# Economic Indicators SEPTEMBER 1948

Prepared for the Joint Committee on the Economic Report

by the Council of Economic Advisers

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the Joint Committee on the Economic Report

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#### JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMIC REPORT

(Created pursuant to Sec. 5 (a) of Public Law 304, 79th Cong.)

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#### To the Members of Congress:

From the time the Joint Committee on the Economic Report was established, its members realized that one of its basic needs was a concise and meaningful picture of current economic trends and developments.

Fortunately, the Joint Committee finds that *Economic Indicators*, a set of basic charts and tables compiled monthly by the Council of Economic Advisers, admirably fills this need. While this material was prepared primarily for the use of the President, the Council and other officials in the executive offices, the Council has made it available to the Joint Committee.

Other Members of Congress have also expressed an interest in being able to obtain a quick picture of current economic facts without having to go through voluminous and specialized documents. In addition, businessmen, farm leaders, labor organizations, and representatives of the press and radio have indicated their desire for this information. Since nothing contained

in these charts and tables is of a confidential nature they have urged that the material be made available to the general public.

Accordingly, the Joint Committee has for the pass several months provided the Congress and the public with a limited number of copies of *Economic Indicaton*. The response to these issues has indicated such wide spread interest that the Committee has arranged to release *Economic Indicators* each month as a committee print until action can be taken on authorizing the publication on a more permanent basis.

Comments or suggestions with respect to possible improvements in this presentation will always be welcome.

Chairman, Joint Committee on the Economic Report.

Robert. Zaga-

#### Letter of Transmittal

Hon. Robert A. Taft, Chairman,

Joint Committee on the Economic Report,

United States Congress, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR: The Council of Economic Advisers is happy to cooperate with the Joint Committee on the Economic Report in your plans to make Economic Indicators available to the Congress as a whole and to the general public.

In carrying out its mandate under the Employment Act of 1946, the Council has found it desirable to bring together in concise and graphic form the most important facts showing current trends in the Nation's economy. Thus the Executive Office is in a better position to point up the key problems of national economic policy and to promote the improvement and coordination of the Federal Government's widespread statistical services.

We have realized, of course, that this material has a potential usefulness not only to the President, the Council and the executive departments, but also to the Congress. Furthermore, its usefulness to the general public has been impressed upon us, particularly by the representatives of business, labor, agriculture, and consumer organizations with whom we regularly consult.

We believe the Joint Committee will perform a service of real value by giving wide circulation to this material.

Sincerely yours,

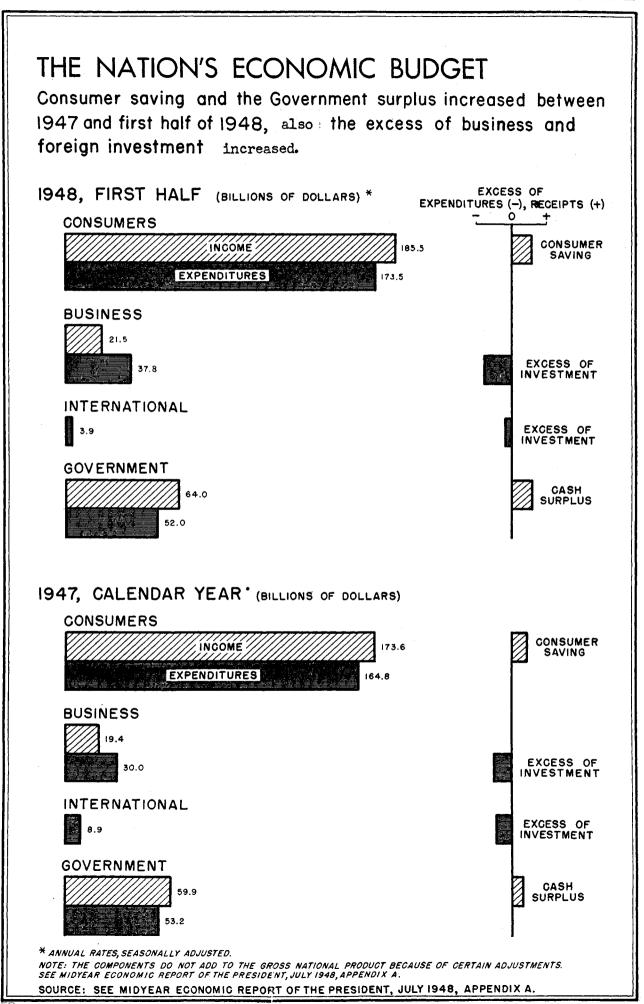
Edwin J. Mourse Chairman.

Leon Heyserling Vice Chairman. John D. Clark

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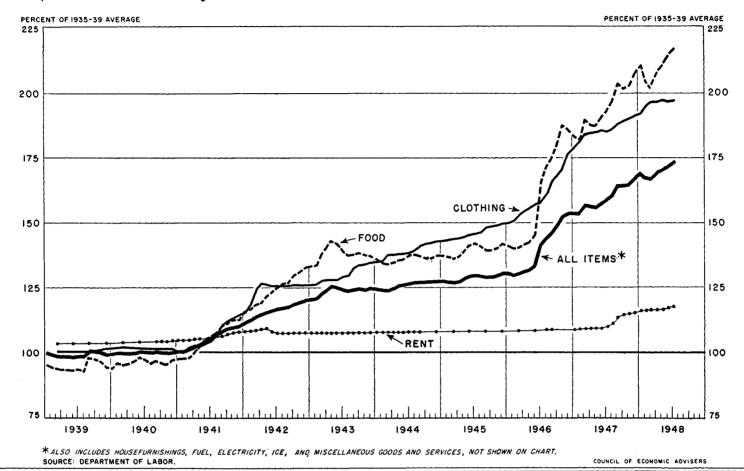
#### THE NATION'S ECONOMIC BUDGET



## **PRICES**

#### **CONSUMERS' PRICES**

Food prices advanced further in July, thus pushing consumers' prices to new highs. Other retail prices showed little change.



[1935-39=100]

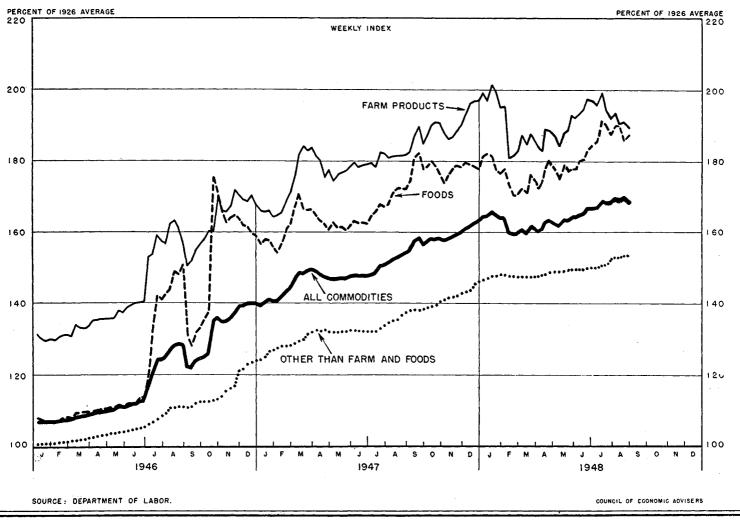
Period	All items <sup>1</sup>	Food	Clothing	Rent
1939 monthly average	99. 4	95. 2	100. 5	104. 3
1940 monthly average	105. 2	96. 6 105. 5	101. 7 106. 3	104. 6 106. 2
1942 monthly average	116. 5	123. 9	124. 2	108. 5
1943 monthly average	123. 6 125. 5	138. 0 136. 1	129. 7 138. 8	108. 0 108. 2
1945 monthly average	128.4	139. 1	145. 9	108. 3
1946 monthly average	139. 3	159. 6. 193. 8	160. 2 185. 8	108. 6 111. 2
1947: June	į į	190. 5	185. 7	109. 2
July	158. 4	193. 1	184. 7	110. 0
August September	160. 3 163. 8	196. 5 203. 5	185. 9 187. 6	111. 2 113. 6
October	163. 8	201. 6	189. 0	114. 9
November	164. 9	202. 7	190. 2	115. 2
December	167. 0	206. 9	191. 2	115. 4
1948: January	168. 8	209. 7	192. 1	115. 9
February March	167. 5 166. 9	204. 7 202. 3	195. 1 196. 3	116. 0 116. 3
April	169. 3	202. 3	196. 3	116. 3
May	170. 5	210. 9	197. 5	116. 7
June July	171. 7 173. 7	214. 1 216. 8	196, 9 197, 1	117. 0 117. 3
	110.1	210. 8	191, 1	117. 0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Also includes housefurnishings, fuel, electricity, ice, and miscellaneous goods and services.

Note.—Prices are for moderate-income families in large cities. Source: Department of Labor.

#### WHOLESALE PRICES

Wholesale prices, after advancing to new all-time highs, have fluctuated around that level for several weeks. Farm and food prices showed a downward trend while other prices continued their creeping advance.



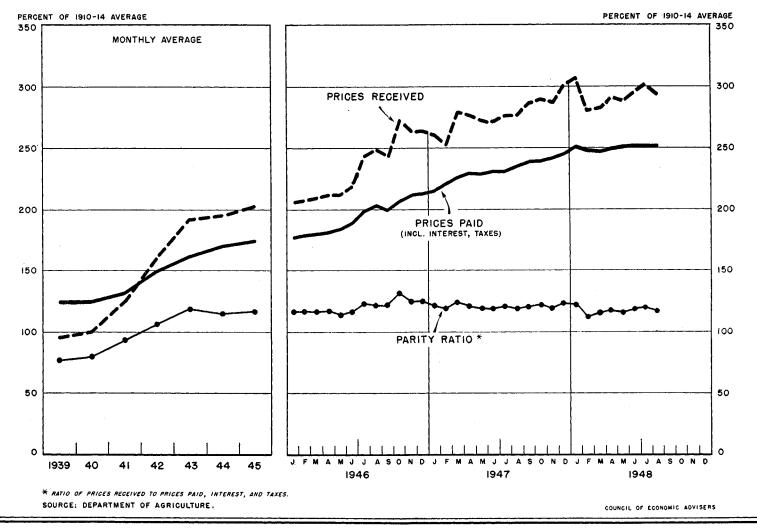
[1926 = 100]

Week ended→	All commod- ities	Farm products	Foods	Other than farm and foods
1946: Jan. 5	106. 8 112. 7 124. 4 139. 6	131. 3 140. 3 156. 6 167. 7	108. 0 113. 4 133. 0 159. 1	100. 6 105. 4 112. 4 123. 9
1947: Mar. 29 June 28 Sept. 27 Dec. 27	149. 4 147. 6 156. 2 163. 0	183. 8 179. 0 184. 7 197. 0	166. 5 162. 2 177. 6 177. 8	131. 9 132. 0 138. 2 146. 0
1948: Jan. 17	159. 7 161. 5 162. 9 164. 4 164. 2 164. 9	201. 5 180. 9 187. 6 189. 2 193. 0 192. 4 193. 5 194. 5	181. 2 173. 3 176. 4 178. 8 178. 0 178. 0 180. 1 180. 7	147. 4 147. 5 147. 3 148. 3 149. 3 149. 3 149. 3
26	166. 7 166. 7 166. 8 168. 9 168. 2 168. 3	198. 4 197. 2 196. 1 198. 1 194. 6 192. 2 193. 6	183. 0 184. 1 185. 3 191. 2 190. 4 187. 7 190. 0	149. 9 149. 8 149. 9 150. 4 150. 6 152. 1 152. 4
14	169. 2	190. 4 191. 0 189. 3	190. 3 185. 9 187. 8	152. 9 153. 1 153. 2

Source: Department of Labor.

#### PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS

Prices received in Aug. fell 3 percent, reflecting a decrease in the prices of most crops. Prices paid by farmers remained stable.



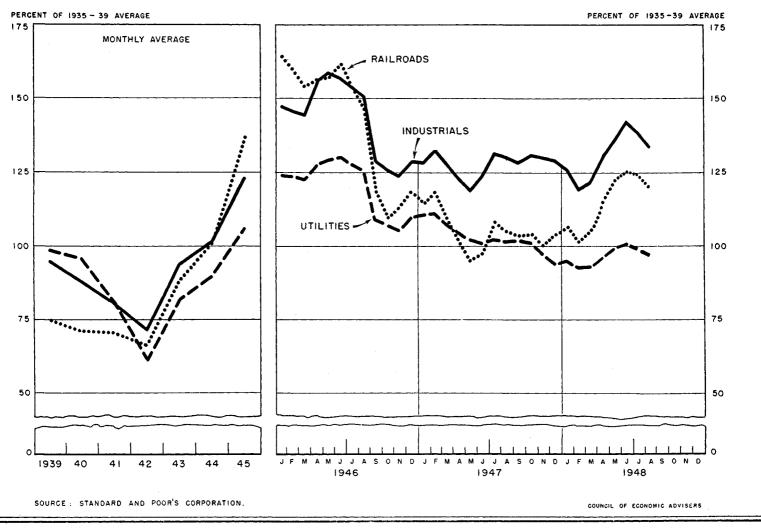
Period	Prices received by farmers <sup>1</sup>	Prices paid by farmers (includ- ing interest and taxes)	Parity ratio 3
1939 monthly average	100 124 159 192 195 202 233	124 125 132 150 162 169 172 193	77 80 94 106 119 115 117 121
1947: June	271 276 276 286	230 230 234 238 239 241 245	118 120 118 120 121 119 123
1948: January February March April May June July August	279 283 291 289 295	251 248 247 249 250 251 251	122 112 115 117 116 118 120

Source: Department of Agriculture.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> August 1909-July 1914=100. <sup>2</sup> Ratio of prices received to prices paid, interest, and taxes.

#### STOCK PRICES

Stock prices continued their downward trend in August. Security markets were sluggish.



[1935-39=100]

Period	Combined index <sup>1</sup>	Industrials 1	Railroads <sup>1</sup>	Utilities 1
1939 monthly average 1940 monthly average 1941 monthly average 1942 monthly average 1943 monthly average 1944 monthly average 1945 monthly average 1946 monthly average	94. 2	94. 8	74. 7	98. 6
	88. 1	87. 9	71. 1	95. 8
	80. 0	80. 4	70. 6	81. 0
	69. 4	71. 3	66. 1	61. 3
	91. 9	94. 1	88. 7	82. 1
	99. 8	101. 7	101. 0	89. 9
	121. 5	123. 3	136. 9	106. 1
	139. 9	143. 4	143. 0	120. 2
1947 monthly average	123. 0	128. 0	105. 3	102. 9
	119. 1	124. 1	97. 6	100. 8
	126. 0	131. 7	108. 2	102. 2
	124. 5	130. 2	105. 2	101. 4
	123. 1	128. 4	103. 6	102. 0
	125. 1	131. 1	104. 2	101. 0
	123. 6	130. 3	100. 1	97. 2
	122. 4	129. 2	103. 9	94. 0
1948: January February April June July August August February August February May February Fe		126. 0 119. 2 121. 8 130. 8 136. 9 142. 7 138. 9 133. 5	106. 5 101. 9 105. 2 115. 2 122. 6 125. 6 124. 7 119. 7	95. 1 92. 6 93. 0 96. 2 99. 2 100. 6 99. 1 97. 3

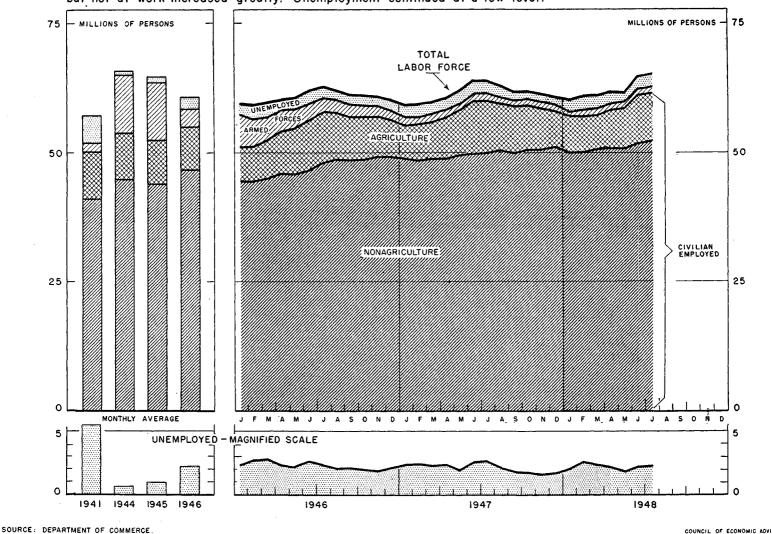
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Combined index prior to June 23, 1948, was based on 402 common stocks, and included 354 industrials, 20 railroads, and 28 utilities; thereafter, 416 common stocks are represented, with 365 industrials, 20 railroads, and 31 utilities.

Source: Standard & Poor's Corp.

# **EMPLOYMENT**

#### LABOR FORCE

Civilian employment remained above 61 million in July as a large number of youths entering the summer labor market were absorbed by agriculture and industry. Due primarily to vacations, the number employed but not at work increased greatly. Unemployment continued at a low level.



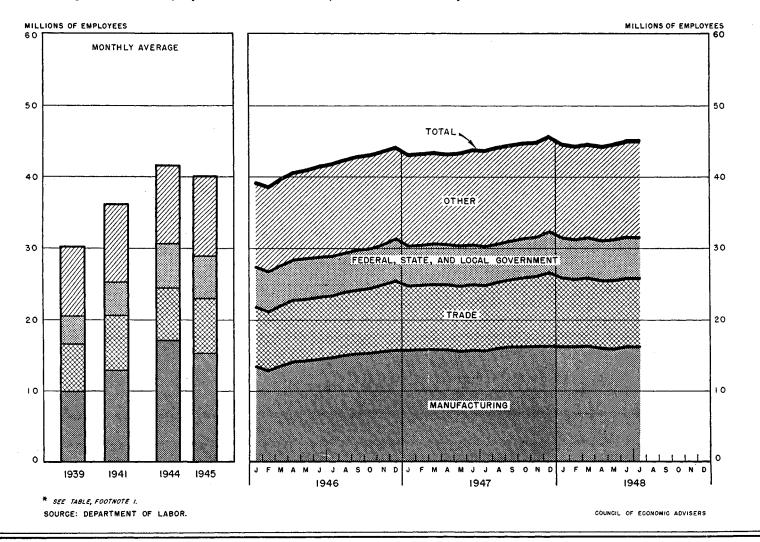
[Thousands of persons 14 years of age and over]

	Total labor	C	ivilian employe	ed		
Period	force, in- cluding armed forces	Total	In non- agricultural industries	In agri- culture	Armed forces	Unemployed
1941 monthly average	65, 890	50, 350	41, 250	9, 100	1, 470	5, 560
1944 monthly average		53, 960	45, 010	8, 950	11, 260	670
1945 monthly average		52, 820	44, 240	8, 580	11, 280	1, 040
1946 monthly average		55, 250	46, 930	8, 320	3, 300	2, 270
1947 monthly average		58, 027	49, 761	8, 266	1, 440	2, 141
July	64, 007	60, 055	49, 678	10, 377	1, 398	2, 555
	64, 035	60, 079	50, 013	10, 066	1, 371	2, 584
	63, 017	59, 569	50, 594	8, 975	1, 352	2, 096
	62, 130	58, 872	50, 145	8, 727	1, 346	1, 912
	62, 219	59, 204	50, 583	8, 622	1, 327	1, 687
	61, 510	58, 595	50, 609	7, 985	1, 294	1, 621
	60, 870	57, 947	50, 985	6, 962	1, 280	1, 643
1948: January February March April May June July August 1	60, 455	57, 149	50, 089	7, 060	1, 242	2, 065
	61, 004	57, 139	50, 368	6, 771	1, 226	2, 639
	61, 005	57, 329	50, 482	6, 847	1, 236	2, 440
	61, 760	58, 330	50, 883	7, 448	1, 237	2, 193
	61, 660	58, 660	50, 800	7, 861	1, 238	1, 761
	64, 740	61, 296	51, 899	9, 396	1, 260	2, 184
	65, 135	61, 615	52, 452	9, 163	1, 293	2, 227
	64, 511	61, 245	52, 801	8, 444	1, 325	1, 941

Data became available after chart was prepared. Note.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Source: Department of Commerce.

#### NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT\*

Nonagricultural employment continued at peak levels in July.



[Thousands of employees]

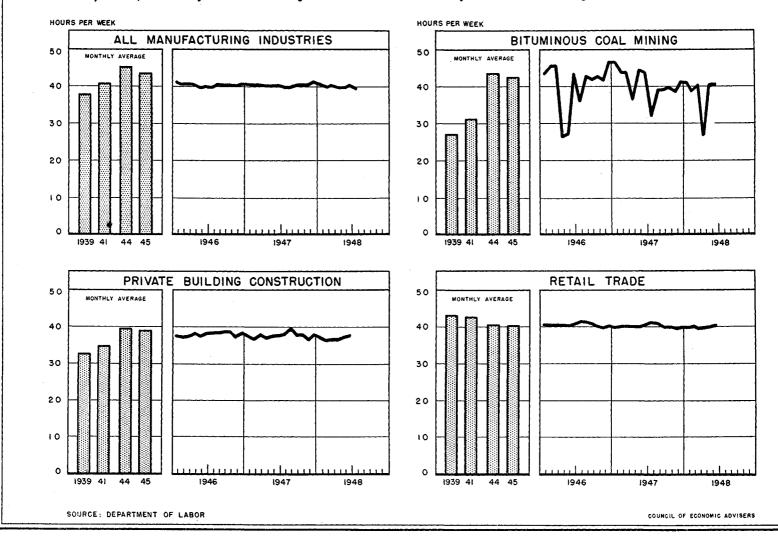
Period	Total wage and salary workers <sup>1</sup>	Manufac- turing	Trade	Federal, State, and local gov- ernment	Other
1939 monthly average 1941 monthly average 1944 monthly average 1945 monthly average 1946 monthly average 1947 monthly average 1947: June  July  August  September  October  November  December  1948: January  February  March  April  May  June  June  July  June  July  June  July 2	36, 164 41, 480 40, 069 41, 494 43, 970 43, 816 43, 686 44, 125 44, 513 44, 518 44, 918 45, 618 44, 603 44, 279 44, 295 44, 626 45, 046	10, 078 12, 974 17, 111 15, 302 14, 515 15, 901 15, 672 15, 580 15, 962 16, 175 16, 209 16, 256 16, 354 16, 269 15, 945 15, 604 16, 181		3, 987 4, 622 6, 026 5, 967 5, 667 5, 454 5, 318 5, 414 5, 318 5, 403 5, 414 5, 638 5, 492 5, 546 5, 57 5, 624 5, 607 5, 596	9, 517 11, 001 10, 944 11, 115 12, 552 13, 170 13, 366 13, 449 13, 489 13, 481 13, 389 13, 338 13, 216 13, 084 13, 185 13, 286 13, 185 13, 286 13, 185 13, 286 13, 185 13, 286 13, 185 13, 286 13, 185 13, 286 13, 185 13, 286 13, 185 13, 286 13, 185 13, 286 13, 185 13, 286 13, 185 13, 286 13, 185 13, 286 13, 185 13, 286 13, 186 13, 607 13, 644

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in nonagricultural establishments who worked or 1 Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in nonagricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Excludes proprietors, self-employed persons, domestic servants, and personnel of the armed forces. Not comparable with estimates of nonagricultural employment of the civilian labor force reported by the Department of Commerce (p. 6) which include proprietors, self-employed persons, and domestic servants; which count persons as employed when they are not at work because of industrial disputes; and which are based on an enumeration of population, whereas the estimates in this table are based on reports from employing establishments.

2 Preliminary estimate.

## **AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS**

The workweek in manufacturing and most nonmanufacturing industries approximated 40 hours in June, with preliminary data indicating a small decrease in July for manufacturing industries.



[Hours per week, selected industries]

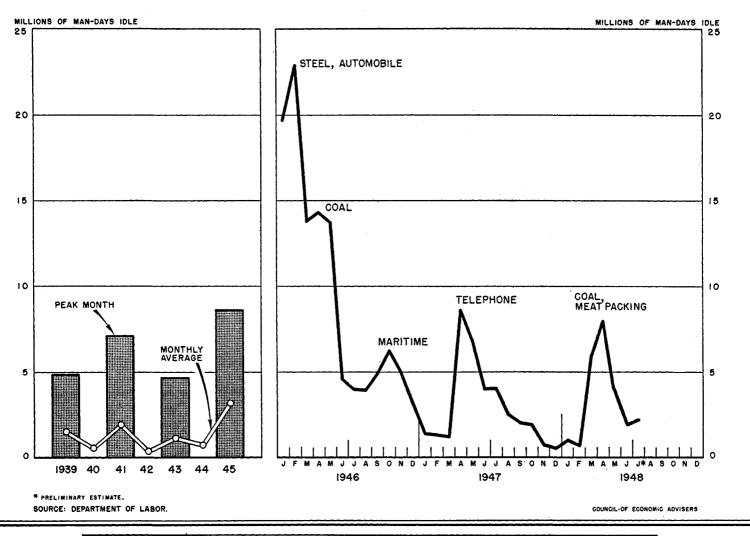
Period	All manu- facturing industries	Bituminous coal mining	Private building construction <sup>1</sup>	Retail trade
1939 monthly average	43. 4 40. 4	27. 1 31. 1 43. 4 42. 3 41. 6 40. 7	32. 6 34. 8 39. 6 39. 0 38. 1 37. 8	43. 0 42. 5 40. 3 40. 3 40. 5
1947: June	40. 2 39. 8 39. 8 40. 4 40. 6	43. 7 31. 8 39. 1 39. 1 39. 9 38. 5 41. 2	37. 7 37. 9 39. 7 38. 0 38. 0 36. 6 37. 9	40. 8 41. 1 41. 0 40. 0 40. 0 39. 5 39. 7
1948: January February March April May June 3 July \$	40. 4 40. 1 39. 9	40. 9 38. 7 40. 6 2 27. 0 40. 3 40. 3	37. 2 36. 7 37. 1 37. 0 37. 1 37. 9	39. 8 40. 0 39. 8 39. 8 39. 9 40. 3

Covers only employees at the site of privately financed building projects.
 Based on pay period during coal stoppage.
 Preliminary estimate.

Source: Department of Labor.

#### **WORK STOPPAGES**

About 2 million workdays were lost in July because of work stoppages. This represents only a slight increase over the June loss.



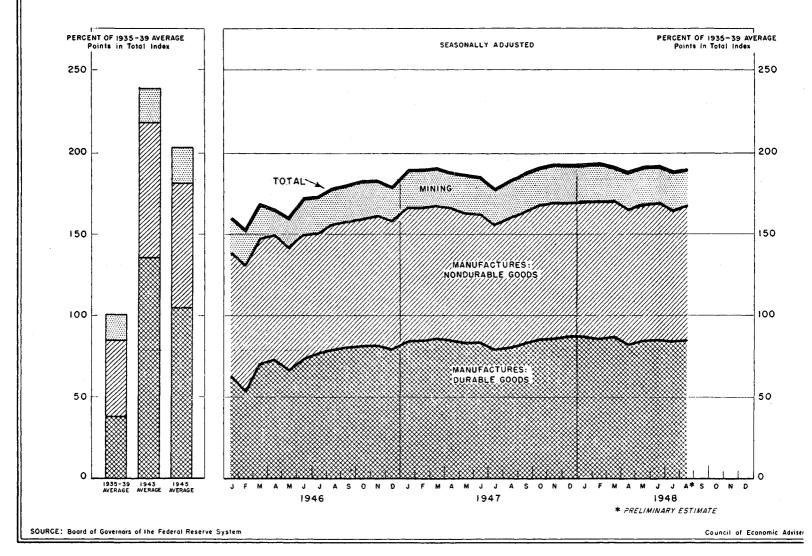
Period	Man-days idle (thousands)	Principal stoppage
1939: Monthly averageApril—peak month	1, 484 4, 902	Coal.
1940: Monthly average	559	
1941: Monthly average	1, 921 7, 113	Coal.
1942: Monthly average	349	
1943: Monthly average	1, 125 4, 699	Coal.
1944: Monthly average	727	
1945: Monthly averageOctober—peak month	3, 168 8, 610	Coal.
1946: Monthly average	9, 672	
1947: Monthly average	2, 908	
1947: June	4,000	
August September October	2,000	
November December	700	
1948: JanuaryFebruary		
MarchApril	6, 000 8, 000	Coal, meat packing.
May June July <sup>1</sup>	2,000	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Preliminary estimate.

# PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS ACTIVITY

#### INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

Industrial production increased about 2 percent in August, thus regaining most of the loss in July when there were many plant-wide vacations.



[1935-39=100, seasonally adjusted]

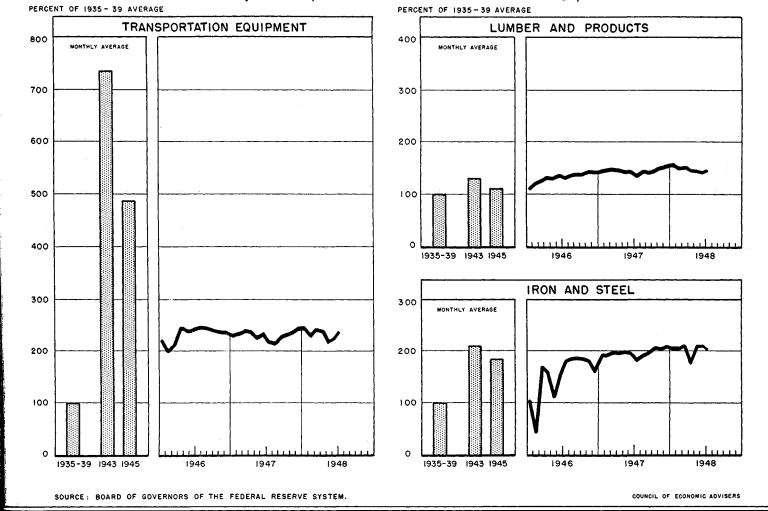
	Indexes, 1935–39=100						s in total inc verage for to	
Period	Total	Total		ures		Manuf	actures	
	industrial production	Total	Durable goods	Nondura- ble goods	Mining	Durable goods	Nondura- ble goods	Mining
1935-39 monthly average 1943 monthly average 1945 monthly average 1946 monthly average 1947 monthly average	239 203 170 187	100 258 214 177 194	100 360 274 192 220	100 176 166 165 172	100 132 137 134 149	38 136 104 73 83	47 83 78 77 81	15 20 21 21 23
July	176 182 187 190 192	191 183 188 192 197 199 198	219 207 210 217 223 224 229	168 163 169 172 176 179	148 140 150 153 155 155 156	83 79 80 83 84 85 87	79 76 79 80 83 84 81	23 21 23 23 24 24 24
1948: January February March April May June July 1 August 1	194 191 188 191 192 187	200 201 200 195 197 198 193 197	229 226 229 217 220 222 219 222	178 180 177 177 178 178 171 176	154 155 142 147 162 159 154 160	87 86 87 82 83 84 83	83 84 83 83 83 84 80 83	23 24 22 22 25 24 24 24

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary estimate.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

# PRODUCTION OF SELECTED DURABLE MANUFACTURES

Production of transportation equipment in July increased more than 5 percent above the June rate as the number of passenger cars and trucks assembled reached a new postwar peak. Lumber production increased more than seasonally. The output of iron and steel decreased about 3 percent.



[1935-39=100, seasonally adjusted]

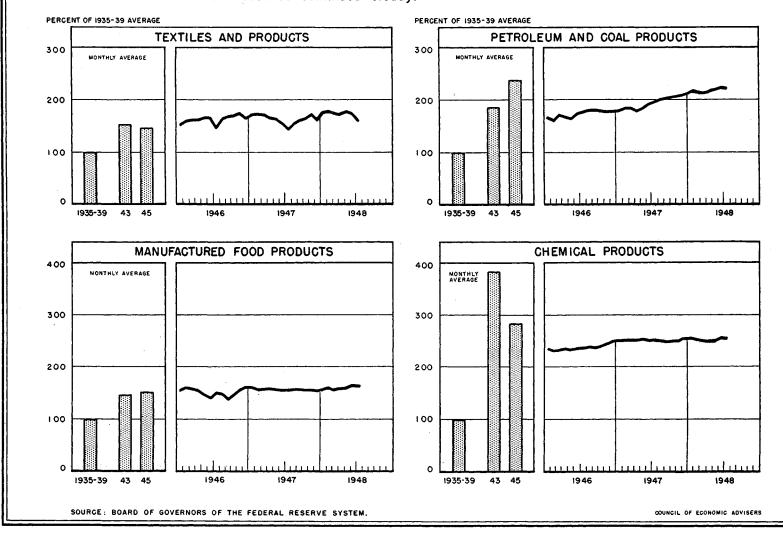
Period	Transportation equipment	Lumber and products	Iron and steel
1935-39 monthly average 1943 monthly average 1945 monthly average 1946 monthly average 1947 monthly average 1947: June July	734 487 232 230 233 217	100 130 110 130 144 142 133	100 208 183 150 195
August	213 227 232 234 243 244 232 240	142 140 143 150 153 156 150	188 195 204 202 205 203 203 207
April May June July <sup>1</sup>	218 223	145 142 140 143	177 207 207 201

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Preliminary estimate.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

# PRODUCTION OF SELECTED NONDURABLE MANUFACTURES

The July output of textile industries was about 9 percent below the June level. The output of most other nondurable industries continued steady.



[1935-39=100, seasonally adjusted]

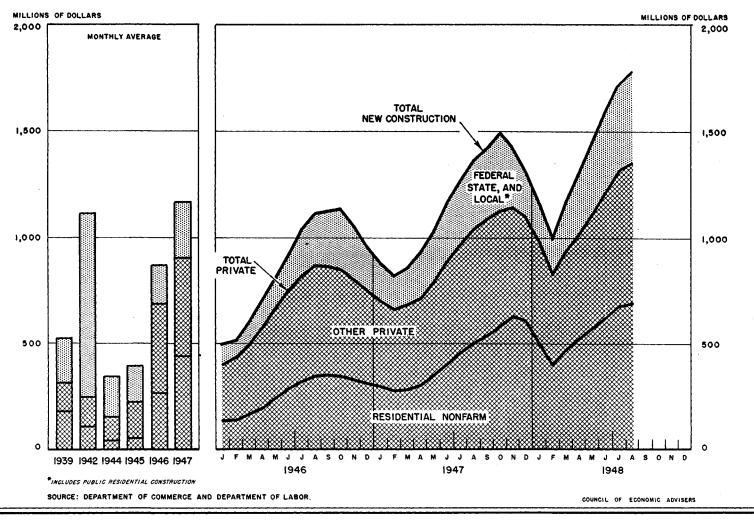
Period	Textiles and products	Petroleum and coal products	Manufac- tured food products	Chemical products
1935-39 monthly average 1943 monthly average 1945 monthly average 1946 monthly average 1947 monthly average 1947: June July August September October November December	153 146 162 163 155 142 154 160	100 185 235 173 193 191 195 201 203 204 205 208	100 145 151 150 157 154 155 157 158 156 158	100 384 284 236 251 250 251 249 248 248 255
1948: January February March April May June July 1	179 175 174 176	214 214 211 213 220 221 220	158 160 159 158 159 164 163	255 252 250 249 249 256 255

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Preliminary estimate.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

#### **NEW CONSTRUCTION**

Construction of \$1.8 billion in August exceeded the previous postwar record volume reached in July.



]Millions of dollars]

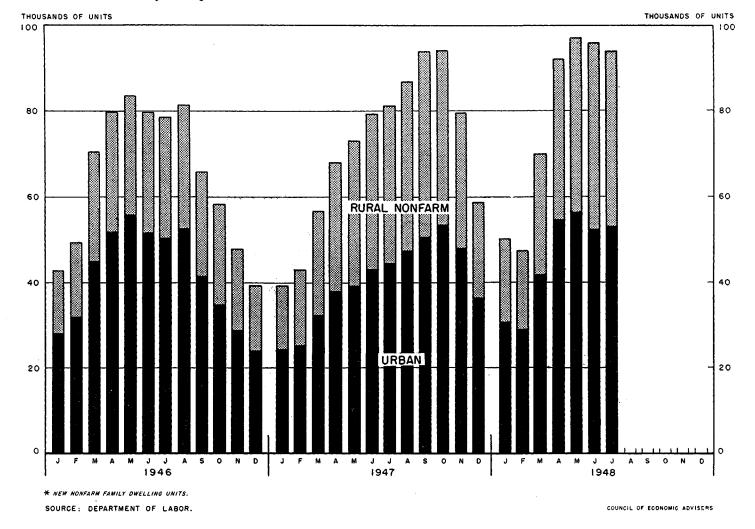
	Total new	Pri	Federal,		
Period	construction	Total private	Residential (nonfarm)	Other	State, and local 1
1939 monthly average	1, 118 345 401 871	317 251 152 226 688 908	176 110 45 57 265 438	141 141 107 169 422 469	208 867 193 174 184 257
1947: June	1, 162 1, 264 1, 364 1, 423 1, 497 1, 432	885 966 1, 042 1, 086 1, 129 1, 141 1, 097	405 455 500 540 590 630 610	480 511 542 546 539 511 487	277 298 322 337 368 291 223
1948: January February March April May June July August 2	1, 009 1, 166 1, 311 1, 461 1, 616 1, 719	948 837 940 1, 024 1, 120 1, 235 1, 320 1, 355	500 400 475 525 585 635 675 690	448 437 466 499 535 600 645 665	209 172 226 287 341 381 399 430

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes public residential construction. Preliminary estimate.

Note.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Sources: Department of Commerce and Department of Labor.

# **NEW HOUSING STARTS\***

The number of new houses started in July was 2,000 below the June number, but 13,000 above that of a year ago.

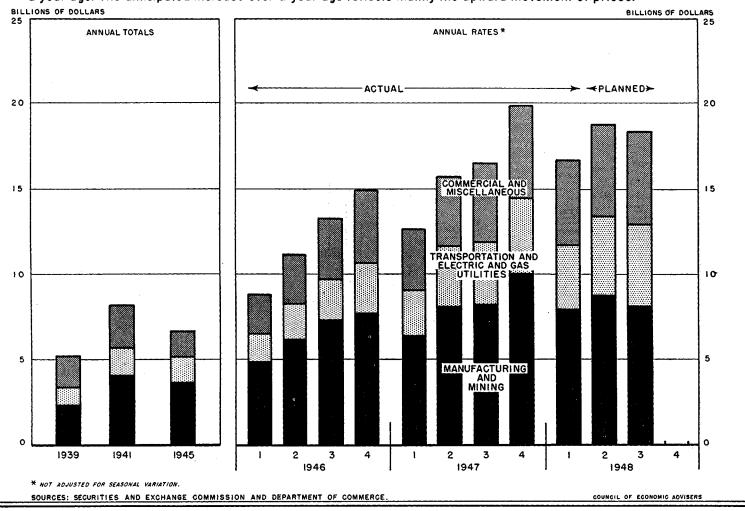


Period	New nonfarm units (conventional and prefabricated) <sup>1</sup>				
	Total	Urban	Rural nonfarm		
1946 monthly average	64, 683 71, 125	41, 164 40, 125	23, 520 31, 000		
1947: January February March April May June July August September October November December	39, 300 42, 800 56, 700 67, 900 73, 100 81, 100 86, 800 93, 800 94, 000 79, 800 58, 800	24, 200 25, 000 32, 300 38, 000 39, 300 43, 000 44, 500 47, 400 50, 300 53, 200 48, 000 36, 300	15, 100 17, 800 24, 400 29, 900 33, 800 36, 400 39, 400 43, 500 40, 800 31, 800 22, 500		
1948: January February March April May June July	50, 000 47, 200 70, 000 92, 000 97, 000 96, 000 94, 000	30, 400 28, 800 41, 800 54, 300 56, 400 52, 900 53, 000	19, 600 18, 400 28, 200 37, 700 40, 600 43, 100 41, 000		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> New nonfarm family dwelling units. Temporary units are excluded after 1947 when the program ended. Note.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Source: Department of Labor.

#### EXPENDITURES FOR NEW PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Plans of nonagricultural business for spending \$18.3 billion (annual rate) on new plant and equipment in 3rd quarter 1948, are at about the same level as 2nd quarter, and \$1.7 billion more than actual expenditures a year ago. The anticipated increase over a year ago reflects mainly the upward movement of prices.



[Millions of dollars, annual rates, not adjusted for seasonal]

Period	Total <sup>1</sup>	Manufac-	3.61	Transpo	ortation	Electric and	Commercial and miscel- laneous <sup>2</sup>	
renod	Total -	turing	Mining	Railroad	Railroad Other	gas utilities		
1939	5, 200	1, 930	380	280	280	480	1, 850	
	8, 190	3, 400	680	560	340	710	2, 490	
	6, 630	3, 210	440	550	320	630	1, 480	
	12, 040	5, 910	560	570	660	1, 040	3, 300	
	16, 180	7, 460	690	910	800	1, 900	4, 430	
	12, 640	5, 800	600	640	720	1, 320	3, 600	
	15, 760	7, 400	640	880	920	1, 800	4, 120	
	16, 560	7, 480	720	920	800	2, 000	4, 640	
	19, 760	9, 160	840	1, 200	760	2, 480	5, 360	
1948: First quarter Second quarter Third quarter	16, 680	7, 200	720	1, 080	720	2, 000	4, 960	
	18, 760	8, 040	720	1, 400	840	2, 440	5, 320	
	18, 280	7, 400	720	1, 520	680	2, 600	5, 360	

<sup>1</sup> Excludes agriculture.

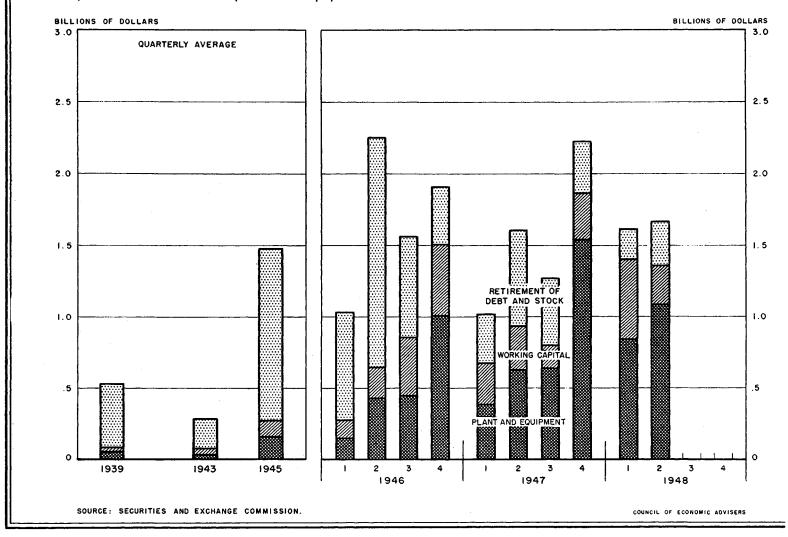
Includes trade, service, finance, and communication.
 Estimates based on anticipated capital expenditures of business.

Note.—These figures do not agree with the totals included in the gross national product estimates of the Department of Commerce, principally because the latter cover agricultural investment and also certain equipment and construction outlays charged to current expense. Figures for 1939–44 are Federal Reserve Board estimates based on Securities and Exchange Commission and other

Detail will not necessarily add to totals because annual rates are based on quarterly figures rounded to the nearest 10,000,000. Sources: Securities and Exchange Commission and Department of Commerce (except as noted).

#### **NEW CORPORATE SECURITY ISSUES**

New issues in 2nd quarter 1948 were slightly higher than in the previous quarter. The proportion of proceeds earmarked for plant and equipment continued to increase.



#### [Millions of dollars]

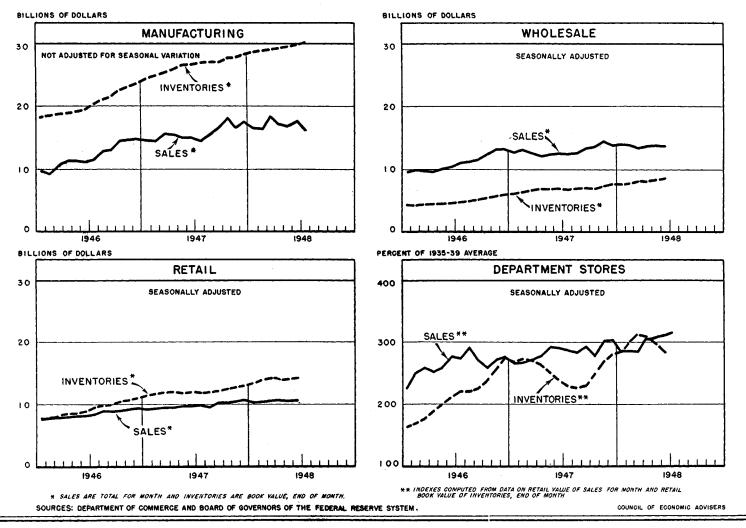
		Proposed uses of net proceeds				
Period	Estimated net pro- ceeds		Retirement			
	ceeus	Total	Plant and equipment	Working capital	of debt and stock 1	
1939 quarterly average	287 1, 476	81 77 270 820 1, 068	43 35 159 529 806	39 42 111 291 261	448 210 1, 206 869 460	
1947: First quarter	1, 605	673 932 797 1, 867	396 636 649 1, 542	278 296 148 325	344 672 469 354	
1948: First quarterSecond quarter	1, 614 1, 663	1, 400 1, 353	845 1, 080	555 274	214 309	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes small amount for other purposes.

Note.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Source: Securities and Exchange Commission.

#### INVENTORIES AND SALES

Manufacturing sales in July were 10 percent below June because of plant-wide vacations in many industries. Department store sales showed a slight increase.



Thursday A	Manufact	uring 1	Whole	sale ²	Retail 2		Department stores	
Period	Inventories *	Sales 4	Inventories *	Sales 4	Inventories 3	Sales 4	Inventories	Sales
			Millions o	of dollars			1935-39=100 adjus	
1946: March	19, 472	10, 712 11, 131 13, 055 14, 635	4, 304 4, 578 5, 131 5, 994	9, 691 10, 370 11, 402 13, 052	8, 023 8, 917 9, 995 11, 049	7, 783 8, 101 8, 811 9, 205	177 210 226 274	255 275 272 276
1947: March April May June July August September October November December	25, 398 25, 853 26, 440 26, 479 26, 846 27, 051 27, 055 27, 397 27, 627	15, 546 15, 398 15, 048 15, 063 14, 361 15, 257 16, 597 18, 082 16, 554 17, 523	6, 611 6, 778 6, 737 6, 864 6, 726 6, 886 6, 997 6, 943 7, 349 7, 577	12, 627 12, 218 12, 369 12, 541 12, 403 12, 523 13, 263 13, 615 14, 333 13, 697	11, 832 11, 974 11, 772 11, 948 11, 925 11, 944 12, 073 12, 435 12, 621 12, 953	9, 399 9, 610 9, 681 9, 743 9, 730 9, 621 10, 162 10, 258 10, 485 10, 653	273 264 252 242 231 227 231 251 273 283	272 278 290 288 287 284 294 279 302
1948: January February March April May June 5 July 8	28, 768 29, 064 29, 161 29, 437 29, 738	16, 552 16, 225 18, 117 17, 229 16, 777 17, 866 16, 000	7, 618 7, 754 8, 054 8, 049 8, 071 8, 239	14, 096 13, 993 13, 426 13, 684 13, 847 13, 740	13, 384 13, 751 14, 040 13, 907 13, 951 14, 168	10, 445 10, 381 10, 565 10, 841 10, 599 10, 715	288 303 312 308 296 283	286 286 285 306 310 312

Not adjusted for seasonal variation.

Adjusted for seasonal variation.

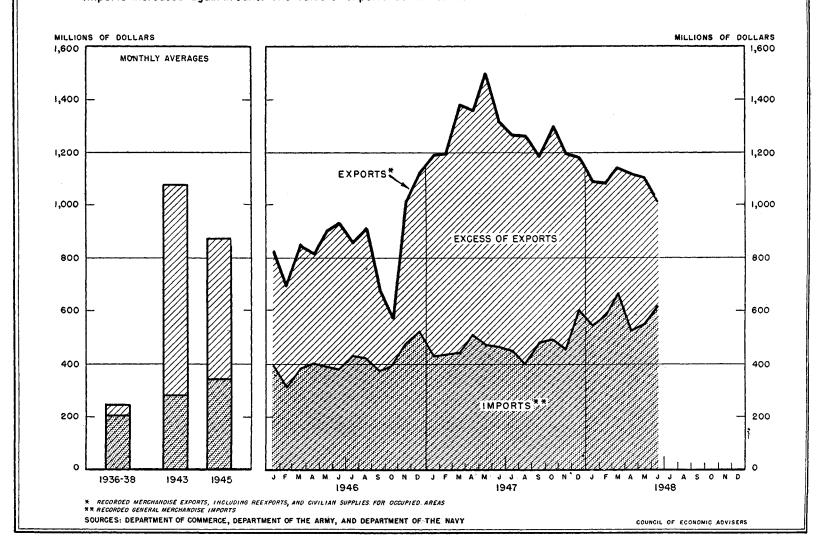
Book value, end of month.Total for month.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Indexes computed from data on retail value of sales for month and retail book value of inventories, end of month.

<sup>6</sup> Preliminary estimate.

#### **EXPORTS AND IMPORTS**

Imports increased again in June. The value of exports continued down.



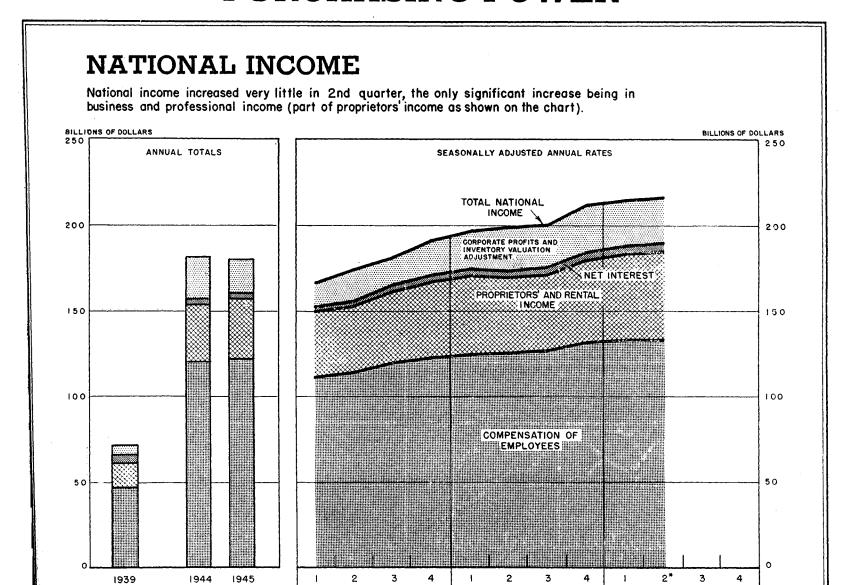
#### [Millions of dollars]

Period	Exports 1	Imports 3	Excess of exports
1936-38 monthly average 1943 monthly average 1945 monthly average 1946 monthly average 1947 monthly average  1947: May June July August September October November December	877 849 1, 281 1, 503 1, 320 1, 265 1, 265 1, 183 1, 303	207 282 346 409 478 474 463 450 400 481 492 455 601	40 798 531 440 803 1, 029 857 815 865 702 811 740 598
1948: January February March April May June July 3	1, 141 $1, 122$	546 582 666 527 549 616 559	545 504 475 595 554 397 463

Recorded merchandise exports, including reexports, and civilian supplies for occupied areas.
 Recorded general merchandise imports.
 Data became available after chart was prepared.

Sources: Department of Commerce, Department of the Army, and Department of the Navy.

# **PURCHASING POWER**



#### [Billions of dollars]

1947

1948

1946

Period	Total National Income	Compensa- tion of employees	Proprietors' and rental income	Net interest	Corporate profits and inventory valuation adjustment	
1939	72. 5	47. 8	14. 7	4. 2	5. 8	
1944	182. 4	121. 1	34. 1	3. 1	24. 0	
1945	181. 7	122. 9	36. 0	3. 0	19. 8	
1946	179. 3	117. 3	41. 8	3. 4	16. 8	
1947	202. 5	127. 5	46. 0	4. 3	24. 7	
	Annual rates, seasonally adjusted					
1947: First quarter	197. 3	125. 0	46. 4	4. 1	21. 8	
	199. 3	125. 3	44. 6	4. 2	25. 2	
	200. 6	127. 6	44. 4	4. 4	24. 3	
	212. 8	132. 2	48. 6	4. 5	27. 5	
1948: First quarter <sup>1</sup>	215. 1	133. 7	50. 6	4. 6	26. 2	
Second quarter <sup>1</sup>	217. 4	133. 9	51. 9	4. 7	26. 9	

Revised

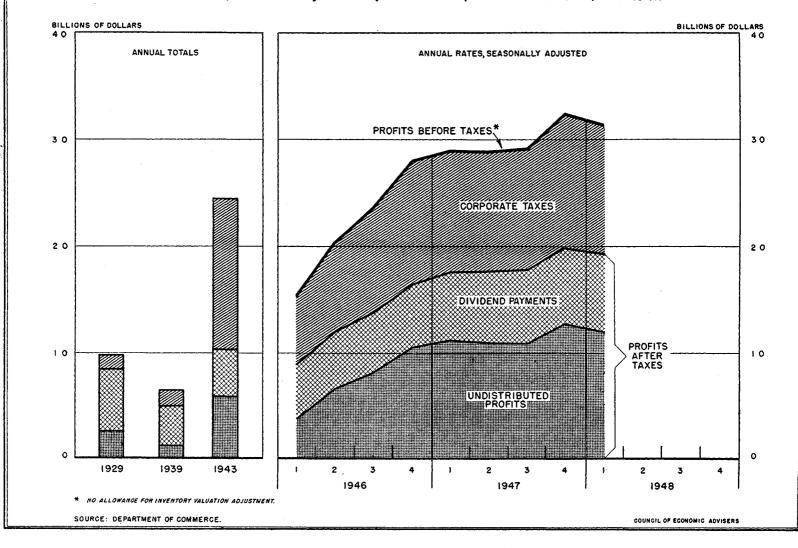
\*PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Note.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Source: Department of Commerce.

#### CORPORATE PROFITS

Corporate profits for 1st. quarter of this year were just below the peak reached in 4th. quarter 1947.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Corporate	Corporate	Corporate profits after taxes			
	profits tax before taxes liability		Total	Dividend payments	Undistributed profits	
1929 1939 1943 1946 1947	9. 8 6. 5 24. 5 21. 8 29. 8	1. 4 1. 5 14. 2 9. 0 11. 7	8. 4 5. 0 10. 4 12. 8 18. 1	5. 8 3. 8 4. 5 5. 6 6. 9	2. 6 1. 2 5. 9 7. 2 11. 2	
		Annual 1	rates, seasonall	y adjusted		
1947: First quarter	28. 9 28. 8 29. 1 32. 4 31. 4	11. 4 11. 3 11. 4 12. 7	17. 5 17. 5 17. 7 19. 7	6. 4 6. 7 6. 9 7. 1 7. 3	11. 1 10. 8 10. 8 12. 6	

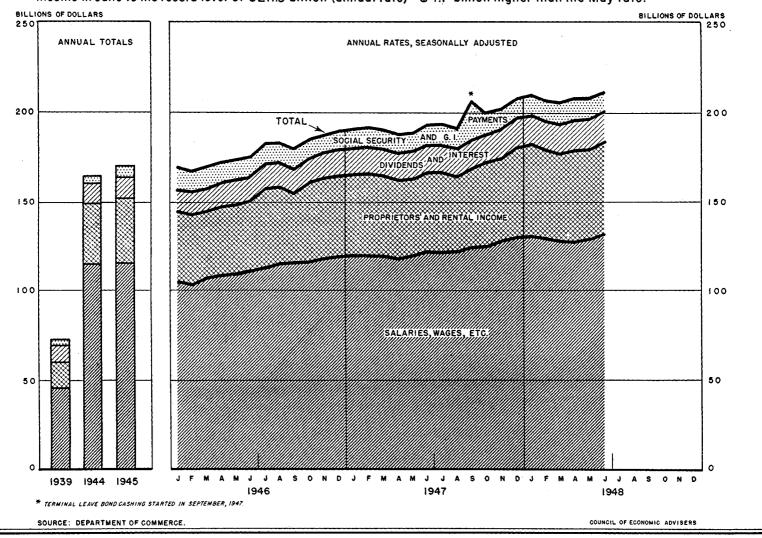
Note.—No allowance has been made for inventory valuation adjustment. See p. 19 for profits after taxes and inventory valuation adjustment.

Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Department of Commerce.

#### PERSONAL INCOME

Wage increases and a further rise in farm income (part of proprietors' income shown on chart) pushed personal income in June to the record level of \$211.9 billion (annual rate)—\$4.7 billion higher than the May rate.



#### [Billions of dollars]

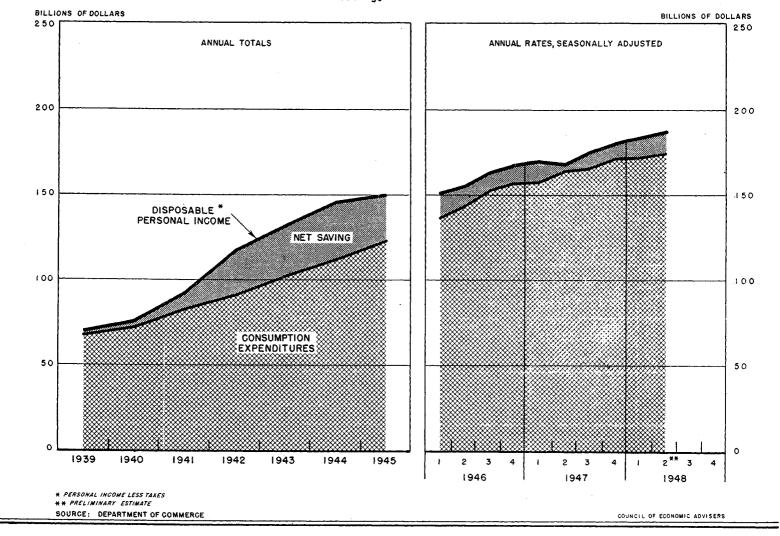
Period	Total personal income	Salaries, wages, and other labor income	Proprietors' and rental income	Dividends and interest	Social security and GI pay- ments	
1939 1944 1945 1946 1947	72. 6 164. 5 170. 3 178. 1 195. 2	45. 6 116. 1 116. 8 111. 4 121. 9	14. 7 34. 1 36. 0 41. 8 46. 0	9. 2 10. 6 11. 4 13. 5 15. 6	3. 0 3. 6 6. 2 11. 4 11. 7	
	Annual rates, seasonally adjusted					
1947: May	200. 0 201. 4 207. 7 209. 4 206. 8 205. 6	118. 8 121. 4 121. 2 121. 9 123. 8 124. 6 127. 4 129. 3 129. 4 128. 9 127. 6 127. 0	44. 2 45. 1 45. 3 42. 8 45. 0 47. 5 47. 1 51. 3 52. 4 50. 0 49. 3 51. 9	15. 3 15. 4 15. 6 15. 6 16. 2 15. 9 16. 1 16. 2 16. 5 16. 6 16. 6	10. 3 10. 5 11. 1 10. 5 21. 2 12. 0 10. 8 10. 9 11. 1 11. 3 12. 1	
May June		128. 8 131. 3	50. 7 53. 0	16. 8 16. 8	10. 9 11. 0	

Note.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Department of Commerce.

# CONSUMER INCOME, SPENDING, AND SAVING

Consumption income increased more than expenditures in the 2nd quarter, according to revised data. There was a small increase in the rate of saving.



#### [Billions of dollars]

Period	Disposable personal income <sup>1</sup>	Less: Personal consumption expenditures	Equals: Personal saving
1939	75. 7 92. 0 116. 2 131. 6	67. 5 72. 1 82. 3 90. 8 101. 6 111. 4 122. 8 147. 4 164. 8	2. 7 3. 7 9. 8 25. 4 30. 0 34. 2 26. 6 11. 8 8. 8
	Annual	rates, seasonally	adjusted
1947: First quarter	169. 7 168. 2 175. 0 180. 9	158. 1 164. 2 165. 6 171. 1	11. 6 4. 1 9. 4 9. 7
1948: First quarter <sup>2</sup> Second quarter <sup>2</sup>	183. 7 187. 3	172. 0 175. 1	11. 7 12. 2

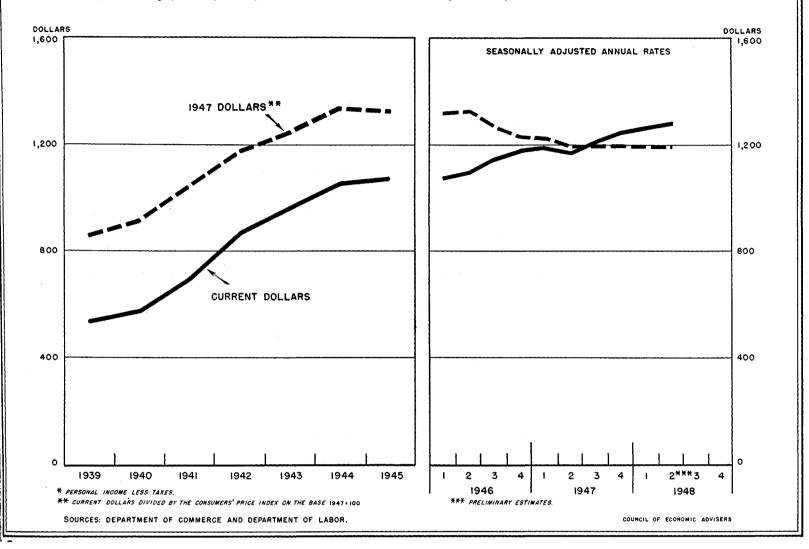
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Income less taxes.

Note.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Source: Department of Commerce.

<sup>2</sup> Revised.

# PER CAPITA INCOME\*

Real purchasing power per capita has been almost stationary for a year.



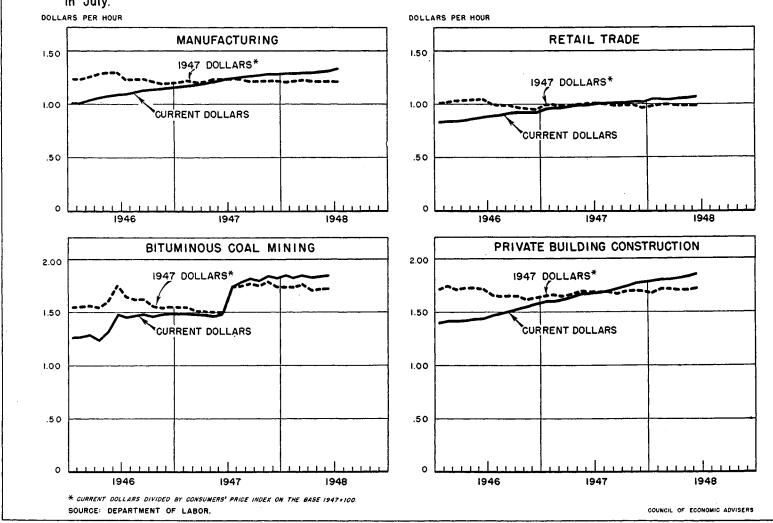
		Per capita disposable personal income 1		
Period	Current dollars	1947 dollars 2	price index, 1947=100	
1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946	574 691 863 964 1,054 1,070	\$859 913 1, 045 1, 179 1, 242 1, 338 1, 326 1, 288 1, 205	62. 4 62. 9 66. 1 73. 2 77. 6 78. 8 80. 7 87. 5 100. 0	
		s, seasonally isted	Not adjusted for seasonal variation	
1947: First quarter	1, 170 1, 212	1, 224 1, 191 1, 200 1, 200	96. 9 98. 2 101. 0 103. 8	
1948: First quarter 3Second quarter 3	1, 261 1, 280	1, 198 1, 195	105. 3 107. 0	

Sources: Department of Commerce and Department of Labor.

Income less taxes.
 Current dollars divided by the consumers' price index on the base 1947=100.
 Revised.

#### **AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS**

Average hourly earnings continued to increase generally in June as further wage-increase agreements were reached. Preliminary data for manufacturing industries indicate a continuation of this trend in July.



#### [Selected industries]

	Manufacturing		Retail trade		Bituminous coal mining		Private building construction I	
Period	Current dollars	1947 dollars <sup>3</sup>	Current dollars	1947 dollars <sup>3</sup>	Current dollars	1947 dollars *	Current dollars	1947 dollars
1939 monthly average	. 729 1. 019 1. 023 1. 084	\$1. 01 4 1. 103 1. 293 1. 268 1. 239 1. 221	\$0. 536 . 568 . 724 . 773 . 878 . 991	\$0. 859 . 859 . 919 . 958 1. 003 . 991	\$0. 886 . 993 1. 186 1. 240 1. 401 1. 644	\$1. 420 1. 502 1. 505 1. 537 1. 601 1. 644	\$0. 932 1. 010 1. 319 1. 379 1. 478 1. 676	\$1. 494 1. 528 1. 674 1. 709 1. 689 1. 676
1947: May June July August September October November December	1. 207 1. 226 1. 230 1. 236 1. 249 1. 258	1. 232 1. 242 1. 236 1. 227 1. 214 1. 223 1. 224 1. 218	. 985 . 996 1. 003 1. 003 1. 012 1. 013 1. 025 1. 016	1. 005 1. 009 1. 008 . 996 . 983 . 986 . 989	1. 470 1. 489 1. 740 1. 787 1. 819 1. 798 1. 851 1. 826	1. 500 1. 509 1. 749 1. 775 1. 768 1. 747 1. 787	1. 656 1. 661 1. 669 1. 689 1. 718 1. 738 1. 765 1. 774	1. 690 1. 683 1. 677 1. 677 1. 670 1. 689 1. 704 1. 691
1948: January February March April May June <sup>4</sup> July <sup>4</sup>	1. 287 1. 289 1. 292 1. 302 1. 317	1. 212 1. 223 1. 230 1. 215 1. 216 1. 221 1. 212	1. 044 1. 050 1. 044 1. 055 1. 064 1. 070	. 985 . 998 . 996 . 992 . 993 . 992	1. 847 1. 826 1. 842 1. 821 1. 841 1. 848	1. 742 1. 736 1. 758 1. 713 1. 719 1. 713	1. 781 1. 806 1. 805 1. 818 1. 835 1. 858	1. 680 1. 717 1. 722 1. 710 1. 713 1, 722

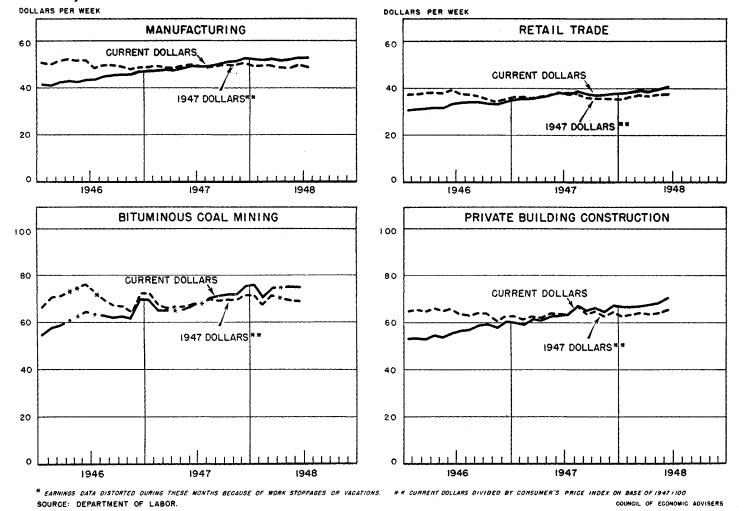
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Covers only employees at the site of privately financed building projects.
<sup>2</sup> Current dollars divided by consumers' price index on the base 1947=100.

Source: Department of Labor.

<sup>Based on pay period during coal stoppage.
Preliminary estimate.</sup> 

#### **AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS**

Average weekly earnings rose again in June reflecting both wage increases and a slightly lengthened workweek. Preliminary data show that a shorter workweek kept manufacturing earnings stable in July.



#### [Selected industries]

D	Manuf	acturing	Retail trade		Bituminous coal mining		Private building con- struction 1	
Period	Current dollars	1947 dollars 2	Current dollars	1947 dollars	Current dollars	1947 dollars 2	Current dollars	1947 dollars 2
1939 monthly average_1941 monthly average_1944 monthly average_1945 monthly average_1946 monthly average_1947 monthly average_	\$23. 86 29. 58 46. 08 44. 39 43. 74 49. 25	\$38. 24 44. 75 58. 48 55. 01 49. 99 49. 25	\$21. 17 21. 94 26. 58 28. 31 32. 55 36. 67	\$33. 93 33. 19 33. 73 35. 08 37. 20 36. 67	\$23. 88 30. 86 51. 27 52. 25 58. 03 66. 86	\$38. 27 46. 69 65. 06 64. 75 66. 32 66. 86	\$30. 39 35. 14 52. 18 53. 73 56. 24 63. 30	\$48. 70 53. 16 66. 22 66. 58 64. 27 63. 30
1947: May June July August September October November December	48. 44 49. 33 48. 98 49. 17 50. 47 51. 05 51. 29 52. 69	49. 43 49. 98 49. 23 48. 83 49. 05 49. 61 49. 51 50. 23	36. 50 37. 82 37. 99 38. 14 37. 06 36. 74 37. 14 37. 51	37. 24 38. 32 38. 18 37. 87 36. 02 35. 70 35. 85 35. 76	65. 51 67. 09 54. 87 70. 23 71. 19 71. 91 71. 77 75. 22	66. 85 67. 97 55. 15 69. 74 69. 18 69. 88 69. 28 71. 71	62. 38 62. 68 63. 30 66. 97 65. 22 66. 14 64. 55 67. 31	63. 65 63. 51 63. 62 66. 50 63. 38 64. 28 62. 31 64. 17
1948: January February March April May June 4 July 4	52. 07 51. 75 52. 07 51. 79 51. 86 52. 95 52. 96	49. 12 49. 19 49. 69 48. 72 48. 42 49. 07 48. 54	37. 62 38. 33 38. 89 39. 27 39. 84 40. 52	35. 49 36. 44 37. 11 36. 94 37. 20 37. 55	75. 78 70. 54 74. 84 3 49. 53 74. 09 74. 53	71. 49 67. 05 71. 41 3 46. 59 69. 18 69. 07	66. 28 66. 31 66. 89 67. 31 68. 13 70. 51	62, 53 63, 03 63, 83 63, 32 63, 61 65, 35

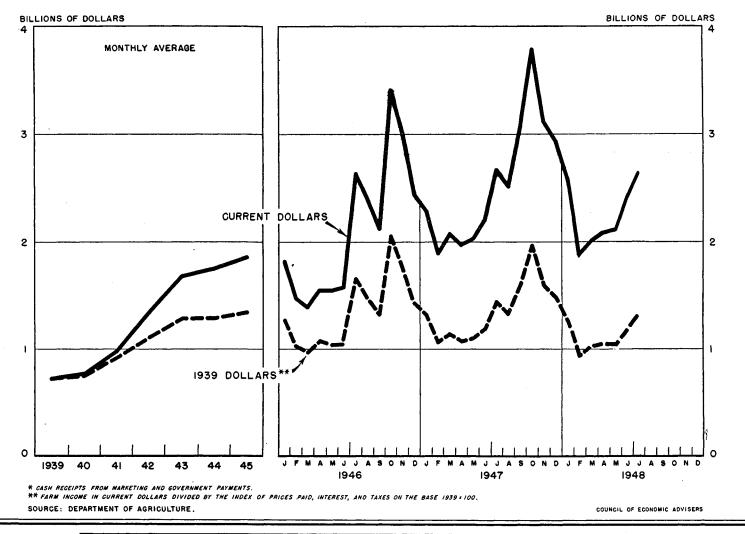
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Covers only employees at the site of privately financed building projects. <sup>2</sup> Current dollars divided by consumers' price index on the base 1947==100.

Source: Department of Labor.

<sup>Based on pay period during coal stoppage.
Preliminary estimate.</sup> 

## FARM INCOME

Income of farmers in July rose 10 percent over June as the peak of wheat harvesting was reached. Farm income in August is expected to be just below the July level.



Period	Farm income (millions of current dollars) <sup>1</sup>	Prices paid by farmers (incl. interest and taxes) 1939=	Farm income (millions of 1939 dollars) <sup>3</sup>
1939 monthly average 1940 monthly average 1941 monthly average 1942 monthly average 1943 monthly average 1944 monthly average 1945 monthly average 1946 monthly average 1947 monthly average	761 981 1, 340 1, 678 1, 753 1, 857 2, 110	100. 0 100. 8 106. 5 121. 0 130. 6 136. 3 138. 7 155. 6 186. 3	723 755 921 1, 107 1, 285 1, 286 1, 339 1, 356 1, 365
1947: June	2, 662 2, 517 3, 060 3, 773 3, 109 2, 927 2, 581 1, 866 2, 001 2, 096	185. 5 185. 5 188. 7 191. 9 192. 7 194. 4 197. 6 202. 4 200. 0 199. 2 200. 8	1, 192 1, 435 1, 334 1, 595 1, 958 1, 599 1, 481 1, 275 933 1, 005 1, 044
May June July <sup>4</sup>	2, 413	201. 6 202. 4 202. 4	1, 043 1, 192 1, 312

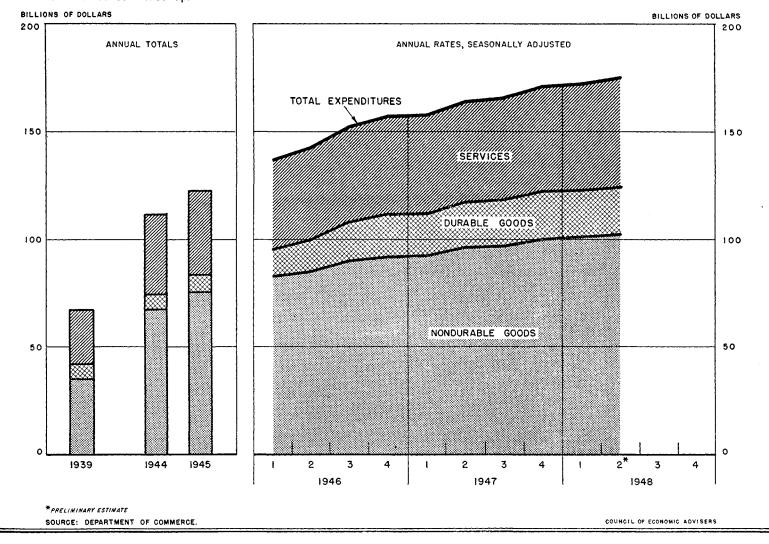
Source: Department of Agriculture.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes cash farm income from marketings and Government payments.
 <sup>2</sup> Converted from the reported base, 1910-14=100, to the base 1939=100.
 <sup>3</sup> Farm income in current dollars divided by prices paid by farmers, interest, and taxes, 1939=100.
 <sup>4</sup> Destriction

<sup>4</sup> Preliminary.

#### PERSONAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURES

In 2nd quarter, durable purchases more than recovered from their 1st quarter drop; services and nondurables continued up.



[Billions of dollars]

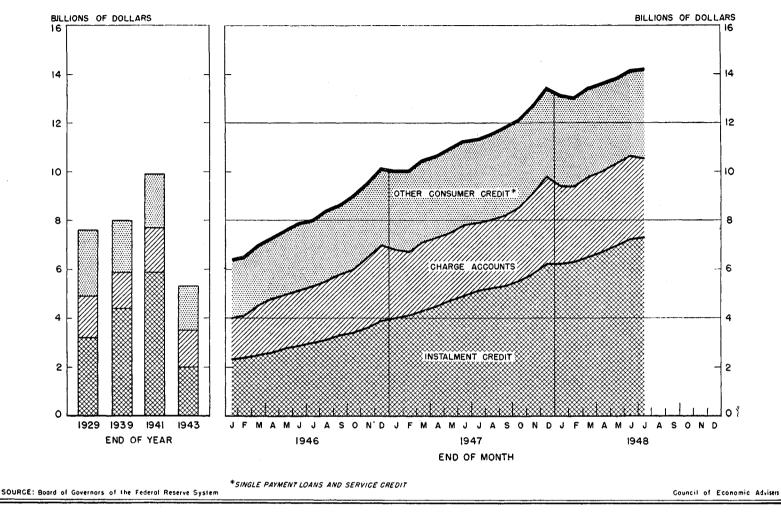
	Personal consumption expenditures				
Period	Total	Nondurable goods	Durable goods	Services	
1939	67. 5 111. 4 122. 8 147. 4 164. 8	35. 3 67. 5 75. 4 87. 5 96. 5	6. 7 6. 9 8. 3 16. 2 21. 0	25. 5 37. 0 39. 2 43. 6 47. 3	
1947: First quarter	158. 1 164. 2 165. 6 171. 1 172. 0 175. 1	92. 5 96. 3 96. 8 100. 2 101. 0 102. 4	19. 6 21. 1 21. 1 22. 1 22. 1 21. 4 22. 3	46. 0 46. 7 47. 7 48. 8 49. 6 50. 4	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Revised.

Note.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Source: Department of Commerce.

#### CONSUMER CREDIT

An increase in instalment credit in July was about offset by a drop in charge accounts.



#### [Billions of dollars]

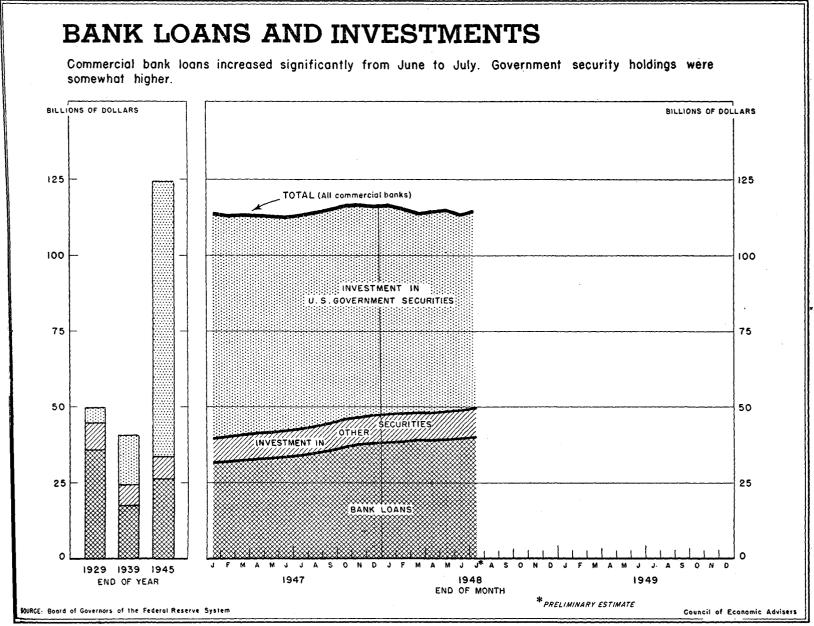
End of period	Total consumer credit outstanding	Instalment credit <sup>1</sup>	Charge accounts	Other consumer credit 2
1929 1939 1941 1943 1945 1946 1947 1947: June July August September October November December 1948: January February March April May June July June July ³	6. 6 10. 2 13. 4 11. 2 11. 3 11. 5 11. 7 12. 1 12. 7 13. 4 13. 1 13. 0 13. 4	3. 2 4. 4 5. 2 2. 4 3. 9 2. 4 5. 1 5. 3 5. 5 6. 2 6. 6 7. 0 7. 0 7. 1 7. 3	1.75 1.58 1.59 2.98 2.99 3.36 3.36 3.36 3.36 3.36 3.36 3.36 3	2. 7 2. 0 2. 2 1. 9 2. 3 3. 1 3. 6 3. 4 3. 4 3. 5 3. 6 3. 6 3. 6 3. 6 3. 6 3. 6 3. 6 3. 6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes automobile and other sale credit and repair and modernization loans insured by Federal Housing Administration.

Includes single-payment loans of commercial banks and pawnbrokers and service credit.
 Preliminary estimate.

Note.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

# MONEY, BANKING, AND FEDERAL FINANCE



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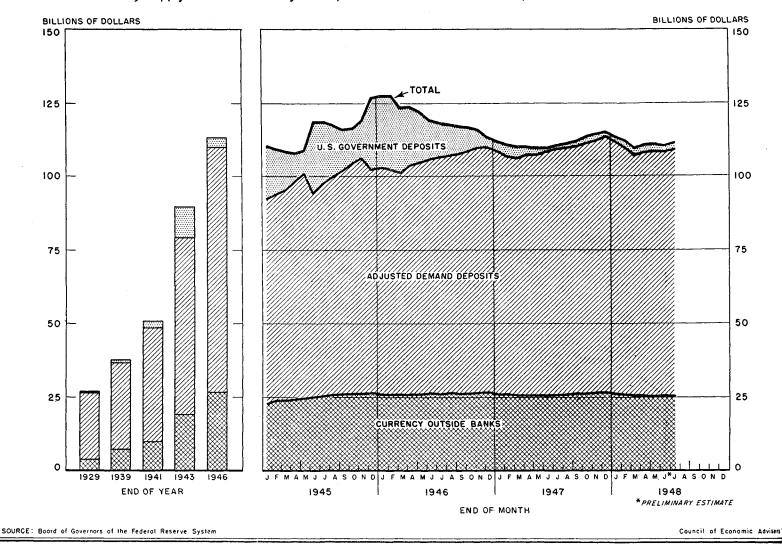
	Total		Investments			
End of period	loans and investments	Bank loans	Total	U.S. Government securities	Other securities	
1929 1939 1945 1946 1947 1947: June	49. 5 40. 7 124. 0 114. 0 116. 4 112. 8 113. 4	36. 0 17. 2 26. 1 31. 1 38. 1 33. 7 34. 0	13. 5 23. 4 97. 9 82. 9 78. 3 79. 1 79. 4	4. 8 16. 3 90. 6 74. 8 69. 3 70. 5 70. 7	8. 7 7. 1 7. 3 8. 1 9. 0 8. 5 8. 7	
August	114. 0 115. 2 116. 3 116. 6 116. 3	34. 9 35. 5 36. 8 37. 6 38. 1	79. 1 79. 7 79. 5 79. 0 78. 2	70. 3 70. 8 70. 5 70. 1 69. 2	8. 8 8. 9 9. 0 8. 9 9. 0	
1948: January February March April May June July <sup>1</sup>	115. 5 113. 6 114. 3 114. 5 113. 7	38. 2 38. 7 38. 9 38. 8 39. 4 39. 7 40. 0	78. 4 76. 9 74. 7 75. 5 75. 1 74. 0 74. 7	69. 4 67. 9 65. 5 66. 3 65. 9 64. 8 65. 3	9. 0 9. 0 9. 3 9. 2 9. 2 9. 2	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Preliminary estimate.

Note.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

#### MONEY SUPPLY

Total money supply increased in July chiefly as a result of a rise in private demand deposits.



[Billions of dollars]

End of period	Total money supply	Currency outside banks	Adjusted demand deposits <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Government deposits <sup>2</sup>
1929	37. 0 50. 5 90. 1 126. 9 113. 1 115. 1 109. 8 110. 6 111. 3 112. 5 113. 5 114. 4 115. 1	3. 6 6. 4 9. 6 18. 8 26. 5 26. 7 26. 5 26. 3 26. 0 26. 2 26. 4 26. 3 26. 6 26. 5	22. 8 29. 8 39. 0 60. 8 75. 9 83. 3 87. 1 82. 1 83. 4 84. 2 85. 4 85. 9 87. 1	0. 2 . 8 1. 9 10. 4 24. 6 3. 1 1. 5 1. 4 1. 7 1. 7 1. 9 1. 8 1. 9 1. 5
March April May June July <sup>3</sup>	109. 6 110. 9 111. 0 110. 8	25. 6 25. 4 25. 4 25. 6 25. 4	81. 6 83. 0 83. 2 83. 0 83. 7	2. 4 2. 5 2. 4 2. 2 2. 4

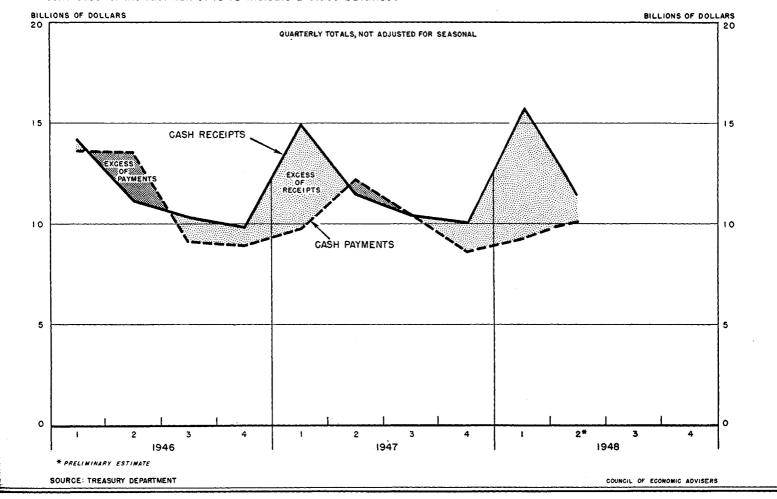
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes demand deposits, other than interbank and U.S. Government, less cash items in process of collection.

Note.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Beginning December 1938, includes U. S. Treasurer's time deposits, open account.
 Preliminary estimate.

# FEDERAL CASH RECEIPTS FROM AND PAYMENTS TO THE PUBLIC

The excess of Federal cash receipts over cash payments for the 1st half of 1948 was \$7.6 billion. Preliminary estimates for the last half of 1948 indicate a close balance.



#### [Millions of dollars]

Calendar year by quarters	Federal cash receipts from the public	Federal cash payments to the public	Excess of receipts (+) or payments (-)
1946: First quarter	14, 153	13, 648	+505
	11, 089	13, 590	-2, 501
	10, 375	9, 104	+1, 271
	9, 868	8, 907	+961
1947: First quarter	14, 962	9, 772	+5, 190
	11, 429	12, 197	-768
	10, 468	10, 501	-33
	10, 008	8, 665	+1, 343
1948: First quarterSecond quarter <sup>1</sup>	15, <b>7</b> 32 11, 390	9, 322 10, 159	$^{+6, 410}_{+1, 231}$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Preliminary estimate.

Source: Treasury Department.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1948