

CPI Detailed Report

For December 1975

Consumer Price Index U.S. and City Averages



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Contents

	Page
Price movements	1
Chart 1. All items index and its rate of change, 1966-75	11
Chart 2. Commodities less food index and its rates of change, 1966-75	12
Chart 3. Total food index and its rates of change, 1966-75	13
Chart 4. Services index and its rates of change, 1966-75	14
Table 1. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, by commodity and service groups, and expenditure classes	15
Table 1-A. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1975 Annual Average index	16
Table 2. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, by commodity and service groups, and expenditure classes	17
Table 3. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, December 1975 indexes and percent changes from selected dates	18
Table 3-A. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, annual average 1975 indexes, and percent changes from 1974 to 1975	19
Table 4. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, indexes for selected items and groups, December 1975, and percent changes from selected dates	20
Table 4-A. CPI—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1975 annual average indexes for selected items and groups, and percent changes from previous year	24
Table 5. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items most recent index, and percent changes from selected dates	28
Table 6. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, major groups, percent change from November 1975 to December 1975	28
Table 7. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, December 1975 index, and percent changes from September 1975	29
Table 7-A. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, 1975 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1974-75	31
Table 8. CPI—United States and selected areas for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food and its subgroups, December 1975 indexes, and percent changes from November 1975	33
Table 9. CPI—Regular and premium gasoline indexes, selected areas and U.S. city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers	34
Table 10. CPI—Regular and premium gasoline prices, selected areas and U.S. city averages for urban wage earners and clerical workers	34
Table 11. CPI—Population size groups, 5 classes and U.S. city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers	35
Table 12. CPI—Regional groups, 4 areas and U.S. city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers	35
Table 11-A. CPI—United States average and areas grouped by size of population for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items and major groups, year 1975 and percent changes from selected dates	36
Table 12-A. CPI—United States average and areas grouped by region for urban wage earners and clerical workers, all items and major groups, year 1975 and percent changes from selected dates	36

Price Movements

December 1975

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 0.4 percent in December, before seasonal adjustment, to 166.3 (1967=100). Higher prices for some food items and a wide variety of consumer services were responsible for most of the rise. These increases were partially offset by price declines for a few items, notably pork and used cars.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI rose 0.5 percent in December, compared with increases of 0.7 percent in each of the two preceding months. The rise in the food index moderated, after seasonal adjustment, to 0.3 percent in December from 0.6 percent in November and 1.3 percent in October. In December, the index for nonfood commodities increased 0.3 percent for the fourth consecutive month. The increase in the services index of 0.6 percent in December was less than the 1.1-percent rise in November (table A).

Analysis of 1975 change

For the 12 months ending in December 1975, the CPI rose 7.0 percent compared with an increase of 12.2 percent in 1974 and 8.8 percent in 1973. At the start of 1975, the rise in the CPI slowed noticeably—from an 11.0-percent rate in the final 3 months of 1974 to a 6.0-percent rate in the first 3 months of 1975. In succeeding quarters, the CPI rose at a relatively steady rate—7.1, 7.3, and 7.6 percent respectively. The composition of the increases differed, however, in each quarter (table B). In the first quarter, declines in food prices and relatively stable fuel prices were accompanied by relatively large increases in prices of other commodities and services. In the second quarter, food and fuel prices rose sharply, while the rate of increase for other commodities and services decelerated noticeably.

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

Month	Changes from preceding month							Changes in all items	
								Compound annual rate	From 12 months ago
	All items		Food		Commodities less food		Services	From 3 months ago	
	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed	Seasonally adjusted	Unad-justed
1974:									
December	0.7	0.8	1.1	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.9	11.0	12.2
1975:									
January .....	.5	.6	.7	.9	0	.5	.7	9.8	11.7
February .....	.7	.5	.4	-.3	.7	.8	.8	8.2	11.1
March .....	.4	.3	-.2	-.6	.8	.5	.4	6.0	10.3
April .....	.5	.6	-.1	.4	.8	.8	.6	5.8	10.2
May .....	.4	.4	.4	.5	.6	.2	.2	5.0	9.5
June .....	.8	.8	1.5	1.5	.5	.5	.7	7.1	9.3
July	1.1	1.2	2.4	1.7	.7	.9	.5	9.5	9.7
August .....	.3	.2	-.3	0	.5	.5	.5	8.7	8.6
September .....	.5	.5	-.2	.1	.5	.3	1.0	7.3	7.8
October .....	.6	.7	.7	1.3	.5	.3	.6	5.2	7.6
November .....	.6	.7	.4	.6	.3	.3	1.1	7.5	7.3
December .....	.4	.5	.5	.3	.1	.3	.6	7.6	7.0

¹ Not seasonally adjusted; data contain little or no seasonal movements.

Table B. Changes in Wholesale and Consumer Price Indexes, 1973-75

Index	December 1973 to December 1974	December 1974 to December 1975	3 months ending— (Compound annual rates, seasonally adjusted except services)							
			1974				1975			
			March	June	Septem- ber	Decem- ber	March	June	Septem- ber	Decem- ber
<i>Consumer Price Index</i>										
All items	12.2	7.0	13.7	10.9	13.4	11.0	6.0	7.1	7.3	7.6
Food	12.2	6.5	17.0	5.4	11.7	14.3	-.2	10.0	7.5	8.8
Commodities less food	13.2	6.2	15.7	13.7	15.6	8.8	7.4	5.9	7.5	3.8
Services	11.3	8.1	9.5	10.7	14.2	10.9	8.0	6.3	8.5	9.8
All items less food and energy items	11.3	6.7	8.9	11.5	14.9	9.9	9.4	4.2	6.6	6.8
Commodities less food and energy items	12.1	5.7	8.5	12.7	16.4	10.9	9.4	4.2	5.3	4.1
<i>Wholesale Price Index</i>										
All commodities	20.9	4.2	24.8	11.0	34.9	14.2	-6.3	7.2	11.1	5.6
Farm products and processed foods and feeds	11.0	-.3	12.6	-29.6	60.5	18.8	-27.6	17.0	26.8	-7.9
Crude food and feeds ¹	1.3	3.9	3.1	-52.8	96.7	4.1	-39.3	49.4	51.5	-15.2
Intermediate materials for food manufacturing ²	58.5	-26.5	60.0	19.2	74.1	90.4	-50.8	-35.2	16.6	-21.8
Consumer foods	13.0	5.5	16.2	-13.7	33.7	20.7	-12.9	23.7	15.0	0
Industrial commodities	25.6	6.0	31.3	33.2	28.4	11.1	4.2	2.6	7.3	10.1
Crude materials except foods	23.0	4.5	85.1	9.8	29.4	-12.1	-10.3	14.9	13.6	1.9
Intermediate materials except foods	28.5	5.4	32.5	40.0	32.9	11.0	3.7	.7	6.5	11.1
Producer finished goods ...	22.6	8.2	13.9	26.1	29.6	21.2	11.8	5.1	5.8	10.1
Consumer finished goods except foods	20.5	6.7	27.0	24.2	19.5	11.8	3.8	4.1	10.7	8.5
Industrial commodities except fuels	22.4	5.1	21.0	30.3	26.5	12.4	4.6	.5	4.0	11.4

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.

In the third quarter, food and fuel prices slowed slightly while other commodities and services accelerated slightly. In the fourth quarter, the rate of price increases for commodities other than food moderated somewhat but price rises for consumer food and services accelerated slightly.

Movements in the food component in 1975 were influenced primarily by a sharp upturn in beef prices in the second quarter, in prices of dairy products after midyear, and in pork and vegetable prices during midyear. Until the final quarter, increases were moderated by price declines for processed foods which resulted from large supplies of grains and sugar. The rise in fuel prices after the first quarter was due to strong demand, the effect of import

fees, and Federal Energy Administration regulations. The behavior of prices for commodities other than foods and fuels can be traced to the effects of the continuing slow-down in the economy until late spring, a sharp upturn in the economy in the third quarter, and continued but slower recovery in the fourth quarter.

At yearend, the services sector became a major source of higher consumer prices. The rise in service charges accelerated after midyear due to a number of factors: An upturn in mortgage interest rates and a faster rise in some cyclically sensitive services; large increases for items such as auto insurance and New York City transit fares; and continued increases in the cost of medical care. Efforts by

Table C. Changes in food prices, 1973-75

Commodity	Index	December 1973 to December 1974	December 1974 to December 1975	3 months ending— (Compound annual rates, seasonally adjusted except as indicated)							
				1974				1975			
				March	June	Septem- ber	Decem- ber	March	June	Septem- ber	Decem- ber
Consumer foods	CPI	12.2	6.5	17.0	5.4	11.7	14.3	-0.2	10.0	7.5	8.8
	WPI	13.0	5.5	16.2	-13.7	33.7	20.7	-12.9	23.7	15.0	0
Beef and veal	CPI	-3.4	9.1	10.2	-21.5	11.9	-9.3	-31.6	93.8	-9.1	17.7
	WPI	-8.7	30.9	-6.1	-44.2	89.8	-29.5	-19.2	295.8	-5.0	-3.5
Pork	CPI	-1.8	31.4	-16.7	-41.8	61.3	18.7	-6.9	75.7	70.6	6.7
	WPI	8.3	26.8	-12.8	-63.5	229.7	30.1	18.1	46.2	108.7	-28.3
Poultry	CPI	6.2	8.8	-1.9	-29.1	26.2	46.7	-24.2	29.7	42.1	.2
	WPI	11.2	7.4	-19.1	-37.2	73.1	70.4	-46.8	111.8	-7.6	27.6
Cereal and bakery products ¹	CPI	22.4	.3	27.1	20.7	13.4	28.9	14.3	-5.6	-7.3	1.1
	WPI	13.6	-4.0	34.1	-13.8	9.2	32.0	0	-15.5	6.1	-5.3
Dairy products	CPI	7.2	6.6	18.3	8.5	-4.9	7.6	-3	-3.3	10.3	21.1
	WPI	3.1	16.8	22.9	-13.0	3.4	2.2	1.4	14.9	-27.8	24.8
Fresh fruits and vegetables	CPI	3.9	8.4	23.1	-39.1	-29.0	-2.2	-2.5	15.4	14.0	7.5
	WPI	-4.6	16.2	74.8	-29.3	-4.8	-26.8	-25.6	101.8	42.6	-14.7
Processed fruits and vegetables	CPI	21.4	4.6	48.1	27.3	11.3	4.1	-1.8	-6.3	-.5	30.9
	WPI	23.4	-.9	14.7	16.1	59.2	9.2	3.1	-1.6	-3.5	-1.6
Eggs	CPI	-5.5	2.2	1.4	-46.9	25.0	18.8	-26.2	18.8	0	24.5
	WPI	-5.0	6.2	-4.3	-44.3	55.4	2.8	8.4	-13.7	15.6	17.5
Sugar and sweets ² ...	CPI	101.6	19.1	82.2	66.7	80.5	202.0	-15.7	-40.4	4.8	-18.8
	WPI	182.7	-50.4	206.9	139.9	142.9	257.4	-69.1	-75.0	6.7	-50.8

¹ Not seasonally adjusted in the WPI.

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

State and local governments to raise revenues through special charges and higher taxes also contributed to the rise in service prices.

The CPI directly reflects taxes, including State and local sales and excise taxes, on items which comprise the "market basket." Changes in such taxes influence the index in much the same way as changes in prices. In 1975, sales taxes, which are the biggest source of revenue in many States, were raised or newly imposed in many localities to help ease severe financial problems. To generate additional revenue, many States raised excise taxes on commodities such as gasoline, cigarettes, and alcoholic beverages.

Price indexes for all three major components of the CPI—food, commodities other than food, and services—rose less in 1975 than in 1974 (table B).

Food. The food component of the CPI increased 6.5 percent in the 12 months ending in December 1975, less than the 12.2-percent rise in 1974 and the 20.1-percent rise in 1973. Increases were about the same as for the consumer food index in the WPI which rose 5.5 percent in 1975 compared with increases of 13.0 percent in 1974 and 22.5 percent in 1973. Much of the rise in food prices in 1975 was due to

higher prices for meats, dairy products, and fresh vegetables (table C).

After declining in 1974, beef prices rose in 1975, primarily in the second quarter. Prices were influenced by changes in the demand and supply situation for grass-fed cattle as supplies of grain-fed cattle remained limited throughout the year. Fed-cattle marketings in 1975 were the smallest since 1966; price rises for fed cattle, however, were moderated by increased slaughter of cows, grass-fed steers, and heifers. For the year ending in December 1975, cattle prices increased 19.3 percent, after declining 11 percent in 1974 (chart A).

Small supplies and generally good demand caused pork prices to rise almost continuously in 1975. Hog slaughter declined sharply due to reduced pig crops in the fall of 1974 and again in the spring of 1975 (chart B). Hog prices, which rose only slightly in 1974, increased 21.4 percent in 1975. Hog and pork prices declined in late 1975 primarily because of competition from increased beef and poultry production. Poultry prices also rose in 1975, with most of the increase occurring in the second and third quarters. Prices for dairy products—which declined in the first half of 1975—rose rapidly after midyear in response to sharply higher prices for milk at the farm level. Reduced output of

Chart A. Changes in beef prices, by stage of processing. Seasonally adjusted percent change over 3-month span, 1965-75

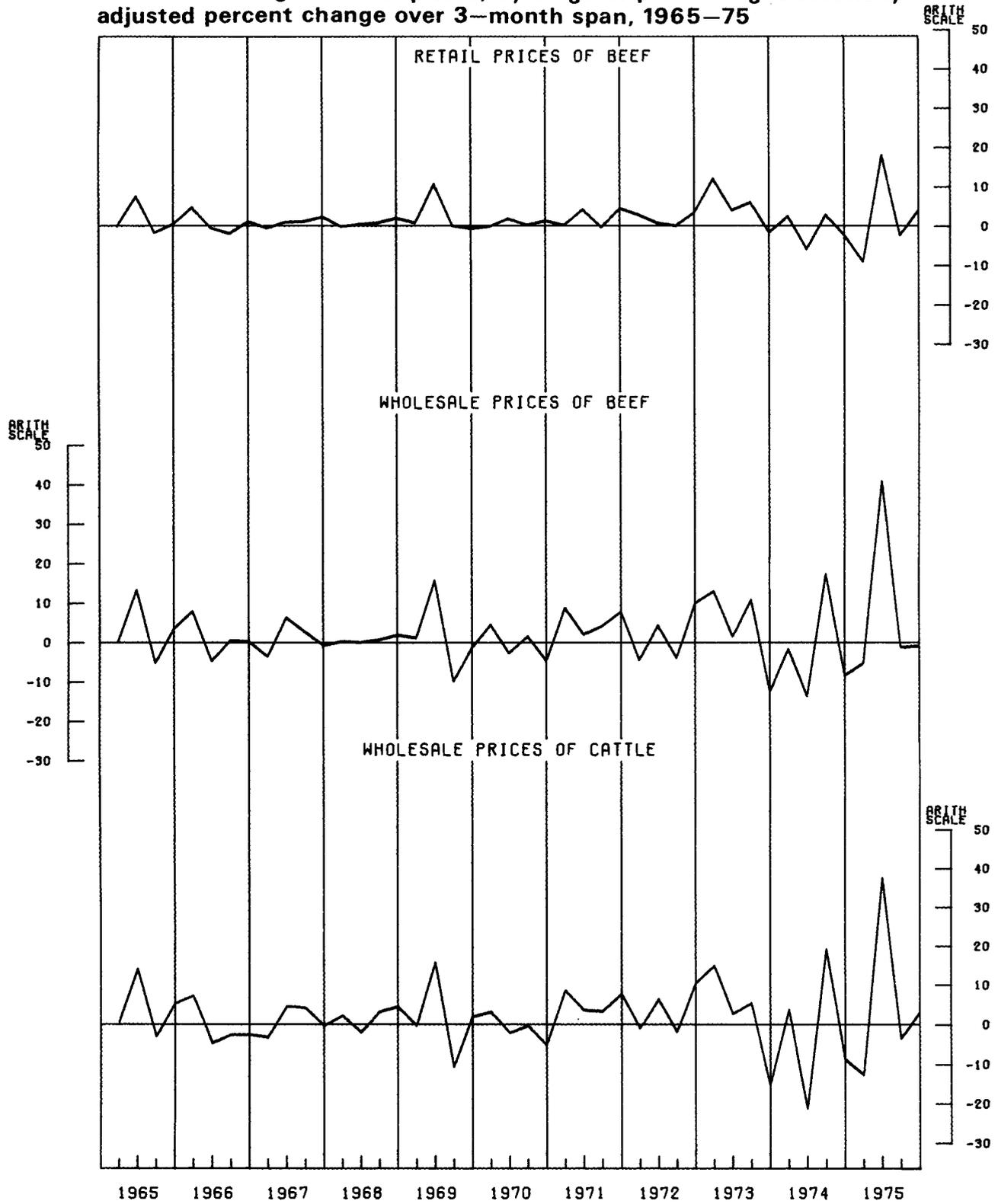


Table D. Changes in prices of consumer goods other than food, 1973-75

Commodity	Index	December 1973 to December 1974	December 1974 to December 1975	3 months ending— (Compound annual rates, seasonally adjusted)							
				1974				1975			
				March	June	Septem- ber	Decem- ber	March	June	Septem- ber	Decem- ber
Commodities less food . . .	CPI	13.2	6.2	15.7	13.7	15.6	8.8	7.4	5.9	7.5	3.8
	WPI	20.5	6.7	27.0	24.2	19.5	11.8	3.8	4.1	10.7	8.5
Nondurables less food ¹	CPI	13.6	5.2	21.6	14.5	11.8	7.1	4.1	5.8	6.2	4.8
	WPI	23.9	7.6	37.7	29.9	20.7	9.7	2.8	5.4	13.3	9.5
Apparel less footwear	CPI	8.6	1.5	10.0	9.4	11.7	3.5	-1.1	-6	5.0	2.9
	WPI	9.4	1.0	11.2	13.7	9.2	3.7	-3	-3.5	.6	7.8
Footwear	CPI	7.2	2.5	7.4	7.3	10.9	3.4	5.5	-8	2.0	3.4
	WPI	9.3	3.9	8.1	11.7	15.5	2.5	.8	3.1	8.7	3.2
Gasoline ²	CPI	20.2	10.5	97.1	19.6	-5.7	-5.1	1.0	22.0	17.9	2.3
	WPI	44.8	23.0	134.5	65.3	28.9	-15.7	2.7	23.4	71.5	5.2
Heating fuel ³	CPI	32.4	8.7	72.1	37.9	17.6	10.6	-8.1	12.3	15.7	17.0
	WPI	74.8	12.1	317.2	56.5	41.6	1.9	-17.1	12.5	35.4	24.7
Durables ¹	CPI	12.7	7.6	7.0	13.4	18.1	12.4	13.3	6.0	8.2	3.0
	WPI	14.8	5.1	12.1	14.3	15.6	17.4	6.1	1.2	5.0	8.3
New cars	CPI	11.5	7.3	4.8	15.4	16.7	10.6	8.6	1.3	7.1	12.3
	WPI	12.9	6.0	7.1	10.5	14.2	20.2	4.0	1.5	4.9	14.1
Furniture	CPI	10.7	5.5	10.0	12.1	11.7	8.9	5.7	7.4	4.4	4.7
	WPI	13.8	3.5	8.7	16.3	14.6	15.4	.6	-5	3.1	11.4
Appliances, includ- ing radio and TV .	CPI	9.0	4.9	4.6	6.5	13.6	11.6	7.5	3.1	5.2	3.7
	WPI	12.7	4.3	7.2	10.0	13.0	21.6	5.0	3.1	2.8	6.2

¹ Includes items not shown separately.
² CPI includes motor oil.

³ CPI includes coal.

milk, hogs, grain-fed cattle, and poultry in 1975 was due to the continuing effects of the small corn crop in 1974 and rising feed costs relative to prices farmers were receiving in 1974 and early 1975 for their commodities. Corn prices rose 43.8 percent in 1974. In 1975, they declined 28 percent.

The increase in retail food prices in 1975 also reflected higher prices for some other raw agricultural products such as coffee and fresh vegetables. Coffee prices rose substantially after mid-1975 following frost damage to Brazilian crops. Since harvesting of the 1975-76 crop was nearly complete when the frost occurred, production was unaffected; the rise in prices in 1975 was primarily in anticipation of reduced crops for the 1976-77 season. Smaller plantings resulted in higher prices in 1975 for vegetables such as potatoes, onions, green peppers, and cucumbers. Dried bean prices rose sharply in late 1975 due to weather damage to crops. (Dried beans are included in the fresh and dried vegetables component in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and processed fruits and vegetables in the CPI.)

Food prices rose less in 1975 than in 1974 because of declines in flour, sugar, and fats and oil products—major ingredients used in processed foods—and smaller increases in nonfood costs such as packaging materials, boxes, and

cans. A dramatic turnaround occurred in raw sugar prices, which declined 70 percent in 1975, erasing about three-fourths of their substantial 1974 advance. The decline reflected the improved crop in 1975 as well as large inventories resulting from reduced world demand. Wholesale prices of vegetable oil end-products, which rose more than 40 percent in 1974, declined over 25 percent in 1975, and flour prices were down 14 percent in 1975. The decline in prices of fats and oil products reflected increased supplies of soybeans and availability of lower priced foreign oils, particularly palm oil. The decline in flour prices resulted from lower prices for wheat.

Prices for wheat and other grains such as hay and oilseeds, as well as corn, declined in 1975. Wheat prices dropped 26 percent in 1975, following a decline of 10.8 percent in 1974. Grain prices declined during most of the year except in the third quarter when they rose sharply following news that the USSR was having crop shortages and was making large purchases of grain. After initial sales in late June and July, grain sales to Russia were suspended until late October when the United States and the Soviet Union signed a long-term grain purchase agreement. Grain prices declined sharply in the fourth quarter as record corn and wheat crops were harvested.

Chart B. Changes in pork prices, by stage of processing. Seasonally adjusted percent change over 3-month span, 1965-75

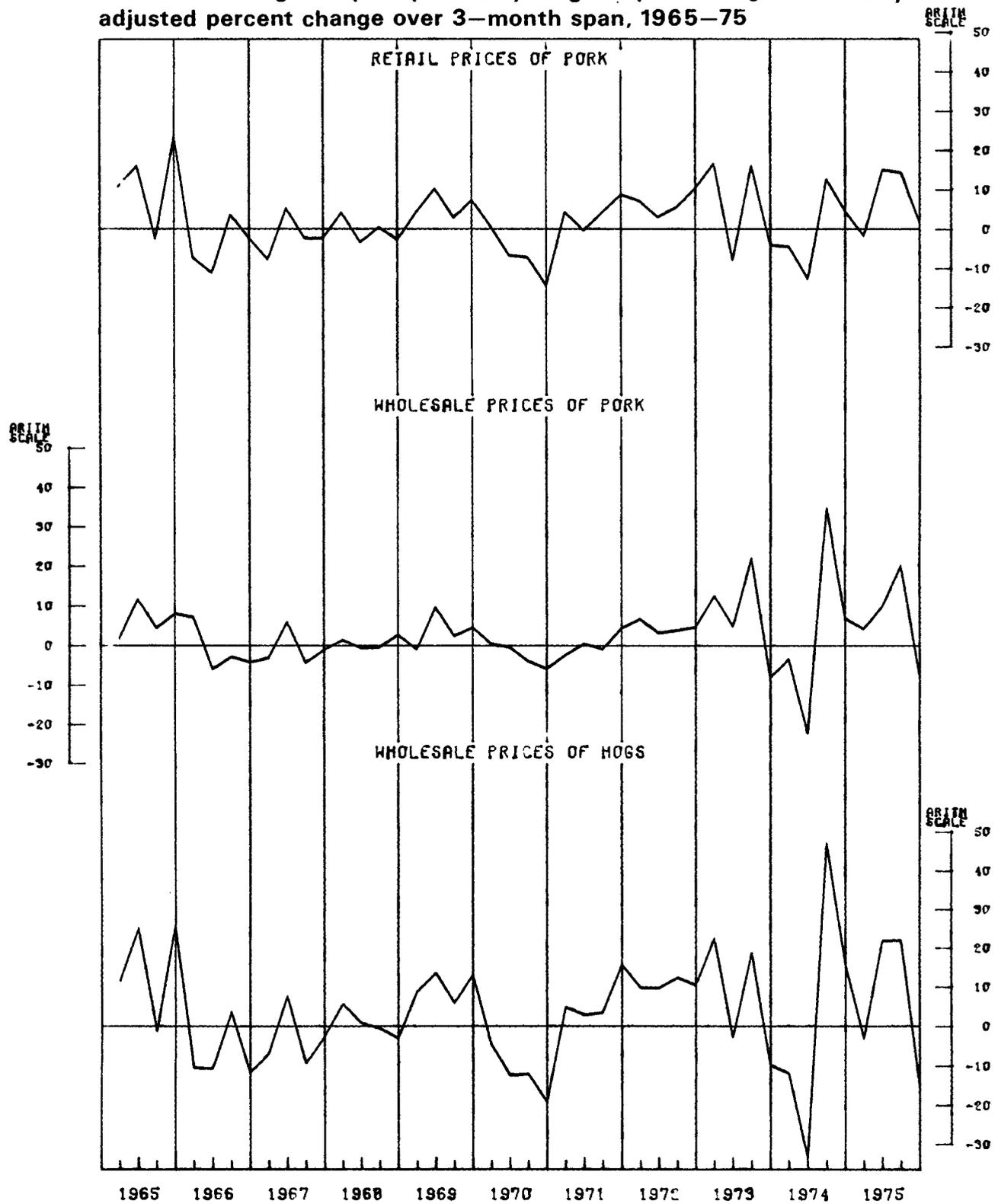


Table E. Changes in prices of consumer services, 1973-75

Service	December 1973 to December 1974	December 1974 to December 1975	3 months ending— (Compound annual rates, seasonally adjusted except as indicated)							
			1974				1975			
			March	June	September	December	March	June	September	December
Services ¹	11.3	8.1	9.5	10.7	14.2	10.9	8.0	6.3	8.5	9.8
Rent ¹	5.4	5.2	5.8	4.7	5.0	5.9	5.5	4.2	4.5	6.5
Household services less rent ²	15.0	8.2	14.5	15.1	17.0	13.5	9.8	8.2	4.9	9.8
Mortgage interest rates ¹	10.5	-3.1	-2.4	8.6	24.5	13.1	-15.9	-6.8	.6	11.9
Housekeeping and home maintenance services	18.2	6.0	18.8	23.0	20.7	10.7	6.5	3.4	5.9	8.2
Gas and electricity	19.6	14.2	27.1	17.1	19.9	14.2	17.7	17.5	13.9	8.0
Medical care	13.3	10.3	9.7	14.6	17.2	11.4	14.5	8.8	10.7	7.2
Transportation ²	5.7	11.8	2.6	5.6	7.6	6.6	5.3	5.8	18.5	18.5
Auto repairs and maintenance ¹	14.5	9.3	12.6	11.1	23.3	11.3	17.6	5.4	6.0	8.5
Public transportation	3.8	11.9	.5	4.7	2.5	6.9	1.6	4.0	49.4	-.7
Other services ²	9.2	5.4	7.3	9.9	10.0	9.2	7.5	2.4	6.2	5.3
Personal care services ¹	9.2	5.0	6.4	10.3	10.3	9.8	4.7	4.1	4.6	6.7
Recreational services ¹	8.7	3.5	4.9	14.3	7.0	9.0	6.2	1.6	3.0	3.2

¹ Not seasonally adjusted.

² Includes items not shown separately.

Responding to lower prices at the wholesale level, retail prices for sugar, fats and oil products such as margarine and salad oil, and flour declined in 1975. In addition, prices for processed foods such as cereal and bakery products, processed fruits and vegetables, and carbonated drinks declined almost steadily after the first quarter of 1975.

Consumer goods other than food

In the 12 months ending in December 1975, nonfood commodities in the CPI rose 6.2 percent, half as much as in 1974. Almost a fifth of the rise in 1975—as in 1974—was due to higher prices for fuel products—gasoline, motor oil, fuel oil, and coal. Prices for fuel products rose 10.1 percent in 1975, compared with 22.8 percent in 1974. Retail prices of other consumer goods also increased considerably less in 1975 than in 1974 (table D). Excluding food and fuels, commodity prices increased 5.7 percent in 1975, compared with 12.1 percent in 1974. In the WPI, prices for consumer finished goods other than food rose 6.7 percent in 1975, down from 20.5 percent in 1974; excluding fuels, the increase was 4.8 percent in 1975, compared with 15.1 percent in 1974.

Fuel products. Much of the rise in prices of fuel products in 1975 occurred in the second and third quarters. The increases reflected the effects of the \$1 per barrel import fee on crude oil which was first imposed in late February and was doubled on June 1. In addition, strong demand for gasoline in late spring and in summer permitted refiners and dealers to pass through earlier cost increases

which they were allowed to accumulate under the rules of the Federal Energy Administration. During the fourth quarter, gasoline prices eased as demand dropped off and supplies were ample. Prices of fuel oil declined in the first quarter, turned up in the second quarter, and moved up at a rapid rate after midyear.

Several developments during the fourth quarter are noteworthy because of the potential they have for influencing prices of crude oil and refined petroleum products in the coming months. The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) announced a 10-percent increase effective October 1 on the posted price of Saudi Arabian light crude, the benchmark in most cases for other petroleum prices. A number of oil-producing countries subsequently raised their prices. After the rise in foreign oil prices, petroleum refiners posted higher prices for uncontrolled domestic crude oil in most areas.

For the controlled portion of domestic crude oil, the law authorizing controls and other measures such as ceiling prices, entitlements, and allocations, which had been in effect since May 15, 1973, expired on August 31, 1975. Controls were extended until a new energy bill was enacted in late December. The new energy measure immediately removed the existing import fee of \$2 a barrel on crude oil and called for an immediate temporary rollback of domestic crude oil prices. Initially prices of all domestic oil will be brought under a composite lid of \$7.66 a barrel, down from the average price for controlled and uncontrolled oil of \$8.75 in late December. After the initial rollback, the composite price lid could rise as much as 10 percent a year. Oil

prices are to be decontrolled gradually over a period of 40 months. The impact on retail prices remained uncertain as the latest increase on foreign oil was just starting to be reflected in refiners' prices. Refiners also had accumulated cost increases which could be passed through to consumers.

Commodities less food and fuels. The rate of price increase for commodities other than food and fuels decelerated from a peak of 16.4 percent in the third quarter of 1974 to 10.9 percent in the fourth quarter, and to 9.4 percent in the first quarter of 1975. The rate dropped sharply in the second quarter to 4.2 percent, and continued at about that level in the third and fourth quarters of 1975.

Most of the slowdown at the retail level—and the manufacturing level—in late 1974 was due to easing in prices of various apparel items. Prices of some durable goods showed a slight slowdown at the retail level in the fourth quarter of 1974 due to declining demand. However, manufacturers' prices for most durables and for non-durables such as housekeeping supplies, toilet goods, and drugs continued to rise at a rapid rate reflecting increases in raw materials prices and unit labor costs.

In early 1975, therefore, increases in manufacturers' prices still were exerting upward pressure on retail prices. Retailers, on the other hand, were under increasing pressure to reduce their disproportionately high level of inventories since retail sales, which had begun to decline in the fall of 1974, continued to weaken. As the inventory adjustment proceeded, orders were cut back, and rebates, discounts, and clearance sales became more frequent. By the second quarter, price rises for all types of commodities slowed noticeably at both the retail and wholesale levels. Continued inventory liquidation and smaller increases in materials and unit labor costs moderated the rise in manufacturers' prices.

Encouraged by slower price rises and by tax reductions, consumer demand began to strengthen in late spring and improved substantially during the summer. In response, retailers and manufacturers began to restock. Consumer goods production, therefore, rose sharply and price rises for industrial materials started to accelerate. Increases in materials costs were being reflected in manufacturers' prices of consumer goods such as apparel, footwear, tires, paints, and floor coverings. The effect of higher material costs, however, was moderated by declines in unit labor costs. The rise in output far outpaced the rise in employment and work hours, as manufacturers sought to improve profit margins through increased productivity. At the retail level, apparel and footwear prices turned up in the third quarter as new fall and winter items came on the market. Clearance sales became less frequent and rebates and discounts were withdrawn on many items. Used car prices rose sharply from strong demand and small supplies.

The economic recovery continued in the fourth quarter but at a slower pace than in the third quarter. Early in the final quarter, consumer spending subsided from the high

summer levels and other indicators of economic activity showed mixed trends. By late fourth quarter, retail sales strengthened again, inventory buildup continued cautiously, and the reduced tax-withholding rates, which were to expire at the end of the year, were continued for 6 months under a new tax bill enacted in late December. Price increases for consumer goods at the manufacturers' level continued to accelerate in the fourth quarter. At the retail level, prices for apparel increased at a slightly slower pace than in the third quarter and used car prices declined with the end of the usual buying season. Prices of other items such as footwear, textile housefurnishings, toilet goods, tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, home repair commodities, and tires moved up at a somewhat faster rate reflecting earlier increases in manufacturers' prices and improved demand.

The rise in the auto index in the WPI and the CPI in the fourth quarter (adjusted for quality change) reflected price increases for 1976 models. Auto sales had dropped sharply in late 1974 partly as a result of the large price increases for 1975 models. Spurred by rebates and increased concessions, auto sales began to improve in early 1975. Improved demand and production cutbacks reduced stocks of 1975 models to relatively low levels by late summer. Sales in the fourth quarter were up sharply from the depressed levels of a year earlier, but domestic producers continued to exercise caution in scheduling production. As a result, producers were in a much better inventory position in late 1975 than they had been in 1974. Domestic new car stocks represented an inventory of 62 days' sales of new cars in late December compared with 97 days in December 1974.

Changes in materials costs have an important impact on manufacturers' prices for nonfood commodities. Prices of industrial commodities at the intermediate stage of processing—just below the finished goods level—increased 5.4 percent for the 12 months ending in December 1975, compared with 28.5 percent in 1974. Price increases decelerated from a 40-percent rate in the second quarter of 1974 to an 0.7-percent rate in the second quarter of 1975. The rate of increase accelerated in the third quarter to 6.5-percent and to 11.1-percent in the fourth quarter of 1975. Prices for textile and leather products—which declined in 1974 and early 1975—turned up in the second quarter, and accelerated in the second half to reflect higher prices for raw materials and improved consumer demand for apparel commodities. Lumber prices, which also declined in 1974 and early 1975, rose sharply in the second quarter, moderated in the third, and accelerated again in the fourth quarter. In chemical, rubber, and paper groups, price rises slowed in late 1974 and early 1975 and declined in the second quarter as inventory liquidation continued. With improved business outlook after midyear, new orders and production rose in many sectors, and prices for these products started to move up. In the metals group, however, prices for primary nonferrous metals trended down during the year to reflect weak demand in domestic and world markets. Prices for steel mill products, which were rela-

tively stable in the first three quarters, increased sharply in October. Later in the fourth quarter, steel prices edged down because of weakness in construction and capital goods sectors. In addition, there had been considerable hedge-buying earlier in the year.

Services. Charges for consumer services rose 8.1 percent in the 12 months ending in December 1975, compared with 11.3 percent in 1974. Among major services components in the CPI, increases in 1975 were smaller than in 1974 for household services less rent, medical care services, and other services such as apparel, personal care, and recreational services. The increase in rent was about the same as in 1974, while the increase in transportation services was considerably larger than the moderate rise recorded in 1974 (table E).

The index for household services less rent rose 8.2 percent in 1975, compared with 15.0 percent in 1974. Part of the slowdown resulted from a decline in mortgage interest rates. Conventional, VA, and FHA rates fell almost 6.0 percent during the first 6 months of the year. During this period, the supply of lendable funds increased as savings inflows improved over mid-1974 levels and lending institutions built up some liquidity. Demand for available funds during this period was slack despite various government support programs, such as tax rebates, implemented to stimulate new home purchases. The resulting demand-supply imbalance helped rates fall to their lowest levels since July 1974. However, by midsummer there were signs that the downward trend would end. Concern over financing of the anticipated large Federal deficit, higher interest paid by saving institutions on certificates of deposit, savings outflows, and general economic uncertainties contributed to the rise in mortgage interest rates and caution taken by lending institutions. At yearend, mortgage interest rates were increasing at an annual rate of 11.9 percent, but the rates were still 3.1 percent lower than in December 1974.

Among other household services, increases in charges for housekeeping and home maintenance services decelerated during the first two quarters of 1975 to reflect the effects of the economic slowdown. A slow rise in charges for home maintenance services also resulted from smaller price increases in materials such as paints, shingles, and house siding. The demand for home repair was steady through most of 1975. In the second half of the year, price increases for both home repair and housekeeping services accelerated slightly in the third quarter and sharply in the fourth quarter. The latter rise was partly due to increases in charges for parcel post. The rise in property taxes also accelerated noticeably in the fourth quarter.

Charges for gas and electricity rose sharply in 1975 despite continued consumer resistance to further increases. Electricity prices had increased at an average annual rate of 1.5 percent from 1960 through 1972. However, in the 1973-75 period, electricity rates increased 7.3, 22.1, and 8.1 percent annually. Increasing consumer resistance com-

bined with fewer fuel adjustments helped to slow rate increases in 1975. Similarly, natural gas prices rose at an average annual rate of 2.0 percent from 1960 through 1972, and at a rate of 14.4 percent during the last 3 years. In 1975, gas prices rose at an annual rate above 20.0 percent during the first two quarters of the year, but decelerated in the final two quarters as fewer fuel adjustments were noted.

The CPI for rent increased 5.2 percent in 1975, about the same as in each of the previous 2 years. Landlords faced rising costs for utilities, maintenance and repairs, property taxes, and assorted operating costs. Demand for rental units remained strong because construction of new units was slow and high interest rates forced many prospective home buyers to rent. Rent increases were limited in some large metropolitan areas by rent control ordinances.

The rate of advance in the transportation services index was the largest since 1970 because public transportation, auto repair, and insurance costs rose substantially. Local transit fares were an important factor in the rise in public transportation costs. The 1975 increase reflected the September 1 hike in the basic fare from 35 cents to 50 cents for the New York City transit authority. During the year, many cities, including Washington, Boston, Milwaukee, and San Diego, raised transit fares. Fares had declined in 1973 and 1974 because subsidies, financed by higher taxes, were granted transit systems in several areas. Fares were increased in 1975 to pay higher fuel bills, to replace and repair equipment, and to cover higher labor costs. Airline fares, which were increased on November 15, were 7.4 percent higher at yearend than in 1974. Charges for auto repairs rose 9.3 percent as demand for these services remained strong and labor and material costs continued to rise. After remaining relatively stable in 1974, auto insurance rates rose 17.9 percent in 1975.

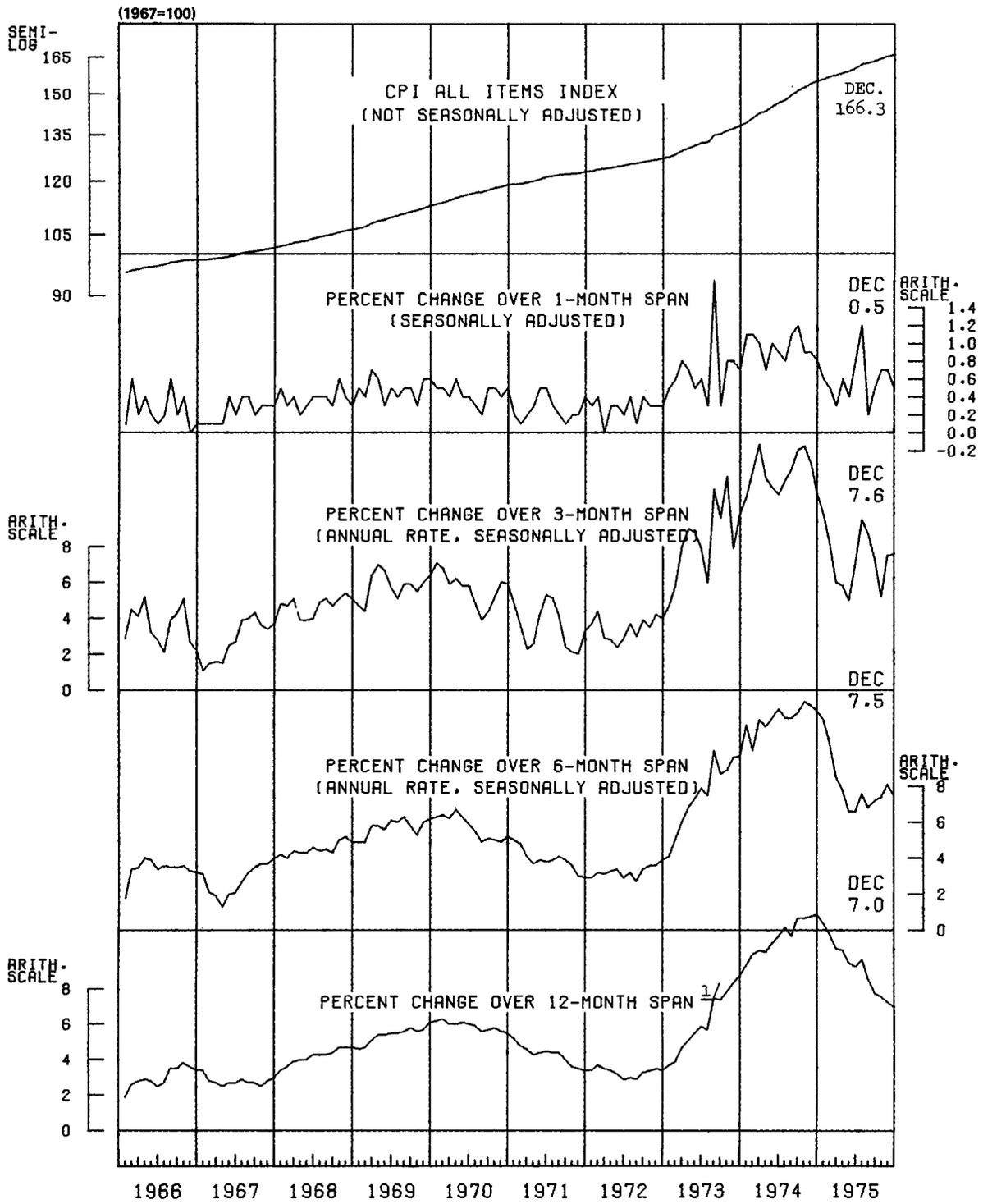
Prices of medical care services rose 10.3 percent in 1975 compared with 13.3 percent in 1974, the year wage and price controls on physicians' fees and hospital service charges were terminated. In 1975, charges for medical care services rose substantially early in the year, moderated in the second quarter, and accelerated again in the third quarter. A slower rise in the fourth quarter resulted mostly from the annual adjustment of retained earnings of health insurance companies. Premiums for health insurance are represented in the index by prices of services for which benefits are paid and by a measure of changes in the ratio of profits and overhead costs to benefits. Higher charges for operating rooms, semiprivate rooms, and other hospital services reflected the pass-through of higher hospital operating costs. The upward trend was about the same in 1975 as in 1974 for physicians' fees, but was slower for dentists' fees. Among physicians' services priced, tonsillectomy and obstetrical cases and charges for home and office visits rose sharply during the year.

Among other services—such as laundry and drycleaning, beauty and barber shop services, and recreational services, many of which are cyclically sensitive—increases

slowed rapidly in the first two quarters of 1975, but accelerated sharply in the third quarter. Increases in the fourth quarter were about the same as in the third. For

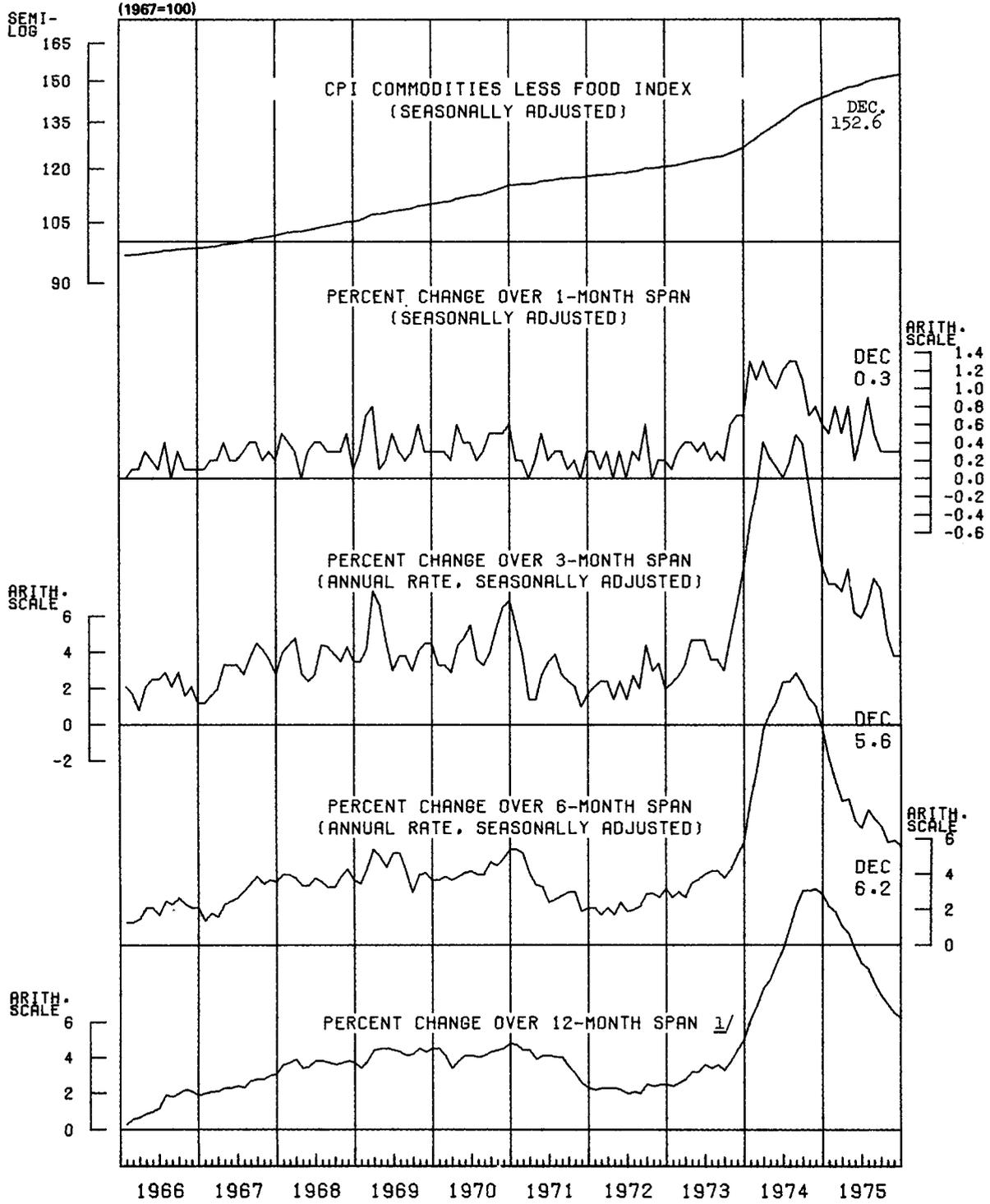
the year ending in December 1975, charges for these services rose 5.5 percent, compared with 9.2 percent in 1974.

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



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

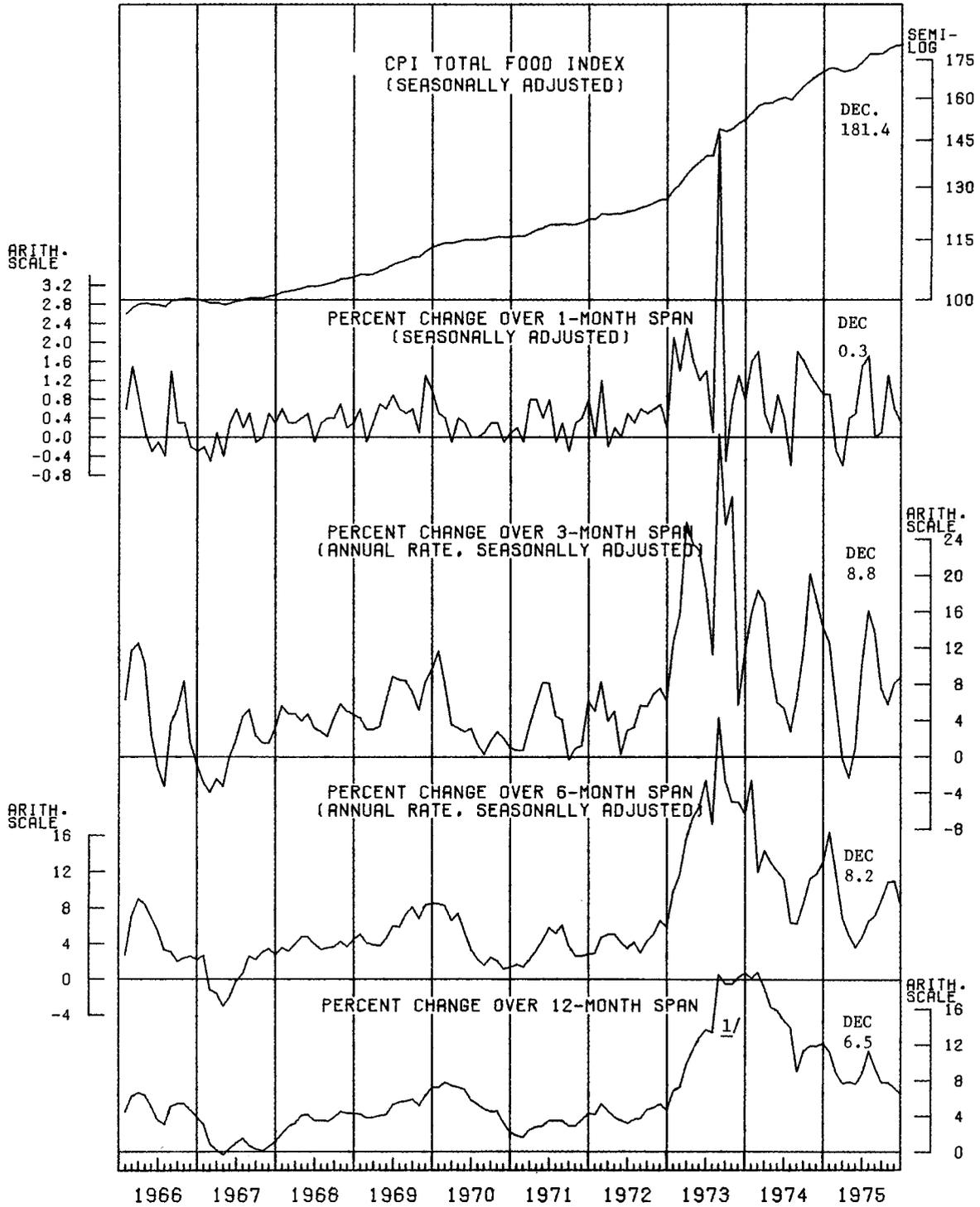
Chart 2. Commodities less food index and its rates of change, 1966-75



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

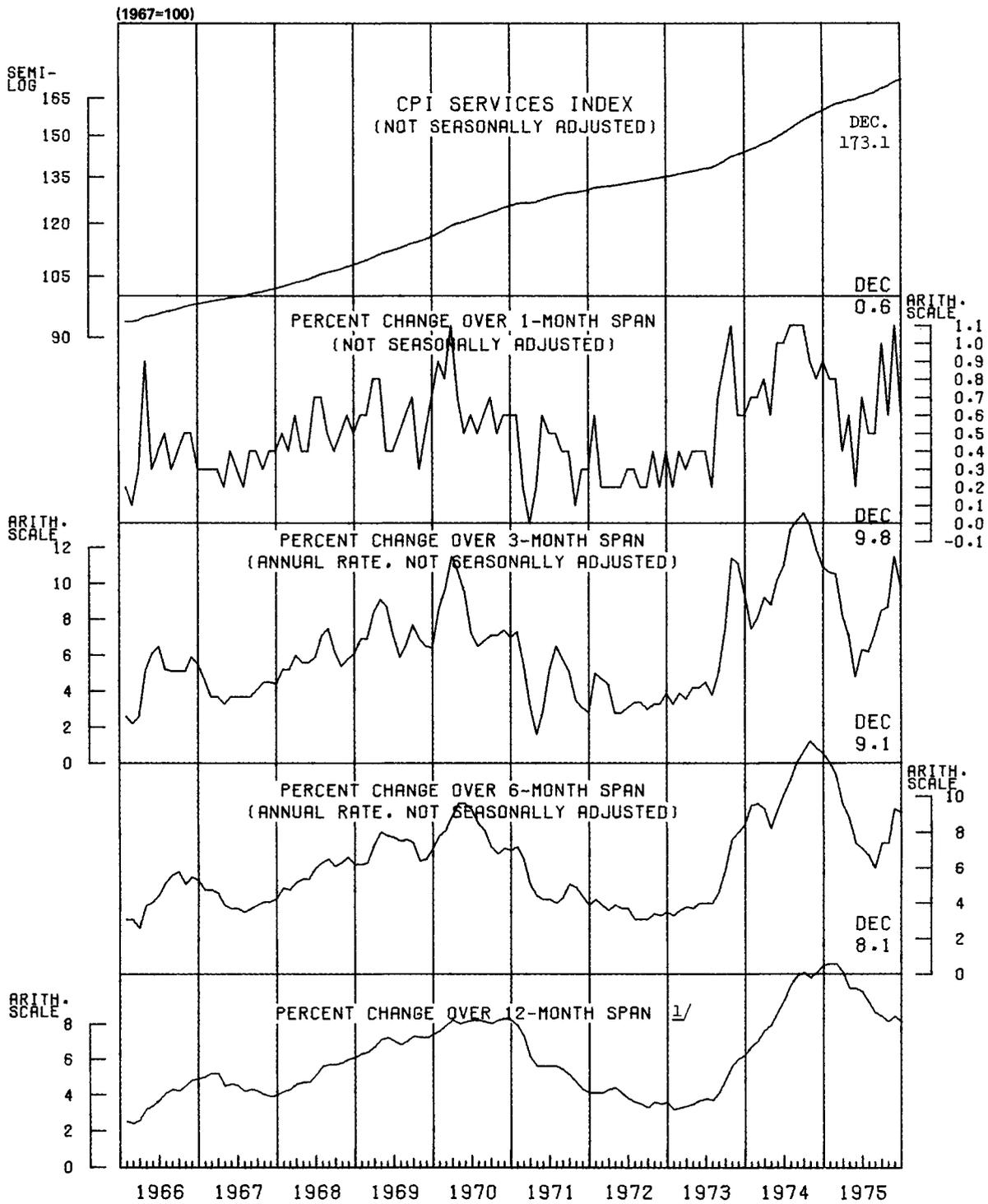
Chart 3. Total food index and its rates of change, 1966-75

(1967=100)



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

Chart 4. Services index and its rates of change, 1966-75



^{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		Seasonally adjusted percent change from—		
	1974	November 1975	December 1975	December 1974	November 1975	September to October	October to November	November to December
Commodity and service groups								
All items	100.000	165.6	166.3	7.0	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.5
All items (1957-59=100)	-	192.6	193.4	-	-	-	-	-
Commodities	63.762	162.2	162.7	6.3	.3	.6	.4	.4
Food	24.785	179.8	180.7	6.5	.5	1.3	.6	.3
Food at home	19.657	180.0	180.9	6.2	.5	1.5	.5	.5
Cereals and bakery products	2.882	181.9	182.2	.3	.2	-.4	.4	.3
Meats, poultry, and fish	6.140	191.4	189.2	15.7	-1.1	2.3	.4	0
Dairy products	2.887	162.8	165.5	6.6	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.1
Fruits and vegetables	3.111	168.7	172.1	6.7	2.0	.5	.6	3.2
Other foods at home	4.637	183.0	185.9	-3.1	1.6	.1	.6	1.2
Food away from home	5.128	179.2	180.0	7.4	.4	.7	.7	.5
Commodities less food	38.977	152.6	152.8	6.2	.1	.3	.3	.3
Nondurables less food	23.255	155.1	155.4	5.2	.2	.5	.3	.3
Apparel commodities ¹	8.273	144.4	143.9	1.6	-.3	.2	.4	.3
Men's and boys'	2.617	144.8	144.2	1.2	-.4	0	.6	0
Women's and girls'	3.611	142.6	142.1	1.5	-.4	.2	.3	.4
Footwear	1.438	146.3	145.7	2.5	-.4	.4	.4	0
Nondurables less food and apparel	14.982	161.5	162.2	7.2	.4	.6	.4	.4
Gasoline and motor oil	3.388	175.9	175.2	10.5	-.4	.9	.3	-.6
Tobacco products	1.936	154.8	156.8	3.9	1.3	*.1	*.3	*1.3
Alcoholic beverages	2.315	143.5	143.7	3.8	.1	*.6	*.1	*.1
Fuel oil and coal	1.028	246.5	248.7	8.7	.9	1.8	.6	1.5
Other nondurables	6.316	154.5	155.4	7.5	.6	.6	.5	.7
Durable commodities	15.722	149.2	149.3	7.6	.1	.1	.2	.4
Household durables	4.575	142.9	143.0	5.1	.1	.5	.6	.6
New automobiles	1.905	131.3	134.0	7.3	2.1	-.1	.9	2.1
Used automobiles	2.026	153.7	149.6	8.1	-2.7	-.3	-1.1	0
Other durables	7.217	157.6	158.1	9.0	.3	.2	.3	.3
Services	36.238	172.0	173.1	8.1	.6	*.6	*1.1	*.6
Rent	4.568	139.9	140.6	5.2	.5	*.7	*.4	*.5
Services less rent	31.670	177.7	179.0	8.6	.7	.6	1.0	.7
Household services less rent	15.856	190.7	192.0	8.2	.7	.4	1.2	.7
Transportation services	4.796	161.7	163.2	11.8	.9	.6	3.0	.7
Medical care services	5.473	184.2	185.8	10.3	.9	1.2	-.2	-.8
Other services	5.545	155.2	155.7	5.4	.3	.5	.5	.4
Special indexes:								
All items less food	75.215	161.5	162.1	7.1	.4	.5	.7	.4
Nondurable commodities	48.040	167.1	167.6	5.9	.3	.8	.5	.3
Apparel commodities less footwear	6.835	144.1	143.6	1.5	-.3	.1	.4	.3
Services less medical care services	30.765	170.0	171.1	7.7	.6	*.5	*1.3	*.6
Insurance and finance	9.634	188.4	190.1	8.9	.9	.6	2.5	.9
Utilities and public transportation	5.246	164.1	165.5	11.8	.9	.3	.9	.4
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	4.691	198.5	199.0	6.0	.3	.9	.7	.4
Appliances (including radio and TV)	1.445	120.9	120.8	4.9	-.1	*.5	*.6	*.1
Expenditure classes								
All items	100.000	165.6	166.3	7.0	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.5
Food	24.785	179.8	180.7	6.5	.5	1.3	.6	.3
Housing	33.766	171.3	172.2	7.7	.5	.5	.8	.5
Shelter ²	21.293	174.1	175.0	7.3	.5	.4	.9	.5
Rent	4.568	139.9	140.6	5.2	.5	*.7	*.4	*.5
Homeownership ³	16.335	186.8	187.8	7.9	.5	.4	1.0	.4
Fuel and utilities ⁴	5.008	174.4	176.1	11.2	1.0	.8	1.1	.7
Gas and electricity	2.548	176.8	179.0	14.2	1.2	.5	.9	.6
Household furnishings and operation	7.465	161.6	162.0	6.4	.2	.5	.4	.4
Apparel and upkeep	9.633	145.5	145.2	2.3	-.2	.3	.3	.1
Transportation	12.715	157.4	157.6	9.8	.1	-.1	1.1	.3
Private	11.450	156.1	156.2	9.6	.1	-.1	1.0	.4
Public	1.266	168.9	170.1	11.9	.7	-.2	.2	-.2
Health and recreation	18.723	156.5	157.5	6.8	.6	.6	.1	.8
Medical care	6.241	173.3	174.7	9.9	.8	1.0	-.1	.8
Personal care	2.519	153.6	154.6	6.4	.7	.4	.6	.7
Reading and recreation	5.222	147.0	147.5	5.5	.3	.5	.3	.4
Other goods and services	4.742	148.9	149.8	4.1	.6	.5	.3	.6
Special indexes:								
All items less shelter	78.707	163.4	164.1	6.9	.4	.7	.5	.6
All items less medical care	93.759	165.2	165.8	6.8	.4	.6	.7	.5
All items less mortgage interest costs	95.615	163.3	164.0	7.0	.4	.7	.5	.6
CPI - domestically produced farm foods ⁵	17.214	177.8	178.8	6.6	.6	*.5	*.3	*.6
CPI - selected beef cuts ⁶	1.976	176.8	175.9	11.3	-.5	*1.1	*-1.9	*.5
Purchasing power of consumer dollar:								
1967=\$1.00	-	\$0.604	\$0.601	-6.7	-.5	-	-	-
1957-59=\$1.00	-	.519	.517	-	-	-	-	-

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 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.

* 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, 1975 Annual Average index

Group	Indexes (1967=100)		Percent change to 1975 from—
	1974 Average	1975 Average	1974 Average
All items	147.7	161.2	9.1
All items (1957-59=100)	171.8	187.5	-
Commodities	145.5	158.4	8.9
Food	161.7	175.4	8.5
Food at home	162.4	175.8	8.3
Cereals and bakery products	166.1	184.8	11.3
Meats, poultry, and fish	163.9	178.0	8.6
Dairy products	151.9	156.6	3.1
Fruits and vegetables	165.8	171.0	3.1
Other foods at home	162.8	184.8	13.5
Food away from home	159.4	174.3	9.3
Commodities less food	136.6	149.1	9.2
Nondurables less food	140.9	151.7	7.7
Apparel commodities ¹	136.1	141.2	3.7
Men's and boys'	136.4	142.2	4.3
Women's and girls'	134.9	138.1	2.4
Footwear	138.1	144.2	4.4
Nondurables less food and apparel	143.8	157.9	9.8
Gasoline and motor oil	158.9	169.7	6.8
Tobacco products	143.8	153.9	7.0
Alcoholic beverages	131.8	142.1	7.8
Fuel oil and coal	214.6	235.3	9.6
Other nondurables	133.7	151.2	13.1
Durable commodities	130.6	145.5	11.4
Household durables	128.9	140.3	8.8
New automobiles	117.5	127.6	8.6
Used automobiles	122.6	146.4	19.4
Other durables	138.0	154.2	11.7
Services	² 152.1	166.6	9.5
Rent	² 130.6	137.3	5.1
Services less rent	156.0	171.9	10.2
Household services less rent	166.0	184.7	11.3
Transportation services	141.9	152.7	7.6
Medical care services	159.1	179.1	12.6
Other services	² 141.6	152.1	7.4
Special indexes:			
All items less food	² 143.7	157.1	9.3
Nondurable commodities	151.0	163.2	8.1
Apparel commodities less footwear	135.7	140.6	3.6
Services less medical care services	151.0	164.7	9.1
Insurance and finance	164.2	180.4	9.9
Utilities and public transportation	141.6	157.1	10.9
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	175.4	193.7	10.4
Appliances (including radio and TV)	109.7	118.4	7.9
All items	147.7	161.2	9.1
Food	161.7	175.4	8.5
Housing	150.6	166.8	10.8
Shelter ³	² 154.4	169.7	9.9
Rent	² 130.6	137.3	5.1
Homeownership ⁴	163.2	181.7	11.3
Fuel and utilities ⁵	150.2	167.8	11.7
Gas and electricity	145.8	169.6	16.3
Household furnishings and operation	140.5	158.1	12.5
Apparel and upkeep	136.2	142.3	4.5
Transportation	137.7	150.6	9.4
Private	136.6	149.8	9.7
Public	148.0	158.6	7.2
Health and recreation	140.3	153.5	9.4
Medical care	150.5	168.6	12.0
Personal care	137.3	150.7	9.8
Reading and recreation	133.8	144.4	7.9
Other goods and services	137.2	147.4	7.4
Special indexes:			
All items less shelter	146.1	159.1	8.9
All items less medical care	147.7	160.9	8.9
All items less mortgage interest costs	146.1	159.1	8.9
CPI - domestically produced farm foods ⁶	161.9	173.6	7.2
CPI - selected beef cuts ⁷	166.6	170.3	2.2
Purchasing power of consumer dollar:			
1967= \$1.00	\$ 0.678	\$ 0.621	-8.4
1957-59= \$1.00 .....	.583	.533	-

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

² 1974 annual average revised from previously published.

³ Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

⁴ Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and maintenance and repairs.

⁵ Also includes residential telephone, fuel oil, coal, water, and sewerage service not shown separately.

⁶ Calculated from the food at home component by excluding fish, nonalcoholic beverages, bananas, chocolate candy bars, chocolate syrup, and about half of the index weight for sugar.

⁷ Calculated from the CPI beef and veal component by excluding veal cutlets and beef liver.

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

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

Group	Seasonally adjusted indexes (1967=100)				Seasonally adjusted annual rate percent change for					
	Septem- ber 1975	October 1975	Novem- ber 1975	Decem- ber 1975	3 months ending in			6 months ending in		
					March 1975	June 1975	Sept. 1975	Dec. 1975	June 1975	Dec. 1975
Commodity and service groups										
All items	-	-	-	-	6.0	7.1	7.3	7.6	6.6	7.5
Commodities	160.5	161.5	162.2	162.9	4.2	7.4	7.6	6.1	5.8	6.8
Food	177.6	179.9	180.9	181.4	-2	10.0	7.5	8.8	4.7	8.2
Food at home	178.0	180.6	181.5	182.4	-4.1	12.3	7.3	10.3	3.8	8.8
Cereals and bakery products	182.1	181.4	182.1	182.6	14.3	-5.6	-7.3	1.1	3.9	-3.2
Meats, poultry, and fish	188.2	192.5	193.3	193.3	-19.9	66.6	20.8	11.3	15.5	16.0
Dairy products	157.1	160.2	163.0	164.8	-3	-3.3	10.3	21.1	-1.8	15.6
Fruits and vegetables	172.0	172.8	173.9	179.5	-3.5	5.9	7.0	18.6	1.1	12.7
Other foods at home	181.0	181.2	182.3	184.4	-2.1	-14.6	-2.2	7.7	-8.5	2.7
Food away from home	176.3	177.5	178.7	179.6	11.2	3.5	7.1	7.7	7.3	7.4
Commodities less food	151.2	151.7	152.1	152.6	7.4	5.9	7.5	3.8	6.6	5.6
Nondurables less food	153.3	154.1	154.6	155.1	4.1	5.8	6.2	4.8	4.9	5.5
Apparel commodities ¹	141.6	141.9	142.4	142.8	-6	-3	4.1	3.4	-4	3.7
Men's and boys'	142.7	142.7	143.5	143.5	.3	-1.7	4.0	2.3	-7	3.1
Women's and girls'	138.8	139.1	139.5	140.0	-3.7	.3	6.3	3.5	-1.7	4.9
Footwear	144.5	145.1	145.7	145.7	5.5	-8	2.0	3.4	2.3	2.7
Nondurables less food and apparel	160.2	161.1	161.8	162.5	7.6	8.3	7.0	5.9	7.9	6.4
Gasoline and motor oil	176.1	177.7	178.2	177.1	1.0	22.0	17.9	2.3	11.0	9.8
Tobacco products (not seasonally adjusted)	154.4	154.3	154.8	156.8	6.0	1.3	2.1	6.4	3.6	4.2
Alcoholic beverages (not seasonally adjusted)	142.5	143.3	143.5	143.7	8.6	2.0	1.1	3.4	5.3	2.3
Fuel oil and coal	240.1	244.5	246.0	249.7	-8.1	12.3	15.7	17.0	1.6	16.3
Other nondurables	152.7	153.6	154.3	155.4	12.1	5.8	4.9	7.3	8.9	6.1
Durable commodities	148.1	148.3	148.6	149.2	13.3	6.0	8.2	3.0	9.6	5.6
Household durables	141.3	142.0	142.8	143.1	7.9	3.5	4.1	5.2	5.7	4.6
New automobiles	129.5	129.4	130.5	133.3	8.6	1.3	7.1	12.3	4.9	9.6
Used automobiles (not seasonally adjusted)	152.9	152.5	150.8	150.8	4.1	11.8	24.0	-5.4	7.9	8.3
Other durables	156.7	157.0	157.4	157.8	19.5	9.9	4.7	2.8	14.6	3.8
Services (not seasonally adjusted)	169.1	170.1	172.0	173.1	8.0	6.3	8.5	9.8	7.1	9.1
Rent (not seasonally adjusted)	138.4	139.3	139.9	140.6	5.5	4.2	4.5	6.5	4.8	5.5
Services less rent (not seasonally adjusted)	174.4	175.5	177.3	178.6	10.1	6.3	7.9	10.0	8.2	9.0
Household services less rent	186.8	187.6	189.9	191.2	9.8	8.2	4.9	9.8	9.0	7.3
Transportation services	156.6	157.5	162.2	163.4	5.3	5.8	18.5	18.5	5.6	18.5
Medical care services	182.8	185.0	184.6	186.0	14.5	8.8	10.7	7.2	11.6	8.9
Other services	153.5	154.2	154.9	155.5	7.5	2.4	6.2	5.3	4.9	5.8
Special indexes:										
All items less food	159.3	160.1	161.2	161.9	8.5	5.8	7.6	6.7	7.1	7.2
Nondurable commodities	165.1	166.4	167.3	167.8	1.8	7.8	7.3	6.7	4.7	7.0
Apparel commodities less footwear	141.2	141.3	141.8	142.2	-1.1	-6	5.0	2.9	-9	3.9
Services less medical care services (not seasonally adjusted)	166.9	167.8	170.0	171.1	6.7	5.8	8.1	10.5	6.3	9.2
Insurance and finance	181.5	182.5	187.1	188.8	8.1	7.7	3.4	17.1	7.9	10.0
Utilities and public transportation	162.8	163.3	164.8	165.5	9.8	12.1	18.9	6.8	11.0	12.7
Housekeeping and home maintenance service	195.3	197.1	198.5	199.2	6.5	3.4	5.9	8.2	5.0	7.1
Appliances (including radio and TV) (not seasonally adjusted)	119.6	120.2	120.9	120.8	6.0	3.5	5.9	4.1	4.7	5.0
Expenditure classes										
All items	-	-	-	-	6.0	7.1	7.3	7.6	6.6	7.5
Food	177.6	179.9	180.9	181.4	-2	10.0	7.5	8.8	4.7	8.2
Housing	168.7	169.6	171.0	171.9	10.9	7.0	5.1	7.8	9.0	6.5
Shelter ²	171.3	172.0	173.6	174.5	11.0	6.9	3.8	7.7	8.9	5.7
Rent (not seasonally adjusted)	138.4	139.3	139.9	140.6	5.5	4.2	4.5	6.5	4.8	5.5
Homeownership ³	183.5	184.2	186.1	186.9	12.8	8.6	3.1	7.6	10.7	5.3
Fuel and utilities ⁴	171.6	173.0	174.9	176.1	9.4	13.5	10.9	10.9	11.4	10.9
Gas and electricity	175.2	176.0	177.5	178.6	17.7	17.5	13.9	8.0	17.6	10.9
Household furnishings and operation	159.8	160.6	161.3	162.0	9.8	5.0	5.2	5.6	7.4	5.4
Apparel and upkeep	142.9	143.3	143.8	144.0	1.4	0	4.6	3.1	.7	3.9
Transportation	156.0	155.9	157.6	158.1	4.2	9.7	20.8	5.5	6.9	12.9
Private	154.7	154.6	156.1	156.8	4.5	10.3	18.4	5.5	7.4	11.8
Public	169.7	169.3	169.7	169.4	1.6	4.0	49.4	-7	2.8	21.8
Health and recreation (not seasonally adjusted)	155.2	156.1	156.3	157.5	11.0	4.3	5.9	6.1	7.6	6.0
Medical care	172.0	173.7	173.5	174.9	13.7	8.8	10.1	6.9	11.2	8.5
Personal care	152.1	152.7	153.6	154.6	10.6	3.0	5.4	6.7	6.7	6.1
Reading and recreation	145.7	146.5	146.9	147.5	7.6	4.0	5.4	5.0	5.8	5.2
Other goods and services	147.7	148.4	148.8	149.7	8.6	1.6	.8	5.5	5.1	3.1
Special indexes:										
All items less shelter	161.4	162.6	163.4	164.4	4.2	7.1	8.6	7.6	5.7	8.1
All items less medical care	163.0	163.9	165.0	165.8	5.8	6.8	7.4	7.1	6.3	7.2
All items less mortgage interest costs	161.4	162.5	163.3	164.2	5.9	6.8	8.1	7.1	6.4	7.6
CPI - domestically produced farm foods (not seasonally adjusted) ⁵	176.4	177.2	177.8	178.8	1.7	10.9	8.3	5.6	6.2	6.9
CPI - selected beef cuts (not seasonally adjusted) ⁶	178.3	180.2	176.8	175.9	-15.2	88.8	1.4	-5.3	26.5	-2.0

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 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.

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

Table 3. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, December 1975 indexes and percent changes from selected dates

Item and group	Index					Item and group	Index				
	Dec. 1975		from—				Dec. 1975		from—		
	Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Dec. 1974	Nov. 1975	Seasonally adjusted		Unadjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Dec. 1974	Nov. 1975	Seasonally adjusted
Food	180.7	181.4	6.5	0.5	0.3	Food—Continued					
Food away from home	180.0	179.6	7.4	.4	.5	Food at home—Continued					
Restaurant meals	178.8	178.4	7.1	.4	.6	Fruits and vegetables—Continued					
Snacks	185.8	185.6	9.0	.4	.5	Fresh fruits and vegetables—Continued					
Food at home	180.9	182.4	6.2	.5	.5	Fresh fruits—Continued					
Cereals and bakery products	182.2	182.6	.3	.2	.3	Oranges	155.4	156.8	4.2	-2.0	4.4
Flour	161.1	160.3	-5.8	-.8	-2.0	Orange juice, fresh	148.5	148.2	3.0	-.3	-.3
Cracker meal	224.7	226.3	5.8	-.4	.2	Grapefruit	138.1	156.8	-.8	-1.6	2.7
Corn flakes	165.9	166.2	1.2	0	.4	Grapes	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Rice	211.7	214.3	-4.3	-.6	-.7	Strawberries	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Bread, white	161.7	161.5	-3.1	-.4	-.7	Watermelon	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Bread, whole wheat	179.2	178.8	3.3	-.6	-.7	Fresh vegetables	176.1	187.1	13.7	4.6	5.6
Cookies	183.4	184.1	1.4	2.6	2.8	Potatoes	190.6	210.8	17.1	-2.1	-1.7
Layer cake	189.3	189.1	2.9	.6	.9	Onions	167.3	180.5	34.1	-1.1	-.7
Cinnamon rolls	198.5	197.7	3.4	.3	.9	Asparagus	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Meats, poultry, and fish	189.2	193.3	15.7	-1.1	0	Cabbage	147.9	155.7	1.3	.3	-1.2
Meats	189.8	194.1	17.4	-1.4	0	Carrots	154.3	151.4	-11.7	1.6	-5.0
Beef and veal	174.7	180.8	9.1	-.3	1.2	Celery	194.9	198.3	32.7	-5.8	-6.2
Steak, round	177.2	185.5	13.6	-.5	1.9	Cucumbers	194.5	216.6	61.3	61.9	49.0
Steak, sirloin	175.5	183.6	17.0	.2	2.3	Lettuce	160.3	156.7	-.3	-5.7	-1.1
Steak, porterhouse	188.9	196.2	21.4	-.5	1.1	Peppers, green	159.8	172.0	20.5	14.0	12.3
Rump roast	171.3	178.4	10.7	-.5	1.4	Spinach	191.5	193.0	11.1	.6	-.6
Rib roast	202.8	208.2	20.2	1.3	1.8	Tomatoes	173.4	163.0	.7	24.3	13.8
Chuck roast	184.5	191.6	11.8	.4	1.2	Processed fruits and vegetables	187.0	187.4	4.6	1.5	1.5
Hamburger	164.3	169.0	2.6	-1.5	-.4	Fruit cocktail, canned	176.1	175.9	-.8	-.1	.3
Beef liver	141.0	143.7	-7.1	.5	1.9	Pears, canned	161.7	161.2	-1.5	-.4	.1
Veal cutlets	191.7	194.8	-1.9	.7	1.5	Pineapple-grapefruit drink, canned	174.3	174.6	7.2	.9	1.5
Pork	219.6	222.7	31.4	-3.5	-2.2	Orange juice concentrate, frozen	158.0	158.3	8.1	1.4	2.0
Chops	197.7	204.0	25.3	-3.5	1.3	Lemonade concentrate, frozen	190.4	188.9	12.7	.1	-.7
Loin roast	217.6	224.8	32.7	-2.1	.3	Beets, canned	185.8	186.7	.9	.1	.5
Sausage	248.4	253.2	36.7	-3.5	-.6	Peas, green, canned	160.0	159.8	2.6	.1	.3
Ham, whole	221.6	214.7	32.5	.5	-2.9	Tomatoes, canned	179.6	179.8	5.9	.8	1.2
Picnics	210.6	213.2	32.2	-1.0	-1.1	Dried beans	307.7	310.2	8.4	6.7	5.0
Bacon	233.5	236.6	33.3	-7.0	-5.4	Broccoli, frozen	155.5	155.8	3.5	.5	.5
Other meats	181.2	182.1	14.7	.3	.8	Eggs	185.9	184.4	-3.1	1.6	1.2
Lamb chops	180.2	182.6	12.6	.2	.6	Fats and oils	176.4	165.2	2.2	10.2	3.4
Frankfurters	174.5	176.8	12.1	-.7	.8	Margarine	185.9	184.4	-12.6	-.6	-.4
Ham, canned	209.9	209.1	32.3	1.5	2.1	Salad dressing, Italian	205.6	204.8	-18.5	-1.3	-.1
Bologna sausage	180.5	181.4	10.9	-.2	.4	Salad or cooking oil	152.3	151.5	3.8	-.7	-.9
Salami sausage	169.1	169.8	8.0	.4	1.3	Sugar and sweets	200.3	198.5	-16.4	-1.0	-.9
Liverwurst	172.8	173.1	11.9	.3	.3	Sugar	225.7	226.8	-19.1	-1.0	-.3
Poultry	168.5	173.7	8.8	-1.5	-.3	Sugar jelly	218.5	220.5	-58.0	-3.3	-1.4
Frying chicken	172.8	179.6	8.0	-1.6	-.4	Chocolate bar	226.2	227.6	11.4	-1.0	-1.0
Chicken breasts	168.6	172.6	12.2	-.4	.5	Syrup, chocolate flavored	241.8	241.3	10.4	.1	-.5
Turkey	148.7	148.4	9.6	-2.2	.3	Nonalcoholic beverages	215.1	214.7	3.3	-.2	-1.2
Fish	214.1	213.5	9.9	1.1	1.2	Coffee	190.1	190.7	10.1	1.1	1.3
Shrimp, frozen	205.1	204.3	26.1	1.9	1.5	Coffee, instant	196.1	197.7	16.3	1.7	2.4
Fish, fresh or frozen	228.3	228.5	5.3	.4	.7	Tea	196.3	197.5	14.0	1.8	2.1
Tuna fish, canned	177.5	178.4	1.3	1.7	1.5	Carbonated drink, cola flavored	149.4	149.1	12.6	.1	-.3
Sardines, canned	243.6	241.7	8.9	.7	.7	Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	194.2	194.6	.6	-.2	.1
Dairy products	165.5	164.8	6.6	1.7	1.1	Prepared and partially prepared foods	200.1	200.7	.6	.6	1.1
Milk, fresh, grocery	157.8	157.3	2.4	1.2	.5	Bean soup, canned	165.2	165.2	2.7	1.4	1.4
Milk, fresh, skim	173.0	172.8	3.2	.8	.3	Chicken soup, canned	194.1	195.1	4.2	7.4	8.0
Milk, evaporated	193.2	193.8	6.3	2.3	2.4	Spaghetti, canned	133.3	133.4	-1.6	.2	.5
Ice cream	156.1	155.0	5.6	1.8	1.2	Mashed potatoes, instant	164.2	164.5	1.5	.5	.9
Cheese, American process	194.8	194.6	16.0	1.4	.8	Potatoes, french fried, frozen	154.8	155.1	-1.0	-2.2	-.1
Butter	151.0	148.6	29.7	6.0	5.8	Baby foods	174.6	174.9	2.6	2.2	2.5
Fruits and vegetables	172.1	179.5	6.7	2.0	3.2	Sweet pickle relish	161.1	161.6	3.5	-.1	-.1
Fresh fruits and vegetables	162.1	173.7	8.4	2.5	4.6	Pretzels	178.1	177.0	8.3	.7	.1
Apples	144.9	156.3	1.3	-.6	2.3		160.1	160.7	2.9	-.2	-.1
Bananas	129.7	144.4	-11.8	1.1	-1.3						
	145.6	156.2	32.6	-1.8	1.5						

¹ Priced only in season.

Table 3-A. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, food items, 1975 annual average indexes, and percent changes from 1974 to 1975

(1967=100)

Item and group	Indexes (1967=100)		Percent change to 1975 from	Item and group	Indexes (1967=100)		Percent change to 1975 from
	1974 Average	1975 Average	1974 Average		1974 Average	1975 Average	1974 Average
Food	161.7	175.4	8.5	Food—Continued			
Food away from home	159.4	174.3	9.3	Food at home—Continued			
Restaurant meals	159.7	173.2	8.5	Fruits and vegetables—Continued			
Snacks	158.2	179.7	13.6	Fresh fruits and vegetables—Continued			
Food at home	162.4	175.8	8.3	Fresh fruits—Continued			
Cereals and bakery products	166.1	184.8	11.3	Oranges	148.4	154.2	3.9
Flour	172.7	165.4	-4.2	Orange juice, fresh	139.3	147.0	5.5
Cracker meal	189.1	231.1	22.2	Grapefruit	147.1	162.6	10.5
Corn flakes	134.5	166.5	23.8	Grapes	190.5	192.4	1.0
Rice	237.7	217.0	-8.7	Strawberries	136.7	147.9	8.2
Bread, white	158.4	165.8	4.7	Watermelon	186.9	198.3	6.1
Bread, whole wheat	162.7	176.5	8.5	Fresh vegetables	172.3	170.4	-1.1
Cookies	145.8	186.1	27.6	Potatoes	229.5	184.4	-19.7
Layer cake	158.3	191.9	21.2	Onions	152.5	179.9	18.0
Cinnamon rolls	163.7	198.0	21.0	Asparagus	169.0	183.8	8.8
Meats, poultry, and fish	163.9	178.0	8.6	Cabbage	146.7	153.9	4.9
Meats	164.1	177.9	8.4	Carrots	146.6	168.9	15.2
Beef and veal	168.5	170.0	.9	Celery	145.7	162.8	11.7
Steak, round	164.0	171.6	4.6	Cucumbers	136.7	170.9	25.0
Steak, sirloin	155.5	169.4	8.9	Lettuce	154.9	151.9	-1.9
Steak, porterhouse	158.0	177.4	12.3	Peppers, green	152.0	161.4	6.2
Rump roast	160.5	167.7	4.5	Spinach	173.5	184.5	6.3
Rib roast	168.9	189.5	12.2	Tomatoes	155.4	163.9	5.5
Chuck roast	171.7	176.0	2.5	Processed fruits and vegetables	170.6	178.3	4.5
Hamburger	176.0	162.5	7.7	Fruit cocktail, canned	156.9	177.2	12.9
Beef liver	162.7	144.4	-11.2	Pears, canned	144.5	164.4	13.8
Veal cutlets	198.8	190.7	-4.1	Pineapple-grapefruit drink, canned	137.8	171.7	24.6
Pork	161.0	196.9	22.3	Orange juice concentrate, frozen	142.0	153.2	7.9
Chops	155.4	183.5	18.1	Lemonade concentrate, frozen	141.3	187.8	32.9
Loin roast	163.1	195.9	20.1	Beets, canned	163.4	187.5	14.7
Sausage	177.0	218.1	23.2	Peas, green, canned	131.5	161.7	23.0
Ham, whole	154.8	184.9	19.4	Tomatoes, canned	149.5	176.3	17.9
Picnics	161.3	181.1	12.3	Dried beans	372.8	235.9	-36.7
Bacon	160.5	215.6	34.3	Broccoli, frozen	136.3	153.5	12.6
Other meats	159.2	168.5	5.8	Other food at home	162.8	184.8	13.5
Lamb chops	156.3	172.0	10.0	Eggs	160.8	157.8	-1.9
Frankfurters	160.0	165.6	3.5	Fats and oils:	179.4	198.6	10.7
Ham, canned	156.7	177.9	13.5	Margarine	204.9	224.6	9.6
Bologna sausage	165.1	171.2	3.7	Salad dressing, Italian	130.3	155.2	19.1
Salami sausage	159.4	160.5	0.7	Salad or cooking oil	202.0	216.8	7.3
Liverwurst	157.7	163.1	3.4	Sugar and sweets	195.2	246.2	26.1
Poultry	146.9	162.4	10.6	Sugar	267.8	308.8	15.3
Frying chicken	148.2	167.0	12.7	Grape jelly	171.5	230.5	34.4
Chicken breasts	144.5	160.7	11.2	Chocolate bar	189.8	238.9	25.9
Turkey	143.2	142.8	-0.3	Syrup, chocolate flavored	161.9	215.3	33.0
Fish	187.7	203.3	8.3	Nonalcoholic beverages	155.6	178.9	15.0
Shrimp, frozen	169.4	180.2	6.4	Coffee	160.5	172.9	7.7
Fish, fresh or frozen	215.8	220.9	2.4	Coffee, instant	157.7	178.0	12.9
Tuna fish, canned	168.1	175.3	4.3	Tea	121.1	145.6	20.2
Sardines, canned	197.5	235.3	19.1	Carbonated drink, cola flavored	163.0	200.5	23.0
Dairy products	151.9	156.6	3.1	Carbonated drink, fruit flavored	163.9	203.8	24.3
Milk, fresh, grocery	152.5	152.7	0.1	Prepared and partially prepared foods	144.3	163.0	13.0
Milk, fresh, skim	164.4	167.7	2.0	Bean soup, canned	165.3	183.1	10.8
Milk, evaporated	172.2	183.9	6.8	Chicken soup, canned	129.0	134.5	4.3
Ice cream	133.3	151.6	13.7	Spaghetti, canned	143.4	163.1	13.7
Cheese, American process	167.9	175.8	4.7	Mashed potatoes, instant	139.4	155.9	11.8
Butter	114.1	124.2	8.9	Potatoes, french fried, frozen	150.3	168.6	12.2
Fruits and vegetables	165.8	171.0	3.1	Baby foods	138.0	161.2	16.8
Fresh fruits and vegetables	162.6	166.1	2.2	Sweet pickle relish	146.5	172.7	17.9
Fresh fruits	150.8	161.1	6.8	Pretzels	142.2	163.5	15.0
Apples	162.4	162.5	0.1				
Bananas	119.2	149.4	25.3				

¹ Revised.

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

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to December 1975 from:	
		November 1975	December 1975	December 1974	November 1975
Housing		171.3	172.2	7.7	0.5
Shelter ¹		174.1	175.0	7.3	.5
Rent, residential		139.9	140.6	5.2	.5
Homeownership ²		186.8	187.8	7.9	.5
Mortgage interest rates		143.9	144.4	-3.1	.3
Property taxes		163.5	165.2	6.7	1.0
Property insurance premiums		135.1	135.2	8.2	.1
Maintenance and repairs		191.9	192.3	5.5	.2
Maintenance and repair commodities ³		163.0	163.5	4.3	.3
Exterior house paint		158.6	159.6	4.9	.6
Interior house paint		149.3	149.2	4.3	-.1
Maintenance and repair services		204.3	204.7	5.9	.2
Repainting living and dining rooms		216.7	217.9	7.4	.6
Reshingling house roof		224.9	225.3	5.6	.2
Residing house		191.8	191.1	3.2	-.4
Replacing sink		201.8	203.0	7.2	.6
Repairing furnace		197.4	198.0	8.3	.3
Fuel and utilities		174.4	176.1	11.2	1.0
Fuel oil and coal		246.5	248.7	8.7	.9
Fuel oil, No. 2		242.6	245.0	9.4	1.0
Gas and electricity		176.8	179.0	14.2	1.2
Gas		183.2	187.2	20.2	2.2
Electricity		170.9	171.4	8.8	.3
Other utilities					
Residential telephone services		128.6	128.9	5.6	.2
Residential water and sewerage services		176.0	177.2	11.5	.7
Household furnishings and operation ⁴		161.6	162.0	6.4	.2
Housefurnishings		147.4	147.5	5.4	.1
Textiles		144.1	144.3	2.5	.1
Sheets, full, flat		156.9	156.1	7.2	-.5
Curtains, tailored		136.7	136.5	2.6	-.1
Bedspreads		145.6	146.2	-.6	-.4
Drapery fabrics		169.6	169.9	2.8	.2
Pillows, bed		122.3	123.8	2.7	1.2
Slipcovers and throws, ready-made		132.6	132.9	.2	.2
Furniture and bedding		149.9	150.0	5.5	.1
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser	Mar. 70	130.2	130.2	2.4	0
Sofas, upholstered		140.5	140.4	2.6	-.1
Cocktail tables	Dec. 71	127.0	129.5	6.0	2.0
Dining room chairs	Mar. 70	133.6	133.9	5.0	.2
Recliners, upholstered	Dec. 71	111.6	110.5	.9	-1.0
Sofas, dual purpose		138.8	137.4	3.5	-1.0
Bedding, mattress and box springs	June 70	130.9	131.5	4.2	.5
Aluminum folding chairs		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Cribs		151.2	151.5	3.6	.2
Floor coverings		131.8	132.4	3.7	.5
Broadloom carpeting		120.5	121.2	2.8	.6
Vinyl sheet goods		156.5	157.1	7.5	.4
Vinyl floor tile		159.6	159.5	3.2	-.1
Appliances (excluding radio and TV)		131.5	131.6	6.5	.1
Washing machines, electric		136.7	136.0	7.7	-.5
Vacuum cleaners		118.7	118.6	5.2	-.1
Refrigerators, refrigerator-freezers, electric		132.0	132.1	6.2	.1
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric		133.6	134.9	8.4	1.0
Clothes dryers, electric		141.5	142.3	8.3	.6
Air conditioners, demountable		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Room heaters, electric, portable		127.4	127.4	4.9	0
Garbage disposal units		130.7	130.5	4.7	-.2
Other housefurnishings:					
Dinnerware, fine china		178.9	178.1	10.9	-.4
Flatware, stainless steel		181.1	180.9	13.8	-.1
Table lamps, with shade		147.9	147.3	2.6	-.4
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type		155.0	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)
Electric drills, hand-held		126.6	126.9	6.1	.2
Housekeeping supplies:					
Laundry soaps and detergents		164.9	166.1	7.9	.7
Paper napkins		213.1	213.3	9.2	.1
Toilet tissue		214.4	215.8	12.7	.7
Housekeeping services:					
Domestic services, general housework		200.3	200.7	5.4	.2
Baby sitter services		199.3	199.2	11.5	-.1
Postal charges		175.1	175.1	-.1	0
Laundry, flatwork, finished service		191.3	193.9	7.8	1.4
Licensed day care services, preschool child		158.8	159.0	6.9	.1
Washing machine repairs		191.5	192.1	6.5	.3

See footnotes at end of table.

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

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to	
		November 1975	December 1975	December 1975 from:	
				December 1974	November 1975
Apparel and upkeep		145.5	145.2	2.3	-0.2
Apparel commodities		144.4	143.9	1.6	-.3
Apparel commodities less footwear		144.1	143.6	1.5	-.3
Men's and boys'		144.8	144.2	1.2	-.4
Men's:					
Topcoats and all-weather coats		147.4	145.4	-.5	-1.4
Suits, year round weight		141.9	140.0	1.4	-1.3
Sport jackets	June 74	105.8	103.9	1.0	-1.8
Jackets, lightweight		135.9	136.1	4.2	.1
Stacks, heavyweight		120.4	120.2	1.4	-.2
Stacks, lightweight		145.5	143.9	-.8	-1.1
Trousers, work		151.1	152.1	1.6	.7
Shirts, work		151.9	151.9	1.1	0
Shirts, business or dress		129.0	129.5	.3	.4
T-shirts		153.4	153.7	2.4	.2
Socks		131.3	132.1	4.5	.6
Handkerchiefs		155.5	155.7	5.1	.1
Boys':					
Coats, heavyweight		121.7	121.0	-3.2	-.6
Sport coats, wool or wool blends		124.7	125.3	1.3	.5
Dungarees		177.7	177.3	3.6	-.2
Undershorts		151.5	150.9	-.6	-.4
Handbags		142.6	142.1	1.5	-.4
Women's and girls'					
Women's:					
Coats, heavyweight		155.6	150.6	1.4	-3.2
Carcoats, heavyweight		157.5	156.4	2.4	-.7
Sweaters		144.0	145.1	.4	.8
Skirts, winter weight		171.7	169.9	2.0	-1.0
Skirts, summer weight		149.0	(5)	(5)	(5)
Blouses		137.7	138.8	1.1	.8
Dresses, street, year round weight		147.8	147.5	1.4	-.2
Slips		117.1	119.5	1.4	2.0
Panties		142.4	142.9	4.0	.4
Girdles		129.6	129.8	3.0	.2
Brassieres		144.8	144.9	4.0	.1
Hose or panty hose, nylon		92.5	92.5	1.2	0
Anklets or knee-length socks		132.5	133.4	2.1	.7
Gloves, fabric		128.2	127.2	1.8	-.8
Handbags		173.4	171.6	1.2	-1.0
Girls':					
Raincoats		135.2	132.4	1.5	-2.1
Skirts, fall and winter		163.6	162.6	22.3	-.6
Dresses		132.1	132.3	-3.6	.2
Stacks, fall and winter		170.4	170.4	-5.0	0
Slips		129.8	129.9	4.7	.1
Handbags		141.6	142.6	-5.2	-.7
Miscellaneous apparel:					
Diapers		180.9	181.6	3.9	.4
Yard goods		157.5	158.5	-3.9	.6
Wrist watches, men's and women's		138.5	138.5	5.3	0
Handbags		146.3	145.7	2.5	-.4
Footwear					
Men's:					
Shoes, street		149.0	148.2	1.1	-.5
Shoes, work, high		161.4	161.8	3.3	.2
Women's:					
Shoes, street, pump		141.6	140.7	2.7	-.6
Shoes, evening, pump		134.3	134.1	1.6	-.1
Shoes, casual		148.5	147.8	2.1	-.5
Housesippers, scuff		141.1	141.3	2.5	.1
Children's:					
Shoes, oxford		145.6	145.2	2.7	-.3
Sneakers, boys', oxford type		151.1	149.9	2.6	-.8
Dress shoes, girls'		155.9	154.6	5.2	-.8
Apparel services:					
Drycleaning		154.4	155.0	7.6	.4
Automatic laundry service		138.7	138.9	8.9	.1
Laundry, men's shirts		156.0	157.9	5.5	1.2
Tailoring charges		153.9	154.2	2.7	.2
Shoe repairs		143.9	144.7	5.7	.6
Transportation		157.4	157.6	9.8	.1
Private		156.1	156.2	9.6	-.1
Automobiles, new		131.3	134.0	7.3	2.1
Automobiles, used		153.7	149.6	8.1	-2.7
Gasoline, regular and premium		177.3	176.6	11.0	-.4
Motor oil		157.2	157.5	3.4	.2
Tires		128.2	128.8	2.8	.5
Auto repairs (mechanical) and maintenance		181.2	182.5	9.3	.7
Auto insurance premiums		161.1	163.2	17.9	1.3
Auto registration fees		130.8	130.8	1.5	0
Parking fees, private and municipal		176.3	177.4	7.3	.6

See footnotes at end of table.

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

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to December 1975 from:	
		November 1975	December 1975	December 1974	November 1975
Transportation—Continued					
Public		168.9	170.1	11.9	0.7
Local transit fares		170.3	170.3	15.3	0
Taxicab fares		169.1	171.3	4.4	1.3
Railroad fares, coach		151.4	157.9	6.1	4.3
Airplane fares, chiefly coach		162.1	165.6	7.4	2.2
Bus fares, intercity		192.6	192.6	7.9	0
Health and recreation					
Medical care		156.5	157.5	6.8	.6
Drugs and prescriptions		173.3	174.7	9.9	.8
Over-the-counter items		121.4	122.0	7.4	.5
Multiple vitamin concentrates		133.5	134.0	9.1	.4
Aspirin compounds		104.3	104.1	5.3	-.2
Liquid tonics		135.9	136.0	7.7	.1
Adhesive bandages, packages		118.5	119.0	6.7	.4
Cold tablets or capsules		170.9	171.1	16.2	.1
Cough syrup		125.8	126.8	5.8	.8
Prescriptions		138.4	139.8	9.6	1.0
Anti-infectives		111.3	111.9	5.7	.5
Sedatives and hypnotics		71.7	71.8	3.2	.1
Ataractics		157.1	157.9	6.4	.5
Antispasmodics		107.2	108.6	2.9	1.3
Cough preparations		130.2	130.3	12.0	.1
Cardiovasculars and antihypertensives		169.6	170.5	9.4	.5
Analgesics, internal		118.9	119.1	1.2	.2
Anti-obesities		120.6	120.8	5.4	.2
Hormones		*	*	*	*
Professional services:		105.8	106.7	7.8	.9
Physicians' fees		176.1	178.3	11.8	1.2
General physician, office visits		181.0	183.4	12.0	1.3
General physician, house visits		176.9	180.9	12.7	2.3
Obstetrical cases		174.6	178.9	13.9	2.5
Pediatric care, office visits		179.3	180.7	11.3	.8
Psychiatrist, office visits		158.7	158.8	8.2	.1
Herniorrhaphy, adult		157.3	158.9	9.9	1.0
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy		168.8	169.6	11.7	.5
Dentists' fees		165.8	166.5	7.8	.4
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface		170.6	171.3	7.6	.4
Extractions, adult		165.1	165.8	8.7	.4
Dentures, full upper		156.6	157.4	7.4	.5
Other professional services:					
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses		152.9	153.5	6.7	.4
Routine laboratory tests		153.7	153.8	6.1	.1
Hospital service charges	Jan. 72	137.6	138.9	13.0	.9
Semiprivate rooms		247.1	249.1	14.7	.8
Operating room charges		249.4	251.8	13.8	1.0
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper GI		161.6	163.5	10.2	1.2
Laboratory tests	Jan. 72	132.0	132.7	9.9	.5
Anti-infectives	Jan. 72	113.7	115.7	10.3	1.8
Tranquilizers	Jan. 72	123.5	125.2	12.8	1.4
Electrocardiogram	Jan. 72	127.7	129.6	9.7	1.5
Intravenous solution	Jan. 72	132.0	133.9	13.5	1.4
Physical therapy	Jan. 72	140.0	140.4	11.3	.3
Oxygen, inhalation therapy	Jan. 72	125.5	126.1	8.9	.5
Personal care	Jan. 72	153.6	154.6	6.4	.7
Toilet goods		152.8	154.0	7.7	.8
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice		135.6	135.3	9.1	-.2
Toilet soap, hard-milled		195.6	196.4	-.2	.4
Hand lotions		157.1	159.2	16.6	1.3
Shaving cream		128.7	129.7	10.4	.8
Face powder		155.4	156.5	1.8	.7
Deodorants		115.8	117.7	7.7	1.6
Cleansing tissues		203.2	206.1	11.7	1.4
Home permanent wave kits		123.7	123.6	10.5	-.1
Personal care services		154.3	155.1	5.0	.5
Men's haircuts		156.3	156.8	3.7	.3
Beauty shop services		152.9	154.0	6.0	.7
Women's haircuts		169.0	170.9	8.9	1.1
Shampoo and wave sets, plain		154.9	155.9	4.8	.6
Permanent waves, cold		132.2	132.6	5.2	.3
Reading and recreation		147.0	147.5	5.5	.3
Recreational goods		124.8	124.8	4.5	0
TV sets, portable and console		103.0	102.8	2.2	-.2
TV replacement tubes		159.2	161.7	8.1	1.6
Radios, portable and table models		104.3	104.0	.9	-.3
Tape recorders, portable		95.3	94.9	-.4	-.4
Phonograph records, stereophonic		123.9	123.5	3.8	-.3
Movie cameras, 8mm		93.8	94.1	.5	.3
Film, 35mm, color		119.1	119.2	2.8	.1
Golf balls		104.2	104.2	-.9	0

See footnotes at end of table.

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

(1967=100)

Item and group	Other index base	Indexes		Percent change to December 1975 from:	
		November 1975	December 1975	December 1974	November 1975
Health and recreation—Continued					
Reading and recreation—Continued					
Recreational goods—Continued					
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover		147.1	146.5	4.9	-0.4
Fishing rods, fresh-water spincasting		122.5	122.5	6.2	0
Bowling balls		126.7	127.6	3.2	.7
Bicycles, boys'		143.3	141.9	3.0	-1.0
Tricycles		145.0	144.6	11.2	-.3
Dog food, canned or boxed		168.2	168.3	4.1	.1
Recreational services		150.7	150.9	3.5	.1
Indoor movie admissions		171.9	171.9	4.7	0
Adult		167.4	167.2	4.0	-.1
Children's		184.5	185.1	6.5	.3
Drive-in movie admissions		173.7	174.3	1.9	.3
Bowling fees, evening		143.2	143.5	5.2	.2
Golf green fees		(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
TV repair		105.7	106.0	1.9	.3
Film developing		124.0	123.9	2.7	-.1
Reading and education:					
Newspapers, street sale and delivery		177.3	178.1	5.9	.5
Magazines, single copy and subscription		170.4	177.8	24.2	4.3
Piano lessons, beginner		141.7	142.0	3.2	.2
Other goods and services		148.9	149.8	4.1	.6
Tobacco products		154.8	156.8	3.9	1.3
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size		157.2	159.3	4.3	1.3
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size		157.0	159.1	3.5	1.3
Cigars, domestic, regular size		125.7	126.5	3.8	.6
Alcoholic beverages		143.5	143.7	3.8	.1
Beer, at home		140.7	141.2	3.8	.4
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon		114.9	114.9	1.7	0
Wine, dessert and table		155.2	155.3	3.0	.1
Beer, away from home		160.3	160.4	4.8	.1
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:					
Funeral services, adult		146.2	146.6	5.2	.3
Bank service charges, checking account		121.9	122.6	12.2	.6
Legal services, short form will		193.2	194.0	7.0	.4

¹ Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.
² Also includes home purchases costs not shown separately.
³ Also includes pine shelving, furnace filter, packaged dry cement mix, and shrubbery not shown separately.
⁴ Also includes window shades, nails, carpet sweepers, air deodorizers, steel wool scouring pads, envelopes, reupholstering and moving expenses.
⁵ Priced only in season.
⁶ Not available.
⁷ Also includes men's sport shirt, women's and girls' lightweight 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, front-end alignment, and chassis lubrication; does not include prices for auto body repairs. In the CPI this component represents consumers' direct, out-of-pocket expenses for automobile repairs and maintenance.
¹⁰ Also includes health insurance not shown separately.
¹¹ Also includes outdoor motors, nondurable toys, college tuition fees, packaged books, and college textbooks, not shown separately.
(*) Discontinued.

Table 4-A. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1975 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
		1974	1975	From 1974 to 1975
Housing		150.6	166.8	10.8
Shelter ¹		154.4	169.7	9.9
Rent, residential		130.6	137.3	5.1
Homeownership ²		163.2	181.7	11.3
Mortgage interest rates		140.2	142.1	1.4
Property taxes		151.2	158.8	5.0
Property insurance premiums		124.2	131.4	5.8
Maintenance and repairs		171.6	187.6	9.3
Maintenance and repair commodities ³		151.6	160.9	6.1
Exterior house paint		137.4	155.6	13.2
Interior house paint		132.3	147.1	11.2
Maintenance and repair services		180.2	199.0	10.4
Repairing living and dining rooms		189.9	210.2	10.7
Reshingling house roof		196.0	218.7	11.6
Residing house		170.9	187.9	9.9
Replacing sink		176.1	195.9	11.2
Repairing furnace		175.9	192.3	9.3
Fuel and utilities		150.2	167.8	11.7
Fuel oil and coal		214.6	235.3	9.6
Fuel oil, No. 2		213.0	230.6	8.3
Gas and electricity		145.8	169.6	16.3
Gas		143.9	172.5	19.9
Electricity		147.5	167.0	13.2
Other utilities:				
Residential telephone services		121.4	125.3	3.2
Residential water and sewerage services		154.8	169.9	9.8
Household furnishings and operation ⁴		140.5	158.1	12.5
Housefurnishings		130.8	144.4	10.4
Textiles		131.5	141.4	7.5
Sheets, full, flat		135.6	147.6	8.8
Curtains, tailored		126.8	134.0	5.7
Bedspreads		134.6	145.2	7.9
Drapery fabrics		153.2	168.0	9.7
Pillows, bed		112.3	119.4	6.3
Slipcovers and throws, ready-made		125.6	133.2	6.1
Furniture and bedding		136.1	147.0	8.0
Bedroom furniture, chest and dresser	Mar. 70	121.0	128.1	5.9
Sofas, upholstered		131.2	138.9	5.9
Cocktail tables	Dec. 71	115.8	124.5	7.5
Dining room chairs	Mar. 70	120.9	130.2	7.7
Recliners, upholstered	Dec. 71	106.4	110.4	3.8
Sofas, dual purpose		128.9	136.4	5.8
Bedding, mattress and box springs	June 70	118.6	130.1	9.7
Aluminum folding chairs		135.7	172.6	27.2
Cribs		137.0	148.5	8.4
Floor coverings		118.9	129.8	9.2
Broadloom carpeting		111.6	119.1	6.7
Vinyl sheet goods		133.1	152.0	14.2
Vinyl floor tile		138.3	157.2	13.7
Appliances (excluding radio and TV)		115.6	128.1	10.8
Washing machines, electric		117.1	131.9	12.6
Vacuum cleaners		107.6	116.7	8.5
Refrigerators, refrigerator-freezers, electric		114.6	128.7	12.3
Ranges, free standing, gas or electric		115.8	130.0	12.3
Clothes dryers, electric		121.4	136.7	12.6
Air conditioners, demountable		113.4	123.8	9.2
Room heaters, electric, portable		115.7	124.0	7.2
Garbage disposal units		117.9	128.6	9.1
Other housefurnishings:				
Dinnerware, fine china		148.8	174.6	17.3
Flatware, stainless steel		147.7	173.3	17.3
Table lamps, with shade		135.7	145.5	7.2
Lawn mowers, power, rotary type		134.5	151.6	12.7
Electric drills, hand-held		113.4	123.9	9.3
Housekeeping supplies:				
Laundry soaps and detergents		133.6	161.9	21.2
Paper napkins		166.8	206.9	24.0
Toilet tissue		158.3	208.0	31.4
Housekeeping services:				
Domestic services, general housework		175.7	196.1	11.6
Baby sitter services		165.4	191.5	15.8
Postal charges		170.5	175.4	2.9
Laundry, flatwork, finished service		170.1	187.3	10.1
Licensed day care services, preschool child		142.1	154.2	8.5
Washing machine repairs		166.4	187.0	12.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4-A. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1975 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
		1974	1975	From 1974 to 1975
Apparel and upkeep ⁵		136.2	142.3	4.5
Apparel commodities		136.1	141.2	3.7
Apparel commodities less footwear		135.7	140.6	3.6
Men's and boys'		136.4	142.2	4.3
Men's:				
Topcoats and all-weather coats		141.2	143.2	1.4
Suits, year round weight		135.0	139.2	3.1
Sport jackets	June 74	99.9	101.4	1.5
Jackets, lightweight		125.9	134.4	6.8
Stacks, heavyweight		116.9	118.5	1.4
Stacks, lightweight		142.2	143.0	.6
Trousers, work		139.2	151.0	8.5
Shirts, work		140.7	151.3	7.5
Shirts, business or dress		123.0	127.7	3.8
T-shirts		141.4	153.5	8.6
Socks		122.2	129.1	5.6
Handkerchiefs		141.2	153.2	8.5
Boys':				
Coats, heavyweight		118.6	115.6	-2.5
Sport coats, wool or wool blends		124.5	120.6	-3.1
Dungarees		160.2	173.6	8.4
Undershorts		141.7	151.1	6.6
Women's and girls'		134.9	138.1	2.4
Women's:				
Coats, heavyweight		146.7	142.4	-2.9
Carcoats, heavyweight		149.0	148.6	-.3
Sweaters		141.7	139.3	-1.7
Skirts, winter weight		157.4	155.2	-1.4
Skirts, summer weight		137.0	147.2	7.4
Blouses		134.1	140.2	4.5
Dresses, street, year round weight		140.8	144.2	2.4
Slips		115.6	116.9	1.1
Panties		129.5	140.0	8.1
Girdles		123.2	127.7	3.7
Brassieres		132.9	142.6	7.3
Hose or panty hose, nylon		91.8	92.0	.2
Anklets or knee-length socks		123.2	131.5	6.7
Gloves, fabric		121.3	127.5	5.1
Handbags		163.8	170.4	4.0
Girls':				
Raincoats		126.2	129.9	2.9
Skirts, fall and winter		132.1	145.8	10.4
Dresses		131.2	131.2	0
Stacks, fall and winter		166.1	167.1	.6
Slips		116.8	127.2	8.9
Handbags		145.9	141.2	-3.2
Miscellaneous apparel:				
Diapers		151.6	180.5	19.1
Yard goods		154.4	160.1	3.7
Wrist watches, men's and women's		126.7	135.6	7.0
Footwear		138.1	144.2	4.4
Men's:				
Shoes, street		141.9	147.6	4.0
Shoes, work, high		149.0	159.3	6.9
Women's:				
Shoes, street, pump		135.2	139.0	2.8
Shoes, evening, pump		128.8	132.3	2.7
Shoes, casual		138.7	145.9	5.2
Houseslippers, scuff		134.6	139.8	3.9
Children's:				
Shoes, oxford		139.4	144.3	3.5
Sneakers, boys', oxford type		138.2	149.2	8.0
Dress shoes, girls'		143.4	152.6	6.4
Apparel services:				
Drycleaning		135.9	150.6	10.8
Automatic laundry service		124.3	134.3	8.0
Laundry, men's shirts		143.2	153.0	6.8
Tailoring charges		147.3	152.8	3.7
Shoe repairs		132.0	140.9	6.7
Transportation		137.7	150.6	9.4
Private ⁶		136.6	149.8	9.7
Automobiles, new		117.5	127.6	8.6
Automobiles, used		122.6	146.4	19.4
Gasoline, regular and premium		159.9	170.8	6.8
Motor oil		145.5	155.3	6.7
Tires		118.4	126.3	6.7
Auto repairs (mechanical) and maintenance		156.8	176.6	12.6
Auto insurance premiums		138.1	145.9	5.6
Auto registration fees		128.9	130.7	1.4
Parking fees, private and municipal		158.9	172.1	8.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4-A. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1975 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
		1974	1975	From 1974 to 1975
Transportation—Continued				
Public		148.0	158.6	7.2
Local transit fares		148.0	155.5	5.1
Taxicab fares		151.8	167.6	10.4
Railroad fares, coach		135.2	151.5	12.1
Airplane fares, chiefly coach		145.9	159.0	9.0
Bus fares, intercity		161.0	186.0	15.5
Health and recreation				
Medical care		140.3	153.5	9.4
Drugs and prescriptions		150.5	168.6	12.0
Over-the-counter items		109.6	118.8	8.4
Multiple vitamin concentrates		117.5	130.1	10.7
Aspirin compounds		97.3	102.4	5.2
Liquid tonics		122.0	132.6	8.7
Adhesive bandages, packages		106.4	115.9	8.9
Cold tablets or capsules		136.9	164.6	20.2
Cough syrup		116.4	124.6	7.0
Prescriptions		121.3	134.0	10.5
Anti-infectives		102.9	109.3	6.2
Sedatives and hypnotics		68.7	71.1	3.5
Ataractics		140.7	154.3	9.7
Antispasmodics		104.9	106.0	1.0
Cough preparations		110.9	124.2	12.0
Cardiovasculars and antihypertensives		147.5	165.2	12.0
Analgesics, internal		115.4	118.4	2.6
Anti-obesities		112.7	118.9	5.5
Hormones		(*)	(*)	(*)
Hormones		95.2	103.2	8.4
Professional services:				
Physicians' fees		150.9	169.4	12.3
General physician, office visits		154.3	173.9	12.7
General physician, house visits		151.3	170.5	12.7
Obstetrical cases		149.0	167.2	12.2
Pediatric care, office visits		153.4	172.5	12.5
Psychiatrist, office visits		141.0	153.0	8.5
Herniorrhaphy, adult		138.6	152.3	9.9
Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy		144.1	163.3	13.3
Dentists' fees		146.8	161.9	10.3
Fillings, adult, amalgam, one surface		150.2	166.7	11.0
Extractions, adult		146.0	160.9	10.2
Dentures, full upper		140.6	153.0	8.8
Other professional services:				
Examination, prescription, and dispensing of eyeglasses		138.6	149.6	7.9
Routine laboratory tests		135.4	151.4	11.8
Hospital service charges	Jan. 72	115.1	132.3	14.9
Semiprivate rooms		201.5	236.1	17.2
Operating room charges		201.3	239.4	18.9
X-ray, diagnostic series, upper GI		140.6	156.2	11.1
Laboratory tests	Jan. 72	112.6	128.1	13.8
Anti-infectives	Jan. 72	102.4	111.0	8.4
Tranquilizers	Jan. 72	108.5	118.8	9.5
Electrocardiogram	Jan. 72	112.3	125.7	11.9
Intravenous solution	Jan. 72	110.2	128.1	16.2
Physical therapy	Jan. 72	116.3	136.2	17.1
Oxygen, inhalation therapy	Jan. 72	111.2	123.3	10.9
Personal care	Jan. 72	137.3	150.7	9.8
Toilet goods		133.3	150.0	12.5
Toothpaste, standard dentifrice		114.7	130.7	13.9
Toilet soap, hard-milled		173.2	196.1	13.2
Hand lotions		133.0	152.1	14.4
Shaving cream		111.5	125.0	12.1
Face powder		153.5	152.5	-.7
Deodorants		106.3	117.2	10.3
Cleansing tissues		157.3	198.8	26.4
Home permanent wave kits		111.2	119.3	7.3
Personal care services		141.5	151.4	7.0
Men's haircuts		144.5	153.9	6.5
Beauty shop services		139.4	149.7	7.4
Women's haircuts		148.6	163.8	10.2
Shampoo and wave sets, plain		142.7	152.5	6.9
Permanent waves, cold		122.9	129.2	5.1
Reading and recreation				
Recreational goods		133.8	144.4	7.9
TV sets, portable and console		115.0	123.2	7.1
TV replacement tubes		98.9	101.6	2.7
Radios, portable and table models		140.2	157.1	12.1
Tape recorders, portable		101.9	104.0	2.1
Phonograph records, stereophonic		95.2	95.4	.2
Movie cameras, 8mm		113.2	122.4	8.1
Film, 35mm, color		92.1	94.1	2.2
Golf balls		112.4	118.6	5.5
		104.2	104.3	.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4-A. Consumer Price Index—United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers, 1975 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
		1974	1975	From 1974 to 1975
Health and recreation—Continued				
Reading and recreation—Continued				
Recreational goods—Continued				
Basketballs, rubber or vinyl cover		134.4	144.5	7.5
Fishing rods, fresh-water spincasting		113.3	120.3	6.2
Bowling balls		120.4	126.1	4.7
Bicycles, boys'		133.6	143.1	7.1
Tricycles		124.2	138.1	11.2
Dog food, canned or boxed		147.8	167.8	13.5
Recreational services		140.1	149.1	6.4
Indoor movie admissions		157.2	170.8	8.7
Adult		154.8	166.7	7.7
Children's		163.8	182.3	11.3
Drive-in movie admissions		162.8	173.5	6.6
Bowling fees, evening		131.0	139.0	6.1
Golf green fees		147.7	152.3	3.1
TV repair		101.8	105.2	3.3
Film developing		117.7	122.8	4.3
Reading and education:				
Newspapers, street sale and delivery		155.4	174.5	12.3
Magazines, single copy and subscription		138.0	164.2	19.0
Piano lessons, beginner		133.9	139.5	4.2
Other goods and services		137.2	147.4	7.4
Tobacco products		143.8	153.9	7.0
Cigarettes, nonfilter tip, regular size		145.5	156.0	7.2
Cigarettes, filter tip, king size		145.9	156.5	7.3
Cigars, domestic, regular size		119.5	124.2	3.9
Alcoholic beverages		131.8	142.1	7.8
Beer, at home		126.8	140.3	10.6
Whiskey, spirit blended and straight bourbon		110.9	114.1	2.9
Wine, dessert and table		147.3	154.0	4.5
Beer, away from home		145.8	157.2	7.8
Financial and miscellaneous personal expenses:				
Funeral services, adult		135.0	143.5	6.3
Bank service charges, checking account		105.0	119.2	13.5
Legal services, short form will		175.5	187.8	7.0

¹ Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

² Also includes home purchase costs not shown separately.

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

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

⁵ Also includes men's sport shirts, women's and girls' lightweight coats, women's slacks, bathing suits, girls' shorts, earrings, and zippers not shown separately.

⁶ Also includes storage batteries and drivers' license fees not shown separately.

⁷ Includes prices for water pump replacement, motor tune-up, automatic transmission repair, front-end alignment, and chassis lubrication; does not include prices for auto body repairs. In the CPI this component represents consumers' direct, out-of-pocket expenses for automobile repairs and maintenance.

⁸ Also includes health insurance not shown separately.

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

* Discontinued.

Table 7. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, December 1975, index and percent changes from September 1975

Group	U.S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles— Long Beach	New York— Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
	Indexes (1967=100)					
All items	166.3	161.3	164.8	163.7	172.4	168.5
Food	180.7	180.9	176.8	175.3	185.1	185.0
Food at home	180.9	181.4	176.2	177.4	186.8	183.4
Cereals and bakery products	182.2	182.7	184.7	181.9	188.3	180.7
Meats, poultry, and fish	189.2	193.1	182.6	187.1	189.1	192.5
Dairy products	165.5	158.9	167.4	156.8	170.4	162.7
Fruits and vegetables	172.1	173.8	156.8	166.3	184.7	178.3
Other food at home	185.9	184.0	182.2	184.3	195.3	191.3
Food away from home	180.0	178.8	179.9	169.2	180.1	192.0
Housing	172.2	158.3	168.5	172.2	178.1	174.7
Shelter	175.0	159.7	173.3	178.3	178.5	184.6
Rent, residential	140.6	(²)	138.5	(²)	157.7	(²)
Homeownership	187.8	171.2	180.2	191.2	194.0	193.7
Fuel and utilities	176.1	156.5	175.5	162.3	195.5	170.0
Fuel oil and coal	248.7	242.1	246.8	-	255.6	240.7
Gas and electricity	179.0	156.1	188.8	188.3	205.8	170.6
Household furnishings and operation	162.0	155.1	149.2	155.7	167.0	159.6
Apparel and upkeep	145.2	137.8	140.1	138.0	142.5	138.5
Men's and boys'	144.2	132.9	144.1	130.6	138.9	141.2
Women's and girls'	142.1	136.2	130.9	135.4	138.0	127.0
Footwear	145.7	139.7	149.2	142.1	140.3	146.6
Transportation	157.6	157.5	153.7	158.5	177.4	158.6
Private	156.2	156.2	152.8	160.5	165.0	159.8
Public	170.1	166.1	163.8	119.0	224.9	151.5
Health and recreation	157.5	158.0	165.5	152.6	162.8	162.5
Medical care	174.7	176.4	195.9	174.6	188.0	191.1
Personal care	154.6	150.6	(²)	143.9	(²)	(²)
Reading and recreation	147.5	148.0	146.5	136.6	150.6	147.9
Other goods and services	149.8	152.5	151.5	145.1	155.9	153.1
	Percent changes Sept. 1975 to Dec. 1975					
All items	1.7	1.1	1.2	2.1	1.8	1.0
Food	1.6	2.8	1.5	1.8	2.0	.9
Food at home	1.5	2.7	1.4	1.7	2.2	.7
Cereals and bakery products	.3	.2	-1.1	-.8	3.0	-.9
Meats, poultry, and fish	-.6	1.6	-.6	-.3	-.1	-2.4
Dairy products	5.9	7.1	4.6	3.5	6.7	5.1
Fruits and vegetables	2.8	4.7	3.6	5.1	3.0	3.2
Other food at home	1.9	2.3	3.3	3.0	2.8	2.3
Food away from home	2.0	3.2	1.6	1.9	1.2	2.2
Housing	2.0	.6	1.5	3.4	2.1	.7
Shelter	2.0	.3	2.1	3.9	2.1	.3
Rent, residential	1.6	(²)	3.8	(²)	3.8	(²)
Homeownership	2.1	.2	2.1	4.7	1.9	.1
Fuel and utilities	3.0	2.0	-.6	3.4	3.7	1.9
Fuel oil and coal	4.2	6.7	7.3	-	4.5	5.3
Gas and electricity	2.9	1.1	-2.6	4.2	2.3	.5
Household furnishings and operation	1.2	-.8	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.1
Apparel and upkeep	1.2	-1.0	.5	-.6	-.8	.7
Men's and boys'	1.0	-1.1	-1.2	-1.4	-.4	.5
Women's and girls'	1.6	-2.2	.5	-1.5	-2.1	.5
Footwear	.8	-.1	2.5	1.4	-.7	.5
Transportation	1.4	.4	.5	.8	3.7	1.9
Private	1.5	.4	.5	.9	5.0	2.0
Public	.4	.4	1.0	-2.3	.4	.5
Health and recreation	1.4	1.0	.9	1.8	1.6	.9
Medical care	1.5	1.3	1.1	3.5	1.6	.8
Personal care	1.6	1.0	(²)	-.8	(²)	(²)
Reading and recreation	1.0	.7	.1	.1	.4	.1
Other goods and services	1.2	.7	.5	1.4	2.4	1.5

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 7. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups
December 1975 index and percent changes from September 1975—Continued**

Group	Atlanta	Baltimore	Cincinnati	Honolulu	Kansas City	San Francisco—Oakland	St. Louis
All items	166.2	168.3	164.7	159.2	163.0	164.2	160.3
Food	187.8	182.8	181.0	182.3	183.9	175.9	179.2
Food at home	189.3	182.3	184.4	179.8	185.6	180.1	179.7
Cereals and bakery products	185.4	176.9	188.7	182.2	182.4	176.8	193.0
Meats, poultry, and fish	199.6	192.0	192.7	185.9	191.0	193.7	185.9
Dairy products	171.4	159.7	170.2	172.3	181.5	160.2	165.8
Fruits and vegetables	185.2	174.5	176.0	173.6	171.4	166.3	170.0
Other food at home	191.1	190.9	188.0	177.4	193.2	186.1	180.6
Food away from home	182.7	184.3	168.0	189.2	178.6	161.0	177.0
Housing	171.0	178.2	167.7	152.6	165.2	171.6	160.5
Shelter	176.8	187.7	173.1	154.6	171.3	177.1	159.7
Rent, residential	130.3	130.8	122.5	152.7	121.3	148.6	118.0
Homeownership	190.7	211.7	197.0	155.7	191.0	191.6	171.7
Fuel and utilities	164.3	164.2	171.0	143.2	152.3	158.8	161.4
Fuel oil and coal	-	245.3	-	-	-	-	257.4
Gas and electricity	172.8	161.9	169.1	159.1	168.0	179.9	159.8
Household furnishings and operation	161.7	165.6	151.5	151.1	157.7	160.3	161.4
Apparel and upkeep	140.2	148.3	147.1	142.8	144.4	144.0	137.4
Men's and boys'	149.0	149.9	144.0	138.6	145.7	146.3	135.8
Women's and girls'	133.1	133.4	145.3	132.3	140.4	141.8	131.3
Footwear	124.3	158.5	153.4	141.0	152.3	141.4	147.5
Transportation	148.1	150.7	148.5	149.8	154.8	157.1	151.7
Private	152.2	153.3	154.3	154.5	155.0	157.7	155.8
Public	94.5	132.3	104.0	123.9	149.4	146.6	102.7
Health and recreation	163.2	159.9	160.1	154.4	154.3	154.4	153.5
Medical care	189.2	183.5	181.2	170.2	165.3	172.0	159.9
Personal care	160.2	153.0	153.3	163.7	156.7	154.7	158.5
Reading and recreation	150.2	147.3	141.0	154.2	140.9	142.3	144.8
Other goods and services	140.5	154.8	159.6	132.4	155.5	142.0	151.1
Percent Changes Sept. 1975 to Dec. 1975							
All items	0.9	0.4	0.5	1.4	1.7	1.7	0.9
Food	1.5	.9	1.1	1.4	2.0	1.2	1.6
Food at home	1.0	.8	1.1	1.1	1.9	1.1	1.4
Cereals and bakery products	.1	.5	.3	-3.0	-.4	-3.0	2.1
Meats, poultry, and fish	-2	-5	.3	1.3	1.0	.2	.2
Dairy products	3.6	4.5	4.0	3.1	4.4	5.0	4.2
Fruits and vegetables	-1	-3	1.1	4.3	1.7	2.1	-1
Other food at home	2.4	2.0	.9	.2	3.3	2.5	2.3
Food away from home	3.5	1.4	1.1	2.3	2.3	1.3	2.7
Housing	.5	.2	.1	2.5	3.0	2.4	.6
Shelter	.2	-.4	-.2	3.3	3.3	3.1	.4
Rent, residential	.5	1.4	1.4	.9	1.1	1.7	1.0
Homeownership	.1	-.8	-.6	4.8	3.9	3.8	.2
Fuel and utilities	3.9	-.3	-.3	-.6	3.5	.9	1.3
Fuel oil and coal	-	4.6	-	-	-	-	2.9
Gas and electricity	5.6	-3.2	-.5	-1.0	5.4	1.4	1.2
Household furnishings and operation	-.6	1.7	.8	1.2	2.0	.6	.7
Apparel and upkeep	-.4	-.4	.8	.2	-1.7	1.4	1.0
Men's and boys'	.8	-.3	-.6	2.2	-1.2	1.5	1.2
Women's and girls'	-2.3	-1.8	2.5	-.9	-4.0	2.2	.8
Footwear	.1	.4	.3	.7	.1	.6	2.4
Transportation	1.4	.8	-.1	-.3	1.0	1.2	.7
Private	1.3	.7	-.1	-.3	1.0	1.3	.7
Public	1.9	.8	.4	.0	.4	-1.1	.4
Health and recreation	1.2	.6	.7	1.8	1.6	1.2	.3
Medical care	.3	.2	.7	1.1	2.0	1.3	.1
Personal care	1.1	.0	.4	2.8	.5	2.5	-1.1
Reading and recreation	2.5	.8	.7	1.1	1.0	.9	.3
Other goods and services	1.7	1.2	.8	3.4	2.4	.8	1.2

¹ See footnote 1, table 5.

² Not available.

³ Change from October 1975.

Table 7-A. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, 1975 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1974-75

Group	U.S. city average	Chicago	Detroit	Los Angeles— Long Beach	New York— Northeastern New Jersey	Philadelphia
	Indexes (1967=100)					
All items	161.2	157.6	160.3	157.6	166.6	164.2
All items (1957-59=100)	187.5	179.0	184.1	185.4	198.2	191.8
Food	175.4	175.1	171.6	170.1	179.6	179.6
Food at home	175.8	175.9	171.1	172.5	180.8	178.4
Cereals and bakery products	184.8	186.1	189.8	184.7	187.4	186.0
Meats, poultry, and fish	178.0	180.1	172.2	176.6	179.3	183.0
Dairy products	156.6	149.9	158.8	152.2	160.9	155.0
Fruits and vegetables	171.0	175.2	157.4	163.8	183.6	174.4
Other food at home	184.8	183.4	177.9	180.1	191.4	188.2
Food away from home	174.3	172.0	174.1	163.3	176.4	184.7
Housing	166.8	156.2	163.8	163.7	172.5	171.2
Shelter	169.7	158.9	170.3	167.7	173.2	180.7
Rent, residential	137.3	-	135.9	-	153.7	-
Homeownership	181.7	171.0	177.2	178.6	187.9	189.8
Fuel and utilities	167.8	150.9	161.6	156.8	186.4	166.5
Fuel oil and coal	235.3	222.1	226.7	-	241.2	225.9
Gas and electricity	169.6	150.7	171.7	180.6	196.2	170.2
Household furnishings and operation	158.1	151.4	145.0	152.0	162.7	156.8
Apparel and upkeep	142.3	136.6	137.9	136.4	141.1	135.9
Men's and boys'	142.2	133.1	144.5	130.5	137.9	140.8
Women's and girls'	138.1	135.3	126.5	134.3	136.5	122.6
Footwear	144.2	138.9	146.9	140.6	140.3	144.0
Transportation	150.6	151.8	149.1	152.7	161.4	152.7
Private	149.8	149.6	148.0	154.5	154.7	153.0
Public	158.6	165.3	160.8	119.8	187.2	151.2
Health and recreation	153.5	154.1	161.1	147.6	159.1	158.6
Medical care	168.6	169.1	187.4	165.7	181.0	184.3
Personal care	150.7	147.8	-	141.1	-	-
Reading and recreation	144.4	145.6	145.0	133.8	148.6	146.6
Other goods and services	147.4	150.3	149.7	142.0	153.8	150.4
	Percent changes 1974-75					
All items	9.1	7.9	7.5	10.6	7.6	8.3
Food	8.5	8.4	4.6	8.8	8.1	8.7
Food at home	8.3	7.9	3.5	8.7	8.3	8.4
Cereals and bakery products	11.3	8.1	4.2	13.6	12.4	11.2
Meats, poultry, and fish	8.6	10.6	2.9	7.4	7.4	8.9
Dairy products	3.1	1.1	2.5	3.7	3.4	2.5
Fruits and vegetables	3.1	4.2	-9	3.9	2.3	3.1
Other food at home	13.5	11.3	8.3	14.1	16.1	15.0
Food away from home	9.3	10.1	9.4	9.3	7.8	9.8
Housing	10.8	8.7	8.5	13.4	7.2	9.2
Shelter	9.9	7.8	6.8	14.5	5.4	8.7
Rent, residential	5.1	-	4.7	-	6.0	-
Homeownership	11.3	9.3	7.1	17.3	4.9	9.0
Fuel and utilities	11.7	9.2	13.6	8.7	8.7	8.0
Fuel oil and coal	9.6	7.9	8.6	-	8.7	9.1
Gas and electricity	16.3	14.9	18.9	11.2	13.2	10.4
Household furnishings and operation	12.5	11.3	11.1	11.0	11.4	11.0
Apparel and upkeep	4.5	2.9	4.2	3.3	3.6	2.9
Men's and boys'	4.3	2.7	6.5	3.7	1.8	2.5
Women's and girls'	2.4	.2	2.7	.4	2.3	-2.2
Footwear	4.4	5.1	1.6	3.3	4.7	3.9
Transportation	9.4	7.9	7.5	11.0	10.4	8.6
Private	9.7	9.2	7.9	11.4	9.3	9.6
Public	7.2	1.1	3.0	3.4	14.1	3.1
Health and recreation	9.4	8.4	10.7	10.2	8.1	9.2
Medical care	12.0	12.7	15.1	12.2	12.6	13.5
Personal care	9.8	6.5	-	10.1	-	-
Reading and recreation	7.9	7.7	6.9	8.1	6.4	6.5
Other goods and services	7.4	5.0	8.3	9.8	5.6	7.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 7-A. Consumer Price Index—United States and selected areas¹ for urban wage earners and clerical workers, commodity groups, 1975 annual average indexes, and percent changes, 1974-75—Continued

Group	Atlanta	Baltimore	Cincinnati	Honolulu	Kansas City	St. Louis	San Francisco—Oakland
Indexes (1967=100)							
All items	161.7	165.2	160.4	154.4	157.9	156.1	159.1
All items (1957-59=100)	186.0	191.8	182.1	² 166.4	187.5	182.3	189.3
Food	181.7	178.2	177.4	176.7	177.8	174.3	171.2
Food at home	184.2	178.1	180.8	175.8	179.4	175.0	175.7
Cereals and bakery products	187.6	179.5	192.5	190.0	185.1	195.2	182.5
Meats, poultry, and fish	185.9	180.8	180.7	174.8	176.8	173.4	181.5
Dairy products	166.6	152.9	165.8	166.3	174.4	158.7	153.6
Fruits and vegetables	182.6	176.8	176.7	168.0	169.8	172.3	168.1
Other food at home	191.4	190.3	190.0	179.9	190.1	179.5	184.3
Food away from home	173.3	178.2	164.6	178.7	172.8	171.1	155.5
Housing	167.0	176.1	162.3	147.3	159.2	156.2	165.6
Shelter	172.1	186.9	165.6	148.5	164.0	155.1	170.2
Rent, residential	129.0	127.4	120.1	150.4	119.2	116.1	144.8
Homeownership	185.0	212.0	186.9	147.3	181.6	166.4	183.1
Fuel and utilities	160.0	162.4	170.9	140.3	147.5	159.2	155.4
Fuel oil and coal	-	229.4	-	-	-	247.3	-
Gas and electricity	166.7	164.6	168.8	158.4	160.4	158.6	174.1
Household furnishings and operation	160.1	160.6	148.7	147.0	153.8	157.0	156.2
Apparel and upkeep	138.7	147.6	143.6	141.2	145.7	135.2	141.7
Men's and boys'	147.4	148.6	142.0	135.5	146.2	134.0	143.7
Women's and girls'	131.5	135.4	138.5	132.9	144.2	130.0	139.5
Footwear	123.9	156.2	152.6	139.2	152.0	144.4	139.7
Transportation	142.9	146.4	144.1	146.8	148.5	146.0	151.8
Private	146.8	148.6	149.3	150.9	148.4	149.7	151.9
Public	92.7	131.2	104.1	123.9	148.5	101.9	147.6
Health and recreation	158.7	156.3	156.5	148.8	150.5	150.8	149.7
Medical care	183.7	180.4	176.7	164.8	160.5	155.9	164.9
Personal care	156.7	151.0	151.8	156.6	153.3	157.5	148.3
Reading and recreation	144.6	143.1	137.5	149.0	137.9	142.1	139.1
Other goods and services	138.5	150.4	156.1	126.6	151.7	149.2	140.4
Percent changes 1974-75							
All items	8.9	8.4	9.6	8.9	9.5	9.8	10.2
Food	9.7	8.4	8.4	11.3	9.4	9.1	10.0
Food at home	10.0	7.9	9.0	10.4	9.5	9.4	10.4
Cereals and bakery products	9.6	9.1	9.8	8.3	11.6	13.2	15.0
Meats, poultry, and fish	10.0	7.9	10.3	9.9	9.1	11.2	11.6
Dairy products	4.7	1.1	1.6	10.4	2.5	2.0	4.3
Fruits and vegetables	6.2	4.2	7.9	9.5	7.7	5.1	4.9
Other food at home	15.7	14.3	12.8	14.1	15.0	13.3	14.0
Food away from home	8.7	9.9	6.3	14.1	9.2	8.3	8.7
Housing	10.1	9.3	13.4	6.3	12.4	13.3	11.3
Shelter	9.5	8.6	13.8	4.3	12.5	14.0	11.1
Rent, residential	3.1	5.0	4.1	5.2	3.4	3.0	4.4
Homeownership	10.9	9.5	17.3	3.6	15.2	16.8	14.0
Fuel and utilities	12.8	8.6	16.6	9.9	11.5	12.8	13.8
Fuel oil and coal	-	7.2	-	-	-	11.0	-
Gas and electricity	14.7	14.3	23.1	16.6	16.3	18.4	19.7
Household furnishings and operation	10.5	12.0	10.5	11.3	12.3	12.4	11.3
Apparel and upkeep	3.7	4.5	4.9	5.9	4.9	4.2	4.1
Men's and boys'	3.8	-.3	4.0	6.3	7.3	3.3	4.7
Women's and girls'	2.9	4.4	4.5	1.7	2.5	2.0	1.9
Footwear	-1.3	4.6	3.7	5.4	4.5	3.9	4.8
Transportation	8.3	8.8	8.3	8.7	8.8	8.6	11.2
Private	8.5	9.2	8.9	9.5	9.1	8.8	11.5
Public	4.0	5.3	1.7	3.0	3.2	3.7	4.0
Health and recreation	9.4	9.1	9.1	10.8	8.4	9.4	10.7
Medical care	13.1	9.3	11.3	12.1	8.7	10.7	14.9
Personal care	8.6	10.3	6.2	14.1	10.4	13.1	10.3
Reading and recreation	7.1	7.2	7.3	10.9	7.9	8.3	7.8
Other goods and services	5.8	10.2	9.1	6.8	7.3	6.6	7.2

¹ See footnote 1, table 5.

² December 1963=100.

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

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	180.7	180.9	182.2	189.2	165.5	172.1	185.9	180.0
Atlanta	187.8	189.3	185.4	199.6	171.4	185.2	191.1	182.7
Baltimore	182.8	182.3	176.9	192.0	159.7	174.5	190.9	184.3
Boston	180.5	180.0	185.4	186.4	160.3	171.8	187.5	182.0
Buffalo	179.0	178.8	186.9	187.3	160.3	167.3	184.2	180.0
Chicago	180.9	181.4	182.7	193.1	158.9	173.8	184.0	178.8
Cincinnati	181.0	184.4	188.7	192.7	170.2	176.0	188.0	168.0
Cleveland	184.3	185.1	193.5	191.1	168.0	175.3	189.8	180.7
Dallas	177.1	175.8	178.1	183.9	155.1	169.4	179.7	182.0
Detroit	176.8	176.2	184.7	182.6	167.4	156.8	182.2	179.9
Honolulu	182.3	179.8	182.2	185.9	172.3	173.6	177.4	189.2
Houston	186.4	184.2	183.9	194.9	177.5	173.1	181.3	194.2
Kansas City	183.9	185.6	182.4	191.0	181.5	171.4	193.2	178.6
Los Angeles—Long Beach	175.3	177.4	181.9	187.1	156.8	166.3	184.3	169.2
Milwaukee	178.2	179.0	186.2	185.4	167.3	172.0	179.3	(²)
Minneapolis—St. Paul	186.6	184.2	195.6	192.3	181.7	169.1	181.7	197.4
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J.	185.1	186.8	188.3	189.1	170.4	184.7	195.3	180.1
Philadelphia	185.0	183.4	180.7	192.5	162.7	178.3	191.3	192.0
Pittsburgh	181.0	179.7	185.9	190.6	150.9	174.2	184.7	188.6
St. Louis	179.2	179.7	193.0	185.9	165.8	170.0	180.6	177.0
San Diego	179.5	177.6	178.8	189.8	159.2	168.9	178.2	(²)
San Francisco—Oakland	175.9	180.1	176.8	193.7	160.2	166.3	186.1	161.0
Seattle	173.5	176.1	178.2	191.5	165.7	154.9	178.8	164.9
Washington	184.3	183.6	184.1	183.5	153.3	190.5	198.6	185.7
Percent changes November 1975 to December 1975								
U.S. city average	0.5	0.5	0.2	-1.1	1.7	2.0	1.6	0.4
Atlanta .....	.3	-.1	1.0	-1.8	-1.6	1.0	1.6	1.6
Baltimore .....	.7	.7	.6	-.7	1.8	2.8	1.0	.4
Boston .....	.3	.3	1.3	-1.1	1.6	.9	.6	.3
Buffalo	1.4	1.4	-.5	-.2	3.6	3.8	2.2	.7
Chicago .....	.4	.4	-.2	-1.4	2.3	2.2	2.2	.4
Cincinnati	-.4	-.5	-1.1	-1.9	-.1	.6	.5	-.4
Cleveland .....	.7	.7	4.4	-2.0	2.4	-.1	2.4	.3
Dallas .....	.2	.2	-.4	-2.0	-.3	3.5	1.8	.3
Detroit	-.9	1.0	1.4	-.7	1.8	1.6	3.2	.3
Honolulu .....	.3	.1	.7	-1.4	1.2	1.8	.3	-.9
Houston .....	.4	.5	2.3	-.9	1.0	.3	1.3	.1
Kansas City .....	.8	.8	-1.1	-.4	.5	3.8	1.8	1.0
Los Angeles—Long Beach .....	.2	.2	-.9	-1.5	.9	2.5	1.3	.2
Milwaukee .....	.9	1.2	1.1	-.3	1.5	3.3	1.9	(²)
Minneapolis—St. Paul .....	.6	.7	1.3	-.7	2.1	.6	1.1	.2
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J.	1.0	1.2	1.7	-.4	2.0	2.2	2.4	.3
Philadelphia .....	.2	.2	-.8	-1.5	2.4	1.1	1.9	.3
Pittsburgh .....	.8	.8	.2	-1.3	1.7	3.0	3.0	.3
St. Louis .....	.5	.3	-.5	-1.8	1.2	2.5	2.3	1.3
San Diego .....	.4	.5	-.9	-1.7	1.7	6.0	.9	(²)
San Francisco—Oakland	-.5	-.6	-2.3	-1.3	.9	.5	.1	.1
Seattle	-.2	-.2	-1.2	-2.4	1.2	2.5	.6	.1
Washington .....	.3	.3	.3	-1.9	2.1	2.5	1.1	0

¹ See footnote 1, table 5.

² Not available.

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

(October 1973=100)

Area ¹	Regular gasoline			Premium gasoline		
	Index		Percent change December 1975 from—	Index		Percent change December 1975 from—
	November 1975	December 1975	November 1975	November 1975	December 1975	November 1975
U.S. city average ²	179.2	178.3	-0.5	172.8	172.1	-0.4
Atlanta	146.4	145.2	-.8	145.8	144.7	-.8
Baltimore	147.5	146.2	-.9	145.0	143.7	-.9
Boston	146.4	145.4	-.7	143.6	142.9	-.5
Buffalo	148.8	147.8	-.7	147.3	147.0	-.2
Chicago	142.6	142.0	-.4	139.9	139.7	-.1
Cincinnati	143.3	143.5	.1	140.9	141.1	.1
Cleveland	144.9	144.3	-.4	142.4	140.7	-1.2
Dallas	155.6	154.3	-.8	151.0	150.1	-.6
Detroit	139.2	138.8	-.3	137.9	137.9	0
Honolulu	154.3	152.9	-.9	151.8	150.5	-.9
Houston	153.8	152.6	-.8	150.4	150.0	-.3
Kansas City	144.9	144.2	-.5	142.4	141.3	-.8
Los Angeles—Long Beach	145.4	144.5	-.6	143.8	143.2	-.4
Milwaukee	142.6	141.9	-.5	141.7	140.7	-.7
Minneapolis—St. Paul	147.3	144.8	-1.7	146.1	145.4	-.5
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J.	141.6	141.3	-.2	143.0	141.8	-.8
Philadelphia	146.9	145.9	-.7	145.3	144.8	-.3
Pittsburgh	146.2	145.5	-.5	142.3	141.9	-.3
St. Louis	141.6	139.7	-1.3	140.2	138.6	-1.1
San Diego	146.9	146.6	-.2	145.3	145.2	-.1
San Francisco—Oakland	145.6	144.5	-.8	142.7	142.3	-.3
Seattle	144.6	143.3	-.9	141.4	140.3	-.8
Washington	146.1	145.9	-.1	144.1	144.1	0

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

are used. Area definitions are those established for the 1960 Census and do not include revisions made since 1960.

² 1967=100.

Table 10. Consumer Price Index—Regular and premium gasoline prices, selected areas and U.S. city averages for urban wage earners and clerical workers

Area ¹	Regular gasoline			Premium gasoline		
	Average price per gallon					
	October 1975	November 1975	December 1975	October 1975	November 1975	December 1975
U.S. city average	\$0.594	\$0.589	\$0.586	\$0.636	\$0.633	\$0.630
Atlanta	.586	.582	.577	.634	.631	.627
Baltimore	.610	.604	.598	.659	.649	.643
Boston	.596	.592	.588	.640	.637	.634
Buffalo	.603	.599	.595	.647	.645	.644
Chicago	.607	.600	.597	.648	.643	.642
Cincinnati	.593	.580	.581	.636	.626	.627
Cleveland	.597	.590	.587	.640	.634	.626
Dallas	.554	.547	.543	.594	.587	.584
Detroit	.593	.581	.579	.640	.630	.630
Honolulu	.698	.697	.691	.740	.739	.733
Houston	.539	.534	.530	.585	.580	.578
Kansas City	.562	.554	.551	.608	.600	.595
Los Angeles—Long Beach	.594	.587	.583	.636	.633	.630
Milwaukee	.560	.549	.546	.607	.599	.595
Minneapolis—St. Paul	.588	.582	.572	.636	.635	.631
N.Y.—Northeastern N.J.	.604	.600	.599	.656	.655	.650
Philadelphia	.591	.587	.583	.647	.644	.642
Pittsburgh	.590	.585	.582	.634	.629	.627
St. Louis	.581	.576	.568	.625	.621	.614
San Diego	.615	.608	.607	.657	.652	.652
San Francisco—Oakland	.624	.621	.617	.664	.662	.660
Seattle	.583	.582	.577	.624	.625	.620
Washington	.606	.604	.604	.658	.657	.657

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—Population size groups, 1 5 classes and U.S. city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers

Area and group	Relative importance	Indexes (1967=100)			Percent change to December 1975 from—	
	December 1974	December 1974	September 1975	December 1975	December 1974	September 1975
United States:						
All items	100.000	155.4	163.6	166.3	7.0	1.7
Food	24.785	169.7	177.8	180.7	6.5	1.6
Housing	33.766	159.9	168.9	172.2	7.7	2.0
Apparel and upkeep	9.633	141.9	143.5	145.2	2.3	1.2
Transportation	12.715	143.5	155.4	157.6	9.8	1.4
Health and recreation	18.723	147.5	155.4	157.5	6.8	1.4
Class A-1 (3.5 million or more):						
All items	32.525	² 157.3	165.0	167.6	6.5	1.6
Food	8.346	² 171.6	178.5	182.1	6.1	2.0
Housing	10.752	161.1	168.7	171.8	6.6	1.8
Apparel and upkeep	3.192	139.0	141.2	140.4	1.0	-.6
Transportation	4.059	147.7	162.0	165.1	11.8	1.9
Health and recreation	6.176	150.7	158.2	160.4	6.4	1.4
Class A-2 (1.4 million to 3.5 million):						
All items	11.701	154.3	162.8	165.0	6.9	1.4
Food	2.955	169.1	177.9	180.5	6.7	1.5
Housing	3.945	156.9	165.7	168.1	7.1	1.4
Apparel and upkeep	1.146	143.1	144.4	146.2	2.2	1.2
Transportation	1.466	143.0	154.0	155.8	9.0	1.2
Health and recreation	2.189	146.4	156.2	158.0	7.9	1.2
Class B (250,000 to 1.4 million):						
All items	25.644	154.4	162.7	165.2	7.0	1.5
Food	6.084	168.9	177.6	180.3	6.7	1.5
Housing	8.846	158.6	168.1	170.9	7.8	1.7
Apparel and upkeep	2.449	142.8	145.1	147.5	3.3	1.7
Transportation	3.404	141.5	151.8	153.1	8.2	.9
Health and recreation	4.861	146.9	154.7	156.9	6.8	1.4
Class C (50,000 to 250,000):						
All items	12.531	154.7	163.1	166.2	7.4	1.9
Food	3.074	167.3	176.7	179.7	7.4	1.7
Housing	4.280	160.5	170.1	173.7	8.2	2.1
Apparel and upkeep	1.236	145.0	145.3	149.4	3.0	2.8
Transportation	1.624	141.4	153.0	155.3	9.8	1.5
Health and recreation	2.318	145.1	152.7	154.9	6.8	1.4
Class D (2,500 to 50,000):						
All items	17.223	155.1	163.6	166.6	7.4	1.8
Food	4.326	169.1	177.1	179.3	6.0	1.2
Housing	5.944	160.9	171.2	176.0	9.4	2.8
Apparel and upkeep	1.611	142.4	143.2	147.0	3.2	2.7
Transportation	2.162	141.2	152.4	154.2	9.2	1.2
Health and recreation	3.179	145.5	153.2	154.8	6.4	1.0

¹ Based upon 1960 Census of Population.

² Revised index.

Table 12. Consumer Price Index—Regional groups, 4 areas and U.S. city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers

Area and group	Relative ¹ importance	Indexes (1967=100) ¹			Percent change to December 1975 from—	
	December 1974	December 1974	September 1975	December 1975	December 1974	September 1975
United States:						
All items	100.000	155.4	163.6	166.3	7.0	1.7
Food	24.785	169.7	177.8	180.7	6.5	1.6
Housing	33.766	159.9	168.9	172.2	7.7	2.0
Apparel and upkeep	9.633	141.9	143.5	145.2	2.3	1.2
Transportation	12.715	143.5	155.4	157.6	9.8	1.4
Health and recreation	18.723	147.5	155.4	157.5	6.8	1.4
Northeast:						
All items	32.821	158.9	166.3	169.2	6.5	1.7
Food	8.729	171.4	179.2	182.6	6.5	1.9
Housing	10.698	² 165.4	172.2	175.3	6.0	1.8
Apparel and upkeep	3.381	142.5	144.7	145.6	2.2	.6
Transportation	3.835	146.5	159.9	164.7	12.4	3.0
Health and recreation	6.177	150.6	157.4	159.7	6.0	1.5
North Central:						
All items	27.925	152.9	160.8	163.3	6.8	1.6
Food	6.881	168.9	175.6	180.0	6.6	2.5
Housing	9.417	152.5	162.0	164.5	7.9	1.5
Apparel and upkeep	2.537	142.1	142.7	145.0	2.0	1.6
Transportation	3.740	143.3	153.8	154.6	7.9	.5
Health and recreation	5.301	148.0	156.3	157.9	6.7	1.0
South:						
All items	22.077	157.5	166.4	168.7	7.1	1.4
Food	5.315	172.6	182.5	183.4	6.3	.5
Housing	7.631	164.2	174.3	178.0	8.4	2.1
Apparel and upkeep	2.181	142.8	144.6	147.3	3.2	1.9
Transportation	2.887	142.2	153.6	154.8	8.9	.8
Health and recreation	4.062	148.6	156.6	158.5	6.7	1.2
West:						
All items	16.346	150.9	160.2	163.0	8.0	1.7
Food	3.733	163.7	172.5	174.4	6.5	1.1
Housing	5.883	157.4	167.7	172.4	9.5	2.8
Apparel and upkeep	1.449	138.3	140.2	141.4	2.2	.9
Transportation	2.192	140.3	152.9	154.3	10.0	.9
Health and recreation	3.088	140.2	149.4	151.7	8.2	1.5

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

U.S. totals.

² Revised index.

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 1975 and percent changes from selected dates

Area and group	Relative importance	Annual average indexes (1967=100)			Percent change to 1975 from—	
		1974	1975		1974	
United States:						
All items		147.7	161.2			9.1
Food		161.7	175.4			8.5
Housing		150.6	166.8			10.8
Apparel and upkeep		136.2	142.3			4.5
Transportation		137.7	150.6			9.4
Health and recreation		140.3	153.5			9.4
Class A-1 (3.5 million or more):						
All items		150.2	162.5			8.2
Food		163.6	176.4			7.8
Housing		153.1	166.8			8.9
Apparel and upkeep		135.0	139.2			3.1
Transportation		142.1	155.9			9.7
Health and recreation		143.7	156.3			8.8
Class A-2 (1.4 million to 3.5 million):						
All items		147.0	160.4			9.1
Food		161.4	175.1			8.5
Housing		148.4	163.6			10.2
Apparel and upkeep		137.5	143.8			4.6
Transportation		137.1	150.2			9.6
Health and recreation		139.7	153.5			9.9
Class B (250,000 to 1.4 million):						
All items		146.7	160.3			9.3
Food		161.0	174.8			8.6
Housing		149.1	165.7			11.1
Apparel and upkeep		137.6	144.0			4.7
Transportation		136.0	147.7			8.6
Health and recreation		139.9	152.9			9.3
Class C (50,000 to 250,000):						
All items		146.8	160.7			9.5
Food		160.5	173.5			8.1
Housing		150.5	167.9			11.6
Apparel and upkeep		138.0	145.4			5.4
Transportation		135.0	148.9			10.3
Health and recreation		138.0	150.9			9.3
Class D (2,500 to 50,000):						
All items		146.7	161.3			10.0
Food		161.8	174.4			7.8
Housing		149.8	169.1			12.9
Apparel and upkeep	-	135.4	143.3	-		5.8
Transportation	-	135.3	148.1	-		9.5
Health and recreation	-	137.5	151.2	-		10.0

¹ Based upon 1960 Census of Population.

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 1975 and percent changes from selected dates

Area and group	Relative ¹ importance	Annual average indexes (1967=100) ¹			Percent change to 1975 from—	
		1974	1975		1974	
United States:						
All items		147.7	161.2			9.1
Food		161.7	175.4			8.5
Housing		150.6	166.8			10.8
Apparel and upkeep		136.2	142.3			4.5
Transportation		137.7	150.6			9.4
Health and recreation		140.3	153.5			9.4
Northeast:						
All items		151.8	164.0			8.0
Food		163.9	177.0			8.0
Housing		157.1	170.3			8.4
Apparel and upkeep		137.5	143.0			4.0
Transportation		140.7	154.6			9.9
Health and recreation		143.7	155.8			8.4
North Central:						
All items		145.7	158.5			8.8
Food		161.8	173.3			7.1
Housing		143.9	160.0			11.2
Apparel and upkeep		136.0	142.2			4.6
Transportation		138.1	149.3			8.1
Health and recreation		141.0	154.1			9.3
South:						
All items		149.0	163.7			9.9
Food		164.0	178.7			9.0
Housing		153.4	171.8			12.0
Apparel and upkeep		137.3	144.0			4.9
Transportation		136.0	149.2			9.7
Health and recreation		140.9	154.7			9.8
West:						
All items		142.9	157.7			10.4
Food		156.1	169.9			8.8
Housing		147.1	165.5			12.5
Apparel and upkeep		133.5	139.2			4.3
Transportation	-	134.1	148.6	-		10.8
Health and recreation	-	133.2	147.1	-		10.4

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

U.S. totals.

Brief Explanation of the CPI

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

Prices of 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 1974 averages. The figures may be interpreted as follows: The chances are about 95 out of 100 that the percent change in the CPI as computed differs from the corresponding "complete coverage" change by less than twice the standard error.

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

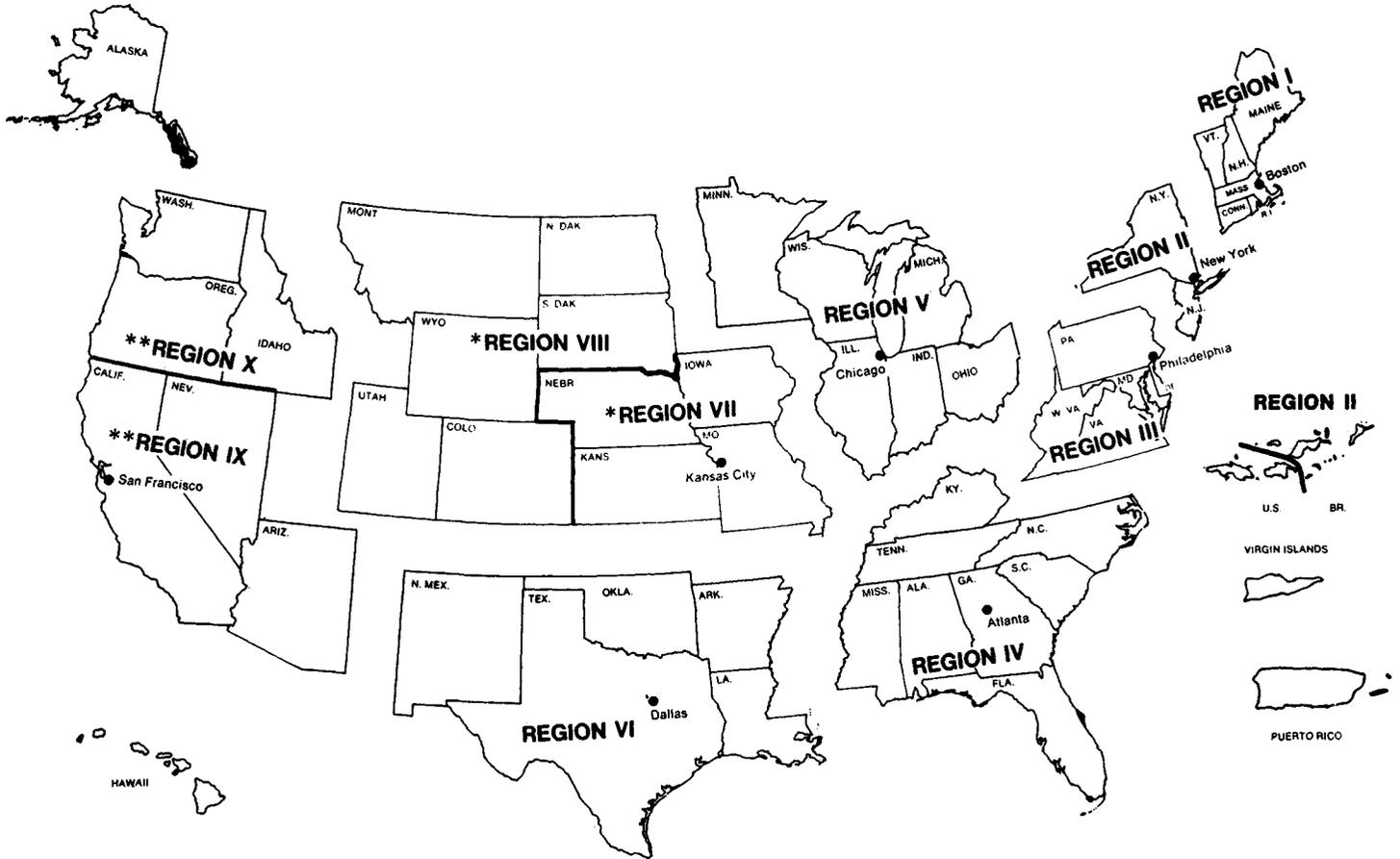
Component	Standard error		
	Monthly change	Quarterly change	Annual change
All items . . . . .	.05	.07	.12
Food at home . . . . .	.10	.19	.40
Food away from home . . . . .	.13	.23	.42
Housing . . . . .	.09	.15	.23
Apparel and upkeep . . . . .	.21	.28	.33
Transportation . . . . .	.07	.10	.20
Medical care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

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

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

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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