

It is notable that the 1948 survey of family expenditure indicated that the major economic changes during the decade 1938-1948 did not influence the percentage distribution of family expenditure as greatly as might have been expected. The following statement provides a comparison of the base period group weights of the two indexes.

GROUP BASE WEIGHTS OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AND THE COST-OF-LIVING INDEX

Budget Group	Consumer Price Index	Cost-of-Living Index
	p.c.	p.c.
Foods	32	31
Clothing	11	12
Shelter	15	19
Household operation	17	15
Fuel and light	—	6
Home furnishings and services	—	9
Other commodities and services	25	—
Miscellaneous	—	23
TOTALS	100	100

The Consumer Price Index and Prices of Staple Foods.—The Consumer Price Index rose steadily throughout 1951 from 107.7 as at January of that year to a post-war peak of 118.2 for January 1952. During this period, all groups of the Consumer Price Index advanced, with foods showing the sharpest increase from 109.0 to 122.4. In 1952, the index declined steadily until May, and remained fairly stable between that date and October 1952.

4.—Consumer Price Index, 1942-51 and by Months, January 1951 to October 1952

(1949=100)

Year and Month	Food	Shelter	Clothing	Household Operation	Other Commodities and Services	Total Consumer Price Index
1942.....	63.4	90.7	65.8	76.0	82.0	72.9
1943.....	65.2	90.9	66.1	76.1	84.8	74.2
1944.....	65.5	91.2	66.6	75.7	86.1	74.6
1945.....	66.3	91.4	66.9	74.9	86.4	75.0
1946.....	70.0	91.8	69.2	77.2	88.7	77.5
1947.....	79.5	95.1	78.9	86.2	91.6	84.8
1948.....	97.5	98.3	95.6	96.8	96.5	97.0
1949.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1950.....	102.6	106.2	99.7	102.4	103.1	102.9
1951.....	117.0	114.4	109.8	113.1	111.5	113.7
1951						
January.....	109.0	110.0	102.6	107.1	107.4	107.7
February.....	111.0	110.4	105.1	108.6	108.0	109.1
March.....	114.1	111.5	106.7	110.5	108.3	110.8
April.....	115.5	111.8	108.5	111.4	108.6	111.7
May.....	114.3	112.4	109.0	112.7	110.4	112.2
June.....	115.8	115.2	109.5	113.8	111.8	113.7
July.....	117.9	115.5	109.7	114.3	112.2	114.6
August.....	119.0	115.8	110.7	115.1	113.4	115.5
September.....	120.5	117.2	111.9	115.5	113.6	116.5
October.....	121.3	117.2	114.1	115.8	114.1	117.1
November.....	122.5	118.2	114.5	115.9	114.8	117.9
December.....	122.5	118.2	115.2	116.4	115.0	118.1
1952						
January.....	122.4	118.3	114.9	116.4	115.5	118.2
February.....	120.8	118.3	113.5	116.3	115.8	117.6
March.....	117.6	119.1	112.9	116.9	116.4	116.9
April.....	117.2	119.4	112.5	116.8	116.6	116.8
May.....	115.5	119.6	112.3	116.2	115.6	115.9
June.....	115.7	120.4	111.8	115.9	115.7	116.0
July.....	116.0	120.6	111.7	115.9	115.6	116.1
August.....	115.7	120.6	111.6	115.8	115.8	116.0
September.....	115.8	121.2	110.9	116.0	115.8	116.1
October.....	115.1	121.5	109.9	116.2	116.4	116.0