



PRESS RELEASE - For Immediate Release

COST OF LIVING INDEX

Beginning with quarter four of 2007, C2ER has annually published an unweighted average of prices accumulated from the previous three quarters. This analysis uses average prices submitted for the first three quarters of 2021. For further details on the annual average methodology, please visit our website at coli.org.

Among the 267 urban areas that participated in the 2021 *Cost of Living Index*, the after-tax cost for a professional/managerial **standard of living ranged from more than twice the national average in New York (Manhattan), NY, to almost 25 percent below the national average in Kalamazoo, MI.**

The Cost of Living Index is published quarterly by C2ER – The Council for Community and Economic Research.

The Ten Most and Least Expensive Urban Areas in the Cost of Living Index (COLI)

Year-End Review of Three Quarters in 2021
National Average for 267 Urban Areas = 100

Most Expensive			Least Expensive		
Ranking	Urban Areas	COL Index	Ranking	Urban Areas	COL Index
1	New York (Manhattan) NY	255.0	1	Kalamazoo MI	75.7
2	San Francisco CA	194.1	2	Harlingen TX	76.6
3	Honolulu HI	193.3	3	McAllen TX	76.8
4	New York (Brooklyn) NY	178.8	4	Muskogee OK	78.7
5	Washington DC	153.9	5	Jackson MS	79.6
6	Orange County CA	152.7	6	Amarillo TX	80.7
7	Oakland CA	153.9	7	Tupelo MS	81.3
8	Boston MA	153.2	8	Richmond IN	82.0
9	Seattle WA	152.7	9	Anniston-Calhoun County AL	82.1
10	New York (Queens) NY	150.9	10	Pittsburg KS	82.2

The *Cost of Living Index* measures regional differences in the cost of consumer goods and services, excluding taxes and non-consumer expenditures, for professional and managerial households in the top income quintile. It is based on more than 50,000 prices covering almost 60 different items for which prices are collected three times a year by chambers of commerce, economic development organizations, or university applied economic centers in each participating urban area. Small differences in the index numbers should not be interpreted as significant.

The composite index is based on six components – housing, utilities, grocery items, transportation, health care, and miscellaneous goods and services.

Now with a year's worth of data, which communities have the highest and lowest prices of Cascade dishwashing pods?

C2ER collects more than 50,000 prices from communities across the US for the COLI. One of these items was updated at the start of 2021, Cascade dishwashing pods, in order to keep the index pricing relevant to the ever-evolving demands of the current market. Below is a list of the most, and least, expensive places to buy this item.

The Five Most and Least Expensive Places to Buy Cascade Dishwashing Pods Averaged over Three Quarters in 2021 Average for 267 Urban Areas in 2021 = \$19.00

Most Expensive			Least Expensive		
Ranking	Urban Areas	Price	Ranking	Urban Areas	Price
1	New York (Queens) NY	\$30.52	1	Pierre SD	\$13.63
2	San Juan PR	\$27.33	2	Muskogee OK	\$14.41
3	San Francisco CA	\$24.17	3	Chattanooga TN	\$15.13
4	Fort Lauderdale FL	\$24.01	4	Moses Lake WA	\$15.51
5	Wilmington DE	\$23.80	5	Kalamazoo MI	\$15.56

The quarterly Cost of Living Index is available by subscription at: \$175 per year for the print edition, \$165 per year for the PDF version, or \$275 per year for an electronic (excel) version. Send check, payable to C2ER, P.O. Box 12546, Arlington VA 22209, or subscribe at coli.org.

If you need additional information on the Cost of Living Index or other COLI-related products such as the COLI Web Calculator, COLI Historical Index, County-Level Index, or Library Web Application, please contact Tyler Baines at tbaines@crec.net or by phone at 703-522-4980.