

Table 23. Selected southern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 1998-1999

Item	All consumer units in the South	Washington, D.C.	Baltimore	Atlanta	Miami	Tampa	Dallas-Fort Worth	Houston
Number of consumer units (in thousands)	37,577	1,852	941	1,725	1,402	1,019	2,035	1,700
Consumer unit characteristics:								
Income before taxes ¹	\$39,371	\$65,387	\$48,355	\$49,483	\$45,233	\$40,101	\$52,874	\$50,313
Age of reference person	47.6	46.5	48.7	45.6	49.2	50.8	44.6	44.8
Average number in consumer unit:								
Persons	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.6	2.8
Children under 187	.7	.7	.7	.7	.5	.7	.9
Persons 65 and over3	.3	.3	.2	.4	.4	.2	.2
Earners	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.5
Vehicles	1.9	1.9	1.7	2.0	1.6	1.7	1.9	1.9
Percent homeowner	67	64	66	68	64	70	59	56
Average annual expenditures	\$33,135	\$46,801	\$39,782	\$38,727	\$38,099	\$32,928	\$44,224	\$43,038
Food	4,533	5,358	5,165	4,449	4,791	4,750	6,490	5,624
Food at home	2,660	2,907	2,967	2,390	2,884	2,741	3,512	2,948
Cereals and bakery products	401	412	441	365	465	398	535	409
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	725	696	799	649	905	786	910	819
Dairy products	282	291	312	234	326	295	384	294
Fruits and vegetables	438	602	502	415	497	438	601	522
Other food at home	815	906	913	727	692	825	1,082	904
Food away from home	1,873	2,451	2,198	2,060	1,908	2,009	2,979	2,676
Alcoholic beverages	253	419	371	240	306	405	329	412
Housing	10,303	16,386	13,484	13,740	13,966	11,040	13,227	13,108
Shelter	5,467	10,477	8,164	8,136	8,446	6,255	7,358	7,166
Owned dwellings	3,465	6,505	5,751	5,397	5,384	3,832	4,393	4,122
Rented dwellings	1,641	3,052	1,784	2,230	2,744	1,873	2,662	2,572
Other lodging	361	921	629	508	319	550	302	472
Utilities, fuels, and public services	2,482	2,640	2,356	3,054	2,724	2,457	2,909	2,882
Household operations	553	815	606	793	1,017	639	797	762
Housekeeping supplies	473	473	661	340	407	449	538	489
Household furnishings and equipment	1,328	1,981	1,697	1,417	1,372	1,240	1,624	1,809
Apparel and services	1,610	2,279	1,660	1,712	1,734	1,330	2,492	1,950
Transportation	6,738	8,171	6,347	8,058	7,425	5,986	7,835	9,569
Vehicle purchases (net outlay)	3,354	3,914	2,801	3,814	2,840	2,602	3,687	5,039
Gasoline and motor oil	1,052	1,040	1,012	1,074	1,085	900	1,272	1,243
Other vehicle expenses	2,033	2,463	2,100	2,824	3,054	2,074	2,468	2,853
Public transportation	298	755	435	346	446	411	407	435
Health care	1,971	2,202	1,581	1,835	1,481	2,294	2,148	1,919
Entertainment	1,574	2,261	2,104	1,692	1,780	1,471	2,011	1,847
Personal care products and services	393	640	462	343	408	292	528	537
Reading	121	244	129	177	88	118	163	130
Education	431	856	671	545	433	392	535	490
Tobacco products and smoking supplies	288	228	243	198	204	284	301	346
Miscellaneous	750	1,038	2,090	727	608	707	794	959
Cash contributions	1,122	1,366	1,122	1,488	1,059	834	2,251	1,388
Personal insurance and pensions	3,048	5,353	4,354	3,523	3,815	3,026	5,121	4,758
Life and other personal insurance	414	674	433	503	341	324	545	478
Pensions and Social Security	2,635	4,679	3,921	3,020	3,474	2,702	4,575	4,280

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