

Table 1322. Indexes of Living Costs Abroad: 2009

[As of January 2009. Washington, DC=100. Indexes compare the costs in dollars of representative goods and services (excluding housing and education) purchased at the foreign location and the cost of comparable goods and services in the Washington, DC area. The indexes are computed for private American employees and exclude special advantages that may be available only to U.S. Government employees. The indexes are place-to-place comparisons at specific times and currency exchange rates. They cannot be used for measuring cost changes over time at a foreign location. Since the indexes reflect only the expenditure pattern and living costs of American families, they should not be used to compare living costs of Americans in the United States with the living costs of foreign nationals living in their own country.]

Country	City	Survey date	Living cost index ¹	Country	City	Survey date	Living cost index ¹
Algeria	Algiers	5/1/2007	115	Kenya	Nairobi	5/19/2008	143
Angola	Luanda	5/21/2008	190	Korea	Seoul	12/4/2007	176
Argentina	Buenos Aires	6/19/2008	95	Kuwait	Kuwait City	11/18/2007	132
Armenia	Yerevan	1/30/2007	138	Laos	Vientiane	12/30/2005	107
Australia	Canberra	5/23/2008	139	Latvia	Riga	05/30/2007	139
Austria	Vienna	3/11/2008	186	Lebanon	Beirut	4/23/2008	123
Azerbaijan	Baku	6/14/2007	145	Liberia	Monrovia	1/21/2007	135
Bahamas	Nassau	6/16/2008	144	Lithuania	Vilnius	9/25/2008	131
Bahrain	Bahrain	8/26/2007	123	Luxembourg	Luxembourg	10/25/2007	160
Bangladesh	Dhaka	3/6/2006	88	Macedonia	Skopje	4/23/2007	135
Belarus	Minsk	3/15/2007	136	Madagascar	Antananarivo	1/23/2008	128
Belgium	Brussels	11/30/2007	191	Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	8/24/2008	121
Belize	Belmopan	4/6/2008	132	Mexico	Mexico City	3/7/2007	123
Bolivia	La Paz	3/5/2007	84	Moldova	Chisinau	5/1/2008	115
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Sarajevo	1/3/2008	131	Mongolia	Ulaanbaatar	4/15/2008	114
Botswana	Gaborone	5/1/2006	111	Morocco	Rabat	3/13/2008	137
Brazil	Janeiro	12/22/2007	139	Mozambique	Maputo	1/2/2008	130
Bulgaria	Sofia	4/17/2008	135	Namibia	Windhoek	4/20/2006	122
Burma	Rangoon	3/4/2006	128	Nepal	Kathmandu	6/22/2007	103
Burundi	Bujumbura	1/15/2008	136	Netherlands	The Hague	4/27/2008	176
Cambodia	Phnom Penh	5/26/2008	118	New Zealand	Wellington	10/15/2007	157
Cameroon	Yaounde	3/27/2006	154	Nicaragua	Managua	4/15/2008	113
Canada	Montreal	1/12/2007	134	Niger	Niamey	3/25/2008	152
Central African Republic	Bangui	8/13/2008	189	Nigeria	Abuja	3/10/2008	148
Chad	Njamena	8/1/2006	152	Norway	Oslo	2/12/2007	187
Chile	Santiago	3/31/2008	142	Oman	Muscat	1/13/2008	132
China	Beijing	7/27/2007	130	Pakistan	Islamabad	12/10/2004	102
Colombia	Bogota	1/4/2008	109	Panama	Panama City	7/31/2008	119
Congo	Brazzaville (NA)	(NA)	(NA)	Paraguay	Asuncion	1/16/2008	114
Costa Rica	San Jose	8/15/2006	108	Peru	Lima	12/7/2007	124
Cote d'Ivoire	Abidjan	12/10/2006	160	Philippines	Manila	4/16/2007	97
Croatia	Zagreb	3/22/2007	141	Poland	Warsaw	4/23/2008	140
Cuba	Havana	2/13/2008	145	Portugal	Lisbon	2/28/2008	148
Cyprus	Nicosia	2/26/2008	164	Qatar	Doha	8/15/2007	129
Czech Republic	Prague	9/15/2005	130	Romania	Bucharest	11/27/2006	125
Denmark	Copenhagen	6/28/2006	166	Russia	Moscow	12/20/2006	164
Djibouti	Djibouti City	4/10/2004	161	Rwanda	Kigali	2/25/2007	130
Ecuador	Quito	1/17/2005	126	Saudi Arabia	Riyadh	5/6/2008	120
Egypt	Cairo	3/13/2006	96	Serbia	Belgrade	4/21/2008	126
El Salvador	San Salvador	1/25/2007	108	Sierra Leone	Freetown	3/6/2008	141
Estonia	Tallinn	4/16/2008	141	Singapore	Singapore	4/9/2007	140
Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	3/12/2008	120	Slovakia	Bratislava	5/31/2007	132
Finland	Helsinki	3/21/2007	179	South Africa	Johannesburg	10/23/2008	135
France	Paris	4/19/2007	190	Spain	Madrid	3/15/2008	169
Gabon	Libreville	5/2/2007	184	Sri Lanka	Colombo	4/9/2008	98
Georgia	Tbilisi	11/15/2007	143	Sudan	Khartoum	11/28/2007	139
Germany	Berlin	3/12/2008	179	Sweden	Stockholm	4/30/2008	204
Ghana	Accra	8/3/2008	134	Switzerland	Geneva	5/21/2008	235
Greece	Athens	7/20/2005	154	Syria	Damascus	3/26/2008	96
Guatemala	Guatemala City	4/23/2007	116	Taiwan	Taipei	3/6/2007	136
Guinea	Conakry	5/7/2007	151	Tajikistan	Dushanbe	3/19/2008	100
Guyana	Georgetown	3/12/2008	130	Tanzania	Dar es Salaam	11/15/2007	133
Haiti	Port-au-Prince	10/15/2007	120	Thailand	Bangkok	2/26/2008	126
Honduras	Tegucigalpa	6/10/2007	84	Timor Leste	Timor Leste	7/11/2007	128
Hong Kong		7/13/2007	154	Turkey	Istanbul	2/11/2007	156
Hungary	Budapest	6/30/2005	130	Turkmenistan	Ashgabat	10/31/2007	105
Iceland	Reykjavik	4/15/2008	182	Ukraine	Kampala	3/1/2007	124
India	New Delhi	10/16/2006	97	United Arab Emirates	Dubai	4/15/2007	126
Indonesia	Jakarta	3/25/2008	112	United Kingdom	London	10/18/2006	183
Ireland	Dublin	1/31/2008	175	Uruguay	Montevideo	6/30/2005	117
Israel	Tel Aviv	4/6/2008	163	Uzbekistan	Tashkent	6/17/2008	93
Italy	Rome	2/27/2007	186	Venezuela	Caracas	7/22/2008	147
Jamaica	Kingston	6/17/2008	117	Vietnam	Hanoi	5/5/2008	113
Japan	Okinawa	5/24/2002	141	Yemen	Sanaa	12/10/2005	129
Jordan	Amman	4/14/2008	130	Zambia	Lusaka	3/16/2007	131
Kazakhstan	Almaty	(NA)	(NA)	Zimbabwe	Harare	1/14/2008	243

NA Not available. ¹ Also called the "local index," the living cost index measures living costs for private American citizens. The local index is a comparison of prices at the foreign post and in Washington, DC, with the price ratios weight the expenditure pattern of American employees living at the foreign post. It is, thereby, a measure of the cost of living for Americans at the foreign post compared with the cost of living in Washington, DC. This is the index most appropriate for use by business firms and other private organizations to establish cost-of-living allowances for their American employees stationed abroad. ² See footnote 4, Table 1296. ³ See footnote 5, Table 1296. ⁴ There are no U.S. Government employees in Taiwan. The figures listed in this column represent a living cost comparison for American employees of the American Institute in Taiwan, who have some duty-free and other special benefits that may not be available to other Americans in Taiwan.