

IF THE PRICE OF FOOD GREW AT THE SAME RATE AS MEDICAL CARE

Medical Care Inflation: 1965 – 2017

The price of medical care has grown steadily, often at rates much higher than other indexed segments of the U.S. economy. To demonstrate this, the medical care inflation rate from 1965 — the year Medicare and Medicaid were established — to 2017 was applied to food prices. The graphs below illustrate the difference between the 2017 average price and the inflated price when the medical inflation rate was applied.

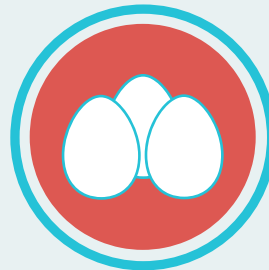
APPLES

If the price of apples grew at the same rate as medical care, a pound of apples would cost **\$3.36** in 2017.



EGGS

If the price of eggs grew at the same rate as medical care, a dozen eggs would cost **\$9.95** in 2017.



BREAD

If the price of bread grew at the same rate as medical care, a pound of white bread would cost **\$3.94** in 2017.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor