

**Table 36. Average annual expenditures and percent distribution of all consumer units, selected periods, 1935-36 to 1998-99**

Item	Averages				Percent of current consumption			
	1935-36	1960-61	1972-73	1998-99	1935-36	1960-61	1972-73	1998-99
<b>Characteristics</b>								
Number of consumer units (in thousands) ..	39,458	55,306	71,220	107,824				
Income before taxes .....	\$1,502	\$6,253	\$11,726	\$42,770				
Income after taxes .....	-	5,564	10,174	39,489				
Average consumer unit size .....	3.2	3.2	2.9	2.5				
Percent homeowner .....	-	61	58	65				
<b>Expenditures</b>								
Current Consumption .....	\$1,273	\$5,056	\$7,920	\$30,778	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Food .....	428	1,236	1,679	4,861	33.6	24.4	21.2	15.8
Food at home .....	-	990	1,303	2,848	-	19.6	16.5	9.3
Food away from home .....	-	246	376	2,013	-	4.9	4.7	6.5
Alcoholic beverages .....	-	78	82	313	-	1.5	1.0	1.0
Shelter .....	241	664	1,395	6,796	18.9	13.1	17.6	22.1
Household operations and utilities .....	134	538	715	2,822	10.5	10.6	9.0	9.2
Housefurnishings .....	36	266	378	1,435	2.8	5.3	4.8	4.7
Apparel and services .....	133	519	647	1,649	10.4	10.3	8.2	5.4
Vehicle purchases <sup>1</sup> .....	96	299	714	3,136	7.5	5.9	9.0	10.2
Vehicle operations .....	-	393	935	3,246	-	7.8	11.8	10.5
Public transportation .....	22	77	96	368	1.7	1.5	1.2	1.2
Health care .....	56	340	429	1,919	4.4	6.7	5.4	6.2
Insurance .....	-	90	152	918	-	1.8	1.9	3.0
Services .....	-	168	216	538	-	3.3	2.7	1.7
Drugs .....	-	69	47	358	-	1.4	.6	1.2
Supplies .....	-	13	14	105	-	.3	.2	.3
Entertainment .....	42	200	373	1,710	3.3	4.0	4.7	5.6
Personal care .....	26	145	101	405	2.0	2.9	1.3	1.3
Tobacco .....	24	91	128	287	1.9	1.8	1.6	.9
Education .....	13	54	109	485	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.6
Reading .....	14	45	48	160	1.1	.9	.6	.5
Other items .....	8	111	91	1,187	.6	2.2	1.1	3.9

<sup>1</sup> Vehicle purchases also includes vehicle operations for 1935-36 data.

Dash indicates data not available.