

**Table 3002. Selected northeastern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2005-2006**

Item	All consumer units in the Northeast	New York	Philadelphia	Boston
Number of consumer units (in thousands) .....	22,557	8,155	2,856	3,127
Consumer unit characteristics:				
Income before taxes .....	\$63,655	\$73,243	\$60,304	\$76,273
Age of reference person .....	49.9	50.6	48.4	47.3
Average number in consumer unit:				
Persons .....	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.3
Children under 18 .....	.6	.6	.6	.6
Persons 65 and over .....	.3	.3	.3	.2
Earners .....	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4
Vehicles .....	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.8
Percent homeowner .....	65	58	71	63
Average annual expenditures .....				
Food .....	\$48,564	\$55,137	\$45,922	\$53,691
Food at home .....	6,357	7,101	6,031	6,865
Food away from home .....	3,554	3,877	3,372	3,760
Cereals and bakery products .....	493	533	454	561
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs .....	851	989	834	866
Dairy products .....	402	425	382	405
Fruits and vegetables .....	643	759	620	634
Other food at home .....	1,165	1,172	1,082	1,295
Food away from home .....	2,803	3,224	2,659	3,105
Alcoholic beverages .....	480	488	437	573
Housing .....	17,072	20,865	16,417	18,922
Shelter .....	10,572	13,848	9,722	12,256
Owned dwellings .....	7,004	8,613	6,748	8,351
Rented dwellings .....	2,905	4,424	2,510	3,020
Other lodging .....	663	812	464	885
Utilities, fuels, and public services .....	3,498	3,709	3,771	3,590
Household operations .....	849	1,019	877	918
Housekeeping supplies .....	619	599	634	584
Household furnishings and equipment .....	1,535	1,689	1,413	1,574
Apparel and services .....	2,046	2,746	2,063	1,690
Transportation .....	7,776	7,792	7,092	9,170
Vehicle purchases (net outlay) .....	2,902	2,416	2,661	4,011
Gasoline and motor oil .....	1,836	1,798	1,783	1,958
Other vehicle expenses .....	2,405	2,555	2,227	2,625
Public transportation .....	633	1,022	421	576
Healthcare .....	2,586	2,607	2,188	2,794
Entertainment .....	2,305	2,451	1,871	2,555
Personal care products and services .....	549	659	575	554
Reading .....	140	133	108	189
Education .....	1,232	1,597	1,064	1,779
Tobacco products and smoking supplies .....	331	245	371	302
Miscellaneous .....	853	1,132	561	699
Cash contributions .....	1,421	1,353	1,301	1,330
Personal insurance and pensions .....	5,416	5,968	5,842	6,269
Life and other personal insurance .....	354	380	323	360
Pensions and Social Security .....	5,062	5,588	5,519	5,909