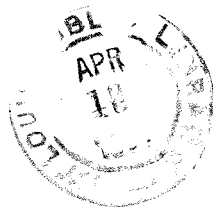


*82d Congress, 1st Session*

# Economic Indicators



**APRIL 1951**

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by the Council of Economic Advisers*

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### 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.

*Charts drawn by Graphics Unit, Office of the Secretary, Department of Commerce*

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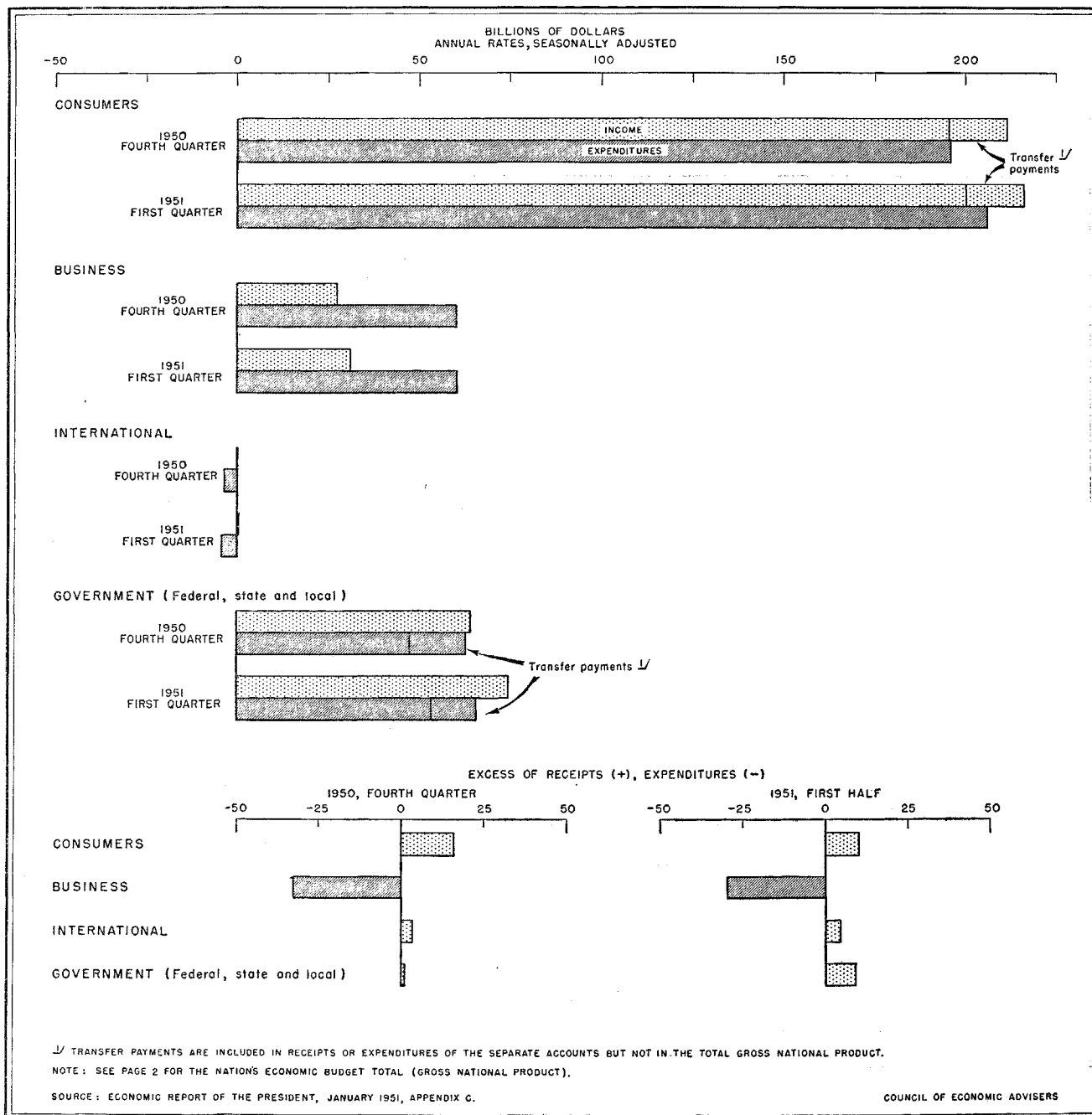
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# THE TOTAL OUTPUT OF THE ECONOMY

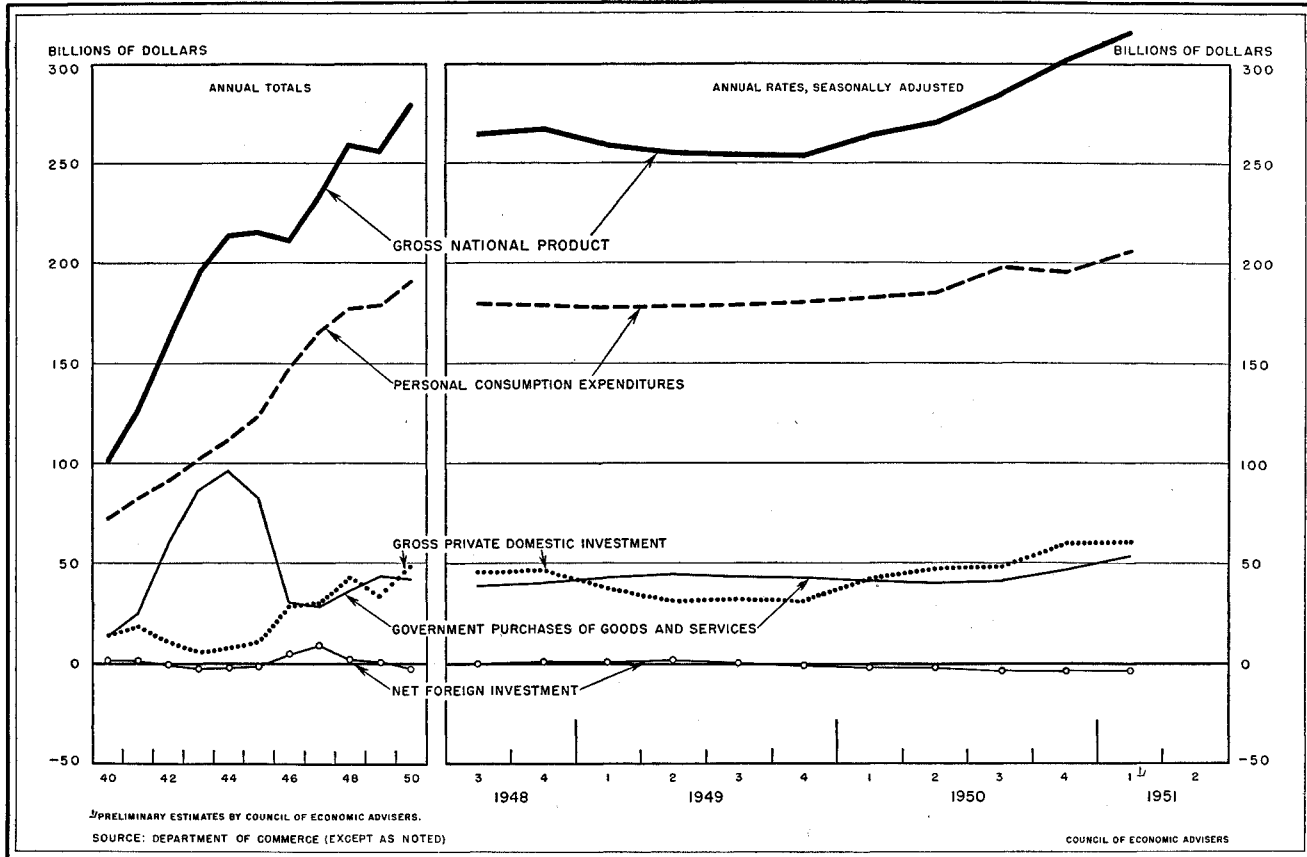
## THE NATION'S ECONOMIC BUDGET

The Government (Federal, State, and local) cash surplus rose to \$9 billion (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in the 1st quarter of 1951, \$8 billion above the previous quarter. Excess of business investment was very high, at a rate of about \$29½ billion. Personal saving declined.



## GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT

The gross national product rose \$16 billion (seasonally adjusted annual rate), or about 5 percent, in the 1st quarter. About one-fourth of this rise reflected more real output. The most substantial increases occurred in goods and services produced for Government purchase, primarily those for defense items, and in personal consumption expenditures.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Total gross national product	Personal consumption expenditures	Gross private domestic investment	Net foreign investment	Government purchases of goods and services		
					Total	National defense <sup>1</sup>	Other <sup>2</sup>
1939.....	91.3	67.5	9.9	0.9	13.1	1.3	11.8
1944.....	213.7	111.6	7.7	-2.1	96.5	88.6	7.9
1946.....	211.1	146.9	28.7	4.6	30.9	21.2	9.7
1947.....	233.3	165.6	30.2	8.9	28.6	12.2	16.4
1948.....	259.1	177.4	43.1	1.9	36.6	11.6	25.0
1949.....	255.6	178.8	33.0	.4	43.3	13.5	29.8
1950.....	279.8	190.8	49.4	-2.5	42.1	14.8	27.3
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted							
1949: First quarter.....	258.8	177.4	37.5	1.0	42.9	13.5	29.4
Second quarter.....	255.2	178.4	31.3	1.3	44.3	13.9	30.4
Third quarter.....	254.4	179.0	32.1	.1	43.2	13.5	29.7
Fourth quarter.....	253.8	180.6	31.2	-.7	42.8	13.3	29.5
1950: First quarter.....	263.3	182.6	41.8	-1.7	40.5	12.5	28.0
Second quarter.....	271.6	185.8	47.7	-1.7	39.9	12.4	27.5
Third quarter.....	283.9	198.9	47.8	-3.3	40.4	14.2	26.2
Fourth quarter.....	300.3	195.8	60.2	-3.4	47.6	20.0	27.6
1951: First quarter <sup>3</sup> .....	316.0	206.0	60.5	-4.0	53.5	25.5	28.0

<sup>1</sup> Based on Treasury Bulletin break-down of Federal budgetary expenditures adjusted to the concept of purchases of goods and services; includes "national defense and related activities," Atomic Energy, and Mutual Defense Assistance.

<sup>2</sup> Residual; expenditures by the Federal Government for other than "national defense" and total expenditures by State and local governments.

<sup>3</sup> Estimates based on incomplete data; by Council of Economic Advisers.

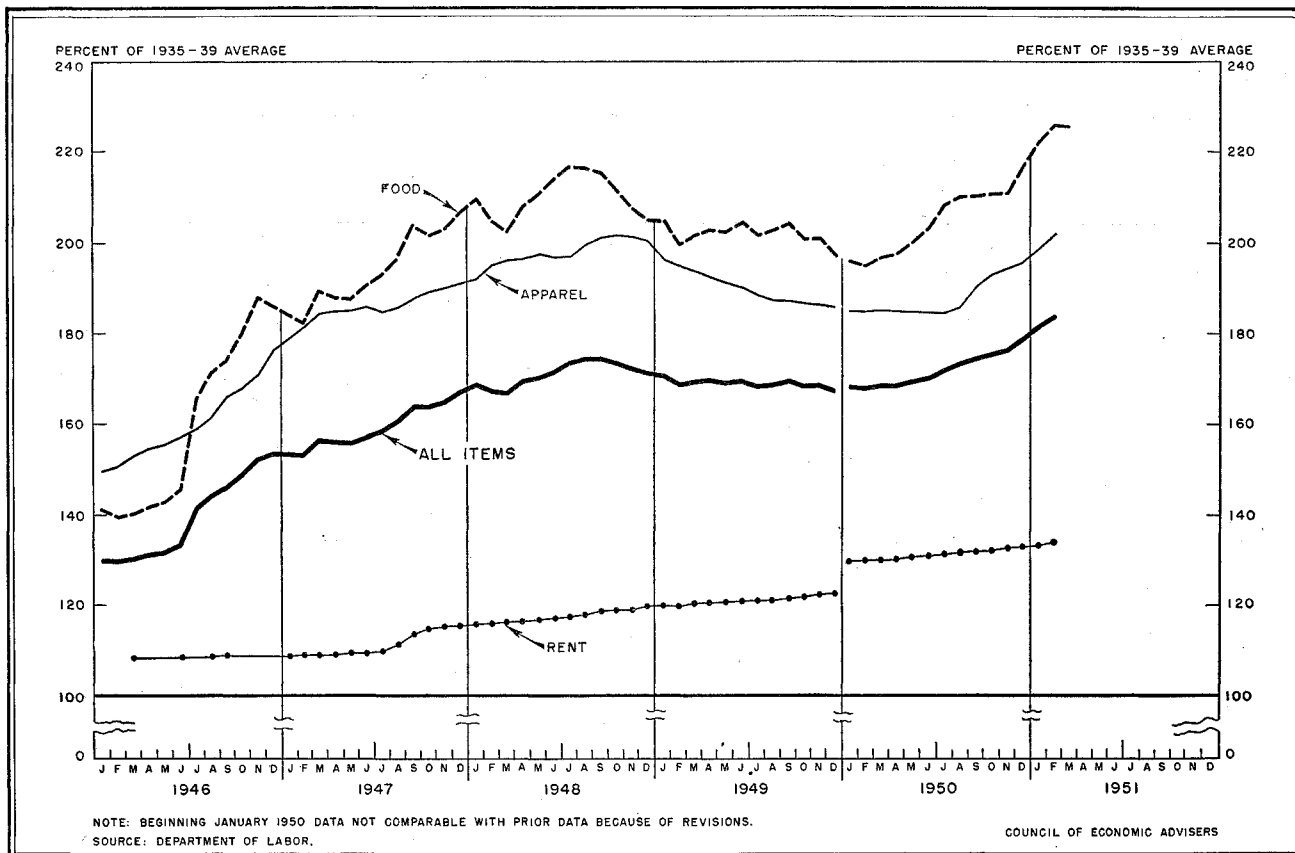
NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

# PRICES

## CONSUMERS' PRICES

Slowing down very little from the pace of the two preceding months, consumers' prices increased 1.3 percent from January 15 to February 15, with food, apparel, and housefurnishings leading the rise. Preliminary reports indicate that retail food prices declined slightly between February 15 and March 15.



[1935-39=100]

Period	All items	Food	Apparel	Rent	Fuel, electricity, and refrigeration	Housefurnishings	Miscellaneous
1939 monthly average	99.4	95.2	100.5	104.3	99.0	101.3	100.7
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
1950 monthly average <sup>1</sup>	171.9	204.5	187.7	131.0	140.6	190.2	156.5
1950: February 15	167.9	194.9	184.9	129.7	140.1	185.2	155.1
March 15	168.4	196.6	185.1	129.8	140.3	185.3	155.0
April 15	168.5	197.3	184.9	130.1	140.3	185.4	154.7
May 15	169.3	199.8	184.7	130.6	138.8	185.0	155.1
June 15	170.2	203.1	184.6	130.9	139.1	184.8	154.6
July 15	172.0	208.2	184.5	131.3	139.4	186.1	155.2
August 15	173.4	209.9	185.7	131.6	140.2	189.1	156.8
September 15	174.6	210.0	189.8	131.8	141.2	194.2	157.8
October 15	175.6	210.6	193.0	132.0	142.0	198.7	158.3
November 15	176.4	210.8	194.3	132.5	142.5	201.1	159.2
December 15	178.8	216.3	195.5	132.9	142.8	203.2	160.6
1951: January 15	181.5	221.9	198.5	133.2	143.3	207.4	162.1
February 15	183.8	226.0	202.0	134.0	143.9	209.7	163.2
March 15	(1)	225.6	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)

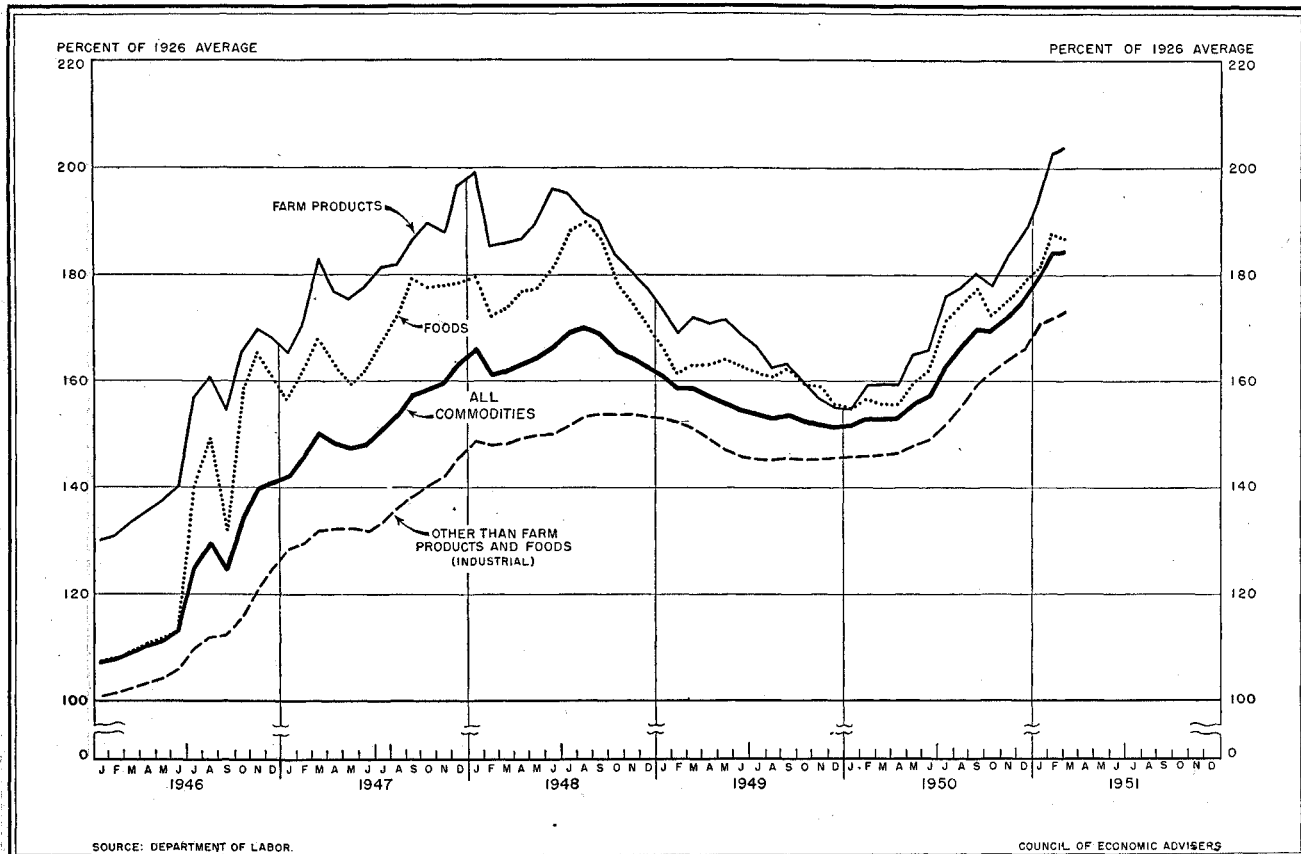
<sup>1</sup> Not available. Beginning with January 1950, the index has been revised. The revised indexes for all components other than rent are strictly comparable with those published for years before 1950; and all items index and the rent index are strictly comparable with the indexes of the early 1940's, but overstate the changes from 1947-49 to January 1950 and subsequent months.

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

Source: Department of Labor.

## WHOLESALE PRICES

Continuing the pattern begun in the last half of February, wholesale prices showed marked stability throughout the month of March.



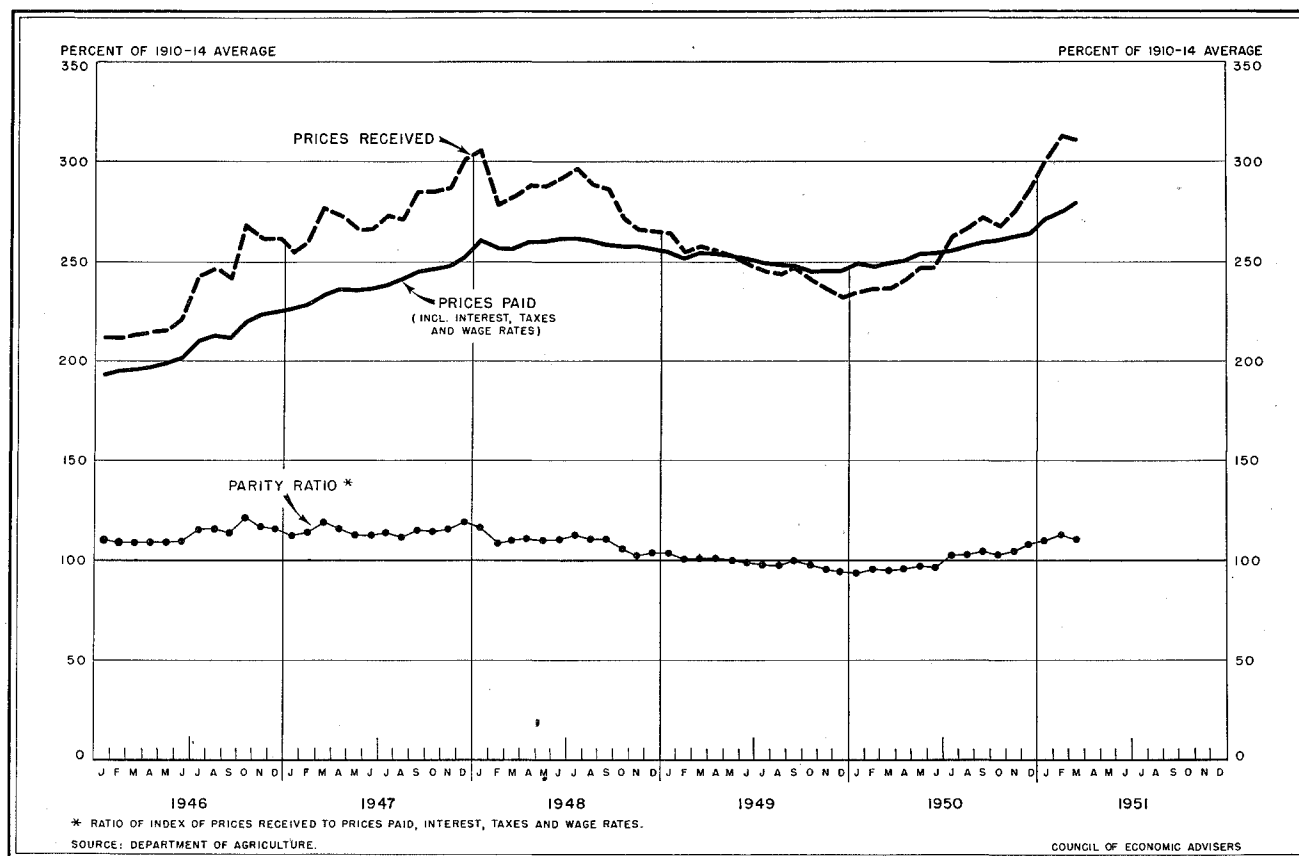
[1926=100]

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
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	165.5	161.4	147.3
1950 monthly average.....	161.5	170.5	166.2	153.2
1950: February.....	152.7	159.1	156.7	145.9
March.....	152.7	159.4	155.5	146.1
April.....	152.9	159.3	155.3	146.4
May.....	155.9	164.7	159.9	147.6
June.....	157.3	165.9	162.1	148.8
July.....	162.9	176.0	171.4	151.5
August.....	166.4	177.6	174.6	155.5
September.....	169.5	180.4	177.2	159.2
October.....	169.1	177.8	172.5	161.5
November.....	171.7	183.7	175.2	163.7
December.....	175.3	187.4	179.0	166.6
1951: January.....	180.1	194.2	182.3	170.3
February.....	183.6	202.6	187.7	171.8
March <sup>1</sup> .....	184.3	203.8	186.6	173.0
Week ended:				
1951: March 6.....	183.5	202.3	188.9	171.8
13.....	183.4	203.3	187.8	171.7
20.....	183.9	204.6	187.9	172.1
27.....	183.9	203.8	187.3	172.3

<sup>1</sup> Estimates based on change in weekly data.  
Source: Department of Labor.

# PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS

Farm prices eased off in March, while prices paid by farmers continued to rise.



[1910-14=100]

Period	Prices received by farmers	Prices paid by farmers (including interest, taxes, and wage rates)	Parity ratio <sup>1</sup>
1939 monthly average.....	95	123	77
1942 monthly average.....	158	152	104
1944 monthly average.....	<sup>2</sup> 196	182	108
1946 monthly average.....	<sup>2</sup> 234	207	113
1947 monthly average.....	275	240	115
1948 monthly average.....	285	259	110
1949 monthly average.....	249	250	100
1950 monthly average.....	256	256	100
1950: February 15.....	237	248	96
March 15.....	237	250	95
April 15.....	241	251	96
May 15.....	247	254	97
June 15.....	247	255	97
July 15.....	263	256	103
August 15.....	267	258	103
September 15.....	272	260	105
October 15.....	268	261	103
November 15.....	276	263	105
December 15.....	286	265	108
1951: January 15.....	300	272	110
February 15.....	313	276	113
March 15.....	311	280	111

<sup>1</sup> Ratio of index of prices received to index of prices paid, interest, taxes, and wage rates.

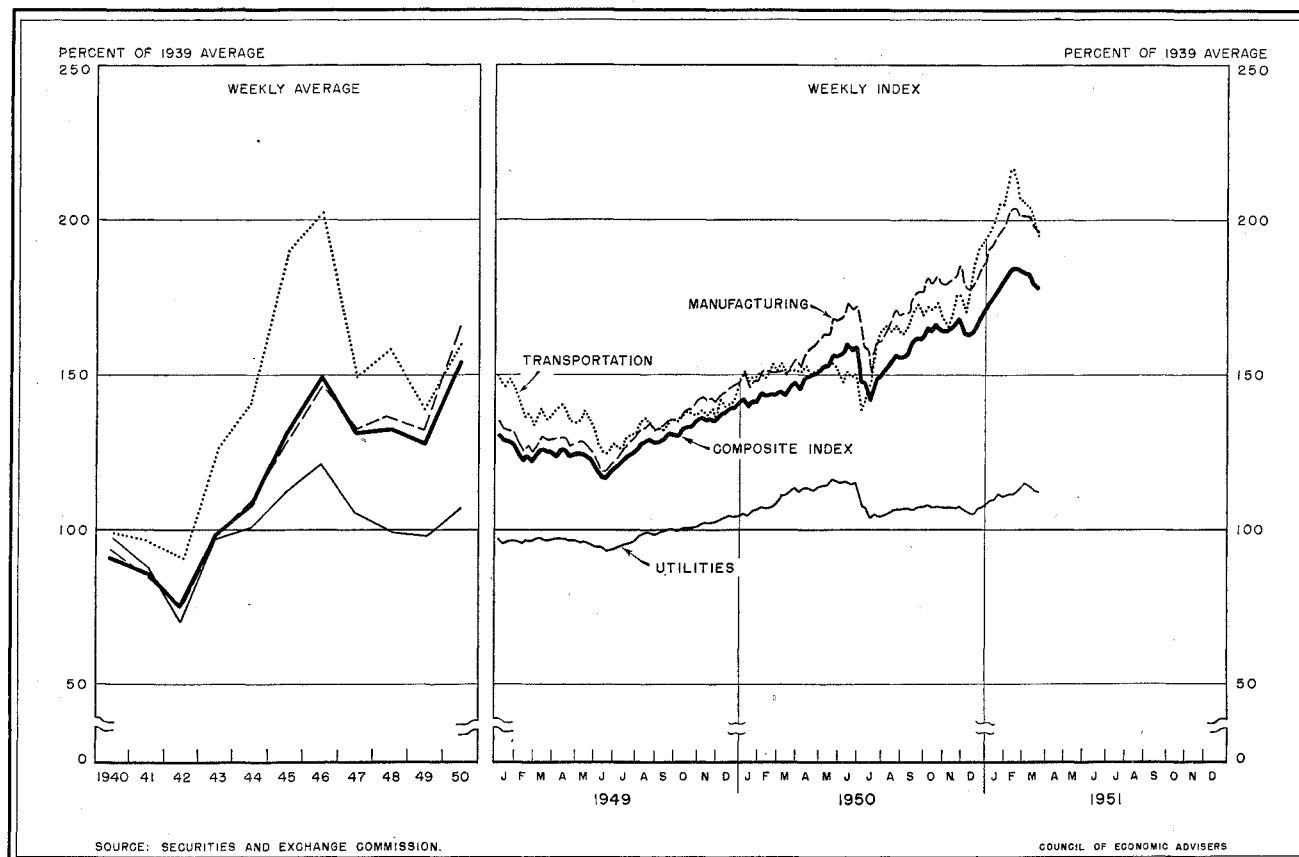
<sup>2</sup> Includes wartime subsidy payments paid on beef cattle, sheep, lambs, milk, and butterfat between October 1943 and June 1946.

Source: Department of Agriculture.



# STOCK PRICES

Most stock prices declined substantially during March. Railroad stocks were among those that showed the sharpest decrease.



[1939=100]

Period	Com- posite index <sup>1</sup>	Mining	Manufacturing			Trans- portation	Utilities	Trade, finance, and service
			Total	Durable goods	Non- durable goods			
Weekly average:								
1940.....	90. 6	75. 9	93. 4	92. 5	94. 2	99. 1	97. 7	86. 7
1942.....	74. 9	59. 7	75. 5	73. 7	77. 1	90. 8	69. 8	71. 3
1944.....	108. 0	93. 2	108. 9	104. 5	109. 1	140. 5	100. 8	117. 1
1946.....	149. 6	125. 5	146. 6	138. 8	154. 4	202. 6	121. 0	204. 3
1948.....	132. 3	133. 2	136. 2	124. 4	147. 0	158. 1	99. 4	156. 9
1949.....	127. 6	129. 2	132. 1	116. 0	147. 2	138. 8	98. 1	160. 5
1950.....	154. 1	143. 5	165. 7	150. 4	180. 2	159. 9	107. 2	183. 8
1950: February.....	143. 7	133. 0	151. 2	137. 7	163. 8	151. 2	107. 7	179. 1
March.....	145. 4	133. 0	152. 5	138. 2	165. 9	152. 0	112. 0	179. 2
April.....	148. 9	133. 9	157. 8	142. 7	171. 7	151. 4	112. 8	178. 4
May.....	154. 7	142. 7	165. 4	149. 4	180. 2	152. 8	115. 0	180. 6
June.....	158. 3	143. 0	171. 1	156. 0	185. 0	149. 5	114. 8	182. 4
July.....	146. 7	133. 7	157. 9	142. 6	172. 2	150. 0	105. 5	170. 3
August.....	154. 4	146. 4	167. 6	151. 8	182. 2	164. 5	105. 9	176. 6
September.....	159. 3	150. 3	173. 3	157. 5	187. 9	168. 2	107. 1	187. 8
October.....	164. 9	154. 5	180. 3	166. 0	193. 7	171. 4	107. 8	198. 3
November.....	165. 9	157. 6	181. 8	166. 0	196. 5	171. 1	107. 4	200. 8
December.....	165. 2	159. 7	180. 4	161. 7	197. 9	184. 4	106. 5	195. 7
1951: January.....	176. 7	175. 9	194. 2	174. 8	212. 3	202. 0	110. 3	205. 1
February.....	184. 0	184. 2	203. 0	181. 6	222. 8	213. 1	112. 1	213. 2
March.....	179. 9	176. 7	198. 4	178. 2	217. 0	200. 0	112. 9	209. 7
Week ended:								
1951: March 3.....	183. 0	181. 6	201. 4	180. 4	221. 0	205. 4	114. 8	212. 9
10.....	182. 4	182. 4	201. 1	180. 5	220. 1	204. 0	114. 0	211. 8
17.....	179. 5	174. 6	197. 9	178. 2	216. 1	200. 6	112. 6	209. 1
24.....	177. 8	172. 8	196. 0	176. 3	214. 3	194. 8	111. 9	208. 1
31 <sup>2</sup> .....	177. 0	172. 0	195. 4	175. 6	213. 7	195. 1	111. 3	206. 4

<sup>1</sup> Includes 265 common stocks, distributed as follows: 14 for mining, 98 for durable goods manufacturing, 72 for nondurable goods manufacturing, 21 for transportation, 28 for utilities, and 32 for trade, finance, and service.

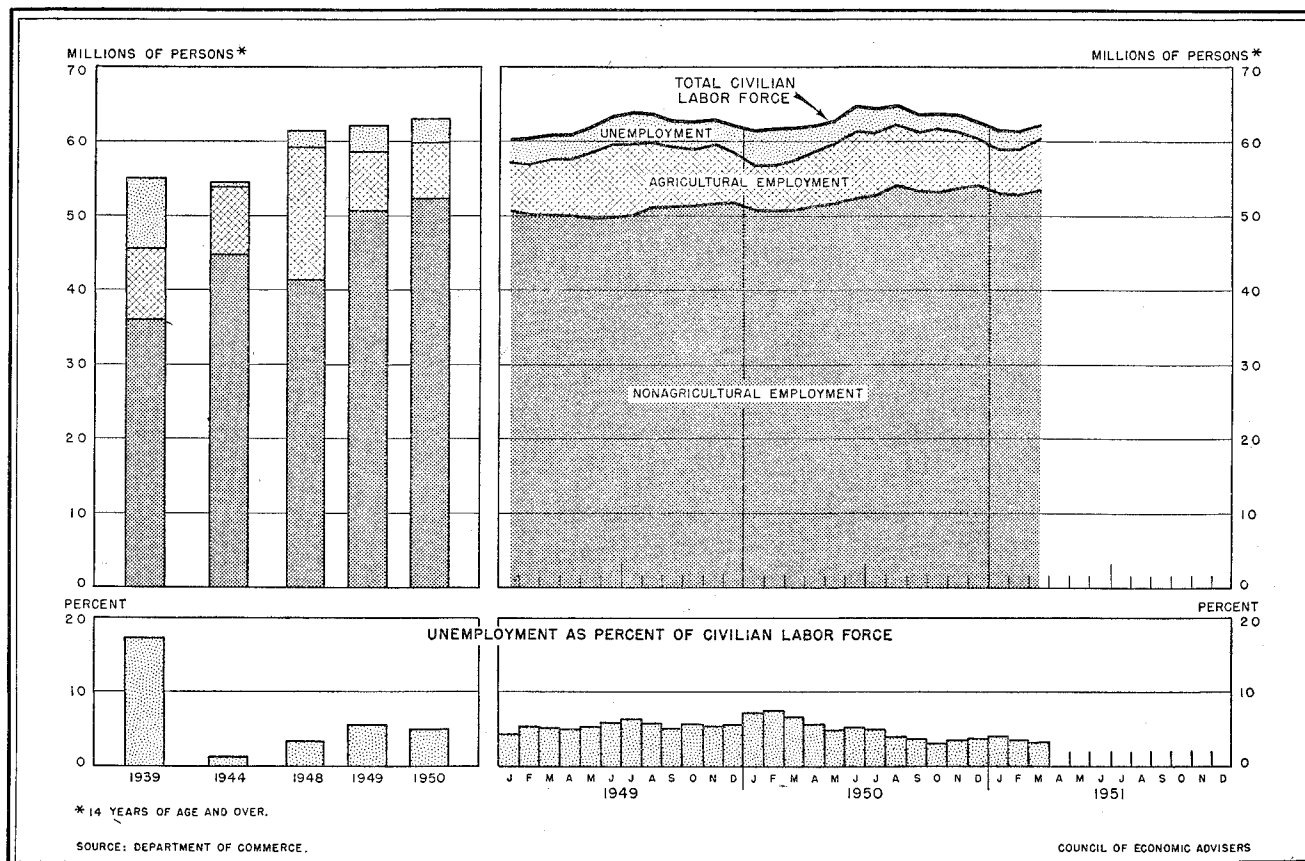
<sup>2</sup> Data became available after chart was prepared.

Source: Securities and Exchange Commission.

# EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

## CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

The civilian labor force increased by about a million in March. Nonagricultural employment reflected the impact of the defense program in its more than seasonal rise of 809,000. Farm employment increased seasonally by over 460,000. Unemployment dropped by 260,000.



Period	Civilian labor force					Unemployment as percent of total civilian labor force
	Total	Employment <sup>1</sup>			Unemployment	
		Total	Agricultural	Nonagricultural		
	Thousands of persons, 14 years of age and over					
1939 monthly average.....	55,230	45,750	9,610	36,140	9,480	17.2
1944 monthly average.....	54,630	53,960	8,950	45,010	670	1.2
1947 monthly average.....	60,168	58,027	8,266	49,761	2,142	3.6
1948 monthly average.....	61,442	59,378	7,973	51,405	2,064	3.4
1949 monthly average.....	62,105	58,710	8,026	50,684	3,395	5.5
1950 monthly average.....	63,099	59,957	7,507	52,450	3,142	5.0
1950: February.....	61,637	56,953	6,223	50,730	4,684	7.6
March.....	61,675	57,551	6,675	50,877	4,123	6.7
April.....	62,183	58,668	7,195	51,473	3,515	5.7
May.....	62,788	59,731	8,062	51,669	3,057	4.9
June.....	64,866	61,482	9,046	52,436	3,384	5.2
July.....	64,427	61,214	8,440	52,774	3,213	5.0
August.....	64,867	62,367	8,160	54,207	2,500	3.9
September.....	63,567	61,226	7,811	53,415	2,341	3.7
October.....	63,704	61,764	8,491	53,273	1,940	3.0
November.....	63,512	61,271	7,551	53,721	2,240	3.5
December.....	62,538	60,308	6,234	54,075	2,229	3.6
1951: January.....	61,514	59,010	6,018	52,993	2,503	4.1
February.....	61,313	58,905	5,930	52,976	2,407	3.9
March.....	62,325	60,179	6,393	53,785	2,147	3.4

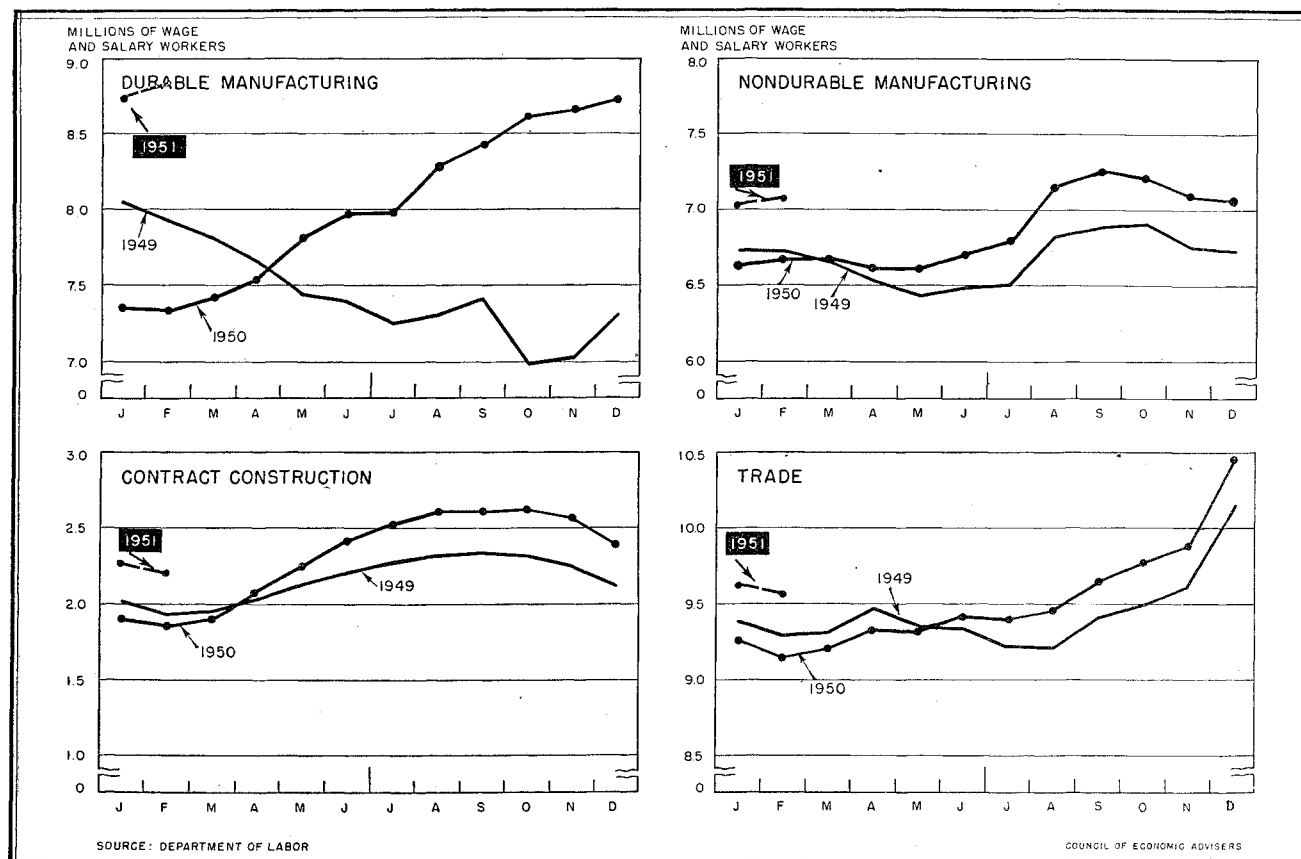
<sup>1</sup> Includes part-time workers and those who had jobs but were not at work for such reasons as vacation, illness, bad weather, temporary lay-off, and industrial disputes.

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

Source: Department of Commerce.

## NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

Most of the February gain in manufacturing employment was in durable goods, particularly in aircraft and in machinery plants. These gains were offset by seasonal declines in construction and trade. Government employment increased due to stepped-up hiring of Federal defense workers.



[Thousands of wage and salary workers <sup>1</sup>]

Period	Manufacturing			Contract construction	Trade	Finance and service	Government (Federal, State, local)	Transportation and public utilities	Mining
	Total	Durable goods	Nondurable goods						
1939 monthly average.....	10, 078	4, 683	5, 394	1, 150	6, 612	4, 703	3, 987	2, 912	845
1943 monthly average.....	17, 381	11, 077	6, 304	1, 567	7, 189	5, 320	6, 049	3, 619	917
1946 monthly average.....	14, 461	7, 739	6, 722	1, 661	8, 612	6, 207	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.....	14, 146	7, 465	6, 681	2, 156	9, 438	6, 545	5, 811	3, 979	932
1950 monthly average <sup>2</sup> .....	14, 884	8, 008	6, 876	2, 317	9, 525	6, 574	5, 910	4, 010	904
1950: January.....	13, 980	7, 342	6, 638	1, 919	9, 246	6, 473	5, 777	3, 869	861
February.....	13, 997	7, 324	6, 673	1, 861	9, 152	6, 473	5, 742	3, 841	595
March.....	14, 103	7, 418	6, 685	1, 907	9, 206	6, 499	5, 769	3, 873	938
April.....	14, 162	7, 548	6, 614	2, 076	9, 346	6, 560	5, 915	3, 928	939
May.....	14, 413	7, 809	6, 604	2, 245	9, 326	6, 602	5, 900	3, 885	940
June.....	14, 666	7, 964	6, 702	2, 414	9, 411	6, 653	5, 832	4, 023	946
July.....	14, 777	7, 978	6, 799	2, 532	9, 390	6, 672	5, 741	4, 062	922
August.....	15, 450	8, 294	7, 156	2, 629	9, 474	6, 664	5, 793	4, 120	950
September.....	15, 685	8, 423	7, 262	2, 626	9, 641	6, 643	6, 004	4, 139	946
October.....	15, 827	8, 618	7, 209	2, 631	9, 752	6, 578	6, 039	4, 132	939
November.....	15, 765	8, 664	7, 101	2, 571	9, 896	6, 543	6, 037	4, 123	938
December <sup>2</sup> .....	15, 785	8, 716	7, 069	2, 393	10, 459	6, 525	6, 376	4, 125	938
1951: January <sup>2</sup> .....	15, 768	8, 734	7, 034	2, 278	9, 616	6, 499	6, 088	4, 072	933
February <sup>2</sup> .....	15, 904	8, 836	7, 068	2, 195	9, 563	6, 503	6, 122	4, 078	929

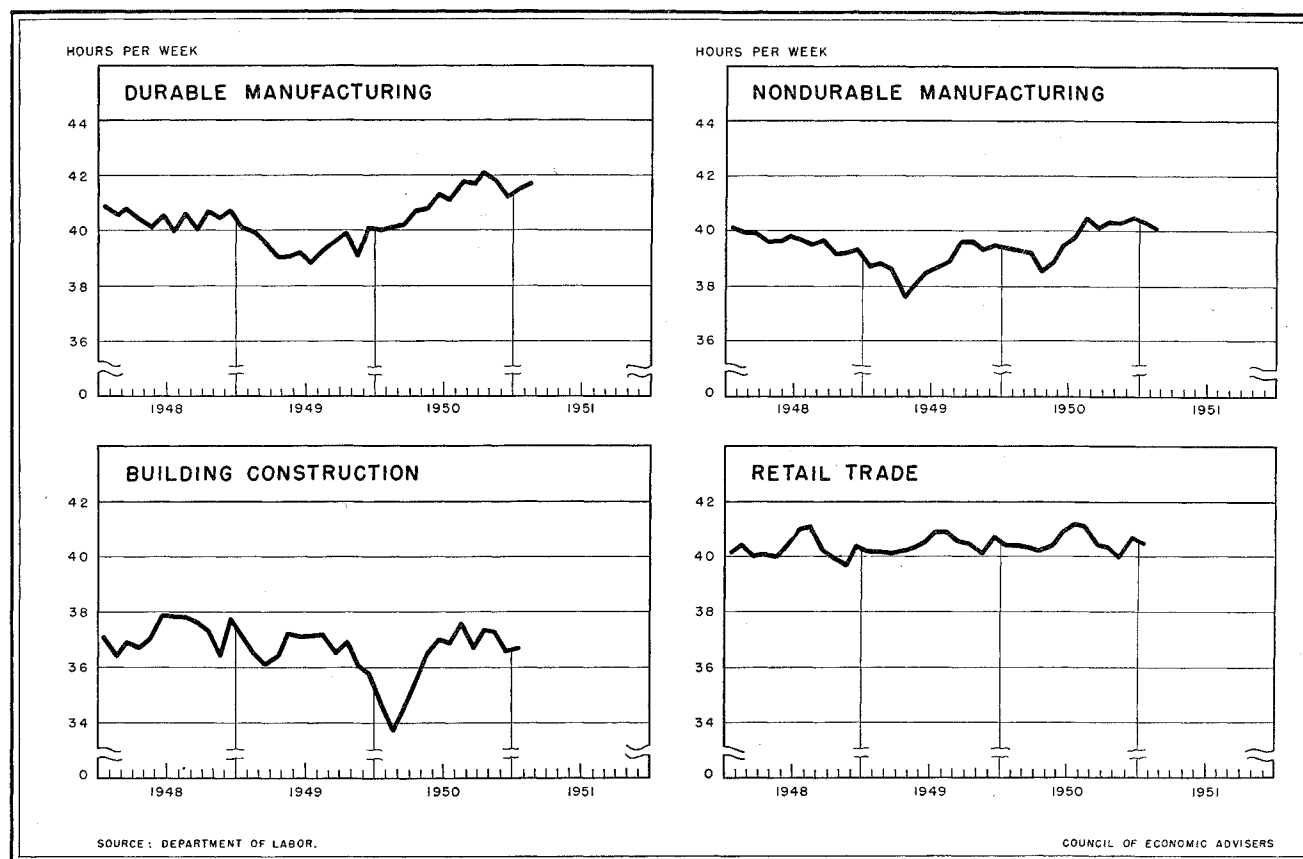
<sup>1</sup> Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in nonagricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Excludes proprietors, self-employed persons, domestic servants, and personnel of the armed forces. Total derived from this table not comparable with estimates of nonagricultural employment of the civilian labor force reported by the Department of Commerce (p. 7) 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.

<sup>2</sup> Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor

## AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

The workweek in durable-goods-manufacturing industries increased 0.2 hours in February; in nondurable manufacturing it decreased by the same amount. Hours in durable-goods manufacturing are recovering from their December slump to approach last fall's level.



[Hours per week, selected industries <sup>1</sup>]

Period	Manufacturing			Building construction	Retail trade
	Total	Durable goods	Nondurable goods		
1939 monthly average.....	37.7	38.0	37.4	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
1943 monthly average.....	44.9	46.6	42.5	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
1946 monthly average.....	40.4	40.2	40.5	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
1947 monthly average.....	40.4	40.6	40.1	( <sup>2</sup> )	40.3
1948 monthly average.....	40.1	40.5	39.6	37.3	40.3
1949 monthly average.....	39.2	39.5	38.8	36.7	40.4
1950 monthly average <sup>3</sup> .....	40.5	41.1	39.7	36.2	40.5
1950: January.....	39.7	40.0	39.4	34.8	40.4
February.....	39.7	40.1	39.3	33.7	40.4
March.....	39.7	40.2	39.2	34.5	40.3
April.....	39.7	40.7	38.5	35.6	40.2
May.....	39.9	40.8	38.9	36.5	40.4
June.....	40.5	41.3	39.5	37.0	40.9
July.....	40.5	41.1	39.8	36.9	41.2
August.....	41.2	41.8	40.5	37.6	41.1
September.....	41.0	41.7	40.1	36.7	40.4
October.....	41.3	42.1	40.3	37.4	40.3
November.....	41.1	41.8	40.3	37.3	40.0
December <sup>3</sup> .....	41.4	41.2	40.5	36.6	40.7
1951: January <sup>3</sup> .....	41.0	41.5	40.3	36.7	40.5
February <sup>3</sup> .....	41.0	41.7	40.1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> For production and related workers.

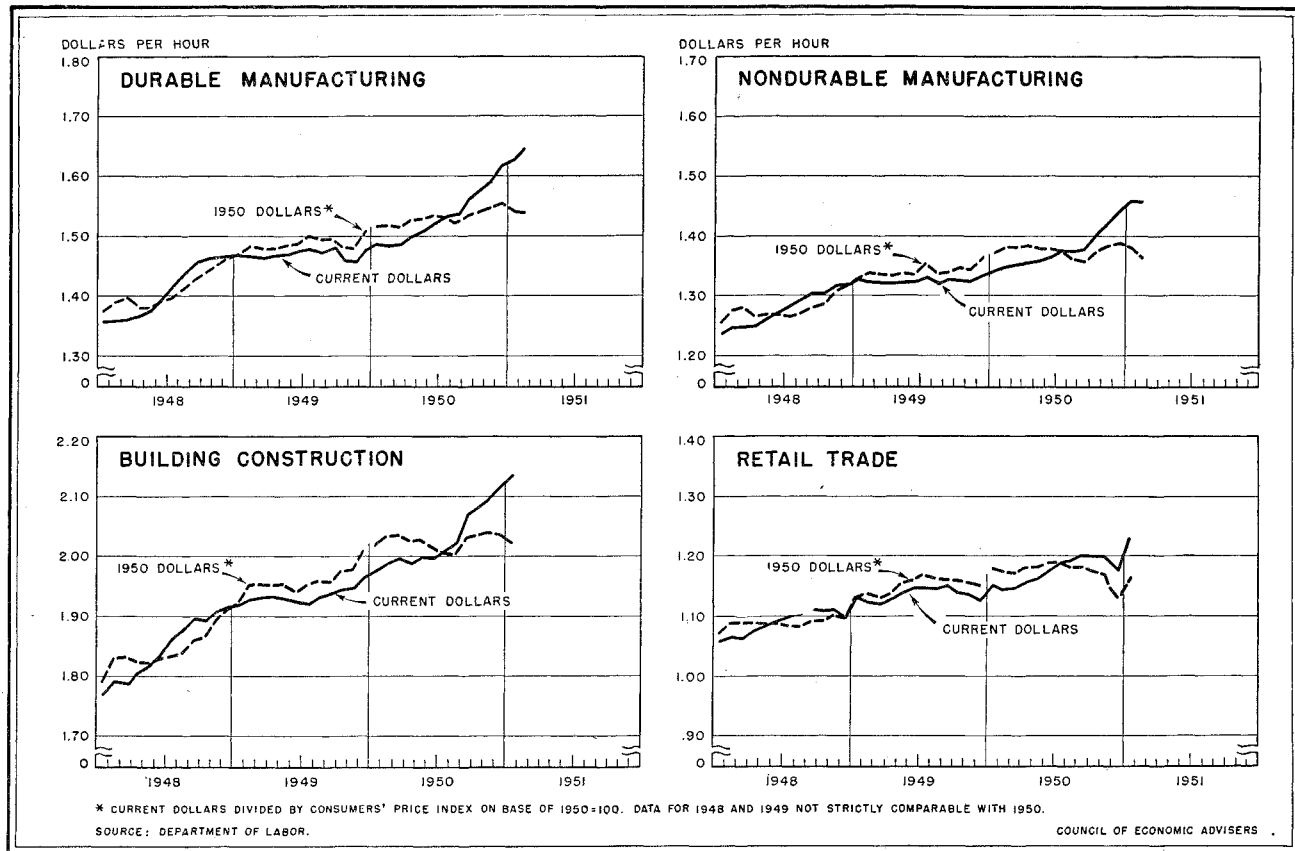
<sup>2</sup> Not available.

<sup>3</sup> Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor.

## AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

Hourly earnings in durable-manufacturing industries increased over 1½ cents in February, while earnings in nondurable manufacturing remained the same. When adjusted for price changes, both dropped.



[Production and related workers in selected industries]

Period	All manufacturing		Durable goods manufacturing		Nondurable goods manufacturing		Building construction		Retail trade	
	Current dollars	1950 dollars <sup>1</sup>	Current dollars	1950 dollars <sup>1</sup>	Current dollars	1950 dollars <sup>1</sup>	Current dollars	1950 dollars <sup>1</sup>	Current dollars	1950 dollars <sup>1</sup>
1939 monthly average	\$0. 633	\$1. 090	\$0. 698	\$1. 201	\$0. 582	\$1. 002	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1943 monthly average	. 961	1. 331	1. 059	1. 467	. 803	1. 112	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1946 monthly average	1. 086	1. 334	1. 156	1. 420	1. 015	1. 247	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1947 monthly average	1. 237	1. 330	1. 292	1. 389	1. 171	1. 259	(2)	(2)	\$1. 009	\$1. 085
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	1. 401	1. 430	1. 469	1. 499	1. 325	1. 352	1. 935	1. 974	1. 137	1. 160
1950 monthly average <sup>3</sup>	1. 463	1. 463	1. 533	1. 533	1. 376	1. 376	2. 027	2. 027	1. 174	1. 174
1950: January	1. 418	1. 450	1. 485	1. 518	1. 343	1. 373	1. 976	2. 020	1. 153	1. 179
February	1. 420	1. 453	1. 483	1. 518	1. 350	1. 382	1. 988	2. 035	1. 145	1. 172
March	1. 424	1. 453	1. 486	1. 516	1. 353	1. 381	1. 995	2. 036	1. 148	1. 171
April	1. 434	1. 463	1. 499	1. 530	1. 355	1. 383	1. 986	2. 027	1. 156	1. 180
May	1. 442	1. 464	1. 509	1. 532	1. 358	1. 379	1. 998	2. 028	1. 162	1. 180
June	1. 453	1. 468	1. 522	1. 537	1. 365	1. 379	1. 995	2. 015	1. 175	1. 187
July	1. 462	1. 461	1. 533	1. 531	1. 375	1. 374	2. 006	2. 004	1. 189	1. 188
August	1. 464	1. 451	1. 539	1. 525	1. 374	1. 362	2. 021	2. 003	1. 192	1. 181
September	1. 479	1. 456	1. 562	1. 537	1. 379	1. 357	2. 067	2. 034	1. 200	1. 181
October	1. 501	1. 468	1. 577	1. 543	1. 404	1. 374	2. 082	2. 037	1. 199	1. 173
November	1. 514	1. 476	1. 587	1. 547	1. 419	1. 383	2. 093	2. 040	1. 198	1. 168
December <sup>3</sup>	1. 542	1. 483	1. 617	1. 555	1. 443	1. 388	2. 116	2. 035	1. 176	1. 131
1951: January <sup>3</sup>	1. 553	1. 471	1. 627	1. 541	1. 458	1. 381	2. 134	2. 021	1. 230	1. 165
February <sup>3</sup>	1. 563	1. 462	1. 644	1. 538	1. 457	1. 363	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

<sup>1</sup> Current dollars divided by consumers' price index on base 1950=100. Data prior to January 1950 were divided by the unrevised index for 1950 and subsequent data by the revised index for 1950. See note 1 to table on p. 3.

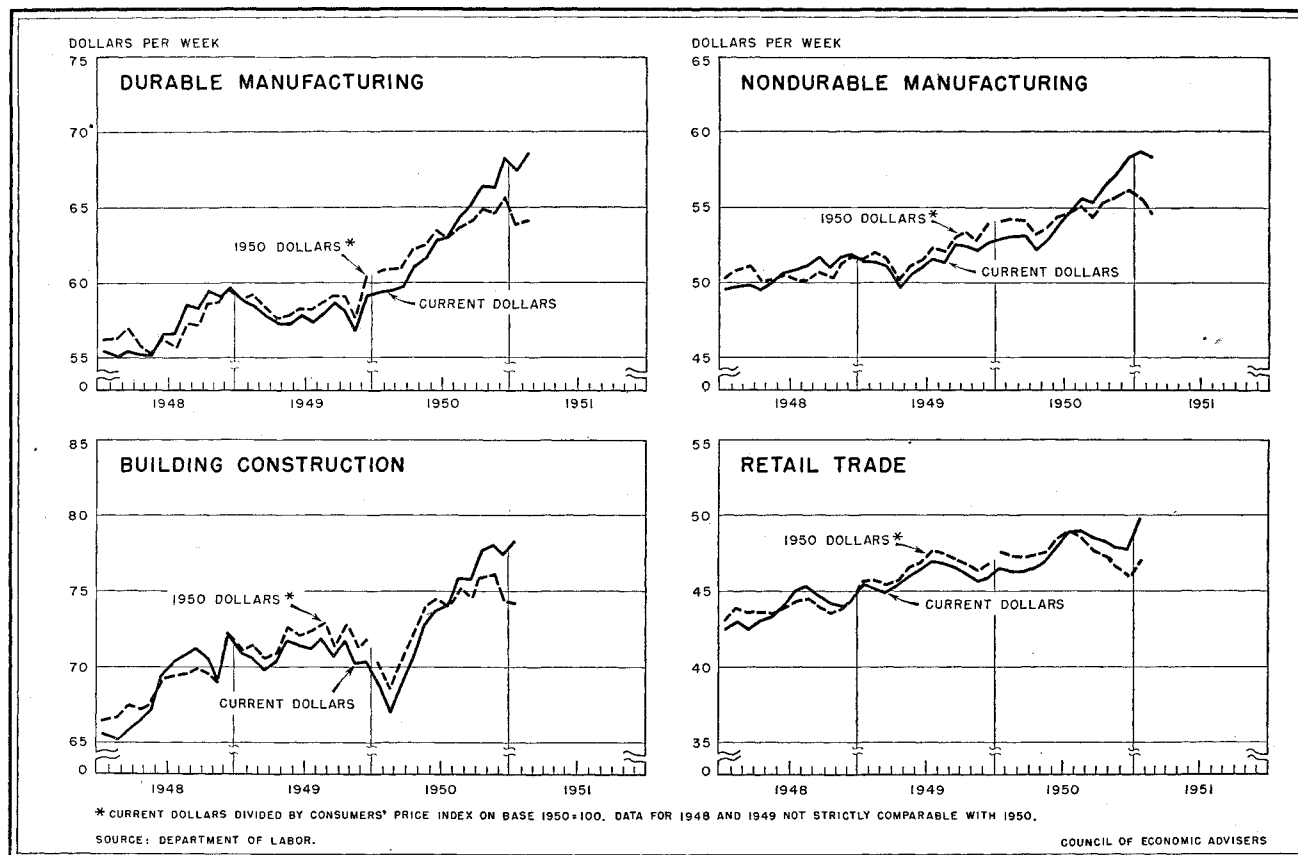
<sup>2</sup> Not available.

<sup>3</sup> Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor.

## AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

Weekly earnings in durable-goods manufacturing industries increased by over \$1 in February, chiefly because of a longer workweek. The increase was about 20 cents when adjusted to the 1950 price level. In nondurable industries, earnings decreased slightly as the workweek was shortened.



[Production and related workers in selected industries]

Period	All manufacturing		Durable goods manufacturing		Nondurable goods manufacturing		Building construction		Retail trade	
	Current dollars	1950 dollars <sup>1</sup>	Current dollars	1950 dollars <sup>1</sup>	Current dollars	1950 dollars <sup>1</sup>	Current dollars	1950 dollars <sup>1</sup>	Current dollars	1950 dollars <sup>1</sup>
1939 monthly average.....	\$23.86	\$41.07	\$26.50	\$45.61	\$21.78	\$37.49	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1943 monthly average.....	43.14	59.75	49.30	68.28	34.12	47.26	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1946 monthly average.....	43.82	53.83	46.49	57.11	41.14	50.54	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
1947 monthly average.....	49.97	53.73	52.46	56.41	46.96	50.49	(2)	(2)	\$40.66	\$43.72
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.....	54.92	55.59	58.03	58.73	51.41	52.03	70.95	71.81	45.93	46.49
1950 monthly average <sup>3</sup> .....	59.23	59.23	63.12	63.12	54.65	54.65	73.44	73.44	47.59	47.59
1950: January.....	56.29	57.56	59.40	60.74	52.91	54.10	68.76	70.31	46.58	47.63
February.....	56.37	57.70	59.47	60.87	53.06	54.31	67.00	68.58	46.26	47.35
March.....	56.53	57.68	59.74	60.96	53.04	54.12	68.83	70.23	46.26	47.20
April.....	56.93	58.09	61.01	62.26	52.17	53.23	70.70	72.14	46.47	47.42
May.....	57.54	58.42	61.57	62.51	52.83	53.63	72.93	74.04	46.94	47.65
June.....	58.85	59.44	62.86	63.49	53.92	54.46	73.82	74.57	48.06	48.55
July.....	59.21	59.15	63.01	62.95	54.73	54.68	74.02	73.95	48.99	48.94
August.....	60.32	59.78	64.33	63.76	55.65	55.15	75.99	75.31	48.99	48.55
September.....	60.64	59.68	65.14	64.11	55.30	54.43	75.86	74.67	48.48	47.72
October.....	61.99	60.66	66.39	64.96	56.58	55.36	77.87	76.19	48.32	47.28
November.....	62.23	60.65	66.34	64.66	57.19	55.74	78.07	76.09	47.92	46.71
December <sup>3</sup> .....	63.84	61.38	68.24	65.62	58.44	56.19	77.45	74.47	47.86	46.02
1951: January <sup>3</sup> .....	63.67	60.29	67.52	63.94	58.76	55.64	78.32	74.17	49.82	47.18
February <sup>3</sup> .....	64.08	59.94	68.55	64.13	58.43	54.66	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

<sup>1</sup> Current dollars divided by consumers' price index on base 1950=100. Data prior to January 1950 were divided by the unrevised index for 1950 and subsequent data by the revised index for 1950. See note 1 to table on p. 3.

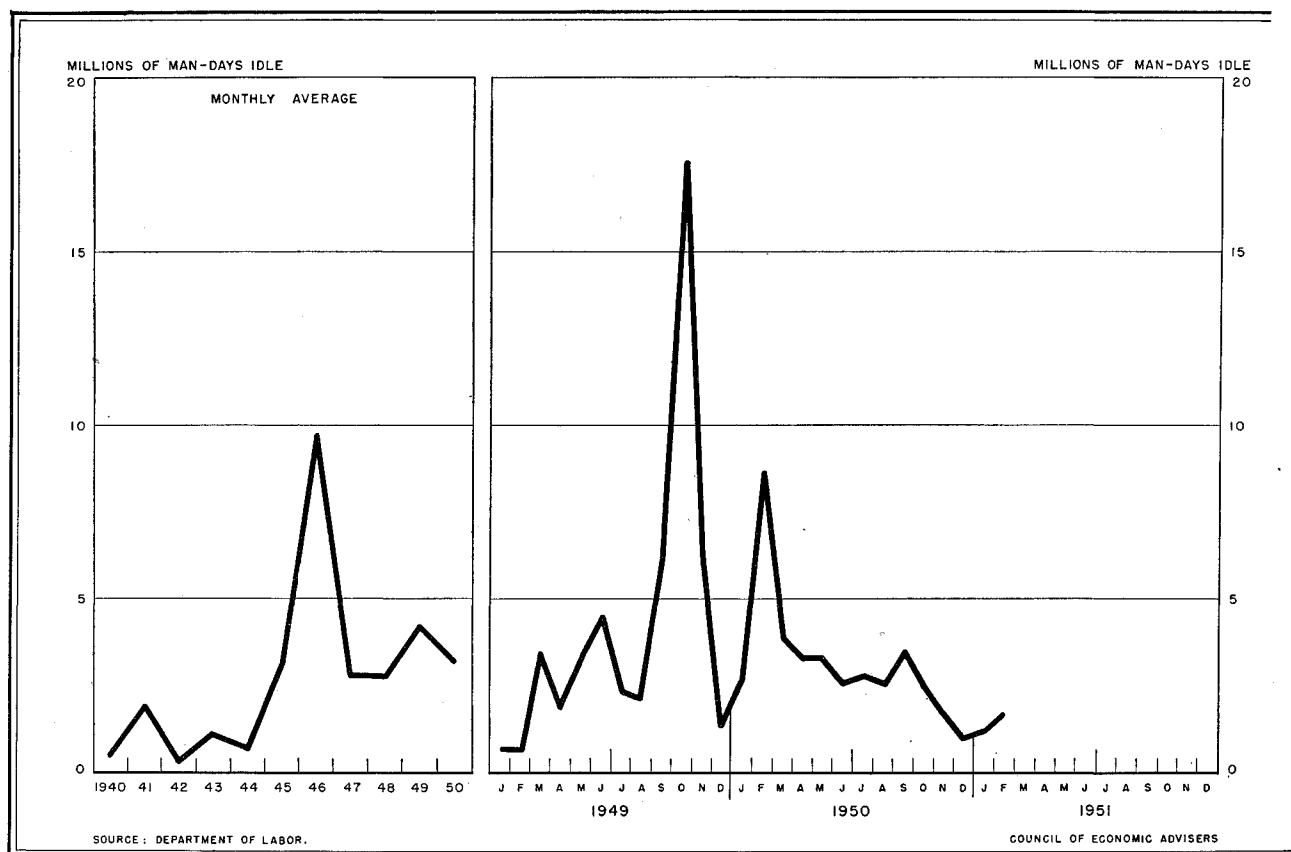
<sup>2</sup> Not available.

<sup>3</sup> Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor.

## WORK STOPPAGES

Man-days of idleness due to work stoppages rose in February to 1,700,000. The time lost from stoppages thus far in 1951 has been substantially less than for the same period of 1950.



Period	Man-days of idleness during period		Workers involved in stoppages		Number of stoppages	
	Monthly average (thousands)	Percent of estimated workingtime	Beginning in period (thousands)	In effect during month (thousands)	Beginning in period	In effect during month
1939.....	1,483	0.28	1,170	-----	2,613	-----
1941.....	1,917	.32	2,360	-----	4,288	-----
1942.....	348	.05	840	-----	2,968	-----
1944.....	727	.09	2,120	-----	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.....	4,208	.59	3,030	-----	3,606	-----
1950 <sup>1</sup> .....	3,200	.44	2,300	-----	4,700	-----
1950: January <sup>1</sup> .....	2,700	.39	170	595	245	365
February <sup>1</sup> .....	8,600	1.40	56	515	205	325
March <sup>1</sup> .....	3,900	.51	84	530	300	400
April <sup>1</sup> .....	3,300	.49	156	300	405	550
May <sup>1</sup> .....	3,300	.44	352	500	485	650
June <sup>1</sup> .....	2,600	.34	271	400	480	650
July <sup>1</sup> .....	2,800	.40	220	400	460	650
August <sup>1</sup> .....	2,600	.31	340	465	620	800
September <sup>1</sup> .....	3,500	.48	275	460	525	800
October <sup>1</sup> .....	2,450	.30	180	300	525	800
November <sup>1</sup> .....	1,750	.23	160	275	250	557
December <sup>1</sup> .....	1,000	.14	40	100	200	400
1951: January <sup>1</sup> .....	1,200	.15	185	215	400	550
February <sup>1</sup> .....	1,700	.25	220	300	400	600

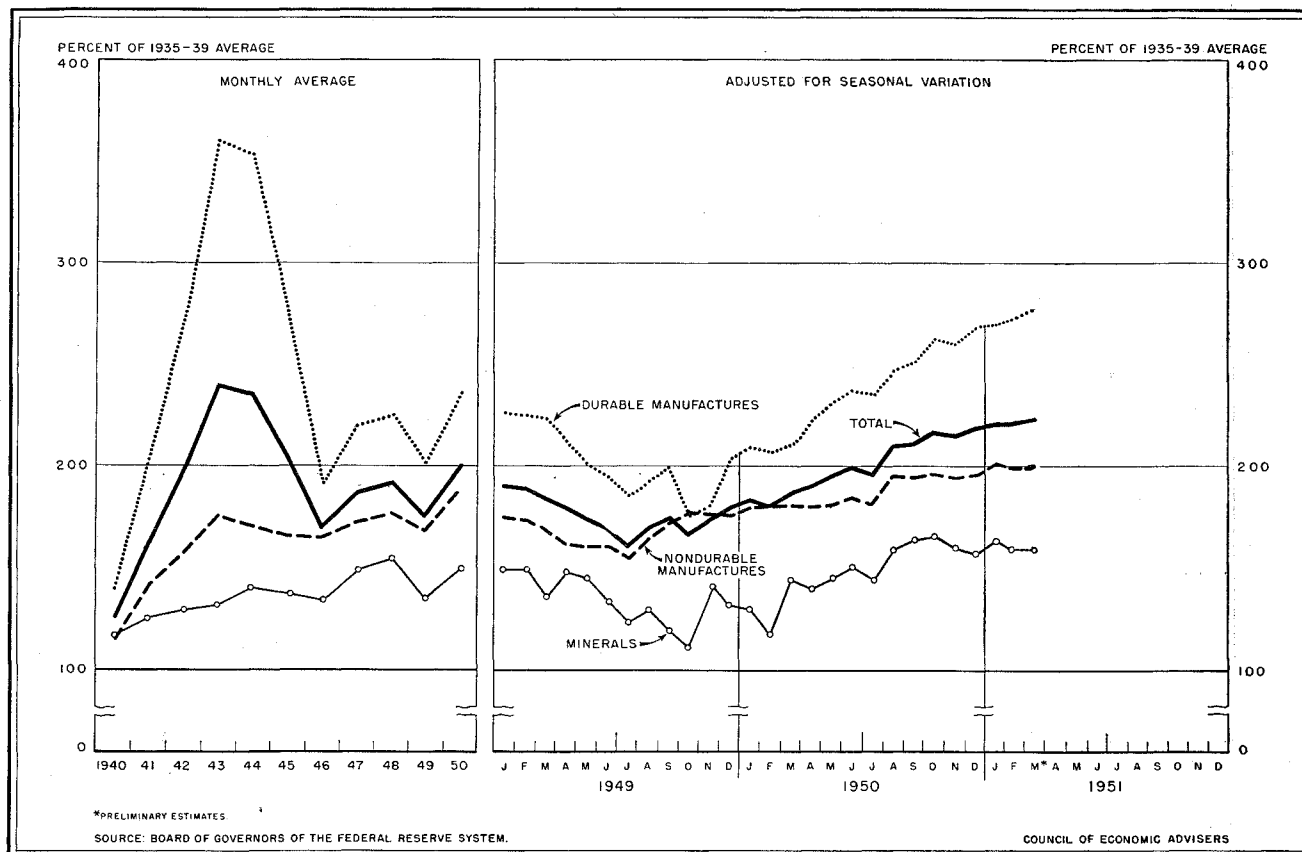
<sup>1</sup> Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor.

# PRODUCTION AND BUSINESS ACTIVITY

## INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

Total industrial production increased slightly in March to reach another postwar record, according to preliminary estimates. The output of durable goods, primarily iron and steel, automobiles, and machinery, rose, while production of nondurable goods and minerals continued at high levels.



[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
1950 monthly average.....	200	209	237	187	148
1950: February.....	180	192	207	180	118
March.....	187	194	211	181	144
April.....	190	199	222	180	140
May.....	195	204	231	181	145
June.....	199	208	237	184	151
July.....	196	206	235	181	144
August.....	209	218	247	195	159
September.....	211	220	251	194	163
October.....	216	225	262	196	166
November.....	215	224	260	195	160
December.....	218	229	268	197	157
1951: January.....	221	231	269	201	164
February <sup>1</sup> .....	221	232	272	199	158
March <sup>1</sup> .....	223	234	277	200	159

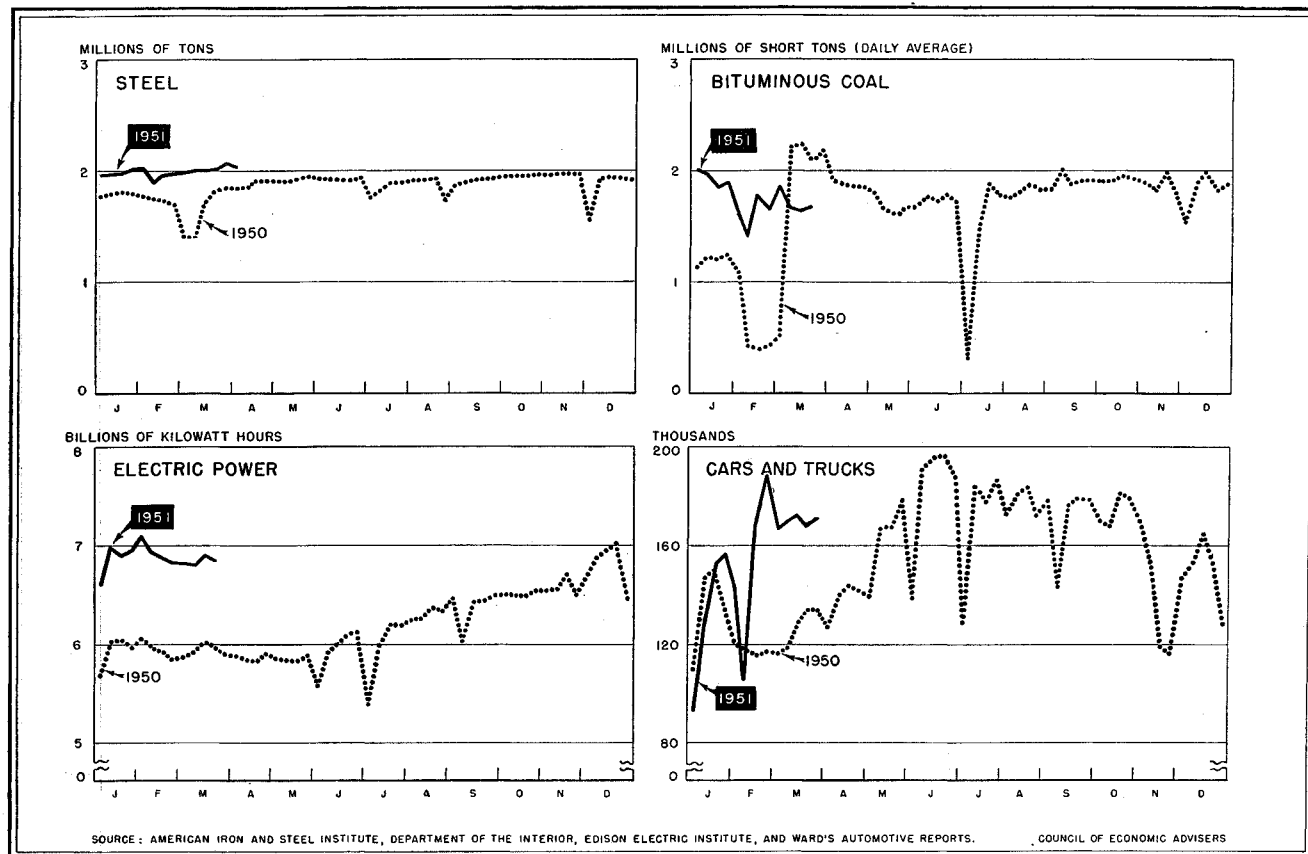
<sup>1</sup> Preliminary estimates.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.



## WEEKLY PRODUCTION - SELECTED INDICATORS

Weekly output of steel reached an all-time record in the last week of March. Motor-vehicle production was stable during the month with a higher weekly average than in February. Electric-power output declined somewhat from the February levels.



Period	Steel		Electric power, by utilities (millions of kilowatt-hours)	Bituminous coal (thousands of short tons) <sup>2</sup>	Cars and trucks (number)
	Thousands of net tons	Percent of theoretical capacity <sup>1</sup>			
Weekly average:					
1947-----	1, 628	93. 0	4, 821	2, 058	92, 163
1948-----	1, 695	94. 1	5, 300	1, 948	82, 340
1949-----	1, 496	81. 0	5, 500	1, 427	120, 350
1950 <sup>3</sup> -----	1, 855	96. 7	6, 183	1, 673	153, 546
1950: February-----	1, 698	89. 1	5, 954	506	117, 868
March-----	1, 690	88. 7	5, 947	1, 985	131, 034
April-----	1, 914	100. 4	5, 877	1, 903	130, 167
May-----	1, 930	101. 3	5, 821	1, 728	158, 025
June-----	1, 895	99. 4	6, 038	1, 762	199, 524
July-----	1, 826	94. 7	5, 940	1, 404	160, 997
August-----	1, 858	96. 3	6, 335	1, 855	185, 127
September-----	1, 914	99. 3	6, 360	1, 892	167, 358
October-----	1, 973	102. 3	6, 522	1, 976	173, 135
November-----	1, 868	96. 8	6, 615	1, 820	140, 612
December-----	1, 888	97. 9	6, 852	1, 900	141, 766
1951: January-----	1, 993	99. 7	6, 866	1, 960	140, 216
February-----	1, 970	98. 6	6, 948	1, 610	151, 053
March <sup>3</sup> -----	2, 021	101. 1	6, 827	-----	169, 575
Week ended:					
1951: March 3-----	1, 995	99. 8	6, 822	1, 858	166, 893
10-----	2, 019	101. 0	6, 795	1, 670	169, 852
17-----	2, 001	100. 1	6, 903	1, 653	172, 333
24-----	2, 021	101. 1	6, 848	1, 687	167, 200
31-----	2, 069	103. 5	6, 767	-----	171, 599
April 7-----	2, 047	102. 4	-----	-----	-----

<sup>1</sup> Based on weekly net ton capacity of 1,749,928 for 1947, 1,802,476 for 1948, 1,843,516 for 1949, 1,906,268 for the first half of 1950, 1,928,721 beginning July 1, 1950, and 1,999,034 beginning January 1, 1951.

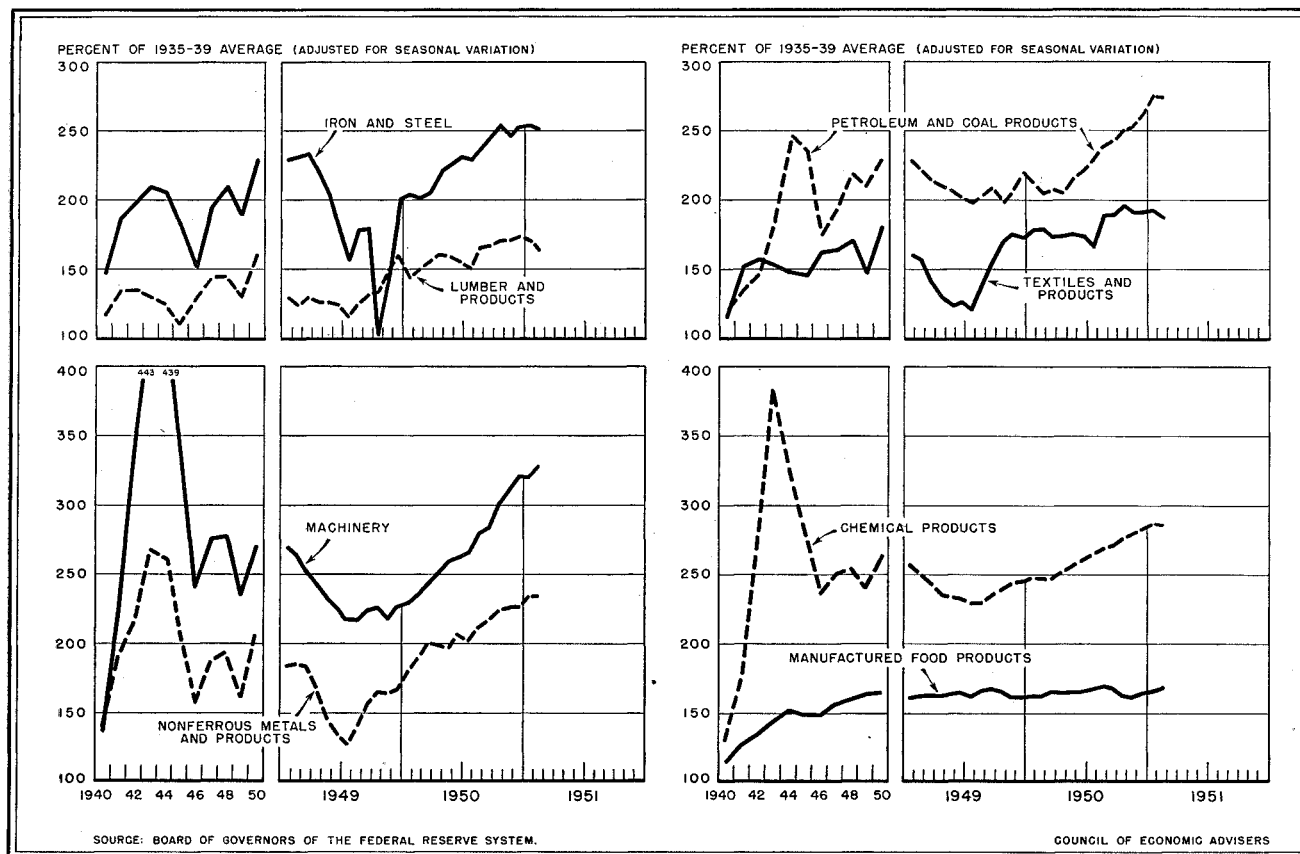
<sup>2</sup> Daily average for week.

<sup>3</sup> Preliminary estimates.

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

## PRODUCTION OF SELECTED MANUFACTURES

In February, machinery production rose sharply. The railroad-work stoppage and the strike in the wool-textile industry lowered output of iron and steel, textiles, and petroleum and coal products.



[1935-39=100, seasonally adjusted]

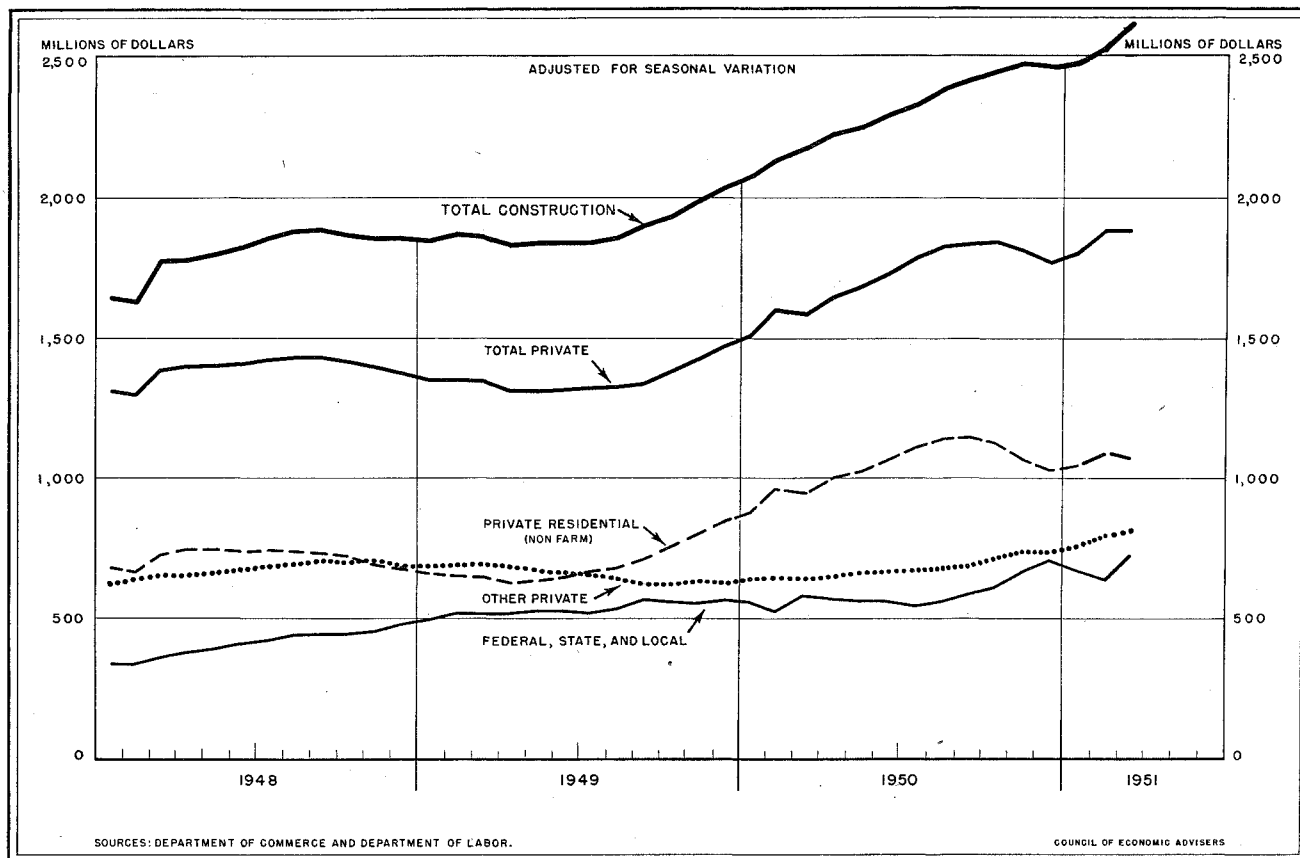
Period	Durable manufactures				Nondurable manufactures			
	Iron and steel	Lumber and products	Machinery	Nonferrous metals and products	Textiles and products	Petroleum and coal products	Manufactured food products	Chemical products
1943 monthly average.....	208	129	443	267	153	185	145	384
1946 monthly average.....	150	131	240	157	162	173	149	236
1947 monthly average.....	195	143	276	187	163	193	157	251
1948 monthly average.....	208	145	277	193	170	218	159	254
1949 monthly average.....	188	130	234	160	147	209	163	241
1950 monthly average.....	229	159	270	207	182	229	164	263
1950: January.....	203	144	229	180	178	211	161	248
February.....	201	150	236	190	179	205	161	247
March.....	205	156	243	200	173	207	165	247
April.....	222	159	251	198	174	206	164	252
May.....	226	158	258	197	175	216	164	256
June.....	231	155	262	207	173	222	164	261
July.....	228	151	265	202	165	229	167	263
August.....	236	165	279	212	189	238	168	269
September.....	245	166	283	216	191	243	167	271
October.....	253	166	303	223	197	251	162	277
November.....	246	169	311	227	193	253	161	280
December.....	253	173	321	227	194	263	165	283
1951: January.....	254	171	321	234	193	277	167	287
February <sup>1</sup> .....	251	164	328	234	187	274	169	286

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary estimates.

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

## NEW CONSTRUCTION

In March, new construction expenditures (seasonally adjusted) exceeded the record February level. Expenditures for public construction advanced 14 percent. Total private outlays remained constant in spite of a slight decline in nonfarm residential construction.



[Millions of dollars, seasonally adjusted]

Period	Total new construction	Private construction			Federal, State, and local <sup>1</sup>
		Total private	Residential (nonfarm)	Other	
1939 monthly average.....	683	366	223	142	317
1942 monthly average.....	1,173	285	143	142	888
1944 monthly average.....	438	182	68	114	256
1946 monthly average.....	1,000	803	335	469	197
1948 monthly average.....	1,798	1,389	715	674	409
1949 monthly average.....	1,883	1,350	691	659	532
1950 monthly average.....	2,310	1,721	1,042	679	589
1950: February.....	2,134	1,608	965	643	526
March.....	2,179	1,592	950	642	587
April.....	2,227	1,648	1,000	648	579
May.....	2,250	1,685	1,025	660	565
June.....	2,293	1,729	1,065	664	564
July.....	2,333	1,786	1,110	676	547
August.....	2,388	1,824	1,140	684	564
September.....	2,427	1,836	1,145	691	591
October.....	2,454	1,842	1,125	717	612
November.....	2,479	1,813	1,070	743	666
December.....	2,472	1,767	1,030	737	705
1951: January.....	2,477	1,807	1,048	759	670
February.....	2,522	1,886	1,093	793	636
March <sup>2</sup> .....	2,609	1,886	1,073	813	723

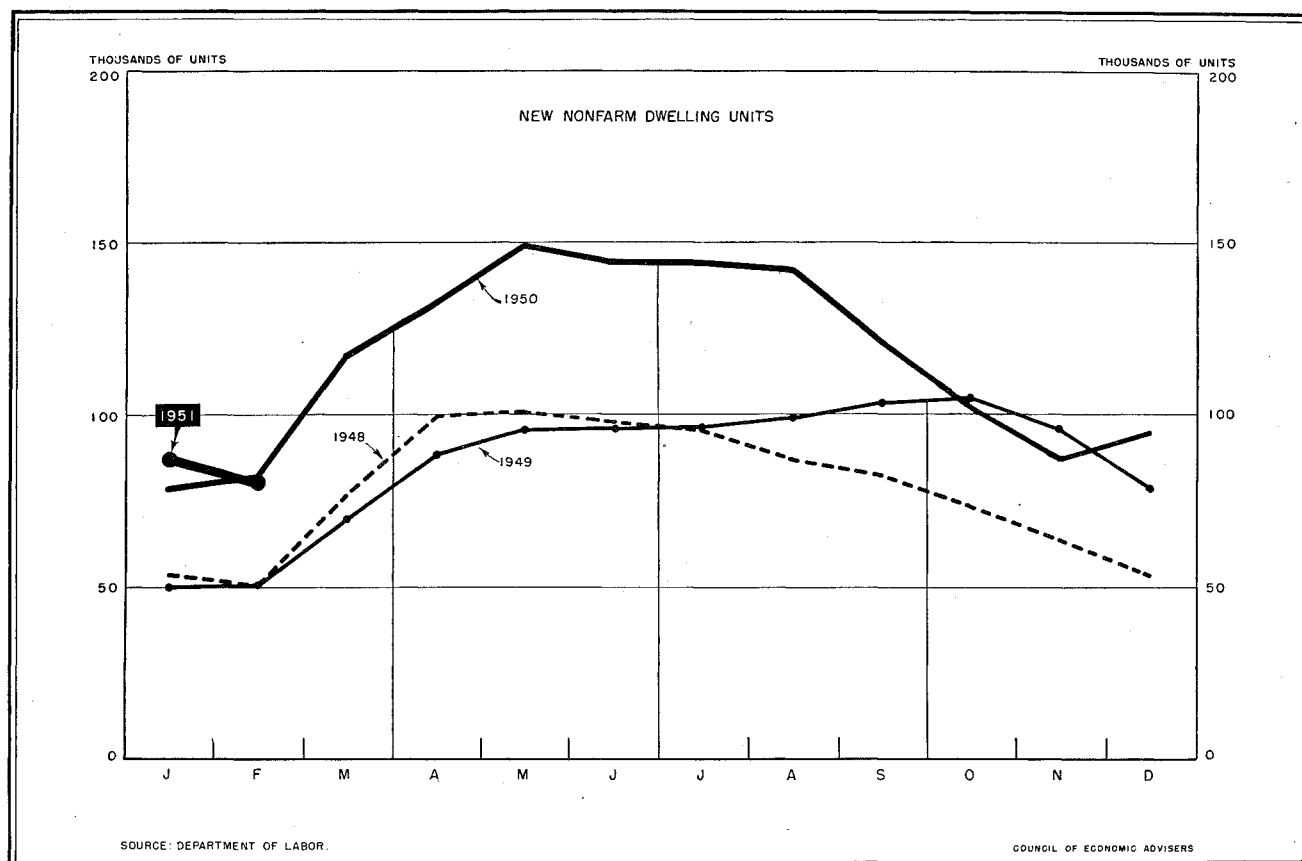
<sup>1</sup> Includes public residential construction.

<sup>2</sup> Preliminary estimates.

Sources: Department of Commerce and Department of Labor.

## NEW HOUSING STARTS

New housing starts dropped another 8 percent in February and were slightly lower than in the same month last year.



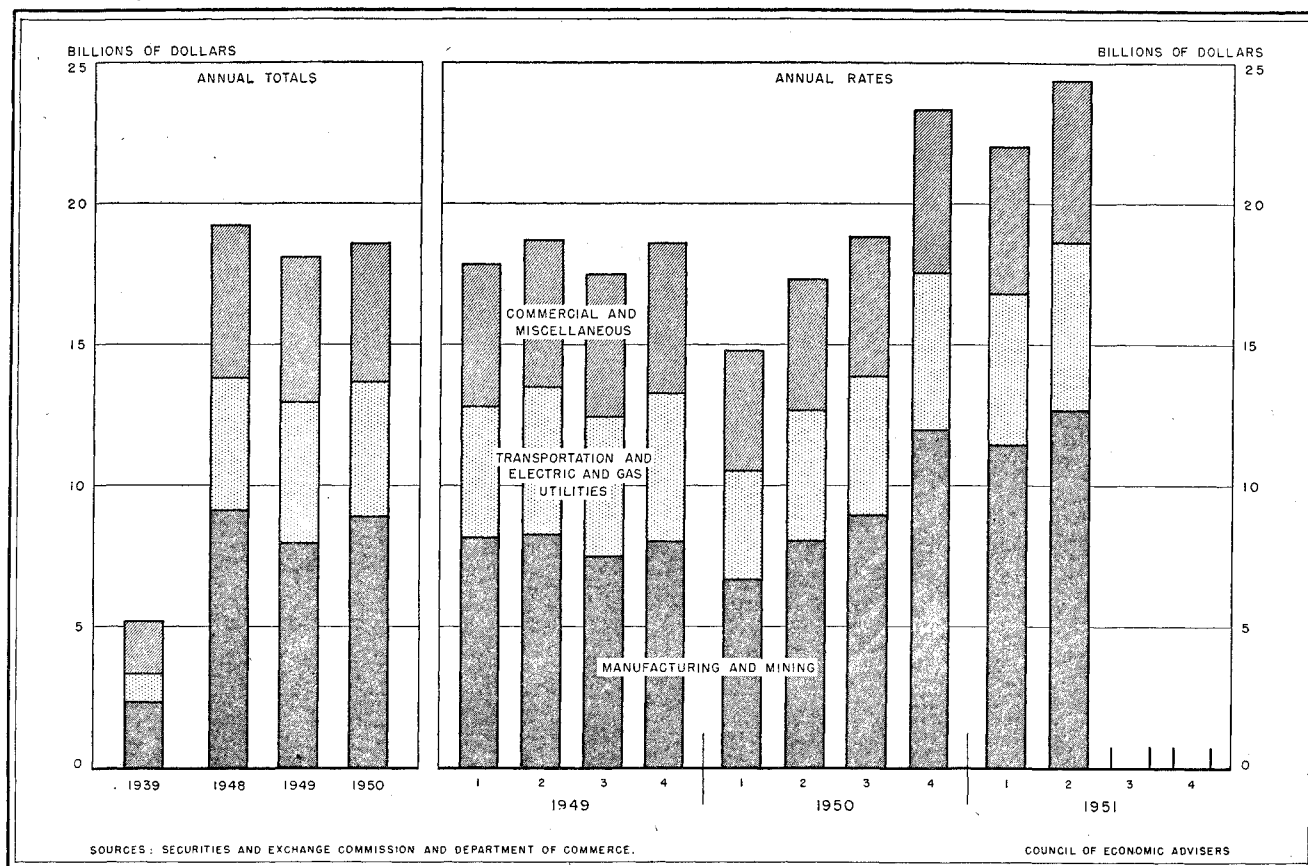
Month	New nonfarm units started				
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
January.....	39,300	53,500	50,000	78,700	<sup>1</sup> 87,000
February.....	42,800	50,100	50,400	82,900	<sup>1</sup> 80,000
March.....	56,000	76,400	69,400	117,300	-----
April.....	67,100	99,500	88,300	133,400	-----
May.....	72,900	100,300	95,400	149,100	-----
June.....	77,200	97,800	95,500	144,300	-----
July.....	81,100	95,000	96,100	144,400	-----
August.....	86,300	86,700	99,000	141,900	-----
September.....	93,800	82,300	102,900	120,600	-----
October.....	94,000	73,400	104,300	102,500	-----
November.....	79,700	63,700	95,500	87,300	-----
December.....	58,800	52,900	78,300	<sup>1</sup> 95,000	-----
Total.....	849,000	931,600	1,025,100	<sup>1</sup> 1,397,400	-----
Monthly average.....	70,750	77,600	85,425	<sup>1</sup> 116,450	-----

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Labor.

## EXPENDITURES FOR NEW PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Nonfarm plant and equipment expenditures in the fourth quarter of 1950 were at a record level, 26 percent above those of a year earlier. For manufacturing facilities alone, the increase was 52 percent. There was probably a less than normal seasonal decline in the first quarter of 1951. Business plans to invest at a still higher rate during the rest of this year.



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

Period	Total <sup>1</sup>	Manufacturing	Mining	Transportation		Electric and gas utilities	Commercial and miscellaneous <sup>2</sup>
				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
1948	19,230	8,340	800	1,320	700	2,680	5,390
1949	18,120	7,250	740	1,350	520	3,140	5,120
1950	18,560	8,220	680	1,140	440	3,170	4,920
1951 <sup>3</sup>	23,910	11,920	890	1,520	620	3,540	5,410
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	17,480	6,760	720	1,240	560	3,160	5,040
Fourth quarter	18,520	7,320	720	1,200	480	3,560	5,280
1950: First quarter	14,800	6,080	600	920	320	2,600	4,240
Second quarter	17,320	7,440	640	1,200	360	3,040	4,640
Third quarter	18,800	8,200	720	1,160	480	3,280	4,960
Fourth quarter	23,320	11,160	800	1,280	560	3,760	5,760
1951: First quarter <sup>3</sup>	22,000	10,680	760	1,440	600	3,320	5,200
Second quarter <sup>3</sup>	24,320	11,840	840	1,720	560	3,600	5,800
Second half <sup>3</sup>	24,660	12,580	980	1,460	660	3,620	5,320

<sup>1</sup> Excludes agriculture.

<sup>2</sup> Commercial and miscellaneous composed of trade, service, finance, and communication.

<sup>3</sup> Estimates for 1951 based on anticipated capital expenditure of business as reported in a survey made during the first quarter of this year.

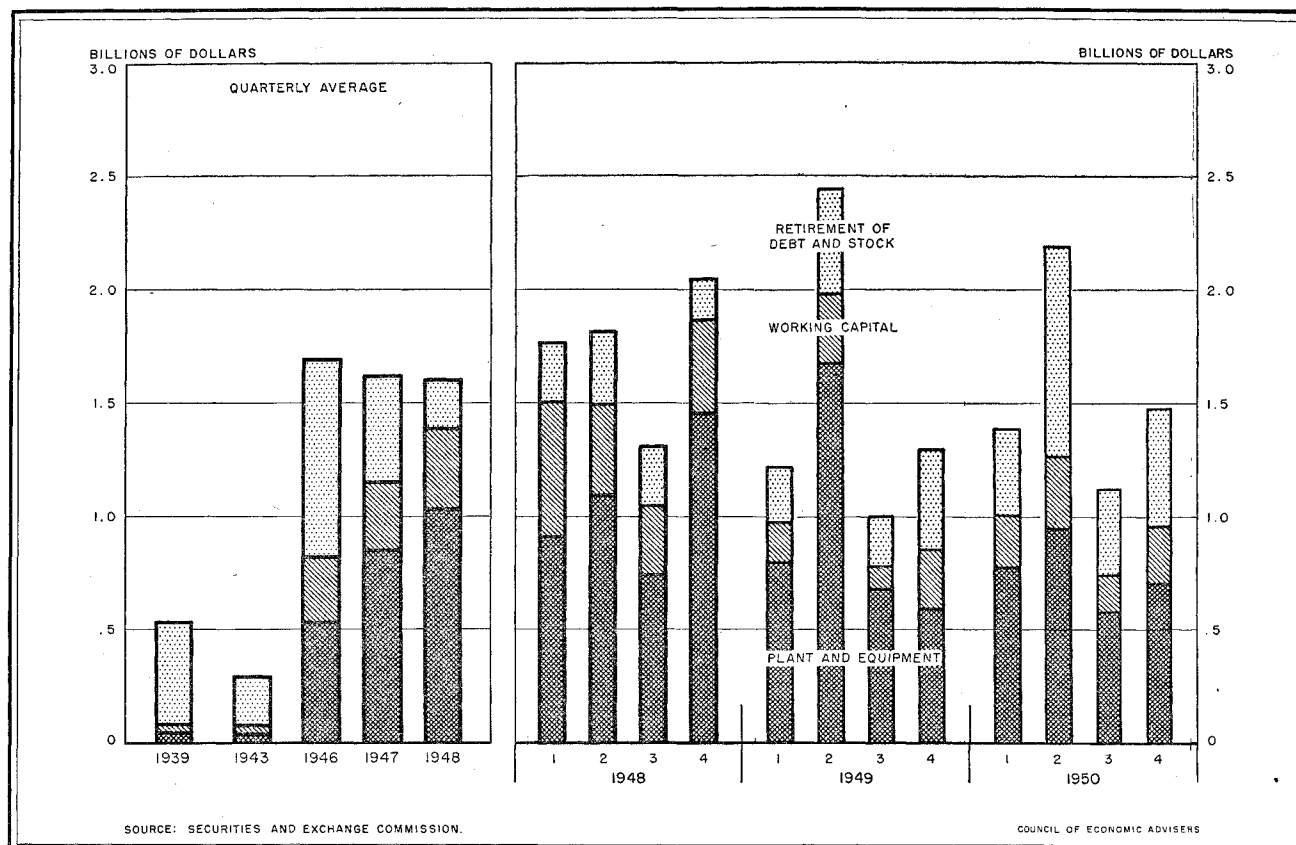
NOTE.—These figures do not agree with the totals included in the gross national product estimates of the Department of Commerce, principally because the latter cover agricultural investment and also certain equipment and construction outlays charged to current expense. Figures for 1939-44 are Federal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

Net proceeds from new security issues increased sharply in the fourth quarter. Total net proceeds were about 15 per cent above fourth quarter 1949.



[Millions of dollars]

Period	Estimated net proceeds	Proposed uses of net proceeds			
		New money			Retirement of debt and stock <sup>1</sup>
		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.....	1,740	1,482	1,055	427	258
1949 quarterly average.....	1,490	1,152	931	220	338
1950 quarterly average.....	1,548	997	757	239	552
1948: Third quarter.....	1,321	1,056	743	314	264
Fourth quarter.....	2,051	1,870	1,469	401	182
1949: First quarter.....	1,210	970	784	186	240
Second quarter.....	2,441	1,986	1,675	312	456
Third quarter.....	1,009	789	669	120	219
Fourth quarter.....	1,299	862	596	265	438
1950: First quarter.....	1,398	1,014	777	237	384
Second quarter.....	2,193	1,275	958	317	919
Third quarter.....	1,120	742	577	165	378
Fourth quarter <sup>2</sup> .....	1,483	956	717	239	527

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

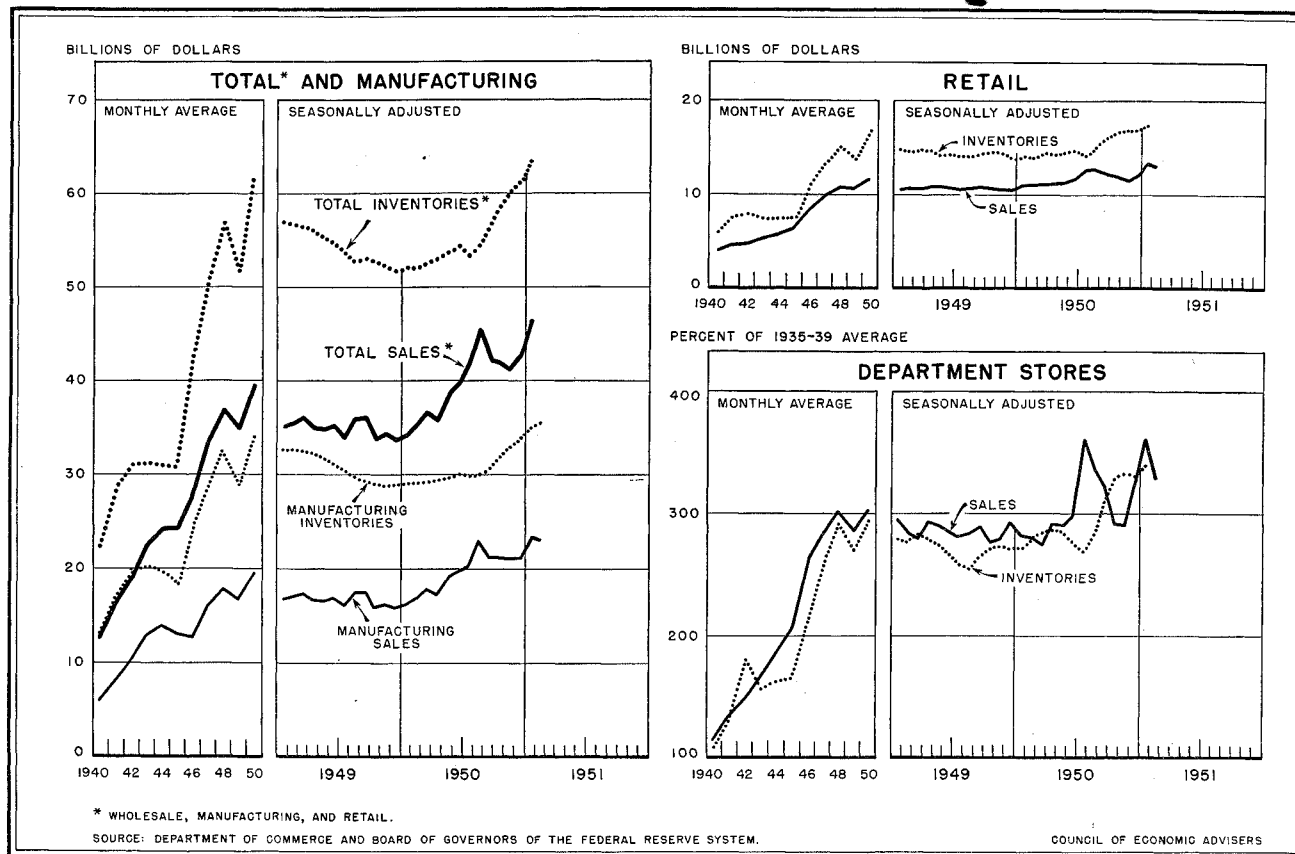
<sup>2</sup> Preliminary estimates.

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

Source: Securities and Exchange Commission.

## INVENTORIES AND SALES

During February, manufacturing inventories rose and new orders declined substantially. Both manufacturing and retail sales fell off moderately.



Period	Total business <sup>1</sup>		Manufacturing			Retail		Department stores	
	Inven- tories <sup>2</sup>	Sales <sup>3</sup>	Inven- tories <sup>2</sup>	Sales <sup>3</sup>	New orders <sup>4</sup>	Inven- tories <sup>2</sup>	Sales <sup>3</sup>	Inven- tories <sup>5</sup>	Sales <sup>5</sup>
	Millions of dollars, seasonally adjusted							1935-39=100, season- ally adjusted	
1939-----	20, 172	11, 109	11, 465	5, 100	( <sup>6</sup> )	5, 532	3, 504	102	106
1943-----	31, 143	22, 372	20, 098	12, 822	( <sup>6</sup> )	7, 361	5, 277	155	168
1945-----	30, 571	24, 181	18, 390	12, 883	( <sup>6</sup> )	7, 543	6, 315	166	207
1946-----	42, 389	27, 559	24, 498	12, 617	13, 694	11, 226	8, 358	213	264
1947-----	50, 794	33, 571	28, 920	15, 918	15, 622	13, 221	9, 909	255	286
1948-----	56, 756	37, 023	32, 276	17, 811	17, 504	14, 969	10, 837	291	302
1949-----	51, 594	34, 886	28, 865	16, 666	16, 102	13, 698	10, 682	270	286
1950 <sup>7</sup> -----	61, 569	39, 611	34, 061	19, 605	21, 099	16, 754	11, 670	294	303
1950: January-----	52, 024	34, 244	29, 035	16, 216	17, 032	13, 998	10, 855	272	282
February-----	51, 825	35, 305	28, 990	16, 877	16, 861	13, 800	11, 101	278	280
March-----	52, 484	36, 599	29, 073	17, 797	18, 810	14, 282	11, 125	285	274
April-----	52, 906	35, 645	29, 384	17, 206	17, 182	14, 138	11, 080	286	292
May-----	53, 553	38, 652	29, 659	19, 309	19, 097	14, 416	11, 327	285	290
June-----	54, 241	39, 896	30, 028	19, 838	20, 666	14, 720	11, 699	276	298
July-----	53, 243	41, 982	29, 830	20, 269	22, 223	14, 125	12, 700	269	362
August-----	54, 496	45, 275	29, 858	22, 956	27, 323	15, 076	12, 682	284	335
September-----	56, 404	42, 142	30, 732	21, 154	23, 760	15, 793	12, 133	309	320
October-----	58, 660	41, 821	31, 770	21, 246	24, 704	16, 697	11, 759	329	291
November-----	60, 269	41, 318	33, 007	21, 112	22, 371	16, 787	11, 387	332	290
December <sup>7</sup> -----	61, 569	42, 472	34, 061	21, 284	23, 160	16, 754	12, 194	329	325
1951: January <sup>7</sup> -----	63, 524	46, 872	34, 965	23, 377	27, 904	17, 454	13, 292	338	362
February <sup>7</sup> -----	64, 574	45, 844	35, 500	23, 100	25, 900	17, 834	12, 925	349	328

<sup>1</sup> Total business includes manufacturing, retail, and wholesale (not shown separately in this table).

<sup>2</sup> Book value, end of period.

<sup>3</sup> Monthly average for year and total for month.

<sup>4</sup> Data for new orders not adjusted for seasonal variation.

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

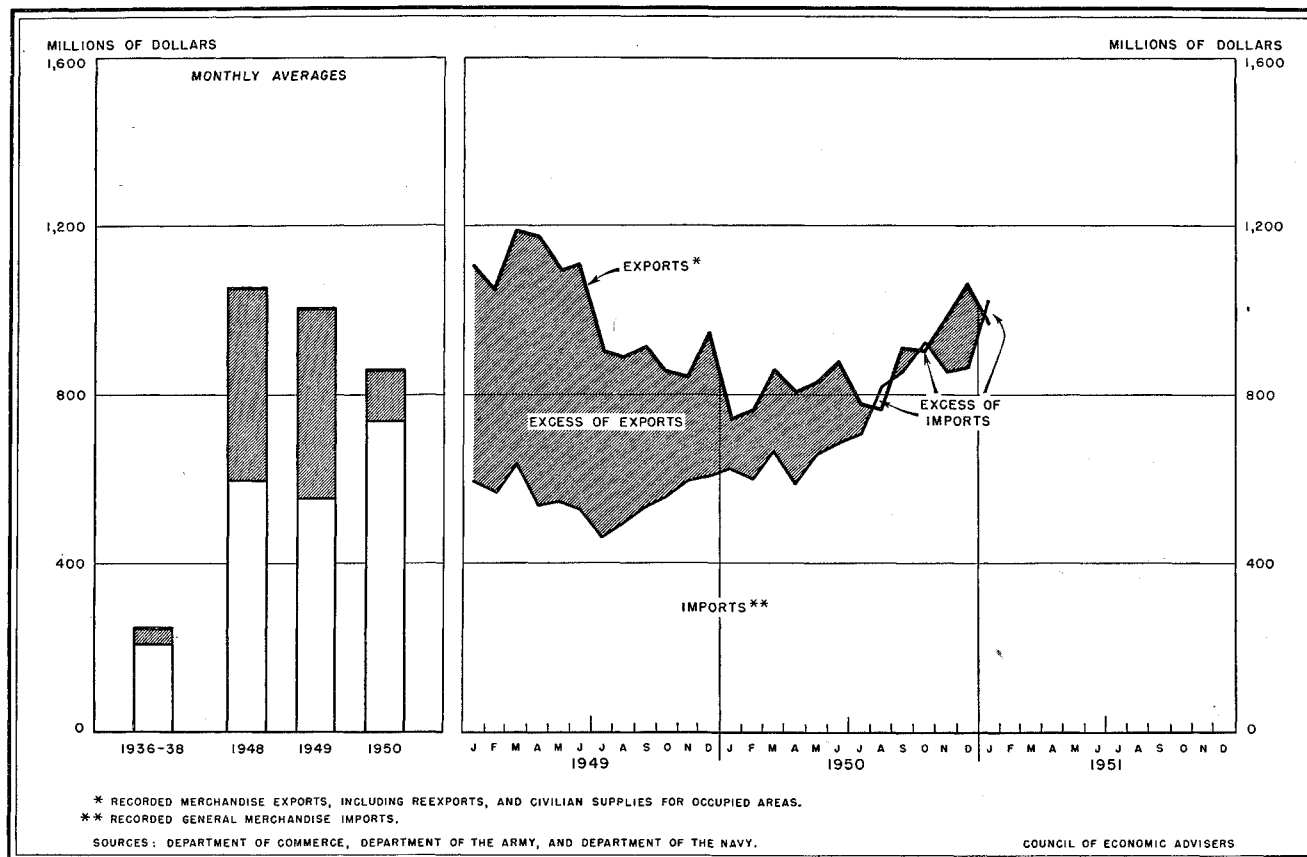
<sup>6</sup> Not available.

<sup>7</sup> Preliminary estimates.

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

## MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

In January, merchandise imports rose sharply to a new high of more than \$1 billion, about 10 percent above the previous peak of last October. With about a 9 percent drop in exports, there was a small import surplus for the third time since 1937.



[Millions of dollars]

Period	Exports <sup>1</sup>	Imports <sup>2</sup>	Excess of exports (+), imports (-)
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	480	+799
1948 monthly average.....	1,054	594	+461
1949 monthly average.....	1,003	552	+451
1950 monthly average.....	856	737	+119
1950: January.....	741	623	+117
February.....	764	600	+164
March.....	860	665	+196
April.....	803	585	+218
May.....	828	659	+169
June.....	877	686	+192
July.....	779	708	+71
August.....	761	820	-58
September.....	911	858	+53
October.....	905	922	-17
November.....	981	852	+129
December.....	1,063	864	+199
1951: January.....	972	1,022	-50

<sup>1</sup> Recorded merchandise exports, including reexports, and civilian supplies for occupied areas.

<sup>2</sup> Recorded general merchandise imports.

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

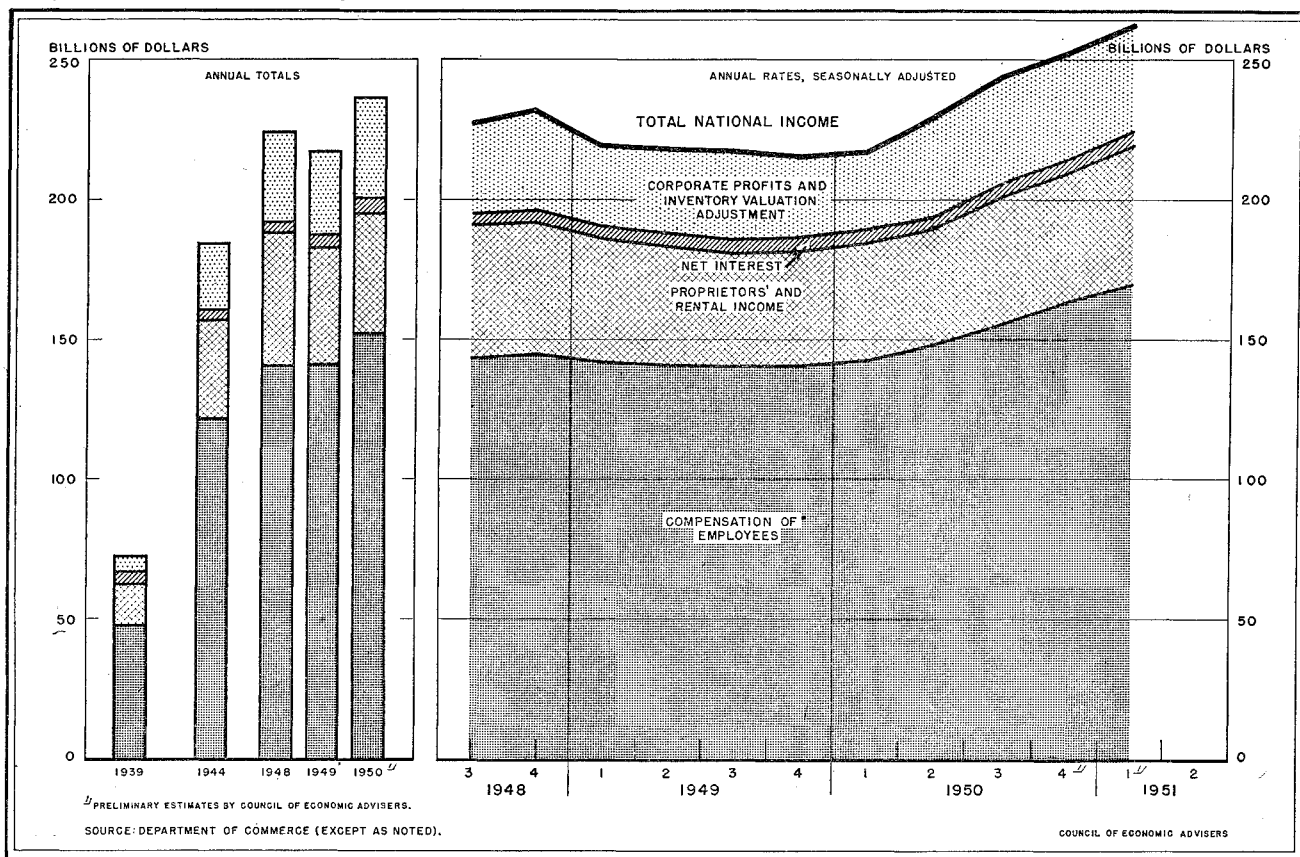
Sources: Department of Commerce, Department of the Army, and Department of the Navy.



# PURCHASING POWER

## NATIONAL INCOME

Compensation of employees rose from a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$163 billion in the fourth quarter of 1950 to \$170 billion in the first quarter of this year. Most of the rise reflected increases in wage rates. Farm, business, and professional income also gained sharply.



[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.....	180.3	117.1	42.0	2.9	18.3	23.5	-5.2
1947.....	198.7	128.0	42.4	3.5	24.7	30.5	-5.8
1948.....	223.5	140.2	47.3	4.1	31.8	33.9	-2.0
1949.....	216.8	140.6	41.7	4.7	29.9	27.6	+2.2
1950.....	<sup>1</sup> 235.6	152.2	43.6	5.0	<sup>1</sup> 34.9	<sup>1</sup> 40.0	-5.1
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted							
1949: First quarter.....	218.8	141.5	43.8	4.6	28.8	28.3	+0.5
Second quarter.....	217.8	140.5	42.2	4.7	30.4	26.4	+3.9
Third quarter.....	216.7	140.0	40.1	4.8	31.8	28.2	+3.7
Fourth quarter.....	214.2	140.2	40.7	4.8	28.4	27.6	+0.8
1950: First quarter.....	216.9	142.3	41.5	5.0	28.1	29.2	-1.0
Second quarter.....	229.1	147.9	41.2	5.0	35.0	37.4	-2.4
Third quarter.....	244.0	155.3	45.5	5.0	38.1	46.4	-8.3
Fourth quarter.....	<sup>1</sup> 252.6	162.7	46.3	5.1	<sup>1</sup> 38.5	<sup>1</sup> 47.0	-8.5
1951: First quarter <sup>1</sup> .....	263.0	169.8	49.5	5.2	38.5	48.0	-9.5

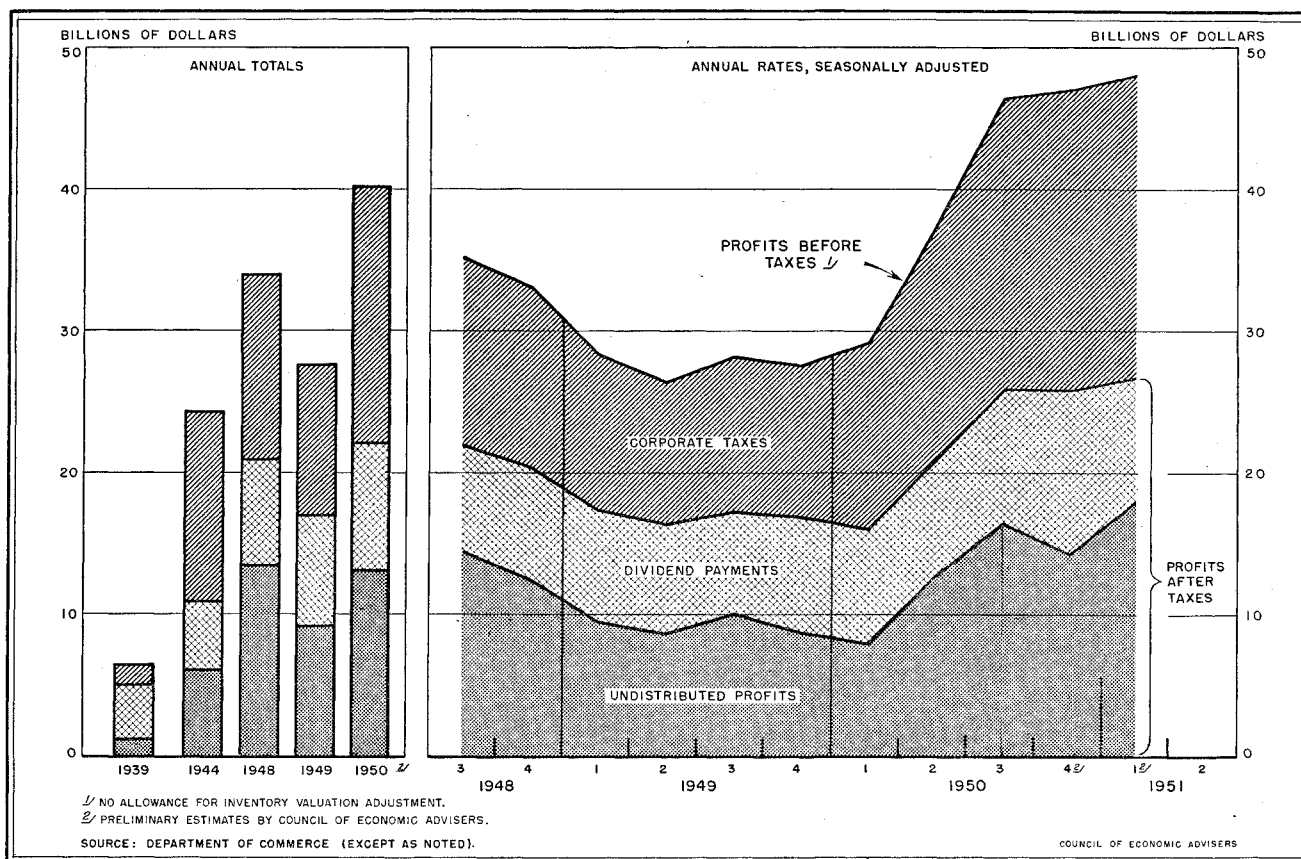
<sup>1</sup> Estimates based on incomplete data; by Council of Economic Advisers.

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

Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

# CORPORATE PROFITS

Preliminary indications are that corporate profits in the first quarter of 1951 continued at record high levels.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Corporate profits before taxes	Corporate tax liability	Corporate profits after taxes		
			Total	Dividend payments	Undistributed profits
1939.....	6.5	1.5	5.0	3.8	1.2
1944.....	24.3	13.5	10.8	4.7	6.1
1946.....	23.5	9.6	13.9	5.8	8.1
1947.....	30.5	11.9	18.5	6.6	12.0
1948.....	33.9	13.0	20.9	7.5	13.4
1949.....	27.6	10.6	17.0	7.8	9.2
1950 <sup>1</sup> .....	40.0	17.9	22.1	9.4	12.8
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted					
1949: First quarter.....	28.3	10.9	17.4	7.9	9.5
Second quarter.....	26.4	10.0	16.4	7.7	8.7
Third quarter.....	28.2	10.8	17.3	7.4	10.0
Fourth quarter.....	27.6	10.6	16.9	8.2	8.7
1950: First quarter.....	29.2	13.2	16.0	8.1	7.9
Second quarter.....	37.4	16.5	20.9	8.2	12.7
Third quarter.....	46.4	20.6	25.8	9.3	16.5
Fourth quarter <sup>1</sup> .....	47.0	21.2	25.8	11.5	14.3
1951: First quarter <sup>1</sup> .....	48.0	21.3	26.7	8.8	17.9

<sup>1</sup> Estimates based on incomplete data; fourth quarter 1950 and first quarter 1951 by Council of Economic Advisers.

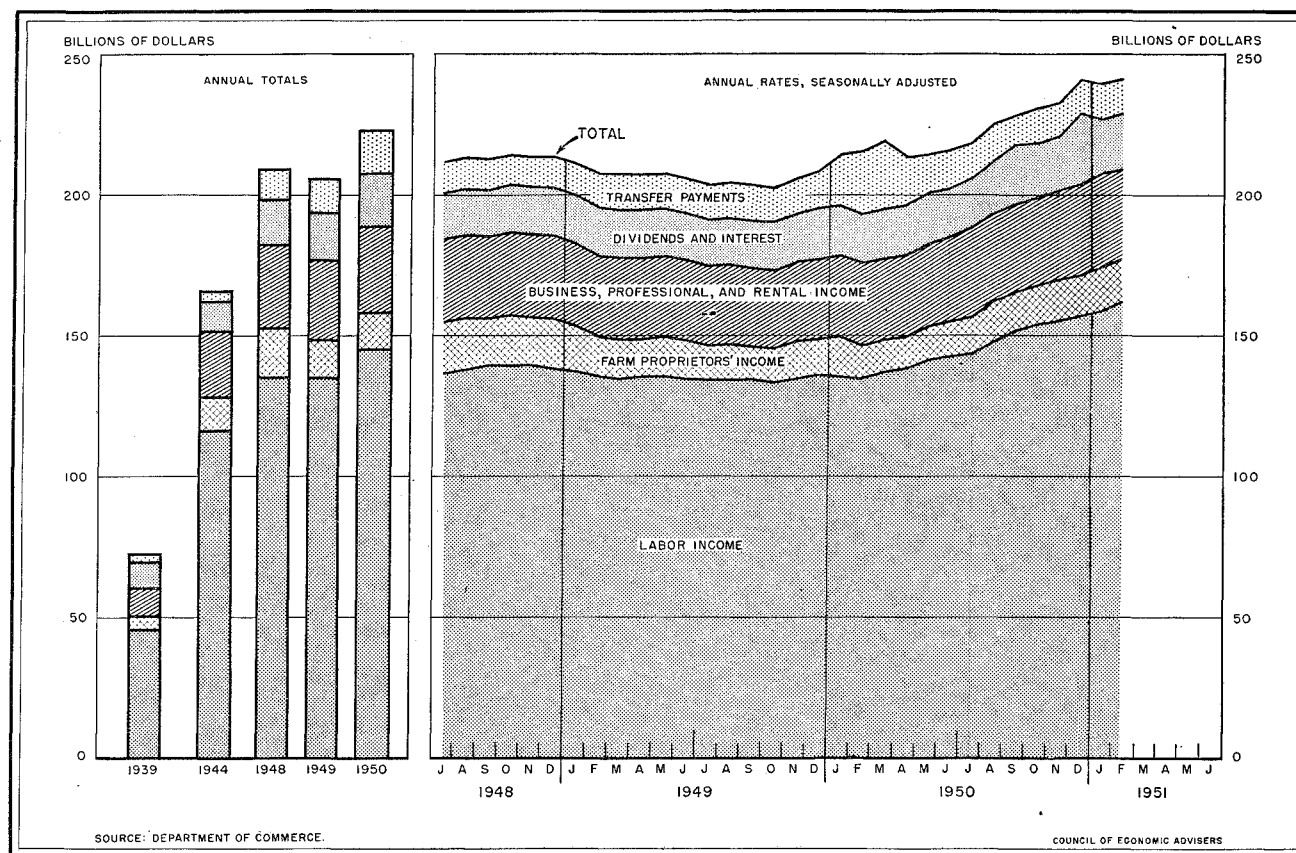
NOTE.—No allowance has been made for inventory valuation adjustment. See p. 22 for profits before taxes and inventory valuation adjustment.

Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

## PERSONAL INCOME

Total personal income showed little change between January and February. The increase in wages and salaries was offset by a dip in proprietors' income.



[Billions of dollars]

Period	Total personal income	Labor income (salaries, wages, and other labor income)	Proprietors' income		Dividends and personal interest	Transfer payments
			Farm	Business, professional, and rental income		
1939-----	72.6	45.7	4.5	10.2	9.2	3.0
1944-----	165.9	116.2	11.8	23.7	10.6	3.6
1947-----	191.0	122.3	15.6	26.8	14.5	11.8
1948-----	209.5	134.9	17.7	29.6	16.1	11.2
1949-----	206.1	134.9	13.4	28.3	17.2	12.3
1950-----	223.2	145.4	13.1	30.5	19.2	<sup>1</sup> 15.0
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted						
1950: January-----	214.6	135.2	14.6	28.9	17.5	18.4
February-----	215.4	134.5	12.3	28.7	17.7	22.2
March-----	219.3	136.9	11.4	28.8	18.0	24.2
April-----	213.8	138.6	11.0	28.8	18.2	17.2
May-----	214.5	141.1	12.1	29.4	17.8	14.1
June-----	217.1	143.6	12.1	30.2	17.8	13.4
July-----	220.7	145.1	13.6	31.9	17.8	12.3
August-----	225.4	148.9	13.7	32.4	18.4	12.0
September-----	228.7	151.2	13.3	31.7	21.1	11.4
October-----	231.1	154.1	13.9	31.8	19.2	12.1
November-----	232.9	155.5	14.6	31.6	19.4	11.8
December-----	241.0	157.7	14.7	32.3	24.7	11.6
1951: January-----	240.9	160.2	15.5	33.8	19.0	12.4
February <sup>2</sup> -----	241.0	162.2	14.5	33.2	19.1	12.0

<sup>1</sup> Includes \$2.7 billion National Service Life Insurance dividend, most of which was paid in the first half of the year.

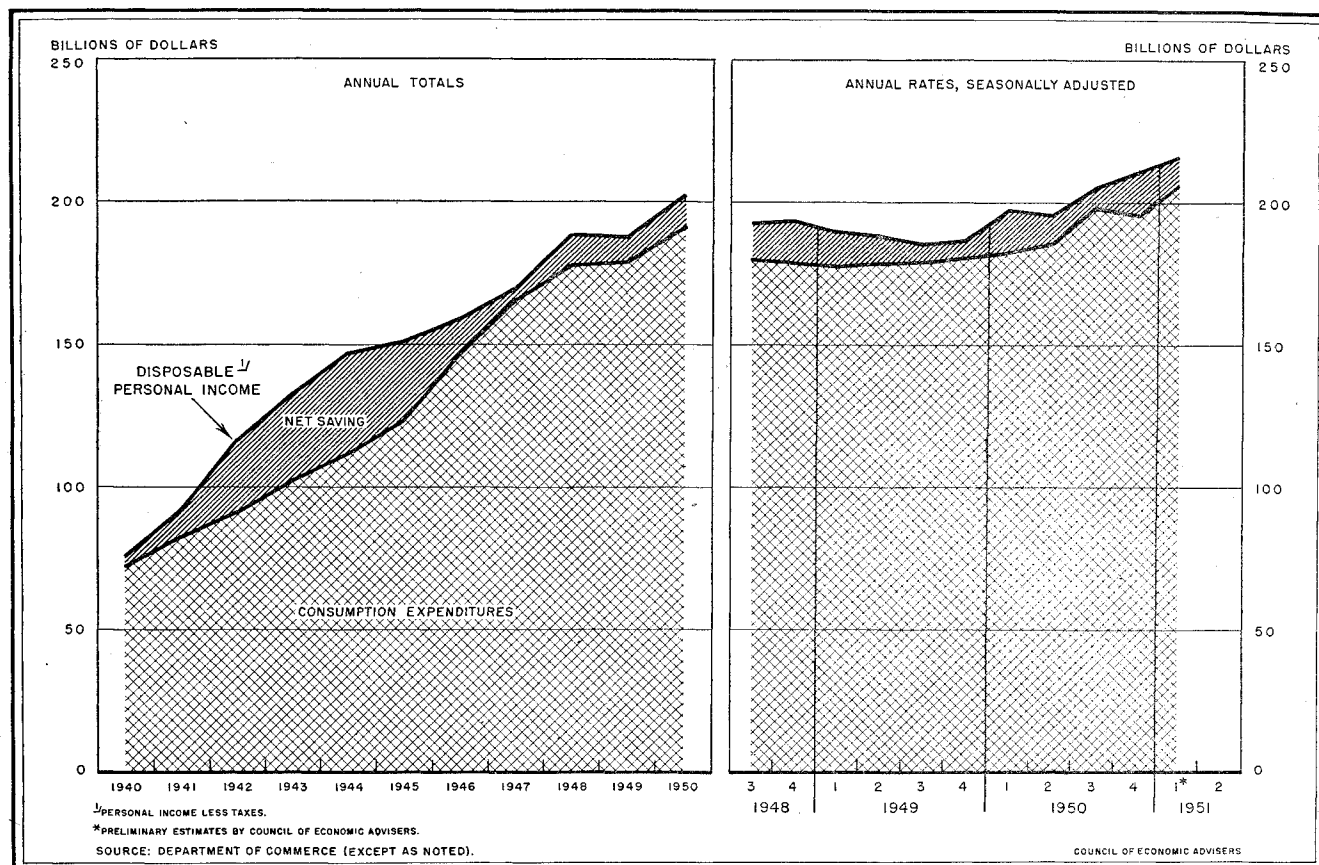
<sup>2</sup> Preliminary estimates.

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

Source: Department of Commerce.

# CONSUMER INCOME, SPENDING, AND SAVING

The rate of personal saving dropped in the first quarter as expenditures rose more than disposable income.



Period	Disposable personal income <sup>1</sup>	Less: Personal consumption expenditures	Equals: Personal net saving	Net saving as percent of disposable income
Billions of dollars				
1939.....	70.2	67.5	2.7	3.8
1941.....	92.0	82.3	9.8	10.7
1942.....	116.7	91.2	25.6	21.9
1944.....	147.0	111.6	35.4	24.1
1946.....	158.9	146.9	12.0	7.6
1947.....	169.5	165.6	3.9	2.3
1948.....	188.4	177.4	10.9	5.8
1949.....	187.4	178.8	8.6	4.6
1950.....	202.7	190.8	11.9	5.9
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted				
1949: First quarter.....	189.9	177.4	12.5	6.6
Second quarter.....	188.2	178.4	9.8	5.2
Third quarter.....	185.1	179.0	6.2	3.3
Fourth quarter.....	186.8	180.6	6.2	3.3
1950: First quarter.....	197.4	182.6	14.8	7.5
Second quarter.....	195.6	185.8	9.8	5.0
Third quarter.....	204.6	198.9	5.7	2.8
Fourth quarter.....	211.6	195.8	15.8	7.5
1951: First quarter <sup>2</sup> .....	216.2	206.0	10.2	4.7

<sup>1</sup> Income less taxes.

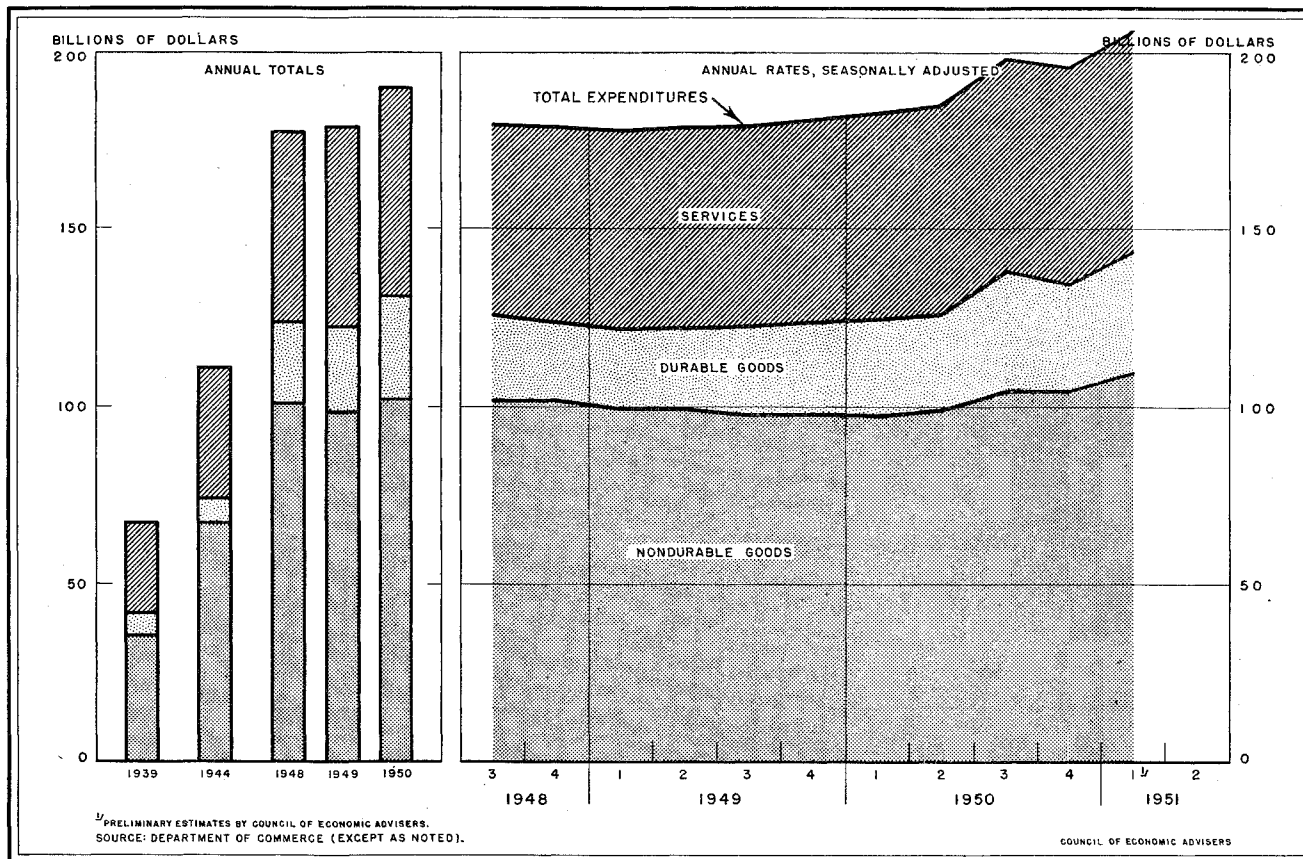
<sup>2</sup> Estimates based on incomplete data, by Council of Economic Advisers.

NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. See note on p. 2.

Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

## PERSONAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURES

Personal consumption expenditures of \$206 billion (seasonally adjusted annual rate) were \$9 billion more than in the previous quarter. Most of the increase reflected higher prices. Expenditures for durable goods equaled their peak level of the third quarter of 1950 while those for nondurable goods exceeded theirs.



[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.....	146.9	85.8	16.6	44.5
1947.....	165.6	95.1	21.4	49.1
1948.....	177.4	100.9	22.9	53.7
1949.....	178.8	98.5	23.8	56.4
1950.....	190.8	101.6	29.2	59.9
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted				
1949: First quarter.....	177.4	99.4	22.4	55.6
Second quarter.....	178.4	99.2	23.0	56.2
Third quarter.....	179.0	97.6	24.7	56.6
Fourth quarter.....	180.6	97.9	25.3	57.4
1950: First quarter.....	182.6	97.9	26.4	58.3
Second quarter.....	185.8	99.9	26.5	59.5
Third quarter.....	198.9	104.5	34.0	60.4
Fourth quarter.....	195.8	104.3	30.0	61.5
1951: First quarter <sup>1</sup> .....	206.0	109.5	34.0	62.5

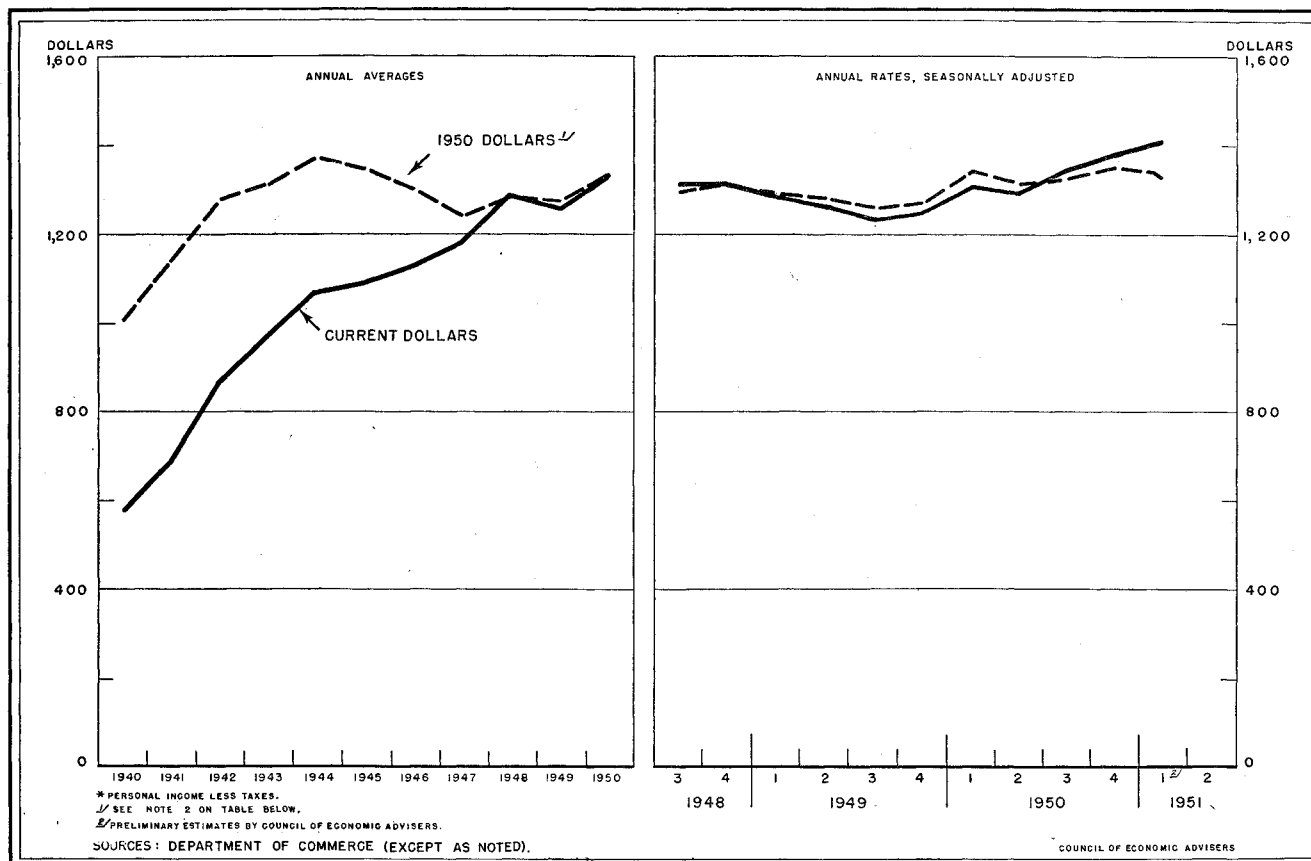
<sup>1</sup> Estimates based on incomplete data by Council of Economic Advisers.

NOTE.—Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. See note on p. 2.

Source: Department of Commerce.

## PER CAPITA DISPOSABLE INCOME

Per capita disposable income increased in the first quarter but the quarterly gain dropped below that of the previous two quarters, as higher income taxes became fully effective. In terms of the purchasing power of the 1950 dollar, there was a decline from the fourth quarter level.



Period	Total disposable personal income (billions of dollars) <sup>1</sup>		Per capita disposable personal income (dollars) <sup>1</sup>		Population (thousands) <sup>3</sup>
	Current prices	1950 prices <sup>2</sup>	Current prices	1950 prices <sup>2</sup>	
1939	70.2	124.7	536	953	130,880
1941	92.0	152.3	690	1,142	133,377
1942	116.7	172.4	866	1,279	134,831
1944	147.0	189.9	1,062	1,372	138,390
1946	158.9	183.9	1,124	1,301	141,398
1947	169.5	178.8	1,176	1,241	144,129
1948	188.4	188.6	1,285	1,286	146,621
1949	187.4	190.1	1,256	1,275	149,149
1950	202.7	202.7	1,336	1,336	151,689
Annual rates, seasonally adjusted					
1949: First quarter	189.9	191.4	1,281	1,291	148,282
Second quarter	188.2	190.7	1,264	1,281	148,862
Third quarter	185.1	188.3	1,238	1,259	149,522
Fourth quarter	186.8	190.8	1,243	1,270	150,234
1950: First quarter	197.4	202.3	1,309	1,341	150,847
Second quarter	195.6	198.8	1,292	1,313	151,390
Third quarter	204.6	201.8	1,345	1,327	152,068
Fourth quarter	211.6	206.4	1,385	1,351	152,774
1951: First quarter <sup>4</sup>	216.2	204.5	1,410	1,333	153,385

<sup>1</sup> Income less taxes.

<sup>2</sup> Dollar estimates in current prices divided by the price index of personal consumption expenditures. This price index was based on the Department of Commerce data, shifted from 1939 base.

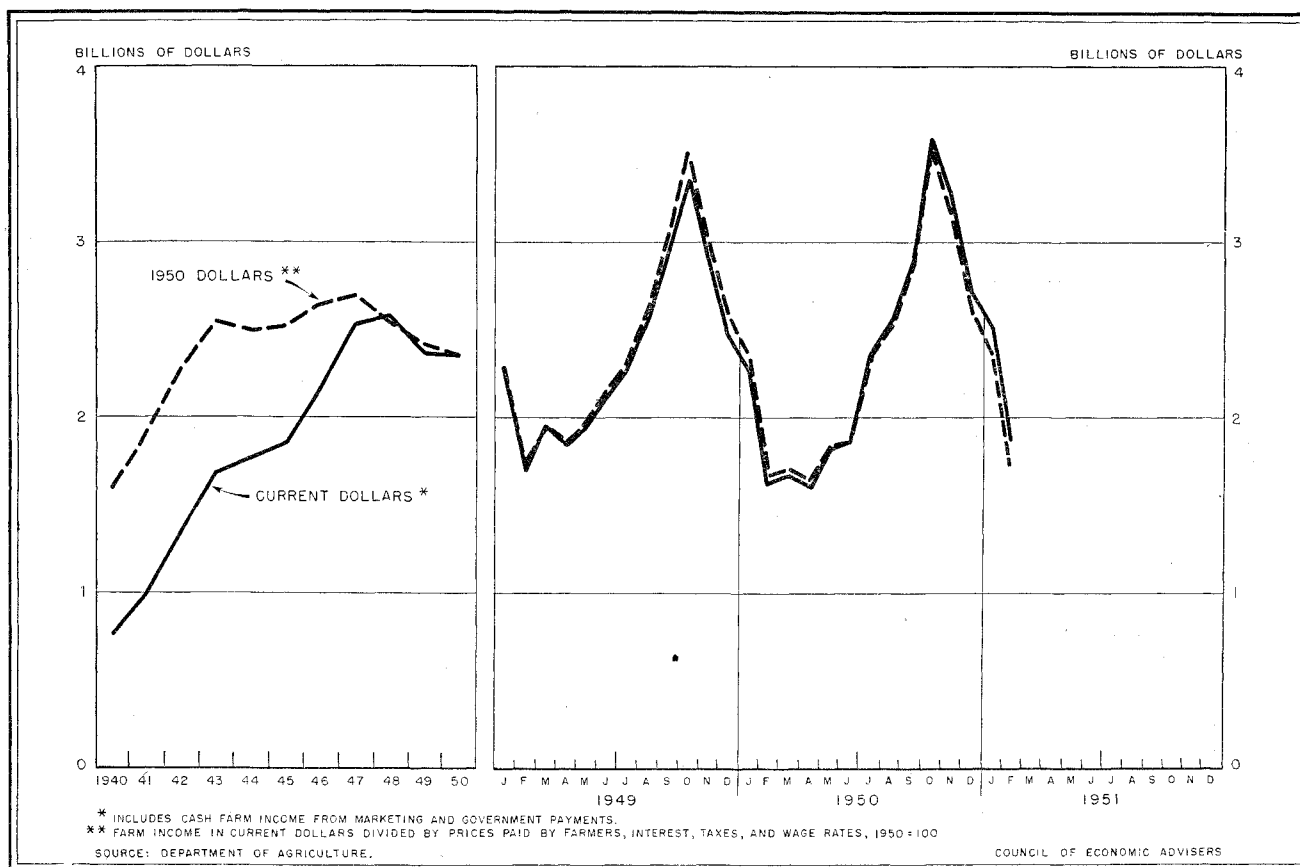
<sup>3</sup> Provisional intercensal estimates of the population of the United States including Armed Forces overseas, taking into account the final 1950 Census total population count. Annual data as of July 1; quarterly data centered in the middle of the period, interpolated from monthly figures.

<sup>4</sup> Estimates based on incomplete data; by Council of Economic Advisers.

Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

## FARM INCOME

Farm income dropped seasonally in February, but was 15 percent above February 1950.



Period	Farm income (millions of current dollars) <sup>1</sup>	Prices paid by farmers (incl. interest, taxes, and wage rates) 1950=100 <sup>2</sup>	Farm income (millions of 1950 dollars) <sup>3</sup>
1939 monthly average.....	724	48	1,508
1941 monthly average.....	981	52	1,887
1944 monthly average.....	1,764	71	2,484
1946 monthly average.....	2,136	81	2,637
1947 monthly average.....	2,527	94	2,688
1948 monthly average.....	2,567	101	2,542
1949 monthly average.....	2,359	98	2,407
1950 monthly average.....	2,349	100	2,349
1950: January.....	2,254	97	2,324
February.....	1,614	97	1,664
March.....	1,674	98	1,708
April.....	1,594	98	1,627
May.....	1,819	99	1,837
June.....	1,859	100	1,859
July.....	2,356	100	2,356
August.....	2,551	101	2,526
September.....	2,913	102	2,856
October.....	3,584	102	3,514
November.....	3,277	103	3,182
December.....	2,692	104	2,588
1951: January <sup>4</sup> .....	2,499	106	2,358
February <sup>4</sup> .....	1,858	108	1,720

<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 1950=100.

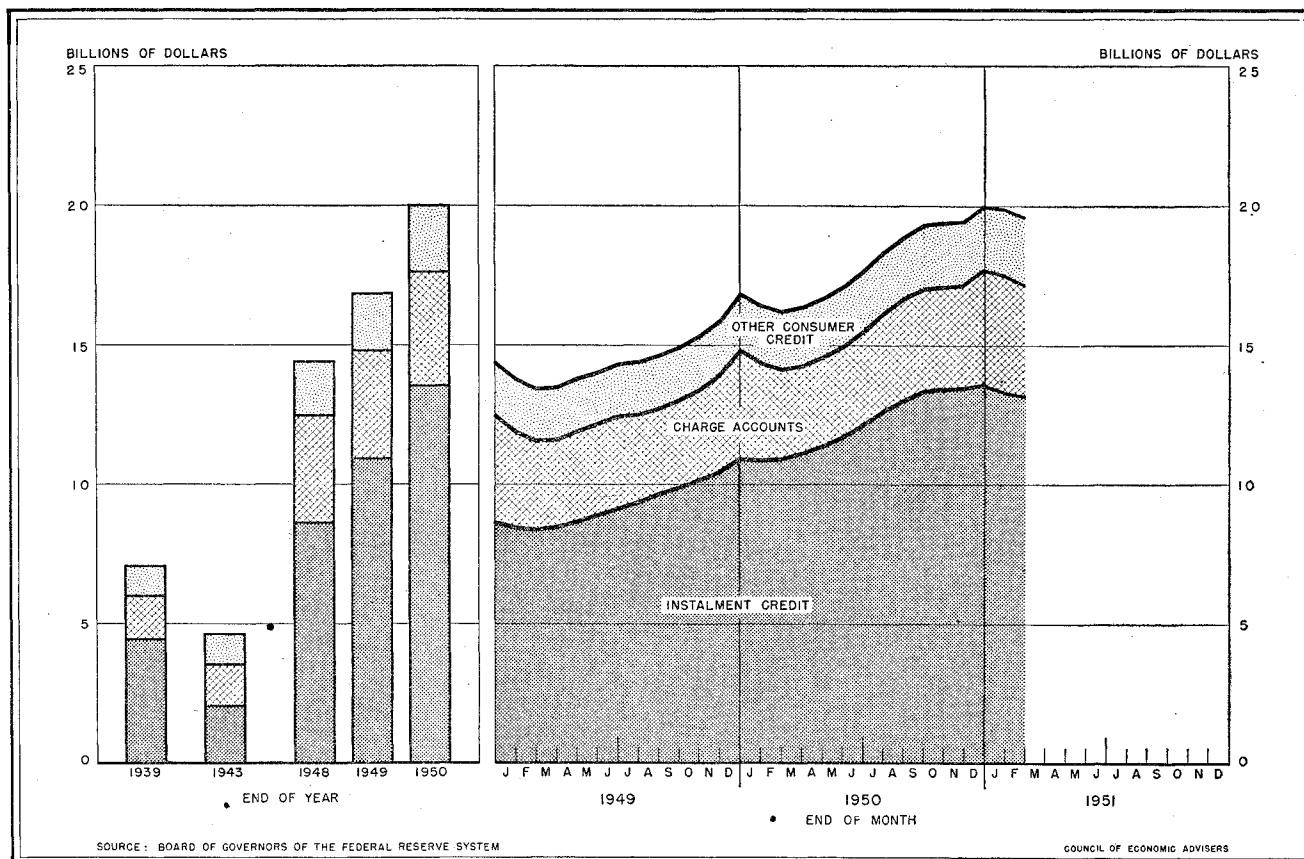
<sup>3</sup> Farm income in current dollars divided by prices paid by farmers, interest, taxes, and wage rates, 1950=100.

<sup>4</sup> Preliminary estimates.

Source: Department of Agriculture.

## CONSUMER CREDIT

Consumer credit outstanding declined about \$400 million during February. Instalment credit fell nearly \$200 million, in contrast with February 1950, when instalment credit expanded \$48 million.



[Millions of dollars]

End of period	Total consumer credit outstanding	Instalment credit			Charge accounts	Other consumer credit <sup>1</sup>
		Total	Automobile sale credit	Other sale credit and loans		
1939.....	7,031	4,424	1,267	3,157	1,544	1,063
1943.....	4,600	2,001	175	1,826	1,498	1,101
1946.....	8,677	4,000	544	3,456	3,054	1,623
1947.....	11,862	6,434	1,151	5,283	3,612	1,816
1948.....	14,366	8,600	1,961	6,639	3,854	1,912
1949.....	16,809	10,890	3,144	7,746	3,909	2,010
1950.....	20,098	13,460	4,126	9,334	4,239	2,399
1950: January.....	16,368	10,836	3,179	7,657	3,506	2,026
February.....	16,159	10,884	3,256	7,628	3,233	2,042
March.....	16,338	11,077	3,355	7,722	3,211	2,050
April.....	16,639	11,322	3,470	7,852	3,241	2,076
May.....	17,077	11,667	3,600	8,067	3,290	2,120
June.....	17,651	12,105	3,790	8,315	3,392	2,154
July.....	18,295	12,598	3,994	8,604	3,527	2,170
August.....	18,842	13,009	4,107	8,902	3,636	2,197
September.....	19,315	13,337	4,213	9,124	3,741	2,237
October.....	19,398	13,389	4,227	9,162	3,703	2,306
November.....	19,405	13,306	4,175	9,131	3,739	2,360
December.....	20,098	13,460	4,126	9,334	4,239	2,399
1951: January <sup>2</sup> .....	19,921	13,251	4,056	9,195	4,233	2,437
February <sup>2</sup> .....	19,529	13,068	3,986	9,082	4,016	2,445

<sup>1</sup> Includes loans by pawnbrokers, service credit, and single-payment loans under \$3,000 made by commercial banks. The single-payment loan item was revised in November to exclude loans over \$3,000. See Federal Reserve Bulletin for November 1950, pages 1405-6.

<sup>2</sup> Preliminary estimates.

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

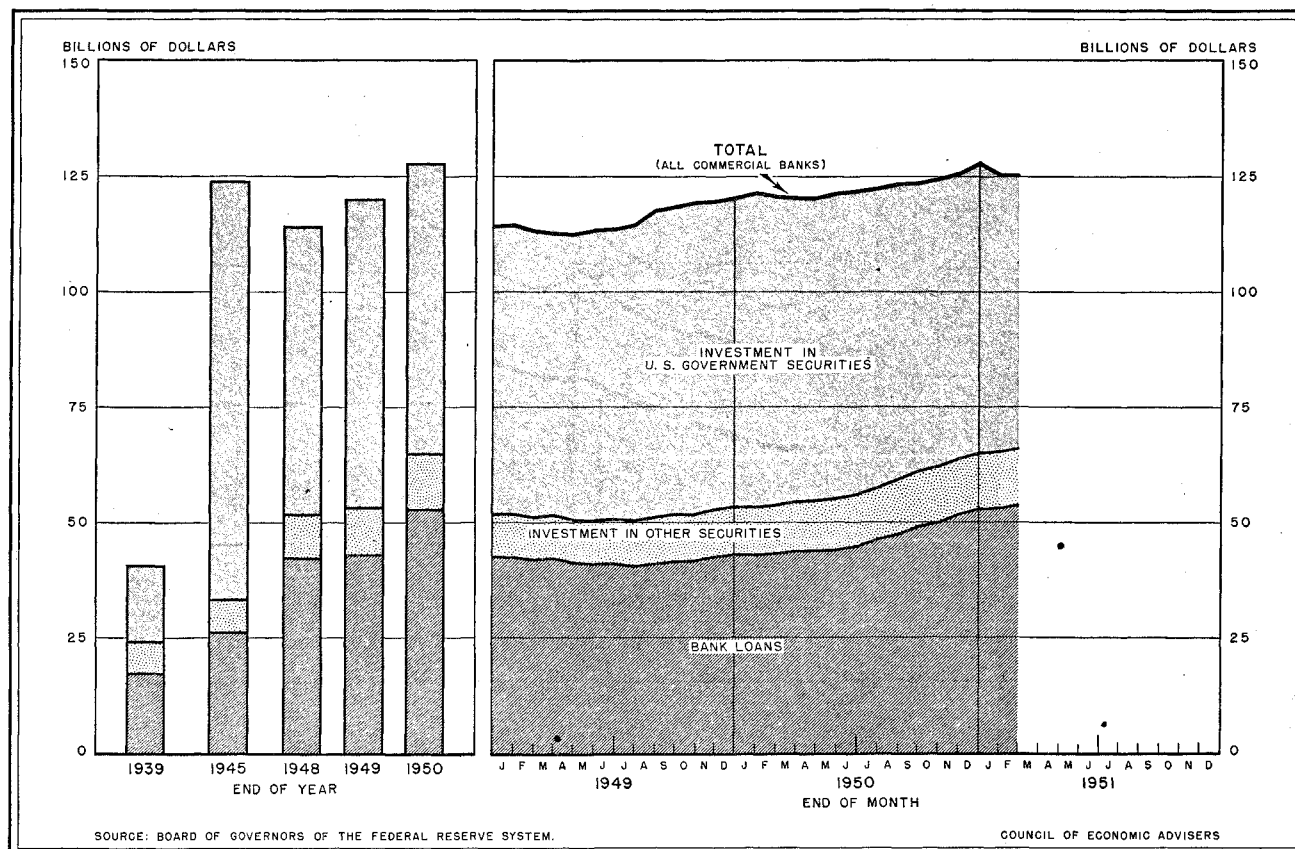
Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.



# MONEY, BANKING, AND FEDERAL FINANCE

## BANK LOANS AND INVESTMENTS

Total bank loans and investments remained unchanged during February. There was an increase of \$800 million in loans. This was offset by a drop in investments, which was accounted for by reduced holdings of United States Government securities.



[Billions of dollars, all commercial banks]

End of period	Total loans and investments	Bank loans	Investments		
			Total	U. S. Government securities	Other securities
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.....	120.2	43.0	77.2	67.0	10.2
1950.....	127.6	52.8	74.7	62.4	12.3
1950: January.....	121.2	42.9	78.3	68.0	10.3
February.....	120.6	43.1	77.5	67.1	10.4
March.....	120.3	43.7	76.6	65.8	10.8
April.....	120.3	43.8	76.5	65.5	11.0
May.....	121.2	44.1	77.1	66.1	11.0
June.....	121.8	44.8	77.0	65.8	11.2
July.....	122.3	46.0	76.3	65.0	11.4
August.....	123.3	47.3	76.0	64.2	11.8
September.....	123.7	49.0	74.6	62.5	12.1
October.....	124.5	49.9	74.6	62.5	12.1
November.....	125.5	51.7	73.9	61.8	12.1
December.....	127.6	52.8	74.7	62.4	12.3
1951: January.....	125.2	52.9	72.4	60.0	12.3
February <sup>1</sup> .....	125.2	53.7	71.5	59.1	12.4

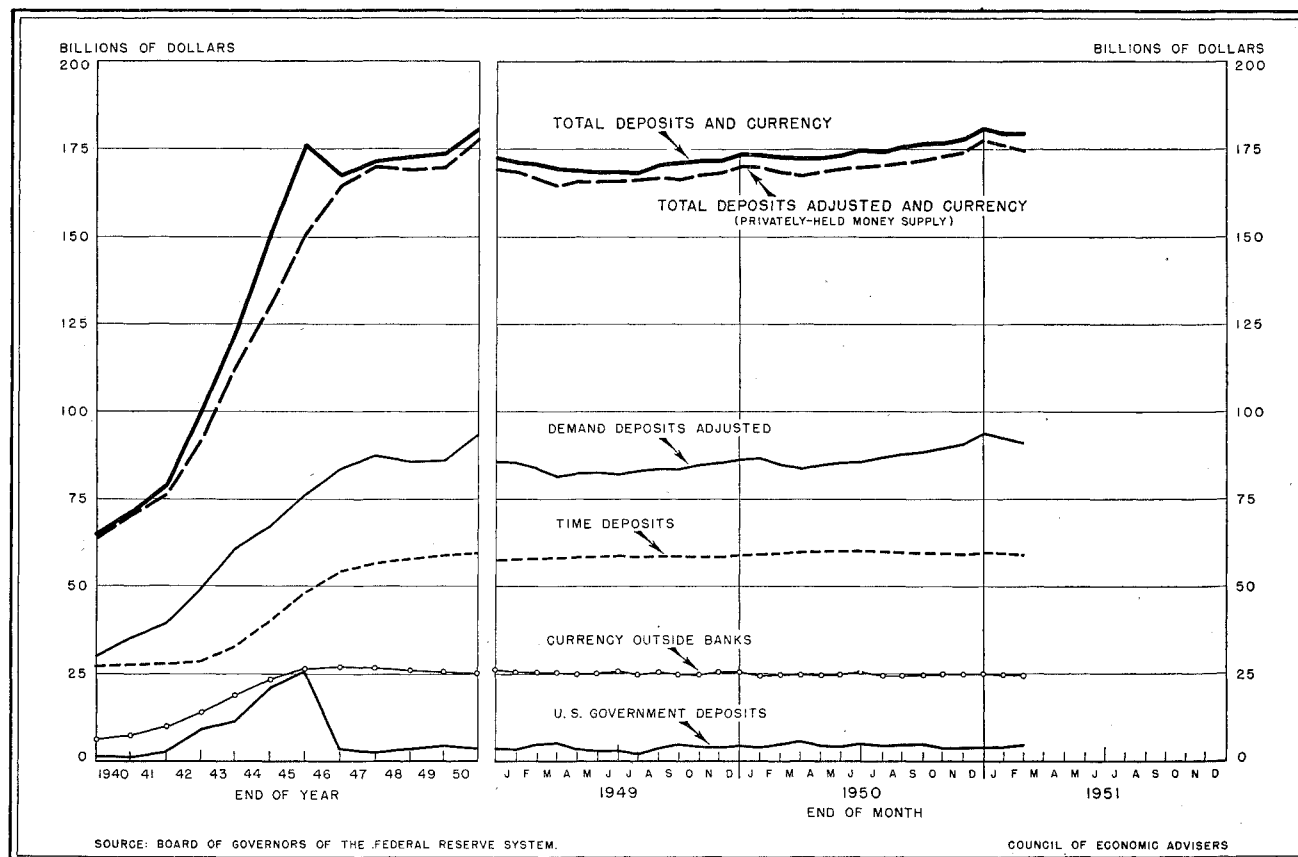
<sup>1</sup> Preliminary estimates.

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

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

## MONEY SUPPLY

The privately held money supply decreased about \$900 million during February. The major factor in the decline was the shift of funds from private to United States Government deposits, reflecting the substantial excess of Treasury cash receipts.



[Billions of dollars]

End of period	Total deposits and currency	U. S. Government deposits <sup>1</sup>	Deposits adjusted and currency (privately held money supply) <sup>2</sup>			
			Total	Currency outside banks	Adjusted demand deposits <sup>3</sup>	Time deposits <sup>4</sup>
1939.....	64.7	1.5	63.3	6.4	29.8	27.1
1945.....	176.4	25.6	150.8	26.5	75.9	48.5
1946.....	167.5	3.5	164.0	26.7	83.3	54.0
1947.....	172.3	2.3	170.0	26.5	87.1	56.4
1948.....	172.7	3.6	169.1	26.1	85.5	57.5
1949.....	173.9	4.1	169.8	25.4	85.8	58.6
1950.....	180.8	3.6	177.2	25.0	93.2	59.0
1950: January.....	173.6	3.9	169.7	24.5	86.4	58.7
February.....	172.8	4.6	168.2	24.7	84.5	59.0
March.....	172.4	5.3	167.1	24.6	83.3	59.3
April.....	172.5	4.1	168.4	24.6	84.3	59.5
May.....	173.0	3.8	169.2	24.7	85.0	59.5
June.....	174.7	4.8	170.0	25.2	85.0	59.7
July.....	174.4	4.1	170.2	24.4	86.5	59.4
August.....	175.5	4.5	171.0	24.5	87.4	59.1
September.....	176.5	4.8	171.7	24.5	88.1	59.0
October.....	176.5	3.5	173.0	24.6	89.4	59.0
November.....	177.7	3.5	174.2	24.8	90.7	58.7
December.....	180.8	3.6	177.2	25.0	93.2	59.0
1951: January.....	179.3	3.6	175.7	24.6	92.1	59.0
February <sup>5</sup> .....	179.5	4.7	174.8	24.6	91.2	59.0

<sup>1</sup> Includes U. S. Government deposits at Federal Reserve banks, commercial and savings banks, and U. S. Treasurer's time deposits, open account.

<sup>2</sup> Includes deposits and currency held by State and local governments.

<sup>3</sup> Includes demand deposits, other than interbank and U. S. Government, less cash items in process of collection.

<sup>4</sup> Includes deposits in commercial banks, mutual savings banks, and Postal Savings System, but excludes interbank deposits.

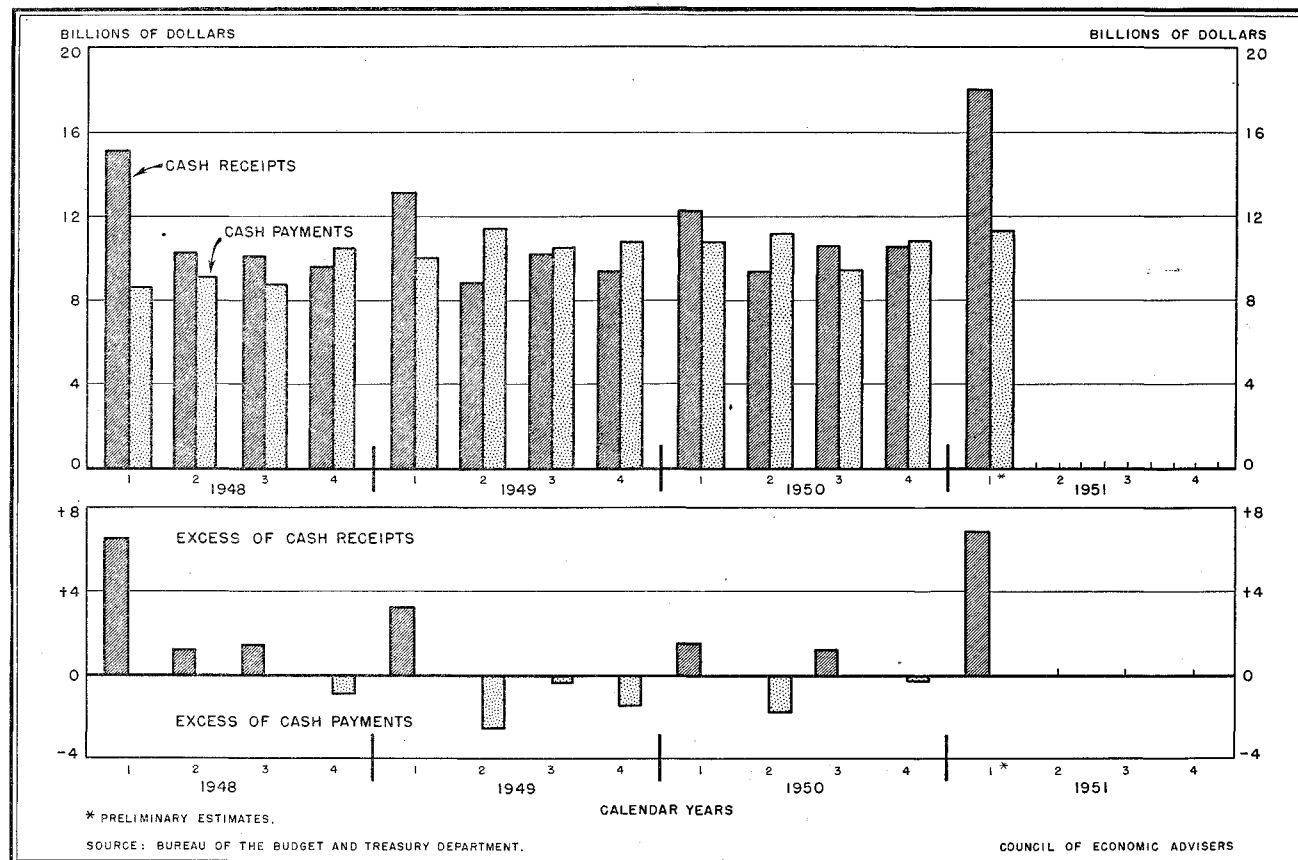
<sup>5</sup> Preliminary estimates.

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

In the first quarter of 1951, cash receipts from the public exceeded payments by nearly \$6.8 billion. The excess of receipts was greater than that in any previous quarter.



[Millions of dollars]

Calendar year	Federal cash receipts from the public	Federal cash payments to the public	Excess of receipts (+) or payments (—)
Calendar year total:			
1946	41,451	41,399	+52
1947	44,282	38,616	+5,666
1948	44,922	36,897	+8,027
1949	41,346	42,642	-1,295
1950 <sup>1</sup>	42,419	41,969	+450
Quarterly total, not adjusted for seasonal variation:			
1948: First quarter	15,037	8,641	+6,399
1948: Second quarter	10,239	9,033	+1,205
1948: Third quarter	10,085	8,735	+1,349
1948: Fourth quarter	9,560	10,488	-926
1949: First quarter	13,122	9,964	+3,159
1949: Second quarter	8,814	11,389	-2,574
1949: Third quarter	10,143	10,528	-386
1949: Fourth quarter	9,267	10,762	-1,495
1950: First quarter	12,235	10,760	+1,475
1950: Second quarter	9,303	11,105	-1,803
1950: Third quarter	10,494	9,351	+1,143
1950: Fourth quarter	10,387	10,754	-367
1951: First quarter <sup>1</sup>	18,003	11,210	+6,793

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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