



OFFICE OF THE CITY CONTROLLER CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

1230 Municipal Services Building
1401 John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Philadelphia, PA 19102

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Stephanie Brooks, 215-407-8582

Cost of Thanksgiving Up 19% Over Last Year in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA – With the cost of grocery prices rising across the country, Philadelphians can expect to pay as much as \$79 for the traditional Thanksgiving dinner this year. The total cost marks an increase of almost 19% over last year.

The price of a 16-pound turkey has risen by \$5.76 compared to last year, contributing significantly to the overall uptick in costs. Consumers can also expect to pay more for bread and potatoes this year, up 23% and 48%, respectively.

A breakdown of the traditional Thanksgiving meal items to feed 10 in Philadelphia:

Item	2024	2025	\$ Diff	% Diff
Turkey 16 lb.	\$27.04	\$32.80	\$5.76	21.3%
Whole Milk	\$4.92	\$4.13	(\$0.79)	-16.1%
Pumpkin Pie Mix	\$3.89	\$5.82	\$1.93	49.6%
Whipping Cream	\$3.66	\$6.44	\$2.78	76.0%
Cubed Stuffing, 12 oz	\$3.50	\$3.32	(\$0.18)	-5.1%
Green Peas, 1 lb.	\$2.82	\$2.53	(\$0.29)	-10.3%
Dinner Rolls 12 rolls	\$4.09	\$5.03	\$0.94	23.0%
Sweet Potatoes, 3 lbs.	\$2.96	\$4.39	\$1.43	48.3%
Fresh Cranberries, 12 oz	\$2.32	\$2.14	(\$0.18)	-7.8%
Pie Shells	\$5.42	\$5.82	\$0.40	7.4%
Mis. Ingredients/Relish Tray	\$5.98	\$6.50	\$0.52	8.7%
Total	\$66.60	\$78.92	\$12.32	18.5%

Fifty years ago, the cost for a traditional Thanksgiving meal was less than \$19. Many items were significantly less in 1975, especially the turkey that cost just over \$6 compared to today's \$32.80 price tag. Although prices have risen sharply across the Thanksgiving menu, two staple items have remained relatively stable. A pound of green peas only increased by \$0.70 and a 3-pound bag of potatoes is \$1.20 more than it was five decades ago.

The estimated cost of Thanksgiving items was based on the average prices collected from grocery stores throughout Philadelphia.

Visit <https://controller.phila.gov/> to view the City Controller's October 2025 Municipal Money Matters.

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