Released August 25, 1960

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

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR JULY 1960

The Consumer Price Index increased slightly in July to 126.6 (1947-49 = 100), 0.1 percent above the June high, the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. This was the smallest June-to-July price rise since 1954.

Increases for food and gasoline, and a continued uptrend in prices for services were major factors, but most groups of commodities and services showed some price rise in July. Food prices rose less than they usually do in July, and prices for automobiles, appliances, and furniture continued to decline.

The July CPI was 1.4 percent above a year earlier. Prices of services and of nondurable commodities, including foods, have increased over the year, but durable goods prices have been declining almost continuously since last December. By July the prices of durable goods were 1.8 percent lower than in July 1959. Prices of food were 1 percent higher than a year earlier; nondurable goods, except food, 1.5 percent higher; and services, 2.9 percent higher. The services which contributed most to the price rise in the CPI from July 1959 are those associated with home ownership and medical care.

FOOD

The 0.2-percent increase from June to July in the price of foods was substantially less than in most recent years. This was partly because prices of some fresh fruits in especially abundant supply declined sharply. In addition, egg prices, which normally move up strongly in July, held close to the June level, in part because continuing favorable weather conditions tended to raise production.

The more important food price increases from June to July were for pork, dairy products, young chickens, and bread. Pork prices have been rising steadily since February. Throughout the late spring and summer the higher prices have reflected both a seasonal decline in hog marketings and a relatively small spring pig crop. Nevertheless, prices continued below those of a year earlier until July, when they were slightly higher (by 0.4 percent) for the first time in about a year and a half.

The 1.7-percent increase for bread in July was the largest in 8 years and brought the bread price index to a new high of 153.6 (1947-49 = 100), or 3.5 percent above a year earlier. Price increases were widespread geographically, and amounted, in most places, to about one cent on a pound loaf. According to reports, prices were raised to cover increased manufacturing and distribution costs.

Some fresh fruits were particularly abundant this July, chiefly peaches, bananas, and watermelons, and average prices for fresh fruits decreased 3.3 percent from June. Nevertheless, prices were substantially higher this July than in July 1959.

TRANSPORTATION

Prices for gasoline rose again last month, continuing to respond to good farming and driving weather, particularly in the Midwest, where stocks declined despite increasing production. The July gasoline index was 4.6 percent above that of July 1959, but most of this rise is accounted for by the 1-cent-a-gallon increase in the Federal tax imposed last October.

This year's almost continuous downtrend in prices for automobiles persisted in July. Although the new car price index edged off by only 0.3 percent, less than usual for the month, the cumulative decline since last November has been greater

than in recent years. Prices for used cars, which had held about level in June, decreased 1.5 percent in July and were 11.4 percent below last September.

Prices for tires also have been weak and by July were 12 percent below those of July 1959.

Chiefly because of the rise in gasoline prices, however, the price index for transportation as a whole rose slightly in July, but, for the second successive month, remained below year-earlier levels.

HOUSING

The housing component of the CPI was unchanged from June to July. Of the many elements contributing to the housing component, including fuels and utilities, household operation, rent, housefurnishings, and home purchase and upkeep, few showed any appreciable price change over the month. The most significant change was for durable housefurnishings, including appliances and furniture, for which prices continued to decline in July. Appliance prices have been falling since winter, particularly for the major appliances. The prices of washing machines declined somewhat more than usual in July, before introduction of new models. Prices of toasters, ranges, and vacuum cleaners also went down in July. This pervasive price weakness reflects heavy inventories and lagging sales. The furniture market likewise has been sluggish, so that prices declined for the second successive month in July, when special sales were widespread.

Small increases were reported for rents, fuel, utilities, and household operation services.

APPAREL

Average apparel prices rose 0.2 percent in July after two months of stability. Prices for women's and girls' clothing, which had been declining since May, turned up in July because of increases for rayon dresses and women's hosiery. Prices of men's and boys' clothing continued the uptrend which began in March. In July, the increases were for business shirts, work trousers, and dungarees. Prices for shoes, however, were down in July, chiefly because of lower prices for children's shoes and women's casual shoes. The index for all apparel continued for the third successive month at a level 1.5 percent above a year earlier.

COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS

Of about 1.1 million workers whose wages are subject to adjustment on the basis of the national CPI for July, some 180,000 are scheduled to receive a raise. These include about 105,000 employees in the electrical industry, and about 40,000 in the farm equipment industry, all of whom will receive about 1 cent an hour. Other small groups who will get increases are in a variety of industries. The approximately 930,000 workers who will not receive a raise are in the automobile industry, automobile parts and related industries, and in farm equipment manufacture.

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

(1947-49=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes		Percent change to July 1960 from --			
	July 1960	June 1960	June 1960	April 1960	July 1959	Year 1939
All items	126.6	126.5	0.1	0.3	1.4	113.1
Food	120.6	120.3	.2	.9	1.0	156.1
Food at home	117.9	117.7	.2	1.0	0.7	150.3
Cereals and bakery products	137.5	136.1	1.0	1.3	2.3	140.4
Meats, poultry, and fish	110.8	110.3	.5	1.4	- 1.1	166.3
Dairy products	115.8	115.0	.7	.4	2.2	132.5
Fruits and vegetables	134.4	136.1	- 1.2	3.5	2.8	190.3
Other foods at home	104.8	104.5	.3	- 1.2	- .9	116.5
Food away from home (Jan. 1953=100)	118.9	118.8	.1	.3	2.3	(1/)
Housing 2/	131.3	131.3	0	- .1	1.8	72.5
Rent	141.8	141.6	.1	.3	1.6	63.7
Gas and electricity	124.8	124.7	.1	.3	4.4	19.0
Solid fuels and fuel oil	132.9	132.3	.5	- 2.5	- .8	135.6
Housefurnishings	104.1	104.3	- .2	- .6	.1	94.9
Household operation	137.4	137.3	.1	.3	2.3	100.9
Apparel	109.1	108.9	.2	.2	1.5	107.8
Men's and boys'	110.2	109.8	.4	.6	1.8	116.9
Women's and girls'	99.4	99.1	.3	- .2	.6	82.4
Footwear	139.8	140.1	- .2	0	3.4	177.9
Other apparel	93.1	93.1	0	.2	.9	129.3
Transportation	145.9	145.8	.1	- .1	- .3	107.8
Private	134.2	134.1	.1	- .1	- .7	104.9
Public	200.3	199.7	.3	.5	3.1	146.4
Medical care	156.4	156.1	.2	.6	3.6	115.4
Personal care	133.4	133.2	.2	.4	1.6	123.8
Reading and recreation	121.6	121.1	.4	.4	2.1	93.0
Other goods and services	132.2	132.0	.2	.2	1.1	87.3
Special groups:						
All items less food	129.9	129.7	.2	.1	1.6	88.0
All items less shelter	124.2	124.0	.2	.4	1.2	124.2
Commodities	117.7	117.6	.1	.3	.6	128.1
Nondurables	120.0	119.8	.2	.5	1.1	133.5
Food	120.6	120.3	.2	.9	1.0	156.1
Nondurables less food	119.9	119.6	.3	.2	1.5	104.3
Apparel	109.0	108.7	.3	.2	1.5	109.2
Apparel less footwear	103.6	103.3	.3	.2	1.1	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel	129.2	128.7	.4	.2	1.5	96.1
Durables	111.1	111.5	- .4	- .9	- 1.8	93.9
New cars	136.1	136.5	- .3	- 1.7	- .9	138.8
Used cars (Jan. 1953=100)	87.1	88.4	- 1.5	- 1.4	- 9.4	(1/)
Durables less cars	103.0	103.2	- .2	- .6	- .5	79.8
Commodities less food	115.4	115.3	.1	- .2	.3	94.3
Services	150.0	149.7	.2	.4	2.9	86.6
Rent	141.8	141.6	.1	.3	1.6	63.7
Services less rent	152.1	151.8	.2	.4	3.1	106.9
Household operation services, gas, and electricity	139.1	138.9	.1	.4	3.3	59.9
Transportation services	184.9	184.5	.2	.4	2.2	130.8
Medical care services	163.0	162.5	.3	.7	4.2	131.2
Other services 3/	135.5	135.1	.3	.4	3.0	132.4
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1947-49=$1.00)	$0.790	$0.791	- .1	- .3	- 1.4	-53.1

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 —		
	July 1960	April 1960	July 1959	Year 1939	April 1960	July 1959	Year 1939
United States city average	126.6	126.2	124.9	59.4	0.3	1.4	113.1
Cities priced monthly 1/							
Chicago	130.4	129.5	128.3	58.6	.7	1.6	122.5
Detroit	125.8	124.2	124.4	59.0	1.3	1.1	113.2
Los Angeles	129.5	130.1	127.6	60.4	- .5	1.5	114.4
New York	124.8	124.7	123.5	60.1	.1	1.1	107.7
Philadelphia	126.9	126.4	124.2	59.2	.4	2.2	114.4
Cities priced in January, April, July, October 2/	July 1960	April 1960	July 1959	Year 1939	April 1960	July 1959	Year 1939
Boston	128.7	128.3	125.6	61.0	.3	2.5	111.0
Kansas City	127.9	126.6	126.0	61.7	1.0	1.5	107.3
Minneapolis	127.5	127.1	125.4	60.7	.3	1.7	110.0
Pittsburgh	128.9	127.9	125.7	58.1	.8	2.5	121.9
Portland, Oregon	127.5	127.5	126.1	58.3	0	1.1	118.7
Cities priced in March, June, September, December 2/	June 1960	March 1960	June 1959	Year 1939	March 1960	June 1959	Year 1939
Atlanta	127.1	126.7	125.5	58.3	.3	1.3	118.0
Baltimore	128.3	127.7	126.6	57.9	.5	1.3	121.6
Cincinnati	124.6	123.6	123.1	58.4	.8	1.2	113.4
St. Louis	127.2	126.3	126.3	59.3	.7	0.7	114.5
San Francisco	132.4	131.6	129.6	58.6	.6	2.2	125.9
Cities priced in February, May, August, November 2/	May 1960	February 1960	May 1959	Year 1939	February 1960	May 1959	Year 1939
Cleveland	127.1	126.1	125.3	59.2	.8	1.4	114.7
Houston	125.1	125.6	124.1	59.5	- .4	.8	110.3
Scranton	122.1	121.4	120.0	58.5	.6	1.8	108.7
Seattle	129.7	129.0	127.9	59.2	.5	1.4	119.1
Washington, D.C.	123.1	121.9	121.8	60.4	1.0	1.1	103.8

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 June 1960 to July 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	0.1	0.2	0	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2
Chicago	.2	.4	0.1	.8	.5	.1	.3	0	.2
Detroit	.6	.5	0	.2	0	1.2	5.1	2.7	.1
Los Angeles	- .2	.2	- .6	.5	- .3	.8	0	.1	.1
New York	- .1	.1	.1	- .3	- .5	- .1	- .6	.4	0
Philadelphia	.4	.4	.6	.3	- .6	.1	.6	1.6	.1

TABLE 4: Consumer Price Index--All items and commodity groups
July 1960 indexes and percent changes, April 1960 to July 1960
U.S. city average and 10 cities priced in July 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	126.6	128.7	130.4	125.8	127.9	129.5	127.5	124.8	126.9	128.9	127.5
Food	120.6	120.4	119.3	120.6	113.9	126.6	118.9	121.9	123.1	123.1	121.7
Food at home	117.9	117.3	116.8	118.1	111.1	120.7	115.7	118.1	119.7	121.5	119.0
Cereals and bakery products	137.5	133.7	131.4	128.8	131.2	148.2	134.5	146.7	138.9	137.0	141.1
Meats, poultry, and fish	110.8	111.2	104.3	105.8	104.1	110.5	105.1	112.8	112.8	112.4	112.7
Dairy products	115.8	110.3	121.9	112.5	111.3	114.1	107.0	117.5	120.8	117.8	122.5
Fruits and vegetables	134.4	138.7	135.9	149.7	123.1	143.3	140.4	125.7	133.3	138.8	126.5
Other foods at home	104.8	102.2	110.1	105.0	99.0	105.4	108.9	103.6	104.4	114.5	107.3
Housing	131.3	140.0	140.4	126.9	129.1	137.7	129.3	129.5	125.9	133.0	131.2
Rent	141.8	154.1	167.4	--	144.1	149.3	157.5	--	130.2	135.0	138.2
Gas and electricity	124.8	117.7	130.0	116.2	133.3	141.6	136.4	120.6	106.7	145.5	104.6
Solid fuels and fuel oil	132.9	137.9	137.0	125.4	131.8	--	127.8	136.4	118.6	135.1	143.1
Housefurnishings	104.1	102.8	102.5	109.3	101.9	103.2	97.6	105.3	110.6	108.3	101.7
Household operation	137.4	136.0	138.9	125.7	139.5	128.1	138.2	137.9	143.5	151.7	132.8
Apparel	109.1	108.0	113.1	106.2	108.2	111.3	107.9	107.6	107.6	105.6	114.7
Men's and boys'	110.2	104.9	117.1	108.8	111.0	113.6	110.8	109.3	110.5	106.0	116.3
Women's and girls'	99.4	102.4	101.0	95.2	99.3	101.7	98.8	96.5	96.1	94.4	103.3
Footwear	139.8	132.8	143.0	136.1	134.0	141.6	135.9	141.1	140.5	138.5	148.3
Other apparel	93.1	101.7	98.2	85.9	90.0	86.1	89.0	96.8	95.0	100.0	100.2
Transportation	145.9	149.6	155.9	140.7	154.9	142.7	132.5	146.7	153.3	164.8	140.6
Private	134.2	143.1	136.4	133.5	140.1	136.0	124.7	128.0	133.1	135.9	133.7
Public	200.3	168.8	205.7	179.4	257.8	186.5	198.6	191.4	193.4	256.2	199.2
Medical care	156.4	162.8	168.1	161.8	175.0	152.4	214.5	143.9	161.3	169.7	149.7
Personal care	133.4	135.6	138.2	140.9	135.8	134.5	136.8	123.8	144.2	128.7	135.2
Reading and recreation	121.6	126.4	125.3	119.7	137.2	102.5	123.8	125.1	123.5	112.8	126.7
Other goods and services	132.2	127.3	123.0	140.2	125.4	133.8	134.1	133.3	132.5	132.6	130.4
	Percent change from April 1960 to July 1960										
All items	0.3	0.3	0.7	1.3	1.0	- 0.5	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.8	0
Food	.9	1.0	2.2	1.3	1.3	- .2	.3	.4	1.6	1.7	0.4
Food at home	1.0	1.3	2.5	1.5	1.6	- .2	.2	.4	1.4	1.9	.7
Cereals and bakery products	1.3	.2	.7	3.0	1.4	.6	- .4	3.4	1.6	2.3	- .1
Meats, poultry, and fish	1.4	2.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	- .4	.8	.1	2.1	2.8	1.3
Dairy products	.4	2.5	1.3	- 0.4	2.7	.4	- .6	.3	2.3	.2	.8
Fruits and vegetables	3.5	4.7	9.7	5.6	4.0	- .4	3.9	2.7	2.6	4.7	.2
Other foods at home	- 1.2	- 2.9	.3	- 1.6	- 0.1	- .8	- 3.5	- 3.1	- 1.0	- .9	.7
Housing	- .1	- .1	.2	- .3	.3	- .8	- .2	.1	- .1	1.1	.2
Rent	.3	.5	1/ .4	--	- .1	1/ .3	.8	--	1/ .7	.5	- .2
Gas and electricity	.3	0	0	- .5	1.9	- .2	0	- .1	0	.2	0
Solid fuels and fuel oil	- 2.5	- .8	- 1.7	- 1.7	- 2.2	--	- 3.3	- 1.4	-12.5	0	0
Housefurnishings	- .6	- .5	.2	- .5	- 2.6	- 1.4	.9	- .2	0	- .6	- 1.3
Household operation	.3	.1	1.8	.2	.3	- .4	.8	- .3	1.2	0	.5
Apparel	.2	1.2	.4	1.0	.9	- .1	- .3	- .5	- .1	.1	0
Men's and boys'	.6	0	.6	1.0	.8	.5	1.0	.2	.9	.3	1.3
Women's and girls'	- .2	2.3	.5	1.4	1.5	- .9	- 1.2	- 1.1	- .6	.2	- 1.0
Footwear	0	.2	- .6	0	.4	0	- .1	.4	- .1	- .1	- .4
Other apparel	.2	.8	1.1	.4	.6	.3	- 1.2	- .5	- .1	- .7	0
Transportation	- .1	.5	.2	4.4	3.8	- 1.2	2.2	- .8	- 1.1	- .8	- 1.8
Private	- .1	.6	.3	5.5	4.5	- 1.4	1.8	- 1.0	- 1.4	- 1.2	- 2.1
Public	.5	0	0	0	0	0	4.7	0	0	0	0
Medical care	.6	.5	.1	2.0	1.2	.8	2.6	0	.4	.1	.4
Personal care	.4	0	.1	4.9	.1	.1	- .5	- .7	.8	.5	.8
Reading and recreation	.4	- 1.8	- .4	2.7	.1	- .1	- 2.1	.7	- .6	.4	.5
Other goods and services	.2	.2	- .8	.2	- .8	.5	- .4	0	.1	0	0

1/ Change from May 1960 to July 1960.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index -- Food and its subgroups
July 1960 indexes and percent changes, June 1960 to July 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 ---	120.6	0.2	117.9	0.2	137.5	1.0	110.5	0.5	115.8	0.7	134.4	- 1.2	104.6	0.3
Atlanta ----------	117.4	- .2	115.5	- .3	126.5	0.4	113.2	- .7	116.7	.3	134.7	0.4	99.2	.7
Baltimore ----------	121.2	0	117.3	0	135.3	.5	110.8	1.4	116.6	- .1	131.5	- 2.7	105.0	.5
Boston ----------	120.4	1.2	117.3	1.5	133.7	3.5	111.2	.9	110.3	2.4	138.7	1.0	102.2	.7
Chicago ----------	119.3	.4	116.8	.4	131.4	.2	104.3	.2	121.9	1.2	135.9	.4	110.1	.3
Cincinnati ----------	121.9	.3	119.1	.4	136.1	.1	112.8	.1	117.6	.1	135.3	.9	107.9	.9
Cleveland ----------	117.0	- .1	114.3	- .1	130.8	1.6	106.5	- .3	110.0	- .1	129.1	- 1.1	106.5	- .3
Detroit ----------	120.6	.5	118.1	.5	128.8	.1	105.8	.4	112.5	0	149.7	2.0	105.0	0
Houston ----------	115.6	.7	112.7	1.0	127.5	1.6	105.0	.4	112.4	.3	130.0	2.8	101.5	0
Kansas City ---------	113.9	- .1	111.1	- .3	131.2	.3	104.1	- .4	111.3	.1	123.1	- .6	99.0	- .3
Los Angeles ---------	126.6	.2	120.7	.2	148.2	.1	110.5	- 1.3	114.1	.2	143.3	3.0	105.4	- .8
Minneapolis ---------	118.9	- .3	115.7	- .4	134.5	- .3	105.1	.2	107.0	- .5	140.4	- 1.0	108.9	- 1.0
New York ----------	121.9	.1	118.1	.1	146.7	2.9	112.8	.7	117.5	2.0	125.7	- 4.6	103.6	.4
Philadelphia ---------	123.1	.4	119.7	.2	138.9	1.0	112.8	.9	120.8	2.0	133.3	- 4.2	104.4	1.5
Pittsburgh ----------	123.1	.8	121.5	.9	137.0	2.0	112.4	1.7	117.8	.1	138.8	0	114.5	.3
Portland, Oreg. -----	121.7	.3	119.0	.4	141.1	.2	112.7	.7	122.5	1.0	126.5	- 1.2	107.3	1.1
St. Louis ----------	119.9	.3	115.1	.3	126.0	1.0	105.6	- .6	104.2	- .3	140.1	1.7	111.4	0
San Francisco -------	124.7	.4	121.7	.4	151.9	.5	117.2	.3	117.7	.5	137.3	.1	103.4	.9
Scranton ----------	115.7	- .7	114.0	- .8	134.3	- .1	110.1	.7	109.9	0	123.9	- 5.3	101.1	.1
Seattle ----------	123.0	.3	120.4	.2	148.2	.4	114.1	.6	119.9	.3	135.4	- .7	103.3	.7
Washington, D.C. ----	120.9	0	118.7	.2	136.1	2.8	108.3	- .3	122.7	2.2	131.5	- 3.0	108.3	.7

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

Food and unit	July 1960	June 1960
Cereals and bakery products:	Cents	Cents
Flour, wheat ---------- 5 lb.	55.7	55.7
Biscuit mix ---------- 20 oz.	26.9	26.9
Macaroni ---------- 16 oz.	23.1	23.0
Corn meal ---------- lb.	13.1	13.0
Rolled oats ---------- 18 oz.	22.1	22.0
Corn flakes ---------- 12 oz.	25.8	25.7
Rice, short grain ---------- lb.	18.6	18.6
Rice, long grain ---------- lb.	20.6	20.6
Bread, white ---------- lb.	20.5	20.1
Soda crackers ---------- lb.	29.0	29.0
Vanilla cookies ---------- 7 oz.	24.4	24.3
Meats, poultry, and fish:		
Round steak ---------- lb.	105.7	105.8
Sirloin steak ---------- lb.	109.8	109.7
Chuck roast ---------- lb.	60.6	61.9
Rib roast ---------- lb.	82.3	82.3
Hamburger ---------- lb.	52.9	52.6
Veal cutlets ---------- lb.	141.1	143.2
Pork chops, center cut --------- lb.	89.6	86.0
Pork roast ---------- lb.	63.7	61.2
Bacon, sliced ---------- lb.	67.5	67.4
Ham, whole ---------- lb.	61.5	61.4
Lamb, leg ---------- lb.	75.1	77.1
Frankfurters ---------- lb.	61.8	62.4
Luncheon meat, canned ------- 12 oz.	50.4	50.5
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook - lb.	43.8	42.7
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen ---- lb.	47.3	47.6
Haddock, fillet, frozen -------- lb.	55.4	55.6
Salmon, pink, canned --------- 16 oz.	65.9	65.5
Tuna fish, canned ------- 6 to 6½ oz.	32.8	32.7
Dairy products:		
Milk, fresh, (grocery) --------- qt.	24.4	24.1
Milk, fresh, (delivered) ------- qt.	25.8	25.5
Ice cream ---------- ½ gal.	86.3	87.0
Butter ---------- lb.	74.0	74.2
Cheese, American process ----- ½ lb.	34.0	33.9
Milk, evaporated --------- 14½-oz. can	15.7	15.7
Fruits and vegetables:		
Frozen:		
Strawberries ---------- 10 oz.	26.6	26.4
Orange juice concentrate --- 6 oz.	22.0	22.1
Lemonade concentrate ------- 6 oz.	13.3	13.5
Peas, green ---------- 10 oz.	19.9	19.8
Beans, green ---------- 9 oz.	23.0	23.1
Potatoes, french fried ----- 9 oz.	19.8	19.7
Fresh:		
Apples ---------- lb.	22.5	21.2
Bananas ---------- lb.	14.6	16.0
Oranges, size 200 ---------- doz.	78.4	72.4
Lemons ---------- lb.	18.1	17.9
Fresh--Continued		
Grapefruit * ---------- each	15.8	15.4
Peaches * ---------- lb.	17.1	
Strawberries * ---------- pt.		29.1
Grapes, seedless * ------- lb.	32.9	
Watermelons * ---------- lb.	4.3	7.3
Potatoes ---------- 10 lb.	77.5	81.0
Sweet potatoes ---------- lb.	(1/)	14.6
Onions ---------- lb.	10.2	10.0
Carrots ---------- lb.	15.6	14.1
Lettuce ---------- head	18.2	14.3
Celery ---------- lb.	14.8	14.1
Cabbage ---------- lb.	9.0	10.9
Tomatoes ---------- lb.	30.6	33.5
Beans, green ---------- lb.	20.7	23.2
Canned:		
Orange juice ------- 46-oz. can	42.4	42.3
Pineapple juice ---- 46 oz. can	33.1	34.4
Peaches ---------- #2½ can	33.7	33.5
Pineapple ---------- #2 can	38.0	37.8
Fruit cocktail ------- #303 can	27.1	27.0
Corn, cream style ---- #303 can	19.2	19.0
Peas, green ---------- #303 can	20.8	20.5
Tomatoes ---------- #303 can	16.3	16.2
Tomato juice ------- 46 oz. can	32.0	31.9
Baby foods --------- 4½ to 5 oz.	10.0	10.0
Dried:		
Prunes ---------- lb.	39.6	39.6
Beans ---------- lb.	16.6	16.7
Other foods at home:		
Tomato soup ---- 10½ to 11-oz. can	12.5	12.5
Beans, with pork ------ 16-oz. can	14.8	14.9
Pickles, sliced ---------- 15 oz.	26.4	26.6
Catsup, tomato ---------- 14 oz.	22.7	22.6
Potato chips ---------- 4 oz.	27.2	27.4
Coffee ---------- lb. can	76.2	75.7
Coffee ---------- lb. bag	60.0	59.8
Tea bags ---------- pkg. of 16	24.5	24.4
Cola drink, carton ------- 36 oz.	30.0	29.9
Shortening, hydrogenated -- 3 lb.	80.6	79.7
Margarine, colored --------- lb.	26.7	26.7
Lard ---------- lb.	18.8	18.5
Salad dressing ---------- pt.	36.1	35.9
Peanut butter ---------- lb.	55.6	55.5
Sugar ---------- 5 lb.	57.4	57.2
Corn syrup ---------- 24 oz.	26.6	26.6
Grape jelly ---------- 12 oz.	28.7	28.6
Chocolate bar ---------- 1 oz.	5.1	5.1
Eggs, Grade A, large ------ doz.	51.6	51.5
Gelatin, flavored -----3 to 4 oz.	9.3	9.3

* Priced only in season.
1/ Not available.

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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 Street, N. E. Zone 9	341 Ninth Ave. Zone 1	105 West Adams St. Zone 3	630 Sansome St. Zone 11	18 Oliver St. Zone 10

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