

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 1977, the Honolulu all-items consumer price index stood at 170.5, with the 1967 level equal to 100. The index had increased 5.1 percent in the preceding 12 months, 39.5 percent since June 1972, and 71.0 percent since June 1967. Prices have risen most rapidly since 1967 for restaurant meals (up 103.4 percent), gas and electricity (100.3 percent), and medical care (100.7 percent) and least for public transportation (up 25.1 percent).

A "moderate" or "intermediate" budget for a four-person family living on Oahu was estimated at \$19,633 as of the Autumn of 1976. This family budget was 21 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 transportation. An "intermediate" budget for a retired couple in Honolulu came to \$7,339 in the Autumn of 1975, 14 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 1955-1976, 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.

Section 13 (continued)

No composite wholesale price index, comparable to the all-items consumer price index, is available for Hawaii. Average wholesale prices of agricultural products are reported in *Statistics of Hawaiian Agriculture*, issued by the Hawaii Agricultural Reporting Service, and *Honolulu Prices: Wholesale Eggs, Poultry, Pork, Beef and Rice*, a publication of the State Department of Agriculture, Market News Service. Wholesale price statistics of other commodities are less readily available, and in most cases totally lacking.

Data on prices and living costs are summarized in *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1976*, Section 14.

**Table 195. — CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (ALL ITEMS COMBINED), FOR HONOLULU:
 QUARTERLY, 1966 to 1977**
 (1967 average = 100)

Year	Annual average	March	June	September	December
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.....	162.8	161.1	162.3	164.0	165.5
1977.....	...	168.3	170.5	...	...

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *CPI Detailed Report* (monthly) and *Consumer Price Index—Pacific Cities and U.S. Average* (monthly).

Table 196. — CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, FOR HONOLULU: 1972 TO 1977
(1967 = 100)

Group	Annual averages					June 1977
	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	
All items	122.8	128.3	141.9	155.0	162.8	170.5
Food	123.2	135.2	158.7	176.7	183.0	192.4
Food at home	120.5	133.8	159.2	175.8	179.5	188.6
Cereals and bakery products	106.1	117.9	175.5	190.0	176.4	166.6
Meats, poultry, and fish	124.7	146.5	159.0	174.8	182.9	187.4
Dairy products	118.3	127.8	150.6	166.3	179.8	189.1
Fruits and vegetables	130.6	134.7	153.4	168.0	177.3	187.0
Other foods at home	117.3	127.1	157.6	179.9	178.5	211.3
Food away from home	130.8	139.0	156.6	178.7	193.1	203.4
Housing	124.3	128.8	139.0	149.3	156.4	162.2
Shelter ¹	129.6	135.1	142.4	148.5	155.7	159.8
Rent	127.7	133.1	142.9	150.4	156.8	163.6
Homeownership ²	130.9	136.5	142.2	147.3	154.9	157.3
Fuel and utilities ³	110.9	115.1	130.0	157.0	158.8	172.3
Gas and electricity	106.3	112.1	140.0	188.1	187.6	200.3
Household furnishings and operation ..	114.5	117.3	132.1	147.0	156.8	163.8
Apparel and upkeep ⁴	120.5	124.1	133.3	141.2	146.7	151.4
Men's and boys	113.9	116.7	127.5	135.5	144.0	147.5
Women's and girls	124.3	126.2	130.7	132.9	135.7	140.7
Footwear	115.3	120.8	132.1	139.2	144.4	149.9
Transportation	123.0	123.9	135.1	146.8	153.7	160.9
Private	124.8	125.5	137.8	150.9	159.1	167.5
Public	112.9	114.9	120.3	123.9	124.0	125.1
Health and recreation	121.2	124.1	134.3	148.8	160.4	170.3
Medical care	127.5	133.3	147.0	164.8	182.1	200.7
Personal care	120.4	122.7	137.2	156.6	167.6	175.2
Reading and recreation	121.8	122.7	134.3	149.0	158.2	164.2
Other goods and services ⁵	113.9	116.5	118.5	126.6	135.4	141.7

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) and *Consumer Price Index—Pacific Cities and U.S. Average—June 1977*.

Table 197. — AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN HONOLULU: 1970 TO 1977

(In cents. Data are annual averages unless otherwise indicated.)

Food and unit	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977: June
Cereals and bakery products:								
Flour, white, all purpose 5 lb.	74.9	75.5	78.5	90.4	126.8	123.7	109.2	98.0
Rice, short grain 10 lb.	144.7	142.4	146.9	176.8	351.0	341.0	265.5	236.7
Bread, white lb.	29.7	29.3	30.2	33.8	47.2	52.5	50.2	41.8
Meats, poultry and fish:								
Steak, round, U.S. Choice lb.	128.5	135.2	143.8	171.0	193.1	210.1	199.4	202.8
Rib roast, U.S. Choice lb.	143.6	151.5	164.7	171.7	196.8	208.7	224.9	236.8
Chuck roast, U.S. Choice lb.	79.8	80.5	90.2	110.4	120.5	123.4	119.8	119.8
Hamburger lb.	86.5	85.7	79.6	108.5	125.7	122.4	122.2	114.6
Beef liver lb.	86.9	89.5	91.3	101.2	116.1	120.7	117.0	122.4
Veal cutlets lb.	...	...	180.8	208.5	...	...	484.0	...
Pork chops lb.	152.9	147.0	147.7	173.7	184.4	211.0	221.7	217.6
Ham, whole, smoked lb.	85.4	77.1	79.2	105.8	124.4	152.9	169.0	142.4
Bacon lb.	108.9	93.8	100.6	135.9	148.2	195.8	210.9	180.8
Frying chicken, whole or cut-up lb.	68.4	70.0	72.1	90.4	91.2	95.6	95.8	96.6
Mahimahi, fresh or frozen lb.	89.4	115.6	158.1	138.8	127.9	205.0	...	160.5
Dairy products:								
Milk, fresh, vit. D, grocery ½ gal.	67.0	70.9	74.7	82.1	94.5	104.1	108.2	114.3
Milk, evaporated 14½-oz. can	21.9	22.6	23.3	25.4	32.0	34.6	38.1	40.9
Butter lb.	95.5	97.3	96.5	97.5	101.0	112.3	141.4	139.7
Fruits and vegetables:								
Apples, all purpose lb.	37.6	38.8	37.4	40.1	45.2	52.4	55.3	57.2
Bananas lb.	26.3	27.6	29.7	29.8	32.1	35.5	38.6	40.7
Papayas lb.	21.8	29.7	34.6	33.4	35.3	37.6	42.1	46.4
Potatoes 10 lb.	193.0	189.1	195.0	215.4	295.2	291.4	293.9	261.0
Onions, yellow lb.	19.4	20.4	22.3	26.8	26.6	32.2	29.4	40.2
Cabbage lb.	12.0	17.7	17.9	18.4	22.2	23.2	23.3	24.3
Tomatoes lb.	47.3	53.5	56.6	56.9	62.5	70.0	71.3	78.8
Peas, green #303 can	32.9	34.4	36.2	37.2	41.3	50.1	49.4	48.7
Tomatoes #2½ can	40.1	41.2	41.7	42.6	50.7	64.0	70.0	84.0
Dried beans lb.	26.4	30.4	35.9	42.4	97.8	63.4	57.9	63.2
Other foods at home:								
Eggs, grade A, large dozen	76.2	65.9	72.5	94.1	97.0	95.7	98.2	104.8
Margarine lb.	38.1	40.9	43.1	43.9	67.7	76.6	66.2	74.5
Sugar, white 5 lb.	68.3	72.2	76.1	82.0	184.7	205.0	128.8	124.2
Coffee 1-lb. can	103.7	111.1	112.5	121.1	144.6	159.0	204.7	468.6
Chicken soup 10½-oz. can	21.1	21.0	21.0	21.0	24.7	26.3	26.3	27.9

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Estimated Retail Food Prices by City* (annual, 1970-1976) and *Estimated Average Retail Food Prices—Pacific Region* (monthly, 1977).

Table 198. — COMPARATIVE FAMILY BUDGETS FOR HONOLULU: 1966 TO 1976

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
1976: Autumn	12,711	19,633	30,086	127	121	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
1976: Autumn	5,397	7,691	11,318	115	114	113

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *City Workers' 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); *Autumn 1976 Urban Family Budgets and Comparative Indexes for Selected Urban Areas* (release, April 27, 1977); *Three Budgets for a Retired Couple, Autumn 1976* (release, August 4, 1977).

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

Table 199. — ANNUAL BUDGETS FOR THREE LEVELS OF LIVING FOR A FOUR-PERSON FAMILY ON OAHU: AUTUMN 1976

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	12,711	19,633	30,086	127	121	127
Total consumption.....	9,875	14,375	20,201	121	116	118
Food.....	3,692	4,627	5,931	123	120	122
At home.....	3,278	3,961	4,748	127	122	123
Away from home.....	414	666	1,183	100	107	118
Housing ²	2,772	4,774	7,465	141	124	128
Shelter ³	2,198	3,832	5,581	150	128	138
Renter costs ⁴	2,198	2,767	4,046	150	146	135
Homeowner costs ⁵.....	...	4,187	5,852	...	125	138
Housefurnishings & operations	574	942	1,688	116	111	105
Transportation ⁶	789	1,492	1,986	103	106	109
Automobile owners.....	1,129	1,492	1,986	110	101	109
Clothing.....	839	1,159	1,633	105	102	98
Personal care.....	310	408	578	117	115	115
Medical care ⁷	955	960	1,001	107	107	107
Other family consumption ⁸	518	955	1,607	111	110	112
Other items ⁹	502	801	1,392	111	110	113
Social security & disability payments.....	743	895	895	123	100	98
Personal income taxes.....	1,591	3,562	7,598	193	159	166

¹ Among 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.

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

³ The 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.

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

⁵ Includes 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.

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

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

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

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

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Autumn 1976 Urban Family Budgets and Comparative Indexes for Selected Urban Areas* (release, USDL: 77-369, April 27, 1977).

**Table 200. — ANNUAL BUDGETS FOR THREE LEVELS OF LIVING FOR A RETIRED COUPLE ON OAHU:
AUTUMN 1976**

(For a retired husband and wife, 65 years old or over. Excludes personal income taxes.)

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	5,397	7,691	11,318	115	114	113
Total consumption.....	5,165	7,228	10,462	115	114	113
Food.....	1,799	2,340	3,010	125	122	125
At home.....	1,685	2,095	2,520	127	123	124
Away from home.....	114	245	490	103	117	132
Housing ²	1,723	2,570	4,030	107	110	110
Shelter ³	1,232	1,578	2,318	102	106	109
Renter costs ⁴	1,651	2,283	3,123	146	154	139
Homeowner costs ⁵	952	1,199	1,973	76	80	95
Housefurnishings & operations.....	491	992	1,618	120	118	113
Transportation ⁶	479	792	1,233	149	126	106
Clothing.....	206	342	496	100	99	93
Personal care.....	153	224	328	111	111	111
Medical care.....	579	584	590	101	102	102
Other family consumption ⁷	226	376	775	113	113	118
Other items ⁸	232	463	856	115	114	112

¹Among the 40 metropolitan areas for which separate indexes were reported, Honolulu ranked second at the lower level and fourth at the intermediate and higher levels. 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 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 the higher budget families owning automobiles.

⁷Includes reading, recreation, tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, and miscellaneous expenditures.

⁸Includes gifts and contributions, and, at the higher level, life insurance.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Three Budgets for a Retired Couple, Autumn 1976* (Release USDL 77-690, August 4, 1977).

Table 201. — COST OF LIVING FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES IN HAWAII RELATIVE TO WASHINGTON, D.C.: MARCH 1976

Cost of living allowance category ¹	Index (Washington, D.C. = 100), by islands				
	Oahu	Hawaii	Kauai	Maui and Lanai	Molokai
Local retail, private housing	118.1	113.4	111.3	108.0	105.2
Local retail, federal housing	100.9	103.6	108.8	100.3	102.3
Commissary, PX, private housing	104.2	...	110.8	...	...
Commissary, PX, federal housing	87.4	...	108.2	...	...
Commissary, PX, military housing	72.5	88.0	88.4	82.1	88.2

¹Based on access to military commissary and exchange facilities and type of housing occupied. "Local retail" refers to federal employees who purchase goods and services only from private retail establishments, while "Commissary, PX" includes those who have unlimited access to military commissary and exchange facilities. "Private housing" includes federal employees who occupy housing units that are privately owned or leased; "federal housing," those who occupy units owned or leased by a federal agency; and "military housing," those in either on-base military units or off-base housing for which a housing allowance is paid under the military housing program.

Source: U.S. Civil Service Commission, "Nonforeign Area Cost of Living Allowances and Post Differential Rates," FPM Letter No. 591-16 (November 15, 1976), attachment pages 1, 2 and 3.