

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Washington, D. C. 20210

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR NOVEMBER 1963

The Consumer Price Index climbed 0.2 percent in November to a new high, the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics announced today. The increase was caused mostly by higher housing and food costs, although prices of many other goods and services also advanced. The November index, at 107.4 (1957-59=100), was 1.3 percent above a year ago, with consumer services, which were up by 2.1 percent, accounting for more than one-half of the increase.

HOUSING

Housing costs advanced 0.3 percent during the month, largely because of higher homeownership costs. Rents continued their gradual upward trend. Coal and fuel oil prices rose seasonally, and household operation and housefurnishings costs also increased. The housing index was 1.4 percent higher than a year earlier, mainly because of the increases in homeownership costs, and those for housekeeping services and rents.

FOOD

Advances in prices of fresh vegetables and sugar were the principal cause of an increase of 0.2 percent in average food prices in November. Fresh vegetables were up 7.8 percent, largely because of sharp rises in prices of lettuce and tomatoes. With smaller world supplies in prospect, sugar prices were raised by 6.7 percent and were 20 percent higher than a year ago.

Fresh fruit prices averaged 1.2 percent lower in November, led by declines in prices of citrus fruits. While orange prices declined, frozen and canned orange juice were higher. Prices of grapes advanced sharply. Meats averaged 1.0 percent lower, primarily because of decreases in prices of pork. Egg prices were down 4.2 percent, as production reached a new high for November.

Food prices in November averaged 1.0 percent above last year. Prices of fruits and vegetables, sugar, nonalcoholic beverages, dairy products, and bread were higher, while meat, poultry, and egg prices had declined.

OTHER GOODS  
AND SERVICES

Apparel prices were up 0.2 percent in November, as costs of footwear and men's and boys' clothing continued to advance. Women's and girls' apparel prices remained at their October levels in November.

Transportation costs edged up 0.1 percent in November. A decline in gasoline prices was more than offset by increases in prices of used cars and costs of automobile insurance. New car prices rose fractionally, but were 0.6 percent below a year ago.

Costs of reading and recreation increased by 0.1 percent in November, mostly because of a rise of 0.5 percent in newspaper prices to a point 6.3 percent higher than last year. Motion picture admission charges declined slightly in November, but were 4.0 percent above November 1962. Medical care rose slightly on increased physicians' and surgeons' fees.

COST-OF-LIVING  
ADJUSTMENTS

As a result of the November national index, about 95,000 workers will receive cost-of-living wage increases of 1 to 4 cents an hour. Of these, 70,000 workers in the meatpacking industry will receive 3-cent increases based on semi-annual reviews, and 6,000 chemical workers and 5,000 aerospace

employees will receive a 1-cent quarterly increase. In addition, cost-of-living allowances for 85,000 aerospace workers will remain at existing levels.

The quarterly allowances of 4,000 food processing workers will be reduced 1 cent an hour, based on the Detroit index.

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

(1957-59=100 unless otherwise specified)

Group	Indexes (1957-59=100)		Percent change to November 1963 from--			Indexes	
	November 1963	October 1963	October 1963	August 1963	November 1962	1947-49=100	1939=100
						November 1963	November 1963
All items-----	107.4	107.2	0.2	0.3	1.3	131.8	221.8
Food-----	105.1	104.9	.2	- .8	1.0	124.0	263.4
Food at home-----	103.4	103.2	.2	- 1.1	.8	120.2	255.1
Cereals and bakery products-----	109.1	109.1	0	0	.6	144.7	252.8
Meats, poultry, and fish-----	99.7	100.4	- .7	- 1.7	- 3.7	110.0	264.5
Dairy products-----	104.8	104.6	.2	.6	.6	118.6	238.2
Fruits and vegetables-----	108.2	106.3	1.8	- 5.3	6.0	133.7	288.9
Other foods at home-----	99.5	99.6	- .1	1.5	2.4	109.9	227.2
Food away from home-----	114.0	114.0	0	.6	1.9	(1/)	(1/)
Housing 2/-----	106.6	106.3	.3	.6	1.4	135.9	178.6
Rent-----	107.2	107.1	.1	.4	.9	147.4	170.2
Gas and electricity-----	108.0	108.1	- .1	.7	- .1	125.9	120.0
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	105.4	104.5	.9	2.7	1.7	143.7	254.7
Housefurnishings-----	98.8	98.7	.1	.5	.1	102.9	192.6
Household operation-----	110.7	110.5	.2	.1	2.7	145.1	212.1
Apparel-----	105.6	105.4	.2	1.5	1.2	113.2	215.7
Men's and boys'-----	106.1	105.7	.4	1.3	1.7	115.3	227.1
Women's and girls'-----	103.5	103.5	0	2.3	1.0	102.8	188.6
Footwear-----	111.1	110.9	.2	.5	1.3	145.5	289.3
Other apparel-----	102.0	101.8	.2	.9	.9	93.9	231.3
Transportation-----	109.1	109.0	.1	.7	.7	153.7	218.9
Private-----	107.8	107.7	.1	.8	.6	140.5	214.5
Public-----	117.6	117.6	0	.4	1.9	219.0	269.2
Medical care-----	117.5	117.4	.1	.3	2.2	169.8	234.0
Personal care-----	108.4	108.4	0	.4	1.2	138.9	233.1
Reading and recreation-----	112.8	112.7	.1	.6	2.5	130.6	207.4
Other goods and services-----	108.3	108.2	.1	.3	2.6	138.0	195.5
Special groups:							
All items less food-----	108.4	108.1	.3	.7	1.6	135.9	196.8
All items less shelter-----	107.4	107.2	.2	.2	1.3	129.3	233.4
Commodities-----	104.8	104.7	.1	.1	.9	121.0	234.7
Nondurables-----	105.4	105.2	.2	- .1	1.2	123.7	240.8
Food-----	105.1	104.9	.2	- .8	1.0	124.0	263.4
Nondurables less food-----	105.8	105.6	.2	.8	1.3	123.9	211.0
Apparel-----	105.4	105.3	.1	1.5	1.2	113.0	216.8
Apparel less footwear-----	104.3	104.2	.1	1.8	1.3	107.3	(1/)
Nondurables less food and apparel-----	106.0	105.8	.2	.3	1.4	133.2	202.2
Durables-----	102.5	102.2	.3	1.1	.3	113.6	198.2
New cars-----	103.2	103.1	.1	3.0	- .6	138.7	243.3
Used cars-----	121.0	120.0	.8	1.7	1.3	(1/)	(1/)
Durables less cars-----	98.8	98.7	.1	.3	.2	101.9	177.8
Commodities less food-----	104.5	104.3	.2	.9	1.0	118.7	199.7
Services-----	112.3	112.1	.2	.5	2.1	159.5	198.2
Rent-----	107.2	107.1	.1	.4	.9	147.4	170.2
Services less rent-----	113.2	112.9	.3	.5	2.4	162.2	220.8
Household operation services, gas, and electricity-----	111.0	111.0	0	.3	2.0	145.6	167.4
Transportation services-----	113.3	113.1	.2	.5	2.3	195.8	244.4
Medical care services-----	120.8	120.7	.1	.3	2.4	180.2	255.6
Other services 3/-----	112.0	111.5	.4	.7	2.5	144.6	247.9
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (Reference period=\$1.00)-----	\$0.931	\$0.933	- .2	- .3	- 1.3	\$0.759	\$0.450

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 November 1963 from--		Indexes 1947-49=100 1939=100	
	November 1963	August 1963	November 1962	August 1963	November 1962	November 1963	November 1963
United States city average	107.4	107.1	106.0	0.3	1.3	131.8	221.8
Cities priced monthly 1/							
Chicago	105.5	105.7	105.0	-.2	.5	133.0	227.1
Detroit	103.7	104.4	102.6	-.7	1.1	127.9	216.6
Los Angeles	109.3	108.4	107.1	.8	2.1	136.3	225.6
New York	109.7	109.3	107.1	.4	2.4	132.2	219.9
Philadelphia	108.3	107.5	105.8	.7	2.4	133.0	224.7
Cities priced in February, May, August, November 2/	November 1963	August 1963	November 1962	August 1963	November 1962	November 1963	November 1963
Cleveland	105.0	105.1	103.7	-.1	1.3	130.4	220.4
Houston	106.7	106.2	104.5	.5	2.1	131.5	220.9
Scranton	107.9	107.6	106.5	.3	1.3	128.7	220.0
Seattle	109.3	109.1	107.0	.2	2.1	137.4	232.1
Washington, D. C.	107.1	106.8	105.3	.3	1.7	128.9	213.4
Cities priced in January, April, July, October 2/	October 1963	July 1963	October 1962	July 1963	October 1962	October 1963	October 1963
Boston	110.0	109.8	108.2	.2	1.7	136.3	223.4
Kansas City	108.7	107.1	107.1	1.5	1.5	134.5	217.9
Minneapolis	107.4	107.7	105.9	-.3	1.4	132.9	219.0
Pittsburgh	107.4	107.9	106.3	-.5	1.0	132.3	227.8
Portland, Oregon	107.1	106.8	105.3	.3	1.7	132.7	227.6
Cities priced in March, June, September, December 2/	September 1963	June 1963	September 1962	June 1963	September 1962	September 1963	September 1963
Atlanta	105.2	104.9	104.7	.3	.5	130.2	223.4
Baltimore	107.1	106.8	106.0	.3	1.0	132.9	229.6
Cincinnati	105.1	104.6	104.3	.5	.8	127.9	219.1
St. Louis	106.5	105.6	105.6	.9	.9	132.2	222.9
San Francisco	109.2	108.9	107.5	.3	1.6	138.6	236.5

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 October 1963 to November 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	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0	0.1	0.1
Chicago	-.2	-.4	-.1	-.3	-1.1	0	-0.1	.1	1.5
Detroit	.2	.2	.1	.5	1.6	.2	-.4	-2.3	0
Los Angeles	.2	.1	.4	0	.2	0	-.2	.3	.1
New York	.3	.5	0	-.3	.6	.3	-.1	1.0	0
Philadelphia	.1	-.4	.6	-.1	.2	0	-.3	.1	.1

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

Group	U.S. City Average	Chicago	Cleveland	Detroit	Houston	Los Angeles	New York	Philadelphia	Scranton	Seattle	Washington, D. C.
Indexes (1957-59=100)											
All items-----	107.4	105.5	105.0	103.7	106.7	109.3	109.7	108.3	107.9	109.3	107.1
Food-----	105.1	105.4	101.6	100.9	105.0	107.6	107.4	103.9	103.8	107.4	104.0
Food at home-----	103.4	104.6	100.2	99.5	102.4	105.1	104.6	101.8	101.9	104.7	101.6
Cereals and bakery products--	109.1	109.3	107.3	101.4	106.4	117.5	111.3	104.6	107.1	109.4	108.8
Meats, poultry, and fish----	99.7	100.7	98.7	96.5	97.4	97.7	101.4	96.7	99.8	102.3	96.8
Dairy products-----	104.8	110.7	98.2	105.1	103.5	107.7	104.0	105.5	101.6	108.6	103.3
Fruits and vegetables-----	108.2	106.6	105.4	100.4	111.1	117.7	111.7	106.7	103.9	108.4	101.1
Other foods at home-----	99.5	101.2	95.3	97.8	99.0	93.8	99.3	100.3	99.6	99.6	102.3
Housing-----	106.6	104.8	102.3	98.3	105.5	108.9	110.6	108.3	106.2	111.0	105.8
Rent-----	107.2	105.1	101.4	-----	100.2	108.0	-----	108.6	107.2	110.1	110.2
Gas and electricity-----	108.0	105.7	107.4	105.4	132.5	114.4	105.5	103.7	105.5	100.1	103.8
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	105.4	104.7	109.3	100.6	-----	-----	109.3	109.6	101.5	104.0	106.0
Housefurnishings-----	98.8	101.4	95.1	98.8	98.2	100.0	104.1	98.3	95.1	97.7	99.5
Household operation-----	110.7	108.8 <sup>2/</sup>	110.4	105.8	114.1	106.1	112.8	116.4	112.3	115.5	112.9
Apparel-----	105.6	102.4	103.9	107.0	105.8	105.3	107.0	107.5	104.4	109.4	107.0
Men's and boys'-----	106.1	102.7	104.6	103.6	107.5	107.9	108.7	105.9	107.3	110.8	105.3
Women's and girls'-----	103.5	98.9	99.3	108.9	104.0	102.9	105.2	108.1	102.1	106.7	106.1
Footwear-----	111.1	110.2	114.4	110.3	111.1	109.3	110.9	111.1	107.5	116.0	113.3
Other apparel-----	102.0	101.0	103.2	101.9	101.8	101.1	102.3	104.0	100.1	105.5	105.7
Transportation-----	109.1	106.0	109.3	105.8	107.8	115.2	107.3	113.0	107.9	108.7	108.7
Private-----	107.8	105.9	107.1	104.1	106.7	111.8	109.6	110.0	107.6	107.5	107.9
Public-----	117.6	107.4	121.7	114.4	115.1	138.5	100.6	123.7	110.1	118.7	113.8
Medical care-----	117.5	121.2	127.5	123.4	111.2	116.2	117.5	121.8	116.0	110.9	126.2
Personal care-----	108.4	107.3	104.1	107.0	111.9	106.3	107.6	105.8	115.2	105.6	106.6
Reading and recreation-----	112.8	99.7	108.2	109.3	112.8	104.0	119.3	112.0	132.0	106.9	113.3
Other goods and services-----	108.3	102.6	107.6	109.1	108.1	107.3	111.4	110.1	112.5	110.4	103.6
Percent change from August 1963 to November 1963											
All items-----	0.3	- 0.2	- 0.1	- 0.7	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.3
Food-----	.8	- 2.0	- 1.0	- 2.0	.3	.5	.6	- 1.2	.6	.4	- 1.4
Food at home-----	1.1	- 2.4	- 1.2	- 2.5	.3	.5	.9	- 1.5	- 1.1	.6	- 2.0
Cereals and bakery products--	0	.3	.4	- 1.0	.4	.3	.6	.4	.7	.6	.1
Meats, poultry, and fish----	1.7	- 4.2	- 2.0	- 3.1	1.3	.5	.9	- 2.2	.4	- 1.4	- 1.8
Dairy products-----	.6	.1	- 1.6	.2	1.4	.2	1.4	2.3	2.5	.2	.4
Fruits and vegetables-----	5.3	- 7.2	- 3.7	- 9.3	.2	2.4	- 5.8	- 7.5	- 8.5	- 3.4	- 10.2
Other foods at home-----	1.5	1.6	1.3	2.0	2.1	.4	2.2	1.8	.2	1.8	2.2
Housing-----	.6	.7	.2	.2	.2	.6	.5	.9	.7	1.1	.9
Rent-----	.4	<sup>1/</sup> 0	0	-----	.4	<sup>1/</sup> .5	-----	<sup>1/</sup> .2	0	.4	.5
Gas and electricity-----	.7	0	0	- .8	0	.1	.1	0	0	0	- .6
Solid and petroleum fuels-----	2.7	1.7	2.2	1.1	-----	-----	3.8	6.0	5.9	0	1.4
Housefurnishings-----	.5	1.4	1.5	1.3	.1	1.5	.5	.8	0	.8	1.5
Household operation-----	.1	.6	.1	.4	.1	.2	0	0	.4	.4	1.4
Apparel-----	1.5	2.1	- 1.1	1.3	.8	1.2	2.0	2.3	.7	2.1	1.2
Men's and boys'-----	1.3	0	.7	.2	1.2	2.3	1.6	.4	.7	2.0	.4
Women's and girls'-----	2.3	5.0	- 3.3	3.0	- 2.2	.5	3.4	4.1	.9	2.4	2.4
Footwear-----	.5	.2	0	.6	.2	.5	.4	.9	0	1.9	.1
Other apparel-----	.9	1.4	.7	1.3	.7	.9	.7	2.1	.3	1.3	.8
Transportation-----	.7	.7	1.0	- 1.1	1.5	1.9	.8	1.2	1.2	- 1.8	1.6
Private-----	.8	.8	1.2	- 1.4	1.8	2.2	1.0	1.6	1.4	- 2.0	1.9
Public-----	.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical care-----	.3	.3	.4	.2	1.0	.7	.5	.2	.1	.1	.8
Personal care-----	.4	0	.1	.6	.8	.2	0	.8	.1	.5	0
Reading and recreation-----	.6	.4	.3	- 2.8	1.4	.9	2.0	8.5	1.5	.4	.2
Other goods and services-----	.3	.8	0	.1	.2	0	.1	.1	0	.1	.1

<sup>1/</sup> Change from September 1963 to November 1963.

<sup>2/</sup> Revised indexes: September 1963 = 108.7; October 1963 = 108.8.

TABLE 5: Consumer Price Index--Food and its subgroups  
November 1963 Indexes and Percent Changes, October 1963 to November 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--	105.1	0.2	103.4	0.2	109.1	0	99.7	- 0.7	104.8	0.2	108.2	1.8	99.5	- 0.1
Atlanta-----	103.7	- .3	103.0	- .5	103.9	- .1	100.1	- .8	100.8	- .3	107.6	- .6	104.4	- .3
Baltimore-----	104.4	- .3	101.5	- .5	115.0	.3	96.9	- 1.5	98.1	- .1	103.3	- 1.3	100.5	.6
Boston-----	108.0	- .1	105.3	- .4	110.5	0	104.5	.2	101.4	- .1	112.4	.9	100.3	.8
Chicago-----	105.4	- .4	104.6	- .4	109.3	- .2	100.7	- 2.2	110.7	- .3	106.6	2.5	101.2	- .6
Cincinnati-----	102.5	- .1	100.8	- .1	106.8	.4	99.3	- 1.0	100.3	- .5	105.8	1.4	96.5	- .1
Cleveland-----	101.6	- .1	100.2	- .1	107.3	0	98.7	- .9	98.2	- 1.6	105.4	1.2	95.3	.8
Detroit-----	100.9	.2	99.5	.2	101.4	- .1	96.5	- 1.1	105.1	0	100.4	4.3	97.8	- .6
Houston-----	105.0	.2	102.4	.1	106.4	- .3	97.4	- .7	103.5	.1	111.1	1.6	99.0	.3
Kansas City-----	105.2	.1	104.3	.2	109.9	0	98.9	- .9	104.2	.2	110.7	2.4	102.8	- .5
Los Angeles-----	107.6	.1	105.1	.2	117.5	- .1	97.7	- 1.1	107.7	- .1	117.7	3.2	93.8	- 1.2
Minneapolis-----	103.0	- .2	101.1	- .3	102.5	- .1	98.6	- 1.2	105.3	.1	103.8	2.0	98.6	- 1.2
New York-----	107.4	.5	104.6	.6	111.3	- .2	101.4	- .5	104.0	.5	111.7	3.3	99.3	.1
Philadelphia-----	103.9	- .4	101.8	- .4	104.6	- .3	96.7	- 1.6	105.5	.3	106.7	.1	100.3	.1
Pittsburgh-----	102.9	0	102.1	.1	109.2	- .2	102.0	- .8	99.5	- .1	102.9	1.9	99.3	.1
Portland, Oreg.-----	105.4	.2	103.9	.3	106.5	- .6	101.8	- 1.1	106.9	.1	111.7	2.8	97.1	.6
St. Louis-----	105.1	0	102.7	0	106.5	- .1	101.8	.7	104.3	.2	104.3	- .2	99.3	- .9
San Francisco-----	107.0	.4	104.5	.3	110.5	0	101.3	- .8	106.5	0	112.7	3.1	96.6	- .5
Scranton-----	103.8	- .6	101.9	- .6	107.1	- .2	99.8	- .3	101.6	- .1	103.9	- 1.9	99.6	- 1.0
Seattle-----	107.4	0	104.7	.1	109.4	.1	102.3	- 1.3	108.6	.1	108.4	2.9	99.6	- .1
Washington, D. C.---	104.0	- .6	101.6	- .8	108.8	- .2	96.8	- 1.7	103.3	- .2	101.1	- 1.2	102.3	- .1

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

Food and unit	November 1963	October 1963	Food and unit	November 1963	October 1963
Cereals and bakery products:	Cents	Cents	Fresh--Continued	Cents	Cents
Flour, wheat-----5 lb.	56.8	56.8	Grapefruit-----each	15.1	16.3
Biscuit mix-----40 oz.	47.9	48.2	Peaches *-----lb.	*	*
Macaroni-----16 oz.	25.0	25.0	Strawberries *-----pt.	*	*
Corn meal-----1lb.	14.5	14.5	Grapes, seedless *-----lb.	31.9	28.1
Rolled oats-----18 oz.	24.2	24.1	Watermelons *-----lb.	*	*
Corn flakes-----12 oz.	28.4	28.3	Potatoes-----10 lb.	63.1	63.7
Rice, short grain-----lb.	19.6	19.5	Sweet potatoes-----lb.	13.6	13.1
Rice, long grain-----lb.	21.7	21.7	Corn *-----doz. ears	*	*
Bread, white-----1lb.	21.6	21.6	Onions-----lb.	10.8	10.9
Soda crackers-----1lb.	31.0	30.9	Carrots-----lb.	15.0	14.6
Sandwich cookies-----16 oz.	51.9	52.1	Lettuce-----head	27.6	23.1
Meats, poultry, and fish:			Celery-----lb.	13.4	13.4
Round steak-----1lb.	106.4	107.2	Cabbage-----lb.	8.5	8.7
Sirloin steak-----1lb.	108.7	109.6	Tomatoes-----lb.	30.9	22.7
Chuck roast-----1lb.	59.9	59.4	Beans, green-----lb.	24.0	22.8
Rib roast-----1lb.	82.2	83.4	Canned:		
Hamburger-----1lb.	51.0	51.0	Orange juice-----46 oz. can	58.4	57.3
Veal cutlets-----1lb.	152.0	152.0	Pineapple juice-----46 oz. can	36.4	35.5
Pork chops, center cut-----lb.	88.3	90.5	Peaches-----#2½ can	33.2	33.0
Pork roast-----1lb.	62.0	63.1	Pineapple-----#2 can	39.8	39.8
Bacon, sliced-----1lb.	67.4	69.9	Fruit cocktail-----#303 can	26.5	26.2
Ham, whole-----1lb.	60.7	60.8	Corn, cream style-----#303 can	19.1	19.1
Lamb, leg-----1lb.	72.2	72.6	Peas, green-----#303 can	22.7	22.7
Frankfurters-----1lb.	63.1	63.1	Tomatoes-----#303 can	15.8	15.7
Luncheon meat, canned-----12 oz.	49.1	49.1	Tomato juice-----46 oz. can	32.0	31.6
Frying chickens, ready-to-cook-----lb.	39.7	39.7	Baby foods-----4½ to 5 oz.	10.9	10.9
Ocean perch, fillet, frozen-----lb.	52.7	52.7	Dried:		
Haddock, fillet, frozen-----lb.	58.2	57.9	Prunes-----1lb.	40.2	40.2
Salmon, pink, canned-----16 oz.	69.5	68.9	Beans-----1lb.	17.7	17.7
Tuna fish, canned-----6 to 6½ oz.	32.6	32.5	Other foods at home:		
Dairy products:			Tomato soup-----10½ to 11 oz. can	12.2	12.2
Milk, fresh, (grocery)-----qt.	24.6	24.6	Beans, with pork-----16 oz. can	15.0	15.1
Milk, fresh, (delivered)-----qt.	26.3	26.2	Pickles, sliced-----15 oz.	27.3	27.1
Ice cream-----½ gal.	85.2	85.4	Catsup, tomato-----14 oz.	22.1	22.2
Butter-----1lb.	75.5	75.6	Potato chips-----4 oz.	28.0	27.9
Cheese, American process-----½ lb.	36.7	36.5	Coffee-----1b. can	69.8	69.7
Milk, evaporated-----14½ oz. can	15.4	15.4	Coffee-----1b. bag	56.7	56.8
Fruits and vegetables:			Coffee, instant-----6 oz.	91.4	90.7
Frozen:			Tea bags-----pkg. of 48	63.6	63.4
Strawberries-----10 oz.	27.5	27.5	Cola drink, carton-----72 oz.	55.1	55.0
Orange juice concentrate-----6 oz.	32.8	32.7	Shortening, hydrogenated-----3 lb.	80.9	91.5
Lemonade concentrate-----6 oz.	14.7	14.6	Margarine, colored-----1lb.	27.6	81.5
Peas, green-----10 oz.	21.0	20.9	Lard-----1lb.	19.9	19.8
Beans, green-----9 oz.	23.5	23.7	Salad dressing-----pt.	38.3	38.4
Potatoes, french fried-----9 oz.	18.0	18.1	Peanut butter-----1lb.	57.7	57.7
Fresh:			Sugar-----5 lb.	70.5	66.1
Apples-----1lb.	14.0	14.2	Corn syrup-----24 oz.	29.4	29.1
Bananas-----1lb.	15.6	16.1	Grape jelly-----12 oz.	31.0	30.9
Oranges, size 200-----doz.	89.1	91.0	Chocolate bar-----1 oz.	4.8	4.7
Lemons-----1lb.	21.9	21.9	Eggs, Grade A, large-----doz.	56.9	59.4
			Gelatin, flavored-----3 to 4 oz.	10.2	10.2

\* 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.

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