

**Table 3023. Selected southern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2005-2006**

Item	All consumer units in the South	Washington, D.C.	Baltimore	Atlanta	Miami	Dallas-Fort Worth	Houston
Number of consumer units (in thousands) .....	42,288	2,194	1,016	2,123	1,628	2,072	1,753
Consumer unit characteristics:							
Income before taxes .....	\$54,756	\$88,551	\$74,508	\$64,217	\$51,232	\$66,261	\$68,659
Age of reference person .....	48.8	45.9	50.6	46.1	50.4	44.9	45.7
Average number in consumer unit:							
Persons .....	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.8
Children under 18 .....	.7	.6	.6	.7	.6	.8	.8
Persons 65 and over .....	.3	.2	.3	.2	.4	.2	.2
Earners .....	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.4
Vehicles .....	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5	2.0	1.9
Percent homeowner .....	69	68	71	69	63	65	70
Average annual expenditures .....	\$43,513	\$58,236	\$47,494	\$43,727	\$42,379	\$53,294	\$56,260
Food .....	5,570	6,357	4,921	5,289	5,637	6,537	6,063
Food at home .....	3,073	3,092	2,883	2,506	3,593	3,573	3,231
Cereals and bakery products .....	404	393	388	323	464	468	382
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	748	687	743	661	910	805	784
Dairy products .....	330	370	286	234	427	392	329
Fruits and vegetables .....	493	642	467	443	727	596	587
Other food at home .....	1,097	1,000	999	846	1,066	1,312	1,149
Food away from home .....	2,498	3,264	2,038	2,783	2,044	2,964	2,832
Alcoholic beverages .....	358	572	390	265	255	461	604
Housing .....	13,938	24,059	17,063	16,158	15,928	17,854	17,198
Shelter .....	7,529	15,976	10,813	9,539	10,053	9,883	9,427
Owned dwellings .....	5,130	11,628	7,744	6,467	6,385	6,793	6,501
Rented dwellings .....	2,028	3,765	2,464	2,523	3,445	2,478	2,293
Other lodging .....	371	582	605	549	222	611	634
Utilities, fuels, and public services .....	3,398	3,827	3,424	3,773	3,421	4,424	4,179
Household operations .....	820	1,447	883	990	856	1,140	1,181
Housekeeping supplies .....	617	603	503	548	532	714	732
Household furnishings and equipment .....	1,575	2,206	1,440	1,307	1,065	1,693	1,679
Apparel and services .....	1,786	2,195	1,805	1,847	1,242	2,048	2,608
Transportation .....	8,244	7,341	7,554	7,599	8,186	9,662	11,636
Vehicle purchases (net outlay) .....	3,593	2,133	2,929	3,146	3,199	3,919	5,305
Gasoline and motor oil .....	2,213	1,958	2,073	2,124	2,069	2,410	2,743
Other vehicle expenses .....	2,134	2,503	2,076	1,965	2,480	2,816	3,068
Public transportation .....	305	747	476	364	437	517	519
Healthcare .....	2,691	2,505	2,551	2,017	2,190	3,075	3,259
Entertainment .....	2,104	2,480	2,186	1,861	1,523	2,285	2,528
Personal care products and services .....	540	625	525	460	633	713	737
Reading .....	89	135	83	72	43	110	114
Education .....	691	1,446	1,840	652	724	799	998
Tobacco products and smoking supplies .....	327	187	242	190	168	260	274
Miscellaneous .....	691	1,039	713	522	524	839	1,025
Cash contributions .....	1,736	1,635	1,578	1,207	1,328	2,077	2,736
Personal insurance and pensions .....	4,748	7,661	6,043	5,587	4,000	6,573	6,478
Life and other personal insurance .....	366	412	463	266	221	382	441
Pensions and Social Security .....	4,382	7,249	5,580	5,321	3,779	6,191	6,038