

**Table 21. Selected northeastern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2000-2001**

Item	All consumer units in the Northeast	New York	Philadelphia	Boston	Pittsburgh
Number of consumer units (in thousands) .....	20,967	7,444	2,044	2,540	943
Consumer unit characteristics:					
Income before taxes <sup>1</sup> .....	\$49,080	\$58,993	\$52,761	\$50,430	\$44,811
Age of reference person .....	49.5	49.4	51.3	48.1	51.9
Average number in consumer unit:					
Persons .....	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.3
Children under 18 .....	.6	.7	.7	.7	.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	1.6	1.6	1.8
Percent homeowner .....	63	55	76	59	73
Average annual expenditures .....					
Food .....	\$40,074	\$48,237	\$38,523	\$37,740	\$38,783
Food at home .....	5,535	6,408	5,394	5,297	5,479
Cereals and bakery products .....	3,299	3,740	3,123	3,111	3,012
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	501	571	472	442	479
Dairy products .....	911	1,101	854	881	773
Fruits and vegetables .....	364	392	345	333	343
Other food at home .....	593	712	589	557	479
Food away from home .....	930	964	863	898	937
Alcoholic beverages .....	2,236	2,669	2,271	2,186	2,468
Housing .....	388	450	373	389	445
Shelter .....	13,972	17,893	13,702	13,754	11,406
Owned dwellings .....	8,582	11,624	8,079	8,889	5,884
Rented dwellings .....	5,509	7,180	6,036	5,308	3,733
Other lodging .....	2,485	3,763	1,491	3,006	1,456
Utilities, fuels, and public services .....	588	681	551	575	695
Household operations .....	2,702	2,885	3,034	2,566	2,737
Housekeeping supplies .....	711	1,084	660	671	522
Household furnishings and equipment .....	524	542	508	395	589
Apparel and services .....	1,453	1,757	1,421	1,233	1,674
Transportation .....	2,094	3,000	2,078	1,698	1,787
Vehicle purchases (net outlay) .....	6,928	7,295	6,606	6,342	7,715
Gasoline and motor oil .....	2,925	2,776	2,652	2,332	3,452
Other vehicle expenses .....	1,090	1,044	1,076	1,080	1,147
Public transportation .....	2,326	2,497	2,497	2,395	2,712
Health care .....	587	977	381	536	404
Entertainment .....	1,973	2,128	1,923	1,983	2,151
Personal care products and services .....	1,885	2,183	1,660	1,754	1,968
Reading .....	529	656	526	455	563
Education .....	171	195	144	193	164
Tobacco products and smoking supplies .....	777	974	848	894	667
Miscellaneous .....	315	289	292	369	387
Cash contributions .....	861	1,317	671	556	1,021
Personal insurance and pensions .....	1,079	1,353	837	666	1,325
Life and other personal insurance .....	3,571	4,097	3,466	3,388	3,704
Pensions and Social Security .....	414	460	385	321	486
Pensions and Social Security .....	3,157	3,638	3,081	3,068	3,218

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