

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

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR APRIL 1962

The Consumer Price Index rose by 0.2 percent in April to a new high of 105.2 (1957-59=100), the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (On the former base of 1947-49=100, the April index was 129.1) Price increases for fresh fruits and vegetables, used cars, gasoline, movies, and medical care services were major factors in the advance. Prices were lower in April for poultry, eggs, fresh milk, fuel oil, and housefurnishings. Since January 1962, the index has risen by 0.7 percent, led by higher prices for fresh fruits and vegetables, used cars, gasoline, and women's and girls' apparel. Over the past year, prices of consumer goods and services have advanced by 1.3 percent on the average.

TRANSPORTATION Average transportation prices marked their sharpest advance since October 1959, with an increase of 1.2 percent in April. Used car prices were up by more than 4 percent and gasoline prices by nearly 3 percent. Substantial increases in transit fares also took place in a few cities.

The greater than seasonal increase in used car prices reflected an unusually favorable sales-inventory relationship. The April increase brought prices of used cars to about 12 percent above a year earlier, the highest April level since their pricing was initiated in 1953. Selling prices of new cars declined slightly in April.

FOOD Average retail food prices increased by 0.2 percent, chiefly because of higher prices for fresh fruits and vegetables, with smaller price advances also reported for meats and for restaurant meals, while prices of eggs, dairy products, and poultry moved lower.

The rise of nearly 7 percent in average prices of fresh fruits and vegetables marked the largest March-to-April increase since 1955. Vegetable prices were up by approximately 8 percent, as spring production was estimated at almost 20 percent below a year ago, due to earlier unfavorable weather conditions in major producing areas. Early season high prices of sweet corn also contributed substantially to the advance. In comparison with April 1961, prices of fresh vegetables have increased by about 11 percent.

Fresh fruit prices were up by nearly 6 percent, largely reflecting seasonally lower market supplies and high early-season strawberry prices. In comparison with year earlier levels, fresh fruit prices have increased by less than 1 percent.

A decline of 1.2 percent in average prices of dairy products reflected mostly seasonal decreases in milk prices ordered by state regulatory commissions and competitive pricing in retail outlets in many cities. There also was a decline in butter prices attributed to a cut in support prices for milk used in its manufacture.

A reduction of nearly 6 percent in average poultry prices was due to heavy marketings. Egg prices fell to their lowest level since 1959 as production approached its seasonal peak.

OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES Average prices for apparel, housing, and other goods and services were unchanged in April, reflecting the effect of generally small, offsetting price movements. Early special sales price reductions on some items of women's outerwear were offset by higher prices of new spring cotton dresses and blouses and small advances for men's and boys' clothing and footwear. The seasonal reductions for women's and girls' apparel which occurred in April were among the smallest in recent years. Compared with April 1961, apparel prices were 0.6 percent higher, due to increases in footwear and in women's and girls' apparel.

The overall stability in housing costs resulted from seasonal reductions for coal and petroleum fuels and lower prices for housefurnishings, which offset increases for home repairs and maintenance and for rent. Medical care prices advanced again in April due mainly to increases in professional medical fees and hospitalization insurance rates. Average prices for prescriptions and drugs were lower, continuing the moderately downward trend which has been noted since the early summer of 1961.

COST-OF-LIVING
ADJUSTMENTS

Based on the April index, about 850,000 workers mainly in the automobile and farm equipment and related industries will receive wage increases of 1 cent per hour. In addition, about 100,000 workers in aerospace companies and farm equipment manufacture will receive increases of 2 cents per hour or an equivalent percentage increase.

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

(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)		Percent change to April 1962 from--			Indexes	
	April 1962	March 1962	March 1962	January 1962	April 1961	1947-49=100	1939=100
						April 1962	April 1962
All items-----	105.2	105.0	0.2	0.7	1.3	129.1	217.2
Food-----	103.4	103.2	.2	.9	0.7	122.0	259.1
Food at home-----	102.1	101.9	.2	.9	.3	118.6	251.9
Cereals and bakery products-----	107.3	107.3	0	.7	1.8	142.3	248.6
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	100.1	100.6	-.5	.3	-.1	110.4	265.5
Dairy products-----	103.7	105.0	-1.2	-1.8	-.5	117.4	235.7
Fruits and vegetables-----	108.6	104.4	4.0	8.0	2.2	134.2	290.0
Other foods at home-----	95.1	96.1	-1.0	-2.2	-1.2	105.1	217.1
Food away from home-----	109.9	109.7	.2	.6	2.4	(1/)	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	104.6	104.6	0	.2	.8	133.4	175.2
Rent-----	105.4	105.3	.1	.3	1.2	144.9	167.3
Gas and electricity-----	107.8	107.9	-.1	0	-.1	125.7	119.8
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	102.4	103.6	-1.2	-1.4	-.2	139.6	247.4
Housefurnishings-----	99.3	99.5	-.2	.6	-.4	103.4	193.6
Household operation-----	107.1	107.1	0	.6	1.2	140.4	205.2
Apparel-----	102.7	102.7	0	.9	.6	110.1	209.8
Men's and boys'-----	102.9	102.8	.1	.5	.1	111.9	220.3
Women's and girls'-----	100.3	100.4	-.1	1.7	.5	99.6	182.8
Footwear-----	109.2	109.1	.1	.3	1.6	143.1	284.3
Other apparel-----	100.3	100.3	0	.3	-.5	92.4	227.5
Transportation-----	107.2	105.9	1.2	1.1	3.6	151.0	215.1
Private-----	106.0	104.6	1.3	1.1	3.5	138.1	210.9
Public-----	115.6	114.9	.6	.8	4.2	215.2	264.7
Medical care-----	113.9	113.6	.3	1.2	2.9	164.6	226.8
Personal care-----	106.3	105.9	.4	.7	1.8	136.2	228.6
Reading and recreation-----	109.4	109.2	.2	.8	2.1	126.7	201.1
Other goods and services-----	105.1	105.1	0	.2	1.0	133.9	189.8
Special groups:							
All items less food-----	106.0	105.7	.3	.7	1.6	132.9	192.4
All items less shelter-----	105.2	105.0	.2	.8	1.3	126.7	228.6
Commodities-----	103.1	102.8	.3	.8	1.0	119.1	230.9
Nondurables-----	103.5	103.2	.3	.9	.9	121.5	236.5
Food-----	103.4	103.2	.2	.9	.7	122.0	259.1
Nondurables less food-----	103.8	103.5	.3	.9	1.3	121.5	207.0
Apparel-----	102.6	102.6	0	1.0	.5	110.0	211.1
Apparel less footwear-----	101.3	101.3	0	1.1	.2	104.2	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	104.4	104.0	.4	.8	1.8	131.2	199.1
Durables-----	101.4	100.9	.5	.6	1.5	112.4	196.1
New cars-----	102.2	102.4	-.2	-1.1	-.1	137.4	240.9
Used cars-----	113.4	108.6	4.4	4.9	11.5	(1/)	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	98.9	99.0	-.1	.2	.1	102.0	178.0
Commodities less food-----	102.8	102.4	.4	.8	1.4	116.8	196.5
Services-----	109.2	109.0	.2	.5	1.8	155.1	192.7
Rent-----	105.4	105.3	.1	.3	1.2	144.9	167.3
Services less rent-----	109.8	109.6	.2	.5	1.7	157.3	214.2
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	108.2	108.2	0	.3	1.0	142.0	163.2
Transportation services-----	111.5	111.3	.2	.7	2.2	192.7	240.5
Medical care services-----	116.2	115.8	.3	1.0	3.4	173.4	245.9
Other services 3/-----	108.2	108.0	.2	.3	1.6	139.7	239.5
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (Reference period=\$1.00)-----	\$0.951	\$0.952	-.1	-.6	-1.1	\$0.775	\$0.460

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 April 1962 from--		Indexes 1947-49=100 1939=100	
	April 1962	January 1962	April 1961	January 1962	April 1961	April 1962	April 1962
	United States city average -----	105.2	104.5	103.9	0.7	1.3	129.1
Cities priced monthly 1/							
Chicago-----	104.8	103.9	103.2	.9	1.6	132.2	225.6
Detroit-----	102.2	101.1	101.9	1.1	0.3	126.0	213.5
Los Angeles-----	106.3	105.7	105.1	.6	1.1	132.6	219.4
New York-----	106.0	105.6	104.4	.4	1.5	127.7	212.5
Philadelphia-----	105.1	104.5	104.2	.6	.9	129.1	218.0
Cities priced in January, April, July, October 2/	April 1962	January 1962	April 1961	January 1962	April 1961	April 1962	April 1962
Boston-----	107.1	106.2	104.9	.8	2.1	132.7	217.6
Kansas City-----	105.7	105.2	104.7	.5	1.0	130.8	211.9
Minneapolis-----	105.5	104.3	104.3	1.2	1.2	130.5	215.1
Pittsburgh-----	105.7	105.2	104.9	.5	.8	130.2	224.2
Portland, Oregon-----	103.9	103.8	103.6	.1	.3	128.7	220.8
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	.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-----	3/ 107.3	106.5	105.4	3/ .8	3/ 1.8	3/ 136.2	3/ 232.4
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

1/ Rents priced bimonthly.

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

3/ Revised.

**TABLE 3: Consumer Price Index—Percent changes from March 1962 to April 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	0.2	0	0	1.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0
Chicago-----	.3	.4	0.1	-.01	1.2	.6	-.1	0	0.1
Detroit-----	.2	.3	.1	-.1	1.2	0	.1	-.3	-.1
Los Angeles-----	.2	-.1	0	-.5	1.2	.6	.3	.3	0
New York-----	.1	.1	-.2	-.3	0.6	.1	.1	.4	.2
Philadelphia-----	.1	.1	.1	.5	1.1	0	.1	-1.0	0

TABLE 4: Consumer Price Index—All items and commodity groups
 April 1962 indexes and percent changes, January 1962 to April 1962
 U.S. city average and 10 cities priced in April 1962

Group	U.S. City Average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Kansas City	Los Angeles	Minneapolis	New York	Philadelphia	Pittsburgh	Portland, Oregon
All items -----	105.2	107.1	104.8	102.2	105.7	106.3	105.5	106.0	105.1	105.7	103.9
Food -----	103.4	103.5	105.6	101.2	101.8	105.4	102.4	104.5	102.6	101.7	103.0
Food at home -----	102.1	101.5	105.3	100.4	100.7	103.5	100.7	102.3	101.2	101.2	101.2
Cereals and bakery products --	107.3	107.9	113.0	104.6	107.5	113.3	103.7	108.8	104.6	106.4	100.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	100.1	101.8	102.0	97.7	98.1	97.0	99.4	101.1	99.6	102.0	100.7
Dairy products -----	103.7	96.1	109.4	107.4	94.6	107.0	102.4	103.7	101.0	97.8	104.4
Fruits and vegetables -----	108.6	108.2	112.2	102.9	110.9	117.1	108.0	106.5	106.8	105.7	110.9
Other foods at home -----	95.1	95.7	96.9	94.2	95.9	91.3	93.6	94.8	96.7	96.1	93.2
Housing -----	104.6	109.2	103.5	98.0	104.9	105.0	103.6	107.6	105.0	106.9	103.6
Rent -----	105.4	114.5	---	95.1	103.1	---	105.8	110.8	---	105.8	103.7
Gas and electricity -----	107.8	104.1	106.2	105.3	108.6	115.5	103.8	105.6	102.7	116.3	102.5
Solid and petroleum fuels -----	102.4	105.0	104.4	101.3	113.3	---	102.2	102.1	106.3	2/---	100.0
Housefurnishings -----	99.3	100.1	101.5	98.1	97.9	99.8	97.0	103.2	99.1	101.8	96.4
Household operation -----	107.1	111.0	105.3	103.0	111.5	103.5	104.2	108.9	113.5	112.4	107.5
Apparel -----	102.7	103.5	101.0	104.5	101.1	102.4	100.5	102.2	104.2	100.8	102.3
Men's and boys' -----	102.9	101.8	101.5	103.7	103.4	103.3	103.4	104.1	104.1	101.8	103.2
Women's and girls' -----	100.3	103.3	97.6	103.9	96.1	100.2	97.4	98.2	102.9	96.5	99.5
Footwear -----	109.2	109.0	109.0	108.4	111.9	108.6	105.3	110.8	109.8	109.9	109.8
Other apparel -----	100.3	99.4	97.5	101.8	97.7	98.8	96.0	99.3	101.5	100.0	97.6
Transportation -----	107.2	110.2	106.7	105.7	108.7	111.0	107.7	104.9	109.4	110.9	103.4
Private -----	106.0	103.9	106.6	104.0	108.2	106.7	106.2	106.4	108.4	106.6	102.0
Public -----	115.6	131.6	107.9	114.4	111.8	140.4	117.9	100.8	113.1	125.9	112.5
Medical care -----	113.9	113.0	117.3	113.5	113.5	114.1	127.2	114.1	116.4	116.3	108.9
Personal care -----	106.3	106.6	107.2	107.5	110.4	103.4	106.7	104.5	107.9	104.0	102.8
Reading and recreation -----	109.4	116.1	100.6	105.7	113.6	102.8	111.7	110.5	102.5	110.0	108.6
Other goods and services -----	105.1	101.8	101.6	102.3	108.0	106.2	104.4	103.6	104.2	105.0	103.5
Percent change from January 1962 to April 1962											
All items -----	0.7	0.8	-0.9	1.1	0.5	0.6	1.2	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.1
Food -----	.9	0	1.7	0.7	-.1	.2	1.3	.7	1.1	0	.5
Food at home -----	.9	-.4	2.0	.8	-.2	0	1.4	.6	1.2	0	.7
Cereals and bakery products --	.7	1.2	5.2	-.2	.1	.3	0.1	.8	.5	-3.3	1.3
Meats, poultry, and fish -----	.3	-1.4	-.4	-.7	1.0	-2.2	.6	1.3	.8	.1	0
Dairy products -----	-1.8	-2.4	-.3	-1.4	-13.5	-.2	-.6	-3.2	-2.3	-2.6	-.6
Fruits and vegetables -----	8.0	3.4	10.1	9.0	11.8	6.3	9.0	5.7	9.5	8.0	7.4
Other foods at home -----	-2.2	-1.8	-1.4	-1.6	-1.7	-3.4	-1.6	-1.6	-1.8	-2.3	-3.0
Housing -----	.2	1.0	.3	.3	.1	.2	.8	.4	.2	1.0	.6
Rent -----	.3	.9	---	1/-.1	-.5	---	.6	1/.3	---	-.3	.1
Gas and electricity -----	0	-.5	-.5	0	.6	0	-.9	-1.3	0	6.8	0
Solid and petroleum fuels -----	-1.4	-2.7	.1	0	-1.6	---	0	-3.2	-1.4	---	0
Housefurnishings -----	.6	1.1	1.5	.9	.6	1.3	1.3	.2	1.2	-.2	1.3
Household operation -----	.6	3.0	.8	-.1	1.1	.3	1.1	1.4	.3	.4	1.5
Apparel -----	.9	2.6	.5	.8	-.5	-.1	.4	-.3	1.5	.6	-.1
Men's and boys' -----	.5	1.4	.3	2.4	.3	1.4	1.2	0	.8	.5	-.5
Women's and girls' -----	1.7	4.1	.9	0	-1.5	-1.6	.2	-.1	2.5	.6	.4
Footwear -----	.3	.3	.1	-.1	.7	.4	-.6	-.6	.3	.5	0
Other apparel -----	.3	1.6	-1.1	.7	-.2	0	.3	-1.7	.9	1.1	-1.3
Transportation -----	1.1	.9	1.8	6.9	2.2	1.0	1.9	.2	.8	.9	-2.3
Private -----	1.1	1.3	2.2	8.6	2.7	.5	2.1	.2	1.4	1.3	-2.7
Public -----	.8	0	0	0	0	3.5	.2	0	0	0	.3
Medical care -----	1.2	1.0	.4	.8	.4	3.4	.2	1.2	.3	-.1	.4
Personal care -----	.7	.7	0	-.1	5.2	.8	5.1	.1	.2	-.2	-.7
Reading and recreation -----	.8	2.3	.2	-.8	1.6	.9	2.9	.2	0	1.0	.2
Other goods and services -----	.2	.1	-.1	.1	.4	.1	-.2	.3	0	.2	1.2

1/ Change from February 1962 to April 1962.

2/ Discontinued as of February 1962.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--Food and its subgroups
 April 1962 indexes and percent changes, March 1962 to April 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--	103.4	0.2	102.1	0.2	107.3	0	100.1	- 0.5	103.7	- 1.2	108.6	4.0	95.1	- 1.0
Atlanta-----	102.7	.2	102.2	.2	103.8	0.1	100.6	- .4	103.1	0	106.0	2.5	100.2	- 0.5
Baltimore-----	102.7	.3	100.6	.4	107.4	0	100.3	- .3	98.9	- 0.1	104.4	3.5	95.7	- .3
Boston-----	103.5	- .5	101.5	- .7	107.9	.2	101.8	- 1.5	96.1	- 2.5	108.2	2.9	95.7	- 1.9
Chicago-----	105.6	.4	105.3	.4	113.0	.1	102.0	- .2	109.4	- .3	112.2	3.1	96.9	- .5
Cincinnati-----	101.5	.2	100.5	.3	107.4	.2	100.7	- .3	101.5	0	103.6	3.2	93.2	- .7
Cleveland-----	100.6	.2	99.5	.3	103.9	.1	100.5	.5	99.6	- .5	103.6	1.9	92.4	- .8
Detroit-----	101.2	.3	100.4	.3	104.6	- .2	97.7	.3	107.4	- 1.2	102.9	3.3	94.2	- .8
Houston-----	102.9	0	100.6	- .2	106.5	2.9	98.4	- .8	100.3	- 2.7	109.2	1.9	93.6	- 1.4
Kansas City-----	101.8	- 1.3	100.7	- 1.7	107.5	- .2	98.1	- .8	94.6	-12.9	110.9	3.6	95.9	- .1
Los Angeles-----	105.4	- .1	103.5	- .4	113.3	.2	97.0	- 1.3	107.0	- .2	117.1	3.0	91.3	- 3.1
Minneapolis-----	102.4	.7	100.7	.8	103.7	.1	99.4	- 1.0	102.4	- .3	108.0	6.4	93.6	- .4
New York-----	104.5	.1	102.3	.1	108.8	- .1	101.1	- .5	103.7	- 1.0	106.5	3.6	94.8	- 1.0
Philadelphia-----	102.6	.1	101.2	.1	104.6	.2	99.6	- 1.0	101.0	- 2.2	106.8	4.2	96.7	- .1
Pittsburgh-----	101.7	- .8	101.2	- 1.0	106.4	- 2.8	102.0	- .3	97.8	- 2.6	105.7	1.3	96.1	- 1.2
Portland, Oreg.-----	103.0	.5	101.2	.5	100.3	2.6	100.7	- .3	104.4	- .2	110.9	2.2	93.2	- .7
St. Louis-----	102.2	- .3	100.8	- .5	104.4	.2	99.2	- 1.0	101.4	- 1.0	107.9	1.6	94.6	- 1.6
San Francisco-----	105.4	- .3	103.9	- .5	106.3	0	101.2	0	106.1	- .7	117.1	0.9	93.1	- 2.2
Scranton-----	102.9	.3	101.7	.1	108.3	.3	99.7	- .3	99.8	- 2.5	107.9	3.8	96.7	.1
Seattle-----	106.3	1.2	104.3	1.4	107.2	.3	102.2	1.2	107.0	.3	114.4	5.9	95.6	- .9
Washington, D. C.-----	101.6	- .1	100.4	- .3	108.9	- .2	97.5	- 2.2	103.2	- .4	101.1	3.6	96.2	- 1.1

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

Food and unit	April 1962	March 1962	Food and unit	April 1962	March 1962
	Cents	Cents		Cents	Cents
Cereals and bakery products:			Fresh--Continued		
Flour, wheat-----5 lb.	56.6	56.6	Grapefruit-----each	12.7	12.2
Biscuit mix-----40 oz.	47.8	47.6	Peaches *-----lb.	*	*
Macaroni-----16 oz.	24.7	24.6	Strawberries *-----pt.	41.9	*
Corn meal-----1b.	13.9	13.8	Grapes, seedless *-----lb.	*	*
Rolled oats-----18 oz.	23.5	23.2	Watermelons *-----lb.	*	*
Corn flakes-----12 oz.	26.9	26.9	Potatoes-----10 lb.	60.2	57.7
Rice, short grain-----lb.	19.0	18.9	Sweet potatoes-----lb.	16.7	16.0
Rice, long grain-----lb.	21.4	21.4	Corn *-----doz. ears	123.5	*
Bread, white-----lb.	21.1	21.2	Onions-----lb.	14.9	15.1
Soda crackers-----lb.	30.9	30.9	Carrots-----lb.	14.9	15.4
Sandwich cookies-----16 oz.	52.3	52.1	Lettuce-----head	19.1	20.3
Meats, poultry, and fish:			Celery-----lb.	18.2	16.2
Round steak-----lb.	106.2	105.1	Cabbage-----lb.	18.3	13.1
Sirloin steak-----lb.	107.9	107.5	Tomatoes-----lb.	31.3	31.7
Chuck roast-----lb.	61.9	61.9	Beans, green-----lb.	31.3	26.3
Rib roast-----lb.	82.1	82.1	Canned:		
Hamburger-----lb.	51.5	51.5	Orange juice-----46 oz. can	43.7	45.4
Veal cutlets-----lb.	146.3	146.8	Pineapple juice-----46 oz. can	32.4	32.6
Pork chops, center cut-----lb.	86.7	87.3	Peaches-----#2 1/2 can	32.8	32.6
Pork roast-----lb.	62.1	61.9	Pineapple-----#2 can	38.7	38.9
Bacon, sliced-----lb.	67.8	67.7	Fruit cocktail-----#303 can	26.0	26.0
Ham, whole-----lb.	62.1	61.5	Corn, cream style-----#303 can	20.0	20.1
Lamb, leg-----lb.	69.5	69.7	Peas, green-----#303 can	22.4	22.3
Frankfurters-----lb.	63.1	63.0	Tomatoes-----#303 can	15.8	15.8
Luncheon meat, canned-----12 oz.	51.2	51.3	Tomato juice-----46 oz. can	32.4	32.4
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook-----lb.	40.2	42.6	Baby foods-----4 1/2 to 5 oz.	10.6	10.6
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen-----lb.	49.7	49.2	Dried:		
Haddock, fillet, frozen-----lb.	55.8	55.5	Prunes-----lb.	41.3	41.4
Salmon, pink, canned-----16 oz.	77.3	77.2	Beans-----lb.	17.3	17.3
Tuna fish, canned-----6 to 6 1/2 oz.	34.7	34.4	Other foods at home:		
Dairy products:			Tomato soup-----10 1/2 to 11 oz. can	12.4	12.4
Milk, fresh, (grocery)-----qt.	24.2	24.6	Beans, with pork-----16 oz. can	15.0	14.9
Milk, fresh, (delivered)-----qt.	25.8	26.3	Pickles, sliced-----15 oz.	26.6	26.6
Ice cream-----1/2 gal.	86.1	86.4	Catsup, tomato-----14 oz.	23.1	23.1
Butter-----lb.	75.3	76.0	Potato chips-----4 oz.	28.0	28.0
Cheese, American process-----1/2 lb.	36.4	36.4	Coffee-----lb. can	71.1	71.0
Milk, evaporated-----14 1/2 oz. can	15.7	15.8	Coffee-----lb. bag	56.8	57.2
Fruits and vegetables:			Coffee, instant-----6 oz.	90.7	90.4
Frozen:			Tea bags-----pkg. of 16	24.6	24.6
Strawberries-----10 oz.	27.1	27.1	Cola drink, carton-----36 oz.	30.7	30.7
Orange juice concentrate-----6 oz.	21.2	22.4	Shortening, hydrogenated-----3 lb.	91.5	91.0
Lemonade concentrate-----6 oz.	14.0	14.0	Margarine, colored-----lb.	28.8	29.0
Peas, green-----10 oz.	20.5	20.7	Lard-----lb.	20.1	20.1
Beans, green-----9 oz.	22.8	22.8	Salad dressing-----pt.	38.2	38.4
Potatoes, french fried-----9 oz.	19.0	19.3	Peanut butter-----lb.	57.2	56.7
Fresh:			Sugar-----5 lb.	58.2	58.4
Apples-----lb.	16.2	14.8	Corn syrup-----24 oz.	27.3	27.3
Bananas-----lb.	16.8	16.5	Grape jelly-----12 oz.	29.5	29.5
Oranges, size 200-----doz.	80.8	78.8	Chocolate bar-----1 oz.	4.5	4.5
Lemons-----lb.	19.4	19.1	Eggs, Grade A, large-----doz.	51.0	53.8
			Gelatin, flavored-----3 to 4 oz.	9.8	9.8

* Priced only in season.

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.

BLS Regional Offices

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Zone 9				

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