

CPI Detailed Report

For September 1976
Consumer Price Index: U.S. City Average and Selected Areas



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

September 1976

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 0.4 percent in September before seasonal adjustment to 172.6 of its 1967 base. The September CPI was up 5.5 percent from a year ago.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI also rose 0.4 percent in September, compared with increases of 0.5 percent in each of the 3 preceding months. The food index was unchanged in September after seasonal adjustment, following 3 months of relatively small increases. The rise of 0.4 percent in the index for commodities other than food was less than in the preceding 4 months. The services index rose 0.5 percent, compared with 0.6 percent in each of the preceding 3 months.

Third quarter 1976

For the 3 months ended in September, the CPI rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.8 percent, compared

with 6.1 percent in the quarter ended in June, and 2.9 percent in the quarter ended in March. The rise in food prices slowed substantially in the third quarter—to a 1.8-percent rate from 7.2 percent; food prices declined in the first quarter. Prices of commodities other than food and charges for services, however, increased at a faster rate in the third quarter than in the second. Prices of energy items rose at a 14.6-percent rate in the third quarter, compared with 10.2 percent in the second. Prices also rose at a noticeably faster rate in the third quarter for apparel, new cars, houses, transportation services, and medical care services. (See table B.)

Food prices

The food index in the CPI rose at a 1.8-percent rate in the 3 months ending in September, compared with a rise of 7.2 percent in the preceding quarter. In the WPI, prices of consumer foods declined at a 12.2-percent rate, following a 16.8-percent rise in the second quarter. This reversal can

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

Month	Changes from preceding month								Changes in all items	
	All items		Food		Commodities less food		Services		Compound annual rate from 3 months ago	From 12 months ago
	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted		
1975:										
September	0.5	0.4	-0.2	0.3	0.5	0.3	1.0	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
September .....	.4	.4	-.4	0	.6	.4	.8	.5	5.8	5.5

Table B. Quarterly percent changes in selected components of the Consumer and Wholesale Price Indexes, 1975-76

Component	Compound annual rate, seasonally adjusted, for 3 months ending—						
	1975				1976		
	March	June	September	December	March	June	September
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX							
All items	6.6	7.0	7.4	7.3	2.9	6.1	5.8
Food .....	.5	9.7	8.0	8.3	-7.9	7.2	1.8
Commodities less food	8.0	5.3	7.5	4.3	2.9	5.6	6.6
Services	9.3	6.8	7.4	9.3	10.6	6.2	7.1
All items less food and energy items ..	9.4	5.1	5.8	7.1	7.7	5.5	6.7
Commodities less food and energy items	9.4	4.2	5.0	4.4	5.2	5.7	5.6
Services less energy items	8.5	6.3	6.7	9.3	11.1	5.5	6.9
Energy items (gas, electricity, fuel oil, coal, gasoline, motor oil)	1.4	17.0	23.6	6.0	-8.3	12.2	14.6
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX							
All commodities	-5.2	6.5	10.8	6.5	-1.8	6.6	4.7
Farm products and processed foods and feeds	-24.7	18.3	18.3	-4.1	-15.8	18.0	-11.0
Crude foods and feeds	-37.4	63.8	17.0	-2.4	-24.7	30.7	-24.8
Intermediate materials for food manufacturing	-46.6	-39.4	22.3	-26.2	-11.1	-3.4	-11.7
Consumer foods	-14.3	28.7	11.2	.9	-20.5	16.8	-12.2
Industrial commodities	3.9	2.1	8.0	10.8	3.2	3.6	9.6
Crude materials except foods	-13.0	13.5	16.7	4.4	1.9	17.3	14.4
Intermediate materials except feeds	4.4	-.2	5.8	12.1	3.7	3.3	9.3
Producers' finished goods	12.7	4.8	6.3	9.1	6.8	3.3	5.7
Consumer finished goods except food	3.5	4.1	10.7	9.3	.5	2.3	10.1

be traced to a change in direction of prices at the farm level. After a sharp rise in the second quarter, prices of raw agricultural commodities declined at a 24.8-percent rate in the third quarter—about the same as in the first quarter. Prices turned down in the third quarter for cattle, hogs, poultry, eggs, and grains. Prices turned up, however, for fresh fruits and vegetables and milk, and coffee prices continued to rise at a rapid rate.

Movements in prices of farm products and foods are influenced greatly by changes in livestock and meat prices. In the first 6 months of this year, cattle and beef prices declined steadily except for a brief period last spring when prices advanced sharply due largely to a threat of a strike by the Teamsters' Union. Prices resumed their decline in the third quarter but less sharply than earlier this year. Marketings were heavy early in the quarter because the number of marketable cattle in feedlots in July was larger than had been planned. In addition, dry weather this summer forced premature marketing of cattle. By the middle

of the third quarter, cattle prices began to fluctuate in response to changes in supply or estimated slaughter figures. Reflecting these changes, beef prices at the processors' level, which declined sharply in July, moved up in August and September. Declines in retail beef were smaller at the end of the quarter than at the beginning. The U.S. Department of Agriculture reported that on October 1 the number of cattle in the feedlots in 23 States had declined 7.7 percent from July.

Although hog and pork prices have moved in the same direction as cattle and beef prices, the production trend has been the opposite. Reflecting a noticeable rise in pork production, declines in hog and pork prices in the 3 months ending in September were much sharper than they had been earlier in 1976. The hog production cycle has been in the expansion stage since mid-1975 and on September 1 the number of hogs and pigs on farms in 14 leading producing States was more than 17 percent above a year earlier. Further, hog producers intend to farrow 16 per-

Table C. Quarterly percent changes in wholesale and retail prices for consumer goods and services, 1975-76

Goods and services	Index	Compound annual rate, seasonally adjusted, for 3 months ending—						
		1975				1976		
		March	June	September	December	March	June	September
Consumer goods	CPI	5.1	6.9	7.8	5.9	-1.2	6.3	4.4
	WPI	-4.4	13.9	10.7	5.6	-7.8	7.4	1.0
Food	CPI	.5	9.7	8.0	8.3	-7.9	7.2	1.8
	WPI	-14.3	28.7	11.2	.9	-20.5	16.8	-12.2
Commodities less food	CPI	8.0	5.3	7.5	4.3	2.9	5.6	6.6
	WPI	3.5	4.1	10.7	9.3	.5	2.3	10.1
Nondurables less food ¹	CPI	4.1	4.9	8.2	4.2	.8	4.7	7.3
	WPI	2.3	5.4	14.4	9.5	-9	2.6	13.3
Apparel less footwear	CPI	-6	-3	4.1	3.2	2.3	3.4	8.0
	WPI	.3	-3.5	.9	6.8	9.8	3.5	5.9
Footwear	CPI	4.9	-3	1.4	4.2	4.5	5.8	6.9
	WPI	1.7	3.3	7.6	3.8	7.1	11.4	13.3
Gasoline ²	CPI	-3.7	17.0	30.0	2.7	-17.7	8.2	15.5
	WPI	-3.4	23.0	72.7	13.1	-26.7	3.0	40.1
Fuel oil	CPI	-7.5	14.5	28.8	2.1	-8.1	9.4	18.6
	WPI	-25.4	13.8	42.4	31.6	-21.5	-3.1	28.6
Tobacco products	CPI	7.1	.3	2.1	6.6	8.2	.5	1.0
	WPI	6.4	-.8	2.7	26.4	.8	4.1	3.0
Durables ¹	CPI	13.6	6.3	6.2	4.4	6.9	6.5	5.8
	WPI	6.1	1.2	4.4	9.2	3.4	1.1	5.1
New cars	CPI	9.3	.3	6.1	14.4	2.4	1.2	6.7
	WPI	3.7	1.8	3.7	15.7	2.6	.6	6.7
Furniture ¹	CPI	6.3	7.4	3.9	4.7	3.8	0	1.3
	WPI	2.8	-1.1	3.6	8.7	4.1	4.6	7.0
Appliances including radio and TV	CPI	7.5	4.2	4.5	3.7	5.4	4.3	2.0
	WPI	6.1	4.2	2.4	4.5	2.0	3.4	0
Services	CPI	9.3	6.8	7.4	9.3	10.6	6.2	7.1
Rent	CPI	5.2	4.5	4.8	6.5	5.5	5.1	5.4
Household less rent	CPI	10.3	8.4	4.9	9.3	9.1	6.3	6.2
Medical care	CPI	14.5	9.2	10.5	7.2	14.0	7.5	9.3
Transportation	CPI	6.7	5.5	16.7	18.9	21.1	5.0	10.3
Other services	CPI	7.2	3.2	5.7	5.6	7.9	4.9	7.2

¹ Includes items not listed.

² CPI includes motor oil.

cent more sows in the September-November period and 9 percent more in the December 1976-February 1977 period than in the same periods a year earlier.

For competitive reasons, poultry prices tend to move in the same direction as red meat prices. In the third quarter, poultry prices turned down as a result of more than ample supplies. Egg prices also declined in the third quarter because production did not decline as much as usual in the summer months.

Grain prices, which rose in the first two quarters of this year, declined in the third quarter. The August crop report published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture indicated that wheat production will be higher than previously estimated, that carryover wheat stocks will be large, and that this year's corn crop is expected to be 2 percent more than last year's record. In addition, grain production in the Soviet Union is expected to be larger than projected. Prices of cereal and bakery products at the processor's level also

turned down in the third quarter and prices at the retail level rose at a slower rate as a result of lower flour prices and continued sharp declines in rice prices.

Prices for sugar—a major ingredient in bakery products, beverages, and many other processed foods—continued to decline sharply due to poor demand which has caused a large buildup in world stocks. A further buildup is anticipated in the 1976-77 season. The first estimate of European sugar beet production indicates an increase of 6.4 percent with most of the additional supply coming from the Soviet Union. Also many Southern Hemisphere nations are expected to have record sugar harvests. The slump in demand can be attributed to consumer resistance to sugar in the diet and increased usage of corn sweetener—especially in the beverage industry.

Prices rose for some farm products in the third quarter. Milk prices turned up in the third quarter, as a result of higher demand for fluid milk for use in butter, cheese, and

ice cream, and higher price supports. Prices of dairy products at the processing and retail level continued their second-quarter advance with sharp increases in butter and cheese prices. Higher prices for fluid milk were chiefly responsible for the rise in prices of processed dairy products.

Coffee prices, reflecting expectations of a continuing tight world supply, maintained their rapid rise. Increases were particularly sharp for green coffee, which rose 95 percent from September 1975 to September of this year. Processors' prices of roasted coffee rose 49 percent and retail prices 56 percent during the same period.

After declining almost steadily during the first 6 months of 1976, fresh fruit and vegetable prices advanced sharply during the third quarter. Heavy California rains slowed harvesting and cut back production of some fruits and vegetables. Despite a sharp rise in the third quarter, prices in September 1976 compared with September 1975 were down 1.3 percent in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and up only 1.2 percent in the CPI.

Other commodities

The CPI for commodities other than food rose at a 6.6-percent rate in the 3 months ending in September, compared with 5.6 percent in the second quarter and 2.9 percent in the first quarter. If energy products are excluded, the rise in this index was 5.4 percent in the third quarter, about the same as in the first and second quarters. Price rises accelerated in the third quarter for commodities such as apparel, footwear, houses, tires, and new cars, but the rise in used car prices slowed substantially (See table C).

The CPI for gasoline and motor oil rose at a 15.5-percent rate in the third quarter, almost twice as fast as in the second quarter. Most of the increase, however, occurred early in the quarter during the peak summer demand period. In September, when some refiners began to lower prices, the increase was much smaller. Price cuts were passed through to consumers primarily in areas experiencing strong competition, particularly where independent companies and major oil companies were vying for a greater share of business. The index for fuel oil and coal rose at an 18.6-percent rate in the third quarter, twice as much as in the second quarter. Increases in the indexes for gasoline and motor oil and for fuel oil and coal accounted for about one-fourth of the rise in the nonfood commodities index in the third quarter.

Apparel prices, which rose at a rate of about 3.4 percent in the second half of 1975 and in the first half of this year, increased at an 8.0-percent rate in the third quarter. The acceleration reflected sharp increases in manufacturers' prices in late 1975 and early 1976, particularly for cotton and wool clothing. The rise in retail prices for footwear has been accelerating steadily since late 1975, in response to sharp increases in manufacturers' prices. Higher prices for hides and leather have contributed to the rise.

Among durable commodities, tire prices moved up in the third quarter as manufacturers raised prices following the settlement of the rubber workers' strike. Because of continuing strength in sales and low inventories of large 1976-model cars, the new car index also showed a large increase in the third quarter in contrast to the usual decline at the end of the model year. (Third quarter changes do not include prices of 1977-model cars. In accordance with standard practice, prices of new-model-year cars were introduced in the October CPI and WPI.) Used car prices increased at a 9.3-percent rate in the third quarter, a sizable reduction from the 30-percent rate in the first and second quarters. The rise in prices of household durables remained moderate in the third quarter—furniture prices rose at a 1.3-percent rate and appliances 2.0 percent—due to sluggish retail sales.

The magnitude and direction of price change at the producers' level influence retail price changes immediately or over a longer period of time, depending on supply and demand conditions in the consumer markets. Conversely, changes in consumer markets could influence the trend in producers' prices. In the 3 months ending in September, the WPI for finished consumer goods other than foods rose at a 10.1-percent rate, following very small increases in the first and second quarters. Gasoline and fuel oil prices—largely responsible for the small increases earlier—advanced sharply in the third quarter. Prices for apparel, footwear, and furniture also rose more rapidly than in the second quarter; prices for these goods have been rising at a faster rate at the producers' level than at the retail level during the past year.

Industrial commodities. Materials costs are important factors in prices of finished goods. In the 3 months ending in September, prices of industrial commodities at the intermediate stage of processing rose at a 9.3-percent rate, after moving up by about 3.5 percent in the first two quarters. The acceleration was primarily due to a sharp turnaround in lumber prices and a faster rise in prices of fuel, nonferrous metal and plastic products, and motor vehicle parts. Although prices for steel, leather, and paper products continued to rise, increases in the third quarter were smaller than in the second quarter.

For raw industrial commodities, prices rose at a 14.4-percent rate in the third quarter, somewhat slower than in the second quarter. Much of this increase was due to sharp advances for crude petroleum and gas fuels. Prices for hides and skins, crude rubber, and aluminum scrap also rose, but prices declined for iron and steel scrap, copper scrap, and wastepaper.

In the *fuels* groups, prices of domestic crude petroleum were frozen late in the second quarter by the Federal Energy Administration (FEA). The rise in the crude petroleum index in the third quarter was due to a change in the ratio of lower tier (old oil) to upper tier (new oil) production used to calculate the composite price for domestic crude petroleum.¹ The gas fuels index has been rising rapidly for some time as intrastate gas prices (which are not

controlled) have been moving up in response to shortages. In addition, in July, the Federal Power Commission established a higher rate for gas that is newly discovered or that enters the interstate market for the first time. The effects of this action were starting to be reflected in the natural gas index in the third quarter.

Among refined petroleum products, jet fuel prices moved up when long-term, low-priced contracts with large airline companies were replaced by shorter term contracts which specify the higher FEA regulated ceiling prices. After declining in the second quarter, prices for residual fuel—used principally by electric utilities—increased due to tightened supplies and low inventories. Higher prices for residual fuel and natural gas, as well as rate and surcharge increases, contributed to a sharp rise in the index for electric power. Prices of home heating oil and gasoline at refineries rose as a result of higher average prices for oil feedstock.¹

Lumber prices, which declined at a 12-percent rate in the second quarter, advanced at a 45.7-percent rate in the third quarter as activity in the housing sector improved noticeably. Starts of single-family housing, which have shown some improvement during the past year, picked up sharply in August and September. In September, both starts and the issuance of building permits reached their highest levels in about 2½ years. In addition, starts of multi-family units, which had been weak, spurted in September when Federal Housing Administration programs were accelerated. Prices of hardwood lumber—used in furniture production—also increased sharply in the third quarter due to firmer demand nationwide and short supply in the North after labor difficulties closed mills.

The *metals and metal products index* rose at an 8.9-percent rate in the 3 months ending in September, up from 7.8 percent in the 3 months ending in June. During the second quarter and early in the third quarter, prices were raised for all types of primary metals—copper, steel, aluminum, lead, zinc, and tin—and for some semiprocessed products. The increases were attributed to various factors: increased costs of energy, labor, and improvement to meet environmental requirements; rising demand for automobile, appliance, and capital goods manufacturers; and expectations of a strong growth in the economy.

¹ The Federal Energy Administration (FEA) froze domestic crude petroleum prices at the June 1976 level, effective July 1, 1976. The freeze was necessary because FEA, in setting up the 40-month price adjustments schedule under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA), estimated the base period (February 1, 1976) composite price at a level below that shown subsequently when actual prices became available. The FEA had originally estimated the lower/upper tier price level to be \$5.25/\$11.28 but in actuality it was \$5.07/\$11.47. Also the ratio of lower/upper tier had been projected at 60/40 but the actual figures showed a ratio of 57/43. The effect of this was an actual composite average price of \$7.80, which exceeded the maximum composite average price of \$7.66 allowed for February 1976 by the EPCA. The actual price has exceeded the mandated price in subsequent months through June.

During the third quarter, earlier increases in primary metals prices were passed through to metal products at more advanced stages of production; aluminum companies put through a second round of increases—following the rise in the second quarter; and steel producers announced additional price increases to take effect early in the fourth quarter. But the growth in the economy did not strengthen as anticipated; real output of gross domestic product rose at a 4.0-percent rate in the third quarter, slightly less than in the second quarter, and down from 9.0 percent in the first quarter. The slowdown in domestic as well as foreign demand resulted in price declines for iron and steel scrap and copper scrap in the third quarter; and in the rescinding of increases announced for October 1 by steel producers.

Consumer services

Prices of consumer services rose at an annual rate of 7.1 percent in the third quarter compared with rates of 10.6 and 6.2 percent in the first two quarters of 1976. The rise in service prices in the third quarter contributed more than one-half of the rise in the All Items CPI compared with less than one-third in the second quarter. Higher charges for transportation, medical care, apparel, and recreational and personal care services contributed to the upturn in third quarter. Rent and household services charges continued to rise at about the same rate as in the June quarter.

Charges for transportation services rose at an annual rate of 10.3 percent, more than double the rate in the second quarter. Additional sizable increases in public transportation charges and auto insurance rates during the third quarter accounted for about three-fourths of the rise; rates for auto insurance rose at an annual rate of 18.6 percent, more than double the rate of increase in the second quarter but much smaller than the 50-percent annual rate in the first quarters of 1975 and 1976. In the public transportation sector, local transit fares rose at the sharpest rate in over a year as a result of increases in Chicago, Los Angeles, and Washington in the third quarter to cover rising operating costs, to upgrade current facilities, and to expand service. Intercity bus fares also jumped sharply in

In addition, the FEA was to adjust the 40-month crude price ceiling schedule each quarter, beginning June 1, 1976, by changes in the GNP Deflator. At the time the FEA established its 40-month schedule, the GNP Deflator was rising at a 6.8-percent annual rate. In June, however, the Deflator was rising at about a 3.5-percent rate. This has compounded the difference between the estimated price and the actual price.

The freeze, therefore, will remain in effect until the actual price and the EPCA ceiling prices are at the same level.

Late in the third quarter, the FEA added a noncontrolled third tier—crude “stripper-well” production—to the domestic crude petroleum pricing schedule and announced a shift in the ratio used to compute the composite price from 57/43 (lower and upper tier respectively) to 56/30/14 (lower, upper, and stripper-well, respectively). The October WPI for crude petroleum, therefore, reflected the addition of stripper-well prices.

the third quarter, the first increases in over a year. Airline fares continued to move up at about the same pace as in the previous quarter.

The third-quarter increase in medical care services was also more than in the second quarter, but significantly less than the increase in the initial quarter. Hospital service charges rose at an annual rate nearly 3 times faster than in the second quarter. Within this sector, semiprivate room rates and operating room charges—which rose at annual rates above 15 percent, more than double the increase in the previous quarter—accounted for about 40 percent of the rise in the medical services index. Many health facilities pressed for higher fees for important services to cover increases in nonpayroll expenses, including equipment, supplies, utilities, and insurance. Other medical care services, such as optometric services and physicians' and dentists' fees, rose at about the same rate in the September quarter as in the second quarter.

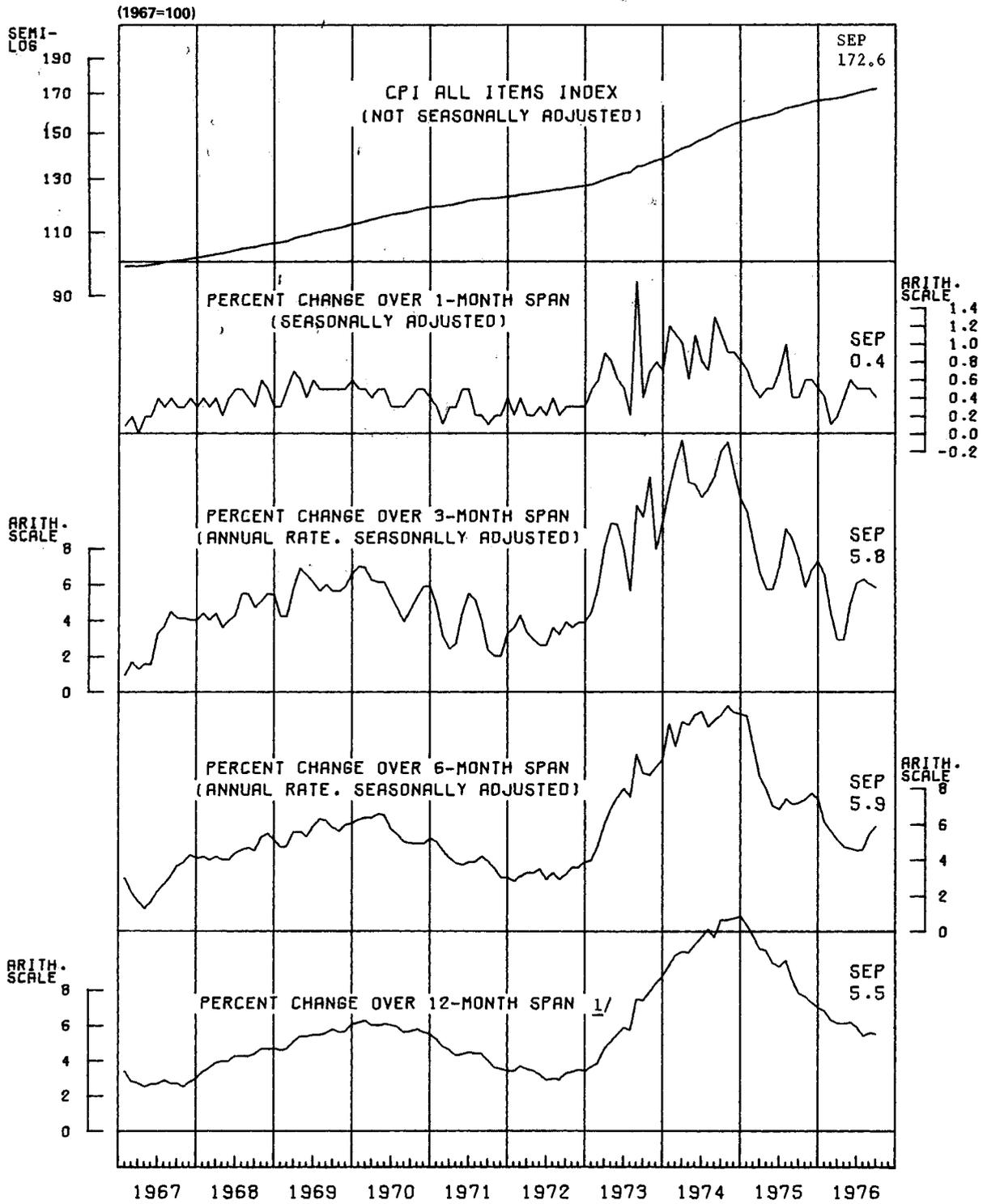
Household services rose at a rate of 6.2 percent, nearly identical to the rate in the June quarter. Mortgage interest rates, which declined in both the first and second quarters, increased slightly in the third quarter as the demand for available mortgage funds rose in some areas. In addition, economic uncertainties over renewed inflation and growth in the economy continued to cause some lenders to move

cautiously. Property taxes, which had also declined in the second quarter, rose sharply in the September quarter. Assessed property values continued to rise rapidly in many large metropolitan areas. Property insurance rates increased at a rate above 12 percent for the third consecutive quarter. Gas rates also continued to rise rapidly in the third quarter as sizable increases occurred in Houston, Cincinnati, Minneapolis, and Dallas. Electricity rates increased less in the third quarter than in the June quarter as summer surcharges were removed in many areas.

The CPI for apartment and home rentals continued to increase at about a 5-percent rate, the same as in the previous two quarters. Landlords cited as reasons for rental increases high utility charges and greater expenses for maintenance and repair. Strong demand for available units continued because new apartment construction was sluggish in many areas.

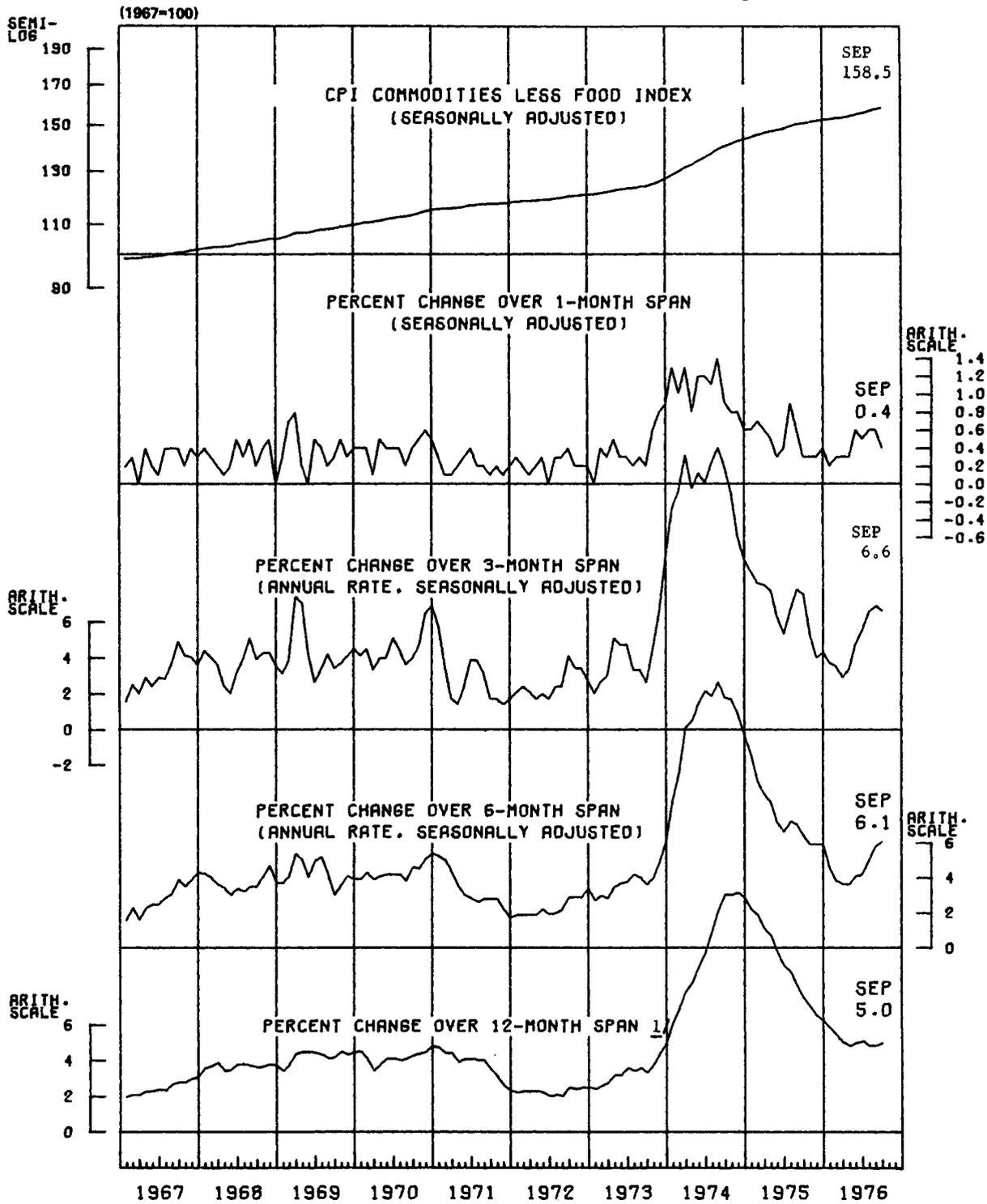
Other types of consumer services, including personal care and recreational and apparel services, rose at an annual rate of 7.2 percent, accelerating from 4.9 percent in the second quarter. Higher operating costs, particularly utilities, rents, and property insurance, exerted pressure on owners to increase service prices. College tuition, which is priced annually in the CPI during the third quarter, rose at about the same rate as in 1975.

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



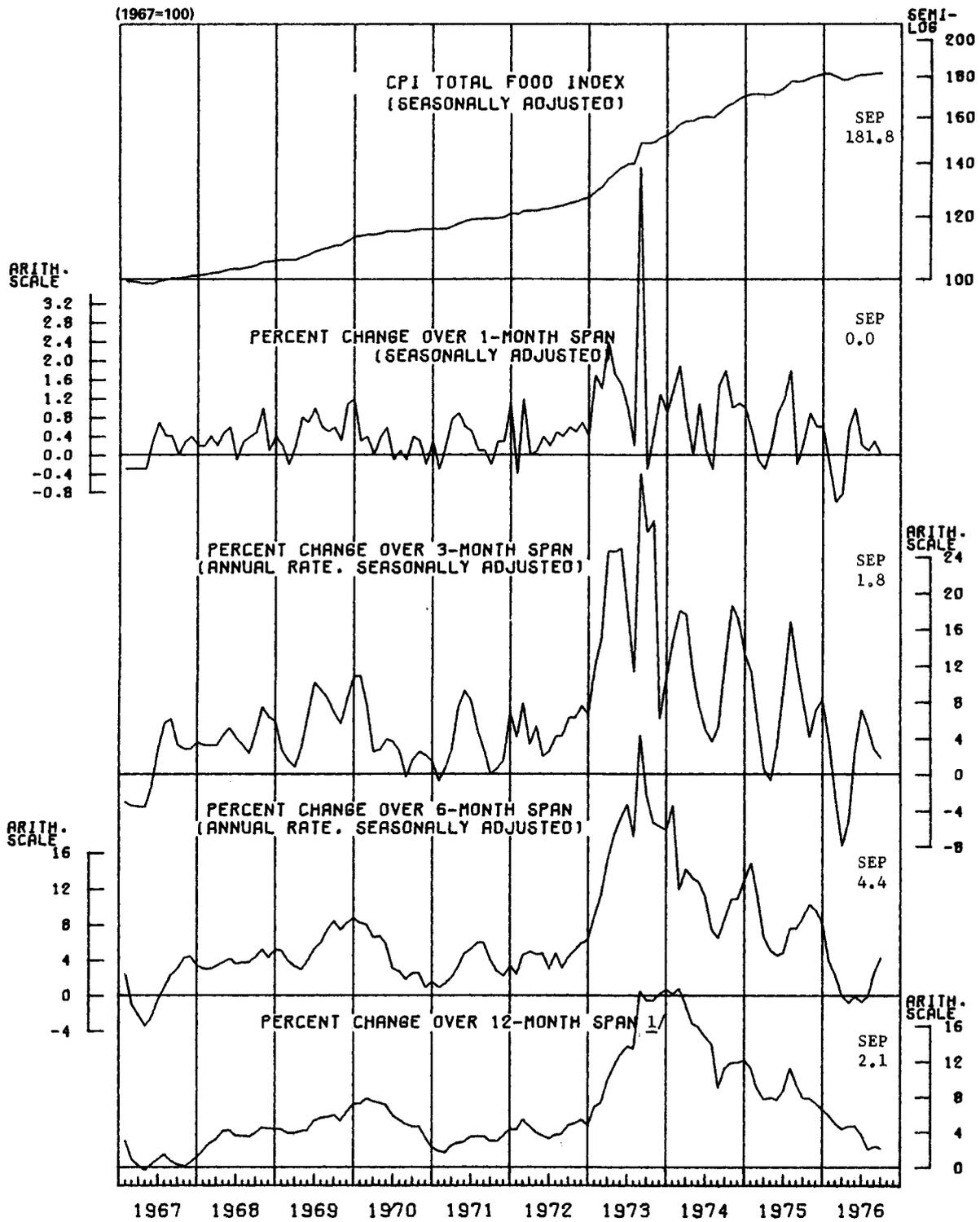
1/ Computed from the unadjusted series
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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Chart 2. Commodities less food index and rates of change, 1967-76



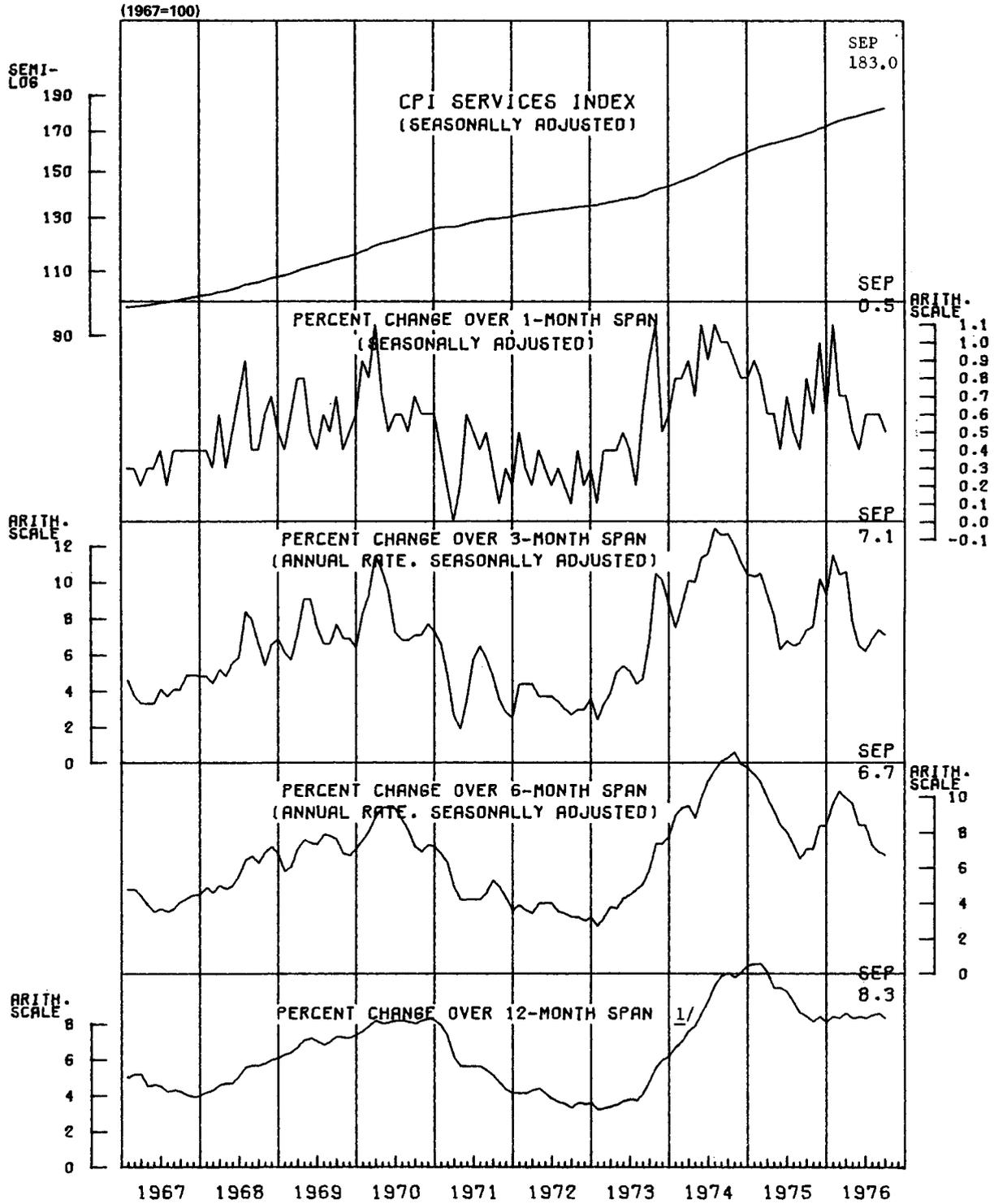
1/ Computed from the unadjusted series
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Chart 3. Total food index and rates of change, 1967-76



1/ Computed from the unadjusted series
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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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		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
	December 1976	August 1976	September 1976	September 1975	August 1976	June to July	July to August	August to September
Commodity and service groups								
All items	100.000	171.9	172.6	5.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4
All items (1957-59=100)	-	200.0	200.8	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities	63.355	166.6	167.0	3.9	.2	.4	.5	.2
Food	24.675	182.4	181.6	2.1	-.4	.1	.3	0
Food at home	19.524	181.0	179.9	1.0	-.6	0	.3	-.1
Cereals and bakery products	2.702	180.3	180.4	-.7	.1	.2	.3	-.2
Meats, poultry, and fish	6.641	181.5	179.3	-5.8	-1.2	-1.6	-1.4	-1.2
Dairy products	2.876	169.0	171.1	9.5	1.2	1.1	.9	.9
Fruits and vegetables	3.103	178.3	170.8	2.0	-4.2	.1	3.0	1.4
Other foods at home	4.202	192.1	194.1	6.4	1.0	1.4	.5	-.1
Food away from home	5.150	187.8	188.7	6.9	.5	.6	.4	.4
Commodities less food	38.681	158.0	158.9	5.0	.6	.6	.6	.4
Nondurables less food	22.872	159.1	160.4	4.3	.8	.6	.8	.4
Apparel commodities ¹	7.861	146.2	148.5	4.4	1.6	.6	1.1	.2
Men's and boys'	2.475	147.5	150.1	5.1	1.8	.6	.9	1.0
Women's and girls'	3.426	142.2	145.0	3.6	2.0	.5	1.5	-.6
Footwear	1.377	151.0	152.3	5.3	.9	.5	.6	.5
Other apparel commodities	.584	153.7	153.8	2.9	.1	.2	.7	0
Nondurables less food and apparel	15.011	166.8	167.4	4.2	.4	.7	.6	.5
Gasoline and motor oil	3.498	180.3	180.6	1.5	.2	1.5	1.5	.7
Tobacco products	1.880	160.5	160.6	4.0	.1	-.1	.1	.3
Alcoholic beverages	2.244	147.6	147.7	3.6	.1	.5	-.3	.1
Fuel oil and coal	1.045	249.3	250.8	5.1	.6	1.3	1.8	1.1
Other nondurables	6.343	160.9	161.8	5.8	.6	.4	-.4	.4
Durable commodities	15.809	156.4	156.9	5.9	.3	.6	.5	.4
Household durables	4.495	146.3	146.7	3.5	.3	.3	-.1	.2
New automobiles	1.910	134.4	134.2	6.1	-.1	.1	.4	1.1
Used automobiles	2.046	179.6	180.1	15.0	.3	1.1	1.4	-.2
Other durables	7.358	163.2	163.9	4.6	.4	*.7	*.6	*.4
Services	36.645	181.8	183.2	8.3	.8	.6	.6	.5
Rent	4.497	145.6	146.2	5.6	.4	.5	.3	.5
Services less rent	32.147	188.4	189.8	8.7	.7	.6	.5	.6
Household services less rent	16.030	200.1	201.5	7.8	.7	.5	.6	.4
Transportation services	5.012	175.5	177.3	13.6	1.0	.9	.5	1.1
Medical care services	5.642	199.4	200.6	9.5	.6	1.1	.6	.6
Other services	5.463	162.0	163.6	6.4	1.0	.6	.6	.6
Special indexes:								
All items less food	75.325	168.9	170.0	6.6	.7	*.5	*.6	*.7
Nondurable commodities	47.547	170.4	170.7	3.2	.2	*.4	*.4	*.2
Apparel commodities less footwear	6.485	145.2	147.8	4.2	1.8	.6	1.2	.1
Services less medical care services	31.002	179.0	180.4	8.1	.8	*.6	*.6	*.8
Insurance and finance	9.808	198.1	199.5	9.9	.7	.8	.5	.4
Utilities and public transportation	5.484	173.3	175.0	8.0	1.0	.6	.7	1.1
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	4.649	212.1	214.0	9.0	.9	*.7	*.5	*.9
Appliances (including radio and TV)	1.417	123.6	124.2	3.8	.5	.2	0	.3
Expenditure classes								
All items	100.000	171.9	172.6	5.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4
Food	24.675	182.4	181.6	2.1	-.4	.1	.3	0
Housing	33.998	178.4	179.5	6.3	.6	*.6	*.5	*.6
Shelter ¹	21.370	180.6	181.5	5.8	.5	*.7	*.6	*.5
Rent	4.497	145.6	146.2	5.6	.4	.5	.3	.5
Homeownership ²	16.484	193.4	194.4	5.7	.5	*.8	*.6	*.5
Fuel and utilities ³	5.205	183.7	185.1	8.3	.8	.9	.9	1.0
Gas and electricity	2.722	190.3	192.2	10.5	1.0	1.4	.5	1.3
Household furnishings and operation	7.422	169.1	170.2	6.3	.7	.4	.1	.4
Apparel and upkeep	9.217	148.1	150.2	4.7	1.4	.6	.9	.3
Transportation	13.053	168.5	169.5	9.1	.6	.9	.8	1.3
Private	11.729	167.8	168.6	9.6	.5	.9	1.0	1.1
Public	1.324	174.6	176.9	4.4	1.3	.6	-.1	1.1
Health and recreation	18.681	164.4	165.3	6.4	.5	*.6	*.4	*.5
Medical care	6.413	186.8	187.9	9.1	.6	*1.0	*.7	*.6
Personal care	2.505	161.6	162.8	7.0	.7	*.4	*.7	*.7
Reading and recreation	5.148	151.4	152.8	4.7	.9	.2	.5	.5
Other goods and services	4.616	153.8	153.9	4.0	.1	0	.1	.1
Special indexes:								
All items less shelter	78.630	169.7	170.4	5.4	.4	*.5	*.4	*.4
All items less medical care	93.587	171.1	171.7	5.2	.4	*.5	*.5	*.4
All items less mortgage interest costs	95.610	169.8	170.4	5.4	.4	*.5	*.5	*.4
CPI—domestically produced farm foods ⁴	17.148	176.5	174.8	-.9	-1.0	*.5	*.2	*-1.0
CPI—selected beef cuts ⁵	2.056	164.1	163.4	-8.4	-.4	*.3	*-2.4	*-1.4
Purchasing power of consumer dollar:								
1967=\$1.00	-	\$0.582	\$0.579	-5.2	-.5	-	-	-
1957-59=\$1.00	-	.500	.498	-	-	-	-	-

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)

Group and class	Seasonally adjusted indexes				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
	June 1976	July 1976	August 1976	September 1976	3 months ending in				6 months ending in	
					December 1975	March 1976	June 1976	September 1976	March 1976	September 1976
Commodity and service groups										
All items	-	-	-	-	7.3	2.9	6.1	5.8	5.1	5.9
Commodities	164.9	165.6	166.4	166.8	5.9	-1.2	6.3	4.7	2.3	5.5
Food	181.0	181.2	181.8	181.8	8.3	-7.9	7.2	1.8	-1.1	4.4
Food at home	179.8	179.8	180.3	180.1	8.6	-11.7	7.7	.7	-2.1	4.1
Cereals and bakery products	182.2	182.5	183.0	182.6	-6.8	-4.4	8.3	.9	-5.6	4.5
Meats, poultry, and fish	184.0	181.1	178.5	176.3	13.0	-26.0	11.9	-15.7	-8.6	-2.9
Dairy products	168.4	170.2	171.7	173.2	15.8	5.2	5.4	11.9	10.4	8.6
Fruits and vegetables	168.0	168.2	173.3	175.7	13.4	-9.5	-11.9	19.6	1.3	2.7
Other foods at home	189.6	192.3	193.3	193.1	4.3	-3.4	18.3	7.6	.3	12.8
Food away from home	186.0	187.1	187.8	188.5	7.2	9.0	5.8	5.5	8.1	5.6
Commodities less food	156.0	156.9	157.9	158.5	4.3	2.9	5.6	6.6	3.6	6.1
Nondurables less food	157.4	158.4	159.6	160.2	4.2	.8	4.7	7.3	2.5	6.0
Apparel commodities ¹	145.0	145.8	147.4	147.7	3.1	2.5	4.0	7.7	2.8	5.8
Men's and boys'	146.0	146.9	148.2	149.7	3.1	7.2	0	10.5	5.1	5.1
Women's and girls'	141.5	142.2	144.4	143.6	3.2	-1.4	6.8	6.1	.9	6.4
Footwear	149.6	150.4	151.3	152.1	4.2	4.5	5.8	6.9	4.3	6.3
Other apparel commodities	152.2	152.4	153.5	153.5	2.2	3.2	2.7	3.5	2.7	3.1
Nondurables less food and apparel	164.8	165.9	166.9	167.7	4.8	-1.2	5.3	7.2	2.2	6.2
Gasoline and motor oil	174.0	176.6	179.2	180.4	2.7	-17.7	8.2	15.5	-8.0	11.8
Tobacco products ²	160.0	159.8	159.9	160.4	6.6	8.2	.5	1.0	7.4	.8
Alcoholic beverages ²	147.1	147.9	147.5	147.6	3.1	5.1	5.0	1.4	4.1	3.2
Fuel oil and coal	247.8	251.1	255.7	258.6	2.1	-8.1	9.4	18.6	-3.1	13.9
Other nondurables	159.8	160.4	161.1	161.8	6.4	7.1	4.6	5.1	6.8	4.9
Durable commodities	154.1	155.0	155.7	156.3	4.4	6.9	6.5	5.8	5.6	6.2
Household durables	145.8	146.2	146.0	146.3	5.5	5.7	1.7	1.4	5.6	1.5
New automobiles	134.6	134.7	135.3	136.8	14.4	2.4	1.2	6.7	8.2	3.9
Used automobiles ²	169.7	171.5	173.9	173.5	-3.7	31.2	26.9	9.3	12.4	17.7
Other durables	161.2	162.3	163.2	163.9	3.6	2.3	5.7	6.9	3.0	6.3
Services ²	179.9	181.0	182.0	183.0	9.3	10.6	6.2	7.1	9.9	6.7
Rent ²	144.4	145.1	145.6	146.3	6.5	5.5	5.1	5.4	6.0	5.3
Services less rent ²	186.3	187.5	188.5	189.6	9.7	11.7	6.2	7.3	10.7	6.8
Household services less rent	198.3	199.3	200.5	201.3	9.3	9.1	6.3	6.2	9.2	6.2
Transportation services	173.2	174.7	175.5	177.5	18.9	21.1	5.0	10.3	20.0	7.6
Medical care services	195.8	197.9	199.0	200.2	7.2	14.0	7.5	9.3	10.5	8.4
Other services	160.5	161.4	162.3	163.3	5.6	7.9	4.9	7.2	6.8	6.0
Special indexes:										
All items less food	167.0	167.9	168.9	170.0	6.7	5.3	7.0	7.4	6.0	7.2
Nondurable commodities	169.0	169.7	170.4	170.7	5.4	-2.1	5.6	4.1	1.6	4.9
Apparel commodities less footwear	144.1	145.0	146.7	146.9	3.2	2.3	3.4	8.0	2.7	5.7
Services less medical care services ²	176.9	178.0	179.0	180.4	10.5	8.9	4.9	8.2	9.7	6.5
Insurance and finance	196.5	198.0	198.9	199.7	15.3	13.4	4.6	6.7	14.3	5.6
Utilities and public transportation	171.6	172.6	173.8	175.7	7.3	5.7	9.1	9.9	6.5	9.5
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	209.7	211.1	212.1	214.0	5.6	13.9	8.2	8.5	9.7	8.3
Appliances (including radio and TV) ²	123.5	123.7	123.7	124.1	3.7	5.4	4.3	2.0	4.6	3.1
Expenditure classes										
All items	-	-	-	-	7.3	2.9	6.1	5.8	5.1	5.9
Food	181.0	181.2	181.8	181.8	8.3	-7.9	7.2	1.8	-1.1	4.4
Housing	176.5	177.5	178.4	179.5	8.0	5.5	4.7	7.0	6.7	5.8
Shelter ³	178.2	179.5	180.6	181.5	8.2	3.0	4.4	7.6	5.6	6.0
Rent ²	144.4	145.1	145.6	146.3	6.5	5.5	5.1	5.4	6.0	5.3
Homeownership ⁴	190.7	192.2	193.4	194.4	8.8	1.9	4.3	8.0	5.3	6.1
Fuel and utilities ⁵	181.7	183.4	185.0	186.8	9.1	2.8	9.8	11.7	5.9	10.8
Gas and electricity	187.7	190.4	191.4	193.8	9.9	6.4	12.1	13.6	8.1	12.9
Household furnishings and operation	168.2	168.9	169.1	169.7	5.9	13.2	2.7	3.6	9.5	3.1
Apparel and upkeep	146.9	147.8	149.1	149.5	3.7	3.7	4.2	7.3	3.7	5.7
Transportation	164.6	166.1	167.5	169.7	7.4	6.5	9.8	13.0	6.9	11.4
Private	163.7	165.1	166.8	168.6	8.0	6.5	11.0	12.5	7.3	11.7
Public	173.6	174.7	174.6	176.5	-2.2	7.5	3.5	6.9	3.6	5.2
Health and recreation ²	162.8	163.7	164.4	165.3	5.5	8.1	5.6	6.3	6.8	5.9
Medical care	183.7	185.5	186.8	187.9	5.9	14.2	7.0	9.5	10.0	8.2
Personal care	159.8	160.5	161.6	162.8	6.7	7.4	6.2	7.7	7.1	7.0
Reading and recreation	150.7	151.0	151.7	152.5	5.3	5.0	3.5	4.9	5.1	4.2
Other goods and services	153.4	153.4	153.5	153.7	5.0	6.3	3.7	.8	5.6	2.2
Special indexes:										
All items less shelter	168.1	169.0	169.7	170.4	6.3	3.0	6.9	5.6	4.6	6.3
All items less medical care	169.4	170.3	171.1	171.7	6.5	2.4	6.4	5.5	4.5	6.0
All items less mortgage interest costs	168.1	169.0	169.8	170.4	6.1	3.2	6.9	5.6	4.6	6.3
CPI—domestically produced farm foods ²	175.9	176.8	176.5	174.8	5.6	-8.7	2.5	-2.5	-1.8	0
CPI—selected beef cuts ²	167.6	168.1	164.1	163.4	-5.3	-21.8	5.4	-9.7	-13.9	-2.4

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 telephones, 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.

revised from previously published.

NOTE: Index applies to month as a whole, not to 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 September 1976 from—		
	September 1976		September 1975	August 1976	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food	181.6	181.8	2.1	-0.4	0
Food away from home	188.7	188.5	6.9	.5	.4
Restaurant meals	187.6	(1)	7.0	.5	(1)
Snacks	193.7	193.9	6.4	.3	.5
Food at home	179.9	180.1	1.0	-.6	-.1
Cereals and bakery products	180.4	182.6	-.7	.1	-.2
Flour	153.7	157.6	-2.2	-.9	-1.6
Cracker meal	224.0	226.0	-3.0	.3	.4
Corn flakes	164.7	166.0	-1.0	-.2	-.4
Rice	194.8	200.8	-10.6	-1.9	-3.1
Bread, white	163.1	(1)	1.1	.2	(1)
Bread, whole wheat	178.8	179.3	2.1	.3	-.3
Cookies	191.4	(1)	7.6	1.9	(1)
Layer cake	183.5	183.3	-3.5	.2	-1.1
Cinnamon rolls	195.9	197.7	.4	-.4	-1.4
Meats, poultry, and fish	179.3	176.3	-5.8	-1.2	-1.2
Meats	177.4	173.9	-6.9	-1.5	-1.6
Beef and veal	162.3	158.2	-8.1	-.6	-.3
Steak, round	159.8	155.0	-9.4	.3	.5
Steak, sirloin	161.7	155.8	-12.3	-1.6	-.3
Steak, porterhouse	178.1	173.2	-8.5	.3	1.9
Rump roast	157.1	153.1	-8.6	2.0	2.3
Rib roast	184.7	181.4	-10.0	-1.1	0
Chuck roast	161.4	156.7	-12.3	-.2	1.4
Hamburger	159.5	155.8	-4.4	-1.6	-1.8
Beef liver	123.6	124.0	-12.1	-2.5	-2.6
Veal cutlets	184.4	184.0	-3.2	-1.8	-.9
Pork	200.7	193.7	-9.8	-2.6	-3.6
Chops	182.6	174.9	-10.3	-3.7	-4.4
Loin roast	197.4	188.0	-10.3	-3.9	-4.8
Sausage	229.0	220.6	-6.6	-1.6	-2.5
Ham, whole	193.7	194.5	-1.2	-2.8	-3.5
Picnics	182.6	178.3	-7.6	-3.2	-3.1
Bacon	220.8	206.0	-14.9	-.9	-4.8
Other meats	178.0	175.9	1.1	-1.7	-1.7
Lamb chops	185.9	184.8	3.5	-4.2	-3.2
Frankfurters	165.6	162.2	-5.3	-1.1	-.9
Ham, canned	200.1	201.1	8.8	-2.0	-3.5
Bologna sausage	177.6	173.8	-1.5	-.6	-1.5
Salami sausage	168.3	166.1	1.3	-1.6	-1.8
Liverwurst	169.9	166.7	-.6	.5	-.1
Poultry	155.1	146.5	-12.5	-2.0	-4.2
Frying chicken	157.0	146.5	-14.9	-2.1	-4.6
Chicken breasts	162.0	155.8	-6.1	-1.4	-1.6
Turkey	139.2	135.7	-6.1	-2.0	-4.6
Fish	234.4	(1)	12.6	2.2	(1)
Shrimp, frozen	232.2	(1)	22.0	4.0	(1)
Fish, fresh or frozen	261.3	(1)	16.9	2.0	(1)
Tuna fish, canned	189.6	191.3	8.9	.6	.9
Sardines, canned	253.5	254.5	4.5	2.1	1.6
Dairy products	171.1	173.2	9.5	1.2	.9
Milk, fresh, grocery	161.1	163.4	6.5	1.1	.5
Milk, fresh, skim	177.5	179.5	6.0	1.6	1.1
Milk, evaporated	205.9	(1)	12.6	.6	(1)
Ice cream	160.3	162.1	7.1	1.7	1.6
Cheese, American process	201.4	206.1	13.0	1.8	2.3
Butter	163.8	162.7	26.3	1.3	-1.1
Fruits and vegetables	170.8	175.7	2.0	-4.2	1.4
Fresh fruits and vegetables	163.6	172.2	1.2	-7.4	3.4
Fresh fruits	163.4	157.9	-.4	-7.7	-3.4
Apples	166.0	153.8	-7.3	-7.1	.5
Bananas	150.1	148.0	6.4	-2.0	-1.6
Oranges	163.1	155.5	-1.2	.2	.5
Orange juice, fresh	156.8	(1)	5.5	.2	(1)
Grapes	184.6	151.9	-6.5	.8	1.7
Grapes	167.7	191.4	-1.4	-31.9	-23.1
Strawberries	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Watermelon	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Fresh vegetables	164.0	185.3	2.6	-7.1	7.8
Potatoes	175.0	196.9	-6.5	-13.0	15.8
Onions	160.2	164.0	-18.6	-6.8	3.4
Asparagus	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Cabbage	131.9	141.8	-7.8	-2.9	.6
Carrots	159.1	171.1	6.6	-3.8	8.1
Celery	162.0	169.8	3.3	-8.8	-3.0
Cucumbers	124.7	163.4	4.6	-5.2	1.1
Lettuce	195.5	(1)	26.0	-5.5	(1)
Peppers, green	128.0	164.7	-1.8	-9.1	-2.1
Spinach	199.5	202.7	9.0	-1.3	1.6
Tomatoes	134.2	169.4	3.9	2.1	9.6

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 September 1976 from—		
	September 1976		September 1975	August 1976	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food—Continued					
Food at home—Continued					
Fruits and vegetables—Continued					
Processed fruits and vegetables	181.4	182.5	3.0	0.4	0
Fruit cocktail, canned	180.4	179.9	1.2	1.4	.6
Pears, canned	156.5	156.0	-4.1	-.3	-1.1
Pineapple-grapefruit drink, canned	177.4	177.6	2.7	1.1	1.1
Orange juice concentrate, frozen	154.4	(¹)	.5	-1.0	(¹)
Lemonade concentrate, frozen	179.5	180.6	-3.7	1.0	.2
Beets, canned	187.0	(¹)	-.5	2.0	(¹)
Peas, green canned	159.3	159.6	-1.4	.2	-.3
Tomatoes, canned	178.4	(¹)	.1	.8	(¹)
Dried beans	263.0	(¹)	23.1	-1.5	(¹)
Broccoli, frozen	159.9	(¹)	4.6	.8	(¹)
Other food at home	194.1	193.1	6.4	1.0	-.1
Eggs	182.3	172.5	11.2	3.8	-4.6
Fats and oils	171.1	172.0	-9.8	1.1	-.1
Margarine	185.7	184.0	-11.7	2.3	-1.4
Salad dressing, Italian	150.8	152.2	-1.5	-.1	-.5
Salad or cooking oil	177.9	177.7	-13.6	1.2	-.8
Sugar and sweets	214.9	(¹)	-9.8	-1.4	(¹)
Sugar	192.3	(¹)	-27.7	-7.5	(¹)
Grape jelly	219.5	(¹)	-5.8	.3	(¹)
Chocolate bar	229.8	(¹)	-4.8	-.3	(¹)
Syrup, chocolate flavored	214.8	221.9	-.6	.8	.9
Nonalcoholic beverages	227.6	(¹)	27.9	2.0	(¹)
Coffee	270.0	(¹)	56.3	2.9	(¹)
Coffee, instant	244.5	243.8	38.1	2.7	2.4
Tea	150.8	151.1	.5	.5	.9
Carbonated drink, cola flavored	195.2	(¹)	-.2	.7	(¹)
Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	199.3	(¹)	-.1	.1	(¹)
Prepared and partially prepared foods	169.8	(¹)	5.1	.1	(¹)
Bean soup, canned	208.9	(¹)	18.0	-.3	(¹)
Chicken soup, canned	136.0	136.5	1.0	-.4	-.4
Spaghetti, canned	163.4	162.7	0	-.4	-.7
Mashed potatoes, instant	158.8	158.8	2.6	.3	.6
Potatoes, french fried, frozen	182.2	179.9	8.9	.4	-.1
Baby foods	171.7	(¹)	6.4	.5	(¹)
Sweet pickle relish	177.6	180.7	3.6	.9	1.1
Pretzels	159.8	159.0	-1.0	0	-.3

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 September 1976 from—	
		August 1976	September 1976	September 1975	August 1976
Housing		178.4	179.5	6.3	0.6
Shelter		180.6	181.5	5.8	.5
Rent, residential		145.6	146.2	5.6	.4
Homeownership ²		193.4	194.4	5.7	.5
Mortgage interest rates		140.3	140.7	.2	.3
Property taxes		167.5	167.9	5.2	.2
Property insurance premium		147.7	148.2	10.0	.3
Maintenance and repairs		201.5	203.2	7.1	.8
Maintenance and repair commodities ³		169.7	169.7	4.7	0
Exterior house paint		163.6	163.9	5.9	.2
Interior house paint		153.6	153.3	4.1	-.2
Maintenance and repair services		215.3	217.7	7.9	1.1
Repainting living and dining rooms		228.0	230.3	7.9	1.0
Reshingling house roof		235.9	237.2	6.8	.6
Residing house		202.6	205.3	8.5	1.3
Replacing sink		211.7	214.9	8.2	1.5
Repairing furnace		209.3	211.2	7.9	.9
Fuel and utilities		183.7	185.1	8.3	.8
Fuel oil and coal		249.3	250.8	5.1	.6
Fuel oil, No. 2		245.8	247.4	5.6	.7
Gas and electricity		190.3	192.2	10.5	1.0
Gas		200.7	205.2	16.1	2.2
Electricity		180.6	180.1	5.1	-.3
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services		130.9	130.8	3.5	-.1
Residential water and sewerage services		190.5	193.4	12.7	1.5
Household furnishings and operation ⁴		169.1	170.2	6.3	.7
Housefurnishings		150.8	151.7	4.0	.6
Textiles		146.8	151.0	6.3	2.9
Sheets, full, flat		143.0	156.7	2.6	9.6
Curtains, tailored		144.9	147.5	10.3	1.8
Bedspreads		146.5	150.7	5.2	2.9
Drapery fabrics		181.8	181.5	7.3	-.2
Pillows, bed		125.5	129.5	9.2	3.2
Slipcovers and throws, ready-made		138.1	139.1	3.7	.7
Furniture and bedding		152.0	152.3	2.5	.2
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser	Mar. 70	133.5	134.5	4.6	.7
Sofas, upholstered		141.8	141.5	1.1	-.2
Cocktail tables	Dec. 71	130.0	130.1	5.0	.1
Dining room chairs	Mar. 70	136.0	137.0	5.2	.7
Recliners, upholstered	Dec. 71	111.6	112.7	1.3	1.0
Sofas, dual purpose		139.7	139.3	.9	-.3
Bedding, mattress and box springs	June 70	135.3	135.3	3.1	0
Aluminum folding chairs		169.3	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Cribs		154.7	154.3	3.2	-.3
Floor coverings		137.2	137.3	4.6	.1
Broadloom carpeting		125.0	125.3	4.3	.2
Vinyl sheet goods		165.6	164.9	6.7	-.4
Vinyl floor tile		165.4	165.7	3.8	.2
Appliances (excluding radio and TV)		136.0	136.7	5.3	.5
Washing machines, electric		141.8	142.7	6.1	.6
Vacuum cleaners		121.6	122.2	3.4	.5
Refrigerators, refrigerator-freezers, electric		135.8	136.5	5.1	.5
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric		139.2	140.1	5.9	.6
Clothes dryers, electric		149.9	150.1	8.5	.1
Air conditioners, demountable		129.8	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Room heaters, electric, portable		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Garbage disposal units		135.0	135.8	4.5	.6
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, fine china		193.0	193.2	8.6	.1
Flatware, stainless steel		181.4	182.1	3.8	.4
Table lamps, with shade		147.6	148.1	1.0	.3
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type		163.9	164.3	6.7	.2
Electric drills, hand-held		126.9	128.1	2.0	.9
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents		176.7	177.2	8.0	.3
Paper napkins		221.2	220.7	5.6	-.2
Toilet tissue		233.4	237.2	10.9	1.6
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic services, general housework		211.2	213.5	7.4	1.1
Baby sitter services		217.2	218.6	11.3	.6
Postal charges		225.6	225.6	27.5	0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service		205.9	206.5	8.8	.3
Licensed day care services, preschool child		163.7	164.5	5.6	.5
Washing machine repairs		201.2	203.0	7.6	.9

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 September 1976 from—	
		August 1976	September 1976	September 1975	August 1976
Apparel and upkeep ⁶		148.1	150.2	4.7	1.4
Apparel commodities		146.2	148.5	4.4	1.6
Apparel commodities less footwear		145.2	147.8	4.2	1.8
Men's and boys'		147.5	150.1	5.1	1.8
Men's:					
Topcoats and all-weather coats		151.2	152.0	5.8	.5
Suits, year round weight		137.4	146.1	4.2	6.3
Sport jackets	June 74	96.8	99.8	-4.7	3.1
Jackets, lightweight		138.3	140.1	3.3	1.3
Slacks, heavyweight		120.9	121.7	1.8	.7
Slacks, lightweight		145.6	146.7	2.4	.8
Trousers, work		162.6	163.3	8.5	.4
Shirts, work		161.6	161.8	6.9	.1
Shirts, business or dress		135.1	136.3	6.7	.9
T-shirts		159.7	161.0	4.5	.8
Socks		135.1	136.6	5.2	1.1
Handkerchiefs		162.3	163.8	6.4	.9
Boys':					
Coats, heavyweight		(⁵)	126.9	6.5	(⁵)
Sport coats, wool or wool blends		(⁵)	126.4	7.7	(⁵)
Dungarees		193.3	194.1	11.1	.4
Undershorts		156.5	157.9	5.2	.9
Women's and girls'		142.2	145.0	3.6	2.0
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight		154.6	161.7	5.8	4.6
Carcoats, heavyweight		163.6	166.8	8.7	2.0
Sweaters		138.1	140.2	-2.8	1.5
Skirts, winter weight		(⁵)	157.4	.8	(⁵)
Skirts, summer weight		143.9	141.0	-3.2	-2.0
Blouses		143.0	145.1	5.1	1.5
Dresses, street, year round weight		148.7	151.7	5.3	2.0
Slips		124.3	125.1	6.1	.6
Panties		151.8	152.2	8.1	.3
Girdles		134.1	134.8	4.3	.5
Brassieres		152.0	151.1	5.1	-6
Hose or panty hose, nylon		93.2	92.7	.9	-5
Anklets or knee-length socks		133.8	136.1	4.5	1.7
Gloves, fabric		128.6	127.7	.4	-7
Handbags		167.9	173.6	2.5	3.4
Girls':					
Raincoats		(⁷)	141.8	8.0	(⁷)
Skirts, fall and winter		162.6	164.0	11.9	.9
Dresses		139.8	140.2	7.4	.3
Slacks, fall and winter		171.9	172.8	4.2	.5
Slips		137.7	138.6	8.2	.7
Handbags		141.5	143.1	2.2	1.1
Other apparel commodities		153.7	153.8	2.9	.1
Diapers		191.3	190.8	5.1	-3
Yard goods		160.2	161.2	1.7	.6
Wrist watches, men's and women's		141.4	141.4	2.8	0
Footwear		151.0	152.3	5.3	.9
Men's:					
Shoes, street		157.8	159.4	8.0	1.0
Shoes, work, high		172.5	172.4	7.9	-.1
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump		144.5	145.2	4.5	.5
Shoes, evening, pump		134.7	135.8	2.9	.8
Shoes, casual		152.1	155.3	5.8	2.1
Houseslippers, scuff		148.4	148.8	5.5	.3
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford		155.2	155.7	8.0	.3
Sneakers, boys', oxford type		148.1	149.1	-.7	.7
Dress shoes, girls'		158.5	161.3	4.9	1.8
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning		161.5	161.9	6.1	.2
Automatic laundry service		143.2	144.4	5.6	.8
Laundry, men's shirts		167.7	168.1	8.7	.2
Tailoring charges		163.4	163.7	6.3	.2
Shoe repairs		149.9	150.6	5.3	.5
Transportation		168.5	169.5	9.1	.6
Private ⁸		167.8	168.6	9.6	.5
Automobiles, new		134.4	134.2	6.1	-.1
Automobiles, used		179.6	180.1	15.0	.3
Gasoline, regular, premium, and unleaded		181.8	182.1	1.4	.2
Motor oil		160.2	160.6	2.2	.2
Tires		132.3	135.9	7.3	2.7
Auto repairs (mechanical) and maintenance ⁹		191.2	192.0	7.4	.4
Auto insurance premiums		190.7	194.1	32.6	1.8
Auto registration fees		132.8	132.8	1.5	0
Parking fees, private and municipal		185.0	186.0	6.7	.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 September 1976 from—	
		August 1976	September 1976	September 1975	August 1976
Transportation—Continued					
Public		174.6	176.9	4.4	1.3
Local transit fares		173.5	175.7	2.5	1.3
Taxicab fares		177.7	177.1	5.3	-.3
Railroad fares, coach		168.8	168.8	11.1	0
Airplane fares, chiefly coach		173.4	177.3	9.4	2.2
Bus fares, intercity		192.6	203.6	5.7	5.7
Health and recreation					
Medical care ¹⁰		164.4	165.3	6.4	.5
Drugs and prescriptions		186.8	187.9	9.1	.6
Over-the-counter items		126.9	127.4	5.9	.4
Multiple vitamin concentrates		139.9	140.6	6.5	.5
Aspirin compounds		106.6	105.8	1.7	-.8
Liquid tonics		139.5	140.1	4.5	.4
Adhesive bandages, packages		121.2	121.3	3.6	.1
Cold tablets or capsules		185.1	186.9	10.7	1.0
Cough syrup		131.5	132.6	5.9	.8
Prescriptions		147.2	147.8	9.0	.4
Anti-infectives		116.0	116.4	5.3	.3
Sedative and hypnotics		73.1	73.1	2.2	0
Ataractics		165.0	165.8	6.4	.5
Antispasmodics		114.6	115.1	8.8	.4
Cough preparations		137.4	138.6	8.2	.9
Cardiovasculars and antihypertensives		184.6	184.9	10.4	.2
Analgesics, internal		121.4	121.6	2.7	.2
Hormones		121.1	121.0	.4	-.1
Professional services:		111.1	111.6	6.5	.5
Physicians' fees		190.6	192.2	11.2	.8
General physician, office visits		196.2	197.8	11.6	.8
General physician, house visits		191.5	193.2	10.7	.9
Obstetrical cases		194.9	196.8	14.8	1.0
Pediatric care, office visits		195.3	195.9	11.0	.3
Psychiatrist, office visits		164.2	165.6	6.7	.9
Herniorrhaphy, adult		171.9	173.0	11.4	.6
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy		180.2	182.8	9.3	1.4
Dentists' fees		173.5	174.5	6.3	.6
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface		178.7	179.6	6.3	.5
Extractions, adult		173.0	174.4	7.1	.8
Dentures, full upper		163.3	164.1	5.7	.5
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses		159.8	160.5	5.9	.4
Routine laboratory tests		163.4	164.0	6.6	.4
Hospital service charges	Jan. 72	151.0	151.6	12.0	.4
Semiprivate rooms		273.8	275.2	13.2	.5
Operating room charges		280.5	281.8	15.4	.5
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper GI		178.5	179.1	12.6	.3
Laboratory tests	Jan. 72	140.7	140.8	8.2	.1
Anti-infectives	Jan. 72	123.5	123.4	10.6	-.1
Tranquilizers	Jan. 72	129.8	129.6	6.8	-.2
Electrocardiogram	Jan. 72	137.8	137.9	9.0	.1
Intravenous solution	Jan. 72	146.0	146.6	13.0	.4
Physical therapy	Jan. 72	151.9	153.4	9.8	1.0
Oxygen, inhalation therapy	Jan. 72	131.2	132.1	6.4	.7
Personal care		161.6	162.8	7.0	.7
Toilet goods		159.3	159.9	5.6	.4
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice		137.0	138.7	6.4	1.2
Toilet soap, hard-milled		192.2	191.4	-1.5	-.4
Hand lotions		164.9	165.6	6.8	.4
Shaving cream		137.4	136.7	7.3	-.5
Face powder		170.8	170.9	10.7	.1
Deodorants		121.0	121.5	3.3	.4
Cleansing tissues		215.4	219.2	7.8	1.8
Home permanent wave kits		129.9	129.7	7.1	-.2
Personal care services		164.0	165.7	8.6	1.0
Men's haircuts		164.4	166.8	7.5	1.5
Beauty shop services		163.9	165.1	9.3	.7
Women's haircuts		191.0	193.2	16.5	1.2
Shampoo and wave sets, plain		163.8	164.5	7.2	.4
Permanent waves, cold		136.5	137.7	5.5	.9
Reading and recreation ¹¹		151.4	152.8	4.7	.9
Recreational goods		127.8	128.2	3.0	.3
TV sets, portable and console		102.6	102.9	.8	.3
TV replacement tubes		166.7	166.9	5.6	.1
Radios, portable and table models		105.3	105.2	.8	-.1
Tape recorders, portable		96.2	96.4	.9	.2
Phonograph records, stereophonic		123.6	123.7	.4	.1
Movie cameras, 8mm		95.4	95.9	1.6	.5
Film, 35mm, color		126.9	127.8	7.7	.7
Golf balls		103.5	103.9	.2	.4

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 September 1976 from—	
		August 1976	September 1976	September 1975	August 1976
Health and recreation—Continued					
Reading and recreation—Continued					
Recreational goods—Continued					
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover		148.3	148.2	1.4	-0.1
Fishing rods, fresh-water spincasting		123.9	124.3	2.5	.3
Bowling balls		131.0	130.7	2.4	-.2
Bicycles, boys'		146.4	146.8	1.3	.3
Tricycles		151.5	151.8	6.2	.2
Dog food, canned or boxed		169.9	172.8	2.9	1.7
Recreational services		156.5	156.9	4.8	.3
Indoor movie admissions		179.6	179.6	4.2	0
Adult		173.6	173.7	3.5	.1
Children's		196.7	196.2	5.9	-.3
Drive-in movie admissions		182.7	182.5	5.4	-.1
Bowling fees, evening		145.5	147.2	5.3	1.2
Golf green fees		167.4	167.7	9.3	.2
TV repair		106.6	107.3	1.9	.7
Film developing		124.0	123.6	1.2	-.3
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery		182.5	182.6	3.6	.1
Magazines, single copy and subscription		188.0	188.0	10.3	0
Piano lessons, beginner		145.7	148.0	5.5	1.6
Other goods and services		153.8	153.9	4.0	.1
Tobacco products		160.5	160.6	4.0	.1
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size		162.7	162.7	4.0	0
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size		163.2	163.2	3.9	0
Cigars, domestic, regular size		130.1	130.4	4.5	.2
Alcoholic beverages		147.6	147.7	3.6	.1
Beer, at home		144.2	144.0	3.3	-.1
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon		116.2	116.5	1.4	.3
Wine, dessert and table		157.9	158.2	2.1	.2
Beer, away from home		167.1	167.6	5.5	.3
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult		150.4	150.8	3.9	.3
Bank service charges, checking account		128.9	129.4	6.6	.4
Legal services, short form will		201.0	201.6	6.7	.3

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	September 1975	June 1976	August 1976
		September 1976			September 1975	June 1976	August 1976
U.S. city average	M	172.6	200.8		5.5	1.5	0.4
Chicago	M	167.5	190.3		4.9	1.6	.5
Detroit	M	171.3	196.9		5.2	2.0	.9
Los Angeles—Long Beach	M	170.7	200.7		6.4	2.2	.6
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J.	M	178.6	212.5		5.5	1.5	.6
Philadelphia	M	174.5	203.8		4.6	1.5	.8
		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	
		September 1976			September 1975	June 1976	
Atlanta	3	171.6	197.3		4.2	1.8	
Baltimore	3	176.5	204.9		5.3	1.6	
Cincinnati	3	172.1	195.4		5.0	1.3	
Honolulu	3	164.0		⁵ 176.8	4.1	1.0	
Kansas City	3	168.7	200.2		5.3	1.7	
St. Louis	3	167.1	195.2		5.2	1.2	
San Francisco—Oakland	3	169.9	202.2		5.2	1.8	

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 August 1976 to September 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	0.4	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.6	0.8
Food	-.4	-.6	-.6	-.8	-.2	.1
Housing .....	.6	.6	2.2	1.2	.4	1.6
Apparel and upkeep	1.4	2.2	1.4	1.1	2.0	2.0
Transportation .....	.6	1.1	.7	.9	1.0	.5
Health and recreation .....	.5	.7	.4	.4	.6	.4
Medical care .....	.6	1.0	0	.3	.7	.7
Personal care .....	.7	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Reading and recreation .....	.9	.7	1.8	.6	1.4	.2
Other goods and services .....	.1	.1	.1	.2	-.1	-.1

¹ See footnote 1, table 5.

² Not available.

Table 7. CPI—selected areas¹, by expenditure class

(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
Indexes, September 1976						
All items	172.6	167.5	171.3	170.7	178.6	174.5
Food	181.6	181.3	175.2	173.5	186.3	186.9
Food at home	179.9	180.2	172.1	171.7	186.3	183.8
Cereals and bakery products	180.4	181.7	184.0	177.3	184.7	186.0
Meats, poultry, and fish	179.3	182.1	171.5	174.2	178.7	183.2
Dairy products	171.1	165.5	164.9	157.4	173.7	173.3
Fruits and vegetables	170.8	171.9	151.3	159.9	191.0	176.3
Other food at home	194.1	194.9	188.3	184.1	206.7	198.9
Food away from home	188.7	185.6	189.2	178.2	186.5	200.0
Housing	179.5	164.4	177.7	180.0	183.6	182.1
Shelter	181.5	164.5	182.0	187.3	182.6	191.9
Rent, residential	146.2	138.6	(²)	146.4	(²)	157.3
Homeownership	194.4	176.1	189.9	200.1	196.2	200.9
Fuel and utilities	185.1	167.1	189.0	161.1	207.5	175.2
Fuel oil and coal	250.8	241.4	251.8	-	258.5	240.3
Gas and electricity	192.2	176.0	205.6	185.9	233.0	180.6
Household furnishings and operation	170.2	162.2	156.8	163.6	172.3	168.3
Apparel and upkeep	150.2	142.0	143.7	141.7	149.9	141.7
Men's and boys'	150.1	131.9	153.9	138.5	141.9	147.2
Women's and girls'	145.0	140.9	129.9	136.0	149.6	125.5
Footwear	152.3	145.7	148.1	145.9	149.1	151.8
Transportation	169.5	172.4	163.3	174.0	188.3	169.0
Private	168.6	171.0	162.7	175.5	177.9	171.8
Public	176.9	180.9	170.0	144.5	228.4	153.2
Health and recreation	165.3	166.5	175.4	162.1	172.6	169.9
Medical care	187.9	193.2	213.0	190.5	203.9	205.7
Personal care	162.8	157.6	(²)	150.0	(²)	(²)
Reading and recreation	152.8	152.6	153.7	141.5	158.1	152.1
Other goods and services	153.9	157.1	157.1	152.9	159.1	156.5
Percent changes, June 1976 to September 1976						
All items	1.5	1.6	2.0	2.2	1.5	1.5
Food .....	.4	.6	-.3	.2	.3	.3
Food at home .....	.1	.4	-.7	-.4	.3	0
Cereals and bakery products	-.5	-.2	1.3	-.3	-1.5	-.4
Meats, poultry, and fish	-1.9	-2.3	-3.3	-2.6	-1.9	-2.4
Dairy products	1.9	2.9	1.0	1.1	1.3	3.0
Fruits and vegetables	-3.3	-4.2	-6.4	-.1	-.1	-2.7
Other food at home	4.8	7.7	5.4	1.7	4.7	4.5
Food away from home	1.7	1.1	1.7	1.9	.5	1.6
Housing	1.7	1.6	3.7	2.9	.7	2.2
Shelter	1.9	1.8	4.4	3.7	.7	2.6
Rent, residential	1.2	³ 3	(²)	³ 1.2	(²)	³ 1.0
Homeownership	1.9	2.1	5.0	3.9	.6	2.8
Fuel and utilities	1.9	1.4	3.0	-.3	2.0	2.0
Fuel oil and coal	1.4	1.6	2.7	-	1.9	2.3
Gas and electricity	2.3	2.1	3.5	-.6	3.1	2.7
Household furnishings and operation	1.0	1.0	1.8	1.6	.5	1.4
Apparel and upkeep	2.2	2.9	2.3	2.2	5.6	1.7
Men's and boys'	2.3	.1	2.3	4.8	2.3	.3
Women's and girls'	2.9	6.0	3.3	1.2	11.5	3.5
Footwear	1.9	2.1	2.2	1.7	2.9	.2
Transportation	2.2	2.9	1.7	4.4	2.1	1.7
Private	2.2	2.0	1.9	3.8	2.7	1.9
Public	1.9	8.0	.4	19.4	.4	.4
Health and recreation	1.5	1.4	1.8	1.2	1.9	1.6
Medical care	2.3	2.8	3.1	1.9	2.4	3.3
Personal care	1.9	1.9	.5	.9	3.2	2.4
Reading and recreation	1.3	.9	1.7	1.3	1.9	.4
Other goods and services .....	.5	-.1	.2	.3	.6	.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 7. CPI—selected areas¹, by expenditure class—Continued

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

Expenditure class	Atlanta	Baltimore	Cincinnati	Honolulu	Kansas City	St. Louis	San Francisco—Oakland
Indexes, September 1976							
All items	171.6	176.5	172.1	164.0	168.7	169.9	167.1
Food	187.2	186.5	185.6	182.0	182.0	174.0	181.1
Food at home	187.4	184.8	187.6	178.0	179.9	175.7	180.2
Cereals and bakery products	189.7	175.8	189.6	172.3	179.6	172.8	189.8
Meats, poultry, and fish	185.2	184.3	187.2	181.9	178.1	180.1	173.9
Dairy products	182.7	171.8	173.1	183.9	176.4	162.1	175.4
Fruits and vegetables	184.8	182.0	180.5	172.7	167.5	164.6	173.9
Other food at home	193.5	202.1	205.6	177.1	194.0	189.8	192.8
Food away from home	186.3	193.2	177.9	193.8	188.5	168.2	185.2
Housing	177.4	189.6	173.7	158.1	172.6	179.0	168.7
Shelter	180.2	201.0	177.0	157.8	175.6	184.0	167.5
Rent, residential	131.7	137.2	124.2	158.2	125.2	155.4	121.4
Homeownership	194.5	227.8	201.6	157.4	195.3	198.3	180.7
Fuel and utilities	174.7	174.1	182.6	158.7	169.1	164.5	172.0
Fuel oil and coal	-	245.9	-	-	-	-	261.9
Gas and electricity	182.2	174.9	186.8	187.5	193.7	188.3	174.7
Household furnishings and operation	172.7	173.9	160.0	158.4	167.2	170.1	169.1
Apparel and upkeep	147.8	156.4	157.0	148.7	154.7	145.8	143.8
Men's and boys'	159.6	156.7	153.8	144.7	157.2	147.5	142.7
Women's and girls'	141.5	141.5	154.2	140.0	153.5	140.8	136.9
Footwear	132.4	166.1	165.2	145.6	158.5	147.4	155.6
Transportation	157.4	162.2	160.4	155.1	162.8	169.5	162.6
Private	162.1	163.1	167.2	160.9	163.3	170.4	167.5
Public	96.5	156.0	108.2	124.0	152.1	152.2	104.2
Health and recreation	168.8	165.7	168.7	163.2	160.9	161.9	161.8
Medical care	200.8	194.8	200.7	187.1	175.2	184.0	170.7
Personal care	165.5	156.5	158.2	168.8	163.4	161.3	167.3
Reading and recreation	152.5	151.0	145.7	160.8	145.8	147.3	149.7
Other goods and services	141.0	158.6	163.2	136.8	159.6	145.9	159.2
Percent changes, June 1976 to September 1976							
All items	1.8	1.6	1.3	1.0	1.7	1.8	1.2
Food	1.5	.7	.8	-.5	1.7	.7	-.3
Food at home	1.8	.5	.5	-.7	1.1	.5	0
Cereals and bakery products	3.1	.4	-.3	-2.8	-1.4	-2.3	-1.6
Meats, poultry, and fish	-.1	-1.7	-1.6	-1.0	-.3	-2.3	-2.4
Dairy products	1.3	2.2	1.1	2.5	.6	2.1	2.0
Fruits and vegetables	0	-1.9	-.1	-1.6	.5	1.3	-3.1
Other food at home	4.9	4.7	4.6	.3	5.4	5.5	5.7
Food away from home .....	.2	1.7	1.8	.3	3.5	1.4	1.9
Housing	1.4	2.8	.9	1.3	1.7	2.0	1.3
Shelter .....	.6	3.8	-.3	1.9	1.5	2.3	1.3
Rent, residential .....	.4	1.7	.4	.8	1.4	1.8	1.3
Homeownership .....	.7	4.4	-.6	2.5	1.5	2.5	1.3
Fuel and utilities	2.5	1.3	5.2	.1	2.9	2.9	1.7
Fuel oil and coal	-	1.8	-	-	-	-	.5
Gas and electricity	-.5	1.5	7.4	.2	3.4	4.6	2.0
Household furnishings and operation	2.9	1.5	1.7	.4	1.6	.7	.8
Apparel and upkeep	4.9	1.8	3.9	1.3	3.2	1.3	2.1
Men's and boys'	3.4	1.3	5.2	0	1.4	2.7	1.9
Women's and boys'	9.8	2.4	4.6	3.3	7.0	.9	3.0
Footwear	4.9	2.3	1.0	.6	.6	1.3	2.0
Transportation	1.9	1.2	1.7	1.2	1.2	3.4	1.6
Private	2.0	1.4	1.8	1.5	1.2	3.5	1.6
Public .....	.6	.3	.6	0	.5	2.1	.6
Health and recreation	1.4	.6	1.3	2.6	1.4	1.7	1.4
Medical care	3.0	.2	2.4	4.2	.6	1.9	1.2
Personal care .....	.2	.4	1.9	1.4	1.5	2.9	2.7
Reading and recreation .....	.5	1.3	1.0	2.0	1.6	1.7	1.1
Other goods and services .....	.3	.4	.1	1.9	2.1	.7	1.2

¹ See footnote 1, table 5.

² Not available.

³ Change from July 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, September 1976								
U.S. city average	181.6	179.9	180.4	179.3	171.1	170.8	194.1	188.7
Atlanta	187.2	187.4	189.7	185.2	182.7	184.8	193.5	186.3
Baltimore	186.5	184.8	175.8	184.3	171.8	182.0	202.1	193.2
Boston	184.0	181.8	182.7	180.3	168.7	176.7	199.3	192.0
Buffalo	178.6	178.6	187.1	178.0	169.5	159.2	188.1	188.8
Chicago	181.3	180.2	181.7	182.1	165.5	171.9	194.9	185.6
Cincinnati	185.6	187.6	189.6	187.2	173.1	180.5	205.6	177.9
Cleveland	187.9	188.1	192.4	182.9	181.4	171.5	210.7	187.4
Dallas	177.0	172.3	170.7	171.0	163.0	161.5	187.1	193.8
Detroit	175.2	172.1	184.0	171.5	164.9	151.3	188.3	189.2
Honolulu	182.0	178.0	172.3	181.9	183.9	172.7	177.1	193.8
Houston	189.2	183.6	175.1	187.2	184.0	178.3	187.6	208.7
Kansas City	182.0	179.9	179.6	178.1	176.4	167.5	194.0	188.5
Los Angeles—Long Beach	173.5	171.7	177.3	174.2	157.4	159.9	184.1	178.2
Milwaukee	182.2	180.8	181.8	181.2	179.4	173.9	185.6	(²)
Minneapolis—St. Paul	187.0	182.3	189.5	183.2	185.1	163.2	189.8	207.8
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J.	186.3	186.3	184.7	178.7	173.7	191.0	206.7	186.5
Philadelphia	186.9	183.8	186.0	183.2	173.3	176.3	198.9	200.0
Pittsburgh	181.5	178.6	182.9	180.3	161.4	171.8	191.7	198.4
St. Louis	181.1	180.2	189.8	173.9	175.4	173.9	192.8	185.2
San Diego	181.0	172.8	172.0	179.0	160.8	162.2	180.4	(²)
San Francisco—Oakland	174.0	175.7	172.8	180.1	162.1	164.6	189.8	168.2
Seattle	176.4	175.0	177.2	181.9	169.3	152.1	186.5	180.9
Washington	189.7	185.4	183.0	174.7	162.5	193.0	212.5	200.6
Percent changes, August 1976 to September 1976								
U.S. city average	-0.4	-0.6	0.1	-1.2	1.2	-4.2	1.0	0.5
Atlanta .....	.5	.7	.9	.8	.4	-1.3	1.8	0
Baltimore	-1	-3	.4	-1.7	.9	-2.2	1.7	1.0
Boston	-6	-8	-1.0	-1.3	1.6	-5.0	2.0	.3
Buffalo	-9	-1.3	-.4	-1.5	.7	-6.6	1.0	1.1
Chicago	-6	-8	.6	-.7	1.4	-8.4	2.3	.2
Cincinnati	-9	-1.3	-.9	-2.1	.4	-3.4	.7	.4
Cleveland .....	.8	.9	2.1	-1.3	5.7	-1.5	2.0	.5
Dallas	-7	-1.1	.1	-2.3	1.4	-4.9	.9	.6
Detroit	-6	-8	-.3	-1.4	1.2	-5.4	2.1	.3
Honolulu .....	.1	.2	-.9	0	.7	.8	.2	.2
Houston	-2	-3	-1.2	-1.1	1.8	-1.0	.5	.1
Kansas City .....	.7	.2	1.2	-.9	1.7	-1.7	1.6	1.8
Los Angeles—Long Beach	-8	-1.3	-.6	-1.2	.1	-3.9	-.8	.3
Milwaukee	-1	-2	.5	-1.1	2.3	-3.3	1.0	(²)
Minneapolis—St. Paul	-1.1	-1.4	-.9	-.9	-.4	-6.9	1.1	.3
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J.	-2	-3	.8	-1.2	1.0	-2.3	1.2	.3
Philadelphia .....	.1	-.1	2.4	-1.5	1.8	-2.0	.8	.6
Pittsburgh	-7	-8	.8	-2.3	2.0	-3.2	.3	.2
St. Louis	-1.0	-1.4	-1.3	-3.4	2.3	-5.7	2.2	1.0
San Diego .....	.1	.1	-.2	-.2	.4	-.4	.8	(²)
San Francisco—Oakland	-4	-6	-2.4	-.6	.6	-1.4	.1	.5
Seattle	-2	-6	.1	-2.0	2.3	-2.2	-.1	.9
Washington	-1	-3	.1	-2.5	1.9	-.3	1.5	.1

¹ See footnote 1, table 5.

² Not available.

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 Sept. 1976 from—	Index		Percent change to Sept. 1976 from—	Index		Percent change to Sept. 1976 from—
	August 1976	September 1976	August 1976	August 1976	September 1976	August 1976	August 1976	September 1976	August 1976
U.S. city average	103.1	103.3	0.2	103.8	104.1	0.3	103.1	103.4	0.3
Atlanta	104.0	103.4	-.6	106.1	105.4	-.7	104.6	104.4	-.2
Baltimore	102.6	101.8	-.8	103.0	102.6	-.4	102.4	102.0	-.4
Boston	102.0	102.7	.7	104.4	104.8	.4	101.8	103.1	1.3
Buffalo	103.1	103.8	.7	102.5	103.2	.7	102.2	102.6	.4
Chicago	103.4	103.7	.3	104.0	104.4	.4	103.5	104.0	.5
Cincinnati	103.1	102.5	-.6	103.9	103.7	-.2	102.6	102.4	-.2
Cleveland	101.7	101.8	.1	103.2	102.9	-.3	101.9	101.9	0
Dallas	104.2	104.2	0	104.7	104.9	.2	104.5	104.4	-.1
Detroit	102.5	102.7	.2	103.7	105.0	1.3	102.4	102.6	.2
Honolulu	102.0	102.5	.5	101.5	102.0	.5	101.1	101.6	.5
Houston	104.9	104.4	-.5	105.5	105.0	-.5	104.3	103.7	-.6
Kansas City	104.6	104.6	0	105.4	105.7	.3	104.6	104.6	0
Los Angeles—Long Beach	103.5	104.1	.6	104.1	104.4	.3	103.2	103.8	.6
Milwaukee	104.9	104.4	-.5	106.2	105.5	-.7	103.9	104.1	.2
Minneapolis—St. Paul	103.5	103.2	-.3	105.1	104.7	-.4	103.4	103.2	-.2
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J.	101.7	101.9	.2	103.8	104.4	.6	102.1	102.6	.5
Philadelphia	101.7	102.1	.4	103.2	104.2	1.0	102.5	102.8	.3
Pittsburgh	103.7	103.0	-.7	104.8	104.7	-.1	104.2	103.9	-.3
St. Louis	104.6	104.9	.3	104.6	105.2	.6	103.9	104.6	.7
San Diego	102.4	103.3	.9	103.4	104.0	.6	102.7	103.3	.6
San Francisco—Oakland	102.7	104.0	1.3	102.5	103.9	1.4	101.8	103.1	1.3
Seattle	103.7	104.2	.5	103.3	103.8	.5	103.2	103.7	.5
Washington	102.3	102.4	.1	104.8	104.6	-.2	103.3	103.3	0

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								
	July 1976	August 1976	September 1976	July 1976	August 1976	September 1976	July 1976	August 1976	September 1976
U.S. city average	\$0.599	\$0.603	\$0.604	\$0.623	\$0.628	\$0.630	\$0.644	\$0.649	\$0.651
Atlanta .....	.596	.600	.597	.635	.638	.633	.652	.655	.654
Baltimore .....	.610	.613	.609	.628	.632	.630	.656	.660	.657
Boston .....	.595	.597	.601	.622	.628	.630	.640	.640	.648
Buffalo .....	.609	.612	.616	.629	.632	.637	.650	.655	.658
Chicago .....	.616	.620	.622	.651	.657	.659	.659	.665	.668
Cincinnati .....	.592	.593	.589	.615	.615	.614	.640	.639	.637
Cleveland .....	.592	.595	.596	.612	.614	.612	.639	.640	.640
Dallas .....	.558	.560	.560	.578	.582	.583	.601	.605	.604
Detroit .....	.591	.594	.595	.625	.626	.634	.641	.647	.648
Honolulu .....	.694	.699	.702	.701	.706	.710	.730	.735	.738
Houston .....	.550	.553	.550	.570	.576	.573	.597	.601	.597
Kansas City .....	.583	.579	.579	.603	.600	.602	.630	.626	.626
Los Angeles—Long Beach .....	.602	.604	.607	.630	.636	.638	.643	.647	.651
Milwaukee .....	.570	.571	.568	.598	.601	.597	.611	.616	.617
Minneapolis—St. Paul .....	.597	.595	.593	.621	.621	.619	.653	.655	.653
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J. ....	.601	.608	.609	.630	.638	.642	.657	.662	.666
Philadelphia .....	.593	.593	.595	.629	.631	.638	.653	.657	.659
Pittsburgh .....	.602	.602	.598	.625	.630	.630	.648	.651	.649
St. Louis .....	.594	.593	.595	.609	.609	.613	.639	.638	.643
San Diego .....	.615	.617	.623	.645	.650	.653	.664	.667	.671
San Francisco—Oakland .....	.623	.630	.638	.641	.648	.657	.663	.671	.680
Seattle .....	.589	.595	.598	.606	.613	.616	.633	.638	.641
Washington .....	.612	.615	.616	.651	.657	.656	.672	.677	.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.

Table 11. CPI—by population size ¹

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

Area and group	Relative importance	Indexes			Percent change to September 1976 from—	
		December 1975	September 1975	June 1976	September 1976	September 1975	June 1976
United States:						
All items	100.000	163.6	170.1	172.6	5.5	1.5
Food	24.675	177.8	180.9	151.6	2.1	.4
Housing	34.002	168.9	176.5	179.5	6.3	1.7
Apparel and upkeep	9.217	143.5	146.9	150.2	4.7	2.2
Transportation	13.053	155.4	165.9	169.5	9.1	2.2
Health and recreation	18.681	155.4	162.8	165.3	6.4	1.5
Class A-1 (3.5 million or more):						
All items	32.409	165.0	171.1	173.9	5.4	1.6
Food	8.280	178.5	181.9	182.5	2.2	.3
Housing	10.730	168.7	175.5	178.4	5.7	1.7
Apparel and upkeep	3.013	141.2	140.4	146.0	3.4	4.0
Transportation	4.241	162.0	173.0	177.6	9.6	2.7
Health and recreation	6.145	158.2	166.9	169.7	7.3	1.7
Class A-2 (1.4 million to 3.5 million):						
All items	11.694	162.8	169.4	171.9	5.6	1.5
Food	2.948	177.9	181.5	182.5	2.6	.6
Housing	3.951	165.7	172.5	175.5	5.9	1.7
Apparel and upkeep	1.095	144.4	147.5	149.7	3.7	1.5
Transportation	1.493	154.0	168.0	171.3	11.2	2.0
Health and recreation	2.207	156.2	162.9	165.6	6.0	1.7
Class B (250,000 to 1.4 million):						
All items	25.645	162.8	169.2	171.6	5.4	1.4
Food	6.073	177.6	180.5	181.3	2.1	.4
Housing	8.909	168.1	175.6	178.6	6.2	1.7
Apparel and upkeep	2.365	145.1	150.4	153.6	5.9	2.1
Transportation	3.444	151.8	161.2	164.3	8.2	1.9
Health and recreation	4.854	154.7	161.6	163.7	5.8	1.3
Class C (50,000 to 250,000):						
All items	12.584	163.1	169.8	171.9	5.4	1.2
Food	3.085	176.7	179.2	180.4	2.1	.7
Housing	4.330	170.1	178.8	181.1	6.5	1.3
Apparel and upkeep	1.191	145.3	150.8	152.2	4.7	.9
Transportation	1.668	153.0	162.3	165.3	8.0	1.8
Health and recreation	2.312	152.7	159.3	161.8	6.0	1.6
Class D (2,500 to 50,000):						
All items	17.292	163.6	170.7	173.0	5.7	1.3
Food	4.289	177.1	180.1	180.7	2.0	.3
Housing	6.078	171.2	180.5	183.7	7.3	1.8
Apparel and upkeep	1.554	143.2	150.8	151.7	5.9	.6
Transportation	2.207	152.4	161.9	165.3	8.5	2.1
Health and recreation	3.163	153.2	159.8	162.1	5.8	1.4

¹ Based upon 1960 Census of Population.

Table 12. CPI—by region

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

Area and group	Relative ¹ importance	Index ¹			Percent change to September 1976 from—	
	December 1975	September 1975	June 1976	September 1976	September 1975	June 1976
United States:						
All items	100.000	163.6	170.1	172.6	5.5	1.5
Food	24.675	177.8	180.9	181.6	2.1	.4
Housing	34.002	168.9	176.5	179.5	6.3	1.7
Apparel and upkeep	9.217	143.5	146.9	150.2	4.7	2.2
Transportation	13.053	155.4	165.9	169.5	9.1	2.2
Health and recreation	18.681	155.4	162.5	165.3	6.4	-1.5
Northeast:						
All items	32.686	166.3	172.9	175.2	5.4	1.3
Food	8.696	179.2	183.5	183.9	2.6	.2
Housing	10.607	172.2	179.2	181.1	5.2	1.1
Apparel and upkeep	3.228	144.7	145.5	150.9	4.3	3.7
Transportation	4.031	159.9	174.1	177.7	11.1	2.1
Health and recreation	6.124	157.4	164.8	167.6	6.5	1.7
North Central:						
All items	27.874	160.8	167.4	169.8	5.6	1.4
Food	6.853	175.6	180.4	181.1	3.1	.4
Housing	9.495	162.0	169.1	172.3	6.4	1.9
Apparel and upkeep	2.467	142.7	147.2	149.2	4.6	1.4
Transportation	3.770	153.8	162.9	166.2	8.1	2.0
Health and recreation	5.288	156.3	163.4	165.7	6.0	1.4
South:						
All items	22.104	166.4	172.6	175.1	5.2	1.4
Food	5.281	182.5	183.1	184.2	.9	.6
Housing	7.732	174.3	182.6	185.8	6.6	1.8
Apparel and upkeep	2.102	144.6	150.9	153.7	6.3	1.9
Transportation	2.938	153.6	162.3	165.1	7.5	1.7
Health and recreation	4.050	156.6	163.7	166.0	6.0	1.4
West:						
All items	16.499	160.2	166.7	169.7	5.9	1.8
Food	3.716	172.5	173.3	174.7	1.3	.8
Housing	6.022	167.7	176.7	180.6	7.7	2.2
Apparel and upkeep	1.385	140.2	143.1	144.8	3.3	1.2
Transportation	2.253	152.9	161.7	167.1	9.3	3.3
Health and recreation	3.123	149.4	157.5	159.9	7.0	1.5

¹ Regional index and relative importance data exclude Anchorage, Alaska, and Honolulu, Hawaii which are included in the U.S. level data. Consequently, regional relative importances will not add to U.S. totals.

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	0.005x100
Equals percent change:	0.5

A Note on Seasonally Adjusted and Unadjusted Data

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

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

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

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

Reliability of Percent Changes in the CPI

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

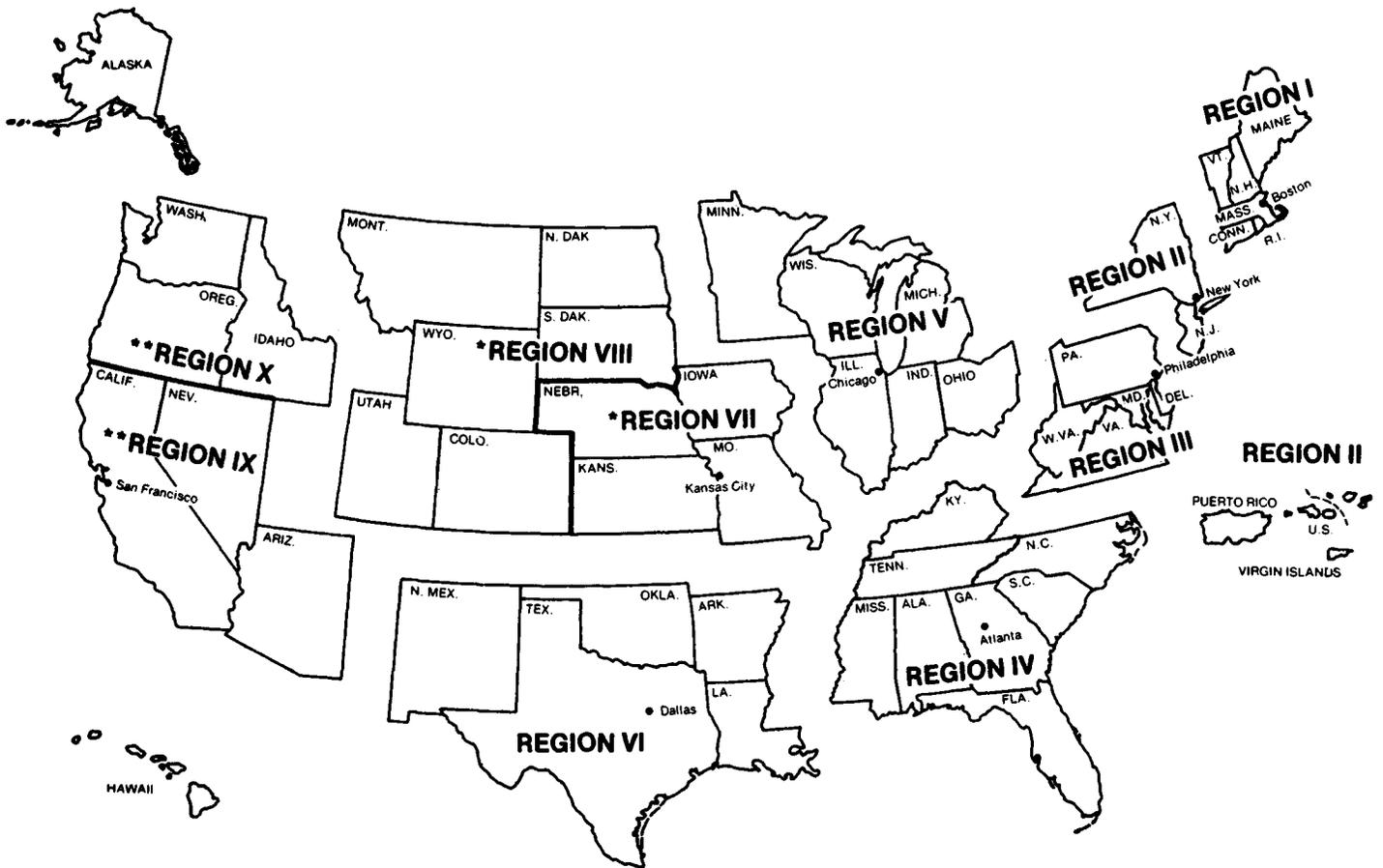
changes in the CPI for all items and for nine commodity groupings based on 1974 averages. The figures may be interpreted as follows: The changes are about 95 out of 100 that the percent change in the CPI as computed differs from the corresponding "complete coverage" change by less than twice the standard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