

## WHOLESALE FOOD PRICES ROSE 4% IN 2010

On the heels of 2009's 1.6% drop in wholesale food prices—the largest drop since 1967 – wholesale food prices rose a sharp 4% in 2010, according to preliminary data from the **BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS** analyzed by **THE FOOD INSTITUTE**. That put the wholesale finished consumer foods index 2.8% higher than 2008.

During December, the **wholesale index** again rose 1.1% from the prior month – the same increase as in November and marked the third time in four months wholesale food prices exceeded a full percentage point. Over three-fourths of the December advance can be linked to prices for fresh and dry vegetables, which surged 22.8%. Higher prices for meats also were a major factor in the increase in the finished consumer foods index.



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On an annualized basis, the largest increase was found for pork, which jumped 23.6% at the wholesale level – the largest such increase since 1975 when pork prices jumped 30.4% as a result of surging feed corn prices the prior year that resulted in sharp cutbacks in pork production. Beef & Veal prices also increased a sharp 11% last year, the largest year-over-year increase since 2003.

### Wholesale Food Price Index, 2000-2010

(Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics)



### Producer Price Index - December

Unadjusted	Dec. Index 1982=100	% Chge. Dec. 2010	% Chge. Last Year	% Chge. Acc. 10
All Finished Consumer Foods	186.1	1.1	3.5	4.0
Fresh Fruits	139.8	15.4	3.9	12.3
Fresh & Dry Vegetables	179.0	22.8	-5.0	9.1
Eggs (Dec. '91=100)	157.4	-3.0	3.1	0.0
Bakery Products	247.5	0.3	0.9	-0.4
Milled Rice	205.6	0.5	6.8	-10.7
Pasta Products (June '85=100)	167.6	-0.7	-4.1	-5.4
Beef & Veal	160.8	2.7	15.1	11.0
Pork	150.0	3.8	22.3	23.6
Processed Young Chickens	141.4	-1.1	-1.6	0.6
Processed Turkeys	143.3	-1.0	18.0	9.9
Fish & Shellfish	282.9	2.5	12.7	8.4
Dairy Products	176.3	-3.2	3.3	10.9
Processed Fruits & Vegetables	175.5	0.0	-0.8	0.1
Confectionery End Products	239.0	0.3	2.8	2.4
Soft Drinks	182.6	-0.8	0.4	1.3
Roasted Coffee	202.5	1.4	10.1	6.2
Shortening & Cooking Oil	260.8	1.1	16.2	3.8