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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR AUGUST 1960

The August Consumer Price Index held at the July level of 126.6 (1947-49 = 100), the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. This was 1.4 percent above a year ago.

Price reductions from July to August for food, housefurnishings, and new cars were balanced by increases, most of them small, for almost all other kinds of commodities and services. The most significant price increases in August were for gasoline, home ownership costs, and apparel.

The food price decline was caused chiefly by substantial decreases for fresh fruits and vegetables in August, which is the peak of the harvest season for many items of produce. Prices for most cuts of beef and lamb, as well as for poultry, also went down a little. Pork prices, however, continued the strong rise which began in February, and egg prices rose sharply as they usually do in hot weather when production declines.

August "white sales" and a variety of merchandising efforts to clear large inventories of 1960 model appliances brought price cuts for both nondurable and durable housefurnishings. The index for new cars, continuing its almost steady decline since last November, decreased again in August, following the usual pattern of change as the model year moves toward its close.

In contrast, gasoline prices rose substantially in August for the third successive month. The rise was geographically widespread and reflected heavy summer demand. Home ownership costs, on the average, were up quite generally across the country, although mortgage interest rates declined.

FOOD The 0.4-percent decline in food prices was caused almost entirely by an 8-percent drop for fresh fruits and vegetables in August. Except for small decreases for beef, lamb, and poultry, and reductions for coffee, prices for most other important foods rose in August. Food prices were 1.5 percent above a year earlier, but 1.3 percent lower than at the July 1958 peak.

Supplies of fresh produce this year were better than average for August, but somewhat less abundant than at the same time last year. As a result, prices for fresh fruits and vegetables this August were 5 percent above the level of August 1959.

In contrast to the seasonal decreases for produce prices in August, prices for some other foods were rising seasonally. Among these were eggs and milk. Egg prices rose 8.8 percent, as production dropped from the unusually high levels prevailing during this year's relatively cool June and July. As milk production declines in the summer, prices increase, and by this August, they were at record levels. Prices for eggs, however, although well above a year earlier, were substantially below prices in all recent years except 1959.

All cuts of pork went up in price in August, but the increase was greatest for bacon. Prices for pork products have been increasing generally since February, chiefly because of a substantially reduced pig crop and a decline in hog marketings. Pork prices this August were 5.6 percent above the August 1959 figure.

HOUSING All major elements of housing costs except housefurnishings rose in price between July and August. The most important increases were

for the various costs associated with home purchase, but repair and maintenance prices also were higher, chiefly for contractual services. Fuel prices went up seasonally. Rents continued their almost steady uptrend of the postwar period. The index for housing--at 131.5 (1947-49 = 100)--was at an alltime high in August, and 1.7 percent above a year earlier.

The rise in the housing component of the index has been dampened in recent months by a steady decline for durable housefurnishings, chiefly appliances. Prices for almost all appliances dropped again in August. For refrigerators, the declines reflected a recent reduction in manufacturers' prices as well as sales and promotions at the retail level. Special sales of other types of appliances were being held in August to clear 1960 models before the introduction of 1961 lines. The price downtrend for appliances, along with substantial and widespread decreases for sheets and towels in the August "white sales," caused the homefurnishings index to edge below a year earlier for the first time since the spring of 1959. Furniture prices, on the average, were unchanged from July to August.

TRANSPORTATION The index for transportation has been rising in recent months primarily because of price increases for gasoline. Gasoline prices have been advancing seasonally since May. By August, prices for gasoline, including taxes, were at record levels, and 3.5 percent above a year earlier.

The index for new cars continued down in August, as the 1960 model year neared its close. The index has fallen 6.1 percent since November 1959, the largest drop for these months since 1955. By September 1, new car inventories were at a record for that time of year, even though August production dropped sharply with the beginning of the model changeover.

Used car sales improved seasonally in August, and the price index for used cars edged up but continued substantially below 1959 levels.

APPAREL Apparel prices showed a small average increase for the second month, and in August were 1.2 percent above a year earlier. The price advances in August were primarily for men's suits and business shirts, and women's and girls' dresses.

COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS The wages of about 110,000 employees are subject to review on the basis of the national Consumer Price Index for August. Of these workers, about 70,000 will receive raises. A total of about 63,000 workers, mostly employed by aircraft companies, will be paid a 1-cent-an-hour increase under a quarterly adjustment.

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

(1947-49=100 unless otherwise specified).

Group	Indexes		Percent change to August 1960 from --			
	August 1960	July 1960	July 1960	May 1960	August 1959	Year 1939
All items-----	126.6	126.6	0	0.2	1.4	113.1
Food-----	120.1	120.6	- 0.4	.3	1.5	155.0
Food at home-----	117.4	117.9	- .4	.3	1.5	149.3
Cereals and bakery products-----	137.7	137.5	.1	1.5	2.8	140.7
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	111.3	110.8	.5	1.5	1.3	167.5
Dairy products-----	116.6	115.8	.7	1.4	2.2	134.1
Fruits and vegetables-----	127.3	134.4	- 5.3	- 4.2	1.4	174.9
Other foods at home-----	106.5	104.8	1.6	1.5	0.3	120.0
Food away from home (Jan. 1953=100)-----	119.1	118.9	.2	.4	2.1	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	131.5	131.3	.2	.2	1.7	72.8
Rent-----	141.9	141.8	.1	.4	1.5	63.9
Gas and electricity-----	124.9	124.8	.1	.2	4.0	19.1
Solid fuels and fuel oil-----	133.4	132.9	.4	.4	- .4	136.5
Housefurnishings-----	103.5	104.1	- .6	- .8	- .1	93.8
Household operation-----	137.6	137.4	.1	.3	2.2	101.2
Apparel-----	109.3	109.1	.2	.4	1.2	108.2
Men's and boys'-----	110.5	110.2	.3	.7	1.6	117.5
Women's and girls'-----	99.7	99.4	.3	.3	.9	82.9
Footwear-----	139.9	139.8	.1	.1	1.9	178.1
Other apparel-----	93.1	93.1	0	- .1	.6	129.3
Transportation-----	146.2	145.9	.2	.4	- .3	108.3
Private-----	134.4	134.2	.1	.4	- .8	105.2
Public-----	200.7	200.3	.2	.7	3.0	146.9
Medical care-----	156.7	156.4	.2	.5	3.5	115.8
Personal care-----	133.8	133.4	.3	.5	1.6	124.5
Reading and recreation-----	121.9	121.6	.2	.4	2.4	93.5
Other goods and services-----	132.4	132.2	.2	.4	1.0	87.5
Special groups:						
All items less food-----	130.1	129.9	.2	.3	1.5	88.3
All items less shelter-----	124.1	124.2	- .1	.2	1.4	124.0
Commodities-----	117.6	117.7	- .1	.3	.9	127.9
Nondurables-----	119.9	120.0	- .1	.4	1.4	133.3
Food-----	120.1	120.6	- .4	.3	1.5	155.0
Nondurables less food-----	120.1	119.9	.2	.6	1.3	104.6
Apparel-----	109.2	109.0	.2	.4	1.2	109.6
Apparel less footwear-----	103.8	103.6	.2	.4	1.1	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	129.4	129.2	.2	.8	1.3	96.4
Durables-----	111.0	111.1	- .1	- .8	- 1.6	93.7
New cars-----	135.5	136.1	- .4	- 1.7	- .7	137.7
Used cars (Jan. 1953=100)-----	87.3	87.1	.2	- .9	-10.2	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	103.0	103.0	0	- .5	0	79.8
Commodities less food-----	115.5	115.4	.1	.2	.2	94.4
Services-----	150.3	150.0	.2	.5	2.7	86.9
Rent-----	141.9	141.8	.1	.4	1.5	63.9
Services less rent-----	152.5	152.1	.3	.5	3.0	107.5
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	139.2	139.1	.1	.3	3.0	60.0
Transportation services-----	185.2	184.9	.2	.5	2.2	131.2
Medical care services-----	163.3	163.0	.2	.6	4.0	131.6
Other services 3/-----	136.0	135.5	.4	.6	2.9	133.3
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1947-49=\$1.00)-----	\$0.790	\$0.790	0	- .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 --		
	August 1960	May 1960	August 1959	Year 1939	May 1960	August 1959	Year 1939
United States city average	126.6	126.3	124.8	59.4	0.2	1.4	113.1
<b>Cities priced monthly 1/</b>							
Chicago	130.3	129.6	128.3	58.6	.5	1.6	122.4
Detroit	125.6	124.3	123.7	59.0	1.0	1.5	112.9
Los Angeles	129.2	129.8	127.5	60.4	-.5	1.3	113.9
New York	125.3	124.9	123.0	60.1	.3	1.9	108.5
Philadelphia	126.8	126.4	124.4	59.2	.3	1.9	114.2
<b>Cities priced in February, May, August, November 2/</b>	August 1960	May 1960	August 1959	Year 1939	May 1960	August 1959	Year 1939
Cleveland	127.4	127.1	125.8	59.2	.2	1.3	115.2
Houston	126.1	125.1	124.8	59.5	.8	1.0	111.9
Scranton	121.8	122.1	121.2	58.5	-.2	0.5	108.2
Seattle	129.8	129.7	128.9	59.2	.1	.7	119.3
Washington, D.C.	123.2	123.1	122.0	60.4	.1	1.0	104.0
<b>Cities priced in January, April, July, October 2/</b>	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
<b>Cities priced in March, June, September, December 2/</b>	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	.7	114.5
San Francisco	132.4	131.6	129.6	58.6	.6	2.2	125.9

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 July 1960 to August 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	- 0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Chicago	- 0.1	- .8	.1	.4	.3	.1	-.1	0	-.3
Detroit	-.2	-.5	-.2	-.1	.2	.4	-.2	.1	0
Los Angeles	-.2	-.9	.1	-.4	-.2	.1	-.1	.2	0
New York	.4	.5	.3	.4	.1	0	-.1	1.0	.1
Philadelphia	-.1	-.1	-.2	.3	.1	0	-.1	0	.2

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

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Cleveland	Detroit	Houston	Los Angeles	New York	Philadelphia	Scranton	Seattle	Washington, D.C.
<b>Indexes (1947-49=100)</b>											
All items -----	126.6	130.3	127.4	125.6	126.1	129.2	125.3	126.8	121.8	129.8	123.2
Food -----	120.1	118.4	116.7	120.0	115.8	125.5	122.5	123.0	114.8	123.1	120.1
Food at home -----	117.4	115.8	113.9	117.4	112.7	119.4	118.8	119.7	112.8	120.4	117.6
Cereals and bakery products --	137.7	131.3	131.2	128.7	128.2	148.4	147.8	139.3	134.8	148.2	136.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	111.3	104.7	106.7	106.4	105.5	111.3	112.6	112.9	108.6	115.4	108.8
Dairy products -----	116.6	121.7	110.1	115.4	114.9	113.9	119.0	120.6	109.9	119.9	121.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	127.3	127.9	123.0	139.4	126.4	133.4	125.0	129.8	114.9	130.2	121.0
Other foods at home -----	106.5	111.4	109.0	106.3	101.4	106.3	106.1	106.6	104.2	105.2	111.2
Housing -----	131.5	140.6	130.9	126.7	131.2	137.9	129.9	125.6	124.4	133.3	121.6
Rent -----	141.9	--	161.4	141.9	138.3	--	134.7	--	133.5	150.9	132.9
Gas and electricity -----	124.9	130.0	124.1	116.3	134.3	141.6	121.9	106.7	121.3	86.7	136.8
Solid fuels and fuel oil -----	133.4	137.0	139.6	126.3	--	--	136.4	121.1	133.0	138.6	132.3
Housefurnishings -----	103.5	101.4	98.9	107.9	99.6	102.6	105.2	109.6	97.6	103.4	99.8
Household operation -----	137.6	139.2	125.7	125.7	144.9	128.2	137.8	143.6	122.1	138.0	134.9
Apparel -----	109.3	113.5	110.2	106.1	113.2	110.8	108.0	107.9	112.9	111.7	105.9
Men's and boys' -----	110.5	117.1	115.0	109.6	110.5	112.5	109.9	111.1	113.4	114.9	110.1
Women's and girls' -----	99.7	101.9	99.2	94.3	106.6	101.5	97.0	96.2	104.0	100.6	96.6
Footwear -----	139.9	143.0	134.9	136.8	145.4	141.6	140.9	140.7	146.3	145.8	131.6
Other apparel -----	93.1	97.9	96.8	85.9	90.9	85.9	97.0	95.1	94.2	89.6	91.2
Transportation -----	146.2	156.4	141.9	141.0	146.8	142.4	146.9	153.5	144.9	148.3	146.3
Private -----	134.4	137.0	132.9	133.8	139.4	135.7	128.2	133.4	131.3	136.2	137.7
Public -----	200.7	205.7	181.9	179.4	198.9	186.5	191.4	193.4	191.9	189.6	179.1
Medical care -----	156.7	168.2	174.0	162.5	138.5	152.6	143.9	161.3	133.7	159.4	154.3
Personal care -----	133.8	138.1	135.1	141.2	141.5	134.3	123.7	144.1	144.6	143.0	131.9
Reading and recreation -----	121.9	125.3	131.0	119.8	119.8	102.7	126.4	123.5	156.1	120.7	122.4
Other goods and services -----	132.4	122.6	137.3	140.2	137.9	133.8	133.4	132.7	123.7	143.3	138.0
<b>Percent change from May 1960 to August 1960</b>											
All items -----	0.2	0.5	0.2	1.0	0.8	- 0.5	0.3	0.3	- 0.2	0.1	0.1
Food -----	.3	1.0	.3	0.8	1.2	- .5	.6	1.1	- .9	.4	- .2
Food at home -----	.3	1.0	.4	.9	1.4	- .5	.6	1.0	- 1.3	.2	- .3
Cereals and bakery products --	1.5	.2	2.4	2.8	2.1	.5	4.0	1.8	.4	.1	2.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	1.5	1.3	1.5	2.5	1.3	.7	.5	1.4	.5	2.8	- .2
Dairy products -----	1.4	1.2	0	2.1	- .6	.6	3.0	1.9	0	.2	1.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	- 4.2	1.6	- 4.4	- 3.5	5.1	- 4.2	- 2.9	- 3.6	- 11.3	- 5.2	- 7.5
Other foods at home -----	1.5	.8	1.8	.5	- .1	- .1	1.6	3.5	2.9	1.9	3.1
Housing -----	.2	.4	- .1	- .2	- 1.4	- .9	.5	.2	.6	0	- .2
Rent -----	.4	--	.4	<u>1/</u> .1	- .2	--	<u>1/</u> .2	--	.3	- .1	.7
Gas and electricity -----	.2	0	0	.1	.3	0	1.1	0	0	0	0
Solid fuels and fuel oil -----	.4	.4	2.2	.7	--	--	- .1	- 1.9	2.9	0	.2
Housefurnishings -----	- .8	- .9	- .6	- 1.3	- 4.3	- 1.9	.2	- .5	- .5	- .3	- .2
Household operation -----	.3	.5	- .1	.1	- .1	- .7	- .1	1.3	0	2.1	.3
Apparel -----	.4	1.0	.4	.4	.4	- .4	0	.2	- .2	- .1	.6
Men's and boys' -----	.7	1.0	.8	1.2	.8	- .7	.7	.8	.4	.7	3.0
Women's and girls' -----	.3	1.8	.1	- .1	.1	- .5	- .3	- .2	- .6	- .6	- .4
Footwear -----	.1	- .6	0	.7	.2	.2	.1	.1	0	- .3	- .6
Other apparel -----	- .1	.1	1.0	.1	.1	- .2	- .3	0	0	0	.2
Transportation -----	.4	1.2	- .3	3.9	7.0	- .7	- .8	- .8	- 1.3	- .9	.3
Private -----	.4	1.6	- .3	4.8	8.1	- .8	- 1.1	- 1.0	- 1.5	- .9	.3
Public -----	.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical care -----	.5	.1	.5	1.7	0	.9	- .1	.4	.1	.8	.1
Personal care -----	.5	.1	4.9	5.5	.6	0	- 1.2	.3	.3	.1	.2
Reading and recreation -----	.4	- .3	0	2.7	.7	.1	1.0	- .6	.1	.2	.4
Other goods and services -----	.4	- 1.1	1.6	.2	.3	.5	0	.2	0	.1	1.2

1/ Change from June 1960 to August 1960.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index -- Food and its subgroups  
August 1960 indexes and percent changes, July 1960 to August 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 ---	120.1	- 0.4	117.4	- 0.4	137.7	0.1	111.3	0.5	116.6	0.7	127.3	- 5.3	106.5	1.6
Atlanta -----	118.1	.6	116.3	.7	126.1	-.3	115.0	1.6	116.8	.1	134.1	-.4	100.7	1.5
Baltimore -----	120.7	-.4	116.6	-.6	135.3	0	109.9	-.8	116.4	-.2	126.3	- 4.0	106.8	1.7
Boston -----	119.9	-.4	116.5	-.7	132.8	-.7	111.3	.1	112.1	1.6	128.5	- 7.4	105.0	2.7
Chicago -----	118.4	-.8	115.8	-.9	131.3	-.1	104.7	.4	121.7	-.2	127.9	- 5.9	111.4	1.2
Cincinnati -----	120.8	-.9	117.8	- 1.1	136.1	0	112.9	.1	116.8	-.7	126.9	- 6.2	109.0	1.0
Cleveland -----	116.7	-.3	113.9	-.3	131.2	.3	106.7	.2	110.1	.1	123.0	- 4.7	109.0	2.3
Detroit -----	120.0	-.5	117.4	-.6	128.7	-.1	106.4	.6	115.4	2.6	139.4	- 6.9	106.3	1.2
Houston -----	115.8	.2	112.7	0	128.2	.5	105.5	.5	114.9	2.2	126.4	- 2.8	101.4	-.1
Kansas City -----	112.9	-.9	109.8	- 1.2	132.1	.7	103.5	-.6	111.2	-.1	115.9	- 5.8	99.4	.4
Los Angeles -----	125.5	-.9	119.4	- 1.1	148.4	.1	111.3	.7	113.9	-.2	133.4	- 6.9	106.3	.9
Minneapolis -----	118.7	-.2	115.2	-.4	134.5	0	105.5	.4	109.7	2.5	131.3	- 6.5	110.6	1.6
New York -----	122.5	.5	118.8	.6	147.8	.7	112.6	-.2	119.0	1.3	125.0	-.6	106.1	2.4
Philadelphia -----	123.0	-.1	119.7	0	139.3	.3	112.9	.1	120.6	-.2	129.8	- 2.6	106.6	2.1
Pittsburgh -----	121.0	- 1.7	119.1	- 2.0	137.2	.1	112.1	-.3	118.3	.4	122.3	-11.9	115.9	1.2
Portland, Oreg. -----	120.4	- 1.1	117.5	- 1.3	141.3	.1	111.9	-.7	122.0	-.4	118.9	- 6.0	107.7	.4
St. Louis -----	119.6	-.3	114.7	-.3	125.8	-.2	106.7	1.0	105.9	1.6	133.7	- 4.6	111.8	.4
San Francisco -----	124.0	-.6	120.9	-.7	151.6	-.2	117.8	.5	117.7	0	128.9	- 6.1	105.6	2.1
Scranton -----	114.8	-.8	112.8	- 1.1	134.8	.4	108.6	- 1.4	109.9	0	114.9	- 7.3	104.2	3.1
Seattle -----	123.1	.1	120.4	0	148.2	0	115.4	1.1	119.9	0	130.2	- 3.8	105.2	1.8
Washington, D.C. -----	120.1	-.7	117.6	-.9	136.1	0	108.8	.5	121.6	-.9	121.0	- 8.0	111.2	2.7

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

Food and unit	August 1960	July 1960	Food and unit	August 1960	July 1960
	Cents	Cents		Cents	Cents
<b>Cereals and bakery products:</b>			<b>Fresh--Continued</b>		
Flour, wheat ----- 5 lb.	55.7	55.7	Grapefruit * ----- each	15.4	15.8
Biscuit mix ----- 20 oz.	27.0	26.9	Peaches * ----- lb.	14.6	17.1
Macaroni ----- 16 oz.	23.1	23.1	Strawberries * ----- pt.		
Corn meal ----- 1 lb.	13.1	13.1	Grapes, seedless * ----- lb.	23.5	32.9
Rolled oats ----- 1 lb.	22.1	22.1	Watermelons * ----- lb.	3.7	4.3
Corn flakes ----- 12 oz.	25.8	25.8	Potatoes ----- 10 lb.	70.6	77.5
Rice, short grain ----- 1 lb.	18.6	18.6	Sweet potatoes ----- lb.	17.3	(1/)
Rice, long grain ----- 1 lb.	20.5	20.6	Onions ----- 1 lb.	10.1	10.2
Bread, white ----- 1 lb.	20.5	20.5	Carrots ----- 1 lb.	15.8	15.6
Soda crackers ----- 1 lb.	29.0	29.0	Lettuce ----- head	16.3	18.2
Vanilla cookies ----- 7 oz.	24.4	24.4	Celery ----- 1 lb.	13.4	14.8
<b>Meats, poultry, and fish:</b>			Cabbage ----- 1 lb.	8.4	9.0
Round steak ----- 1 lb.	105.6	105.7	Tomatoes ----- 1 lb.	21.1	30.6
Sirloin steak ----- 1 lb.	109.4	109.8	Beans, green ----- 1 lb.	19.6	20.7
Chuck roast ----- 1 lb.	60.8	60.6	<b>Canned:</b>		
Rib roast ----- 1 lb.	82.0	82.3	Orange juice ----- 46-oz. can	42.6	42.4
Hamburger ----- 1 lb.	52.2	52.9	Pineapple juice ----- 46 oz. can	32.9	33.1
Veal cutlets ----- 1 lb.	140.1	141.1	Peaches ----- #2 can	33.9	33.7
Pork chops, center cut ----- 1 lb.	89.8	89.6	Pineapple ----- #2 can	38.1	38.0
Pork roast ----- 1 lb.	64.2	63.7	Fruit cocktail ----- #303 can	27.1	27.1
Bacon, sliced ----- 1 lb.	71.0	67.5	Corn, cream style ----- #303 can	19.2	19.2
Ham, whole ----- 1 lb.	61.6	61.5	Peas, green ----- #303 can	21.0	20.8
Lamb, leg ----- 1 lb.	73.5	75.1	Tomatoes ----- #303 can	16.1	16.3
Frankfurters ----- 1 lb.	63.2	61.8	Tomato juice ----- 46 oz. can	32.1	32.0
Luncheon meat, canned ----- 12 oz.	50.0	50.4	Baby foods ----- 4 1/2 to 5 oz.	10.1	10.0
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook ----- 1 lb.	43.0	43.8	<b>Dried:</b>		
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen ----- 1 lb.	47.2	47.3	Prunes ----- 1 lb.	39.6	39.6
Haddock, fillet, frozen ----- 1 lb.	55.3	55.4	Beans ----- 1 lb.	16.5	16.6
Salmon, pink, canned ----- 16 oz.	66.1	65.9	<b>Other foods at home:</b>		
Tuna fish, canned ----- 6 to 6 1/2 oz.	32.9	32.8	Tomato soup ----- 10 1/2 to 11-oz. can	12.5	12.5
<b>Dairy products:</b>			Beans, with pork ----- 16-oz. can	14.8	14.8
Milk, fresh, (grocery) ----- qt.	24.7	24.4	Pickles, sliced ----- 15 oz.	26.4	26.4
Milk, fresh, (delivered) ----- qt.	26.0	25.8	Catsup, tomato ----- 14 oz.	22.6	22.7
Ice cream ----- 1/2 gal.	86.6	86.3	Potato chips ----- 4 oz.	27.3	27.2
Butter ----- 1 lb.	74.1	74.0	Coffee ----- 1 lb. can	74.9	76.2
Cheese, American process ----- 1/2 lb.	33.9	34.0	Coffee ----- 1 lb. bag	58.1	60.0
Milk, evaporated ----- 14 1/2-oz. can	15.8	15.7	Tea bags ----- pkg. of 16	24.5	24.5
<b>Fruits and vegetables:</b>			Cola drink, carton ----- 36 oz.	30.1	30.0
<b>Frozen:</b>			Shortening, hydrogenated ----- 3 lb.	81.8	80.6
Strawberries ----- 10 oz.	26.7	26.6	Margarine, colored ----- 1 lb.	26.7	26.7
Orange juice concentrate ----- 6 oz.	22.1	22.0	Lard ----- 1 lb.	19.2	18.8
Lemonade concentrate ----- 6 oz.	13.0	13.3	Salad dressing ----- pt.	36.0	36.1
Peas, green ----- 10 oz.	20.0	19.9	Peanut butter ----- 1 lb.	55.6	55.6
Beans, green ----- 9 oz.	23.0	23.0	Sugar ----- 5 lb.	58.6	57.4
Potatoes, french fried ----- 9 oz.	19.8	19.8	Corn syrup ----- 24 oz.	26.7	26.6
<b>Fresh:</b>			Grape jelly ----- 12 oz.	28.7	28.7
Apples ----- 1 lb.	(1/)	22.5	Chocolate bar ----- 1 oz.	5.1	5.1
Bananas ----- 1 lb.	15.4	14.6	Eggs, Grade A, large ----- doz.	56.2	51.6
Oranges, size 200 ----- doz.	82.1	78.4	Gelatin, flavored ----- 3 to 4 oz.	9.3	9.3
Lemons ----- 1 lb.	18.7	18.1			

\* Priced only in season.  
1/ Not available.

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

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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				

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