

October 1988

FOOD PRICES

Changes Occurring in the Prices of Selected Food Products



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United States
General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

**Resources, Community, and
Economic Development Division**

B-233203

October 31, 1988

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,
Nutrition, and Forestry
United States Senate

The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan
House of Representatives

On October 5, 1988, we testified before the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, concerning your requests that we monitor the changes in food prices at the farm, processor (manufacturer), and retail levels for eight selected food products made from agricultural commodities.¹ Your requests expressed concern about the effect of the 1988 drought on the prices of the eight food products since a high proportion of U.S. households purchase them on a weekly basis. Because of widespread interest, we are providing you with the details behind our testimony in this fact sheet.

In summary, prices generally increased at all levels of the food marketing system during 1988. We found that, between June 1 and August 31, 1988, food prices generally increased more at the farm, processor, and retail levels than they did during the same period in 1987. We also found that prices of many of the monitored food items had begun to increase prior to the drought. It is interesting to point out, however, that although agricultural commodity prices have increased this year, food processing and marketing costs are also significant. The value of farm commodities used in foods consumed in the home averages 30 percent of the retail price; processing costs average 31 percent and retailing 23 percent.

This fact sheet is divided into 10 sections. Section 1 contains information on 1988 monthly retail prices for the eight items we reviewed. Sections 2 through 9 provide information on the 1987 and 1988 monthly percentage and

¹The eight food items are pasta products (spaghetti and macaroni), cereal, white bread, ground beef, chuck roast, pork, fresh chicken, and milk.

cumulative price changes for each of the eight items at the three levels of the food processing system. Section 10 presents information on cost components of retail foods consumed at home.

The data in this fact sheet were obtained primarily from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' monthly Average Consumer Prices, Consumer Price Indexes, and Producer Price Indexes. We did not independently verify the data provided by the Bureau.

Copies of this fact sheet are being sent to the Chairman, House Committee on Agriculture; Secretary of Agriculture; Secretary of Labor; Director, Office of Management and Budget; and other interested parties upon request. As agreed with your offices, we will continue to monitor food price changes through the end of the year and will provide you with informal monthly updates. If we can be of further assistance, please contact me at (202) 275-5138.

Major contributors to this fact sheet are listed in appendix I.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Harman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "H".

John W. Harman
Associate Director

CONTENTS

Page

LETTER

SECTION

1	1987-88 MONTHLY RETAIL PRICE AND MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE FOR MONITORED FOOD ITEMS	6
2	1987-88 PASTA PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE	9
3	1987-88 CEREAL PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE	14
4	1987-88 WHITE BREAD PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE	19
5	1987-88 GROUND BEEF PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE	24
6	1987-88 CHUCK ROAST PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE	29
7	1987-88 PORK PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE	34
8	1987-88 POULTRY PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE	39
9	1987-88 MILK PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE	44
10	COMPONENTS OF RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD CONSUMED AT HOME	51

APPENDIX

I	MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS FACT SHEET	53
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TABLE

1.1	1987 Monthly Retail Price and Monthly Percentage Change for Monitored Food Items	7
1.2	1988 Monthly Retail Price and Monthly Percentage Change for Monitored Food Items	8
2.1	1987 Pasta Price: Monthly Percentage Change	10
2.2	1988 Pasta Price: Monthly Percentage Change	12
3.1	1987 Cereal Price: Monthly Percentage Change	15

		<u>Page</u>
3.2	1988 Cereal Price: Monthly Percentage Change	17
4.1	1987 White Bread Price: Monthly Percentage Change	20
4.2	1988 White Bread Price: Monthly Percentage Change	22
5.1	1987 Ground Beef Price: Monthly Percentage Change	25
5.2	1988 Ground Beef Price: Monthly Percentage Change	27
6.1	1987 Chuck Roast Price: Monthly Percentage Change	30
6.2	1988 Chuck Roast Price: Monthly Percentage Change	32
7.1	1987 Pork Price: Monthly Percentage Change	35
7.2	1988 Pork Price: Monthly Percentage Change	37
8.1	1987 Poultry Price: Monthly Percentage Change	40
8.2	1988 Poultry Price: Monthly Percentage Change	42
9.1	1987 Milk Price: Monthly Percentage Change	45
9.2	1988 Milk Price: Monthly Percentage Change	48
 FIGURE		
2.1	1987 Pasta Price Changes	11
2.2	1988 Pasta Price Changes	13
3.1	1987 Cereal Price Changes	16
3.2	1988 Cereal Price Changes	18
4.1	1987 White Bread Price Changes	21
4.2	1988 White Bread Price Changes	23
5.1	1987 Ground Beef Price Changes	26

		<u>Page</u>
5.2	1988 Ground Beef Price Changes	28
6.1	1987 Chuck Roast Price Changes	31
6.2	1988 Chuck Roast Price Changes	33
7.1	1987 Pork Price Changes	36
7.2	1988 Pork Price Changes	38
8.1	1987 Poultry Price Changes	41
8.2	1988 Poultry Price Changes	43
9.1	1987 Whole Milk Price Changes	46
9.2	1987 Low fat Milk Price Changes	47
9.3	1988 Whole Milk Price Changes	49
9.4	1988 Low fat Milk Price Changes	50
10.1	Percentage of Components of Retail Goods Costs	52

ABBREVIATIONS

GAO	General Accounting Office
RCED	Resources, Community, and Economic Development Division

SECTION 1

1987-88 MONTHLY RETAIL PRICE AND MONTHLY
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FOR MONITORED FOOD ITEMS

Table 1.1: 1987 Monthly Retail Price and Monthly Percentage Change for Monitored Food Items^a

	1987											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Retail price—spaghetti, macaroni/lb.												
National average (\$)	0.724	0.723	0.711	0.723	0.729	0.742	0.738	0.741	0.742	0.722	0.747	0.747
Change (%)	-3.1	-0.1	-1.7	1.7	0.8	1.8	-0.5	0.4	0.1	-2.7	3.5	0.0
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-3.1	-3.2	-4.9	-3.2	-2.4	-0.6	-1.1	-0.7	-0.6	-3.3	0.2	0.2
Retail price—white pan bread/lb.												
National average (\$)	0.544	0.539	0.541	0.542	0.54	0.533	0.544	0.546	0.551	0.559	0.559	0.571
Change (%)	-3.9	-0.9	0.4	0.2	-0.4	-1.3	2.1	0.4	0.9	1.5	0.0	2.1
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-3.9	-4.8	-4.4	-4.3	-4.6	-5.9	-3.9	-3.5	-2.6	-1.1	-1.1	1.0
Retail price—ground beef/lb.												
National average (\$)	1.3	1.271	1.278	1.294	1.318	1.301	1.313	1.322	1.323	1.326	1.351	1.322
Change (%)	3.4	-2.2	0.6	1.3	1.9	-1.3	0.9	0.7	0.1	0.2	1.9	-2.1
Cumulative percentage change (%)	3.4	1.2	1.7	3.0	4.8	3.6	4.5	5.2	5.2	5.5	7.4	5.2
Retail price—chuck roast/lb.												
National average (\$)	1.682	1.64	1.629	1.705	1.648	1.708	1.702	1.655	1.672	1.725	1.711	1.661
Change (%)	0.1	-2.5	-0.7	4.7	-3.3	3.6	-0.4	-2.8	1.0	3.2	-0.8	-2.9
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.1	-2.4	-3.1	1.6	-1.8	1.9	1.5	-1.3	-0.2	2.9	2.1	-0.8
Retail price—fresh chicken/lb.												
National average (\$)	0.832	0.804	0.792	0.782	0.771	0.775	0.785	0.793	0.791	0.756	0.736	
Change (%)	-5.1	1.3	-3.4	-1.5	-1.3	-1.4	0.5	1.3	1.0	-0.3	-4.4	-2.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-5.1	-3.7	-7.1	-8.6	-9.9	-11.3	-10.8	-9.5	-8.4	-8.7	-13.1	-15.8
Retail price—1/2 gal. fresh whole milk												
National average (\$)	1.126	1.148	1.119	1.122	1.134	1.13	1.128	1.132	1.147	1.149	1.149	1.156
Change (%)	0.0	2.0	-2.5	0.3	1.1	-0.4	-0.2	0.4	1.3	0.2	0.0	0.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.0	2.0	-0.6	-0.3	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.6	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.7
Retail price—1/2 gal. low fat milk												
National average (\$)	1.088	1.089	1.084	1.095	1.092	1.09	1.073	1.063	1.067	1.078	1.078	1.092
Change (%)	-0.5	0.1	-0.5	1.0	-0.3	-0.2	-1.6	-0.9	0.4	1.0	0.0	1.3
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-0.5	-0.5	-0.9	0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-1.9	-2.8	-2.5	-1.4	-1.4	-0.1

^aRetail prices for cereal and pork were not available.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 1.2: 1988 Monthly Retail Price and Monthly Percentage Change for Monitored Food Items^a

	1988							
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
Retail price—spaghetti macaroni/lb.								
National average (\$)	0.755	0.759	0.783	0.765	0.78	0.784	0.811	0.827
Change (%)	1.1	0.5	3.2	-2.3	2.0	0.5	3.4	2.0
Cumulative percentage change (%)	1.1	1.6	4.8	2.5	4.4	4.9	8.4	10.4
Retail price—white pan bread/lb.								
National average (\$)	0.586	0.586	0.587	0.595	0.598	0.601	0.602	0.619
Change (%)	2.6	0.0	0.2	1.4	0.5	0.5	0.2	2.8
Cumulative percentage change (%)	2.6	2.6	2.8	4.2	4.7	5.2	5.3	8.2
Retail price—ground beef/lb.								
National average (\$)	1.314	1.315	1.342	1.336	1.365	1.388	1.373	1.37
Change (%)	-0.6	0.1	2.1	-0.4	2.2	1.7	-1.1	-0.2
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-0.6	-0.5	1.5	1.1	3.2	4.9	3.9	3.6
Retail price—chuck roast/lb.								
National average (\$)	1.643	1.736	1.693	1.721	1.801	1.776	1.696	1.674
Change (%)	-1.1	5.7	-2.5	1.7	4.6	-1.4	-4.5	-1.3
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-1.1	4.6	2.1	3.8	8.4	7.0	2.5	1.2
Retail price—fresh chicken/lb.								
National average (\$)	0.74	0.745	0.753	0.76	0.796	0.868	0.937	0.961
Change (%)	0.5	0.7	1.1	0.9	4.7	9.0	7.9	2.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.5	1.2	2.3	3.2	8.0	17.0	25.0	27.5
Retail price—1/2 gal. fresh whole milk								
National average (\$)	1.157	1.166	1.157	1.159	1.152	1.147	1.147	1.142
Change (%)	0.1	0.8	-0.8	0.2	-0.6	-0.4	0.0	-0.4
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.1	0.9	0.1	0.3	-0.3	-0.8	-0.8	-1.2
Retail price—1/2 gal. low fat milk								
National average (\$)	1.099	1.103	1.099	1.099	1.1	1.099	1.088	1.112
Change (%)	0.6	0.4	-0.4	0.0	0.1	-0.1	-1.0	2.2
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	-0.4	1.8

^aRetail prices for cereal and pork were not available.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

SECTION 2

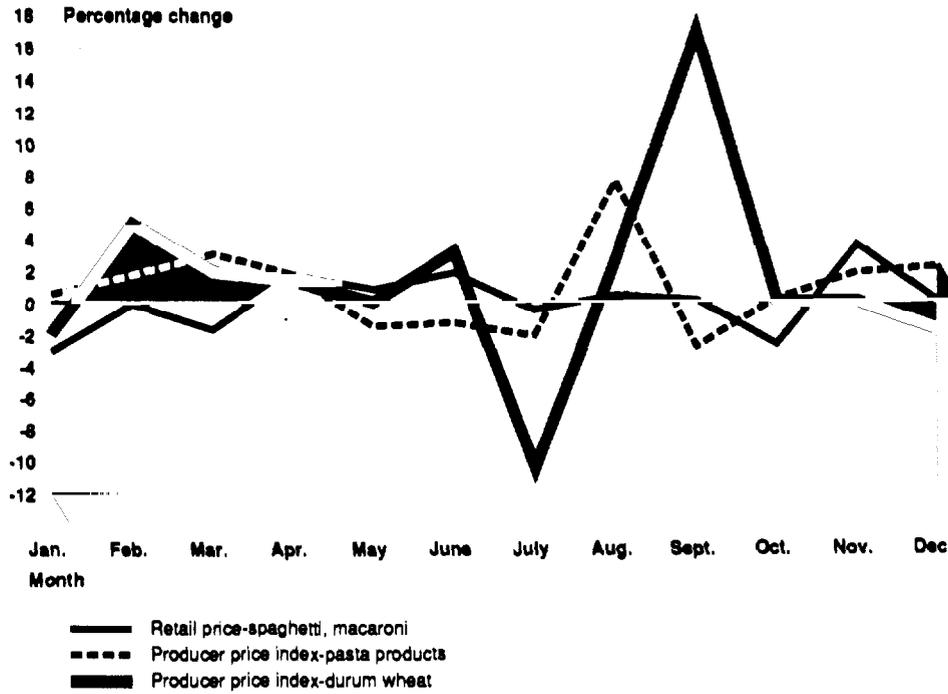
1987-88 PASTA PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE

Table 2.1: 1987 Pasta Price: Monthly Percentage Change

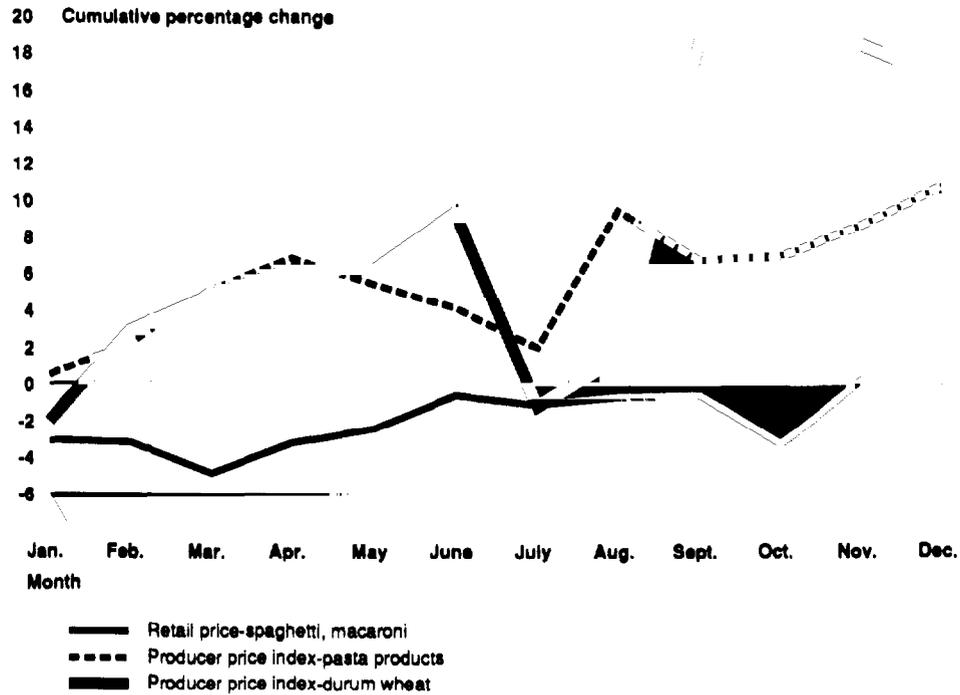
	1987											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Retail price—spaghetti, macaroni/lb.												
National average (\$)	0.724	0.723	0.711	0.723	0.729	0.742	0.738	0.741	0.742	0.722	0.747	0.747
Change (%)	-3.1	-0.1	-1.7	1.7	0.8	1.8	-0.5	0.4	0.1	-2.7	3.5	0.0
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-3.1	-3.2	-4.9	-3.2	-2.4	-0.6	-1.1	-0.7	-0.6	-3.3	0.2	0.2
Producer price index—pasta products	96.6	98.2	101.1	102.8	101.3	100	97.9	105.2	102.3	102.5	104.3	106.5
Change (%)	0.5	1.7	3.0	1.7	-1.5	-1.3	-2.1	7.5	-2.8	0.2	1.8	2.1
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.5	2.2	5.1	6.8	5.4	4.1	2.0	9.4	6.7	6.9	8.6	10.7
Producer price—durum wheat/bushel	83.8	87.9	89.6	90.8	90.8	93.6	83.8	86.1	100.6	100.6	100.6	98.8
Change (%)	-2.0	4.9	1.9	1.3	0.0	3.1	-10.5	2.7	16.8	0.0	0.0	-1.8
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-2.0	2.9	4.8	6.2	6.2	9.3	-1.2	1.5	18.4	18.4	18.4	16.6

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 2.1: 1987 Pasta Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



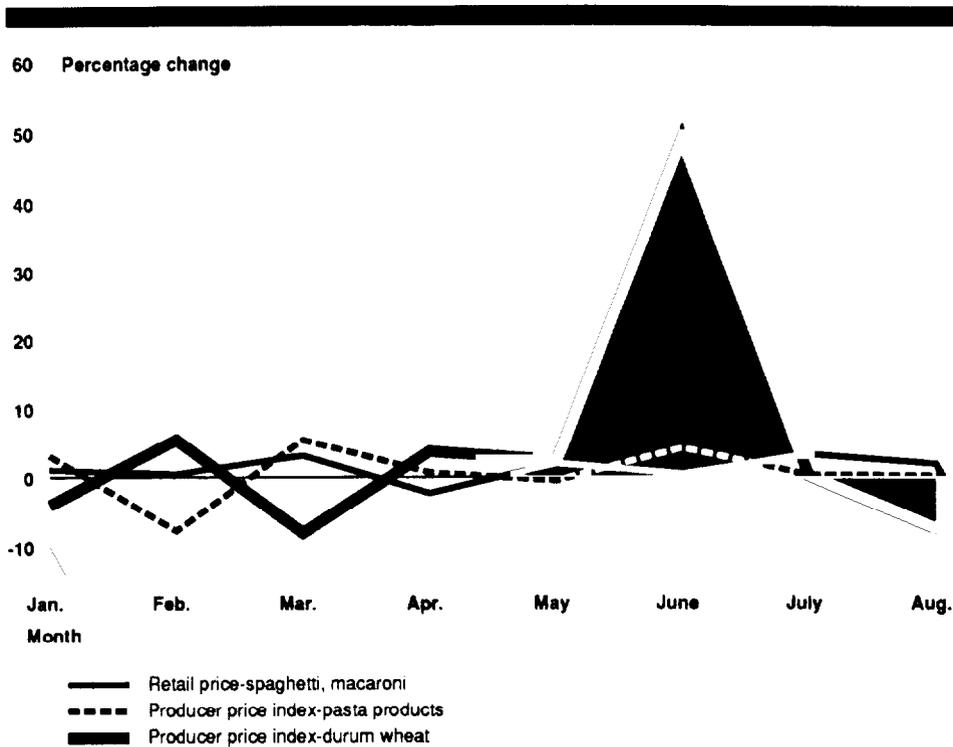
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 2.2: 1988 Pasta Price: Monthly Percentage Change

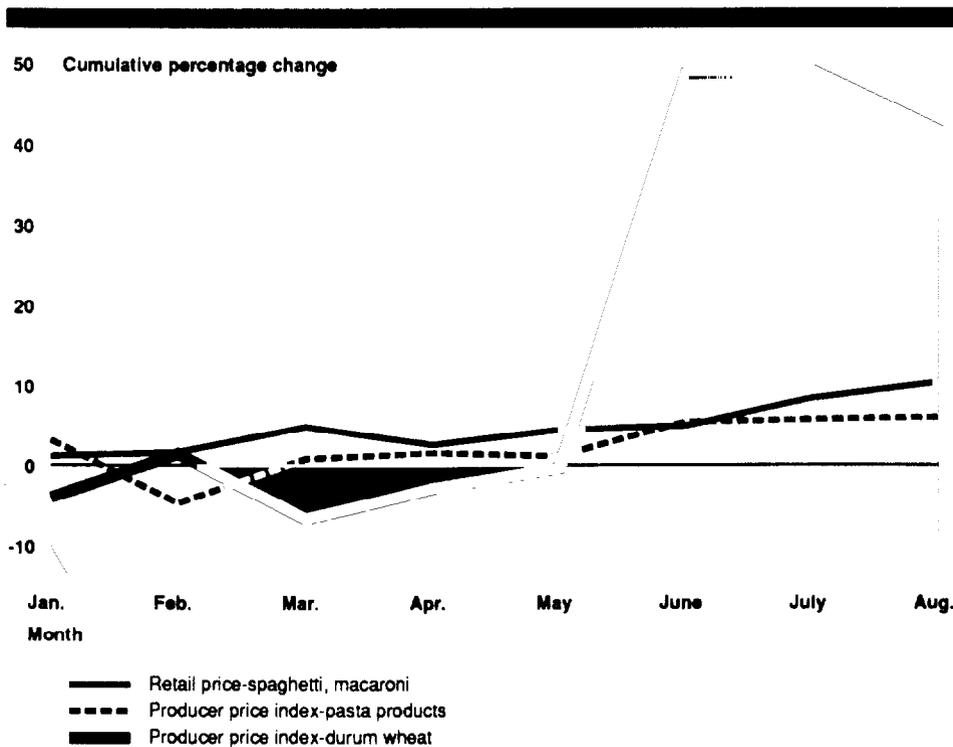
	1988							
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
Retail price—spaghetti, macaroni/lb.								
National average (\$)	0.755	0.759	0.783	0.765	0.78	0.784	0.811	0.827
Change (%)	1.1	0.5	3.2	-2.3	2.0	0.5	3.4	2.0
Cumulative (%)	1.1	1.6	4.8	2.5	4.4	4.9	8.4	10.4
Producer price index—pasta products	109.8	101.2	106.8	107.6	107.1	111.7	112.1	112.4
Change (%)	3.1	-7.8	5.5	0.7	-0.5	4.3	0.4	0.3
Cumulative percentage change (%)	3.1	-4.7	0.8	1.5	1.1	5.4	5.7	6.0
Producer price—durum wheat/bushel	94.8	100	91.9	95.4	97.7	145.7	146.2	135.3
Change (%)	-4.0	5.5	-8.1	3.8	2.4	49.1	0.3	-7.5
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-4.0	1.4	-6.7	-2.9	-0.4	48.7	49.0	41.6

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 2.2: 1988 Pasta Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

SECTION 3

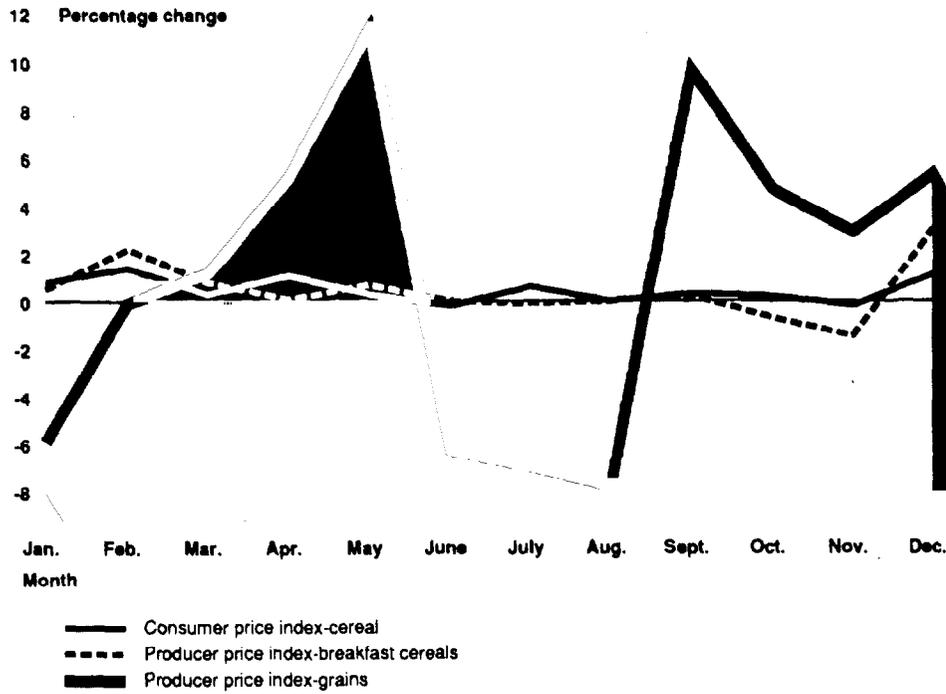
1987-88 CEREAL PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE

Table 3.1: 1987 Cereal Price: Monthly Percentage Change

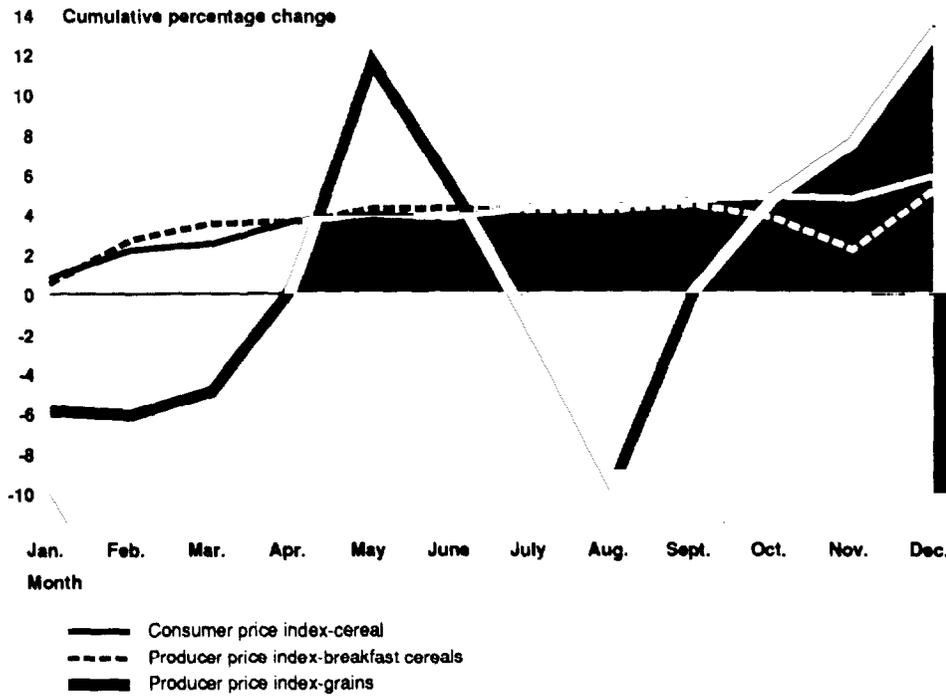
	1987											
	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>
Consumer price Index-cereal	120.4	122.1	122.5	123.9	124.3	124.1	124.8	124.8	125.2	125.5	125.3	126.7
Change (%)	0.8	1.4	0.3	1.1	0.3	-0.2	0.6	0.0	0.3	0.2	-0.2	1.1
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.8	2.2	2.5	3.6	4.0	3.8	4.4	4.4	4.7	4.9	4.8	5.9
Producer price index-breakfast cereals	119.2	121.8	122.8	122.9	123.8	123.8	123.7	123.7	124	123.1	121.2	124.8
Change (%)	0.5	2.2	0.8	0.1	0.7	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.2	-0.7	-1.5	3.0
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.5	2.7	3.5	3.6	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.5	3.8	2.2	5.2
Producer price index-grains	66.8	66.7	67.5	71	79	74	68.8	63.4	69.5	72.8	74.9	78.9
Change (%)	-5.9	-0.1	1.2	5.2	11.3	-6.3	-7.0	-7.8	9.6	4.7	2.9	5.3
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-5.9	-6.1	-4.9	0.3	11.6	5.3	-1.8	-9.6	0.0	4.8	7.6	13.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 3.1: 1987 Cereal Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



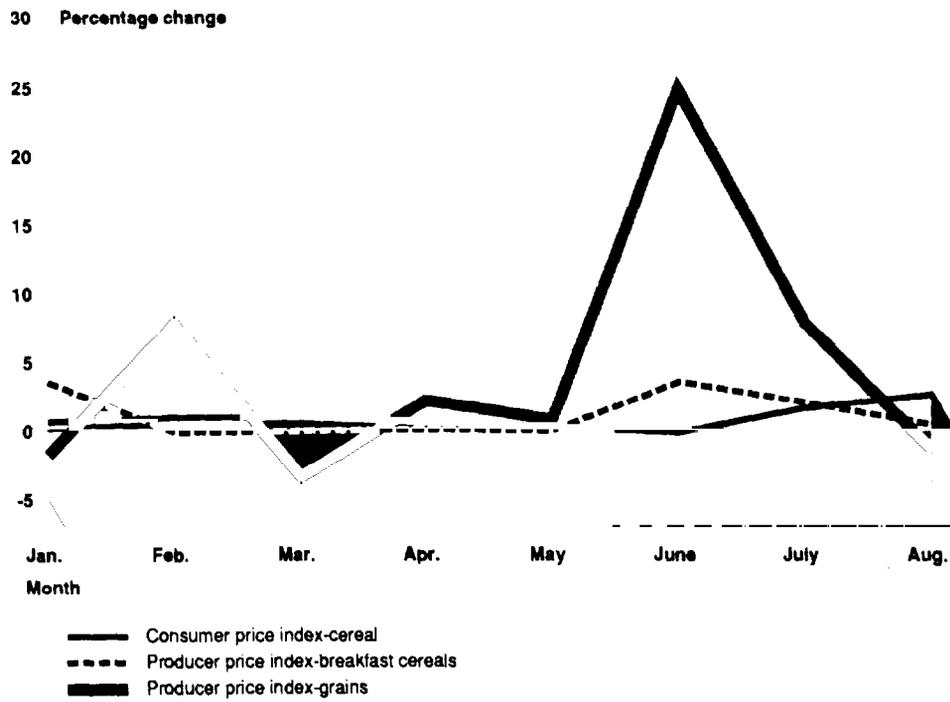
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 3.2: 1988 Cereal Price: Monthly Percentage Change

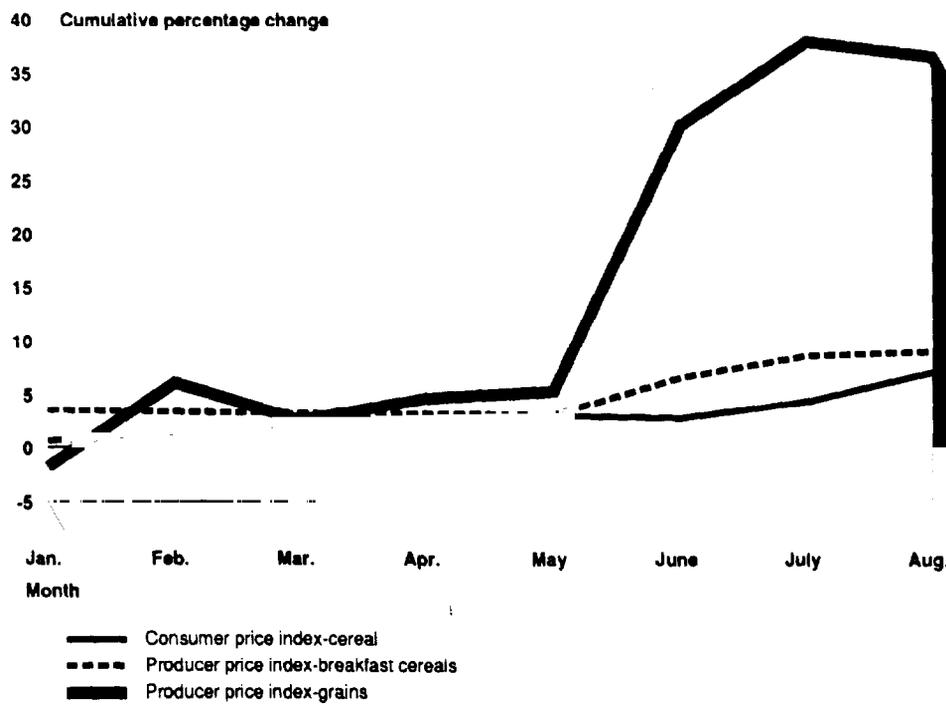
	1988							
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
Consumer price index-cereal	127.4	128.5	129.6	130.3	130.6	130.3	132.4	135.9
Change (%)	0.6	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.2	-0.2	1.6	2.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.6	1.4	2.3	2.8	3.0	2.8	4.4	7.1
Producer price index-breakfast cereals	129.2	128.9	128.8	128.8	128.7	133.2	135.8	136.3
Change (%)	3.5	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	3.5	2.0	0.4
Cumulative percentage change (%)	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	6.6	8.6	9.0
Producer price index-grains	77.5	83.5	80.6	82.3	82.9	103.4	111.5	109.9
Change (%)	-1.8	7.7	-3.5	2.1	0.7	24.7	7.8	-1.4
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-1.8	6.0	2.5	4.6	5.3	30.1	37.9	36.5

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 3.2: 1988 Cereal Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

SECTION 4

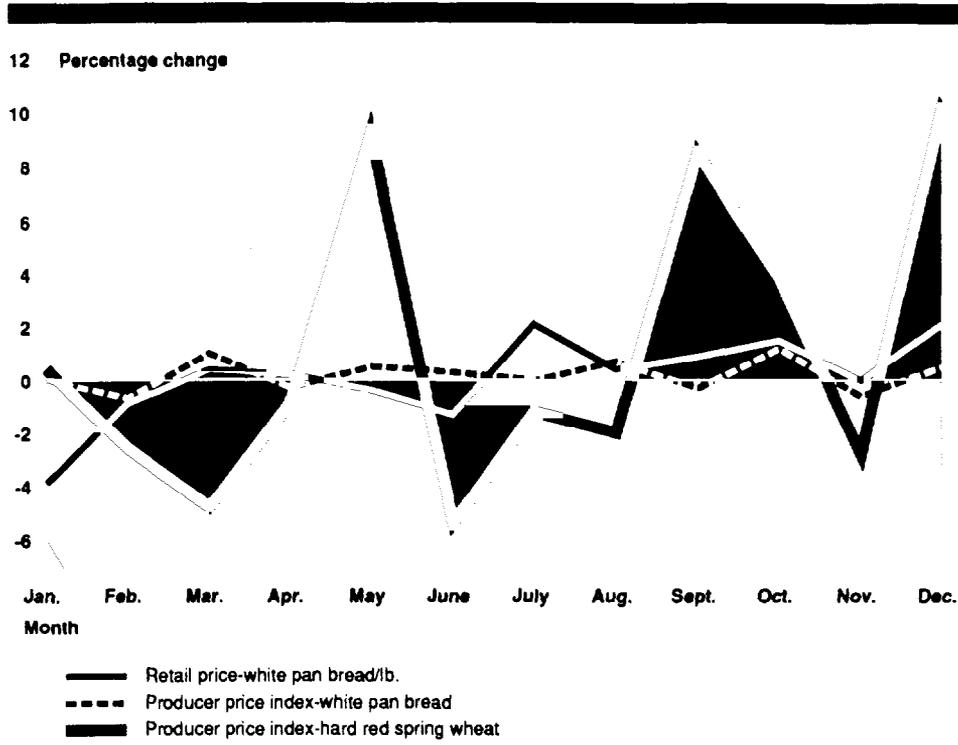
1987-88 WHITE BREAD PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE

Table 4.1: 1987 White Bread Price: Monthly Percentage Change

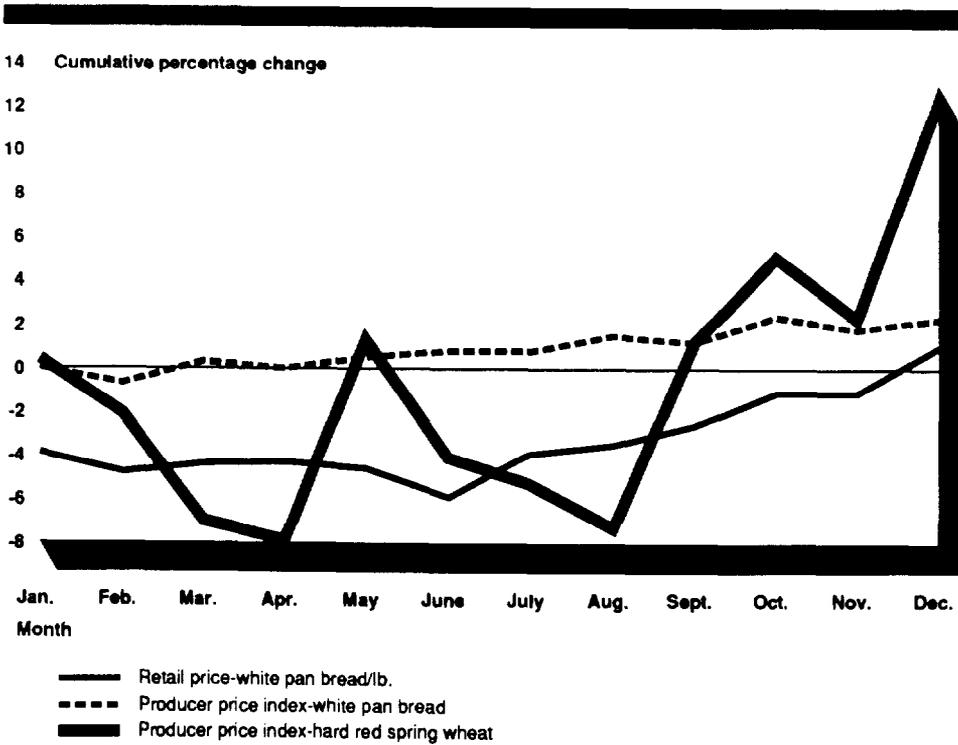
	1987											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Retail price-white pan bread/lb.												
National average (\$)	0.544	0.539	0.541	0.542	0.54	0.533	0.544	0.546	0.551	0.559	0.559	0.571
Change (%)	-3.9	-0.9	0.4	0.2	-0.4	-1.3	2.1	0.4	0.9	1.5	0.0	2.1
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-3.9	-4.8	-4.4	-4.3	-4.6	-5.9	-3.9	-3.5	-2.6	-1.1	-1.1	1.0
Producer price index-white pan bread	112.9	112.1	113.2	112.9	113.5	113.8	113.8	114.6	114.2	115.6	114.9	115.5
Change (%)	0.0	-0.7	1.0	-0.3	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.7	-0.3	1.2	-0.6	0.5
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.0	-0.7	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.8	0.8	1.5	1.2	2.4	1.8	2.3
Producer price index-hard red spring wheat, no. 1, ord., Minneapolis	70.1	68.3	65	64.4	70.3	66.5	65.7	64.4	69.9	72.6	70.6	77.7
Change (%)	0.4	-2.6	-4.8	-0.9	9.2	-5.4	-1.2	-2.0	8.5	3.9	-2.8	10.1
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.4	-2.1	-7.0	-7.9	1.3	-4.1	-5.3	-7.3	1.2	5.1	2.3	12.4

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 4.1: 1987 White Bread Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



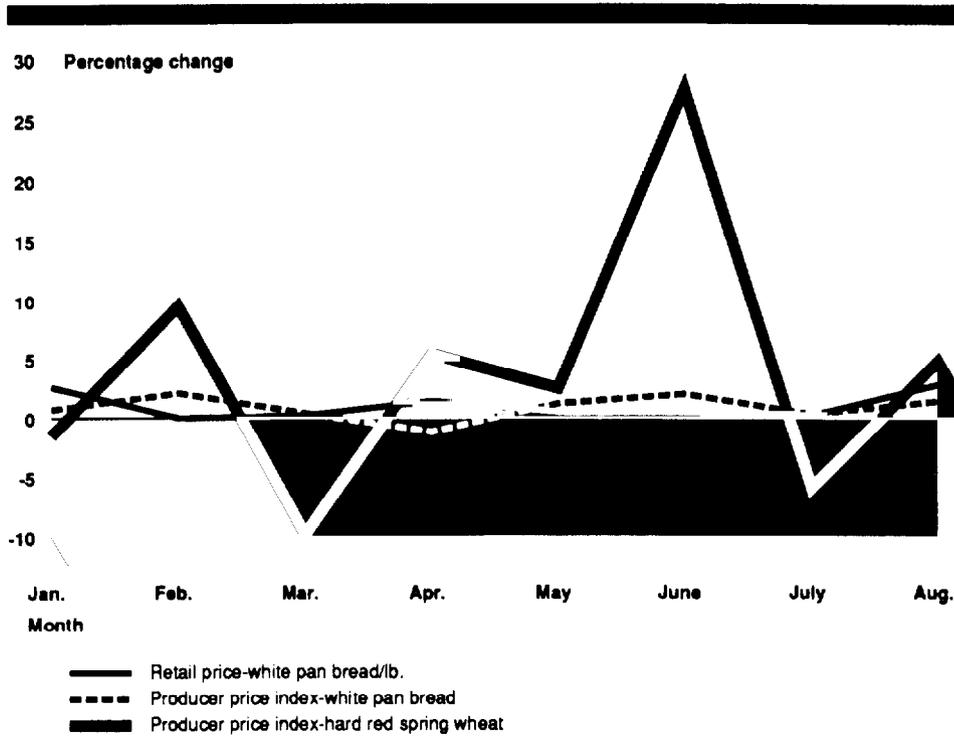
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 4.2: 1988 White Bread Price: Monthly Percentage Change

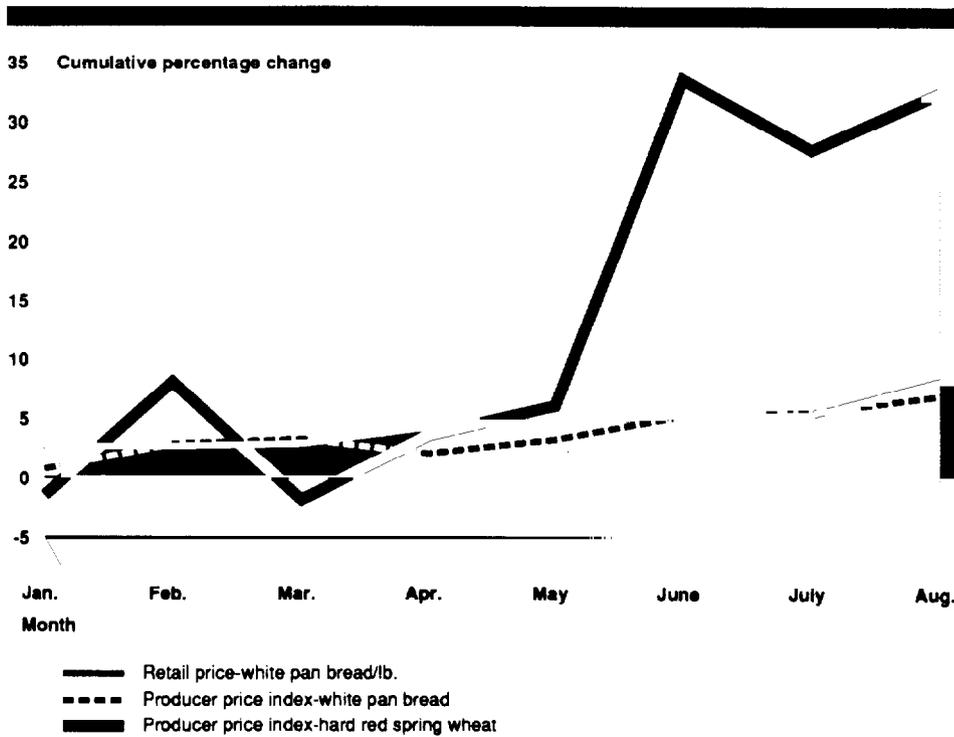
	1988							
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
Retail price-white pan bread/lb.								
National average (\$)	0.586	0.586	0.587	0.595	0.598	0.601	0.602	0.619
Change (%)	2.6	0.0	0.2	1.4	0.5	0.5	0.2	2.8
Cumulative percentage change (%)	2.6	2.6	2.8	4.2	4.7	5.2	5.3	8.2
Producer price index-white pan bread	116.3	118.7	119.2	117.8	119.2	121.6	122	123.7
Change (%)	0.7	2.1	0.4	-1.2	1.2	2.0	0.3	1.4
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.7	2.8	3.2	2.0	3.2	5.2	5.5	6.9
Producer price index-hard red spring Wheat, no. 1, ord., Minneapolis	76.5	83.8	75.5	79.6	81.6	104	97.9	102.6
Change (%)	-1.5	9.5	-9.9	5.4	2.5	27.5	-5.9	4.8
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-1.5	8.0	-1.9	3.5	6.0	33.5	27.6	32.4

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 4.2: 1988 White Bread Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

SECTION 5

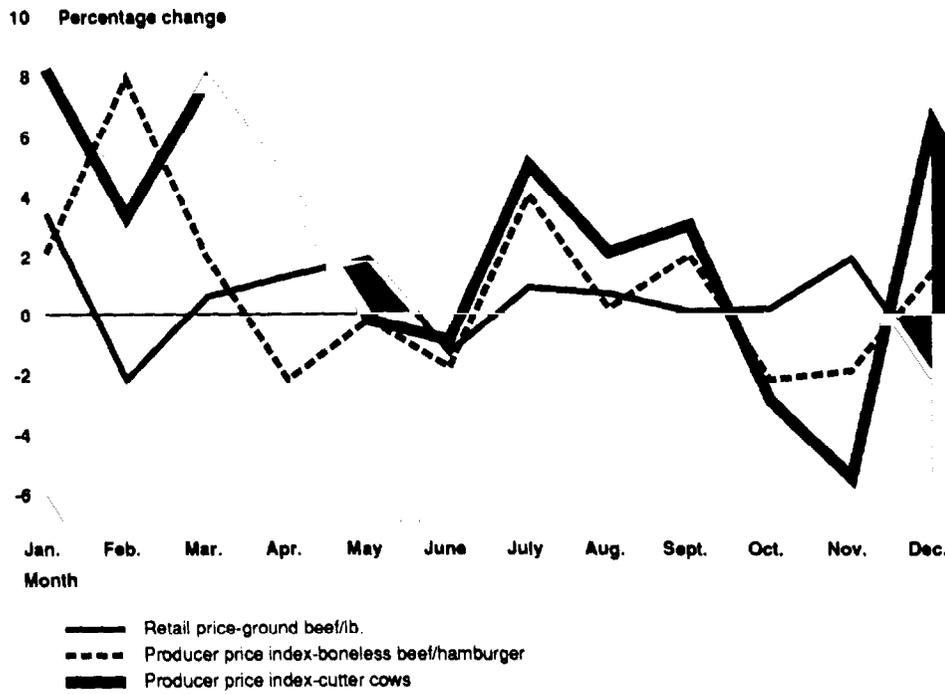
1987-88 GROUND BEEF PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE

Table 5.1: 1987 Ground Beef Prices: Monthly Percentage Change

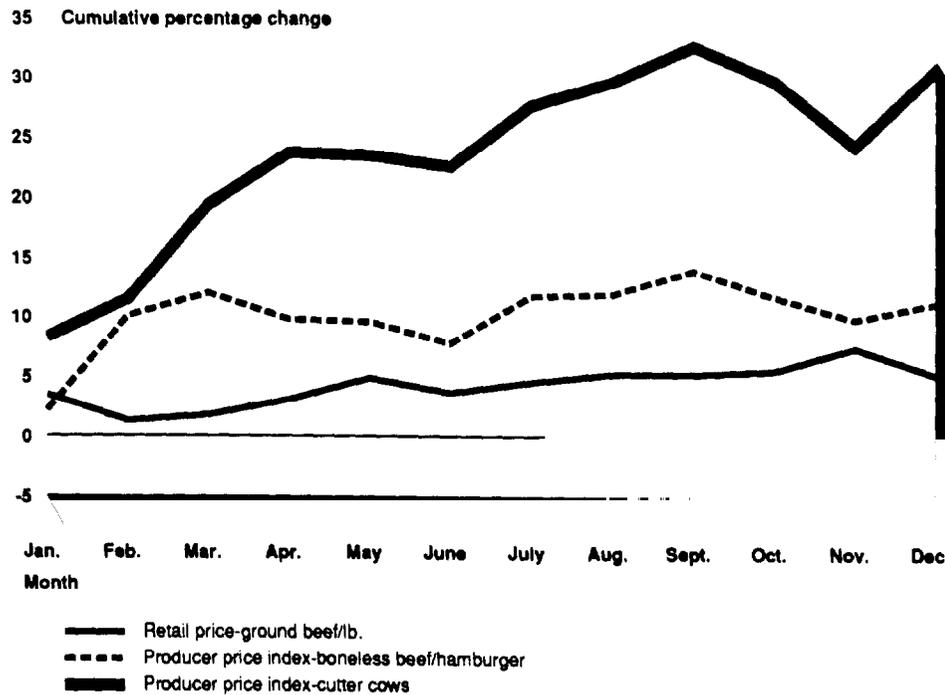
	1987											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Retail price-ground beef/lb.												
National average (\$)	1.3	1.271	1.278	1.294	1.318	1.301	1.313	1.322	1.323	1.326	1.351	1.322
Change (%)	3.4	-2.2	0.6	1.3	1.9	-1.3	0.9	0.7	0.1	0.2	1.9	-2.1
Cumulative percentage change (%)	3.4	1.2	1.7	3.0	4.8	3.6	4.5	5.2	5.2	5.5	7.4	5.2
Producer price index-boneless beef, including hamburger												
Change (%)	92.5	99.8	101.7	99.5	99.3	97.5	101.4	101.6	103.6	101.3	99.4	100.8
Cumulative percentage change (%)	2.1	7.9	1.9	-2.2	-0.2	-1.8	4.0	0.2	2.0	-2.2	-1.9	1.4
Producer price index-utility cows												
Change (%)	2.1	10.0	11.9	9.7	9.5	7.7	11.7	11.9	13.9	11.7	9.8	11.2
Cumulative percentage change (%)	95.2	98.3	106	110.6	110.4	109.4	114.9	117.3	120.8	117.3	110.9	118
Change (%)	8.2	3.3	7.8	4.3	-0.2	-0.9	5.0	2.1	3.0	-2.9	-5.5	6.4
Cumulative percentage change (%)	8.2	11.4	19.3	23.6	23.4	22.5	27.6	29.6	32.6	29.7	24.3	30.7

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 5.1: 1987 Ground Beef Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



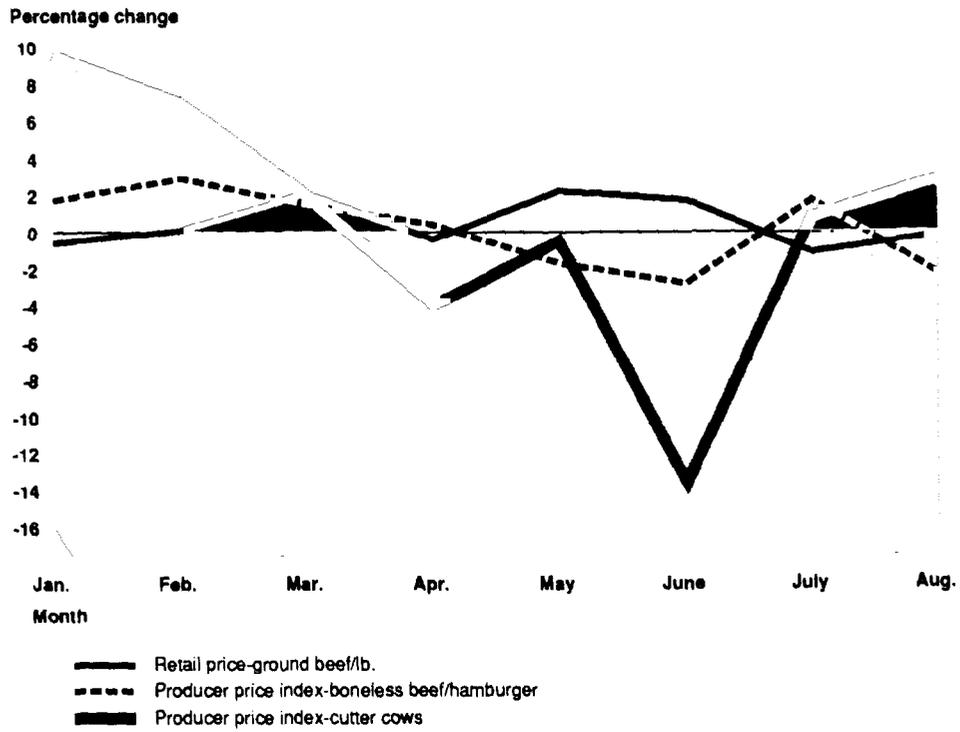
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 5.2: 1988 Ground Beef Price: Monthly Percentage Change

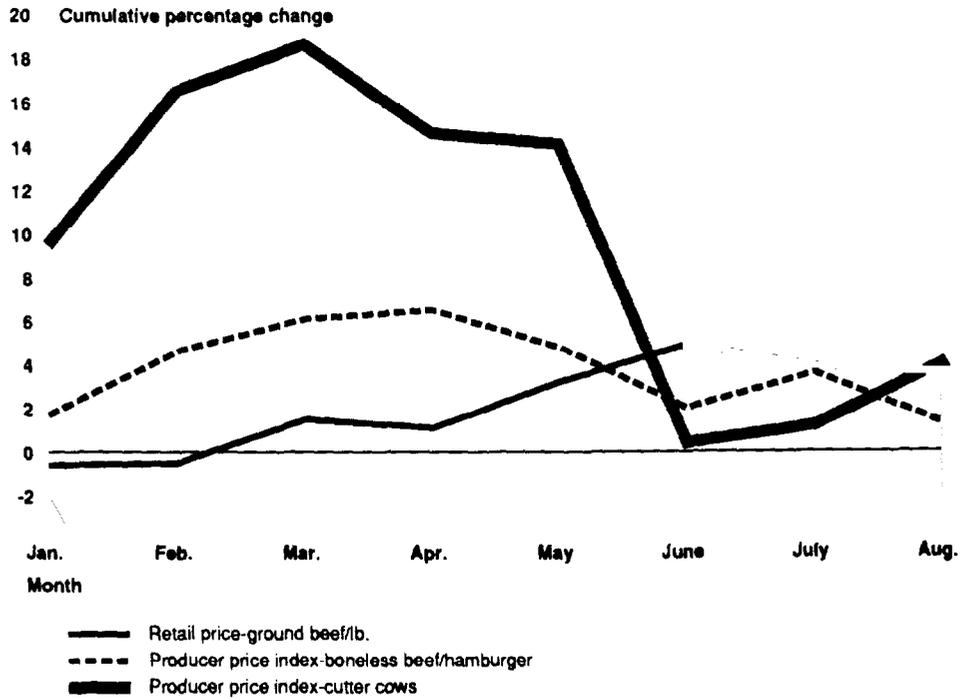
	1988							
	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>
Retail price-ground beef/lb.								
National average (\$)	1.314	1.315	1.342	1.336	1.365	1.388	1.373	1.37
Change (%)	-0.6	0.1	2.1	-0.4	2.2	1.7	-1.1	-0.2
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-0.6	-0.5	1.5	1.1	3.2	4.9	3.9	3.6
Producer price index-boneless beef, including hamburger	102.5	105.5	107.1	107.5	105.7	102.7	104.4	102
Change (%)	1.7	2.9	1.5	0.4	-1.7	-2.8	1.7	-2.3
Cumulative percentage change (%)	1.7	4.6	6.1	6.5	4.8	2.0	3.6	1.3
Producer price index-utility cows	129.2	138.3	141.1	135.5	134.8	116.4	117.3	120.6
Change (%)	9.5	7.0	2.0	-4.0	-0.5	-13.6	0.8	2.8
Cumulative percentage change (%)	9.5	16.5	18.6	14.6	14.1	0.4	1.2	4.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 5.2: 1988 Ground Beef Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

SECTION 6

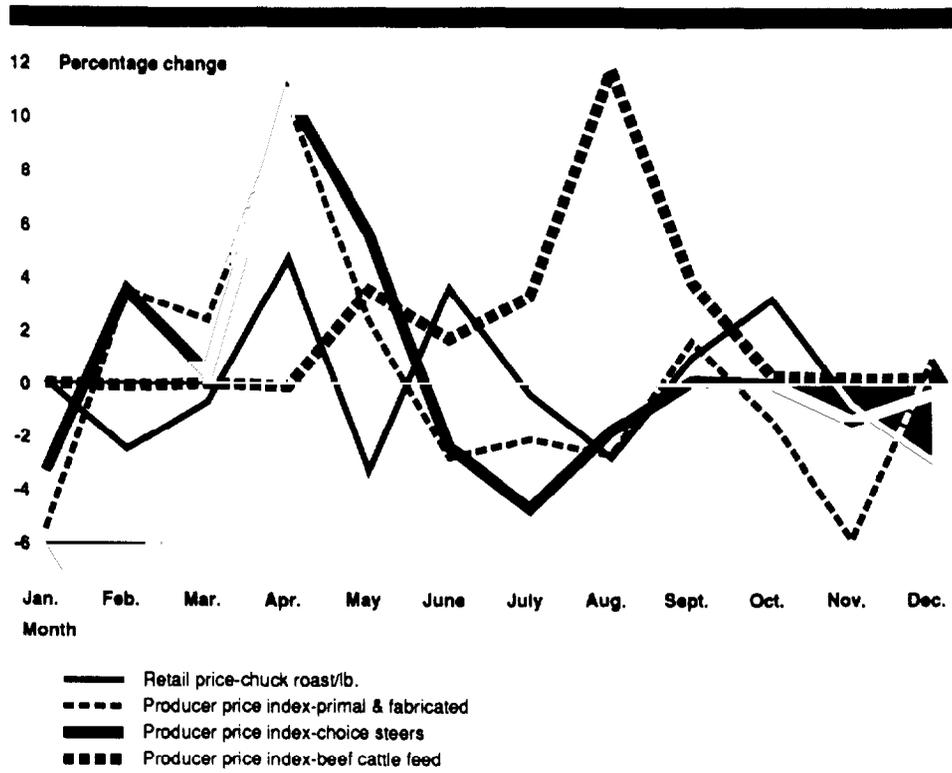
1987-88 CHUCK ROAST PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE

Table 6.1: 1987 Chuck Roast Price: Monthly Percentage Change

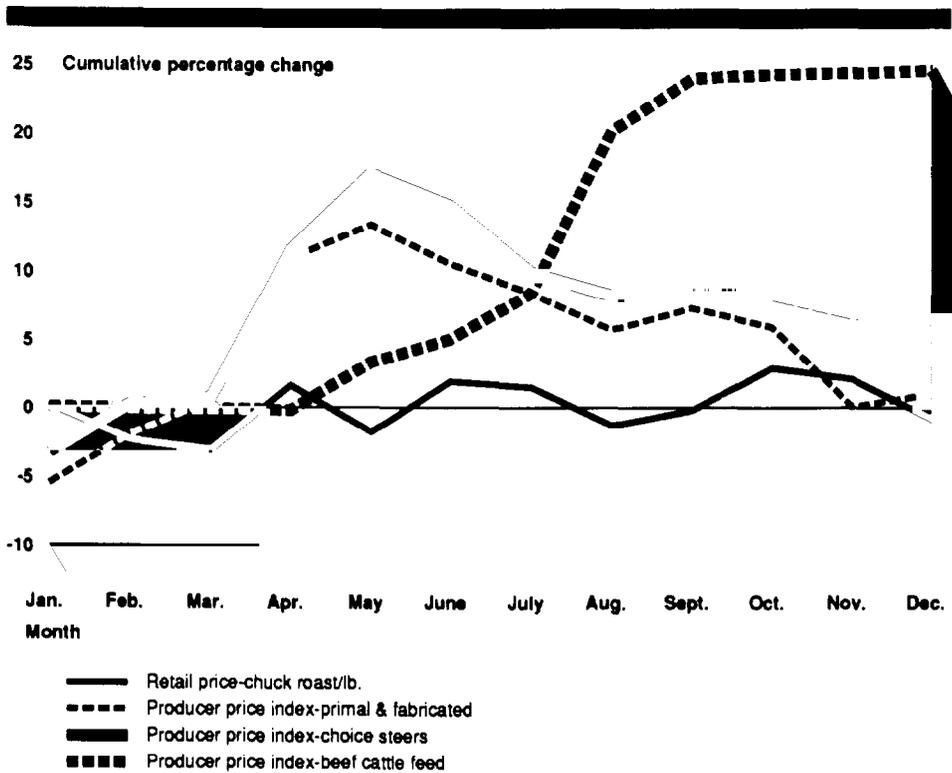
	1987											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Retail price-chuck roast/lb.												
National average (\$)	1.682	1.64	1.629	1.705	1.648	1.708	1.702	1.655	1.672	1.725	1.711	1.661
Change (%)	0.1	-2.5	-0.7	4.7	-3.3	3.6	-0.4	-2.8	1.0	3.2	-0.8	-2.9
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.1	-2.4	-3.1	1.6	-1.8	1.9	1.5	-1.3	-0.2	2.9	2.1	-0.8
Producer price index-primal & fabricated												
beef cuts	82.9	85.8	87.9	97.1	99.4	96.6	94.6	92	93.5	92.2	86.8	87.6
Change (%)	-5.5	3.5	2.4	10.5	2.4	-2.8	-2.1	-2.7	1.6	-1.4	-5.9	0.9
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-5.5	-2.0	0.5	10.9	13.3	10.5	8.4	5.7	7.3	5.9	0.1	1.0
Producer price index-choice steers	90.6	93.8	94.2	104.4	110.2	107.6	102.5	100.7	100.8	100.8	99.4	99
Change (%)	-3.3	3.5	0.4	10.8	5.6	-2.4	-4.7	-1.8	0.1	0.0	-1.4	-0.4
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-3.3	0.2	0.7	11.5	17.0	14.7	9.9	8.2	8.3	8.3	6.9	6.5
Producer price index-beef cattle feed	100	99.9	99.9	99.8	103.3	105.1	108.6	121.3	125.9	126.3	126.5	126.7
Change (%)	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	3.5	1.7	3.3	11.7	3.8	0.3	0.2	0.2
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	3.3	5.0	8.4	20.1	23.9	24.2	24.3	24.5

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 6.1: 1987 Chuck Roast Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



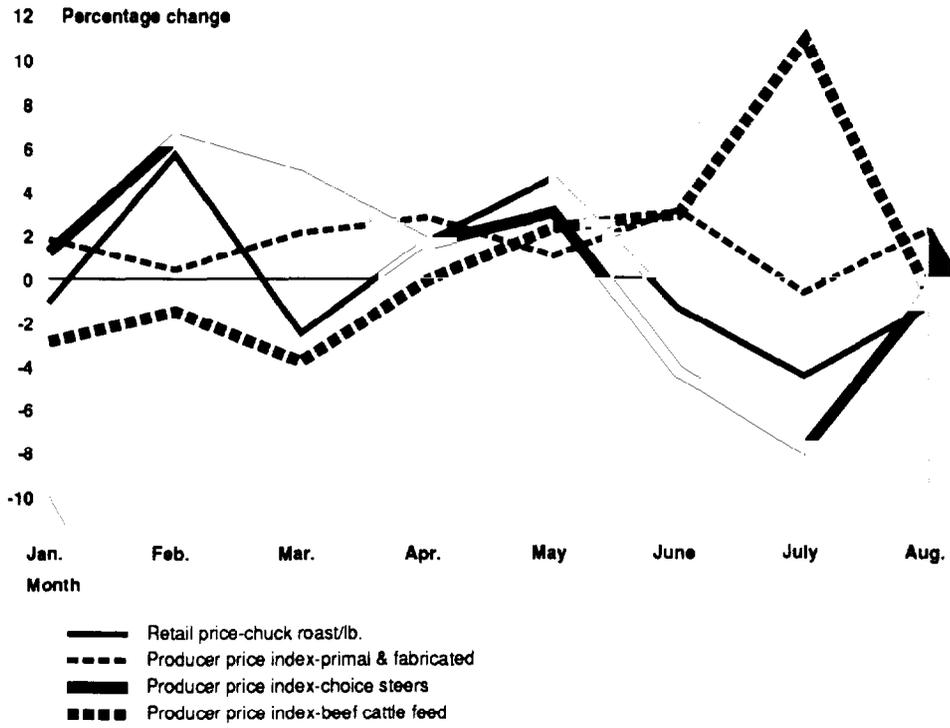
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 6.2: 1988 Chuck Roast Price: Monthly Percentage Change

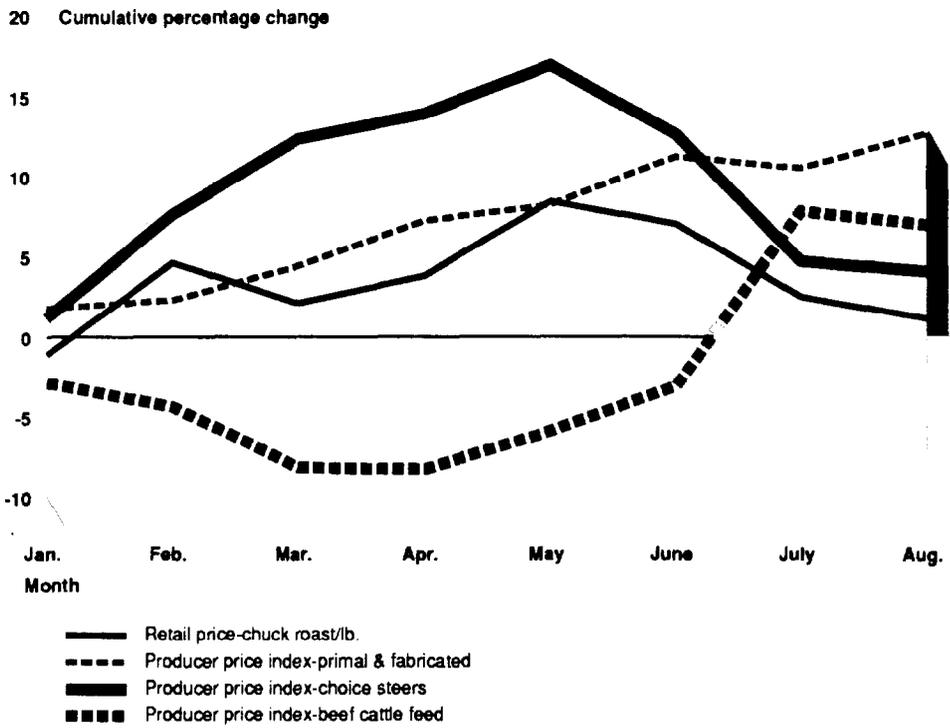
	1988							
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
Retail price-chuck roast/lb.								
National average (\$)	1.643	1.736	1.693	1.721	1.801	1.776	1.696	1.674
Change (%)	-1.1	5.7	-2.5	1.7	4.6	-1.4	-4.5	-1.3
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-1.1	4.6	2.1	3.8	8.4	7.0	2.5	1.2
Producer price index-primal & fabricated beef cuts	89.2	89.6	91.5	94.1	95	97.9	97.2	99.3
Change (%)	1.8	0.4	2.1	2.8	1.0	3.1	-0.7	2.2
Cumulative percentage change (%)	1.8	2.3	4.4	7.2	8.2	11.2	10.5	12.7
Producer price index-choice steers	100.2	106.6	111.6	113.4	116.8	111.8	103	102.3
Change (%)	1.2	6.4	4.7	1.6	3.0	-4.3	-7.9	-0.7
Cumulative percentage change (%)	1.2	7.6	12.3	13.9	16.9	12.6	4.7	4.1
Producer price index-beef cattle feed (b)	123	121.2	116.6	116.5	119.2	122.6	135.9	134.9
Change (%)	-2.9	-1.5	-3.8	-0.1	2.3	2.9	10.8	-0.7
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-2.9	-4.4	-8.2	-8.3	-5.9	-3.1	7.8	7.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 6.2: 1988 Chuck Roast Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

SECTION 7

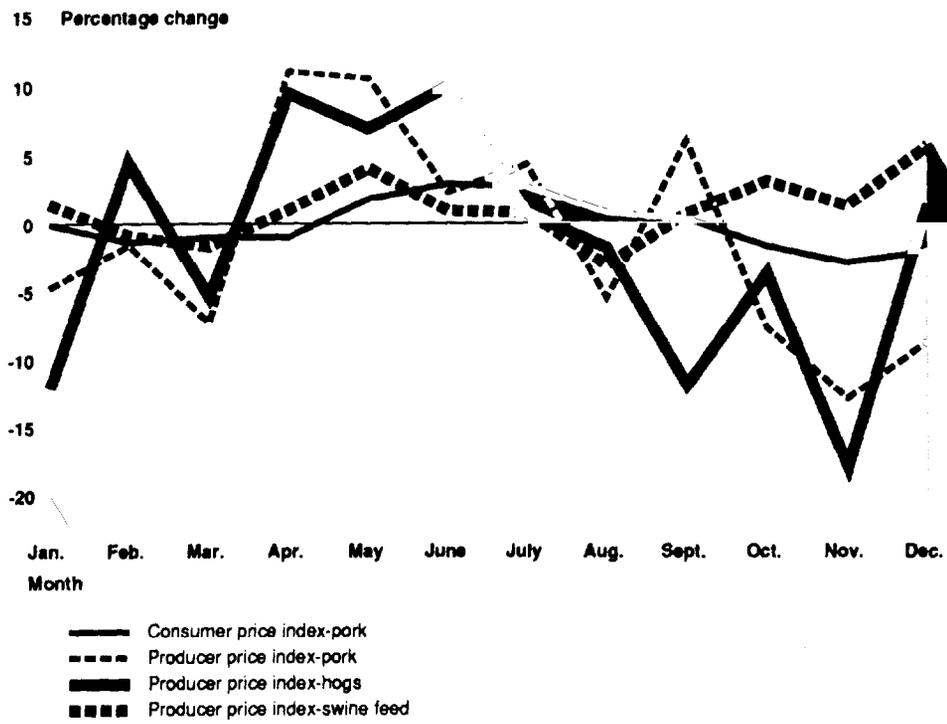
1987-88 PORK PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE

Table 7.1: 1987 Pork Price: Monthly Percentage Change

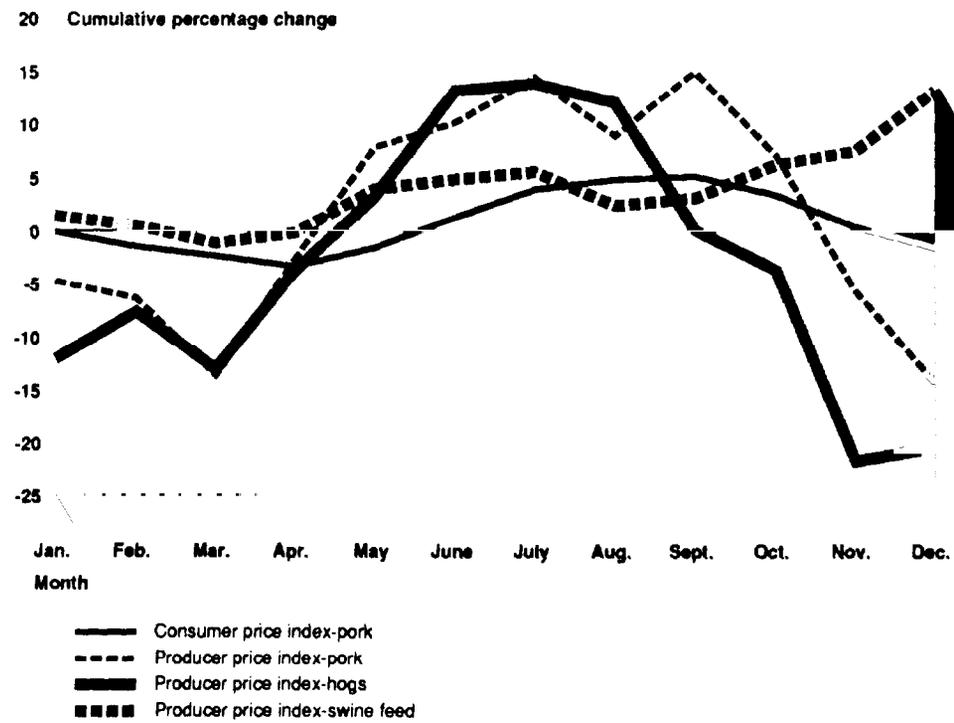
	1987											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Consumer price index-pork	115.1	113.5	112.4	111.3	113.3	116.6	119.7	120.7	121.1	119	115.5	113.1
Change (%)	-0.1	-1.4	-1.0	-1.0	1.8	2.9	2.7	0.8	0.3	-1.7	-2.9	-2.1
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-0.1	-1.5	-2.4	-3.4	-1.6	1.3	3.9	4.8	5.1	3.4	0.4	-1.6
Producer price index-pork	99.7	98.1	90.9	100.9	111.5	114.1	119	112.4	119.2	110	95.8	87.5
Change (%)	-4.8	-1.6	-7.3	11.0	10.5	2.3	4.3	-5.5	6.0	-7.7	-12.9	-8.7
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-4.8	-6.4	-13.7	-2.7	7.8	10.1	14.4	8.9	14.9	7.2	-5.7	-14.4
Producer price index-hogs	89.7	93.7	88.6	96.9	103.6	113.9	114.7	112.6	99.2	95.5	78.3	79.3
Change (%)	-12.1	4.5	-5.4	9.4	6.9	9.9	0.7	-1.8	-11.9	-3.7	-18.0	1.3
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-12.1	-7.7	-13.1	-3.8	3.2	13.1	13.8	12.0	0.1	-3.7	-21.7	-20.4
Producer price index-swine feed	98.3	97.4	95.7	96.7	100.6	101.5	102.3	99.1	99.8	102.9	104.2	110
Change (%)	1.4	-0.9	-1.7	1.0	4.0	0.9	0.8	-3.1	0.7	3.1	1.3	5.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	1.4	0.5	-1.2	-0.2	3.9	4.8	5.5	2.4	3.1	6.2	7.5	13.1

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 7.1: 1987 Pork Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



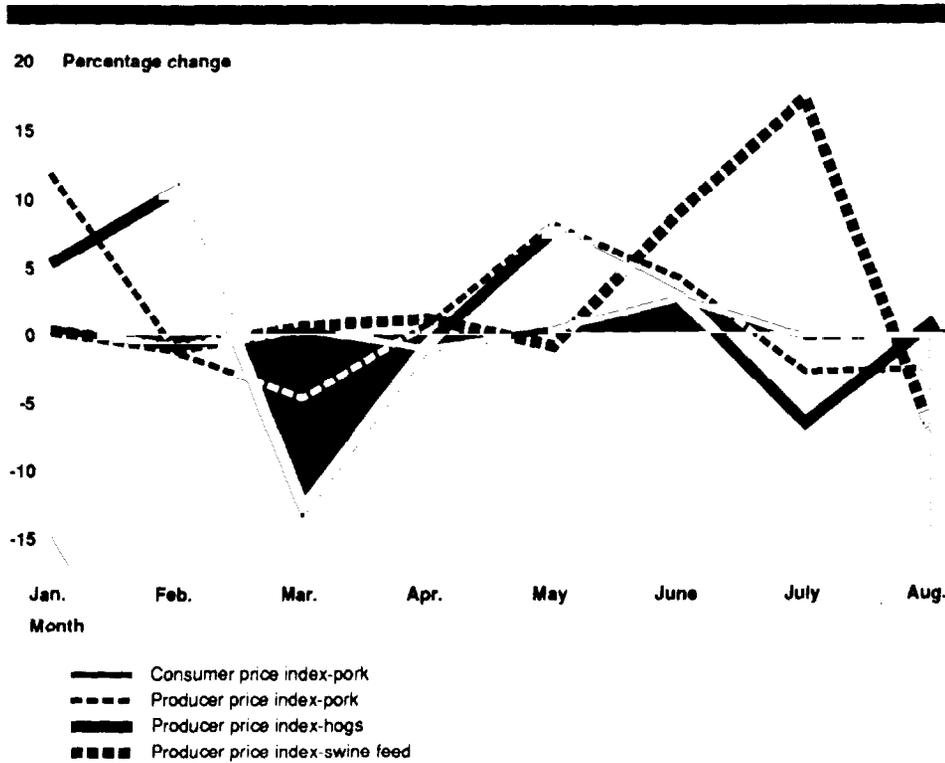
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 7.2: 1988 Pork Price: Monthly Percentage Change

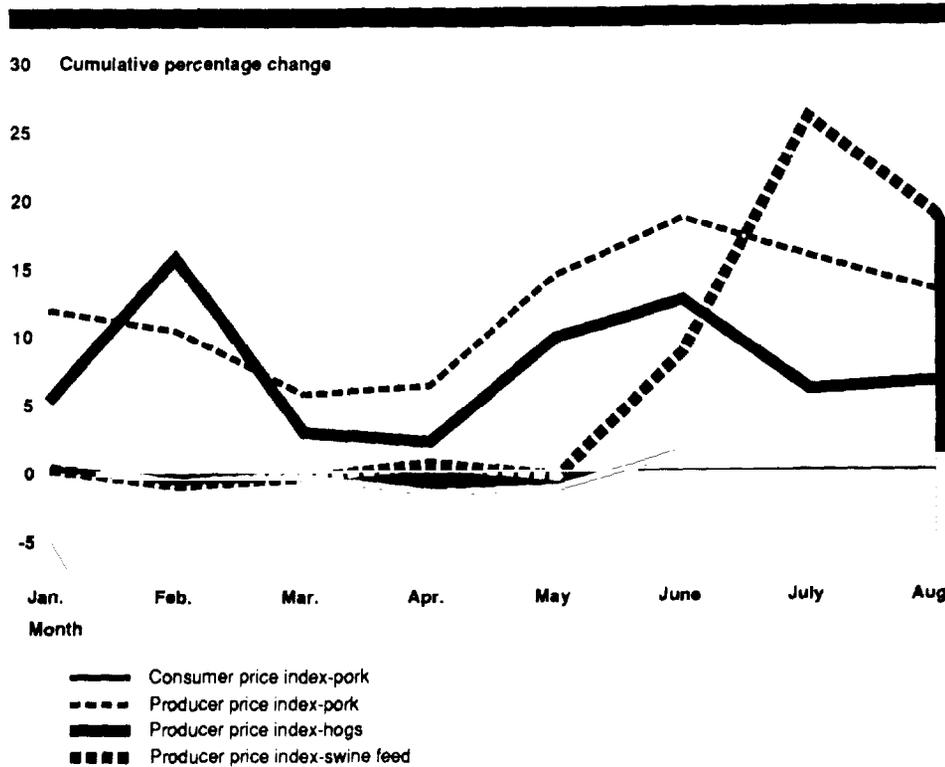
	1988							
	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>
Consumer price index-pork	113.4	112.3	112.6	111.4	111.7	114.6	114.3	114.1
Change (%)	0.3	-1.0	0.3	-1.1	0.3	2.6	-0.3	-0.2
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.3	-0.7	-0.4	-1.5	-1.2	1.4	1.1	0.9
Producer price index-pork	97.8	96.4	91.9	92.5	100	104.1	101.2	98.6
Change (%)	11.8	-1.4	-4.7	0.7	8.1	4.1	-2.8	-2.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	11.8	10.3	5.7	6.3	14.4	18.5	15.7	13.2
Producer price index-hogs	83.4	92.2	80.4	79.8	85.9	88.2	82.4	82.9
Change (%)	5.2	10.6	-12.8	-0.7	7.6	2.7	-6.6	0.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	5.2	15.7	2.9	2.2	9.8	12.5	5.9	6.5
Producer price index-swine feed	110.2	109	109.5	110.7	109.7	119.5	140	130.2
Change (%)	0.2	-1.1	0.5	1.1	-0.9	8.9	17.2	-7.0
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.2	-0.9	-0.4	0.6	-0.3	8.7	25.8	18.8

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 7.2: 1988 Pork Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

SECTION 8

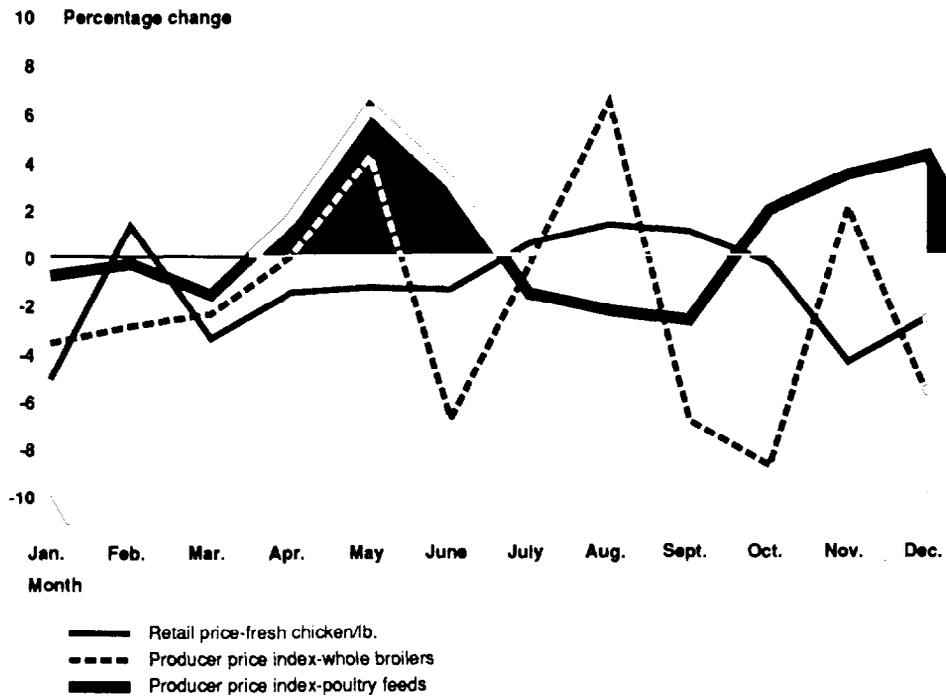
1987-88 POULTRY PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE

Table 8.1: 1987 Poultry Price: Monthly Percentage Change

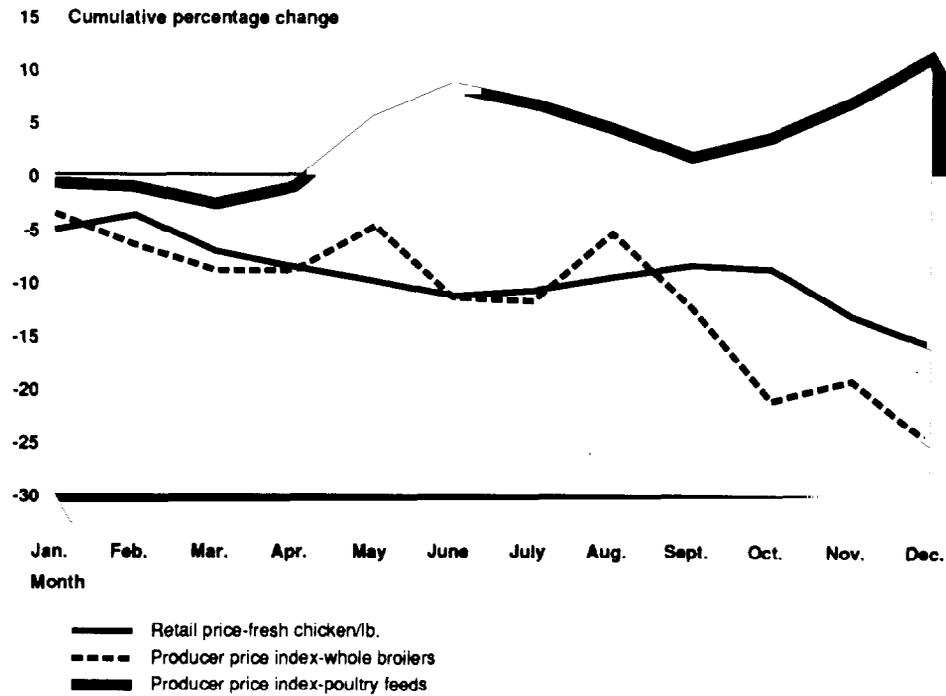
	1987											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Retail price—fresh chicken/lb.												
National average (\$)	0.821	0.832	0.804	0.792	0.782	0.771	0.775	0.785	0.793	0.791	0.756	0.736
Change (%)	-5.1	1.3	-3.4	-1.5	-1.3	-1.4	0.5	1.3	1.0	-0.3	-4.4	-2.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-5.1	-3.7	-7.1	-8.6	-9.9	-11.3	-10.8	-9.5	-8.4	-8.7	-13.1	-15.8
Producer price index—whole broilers, wet ice, grade A bulk	110.7	107.5	104.9	104.9	109.3	101.9	101.5	108	100.5	91.7	93.5	88.1
Change (%)	-3.6	-2.9	-2.4	0.0	4.2	-6.8	-0.4	6.4	-6.9	-8.8	2.0	-5.8
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-3.6	-6.5	-8.9	-8.9	-4.7	-11.5	-11.8	-5.4	-12.4	-21.1	-19.2	-25.0
Producer price index—poultry feeds	99.2	98.9	97.3	98.9	105	108.3	106.6	104.2	101.4	103.3	106.8	111.3
Change (%)	-0.8	-0.3	-1.6	1.6	6.2	3.1	-1.6	-2.3	-2.7	1.9	3.4	4.2
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-0.8	-1.1	-2.7	-1.1	5.1	8.2	6.7	4.4	1.7	3.6	7.0	11.2

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 8.1: 1987 Poultry Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



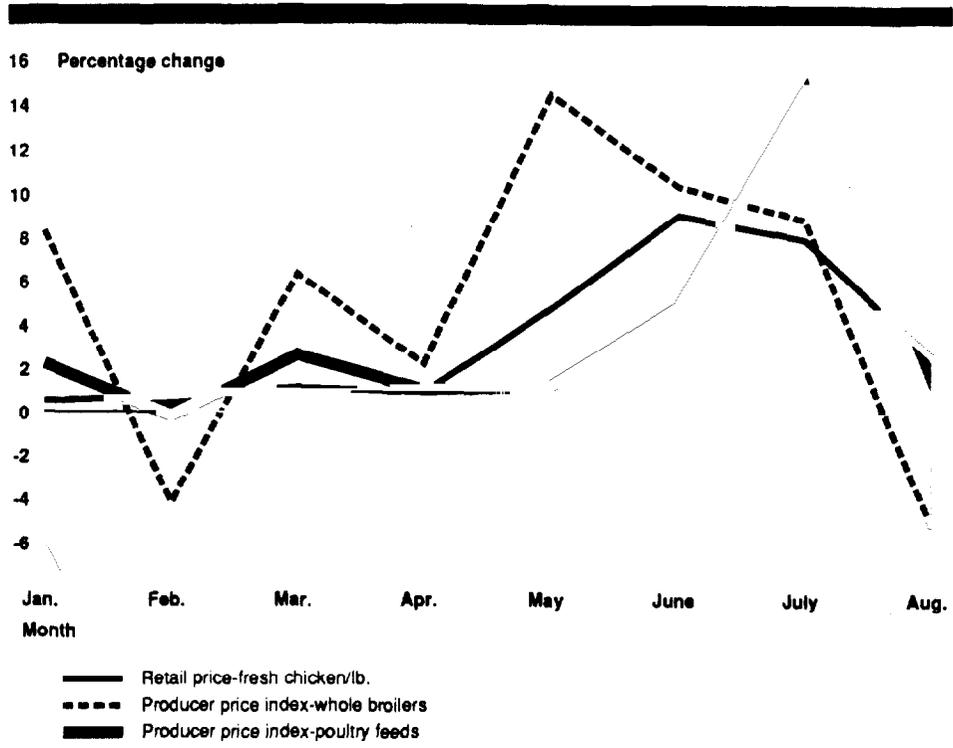
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 8.2: 1988 Poultry Price: Monthly Percentage Change

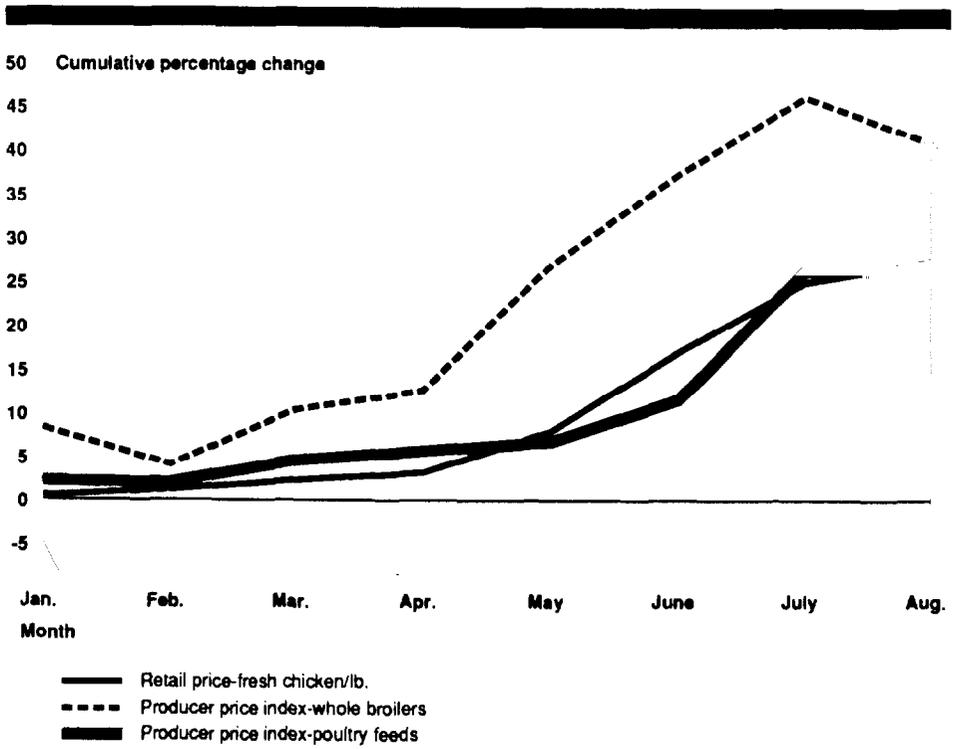
	1988							
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
Retail price—fresh chicken/lb.								
National average (\$)	0.74	0.745	0.753	0.76	0.796	0.868	0.937	0.961
Change (%)	0.5	0.7	1.1	0.9	4.7	9.0	7.9	2.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.5	1.2	2.3	3.2	8.0	17.0	25.0	27.5
Producer price index—whole broilers, wet ice, grade A bulk	95.4	91.4	97.2	99.3	113.6	125.3	136.3	129.2
Change (%)	8.3	-4.2	6.3	2.2	14.4	10.3	8.8	-5.2
Cumulative percentage change (%)	8.3	4.1	10.4	12.6	27.0	37.3	46.1	40.9
Producer price index—poultry feeds	113.7	113.5	116.5	117.7	119.1	124.8	143.1	143.4
Change (%)	2.2	-0.2	2.6	1.0	1.2	4.8	14.7	0.2
Cumulative percentage change (%)	2.2	2.0	4.6	5.7	6.8	11.6	26.3	26.5

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 8.2: 1988 Poultry Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

SECTION 9

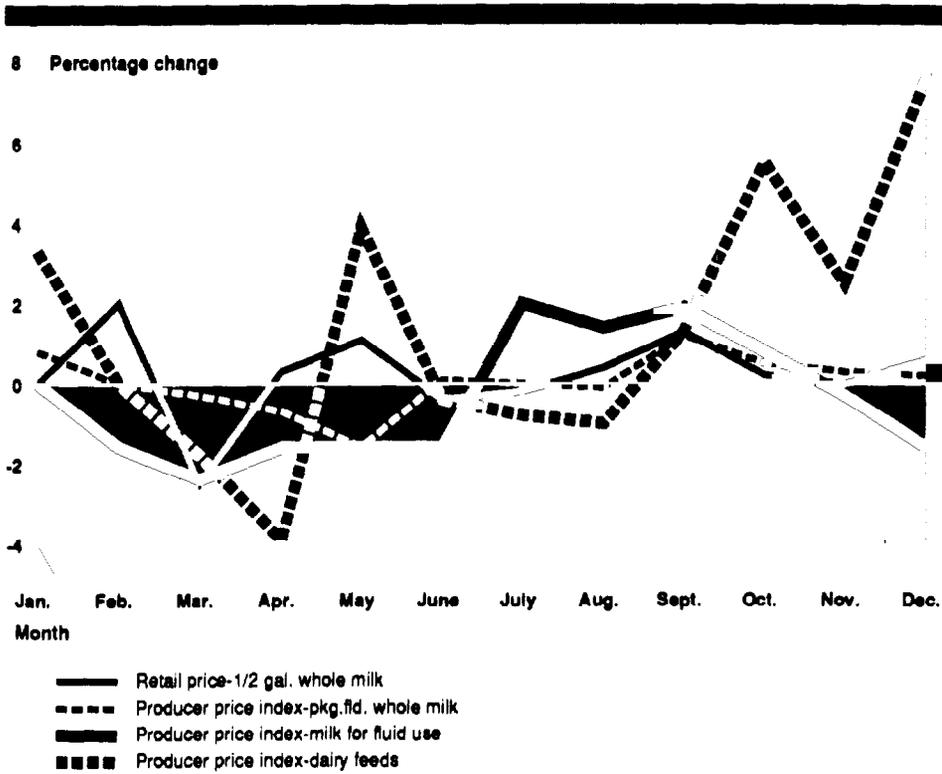
1987-88 MILK PRICE MONTHLY PERCENTAGE CHANGE

Table 9.1: 1987 Milk Price: Monthly Percentage Change

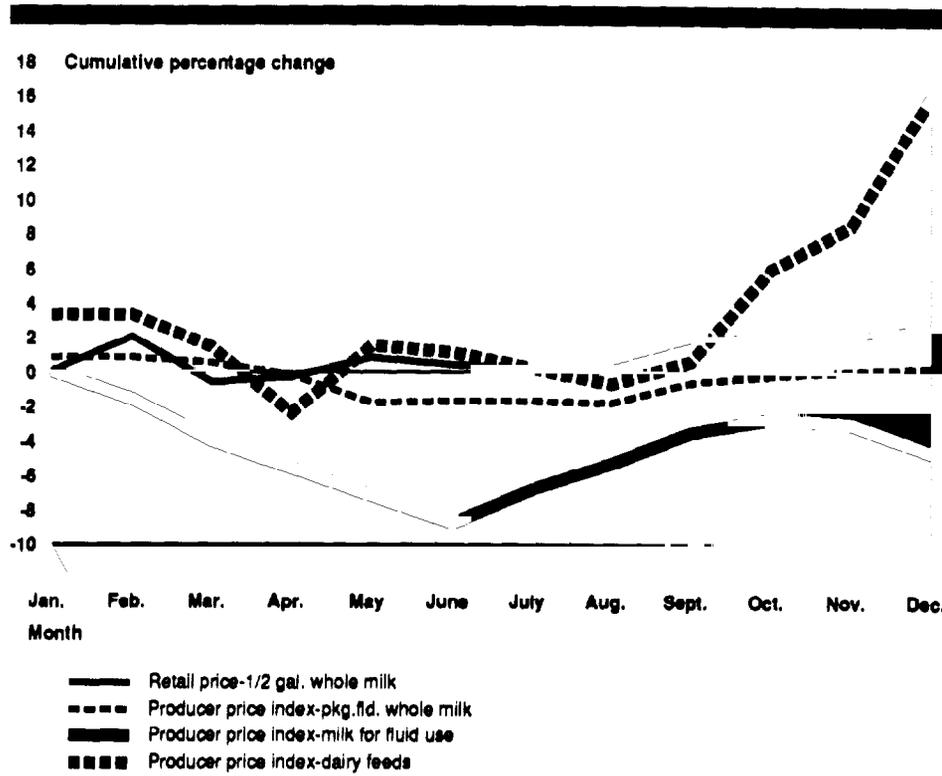
	1987											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Retail price-1/2 gal. fresh whole milk												
National average (\$)	1.126	1.148	1.119	1.122	1.134	1.13	1.128	1.132	1.147	1.149	1.149	1.156
Change (%)	0.0	2.0	-2.5	0.3	1.1	-0.4	-0.2	0.4	1.3	0.2	0.0	0.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.0	2.0	-0.6	-0.3	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.6	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.7
Retail price-1/2 gal. low fat milk												
National Average	1.088	1.089	1.084	1.095	1.092	1.09	1.073	1.063	1.067	1.078	1.078	1.092
Change (%)	-0.5	0.1	-0.5	1.0	-0.3	-0.2	-1.6	-0.9	0.4	1.0	0.0	1.3
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-0.5	-0.5	-0.9	0.1	-0.2	-0.4	-1.9	-2.8	-2.5	-1.4	-1.4	-0.1
Producer price index-pkg.fld.whole milk	104.9	104.9	104.6	103.9	102.2	102.3	102.3	102.2	103.4	103.9	104.2	104.4
Change (%)	0.8	0.0	-0.3	-0.7	-1.6	0.1	0.0	-0.1	1.2	0.5	0.3	0.2
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.8	0.8	0.5	-0.2	-1.8	-1.7	-1.7	-1.8	-0.6	-0.2	0.1	0.3
Producer price index-pkg. low fat milk	103.5	103.5	103.2	102.2	101.6	101.5	101.4	101.4	102.1	102.6	102.9	103.2
Change (%)	1.5	0.0	-0.3	-1.0	-0.6	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.3
Cumulative percentage change (%)	1.5	1.5	1.2	0.2	-0.4	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6	0.1	0.6	0.9	1.2
Producer Price Index-Milk for Fluid Use	96.6	95.1	92.8	91.3	89.8	88.4	90.2	91.5	93.2	93.9	93.6	92.1
Change (%)	0.0	-1.6	-2.4	-1.6	-1.6	-1.6	2.0	1.4	1.9	0.8	-0.3	-1.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.0	-1.6	-4.0	-5.6	-7.2	-8.8	-6.8	-5.3	-3.5	-2.7	-3.0	-4.6
Producer Price Index-Dairy Cattle Feeds	97.8	97.8	96	92.3	95.9	95.5	94.7	93.8	95	100.2	102.7	110.5
Change (%)	3.3	0.0	-1.8	-3.9	3.9	-0.4	-0.8	-1.0	1.3	5.5	2.5	7.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	3.3	3.3	1.4	-2.4	1.5	1.1	0.2	-0.7	0.6	6.0	8.5	16.1

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 9.1: 1987 Whole Milk Price Changes

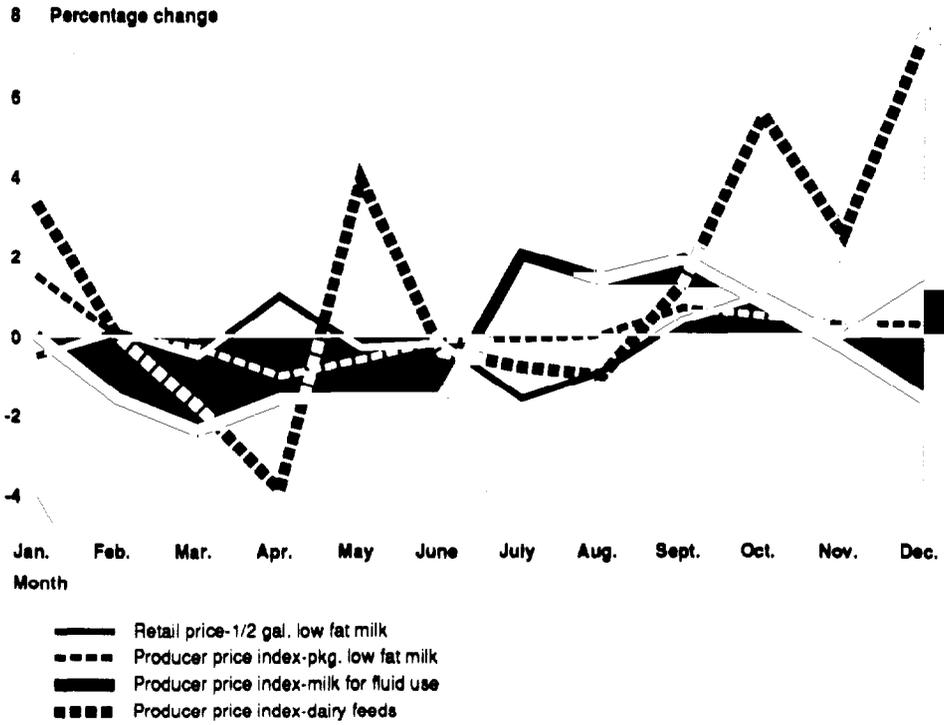


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

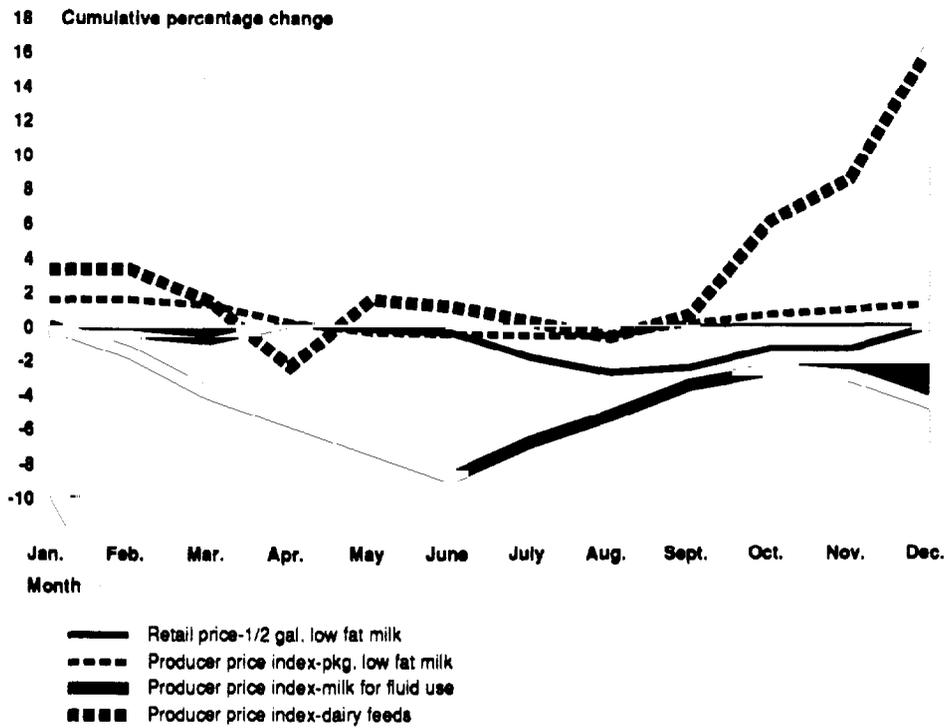


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 9.2: 1987 Low fat Milk Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



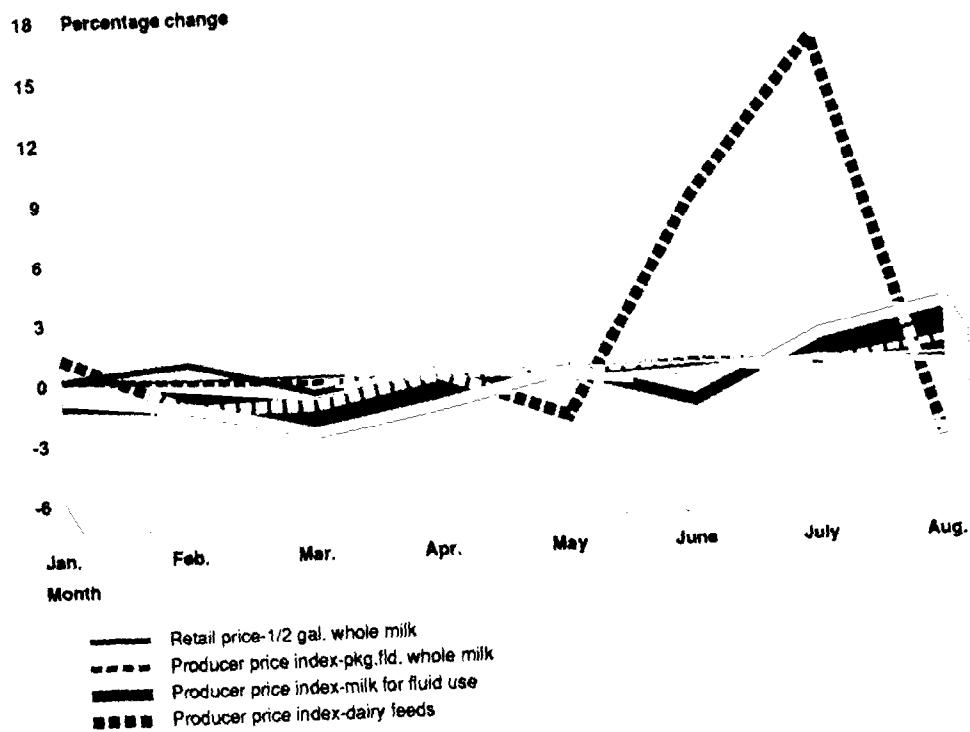
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table 9.2: 1988 Milk Price: Monthly Percentage Change

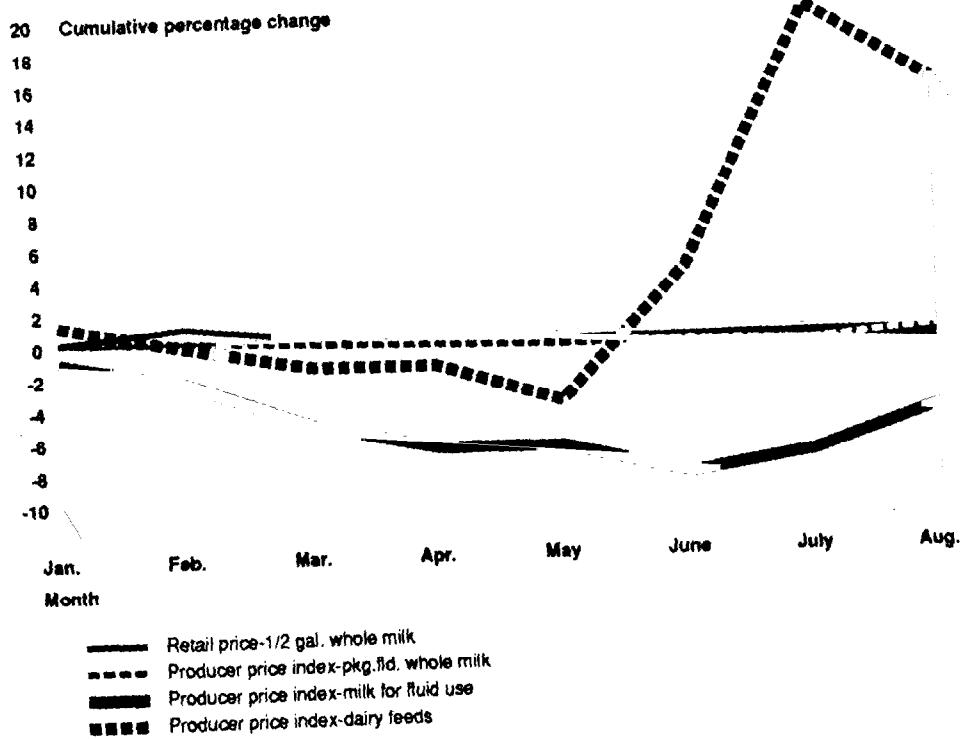
	1988							
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
Retail price-1/2 gal. fresh whole milk								
National average (\$)	1.157	1.166	1.157	1.159	1.152	1.147	1.147	1.142
Change (%)	0.1	0.8	-0.8	0.2	-0.6	-0.4	0.0	-0.4
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.1	0.9	0.1	0.3	-0.3	-0.8	-0.8	-1.2
Retail price-1/2 gal. low fat milk								
National average (\$)	1.099	1.103	1.099	1.099	1.1	1.099	1.088	1.112
Change (%)	0.6	0.4	-0.4	0.0	0.1	-0.1	-1.0	2.2
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	-0.4	1.8
Producer price index-pkg.fld.whole milk	104.5	104.4	104.1	103.9	103.7	103.8	103.6	104.3
Change (%)	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	-0.2	0.7
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.1	0.0	-0.3	-0.5	-0.7	-0.6	-0.8	-0.1
Producer price index-pkg. low fat milk	103.2	103.1	102.5	102.3	101.7	102.3	102.3	104.1
Change (%)	0.0	-0.1	-0.6	-0.2	-0.6	0.6	0.0	1.8
Cumulative percentage change (%)	0.0	-0.1	-0.7	-0.9	-1.5	-0.9	-0.9	0.9
Producer price index-milk for fluid use	91.1	89.8	87.3	85.9	85.8	84.2	85.2	87.4
Change (%)	-1.1	-1.4	-2.8	-1.6	-0.1	-1.9	1.2	2.6
Cumulative percentage change (%)	-1.1	-2.5	-5.3	-6.9	-7.0	-8.9	-7.7	-5.1
Producer price index-dairy cattle feeds	111.8	110.1	108.6	108.5	105.9	114.6	132.8	126.5
Change (%)	1.2	-1.5	-1.4	-0.1	-2.4	8.2	15.9	-4.7
Cumulative percentage change (%)	1.2	-0.3	-1.7	-1.8	-4.2	4.0	19.9	15.2

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 9.3: 1988 Whole Milk Price Changes

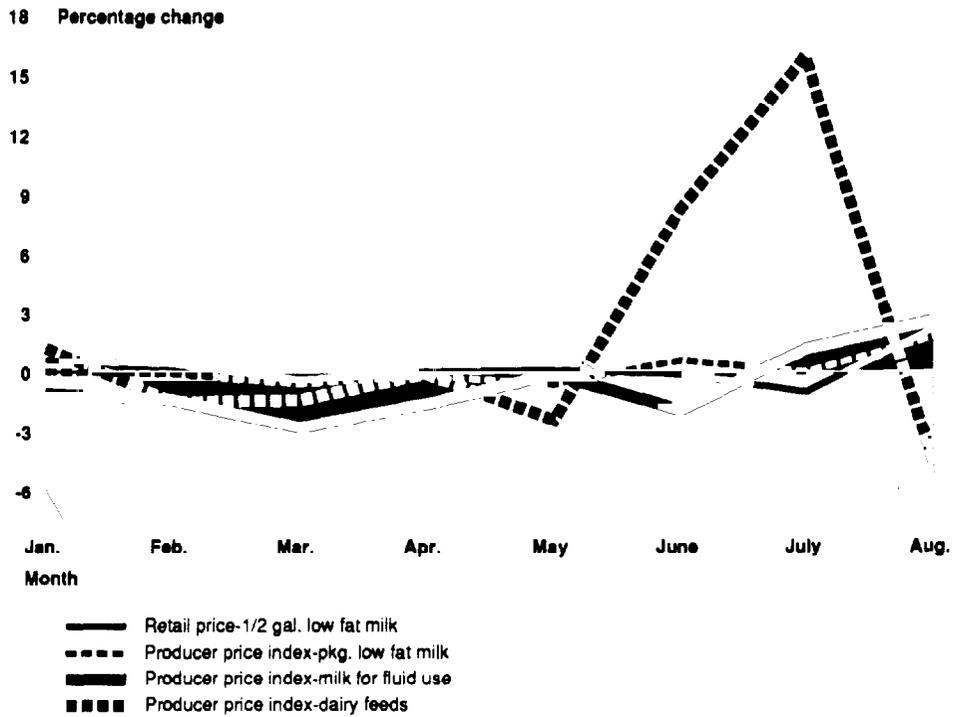


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

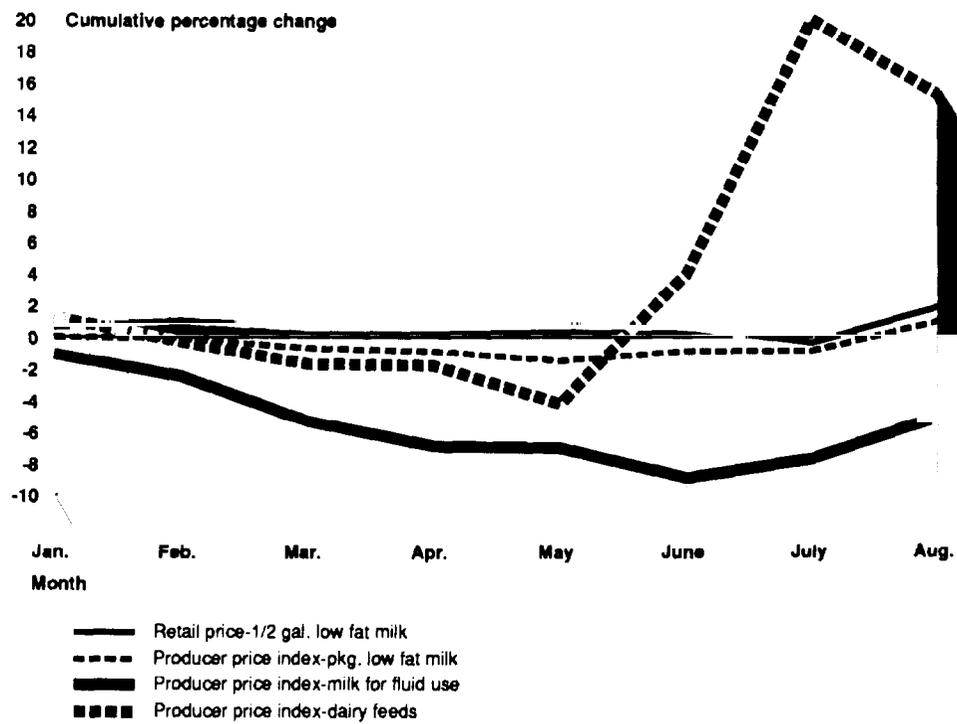


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Figure 9.4: 1988 Low fat Milk Price Changes



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

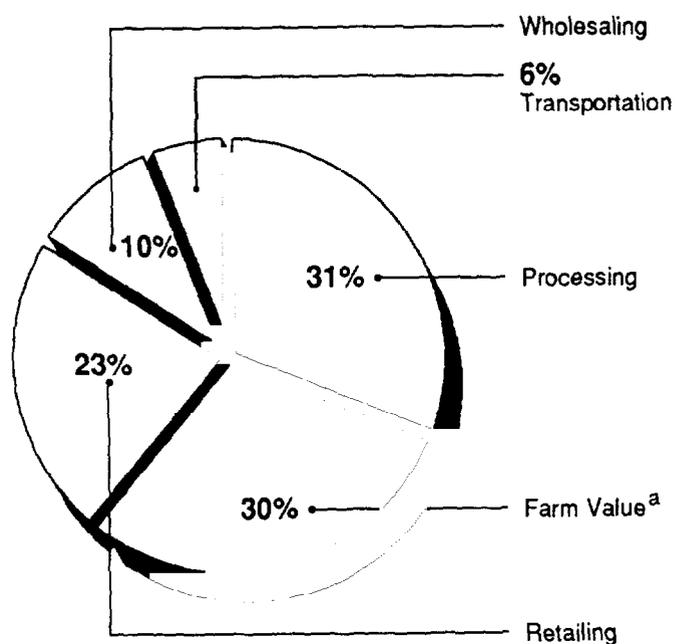


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

SECTION 10

COMPONENTS OF RETAIL PRICES OF
FOOD CONSUMED AT HOME

Figure 10.1: Percentage of Components of Retail Goods Costs



^a The category of pasta, cereal and white bread average only 8 percent farm value, meat products 47 percent, poultry 45 percent, and dairy products 42 percent.

Source: Economic Research Service, USDA

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