there is a difference between food stores located in the two areas with respect to services provided. Information reported about each of these services is described below:

1. Number of days per week stores are open

Of the 181 stores included in the sample, 80 are open 6 days per week, 101 are open 7 days per week. In a number of cases the store is open fewer hours on the seventh day than on the other six. There is considerable difference between the cities with respect to the number of days open; all stores in the Los Angeles sample, except one in the low-income area, are open 7 days per week, while only five in the New York City sample—one in the higher income area and four in the low—are open 7 days per week. In all cities a larger proportion, usually a much larger proportion, of stores in the low-income area is open 7 days per week than in the higher income area.

NUMBER OF DAYS STORES ARE OPEN

[In percent]

	Higher income area		Low-income area	
	6 days	7 days	6 days	7 days
Atlanta	67	33	27	73
Chicago	53	47	27	73
Houston	69	31	44	56
Los Angeles	0	100	7	93
New York City	93	7	73	27
Washington, D.C	47	53	27	73

2. Average number of hours per week stores are open

Among the low-income areas of the six cities, chains, on the average, were open fewer hours each week than independents in all cities except Los Angeles, where they differed by only 1 hour. In the higher income areas, chains were open more hours than independents in three cities and fewer in three.

Within a single city chainstores were usually open more hours in the higher income areas than in the low (more in four, no difference in two.) In all cities except Los Angeles, independents in low-income areas are open more hours than chain; in Los Angeles the difference is only 1 hour.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS PER WEEK STORES ARE OPEN

	Higher income area	Low income area
Atlanta:		
Chain	65	64
Independent	74	84
Chicago:		
Chain	72	67
Independent	70	76
Houston:		
Chain	83	83
Independent	77	86
Los Angeles:		
Chain	79	75
Independent	75	74
New York City:		
Chain	65	63
Independent	72	82
Washington, D.C.:		
Chain	72	72
Independent	78	77

3. Number of stores that offer credit and volume of sales accounted for by credit

A minority of the outlets surveyed in both income areas offer credit—30 percent in higher income areas and 35 percent in lower income areas.

No chains made credit sales to individuals although several had approved accounts for church and other organizations; these were not inclded as offering credit in the tabulations for this study. In only Houston and Washington did any outlet report that 50 percent or more of its volume was accounted for by credit sales. It appears both from the number of stores offering credit and the propor-