

Table 23. Selected southern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 1996-97

Item	All consumer units in the South	Washington, D.C.	Baltimore	Atlanta	Miami	Tampa	Dallas-Fort Worth	Houston
Number of consumer units (in thousands)	36,635	1,648	967	1,582	1,476	1,074	1,874	1,534
Consumer unit characteristics:								
Income before taxes ¹	\$35,631	\$58,210	\$44,622	\$46,693	\$37,537	\$35,972	\$44,530	\$42,529
Age of reference person	47.7	46.3	49.0	44.0	51.3	51.2	43.9	43.3
Average number in consumer unit:								
Persons	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.3	2.7	2.9
Children under 187	.7	.7	.7	.7	.5	.8	.9
Persons 65 and over3	.3	.3	.2	.4	.4	.2	.2
Earners	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.5
Vehicles	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.9	1.4	1.8	1.9	1.9
Percent homeowner	66	66	66	64	60	73	57	55
Average annual expenditures	\$32,547	\$47,935	\$34,716	\$39,373	\$31,876	\$34,084	\$42,355	\$38,208
Food	4,429	5,701	5,186	4,031	5,053	4,526	5,572	4,830
Food at home	2,749	3,218	3,312	2,192	3,222	2,843	3,254	2,812
Cereals and bakery products	416	493	507	337	490	420	517	404
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	747	700	1,046	639	882	785	908	691
Dairy products	282	365	315	213	351	292	319	277
Fruits and vegetables	437	655	490	353	594	462	518	504
Other food at home	867	1,005	955	650	906	884	992	936
Food away from home	1,680	2,484	1,874	1,839	1,830	1,683	2,318	2,017
Alcoholic beverages	251	422	290	297	387	329	359	283
Housing	9,819	17,405	11,258	13,663	11,322	11,059	12,457	11,810
Shelter	5,042	10,927	6,725	7,746	6,857	5,597	6,656	6,365
Owned dwellings	3,108	7,034	4,737	5,073	3,694	3,739	3,616	3,586
Rented dwellings	1,598	2,903	1,742	2,114	2,896	1,440	2,599	2,462
Other lodging	337	990	246	559	266	418	442	318
Utilities, fuels, and public services	2,456	2,769	2,377	2,961	2,381	2,476	2,842	2,638
Household operations	526	1,112	386	959	536	729	877	705
Housekeeping supplies	421	557	442	382	422	488	476	452
Household furnishings and equipment	1,374	2,040	1,328	1,615	1,127	1,770	1,606	1,649
Apparel and services	1,637	2,284	1,831	2,039	1,590	1,315	2,060	1,867
Transportation	6,704	7,979	5,522	7,603	5,045	6,958	10,188	8,590
Vehicle purchases (net outlay)	3,262	3,184	2,401	3,235	1,815	2,931	5,814	4,225
Gasoline and motor oil	1,134	1,179	947	1,173	924	1,016	1,385	1,334
Other vehicle expenses	2,029	2,690	1,884	2,799	1,978	2,565	2,683	2,657
Public transportation	279	927	290	397	327	446	306	375
Health care	1,907	2,165	1,614	2,087	1,325	1,953	1,922	1,901
Entertainment	1,694	2,247	1,557	2,054	1,142	1,920	1,658	1,682
Personal care products and services	526	731	602	599	629	465	695	603
Reading	133	291	129	218	84	160	132	119
Education	449	923	748	532	555	360	586	498
Tobacco products and smoking supplies	271	169	215	270	122	299	281	287
Miscellaneous	799	1,110	742	815	590	907	1,157	1,114
Cash contributions	1,042	1,090	614	1,308	1,288	1,048	1,423	791
Personal insurance and pensions	2,887	5,418	4,408	3,856	2,745	2,786	3,863	3,832
Life and other personal insurance	401	636	626	540	333	237	342	377
Pensions and Social Security	2,486	4,781	3,783	3,317	2,412	2,549	3,521	3,454

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