

## Contents

|                                                                                                                                                                 |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| What the index is .....                                                                                                                                         | Page |
| The meaning of the index measurement .....                                                                                                                      | 1    |
| Uses of the index .....                                                                                                                                         | 2    |
| Brief history of the index .....                                                                                                                                | 2    |
| The market basket .....                                                                                                                                         | 3    |
| Price data collection .....                                                                                                                                     | 3    |
| Index calculation .....                                                                                                                                         | 4    |
| Limitations of the index .....                                                                                                                                  | 4    |
| Explanations of the index formula .....                                                                                                                         | 5    |
| Tables:                                                                                                                                                         | 7    |
| 1. Cities, population weights, and pricing<br>schedule for the revised Consumer Price Index .....                                                               | 9    |
| 2. Groups of goods and services priced<br>for the revised Consumer Price Index, their<br>December 1963 relative importance, and number<br>of items priced ..... | 11   |

September 1964