

Table 23. Selected southern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2002-2003

| Item | All consumer units in the South | Washington, D.C. | Baltimore | Atlanta | Miami | Tampa | Dallas-Fort Worth | Houston |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| Number of consumer units (in thousands) | 40,664 | 2,090 | 1,083 | 1,804 | 1,681 | 937 | 2,159 | 1,756 |
| Consumer unit characteristics: | | | | | | | | |
| Income before taxes ¹ | \$46,201 | \$73,732 | \$58,371 | \$60,529 | \$48,411 | \$49,794 | \$63,972 | \$57,114 |
| Age of reference person | 48.2 | 45.9 | 51.8 | 45.8 | 48.4 | 50.3 | 46.1 | 45.0 |
| Average number in consumer unit: | | | | | | | | |
| Persons | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.7 | 2.4 | 2.6 | 2.8 |
| Children under 18 | .6 | .7 | .7 | .7 | .7 | .6 | .7 | .9 |
| Persons 65 and over | .3 | .2 | .4 | .2 | .4 | .4 | .2 | .2 |
| Earners | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.5 |
| Vehicles | 1.9 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.9 |
| Percent homeowner | 69 | 71 | 69 | 73 | 63 | 73 | 66 | 60 |
| Average annual expenditures | \$37,456 | \$50,985 | \$39,909 | \$39,549 | \$42,656 | \$35,776 | \$49,899 | \$47,434 |
| Food | 5,030 | 6,288 | 5,411 | 5,085 | 5,704 | 4,074 | 6,537 | 5,822 |
| Food at home | 2,978 | 3,180 | 3,148 | 2,811 | 3,757 | 2,429 | 3,697 | 3,026 |
| Cereals and bakery products | 417 | 446 | 436 | 375 | 520 | 330 | 492 | 401 |
| Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs | 822 | 806 | 911 | 841 | 1,058 | 681 | 1,007 | 809 |
| Dairy products | 299 | 320 | 287 | 279 | 425 | 263 | 368 | 328 |
| Fruits and vegetables | 500 | 633 | 550 | 539 | 732 | 464 | 604 | 512 |
| Other food at home | 940 | 974 | 965 | 778 | 1,022 | 691 | 1,226 | 977 |
| Food away from home | 2,051 | 3,109 | 2,263 | 2,274 | 1,947 | 1,645 | 2,840 | 2,795 |
| Alcoholic beverages | 314 | 641 | 465 | 279 | 432 | 425 | 405 | 346 |
| Housing | 11,888 | 18,863 | 13,801 | 14,548 | 16,178 | 13,355 | 15,726 | 15,121 |
| Shelter | 6,571 | 12,189 | 8,648 | 8,783 | 10,161 | 7,800 | 9,209 | 8,515 |
| Owned dwellings | 4,427 | 8,641 | 6,102 | 6,383 | 6,685 | 5,561 | 6,065 | 5,417 |
| Rented dwellings | 1,773 | 2,958 | 2,036 | 2,024 | 3,155 | 1,889 | 2,528 | 2,719 |
| Other lodging | 371 | 589 | 510 | 376 | 321 | 350 | 616 | 379 |
| Utilities, fuels, and public services | 2,834 | 3,067 | 2,767 | 3,421 | 3,068 | 3,021 | 3,538 | 3,284 |
| Household operations | 678 | 932 | 598 | 699 | 991 | 848 | 794 | 1,030 |
| Housekeeping supplies | 493 | 648 | 588 | 401 | 524 | 398 | 559 | 585 |
| Household furnishings and equipment | 1,313 | 2,028 | 1,199 | 1,243 | 1,434 | 1,288 | 1,627 | 1,707 |
| Apparel and services | 1,520 | 2,240 | 1,920 | 1,567 | 1,545 | 994 | 2,055 | 2,078 |
| Transportation | 7,509 | 7,853 | 5,605 | 7,400 | 8,348 | 7,291 | 9,815 | 9,891 |
| Vehicle purchases (net outlay) | 3,744 | 3,374 | 1,852 | 3,610 | 3,709 | 3,546 | 4,939 | 5,243 |
| Gasoline and motor oil | 1,281 | 1,318 | 1,139 | 1,222 | 1,324 | 1,142 | 1,510 | 1,467 |
| Other vehicle expenses | 2,225 | 2,454 | 2,215 | 2,289 | 2,868 | 2,407 | 3,018 | 2,794 |
| Public transportation | 259 | 707 | 400 | 280 | 447 | 196 | 348 | 386 |
| Health care | 2,413 | 2,289 | 2,108 | 1,903 | 2,059 | 2,167 | 2,833 | 2,494 |
| Entertainment | 1,759 | 2,340 | 1,756 | 1,463 | 1,549 | 1,684 | 2,135 | 2,515 |
| Personal care products and services | 502 | 651 | 643 | 422 | 589 | 383 | 624 | 648 |
| Reading | 98 | 164 | 101 | 59 | 65 | 88 | 125 | 115 |
| Education | 535 | 1,219 | 717 | 596 | 690 | 388 | 558 | 728 |
| Tobacco products and smoking supplies | 297 | 184 | 295 | 145 | 256 | 308 | 253 | 316 |
| Miscellaneous | 658 | 732 | 539 | 626 | 1,334 | 564 | 594 | 721 |
| Cash contributions | 1,270 | 1,474 | 1,092 | 1,016 | 595 | 773 | 2,150 | 1,823 |
| Personal insurance and pensions | 3,662 | 6,046 | 5,456 | 4,438 | 3,313 | 3,283 | 6,089 | 4,816 |
| Life and other personal insurance | 385 | 537 | 405 | 494 | 231 | 372 | 430 | 403 |
| Pensions and Social Security | 3,277 | 5,509 | 5,051 | 3,945 | 3,082 | 2,911 | 5,659 | 4,413 |

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