

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT PRICES KEEP FALLING WHEN FACTORED FOR INFLATION

Over the past seven years, one of the latest set of figures available, the average price of musical instruments has become more affordable. To provide a cross-section, we have compared five typical examples. The base year used is 2002, with what that price figured for inflation in 2009 plus the average price in 2010.

Instrument	Avg. Price in 2002	Price Adjusted for Inflation in 2009	Avg. Price in 2010
Acoustic Guitar	465.00	551.39	349.00
Electric Guitar	538.00	637.90	357.00
Grand Piano	13500.00	16390.89	13900.00
Woodwind Instrument	874.00	1036.29	749.00
Brass Instrument	984.00	1166.71	864.00

Obviously a major factor is the growing acceptance of off shore product. One extreme example is with vertical acoustic pianos. In 2004 there were 11,827 units made in the U.S. That dropped to 355 units in 2010. Our source for these numbers is the April 2011 issue of The Music Trades magazine.