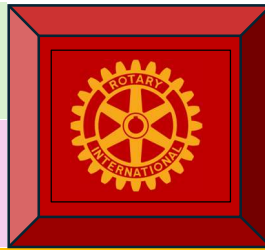


TRI

BURY BUNE



Rotary



The Tribury Tribune is compiled by the Rotary Club of Woodbury – Southbury – Middlebury (Tribury)

Issue Number 3 – How U.S. Food Prices Have Surged Since 2021

Tribury Rotary Club

- President – Mary Rose Griffin
- President – Elect – John Monteleone
- Secretary – Linda Andrews
- Treasurer – Ron Webb

Phone: 203-565-6100

Email: triburyrotary4@gmail.com

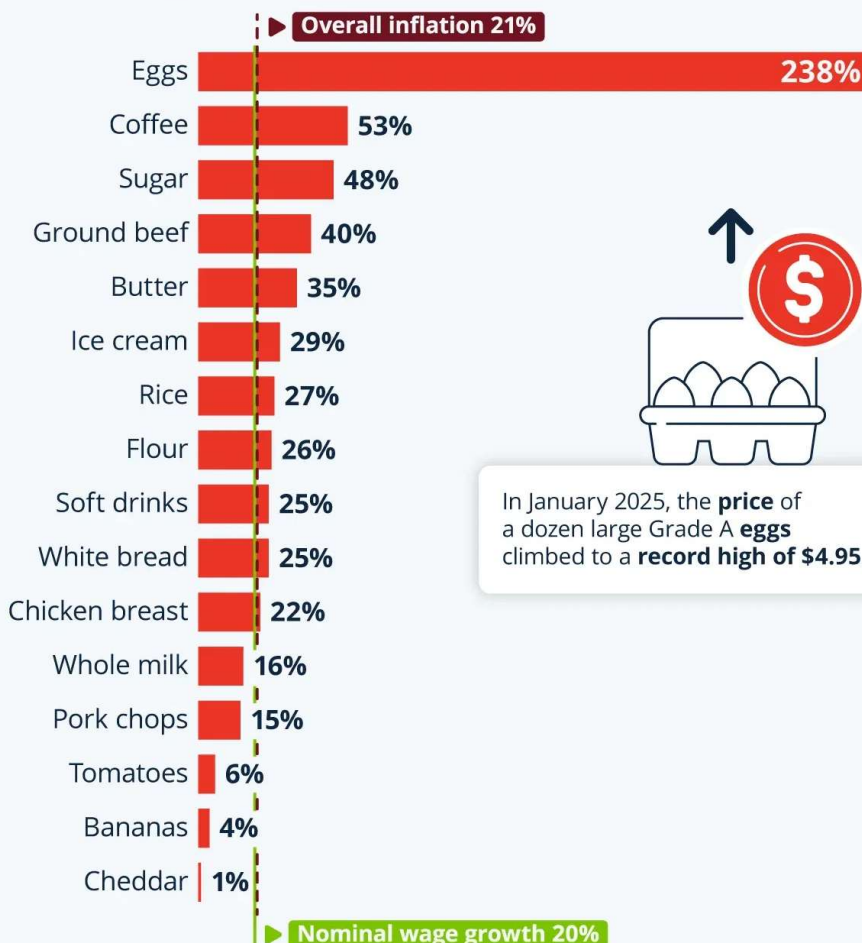
Address: P.O. Box 952 Southbury, CT 06488

Tribury Club Website: www.triburyrotaryclub.org

District Website: <http://www.rotary7980.org/>

Rotary International Website: www.rotary.org

Change in average prices of selected food items in the U.S. between Jan. 2021 and Jan. 2025*



Egg prices are up more than 200 percent over the past four years, avian flu outbreaks cause prices to spike in 2022 and 2024. Other food staples have also seen significant price increases over the past four years, with coffee, sugar and beef among the products most affected by the inflation crisis. Tomatoes, bananas and cheese are among the few examples that have not been impacted as much by inflation.

U.S. farmers were forced to kill 21 million egg-laying hens due to HPAI (highly pathogenic avian influenza) in the first weeks of 2025 alone, adding to more than 13 million hens "depopulated" in December 2024. "The timing and scope of HPAI outbreaks has created an imbalance in the nation's supply of table shell eggs with supplies short in some regions while barely adequate in others, according to the USDA.

Due to the fact that eggs are hard to substitute, even modest declines in supply have a significant impact on prices, resulting in the latest surge.

* All prices in U.S. city average
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Food insecurity is a major concern and food banks play a crucial role in addressing the issue. Food banks rely on volunteers to keep their operations running smoothly and assist those in need.

Rotary supports these organizations who work tirelessly to support individuals and families who are struggling to put meals on the table. Food banks operate primarily through donations and partnerships with local businesses, grocery stores, and restaurants. The goal is simple: package healthy meals and redistribute food that might otherwise go to waste and ensure it reaches those in need.



But food banks cannot function without help. Volunteers are the backbone of these operations, sorting, packing, and distributing food to those in need. Whether it is organizing donations, preparing meal kits, or assisting with logistics, every set of helping hands makes a difference. Without volunteers, food banks would not be able to reach as many people as they do.



The important thing about volunteering is that anyone can do it. If you love cooking, you can help prepare meals at community kitchens, even if you are not a professional chef. If you have free time and want to lend a hand, you can assist with packaging and distribution. No specific skills are required—just a willingness to help.