

**Table 21. Selected northeastern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 1999-2000**

Item	All consumer units in the Northeast	New York	Philadelphia	Boston	Pittsburgh
Number of consumer units (in thousands) .....	20,987	7,483	2,074	2,512	1,010
Consumer unit characteristics:					
Income before taxes <sup>1</sup> .....	\$47,876	\$57,063	\$49,932	\$49,557	\$41,371
Age of reference person .....	49.4	49.1	50.6	48.4	52.3
Average number in consumer unit:					
Persons .....	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.3
Children under 18 .....	.6	.7	.6	.6	.5
Persons 65 and over .....	.3	.3	.3	.3	.4
Earners .....	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.2
Vehicles .....	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.5	1.7
Percent homeowner .....	63	54	75	61	73
Average annual expenditures .....	\$38,763	\$46,277	\$39,666	\$37,727	\$35,526
Food .....	5,429	6,416	5,408	4,924	5,032
Food at home .....	3,144	3,611	3,062	2,596	2,682
Cereals and bakery products .....	489	555	464	400	444
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	857	1,049	855	702	702
Dairy products .....	357	392	347	298	323
Fruits and vegetables .....	572	695	571	506	433
Other food at home .....	869	920	824	689	780
Food away from home .....	2,285	2,805	2,346	2,328	2,350
Alcoholic beverages .....	379	422	360	457	356
Housing .....	13,431	16,838	14,235	13,362	10,451
Shelter .....	8,239	10,962	8,455	8,633	5,293
Owned dwellings .....	5,271	6,634	6,107	5,455	3,420
Rented dwellings .....	2,429	3,697	1,688	2,636	1,421
Other lodging .....	539	630	660	543	452
Utilities, fuels, and public services .....	2,512	2,687	2,864	2,362	2,490
Household operations .....	650	915	616	667	383
Housekeeping supplies .....	516	544	533	384	675
Household furnishings and equipment .....	1,513	1,731	1,767	1,315	1,610
Apparel and services .....	1,998	2,832	1,826	1,805	1,995
Transportation .....	6,565	7,003	6,872	6,587	6,359
Vehicle purchases (net outlay) .....	2,713	2,607	2,879	2,808	2,505
Gasoline and motor oil .....	1,000	982	931	965	1,026
Other vehicle expenses .....	2,283	2,513	2,576	2,214	2,465
Public transportation .....	569	900	487	599	363
Health care .....	1,833	1,960	1,779	1,740	2,073
Entertainment .....	1,915	2,229	1,667	1,939	1,840
Personal care products and services .....	569	712	597	522	562
Reading .....	184	214	167	202	159
Education .....	881	1,119	1,135	1,031	495
Tobacco products and smoking supplies .....	322	325	306	319	388
Miscellaneous .....	782	902	854	598	935
Cash contributions .....	1,082	1,299	1,146	854	1,458
Personal insurance and pensions .....	3,396	4,006	3,313	3,388	3,424
Life and other personal insurance .....	413	526	459	387	463
Pensions and Social Security .....	2,983	3,480	2,853	3,002	2,962

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