

Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion

Official USDA Food Plans: Cost of Food at Home at Four Levels, U.S. Average, September 2000¹

	WEEKLY COST				MONTHLY COST			
AGE-GENDER GROUPS	Thrifty plan		Moderate- cost plan	Liberal plan	Thrifty plan		Moderate- cost plan	Liberal plan
INDIVIDUALS ²								
CHILD:								
1 year	15.90	19.50	22.90	27.80	68.90	84.50	99.20	120.50
2 years	15.80	19.50	22.90	27.80	68.50	84.50	99.20	120.50
3-5 years	17.20	21.40	26.50	31.80	74.50	92.70	114.80	137.80
6-8 years	21.30	28.50	35.50	41.30	92.30	123.50	153.80	179.00
9-11 years	25.30	32.30	41.30	47.80	109.60	140.00	179.00	207.10
MALE:								
12-14 years	26.10	36.50	45.30	53.20	113.10	158.20	196.30	230.50
15-19 years	26.90	37.60	46.90	54.10	116.60	162.90	203.20	234.40
20-50 years	28.70	37.30	46.60	56.50	124.40	161.60	201.90	244.80
51 years and over	26.10	35.60	43.80	52.60	113.10	154.30	189.80	227.90
FEMALE:								
12-19 years	26.10	31.40	38.20	46.20	113.10	136.10	165.50	200.20
20-50 years	26.10	32.70	39.80	51.10	113.10	141.70	172.50	221.40
51 years and over	25.60	31.80	39.50	47.30	110.90	137.80	171.20	205.00
FAMILIES:								
FAMILY of 2 ³ :								
20-50 years	60.30	77.00	95.00	118.40	261.30	333.60	411.80	512.80
51 years and over	56.90	74.10	91.60	109.90	246.40	321.30	397.10	476.20
FAMILY OF 4:								
Couple, 20-50 years and								
children—								
2 and 3-5 years	87.80	110.90	135.80	167.20	380.50	480.50	588.40	724.50
6-8 and 9-11 years	101.40	130.80	163.20	196.70	439.40	566.80	707.20	852.30

¹Basis is that all meals and snacks are purchased at stores and prepared at home. For specific foods and quantities of foods in the Low-Cost, Moderate-Cost, and Liberal Plans, see *Family Economics Review*, No. 2 (1983); for specific foods and quantities of foods in the Thrifty Food Plan, see *Thrifty Food Plan*, 1999, *Executive Summary*, CNPP-7A. The Thrifty Food Plan is based on 1989-91 data, and the other three food plans are based on 1977-78 data updated to current dollars using the Consumer Price Index for specific food items.

²The costs given are for individuals in 4-person families. For individuals in other size families, the following adjustments are suggested: 1-person—add 20 percent; 2-person—add 10 percent; 3-person—add 5 percent; 5- or 6-person—subtract 5 percent; 7- (or more) person subtract 10 percent.

³Ten percent added for family size adjustment.

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