

Table 21. Selected northeastern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2001-2002

Item	All consumer units in the Northeast	New York	Philadelphia	Boston	Pittsburgh
Number of consumer units (in thousands)	21,127	7,434	2,200	2,552	938
Consumer unit characteristics:					
Income before taxes ¹	\$52,296	\$62,998	\$56,687	\$56,680	\$48,097
Age of reference person	49.3	48.8	50.1	47.1	52.2
Average number in consumer unit:					
Persons	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.3
Children under 186	.7	.8	.7	.5
Persons 65 and over3	.3	.3	.3	.4
Earners	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3
Vehicles	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.9
Percent homeowner	64	56	77	61	73
Average annual expenditures	\$41,785	\$49,931	\$40,346	\$40,245	\$41,626
Food	5,756	6,859	5,168	5,659	5,575
Food at home	3,347	3,855	2,831	3,378	3,224
Cereals and bakery products	504	588	450	484	499
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	908	1,122	747	943	832
Dairy products	362	398	317	366	344
Fruits and vegetables	606	737	525	598	519
Other food at home	966	1,011	791	986	1,030
Food away from home	2,409	3,004	2,338	2,281	2,351
Alcoholic beverages	423	454	424	477	454
Housing	14,499	18,668	14,583	14,693	12,018
Shelter	8,952	12,203	8,713	9,685	6,363
Owned dwellings	5,791	7,627	6,587	5,924	4,237
Rented dwellings	2,551	3,864	1,610	3,082	1,514
Other lodging	610	712	516	679	612
Utilities, fuels, and public services	2,793	3,004	3,114	2,668	2,844
Household operations	791	1,168	766	675	681
Housekeeping supplies	508	548	493	416	607
Household furnishings and equipment	1,455	1,745	1,497	1,249	1,523
Apparel and services	2,017	2,840	2,175	1,480	1,700
Transportation	7,190	7,658	6,466	6,953	8,086
Vehicle purchases (net outlay)	3,083	2,917	2,341	3,021	3,857
Gasoline and motor oil	1,084	1,051	1,146	1,134	1,117
Other vehicle expenses	2,429	2,618	2,672	2,363	2,721
Public transportation	593	1,071	308	435	392
Health care	2,146	2,277	2,068	2,056	2,339
Entertainment	2,072	2,232	2,054	2,043	2,407
Personal care products and services	499	629	486	444	540
Reading	167	177	140	187	168
Education	897	1,063	801	855	1,012
Tobacco products and smoking supplies	310	267	294	330	411
Miscellaneous	858	1,313	747	496	996
Cash contributions	1,104	1,055	961	690	2,108
Personal insurance and pensions	3,848	4,439	3,977	3,880	3,812
Life and other personal insurance	432	433	448	259	420
Pensions and Social Security	3,415	4,005	3,529	3,621	3,392

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