

**The Rise in the Cost of Common Items Covered by the  
Welfare Basic Grant Over the last 18 Years**

	<b>1990</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>%Increase</b>
<b><u>Foods</u></b>			
Milk (Skim, half gallon carton)	\$.68	2.24	329
Eggs (Large white, 1 dozen)	\$.48	3.79	789
Lettuce (Iceberg, per head)	\$.59	1.89	320
Tomatoes (Roma, per lb)	\$.39	1.99	510
Green Peppers (per lb)	\$.48	1.29	269
Cucumbers (each)	\$.25	.75	300
Tuna Fish (Empress Light in Water, 6.5 oz can)	\$.58	.96	165
Ground Beef (73-80% lean, per lb)	\$.99	3.29	332
Pasta Sauce (Ragu, 30 oz)	1.49	2.59	174
Butter (1lb package)	\$.99	3.99	403
<b>Average % increase</b>			<b>361</b>
<b><u>Over the Counter Medicines and Toiletries</u></b>			
Toothpaste (Close-up, 6.4 oz tube)	\$1.77	3.18	180
Shampoo (Johnson's Baby Shampoo, 20oz bottle)	\$2.99	5.49	184
Deodorant (Mitchim, 2 oz solid)	\$2.67	3.79	142
Ibuprofen (Motrin IB, 50 tablets)	\$3.19	6.99	219
Anti-histamine (Benadry, 24 tablets)	\$3.79	4.49	171
Hydrocortisone Cream (Cortizon-10, 1oz. tube)	\$2.39	5.99	251
Cough and Cold Syrup (Dimetapp, 4 oz)	\$2.66	6.49	244
<b>Average % increase</b>			<b>201</b>
<b><u>Household cleaners, paper products and other items</u></b>			
Laundry Detergent (Cheer liquid, half gallon)	\$3.49	6.99	200
Dishwashing Liquid (Ivory, 22 oz. / 25oz.)	\$1.49	2.82	189
Paper Towels (Brawny, 66 sheets / 80 sheets)	\$ .48	2.09	435
Toilet Paper (Charmin, 4 roll pkg.)	\$1.37	3.89	284
Light Bulbs (GE Soft White, 4 pack)	\$1.99	3.29	165
Batteries (2 Energizer C or D, or 1 9-volt)	\$1.99	4.99	251
<b>Average % increase</b>			<b>254</b>
<b>Basic Cash Allowance for Welfare (family of 3) – one month</b>	<b>\$ 291</b>	<b>\$291</b>	<b>0</b>