

Cost of Living Index

Report Criteria

The following information was supplied for this report:

Report Reference Demo COLI Report
 Date January 06, 2019
 Home Location USA, Houston TX
 Survey Date January 02, 2019

Basket Groups

The following basket selections were made in the calculator:

Excluded: Provide by Employer/State	Included: Paid by Employees Salary
Education Healthcare Household Transport	Alcohol & Tobacco Clothing Communication Furniture & Appliances Groceries Miscellaneous Personal Care Recreation & Culture Restaurants Meals Out and Hotels

The baskets are based on information for approximately 200 different goods and services. The prices for the same quantity of each item are collected in each location. The data is thoroughly quality assured and manually checked and moderated by experienced analysts. For ease of use, the 200 goods and services have been grouped into 13 basket groups. To compare the cost of living, we use the total cost of the basket in each location. The difference in the cost of the basket at the ruling exchange rate is the basis of the cost of living difference.

The basket groups that have been excluded are those that will be provided by either the employing company or in some cases by the state in the new location. The basket groups that have been included in calculating the cost of living difference are those that will be paid by the employee from their salary.

Results

The most expensive location with the highest Cost of Living Index is Luanda in Angola, with an index of 245.92. This means that the cost of living in Luanda in Angola is 2.4592 times that of Houston TX USA.

The least expensive location with the lowest Cost of Living Index is Konya in Turkey, with an index of 82.76. This means that the cost of living in Konya in Turkey is 0.8276 times that of Houston TX USA.

Based on the Home Location, Houston TX in USA and the selected basket(s), the following results are reported.

Location	Cost of Living Index	Cost of Living Difference
USA, Houston TX	100.0	0.0%
Albania, Tirana	94.7	- 5.3%
Angola, Luanda	245.9	145.9%
Australia, Perth	164.6	64.6%
Austria, Vienna	159.4	59.4%
Bahrain, Manama	141.7	41.7%
Bermuda, Hamilton	197.7	97.7%
Botswana, Gaborone	106.6	6.6%
Canada, Vancouver	164.4	64.4%
China, Hong Kong	171.8	71.8%
China, Shanghai	160.3	60.3%
Cyprus, Nicosia	129.5	29.5%
France, Marseille	143.5	43.5%
Germany, Frankfurt	150.0	50.0%
Greece, Thessaloniki	126.3	26.3%
India, Chennai	94.1	- 5.9%
Indonesia, Bali	106.3	6.3%
Italy, Milan	125.7	25.7%

Japan, Yokohama	166.8	66.8%
Kenya, Mombasa	126.4	26.4%
Republic of Korea, Daegu	190.0	90.0%
Libya, Benghazi	129.2	29.2%
Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur	143.4	43.4%
Mexico, Monterrey	163.3	63.3%
Myanmar, Yangon	120.3	20.3%
New Zealand, Christchurch	154.1	54.1%
Pakistan, Karachi	91.7	- 8.3%
Poland, Lodz	94.7	- 5.3%
Qatar, Doha	147.4	47.4%
Russia, Vladivostok	144.9	44.9%
Samoa, Apia	159.4	59.4%
Saudi Arabia, Riyadh	136.9	36.9%
South Africa, Bloemfontein	109.1	9.1%
Spain, Valencia	115.7	15.7%
Swaziland, Mbabane	104.4	4.4%
Switzerland, Geneva	206.8	106.8%
Turkey, Konya	82.8	-17.2%
USA, Chicago IL	119.8	19.8%
USA, Dallas TX	108.3	8.3%
USA, Houston TX	100.0	0.0%
USA, Las Vegas NV	118.9	18.9%
USA, Philadelphia PA	136.2	36.2%
USA, Seattle WA	134.8	34.8%
USA, Tampa FL	103.5	3.5%
USA, Washington-Arlington-Alexandria DC-VA	140.5	40.5%
United Arab Emirates, Dubai	171.7	71.7%
United Kingdom, Glasgow	126.4	26.4%
Vietnam, Hanoi	116.9	16.9%
Zambia, Lusaka	117.6	17.6%



When comparing the cost of living between 2 locations, the difference in the aggregate cost of all the items in the cost of living index basket are examined in each location, this is done by using the average reported price in each location for the same quantity of each item.

The cost of living indexes for the selected basket group for the Home and Host Location(s) is reported, relative to the home location, which has a cost of living of 100. All other cost of living indexes are expressed as an index (percentage) of the home location. For example if a host location has an index of 80 it means that the cost of living is 80% of the cost of living of the home location (i.e. 20% less than the home location). Another host location with a cost of living index of 110, means the cost of living is 110% of the cost of living in the home location (i.e. 10% more than the home location).

The cost of living index is the relative differential of the local cost of the selected basket(s) and the ruling exchange rate between each location using Houston TX USA as the Home Location (USA, Houston TX = 100).

Notes

(1) The cost of living indexes are updated quarterly at the time of pricing the baskets.

(2) The Overall Index Basket uses weights which are the result of extensive research of actual spending habits. The weight reflects the proportion of salary spent on each basket by Expatriates. By applying the weight to each index we have reported the overall weighted cost of living index.

The formula used to calculate the cost of living difference percentage is as follows:

$$\frac{(\text{Host Index} - \text{Home Index}) \times 100}{\text{Home Index}}$$

(3) There is a relationship between the cost of living index and the exchange rate. Where the home currency has strengthened against the host currency (i.e. the home currency buys more host currency), the host cost of living index will decrease.

(4) Increases in prices in the host location (i.e. inflation) will cause the host cost of living index to increase. Decrease in prices (i.e. deflation) in the host location will cause the host cost of living index to decrease.

Source: Xpatulator.com