

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

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR FEBRUARY 1962

Not: The Consumer Price Index is now computed with the 1957-59 average equal to 100. The February index was 128.6 on the former base of 1947-49=100.

The Consumer Price Index rose by 0.3 percent in February, to a new high of 104.8 (1957-59=100), the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. A contraseasonal rise in food prices was the most important cause. Higher prices for household textiles, sporting goods, and apparel also contributed to the advance. Consumer prices in February averaged 0.9 percent higher than a year ago, with services continuing to account for the major share of the increase.

FOOD

The rise of 0.6 percent in average food prices in February was due mainly to greater than seasonal advances for fresh fruits and vegetables and for poultry, as well as contraseasonal increases for beef products and eggs. Fresh milk prices were off seasonally.

As a result of the February increase, the food index, at 103.1 (1957-59=100) was nearly back to the record level of 103.4 reached in July 1961, but was up by only 0.2 percent over February 1961. Average prices for foods purchased for home consumption were down slightly from February 1961, while prices for restaurant meals were higher.

Prices of fresh vegetables increased by more than 4 percent in February, representing on the average, their largest advance in one month since 1951. Sharply higher prices for some vegetables, particularly onions and lettuce, reflected the reduced winter crop, a result of the freeze in December and January in major producing areas. There were also seasonal price reductions for tomatoes and green beans.

Fresh fruit prices averaged more than 3 percent higher over the month. Advances in citrus prices largely reflected crop losses due to the December and January freezes. Compared with a year earlier, February prices of fresh fruits were up by an average of 1.1 percent due largely to increases for oranges and bananas. Fresh vegetables increased by only 0.1 percent over the year, with lower prices for white potatoes almost out-weighing higher prices for most other vegetables.

Prices of meats, poultry, and fish averaged 0.8 percent higher in February, due chiefly to higher chicken prices attributable to a cut back in poultry production. A rise in beef and veal prices marked a continuation of the contraseasonal trend begun last September. However, average prices for beef and veal products were still 1 percent below the level of February 1961.

Declines in average prices for milk reflected competitive pressures stemming from continuing surplus milk production, with price decreases in some cities being ordered by State milk commissions.

HOUSING

Higher prices for housefurnishings and household operation accounted for nearly all of the 0.2 percent gain in housing costs between January and February. Costs of home ownership were down slightly. Retail prices of housefurnishings rose for the first time since October 1961, with increases reported for both nondurable and durable household goods. Higher prices for textile furnishings marked a return to "regular" levels following traditional January "white sales." Further small gains for rents were generally attributed to higher maintenance costs and increased property taxes.

**APPAREL AND
OTHER GROUPS**

The index for apparel rose by 0.2 percent between January and February as price increases for some items of women's apparel and for men's and boys' clothing more than offset declines in prices for footwear and other apparel. The rise in prices for women's and girls' apparel reflected chiefly seasonal influences. Resumption of regular prices for men's and boys' wool suits, following seasonal reductions in January and increases for men's undershirts, nylon hose, and boys' shirts, were the principal factors in the advance in prices of men's and boys' clothing.

An increase of 0.4 percent in the medical care index was due mainly to higher fees for professional services.

The reading and recreation index rose by 0.6 percent as higher prices for newspapers, sporting goods, and movie admissions were more than sufficient to overcome continuing competitive decreases for television receivers.

Prices for transportation were stable in February, on the average, as lower prices for new and used cars offset increases for gasoline, auto insurance, and registration. Reductions in prices of new cars resulted primarily from larger concessions by dealers. While demand for new cars was reportedly good, new car inventories were slightly more than 1 million cars.

**COST-OF-LIVING
ADJUSTMENTS**

On the basis of the national index, about 77,000 workers, mainly employees of aircraft missile firms, are scheduled to receive 1 cent an hour increases in wage rates. Cost-of-living adjustment allowances for another 12,000 workers, employed chiefly in metalworking establishments, will remain unchanged.

Notice: The following January 1962 indexes on the 1947-49 base were revised as shown:

Cereals and bakery products-----	141.4
Fruits and vegetables-----	124.3
Housefurnishings-----	102.7
Apparel-----	109.1
Footwear-----	142.7
Transportation-----	149.4
Public-----	213.6
Commodities less food-----	115.9
Services-----	154.4
Services less rent-----	156.6
Transportation services-----	191.3
Other goods and services-----	133.6

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 February 1962 from--			Indexes	
	February 1962	January 1962	January 1962	November 1961	February 1961	1947-49=100 February 1962	1939=100 February 1962
All items-----	104.8	104.5	0.3	0.2	0.9	128.6	216.4
Food-----	103.1	102.5	.6	1.2	.2	121.7	258.4
Food at home-----	101.9	101.2	.7	1.4	-.2	118.4	251.4
Cereals and bakery products-----	107.1	106.6	.5	.8	1.9	5/142.0	248.2
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	100.6	99.8	.8	2.1	-.8	111.0	266.9
Dairy products-----	105.1	105.6	-.5	-.4	0	119.0	238.9
Fruits and vegetables-----	102.9	100.6	2.3	4.6	0	5/127.2	274.8
Other foods at home-----	97.4	97.2	.2	-.5	-.8	107.6	222.4
Food away from home-----	109.5	109.2	.3	.5	2.5	(1/)	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	104.6	104.4	.2	.4	.8	133.4	175.2
Rent-----	105.2	105.1	.1	.3	1.1	144.6	167.0
Gas and electricity-----	107.9	107.8	.1	.1	-.1	125.8	119.9
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	104.0	103.9	.1	1.9	.3	141.8	251.3
Housefurnishings-----	99.3	98.7	.6	0	-.3	5/103.4	193.6
Household operation-----	106.9	106.5	.4	.5	1.3	140.1	204.9
Apparel-----	102.0	101.8	.2	- 1.6	-.2	5/109.3	208.3
Men's and boys'-----	102.8	102.4	.4	-.5	.4	111.7	220.1
Women's and girls'-----	99.0	98.6	.4	- 3.3	- 1.2	98.3	180.4
Footwear-----	108.8	108.9	-.1	.2	1.1	5/142.5	283.3
Other apparel-----	99.8	100.0	-.2	- 1.2	- 1.1	91.9	226.4
Transportation-----	106.0	106.0	0	-.7	2.1	5/149.4	212.7
Private-----	104.7	104.8	-.1	- 1.1	1.8	136.4	208.3
Public-----	114.8	114.7	.1	1.1	3.9	5/213.8	262.8
Medical care-----	113.0	112.6	.4	.5	2.4	163.3	225.0
Personal care-----	105.8	105.6	.2	1.0	1.3	135.5	227.5
Reading and recreation-----	109.1	108.5	.6	.9	2.9	126.3	200.6
Other goods and services-----	105.0	104.9	.1	0	.9	5/133.8	189.6
Special groups:							
All items less food-----	105.5	105.3	.2	-.1	1.2	132.3	191.8
All items less shelter-----	104.8	104.4	.4	.3	1.0	126.2	227.8
Commodities-----	102.7	102.3	.4	.1	.4	118.6	230.0
Nondurables-----	103.1	102.6	.5	.4	.2	121.0	235.5
Food-----	103.1	102.5	.6	1.2	.2	121.7	258.4
Nondurables less food-----	103.3	102.9	.4	-.5	.3	121.0	206.0
Apparel-----	101.9	101.6	.3	- 1.5	-.2	109.2	209.6
Apparel less footwear-----	100.5	100.2	.3	- 2.0	-.6	103.4	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	104.1	103.6	.5	.3	.6	130.9	198.6
Durables-----	100.8	100.8	0	-.8	1.3	111.7	194.9
New cars-----	102.4	103.3	-.9	- 1.4	-.2	137.6	241.4
Used cars-----	107.7	108.1	-.4	- 4.2	10.3	(1/)	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	99.0	98.7	.3	.1	0	102.1	178.2
Commodities less food-----	102.2	102.0	.2	-.7	.5	5/116.1	195.3
Services-----	108.9	108.7	.2	.6	1.8	5/154.6	192.2
Rent-----	105.2	105.1	.1	.3	1.1	144.6	167.0
Services less rent-----	109.5	109.3	.2	.6	1.8	5/156.9	213.6
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	108.1	107.9	.2	.5	1.1	141.8	163.0
Transportation services-----	111.2	110.7	.5	1.0	2.4	5/192.2	239.8
Medical care services-----	115.5	115.1	.3	.9	3.1	172.3	244.4
Other services 3/-----	107.9	107.9	0	.5	1.6	139.3	238.8
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (Reference period=\$1.00)-----	\$0.954	\$0.957	-.3	-.2	-.8	\$0.778	\$0.462

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.

4/ Revised.

5/ Revised 1/62 indexes see list page

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 February 1962 from--		Indexes 1947-49=100 1959=100	
	February 1962	November 1961	February 1961	November 1961	February 1961	February 1962	February 1962
United States city average	104.8	104.6	103.9	0.2	0.9	128.6	216.4
Cities priced monthly 1/							
Chicago	104.4	103.8	103.5	.6	.9	131.6	224.7
Detroit	102.0	101.5	102.5	.5	-.5	3/125.8	213.1
Los Angeles	105.7	105.8	105.4	-.1	.3	131.8	218.2
New York	105.9	105.2	104.7	.7	1.1	4/127.6	212.3
Philadelphia	105.0	104.9	104.2	.1	.8	128.9	217.8
Cities priced in February, May August, November 2/	February 1962	November 1961	February 1961	November 1961	February 1961	February 1962	February 1962
Cleveland	103.1	103.1	103.3	0	-.2	128.1	216.4
Houston	104.5	103.9	101.5	.6	3.0	128.7	216.3
Scranton	105.5	104.6	103.5	.9	1.9	125.9	215.1
Seattle	105.9	105.7	104.1	.2	1.7	133.1	224.9
Washington, D. C.	104.0	104.2	103.4	-.2	.6	125.2	207.2
Cities priced in January, April July, October 2/	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	5/129.0	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
Cities priced in March, June, September, December 2/	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

1/ Rents priced bimonthly.

2/ Foods, fuels, and a few other items priced monthly; rents and other commodities and services priced quarterly.

3/ Revised index 1/62=124.7.

4/ Revised index 1/62=127.2.

5/ Revised index 1/62=129.0.

TABLE 3: Consumer Price Index—Percent changes from January 1962 to February 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
United States city average	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.2	0	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.1
Chicago	.5	1.3	.1	0	0.5	0	.1	.4	.1
Detroit	.9	.3	0	.7	5.6	.4	.2	.5	.2
Los Angeles	0	0	.2	0	-.5	.1	.4	.7	0
New York	.3	.7	.5	-.4	-.2	.5	.1	-.1	.1
Philadelphia	.5	1.0	.4	.3	0	0	0	.4	0

TABLE 4: Consumer Price Index--All items and commodity groups
February 1962 indexes and percent changes, November 1961 to February 1962
U.S. city average and 10 cities priced in

5

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Cleveland	Detroit	Houston	Los Angeles	New York	Philadelphia	Scranton	Seattle	Washington, D. C.
Indexes (1957-59=100)											
All items -----	104.8	104.4	103.1	102.0	104.5	105.7	105.9	105.0	105.5	105.9	104.0
Food -----	103.1	105.2	100.1	100.8	102.9	105.2	104.5	102.5	102.3	105.1	101.3
Food at home -----	101.9	104.9	98.9	99.9	101.0	103.4	102.3	101.2	101.2	103.1	100.3
Cereals and bakery products --	107.1	113.1	103.7	105.0	102.9	113.3	108.2	104.4	108.3	107.0	108.6
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	100.6	102.7	100.3	98.3	99.6	98.7	100.9	100.2	99.2	101.4	98.1
Dairy products -----	105.1	109.9	99.8	108.5	103.1	107.2	106.7	103.4	102.3	106.6	103.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	102.9	105.1	98.3	96.0	105.6	112.4	101.8	101.6	101.4	108.2	96.6
Other foods at home -----	97.4	99.4	94.3	96.4	97.0	92.8	96.9	98.7	97.9	96.9	98.7
Housing -----	104.6	103.3	100.8	97.7	102.3	105.0	107.7	105.2	103.9	104.6	102.6
Rent -----	105.2	---	101.5	95.0	99.5	---	110.5	---	104.9	106.4	107.3
Gas and electricity -----	107.9	106.2	107.4	105.2	116.0	115.5	105.9	102.7	105.2	100.1	104.8
Solid and petroleum fuels -----	104.0	104.7	108.8	101.3	---	---	105.5	107.8	99.0	98.6	105.0
Housefurnishings -----	99.3	100.7	96.5	97.2	102.6	100.4	103.3	100.1	95.5	97.7	98.9
Household operation -----	106.9	104.5	105.7	103.2	105.6	103.2	108.8	113.0	109.4	103.8	111.0
Apparel -----	102.0	100.5	102.2	104.4	103.1	102.5	102.1	103.0	103.7	104.8	104.7
Men's and boys' -----	102.8	101.0	102.1	103.2	104.0	103.4	104.3	103.1	105.1	103.5	102.6
Women's and girls' -----	99.0	96.9	98.9	104.3	101.7	100.4	97.7	101.0	101.6	103.3	104.3
Footwear -----	108.8	108.8	110.9	107.8	107.2	108.6	111.0	109.5	107.8	112.3	110.0
Other apparel -----	99.8	98.3	101.9	101.5	101.0	98.9	99.6	100.8	102.2	102.8	103.8
Transportation -----	106.0	105.3	106.5	104.4	108.8	109.3	104.5	108.5	105.6	108.6	105.1
Private -----	104.7	104.9	105.1	102.4	107.5	105.5	105.9	106.9	106.4	107.2	104.3
Public -----	2/114.8	107.9	114.8	114.4	117.4	135.6	100.8	114.4	100.4	120.5	110.0
Medical care -----	113.0	116.8	118.3	113.0	106.3	110.4	113.4	116.1	112.3	109.3	116.9
Personal care -----	105.8	107.3	105.7	107.6	111.7	103.0	104.5	107.7	114.0	105.7	108.2
Reading and recreation -----	109.1	100.8	107.9	107.0	110.2	102.6	110.2	102.9	125.2	103.9	109.9
Other goods and services -----	105.0	101.8	106.4	102.4	107.2	106.1	103.4	104.2	107.4	110.5	101.6
Percent change from November 1961 to February 1962											
All items -----	0.2	0.6	0	0.5	0.6	- 0.1	0.7	0.1	0.9	0.2	- 0.2
Food -----	1.2	2.5	0.8	.9	1.5	.9	1.6	.9	1.4	1.1	.2
Food at home -----	1.4	2.9	.9	1.1	1.6	1.2	1.7	.9	1.6	1.3	.2
Cereals and bakery products --	.8	5.8	-.6	.5	- 1.0	0	-.2	.5	3.4	.4	.8
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	2.1	2.4	2.2	2.0	2.4	.5	4.1	3.2	1.0	1.5	1.4
Dairy products -----	-.4	-.2	- 1.5	-.6	5.2	.2	.4	- 1.7	.2	-.3	.2
Fruits and vegetables -----	4.6	8.7	3.8	4.8	2.2	5.7	2.7	2.9	6.2	5.3	-.4
Other foods at home -----	-.5	-.4	-.7	-.7	-.2	- 1.1	-.5	-.9	- 1.2	-.1	-.9
Housing -----	.4	-.1	-.4	-.3	.1	-.2	.8	.5	.6	-.2	- 1.0
Rent -----	.3	---	0	1/-.1	0	---	1/.5	---	0	.8	.8
Gas and electricity -----	.1	-.5	0	-.7	.8	0	- 1.1	0	0	0	.2
Solid and petroleum fuels -----	1.9	3.4	2.1	0	---	---	3.4	.7	-.1	0	1.7
Housefurnishings -----	0	-.3	-.1	- 1.1	0	1.6	.1	.5	-.2	- 1.7	-.8
Household operation -----	.5	0	.4	0	1.1	-.5	1.6	.8	2.7	.1	.1
Apparel -----	- 1.6	- 2.4	-.4	.3	-.3	-.5	- 2.4	- 3.2	.1	-.6	.3
Men's and boys' -----	-.5	-.3	- 1.0	.6	-.2	.8	-.5	-.6	.4	0	- 1.3
Women's and girls' -----	- 3.3	- 5.5	-.5	.4	-.9	- 2.0	- 4.5	- 6.2	.1	- 2.1	1.3
Footwear -----	.2	.1	1.2	-.6	.9	.6	-.4	.2	-.2	2.6	.6
Other apparel -----	- 1.2	-.9	-.6	.1	-.3	-.6	- 2.6	- 2.1	.1	-.5	.1
Transportation -----	-.7	.3	- 1.0	1.4	-.3	- 1.4	-.8	-.9	-.4	-.8	-.8
Private -----	- 1.1	.4	- 1.2	1.6	-.3	- 1.7	-.9	- 1.8	-.5	-.9	- 1.0
Public -----	1.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.1	0	0	0
Medical care -----	.5	1.4	.2	0	-.3	-.1	.4	.1	3.8	.6	1.6
Personal care -----	1.0	.2	1.1	.1	4.6	1.0	2.2	.2	.1	-.4	.2
Reading and recreation -----	.9	.3	.7	2.0	2.5	-.8	.5	.2	1.0	1.2	.5
Other goods and services -----	0	0	0	-.1	.1	-.1	0	0	.8	0	0

1/ Change from December 1961 to February 1962.
2/ Revised index 1/62=114.7.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index -- Food and its subgroups
February 1962 indexes and percent changes, January 1962 to February 1962
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 ---	103.1	0.6	101.9	0.7	107.1	0.5	100.6	0.8	105.1	- 0.5	102.9	2.3	97.4	0.2
Atlanta -----	102.2	.4	101.6	.5	103.4	.7	101.0	.9	103.2	- .2	100.7	1.3	101.4	- .2
Baltimore -----	102.8	.3	100.7	.3	107.0	.3	100.7	1.0	101.3	- .4	99.3	0.1	98.1	.1
Boston -----	103.3	- .2	101.5	- .4	107.5	.8	102.7	- .5	98.8	.3	103.1	- 1.4	97.1	- .4
Chicago -----	105.2	1.3	104.9	1.6	113.1	5.3	102.7	.3	109.9	.2	105.1	3.1	99.4	1.1
Cincinnati -----	101.0	.7	100.0	.9	107.2	3.6	101.1	.9	100.6	- .9	97.5	.8	95.7	.2
Cleveland -----	100.1	.9	98.9	.9	103.7	.2	100.3	1.1	99.8	0	98.3	2.9	94.3	.3
Detroit -----	100.8	.3	99.9	.3	105.0	.2	98.3	- .1	108.5	- .4	96.0	1.7	96.4	.7
Houston -----	102.9	.8	101.0	.9	102.9	.2	99.6	1.0	103.1	0	105.6	2.5	97.0	.5
Kansas City -----	102.5	.6	101.5	.6	107.5	.1	99.4	2.4	108.4	- .9	100.7	1.5	97.0	- .6
Los Angeles -----	105.2	0	103.4	- .1	113.3	.3	98.7	- .5	107.2	0	112.4	2.0	92.8	- 1.8
Minneapolis -----	102.0	.9	100.5	1.2	104.3	.7	100.3	1.5	102.4	- .6	102.1	3.0	96.1	1.1
New York -----	104.5	.7	102.3	.6	108.2	.3	100.9	1.1	106.7	- .4	101.8	1.0	96.9	.6
Philadelphia -----	102.5	1.0	101.2	1.2	104.4	.3	100.2	1.4	103.4	0	101.6	4.2	98.7	.2
Pittsburgh -----	102.3	.6	102.0	.8	110.0	0	102.7	.8	100.4	0	100.6	2.8	98.5	.1
Portland, Oreg. -----	102.4	- .1	100.5	0	95.9	- 3.1	100.8	.1	104.9	- .1	108.2	4.7	94.5	- 1.7
St. Louis -----	102.2	.1	100.9	.1	104.0	.3	99.7	0	105.5	0	101.1	.4	97.5	0
San Francisco -----	105.5	.9	104.2	1.0	105.9	- .4	101.2	1.1	106.6	- .3	115.2	4.3	96.1	- .2
Scranton -----	102.3	- .1	101.2	- .1	108.3	.8	99.2	- .5	102.3	.1	101.4	.4	97.9	- .6
Seattle -----	105.1	1.1	103.1	1.4	107.0	.3	101.4	1.7	106.6	- .2	108.2	6.3	96.9	- 1.0
Washington, D.C. -----	101.3	- .1	100.3	- .1	108.6	- .1	98.1	- .7	103.6	0	96.6	1.0	98.7	- .1

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

Food and unit	February 1962	January 1962	Food and unit	February 1962	January 1962
	Cents	Cents		Cents	Cents
Cereals and bakery products:			Fresh--Continued		
Flour, wheat ----- 5 lb.	56.6	56.2	Grapefruit ----- each	12.4	11.9
Biscuit mix ----- 40 oz.	47.4	47.6	Peaches * ----- lb.	*	*
Macaroni ----- 16 oz.	24.7	24.5	Strawberries * ----- pt.	*	*
Corn meal ----- 1b.	13.6	13.5	Grapes, seedless * ----- lb.	*	*
Rolled oats ----- 13 oz.	22.8	22.6	Watermelons * ----- 1b.	*	*
Corn flakes ----- 12 oz.	27.0	26.9	Potatoes ----- 10 lb.	56.3	55.8
Rice, short grain ----- 1b.	18.9	18.9	Sweet potatoes ----- 1b.	15.4	15.2
Rice, long grain ----- 1b.	21.2	21.1	Corn * ----- doz. ears	*	*
Bread, white ----- 1b.	21.1	21.1	Onions ----- 1b.	14.9	10.9
Soda crackers ----- 1b.	31.0	30.8	Carrots ----- 1b.	15.2	14.3
Sandwich cookies ----- 16 oz.	51.9	51.6	Lettuce ----- head	18.8	15.7
Meats, poultry, and fish:			Celery ----- 1b.	15.3	15.2
Round steak ----- 1b.	106.1	105.4	Cabbage ----- 1b.	11.4	9.2
Sirloin steak ----- 1b.	108.3	107.0	Tomatoes ----- 1b.	30.8	34.7
Chuck roast ----- 1b.	61.1	60.4	Beans, green ----- 1b.	28.8	29.4
Rib roast ----- 1b.	81.5	82.9	Canned:		
Hamburger ----- 1b.	51.3	51.5	Orange juice ----- 46-oz. can	45.8	46.7
Veal cutlets ----- 1b.	147.5	145.0	Pineapple juice ----- 46 oz. can	32.6	32.3
Pork chops, center cut ----- 1b.	87.9	87.4	Peaches ----- #2 1/2 can	32.7	32.7
Pork roast ----- 1b.	62.5	62.2	Pineapple ----- #2 can	38.7	38.7
Bacon, sliced ----- 1b.	67.9	67.7	Fruit cocktail ----- #303 can	26.1	26.2
Ham, whole ----- 1b.	61.8	62.2	Corn, cream style ----- #303 can	20.1	20.2
Lamb, leg ----- 1b.	69.4	69.7	Peas, green ----- #303 can	22.4	22.3
Frankfurters ----- 1b.	62.7	62.6	Tomatoes ----- #303 can	15.9	15.8
Luncheon meat, canned ----- 12 oz.	51.1	51.4	Tomato juice ----- 46 oz. can	32.4	32.5
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook ----- 1b.	42.6	40.4	Baby foods ----- 4 1/2 to 5 oz.	10.6	10.5
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen ----- 1b.	49.3	48.7	Dried:		
Haddock, fillet, frozen ----- 1b.	55.5	54.7	Prunes ----- 1b.	41.7	41.7
Salmon, pink, canned ----- 16 oz.	77.1	76.9	Beans ----- 1b.	17.3	17.3
Tuna fish, canned ----- 6 to 6 1/2 oz.	34.2	33.9	Other foods at home:		
Dairy products:			Tomato soup ----- 10 1/2 to 11-oz. can	12.4	12.3
Milk, fresh, (grocery) ----- qt.	24.7	24.9	Beans, with pork ----- 15-oz. can	14.9	14.8
Milk, fresh, (delivered) ----- qt.	26.4	26.5	Pickles, sliced ----- 15 oz.	26.6	26.6
Ice cream ----- 1/2 gal.	86.3	86.3	Catsup, tomato ----- 14 oz.	22.9	23.0
Butter ----- 1b.	76.1	76.2	Potato chips ----- 4 oz.	27.9	28.0
Cheese, American process ----- 1/2 lb.	36.3	36.3	Coffee ----- 1b. can	71.0	71.2
Milk, evaporated ----- 14 1/2-oz. can	15.8	15.8	Coffee ----- 1b. bag	57.4	57.4
Fruits and vegetables:			Coffee, instant ----- 6 oz.	91.6	91.6
Frozen:			Tea bags ----- pkgs. of 16	24.6	24.5
Strawberries ----- 10 oz.	27.1	27.0	Cola drink, carton ----- 36 oz.	30.7	30.9
Orange juice concentrate ----- 6 oz.	22.9	24.1	Shortening, hydrogenated ----- 3 lb.	90.5	91.2
Lemonade concentrate ----- 6 oz.	14.0	13.9	Margarine, colored ----- 1b.	28.9	28.7
Peas, green ----- 10 oz.	20.7	20.7	Lard ----- 1b.	20.1	20.2
Beans, green ----- 9 oz.	22.8	22.8	Salad dressing ----- pt.	38.4	38.3
Potatoes, french fried ----- 9 oz.	19.2	19.2	Peanut butter ----- 1b.	56.7	56.6
Fresh:			Sugar ----- 5 lb.	58.5	58.1
Apples ----- 1b.	14.3	13.7	Corn syrup ----- 24 oz.	27.2	27.2
Bananas ----- 1b.	16.2	15.9	Grape jelly ----- 12 oz.	29.5	29.5
Oranges, size 200 ----- doz.	77.5	74.5	Chocolate bar ----- 1 oz.	4.5	4.5
Lemons ----- 1b.	19.4	19.6	Eggs, Grade A, large ----- doz.	57.2	57.0
			Gelatin, flavored ----- 3 to 4 oz.	9.8	9.8

* 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 February 1962
(1957-59=100)

Group	Cleveland		Houston		Scranton		Seattle		Washington, D. C.	
	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change	Index	Percent change
All items-----	103.2	0.9	102.6	0.5	104.1	1.6	104.9	1.5	103.7	1.5
Food-----	100.9	.1	101.3	1.3	101.3	1.3	104.5	2.0	101.6	0.9
Food at home-----	99.9	- .2	100.0	1.0	100.3	1.3	102.8	1.5	100.9	.6
Cereals and bakery products--	103.5	1.6	103.6	1.4	103.6	1.8	105.8	1.9	106.6	3.5
Meats, poultry, and fish----	99.1	- .2	97.9	.3	98.6	0.8	101.5	1.0	98.1	.1
Dairy products-----	101.3	.1	102.0	- .2	101.0	1.0	106.9	4.3	103.5	.6
Fruits and vegetables-----	102.9	- 1.4	103.6	2.1	102.8	2.2	106.7	0.7	100.4	- 1.6
Other foods at home-----	95.7	- .2	96.0	1.3	97.6	1.1	96.6	.2	99.3	.7
Housing-----	101.1	- .1	101.5	- .3	102.9	1.0	104.0	1.2	103.0	1.6
Rent-----	101.7	.4	99.3	- .4	104.2	1.3	105.1	1.2	105.7	1.7
Gas and electricity-----	107.4	.1	113.7	.4	105.2	1.9	100.1	0	106.4	- .7
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	105.0	1.4	---	---	96.8	.6	98.6	- .1	101.8	6.3
Housefurnishings-----	97.0	- 1.0	100.2	- .6	96.3	- .9	98.7	- 1.2	99.6	- .2
Household operation-----	105.0	0	104.0	.6	106.4	1.8	102.8	2.4	108.5	4.6
Apparel-----	102.1	.9	101.4	.4	104.2	1.0	104.0	.9	102.6	1.2
Men's and boys'-----	102.2	1.1	103.0	.8	104.2	1.6	103.9	1.6	102.9	1.7
Women's and girls'-----	99.8	.1	99.7	.5	103.2	.8	102.9	1.4	101.0	1.0
Footwear-----	107.7	2.7	105.0	- .1	107.5	.3	107.9	- .8	106.2	.8
Other apparel-----	102.2	.7	99.7	- .1	102.5	.4	102.2	- .6	102.6	.5
Transportation-----	106.0	2.2	104.1	.4	104.3	.5	106.4	3.0	104.6	1.0
Private-----	105.5	1.5	103.0	.1	105.0	.7	105.7	2.6	103.6	1.1
Public-----	109.2	6.0	111.3	2.8	100.4	.3	112.8	8.3	110.0	1.7
Medical care-----	118.0	7.0	105.9	1.3	107.2	2.5	108.5	.4	113.9	3.5
Personal care-----	105.3	1.7	105.9	1.1	111.6	1.5	105.7	- .7	107.4	1.1
Reading and recreation-----	106.7	1.5	105.3	2.4	122.0	7.9	101.3	- .5	109.1	3.7
Other goods and services-----	106.4	.5	106.7	- .1	104.5	.9	109.4	4.2	101.5	.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 for the U.S. 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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