

Amid Trump's Tariffs, Costs Rise for Beer, Beef, Ice Cream and More Ahead of July 4th Cookouts

Cost of Popular Domestic Beers Up 13% and Beef & Ice Cream Prices at Highest Since the 1980s

Amid the Trump Administration's unpredictable tariff policies and rising economic uncertainty because of them, Americans planning their July 4th cookouts are facing higher prices for beer, food, and other common purchases for their cookouts. The Joint Economic Committee – Minority analyzed the most recent Consumer Price Index (CPI) data available and found that the total cost of a typical grocery trip for a cookout increased by a 12.7 percent annualized rate since Trump announced the April 2nd so-called “Liberation Day” tariffs on nearly every country.

Six packs of two of the most popular beers – Miller Lite and Coors Light – are up more than 13 percent at Walmart since before “Liberation Day”. The price of two of the most important cookout foods – ground beef and ice cream – hit record-highs since data first became available in the 1980s.

Costs for other popular goods associated with cookouts have risen in recent months as well. This new Committee analysis shows, for example, that **the price of the most popular propane grill for a backyard cookout on Amazon rose by \$30 or 5 percent** between April 1st – the day before the “Liberation Day” announcement – and last Friday, June 26th.

Popular Domestic 6-Packs Are Up 13%– and Beer Prices Expected to Continue Rising

Based on available data, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority tracked the prices of the most popular domestic and international beers at Walmart before “Liberation Day” through June 26th. The bestselling domestic beers that saw the largest price increases include:

- **A six-pack of bottles of Miller Lite American Lite Lager Beer that increased by 13.6%**
- **A six-pack of bottles of Coors Light American Light Lager Beer increased by 13.4%**

Popular imported beer costs rose as well. The bestselling imported beer brands that saw the largest price increases include:

- **A six-pack of bottles of Peroni Nastro Azzurro Italian-Style Lager Beer that increased by 10.5%**
- **A six-pack of bottles of Modelo Especial Mexican Lager Beer that increased by 9.5%**

The Trump Administration's steel and aluminum tariffs are expected to lead to further price [increases](#). Small brewers in particular are often unable to absorb the costs of tariffs on things like aluminum: “This \$12.99 six-pack of beer is going to end up at \$18.99,” Virginia small business owner Bill Butcher [stated](#) at a press conference in April. Larger beer companies may be forced to

make difficult choices as well. One financial news outlet [estimated](#) that tariffs could add \$1 or \$2 – up to a 32 percent increase on the median price – to the cost of each six-pack.

Cookout Costs Rising, With Beef and Ice Cream Prices at Record-Highs

The Joint Economic Committee – Minority used Consumer Price Index (CPI) data to calculate the price increase for popular food and beverage items for a 10-person summer cookout since “Liberation Day” and the economic uncertainty that has come with the Trump Administration’s tariffs. **Two items – ground beef and ice cream – saw their highest price in May 2025 (the most recent data available) since these data first became available in the 1980s.** Additionally, the total cost of a grocery store trip for a cookout increased by a 12.7 percent annualized rate since “Liberation Day.” **A separate independent industry [analysis](#) found that the cost of a 10-person summer cookout will hit \$100 for the first time this summer.**

Based on available data, the Joint Economic Committee – Minority also tracked recent price changes in the most popular Amazon listings for key categories of cookout gear. **The cost of the set of goods listed below went up \$55, or 7.7%, between April 1 and June 26th.** The table below details price increases of bestsellers during this time period.

Price Increases on Most Popular Cookout Items Since "Liberation Day"			
Type of Item	Price on June 26th	Percent Change in Price Since April 1st	Bestseller For a 10-Person Cookout
Outdoor chair	\$51.69	47.7%	Coleman Portable Quad Camp Chair with 4-Can Cooler
Grill tools	\$39.99	17.7%	35PCS Griddle Accessories Kit, Flat Top Grill Accessories Set for Blackstone and Camp Chef
Sunscreen	\$13.97	8.1%	Banana Boat Sport Ultra SPF 50 Sunscreen Spray
Aluminum foil	\$4.99	6.9%	Reynolds Wrap Heavy Duty Aluminum Foil Roll
Propane grill	\$629.00	5.0%	Weber SPIRIT 4-burner Grill E-425 Liquid Propane
Paper plates and utensils	\$30.99	3.3%	Gezond 250Pcs Disposable Paper Plates Set
Source: JEC - Minority analysis tracked prices for popular cookout-related items that saw price increases between April 1st and June 26th using data available on Keepa.com and Camelcamelcamel.com.			