

Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities.—Revised regional consumer price indexes were released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in November 1953 for nine cities or city combinations. The new series, which replace the cost-of-living indexes for eight regional cities, appear in Table 7. The index for St. John's, Nfld., which was prepared subsequent to the date Newfoundland joined Confederation, is calculated on the base June 1951=100 and is shown in Table 7 on that base.

The construction of each regional consumer price index involved three main phases: (1) the conversion of an existing cost-of-living index inclusive of all tobacco taxes, from the base August 1939=100 to the base 1949=100, up to and including Sept. 1, 1953; (2) the calculation of an entirely new index incorporating a revised weighting system and price sample, on the base Sept. 1, 1953=100; and (3) the linking of the new series to the converted series as at Sept. 1, 1953, to form a continuous index on the base 1949=100.

The regional indexes are not designed to show whether it costs more or less to live in one city than in another, and should not be used for that purpose. Their function is to measure percentage changes in retail prices—over a certain time in each city or city combination—of a fixed basket of goods and services representing the level of consumption of a particular group of families.

7.—Consumer Price Indexes for Regional Cities, Annually 1945-54, and Monthly, 1953 and 1954

(1949=100)

Year and Month	St. John's, Nfld. ¹	Halifax, N.S.	Saint John, N.B.	Montreal, Que.	Ottawa, Ont.	Toronto, Ont.	Winnipeg, Man.	Saskatoon-Regina, Sask.	Edmonton-Calgary, Alta.	Vancouver, B.C.
1945.....	...	77.6	75.8	74.4	73.8	75.3	75.2	74.0	75.3	73.6
1946.....	...	79.6	77.9	76.9	76.5	77.9	77.5	76.6	77.8	75.9
1947.....	...	86.3	84.6	84.3	84.5	85.5	84.3	84.4	84.6	83.3
1948.....	...	96.8	97.0	96.6	96.5	97.0	95.8	96.9	96.1	96.0
1949.....	..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1950.....	..	102.1	103.3	103.7	103.1	104.1	103.8	102.2	103.9	103.6
1951.....	..	112.1	114.1	116.1	115.3	115.4	114.6	111.7	113.5	114.3
1952.....	103.5	115.3	117.4	117.6	116.8	117.5	116.1	112.8	114.8	117.4
1953.....	102.2	113.2	115.3	116.3	115.0	116.8	114.4	113.1	114.0	116.1
1954.....	102.8	114.1	116.6	116.8	116.2	118.3	115.3	114.2	114.9	117.4
1953										
January.....	102.4	112.8	114.7	115.7	114.4	115.9	113.7	111.9	112.6	116.2
February.....	102.3	113.1	114.8	116.2	114.8	116.0	114.1	112.1	112.6	115.7
March.....	101.3	112.9	114.5	115.8	114.3	115.9	113.7	112.2	113.0	115.5
April.....	101.5	112.7	114.6	114.8	114.3	115.7	113.9	112.3	113.1	115.6
May.....	101.1	112.2	114.4	114.9	113.7	115.7	113.6	112.1	113.2	115.7
June.....	101.2	112.7	114.9	116.0	114.7	116.5	114.1	112.9	114.0	115.8
July.....	101.9	113.7	115.8	117.3	115.2	117.2	115.2	113.9	114.7	116.5
August.....	102.9	114.2	116.7	117.0	115.4	117.5	115.0	114.2	115.3	116.0
September.....	102.8	113.8	116.1	116.5	115.5	117.6	114.7	113.8	115.1	116.2
October.....	102.8	114.0	116.1	117.4	116.4	118.4	115.0	114.3	115.3	116.7
November.....	103.1	113.6	115.9	117.0	116.0	117.8	115.2	113.7	114.9	116.5
December.....	102.7	113.2	115.5	116.7	115.5	117.6	114.7	113.3	114.5	116.3
1954										
January.....	102.6	113.2	115.4	116.7	115.3	117.7	114.9	113.2	114.4	116.2
February.....	102.4	113.8	115.8	116.8	115.5	117.6	115.0	113.5	114.3	116.4
March.....	102.2	113.7	116.2	116.3	115.3	117.4	114.7	113.7	114.4	116.3
April.....	102.0	113.8	115.9	116.3	115.5	117.7	114.9	113.6	114.3	116.9
May.....	102.2	113.6	115.8	116.3	115.5	117.7	114.8	113.5	114.4	116.9
June.....	102.5	113.9	116.2	117.0	116.1	118.2	115.3	114.1	114.8	117.1
July.....	102.6	113.8	116.2	117.2	116.4	118.8	115.5	114.1	114.8	117.0
August.....	104.4	115.3	117.6	117.2	117.0	119.0	116.4	115.3	115.4	118.1
September.....	103.4	114.8	117.7	116.6	116.9	118.8	115.7	115.1	115.7	118.1
October.....	103.0	114.6	117.6	117.0	117.3	118.9	115.5	115.2	115.6	118.6
November.....	102.8	114.5	117.5	117.1	117.2	118.9	115.7	114.8	115.3	118.6
December.....	102.9	114.5	117.5	117.0	117.0	118.8	115.5	113.9	115.0	118.3

¹ Explanation of methods used in compiling St. John's, Nfld., index (June 1951=100) is given in DBS Reference Paper No. 28.