

CPI Detailed Report

For December 1974

Consumer Price Index U.S. and City Averages



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

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Price Movements

December 1974

The Consumer Price Index rose 0.7 percent in December to 155.4 percent of its 1967 base. Higher prices for sugar and most other types of food, housekeeping supplies, gas and electricity, and public transportation were responsible for a large part of the December rise. The effect of these increases was partially offset by declines in prices for beef, fresh fruits and vegetables, clothing, and used cars.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the rise in the December CPI was 0.7 percent; this compares with 0.9 percent in each of the 2 preceding months. The food index rose 0.7 percent after seasonal adjustment in December, the smallest increase in 5 months. The December increase of 0.4 percent for the nonfood commodities index was the smallest monthly rise in 1974. The services index rose 0.9 percent, about the same as in October and November. (See table A.)

Analysis of 1974 change

For the calendar quarter that ended in December, the CPI rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 10.1 percent. Seasonally adjusted annual rates of increase in the first 3 quarters of the year were 14.2 percent, 10.3 percent, and 14.2 percent, respectively. For calendar year 1974, the CPI rose 12.2 percent.

About two-fifths of the annual increase in the CPI was due to a 13.2-percent rise in prices of nonfood commodities. The nonfood commodities index rose at a rapid rate in the first 3 quarters—at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 15.3 percent. In the final 3 months of 1974, the index rose at a 7.3-percent rate, as price increases for many consumer goods were smaller than earlier in the year and gasoline prices declined. (See table B.)

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 12 months ago
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	From 3 months ago	Unadjusted
1973:									
December	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	9.2	8.8
1974:									
January .....	.9	1.1	1.6	1.7	.6	1.3	.7	10.2	9.4
February	1.3	1.2	2.5	2.2	1.0	1.1	.7	12.2	10.0
March	1.1	1.1	1.0	.6	1.5	1.4	.8	14.2	10.2
April .....	.6	.5	-.3	-.4	1.1	.9	.6	11.7	10.1
May	1.1	1.1	.7	.9	1.4	1.1	1.0	11.0	10.6
June	1.0	.9	.4	.3	1.3	1.2	1.0	10.3	11.0
July .....	.7	.7	.1	-.4	1.0	1.3	1.1	11.1	11.5
August	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.1	12.4	11.0
September	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.9	1.1	1.0	1.1	14.2	12.0
October .....	.9	.9	.7	1.3	.9	.6	.9	15.0	12.0
November .....	.8	.9	1.0	1.4	.8	.8	.8	13.0	12.1
December .....	.7	.7	1.1	.7	.4	.4	.9	10.1	12.2

Table B. Changes in Wholesale and Consumer Price Indexes, 1972-74

(Compound annual rates, seasonally adjusted (except services))

Index	December 1972 to December 1973	December 1973 to December 1974	3 months ending			
			1973			
			March	June	September	December
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX						
All items	8.8	12.2	8.4	7.5	10.2	9.2
Food.....	20.1	12.2	26.7	16.8	26.7	11.0
Commodities less food.....	5.0	13.2	4.0	4.7	3.6	7.6
Services	6.2	11.3	3.6	4.5	7.4	9.4
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX						
All commodities	15.4	20.9	19.5	20.9	13.2	8.7
Farm products and processed foods and feeds.....	26.7	11.0	46.8	44.8	33.5	-8.7
Crude food and feeds ¹	31.7	1.3	60.0	49.5	74.7	-27.4
Intermediate materials for food manufacturing ²	30.0	58.2	31.1	23.1	48.6	19.3
Consumer foods	22.5	13.0	39.8	15.4	30.0	8.0
Industrial commodities	10.7	25.6	10.1	11.1	6.0	16.0
Crude materials except foods	31.4	23.0	14.4	32.3	27.7	54.4
Intermediate materials except foods	11.9	28.5	12.1	12.4	6.1	17.7
Producers' finished goods	5.3	22.6	4.4	6.4	4.3	6.2
Consumer finished goods except foods ..	7.4	20.5	7.2	6.3	4.1	12.2
			1974			
			March	June	September	December
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX						
All items			14.2	10.3	14.2	10.1
Food			19.4	3.1	13.2	14.6
Commodities less food			16.0	13.7	16.3	7.3
Services			9.2	11.0	13.9	10.9
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX						
All commodities			24.5	12.2	35.2	13.4
Farm products and processed foods and feeds			10.8	-29.3	59.2	21.9
Crude food and feeds ¹			5.6	-53.5	94.9	10.3
Intermediate materials for food manufacturing ²			61.5	13.6	81.9	88.1
Consumer foods			17.3	-16.7	29.4	29.1
Industrial commodities			32.3	35.7	28.1	8.2
Crude materials except foods			88.7	10.4	29.1	-14.8
Intermediate materials except foods			32.6	43.7	32.2	8.2
Producers' finished goods			13.2	27.2	31.8	18.7
Consumer finished goods except foods			28.3	25.3	18.5	10.6

¹ Does not include plant and animal fibers, which are included in farm products index.

² Does not include manufactured animal feeds, which are included in processed foods and feeds index.

An increase in the food index of 12.2 percent for the calendar year ended in December 1974 accounted for a fourth of the rise in the CPI. The food index rose sharply in the first quarter, slowed substantially in the second, and accelerated again in the third. Food prices continued to rise at a rapid rate in the fourth quarter—advancing at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 14.6 percent. Prices were higher for sugar and products which contain sugar and for most other types of food except beef.

About a third of the rise in the CPI in 1974 was due to an increase of 11.3 percent in the services index. The rise in the services index moderated somewhat in the fourth quarter—to an annual rate of 10.9 percent from 13.9 percent in the third quarter. Charges for many types of services increased at a slower pace in the fourth quarter than the third quarter. However, charges for services such as gas and electricity and most types of public transportation continued to rise at a rapid rate.

Price increases for energy items—which include gasoline, motor oil, fuel oil, coal, and residential natural gas and electricity—were responsible for over a tenth of the increase in the overall CPI in 1974.

In early 1974, the behavior of prices continued to be influenced by food, fuel, and industrial material shortages resulting from the worldwide economic boom and reduced harvests in 1972 and 1973 and from the Middle East crisis in late 1973 and early 1974. In the spring, the rise in food prices slowed as agricultural supplies increased and fuel prices slackened somewhat after the Arab oil embargo was lifted in mid-March. On the other hand, the termination of price and wage controls in late April was followed by an acceleration in price increases for many commodities and services. Tight money and the rise in the minimum wage also contributed to the acceleration in prices.

As the year progressed, the pace of economic activity in the United States and in other industrial nations began to slow. Demand was further dampened by rising oil prices which caused some oil consuming nations to restrict imports of other commodities. The slowdown in demand which earlier had centered in the housing and automobile industries spread to other areas by mid-year. Consequently, retailers and manufacturers started to cut orders and reduce inventories.

The demand and supply situation, therefore, was markedly different at year-end from that in 1973 and early 1974. The change was reflected first in the wholesale price index for industrial crude materials, which slowed its rise greatly after the first quarter of the year and declined in the final 3 months of 1974 for the first time since mid-1970. (See table B.) Except for fuels, prices declined for most crude materials such as ferrous

and nonferrous scrap, wastepaper, raw cotton, and hides and skins. The rise in the index for industrial materials at the intermediate stages of production began to moderate late in the third quarter and continued to decelerate in the fourth as a result of declines in prices of lumber, textiles, leather, copper, and aluminum, and a slower rise for most other products including steel and paper products. Although price increases moderated for both crude and intermediate materials, these indexes were still considerably higher in December 1974 than in December 1973. (See table B.)

The slowdown in demand had little effect on prices of finished goods at either the wholesale or retail levels until late in the fourth quarter. In late 1974, price increases for many finished goods other than food and for some services showed signs of moderating as economic activity continued to recede. Sales of new cars continued to fall sharply, causing widespread layoffs in automobile and related industries. Capital goods orders were cut and housing starts remained down. As consumer demand continued to decline, retailers resorted to unusual pre-Christmas sales. In contrast, prices of farm and food products rebounded after mid-year as poor weather, in particular, reduced grain and sugar crops. At the end of the year, food prices were rising at a rapid rate.

Food. Wholesale and retail food prices, which increased more than 20 percent in 1973, rose 13.0 percent and 12.2 percent respectively in 1974. (See table C.) Food prices at the farm level increased 1.3 percent, substantially less than the 31.7 percent in the preceding 12 months. For the first time since 1970, the increase was smaller at the farm level than at the processor and retail levels. Over a long period of time, increases in retail food prices tend to be smaller than at wholesale when wholesale prices are increasing at a rapid rate. But when wholesale prices are declining, retail prices either continue to rise or to decline less than at wholesale.

Although the magnitude of the change differed, food prices at all levels moved in the same direction in the first 3 quarters of 1974. (See table B.) The behavior of the food indexes was influenced primarily by prices of cattle, hogs, poultry, and eggs at the farm level, which started to decline in late 1973 as a result of increased output and slowing demand. Except for a sharp but temporary rise early in 1974 caused by the fuel shortage, they trended down through mid-year. As prices of other farm products such as grains and milk also fell sharply in the second quarter, food prices declined at the wholesale level and the rise at the retail level slowed.

Food prices rebounded sharply at all levels in the third quarter. Cattle and beef prices rose as marketings

Table C. Changes in food prices, 1972-74

(Compound annual rates, seasonally adjusted except as indicated)

Commodity	Index	December 1972 to December 1973	December 1973 to December 1974	3 months ending			
				1973			
				March	June	September	December
Consumer foods	CPI	20.1	12.2	26.7	16.8	26.7	11.0
	WPI	22.5	13.0	39.8	15.4	30.0	8.0
Beef and veal	CPI	21.1	-3.4	60.1	11.6	36.2	-10.7
	WPI	10.9	-8.7	66.5	5.0	58.7	-45.3
Pork	CPI	32.5	-1.8	54.7	17.7	125.0	-24.1
	WPI	19.8	8.3	74.6	-29.9	84.3	-8.3
Poultry	CPI	32.4	6.2	187.6	-2.4	130.0	-51.8
	WPI	28.6	11.2	128.9	45.3	81.5	-53.3
Cereal and bakery products ¹ ..	CPI	28.2	22.4	10.4	15.3	33.0	60.0
	WPI	33.3	13.6	4.1	16.1	89.4	38.1
Dairy products	CPI	22.5	7.2	10.5	9.9	22.3	51.9
	WPI	15.7	3.1	12.6	4.8	35.2	11.8
Fresh fruits and vegetables	CPI	10.3	3.9	22.9	33.2	-24.1	19.4
	WPI	27.5	-4.6	66.3	75.5	-21.1	16.0
Processed fruits and vegetables	CPI	20.3	21.4	7.7	10.0	10.8	59.5
	WPI	10.5	23.4	7.3	2.5	11.1	21.7
Eggs	CPI	42.7	-5.5	61.2	125.2	32.0	-10.6
	WPI	32.5	-5.0	110.9	99.6	-6.0	-20.7
Sugar and sweets ²	CPI	14.0	101.6	7.8	12.5	6.8	31.2
	WPI	16.3	182.7	9.5	18.0	20.0	17.4

	Index	1974			
		March	June	September	December
Consumer foods	CPI	19.4	3.1	12.3	14.6
	WPI	17.3	-16.7	29.4	29.1
Beef and veal	CPI	13.2	-26.7	22.8	-14.5
	WPI	-3.5	-43.5	97.1	-35.2
Pork	CPI	-19.4	-45.0	64.0	28.0
	WPI	-20.1	-64.8	239.9	43.7
Poultry	CPI	-4.4	-38.0	41.0	52.0
	WPI	-26.5	-44.6	107.0	81.1
Cereal and bakery products ¹ ..	CPI	28.4	19.5	11.6	31.0
	WPI	34.1	-13.8	9.2	32.0
Dairy products	CPI	18.2	7.6	-6.6	11.3
	WPI	27.6	-18.3	6.3	1.9
Fresh fruits and vegetables	CPI	29.6	39.5	-36.7	1.8
	WPI	94.1	-35.4	-1.1	-33.3
Processed fruits and vegetables	CPI	50.8	26.3	12.1	1.6
	WPI	13.1	18.3	61.8	7.4
Eggs	CPI	4.5	-52.3	23.3	29.8
	WPI	-1.7	-48.8	54.9	4.5
Sugar and sweets ²	CPI	84.7	67.3	76.9	202.0
	WPI	215.6	156.5	135.6	234.9

¹ Not seasonally adjusted in the WPI.

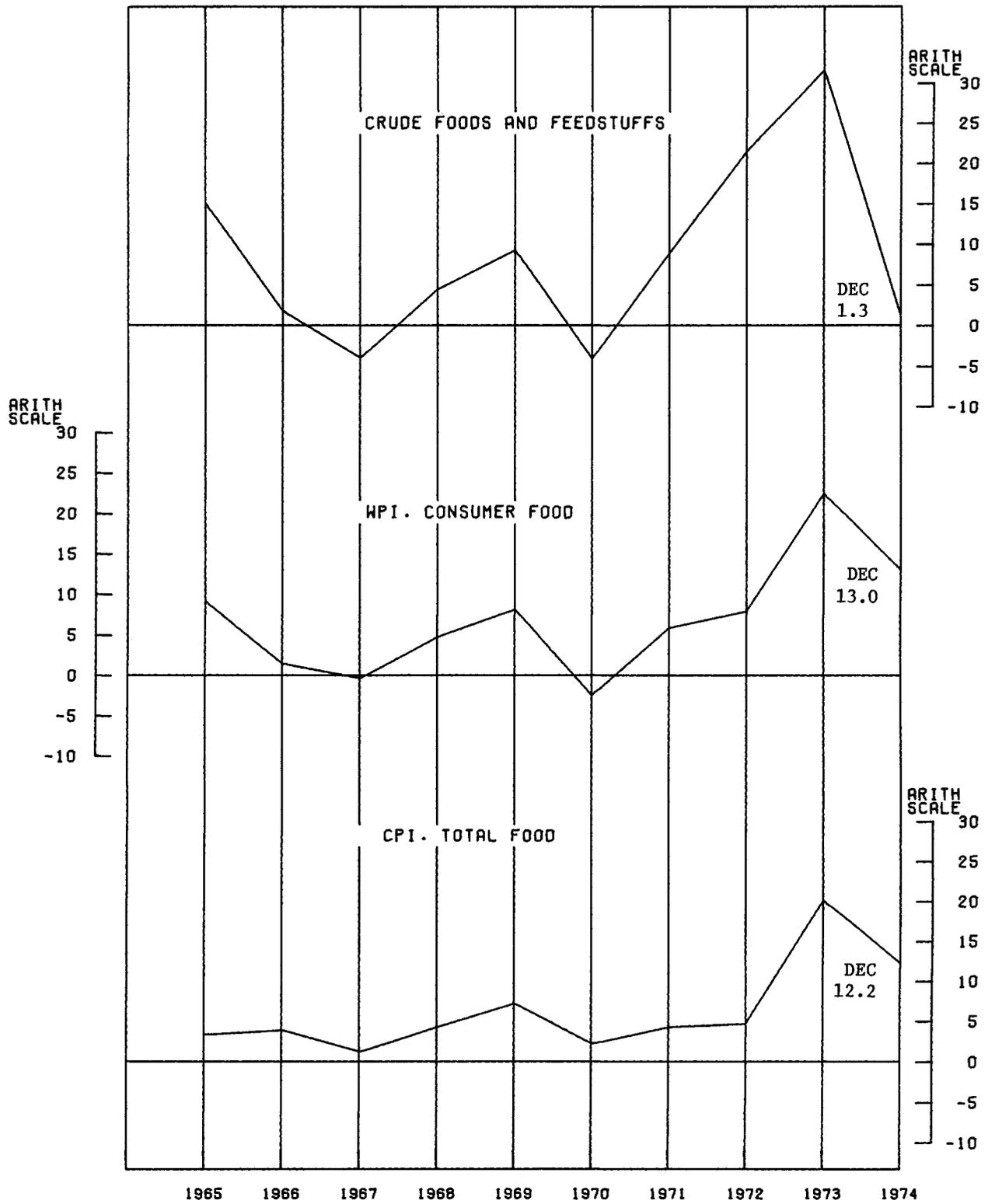
² In the WPI, this title is sugar and confectionery.

were curtailed to strengthen prices. Prices for hogs and pork, poultry, and eggs rose in response to smaller supplies resulting from cutbacks in production in 1973 and early 1974 when prices were declining and costs were rising. At the farm level, prices for corn and oilseeds

(used in manufacturing feeds) also turned up after mid-year as estimates of 1974-75 crop production were reduced because of adverse weather conditions in grain-producing States in the late spring and summer, followed by a sharp rise in prices of animal feeds.

Chart A. Changes in wholesale and retail food prices

(Percent change from December to December, 1965-74)



In the fourth quarter, the rise in food prices moderated at the farm level but continued rapidly at processed and retail levels. The slower rise at the farm level primarily reflected declines in cattle prices caused by a heavy slaughter of cows and nonfed "baby beef" in response to rising feed prices. Although cattlemen were no longer expanding their herds, the Agricultural Department estimated in late 1974 that the number of cattle in the nation on January 1, 1975, would total a record 135 million, up from the previous record of 127.5 million a year earlier and appreciably higher than previous forecasts of about 132 million. Furthermore, the number of cattle in the feedlots—although less than in 1974—was estimated to be larger than predicted earlier in the year. Beef prices at wholesale and retail levels continued to decline through the year-end, but prices of pork, poultry, and most other types of food increased in the fourth quarter. A substantial part of the rise in the food indexes at wholesale and retail levels was due to higher prices for sugar and products which contain sugar. Sugar is not included among farm foods in the WPI.

For the year ending in December 1974 wholesale prices for refined granulated cane sugar in 5-pound bags rose 309 percent and raw cane sugar rose 321.5 percent. At retail, sugar prices rose 275 percent. Much of the rise in prices for nonalcoholic beverages and cereal and bakery products and some of the increase for dairy products and food eaten away from home were due to higher sugar prices. Higher sugar prices were caused by factors such as adverse weather conditions during summer and fall which affected harvests of European sugar beets and damaged Philippine sugar cane crops, rising demand in newly developed countries, willingness of industrial countries to pay high prices, and uncertainty concerning U.S. purchasing policies because of the end of the U.S. sugar act. However, as price increases became larger and more frequent late in the third and early in the fourth quarters, the demand for sugar weakened and prices started to decline at the wholesale level in late 1974.

Prices also rose sharply in 1974 for other processed foods such as canned and frozen fruits and vegetables, fats and oil products, and partially prepared foods, because of rising raw material costs and sharply higher costs for containers, utilities, transportation, and other nonagricultural inputs.

Commodities other than foods. In 1974, the nonfood commodities component of the Wholesale Price Index rose 20.5 percent, compared with 13.2 percent in the CPI—the second consecutive year that the increase was larger in the WPI than in the CPI. From 1956 to 1973, increases in the CPI have almost always been larger than those in the WPI. Larger increases in the WPI in the past

2 years have been primarily due to much greater increases in gasoline and fuel oil prices although prices of other nonfood commodities also increased at a somewhat faster rate at the wholesale level than at retail in both years. (See table D.)

In 1974, as in 1973, the largest increases among nonfood commodities were for petroleum products. Retail prices for gasoline rose 20.6 percent for the 12-months ending in December 1974, about the same as in the preceding 12-month period. Fuel oil prices rose 30.3 percent in 1974, following an increase of 46.8 percent in 1973. Prices for gasoline and fuel oil started to rise rapidly in early 1973 when shortages appeared in some areas and accelerated sharply during the Middle East crisis in late 1973 and early 1974. Subsequently, gasoline prices declined slightly during the second half of 1974, because of large inventories and the rise in fuel oil prices moderated somewhat. However, for the year ending in December 1974, increases in these prices which remained substantial continued to reflect higher crude oil costs.

Although about two-thirds of total domestic crude oil production remained under control after general price controls were terminated in April, prices of uncontrolled domestic oil and imported oil rose substantially. A ceiling of \$5.25 a barrel was placed on domestic crude oil produced from existing wells in amounts below 1972 output levels. Domestic crude oil production above the 1972 level and from new wells was uncontrolled. After the Arab oil embargo was lifted in mid-March, major oil producing countries established the world price of crude petroleum at about four times the previous level. At year-end, imported oil—which represents about 38 percent of total U.S. oil consumption of 17 million barrels a day—and uncontrolled domestic crude oil were selling at more than twice the price of controlled domestic crude oil.

Prices of consumer goods other than food and fuels rose considerably more in 1974 than in 1973 at both wholesale and retail levels. Prices at the manufacturing level were influenced by higher costs for materials and rising labor and nonlabor costs. Prices of many basic materials which are traded in international markets rose sharply through 1972 and 1973 when price controls were in effect. Prices of some materials were decontrolled during 1973 and early 1974 as shortages developed. The problem of shortages was exacerbated by the Middle East crisis in late 1973 and early 1974. The rise in crude oil prices affected not only prices of refined petroleum products but prices of petroleum-based products such as textile fibers, chemicals, building materials, synthetic rubber, and plastic materials which, in turn, had an impact on prices of a wide range of consumer goods. After wage and price controls ended, prices

Table D. Changes in prices of consumer goods other than food, 1972-74

(Compound annual rate, seasonally adjusted)

Item	Index	December 1972 to December 1973	December 1973 to December 1974	3 months ending			
				1973			
				March	June	September	December
Commodities less food	CPI	5.0	13.2	4.0	4.7	3.6	7.6
	WPI	7.4	20.5	7.2	6.3	4.1	12.2
Nondurables less food ¹	CPI	6.8	13.6	4.4	6.7	1.6	14.8
	WPI	9.9	23.9	10.5	6.6	3.7	19.4
Apparel less footwear	CPI	4.1	8.6	3.6	5.6	3.5	3.8
	WPI	5.3	9.4	3.8	6.3	1.7	9.7
Footwear	CPI	4.2	7.2	4.8	3.8	4.4	3.7
	WPI	3.0	9.3	4.1	-3.0	4.1	6.9
Gasoline ²	CPI	18.6	20.2	8.2	25.0	-7.5	57.4
	WPI	30.3	44.8	29.5	19.0	13.3	64.9
Durables ¹	CPI	2.4	12.7	2.0	3.0	3.7	1.0
	WPI	3.7	17.4	3.2	5.7	3.5	2.1
New cars	CPI	1.3	11.5	1.8	4.8	4.8	-5.6
	WPI	2.1	12.9	2.5	3.2	2.4	-3.3
Furniture	CPI	5.2	10.7	2.0	7.7	6.2	4.8
	WPI	7.3	13.8	2.7	11.5	5.0	9.6
Appliances, including radio and TV	CPI	-.1	9.0	-.8	-.4	.4	.4
	WPI	.6	12.7	0	-1.2	2.8	.8

Item	Index	1974			
		March	June	September	December
Commodities less food	CPI	16.0	13.7	16.2	7.3
	WPI	28.3	25.3	18.5	10.6
Nondurables less food ¹	CPI	23.1	13.9	11.8	6.2
	WPI	40.4	30.9	19.1	7.7
Apparel less footwear	CPI	10.0	9.7	12.7	2.3
	WPI	10.5	15.2	9.9	2.4
Footwear	CPI	7.4	7.3	11.5	2.9
	WPI	7.1	13.7	14.8	2.0
Gasoline ²	CPI	106.8	23.4	-8.2	-10.8
	WPI	160.7	67.3	26.5	-20.2
Durables ¹	CPI	6.0	14.1	19.9	11.1
	WPI	11.3	15.0	15.6	17.4
New cars	CPI	3.7	18.3	19.8	5.3
	WPI	6.7	10.2	15.0	20.6
Furniture	CPI	9.3	13.4	11.7	8.3
	WPI	8.1	17.0	15.6	14.4
Appliances, including radio and TV	CPI	3.8	6.5	14.4	11.5
	WPI	6.8	10.8	13.4	20.3

¹ Includes items not shown separately.

² CPI includes motor oil.

for most materials, particularly metals and metal products, and labor costs accelerated. Increases in metal prices influenced prices for all types of durable goods, such as appliances, which had experienced relatively

small increases until 1974, automobiles, and recreational goods. Large increases in paper prices pushed up prices of housekeeping supplies, toilet goods, and reading materials.

At the retail level, prices for consumer goods rose rapidly in the first 3 quarters of 1974, reflecting earlier increases in manufacturers' prices and rising retail operating costs. However, as the sales pace, which was steadily slowing during the year, worsened in late 1974, price increases became smaller.

The auto industry began to experience declining sales in the spring of 1973 as a result of gasoline shortages in some areas. Sales worsened during the Middle East crisis. In addition, auto prices were raised in late 1973 and intermittently in early 1974. Demand for 1974 model cars rose just before the 1975 models were introduced as car buyers anticipated the higher prices. After the 1975 models were introduced, new car sales dropped sharply.

The 1975 model cars were introduced in the CPI and WPI during the fourth quarter—the three major domestic manufacturers in October; American Motors and some imports later in the year. The CPI and the WPI reflect prices of new cars after adjustments are made for quality changes. Most of the quality adjustments on 1975 model cars reflected changes to meet standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency in response to the Federal Clean Air Act. A small adjustment was also made to reflect voluntary safety features not now required by Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards. The fourth quarter rise in the new car index in the WPI was due to price increases for 1975 models. The new car index in the CPI was influenced by changes in both the 1974 and the 1975 models.

In contrast to the poor sales of new cars, used car sales were strong during 1974. Consequently, prices of used cars, which declined from mid-1973 through the first quarter of 1974, rose until late in the year; prices in December were considerably higher than a year earlier.

Retail sales of household durables also weakened during the year. The dollar value of sales in furniture and appliances stores was up about 7 percent in 1974 from 1973; but volume declined. Although price increases for household durables moderated somewhat in the fourth quarter at the retail level, prices at the manufacturers' level, particularly for appliances, continued to rise rapidly throughout the year. Among factors which contributed to the rise in appliance prices were a rise in labor costs, and sharply higher prices for materials such as sheet steel, plastics, copper, tin, and electric cord. Increased costs coinciding with deteriorating consumer demand resulted in higher per unit costs and led manufacturers to increase prices frequently in the second half of 1974. Thus, after years of stability, appliance prices (excluding electronic equipment) rose 11.1 percent at the retail level and 17.2 percent at the wholesale level in 1974.

Furniture prices began to rise at a rapid rate in late 1973 and accelerated during the first half of 1974. Rising wages, higher costs for materials such as hardwood lumber and textile products, and a large backlog of orders exerted upward pressure on prices. However, as the year progressed, demand weakened and price increases at the retail level moderated. As retailers started to cutback, orders received by manufacturers in October were down 23 percent from October 1973 and unfilled orders decreased sharply because of a substantial volume of cancellations. Thus, prices at the manufacturers' level also showed signs of moderating at year-end. Prices of all types of floor coverings also rose sharply in 1974. Largest increases occurred in prices of vinyl floor coverings which reflected higher prices for petrochemicals from which vinyl is made.

Most of the rise in apparel prices in 1974 occurred in the first 3 quarters. Increases early in the year were influenced by rising costs of textile fibers. Prices for man-made textile products rose as tight supplies of petrochemical feedstocks caused shortages of nylon and polyester yarns and higher costs and shortages of woodpulp affected rayon yarn prices. Raw cotton prices—which rose sharply in 1973 as a result of bad weather, flooding, and strong export demand—reached an all-time peak in January 1974. These increases were reflected in prices of cotton yarns and fabrics. In the second half of 1974, however, prices of all types of textile products declined due to a slowdown in export demand and reduced demand from domestic users. Apparel sales—which are highly sensitive to changes in the economy—weakens during the year, rising only about 3 percent in 1974 over 1973. Declines in materials prices and in physical sales volume contributed to a marked slowdown in the rise in apparel prices at retail and wholesale levels in the fourth quarter of 1974.

Footwear prices followed the same trend as apparel. The sharp rise in the first 3 quarters of 1974 reflected higher prices for synthetic substitutes for leather, which are increasingly being used in footwear. The rising costs of petroleum-feedstocks were passed on in prices of rubber products such as rubber heels and tennis shoes, and in plastic materials. On the other hand, increased use of synthetic substitutes and a decline in exports of hides and skins had a depressing influence on leather prices. The rise in footwear prices at wholesale and retail slowed noticeably in the fourth quarter as demand slackened.

Services. The services index, which began to rise at a rapid rate in the second half of 1973, continued to accelerate through the third quarter of 1974 before moderating slightly in the fourth quarter. For the 12 months

ending in December 1974, the services index rose 11.3 percent, compared with 6.2 percent in 1973. Even after excluding mortgage interest costs—which rose sharply in both years—the rise in the services index was 10.0 percent in 1974, twice as large as in 1973. Contributing to the rise in service charges in 1974 were the fuel crisis, the termination of wage and price controls in late April, the increase in the minimum wage, and the extended coverage of the Fair Labor Standards Act which were effective on May 1. Indexes for all major categories of services increased more in 1974 than in 1973. (See table E.)

In the household services category, the index for mortgage interest rates rose 10.5 percent from December 1973 to December 1974, following an increase of 14.7 percent in the preceding 12-month period. After climbing sharply in the second half of 1973, mortgage interest rates remained fairly stable in the early months of 1974 because supplies of funds available for mortgages built up while demand for such funds had slackened. By spring, however, demand for funds outstripped supply. Lending institutions reported a decline in net new savings as consumers reduced savings and consumed a higher proportion of income. Interest rates on conven-

Table E. Changes in prices of consumer services, 1972-74

(Compound annual rates, seasonally adjusted except as indicated)

Services	December 1972 to December 1973	December 1973 to December 1974	3 months ending			
			1973			
			March	June	September	December
Services ¹	6.2	11.3	3.6	4.5	7.4	9.4
Rent ¹	4.9	5.2	6.1	4.0	4.6	4.9
Household services less rent ²	8.7	15.0	4.9	6.0	11.5	12.6
Mortgage interest rates ¹	14.7	10.5	1.0	3.1	33.5	24.6
Housekeeping and home maintenance services	7.7	18.2	6.7	6.8	8.1	9.1
Gas and electricity	6.9	19.6	6.7	3.6	6.5	11.1
Medical care	5.8	13.3	3.2	4.6	4.2	11.5
Transportation ²	1.2	5.7	-2.6	3.0	2.7	2.6
Auto repairs and maintenance ¹	6.7	14.5	10.0	5.8	4.9	6.0
Public transportation	1.4	3.8	-1.4	2.0	2.8	2.2
Other services ²	6.0	9.2	5.1	6.0	6.2	6.5
Personal care services ¹	8.1	9.2	7.9	9.7	6.3	8.4
Recreational services ¹	3.7	8.7	3.4	7.2	1.5	2.7
			1974			
			March	June	September	December
Services ¹			9.2	11.0	13.9	10.9
Rent ¹			4.8	4.4	5.0	6.5
Household services less rent ²			13.7	15.1	18.1	13.5
Mortgage interest rates ¹			-2.4	8.6	24.5	13.1
Housekeeping and home maintenance services			18.9	24.1	22.0	8.5
Gas and electricity			28.4	16.1	20.2	14.2
Medical care			9.4	14.9	17.7	11.4
Transportation ²			1.4	6.5	7.6	7.4
Auto repairs and maintenance ¹			12.6	11.1	23.3	11.3
Public transportation			-1.1	6.5	1.6	8.0
Other services ²			7.3	9.9	10.6	8.9
Personal care services ¹			6.4	10.3	10.3	9.8
Recreational services ¹			4.9	14.3	7.0	9.0

¹ Not seasonally adjusted.

² Includes items not shown separately.

tional mortgage loans rose sharply and the legal ceiling rate for FHA and VA loans was raised during the summer and early fall. High rates and lack of funds after mid-year prevented many borrowers from securing mortgages and reduced home construction and sale of existing homes. By late 1974, funds moving into savings and loan institutions increased, interest rates on conventional mortgages rose at a slower rate, and the legal ceiling rate for FHA and VA loans was reduced.

Among other household services, gas and electricity charges rose 19.6 percent in 1974. Although the sharpest advances occurred in the first quarter during the Middle East crisis, increases in the next 3 quarters were still substantial as utility companies passed on higher costs for all types of fuel. In addition, requests by utility companies for higher rates were granted because of rising operating costs and the need to raise capital to finance new construction. Higher charges for housekeeping services primarily reflected the change in the minimum wage legislation, and increases in home maintenance services were due to higher costs for materials and labor. The rise in charges for housekeeping and home maintenance services slowed markedly in the fourth quarter reflecting the effects of the slowdown in the economy. Property taxes, which increased slightly in 1973, declined until mid-1974, but turned up thereafter; large increases occurred in the final quarter.

The rise in the CPI for apartment and home rentals in 1974 was relatively moderate compared with the rise in most other household services; nevertheless, a steady acceleration was evident during the year. Increases for fuel and utilities, taxes, and repair and maintenance costs prompted landlords to raise rents. In addition, the growth in the number of rental units has slowed because of the low level of new apartment construction and the increasing trend toward conversion of rental units to condominiums. At the same time, the demand

for rental units has increased because of the low level of housing starts, high interest rates, and the difficulty of obtaining mortgages.

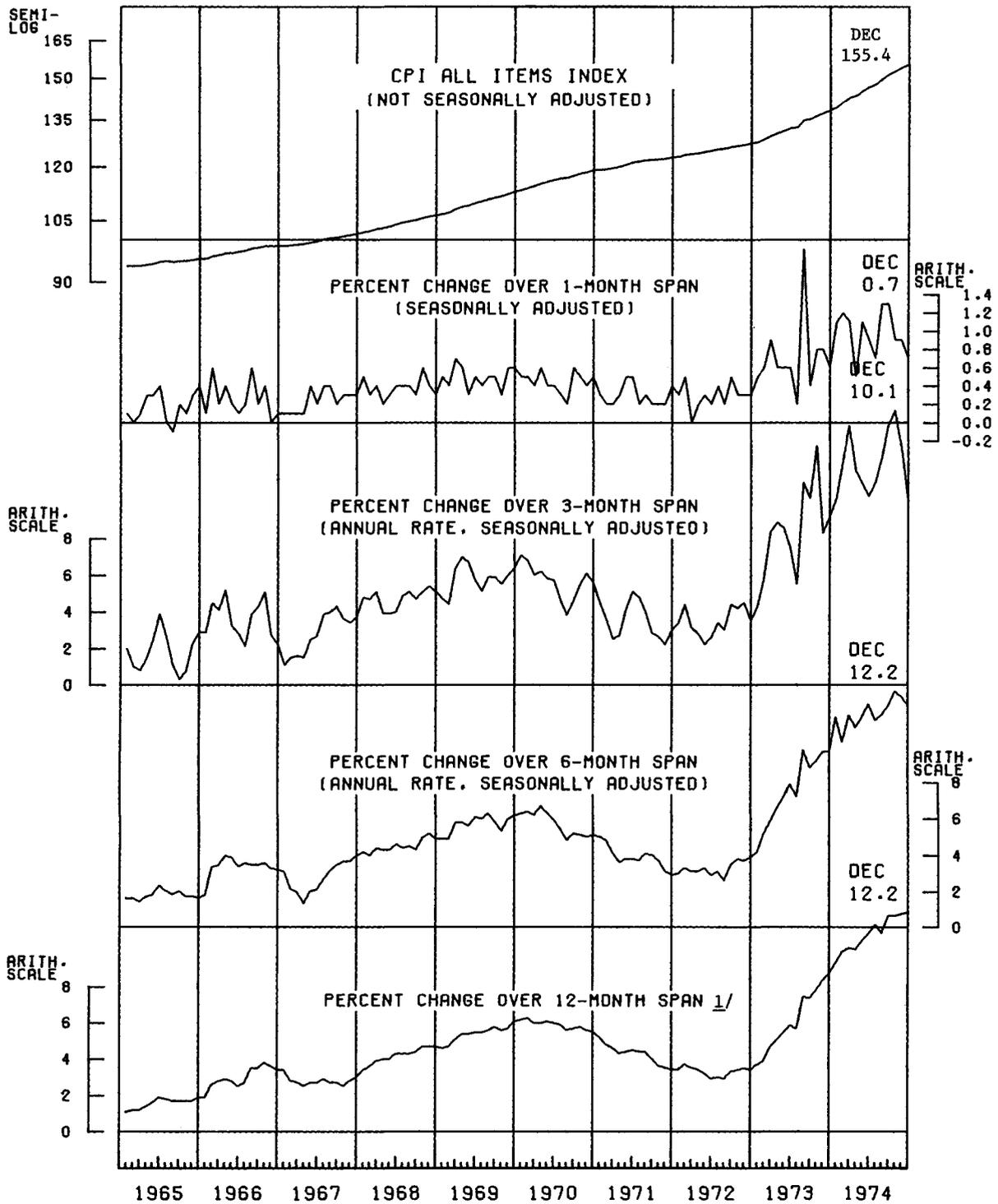
Charges for medical care services rose 13.3 percent in 1974, more than twice as much as in 1973. Following moderate increases early in 1974, physicians' fees and hospital service charges accelerated after the end of the Economic Stabilization Program, which had controlled the health industry since August 1971. The rise in physicians' fees and hospital room charges slowed slightly in the fourth quarter, but charges for other hospital services such as physical therapy, electrocardiograms, and X-rays, continued to increase at a rapid rate.

The index for transportation services increased 5.7 percent in 1974 compared with 1.2 percent in 1973. Except for local transit fares, which declined almost steadily in 1974, fares for other types of public transportation—taxicabs, railroads, airplanes, and intercity buses—rose sharply. Among auto-related services, repair and maintenance charges advanced steadily in response to higher costs for labor and for materials used in replacement and repair. Also, demand for auto repairs increased as purchases of new cars were postponed. Auto insurance premiums, which had declined in 1973, rose slightly in 1974 as inflation significantly increased accident claims despite a reduction in the severity and number of accidents.

Charges for other services such as drycleaning, shirt laundering, men's haircuts, and beauty shops accelerated noticeably in 1973 and continued to rise rapidly in the first 3 quarters of 1974 before slowing somewhat in the fourth quarter. Increases in 1974, as in 1973, were due to higher costs for labor and materials and for other overhead expenses such as utility charges. The slower rise for these services in the fourth quarter stems in part from reduced demand which is influenced by changes in disposable income.

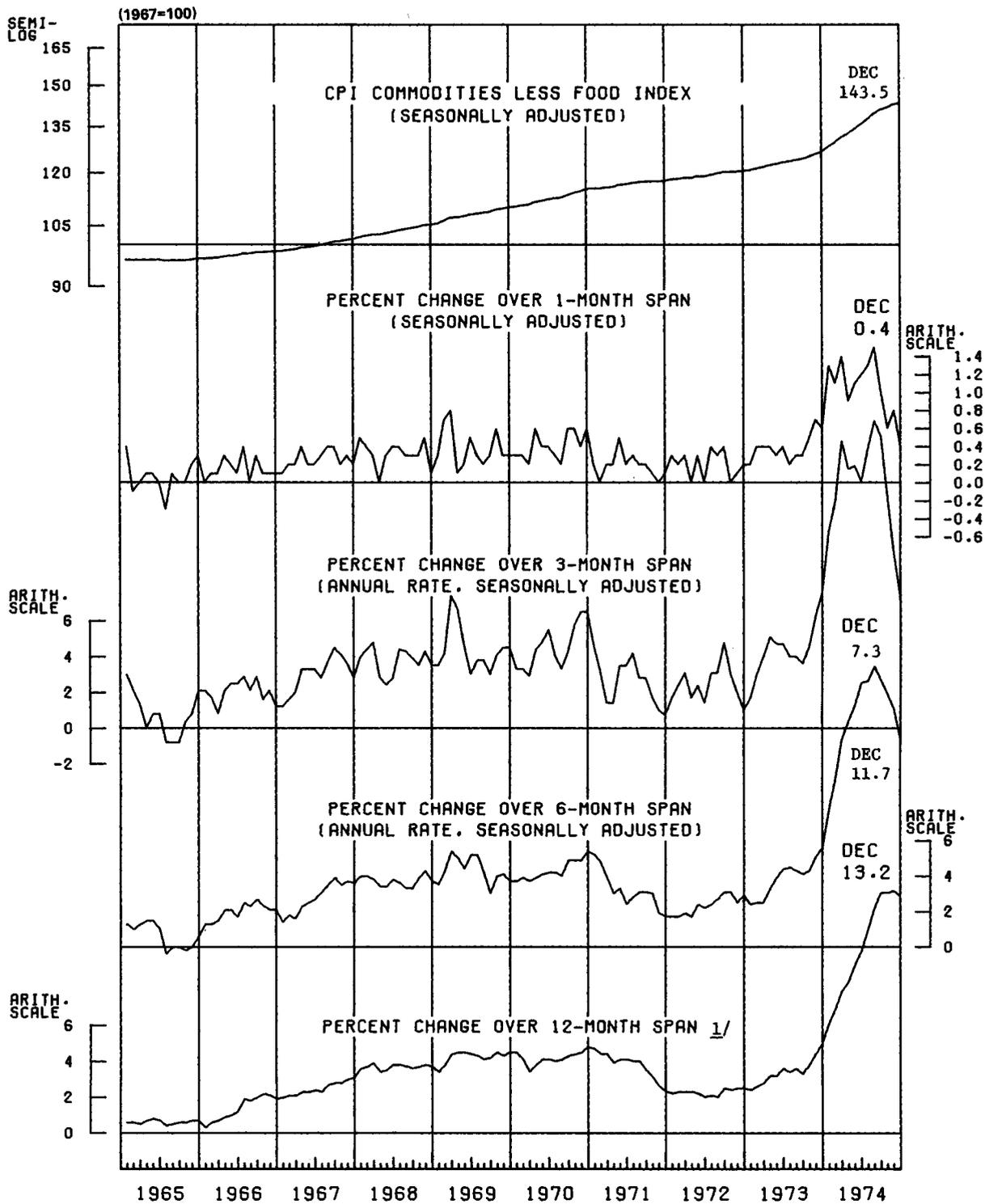
Chart 1. All items index and its rate of change, 1965-74

(1967=100)



1/ Computed from the unadjusted series.
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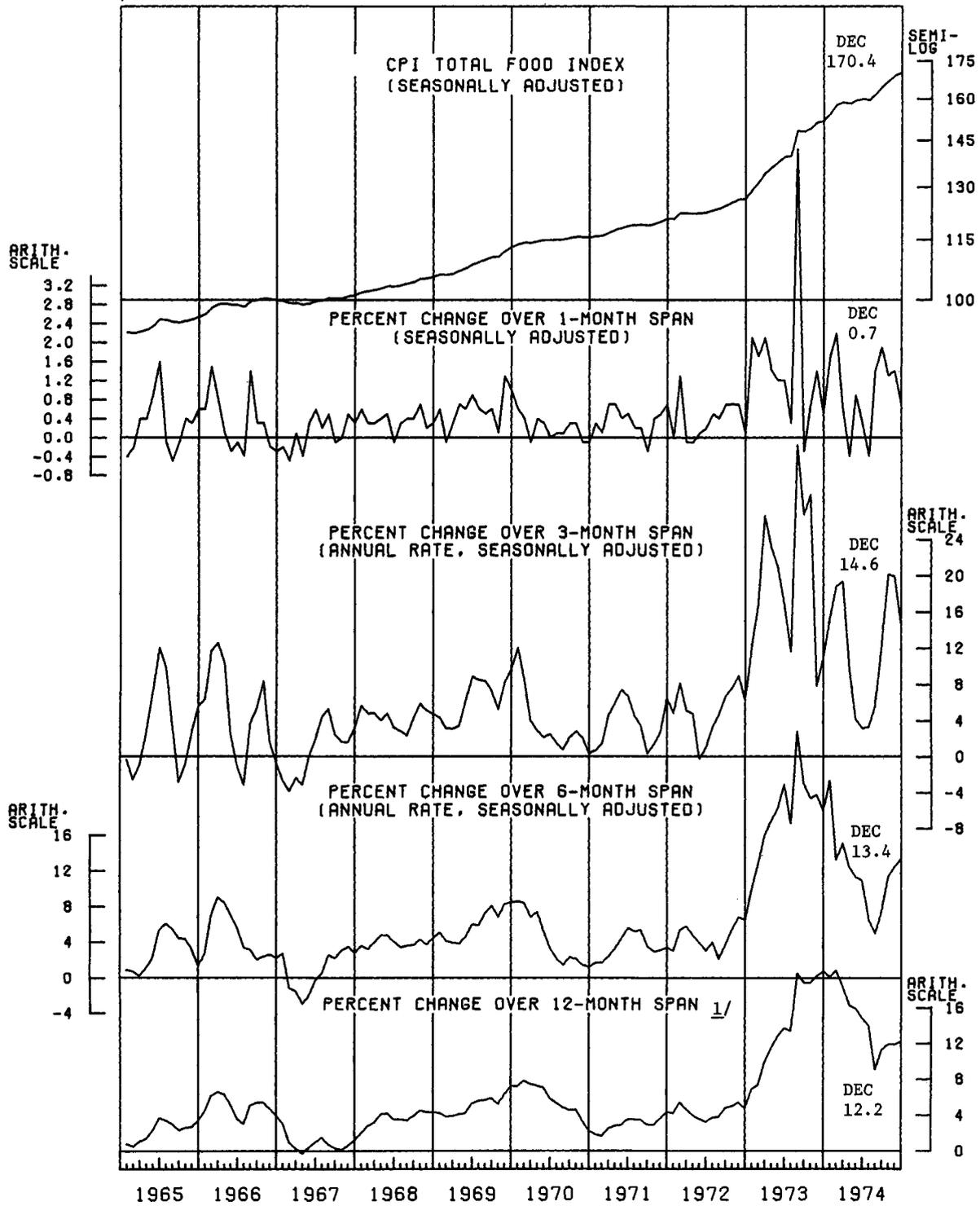
Chart 2. Commodities less food index and its rate of change, 1965-74



^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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Chart 3. Total food index and its rate of change, 1965-74

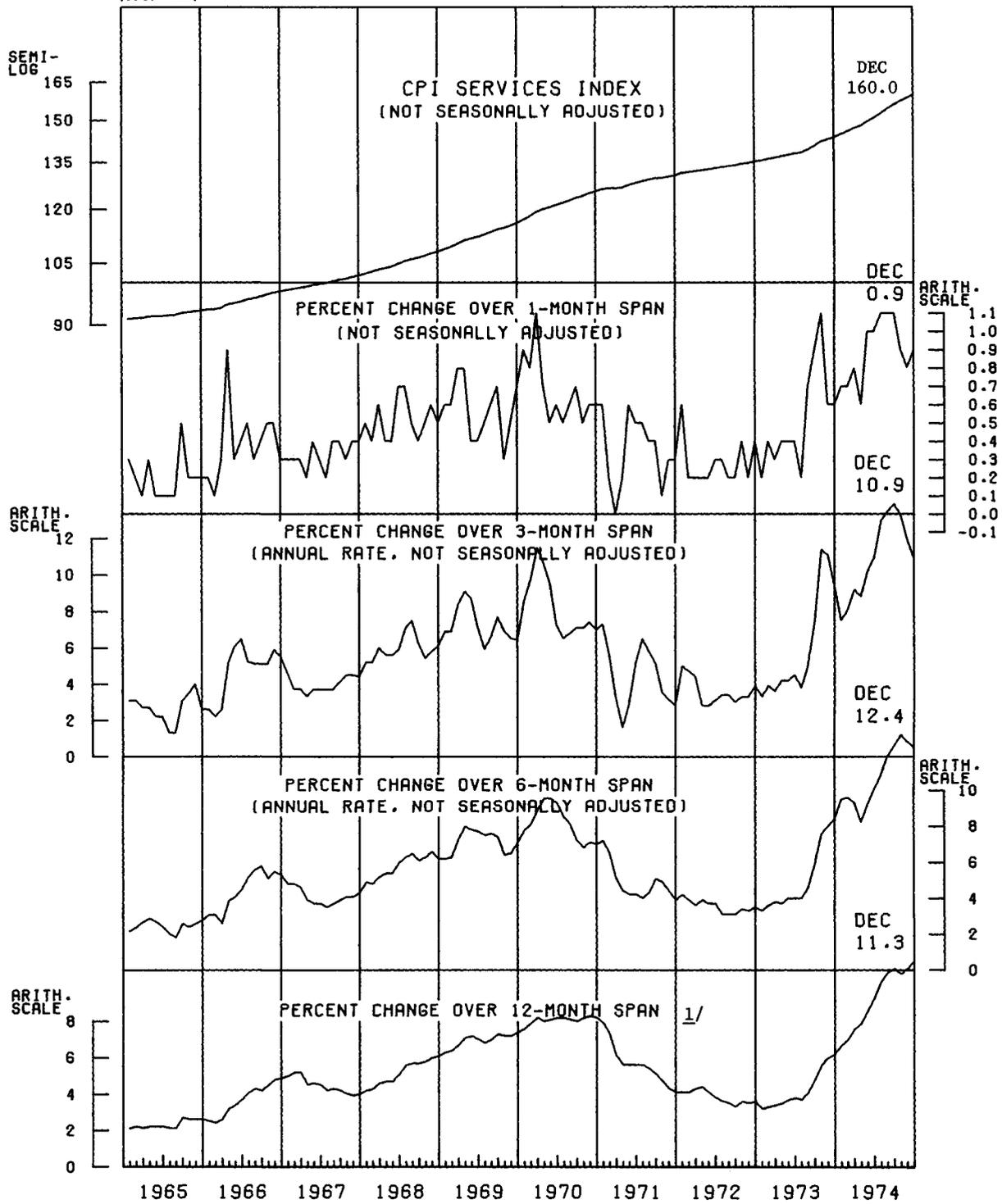
(1967=100)



^{1/} Computed from the unadjusted series.
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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Chart 4. Services index and its rate of change, 1965-74

(1967=100)



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

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

Group	Relative importance	Unadjusted indexes 1967=100 unless otherwise noted		Unadjusted percent change to December 1974 from—		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
		December 1973	November 1974	December 1974	December 1973	November 1974	September to October	October to November	November to December
Commodity and service groups								
All items -----	100.000	154.3	155.4	12.2	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.7
All items (1957-59=100) -----	-	179.5	180.8	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities -----	63.454	152.0	153.0	12.7	.7	.9	.9	.7
Food -----	24.810	167.8	169.7	12.2	1.1	1.3	1.4	.7
Food at home -----	19.633	168.3	170.3	12.4	1.2	1.6	1.4	.8
Cereals and bakery products -----	2.644	177.6	181.7	22.4	2.3	2.6	1.9	2.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	6.988	164.0	163.5	-1.4	-3	-1.0	1.9	.8
Dairy products -----	3.023	152.7	155.3	7.2	1.7	.3	.7	1.7
Fruits and vegetables -----	3.146	164.3	161.3	11.0	-1.8	2.3	.1	-2.1
Other foods at home -----	3.832	183.9	191.8	35.8	4.3	3.5	2.8	3.3
Food away from home -----	5.177	166.2	167.6	11.2	.8	.9	.9	1.0
Commodities less food -----	38.644	143.3	143.9	13.2	.4	.6	.8	.4
Nondurables less food -----	22.978	147.2	147.7	13.6	.3	.4	.7	.4
Apparel commodities ¹ -----	8.569	142.3	141.6	8.3	-1.5	.1	.6	-1.1
Men's and boys' -----	2.661	142.6	142.5	10.4	-1.1	.3	.6	.1
Women's and girls' -----	3.815	141.5	140.0	6.2	-1.1	-1.1	.5	-6.6
Footwear -----	1.504	142.8	142.2	7.2	-4	.2	.7	-2.2
Nondurables less food and apparel -----	14.409	150.2	151.3	16.7	.7	.5	.9	.7
Gasoline and motor oil -----	3.162	158.5	158.6	20.2	.1	-2.3	-1	-4
Tobacco products -----	1.993	149.0	150.9	9.0	1.3	*.6	*1.1	*1.3
Alcoholic beverages -----	2.349	138.0	138.5	10.5	.4	*1.0	*.7	*.4
Fuel oil and coal -----	.872	229.2	228.8	32.4	-2	1.3	1.5	-3
Other nondurables -----	6.033	142.9	144.6	17.5	1.2	1.7	1.3	1.1
Durable commodities -----	15.666	138.0	138.8	12.7	.6	1.0	.8	.5
Household durables -----	4.566	135.4	136.0	12.4	.4	.8	1.0	.8
New cars -----	1.917	124.5	124.9	11.5	.3	1.1	.2	-1.1
Used cars -----	1.849	141.6	138.4	22.9	-2.3	*2.6	*1.6	*-2.3
Other durables -----	7.334	142.9	145.0	10.5	1.5	.8	.6	1.4
Services -----	36.546	158.6	160.0	11.3	.9	*.9	*.8	*.9
Rent -----	4.873	132.8	133.5	5.2	.5	*.6	*.5	*.5
Services less rent -----	31.673	163.3	164.8	12.2	.9	*1.0	*.9	*.9
Household services less rent -----	15.463	175.7	177.5	15.0	1.0	1.2	.9	1.0
Transportation services -----	5.090	144.9	146.0	5.7	.8	.4	.7	.7
Medical care services -----	5.423	167.0	168.5	13.3	.9	1.1	.7	.9
Other services -----	5.698	146.7	147.7	9.2	.7	.6	.8	.8
Special indexes:								
All items less food -----	75.190	150.4	151.3	12.2	.6	.6	.9	.6
Nondurable commodities -----	47.778	157.2	158.3	12.8	.7	.9	.9	.6
Apparel commodities less footwear -----	7.064	142.2	141.5	8.6	-5	.1	.6	-1.1
Services less medical care services -----	31.123	157.3	158.7	10.9	.9	*.9	*.8	*.9
Insurance and finance -----	9.707	172.4	174.5	11.4	1.2	1.4	.8	1.2
Utilities and public transportation -----	5.318	146.2	148.0	10.6	1.2	.7	.5	1.0
Housekeeping and home maintenance service -----	4.457	187.0	187.7	18.2	.4	1.0	.9	.2
Appliances (including radio and T. V.) -----	1.489	114.5	115.2	9.0	.6	*1.0	*1.2	*.6
Expenditure classes								
All items -----	100.000	154.3	155.4	12.2	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.7
Food -----	24.810	167.8	169.7	12.2	1.1	1.3	1.4	.7
Housing -----	33.321	158.3	159.9	13.7	1.0	1.2	.8	.9
Shelter ² -----	21.459	161.2	163.0	11.3	1.1	1.1	.7	1.1
Rent -----	4.873	132.8	133.5	5.2	.5	*.6	*.5	*.5
Homeownership ³ -----	16.184	171.7	174.0	13.3	1.3	1.2	.8	1.3
Fuel and utilities ⁴ -----	4.820	157.1	158.4	16.6	.8	.9	.8	.8
Gas and electricity -----	2.390	154.0	156.7	19.6	1.8	1.0	.7	1.6
Household furnishings and operation -----	7.042	151.0	152.3	19.0	.9	1.6	1.3	1.0
Apparel and upkeep -----	9.945	142.4	141.9	8.7	-4	.3	.6	-1.1
Transportation -----	12.602	143.4	143.5	13.3	.1	-3	.3	0
Private -----	11.233	142.7	142.5	14.4	-1	-2	.3	-1.1
Public -----	1.369	149.5	152.0	3.8	1.7	.3	.7	.9
Health and recreation -----	18.946	146.3	147.5	10.9	.8	*.8	*.8	*.8
Medical care -----	6.229	157.5	159.0	12.4	1.0	.9	.8	1.0
Personal care -----	2.513	144.2	145.3	12.5	.8	1.2	.9	.7
Reading and recreation -----	5.346	138.8	139.8	9.6	.7	.6	.7	.9
Other goods and services -----	4.859	142.7	143.9	9.6	.8	.7	1.1	.9
Special indexes:								
All items less shelter -----	78.541	152.5	153.5	12.5	.7	.8	1.0	.7
All items less medical care -----	93.771	154.2	155.3	12.2	.7	.9	.9	.7
All items less mortgage interest costs -----	95.951	152.2	153.3	11.8	.7	.9	.9	.7
CPI—domestically produced farm foods ⁵ -----	17.583	166.4	167.8	9.9	.8	*.2	*1.1	*.8
CPI—selected beef cuts ⁶ -----	2.290	161.9	158.0	-3.1	-2.4	*-3.8	*-1.9	*-2.4
Purchasing power of consumer dollar:								
1967=\$1.00 -----	-	\$0.648	\$0.644	-10.9	-.8	-	-	-
1957-59=\$1.00 -----	-	.557	.553	-	-	-	-	-

¹ Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, and jewelry not shown separately.

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 telephones, 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.

ing 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.

* Not seasonally adjusted.

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

Table 1-A. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1974 annual average index

(Unadjusted, unless otherwise indicated)

Group	Indexes (1967=100)		Percent change to 1974 from—
	1973 average	1974 average	1973 average
All items -----	133.1	147.7	11.0
All items (1957-59=100) -----	154.7	171.8	-
Commodities -----	129.9	145.5	12.0
Food -----	141.4	161.7	14.4
Food at home -----	141.4	162.4	14.9
Cereals and bakery products -----	127.7	166.1	30.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	160.4	163.9	2.2
Dairy products -----	127.9	151.9	18.8
Fruits and vegetables -----	142.5	165.8	16.4
Other foods at home -----	130.3	162.8	24.9
Food away from home -----	141.4	159.4	12.7
Commodities less food -----	123.5	136.6	10.6
Nondurables less food -----	124.8	140.9	12.9
Apparel commodities ¹ -----	127.1	136.1	7.1
Men's and boys' -----	126.4	136.4	7.9
Women's and girls' -----	127.3	134.9	6.0
Footwear -----	130.2	138.1	6.1
Nondurables less food and apparel -----	123.4	143.8	16.5
Gasoline and motor oil -----	118.8	158.9	33.8
Tobacco products -----	137.0	143.8	5.0
Alcoholic beverages -----	122.5	131.8	7.6
Fuel oil and coal -----	136.0	214.6	57.8
Other nondurables -----	120.7	133.7	10.8
Durable commodities -----	121.9	130.6	7.1
Household durables -----	118.8	128.9	8.5
New cars -----	111.1	117.5	5.8
Used cars -----	117.6	122.6	4.3
Other durables -----	128.5	138.0	7.4
Services -----	139.1	152.0	9.3
Rent -----	124.3	130.2	4.7
Services less rent -----	141.8	156.0	10.0
Household services less rent -----	146.8	166.0	13.1
Transportation services -----	136.9	141.9	3.7
Medical care services -----	144.3	159.1	10.3
Other services -----	131.6	141.7	7.7
Special indexes:			
All items less food -----	130.7	143.6	9.9
Nondurable commodities -----	132.8	151.0	13.7
Apparel commodities less footwear -----	126.5	135.7	7.3
Services less medical care services -----	138.3	151.0	9.2
Insurance and finance -----	149.3	164.2	10.0
Utilities and public transportation -----	130.0	141.6	8.9
Housekeeping and home maintenance service -----	152.9	175.4	14.7
Appliances (including radio and T. V.) -----	105.5	109.7	4.0
Expenditure classes			
All items -----	133.1	147.7	11.0
Food -----	141.4	161.7	14.4
Housing -----	135.0	150.6	11.6
Shelter ² -----	140.7	154.3	9.7
Rent -----	124.3	130.2	4.7
Homeownership ³ -----	146.7	163.2	11.2
Fuel and utilities ⁴ -----	126.9	150.2	18.4
Gas and electricity -----	126.4	145.8	15.3
Household furnishings and operation -----	124.9	140.5	12.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	126.8	136.2	7.4
Transportation -----	123.8	137.7	11.2
Private -----	121.5	136.6	12.4
Public -----	144.8	148.0	2.2
Health and recreation -----	130.2	140.3	7.8
Medical care -----	137.7	150.5	9.3
Personal care -----	125.2	137.3	9.7
Reading and recreation -----	125.9	133.8	6.3
Other goods and services -----	129.0	137.2	6.4
Special indexes:			
All items less shelter -----	131.1	146.1	11.4
All items less medical care -----	132.9	147.7	11.1
All items less mortgage interest costs -----	132.1	146.1	10.6
CPI—domestically produced farm foods -----	142.3	161.9	13.8
CPI—selected beef cuts -----	162.4	166.6	2.6
Purchasing power of consumer dollar:			
1967= \$ 1.00 -----	\$0.752	\$0.678	-9.8
1957-59= \$ 1.00 -----	.647	.583	-

¹ Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, and jewelry not shown separately.

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 service 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.

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

Group	Seasonally adjusted indexes (1967=100)				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
	September 1974	October 1974	November 1974	December 1974	3 months ending in				6 months ending in	
					March 1974	June 1974	September 1974	December 1974	June 1974	December 1974
Commodity and service groups										
All items -----	-	-	-	-	14.2	10.3	14.2	10.1	12.3	12.2
Commodities -----	149.3	150.7	152.0	153.0	16.9	10.0	14.0	10.3	13.4	12.1
Food -----	164.7	166.9	169.2	170.4	19.4	3.1	12.3	14.6	10.9	13.4
Food at home -----	165.0	167.7	170.0	171.3	21.5	1.0	12.0	16.2	10.8	14.1
Cereals and bakery products -----	170.2	174.7	178.0	182.1	28.4	19.5	11.6	31.0	23.9	20.9
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	164.8	163.2	166.3	167.7	-9	-30.8	28.5	7.2	-17.2	17.4
Dairy products -----	151.4	151.9	152.9	155.5	18.2	7.6	-6.6	11.3	12.8	2.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	165.7	169.5	169.6	166.1	39.9	33.8	-19.6	1.0	36.8	-9.9
Other foods at home -----	173.2	179.2	184.3	190.3	31.1	20.0	48.5	45.7	25.4	47.1
Food away from home -----	162.8	164.2	165.7	167.4	10.2	12.5	10.5	11.8	11.3	11.1
Commodities less food -----	141.0	141.8	142.9	143.5	16.0	13.7	16.2	7.3	14.9	11.7
Nondurables less food -----	144.9	145.5	146.5	147.1	23.1	13.9	11.8	6.2	18.4	9.0
Apparel commodities ¹ -----	139.4	139.6	140.5	140.3	9.6	9.4	12.0	2.6	9.5	7.2
Men's and boys' -----	140.0	140.4	141.3	141.5	13.1	12.7	11.6	4.4	12.9	7.9
Women's and girls' -----	138.1	138.0	138.7	137.9	6.9	5.6	13.1	-6	6.3	6.1
Footwear -----	141.1	141.4	142.4	142.1	7.4	7.3	11.5	2.9	7.4	7.1
Nondurables less food and apparel -----	148.2	148.9	150.2	151.3	30.8	17.5	11.3	8.6	24.0	9.9
Gasoline and motor oil -----	162.7	158.9	158.7	158.1	106.8	23.4	-8.2	-10.8	59.7	-9.5
Tobacco products (not seasonally adjusted) -----	146.5	147.4	149.0	150.9	2.6	10.1	10.8	12.6	6.3	11.7
Alcoholic beverages (not seasonally adjusted) -----	135.6	137.0	138.0	138.5	5.9	9.4	18.4	8.8	7.6	13.5
Fuel oil and coal -----	223.6	226.6	230.1	229.5	74.9	34.9	17.4	11.0	53.6	14.2
Other nondurables -----	138.7	141.1	143.0	144.6	12.6	18.2	21.2	18.1	15.3	19.6
Durable commodities -----	135.1	136.5	137.6	138.7	6.0	14.1	19.9	11.1	10.0	15.4
Household durables -----	133.0	134.1	135.4	136.1	9.2	13.6	17.3	9.7	11.4	13.4
New cars -----	122.2	123.6	123.9	123.8	3.7	18.3	19.8	5.3	10.7	12.3
Used cars (not seasonally adjusted) -----	139.5	139.4	141.6	138.4	-32.1	104.4	53.0	7.6	17.8	28.3
Other durables -----	140.7	141.8	142.6	144.6	13.5	6.7	10.6	11.6	10.0	11.1
Services (not seasonally adjusted) -----	155.9	157.3	158.6	160.0	9.2	11.0	13.9	10.9	10.1	12.4
Rent (not seasonally adjusted) -----	131.4	132.2	132.8	133.5	4.8	4.4	5.0	6.5	4.6	5.8
Services less rent (not seasonally adjusted) -----	160.3	161.9	163.3	164.8	9.9	11.9	15.3	11.7	10.9	13.5
Household services less rent -----	171.5	173.6	175.2	177.0	13.7	15.1	18.1	13.5	14.4	15.8
Transportation services -----	144.0	144.6	145.6	146.6	1.4	6.5	7.6	7.4	3.9	7.5
Medical care services -----	164.3	166.1	167.3	168.8	9.4	14.9	17.5	11.4	12.2	14.4
Other services -----	144.6	145.4	146.6	147.7	7.3	9.9	10.6	8.9	8.6	9.7
Special indexes:										
All items less food -----	147.9	148.8	150.1	151.0	12.4	13.0	15.1	8.7	12.7	11.8
Nondurable commodities -----	154.6	156.0	157.3	158.7	9.0	10.2	13.4	11.0	9.6	12.2
Apparel commodities less footwear -----	139.2	139.4	140.2	140.0	10.0	9.7	12.7	2.3	9.9	7.4
Services less medical care services (not seasonally adjusted) -----	154.6	156.0	157.3	158.7	9.0	10.2	13.4	11.0	9.6	12.2
Insurance and finance -----	168.0	170.3	171.7	173.8	7.1	8.6	15.4	14.5	7.8	15.0
Utilities and public transportation -----	144.7	145.7	146.5	148.0	11.9	10.3	10.9	9.4	11.1	10.2
Housekeeping and home maintenance service -----	183.7	185.5	187.2	187.5	18.9	24.1	22.0	8.5	21.5	15.1
Appliances (including radio and T. V.) (not seasonally adjusted) -----	112.0	113.1	114.5	115.2	3.1	6.9	14.4	11.9	5.0	13.1
Expenditure classes										
All items -----	-	-	-	-	14.2	10.3	14.2	10.1	12.3	12.2
Food -----	164.7	166.9	169.2	170.4	19.4	3.1	12.3	14.6	10.9	13.4
Housing -----	154.9	156.7	158.0	159.4	14.4	12.7	15.9	12.1	13.6	14.0
Shelter ² -----	157.9	159.6	160.7	162.5	9.9	10.0	13.1	12.2	10.0	12.7
Rent (not seasonally adjusted) -----	131.4	132.2	132.8	133.5	4.8	4.4	5.0	6.5	4.6	5.8
Homeownership ³ -----	167.6	169.6	171.0	173.3	12.3	10.6	16.0	14.3	11.4	15.1
Fuel and utilities ⁴ -----	154.6	156.0	157.3	158.6	26.4	16.2	13.7	10.8	21.2	12.2
Gas and electricity -----	151.4	152.9	154.0	156.5	28.2	16.1	20.2	14.2	22.0	17.1
Household furnishings and operation -----	146.6	149.0	151.0	152.5	15.2	19.7	24.4	17.1	17.4	20.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	139.6	140.0	140.9	140.8	9.6	9.7	12.3	3.5	9.6	7.8
Transportation -----	143.3	142.9	143.4	143.4	20.0	18.0	15.9	3	19.0	7.8
Private -----	142.5	142.2	142.6	142.4	23.0	18.9	17.4	-3	20.9	8.2
Public -----	148.9	149.4	150.4	151.8	-1.1	6.5	1.6	8.0	2.6	4.8
Health and recreation (not seasonally adjusted) -----	144.0	145.2	146.3	147.5	7.4	12.4	13.9	10.1	9.9	12.0
Medical care -----	155.2	156.6	157.8	159.3	8.7	13.3	16.8	11.0	11.0	13.8
Personal care -----	141.3	143.0	144.3	145.3	8.3	14.7	15.2	11.8	11.5	13.5
Reading and recreation -----	136.9	137.7	138.7	139.9	7.1	10.6	11.6	9.1	8.8	10.3
Other goods and services -----	140.1	141.1	142.6	143.9	5.0	9.3	12.9	11.3	7.1	12.1
Special indexes:										
All items less shelter -----	150.0	151.2	152.7	153.7	15.1	10.6	14.2	10.2	12.8	12.2
All items less medical care -----	151.5	152.8	154.2	155.3	14.6	10.1	13.7	10.4	12.4	12.1
All items less mortgage interest costs -----	149.8	151.1	152.4	153.5	13.8	9.9	13.6	10.3	11.8	11.9
CPI—domestically produced farm foods (not seasonally adjusted) -----	164.3	164.6	166.4	167.8	25.7	-3.7	10.6	8.8	10.1	9.7
CPI—selected beef cuts (not seasonally adjusted) -----	171.7	165.1	161.9	158.0	38.1	-29.7	26.5	-28.3	-1.5	-4.8

¹ Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, and jewelry not shown separately.

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 service not shown separately.

^r Revised from previously published figure to correct for an error in the used car component.

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

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

Area ¹	Pricing schedule ²	Indexes			Percent change from:		
		1967=100	1957-59=100	Other bases	December 1973	September 1974	November 1974
December 1974							
U. S. city average -----	M	155.4	180.8		12.2	2.4	0.7
Chicago -----	M	153.2	174.0		12.0	2.8	.9
Detroit -----	M	156.2	179.5		11.6	2.4	.6
Los Angeles-Long Beach -----	M	150.0	176.4		11.9	2.0	.9
N. Y.-Northeastern N. J -----	M	161.7	192.5		10.8	1.9	.5
Philadelphia -----	M	159.2	185.9		12.6	2.2	.4
October 1974							
Boston -----	1	^r 153.0	^r 183.3		10.3	2.2	
Houston -----	1	^r 154.2	^r 176.4		13.2	4.2	
Minneapolis-St. Paul -----	1	^r 153.9	^r 178.4		12.9	3.5	
Pittsburgh -----	1	^r 152.3	^r 175.1		11.5	2.7	
November 1974							
Buffalo -----	2	155.1		³ 170.5	11.9	2.4	
Cleveland -----	2	153.0	172.7		11.3	2.0	
Dallas -----	2	151.3		³ 163.6	11.6	2.6	
Milwaukee -----	2	150.0	169.3		10.5	3.0	
San Diego -----	2	153.5		⁴ 161.3	12.5	2.4	
Seattle -----	2	147.9	173.8		12.6	3.4	
Washington -----	2	156.1	181.9		12.0	2.2	
December 1974							
Atlanta -----	3	155.9	179.2		12.2	2.2	
Baltimore -----	3	160.0	185.8		13.7	1.7	
Cincinnati -----	3	153.8	174.5		12.6	2.3	
Honolulu -----	3	148.2		⁵ 159.8	11.6	2.0	
Kansas City -----	3	152.7	181.3		13.6	3.1	
St. Louis -----	3	148.6	173.6		11.1	1.9	
San Francisco-Oakland -----	3	152.1	181.1		12.5	2.7	

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

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

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

³ November 1963=100.

⁴ February 1965=100.

⁵ December 1963=100.

^r-Revised from previously published figure to correct for an error in the used car component.

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

Table 4. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups, percent change from November 1974 to December 1974

Group	U. S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles-Long Beach	New York-Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
All items -----	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.4
Food -----	1.1	1.3	2.3	.9	1.2	.8
Housing -----	1.0	1.0	.1	1.3	.7	.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	-.4	0	-.8	-.7	-1.7	-.8
Transportation -----	.1	-.1	.1	.4	.7	.1
Health and recreation -----	.8	1.1	.3	1.3	.5	.7
Medical care -----	1.0	1.1	.2	.5	.8	.9
Personal care -----	.8	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)	(²)
Reading and recreation -----	.7	1.0	.4	1.7	0	.2
Other goods and services -----	.8	.5	.4	1.6	.9	.7

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

² Not available.

Table 5. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, December 1974, and percent changes from September 1974

Group	U. S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles—Long Beach	New York—Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
Indexes (1967=100)						
All items -----	155.4	153.2	156.2	150.0	161.7	159.2
Food -----	169.7	170.1	172.0	164.2	174.1	172.7
Food at home -----	170.3	171.8	173.4	167.0	175.4	172.0
Cereals and bakery products -----	181.7	187.2	190.0	180.3	184.6	183.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	163.5	165.1	167.1	161.0	166.8	169.5
Dairy products -----	155.3	150.2	164.3	152.3	160.2	153.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	161.3	167.0	154.8	159.7	176.0	162.7
Other food at home -----	191.8	195.4	191.1	183.1	195.6	192.1
Food away from home -----	167.6	163.3	166.3	156.4	170.7	175.7
Housing -----	159.9	151.5	159.3	153.4	167.9	166.6
Shelter -----	163.0	154.9	168.5	155.4	169.3	176.7
Rent, residential -----	133.5	(²)	132.9	(²)	147.4	(²)
Homeownership -----	174.0	166.3	175.6	163.2	185.7	186.2
Fuel and utilities -----	158.4	142.1	147.6	150.4	181.2	162.7
Fuel oil and coal -----	228.8	209.3	214.9	-	236.7	222.7
Gas and electricity -----	156.7	136.7	152.3	170.3	188.3	164.4
Household furnishings and operation -----	152.3	147.3	139.0	147.7	156.5	150.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	141.9	138.2	137.1	135.4	141.1	137.4
Men's and boys' -----	142.5	134.1	142.4	129.2	140.7	143.6
Women's and girls' -----	140.0	140.2	127.4	135.0	139.8	127.0
Footwear -----	142.2	138.0	146.0	140.5	133.8	143.0
Transportation -----	143.5	146.0	142.9	143.9	152.2	146.7
Private -----	142.5	143.0	141.5	145.3	148.1	145.9
Public -----	152.0	165.0	158.8	117.5	168.1	151.4
Health and recreation -----	147.5	148.8	153.0	141.0	154.3	152.2
Medical care -----	159.0	158.7	171.4	155.7	169.7	170.9
Personal care -----	145.3	146.8	(²)	136.2	(²)	(²)
Reading and recreation -----	139.8	140.5	142.7	128.9	145.2	142.1
Other goods and services -----	143.9	148.3	144.9	136.8	152.9	148.0
Percent changes September 1974 to December 1974						
All items -----	2.4	2.8	2.4	2.0	1.9	2.2
Food -----	2.8	4.2	4.2	2.7	2.7	2.3
Food at home -----	2.9	4.5	4.5	2.6	2.9	2.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	6.6	6.4	7.3	8.0	8.6	6.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	-1.7	.1	1.0	-4.2	-1.7	-6
Dairy products -----	2.8	3.4	8.4	1.5	3.6	3.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	-1.0	4.9	-1	3.8	-1.3	-4.1
Other food at home -----	10.1	11.5	9.6	8.5	10.6	11.2
Food away from home -----	2.8	2.6	2.9	3.0	2.2	1.0
Housing -----	3.2	3.6	3.0	2.1	2.4	2.6
Shelter -----	3.1	4.2	3.6	1.9	1.9	2.6
Rent, residential -----	1.6	(³)	³ 3.8	(²)	³ 1.2	(²)
Homeownership -----	3.6	5.5	3.8	2.3	1.6	2.8
Fuel and utilities -----	2.9	.8	.9	.9	3.8	2.8
Fuel oil and coal -----	2.7	-1.5	2.4	-	4.5	4.4
Gas and electricity -----	4.3	1.5	1.9	1.6	5.5	3.1
Household furnishings and operation -----	3.9	3.4	2.9	2.8	3.2	2.8
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.4	1.3	-1.7	-.5	-1.0	1.1
Men's and boys' -----	1.8	2.0	-2.1	0	1.7	1.7
Women's and girls' -----	.9	0	-3.6	-2.3	-3.1	.3
Footwear -----	.8	1.8	-.4	1.2	-3.0	-.1
Transportation -----	.9	.7	.4	1.5	1.5	1.4
Private -----	.8	.6	.3	1.4	1.2	1.1
Public -----	2.2	1.1	1.5	2.2	2.4	2.9
Health and recreation -----	2.4	2.1	2.4	3.1	1.7	2.2
Medical care -----	2.4	2.9	1.8	2.7	1.7	2.9
Personal care -----	2.9	2.8	(²)	3.3	(²)	(²)
Reading and recreation -----	2.0	1.6	2.4	1.9	.4	.5
Other goods and services -----	2.5	1.3	2.3	4.5	3.0	2.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, December 1974, and percent changes from September 1974—Continued

Group	Atlanta	Baltimore	Cincinnati	Honolulu	Kansas City	San Francisco-Oakland	St. Louis
Indexes (1967= 100)							
All items -----	155.9	160.0	153.8	148.2	152.7	152.1	148.6
Food -----	176.1	171.4	172.8	169.1	172.0	164.2	167.6
Food at home -----	178.7	171.7	175.8	169.1	173.8	168.5	167.7
Cereals and bakery products -----	185.3	177.3	188.4	188.4	180.0	177.6	189.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	170.8	167.3	165.5	159.6	161.0	162.1	155.8
Dairy products -----	165.4	151.3	170.7	161.0	171.3	151.9	156.9
Fruits and vegetables -----	172.1	161.6	165.0	160.1	163.2	163.7	162.9
Other food at home -----	196.9	196.4	199.7	185.0	196.9	189.7	184.1
Food away from home -----	167.4	170.0	161.4	168.5	166.4	149.1	167.1
Housing -----	160.4	171.1	151.4	142.7	153.9	158.0	144.4
Shelter -----	165.6	182.0	151.8	145.2	158.3	162.5	140.9
Rent, residential -----	127.5	124.0	117.4	147.7	117.0	141.3	114.4
Homeownership -----	177.1	206.6	167.7	143.7	174.5	173.3	148.4
Fuel and utilities -----	147.2	157.4	163.2	133.5	141.3	143.6	149.3
Fuel oil and coal -----	-	219.0	-	-	-	-	237.8
Gas and electricity -----	153.6	158.2	155.2	147.6	152.1	152.8	144.7
Household furnishings and operation -----	155.6	155.3	143.7	139.6	150.6	150.3	148.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	136.2	146.0	141.7	137.5	144.4	141.2	133.6
Men's and boys' -----	146.6	148.4	140.3	133.3	144.9	142.2	131.0
Women's and girls' -----	126.5	136.6	138.3	129.9	143.4	143.0	130.9
Footwear -----	128.2	153.6	150.6	135.6	149.4	136.9	142.0
Transportation -----	137.7	140.7	138.4	140.1	142.2	144.0	139.6
Private -----	141.2	142.1	142.9	143.0	142.0	143.8	142.9
Public -----	91.9	130.8	104.3	124.0	144.7	146.5	100.5
Health and recreation -----	150.9	150.8	150.2	141.4	145.0	141.5	144.9
Medical care -----	170.2	172.4	166.2	154.3	153.2	150.5	148.6
Personal care -----	150.7	144.7	149.1	148.1	147.8	142.3	148.7
Reading and recreation -----	139.8	140.2	131.8	142.3	132.9	133.3	136.9
Other goods and services -----	135.0	⁴ 144.8	151.8	122.2	148.2	137.5	146.2
Percent changes September 1974 to December 1974							
All items -----	2.2	1.7	2.3	2.0	3.1	2.7	1.9
Food -----	3.6	1.5	3.3	3.5	3.7	2.9	2.8
Food at home -----	4.0	1.2	3.5	3.6	4.1	3.2	2.6
Cereals and bakery products -----	6.1	3.8	4.2	4.0	6.8	8.6	7.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	-2.1	-2.2	-1.0	-1.5	-1.7	-2.0	-1.8
Dairy products -----	4.4	2.0	4.3	3.3	.8	1.6	1.9
Fruits and vegetables -----	1.6	-6.6	.7	3.2	3.8	2.6	-1.6
Other food at home -----	11.7	10.5	11.5	13.1	12.2	9.8	8.2
Food away from home -----	2.4	2.4	3.0	3.1	2.8	1.4	3.6
Housing -----	3.3	1.7	3.1	.8	5.6	3.7	1.5
Shelter -----	3.8	.6	2.8	.3	6.1	4.5	1.4
Rent, residential -----	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.4	.9	1.1	1.0
Homeownership -----	4.4	.4	3.5	-1.5	7.6	6.0	1.6
Fuel and utilities -----	1.8	3.2	5.9	1.2	2.7	.4	1.7
Fuel oil and coal -----	-	-1.2	-	-	-	-	2.1
Gas and electricity -----	2.8	7.6	7.4	1.9	4.2	.3	2.5
Household furnishings and operation -----	2.9	4.2	2.3	2.3	6.2	2.5	1.8
Apparel and upkeep -----	-1.1	1.4	.4	.9	.2	1.6	.3
Men's and boys' -----	.1	-1.0	-1.6	3.6	1.1	1.1	-2.6
Women's and girls' -----	-3.5	2.9	1.0	-2.0	-1.5	2.5	.9
Footwear -----	.5	2.3	-1.3	1.0	.3	.1	-1.1
Transportation -----	.1	1.1	.1	1.7	.9	1.8	.4
Private -----	.1	.5	0	1.5	.9	1.8	.4
Public -----	.4	5.5	1.3	2.6	1.9	2.4	1.3
Health and recreation -----	1.1	2.7	1.7	2.3	1.7	1.9	2.6
Medical care -----	1.4	1.4	2.3	1.2	1.1	2.0	3.3
Personal care -----	1.1	3.5	1.9	3.8	4.2	2.2	3.0
Reading and recreation -----	.7	2.6	.5	2.5	.8	.8	2.2
Other goods and services -----	1.4	2.9	1.9	2.3	2.1	2.6	1.9

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

² Not available.

³ Change from October 1974.

⁴ Revised index: September 1974, 140.7.

Table 5-A. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, 1974 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1973-74

Group	U. S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles Long Beach	New York— Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
Indexes (1967= 100)						
All items -----	147.7	146.1	149.1	142.5	154.7	151.6
All items (1957-59= 100) -----	171.8	165.9	171.3	167.6	184.1	177.0
Food -----	161.7	161.6	164.1	156.3	166.1	165.2
Food at home -----	162.4	163.0	165.3	158.7	167.0	164.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	166.1	172.1	182.1	162.6	166.7	167.2
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	163.9	162.9	167.4	164.5	167.0	168.0
Dairy products -----	151.9	148.2	154.9	146.7	155.6	151.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	165.8	168.2	158.9	157.7	179.4	169.2
Other food at home -----	162.8	164.8	164.2	157.8	164.9	163.6
Food away from home -----	159.4	156.2	159.2	149.4	163.6	168.2
Housing -----	150.6	143.7	151.0	144.3	160.6	156.8
Shelter -----	154.3	147.4	159.5	146.5	163.8	166.2
Rent, residential -----	130.2	-	129.8	-	143.6	-
Homeownership -----	163.2	156.5	165.5	152.3	179.1	174.1
Fuel and utilities -----	150.2	138.2	142.3	144.3	171.5	154.2
Fuel oil and coal -----	214.6	205.8	208.7	-	221.8	207.1
Gas and electricity -----	145.8	131.2	144.4	162.4	173.3	154.1
Household furnishings and operation -----	140.5	136.0	130.5	136.9	146.1	141.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	136.2	132.7	132.4	132.0	136.2	132.1
Men's and boys' -----	136.4	129.6	135.7	125.8	135.5	137.3
Women's and girls' -----	134.9	135.0	123.2	133.8	133.4	122.9
Footwear -----	138.1	132.1	144.6	136.1	134.0	138.6
Transportation -----	137.7	140.7	138.7	137.6	146.2	140.6
Private -----	136.6	137.0	137.2	138.7	141.6	139.6
Public -----	148.0	163.5	156.1	115.9	164.0	146.6
Health and recreation -----	140.3	142.2	145.5	133.9	147.2	145.2
Medical care -----	150.5	150.1	162.8	147.7	160.7	162.4
Personal care -----	137.3	138.8	-	128.2	-	-
Reading and recreation -----	133.8	135.2	135.6	123.8	139.7	137.7
Other goods and services -----	137.2	143.2	138.2	129.3	145.7	140.1
Percent changes 1973-74						
All items -----	11.0	10.7	10.9	10.3	10.7	11.9
Food -----	14.4	13.2	14.3	14.5	14.2	15.8
Food at home -----	14.9	13.5	14.2	15.1	15.3	16.1
Cereals and bakery products -----	30.1	29.9	35.4	31.9	29.4	29.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	2.2	1.2	.5	2.4	4.4	5.0
Dairy products -----	18.8	15.1	21.5	18.5	18.9	18.4
Fruits and vegetables -----	16.4	17.2	17.2	17.9	19.3	19.2
Other food at home -----	24.9	25.1	23.9	22.7	23.9	25.7
Food away from home -----	12.7	12.1	14.7	12.7	10.8	14.4
Housing -----	11.6	11.7	9.9	9.5	11.2	13.8
Shelter -----	9.7	10.8	8.2	8.5	7.8	12.3
Rent, residential -----	4.7	-	4.5	-	5.1	-
Homeownership -----	11.2	13.2	8.8	9.6	9.4	13.9
Fuel and utilities -----	18.4	15.4	17.4	10.1	27.3	21.9
Fuel oil and coal -----	57.8	57.9	61.4	-	55.9	59.9
Gas and electricity -----	15.3	9.2	17.3	16.2	29.0	17.0
Household furnishings and operation -----	12.5	12.1	11.3	12.6	12.0	12.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	7.4	5.7	8.3	7.2	7.8	5.9
Men's and boys' -----	7.9	7.0	11.4	6.2	6.8	10.1
Women's and girls' -----	6.0	3.5	5.0	5.9	7.4	1.1
Footwear -----	6.1	6.4	9.0	5.7	4.7	6.2
Transportation -----	11.2	10.1	12.2	11.8	7.8	10.2
Private -----	12.4	11.8	13.1	12.4	10.4	11.9
Public -----	2.2	1.7	3.5	-1.9	.2	2.1
Health and recreation -----	7.8	8.4	8.7	7.4	8.6	8.0
Medical care -----	9.3	9.6	9.6	9.5	10.8	9.0
Personal care -----	9.7	10.3	-	7.6	-	-
Reading and recreation -----	6.3	6.4	6.7	5.9	7.8	6.9
Other goods and services -----	6.4	8.3	10.6	5.8	6.3	7.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5-A. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, 1974 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1973-74—Continued

Group	Atlanta	Baltimore	Cincinnati	Honolulu	Kansas City	San Francisco-Oakland	St. Louis
Indexes (1967= 100)							
All items -----	148.5	152.4	146.3	141.8	144.2	144.4	142.2
All items (1957-59= 100) -----	170.8	176.9	166.1	² 152.9	171.1	171.8	166.1
Food -----	165.6	164.4	163.6	158.7	162.5	155.6	159.7
Food at home -----	167.4	165.0	165.9	159.2	163.9	159.2	160.0
Cereals and bakery products -----	171.2	164.5	115.3	175.5	165.8	158.7	172.5
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	169.0	167.5	163.8	159.0	162.1	162.7	156.0
Dairy products -----	159.1	151.2	163.2	150.6	170.2	147.2	155.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	171.9	169.7	163.8	153.4	157.7	160.2	163.9
Other food at home -----	165.4	166.5	168.4	157.6	165.3	161.7	158.4
Food away from home -----	159.4	162.1	154.8	156.6	158.2	143.0	158.0
Housing -----	151.7	161.1	143.1	138.6	141.6	148.8	137.9
Shelter -----	157.1	172.1	145.5	142.4	145.8	153.2	136.0
Rent, residential -----	125.1	121.3	115.4	142.9	115.3	138.7	112.7
Homeownership -----	166.8	193.6	159.4	142.2	157.7	160.6	142.5
Fuel and utilities -----	141.9	149.6	146.6	127.7	132.3	136.6	141.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	-	213.9	-	-	-	-	222.7
Gas and electricity -----	145.3	144.0	137.1	135.9	137.9	145.4	133.9
Household furnishings and operation -----	144.9	143.4	134.6	132.1	136.9	140.4	139.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	133.7	141.3	136.9	133.3	138.9	136.1	129.8
Men's and boys' -----	142.0	148.2	136.6	127.5	136.2	137.3	129.7
Women's and girls' -----	127.8	129.7	132.5	130.7	140.7	136.9	127.5
Footwear -----	125.5	149.3	147.1	132.1	145.5	133.3	139.0
Transportation -----	132.0	134.6	133.0	135.1	136.5	136.5	134.5
Private -----	135.3	136.1	137.1	137.8	136.0	136.2	137.6
Public -----	89.1	124.6	102.4	120.3	143.9	141.9	98.3
Health and recreation -----	145.1	143.2	143.5	134.3	138.9	135.2	137.9
Medical care -----	162.4	165.1	158.8	147.0	147.7	143.5	140.8
Personal care -----	144.3	136.9	142.9	137.2	138.9	134.4	139.3
Reading and recreation -----	135.0	133.5	128.1	134.3	127.8	128.7	131.2
Other goods and services -----	130.9	136.5	143.1	118.5	141.4	131.0	140.0
Percent changes 1973-74							
All items -----	11.0	13.0	10.7	10.5	10.7	9.8	10.0
Food -----	15.0	14.3	14.5	17.4	14.9	12.8	13.9
Food at home -----	16.1	14.3	15.0	19.0	15.6	14.0	14.4
Cereals and bakery products -----	31.1	30.1	34.4	48.9	27.5	32.3	29.4
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	3.9	3.2	1.7	8.5	1.1	3.3	.9
Dairy products -----	20.2	16.8	22.3	17.8	22.1	18.9	19.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	14.0	13.8	12.5	13.9	17.7	16.1	14.1
Other food at home -----	26.0	25.4	26.6	24.0	26.5	22.5	25.9
Food away from home -----	11.2	14.4	12.2	12.7	13.0	8.3	11.3
Housing -----	9.5	17.2	11.3	7.6	9.9	9.3	9.8
Shelter -----	9.5	17.6	9.0	5.4	9.4	8.3	7.6
Rent, residential -----	4.0	4.5	3.4	7.4	2.4	4.1	2.3
Homeownership -----	10.9	21.7	11.0	4.2	11.7	10.3	8.9
Fuel and utilities -----	6.5	21.6	17.7	13.8	9.4	8.0	12.1
Fuel oil and coal -----	-	64.3	-	-	-	-	47.5
Gas and electricity -----	10.5	19.0	14.3	27.0	15.2	13.4	7.7
Household furnishings and operation -----	11.2	13.4	14.2	12.6	12.6	13.0	13.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	8.3	8.3	7.0	7.4	6.4	7.4	5.4
Men's and boys' -----	8.7	7.4	7.4	9.3	7.8	9.4	11.1
Women's and girls' -----	7.2	6.2	4.8	3.6	4.3	6.5	1.5
Footwear -----	4.1	6.5	7.1	9.4	7.0	5.7	4.2
Transportation -----	13.2	11.5	7.7	9.0	11.1	10.8	8.4
Private -----	13.5	13.0	12.3	9.8	11.7	11.2	12.1
Public -----	9.5	2.3	-24.3	4.7	1.4	4.5	-28.4
Health and recreation -----	8.7	8.3	8.9	8.2	8.0	7.6	8.2
Medical care -----	11.0	10.9	10.5	10.3	9.3	8.7	8.4
Personal care -----	11.2	8.5	8.2	11.8	11.0	10.3	10.0
Reading and recreation -----	5.6	5.4	5.0	9.5	6.0	5.9	7.5
Other goods and services -----	6.8	8.9	10.6	1.7	6.8	6.4	7.5

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

² December 1963=100.

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

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 (1967=100)								
U.S. city average -----	169.7	170.3	181.7	163.5	155.3	161.3	191.8	167.6
Atlanta -----	176.1	178.7	185.3	170.8	165.4	172.1	196.9	167.4
Baltimore -----	171.4	171.7	177.3	167.3	151.3	161.6	196.4	170.0
Boston -----	169.8	170.3	182.0	165.6	151.7	162.1	192.0	167.7
Buffalo -----	166.4	165.8	183.9	162.6	149.3	151.0	184.3	169.6
Chicago -----	170.1	171.8	187.2	165.1	150.2	167.0	195.4	163.3
Cincinnati -----	172.8	175.8	188.4	165.5	170.7	165.0	199.7	161.4
Cleveland -----	168.5	169.6	184.1	158.2	159.5	165.7	188.4	163.1
Dallas -----	165.6	164.0	176.4	154.7	147.6	153.1	186.7	171.4
Detroit -----	172.0	173.4	199.0	167.1	164.3	154.8	191.1	166.3
Honolulu -----	169.1	169.1	188.4	159.6	161.0	160.1	185.0	168.5
Houston -----	175.7	174.1	180.0	165.7	166.4	166.0	192.8	181.4
Kansas City -----	172.0	173.8	180.0	161.0	171.3	163.2	196.9	166.4
Los Angeles—Long Beach -----	164.2	167.0	180.3	161.0	152.3	159.7	183.1	156.4
Milwaukee -----	166.9	167.9	184.1	158.0	155.7	158.5	189.2	(²)
Minneapolis—St. Paul -----	171.8	171.5	188.3	165.4	156.2	159.6	190.4	173.3
N. Y.—Northeastern N. J. -----	174.1	175.4	184.6	166.8	175.0	176.0	195.6	170.7
Philadelphia -----	172.7	172.0	183.8	169.5	153.5	162.7	192.1	175.7
Pittsburgh -----	172.5	171.7	187.9	165.0	151.5	162.5	193.9	177.8
St. Louis -----	167.6	167.7	189.6	155.8	156.9	162.9	184.1	167.1
San Diego -----	168.3	167.4	175.2	164.8	152.0	163.3	181.0	(²)
San Francisco—Oakland -----	164.2	168.5	177.6	162.1	151.9	163.7	189.7	149.1
Seattle -----	163.1	165.7	182.3	161.2	153.1	151.5	184.1	154.5
Washington -----	174.3	174.3	187.9	161.5	144.7	166.1	211.7	173.9
Percent changes November 1974 to December 1974								
U.S. city average -----	1.1	1.2	2.3	-0.3	1.7	-1.8	4.3	0.8
Atlanta -----	1.3	1.2	1.6	-2.1	2.7	-.3	5.4	1.3
Baltimore -----	.2	0	-.6	-.8	.9	-3.8	3.6	1.2
Boston -----	1.3	1.3	3.0	-.4	.1	-.9	5.6	1.3
Buffalo -----	.5	.4	1.3	-.6	-.6	-3.0	4.7	.5
Chicago -----	1.3	1.5	1.7	.5	2.0	-1.9	4.8	.7
Cincinnati -----	1.2	1.3	.4	.2	3.1	-.7	3.7	.9
Cleveland -----	1.9	2.2	3.3	-.7	5.8	2.6	3.0	.1
Dallas -----	.9	.9	2.9	-.4	.1	-3.0	4.2	.7
Detroit -----	2.3	2.7	3.6	1.4	5.8	-.3	4.7	.4
Honolulu -----	1.8	1.4	-.6	-.2	1.7	2.5	4.9	2.9
Houston -----	2.2	2.6	4.5	.5	2.6	.1	5.8	.7
Kansas City -----	1.8	2.1	2.4	.5	1.4	.7	5.0	.9
Los Angeles—Long Beach -----	.9	1.0	2.7	-.1	.5	-1.6	3.4	.5
Milwaukee -----	1.3	1.7	3.3	-.3	2.6	-.6	4.0	(²)
Minneapolis—St. Paul -----	.9	1.1	2.4	-.3	.6	-1.7	3.9	.5
N. Y.—Northeastern N. J. -----	1.2	1.6	2.6	-.2	3.2	-1.8	5.6	.4
Philadelphia -----	.8	.8	2.3	-.3	.9	-1.3	3.0	.7
Pittsburgh -----	.8	.9	1.0	-1.3	4.8	-1.9	3.4	.6
St. Louis -----	1.8	1.6	3.9	-.1	.6	.9	3.6	2.5
San Diego -----	.6	.8	2.3	-.2	.4	-1.0	2.8	(²)
San Francisco—Oakland -----	1.6	1.9	3.7	.3	1.2	-.2	4.8	.6
Seattle -----	1.0	.9	3.2	-.3	-.3	-.7	3.0	1.2
Washington -----	.5	.2	4.3	-2.2	.6	-3.7	3.3	1.0

¹ See footnote 1, table 3.

² Not available.

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

(1967= 100)

Item and group	Index		Percent change to December 1974 from—		
	December 1974		December 1973	November 1974	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food	169.7	170.4	12.2	1.1	0.7
Food away from home	167.6	167.4	11.2	.8	1.0
Restaurant meals	167.0	167.0	9.9	.8	1.0
Snacks	170.4	170.2	18.1	1.0	1.0
Food at home	170.3	171.3	12.4	1.2	.8
Cereals and bakery products	181.7	182.1	22.4	2.3	2.3
Flour	171.1	170.4	4.8	1.2	.6
Cracker meal	212.3	213.6	34.9	.8	1.0
Corn flakes	164.0	164.0	45.9	4.7	4.8
Rice	221.3	221.5	-.8	-1.7	-1.9
Bread, white	166.9	166.9	14.0	1.5	1.3
Bread, whole wheat	173.4	173.1	16.6	1.2	1.4
Cookies	180.8	181.2	48.9	6.0	5.6
Layer cakes	184.0	183.8	31.8	4.6	4.5
Cinnamon rolls	192.0	191.6	33.6	4.0	4.0
Meats, poultry, and fish	163.5	167.7	-1.4	-.3	.8
Meats	161.7	165.8	-3.5	-.8	.4
Beef and veal	160.1	165.4	-3.4	-2.2	-1.1
Steak, round	156.0	162.7	0	-3.8	-2.2
Steak, sirloin	150.0	156.7	2.8	-2.7	-1.2
Steak, porterhouse	155.6	161.9	4.4	-2.0	-.6
Rump roast	154.8	161.3	1.4	-2.5	-.7
Rib roast	168.7	172.3	3.3	-.9	-1.5
Chuck roast	165.0	171.7	-1.8	-1.3	-.9
Hamburger	160.1	164.2	-12.0	-2.1	-1.4
Beef liver	151.8	154.0	-11.1	-2.9	-2.0
Veal cutlets	195.4	198.6	-.3	.2	1.0
Pork	167.1	171.9	-1.8	.2	2.0
Chops	157.8	164.4	3.7	-1.4	1.2
Loin roast	164.0	170.5	.4	-1.6	.9
Pork sausage	181.7	186.7	-6.8	2.6	5.5
Ham, whole	167.2	165.2	-5.1	4.8	2.5
Picnics	159.3	163.7	-11.5	-1.9	-.5
Bacon	175.2	180.8	1.9	.2	2.3
Other meats	158.0	159.6	-6.1	1.1	1.9
Lamb chops	160.1	161.7	8.4	1.2	1.6
Frankfurters	155.6	158.6	-11.1	.4	2.1
Ham, canned	158.6	159.1	-7.8	3.0	3.7
Bologna sausage	162.8	165.1	-8.6	1.1	2.4
Salami sausage	156.6	158.2	-6.9	0	1.2
Liverwurst	154.4	156.1	-8.8	1.0	1.8
Poultry	154.9	161.9	6.2	2.7	4.0
Frying chicken	160.0	169.1	13.3	3.8	5.0
Chicken breasts	150.3	154.6	5.9	2.1	2.8
Turkey	135.7	137.6	-21.2	-3.0	-.1
Fish	194.8	194.8	9.4	.6	.4
Shrimp, frozen	162.6	162.3	-7.4	.4	.1
Fish, fresh or frozen	216.8	217.0	3.7	0	-.2
Tuna fish, canned	175.2	175.4	14.4	.6	.3
Sardines, canned	223.7	222.4	27.9	1.4	1.2
Dairy products	155.3	155.5	7.2	1.7	1.7
Milk, fresh, grocery	154.1	154.3	5.2	2.1	2.2
Milk, fresh skim	167.6	167.8	7.9	2.0	2.0
Milk, evaporated	181.8	182.3	20.1	.4	1.3
Ice cream	147.8	146.9	19.5	4.2	3.6
Cheese, American process	167.9	168.1	5.9	.1	-.1
Butter	116.4	115.7	-5.1	.6	.7

See footnote at end of table.

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

(1967= 100)

Item and group	Index		Percent change to December 1974 from—		
	December 1974		December 1973	November 1974	
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted
Food—Continued					
Food at home—Continued					
Fruits and vegetables	161.3	166.1	11.0	-1.8	-2.1
Fresh fruits and vegetables	149.6	158.3	3.9	-3.3	-2.9
Fresh fruits	143.1	153.9	5.1	-3.6	-1.8
Apples	147.1	165.7	-5.5	-1.2	-4.6
Bananas	109.8	117.6	9.4	-6.9	-2.5
Oranges	149.1	150.2	5.3	-6.3	-9.9
Orange juice, fresh	144.2	144.1	7.7	.1	.2
Grapefruit	139.2	160.0	4.7	-1	5.0
Grapes	(1)	-	(1)	(1)	(1)
Strawberries	(1)	-	(1)	(1)	(1)
Watermelon	(1)	-	(1)	(1)	(1)
Fresh vegetables	154.9	161.0	2.9	-3.1	-4.6
Potatoes	162.7	174.6	-12.8	-2.3	-2.6
Onions	124.8	132.3	-15.8	-6.3	-8.1
Asparagus	(1)	-	(1)	(1)	(1)
Cabbage	146.0	158.4	-2.1	2.5	1.3
Carrots	174.8	175.3	28.5	16.0	11.8
Celery	146.9	147.3	16.7	-9.7	-12.3
Cucumbers	120.6	121.8	4.1	-2.2	-12.4
Lettuce	160.8	146.8	35.1	-15.2	-18.2
Peppers, green	132.6	137.1	-23.4	-16.5	-24.5
Spinach	172.4	170.9	6.0	-1.5	-4.5
Tomatoes	172.2	156.0	24.6	14.6	1.9
Processed fruits and vegetables	178.7	178.5	21.4	0	.1
Fruit cocktail, canned	177.6	177.4	29.0	.7	.8
Pears, canned	164.2	164.2	26.1	1.0	1.6
Pineapple-grapefruit juice drink	162.6	162.9	33.8	1.1	1.4
Orange juice concentrate, frozen	146.1	146.2	5.2	-5	-2.2
Lemonade concentrate, frozen	168.9	167.9	37.1	4.5	4.0
Beets, canned	184.1	184.8	26.1	1.4	1.8
Peas, green, canned	155.9	155.4	36.3	2.2	2.2
Tomatoes, canned	169.6	169.8	28.6	1.9	1.9
Dried beans	283.9	281.4	-9	-7.2	-7.4
Broccoli, frozen	150.2	150.5	19.0	2.5	2.7
Other food at home	191.8	190.3	35.8	4.3	3.3
Eggs	172.6	163.0	-5.5	3.9	-3.8
Fats and oils:					
Margarine	252.3	251.5	57.0	2.1	1.9
Salad dressing, Italian	146.7	146.4	23.8	2.5	2.3
Salad or cooking oil	239.7	239.5	50.0	-2	-2
Sugar and sweets	279.0	279.6	101.6	13.8	13.7
Sugar	519.8	519.8	274.5	33.7	33.9
Grape jelly	203.1	203.9	43.3	2.2	2.2
Chocolate bar	219.1	218.7	56.6	2.8	2.8
Syrup, chocolate flavored	208.3	208.7	56.4	3.8	3.6
Nonalcoholic beverages	172.7	173.2	27.5	1.5	1.6
Coffee, can	168.6	169.1	18.6	-5	-1
Coffee, instant	172.2	172.7	27.0	.5	.5
Tea	132.7	133.1	17.0	3.1	3.4
Carbonated drink, cola flavored	193.1	193.5	42.4	2.6	2.8
Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	198.9	199.5	45.8	4.8	5.0
Prepared and partially prepared foods	160.8	161.0	28.6	1.4	1.4
Bean soup, canned	186.3	186.5	45.1	.6	.6
Chicken soup, canned	135.4	135.3	15.9	-2	-3
Spaghetti, canned	161.7	161.5	27.8	3.1	3.1
Mashed potatoes, instant	156.3	156.9	28.4	1.3	1.2
Potatoes, french fried, frozen	170.2	170.7	37.9	-1.3	-1.0
Baby foods	155.6	155.8	29.3	4.9	4.9
Sweet pickle relish	164.5	164.2	19.5	3.3	3.3
Pretzels	155.6	155.9	26.5	-2	-1

¹ Priced only in season.

Table 7-A. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, annual average 1974 indexes, and percent changes from 1973 to 1974

(1967= 100)

Item and group	Indexes (1967= 100)		Percent change to 1974 from: 1973 average
	1973 average	1974 average	
Food	141.4	161.7	14.4
Food away from home	141.4	159.4	12.4
Restaurant meals	142.1	159.7	12.7
Snacks	138.0	158.2	14.6
Food at home	141.4	162.4	14.9
Cereals and bakery products	127.7	166.1	30.1
Flour	127.1	172.7	35.9
Cracker meal	144.5	189.1	30.9
Corn flakes	104.4	134.5	28.8
Rice	141.9	237.7	67.5
Bread, white	126.7	158.4	25.0
Bread, whole wheat	132.3	162.7	23.0
Cookies	115.0	145.8	26.8
Layer cakes	129.0	158.3	22.7
Cinnamon rolls	130.7	163.7	25.2
Meats, poultry, and fish	160.4	163.9	2.2
Meats	161.1	164.1	1.9
Beef and veal	163.8	168.5	2.9
Steak, round	158.9	164.0	3.2
Steak, sirloin	150.3	155.5	3.5
Steak, porterhouse	152.0	158.0	3.9
Rump roast	154.9	160.5	3.6
Rib roast	162.0	168.9	4.3
Chuck roast	171.7	171.7	0
Hamburger	173.7	176.0	1.3
Beef liver	157.5	162.7	3.3
Veal cutlets	188.7	198.8	5.4
Pork	161.7	161.0	-.4
Chops	154.7	155.4	.5
Loin roast	162.6	163.1	.3
Pork sausage	179.1	177.0	-1.2
Ham, whole	152.3	154.8	1.6
Picnics	168.2	161.3	-4.1
Bacon	161.1	160.5	-.4
Other meats	154.4	159.2	3.1
Lamb chops	145.3	156.3	7.6
Frankfurters	162.3	160.0	-1.4
Ham, canned	149.1	156.7	5.1
Bologna sausage	162.8	165.1	1.4
Salami sausage	154.5	159.4	3.2
Liverwurst	152.8	157.7	3.2
Poultry	154.8	146.9	-5.1
Frying chicken	158.1	148.2	-6.3
Chicken breasts	147.8	144.5	-2.2
Turkey	146.7	143.2	-2.4
Fish	162.8	187.7	15.3
Shrimp, frozen	157.0	169.4	7.9
Fish, fresh or frozen	188.9	215.8	14.2
Tuna fish, canned	143.5	168.1	17.1
Sardines, canned	162.4	197.5	21.6
Dairy products	127.9	151.9	18.8
Milk, fresh, grocery	127.3	152.5	19.8
Milk, fresh, skim	135.5	164.4	21.3
Milk, evaporated	134.3	172.2	28.2
Ice cream	113.1	133.3	17.9
Cheese, American process	138.5	167.9	21.2
Butter	110.7	114.1	3.1

Table 7-A. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, annual average 1974 indexes, and percent changes from 1973 to 1974—Continued

(1967=100)

Item and group	Indexes (1967=100)		Percent change to 1974 from: 1973 average
	1973 average	1974 average	
Food—Continued			
Food at home—Continued			
Fruits and vegetables	142.5	165.8	16.4
Fresh fruits and vegetables	150.8	162.6	7.8
Fresh fruits	138.7	150.8	8.7
Apples	144.9	162.4	12.1
Bananas	106.2	119.2	12.2
Oranges	140.5	148.4	5.6
Orange juice, fresh	132.6	139.3	5.1
Grapefruit	147.1	147.1	0
Grapes	165.5	182.7	10.4
Strawberries	131.7	122.7	-6.8
Watermelon	153.5	152.5	-.7
Fresh vegetables	160.7	172.3	7.2
Potatoes	187.9	229.5	22.1
Onions	183.8	152.5	-17.0
Asparagus	155.0	152.1	-1.9
Cabbage	161.7	146.7	-9.3
Carrots	139.2	146.6	5.3
Celery	146.1	145.7	-.3
Cucumbers	136.9	136.7	-.1
Lettuce	152.9	154.9	1.3
Peppers, green	149.5	152.0	1.7
Spinach	158.8	173.5	9.3
Tomatoes	136.5	155.4	13.8
Processed fruits and vegetables	130.2	170.6	31.0
Fruit cocktail, canned	130.2	156.9	20.5
Pears, canned	125.1	144.5	15.5
Pineapple-grapefruit juice drink	119.7	137.8	15.1
Orange juice concentrate, frozen	137.0	142.0	3.7
Lemonade concentrate, frozen	120.3	141.3	17.5
Beets, canned	139.1	163.4	17.5
Peas, green, canned	110.6	131.5	18.9
Tomatoes, canned	125.2	149.5	19.4
Dried beans	171.8	372.8	117.0
Broccoli, frozen	122.1	136.3	11.6
Other food at home	130.3	162.8	24.9
Eggs	160.2	160.8	.4
Fats and oils:			
Margarine	133.4	204.9	53.6
Salad dressing, Italian	112.1	130.3	6.7
Salad or cooking oil	133.4	202.0	51.4
Sugar and sweets	128.3	195.2	52.1
Sugar	124.9	267.8	114.4
Grape jelly	134.1	171.5	27.9
Chocolate bar	135.6	189.8	40.0
Syrup, chocolate flavored	117.6	161.9	37.7
Nonalcoholic beverages	130.2	155.6	19.5
Coffee, can	135.0	160.5	18.9
Coffee, instant	131.4	157.7	20.0
Tea	111.1	121.1	9.0
Carbonated drink, cola flavored	131.7	163.0	23.8
Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	131.6	163.9	24.5
Prepared and partially prepared foods	119.0	144.3	21.3
Bean soup, canned	120.0	165.3	37.8
Chicken soup, canned	107.7	129.0	19.8
Spaghetti, canned	123.9	143.4	15.7
Mashed potatoes, instant	117.6	139.4	18.5
Potatoes, french fried, frozen	115.4	150.3	30.2
Baby foods	114.5	138.0	20.5
Sweet pickle relish	132.2	146.5	10.8
Pretzels	118.3	142.2	20.2

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

(1967= 100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to December 1974 from:	
		November 1974	December 1974	December 1973	November 1974
Housing		158.3	159.9	13.7	1.0
Shelter ¹		161.2	163.0	11.3	1.1
Rent, residential		132.8	133.5	5.2	.5
Homeownership ²		171.7	174.0	13.3	1.3
Mortgage interest rates		149.1	149.0	10.5	-.1
Property taxes		152.0	154.8	2.1	1.8
Property insurance premiums		124.5	125.0	1.1	.4
Maintenance and repairs		181.5	182.3	16.2	.4
Maintenance and repair commodities ³		156.4	156.8	11.4	.3
Exterior house paint		150.6	152.2	24.3	1.1
Interior house paint		140.5	143.0	18.1	1.8
Maintenance and repair services		192.4	193.3	17.9	.5
Repainting living and dining rooms		202.0	202.9	15.3	.4
Reshingling house roof		212.0	213.4	24.7	.5
Residing house		184.2	185.2	20.4	.5
Replacing sink		188.3	189.4	17.8	.6
Repairing furnace		182.4	182.9	9.7	.3
Fuel and utilities		157.1	158.4	16.6	.8
Fuel oil and coal		229.2	228.8	32.4	-.2
Fuel oil, No. 2		224.5	223.9	30.3	-.3
Gas and electricity		154.0	156.7	19.6	1.8
Gas		153.0	155.8	17.1	1.8
Electricity		154.9	157.5	22.1	1.7
Other utilities:					
Residential telephone services		122.1	122.1	1.3	0
Residential water and sewerage services		159.1	158.9	6.6	-.1
Household furnishings and operation ⁴		151.0	152.3	19.0	.9
Housefurnishings		139.1	140.0	15.4	.6
Textiles		140.5	140.8	17.2	.2
Sheets		146.7	146.6	19.4	-.7
Curtains, tailored		132.3	133.1	12.3	.6
Bedspreads		145.6	147.1	26.5	1.0
Drapery fabric		165.4	165.2	22.6	-.1
Pillows, bed		120.6	120.6	9.7	0
Slipcovers and throws, ready-made		132.0	132.6	11.5	.5
Furniture and bedding		141.8	142.2	10.7	.3
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser	Mar. 70	126.5	127.1	12.1	.5
Sofas, upholstered		136.8	136.9	8.4	.1
Cocktail tables	Dec. 71	121.9	122.2	13.6	.2
Dining room chairs	Mar. 70	127.0	127.5	13.2	.4
Recliners, upholstered	Dec. 71	110.8	109.5	8.0	-1.2
Sofas, dual purpose		132.9	132.7	7.7	-.2
Bedding, mattress and box springs	June 70	125.6	126.2	14.8	.5
Aluminum folding chairs		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Cribs		143.5	146.2	15.2	1.9
Floor coverings		127.0	127.7	16.4	.6
Broadloom carpeting, manmade fibers		117.7	117.9	13.3	.2
Vinyl sheet goods		144.4	146.2	17.4	1.2
Vinyl asbestos tile		152.8	154.6	28.0	1.2
Appliances (excluding radio and T. V.)		122.4	123.6	12.3	1.0
Washing machines, electric, automatic		124.8	126.3	13.5	1.2
Vacuum cleaners		111.5	112.7	8.5	1.1
Refrigerator-freezers, electric		123.3	124.4	14.8	.9
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric		123.5	124.4	12.7	.7
Clothes dryers, electric		130.0	131.4	14.4	1.1
Air conditioners, demountable		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Room heaters, electric, portable		120.3	121.4	10.6	.9
Garbage disposal units		123.7	124.6	10.9	.7
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, fine china		159.8	160.6	18.6	.5
Flatware, stainless steel		157.9	159.0	19.8	.7
Table lamps, with shade		142.6	143.5	12.2	.6
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type		141.8	142.6	(⁶)	.6
Electric drills, hand-held		118.9	119.6	12.4	.6
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry, soaps and detergents		151.9	154.0	31.2	1.4
Paper napkins		191.4	195.4	39.1	2.1
Toilet tissue		182.7	191.4	44.0	4.8
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic services, general housework		190.5	190.4	24.1	-.1
Baby sitter services		179.2	178.7	21.6	-.3
Postal charges		175.3	175.3	19.6	0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service		179.4	179.8	15.5	.2
Licensed day care services, preschool child		147.8	148.8	9.5	.7
Washing machine repairs		178.4	180.4	17.6	1.1

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to December 1974 from:	
		November 1974	December 1974	December 1973	November 1974
Apparel and upkeep ⁷ -----		142.4	141.9	8.7	-0.4
Apparel commodities -----		142.3	141.6	8.3	-0.5
Apparel commodities less footwear -----		142.2	141.5	8.6	-0.5
Men's and boys' -----		142.6	142.5	10.4	-0.1
Men's:					
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends -----		146.8	146.2	7.1	-0.4
Suits, year round weight -----		139.7	138.1	1.5	-1.1
Sport jacket -----	June 74	102.1	102.9	(^b)	.8
Jackets, lightweight -----		130.7	130.6	8.4	-0.1
Slacks, wool or wool blends -----		118.5	118.5	1.2	0
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends -----		145.4	145.1	4.7	-0.2
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		148.9	149.7	20.6	.5
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		149.1	150.3	19.3	.8
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton -----		128.4	129.1	9.6	.5
T-shirts, chiefly cotton -----		149.3	150.1	20.4	.5
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers -----		126.2	126.4	7.0	.2
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		147.8	148.2	19.0	.3
Boys':					
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blends -----		126.3	125.0	1.2	-1.0
Sport coats, wool or wool blends -----		124.2	123.7	.8	-0.4
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blends -----		170.6	171.2	19.6	.4
Undershorts, cotton -----		150.9	151.8	19.5	.6
Women's and girls' -----		141.5	140.0	6.2	-1.1
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blends -----		155.4	148.5	6.7	-4.4
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton -----		156.3	152.8	3.9	-2.2
Sweaters, wool or acrylic -----		147.7	144.5	4.8	-2.2
Skirts, wool, wool blend or manmade fibers -----		169.2	166.6	8.9	-1.5
Skirts, cotton or polyester/cotton -----		138.3	(^b)	(^b)	(^b)
Blouses, cotton or manmade fibers -----		141.0	137.3	6.6	-2.6
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fibers -----		145.2	145.5	3.4	.2
Slips, nylon -----		118.3	117.9	5.6	-0.3
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot -----		138.0	137.4	12.3	-0.4
Girdles, manmade blend -----		125.7	126.0	5.0	.2
Brassieres, nylon lace -----		137.7	139.3	8.7	1.2
Hose or panty hose, seamless -----		91.4	91.4	-0.7	0
Anklets or knee-length socks, various fibers -----		130.2	130.6	15.6	.3
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton -----		124.7	124.9	9.2	.2
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic -----		170.5	169.5	6.7	-0.6
Girls':					
Raincoats, vinyl, cotton or polyester blends -----		134.7	130.4	7.8	-3.2
Skirts, wool, wool blends or acrylic -----		135.4	133.0	5.5	-1.8
Dresses, cotton, manmade fibers or blends -----		139.3	137.3	10.4	-1.4
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton -----		175.9	179.3	22.6	1.9
Slips, polyester blends -----		122.1	124.1	13.1	1.6
Handbags, plastic -----		153.7	150.4	10.5	-2.1
Footwear -----		142.8	142.2	7.2	-0.4
Men's:					
Shoes, street -----		146.1	146.6	7.8	.3
Shoes, work, high -----		155.2	156.6	11.0	.9
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump -----		139.9	137.0	4.5	-2.1
Shoes, evening, pump -----		132.0	132.0	5.1	0
Shoes, casual -----		144.2	144.7	8.8	.3
House slippers, scuff -----		138.0	137.8	5.4	-0.1
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford -----		144.1	141.4	5.1	-1.9
Sneakers, boys', oxford type -----		145.8	146.1	14.6	.2
Dress shoes, girls', strap or pump -----		148.6	146.9	7.5	-1.1
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers, cotton gauze or disposable -----		173.4	174.8	43.6	.8
Yard goods, polyester blend -----		164.7	165.0	21.8	.2
Wrist watches, men's and women's -----		131.1	131.5	7.9	.3
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses -----		143.0	144.1	13.8	.8
Automatic laundry service -----		127.4	127.6	6.8	.2
Laundry, men's shirts -----		149.0	149.7	12.0	.5
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment -----		150.0	150.2	4.5	.1
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift -----		137.2	136.9	8.1	-0.2

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1967= 100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to December 1974 from:	
		November 1974	December 1974	December 1973	November 1974
Transportation -----		143.4	143.5	13.3	0.1
Private ⁸ -----		142.7	142.5	14.4	-1.1
Automobiles, new -----		124.5	124.9	11.5	.3
Automobiles, used -----		141.6	138.4	22.9	-2.3
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		159.0	159.1	20.6	.1
Motor oil, premium -----		151.8	152.3	15.3	.3
Tires, new, tubeless -----		122.5	125.3	13.6	2.3
Auto repairs and maintenance ⁹ -----		166.0	167.0	14.5	.6
Auto insurance rates -----		137.7	138.4	.7	.5
Auto registration -----		128.9	128.9	4.2	0
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		164.1	165.3	6.4	.7
Public -----		149.5	152.0	3.8	1.7
Local transit fares -----		147.6	147.7	-1.0	.1
Taxicab fares -----		159.7	164.1	12.9	2.8
Railroad fares, coach -----		138.8	148.8	17.4	7.2
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		148.3	154.2	9.1	4.0
Bus fares, intercity -----		165.5	178.5	18.3	7.9
Health and recreation -----		146.3	146.5	10.9	.8
Medical care -----		157.5	159.0	12.4	1.0
Drugs and prescriptions -----		112.7	113.6	6.9	.8
Over-the-counter items -----		121.7	122.8	8.7	.9
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		99.3	98.9	3.2	-.4
Aspirin compounds -----		125.7	126.3	7.0	.5
Liquid tonics -----		109.9	111.5	9.1	1.5
Adhesive bandages, packages -----		146.1	147.3	14.7	.8
Cold tablets or capsules -----		117.4	119.8	4.5	2.0
Cough syrup -----		126.5	127.5	10.8	.8
Prescriptions -----		105.2	105.9	5.2	.7
Anti-infectives -----		69.2	69.6	-.4	.6
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		147.3	148.4	12.9	.7
Ataractics -----		105.5	105.5	1.3	0
Antispasmodics -----		114.9	116.3	7.7	1.2
Cough preparations -----		154.4	155.9	11.8	1.0
Cardiovasculars and antihypertensives -----		117.3	117.7	3.2	.3
Analgesics, internal -----		114.1	114.6	3.1	.4
Anti-obesity -----		123.9	124.8	4.9	.7
Hormones -----		97.8	99.0	8.4	1.2
Professional services: -----					
Physicians' fees -----		158.2	159.5	13.3	.8
General physician, office visits -----		162.4	163.7	14.6	.8
General physician, house visits -----		158.1	160.5	12.5	1.5
Obstetrical cases -----		155.9	157.1	12.1	.8
Pediatric care, office visits -----		161.4	162.4	14.0	.6
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		146.0	146.7	8.7	.5
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		143.6	144.6	8.9	.7
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		150.7	151.8	12.3	.7
Dentists' fees -----		153.0	154.4	11.4	.9
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		157.6	159.2	13.1	1.0
Extractions, adult -----		150.9	152.6	10.7	1.1
Dentures, full upper -----		145.6	146.6	8.7	.7
Other professional services: -----					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		143.1	143.8	8.9	.5
Routine laboratory tests, urinalysis -----		145.1	144.9	16.2	-.1
Hospital service charges -----	Jan. 72	121.6	122.9	14.2	1.1
Semiprivate rooms -----		214.5	217.1	16.5	1.2
Operating room charges -----		219.0	221.2	20.3	1.0
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----		146.6	148.4	11.3	1.2
Laboratory tests, urinalysis -----	Jan. 72	119.6	120.8	13.4	1.0
Anti-infectives, tetracycline, HCL -----	Jan. 72	103.9	104.9	8.6	1.0
Tranquilizers, chlordiazepoxide, HCL and meprobamate -----	Jan. 72	110.3	111.0	4.5	.6
Electrocardiogram -----	Jan. 72	116.6	118.1	11.9	1.3
Intravenous solution, saline -----	Jan. 72	117.5	118.0	12.4	.4
Physical therapy, whirlpool bath -----	Jan. 72	125.3	126.1	17.3	.6
Oxygen, inhalation therapy -----	Jan. 72	115.4	115.8	8.5	.3
Personal care -----		144.2	145.3	12.5	.8
Toilet goods -----		141.6	143.0	16.0	1.0
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		122.1	124.0	13.4	1.6
Toilet soap, hard-milled -----		197.1	196.8	39.4	-.2
Hand lotions, liquid -----		135.9	136.5	7.6	.4
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		116.3	117.5	7.7	1.0
Face powder, pressed -----		153.7	153.8	2.5	.1
Deodorants, aerosol -----		109.7	109.3	4.1	-.4
Cleansing tissues -----		176.7	184.5	37.8	4.4
Home permanent wave kits -----		112.0	111.9	2.4	-.1
Personal care services -----		146.8	147.7	9.2	.6
Men's haircuts -----		150.5	151.2	9.6	.5
Beauty shop services -----		144.2	145.3	8.9	.8
Women's haircuts -----		155.8	156.9	11.4	.7
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		147.5	148.7	8.7	.8
Permanent waves, cold -----		125.3	126.1	6.6	.6

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to December 1974 from:	
		November 1974	December 1974	December 1973	November 1974
Health and recreation—Continued					
Reading and recreation ¹⁰					
Recreational goods		138.8	139.8	9.6	0.7
TV sets, portable and console		118.9	119.4	8.3	.4
TV replacement tubes		100.5	100.6	2.9	.1
Radios, portable and table model		145.9	149.6	10.6	2.5
Tape recorders, portable		103.6	103.1	3.3	-.5
Phonograph records, stereophonic		95.5	95.3	1.2	-.2
Movie cameras, super 8, zoom lens		118.0	119.0	9.2	.8
Film, 35mm, color		93.8	93.6	3.2	-.2
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core		115.2	116.0	7.8	.7
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover		104.6	105.1	1.7	.5
Fishing rods, fresh-water spin-casting		140.1	139.7	8.9	-.3
Bowling balls		115.3	115.4	4.7	.1
Bicycles, boys'		124.6	123.6	7.0	-.8
Tricycles		140.1	137.8	10.1	-1.6
Dog food, canned or boxed		129.3	130.0	10.8	.5
Recreational services		158.2	161.7	19.8	2.2
Indoor movie admissions		144.3	145.8	8.7	1.0
Adult		161.6	164.2	10.2	1.6
Children's		158.2	160.7	9.5	1.6
Drive-in movie admissions, adult		171.0	173.8	11.8	1.6
Bowling fees, evening		169.0	171.0	12.9	1.2
Golf green fees		136.1	136.4	6.6	.2
TV repair, color picture tube replacement		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Film developing, color		103.3	104.0	3.6	.7
Reading and education:		118.6	120.7	4.5	1.8
Newspapers, street sale and delivery		165.9	168.1	21.9	1.3
Magazines, single copy and subscription		140.8	143.1	7.0	1.6
Piano lessons, beginner		137.5	137.6	5.9	.1
Other goods and services		142.7	143.9	9.6	.8
Tobacco products		149.0	150.9	9.0	1.3
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size		150.8	152.8	9.1	1.3
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size		151.5	153.7	9.4	1.5
Cigars, domestic, regular size		122.0	121.9	5.7	-.1
Alcoholic beverages		138.0	138.5	10.5	.4
Beer		135.5	136.0	15.5	.4
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon		112.6	113.0	3.2	.4
Wine, dessert and table		150.5	150.8	6.3	.2
Beer away from home		152.4	153.0	10.1	.4
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult		138.3	139.3	7.3	.7
Bank service charges, checking accounts		108.3	109.3	4.3	.9
Legal services, short form will		179.3	181.3	7.3	1.1

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 filters, 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 Not available.

⁷ Also includes men's sport shirts, women's and girls' light-

weight coats, women's slacks, bathing suits, girls' shorts, earrings and zippers not shown separately.

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, exhaust system repair, front-end alignment, and chassis lubrication.

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

Table 8-A. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1974 annual average indexes for selected items and groups, and percent changes from previous year

(1967= 100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change from 1973 to 1974
		1973	1974	
Housing		135.0	150.6	11.6
Shelter ¹		140.7	154.3	9.7
Rent, residential		124.3	130.2	4.7
Homeownership ²		146.7	163.2	11.2
Mortgage interest rates		123.2	140.2	13.8
Property taxes		152.3	151.2	-.7
Property insurance premiums		124.4	124.2	-.2
Maintenance and repairs		151.0	171.6	13.6
Maintenance and repair commodities ³		136.2	151.6	11.3
Exterior house paint		120.0	137.4	14.5
Interior house paint		120.3	132.3	10.0
Maintenance and repair services		157.3	180.2	14.6
Repainting living and dining rooms		170.4	189.9	11.4
Reshingling house roof		164.4	196.0	19.2
Residing house		144.8	170.9	18.0
Replacing sink		155.2	176.1	13.5
Repairing furnace		162.7	175.9	8.1
Fuel and utilities		126.9	150.2	18.4
Fuel oil and coal		136.0	214.6	57.8
Fuel oil, No. 2		134.5	213.0	58.4
Gas and electricity		126.4	145.8	15.3
Gas		127.9	143.9	12.5
Electricity		124.9	147.5	18.1
Other utilities:				
Residential telephone services		116.5	121.4	4.2
Residential water and sewerage services		146.1	154.8	6.0
Household furnishings and operation ⁴		124.9	140.5	12.5
Housefurnishings		119.0	130.8	9.9
Textiles		116.2	131.5	13.2
Sheets		118.6	135.6	14.3
Curtains, tailored		114.9	126.8	10.4
Bedspreads		112.4	134.6	19.8
Drapery fabric		128.5	153.2	19.2
Pillows, bed		106.5	112.3	5.4
Slipcovers and throws, ready-made		116.3	125.6	8.0
Furniture and bedding		125.3	136.1	8.6
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser	Mar. 70	109.6	121.0	10.4
Sofas, upholstered		123.7	131.2	6.1
Cocktail tables	Dec. 71	104.4	115.8	10.9
Dining room chairs	Mar. 70	108.8	120.9	11.1
Recliners, upholstered	Dec. 71	99.8	106.4	6.6
Sofas, dual purpose		119.9	128.9	7.5
Bedding, mattress and box springs		107.6	118.6	10.2
Aluminum folding chairs	June 70	129.9	135.7	4.5
Cribs		124.1	137.0	10.4
Floor coverings		108.2	118.9	9.9
Broadloom carpeting, manmade fibers		102.8	111.6	8.6
Vinyl sheet goods		121.5	133.1	9.5
Vinyl asbestos tile		119.9	138.3	15.3
Appliances (excluding radio and T. V.)		109.8	115.6	5.3
Washing machines, electric, automatic		111.0	117.1	5.5
Vacuum cleaners		104.1	107.6	3.4
Refrigerator-freezers, electric		108.3	114.6	5.8
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric		110.3	115.8	5.0
Clothes dryers, electric		114.4	121.4	6.1
Air conditioners, demountable		110.1	113.4	3.0
Room heaters, electric, portable		108.7	115.7	6.4
Garbage disposal units		111.9	117.9	5.4
Other housefurnishings:				
Dinnerware, fine china		131.0	148.8	13.6
Flatware, stainless steel		132.0	147.7	11.9
Table lamps, with shade		128.2	135.7	5.9
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type		121.7	134.5	10.5
Electric drills, hand-held		106.7	113.4	6.3
Housekeeping supplies:				
Laundry soaps and detergents		113.4	133.6	17.8
Paper napkins		138.6	166.8	20.3
Toilet tissue		128.4	158.3	23.3
Housekeeping services:				
Domestic services, general housework		147.3	175.7	19.3
Baby sitter services		142.8	165.4	15.8
Postal charges		146.6	170.5	16.3
Laundry, flatwork, finished service		148.9	170.1	14.2
Licensed day care services, preschool child		130.5	142.1	8.9
Washing machine repairs		148.7	166.4	11.9

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1967= 100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change from 1973 to 1974
		1973	1974	
Apparel and upkeep ⁵		126.8	136.2	7.4
Apparel commodities		127.1	136.1	7.1
Apparel commodities less footwear		126.5	135.7	7.3
Men's and boys'		126.4	136.4	7.9
Men's:				
Topcoats, wool or all-weather coats, polyester blends		132.2	141.2	6.8
Suits, year round weight		133.1	135.0	1.4
Sport jacket	June 74	(5)	99.9	(4)
Jackets, lightweight		118.2	125.9	6.5
Slacks, wool or wool blends		116.1	116.9	.7
Slacks, cotton or manmade blends		140.3	142.2	1.4
Trousers, work, cotton or polyester/cotton		120.2	139.2	15.8
Shirts, work, cotton or polyester/cotton		120.9	140.7	16.4
Shirts, business, polyester/cotton		113.9	123.0	8.0
T-shirts, chiefly cotton		122.0	141.4	15.9
Socks, cotton or manmade fibers		117.3	122.2	4.2
Handkerchiefs, cotton or polyester/cotton		120.7	141.2	17.0
Boys':				
Coats, all purpose, cotton or cotton blends		123.6	118.6	-4.0
Sport coats, wool or wool blends		121.7	124.5	2.3
Dungarees, cotton or cotton blends		137.0	160.2	16.9
Undershorts, cotton		123.6	141.7	14.6
Women's and girls':		127.3	134.9	6.0
Women's:				
Coats, heavyweight, wool or wool blends		137.0	146.7	7.1
Carcoats, heavyweight, cotton		138.9	149.0	6.6
Sweaters, wool or acrylic		130.1	141.7	8.9
Skirts, wool, wool blend or manmade fibers		145.0	157.4	8.6
Skirts, cotton or polyester/cotton		124.3	137.0	10.2
Blouses, cotton or manmade fibers		126.2	134.1	6.3
Dresses, street, chiefly manmade fibers		135.8	140.8	3.7
Slips, nylon		111.2	115.6	4.0
Panties, acetate or nylon tricot		120.0	129.5	7.9
Girdles, manmade blend		118.7	123.2	3.8
Brassieres, nylon lace		124.6	132.9	6.7
Hose or panty hose, nylon seamless		94.0	91.8	-2.3
Anklets, or knee-length socks, various fibers		114.1	123.2	8.0
Gloves, fabric, nylon or cotton		112.3	121.3	8.0
Handbags, rayon faille or plastic		151.6	163.8	8.0
Girls':				
Raincoats, vinyl cotton or polyester blends		117.0	126.2	7.9
Skirts, wool, wool blends or acrylic		121.0	131.1	9.2
Dresses, cotton manmade fibers or blends		122.9	131.2	6.8
Slacks, cotton or chiefly cotton		141.9	166.1	17.1
Slips, polyester blends		109.6	116.8	6.6
Handbags, plastic		129.6	145.9	12.6
Footwear		130.2	138.1	6.1
Men's:				
Shoes, street		132.6	141.9	7.0
Shoes, work, high		135.9	149.0	9.6
Women's:				
Shoes, street, pump		129.4	135.2	4.5
Shoes, evening, pump		124.5	128.8	3.5
Shoes, casual		130.2	138.7	6.5
Houseslippers, scuff		128.7	134.6	4.6
Children's:				
Shoes, oxford		132.7	139.4	5.0
Sneakers, boys', oxford type		125.9	138.2	9.8
Dress shoes, girls', strap or pump		133.6	143.4	7.3
Miscellaneous apparel:				
Diapers, cotton gauze or disposable		118.9	151.6	27.5
Yard goods, polyester blend		125.2	154.4	23.3
Wrist watches, men's and women's		119.7	126.7	5.8
Apparel services:				
Drycleaning, men's suits and women's dresses		122.0	135.9	11.4
Automatic laundry service		117.7	124.3	5.6
Laundry, men's shirts		129.0	143.2	11.0
Tailoring charges, hem adjustment		138.9	147.3	6.0
Shoe repairs, women's heel lift		122.1	132.0	8.1

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change from 1973 to 1974
		1973	1974	
Transportation -----		123.8	137.7	11.2
Private -----		121.5	136.6	12.4
Automobiles, new -----		111.1	117.5	5.8
Automobiles, used -----		117.6	122.6	4.3
Gasoline, regular and premium -----		118.1	159.9	35.4
Motor oil, premium -----		127.9	145.5	13.8
Tires, new, tubeless -----		110.6	118.4	7.1
Auto repairs and maintenance ^a -----		142.2	156.8	10.3
Auto insurance rates -----		138.0	138.1	.1
Auto registration -----		123.6	128.9	4.3
Parking fees, private and municipal -----		152.8	158.9	4.0
Public -----		144.8	148.0	2.2
Local transit fares -----		150.1	148.0	-1.4
Taxicab fares -----		137.8	151.8	10.2
Railroad fares, coach -----		122.8	135.2	10.1
Airplane fares, chiefly coach -----		134.7	145.9	8.3
Bus fares, intercity -----		145.7	161.0	10.5
Health and recreation -----		130.2	140.3	7.8
Medical care -----		137.7	150.5	9.3
Drugs and prescriptions -----		109.9	109.6	3.5
Over-the-counter items -----		112.4	117.5	4.5
Multiple vitamin concentrates -----		94.9	97.3	2.5
Aspirin compounds -----		117.7	122.0	3.7
Liquid tonics -----		101.6	106.4	4.7
Adhesive bandages, packages -----		126.6	136.9	8.1
Cold tablets or capsules -----		114.5	116.4	1.7
Cough syrup -----		115.2	121.3	5.3
Prescriptions -----		100.5	102.9	2.4
Anti-infectives -----		71.1	68.7	-3.4
Sedatives and hypnotics -----		129.4	140.7	8.7
Ataractics -----		103.8	104.9	1.1
Antispasmodics -----		107.8	110.9	2.9
Cough preparations -----		136.9	147.5	7.7
Cardiovasculars and antihypertensives -----		113.0	115.4	2.1
Analgesics, internal -----		111.2	112.7	1.3
Anti-obesity -----		117.5	121.9	3.7
Hormones -----		91.6	95.2	3.9
Professional services: -----				
Physicians' fees -----		138.2	150.9	9.2
General physician, office visits -----		139.5	154.3	10.6
General physician, house visits -----		141.7	151.3	6.8
Obstetrical cases -----		138.1	149.0	7.9
Pediatric care, office visits -----		140.5	153.4	9.2
Psychiatrist, office visits -----		133.6	141.0	5.5
Herniorrhaphy, adult -----		131.3	138.6	5.6
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy -----		132.8	144.1	8.5
Dentists' fees -----		136.4	146.8	7.6
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface -----		138.7	150.2	8.3
Extractions, adult -----		135.4	146.0	7.8
Dentures, full upper -----		132.6	140.6	6.0
Other professional services: -----				
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses -----		129.5	138.6	7.0
Routine laboratory tests, urinalysis -----		122.8	135.4	10.3
Hospital service charges -----	Jan. 72	105.6	115.1	9.0
Semiprivate rooms -----		182.1	201.5	10.7
Operating room charges -----		179.1	201.3	12.4
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper G.I. -----		131.8	140.6	6.7
Laboratory tests, urinalysis -----	Jan. 72	104.3	112.6	8.0
Anti-infectives, tetracycline, HCL -----	Jan. 72	97.6	102.4	4.9
Tranquilizers, chlordiazepoxide, HCL -----				
and meprobamate -----	Jan. 72	104.3	108.5	4.0
Electrocardiogram -----	Jan. 72	104.7	112.3	7.3
Intravenous solution, saline -----	Jan. 72	103.9	110.2	6.1
Physical therapy, whirlpool bath -----	Jan. 72	106.2	116.3	9.5
Oxygen, inhalation therapy -----	Jan. 72	103.9	111.2	7.0
Personal care -----		125.2	137.3	9.7
Toilet goods -----		120.0	133.3	11.1
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice -----		109.8	114.7	4.5
Toilet soap, hard-milled -----		128.8	173.2	34.5
Hand lotions, liquid -----		126.6	133.0	5.1
Shaving cream, aerosol -----		108.7	111.5	2.6
Face powder, pressed -----		145.6	153.5	5.4
Deodorants, aerosol -----		104.8	106.3	1.4
Cleansing tissues -----		126.0	157.3	24.8
Home permanent wave kits -----		109.5	111.2	1.6
Personal care services -----		130.6	141.5	8.3
Men's haircuts -----		132.9	144.5	8.7
Beauty shop services -----		129.1	139.4	8.0
Women's haircuts -----		133.9	148.6	11.0
Shampoo and wave sets, plain -----		132.7	142.7	7.5
Permanent waves, cold -----		116.4	122.9	5.6

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change from 1973 to 1974
		1973	1974	
Health and recreation—Continued				
Reading and recreation ¹		125.9	133.8	6.3
Recreational goods		109.2	115.0	5.3
TV sets, portable and console		98.0	98.9	.9
TV replacement tubes		134.7	140.2	4.1
Radios, portable and table model		99.4	101.9	2.5
Tape recorders, portable		93.4	95.2	1.9
Phonograph records, stereophonic		108.5	113.2	4.3
Movie cameras, super 8, zoom lens		89.5	92.1	2.9
Film, 35 mm, color		107.8	112.4	4.3
Golf balls, liquid center or solid core		104.0	104.2	.2
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover		127.3	134.4	5.6
Fishing rods, fresh-water spincasting		109.4	113.3	3.6
Bowling balls		115.5	120.4	4.2
Bicycles, boys'		122.2	133.6	9.3
Tricycles		115.6	124.2	7.4
Dog food, canned or boxed		122.1	147.8	21.0
Recreational services		132.3	140.1	5.9
Indoor movie admissions		147.3	157.2	6.7
Adult		145.4	154.8	6.5
Children's		152.8	163.8	7.2
Drive-in movie admissions, adult		150.0	162.8	8.5
Bowling fees, evening		123.0	131.0	5.7
Golf green fees		136.6	147.7	8.1
TV repair, color picture tube replacement		99.9	101.8	1.9
Film developing, color		116.0	117.7	1.5
Reading and education:				
Newspapers, street sale and delivery		135.8	155.4	14.4
Magazines, single copy and subscription		135.2	138.0	2.1
Piano lessons, beginner		126.9	133.9	5.5
Other goods and services		129.0	137.2	6.4
Tobacco products		137.0	143.8	5.0
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size		138.7	145.5	4.9
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size		139.1	145.9	4.9
Cigars, domestic, regular size		112.9	119.5	5.8
Alcoholic beverages		122.5	131.8	7.6
Beer		115.6	126.8	9.7
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon		109.2	110.9	1.6
Wine, dessert and table		135.2	147.3	8.9
Beer away from home		135.2	145.8	7.8
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:				
Funeral services, adult		126.4	135.0	6.8
Bank service charges, checking accounts		106.3	105.0	-1.2
Legal services, short form will		161.8	175.5	8.5

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 filters, 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 Also includes men's sport shirts, women's and girls' light-

weight coats, women's slacks, bathing suits, girls' shorts, earrings and zippers not shown separately.
⁶ Not available.
⁷ Also includes storage batteries and drivers' license fees not shown separately.
⁸ Includes prices for water pump replacement, motor tune-up, automatic transmission repair, exhaust system repair, front-end alignment, and chassis lubrication.
⁹ Also includes outboard motors, nondurable toys, college tuition fees, paperback books, and college textbooks, not shown separately.

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

(October 1973= 100)

Area ¹	Regular gasoline			Premium gasoline		
	Index		Percent change to December 1974 from—	Index		Percent change to December 1974 from—
	November 1974	December 1974		November 1974	December 1974	
U. S. city average ²	160.7	160.7	0	155.0	155.2	0.1
Atlanta	131.3	131.7	.3	131.0	131.3	.2
Baltimore	132.9	132.1	-.6	131.4	131.9	.4
Boston	131.2	131.6	.3	129.3	129.2	-.1
Buffalo	133.1	133.4	.2	131.3	131.0	-.2
Chicago	128.4	128.7	.2	126.0	126.2	.2
Cincinnati	130.6	130.1	-.4	129.1	128.8	-.2
Cleveland	129.9	130.1	.2	128.0	128.0	0
Dallas	137.7	137.7	0	134.4	134.6	.1
Detroit	127.3	127.5	.2	125.1	125.7	.5
Honolulu	131.6	132.5	.7	128.5	129.2	.5
Houston	135.7	135.0	-.5	133.7	133.5	-.1
Kansas City	131.3	130.2	-.8	129.7	128.0	-1.3
Los Angeles—Long Beach	128.6	129.7	.9	127.2	128.0	.6
Milwaukee	129.4	128.8	-.5	128.7	128.3	-.3
Minneapolis—St. Paul	127.6	127.6	0	126.0	126.4	.3
New York—Northeastern N. J.	131.9	130.8	-.8	131.1	130.6	-.4
Philadelphia	132.6	132.4	-.2	128.8	130.8	1.6
Pittsburgh	130.8	132.0	.9	128.1	129.3	.9
St. Louis	127.6	127.2	-.3	126.8	126.5	-.2
San Diego	129.1	130.7	1.2	128.2	129.6	1.1
San Francisco—Oakland	131.8	131.9	.1	128.7	129.0	.2
Seattle	128.1	127.8	-.2	125.7	125.7	0
Washington	132.2	132.2	0	128.9	129.3	.3

¹ Area coverage includes the urban portion of the corresponding Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) except for New York and Chicago where the more extensive Standard Consolidated Areas are used.

Area definitions are those established for the 1960 census and do not include revisions made since 1960.
² 1967= 100.

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

Area ¹	Regular gasoline			Premium gasoline		
	Average price per gallon					
	October 1974	November 1974	December 1974	October 1974	November 1974	December 1974
U. S. city average	\$0.534	\$0.528	\$0.528	\$0.573	\$0.567	\$0.568
Atlanta	.523	.522	.523	.568	.567	.569
Baltimore	.543	.544	.541	.591	.588	.591
Boston	.532	.531	.532	.575	.574	.573
Buffalo	.547	.536	.537	.585	.575	.574
Chicago	.547	.540	.541	.583	.579	.580
Cincinnati	.543	.529	.527	.582	.574	.572
Cleveland	.531	.529	.530	.572	.570	.570
Dallas	.497	.484	.484	.536	.523	.524
Detroit	.541	.531	.532	.580	.572	.575
Honolulu	.593	.595	.599	.623	.626	.629
Houston	.481	.471	.469	.524	.516	.515
Kansas City	.507	.502	.497	.549	.546	.539
Los Angeles—Long Beach	.522	.519	.524	.560	.560	.563
Milwaukee	.509	.498	.496	.552	.544	.542
Minneapolis—St. Paul	.511	.504	.504	.550	.547	.549
New York—Northeastern N. J.	.566	.559	.554	.608	.601	.598
Philadelphia	.537	.530	.529	.586	.571	.580
Pittsburgh	.531	.523	.528	.571	.566	.571
St. Louis	.526	.519	.517	.568	.562	.561
San Diego	.536	.534	.541	.575	.575	.582
San Francisco—Oakland	.562	.563	.563	.597	.597	.598
Seattle	.519	.516	.515	.558	.556	.556
Washington	.548	.547	.547	.589	.587	.589

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. Consumer Price Index—United States average and areas grouped by size of population¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items and major groups, December 1974, and percent changes from selected dates

Area and group	Relative importance December 1973	Indexes (1967=100)		Percent change to December 1974 from—		
		December 1973	September 1974	December 1973	September 1974	
United States:						
All items -----	100.000	138.5	^r 151.7	155.4	12.2	2.4
Food -----	24.810	151.3	165.0	169.7	12.2	2.8
Housing -----	33.321	140.6	154.9	159.9	13.7	3.2
Apparel and upkeep -----	9.945	130.5	^r 139.9	141.9	8.7	1.4
Transportation -----	12.602	126.7	^r 142.2	143.5	13.3	.9
Health and recreation -----	18.946	133.0	144.0	147.5	10.9	2.4
Class A-1 (3.5 million or more):						
All items -----	32.751	141.1	^r 153.9	157.2	11.4	2.1
Food -----	8.356	153.0	166.4	171.6	12.2	3.1
Housing -----	10.766	143.6	156.8	161.0	12.1	2.7
Apparel and upkeep -----	3.311	128.5	^r 139.6	139.0	8.2	-.4
Transportation -----	4.081	132.3	^r 146.0	147.7	11.6	1.2
Health and recreation -----	6.237	135.6	147.6	150.7	11.1	2.1
Class A-2 (1.4 million to 3.5 million):						
All items -----	11.740	138.0	^r 150.7	154.3	11.8	2.4
Food -----	2.958	150.8	164.8	169.1	12.1	2.6
Housing -----	3.911	138.6	152.5	156.9	13.2	2.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.188	132.2	^r 140.2	143.1	8.2	2.1
Transportation -----	1.454	126.4	^r 141.4	143.0	13.1	1.1
Health and recreation -----	2.229	132.8	143.3	146.4	10.2	2.2
Class B (250,000 to 1.4 million):						
All items -----	25.649	137.6	^r 150.4	154.4	12.2	2.7
Food -----	6.070	150.1	163.9	168.9	12.5	3.1
Housing -----	8.745	139.7	153.3	158.6	13.5	3.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	2.541	132.1	140.5	142.8	8.1	1.6
Transportation -----	3.360	124.4	^r 140.7	141.5	13.7	.6
Health and recreation -----	4.933	132.8	143.2	146.9	10.6	2.6
Class C (50,000 to 250,000):						
All items -----	12.462	137.1	^r 150.7	154.7	12.8	2.7
Food -----	3.094	150.1	163.8	167.3	11.5	2.1
Housing -----	4.168	139.3	154.9	160.5	15.2	3.6
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.260	131.7	141.2	145.0	10.1	2.7
Transportation -----	1.585	123.0	^r 140.1	141.4	15.0	.9
Health and recreation -----	2.355	131.4	141.2	145.1	10.4	2.8
Class D (2,500 to 50,000):						
All items -----	17.022	136.6	^r 150.8	155.1	13.5	2.9
Food -----	4.332	150.8	164.6	169.1	12.1	2.7
Housing -----	5.732	138.2	154.9	160.9	16.4	3.9
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.644	129.5	138.0	142.4	10.0	3.2
Transportation -----	2.121	123.4	^r 140.0	141.2	14.4	.9
Health and recreation -----	3.193	130.1	141.7	145.5	11.8	2.7

¹ Based upon 1960 Census of Population.
r=Indexes for June and September have been revised to correct an error in the used car component. Corrections for June are shown.

	June 1974	
	All items	Transportation
United States -----	146.9	138.8
3.5 million or more -----	149.2	142.9
1.4 to 3.5 million -----	146.1	138.2
250,000 to 1.4 million -----	145.7	137.3
50,000 to 250,000 -----	145.8	135.7
2,500 to 50,000 -----	145.8	136.6

Table 11-A. Consumer Price Index—United States average and areas grouped by size of population¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items and major groups, year 1974, and percent changes from selected dates

Area and group	Annual average Indexes (1967=100)		Percent change to 1974 from: 1973 average
	1973	1974	
United States:			
All items	133.1	147.7	11.0
Food	141.4	161.7	14.4
Housing	135.0	150.6	11.6
Apparel and upkeep	126.8	136.2	7.4
Transportation	123.8	137.7	11.2
Health and recreation	130.2	140.3	7.8
Class A-1 (3.5 million or more):			
All items	135.6	150.2	10.8
Food	143.1	163.6	14.3
Housing	137.8	153.0	11.0
Apparel and upkeep	126.2	135.0	7.0
Transportation	129.4	142.1	9.8
Health and recreation	132.6	143.7	8.4
Class A-2 (1.4 million to 3.5 million):			
All items	133.0	147.0	10.5
Food	141.1	161.4	14.4
Housing	134.2	148.4	10.6
Apparel and upkeep	127.9	137.5	7.5
Transportation	124.2	137.1	10.4
Health and recreation	130.4	139.7	7.1
Class B (250,000 to 1.4 million):			
All items	132.4	146.7	10.8
Food	140.4	161.0	14.7
Housing	134.6	149.1	10.8
Apparel and upkeep	128.6	137.6	7.0
Transportation	121.4	136.0	12.0
Health and recreation	130.0	139.9	7.6
Class C (50,000 to 250,000):			
All items	131.7	146.8	11.5
Food	140.4	160.5	14.3
Housing	133.9	150.5	12.4
Apparel and upkeep	127.7	138.0	8.1
Transportation	119.8	135.0	12.7
Health and recreation	128.9	138.0	7.1
Class D (2,500 to 50,000):			
All items	130.7	146.7	12.2
Food	140.1	161.8	15.5
Housing	132.1	149.8	13.4
Apparel and upkeep	125.7	135.4	7.7
Transportation	120.1	135.3	12.7
Health and recreation	127.1	137.5	8.2

¹ Based upon 1960 Census of Population.

Table 12. Consumer Price Index—United States average and areas grouped by region for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items and major groups, December 1974, and percent changes from selected dates

Area and group	Relative importance December 1973	Indexes (1967=100)			Percent change to December 1974 from—	
		December 1973	September 1974	December 1974	December 1973	September 1974
United States:						
All items -----	100.000	138.5	^r 151.7	155.4	12.2	2.4
Food -----	24.810	151.3	165.0	169.7	12.2	2.8
Housing -----	33.321	140.6	154.9	159.9	13.7	3.2
Apparel and upkeep -----	9.945	130.5	139.9	141.9	8.7	1.4
Transportation -----	12.602	126.7	^r 142.2	143.5	13.3	.9
Health and recreation -----	18.946	133.0	144.0	147.5	10.9	2.4
Northeast:						
All items -----	33.041	142.5	^r 155.4	158.9	11.5	2.3
Food -----	8.742	152.9	166.7	171.4	12.1	2.8
Housing -----	10.672	146.9	161.1	165.2	12.5	2.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	3.493	131.2	141.7	142.5	8.6	.6
Transportation -----	3.861	131.4	^r 144.6	146.5	11.5	1.3
Health and recreation -----	6.273	136.2	147.2	150.6	10.6	2.3
North Central:						
All items -----	28.001	136.6	^r 149.1	152.9	11.9	2.5
Food -----	6.926	151.5	163.9	168.9	11.5	3.1
Housing -----	9.313	134.4	147.6	152.5	13.5	3.3
Apparel and upkeep -----	2.666	130.4	^r 139.2	142.1	9.0	2.1
Transportation -----	3.722	127.1	^r 142.7	143.3	12.7	.4
Health and recreation -----	5.374	133.6	144.4	148.0	10.8	2.5
South:						
All items -----	21.836	138.8	^r 153.6	157.5	13.5	2.5
Food -----	5.293	153.1	168.2	172.6	12.7	2.6
Housing -----	7.397	141.8	158.6	164.2	15.8	3.5
Apparel and upkeep -----	2.254	131.5	140.1	142.8	8.6	1.9
Transportation -----	2.816	123.5	^r 141.2	142.2	15.1	.7
Health and recreation -----	4.076	132.9	145.4	148.6	11.8	2.2
West:						
All items -----	16.291	134.0	^r 146.7	150.9	12.6	2.9
Food -----	3.727	145.6	159.4	163.7	12.4	2.7
Housing -----	5.797	138.2	151.4	157.4	13.9	4.0
Apparel and upkeep -----	1.496	127.1	136.5	138.3	8.8	1.3
Transportation -----	2.142	122.1	^r 138.5	140.3	14.9	1.3
Health and recreation -----	3.129	126.6	136.4	140.2	10.7	2.8

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.
^r = Indexes for June and September have been revised to correct an error in the used car component. Corrections for June are shown.

	June 1974	
	All items	Transportation
United States -----	146.9	138.8
Northeast -----	150.7	141.5
North Central -----	145.0	139.5
South -----	147.7	137.2
West -----	142.1	135.2

Table 12-A. Consumer Price Index—United States average and areas grouped by region for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items and major groups, year 1974, and percent changes from selected dates

Area and group	Annual average Indexes (1967= 100) ¹		Percent change to 1974 from: 1973 average
	1973	1974	
United States:			
All items -----	133.1	147.7	11.0
Food -----	141.4	161.7	14.4
Housing -----	135.0	150.6	11.6
Apparel and upkeep -----	126.8	136.2	7.4
Transportation -----	123.8	137.7	11.2
Health and recreation -----	130.2	140.3	7.8
Northeast:			
All items -----	136.7	151.7	11.0
Food -----	143.0	163.9	14.6
Housing -----	140.4	157.0	11.8
Apparel and upkeep -----	127.9	137.5	7.5
Transportation -----	128.6	140.7	9.4
Health and recreation -----	133.6	143.7	7.6
North Central:			
All items -----	131.5	145.7	10.8
Food -----	141.2	161.8	14.6
Housing -----	130.4	143.9	10.4
Apparel and upkeep -----	127.1	136.0	7.0
Transportation -----	123.7	138.1	11.6
Health and recreation -----	130.6	141.0	8.0
South:			
All items -----	133.0	149.0	12.0
Food -----	142.9	164.0	14.8
Housing -----	135.6	153.4	13.1
Apparel and upkeep -----	127.7	137.3	7.5
Transportation -----	120.0	136.0	13.3
Health and recreation -----	129.8	140.9	8.6
West:			
All items -----	129.3	142.9	10.5
Food -----	136.7	156.1	14.2
Housing -----	133.0	147.1	10.6
Apparel and upkeep -----	124.6	133.5	7.1
Transportation -----	120.2	134.1	11.6
Health and recreation -----	124.1	133.2	7.3

¹ Regional index data exclude Anchorage, Alaska, and Honolulu, Hawaii which are included in the U. S. level data.

Brief Explanation of the CPI

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

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

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

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

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

A Note About Calculating Index Changes

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

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

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

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

<i>Index Point Change</i>	
CPI	123.8
Less previous index	<u>123.2</u>
Equals index point change:	0.6
<i>Percent Change</i>	
Index point difference,	<u>0.6</u>
Divided by the previous index,	123.2
Equals,	0.005
Results multiplied by one hundred	0.005x100
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 changes* in the CPI for all items and for nine commodity groupings based on 1973 averages.

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

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

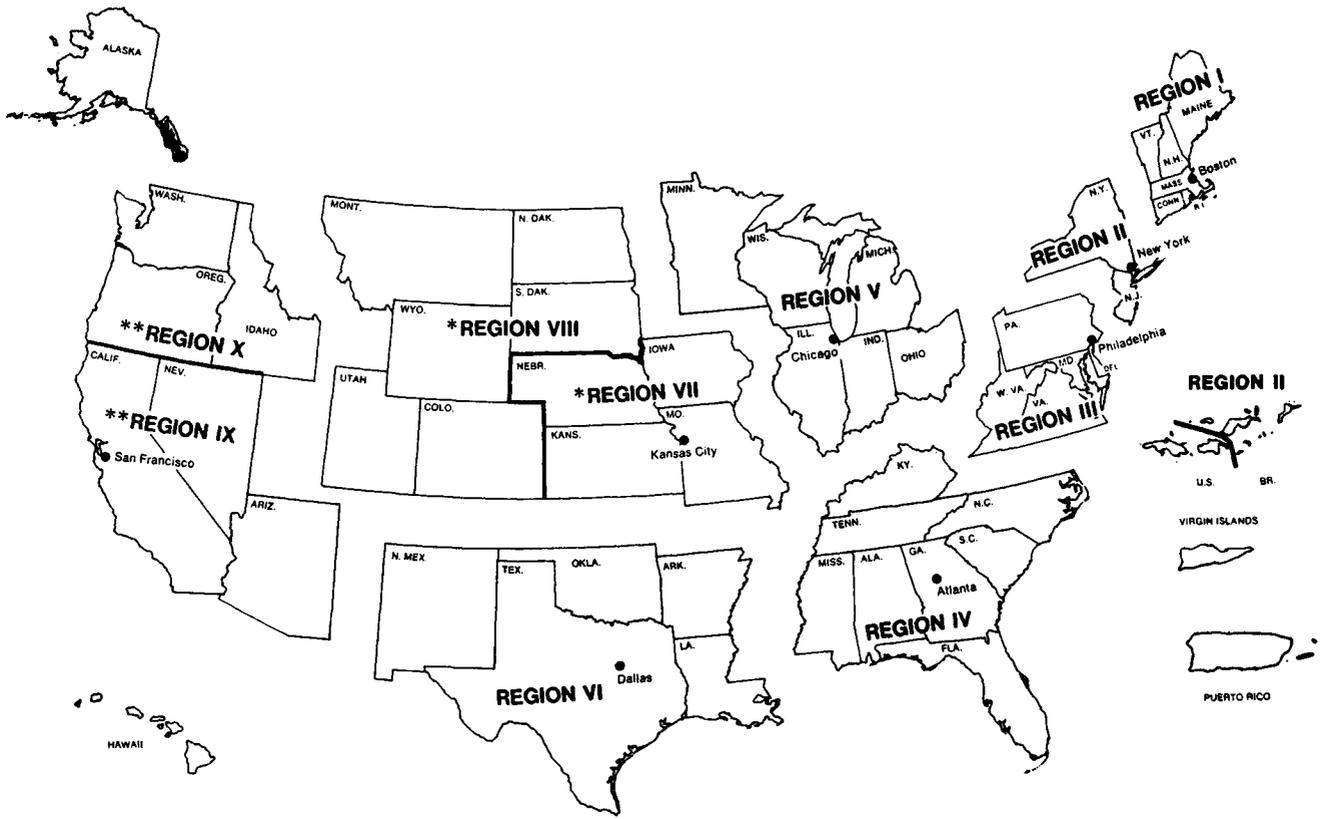
The figures may be interpreted as follows: The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the percent change in the CPI as computed differs from the corresponding "complete coverage" change by less than twice the standard error.

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

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

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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