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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR JULY 1957

Consumer prices in United States cities advanced 0.5 percent between June and July 1957, according to the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Substantial advances in food prices and in the "other goods and services" group were the principal causes of the rise. All other major groups except housing and apparel also advanced. The Consumer Price Index for July recorded its 11th consecutive monthly increase and at 120.8 (1947-49=100) was 3.2 percent above July 1956.

**FOOD** Food prices rose 1.0 percent during the month, reaching a new all-time high, 0.7 percent above the previous record peak of August 1952, and 2.3 percent above the level of a year ago.

As a group, meats, poultry, and fish were higher in price. The largest increases were the 7.8 percent rise from 75 to 81 cents per pound for bacon, reflecting low supplies, and the 3.2 percent advance in round steak prices. Frying chicken prices rose 2.9 percent and prices of all fresh and canned fish items also rose. Prices of pork chops remained unchanged while leg of lamb fell seasonally 1.6 percent to 73 cents a pound. Egg prices increased markedly from an average of 48 cents to 54 cents a dozen.

Prices of fresh fruits rose 2.1 percent, owing to seasonal factors and the return to market of products such as peaches and grapes at higher prices than at the end of their 1956 season. Orange prices rose 4.6 percent to an average of 58 cents per dozen. Price declines were reported for watermelons (16.4 percent) as supplies increased, and for lemons (1.7 percent). Canned orange juice fell in price 2.6 percent.

Fresh vegetable prices fell 2.0 percent as tomato and onion prices dropped 21 and 11.4 percent, respectively. Price increases were reported for green beans (9.8 percent) and most other fresh vegetables.

The cereals and bakery products group rose 0.2 percent in price, largely owing to a 0.4 percent increase in bread prices. Dairy products prices rose 0.5 percent, principally because of increased milk prices. Coffee prices fell 1.8 percent.

Restaurant meals continued to advance in price, the 0.2 percent rise reflecting increases in 10 of 20 cities priced in July.

**HOUSING** The housing index was unchanged between June and July. Residential rents rose 0.1 percent and maintenance and repair costs increased, led by price rises for paint and painting services. Gas and electricity prices were unchanged, but coal and fuel oil prices were higher. Prices of housefurnishings dropped 0.5 percent, reflecting lower prices for some appliances.

**OTHER COMMODITIES AND SERVICES** There were increases in transit fares in a number of large cities. Private transportation charges rose 0.2 percent, as declines in new car prices were more than offset by increases in used car prices, tires, and gasoline.

Apparel prices averaged 0.1 percent lower, as men's summer suits were reduced for clearance and men's wool slacks and sport shirts were lower in price. Women's shoe prices were higher.

Higher hospital charges and group hospitalization rates were the major cause of the 0.4 percent rise in the medical care index.

Personal care costs were up 0.4 percent in July with higher prices for cosmetics, toiletries, beauty shop services and men's haircuts.

The 0.5 percent increase in the reading and recreation group reflected higher prices of radio and television sets and repairs.

Prices in the group "other goods and services" rose 1.6 percent, largely as a result of cigarette price increases.

TABLE 1: Consumer Price Index--United States city average, all items and special groups  
Indexes and percent changes for selected dates

Group	Indexes (1947-49=100)					
	July 1957	June 1957	May 1957	July 1956	June 1950	Year 1939
All items-----	120.8	120.2	119.6	117.0	101.8	59.4
All items less food-----	122.8	122.5	122.3	118.6	103.0	69.1
All items less shelter-----	118.5	117.8	117.1	114.9	100.7	55.4
All commodities-----	114.1	113.5	112.7	110.9	100.3	51.6
All commodities less food-----	111.5	111.3	111.1	107.9	99.4	59.4
Durables-----	106.5	106.7	106.7	102.2	102.4	57.3
Non-durables-----	116.2	115.7	115.5	112.9	99.0	58.7
All services and shelter-----	137.4	137.0	136.7	132.5	107.9	80.4
All services less shelter-----	140.6	139.9	139.5	135.2	107.0	73.5
	Percent change to July 1957 from --					
	June 1957	May 1957	July 1956	June 1950	Year 1939	
All items-----	0.5	1.0	3.2	18.7	103.4	
All items less food-----	.2	.4	3.5	19.2	77.7	
All items less shelter-----	.6	1.2	3.1	17.7	113.9	
All commodities-----	.5	1.2	2.9	13.8	121.1	
All commodities less food-----	.2	.4	3.3	12.2	87.7	
Durables-----	.2	-.2	4.2	4.0	85.9	
Non-durables-----	.4	.6	2.9	17.4	98.0	
All services and shelter-----	.3	.5	3.7	27.3	70.9	
All services less shelter-----	.5	.8	4.0	31.4	91.3	
	(1947-49=\$1.00)*					
	July 1957	June 1957	May 1957	July 1956	June 1950	Year 1939
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar-----	\$0.83	\$0.83	\$0.84	\$0.85	\$0.98	\$1.68

\* To calculate purchasing power of the consumer dollar on any other base, divide the index for the desired base date by the index for the comparison date.

TABLE 2: Consumer Price Index -- United States city average, all items and commodity groups  
Indexes and percent changes for selected dates

Group	Indexes (1947-49=100)					
	July 1957	June 1957	May 1957	July 1956	June 1950	Year 1939
	This month	Last month	2 months ago	Last year	Pre-Korea	Pre-World War II
All items -----	120.8	120.2	119.6	117.0	101.8	59.4
Food 1/ -----	117.4	116.2	114.6	114.8	100.5	47.1
Food at home -----	116.1	114.7	113.0	113.8	100.5	47.1
Cereals and bakery products --	130.8	130.6	130.4	125.8	102.7	57.2
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	109.5	106.9	103.7	99.3	106.1	41.6
Dairy products -----	110.5	110.0	110.0	108.7	92.3	49.8
Fruits and vegetables -----	126.9	126.8	122.5	135.2	102.5	46.3
Other foods at home -----	111.7	109.5	109.9	112.8	94.1	48.4
Housing 2/ -----	125.5	125.5	125.3	121.8	104.9	76.1
Rent -----	135.2	135.0	134.7	133.2	108.7	86.6
Gas and electricity -----	112.3	112.3	112.3	111.7	102.7	104.9
Solid fuels and fuel oil -----	135.9	135.3	135.4	128.7	107.6	56.4
Housefurnishings -----	104.1	104.6	104.2	102.8	97.4	53.4
Household operation -----	127.9	127.6	127.3	123.0	99.6	68.4
Apparel -----	106.5	106.6	106.5	105.3	96.5	52.5
Men's and boys' -----	108.8	109.1	109.0	107.7	98.1	50.8
Women's and girls' -----	98.6	98.5	98.6	98.0	93.3	54.5
Footwear -----	128.1	127.8	127.8	124.2	102.1	50.3
Other apparel -----	91.9	91.9	92.0	91.4	88.4	40.6
Transportation -----	135.8	135.3	135.3	127.7	109.9	70.2
Public -----	180.2	176.8	176.8	172.7	117.9	81.3
Private -----	125.6	125.4	125.4	117.6	106.6	65.5
Medical care -----	138.4	137.9	137.3	132.7	105.4	72.6
Personal care -----	124.7	124.2	123.4	120.1	99.2	59.6
Reading and recreation -----	112.4	111.8	111.4	107.7	102.5	63.0
Other goods and services 3/ -----	126.6	124.6	124.3	122.2	103.7	70.6

  

	Percent change to July 1957 from:				
	June 1957	May 1957	July 1956	June 1950	Year 1939
All items -----	0.5	1.0	3.2	18.7	103.4
Food -----	1.0	2.4	2.3	16.8	149.3
Food at home -----	1.2	2.7	2.0	15.5	146.5
Cereals and bakery products -----	.2	.3	4.0	27.4	128.7
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	2.4	5.6	10.3	3.2	163.2
Dairy products -----	.5	.5	1.7	19.7	121.9
Fruits and vegetables -----	.1	3.6	- 6.1	23.8	174.1
Other foods at home -----	2.0	1.6	- 1.0	18.7	130.8
Food away from home -----	.2	.9	4.0	(u/)	(u/)
Housing 2/ -----	0	.2	3.0	19.6	64.9
Rent -----	.1	.4	1.5	24.4	56.1
Gas and electricity -----	0	0	.5	9.3	7.1
Solid fuels and fuel oil -----	.4	.4	5.6	26.3	141.0
Housefurnishings -----	- .5	- .1	1.3	6.9	94.9
Household operation -----	.2	.5	4.0	28.4	87.0
Apparel -----	- .1	0	1.1	10.4	102.9
Men's and boys' -----	- .3	- .2	1.0	10.9	114.2
Women's and girls' -----	.1	0	.6	5.7	80.9
Footwear -----	.2	.2	3.1	25.5	154.7
Other apparel -----	0	- .1	.5	4.0	126.4
Transportation -----	.4	.4	6.3	23.6	93.4
Public -----	1.9	1.9	4.3	52.8	121.6
Private -----	.2	.2	6.8	17.8	91.8
Medical care -----	.4	.8	4.3	31.3	90.6
Personal care -----	.4	1.1	3.8	25.7	109.2
Reading and recreation -----	.5	.9	4.4	9.7	78.4
Other goods and services 3/ -----	1.6	1.9	3.6	22.1	79.3

1/ Includes restaurant meals not shown separately.  
 2/ Includes home purchase and other home-owner costs not shown separately.  
 3/ Includes tobacco, alcoholic beverages, and "miscellaneous services" (such as legal services, banking fees, burial services, etc.).  
 4/ Not available.

TABLE 3: Consumer Price Index — All items indexes for selected dates  
U.S. city average and 20 large cities  
(1947-49=100)

City	July 1957	June 1957	July 1956	June 1950	Year 1939
United States city average	1/ 120.8	120.2	117.0	101.8	59.4
Cities priced monthly 2/					
Chicago	124.1	122.9	120.5	102.8	58.6
Detroit	123.1	122.5	120.2	102.8	59.0
Los Angeles	121.1	121.0	118.1	101.3	60.4
New York	118.4	117.9	114.6	100.9	60.1
Philadelphia	121.2	120.1	117.9	101.6	59.2
Cities priced in January, April, July, October 3/					
	July 1957	April 1957	July 1956	April 1950	Year 1939
Boston	122.1	120.2	117.8	101.2	61.0
Kansas City	121.7	120.4	117.6	101.4	61.7
Minneapolis	121.6	119.8	117.7	4/ 102.1	60.7
Pittsburgh	120.7	118.8	117.3	99.9	58.1
Portland, Oregon	122.2	121.6	118.6	101.5	58.3
Cities priced in March, June, September, December 3/					
	June 1957	March 1957	June 1956	June 1950	Year 1939
Atlanta	121.2	120.6	118.0	5/ 101.3	58.3
Baltimore	121.2	119.9	116.6	101.6	57.9
Cincinnati	119.7	118.1	116.3	101.2	58.4
St. Louis	121.3	120.2	117.0	101.1	59.3
San Francisco	122.8	122.3	117.9	100.9	58.6
Cities priced in February, May, August, November 3/					
	May 1957	February 1957	May 1956	May 1950	Year 1939
Cleveland	121.7	120.4	117.3	100.4	59.2
Houston	121.1	120.5	116.8	103.5	59.5
Scranton	116.4	115.5	112.1	100.2	58.5
Seattle	122.8	122.2	117.1	102.0	59.2
Washington, D. C.	117.2	117.5	114.4	101.6	60.4

1/ This index on the base of 1935-39=100 is 202.0.

2/ Rents priced bimonthly.

3/ Foods, fuels, and a few other items priced monthly; rents and other commodities and services priced quarterly.

4/ June 1950.

5/ May 1950.

TABLE 4: Consumer Price Index — Percent changes from June 1957 to July 1957  
U.S. city average and five cities priced monthly  
All items and commodity groups

City	All items	Food	Housing	Apparel	Transportation	Medical care	Personal care	Reading and recreation	Other goods & services
United States city average	0.5	1.0	0	- 0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.6
Chicago	1.0	1.8	0.2	- .1	3.9	.1	.1	- .2	1.1
Detroit	.5	.8	.2	- .5	- .2	0	- .6	.1	6.3
Los Angeles	.1	0	.1	- .2	- .3	.5	.2	.5	1.7
New York	.4	1.5	- .2	- .3	- .7	.1	.2	.8	.6
Philadelphia	.9	2.1	0	1.6	- .4	0	- .1	.8	1.3

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index -- All items and commodity groups  
 July 1957 indexes and percent changes, April 1957 to July 1957  
 U.S. city average and 10 cities priced in July 1957

Group	U.S. City Average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Kansas City	Los Angeles	Minne- apolis	New York	Phila- delphia	Pitts- burgh	Portland, Oregon
	Indexes (1947-49=100)										
All items -----	120.8	122.1	124.1	123.1	121.7	121.1	121.6	118.4	121.2	120.7	122.2
Food -----	117.4	118.2	115.6	119.8	114.1	117.7	115.4	117.3	121.1	119.2	118.5
Food at home -----	116.1	116.5	113.7	118.5	112.4	114.7	114.2	115.4	119.3	118.0	117.3
Cereals and bakery products --	130.8	131.1	123.1	124.9	126.6	138.7	129.6	135.1	132.7	129.1	132.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	109.5	107.2	103.6	106.1	106.7	109.7	102.6	109.8	112.1	108.5	111.5
Dairy products -----	110.5	114.7	109.6	109.3	107.9	105.5	104.7	109.1	116.7	111.8	117.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	126.9	129.9	128.8	146.0	124.4	117.7	130.9	120.6	129.7	129.4	119.6
Other foods at home -----	111.7	108.7	116.1	113.5	104.7	111.6	117.7	113.2	112.7	121.3	114.5
Housing -----	125.5	129.6	135.1	128.9	124.2	130.0	126.5	121.8	120.0	122.7	126.1
Rent -----	135.2	136.7	160.7	—	139.7	143.5	149.6	—	123.5	128.2	135.5
Gas and electricity -----	112.3	111.0	114.0	113.2	118.9	118.0	124.8	110.9	103.4	127.6	102.0
Solid fuels and fuel oil -----	135.9	143.1	138.3	129.3	120.1	—	131.3	144.6	129.8	131.1	149.0
Housefurnishings -----	104.1	103.6	101.3	108.9	104.9	102.8	98.4	104.1	108.9	106.3	105.7
Household operation -----	127.9	123.6	132.6	118.0	130.6	129.5	125.0	125.9	128.1	129.8	122.0
Apparel -----	106.5	103.8	109.2	103.7	103.5	107.6	106.8	105.6	106.1	105.3	111.0
Men's and boys' -----	108.8	103.7	116.8	109.8	108.5	111.2	109.4	108.5	107.2	109.2	113.9
Women's and girls' -----	98.6	96.9	96.9	92.9	94.9	99.5	99.8	96.5	99.9	95.8	102.4
Footwear -----	128.1	123.7	131.4	123.9	121.7	128.5	124.1	129.3	124.0	124.8	131.6
Other apparel -----	91.9	103.0	95.6	86.8	87.4	84.7	93.3	95.5	93.6	100.2	98.0
Transportation -----	135.8	144.6	144.6	132.1	138.1	132.3	121.4	137.4	139.1	143.7	131.4
Public -----	180.2	167.5	194.3	145.8	214.0	154.8	166.8	189.0	187.4	195.4	176.9
Private -----	125.6	137.3	125.9	129.1	126.6	128.3	115.7	117.9	118.5	123.4	126.0
Medical care -----	138.4	148.6*	141.5	146.3	150.5	130.9	168.9	129.6	140.7	145.0	138.9
Personal care -----	124.7	126.3	126.3	129.6	125.4	129.3	126.7	115.7	130.1	122.1	129.8
Reading and recreation -----	112.4	110.7	115.9	110.6	123.8	100.9	119.9	116.2	116.5	105.7	118.6
Other goods and services -----	126.6	125.0	121.2	134.7	126.1	123.3	131.3	126.1	128.4	125.8	126.9
	Percent change from April 1957 to July 1957										
All items -----	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.1	0.4	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.6	0.5
Food -----	3.2	4.2	3.6	3.4	4.0	.7	2.5	4.0	4.0	3.8	2.2
Food at home -----	3.6	4.9	3.9	3.9	4.8	.9	3.0	4.0	4.6	4.6	3.1
Cereals and bakery products --	.5	2.2	.4	.3	.1	3.7	-.5	.2	.2	.5	.2
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	7.4	5.3	9.2	6.7	10.6	6.0	5.8	6.5	8.2	9.2	7.3
Dairy products -----	0	2.2	-.6	-.5	0	.2	.1	.2	2.5	-.1	.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	6.9	12.9	8.0	9.9	10.1	-6.1	8.2	8.3	7.0	9.8	3.6
Other foods at home -----	.6	2.0	-.8	.4	0	.1	-.3	2.4	2.0	1.6	1.6
Housing -----	.2	.3	1.0	.5	-.1	.4	.9	-.3	-.1	1.2	-1.4
Rent -----	.5	.7	1/ .2	—	-.1	1/ .1	.9	—	1/ .4	1.1	.4
Gas and electricity -----	-.1	0	.1	.5	-2.8	0	0	-.2	0	-.2	0
Solid fuels and fuel oil -----	-1.6	-2.3	-.1	.3	0	—	.8	-3.6	-8.3	0	2.5
Housefurnishings -----	-1.0	-.6	-1.1	-.5	-.2	-1.5	-1.4	-1.5	-1.2	.5	-1.9
Household operation -----	1.2	.3	1.3	.5	-.8	.5	.6	.6	0	.4	2.2
Apparel -----	0	-.7	-.3	-.8	-.4	.2	-.7	.2	.5	-.6	.2
Men's and boys' -----	0	-1.0	-.2	-1.5	-.2	.2	.2	.4	.1	-.6	.5
Women's and girls' -----	-.1	-.9	-.5	-.4	-.8	0	-2.2	-.3	.7	-1.8	-.1
Footwear -----	.6	0	-.1	.3	-.2	.2	.4	1.4	.7	.5	0
Other apparel -----	-.1	-.5	-.2	-1.1	-.3	.6	-.4	.3	.2	-.3	.1
Transportation -----	.2	.6	3.6	.4	.5	-.2	.2	-.7	-1.6	-.4	1.7
Public -----	1.9	0	15.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private -----	.1	.9	.8	.5	.6	-.3	.2	-.8	-2.1	-.5	2.0
Medical care -----	1.1	5.3	.3	-.1	.2	.7	11.1	.9	.1	.2	.6
Personal care -----	1.1	.2	.1	-.4	.2	.3	.2	.4	.4	.9	5.9
Reading and recreation -----	.5	-1.0	-.9	-.1	-.4	.2	-.8	-.1	.2	.3	-.7
Other goods and services -----	1.9	1.4	1.0	6.9	2.1	1.7	2.3	1.1	1.4	1.5	2.8

\* Revised indexes: July 1956, 136.5; October 1956, 137.2; January 1957, 138.3; April 1957, 141.1.  
 1/ Change from May 1957 to July 1957.

**TABLE 6: Consumer Price Index -- Food and its subgroups**  
 July 1957 indexes and percent changes, June 1957 to July 1957  
 U.S. city average and 20 large cities  
 [1947-49=100]

City	Total food		Total food at home		Cereals and bakery products		Meats, poultry, and fish		Dairy products		Fruits and vegetables		Other foods at home	
	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change
U.S. city average ---	117.4	1.0	116.1	1.2	130.8	0.2	109.5	2.4	110.5	0.5	126.9	0.1	111.7	2.0
Atlanta -----	114.7	.9	113.5	1.0	123.8	-.4	113.0	3.5	110.2	-2.7	124.0	.7	103.2	1.4
Baltimore -----	118.7	1.0	115.8	1.2	127.2	.1	109.4	1.8	112.6	0	124.9	2.1	111.8	1.6
Boston -----	118.2	2.5	116.5	3.1	131.1	2.1	107.2	2.2	114.7	2.3	129.9	5.3	108.7	3.6
Chicago -----	115.6	1.8	113.7	1.9	123.1	.1	103.6	3.0	109.6	1.7	128.8	2.9	116.1	.4
Cincinnati -----	120.5	1.4	119.4	1.6	131.9	.3	112.2	1.8	114.7	-.1	133.0	3.9	116.2	1.7
Cleveland -----	115.3	.6	113.6	.8	123.7	-.1	105.9	2.5	104.4	0	124.2	-1.5	115.6	1.4
Detroit -----	119.8	.8	118.5	1.0	124.9	0	106.1	1.2	109.3	1.5	146.0	1.2	113.5	1.0
Houston -----	114.3	.9	112.6	1.3	121.1	-.3	104.9	3.2	109.2	-.1	124.3	.8	110.5	1.1
Kansas City -----	114.1	1.1	112.4	1.2	126.6	0	106.7	3.8	107.9	.2	124.4	-.7	104.7	1.2
Los Angeles -----	117.7	0	114.7	.1	138.7	1.2	109.7	2.7	105.5	-.3	117.7	-4.5	111.6	.7
Minneapolis -----	115.4	.8	114.2	.8	129.6	.1	102.6	1.6	104.7	-.4	130.9	.5	117.7	1.5
New York -----	117.3	1.5	115.4	1.6	135.1	-.1	109.8	2.2	109.1	.7	120.6	-.2	113.2	4.1
Philadelphia -----	121.1	2.1	119.3	2.3	132.7	.1	112.1	2.9	116.7	2.7	129.7	1.6	112.7	3.1
Pittsburgh -----	119.2	1.1	118.0	1.5	129.1	.9	108.5	2.2	111.8	.1	129.4	1.3	121.3	2.4
Portland, Oreg. -----	118.5	.9	117.3	1.4	132.0	-.1	111.5	3.1	117.2	0	119.6	.1	114.5	2.2
St. Louis -----	118.3	1.4	115.6	1.8	124.9	-.2	106.6	2.2	102.7	2.7	134.3	2.5	118.2	.8
San Francisco -----	118.2	0	116.9	.1	140.1	0	111.8	1.8	109.8	0	124.5	-4.8	110.2	2.1
Scranton -----	115.7	1.3	115.7	1.5	126.9	-.1	107.7	1.4	110.5	.4	127.7	1.9	110.2	3.3
Seattle -----	118.6	.8	118.2	.9	137.9	0	109.6	1.2	118.4	.1	126.2	.1	111.7	2.3
Washington, D.C. -----	119.4	1.6	117.6	2.0	129.6	-.1	109.7	3.2	116.6	.1	125.4	2.1	113.5	2.9

**TABLE 7: Consumer Price Index -- Average retail prices of selected foods**  
 U.S. city average

Food and unit	July 1957	June 1957	Food and unit	July 1957	June 1957
<b>Cereals and bakery products:</b>	<b>Cents</b>	<b>Cents</b>	<b>Fresh--Continued</b>	<b>Cents</b>	<b>Cents</b>
Flour, wheat ----- 5 lb.	54.7	54.7	Peaches * ----- 1b.	20.0	
Biscuit mix ----- 20 oz.	26.8	26.8	Strawberries * ----- pt.		27.2
Corn meal ----- 1b.	12.7	12.8	Grapes, seedless * ----- 1b.	36.4	
Rice ----- 1b.	17.4	17.2	Watermelons * ----- 1b.	5.3	6.4
Roll'd oats ----- 20 oz.	22.1	22.0	Potatoes ----- 10 lb.	60.3	59.0
Corn flakes ----- 12 oz.	23.0	23.0	Spetatoes ----- 1b.	18.7	17.4
Bread, white ----- 1b.	18.9	18.8	Onions ----- 1b.	11.5	13.0
Soda crackers ----- 1b.	29.1	29.1	Carrots ----- 1b.	14.9	14.7
Vanilla cookies ----- 7 oz.	24.6	24.7	Lettuce ----- head	18.7	18.0
<b>Meats, poultry, and fish:</b>			Celery ----- 1b.	16.9	16.2
Round steak ----- 1b.	96.9	94.0	Cabbage ----- 1b.	8.6	8.7
Chuck roast ----- 1b.	53.0	52.2	Tomatoes ----- 1b.	26.9	34.0
Rib roast ----- 1b.	75.4	74.4	Beans, green ----- 1b.	23.2	20.8
Hamburger ----- 1b.	43.6	42.2	<b>Canned:</b>		
Veal cutlets ----- 1b.	117.8	118.6	Orange juice ----- 46-oz. can	34.5	35.5
Pork chops, center cut ----- 1b.	92.7	92.7	Peaches ----- #2 1/2 can	34.9	34.8
Bacon, sliced ----- 1b.	80.7	74.9	Pineapple ----- #2 can	34.1	34.1
Ham, whole ----- 1b.	64.3	63.6	Fruit cocktail ----- #303 can	26.0	26.0
Lamb, leg ----- 1b.	72.6	73.9	Corn, cream style ----- #303 can	17.1	17.1
Frankfurters ----- 1b.	57.7	56.4	Peas, green ----- #303 can	21.7	21.6
Luncheon meat, canned ----- 12 oz.	45.3	45.2	Tomatoes ----- #303 can	15.0	14.9
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook ----- 1b.	49.4	48.5	Baby foods ----- 4 1/2 to 5 oz.	10.0	10.0
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen ----- 1b.	42.9	42.7	<b>Dried:</b>		
Haddock, fillet, frozen ----- 1b.	45.6	45.3	Prunes ----- 1b.	34.2	34.4
Salmon, pink, canned ----- 16 oz.	62.5	62.4	Beans ----- 1b.	16.1	16.0
Tuna fish, canned ----- 6 to 6 1/2 oz.	32.2	32.1	<b>Other foods at home:</b>		
<b>Dairy products:</b>			Tomato soup ----- 10 1/2 to 11-oz. can	12.5	12.5
Milk, fresh, (grocery) ----- qt.	22.9	22.7	Beans with pork ----- 16-oz. can	14.7	14.7
Milk, fresh, (delivered) ----- qt.	24.5	24.4	Pickles, sweet ----- 7 1/2 oz.	27.2	27.3
Ice cream ----- pt.	29.5	29.5	Catsup, tomato ----- 14 oz.	22.0	22.2
Butter ----- 1b.	73.7	73.8	Coffee ----- 1b. can	101.7	102.4
Cheese, American process ----- 1b.	57.7	57.6	Coffee ----- 1b. bag	83.1	86.1
Milk, evaporated ----- 14 1/2-oz. can	14.7	14.6	Tea bags ----- pkg. of 16	23.7	23.6
<b>Fruits and vegetables:</b>			Cola drink, carton ----- 38 oz.	1/27.3	26.7
<b>Frozen:</b>			Shortening, hydrogenated ----- 3 lb.	97.7	98.6
Strawberries ----- 10 oz.	25.5	25.7	Margarine, colored ----- 1b.	29.6	29.8
Orange juice concentrate ----- 6 oz.	17.5	17.6	Lard ----- 1b.	22.5	22.3
Peas, green ----- 10 oz.	19.6	19.6	Salad dressing ----- pt.	37.4	37.2
Beans, green ----- 10 oz.	24.1	23.9	Peanut butter ----- 1b.	53.6	53.5
<b>Fresh:</b>			Sugar ----- 5 lb.	55.3	55.0
Apples ----- 1b.	22.8	22.8	Corn syrup ----- 24 oz.	24.9	24.9
Bananas ----- 1b.	18.0	18.1	Grape jelly ----- 12 oz.	27.3	27.3
Oranges, size 200 ----- doz.	58.2	55.6	Chocolate bar ----- 1 oz.	4.5	4.5
Lemons ----- 1b.	17.8	18.2	Eggs, Grade A, large ----- doz.	54.0	47.9
Grapfruit * ----- each			Gelatin, flavored ----- 3 to 4 oz.	8.8	8.8

\* Priced only in season.

1/ Specification change, previous June 1957 price was 34.1.

Brief Explanation of the CPI

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures the average changes in prices of goods and services typically bought by city families of wage earners and clerical workers. It is based on prices of about 300 items which were selected so that their price changes would represent the movement of prices of all goods and services purchased by wage and clerical families; they include all of the important items in family spending. Prices for these items are obtained in 46 cities which were chosen to represent all urban places in the United States; they are collected from grocery and department stores, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments which wage-earner and clerical-worker families patronize.

Prices of foods, fuels, and a few other items are obtained every month in all 46 cities. Prices of most other commodities and services are collected every month in the 5 largest cities and every 3 months in other cities. Almost all prices are obtained by personal visits of the Bureau's trained representatives.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each city are averaged together with weights which represent their importance in family spending. City data are then combined in the total index with weights based on the 1950 populations of cities they represent. Index numbers are computed on the base 1947-49 = 100.

The national index (the United States city average) includes prices from the 20 large cities for which separate indexes are published in this report, as well as from the following 26 medium-sized and small cities:

Anna, Illinois	Huntington, W. Virginia	Pulaski, Virginia
Camden, Arkansas	Laconia, New Hampshire	Ravenna, Ohio
Canton, Ohio	Lodi, California	Rawlins, Wyoming
Charleston, W. Virginia	Lynchburg, Virginia	San Jose, California
Evansville, Indiana	Madill, Oklahoma	Sandpoint, Idaho
Garrett, Indiana	Madison, Wisconsin	Shawnee, Oklahoma
Glendale, Arizona	Middlesboro, Kentucky	Shenandoah, Iowa
Grand Forks, N. Dakota	Middletown, Connecticut	Youngstown, Ohio
Grand Island, Nebraska	Newark, Ohio	

Comparisons of city indexes show only that prices in one city changed more or less than in another. The city indexes cannot be used to measure differences in price levels or in living costs between cities.

A description of the index is contained in BLS Bulletin 1140, "The Consumer Price Index: A Layman's Guide," which may be purchased for 20 cents at any Bureau of Labor Statistics regional office (addresses below) or from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. A more technical description of the index appears in BLS Bulletin 1168, "Techniques of Preparing Major BLS Statistical Series." Reprints of chapter 9, pertaining to the CPI, are available on request to the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington or at any of its regional offices.

Historical series of index numbers for the United States city average and for 20 large cities are available upon request. These series include index numbers for All Items, Food, Apparel, and Rent for periods from 1913 to date; and for other groups of goods and services from 1947 to date.

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