

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

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR DECEMBER 1962

Consumer prices declined by 0.2 percent in December 1962, the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics announced today. Lower prices for food were primarily responsible for the decline, although prices of apparel and transportation also were down. At 105.8 percent of the 1957-59 average, the Consumer Price Index in December was 0.3 percent below its all-time high reached in September 1962, but 1.2 percent above its level of a year earlier. (On the former base of 1947-49=100, the December 1962 index was 129.8.)

FOOD Food prices fell by 0.6 percent in December, largely because of substantial reductions in prices of fresh fruits, poultry, and pork. The effects of adverse weather conditions on prices of fruits and vegetables were not yet reflected in food prices at mid-December. The food price index in December, at 103.5, was 1.2 percent below its September peak but 1.5 percent higher than in December 1961. The advance during the year was primarily the result of higher prices for meats and for restaurant meals.

Between mid-November and mid-December, fresh fruit prices dropped 5.5 percent as orange prices fell seasonally and bananas also declined. Fresh vegetable prices were 0.3 percent higher, as seasonal advances in prices of tomatoes and green beans more than offset sharply lower lettuce prices.

Price movements for meats, poultry, and fish were mixed, with frying chickens off 6 percent and pork 1 percent while beef prices were slightly higher. Prices of dairy products were a little lower.

OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES Prices of items other than food were unchanged on the average as a decline of 0.1 percent for nonfood commodities offset an advance of 0.1 percent in services. Apparel prices were 0.4 percent lower, but other nondurable commodities advanced, particularly gasoline and heating fuels. Prices of both new and used cars declined. Residential rents remained at their November level, while most other types of services continued to advance, especially household, medical, and personal care services.

1962 PRICE TRENDS The 1962 rise in the Consumer Price Index averaged 0.1 percent per month, but about one-half of the total occurred between January and April. Most of the remaining advance came between August and September. Higher prices for services were the principal cause of the advance in the Consumer Price Index during 1962, with increases in food prices acting as another important contributing factor. Used car prices also were significantly higher over the year.

COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENTS About 270,000 trucking workers will receive an increase of 4 cents an hour and 3500 New York City harbor seamen will receive an increase of 1.2 percent, based on the change in the Consumer Price Index during 1962. Cost-of-living allowances of 18,000 workers in various small industries will be increased by 1 cent an hour, while for another 20,000 the allowances will be reduced by 1 cent an hour.

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

(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)		Percent change to December 1962 from --			Indexes	
	December 1962	November 1962	November 1962	September 1962	December 1961	1947-49=100	1939=100
						December 1962	December 1962
All items-----	105.8	106.0	-0.2	-0.3	1.2	129.8	218.5
Food-----	103.5	104.1	-.6	-1.2	1.5	122.1	259.4
Food at home-----	101.9	102.6	-.7	-1.5	1.3	118.4	251.4
Cereals and bakery products-----	108.2	108.4	-.2	.3	1.8	143.5	250.7
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	102.5	103.5	-1.0	-3.6	4.1	113.1	271.9
Dairy products-----	103.9	104.2	-.3	-.3	-1.6	117.6	236.1
Fruits and vegetables-----	100.2	102.1	-1.9	-2.0	.4	123.8	267.6
Other foods at home-----	97.2	97.2	0	-.6	.1	107.4	221.9
Food away from home-----	112.2	111.9	.3	.6	2.8	(1/)	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	105.2	105.1	.1	.3	.8	134.1	176.2
Rent-----	106.2	106.2	0	.3	1.1	146.0	168.6
Gas and electricity-----	108.1	108.1	0	.1	.3	126.0	120.1
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	104.8	103.6	1.2	3.5	1.9	142.8	253.2
Housefurnishings-----	98.6	98.7	-.1	-.1	-.6	102.6	192.2
Household operation-----	108.1	107.8	.3	.5	1.6	141.7	207.2
Apparel-----	103.9	104.3	-.4	-.7	.4	111.4	212.2
Men's and boys'-----	104.3	104.3	0	.3	1.2	113.4	223.3
Women's and girls'-----	101.5	102.5	-1.0	-2.0	-.5	100.8	185.0
Footwear-----	109.9	109.7	.2	.4	1.0	144.0	286.2
Other apparel-----	101.3	101.1	.2	.1	.2	93.3	229.8
Transportation-----	108.0	108.3	-.3	.2	1.9	152.2	216.7
Private-----	106.8	107.2	-.4	.1	1.8	139.2	212.5
Public-----	115.7	115.4	.3	0	1.4	215.4	264.9
Medical care-----	115.3	115.0	.3	.5	2.5	166.6	229.6
Personal care-----	107.6	107.1	.5	.7	2.3	137.8	231.4
Reading and recreation-----	110.0	110.1	-.1	0	1.7	127.4	202.2
Other goods and services-----	105.6	105.6	0	0	.7	134.5	190.7
Special groups:							
All items less food-----	106.7	106.7	0	.1	1.1	133.8	193.7
All items less shelter-----	105.8	106.0	-.2	-.3	1.3	127.4	229.9
Commodities-----	103.6	103.9	-.3	-.5	1.2	119.7	232.0
Nondurables-----	104.0	104.2	-.2	-.7	1.4	122.1	237.6
Food-----	103.5	104.1	-.6	-1.2	1.5	122.1	259.4
Nondurables less food-----	104.6	104.4	.2	0	1.0	122.5	208.6
Apparel-----	103.7	104.1	-.4	-.8	.3	111.2	213.3
Apparel less footwear-----	102.5	103.0	-.5	-1.0	.2	105.5	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	105.1	104.5	.6	.5	1.4	132.1	200.5
Durables-----	101.7	102.2	-.5	.1	.6	112.7	196.7
New cars-----	102.6	103.8	-1.2	2.2	-.9	137.9	241.9
Used cars-----	116.7	119.4	-2.3	-3.2	6.6	(1/)	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	98.6	98.6	0	0	-.2	101.7	177.4
Commodities less food-----	103.4	103.5	-.1	0	.8	117.5	197.6
Services-----	110.1	110.0	.1	.3	1.5	156.3	194.3
Rent-----	106.2	106.2	0	.3	1.1	146.0	168.6
Services less rent-----	110.8	110.6	.2	.3	1.6	158.8	216.1
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	109.1	108.8	.3	.5	1.3	143.1	164.5
Transportation services-----	110.9	110.7	.2	.4	.5	191.6	239.2
Medical care services-----	118.2	118.0	.2	.6	3.1	176.4	250.1
Other services 3/-----	109.3	109.3	0	0	1.5	141.1	241.9
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (Reference period=\$1.00)-----	\$0.945	\$0.943	.2	.2	-1.3	\$0.770	\$0.457

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 Dec. 1962 from--		Indexes 1947-49=100 1939=100	
	December 1962	September 1962	December 1961	September 1962	December 1961	December 1962	December 1962
	United States city average-----	105.8	106.1	104.5	- 0.3	1.2	129.8
Cities priced monthly 1/							
Chicago-----	104.7	105.2	103.8	- .5	.9	132.0	225.3
Detroit-----	102.5	102.8	100.9	- .3	1.6	126.4	214.1
Los Angeles-----	107.2	107.2	105.8	0	1.3	133.7	221.3
New York-----	106.9	107.3	105.3	- .4	1.5	128.8	214.3
Philadelphia-----	105.7	106.0	104.8	- .3	.9	129.8	219.3
Cities priced in March, June, September, December 2/	December 1962	September 1962	December 1961	September 1962	December 1961	December 1962	December 1962
Atlanta-----	104.5	104.7	103.4	- .2	1.1	129.4	221.9
Baltimore-----	105.7	106.0	104.4	- .3	1.2	131.2	226.6
Cincinnati-----	104.0	104.3	102.6	- .3	1.4	126.6	216.8
St. Louis-----	106.0	105.6	104.4	.4	1.5	131.5	221.8
San Francisco-----	107.8	107.5	106.5	.3	1.2	136.8	233.5
Cities priced in February, May, August, November 2/	November 1962	August 1962	November 1961	August 1962	November 1961	November 1962	November 1962
Cleveland-----	103.7	103.8	103.1	- .1	.6	128.8	217.7
Houston-----	104.5	104.6	103.9	- .1	.6	128.7	216.3
Scranton-----	106.5	106.0	104.6	.5	1.8	127.1	217.2
Seattle-----	107.0	106.7	105.7	.3	1.2	134.5	227.3
Washington, D. C.-----	105.3	104.8	104.2	.5	1.1	126.8	209.8
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

1/ Rents priced bimonthly.

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

TABLE 3: Consumer Price Index--Percent changes from November 1962 to December 1962
U.S. city average and five cities priced monthly
All items and commodity groups

City	All items	Food	Housing	Apparel	Transpor- tation	Medical care	Personal care	Reading and recreation	Other goods & services
United States city average-----	- 0.2	- 0.6	0.1	- 0.4	- 0.3	0.3	0.5	- 0.1	0
Chicago-----	- .3	- 1.3	0	.2	- .1	0	.3	0	0
Detroit-----	- .1	- 1.0	.1	- 1.0	2.2	0	.7	- .2	0
Los Angeles-----	.1	.3	.1	.3	- .1	0	2.4	- .8	0.1
New York-----	- .2	-.9	.5	- 1.0	- .5	.3	0	.5	0
Philadelphia-----	- .1	-.5	.5	-.5	-.4	.2	.1	- 1.7	0

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

Group	U.S. City Average	Atlanta	Balti- more	Chicago	Cincin- nati	Detroit	Los Angeles	New York	Phila- delphia	St. Louis	San Francisco
Indexes (1957-59=100)											
All items-----	105.8	104.5	105.7	104.7	104.0	102.5	107.2	106.9	105.7	106.0	107.8
Food-----	103.5	102.7	103.4	104.3	101.7	100.6	105.6	104.9	103.0	104.6	105.6
Food at home-----	101.9	102.0	100.6	103.4	100.4	99.4	103.1	102.0	101.2	102.5	103.3
Cereals and bakery products--	108.2	104.8	108.1	110.5	105.4	104.7	116.9	108.9	105.8	105.5	110.1
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	102.5	102.4	102.3	103.7	102.1	99.1	100.4	103.7	101.5	104.1	102.6
Dairy products-----	103.9	102.8	98.9	110.5	103.3	106.2	106.8	101.8	104.9	104.5	106.9
Fruits and vegetables-----	100.2	99.2	97.7	96.8	97.7	94.9	107.9	99.8	97.5	101.5	107.3
Other foods at home-----	97.2	101.6	97.8	98.9	95.9	95.7	91.4	96.7	97.8	98.2	94.2
Housing-----	105.2	103.9	106.0	103.6	102.5	98.0	106.3	108.7	105.1	102.6	109.5
Rent-----	106.2	103.9	106.4	-----	102.3	94.6	-----	112.2	-----	104.5	116.2
Gas and electricity-----	108.1	109.9	103.8	106.3	110.5	105.1	115.5	105.6	102.7	108.8	111.0
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	104.8	109.6	104.8	104.7	107.7	100.4	-----	105.9	108.0	103.7	-----
Housefurnishings-----	98.6	93.7	96.9	101.1	98.8	98.4	99.0	103.0	98.1	97.4	99.0
Household operation-----	108.1	114.3	113.7	106.6	108.0	104.1	104.2	111.0	114.9	106.8	111.3
Apparel-----	103.9	102.3	106.5	102.5	102.6	103.8	104.6	104.2	106.6	103.7	105.0
Men's and boys'-----	104.3	103.4	104.8	102.6	104.3	102.6	105.2	105.5	104.6	102.1	102.7
Women's and girls'-----	101.5	99.7	105.3	99.5	99.2	102.7	103.5	101.1	107.4	103.9	104.5
Footwear-----	109.9	109.5	116.2	109.8	110.1	109.6	109.1	111.4	109.8	108.3	111.3
Other apparel-----	101.3	98.6	101.2	101.2	99.1	100.1	100.6	100.3	103.8	100.0	103.4
Transportation-----	108.0	108.4	106.7	106.5	108.4	106.1	113.0	105.2	109.7	111.6	107.1
Private-----	106.8	108.4	104.4	106.5	107.2	104.5	109.3	107.0	108.8	110.4	107.9
Public-----	115.7	108.1	117.0	107.4	116.7	114.4	138.5	100.6	113.1	116.6	101.1
Medical care-----	115.3	111.4	120.0	118.7	113.8	114.6	114.1	115.4	120.7	114.4	117.1
Personal care-----	107.6	109.7	107.6	107.2	101.7	107.5	105.3	106.7	106.1	110.1	111.4
Reading and recreation-----	110.0	108.7	102.5	100.6	109.3	105.8	103.2	110.9	101.0	118.6	106.6
Other goods and services-----	105.6	101.7	103.6	101.2	104.6	109.1	105.9	104.9	104.3	107.0	107.6
Percent change from September 1962 to December 1962											
All items-----	- 0.3	- 0.2	- 0.3	- 0.5	- 0.3	- 0.3	0	- 0.4	- 0.3	0.4	0.3
Food-----	- 1.2	- 1.5	- 1.1	- 2.2	- 1.9	- 1.0	- 0.3	- 2.0	- 1.7	.4	.6
Food at home-----	- 1.5	- 1.9	- 1.3	- 2.6	- 2.4	- 1.3	- .7	- 2.4	- 2.0	- .7	.2
Cereals and bakery products--	.3	.6	.2	- .3	- 3.7	.1	.2	.3	1.1	- .6	3.3
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	- 3.6	- 3.8	- 2.2	- 6.0	- 3.9	- 4.6	- 1.7	- 3.4	- 3.6	- 3.5	- 2.0
Dairy products-----	- .3	.6	.2	.1	1.9	- .4	0	- 2.0	2.9	3.1	1.1
Fruits and vegetables-----	- 2.0	- 5.1	- 3.5	- 4.2	- 5.5	1.6	1.4	- 4.0	- 6.2	- .5	1.0
Other foods at home-----	- .6	- .5	- .4	- .5	- .1	- .6	- 2.6	- 1.8	- 2.4	.7	- .2
Housing-----	.3	0	0	.2	.5	0	.1	.7	.6	.6	.6
Rent-----	.3	.1	.8	---	0	1/ 0	---	1/ .1	---	0	1.1
Gas and electricity-----	.1	0	-.8	.1	-.1	-.2	0	.1	0	0	0
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	3.5	1.8	4.4	0	4.0	.7	---	6.9	11.5	.9	---
Housefurnishings-----	- .1	- .5	- 1.5	.5	.3	.8	-.2	-.2	-.1	-.4	.8
Household operation-----	.5	.8	.1	.7	.3	.7	-.2	1.9	-.1	.8	.9
Apparel-----	-.7	.7	-.3	0	-.4	- 1.5	.1	-.8	-.2	-.8	.6
Men's and boys'-----	.3	.3	0	-.2	-.6	-.3	0	.8	0	-.9	.1
Women's and girls'-----	- 2.0	1.1	-.7	-.8	-.6	- 3.1	-.3	- 2.3	-.6	- 1.1	1.2
Footwear-----	.4	.1	.5	.8	.5	.3	.8	0	-.1	-.5	.1
Other apparel-----	.1	.8	-.9	3.5	-.2	- 2.2	0	-.5	.4	1.8	.3
Transportation-----	.2	1.3	.4	-.1	-.1	1.0	.4	.1	0	1.1	-.5
Private-----	.1	1.7	.6	0	-.1	1.2	.6	.3	0	1.5	-.4
Public-----	0	- 1.2	0	-.5	0	0	- 1.4	-.2	0	-.2	- 1.3
Medical care-----	.5	-.1	0	.8	.1	-.2	.1	.4	.1	0	.7
Personal care-----	.7	1.2	.4	.3	1.2	1.0	2.1	1.6	0	.5	1.1
Reading and recreation-----	0	1.4	.2	.1	2.4	- 1.1	-.6	.5	-.8	-.1	-.6
Other goods and services-----	0	0	0	.1	-.2	0	-.1	.8	-.1	.2	-.1

1/ Change from October 1962 to December 1962.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--Food and its subgroups
December 1962 Indexes and percent changes, November 1962 to December 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--	103.5	- 0.6	101.9	- 0.7	108.2	- 0.2	102.5	- 1.0	103.9	- 0.3	100.2	- 1.9	97.2	0
Atlanta-----	102.7	- .4	102.0	- .4	104.8	.1	102.4	- 1.0	102.8	- .3	99.2	0	101.6	- 0.6
Baltimore-----	103.4	- .2	100.6	- .4	108.1	.1	102.3	- .5	98.9	0	97.7	- 1.1	97.8	- .3
Boston-----	105.7	- .7	103.7	- .8	108.3	- .2	105.6	- 1.6	99.3	(107.9	- 1.4	98.2	- .2
Chicago-----	104.3	- 1.3	103.4	- 1.5	110.5	.5	103.7	- 2.4	110.5	- .2	96.8	- 4.9	98.9	- .2
Cincinnati-----	101.7	- 1.1	100.4	- 1.4	105.4	- 4.3	102.1	- 2.4	103.3	0	97.7	- .8	95.9	.5
Cleveland-----	100.8	- .5	99.4	- .5	103.4	- .1	103.0	- 1.1	99.6	0	96.6	- 2.0	94.4	.5
Detroit-----	100.6	- 1.0	99.4	- 1.3	104.7	.1	99.1	- 1.6	106.2	- .7	94.9	- 3.4	95.7	- .4
Houston-----	102.4	- .4	99.4	- .8	105.3	- .6	99.8	- .9	96.4	- 3.4	102.8	.8	94.8	- .3
Kansas City-----	103.2	- 1.1	102.3	- 1.4	108.2	- .2	101.6	- 1.4	105.3	- .8	102.1	- 3.5	98.0	- 1.1
Los Angeles-----	105.6	.3	103.1	0	116.9	- .1	100.4	.3	106.8	.2	107.9	0	91.4	- .4
Minneapolis-----	100.8	- .1	98.9	- .1	98.0	- .2	99.3	- .7	102.2	- .2	98.4	.4	96.8	.2
New York-----	104.9	- .9	102.0	- 1.0	108.9	0	103.7	- 1.1	101.8	- .6	99.8	- 2.3	96.7	- .6
Philadelphia-----	103.0	- .5	101.2	- .6	105.8	.1	101.5	- 1.4	104.9	0	97.5	- 1.0	97.8	- .3
Pittsburgh-----	101.7	- .8	101.2	- .9	106.3	- .7	106.4	- .3	99.7	- .1	94.0	- 4.4	98.0	.2
Portland, Oreg.-----	103.9	- .2	102.3	- .2	105.3	1.1	104.3	- .7	106.9	.1	101.2	- 1.8	96.1	.4
St. Louis-----	104.6	.1	102.5	.2	105.5	- .5	104.1	- .1	104.5	2.7	101.5	- 1.6	98.2	1.1
San Francisco-----	105.6	- .2	103.3	- .3	110.1	- .1	102.6	.1	106.9	.2	107.3	- 2.5	94.2	1.1
Scranton-----	102.9	- .7	101.6	- .9	108.9	- .3	102.0	- 1.9	101.7	.1	98.6	- .9	98.1	- .6
Seattle-----	105.9	0	103.5	0	107.2	0	106.3	.7	106.2	- .3	103.5	- 1.9	96.3	1.2
Washington, D. C.-----	101.8	- .3	99.9	- .5	108.2	- .4	100.1	- 1.3	102.4	- .7	93.8	- .3	97.4	0

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

Food and unit	December 1962	November 1962	Food and unit	December 1962	November 1962
Cereals and bakery products:	Cents	Cents	Fresh--Continued	Cents	Cents
Flour, wheat-----5 lb.	57.4	57.5	Grapefruit-----each	12.8	13.6
Biscuit mix-----40 oz.	48.0	48.2	Peaches *-----lb.	*	*
Macaroni-----16 oz.	24.9	24.9	Strawberries *-----pt.	*	*
Corn meal-----lb.	14.2	14.2	Grapes, seedless *-----lb.	*	(1/)
Rolled oats-----18 oz.	23.9	24.1	Watermelons *-----lb.	*	*
Corn flakes-----12 oz.	28.1	28.0	Potatoes-----10 lb.	60.7	60.7
Rice, short grain-----lb.	19.4	19.3	Sweet potatoes-----lb.	13.2	13.0
Rice, long grain-----lb.	21.3	21.3	Corn *-----doz. ears	*	*
Bread, white-----lb.	21.2	21.3	Onions-----lb.	9.8	9.7
Soda crackers-----lb.	31.2	31.1	Carrots-----lb.	15.1	14.9
Sandwich cookies-----16 oz.	52.4	52.3	Lettuce-----head	16.4	21.4
Meats, poultry, and fish:			Celery-----lb.	13.2	13.6
Round steak-----lb.	112.0	110.9	Cabbage-----lb.	8.9	8.2
Sirloin steak-----lb.	114.7	115.4	Tomatoes-----lb.	33.0	26.4
Chuck roast-----lb.	65.2	65.1	Beans, green-----lb.	26.2	25.2
Rib roast-----lb.	87.5	87.3	Canned:		
Hamburger-----lb.	53.4	53.2	Orange juice-----46 oz. can	39.8	40.3
Veal cutlets-----lb.	150.4	150.6	Pineapple juice-----46 oz. can	33.0	32.9
Pork chops, center cut-----lb.	88.5	90.4	Peaches-----#2 1/2 can	32.0	31.8
Pork roast-----lb.	64.1	65.2	Pineapple-----#2 can	39.2	39.2
Bacon, sliced-----lb.	69.7	70.9	Fruit cocktail-----#303 can	25.5	25.4
Ham, whole-----lb.	63.9	63.3	Corn, cream style-----#303 can	19.6	19.7
Lamb, leg-----lb.	73.5	74.3	Peas, green-----#303 can	22.6	22.4
Frankfurters-----lb.	64.0	64.4	Tomatoes-----#303 can	15.4	15.4
Luncheon meat, canned-----12 oz.	50.7	50.7	Tomato juice-----46 oz. can	31.8	31.8
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook-----lb.	39.0	41.5	Baby foods-----4 1/2 to 5 oz.	10.9	10.9
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen-----lb.	51.3	50.7	Dried:		
Haddock, fillet, frozen-----lb.	56.2	55.4	Prunes-----lb.	39.7	39.6
Salmon, pink, canned-----16 oz.	74.1	74.7	Beans-----lb.	17.5	17.5
Tuna fish, canned-----6 to 6 1/2 oz.	34.4	34.6	Other foods at home:		
Dairy products:			Tomato soup-----10 1/2 to 11 oz. can	12.3	12.4
Milk, fresh, (grocery)-----qt.	24.4	24.5	Beans, with pork-----16 oz. can	14.9	15.0
Milk, fresh, (delivered)-----qt.	26.0	26.1	Pickles, sliced-----15 oz.	26.9	26.9
Ice cream-----1/2 gal.	85.1	85.6	Ketchup, tomato-----14 oz.	22.6	22.9
Butter-----lb.	75.0	75.0	Potato chips-----4 oz.	27.9	27.9
Cheese, American process-----1/2 lb.	36.1	36.1	Coffee-----lb. can	69.2	69.5
Milk, evaporated-----14 1/2 oz. can	15.5	15.5	Coffee-----lb. bag	56.7	56.9
Fruits and vegetables:			Coffee, instant-----6 oz.	91.2	91.7
Frozen:			Tea bags-----pkg. of 48	64.8	65.0
Strawberries-----10 oz.	27.3	27.3	Cola drink, carton-----72oz.	50.1	50.0
Orange juice concentrate-----6 oz.	19.6	19.7	Shortening, hydrogenated-----3 lb.	85.7	85.6
Lemonade concentrate-----6 oz.	13.4	13.4	Margarine, colored-----lb.	27.7	27.9
Peas, green-----10 oz.	20.7	20.8	Lard-----lb.	20.2	20.3
Beans, green-----9 oz.	22.7	22.9	Salad dressing-----pt.	38.1	38.3
Potatoes, french fried-----9 oz.	18.8	18.9	Peanut butter-----lb.	57.7	57.9
Fresh:			Sugar-----5 lb.	58.8	58.9
Apples-----lb.	14.6	14.0	Corn syrup-----24 oz.	27.5	27.5
Bananas-----lb.	16.1	16.7	Grape jelly-----12 oz.	29.8	29.8
Oranges, size 200-----doz.	72.9	83.9	Chocolate bar-----1 oz.	4.5	4.5
Lemons-----lb.	26.4	23.8	Eggs, Grade A, large-----doz.	58.1	57.7
			Gelatin, flavored-----3 to 4 oz.	9.9	9.9

* Priced only in season.
1/ Not available.

LABOR - D. C.

TABLE A: Consumer Price Index--United States city average
Major group, subgroup, and special group indexes, 1962 annual averages
and percent changes from 1961

(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)		Percent change to 1962 from--	Indexes	
	1962	1961		1947-49=100	1939=100
All items-----	105.4	104.2	1.2	129.3	217.7
Food-----	103.6	102.6	1.0	122.2	259.6
Food at home-----	102.2	101.5	.7	118.8	252.1
Cereals and bakery products-----	107.6	105.4	2.1	142.7	249.3
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	101.7	99.3	2.4	112.2	269.8
Dairy products-----	104.1	104.8	-.7	117.8	236.6
Fruits and vegetables-----	105.0	104.2	.8	129.8	280.4
Other foods at home-----	96.1	97.6	-1.5	106.2	219.4
Food away from home-----	110.7	107.8	2.7	(1/)	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	104.8	103.9	.9	133.6	175.6
Rent-----	105.7	104.4	1.2	145.3	167.8
Gas and electricity-----	107.9	107.9	0	125.8	119.9
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	102.1	101.6	.5	139.2	246.7
Housefurnishings-----	98.9	99.5	-.6	103.0	192.8
Household operation-----	107.4	105.9	1.4	140.8	205.8
Apparel-----	103.2	102.8	.4	110.6	210.8
Men's and boys'-----	103.3	102.8	.5	112.3	221.1
Women's and girls'-----	100.9	101.0	-.1	100.2	183.9
Footwear-----	109.3	107.8	1.4	143.2	284.6
Other apparel-----	100.6	100.9	-.3	92.7	228.2
Transportation-----	107.2	105.0	2.1	151.0	215.1
Private-----	105.9	104.0	1.8	138.0	210.7
Public-----	115.4	111.7	3.3	214.9	264.2
Medical care-----	114.2	111.3	2.6	165.0	227.4
Personal care-----	106.5	104.6	1.8	136.4	229.0
Reading and recreation-----	109.6	107.2	2.2	126.9	201.5
Other goods and services-----	105.3	104.6	.7	134.2	190.1
Special groups:					
All items less food-----	106.1	104.8	1.2	133.0	192.6
All items less shelter-----	105.4	104.2	1.2	126.9	229.1
Commodities-----	103.2	102.4	.8	119.2	231.1
Nondurables-----	103.6	102.8	.8	121.6	236.7
Food-----	103.6	102.6	1.0	122.2	259.6
Nondurables less food-----	103.8	103.2	.6	121.5	207.0
Apparel-----	103.0	102.6	.4	110.4	211.9
Apparel less footwear-----	101.8	101.7	.1	104.8	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel--	104.2	103.3	.9	131.0	198.7
Durables-----	101.5	100.5	1.0	112.5	196.3
New cars-----	102.1	102.5	-.4	137.2	240.7
Used cars-----	115.2	105.6	9.1	(1/)	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	98.8	98.9	-.1	101.9	177.8
Commodities less food-----	102.8	102.1	.7	116.8	196.5
Services-----	109.5	107.6	1.8	155.5	193.3
Rent-----	105.7	104.4	1.2	145.3	167.8
Services less rent-----	110.2	108.3	1.8	157.9	214.9
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	108.5	107.2	1.2	142.4	163.6
Transportation services-----	111.2	109.5	1.6	192.2	239.8
Medical care services-----	116.8	113.1	3.3	174.3	247.1
Other services 3/-----	108.7	106.8	1.8	140.3	240.6
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (Reference period=\$1.00)-----	\$0.949	\$0.960	-1.1	\$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 B: Consumer Price Index--All items and commodity groups
1962 annual average indexes and percent changes, 1961 to 1962
U.S. city average and 10 cities priced in December 1962

Group	U.S. City Average	Atlanta	Balti- more	Chicago	Cincin- nati	Detroit	Los Angeles	New York	Phila- delphia	St. Louis	San Francisco
Indexes (1957-59=100)											
All items-----	105.4	104.1	105.2	104.6	103.6	102.2	106.6	106.4	105.2	105.1	107.4
All items (1947-49=100)-----	129.3	128.9	130.6	131.9	126.1	126.0	132.9	128.2	129.2	130.4	136.3
All items (1939=100)-----	217.7	221.1	225.5	225.1	216.0	213.5	220.1	213.3	218.2	220.0	232.6
Food-----	103.6	103.0	103.3	105.3	101.9	101.1	105.5	104.9	103.1	103.0	105.4
Food at home-----	102.2	102.4	100.9	104.7	100.8	100.2	103.5	102.4	101.6	101.6	103.6
Cereals and bakery products--	107.6	104.1	107.6	110.3	107.4	104.8	116.1	108.7	105.2	104.8	106.9
Meats, poultry, and fish----	101.7	102.1	101.2	104.2	101.8	98.9	99.2	102.3	100.8	101.6	102.2
Dairy products-----	104.1	102.9	99.3	109.9	101.6	107.2	106.9	103.4	102.7	102.9	106.3
Fruits and vegetables-----	105.0	104.2	102.7	105.7	102.0	99.3	111.3	104.1	104.2	104.8	112.9
Other foods at home-----	96.1	100.7	96.8	97.7	94.3	94.9	92.0	95.9	97.5	96.1	93.8
Housing-----	104.8	103.7	105.3	103.4	102.1	97.8	105.7	107.8	104.7	102.2	108.8
Rent-----	105.7	103.8	105.6	-----	102.3	94.9	-----	111.3	-----	104.3	114.1
Gas and electricity-----	107.9	109.9	104.0	106.3	110.6	105.3	115.5	105.7	102.7	108.8	111.0
Solid and petroleum fuels----	102.1	107.5	102.3	103.5	104.2	99.9	-----	101.9	101.8	102.8	-----
Housefurnishings-----	98.9	95.7	98.2	100.9	98.2	97.8	99.3	103.2	98.4	98.2	98.8
Household operation-----	107.4	110.9	111.5	105.5	107.9	103.4	103.8	108.9	114.1	106.3	110.1
Apparel-----	103.2	101.4	105.9	101.4	102.1	104.6	103.1	103.2	104.8	104.0	104.5
Men's and boys'-----	103.3	102.9	103.8	101.9	102.8	102.8	103.6	104.7	104.1	102.9	102.4
Women's and girls'-----	100.9	98.1	104.9	98.2	99.6	104.6	101.8	99.7	104.0	103.8	103.8
Footwear-----	109.3	109.4	114.7	109.0	109.1	108.7	108.4	111.2	109.7	108.9	110.9
Other apparel-----	100.6	99.0	102.5	98.8	99.4	101.6	99.3	100.0	102.2	99.3	103.2
Transportation-----	107.2	106.0	105.9	105.7	108.1	103.4	111.9	105.1	109.1	109.0	107.1
Private-----	105.9	105.5	103.4	105.4	106.9	101.3	108.0	106.8	108.0	107.0	107.8
Public-----	115.4	109.2	117.0	107.8	115.8	114.4	138.8	100.8	113.1	116.8	102.2
Medical care-----	114.2	111.2	119.1	117.6	111.4	114.2	113.4	114.4	118.7	114.0	115.7
Personal care-----	106.5	108.6	107.0	107.2	100.8	107.2	103.3	105.1	107.0	109.7	108.8
Reading and recreation-----	109.6	107.5	102.4	100.6	107.1	106.4	103.1	110.4	101.1	117.9	107.1
Other goods and services-----	105.3	101.5	103.5	101.6	104.6	105.7	106.1	104.0	104.3	106.7	107.7
Percent change from 1961 to 1962											
All items-----	1.2	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.3	1.1	1.5	0.8	1.2	1.5
Food-----	1.0	1.2	.9	2.0	.1	-.3	1.0	1.9	1.2	1.0	1.3
Food at home-----	.7	1.2	-.1	1.8	-.1	-.5	.8	1.2	.9	.7	.8
Cereals and bakery products--	2.1	2.4	1.6	3.9	1.9	.6	6.5	1.0	2.1	3.9	.7
Meats, poultry, and fish----	2.4	2.2	1.2	2.9	1.2	1.1	.8	4.3	2.5	2.1	1.9
Dairy products-----	-.7	-.8	-2.1	.7	-.5	-1.3	.7	-.5	-.7	-3.2	.8
Fruits and vegetables-----	.8	1.9	.4	2.1	-.7	-1.4	1.1	.1	1.4	.6	3.1
Other foods at home-----	-1.5	.5	-1.1	-.3	-2.1	-1.8	-3.7	-.9	-.9	-.4	-2.4
Housing-----	.9	0	1.2	.6	.6	-.9	.8	1.3	.5	.4	1.4
Rent-----	1.2	.8	1.0	1/----	.3	-.9	1/----	2.4	1/----	.7	3.4
Gas and electricity-----	0	-.1	-.4	-.4	-.5	-.7	.2	-.9	0	0	1.2
Solid and petroleum fuels----	.5	1.8	-1.3	1.9	1.0	-.5	----	-.6	1.3	-.1	----
Housefurnishings-----	-.6	-1.8	-1.7	1.1	.6	-1.0	-.2	.1	-1.6	-.7	-.2
Household operation-----	1.4	2.5	4.4	2.2	.8	-.2	.2	2.0	2.0	.7	2.3
Apparel-----	.4	-.2	.3	-.8	.8	.6	0	.5	.6	-.2	1.0
Men's and boys'-----	.5	-1.2	1.1	.8	.4	1.0	.0	.6	.4	-.1	.7
Women's and girls'-----	-.1	-.4	-.4	-2.5	.9	.5	-.9	.3	.7	-.6	1.2
Footwear-----	1.4	1.8	1.3	.5	2.4	.4	.6	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.2
Other apparel-----	-.3	1.1	-.8	-1.2	-.5	0	-.5	-1.3	-.6	-1.9	1.2
Transportation-----	2.1	2.0	0	1.8	1.9	2.3	3.4	.7	.6	1.3	1.9
Private-----	1.8	2.5	-.2	2.3	.6	2.8	3.4	1.0	.6	1.3	2.1
Public-----	3.3	-.2	.6	0	9.9	0	2.9	0	1.2	.5	.6
Medical care-----	2.6	3.1	2.1	3.3	2.2	3.2	3.1	2.1	3.9	5.1	4.6
Personal care-----	1.8	1.6	.6	.8	.6	.3	.6	2.5	-.6	.8	1.7
Reading and recreation-----	2.2	0	-1.1	-.4	2.8	1.2	1.5	1.7	-1.2	4.0	1.8
Other goods and services-----	.7	.4	.2	0	-.3	1.6	-.5	.5	.6	1.4	-.4

1/ Not available.

Brief Explanation of the CPI

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures average changes in prices of goods and services usually bought by city families of wage earners and clerical workers. It is based on prices of about 300 items which were selected so that their price changes would represent the movement of prices of all goods and services purchased by wage and clerical families; they include all of the important items in family spending. Prices for these items are obtained in 46 cities which were chosen to represent all urban places in the United States; they are collected from grocery and department stores, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments which wage-earner and clerical-worker families patronize.

Prices of foods, fuels, and a few other items are obtained every month in all 46 cities. Prices of most other commodities and services are collected every month in the 5 largest cities and every 3 months in other cities. Mail questionnaires are used to obtain local transit fares, public utility rates, newspaper prices, fuel prices, and certain other items which change in price infrequently. Prices of most other goods and services are obtained by personal visits of the Bureau's trained representatives.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each city are averaged together with weights which represent their importance in family spending. City data are then combined in the total index with weights based on the 1950 populations of cities they represent. Index numbers are computed on the base 1957-59 = 100.

The national index (the United States city average) includes prices from the 20 large cities for which separate indexes are published in this report, as well as from the following 26 medium-sized and small cities:

Anna, Illinois	Huntington, W. Virginia	Pulaski, Virginia
Camden, Arkansas	Laconia, New Hampshire	Ravenna, Ohio
Canton, Ohio	Lodi, California	Rawlins, Wyoming
Charleston, W. Virginia	Lynchburg, Virginia	San Jose, California
Evansville, Indiana	Madill, Oklahoma	Sandpoint, Idaho
Garrett, Indiana	Madison, Wisconsin	Shawnee, Oklahoma
Glendale, Arizona	Middlesboro, Kentucky	Shenandoah, Iowa
Grand Forks, N. Dakota	Middletown, Connecticut	Youngstown, Ohio
Grand Island, Nebraska	Newark, Ohio	

Comparisons of city indexes show only that prices in one city changed more or less than in another. The city indexes cannot be used to measure differences in price levels or in living costs between cities.

A description of the index and historical tables of index numbers for the United States city average and for 20 large cities are available on request to the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington or any of its regional offices (addresses below). The historical tables for the U.S. include index numbers for All Items, Food, Apparel, and Rent for periods from 1913 to date; and for other groups of goods and services from 1935 to date.

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1371 Peachtree
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San Francisco
630 Sansome Street
Zone 11

New York
341 Ninth Avenue
Zone 1

Boston
18 Oliver Street
Zone 10

Chicago
105 West Adams Street
Zone 3

Cleveland
1365 Ontario Street
Zone 14

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