

Table 21. Selected northeastern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2002-2003

Item	All consumer units in the Northeast	New York	Philadelphia	Boston	Pittsburgh
Number of consumer units (in thousands)	21,748	7,446	2,404	2,605	1,038
Consumer unit characteristics:					
Income before taxes ¹	\$55,278	\$66,643	\$59,006	\$59,648	\$52,988
Age of reference person	49.4	49.2	49.9	47.8	52.6
Average number in consumer unit:					
Persons	2.4	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.3
Children under 186	.7	.7	.6	.5
Persons 65 and over3	.3	.3	.3	.4
Earners	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Vehicles	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.6	2.0
Percent homeowner	64	56	74	62	73
Average annual expenditures					
Food	\$42,274	\$50,319	\$40,986	\$41,814	\$42,102
Food at home	5,771	7,005	4,862	5,627	5,295
Cereals and bakery products	3,301	3,808	2,630	3,303	3,102
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	491	570	411	495	473
Dairy products	883	1,079	711	897	821
Fruits and vegetables	350	396	280	356	322
Other food at home	595	732	470	562	515
Food away from home	981	1,031	758	994	972
Alcoholic beverages	2,470	3,197	2,232	2,324	2,192
Housing	442	469	448	504	403
Shelter	14,687	18,919	14,780	15,211	12,310
Owned dwellings	9,049	12,402	8,843	10,145	6,528
Rented dwellings	5,864	7,640	6,522	6,318	4,562
Other lodging	2,617	4,066	1,867	3,203	1,481
Utilities, fuels, and public services	569	696	454	623	485
Household operations	2,821	3,055	3,105	2,676	2,902
Housekeeping supplies	809	1,113	789	772	639
Household furnishings and equipment	511	553	517	407	532
Apparel and services	1,497	1,796	1,527	1,212	1,708
Transportation	1,911	2,638	2,106	1,610	1,630
Vehicle purchases (net outlay)	7,113	7,729	6,510	7,175	6,972
Gasoline and motor oil	3,038	2,928	2,399	3,518	2,769
Other vehicle expenses	1,120	1,101	1,142	1,159	1,164
Public transportation	2,380	2,658	2,596	2,074	2,639
Health care	575	1,042	374	424	399
Entertainment	2,166	2,235	2,138	2,007	2,459
Personal care products and services	2,200	2,350	2,031	2,019	2,550
Reading	525	643	567	496	533
Education	159	166	132	163	169
Tobacco products and smoking supplies	1,051	1,260	834	1,118	1,139
Miscellaneous	311	266	289	273	492
Cash contributions	639	771	682	473	705
Personal insurance and pensions	1,180	949	1,050	1,016	3,570
Life and other personal insurance	4,120	4,918	4,556	4,121	3,875
Pensions and Social Security	456	531	461	235	485
	3,664	4,388	4,095	3,886	3,390

¹ Components of income and taxes are derived from "complete income reporters" only; see glossary.