

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

FEBRUARY 1954

Consumer Prices Decline 0.2 Percent
Between January and February 1954

: This report presents the Consumer Price Index for :
: February 1954 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 re- :
: vision is given in the February 1953 Monthly Labor :
: Review or is available upon request. :

Consumer prices decreased 0.2 percent between January and February, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Food prices were 0.4 percent lower than in January; Transportation declined 0.8 percent; Reading and Recreation, 0.6 percent; Apparel, 0.2 percent; and Other Goods and Services, 0.1 percent. The Housing index rose 0.1 percent, Medical Care was up 0.3 percent, and Personal Care, 0.2 percent.

The All Items index for February was 115.0 percent of the 1947-49 average, 0.3 percent below the peak reached in October 1953; it was 1.4 percent higher than a year ago, and 13.0 percent above the June 1950 level. Converted to a base of 1935-39 = 100, the index was 192.3.

FOOD Retail food prices in February were down an average of 0.4 percent from January levels. Price reductions for fresh vegetables, meats, poultry, milk, and eggs led the decline. The Food index fell to 112.6 (1947-49 = 100), but was still 1.0 percent higher than a year ago and 12.0 percent above the June 1950 index. Of the 46 cities surveyed, 39 reported lower average food prices.

Fruits and Vegetables, on the average, were 2.5 percent lower than in January. Significant price decreases for carrots, lettuce, and tomatoes accounted for most of the 7 percent fall in fresh vegetable prices. Potato prices went up 1.2 percent after a drop of more than 40 percent during the past year. Fresh fruits averaged slightly less in price. Canned and frozen orange juice prices were lower in most cities.

Price decreases reported for poultry and most cuts of beef and pork, with bacon the chief exception, combined to lower the Meats, Poultry and Fish index 0.5 percent between January and February. Declines averaged over 2 1/2 percent for fresh chickens and nearly 1 percent for beef and veal. Lamb, other meats, and fish averaged slightly higher in price.

Lower prices for fresh milk in more than one-third of the cities surveyed were the main reason for the 0.6 percent decline in the Dairy Products index.

The index of Other Foods at Home went up 0.4 percent. Egg prices were lower in most places -- down more than 2 percent for all cities combined. However, the increase in coffee prices during the month averaged over 5 percent, making the total rise since December 1953 about 8 1/2 percent. The U.S. average price for coffee was 99.4 cents per pound in mid-February and there have been reports of further increases since that time.

The Cereals and Bakery Products index was 0.1 percent higher. Restaurant meals were also up slightly.

HOUSING The Housing index increased 0.1 percent during the month. Rents continued their gradual upward movement, advancing 0.1 percent between January and February. The index for Gas and Electricity rose 0.4 percent, reflecting higher rates for electricity. Higher prices for fuel oil were reflected in a rise of 0.4 percent in the index of Solid Fuels and Fuel Oil. The increase of 0.1 percent in Household Operation resulted from higher prices for laundry soap and increased rates for domestic service.

Prices of Housefurnishings remained at the January level, lower than at any time in the last three years. In some cities, prices of housefurnishings returned to regular prices from January sale prices, but traditional sales were extended into February by a number of retailers in other cities. There were increasing reports that mark-down prices were becoming new regular prices.

APPAREL The decline of 0.2 percent in Apparel prices resulted principally from lower prices for women's nylon hose, men's work trousers and overalls, and a number of other apparel items. On the average, prices of women's and girls' clothing declined 0.3 percent, while men's and boys' clothing was unchanged during the month. Some spring apparel came onto the market at prices higher than the end-of-season sale prices last spring. Lower priced lines of spring dresses were reported to be made of better quality fabrics than previously.

OTHER GROUPS The Transportation index declined 0.8 percent, reflecting substantially lower prices for used cars and some downward adjustments in new car prices. Street-car and bus fares were raised in a few cities and auto repairs were slightly higher than a month ago.

The Reading and Recreation index decreased 0.6 percent, due to sale prices for television sets and radios and substantial reductions in motion picture theatre admission charges. Many theatres returned to their regular prices following temporary increases for special features.

The Medical Care index rose 0.3 percent, as prescriptions and hospital services advanced in price. The rise of 0.2 percent in the Personal Care index resulted chiefly from higher prices for toilet soap.

The index for Other Goods and Services declined slightly -- 0.1 percent over the month.

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

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GROUP	February 1954	January 1954	December 1953	February 1953	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	115.2	114.9	113.4	101.8	59.4
FOOD 2/	112.6	113.1	112.3	111.5	100.5	47.1
Food at home	112.0	112.6	111.7	111.1	100.5	47.1
Cereals and bakery products	121.3	121.2	120.9	117.6	102.7	57.2
Meats, poultry and fish	109.7	110.2	107.8	107.7	106.1	41.6
Dairy products	109.0	109.7	110.3	110.7	92.3	49.8
Fruits and vegetables	108.0	110.8	109.2	115.9	102.5	46.3
Other foods at home	114.0	113.5	113.5	107.3	94.1	6/
HOUSING 3/	118.9	118.8	118.9	116.6	104.9	6/
Rent	127.9	127.8	127.6	121.5	108.7	86.6
Gas and Electricity	107.5	107.1	107.2	106.1	102.7	104.9
Solid fuels and fuel oil	126.2	125.7	125.3	123.3	107.6	56.4
Housefurnishings	107.2	107.2	108.1	108.0	97.4	53.4
Household operation	117.3	117.2	117.0	113.5	99.6	6/
APPAREL 4/	104.7	104.9	105.3	104.6	96.5	52.5
TRANSPORTATION	129.4	130.5	128.9	129.1	109.9	6/
MEDICAL CARE	124.1	123.7	123.6	119.3	105.4	6/
PERSONAL CARE	113.9	113.7	113.6	112.5	99.2	6/
READING AND RECREATION	108.0	108.7	108.9	107.5	102.5	6/
OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES 5/	120.2	120.3	120.3	115.8	103.7	6/

PERCENT CHANGE TO FEBRUARY 1954 FROM:

	January 1954	December 1953	February 1953	June 1950	Year 1939
ALL ITEMS	- 0.2	0.1	1.4	13.0	93.6
FOOD 2/	- 0.4	0.3	1.0	12.0	139.1
Food at home	- 0.5	0.3	0.8	11.4	137.8
Cereals and bakery products	0.1	0.3	3.1	18.1	112.1
Meats, poultry and fish	- 0.5	1.8	1.9	3.4	163.7
Dairy products	- 0.6	- 1.2	- 1.5	18.1	118.9
Fruits and vegetables	- 2.5	- 1.1	- 6.8	5.4	133.3
Other foods at home	0.4	0.4	6.2	21.1	135.5 7/
HOUSING 3/	0.1	0	2.0	13.3	56.2 7/
Rent	0.1	0.2	5.3	17.7	47.7
Gas and electricity	0.4	0.3	1.3	4.7	2.5
Solid fuels and fuel oil	0.4	0.7	2.4	17.3	123.8
Housefurnishings	0	- 0.8	- 0.7	10.1	100.7
Household operation	0.1	0.3	3.3	17.8	71.5 7/
APPAREL 4/	- 0.2	- 0.6	0.1	8.5	99.4
TRANSPORTATION	- 0.8	0.4	0.2	17.7	87.8 7/
MEDICAL CARE	0.3	0.4	4.0	17.7	70.9 7/
PERSONAL CARE	0.2	0.3	1.2	14.8	91.1 7/
READING AND RECREATION	- 0.6	- 0.8	0.5	5.4	71.4 7/
OTHER GOODS AND SERVICES 5/	- 0.1	- 0.1	3.8	15.9	70.3 7/

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)
	February 1954	January 1954	December 1953	February 1953	June 1950	February ^{2/} 1954
U. S. AVERAGE ^{3/}	115.0	115.2	114.9	113.4	101.8	192.3
CITIES PRICED MONTHLY:						
Chicago	116.7	116.7	116.4	113.9	102.8	198.7
Detroit	116.4	117.0	116.4	115.1	102.8	196.5
Los Angeles	116.6	116.8	115.8	114.9	101.3	194.8
New York	112.8	113.0	113.0	111.1	100.9	186.7
Philadelphia	115.2	115.3	115.0	113.7	101.6	191.7
CITIES PRICED IN JAN., APR., JULY, OCT. ^{4/}				January 1953	April 1950	January 1954
Boston		112.7		112.1	101.2	181.4
Kansas City		115.0		114.3	101.4	185.2
Minneapolis		116.6		114.4	102.1 ^{5/}	193.1
Pittsburgh		114.4		112.6	99.9	194.5
Portland, Ore.		115.4		114.6	101.5	199.9
CITIES PRICED IN MAR., JUNE, SEPT., DEC. ^{4/}				December 1952	June 1950	December 1953
Atlanta			117.1	117.1 ^{6/}	101.3 ^{6/}	198.6
Baltimore			114.5	114.4	101.6	196.8
Cincinnati			114.6	112.5	101.2	193.0
St. Louis			116.9	114.9	101.1	195.1
San Francisco			116.9	115.6	100.9	199.8
CITIES PRICED IN FEB., MAY, AUG., NOV. ^{4/}				February 1953	May 1950	February 1954
Cleveland	115.2			112.5	100.4	196.3
Houston	116.9			116.1	103.5	197.9
Scranton	113.2			112.2	100.2	188.1
Seattle	116.2			114.6	102.0	198.6
Washington, D. C.	114.1			113.0	101.6	187.4

^{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/} June 1950; formerly priced March, June, September, December.

^{6/} November 1952 and May 1950; formerly priced February, May, August, November.

TABLE 3. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ^{1/} -- PERCENT CHANGES FROM JANUARY 1954 TO FEBRUARY 1954
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	- 0.4	0.1	- 0.2	- 0.8	0.3	0.2	- 0.6	- 0.1
Chicago	0	- 0.2	0.5	0.3	- 0.7	0	0	- 0.6	- 0.1
Detroit	- 0.5	- 0.4	0.3	0.1	- 3.0	0.2	0.1	- 1.4	- 0.2
Los Angeles	- 0.2	0.1	- 0.2	0.4	- 0.5	0	- 0.2	- 1.8	- 0.9
New York	- 0.2	- 0.3	0	0.1	- 0.4	- 0.3	0.3	- 0.8	0
Philadelphia	- 0.1	- 0.7	0.2	- 0.1	0.8	0.4	0	0	- 0.1

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

TABLE 4. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX 1/ -- ALL ITEMS AND COMMODITY GROUPS
February 1954 Indexes and Percent Changes, November 1953 to February 1954
U.S. Average and 10 Cities Priced in February

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City	All Items	Total Food	Housing					Apparel	Trans- porta- tion	Medi- cal Care	Per- sonal Care	Read- ing & Recre- ation	Other Goods & Ser- vices	
			Total	Rent	Gas & Elec- tri- city	Solid Fuels & Fuel Oil	House- fur- nish- ings							House- hold Opera- tion
		2/	3/						4/				5/	
February 1954 Indexes (1947-49 = 100)														
U. S. AVERAGE	115.0	112.6	118.9	127.9	107.5	126.2	107.2	117.3	104.7	129.4	124.1	113.9	108.0	120.2
Chicago	116.7	111.2	124.9		106.0	124.5	109.3	121.0	108.1	132.8	122.8	114.2	108.0	118.9
Cleveland	115.2	110.5	119.1	138.8	106.8	124.3	104.0	111.4	104.7	123.1	129.2	115.0	117.3	119.8
Detroit	116.4	114.7	122.0		110.6	119.4	110.1	109.9	103.1	121.7	122.3	119.9	110.5	124.9
Houston	116.9	112.9	123.6	138.3	106.5		102.2	129.0	106.5	125.5	119.2	120.3	112.0	119.6
Los Angeles	116.6	114.3	124.3		109.5		108.6	108.4	104.2	128.4	121.1	117.9	101.6	115.4
New York	112.8	110.6	115.3		108.7	133.4	107.1	119.3	104.9	135.1	123.2	108.6	107.6	121.2
Philadelphia	115.2	114.5	113.6	114.5	102.3	124.0	109.7	113.6	106.1	137.2	123.8	117.2	110.5	122.8
Scranton	113.2	112.5	116.4		112.2	139.9	102.3	107.6	106.4	128.4	119.6	113.0	117.7	116.3
Seattle	116.2	112.1	118.3	134.8	88.5	127.3	106.1	111.5	106.0	132.9	129.5	111.3	111.0	127.2
Washington, D. C.	114.1	110.9	117.7		118.1	133.3	108.2	114.7	103.4	128.1	117.1	112.4	110.5	127.2

Percent Change -- November 1953 to February 1954

U. S. AVERAGE	0	0.5	0	0.5	0.2	0.2	- 1.0	0.3	- 0.8	- 0.5	0.6	0.4	- 0.8	0
Chicago	0.3	0.7	0.6		6.1	0.5	- 0.8	0.2	- 0.3	0	0.1	0.2	- 1.2	- 0.3
Cleveland	- 0.3	0	- 0.3	6/ 6.2	0	0.4	- 1.5	0.5	- 0.3	- 0.7	1.3	0.4	- 1.8	- 0.2
Detroit	- 0.3	0.3	0.7		0.5	0.2	- 0.8	2.8	- 0.3	- 3.6	0.2	0	- 2.0	- 0.2
Houston	- 0.3	0.9	- 0.4	6/ 0.6	0		- 1.5	0.1	- 1.5	- 1.1	0	0.2	- 2.5	0.2
Los Angeles	0.4	1.4	- 0.3		0		- 1.5	0.3	0.2	0.7	0	0	- 1.4	0.5
New York	- 0.1	- 0.1	- 0.2		- 0.2	1.2	- 0.6	0.1	- 0.9	1.2	- 0.2	0.8	- 1.5	0.2
Philadelphia	0.4	0.4	0.3	6/ 1.2	0	- 0.2	- 0.5	0.4	- 0.7	1.3	2.8	0.3	- 0.3	- 0.1
Scranton	- 0.2	0.8	0.1		0	0	- 1.0	- 0.2	- 0.4	- 1.5	0.1	0.3	- 6.1	0.7
Seattle	- 0.2	1.2	- 0.5	6/ 1.4	-10.6	0.2	- 1.7	0	- 1.2	0.2	0	0.2	- 3.6	0
Washington, D. C.	- 0.2	0.3	- 0.5		0	- 0.5	- 1.9	0.3	- 0.4	- 0.2	- 0.7	0.7	- 0.8	0

1/through 5/, see footnotes on table 1, and General Explanation at end of tables.
6/ Change from August 1953 to February 1954.

TABLE 5. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX 1/ -- FOOD AND ITS SUBGROUPS
February 1954 Indexes and Percent Changes, January 1954 to February 1954
U. S. Average and 20 Large Cities
(1947-49 = 100)

City	Total Food 2/		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	112.6	- 0.4	112.0	- 0.5	121.3	0.1	109.7	- 0.5	109.0	- 0.6	108.0	- 2.5	114.0	0.4
Atlanta	112.5	- 0.6	112.0	- 0.6	115.8	0.6	117.0	- 0.3	109.8	- 0.1	105.8	- 4.4	107.8	0.3
Baltimore	113.6	0	113.0	0	121.1	0.2	112.4	- 0.4	112.1	- 0.1	107.4	- 0.1	112.1	0.6
Boston	109.5	- 0.4	108.1	- 0.5	119.1	0	104.9	- 1.7	109.9	- 1.2	101.0	- 0.5	106.6	1.6
Chicago	111.2	- 0.2	110.0	- 0.4	117.3	0.1	104.9	- 0.6	108.1	- 0.7	105.9	- 1.9	119.3	0.8
Cincinnati	114.9	- 0.8	114.5	- 0.9	121.1	0	114.1	- 0.9	111.5	- 0.4	107.3	- 3.0	119.1	-0.1
Cleveland	110.5	- 0.7	109.7	- 0.9	118.4	0	106.6	- 0.5	105.0	- 3.0	102.0	- 3.4	117.0	1.3
Detroit	114.7	- 0.4	113.6	- 0.7	118.0	0	108.6	- 0.6	108.6	- 1.0	114.3	- 3.5	115.6	1.5
Houston	112.9	- 0.2	112.0	- 0.4	118.5	0.1	107.9	- 0.1	110.7	0.3	110.9	- 2.5	113.5	-0.4
Kansas City	108.3	- 1.5	107.8	- 1.7	120.4	- 0.1	105.2	- 1.7	104.4	- 3.5	101.2	- 3.7	109.3	-0.4
Los Angeles	114.3	0.1	113.1	0.1	122.7	0.1	111.0	- 0.4	105.4	- 0.2	112.8	- 1.0	114.5	1.4
Minneapolis	112.8	- 0.1	112.6	0	124.8	0.2	103.0	- 0.4	106.6	- 0.1	118.4	- 0.8	120.0	0.9
New York	110.6	- 0.3	110.4	- 0.4	125.7	0.2	108.8	0.1	107.8	- 0.9	101.2	- 3.2	113.4	1.1
Philadelphia	114.5	- 0.7	113.7	- 0.8	121.5	0.2	112.0	- 1.5	111.1	- 0.2	109.9	- 2.6	113.0	0.2
Pittsburgh	113.4	0	113.0	0	121.6	2.0	105.2	- 0.3	112.4	- 0.2	107.2	- 2.4	123.6	1.0
Portland, Ore.	113.5	0.4	113.6	0.4	116.9	0.1	115.3	0.9	109.1	0	111.4	- 0.2	114.4	1.0
St. Louis	115.2	- 0.9	114.2	- 1.0	117.0	0.1	111.2	- 1.2	103.5	- 0.4	115.5	- 3.8	123.1	0.2
San Francisco	113.4	- 0.6	112.9	- 0.7	127.4	- 0.1	109.2	1.1	107.1	- 2.6	116.3	- 1.6	110.6	-1.1
Scranton	112.5	0.3	112.2	0.3	119.2	- 0.1	109.5	- 0.7	112.7	0.1	105.6	1.5	112.8	0.9
Seattle	112.1	0.2	111.9	0.2	122.0	0.2	110.1	1.8	105.9	- 0.3	113.9	- 2.3	110.1	0.5
Washington, D.C.	110.9	- 0.6	110.3	- 0.7	118.1	0.1	105.2	- 2.2	114.1	0	104.4	- 2.2	111.6	1.3

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.

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