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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR JANUARY 1961

Prices of consumer goods and services in U.S. cities declined by 0.1 percent between December and January, marking the first decrease in retail prices since January 1960, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Consumer Price Index at 127.4 (1947-49 = 100) was 1.6 percent above a year earlier.

Every major group, except medical care, either declined or was unchanged over the period. However, price decreases which exerted a major influence upon the monthly price trend were centered among commodities, especially apparel, private transportation, and food. Services as a group showed a small gain, mainly reflecting higher prices for movie admissions and medical care services.

APPAREL Continuing the downward trend in evidence since November, average apparel prices dropped by 1.1 percent from December to January and accounted for the major share of the decline in the national Consumer Price Index. Nevertheless, due to a fairly steady upward price movement during much of 1960, the apparel index at 109.4 was still 1.4 percent above year ago levels.

Over the month, sharp price reductions in women's and girls' coats and women's suits, largely reflecting end-of-season sales, were the major influences responsible for the lower level of apparel prices. However, significant reductions were also noted for other items of women's and girls' apparel and for men's and boys' clothing, mostly outerwear. In addition, shoe prices declined by 0.3 percent.

FOOD The decline of 0.1 percent in food prices was attributable in large part to lower prices for eggs, fresh tomatoes, most fresh fruits and fresh milk. On the other hand, prices were higher for meats, poultry and most fresh vegetables.

Egg prices dropped by nearly 8 percent in response to seasonal increases in production. Supplies were lower, however, than in January 1960 and prices were about 25 percent above a year ago.

Fresh fruits averaged 1.7 percent lower over the period largely reflecting seasonal increases in market supplies of the major citrus fruits, grapefruit, oranges, and lemons. Apple prices increased, however, due to the shortage of stocks.

Fresh vegetables, which showed a mixed price movement averaged 0.6 percent higher over the month. A reduction of nearly 18 percent in prices of tomatoes due to more plentiful supplies combined with a smaller decrease in potato prices was not sufficient to offset substantially higher prices for other vegetables, particularly snap beans and lettuce.

Seasonally lower fresh milk prices were largely responsible for a 0.2 percent decline in the dairy products index. American cheese prices, however, increased by 1.8 percent continuing the advance which has persisted for the last five months. Compared with a year ago, prices of dairy products, on the whole, averaged 2.2 percent higher. Increased marketing costs for milk and increased consumption of American cheese during 1960 compared with 1959, are important factors to which the advance is attributed.

Prices of meats, poultry, and fish averaged 1.0 percent higher over the month due largely to an increase of 1.8 percent in prices of beef and veal. Pork prices also increased as production continued well below a year earlier.

TRANSPORTATION

The more than seasonal 2.5 percent decline in used car prices was almost entirely responsible for the 0.2 percent decline in the transportation group index. Dealers' selling prices of new cars were unchanged over the period, following large price concessions offered at the outset of the model year last fall. Selling prices of the popular car makes continued to average slightly below year-ago levels. Inventories of new cars reportedly are at record-high levels for this season of the year. Higher transit fares in a few cities accounted for most of the rise in the public transportation index.

HOUSING, MEDICAL
CARE AND OTHER
GROUPS

The housing index remained unchanged at 132.3 reflecting the net result of divergent price movements for different major items included in housing costs. A decline of 0.3 percent in retail prices of housefurnishings was primarily attributable to lower prices of sheets, towels, and other household textiles during the traditional January "white sales." Prices of durable household goods averaged higher, as increased prices for some furniture items more than offset decreases for major appliances.

The medical care index rose by 0.3 percent, primarily as a result of higher rates for hospitalization and surgical insurance and hospital rooms. Small scattered increases were also noted for professional services.

Petroleum fuel prices rose 3.6 percent, as unusually heavy demand accentuated the seasonal increase.

In the reading and recreation group, a decline in prices of sporting goods combined with a decrease for radios more than offset higher prices for movie admissions and for newspapers.

COST-OF-LIVING
ADJUSTMENTS

Wages of about 1 million workers, most of whom are employed by the automobile and related products industries and by some farm equipment manufacturers, will remain unchanged as the Consumer Price Index rose to 127.4 compared with 127.3 in October 1960.

Approximately 61,000 workers will receive increases based on the national index. Most of them will receive quarterly increases of 1 cent an hour (computed on a different formula from that which resulted in no wage increase for most of the workers affected by this index). Also included are 2-cent-an-hour semiannual increases for several thousand workers.

TABLE 1: Consumer Price Index--United States city average
Major group, subgroup, and special group indexes, January 1961
and percent changes from selected dates

(1947-49=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes		Percent change to January 1961 from --			
	January 1961	December 1960	December 1960	October 1960	January 1960	Year 1959
All items-----	127.4	127.5	- 0.1	0.1	1.6	114.5
Food-----	121.3	121.4	- .1	.3	3.1	157.5
Food at home-----	118.5	118.7	- .2	.3	3.3	151.6
Cereals and bakery products-----	139.1	139.0	.1	.4	3.2	143.2
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	111.6	110.5	1.0	1.5	4.9	168.3
Dairy products-----	119.1	119.3	- .2	.6	2.2	139.2
Fruits and vegetables-----	126.1	126.3	- .2	1.0	0.3	172.4
Other foods at home-----	109.5	111.6	- 1.9	- 2.2	4.8	126.2
Food away from home (Jan. 1953=100)-----	120.0	119.9	.1	.5	2.0	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	132.3	132.3	0	.1	1.2	73.9
Rent-----	142.9	142.8	.1	.3	1.4	65.0
Gas and electricity-----	125.9	125.6	.2	.2	2.2	20.0
Solid fuels and fuel oil-----	139.6	137.0	1.9	2.6	.4	147.5
Housefurnishings-----	103.6	103.9	- .3	- .4	- .4	94.0
Household operation-----	138.3	138.3	0	.1	1.8	102.2
Apparel-----	109.4	110.6	- 1.1	- 1.4	1.4	108.4
Men's and boys'-----	111.4	112.0	- .5	- .7	2.4	119.3
Women's and girls'-----	99.1	101.1	- 2.0	- 2.7	1.1	81.8
Footwear-----	140.3	140.7	- .3	- .1	.6	178.9
Other apparel-----	93.0	94.0	- 1.1	- 1.0	.9	129.1
Transportation-----	146.2	146.5	- .2	.1	- .9	108.3
Private-----	134.0	134.5	- .4	- .1	- 1.7	104.6
Public-----	205.5	202.9	1.3	2.1	5.0	152.8
Medical care-----	158.5	158.0	.3	.8	3.3	118.3
Personal care-----	133.7	133.7	0	- .2	.8	124.3
Reading and recreation-----	122.2	122.3	- .1	.2	1.6	94.0
Other goods and services-----	132.6	132.7	- .1	- .1	.6	87.8
Special groups:						
All items less food-----	130.6	130.8	- .2	- .1	.9	89.0
All items less shelter-----	124.8	125.0	- .2	0	1.5	125.3
Commodities-----	118.0	118.4	- .3	- .2	1.1	128.7
Nondurables-----	120.7	121.0	- .2	0	2.2	134.8
Food-----	121.3	121.4	- .1	.3	3.1	157.5
Nondurables less food-----	120.5	121.0	- .4	- .3	1.1	105.3
Apparel-----	109.2	110.5	- 1.2	- 1.4	1.4	109.6
Apparel less footwear-----	103.9	105.3	- 1.3	- 1.7	1.7	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	130.0	130.0	0	.4	.9	97.3
Durables-----	110.2	110.8	- .5	- .6	- 2.7	92.3
New cars-----	139.0	139.0	0	.5	- 1.6	143.9
Used cars (Jan. 1953=100)-----	80.9	83.0	- 2.5	- 3.8	-13.4	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	102.4	102.8	- .4	- .4	- 1.0	78.7
Commodities less food-----	115.4	115.9	- .4	- .4	- .4	94.3
Services-----	151.7	151.4	.2	.3	2.4	88.7
Rent-----	142.9	142.8	.1	.3	1.4	65.0
Services less rent-----	154.0	153.6	.3	.4	2.6	109.5
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	140.1	140.0	.1	0	2.1	61.0
Transportation services-----	187.6	186.8	.4	.7	2.7	134.2
Medical care services-----	165.9	165.3	.4	1.0	4.0	135.3
Other services 3/-----	137.2	136.8	.3	.3	2.3	135.3
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1947-49=\$1.00)-----	\$0.785	\$0.784	.1	- .1	- 1.5	-53.4

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 --		
	January 1961	October 1960	January 1960	Year 1939	October 1960	January 1960	Year 1939
United States city average-----	127.4	127.3	125.4	59.4	0.1	1.6	114.5
Cities priced monthly 1/							
Chicago-----	130.4	130.7	128.9	58.6	- .2	1.2	122.5
Detroit-----	126.3	125.7	123.4	59.0	.5	2.4	114.1
Los Angeles-----	131.2	130.3	129.1	60.4	.7	1.6	117.2
New York-----	126.1	126.1	124.1	60.1	0	1.6	109.8
Philadelphia-----	127.8	127.7	125.5	59.2	.1	1.8	115.9
Cities priced in January, April, July, October 2/	January 1961	October 1960	January 1960	Year 1939	October 1960	January 1960	Year 1939
Boston-----	129.3	129.1	126.4	61.0	.2	2.3	112.0
Kansas City-----	127.6	128.2	127.0	61.7	- .5	0.5	106.8
Minneapolis-----	127.8	128.5	126.2	60.7	- .5	1.3	110.5
Pittsburgh-----	129.2	129.0	126.6	58.1	.2	2.1	122.4
Portland, Oregon-----	128.8	127.2	127.2	58.3	1.3	1.3	120.9
Cities priced in March, June, September, December 2/	December 1960	September 1960	December 1959	Year 1939	September 1960	December 1959	Year 1939
Atlanta-----	127.7	127.9	126.4	58.3	- .2	1.0	119.0
Baltimore-----	129.3	128.7	127.2	57.9	.5	1.7	123.3
Cincinnati-----	125.0	124.8	123.8	58.4	.2	1.0	114.0
St. Louis-----	127.9	127.4	126.6	59.3	.4	1.0	115.7
San Francisco-----	133.9	133.0	131.8	58.6	.7	1.6	128.5
Cities priced in February, May, August, November 2/	November 1960	August 1960	November 1959	Year 1939	August 1960	November 1959	Year 1939
Cleveland-----	127.9	127.4	126.4	59.2	.4	1.2	116.0
Houston-----	126.4	126.1	125.4	59.5	.2	.8	112.4
Scranton-----	123.9	121.8	121.5	58.5	1.7	2.0	111.8
Seattle-----	130.5	129.8	129.2	59.2	.5	1.0	120.4
Washington, D.C.-----	123.8	123.2	121.7	60.4	.5	1.7	105.0

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 December 1960 to January 1961
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	- 0.1	0	- 1.1	- 0.2	0.3	0	- 0.1	- 0.1
Chicago-----	- .2	.1	0	- 1.7	- .6	.9	0.1	- .8	- .2
Detroit-----	.4	.7	0.2	0.6	.7	.2	.5	- .4	1.2
Los Angeles-----	.2	.2	0	- .5	1.2	.1	.4	- .8	.1
New York-----	- .2	- .1	.2	- .9	- .6	.1	- .2	- .3	- .2
Philadelphia-----	- .2	- .3	.5	- 2.0	- .3	0	- .1	- .7	0

TABLE 4: Consumer Price Index--All items and commodity groups
January 1961 indexes and percent changes, October 1960 to January 1961
U.S. city average and 10 cities priced in

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Group	U.S. City Average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Kansas City	Los Angeles	Minnea- polis	New York	Phila- delphia	Pitts- burgh	Portland Oregon
Indexes (1947-49=100)											
All items -----	127.4	129.3	130.4	126.3	127.6	131.2	127.8	126.1	127.8	129.2	128.8
Food -----	121.3	120.5	119.2	120.9	114.6	128.4	119.4	122.7	123.5	123.0	122.4
Food at home -----	118.5	117.0	116.6	118.2	111.9	122.9	116.1	119.0	119.8	121.4	119.0
Cereals and bakery products --	139.1	135.2	132.4	130.7	135.5	153.1	135.1	148.6	138.7	138.8	141.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	111.6	111.8	106.3	107.1	104.5	111.5	105.1	113.2	112.5	113.0	108.8
Dairy products -----	119.1	115.4	123.5	120.4	112.8	116.7	110.6	120.9	122.3	121.1	125.1
Fruits and vegetables -----	126.1	126.4	123.9	132.8	118.4	141.4	133.5	119.8	126.0	125.3	124.2
Other foods at home -----	109.5	104.4	114.0	108.7	102.0	110.3	112.9	108.6	109.5	119.9	111.3
Housing -----	132.3	142.2	140.9	127.8	129.5	139.5	129.8	131.6	127.2	133.1	133.2
Rent -----	142.9	158.9	168.7	--	144.9	150.8	158.6	--	131.2	135.6	139.6
Gas and electricity -----	125.9	118.7	130.0	122.3	132.1	147.8	136.4	122.0	106.7	145.2	104.6
Solid fuels and fuel oil -----	139.6	147.7	143.6	128.6	140.6	--	132.3	146.0	133.4	135.1	140.8
Housefurnishings -----	103.6	103.1	100.5	110.4	101.7	101.3	95.9	106.7	110.0	107.4	101.1
Household operation -----	138.3	136.4	139.7	126.2	140.0	128.2	135.1	139.1	148.0	151.5	132.7
Apparel -----	109.4	107.5	112.2	108.6	107.0	111.5	106.4	108.9	109.7	104.8	115.6
Men's and boys' -----	111.4	106.1	116.9	111.5	112.7	114.3	110.1	112.7	112.3	106.7	117.7
Women's and girls' -----	99.1	100.3	98.6	98.3	96.4	101.9	96.7	96.5	99.6	92.5	104.5
Footwear -----	140.3	134.5	145.1	135.8	133.3	141.6	134.0	143.1	139.0	138.2	147.8
Other apparel -----	93.0	101.4	97.1	87.6	87.9	85.4	88.0	97.4	95.8	99.7	100.6
Transportation -----	146.2	148.0	154.9	138.9	150.0	146.2	132.2	146.8	155.8	163.9	143.0
Private -----	134.0	141.1	135.4	131.4	134.8	136.6	124.5	128.2	133.3	135.0	136.4
Public -----	205.5	169.1	205.0	179.1	258.1	214.1	198.2	191.0	207.0	256.0	199.0
Medical care -----	158.5	166.5	170.3	163.2	174.6	2/153.0	210.9	148.1	162.4	171.4	151.7
Personal care -----	133.7	135.6	138.2	141.1	135.7	135.5	135.4	123.4	143.6	128.9	134.0
Reading and recreation -----	122.2	123.5	124.3	119.0	139.3	103.4	131.5	126.7	121.2	119.0	126.8
Other goods and services -----	132.6	127.5	122.4	141.8	125.4	133.9	133.6	133.2	132.6	132.6	130.6
Percent change from October 1960 to January 1961											
All items -----	0.1	0.2	- 0.2	0.5	- 0.5	0.7	- 0.5	0	0.1	0.2	1.3
Food -----	.3	.2	.5	1.1	.6	1.1	- .3	- 0.4	- .4	.3	0.9
Food at home -----	.3	- .1	.5	1.0	.9	1.5	- .4	- .6	- .7	.3	.5
Cereals and bakery products --	.4	.3	.2	1.7	2.7	.2	.4	.1	- 1.0	.3	.2
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	1.5	1.3	2.2	1.8	1.9	2.2	.8	1.7	2.8	1.5	- .8
Dairy products -----	.6	- .3	.9	2.0	1.0	.6	.6	- 1.2	- 1.5	.7	1.5
Fruits and vegetables -----	1.0	2.4	2.3	3.1	2.3	3.0	.9	- 1.1	- 3.0	2.0	2.8
Other foods at home -----	- 2.2	- 4.0	- 3.3	- 2.9	- 2.7	.5	- 4.5	- 3.2	- 2.3	- 2.7	- .3
Housing -----	.1	.9	- .1	.4	0	.2	- .3	.5	1.3	- .1	1.4
Rent -----	.3	1.3	1/ .4	--	.4	1/ .5	.6	--	1/ .2	.1	.5
Gas and electricity -----	.2	.3	0	4.6	0	.1	0	- .1	0	0	0
Solid fuels and fuel oil -----	2.6	5.0	.3	1.0	4.4	--	.5	4.7	9.0	0	- .7
Housefurnishings -----	- .4	- .8	- 1.6	.5	- .7	- 1.2	- .5	.6	- .9	- .3	- 1.0
Household operation -----	.1	.2	.1	.5	.4	.1	- 1.7	.1	3.1	0	- .3
Apparel -----	- 1.4	- 1.2	- 1.6	.4	- 1.6	- .4	- 3.9	- .9	- 2.2	- 2.5	.3
Men's and boys' -----	- .7	- .8	- 1.0	.9	- .3	- .7	- 1.1	- .1	- .3	- .7	.7
Women's and girls' -----	- 2.7	- 2.0	- 2.9	.3	- 2.6	- .5	- 7.6	- 2.3	- 3.9	- 5.0	.4
Footwear -----	- .1	.2	- .2	.4	- .3	.1	- 1.0	1.1	- 1.3	.5	0
Other apparel -----	- 1.0	- .4	- 1.0	.8	- 2.5	- .4	- 2.7	- .6	- 1.6	- 1.5	- .5
Transportation -----	.1	- 1.0	- 1.8	- .4	- 3.3	2.5	- .6	- .2	.3	3/- .2	3.5
Private -----	- .1	- 1.3	- 2.0	- .3	- 3.9	.5	- .6	0	- 1.5	0	4.1
Public -----	2.1	0	0	0	0	14.8	.2	0	7.0	0	.2
Medical care -----	.8	2.0	1.1	.3	.1	.1	- .3	3.0	.4	.7	.2
Personal care -----	- .2	.1	.1	.2	0	.3	- .4	- 1.4	- .7	.2	.1
Reading and recreation -----	.2	- 2.8	- .7	- .4	.8	.4	1.2	0	- .8	5.9	.6
Other goods and services -----	- .1	.1	- .3	1.2	- .1	- 1.1	- .4	- .2	0	0	.2

1/ Change from November 1960 to January 1961.

2/ Revised indexes October 1960 = 152.9, November 1960 = 152.9, December 1960 = 152.9.

3/ Although each subgroup shows 0 change, transportation is down 0.2, reflecting correction in public transportation. Corrections for public transportation carried back to 1958 shown in December 1960 complete report.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index -- Food and its subgroups
January 1961 indexes and percent changes, December 1960 to January 1961
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 ---	121.3	- 0.1	118.5	- 0.2	139.1	0.1	111.6	1.0	119.1	- 0.2	126.1	- 0.2	109.5	- 1.9
Atlanta -----	118.1	- .1	116.3	- .2	126.4	.1	115.8	1.7	117.7	- .3	126.5	1.0	103.6	- 3.0
Baltimore -----	121.0	- .2	116.9	- .3	135.3	- .1	111.3	- 0.1	117.4	.4	120.5	1.0	109.7	- 2.0
Boston -----	120.5	- .4	117.0	- .5	135.2	- .1	111.8	- .4	115.4	- .6	126.4	.8	104.4	- 2.0
Chicago -----	119.2	.1	116.6	0	132.4	.2	106.3	.8	123.5	.4	123.9	1.5	114.0	- 2.5
Cincinnati -----	122.4	.2	119.6	.1	140.1	.6	113.7	.6	118.8	0	127.6	.6	111.9	- 1.1
Cleveland -----	116.8	0	113.8	- .2	132.5	- .2	105.7	.1	110.0	.1	121.7	1.7	110.3	- 2.2
Detroit -----	120.9	.7	118.2	.7	130.7	.8	107.1	1.4	120.4	.8	132.8	1.8	108.7	- 1.5
Houston -----	116.2	0	113.2	0	128.7	.2	103.4	1.0	116.4	1.7	125.5	- 1.6	105.7	- 0.9
Kansas City -----	114.6	- .2	111.9	0	135.5	- .3	104.5	1.0	112.8	.2	118.4	1.5	102.0	- 2.3
Los Angeles -----	128.4	.2	122.9	.4	153.1	.3	111.5	1.7	116.7	.3	141.4	- .3	110.3	- .5
Minneapolis -----	119.4	- .3	116.1	- .4	135.1	.4	105.1	.6	110.6	- .1	133.5	.2	112.9	- 3.0
New York -----	122.7	- .1	119.0	- .2	148.6	0	113.2	2.1	120.9	- 1.5	119.8	- 1.0	108.6	- 1.4
Philadelphia -----	123.5	- .3	119.8	- .4	138.7	.1	112.5	1.4	122.3	- 2.2	126.0	- .6	109.5	- 1.4
Pittsburgh -----	123.0	.7	121.4	.7	138.8	.4	113.0	2.4	121.1	.1	125.3	2.3	119.9	- 1.6
Portland, Oreg. -----	122.4	.2	119.0	- .3	141.6	.1	108.8	- 1.1	125.1	.4	124.2	.5	111.3	- .4
St. Louis -----	121.3	- .4	116.6	- .6	126.0	0	107.1	0	110.8	- .1	135.1	.4	114.9	- 3.0
San Francisco -----	126.1	- .1	122.9	- .3	152.6	- .1	116.1	1.0	123.9	.5	133.7	- 1.6	107.4	- 1.6
Scranton -----	117.1	- .3	115.4	- .4	135.3	- .1	110.4	- .4	114.1	.4	117.6	.3	107.6	- 1.8
Seattle -----	124.4	- .2	121.8	- .1	150.3	- .1	114.7	1.1	125.2	.7	131.7	- .2	106.0	- 2.1
Washington, D.C. -----	121.4	- .2	118.8	- .3	139.0	0	109.6	- .4	122.6	.1	120.7	1.9	113.2	- 2.4

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

Food and unit	January 1961	December 1960	Food and unit	January 1961	December 1960
	Cents	Cents		Cents	Cents
Cereals and bakery products:			Fresh--Continued		
Flour, wheat ----- 5 lb.	56.1	56.1	Grapefruit * ----- each	12.5	13.2
Biscuit mix ----- 10 oz.	27.0	26.9	Peaches * ----- lb.		
Macaroni ----- 15 oz.	23.3	23.2	Strawberries * ----- pt.		
Corn meal ----- 1b.	13.1	13.1	Grapes, seedless * ----- lb.		
Rolled oats ----- 13 oz.	22.3	22.2	Watermelons * ----- lb.		
Corn flakes ----- 12 oz.	26.0	26.0	Potatoes ----- 10 lb.	66.1	67.9
Rice, short grain ----- 1b.	18.5	18.5	Sweet potatoes ----- 1b.	14.5	13.7
Rice, long grain ----- 1b.	20.5	20.5	Onions ----- 1b.	8.6	8.5
Bread, white ----- 1b.	20.8	20.9	Carrots ----- 1b.	16.1	14.8
Soda crackers ----- 1b.	29.1	29.0	Lettuce ----- head	18.1	15.4
Sandwich cookies 1/ ----- 1b.	51.4	2/51.5	Celery ----- 1b.	13.2	12.8
Meats, poultry, and fish:			Cabbage ----- 1b.	9.1	8.4
Round steak ----- 1b.	105.6	104.6	Tomatoes ----- 1b.	31.5	38.6
Sirloin steak ----- 1b.	109.9	107.7	Beans, green ----- 1b.	28.5	23.7
Chuck roast ----- 1b.	63.1	61.4	Canned:		
Rib roast ----- 1b.	83.4	81.4	Orange juice ----- 46-oz. can	45.0	43.4
Hamburger ----- 1b.	52.4	51.9	Pineapple juice ----- 46 oz. can	32.3	32.4
Veal cutlets ----- 1b.	143.1	140.1	Peaches ----- 4 3/4 oz. can	33.6	33.6
Pork chops, center cut ----- 1b.	89.5	88.9	Pineapple ----- 47 oz. can	38.2	38.2
Pork roast ----- 1b.	64.6	64.4	Fruit cocktail ----- 43oz can	26.9	27.0
Bacon, sliced ----- 1b.	69.7	69.2	Corn, cream style ----- 43oz can	20.1	20.0
Ham, whole ----- 1b.	63.2	63.1	Peas, green ----- 43oz can	21.7	21.6
Lamb, leg ----- 1b.	72.4	71.6	Tomatoes ----- 43oz can	16.1	16.1
Frankfurters ----- 1b.	63.2	62.9	Tomato juice ----- 46 oz. can	32.6	32.6
Luncheon meat, canned ----- 12 oz.	50.6	50.5	Baby foods ----- 4 1/2 to 5 oz.	10.6	10.6
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook ----- 1b.	41.6	41.0	Dried:		
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen ----- 1b.	46.6	47.3	Prunes ----- 1b.	40.9	40.7
Haddock, fillet, frozen ----- 1b.	55.8	55.0	Beans ----- 1b.	16.8	16.7
Salmon, pink, canned ----- 16 oz.	70.8	69.7	Other foods at home:		
Tuna fish, canned ----- 6 to 6 1/2 oz.	32.4	32.5	Tomato soup ----- 10 3/4 to 11-oz. can	12.4	12.4
Dairy products:			Beans, with pork ----- 15-oz. can	14.9	14.8
Milk, fresh, (grocery) ----- qt.	24.9	25.1	Pickles, sliced ----- 15 oz.	26.4	26.5
Milk, fresh, (delivered) ----- qt.	26.3	26.4	Catsup, tomato ----- 14 oz.	22.8	22.7
Ice cream ----- 1/2 gal.	86.9	86.3	Potato chips ----- 4 oz.	27.3	27.3
Butter ----- 1b.	76.5	76.6	Coffee ----- 1b. can	74.3	74.4
Cheese, American process ----- 1/2 lb.	36.9	36.3	Coffee ----- 1b. bag	59.0	59.0
Milk, evaporated ----- 14 3/4-oz. can	15.8	15.8	Tea bags ----- pkgs. of 16	24.5	24.5
Fruits and vegetables:			Gola drink, carton ----- 36 oz.	30.2	30.1
Frozen:			Shortening, hydrogenated ----- 3 lb.	85.3	84.9
Strawberries ----- 10 oz.	27.1	26.9	Margarine, colored ----- 1b.	27.2	27.1
Orange juice concentrate ----- 6 oz.	23.3	23.3	Lard ----- 1b.	20.1	20.2
Lemonade concentrate ----- 6 oz.	13.5	13.4	Salad dressing ----- pt.	36.0	36.0
Peas, green ----- 10 oz.	21.0	20.8	Peanut butter ----- 1b.	55.5	55.6
Beans, green ----- 9 oz.	23.1	23.1	Sugar ----- 5 lb.	59.4	59.4
Potatoes, french fried ----- 5 oz.	19.9	19.8	Corn syrup ----- 4 oz.	26.8	26.8
Fresh:			Grape jelly ----- 12 oz.	29.1	29.1
Apples ----- 1b.	15.2	14.7	Chocolate bar ----- 1 oz.	4.5	4.6
Bananas ----- 1b.	16.1	16.4	Eggs, Grade A, large ----- 1 doz.	64.0	69.1
Oranges, size 200 ----- doz.	70.4	74.4	Gelatin, flavored ----- 3 to 4 oz.	9.3	9.3
Lemons ----- 1b.	21.9	22.7			

* Priced only in season.
1/ Replaces vanilla cookies.
2/ Link price sandwich cookies not published in December.

LABOR - D. C.

TABLE A: Consumer Price Index--All items and commodity groups
1960 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1959 to 1960
5 cities priced in January 1961
(1947-49 = 100)

Group	Boston		Kansas City		Minneapolis		Pittsburgh		Portland, Oregon	
	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change
All items-----	128.4	2.1	127.5	1.3	127.5	1.5	128.3	2.2	127.5	1.4
Food-----	119.4	0.6	112.9	0.6	118.4	0.3	121.2	1.2	121.0	0.2
Food at home-----	116.1	.5	109.8	.5	115.1	.2	119.4	1.1	118.1	.1
Cereals and bakery products--	133.2	.7	130.8	2.8	134.7	.1	135.7	2.5	141.2	.7
Meats, poultry, and fish----	110.1	- 2.4	102.5	- 1.8	104.0	- 2.3	110.1	- 0.4	110.4	- 3.5
Dairy products-----	112.5	- .4	110.8	1.4	108.7	2.3	118.6	2.0	122.3	2.5
Fruits and vegetables-----	128.8	4.0	117.5	1.3	132.9	2.5	127.6	1.0	123.8	3.3
Other foods at home-----	104.0	2.1	100.3	.9	112.1	.2	116.9	1.4	108.3	- .4
Housing-----	140.1	3.4	129.2	1.7	129.4	1.6	132.4	2.7	131.2	2.3
Rent-----	154.8	4.1	144.3	1.5	157.0	1.7	134.7	2.0	138.6	.7
Gas and electricity-----	117.8	2.6	132.8	8.2	136.3	1.2	145.0	4.3	104.1	2.1
Solid fuels and fuel oil-----	139.8	.3	134.7	2.0	130.6	1.3	135.1	0	142.7	1.3
Housefurnishings-----	103.0	1.5	103.1	- .7	96.8	- 1.8	108.2	.8	102.3	- 1.4
Household operation-----	135.8	2.1	139.1	1.5	137.2	2.3	150.6	5.2	132.2	2.2
Apparel-----	107.4	2.7	107.6	2.1	108.4	.3	105.7	.9	114.8	2.4
Men's and boys'-----	105.1	.7	111.2	3.0	110.2	1.8	106.2	1.6	115.7	2.3
Women's and girls'-----	101.1	3.7	98.1	.8	100.4	- 1.3	94.5	- 1.6	103.9	1.9
Footwear-----	133.0	3.7	133.4	4.1	135.4	3.6	137.9	5.3	148.3	4.3
Other apparel-----	101.2	1.8	89.4	1.4	89.7	- 3.8	100.3	1.2	100.4	1.6
Transportation-----	149.1	- 2.2	153.1	- .2	131.8	1.2	164.9	2.3	141.6	- .9
Private-----	142.4	- 2.9	138.2	- .6	124.3	- .1	136.5	.9	134.8	- 1.2
Public-----	168.9	.1	257.9	2.4	193.9	11.2	251.8	5.9	198.0	.2
Medical care-----	162.8	1.9	173.8	1.8	210.0	7.0	169.8	5.3	148.9	4.9
Personal care-----	135.6	2.1	135.7	.3	136.9	- .7	128.4	.8	134.4	.7
Reading and recreation-----	125.7	8.3	137.5	3.0	126.9	1.5	113.1	2.2	127.0	- .8
Other goods and services-----	127.2	.2	125.6	.4	134.3	.9	132.6	2.5	130.4	1.4

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:

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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.

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