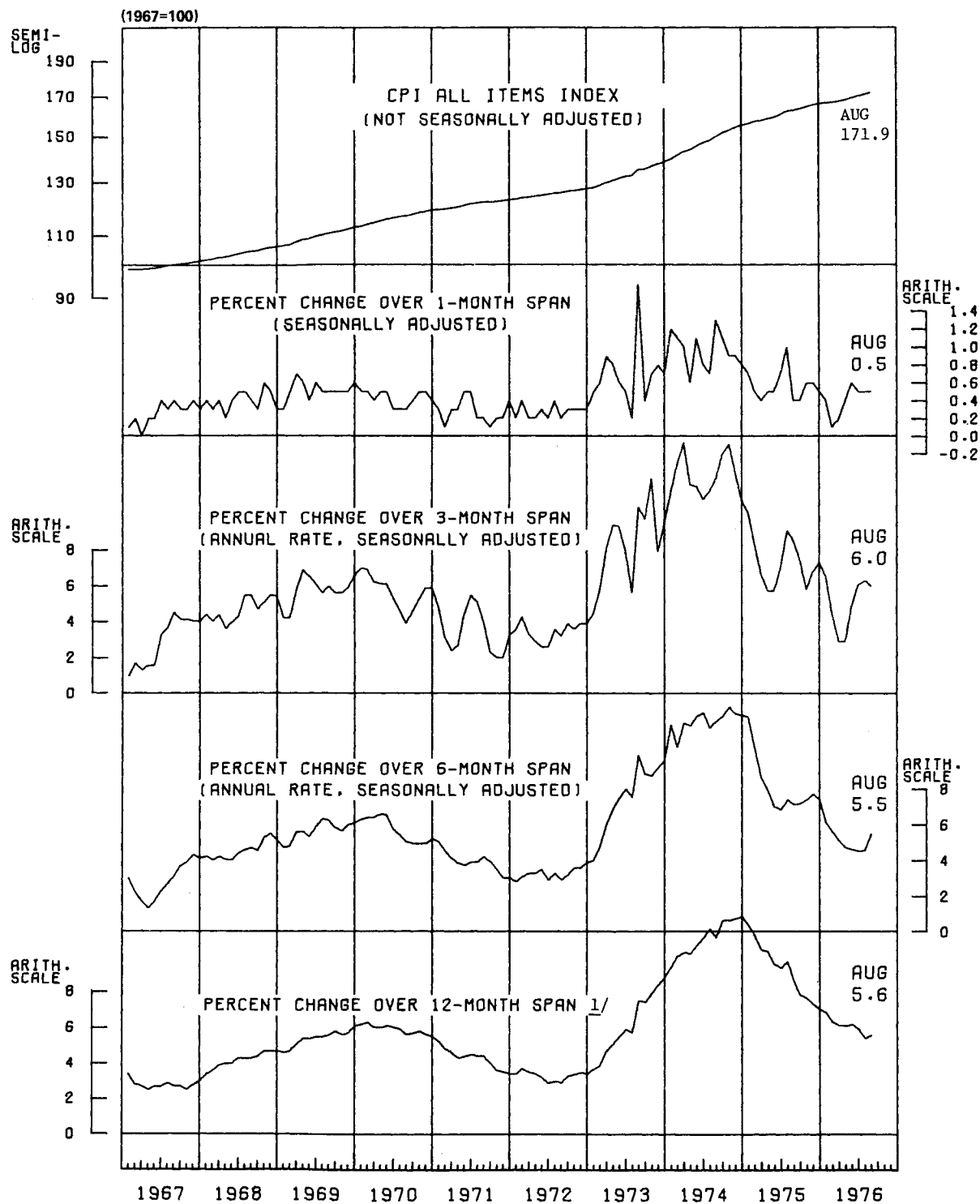
The index for food away from home—restaurant meals and snacks—increased 0.5 percent in August, compared with 0.7 percent in July.

Commodities other than food. The index for commodities other than food increased 0.6 percent in August before seasonal adjustment. Over two-fifths of this rise stemmed from a 1.2 percent increase in apparel prices, primarily reflecting the introduction of fall and winter items. A rapid rise in manufacturers' prices for clothing and footwear this year has put upward pressure on prices at the retail level. Over the past year, from August 1975 to August 1976, apparel prices have increased 6.2 percent and footwear prices 8.9 percent at the manufacturers' level. At the retail level, apparel prices have risen 3.3 percent and footwear 4.9 percent from August 1975 to August 1976.

There were also large increases for tires and used cars—1.4 percent and 1.2 percent respectively. Gasoline prices rose 0.7 percent and fuel oil prices 0.6 percent instead of declining as is usual in August. Prices for other commodities such as toilet goods, housekeeping supplies, and drugs and prescriptions continued to increase. The new car index, which usually declines in August, was unchanged. Prices for furniture and floor coverings declined reflecting in part summer clearance sales.

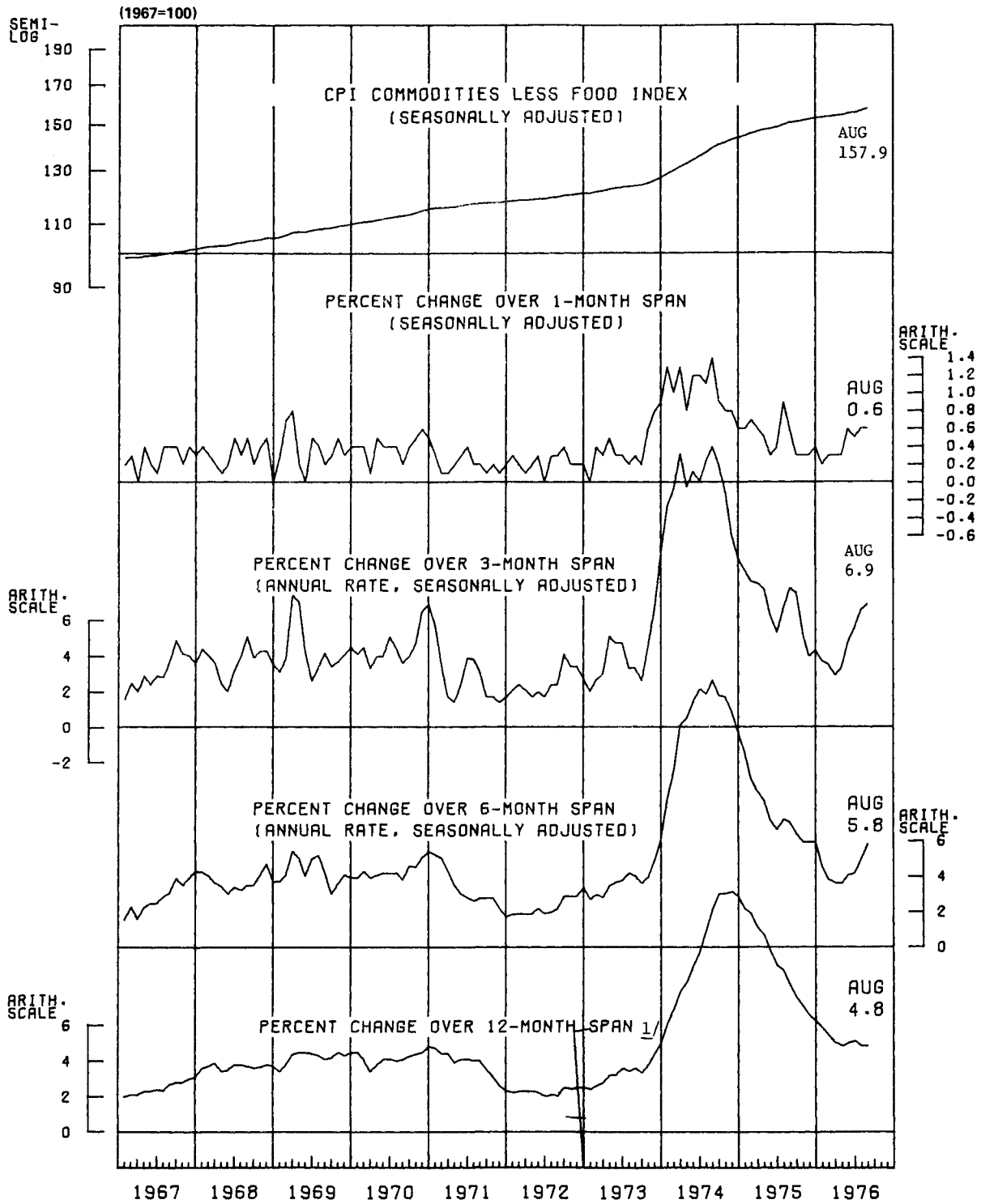
Services. The services index rose 0.6 percent in August before seasonal adjustment. Among major services categories, medical care services rose 0.8 percent, a smaller increase than in July but still substantial as hospital service charges and dentists' fees both rose 0.9 percent and physicians' fees increased 0.6 percent. Charges for household services other than rent rose 0.7 percent in August as property insurance rates, mortgage interest costs, telephone, and water and sewerage rates rose sharply. Increases for natural gas and electricity, however, were smaller than in recent months. The rent index rose 0.4 percent for the sixth consecutive month. The rise of 0.5 percent for transportation services stemmed from increases for auto-related services—0.7 percent for both auto repairs and auto insurance and 1.0 percent for parking fees; charges for public transportation increased 0.1 percent. Among other services, there were large increases in charges for laundering men's shirts and beauty shop services.

Chart 1. All items index and rates of change, 1967-76



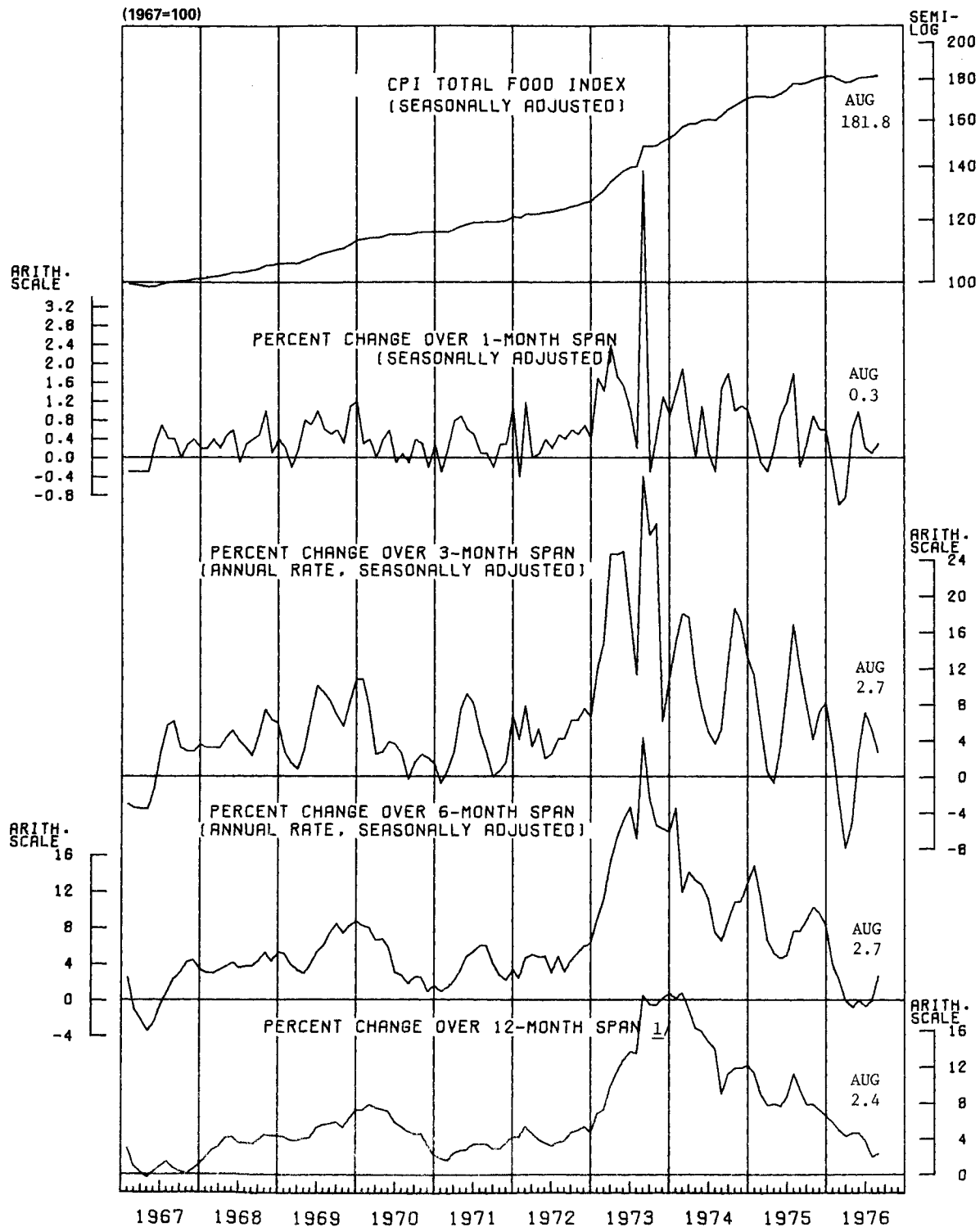
^{1/} computed from the unadjusted series.
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Chart 2. Commodities less food index and rates of change, 1967-76



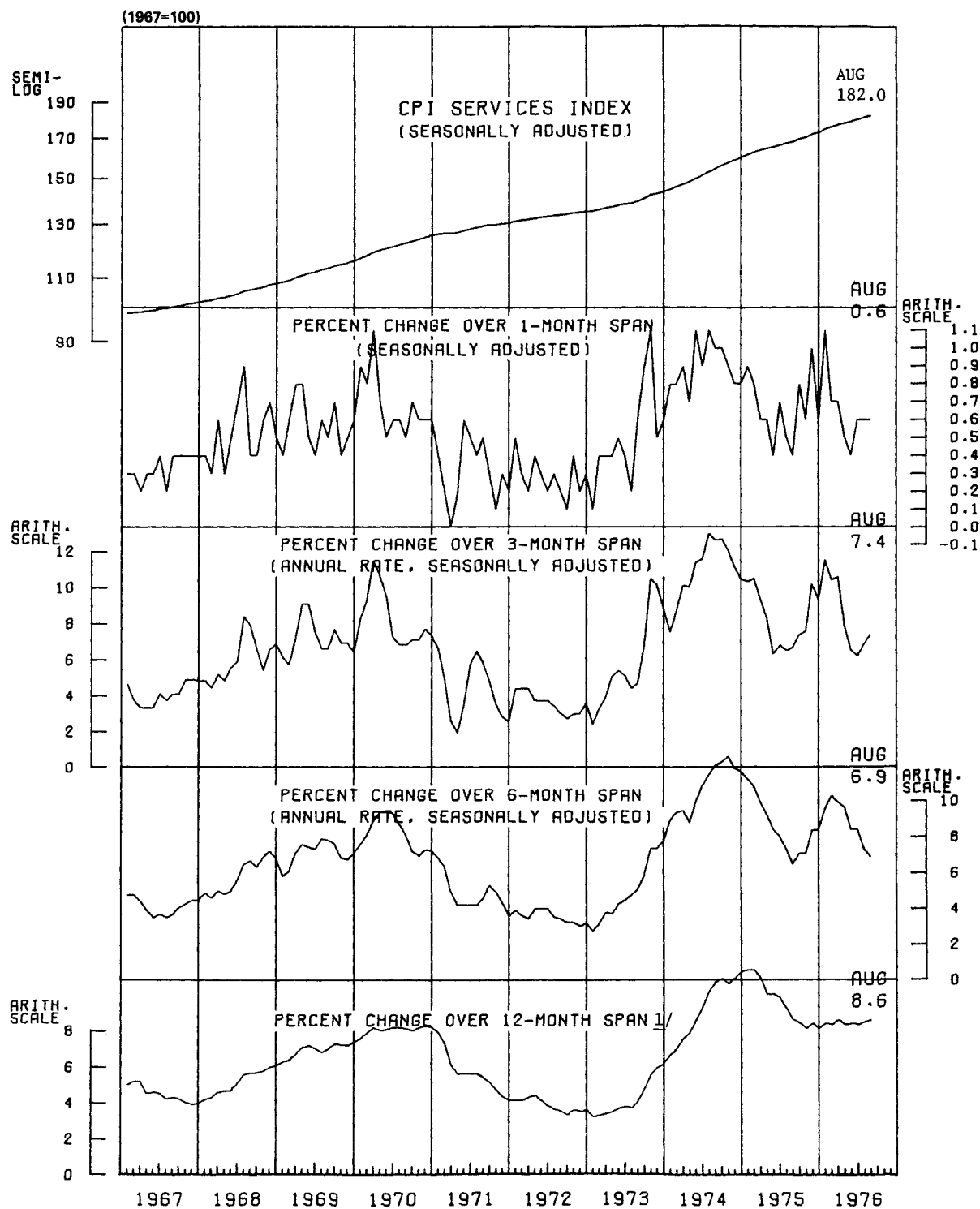
^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
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Chart 3. Total food index and rates of change, 1967-76



^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
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Chart 4. Services index and rates of change, 1967-76



^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
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Table 1. CPI—U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and expenditure class

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1967=100)

| Group or class | Relative importance | Unadjusted indexes | | Unadjusted percent change to August 1976 from— | | Seasonally adjusted percent change from— | | |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|-------------|--|-----------|--|--------------|----------------|
| | 1975 | July 1976 | August 1976 | August 1975 | July 1976 | May to June | June to July | July to August |
| Commodity and service groups | | | | | | | | |
| All items | 100.000 | 171.1 | 171.9 | 5.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| All items (1957-59=100) | - | 199.0 | 200.0 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Commodities | 63.355 | 166.0 | 166.6 | 3.9 | .4 | .4 | .4 | .5 |
| Food | 24.675 | 182.1 | 182.4 | 2.4 | .2 | .2 | .1 | .3 |
| Food at home | 19.524 | 180.9 | 181.0 | 1.1 | .1 | .2 | 0 | .3 |
| Cereals and bakery products | 2.702 | 180.9 | 180.3 | -1.3 | -.3 | 1.3 | .2 | .3 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish | 6.641 | 184.0 | 181.5 | -4.3 | -1.4 | -1.1 | -1.6 | -1.4 |
| Dairy products | 2.876 | 168.0 | 169.0 | 9.5 | .6 | 1.0 | 1.1 | .9 |
| Fruits and vegetables | 3.103 | 177.3 | 178.3 | .2 | .6 | -2.8 | .1 | 3.0 |
| Other foods at home | 4.202 | 188.6 | 192.1 | 7.0 | 1.9 | 1.4 | 1.4 | .5 |
| Food away from home | 5.150 | 186.9 | 187.8 | 7.1 | .5 | .5 | .6 | .4 |
| Commodities less food | 38.681 | 157.1 | 158.0 | 4.8 | .6 | .5 | .6 | .6 |
| Nondurables less food | 22.872 | 158.1 | 159.1 | 4.0 | .6 | .5 | .6 | .8 |
| Apparel commodities ¹ | 7.861 | 144.4 | 146.2 | 3.6 | 1.2 | .3 | .6 | 1.1 |
| Men's and boys' | 2.475 | 145.6 | 147.5 | 4.5 | 1.3 | -.2 | .6 | .9 |
| Women's and girls' | 3.426 | 140.2 | 142.2 | 2.5 | 1.4 | .6 | .5 | 1.5 |
| Footwear | 1.377 | 149.6 | 151.0 | 4.9 | .9 | .4 | .5 | .6 |
| Other apparel commodities | .584 | 152.7 | 153.7 | 2.7 | .7 | .3 | .1 | .7 |
| Nondurables less food and apparel | 15.011 | 166.3 | 166.8 | 4.2 | .3 | .7 | .7 | .6 |
| Gasoline and motor oil | 3.498 | 179.1 | 180.3 | 1.6 | .7 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 1.5 |
| Tobacco products | 1.880 | 160.4 | 160.5 | 4.0 | .1 | -.4 | -.1 | .1 |
| Alcoholic beverages | 2.244 | 147.5 | 147.6 | 3.4 | .1 | .1 | .5 | -.3 |
| Fuel oil and coal | 1.045 | 248.1 | 249.3 | 5.8 | .5 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.8 |
| Other nondurables | 6.343 | 160.4 | 160.9 | 5.9 | .3 | .3 | .4 | .4 |
| Durable commodities | 15.809 | 155.8 | 156.4 | 6.0 | .4 | .3 | .6 | .5 |
| Household durables | 4.495 | 146.5 | 146.3 | 3.8 | -.1 | .1 | .3 | -.1 |
| New automobiles | 1.910 | 134.4 | 134.4 | 6.0 | 0 | -.1 | .1 | .4 |
| Used automobiles | 2.046 | 177.5 | 179.6 | 15.1 | 1.2 | .7 | 1.1 | 1.4 |
| Other durables | 7.358 | 162.3 | 163.2 | 4.7 | .6 | *.5 | *.7 | *.6 |
| Services | 36.645 | 180.7 | 181.8 | 8.6 | .6 | .6 | .6 | .6 |
| Rent | 4.497 | 145.0 | 145.6 | 5.5 | .4 | .4 | .5 | .3 |
| Services less rent | 32.147 | 187.2 | 188.4 | 9.1 | .6 | .6 | .6 | .5 |
| Household services less rent | 16.030 | 198.7 | 200.1 | 7.8 | .7 | .7 | .5 | .6 |
| Transportation services | 5.012 | 174.7 | 175.5 | 15.5 | .5 | .4 | .9 | .5 |
| Medical care services | 5.642 | 197.9 | 199.4 | 9.7 | .8 | .5 | 1.1 | .6 |
| Other services | 5.463 | 161.2 | 162.0 | 6.3 | .5 | .5 | .6 | .6 |
| Special indexes: | | | | | | | | |
| All items less food | 75.325 | 167.9 | 168.9 | 6.7 | .6 | *.6 | *.5 | *.6 |
| Nondurable commodities | 47.547 | 169.7 | 170.4 | 3.1 | .4 | *.5 | *.4 | *.4 |
| Apparel commodities less footwear | 6.485 | 143.4 | 145.2 | 3.3 | 1.3 | .2 | .6 | 1.2 |
| Services less medical care services | 31.002 | 178.0 | 179.0 | 8.4 | .6 | *.6 | *.6 | *.6 |
| Insurance and finance | 9.808 | 196.8 | 198.1 | 9.6 | .7 | .3 | .8 | .5 |
| Utilities and public transportation | 5.484 | 172.3 | 173.3 | 10.2 | .6 | 1.1 | .6 | *.7 |
| Housekeeping and home maintenance service | 4.649 | 211.1 | 212.1 | 8.9 | .5 | *.8 | *.7 | *.5 |
| Appliances (including radio and TV) | 1.417 | 123.5 | 123.6 | 4.1 | .1 | .1 | .2 | 0 |
| Expenditure classes | | | | | | | | |
| All items | 100.000 | 171.1 | 171.9 | 5.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Food | 24.675 | 182.1 | 182.4 | 2.4 | .2 | .2 | .1 | .3 |
| Housing | 33.998 | 177.5 | 178.4 | 6.4 | .5 | *.5 | *.6 | *.5 |
| Shelter ¹ | 21.370 | 179.5 | 180.6 | 5.8 | .6 | *.5 | *.7 | *.6 |
| Rent | 4.497 | 145.0 | 145.6 | 5.5 | .4 | .4 | .5 | .3 |
| Homeownership ² | 16.484 | 192.2 | 193.4 | 5.8 | .6 | *.6 | *.8 | *.6 |
| Fuel and utilities ³ | 5.205 | 182.5 | 183.7 | 8.8 | .7 | 1.3 | .9 | .9 |
| Gas and electricity | 2.722 | 189.6 | 190.3 | 11.2 | .4 | 1.6 | 1.4 | .5 |
| Household furnishings and operation | 7.422 | 168.9 | 169.1 | 6.5 | .1 | .3 | .4 | .1 |
| Apparel and upkeep | 9.217 | 146.5 | 148.1 | 4.1 | 1.1 | .3 | .6 | .9 |
| Transportation | 13.053 | 167.6 | 168.5 | 9.7 | .5 | .9 | .9 | .8 |
| Private | 11.729 | 166.8 | 167.8 | 9.4 | .6 | 1.0 | .9 | 1.0 |
| Public | 1.324 | 174.4 | 174.6 | 12.6 | .1 | 0 | .6 | -.1 |
| Health and recreation | 18.681 | 163.7 | 164.4 | 6.3 | .4 | *.4 | *.6 | *.4 |
| Medical care | 6.413 | 185.5 | 186.8 | 9.3 | .7 | *.6 | *1.0 | *.7 |
| Personal care | 2.505 | 160.5 | 161.6 | 6.7 | .7 | *.6 | *.4 | *.7 |
| Reading and recreation | 5.148 | 151.2 | 151.4 | 4.6 | .1 | .4 | .2 | .5 |
| Other goods and services | 4.616 | 153.6 | 153.8 | 3.8 | .1 | .1 | 0 | .1 |
| Special indexes: | | | | | | | | |
| All items less shelter | 78.630 | 169.0 | 169.7 | 5.4 | .4 | *.6 | *.5 | *.4 |
| All items less medical care | 93.587 | 170.3 | 171.1 | 5.4 | .5 | *.6 | *.5 | *.5 |
| All items less mortgage interest costs | 95.610 | 169.0 | 169.8 | 5.7 | .5 | *.6 | *.5 | *.5 |
| CPI—domestically produced farm foods ⁴ | 17.148 | 176.8 | 176.5 | -.6 | -.2 | *.4 | *.5 | *-.2 |
| CPI—selected beef cuts ⁵ | 2.056 | 168.1 | 164.1 | -11.0 | -2.4 | *-.5 | *.3 | *-2.4 |
| Purchasing power of consumer dollar: | | | | | | | | |
| 1967=\$1.00 | - | \$0.584 | \$0.582 | -5.2 | -.3 | - | - | - |
| 1957-59=\$1.00 | - | .503 | .500 | - | - | - | - | - |

¹ Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

² Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.

³ Also includes residential telephone, fuel oil, coal, water, and sewerage services not shown separately.

⁴ 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.

⁵ 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. CPI—seasonally adjusted U.S. city average, by commodity and service group and expenditure class

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1967=100)

| Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1967=100 | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--|---------------|----------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Group and class | Seasonally adjusted indexes | | | | Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for | | | | | |
| | May 1976 | June 1976 | July 1976 | August 1976 | 3 months ending in | | | | 6 months ending in | |
| | | | | | November 1975 | February 1976 | May 1976 | August 1976 | February 1976 | August 1976 |
| Commodity and service groups | | | | | | | | | | |
| All items | - | - | - | - | 6.8 | 4.4 | 4.9 | 6.0 | 5.6 | 5.5 |
| Commodities | 164.3 | 164.9 | 165.6 | 166.4 | 5.4 | 1.2 | 4.0 | 5.2 | 3.3 | 4.6 |
| Food | 180.6 | 181.0 | 181.2 | 181.8 | 7.2 | -2.6 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.2 | 2.7 |
| Food at home | 179.5 | 179.8 | 179.8 | 180.3 | 7.1 | -5.6 | 2.0 | 1.8 | .6 | 1.9 |
| Cereals and bakery products | 179.9 | 182.2 | 182.5 | 183.0 | -7.7 | -4.3 | .4 | 7.1 | -6.1 | 3.7 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish | 184.1 | 184.0 | 181.1 | 178.5 | 14.0 | -19.0 | 2.9 | -11.6 | -3.9 | -4.6 |
| Dairy products | 166.7 | 168.4 | 170.2 | 171.7 | 14.5 | 11.3 | 0 | 12.5 | 12.9 | 6.1 |
| Fruits and vegetables | 172.9 | 168.0 | 168.2 | 173.3 | 3.3 | -.2 | -3.0 | .9 | 1.5 | -1.0 |
| Other foods at home | 186.9 | 189.6 | 192.3 | 193.3 | 4.7 | 2.4 | 6.9 | 14.4 | 3.6 | 10.6 |
| Food away from home | 185.0 | 186.0 | 187.1 | 187.8 | 7.7 | 8.8 | 5.8 | 6.2 | 8.3 | 6.0 |
| Commodities less food | 155.3 | 156.0 | 156.9 | 157.9 | 4.0 | 3.5 | 4.8 | 6.9 | 3.8 | 5.8 |
| Nondurables less food | 156.6 | 157.4 | 158.4 | 159.6 | 3.7 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 7.9 | 3.0 | 5.1 |
| Apparel commodities | 144.6 | 145.0 | 145.8 | 147.4 | .3 | 3.4 | 2.8 | 8.0 | 1.8 | 5.4 |
| Men's and boys' | 146.3 | 146.0 | 146.9 | 148.2 | 4.6 | 6.3 | 1.9 | 5.3 | 5.4 | 3.6 |
| Women's and girls' | 140.6 | 141.5 | 142.2 | 144.4 | -4.5 | 1.4 | 2.6 | 11.3 | -1.6 | 6.8 |
| Footwear | 149.0 | 149.6 | 150.4 | 151.3 | 4.2 | 3.1 | 6.4 | 6.3 | 3.6 | 6.4 |
| Other apparel commodities | 151.7 | 152.2 | 152.4 | 153.5 | -.3 | 3.8 | 2.4 | 4.8 | 1.7 | 3.6 |
| Nondurables less food and apparel | 163.7 | 164.8 | 165.9 | 166.9 | 5.6 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 8.1 | 3.7 | 5.0 |
| Gasoline and motor oil | 170.5 | 174.0 | 176.6 | 179.2 | 7.2 | -12.3 | -7.0 | 22.0 | -3.0 | 6.6 |
| Tobacco products | 160.6 | 160.0 | 159.8 | 159.9 | 2.9 | 12.4 | 2.8 | -1.7 | 7.5 | .5 |
| Alcoholic beverages | 146.9 | 147.1 | 147.9 | 147.5 | 1.7 | 2.8 | 7.4 | 1.6 | 2.3 | 4.5 |
| Fuel oil and coal | 244.2 | 247.8 | 251.1 | 255.7 | 10.8 | -8.6 | 2.7 | 20.2 | .7 | 11.1 |
| Other nondurables | 159.4 | 159.8 | 160.4 | 161.1 | 6.2 | 8.0 | 5.2 | 4.3 | 7.1 | 4.8 |
| Durable commodities | 153.6 | 154.1 | 155.0 | 155.7 | 4.1 | 5.8 | 8.2 | 5.6 | 5.0 | 6.9 |
| Household durables | 145.7 | 145.8 | 146.2 | 146.0 | 5.5 | 5.7 | 2.8 | .8 | 5.6 | 1.8 |
| New automobiles | 134.8 | 134.6 | 134.7 | 135.3 | 9.1 | 10.5 | 3.0 | 1.5 | 9.8 | 2.3 |
| Used automobiles | 168.5 | 169.7 | 171.5 | 173.9 | -2.9 | 11.1 | 43.0 | 13.4 | 3.9 | 27.3 |
| Other durables ¹ | 160.4 | 161.2 | 162.3 | 163.2 | 4.7 | 2.8 | 4.4 | 7.2 | 3.8 | 5.8 |
| Services | 178.8 | 179.9 | 181.0 | 182.0 | 10.2 | 10.4 | 6.5 | 7.4 | 10.3 | 6.9 |
| Rent | 143.8 | 144.4 | 145.1 | 145.6 | 5.9 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 5.1 | 5.7 | 5.1 |
| Services less rent | 185.1 | 186.3 | 187.5 | 188.5 | 10.6 | 11.3 | 6.8 | 7.6 | 10.9 | 7.2 |
| Household services less rent | 196.9 | 198.3 | 199.3 | 200.5 | 8.4 | 9.6 | 5.7 | 7.5 | 9.0 | 6.6 |
| Transportation services | 172.5 | 173.2 | 174.7 | 175.5 | 29.4 | 18.2 | 8.8 | 7.1 | 23.6 | 8.0 |
| Medical care services | 194.8 | 195.8 | 197.9 | 199.0 | 6.5 | 13.9 | 9.6 | 8.9 | 10.2 | 9.2 |
| Other services | 159.7 | 160.5 | 161.4 | 162.3 | 5.9 | 6.9 | 5.4 | 6.7 | 6.4 | 6.1 |
| Special indexes: | | | | | | | | | | |
| All items less food ¹ | 166.0 | 167.0 | 167.9 | 168.9 | 8.3 | 4.8 | 6.5 | 7.2 | 6.5 | 6.8 |
| Nondurable commodities ¹ | 168.2 | 169.0 | 169.7 | 170.4 | 4.7 | .2 | 2.4 | 5.3 | 2.4 | 3.9 |
| Apparel commodities less footwear | 143.8 | 144.1 | 145.0 | 146.7 | -.8 | 3.1 | 2.8 | 8.3 | 1.1 | 5.5 |
| Services less medical care services ¹ | 175.8 | 176.9 | 178.0 | 179.0 | 12.4 | 9.2 | 4.7 | 7.5 | 10.8 | 6.1 |
| Insurance and finance | 195.9 | 196.5 | 198.0 | 198.9 | 12.2 | 14.0 | 6.4 | 6.3 | 13.1 | 6.3 |
| Utilities and public transportation | 169.8 | 171.6 | 172.6 | 173.8 | 19.6 | 3.7 | 8.4 | 9.8 | 11.3 | 9.1 |
| Housekeeping and home maintenance service ¹ | 208.1 | 209.7 | 211.1 | 212.1 | 8.0 | 11.3 | 8.5 | 7.9 | 9.7 | 8.2 |
| Appliances (including radio and TV) ¹ | 123.4 | 123.5 | 123.7 | 123.7 | 5.1 | 4.7 | 5.4 | 1.0 | 4.9 | 3.1 |
| Expenditure classes | | | | | | | | | | |
| All items | - | - | - | - | 6.8 | 4.4 | 4.9 | 6.0 | 5.6 | 5.5 |
| Food | 180.6 | 181.0 | 181.2 | 181.8 | 7.2 | -2.6 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.2 | 2.7 |
| Housing | 175.6 | 176.5 | 177.5 | 178.4 | 8.9 | 6.0 | 4.2 | 6.5 | 7.4 | 5.4 |
| Shelter ² | 177.3 | 178.2 | 179.5 | 180.6 | 8.2 | 4.4 | 3.0 | 7.7 | 6.3 | 5.3 |
| Rent | 143.8 | 144.4 | 145.1 | 145.6 | 5.9 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 5.1 | 5.7 | 5.1 |
| Homeownership ³ | 189.6 | 190.7 | 192.2 | 193.4 | 9.0 | 3.9 | 2.1 | 8.3 | 6.4 | 5.2 |
| Fuel and utilities ⁴ | 179.3 | 181.7 | 183.4 | 185.0 | 12.3 | 2.3 | 7.5 | 13.3 | 7.2 | 10.4 |
| Gas and electricity | 184.8 | 187.7 | 190.4 | 191.4 | 13.4 | 6.5 | 9.9 | 15.1 | 9.9 | 12.4 |
| Household furnishings and operation | 167.7 | 168.2 | 168.9 | 169.1 | 6.2 | 12.5 | 4.2 | 3.4 | 9.3 | 3.8 |
| Apparel and upkeep | 146.5 | 146.9 | 147.8 | 149.1 | .6 | 4.0 | 4.2 | 7.3 | 2.2 | 5.7 |
| Transportation | 163.2 | 164.6 | 166.1 | 167.5 | 12.9 | 7.0 | 8.0 | 11.0 | 9.9 | 9.5 |
| Private | 162.0 | 163.7 | 165.1 | 166.8 | 9.8 | 7.4 | 8.0 | 12.4 | 8.6 | 10.2 |
| Public | 173.6 | 173.6 | 174.7 | 174.6 | 43.0 | .9 | 9.0 | 2.3 | 20.1 | 5.6 |
| Health and recreation ¹ | 162.1 | 162.8 | 163.7 | 164.4 | 5.0 | 8.4 | 6.1 | 5.8 | 6.7 | 6.0 |
| Medical care ¹ | 182.6 | 183.7 | 185.5 | 186.8 | 5.7 | 13.3 | 8.8 | 9.5 | 9.5 | 9.1 |
| Personal care ¹ | 158.9 | 159.8 | 160.5 | 161.6 | 5.9 | 9.2 | 4.9 | 7.0 | 7.5 | 5.9 |
| Reading and recreation | 150.1 | 150.7 | 151.0 | 151.7 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 3.5 | 4.3 | 5.3 | 3.9 |
| Other goods and services | 153.2 | 153.4 | 153.4 | 153.5 | 3.0 | 7.2 | 4.6 | .8 | 5.1 | 2.7 |
| Special indexes: | | | | | | | | | | |
| All items less shelter ¹ | 167.1 | 168.1 | 169.0 | 169.7 | 6.6 | 3.7 | 5.4 | 6.4 | 5.2 | 5.9 |
| All items less medical care ¹ | 168.4 | 169.4 | 170.3 | 171.1 | 7.1 | 3.2 | 4.6 | 6.6 | 5.1 | 5.6 |
| All items less mortgage interest costs ¹ | 167.1 | 168.1 | 169.0 | 169.8 | 6.6 | 4.0 | 5.4 | 6.6 | 5.3 | 6.0 |
| CPI—domestically produced farm foods ⁵ | 175.2 | 175.9 | 176.8 | 176.5 | .5 | -2.0 | -3.8 | 3.0 | -.8 | -.5 |
| CPI—selected beef cuts ⁶ | 168.5 | 167.6 | 168.1 | 164.1 | -15.3 | -15.7 | -2.1 | -10.0 | -15.5 | -6.2 |

¹ Not seasonally adjusted.

² Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

³ Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.

⁴ Also includes residential telephone, fuel oil, coal, water, and sewerage services not shown separately.

⁵ Calculated from the CPI food at home component by excluding fish, nonalcoholic

beverages, bananas, chocolate candy bars, chocolate syrup, and about half of the index weight for sugar.

⁶ Calculated from the CPI beef and veal component by excluding veal cutlets and beef liver.

r= revised.

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

Table 3. CPI—food items, U.S. city average

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1967=100)

| Item and group | Index | | Percent change to August 1976 from— | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|--|------------------|------------------------|
| | August 1976 | | August 1975 | July 1976 | |
| | Unadjusted | Seasonally adjusted | Unadjusted | Unadjusted | Seasonally adjusted |
| Food | 182.4 | 181.8 | 2.4 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Food away from home | 187.8 | 187.8 | 7.1 | .5 | .4 |
| Restaurant meals | 186.7 | (¹) | 7.2 | .5 | (¹) |
| Snacks | 193.1 | 192.9 | 6.6 | .5 | .4 |
| Food at home | 181.0 | 180.3 | 1.1 | .1 | .3 |
| Cereals and bakery products | 180.3 | 183.0 | -1.3 | -.3 | .3 |
| Flour | 155.1 | 160.1 | -1.4 | -.1 | .3 |
| Cracker meal | 223.4 | 225.2 | -5.1 | -.2 | .6 |
| Corn flakes | 165.0 | 166.7 | -.8 | 0 | .7 |
| Rice | 198.5 | 207.2 | -9.0 | -.4 | .7 |
| Bread, white | 162.8 | (¹) | .6 | -.1 | (¹) |
| Bread, whole wheat | 178.2 | 179.8 | 2.4 | -.1 | -.3 |
| Cookies | 187.9 | (¹) | 1.6 | -1.8 | (¹) |
| Layer cake | 183.1 | 185.3 | -3.5 | -.9 | -.4 |
| Cinnamon rolls | 196.6 | 200.6 | .7 | .1 | .9 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish | 181.5 | 178.5 | -4.3 | -1.4 | -1.4 |
| Meats | 180.1 | 176.7 | -5.4 | -1.5 | -1.9 |
| Beef and veal | 163.3 | 158.7 | -10.5 | -2.2 | -3.6 |
| Steak, round | 159.4 | 154.2 | -13.4 | -3.1 | -7.0 |
| Steak, sirloin | 164.3 | 156.3 | -13.0 | -2.7 | -4.3 |
| Steak, porterhouse | 177.5 | 169.9 | -10.4 | -3.4 | -4.3 |
| Rump roast | 154.0 | 149.7 | -14.3 | -3.9 | -7.0 |
| Rib roast | 186.7 | 181.4 | -11.7 | -1.5 | -3.6 |
| Chuck roast | 161.7 | 154.6 | -15.9 | -4.2 | -9.3 |
| Hamburger | 162.1 | 158.6 | -5.6 | -.5 | -1.7 |
| Beef liver | 126.8 | 127.3 | -13.1 | -.4 | -.9 |
| Veal cutlets | 187.7 | 185.7 | -3.2 | -1.0 | -.6 |
| Pork | 206.0 | 201.0 | -3.9 | -1.3 | -4.0 |
| Chops | 189.7 | 182.9 | -5.9 | -1.5 | -1.4 |
| Loin roast | 205.5 | 197.4 | -4.9 | -1.2 | -2.6 |
| Sausage | 232.8 | 226.2 | -2.5 | -.2 | -4.9 |
| Ham, whole | 199.3 | 201.5 | -6.2 | -1.3 | -3.8 |
| Picnics | 188.6 | 184.0 | -5.4 | -4.1 | -8.7 |
| Bacon | 222.7 | 216.4 | -5.6 | -.6 | -5.1 |
| Other meats | 181.0 | 179.0 | 3.7 | -.5 | -2.4 |
| Lamb chops | 194.1 | 191.0 | 8.3 | -1.2 | -.6 |
| Frankfurters | 167.5 | 163.6 | -5.4 | -.8 | -3.8 |
| Ham, canned | 204.2 | 208.4 | 15.8 | -.1 | -2.0 |
| Bologna sausage | 178.7 | 176.4 | -.1 | -1.2 | -3.1 |
| Salami sausage | 171.0 | 169.1 | 3.4 | .1 | -1.5 |
| Liverwurst | 169.1 | 166.8 | -.5 | .2 | -2.0 |
| Poultry | 158.2 | 153.0 | -9.2 | -2.3 | -2.9 |
| Frying chicken | 160.4 | 153.6 | -11.4 | -3.0 | -3.2 |
| Chicken breasts | 164.3 | 158.3 | -4.0 | -1.6 | -2.3 |
| Turkey | 142.1 | 142.2 | -2.8 | .7 | -2.3 |
| Fish | 229.3 | (¹) | 11.8 | .6 | (¹) |
| Shrimp, frozen | 223.3 | (¹) | 20.3 | -1.0 | (¹) |
| Fish, fresh or frozen | 256.3 | (¹) | 16.3 | 2.0 | (¹) |
| Tuna fish, canned | 188.4 | 189.5 | 9.4 | 1.1 | 2.0 |
| Sardines, canned | 248.4 | 250.4 | 3.2 | .4 | .4 |
| Dairy products | 169.0 | 171.7 | 9.5 | .6 | .9 |
| Milk, fresh, grocery | 159.3 | 162.6 | 6.5 | .1 | .7 |
| Milk, fresh, skim | 174.7 | 177.5 | 5.8 | -.3 | .2 |
| Milk, evaporated | 204.6 | (¹) | 12.5 | 0 | (¹) |
| Ice cream | 157.6 | 159.5 | 5.1 | .8 | 1.1 |
| Cheese, American process | 197.9 | 201.5 | 13.0 | .4 | 1.2 |
| Butter | 161.7 | 164.5 | 30.9 | 5.9 | 4.6 |
| Fruits and vegetables | 178.3 | 173.3 | .2 | .6 | 3.0 |
| Fresh fruits and vegetables | 176.6 | 166.6 | -1.9 | .9 | 5.6 |
| Fresh fruits | 177.1 | 163.5 | -1.1 | 4.6 | 6.2 |
| Apples | 178.6 | 153.0 | -15.4 | 7.4 | 9.4 |
| Bananas | 153.1 | 150.4 | 3.2 | -.7 | 3.3 |
| Oranges | 162.8 | 154.8 | -.7 | 5.4 | .9 |
| Orange juice, fresh | 156.5 | (¹) | 5.9 | .8 | (¹) |
| Grapefruit | 183.1 | 149.3 | -11.5 | 5.7 | -6.5 |
| Grapes | 246.2 | 248.9 | 25.4 | 9.4 | 33.1 |
| Strawberries | (²) | (²) | (²) | (²) | (²) |
| Watermelon | 172.5 | 204.6 | 8.6 | -2.8 | 10.7 |
| Fresh vegetables | 176.5 | 171.9 | -2.5 | -1.8 | 7.0 |
| Potatoes | 201.2 | 170.1 | -17.9 | -9.4 | -5.0 |
| Onions | 171.8 | 158.6 | -38.5 | 1.5 | 3.9 |
| Asparagus | (²) | (²) | (²) | (²) | (²) |
| Cabbage | 135.8 | 141.0 | -1.8 | -.5 | 6.5 |
| Carrots | 165.3 | 158.3 | 1.5 | -2.8 | -2.5 |
| Celery | 177.6 | 175.1 | 9.0 | -.9 | 8.2 |
| Cucumbers | 131.6 | 161.7 | 10.7 | -10.4 | 9.7 |
| Lettuce | 206.8 | (¹) | 43.2 | 36.8 | (¹) |
| Peppers, green | 140.8 | 168.2 | 4.8 | -.5 | 31.6 |
| Spinach | 202.2 | 199.6 | 7.2 | 2.8 | 4.2 |
| Tomatoes | 131.5 | 154.5 | -3.5 | -25.4 | -1.7 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. CPI—food items, U.S. city average—Continued

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1967=100)

| Item and group | Index | | Percent change to August 1976 from— | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|--|------------|------------------------|
| | August 1976 | | August 1975 | July 1976 | |
| | Unadjusted | Seasonally adjusted | Unadjusted | Unadjusted | Seasonally adjusted |
| Food—Continued | | | | | |
| Food at home—Continued | | | | | |
| Fruits and vegetables—Continued | | | | | |
| Processed fruits and vegetables | 180.7 | 185.2 | 3.4 | -.1 | .3 |
| Fruit cocktail, canned | 177.9 | 178.8 | .3 | .7 | .4 |
| Pears, canned | 157.0 | 157.8 | -3.7 | .3 | -.3 |
| Pineapple-grapefruit drink, canned | 175.5 | 175.7 | .3 | .5 | -.3 |
| Orange juice concentrate, frozen | 155.9 | (¹) | 1.8 | -2.1 | (¹) |
| Lemonade concentrate, frozen | 177.8 | 180.3 | -4.2 | .1 | -.3 |
| Beets, canned | 183.4 | (¹) | -2.3 | .5 | (¹) |
| Peas, green canned | 159.0 | 160.1 | -1.7 | 1.5 | 1.7 |
| Tomatoes, canned | 176.9 | (¹) | -.3 | -.3 | (¹) |
| Dried beans | 266.9 | (¹) | 31.4 | -2.2 | (¹) |
| Broccoli, frozen | 158.7 | (¹) | 3.7 | .3 | (¹) |
| Other food at home | 192.1 | 193.3 | 7.0 | 1.9 | .5 |
| Eggs | 175.7 | 180.8 | 16.3 | 7.1 | -.6 |
| Fats and oils | 169.2 | 172.1 | -10.6 | -.3 | -1.2 |
| Margarine | 181.5 | 186.7 | -13.1 | -.7 | -1.1 |
| Salad dressing, Italian | 151.0 | 153.0 | -2.1 | -.2 | .1 |
| Salad or cooking oil | 175.8 | 179.2 | -14.2 | -.2 | -1.1 |
| Sugar and sweets | 218.0 | (¹) | -7.6 | 0 | (¹) |
| Sugar | 207.8 | (¹) | 18.9 | 1.0 | (¹) |
| Grape jelly | 218.8 | (¹) | -6.7 | -.4 | (¹) |
| Chocolate bar | 230.5 | (¹) | -4.3 | -.1 | (¹) |
| Syrup, chocolate flavored | 213.1 | 219.9 | -.8 | -.1 | .7 |
| Nonalcoholic beverages | 223.2 | (¹) | 27.5 | 3.2 | (¹) |
| Coffee | 262.4 | (¹) | 58.0 | 5.3 | (¹) |
| Coffee, instant | 238.1 | 238.1 | 37.3 | 3.8 | 4.3 |
| Tea | 150.1 | 149.8 | -.3 | .2 | 0 |
| Carbonated drink, cola flavored | 193.9 | (¹) | -1.6 | -.1 | (¹) |
| Carbonated drink, fruit flavored | 199.2 | (¹) | -.6 | .4 | (¹) |
| Prepared and partially prepared foods | 169.6 | (¹) | 4.8 | .4 | (¹) |
| Bean soup, canned | 209.5 | (¹) | 18.1 | .1 | (¹) |
| Chicken soup, canned | 136.6 | 137.1 | 1.1 | .4 | .5 |
| Spaghetti, canned | 164.1 | 163.9 | .6 | 0 | -.2 |
| Mashed potatoes, instant | 158.3 | 157.8 | 1.5 | .1 | 0 |
| Potatoes, french fried, frozen | 181.4 | 180.1 | 8.9 | 1.0 | .3 |
| Baby foods | 170.8 | (¹) | 5.8 | .9 | (¹) |
| Sweet pickle relish | 176.1 | 178.8 | 2.9 | .7 | .6 |
| Pretzels | 159.8 | 159.5 | -1.5 | -.6 | -.7 |

¹ Not available.² Priced only in season.

Table 4. CPI—nonfood commodities and services, U.S. city average

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1967=100)

| Item and group | Other index base | Indexes | | Percent change to August 1976 from— | |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| | | July 1976 | August 1976 | August 1975 | July 1976 |
| Housing | | 177.5 | 178.4 | 6.4 | 0.5 |
| Shelter ¹ | | 179.5 | 180.6 | 5.8 | .6 |
| Rent, residential | | 145.0 | 145.6 | 5.5 | .4 |
| Homeownership ² | | 192.2 | 193.4 | 5.8 | .6 |
| Mortgage interest rates | | 140.1 | 140.3 | -.1 | .1 |
| Property taxes | | 167.0 | 167.5 | 5.4 | .3 |
| Property insurance premium | | 145.5 | 147.7 | 11.3 | 1.5 |
| Maintenance and repairs | | 200.6 | 201.5 | 6.9 | .4 |
| Maintenance and repair commodities ³ | | 169.4 | 169.7 | 4.8 | .2 |
| Exterior house paint | | 161.4 | 163.6 | 6.2 | 1.4 |
| Interior house paint | | 152.5 | 153.6 | 3.6 | .7 |
| Maintenance and repair services | | 214.1 | 215.3 | 7.7 | .6 |
| Repainting living and dining rooms | | 226.0 | 228.0 | 7.6 | .9 |
| Reshingling house roof | | 234.5 | 235.9 | 7.3 | .6 |
| Residing house | | 201.9 | 202.6 | 7.9 | .3 |
| Replacing sink | | 210.4 | 211.7 | 7.9 | .6 |
| Repairing furnace | | 208.3 | 209.3 | 7.4 | .5 |
| Fuel and utilities | | 182.5 | 183.7 | 8.8 | .7 |
| Fuel oil and coal | | 248.1 | 249.3 | 5.8 | .5 |
| Fuel oil, No. 2 | | 244.3 | 245.8 | 6.3 | .6 |
| Gas and electricity | | 189.6 | 190.3 | 11.2 | .4 |
| Gas | | 199.7 | 200.7 | 15.7 | .5 |
| Electricity | | 180.2 | 180.6 | 6.7 | .2 |
| Other utilities: | | | | | |
| Residential telephone services | | 129.3 | 130.9 | 3.8 | 1.2 |
| Residential water and sewerage services | | 187.5 | 190.5 | 11.9 | 1.6 |
| Household furnishings and operation ⁴ | | 168.9 | 169.1 | 6.5 | .1 |
| Housefurnishings | | 150.9 | 150.8 | 4.3 | -.1 |
| Textiles | | 146.8 | 146.8 | 5.9 | 0 |
| Sheets, full, flat | | 145.2 | 143.0 | 3.1 | -1.5 |
| Curtains, tailored | | 143.9 | 144.9 | 8.9 | .7 |
| Bedsprings | | 149.9 | 146.5 | 3.8 | -2.3 |
| Drapery fabrics | | 179.3 | 181.8 | 8.0 | 1.4 |
| Pillows, bed | | 123.3 | 125.5 | 8.5 | 1.8 |
| Slipcovers and throws, ready-made | | 138.0 | 138.1 | 3.2 | .1 |
| Furniture and bedding | | 152.9 | 152.0 | 2.8 | -.6 |
| Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser | Mar. 70 | 133.6 | 133.5 | 4.4 | -.1 |
| Sofas, upholstered | | 142.9 | 141.8 | 2.0 | -.8 |
| Cocktail tables | Dec. 71 | 130.8 | 130.0 | 5.4 | -.6 |
| Dining room chairs | Mar. 70 | 135.9 | 136.0 | 5.0 | .1 |
| Recliners, upholstered | Dec. 71 | 112.2 | 111.6 | .8 | -.5 |
| Sofas, dual purpose | | 139.3 | 139.7 | 2.3 | .3 |
| Bedding, mattress and box springs | June 70 | 134.7 | 135.3 | 3.3 | .4 |
| Aluminum folding chairs | | 178.2 | 169.3 | -3.6 | -5.0 |
| Cribs | | 155.2 | 154.7 | 3.9 | -.3 |
| Floor coverings | | 137.4 | 137.2 | 5.2 | -.1 |
| Broadloom carpeting | | 125.3 | 125.0 | 4.8 | -.2 |
| Vinyl sheet goods | | 165.1 | 165.6 | 7.5 | .3 |
| Vinyl floor tile | | 165.6 | 165.4 | 4.4 | -.1 |
| Appliances (excluding radio and TV) | | 135.6 | 136.0 | 5.8 | .3 |
| Washing machines, electric | | 141.7 | 141.8 | 7.3 | .1 |
| Vacuum cleaners | | 120.7 | 121.6 | 3.7 | .7 |
| Refrigerators, refrigerator-freezers, electric | | 134.5 | 135.8 | 5.4 | 1.0 |
| Ranges, free standing, gas or electric | | 139.3 | 139.2 | 6.7 | -.1 |
| Clothes dryers, electric | | 149.7 | 149.9 | 8.7 | .1 |
| Air conditioners, demountable | | 130.1 | 129.8 | 4.9 | -.2 |
| Room heaters, electric, portable | | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) |
| Garbage disposal units | | 134.7 | 135.0 | 4.3 | .2 |
| Other housefurnishings: | | | | | |
| Dinnerware, fine china | | 192.4 | 193.0 | 8.9 | .3 |
| Flatware, stainless steel | | 181.5 | 181.4 | 4.4 | -.1 |
| Table lamps, with shade | | 147.9 | 147.6 | 1.0 | -.2 |
| Lawn mowers, power, rotary type | | 166.1 | 163.9 | 7.0 | -1.3 |
| Electric drills, hand-held | | 128.2 | 126.9 | 1.8 | -1.0 |
| Housekeeping supplies: | | | | | |
| Laundry soaps and detergents | | 175.9 | 176.7 | 8.4 | .5 |
| Paper napkins | | 218.3 | 221.2 | 7.1 | 1.3 |
| Toilet tissue | | 231.6 | 233.4 | 9.8 | .8 |
| Housekeeping services: | | | | | |
| Domestic services, general housework | | 210.6 | 211.2 | 7.2 | .3 |
| Baby sitter services | | 216.8 | 217.2 | 12.5 | .2 |
| Postal charges | | 225.6 | 225.6 | 28.7 | 0 |
| Laundry, flatwork, finished service | | 204.3 | 205.9 | 9.2 | .8 |
| Licensed day care services, preschool child | | 162.9 | 163.7 | 5.9 | .5 |
| Washing machine repairs | | 200.2 | 201.2 | 6.9 | .5 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. CPI—nonfood commodities and services, U.S. city average—Continued

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1967=100)

| Item and group | Other index base | Indexes | | Percent change to August 1976 from— | |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| | | July 1976 | August 1976 | August 1975 | July 1976 |
| Apparel and upkeep * | | 146.5 | 148.1 | 4.1 | 1.1 |
| Apparel commodities | | 144.4 | 146.2 | 3.6 | 1.2 |
| Apparel commodities less footwear | | 143.4 | 145.2 | 3.3 | 1.3 |
| Men's and boys' | | 145.6 | 147.5 | 4.5 | 1.3 |
| Men's: | | | | | |
| Topcoats and all-weather coats | | 149.1 | 151.2 | 6.0 | 1.4 |
| Suits, year round weight | | 136.7 | 137.4 | -.4 | .5 |
| Sport jackets | June 74 | 92.4 | 96.8 | .2 | 4.8 |
| Jackets, lightweight | | 137.1 | 138.3 | 2.7 | .9 |
| Slacks, heavyweight | | 119.1 | 120.9 | 2.1 | 1.5 |
| Slacks, lightweight | | 143.6 | 145.6 | 2.6 | 1.4 |
| Trousers, work | | 162.5 | 162.6 | 7.7 | .1 |
| Shirts, work | | 160.9 | 161.6 | 6.9 | .4 |
| Shirts, business or dress | | 132.3 | 135.1 | 5.7 | 2.1 |
| T-shirts | | 159.3 | 159.7 | 3.8 | .3 |
| Socks | | 133.6 | 135.1 | 5.0 | 1.1 |
| Handkerchiefs | | 160.3 | 162.3 | 6.3 | 1.2 |
| Boys': | | | | | |
| Coats, heavyweight | | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) |
| Sport coats, wool or wool blends | | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) |
| Dungarees | | 191.6 | 193.3 | 11.0 | .9 |
| Undershorts | | 158.6 | 156.5 | 4.3 | -1.3 |
| Women's and girls' | | 140.2 | 142.2 | 2.5 | 1.4 |
| Women's: | | | | | |
| Coats, heavyweight | | (⁵) | 154.6 | 4.0 | (⁵) |
| Carcoats, heavyweight | | (⁵) | 163.6 | 10.0 | (⁵) |
| Sweaters | | (⁵) | 138.1 | (⁷) | (⁵) |
| Skirts, winter weight | | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) |
| Skirts, summer weight | | 138.1 | 143.9 | -2.0 | 4.2 |
| Blouses | | 137.6 | 143.0 | 3.2 | 3.9 |
| Dresses, street, year round weight | | 145.6 | 148.7 | 4.1 | 2.1 |
| Slips | | 124.6 | 124.3 | 5.9 | -.2 |
| Panties | | 151.5 | 151.8 | 8.0 | .2 |
| Girdles | | 133.1 | 134.1 | 3.9 | .8 |
| Brassieres | | 151.7 | 152.0 | 5.2 | .2 |
| Hose or panty hose, nylon | | 93.1 | 93.2 | .3 | .1 |
| Anklets or knee-length socks | | 134.9 | 133.8 | 3.4 | -.8 |
| Gloves, fabric | | 129.4 | 128.6 | .5 | -.6 |
| Handbags | | 170.0 | 167.9 | -.7 | -1.2 |
| Girls': | | | | | |
| Raincoats | | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) | (⁵) |
| Skirts, fall and winter | | 151.6 | 162.6 | 8.7 | 7.3 |
| Dresses | | 129.1 | 139.8 | 7.3 | 8.3 |
| Slacks, fall and winter | | 168.7 | 171.9 | 4.1 | 1.9 |
| Slips | | 133.6 | 137.7 | 7.6 | 3.1 |
| Handbags | | 137.2 | 141.5 | -.3 | 3.1 |
| Other apparel commodities | | 152.7 | 153.7 | 2.7 | .7 |
| Diapers | | 189.8 | 191.3 | 4.9 | .8 |
| Yard goods | | 159.1 | 160.2 | .4 | .7 |
| Wrist watches, men's and women's | | 139.7 | 141.4 | 3.1 | 1.2 |
| Footwear | | 149.6 | 151.0 | 4.9 | .9 |
| Men's: | | | | | |
| Shoes, street | | 156.9 | 157.8 | 7.1 | .6 |
| Shoes, work, high | | 171.8 | 172.5 | 8.7 | .4 |
| Women's: | | | | | |
| Shoes, street, pump | | 139.3 | 144.5 | 5.3 | 3.7 |
| Shoes, evening, pump | | 134.5 | 134.7 | 2.4 | .1 |
| Shoes, casual | | 150.3 | 152.1 | 4.2 | 1.2 |
| Houseslipppers, scuff | | 147.2 | 148.4 | 5.5 | .8 |
| Children's: | | | | | |
| Shoes, oxford | | 153.1 | 155.2 | 7.4 | 1.4 |
| Sneakers, boys', oxford type | | 149.5 | 148.1 | -.9 | -.9 |
| Dress shoes, girls' | | 159.0 | 158.5 | 3.4 | -.3 |
| Apparel services: | | | | | |
| Drycleaning | | 160.7 | 161.5 | 6.7 | .5 |
| Automatic laundry service | | 143.2 | 143.2 | 5.9 | 0 |
| Laundry, men's shirts | | 165.0 | 167.7 | 9.1 | 1.6 |
| Tailoring charges | | 163.1 | 163.4 | 6.7 | .2 |
| Shoe repairs | | 149.4 | 149.9 | 5.6 | .3 |
| Transportation | | 167.6 | 168.5 | 9.7 | .5 |
| Private * | | 166.8 | 167.8 | 9.4 | .6 |
| Automobiles, new | | 134.4 | 134.4 | 6.0 | 0 |
| Automobiles, used | | 177.5 | 179.6 | 15.1 | 1.2 |
| Gasoline, regular, premium, and unleaded | | 180.6 | 181.8 | 1.6 | .7 |
| Motor oil | | 159.8 | 160.2 | 2.4 | .3 |
| Tires | | 130.5 | 132.3 | 5.3 | 1.4 |
| Auto repairs (mechanical) and maintenance ⁹ | | 189.9 | 191.2 | 7.4 | .7 |
| Auto insurance premiums | | 189.4 | 190.7 | 31.2 | .7 |
| Auto registration fees | | 132.8 | 132.8 | 1.5 | 0 |
| Parking fees, private and municipal | | 183.2 | 185.0 | 6.6 | 1.0 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. CPI—nonfood commodities and services, U.S. city average—Continued

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1967=100)

| Item and group | Other index base | Indexes | | Percent change to August 1976 from— | |
|---|------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| | | July 1976 | August 1976 | August 1975 | July 1976 |
| Transportation—Continued | | | | | |
| Public | | 174.4 | 174.6 | 12.6 | 0.1 |
| Local transit fares | | 173.4 | 173.5 | 16.6 | .1 |
| Taxicab fares | | 176.8 | 177.7 | 5.7 | .5 |
| Railroad fares, coach | | 168.8 | 168.8 | 10.8 | 0 |
| Airplane fares, chiefly coach | | 173.4 | 173.4 | 7.2 | 0 |
| Bus fares, intercity | | 192.6 | 192.6 | 0 | 0 |
| Health and recreation | | 163.7 | 164.4 | 6.3 | .4 |
| Medical care ¹⁰ | | 185.5 | 186.8 | 9.3 | .7 |
| Drugs and prescriptions | | 126.4 | 126.9 | 6.0 | .4 |
| Over-the-counter items | | 139.2 | 139.9 | 6.5 | .5 |
| Multiple vitamin concentrates | | 105.6 | 106.6 | 3.6 | .9 |
| Aspirin compounds | | 138.6 | 139.5 | 4.6 | .6 |
| Liquid tonics | | 121.1 | 121.2 | 3.9 | .1 |
| Adhesive bandages, packages | | 184.3 | 185.1 | 10.1 | .4 |
| Cold tablets or capsules | | 131.3 | 131.5 | 5.2 | .2 |
| Cough syrup | | 145.8 | 147.2 | 9.0 | 1.0 |
| Prescriptions | | 115.7 | 116.0 | 5.5 | .3 |
| Anti-infectives | | 73.2 | 73.1 | 2.2 | -.1 |
| Sedative and hypnotics | | 164.3 | 165.0 | 6.7 | .4 |
| Ataractics | | 113.9 | 114.6 | 8.5 | .6 |
| Antispasmodics | | 136.5 | 137.4 | 8.2 | .7 |
| Cough preparations | | 183.7 | 184.6 | 11.3 | .5 |
| Cardiovasculars and antihypertensives | | 121.8 | 121.4 | 2.7 | -.3 |
| Analgesics, internal | | 121.2 | 121.1 | .8 | -.1 |
| Hormones | | 111.0 | 111.1 | 6.6 | .1 |
| Professional services: | | | | | |
| Physicians' fees | | 189.4 | 190.6 | 11.5 | .6 |
| General physician, office visits | | 194.5 | 196.2 | 12.0 | .9 |
| General physician, house visits | | 190.9 | 191.5 | 11.7 | .3 |
| Obstetrical cases | | 193.8 | 194.9 | 15.2 | .6 |
| Pediatric care, office visits | | 194.7 | 195.3 | 12.3 | .3 |
| Psychiatrist, office visits | | 163.5 | 164.2 | 6.5 | .4 |
| Herniorrhaphy, adult | | 170.3 | 171.9 | 12.1 | .9 |
| Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy | | 180.2 | 180.2 | 7.8 | 0 |
| Dentists' fees | | 172.0 | 173.5 | 6.1 | .9 |
| Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface | | 177.2 | 178.7 | 6.0 | .8 |
| Extractions, adult | | 171.1 | 173.0 | 6.8 | 1.1 |
| Dentures, full upper | | 162.4 | 163.3 | 5.4 | .6 |
| Other professional services: | | | | | |
| Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses | | 159.5 | 159.8 | 5.9 | .2 |
| Routine laboratory tests | | 162.0 | 163.4 | 6.4 | .9 |
| Hospital service charges | Jan. 72 | 149.7 | 151.0 | 12.4 | .9 |
| Semiprivate rooms | | 270.8 | 273.8 | 13.6 | 1.1 |
| Operating room charges | | 277.4 | 280.5 | 15.4 | 1.1 |
| X-ray, diagnostic series, upper GI | | 175.9 | 178.5 | 13.1 | 1.5 |
| Laboratory tests | Jan. 72 | 140.6 | 140.7 | 9.1 | .1 |
| Anti-infectives | Jan. 72 | 125.1 | 123.5 | 10.9 | -1.3 |
| Tranquilizers | Jan. 72 | 128.9 | 129.8 | 7.2 | .7 |
| Electrocardiogram | Jan. 72 | 137.4 | 137.8 | 8.9 | .3 |
| Intravenous solution | Jan. 72 | 144.6 | 146.0 | 13.7 | 1.0 |
| Physical therapy | Jan. 72 | 148.0 | 151.9 | 9.5 | 2.6 |
| Oxygen, inhalation therapy | Jan. 72 | 129.8 | 131.2 | 7.3 | 1.1 |
| Personal care | | 160.5 | 161.6 | 6.7 | .7 |
| Toilet goods | | 158.6 | 159.3 | 5.6 | .4 |
| Toothpaste, standard dentifrice | | 136.6 | 137.0 | 4.6 | .3 |
| Toilet soap, hard-milled | | 192.7 | 192.2 | -1.9 | -.3 |
| Hand lotions | | 162.7 | 164.9 | 6.7 | 1.4 |
| Shaving cream | | 135.6 | 137.4 | 9.9 | 1.3 |
| Face powder | | 168.7 | 170.8 | 12.4 | 1.2 |
| Deodorants | | 120.0 | 121.0 | 2.5 | .8 |
| Cleansing tissues | | 217.4 | 215.4 | 6.6 | -.9 |
| Home permanent wave kits | | 129.4 | 129.9 | 7.9 | .4 |
| Personal care services | | 162.4 | 164.0 | 8.0 | 1.0 |
| Men's haircuts | | 163.3 | 164.4 | 6.6 | .7 |
| Beauty shop services | | 161.9 | 163.9 | 9.0 | 1.2 |
| Women's haircuts | | 186.0 | 191.0 | 15.9 | 2.7 |
| Shampoo and wave sets, plain | | 162.9 | 163.8 | 7.1 | .6 |
| Permanent waves, cold | | 135.5 | 136.5 | 5.0 | .7 |
| Reading and recreation ¹¹ | | 151.2 | 151.4 | 4.6 | .1 |
| Recreational goods | | 127.6 | 127.8 | 3.1 | .2 |
| TV sets, portable and console | | 102.7 | 102.6 | .9 | -.1 |
| TV replacement tubes | | 166.7 | 166.7 | 5.4 | 0 |
| Radios, portable and table models | | 105.7 | 105.3 | 1.1 | -.4 |
| Tape recorders, portable | | 96.1 | 96.2 | 1.1 | .1 |
| Phonograph records, stereophonic | | 122.8 | 123.6 | .7 | .7 |
| Movie cameras, 8mm | | 95.8 | 95.4 | 1.2 | -.4 |
| Film, 35mm, color | | 126.9 | 126.9 | 6.8 | 0 |
| Golf balls | | 103.8 | 103.5 | -.9 | -.3 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. CPI—nonfood commodities and services, U.S. city average—Continued

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1967=100)

| Item and group | Other index base | Indexes | | Percent change to August 1976 from— | |
|--|------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| | | July 1976 | August 1976 | August 1975 | July 1976 |
| Health and recreation—Continued | | | | | |
| Reading and recreation—Continued | | | | | |
| Recreational goods—Continued | | | | | |
| Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover | | 148.1 | 148.3 | 2.3 | 0.1 |
| Fishing rods, fresh-water spincasting | | 123.8 | 123.9 | 1.8 | .1 |
| Bowling balls | | 130.1 | 131.0 | 3.2 | .7 |
| Bicycles, boys' | | 145.6 | 146.4 | 1.4 | .5 |
| Tricycles | | 151.0 | 151.5 | 8.1 | .3 |
| Dog food, canned or boxed | | 169.7 | 169.9 | .8 | .1 |
| Recreational services | | 156.0 | 156.5 | 4.9 | .3 |
| Indoor movie admissions | | 179.4 | 179.6 | 4.1 | .1 |
| Adult | | 173.1 | 173.6 | 3.6 | .3 |
| Children's | | 197.1 | 196.7 | 5.4 | -.2 |
| Drive-in movie admissions | | 180.4 | 182.7 | 5.2 | 1.3 |
| Bowling fees, evening | | 145.3 | 145.5 | 6.0 | .1 |
| Golf green fees | | 167.2 | 167.4 | 8.9 | .1 |
| TV repair | | 106.3 | 106.6 | 1.2 | .3 |
| Film developing | | 124.1 | 124.0 | 2.2 | -.1 |
| Reading and education: | | | | | |
| Newspapers, street sale and delivery | | 182.3 | 182.5 | 4.0 | .1 |
| Magazines, single copy and subscription | | 188.0 | 188.0 | 10.3 | 0 |
| Piano lessons, beginner | | 145.2 | 145.7 | 4.4 | .3 |
| Other goods and services | | 153.6 | 153.8 | 3.8 | .1 |
| Tobacco products | | 160.4 | 160.5 | 4.0 | .1 |
| Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size | | 162.5 | 162.7 | 4.0 | .1 |
| Cigarettes, filter tip, king size | | 163.2 | 163.2 | 3.9 | 0 |
| Cigars, domestic, regular size | | 129.9 | 130.1 | 4.4 | .2 |
| Alcoholic beverages | | 147.5 | 147.6 | 3.4 | .1 |
| Beer, at home | | 144.6 | 144.2 | 2.6 | -.3 |
| Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon | | 116.2 | 116.2 | 1.2 | 0 |
| Wine, dessert and table | | 157.7 | 157.9 | 1.9 | .1 |
| Beer, away from home | | 166.3 | 167.1 | 5.6 | .5 |
| Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses: | | | | | |
| Funeral services, adult | | 149.9 | 150.4 | 4.2 | .3 |
| Bank service charges, checking account | | 127.2 | 128.9 | 6.4 | 1.3 |
| Legal services, short form will | | 201.2 | 201.0 | 6.5 | -.1 |

¹ Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

² Also includes home purchase costs not shown separately.

³ Also includes pine shelving, furnace filter, packaged dry cement mix, and shrubbery not shown separately.

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

⁵ Priced only in season.

⁶ 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.

⁷ Not available.

⁸ Also includes storage batteries and drivers' license fees not shown separately.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ Also includes health insurance not shown separately.

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

Table 5. CPI—selected areas, all items index

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers)

| Area ¹ | Pricing schedule ² | Indexes | | | Percent change from: | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|-----------|
| | | 1967=100 | 1957-59=100 | Other bases | | | |
| | | August 1976 | | | August 1975 | May 1976 | July 1976 |
| U.S. city average | M | 171.9 | 200.0 | | 5.6 | 1.6 | 0.5 |
| Chicago | M | 166.7 | 189.4 | | 4.8 | 1.8 | .6 |
| Detroit | M | 169.7 | 195.0 | | 5.2 | 1.4 | .3 |
| Los Angeles—Long Beach | M | 169.7 | 199.6 | | 6.9 | 2.0 | .5 |
| N.Y.—Northeastern N.J. | M | 177.6 | 211.3 | | 6.0 | 1.5 | .5 |
| Philadelphia | M | 173.1 | 202.1 | | 4.5 | 1.2 | .2 |
| | | July 1976 | | | July 1975 | April 1976 | |
| Boston | 1 | 175.3 | 210.0 | | 7.5 | 1.6 | |
| Houston | 1 | 177.4 | 202.9 | | 6.9 | 1.9 | |
| Minneapolis—St. Paul | 1 | 171.6 | 198.9 | | 6.0 | 1.7 | |
| Pittsburgh | 1 | 168.5 | 193.8 | | 4.2 | 1.1 | |
| | | August 1976 | | | August 1975 | May 1976 | |
| Buffalo | 2 | 172.0 | | ³ 189.1 | 5.2 | 1.7 | |
| Cleveland | 2 | 170.6 | 192.6 | | 5.0 | 2.2 | |
| Dallas | 2 | 169.0 | | ³ 182.7 | 5.2 | 1.7 | |
| Milwaukee | 2 | 169.1 | 190.9 | | 6.2 | 1.9 | |
| San Diego | 2 | 172.1 | | ⁴ 180.9 | 5.9 | 1.7 | |
| Seattle | 2 | 165.7 | 194.7 | | 5.3 | 1.9 | |
| Washington | 2 | 173.0 | 201.6 | | 5.9 | 1.8 | |
| | | June 1976 | | | June 1975 | March 1976 | |
| Atlanta | 3 | 168.5 | 193.8 | | 4.7 | 1.1 | |
| Baltimore | 3 | 173.7 | 201.7 | | 5.5 | 1.9 | |
| Cincinnati | 3 | 169.9 | 192.8 | | 5.8 | 1.7 | |
| Honolulu | 3 | 162.3 | | ⁵ 174.9 | 5.2 | .7 | |
| Kansas City | 3 | 165.9 | 196.9 | | 5.5 | 1.5 | |
| St. Louis | 3 | 165.2 | 193.0 | | 5.4 | 1.5 | |
| San Francisco—Oakland | 3 | 166.9 | 198.6 | | 5.2 | .8 | |

¹ 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 1960 Census and exclude revisions made since 1960.

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

M — Every month.

1 — January, April, July, and October.

2 — February, May, August, and November.

3 — March, June, September, and December.

³ November 1963=100.

⁴ February 1965=100.

⁵ December 1963=100.

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

Table 6. CPI—areas ¹ priced monthly, by expenditure class, percent change from July 1976 to August 1976

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1967=100)

| Expenditure class | U.S. city average | Chicago | Detroit | Los Angeles—Long Beach | New York—Northeastern New Jersey | Philadelphia |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| All items | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.2 |
| Food | .2 | .3 | -.4 | 0 | -.1 | .1 |
| Housing | .5 | .6 | .8 | .6 | .2 | .1 |
| Apparel and upkeep | 1.1 | 1.8 | 1.1 | 2.0 | 3.5 | .9 |
| Transportation | .5 | .9 | .3 | .8 | .4 | .4 |
| Health and recreation | .4 | .2 | .2 | .2 | .6 | .1 |
| Medical care | .7 | .5 | .3 | .9 | .7 | .1 |
| Personal care | .7 | (²) | (²) | (²) | (²) | (²) |
| Reading and recreation | .1 | 0 | -.3 | -.4 | .3 | -.1 |
| Other goods and services | .1 | -.1 | -.2 | 0 | -.1 | .1 |

¹ See footnote 1, table 5.

² Not available.

Table 7. CPI—selected areas, by expenditure class

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers)

| Expenditure class | U.S. city average | Chicago | Detroit | Los Angeles— Long Beach | New York— Northeastern New Jersey | Philadelphia |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------------|---|------------------|
| Indexes, August 1976 | | | | | | |
| All items | 171.9 | 166.7 | 169.7 | 169.7 | 177.6 | 173.1 |
| Food | 182.4 | 182.4 | 176.2 | 174.9 | 186.6 | 186.8 |
| Food at home | 181.0 | 181.7 | 173.5 | 173.9 | 186.9 | 184.0 |
| Cereals and bakery products | 180.3 | 180.7 | 184.5 | 178.4 | 183.3 | 181.7 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish | 181.5 | 183.3 | 174.0 | 176.3 | 180.9 | 185.9 |
| Dairy products | 169.0 | 163.2 | 163.0 | 157.2 | 172.0 | 170.3 |
| Fruits and vegetables | 178.3 | 187.7 | 160.0 | 166.4 | 195.4 | 179.9 |
| Other food at home | 192.1 | 190.5 | 184.5 | 185.5 | 204.2 | 197.4 |
| Food away from home | 187.8 | 185.2 | 188.6 | 177.6 | 186.0 | 198.9 |
| Housing | 178.4 | 163.5 | 173.8 | 177.8 | 182.8 | 179.3 |
| Shelter | 180.6 | 163.9 | 177.6 | 184.7 | 181.9 | 188.7 |
| Rent, residential | 145.6 | (²) | 142.2 | (²) | 163.5 | (²) |
| Homeownership | 193.4 | 175.4 | 184.5 | 197.2 | 195.1 | 197.2 |
| Fuel and utilities | 183.7 | 166.3 | 185.1 | 161.5 | 205.3 | 175.3 |
| Fuel oil and coal | 249.3 | 240.2 | 247.4 | - | 257.4 | 238.5 |
| Gas and electricity | 190.3 | 174.7 | 201.0 | 186.6 | 228.4 | 181.7 |
| Household furnishings and operation | 169.1 | 160.6 | 154.6 | 161.7 | 171.8 | 164.5 |
| Apparel and upkeep | 148.1 | 139.0 | 141.7 | 140.2 | 147.0 | 138.9 |
| Men's and boys' | 147.5 | 130.0 | 153.1 | 136.6 | 139.8 | 144.6 |
| Women's and girls' | 142.2 | 136.8 | 126.7 | 133.5 | 143.5 | 121.1 |
| Footwear | 151.0 | 142.5 | 144.3 | 145.6 | 148.5 | 151.8 |
| Transportation | 168.5 | 170.5 | 162.1 | 172.5 | 186.4 | 168.2 |
| Private | 167.8 | 171.0 | 161.4 | 174.1 | 175.6 | 170.9 |
| Public | 174.6 | 167.5 | 169.4 | 142.7 | 227.6 | 152.6 |
| Health and recreation | 164.4 | 165.3 | 174.7 | 161.5 | 171.5 | 169.3 |
| Medical care | 186.8 | 191.3 | 212.9 | 190.0 | 202.4 | 204.2 |
| Personal care | 161.6 | (²) | (²) | (²) | 168.6 | (²) |
| Reading and recreation | 151.4 | 151.6 | 151.0 | 140.6 | 155.9 | 151.8 |
| Other goods and services | 153.8 | 157.0 | 157.0 | 152.6 | 159.3 | 156.7 |
| Percent changes, May 1976 to August 1976 | | | | | | |
| All items | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 1.5 | 1.2 |
| Food | 1.3 | 2.2 | .4 | 1.5 | 1.2 | .7 |
| Food at home | 1.2 | 2.4 | .1 | 1.2 | 1.5 | .5 |
| Cereals and bakery products | -.3 | -.6 | .6 | .3 | -1.7 | -2.4 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish | .2 | 1.2 | -1.6 | -1.5 | .7 | .5 |
| Dairy products | 1.0 | 3.0 | -1.0 | 1.0 | .8 | 1.2 |
| Fruits and vegetables | 1.1 | 6.1 | .9 | 4.7 | 2.1 | -2.6 |
| Other food at home | 4.3 | 3.8 | 2.7 | 3.6 | 4.7 | 4.5 |
| Food away from home | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 2.2 | .4 | 1.6 |
| Housing | 1.6 | 1.6 | 2.1 | 1.5 | .9 | .7 |
| Shelter | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.1 | .5 |
| Rent, residential | 1.3 | (²) | 3.9 | (²) | 3.7 | (²) |
| Homeownership | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 2.0 | .8 | .4 |
| Fuel and utilities | 1.9 | 2.0 | 3.7 | -.4 | 2.1 | 2.1 |
| Fuel oil and coal | 1.3 | 1.9 | 1.7 | - | 1.4 | 1.6 |
| Gas and electricity | 2.3 | 2.9 | 4.1 | -.6 | 3.6 | 3.4 |
| Household furnishings and operation | .7 | .9 | 1.3 | 1.3 | -.2 | -.1 |
| Apparel and upkeep | .9 | 1.5 | .7 | .9 | 2.8 | -.1 |
| Men's and boys' | .1 | -2.7 | 1.8 | 3.5 | -1.8 | -1.4 |
| Women's and girls' | 1.1 | 4.6 | .6 | -.7 | 6.8 | -.1 |
| Footwear | .9 | .6 | -1.2 | .7 | .6 | .8 |
| Transportation | 3.1 | 3.1 | 2.5 | 5.2 | 2.0 | 2.6 |
| Private | 3.3 | 3.6 | 2.6 | 4.8 | 2.6 | 3.0 |
| Public | 1.3 | .5 | 1.0 | 18.5 | .4 | .4 |
| Health and recreation | 1.4 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 2.1 |
| Medical care | 2.3 | 2.4 | 3.2 | 2.4 | 2.7 | 4.0 |
| Personal care | 1.7 | (²) | (²) | (²) | 3.8 | (²) |
| Reading and recreation | .7 | -.1 | -.7 | .6 | 1.8 | .4 |
| Other goods and services | .6 | .4 | -.2 | -.1 | .8 | .9 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 7. CPI—selected areas, by expenditure class—Continued

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers)

| Expenditure class | Buffalo | Cleveland | Dallas | Milwaukee | San Diego | Seattle | Washington |
|---|---------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|---------|------------|
| Indexes, August 1976 | | | | | | | |
| All items | 172.0 | 170.6 | 169.0 | 169.1 | 172.1 | 165.7 | 173.0 |
| Food | 180.3 | 186.4 | 178.2 | 182.4 | 180.9 | 176.8 | 189.9 |
| Food at home | 179.2 | 186.5 | 174.3 | 181.1 | 172.7 | 176.0 | 185.9 |
| Cereals and bakery products | 187.8 | 188.4 | 170.5 | 180.9 | 172.4 | 177.0 | 182.8 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish | 180.8 | 185.4 | 175.1 | 183.2 | 179.3 | 185.6 | 179.2 |
| Dairy products | 168.3 | 171.6 | 160.8 | 175.4 | 160.2 | 165.5 | 159.5 |
| Fruits and vegetables | 170.5 | 174.2 | 169.8 | 179.9 | 162.8 | 155.5 | 193.5 |
| Other food at home | 186.3 | 206.6 | 185.5 | 183.7 | 179.0 | 186.7 | 209.4 |
| Food away from home | 186.8 | 186.5 | 192.6 | 187.3 | 201.4 | 179.3 | 200.3 |
| Housing | 181.1 | 167.4 | 171.5 | 167.0 | 186.0 | 175.1 | 174.4 |
| Shelter | 170.1 | 165.8 | 175.0 | 163.4 | 204.7 | 182.5 | 175.7 |
| Rent, residential | 150.1 | 131.5 | 130.1 | 144.8 | 159.5 | 142.3 | 150.1 |
| Homeownership | 173.8 | 171.8 | 195.1 | 169.2 | 223.4 | 194.3 | 190.5 |
| Fuel and utilities | 233.9 | 183.8 | 168.9 | 187.0 | 153.7 | 167.2 | 173.1 |
| Fuel oil and coal | 248.6 | - | - | 257.9 | - | 235.7 | 254.7 |
| Gas and electricity | 245.5 | 188.7 | 190.4 | 198.4 | 171.6 | 132.6 | 180.9 |
| Household furnishings and operation | 172.8 | 162.6 | 164.9 | 163.0 | 153.7 | 162.5 | 171.6 |
| Apparel and upkeep | 161.2 | 148.8 | 145.8 | 163.2 | 145.3 | 147.3 | 150.1 |
| Men's and boys' | 201.0 | 149.3 | 148.9 | 160.7 | 150.1 | 143.0 | 150.6 |
| Women's and girls' | 144.1 | 147.2 | 132.8 | 167.9 | 138.1 | 141.2 | 139.5 |
| Footwear | 149.5 | 143.3 | 148.0 | 162.2 | 139.8 | 150.7 | 154.8 |
| Transportation | 164.1 | 163.8 | 173.4 | 167.2 | 166.6 | 149.6 | 165.7 |
| Private | 164.2 | 171.6 | 173.9 | 164.9 | 168.4 | 154.6 | 165.9 |
| Public | 160.3 | 113.3 | 166.4 | 194.1 | 135.1 | 121.0 | 165.6 |
| Health and recreation | 158.2 | 175.3 | 164.2 | 161.6 | 157.8 | 156.0 | 169.2 |
| Medical care | 170.1 | 202.1 | 179.2 | 185.4 | 181.0 | 175.5 | 199.4 |
| Personal care | 165.6 | 177.5 | 165.9 | 163.3 | 152.9 | 162.1 | 156.3 |
| Reading and recreation | 148.1 | 155.3 | 155.5 | 153.1 | 144.4 | 147.6 | 146.7 |
| Other goods and services | 151.9 | 165.1 | 148.9 | 148.8 | 147.7 | 144.2 | 172.3 |
| Percent changes, May 1976 to August 1976 | | | | | | | |
| All items | 1.7 | 2.2 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.9 | 1.8 |
| Food | 1.7 | .5 | 1.3 | 1.9 | .9 | 1.7 | 3.0 |
| Food at home | 1.8 | .4 | 1.2 | 1.5 | .7 | .8 | 2.4 |
| Cereals and bakery products | 1.7 | -1.5 | -2.2 | -.8 | -2.5 | -.6 | -.3 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish | 2.0 | .6 | .1 | 1.4 | -.7 | -1.2 | 2.4 |
| Dairy products | 1.8 | -2.0 | 1.1 | 2.4 | .9 | .7 | -.4 |
| Fruits and vegetables | -.1 | -4.8 | -.3 | -.2 | 2.8 | -.9 | 1.8 |
| Other food at home | 3.0 | 6.3 | 5.5 | 3.8 | 3.6 | 5.6 | 5.7 |
| Food away from home | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 3.7 | 1.3 | 4.7 | 4.5 |
| Housing | 2.6 | 3.7 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 3.0 | 1.5 |
| Shelter | 2.3 | 3.2 | 2.2 | 1.7 | 2.2 | 4.5 | 1.5 |
| Rent, residential | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.8 |
| Homeownership | 2.5 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 5.1 | 1.3 |
| Fuel and utilities | 4.5 | 10.3 | 1.0 | 2.2 | .1 | 1.8 | 3.0 |
| Fuel oil and coal | 1.2 | - | - | 1.1 | - | 2.3 | 3.5 |
| Gas and electricity | 4.3 | 5.5 | 1.7 | 3.3 | 0 | 0 | 1.7 |
| Household furnishings and operation | 1.3 | .9 | 1.0 | .7 | .9 | 0 | .5 |
| Apparel and upkeep | -1.0 | 1.4 | .3 | .4 | .6 | -.7 | -.3 |
| Men's and boys' | .9 | .2 | -1.0 | .1 | 1.1 | -.3 | -.7 |
| Women's and girls' | -5.7 | 3.3 | 0 | .4 | -1.0 | -3.2 | -.4 |
| Footwear | 4.5 | 0 | .9 | .7 | .4 | 2.5 | .5 |
| Transportation | 2.6 | 3.5 | 2.9 | 4.8 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 2.3 |
| Private | 2.8 | 3.7 | 3.1 | 5.2 | 3.4 | 3.5 | 2.5 |
| Public | .8 | 1.1 | .3 | .6 | 1.3 | 3.1 | 1.8 |
| Health and recreation | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.9 | 1.3 | 1.4 | .8 | 1.5 |
| Medical care | 2.1 | 1.4 | 3.9 | 2.4 | 3.0 | 1.2 | 2.4 |
| Personal care | 1.8 | 4.0 | .7 | -.1 | 1.1 | .9 | .5 |
| Reading and recreation | -.4 | 1.0 | .8 | 2.0 | .6 | .6 | .3 |
| Other goods and services | .9 | .1 | .6 | .2 | .2 | .5 | 2.7 |

¹ See footnote 1, table 5.

² Not available.

³ Change from June 1976.

Table 8. CPI—food groups, selected areas

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1967=100)

| Area ¹ | Total food | Food at home | | | | | | Food away from home |
|---|------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | | Total | Cereals and bakery products | Meats, poultry, and fish | Dairy products | Fruits and vegetables | Other foods at home | |
| Indexes, August 1976 | | | | | | | | |
| U.S. city average | 182.4 | 181.0 | 180.3 | 181.5 | 169.0 | 178.3 | 192.1 | 187.8 |
| Atlanta | 186.2 | 186.1 | 188.1 | 183.8 | 182.0 | 187.3 | 190.0 | 186.3 |
| Baltimore | 186.7 | 185.4 | 175.1 | 187.4 | 170.2 | 186.0 | 198.7 | 191.2 |
| Boston | 185.1 | 183.3 | 184.5 | 182.7 | 166.1 | 186.0 | 195.4 | 191.4 |
| Buffalo | 180.3 | 179.2 | 187.8 | 180.8 | 168.3 | 170.5 | 186.3 | 186.8 |
| Chicago | 182.4 | 181.7 | 180.7 | 183.3 | 163.2 | 187.7 | 190.5 | 185.2 |
| Cincinnati | 187.3 | 190.0 | 191.3 | 191.3 | 172.4 | 186.8 | 204.1 | 177.2 |
| Cleveland | 186.4 | 186.5 | 188.4 | 185.4 | 171.6 | 174.2 | 206.6 | 186.5 |
| Dallas | 178.2 | 174.3 | 170.5 | 175.1 | 160.8 | 169.8 | 185.5 | 192.6 |
| Detroit | 176.2 | 173.5 | 184.5 | 174.0 | 163.0 | 160.0 | 184.5 | 188.6 |
| Honolulu | 181.8 | 177.7 | 173.8 | 181.9 | 182.6 | 171.4 | 176.7 | 193.4 |
| Houston | 189.6 | 184.2 | 177.2 | 189.2 | 180.7 | 180.1 | 186.6 | 208.5 |
| Kansas City | 180.8 | 179.5 | 177.5 | 179.8 | 173.5 | 170.4 | 190.9 | 185.1 |
| Los Angeles—Long Beach | 174.9 | 173.9 | 178.4 | 176.3 | 157.2 | 166.4 | 185.5 | 177.6 |
| Milwaukee | 182.4 | 181.1 | 180.9 | 183.2 | 175.4 | 179.9 | 183.7 | 187.3 |
| Minneapolis—St. Paul | 189.0 | 184.8 | 191.3 | 184.9 | 185.9 | 175.3 | 187.7 | 207.2 |
| N.Y.—Northeastern N.J. | 186.6 | 186.9 | 183.3 | 180.9 | 172.0 | 195.4 | 204.2 | 186.0 |
| Philadelphia | 186.8 | 184.0 | 181.7 | 185.9 | 170.3 | 179.9 | 197.4 | 198.9 |
| Pittsburgh | 182.7 | 180.1 | 181.5 | 184.5 | 158.2 | 177.5 | 191.1 | 198.1 |
| St. Louis | 182.9 | 182.8 | 192.3 | 180.0 | 171.4 | 184.4 | 188.7 | 183.4 |
| San Diego | 180.9 | 172.7 | 172.4 | 179.3 | 160.2 | 162.8 | 179.0 | 201.4 |
| San Francisco—Oakland | 174.7 | 176.8 | 177.1 | 181.2 | 161.1 | 166.9 | 189.6 | 167.3 |
| Seattle | 176.8 | 176.0 | 177.0 | 185.6 | 165.5 | 155.5 | 186.7 | 179.3 |
| Washington | 189.9 | 185.9 | 182.8 | 179.2 | 159.5 | 193.5 | 209.4 | 200.3 |
| Percent changes, July 1976 to August 1976 | | | | | | | | |
| U.S. city average | 0.2 | 0.1 | -0.3 | -1.4 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 1.9 | 0.5 |
| Atlanta | .2 | .3 | .5 | -1.3 | .6 | 1.8 | 1.1 | -.1 |
| Baltimore | .4 | .4 | -.7 | -.8 | .3 | .8 | 2.8 | .4 |
| Boston | .1 | .1 | .8 | -1.7 | 1.1 | 1.2 | .8 | .1 |
| Buffalo | .1 | .1 | -.5 | -1.1 | 1.6 | .5 | .7 | .4 |
| Chicago | .3 | .3 | -.8 | -1.4 | 1.3 | 3.2 | 1.0 | .4 |
| Cincinnati | .6 | .6 | .9 | -1.2 | .5 | 2.6 | 1.5 | .5 |
| Cleveland | -1.0 | -1.3 | -1.3 | -1.2 | -2.8 | -8.2 | 4.2 | 1.1 |
| Dallas | .2 | .1 | -.4 | -1.7 | -.3 | .6 | 2.3 | .6 |
| Detroit | -.4 | -.6 | .3 | -2.3 | -.4 | -.5 | 1.4 | .6 |
| Honolulu | -.1 | -.2 | -.4 | -1.3 | .2 | .6 | 1.1 | .1 |
| Houston | .1 | -.3 | -.7 | -2.2 | .4 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 1.0 |
| Kansas City | .3 | .1 | 0 | -1.2 | -.9 | 1.0 | 1.8 | .9 |
| Los Angeles—Long Beach | 0 | -.2 | 0 | -1.5 | .5 | .6 | .8 | .4 |
| Milwaukee | .6 | -.1 | -1.5 | -.3 | 1.1 | -1.8 | 1.3 | ² 3.7 |
| Minneapolis—St. Paul | .7 | .7 | .8 | -.6 | 1.2 | .7 | 1.6 | .7 |
| N.Y.—Northeastern N.J. | -.1 | -.2 | -1.3 | -1.3 | .1 | 0 | 2.3 | 0 |
| Philadelphia | .1 | .1 | -1.8 | -1.0 | .9 | -.9 | 3.5 | .3 |
| Pittsburgh | .7 | .7 | -.1 | -1.1 | .4 | .2 | 5.0 | .6 |
| St. Louis | .7 | .8 | -.5 | -.9 | .2 | 3.4 | 2.6 | .2 |
| San Diego | .8 | .6 | 1.4 | -1.0 | .3 | 2.3 | 1.4 | ² 1.3 |
| San Francisco—Oakland | 0 | -.1 | .2 | -1.7 | .9 | -.3 | 2.2 | .1 |
| Seattle | .7 | .3 | -.6 | -.9 | -.5 | .2 | 3.1 | 2.3 |
| Washington | 1.3 | 1.3 | -2.5 | 1.6 | -.4 | 2.8 | 2.4 | 1.3 |

¹ See footnote 1, table 5.² Change from May 1976.

Table 9. CPI—gasoline indexes, U.S. city average and selected areas

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, January 1976=100)

| Area ¹ | Leaded regular gasoline | | | Unleaded regular gasoline | | | Premium gasoline | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---|---------------------------|----------------|---|------------------|----------------|---|
| | Index | | Percent change to August 1976 from— | Index | | Percent change to August 1976 from— | Index | | Percent change to August 1976 from— |
| | July 1976 | August 1976 | | July 1976 | August 1976 | | July 1976 | August 1976 | |
| U.S. city average | 102.5 | 103.1 | 0.6 | 103.0 | 103.8 | 0.8 | 102.3 | 103.1 | 0.8 |
| Atlanta | 103.3 | 104.0 | .7 | 105.7 | 106.1 | .4 | 104.1 | 104.6 | .5 |
| Baltimore | 102.0 | 102.6 | .6 | 102.4 | 103.0 | .6 | 101.8 | 102.4 | .6 |
| Boston | 101.6 | 102.0 | .4 | 103.4 | 104.4 | 1.0 | 101.8 | 101.8 | 0 |
| Buffalo | 102.5 | 103.1 | .6 | 102.0 | 102.5 | .5 | 101.4 | 102.2 | .8 |
| Chicago | 102.7 | 103.4 | .7 | 103.1 | 104.0 | .9 | 102.7 | 103.5 | .8 |
| Cincinnati | 102.9 | 103.1 | .2 | 103.9 | 103.9 | 0 | 102.8 | 102.6 | -.2 |
| Cleveland | 101.2 | 101.7 | .5 | 103.0 | 103.2 | .2 | 101.7 | 101.9 | .2 |
| Dallas | 103.7 | 104.2 | .5 | 104.1 | 104.7 | .6 | 103.9 | 104.5 | .6 |
| Detroit | 101.9 | 102.5 | .6 | 103.4 | 103.7 | .3 | 101.4 | 102.4 | 1.0 |
| Honolulu | 101.3 | 102.0 | .7 | 100.8 | 101.5 | .7 | 100.4 | 101.1 | .7 |
| Houston | 104.4 | 104.9 | .5 | 104.5 | 105.5 | 1.0 | 103.6 | 104.3 | .7 |
| Kansas City | 105.3 | 104.6 | -.7 | 105.9 | 105.4 | -.5 | 105.2 | 104.6 | -.6 |
| Los Angeles—Long Beach | 103.1 | 103.5 | .4 | 103.1 | 104.1 | 1.0 | 102.6 | 103.2 | .6 |
| Milwaukee | 104.7 | 104.9 | .2 | 105.8 | 106.2 | .4 | 103.0 | 103.9 | .9 |
| Minneapolis—St. Paul | 103.8 | 103.5 | -.3 | 105.1 | 105.1 | 0 | 103.1 | 103.4 | .3 |
| N.Y.—Northeastern N.J. | 100.6 | 101.7 | 1.1 | 102.5 | 103.8 | 1.3 | 101.3 | 102.1 | .8 |
| Philadelphia | 101.7 | 101.7 | 0 | 102.8 | 103.2 | .4 | 101.9 | 102.5 | .6 |
| Pittsburgh | 103.6 | 103.7 | .1 | 103.9 | 104.8 | .9 | 103.7 | 104.2 | .5 |
| St. Louis | 104.8 | 104.6 | -.2 | 104.5 | 104.6 | .1 | 104.0 | 103.9 | -.1 |
| San Diego | 102.0 | 102.4 | .4 | 102.7 | 103.4 | .7 | 102.2 | 102.7 | 1.5 |
| San Francisco—Oakland | 101.5 | 102.7 | 1.2 | 101.4 | 102.5 | 1.1 | 100.6 | 101.8 | 1.2 |
| Seattle | 102.7 | 103.7 | 1.0 | 102.1 | 103.3 | 1.2 | 102.4 | 103.2 | .8 |
| Washington | 101.8 | 102.3 | .5 | 103.8 | 104.8 | 1.0 | 102.5 | 103.3 | .8 |

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

Table 10. CPI—gasoline average prices, U.S. city average and selected areas

(Consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers)

| Area ¹ | Leaded regular gasoline | | | Unleaded regular gasoline | | | Premium gasoline | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|----------------|
| | Average price per gallon | | | | | | | | |
| | June 1976 | July 1976 | August 1976 | June 1976 | July 1976 | August 1976 | June 1976 | July 1976 | August 1976 |
| U.S. city average | \$0.592 | \$0.599 | \$0.603 | \$0.616 | \$0.623 | \$0.628 | \$0.637 | \$0.644 | \$0.649 |
| Atlanta..... | .591 | .596 | .600 | .631 | .635 | .638 | .646 | .652 | .656 |
| Baltimore..... | .607 | .610 | .613 | .629 | .628 | .632 | .655 | .656 | .660 |
| Boston..... | .587 | .595 | .597 | .613 | .622 | .628 | .630 | .640 | .640 |
| Buffalo..... | .597 | .609 | .612 | .617 | .629 | .632 | .635 | .650 | .655 |
| Chicago..... | .607 | .616 | .620 | .643 | .651 | .657 | .652 | .659 | .665 |
| Cincinnati..... | .579 | .592 | .593 | .603 | .615 | .615 | .627 | .640 | .639 |
| Cleveland..... | .587 | .592 | .595 | .606 | .612 | .614 | .631 | .639 | .640 |
| Dallas..... | .553 | .558 | .560 | .579 | .578 | .582 | .597 | .601 | .605 |
| Detroit..... | .586 | .591 | .594 | .620 | .625 | .626 | .635 | .641 | .647 |
| Honolulu..... | .684 | .694 | .699 | .692 | .701 | .706 | .720 | .730 | .735 |
| Houston..... | .545 | .550 | .553 | .565 | .570 | .576 | .591 | .597 | .601 |
| Kansas City..... | .571 | .583 | .579 | .589 | .603 | .600 | .616 | .630 | .626 |
| Los Angeles—Long Beach..... | .596 | .602 | .604 | .624 | .630 | .636 | .637 | .643 | .647 |
| Milwaukee..... | .564 | .570 | .571 | .591 | .598 | .601 | .604 | .611 | .616 |
| Minneapolis—St. Paul..... | .589 | .597 | .595 | .615 | .621 | .621 | .650 | .653 | .655 |
| N.Y.—Northeastern N.J..... | .594 | .601 | .608 | .625 | .630 | .638 | .651 | .657 | .662 |
| Philadelphia..... | .589 | .593 | .593 | .625 | .629 | .631 | .648 | .653 | .657 |
| Pittsburgh..... | .595 | .602 | .602 | .624 | .625 | .630 | .644 | .648 | .651 |
| St. Louis..... | .586 | .594 | .593 | .601 | .609 | .609 | .630 | .639 | .638 |
| San Diego..... | .607 | .615 | .617 | .636 | .645 | .650 | .656 | .664 | .667 |
| San Francisco—Oakland..... | .609 | .623 | .630 | .631 | .641 | .648 | .652 | .663 | .671 |
| Seattle..... | .581 | .589 | .595 | .595 | .606 | .613 | .623 | .633 | .638 |
| Washington..... | .602 | .612 | .615 | .640 | .651 | .657 | .661 | .672 | .677 |

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

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 food, 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.¹ The table below shows standard errors for monthly, quarterly, and annual *percent*

Average standard errors of percent changes in the CPI based on 1975 data

| Component | Standard error | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | Monthly change | Quarterly change | Annual change |
| All items | .04 | .06 | .13 |
| Food at home | .10 | .17 | .38 |
| Food away from home . . | .11 | .22 | .36 |
| Housing | .08 | .12 | .26 |
| Apparel and upkeep | .16 | .22 | .28 |
| Transportation | .07 | .11 | .13 |
| Medical care | .13 | .17 | .36 |
| Personal care | .14 | .22 | .46 |
| Reading and recreation . . | .11 | .16 | .37 |
| Other goods and services | .08 | .11 | .22 |

changes in the CPI for all items and for nine commodity groupings based on 1974 averages. The figures may be interpreted as follows: The changes 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 1-month period is almost always significant.

This replaces the table of average errors based on 1974 data which was included in the CPI report through December 1975.

¹ 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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