

Ranked: U.S. Cities With the Highest Cost of Groceries

A [new data visualization](#) ranked the top 20 American cities with the highest cost of groceries, with Honolulu at the top—food prices there run over 20% higher than in New York City.

The index uses NYC as the baseline at 100: San Francisco scores 100.1, Seattle 95.3, and Boston 90.5. Less expected entries include Atlanta (79.9) and Denver (77), where grocery costs now rival those in traditionally pricey coastal cities.

Honolulu's high prices are driven by isolation and import costs, while mainland cities are feeling the effects of rising meat prices, farm labor shortages, and inflation across the supply chain. [See the full list here.](#)



Key Takeaways

- Honolulu, HI has the most expensive grocery costs in the nation, with prices more than 20% higher than in New York City as of mid-year 2025.
- San Francisco, CA ranks in second, hovering just above New York, NY.

Grocery bills vary dramatically across the U.S., and some cities are feeling the pinch more than others.

Adding to the strain are record meat prices, driving up food price inflation 3% compared to June of last year. Meanwhile, vegetable prices are spiking as farmers struggle with labor shortages amid rising deportations.

This visualization ranks the top 20 American cities with the highest cost of groceries, based on data from [Numbeo](#).

America’s Top 20 Cities by Cost of Groceries

For the rankings, each city’s grocery index is compared against New York City, which is used as a baseline of 100:

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Rank	City	Groceries Index Mid-Year 2025
1	Honolulu, HI	120.2
2	San Francisco, CA	100.1
3	New York, NY	100
4	Seattle, WA	95.3
5	Boston, MA	90.5
6	San Jose, CA	89.8
7	Washington, DC	87.2
8	Philadelphia, PA	85.7
9	Pittsburgh, PA	83.1
10	Sacramento, CA	81.8
11	Los Angeles, CA	81.7
12	Minneapolis, MN	81.1

Rank	City	Groceries Index Mid-Year 2025
13	Chicago, IL	80.4
14	Atlanta, GA	79.9
15	Baltimore, MD	77.7
16	Charlotte, NC	77.3
17	Denver, CO	77
18	Spokane, WA	76.5
19	Miami, FL	75.8
20	Raleigh, NC	74.9