

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

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR JULY 1963

The Consumer Price Index increased by 0.5 percent in July to a new high, the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics announced today. Prices advanced for most major types of goods and services, with substantial increases reported for food and gasoline. The July index, at 107.1 (1957-59=100), was 1.5 percent above a year ago, primarily because of higher prices for food, housing, medical care, and tobacco.

FOOD

Sharp increases in prices of pork and fresh vegetables were the major cause of a 1.1 percent rise in average food prices in July. Seasonally low supplies of apples and drought-shortened supplies of lettuce and tomatoes caused their prices to advance. Watermelon prices were substantially lower as production reached its seasonal peak in July. Fresh orange prices continued to decline in July from the high levels which they reached earlier this year, but frozen orange juice concentrate and canned orange juice prices continued to advance.

Meat prices averaged higher because pork prices jumped by more than 5 percent as hog marketings declined seasonally. In spite of their increase in July, average pork prices still were a little lower than a year ago. Beef and veal prices also advanced moderately in July, but were lower than last year at the same time. Prices of eggs were up as production dropped seasonally.

Soft drink prices rose significantly, reflecting earlier advances in industrial sugar prices. Retail prices of sugar dropped in July, but remained 35 percent above a year earlier. On the whole, food prices averaged 2.3 percent higher than a year ago, primarily because of price increases averaging 8 percent for fruits and vegetables, nearly 2 percent for bread, and more than 4 percent for eggs.

HOUSING

The housing index edged up 0.1 percent in July, to a level 1.1 percent above a year earlier. Costs of homeownership continued to rise slightly because of increasing costs of upkeep. Residential rents, gas and electricity, and housefurnishings prices averaged unchanged over the month. Costs of housekeeping services advanced and coal prices were also up slightly.

OTHER GOODS
AND SERVICES

Transportation costs averaged 0.4 percent higher from June to July. Price increases for gasoline were partially offset by declines in new car prices. Costs of medical care were slightly higher than last month because of increased physicians' and dentists' fees and higher room rates in hospitals. Reading and recreation became somewhat more costly, primarily as a result of higher costs of movie admissions. Prices of tobacco products increased by 0.4 percent in July and were 3.9 percent above last year at the same time. Apparel prices averaged unchanged over the month.

COST-OF-LIVING
ADJUSTMENTS

As a result of the July national index, cost-of-living allowances, based on quarterly reviews, will increase by 1 to 3 cents an hour for about 1,025,000 workers, primarily in the automotive, aerospace, and the farm and construction equipment industries. Increases for an additional 25,000 workers, largely in the trucking and cartage industry where most reviews are semiannual or annual, range from 1 to 8 cents. Another 16,000 employees will receive 2½ to 4½ cents an hour based on reviews of city indexes.

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

(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)		Percent change to July 1963 from--			Indexes	
	July 1963	June 1963	June 1963	April 1963	July 1962	1947-49=100	1939=100
						July 1963	July 1963
All items-----	107.1	106.6	0.5	0.8	1.5	131.4	221.2
Food-----	106.2	105.0	1.1	1.8	2.3	125.3	266.1
Food at home-----	104.8	103.4	1.4	2.1	2.3	121.8	258.6
Cereals and bakery products-----	109.2	109.2	0	0	1.2	144.8	253.0
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	100.2	98.4	1.8	1.9	-.6	110.5	265.8
Dairy products-----	103.3	102.8	.5	.4	-.2	116.9	234.8
Fruits and vegetables-----	118.7	115.6	2.7	6.0	8.0	146.7	317.0
Other foods at home-----	97.8	96.9	.9	1.7	3.9	108.1	223.3
Food away from home-----	113.1	113.0	.1	.3	2.0	(1/)	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	106.0	105.9	.1	.2	1.1	135.2	177.6
Rent-----	106.7	106.7	0	.2	.9	146.7	169.4
Gas and electricity-----	108.1	108.1	0	.6	.1	126.0	120.1
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	102.3	102.1	.2	- 1.8	2.6	139.4	247.2
Housefurnishings-----	98.5	98.5	0	0	-.5	102.5	192.0
Household operation-----	110.3	110.2	.1	.4	2.6	144.6	211.4
Apparel-----	103.9	103.9	0	.1	1.0	111.4	212.2
Men's and boys'-----	104.5	104.4	.1	.4	1.3	113.6	223.7
Women's and girls'-----	101.2	101.2	0	-.2	.8	100.5	184.4
Footwear-----	110.5	110.6	-.1	.3	1.2	144.8	287.7
Other apparel-----	101.1	101.0	.1	.2	.3	93.1	229.3
Transportation-----	107.8	107.4	.4	.7	.9	151.9	216.3
Private-----	106.4	106.1	.3	.9	.9	138.6	211.7
Public-----	116.6	116.6	0	.1	.9	217.1	267.0
Medical care-----	116.9	116.8	.1	.7	2.0	168.9	232.8
Personal care-----	108.0	107.8	.2	.4	1.1	138.3	232.2
Reading and recreation-----	111.5	110.9	.5	.5	1.4	129.1	205.0
Other goods and services-----	108.0	107.6	.4	2.1	2.3	137.6	195.0
Special groups:							
All items less food-----	107.5	107.3	.2	.5	1.3	134.8	195.1
All items less shelter-----	107.1	106.6	.5	.9	1.6	128.9	232.8
Commodities-----	104.7	104.1	.6	1.1	1.6	120.9	234.5
Nondurables-----	105.5	104.8	.7	1.2	1.9	123.9	241.0
Food-----	106.2	105.0	1.1	1.8	2.3	125.3	266.1
Nondurables less food-----	104.8	104.5	.3	.5	1.5	122.7	209.0
Apparel-----	103.7	103.7	0	.1	.9	111.2	213.3
Apparel less footwear-----	102.4	102.4	0	.1	.9	105.4	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	105.5	105.0	.5	.8	1.9	132.6	201.2
Durables-----	101.3	101.3	0	.4	-.2	112.2	195.9
New cars-----	100.5	101.2	-.7	-.6	-.6	135.1	236.9
Used cars-----	118.1	117.7	.3	2.3	.9	(1/)	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	98.5	98.4	.1	.1	-.2	101.6	177.3
Commodities less food-----	103.5	103.3	.2	.5	1.0	117.6	197.8
Services-----	111.5	111.3	.2	.4	1.5	158.3	196.8
Rent-----	106.7	106.7	0	.2	.9	146.7	169.4
Services less rent-----	112.4	112.2	.2	.4	1.7	161.1	219.2
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	110.7	110.6	.1	.5	1.9	145.2	166.9
Transportation services-----	112.4	112.3	.1	.4	.6	194.2	242.4
Medical care services-----	120.2	120.1	.1	.8	2.6	179.3	254.3
Other services 3/-----	110.9	110.5	.4	.4	1.6	143.2	245.5
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (Reference period=\$1.00)-----	\$0.934	\$0.938	-.4	-.8	- 1.5	\$0.761	\$0.452

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 July 1963 from--		Indexes 1947-49=100 1939=100	
	July 1963	April 1963	July 1962	April 1963	July 1962	July 1963	July 1963
	United States city average	107.1	106.2	105.5	0.8	1.5	131.4
Cities priced monthly 1/							
Chicago	106.0	105.0	104.5	1.0	1.4	133.7	228.1
Detroit	103.9	102.1	101.9	1.8	2.0	128.1	217.1
Los Angeles	108.0	108.0	106.8	0	1.1	134.7	222.9
New York	109.2	107.9	106.4	1.2	2.6	131.6	218.9
Philadelphia	107.4	106.4	105.3	.9	2.0	131.9	222.8
Cities priced in January, April, July, October 2/							
Boston	109.8	109.2	107.2	.5	2.4	136.0	223.0
Kansas City	107.1	106.4	106.0	.7	1.0	132.5	214.7
Minneapolis	107.7	106.5	105.7	1.1	1.9	133.2	219.6
Pittsburgh	107.9	106.3	106.0	1.5	1.8	132.9	228.9
Portland, Oregon	106.8	106.2	104.8	.6	1.9	132.3	227.0
Cities priced in March, June, September, December 2/							
Atlanta	104.9	104.9	104.0	0	.9	129.9	222.8
Baltimore	106.8	106.2	104.8	.6	1.9	132.5	228.9
Cincinnati	104.6	104.5	103.3	.1	1.3	127.3	218.1
St. Louis	105.6	105.8	104.4	-.2	1.1	131.0	221.0
San Francisco	108.9	108.4	107.5	.5	1.3	138.2	235.9
Cities priced in February, May, August, November 2/							
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

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 June 1963 to July 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	0.5	1.1	0.1	0	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.4
Chicago	.8	1.5	.1	0.5	.1	.4	.3	2.9	.7
Detroit	.4	1.4	-.1	-.2	.3	0	.1	-.3	-.3
Los Angeles	.6	1.3	.2	.3	0	.2	.5	.1	.8
New York	.5	1.2	-.1	.3	-.1	0	.6	.6	.8
Philadelphia	.2	.6	-.1	0	.1	.1	.3	.1	.4

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

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-----	107.1	109.8	106.0	103.9	107.1	108.0	107.7	109.2	107.4	107.9	106.8
Food-----	106.2	108.6	107.5	103.4	105.1	107.7	103.7	108.2	105.1	104.6	105.8
Food at home-----	104.8	106.8	107.1	102.6	104.4	105.3	102.2	105.8	103.3	104.3	104.3
Cereals and bakery products--	109.2	111.8	109.0	103.5	108.6	117.2	99.4	112.2	104.5	110.0	107.1
Meats, poultry, and fish----	100.2	102.5	103.0	97.7	99.3	97.3	98.2	101.5	97.0	103.0	101.8
Dairy products-----	103.3	99.8	111.0	104.1	102.2	108.0	103.4	101.0	103.0	96.9	106.5
Fruits and vegetables-----	118.7	125.1	118.4	117.1	116.5	119.7	115.3	122.0	118.3	116.8	118.9
Other foods at home-----	97.8	100.0	99.4	95.5	100.3	93.5	97.7	97.5	99.2	99.0	93.7
Housing-----	106.0	111.3	104.3	98.1	106.2	108.3	105.9	109.7	107.2	107.2	107.1
Rent-----	106.7	116.7	104.8	-----	104.1	107.3	106.9	-----	108.1	106.2	105.5
Gas and electricity-----	108.1	104.2	105.7	106.0	108.5	114.5	105.3	105.6	103.7	112.5	102.5
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	102.3	106.5	103.2	99.5	112.4	-----	98.7	104.8	102.5	-----	103.4
Housefurnishings-----	98.5	99.9	100.8	98.3	97.3	99.1	97.6	103.2	97.5	102.9	96.2
Household operation-----	110.3	113.4	108.0	105.2	113.5	105.9	106.0	112.4	116.3	116.3	110.4
Apparel-----	103.9	103.5	100.7	104.8	101.4	104.1	103.3	104.9	105.6	102.7	104.4
Men's and boys'-----	104.5	101.1	102.5	102.6	106.1	106.0	106.2	106.7	105.7	102.4	106.6
Women's and girls'-----	101.2	103.4	95.4	104.7	95.2	102.0	100.0	101.8	104.6	97.4	101.0
Footwear-----	110.5	109.4	110.0	110.7	112.7	108.6	109.6	111.3	110.6	116.8	111.2
Other apparel-----	101.1	100.2	99.8	100.7	95.7	100.3	96.9	101.6	102.2	101.0	99.2
Transportation-----	107.8	110.6	107.2	103.3	106.0	109.1	111.0	106.4	111.8	111.4	105.9
Private-----	106.4	104.4	107.3	101.2	105.0	104.8	109.5	108.5	108.5	107.3	105.1
Public-----	116.6	131.6	107.4	114.4	111.3	138.5	121.9	100.6	123.7	125.9	111.0
Medical care-----	116.9	115.4	120.6	123.1	114.9	115.4	129.6	116.4	121.5	123.6	111.7
Personal care-----	108.0	109.4	107.5	106.6	113.3	105.7	107.5	107.8	106.8	103.7	110.7
Reading and recreation-----	111.5	118.3	102.9	110.5	115.5	101.8	113.7	116.9	100.2	112.7	109.9
Other goods and services-----	108.0	102.5	101.6	109.1	112.6	107.2	106.4	111.3	110.0	111.7	105.0
Percent change from April 1963 to July 1963											
All items-----	0.8	0.5	1.0	1.8	0.7	0	1.1	1.2	0.9	1.5	0.6
Food-----	1.8	1.9	2.4	2.6	1.7	1.0	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.5	1.2
Food at home-----	2.1	2.3	2.9	3.0	2.2	1.0	2.1	2.2	2.2	1.6	1.6
Cereals and bakery products--	0	1.3	- 1.3	- .6	.6	- .9	- 1.4	- .6	- 1.0	- .5	.5
Meats, poultry, and fish----	1.9	-.8	3.9	3.3	4.1	2.3	1.3	1.3	2.1	1.3	1.6
Dairy products-----	.4	3.7	.6	.6	- 3.2	0	1.7	.2	1.9	- .7	1.1
Fruits and vegetables-----	6.0	8.3	6.6	9.8	4.3	.8	6.1	7.6	5.1	5.0	4.9
Other foods at home-----	1.7	.6	2.3	.7	2.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	2.1	2.1	-.2
Housing-----	.2	-.3	0	-.1	.5	.2	.7	.5	.1	1.2	.8
Rent-----	.2	.4	<u>1/</u> 0	-----	.1	<u>1/</u> .6	.1	-----	<u>1/</u> .6	0	.7
Gas and electricity-----	.6	.3	0	.7	-.5	-.2	.2	1.0	.9	.9	0
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	- 1.8	.2	-.8	-.9	0	-----	- 3.4	- .6	- 5.1	-----	- 1.5
Housefurnishings-----	0	-.5	.2	-.2	0	-.4	1.5	.1	-.5	.7	0
Household operation-----	.4	0	.5	-.3	.2	-.2	.7	.4	.7	.8	.8
Apparel-----	.1	-.7	-.6	-.1	-.3	.6	.1	1.1	-.6	-.1	-.5
Men's and boys'-----	.4	-.6	0	-.1	-.1	1.0	.3	1.6	-.1	0	.4
Women's and girls'-----	-.2	-.9	- 1.2	.4	-.6	.9	0	.8	- 1.1	0	- 1.0
Footwear-----	.3	-.4	-.3	.5	.5	-.6	.1	.3	.3	-.3	- 1.1
Other apparel-----	.2	-.4	-.6	.1	-.4	.4	0	2.0	- 1.3	-.1	-.6
Transportation-----	.7	.5	.7	2.6	- 1.6	- 2.9	1.8	.9	.3	.9	-.5
Private-----	.9	.7	.8	3.3	- 1.9	- 3.5	1.5	1.2	.5	1.3	-.6
Public-----	.1	0	0	0	0	0	4.5	0	0	0	0
Medical care-----	.7	0	.5	6.8	.3	.3	.1	-.3	.3	.2	.8
Personal care-----	.4	.1	.2	-.7	.8	.3	.5	.8	.7	.3	.6
Reading and recreation-----	.5	-.4	2.1	3.4	3.1	-.6	2.0	.5	.2	3.7	- 1.3
Other goods and services-----	2.1	.6	.7	.3	1.7	1.1	1.9	5.1	5.4	5.9	.6

1/ Change from May 1963 to July 1963.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--Food and its subgroups
 July 1963 Indexes and Percent Changes, June 1963 to July 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--	106.2	1.1	104.8	1.4	109.2	0	100.2	1.8	103.3	0.5	118.7	2.7	97.8	0.9
Atlanta-----	105.0	1.3	104.6	1.6	105.0	0.3	100.5	2.9	102.9	.3	115.2	1.5	103.2	1.6
Baltimore-----	106.0	1.1	103.8	1.4	114.9	3.6	98.4	.4	98.5	2.1	116.4	1.8	98.3	.1
Boston-----	108.6	1.9	106.8	2.1	111.8	.4	102.5	1.0	99.8	3.7	125.1	5.0	100.0	.8
Chicago-----	107.5	1.5	107.1	1.8	109.0	-.5	103.0	2.7	111.0	.7	118.4	2.1	99.4	2.7
Cincinnati-----	103.5	.6	102.0	.7	103.1	-3.0	99.3	.8	100.7	0	116.5	2.4	94.9	1.9
Cleveland-----	102.6	1.0	101.5	1.3	107.1	.4	98.6	1.0	96.7	0	115.5	2.9	94.2	1.6
Detroit-----	103.4	1.4	102.6	1.6	103.5	-.3	97.7	.9	104.1	.1	117.1	5.3	95.5	1.3
Houston-----	104.6	1.5	102.0	1.8	106.3	.3	99.1	3.6	99.5	.1	111.5	3.6	97.3	.1
Kansas City-----	105.1	1.2	104.4	1.4	108.6	0	99.3	2.8	102.2	-.5	116.5	.3	100.3	3.0
Los Angeles-----	107.7	1.3	105.3	1.5	117.2	.1	97.3	2.7	108.0	.1	119.7	2.3	93.5	1.5
Minneapolis-----	103.7	1.6	102.2	1.8	99.4	3.0	98.2	.2	103.4	1.0	115.3	4.1	97.7	1.7
New York-----	108.2	1.2	105.8	1.5	112.2	-.4	101.5	1.4	101.0	1.2	122.0	3.7	97.5	1.0
Philadelphia-----	105.1	.6	103.3	.8	104.5	-1.0	97.0	.7	103.0	2.2	118.3	1.2	99.2	.3
Pittsburgh-----	104.6	.9	104.3	1.1	110.0	-.9	103.0	1.9	96.9	-.2	116.8	2.5	99.0	1.2
Portland, Oreg.-----	105.8	1.0	104.3	1.3	107.1	.8	101.8	1.3	106.5	.2	118.9	3.5	93.7	.4
St. Louis-----	105.7	.8	103.8	1.0	105.7	-.6	100.3	2.1	102.6	.3	116.5	0	98.0	2.3
San Francisco-----	107.6	.6	105.8	.8	110.7	0	101.5	.2	106.5	-.2	120.6	3.3	95.1	.1
Scranton-----	105.0	.4	103.7	.4	107.8	-.6	98.6	.5	99.3	0	120.2	1.1	98.6	.6
Seattle-----	107.8	.7	105.4	.8	108.5	1.0	102.9	1.3	108.4	.1	116.3	.6	96.2	.3
Washington, D. C.---	105.5	.9	104.2	1.2	109.3	.6	97.5	1.5	103.6	2.2	116.0	1.0	100.3	.7

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

Food and unit	July 1963	June 1963	Food and unit	July 1963	June 1963
Cereals and bakery products:	<u>Cents</u>	<u>Cents</u>		<u>Cents</u>	<u>Cents</u>
Flour, wheat-----5 lb.	57.2	57.7	Fresh--Continued		
Biscuit mix-----40 oz.	48.0	47.9	Grapefruit-----each	21.2	19.2
Macaroni-----16 oz.	24.9	25.0	Peaches *-----1b.	18.2	*
Corn meal-----1b.	14.5	14.5	Strawberries *-----pt.	*	31.5
Rolled oats-----18 oz.	24.1	24.1	Grapes, seedless *-----lb.	38.0	*
Corn flakes-----12 oz.	28.4	28.4	Watermelons *-----1b.	5.0	5.9
Rice, short grain-----lb.	19.4	19.4	Potatoes-----10 lb.	70.4	67.6
Rice, long grain-----lb.	21.6	21.6	Sweet potatoes-----1b.	15.1	13.9
Bread, white-----1b.	21.6	21.6	Corn *-----doz. ears	96.2	87.3
Soda crackers-----1b.	31.0	31.0	Onions-----1b.	13.2	12.8
Sandwich cookies-----16 oz.	52.2	52.0	Carrots-----1b.	15.5	15.1
Meats, poultry, and fish:			Lettuce-----head	29.2	23.7
Round steak-----1b.	104.3	103.3	Celery-----1b.	15.1	13.7
Sirloin steak-----1b.	108.4	107.9	Cabbage-----1b.	9.8	10.4
Chuck roast-----1b.	57.2	56.6	Tomatoes-----1b.	36.5	31.3
Rib roast-----1b.	82.4	81.8	Beans, green-----1b.	24.1	25.7
Hamburger-----1b.	50.6	50.5	Canned:		
Veal cutlets-----1b.	152.4	151.2	Orange juice-----46 oz. can	54.9	53.7
Pork chops, center cut-----1b.	90.9	87.4	Pineapple juice-----46 oz. can	33.6	33.1
Pork roast-----1b.	64.1	61.7	Peaches-----#2 1/2 can	33.2	32.8
Bacon, sliced-----1b.	71.4	65.7	Pineapple-----#2 can	39.5	39.3
Ham, whole-----1b.	60.1	59.0	Fruit cocktail-----#303 can	25.4	25.2
Lamb, leg-----1b.	73.6	73.4	Corn, cream style-----#303 can	19.3	19.3
Frankfurters-----1b.	62.6	63.0	Peas, green-----#303 can	22.5	22.5
Luncheon meat, canned-----12 oz.	49.3	49.6	Tomatoes-----#303 can	15.5	15.4
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook-----1b.	39.9	40.1	Tomato juice-----46 oz. can	31.9	31.7
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen-----1b.	53.0	52.5	Baby foods-----4 1/2 to 5 oz.	10.9	10.9
Haddock, fillet, frozen-----1b.	57.7	56.9	Dried:		
Salmon, pink, canned-----16 oz.	69.9	71.8	Prunes-----1b.	40.0	40.0
Tuna fish, canned-----6 to 6 1/2 oz.	33.8	34.3	Beans-----1b.	17.8	17.8
Dairy products:			Other foods at home:		
Milk, fresh, (grocery)-----qt.	24.0	23.9	Tomato soup-----10 1/2 to 11 oz. can	12.4	12.4
Milk, fresh, (delivered)-----qt.	25.8	25.6	Beans, with pork-----16 oz. can	15.0	14.9
Ice cream-----1/2 gal.	85.5	84.8	Pickles, sliced-----15 oz.	27.0	27.0
Butter-----1b.	74.9	74.8	Catsup, tomato-----14 oz.	22.1	22.1
Cheese, American process-----1/2 lb.	36.3	36.3	Potato chips-----4 oz.	28.0	28.0
Milk, evaporated-----14 1/2 oz. can	15.4	15.4	Coffee-----1b. can	69.6	69.5
Fruits and vegetables:			Coffee-----1b. bag	57.1	57.0
Frozen:			Coffee, instant-----6 oz.	92.4	92.5
Strawberries-----10 oz.	27.6	27.7	Tea bags-----pkg. of 48	63.9	63.8
Orange juice concentrate-----6 oz.	32.2	31.5	Cola drink, carton-----72 oz.	54.0	51.5
Lemonade concentrate-----6 oz.	14.4	14.1	Shortening, hydrogenated-----3 lb.	83.2	83.3
Peas, green-----10 oz.	21.3	21.1	Margarine, colored-----1b.	27.4	27.3
Beans, green-----9 oz.	23.7	23.6	Lard-----1b.	19.6	19.6
Potatoes, french fried-----9 oz.	18.1	18.2	Salad dressing-----pt.	38.0	37.9
Fresh:			Peanut butter-----1b.	57.9	57.9
Apples-----1b.	22.8	20.5	Sugar-----5 lb.	79.2	84.0
Bananas-----1b.	15.8	16.6	Corn syrup-----24 oz.	28.7	28.6
Oranges, size 200-----doz.	93.3	94.5	Grape jelly-----12 oz.	30.3	29.8
Lemons-----1b.	22.6	22.6	Chocolate bar-----1 oz.	4.5	4.5
			Eggs, Grade A, large-----doz.	50.6	48.0
			Gelatin, flavored-----3 to 4 oz.	10.0	9.9

* Priced only in season.

Brief Explanation of the CPI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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New York
341 Ninth Avenue
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Chicago
105 West Adams Street
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