

Prices

This section presents indexes of consumer prices for Honolulu and a comparison of Honolulu family budgets with those in other metropolitan areas.

In March 1970, the Honolulu all-items consumer price index stood at 122.0, with the December 1963 level equal to 100. The index had increased 5.5 percent in the preceding 12 months, 10.1 percent since March 1968, and a third since March 1960. A "moderate" or "intermediate" budget for a four-person family living on Oahu was estimated at \$10,902 as of the spring of 1967. This family budget was 20 percent higher than the corresponding urban United States average, and was second only to Anchorage among major American metropolitan areas.

The Honolulu consumer price index has been compiled by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics at three-month intervals since December 1963. This index measures the average change in prices of goods and services purchased by urban wage earner and clerical families and single persons living alone. Prices are expressed as a percent of the levels reported in December 1963, the base date.

Current data for Honolulu and other cities are published in the *Monthly Labor Review* and *The Consumer Price Index*, issued monthly by BLS. A similar series for Honolulu was maintained by the Hawaii State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations from March 1943 to December 1963, using March 1943 as the base date.

Comparisons of living costs between Honolulu and various Mainland communities have most recently been made for the Spring of 1967. These data were compiled and published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in their Bulletin 1570-5, *Three Standards of Living for an Urban Family of Four Persons*. Similar comparisons go back to 1847, and include a Honolulu-Los Angeles comparison for 1945, Honolulu-Washington comparisons for 1951 and 1955-1967, and a 39-area comparison for autumn 1966. Budget costs for a retired couple have been prepared by BLS for Honolulu and the Mainland as of spring 1967.

Data on prices and living costs are summarized in *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1969*, Section 12.

Table 77. -- CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, FOR HONOLULU: 1940 TO 1970
(All items combined. December 1963=100.)

Year	Annual average	Year	Annual average	Year	Annual average	Year	Annual average
1940	43.6	1945	58.4	1950	71.3	1955	80.4
1941	46.2	1946	62.1	1951	75.6	1956	81.5
1942	52.3	1947	71.4	1952	77.8	1957	84.1
1943	56.3	1948	75.1	1953	78.6	1958	88.0
1944	57.2	1949	74.0	1954	79.3	1959	89.7

Year	Annual average	March	June	September	December
1960	91.8	91.3	91.7	92.0	92.7
1961	94.1	93.1	94.1	94.8	95.3
1962	96.7	95.6	95.6	98.3	98.4
1963	99.8	100.1	99.8	99.8	100.0
1964	100.2	100.5	99.6	100.2	101.0
1965	102.0	101.5	101.4	102.1	103.7
1966	104.9	104.1	104.4	105.5	106.5
1967	107.8	106.6	107.5	108.4	109.7
1968	111.9	110.8	111.5	112.8	113.9
1969	117.0	115.6	116.6	118.1	119.7
1970		122.0			

Source: Unofficial index for 1940-1942, supplied by Hawaii Employers Council; index prepared by Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, 1943-1963; index prepared by U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1964 forward. Data for 1940-1963 (originally on a March 1943 base) shifted to a December 1963 base by the Hawaii Department of Planning and Economic Development. Annual averages computed from monthly data, with intermediate months based on linear interpolation.

Table 78. -- CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR HONOLULU: ANNUAL AVERAGES, 1964 TO 1969
(December 1963=100)

Group	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
ALL ITEMS	100.2	102.0	104.9	107.8	111.9	117.0
Food	100.7	102.8	106.3	108.3	112.2	117.4
At home	100.7	102.8	106.4	108.1	111.7	116.0
Away from home	100.6	102.9	105.8	109.3	113.8	122.0
Housing.....	100.6	102.5	107.2	111.2	116.2	121.9
Shelter	100.5	103.7	110.7	116.0	122.7	130.6
Rent	100.6	102.4	105.0	106.9	110.4	116.8
Homeownership...	100.4	104.5	114.8	122.3	131.1	140.2
Fuel, utilities	100.0	99.4	98.6	100.3	100.4	100.5
Gas, electricity ..	100.0	99.9	99.7	99.4	99.4	99.6
Household furnishings, operation	101.1	101.2	102.0	103.8	106.6	109.2
Apparel and upkeep	101.1	102.1	103.8	105.8	109.8	115.7
Men's and boys'	100.4	100.4	100.6	101.4	105.4	111.8
Women's and girls' ...	101.7	104.3	107.5	110.1	114.1	119.2
Footwear	100.7	100.7	103.4	106.8	110.3	113.9
Transportation	98.2	98.1	98.4	100.7	104.4	108.0
Private	99.1	99.7	99.8	102.5	106.9	111.4
Public	93.7	90.5	91.7	92.3	92.3	91.7
Health and recreation	100.5	102.8	105.5	108.4	112.2	117.2
Medical care	101.7	104.5	107.8	114.4	121.2	129.5
Personal care	100.2	101.3	103.3	104.1	105.5	108.8
Reading, recreation	100.2	100.7	101.2	103.5	106.3	110.3
Other goods, services ..	99.9	104.6	110.3	111.2	114.6	118.2

Source: U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 79. -- ANNUAL COSTS OF BUDGETS FOR THREE LIVING STANDARDS
FOR A FOUR PERSON FAMILY ON OAHU: SPRING 1967

Item	Annual budget costs (dollars)		
	Lower standard	Moderate standard	Higher standard
Food	2,003	2,489	3,133
Food at home	1,785	2,146	2,579
Food away from home	218	343	554
Housing: total	1,832	2,848	4,363
Renter families	1,832	2,389	3,732
Homeowner families	--	3,001	4,474
Transportation	494	1,034	1,200
Clothing	526	737	1,062
Personal care	171	223	320
Medical care	472	474	494
Other family consumption	327	604	1,083
Gifts, contributions, life insurance	294	451	814
Occupational expenses	50	80	85
Social security and disability payments	290	290	290
Personal taxes	787	1,672	3,232
Cost of budget: Total	7,246	10,902	16,076
Renter families	7,246	10,277	15,137
Homeowner families	--	11,110	16,241
PERCENT OF URBAN U. S. AVERAGE			
Food	122	118	121
Housing: total	140	128	131
Transportation	111	119	107
Clothing and personal care	99	98	96
Medical care	99	99	99
Other family consumption	112	109	112
Total budget	122	120	123
Renter families	122	121	121
Homeowner families	--	120	124

Source: U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Three Standards of Living for an Urban Family of Four Persons, Spring 1967 (Bulletin No. 1570-5), pp. 24, 33, 35, and 37.