

Table 23. Selected southern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 1997-98

Item	All consumer units in the South	Washington, D.C.	Baltimore	Atlanta	Miami	Tampa	Dallas-Fort Worth	Houston
Number of consumer units (in thousands)	37,085	1,757	926	1,653	1,414	1,021	1,974	1,672
Consumer unit characteristics:								
Income before taxes ¹	\$37,018	\$61,623	\$45,848	\$48,315	\$43,719	\$35,400	\$47,852	\$45,705
Age of reference person	47.6	45.7	49.3	45.0	49.5	51.9	43.9	43.4
Average number in consumer unit:								
Persons	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.2	2.6	2.8
Children under 187	.8	.7	.7	.8	.5	.8	.9
Persons 65 and over3	.2	.3	.2	.3	.4	.2	.2
Earners	1.3	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.6	1.5
Vehicles	1.9	2.0	1.6	2.1	1.6	1.7	2.0	1.8
Percent homeowner	66	66	65	67	63	73	58	54
Average annual expenditures								
Food	\$32,553	\$46,679	\$35,552	\$39,315	\$35,131	\$33,036	\$44,182	\$40,017
Food at home	4,446	5,296	4,793	4,010	4,317	4,670	5,994	4,906
Cereals and bakery products	2,680	2,948	2,988	2,153	2,478	2,909	3,077	2,736
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	400	432	431	322	373	429	515	376
Dairy products	731	634	988	585	728	851	754	751
Fruits and vegetables	281	335	279	203	274	312	349	265
Other food at home	431	616	449	380	444	443	511	469
Food away from home	837	931	841	664	658	875	948	874
Alcoholic beverages	1,765	2,348	1,805	1,857	1,839	1,761	2,917	2,170
Housing	239	450	296	175	238	390	382	276
Shelter	10,119	17,129	11,949	13,481	12,911	10,964	13,315	12,231
Owned dwellings	5,232	10,865	7,304	7,716	7,815	5,761	7,200	6,536
Rented dwellings	3,224	7,056	4,921	5,070	4,412	3,764	3,965	3,539
Other lodging	1,666	2,907	1,980	2,116	3,087	1,601	2,831	2,605
Utilities, fuels, and public services	342	902	402	529	316	396	404	392
Household operations	2,491	2,732	2,361	3,040	2,662	2,430	2,907	2,802
Housekeeping supplies	539	954	501	793	841	672	862	727
Household furnishings and equipment	458	512	412	339	354	464	497	457
Apparel and services	1,399	2,067	1,372	1,592	1,239	1,637	1,849	1,710
Transportation	1,637	2,228	1,650	1,716	1,494	1,353	2,412	1,878
Vehicle purchases (net outlay)	6,547	7,721	5,493	8,787	6,973	6,123	8,985	9,118
Gasoline and motor oil	3,149	3,318	2,236	4,287	2,819	2,686	4,701	4,657
Other vehicle expenses	1,073	1,112	952	1,158	952	911	1,290	1,254
Public transportation	2,043	2,593	1,956	2,970	2,810	2,173	2,630	2,829
Health care	282	698	349	372	393	352	364	378
Entertainment	1,944	2,240	1,600	1,872	1,418	1,844	2,102	1,935
Personal care products and services	1,521	2,262	1,830	1,768	1,486	1,499	1,793	1,804
Reading	406	638	411	368	363	346	664	490
Education	127	263	126	201	94	141	146	132
Tobacco products and smoking supplies	429	922	531	553	477	295	652	510
Miscellaneous	271	217	211	203	183	298	295	329
Cash contributions	764	1,061	835	826	562	818	1,125	1,158
Personal insurance and pensions	1,085	857	1,053	1,462	1,010	1,336	1,777	1,059
Life and other personal insurance	3,018	5,396	4,773	3,892	3,604	2,960	4,539	4,190
Pensions and Social Security	419	644	715	513	424	258	466	440
Pensions and Social Security	2,600	4,752	4,058	3,379	3,180	2,703	4,073	3,750

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