

**Table 23. Selected southern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2009-2010**

Item	All consumer units in the South	Washington, D.C.	Baltimore	Atlanta	Miami	Dallas-Fort Worth	Houston
Number of consumer units (in thousands) .....	44,134	2,143	939	2,139	1,636	2,441	1,837
Consumer unit characteristics:							
Income before taxes .....	\$58,733	\$104,658	\$84,537	\$70,367	\$59,410	\$71,972	\$70,713
Age of reference person .....	49.7	46.9	52.0	45.9	49.4	45.1	47.0
Average number in consumer unit:							
Persons .....	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.9
Children under 18 .....	.6	.7	.6	.7	.6	.8	.8
Persons 65 and older .....	.3	.2	.3	.2	.3	.2	.2
Earners .....	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.6
Vehicles .....	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.4	1.8	2.0
Percent homeowner .....	68	67	69	68	61	60	68
Average annual expenditures .....	\$44,978	\$70,075	\$52,815	\$47,502	\$42,266	\$52,977	\$56,764
Food .....	5,794	7,693	6,158	5,399	5,381	6,673	6,610
Food at home .....	3,407	4,199	3,544	2,938	3,591	3,506	3,527
Cereals and bakery products .....	462	569	487	387	523	456	438
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	795	968	932	705	826	786	817
Dairy products .....	354	453	326	283	448	358	351
Fruits and vegetables .....	585	839	641	509	801	638	638
Other food at home .....	1,211	1,370	1,159	1,054	993	1,267	1,283
Food away from home .....	2,386	3,494	2,614	2,461	1,790	3,168	3,083
Alcoholic beverages .....	347	585	385	365	234	373	541
Housing .....	15,137	25,427	20,642	17,932	18,407	18,181	19,323
Shelter .....	8,322	16,398	13,293	10,849	12,274	10,183	10,903
Owned dwellings .....	5,420	10,630	9,147	7,445	6,967	6,336	7,499
Rented dwellings .....	2,357	4,447	3,137	2,990	4,372	3,338	2,793
Other lodging .....	546	1,321	1,009	415	935	508	612
Utilities, fuels, and public services .....	3,795	4,103	4,276	4,078	3,737	4,346	4,539
Household operations .....	954	1,769	930	1,142	928	1,204	1,494
Housekeeping supplies .....	627	791	613	743	452	704	618
Household furnishings and equipment .....	1,439	2,366	1,530	1,120	1,016	1,744	1,770
Apparel and services .....	1,645	2,666	1,749	1,668	1,493	2,245	2,095
Transportation .....	7,496	10,067	6,566	7,164	6,569	8,016	9,410
Vehicle purchases (net outlay) .....	2,666	3,363	<sup>1</sup> 1,937	2,330	<sup>1</sup> 1,585	2,257	3,351
Gasoline and motor oil .....	2,166	2,139	2,123	2,249	2,149	2,452	2,471
Other vehicle expenses .....	2,343	3,411	2,036	2,148	2,419	2,905	3,058
Public transportation .....	321	1,155	471	438	417	403	531
Healthcare .....	3,036	3,554	3,043	2,668	1,629	3,182	3,413
Entertainment .....	2,406	3,656	2,594	2,230	1,562	2,660	2,833
Personal care products and services .....	579	992	701	656	601	721	755
Reading .....	82	165	92	71	21	81	129
Education .....	758	1,901	1,641	832	567	722	1,176
Tobacco products and smoking supplies .....	397	229	291	213	141	340	341
Miscellaneous .....	742	854	546	883	622	678	1,268
Cash contributions .....	1,662	1,950	1,622	1,511	745	1,989	2,193
Personal insurance and pensions .....	4,897	10,336	6,784	5,911	4,294	7,115	6,677
Life and other personal insurance .....	292	412	318	231	124	411	325
Pensions and Social Security .....	4,605	9,923	6,466	5,679	4,171	6,704	6,352

<sup>1</sup> Data are likely to have large sampling errors.