

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

OCTOBER 1953

Consumer Prices Continue Upward Between
September and October Despite Decreasing Food Prices

: This report presents the Consumer Price Index for :
 : October 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. Information about the index revision is :
 : given in the February 1953 Monthly Labor Review or :
 : is available upon request. :

The Consumer Price Index, representing retail prices of consumer goods and services, rose 0.2 percent between September and October 1953, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. The changes in retail prices during the past month reflect a continuation of the trend of previous months. Again, lower food prices were more than offset by higher prices for other classes of goods and services. Food prices declined 0.2 percent between September and October; Housing costs rose 0.3 percent; Apparel, 0.2 percent; Other Goods and Services, 1.0 percent; Reading and Recreation, 0.7 percent; Medical Care, 0.2 percent; and Personal Care, 0.3 percent. Transportation costs were unchanged on the average.

The index for all items for October 1953 was 115.4 percent of the 1947-49 average, 1.1 percent higher than a year ago and 13.4 percent above the level of June 1950. Converted to a base of 1935-39 = 100, the October 1953 index was 192.9.

FOOD An average decrease of 0.2 percent in retail food prices between September and October brought the U.S. Food Index to 113.6 in October (1947-49 = 100). This was 1.2 percent less than the October 1952 index, but 13.0 percent above that of June 1950. The Meats, Poultry and Fish index declined 2.1 percent during the month while all other food subgroup indexes advanced 1 percent or less. Decreases in this group were reported in all but one of the 46 cities. A drop of about $4\frac{1}{2}$ percent in pork prices and nearly 2 percent in fresh chicken prices led this decline. This was the first sizable break in retail pork prices this year and reflected larger supplies on the market. Prices of beef and veal fell nearly 1 percent while lamb and other meats decreased slightly. Fish prices were unchanged during the month. Retail food prices averaged lower in 31 of the 46 cities surveyed, but, except in a few cities, the average change was small.

Prices of all Fruits and Vegetables combined were 1.0 percent higher with an increase of more than $6\frac{1}{2}$ percent in fresh vegetable prices and a decrease in fresh fruit prices of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ percent. Substantial increases were reported generally in prices of lettuce and tomatoes while price changes for other fresh vegetables varied from city to city, with some increasing and some decreasing. Apples, oranges, and lemons were lower in price.

Egg prices, rising more than 2 percent during the month, accounted for much of the 0.6 percent increase in the index of Other Foods at Home. The rise for eggs is somewhat less than seasonal. Most cities surveyed in Pacific Coast states as well as a few places on the East Coast, however, reported lower egg prices.

Increases in milk prices in about one-fourth of the cities were mainly responsible for the rise of 0.5 percent for Dairy Products. Butter prices were also somewhat higher. Prices of Cereals and Bakery Products were up 0.1 percent. Restaurant meal prices increased 0.4 percent, on the average.

HOUSING The rise of 0.3 percent in the Housing index between September and October was due primarily to an increase of 0.6 percent for Rent. The October rent index at 126.8 passed the previous peak reached in December 1924. Continuing to reflect the end of Federal rent control, rent increases occurred in most cities but were most prevalent in medium size cities. The substantial October 1 advance in rates for parcel post service resulted in a rise of 0.5 percent for Household Operation. Prices of Solid Fuels and Fuel Oil, which normally increase in the fall, were 0.9 percent higher than in September, and bills for Gas and Electricity were up 0.1 percent. Housefurnishings prices averaged unchanged during the month.

APPAREL Prices of Apparel rose 0.2 percent, due chiefly to the continued effect of introduction of fall and winter articles at higher prices than at the end of last season, especially for women's and girls' wear. Prices of men's and boys' clothing also rose slightly. Prices of children's shoes were higher. Prices of other apparel declined slightly.

OTHER GROUPS All other groups except Transportation increased. The rise of 1.0 percent in the index for Other Goods and Services was chiefly due to generally higher prices for beer, as higher wholesale costs were passed on to the consumer. Cigarette prices advanced in a few cities.

Higher admission charges in motion picture theatres, mostly temporary increases for "special" films, were a major factor in the 0.7 percent increase for Reading and Recreation. Prices also were higher for new model radios and television sets, and for television repair services.

Medical Care costs rose 0.2 percent, as further increases were reported for professional services.

Despite price reductions for toilet soap and cleansing tissues, the Personal Care index rose 0.3 percent as substantial increases for men's haircuts were reported for two cities.

Transportation costs remained at the September level with continued decreases in used car prices, but further advances in costs of automobile operation and maintenance.

TABLE 1. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ^{1/} -- U.S. AVERAGE ALL ITEMS AND COMMODITY GROUPS
Indexes and Percent Changes for Selected Dates

GROUP	October 1953	September 1953	August 1953	October 1952	June 1950	Year 1939
	This Month	Last Month	2 Months Ago	Last Year	Pre-Korea	World War II
INDEXES (1947-49 = 100)						
ALL ITEMS	115.4	115.2	115.0	114.2	101.8	59.4
FOOD ^{2/}	113.6	113.8	114.1	115.0	100.5	47.1
Food at home	113.3	113.5	114.1	115.0	100.5	47.1
Cereals and bakery products	120.4	120.3	119.5	117.5	102.7	57.2
Meats, poultry and fish	111.1	113.5	114.1	116.9	106.1	41.6
Dairy products	110.1	109.6	109.1	113.2	92.3	49.8
Fruits and vegetables	107.7	106.6	112.7	111.3	102.5	46.3
Other foods at home	117.4	116.7	114.4	115.1	94.1	<u>6/</u>
HOUSING ^{3/}	118.7	118.4	118.0	115.2	104.9	<u>6/</u>
Rent	126.8	126.0	125.1	118.8	108.7	86.6
Gas and electricity	107.0	106.9	106.9	105.0	102.7	104.9
Solid fuels and fuel oil	125.7	124.6	123.9	121.1	107.6	56.4
Housefurnishings	108.1	108.1	107.4	107.9	97.4	53.4
Household operation	116.6	116.0	115.8	112.8	99.6	<u>6/</u>
APPAREL ^{4/}	105.5	105.3	104.3	105.6	96.5	52.5
TRANSPORTATION	130.7	130.7	130.6	128.4	109.9	<u>6/</u>
MEDICAL CARE	122.8	122.6	121.8	118.9	105.4	<u>6/</u>
PERSONAL CARE	113.2	112.9	112.7	112.3	99.2	<u>6/</u>
READING AND RECREATION	108.6	107.8	107.6	107.6	102.5	<u>6/</u>
OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES ^{5/}	119.7	118.5	118.4	115.8	103.7	<u>6/</u>

PERCENT CHANGE TO OCTOBER 1953 FROM:

	September 1953	August 1953	October 1952	June 1950	Year 1939
ALL ITEMS	0.2	0.3	1.1	13.4	94.3
FOOD ^{2/}	- 0.2	- 0.4	- 1.2	13.0	141.2
Food at home	- 0.2	- 0.7	- 1.5	12.7	140.6
Cereals and bakery products	0.1	0.8	2.5	17.2	110.5
Meats, poultry and fish	- 2.1	- 2.6	- 5.0	4.7	167.1
Dairy products	0.5	0.9	- 2.7	19.3	121.1
Fruits and vegetables	1.0	- 4.4	- 3.2	5.1	132.6
Other foods at home	0.6	2.6	2.0	24.8	142.6 <u>7/</u>
HOUSING ^{3/}	0.3	0.6	3.0	13.2	56.0 <u>7/</u>
Rent	0.6	1.4	6.7	16.7	46.4
Gas and electricity	0.1	0.1	1.9	4.2	2.0
Solid fuels and fuel oil	0.9	1.5	3.8	16.8	122.9
Housefurnishings	0	0.7	0.2	11.0	102.4
Household operation	0.5	0.7	3.4	17.1	70.5 <u>7/</u>
APPAREL ^{4/}	0.2	1.2	- 0.1	9.3	101.0
TRANSPORTATION	0	0.1	1.8	18.9	89.7 <u>7/</u>
MEDICAL CARE	0.2	0.8	3.3	16.5	69.1 <u>7/</u>
PERSONAL CARE	0.3	0.4	0.8	14.1	89.9 <u>7/</u>
READING AND RECREATION	0.7	0.9	0.9	6.0	72.4 <u>7/</u>
OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES ^{5/}	1.0	1.1	3.4	15.4	69.5 <u>7/</u>

^{1/} See General Explanation at end of tables.

^{2/} Includes "Food away from home".

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

^{4/} Indexes for subgroups of apparel not yet available.

^{5/} Includes tobacco, alcoholic beverages, and "miscellaneous services" (such as legal services, banking fees, burial services, etc.).

^{6/} Not available.

^{7/} Approximate.

TABLE 2. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ^{1/} -- ALL ITEMS INDEXES FOR SELECTED DATES
U.S. Average and 20 Large Cities

City	(1 9 4 7 - 4 9 = 1 0 0)					(1935-39 = 100)
	October 1953	September 1953	August 1953	October 1952	June 1950	October 1953 ^{2/}
U.S. AVERAGE ^{3/}	115.4	115.2	115.0	114.2	101.8	192.9
CITIES PRICED MONTHLY:						
Chicago	117.1	116.6	116.3	115.0	102.8	199.4
Detroit	117.2	116.9	116.9	115.5	102.8	197.8
Los Angeles	116.3	116.2	115.8	114.8	101.3	194.3
New York	113.3	113.2	112.7	112.4	100.9	187.5
Philadelphia	115.3	115.2	114.9	114.6	101.6	191.9
CITIES PRICED IN JAN., APR., JULY, OCT. ^{4/}						
				October 1952	April 1950	October 1953
Boston	113.8			113.4	101.2	183.2
Kansas City	115.7			115.2	101.4	186.3
Minneapolis	116.6			114.8 ^{5/}	102.1 ^{5/}	193.1
Pittsburgh	114.7			113.4	99.9	195.0
Portland, Ore.	116.1			115.0	101.5	201.1
CITIES PRICED IN MAR., JUNE, SEPT., DEC. ^{4/}						
				September 1952	June 1950	September 1953
Atlanta		117.6		117.0 ^{6/}	101.3 ^{6/}	199.4
Baltimore		115.0		115.0	101.6	197.7
Cincinnati		115.3		113.2	101.2	194.2
St. Louis		117.1		115.5	101.1	195.4
San Francisco		116.9		114.5	100.9	199.8
CITIES PRICED IN FEB., MAY, AUG., NOV. ^{4/}						
				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

^{1/} See General Explanation at end of tables.
^{2/} These are the same indexes shown in columns 1, 2 or 3, converted to a base of 1935-39 = 100.
^{3/} 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.
^{4/} Foods, fuels, rents and a few other items priced monthly; other commodities and services priced quarterly.
^{5/} September 1952 and June 1950; formerly priced March, June, September, December.
^{6/} August 1952 and May 1950; formerly priced February, May, August, November.

TABLE 3. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ^{1/} -- PERCENT CHANGES FROM SEPTEMBER 1953 TO OCTOBER 1953
U.S. Average and Five Cities Priced Monthly
All Items and Commodity Groups

City	All Items	Food ^{2/}	Housing ^{3/}	Apparel ^{4/}	Trans- portation	Medical Care	Personal Care	Reading & Recreation	Other Goods & Services ^{5/}
U.S. AVERAGE	0.2	- 0.2	0.3	0.2	0	0.2	0.3	0.7	1.0
Chicago	0.4	0.3	0.2	0	- 0.3	1.0	- 0.5	0	3.5
Detroit	0.3	- 0.5	0.4	0.4	- 0.3	0.1	- 0.3	2.3	0.8
Los Angeles	0.1	0	0.1	- 0.1	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.2
New York	0.1	- 0.4	0.3	0	0.1	0	0.5	0.7	1.7
Philadelphia	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0.4	0	- 0.7	0	0.1

See footnotes on table 2 and General Explanation at end of tables.

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

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 & Fuel Oil	House-furnishings	Household Operations						
October 1953 Indexes (1947-49 = 100)														
U.S. AVERAGE	115.4	113.6	118.7	126.8	107.0	125.7	108.1	116.6	105.5	130.7	122.8	113.2	108.6	119.7
Boston	113.8	111.6	117.7		105.8	125.7	108.8	109.8	103.6	136.7	124.3	112.3	110.1	117.7
Chicago	117.1	112.8	123.9		99.9	123.9	109.9	120.7	108.4	133.4	122.4	113.7	110.9	116.9
Detroit	117.2	116.1	120.9	133.8	109.6	119.2	111.3	106.9	103.6	126.8	121.5	119.2	112.7	124.6
Kansas City	115.7	111.1	118.5	131.5	104.0	113.2	108.0	121.1	105.3	130.6	119.6	115.9	116.9	118.2
Los Angeles	116.3	113.8	124.1		109.5		109.8	108.1	104.1	127.7	121.0	117.9	103.8	114.6
Minneapolis	116.6	113.4	119.3		110.0	114.8	107.8	117.4	106.6	121.3	137.9	117.1	116.8	124.7
New York	113.3	112.2	115.4		108.8	131.4	107.7	119.3	105.9	134.2	121.6	107.4	107.1	121.1
Philadelphia	115.3	115.8	113.4		102.3	124.3	110.5	113.8	106.5	135.8	120.4	116.1	111.3	122.3
Pittsburgh	114.7	115.0	116.2	121.3	114.5	121.8	106.7	118.4	104.5	140.8	120.8	112.7	97.1	119.6
Portland, Ore.	116.1	113.6	119.8		105.2	127.3	111.3	111.9	106.8	126.5	121.0	111.7	117.0	119.8
Percent Change -- July 1953 to October 1953														
U.S. AVERAGE	0.6	- 0.2	0.8	2.4	0.6	1.6	0	0.8	1.1	0.8	1.1	0.5	1.1	1.2
Boston	0.6	- 0.1	1.1		- 0.5	2.3	- 0.4	0.5	0.2	0	0.6	- 0.4	3.4	1.0
Chicago	1.2	0.1	2.4		- 0.1	1.6	- 0.4	0.3	1.6	- 0.7	1.0	- 0.3	0.5	3.5
Detroit	0.3	- 0.9	1.0	6/ 5.1	1.4	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.4	- 0.5	0.1	0	2.8	0.8
Kansas City	0.3	- 0.7	0.7	6/ 5.4	0.4	0	0.3	0.2	- 0.3	0.1	0.2	- 0.1	6.8	0.2
Los Angeles	0.4	0.9	0.1		0		- 1.2	0.4	0.5	- 0.3	0.7	0.2	1.3	0.8
Minneapolis	0.9	0.6	1.1		0	- 0.3	- 0.1	0.4	2.1	- 0.5	0.4	0.1	0.5	1.1
New York	1.1	0.3	0.6		0.7	2.0	- 0.2	0.4	1.4	4.4	0.9	0.7	1.4	1.9
Philadelphia	0.5	0	0.4		0.5	2.1	0.5	0.5	2.6	0.7	0.1	- 0.1	0.5	0.2
Pittsburgh	0.8	0.2	1.0	6/ 4.5	0.7	1.0	0.1	0.9	1.4	0.1	- 0.4	6.2	2.2	0.6
Portland, Ore.	0.5	- 0.3	0.4		0	0.2	0.2	0.4	2.8	- 0.1	1.3	- 0.1	2.3	1.1

^{1/} through ^{5/}, see footnotes on table 1 and General Explanation at end of tables.
^{6/} Change from April 1953 to October 1953.

TABLE 5. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ^{1/} -- FOOD AND ITS SUBGROUPS
 October 1953 Indexes and Percent Changes, September 1953 to October 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	113.6	- 0.2	113.3	- 0.2	120.4	0.1	111.1	- 2.1	110.1	0.5	107.7	1.0	117.4	0.6
Atlanta	114.6	- 0.1	114.6	- 0.1	115.5	- 1.1	117.9	- 0.8	110.2	0.1	114.9	- 0.8	111.2	1.8
Baltimore	114.0	- 0.6	113.4	- 0.8	116.6	- 0.3	113.0	- 2.3	111.9	- 0.2	108.2	0.5	115.1	- 0.3
Boston	111.6	- 0.3	110.5	- 0.9	118.9	0.2	109.3	- 1.8	111.3	0.6	100.8	- 3.1	110.1	0.2
Chicago	112.8	0.3	112.3	0.3	116.7	0.3	106.3	- 2.0	110.5	0.3	107.8	2.2	125.1	2.1
Cincinnati	116.4	- 0.4	116.4	- 0.5	119.4	- 0.4	114.8	- 3.0	112.0	0.1	110.8	1.1	124.4	1.5
Cleveland	111.5	0.2	111.4	0.2	116.9	- 0.1	107.1	- 2.2	103.0	2.0	104.7	1.9	120.2	1.3
Detroit	116.1	- 0.5	115.2	- 0.9	118.2	- 0.3	110.6	- 3.3	109.6	0.2	114.1	- 0.2	119.0	0.6
Houston	112.4	0.2	112.3	0.3	115.0	0.1	110.9	0.5	110.4	3.2	108.7	- 3.1	114.6	0.4
Kansas City	111.1	- 0.4	110.9	- 0.1	120.2	- 0.2	107.3	- 1.6	103.3	- 0.4	105.4	1.5	114.2	1.0
Los Angeles	113.8	0	112.8	- 0.1	122.3	- 0.2	111.4	- 0.9	103.6	0.1	103.5	0.3	117.7	0.8
Minneapolis	113.4	0.5	113.2	0.5	122.3	0.5	103.9	- 1.9	106.6	- 0.1	115.6	4.1	125.1	1.7
New York	112.2	- 0.4	112.0	- 0.5	125.2	0.3	110.9	- 2.1	103.1	0.5	103.6	0.6	116.1	- 0.3
Philadelphia	115.8	0.1	115.4	- 0.1	120.9	0.1	113.1	- 1.5	114.0	2.6	111.3	0	116.3	- 0.3
Pittsburgh	115.0	- 0.6	114.9	- 0.7	119.3	- 0.4	103.6	- 2.9	112.3	- 0.2	110.7	1.8	126.3	0
Portland, Ore.	113.6	- 0.2	113.5	- 0.4	117.7	0.1	114.2	- 2.6	109.4	0	104.5	1.8	119.4	- 0.1
St. Louis	115.5	- 0.2	114.9	- 0.3	114.9	- 0.6	111.5	- 2.6	106.2	0.1	115.9	2.7	125.0	1.0
San Francisco	114.4	0.3	114.3	0.3	127.3	- 0.4	110.3	- 1.1	110.0	0.1	111.4	3.8	115.7	- 0.3
Scranton	113.3	0.1	113.0	0.2	118.4	1.5	111.0	- 1.5	112.6	0.2	103.6	1.5	116.5	0.3
Seattle	112.0	- 0.5	111.8	- 0.6	122.3	- 0.1	109.5	- 1.8	106.9	0	106.6	1.0	114.6	- 0.7
Washington, D.C.	111.9	- 0.6	111.5	- 0.7	115.0	0	108.2	- 2.6	114.4	- 0.2	105.4	0.9	113.7	- 0.1

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 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. ^{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).

^{1/} 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.

