

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

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MAY 1963

The May Consumer Price Index, at 106.2 (1957-59=100), was unchanged for the second consecutive month, the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics announced today. Prices increased in May for transportation and medical care, but were lower for food, apparel, housing, and reading and recreation. The index was up by 1.0 percent from a year ago, principally because of higher prices for food and housing, although all major types of goods and services shared in the advance.

FOOD A decrease of 0.1 percent in average food prices in May was largely the result of reductions in prices of meats, poultry, eggs, and dairy products. The effect of these decreases was partly offset by price rises for most fruits and vegetables and sugar.

Meat, poultry, and fish prices declined 0.3 percent as decreases continued for all types of meats except lamb. Beef and veal prices were down 0.2 percent and pork dropped 0.4 percent, with the sharpest decreases reported for veal cutlets and ham. Lamb prices rose 3.0 percent in May and were 4.0 percent above last year.

Prices for fruits and vegetables advanced 1.7 percent, as most items were higher. Prices of oranges and orange juice continued to rise, and apples, bananas, grapefruit, onions, and tomatoes were also higher. However, there were sharp decreases for fresh corn, lettuce, and strawberries.

Prices of eggs and dairy products continued to decline, with decreases of 11.3 and 0.1 percent, respectively. Sugar prices advanced 6.2 percent and were 9.4 percent above a year ago.

Over the last year, food prices have climbed by 1.0 percent, with restaurant meals up by 2.5 percent, fruits and vegetables 4.1 percent, and cereals and bakery products 1.7 percent. Prices of meats and dairy products continued slightly lower than a year ago in May.

HOUSING The housing index declined 0.1 percent from April to May, and was 1.0 percent above a year ago. Housefurnishings costs and electricity were slightly lower over the month, homeownership costs decreased a little, and solid and petroleum fuel prices dropped 1.7 percent. Household operation costs and residential rents both increased 0.1 percent.

OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES Apparel prices decreased 0.1 percent in May and were 1.0 percent above last year. A decline of 0.3 percent in women's and girls' apparel prices during the month more than offset slightly higher prices for men's and boys' clothing and footwear.

The medical care index advanced 0.3 percent, as all items edged upward slightly.

The transportation index climbed 0.4 percent in May, as gasoline prices advanced 0.7 percent and used cars increased 0.3 percent. New car prices were unchanged on the average. Reading and recreation prices decreased 0.3 percent, influenced primarily by a decline in movie admission charges.

COST-OF-LIVING
ADJUSTMENTS

As a result of the May index, cost-of-living allowances will increase 1 cent an hour for about 90,000 workers, primarily in the meatpacking, aerospace, and chemical industries. An additional 25,000 grocery department employees of supermarkets will receive a 1 cent increase based on the Los Angeles index.

TABLE 1: Consumer Price Index--United States city average
Major group, subgroup, and special group indexes, May 1963
and percent changes from selected dates

(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)		Percent change to May 1963 from--			Indexes	
	May 1963	April 1963	April 1963	February 1963	May 1962	1947-49=100	1939=100
						May 1963	May 1963
All items-----	106.2	106.2	0	0.1	1.0	130.3	219.3
Food-----	104.2	104.3	- 0.1	- .8	1.0	123.0	261.1
Food at home-----	102.5	102.6	- .1	- 1.0	.6	119.1	252.9
Cereals and bakery products-----	109.3	109.2	.1	.1	1.7	144.9	253.3
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	98.0	98.3	- .3	- 4.0	- 1.6	108.1	260.0
Dairy products-----	102.8	102.9	- .1	- .8	- .2	116.4	233.6
Fruits and vegetables-----	113.9	112.0	1.7	4.1	4.1	140.8	304.2
Other foods at home-----	94.5	96.2	- 1.8	- 2.7	.1	104.4	215.8
Food away from home-----	112.9	112.8	.1	.4	2.5	(1/)	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	105.7	105.8	- .1	.3	1.0	134.8	177.1
Rent-----	106.6	106.5	.1	.2	1.0	146.6	169.2
Gas and electricity-----	107.4	107.5	- .1	- .6	- .3	125.2	119.4
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	102.4	104.2	- 1.7	- 2.3	2.3	139.6	247.4
Housefurnishings-----	98.4	98.5	- .1	.1	- .6	102.4	191.8
Household operation-----	110.0	109.9	.1	.6	2.4	144.2	210.8
Apparel-----	103.7	103.8	- .1	.4	1.0	111.2	211.8
Men's and boys'-----	104.2	104.1	.1	.5	1.1	113.3	223.1
Women's and girls'-----	101.1	101.4	- .3	.4	1.1	100.4	184.3
Footwear-----	110.3	110.2	.1	.4	1.1	144.5	287.2
Other apparel-----	100.9	100.9	0	0	.3	92.9	228.8
Transportation-----	107.4	107.0	.4	.6	.1	151.3	215.5
Private-----	106.0	105.5	.5	.7	0	138.1	210.9
Public-----	116.5	116.5	0	.2	.8	216.9	266.7
Medical care-----	116.4	116.1	.3	.7	2.0	168.2	231.8
Personal care-----	107.8	107.6	.2	.5	1.3	138.1	231.8
Reading and recreation-----	110.7	111.0	- .3	.6	1.1	128.2	203.5
Other goods and services-----	106.0	105.8	.2	.3	.9	135.0	191.4
Special groups:							
All items less food-----	107.0	107.0	0	.4	.9	134.2	194.2
All items less shelter-----	106.1	106.1	0	0	.9	127.7	230.6
Commodities-----	103.6	103.6	0	- .2	.6	119.7	232.0
Nondurables-----	104.2	104.2	0	- .3	1.0	122.3	238.1
Food-----	104.2	104.3	- .1	- .8	1.0	123.0	261.1
Nondurables less food-----	104.2	104.3	- .1	.1	1.7	122.0	207.8
Apparel-----	103.5	103.6	- .1	.3	1.0	111.0	212.9
Apparel less footwear-----	102.2	102.3	- .1	.4	1.0	105.2	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	104.7	104.7	0	- .1	.7	131.6	199.7
Durables-----	101.0	100.9	.1	.4	- .5	111.9	195.3
New cars-----	4/101.1	101.1	0	- .6	- .7	4/ 135.9	4/ 238.3
Used cars-----	115.7	115.4	.3	4.5	.3	(1/)	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	98.3	98.4	- .1	- .1	- .6	101.3	176.9
Commodities less food-----	103.0	103.0	0	.3	.4	117.0	196.9
Services-----	111.1	111.1	0	.5	1.6	157.8	196.1
Rent-----	106.6	106.5	.1	.2	1.0	146.6	169.2
Services less rent-----	111.9	111.9	0	.6	1.6	160.4	218.3
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	110.2	110.2	0	.3	1.7	144.6	166.2
Transportation services-----	112.2	112.0	.2	.7	.6	193.9	242.0
Medical care services-----	119.5	119.2	.3	.7	2.5	178.3	252.9
Other services 3/-----	110.3	110.5	- .2	.6	1.5	142.4	244.2
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (Reference period=\$1.00)-----	\$0.942	\$0.942	0	- .1	- .9	\$0.768	\$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.

4/ Revised Indexes: 1957-59=100 1947-49=100 1939=100
March 1963 - 101.4 136.3 239.0
April 1963 - 101.1 135.9 238.3

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 May 1963 from--		Indexes	
	May 1963	February 1963	May 1962	February 1963	May 1962	1947-49=100	1939=100
						May 1963	May 1963
United States city average	106.2	106.1	105.2	0.1	1.0	130.3	219.3
Cities priced monthly ^{1/}							
Chicago	105.0	104.7	104.6	.3	.4	132.4	226.0
Detroit	102.4	102.6	102.0	-.2	.4	126.3	213.9
Los Angeles	107.6	107.8	106.9	-.2	.7	134.2	222.1
New York	107.8	107.6	105.7	.2	2.0	129.9	216.1
Philadelphia	106.2	106.2	104.7	0	1.4	130.4	220.3
Cities priced in February, May, August, November ^{2/}	May 1963	February 1963	May 1962	February 1963	May 1962	May 1963	May 1963
Cleveland	104.3	104.3	103.5	0	.8	129.5	218.9
Houston	104.4	105.0	104.7	-.6	-.3	128.6	216.1
Scranton	106.7	106.9	105.7	-.2	.9	127.3	217.6
Seattle	107.4	107.2	106.3	.2	1.0	135.0	228.1
Washington, D. C.	106.1	105.6	104.2	.5	1.8	127.7	211.4
Cities priced in January, April, July, October ^{2/}	April 1963	January 1963	April 1962	January 1963	April 1962	April 1963	April 1963
Boston	109.2	108.6	107.1	.6	2.0	135.3	221.8
Kansas City	106.4	105.9	105.7	.5	.7	131.6	213.3
Minneapolis	106.5	106.0	105.5	.5	.9	131.7	217.2
Pittsburgh	106.3	106.5	105.7	-.2	.6	131.0	225.5
Portland, Oregon	106.2	105.7	103.9	.5	2.2	131.6	225.7
Cities priced in March, June, September, December ^{2/}	March 1963	December 1962	March 1962	December 1962	March 1962	March 1963	March 1963
Atlanta	104.9	104.5	103.7	.4	1.2	129.9	222.8
Baltimore	106.2	105.7	104.6	.5	1.5	131.8	227.7
Cincinnati	104.5	104.0	103.3	.5	1.2	127.2	217.9
St. Louis	105.8	106.0	104.8	-.2	1.0	131.3	221.4
San Francisco	108.4	107.8	107.3	.6	1.0	137.6	234.8

^{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 April 1963 to May 1963
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	- 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.1	0.4	0.3	0.2	- 0.3	0.2
Chicago	0	-.3	-.1	-.1	.8	0	.1	-.8	0
Detroit	0.3	-.1	-.1	.1	2.8	.1	.3	-.1	.1
Los Angeles	-.4	-.7	-.1	.4	-.8	.1	.5	-.7	0
New York	-.1	0	-.2	-.7	-.2	.2	.3	-.3	.3
Philadelphia	-.2	.1	-.4	-.9	.2	0	.1	0	0

TABLE 4: Consumer Price Index--All items and commodity groups
 May 1963 indexes and percent changes, February 1963 to May 1963
 U.S. city average and 10 cities priced in May 1963

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Cleve- land	Detroit	Houston	Los Angeles	New York	Phila- delphia	Scranton	Seattle	Washington, D. C.
Indexes (1957-59=100)											
All items-----	106.2	105.0	104.3	102.4	104.4	107.6	107.8	106.2	106.7	107.4	106.1
Food-----	104.2	104.7	100.7	100.7	102.0	105.9	106.3	103.2	103.1	106.7	103.3
Food at home-----	102.5	103.8	99.3	99.6	98.8	103.3	103.5	101.2	101.9	104.2	101.5
Cereals and bakery products--	109.3	110.7	106.6	103.7	101.2	115.0	112.9	105.7	108.3	107.2	108.8
Meats, poultry, and fish----	98.0	99.3	97.9	95.2	95.8	95.0	100.5	95.9	96.8	101.1	95.5
Dairy products-----	102.8	110.4	96.7	104.0	99.0	108.1	100.1	100.5	99.4	107.5	101.1
Fruits and vegetables-----	113.9	111.1	109.1	107.7	108.0	117.6	115.6	114.9	115.5	117.2	111.1
Other foods at home-----	94.5	95.4	90.9	92.8	93.8	90.5	94.0	95.1	95.9	94.2	97.0
Housing-----	105.7	104.2	101.9	98.1	104.0	108.0	109.0	106.7	104.8	107.2	105.1
Rent-----	106.6	104.8	101.1	-----	99.8	106.7	-----	107.5	106.7	110.7	109.5
Gas and electricity-----	107.4	105.7	107.4	105.5	132.5	114.5	100.0	102.7	104.5	100.1	103.8
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	102.4	102.5	105.5	100.4	-----	-----	103.1	105.7	93.4	104.2	103.1
Housefurnishings-----	98.4	100.8	95.1	98.1	98.3	98.3	103.1	97.6	94.5	96.8	98.2
Household operation-----	110.0	107.6	107.4	105.5	107.5	106.1	112.1	115.4	111.7	115.8	113.4
Apparel-----	103.7	101.2	104.3	104.8	104.9	103.9	103.1	105.2	104.7	106.3	105.7
Men's and boys'-----	104.2	102.7	103.2	102.3	105.4	105.0	105.0	105.6	106.4	107.7	104.2
Women's and girls'-----	101.1	96.2	101.2	104.4	103.9	102.2	99.6	103.8	103.3	103.5	104.0
Footwear-----	110.3	110.7	114.6	111.3	109.5	109.1	110.4	110.4	107.4	113.2	113.3
Other apparel-----	100.9	98.9	103.4	100.7	101.9	100.2	100.0	101.9	100.2	102.5	104.8
Transportation-----	107.4	107.4	107.3	103.5	102.0	111.5	105.2	111.7	107.9	108.0	106.2
Private-----	106.0	107.6	106.0	101.3	100.1	107.6	107.0	108.3	107.6	106.7	104.9
Public-----	116.5	107.4	114.8	114.4	115.1	138.5	100.6	123.7	110.1	118.7	113.8
Medical care-----	116.4	120.0	126.5	115.4	110.0	115.2	116.9	121.1	115.8	110.5	125.1
Personal care-----	107.8	107.4	105.6	107.7	111.5	105.9	107.2	106.2	114.8	107.5	106.9
Reading and recreation-----	110.7	100.0	107.0	106.8	110.6	101.7	116.0	100.0	127.9	106.8	111.5
Other goods and services-----	106.0	100.9	107.2	108.9	107.2	106.0	106.2	104.4	108.2	110.0	102.6
Percent change from February 1963 to May 1963											
All items-----	0.1	0.3	0	- 0.2	- 0.6	- 0.2	0.2	0	- 0.2	0.2	0.5
Food-----	-.8	-.7	- 1.5	- 1.0	- 1.0	- 1.8	-.5	- 1.1	- 1.2	-.2	.1
Food at home-----	- 1.0	-.8	- 1.8	- 1.2	- 1.4	- 2.4	-.8	- 1.6	- 1.4	-.4	-.1
Cereals and bakery products--	.1	.3	.9	-.7	- 2.8	- 3.1	-.3	0	- 3.5	.3	.6
Meats, poultry, and fish----	- 4.0	- 4.3	- 5.0	- 3.4	- 3.3	- 5.0	- 2.9	- 4.8	- 4.3	- 3.3	- 4.8
Dairy products-----	-.8	0	- 2.7	- 2.6	2.3	-.4	- 1.2	- 2.8	- 2.3	1.0	.7
Fruits and vegetables-----	4.1	5.5	3.0	4.8	-.5	.9	4.8	4.8	6.7	5.8	5.1
Other foods at home-----	- 2.7	- 2.5	- 3.0	- 2.9	- 1.6	- 3.6	- 2.6	- 2.6	- 1.6	- 3.5	0
Housing-----	.3	.6	-.3	.2	.5	1.3	-.1	1.3	-.2	1.2	.8
Rent-----	.2	<u>1/</u> .2	-.1	-----	.4	<u>1/</u> .3	-----	<u>1/</u> .1	-.4	.4	.3
Gas and electricity-----	-.6	-.7	0	.5	-.1	-.2	- 4.9	0	-.7	0	- 2.2
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	- 2.3	- 2.1	- 3.5	0	-----	-----	- 2.2	- 2.1	- 5.7	0	- 2.1
Housefurnishings-----	.1	.2	-.6	.6	0	-.7	.3	-.5	.2	-.9	1.0
Household operation-----	.6	0	.1	.2	0	.2	.2	.6	1.2	5.8	.7
Apparel-----	.4	.4	1.2	.3	-.4	0	-.5	-.9	.1	-.3	.3
Men's and boys'-----	.5	.5	.8	.1	1.7	-.1	0	.9	.4	.2	.7
Women's and girls'-----	.4	.2	1.2	0	- 1.9	.2	-.8	- 2.4	0	-.8	-.6
Footwear-----	.4	.6	1.9	1.1	.6	0	-.9	0	.3	-.2	1.4
Other apparel-----	0	-.4	.7	.2	-.7	0	-.3	- 1.4	.5	0	.1
Transportation-----	.6	1.7	.1	-.1	- 4.4	-.4	.3	.5	2.0	-.6	1.6
Private-----	.7	2.2	.1	-.1	- 5.0	-.4	.5	.7	2.4	-.7	1.2
Public-----	.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.7
Medical care-----	.7	.8	6.3	.2	.3	.6	.4	.2	1.0	.5	1.3
Personal care-----	.5	.1	1.2	.4	.6	.7	.8	.4	.3	.2	.6
Reading and recreation-----	.6	-.5	-.6	1.0	.3	- 1.2	5.2	-.2	0	1.7	-.8
Other goods and services-----	.3	0	.4	0	0	0	1.1	0	.4	.1	0

1/ Change from March 1963 to May 1963.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--Food and its subgroups
 May 1963 Indexes and Percent Changes, April 1963 to May 1963
 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--	104.2	- 0.1	102.5	- 0.1	109.3	0.1	98.0	- 0.3	102.8	- 0.1	113.9	1.7	94.5	- 1.8
Atlanta-----	102.3	- .4	101.5	- .5	105.0	.3	96.9	- .4	102.8	.2	108.9	0	99.4	- 1.6
Baltimore-----	103.5	0	100.7	- .1	108.1	0	96.6	- 1.4	98.3	.2	110.3	3.5	96.1	- .9
Boston-----	106.2	- .4	103.9	- .5	110.6	.2	103.1	- .2	96.3	.1	115.9	.3	96.8	- 2.6
Chicago-----	104.7	- .3	103.8	- .3	110.7	.3	99.3	.2	110.4	.1	111.1	0	95.4	- 1.9
Cincinnati-----	102.3	- .1	100.5	.2	107.2	4.7	96.5	- .7	103.0	.3	112.8	1.0	90.8	- 2.5
Cleveland-----	100.7	- .1	99.3	0	106.6	- .3	97.9	0	96.7	- 1.0	109.1	2.9	90.9	- 2.0
Detroit-----	100.7	- .1	99.6	0	103.7	- .4	95.2	.6	104.0	.5	107.7	1.0	92.8	- 2.1
Houston-----	102.0	.2	98.8	.2	101.2	0	95.8	- .1	99.0	2.5	108.0	- .3	93.8	- .5
Kansas City-----	102.1	- 1.2	100.8	- 1.4	108.3	.3	94.1	- 1.4	102.4	- 3.0	110.2	- 1.3	96.2	- 1.5
Los Angeles-----	105.9	- .7	103.3	- 1.0	115.0	- 2.8	95.0	- .1	108.1	.1	117.6	- .9	90.5	- 1.5
Minneapolis-----	101.7	- .3	99.8	- .3	102.1	1.3	97.4	.5	102.2	.5	108.4	- .3	93.0	- 3.1
New York-----	106.3	0	103.5	0	112.9	0	100.5	.3	100.1	- .7	115.6	1.9	94.0	- 1.9
Philadelphia-----	103.2	- .1	101.2	- .1	105.7	- .1	95.9	.9	100.5	- .6	114.9	2.0	95.1	- 2.2
Pittsburgh-----	103.2	- .1	102.8	- .1	111.2	.5	100.6	- 1.1	97.2	- .4	115.6	4.0	95.4	- 1.6
Portland, Oreg.-----	104.1	- .4	102.2	- .5	106.7	- .1	99.9	- .3	105.4	- .1	114.2	.7	91.2	- 2.9
St. Louis-----	103.1	- .9	100.5	- 1.3	106.5	0	94.7	- 2.8	102.4	- .2	111.8	.4	94.4	- 2.2
San Francisco-----	105.9	- .6	103.6	- .8	110.7	0	99.5	- 1.5	106.7	.2	115.6	.1	92.2	- 1.8
Scranton-----	103.1	0	101.9	0	108.3	.2	96.8	- 1.4	99.4	0	115.5	3.3	95.9	- 1.0
Seattle-----	106.7	- .6	104.2	- .6	107.2	.3	101.1	- 1.5	107.5	.1	117.2	1.9	94.2	- 2.8
Washington, D. C.-----	103.3	- .4	101.5	- .5	108.8	- .1	95.5	- .8	101.1	.4	111.1	2.5	97.0	- .4

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

Food and unit	May 1963		April 1963		Food and unit	May 1963		April 1963	
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents		Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Cereals and bakery products:					Fresh--Continued				
Flour, wheat-----5 lb.	57.3	56.6	57.3	56.6	Grapefruit-----each	16.6	15.8	16.6	15.8
Biscuit mix-----40 oz.	48.1	48.1	48.1	48.1	Peaches *-----lb.	*	*	*	*
Macaroni-----16 oz.	25.0	24.9	25.0	24.9	Strawberries *-----pt.	34.4	40.0	34.4	40.0
Corn meal-----lb.	14.5	14.4	14.5	14.4	Grapes, seedless *-----lb.	*	*	*	*
Rolled oats-----18 oz.	24.1	24.1	24.1	24.1	Watermelons *-----lb.	*	*	*	*
Corn flakes-----12 oz.	28.4	28.3	28.4	28.3	Potatoes-----10 lb.	64.4	63.0	64.4	63.0
Rice, short grain-----lb.	19.4	19.3	19.4	19.3	Sweet potatoes-----lb.	13.6	13.4	13.6	13.4
Rice, long grain-----lb.	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.6	Corn *-----doz. ears	103.9	115.8	103.9	115.8
Bread, white-----lb.	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.6	Onions-----lb.	11.6	10.8	11.6	10.8
Soda crackers-----lb.	31.0	31.1	31.0	31.1	Carrots-----lb.	14.4	13.8	14.4	13.8
Sandwich cookies-----16 oz.	52.3	52.3	52.3	52.3	Lettuce-----head	22.9	28.0	22.9	28.0
Meats, poultry, and fish:					Canned:				
Round steak-----lb.	104.7	104.7	104.7	104.7	Orange juice-----46 oz. can	52.3	50.8	52.3	50.8
Sirloin steak-----lb.	108.0	107.5	108.0	107.5	Pineapple juice-----46 oz. can	32.9	32.9	32.9	32.9
Chuck roast-----lb.	59.0	59.2	59.0	59.2	Peaches-----#2½ can	32.6	32.3	32.6	32.3
Rib roast-----lb.	82.3	82.2	82.3	82.2	Pineapple-----#2 can	39.2	39.0	39.2	39.0
Hamburger-----lb.	50.8	51.0	50.8	51.0	Fruit cocktail-----#303 can	25.2	25.3	25.2	25.3
Veal cutlets-----lb.	150.0	151.0	150.0	151.0	Corn, cream style-----#303 can	19.3	19.1	19.3	19.1
Pork chops, center cut-----lb.	83.1	81.1	83.1	81.1	Peas, green-----#303 can	22.5	22.6	22.5	22.6
Pork roast-----lb.	59.3	59.7	59.3	59.7	Tomatoes-----#303 can	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.4
Bacon, sliced-----lb.	64.4	64.3	64.4	64.3	Tomato juice-----46 oz. can	31.6	31.6	31.6	31.6
Ham, whole-----lb.	58.2	60.4	58.2	60.4	Baby foods-----4½ to 5 oz.	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9
Lamb, leg-----lb.	73.1	71.0	73.1	71.0	Dried:				
Frankfurters-----lb.	62.8	63.1	62.8	63.1	Prunes-----lb.	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0
Luncheon meat, canned-----12 oz.	50.2	50.7	50.2	50.7	Beans-----lb.	17.8	17.8	17.8	17.8
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook-----lb.	39.7	40.3	39.7	40.3	Other foods at home:				
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen-----lb.	52.8	52.5	52.8	52.5	Tomato soup-----10½ to 11 oz. can	12.4	12.4	12.4	12.4
Haddock, fillet, frozen-----lb.	57.9	57.3	57.9	57.3	Beans, with pork-----16 oz. can	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
Salmon, pink, canned-----16 oz.	72.1	71.8	72.1	71.8	Pickles, sliced-----15 oz.	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0
Tuna fish, canned-----6 to 6½ oz.	34.3	34.1	34.3	34.1	Catsup, tomato-----14 oz.	22.2	22.2	22.2	22.2
Dairy products:					Potato chips-----4 oz.	28.0	28.0	28.0	28.0
Milk, fresh, (grocery)-----qt.	24.0	24.1	24.0	24.1	Coffee-----lb. can	69.0	68.7	69.0	68.7
Milk, fresh, (delivered)-----qt.	25.6	25.7	25.6	25.7	Coffee-----lb. bag	56.4	56.9	56.4	56.9
Ice cream-----½ gal.	84.7	84.4	84.7	84.4	Coffee, instant-----6 oz.	92.6	92.7	92.6	92.7
Butter-----lb.	74.9	74.8	74.9	74.8	Tea bags-----pkg. of 48	63.8	63.0	63.8	63.0
Cheese, American process-----½ lb.	36.2	36.0	36.2	36.0	Cola drink, carton-----72 oz.	50.7	50.3	50.7	50.3
Milk, evaporated-----14½ oz. can	15.4	15.4	15.4	15.4	Shortening, hydrogenated-----3 lb.	83.9	85.0	83.9	85.0
Fruits and vegetables:					Margarine, colored-----lb.	27.3	27.4	27.3	27.4
Frozen:					Lard-----lb.	19.8	19.9	19.8	19.9
Strawberries-----10 oz.	27.5	27.4	27.5	27.4	Salad dressing-----pt.	37.7	37.8	37.7	37.8
Orange juice concentrate-----6 oz.	30.9	28.4	30.9	28.4	Peanut butter-----lb.	57.7	57.6	57.7	57.6
Lemonade concentrate-----6 oz.	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	Sugar-----5 lb.	63.7	60.0	63.7	60.0
Peas, green-----10 oz.	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.1	Corn syrup-----24 oz.	28.5	28.4	28.5	28.4
Beans, green-----9 oz.	23.5	23.4	23.5	23.4	Grape jelly-----12 oz.	29.7	29.8	29.7	29.8
Potatoes, french fried-----9 oz.	18.3	18.3	18.3	18.3	Chocolate bar-----1 oz.	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
Fresh:					Eggs, Grade A, large-----doz.	48.9	55.2	48.9	55.2
Apples-----lb.	18.4	17.1	18.4	17.1	Gelatin, flavored-----3 to 4 oz.	9.9	9.8	9.9	9.8
Bananas-----lb.	16.5	16.2	16.5	16.2					
Oranges, size 200-----doz.	99.0	95.8	99.0	95.8					
Lemons-----lb.	23.6	24.1	23.6	24.1					

* 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
1371 Peachtree
Street, N.E.
Zone 9

New York
341 Ninth Avenue
Zone 1

Chicago
105 West Adams Street
Zone 3

San Francisco
630 Sansome Street
Zone 11

Boston
18 Oliver Street
Zone 10

Cleveland
1365 Ontario Street
Zone 14

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