

Tables 2 and 3 show annual composite and group indexes from 1950 and monthly from January 1954. The groups in each table from left to right are in descending order of importance in the total index, as indicated by the weight of the group given as a percentage of the total. For comparison purposes the residential building materials price index is also shown converted arithmetically to the base 1949=100.

The advance in the two indexes (1949=100) from December 1954 to December 1955 was 3.1 and 3.8 p.c. respectively for the residential and non-residential series. Within the various components, price increases in the heavily weighted lumber items were largely responsible for the upward movement in residential building materials, whereas the non-residential building materials index reflected the earlier steadiness, followed by later increases in the two most important groups—plumbing, heating and other equipment, and steel and metal work.

## 2.—Annual Price Index Numbers of Residential Building Materials 1950-55 and Monthly Indexes 1954 and 1955

(1935-39=100)

Year and Month	Composite Index (1949=100) <sup>1</sup>	Composite Index	Principal Components								Other Materials
			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	
<b>GROUP WEIGHT AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL.....</b>	...	...	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
<b>1954</b>											
January.....	121.5	277.1	152.5	207.4	400.2	127.7	222.9	206.5	203.5	207.3	227.5
February.....	121.2	276.4	152.5	207.4	398.3	127.7	226.2	206.5	203.5	205.8	227.2
March.....	121.0	275.9	152.5	207.4	397.3	129.2	226.2	206.5	203.3	203.3	227.2
April.....	121.1	276.1	151.7	207.4	397.3	129.2	226.1	205.2	203.8	208.8	227.2
May.....	121.0	275.9	151.1	207.4	397.4	129.2	226.1	206.9	202.2	208.8	227.2
June.....	121.6	277.3	151.1	207.4	400.4	129.2	229.3	208.2	202.1	209.4	227.8
July.....	122.0	278.2	151.1	207.4	402.4	129.2	235.8	209.5	200.9	209.4	227.8
August.....	122.0	278.1	151.1	207.4	402.5	129.2	235.8	210.8	200.9	208.0	224.7
September.....	122.2	278.7	151.1	207.4	402.5	129.2	242.2	210.8	203.0	208.0	225.5
October.....	122.2	278.7	151.1	207.4	402.5	129.2	242.2	211.2	203.0	208.0	225.5
November.....	122.2	278.6	151.1	207.4	401.9	129.2	242.2	211.7	203.6	208.0	225.5
December.....	122.3	278.9	149.1	207.4	403.3	126.9	245.4	212.5	203.6	208.0	225.5
<b>1955</b>											
January.....	122.3	278.8	149.6	210.0	403.6	125.1	239.0	212.5	203.6	208.0	225.5
February.....	122.5	279.3	149.6	210.0	404.0	124.5	239.0	214.8	203.7	215.5	225.5
March.....	122.6	279.4	149.6	210.0	403.5	124.5	239.0	215.3	204.9	216.8	227.4
April.....	123.1	280.6	149.6	210.0	404.4	124.5	239.0	222.0	206.6	224.6	227.4
May.....	123.1	280.7	149.3	209.3	405.1	124.5	239.0	220.7	206.6	224.6	225.0
June.....	124.3	283.3	149.3	209.3	410.3	125.1	246.7	220.7	206.4	226.1	225.9
July.....	124.6	284.2	149.3	209.3	412.3	125.1	248.7	220.7	206.4	225.1	226.6
August.....	125.2	285.5	149.3	209.3	413.7	125.1	248.7	219.8	208.6	225.1	232.1
September.....	125.9	287.0	149.3	209.3	414.6	126.2	248.7	219.8	209.5	244.9	234.5
October.....	125.9	287.0	149.3	209.3	413.9	126.2	248.7	223.1	209.5	245.3	237.8
November.....	125.8	286.8	149.3	209.3	412.8	126.2	248.7	223.1	210.3	247.5	238.0
December.....	126.1	287.8	149.6	209.3	414.6	126.2	248.7	223.9	210.3	247.5	238.0

<sup>1</sup> Arithmetically converted to base 1949=100 for comparability with price indexes of non-residential building materials shown in Table 3.