

HOW WELL DOES THE CPI SERVE AS AN INDEX
OF INFLATION FOR OLDER AGE GROUPS?

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ABSTRACT

HOW WELL DOES THE CPI SERVE AS AN INDEX OF INFLATION FOR OLDER AGE GROUPS?

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The issue of whether the official Statistics Canada Consumer Price Index provides an adequate measure of inflation for the elderly population is investigated. Price indexes are calculated for older households using weights from the Family Expenditure Survey. The indexes are calculated for the period 1949-96 with 11 categories of commodities and services, and for 1979-96 with 26 categories. Separate indexes are calculated for a range of age groups, for three types of households, and for lower-income households as well as households at all income levels combined. In all cases the calculated index series are very close to the official CPI series.

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The Statistics Canada Consumer Price Index (the “official CPI,” as we shall call it) is widely used as a measure of the general price level, and changes in it as measures of the rate of inflation. Its purpose is to represent the changing cost of a “basket” of goods typical of Canadian households. It has a long history and many uses. Among other things, it is the basis for inflation adjustments to pension benefits -- to CPP, OAS, and GIS payments, and to payments under those employment pension plans that provide for such adjustments. At a more general level, it is used for assessing the effects of price changes on the purchasing power of the incomes of the population, including the elderly and retired population.

The official CPI is intended to be a general-purpose index that measures the impact of inflation on a “typical” or “average” household. It is thus reasonable to ask how well it serves when the focus is a particular age group. Older households may differ from others in their patterns of expenditure, and the effects on them of price changes may be correspondingly different. That is obviously a possibility. What we are concerned with here is the extent to which it is a reality. We are concerned with whether price indexes calculated specifically for older age groups would have differed significantly from the overall CPI in the past several decades, and by implication, therefore, whether the latter can be judged satisfactory as a measure of inflation for the elderly.

There has been considerable controversy in recent years about the limitations of the CPI even as a general index of inflation. The controversy has been vigorous in the United States, where it has

* The calculations reported in this paper were carried out by Huan Nguyen-Dinh.

taken on political significance. It has been argued there that by overstating the rate of inflation the CPI has resulted in excessive adjustments to social security benefits, and hence unwarranted large increases in government transfer payments. In a period when the reduction of budgetary deficits is at the forefront of political debate it is not surprising that the idea that rates of change in the CPI should be partially discounted has much appeal.

Concerns about biases in the CPI have a history going back several decades among economists, with particular attention to their consequences for monetary policy. However, it appears to be only recently that the implications for government program expenditures have received serious attention at the political level. A commission struck to study the problem in the U.S. issued its final report at the end of last year. (Advisory Commission 1996). The debate in the U.S. about inflationary biases is summarized in Moulton (1996) and a critical review of recent literature on the subject (including the commission report) is provided in Madrick (1997). Concerns about corresponding biases in the Canadian CPI have been expressed by Nakamura and Diewert (1996). We mention all of this in order to make clear what we are not attempting to do in this paper. We are not concerned here with possible biases in the Canadian CPI, and whether the overall CPI thus misstates the general level of inflation. Rather we take the CPI on its own terms and ask whether a recalculated version, using different expenditure weights but the same basic procedures and data, would be more appropriate for elderly households. Other problems of measurement and definition are beyond the scope of the paper.

A price index for a specific age group could differ from the overall CPI because the weights (patterns of expenditure) were different. However, that would be true only if prices in different categories of goods changed at different rates; if all prices changed at the same rate differences in

weights would have no effect. Conversely, if prices changed at different rates, but the weights were the same in both cases, the two indexes would again behave in the same way. Similarities or dissimilarities between age-group indexes and the overall CPI thus depend on both differences in weights and differences in the rates of change of prices in different categories of goods.

CALCULATIONS BASED ON THE AVAILABLE DATA

Statistics Canada collects each month, and utilizes, a large volume of price data. There are many difficult problems involved in handling the data so that price changes will relate to particular, well defined commodities and services. (Allowing for changes in the characteristics of goods on the market is the most basic practical problem in the world of price indexes.) Such problems aside, the monthly price data are combined with expenditure weights based on data from the Family Expenditure Survey (FAMEX) for some selected year, and the well known (and theoretically very simple) Laspeyres formula is used to calculate the index. Every few years the weights are revised, based on a more recent FAMEX survey, and the old and new indexes are spliced together to form a continuous series.

The calculations that we report in this paper are similar in kind to the official CPI calculations. However, the amount of data available to us was far less than what is collected and used by Statistics Canada. Series of prices (in the form of indexes) were available for 11 categories of commodities and services back to 1949 and for 26 categories back to 1979. Coupling those series with weights derived from FAMEX data we have been able to calculate 1949-96 annual average CPIs based on the 11 categories and 1979-96 annual average CPIs based on the 26 categories. We have done that using alternative sets of weights (see below) for five-year age groups from 50-54 to 70-74 and for ages 75 and over. (We have also calculated indexes for 65 and over and 70 and over.) The

classification of households is based on age of “head,” as defined in the FAMEX surveys. Our calculations assume fixed weights, whereas the official CPI series has incorporated changes to the weights from time to time during the periods covered by the calculations. To assess the effects of using fixed weights and only 11 or 26 categories we have calculated indexes for all ages combined and compared those with the official CPI. In all cases we have calculated separate indexes for two-person husband/wife households, for one-person households, and for households of all types combined. Finally, we have calculated separate indexes, by age group and household type, for households in the lowest income quartile range.

The calculations that we report here are similar to ones we carried out and reported some years ago (Denton and Spencer 1988). They are more comprehensive and incorporate more recent data but the conclusions we draw are the same. We thus confirm and extend our previous findings with regard to the relevance of the official CPI for the older population.

ALTERNATIVE EXPENDITURE WEIGHTS

Over the years the official CPI has undergone various changes in expenditure weights, definitions, and procedures. (See Statistics Canada 1995.) Since the beginning of 1995 the weights have been based on 1992 FAMEX data. The 1992 weights replaced 1986 weights, which had been used for several previous years; the 1986 weights had themselves replaced 1982 weights; and so on. Statistics Canada’s announced policy is now to change the weights every four years, although there was an interval of six years between the last two changes in order to allow for possible adjustments of expenditure patterns following the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax.

We have not attempted in our calculations to match the history of Statistics Canada changes. Instead we have used weights that are held constant over the whole of the 1949-96 or 1979-96

period. However, we have tried three alternative sets of fixed weights to see how much difference that makes. Specifically, we have used 1986 FAMEX weights, 1992 FAMEX weights, and weights obtained by averaging the expenditure shares over all FAMEX surveys since 1982. (There were five such surveys: 1982, 1984, 1986, 1990, and 1992.) As a practical matter, the average weights have the advantage of being based on much larger samples of households than the weights for a single year. To the extent that that is important it is more so for individual age groups (where the samples are relatively small) than for overall indexes, and especially for particular household types and low income households within those age groups.

COMPARISONS WITH THE OFFICIAL CPI FOR ALL AGES COMBINED

Table 1 compares our calculated all-ages CPIs with the official CPI for the period 1979-96, based on 26 categories of goods. Table 2 does the same for the longer period, 1949-96, for which the calculations are based on 11 categories. (All indexes have base value 100.0 in 1986.) The purpose of the tables is to see whether using only 11 or 26 categories distorts the index, quite apart from any differences associated with age. The answer is clear. The calculated indexes are almost identical to the official one, regardless of household type. We conclude therefore that being restricted to 26, or even just 11 categories, implies no significant loss of accuracy.

COMPARISONS FOR OLDER AGE GROUPS

Tables 3-5 display our calculated age-group indexes for 1979-96 for the three classes of households, based on the 26 categories of goods. Tables 6-8 display the corresponding calculated indexes for 1949-96, based on the 11 categories. (Having established in Tables 1 and 2 that the use of weights averaged over five surveys gives results almost identical to the ones based on 1986 or 1992 weights, we have used the average weights in Tables 3-8 and subsequent ones.) Again the

indexes are seen to be very close to the overall official CPI. The largest difference in 1996 occurs in the 75-and-over age group for one-person households; based on the 26 categories, the 1996 index value for that group is 134.4, compared with the official (all-ages) CPI value of 135.6. That implies an average rate of price increase of 3.0 percent per annum over the decade 1986-96, compared with 3.1 percent for the official index. Given that the expenditure weights are subject to random sampling error, that the calculations are based on only 26 categories, and that three different weighting schemes were used for the official CPI during the decade, whereas our indexes have fixed weights, that must be regarded as a high degree of concordance. The 11-category index for one-person households with heads aged 75 and over is 133.2 in 1996, implying an average annual rate of increase of 2.9 percent for 1986-96. Over the entire period 1949-96, the rate for that group is identical to the rate for the official CPI, at 4.3 percent per annum.

The weights (expenditure proportions) for the 26-category and 11-category calculations are shown in Tables 9 and 10. There are some age-related patterns of change evident in the tables, going from 50-54 to the 75-and-over group. The percentage of the average household budget spent on food from stores rises and the percentage spent on food in restaurants falls; the percentage spent on rental accommodation rises; the percentage spent on private transportation falls; and so on. Nevertheless, it is apparent that those changes have little net effect on the price indexes for the successive age groups.

COMPARISONS FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS AT OLDER AGES

Tables 11-18 correspond to Tables 3-10, but represent only households in the lowest quartile range of the income distribution. The weighting patterns are somewhat different from the ones based on all income levels, and the age-shifts from youngest to oldest groups are more accentuated.

(Compare Tables 17 and 18 with 9 and 10.) The differences between the age-group indexes and the official CPI are a little more pronounced too. However, the differences remain small. Restricting the FAMEX weights to households in the lowest quartile range cuts the FAMEX samples to one-quarter of their original sizes, and the consequent scope for sampling error should be kept in mind in evaluating the results. Overall we judge the calculated indexes to be very close to the official CPI for low-income households, as for households at all income levels combined.

CONCLUSION

The conclusion can be stated quite simply: If the official Statistics Canada CPI is deemed to be satisfactory as an index of inflation for the average Canadian household, all ages combined, it is also then a satisfactory index for older households, including low-income households and households with different demographic characteristics.

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TABLE 1: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH ALL-AGES CPIs
CALCULATED FROM 26 COMMODITY CATEGORIES, 1979-96
(1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Alternative all-ages CPIs								
		All household types			Husband/wife households			One-person households		
		1986 wts.	1992 wts.	av. wts.	1986 wts.	1992 wts.	av. wts.	1986 wts.	1992 wts.	av. wts.
1979	61.0	62.0	61.8	61.9	61.6	61.4	61.6	62.5	62.1	62.3
1980	67.2	68.0	67.6	67.9	67.6	67.3	67.6	68.1	67.7	68.0
1981	75.5	76.1	75.8	76.0	75.9	75.6	75.8	75.6	75.3	75.5
1982	83.7	84.2	84.0	84.1	84.1	83.9	84.0	83.4	83.3	83.4
1983	88.5	89.0	89.0	89.0	89.0	88.9	88.9	88.4	88.5	88.5
1984	92.4	92.8	92.7	92.8	92.7	92.6	92.7	92.4	92.4	92.4
1985	96.0	96.3	96.3	96.3	96.3	96.2	96.3	96.0	96.1	96.1
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.3	104.4	104.4	104.3	104.4	104.4	104.3	104.3	104.3
1988	108.6	108.6	108.7	108.6	108.6	108.8	108.6	108.5	108.6	108.5
1989	114.0	114.0	114.4	114.2	114.1	114.5	114.2	113.9	114.3	114.0
1990	119.5	119.5	120.1	119.7	119.6	120.2	119.8	119.3	119.9	119.4
1991	126.2	126.3	127.0	126.5	126.3	127.1	126.5	126.4	127.0	126.5
1992	128.1	128.2	129.0	128.4	128.2	129.0	128.4	128.7	129.3	128.7
1993	130.4	130.6	131.3	130.7	130.5	131.3	130.7	131.1	131.6	131.1
1994	130.7	130.7	131.0	130.8	130.8	131.0	130.8	131.3	131.3	131.3
1995	133.5	133.5	133.8	133.5	133.7	133.9	133.7	133.8	133.8	133.9
1996	135.6	135.7	135.9	135.6	135.8	135.9	135.7	136.0	135.9	136.0

Note: "1986 wts." and "1992 wts." indicate expenditure weights calculated from FAMEX Survey data for those two years; "av. wts." indicates expenditure weights averaged over the FAMEX Survey years 1982, 1984, 1986, 1990, and 1992.

TABLE 2: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH ALL-AGES CPIs
CALCULATED FROM 11 COMMODITY CATEGORIES, 1949-96
(1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Alternative all-ages CPIs								
		All household types			Husband/wife households			One-person households		
		1986 wts.	1992 wts.	av. wts.	1986 wts.	1992 wts.	av. wts.	1986 wts.	1992 wts.	av. wts.
1949	18.5	19.6	19.5	19.5	19.6	19.4	19.5	19.3	19.4	19.2
1950	19.0	20.1	20.0	20.1	20.1	20.0	20.1	19.8	19.6	19.8
1951	21.1	22.1	21.9	22.0	22.1	21.9	22.0	21.8	21.5	21.7
1952	21.6	22.7	22.5	22.6	22.7	22.5	22.6	22.4	22.1	22.3
1953	21.4	22.6	22.5	22.6	22.6	22.5	22.5	22.3	22.1	22.3
1954	21.5	22.8	22.7	22.7	22.8	22.6	22.7	22.5	22.3	22.5
1955	21.5	22.8	22.7	22.7	22.7	22.6	22.7	22.5	22.3	22.5
1956	21.8	23.1	23.0	23.1	23.1	23.0	23.0	22.9	22.7	22.8
1957	22.5	23.8	23.8	23.8	23.8	23.7	23.8	23.6	23.4	23.5
1958	23.1	24.3	24.3	24.3	24.3	24.2	24.3	24.1	23.9	24.0
1959	23.4	24.7	24.7	24.7	24.7	24.6	24.6	24.5	24.3	24.4
1960	23.7	25.0	24.9	25.0	24.9	24.9	24.9	24.7	24.6	24.7
1961	23.9	25.2	25.1	25.1	25.1	25.0	25.1	24.9	24.7	24.9
1962	24.2	25.4	25.3	25.3	25.3	25.2	25.3	25.2	24.9	25.1
1963	24.6	25.8	25.7	25.7	25.7	25.6	25.7	25.5	25.3	25.5
1964	25.1	26.2	26.1	26.2	26.1	26.0	26.1	26.0	25.7	25.9
1965	25.7	26.8	26.7	26.8	26.7	26.6	26.7	26.5	26.3	26.5
1966	26.6	27.7	27.6	27.7	27.6	27.5	27.6	27.5	27.2	27.4
1967	27.6	28.8	28.7	28.7	28.6	28.5	28.6	28.5	28.3	28.4
1968	28.7	29.9	29.8	29.8	29.7	29.6	29.7	29.6	29.4	29.6
1969	30.0	31.2	31.1	31.1	31.0	30.9	31.0	31.0	30.7	30.9
1970	31.0	32.3	32.2	32.2	32.1	32.1	32.1	32.1	31.9	32.0
1971	31.9	33.2	33.2	33.2	33.1	33.1	33.1	33.1	32.9	33.1
1972	33.4	34.6	34.6	34.6	34.5	34.4	34.5	34.5	34.3	34.4
1973	36.0	36.9	36.8	36.9	36.7	36.7	36.7	36.8	36.6	36.7
1974	39.9	40.7	40.6	40.7	40.5	40.4	40.5	40.5	40.3	40.5
1975	44.2	45.0	44.9	45.0	44.8	44.7	44.8	44.8	44.5	44.7
1976	47.5	48.6	48.5	48.6	48.4	48.4	48.4	48.5	48.3	48.4
1977	51.3	52.4	52.4	52.4	52.2	52.2	52.2	52.3	52.2	52.3
1978	55.9	56.6	56.5	56.6	56.3	56.3	56.4	56.5	56.4	56.5
1979	61.0	61.6	61.4	61.6	61.3	61.2	61.3	61.4	61.2	61.4
1980	67.2	67.7	67.5	67.7	67.5	67.3	67.5	67.5	67.1	67.4
1981	75.5	76.2	76.0	76.1	76.1	75.8	76.0	75.8	75.5	75.7
1982	83.7	84.2	84.1	84.2	84.2	84.0	84.1	83.9	83.8	83.9
1983	88.5	89.0	89.0	89.0	89.0	88.9	89.0	88.8	88.8	88.8
1984	92.4	92.7	92.6	92.7	92.7	92.6	92.7	92.5	92.5	92.5
1985	96.0	96.2	96.2	96.2	96.3	96.2	96.3	96.1	96.1	96.1
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3
1988	108.6	108.5	108.6	108.5	108.5	108.5	108.5	108.6	108.6	108.6
1989	114.0	113.9	114.1	114.0	113.9	114.1	113.9	114.0	114.2	114.0
1990	119.5	119.2	119.5	119.3	119.3	119.5	119.3	119.4	119.7	119.4
1991	126.2	125.6	126.0	125.6	125.5	126.0	125.6	126.0	126.4	125.9
1992	128.1	127.2	127.7	127.3	127.2	127.7	127.3	127.8	128.2	127.7
1993	130.4	129.5	129.9	129.5	129.5	130.0	129.6	130.0	130.4	129.9
1994	130.7	129.6	129.6	129.5	129.6	129.7	129.6	129.8	129.8	129.7
1995	133.5	132.2	132.1	132.1	132.3	132.3	132.3	132.2	132.1	132.2
1996	135.6	135.1	135.2	135.1	135.2	135.3	135.2	135.0	134.8	135.0

Note: See note to Table 1.

TABLE 3: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH AGE-GROUP CPIs CALCULATED FROM
26 COMMODITY CATEGORIES FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD TYPES, 1979-96
(1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Age-group CPI							
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
1979	61.0	61.5	61.3	61.1	61.3	61.6	62.0	61.6	61.8
1980	67.2	67.6	67.4	67.3	67.4	67.5	67.8	67.5	67.7
1981	75.5	75.9	75.7	75.7	75.7	75.7	75.7	75.7	75.7
1982	83.7	84.0	83.9	83.9	83.9	83.8	83.7	83.8	83.7
1983	88.5	88.8	88.7	88.7	88.7	88.7	88.6	88.7	88.7
1984	92.4	92.6	92.6	92.6	92.6	92.6	92.7	92.7	92.7
1985	96.0	96.2	96.2	96.3	96.3	96.3	96.3	96.3	96.3
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2
1988	108.6	108.5	108.4	108.4	108.3	108.3	108.1	108.2	108.2
1989	114.0	113.9	113.8	113.8	113.6	113.5	113.3	113.5	113.4
1990	119.5	119.5	119.4	119.3	119.1	119.0	118.6	118.9	118.8
1991	126.2	126.6	126.4	126.2	125.9	125.6	125.0	125.5	125.3
1992	128.1	128.6	128.5	128.2	127.8	127.6	127.0	127.5	127.2
1993	130.4	131.1	131.0	130.7	130.3	130.0	129.5	130.0	129.7
1994	130.7	131.4	131.2	130.9	130.7	130.4	130.1	130.5	130.3
1995	133.5	134.3	134.2	133.9	133.6	133.2	132.7	133.3	133.0
1996	135.6	136.7	136.6	136.2	135.9	135.5	134.8	135.5	135.1

Note: The indexes are calculated using "av. wts.", as defined in the note to Table 1.

TABLE 4: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH AGE-GROUP CPIs CALCULATED FROM
26 COMMODITY CATEGORIES FOR HUSBAND/WIFE HOUSEHOLDS, 1979-96
(1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Age-group CPI							
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
1979	61.0	61.2	60.8	60.7	60.9	61.1	61.5	61.1	61.3
1980	67.2	67.3	67.0	67.0	67.1	67.3	67.5	67.3	67.4
1981	75.5	75.6	75.4	75.5	75.7	75.7	75.8	75.7	75.8
1982	83.7	83.8	83.8	83.9	84.0	83.9	84.0	84.0	84.0
1983	88.5	88.7	88.7	88.8	88.8	88.8	88.8	88.8	88.8
1984	92.4	92.5	92.5	92.6	92.7	92.7	92.8	92.7	92.8
1985	96.0	96.2	96.2	96.3	96.3	96.3	96.3	96.3	96.3
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.2	104.2	104.3	104.2
1988	108.6	108.6	108.4	108.4	108.4	108.2	108.1	108.3	108.2
1989	114.0	114.2	113.9	113.8	113.7	113.5	113.3	113.5	113.4
1990	119.5	119.7	119.6	119.3	119.2	118.9	118.6	119.0	118.8
1991	126.2	126.9	126.5	126.0	125.8	125.4	124.9	125.4	125.2
1992	128.1	128.8	128.4	127.8	127.6	127.2	126.6	127.2	126.9
1993	130.4	131.2	130.8	130.3	130.0	129.7	129.1	129.7	129.4
1994	130.7	130.8	130.8	130.7	130.6	130.4	130.0	130.4	130.2
1995	133.5	133.7	133.7	133.7	133.7	133.4	132.8	133.4	133.1
1996	135.6	135.8	135.9	136.0	136.0	135.6	135.0	135.6	135.3

Note: See note to Table 3.

TABLE 5: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH AGE-GROUP CPIs CALCULATED FROM
26 COMMODITY CATEGORIES FOR ONE-PERSON HOUSEHOLDS, 1979-96
(1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Age-group CPI							
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
1979	61.0	61.9	61.6	61.7	62.1	62.4	62.7	62.4	62.6
1980	67.2	67.7	67.4	67.5	67.8	68.0	68.2	68.0	68.1
1981	75.5	75.3	75.1	75.3	75.6	75.6	75.5	75.6	75.6
1982	83.7	83.3	83.1	83.3	83.5	83.4	83.3	83.4	83.3
1983	88.5	88.3	88.2	88.4	88.5	88.4	88.4	88.5	88.4
1984	92.4	92.3	92.2	92.4	92.5	92.5	92.5	92.5	92.5
1985	96.0	96.0	96.0	96.1	96.2	96.1	96.1	96.2	96.1
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.2	104.3	104.3	104.2	104.2	104.1	104.1	104.1
1988	108.6	108.5	108.5	108.4	108.2	108.2	108.0	108.1	108.1
1989	114.0	114.0	114.0	113.8	113.5	113.5	113.1	113.3	113.3
1990	119.5	119.5	119.6	119.3	118.9	118.8	118.3	118.6	118.5
1991	126.2	126.7	126.9	126.4	125.7	125.5	124.8	125.2	125.1
1992	128.1	129.0	129.2	128.6	127.7	127.6	126.9	127.3	127.1
1993	130.4	131.4	131.7	131.1	130.2	130.0	129.4	129.8	129.6
1994	130.7	131.4	131.3	131.0	130.5	130.3	130.0	130.2	130.2
1995	133.5	134.1	133.9	133.6	133.1	132.8	132.4	132.7	132.5
1996	135.6	136.3	136.2	135.8	135.2	134.8	134.4	134.8	134.6

Note: See note to Table 3.

TABLE 6: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH AGE-GROUP CPIs CALCULATED FROM
11 COMMODITY CATEGORIES FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD TYPES, 1949-96
(1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Age-group CPI							
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
1949	18.5	19.7	19.6	19.4	19.4	19.2	18.8	19.2	19.0
1950	19.0	20.2	20.1	20.0	19.9	19.7	19.4	19.7	19.5
1951	21.1	22.2	22.1	21.9	21.9	21.6	21.3	21.6	21.5
1952	21.6	22.8	22.6	22.5	22.4	22.2	21.9	22.2	22.0
1953	21.4	22.7	22.5	22.4	22.4	22.2	21.9	22.2	22.0
1954	21.5	22.8	22.7	22.6	22.5	22.3	22.0	22.3	22.2
1955	21.5	22.8	22.6	22.5	22.5	22.3	22.0	22.3	22.2
1956	21.8	23.2	23.0	22.9	22.8	22.7	22.4	22.7	22.5
1957	22.5	23.9	23.8	23.6	23.6	23.4	23.1	23.4	23.2
1958	23.1	24.4	24.3	24.1	24.1	23.9	23.6	23.9	23.7
1959	23.4	24.8	24.6	24.5	24.5	24.3	24.0	24.3	24.1
1960	23.7	25.1	24.9	24.8	24.7	24.5	24.2	24.5	24.4
1961	23.9	25.3	25.1	24.9	24.9	24.7	24.4	24.7	24.5
1962	24.2	25.5	25.3	25.1	25.1	24.9	24.7	24.9	24.8
1963	24.6	25.9	25.7	25.5	25.5	25.3	25.1	25.3	25.2
1964	25.1	26.3	26.1	26.0	25.9	25.7	25.5	25.7	25.6
1965	25.7	26.9	26.7	26.6	26.5	26.3	26.1	26.3	26.2
1966	26.6	27.8	27.6	27.5	27.4	27.2	27.0	27.2	27.1
1967	27.6	28.9	28.7	28.5	28.4	28.3	28.0	28.3	28.1
1968	28.7	30.0	29.7	29.6	29.5	29.3	29.1	29.3	29.2
1969	30.0	31.3	31.0	30.8	30.8	30.6	30.4	30.6	30.5
1970	31.0	32.3	32.1	31.9	31.9	31.7	31.6	31.7	31.7
1971	31.9	33.3	33.0	32.9	32.9	32.7	32.6	32.8	32.7
1972	33.4	34.6	34.4	34.2	34.2	34.1	34.0	34.2	34.1
1973	36.0	36.9	36.7	36.5	36.5	36.5	36.5	36.5	36.5
1974	39.9	40.7	40.5	40.4	40.4	40.3	40.3	40.3	40.3
1975	44.2	45.0	44.8	44.7	44.7	44.6	44.6	44.6	44.6
1976	47.5	48.5	48.3	48.2	48.2	48.2	48.3	48.2	48.2
1977	51.3	52.3	52.1	52.0	52.0	52.1	52.2	52.1	52.1
1978	55.9	56.4	56.2	56.2	56.3	56.4	56.6	56.4	56.5
1979	61.0	61.5	61.3	61.3	61.3	61.5	61.7	61.5	61.6
1980	67.2	67.8	67.5	67.5	67.5	67.6	67.7	67.6	67.6
1981	75.5	76.2	76.1	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.0
1982	83.7	84.1	84.0	84.0	84.1	84.1	84.2	84.1	84.1
1983	88.5	88.9	88.8	88.8	88.9	88.9	89.0	88.9	89.0
1984	92.4	92.6	92.5	92.6	92.6	92.7	92.8	92.7	92.7
1985	96.0	96.2	96.1	96.2	96.2	96.2	96.2	96.2	96.2
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3
1988	108.6	108.5	108.5	108.4	108.4	108.4	108.4	108.4	108.4
1989	114.0	113.9	113.9	113.9	113.8	113.8	113.7	113.8	113.8
1990	119.5	119.2	119.3	119.2	119.1	119.1	119.0	119.1	119.1
1991	126.2	125.7	125.7	125.6	125.4	125.3	125.1	125.3	125.2
1992	128.1	127.4	127.4	127.3	127.0	126.9	126.7	126.9	126.8
1993	130.4	129.7	129.7	129.6	129.3	129.2	128.9	129.1	129.0
1994	130.7	129.7	129.7	129.7	129.5	129.4	129.2	129.4	129.3
1995	133.5	132.4	132.5	132.4	132.2	132.0	131.6	132.0	131.8
1996	135.6	135.6	135.6	135.5	135.2	134.7	134.0	134.7	134.4

Note: See note to Table 3.

TABLE 7: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH AGE-GROUP CPIs CALCULATED FROM
11 COMMODITY CATEGORIES FOR HUSBAND/WIFE HOUSEHOLDS, 1949-96
(1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Age-group CPI							
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
1949	18.5	19.6	19.4	19.4	19.4	19.3	19.0	19.3	19.1
1950	19.0	20.1	19.9	19.9	19.9	19.8	19.5	19.8	19.7
1951	21.1	22.1	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.8	21.5	21.7	21.6
1952	21.6	22.7	22.5	22.4	22.4	22.3	22.0	22.3	22.2
1953	21.4	22.6	22.4	22.3	22.4	22.2	22.0	22.2	22.1
1954	21.5	22.7	22.5	22.5	22.5	22.4	22.2	22.4	22.3
1955	21.5	22.7	22.5	22.4	22.5	22.4	22.2	22.4	22.3
1956	21.8	23.0	22.8	22.8	22.8	22.7	22.5	22.7	22.6
1957	22.5	23.8	23.6	23.6	23.6	23.5	23.2	23.5	23.4
1958	23.1	24.3	24.1	24.1	24.1	24.0	23.7	24.0	23.9
1959	23.4	24.6	24.5	24.4	24.5	24.3	24.1	24.4	24.2
1960	23.7	24.9	24.7	24.7	24.8	24.6	24.4	24.6	24.5
1961	23.9	25.1	24.9	24.9	24.9	24.8	24.5	24.8	24.7
1962	24.2	25.3	25.1	25.1	25.1	25.0	24.8	25.0	24.9
1963	24.6	25.7	25.5	25.4	25.5	25.4	25.2	25.4	25.3
1964	25.1	26.1	25.9	25.9	25.9	25.8	25.6	25.8	25.7
1965	25.7	26.7	26.5	26.5	26.5	26.4	26.2	26.4	26.3
1966	26.6	27.6	27.4	27.4	27.4	27.3	27.1	27.3	27.2
1967	27.6	28.6	28.4	28.4	28.4	28.3	28.1	28.3	28.2
1968	28.7	29.7	29.5	29.4	29.5	29.3	29.2	29.4	29.2
1969	30.0	31.0	30.8	30.7	30.8	30.6	30.5	30.6	30.5
1970	31.0	32.1	31.8	31.8	31.9	31.7	31.6	31.7	31.6
1971	31.9	33.0	32.8	32.8	32.9	32.7	32.6	32.8	32.7
1972	33.4	34.4	34.2	34.1	34.2	34.1	34.0	34.1	34.1
1973	36.0	36.6	36.5	36.4	36.5	36.4	36.4	36.5	36.4
1974	39.9	40.4	40.2	40.2	40.3	40.2	40.3	40.3	40.2
1975	44.2	44.7	44.5	44.5	44.7	44.6	44.6	44.6	44.6
1976	47.5	48.3	48.1	48.1	48.2	48.1	48.2	48.2	48.2
1977	51.3	52.0	51.9	51.8	52.0	51.9	52.1	52.0	52.0
1978	55.9	56.2	56.0	56.0	56.2	56.2	56.5	56.3	56.3
1979	61.0	61.2	61.0	61.1	61.3	61.3	61.5	61.3	61.4
1980	67.2	67.4	67.2	67.3	67.5	67.5	67.6	67.5	67.5
1981	75.5	75.9	75.8	75.9	76.1	76.1	76.1	76.1	76.1
1982	83.7	83.9	83.9	84.0	84.2	84.2	84.3	84.2	84.2
1983	88.5	88.8	88.7	88.8	89.0	89.0	89.1	89.0	89.0
1984	92.4	92.5	92.5	92.6	92.7	92.7	92.8	92.7	92.8
1985	96.0	96.1	96.1	96.2	96.2	96.3	96.3	96.3	96.3
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3
1988	108.6	108.5	108.4	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3	108.3
1989	114.0	114.1	113.9	113.8	113.7	113.7	113.6	113.7	113.6
1990	119.5	119.5	119.4	119.2	119.1	119.0	118.9	119.0	118.9
1991	126.2	126.2	125.9	125.4	125.1	125.0	124.8	125.0	124.9
1992	128.1	128.0	127.6	127.0	126.7	126.6	126.3	126.5	126.4
1993	130.4	130.2	129.9	129.4	129.0	128.9	128.5	128.8	128.7
1994	130.7	129.8	129.8	129.7	129.5	129.4	129.2	129.4	129.3
1995	133.5	132.4	132.5	132.5	132.3	132.2	131.8	132.2	132.0
1996	135.6	135.4	135.5	135.5	135.3	135.1	134.4	135.0	134.8

Note: See note to Table 3.

TABLE 8: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH AGE-GROUP CPIs CALCULATED FROM
11 COMMODITY CATEGORIES FOR ONE-PERSON HOUSEHOLDS, 1949-96
(1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Age-group CPI							
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
1949	18.5	19.3	19.1	19.0	19.1	18.8	18.5	18.8	18.6
1950	19.0	19.8	19.7	19.6	19.6	19.4	19.1	19.3	19.2
1951	21.1	21.7	21.6	21.5	21.5	21.3	21.0	21.2	21.1
1952	21.6	22.3	22.2	22.1	22.1	21.9	21.6	21.8	21.7
1953	21.4	22.3	22.1	22.0	22.1	21.9	21.6	21.8	21.7
1954	21.5	22.4	22.3	22.2	22.3	22.1	21.8	22.0	21.9
1955	21.5	22.4	22.3	22.2	22.2	22.1	21.8	22.0	21.9
1956	21.8	22.8	22.6	22.6	22.6	22.5	22.2	22.4	22.3
1957	22.5	23.5	23.3	23.3	23.3	23.1	22.8	23.1	23.0
1958	23.1	24.0	23.8	23.8	23.8	23.6	23.3	23.5	23.4
1959	23.4	24.3	24.2	24.2	24.2	24.0	23.7	23.9	23.8
1960	23.7	24.6	24.5	24.4	24.4	24.3	24.0	24.2	24.1
1961	23.9	24.8	24.6	24.6	24.6	24.4	24.2	24.4	24.3
1962	24.2	25.0	24.9	24.8	24.8	24.7	24.4	24.6	24.5
1963	24.6	25.4	25.2	25.2	25.2	25.1	24.9	25.0	25.0
1964	25.1	25.8	25.7	25.7	25.6	25.5	25.3	25.5	25.4
1965	25.7	26.4	26.2	26.2	26.2	26.1	25.8	26.0	25.9
1966	26.6	27.3	27.1	27.1	27.1	27.0	26.7	26.9	26.8
1967	27.6	28.4	28.2	28.2	28.1	28.0	27.8	28.0	27.9
1968	28.7	29.5	29.3	29.3	29.2	29.1	28.9	29.1	29.0
1969	30.0	30.8	30.6	30.6	30.5	30.5	30.3	30.4	30.4
1970	31.0	31.9	31.7	31.7	31.7	31.7	31.5	31.6	31.6
1971	31.9	32.9	32.7	32.7	32.7	32.7	32.5	32.6	32.6
1972	33.4	34.3	34.1	34.1	34.1	34.2	34.0	34.1	34.1
1973	36.0	36.6	36.4	36.4	36.5	36.6	36.5	36.5	36.6
1974	39.9	40.3	40.1	40.2	40.3	40.4	40.3	40.3	40.3
1975	44.2	44.6	44.4	44.5	44.5	44.7	44.6	44.6	44.6
1976	47.5	48.3	48.0	48.1	48.2	48.4	48.4	48.3	48.4
1977	51.3	52.1	51.8	52.0	52.2	52.4	52.4	52.3	52.4
1978	55.9	56.3	56.1	56.3	56.5	56.8	56.9	56.8	56.9
1979	61.0	61.3	61.1	61.2	61.5	61.7	61.9	61.7	61.8
1980	67.2	67.4	67.1	67.2	67.5	67.6	67.7	67.6	67.7
1981	75.5	75.7	75.5	75.6	75.9	75.9	75.9	75.9	75.9
1982	83.7	83.8	83.7	83.8	84.1	84.0	84.1	84.1	84.1
1983	88.5	88.7	88.6	88.7	89.0	89.0	89.0	89.0	89.0
1984	92.4	92.5	92.4	92.5	92.7	92.7	92.8	92.8	92.8
1985	96.0	96.1	96.1	96.1	96.2	96.2	96.2	96.2	96.2
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3
1988	108.6	108.5	108.6	108.5	108.4	108.5	108.4	108.4	108.4
1989	114.0	114.0	114.2	114.0	113.8	113.9	113.8	113.8	113.8
1990	119.5	119.5	119.7	119.5	119.2	119.2	119.0	119.1	119.1
1991	126.2	126.1	126.5	126.1	125.6	125.6	125.3	125.4	125.4
1992	128.1	127.9	128.4	127.9	127.3	127.1	126.8	127.0	126.9
1993	130.4	130.1	130.7	130.2	129.5	129.2	128.9	129.1	129.0
1994	130.7	129.8	129.9	129.8	129.4	129.2	129.0	129.2	129.1
1995	133.5	132.2	132.4	132.2	131.9	131.4	131.2	131.5	131.3
1996	135.6	135.0	135.1	134.9	134.3	133.8	133.2	133.7	133.5

Note: See note to Table 3.

TABLE 9: COMPARISON OF PERCENTAGE EXPENDITURE WEIGHTS BY AGE GROUP,
26 COMMODITY CATEGORIES

Commodity category	Age group								
	All age:	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
Food purchased from stores	13.9	14.8	15.5	16.4	16.6	17.8	18.9	17.6	18.3
Food purchased from restaurants	5.1	5.5	5.1	4.7	4.3	3.9	3.3	3.9	3.6
Rented accommodation	7.7	4.6	5.1	5.4	7.5	11.3	17.4	11.5	14.4
Owned accommodation	14.5	10.6	10.1	10.5	9.9	9.7	9.4	9.7	9.6
Water, fuel and electricity	4.0	4.4	4.8	5.4	5.6	5.8	6.4	5.9	6.1
Other accommodation	1.4	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.2	1.8	1.5	1.9	1.6
Household operations	5.8	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.6	5.9	6.6	6.0	6.3
Household furnishings	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.5	2.2	1.8	2.2	2.0
Household equipment	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.5
Services related to furnishings	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Clothing and footwear	8.1	9.3	8.3	7.6	7.1	6.4	5.7	6.4	6.0
Private transportation	14.8	16.8	17.7	17.5	16.7	14.3	10.2	14.1	12.3
Local public transportation	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.8
Inter-city public transportation	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.3
Health care	2.6	2.9	3.1	3.3	2.9	3.3	3.8	3.3	3.5
Personal care supply and equipment	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1
Personal care services	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.5	1.6
Recreational equipment	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.6
Recr. vehicles & outboard motors	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.4
Home entertainment equip. & services	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.9
Recreational services	2.6	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.7	3.7	3.1	3.5	3.3
Reading material & other printed mat.	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Education	1.2	1.8	1.4	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2
Served alcoholic beverages	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3
Alcoholic beverages from stores	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.4
Tobacco products & smokers' suppl.	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.2	1.6	1.4

Note: Figures are "av. wts.", as defined in the note to Table 1, for all household types combined.

TABLE 10: COMPARISON OF PERCENTAGE EXPENDITURE WEIGHTS BY AGE GROUP,
11 COMMODITY CATEGORIES

Commodity category	Age group								
	All age:	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
Food	19.0	20.4	20.7	21.1	20.8	21.7	22.2	21.5	21.9
Shelter	38.0	31.4	31.6	32.9	35.5	38.8	44.9	39.3	41.9
Clothing and footwear	8.1	9.3	8.3	7.6	7.1	6.4	5.7	6.4	6.0
Private transportation	14.8	16.8	17.7	17.5	16.7	14.3	10.2	14.1	12.3
Local public transportation	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.8
Inter-city public transportation	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.3
Health care	2.6	2.9	3.1	3.3	2.9	3.3	3.8	3.3	3.5
Personal care	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.7
Recreation, education & reading	8.9	9.7	9.0	8.1	8.0	7.3	5.6	7.1	6.4
Alcoholic beverages	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.4	1.9	1.4	2.0	1.7
Tobacco products & smokers' suppl.	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.2	1.6	1.4

Note: See note to Table 9.

TABLE 11: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH AGE-GROUP CPIs CALCULATED
FROM 26 COMMODITY CATEGORIES FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD TYPES,
LOWEST INCOME QUARTILE, 1979 - 96
(1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Age-group CPI							
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
1979	61.0	61.7	61.6	61.6	61.6	62.9	63.0	62.8	63.0
1980	67.2	67.5	67.4	67.4	67.8	68.4	68.5	68.3	68.5
1981	75.5	75.4	75.2	75.3	75.5	75.7	75.9	75.7	75.8
1982	83.7	83.2	83.1	83.1	83.3	83.2	83.4	83.3	83.3
1983	88.5	88.2	88.1	88.1	88.3	88.3	88.4	88.3	88.3
1984	92.4	92.3	92.2	92.3	92.5	92.5	92.6	92.5	92.6
1985	96.0	96.0	96.0	96.0	96.1	96.1	96.1	96.1	96.1
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.3	104.3	104.2	104.2	104.1	104.0	104.1	104.1
1988	108.6	108.4	108.3	108.2	108.1	108.0	107.9	108.0	108.0
1989	114.0	113.8	113.7	113.5	113.4	113.1	112.8	113.0	112.9
1990	119.5	119.4	119.3	119.0	118.7	118.2	117.8	118.2	118.0
1991	126.2	126.7	126.6	126.2	125.5	125.0	124.1	124.8	124.5
1992	128.1	129.0	129.0	128.4	127.6	127.1	126.1	126.9	126.6
1993	130.4	131.6	131.5	130.9	130.1	129.6	128.5	129.4	129.0
1994	130.7	130.6	130.4	129.9	129.6	129.4	128.9	129.3	129.2
1995	133.5	133.1	132.9	132.4	132.0	131.6	131.1	131.5	131.4
1996	135.6	135.4	135.1	134.6	134.1	133.6	133.0	133.5	133.3

Note: See note to Table 3.

TABLE 12: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH AGE-GROUP CPIs CALCULATED FROM 26 COMMODITY CATEGORIES FOR HUSBAND/WIFE HOUSEHOLDS, LOWEST INCOME QUARTILE, 1979 - 96
(1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Age-group CPI							
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
1979	61.0	61.1	60.7	60.6	61.2	61.5	61.6	61.5	61.7
1980	67.2	66.9	66.7	66.8	67.3	67.5	67.6	67.5	67.7
1981	75.5	75.0	75.2	75.3	75.7	75.8	75.8	75.8	76.0
1982	83.7	83.0	83.4	83.6	83.8	83.8	83.8	83.9	83.9
1983	88.5	88.1	88.3	88.5	88.7	88.7	88.7	88.7	88.8
1984	92.4	92.1	92.4	92.5	92.7	92.8	92.8	92.8	92.9
1985	96.0	95.9	96.1	96.2	96.4	96.3	96.4	96.4	96.4
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.4	104.3	104.3	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2	104.2
1988	108.6	108.6	108.2	108.2	108.2	108.1	108.0	108.1	108.0
1989	114.0	114.3	113.6	113.6	113.4	113.1	113.0	113.1	113.0
1990	119.5	120.1	119.3	119.1	118.9	118.4	118.3	118.5	118.2
1991	126.2	127.8	126.3	125.8	125.5	125.0	124.6	125.0	124.5
1992	128.1	130.1	128.4	127.7	127.5	126.8	126.4	126.8	126.3
1993	130.4	132.5	130.9	130.3	130.0	129.2	128.9	129.3	128.8
1994	130.7	130.1	129.6	129.9	129.7	129.4	129.3	129.4	129.2
1995	133.5	132.5	132.3	132.8	132.3	132.0	131.8	132.0	131.7
1996	135.6	134.6	134.5	135.1	134.6	134.0	133.9	134.1	133.8

Note: See note to Table 3.

TABLE 13: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH AGE-GROUP CPIs CALCULATED
FROM 26 COMMODITY CATEGORIES FOR ONE-PERSON HOUSEHOLDS,
LOWEST INCOME QUARTILE, 1979 - 96
(1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Age-group CPI							
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
1979	61.0	62.5	61.8	62.3	62.5	63.1	63.0	62.9	63.0
1980	67.2	67.8	67.4	67.8	68.1	68.5	68.5	68.4	68.5
1981	75.5	74.7	74.9	75.3	75.6	75.7	75.8	75.7	75.7
1982	83.7	82.0	82.5	82.7	83.2	83.1	83.2	83.2	83.2
1983	88.5	87.3	87.6	87.7	88.2	88.2	88.2	88.2	88.2
1984	92.4	91.7	91.9	92.1	92.4	92.5	92.6	92.5	92.5
1985	96.0	95.6	95.8	95.9	96.0	96.1	96.1	96.1	96.1
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.2	104.3	104.2	104.1	104.1	104.1	104.1	104.0
1988	108.6	108.4	108.5	108.1	108.0	108.0	107.9	107.9	107.9
1989	114.0	114.0	114.1	113.4	113.3	113.1	112.8	112.9	112.8
1990	119.5	119.4	119.7	118.9	118.5	118.2	117.8	118.1	117.8
1991	126.2	127.4	127.4	125.9	125.3	125.1	124.2	124.6	124.4
1992	128.1	130.3	130.1	128.3	127.4	127.3	126.2	126.6	126.4
1993	130.4	132.9	132.6	130.9	129.9	129.7	128.7	129.1	128.9
1994	130.7	130.6	130.5	129.1	129.2	129.2	129.1	129.1	128.9
1995	133.5	132.6	132.7	131.3	131.6	131.3	131.3	131.3	131.1
1996	135.6	134.8	135.0	133.5	133.6	133.3	133.3	133.3	133.1

Note: See note to Table 3.

TABLE 14: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH AGE-GROUP CPIs CALCULATED FROM 11 COMMODITY CATEGORIES FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD TYPES, LOWEST INCOME QUARTILE, 1949 - 96 (1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Age-group CPI							
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
1949	18.5	19.0	18.9	18.8	18.7	18.5	18.3	18.5	18.4
1950	19.0	19.5	19.4	19.3	19.3	19.0	18.8	19.0	18.9
1951	21.1	21.5	21.3	21.3	21.2	21.0	20.7	20.9	20.8
1952	21.6	22.0	21.9	21.8	21.8	21.6	21.3	21.5	21.4
1953	21.4	21.9	21.8	21.7	21.7	21.5	21.3	21.5	21.4
1954	21.5	22.1	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.7	21.5	21.7	21.6
1955	21.5	22.1	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.8	21.5	21.7	21.6
1956	21.8	22.4	22.3	22.2	22.3	22.1	21.9	22.1	22.0
1957	22.5	23.1	23.0	22.9	22.9	22.8	22.5	22.7	22.6
1958	23.1	23.6	23.5	23.4	23.4	23.2	23.0	23.2	23.1
1959	23.4	24.0	23.8	23.8	23.8	23.6	23.4	23.6	23.5
1960	23.7	24.3	24.1	24.1	24.0	23.9	23.6	23.8	23.7
1961	23.9	24.5	24.3	24.2	24.2	24.1	23.8	24.0	23.9
1962	24.2	24.7	24.5	24.5	24.4	24.3	24.1	24.3	24.2
1963	24.6	25.1	24.9	24.9	24.8	24.8	24.6	24.7	24.7
1964	25.1	25.5	25.3	25.3	25.3	25.2	25.0	25.1	25.1
1965	25.7	26.1	25.9	25.9	25.8	25.7	25.5	25.7	25.6
1966	26.6	27.0	26.8	26.8	26.8	26.7	26.5	26.6	26.6
1967	27.6	28.1	27.8	27.8	27.8	27.7	27.5	27.7	27.6
1968	28.7	29.1	28.9	28.9	28.9	28.8	28.6	28.8	28.7
1969	30.0	30.5	30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2	30.0	30.1	30.1
1970	31.0	31.6	31.3	31.3	31.3	31.4	31.2	31.3	31.3
1971	31.9	32.5	32.3	32.3	32.4	32.4	32.2	32.3	32.3
1972	33.4	33.9	33.7	33.8	33.8	33.9	33.7	33.8	33.8
1973	36.0	36.3	36.1	36.2	36.3	36.5	36.4	36.4	36.4
1974	39.9	40.1	39.9	40.0	40.1	40.3	40.3	40.2	40.3
1975	44.2	44.4	44.2	44.3	44.3	44.6	44.6	44.5	44.6
1976	47.5	47.9	47.7	47.8	48.0	48.2	48.2	48.2	48.3
1977	51.3	51.8	51.6	51.7	51.9	52.3	52.3	52.2	52.3
1978	55.9	56.1	56.0	56.2	56.4	56.9	57.1	56.9	57.1
1979	61.0	61.2	61.0	61.2	61.5	61.9	62.2	61.9	62.1
1980	67.2	67.2	67.1	67.2	67.4	67.8	68.0	67.8	67.9
1981	75.5	75.6	75.4	75.5	75.7	75.9	76.1	75.9	76.0
1982	83.7	83.6	83.5	83.6	83.8	83.9	84.1	84.0	84.0
1983	88.5	88.5	88.4	88.5	88.7	88.8	89.0	88.9	88.9
1984	92.4	92.3	92.3	92.3	92.6	92.7	92.8	92.7	92.8
1985	96.0	96.0	95.9	96.0	96.1	96.1	96.1	96.1	96.1
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.4	104.4	104.4	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3
1988	108.6	108.6	108.6	108.6	108.5	108.5	108.4	108.5	108.5
1989	114.0	114.3	114.2	114.2	114.0	113.9	113.7	113.9	113.8
1990	119.5	119.8	119.8	119.7	119.5	119.3	118.9	119.2	119.1
1991	126.2	126.9	126.9	126.7	126.2	126.0	125.2	125.8	125.5
1992	128.1	128.8	128.9	128.6	128.0	127.6	126.7	127.4	127.0
1993	130.4	131.0	131.1	130.8	130.2	129.6	128.7	129.4	129.0
1994	130.7	129.7	129.7	129.6	129.3	128.9	128.6	128.9	128.7
1995	133.5	132.1	132.1	131.9	131.6	131.0	130.6	131.0	130.7
1996	135.6	134.8	134.6	134.4	133.8	133.0	132.5	133.0	132.6

Note: See note to Table 3.

TABLE 15: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH AGE-GROUP CPIs CALCULATED FROM 11 COMMODITY CATEGORIES FOR HUSBAND/WIFE HOUSEHOLDS, LOWEST INCOME QUARTILE, 1949 - 96 (1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Age-group CPI							
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
1949	18.5	19.0	18.8	19.1	19.0	18.7	18.7	18.8	18.7
1950	19.0	19.5	19.3	19.6	19.6	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.2
1951	21.1	21.4	21.3	21.6	21.5	21.2	21.1	21.3	21.2
1952	21.6	22.0	21.8	22.1	22.1	21.7	21.7	21.8	21.7
1953	21.4	21.9	21.7	22.0	22.0	21.7	21.6	21.8	21.7
1954	21.5	22.0	21.8	22.2	22.1	21.8	21.8	21.9	21.8
1955	21.5	22.0	21.8	22.1	22.1	21.8	21.8	21.9	21.8
1956	21.8	22.3	22.1	22.5	22.4	22.1	22.1	22.3	22.2
1957	22.5	23.0	22.8	23.2	23.2	22.8	22.9	23.0	22.9
1958	23.1	23.5	23.3	23.7	23.7	23.3	23.3	23.5	23.4
1959	23.4	23.9	23.7	24.1	24.0	23.7	23.7	23.8	23.7
1960	23.7	24.2	23.9	24.3	24.3	23.9	24.0	24.1	24.0
1961	23.9	24.3	24.1	24.5	24.5	24.1	24.1	24.3	24.1
1962	24.2	24.6	24.3	24.7	24.7	24.4	24.4	24.5	24.4
1963	24.6	24.9	24.7	25.1	25.1	24.8	24.8	24.9	24.8
1964	25.1	25.4	25.1	25.5	25.5	25.2	25.2	25.3	25.2
1965	25.7	25.9	25.7	26.1	26.1	25.8	25.8	25.9	25.8
1966	26.6	26.8	26.6	27.0	27.0	26.7	26.7	26.9	26.7
1967	27.6	27.9	27.5	28.0	28.0	27.7	27.7	27.8	27.7
1968	28.7	29.0	28.6	29.0	29.1	28.8	28.7	28.9	28.8
1969	30.0	30.3	29.8	30.3	30.4	30.1	30.1	30.2	30.1
1970	31.0	31.3	30.9	31.4	31.4	31.2	31.2	31.3	31.2
1971	31.9	32.3	31.9	32.4	32.4	32.2	32.2	32.3	32.2
1972	33.4	33.7	33.3	33.8	33.8	33.6	33.6	33.7	33.7
1973	36.0	36.0	35.7	36.1	36.2	36.1	36.1	36.2	36.2
1974	39.9	39.7	39.5	39.9	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.1	40.1
1975	44.2	44.0	43.8	44.3	44.4	44.4	44.4	44.4	44.4
1976	47.5	47.6	47.3	47.8	47.9	47.9	47.9	47.9	47.9
1977	51.3	51.4	51.1	51.6	51.7	51.8	51.8	51.8	51.9
1978	55.9	55.7	55.6	55.9	56.1	56.4	56.4	56.4	56.5
1979	61.0	60.7	60.6	61.0	61.3	61.6	61.6	61.5	61.7
1980	67.2	66.7	66.7	67.1	67.4	67.6	67.6	67.6	67.7
1981	75.5	75.1	75.3	75.7	75.9	76.0	76.1	76.0	76.1
1982	83.7	83.2	83.5	83.8	84.0	84.0	84.1	84.1	84.2
1983	88.5	88.2	88.3	88.6	88.7	88.8	88.9	88.8	88.9
1984	92.4	92.1	92.3	92.5	92.6	92.7	92.8	92.7	92.8
1985	96.0	95.9	96.0	96.1	96.2	96.1	96.2	96.2	96.2
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.4	104.4	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3
1988	108.6	108.8	108.5	108.4	108.5	108.4	108.4	108.4	108.4
1989	114.0	114.7	114.1	114.0	114.0	113.7	113.7	113.8	113.7
1990	119.5	120.4	119.8	119.5	119.4	119.0	119.0	119.1	119.0
1991	126.2	128.0	126.7	125.9	125.9	125.4	125.1	125.4	125.1
1992	128.1	130.2	128.7	127.7	127.6	127.0	126.7	127.0	126.6
1993	130.4	132.4	131.0	130.0	129.9	129.2	128.9	129.2	128.8
1994	130.7	129.9	129.6	129.5	129.4	129.2	129.0	129.2	129.0
1995	133.5	132.2	132.2	132.2	132.0	131.6	131.5	131.7	131.5
1996	135.6	134.8	134.7	135.0	134.6	133.8	133.7	134.1	133.6

Note: See note to Table 3.

TABLE 16: THE OFFICIAL CPI COMPARED WITH AGE-GROUP CPIs CALCULATED FROM 11 COMMODITY CATEGORIES FOR ONE-PERSON HOUSEHOLDS, LOWEST INCOME QUARTILE, 1949 - 96 (1986 = 100)

Year	Official CPI	Age-group CPI							
		50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
1949	18.5	18.5	18.7	18.4	18.6	18.5	18.1	18.3	18.2
1950	19.0	19.0	19.2	19.0	19.1	19.0	18.7	18.9	18.8
1951	21.1	20.9	21.1	20.9	21.0	21.0	20.6	20.8	20.7
1952	21.6	21.5	21.7	21.4	21.6	21.6	21.2	21.4	21.3
1953	21.4	21.4	21.6	21.3	21.6	21.5	21.2	21.3	21.3
1954	21.5	21.6	21.8	21.5	21.7	21.7	21.4	21.5	21.5
1955	21.5	21.6	21.8	21.5	21.7	21.8	21.4	21.6	21.5
1956	21.8	22.0	22.1	21.9	22.1	22.2	21.8	21.9	21.9
1957	22.5	22.6	22.8	22.5	22.7	22.8	22.4	22.6	22.5
1958	23.1	23.1	23.2	23.0	23.2	23.3	22.9	23.0	23.0
1959	23.4	23.5	23.6	23.4	23.6	23.6	23.3	23.4	23.4
1960	23.7	23.7	23.9	23.6	23.8	23.9	23.5	23.7	23.6
1961	23.9	23.9	24.1	23.8	24.0	24.1	23.7	23.9	23.8
1962	24.2	24.2	24.3	24.0	24.3	24.4	24.0	24.1	24.1
1963	24.6	24.6	24.7	24.4	24.7	24.8	24.5	24.6	24.5
1964	25.1	25.0	25.1	24.9	25.1	25.2	24.9	25.0	25.0
1965	25.7	25.5	25.7	25.4	25.6	25.8	25.4	25.5	25.5
1966	26.6	26.5	26.6	26.4	26.6	26.7	26.4	26.5	26.4
1967	27.6	27.5	27.6	27.4	27.6	27.8	27.4	27.5	27.5
1968	28.7	28.7	28.8	28.5	28.7	28.9	28.5	28.6	28.6
1969	30.0	30.0	30.1	29.8	30.1	30.3	29.9	30.0	30.0
1970	31.0	31.1	31.2	30.9	31.2	31.4	31.1	31.2	31.1
1971	31.9	32.1	32.2	31.9	32.2	32.5	32.1	32.2	32.1
1972	33.4	33.6	33.6	33.4	33.7	34.0	33.6	33.7	33.7
1973	36.0	36.0	36.0	35.9	36.2	36.5	36.3	36.3	36.3
1974	39.9	39.7	39.7	39.7	40.0	40.4	40.2	40.2	40.2
1975	44.2	43.9	44.0	44.0	44.3	44.6	44.6	44.5	44.5
1976	47.5	47.5	47.6	47.6	47.9	48.3	48.2	48.1	48.2
1977	51.3	51.5	51.4	51.5	51.9	52.4	52.2	52.2	52.2
1978	55.9	56.0	55.9	56.2	56.5	57.0	57.1	56.9	57.0
1979	61.0	60.9	61.0	61.3	61.6	62.0	62.2	62.0	62.1
1980	67.2	66.7	66.9	67.1	67.5	67.8	68.0	67.8	67.9
1981	75.5	74.8	75.1	75.4	75.7	75.9	76.1	75.9	76.0
1982	83.7	82.8	83.1	83.4	83.8	83.9	84.1	83.9	84.0
1983	88.5	88.0	88.2	88.3	88.7	88.8	88.9	88.9	88.9
1984	92.4	92.0	92.1	92.3	92.6	92.6	92.8	92.7	92.8
1985	96.0	95.7	95.8	95.9	96.1	96.1	96.1	96.1	96.1
1986	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1987	104.4	104.4	104.4	104.4	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3	104.3
1988	108.6	109.0	108.9	108.7	108.5	108.6	108.4	108.5	108.5
1989	114.0	114.8	114.7	114.4	114.0	114.0	113.7	113.8	113.8
1990	119.5	120.5	120.4	120.0	119.5	119.4	118.9	119.1	119.0
1991	126.2	128.5	128.0	127.3	126.3	126.2	125.2	125.7	125.5
1992	128.1	130.8	130.3	129.3	128.1	127.8	126.7	127.3	127.1
1993	130.4	132.9	132.4	131.4	130.2	129.8	128.6	129.3	129.0
1994	130.7	130.0	129.9	129.2	129.1	128.8	128.5	128.8	128.6
1995	133.5	132.0	132.1	131.4	131.3	130.8	130.6	130.8	130.6
1996	135.6	134.2	134.4	133.6	133.4	132.8	132.4	132.7	132.5

Note: See note to Table 3.

TABLE 17: COMPARISON OF PERCENTAGE EXPENDITURE WEIGHTS BY AGE GROUP,
26 COMMODITY CATEGORIES, LOWEST INCOME QUARTILE

Commodity category	Age group								
	All ages	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
Food purchased from stores	17.8	17.8	18.9	20.2	20.1	21.6	24.7	22.0	23.1
Food purchased from restaurants	4.0	4.7	4.1	3.4	3.0	3.2	2.7	3.0	3.0
Rented accommodation	21.0	16.0	16.5	16.2	20.5	26.4	27.6	26.3	27.6
Owned accommodation	8.3	7.5	8.1	7.1	7.9	5.8	6.8	6.8	6.6
Water, fuel and electricity	4.8	4.8	5.5	6.3	5.8	6.1	6.9	6.5	6.7
Other accommodation	0.7	0.6	0.8	1.4	1.0	0.7	1.1	0.8	0.9
Household operations	6.3	6.1	5.7	6.0	6.5	7.2	7.5	7.2	7.5
Household furnishings	1.9	1.6	1.6	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.1	1.6	1.2
Household equipment	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.1	1.3	1.3
Services related to furnishings	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Clothing and footwear	6.1	6.5	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.4	4.1	4.9	4.6
Private transportation	8.7	12.2	11.5	10.6	9.2	3.6	2.1	4.1	2.2
Local public transportation	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.2
Inter-city public transportation	0.9	0.9	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.8
Health care	2.6	3.1	3.2	3.3	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.2
Personal care supply and equipment	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.1
Personal care services	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.8	1.6	1.7
Recreational equipment	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2
Recr. vehicles & outboard motors	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Home entertainment equip. & services	1.2	0.9	1.1	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.8
Recreational services	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.1	3.2	2.2	2.5	2.7
Reading material & other printed mat.	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.0
Education	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Served alcoholic beverages	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Alcoholic beverages from stores	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.5	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.7
Tobacco products & smokers' suppl.	2.7	3.3	3.4	3.2	2.5	1.9	1.2	1.8	1.4

Note: See note to Table 9.

TABLE 18: COMPARISON OF PERCENTAGE EXPENDITURE WEIGHTS BY AGE GROUP,
11 COMMODITY CATEGORIES, LOWEST INCOME QUARTILE

Commodity category	Age group								
	All ages	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+	65+	70+
Food	21.8	22.5	23.1	23.6	23.2	25.0	27.4	25.0	26.2
Shelter	44.5	38.6	39.8	40.9	45.3	50.3	52.4	50.8	52.3
Clothing and footwear	6.1	6.5	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.4	4.1	4.9	4.6
Private transportation	8.7	12.2	11.5	10.6	9.2	3.7	2.1	4.1	2.2
Local public transportation	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.3
Inter-city public transportation	0.9	0.9	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.8
Health care	2.6	3.1	3.2	3.3	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.2
Personal care	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.8	2.8
Recreation, education & reading	6.4	6.4	5.8	5.8	4.3	4.7	4.0	4.4	4.3
Alcoholic beverages	2.1	2.5	2.4	1.9	1.9	1.1	0.9	1.1	0.9
Tobacco products & smokers' suppl.	2.7	3.3	3.4	3.2	2.5	2.0	1.2	1.8	1.4

Note: See note to Table 9.

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