

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

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR OCTOBER 1962

The Consumer Price Index receded slightly from its September peak, with a decline of 0.1 percent in October, the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics announced today. Lower meat prices were primarily responsible for the decline. The Consumer Price Index for October, at 106.0 percent of the 1957-59 average (130.1 on the former base of 1947-49=100), was 1.3 percent higher than a year earlier, mostly because of price increases for food and services.

FOOD

Food prices fell 0.5 percent between September and October 1962, largely because of a more than seasonal decline of 2.2 percent in meat prices, as farmers resumed unrestricted marketing of livestock. Prices dropped for all cuts of beef and pork, particularly fresh pork cuts, bacon, chuck roast, sirloin steak, and rib roast.

Fruit and vegetable prices were lower seasonally. Prices of apples and lettuce were off sharply, but prices of oranges and tomatoes advanced. Prices of dairy products, cereals and bakery products, and most other foods rose slightly over the month.

Since October 1961, food prices have risen by 1.8 percent, led by advances for meats, poultry, and fish (4.6 percent); fruits and vegetables, (2.6 percent); and cereals and bakery products (2.2 percent).

OTHER GOODS
AND SERVICES

Transportation costs rose 0.3 percent this October, largely because automobile dealers offered smaller discounts on the new 1963 models than on the outgoing 1962 cars. Prices of automobile insurance and tires were also higher, while prices of used cars and gasoline declined.

Apparel prices were up 0.3 percent, as higher prices were reported for men's suits, slacks, work clothing, and under-wear, women's coats, suits, and nylon hose; and girls' cotton dresses.

A decline of 0.5 percent in the reading and recreation group index was due mainly to reductions in movie admission charges following the showing of special features, although prices of radios and television sets were also slightly lower.

Housing costs edged up 0.1 percent, with advances of 0.2 percent for rent and 1.1 percent for solid and petroleum fuels.

Medical care prices averaged 0.2 percent higher in October as increases for physicians' fees, hospital rooms, and hospitalization insurance more than offset declines for prescriptions and drugs. The personal care index also rose slightly over the month as price increases for barber and beauty shop services outweighed declines for toilet goods.

COST-OF-LIVING
ADJUSTMENTS

Wages of 985,000 workers will be increased by 1 cent an hour based on the rise in the index over the quarter ended in October. Of these, 780,000 are in the automobile and automobile parts industries (the majority at General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co., and Chrysler Corp.), 110,000 are in the farm equipment industry, and most of the remainder are employed by the aerospace industry and a variety of metal-working firms. Increases of 2-4 cents an hour will go to 11,000 other workers as a result of quarterly, semiannual, or annual reviews using the national index.

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

(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)		Percent change to October 1962 from --			Indexes	
	October 1962	September 1962	September 1962	July 1962	October 1961	1947-49=100	1939=100
						October 1962	October 1962
All items-----	106.0	106.1	-0.1	0.5	1.3	130.1	218.9
Food-----	104.3	104.8	-.5	.5	1.8	123.1	261.4
Food at home-----	102.9	103.5	-.6	.5	1.7	119.6	253.9
Cereals and bakery products-----	108.0	107.9	.1	.1	2.2	143.2	250.2
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	104.1	106.3	-2.1	3.3	4.6	114.8	276.2
Dairy products-----	104.3	104.2	.1	.8	-.8	118.1	237.0
Fruits and vegetables-----	102.0	102.2	-.2	-7.2	2.6	126.1	272.4
Other foods at home-----	98.1	97.8	.3	4.3	-1.3	108.4	224.0
Food away from home-----	111.8	111.5	.3	.8	2.9	(1/)	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	105.0	104.9	.1	.2	.9	133.9	175.9
Rent-----	106.1	105.9	.2	.4	1.2	145.9	168.4
Gas and electricity-----	108.0	108.0	0	0	.2	125.9	120.0
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	102.4	101.3	1.1	2.7	.9	139.6	247.4
Housefurnishings-----	98.8	98.7	.1	-.2	-.7	102.9	192.6
Household operation-----	107.6	107.6	0	.1	1.3	141.1	206.2
Apparel-----	104.9	104.6	.3	1.9	1.0	112.5	214.3
Men's and boys'-----	104.2	104.0	.2	1.0	1.0	113.3	223.1
Women's and girls'-----	104.0	103.6	.4	3.6	.9	103.3	189.5
Footwear-----	109.6	109.5	.1	.4	1.3	143.6	285.4
Other apparel-----	101.6	101.2	.4	.8	.5	93.6	230.4
Transportation-----	108.1	107.8	.3	1.2	1.3	152.3	216.9
Private-----	106.9	106.7	.2	1.4	1.0	139.3	212.7
Public-----	116.0	115.7	.3	.3	3.1	216.0	265.6
Medical care-----	114.9	114.7	.2	.3	2.3	166.0	228.8
Personal care-----	106.9	106.8	.1	.1	2.2	136.9	229.9
Reading and recreation-----	109.5	110.0	-.5	-.5	1.1	126.8	201.3
Other goods and services-----	105.6	105.6	0	0	.6	134.5	190.7
Special groups:							
All items less food-----	106.7	106.6	.1	.6	1.1	133.8	193.7
All items less shelter-----	106.1	106.1	0	.7	1.3	127.7	230.6
Commodities-----	104.0	104.1	-.1	.9	1.1	120.1	232.9
Nondurables-----	104.4	104.7	-.3	.9	1.4	122.6	238.5
Food-----	104.3	104.8	-.5	.5	1.8	123.1	261.4
Nondurables less food-----	104.6	104.6	0	1.3	.8	122.5	208.6
Apparel-----	104.8	104.5	.3	1.9	1.1	112.3	215.6
Apparel less footwear-----	103.8	103.5	.3	2.3	.9	106.8	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	104.5	104.6	-.1	1.0	.8	131.4	199.3
Durables-----	102.0	101.6	.4	.5	.3	113.0	197.2
New cars-----	102.5	100.4	2.1	1.4	-1.3	137.8	241.6
Used cars-----	119.4	120.5	-.9	2.0	5.8	(1/)	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	98.6	98.6	0	-.1	-.4	101.7	177.4
Commodities less food-----	103.6	103.4	.2	1.1	.6	117.7	198.0
Services-----	109.8	109.8	0	0	1.7	155.9	193.8
Rent-----	106.1	105.9	.2	.4	1.2	145.9	168.4
Services less rent-----	110.5	110.5	0	0	1.7	158.3	215.5
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	108.7	108.6	.1	.1	1.1	142.6	163.9
Transportation services-----	110.8	110.5	.3	-.8	.7	191.5	239.0
Medical care services-----	117.8	117.5	.3	.5	3.1	175.8	249.3
Other services 3/-----	109.1	109.3	-.2	0	1.9	140.8	241.5
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (Reference period=\$1.00)-----	\$0.943	\$0.943	0	-.5	-1.4	\$0.769	\$0.456

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

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(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

City	Indexes (1957-59=100)			Percent change to October 1962 from--		Indexes 1947-49=100 1939=100	
	October 1962	July 1962	October 1961	July 1962	October 1961	October 1962	October 1962
United States city average-----	106.0	105.5	104.6	0.5	1.3	130.1	218.9
Cities priced monthly 1/							
Chicago-----	105.0	104.5	104.1	.5	.9	132.4	226.0
Detroit-----	102.8	101.9	101.7	.9	1.1	126.8	214.8
Los Angeles-----	107.2	106.8	105.5	.4	1.6	133.7	221.3
New York-----	107.2	106.4	105.3	.8	1.8	129.2	214.9
Philadelphia-----	105.8	105.3	104.8	.5	1.0	129.9	219.5
Cities priced in January, April, July, October 2/	October 1962	July 1962	October 1961	July 1962	October 1961	October 1962	October 1962
Boston-----	108.2	107.2	105.4	.9	2.7	134.1	219.8
Kansas City-----	107.1	106.0	104.6	1.0	2.4	132.5	214.7
Minneapolis-----	105.9	105.7	104.4	.2	1.4	131.0	216.0
Pittsburgh-----	106.3	106.0	105.0	.3	1.2	131.0	225.5
Portland, Oregon-----	105.3	104.8	104.6	.5	.7	130.5	223.8
Cities priced in March, June, September, December 2/	September 1962	June 1962	September 1961	June 1962	September 1961	September 1962	September 1962
Atlanta-----	104.7	104.0	103.6	.7	1.1	129.6	222.4
Baltimore-----	106.0	104.8	104.4	1.1	1.5	131.5	227.2
Cincinnati-----	104.3	103.3	103.0	1.0	1.3	126.9	217.4
St. Louis-----	105.6	104.4	104.1	1.1	1.4	131.0	221.0
San Francisco-----	107.5	107.5	106.3	0	1.1	136.4	232.9
Cities priced in February, May, August, November 2/	August 1962	May 1962	August 1961	May 1962	August 1961	August 1962	August 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.-----	3/ 104.8	104.2	104.0	.6	.8	3/ 126.2	3/ 208.8

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 September 1962 to October 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--	-0.1	-0.5	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.5	0
Chicago-----	-.2	-.9	.1	-.1	.1	.8	.2	.1	-0.1
Detroit-----	0	-.1	-.2	-.1	.7	0	-.1	-.9	0
Los Angeles-----	0	-.3	.1	-.1	.8	.1	-.1	-.2	-.3
New York-----	-.1	-.7	.2	.6	.5	-.3	1.1	-.2	.7
Philadelphia-----	-.2	0	-.2	0	-.5	-.2	-.8	-.6	-.1

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

Group	U.S. City Average	Boston	Chicago	Detroit	Kansas City	Los Angeles	Minnea- polis	New York	Phila- delphia	Pitts- burgh	Portland Oregon
Indexes (1957-59=100)											
All items-----	106.0	108.2	105.0	102.8	107.1	107.2	105.9	107.2	105.8	106.3	105.3
Food-----	104.3	105.7	105.7	101.5	104.5	105.6	101.5	106.3	104.8	102.8	104.5
Food at home-----	102.9	103.7	105.0	100.6	103.9	103.5	99.9	103.7	103.3	102.4	103.0
Cereals and bakery products--	108.0	108.3	108.7	104.8	108.5	116.7	101.0	108.5	105.1	107.1	104.6
Meats, poultry, and fish----	104.1	106.7	107.3	101.8	103.5	101.0	101.5	104.8	102.5	107.1	105.7
Dairy products-----	104.3	99.3	110.6	107.0	108.2	106.7	102.4	104.3	104.7	99.7	106.9
Fruits and vegetables-----	102.0	105.7	99.7	93.9	102.5	106.8	96.7	103.9	107.4	98.0	103.3
Other foods at home-----	98.1	98.6	100.0	97.6	100.4	93.4	98.0	97.9	98.6	99.2	96.4
Housing-----	105.0	109.7	103.5	97.8	105.5	106.3	103.4	108.1	104.3	106.4	104.7
Rent-----	106.1	115.7	-----	94.6	103.2	-----	106.0	112.1	-----	106.1	104.5
Gas and electricity-----	108.0	103.9	106.3	105.2	109.3	115.5	104.0	105.4	102.7	111.7	102.5
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	102.4	100.6	104.7	99.9	112.4	-----	103.1	101.0	98.9	-----	105.0
Housefurnishings-----	98.8	100.1	100.8	97.9	97.9	99.4	96.8	103.2	97.5	101.7	95.0
Household operation-----	107.6	112.0	106.2	103.1	111.4	104.1	103.8	108.9	114.6	112.8	107.8
Apparel-----	104.9	105.3	102.4	105.3	104.7	104.4	103.2	105.6	106.8	101.6	104.3
Men's and boys'-----	104.2	101.9	102.6	102.9	105.0	104.6	104.8	105.3	104.6	101.9	106.1
Women's and girls'-----	104.0	106.6	99.9	105.9	102.9	104.0	100.9	104.4	107.9	98.0	101.5
Footwear-----	109.6	109.2	108.9	109.3	112.2	108.4	109.6	111.4	109.9	110.5	110.5
Other apparel-----	101.6	101.1	99.5	102.3	98.5	99.5	97.0	101.2	103.6	99.4	99.0
Transportation-----	108.1	110.0	106.7	105.8	109.4	113.5	110.0	105.6	109.2	111.0	104.8
Private-----	106.9	103.7	106.6	104.1	109.0	109.6	108.9	107.3	108.2	106.6	103.6
Public-----	116.0	131.6	107.9	114.4	111.8	140.4	117.9	100.8	113.1	125.9	112.5
Medical care-----	114.9	113.4	118.7	114.8	114.2	114.1	129.1	114.6	120.4	123.2	109.8
Personal care-----	106.9	107.5	107.1	106.3	111.9	103.0	107.0	106.2	105.2	102.8	110.0
Reading and recreation-----	109.5	118.1	100.6	106.0	112.5	103.6	112.8	110.2	99.6	108.4	110.5
Other goods and services-----	105.6	101.7	101.0	109.1	111.0	105.7	104.4	104.8	104.3	105.2	103.8
Percent change from July 1962 to October 1962											
All items-----	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.9	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.5
Food-----	.5	1.3	0	.3	.8	.6	- 1.0	1.4	1.0	.4	.9
Food at home-----	.5	1.4	0	.3	.9	.7	- 1.2	1.4	1.0	.5	1.2
Cereals and bakery products--	.1	.2	-1.5	- .2	.4	-1.4	- 3.2	- .3	- .7	.6	.3
Meats, poultry, and fish----	3.3	4.2	3.6	4.4	4.8	2.9	2.6	3.3	2.7	3.1	3.9
Dairy products-----	.8	1.3	.1	.8	- .1	.1	- .2	2.0	2.3	2.5	1.9
Fruits and vegetables-----	-7.2	-4.9	-9.4	-10.7	-8.1	-3.9	-12.8	-3.8	-3.0	-9.5	-6.3
Other foods at home-----	4.3	4.0	4.4	4.7	5.5	4.6	5.2	4.1	2.2	4.0	4.2
Housing-----	.2	.8	.5	.1	.1	.2	- .2	.3	- .2	.2	.8
Rent-----	.4	.8	1/-	.3	0	-----	0	1/ .4	-----	0	.5
Gas and electricity-----	0	0	.1	.7	0	- .1	0	0	0	.1	0
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	2.7	.7	3.9	2.7	0	-----	4.5	1.9	2.0	-----	5.0
Housefurnishings-----	- .2	.5	0	.2	- .4	- .1	.2	- .2	- .6	.3	- .9
Household operation-----	.1	.7	1.0	- .4	.3	.2	- .2	0	0	- .3	.1
Apparel-----	1.9	1.4	1.1	1.1	4.6	1.7	2.7	2.8	3.0	.4	2.3
Men's and boys'-----	1.0	.5	.7	.1	1.4	1.2	1.4	.7	.4	- .3	1.6
Women's and girls'-----	3.6	2.5	2.4	1.8	9.4	2.9	3.7	5.8	6.2	1.2	3.6
Footwear-----	.4	0	- .5	1.2	.6	.5	3.9	.3	.4	0	.7
Other apparel-----	.8	1.3	.3	.6	1.7	.4	1.7	1.4	.9	- .8	1.6
Transportation-----	1.2	1.1	2.5	5.8	3.9	.5	3.1	.3	.2	.2	-1.0
Private-----	1.4	1.7	3.1	7.1	4.6	.6	3.5	.3	.3	.1	-1.2
Public-----	.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical care-----	.3	.4	.8	.1	.1	- .1	.5	- .1	- .1	.7	.4
Personal care-----	.1	.4	0	- 1.1	0	- .3	0	1.5	-2.0	- .6	.6
Reading and recreation-----	- .5	1.8	- .3	- .8	- .1	.3	- 1.9	- .8	0	.2	-2.7
Other goods and services-----	0	- .1	- .8	.1	.2	- .7	0	.8	0	.1	.1

1/ Change from August 1962 to October 1962.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--Food and its subgroups
October 1962 Indexes and percent changes, September 1962 to October 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--	104.3	-0.5	102.9	-0.6	108.0	0.1	104.1	-2.1	104.3	0.1	102.0	-0.2	98.1	0.3
Atlanta-----	103.9	- .4	103.4	- .6	104.8	.6	104.0	-2.3	102.8	.6	102.5	-1.9	103.1	1.0
Baltimore-----	104.2	- .3	101.4	- .5	107.9	0	102.5	-2.0	98.8	.1	100.8	- .4	98.9	.7
Boston-----	105.7	0	103.7	- .3	108.3	.1	106.7	.1	99.3	.2	105.7	-1.0	98.6	- .8
Chicago-----	105.7	- .9	105.0	-1.1	108.7	-1.9	107.3	-2.7	110.6	.2	99.7	-1.3	100.0	.6
Cincinnati-----	103.0	- .7	101.9	-1.0	109.7	.3	103.2	-2.8	101.3	- .1	101.9	-1.5	96.5	.5
Cleveland-----	101.7	- .7	100.4	-1.1	104.1	.2	104.3	-2.8	99.5	.2	99.1	-1.2	95.0	.1
Detroit-----	101.5	- .1	100.6	- .1	104.8	.2	101.8	-2.0	107.0	.4	93.9	.5	97.6	1.3
Houston-----	103.6	- .4	101.0	- .9	105.7	.2	102.5	-1.3	100.0	-2.3	103.2	-1.0	95.6	.6
Kansas City-----	104.5	- .6	103.9	- .9	108.5	- .5	103.5	-3.3	108.2	.3	102.5	.1	100.4	.9
Los Angeles-----	105.6	- .3	103.5	- .3	116.7	0	101.0	-1.1	106.7	- .1	106.8	.4	93.4	- .4
Minneapolis-----	101.5	-1.0	99.9	-1.2	101.0	- .4	101.5	-2.3	102.4	-2.8	96.7	- .1	98.0	.5
New York-----	106.3	- .7	103.7	- .8	108.5	- .1	104.8	-2.3	104.3	.4	103.9	- .1	97.9	- .6
Philadelphia-----	104.8	0	103.3	0	105.1	.4	102.5	-2.7	104.7	2.7	107.4	3.4	98.6	-1.6
Pittsburgh-----	102.8	- .6	102.4	- .8	107.1	.2	107.1	-1.7	99.7	0	98.0	-1.1	99.2	- .2
Portland, Oreg.-----	104.5	- .3	103.0	- .3	104.6	- .3	105.7	- .9	106.9	.2	103.3	- .3	96.4	.1
St. Louis-----	103.8	- .4	102.1	-1.1	106.1	0	104.4	-3.2	102.3	.9	100.7	-1.3	97.8	.3
San Francisco-----	105.6	.6	103.4	.3	106.4	- .2	104.1	- .6	106.8	1.0	107.7	1.4	94.8	.4
Scranton-----	104.1	.3	102.9	.1	109.2	.5	104.7	-1.2	101.5	- .2	100.1	2.7	99.3	- .2
Seattle-----	105.9	- .7	103.4	- .9	107.2	.1	105.6	-2.0	106.4	0	102.9	- .9	96.8	- .5
Washington, D. C.---	103.4	.4	102.1	.5	109.0	- .1	102.4	-1.2	103.0	2.4	99.8	2.5	98.6	.1

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

Food and unit	October 1962	September 1962	Food and unit	October 1962	September 1962
Cereals and bakery products:	Cents	Cents	Fresh--Continued	Cents	Cents
Flour, wheat-----5 lb.	57.4	57.2	Grapefruit-----each	15.6	16.3
Biscuit mix-----40 oz.	48.2	48.0	Peaches *-----lb.	*	18.0
Macaroni-----16 oz.	24.9	24.9	Strawberries *-----pt.	*	*
Corn meal-----1lb.	14.2	14.2	Grapes, seedless *-----lb.	24.9	22.6
Rolled oats-----18 oz.	23.9	23.8	Watermelons *-----lb.	*	*
Corn flakes-----12 oz.	27.8	27.7	Potatoes-----10 lb.	61.5	62.3
Rice, short grain-----lb.	19.3	19.3	Sweet potatoes-----lb.	13.7	14.8
Rice, long grain-----lb.	21.5	21.6	Corn *-----doz. ears	*	69.1
Bread, white-----lb.	21.2	21.2	Onions-----lb.	10.0	10.3
Soda crackers-----lb.	31.1	31.1	Carrots-----lb.	14.6	14.7
Sandwich cookies-----16 oz.	52.3	52.3	Lettuce-----head	18.1	19.7
Meats, poultry, and fish:			Celery-----lb.	12.8	12.9
Round steak-----lb.	111.2	112.6	Cabbage-----lb.	8.3	8.4
Sirloin steak-----lb.	114.9	117.5	Tomatoes-----lb.	22.4	19.8
Chuck roast-----lb.	65.0	66.6	Beans, green-----lb.	23.3	22.7
Rib roast-----lb.	87.0	88.8	Canned:		
Hamburger-----lb.	53.4	53.9	Orange juice-----46 oz. can	40.5	40.8
Veal cutlets-----lb.	150.2	149.8	Pineapple juice-----46 oz. can	33.0	32.7
Pork chops, center cut-----lb.	91.9	99.7	Peaches-----#2 1/2 can	32.0	32.2
Pork roast-----lb.	67.0	71.4	Pineapple-----#2 can	39.1	39.1
Bacon, sliced-----lb.	73.6	75.8	Fruit cocktail-----#303 can	25.5	25.5
Ham, whole-----lb.	62.9	63.9	Corn, cream style-----#303 can	19.8	19.9
Lamb, leg-----lb.	74.1	74.1	Peas, green-----#303 can	22.5	22.5
Frankfurters-----lb.	64.7	64.2	Tomatoes-----#303 can	15.6	15.5
Luncheon meat, canned-----12 oz.	50.7	50.4	Tomato juice-----46 oz. can	31.9	32.0
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook-----lb.	40.8	41.8	Baby foods-----4 1/2 to 5 oz.	10.8	10.8
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen-----lb.	50.9	50.3	Dried:		
Haddock, fillet, frozen-----lb.	55.6	55.2	Prunes-----lb.	39.8	40.1
Salmon, pink, canned-----16 oz.	75.1	75.9	Beans-----lb.	17.4	17.3
Tuna fish, canned-----6 to 6 1/2 oz.	34.8	35.3	Other foods at home:		
Dairy products:			Tomato soup-----10 1/2 to 11 oz. can	12.3	12.3
Milk, fresh, (grocery)-----qt.	24.5	24.5	Beans, with pork-----16 oz. can	15.0	15.0
Milk, fresh, (delivered)-----qt.	26.2	26.2	Pickles, sliced-----15 oz.	26.8	26.7
Ice cream-----1/2 gal.	85.4	85.1	Cataup, tomato-----14 oz.	23.0	23.1
Butter-----lb.	75.0	74.8	Potato chips-----4 oz.	27.9	27.9
Cheese, American process-----1/2 lb.	36.1	36.1	Coffee-----1lb. can	71.1	71.4
Milk, evaporated-----14 1/2 oz. can	15.5	15.4	Coffee-----1lb. bag	56.5	57.5
Fruits and vegetables:			Coffee, instant-----6 oz.	91.8	91.9
Frozen:			Tea bags-----pkg. of 16	24.6	24.5
Strawberries-----10 oz.	27.1	27.1	Cola drink, carton-----72 oz.	50.2	50.1
Orange juice concentrate-----6 oz.	19.8	19.7	Shortening, hydrogenated-----3 lb.	85.4	85.6
Lemonade concentrate-----6 oz.	13.5	13.4	Margarine, colored-----lb.	28.0	27.9
Peas, green-----10 oz.	20.9	20.8	Lard-----lb.	20.2	20.2
Beans, green-----9 oz.	22.9	22.9	Salad dressing-----pt.	38.4	38.3
Potatoes, french fried-----9 oz.	18.7	18.8	Peanut butter-----lb.	57.8	57.5
Fresh:			Sugar-----5 lb.	58.8	58.8
Apples-----lb.	13.8	16.0	Corn syrup-----24 oz.	27.4	27.4
Bananas-----lb.	16.6	16.1	Grape jelly-----12 oz.	29.7	29.7
Oranges, size 200-----doz.	93.0	87.1	Chocolate bar-----1 oz.	4.5	4.5
Lemons-----lb.	20.6	20.5	Eggs, Grade A, large-----doz.	59.7	58.9
			Gelatin, flavored-----3 to 4 oz.	9.9	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.

BLS Regional Offices

Atlanta	New York	Chicago
1371 Peachtree	341 Ninth Avenue	105 West Adams Street
Street, N. E.	Zone 1	Zone 3
Zone 9		
San Francisco	Boston	Cleveland
630 Sansome Street	18 Oliver Street	1365 Ontario Street
Zone 11	Zone 10	Zone 14

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