

The figures represent available supplies, including production and imports, adjusted for change of stocks, exports, marketing losses and industrial uses. All calculations have been made at the retail stage of distribution, except for meats where the figures are worked out at the wholesale stage. The amount of food actually eaten would be somewhat lower than indicated because of losses and waste occurring after the products reached the hands of the consumer. It should also be pointed out that there are minor inaccuracies in certain of the figures since statistics of storage stocks in the hands of retailers and consumers were not available.

All basic foods have been classified under 13 main commodity groups. Totals for each group have been computed using common denominators for the group, for example: milk solids (dry weight) in the dairy products group; fat content for fats and oils; and fresh equivalent for fruits. All foods have been included in their basic form, that is, as flour, fat, sugar, etc., rather than in more highly manufactured forms.

The series in Table 45 represents the official estimates of yearly supplies of food moving into consumption, expressed in pounds per capita, for the years 1935-39 as an average for comparison with the years 1954, 1955 and 1956.

