Brunch Price Index reports $15 pancake, $19 eggs Benedict and $28 steak-and-eggs panel medians

Free tool connects 556 priced observations at 179 restaurant branches across all 50 states and Washington, DC, with serving details, source links and an order planner.

October 25, 2026. Top Brunch Spots introduces the National Brunch Price Index, a source-linked menu study that helps diners and reporters examine what brunch dishes cost, what comes with them and which documented charges may affect a selected order.

In its publisher-selected panel, the median of branch-level selected-item medians is $15 for pancakes across 68 branches, $19 for eggs Benedict across 68 branches and $28 for steak and eggs across 33 branches. These categories contain different restaurant selections, recipes, portions and accompaniments. The figures are food prices before additional charges, tax and optional tips.

Breakfast sandwiches: a $15 median in each regional sample

Breakfast-sandwich panel medians are $15 in each of the four Census regions: Northeast (7 branches), Midwest (11), South (15) and West (13). This is a descriptive result for the sampled menus, not evidence that typical restaurant prices or complete brunch bills are identical across regions.

Local stories, exact orders

- Des Moines, Iowa: Six $18 French-toast orders and six $5 coffees at Mulberry Street Tavern make a $138 menu subtotal. Its listed 20% gratuity for six or more adds $27.60, producing a modeled $165.60 subtotal before tax.

- Fargo, North Dakota: Two $12 French-toast orders at Rosewild total $24. Its documented 3% credit-card fee adds 72 cents, producing $24.72 before tax. Larger-party totals are withheld where the combination of charges is unresolved.

- Wilmington, Delaware: Selected French-toast dishes are $13 at Catherine Rooney's, $13.95 at Del Pez and $19 at Le Cavalier. Preparations and known inclusions differ; these are three named options, not a city average.

Other source-linked angles include a removable surcharge at Beatrix Fulton Market in Chicago, two pancake serving sizes at The Porthole in Portland, Maine, and a $95 package with a documented service charge at Baltaire in Los Angeles.

Explore the order, inspect the evidence

Readers can filter prices by state, region, place, dish, menu format and food budget. The planner models one selected item per person, optional verified coffee and applicable documented charges. Shared links preserve the selected scenario. A modeled subtotal is not an observed customer bill or a booking quote.

The snapshot contains 553 individual-main observations and three separately labeled per-person packages in 131 places. Source checks are dated October 22-25, 2026. Regular-coffee prices are verified at eight branches and charge policies documented at 18. Unknown prices and policies are not filled in.

The panel is not a probability sample of U.S. restaurants or diners. It does not establish the cheapest city, a typical American brunch bill or inflation. Most covered places have one sampled branch, and older or undated operator-linked menus retain that limitation.

The updated media kit provides original charts, a findings brief, regional tables, 131 local reporting briefs and downloadable source data. Every reporting angle includes its scope and supporting records.

Research and media resources

Brunch Price Index: https://topbrunchspots.com/research/brunch-price-index/

Media kit and downloads: https://topbrunchspots.com/research/media-kit/

Methodology: https://topbrunchspots.com/research/brunch-price-index/#methodology

Media questions and source corrections: info@topbrunchspots.com. Include the research version, exact branch, named item and source-check date.

About Top Brunch Spots

Top Brunch Spots is a free brunch-discovery publication offering city guides, restaurant information and source-linked research to help diners compare their options.