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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MARCH 1962

The Consumer Price Index rose by 0.2 percent in March to 105.0 (1957-59=100), largely reflecting price advances for apparel and further increases for services, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics announced today. Higher average prices for fresh fruits and vegetables, prescriptions and drugs, used cars, and durable housefurnishings also were important in causing the index to advance to a new high. On the other hand, egg prices were off sharply and there was a contraseasonal decline in average prices for gasoline. Consumer prices in March 1962 were 1.1 percent higher than a year ago with most of the rise attributable to an increase of nearly 2 percent for services, as well as higher prices for used cars, sporting goods, and restaurant meals. /On the former base of 1947-49, the March index was 128.8./

**APPAREL** Higher prices for women's and girls' apparel, mainly spring wear, were primarily responsible for the 0.7 percent increase in the apparel index. However, shoe prices also advanced with the introduction of spring styles. Average prices for men's and boys' clothing were unchanged over the month. March 1962 apparel prices averaged 0.3 percent higher than a year ago, with most of the increases being for shoes and for men's and boys' clothing.

**MEDICAL CARE** Prices advanced significantly for prescriptions and drugs and for medical care services. Among the more important increases were higher prices for vitamins, hospitalization insurance, and professional medical fees. The medical care index has increased by about 3 percent from March 1961 levels, mainly because of higher prices for all medical services.

**HOUSING** Housing costs were unchanged on the average, as prices for home repairs and maintenance and fuel oil moved lower, while housefurnishings, household operation, and some costs associated with home ownership advanced. Durable housefurnishings prices were higher as a result of increases for furniture, sewing machines, and ranges. Partly offsetting these increases were reductions for some floor coverings and for washing machines. Higher prices for laundry and dry cleaning services were largely responsible for the rise in household operation costs. Rents continued their steady, moderate advance.

**TRANSPORTATION** A decline of 1.3 percent in gasoline prices caused the transportation index to move down, in spite of higher average prices for used cars. Widespread local competitive pressures were the principal factor in lower gasoline prices. Average prices of used cars, after adjustment for depreciation, advanced by nearly 1 percent, reflecting continuing firm demand and the low level of dealers' stocks. New car prices remained unchanged. In comparison with a year ago, average prices for transportation have advanced by 2.4 percent, led by a 14 percent increase in prices of used cars. New car prices, however, were somewhat below year ago levels.

**FOOD** Retail food prices increased slightly (0.1 percent) reflecting higher prices for restaurant meals. Prices of food purchased for home consumption were unchanged on the average, as increases for fresh fruits and vegetables and for some beef products and frankfurters were offset by lower prices for eggs, pork, and processed fruits and vegetables.

Higher prices were reported for all fresh vegetables except green beans, which declined seasonally by 8.4 percent owing to more abundant supplies. The rise in prices of all other fresh vegetables reflected reduced shipments caused by unfavorable growing conditions in major vegetables producing areas. An increase of about 2 percent in fresh fruit prices was attributable mainly to higher prices for apples,

bananas, and oranges. Seasonal decreases for lemons and grapefruit partially offset other fresh fruit price increases.

Contraseasonal declines for pork and lower prices for some beef products resulted in a small decrease in average prices of meats. In comparison with a year earlier meat prices have declined by nearly 1 percent, with total meat production reportedly somewhat higher than a year ago.

**COST-OF-LIVING  
ADJUSTMENTS**

Approximately 67,000 workers are scheduled to receive increases amounting to 1 or 2 cents an hour on the basis of the national index, generally as a result of a quarterly review. Workers receiving these increases are employed primarily in a variety of manufacturing companies, including chemical firms and an aircraft company. Some transportation workers are also included among these employees.

TABLE 1: Consumer Price Index--United States city average  
Major group, subgroup, and special group indexes. March 1962  
and percent changes from selected dates

(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)		Percent change to March 1962 from--			Indexes	
	March 1962	February 1962	February 1962	December 1961	March 1961	1947-49=100	1939=100
						March 1962	March 1962
All items-----	105.0	104.8	0.2	0.5	1.1	128.8	216.8
Food-----	103.2	103.1	.1	1.2	0.5	121.8	258.6
Food at home-----	101.9	101.9	0	1.3	.1	118.4	251.4
Cereals and bakery products-----	107.3	107.1	.2	.9	1.9	142.3	248.6
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	100.6	100.6	0	2.1	-.4	111.0	266.9
Dairy products-----	105.0	105.1	-.1	-.6	.3	118.9	238.6
Fruits and vegetables-----	104.4	102.9	1.5	4.6	1.0	129.0	278.8
Other foods at home-----	96.1	97.4	- 1.3	- 1.0	- 1.3	106.2	219.4
Food away from home-----	109.7	109.5	.2	.5	2.4	(1/)	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	104.6	104.6	0	.2	.7	133.4	175.2
Rent-----	105.3	105.2	.1	.3	1.2	144.8	167.2
Gas and electricity-----	107.9	107.9	0	.1	-.1	125.8	119.9
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	103.6	104.0	-.4	.8	-.1	141.2	250.3
Housefurnishings-----	99.5	99.3	.2	.3	-.3	103.6	194.0
Household operation-----	107.1	106.9	.2	.7	1.4	140.4	205.2
Apparel-----	102.7	102.0	.7	-.8	.3	110.1	209.8
Men's and boys'-----	102.8	102.8	0	-.3	.3	111.7	220.1
Women's and girls'-----	100.4	99.0	1.4	- 1.6	-.2	99.7	183.0
Footwear-----	109.1	108.8	.3	.3	1.4	142.9	284.1
Other apparel-----	100.3	99.8	.5	-.8	-.2	92.4	227.5
Transportation-----	105.9	106.0	-.1	-.1	2.4	149.2	212.5
Private-----	104.6	104.7	-.1	-.3	2.1	136.3	208.1
Public-----	114.9	114.8	.1	.7	4.0	213.9	263.1
Medical care-----	113.6	113.0	.5	1.0	2.9	164.2	226.2
Personal care-----	105.9	105.8	.1	.7	1.5	135.7	227.7
Reading and recreation-----	109.2	109.1	.1	.9	2.4	126.5	200.7
Other goods and services-----	105.1	105.0	.1	.2	1.0	133.9	189.8
Special groups:							
All items less food-----	105.7	105.5	.2	.2	1.2	132.5	191.9
All items less shelter-----	105.0	104.8	.2	.6	1.2	126.4	228.2
Commodities-----	102.8	102.7	.1	.4	.6	118.7	230.2
Nondurables-----	103.2	103.1	.1	.6	.4	121.2	235.8
Food-----	103.2	103.1	.1	1.2	.5	121.8	258.6
Nondurables less food-----	103.5	103.3	.2	-.1	.4	121.2	206.4
Apparel-----	102.6	101.9	.7	-.8	.4	110.0	211.1
Apparel less footwear-----	101.3	100.5	.8	- 1.0	0	104.2	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	104.0	104.1	-.1	.4	.6	130.7	198.4
Durables-----	100.9	100.8	.1	-.2	1.7	111.8	195.1
New cars-----	102.4	102.4	0	- 1.1	-.4	137.6	241.4
Used cars-----	108.6	107.7	.8	-.8	14.1	(1/)	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	99.0	99.0	0	.2	.1	102.1	178.2
Commodities less food-----	102.4	102.2	.2	-.2	.8	116.3	195.7
Services-----	109.0	108.9	.1	.5	1.7	154.8	192.4
Rent-----	105.3	105.2	.1	.3	1.2	144.8	167.2
Services less rent-----	109.6	109.5	.1	.5	1.6	157.1	213.8
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	108.2	108.1	.1	.5	1.1	142.0	163.2
Transportation services-----	111.3	111.2	.1	.8	2.2	192.3	240.0
Medical care services-----	115.8	115.5	.3	1.0	3.3	172.8	245.0
Other services 3/-----	108.0	107.9	.1	.3	1.3	139.4	239.1
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (Reference period=\$1.00)-----	\$0.952	\$0.954	-.2	-.5	- 1.0	\$0.776	\$0.461

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 March 1962 from--		Indexes	
	March 1962	December 1961	March 1961	December 1961	March 1961	1947-49=100 March 1962	1939=100 March 1962
United States city average-----	105.0	104.5	103.9	0.5	1.1	128.8	216.8
Cities priced monthly 1/							
Chicago-----	104.5	103.8	103.3	.7	1.2	131.8	224.9
Detroit-----	102.0	100.9	102.0	1.1	0	125.8	213.1
Los Angeles-----	106.1	105.8	105.0	.3	1.0	132.3	219.0
New York-----	105.9	105.3	104.6	.6	1.2	127.6	212.3
Philadelphia-----	105.0	104.8	104.0	.2	1.0	128.9	217.8
Cities priced in March, June, September, December 2/	March 1962	December 1961	March 1961	December 1961	March 1961	March 1962	March 1962
Atlanta-----	103.7	103.4	103.2	.3	0.5	128.4	220.2
Baltimore-----	104.6	104.4	104.4	.2	.2	129.8	224.2
Cincinnati-----	103.3	102.6	102.5	.7	.8	125.7	215.4
St. Louis-----	104.8	104.4	103.9	.4	.9	130.1	219.3
San Francisco-----	107.1	106.5	105.4	.6	1.6	135.9	232.0
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	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

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 February 1962 to March 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-----	0.2	0.1	0	0.7	- 0.1	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1
Chicago-----	.1	0	0.1	.6	.1	0	0	-.2	-.3
Detroit-----	0	.1	.2	.2	0	.4	-.2	-.9	0
Los Angeles-----	.4	.3	0	.4	.4	2.7	.1	-.1	.1
New York-----	0	-.1	.1	.4	-.2	.5	-.1	-.1	0
Philadelphia-----	0	0	-.3	.7	-.3	.3	.1	.6	0

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

Group	U.S. City Average	Atlanta	Balti- more	Chicago	Cincin- nati	Detroit	Los Angeles	New York	Phila- delphia	St. Louis	San Francisco
Indexes (1957-59=100)											
All items -----	105.0	103.7	104.6	104.5	103.3	102.0	106.1	105.9	105.0	104.8	107.1
Food -----	103.2	102.5	102.4	105.2	101.3	100.9	105.5	104.4	102.5	102.5	105.7
Food at home -----	101.9	102.0	100.2	104.9	100.2	100.1	103.9	102.2	101.1	101.3	104.4
Cereals and bakery products --	107.3	103.7	107.4	112.9	107.2	104.8	113.1	108.9	104.4	104.2	106.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	100.6	101.0	100.6	102.2	101.0	97.4	98.3	101.6	100.6	100.2	101.2
Dairy products -----	105.0	103.1	99.0	109.7	101.5	108.7	107.2	104.8	103.3	102.4	106.9
Fruits and vegetables -----	104.4	103.4	100.9	108.8	100.4	99.6	113.7	102.8	102.5	106.2	116.1
Other foods at home -----	96.1	100.7	96.0	97.4	93.9	95.0	<sup>3</sup> /94.2	95.8	96.8	96.1	95.2
Housing -----	104.6	103.6	104.4	103.4	102.3	97.9	105.0	107.8	104.9	102.5	108.6
Rent -----	105.3	103.6	105.4	104.2	102.4	---	104.9	---	106.4	104.0	112.9
Gas and electricity -----	107.9	109.9	103.8	106.2	110.6	105.3	115.5	105.9	102.7	108.8	111.0
Solid and petroleum fuels -----	103.6	109.6	104.9	104.7	107.6	101.3	---	105.0	107.3	104.9	---
Housefurnishings -----	99.5	96.7	98.1	101.4	97.5	97.9	100.2	103.6	99.4	98.6	99.5
Household operation -----	107.1	108.9	108.2	105.3	107.9	103.0	103.4	108.8	113.5	106.3	109.7
Apparel -----	102.7	101.2	105.5	101.1	101.7	104.6	102.9	102.5	103.7	103.8	104.4
Men's and boys' -----	102.8	103.0	103.1	101.6	101.6	103.1	103.3	104.4	103.5	103.0	101.9
Women's and girls' -----	100.4	97.6	104.5	97.8	99.8	104.5	101.5	98.3	102.3	103.0	103.9
Footwear -----	109.1	109.1	114.1	108.8	108.2	108.3	108.6	111.5	109.6	109.1	110.6
Other apparel -----	100.3	99.9	103.8	98.7	99.4	101.3	99.1	99.5	100.8	100.4	103.1
Transportation -----	105.9	103.9	106.4	105.4	108.1	104.4	109.7	104.3	108.2	107.8	106.3
Private -----	104.6	103.0	104.0	105.0	106.7	102.5	105.9	105.7	106.8	105.6	106.9
Public -----	114.9	109.4	117.0	107.9	116.7	114.4	135.6	100.8	<sup>2</sup> /113.1	116.8	102.4
Medical care -----	113.6	110.9	118.5	116.8	109.6	113.5	113.4	114.0	116.4	113.5	112.7
Personal care -----	105.9	108.6	107.0	107.3	101.4	107.4	103.1	104.4	107.8	109.9	107.7
Reading and recreation -----	109.2	107.6	102.3	100.6	106.8	106.0	102.5	110.1	103.5	117.8	107.1
Other goods and services -----	105.1	101.1	103.4	101.5	104.6	102.4	106.2	103.4	104.2	106.7	107.7
Percent change from December 1961 to March 1962											
All items -----	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.7	1.1	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.6
Food -----	1.2	1.2	.4	2.2	.5	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.1	.8	1.6
Food at home -----	1.3	1.5	.4	2.6	.5	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.8
Cereals and bakery products --	.9	1.4	.8	5.6	-.1	0.3	0	.4	.3	.2	.1
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	2.1	2.2	1.5	1.8	1.7	.4	.4	4.5	2.7	2.0	1.2
Dairy products -----	-.6	-.4	-2.7	-.2	.1	-.1	0	-2.2	-1.9	-3.0	1.0
Fruits and vegetables -----	4.6	4.3	2.2	9.0	1.5	7.0	5.0	3.3	5.7	5.4	6.5
Other foods at home -----	-1.0	-.3	-.5	-1.0	-1.4	-.5	1.3	-.8	-1.2	-.9	-.7
Housing -----	.2	-.1	.2	.1	.5	0	0	.7	-.1	.6	.5
Rent -----	.3	0	.2	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub>	.4	---	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	---	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>5</sub>	.1	.8
Gas and electricity -----	.1	-.1	-.1	-.5	-.2	-.1	0	-1.0	0	0	0
Solid and petroleum fuels -----	.8	0	-.7	3.4	0	0	---	.3	-.5	.8	---
Housefurnishings -----	.3	-.1	0	.4	-.3	-.4	1.2	.2	0	-.1	.1
Household operation -----	.7	.7	.7	1.1	.2	.1	.2	1.7	.4	.4	.5
Apparel -----	-.8	-.1	.2	-1.7	.1	-.1	-.3	-1.4	-2.3	0	.7
Men's and boys' -----	-.3	-.5	.8	.3	-.8	-.7	.5	.2	-.2	.5	-.2
Women's and girls' -----	-1.6	.3	-.5	-4.2	.8	-.4	-1.4	-3.1	-4.6	-.8	1.3
Footwear -----	.3	-.7	.2	0	.7	-.2	.6	0	.1	.6	.6
Other apparel -----	-.8	1.2	2.1	-1.3	-.6	-.4	-.1	-2.5	-2.0	.6	.3
Transportation -----	-.1	-1.4	-.5	1.1	2.6	6.7	-1.0	-.2	-.1	-1.3	-1.1
Private -----	-.3	-1.6	-.6	1.4	1.2	8.5	-1.2	-.2	-.5	-1.6	-1.2
Public -----	.7	0	0	0	10.0	0	0	0	1.0	0	0
Medical care -----	1.0	.7	.9	1.4	.3	.4	2.6	1.0	.3	.3	1.0
Personal care -----	.7	.6	.5	.2	1.9	-.1	.6	.8	.1	.5	.9
Reading and recreation -----	.9	.9	.4	.1	.2	.4	-.6	1.0	.8	1.8	.1
Other goods and services -----	.2	0	0	-.2	.1	.2	0	.1	0	.2	-.1

<sup>1</sup>/ Change from January 1962 to March 1962.  
<sup>2</sup>/ Revised index for January 1962=113.1 and February 1962=113.1.  
<sup>3</sup>/ Revised index for February 1962=94.6.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--Food and its subgroups  
 March 1962 indexes and percent changes, February 1962 to March 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---	103.2	0.1	101.9	0	107.3	0.2	100.6	0	105.0	- 0.1	104.4	1.5	96.1	- 1.3
Atlanta-----	102.5	.3	102.0	0.4	103.7	.3	101.0	0	103.1	-.1	103.4	2.7	100.7	- 0.7
Baltimore-----	102.4	-.4	100.2	-.5	107.4	.4	100.6	- 0.1	99.0	- 2.3	100.9	1.6	96.0	- 2.1
Boston-----	104.0	.7	102.2	.7	107.7	.2	103.4	.7	98.6	-.2	105.2	2.0	97.6	.5
Chicago-----	105.2	0	104.9	0	112.9	-.2	102.2	-.5	109.7	-.2	108.8	3.5	97.4	- 2.0
Cincinnati-----	101.3	.3	100.2	.2	107.2	0	101.0	-.1	101.5	.9	100.4	3.0	93.9	- 1.9
Cleveland-----	100.4	.3	99.2	.3	103.8	.1	100.0	-.3	100.1	.3	101.7	3.5	93.1	- 1.3
Detroit-----	100.9	.1	100.1	.2	104.8	-.2	97.4	-.9	108.7	.2	99.6	3.8	95.0	- 1.5
Houston-----	102.9	0	100.8	-.2	103.5	.6	99.2	-.4	103.1	0	107.2	1.5	94.9	- 2.2
Kansas City-----	103.1	.6	102.4	.9	107.7	.2	98.9	-.5	108.6	.2	107.0	6.3	96.0	- 1.0
Los Angeles-----	105.5	.3	103.9	.5	113.1	-.2	98.3	-.4	107.2	0	113.7	1.2	* 94.2	-.4
Minneapolis-----	101.7	-.3	99.9	-.6	103.6	-.7	100.4	.1	102.7	.3	101.5	- 0.6	94.0	- 2.2
New York-----	104.4	-.1	102.2	-.1	108.9	.6	101.6	.7	104.8	- 1.8	102.8	1.0	95.8	- 1.1
Philadelphia-----	102.5	0	101.1	-.1	104.4	0	100.6	.4	103.3	-.1	102.5	.9	96.8	- 1.9
Pittsburgh-----	102.5	.2	102.2	.2	109.5	-.5	102.3	-.4	100.4	0	104.3	3.7	97.3	- 1.2
Portland, Oreg.-----	102.5	.1	100.7	.2	97.8	2.0	101.0	.2	104.6	-.3	108.5	.3	93.9	-.6
St. Louis-----	102.5	.3	101.3	.4	104.2	.2	100.2	.5	102.4	- 2.9	106.2	5.0	96.1	- 1.4
San Francisco-----	105.7	.2	104.4	.2	106.3	.4	101.2	0	106.9	.3	116.1	.8	95.2	-.9
Scranton-----	102.6	.3	101.6	.4	108.0	-.3	100.0	.8	102.4	.1	104.0	2.6	96.6	- 1.3
Seattle-----	105.0	-.1	102.9	-.2	106.9	-.1	101.0	-.4	106.7	.1	108.0	- 2.2	96.5	-.4
Washington, D.C.-----	101.7	.4	100.7	.4	109.1	.5	99.7	1.6	103.6	0	97.6	1.0	97.3	- 1.4

\* Revised February 1962 index=94.6.

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

Food and unit	March 1962	February 1962	Food and unit	March 1962	February 1962
	Cents	Cents		Cents	Cents
<b>Cereals and bakery products:</b>			<b>Fresh--Continued</b>		
Flour, wheat-----5 lb.	56.6	56.6	Grapefruit-----each	12.2	12.4
Biscuit mix-----40 oz.	47.6	47.4	Peaches *-----lb.	*	*
Macaroni-----16 oz.	24.6	24.7	Strawberries *-----pt.	*	*
Corn meal-----lb.	13.8	13.6	Grapes, seedless *-----lb.	*	*
Rolled oats-----18 oz.	23.2	22.8	Watermelons *-----lb.	*	*
Corn flakes-----12 oz.	26.9	27.0	Potatoes-----10 lb.	57.7	56.3
Rice, short grain-----lb.	18.9	18.9	Sweet potatoes-----lb.	16.0	15.4
Rice, long grain-----lb.	21.4	21.2	Corn *-----doz. ears	*	*
Bread, white-----lb.	21.2	21.1	Onions-----lb.	15.1	14.9
Soda crackers-----lb.	30.9	31.0	Carrots-----lb.	15.4	15.2
Sandwich cookies-----16 oz.	52.1	51.9	Lettuce-----head	20.3	18.8
<b>Meats, poultry, and fish:</b>			Celery-----lb.	16.2	15.3
Round steak-----lb.	105.1	106.1	Cabbage-----lb.	13.1	11.4
Sirloin steak-----lb.	107.5	108.3	Tomatoes-----lb.	31.7	30.8
Chuck roast-----lb.	61.9	61.1	Beans, green-----lb.	26.3	28.8
Rib roast-----lb.	82.1	81.5	<b>Canned:</b>		
Hamburger-----lb.	51.5	51.3	Orange juice-----46 oz. can	45.4	45.8
Veal cutlets-----lb.	146.8	147.5	Pineapple juice-----46 oz. can	32.6	32.6
Pork chops, center cut-----lb.	87.3	87.9	Peaches-----#2½ can	32.6	32.7
Pork roast-----lb.	61.9	62.5	Pineapple-----#2 can	38.9	38.7
Bacon, sliced-----lb.	67.7	67.9	Fruit cocktail-----#303 can	26.0	26.1
Ham, whole-----lb.	61.5	61.8	Corn, cream style-----#303 can	20.1	20.1
Lamb, leg-----lb.	69.7	69.4	Peas, green-----#303 can	22.3	22.4
Frankfurters-----lb.	63.0	62.7	Tomatoes-----#303 can	15.8	15.9
Luncheon meat, canned-----12 oz.	51.3	51.1	Tomato juice-----46 oz. can	32.4	32.4
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook-----lb.	42.6	42.6	Baby foods-----4½ to 5 oz.	10.6	10.6
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen-----lb.	49.2	49.3	<b>Dried:</b>		
Haddock, fillet, frozen-----lb.	55.5	55.5	Prunes-----lb.	41.4	41.7
Salmon, pink, canned-----16 oz.	77.2	77.1	Beans-----lb.	17.3	17.3
Tuna fish, canned-----6 to 6½ oz.	34.4	34.2	<b>Other foods at home:</b>		
<b>Dairy products:</b>			Tomato soup-----10½ to 11 oz. can	12.4	12.4
Milk, fresh, (grocery)-----qt.	24.6	24.7	Beans, with pork-----16 oz. can	14.9	14.9
Milk, fresh, (delivered)-----qt.	26.3	26.4	Pickles, sliced-----15 oz.	26.6	26.6
Ice cream-----½ gal.	86.4	86.3	Ketchup, tomato-----14 oz.	23.1	22.9
Butter-----lb.	76.0	76.1	Potato chips-----4 oz.	28.0	27.9
Cheese, American process-----½ lb.	36.4	36.3	Coffee-----lb. can	71.0	71.0
Milk, evaporated-----14½ oz. can	15.8	15.8	Coffee-----lb. bag	57.2	57.4
<b>Fruits and vegetables:</b>			Coffee, instant-----6 oz.	90.4	91.6
<b>Frozen:</b>			Tea bags-----pkg. of 16	24.6	24.6
Strawberries-----1 oz.	27.1	27.1	Cola drink, carton-----36 oz.	30.7	30.7
Orange juice concentrate-----6 oz.	22.4	22.9	Shortening, hydrogenated-----3 lb.	91.0	90.5
Lemonade concentrate-----6 oz.	14.0	14.0	Margarine, colored-----lb.	29.0	28.9
Peas, green-----10 oz.	20.7	20.7	Lard-----lb.	20.1	20.1
Beans, green-----9 oz.	22.8	22.8	Salad dressing-----pt.	38.4	38.4
Potatoes, french fried-----9 oz.	19.3	19.2	Peanut butter-----lb.	56.7	56.7
<b>Fresh:</b>			Sugar-----5 lb.	58.4	58.5
Apples-----lb.	14.8	14.3	Corn syrup-----24 oz.	27.3	27.2
Bananas-----lb.	16.5	16.2	Grape jelly-----12 oz.	29.5	29.5
Oranges, size 200-----doz.	78.8	77.5	Chocolate bar-----1 oz.	4.5	4.5
Lemons-----lb.	19.1	19.4	Eggs, Grade A, large-----doz.	53.8	57.2
			Gelatin, flavored-----3 to 4 oz.	9.8	9.8

\* 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 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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