

# AUGUSTA

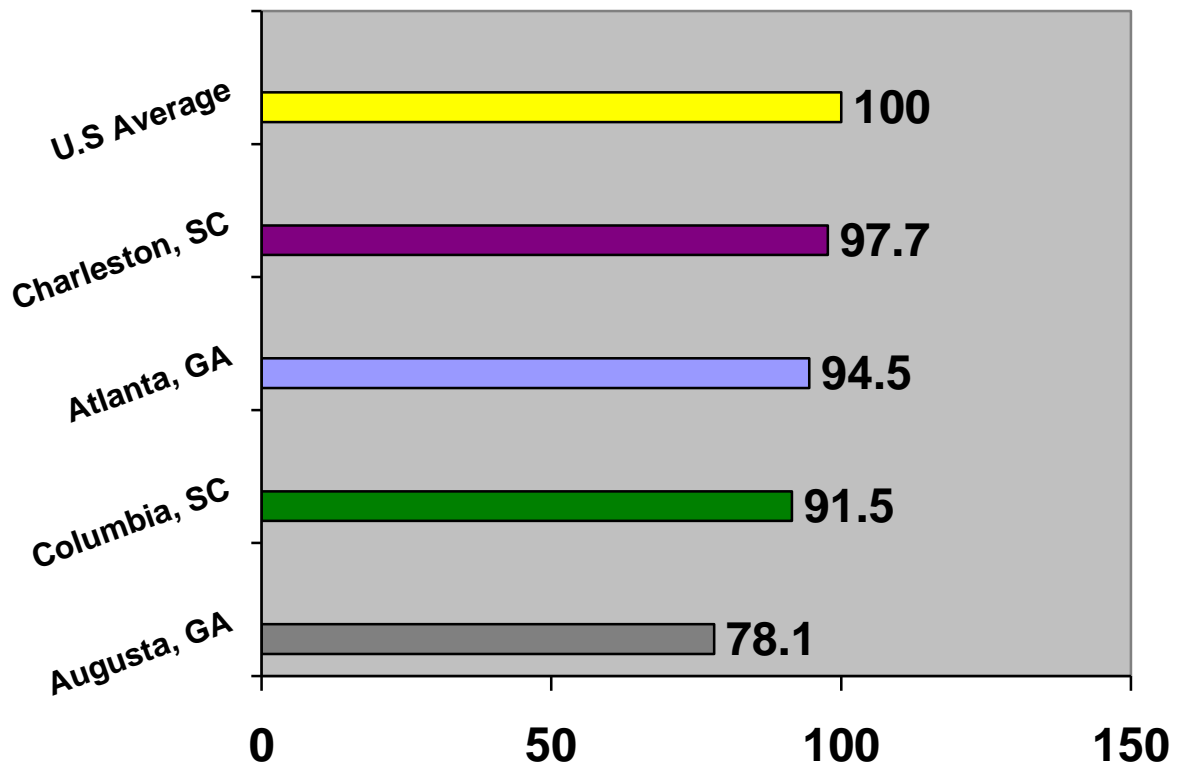
G E O R G I A

## Development Authority of Richmond County

### Augusta's Cost of Living

#### COST OF LIVING – 4th Quarter 2009

The current cost of living in the Augusta MSA is **78.1 percent of the national average** according to Sperling's Best Places. According to the publication, Augusta is considered to have one of the lowest average housing prices in the country with a home market value of \$109,100 for a nice eight-room, three-bedroom, 1,800 square foot house in a middle class community. The average home appreciation percentage is 7.36%, according to statistics released in December 2009.





## Development Authority of Richmond County

### Augusta's Cost of Living Index

#### **AUGUSTA MSA – 4TH QUARTER 2009 COST OF LIVING INDEX**

*United States averages are listed at 100% for comparison purposes*

<b>Overall</b>	<b>78%</b>
<b>Food</b>	<b>106%</b>
<b>Housing</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Utilities</b>	<b>98%</b>
<b>Health</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>97%</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>98%</b>

**Food:** The average cost of food and groceries, not including restaurants.

**Housing:** The average cost of an area's housing, including mortgage payments, apartment rents, property tax

**Utilities:** The average cost of heating and cooling a typical residence for the area, including electricity and natural gas.

**Health:** The average cost of health care calculated using the standard daily rate for a hospital room, and the cost of a doctor's office visit and a dental checkup.

**Transportation:** The average cost of gasoline, car insurance, and maintenance expenses, and mass transit fare for the area. The cost of the vehicle and any vehicle registration and license taxes are not included.

**Miscellaneous:** The cost index of those goods and services not included in the other cost of living categories, including clothing, restaurants, repairs, entertainment and other services.