

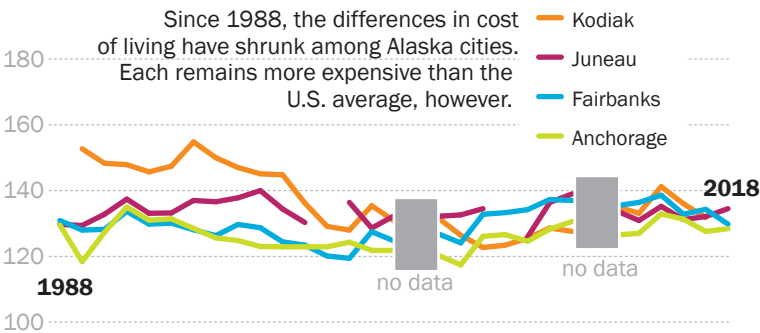
# WHAT WE PAY and how we compare

By JAMES BROOKS | JUNEAU EMPIRE

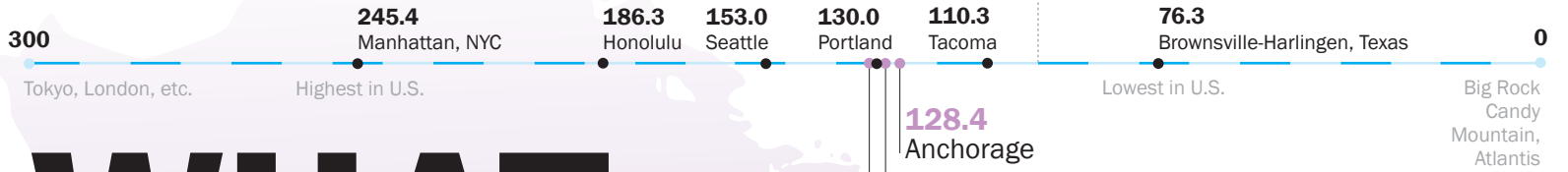
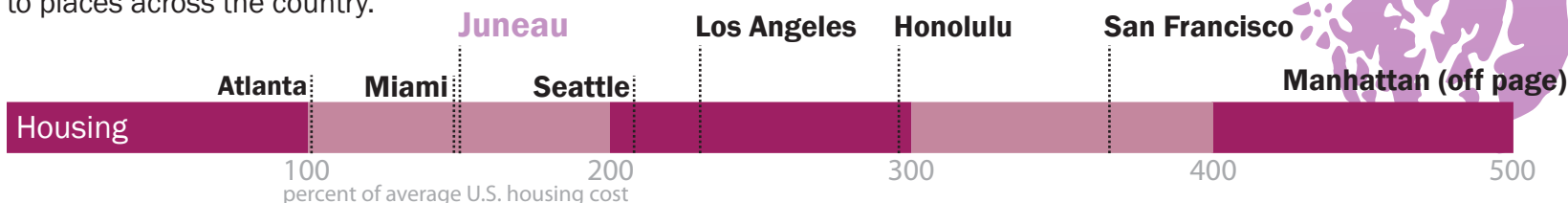
**Source:** Council for Community and Economic Research, First quarter 2018 report via Alaska Department of Labor

All figures on this page should be considered percentages. If 100 is 100 percent of the national average, 130 would be 130 percent of the average.

A change from the previous year doesn't necessarily mean prices went up or down; it just means they are closer or further away from the national average. For example, if prices rose nationally, but they rose less in Alaska, that would make the figure closer to the national average.

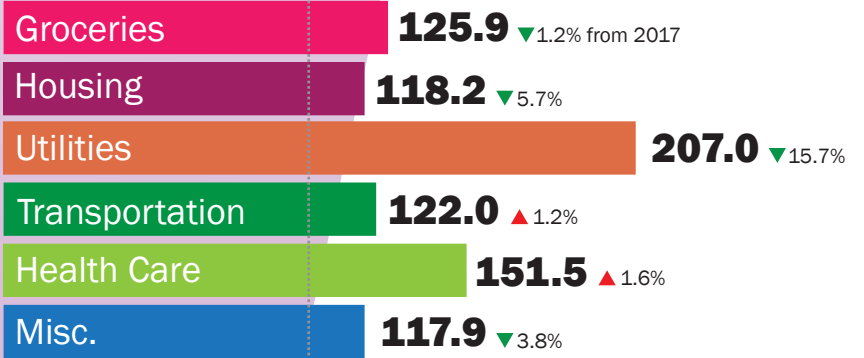


When figuring the cost of living, all costs are not equal. You probably spend more on **HOUSING** than you do gas money, so if the housing prices in an area are out of whack, they have a bigger impact than if utility prices are. Here's how Juneau's housing market compares to places across the country.



Alaska is an expensive place. But it's not the most expensive. Each year since 1961, the Council for Community and Economic Research has measured prices across the country for a variety of categories and compares cities to the national average for each. Juneau is 34.5 percent more expensive than the national average and the most expensive of the three. Anchorage is the "cheapest," but still 28.4 percent more expensive than the national average.

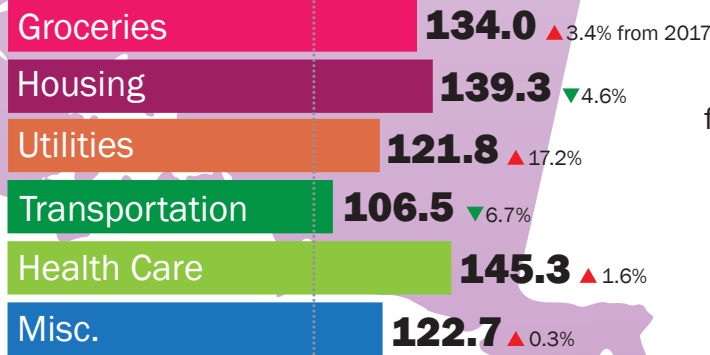
## FAIRBANKS



In Fairbanks, the high cost of electricity and home heating makes utility prices more than twice the national average.

Anchorage utilities benefit from natural gas, while Juneau has hydroelectric power, but both remain above the national average.

## ANCHORAGE



## JUNEAU

