

TABLE 2.—Consumers' expectations regarding their financial situation a year hence

[In percent]

| Expected change in financial situation               | November to December 1956 | October 1958 | May to June 1959 | October to November 1959 | January to February 1960 | May 1960 | October to November 1960 | January to February 1961 | May to June 1961 | November 1961 | May 1962 |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------------|----------|
| <b>A. All families:</b>                              |                           |              |                  |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                  |               |          |
| Better off.....                                      | 32                        | 31           | 34               | 33                       | 40                       | 35       | 31                       | 37                       | 38               | 33            | 37       |
| Same.....                                            | 48                        | 46           | 48               | 47                       | 40                       | 45       | 47                       | 42                       | 45               | 48            | 47       |
| Uncertain.....                                       | 14                        | 15           | 12               | 15                       | 12                       | 13       | 17                       | 13                       | 10               | 13            | 10       |
| Worse off.....                                       | 6                         | 7            | 5                | 5                        | 7                        | 6        | 5                        | 7                        | 6                | 5             | 5        |
| Not ascertained.....                                 | (1)                       | 1            | 1                | (1)                      | 1                        | 1        | (1)                      | 1                        | 1                | 1             | 1        |
| Total.....                                           | 100                       | 100          | 100              | 100                      | 100                      | 100      | 100                      | 100                      | 100              | 100           | 100      |
| <b>B. Families with incomes of \$7,500 and over:</b> |                           |              |                  |                          |                          |          |                          |                          |                  |               |          |
| Better off.....                                      | 43                        | 44           | 49               | 43                       | 50                       | 43       | 41                       | 44                       | 47               | 44            | 49       |
| Same.....                                            | 44                        | 38           | 41               | 40                       | 35                       | 43       | 43                       | 40                       | 38               | 43            | 39       |
| Uncertain.....                                       | 8                         | 12           | 8                | 12                       | 9                        | 9        | 11                       | 8                        | 8                | 9             | 7        |
| Worse off.....                                       | 4                         | 5            | 2                | 5                        | 5                        | 5        | 5                        | 7                        | 7                | 3             | 4        |
| Not ascertained.....                                 | 1                         | 1            | (1)              | (1)                      | 1                        | (1)      | (1)                      | 1                        | (1)              | 1             | 1        |
| Total.....                                           | 100                       | 100          | 100              | 100                      | 100                      | 100      | 100                      | 100                      | 100              | 100           | 100      |

1 Less than ½ of 1 percent.

NOTE.—The question was: "Now looking ahead—do you think that a year from now you people will be better off financially, or worse off, or just about the same as now?"