

Economic Indicators

MARCH 1950

*Prepared for the Joint Committee on the Economic Report
by the Council of Economic Advisers*

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[PUBLIC LAW 120—81ST CONGRESS; CHAPTER 237—1ST SESSION]

JOINT RESOLUTION [S. J. Res. 55]

To print the monthly publication entitled "Economic Indicators"

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Joint Committee on the Economic Report be authorized to issue a monthly publication entitled "Economic Indicators," and that a sufficient quantity be printed to furnish one copy to each Member of Congress; the Secretary and the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate; the Clerk, Sergeant at Arms, and Doorkeeper of the House of Representatives; two copies to the libraries of the Senate and House, and the Congressional Library; seven hundred copies to the Joint Committee on the Economic Report; and the required number of copies to the Superintendent of Documents for distribution to depository libraries; and that the Superintendent of Documents be authorized to have copies printed for sale to the public.

Approved June 23, 1949.

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 found that *Economic Indicators*, a set of basic charts and tables compiled monthly by the Council of Economic Advisers, admirably filled this need. While this material was prepared originally for the use of the President, the Council, and other officials in the executive offices, the Council made it available to the joint committee.

Other Members of Congress 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 indicated their desire for this information.

Accordingly, the joint committee provided the Congress and the public with a limited number of copies of *Economic Indicators* as a committee print pending final action on authorizing the publication on a more permanent basis. As is indicated above such legislation has now been passed and the committee will issue the report on a regular monthly basis.

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



Chairman, Joint Committee on the Economic Report.

Letter of Transmittal

Hon. JOSEPH C. O'MAHONEY, *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 making *Economic Indicators* available to the Congress as a whole and to the general public, in accordance with Public Law 120, Eighty-first Congress.

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.

In this undertaking the Council has the full cooperation of the several agencies of the Federal Government that collect statistical material. In many cases these agencies supply advance estimates for use in *Economic Indicators*. While the charts are drawn through the courtesy of the Graphics Unit in the Office of the Secretary of Commerce, the Council takes complete responsibility for the graphic presentation.

This material has proven useful to the President, the Council, the executive departments, and 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 that the Congress is performing a service of real value by making this material available.

Sincerely yours,

Leon Keyserling Acting Chairman.

John D. Clark

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THE NATION'S ECONOMIC BUDGET

THE NATION'S ECONOMIC BUDGET

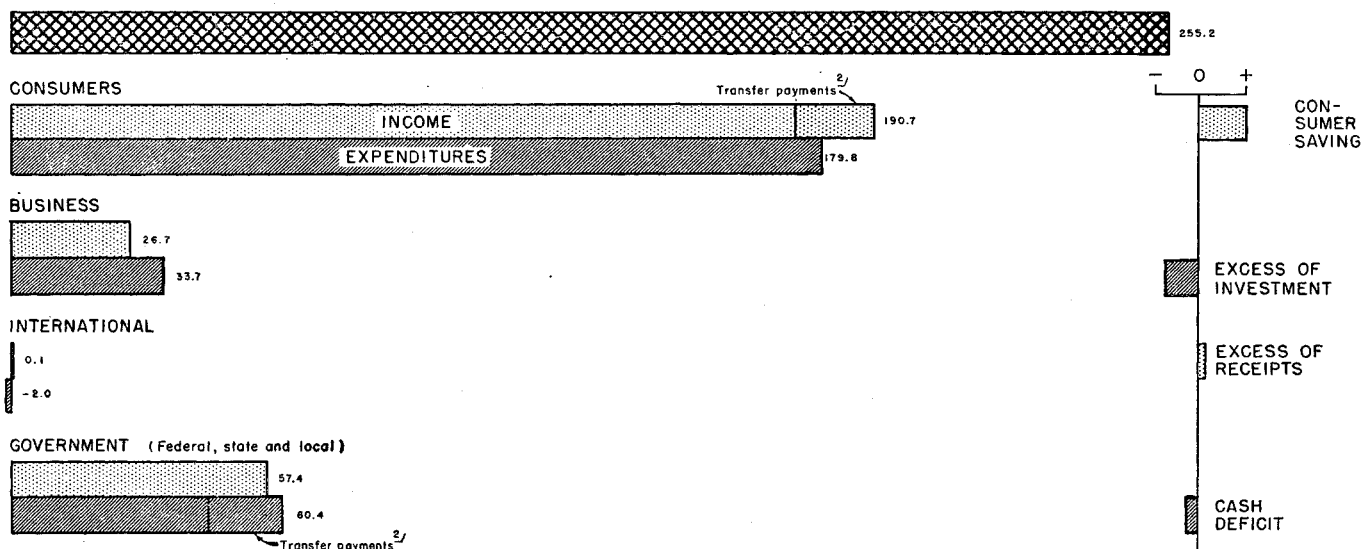
The economic decline leveled off in 4th quarter 1949, the total output of goods and services being less than \$1 billion (annual rate) below 3rd quarter, according to preliminary estimates. Allowing for the effects of industrial disputes, the year's end found the economy moving upward.

1949, 4th Quarter

(BILLIONS OF DOLLARS)^{1/}

EXCESS OF
EXPENDITURES (-), RECEIPTS (+)

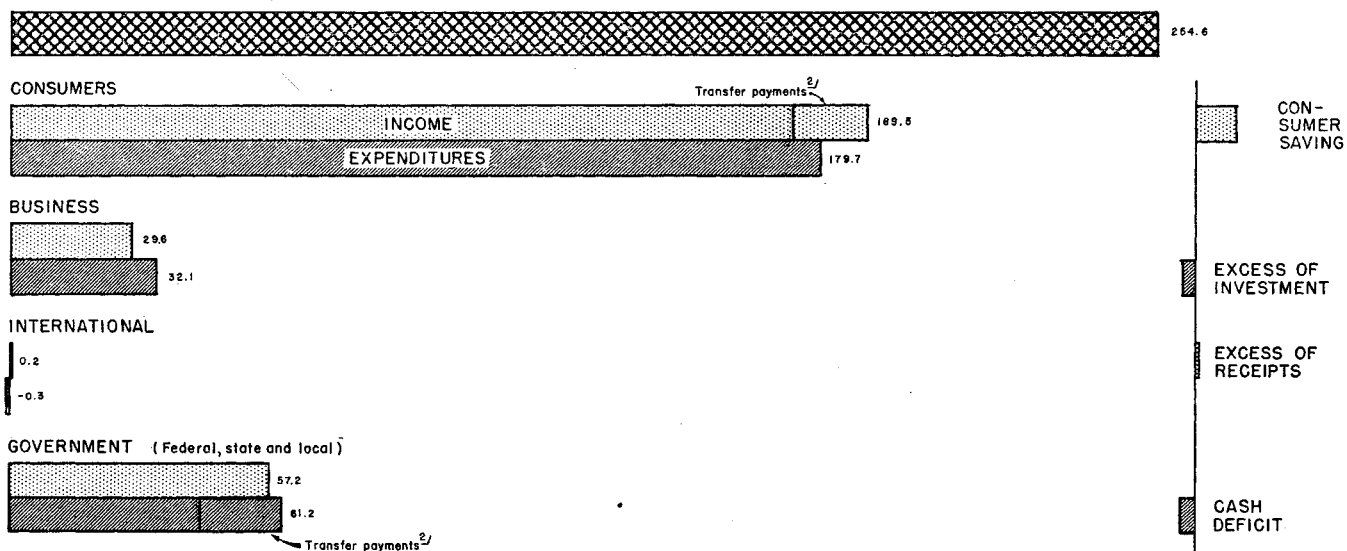
TOTAL (Gross National Product)



1949, 3rd Quarter

(BILLIONS OF DOLLARS)^{1/}

TOTAL (Gross National Product)



^{1/} ANNUAL RATES, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED.

^{2/} TRANSFER PAYMENTS ARE INCLUDED IN RECEIPTS OR EXPENDITURES OF THE SEPARATE ACCOUNTS BUT NOT IN THE TOTAL GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT.

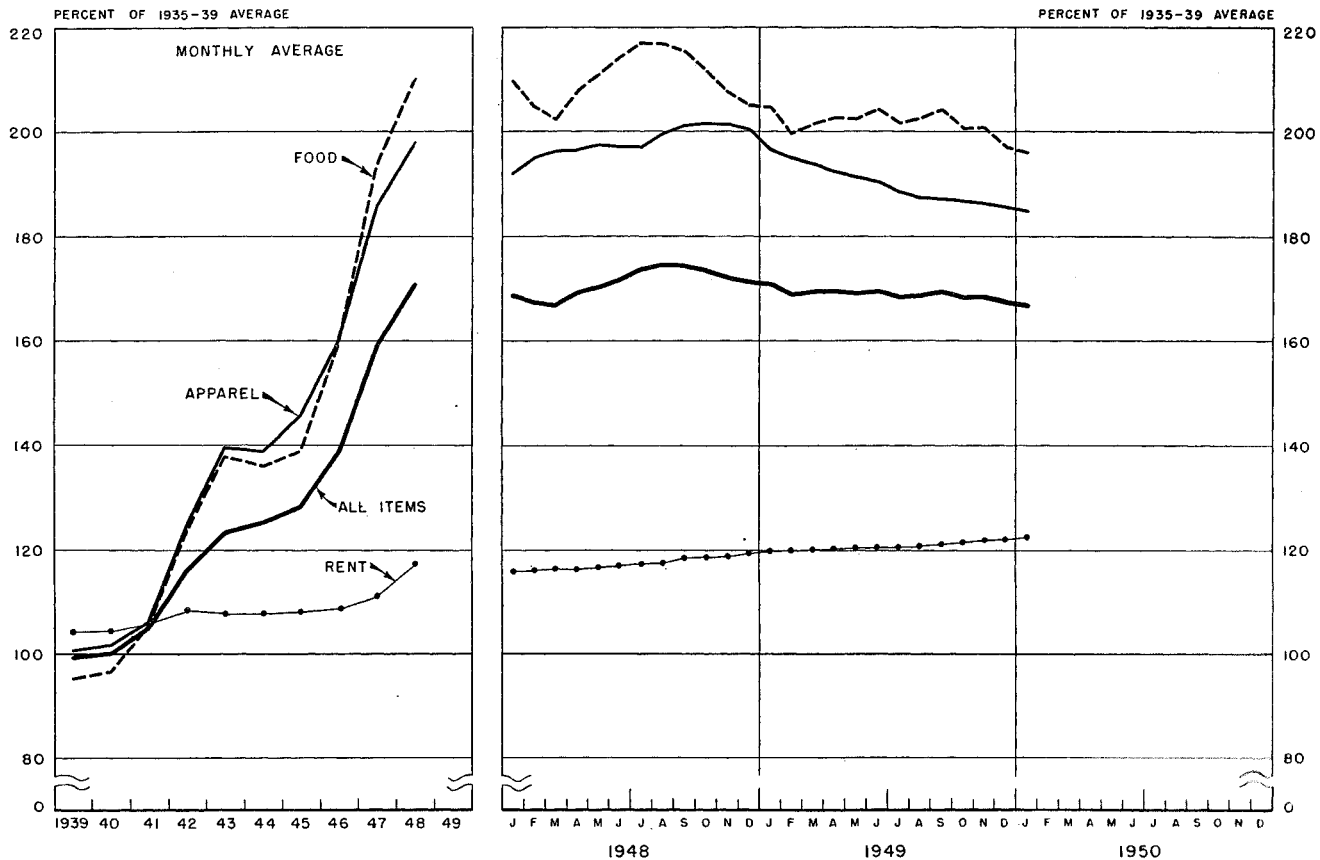
SOURCE: SEE ECONOMIC REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT, JANUARY 1950, APPENDIX A.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

PRICES

CONSUMERS' PRICES

Consumers' prices, declining again in January, were 2.3 percent below a year ago and 4.4 percent below their postwar peak. Most components recorded declines in January, with the largest in food. Rent continued upward.



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[1935-39=100]

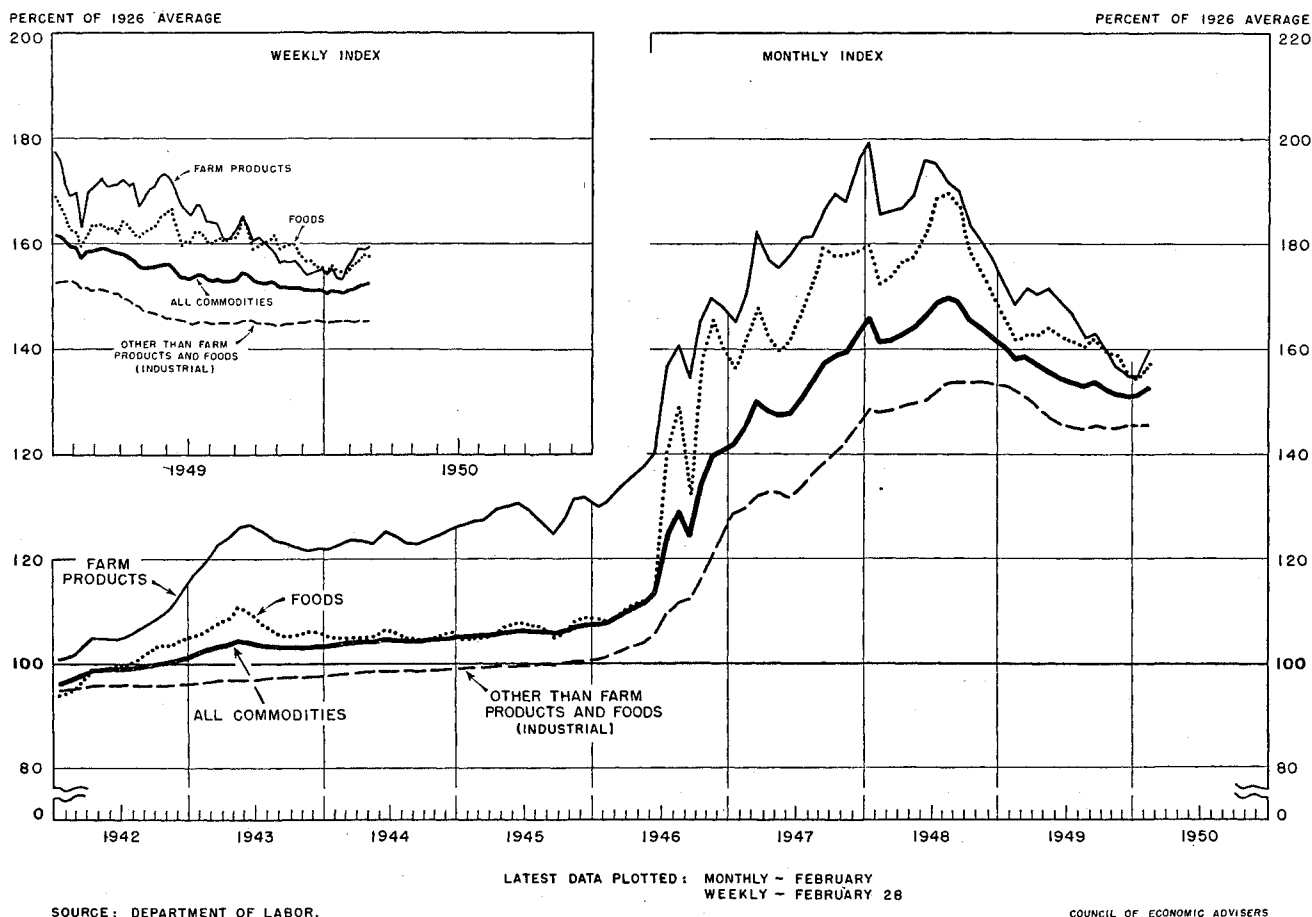
Period	All items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, electricity, and refrigeration	House furnishings	Miscellaneous
1940 monthly average.....	100.2	96.6	101.7	104.6	99.7	100.5	101.1
1941 monthly average.....	105.2	105.5	106.3	106.2	102.2	107.3	104.0
1942 monthly average.....	116.5	123.9	124.2	108.5	105.4	122.2	110.9
1943 monthly average.....	123.6	138.0	129.7	108.0	107.7	125.6	115.8
1944 monthly average.....	125.5	136.1	138.8	108.2	109.8	136.4	121.3
1945 monthly average.....	128.4	139.1	145.9	108.3	110.3	145.8	124.1
1946 monthly average.....	139.3	159.6	160.2	108.6	112.4	159.2	128.8
1947 monthly average.....	159.2	193.8	185.8	111.2	121.1	184.4	139.9
1948 monthly average.....	171.2	210.2	198.0	117.4	133.9	195.8	149.9
1949 monthly average.....	169.1	201.9	190.1	120.8	137.5	189.0	154.6
1948: December 15.....	171.4	205.0	200.4	119.5	137.8	198.6	154.0
1949: January 15.....	170.9	204.8	196.5	119.7	138.2	196.5	154.1
February 15.....	169.0	199.7	195.1	119.9	138.8	195.6	154.1
March 15.....	169.5	201.6	193.9	120.1	138.9	193.8	154.4
April 15.....	169.7	202.8	192.5	120.3	137.4	191.9	154.6
May 15.....	169.2	202.4	191.3	120.4	135.4	189.5	154.5
June 15.....	169.6	204.3	190.3	120.6	135.6	187.3	154.2
July 15.....	168.5	201.7	188.5	120.7	135.6	186.8	154.3
August 15.....	168.8	202.6	187.4	120.8	135.8	184.8	154.8
September 15.....	169.6	204.2	187.2	121.2	137.0	185.6	155.2
October 15.....	168.5	200.6	186.8	121.5	138.4	185.2	155.2
November 15.....	168.6	200.8	186.3	122.0	139.1	185.4	154.9
December 15.....	167.5	197.3	185.8	122.2	139.7	185.4	155.5
1950: January 15.....	166.9	196.0	185.0	122.6	140.0	184.7	155.1

NOTE.—Prices are for moderate-income families in large cities.

Source: Department of Labor.

WHOLESALE PRICES

Wholesale prices were higher in February primarily because of higher farm and food prices.



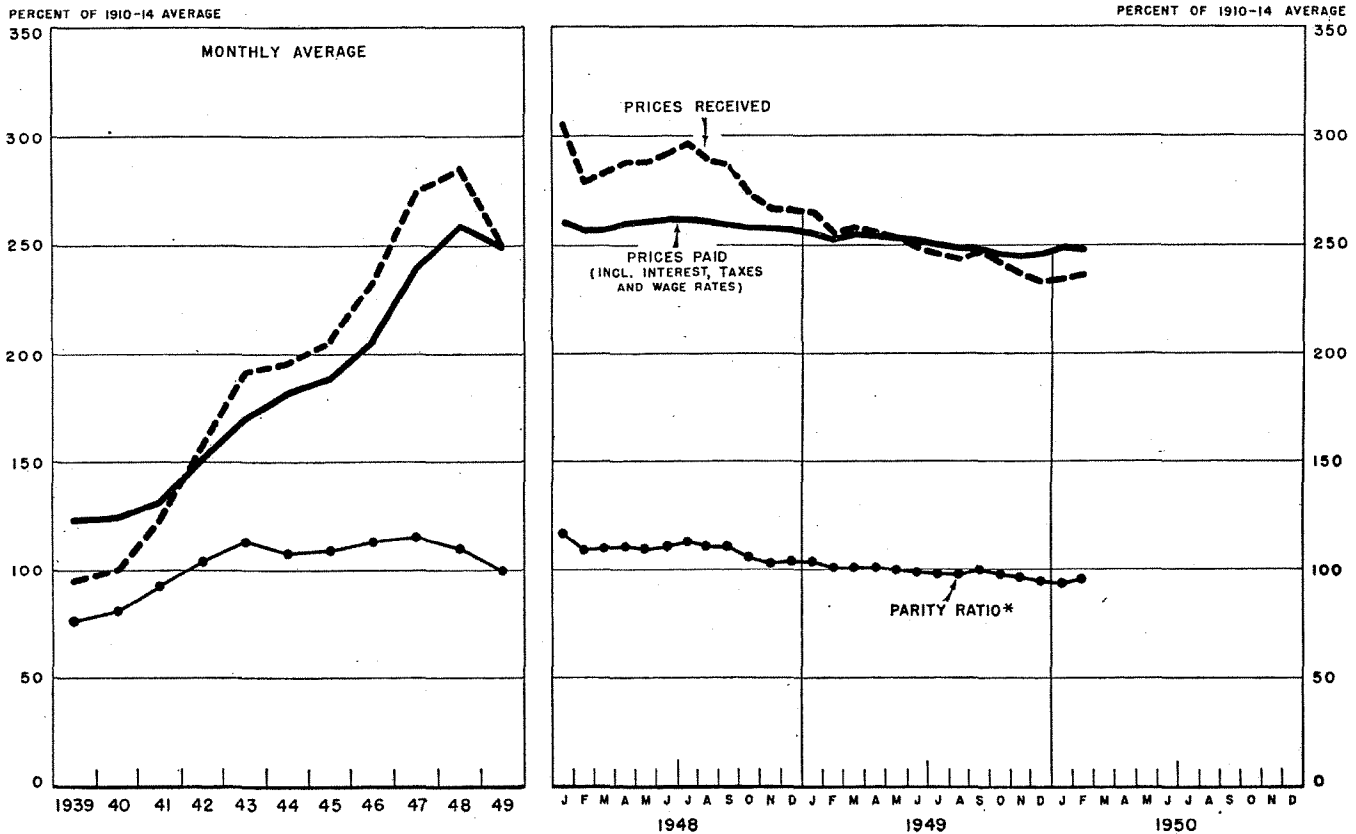
[1926=100]

Period	All commodities	Farm products	Foods	Other than farm products and foods
1942 monthly average.....	98.8	105.9	99.6	95.5
1946 monthly average.....	121.1	148.9	130.7	109.5
June.....	112.9	140.1	112.9	105.6
1947 monthly average.....	152.1	181.2	168.7	135.2
1948 monthly average.....	165.1	188.3	179.1	151.0
1949 monthly average.....	155.0	165.6	161.6	147.3
1949: January.....	160.6	172.5	165.8	152.9
February.....	158.1	168.3	161.5	151.8
March.....	158.4	171.5	162.9	150.7
April.....	156.9	170.5	162.9	148.9
May.....	155.7	171.2	163.8	146.8
June.....	154.5	168.8	162.4	145.6
July.....	153.5	166.2	161.3	145.0
August.....	152.9	162.3	160.6	145.0
September.....	153.6	163.1	162.0	145.3
October.....	152.2	159.6	159.6	145.0
November.....	151.6	156.8	158.9	144.9
December.....	151.3	155.3	155.7	145.4
1950: January.....	151.6	155.3	154.7	145.8
February ¹	152.8	159.6	157.0	145.8
Week ended:				
1950: January 31.....	151.2	155.5	154.6	145.2
February 7.....	151.6	157.2	156.0	145.1
14.....	152.2	159.1	156.8	145.3
21.....	152.5	158.9	158.3	145.3
28.....	152.6	159.4	157.8	145.4

¹ Estimate based on change in weekly data.
Source: Department of Labor.

PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS

Prices received by farmers increased about 1 percent from January 15 to February 15, chiefly as a result of a 7 percent increase in meat-animal prices. Prices paid were virtually unchanged, so the parity index increased.



* RATIO OF INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED TO INDEX OF PRICES PAID, INTEREST, TAXES AND WAGE RATES.

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COUNCIL ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[1910-14=100]

Period	Prices received by farmers	Prices paid by farmers (including interest, taxes, and wage rates)	Parity ratio ¹
1939 monthly average.....	95	123	77
1942 monthly average.....	158	152	104
1944 monthly average.....	² 196	182	108
1945 monthly average.....	² 206	189	109
1946 monthly average.....	² 234	207	113
1947 monthly average.....	275	240	115
1948 monthly average.....	285	259	110
1949 monthly average.....	249	250	100
1949: January 15.....	265	256	104
February 15.....	255	252	101
March 15.....	258	255	101
April 15.....	256	254	101
May 15.....	253	253	100
June 15.....	249	252	99
July 15.....	246	250	98
August 15.....	244	249	98
September 15.....	247	248	100
October 15.....	242	246	98
November 15.....	237	245	97
December 15.....	233	246	95
1950: January 15.....	235	249	94
February 15.....	237	248	96

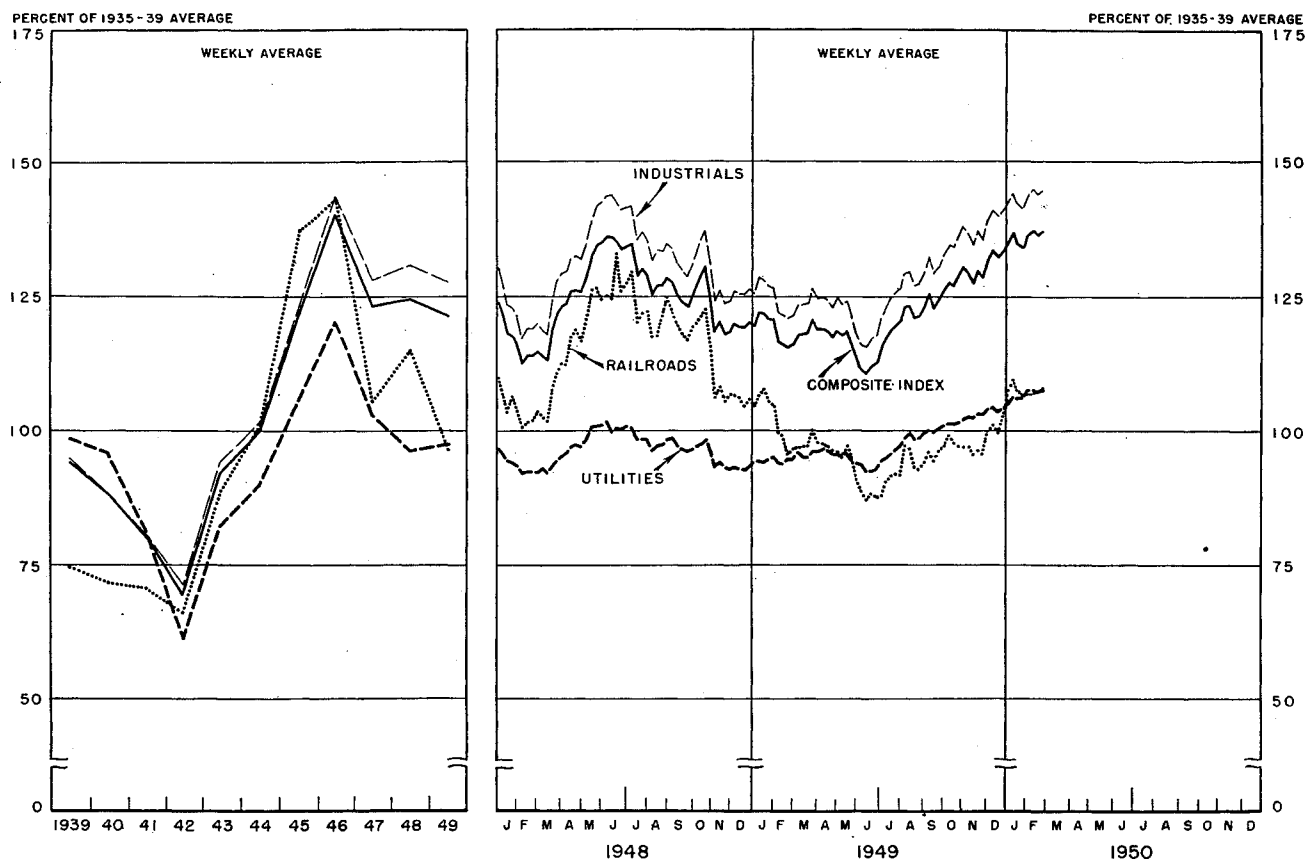
¹ Ratio of index of prices received to index of prices paid, interest, taxes, and wage rates.

² Includes wartime subsidy payments paid on beef cattle, sheep, lambs, milk, and butterfat between October 1943 and June 1946.

Source: Department of Agriculture.

STOCK PRICES

Stock prices in February continued the rise started last summer. Industrials and utilities were both above their 1948 peak levels.



SOURCE: STANDARD AND POOR'S CORPORATION

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[1935-39 = 100]

Period	Combined index ¹	Industrials	Railroads	Utilities
Weekly average:				
1939.....	94.2	94.8	74.7	98.6
1942.....	69.4	71.3	66.1	61.3
1946.....	139.9	143.4	143.0	120.2
1948.....	124.4	130.6	114.7	96.2
1949.....	121.3	127.5	96.4	97.5
1949: January.....	121.0	127.3	105.9	94.2
February.....	117.2	122.7	99.6	94.4
March.....	118.0	123.7	97.4	95.3
April.....	118.5	124.2	97.1	96.1
May.....	117.7	123.5	95.8	95.3
June.....	112.0	117.0	88.4	93.0
July.....	117.8	123.8	90.6	95.4
August.....	121.8	128.0	94.2	98.5
September.....	123.8	130.3	95.1	100.0
October.....	127.3	134.4	97.6	101.2
November.....	129.1	136.5	96.2	102.6
December.....	132.6	140.3	101.0	104.1
1950: January.....	135.1	142.6	107.8	105.8
February.....	136.6	144.4	107.2	107.4
Week ended:				
1950: February 1.....	136.1	143.7	106.8	107.2
8.....	137.2	145.0	106.9	107.6
15.....	136.3	144.0	107.0	107.2
22.....	137.0	144.7	108.0	107.6
March 1.....	137.4	145.0	108.6	108.2

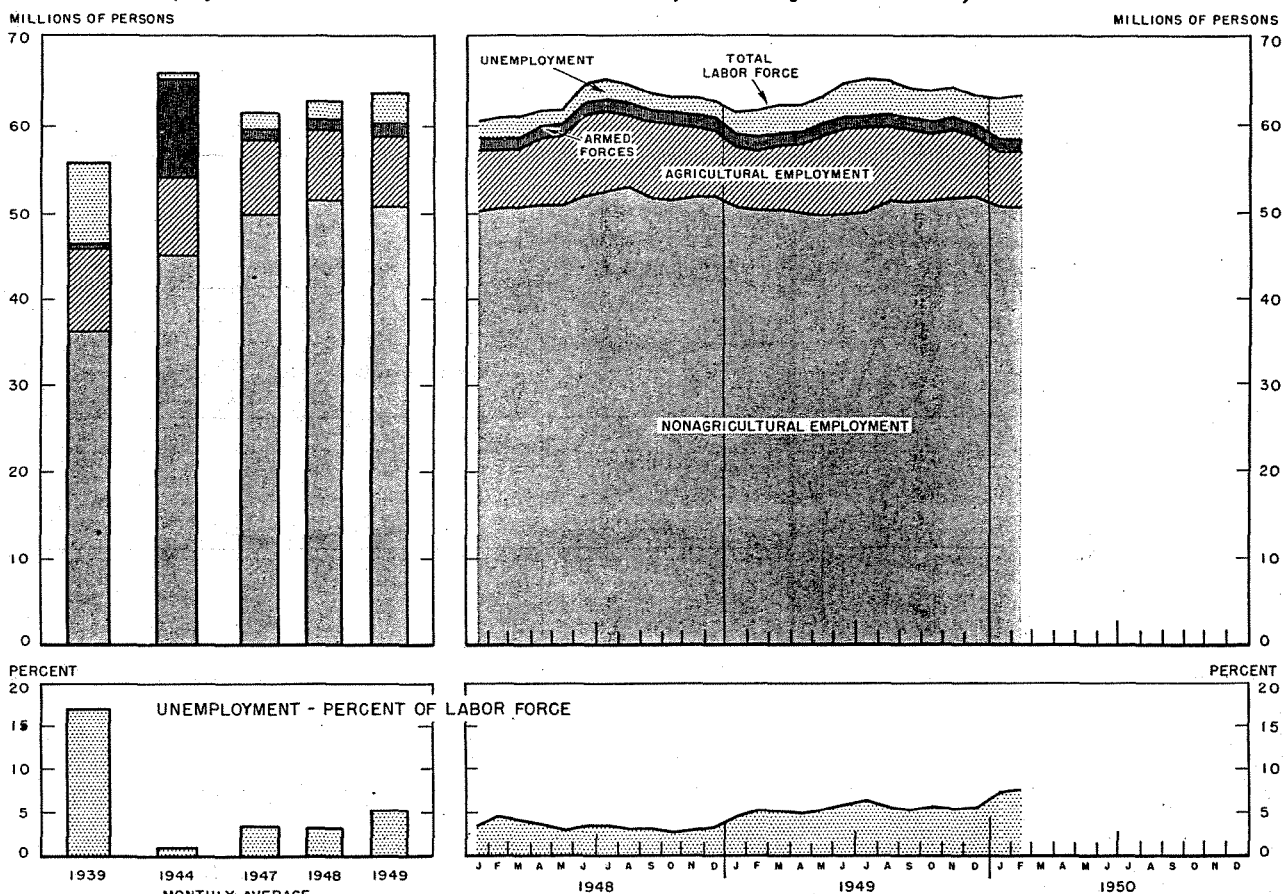
¹ Combined index prior to June 23, 1948, was based on 402 common stocks, and included 354 industrials, 20 railroads, and 28 utilities; thereafter, 416 common stocks are represented, with 365 industrials, 20 railroads, and 31 utilities.

Source: Standard & Poor's Corporation.

EMPLOYMENT

LABOR FORCE

Employment changed very little from January to February, either in agriculture or nonagricultural industries. Unemployment increased from 4.5 to 4.7 million, reflecting a rise of 200,000 in the labor force.



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

Period	Total labor force, including armed forces	Civilian employment ¹			Armed forces	Unemployment	Unemployment as percent of labor force
		Total	In non-agricultural industries	In agriculture			
	Thousands of persons 14 years of age and over						
1939 monthly average.....	55,600	45,750	36,140	9,610	370	9,480	17.1
1944 monthly average.....	65,890	53,960	45,010	8,950	11,260	670	1.0
1947 monthly average.....	61,608	58,027	49,761	8,266	1,440	2,142	3.5
1948 monthly average.....	62,748	59,378	51,405	7,973	1,307	2,064	3.3
1949 monthly average.....	63,571	58,710	50,684	8,026	1,466	3,395	5.3
1949: January.....	61,546	57,414	50,651	6,763	1,468	2,664	4.3
February.....	61,896	57,168	50,174	6,993	1,508	3,221	5.2
March.....	62,305	57,647	50,254	7,393	1,491	3,167	5.1
April.....	62,327	57,819	49,999	7,820	1,492	3,016	4.8
May.....	63,452	58,694	49,720	8,974	1,469	3,289	5.2
June.....	64,866	59,619	49,924	9,696	1,468	3,778	5.8
July.....	65,278	59,720	50,073	9,647	1,463	4,095	6.3
August.....	65,105	59,947	51,441	8,507	1,468	3,689	5.7
September.....	64,222	59,411	51,254	8,158	1,459	3,351	5.2
October.....	64,021	59,001	51,290	7,710	1,445	3,576	5.6
November.....	64,363	59,518	51,640	7,878	1,436	3,409	5.3
December.....	63,475	58,556	51,783	6,773	1,430	3,489	5.5
1950: January.....	62,835	56,947	50,749	6,198	1,408	4,480	7.1
February.....	63,003	56,953	50,730	6,223	1,366	4,684	7.4

¹ Includes part-time workers and those who had jobs but were not at work for such reasons as vacation, illness, bad weather, temporary lay-off, and industrial disputes.

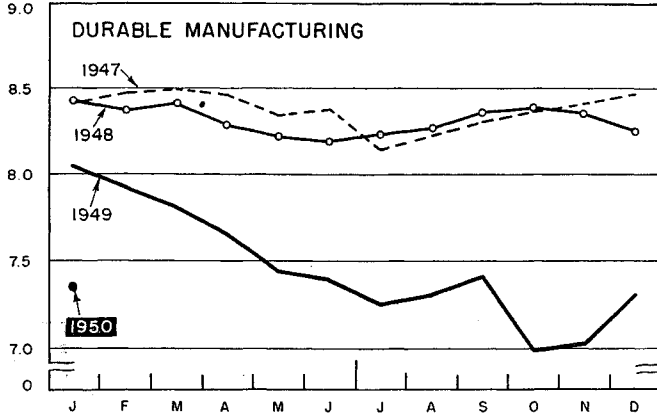
NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Department of Commerce.

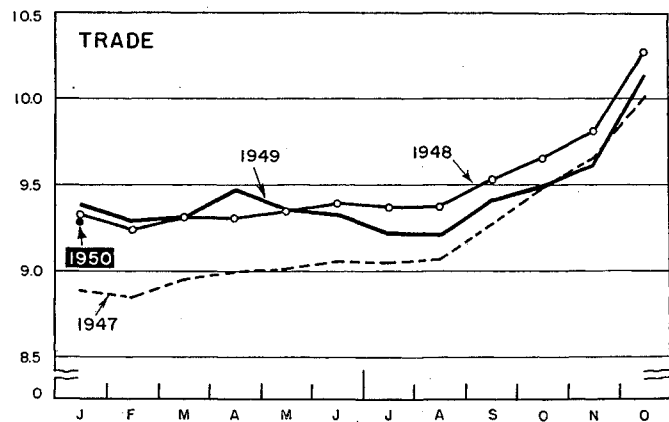
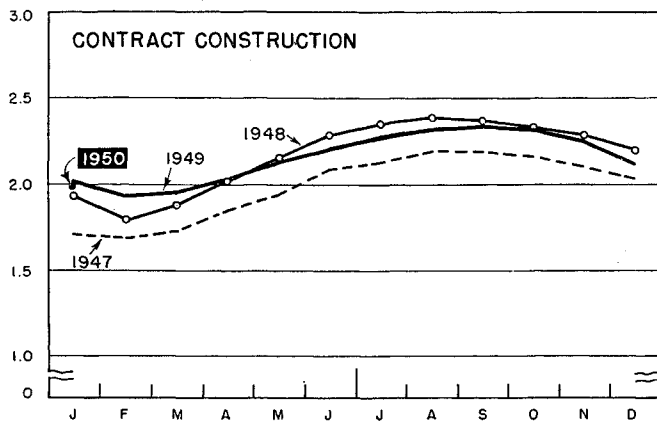
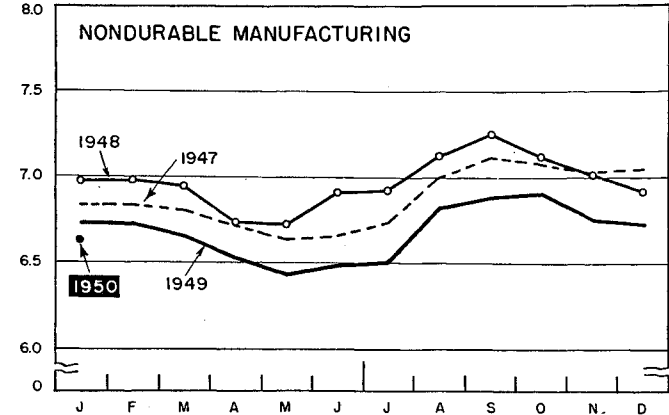
NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

Employment declines were large in trade and Government in January, due to a return to more normal levels following expanded pre-holiday activity in retail trade and post offices. There were declines also among most industries manufacturing nondurable goods, while durable goods industries showed firmness.

MILLIONS OF WAGE
AND SALARY WORKERS



MILLIONS OF WAGE
AND SALARY WORKERS



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[Thousands of wage and salary workers ¹]

Period	Manufacturing			Contract construc- tion	Trade	Finance and service	Government (Federal, State, local)	Transporta- tion and public utilities	Mining
	Total	Durable goods	Nondur- able goods						
1939 monthly average.....	10,078	(²)	(²)	1,150	6,705	4,610	3,987	2,912	845
1943 monthly average.....	17,381	(²)	(²)	1,567	7,322	5,187	6,049	3,619	917
1946 monthly average.....	14,461	(²)	(²)	1,661	8,815	5,994	5,607	4,023	852
1947 monthly average.....	15,247	8,373	6,874	1,982	9,196	6,427	5,454	4,122	943
1948 monthly average.....	15,286	8,315	6,970	2,165	9,491	6,515	5,613	4,151	981
1949 monthly average ³	14,148	7,466	6,682	2,156	9,436	6,544	5,811	3,979	931
1948: December.....	15,174	8,258	6,916	2,200	10,273	6,481	5,994	4,158	1,002
1949: January.....	14,782	8,044	6,738	2,016	9,388	6,454	5,764	4,054	991
February.....	14,649	7,923	6,726	1,926	9,292	6,447	5,737	4,024	986
March.....	14,475	7,819	6,656	1,947	9,310	6,469	5,761	3,975	981
April.....	14,177	7,656	6,521	2,036	9,478	6,525	5,775	3,991	984
May.....	13,877	7,441	6,436	2,137	9,342	6,567	5,813	4,021	974
June.....	13,884	7,392	6,492	2,205	9,336	6,608	5,803	4,031	968
July.....	13,757	7,255	6,502	2,277	9,220	6,631	5,738	4,007	943
August.....	14,114	7,302	6,812	2,340	9,214	6,616	5,763	3,992	956
September.....	14,312	7,409	6,903	2,341	9,409	6,604	5,893	3,959	948
October.....	13,892	6,986	6,906	2,313	9,505	6,561	5,866	3,871	593
November ³	13,800	7,043	6,757	2,244	9,605	6,536	5,783	3,891	913
December ³	14,054	7,319	6,735	2,091	10,130	6,508	6,041	3,935	936
1950: January ³	13,993	7,363	6,630	1,992	9,295	6,476	5,777	3,878	810

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. Total derived from this table 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 Not available.

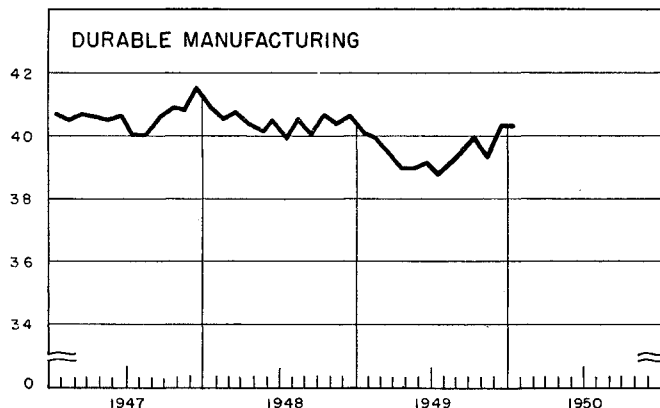
³ Preliminary estimate.

Source: Department of Labor.

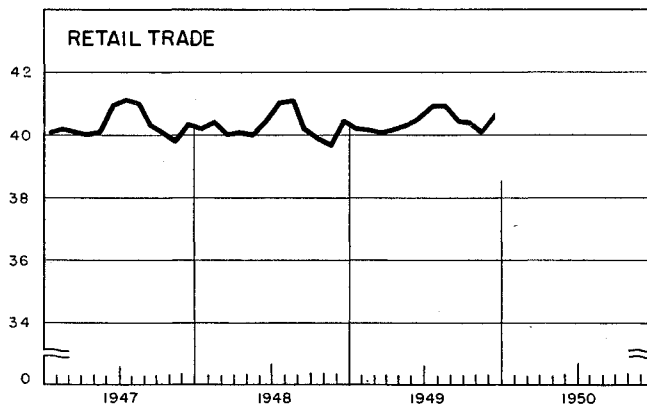
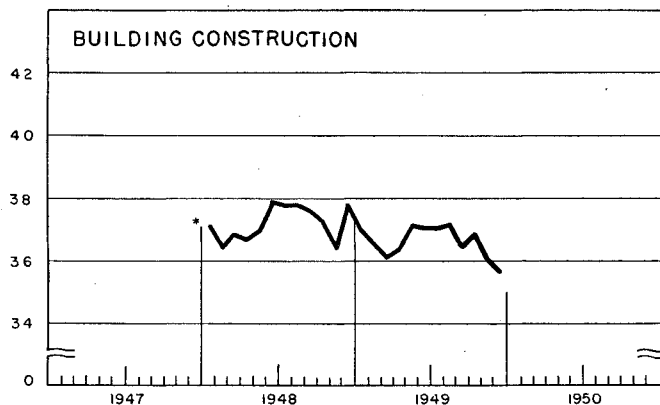
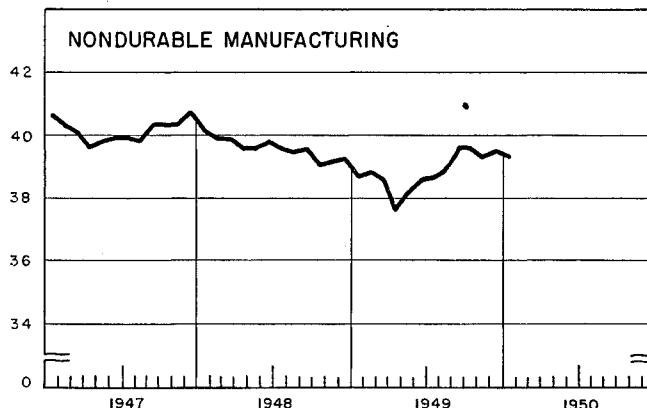
AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

The January workweek in durable manufacturing showed no change from the 1949 peak reached in December. It was slightly shorter in nondurable manufacturing.

HOURS PER WEEK



HOURS PER WEEK



* NOT AVAILABLE PRIOR TO JANUARY 1948

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[Hours per week, selected industries ¹]

Period	Manufacturing			Building construction	Retail trade
	Total	Durable goods	Nondurable goods		
1939 monthly average.....	37.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1943 monthly average.....	44.9	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1946 monthly average.....	40.4	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1947 monthly average.....	40.4	40.6	40.1	(2)	40.3
1948 monthly average.....	40.1	40.5	39.6	37.3	40.3
1949 monthly average ³	39.2	39.5	38.8	36.6	40.4
1948: December.....	40.1	40.7	39.3	37.8	40.4
1949: January.....	39.5	40.1	38.7	37.0	40.2
February.....	39.4	39.9	38.8	36.5	40.2
March.....	39.1	39.5	38.6	36.1	40.1
April.....	38.4	39.0	37.6	36.4	40.2
May.....	38.6	39.0	38.1	37.2	40.3
June.....	38.8	39.2	38.5	37.1	40.5
July.....	38.8	38.8	38.7	37.1	40.9
August.....	39.1	39.3	38.9	37.2	40.9
September.....	39.6	39.6	39.6	36.5	40.5
October.....	39.7	39.9	39.6	36.9	40.4
November ³	39.3	39.3	39.3	36.1	40.1
December ³	40.0	40.3	39.5	35.7	40.7
1950: January ³	39.8	40.3	39.3	(2)	(2)

¹ For production and related workers.

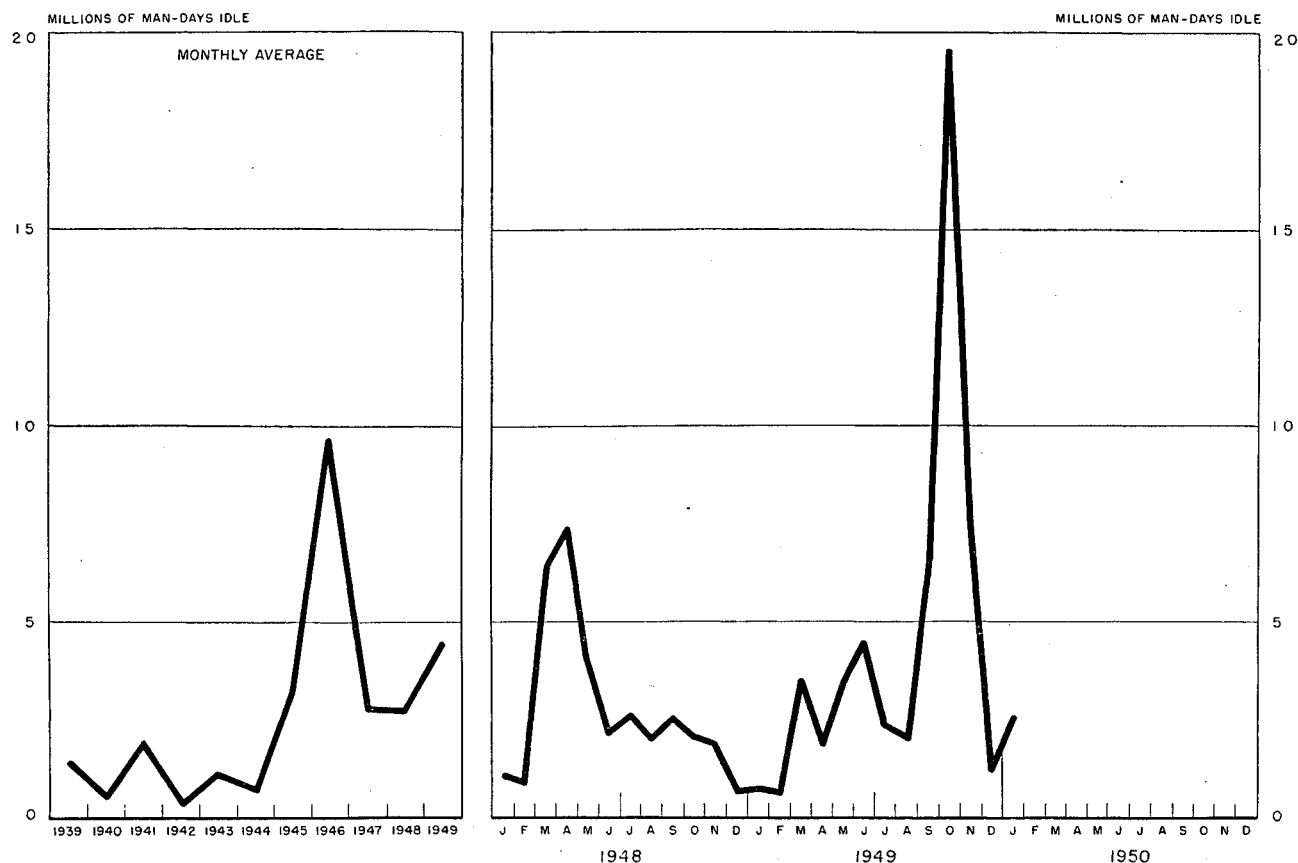
² Not available.

³ Preliminary estimate.

Source: Department of Labor.

WORK STOPPAGES

Although man-days of idleness because of work stoppages increased in January they were still at a low level. The short workweek for coal miners was not taken into account in these data.



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

Period	Man-days idle during period		Workers involved in stoppages		Number of stoppages	
	Monthly average (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time	Beginning in period (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Beginning in period	In effect during month
1939.....	1,484	0.28	1,171	-----	2,613	-----
1941.....	1,921	.32	2,363	-----	4,288	-----
1942.....	349	.05	840	-----	2,968	-----
1943.....	1,125	.15	1,981	-----	3,752	-----
1944.....	727	.09	2,116	-----	4,956	-----
1945.....	3,167	.47	3,470	-----	4,750	-----
1946.....	9,667	1.43	4,600	-----	4,985	-----
1947.....	2,883	.41	2,170	-----	3,693	-----
1948.....	2,842	.37	1,960	-----	3,419	-----
1949 ¹	4,417	.60	3,100	-----	3,600	-----
1948: December.....	713	.09	41	93	144	283
1949: January ¹	725	.10	77	100	275	385
February ¹	675	.10	77	105	240	370
March ¹	3,500	.46	500	530	290	440
April ¹	1,900	.27	160	210	365	535
May ¹	3,450	.49	235	310	455	680
June ¹	4,500	.61	575	675	385	635
July ¹	2,400	.36	110	250	350	600
August ¹	2,100	.27	140	240	380	625
September ¹	6,550	.91	475	565	290	525
October ¹	19,000	2.70	600	1,000	250	425
November ¹	7,500	1.00	70	875	200	360
December ¹	1,200	.15	40	400	120	225
1950: January ¹	2,600	.38	280	300	225	340

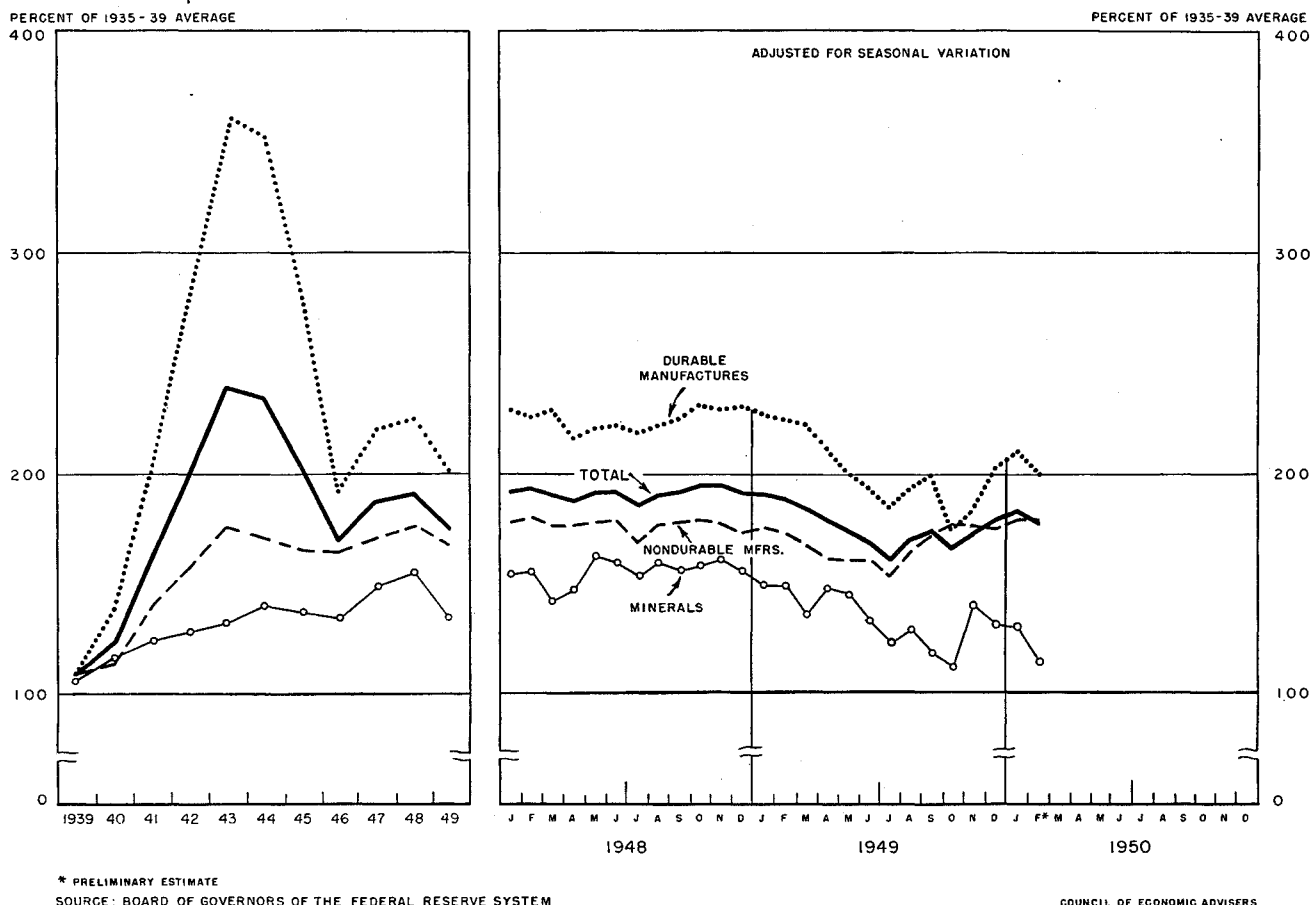
¹ Preliminary estimate.

Source: Department of Labor.

PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS ACTIVITY

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

Industrial production increased further in January to the highest level since March 1949. There was a larger output of both durable and nondurable goods. Preliminary data for February indicate that work stoppages in coal and automobile industries caused a drop of about 3 percent in industrial production.



[1935-39=100, seasonally adjusted]

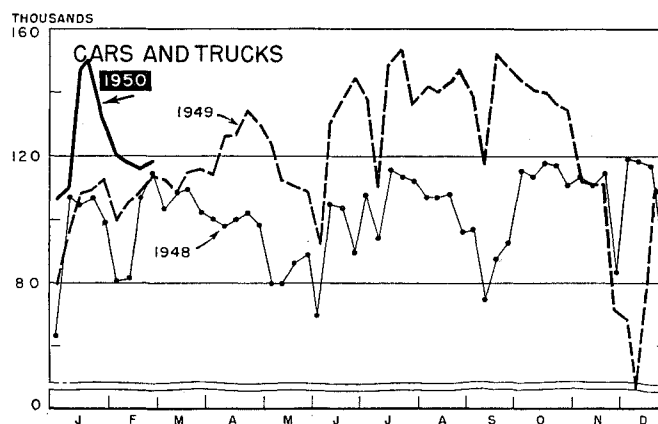
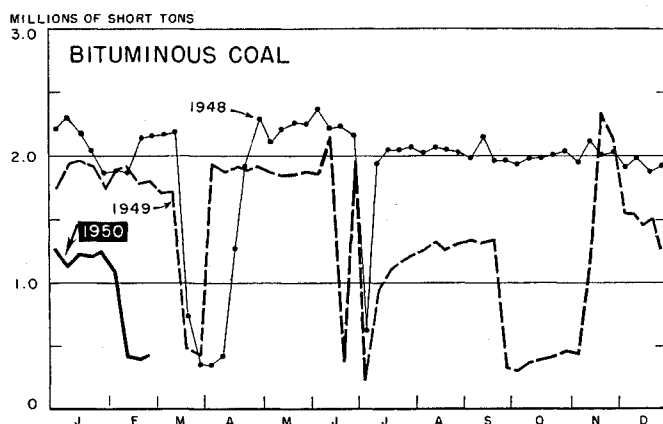
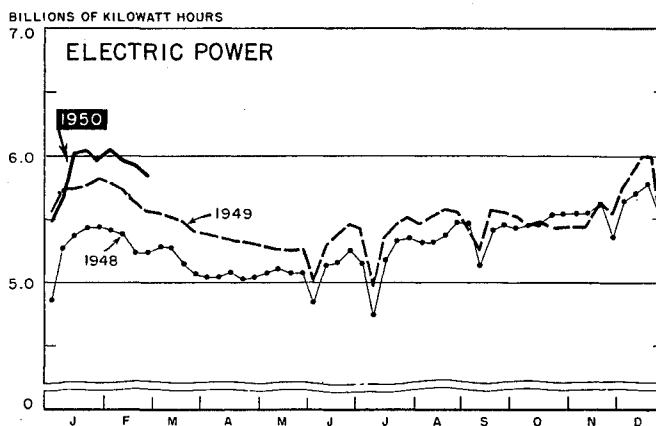
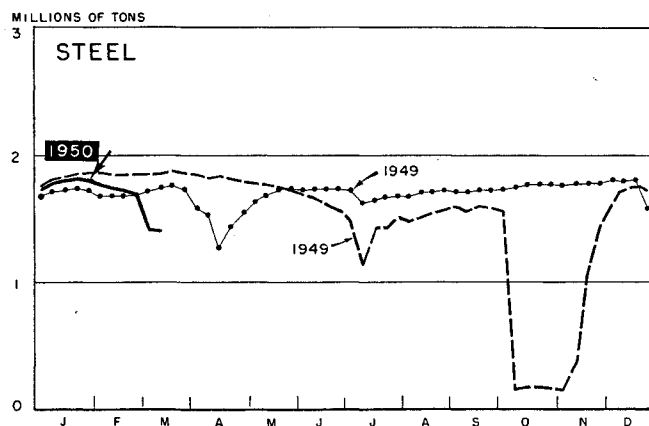
Period	Total industrial production	Manufactures			Minerals
		Total	Durable goods	Nondurable goods	
1943 monthly average.....	239	258	360	176	132
1946 monthly average.....	170	177	192	165	134
1947 monthly average.....	187	194	220	172	149
1948 monthly average.....	192	198	225	177	155
1949 monthly average.....	176	183	202	168	135
1949: January.....	191	198	227	175	149
February.....	189	196	225	173	149
March.....	184	193	223	168	136
April.....	179	184	212	162	148
May.....	174	179	201	161	145
June.....	169	176	194	161	133
July.....	161	168	185	154	123
August.....	170	177	193	165	129
September.....	174	184	199	173	119
October.....	166	176	175	177	112
November.....	173	179	183	177	141
December.....	180	188	204	175	132
1950: January ¹	183	193	210	179	131
February ¹	178	188	201	179	119

¹ Preliminary estimate.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

WEEKLY PRODUCTION - SELECTED INDICATORS

Steel ingot production dropped moderately in February and still further during the week ended March 4 as a result of coal stoppages. Electric power continued at peak rates. Automobile production was slowed down by labor disputes.



SOURCES: AMERICAN IRON AND STEEL INSTITUTE, EDISON ELECTRIC INSTITUTE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, WARD'S AUTOMOTIVE REPORTS.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

Period	Steel		Electric power, by utilities (millions of kilowatt-hours)	Bituminous coal (thousands of short tons) ²	Cars and trucks (number)
	Thousands of net tons	Percent of capacity ¹			
Weekly average:					
1947.....	1,628	93.0	4,821	2,058	90,860
1948.....	1,695	94.1	5,300	1,948	100,670
1949.....	1,493	81.0	5,500	1,418	120,800
Week ended:					
1949: February 5.....	1,860	100.9	5,778	1,975	98,972
12.....	1,845	100.1	5,722	1,988	104,990
19.....	1,844	100.0	5,650	1,885	109,475
26.....	1,849	100.3	5,559	1,887	114,069
March 5.....	1,853	100.5	5,552	1,769	113,317
12.....	1,869	101.4	5,531	1,780	109,101
1950: February 4.....	1,775	93.1	6,062	1,090	120,061
11.....	1,745	91.5	5,971	432	118,252
18.....	1,729	90.7	5,931	404	116,134
25.....	1,693	88.8	5,854	437	117,487
March 4.....	1,405	73.7	5,879		119,955
11.....	1,401	73.5			

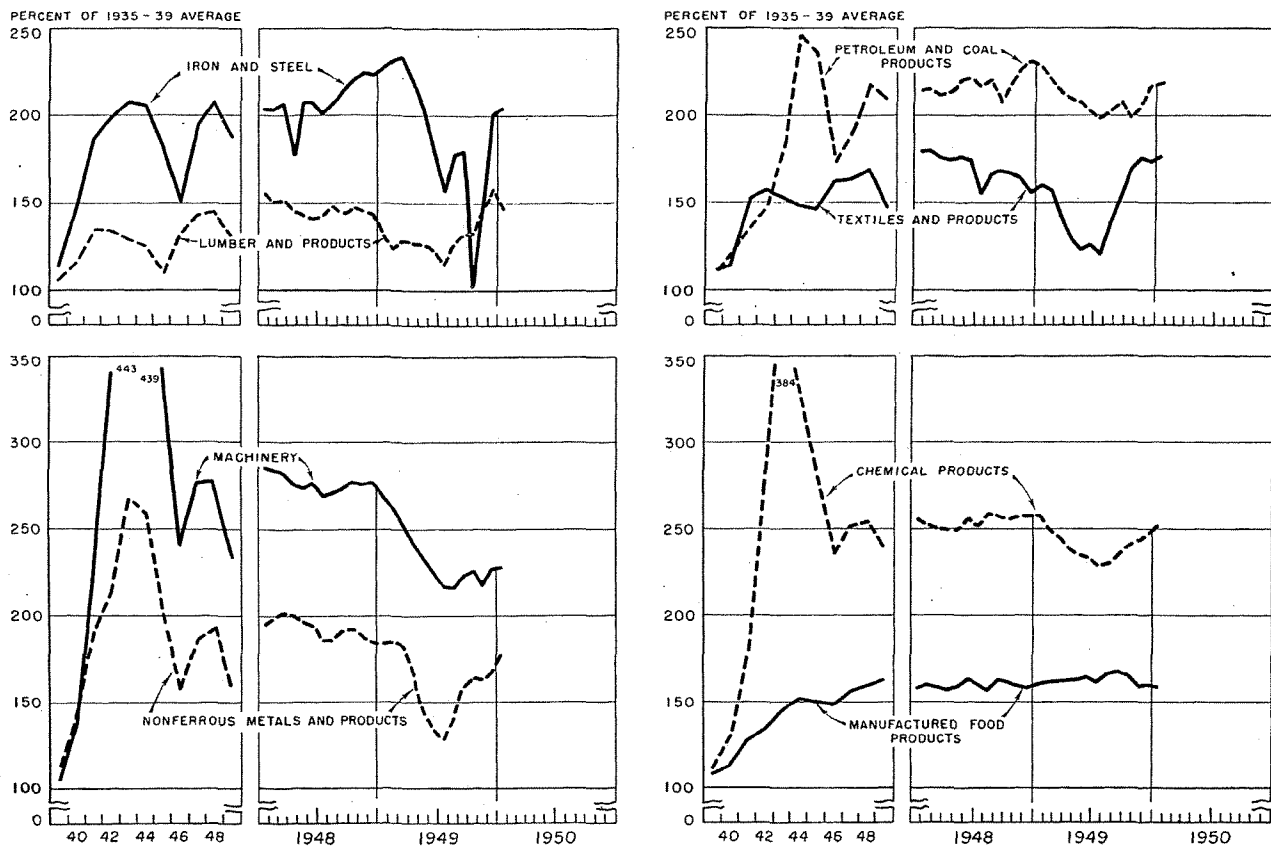
¹ Based on weekly net ton capacity of 1,749,928 for 1947, 1,802,476 for 1948, 1,843,516 for 1949, and 1,906,268 for 1950.

² Daily average for week.

Sources: American Iron and Steel Institute, Edison Electric Institute, Department of the Interior, and Ward's Automotive Reports.

PRODUCTION OF SELECTED MANUFACTURES

Most durable manufactures increased further in January with the exception of lumber, which declined from its exceptionally high December level. Nondurables continued at or above their previous high levels.



SOURCE: BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[1935-39=100, seasonally adjusted]

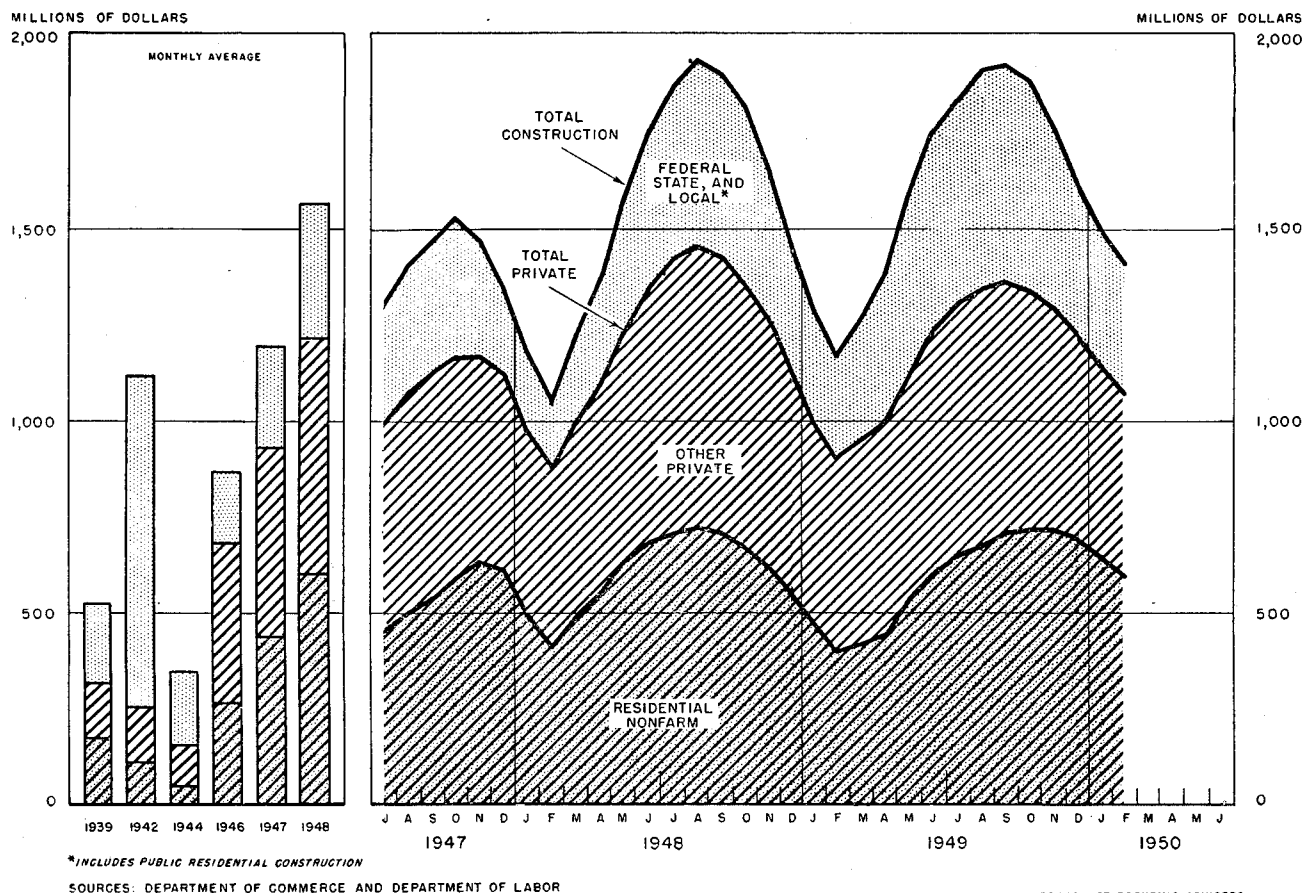
Period	Durable manufactures				Nondurable manufactures			
	Iron and steel	Lumber and products	Machinery	Nonferrous metals and products	Textiles and products	Petroleum and coal products	Manufactured food products	Chemical products
943 monthly average.....	208	129	443	267	153	185	145	384
946 monthly average.....	150	131	240	157	162	173	150	236
947 monthly average.....	195	143	276	187	163	193	157	251
948 monthly average.....	208	145	277	193	169	218	159	254
949 monthly average ¹	188	131	234	159	147	209	163	240
948: December.....	223	143	277	184	156	231	158	257
949: January.....	228	129	268	183	160	228	160	257
February.....	232	123	262	185	157	221	162	250
March.....	233	129	252	183	142	213	162	245
April.....	219	126	240	167	129	209	162	237
May.....	204	126	232	145	123	207	163	234
June.....	177	123	225	133	126	202	165	233
July.....	156	115	217	127	120	198	161	228
August.....	178	126	216	141	140	203	166	229
September.....	179	132	224	157	155	208	167	236
October.....	102	133	226	164	169	198	165	240
November.....	145	147	217	163	175	205	159	243
December.....	201	159	227	165	173	217	159	246
950: January ¹	204	147	228	177	176	218	158	252

¹ Preliminary estimate.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

New construction held up well in February, at a level about 20 percent above that of a year ago. Preliminary data indicate that March activity will be high.



[Millions of dollars]

Period	Total new construction	Private construction			Federal, State, and local ¹
		Total private	Residential (nonfarm)	Other	
1939 monthly average.....	526	317	176	141	208
1942 monthly average.....	1,118	251	110	141	867
1944 monthly average.....	345	152	45	107	193
1946 monthly average.....	871	688	265	422	184
1947 monthly average.....	1,194	932	438	493	262
1948 monthly average.....	1,565	1,214	602	612	351
1949 monthly average.....	1,611	1,172	585	586	439
1949: January.....	1,293	1,002	475	527	291
February.....	1,172	905	400	505	267
March.....	1,267	951	420	531	316
April.....	1,370	989	445	544	381
May.....	1,576	1,108	530	578	468
June.....	1,735	1,229	600	629	506
July.....	1,833	1,301	650	651	532
August.....	1,903	1,343	675	668	560
September.....	1,922	1,368	710	658	554
October.....	1,879	1,343	715	628	536
November.....	1,767	1,295	715	580	472
December.....	1,612	1,225	690	535	387
1950: January.....	1,496	1,139	650	489	357
February ²	1,414	1,078	600	478	336

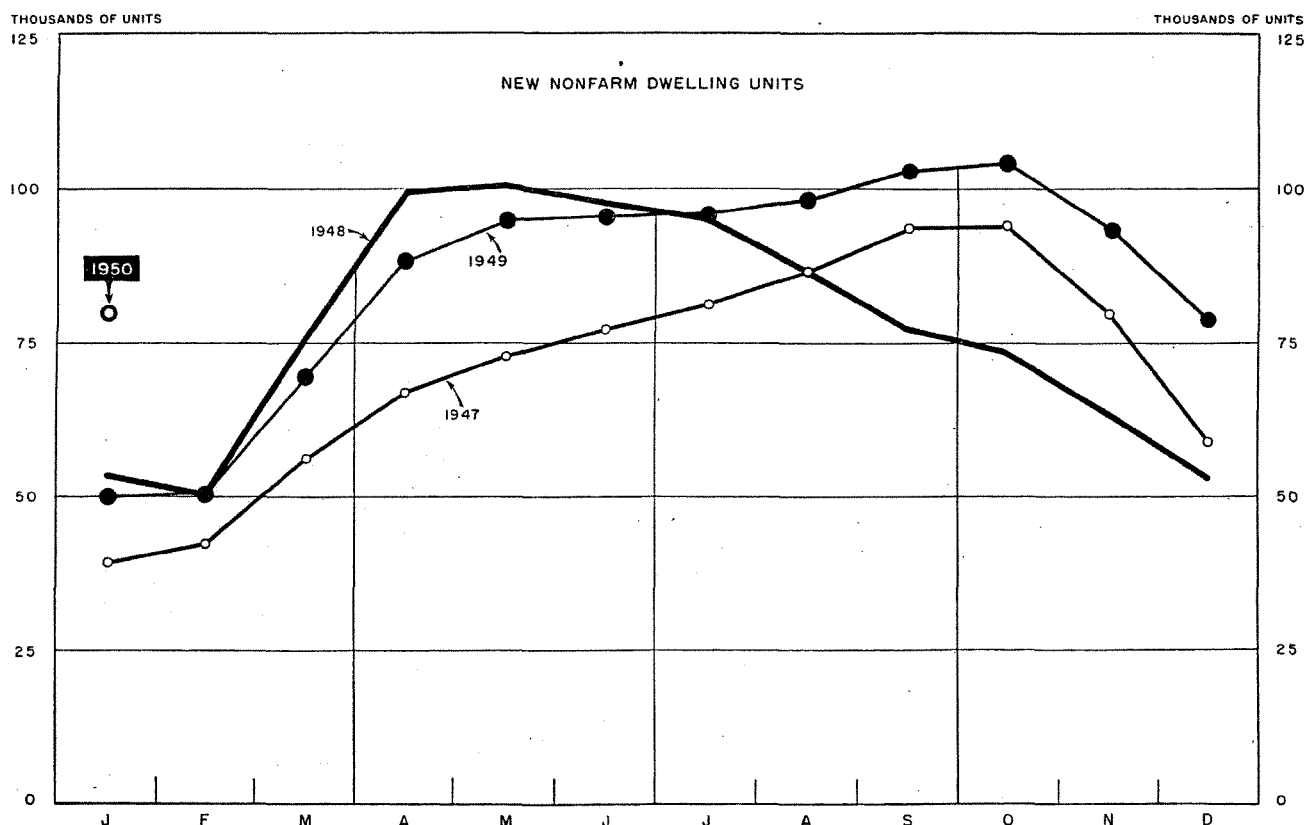
¹ Includes public residential construction.

² Preliminary estimate.

Sources: Department of Commerce and Department of Labor.

NEW HOUSING STARTS

Housing starts in January were the highest ever recorded for the month. Early figures for February show no break from this high level.



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

Month	New nonfarm units started			
	1947	1948	1949	1950
January.....	39,300	53,500	50,000	¹ 80,000
February.....	48,800	50,100	50,400	-----
March.....	56,000	76,400	69,400	-----
April.....	67,100	99,500	88,300	-----
May.....	72,900	100,300	95,400	-----
June.....	77,200	97,800	95,500	-----
July.....	81,100	95,000	96,100	-----
August.....	86,300	86,600	99,000	-----
September.....	93,800	82,200	102,900	-----
October.....	94,000	73,400	104,300	-----
November.....	79,700	63,600	¹ 93,000	-----
December.....	58,800	52,900	¹ 79,000	-----
Total.....	849,000	931,300	¹ 1,023,300	-----
Monthly average.....	70,750	77,600	¹ 85,275	-----

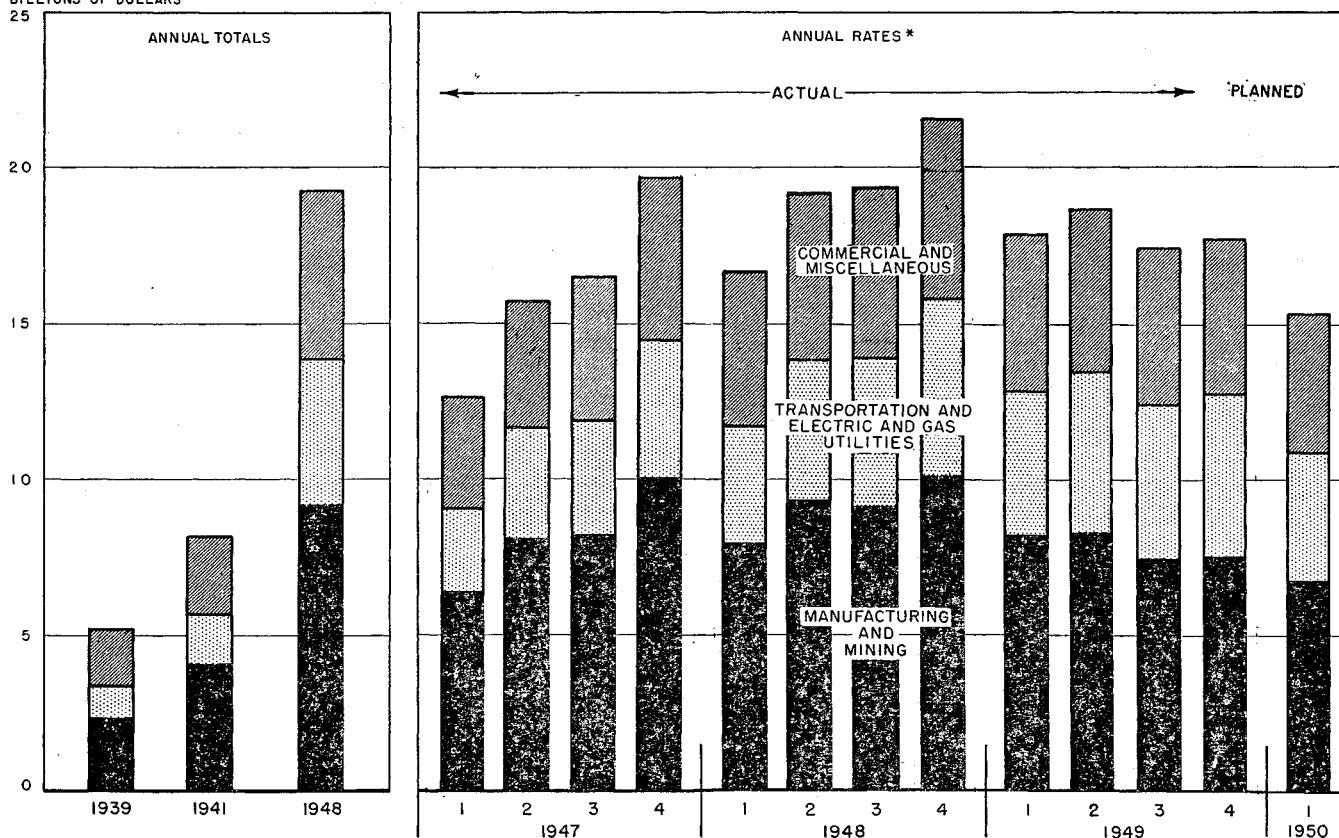
¹ Preliminary estimate.

Source: Department of Labor.

EXPENDITURES FOR NEW PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Plant and equipment expenditures by nonagricultural business firms in 2nd half of 1949 were estimated at 14 percent less than those of 2nd half of 1948. Anticipated expenditures for 1st quarter of 1950 are likewise reported as 14 percent below those of 1st quarter 1949. Electric and gas utilities are the only major business group anticipating higher expenditures this quarter than a year ago.

BILLIONS OF DOLLARS



* NOT ADJUSTED FOR SEASONAL VARIATION.

SOURCES: SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION AND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

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

Period	Total ¹	Manufacturing	Mining	Transportation		Electric and gas utilities	Commercial and miscellaneous ²
				Railroad	Other		
1939.....	5,200	1,930	380	280	280	480	1,850
1941.....	8,190	3,400	680	560	340	710	2,490
1945.....	6,630	3,210	440	550	320	630	1,480
1947.....	16,180	7,460	690	910	800	1,900	4,430
1948.....	19,230	8,340	800	1,320	700	2,680	5,390
1949 ³	17,910	7,130	730	1,340	510	3,160	5,040
1948: First quarter.....	16,680	7,200	720	1,080	720	2,000	4,960
Second quarter.....	19,280	8,560	800	1,240	760	2,560	5,360
Third quarter.....	19,320	8,360	800	1,320	680	2,760	5,440
Fourth quarter.....	21,640	9,280	880	1,640	680	3,400	5,760
1949: First quarter.....	17,840	7,400	760	1,440	520	2,720	5,040
Second quarter.....	18,640	7,520	760	1,520	560	3,120	5,160
Third quarter.....	17,440	6,760	720	1,240	520	3,160	5,040
Fourth quarter ³	17,720	6,840	680	1,160	440	3,600	5,000
1950: First quarter ³	15,280	6,080	640	880	320	2,960	4,440

¹ Excludes agriculture.

² Commercial and miscellaneous composed of trade, service, finance, and communication.

³ Figures for fourth quarter of 1949 and first quarter of 1950 are based on anticipated capital expenditures.

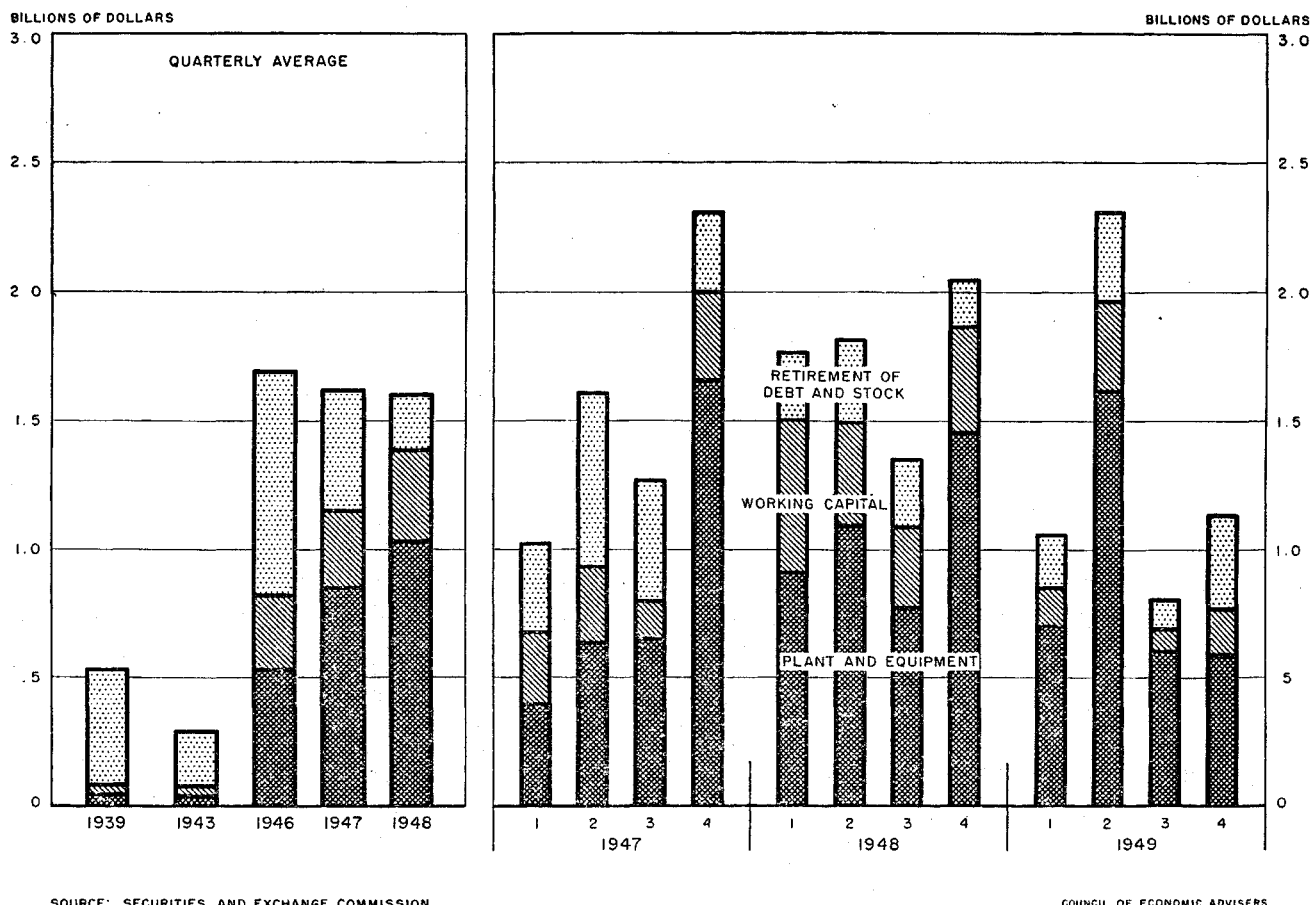
NOTE.—These figures do not agree with the totals included in the gross national product estimates of the Department of Commerce, principally because the latter cover agricultural investment and also certain equipment and construction outlays charged to current expense. Figures for 1939-44 are Federal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

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 corporate issues showed a seasonal rise in the 4th quarter of the year but were far below the total for the 4th quarter of 1948.



[Millions of dollars]

Period	Estimated net proceeds	Proposed uses of net proceeds			
		New money			Retirement of debt and stock ¹
		Total	Plant and equipment	Working capital	
1939 quarterly average.....	529	81	43	39	448
1943 quarterly average.....	287	77	35	42	210
1946 quarterly average.....	1,689	820	529	291	869
1947 quarterly average.....	1,617	1,148	852	296	469
1948 quarterly average.....	1,748	1,491	1,060	431	257
1949 quarterly average ²	1,520	1,209	948	261	311
1947: Third quarter.....	1,374	884	692	192	490
Fourth quarter.....	2,311	2,000	1,654	347	310
1948: First quarter.....	1,769	1,511	918	593	260
Second quarter.....	1,817	1,493	1,091	402	325
Third quarter.....	1,352	1,087	774	314	265
Fourth quarter.....	2,054	1,874	1,459	415	180
1949: First quarter.....	1,195	954	762	193	241
Second quarter.....	2,475	2,088	1,679	409	386
Third quarter.....	1,006	834	677	157	172
Fourth quarter ²	1,403	960	675	285	444

¹ Includes small amount for other purposes.

² Preliminary estimate.

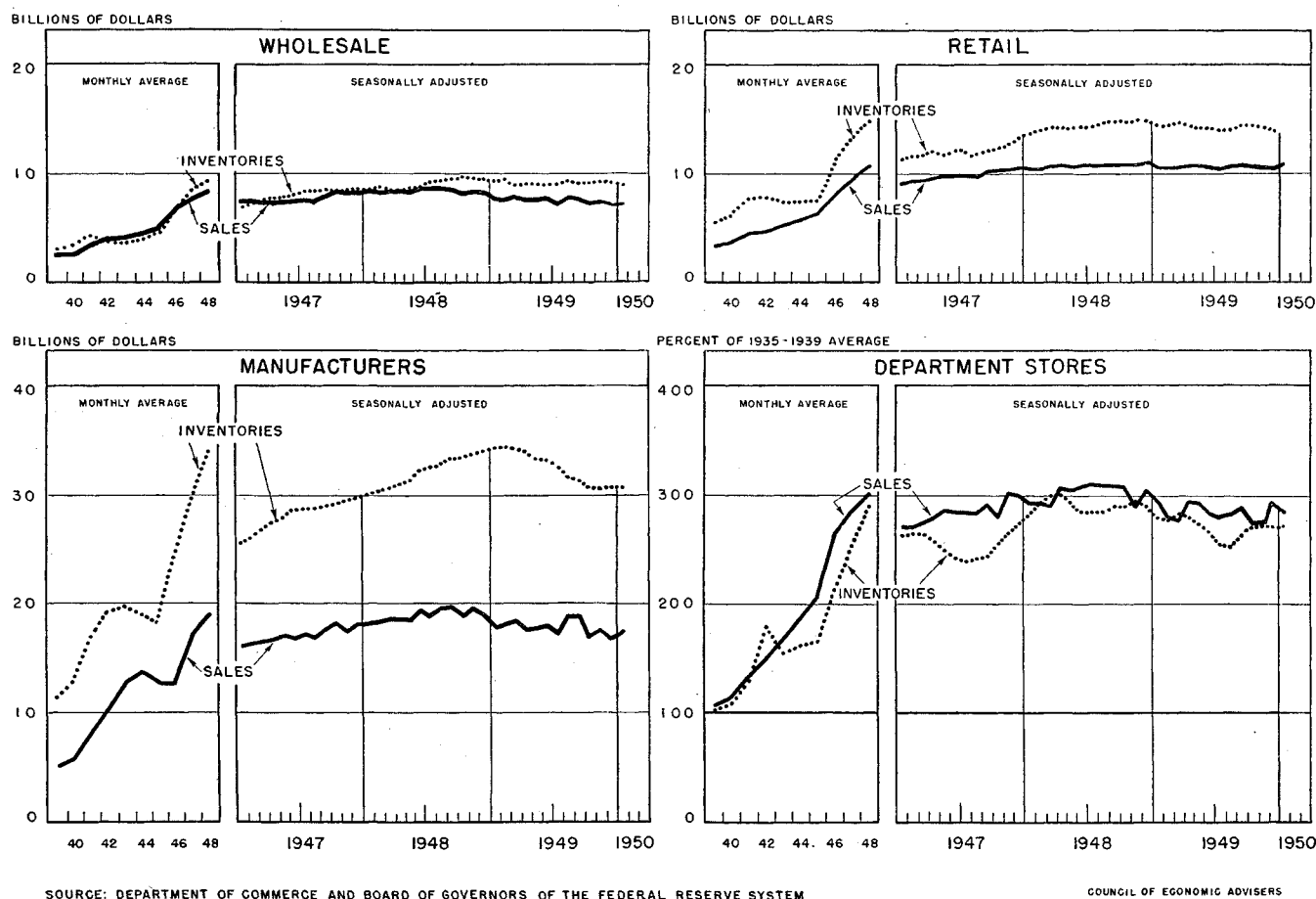
NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Minor revisions made in 1949 data after chart was prepared.

Source: Securities and Exchange Commission.

INVENTORIES AND SALES

Manufacturers' sales rose moderately in January after allowance for seasonal variation, and total retail sales similarly adjusted were higher than in any month of last year.



Period	Wholesale		Retail		Manufacturers		Department stores	
	Inventories ¹	Sales ²	Inventories ¹	Sales ²	Inventories ¹	Sales ²	Inventories ³	Sales ³
Millions of dollars, seasonally adjusted ⁴							1935-39=100, seasonally adjusted	
939.....	3,175	2,505	5,532	3,504	11,465	5,100	102	106
943.....	3,684	4,273	7,361	5,277	20,098	12,822	155	168
945.....	4,638	4,983	7,543	6,315	18,390	12,883	166	207
946.....	6,665	6,601	11,226	8,358	24,818	12,841	213	264
947.....	8,653	7,754	13,221	9,909	29,818	17,076	255	286
948.....	9,511	8,355	14,969	10,837	34,066	18,998	291	302
949 ⁵	9,031	7,508	13,698	10,682	30,800	17,819	270	285
948: December.....	9,511	8,158	14,969	10,987	34,066	19,065	288	303
949: January.....	9,464	7,723	14,659	10,611	34,409	17,880	279	295
February.....	9,479	7,680	14,479	10,706	34,408	18,175	276	281
March.....	9,293	7,890	14,700	10,724	34,223	18,451	283	277
April.....	9,330	7,422	14,458	10,814	34,018	17,643	280	294
May.....	9,153	7,539	14,139	10,759	33,565	17,741	273	292
June.....	9,002	7,718	14,182	10,684	33,250	17,990	265	285
July.....	9,091	7,158	13,862	10,549	32,367	17,114	256	280
August.....	9,061	7,522	13,932	10,669	31,638	18,945	253	283
September.....	9,186	7,518	14,355	10,856	31,060	18,866	264	289
October.....	9,137	7,120	14,475	10,678	30,754	16,805	270	276
November ⁵	9,113	7,515	14,336	10,630	30,494	17,300	273	276
December ⁵	9,031	7,289	13,698	10,503	30,800	16,875	271	293
950: January ⁵	8,945	7,247	13,840	10,870	30,800	17,500	272	284

¹ Book value, end of period.

² Monthly average for year and total for month.

³ Indexes computed from data on retail value of sales for month and retail book value of inventories, end of period.

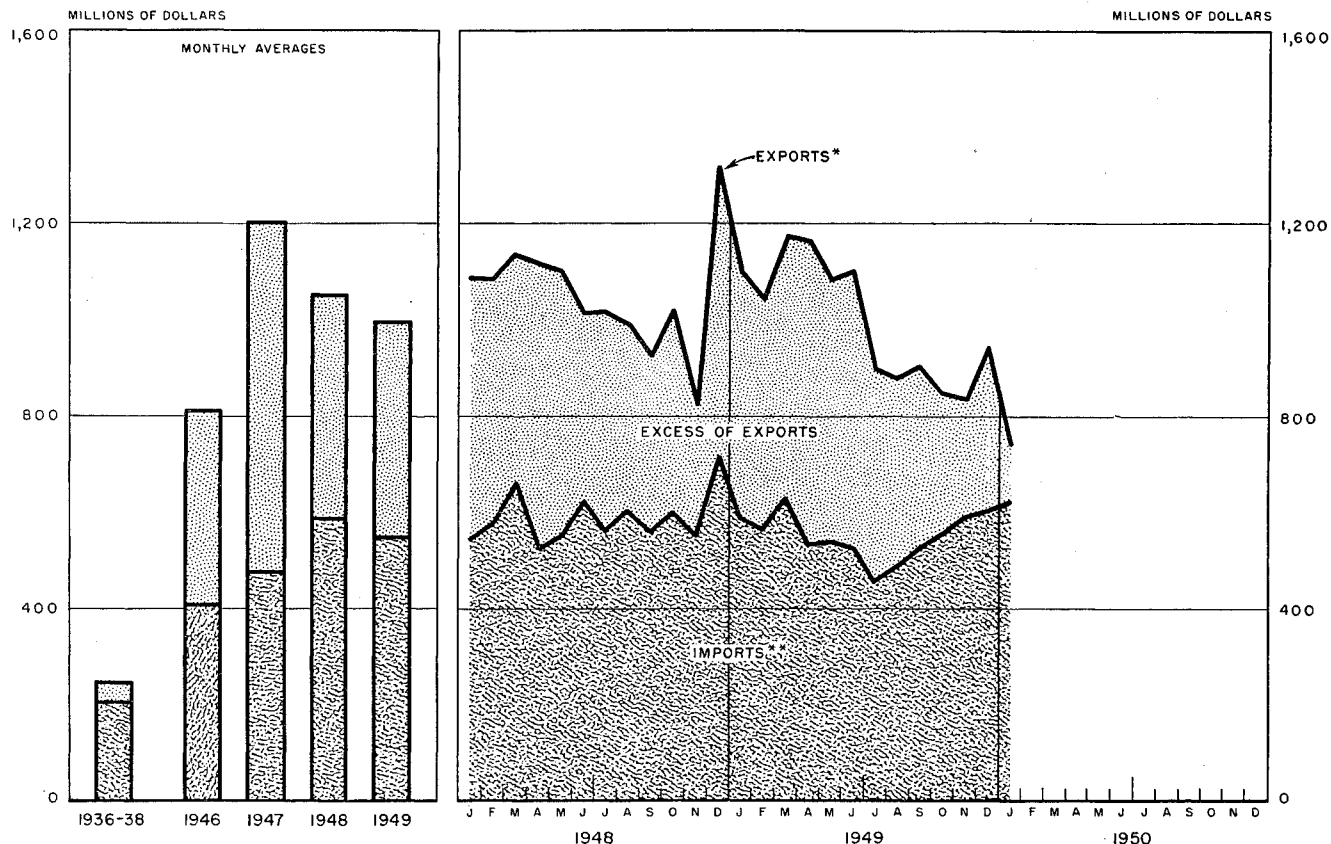
⁴ All dollar figures, except for retail sales, have been revised and do not agree with data published prior to October 1949.

⁵ Preliminary estimates.

Sources: Department of Commerce and Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

Exports in January resumed their downward trend, falling 21 percent to the lowest monthly figure in over three years. Imports increased moderately for the 6th successive month, again exceeding 1948 and 1949 monthly averages. As a result, the merchandise export surplus fell to the lowest level since October 1945.



* RECORDED MERCHANDISE EXPORTS, INCLUDING REEXPORTS, AND CIVILIAN SUPPLIES FOR OCCUPIED AREAS
 ** RECORDED GENERAL MERCHANDISE IMPORTS

SOURCES: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, AND DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[Millions of dollars]

Period	Exports ¹	Imports ²	Excess of exports
1936-38 monthly average.....	247	207	40
1943 monthly average.....	1,080	282	798
1946 monthly average.....	849	410	439
1947 monthly average.....	1,278	478	801
1948 monthly average.....	1,051	594	457
1949 monthly average.....	994	552	442
1948: December.....	1,285	720	565
1949: January.....	1,094	590	504
February.....	1,032	568	464
March.....	1,159	632	527
April.....	1,148	534	614
May.....	1,077	539	538
June.....	1,104	527	578
July.....	897	456	441
August.....	881	491	390
September.....	904	530	374
October.....	849	559	290
November.....	836	593	243
December.....	943	605	338
1950: January.....	744	623	121

¹ Recorded merchandise exports, including reexports, and civilian supplies for occupied areas.

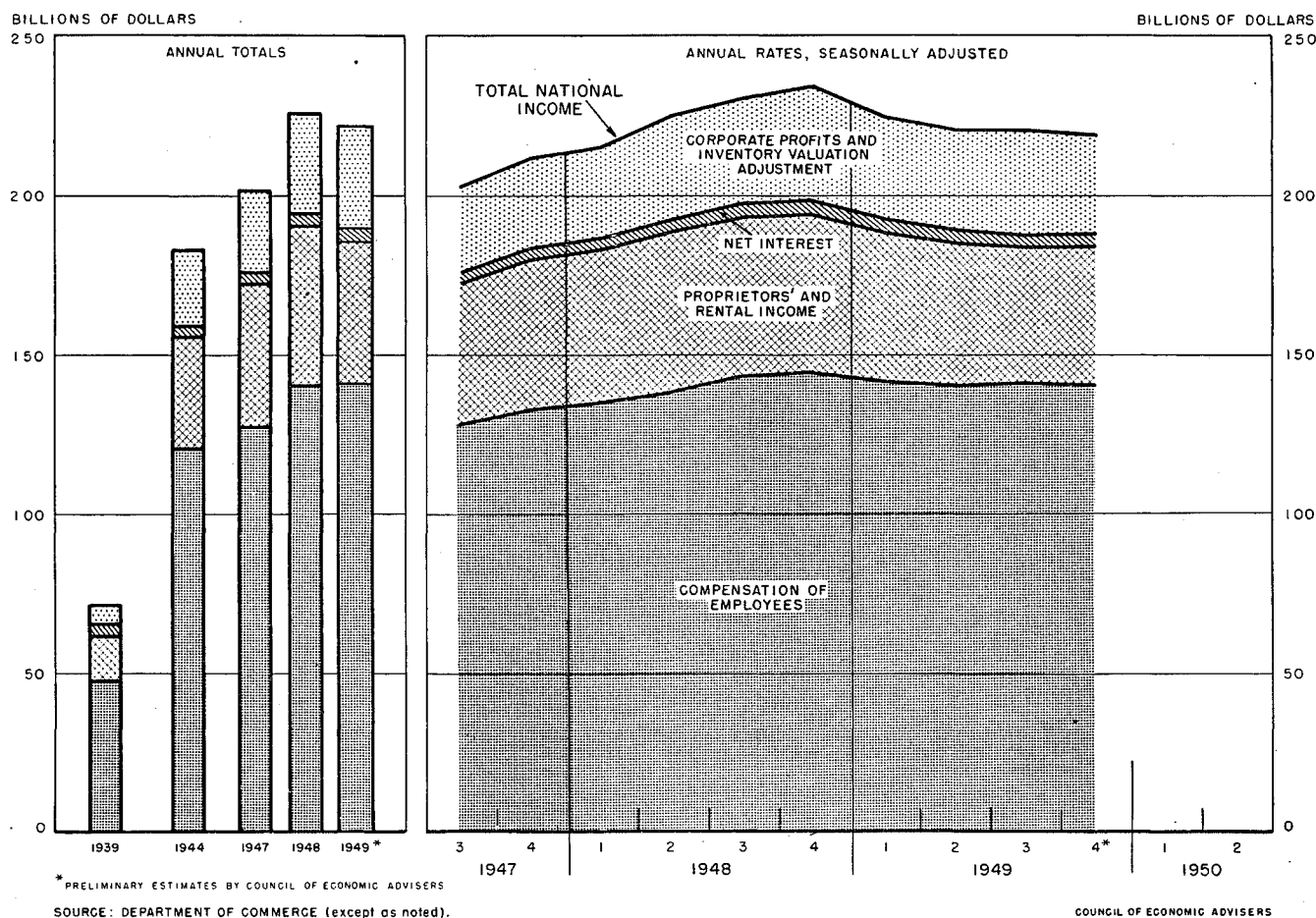
² Recorded general merchandise imports.

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

PURCHASING POWER

NATIONAL INCOME

National income in 4th quarter was almost equal to that in 3rd quarter but 6 percent below 4th quarter of 1948.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Total national income	Compensation of employees	Proprietors' (business, professional, farm) and rental income	Net interest	Corporate profits and inventory valuation adjustment		
					Total	Profits before taxes	Inventory valuation adjustment
1939.....	72.5	47.8	14.7	4.2	5.8	6.5	-0.7
1944.....	183.8	121.2	35.5	3.1	24.0	24.3	-0.3
1946.....	179.6	117.0	41.3	3.0	18.3	23.6	-5.3
1947.....	201.7	127.6	45.1	3.4	25.6	31.6	-6.0
1948.....	226.2	140.3	49.5	3.8	32.6	34.8	-2.2
1949.....	¹ 221.3	141.1	44.8	4.2	¹ 31.2	¹ 28.6	+2.6
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted							
1948: First quarter.....	215.1	135.1	48.0	3.6	28.5	33.0	-4.5
Second quarter.....	224.9	137.7	50.4	3.7	33.0	35.0	-2.0
Third quarter.....	230.4	143.3	49.9	3.9	33.3	36.6	-3.3
Fourth quarter.....	234.3	144.9	49.7	4.1	35.7	34.5	+1.2
1949: First quarter.....	224.7	141.9	47.1	4.1	31.6	29.4	+2.2
Second quarter.....	220.8	140.8	45.1	4.2	30.7	26.4	+4.3
Third quarter.....	220.7	141.1	43.1	4.2	32.3	28.9	+3.3
Fourth quarter.....	¹ 219.1	140.9	43.7	4.3	¹ 30.2	¹ 29.5	+0.7

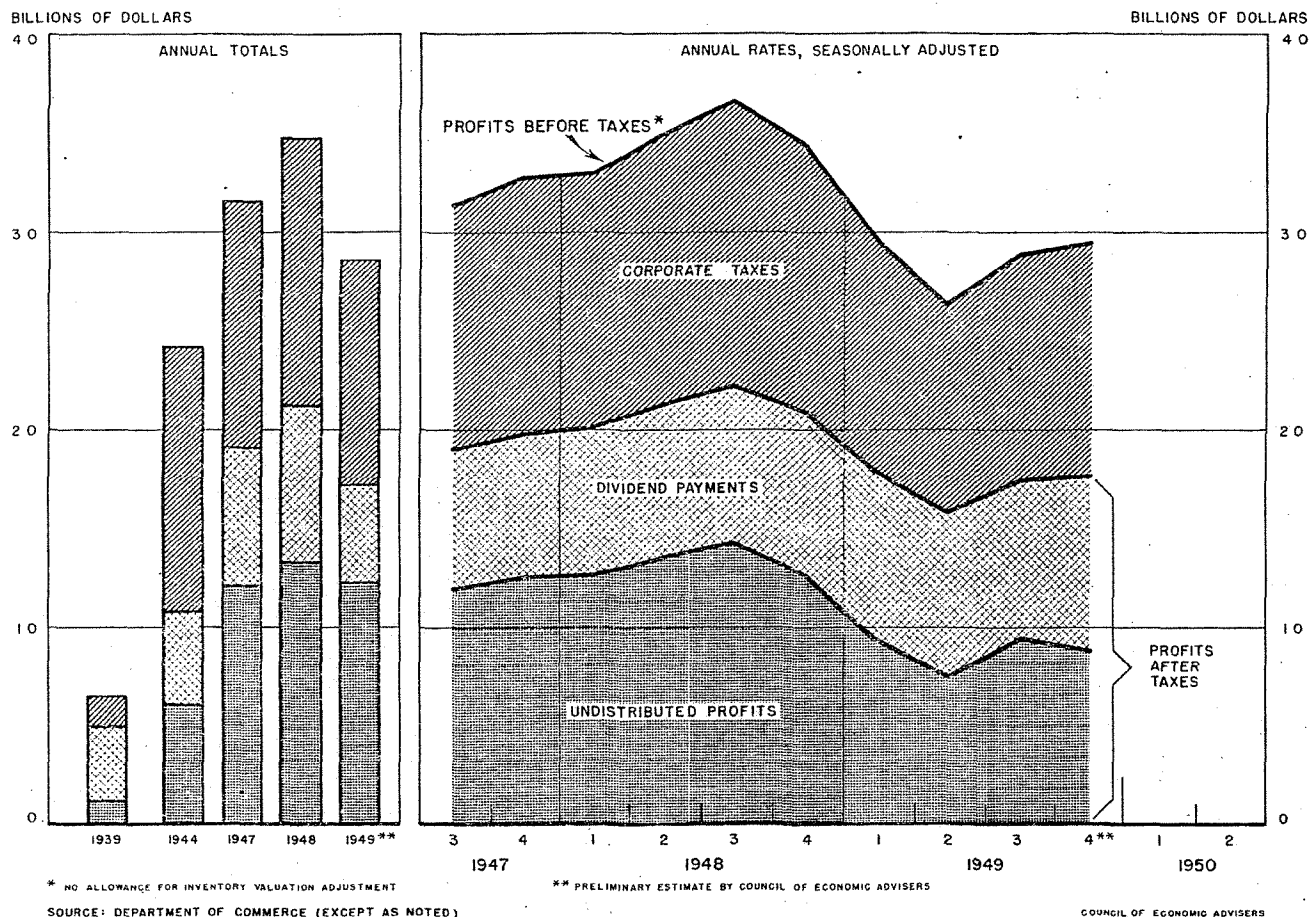
¹ Estimates by Council of Economic Advisers; based on incomplete data.

Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

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

CORPORATE PROFITS

Corporate profits in 2nd half of 1949 were higher than in 1st half, reflecting the improvement in business activity.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Corporate profits before taxes	Corporate tax liability	Corporate profits after taxes		
			Total	Dividend payments	Undistributed profits
1929.....	9.8	* 1.4	8.4	5.8	2.6
1939.....	6.5	1.5	5.0	3.8	1.2
1944.....	24.3	13.5	10.8	4.7	6.1
1946.....	23.6	9.6	13.9	5.8	8.1
1947.....	31.6	12.5	19.1	7.0	12.1
1948.....	34.8	13.6	21.2	7.9	13.2
1949 ¹	28.6	11.3	17.2	8.4	8.8
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted					
1948: First quarter.....	33.0	12.8	20.2	7.6	12.6
Second quarter.....	35.0	13.7	21.3	7.7	13.6
Third quarter.....	36.6	14.4	22.2	7.9	14.3
Fourth quarter.....	34.5	13.6	20.9	8.3	12.6
1949: First quarter.....	29.4	11.5	17.9	8.3	9.6
Second quarter.....	26.4	10.6	15.8	8.2	7.6
Third quarter.....	28.9	11.4	17.5	8.1	9.4
Fourth quarter ¹	29.5	11.8	17.7	8.9	8.8

¹ Estimates by Council of Economic Advisers; based on incomplete data.

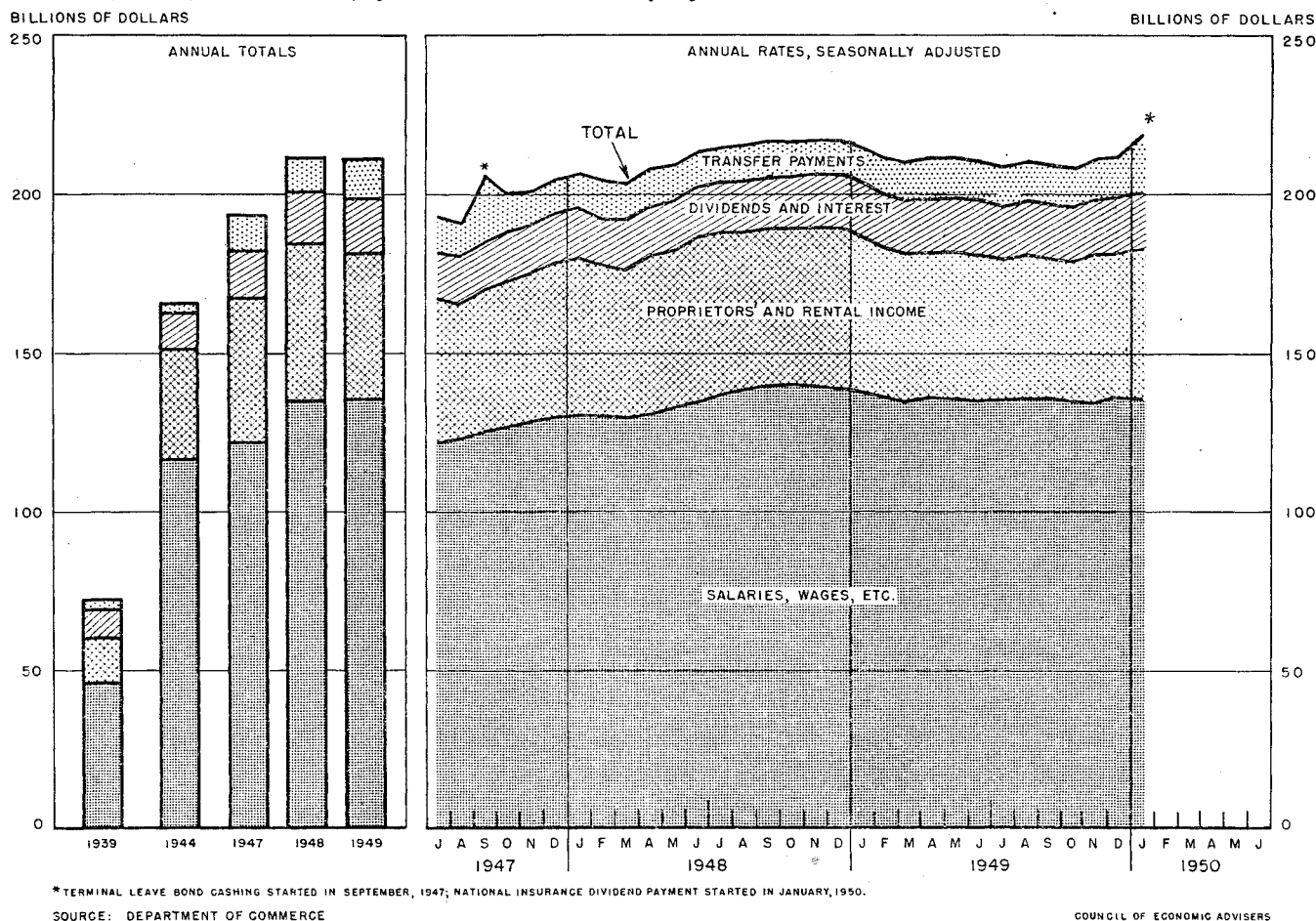
NOTE.—No allowance has been made for inventory valuation adjustment. See p. 20 for profits before taxes and inventory valuation adjustment.

Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

PERSONAL INCOME

Personal income was about \$6½ billion (annual rate, seasonally adjusted) higher in January. The increases in transfer payments for veterans' insurance dividends and in farm proprietors' income were partially off-set by a drop in corporate dividend payments from their unusually high level in December.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Total personal income	Salaries, wages, and other labor income	Proprietors' (business, professional, farm) and rental income	Dividends and personal interest	Transfer payments
1939.....	72.6	45.7	14.7	9.2	3.0
1944.....	165.9	116.2	35.5	10.6	3.6
1947.....	193.5	122.0	45.1	14.8	11.7
1948.....	211.9	135.1	49.5	16.2	11.1
1949.....	209.9	135.6	44.8	17.2	12.3
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted					
1948: December.....	217.0	139.1	50.3	16.9	10.7
1949: January.....	214.6	137.9	48.5	17.0	11.2
February.....	211.3	136.1	46.6	17.0	11.6
March.....	210.2	134.4	46.2	17.0	12.6
April.....	210.5	136.0	45.0	17.1	12.4
May.....	210.2	135.8	45.2	17.0	12.2
June.....	209.4	135.0	45.1	17.0	12.3
July.....	207.2	135.1	42.8	16.9	12.4
August.....	209.1	135.5	43.9	17.1	12.6
September.....	208.3	135.8	42.7	17.2	12.6
October.....	207.0	134.8	42.9	17.3	12.0
November.....	209.4	134.7	44.9	17.4	12.4
December.....	211.9	136.6	43.5	18.9	12.8
1950: January ¹	218.4	136.3	46.2	17.4	² 18.5

¹ Preliminary estimate.

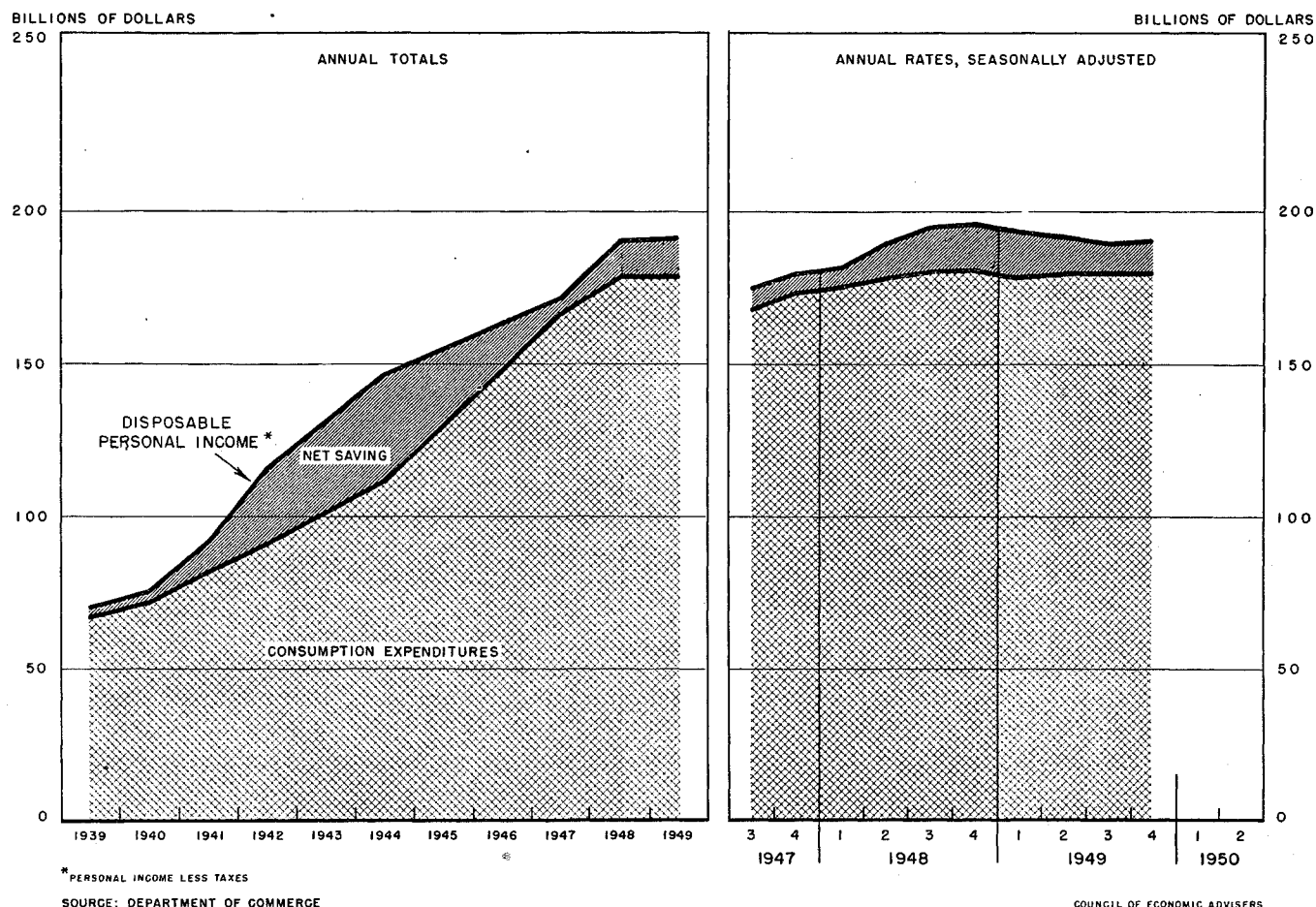
² Includes \$5.4 billion, annual rate (or \$450 million, monthly total) for veterans' insurance dividends.

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

Source: Department of Commerce.

CONSUMER INCOME, SPENDING, AND SAVING

Consumer expenditures in 4th quarter of 1949 were about \$180 billion (annual rate), a drop of only \$1 billion from 4th quarter of 1948, according to revised data. During the same period, personal disposable income dropped \$5.5 billion.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Disposable personal income ¹	Less: Personal consumption expenditures	Equals: Personal saving
1939	70.2	67.5	2.7
1940	75.7	72.1	3.7
1941	92.0	82.3	9.8
1942	116.2	90.8	25.4
1943	131.6	101.6	30.0
1944	147.0	111.6	35.4
1945	151.1	123.1	28.0
1946	158.1	147.8	10.3
1947	172.0	166.9	5.1
1948	190.8	178.8	12.0
1949	191.2	179.4	11.8
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted			
1948: First quarter	181.9	175.2	6.7
Second quarter	189.6	178.7	10.8
Third quarter	195.2	180.3	15.0
Fourth quarter	196.2	180.9	15.3
1949: First quarter	193.4	178.7	14.8
Second quarter	191.4	179.3	12.1
Third quarter	189.5	179.7	9.8
Fourth quarter	190.7	179.8	10.8

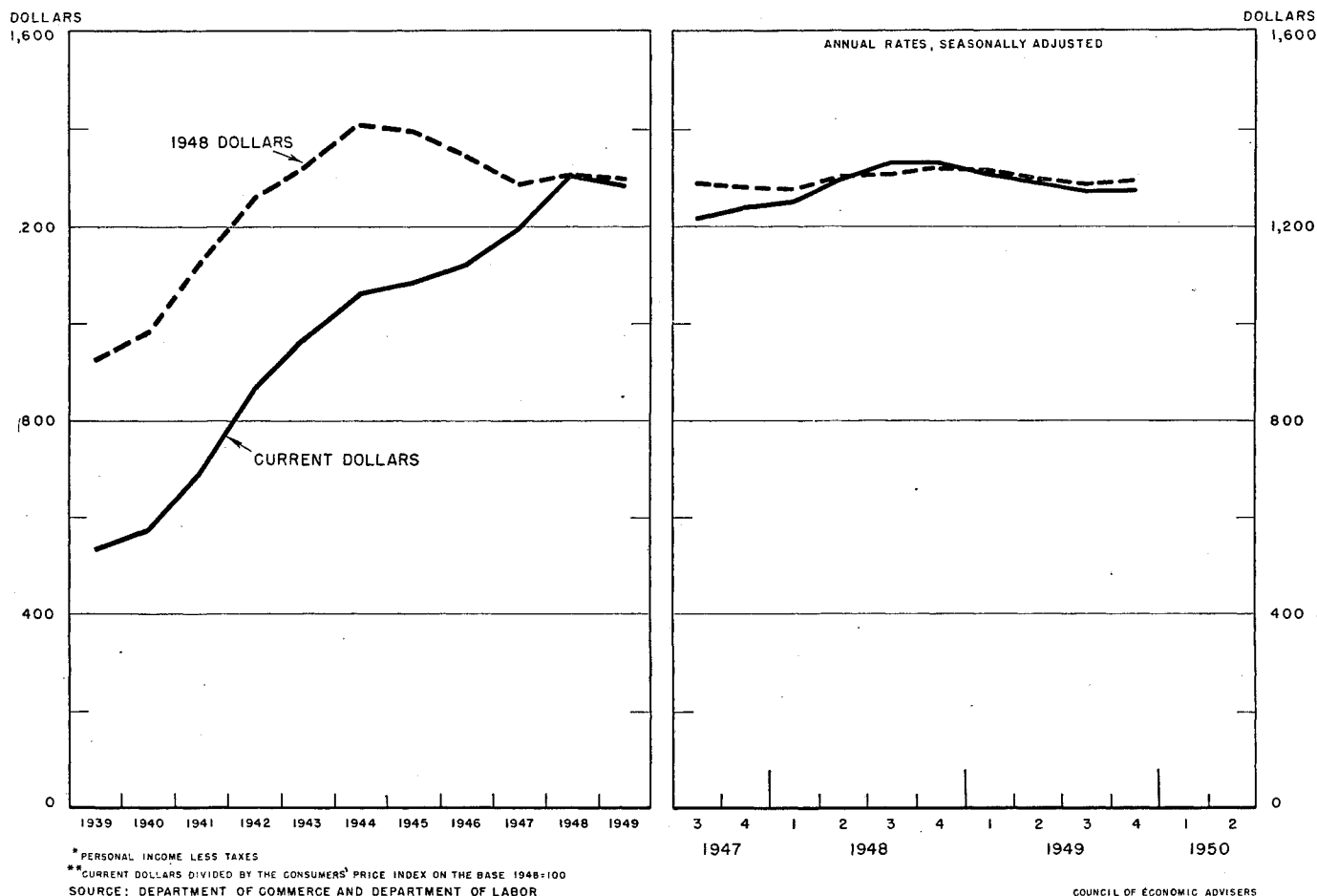
¹ Income less taxes.

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

Source: Department of Commerce.

PER CAPITA INCOME*

Per capita disposable income in 4th quarter of 1949 was about the same as in the 3rd quarter but about 4 percent below 4th quarter of 1948. With a small drop in prices, there was slight improvement from 3rd to 4th quarter in terms of real purchasing power.



Period	Per capita disposable personal income ¹		Consumers' price index ² 1948=100
	Current dollars	1948 dollars ²	
1939	\$536	\$923	58.1
1940	574	981	58.5
1941	691	1,125	61.4
1942	867	1,262	68.7
1943	970	1,314	73.8
1944	1,065	1,405	75.8
1945	1,082	1,389	77.9
1946	1,119	1,342	83.4
1947	1,194	1,282	93.1
1948	1,302	1,302	100.0
1949	1,281	1,297	98.8
	Annual rates, seasonally adjusted		Not adjusted for seasonal variation
	Current dollars	1948 dollars ²	
1948: First quarter	1,248	1,273	98.0
Second quarter	1,296	1,301	99.6
Third quarter	1,328	1,305	101.8
Fourth quarter	1,328	1,319	100.7
1949: First quarter	1,304	1,315	99.2
Second quarter	1,285	1,298	99.0
Third quarter	1,267	1,284	98.7
Fourth quarter	1,269	1,292	98.2

¹ Income less taxes.

² Current dollars divided by the consumers' price index on the base 1948=100.

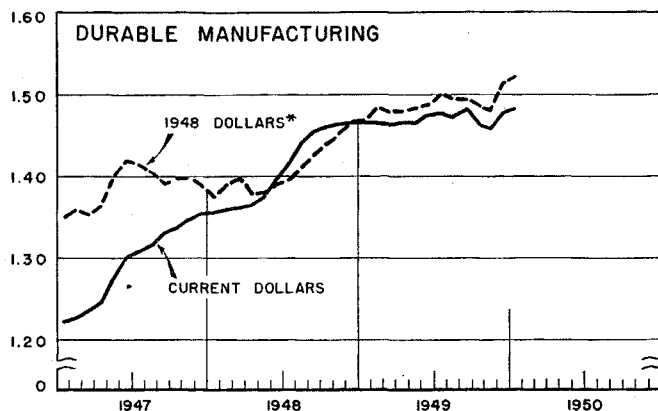
³ The consumers' price index has been roughly adjusted to take account of the understatement from December 1941-February 1947. This adjustment is in line with the report of the Mitchell Committee. The unadjusted index will be found on page 2.

Sources: Department of Commerce and Department of Labor.

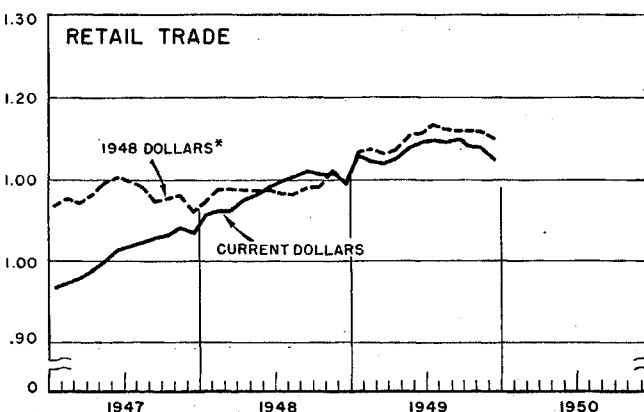
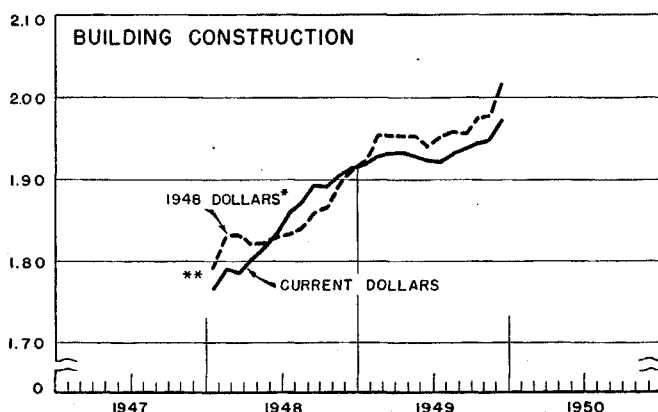
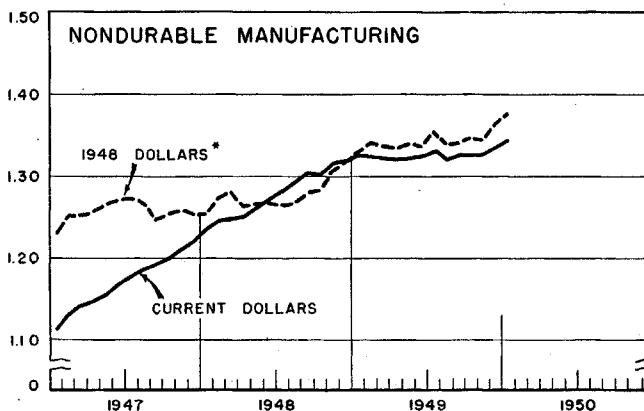
AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

Gross hourly earnings in manufacturing industries were slightly above the high December level. Increases occurred in both durable and nondurable groups.

DOLLARS PER HOUR



DOLLARS PER HOUR



* CURRENT DOLLARS DIVIDED BY CONSUMERS PRICE INDEX ON BASE OF 1948=100

** NOT AVAILABLE PRIOR TO JANUARY 1948

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[Selected industries ¹]

Period	All manufacturing		Durable goods manufacturing		Nondurable goods manufacturing		Building construction		Retail trade	
	Current dollars	1948 dollars ²	Current dollars	1948 dollars ²	Current dollars	1948 dollars ²	Current dollars	1948 dollars ²	Current dollars	1948 dollars ²
1939 monthly average.....	\$0.633	\$1.090	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
1943 monthly average.....	.961	1.302	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
1946 monthly average.....	1.084	1.300	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
1947 monthly average.....	1.237	1.329	\$1.292	\$1.388	\$1.171	\$1.258	(3)	(3)	\$1.009	\$1.084
1948 monthly average.....	1.350	1.350	1.410	1.410	1.278	1.278	\$1.848	\$1.848	1.088	1.088
1949 monthly average ⁴	1.402	1.419	1.469	1.488	1.325	1.342	1.935	1.960	1.136	1.151
1948: December.....	1.400	1.399	1.466	1.465	1.319	1.318	1.915	1.913	1.098	1.097
1949: January.....	1.405	1.408	1.467	1.470	1.327	1.330	1.918	1.922	1.132	1.134
February.....	1.401	1.419	1.466	1.485	1.323	1.340	1.930	1.955	1.123	1.138
March.....	1.400	1.414	1.464	1.480	1.323	1.336	1.933	1.953	1.121	1.132
April.....	1.401	1.414	1.467	1.480	1.321	1.333	1.934	1.952	1.127	1.137
May.....	1.401	1.418	1.467	1.485	1.323	1.339	1.930	1.953	1.141	1.155
June.....	1.405	1.418	1.475	1.488	1.324	1.336	1.924	1.941	1.147	1.157
July.....	1.408	1.431	1.477	1.501	1.332	1.354	1.922	1.953	1.148	1.169
August.....	1.399	1.419	1.473	1.494	1.319	1.338	1.932	1.959	1.146	1.162
September.....	1.407	1.420	1.482	1.495	1.328	1.340	1.938	1.956	1.150	1.160
October.....	1.392	1.415	1.458	1.482	1.325	1.347	1.944	1.976	1.140	1.159
November ⁴	1.393	1.414	1.459	1.481	1.325	1.345	1.947	1.977	1.139	1.156
December ⁴	1.410	1.442	1.478	1.511	1.335	1.365	1.973	2.017	1.123	1.148
1950: January ⁴	1.418	1.454	1.484	1.522	1.343	1.377	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)

¹ Production and related workers.

² Current dollars divided by consumers' price index on base 1948=100. See note 3 to table on page 23.

³ Not available.

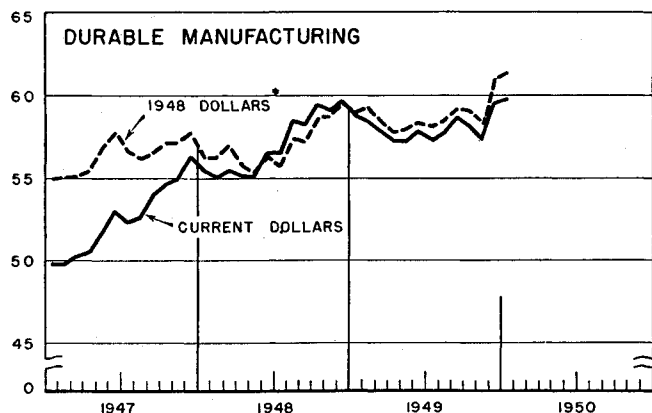
⁴ Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor.

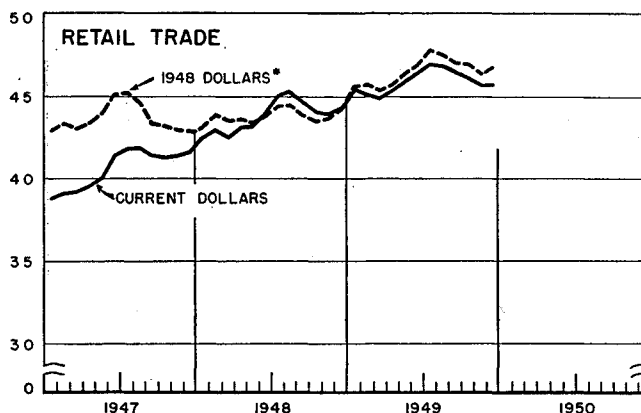
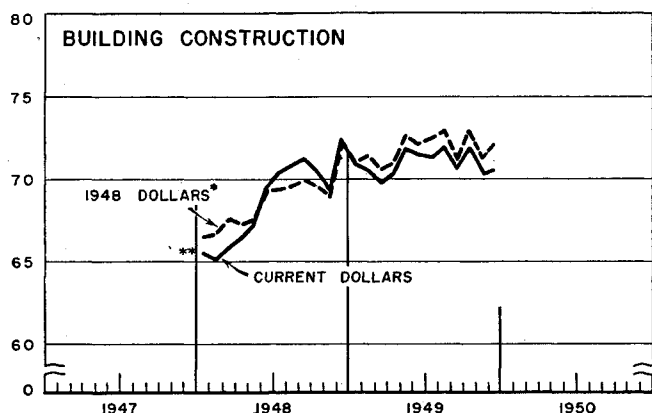
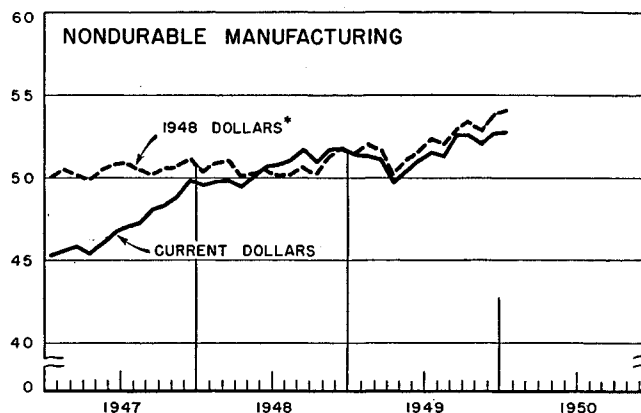
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

Average weekly earnings in manufacturing rose further in January, with durable goods again showing the greatest rise.

DOLLARS PER WEEK



DOLLARS PER WEEK



* CURRENT DOLLARS DIVIDED BY CONSUMERS PRICE INDEX ON BASE OF 1948=100
SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

** NOT AVAILABLE PRIOR TO JANUARY 1948

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISORS

[Selected industries¹]

Period	All manufacturing		Durable goods manufacturing		Nondurable goods manufacturing		Building construction		Retail trade	
	Current dollars	1948 dollars ²	Current dollars	1948 dollars ²	Current dollars	1948 dollars ²	Current dollars	1948 dollars ²	Current dollars	1948 dollars ²
1939 monthly average.....	\$23. 86	\$41. 07	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
1943 monthly average.....	43. 14	58. 46	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
1946 monthly average.....	43. 74	52. 45	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
1947 monthly average.....	49. 97	53. 67	\$52. 46	\$56. 35	\$46. 96	\$50. 44	(3)	(3)	\$40. 66	\$43. 67
1948 monthly average.....	54. 14	54. 14	57. 11	57. 11	50. 61	50. 61	\$68. 85	\$68. 85	43. 85	43. 85
1949 monthly average ⁴	54. 94	55. 62	58. 03	58. 75	51. 46	52. 10	70. 94	71. 82	45. 93	46. 51
1948: December.....	56. 14	56. 08	59. 67	59. 61	51. 84	51. 79	72. 33	72. 26	44. 36	44. 32
1949: January.....	55. 50	55. 61	58. 83	58. 95	51. 35	51. 45	70. 88	71. 02	45. 51	45. 60
February.....	55. 20	55. 93	58. 49	59. 26	51. 33	52. 01	70. 53	71. 46	45. 14	45. 73
March.....	54. 74	55. 29	57. 83	58. 41	51. 07	51. 59	69. 83	70. 54	44. 95	45. 40
April.....	53. 80	54. 29	57. 21	57. 73	49. 67	50. 12	70. 33	70. 97	45. 31	45. 72
May.....	54. 08	54. 74	57. 21	57. 90	50. 41	51. 02	71. 81	72. 68	45. 98	46. 54
June.....	54. 51	55. 00	57. 82	58. 35	50. 97	51. 43	71. 44	72. 09	46. 45	46. 87
July.....	54. 63	55. 52	57. 31	58. 24	51. 55	52. 39	71. 28	72. 44	46. 95	47. 81
August.....	54. 70	55. 48	57. 89	58. 71	51. 31	52. 04	71. 95	72. 97	46. 87	47. 54
September.....	55. 72	56. 23	58. 69	59. 22	52. 59	53. 07	70. 69	71. 33	46. 58	47. 00
October.....	55. 26	56. 16	58. 17	59. 12	52. 47	53. 32	71. 80	72. 97	46. 06	46. 81
November ⁴	54. 74	55. 57	57. 34	58. 21	52. 07	52. 86	70. 21	71. 28	45. 67	46. 37
December ⁴	56. 40	57. 67	59. 56	60. 90	52. 73	53. 92	70. 50	72. 09	45. 71	46. 74
1950: January ⁴	56. 44	57. 89	59. 81	61. 34	52. 78	54. 13	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)

¹ For production and related workers.

² Current dollars divided by consumers' price index on the base 1948=100. See note 3 to table on page 23.

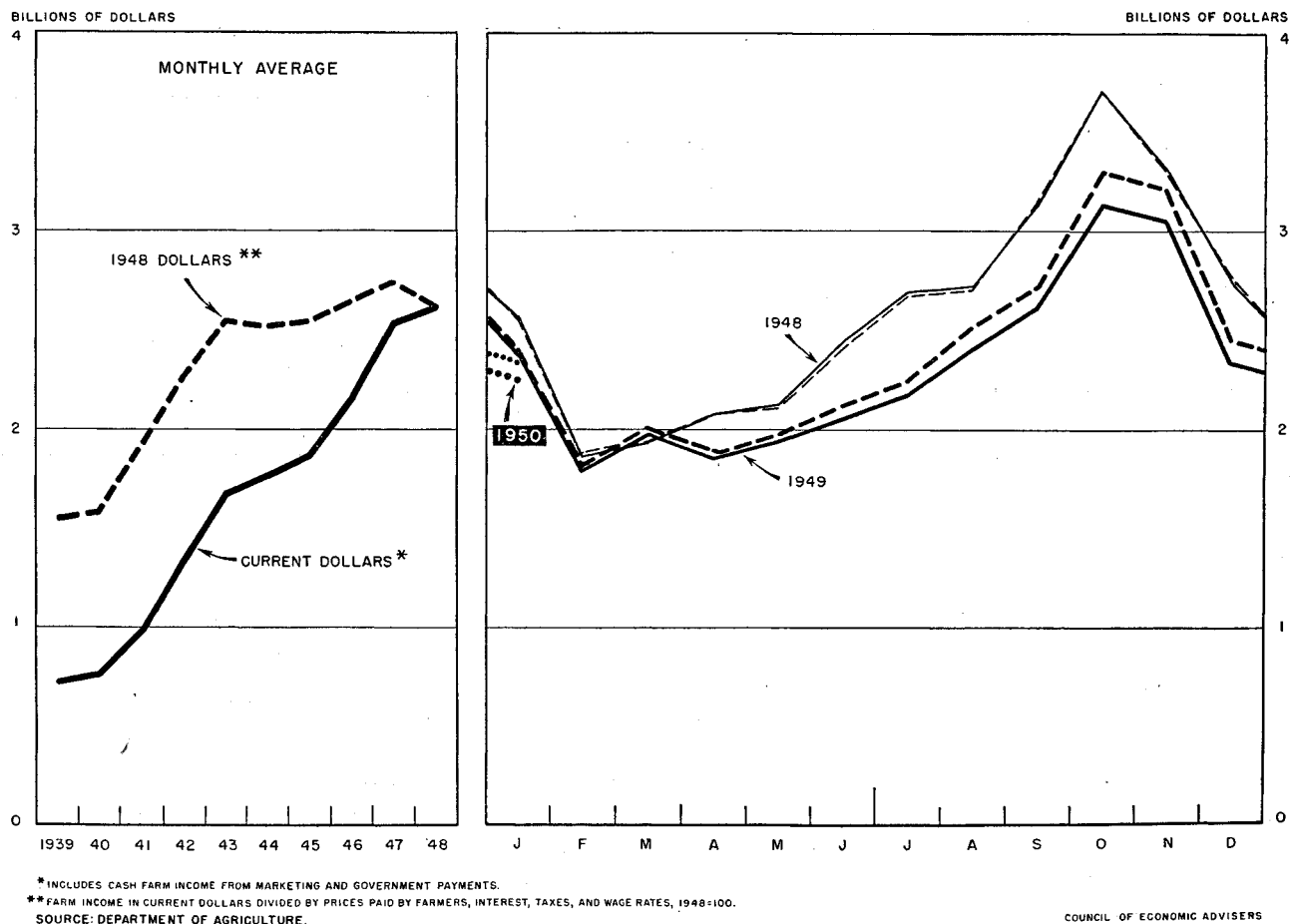
³ Not available.

⁴ Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor.

FARM INCOME

Farmers' cash receipts in January were moderately smaller than in December, decreased marketings more than offsetting the increase in prices received. The January income was about 5 percent below January 1949.



Period	Farm income (millions of current dollars) ¹	Prices paid by farmers (incl. interest, taxes, and wage rates) 1948=100 ²	Farm income (millions of 1948 dollars) ³
1939 monthly average.....	724	47	1,540
1941 monthly average.....	981	51	1,924
1942 monthly average.....	1,340	59	2,271
1944 monthly average.....	1,765	70	2,521
1945 monthly average.....	1,857	73	2,544
1946 monthly average.....	2,110	80	2,638
1947 monthly average.....	2,542	93	2,733
1948 monthly average.....	2,609	100	2,609
1949 monthly average ⁴	2,309	97	2,380
1948: December.....	2,740	99	2,768
1949: January.....	2,383	99	2,407
February.....	1,783	97	1,838
March.....	1,973	98	2,013
April.....	1,850	98	1,888
May.....	1,944	98	1,984
June.....	2,053	97	2,116
July.....	2,177	97	2,244
August.....	2,417	96	2,518
September.....	2,608	96	2,717
October.....	3,139	95	3,304
November.....	3,050	95	3,211
December ⁴	2,326	95	2,448
1950: January ⁴	2,251	96	2,345

¹ Includes cash farm income from marketings and Government payments.

² Converted from the reported base, 1910-14=100, to the base 1948=100.

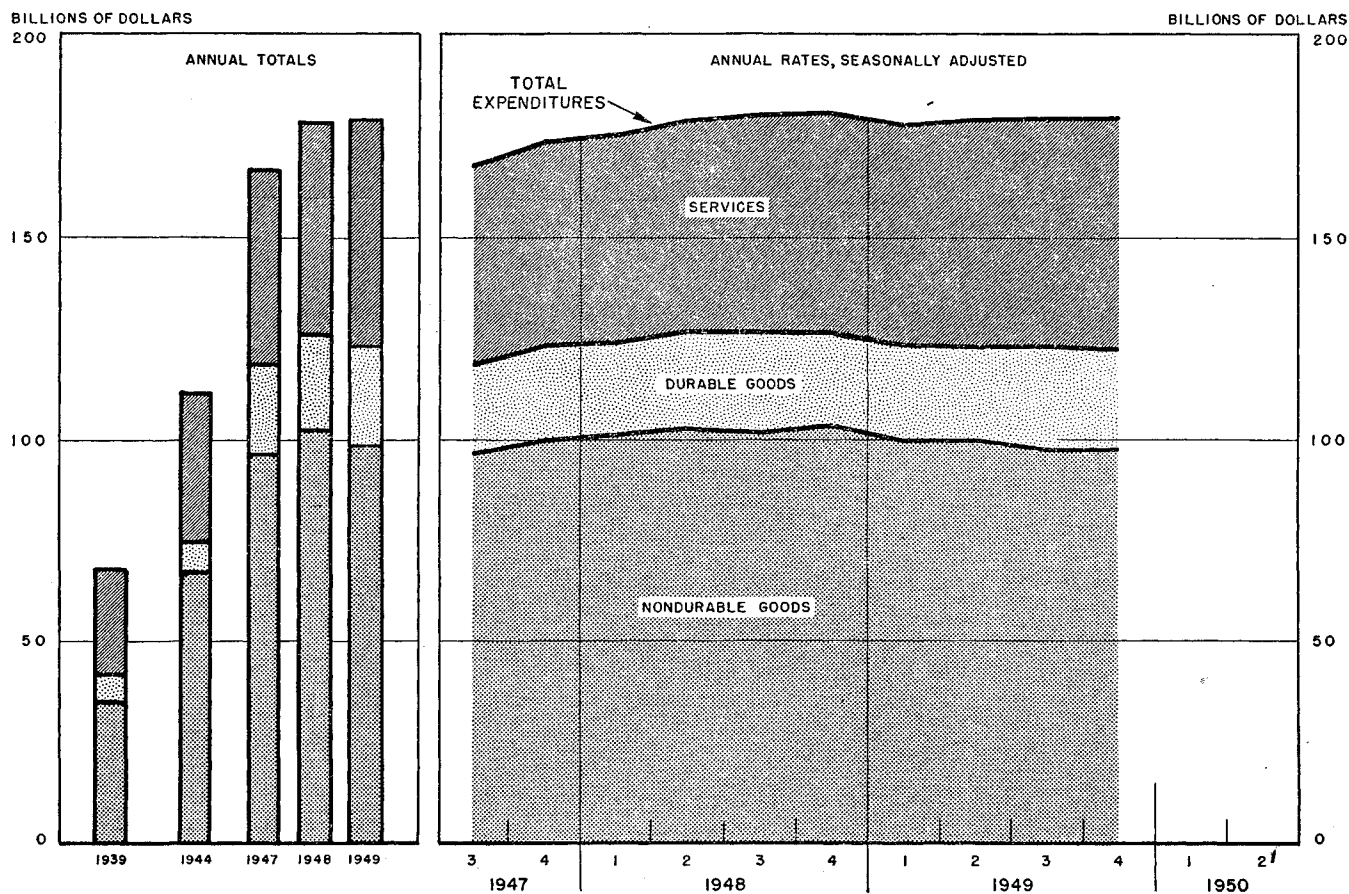
³ Farm income in current dollars divided by prices paid by farmers, interest, taxes, and wage rates, 1948=100.

⁴ Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Agriculture.

PERSONAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURES

According to revised estimates, purchases of durable goods dropped slightly in 4th quarter of 1949 and purchases of nondurable goods showed little change after declining for 3 quarters. Expenditures for services reached a new high in 4th quarter.



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[Billions of dollars]

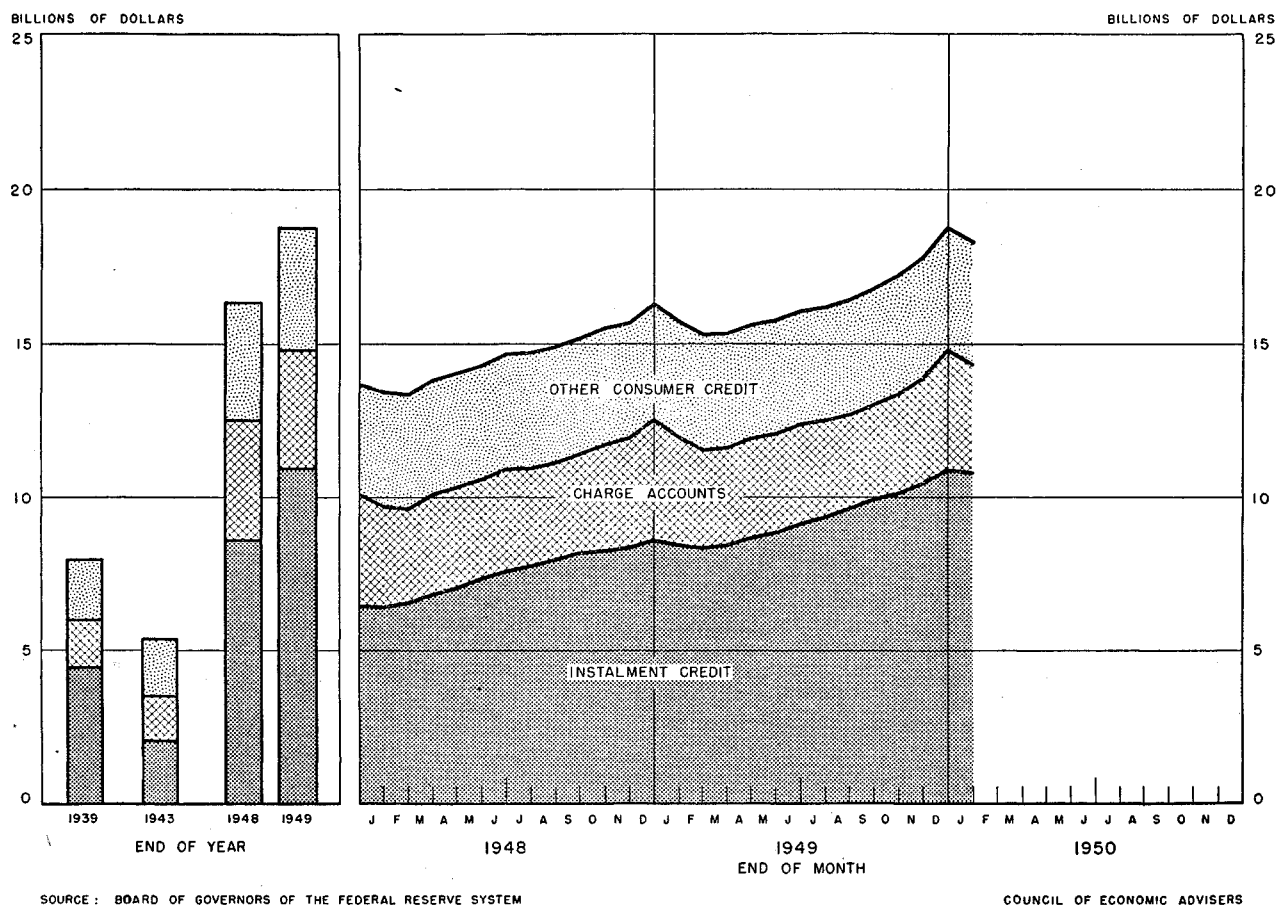
Period	Personal consumption expenditures			
	Total	Nondurable goods	Durable goods	Services
1939.....	67.5	35.3	6.7	25.5
1944.....	111.6	67.1	7.1	37.4
1946.....	147.8	86.8	16.5	44.5
1947.....	166.9	96.2	22.0	48.8
1948.....	178.8	102.2	23.5	53.1
1949.....	179.4	98.9	24.4	56.1
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted				
1948: First quarter.....	175.2	101.2	22.7	51.3
Second quarter.....	178.7	102.4	23.8	52.5
Third quarter.....	180.3	101.8	24.8	53.7
Fourth quarter.....	180.9	103.3	22.9	54.8
1949: First quarter.....	178.7	100.4	23.0	55.3
Second quarter.....	179.3	99.8	23.6	55.9
Third quarter.....	179.7	97.6	25.7	56.5
Fourth quarter.....	179.8	97.7	25.2	56.9

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

Source: Department of Commerce.

CONSUMER CREDIT

With a seasonal drop in charge accounts, total consumer credit fell about \$400 million in January. Automobile sale credit continued strong.



[Millions of dollars]

End of period	Total consumer credit outstanding	Instalment credit			Charge accounts	Other consumer credit ¹
		Total	Automobile sale credit	Other sale credit and loans		
1939.....	7,969	4,424	1,267	3,157	1,544	2,001
1943.....	5,378	2,001	175	1,826	1,498	1,879
1946.....	10,191	4,000	544	3,456	3,054	3,137
1947.....	13,673	6,434	1,151	5,283	3,612	3,627
1948.....	16,319	8,600	1,961	6,639	3,854	3,865
1949.....	18,777	10,891	3,144	7,747	3,909	3,977
1948: December.....	16,319	8,600	1,961	6,639	3,854	3,865
1949: January.....	15,748	8,424	1,965	6,459	3,457	3,867
February.....	15,325	8,339	1,996	6,343	3,169	3,817
March.....	15,335	8,429	2,105	6,324	3,121	3,785
April.....	15,595	8,630	2,241	6,389	3,232	3,733
May.....	15,843	8,888	2,386	6,502	3,235	3,720
June.....	16,124	9,123	2,499	6,624	3,274	3,727
July.....	16,198	9,335	2,610	6,725	3,123	3,740
August.....	16,453	9,622	2,761	6,861	3,064	3,767
September.....	16,801	9,897	2,876	7,021	3,123	3,781
October.....	17,221	10,164	2,986	7,178	3,197	3,860
November.....	17,813	10,439	3,085	7,354	3,454	3,920
December.....	18,777	10,891	3,144	7,747	3,909	3,977
1950: January ²	18,335	10,830	3,179	7,651	3,506	3,999

¹ Includes single-payment loans of commercial banks and pawnbrokers and service credit.

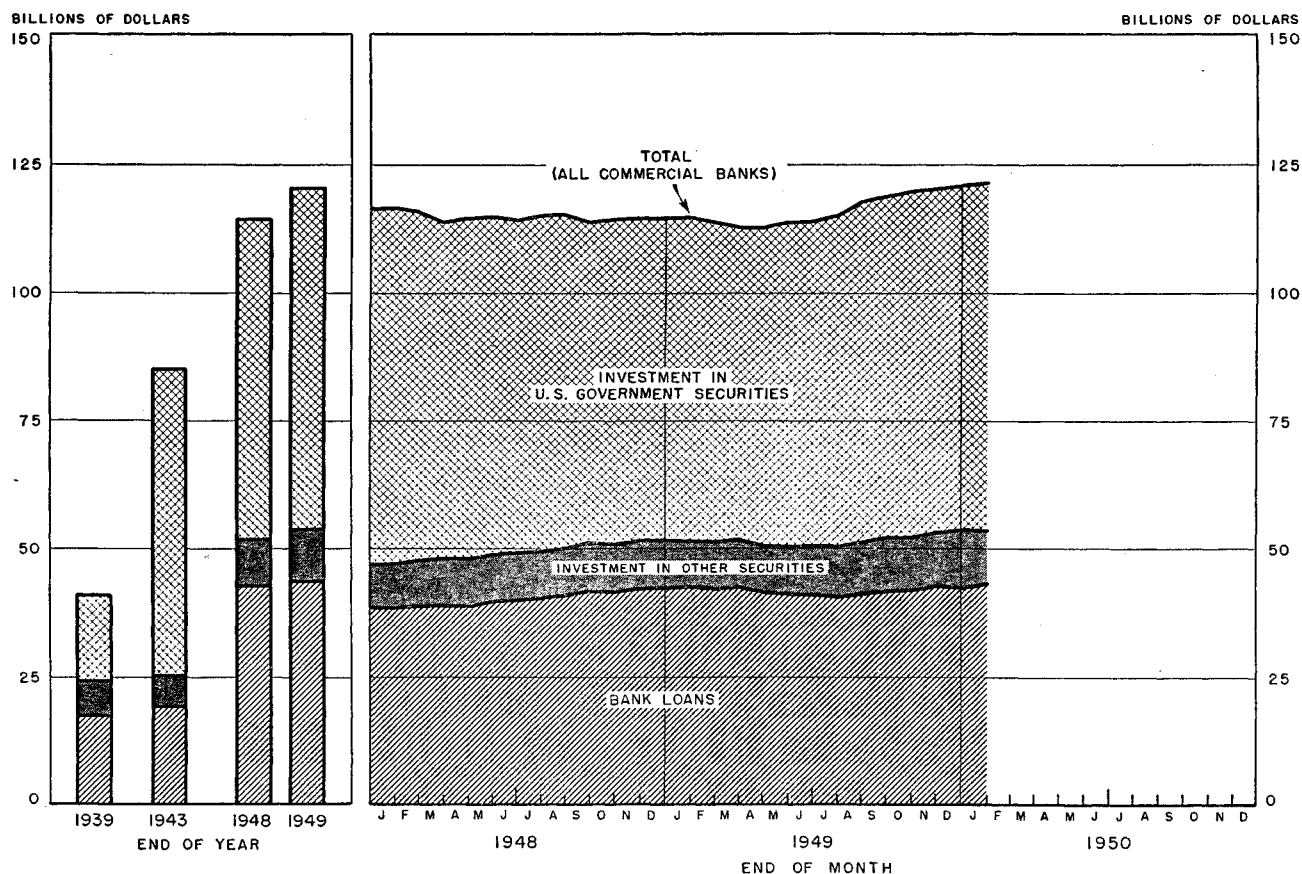
² Preliminary estimates.

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

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

BANK LOANS AND INVESTMENTS

Commercial bank loans declined \$200 million during January, after a steady expansion since last summer. Security holdings were up \$1 billion, with most of the increase being those of the U.S. Government.



SOURCE: BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[Billions of dollars, all commercial banks]

End of period	Total loans and investments	Bank loans	Investments		
			Total	U. S. Government securities	Other securities
1929.....	49.5	36.0	13.5	4.8	8.7
1939.....	40.7	17.2	23.4	16.3	7.1
1945.....	124.0	26.1	97.9	90.6	7.3
1947.....	116.3	38.1	78.2	69.2	9.0
1948.....	114.3	42.5	71.8	62.6	9.2
1949.....	120.8	43.3	77.5	67.3	10.2
1948: December.....	114.3	42.5	71.8	62.6	9.2
1949: January.....	114.5	42.4	72.0	63.0	9.1
February.....	113.4	42.0	71.4	62.2	9.1
March.....	112.5	42.4	70.1	60.9	9.2
April.....	112.5	41.3	71.2	62.0	9.2
May.....	113.4	40.9	72.6	63.2	9.3
June.....	113.8	41.0	72.7	63.2	9.5
July.....	114.8	40.5	74.3	64.4	9.8
August.....	117.9	41.2	76.7	66.7	10.0
September.....	118.8	41.8	77.0	66.8	10.2
October.....	119.8	41.9	77.9	67.7	10.2
November.....	120.2	42.9	77.3	67.1	10.2
December.....	120.8	43.3	77.5	67.3	10.2
1950: January ¹	121.6	43.1	78.5	68.2	10.4

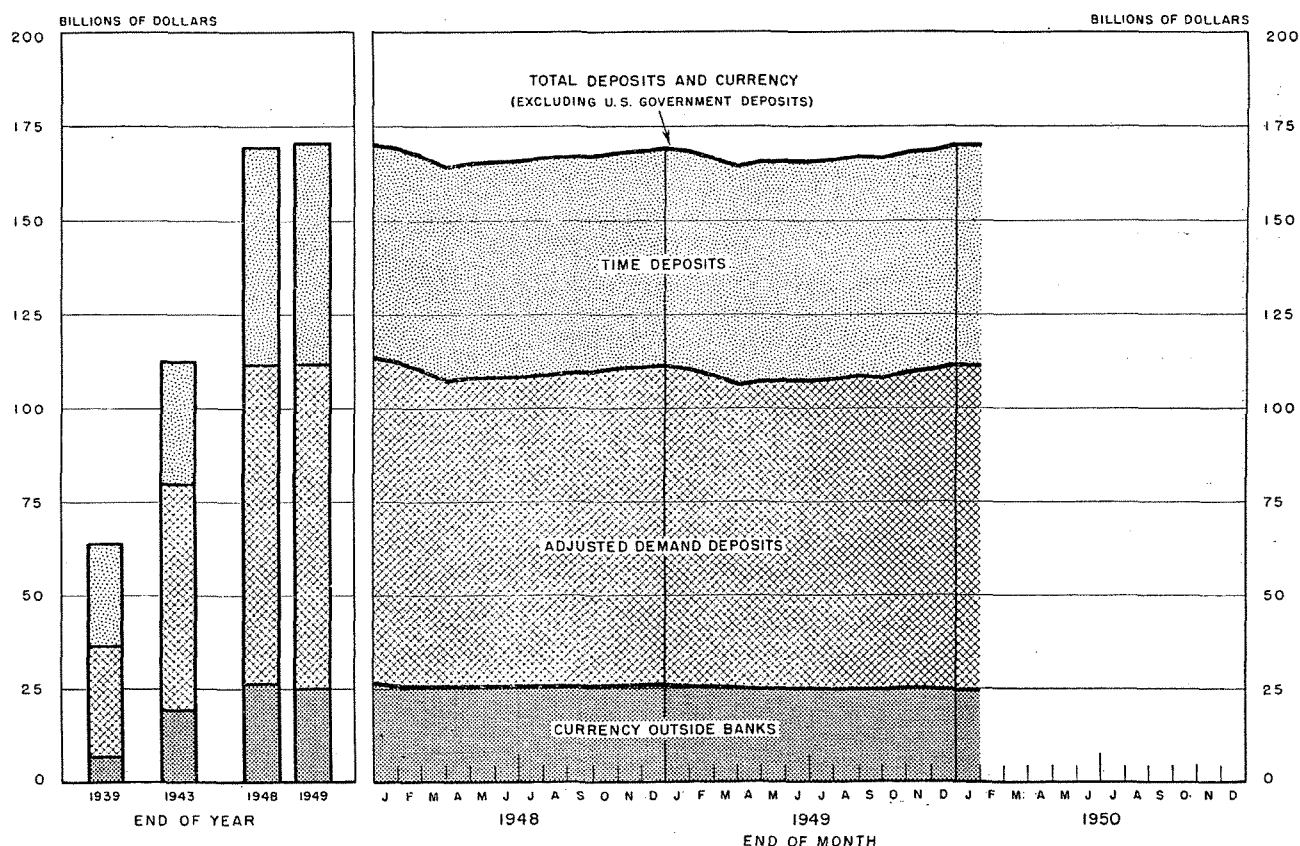
¹ Preliminary estimates.

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

SOURCE: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

MONEY SUPPLY

A seasonal decline in currency outside of banks during January was nearly offset by a rise in deposits, leaving total money supply at about the December level.



SOURCE: BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[Billions of dollars]

End of period	Total money supply	Currency outside banks	Adjusted demand deposits ¹	Time deposits ²
1939.....	63.3	6.4	29.8	27.1
1943.....	112.4	18.8	60.8	32.7
1946.....	164.0	26.7	83.3	54.0
1947.....	170.0	26.5	87.1	56.4
1948.....	169.1	26.1	85.5	57.5
1949.....	170.1	25.0	86.7	58.4
1948: December.....	169.1	26.1	85.5	57.5
1949: January.....	168.2	25.2	85.4	57.6
February.....	166.3	25.1	83.4	57.8
March.....	164.2	25.1	81.1	58.0
April.....	165.5	24.9	82.4	58.1
May.....	165.6	25.0	82.5	58.2
June.....	165.6	25.3	81.9	58.5
July.....	166.3	24.9	83.1	58.4
August.....	166.9	25.1	83.4	58.4
September.....	166.6	24.9	83.3	58.4
October.....	168.0	24.9	84.6	58.4
November.....	168.6	25.1	85.5	58.0
December.....	170.1	25.0	86.7	58.4
1950: January ³	170.0	24.5	86.8	58.7

¹ Includes demand deposits, other than interbank and U. S. Government, less cash items in process of collection.

² Includes deposits in commercial banks, mutual savings banks, and Postal Savings System.

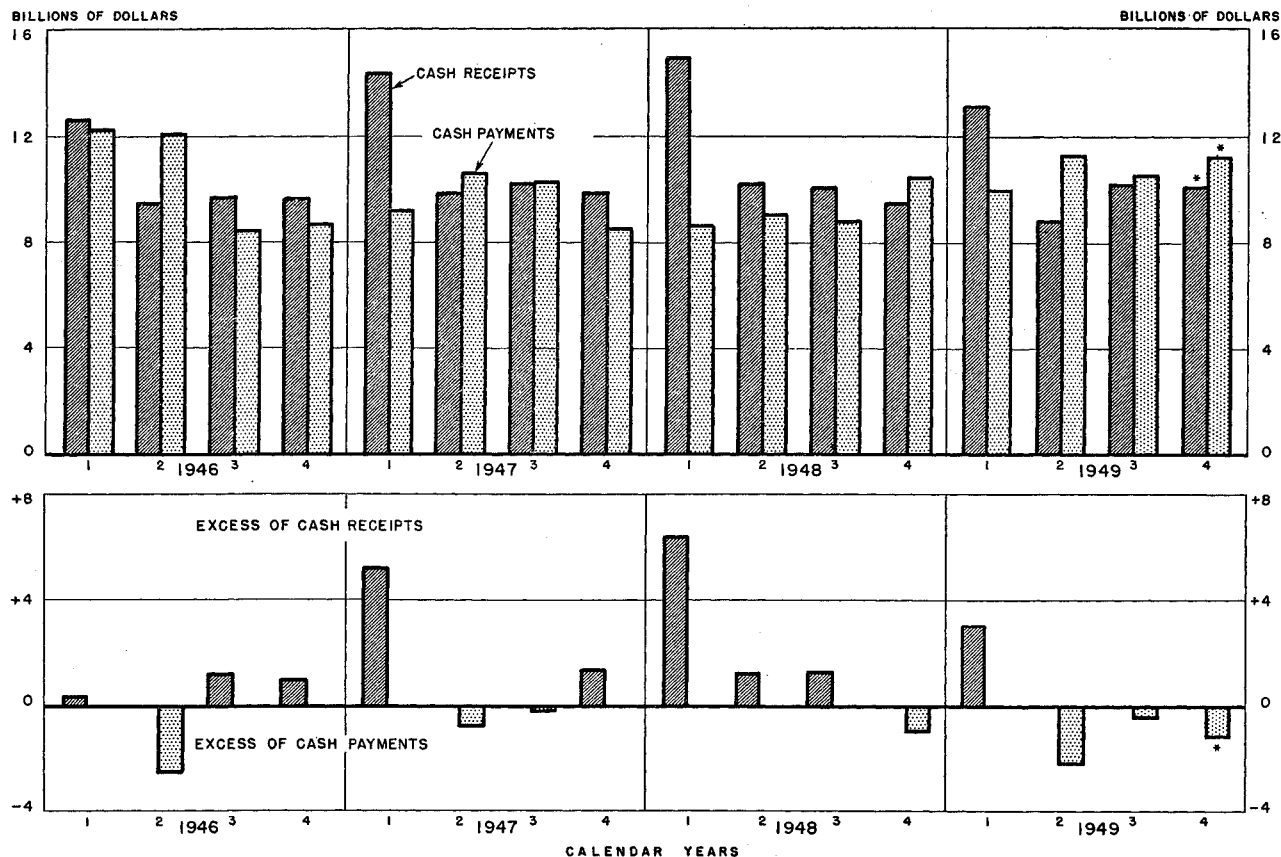
³ Preliminary estimates.

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

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

FEDERAL CASH RECEIPTS FROM AND PAYMENTS TO THE PUBLIC

The cash deficit of about \$1.5 billion for the 4th quarter compares with a deficit of about \$0.9 billion for the same quarter of 1948.



* PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES

SOURCE: BUREAU OF THE BUDGET AND TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

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[Millions of dollars]

Calendar years	Federal cash receipts from the public ¹	Federal cash payments to the public ¹	Excess of receipts (+) or payments (-)
Calendar year total:			
1946.....	41,426	41,372	+54
1947.....	44,279	38,584	+5,695
1948.....	44,920	36,954	+7,967
1949 ²	41,346	42,636	-1,290
Quarterly total, not adjusted for seasonal:			
1947: First quarter.....	14,345	9,163	+5,182
Second quarter.....	9,847	10,628	-781
Third quarter.....	10,220	10,257	-37
Fourth quarter.....	9,869	8,536	+1,331
1948: First quarter.....	15,037	8,637	+6,400
Second quarter.....	10,238	9,033	+1,205
Third quarter.....	10,085	8,798	+1,287
Fourth quarter.....	9,560	10,486	-925
1949: First quarter.....	13,122	9,964	+3,158
Second quarter.....	8,814	11,389	-2,575
Third quarter.....	10,143	² 10,527	-384
Fourth quarter.....	9,267	² 10,756	-1,489

¹ Payments of refunds of Government receipts are now reported as deductions from total receipts; previously, they were reported as expenditures.

² Preliminary estimates based on incomplete data.

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

Sources: Treasury Department and Bureau of the Budget.