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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR JANUARY 1962

The Consumer Price Index at 104.5, (1957-59=100), was unchanged between December 1961 and January 1962, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. While food prices rose in January apparel prices declined and prices of housing, transportation, and other goods and services averaged mostly unchanged to slightly higher. (With this index the reference base is changed to 1957-59=100. On the former base of 1947-49 the January index is 128.2. See note on page 2.)

The most important price advances in January were for poultry, fresh vegetables, and meats, and the most significant price reductions were for women's and girls' apparel, some fresh fruits and vegetables, used cars, and household textiles. There were further small price increases for most consumer services.

In comparison with January 1961 consumer prices averaged 0.7 percent higher. This relatively moderate rise underscored the price stability which has prevailed thus far in the recovery phase of the current business cycle. Moreover, a major share of the price rise over the year was due to increases for services, while commodity prices averaged only slightly higher.

FOOD

The increase of 0.5 percent in average food prices in January was largely seasonal, with higher prices reported for poultry, fresh vegetables, and meats. The effect of these increases was moderated somewhat by price reductions for most fresh fruits, some fresh vegetables, bacon, and canned fruits and vegetables. Despite the current advance, the food price index at 102.5 was 0.3 percent below its year-ago level.

The rise in fresh vegetable prices in January reflected seasonally low supplies which were further affected by the damage to crops in Florida and Texas caused by the unusually cold weather experienced in late December and early January, especially to green beans, tomatoes, cabbage, celery, and onions. Prices of fresh fruits were unchanged on the average as seasonally higher prices for apples were offset by lower prices for grapefruit, bananas, and oranges.

An advance in bread prices was a primary factor in the increase of 0.3 percent in the index for cereals and bakery products. Average prices of these items have advanced in seven of the past twelve months for a total increase of 1.6 percent since January 1961.

APPAREL

Seasonal clearance sales, chiefly for women's and girls' apparel, were responsible for the 1.6 percent decline in the apparel index between December 1961 and January 1962, the largest decrease for this period since 1949. The January decrease was due primarily to sharp price reductions for women's wool coats and suits as well as lower prices for nearly every other item of women's and girls' apparel. There also were continued clearance sales for men's wool topcoats and suits. Footwear prices rose slightly in January, continuing their steady upward movement of the past seven months. The apparel index, at 101.8 was 0.3 percent below year ago levels.

TRANSPORTATION  
HOUSING AND OTHER  
GROUPS

January transportation prices were unchanged on the average, with lower prices for used cars, but higher prices for gasoline and public transportation. The decline in prices of used cars was attributed to increasing stocks which resulted from the high volume of trade-ins. Dealers sold many more new cars than they did in January 1961. Dealers' selling prices of popular makes of new cars declined slightly, as some dealers increased their concessions on 1962 models. Gasoline prices showed widely diverse movements, ranging by city

from a rise of 20 percent to a decrease of 15 percent. The average was about a 1 percent increase. These price movements were indicative of the unsettled market conditions for gasoline as a result of seasonal influences and competitive pressures. The rise in public transportation rates resulted from higher transit fares in several cities

Housefurnishings prices were lower in January, largely because of traditional January "white sales". Higher prices were reported for solid and petroleum fuels, household operation services, and home ownership.

Average prices of medical care rose slightly as higher prices for medical care services, particularly professional fees, outweighed declines averaging 1.6 percent for prescriptions and drugs.

**COST-OF-LIVING**      Approximately 1 million workers are covered by cost-of-living  
**ADJUSTMENTS**      escalator clauses on the basis of the January index. However, about  
                          900,000 workers, mainly employees of automobile, farm equipment, and  
                          aircraft-missile firms, will have no change in their allowances. About 100,000 workers  
                          will receive a 1-cent an hour decrease. Most of these employees are employed by other  
                          aircraft-missile and farm equipment manufacturers. Only about 6,000 workers will receive  
                          a 1-cent per hour increase; all of these are covered by clauses providing semi-annual  
                          or annual rather than quarterly reviews.

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:      As announced earlier, the Consumer Price Index will be calculated regularly      :  
 :from a 1957-59 reference base period, beginning with the January 1962 index. However, :  
 :for the convenience of index users, the major U.S. consumer price indexes and the all- :  
 :items index for each of 20 large cities are also shown in the Bureau's regular index :  
 :publications on a 1947-49 reference base and a 1939 base. A description of the method- :  
 :ology of rebasing the index is attached to this report. Copies of this description are :  
 :available upon request.      :

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

(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)		Percent change to January 1962 from			Indexes 1947-49=100 1939=100	
	January 1962	December 1961	December 1961	October 1961	January 1961	January 1962	January 1962
All items-----	104.5	104.5	0	- 0.1	0.7	128.2	215.8
Food-----	102.5	102.0	0.5	0	- .3	121.0	256.9
Food at home-----	101.2	100.6	.6	0	- .8	117.6	249.7
Cereals and bakery products-----	106.6	106.3	.3	.9	1.6	141.3	247.0
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	99.8	98.5	1.3	.3	- 1.4	110.1	264.7
Dairy products-----	105.6	105.6	0	.5	.4	119.5	240.0
Fruits and vegetables-----	100.6	99.8	.8	1.2	- 1.4	124.4	268.6
Other foods at home-----	97.2	97.1	.1	- 2.2	- 1.9	107.4	221.9
Food away from home-----	109.2	109.1	.1	.5	2.4	(1/)	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	104.4	104.4	0	.3	.6	133.1	174.9
Rent-----	105.1	105.0	.1	.3	1.2	144.5	166.9
Gas and electricity-----	107.8	107.8	0	0	- .2	125.7	119.8
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	103.9	102.8	1.1	2.4	1.5	141.6	251.1
Housefurnishings-----	98.7	99.2	- .5	- .8	- .8	102.8	192.4
Household operation-----	106.5	106.4	.1	.3	.9	139.6	204.1
Apparel-----	101.8	103.5	- 1.6	- 2.0	- .3	109.2	207.9
Men's and boys'-----	102.4	103.1	- .7	- .8	- .1	111.3	219.2
Women's and girls'-----	98.6	102.0	- 3.3	- 4.4	- 1.2	97.9	179.7
Footwear-----	108.9	108.8	.1	.6	1.7	142.6	283.6
Other apparel-----	100.0	101.1	- 1.1	- 1.1	- 1.0	92.1	226.8
Transportation-----	106.0	106.0	0	- .7	2.1	149.3	212.7
Private-----	104.8	104.9	- .1	- .9	1.9	136.6	208.5
Public-----	113.9	113.3	.5	1.2	3.2	212.0	260.8
Medical care-----	112.6	112.5	.1	.3	2.6	162.7	224.2
Personal care-----	105.6	105.2	.4	1.0	1.1	135.3	227.1
Reading and recreation-----	108.5	108.2	.3	.2	2.8	125.6	199.5
Other goods and services-----	104.9	104.9	0	- .1	.8	133.7	189.4
Special groups:							
All items less food-----	105.3	105.5	- .2	- .2	1.2	132.0	191.1
All items less shelter-----	104.4	104.4	0	- .3	.7	125.7	226.9
Commodities-----	102.3	102.4	- .1	- .6	.1	118.2	229.1
Nondurables-----	102.6	102.6	0	- .4	- .2	120.5	234.4
Food-----	102.5	102.0	.5	0	- .3	121.0	256.9
Nondurables less food-----	102.9	103.6	- .7	- .9	0	120.5	205.2
Apparel-----	101.6	103.4	- 1.7	- 2.0	- .3	108.9	209.0
Apparel less footwear-----	100.2	102.3	- 2.1	- 2.6	- .8	103.1	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	103.6	103.6	0	- .1	.2	130.2	197.6
Durables-----	100.8	101.1	- .3	- .9	1.3	111.7	194.9
New cars-----	103.3	103.5	- .2	- .6	- .1	138.8	243.5
Used cars-----	108.1	109.5	- 1.3	- 4.3	15.1	(1/)	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	98.7	98.8	- .1	- .3	- .6	101.8	177.6
Commodities less food-----	102.0	102.6	- .6	- 1.0	.4	115.8	195.0
Services-----	108.7	108.5	.2	.6	1.8	154.3	191.9
Rent-----	105.1	105.0	.1	.3	1.2	144.5	166.9
Services less rent-----	109.3	109.1	.2	.6	1.7	156.7	213.2
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	107.9	107.7	.2	.4	1.0	141.6	162.7
Transportation services-----	110.7	110.4	.3	.6	1.9	191.2	238.7
Medical care services-----	115.1	114.7	.3	.7	3.5	171.7	243.5
Other services 3/-----	107.9	107.7	.2	.7	1.5	139.3	238.8
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (Reference period=\$1.00)-----	\$0.957	\$0.957	0	.1	- .6	\$0.780	\$0.463

- 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**

(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

City	Indexes (1957-59=100)			Percent change to January 1962 from--		Indexes 1947-49=100 1939=100	
	January 1962	October 1961	January 1961	October 1961	January 1961	January 1962	January 1962
<b>United States city average</b>	104.5	104.6	103.8	- 0.1	0.7	126.2	215.8
<b>Cities priced monthly 1/</b>							
Chicago	103.9	104.1	103.4	- .2	.5	131.0	223.6
Detroit	101.1	101.7	102.4	- .6	- 1.3	124.6	211.2
Los Angeles	105.7	105.5	105.2	.2	.5	131.8	218.2
New York	105.6	105.3	104.6	.3	1.0	127.3	211.7
Philadelphia	104.5	104.8	104.1	- .3	.4	128.3	216.8
<b>Cities priced in January, April, July, October 2/</b>	January 1962	October 1961	January 1961	October 1961	January 1961	January 1962	January 1962
Boston	106.2	105.4	104.4	.8	1.7	131.6	215.7
Kansas City	105.2	104.6	103.2	.6	1.9	130.1	210.9
Minneapolis	104.3	104.4	103.3	- .1	1.0	129.1	212.7
Pittsburgh	105.2	105.0	104.9	.2	.3	129.6	223.1
Portland, Oregon	103.8	104.6	104.0	- .8	- .2	128.6	220.6
<b>Cities priced in March, June, September, December 2/</b>	December 1961	September 1961	December 1960	September 1961	December 1960	December 1961	December 1961
Atlanta	103.4	103.6	103.2	- .2	.2	128.0	219.5
Baltimore	104.4	104.4	104.2	0	.2	129.6	223.6
Cincinnati	102.6	103.0	102.7	- .4	- .1	124.9	213.7
St. Louis	104.4	104.1	103.1	.3	1.3	129.6	218.4
San Francisco	106.5	106.3	105.5	.2	.9	135.2	230.5
<b>Cities priced in February, May, August, November 2/</b>	November 1961	August 1961	November 1960	August 1961	November 1960	November 1961	November 1961
Cleveland	103.1	103.6	103.0	- .5	.1	128.1	216.1
Houston	103.9	102.5	102.6	1.4	1.3	128.0	215.1
Scranton	104.6	104.2	103.9	.4	.7	124.8	213.5
Seattle	105.7	104.9	103.8	.8	1.8	132.9	224.4
Washington, D. C.	104.2	104.0	102.8	.2	1.4	125.4	207.6

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 1961 to January 1962**  
**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
<b>United States city average</b>	0	0.5	0	- 1.6	0	0.1	0.4	0.3	0
Chicago	0.1	.9	- 0.1	- 2.3	0.5	1.4	.1	- .1	0
Detroit	.2	.7	- .2	- 1.0	1.1	- .4	- .1	.9	0
Los Angeles	- .1	.8	- .2	- 0.7	- .8	- .2	.1	- 1.2	- 0.1
New York	.3	.8	.1	- 1.4	.2	- .1	.8	1.2	0
Philadelphia	- .3	.1	- .2	- 3.2	.2	.1	0	- .2	0

**TABLE 4: Consumer Price Index—All items and commodity groups**  
January 1962 indexes and percent changes, October 1961 to January 1962  
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 (1957-59=100)											
All items -----	104.5	106.2	103.9	101.1	105.2	105.7	104.3	105.6	104.5	105.2	103.8
Food -----	102.5	103.5	103.8	100.5	101.9	105.2	101.1	103.8	101.5	101.7	102.5
Food at home -----	101.2	101.9	103.2	99.6	100.9	103.5	99.3	101.7	100.0	101.2	100.5
Cereals and bakery products --	106.6	106.6	107.4	104.8	107.4	113.0	103.6	107.9	104.1	110.0	99.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	99.8	103.2	102.4	98.4	97.1	99.2	98.8	99.8	98.8	101.9	100.7
Dairy products -----	105.6	98.5	109.7	108.9	109.4	107.2	103.0	107.1	103.4	100.4	105.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	100.6	104.6	101.9	94.4	99.2	110.2	99.1	100.6	97.5	97.9	103.3
Other foods at home -----	97.2	97.5	98.3	95.7	97.6	94.5	95.1	96.3	98.5	98.4	96.1
Housing -----	104.4	108.1	103.2	97.7	104.8	104.8	102.8	107.2	104.8	105.8	103.0
Rent -----	105.1	113.5	103.9	---	103.6	104.5	105.2	---	105.9	105.5	103.6
Gas and electricity -----	107.8	104.6	106.7	105.3	107.9	115.5	104.7	107.0	102.7	108.9	102.5
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	103.9	107.9	104.3	101.3	115.1	---	102.2	105.5	107.8	102.5	100.0
Housefurnishings -----	98.7	99.0	100.0	97.2	97.3	98.5	95.8	103.0	97.9	102.0	95.2
Household operation -----	106.5	107.8	104.5	103.1	110.3	103.2	103.1	107.4	113.2	112.0	105.9
Apparel -----	101.8	100.9	100.5	103.7	101.6	102.5	100.1	102.5	102.7	100.2	102.4
Men's and boys' -----	102.4	100.4	101.2	101.3	103.1	101.9	102.2	104.1	103.3	101.3	103.7
Women's and girls' -----	98.6	99.2	96.7	103.9	97.6	101.8	97.2	98.3	100.4	95.9	99.1
Footwear -----	108.9	108.7	108.9	108.5	111.1	108.2	105.9	111.5	109.5	109.4	109.8
Other apparel -----	100.0	97.8	98.6	101.1	97.9	98.8	95.7	101.0	100.6	98.9	98.9
Transportation -----	106.0	109.2	104.8	98.9	106.4	109.9	105.7	104.7	108.5	109.9	105.8
Private-----	104.8	102.6	104.3	95.8	105.4	106.2	104.0	106.2	106.9	105.2	104.8
Public-----	113.9	131.6	107.9	114.4	111.8	135.6	117.7	100.8	114.4	125.9	112.2
Medical care -----	112.6	111.9	116.8	112.6	113.1	110.3	127.0	112.8	116.1	116.4	108.5
Personal care -----	105.6	105.9	107.2	107.4	104.9	102.6	101.5	104.4	107.7	104.2	103.5
Reading and recreation -----	108.5	113.5	100.4	106.5	111.8	101.9	108.5	110.3	102.5	108.9	108.4
Other goods and services -----	104.9	101.7	101.7	102.2	107.6	106.1	104.6	103.3	104.2	104.8	102.3
Percent change from October 1961 to January 1962											
All items -----	- 0.1	0.8	- 0.2	- 0.6	0.6	0.2	- 0.1	0.3	- 0.3	0.2	- 0.6
Food -----	0	1.2	.8	0	.5	.9	.2	.8	- .4	- .2	- 1.1
Food at home -----	0	1.1	.8	0	.7	1.2	.1	.7	- .6	- .5	- 1.5
Cereals and bakery products --	.9	4.2	.8	.9	- .1	3.3	.2	.1	.7	1.0	- 6.0
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	.3	2.7	1.3	.4	- .4	.6	.8	2.0	.7	- .7	- .1
Dairy products -----	.5	.5	- .5	- .6	5.3	.3	- .2	2.5	- 2.0	.3	- .6
Fruits and vegetables -----	1.2	- .1	4.7	3.9	2.8	3.4	3.0	.5	- .4	1.3	2.5
Other foods at home -----	- 2.2	- 1.6	- 2.2	- 3.4	- 2.0	- 1.3	- 2.7	- 2.7	- 2.1	- 3.0	- 3.5
Housing -----	.3	0	0	- .5	.6	- .4	- .1	.5	.8	.9	- .4
Rent -----	.3	.4	1/	.1	---	.3	1/	0	1	---	.4
Gas and electricity -----	0	- .3	- .1	- .8	1.4	.1	- 1.0	- .1	0	0	0
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	2.4	1.7	3.4	.3	4.3	---	0	3.4	8.1	- .2	.8
Housefurnishings -----	- .8	- .3	- .6	- 1.0	.3	- 1.2	- 1.2	- .3	- 1.5	- .1	- .8
Household operation -----	.3	.4	1.4	- .2	.5	- .1	- .5	.3	1.0	.7	- .3
Apparel -----	- 2.0	- 3.2	- 2.7	- 1.0	- 1.8	- .5	- .3	- 1.7	- 3.6	- 2.6	- 1.3
Men's and boys' -----	- .8	- 2.3	.1	- 1.5	- 1.6	- .8	- .1	- .1	- .5	- .8	.2
Women's and girls' -----	- 4.4	- 5.1	- 6.5	- 1.1	- 4.3	- .8	- .7	- 3.9	- 6.9	- 5.1	- 3.5
Footwear -----	.6	.7	.6	.4	3.4	.4	.3	.4	.5	.4	1.0
Other apparel -----	- 1.1	- 2.1	- 1.6	- .9	- 1.0	- .3	- .3	- 1.2	- 3.2	- 1.7	- 2.1
Transportation -----	-	7.4	- 1.8	- 3.7	2.1	.5	- .4	- .9	- 1.1	1.3	- 1.1
Private-----	- .9	.6	- 2.1	- 4.6	2.0	.5	- .5	- .9	- 2.1	- 1.3	- 2.1
Public-----	---	30.8	0	0	2.4	0	0	0	2.1	9.1	5.3
Medical care -----	.3	1.9	1.3	- .4	.3	- .2	0	0	.1	.7	- .9
Personal care -----	1.0	.4	.1	.3	1.6	.3	- 1.1	2.1	.2	1.2	.4
Reading and recreation -----	.2	- .6	0	1.4	.7	.4	0	.2	- .3	.1	- .3
Other goods and services -----	- .1	.1	- .3	- .3	.2	- .1	0	0	0	.1	- 1.3

1/ Change from November 1961 to January 1962.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index -- Food and its subgroups  
January 1962 indexes and percent changes, December 1961 to January 1962  
U.S. city average and 20 large cities  
(1957-59=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 ---	102.5	0.5	101.2	0.6	106.6	0.3	99.8	1.3	105.6	0	100.6	0.8	97.2	0.1
Atlanta -----	101.8	.5	101.1	.6	102.7	.4	100.1	1.3	103.4	- 0.1	99.4	.3	101.6	.6
Baltimore -----	102.5	.5	100.4	.6	106.7	.1	99.7	0.6	101.7	0	99.2	.5	98.0	1.6
Boston -----	103.5	1.0	101.9	1.2	106.6	3.6	103.2	1.8	98.5	- .3	104.6	1.1	97.5	- .1
Chicago -----	103.8	.9	103.2	1.0	107.4	.5	102.4	2.0	109.7	- .2	101.9	2.1	98.3	- .1
Cincinnati -----	100.3	- .5	99.1	- .6	103.5	- 3.5	100.2	.9	101.5	.1	96.1	- 2.2	95.5	.3
Cleveland -----	99.2	.2	98.0	.4	103.5	- .2	99.2	1.5	99.8	- 1.2	95.5	.5	94.0	.1
Detroit -----	100.5	.7	99.6	.8	104.8	.3	98.4	1.4	108.9	.1	94.4	1.4	95.7	.2
Houston -----	102.1	.7	100.1	.8	102.7	- 1.3	98.6	1.3	103.1	5.2	103.0	- .1	96.5	- .4
Kansas City -----	101.9	.9	100.9	1.2	107.4	- .9	97.1	1.7	109.4	3.3	99.2	- .2	97.6	1.5
Los Angeles -----	105.2	.8	103.5	1.1	113.0	- .1	99.2	1.3	107.2	0	110.2	1.8	94.5	1.6
Minneapolis -----	101.1	1.2	99.3	1.4	103.6	4.1	98.8	2.0	103.0	0	99.1	1.1	95.1	.6
New York -----	103.8	.8	101.7	.9	107.9	- .6	99.8	2.7	107.1	- .1	100.8	1.3	96.3	- .3
Philadelphia -----	101.5	.1	100.0	.1	104.1	0	98.8	.8	103.4	- 1.8	97.5	.5	98.5	.5
Pittsburgh -----	101.7	.7	101.2	.7	110.0	.7	101.9	1.0	100.4	.1	97.9	2.2	98.4	- .2
Portland, Oreg. ----	102.5	.1	100.5	0	99.0	1.2	100.7	- .2	105.0	- .4	103.3	.8	96.1	- .8
St. Louis -----	102.1	.4	100.8	.5	103.7	- .3	99.7	1.5	105.5	- .1	100.7	- .1	97.5	.5
San Francisco -----	104.6	.6	103.2	.6	106.3	.1	100.1	.1	106.9	1.0	110.5	1.4	96.3	.4
Scranton -----	102.4	1.5	101.3	1.7	107.4	2.4	99.7	1.4	102.2	.1	101.0	3.9	98.5	1.1
Seattle -----	104.0	- .7	101.7	- .8	106.7	1.2	99.7	- 1.0	106.8	.1	101.8	- 2.9	97.9	.1
Washington, D.C. ----	101.4	1.1	100.4	1.3	108.7	1.2	98.8	1.5	103.6	0	95.6	- 2.8	98.8	.9

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

Food and unit	January 1962	December 1961	Food and unit	January 1962	December 1961
	Cents	Cents		Cents	Cents
<b>Cereals and bakery products:</b>					
Flour, wheat ----- 5 lb.	56.2	55.8	Fresh--Continued		
Biscuit mix ----- 40 oz.	47.6	47.7	Grapefruit ----- each	11.9	12.3
Macaroni ----- 16 oz.	24.5	24.3	Peaches * ----- lb.	*	*
Corn meal ----- 1b.	13.5	13.4	Strawberries * ----- pt.	*	*
Rolls oats ----- 13 oz.	22.6	22.5	Grapes, seedless * ----- lb.	*	*
Corn flakes ----- 12 oz.	26.9	26.8	Watermelons * ----- lb.	*	*
Rice, short grain ----- 1b.	18.9	18.7	Potatoes ----- 10 lb.	55.8	56.0
Rice, long grain ----- 1b.	21.1	21.0	Sweet potatoes ----- lb.	15.2	14.9
Bread, white ----- 1b.	21.1	20.9	Corn * ----- doz. ears	*	*
Soda crackers ----- 1b.	30.8	30.8	Onions ----- 1b.	10.9	10.3
Sandwich cookies ----- 16 oz.	51.6	52.2	Carrots ----- 1b.	14.3	15.4
<b>Meats, poultry, and fish:</b>					
Round steak ----- 1b.	105.4	104.4	Lettuce ----- head	5.7	17.8
Sirloin steak ----- 1b.	107.0	107.0	Celery ----- 1b.	15.2	14.3
Chuck roast ----- 1b.	60.4	60.0	Cabbage ----- 1b.	9.2	8.5
Rib roast ----- 1b.	82.9	81.3	Tomatoes ----- 1b.	34.7	30.4
Hamburger ----- 1b.	51.5	51.1	Beans, green ----- 1b.	29.4	24.0
Veal cutlets ----- 1b.	145.0	143.7	<b>Canned:</b>		
Pork chops, center cut ----- 1b.	87.4	85.4	Orange juice ----- 46-oz. can	46.7	48.4
Pork roast ----- 1b.	62.2	61.2	Pineapple juice ----- 46 oz. can	32.3	32.1
Bacon, sliced ----- 1b.	67.7	68.5	Peaches ----- #2 1/2 can	32.7	32.5
Ham, whole ----- 1b.	62.2	62.1	Pineapple ----- #2 can	38.7	38.7
Lamb, leg ----- 1b.	69.7	69.3	Fruit cocktail ----- #303 can	26.2	26.1
Frankfurters ----- 1b.	62.6	62.9	Corn, cream style ----- #303 can	20.2	20.3
Luncheon meat, canned ----- 12 oz.	51.4	51.1	Peas, green ----- #303 can	22.3	22.3
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook ----- 1b.	40.4	37.0	Tomatoes ----- #303 can	15.8	15.9
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen ----- 1b.	48.7	48.4	Tomato juice ----- 46 oz. can	32.5	32.5
Haddock, fillet, frozen ----- 1b.	54.7	54.8	Baby foods ----- 4 1/2 to 5 oz.	10.5	10.5
Salmon, pink, canned ----- 16 oz.	76.9	76.9	<b>Dried:</b>		
Tuna fish, canned ----- 6 to 6 1/2 oz.	33.9	33.3	Prunes ----- 1b.	41.7	41.7
<b>Dairy products:</b>					
Milk, fresh, (grocery) ----- qt.	24.9	24.9	Beans ----- 1b.	17.3	17.2
Milk, fresh, (delivered) ----- qt.	26.5	26.5	<b>Other foods at home:</b>		
Ice cream ----- 1/2 gal.	86.3	86.2	Tomato soup ----- 10 1/2 to 11-oz. can	12.3	12.3
Butter ----- 1b.	76.2	76.3	Beans, with pork ----- 15-oz. can	14.8	14.8
Cheese, American process ----- 1/2 lb.	36.3	36.3	Pickles, sliced ----- 15 oz.	26.6	26.6
Milk, evaporated ----- 14 1/2-oz. can	15.8	15.8	Catsup, tomato ----- 14 oz.	23.0	23.0
<b>Fruits and vegetables:</b>					
<b>Frozen:</b>					
Strawberries ----- 10 oz.	27.0	27.1	Potato chips ----- 4 oz.	28.0	27.7
Orange juice concentrate ----- 6 oz.	24.1	24.2	Coffee ----- 1b. can	71.2	71.4
Lemonade concentrate ----- 6 oz.	13.9	13.9	Coffee ----- 1b. bag	57.4	57.4
Peas, green ----- 10 oz.	20.7	20.6	Coffee, instant ----- 6 oz.	91.6	91.6
Beans, green ----- 9 oz.	22.8	22.7	Tea bags ----- pkg. of 16	24.5	24.5
Potatoes, french fried ----- 9 oz.	19.2	19.3	Cola drink, carton ----- 36 oz.	30.9	31.0
<b>Fresh:</b>					
Apples ----- 1b.	13.7	13.3	Shortening, hydrogenated ----- 3 lb.	91.2	90.7
Bananas ----- 1b.	15.9	16.4	Margarine, colored ----- 1b.	28.7	28.8
Oranges, size 200 ----- doz.	74.5	75.5	Lard ----- 1b.	20.2	20.3
Lemons ----- 1b.	19.6	19.6	Salad dressing ----- pt.	38.3	38.3
			Peanut butter ----- 1b.	56.6	56.2
			Sugar ----- 5 lb.	58.1	58.1
			Corn syrup ----- 24 oz.	27.2	27.1
			Grape jelly ----- 12 oz.	29.5	29.5
			Chocolate bar ----- 1 oz.	4.5	4.5
			Eggs, Grade A, large ----- doz.	57.0	56.5
			Gelatin, flavored ----- 3 to 4 oz.	9.8	9.7

\* Priced only in season.

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TABLE A: Consumer Price Index--All items and commodity groups  
1961 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1960 to 1961  
5 cities priced in January 1962  
(1957-59=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-----	105.1	1.4	104.5	1.4	104.2	1.1	105.0	0.9	104.1	1.2
Food-----	102.4	1.0	101.9	1.7	101.2	- 0.1	102.3	.9	103.0	1.7
Food at home-----	101.1	0.5	101.1	1.6	99.7	- .4	102.2	1.0	101.4	1.0
Cereals and bakery products--	103.0	1.5	106.9	3.8	101.4	.1	107.6	3.8	103.2	- 0.1
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	99.9	.1	96.8	- 0.1	98.2	- .8	101.9	1.4	98.6	.8
Dairy products-----	98.4	- .1	106.6	3.1	103.5	.8	102.3	- .7	104.8	.9
Fruits and vegetables-----	107.4	1.8	103.2	1.7	102.7	- 1.3	102.2	- .5	106.3	1.3
Other foods at home-----	98.3	- .1	97.6	1.1	95.1	- .5	98.9	1.4	97.8	1.9
Housing-----	107.6	1.9	104.0	1.1	102.8	.9	105.2	.2	103.9	1.0
Rent-----	112.1	3.4	103.2	.1	104.8	1.6	105.0	1.4	102.8	1.2
Gas and electricity-----	104.9	.8	107.5	- 1.6	105.8	.1	109.0	0	102.5	.4
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	106.3	5.7	111.2	2.9	100.8	.2	102.2	.2	98.9	- 1.2
Housefurnishings-----	99.5	- .6	98.2	- 1.6	97.2	- .8	101.1	0	96.2	- .8
Household operation-----	107.1	1.3	108.5	4.8	103.3	- 1.5	110.9	1.2	106.1	1.8
Apparel-----	102.5	.2	102.8	.1	98.9	- 1.6	100.9	.4	103.6	.6
Men's and boys'-----	102.2	1.5	104.3	1.4	101.8	.6	101.8	1.3	103.5	1.5
Women's and girls'-----	101.6	- .8	100.7	- .4	95.2	- 3.4	97.2	0	102.0	.2
Footwear-----	107.6	1.4	107.3	.5	105.4	- 1.2	108.9	.6	108.8	.6
Other apparel-----	99.3	- .1	99.2	- 2.4	94.9	- 1.0	100.1	- .3	101.7	- .4
Transportation-----	102.0	1.7	105.2	.2	106.1	.9	108.1	.2	104.1	.4
Private-----	101.6	1.4	104.4	0	104.6	.8	105.7	- .4	103.6	.3
Public-----	103.2	2.7	109.3	.5	117.4	2.4	116.3	2.5	106.6	1.5
Medical care-----	109.2	3.1	111.7	3.8	123.9	6.5	114.9	3.4	109.1	2.8
Personal care-----	105.2	.7	103.6	- .9	102.0	.1	103.2	.4	103.2	.5
Reading and recreation-----	113.0	2.0	110.7	3.7	109.5	6.4	109.0	4.7	105.9	3.3
Other goods and services-----	101.6	.3	104.1	3.8	103.2	1.1	104.3	.2	103.1	.5

### 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 1957-59 = 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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NOTICE

The description of the methodology of rebasing the index referred to in a footnote at the end of the text will be forwarded to all recipients of this report within a few days.

