

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Information on Changes in the West Region Due to the 2018 CPI Geographic Revision

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) relies on a sample of households in different metropolitan areas to represent urban households across the nation. Periodically, the CPI program needs to adjust the sample to reflect changes in the distribution of the population across the country. The CPI program has updated its sample to reflect the data from the 2010 Decennial Census on the distribution of the urban population. Below are changes in the U.S. and West Region indexes. Contact the West Region Information Office with questions at (415) 625-2270 or BLSinfoSF@bls.gov.

| 2018 | | | 1998-2017 | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|--|---|------------------------|---|
| Title | Publication Schedule | Area Composition | Title | Publication Schedule | Area Composition |
| U.S. City Average | Monthly | 75 areas sampled United States | U.S. City Average | Monthly | 87 areas sampled United States |
| West | Monthly | 17 areas sampled West Census Region* | West Urban | Monthly | 18 areas sampled West Census Region* |
| West - Size Class A | Monthly | West population size class more than 2,500,000 | West - Size Class A | Monthly | West population size class more than 1,500,000 |
| West - Size Class B/C | Monthly | West population size class 2,500,000 and under | West - Size Class B/C | Monthly | West population size class 1,500,000 and under |
| Mountain | Monthly | 6 areas sampled Mountain Census Division** | N/A | | |
| Pacific | Monthly | 11 areas sampled Pacific Census Division*** | N/A | | |
| Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA | Monthly | CA: Los Angeles, Orange | Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA | Monthly | CA: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura |
| Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ | Bimonthly ¹ | AZ: Maricopa, Pinal | Phoenix-Mesa, AZ | Semiannually | AZ: Maricopa, Pinal |
| Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA | Bimonthly ² | CA: Riverside, San Bernardino | N/A | | |
| San Diego-Carlsbad, CA | Bimonthly ² | CA: San Diego | San Diego, CA | Semiannually | CA: San Diego |
| San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA | Bimonthly ³ | CA: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo | San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA | Bimonthly ³ | CA: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, San Mateo, Solano, Sonoma |
| Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA | Bimonthly ³ | WA: King, Pierce, Snohomish | Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, WA | Bimonthly ³ | WA: Island, King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, Thurston |
| Urban Alaska | Bimonthly ¹ | AK: Anchorage, Matanuska-Susitna | Anchorage, AK | Semiannually | AK: Anchorage |
| Urban Hawaii | Bimonthly ² | HI: Honolulu | Honolulu, HI | Semiannually | HI: Honolulu |
| Portland area discontinued | | | Portland-Salem, OR-WA | Semiannually | OR: Clackamas, Columbia, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Washington, Yamill WA: Clark |

* Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

**Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming. Twelve-month percent changes will be available with January 2019 data.

***Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington. Twelve-month percent changes will be available with January 2019 data.

¹ Reference months of February, April, June, August, October, December (Twelve-month percent changes will be available with December 2018 data). Semiannual data will continue to be published.

² Reference months of January, March, May, July, September, November (Twelve-month percent changes will be available with January 2019 data). Semiannual data will continue to be published.

³ February, April, June, August, October, December.

NOTE: All existing indexes are considered continuous, regardless of name or composition changes. Mountain, Pacific, and Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA are new indexes.

NOTE: Monthly CPIs are averages of prices for the reference month as a whole – not for a particular day such as the 1st, 15th or 31st. Bimonthly indexes—those covering a two-month period—use a single month title to identify the reference period. Monthly and bimonthly indexes are published approximately midway during the month following the reference month.

NOTE: Local area indexes are byproducts of the national CPI program. Each local index has a smaller sample size than the national index and is, therefore, subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are similar. Therefore, the Bureau of Labor Statistics strongly urges users to consider adopting the national average CPI for use in their escalator clauses.