

THE BUSINESS REVIEW

THIRD FEDERAL
PHILADELPHIA



RESERVE DISTRICT
SEPTEMBER 1, 1937

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF PHILADELPHIA

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
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Business and Banking Conditions in the United States

Total volume of industrial production and distribution of commodities to consumers showed little change from June to July, when allowance is made for the usual summer declines.

Production and employment. The Board's seasonally adjusted index of industrial production was 114 per cent of the 1923-1925 average in July, the same as in June and 4 points lower than in March, April, and May. At steel mills, where output in June had been curtailed by strikes, activity increased considerably in the early part of July and was maintained at the higher level between the middle of July and the third week of August. Lumber production also increased in July, while output of plate glass showed a substantial decrease. Automobile assemblies declined seasonally. Output of non-durable manufactures decreased considerably, owing largely to a marked decline in activity at cotton and woolen textile mills. Meat packing also declined, while flour milling and sugar refining increased. At mines, output of anthracite was reduced in July, while output of most other minerals showed little change.

Construction contracts awarded, as

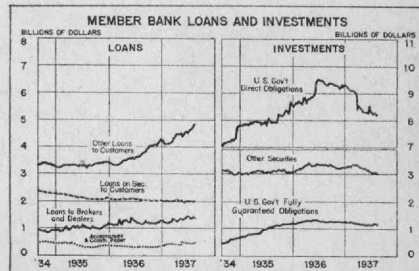
reported by the F. W. Dodge Corporation, were maintained in July at the level reached in June. Non-residential construction expanded further, reflecting principally a large volume of awards for iron and steel plants and for railroad projects. Residential building showed a seasonal decline.

Factory employment increased somewhat from the middle of June to the middle of July, when a decline is usual, and factory payrolls decreased less than seasonally. The largest increases in employment were in the steel industry and in the food industries, particularly at canning factories. Other manufacturing industries as a group showed somewhat less than the usual seasonal decline.

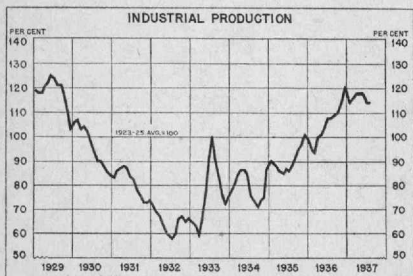
Agriculture. A cotton crop of 15,593,000 bales, representing an increase of 3,200,000 bales over last season, was forecast by the Department of Agriculture on the basis of August 1 conditions. Official estimates indicate that other major crops will be considerably larger than last season and about equal to the average for 1928-1932. Preliminary estimates by the Department of Agriculture indicate that cash

farm income, including government payments, will total \$9,000,000,000 for the calendar year 1937, an increase of 14 per cent over 1936.

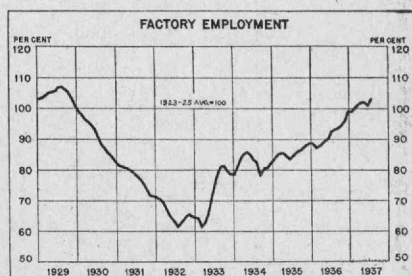
Distribution. Distribution of commodities to consumers in July continued at the level of other recent months, when allowance is made for the usual summer decline. Sales at department stores and variety stores showed slightly less than the seasonal decrease in July, while mail order sales declined somewhat more than seasonally. Freight-car loadings increased, reflecting in part larger shipments of grains and forest products.



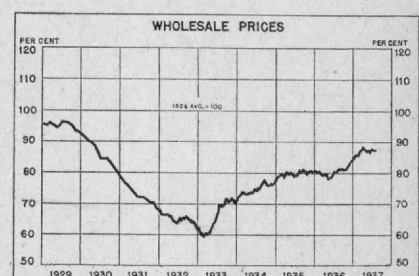
Wednesday figures for reporting member banks in 101 leading cities, September 5, 1934, to August 18, 1937. Loans on real estate and loans to banks excluded.



Index of physical volume of production, adjusted for seasonal variation. By months, January 1929 to July 1937.



Index of number employed, adjusted for seasonal variation. By months, January 1929 to July 1937.



Index compiled by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. By months, 1929 to 1931; by weeks, 1932 to date. Latest figure is for week ending August 14, 1937.

Commodity prices. From the middle of July to the third week of August prices of grains and cotton declined substantially, while livestock and meats showed a further increase. Automobile prices were raised by most producers, carpet prices advanced, and there were increases in several industrial raw materials, including hides, zinc, lead, and steel scrap. Cotton goods and rubber declined somewhat.

Bank credit. From the middle of July to August 4, excess reserves of member banks were sharply reduced from \$960,000,000 to \$700,000,000, but subsequently they increased to \$780,000,000 on August 18. These changes in member bank reserves reflected principally fluctuations in the volume of Treasury deposits at Federal reserve

banks, together with a seasonal increase in money in circulation. Excess reserves at New York City banks declined from \$230,000,000 to about \$40,000,000 and subsequently increased to \$130,000,000.

Total loans and investments of reporting member banks increased somewhat during the four weeks ending August 18, reflecting principally an increase of \$150,000,000 in commercial loans offset in part by a further decline in holdings of United States government obligations, principally at New York City banks. The growth in commercial loans occurred both in New York City and in other cities and included the purchase by banks of a large portion of the \$60,000,000 of 9-month notes sold by the Commodity

Credit Corporation on August 2.

United States government deposits at reporting banks increased during the period, reflecting purchases by banks of Treasury bills on a book-credit basis. Bankers' balances and other demand deposits showed further declines at New York City banks.

Money rates. Rates on Treasury bills declined slightly after the middle of July, and open-market yields on Treasury notes and bonds also declined until early in August, but later there was a rise in yields. In the latter part of August discount rates were reduced from 2 per cent to 1½ per cent at the Federal reserve banks of Atlanta, Chicago, and Minneapolis. The 2 per cent rates had been in effect since early in 1935.

Business and Banking Conditions in the Philadelphia Federal Reserve District

Business activity in the Philadelphia Federal Reserve District continues to reflect the impact of seasonal influences in combination with such other factors as industrial disputes, rising operating costs and uncertainties with respect to commitments for goods. Nevertheless, the general level of activity has been higher than last year when there was a considerable expansion between spring and autumn.

Industrial production declined from 97 in June to 95 in July, owing to smaller output of factories producing non-durable goods and decreased production of anthracite fuel, as measured by the adjusted index number maintained by this bank. The value of building contracts awarded during July also fell off more than it usually does from June but for the year to

date it continued larger. The agricultural situation shows marked improvement and farm income has been the largest shown for several years.

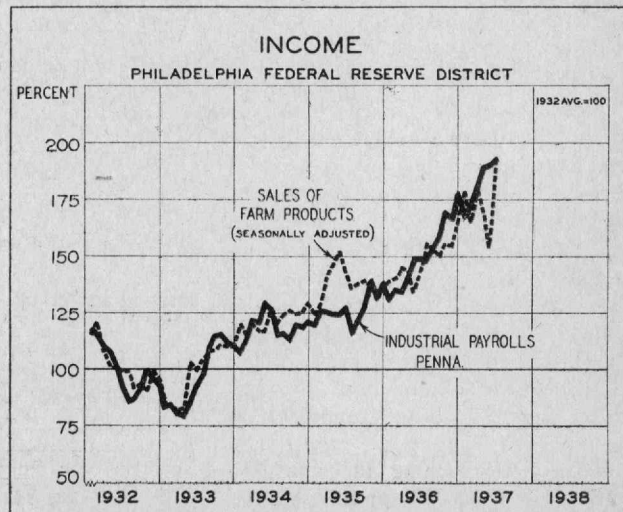
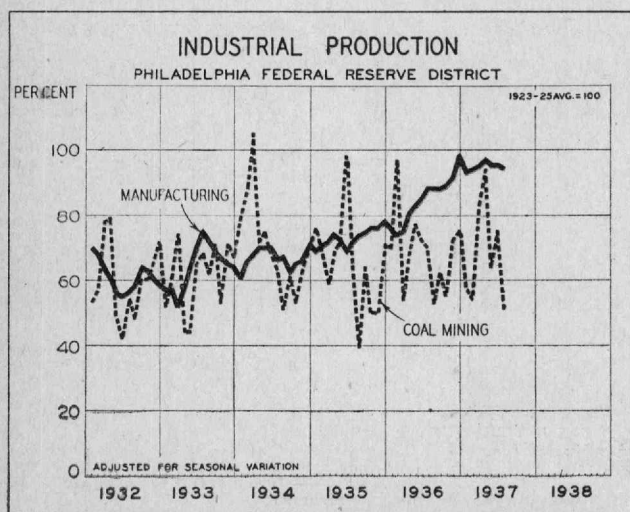
Industrial employment and payrolls declined seasonally from June to July, the largest percentage of recession occurring in certain mineral industries, retail trade and some service lines. Early reports for August indicate that factory employment and wage payments increased, though the incidence of strikes interfered with the usual seasonal expansion that generally begins in August.

Retail trade sales were well maintained at the seasonal level that ordinarily prevails from June to July, while wholesale business receded somewhat more than was anticipated. Changes in other indicators measur-

ing distribution of goods and services generally were downward.

Commodity prices have fluctuated within a comparatively narrow range from June to July. The August level appears to have been fractionally lower than that in July, reflecting principally declines in farm products. Prices of other commodities, chiefly manufactures, also have declined a little. No significant change is shown in the wholesale price of foods.

Manufacturing. Demand for factory products on the whole has slackened further during the month under review. Sales of manufactured goods have declined, the most pronounced recessions occurring in textiles, leather and building materials. Current reports show that unfilled orders



Business Indicators

Philadelphia Federal Reserve District

about the middle of August were noticeably smaller than a month ago and in some cases were below the volume of a year earlier.

Stocks of finished goods have not changed materially in recent weeks but in most lines of manufacture they were larger than in August of last year. Supplies of raw materials continue to fluctuate within comparatively narrow limits but on the whole exceed those of a year ago.

Wholesale prices of manufactured goods have shown no pronounced variations for some time. During the first three weeks of August they averaged slightly lower than a month before, but they were substantially higher than a year earlier. The index number of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, measuring price changes in commodities other than farm products and foods, was 85.9 per cent of the 1926 average on August 21, compared with 86.3 a month ago and 79.7 last year.

Factory employment in this district in July decreased by a smaller percentage than usual, but wage payments showed about the customary rate of decline. Preliminary reports indicate that August levels generally were well maintained seasonally.

Delaware factories reported small declines in employment and in wage disbursements from June to July. Comparisons with a year ago show that the number of workers increased 19 per cent and wage payments rose 29 per cent. In southern New Jersey employment in July increased somewhat but payrolls declined slightly; increases over last year amounted respectively to 7 and 17 per cent.

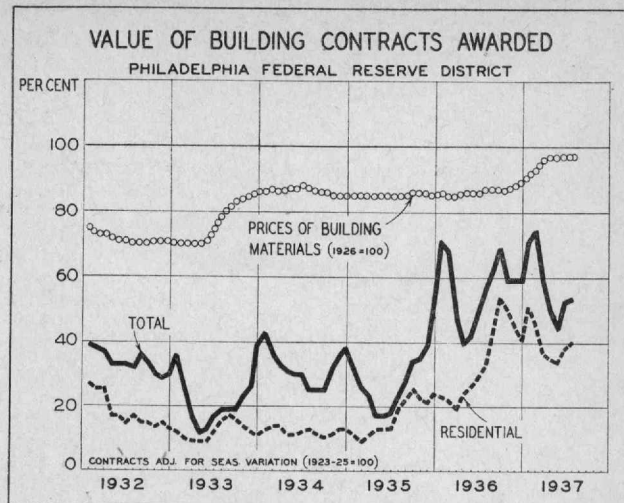
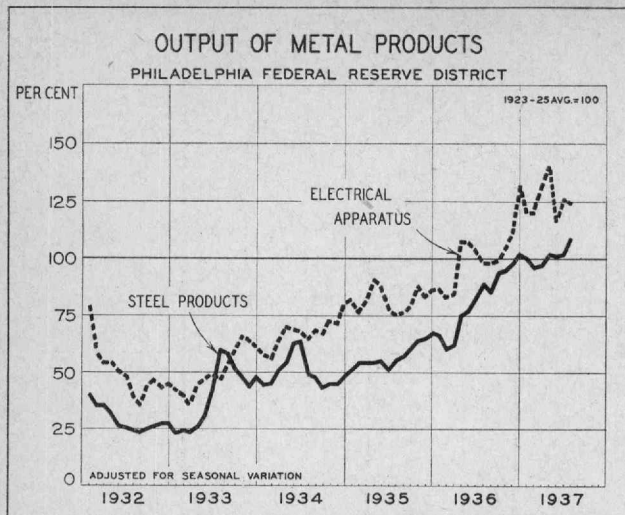
The July index of factory employment in Pennsylvania was 91.8 per cent of the 1923-25 average and that of payrolls was 98.6. Our estimates show that manufacturing establishments in this state about the middle of July employed nearly 988,000 workers receiving compensation of approximately \$25,200,000 a week. Compared with a year ago, employment was 11 per cent larger and payrolls 28 per cent greater.

Largely because of the relative importance of the textile industry in this district and in view of the regulation of working hours for women in Pennsylvania effective September 1, there are given below certain data showing the maximum average number of working hours per wage earner regardless of sex during the first six months this year. It appears that in five important textile lines, including

	Index numbers: percentages of the 1923-1925 average as 100											
	Adjusted for seasonal variation						Not adjusted					
	July 1936	May 1937	June 1937	July 1937	Per cent change		July 1936	May 1937	June 1937	July 1937		
					July 1937 from	1937 from 7 mos. 1936						
Adjusted indexes allow for the usual seasonal change in activity.												
Unadjusted indexes reflect merely the actual change which may or may not be typical.												
				Month ago	Year ago							
Industrial Production	90r	96	97	95p	- 2	+ 6	+16	86r	95	96	91p	
Manufacturing total	88	95	96	95p	- 1	+ 8	+19	84	94	95	91p	
DURABLE GOODS	80	93	93	95p	+ 2	+18	+31					
CONSUMERS' GOODS	94	97r	98	95p	- 3	+ 1	+12					
Metal products	91r	104	109	112	+ 3	+24	+36	87r	104	110	107	
Textile products	92	95r	94	89p	- 5	- 3	+14	85	91r	91	82p	
Transportation equipment	77	88	87	86	- 2	+11	+22	75	91	88	83	
Food products	85	84	82	83p	+ 1	- 2	+ 5	82	82	78	78p	
Tobacco and products	98	102	97	95	- 1	- 3	+10	106	99	104	103	
Building materials	42	52	45r	46	+ 2	+ 8	+38	45	54	49r	49	
Chemicals and products	119	134r	131	134p	+ 2	+13	+14	117	136	132	132p	
Leather and products	142	158	153	155p	+ 2	+10	+17	129	144	149	141p	
Paper and printing	84	96	98	95	- 3	+13	+14	81	97	97	92	
Coal mining	70r	64	75	51p	-31	-27	- 6	59r	64	65	42p	
Anthracite	69r	63	74	48p	-35	-30	-10	57r	63	65	39p	
Bituminous	82	76	79	79	+ 1	- 3	+17	72	68	69	70	
Crude oil	441r	466	481	518	+ 8	+17	+16	441	485	500	518	
Electric power												
Output	236	247	253	248	- 2	+ 5	+10	219	230	241	231	
Sales, total	221	237	242	239	- 1	+ 8	+11	208	228	235	225	
Sales to industries	157	181	175	170	- 3	+ 8	+13	161	184	176	173	
Employment and wages—Pa.												
Factory—Wage earners					- 1*	+11*	+15*	83r	92	92	92	
Payrolls					- 5*	+28*	+37*	77	104	103	99	
Man-hours (1927-28=100)					- 5*	+14*	+28*	80	97	97	92	
General (1932=100)												
Employment					- 3*	+ 9*	+12*	113	125	127	124	
Payrolls					- 5*	+23*	+29*	148	190	193	182	
Building and real estate												
Contracts awarded†—total	57	45	53	54	+ 2	- 5	+ 6	59	54	61	56	
Residential	33	34	38	40	+ 4	+19	+43	35	43	46	42	
Non-residential	64	54	61	71	+16	+11	+ 1	62	61	72	69	
Public works and utilities	115	61	67	64	- 5	-44	-17	122	72	76	68	
Permits for building—17 cities	16	19	18	17	- 2	+ 9	+39	19	22	22	21	
Real estate deeds—Philadelphia	49	64	65	55	-15	+13	+29	49	62	65	56	
Writs for Sheriff sales—Phila.	694	566	684	657	- 4	- 5	- 2	660	595	684	624	
Distribution												
Retail trade—sales	83r	86	81	82	+ 1	- 1	+ 7	58r	89	82	58	
stocks	68r	82	81	83	+ 3	+22	.....	62r	82	77	75
Wholesale trade—sales	88r	105	103	100p	- 3	+14	+19	82r	97	98	92p	
stocks	67	76	77	75p	- 3	+11	.....	67	75	75	74p
Life insurance sales	94	97	101	98	- 4	+ 4	+ 6	90	104	105	94	
New passenger auto. registrations					-10*	+ 8*	+13*	150	193	180	163	
Hotels—Occupancy... (1934=100)					-15*	+ 3*	+ 9*	105	129	127	108	
Income, total (1934=100)					-24*	+ 6*	+ 5*	91	131	126	96	
Freight car loadings—total	71	78	78	75	- 3	+ 6	+19	73	81	80	79	
Merchandise and miscellaneous	71	79	78	77	- 1	+ 9	+20	73	83	81	80	
Coal	70	69	74	66	-11	- 6	+ 8	62	63	64	59	
Business liquidations												
Number					- 3*	-13*	-18*	54	59	48	46	
Amount of liabilities					-16*	+37*	+10*	23	22	37	31	
Payment of accounts												
Check payments	82	98	92	91	- 1	+10	+14	80	97	96	88	
Rate of collections (actual)												
Retail trade	32	32	32	32	+ 2	+ 1	.....	32	33	33	32
Wholesale trade	78	74	78	78	+ 1	+ 1	.....	79	75	81	80
Prices—United States												
WHOLESALE (1926=100)					+ 1*	+ 9*	+ 9*	80	87	87	88	
Farm products					+ 1*	+10*	+17*	81	90	88	89	
Foods					+ 2*	+ 6*	+ 6*	81	84	85	86	
Other commodities					+ 0*	+ 9*	+ 8*	79	86	86	86	
RETAIL FOOD					- 0*	+ 2*	+ 5*	84	86	86	86	
Philadelphia					+ 0*	+ 4*	+ 6*	86	89	89	89	
Scranton					- 2*	+ 3*	+ 6*	81	85	84	83	

(In millions of dollars)	July 1936	April 1937	May 1937	June 1937	July 1937	% change from	
						Month ago	Year ago
Banking and credit							
Federal Reserve Bank							
Bills discounted	\$ 0.2	\$ 1.3	\$ 1.8	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.1	-31	.....
Other bills and securities	217	214	218	218	218	0	+ 0
Member bank reserves	316	430	422	384	385	+ 0	+22
Reserve ratio (per cent)	69.9	75.0	73.8	73.0	73.1	+ 0	+ 5
Reporting member banks							
Loans	\$ 449	\$ 450	\$ 454	\$ 460	\$ 463	+ 1	+ 3
Investments	740	719	730	716	714	- 0	- 4
Deposits (a)	1,423	1,479	1,459	1,420	1,417	- 0	- 0
Bankers' acceptances outstanding	11.3	17.2	17.0	16.2	13.4	-17	+19

* Computed from data unadjusted for seasonal variation. p—Preliminary. r—Revised.
 † 3-month moving daily average centered at 3rd month. (a) Less cash items in process of collection.
 ‡ Not included in production index.



men's clothing, about 75 per cent of all reporting plants at the maximum averaged less than 44 hours a week, while the remaining 25 per cent worked over that schedule. The greatest concentration of plants employing the largest number of workers on the per plant basis falls within the class ranging from 35 to 44 hours a week. Space limitation prevents giving detailed data.

(Figures refer to maximum average weekly hours actually worked by wage earners in the first half of 1937—Pennsylvania)	44 hours or less		Over 44 hours	
	No. of plants	No. of wage earners	No. of plants	No. of wage earners
Silk.....	49	18,029	20	1,646
Wool.....	40	9,175	33	4,283
Knit goods.....	73	29,221	23	4,579
Carpets and rugs.....	16	5,456	1	11
Men's clothing.....	87	10,311	14	477
Total of five lines.....	265	72,192	91	10,996

Output of manufactures showed a decrease of little more than seasonal proportions from June to July but continued at a substantially higher level than in other recent years. The adjusted index of productive activity prepared by this bank was 95, relative to the 1923-25 average, as compared with 96 a month before and 88 a year ago. Comparative figures for seven months show that the rate of manufacturing output was 19 per cent higher this year than last and considerably above that of any like period since 1930.

Improvement in the output of durable goods industries during July was chiefly in pig iron, steel and steel castings, cement, brick, goat and kid leather, and explosives. There occurred, however, declines of more than seasonal amount in the output of iron castings, motor vehicles, automobile parts and bodies, and locomotives and cars. Over the first seven months this

year the average rate of productive activity for durable goods as a whole was 31 per cent higher than in the same interval of 1936.

Production of such non-durable merchandise as cotton goods, hosiery, underwear, and bread and bakery products showed moderate improvement and in the case of sugar refining activity expanded sharply from June to July, when a decrease is usual. These gains, however, were more than offset by substantial declines in the output of woollens and worsteds, carpets and rugs and by smaller decreases in silk manufactures and shoe production. Output of non-durable goods industries as a whole was 12 per cent larger in the first seven months this year than last.

Output of electric power by eight central stations decreased somewhat more than usual from June to July, but in the first seven months of 1937 was 10 per cent larger than a year earlier. Total sales of electricity by 10 systems also showed a larger than seasonal decline, following a substantial gain during June. Thus far this year, however, sales have continued to exceed those of last year by about 11 per cent. Industrial consumption of electrical energy registered a decline in July instead of increasing as it ordinarily does, but it was substantially greater than a year earlier.

Coal and other fuels. Anthracite production decreased sharply in July and was the smallest of any month since 1932. Shipments also declined considerably as compared with June and a year ago. In early August shipments showed some seasonal improvement, while production remained in about the same volume as in July and was smaller than a year ago. In

the first seven months this year colliery output was 10 per cent and shipments 4 per cent smaller than in the same interval of 1936.

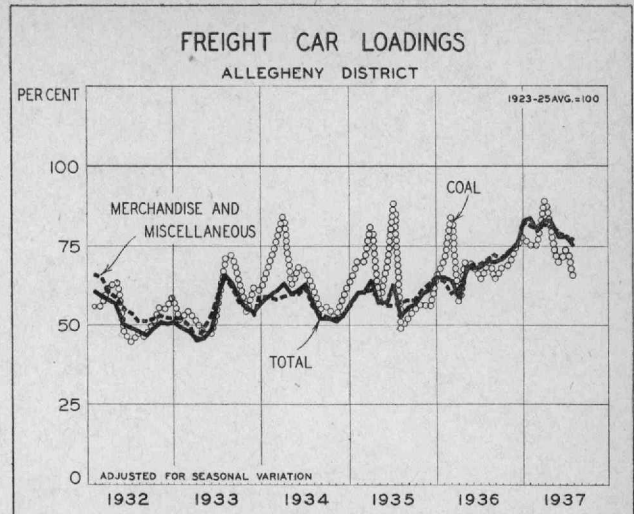
Demand for Pennsylvania bituminous coal has shown virtually no change since the middle of last month, increased takings by manufacturing plants and public utility companies being largely offset by a decline in sales to railroads. Output and shipments registered further small gains in July, continuing a gradual expansion since April; preliminary reports indicate that they were well maintained in early August.

(Output and shipment figures are daily averages)	July 1937	Per cent change from	
		Month ago	Year ago
Anthracite			
Production..... tons	103,700	-40	-30
Shipments..... tons	103,043	-39	-26
Stocks..... 1,000 tons	1,483 [†]	+73	+20
Prices..... (1926=100)	76.6	+3	-2
Employment..... No.	86,674	-12	-7
Bituminous			
Production..... tons	332,000	+1	-3
Shipments..... No. cars	22,926	+3	+4
Prices..... (1926=100)	98.6	+0	+3
Employment..... No.	129,588	-0	+4
Coke			
Prod. (1923-25=100)	131.8	+6	+19
Prices..... (1926=100)	104.9	-0	+12
Gas and fuel oil			
Prod. (1923-25=100)	123.5*	+1	+6
Prices..... (1926=100)	67.2	+1	0

Sources: Bureau of Mines and Bureau of Labor Statistics. * Estimated. † July 1.

Output of by-product coke increased in July; that of gas and fuel oils showed a smaller gain, following a sharp drop in the previous month. Production of coke was 24 per cent larger in the first seven months this year than last, while that of gas and fuel oils showed virtually no change.

Building. Awards of building contracts in this district during July amounted to approximately \$12,000,000, a total 27 per cent smaller than in June and 32 per cent below that of



a year earlier. The reduction in the month was larger than ordinarily occurs and reflected marked declines in the value of contracts awarded for public works and utilities, educational buildings and family houses; these decreases were offset only in part by larger awards for such types of construction as apartments and hotels, factories and commercial buildings.

Building contracts Philadelphia Federal Reserve District	July 1937 (000's omitted)	Per cent change	
		From month ago	1937 from 7 mos. 1936
Residential	\$ 5,219	+ 2	+ 43
Apts. and hotels.....	1,264	+228	+109
Family houses.....	3,955	- 17	+ 33
Non-residential	4,495	- 44	+ 1
Commercial.....	1,190	+ 9	+ 7
Factories.....	1,576	+ 34	+113
Educational.....	464	- 90	- 24
All other.....	1,265	+ 27	- 11
Total buildings.....	\$ 9,714	- 26	+ 16
Public works and utilities	2,379	- 30	- 17
Grand total	\$12,093	- 27	+ 6

Source: F. W. Dodge Corporation.

Over the first seven months of 1937 awards of building contracts in the aggregate still were 6 per cent greater than a year before and were the largest for that interval since 1931. As compared with last year the most pronounced gains occurred in the dollar volume of contracts let for residential buildings and factories.

Agriculture. Seasonal farming operations in this district have progressed about as usual since the middle of last month. Many early crops have been harvested and fall plowing, preparatory to sowing the winter grains, is well under way. Growing conditions on the whole have continued favorable, although in a few sections some crops were damaged by severe local storms.

Yields of important field crops with the exception of tobacco are expected to be larger this year than last and above the average of the five years, 1931-35, according to the Department of Agriculture. Increases over a year ago are especially pronounced in the case of tame hay, winter wheat and oats. Official estimates also indicate that this year's harvest of apples and peaches will be much greater than the unusually small crops grown last year; compared with the five-year average, production of orchard fruits generally is expected to be larger.

Farm cash income in the three states included in this district has expanded sharply as compared with 1936 and several earlier years. In the first half of 1937 receipts from the sale of principal farm products were 21 per cent greater than in the same interval of last year. Details follow:

Sales of farm products— Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware	First half 1937 (000's omitted)	Per cent change from		
		1936	1933	1929
Crops.....	\$ 47,319	+50.9	+115.2	+ 8.0
Livestock and products.....	120,701	+12.7	+ 74.2	-15.7
Total	\$168,020	+21.3	+ 84.1	-10.2

Distribution. A sharp decline in retail sales from June to July was not quite so great as ordinarily takes place; therefore the seasonally adjusted index of this bank rose from 81 per cent of the 1923-1925 average to 82. Sales of shoe and men's apparel stores during July were somewhat greater than a year earlier, but these gains were more than offset by declines at department, women's apparel and credit establishments, with the result that aggregate sales were about 1 per cent smaller than in July, 1936. In

the first seven months of this year increases in sales over a year ago ranged from 1 per cent at shoe stores to 13 per cent at credit stores; the combined increase was 7 per cent.

Business at wholesale continued substantially above the level of last year, showing an increase of 14 per cent in July and 19 per cent in the first seven months. A decline from June to July was attributable only in part to the usual seasonal influences, so that the adjusted index of sales in eight lines decreased from 103 per cent of the 1923-1925 average to 100.

Inventories of merchandise declined by small percentages during July in both channels of trade. Nevertheless, at the end of the month they still were substantially greater than on July 31, 1936, the increase at retail being 22 per cent and at wholesale, 11 per cent. Stock turnover thus far this year has been somewhat below that in 1936 at retail establishments, but measurably exceeded the 1936 rate in the wholesale figures.

Sales of new passenger automobiles, as measured by registrations, declined further from June to July. A decrease is usual in this period. July sales, however, were 8 per cent greater than in the same month last year and figures for the first seven months show a gain of about 13 per cent.

Freight-car loadings in this section decreased a little in July, owing principally to a falling off in loadings of coal, ore, and merchandise and miscellaneous freight. This was partly offset by a rise of more than usual proportions in grain shipments and a minor increase in the case of forest products. Total loadings in the first seven months of 1937 were 19 per cent larger than a year ago.

Following declines in the spring months, rail freight in the Philadelphia district in July advanced almost 6 per cent beyond the June figures. Although shipments in the month did not equal those of a year earlier, the total for the year to date was nearly 9 per cent greater than in the like period of 1936.

Business of non-resort commercial hotels decreased substantially in July, which records of several previous years indicate is usually the low month of the year. However, activity continued above a year ago.

Hotel business Philadelphia Federal Reserve District	July per cent change from		1937 from 7 mos. 1936
	Month ago	Year ago	
Capacity.....	+ 0	+1	.....
Room occupancy.....	-15	+3	+9
Per cent of capacity used:			
July 1937.....	50.2		
June 1937.....	56.2		
July 1936.....	47.9		
Income from:			
Guest rooms.....	-21	+7	+7
Food.....	-32	+6	+5
Other sources.....	-20	+3	+2
Total revenue.....	-24	+6	+5

Banking conditions. The reserve balances of member banks in this district continue substantially greater than a year ago, despite a pronounced decline from the high point of last April. This decrease has been in the figures of Philadelphia banks, taken as a whole. Reserves of country banks increased somewhat in the past three months; figures for the first half of August show that the excess reserves of these banks were larger in proportion to requirements than those of banks in Philadelphia. These proportions, however, were much smaller than a year earlier, owing to the fact that percentage requirements were doubled in the interim.

(Averages of daily figures; dollar figures in millions)	1937			1936 Aug. 1-15
	July 1-15	July 16-31	Aug. 1-15	
Reserve city banks:				
Reserves at Federal Reserve Bank.....	\$241.3	\$236.4	\$225.3	\$205.5
Required reserves.....	200.9	200.5	199.0	99.1
Excess reserves.....	40.4	35.9	26.3	106.4
Ratio of excess to required.....	20%	18%	13%	107%
Country banks:				
Reserves at Federal Reserve Bank.....	\$146.2	\$145.6	\$147.9	\$108.1
Required reserves.....	116.3	116.6	117.0	54.4
Excess reserves.....	29.9	29.0	30.9	53.7
Ratio of excess to required.....	26%	25%	26%	99%

Bank borrowing from the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia declined from \$1,076,000 on July 21 to \$740,000 on August 18. Industrial advances continued to approximate \$4,000,000.

Member bank reserve deposits decreased \$16,000,000 in the four weeks

ended August 18. This reduction was caused partly by an adverse balance of payments of over \$7,000,000 in commercial and financial transactions with other districts, which largely reflected transfers of funds for the account of bank customers. Another factor contributing to the decline in reserves was an excess of local Treasury receipts over disbursements by about \$7,600,000. Receipts in this period were augmented by unemployment insurance funds, which were turned over to the Government for investment.

Currency demand has not changed materially in the past month, following a substantial rise from the low point in January to the early summer. Fluctuations ordinarily continue small until November, when the demands incident to holiday trade and disbursements of Christmas savings funds appear. Last year, however, there was a definite increase in October and the expansion from August 19 to December 23 was over \$40,000,000.

Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia (Dollar figures in millions)	Aug. 18, 1937	Changes in—	
		Four weeks	One year
Bills discounted.....	\$ 0.7	-\$0.3	+\$0.4
Bills bought.....	0.3	- 0.0	+ 0.0
Industrial advances.....	3.9	- 0.1	- 1.2
United States securities.....	213.3	0	+ 2.2
Total bills and securities.....	\$218.2	-\$0.4	+\$1.4
Federal res. note circulation.....	315.3	+ 1.7	+21.3
Member bank reserve deposits.....	373.1	-16.0	+43.8
U. S. Treasurer—general account.....	13.8	+10.6	+ 5.0
Foreign bank deposits.....	19.1	+ 3.2	+10.7
Other deposits.....	9.3	+ 0.1	+ 7.5
Total reserves.....	533.5	+ 0.0	+85.3
Reserve ratio.....	73.0%	+ 0.0%	+ 3.2%

There was a small increase in outstanding credit of reporting member banks during the month ended August 18. This was due to an increase of \$11,000,000 in loans, of which \$9,000,000 was in accommodation extended to commerce, industry and agriculture. The trend of commercial loans has been generally upward since the spring of last year. In the past three

MEMBER BANK RESERVES AND RELATED FACTORS

Philadelphia Federal Reserve District (Millions of dollars)	Changes in weeks ending—				Changes in four weeks
	July 28	Aug. 4	Aug. 11	Aug. 18	
Sources of funds:					
Reserve bank credit extended in district.....	- 1.2	-1.7	+1.8	+0.8	- 0.3
Commercial transfers (chiefly interdistrict).....	-18.9	+9.5	+6.0	-3.8	- 7.2
Treasury operations.....	+ 3.1	-1.5	-8.7	-0.5	+ 7.6
Total.....	-17.0	+6.3	-0.9	-3.5	-15.1
Uses of funds:					
Currency demand.....	- 0.4	-0.2	+1.9	-0.6	+ 0.7
Member bank reserve deposits.....	-17.2	+6.5	-2.8	-2.5	-16.0
"Other deposits" at reserve bank.....	+ 0.6	-0.1	-0.0	-0.4	+ 0.1
Unexpended capital funds.....	+ 0.0	+0.1	-0.0	-0.0	+ 0.1
Total.....	-17.0	+6.3	-0.9	-3.5	-15.1

Reporting member banks (000,000's omitted)	Aug. 18, 1937	Changes in—	
		Four weeks	One year
Assets			
Commercial, industrial and agricultural loans:			
On securities.....	\$ 44	+ \$1	*
Otherwise secured and unsecured.....	171	+ 8	*
Open market paper.....	26		*
Loans to brokers and dealers in securities.....	27	+ 2	-\$2
Other loans to purchase or carry securities.....	38	- 1	*
Loans on real estate.....	60		- 2
Loans to banks.....	2		
Other loans:			
On securities.....	48		*
Otherwise secured and unsecured.....	58	+ 1	*
Total loans.....	\$ 474	+\$11	+\$20
United States Government securities.....	327	- 4	+ 9
Obligations fully guar. by U. S. Government.....	99		- 1
Other securities.....	279	- 5	- 37
Total loans and investments.....	\$1,179	+ \$2	-\$9
Reserve with Federal Reserve Bank.....	238	- 17	+ 24
Cash in vault.....	16		+ 2
Balances with other banks.....	120	- 12	- 25
Other assets—net.....	87		- 1
Liabilities			
Demand deposits, adjusted	\$ 818	-\$19	+\$62
Time deposits.....	280	- 5	+ 5
U. S. Government deposits.....	18		- 53
Interbank deposits.....	277	- 3	- 25
Borrowings.....	19		- 2
Other liabilities.....	19		- 2
Capital account.....	228	+ 1	+ 4

* Comparable figures not yet available.

months there has been an increase of \$16,000,000, measurably exceeding the growth in the corresponding period last year.

The trend of investments, on the other hand, has been generally downward since January. In the last four weeks there was a reduction of \$4,000,000 in holdings of United States Government securities and of \$5,000,000 in other securities, which include obligations of corporations and political units.

Deposits at the reporting banks showed a further decline from \$1,420,000,000 on July 21 to \$1,393,000,000 on August 18. Of this decrease \$19,000,000 was in demand deposits, \$5,000,000 in time funds, and \$3,000,000 in interbank deposits. This drop was accompanied by decreases of \$17,000,000 in reserves and \$12,000,000 in balances with correspondents.

The latest figure on deposits was the lowest in over a year. Since the peak on January 6 the decrease has been \$117,000,000, reflecting chiefly declines of \$54,000,000 in United States deposits and \$62,000,000 in interbank funds. Loans increased \$26,000,000 in this period. These changes were offset by decreases of \$34,000,000 in security holdings, \$47,000,000 in reserves, and \$61,000,000 in balances held with other banks.

Employment and Payrolls in Pennsylvania

(All figures are rounded from original data)

Manufacturing Indexes

	Employment*			Payrolls*			Employee-hours†	
	July 1937 index	Per cent change from		July 1937 index	Per cent change from		July 1937—per cent change from	
		July 1936	June 1937		July 1936	June 1937	July 1936	June 1937
All manufacturing	92	+11	-1	99	+28	-5	+14	-5
Iron, steel and products	93	+23	-0	116	+48	-5	+21	-5
Non-ferrous metal prods.	137	+19	+5	152	+31	-4	+13	-6
Transportation equip.	71	+18	-2	63	+16	-12	+11	-13
Textiles and clothing	100	+1	-1	87	+5	-3	+2	-4
Textiles	97	+1	-1	86	+5	-4	+2	-5
Clothing	114	-2	+1	92	+2	-1	-2	-1
Food products	105	+2	+1	110	+11	+2	-1	+1
Stone, clay and glass	90	+11	-2	89	+25	-7	+13	-5
Lumber products	69	+5	+1	63	+18	-4	+7	-4
Chemicals and products	95	+8	-2	108	+27	-2	+11	-2
Leather and products	93	+4	-1	91	+19	-2	+10	+1
Paper and printing	99	+8	-1	101	+21	-3	+12	-5
Printing	93	+7	-1	96	+18	-3	+13	-5
Others:								
Cigars and tobacco	66	-0	-1	62	+8	-1	-2	-2
Rubber tires, goods	86	+3	-3	86	+6	-11	-11	-12
Musical instruments	46	-12	-16	39	-14	-27	-15	-22

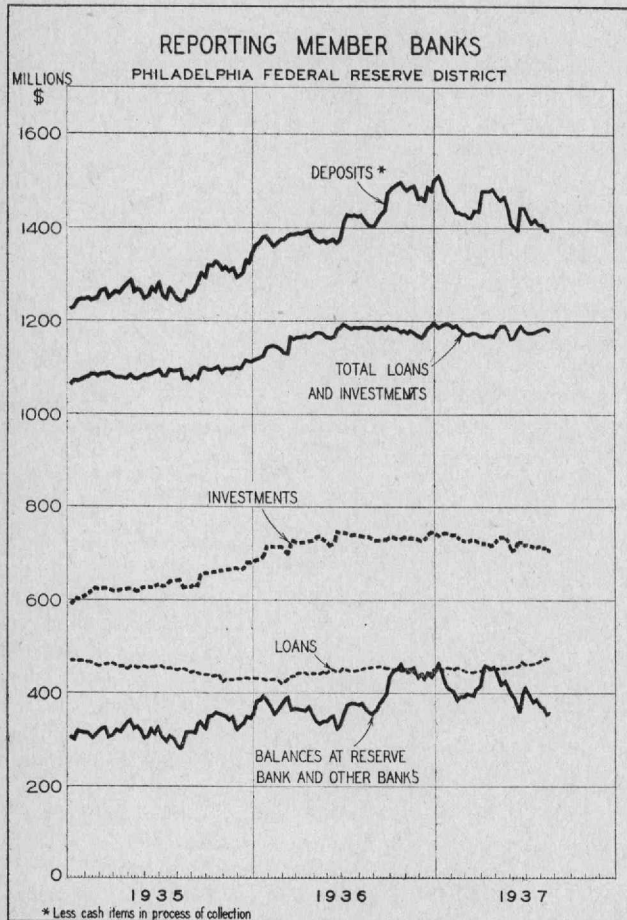
* Figures from 2,347 plants.

† Figures from 2,094 plants.

General Index Numbers

Covering twelve branches of trade and industry

	Employment			Payrolls		
	July 1937 index	Per cent change from		July 1937 index	Per cent change from	
		July 1936	June 1937		July 1936	June 1937
General index (weighted)	124	+9	-3	182	+23	-5
Manufacturing	145	+11	-1	240	+28	-5
Anthracite mining	73	-7	-12	66	-5	-31
Bituminous coal mining	122	+4	-0	202	+10	-5
Building and construction	96	+20	-1	123	+29	+1
Quarrying and non-met. mining	127	+9	+0	252	+22	-6
Crude petroleum producing	160	-4	0	167	+7	-4
Public utilities	97	+5	+2	104	+8	-1
Retail trade	110	+5	-10	124	+12	-9
Wholesale trade	117	+5	-0	119	+11	-1
Hotels	114	+8	+0	120	+11	+1
Laundries	103	0	-7	119	+6	-9
Dyeing and cleaning	110	+3	-6	130	+17	-13

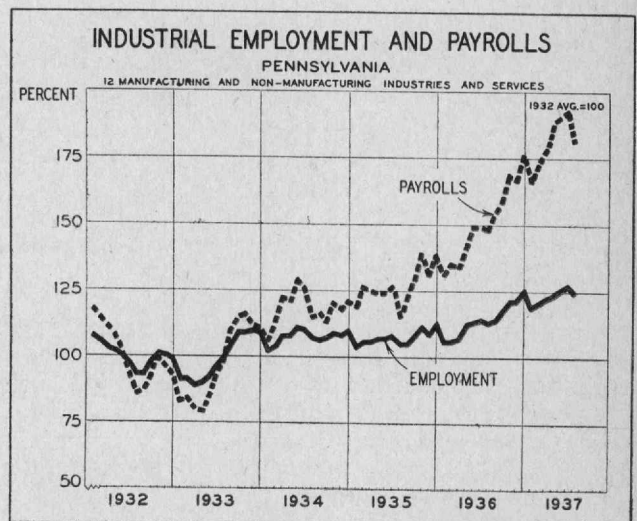


* Less cash items in process of collection

City areas*	Percentage change—July 1937 from July 1936				
	Employment	Wage payments	Building permits (value)	Debits	Retail trade sales
Allentown	+13	+36	-28	+16	+10
Altoona	0	-13	+284	+19	+7
Harrisburg	+19	+44	-44	+17	+12
Johnstown	+32	+72	-39	+18	-11
Lancaster	+17	+38	-74	+19	+16
Philadelphia	+9	+25	+19	+4	-4
Reading	+11	+20	-48	+13	+8
Scranton	+9	+4	+237	+5	-4
Trenton	+11	+28	-49	-0	+9
Wilkes-Barre	+1	+7	-53	-8	+0
Williamsport	+2	+12	+51	-3	.....
Wilmington	+18	+31	+30	+35	+11
York	+4	+21	+23	+15	.....

July 1937 from June 1937					
Allentown	-1	-6	-58	+7	-23
Altoona	-1	-18	+228	+5	-14
Harrisburg	+3	-6	+3	+2	-21
Johnstown	-2	+19	+126	-3	-18
Lancaster	+1	-1	-75	+1	-15
Philadelphia	-1	-1	-3	-8	-36
Reading	-1	-8	-27	+3	-22
Scranton	-3	-9	+54	+10	-24
Trenton	-0	-6	-48	+9	-32
Wilkes-Barre	-3	-6	+134	+7	-28
Williamsport	-3	-7	+361	+3	.....
Wilmington	-1	-2	+62	-18	-35
York	+1	-2	-28	+1	.....

* Area not restricted to the corporate limits of cities given here.



Index numbers of individual lines of trade and manufactures

Philadelphia Federal Reserve District

Adjusted indexes allow for the usual seasonal change in activity. Unadjusted indexes reflect merely the actual change which may or may not be typical.	Index numbers: percentages of the 1923-1925 average as 100											
	Adjusted for seasonal variation							Not adjusted				
	July 1936	May 1937	June 1937	July 1937	Per cent change			July 1936	May 1937	June 1937	July 1937	
					Month ago	Year ago	1937 from 7 mos. 1936					
Retail trade												
Sales												
Total of all stores	83r	86	81	82	+ 1	- 1	+ 7	58r	89	82	58	
Department	74	80	75	73	- 3	- 1	+ 7	52	80	75	51	
Men's apparel	68	80	85	69	-18	+ 2	-11	56	77	91	57	
Women's apparel	99r	105	98	95	- 2	- 3	+10	65r	108	95	63	
Shoe	67r	93	79	72	- 8	+ 8	+ 1	61r	110	94	66	
Credit	110r	94	88	109	+23	- 2	+13	72r	99	83	71	
Stocks of goods												
Total of all stores	68r	82	81	83	+ 3	+22	.....	62r	82	77	75
Department	52	62	60	59	- 3	+13	.....	48	62	58	54
Men's apparel	82	91	87	106	+22	+29	.....	67	91	84	86
Women's apparel	106r	111	110	127	+16	+21	.....	79r	112	98	97
Shoe	64r	73	71	66	- 7	+ 4	.....	60r	76	70	62
Credit	78r	106	106	106	- 0	+36	.....	78r	103	103	105
Rate of stock turnover 7 months (actual, not indexes)							- 6*	2.28				2.15
Wholesale trade												
Sales												
Total of all lines	88r	105	103	100p	- 3	+14	+19	82r	97	98	92p	
Boots and shoes	43	55	57	42	-26	- 1	- 1	35	54	49	35	
Drugs	101r	108	109	112p	+ 3	+10	+10	95r	108	105	106p	
Dry goods	55r	59	57	56	- 0	+ 4	+27	42r	55	52	44	
Electrical supplies	90r	172	149	158	+ 6	+75	+64	74r	131	122	130	
Groceries	121	118	127	120	- 5	- 1	+ 7	122	117	129	121	
Hardware	52	63	63	53	-15	+ 2	+17	50	69	65	52	
Jewelry	52	59	59	57	- 4	+ 9	+29	35	49	49	39	
Paper	75	93	90	79p	-12	+ 5	+22	71	92	86	74p	
Stocks of goods												
Total of all lines	67	76	77	75p	- 3	+11	.....	67	75	75	74p
Boots and shoes	29	30	37	40	+ 8	+36	.....	29	29	35	40
Dry goods	40r	51	50	50	+ 1	+25	.....	41r	50	50	51
Electrical supplies	97r	124	120	108	-10	+11	.....	97r	118	117	108
Groceries	73r	81	82	78	- 6	+ 7	.....	67r	77	75	71
Hardware	70	83	79	81	+ 3	+17	.....	70	86	81	81
Jewelry	51	48	49	52	+ 6	+ 1	.....	59	51	53	59
Paper	63	68	66	67p	+ 1	+ 6	.....	63	68	66	67p
Rate of stock turnover 7 months (actual, not indexes)							+13*	3.36				3.80
Output of manufactures												
Pig iron	56	80	73	83	+13	+48	+73	51	84	70	76	
Steel	89	101	102	109	+ 7	+23	+38	81	106	104	99	
Iron castings	78	91	100	86	-15	+10	+33	74	94	99	82	
Steel castings	123	101	120	140	+16	+13	+38	110	105	125	124	
Electrical apparatus	98r	116	126	124	- 2	+27	+31	103r	107	126	131	
Motor vehicles	15	26	23	18	-21	+23	+92	15	33	28	18	
Automobile parts and bodies	69	73	76	70	- 8	+ 1	+16	66	77	76	67	
Locomotives and cars	35	45	45r	42	- 7	+22	+45	35	44	47	42	
Shipbuilding	230	250	244	255	+ 4	+11	+14	224	257	242	247	
Silk manufactures	93	98	100r	97	- 3	+ 5	+19	91	94	95r	95	
Woolen and worsteds	72	80	72	56	-22	-23	+ 5	68	75	69	53	
Cotton products	55	65	67	73	+ 8	+31	+35	48	64	64	63	
Carpets and rugs	124	158	143	100	-30	-20	+30	113	153	137	92	
Hosiery	120	110	113	117	+ 4	- 2	+ 4	98	110	110	96	
Underwear	154	147r	138r	144	+ 4	- 7	+ 7	128	148r	138r	120	
Cement	56r	62	50	55	+ 9	- 2	+25	65r	70	60	64	
Brick	32	67	56r	60	+ 6	+16	+49	30	71	59r	58	
Lumber and products	29	39	36	33	- 9	+12	+30	32	36	37r	36	
Bread and bakery products	.....	.....	.....	.....	+ 2*	+ 7*	+ 3*	90	94	94	96
Slaughtering, meat packing	88	92	89	80	-10	- 8	+ 7	79	92	85	73	
Sugar refining	168	109	67	87	+30	-48	-10	171	134	71	88	
Canning and preserving	72	66	69	69p	+ 0	- 3	+ 6	58	50	50	48p	
Cigars	97	101	95	94	- 1	- 4	+ 8	105	98	103	101	
Paper and wood pulp	67	76	77	77	- 1	+14	+15	65	76	77r	74	
Printing and publishing	87	100	102	98	- 3	+13	+14	84	101	101	96	
Shoes	161	181	181	176	- 2	+10	+27	150	165	172	164	
Leather, goat and kid	123	136	127	135p	+ 7	+10	+ 5	109	124	128	119p	
Explosives	83	93	92	96	+ 5	+16	+16	81	94	92	94	
Paints and varnishes	91	98	100r	101	+ 1	+12	+17	84	104	102r	94	
Petroleum products	150	170	166	168p	+ 1	+12	+10	151	171r	167	169p	
Coke, by-product	113	128	124	134	+ 9	+19	+24	111	133	124	132	

* Computed from data unadjusted for seasonal variation.

p—Preliminary.

r—Revised.

