U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR Bureau of Labor Statistics Washington 25, D. C.

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

JULY 1953

Consumer Price Index Rises 0.2 Percent Between June and July 1953

: This report presents the Consumer Price Index for : July 1953 for the average of U. S. cities and for : individual cities. The measurement of price change : from January 1953 forward is based on the revised : index structure. Information about the index revision is given in the February 1953 Monthly Labor : Review or is available upon request.

Retail prices of goods and services bought by urban families of wage earners and clerical workers rose 0.2 percent between June and July 1953, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is the fifth month in which the index has advanced, for a total increase of 1.1 percent since February 1953. From mid-June to mid-July increases occurred in Housing and Medical Care (0.3 percent), Transportation (0.2 percent), and Food and Other Goods and Services (0.1 percent). Declines were reported in Reading and Recreation (0.4 percent) and Apparel prices (0.2 percent).

The U.S. All Items index for July 1953 was 114.7 (1947-49 = 100), 0.5 percent higher than a year ago, and 12.7 percent above the level of June 1950. Converted to a base of 1935-39 = 100, the July index was 191.8.

The J.S. Food index advanced 0.1 percent from June to July as retail food prices averaged higher in 27 of the 46 cities surveyed. The index for July was 113.8 (1947-49 = 100), 2.1 percent below July 1952 but 13.2 percent above the June 1950 level. Sharp declines in prices of fresh vegetables offset in large part the price increases for other foods, particularly eggs, pork, poultry and fresh milk.

The drop in fresh vegetable prices as local crops became available averaged about 9 percent and was the principal cause for the 2.9 percent decline in the Fruits and Vegetables index. The most notable reductions occurred in prices of green beans, cabbage, celery, and tomatoes. Fresh fruit prices decreased slightly on the average, but price trends varied considerably in various cities.

An advance of about 4 percent in egg prices, now in the period of seasonal rise, was the major element in the rise of 1.3 percent in the index of "Other Foods at Home." Coffee prices edged upward in most large cities.

Prices of Meats, Poultry, and Fish rose 0.6 percent. Poultry prices averaged about 3 percent higher nationally, but were lower in the larger Pacific Coast cities. Prices of pork continued to climb, moving up about 2 percent between June and July. Offsetting some of these increases were decreases in prices of beef and veal (about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  percent), lamb (about 3 percent), and other meats (about 1 percent). Fish prices increased less than 1 percent.

Increases in the prices of fresh milk in some cities were chiefly responsible for a rise of 0.7 percent in the Dairy Products index. The Cereals and Bakery Products index was up 0.2 percent. The most important change was an increase in bread prices in Los Angeles. Restaurant meal prices increased 0.2 percent on the average.

HOUSING The cost of Housing as a group rose 0.3 percent between June and July. The Rent index advanced 0.4 percent, reflecting rent increases in a number of cities, particularly Atlanta, Cincinnati, Detroit, Kansas City and St. Louis. Prices of Solid Fuels and Fuel Oil rose 1.6 percent during the month. Household Operation costs were up 0.3 percent, as further increases were reported for laundry and dry cleaning services. Cleaning supplies also were higher. Housefurnishings advanced slightly (0.1 percent) as higher prices were reported for cook stoves and electric light bulbs. Prices were higher for several items of home repair and maintenance. Rates for gas and electricity were unchanged on the average.

APPAREL Apparel prices in July were at the lowest level since January 1951, averaging 0.2 percent lower than in June. Shoe prices were lower in a number of cities, as were several items of women's and girls' apparel. Men's and boys' apparel averaged slightly higher.

OTHER Higher fees for professional services were chiefly responsible for the increase GROUPS of 0.3 percent in the Medical Care index between June and July.

Transportation costs rose 0.2 percent, with higher prices for gasoline and motor oil in most sections of the country. (Increases in gasoline and motor oil prices in cities not priced in July have not yet been reflected in the index). There were, however, further declines in used car prices.

Lower prices for television sets, radios, toys, and sporting goods were responsible for a decline of 0.4 percent in the index for Reading and Recreation.

Prices of Other Goods and Services rose 0.1 percent, and Personal Care remained at the June level.

GROUP	July 1953	June 1953	May 1953	July 1952	101,8 100.5 100.5 102.7 106.1 92.3 102.5 94.1 104.9 108.7 102.7 107.6 97.4 99.6 96.5 109.9 105.4	Year 1939
	This Month	Last Month	2 Months Ago	Last Year	Pre-Korea	Pre- World War II
	IN	DEXES (1947-49	<b>=</b> 100)			
LL ITEMS	114.7	114.5	114.0	114.1	101.8	59.4
FOOD <u>2</u> /	113.8	113.7	112.1	116.3	100.5	47.1
Food at home	113.8	113.7	111.7	116.3		47.1
Cereals and bakery products	119.1	118.9	118.4	117.6		57.2
Meats, poultry and fish	112.0	111.3	109.2	116.4		41.6
Dairy products	108.3	107.5	107.8	110.2		49.8
Fruits and vegetables	118.2	121.7	115.2	124.0		46.3
Other foods at home	112.3	110.9	110.3	111.5	94.1	6/
HOUSING 3/	117.8	117.4	117.1	114.4	104.9	<u>6</u> /
Rent	123.8	123.3	123.0	117.9	108.7	86.6
Gas and electricity	106.4	106.4	106.6	104.2	102.7	104.9
Solid fuels and fuel oil	123.7	121.8	121.8	118.6	107.6	56.4
Housefurnishings	108.1	108.0	107.6	107.6	97.4	53.4
Rousehold operation	115.7	115.4	114.7	111.8	99.6	6/
APPAREL 4/	104.4	104.6	104.7	105.3	96.5	52.5
TRANSPORTATION	129.7	129.4	129.4	126.8	109.9	<u>6</u> /
MEDICAL CARE	121.5	121.1	120.7	118.0	105.4	<u>6</u> /
PERSONAL CARE	112.6	112.6	112.8	111.9	99.2	<u>6</u> /
READING AND RECREATION	107.4	107.8	108.0	107.0	102.5	<u>6</u> /
OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES 5/	118.3	118.2	118.0	116.0	103.7	<u>6</u> /

## PERCENT CHANGE TO JULY 1953 FROM:

	June 1953	May 1953	July 1952	June 1950	Year 1939
ALL ITEMS	0.2	0.6	0.5	12.7	93.1
FOOD <u>2</u> /	9.1	1.5	- 2.1	13.2	141.6
Food at home Cereals and bakery products Meats, poultry and fish Dairy products Fruits and vegetables Other foods at home	0.1 0.2 0.6 0.7 - 2.9 1.3	1.9 0.6 2.6 0.5 2.6 1.8	- 2.1 1.3 - 3.8 - 1.7 - 4.7 0.7	13.2 16.0 5.6 17.3 15.3 19.3	141.6 108.2 169.2 117.5 155.3 132.0 <u>7</u> /
HOUSING 3/	0.3	0.6	3.0	12.3	54.8 <u>7</u> /
Rent Gas and electricity Solid fuels and fuel oil Housefurnishings Household operation	0.4 0 1.6 0.1 0.3	0.7 - 0.2 1.6 0.5 0.9	5.0 2.1 4.3 0.5 3.5	13.9 3.6 15.0 11.0 16.2	43.0 1.4 119.3 102.4 69.2 7/
APPAREL 4/	- 0.2	- 0.3	- 0.9	8.2	98.9
TRANSPORTATION	0.2	0.2	2.3	18.0	88.2 <u>7</u> /
MEDICAL CARE.	0.3	0.7	3.0	15.3	67.4 <u>7</u> /
PERSONAL CARE	0	- 0.2	0.6	13.5	88.9 <u>7</u> /
READING AND RECREATION	- 0.4	- 0.6	0.4	4.8	70.5 <u>7</u> /
OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES	0.1	0.3	2.0	14.1	67.6 <u>7</u> /

See General Explanation at end of tables.
Includes "Food away from home."
Includes "Other shelter;" estimates for rent, home purchase, and other home owner costs are reflected monthly in total housing and all items.

Indexes for subgroups of apparel not yet available.

<sup>5/</sup> Includes tobacco, alcoholic beverages, and "miscellaneous services" (such as legal services, banking fees, burial services, etc.).

Not available.

Approximate.

City		(19	47-49 =	100)		(1935-39 * 100)
City	July 1953	June 1953	Мау 1953	July 1952	June 1950	July 1953 <u>2</u> /
U.S. AVERAGE <u>3</u> /	114.7	114.5	114.0	114.1	101.8	191.8
CITIES PRICED MONTHLY:		T Grant Art Control of the Control o	- man			
Chicago Detroit Los Angeles New York Philadelphia	115.7 116.9 115.8 112.1 114.7	115.3 116.6 115.4 112.0 114.6	114.6 115.8 115.3 111.4 113.8	115.0 114.6 115.0 112.3 114.8	102.8 102.8 101.3 100.9 101.6	197.0 197.3 193.5 185.5 190.9
CITIES PRICED IN JAN., APR., JULY, OCT. $\frac{1}{4}$			:	July 1952	A <b>pri</b> l 1950	July 1953
Boston Kansas City Minneapolis Pittsburgh Portland, Ore.	113.1 115.3 115.6 113.8 115.5			113.7 115.3 114.9 <u>5</u> / 113.0 114.7	101.2 101.4 102.1 <u>5</u> / 99.9 101.5	182.1 185.6 191.4 193.5 200.0
CITIES PRICED IN MAR., JUNE, SEPT., DEC. $\frac{\mu}{}$				June 1952	<b>June</b> 1950	June 1953
Atlanta Baltimore Cincinnati St. Louis San Francisco		117.1 115.1 114.5 115.8 116.1		114.6 <u>6/</u> 113.0 112.9 115.5 114.9	101.3 <u>6</u> / 101.6 101.2 101.1 100.9	198.6 197.9 192.8 193.3 198.4
CITIES PRICED IN FEB., MAY, AUG., NOV. 4/				May 1952	<b>May</b> 1950	May 1953
Cleveland Houston Scranton Seattle Washington, D. C.			113.7 116.8 112.0 116.2 113.5	113.4 114.8 112.1 114.6 112.6	100.4 103.5 100.2 102.0 101.6	193.7 197.7 186.1 198.6 186.4

See General Explanation at end of tables.

Table 3. Consumer PRICE INDEX  $\underline{1}/$  -- PERCENT CHANGES FROM JUNE 1953 TO JULY 1953 U.S. Average and Five Cities Priced Monthly All Items and Commodity Groups

City	All Items	Food	Housing	Apparel	Trans- portation	Medical Care	Personal Care	Reading & Recreation	Other Goods & Services
U.S. AVERAGE	0.2	0.1	0.3	- 0.2	0.2	0.3	0	-0.4	0.1
Chicago Detroit Los Angeles New York Philadelphia	0.3 0.3 0.3 0.1 0.1	0.3 0.4 0.4 - 0.1	0.6 0.6 0.4 0.3 0.4	- 0.1 - 0.3 - 0.4 - 0.4 - 0.3	0.4 0.5 1.0 0.8 1.0	1.0 0.1 0.2 0	- 0.2 - 0.3 0.2 0	0.4 - 1.1 - 1.2 - 0.5 - 1.3	0 - 0.1 - 0.2 0.5 0

See footnotes on table 1 and General Explanation at end of tables.

These are the same indexes shown in columns 1, 2 or 3, converted to a base of 1935-39 = 100.

The U.S. Average is based on prices collected in 46 cities. In addition to the 20 cities listed individually, 26 cities are included in the national average. Indexes are not calculated for these 26 cities.

Foods, fuels, rents and a few other items priced monthly; other commodities and services priced quarterly. June 1952 and June 1950; formerly priced March, June, September, December.

May 1952 and May 1950; formerly priced February, May, August, November.

## TABLE 4. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX 1/ -- ALL ITEMS AND COMMODITY GROUPS July 1953 Indexes and Percent Changes, April 1953 to July 1953 U.S. Average and 10 Cities Priced in July

	T	T			Hou	sing				T	Ι	T		Ī
City	All Items	Total Food	Total	Rent	Gas & Elec- tri- city	Solid Fuels & Fuel Oil	House- fur- nish- ings	House- hold Opera- tion	Apparel	Trans- porta- tion	Medi- cal Care	Per- sonal Care	Read- ing & Recre- ation	Other Goods & Ser- vices 5/
	^		,		July 1953	3 Indexe	s (1947 <b>-</b>	49 = 100	<u>)</u>					
U.S. AVERAGE	114.7	113.8	117.8	123.8	106.4	123.7	108.1	115.7	104.4	129.7	121.5	112.6	107.4	118.3
Boston Chicago Detroit Kansas City Los Angeles Minneapolis New York Philadelphia Pittsburgh Portland, Ore.	113.1 115.7 116.9 115.3 115.8 115.6 112.1 114.7 113.8 115.5	111.7 112.7 117.2 111.9 112.8 112.7 111.9 115.8 114.8 113.9	116.4 121.0 119.7 117.7 124.0 118.0 114.7 113.0 115.0	122.7 114.4	105.3 100.0 108.1 103.6 109.5 110.0 108.0 101.8 113.7 105.2	122.9 122.0 118.5 113.2 115.1 128.8 121.8 120.6 127.1	108.4 110.3 111.0 107.7 111.1 107.9 107.9 109.9 106.5 111.1	109.3 120.3 106.8 120.8 107.7 116.9 118.8 113.2 117.4 111.4	103.4 106.7 103.2 105.6 103.6 104.4 104.4 103.8 103.1 103.9	136.7 134.3 127.5 130.5 128.1 121.9 128.5 134.9 140.7 126.6	123.6 121.2 121.4 119.4 120.1 137.4 120.5 120.3 121.3 119.4	111.9 114.0 119.2 116.0 117.7 117.0 106.7 116.2 106.1 111.8	106.5 110.3 109.6 109.5 102.5 116.2 105.6 110.7 95.0 114.4	116.5 112.9 123.6 118.0 113.7 123.4 118.9 122.0 118.9 118.5
				Perce	ent Chang	ge Ap:	ril 1953	to July	1953					
U.S. AVERAGE	0.9	2.1	0.7	1.4	- 0.1	0.1	0.3	1.2	- 0.2	0.2	1.1	0.1	- 0.5	0.3
Boston Chicago Detroit Kansas City Los Angeles Minneapolis New York Philadelphia Pittsburgh Portland, Ore.	1.3 1.3 1.5 0.9 0.2 0.4 0.9 0.9	3.0 2.3 2.8 2.4 0 0.6 1.9 2.6 2.7	1.3 0.9 0.6 0.4 1.0 1.0 0.4 0.6	6/ 1.4 6/ 1.8 6/ 3.6	- 0.1 0 - 1.5 - 0.8 0 0 - 0.1 0 0.2 -11.3	- 1.4 0 0.9 0.5 0 - 1.1 - 2.9 0 3.2	0.5 2.4 0.5 0.1 -0.3 0.5 -1.0 -0.2 0.3	1.6 2.3 0.5 0.4 0.2 0.1 0.2 1.7 - 0.1 0.2	- 0.4 0.2 0.2 0.5 0.1 - 0.9 - 0.4 - 0.2 - 1.0 - 0.1	0.8 0.4 1.4 0.4 0.7 0.1 0.9 1.4 1.2	0.2 1.3 3.9 0.1 0.3 0.7 - 0.2 0.2 1.2	0.1 - 0.4 - 0.2 1.1 - 0.2 0 0.6 - 0.1 0	0.3 1.1 - 1.3 - 0.5 - 1.9 - 0.4 - 1.4 - 1.6 - 2.3 - 0.8	0.3 0.7 0.7 - 1.1 - 0.4 0.4 0.4 0.2 0.1

<sup>1/</sup> through 5/, see footnotes on table 1 and General Explanation at end of tables. 5/ Change from January 1953 to July 1953.

TABLE 5. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX 1/ -- FOOD AND ITS SUBGROUPS July 1953 Indexes and Percent Changes, June 1953 to July 1953

U.S. Average and 20 Large Cities

(1947-49 = 100)

	Γ	2/	To	tal	Cere	als &	Meats,	Poultry	1	iry		ts &		her
City	Total	Food 2/	Food a		Bakery	Products	& F		Prod		Veget		Foods	at Home
CICY		Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent		Percent
	Index	Change	Index	Change	Index	Change	Index	Change	Index	Change	Index	Change	Index	Change
U.S. AVERAGE	113.8	0.1	113.8	0.1	119.1	0.2	112.0	0.6	108.3	0,7	118.2	- 2.9	112.3	1.3
Atlanta	113.8	- 0.6	113.6	- 0.7	115.5	- 0.5	117.3	0.9	110.1	- 1.1	117.9	- 6.1	105.7	1.1
Baltimore	114.2	- 0.3	114.0	- 0.4	116.4	- 0.9	114.0	1.1	112.2	- 0.3	117.3	- 4.2	109.8	0.8
Boston	111.7	0.4	111.2	0.3	117.1	0	107.2	1.3	106.9	0.9	117.0	- 2.6	108.2	0.9
Chicago	112.7	0.3	112.5	0.2	113.9	- 0.4	108.4	1.4	109.7	1.3	116.7	- 2.8	117.5	0.3
Cincinnati	117.0	0.1	117.1	0.1	117.8	0.1	118.2	1.1	109.3	0.1	121.0	- 3.1	118.0	1.5
Cleveland Detroit Houston Kansas City Los Angeles Minneapolis	111.4 117.2 112.6 111.9 112.8	0.8 0.4 0 1.1 0.4	111.1 117.4 112.0 111.5 112.1	0.9 0.5 0.1 1.2 0.5	114.8 116.3 115.2 117.5 122.9	- 0.1 - 0.2 - 0.6 - 0.3 3.9	109.1 111.7 108.7 109.6 110.7	1.0 1.0 0.5 1.9 - 0.4	102.2 109.8 108.1 103.0 108.9	2.7 0.1 0.4 0 - 0.4	114.1 133.7 117.3 117.6 106.8	- 1.6 - 0.4 - 1.3 1.6 - 0.1	113.8 113.8 111.6 109.6 112.7	1.8 1.5 0.5 1.3 0.9
New York	111.9	- 0.1	111.7	- 0.1	123.1	0.1	110.4	1.3	103.8	1.6	114.0	- 4.2	111.4	0.3
Philadelphia	115.8	0	115.8	0	118.5	- 0.4	113.5	1.4	111.1	1.4	123.1	- 4.4	112.1	0.9
Pittsburgh	114.8	0	114.7	- 0.3	119.6	0.1	108.9	0.9	109.5	- 0.5	120.1	- 3.8	119.7	1.0
Portland, Ore.	113.9	- 0.1	114.1	0	115.5	0.3	116.4	- 1.0	109.4	- 0.3	111.9	0	115.5	1.2
St. Louis San Francisco Scranton Seattle Washington, D.C.	116.6 113.2 114.0 112.7 112.1	1.4 - 0.8 0.3 - 0.4 - 0.9	116.7 113.5 113.7 112.8 111.7	1.7 - 1.0 - 0.3 - 0.4 - 1.1	113.4 127.5 116.7 119.7 115.2	- 0.1 - 0.1 - 0.2 0 - 0.3	115.0 110.9 111.8 110.4 108.8	1.3 - 1.0 0.6 - 1.3 0.7	106.0 109.7 110.0 107.1 114.4	5.5 - 0.5 2.3 - 0.1 0.4	127.7 114.2 116.4 116.6 110.3	- 0.1 - 5.4 - 3.6 - 3.7 - 7.8	119.7 110.6 112.2 111.5 110.2	2.0 1.8 1.2 2.4 0.7

See footnotes on table 1 and General Explanation at end of tables.

The Consumer Price Index (revised January 1953) measures the average change in prices of goods and services purchased by city wage\_earner and clerical\_worker families. The goods and services included in the index "market basket" are those required to maintain the level of living characteristic of such families in 1952. The quantities and qualities of the items in the "market basket" remain the same between consecutive pricing periods, so that the index measures the effect of price change only on the cost of living of these families.

The indexes are presented on a base of 1947-49-100. The index numbers thus show the average increase or decrease in prices from the 1947-49 average. (For convenience of users, these indexes are also shown on the base 1935-39-100. Note that they are calculated using the new samples, items and weights). The city indexes do not indicate whether it costs more to live in one city than in another. Comparisons of city indexes show only whether prices have risen more or less in one city than another since the base period.

The Bureau has been compiling the Consumer Price Index for nearly 40 years. At four different times it has been necessary to bring the "market basket" of goods and services up to date and to modernize the samples and methods of calculation. The indexes in this report are revised as of January 1953. The "market basket" is based on extensive surveys of postwar expenditure patterns of city families, and reflects changes that have occurred since prewar in the amounts, kinds and qualities of things people buy, as well as new things that were not part of our pattern of living a few years ago.

About 300 items are priced to estimate the average change in prices of all items in the "market basket." Among these items are all the important goods and services that wage and clerical workers buy. Prices are collected at regular intervals, and the successive prices are compared to determine price changes. The items priced are described by detailed specifications to insure that as far as possible, the same quality is priced each time, and that differences in reported prices are measures of price change only. Prices are obtained in a sample of 46 cities representative of all cities in the U.S., including the 12 largest urban areas with populations over 1 million, 9 other large cities, 9 medium-sized cities, and 16 small cities. In each city, prices are reported by stores of various kinds and by service establishments and individuals (such as physicians and dentists) from whom wage and clerical workers buy goods and services.

Foods, fuels, rents, and a few other items are priced monthly in all cities. Prices of most other goods and services are obtained on a regular rotating pricing cyclementhly in the 5 largest cities, every 3 months in 25 large and medium-sized cities, and every 4 months in the 16 smallest cities. In any given month, goods and services other than foods, fuels and rents are priced in 17 or 18 cities out of the 46. Price collection extends over 3 or 4 weeks, centered on the 15th of the month. Prices for a few items (e.g., auto insurance, railroad fares) are computed from published sources.

Food. Food prices are collected monthly from chain and representative independent food stores in all 46 cities, during the first 3 days of the week which includes the 15th of the month. Prices for restaurant meals are based on menus collected on the regular pricing cycle for each city as described above.

Rent. Rents are obtained each month by mail from tenants of representative samples of dwellings in each of the 46 cities, and once every 2 years by personal visit, when local samples of dwellings are also reviewed. The rent index measures changes in rent from one period to another for the same rented dwellings, with the same facilities, furnishings and services.

Other Shelter. Materials and services for house maintenance and repair are priced on the regular city pricing cycle. Prices of houses, fire insurance rates, mortgage interest and taxes, which change only occasionally, are obtained annually or biennially, and changes estimated between pricing dates. Sales prices of houses are obtained from records of mortgages insured by the Federal Housing Administration.

Fuels, including Gas and Electricity. Prices prevailing on the 15th of the month are collected monthly by mail from fuel dealers and utility companies in 46 cities.

All Goods and Services other than Foods, Fuels and Rents. Prices are collected in person, on the city cycle described above, from samples of representative department stores, apparel and shoe stores, housefurnishings and appliance dealers, barber shops, beauty shops, doctors, hospitals, moving picture theaters, etc. Prices for such items as newspapers, street car and bus fares, and telephone service are collected by mail. Prices of used cars are obtained from car dealers through a trade association.

Price changes for all items in each city are combined in accordance with their importance in the "market basket" for that city to obtain an average price change for that city. Price changes for the 46 cities are combined for the U.S. with the use of 1950 population data. Each city is given an importance or weight proportionate to the wage-earner and clerical-worker population it represents in the index. The 12 largest cities, each weighted by its own population, when combined have about two-fifths of the total weight in the national index. Each of the 3 other city-size groups has about one-fifth of the total weight; i.e., the 9 other large cities, the 9 medium-sized cities, and the 16 small cities. City indexes are compiled for the 20 largest of the 46 cities priced for the national average. The remaining 26 cities in which prices are collected are:

Anna, Illinois Camden, Arkansas Canton, Chio
Charleston, W. Virginia
Evansville Indiana

Lodi, California
Lynchburg, Virginia Evansville, Indiana Garrett, Indiana Glendale, Arizona Glendale, Arizona Grand Forks, N. Dakota Grand Island, Nebraska

Huntington, W. Virginia Laconia, New Hampshire Madill, Oklahoma Madison, Wisconsin Middlesboro, Kentucky Middletown, Connecticut Newark, Ohio

Pulaski, Virginia Ravenna, Ohio Rawlins, Wyoming San Jose, California Sandpoint, Idaho Shawnee, Oklahoma Shenandoah, Iowa Youngstown, Ohio

The present index, as described above, has been linked (spliced) to the "interim adjusted" Consumer Price Index for 34 cities, issued through December 1952, to form a continuous series back to 1913. 1/

For detailed descriptions of the Consumer Price Index, its uses and limitations, see the following:

"The Consumer Price Index," A Short Description of the Index as Revised, 1953. "The Revised Consumers' Price Index -- A Summary of Changes in the Index and Suggestions for Transition from the 'Interim Adjusted' and 'Old Series' Indexes to the Revised Index."

Bureau of Labor Statistics Bulletin No. 1039: "Interim Adjustment of the Consumers' Price Index."

January 1951 Report: "Consumers' Price Index and Retail Food Prices." December 1952 Report: "Consumers' Price Index and Retail Food Prices."

## Monthly Labor Review articles:

The Revised Consumer Price Index (February 1953). Adjusted Consumers' Price Index: Relative Importance of Items (June 1951). Interim Adjustment of Consumers' Price Index (April 1951). Selection of Cities for Consumer Expenditure Survey-1950 (April 1951). Revision of the Consumers' Price Index (July 1950).

<sup>1/</sup> See December 1952 report, "Consumers' Price Index and Retail Food Prices." Table: rebased "interim adjusted" indexes for the U. S. and for 20 cities are available request.