

Released May 25, 1960

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington 25, D. C.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR APRIL 1960

The Consumer Price Index increased in April to 126.2 (1947-49=100), exceeding the March high by 0.4 percent and showing the largest advance since last June, the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics announced today. The April 1960 index was 1.9 percent higher than a year earlier.

The rise in April was caused chiefly by an unusually large increase (1.5 percent) in food prices--the sharpest since March 1958, when adverse weather had affected supplies of fresh fruits and vegetables. This April all kinds of food went up in price except dairy products and some vegetables. Prices rose most for meats, particularly pork; fresh fruits; eggs; and for potatoes and tomatoes. The increases were in part usual for the time of year. They reflected also, however, poor growing conditions for some vegetables, and the early stages of a downswing in production for both pork and eggs.

Prices for most other consumer goods and services increased a little. The only significant decline was for used cars, which are meeting severe competition from new compact cars. New car prices, which customarily decline throughout the spring and summer until the introduction of new models, held at about the March level, as sales picked up markedly in late March and in April. Prices for a few other important consumer goods and services showed no change in April, on the average--for instance, public transportation, repairs and maintenance of owned homes, and electricity.

FOOD

Prices for store-bought food rose for the second successive month in April, and for the first time in over a year exceeded those of a year earlier (by 1.2 percent). Prices of restaurant meals continued their almost continuous uptrend of recent years.

Prices for most meats rose between March and April, but the sharpest increases were for pork chops and bacon. Pork prices in April continued below a year earlier, however, but the differential has been greatly reduced by price increases in each of the last 3 months. The rising price trend for pork this year reflects not only seasonal declines in production from winter highs but also the beginning of a cyclical decline in production.

Fresh fruits as a group rose 6.6 percent in April, and fresh vegetables, 5.5 percent. The majority of fruits went up in price, as is usual in April. Among the vegetables, however, sharply higher prices for potatoes, tomatoes, and onions caused the rise. Prices went down substantially for green beans and celery and moderately for lettuce, carrots, and cabbage.

A substantial 12.6-percent rise in egg prices in April, when a decline often occurs, brought the price index for eggs above year-earlier levels for the first time in 19 months. Prices for eggs fell sharply between 1958 and 1959 to a post-war low. Since then, farmers have reduced the laying flock and consequently production levels, thus strengthening prices somewhat. In addition, the price uptrend during March and April resulted from cold weather in March and increased demand before the Easter holiday.

APPAREL

Among the small price increases observed for most other commodities and services in April, those for apparel were among the more

significant. Even here, most apparel prices moved very little. Prices for men's and boys' wear, however, rose 0.6 percent to their highest level since December 1957. The increases were chiefly for men's suits and slacks, reflecting earlier price advances at wholesale, and for dungarees, covering increased prices of material. Other men's work clothing items also were a little higher in price, and scattered increases continued to be reported for a wide range of cotton apparel items--business shirts, pajamas, undershirts, and shorts.

NEW AND USED CARS With booming sales, average dealers' selling prices of new cars which usually decline in the spring, remained at the March level. Dealers experienced near-record April sales, second only to 1955.

On the other hand, prices for used cars declined (by 2.8 percent) in April, when the trend in recent years has been upward. This is the first March-to-April decrease since 1955, and, with the 4.1-percent slump in March, it contributed to the largest 2-month drop in the index for used cars since 1953, when used cars were first introduced into the Consumer Price Index. Thus, used car prices this April fell below those for the same month of the previous year (by 3.8 percent) for the first time in 3½ years. Indications are that the growing success of compact cars, for which prices are competitive, has affected demand and prices for used cars.

OTHER COMMODITIES AND SERVICES Prices for other durable goods and nondurable commodities excluding food showed little change in April. Services (as distinguished from commodities) rose only slightly, and less than in the earlier months of the year. Among the services, the only rise of much significance in April was for professional medical services (0.4 percent).

COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS Approximately 1.1 million workers are scheduled to receive quarterly escalator wage raises of either 1 or 2 cents an hour, based on the April Consumer Price Index. Most of these workers, about 975,000, will receive 2 cents an hour and are employed in the automobile, farm equipment, and related parts industries. About 150,000 workers, mostly in electrical products, will be paid increases of 1 cent an hour or 0.5 percent. It is not known whether wage adjustments will be given to an additional 115,000 workers, mostly in aircraft, whose wages were geared to the April index under contracts that either have expired or will soon do so.

Among escalator adjustments due some workers on the basis of city indexes for April, about 12,000 employees of the Chicago Transit System will receive a ½ cent an hour raise.

TABLE 1: Consumer Price Index—United States city average
Major group, subgroup, and special group indexes, April 1960
and percent changes from selected dates

(1947-49=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes		Percent change to April 1960 from --			
	April 1960	March 1960	March 1960	January 1960	April 1959	Year 1939
All items-----	126.2	125.7	0.4	0.6	1.9	112.5
Food-----	119.5	117.7	1.5	1.6	1.6	153.7
Food at home-----	116.7	114.7	1.7	1.7	1.2	147.8
Cereals and bakery products-----	135.8	135.5	.2	.7	1.3	137.4
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	109.3	107.2	2.0	2.7	- 2.0	162.7
Dairy products-----	115.3	116.4	- .9	- 1.0	2.1	131.5
Fruits and vegetables-----	129.9	125.0	3.9	3.3	5.1	180.6
Other foods at home-----	106.1	103.4	2.6	1.5	1.3	119.2
Food away from home (Jan. 1953=100)-----	118.5	118.0	.4	.8	3.2	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	131.4	131.3	.1	.5	2.1	72.7
Rent-----	141.4	141.2	.1	.4	1.5	63.3
Gas and electricity-----	124.4	124.1	.2	1.0	5.2	18.6
Solid fuels and fuel oil-----	136.3	137.2	- .7	- 1.9	- 1.7	141.7
Housefurnishings-----	104.7	104.7	0	.7	.9	96.1
Household operation-----	137.0	136.9	.1	.8	2.4	100.3
Apparel-----	108.9	108.8	.1	.9	1.8	107.4
Men's and boys'-----	109.5	108.9	.6	.6	1.4	115.6
Women's and girls'-----	99.6	99.6	0	1.6	.7	82.8
Footwear-----	139.8	139.7	.1	.3	5.6	177.9
Other apparel-----	92.9	93.0	- .1	.8	1.1	128.8
Transportation-----	146.1	146.5	- .3	- 1.0	.6	108.1
Private-----	134.4	134.9	- .4	- 1.4	0	105.2
Public-----	199.4	199.4	0	1.1	3.5	145.3
Medical care-----	155.5	155.0	.3	1.3	3.9	114.2
Personal care-----	132.9	132.7	.2	.2	2.2	123.0
Reading and recreation-----	121.1	120.9	.2	.7	2.9	92.2
Other goods and services-----	131.9	131.7	.2	.1	2.9	86.8
Special groups:						
All items less food-----	129.8	129.7	.1	.3	2.1	87.8
All items less shelter-----	123.7	123.1	.5	.7	1.8	123.3
Commodities-----	117.4	116.7	.6	.6	1.3	127.5
Nondurables-----	119.4	118.3	.9	1.1	1.7	132.3
Food-----	119.5	117.7	1.5	1.6	1.6	153.7
Nondurables less food-----	119.7	119.6	.1	.4	1.9	103.9
Apparel-----	108.8	108.6	.2	1.0	1.7	108.8
Apparel less footwear-----	103.4	103.2	.2	1.2	1.0	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	129.0	128.9	.1	.1	1.9	95.8
Durables-----	112.1	112.5	- .4	- 1.1	- .4	95.6
New cars-----	138.4	138.3	.1	- 2.1	- .4	142.8
Used cars (Jan. 1953=100)-----	88.3	90.8	- 2.8	- 5.5	- 3.8	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	103.6	103.6	0	.2	.3	80.8
Commodities less food-----	115.6	115.7	- .1	- .3	1.0	94.6
Services-----	149.4	149.2	.1	.8	3.2	85.8
Rent-----	141.4	141.2	.1	.4	1.5	63.3
Services less rent-----	151.5	151.3	.1	.9	3.5	106.1
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	138.5	138.3	.1	.9	3.4	59.2
Transportation services-----	184.2	183.9	.2	.8	2.8	130.0
Medical care services-----	161.9	161.3	.4	1.5	4.3	129.6
Other services 2/-----	135.0	134.9	.1	.7	3.4	131.6
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1947-49=\$1.00)-----	\$0.792	\$0.796	- .5	- .6	- 1.9	-53.0

1/ Not available.

2/ Includes house purchase, interest, taxes, insurance, and upkeep, not shown separately.

3/ Includes house purchase, interest, taxes, insurance, and upkeep services; shoe repairs, television repairs, barber and beauty shop services, and movies.

**TABLE 2: Consumer Price Index—All items indexes and percent changes, selected dates
U.S. city average and 20 large cities**

City	Indexes (1947-49=100)				Percent change to current month from --		
	April 1960	January 1960	April 1959	Year 1939	January 1960	April 1959	Year 1939
United States city average-----	126.2	125.4	123.9	59.4	0.6	1.9	112.5
Cities priced monthly 1/							
Chicago-----	129.5	128.9	127.4	58.6	.5	1.6	121.0
Detroit-----	124.2	123.4	123.5	59.0	.6	.6	110.5
Los Angeles-----	130.1	129.1	126.6	60.4	.8	2.8	115.4
New York-----	124.7	124.1	122.0	60.1	.5	2.2	107.5
Philadelphia-----	126.4	125.5	123.6	59.2	.7	2.3	113.5
Cities priced in January, April, July, October 2/	April 1960	January 1960	April 1959	Year 1939	January 1960	April 1959	Year 1939
Boston-----	128.3	126.4	125.1	61.0	1.5	2.6	110.3
Kansas City-----	126.6	127.0	125.5	61.7	-.3	.9	105.2
Minneapolis-----	127.1	126.2	125.1	60.7	.7	1.6	109.4
Pittsburgh-----	127.9	126.6	124.5	58.1	1.0	2.7	120.1
Portland, Oregon-----	127.5	127.2	125.3	58.3	.2	1.8	118.7
Cities priced in March, June, September, December 2/	March 1960	December 1959	March 1959	Year 1939	December 1959	March 1959	Year 1939
Atlanta-----	126.7	126.4	124.3	58.3	.2	1.9	117.3
Baltimore-----	127.7	127.2	126.4	57.9	.4	1.0	120.6
Cincinnati-----	123.6	123.8	122.2	58.4	-.2	1.1	111.6
St. Louis-----	126.3	126.6	126.0	59.3	-.2	.2	113.0
San Francisco-----	131.6	131.8	129.0	58.6	-.2	2.0	124.6
Cities priced in February, May, August, November 2/	February 1960	November 1959	February 1959	Year 1939	November 1959	February 1959	Year 1939
Cleveland-----	126.1	126.4	124.8	59.2	-.2	1.0	113.0
Houston-----	125.6	125.4	124.1	59.5	.2	1.2	111.1
Scranton-----	121.4	121.5	120.3	58.5	-.1	.9	107.5
Seattle-----	129.0	129.2	126.9	59.2	-.2	1.7	117.9
Washington, D.C.-----	121.9	121.7	121.3	60.4	.2	.5	101.8

1/ Rents priced bimonthly.

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

**TABLE 3: Consumer Price Index—Percent changes from March 1960 to April 1960
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-----	0.4	1.5	0.1	0.1	- 0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Chicago-----	.2	1.4	-.4	.2	-.8	.4	.2	.2	0
Detroit-----	.2	2.2	.2	-.1	- 1.5	0	.1	- 3.6	.1
Los Angeles-----	.6	1.9	.1	0	-.3	1.0	-.3	.4	.1
New York-----	.2	.6	.1	.2	-.4	.1	.6	.5	0
Philadelphia-----	.3	1.0	.4	-.1	-.4	0	0	-.2	.1

TABLE 4: Consumer Price Index--All items and commodity groups
 April 1960 indexes and percent changes, January 1960 to April 1960
 U.S. city average and 10 cities priced in April 1960

Group	U.S. City Average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Kansas City	Los Angeles	Minneapolis	New York	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh	Portland Oregon
Indexes (1947-49=100)											
All items -----	126.2	128.3	129.5	124.2	126.6	130.1	127.1	124.7	126.4	127.9	127.5
Food -----	119.5	119.2	116.7	119.1	112.4	126.8	118.6	121.4	121.2	121.0	121.2
Food at home -----	116.7	115.8	114.0	116.4	109.3	121.0	115.5	117.6	118.0	119.2	118.2
Cereals and bakery products --	135.8	133.4	130.5	125.1	129.4	147.3	135.0	141.9	136.7	133.9	141.3
Meats, poultry, and fish ----	109.3	109.0	103.2	104.8	103.1	110.9	104.3	112.7	110.5	109.3	111.2
Dairy products -----	115.3	107.6	120.3	113.0	108.4	113.6	107.6	117.2	118.1	117.6	121.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	129.9	132.5	123.9	141.7	118.4	143.9	135.1	122.4	129.9	132.6	126.3
Other foods at home -----	106.1	105.3	109.8	106.7	99.1	106.2	112.8	106.9	105.5	115.5	106.6
Housing -----	131.4	140.1	140.1	127.3	128.7	138.8	129.5	129.4	126.0	131.6	130.9
Rent -----	141.4	153.4	--	143.1	144.2	--	156.2	133.5	--	134.3	138.5
Gas and electricity -----	124.4	117.7	130.0	116.8	130.8	141.9	136.4	120.7	106.7	145.2	104.6
Solid fuels and fuel oil -----	136.3	139.0	139.4	127.6	134.7	--	132.2	138.4	135.6	135.1	143.1
Housefurnishings -----	104.7	103.3	102.3	109.8	104.6	104.7	96.7	105.5	110.6	108.9	103.0
Household operation -----	137.0	135.9	136.5	125.5	139.1	128.6	137.1	138.3	141.8	151.7	132.2
Apparel -----	108.9	106.7	112.7	105.2	107.2	111.4	108.2	108.1	107.7	105.5	114.7
Men's and boys' -----	109.5	104.9	116.4	107.7	110.1	113.0	109.7	109.1	109.5	105.7	114.8
Women's and girls' -----	99.6	100.1	100.5	93.9	97.8	102.6	100.0	97.6	96.7	94.2	104.3
Footwear -----	139.8	132.6	143.8	136.1	133.5	141.6	136.0	140.5	140.7	138.7	148.9
Other apparel -----	92.9	100.9	97.1	85.6	89.5	85.8	90.1	97.3	95.1	100.7	100.2
Transportation -----	146.1	148.9	155.6	134.8	149.3	144.5	129.7	147.9	155.0	166.2	143.2
Private -----	134.4	142.2	136.0	126.6	134.1	138.0	122.5	129.3	135.0	137.5	136.6
Public -----	199.4	168.8	205.7	179.4	257.8	186.5	189.6	191.4	193.4	256.2	199.2
Medical care -----	155.5	162.0	168.0	158.6	172.9	151.2	209.1	143.9	160.6	169.6	149.1
Personal care -----	132.9	135.6	138.0	134.3	135.7	134.4	137.5	124.7	143.0	128.0	134.1
Reading and recreation -----	121.1	128.7	125.8	116.6	137.1	102.6	126.4	124.2	124.2	112.4	126.1
Other goods and services -----	131.9	127.1	124.0	139.9	126.4	133.1	134.6	133.3	132.4	132.6	130.4
Percent change from January 1960 to April 1960											
All items -----	0.6	1.5	0.5	0.6	- 0.3	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.7	1.0	0.2
Food -----	1.6	1.5	1.3	2.8	1.0	1.3	1.4	.7	1.4	1.9	0
Food at home -----	1.7	1.8	1.5	3.4	1.5	.2	1.8	.9	1.6	2.2	.1
Cereals and bakery products --	.7	1.4	.2	.2	1.5	.3	.1	.1	.7	1.0	0
Meats, poultry, and fish ----	2.7	1.4	4.6	3.7	4.0	1.6	2.1	1.6	1.7	2.3	1.5
Dairy products -----	- 1.0	- 6.5	- .7	1.7	- 3.0	- 1.0	- .4	- 3.5	- 2.5	.2	.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	3.3	6.7	.3	8.2	2.4	.6	3.6	2.6	3.8	6.8	1.0
Other foods at home -----	1.5	5.4	.8	2.3	.9	- .7	2.9	2.8	3.6	1.0	- 2.0
Housing -----	.5	1.5	0	.2	- .7	.6	.9	.5	.6	.5	.5
Rent -----	.4	.4	--	1/- .1	- .2	--	.3	1/ .4	--	.5	- .1
Gas and electricity -----	1.0	.1	- .2	- .4	.3	.1	.8	.4	0	1.4	2.5
Solid fuels and fuel oil -----	- 1.9	- 3.1	- 2.7	- .3	- 4.2	--	0	- 2.2	.4	0	0
Housefurnishings -----	.7	1.8	.3	1.9	.2	1.1	- .2	1.1	1.6	.9	.1
Household operation -----	.8	.7	- 1.6	1.1	1.4	2.6	.3	.4	0	4.0	1.7
Apparel -----	.9	1.4	.6	.5	1.2	.4	1.1	1.3	1.9	1.7	.7
Men's and boys' -----	.6	2.7	1.4	- .1	.5	.5	1.0	.6	.2	.7	1.1
Women's and girls' -----	1.6	.9	.1	- 1.2	1.7	.2	1.3	2.4	3.6	2.6	.9
Footwear -----	.3	1.1	.6	.4	1.0	.1	1.0	- .1	1.0	1.7	.3
Other apparel -----	.8	.9	.7	.4	1.8	.5	.3	1.1	1.1	1.8	.5
Transportation -----	- 1.0	.3	- 1.6	- 1.7	- 3.6	.6	- 1.6	- 1.0	- .8	.8	- 1.4
Private -----	- 1.4	.3	- 2.1	- 2.2	- 4.2	- 1.4	- 1.8	- 1.3	- 1.0	- 1.2	- 1.7
Public -----	1.1	0	0	0	0	13.5	0	0	0	7.8	0
Medical care -----	1.3	.4	4.6	.4	.6	1.3	3.0	.2	.8	.6	4.7
Personal care -----	.2	0	.4	0	.1	- .5	- .4	- .2	- .1	.3	- .4
Reading and recreation -----	.7	8.2	.2	- .1	.5	.4	.7	2.0	.4	- .2	- 3.3
Other goods and services -----	.1	.1	- .4	.1	1.0	.2	.1	- .1	.1	.2	0

1/ Change from February 1960 to April 1960.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index -- Food and its subgroups
 April 1960 indexes and percent changes, March 1960 to April 1960
 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	119.5	1.5	116.7	1.7	135.8	0.2	109.3	2.0	115.3	- 0.9	129.9	3.9	106.1	2.6
Atlanta	116.8	1.6	114.6	1.8	126.3	.1	111.9	3.2	116.3	0	127.9	1.6	101.5	2.6
Baltimore	119.7	1.3	115.6	1.5	133.4	.4	108.6	1.7	116.6	-.2	123.2	1.4	107.3	3.0
Boston	119.2	.8	115.8	.8	133.4	.6	109.0	.4	107.6	- 4.8	132.5	3.4	105.3	3.8
Chicago	116.7	1.4	114.0	1.6	130.5	.1	103.2	1.9	120.3	0	123.9	3.9	109.8	1.8
Cincinnati	120.4	2.2	117.3	2.4	135.8	.3	110.7	3.0	117.3	-.1	128.0	4.1	108.8	3.4
Cleveland	115.8	2.1	113.1	2.5	128.5	.2	104.6	3.3	110.2	-.3	125.0	5.2	108.1	2.6
Detroit	119.1	2.2	116.4	2.6	125.1	.2	104.8	2.6	113.0	.2	141.7	5.5	106.7	3.3
Houston	114.8	1.6	111.5	1.6	126.1	.2	103.2	2.4	115.8	-.1	124.4	4.6	101.5	.7
Kansas City	112.4	1.5	109.3	1.9	129.4	.9	103.1	2.0	108.4	-.2	118.4	3.3	99.1	2.7
Los Angeles	126.8	1.9	121.0	1.3	147.3	0	110.9	2.1	113.6	- 1.2	143.9	4.0	106.2	.3
Minneapolis	118.6	1.7	115.5	2.2	135.0	0	104.3	1.6	107.6	0	135.1	5.1	112.8	4.1
New York	121.4	.6	117.6	.7	141.9	.1	112.7	.4	117.2	- 2.1	122.4	1.2	106.9	3.9
Philadelphia	121.2	1.0	118.0	1.2	136.7	.3	110.5	.6	118.1	- 2.5	129.9	3.6	105.5	3.6
Pittsburgh	121.0	2.2	119.2	2.6	133.9	.1	109.3	2.0	117.6	-.3	132.6	9.4	115.5	2.2
Portland, Oreg.	121.2	1.0	118.2	1.1	141.3	.3	111.2	1.8	121.5	-.1	126.3	2.9	106.6	.5
St. Louis	118.0	1.1	112.8	1.3	123.1	.1	104.9	3.6	101.0	- 2.3	133.0	2.7	111.8	.6
San Francisco	124.6	1.5	121.6	1.8	151.4	.1	115.5	3.4	117.8	- 2.2	138.7	4.4	104.3	1.7
Sarasota	115.5	1.4	113.9	1.5	134.0	.6	107.7	2.3	109.6	- 2.8	123.5	2.5	104.7	4.2
Seattle	122.8	1.6	120.3	1.9	148.2	.2	112.1	2.6	119.8	0	136.6	4.8	104.7	1.3
Washington, D.C.	119.5	1.4	116.9	1.7	132.9	.8	106.4	.3	120.6	.6	126.2	3.8	110.1	3.2

TABLE 6: Consumer Price Index -- Average retail prices of selected foods
 U.S. city average

Food and unit	April 1960	March 1960	Food and unit	April 1960	March 1960
Cereals and bakery products:	<u>Cents</u>	<u>Cents</u>	Fresh--Continued	<u>Cents</u>	<u>Cents</u>
Flour, wheat ----- 5 lb.	55.3	54.9	Peaches * ----- 1b.		
Biscuit mix ----- 20 oz.	26.9	26.9	Strawberries * ----- pt.	38.5	
Corn meal ----- 1b.	13.0	13.1	Grapes, seedless * ----- 1b.		
Rice, short grain ----- 1b.	18.7	18.7	Watermelons * ----- 1b.		
Rice, long grain ----- 1b.	20.6	20.5	Potatoes ----- 10 lb.	80.0	69.3
Rolled oats ----- 18 oz.	21.9	21.9	Sweet potatoes ----- 1b.	12.8	12.8
Corn flakes ----- 12 oz.	25.7	25.7	Onions ----- 1b.	9.1	8.1
Bread, white ----- 1b.	20.1	20.0	Carrots ----- 1b.	12.5	12.7
Soda crackers ----- 1b.	28.9	28.9	Lettuce ----- head	17.1	17.7
Vanilla cookies ----- 7 oz.	24.3	24.4	Celery ----- 1b.	12.6	14.3
Meats, poultry, and fish:			Cabbage ----- 1b.	9.8	9.9
Round steak ----- 1b.	107.7	105.6	Tomatoes ----- 1b.	39.4	34.1
Chuck roast ----- 1b.	64.0	62.6	Beans, green ----- 1b.	27.3	32.8
Rib roast ----- 1b.	81.1	81.6	Canned:		
Hamburger ----- 1b.	53.2	52.7	Orange juice ----- 46-oz. can	42.8	43.0
Veal cutlets ----- 1b.	143.1	144.0	Peaches ----- #2 1/2 can	33.6	33.5
Pork chops, center cut ----- 1b.	84.1	80.8	Pineapple ----- #2 can	27.7	37.7
Bacon, sliced ----- 1b.	63.9	58.8	Fruit cocktail ----- #303 can	26.9	27.0
Han, whole ----- 1b.	58.1	58.8	Corn, cream style ----- #303 can	18.9	18.7
Lamb, leg ----- 1b.	75.0	73.7	Peas, green ----- #303 can	20.1	20.0
Frankfurters ----- 1b.	62.4	61.2	Tomatoes ----- #303 can	15.9	15.8
Luncheon meat, canned ----- 12 oz.	50.3	50.4	Baby foods ----- 4 1/2 to 6 oz.	10.0	10.0
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook ----- 1b.	44.0	44.2	Dried:		
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen ----- 1b.	47.5	47.4	Prunes ----- 1b.	39.5	39.4
Haddock, fillet, frozen ----- 1b.	56.0	56.4	Beans ----- 1b.	16.8	16.8
Salmon, pink, canned ----- 16 oz.	65.2	65.0	Other foods at home:		
Tuna fish, canned ----- 6 to 8 oz.	32.5	32.2	Tomato soup ----- 10 1/2 to 11-oz. can	12.5	12.5
Dairy products:			Beans with pork ----- 16-oz. can	14.9	14.9
Milk, fresh, (grocery) ----- qt.	24.3	24.7	Pickles, sliced ----- 15 oz.	26.4	26.4
Milk, fresh, (delivered) ----- qt.	25.6	25.9	Catsup, tomato ----- 14 oz.	22.5	22.3
Ice cream ----- 1/2 gal.	86.9	87.5	Coffee ----- 1b. can	75.6	75.4
Butter ----- 1b.	74.1	74.4	Coffee ----- 1b. bag	59.6	59.6
Cheese, American process ----- 1/2 lb.	33.9	33.9	Tea bags ----- pkg. of 10	24.4	24.3
Milk, evaporated ----- 15-oz. can	15.7	15.7	Cola drink, carton ----- 38 oz.	29.5	29.0
Fruits and vegetables:			Shortening, hydrogenated ----- 3 lb.	81.4	80.8
Frozen:			Margarine, colored ----- 1b.	26.9	26.9
Strawberries ----- 10 oz.	26.4	26.6	Lard ----- 1b.	18.3	18.1
Orange juice concentrate ----- 8 oz.	22.2	22.4	Salad dressing ----- 1/2 pt.	36.0	35.4
Peas, green ----- 10 oz.	19.9	19.9	Leaflet butter ----- 1b.	55.3	55.3
Beans, green ----- 9 oz.	22.5	22.7	Sugar ----- 5 lb.	57.4	57.5
Fresh:			Corn syrup ----- 34 oz.	26.6	26.6
Apples ----- 1b.	16.1	16.7	Grape jelly ----- 12 oz.	28.8	28.8
Bananas ----- 1b.	15.3	16.2	Chocolate bar ----- 1 oz.	5.1	5.1
Oranges, size 200 ----- doz.	64.9	64.9	Eggs, Grade A, large ----- doz.	55.8	49.5
Lemons ----- 1b.	19.1	19.3	Gelatin, flavored ----- 2 to 4 oz.	9.2	9.3
Grapefruit * ----- each	12.3	12.1			

* Priced only in season.

Labor D.C.

Brief Explanation of the CPI

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures average changes in prices of goods and services usually 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. Mail questionnaires are used to obtain local transit fares, public utility rates, newspaper prices, fuel prices, and certain other items which change in price infrequently. Prices of most other goods and services 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 and historical tables of index numbers for the United States city average and for 20 large cities are available on request to the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington or any of its regional offices (addresses below). The historical tables 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 1935 to date.

BLS Regional Offices

Atlanta	New York	Chicago	San Francisco	Boston
1371 Peachtree	341 Ninth Ave.	105 West Adams St.	630 Sansome St.	18 Oliver St.
Street, N. E.	Zone 1	Zone 3	Zone 11	Zone 10
Zone 9				

LABOR - D. C.

Union Security and Checkoff Provisions in Major Union Contracts, 1958-59

An analysis of major collective bargaining agreements, affecting 7,500,000 workers, covering, with details by industry, region, and State:

- ★ *Prevalence and Types of Union Security Provisions*
- ★ *Trends in Union Security Provisions*
- ★ *Hiring Arrangements*
- ★ *Prevalence and Types of Checkoff Payments*
- ★ *Checkoff Authorization and Renewal*

Order as BLS Bulletin 1272 and send check or money order to any of these Bureau of Labor Statistics regional offices:

18 Oliver Street
Boston 10, Mass.

341 Ninth Avenue
New York 1, N.Y.

1371 Peachtree Street, NE.
Atlanta 9, Ga.

105 West Adams Street
Chicago 3, Ill.

630 Sansome Street
San Francisco 11, Calif.

or to the

Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington 25, D.C.

Price 20 cents a copy

ORDER FORM

Enclosed find \$ _____ (check or money order). Please send me _____ copies of BLS Bulletin 1272, Union Security and Checkoff Provisions in Major Union Contracts, 1958-59, 20 cents a copy. (Twenty-five percent discount on orders of 100 copies or more.)

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, Zone, and State _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

HEALTH AND INSURANCE PLANS UNDER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING:

HOSPITAL BENEFITS - EARLY 1959

A comprehensive statistical analysis of the key features of hospital benefit provisions of 300 health and insurance plans covering approximately 5 million workers. This is the second in a series of bulletins dealing separately with the various components of health and insurance plans under collective bargaining.

* * *

Order as BLS Bulletin 1274 and send check or money order to any of these Bureau of Labor Statistics regional offices:

18 Oliver St.
Boston 10, Mass.

341 9th Ave.
New York 1, N. Y.

1371 Peachtree St., NE
Atlanta 9, Ga.

105 West Adams St.
Chicago 3, Ill.

630 Sansome St.
San Francisco 11, Calif.

or to the

Superintendent of Documents
Government Printing Office
Washington 25, D. C.

Price 30 cents a copy

ORDER FORM

Enclosed find \$_____ (check or money order). Please send me _____ copies of BLS Bull. 1274, Health and Insurance Plans Under Collective Bargaining: Hospital Benefits - Early 1959, 30 cents a copy. (Twenty-five percent discount on orders of 100 copies or more.)

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, Zone, and State _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

