

Table 23. Selected southern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2010-2011

Item	All consumer units in the South	Washington, D.C.	Baltimore	Atlanta	Miami	Dallas-Fort Worth	Houston
Number of consumer units (in thousands)	44,675	2,105	944	2,331	1,638	2,504	1,992
Consumer unit characteristics:							
Income before taxes	\$58,802	\$108,724	\$92,055	\$69,914	\$52,934	\$70,942	\$67,442
Age of reference person	50.0	48.2	52.1	46.7	51.3	45.6	45.8
Average number in consumer unit:							
Persons	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.8	3.0
Children under 186	.6	.7	.7	.5	.8	.9
Persons 65 and older3	.3	.3	.2	.3	.2	.2
Earners	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.6
Vehicles	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.7	1.4	1.8	2.0
Percent homeowner	68	67	73	69	57	61	66
Average annual expenditures							
Food	\$44,978	\$72,448	\$55,363	\$49,692	\$38,354	\$54,628	\$54,659
Food at home	5,813	8,342	6,920	5,798	4,933	6,994	6,857
Cereals and bakery products	3,421	4,482	4,061	3,291	3,358	3,949	3,702
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	466	592	614	440	470	550	478
Dairy products	787	1,011	927	791	848	885	802
Fruits and vegetables	348	466	375	327	383	388	358
Other food at home	601	875	727	591	740	748	717
Food away from home	1,218	1,538	1,419	1,143	917	1,378	1,347
Alcoholic beverages	2,393	3,860	2,859	2,507	1,575	3,045	3,155
Housing	356	740	372	431	228	383	430
Shelter	14,940	25,590	20,695	18,448	15,911	18,241	18,287
Owned dwellings	8,116	16,628	12,946	10,681	10,391	10,248	9,925
Rented dwellings	5,169	10,724	8,829	7,301	5,245	6,407	6,487
Other lodging	2,429	4,309	2,921	2,879	4,813	3,371	2,853
Utilities, fuels, and public services	518	1,596	1,196	502	334	470	585
Household operations	3,872	4,254	4,424	4,348	3,496	4,461	4,472
Housekeeping supplies	962	1,740	1,024	1,166	701	1,237	1,483
Household furnishings and equipment	577	720	687	724	458	739	620
Apparel and services	1,412	2,247	1,615	1,528	865	1,557	1,788
Transportation	1,561	2,775	1,719	1,644	897	2,260	2,218
Vehicle purchases (net outlay)	7,929	10,889	6,606	7,998	6,039	9,314	9,146
Gasoline and motor oil	2,728	3,176	¹ 1,962	2,761	¹ 1,149	3,175	2,542
Other vehicle expenses	2,513	2,479	2,401	2,645	2,268	2,918	3,050
Public and other transportation	2,358	4,009	1,877	2,060	2,205	2,833	2,975
Cash contributions	331	1,224	366	533	418	388	578
Health care	3,101	4,306	3,283	2,724	1,872	3,464	3,224
Entertainment	2,353	3,710	2,876	2,281	1,404	2,675	2,642
Personal care products and services	586	1,049	646	647	542	827	784
Reading	84	196	110	76	23	103	132
Education	689	1,300	2,173	1,064	526	632	1,130
Tobacco products and smoking supplies	396	232	260	167	197	420	365
Miscellaneous	688	1,184	456	724	430	582	1,125
Cash contributions	1,623	2,130	1,679	1,624	765	1,949	2,320
Personal insurance and pensions	4,858	10,004	7,567	6,067	4,585	6,783	6,000
Life and other personal insurance	296	436	380	235	138	384	319
Pensions and Social Security	4,562	9,568	7,187	5,833	4,447	6,399	5,680

¹ Data are likely to have large sampling errors.