

Details of weighting and construction and historical series may be found in the special bulletins* prepared at the time the indexes were first published. More recently the composite indexes have been calculated on an annual basis back to 1913; current indexes are published monthly in DBS Bulletin *Prices and Price Indexes*.

Advances and declines in building material prices in 1957 cancelled each other out so that the index remained fairly steady throughout the year. The residential building material index showed a fractional drop and the non-residential series moved up 2 p.c.

* *Price Index Numbers of Residential Building Materials 1926 to 1948* and DBS Reference Paper No. 43, *Non-residential Building Materials, Price Index, 1935-1952*.

2.—Annual Price Index Numbers of Residential Building Materials 1950-57 and Monthly Indexes 1956 and 1957

(1935-39=100)

| Year and Month | Composite Index (1949=100) ¹ | Composite Index | Principal Components | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| | | | Cement, Sand and Gravel | Brick, Tile and Stone | Lumber and its Products | Lath, Plaster and Insulation | Roofing Material | Paint and Glass | Plumbing and Heating Equipment | Electrical Equipment and Fixtures | Other Materials |
| GROUP WEIGHT AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL..... | ... | ... | 42.6 | 18.6 | 11.3 | 7.6 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 3.8 | 3.2 | 2.9 |
| 1950..... | 106.4 | 242.7 | 131.3 | 163.8 | 349.2 | 116.7 | 235.4 | 174.8 | 183.2 | 184.5 | 181.1 |
| 1951..... | 125.5 | 286.2 | 140.9 | 180.7 | 425.0 | 126.3 | 235.8 | 197.8 | 210.4 | 213.3 | 212.7 |
| 1952..... | 124.9 | 284.8 | 149.5 | 195.3 | 415.7 | 128.5 | 217.7 | 194.9 | 215.6 | 212.0 | 226.3 |
| 1953..... | 123.9 | 282.6 | 151.8 | 205.8 | 410.6 | 128.5 | 218.6 | 203.8 | 209.0 | 211.4 | 229.5 |
| 1954..... | 121.7 | 277.5 | 151.3 | 207.4 | 400.5 | 128.8 | 233.4 | 208.9 | 202.8 | 207.7 | 226.6 |
| 1955..... | 124.3 | 283.4 | 149.4 | 209.5 | 409.4 | 125.3 | 244.5 | 219.7 | 207.2 | 229.2 | 230.3 |
| 1956..... | 128.5 | 292.9 | 149.7 | 218.8 | 420.2 | 130.8 | 259.6 | 226.9 | 217.9 | 243.7 | 243.7 |
| 1957..... | 128.4 | 292.8 | 153.6 | 223.8 | 415.2 | 136.9 | 253.3 | 225.4 | 227.6 | 209.2 | 253.8 |
| 1956 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January..... | 127.1 | 289.9 | 149.6 | 209.3 | 416.7 | 127.3 | 261.2 | 228.0 | 214.1 | 248.4 | 238.8 |
| February..... | 127.1 | 289.9 | 149.6 | 209.3 | 416.6 | 127.3 | 261.2 | 226.3 | 214.6 | 248.4 | 238.8 |
| March..... | 127.9 | 291.6 | 149.6 | 216.8 | 419.4 | 127.3 | 254.3 | 226.3 | 214.6 | 256.0 | 241.0 |
| April..... | 128.8 | 293.7 | 149.6 | 216.8 | 423.4 | 130.0 | 253.9 | 228.0 | 214.6 | 256.4 | 241.0 |
| May..... | 129.1 | 294.4 | 149.3 | 221.3 | 424.6 | 130.0 | 253.9 | 228.0 | 214.6 | 256.3 | 241.0 |
| June..... | 129.0 | 294.1 | 149.3 | 221.3 | 423.2 | 130.6 | 264.8 | 226.7 | 216.6 | 255.6 | 241.0 |
| July..... | 129.0 | 294.2 | 149.8 | 221.3 | 423.6 | 132.9 | 264.8 | 226.7 | 216.1 | 233.3 | 241.0 |
| August..... | 129.0 | 294.2 | 149.8 | 221.3 | 421.5 | 132.9 | 264.8 | 226.7 | 219.9 | 238.3 | 244.0 |
| September..... | 128.7 | 293.5 | 149.8 | 221.3 | 418.8 | 132.9 | 264.8 | 226.7 | 221.5 | 237.9 | 248.5 |
| October..... | 128.8 | 293.6 | 149.8 | 222.2 | 418.4 | 132.9 | 261.6 | 226.7 | 223.0 | 237.1 | 248.5 |
| November..... | 128.7 | 293.4 | 149.8 | 222.2 | 418.8 | 132.9 | 255.2 | 226.7 | 223.8 | 225.9 | 250.4 |
| December..... | 128.4 | 292.7 | 150.4 | 222.2 | 417.6 | 132.9 | 255.2 | 225.8 | 223.0 | 225.4 | 250.4 |
| 1957 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January..... | 128.8 | 293.6 | 152.8 | 225.5 | 418.9 | 132.9 | 255.2 | 225.6 | 223.0 | 225.1 | 250.4 |
| February..... | 128.8 | 293.7 | 153.8 | 225.5 | 417.8 | 133.0 | 255.2 | 224.3 | 225.7 | 218.9 | 255.6 |
| March..... | 128.9 | 293.8 | 153.8 | 223.5 | 418.4 | 133.0 | 258.7 | 223.9 | 226.3 | 213.9 | 255.6 |
| April..... | 128.9 | 293.9 | 153.3 | 223.5 | 418.5 | 134.0 | 255.5 | 223.9 | 226.6 | 213.9 | 255.6 |
| May..... | 129.3 | 294.8 | 153.7 | 223.5 | 418.9 | 138.7 | 255.5 | 223.9 | 227.7 | 213.9 | 254.1 |
| June..... | 129.1 | 294.3 | 153.7 | 223.5 | 418.0 | 138.7 | 255.5 | 223.9 | 227.7 | 213.6 | 253.3 |
| July..... | 129.1 | 294.3 | 153.7 | 223.5 | 417.6 | 138.7 | 255.5 | 228.0 | 229.3 | 206.2 | 252.6 |
| August..... | 128.8 | 293.6 | 153.7 | 223.5 | 416.5 | 138.7 | 252.3 | 226.3 | 229.4 | 203.8 | 252.6 |
| September..... | 128.4 | 292.7 | 153.7 | 223.5 | 414.5 | 138.7 | 252.3 | 226.3 | 229.4 | 200.2 | 254.0 |
| October..... | 127.8 | 291.4 | 153.7 | 223.5 | 411.3 | 138.7 | 252.3 | 226.3 | 229.4 | 201.3 | 254.0 |
| November..... | 126.6 | 288.7 | 153.7 | 223.5 | 406.2 | 138.7 | 245.9 | 226.3 | 228.1 | 200.5 | 254.0 |
| December..... | 126.5 | 288.5 | 154.0 | 223.5 | 405.9 | 138.7 | 245.9 | 226.3 | 228.1 | 198.6 | 254.0 |

¹ Arithmetically converted to base 1949=100 for comparability with price indexes of non-residential building