

Table 10 shows average dollar expenditure per family by main expenditure categories for families of two or more, by main regions and for the composite of 60 urban centres. The expenditure pattern of one-person units is shown only for the composite of 60 urban centres. It should be noted that the term "family" in these surveys is used synonymously with *spending unit*, which is defined as a group of persons dependent on a common or pooled income for the major items of expense, and living in the same dwelling. One-person spending units are defined as financially independent individuals; this group, however, does not include unmarried sons or daughters living in their parents' households.

Average of total family expenditure for 1,672 families in 60 urban centres was \$5,570, or \$1,505 per person. Although the level of family expenditure was \$740 higher than expenditure of the restricted group surveyed in 1957, the percentage distribution of expenditure among main consumption categories was not significantly different. Approximately 40 p.c. of 1959 expenditure of families of two or more was allocated to food and shelter, with 23.8 p.c. going to food and 16.4 p.c. to housing, fuel, light and water. About 4 p.c. of total family expenditure was for household operation, 5 p.c. for furnishings and equipment and 9 p.c. for clothing. The remaining expenditure on commodities and services amounted to 27 p.c., of which automobile purchase and operation constituted 9 p.c. Outlays not classified as current consumption, representing gifts, contributions, personal taxes and security were 15 p.c. of total expenditure.

Shelter was a major item in the outlay of one-person units, amounting to 22.4 p.c. of total expenditure, while food accounted for 21.6 p.c. The proportions allocated to other categories of current consumption were generally below those for families of two or more. Gifts and contributions bulked more largely in the one-person pattern, averaging 6.1 p.c. of total expenditure in contrast to 3.0 for families of two or more.

#### 10.—Average Family Expenditure, by Regions, in Cities of 15,000 or Over, 1959

Item	Families of Two or More						One-Person Units
	Atlantic Provinces	Quebec	Ontario	Prairie Provinces	British Columbia	Canada Composite	Canada Composite
Number of urban centres.....	9	12	26	9	4	60	60
Number of families.....	144	405	571	346	206	1,672	288
Average family size.....	4.17	3.99	3.53	3.64	3.50	3.70	1.00
<b>DOLLARS PER FAMILY</b>							
Food.....	1,351	1,480	1,234	1,296	1,295	1,323	—
Housing, fuel, light, water.....	785	892	953	869	902	911	—
Household operation.....	195	203	223	208	221	214	—
Furnishings and equipment.....	233	250	275	334	316	277	—
Clothing.....	407	603	463	530	474	508	—
Other commodities and services.....	1,185	1,442	1,558	1,641	1,598	1,518	—
Gifts and contributions, personal taxes, security.....	604	746	868	876	854	819	—
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>4,760</b>	<b>5,616</b>	<b>5,574</b>	<b>5,754</b>	<b>5,660</b>	<b>5,570</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>DOLLARS PER PERSON</b>							
Food.....	322	370	350	356	370	358	531
Housing, fuel, light, water.....	187	223	270	239	258	246	551
Household operation.....	47	51	63	57	63	58	101
Furnishings and equipment.....	56	63	78	92	90	75	70
Clothing.....	97	151	131	145	135	137	201
Other commodities and services.....	283	360	441	451	457	410	601
Gifts and contributions, personal taxes, security.....	144	186	246	241	244	221	401
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>1,136</b>	<b>1,404</b>	<b>1,579</b>	<b>1,581</b>	<b>1,617</b>	<b>1,505</b>	<b>2,456</b>