



**AEDC**  
Anchorage Economic  
Development Corporation

2020 YEAR-END REPORT ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

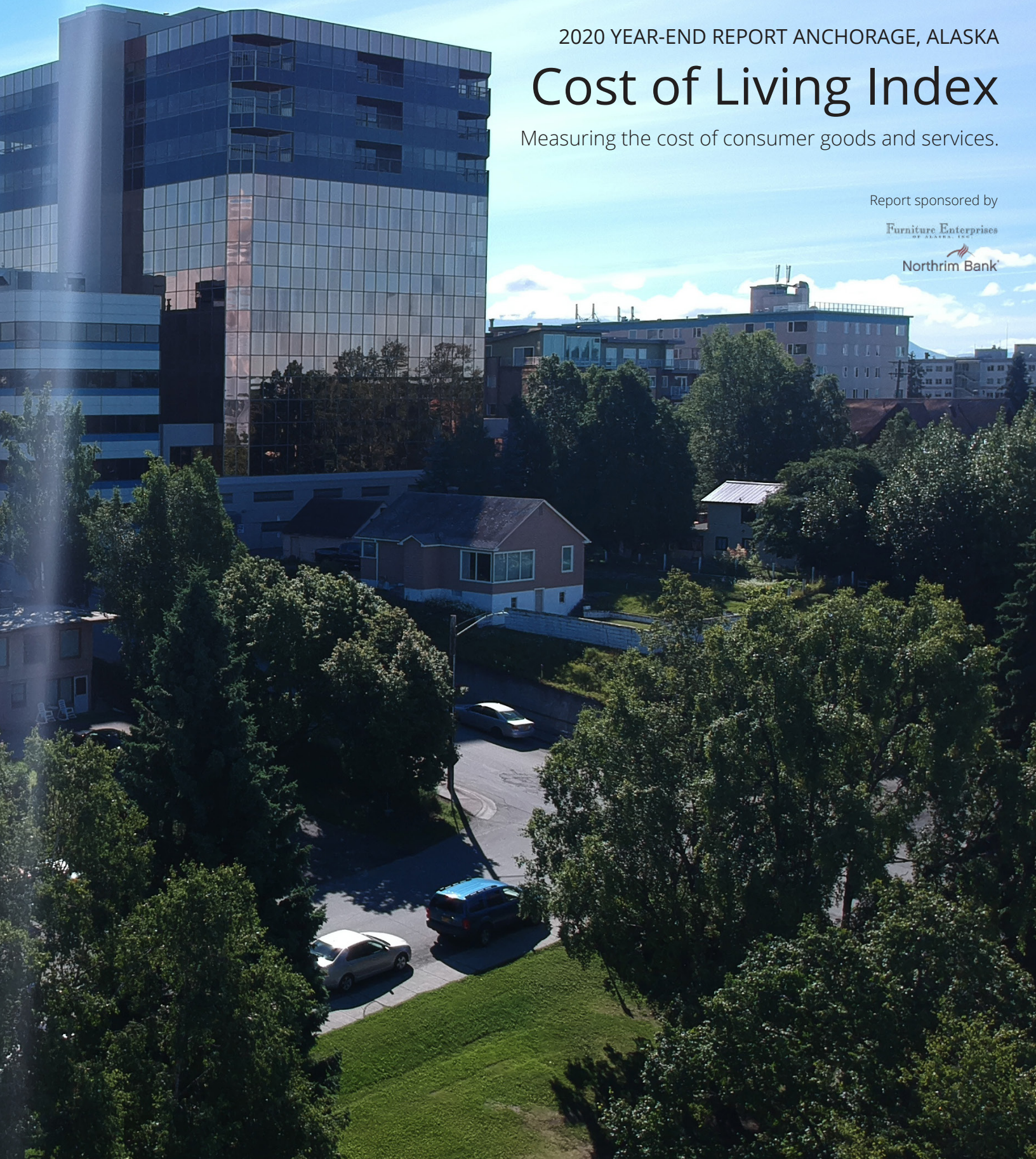
# Cost of Living Index

Measuring the cost of consumer goods and services.

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# Cost of Living Index

The Anchorage Economic Development Corporation collects cost of living data for Anchorage by measuring the relative price of consumer goods and services. The Cost of Living Index (COLI) is measured in 269 urban areas around the country by the Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER). The average index for all participating areas is 100, which means each index can be read as a percentage of the national average. This index does not measure the change of prices over time, but rather the relative cost of living compared to the national average.

Nationally, Anchorage is the **21<sup>st</sup>** most expensive city of the 269 cities that participated in the 2020 COLI survey.

In 2020, the composite index for Anchorage rose to **124.4**, just 0.4 points higher than in 2019 (124.0).

## ANCHORAGE COST OF LIVING

**124.4 | 21<sup>st</sup>**

Anchorage's overall index in 2020 was 124.4, or 124.4% of the national average.  
This means that living in Anchorage is 24% more expensive than living in the average American city.

# COLI Component Indices

The COLI is made up of six component indices, which together comprise the composite index.



## How do we compare?

**15th** most expensive gallon of milk. You'll find the most expensive gallons in Honolulu and Miami.



**3rd** most expensive doctor's visit. Juneau and Fairbanks are 1st and 2nd, respectively.



**258th** most expensive men's shirt. The most expensive men's shirt in the country? Juneau, Alaska.



### COMPOSITE VALUES FOR A SAMPLE OF CITIES INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY

NYC – 244.7  
Honolulu – 198.6  
Seattle – 156.8  
Portland – 133.7  
Anchorage – 124.4  
Denver – 113.4  
Boise – 99.3  
San Francisco – 194.0

**46th** most expensive pizza. You can find the most expensive pizza in Sacramento, and the cheapest in Fayetteville, AR.

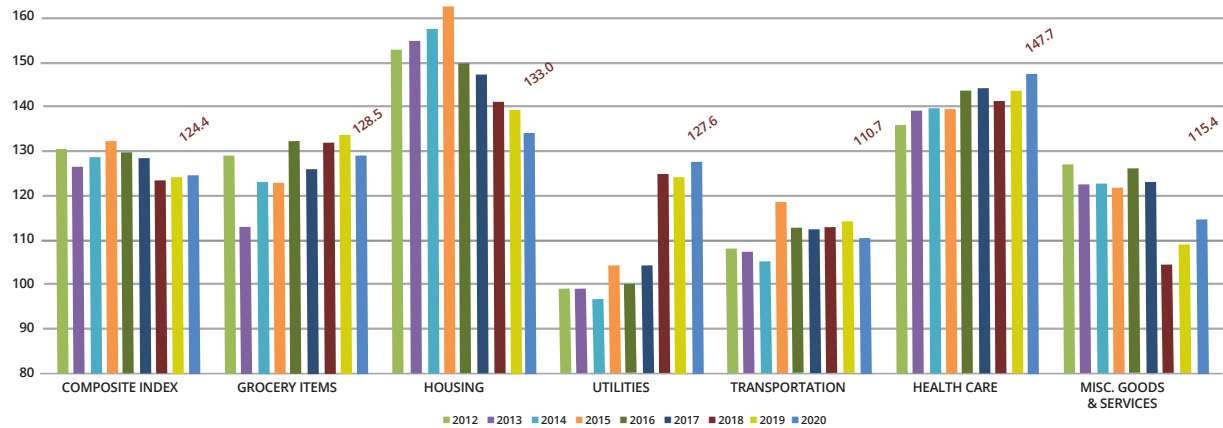


**114th** most expensive city for prescription drugs. Asheville, NC ranks #1.



# 2020 Anchorage, Alaska / Cost of Living Index

## ANCHORAGE ANNUAL COLI VALUES, 2012-2020



## ANCHORAGE COST OF LIVING INDEX HISTORICAL INDICES & TRENDS

	WEIGHT	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	POINT CHG 2009-20	POINT CHG 2019-20
OVERALL INDEX	100%	124.6	128.3	130.6	129.6	126.2	128.5	132.4	130.2	128.4	123.3	124.0	124.4	0.2	0.4
GROCERY ITEMS	13.47%	129.3	134.4	137.4	129.1	113	123.4	122.8	132.4	126.1	130.5	132.2	128.5	-0.8	-3.7
HOUSING	28.15%	137	142.5	149.8	152.8	155.1	157.8	163.9	149.9	147.2	140.6	138.5	133.0	-4	-5.5
UTILITIES	9.90%	101.9	94.3	98.2	100.4	99.97	104.8	100.1	100.1	104.3	125.2	124.1	127.6	25.7	3.5
TRANSPORTATION	8.99%	118.2	122	112	108	107.3	105.1	118.3	112.9	112.4	113.4	114.6	110.7	-7.5	-3.9
HEALTH CARE	4.57%	127.6	135.4	139.4	136.6	139.2	139.9	139.4	143.5	144.3	141.9	144.1	147.7	20.1	3.6
MISC.	34.92%	120.5	124.7	126.3	126.9	122.3	122.4	121.8	125.8	123	105.9	109.6	115.4	-5.1	5.8

## CITY COMPARISONS & ANCHORAGE RANKING

	COMPOSITE	GROCERY	HOUSING	UTILITIES	TRANSP.	HEALTH CARE
ANCHORAGE, AK	124.4	128.5	133.0	127.6	110.7	147.7
COLI RANKING*	21 <sup>ST</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	34 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>	36 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
TUSCON, AZ	99.9	103.5	93.7	101.4	96.8	101.3
DENVER, CO	113.4	95.0	138.5	79.8	113.1	100.2
HONOLULU, HI	198.6	170.9	332.3	202.2	144.4	113.3
BOISE, ID	99.3	93.5	99.6	83.1	108.8	98.2
CHICAGO, IL	96.6	95.2	92.9	89.3	109.9	109.5
FT. WAYNE, IM	86.8	86.1	61.7	92.5	106.0	98.6
BOSTON, MA	150.0	113.2	224.4	122.3	108.5	120.6
MINNEAPOLIS, MN	105.7	102.6	104.1	96.0	101.3	102.4
BOZEMAN, MT	109.0	99.9	134.4	87.9	92.5	95.1
RENO, NV	112.7	112.2	126.3	84.3	128.5	113.1
PORTLAND, OR	133.7	112.6	181.3	89.1	129.2	116.3
HOUSTON, TX	95.2	92.0	85.3	111.4	95.3	98.4
SEATTLE, WA	156.8	127.7	232.7	109.4	140.8	127.6
CASPER, WY	97.2	99.5	90.1	87.8	85.7	100.70

\*MOST EXPENSIVE = 1<sup>ST</sup>, LEAST EXPENSIVE = 269<sup>TH</sup>