

Released September 25, 1962

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

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR AUGUST 1962

The Consumer Price Index, at 105.5 (1957-59=100), showed no change from July to August, the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics announced today. Average prices for food, housing, medical care, and personal care were unchanged, while advances for transportation and for reading and recreation were largely offset by lower average prices for apparel. Among the more important price changes recorded over the period were advances for meats, some fresh fruits, gasoline, and used cars. Reductions were reported for fresh vegetables, other fresh fruits, apparel, and household textiles.

In comparison with August 1961, consumer prices were 1.2 percent higher, led by advances for services and for food. Most of this increase (1.0 percent) has occurred since January 1962. (On the former base of 1947-49, the August index was 129.4).

TRANSPORTATION Higher prices for gasoline and used cars were the primary factors in a 0.6 percent increase in transportation prices. The rise in retail gasoline prices marked the cessation of price wars in some areas, but the introduction of lower grades of gasoline and price wars continued in some other cities. Used car prices rose by nearly 2 percent between July and August and are at the highest levels in a decade, reflecting strong demand and favorable financing. Prices of new cars declined slightly as some dealers made additional price concessions. Thus far in 1962 sales of domestic cars have been surpassed only by the record year of 1955. In comparison with a year ago, transportation costs were 1.3 percent higher in August, led by advances of nearly 7 percent in used car prices and 3 percent for public transportation.

FOOD Retail food prices were stable in August as seasonal decreases for fruits and vegetables balanced seasonal increases for meats, eggs, and fresh milk as well as further advances for restaurant meals. Consequently, the food index, at 103.8 (1957-59=100) remained at the record high reached in July. Average retail food prices were, however, 1.1 percent above the level of August 1961.

A drop of more than 4 percent in retail fruit and vegetable prices largely reflected a sharp seasonal drop for most fresh vegetables, particularly tomatoes and potatoes. Tomato prices fell nearly 40 percent under the pressure of unusually heavy supplies. Prices of fresh fruits declined substantially as higher prices for citrus fruits, especially oranges, were more than offset by seasonal declines for grapes, watermelons, and apples.

Meat prices were nearly 2 percent higher as all meats advanced, particularly pork products. Demand for meat strengthened as cooler than normal temperatures prevailed in much of the country. Poultry prices also advanced, following the trend of higher meat prices. Despite seasonal advances, egg prices were at the lowest level for August in 21 years. Fresh milk prices were seasonally higher and more than offset small decreases for processed dairy products. Average prices of restaurant meals increased by 0.5 percent in August--the 12th consecutive monthly advance.

OTHER SECTORS Housing costs were stable as lower prices for housefurnishings and household operation balanced increases for home repairs and maintenance, fuel oil, coal, and rents. Traditional August furniture and floor-covering sales and white sales were mainly responsible for a decline in prices of housefurnishings generally, while heavy factory and distributor inventories resulted in price decreases for refrigerators. Rents continued their generally steady upward movement with a further small gain of 0.1 percent.

End-of-season sales resulted in a 0.4 percent decline in apparel prices. This was the largest decline for any August since 1949 and brought clothing prices back to August 1961 levels.

Higher movie admissions charged for the showing of special features again were responsible for the overall rise of 0.3 percent for reading and recreation. Movie admissions have increased by 6.2 percent during the past year.

The medical care index was unchanged for the first time since June 1954. A decline of 0.6 percent in prescription prices balanced small gains in professional fees and hospital room rates. Since August 1961, medical care costs have advanced 2.6 percent, almost entirely because of increases for medical care services.

COST-OF-LIVING About 18,000 workers, mainly employees in aerospace and chemical  
ADJUSTMENTS plants, will receive a 1-cent-an-hour increase in wage rates based upon a quarterly review of cost-of-living allowances geared to the national Consumer Price Index for August. Some 30,000 other workers whose wages are tied to the August index will not receive an adjustment.

Notice: The following Cincinnati city indexes for the Fruits and Vegetables subgroup were revised as shown:

Fruits and Vegetables Index  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
(1957-59=100)

| Date              | Indexes |
|-------------------|---------|
| 1962 January----- | 96.3    |
| February-----     | 97.2    |
| March-----        | 100.0   |
| April-----        | 103.2   |
| May-----          | 104.9   |
| June-----         | 108.7   |

The corrected series extends back to July 1957. The entire corrected series is available on request to the Bureau.

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

(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

| Group   | Indexes<br>(1957-59=100) |              | Percent change to<br>August 1962 from-- |             |                | Indexes        |                |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|---|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | August<br>1962           | July<br>1962 | July<br>1962                            | May<br>1962 | August<br>1961 | 1947-49=100    | 1939=100       |
|   |                          |              |   |             |                | August<br>1962 | August<br>1962 |
| All items-----  | 105.5                    | 105.5        | 0                                       | 0.3         | 1.2            | 129.4          | 217.9          |
| Food-----   | 103.8                    | 103.8        | 0                                       | .6          | 1.1            | 122.5          | 260.1          |
| Food at home-----   | 102.3                    | 102.4        | -0.1                                    | .4          | 0.6            | 118.9          | 252.4          |
| Cereals and bakery products-----  | 107.8                    | 107.9        | - .1                                    | .3          | 2.4            | 142.9          | 249.8          |
| Meats, poultry, and fish-----   | 102.6                    | 100.8        | 1.8                                     | 3.0         | 4.4            | 113.2          | 272.2          |
| Dairy products-----   | 103.9                    | 103.5        | .4                                      | .9          | - .8           | 117.6          | 236.1          |
| Fruits and vegetables-----  | 105.2                    | 109.9        | -4.3                                    | -3.8        | -1.8           | 130.0          | 280.9          |
| Other foods at home-----  | 95.2                     | 94.1         | 1.2                                     | .8          | -2.3           | 105.2          | 217.4          |
| Food away from home-----  | 111.4                    | 110.9        | .5                                      | 1.2         | 3.2            | (1/)           | (1/)           |
| Housing 2/-----   | 104.8                    | 104.8        | 0                                       | .1          | 1.0            | 133.6          | 175.6          |
| Rent-----   | 105.8                    | 105.7        | .1                                      | .3          | 1.3            | 145.5          | 168.0          |
| Gas and electricity-----  | 108.0                    | 108.0        | 0                                       | .3          | .3             | 125.9          | 120.0          |
| Solid and petroleum fuels-----  | 100.1                    | 99.7         | .4                                      | 0           | - .3           | 136.4          | 241.9          |
| Housefurnishings-----   | 98.5                     | 99.0         | - .5                                    | - .5        | - .6           | 102.5          | 192.0          |
| Household operation-----  | 107.4                    | 107.5        | - .1                                    | 0           | 1.4            | 140.8          | 205.8          |
| Apparel-----  | 102.5                    | 102.9        | - .4                                    | - .2        | 0              | 109.9          | 209.4          |
| Men's and boys'-----  | 102.9                    | 103.2        | - .3                                    | - .2        | .7             | 111.9          | 220.3          |
| Women's and girls'-----   | 99.9                     | 100.4        | - .5                                    | - .1        | -1.0           | 99.2           | 182.1          |
| Footwear-----   | 109.3                    | 109.2        | .1                                      | .2          | 1.4            | 143.2          | 284.6          |
| Other apparel-----  | 100.3                    | 100.8        | - .5                                    | - .3        | - .6           | 92.4           | 227.5          |
| Transportation-----   | 107.4                    | 106.8        | .6                                      | .1          | 1.3            | 151.3          | 215.5          |
| Private-----  | 106.2                    | 105.4        | .8                                      | .2          | 1.1            | 138.4          | 211.3          |
| Public-----   | 115.7                    | 115.6        | .1                                      | .1          | 3.0            | 215.4          | 264.9          |
| Medical care-----   | 114.6                    | 114.6        | 0                                       | .4          | 2.6            | 165.6          | 228.2          |
| Personal care-----  | 106.8                    | 106.8        | 0                                       | .4          | 1.9            | 136.8          | 229.6          |
| Reading and recreation-----   | 110.3                    | 110.0        | .3                                      | .7          | 2.7            | 127.7          | 202.8          |
| Other goods and services-----   | 105.5                    | 105.6        | - .1                                    | .4          | .6             | 134.4          | 190.5          |
| Special groups:   |                          |              |   |             |                |                |                |
| All items less food-----  | 106.2                    | 106.1        | .1                                      | .2          | 1.2            | 133.2          | 192.8          |
| All items less shelter-----   | 105.5                    | 105.4        | .1                                      | .3          | 1.2            | 127.0          | 229.3          |
| Commodities-----  | 103.2                    | 103.1        | .1                                      | .2          | .7             | 119.2          | 231.1          |
| Nondurables-----  | 103.5                    | 103.5        | 0                                       | .3          | .6             | 121.5          | 236.5          |
| Food-----   | 103.8                    | 103.8        | 0                                       | .6          | 1.1            | 122.5          | 260.1          |
| Nondurables less food-----  | 103.2                    | 103.3        | - .1                                    | - .3        | .1             | 120.8          | 205.8          |
| Apparel-----  | 102.4                    | 102.8        | - .4                                    | - .1        | .1             | 109.8          | 210.6          |
| Apparel less footwear-----  | 101.0                    | 101.5        | - .5                                    | - .2        | - .4           | 103.9          | (1/)           |
| Nondurables less food and apparel-----                                    | 103.7                    | 103.5        | .2                                      | - .3        | .3             | 130.4          | 197.8          |
| Durables-----   | 101.7                    | 101.5        | .2                                      | .2          | .7             | 112.7          | 196.7          |
| New cars-----   | 101.0                    | 101.1        | - .1                                    | - .8        | - .3           | 135.7          | 238.1          |
| Used cars-----  | 119.1                    | 117.1        | 1.7                                     | 3.3         | 6.8            | (1/)           | (1/)           |
| Durables less cars-----   | 98.7                     | 98.7         | 0                                       | - .2        | - .3           | 101.8          | 177.6          |
| Commodities less food-----  | 102.6                    | 102.5        | .1                                      | 0           | .4             | 116.6          | 196.1          |
| Services-----   | 109.9                    | 109.8        | .1                                      | .5          | 2.0            | 156.1          | 194.0          |
| Rent-----   | 105.8                    | 105.7        | .1                                      | .3          | 1.3            | 145.5          | 168.0          |
| Services less rent-----   | 110.6                    | 110.5        | .1                                      | .5          | 2.0            | 158.5          | 215.7          |
| Household operation services, gas,<br>and electricity-----                | 108.5                    | 108.6        | - .1                                    | .1          | 1.2            | 142.4          | 163.6          |
| Transportation services-----  | 111.7                    | 111.7        | 0                                       | .2          | 1.7            | 193.0          | 240.9          |
| Medical care services-----  | 117.3                    | 117.2        | .1                                      | .6          | 3.3            | 175.0          | 248.2          |
| Other services 3/-----  | 109.3                    | 109.1        | .2                                      | .6          | 2.3            | 141.1          | 241.9          |
| Purchasing power of the consumer dollar<br>(Reference period=\$1.00)----- | \$0.948                  | \$0.948      | 0                                       | - .3        | -1.0           | \$0.773        | \$0.459        |

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<br>(1957-59=100)          |               |                | Percent change to<br>August 1962 from-- |                | Indexes                       |                            |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
|  | August<br>1962                    | May<br>1962   | August<br>1961 | May<br>1962                             | August<br>1961 | 1947-49=100<br>August<br>1962 | 1939=100<br>August<br>1962 |
|  | <b>United States city average</b> | 105.5         | 105.2          | 104.3                                   | 0.3            | 1.2                           | 129.4                      |
| <b>Cities priced monthly <sup>1/</sup></b>                                 |                                   |               |                |   |                |                               |                            |
| Chicago  | 104.4                             | 104.6         | 103.7          | -.2                                     | 0.7            | 131.6                         | 224.7                      |
| Detroit  | 102.3                             | 102.0         | 102.0          | .3                                      | .3             | 126.1                         | 213.7                      |
| Los Angeles  | 106.6                             | 106.9         | 105.1          | -.3                                     | 1.4            | 132.9                         | 220.1                      |
| New York   | 106.6                             | 105.7         | 104.9          | .9                                      | 1.6            | 128.5                         | 213.7                      |
| Philadelphia   | 105.2                             | 104.7         | 104.2          | .5                                      | 1.0            | 129.2                         | 218.2                      |
| <b>Cities priced in February, May,<br/>August, November <sup>2/</sup></b>  | August<br>1962                    | May<br>1962   | August<br>1961 | May<br>1962                             | August<br>1961 | August<br>1962                | August<br>1962             |
| Cleveland  | 103.8                             | 103.5         | 103.6          | .3                                      | .2             | 128.9                         | 217.9                      |
| Houston  | 104.6                             | 104.7         | 102.5          | -.1                                     | 2.0            | 128.9                         | 216.5                      |
| Scranton   | 106.0                             | 105.7         | 104.2          | .3                                      | 1.7            | 126.5                         | 216.2                      |
| Seattle  | 106.7                             | 106.3         | 104.9          | .4                                      | 1.7            | 134.1                         | 226.6                      |
| Washington, D. C.  | 104.6                             | 104.2         | 104.0          | .4                                      | .6             | 125.9                         | 208.4                      |
| <b>Cities priced in January, April,<br/>July, October <sup>2/</sup></b>    | July<br>1962                      | April<br>1962 | July<br>1961   | April<br>1962                           | July<br>1961   | July<br>1962                  | July<br>1962               |
| Boston   | 107.2                             | 107.1         | 105.2          | .1                                      | 1.9            | 132.8                         | 217.8                      |
| Kansas City  | 106.0                             | 105.7         | 104.9          | .3                                      | 1.0            | 131.1                         | 212.5                      |
| Minneapolis  | 105.7                             | 105.5         | 104.4          | .2                                      | 1.2            | 130.8                         | 215.6                      |
| Pittsburgh   | 106.0                             | 105.7         | 105.2          | .3                                      | .8             | 130.6                         | 224.8                      |
| Portland, Oregon   | 104.8                             | 103.9         | 104.4          | .9                                      | .4             | 129.8                         | 222.7                      |
| <b>Cities priced in March, June,<br/>September, December <sup>2/</sup></b> | June<br>1962                      | March<br>1962 | June<br>1961   | March<br>1962                           | June<br>1961   | June<br>1962                  | June<br>1962               |
| Atlanta  | 104.0                             | 103.7         | 102.9          | .3                                      | 1.1            | 128.8                         | 220.9                      |
| Baltimore  | 104.8                             | 104.6         | 104.6          | .2                                      | .2             | 130.1                         | 224.7                      |
| Cincinnati   | 103.3                             | 103.3         | 102.4          | 0                                       | .9             | 125.7                         | 215.4                      |
| St. Louis  | 104.4                             | 104.8         | 103.9          | -.4                                     | .5             | 129.6                         | 218.5                      |
| San Francisco  | 107.5                             | 107.3         | 105.4          | .2                                      | 2.0            | 136.4                         | 232.9                      |

<sup>1/</sup> Rents priced bimonthly.

<sup>2/</sup> 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 July 1962 to August 1962  
U.S. city average and five cities priced monthly  
All items and commodity groups**

| City                              | All<br>items | Food | Housing | Apparel | Transportation | Medical<br>care | Personal<br>care | Reading<br>and<br>recreation | Other<br>goods &<br>services |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|------|---------|---------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>United States city average</b> | 0            | 0    | 0       | -0.4    | 0.6            | 0               | 0                | 0.3                          | -0.1                         |
| Chicago                           | -0.1         | 0.1  | 0.1     | -.7     | -.9            | 0               | 0                | -.2                          | .1                           |
| Detroit                           | .4           | -.4  | 0       | .6      | 3.4            | 0               | -0.1             | .1                           | .1                           |
| Los Angeles                       | -.2          | -.3  | -.1     | -.9     | .2             | -0.1            | .2               | -.2                          | -.2                          |
| New York                          | .2           | .9   | .1      | -.6     | .1             | .3              | 0                | -.5                          | .1                           |
| Philadelphia                      | -.1          | -.2  | -.1     | .5      | 0              | -.2             | 0                | 0                            | 0                            |

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

| Group                                       | U.S.<br>City<br>Average | Chicago | Cleve-<br>land | Detroit      | Houston | Los<br>Angeles | New<br>York  | Phila-<br>delphia | Scranton | Seattle | Washing-<br>ton, D.C. |
|---|-------------------------|---------|----------------|--------------|---------|----------------|--------------|-------------------|----------|---------|-----------------------|
| Indexes (1957-59=100)                       |                         |         |                |              |         |                |              |                   |          |         |                       |
| All items-----                              | 105.5                   | 104.4   | 103.8          | 102.3        | 104.6   | 106.6          | 106.6        | 105.2             | 106.0    | 106.7   | 104.6                 |
| Food-----                                   | 103.8                   | 105.8   | 101.5          | 100.8        | 102.9   | 104.7          | 105.7        | 103.6             | 102.3    | 106.0   | 102.6                 |
| Food at home-----                           | 102.3                   | 105.3   | 100.5          | 99.9         | 100.5   | 102.3          | 102.8        | 101.9             | 101.0    | 103.6   | 101.2                 |
| Cereals and bakery products--               | 107.8                   | 110.8   | 103.7          | 104.5        | 105.2   | 118.3          | 108.6        | 105.9             | 108.7    | 107.1   | 109.9                 |
| Meats, poultry, and fish-----               | 102.6                   | 106.0   | 103.8          | 100.0        | 101.0   | 98.8           | 103.0        | 101.2             | 101.4    | 104.9   | 99.4                  |
| Dairy products-----                         | 103.9                   | 110.2   | 99.2           | 106.4        | 99.4    | 106.8          | 103.2        | 102.0             | 99.1     | 106.8   | 101.5                 |
| Fruits and vegetables-----                  | 105.2                   | 106.5   | 104.5          | 98.3         | 106.3   | 106.2          | 105.9        | 105.5             | 101.1    | 106.8   | 103.0                 |
| Other foods at home-----                    | 95.2                    | 96.4    | 92.4           | 93.5         | 93.5    | 90.4           | 95.5         | 97.2              | 96.6     | 95.2    | 96.2                  |
| Housing-----                                | 104.8                   | 103.1   | 101.6          | 97.7         | 102.5   | 106.0          | 107.9        | 104.4             | 103.9    | 105.7   | 102.7                 |
| Rent-----                                   | 105.8                   | -----   | 101.4          | 94.9         | 99.3    | -----          | 111.6        | -----             | 105.5    | 110.7   | 108.1                 |
| Gas and electricity-----                    | 108.0                   | 106.2   | 107.4          | 105.4        | 125.3   | 115.6          | 105.5        | 102.7             | 105.2    | 100.1   | 108.5                 |
| Solid and petroleum fuels-----              | 100.1                   | 100.8   | 105.4          | 97.3         | -----   | -----          | 99.1         | 96.9              | 96.2     | 103.1   | 99.0                  |
| Housefurnishings-----                       | 98.5                    | 100.3   | 96.1           | 97.5         | 99.1    | 98.5           | 103.0        | 97.7              | 95.1     | 96.3    | 98.5                  |
| Household operation-----                    | 107.4                   | 105.3   | 105.9          | 103.6        | 105.9   | 104.0          | 108.9        | 114.8             | 109.1    | 106.7   | 111.3                 |
| Apparel-----                                | 102.5                   | 100.6   | 102.1          | 104.8        | 104.7   | 101.8          | 102.1        | 104.2             | 103.7    | 105.8   | 105.1                 |
| Men's and boys'-----                        | 102.9                   | 101.3   | 102.6          | 102.7        | 105.4   | 101.9          | 104.5        | 104.5             | 105.4    | 104.2   | 103.2                 |
| Women's and girls'-----                     | 99.9                    | 96.9    | 97.9           | 104.9        | 103.8   | 100.4          | 97.7         | 102.4             | 101.6    | 104.5   | 104.0                 |
| Footwear-----                               | 109.3                   | 108.8   | 111.5          | 109.2        | 108.3   | 107.9          | 111.1        | 109.7             | 107.7    | 112.7   | 112.0                 |
| Other apparel-----                          | 100.3                   | 98.3    | 101.8          | 102.0        | 102.3   | 98.4           | 98.8         | 103.0             | 101.0    | 103.9   | 104.3                 |
| Transportation-----                         | 107.4                   | 103.2   | 107.9          | 103.4        | 107.7   | 113.1          | 105.4        | 109.0             | 105.0    | 109.6   | 105.9                 |
| Private-----                                | 106.2                   | 102.2   | 106.7          | 101.2        | 106.2   | 109.2          | 107.1        | 107.9             | 105.7    | 108.2   | 105.3                 |
| Public-----                                 | 115.7                   | 107.9   | 114.8          | 114.4        | 117.4   | 140.4          | 100.8        | 113.1             | 100.4    | 121.2   | 110.0                 |
| Medical care-----                           | 114.6                   | 117.7   | 118.6          | 114.7        | 107.4   | 114.1          | 115.0        | 120.3             | 112.9    | 109.9   | 118.5                 |
| Personal care-----                          | 106.8                   | 107.1   | 104.1          | 107.4        | 112.2   | 103.5          | 104.6        | 107.3             | 114.4    | 107.3   | 108.7                 |
| Reading and recreation-----                 | 110.3                   | 100.7   | 107.4          | 107.0        | 109.5   | 103.1          | 110.5        | 99.6              | 135.6    | 104.7   | 109.3                 |
| Other goods and services-----               | 105.5                   | 101.9   | 107.2          | 109.1        | 107.0   | 106.2          | 104.1        | 104.3             | 107.5    | 109.9   | 102.7                 |
| Percent change from May 1962 to August 1962 |                         |         |                |              |         |                |              |                   |          |         |                       |
| All items-----                              | 0.3                     | -0.2    | 0.3            | 0.3          | -0.1    | -0.3           | 0.9          | 0.5               | 0.3      | 0.4     | 0.4                   |
| Food-----                                   | .6                      | 1.1     | .4             | -.6          | -.2     | -1.4           | 2.1          | 1.3               | -.9      | .5      | 1.1                   |
| Food at home-----                           | .4                      | 1.2     | .4             | -.8          | -.3     | -2.1           | 1.6          | 1.0               | -.9      | .2      | 1.0                   |
| Cereals and bakery products--               | .3                      | 2.2     | 0              | -.5          | -2.0    | .2             | -.5          | 0                 | .4       | -.2     | 1.3                   |
| Meats, poultry, and fish-----               | 3.0                     | 4.7     | 4.7            | 3.6          | 2.4     | .9             | 3.2          | 2.8               | 1.7      | 3.0     | 1.9                   |
| Dairy products-----                         | .9                      | 1.6     | -.5            | -1.1         | -1.2    | 0              | 2.3          | 1.5               | -.6      | -.1     | -1.6                  |
| Fruits and vegetables-----                  | -3.8                    | -4.1    | -4.1           | -8.2         | -2.4    | -11.1          | 0            | -1.7              | -8.4     | -4.9    | .9                    |
| Other foods at home-----                    | .8                      | .4      | -.2            | .4           | -.1     | .6             | 1.5          | 1.1               | 1.0      | 1.6     | 1.2                   |
| Housing-----                                | .1                      | -.3     | .5             | -.1          | .6      | .3             | .5           | -.1               | .6       | .6      | .1                    |
| Rent-----                                   | .3                      | -----   | 0              | <u>1/</u> .2 | .2      | -----          | <u>1/</u> .4 | -----             | -.1      | 2.3     | .4                    |
| Gas and electricity-----                    | .3                      | 0       | 0              | 0            | 8.2     | .1             | 0            | 0                 | 0        | 0       | 1.0                   |
| Solid and petroleum fuels-----              | 0                       | -2.0    | 2.0            | -3.9         | -----   | -----          | .5           | -.5               | 3.0      | 4.6     | 2.1                   |
| Housefurnishings-----                       | -.5                     | -.9     | -.1            | -.1          | -1.4    | -1.1           | 0            | -.6               | 0        | -1.0    | -1.0                  |
| Household operation-----                    | 0                       | .1      | 0              | .4           | .3      | .5             | 0            | 1.1               | -.4      | -1.1    | 0                     |
| Apparel-----                                | -.2                     | -.5     | -.5            | .1           | .5      | -.9            | .3           | .1                | -.3      | 1.0     | .2                    |
| Men's and boys'-----                        | -.2                     | -.6     | -.2            | -.3          | -.1     | -1.5           | 0            | .4                | .2       | .6      | .1                    |
| Women's and girls'-----                     | -.1                     | -.6     | -1.2           | -.2          | .7      | -.5            | .8           | -.2               | -.4      | 1.6     | -.2                   |
| Footwear-----                               | -.2                     | -.1     | .1             | 1.1          | .9      | -.6            | 0            | -.1               | -.5      | .2      | .4                    |
| Other apparel-----                          | -.3                     | -.8     | -.3            | .1           | .2      | -.6            | -.2          | 1.6               | -1.3     | .9      | 1.9                   |
| Transportation-----                         | .1                      | -3.5    | .3             | 1.8          | -1.2    | .8             | 0            | .2                | .5       | .4      | .4                    |
| Private-----                                | .2                      | -4.4    | .3             | 2.2          | -1.4    | 1.0            | 0            | .2                | .6       | .4      | .6                    |
| Public-----                                 | .1                      | 0       | 0              | 0            | 0       | 0              | 0            | 0                 | 0        | 0       | 0                     |
| Medical care-----                           | .4                      | .3      | .1             | .1           | .2      | .1             | .3           | 3.4               | -.6      | .2      | .7                    |
| Personal care-----                          | .4                      | -.5     | -1.2           | 0            | -.4     | 0              | .2           | -.6               | .1       | -.7     | 0                     |
| Reading and recreation-----                 | .7                      | -.1     | .5             | 0            | -1.7    | -.1            | 0            | .1                | 5.9      | .1      | -.8                   |
| Other goods and services-----               | .4                      | -.1     | .7             | 6.8          | .2      | -.1            | .6           | .1                | 0        | .1      | .2                    |

1/ Change from June 1962 to August 1962.

**TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--Food and its subgroups**  
 August 1962 Indexes and percent changes, July 1962 to August 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--   | 103.8      | 0              | 102.3              | -0.1           | 107.8                       | -0.1           | 102.6                    | 1.8            | 103.9          | 0.4            | 105.2                 | -4.3           | 95.2                | 1.2            |
| Atlanta-----           | 103.4      | 0.5            | 102.9              | .5             | 104.3                       | 0              | 102.9                    | 1.0            | 102.5          | .1             | 109.0                 | 1.0            | 98.5                | 0              |
| Baltimore-----         | 104.2      | .8             | 101.6              | .3             | 108.2                       | .5             | 102.7                    | 2.7            | 98.6           | -.2            | 104.4                 | -4.7           | 96.5                | 1.6            |
| Boston-----            | 105.0      | .7             | 103.6              | 1.3            | 108.2                       | .1             | 104.6                    | 2.1            | 99.1           | 1.1            | 109.7                 | -1.3           | 98.1                | 3.5            |
| Chicago-----           | 105.8      | .1             | 105.3              | .3             | 110.8                       | .4             | 106.0                    | 2.3            | 110.2          | -.3            | 106.5                 | -3.3           | 96.4                | 0.6            |
| Cincinnati 1/-----     | 102.2      | -.2            | 101.1              | -.2            | 109.9                       | 2.4            | 102.5                    | 1.7            | 101.2          | .4             | 103.2                 | -5.3           | 93.0                | 1.3            |
| Cleveland-----         | 101.5      | .1             | 100.5              | 0              | 103.7                       | -.2            | 103.8                    | 2.3            | 99.2           | -.6            | 104.5                 | -3.9           | 92.4                | 1.2            |
| Detroit-----           | 100.8      | -.4            | 99.9               | -.4            | 104.5                       | -.5            | 100.0                    | 2.6            | 106.4          | -.3            | 98.3                  | -6.5           | 93.5                | .3             |
| Houston-----           | 102.9      | -.2            | 100.5              | -.3            | 105.2                       | -1.9           | 101.0                    | 0.4            | 99.4           | -.4            | 106.3                 | -0.9           | 93.5                | .6             |
| Kansas City-----       | 104.2      | .5             | 103.6              | .6             | 108.7                       | .6             | 101.3                    | 2.5            | 108.3          | 0              | 109.0                 | -2.2           | 96.1                | .9             |
| Los Angeles-----       | 104.7      | -.3            | 102.3              | -.5            | 118.3                       | 0              | 98.8                     | .6             | 106.8          | .2             | 106.2                 | -4.4           | 90.4                | 1.2            |
| Minneapolis-----       | 101.8      | -.7            | 100.2              | -.9            | 102.3                       | -1.9           | 101.0                    | 2.1            | 102.6          | 0              | 103.3                 | -6.9           | 93.7                | .5             |
| New York-----          | 105.7      | .9             | 102.8              | .5             | 108.6                       | -.2            | 103.0                    | 1.5            | 103.2          | .9             | 105.9                 | -1.9           | 95.5                | 1.6            |
| Philadelphia-----      | 103.6      | -.2            | 101.9              | -.4            | 105.9                       | .1             | 101.2                    | 1.4            | 102.0          | -.3            | 105.5                 | -4.7           | 97.2                | .7             |
| Pittsburgh-----        | 102.5      | .1             | 102.2              | .3             | 106.8                       | .3             | 105.9                    | 1.9            | 99.5           | 2.3            | 102.9                 | -5.0           | 96.2                | .8             |
| Portland, Oreg.-----   | 103.4      | -.2            | 101.6              | -.2            | 103.7                       | -.6            | 103.0                    | 1.3            | 105.7          | .8             | 104.3                 | -5.4           | 94.0                | 1.6            |
| St. Louis-----         | 102.7      | -.1            | 101.4              | -.2            | 104.6                       | 0              | 102.4                    | 2.9            | 100.5          | -2.1           | 106.7                 | -4.0           | 94.5                | .3             |
| San Francisco-----     | 104.3      | -1.1           | 102.3              | -1.6           | 106.5                       | .3             | 103.0                    | .8             | 105.6          | -.1            | 107.2                 | -9.1           | 92.6                | .7             |
| Scranton-----          | 102.3      | -.8            | 101.0              | -.9            | 108.7                       | .1             | 101.4                    | 1.6            | 99.1           | -.3            | 101.1                 | -9.2           | 96.6                | 1.7            |
| Seattle-----           | 106.0      | -.1            | 103.6              | -.1            | 107.1                       | .1             | 104.9                    | 2.1            | 106.8          | 0              | 106.8                 | -4.8           | 95.2                | 1.0            |
| Washington, D. C.----- | 102.6      | .4             | 101.2              | .4             | 109.9                       | .7             | 99.4                     | 1.3            | 101.5          | -.1            | 103.0                 | -2.2           | 96.2                | 1.1            |

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

| Food and unit                            | August 1962  | July 1962    | Food and unit                        | August 1962  | July 1962    |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Cereals and bakery products:</b>      | <b>Cents</b> | <b>Cents</b> | <b>Fresh--Continued</b>              | <b>Cents</b> | <b>Cents</b> |
| Flour, wheat-----5 lb.                   | 57.3         | 57.0         | Grapefruit-----each                  | 15.5         | 14.3         |
| Biscuit mix-----40 oz.                   | 47.8         | 47.7         | Peaches *-----lb.                    | 16.8         | 17.8         |
| Macaroni-----16 oz.                      | 24.8         | 24.8         | Strawberries *-----pt.               | *            | *            |
| Corn meal-----1 lb.                      | 14.1         | 14.1         | Grapes, seedless *-----lb.           | 25.9         | 35.7         |
| Rolled oats-----18 oz.                   | 23.8         | 23.8         | Watermelons *-----lb.                | 4.0          | 4.6          |
| Corn flakes-----12 oz.                   | 27.5         | 27.2         | Potatoes-----10 lb.                  | 68.5         | 78.0         |
| Rice, short grain-----lb.                | 19.3         | 19.3         | Sweet potatoes-----lb.               | 17.3         | 18.4         |
| Rice, long grain-----lb.                 | 21.6         | 21.5         | Corn *-----doz. ears                 | 68.8         | 74.4         |
| Bread, white-----1 lb.                   | 21.2         | 21.2         | Onions-----1 lb.                     | 11.7         | 12.6         |
| Soda crackers-----1 lb.                  | 31.0         | 31.1         | Carrots-----1 lb.                    | 15.8         | 16.1         |
| Sandwich cookies-----16 oz.              | 52.4         | 52.2         | Lettuce-----head                     | 16.5         | 16.5         |
| <b>Meats, poultry, and fish:</b>         |              |              | Celery-----1 lb.                     | 15.7         | 18.6         |
| Round steak-----1 lb.                    | 106.5        | 105.9        | Cabbage-----1 lb.                    | 8.4          | 9.0          |
| Sirloin steak-----1 lb.                  | 110.7        | 108.7        | Tomatoes-----1 lb.                   | 21.4         | 35.1         |
| Chuck roast-----1 lb.                    | 61.3         | 59.5         | Beans, green-----1 lb.               | 21.9         | 19.4         |
| Rib roast-----1 lb.                      | 83.5         | 82.6         | <b>Canned:</b>                       |              |              |
| Hamburger-----1 lb.                      | 51.5         | 51.4         | Orange juice-----46 oz. can          | 41.1         | 41.4         |
| Veal cutlets-----1 lb.                   | 148.3        | 147.1        | Pineapple juice-----46 oz. can       | 32.7         | 32.5         |
| Pork chops, center cut-----1 lb.         | 94.3         | 90.9         | Peaches-----#2 1/2 can               | 33.1         | 33.3         |
| Pork roast-----1 lb.                     | 66.4         | 64.0         | Pineapple-----#2 can                 | 39.1         | 38.9         |
| Bacon, sliced-----1 lb.                  | 74.0         | 71.8         | Fruit cocktail-----#303 can          | 25.9         | 25.9         |
| Ham, whole-----1 lb.                     | 62.4         | 61.3         | Corn, cream style-----#303 can       | 20.0         | 20.0         |
| Lamb, leg-----1 lb.                      | 73.3         | 72.9         | Peas, green-----#303 can             | 22.6         | 22.6         |
| Frankfurters-----1 lb.                   | 63.5         | 62.9         | Tomatoes-----#303 can                | 15.6         | 15.6         |
| Luncheon meat, canned-----12 oz.         | 50.4         | 50.3         | Tomato juice-----46 oz. can          | 32.4         | 32.6         |
| Frying chickens, ready-to-cook-----1 lb. | 40.4         | 2/ 39.5      | Baby foods-----4 1/2 to 5 oz.        | 10.7         | 10.8         |
| Ocean perch, fillet, frozen-----1 lb.    | 50.2         | 50.1         | <b>Dried:</b>                        |              |              |
| Haddock, fillet, frozen-----1 lb.        | 55.1         | 55.4         | Prunes-----1 lb.                     | 41.1         | 41.5         |
| Salmon, pink, canned-----16 oz.          | 77.5         | 77.5         | Beans-----1 lb.                      | 17.3         | 17.4         |
| Tuna fish, canned-----6 to 6 1/2 oz.     | 35.1         | 35.1         | <b>Other foods at home:</b>          |              |              |
| <b>Dairy products:</b>                   |              |              | Tomato soup-----10 1/2 to 11 oz. can | 12.4         | 12.4         |
| Milk, fresh, (grocery)-----qt.           | 24.3         | 24.2         | Beans, with pork-----16 oz. can      | 15.0         | 14.9         |
| Milk, fresh, (delivered)-----qt.         | 26.1         | 25.9         | Pickles, sliced-----15 oz.           | 26.6         | 26.7         |
| Ice cream-----1/2 gal.                   | 85.5         | 85.5         | Catsup, tomato-----14 oz.            | 23.1         | 23.2         |
| Butter-----1 lb.                         | 74.6         | 74.7         | Potato chips-----4 oz.               | 27.9         | 27.9         |
| Cheese, American process-----1/2 lb.     | 36.1         | 36.2         | Coffee-----1 lb. can                 | 71.3         | 71.2         |
| Milk, evaporated-----14 1/2 oz. can      | 15.4         | 15.4         | Coffee-----1 lb. bag                 | 57.4         | 57.3         |
| <b>Fruits and vegetables:</b>            |              |              | Coffee, instant-----6 oz.            | 90.3         | 89.0         |
| <b>Frozen:</b>                           |              |              | Tea bags-----pkg. of 16              | 24.4         | 24.4         |
| Strawberries-----10 oz.                  | 27.1         | 27.1         | Cola drink, carton-----36 oz.        | 50.1         | 50.2         |
| Orange juice concentrate-----6 oz.       | 20.0         | 20.1         | Shortening, hydrogenated-----3 lb.   | 88.1         | 89.2         |
| Lemonade concentrate-----6 oz.           | 13.2         | 13.2         | Margarine, colored-----1 lb.         | 28.1         | 28.1         |
| Peas, green-----10 oz.                   | 20.8         | 20.9         | Lard-----1 lb.                       | 20.0         | 20.0         |
| Beans, green-----9 oz.                   | 22.9         | 22.8         | Salad dressing-----pt.               | 38.3         | 38.3         |
| Potatoes, french fried-----9 oz.         | 18.8         | 19.0         | Peanut butter-----1 lb.              | 57.8         | 57.7         |
| <b>Fresh:</b>                            |              |              | Sugar-----5 lb.                      | 58.6         | 58.6         |
| Apples-----1 lb.                         | 21.1         | 21.7         | Corn syrup-----24 oz.                | 27.4         | 27.3         |
| Bananas-----1 lb.                        | 15.9         | 15.7         | Grape jelly-----12 oz.               | 29.6         | 29.6         |
| Oranges, size 200-----doz.               | 79.0         | 73.2         | Chocolate bar-----1 oz.              | 4.5          | 4.5          |
| Lemons-----1 lb.                         | 19.5         | 18.8         | Eggs, Grade A, large-----doz.        | 51.3         | 48.3         |
|  |              |              | Gelatin, flavored-----3 to 4 oz.     | 9.9          | 9.9          |

\* Priced only in season.

1/ Revised indexes for Fruits and Vegetables for Cincinnati shown on page 2.

2/ Revised.

LABOR - D. C.

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

|                |                |                    |                 |               |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Atlanta        | New York       | Chicago            | San Francisco   | Boston        |
| 1371 Peachtree | 341 Ninth Ave. | 105 West Adams St. | 630 Sansome St. | 18 Oliver St. |
| Street, N. E.  | Zone 1         | Zone 3             | Zone 11         | Zone 10       |
| Zone 9         |                |                    |                 |               |

LABOR - D. C.

