

## What Does It REALLY Cost?

Just down the street from Karl's house is a McDonald's where he works after school and on the weekends. It is one of the 13,343 McDonald's in the U.S. and one of the 40,031 in the world. There are 145 items on the menu.



The table below compares McDonald's menu prices in 1955 (which had only these 6 items) with the prices for the same items in 1975, 2001 and 2022.

Item	1955 Price	1975 Price	2001 Price	2022 Price
Hamburger	15 cents	28 cents	\$ .79	\$3.39
Cheeseburger	19 cents	33 cents	\$ .99	\$3.49
French Fries	10 cents	26 cents	\$1.39	\$1.79
Milkshake	20 cents	35 cents	\$1.69	\$2.59
Soft Drinks	10 cents	20 cents	\$1.29	\$1.00
Coffee	10 Cents	35 cents	\$ .79	\$1.29

In 1955 the starting wage at McDonald's was \$ .75 an hour. In 1975 it was \$2.10. In 2001 it was \$6.95. At Karl's McDonald's, the current starting salary is \$12.25 an hour.

- 1) If a McDonald's worker bought 2 hamburgers, French fries and a milkshake, how many full minutes would he have to work to pay for the meal in each of those years? Yes, the worker would get a discount, but let's ignore that for now.

1955: 48 minutes\*

1975: 34 minutes

2001: 41 minutes

2022: 55 minutes

\*  $\$ .60 / \$ .75 = .80$      $60 \text{ minutes} \times .80 = 48 \text{ minutes}$



The McDonald's Big Mac is one of the most recognized fast food items in the world. The table on the right lists the average price of a Big Mac in the U.S. from 2000 — 2022.

- 2) Calculate the percentage change in the price of a Big Mac during each period.

$$\frac{(2005 \text{ Price} - 2000 \text{ Price})}{2000 \text{ Price}} \times 100 = \% \text{ Change}$$

Round to the nearest 1/10th percent.

Year	Price	% Change
2000	\$3.87	XXXX
2005	\$3.93	1.6%
2010	\$4.80	22.1%
2015	\$5.33	11.0%
2020	\$5.51	3.4%
2022	\$5.77	4.7%