

PRICES

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

In June 1976, the Honolulu all-items consumer price index stood at 162.3, with the 1967 level equal to 100. The index had increased 5.2 percent in the preceding 12 months, 37.0 percent since June 1971, and 67.7 percent since June 1966. Prices have risen most rapidly since 1967 for restaurant meals (up 93.3 percent), gas and electricity (87.2 percent), and medical care (79.6 percent) and least for public transportation (up 24.0 percent).

A "moderate" or "intermediate" budget for a four-person family living on Oahu was estimated at \$18,694 as of the Autumn of 1975. This family budget was 22 percent higher than the corresponding urban United States average, and was second only to Anchorage among major American metropolitan areas. Hawaii-Mainland differentials were greatest for rents and personal income taxes and least for clothing, social security payments, and automobile transportation. An "intermediate" budget for a retired couple in Honolulu came to \$6,796 in the Autumn of 1974, twelve percent above the U.S. urban average.

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 average levels reported in 1967, the base date. Current data for Honolulu and other cities are published in the *Monthly Labor Review* and *CPI Detailed Report*, 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 family budgets between Honolulu and various Mainland communities have most recently been made for the Fall of 1975. These data were compiled and published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Similar comparisons go back a number of years, and include a Honolulu-Los Angeles comparison for 1945, Honolulu-Washington comparisons for 1951 and 1955-1974, and a 40-area comparison for various dates since Autumn 1966. Budget costs for a retired couple have been prepared by BLS for Honolulu and the Mainland as of 1966, 1967, and annually since 1969.

In addition to these data, the Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes monthly and annual data on average prices for a wide variety of foods, and periodic data on a number of non-food items (most recently in *Average Retail Prices of Selected Commodities and Services, Fall 1971*, issued in 1973). Still another useful source is *Prices Paid by Hawaii Farmers: 1970-1974*, issued by the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture in November 1975.

Data on prices and living costs are summarized in *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1975*, Section 14.

Table 176.—CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (ALL ITEMS COMBINED), FOR HONOLULU:
QUARTERLY, 1958 TO 1976
(1967 average = 100)

Year	Annual average	March	June	September	December
1958	82.8	82.8	82.0	83.3	83.3
1959	84.2	84.0	83.7	84.5	85.5
1960	86.3	85.8	86.2	86.6	87.3
1961	88.6	87.7	88.6	89.2	89.8
1962	90.6	90.1	90.0	91.2	91.3
1963	92.6	92.9	92.6	92.6	92.8
1964	92.9	93.2	92.4	92.9	93.7
1965	94.6	94.2	94.1	94.7	96.2
1966	97.3	96.6	96.8	97.9	98.8
1967	100.0	98.9	99.7	100.6	101.8
1968	103.8	102.8	103.4	104.6	105.7
1969	108.5	107.2	108.2	109.6	111.0
1970	114.2	113.2	114.4	114.9	115.7
1971	118.9	116.7	118.5	121.2	121.1
1972	122.8	122.4	122.2	123.1	124.4
1973	128.3	126.0	127.5	129.6	132.8
1974	141.9	137.7	141.2	145.5	148.5
1975	155.0	151.9	154.3	157.6	159.8
1976		161.1	162.3		

Source: Hawaii State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, unpublished revised indexes for 1958-1963; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *CPI detailed report* (monthly) and records.

Table 177.—CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES, BY COMMODITY GROUPS, FOR HONOLULU:
ANNUAL AVERAGES, 1965 TO 1975
(1967 = 100)

Group	1965	1970	1972	1973	1974	1975
All items	94.6	114.2	122.8	128.3	141.9	155.0
Food	94.9	114.1	123.2	135.2	158.7	176.7
Food at home	95.1	111.7	120.5	133.8	159.2	175.8
Cereals and bakery products	93.2	105.9	106.1	117.9	175.5	190.0
Meats, poultry, and fish	94.0	113.4	124.7	146.5	159.0	174.8
Dairy products	92.4	109.8	118.3	127.8	150.6	166.3
Fruits and vegetables	99.0	114.9	130.6	134.7	153.4	168.0
Other foods at home	97.3	111.6	117.3	127.1	157.6	179.9
Food away from home	94.1	121.2	130.8	139.0	156.6	178.7
Housing	92.2	115.7	124.3	128.8	139.0	149.3
Shelter ¹	89.4	120.7	129.6	135.1	142.4	148.5
Rent	95.8	118.1	127.7	133.1	142.9	150.4
Homeownership ²	85.4	122.3	130.9	136.5	142.2	147.3
Fuel and utilities ³	99.1	100.4	110.9	115.1	130.0	157.0
Gas and electricity	100.5	100.7	106.3	112.1	140.0	188.1
Household furnishings and operation ...	97.5	108.2	114.5	117.3	132.1	147.0
Apparel and upkeep ⁴	96.5	115.1	120.5	124.1	133.3	141.2
Men's and boys'	99.0	112.8	113.9	116.7	127.5	135.5
Women's and girls'	94.7	116.8	124.3	126.2	130.7	132.9
Footwear	94.3	112.6	115.3	120.8	132.1	139.2
Transportation	97.4	112.2	123.0	123.9	135.1	146.8
Private	97.3	114.9	124.8	125.5	137.8	150.9
Public	98.0	97.5	112.9	114.9	120.3	123.9
Health and recreation	94.8	113.7	121.2	124.1	134.3	148.8
Medical care	91.3	118.4	127.5	133.3	147.0	164.8
Personal care	97.3	112.2	120.4	122.7	137.2	156.6
Reading and recreation	97.3	111.9	121.8	122.7	134.3	149.0
Other goods and services ⁵	94.1	112.0	113.9	116.5	118.5	126.6

¹Also includes hotel and motel rates not shown separately.

²Includes home purchase, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance and maintenance and repairs.

³Also includes telephone, water, and sewage not shown separately.

⁴Also includes infants' wear, sewing materials, jewelry, and apparel upkeep services not shown separately.

⁵Includes tobacco, alcoholic beverages, and funeral, legal, and bank service charges.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *CPI Detailed Report* (monthly), releases, and records.

Table 178.—AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD, FOR HONOLULU: 1970 TO 1976.
(In cents)

Food and unit	1970, ave.	1971, ave.	1972, ave.	1973, ave.	1974 ave.	1975, ave.	1976, May
Cereals and bakery products:							
Flour, white, all purpose 5 lb.	74.9	75.5	78.5	90.4	126.8	123.7	113.8
Rice, short grain 10 lb.	144.7	142.4	146.9	176.8	351.0	341.0	268.4
Bread, white lb.	29.7	29.3	30.2	33.8	47.2	52.5	48.3
Meats, poultry and fish:							
Steak, round, U.S. Choice lb.	128.5	135.2	143.8	171.0	193.1	210.1	202.3
Rib roast, U.S. Choice lb.	143.6	151.5	164.7	171.7	196.8	208.7	225.6
Chuck roast, U.S. Choice lb.	79.8	80.5	90.2	110.4	120.5	123.4	123.8
Hamburger lb.	86.5	85.7	79.6	108.5	125.7	122.4	122.0
Beef liver lb.	86.9	89.5	91.3	101.2	116.1	120.7	115.3
Veal cutlets lb.	...	...	180.8	208.5	...	...	464.3
Pork chops lb.	152.9	147.0	147.7	173.7	184.4	211.0	223.6
Ham, whole, smoked lb.	85.4	77.1	79.2	105.8	124.4	152.9	169.8
Bacon lb.	108.9	93.8	100.6	135.9	148.2	195.8	209.7
Frying chicken, whole or cut-up lb.	68.4	70.0	72.1	90.4	91.2	95.6	96.1
Mahimahi, fresh or frozen lb.	89.4	115.6	158.1	138.8	127.9	205.0	196.5
Dairy products:							
Milk, fresh, vit. D, grocery ½ gal.	67.0	70.9	74.7	82.1	94.5	104.1	105.4
Milk, evaporated 14½-oz. can	21.9	22.6	23.3	25.4	32.0	34.6	37.8
Butter lb.	95.5	97.3	96.5	97.5	101.0	112.3	137.8
Fruits and vegetables:							
Apples, all purpose lb.	37.6	38.8	37.4	40.1	45.2	52.4	54.6
Bananas lb.	26.3	27.6	29.7	29.8	32.1	35.5	39.3
Papayas lb.	21.8	29.7	34.6	33.4	35.3	37.6	53.1
Potatoes 10 lb.	193.0	189.1	195.0	215.4	295.2	291.4	298.6
Onions, yellow lb.	19.4	20.4	22.3	26.8	26.6	32.2	30.4
Cabbage lb.	12.0	17.7	17.9	18.4	22.2	23.2	23.3
Tomatoes lb.	47.3	53.5	56.6	56.9	62.5	70.0	76.3
Peas, green #303 can	32.9	34.4	36.2	37.2	41.3	50.1	48.6
Tomatoes #2½ can	40.1	41.2	41.7	42.6	50.7	64.0	66.7
Dried beans lb.	26.4	30.4	35.9	42.4	97.8	63.4	59.6
Other foods at home:							
Eggs, grade A, large dozen	76.2	65.9	72.5	94.1	97.0	95.7	94.2
Margarine lb.	38.1	40.9	43.1	43.9	67.7	76.6	62.4
Sugar, white 5 lb.	68.3	72.2	76.1	82.0	184.7	205.0	133.0
Coffee 1-lb. can	103.7	111.1	112.5	121.1	144.6	159.0	190.5
Chicken soup 10½-oz. can	21.1	21.0	21.0	21.0	24.7	26.3	27.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Estimated Retail Food Prices by City* (monthly and annual).

Table 179.—COMPARATIVE FAMILY BUDGETS FOR HONOLULU: 1966 TO 1975

Type of family and date	Cost of budget (dollars)			Percent of U.S. urban average		
	Lower budget	Intermediate budget	Higher budget	Lower budget	Intermediate budget	Higher budget
URBAN FAMILY OF FOUR PERSONS						
1966: Autumn .....	...	11,190	...	...	122	...
1967: Spring	7,246	10,902	16,076	122	120	123
1969: Spring	8,135	12,118	18,315	124	120	126
1970: Spring	8,597	12,776	19,311	124	120	125
1971: Autumn	8,990	13,108	19,700	125	119	124
1972: Autumn	9,118	13,617	20,579	123	119	124
1973: Autumn	9,924	14,937	21,901	121	118	120
1974: Autumn	11,383	17,019	25,572	124	119	123
1975: Autumn	12,226	18,694	28,302	128	122	127
RETIRED COUPLE						
1966: Autumn .....	...	4,434	...	...	115	...
1967: Spring	3,110	4,429	7,219	116	115	120
1969: Spring	3,401	4,884	7,849	116	115	118
1970: Spring	3,562	5,166	8,312	115	115	117
1971: Autumn	3,875	5,538	8,621	117	116	116
1972: Autumn	3,927	5,633	8,717	114	113	113
1973: Autumn	4,221	6,038	8,844	112	112	110
1974: Autumn	4,801	6,796	9,918	114	112	111
1975: Autumn	5,168	7,339	10,726	115	114	112

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *City Worker's Family Budget, Autumn 1966* (Bull. No. 1570-1); *Retired Couple's Budget, Autumn 1966* (Bull. No. 1570-4); *Three Standards of Living for an Urban Family of Four Persons, Spring 1967* (Bull. No. 1570-5); *Three Budgets for a Retired Couple, 1967-68* (Bull. No. 1570-6); *Three Budgets for an Urban Family of Four Persons, 1969-70* (Supplement to Bull. 1570-5); *Three Budgets for a Retired Couple ... 1969-70* (Supplement to Bull. 1570-6); *Autumn 1971 Urban Family Budgets and Geographical Comparative Indexes* (release, April 27, 1972); *Three Budgets for a Retired Couple, Autumn 1971* (release, May 16, 1972); *Autumn 1972 Urban Family Budgets and Comparative Indexes for Selected Urban Areas* (release, June 15, 1973); *Three Budgets for a Retired Couple, Autumn 1972* (release, August 10, 1973); *Autumn 1973 Urban Family Budgets and Comparative Indexes for Selected Urban Areas* (release, June 16, 1974); *Three Budgets for a Retired Couple, Autumn 1973* (release, August 27, 1974); *Autumn 1974 Urban Family Budgets and Comparative Indexes for Selected Urban Areas* (release, April 9, 1975); *Three Budgets for a Retired Couple, Autumn 1974* (release, August 1, 1975); *BLS Revises Estimates for Urban Family Budgets and Comparative Indexes for Selected Urban Areas, Autumn 1975* (release, May 5, 1976); *Three Budgets for a Retired Couple, Autumn 1975* (release, August 19, 1976).

Table 180.—ANNUAL BUDGETS FOR THREE LEVELS OF LIVING FOR A FOUR-PERSON FAMILY ON OAHU: AUTUMN 1975

Item	Cost of budget (dollars)			Percent of urban U.S. average		
	Lower budget	Intermediate budget	Higher budget	Lower budget	Intermediate budget	Higher budget
Total budget ¹	12,226	18,694	28,302	128	122	127
Total consumption	9,507	13,703	19,180	122	117	119
Food	3,667	4,603	5,888	124	120	122
At home	3,272	3,967	4,759	128	122	123
Away from home	395	636	1,129	102	109	119
Housing ²	2,644	4,415	6,867	142	125	128
Shelter ³	2,103	3,527	5,097	151	129	138
Renter costs ⁴	2,103	2,647	3,871	151	147	136
Homeowner costs ⁵ .....	...	3,820	5,313	...	125	138
Housefurnishings & operations	541	888	1,591	116	111	106
Transportation ⁶	762	1,438	1,914	109	112	115
Automobile owners	1,086	1,438	1,914	116	107	115
Clothing	793	1,096	1,547	103	99	96
Personal care	292	385	545	118	116	116
Medical care ⁷	860	864	901	105	105	105
Other family consumption ⁸	489	902	1,518	109	109	111
Other items ⁹	487	771	1,334	112	110	113
Social security & disability payments	714	825	825	124	99	98
Personal income taxes	1,518	3,395	6,963	194	165	169

¹Among the 40 metropolitan areas for which separate indexes were reported, Honolulu ranked second in total budget costs at all three levels, exceeded only by Anchorage.

²Housing includes shelter, housefurnishings and household operations. The higher budget also includes an allowance for lodging away from Oahu.

³The average costs of shelter were weighted by the following proportions: lower budget, all families living in rented dwellings; intermediate budget, 25 percent in rented dwellings; higher budget, 15 percent renters.

⁴Includes average contract rent, heating fuel, gas, electricity, water, specified equipment, and insurance on household contents.

⁵Includes interest and principal payments plus taxes; insurance on house and contents; water, refuse disposal, heating fuel, gas, electricity, and specified equipment; and home repair and maintenance costs.

⁶Based on 65 percent of the lower budget families and all of the intermediate and higher budget families owning automobiles.

⁷Based on 30 percent of all families paying full cost of medical insurance, 26 percent paying half cost, and 44 percent covered by non-contributory insurance plans (paid by employer).

⁸Includes reading, recreation, tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, education, and miscellaneous expenditures.

⁹Includes gifts and contributions, life insurance and occupational expenses.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *BLS Revises Estimates for Urban Family Budgets and Comparative Indexes for Selected Urban Areas, Autumn 1975* (release, USDL: 76-759, May 5, 1976).

**Table 181.—ANNUAL BUDGETS FOR THREE LEVELS OF LIVING FOR A RETIRED COUPLE
ON OAHU: AUTUMN 1974**

Item	Cost of budget (dollars)			Percent of urban U.S. average		
	Lower budget	Inter-mediate budget	Higher budget	Lower budget	Inter-mediate budget	Higher budget
Total budget ¹	4,801	6,796	9,918	114	112	111
Total consumption	4,594	6,387	9,160	114	112	111
Food	1,624	2,098	2,683	122	119	121
At home	1,528	1,891	2,270	124	119	120
Away from home	96	207	413	99	113	128
Housing ²	1,495	2,221	3,450	106	109	108
Shelter ³	1,072	1,367	1,976	102	105	106
Renter costs ⁴	1,520	2,101	2,874	149	157	142
Homeowner costs ⁵	774	971	1,591	72	76	89
Housefurnishings & operations	423	854	1,393	118	115	111
Transportation ⁶	422	699	1,079	155	133	111
Clothing	190	313	454	97	95	90
Personal care	129	189	277	107	107	107
Medical care ⁷	537	541	546	101	101	101
Other family consumption ⁸	197	326	671	109	108	113
Other items ⁹	207	409	758	114	113	110

¹Among the 40 metropolitan areas for which separate indexes were reported, Honolulu ranked third at the lower level, fifth at the intermediate level, and fifth at the higher level. Anchorage ranked first at all three levels.

²Housing includes shelter, housefurnishings and household operations. The higher budget also includes an allowance for lodging away from Oahu.

³The average costs of shelter were weighted by the following proportions: lower budget, 40 percent living in rented dwellings; intermediate budget, 35 percent in rented dwellings; higher budget, 30 percent renters.

⁴Includes average contract rent, heating fuel, gas, electricity, water, specified equipment, and insurance on household contents.

⁵Includes interest and principal payments plus property taxes; insurance on house and contents; water, refuse disposal, heating fuel, gas, electricity, and specified equipment; and home repair and maintenance costs. Assumes all mortgage payments have been completed.

⁶Based on 45 percent of the lower budget families, 60 percent of the intermediate and all of the higher budget families owning automobiles.

⁷Preliminary estimate.

⁸Includes reading, recreation, tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, education, and miscellaneous expenditures.

⁹Includes gifts and contributions. The higher budget also includes life insurance.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Three Budgets for a Retired Couple, Autumn 1974* (Release USDL 75-427, August 1, 1975).