

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

AUGUST 1953

Consumer Price Index ~~Rises~~ Rises 0.3 Percent  
Between July and August 1953

---

: This report presents the Consumer Price Index for August :  
: 1953 for the average of U. S. cities and for individual :  
: cities. The measure of price change from January 1953 :  
: forward is based on the revised index structure. Infor- :  
: mation 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 continued upward, increasing 0.3 percent between July and August 1953, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Largely responsible for the increase were advances of 0.7 percent for Transportation and 0.3 percent for Food. Housing, Medical Care, and Reading and Recreation rose 0.2 percent; and Personal Care and Other Goods and Services averaged 0.1 percent higher than in July. Apparel prices, however, declined 0.1 percent during the month.

The U. S. All Items index for August 1953 was 115.0 (1947-49 = 100), 0.6 percent higher than a year ago and 13.0 percent above the level of June 1950. Converted to a base of 1935-39 = 100, the August index was 192.3.

FOOD The U. S. Food index rose 0.3 percent from July to August as average retail food prices increased in 34 of the 46 cities surveyed. The August index was 114.1 (1947-49 = 100), 2.1 percent below a year ago, but 13.5 percent above the June 1950 level. All food subgroup indexes were higher with the exception of the Fruits and Vegetables index which fell 4.7 percent during the month.

Average prices of fresh fruits and fresh vegetables decreased by about 9 percent and 6 percent respectively, as more abundant supplies of fresh produce reached retail stores in August. Prices of apples, watermelons, green beans and tomatoes were substantially lower. Oranges and potatoes were also cheaper. Lettuce prices, however, showed marked increases.

A 6 percent advance in beef and veal prices, the largest increase for these meats in any month since June 1948, caused a 1.9 percent increase in the index for Meats, Poultry and Fish. Poultry prices averaged over 1 percent higher while prices for pork, lamb and other meats increased slightly. Fish prices were somewhat lower over the month.

The Other Foods at Home index increased 1.9 percent as egg prices, still in a period of seasonal advance, rose more than 5 percent between July and August. Also contributing to the rise in this index were higher prices for lard, an important food item to consumers in Southern and smaller Western cities. Coffee prices also rose in most cities during the month.

The rise of 0.7 percent in the Dairy Products index resulted chiefly from price increases for fresh milk in several cities. Similarly, higher bread prices in a few places largely accounted for the 0.3 percent rise in the index of Cereals and Bakery Products. Prices of restaurant meals, on the average, were unchanged during the month.

HOUSING The rise of 0.2 percent in the Housing index was due mainly to an increase of 1.1 percent for Rent, following expiration of Federal rent controls July 31. Sixteen of the 46 cities in the index were still subject to Federal control as of that date. In 4 of these 16 cities, Federal controls were replaced by State or local controls. Decontrol or transfer to local controls had occurred prior to July 1953 in 24 of the remaining cities and 6 small cities were never under control. Prices of some home maintenance items were higher in a few cities. Costs of Gas and Electricity advanced in several cities, resulting in an average increase of 0.5 percent. Solid Fuels and Fuel Oil and Household Operation averaged 0.2 percent and 0.1 percent higher, respectively. Housefurnishings prices declined 0.6 percent, as August sales brought lower prices for sheets and drapery fabrics.

APPAREL Prices of apparel were 0.1 percent lower in August than in July, due mainly to lower prices for women's and girls' clothing. Prices of apparel for other family members were also lower on the average, although men's suits and footwear were higher in some cities.

OTHER GROUPS The rise of 0.7 percent in the Transportation index was caused primarily by the increase of transit fares in New York, effective July 25, 1953. Also contributing to the increase were higher prices for gasoline and motor oil in cities surveyed this month for the first time since the general rise in petroleum prices. Used car prices continued to decline.

Costs of Medical Care continued upward in August, with an increase of 0.2 percent. Higher fees were reported for hospital rooms and professional services.

Reading and Recreation rose 0.2 percent as higher admission charges for motion pictures more than offset decreases resulting from sale prices for television sets.

Personal Care and Other Goods and Services were 0.1 percent higher than in July.

TABLE 1. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX <sup>1/</sup> -- U.S. AVERAGE ALL ITEMS AND COMMODITY GROUPS  
Indexes and Percent Changes for Selected Dates

GROUP	August 1953	July 1953	June 1953	August 1952	June 1950	Year 1939
	This Month	Last Month	2 Months Ago	Last Year	Pre-Korea	Pre-World War II
INDEXES (1947-49 = 100)						
ALL ITEMS	115.0	114.7	114.5	114.3	101.8	59.4
FOOD <sup>2/</sup>	114.1	113.8	113.7	116.6	100.5	47.1
Food at home	114.1	113.8	113.7	116.6	100.5	47.1
Cereals and bakery products	119.5	119.1	118.9	117.5	102.7	57.2
Meats, poultry and fish	114.1	112.0	111.3	119.4	106.1	41.6
Dairy products	109.1	108.3	107.5	111.0	92.3	49.8
Fruits and vegetables	112.7	118.2	121.7	118.7	102.5	46.3
Other foods at home	114.4	112.3	110.9	113.1	94.1	6/
HOUSING <sup>3/</sup>	118.0	117.8	117.4	114.6	104.9	6/
Rent	125.1	123.8	123.3	118.2	108.7	86.6
Gas and electricity	106.9	106.4	106.4	105.0	102.7	104.9
Solid fuels and fuel oil	123.9	123.7	121.8	119.0	107.6	56.4
Housefurnishings	107.4	108.1	108.0	107.6	97.4	53.4
Household operation	115.8	115.7	115.4	111.9	99.6	6/
APPAREL <sup>4/</sup>	104.3	104.4	104.6	105.1	96.5	52.5
TRANSPORTATION	130.6	129.7	129.4	127.0	109.9	6/
MEDICAL CARE	121.8	121.5	121.1	118.1	105.4	6/
PERSONAL CARE	112.7	112.6	112.6	112.1	99.2	6/
READING AND RECREATION	107.6	107.4	107.8	107.0	102.5	6/
OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES <sup>5/</sup>	118.4	118.3	118.2	115.9	103.7	6/

PERCENT CHANGE TO AUGUST 1953 FROM:

	July 1953	June 1953	August 1952	June 1950	Year 1939
ALL ITEMS	0.3	0.4	0.6	13.0	93.6
FOOD <sup>2/</sup>	0.3	0.4	- 2.1	13.5	142.3
Food at home	0.3	0.4	- 2.1	13.5	142.3
Cereals and bakery products	0.3	0.5	1.7	16.4	108.9
Meats, poultry and fish	1.9	2.5	- 4.4	7.5	174.3
Dairy products	0.7	1.5	- 1.7	18.2	119.1
Fruits and vegetables	- 4.7	- 7.4	- 5.1	10.0	143.4
Other foods at home	1.9	3.2	1.1	21.6	136.4 <sup>7/</sup>
HOUSING <sup>3/</sup>	0.2	0.5	3.0	12.5	55.1 <sup>7/</sup>
Rent	1.1	1.5	5.8	15.1	44.5
Gas and electricity	0.5	0.5	1.8	4.1	1.9
Solid fuels and fuel oil	0.2	1.7	4.1	15.1	119.7
Housefurnishings	- 0.6	- 0.6	- 0.2	10.3	101.1
Household operation	0.1	0.3	3.5	16.3	69.3 <sup>7/</sup>
APPAREL <sup>4/</sup>	- 0.1	- 0.3	- 0.8	8.1	98.7
TRANSPORTATION	0.7	0.9	2.8	18.8	89.6 <sup>7/</sup>
MEDICAL CARE	0.2	0.6	3.1	15.6	67.8 <sup>7/</sup>
PERSONAL CARE	0.1	0.1	0.5	13.6	89.1 <sup>7/</sup>
READING AND RECREATION	0.2	- 0.2	0.6	5.0	70.8 <sup>7/</sup>
OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES <sup>5/</sup>	0.1	0.2	2.2	14.2	67.7 <sup>7/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> See General Explanation at end of tables.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes "Food away from home."

<sup>3/</sup> Includes "Other shelter;" estimates for rent, home purchase, and other home owner costs are reflected monthly in total housing and all items.

<sup>4/</sup> 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.).

<sup>6/</sup> Not available.

<sup>7/</sup> Approximate.

TABLE 2. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX <sup>1/</sup> -- ALL ITEMS INDEXES FOR SELECTED DATES  
U.S. Average and 20 Large Cities

City	( 1 9 4 7 - 4 9 = 100)					(1935-39 = 100)
	August 1953	July 1953	June 1953	August 1952	June 1950	August 1953 <sup>2/</sup>
U.S. AVERAGE <sup>3/</sup>	115.0	114.7	114.5	114.3	101.8	192.3
CITIES PRICED MONTHLY:						
Chicago	116.3	115.7	115.3	115.5	102.8	198.1
Detroit	116.9	116.9	116.6	115.0	102.8	197.3
Los Angeles	115.8	115.8	115.4	114.9	101.3	193.5
New York	112.7	112.1	112.0	112.2	100.9	186.5
Philadelphia	114.9	114.7	114.6	114.9	101.6	191.2
CITIES PRICED IN JAN., APR., JULY, OCT. <sup>4/</sup>						
				July 1952	April 1950	July 1953
Boston		113.1		113.7	101.2	182.1
Kansas City		115.3		115.3	101.4	185.6
Minneapolis		115.6		114.9 <sup>5/</sup>	102.1 <sup>5/</sup>	191.4
Pittsburgh		113.8		113.0	99.9	193.5
Portland, Ore.		115.5		114.7	101.5	200.0
CITIES PRICED IN MAR., JUNE, SEPT., DEC. <sup>4/</sup>						
				June 1952	June 1950	June 1953
Atlanta			117.1	114.6 <sup>6/</sup>	101.3 <sup>6/</sup>	198.6
Baltimore			115.1	113.0	101.6	197.9
Cincinnati			114.5	112.9	101.2	192.8
St. Louis			115.8	115.5	101.1	193.3
San Francisco			116.1	114.9	100.9	198.4
CITIES PRICED IN FEB., MAY, AUG., NOV. <sup>4/</sup>						
				August 1952	May 1950	August 1953
Cleveland	115.1			114.0	100.4	196.1
Houston	116.8			115.8	103.5	197.7
Scranton	113.2			114.0	100.2	188.1
Seattle	116.8			114.6	102.0	199.6
Washington, D. C.	114.2			114.1	101.6	187.5

<sup>1/</sup> See General Explanation at end of tables.

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

<sup>3/</sup> 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.

<sup>4/</sup> Foods, fuels, rents and a few other items priced monthly; other commodities and services priced quarterly.

<sup>5/</sup> June 1952 and June 1950; formerly priced March, June, September, December.

<sup>6/</sup> May 1952 and May 1950; formerly priced February, May, August, November.

TABLE 3. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX <sup>1/</sup> -- PERCENT CHANGES FROM JULY 1953 TO AUGUST 1953  
U.S. Average and Five Cities Priced Monthly  
All Items and Commodity Groups

City	All Items	Food <sup>2/</sup>	Housing <sup>3/</sup>	Apparel <sup>4/</sup>	Trans- portation	Medical Care	Personal Care	Reading & Recreation	Other Goods & Services <sup>5/</sup>
U.S. AVERAGE	0.3	0.3	0.2	- 0.1	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Chicago	0.5	- 0.4	1.7	0.5	0	0	0.2	1.0	0
Detroit	0	- 0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Los Angeles	0	0.4	- 0.2	- 0.7	0.1	0.1	- 0.1	- 0.4	0
New York	0.5	0.2	0.2	- 0.2	4.4	0.9	0.1	0.6	0.1
Philadelphia	0.2	0.6	0	- 0.1	- 0.1	0	0.1	- 1.6	0

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

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

City	All Items	Total Food 2/	Housing						Apparel 4/	Transportation	Medical Care	Personal Care	Reading & Recreation	Other Goods & Services 5/
			Total 3/	Rent	Gas & Electricity	Solid Fuels & Oil	House-furnishings	Household Operations						
August 1953 Indexes (1947-49 = 100)														
U.S. AVERAGE	115.0	114.1	118.0	125.1	106.9	123.9	107.4	115.8	104.3	130.6	121.8	112.7	107.6	118.4
Chicago	116.3	112.3	123.1		99.9	122.6	109.4	120.2	107.2	134.3	121.2	114.2	111.4	112.9
Cleveland	115.1	112.2	118.2	130.7	106.8	121.0	105.0	110.4	104.9	125.1	126.7	113.8	113.7	116.5
Detroit	116.9	116.7	120.1		109.1	119.0	110.8	106.4	103.3	127.6	121.5	119.3	109.6	123.6
Houston	116.8	112.8	122.5	137.5	106.5		103.8	120.3	106.6	127.2	118.5	119.2	113.8	119.3
Los Angeles	115.8	113.3	123.7		109.5		109.8	107.7	102.9	128.2	120.2	117.6	102.1	113.7
New York	112.7	112.1	114.9		108.8	128.8	107.1	118.8	104.2	134.2	121.6	106.8	106.2	119.0
Philadelphia	114.9	116.5	113.0	113.1	101.8	121.8	109.5	113.2	103.7	134.8	120.3	116.3	108.9	122.0
Scranton	113.2	113.6	115.3		111.9	137.3	101.5	106.7	106.7	130.2	115.0	111.9	117.6	115.4
Seattle	116.8	113.6	118.9	132.9	99.0	127.0	107.6	110.2	107.6	133.3	125.5	111.2	112.7	125.9
Washington, D.C.	114.2	113.3	116.4		117.0	130.2	108.6	113.1	104.0	128.8	117.7	111.4	109.2	125.8
Percent Change -- May 1953 to August 1953														
U.S. AVERAGE	0.9	1.8	0.8	1.7	0.3	1.7	- 0.2	1.0	- 0.4	0.9	0.9	- 0.1	- 0.4	0.3
Chicago	1.5	1.4	2.6		- 0.1	2.3	0.6	1.3	- 0.8	0.6	1.2	- 0.1	1.5	0.5
Cleveland	1.2	2.7	0.4	6/ 4.9	0	1.3	0	- 1.9	- 0.5	1.5	5.8	0	- 0.3	- 0.2
Detroit	0.9	1.5	1.2		- 0.1	1.7	0	0.1	0	1.5	0.2	0	- 0.9	0.6
Houston	0	0.8	- 0.6	6/ 0.4	0		- 1.3	0.6	- 0.4	0.4	0.1	- 0.3	- 0.6	- 0.1
Los Angeles	0.4	1.0	0.3		0		- 1.6	0.1	- 0.7	1.1	0.3	- 0.2	- 1.8	- 0.2
New York	1.2	1.6	0.5		0.7	2.5	- 0.7	0.2	- 0.7	5.4	0.9	0.1	- 0.2	0.7
Philadelphia	1.0	2.8	0.5	6/ 0.6	0	2.4	0	0.6	- 0.5	1.0	0.5	- 0.2	- 3.2	0.2
Scranton	1.1	1.9	1.0		0	5.7	- 0.2	0.9	0.2	0.7	0.8	- 0.2	- 0.5	0.1
Seattle	0.5	1.4	- 0.1	6/ 3.7	0	0	- 0.8	- 0.1	0.7	- 0.1	0.4	- 0.2	2.1	0
Washington, D.C.	0.6	2.3	0.2		1.8	2.8	- 0.3	0.1	0.2	1.2	0.2	0	- 3.3	0.6

1/ through 5/, see footnotes on table 1 and General Explanation at end of tables.  
6/ Change from February 1953 to August 1953.

TABLE 5. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX 1/ -- FOOD AND ITS SUBGROUPS  
August 1953 Indexes and Percent Changes, July 1953 to August 1953  
U.S. Average and 20 Large Cities  
(1947-49 = 100)

City	Total Food 2/		Total Food at Home		Cereals & Bakery Products		Meats, Poultry & Fish		Dairy Products		Fruits & Vegetables		Other Foods at Home	
	Index	Percent Change	Index	Percent Change	Index	Percent Change	Index	Percent Change	Index	Percent Change	Index	Percent Change	Index	Percent Change
U.S. AVERAGE	114.1	0.3	114.1	0.3	119.5	0.3	114.1	1.9	109.1	0.7	112.7	- 4.7	114.4	1.9
Atlanta	115.2	1.2	115.3	1.5	117.5	1.7	121.4	3.1	110.1	0	118.7	0.7	106.6	0.9
Baltimore	114.5	0.3	114.3	0.3	116.6	0.2	116.8	2.5	112.2	0	110.5	- 5.8	112.3	2.3
Boston	112.6	0.8	112.3	1.0	117.6	0.4	111.1	3.6	107.9	0.9	111.5	- 4.7	110.7	2.3
Chicago	112.3	- 0.4	111.8	- 0.6	114.1	0.2	107.7	- 0.6	109.8	0.1	111.0	- 4.9	119.7	1.9
Cincinnati	117.1	0.1	117.3	0.2	120.2	2.0	117.4	- 0.7	112.1	2.6	114.9	- 5.0	121.0	2.5
Cleveland	112.2	0.7	112.3	1.1	116.6	1.6	110.9	1.6	105.1	2.8	110.0	- 3.6	116.7	2.5
Detroit	116.7	- 0.4	116.4	- 0.9	116.3	0	113.2	1.3	109.4	- 0.4	122.0	- 8.8	116.1	2.0
Houston	112.8	0.2	112.7	0.6	115.2	0	111.0	2.1	108.0	- 0.1	115.1	- 1.9	113.5	1.7
Kansas City	112.0	0.1	111.6	0.1	120.4	2.5	110.7	1.0	106.3	3.2	110.0	- 6.5	110.8	1.1
Los Angeles	113.3	0.4	112.7	0.5	122.8	- 0.1	112.6	1.7	108.7	- 0.2	104.5	- 2.2	115.0	2.0
Minneapolis	113.2	0.4	113.1	0.5	119.7	- 0.1	107.5	3.4	106.7	0	117.4	- 4.3	119.4	1.6
New York	112.1	0.2	112.2	0.4	123.2	0.1	113.0	2.4	106.3	2.4	106.4	- 6.7	113.9	2.2
Philadelphia	116.5	0.6	116.5	0.6	118.9	0.3	116.8	2.9	111.1	0	117.8	- 4.3	114.3	2.0
Pittsburgh	115.4	0.5	115.4	0.6	119.7	0.1	112.5	3.3	109.5	0	114.4	- 4.7	121.9	1.8
Portland, Ore.	114.5	0.5	114.9	0.7	117.7	1.9	119.0	2.2	109.4	0	107.8	- 3.7	117.5	1.7
St. Louis	117.2	0.5	117.3	0.5	114.9	1.3	115.7	0.6	106.1	0.1	126.2	- 1.2	122.0	1.9
San Francisco	113.4	0.2	113.8	0.3	127.4	- 0.1	112.4	1.4	109.7	0	110.7	- 3.1	112.5	1.7
Scranton	113.6	- 0.4	113.4	- 0.3	116.3	- 0.3	114.6	2.5	109.9	- 0.1	106.6	- 8.4	114.4	2.0
Seattle	113.6	0.8	113.7	0.8	120.0	0.3	113.3	2.6	107.0	- 0.1	113.1	- 3.0	113.9	2.2
Washington, D.C.	113.3	1.1	113.1	1.3	115.5	0.3	113.5	4.3	114.3	- 0.1	107.1	- 2.9	112.1	1.7

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 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 cycle--monthly 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	Huntington, W. Virginia	Pulaski, Virginia
Camden, Arkansas	Laconia, New Hampshire	Ravenna, Ohio
Canton, Ohio	Lodi, California	Rawlins, Wyoming
Charleston, W. Virginia	Lynchburg, Virginia	San Jose, California
Evansville, Indiana	Madill, Oklahoma	Sandpoint, Idaho
Garrett, Indiana	Madison, Wisconsin	Shawnee, Oklahoma
Glendale, Arizona	Middlesboro, Kentucky	Shenandoah, Iowa
Grand Forks, N. Dakota	Middletown, Connecticut	Youngstown, Ohio
Grand Island, Nebraska	Newark, 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. <sup>1/</sup>

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." Tables of rebased "interim adjusted" indexes for the U. S. and for 20 cities are available upon request.

