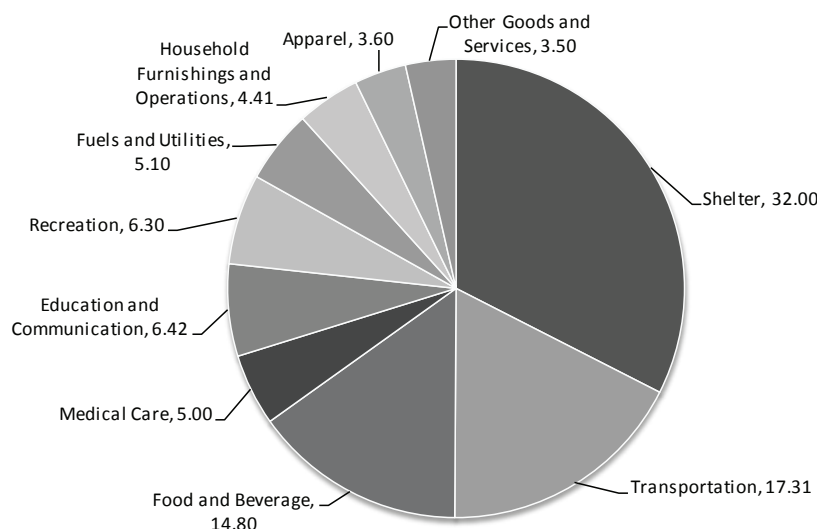


COST OF LIVING

Consumer Expenditures

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) publishes data about the portions of total expenditures (as percentages) that are allotted to each expenditure category. The pie-graph on the right shows a summary of the relative importance of each expenditure category for all urban consumers in the United States for the month of December 2010.

Figure 21: Relative Importance of Each Expenditure Category for December 2010: U.S. Summary



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor retrieved December 2011.

Cost of Living Index

The American Chamber of Commerce Researchers Association (ACCRA) produces a Cost of Living Index to provide a useful and reasonably accurate measure of living cost differences among urban areas. Table 32 displays cost of living information for Champaign-Urbana and other selected urban areas in Illinois. The ACCRA Index is produced quarterly.

Each quarterly report is a separate comparison of prices at a single point in time, and both the number and the mix of participants may change from one quarter to

the next. Thus, index data from different quarters cannot be compared. It is important to note that the ACCRA Cost of Living Index does not measure inflation (price change over time). The average for all participating places equals 100, and each participant's index is read as a percentage of the average for all places. For example, Grocery costs in Champaign-Urbana is 94.7% of the average cost across the nation. Utilities are 115.4% of the national average.

Additional information about ACCRA can be found at <http://www.accra.org/costofliving/index.cfm>.

Table 32: Cost of Living Index for 2011 Third Quarter

Location	Total	Grocery	Housing	Utilities	Transportation	Health	Misc.	Average	Average
	100%	13.31%	29.27%	10.22%	9.86%	4.23%	33.11%	Apt. Rent	Home Price
Champaign-Urbana	99.0	94.7	91.7	115.4	99.2	103.8	101.4	\$679	\$266,488
Chicago	114.4	115.7	133.6	99.0	113.1	107.3	102.9	\$1,375	\$370,167
Danville	89.7	91.7	71.0	115.2	112.7	93.6	90.1	\$589	\$210,000
Decatur	91.0	90.5	81.7	97.4	95.6	86.2	96.6	\$548	\$245,335
Peoria	95.5	95.0	86.7	98.3	110.6	93.5	98.3	\$629	\$256,225
Springfield	89.7	92.2	73.7	77.7	111.1	101.0	98.6	\$587	\$214,250

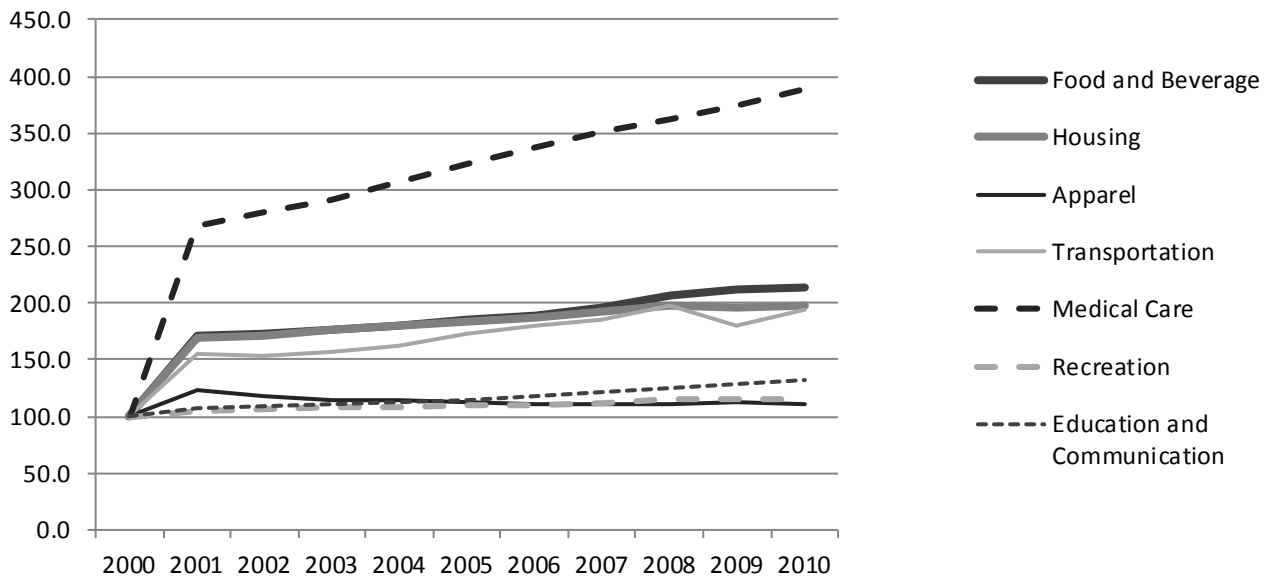
Source: ACCRA Cost of Living Index, 2011 3rd Quarter; Notes: The ACCRA Cost of Living Index measures relative price levels for consumer goods and services in participating areas. The average for all participating places equals 100, and each participant's index is read as a percentage of the average for all places. The index does not measure inflation (price change over time), and index data from different quarters cannot be compared. A weight for each component index appears below the column heading.

Consumer Price Index

A consumer price index measures a price change for a constant market basket of goods and services from one period to the next within the same city or for the Nation. In this instance, the consumer price index is measuring the price change for all Midwest urban consumers in cities between 50,000 and 150,000 people. Consumer price indices are presented on a semi-annual

basis for the following categories: food and beverage, housing, apparel, transportation, medical care, recreation, and education and communication. The indices are not seasonally adjusted and have a base year of 1997 at which the index equals 100 for all of the categories. The consumer price index is not a true cost of living index and should not be used for place-to-place comparisons.

Figure 22: Semi-Annual Consumer Price Index for Midwest Urban Consumers: 2000-2010



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

Table 33: Annual Consumer Price Index - Midwest Urban Consumers: 2001-2010

Year	Food & Beverage	Housing	Apparel	Transportation	Medical Care	Recreation	Education & Communication	All Items
2001	170.5	169.2	122.9	155.0	267.9	105.6	106.7	172.8
2002	172.9	171.8	118.3	153.3	280.3	107.4	109.9	174.9
2003	175.8	175.8	115.2	157.3	291.8	108.1	111.4	178.3
2004	180.9	179.5	114.8	162.8	306.9	109.1	113.3	182.6
2005	185.6	184.3	113.3	173.4	322.0	109.6	115.1	188.4
2006	189.5	187.9	110.2	180.9	336.2	110.9	118.5	193.0
2007	196.5	192.3	110.2	186.2	351.5	111.9	121.8	198.1
2008	207.3	197.4	111.3	197.1	362.2	114.7	125.4	205.4
2009	212.0	196.5	112.1	179.9	374.9	115.7	128.9	204.1
2010	213.8	197.0	111.8	193.8	387.6	114.9	131.4	208.1

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

Notes: Consumer Price Indices for the above categories are not seasonally adjusted, and represent Midwest urban consumers in cities with population between 50,000 and 150,000 people.