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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR OCTOBER 1960

The October Consumer Price Index, at 127.3 percent of its 1947-49 average, was 0.4 percent above September and 1.4 percent above a year ago, according to the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Contraseasonal rises in some food prices, combined with higher prices for new cars, most elements of housing, and women's and girls' apparel, were the major factors in the increase to a new high. Durable commodities rose 0.8 percent, the first increase reported for this component in 1960; nondurable commodities and services both advanced 0.3 percent from their September levels.

FOOD The 0.6 percent increase in food prices reflected primarily higher prices for foods for home consumption, although prices for restaurant meals also advanced. Higher prices for eggs, most fresh fruits, tomatoes, pork, milk, and bread contributed materially to the rise. Seasonal factors were to some extent responsible for the increase in average prices of eggs, milk, and some fresh fruits. However, higher prices for grapefruit and tomatoes reflected extensive damage to Florida crops by the September hurricane. Higher pork prices stemmed from the large reduction in the spring pig crop in response to low prices for hogs at that time. The index for all foods, at 120.9 (1947-49 = 100), was 2.1 percent above the level for a year earlier.

Egg prices rose nearly 11 percent over the month and were 23 percent above corresponding levels of last year. The sharp rise in egg prices, attributable to a continuing decline in egg production, accounted for a major share of the increase in the food index.

Seasonally low production of milk, with accompanying price increases for milk, cheese, butter, and ice cream, resulted in an increase of 0.8 percent in average prices of dairy products. Dairy product prices were 2.0 percent higher than in October 1959.

Average prices of cereal and bakery products advanced 0.5 percent, principally because of higher bread prices. Over the past year, bread prices have increased by nearly 5 percent, with most of this increase occurring in midsummer. Average prices of cereals increased 0.3 percent over the month, led by higher prices for flour.

Retail prices of all fruits and vegetables were somewhat higher (0.2 percent), as all subgroups except fresh fruits and vegetables increased. An increase of 1.4 percent for frozen fruits and vegetables was primarily due to higher average prices for frozen orange concentrate and lemonade. Seasonal influences were the dominant factors affecting average prices of fresh produce. A decline of 1.3 percent for fresh vegetables more than offset an increase of 0.9 percent for fresh fruits. Prices rose contraseasonally for some fruits and vegetables in short supply as a result of the hurricane.

A further increase of 2.7 percent for baby food again accounted for most of the increase (0.8 percent) in canned vegetables.

TRANSPORTATION The transportation index rose by 1.0 percent over the month, as price concessions by dealers were reduced with introduction of the new 1961 models. This raised new car prices 4.5 percent compared with September. Concessions on the new models were, however, relatively large for the beginning of the new season because of large dealer inventories of new cars, both 1960 and 1961 models. Prices of used cars continued their almost steady downtrend of the past 10 months and by October were 12.4 percent below a year earlier.

Gasoline prices fell 1.2 percent, reflecting price wars in a few cities and seasonal factors. Public transportation rates were higher because of higher local transit fares in one city and scattered increases in railroad coach fares.

HOUSING

Higher prices associated with home ownership and an increase in rents were primarily responsible for the advance in the housing index. Rents rose 0.3 percent in October, being higher in all but one of the 15 cities surveyed. Solid and petroleum fuels rose 1.0 percent, with seasonal advances in most of the cities where coal and oil are priced.

APPAREL

The 0.4 percent increase in the apparel index reflected chiefly seasonal advances for women's and girls' coats and women's wool dresses and suits. The increases for women's and girls' apparel, however, were smaller than at the same time last year. The overall price level for apparel in October was 1.5 percent above a year earlier.

OTHER GROUPS

Higher average prices for all medical services, led by higher hospitalization insurance rates, brought an increase of 0.3 percent in the medical care index. However, prices of prescriptions and drugs averaged 0.6 percent lower. A decline in average prices of toys and movie admissions was largely responsible for the 0.2 percent decline in the reading and recreation index. Toy prices usually increase slightly at this time of the year.

OVER THE YEAR  
CHANGES

Higher food prices were responsible for over 40 percent of the 1.4 percent rise in the Consumer Price Index from October 1959. Nearly two-thirds of the advance in the nonfood groups was due to higher average prices for most components of housing, particularly higher shelter costs. The 1.6 percent decline in the transportation index resulted almost entirely from the reductions of 2.2 percent for new automobiles and 12.4 percent for used cars.

COST-OF-LIVING  
ADJUSTMENTS

Nearly 1.1 million workers are scheduled to receive increases in wage rates on the basis of the October Consumer Price Index or on indexes for individual cities. About 975,000 workers, employed chiefly in automobile and farm equipment manufactures, will receive 2 cents per hour. Another 80,000 workers will receive increases in wage rates of about 1 cent per hour.

Wages of another half million workers employed by producers of basic iron and steel or in related industries also are tied to the October Consumer Price Index, as modified by agreements relating to projected insurance costs which have not yet been finally determined.

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

(1947-49=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes		Percent change to October 1960 from --			
	October 1960	September 1960	September 1960	July 1960	October 1959	Year 1959
All items-----	127.3	126.8	0.4	0.6	1.4	114.3
Food-----	120.9	120.2	.6	.2	2.1	156.7
Food at home-----	118.2	117.4	.7	.3	2.1	151.0
Cereals and bakery products-----	138.5	137.8	.5	.7	3.3	142.1
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	110.0	110.2	- .2	- .7	0.9	164.4
Dairy products-----	118.4	117.5	.8	2.2	2.0	137.8
Fruits and vegetables-----	124.8	124.6	.2	- 7.1	.2	169.5
Other foods at home-----	112.0	109.3	2.5	6.9	4.7	131.4
Food away from home (Jan. 1953=100)-----	119.4	119.3	.1	.4	2.1	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	132.2	132.0	.2	.7	1.6	73.7
Rent-----	142.5	142.1	.3	.5	1.5	64.5
Gas and electricity-----	125.7	125.7	0	.7	3.3	19.8
Solid fuels and fuel oil-----	136.1	134.8	1.0	2.4	.4	141.3
Housefurnishings-----	104.0	104.1	- .1	- .1	- .1	94.8
Household operation-----	138.1	138.0	.1	.5	2.1	101.9
Apparel-----	111.0	110.6	.4	1.7	1.5	111.4
Men's and boys'-----	112.2	112.2	0	1.8	3.0	120.9
Women's and girls'-----	101.8	101.1	.7	2.4	.5	86.8
Footwear-----	140.5	140.2	.2	.5	1.4	179.3
Other apparel-----	93.9	93.8	.1	.9	1.1	131.3
Transportation-----	146.1	144.7	1.0	.1	- 1.6	108.1
Private-----	134.1	132.8	1.0	- .1	- 2.4	104.7
Public-----	202.6	201.7	.4	1.1	3.4	149.2
Medical care-----	157.3	156.9	.3	.6	3.1	116.7
Personal care-----	134.0	133.9	.1	.4	1.1	124.8
Reading and recreation-----	121.9	122.1	- .2	.2	1.8	93.5
Other goods and services-----	132.7	132.7	0	.4	.8	88.0
Special groups:						
All items less food-----	130.7	130.3	.3	.6	1.2	89.1
All items less shelter-----	124.8	124.3	.4	.5	1.3	125.3
Commodities-----	118.2	117.7	.4	.4	.8	129.1
Nondurables-----	120.7	120.3	.3	.6	1.6	134.8
Food-----	120.9	120.2	.6	.2	2.1	156.7
Nondurables less food-----	120.9	120.9	0	.8	.9	106.0
Apparel-----	110.8	110.5	.3	1.7	1.4	112.7
Apparel less footwear-----	105.7	105.3	.4	2.0	1.4	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	129.5	129.8	- .2	- .2	.5	96.5
Durables-----	110.9	110.0	.8	- .2	- 2.4	93.5
New cars-----	138.3	132.4	4.5	1.6	- 2.2	142.6
Used cars (Jan. 1953=100)-----	84.1	84.6	- .6	- 3.4	-12.4	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	102.8	103.0	- .2	- .2	- .5	79.4
Commodities less food-----	115.9	115.6	.3	.4	- .3	95.1
Services-----	151.2	150.8	.3	.8	2.6	88.1
Rent-----	142.5	142.1	.3	.5	1.5	64.5
Services less rent-----	153.4	153.0	.3	.9	2.9	108.7
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	140.1	139.8	.2	.7	2.8	61.0
Transportation services-----	186.3	185.8	.3	.8	2.3	132.6
Medical care services-----	164.3	163.6	.4	.8	3.7	133.0
Other services 3/-----	136.8	136.5	.2	1.0	2.8	134.6
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1947-49=\$1.00)-----	\$0.786	\$0.789	- .4	- .5	- 1.4	-53.3

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 --		
	October 1960	July 1960	October 1959	Year 1939	July 1960	October 1959	Year 1939
United States city average	127.3	126.6	125.5	59.4	0.6	1.4	114.3
Cities priced monthly 1/							
Chicago	130.7	130.4	129.3	58.6	.2	1.1	123.0
Detroit	125.7	125.8	124.9	59.0	-.1	0.6	113.1
Los Angeles	130.3	129.5	128.5	60.4	.6	1.4	115.7
New York	126.1	124.8	123.7	60.1	1.0	1.9	109.8
Philadelphia	127.7	126.9	126.0	59.2	.6	1.3	115.7
Cities priced in January, April, July, October 2/	October 1960	July 1960	October 1959	Year 1939	July 1960	October 1959	Year 1939
Boston	129.1	128.7	126.7	61.0	.3	1.9	111.6
Kansas City	128.2	127.9	126.9	61.7	.2	1.0	107.8
Minneapolis	128.5	127.5	126.5	60.7	.8	1.6	111.7
Pittsburgh	129.0	128.9	126.8	58.1	.1	1.7	122.0
Portland, Oregon	127.2	127.5	126.3	58.3	-.2	.7	118.2
Cities priced in March, June, September, December 2/	September 1960	June 1960	September 1959	Year 1939	June 1960	September 1959	Year 1939
Atlanta	127.9	127.1	126.0	58.3	.6	1.5	119.4
Baltimore	128.7	128.3	127.5	57.9	.3	.9	122.3
Cincinnati	124.8	124.6	123.6	58.4	.2	1.0	113.7
St. Louis	127.4	127.2	126.4	59.3	.2	.8	114.8
San Francisco	133.0	132.4	130.8	58.6	.5	1.7	127.0
Cities priced in February, May, August, November 2/	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	.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

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 September 1960 to October 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	0.6	0.2	0.4	1.0	0.3	0.1	- 0.2	0
Chicago	.2	.4	-.1	.1	1.3	1.1	-.1	-.1	0
Detroit	.2	.6	.2	.2	0.1	.1	-.1	-.6	0.1
Los Angeles	.4	.4	.4	.3	.8	1.2	.6	-.1	.1
New York	.5	.6	.5	.3	.8	-.1	.5	-.2	.1
Philadelphia	.4	.7	-.1	.7	1.7	0	0	- 1.2	.1

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

Group	U.S. City Average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Kansas City	Los Angeles	Minneapolis	New York	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh	Portland, Oregon
<b>Indexes (1947-49=100)</b>											
All items -----	127.3	129.1	130.7	125.7	128.2	130.3	128.5	126.1	127.7	129.0	127.2
Food -----	120.9	120.3	118.6	119.6	113.9	127.0	119.7	123.2	124.0	122.6	121.3
Food at home -----	118.2	117.1	116.0	117.0	110.9	121.1	116.6	119.7	120.6	121.0	118.4
Cereals and bakery products --	138.5	134.8	132.2	128.5	131.9	152.8	134.6	148.4	140.1	138.4	141.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	110.0	110.4	104.0	105.2	102.6	109.1	104.3	111.3	109.4	111.3	109.7
Dairy products -----	118.4	115.7	122.4	118.0	111.7	116.0	109.9	122.4	124.2	120.3	123.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	124.8	123.4	121.1	128.8	115.7	137.3	132.3	122.1	129.9	122.9	120.8
Other foods at home -----	112.0	108.7	117.9	112.0	104.8	109.8	118.2	112.2	112.1	123.2	111.6
Housing -----	132.2	140.9	141.0	127.3	129.5	139.2	130.2	130.9	125.6	133.2	131.4
Rent -----	142.5	156.9	--	141.7	144.3	--	157.7	135.8	--	135.4	138.9
Gas and electricity -----	125.7	118.3	130.0	116.9	5/132.1	147.6	136.4	122.1	106.7	145.2	104.6
Solid fuels and fuel oil -----	136.1	140.7	143.1	127.3	134.7	--	133.0	139.4	122.4	135.1	141.8
Housefurnishings -----	104.0	103.9	102.1	109.8	102.4	102.5	96.4	106.1	111.0	107.7	102.1
Household operation -----	138.1	136.1	139.6	125.6	139.5	128.1	137.5	139.0	143.5	151.5	133.1
Apparel -----	111.0	108.8	114.0	108.2	108.7	112.0	110.7	109.9	112.2	107.5	115.3
Men's and boys' -----	112.2	107.0	118.1	110.5	113.0	115.1	111.3	112.8	112.6	107.4	116.9
Women's and girls' -----	101.8	102.3	101.5	98.0	99.0	102.4	104.6	98.8	103.6	97.4	104.1
Footwear -----	140.5	134.2	145.4	136.4	133.7	141.5	135.4	141.5	140.9	137.5	147.8
Other apparel -----	93.9	101.8	98.1	86.9	90.2	85.7	90.4	98.0	97.4	101.2	101.1
Transportation -----	146.1	149.5	157.7	139.4	155.1	142.6	133.0	147.1	155.3	164.2	138.2
Private -----	134.1	142.9	138.2	131.8	140.3	135.9	125.2	128.2	135.3	135.0	131.0
Public -----	202.6	169.1	206.9	180.6	258.1	187.2	199.2	192.4	194.3	257.9	200.1
Medical care -----	157.3	163.3	2/168.5	162.7	174.4	154.3	3/211.5	143.8	161.7	170.2	151.4
Personal care -----	134.0	135.5	138.1	140.8	135.7	135.1	135.9	125.1	4/144.6	128.7	133.9
Reading and recreation -----	121.9	127.1	125.2	119.5	138.2	103.0	130.0	126.7	122.2	112.4	126.0
Other goods and services -----	132.7	127.4	122.8	140.1	125.5	135.4	134.2	133.5	132.6	132.6	130.3
<b>Percent change from July 1960 to October 1960</b>											
All items -----	0.6	0.3	0.2	- 0.1	0.2	0.6	0.8	1.0	0.6	0.1	- 0.2
Food -----	.2	-.1	-.6	-.8	0	.3	.7	1.1	.7	-.4	-.3
Food at home -----	.3	-.2	-.7	-.9	-.2	.3	.8	1.4	.8	-.4	-.5
Cereals and bakery products --	.7	.8	.6	-.2	.5	3.1	.1	1.2	.9	1.0	.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	-.7	-.7	-.3	-.6	- 1.4	- 1.3	-.8	- 1.3	- 3.0	- 1.0	- 2.7
Dairy products -----	2.2	4.9	.4	4.9	.4	1.7	2.7	4.2	2.8	2.1	.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	- 7.1	-11.0	-10.9	-14.0	- 6.0	- 4.2	- 5.8	- 3.7	- 2.6	-11.5	- 4.5
Other foods at home -----	6.9	6.4	7.1	6.7	5.9	4.2	8.5	8.3	7.4	7.6	4.0
Housing -----	.7	.6	.4	.3	.3	1.1	.7	1.1	-.2	.2	.2
Rent -----	.5	1.8	--	1/-.1	.1	--	.1	1/0.8	--	.3	.5
Gas and electricity -----	.7	.5	0	.6	- 2.4	4.2	0	1.2	0	-.2	0
Solid fuels and fuel oil -----	2.4	2.0	4.5	1.5	2.2	--	4.1	2.2	3.2	0	-.9
Housefurnishings -----	-.1	1.1	-.4	.5	.5	-.7	- 1.2	.8	.4	-.6	.4
Household operation -----	.5	.1	.5	-.1	0	0	-.5	.8	0	-.1	.2
Apparel -----	1.7	.7	.8	1.9	.5	.6	2.6	2.1	4.3	1.8	.5
Men's and boys' -----	1.8	2.0	.9	1.6	1.8	1.3	.5	3.2	1.9	1.3	.5
Women's and girls' -----	2.4	-.1	.5	2.9	-.3'	-.7	5.9	2.4	7.8	3.2	.8
Footwear -----	.5	1.1	1.7	.2	-.2	-.1	-.4	.3	.3	-.7	-.3
Other apparel -----	.9	.1	-.1	1.2	.2	-.5	1.6	1.2	2.5	1.2	.9
Transportation -----	.1	-.1	1.2	-.9	.1	-.1	.4	.3	1.3	-.4	- 1.7
Private -----	-.1	-.1	1.3	- 1.3	.1	-.1	.4	.2	1.7	-.7	- 2.0
Public -----	1.1	.2	.6	.7	.1	.4	.3	.5	.5	.7	.5
Medical care -----	.6	.3	1.1	.6	-.3	1.2	- 1.0	-.1	.2	.3	1.1
Personal care -----	.4	-.1	-.1	-.1	-.1	.4	-.7	1.1	.3	0	- 1.0
Reading and recreation -----	.2	.6	-.1	-.2	-.7	.5	5.0	1.3	- 1.1	-.4	-.6
Other goods and services -----	.4	.1	-.2	-.1	.1	1.2	.1	.2	.1	0	-.1

1/ Change from August 1960 to October 1960.  
 2/ Revised indexes: July 1960 = 166.6; August 1960 = 166.7; September 1960 = 166.7.  
 3/ Revised index: July 1960 = 213.6.  
 4/ Revised index: September 1960 = 144.6.  
 5/ Revised indexes: January 1960 = 132.3; April 1960 = 132.6; July 1960 = 135.3.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index -- Food and its subgroups  
 October 1960 indexes and percent changes, September 1960 to October 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 ---	120.9	0.6	118.2	0.7	138.5	0.5	110.0	- 0.2	118.4	0.8	124.8	0.2	112.0	2.5
Atlanta -----	118.7	.4	117.2	.6	126.1	.1	113.6	1.1	117.2	.3	130.7	- 3.3	107.1	3.3
Baltimore -----	121.0	.7	117.0	.9	135.6	.1	110.8	1.3	116.6	0	119.9	.4	111.7	2.1
Boston -----	120.3	-.1	117.1	-.1	134.8	.3	110.4	- 1.3	115.7	.4	123.4	-.7	108.7	1.1
Chicago -----	118.6	.4	116.0	.4	132.2	1.1	104.0	.3	122.4	.1	121.1	- 2.5	117.9	3.1
Cincinnati -----	122.6	1.1	119.8	1.2	136.3	.1	113.4	.4	118.1	1.0	127.6	.9	115.6	3.7
Cleveland -----	117.0	.7	114.2	1.0	132.5	.3	106.3	.2	109.7	.5	118.8	.7	113.7	2.0
Detroit -----	119.6	.6	117.0	.8	128.5	.2	105.2	-.5	118.0	.7	128.8	1.9	112.0	2.6
Houston -----	116.2	.3	113.0	.3	128.1	-.4	103.3	- 1.5	115.5	.3	124.6	.4	106.4	2.9
Kansas City -----	113.9	.7	110.9	.7	131.9	.6	102.6	-.4	111.7	.2	115.7	1.0	104.8	2.5
Los Angeles -----	127.0	.4	121.1	.4	152.8	2.8	109.1	- 1.5	116.0	.3	137.3	1.0	109.8	0.7
Minneapolis -----	119.7	.9	116.6	1.3	134.6	.1	104.3	-.9	109.9	-.4	132.3	4.8	118.2	3.5
New York -----	123.2	.6	119.7	.7	148.4	.2	111.3	-.5	122.4	1.7	121.1	-.5	112.2	2.9
Philadelphia -----	124.0	.7	120.6	.9	140.1	.1	109.4	-.9	124.2	2.6	129.9	1.5	112.1	1.8
Pittsburgh -----	122.6	.6	121.0	.7	138.4	.2	111.3	-.4	120.3	.6	122.9	.2	123.2	3.1
Portland, Oreg. -----	121.3	.2	118.4	.2	141.3	-.2	109.7	-.9	123.2	.5	120.8	.2	111.6	1.4
St. Louis -----	120.2	1.1	115.3	1.2	126.0	.1	104.9	0	106.7	.4	130.6	2.0	118.8	3.7
San Francisco -----	125.0	-.2	121.9	-.1	152.5	1.1	116.8	.1	120.7	0	130.4	- 1.2	107.3	-.4
Scranton -----	117.0	.9	115.4	1.1	135.7	-.1	109.5	.3	113.4	.4	115.3	1.7	110.6	3.0
Seattle -----	123.3	.1	120.6	.2	150.4	1.5	113.0	- 1.0	120.1	.3	130.5	1.4	107.6	-.3
Washington, D.C. -----	121.6	.7	119.3	.8	138.5	.1	108.1	.7	122.4	.6	122.7	-.3	116.2	2.4

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

Food and unit	October 1960	September 1960	Food and unit	October 1960	September 1960
	Cents	Cents		Cents	Cents
<b>Cereals and bakery products:</b>			<b>Fresh--Continued</b>		
Flour, wheat ----- 5 lb.	55.7	55.3	Grapefruit * ----- each	18.9	17.4
Biscuit mix ----- 20 oz.	26.8	26.8	Peaches * ----- lb.		17.1
Macaroni ----- 16 oz.	23.1	22.9	Strawberries * ----- pt.		
Corn meal ----- 1b.	13.1	13.1	Grapes, seedless * ----- lb.	24.0	21.9
Rolled oats ----- 13 oz.	22.1	22.1	Watermelons * ----- lb.		
Corn flakes ----- 12 oz.	25.9	25.9	Potatoes ----- 10 lb.	64.4	66.2
Rice, short grain ----- 1b.	18.6	18.5	Sweet potatoes ----- 1b.	12.8	14.3
Rice, long grain ----- 1b.	20.6	20.4	Onions ----- 1b.	8.6	9.3
Bread, white ----- 1b.	20.8	20.6	Carrots ----- 1b.	14.3	14.8
Soda crackers ----- 1b.	28.9	29.0	Lettuce ----- head	16.5	17.3
Vanilla cookies ----- 7 oz.	24.5	24.5	Celery ----- 1b.	13.4	14.0
<b>Meats, poultry, and fish:</b>			Cabbage ----- 1b.	7.8	7.9
Round steak ----- 1b.	104.9	104.8	Tomatoes ----- 1b.	22.0	19.3
Sirloin steak ----- 1b.	107.4	108.4	Beans, green ----- 1b.	21.6	21.0
Chuck roast ----- 1b.	59.3	59.9	<b>Canned:</b>		
Rib roast ----- 1b.	81.3	81.0	Orange juice ----- 46-oz. can	42.5	42.4
Hamburger ----- 1b.	51.6	51.7	Pineapple juice ----- 46 oz. can	32.5	32.6
Veal cutlets ----- 1b.	140.6	140.9	Peaches ----- #2 1/2 can	33.5	33.5
Pork chops, center cut ----- 1b.	91.1	90.1	Pineapple ----- #2 can	38.1	38.2
Pork roast ----- 1b.	65.4	63.7	Fruit cocktail ----- #303 can	27.0	27.1
Bacon, sliced ----- 1b.	68.7	68.9	Corn, cream style ----- #303 can	19.5	19.4
Ham, whole ----- 1b.	61.0	60.4	Peas, green ----- #303 can	21.4	21.2
Lamb, leg ----- 1b.	73.1	73.3	Tomatoes ----- #303 can	16.0	16.0
Frankfurters ----- 1b.	62.7	62.7	Tomato juice ----- 46 oz. can	32.1	32.1
Luncheon meat, canned ----- 12 oz.	50.2	50.2	Baby foods ----- 4 1/2 to 5 oz.	10.5	10.2
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook ----- 1b.	41.0	42.2	<b>Dried:</b>		
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen ----- 1b.	47.4	47.2	Prunes ----- 1b.	39.8	39.7
Haddock, fillet, frozen ----- 1b.	55.2	55.1	Beans ----- 1b.	16.5	16.5
Salmon, pink, canned ----- 16 oz.	67.5	66.5	<b>Other foods at home:</b>		
Tuna fish, canned ----- 6 to 6 1/2 oz.	32.5	32.7	Tomato soup ----- 10 1/2 to 11-oz. can	12.4	12.4
<b>Dairy products:</b>			Beans, with pork ----- 15-oz. can	14.8	14.9
Milk, fresh, (grocery) ----- qt.	25.0	24.9	Pickles, sliced ----- 15 oz.	26.5	26.4
Milk, fresh, (delivered) ----- qt.	26.4	26.3	Catsup, tomato ----- 14 oz.	22.7	22.7
Ice cream ----- 1/2 gal.	86.4	86.2	Potato chips ----- 4 oz.	27.2	27.3
Butter ----- 1b.	76.1	75.0	Coffee ----- 1b. can	74.5	74.7
Cheese, American process ----- 1/2 lb.	34.8	34.2	Coffee ----- 1b. bag	59.0	57.4
Milk, evaporated ----- 14 1/2-oz. can	15.8	15.8	Tea bags ----- pkgt. of 16	24.5	24.5
<b>Fruits and vegetables:</b>			Cola drink, carton ----- 36 oz.	30.2	30.1
<b>Frozen:</b>			Shortening, hydrogenated ----- 3 lb.	82.8	82.7
Strawberries ----- 10 oz.	25.9	26.8	Margarine, colored ----- 1b.	26.9	26.9
Orange juice concentrate ----- 5 oz.	22.7	22.1	Lard ----- 1b.	19.7	19.7
Lemonade concentrate ----- 6 oz.	13.3	13.1	Salad dressing ----- pt.	35.9	35.9
Peas, green ----- 10 oz.	20.2	20.1	Peanut butter ----- 1b.	55.5	55.6
Beans, green ----- 9 oz.	23.0	22.9	Sugar ----- 5 lb.	59.4	59.2
Potatoes, french fried ----- 9 oz.	19.7	19.8	Corn syrup ----- 24 oz.	26.7	26.7
<b>Fresh:</b>			Grape jelly ----- 12 oz.	28.9	29.0
Apples ----- 1b.	13.9	15.4	Chocolate bar ----- 1 oz.	5.0	5.1
Bananas ----- 1b.	16.4	15.8	Eggs, Grade A, large ----- doz.	69.9	63.0
Oranges, size 200 ----- doz.	87.5	84.4	Gelatin, flavored ----- 3 to 4 oz.	9.3	9.3
Lemons ----- 1b.	20.6	19.8			

\* Priced only in season.

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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	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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