# Economic Indicators <br> <br> APRIL 1953 

 <br> <br> APRIL 1953}

Prepared for the Joint Committee ( by the Office of the Econosazthduiser<br>to the President

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# OFFICE OF THE ECONOMIC ADVISER TO THE PRESIDENT 

ARTHUR F. BURNS, Economic Adviser

## [Public Law 120-81st Congress; Chapter 237-1st Session] <br> 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.
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## THE TOTAL OUTPUT OF THE ECONOMY

## THE NATION'S ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS

On the basis of the national income and product accounts, the excess of business investment over gross retained earnings declined from the fourth quarter of 1952 to the first quarter of 1953 . There was a small rise in the excess of government expenditures over receipts. Personal saving dropped somewhat.


## GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT

The market value of the Nation's total output, as measured by gross national product, was $\$ 363$ billion (annual rate) in the first quarter, $\$ 3$ billion higher than in the fourth quarter of 1952. Expenditures by consumers and government exceeded peak rates of the fourth quarter while business investment dropped.

[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 security ${ }^{1}$ | Other ${ }^{2}$ |
| 1939 | 91.3 | 67.5 | 9. 9 | 0. 9 | 13.1 | 1. 2 | 11. 9 |
| 1944 | 213.7 | 111. 6 | 7.7 | -2.1 | 96. 5 | 87.5 | 9.0 |
| 1946 | 211.1 | 146.9 | 28.7 | 4. 6 | 30.9 | 18. 5 | 12.4 |
| 1947 | 233.3 | 165.6 | 30.2 | 8.9 | 28.6 | 12.0 | 16. 6 |
| 1948 | 259. 0 | 177.9 | 42. 7 | 1. 9 | 36. 6 | 15. 5 | 21.1 |
| 1949 | 258.2 | 180.6 | 33.5 | . 5 | 43.6 | 18. 9 | 24.7 |
| 1950 | 284.2 | 194.3 | 50.3 | -2.3 | 41. 9 | 18. 3 | 23. 6 |
| 1951 | 329.2 | 208. 0 | 58.5 | $\xrightarrow{.2}$ | 62.6 | 36. 7 | 25. 9 |
| 1952 | 346.3 | 216.3 | 52.1 | . 2 | 77.8 | 48. 8 | 29.0 |
|  | Seasonally adjusted annual rates |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1951: Third quarter. | 330.9 | 206. 4 | 56.2 | 1. 1 | 67.3 | 41.1 | 26.2 |
| Fourth quarter | 337.1 | 210.5 | 52.9 | 2.6 | 71.2 | 43. 8 | 27.4 |
| 1952: First quarter... | 339.7 | 213.2 | 50.0 | 2. 2 | 74.4 | 46.0 | 28. 4 |
| Second quarter | 342.6 | 214. 9 | 49.3 |  | 78. 0 | 49.9 | 28. 1 |
| Third quarter | 343.0 | 215. 0 | 51.7 | -1.6 | 77. 9 | 49. 2 | 28.7 |
| Fourth quarter | 360.1 | 222.0 | 57.3 | . 2 | 80.6 | 50.1 | 30.5 |
| 1953: First quarter ${ }^{3}$ - | 363.0 | 226.0 | 54.0 | 0.0 | 83.0 | 51.4 | 31.6 |

[^0]
## PRICES

## CONSUMER PRICES

Consumer prices declined 0.4 percent in February, chiefly because of a further drop of 1.4 percent in food prices. Apparel prices were steady, after dropping for 4 months. Rents continued to increase.


| Period | Allitems | Food | Apparel | Housing |  | Trans-portation | Medical care | Personal care | Readingandrecrea-tion | Other goods and services |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | Total | Rent |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1939 monthly average | 59.4 | 47. 1 | 52.5 | (2) | 86.6 | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) |
| 1942 monthly average. | 69.7 | 61.3 | 64.9 | (2) | 90.4 | (2) | (2) | (3) | (2) | (2) |
| 1945 monthly average. | 76. 9 | 68.9 | 76. 3 | (2) | 90.9 | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) |
| 1946 monthly average. | 83.4 | 79.0 | 83.7 | (2) | 91.4 | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) | (1) |
| 1948 monthly average. | 102.8 | 104. 1 | 103.5 | 101. 7 | 100.7 | 100.9 | 100. 9 | 101.3 | 100.4 | 100. 5 |
| 1949 monthly average. | 101. 8 | 100.0 | 99.4 | 103. 3 | 105. 0 | 108. 5 | 104. 1 | 101. 1 | 104. 1 | 103. 4 |
| 1950 monthly average | 102.8 | 101. 2 | 98.1 | 106. 1 | 108. 8 | 111.3 | 106. 0 | 101. 1 | 103. 4 | 105. 2 |
| June | 101.8 | 100.5 | 96.5 | 104. 9 | 108. 7 | 109.9 | 105. 4 | 99.2 | 102. 5 | 103. 7 |
| 1951 monthly average. | 111.0 | 112.6 | 106. 9 | 112. 4 | 113. 1 | 118. 4 | 111.1 | 110.5 | 106. 5 | 109. 7 |
| 1952 monthly average | 113. 5 | 114.6 | 105.8 | 114. 6 | 117.9 | 126.2 | 117.2 | 111.8 | 107.0 | 115. 4 |
| 1952: January | 113. 1 | 115. 0 | 107.0 | 113.9 | 116.0 | 122.8 | 114. 7 | 111.0 | 107.2 | 113. 2 |
| February | 112. 4 | 112. 6 | 106. 8 | 114. 0 | 116. 4 | 123.7 | 114.8 | 111.1 | 106. 6 | 114.4 |
| March | 112. 4 | 112. 7 | 106. 4 | 114. 0 | 116.7 | 124. 4 | 115.7 | 111.0 | 106. 3 | 114.8 |
| April | 112.9 | 113. 9 | 106. 0 | 114.0 | 116.9 | 124.8 | 115. 9 | 111.3 | 106. 2 | 115.2 |
| May | 113. 0 | 114. 3 | 105. 8 | 114.0 | 117.4 | 125. 1 | 116. 1 | 111.6 | 106. 2 | 115. 8 |
| June | 113. 4 | 114.6 | 105. 6 | 114.0 | 117.6 | 126. 3 | 117.8 | 111.7 | 106. 8 | 115. 7 |
| July | 114. 1 | 116. 3 | 105. 3 | 114.4 | 117.9 | 126.8 | 118. 0 | 111.9 | 107.0 | 116. 0 |
| August | 114. 3 | 116. 6 | 105. 1 | 114.6 | 118. 2 | 127.0 | 118.1 | 112.1 | 107.0 | 115. 9 |
| September | 114. 1 | 115.4 | 105. 8 | 114.8 | 118.3 | 127.7 | 118.8 | 112. 1 | 107.3 | 115.9 |
| October | 114.2 | 115. 0 | 105. 6 | 115.2 | 118.8 | 128. 4 | 118. 9 | 112.3 | 107. 6 | 115. 8 |
| November | 114.3 | 115. 0 | 105. 2 | 115. 7 | 119. 5 | 128. 9 | 118. 9 | 112.4 | 107. 4 | 115. 8 |
| December | 114. 1 | 113.8 | 105. 1 | 116.4 | 120. 7 | 128.9 | 119.3 | 112.5 | 108. 0 | 115. 9 |
| 1953: January | 113.9 | 113. 1 | 104. 6 | 116.4 | 121. 1 | 129. 3 | 119.4 | 112.4 | 107. 8 | 115.6 |
| Februa | 113. 4 | ${ }^{8} 111.5$ | 104.6 | 116.6 | 121. 5 | 129.1 | 119.3 | 112.5 | 107.5 | 115.8 |

${ }^{1}$ The new base $1947-49=100$ is in compliance with recommendations of the U. S. Bureau of the Budget. Beginning with January 1953 the index structure has been changed.
${ }_{a}$ Food prices declined 0.2 percent between February 15 and March 2 and then increased 0.1 percent by March 15 , according to preliminary data.
Source: Department of Lebor.

## WHOLESALE PRICES

Wholesale prices of farm products moved irregularly during March but were lower at the end of the month than at the beginning. Prices of processed foods and industrial products were somewhat more stable.


| $[1947-49=100]$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Period | All commodities | Farm products | Processed foods | Other than farm products and foods (industrial) |
| 1942 monthly average. | 64.2 | 59.2 | (1) | 68.3 |
| 1946 monthly average | 78. 7 | 83.2 | (1) | 78.3 |
| 1947 monthly average. | 96.4 | 100.0 | 98.2 | 95.3 |
| 1948 monthly average. | 104. 4 | 107.3 | 106. 1 | 103. 4 |
| 1949 monthly average | 99.2 | 92. 8 | 95.7 | 101. 3 |
| 1950 monthly average. | 103.1 | 97.5 | 99.8 | 105. 0 |
| June .-..--.-. | 100.2 | 94.5 | 96. 8 | 102. 2 |
| 1951 monthly average | 114.8 | 113.4 | 111.4 | 115.9 |
| 1952 monthly average | 111.6 | 107.0 | 108. 8 | 113. 2 |
| 1952: February | 112.5 | 107.8 | 109.5 | 114.2 |
| March... | 112.3 | 108. 2 | 109. 2 | 113.8 |
| April | 111.8 | 108. 7 | 108. 0 | 113. 3 |
| May | 111.6 | 107.9 | 108. 6 | 113. 0 |
| June. | 111.2 | 107.2 | 108. 5 | 112. 6 |
| July | 111. 8 | 110.2 | 110.0 | 112.5 |
| August | 112.2 | 109. 9 | 110.5 | 113.0 |
| September | 111.8 | 106. 6 | 110.3 | 113.2 |
| October.-. | 111.1 | 104. 9 | 108. 5 | 113. 0 |
| November | 110. 7 | 103. 6 | 107. 7 | 112. 8 |
| December. | 109. 6 | 99.2 | 104. 3 | 112.9 |
| 1953: January | 109. 9 | 99.6 | 105. 5 | 113. 1 |
| February | 109. 6 | 97. 9 | 105. 1 | 113.1 |
| Week ended: |  |  |  |  |
| 1953: March 3 | 109. 9 | 99.1 | 105. 5 | 113. 2 |
| 10 | 109.9 | 98.4 | 105. 4 | 113. 3 |
| 17. | 110. 2 | 100. 1 | 104. 9 | 113. 4 |
| 24 | 110. 0 | 99.0 | 105. 0 | 113. 4 |
| 31 | 109. 8 | 98.0 | 104. 7 | 113.3 |

- Not available.


## PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS

Prices received by farmers were up slightly between February 15 and March 15, after having dropped every month since last August. Prices paid by farmers also rose slightly, and the parity ratio remained unchanged.

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1 Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to parity index.

- Includes wartime subsidy payments paid on beef cattie, sheep, lambs, milk, and butterfat between October 1943 and June 1946. Source: Department of Agriculture.

Although stock price indexes for most industrial groups dropped during the latter part of March, averages for the month were above those for February.



1 Includes 265 common stocks, distributed as follows: 14 for mining, 88 for durable goods manufacturing, 72 for nondurable goods manufacturing, 21 for

[^1]
## EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
Employment in March was about half a million higher than in February, largely because of the usual spring expansion in farm activity. Nonagricultural employment was little changed, but was by far the highest ever reached for the month. Unemployment continued at a level somewhat below that of a year earlier.


| Period | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered} \text { foral labor } \\ \text { force (in- } \\ \text { cluding } \\ \text { armed } \\ \text { forces) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}\right.$ | Civilian labor force |  |  |  |  | Unemployment as percent of total civilian labor force |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Employment ${ }^{1}$ |  |  | Unem-ployment |  |
|  |  |  | Total | $\begin{gathered} \text { Agricul- } \\ \text { tural } \end{gathered}$ | Nonagricultural |  |  |
|  | Thousands of persons, 14 years of age and over |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1939 monthly average. | 55, 600 | 55, 230 | 45, 750 | 9,610 | 36, 140 | 9, 480 | 17. 2 |
| 1944 monthly average. | 65, 890 | 54, 630 | 53, 960 | 8,950 | 45, 010 | 670 | 1. 2 |
| 1947 monthly average | 61, 608 | 60, 168 | 58, 027 | 8, 266 | 49,761 | 2,142 | 3. 6 |
| 1948 monthly average | 62, 748 | 61, 442 | 59, 378 | 7,973 | 51, 405 | 2, 064 | 3. 4 |
| 1949 monthly average | 63, 571 | 62, 105 | 58, 710 | 8, 026 | 50, 684 | 3, 395 | 5. 5 |
| 1950 monthly average | 64, 599 | 63, 099 | 59,957 | 7,507 | 52, 450 | 3, 142 | 5. 0 |
| June.-....-.-. | 66, 177 | 64. 866 | 61, 482 | 9, 046 | 52,436 | 3, 384 | 5. 2 |
| 1951 monthly average | 65,832 | 62, 884 | 61, 005 | 7, 054 | 53, 951 | 1,879 | 3. 0 |
| 1952 monthly average | ${ }^{(25)}$ | 62,9f6 | 61, 293 | 6, 805 | 54, 488 | 1,673 | 2. 7 |
| 1952: Febriary..... | 65, 228 | 61, 838 | 59, 752 | 6, 064 | 53, 688 | 2,086 | 3. 4 |
| March | 65, 006 | 61, 518 | 59, 714 | 6, 012 | 53, 702 | 1,804 | 2. 9 |
| April | 65, 260 | 61, 744 | 60, 132 | 6, 412 | 53, 720 | 1,612 | 2. 6 |
| May | 66, 298 | 62, 778 | 61, 176 | 6, 960 | 54, 216 | 1, 602 | 2. 6 |
| June | 67, 884 | 64, 390 | 62, 572 | 8, 170 | 54, 402 | 1, 818 | 2. 8 |
| July | 67, 624 | 64, 176 | 62, 234 | 7, 598 | 54, 636 | 1, 942 | 3. 0 |
| Angust | 67, 419 | 63, 958 | 62, 354 | 6,964 | 55.390 | 1,604 | 2. 5 |
| September | 67, 166 | 63, 698 | 62, 260 | 7, 548 | 54, 712 | 1, 438 | 2. 3 |
| October... | ${ }^{2}$ ) | 63, 146 | 61, 862 | 7, 274 | 54, 588 | 1,284 | 2. 0 |
| November | ${ }^{(2)}$ | 63, 646 | 62, 228 | 6,774 | 55, 454 | 1, 418 | 2. 2 |
| December | ${ }^{2}$ ) | 62, 921 | 61, 509 | 5, 697 | 55, 812 | 1, 412 | 2. 2 |
| 1953: January | ${ }^{2}$ ) | 62. 416 | 60. 524 | 5. 452 | 55, 072 | 1. 892 | 3. 0 |
| February | ${ }^{(2)}$ | 62, 712 | 60, 924 | 5, 366 | 55, 558 | 1, 788 | 2. 9 |
| March ${ }^{3}$ | ${ }^{(2)}$ | 63, 134 | 61, 460 | 5, 720 | 55, 740 | 1,674 | 2.7 |

[^2]
## NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

Manufacturing employment rose by 100,000 in February. Principal increases occurred in metal producing, machinery, transportation equipment, textile, and leather industries. Employment in contract construction and retail trade dropped seasonally.


| Period | Manufacturing |  |  | Contract construction | Trade | Finance and service | Government (Federal, State, local) | $\begin{array}{\|c} \text { Transpor- } \\ \text { tation } \\ \text { and } \\ \text { public } \\ \text { utilities } \end{array}$ | 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 |
| 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 | 14, 884 | 8, 008 | 6, 876 | 2. 318 | 9, 524 | 6, 573 | 5, 910 | 4, 010 | 904 |
| June - | 14, 666 | 7, 964 | 6, 702 | 2, 414 | 9, 411 | 6, 653 | 5, 832 | 4, 023 | 946 |
| 1951 monthly average | 15, 931 | 8. 926 | 7. 005 | 2. 569 | 9, 804 | 6, 642 | 6, 390 | 4, 144 | 920 |
| 1952 monthly average ${ }^{2}$ | 15, 991 | 9, 051 | 6,940 | 2, 547 | 9, 946 | 6, 723 | 6, 628 | 4, 168 | 875 |
| 1952: January | 15, 776 | 8, 946 | 6, 830 | 2, 316 | 9, 720 | 6, 580 | 6, 509 | 4, 103 | 909 |
| February | 15, 859 | 9, 010 | 6, 849 | 2, 308 | 9, 643 | 6,586 | 6, 490 | 4, 111 | 902 |
| March | 15, 869 | 9, 035 | 6, 834 | 2, 296 | 9, 668 | 6, 618 | 6, 528 | 4, 118 | 904 |
| April | 15, 795 | 9, 054 | 6,741 | 2, 416 | 9, 845 | 6, 700 | 6, 551 | 4, 096 | 896 |
| May | 15, 654 | 8, 991 | 6, 663 | 2, 522 | 9, 773 | 6, 754 | 6, 602 | 4, 131 | 893 |
| June. | 15, 410 | 8, 621 | 6, 789 | 2, 663 | 9, 838 | 6, 814 | 6, 585 | 4, 168 | 814 |
| July.. | 15, 162 | 8, 301 | 6, 861 | 2, 722 | 9, 792 | 6, 848 | 6,558 | 4,140 | 784 |
| August | 16, 028 | 8, 916 | 7,112 | 2, 781 | 9, 784 | 6, 837 | 6,589 | 4, 208 | 897 |
| September | 16, 430 | 9, 218 | 7, 212 | 2, 763 | 9, 970 | 6, 800 | 6, 712 | 4, 228 | 886 |
| October | 16, 542 | 9, 372 | 7, 170 | 2, 697 | 10, 114 | 6, 745 | 6, 695 | 4, 242 | 873 |
| November | 16, 642 | 9,519 | 7, 123 | 2, 618 | 10, 320 | 6, 709 | 6,663 | 4, 233 | 873 |
| December ${ }^{2}$ | 16, 727 | 9,628 | 7, 099 | 2, 467 | 10, 881 | 6, 690 | 7, 051 | 4, 238 | 872 |
| 1953: January ${ }^{2}$ | 16, 649 | 9,639 | 7,010 | 2, 266 | 9, 928 | 6, 665 | 6, 650 | 4,158 | 867 |
| February ${ }^{2}$ | 16. 755 | 9, 720 | 7, 035 | 2, 255 | 9, 858 | 6, 671 | 6,608 | 4, 150 | 857 |

${ }^{1}$ 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, selfermployed 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) wbich include proprietors, selfemployed 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 onumeration of population, whereas the estimates in this table are based on reports from employing establishments.

Preliminary estimates.
Source: Department of Labor .

## AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS - SELected industries

Although the average factory workweek dropped very slightly to 41.0 hours in February, it was a post-World WarIl high for the season. Pre-Easter increases in average weekly hours in apparel and leather goods industries were more than offset by seasonal reduction in food and tobacco industries.


| [Hours per week, selected industries ${ }^{1}$ ] |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Period | Manufacturing |  |  | Building construction | Retail trade |
|  | Total | Durable goods | Nondurable goods |  |  |
| 1939 monthly average | 37.7 | 38. 0 | 37.4 | 32.6 | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| 1943 monthly average | 44.9 | 46. 6 | 42. 5 | 38. 4 | (2) |
| 1946 monthly average | 40.4 | 40.2 | 40.5 | 38.1 | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| 1947 monthly average. | 40.4 | 40.6 | 40. 1 | 37.6 | 40.3 |
| 1948 monthly average. | 40.1 | 40.5 | 39. 6 | 837.3 | 40.3 |
| 1949 monthly average. | 39.2 | 39.5 | 38. 8 | 36.7 | 40. 4 |
| 1950 monthly average | 40.5 | 41.2 | 39. 7 | 36.3 | 40.5 |
| 1051 June ---....--- | 40.5 | 41.3 | 39. 5 | 37.0 | 40.9 |
| 1951 monthly average | 40.7 | 41.7 | 39.5 | 37.3 | 40.1 |
| 1952 monthly average | 40. 7 | 41.5 | 39.7 | 38.0 | 39. 7 |
| 1952: January | 40. 8 | 41.8 | 39.5 | 37.5 | 39. 8 |
| February | 40.7 | 41.7 | 39.5 | 37. 9 | 39.8 |
| March .-. | 40.7 | 41. 7 | 39. 3 | 36. 9 | 39.8 |
| April. | 39.8 | 40.8 | 38.4 | 37.6 | 39. 7 |
| May | 40.2 | 41.1 | 39. 0 | 37. 9 | 39.6 |
| June - | 40.5 | 41.2 | 39.5 | 38.7 | 40. 1 |
| July | 39. 9 | 40.2 | 39.5 | 38. 4 | 40.4 |
| Augist | 40.6 | 41.0 | 40.0 | 38.5 | 40. 4 |
| September | 41.3 | 41.9 | 40.4 | 38.8 | 39. 5 |
| October .- | 41.4 | 42.2 | 40.4 | 38. 7 | 39.2 |
| November | 41.2 | 42.0 | 40.3 | 37.1 | 38. 8 |
| December | 41.7 | 42.6 | 40.5 | 38. 2 | 39.5 |
| 1953: January ${ }^{4}$ - | 41. 1 | 41.9 | 39.9 | 36.8 | 39.0 |
| February ${ }^{4}$-... | 41.0 | 41.9 | 39.8 |  | ${ }^{(2)}$ |

[^3]${ }^{2}$ Not available

- Preliminary estimates.


## AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS - SELECTED industries

Average hourly earnings in manufacturing industries continued in February at a record level of \$1.74. The increase over the past year was about 10 cents.


| Period | All manufacturing |  | Durable goods manufacturing |  | Nondurable goodsmanufacturing |  | Building construction |  | Retail trade |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current prices | $\underset{\text { prices }}{1952}$ | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1952 \\ \text { prices } \end{gathered}$ | Current prices | ${\underset{\text { prices }}{ }{ }^{1}}^{1952}$ | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1952 \\ \text { prices }{ }^{1} \end{gathered}$ | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1952 \\ \text { prices }{ }^{1} \end{gathered}$ |
| 1939 monthly average | \$0. 633 | \$1. 210 | \$0. 698 | \$1. 335 | \$0. 582 | \$1.113 | \$0.932 | \$1.782 | ${ }^{(2)}$ | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| 1943 monthly average. | . 961 | 1. 474 | 1. 059 | 1. 624 | . 803 | 1. 232 | 1. 252 | 1. 920 | (3) | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| 1946 monthly average | 1. 086 | 1. 478 | 1. 156 | 1. 573 | 1. 015 | 1. 381 | 1. 478 | 2. 011 | (2) | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| 1947 monthly average. | 1. 237 | 1. 471 | 1. 292 | 1. 536 | 1. 171 | 1. 392 | 1. 681 | 1. 999 | \$1. 009 | \$1. 200 |
| 1948 monthly average. | 1. 350 | 1. 490 | 1. 410 | 1. 556 | 1. 278 | 1. 411 | ${ }^{3} 1.848$ | 2. 040 | 1. 088 | 1. 201 |
| 1949 monthly average | 1. 401 | 1. 562 | 1. 469 | 1. 638 | 1. 325 | 1. 477 | 1. 935 | 2. 157 | 1. 137 | 1. 268 |
| 1950 monthly average | 1. 465 | 1. 617 | 1. 537 | 1. 696 | 1. 378 | 1. 521 | 2. 031 | 2. 242 | 1. 176 | 1. 298 |
| June | 1. 453 | 1. 620 | 1. 522 | 1. 697 | 1. 365 | 1. 522 | 1. 995 | 2. 224 | 1. 175 | 1.310 |
| 1951 monthly average | 1. 594 | 1. 630 | 1. 678 | 1.716 | 1. 481 | 1. 514 | 2. 201 | 2. 251 | 1. 253 | 1. 281 |
| 1952 monthly average | 1. 673 | 1. 673 | 1. 770 | 1. 770 | 1. 541 | 1. 541 | 2. 322 | 2. 322 | 1. 307 | 1. 307 |
| 1952: January - | 1. 640 | 1. 647 | 1. 726 | 1. 733 | 1. 520 | 1. 526 | 2. 276 | 2. 285 | 1. 287 | 1. 292 |
| Februar | 1. 644 | 1. 661 | 1. 731 | 1. 748 | 1. 522 | 1. 537 | 2. 285 | 2. 308 | 1. 281 | 1. 294 |
| March | 1. 656 | 1. 673 | 1. 746 | 1. 764 | 1. 530 | 1. 545 | 2. 292 | 2. 315 | 1. 279 | 1. 292 |
| April | 1. 655 | 1. 663 | 1. 742 | 1. 751 | 1. 529 | 1. 537 | 2. 285 | 2. 296 | 1. 284 | 1. 290 |
| May | 1. 658 | 1. 665 | 1. 746 | 1. 753 | 1. 531 | 1. 537 | 2. 270 | 2. 279 | 1. 305 | 1. 310 |
| June | 1. 658 | 1. 660 | 1. 747 | 1. 749 | 1. 540 | 1. 542 | 2. 261 | 2. 263 | 1. 318 | 1. 319 |
| July August | 1. 648 | 1. 640 | 1. 733 | 1. 724 | 1. 545 | 1. 537 | 2. 294 | 2. 283 | 1. 314 | 1. 307 |
| August.- | 1. 669 | 1. 657 | 1. 768 | 1. 756 | 1. 542 | 1. 531 | 2. 327 | 2. 311 | 1. 312 | 1. 303 |
| September | 1. 696 | 1. 688 | 1. 810 | 1. 801 | 1. 545 | 1. 537 | 2. 363 | 2. 351 | 1. 324 | 1. 317 |
| October-- | 1. 705 | 1. 695 | 1. 819 | 1. 808 | 1. 550 | 1. 541 | 2. 395 | 2. 381 | 1. 334 | 1. 326 |
| November | 1. 719 | 1. 707 | 1. 830 | 1. 817 | 1. 563 | 1. 552 | 2. 402 | 2. 385 | 1. 333 | 1. 324 |
| 1953: Danuary ${ }^{\text {d }}$ | 1. 732 | 1. 723 | 1. 843 | 1. 834 | 1. 572 | 1. 564 | 2. 413 | 2. 401 | 1. 312 | 1. 305 |
| 1953: January ${ }^{\text {February }}$ | 1. 740 1. 742 | 1. 733 1. 744 | 1. 8488 | 1. 841 | 1. 583 | 1. 577 1. 589 | $\underset{(2)}{2.409}$ | 2. 399 | 1. 354 | ${ }_{(2)}^{1.349}$ |

${ }^{2}$ Earnings in current prices divided by consumer price inder on base 1952=100,
Not available.
Source: Department of Labor .
Not strictiy comparable with previous data.

- Preliminary estimates.


## AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

During February, average weekly earnings of factory production workers dropped 9 cents to $\$ 71.42$. However, there was an average gain over the year of $\$ 4.51$, or 7 percent, for all manufacturing workers, with those in durable goods industries getting $\$ 5.25$ more and those in nondurable goods getting $\$ 3.04$ more.

[Production and related workers in selected industries]

| Period | All manufacturing |  | Durable goods manufacturing |  | Nondurable goods manufacturing |  | Building construction |  | Retail trade |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current prices | $\underset{\text { prices }}{ }{ }^{1952}$ | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1952 \\ \text { prices }^{1} \end{gathered}$ | Current prices | $\begin{array}{r} 1952 \\ \text { prices }{ }^{1} \end{array}$ | Current prices | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} 1952 \\ \text { prices } \end{array}$ | Current prices | $\begin{array}{r} 1952 \\ \text { prices } \end{array}$ |
| 1939 monthly avera | \$23. 86 | \$45. 62 | \$26. 50 | \$50. 67 | \$21. 78 | \$41. 64 | \$30. 39 | \$58. 11 | ${ }^{(2)}$ | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| 1943 monthly average | 43. 14 | 66. 17 | 49.30 | 75.61 | 34.12 | 52. 33 | 48. 13 | 73. 82 | (2) | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| 1946 monthly average | 43. 82 | 59. 62 | 46. 49 | 63. 25 | 41. 14 | 55. 97 | 56. 24 | 76. 52 | ${ }^{(2)}$ | (2) |
| 1947 monthly average | 49.97 | 59. 42 | 52. 46 | 62. 38 | 46. 96 | 55. 84 | 63. 30 | 75. 27 | \$40. 66 | \$48. 35 |
| 1948 monthly average | 54.14 | 59.76 | 57.11 | 63.04 | 50.61 | 55. 86 | ${ }^{2} 68.85$ | ${ }^{8} 75.99$ | 43. 85 | 48. 40 |
| 1949 monthly average | 54.92 | 61. 23 | 58. 03 | 64.69 | 51. 41 | 57. 31 | 70. 95 | 79.10 | 45. 93 | 51. 20 |
| 1950 monthly average | 59.33 | 65. 49 | 63. 32 | 69.89 | 54. 71 | 60.39 | 73. 73 | 81.38 | 47. 63 | 52. 57 |
| June- | 58. 85 | 65.61 | 62. 86 | 70.08 | 53. 92 | 60.11 | 73. 82 | 82.30 | 48. 06 | 53.58 |
| 1951 monthly average | 64. 88 | 66. 34 | 69. 97 | 71. 54 | 58. 50 | 59. 82 | 82.10 | 83.95 | 50. 25 | 51. 38 |
| 1952 monthly average | 68.17 | 68.17 | 73. 51 | 73.51 | 61. 16 | 61. 16 | 88. 28 | 88.28 | 51. 90 | 51.90 |
| 1952: January | 66. 91 | 67.18 | 72. 15 | 72. 44 | 60.04 | 60. 28 | 85. 35 | 85.69 | 51. 22 | 51. 43 |
| Februar | 66. 91 | 67.59 | 72. 18 | 72. 91 | 60. 12 | 60. 73 | 86. 60 | 87.47 | 50.98 | 51. 49 |
| March | 67.40 | 68.08 | 72. 81 | 73. 55 | 60.13 | 60. 74 | 84. 57 | 85. 42 | 50.90 | 51. 41 |
| April | 65.87 | 66. 20 | 71.07 | 71. 43 | 58. 71 | 59. 01 | 85. 92 | 86.35 | 50.97 | 51. 23 |
| May | 66. 65 | 66. 92 | 71.76 | 72. 05 | 59.71 | 59.95 | 86.03 | 86.38 | 51.68 | 51.89 |
| June | 67.15 | 67.22 | 71. 98 | 72. 05 | 60.83 | 60. 89 | 87.50 | 87.59 | 52. 85 | 52.90 |
| July | 65. 76 | 65. 43 | 69.67 | 69.32 | 61. 03 | 60. 73 | 88. 09 | 87.65 | 53. 09 | 52. 83 |
| August | 67.76 | 67.29 | 72. 49 | 71. 99 | 61.68 | 61. 25 | 89. 59 | 88.97 | 53. 00 | 52.63 |
| Septembe | 70. 04 | 69.69 | 75. 84 | 75. 46 | 62.42 | 62.11 | 91.68 | 91.22 | 52. 30 | 52. 04 |
| October. | 70.59 | 70. 17 | 76.76 | 76. 30 | 62. 62 | 62. 25 | 92.69 | 92.14 | 52. 29 | 51. 98 |
| November | 70. 82 | 70.33 | 76. 86 | 76. 33 | 62.99 | 62. 55 | 89. 11 | 88. 49 | 51. 72 | 51. 36 |
| December | 72. 22 | 71.86 | 78.51 | 78. 12 | 63.67 | 63. 35 | 92. 18 | 91.72 | 51. 82 | 51. 56 |
| 1953: January ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 71. 51 | 71.23 | 77.43 | 77. 12 | 63. 16 | 62.91 | 88.65 | 88.30 | 52.81 | 52. 60 |
| February | 71. 42 | 71. 49 | 77.43 | 77. 51 | 63. 16 | 63. 41 | ${ }^{(2)}$ | (2) | $\left.{ }^{(2}\right)$ | ${ }_{(2)}$ |

: Karnings in current prices divided by consumer price index on base 1962=100. - Not available.

Not strictly comparable with previous data.

- Preliminary estimates.


## 上KUDUC゙IIUN AND BUSINESS ACTIVITY

## INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

Industrial production in March reached a new post-World War II peak for the seventh consecutive month, according to preliminary data. To a considerable degree, the gain reflected greater output in the automobile industry and its suppliers.


| Period | Total industrial production | Manufactures |  |  | Minerals |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Durable goods | Nonduraable 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 |
| June.------.-. | 199 | 208 | 237 | 184 | 151 |
| 1951 monthly average. | 220 | 229 | 273 | 194 | 164 |
| 1952 monthly average. | 219 | 230 | 280 | 189 | 160 |
| 1952: February | 222 | 232 | 284 | 190 | 167 |
| March. | 221 | 231 | 285 | 188 | 164 |
| April.- | 216 | 225 | 277 | 183 | 166 |
| May | 211 | 224 | 277 | 181 | 140 |
| June.- | 204 | 214 | 247 | 186 | 147 |
| July --- | 193 | 202 | 230 | 179 | 142 |
| August | 215 | 225 | 267 | 191 | 156 |
| September. | 228 | 237 | 290 | 194 | 175 |
| October- | 230 | 242 | 300 | 195 | 164 |
| November | 234 | 245 | 304 | 197 | 171 |
| December- | 235 | 247 | 313 | 194 | 168 |
| 1953: January | 236 | 249 | 316 | 195 | 164 |
| February ${ }^{1}$ | 239 | 253 | 322 | 198 | 163 |
| March ${ }^{1}$ | 241 | 255 | 327 | 197 | 162 |

1 Preliminary estimates.
Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

## WEEKLY PRODUCTION - SELECTED INDICATORS

Steel production in March was at an all-time high, as output in each week set a new peak. Electric power generation remained substantially above a year earlier. Assemblies of cars and trucks rose sharply during the month and were at the highest level in 2 years. Bituminous coal production declined again.


| Period | Steel ${ }^{1}$ |  | 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 theoretical capacity |  |  |  |
| Weekly average: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1,857 | 96. 9 | 6, 183 | 1,687 | 154, 214 |
| June | 1, 898 | 99.6 | 6, 038 | 1, 777 | 192, 825 |
| 1951 | 2, 018 | 100. 9 | 6,958 | 1,772 | 129, 828 |
| 1952 | 1, 782 | 85.8 | 7, 451 | 1, 542 | 106, 765 |
| 1952: February | 2, 091 | 100.7 | 7, 443 | 1,750 | 104, 161 |
| March_ | 2, 123 | 102. 2 | 7,382 | 1,576 | 115, 014 |
| April | 1, 1,863 | 89.7 89.2 | 7,124 | 1,545 | 119, 425 |
|  | 1,852 382 | 89. 2 | 7,026 | 1,381 | 114, 006 |
| July | 368 | 17.7 | 7, 076 | 1, 183 | 44,587 |
| August | 1,918 | 92.4 | 7, 622 | 1, 314 | 73, 216 |
| September | 2, 117 | 101. 9 | 7,599 | 1, 875 | 127, 345 |
| October- | 2, 214 | 106. 6 | 7, 707 | 1,213 | 135, 640 |
| November | 2, 200 | 105. 9 | 7,841 | 1, 762 | 127, 234 |
| December | 2, 192 | 105. 6 | 7,970 | 1, 643 | 113, 122 |
| 1953: January - | 2, 234 | 99.1 | 8, 156 | 1,510 | 137, 890 |
| February | 2, 234 | 99. 1 | 8, 136 | 1, 413 | 146, 188 |
| March ${ }^{8}$ - | 2,290 | 101. 6 | 8,116 | 1,371 | 158, 855 |
| Week ended: |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1953: March 7 - | 2, 262 | 100. 3 | 8, 173 | 1,350 | 149.612 |
| 14 | 2, 284 | 101. 3 | 8, 138 | 1, 410 | 155, 608 |
| 21 | 2, 288 | 101.5 | 8, 078 | 1, 353 | 159, 329 |
|  | 2, 324 | 103. ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 8,075 | 1. 367 | 170.870 |
| April ${ }_{\text {11- }}^{4}$ | 2,190 2,216 | 97.1 .98 .3 | 8, 019 |  | 171, 669 |

[^4]
## PRODUCTION OF SELECTED MANUFACTURES

Output in most of the major manufacturing industries increased moderately in February.

$[1935-39=100$, seasonally adjusted]

| Period | Durable manufactures |  |  |  | Nondurable manufactures |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Iron and steel | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Lumber } \\ & \text { and } \\ & \text { products } \end{aligned}$ | Machinery | Nonferrous metals and products | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Textiles } \\ & \text { and } \\ & \text { products } \end{aligned}$ | 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 | 160 | 270 | 206 | 182 | 229 | 164 | 264 |
| June_-...... | 231 | 155 | 262 | 207 | 173 | 222 | 164 | 261 |
| 1951 monthly average. | 259 | 157 | 336 | 207 | 174 | 267 | 165 | 299 |
| 1952 monthly average | 243 | 154 | 356 | 222 | 161 | 270 | 164 | 301 |
| 1952: January | 261 | 159 | 359 | 216 | 157 | 281 | 162 | 301 |
| February | 261 | 162 | 360 | 217 | 160 | 281 | 165 | 297 |
| March.-.- | 263 | 158 | 359 | 218 | 152 | 278 | 166 | 294 |
| April.- | 245 | 152 | 354 | 218 | 144 | 261 | 163 | 292 |
| May | 246 | 142 | 353 | 216 | 151 | 209 | 160 | 292 |
| June.. | 140 | 146 | 352 | 210 | 154 | 251 | 166 | 298 |
| July | 139 | 141 | 331 | 201 | 147 | 259 | 162 | 299 |
| August | 244 | 149 | 336 | 213 | 170 | 280 | 164 | 302 |
| September. | 270 | 155 | 354 | 225 | 177 | 282 | 168 | 302 |
| Oct ober | 281 | 155 | 363 | 236 | 172 | 279 | 165 | 304 |
| November. | 283 | 161 | 371 | 240 | 176 | 290 | 161 | 308 |
| December | 286 | 165 | 385 | 246 | 169 | 291 | 163 | 309 |
| 1953: January | 287 | 171 | 392 | 249 | 169 | 291 | 165 | 310 |
| February ${ }^{1}$ | 291 | 172 | 399 | 253 | 171 | 288 | 168 | 306 |

## GROSS PRIVATE DOMESTIC INVESTMENT

Total investment (seasonally adjusted annual rates) dropped about $\$ 3$ billion in the first quarter because of a sharp drop in the rate of inventory accumulation, according to preliminary estimates. Investment in new construction and producers' durable equipment, which account for most of total investment, increased moderately.

[Billions of dollars]

| Period | Total gross private domestic investment | New construction |  |  | Producers' durable equipment | Change in business inventories |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Residential nonfarm | Other |  |  |
| 1939 | 9. 9 | 4. 9 | 2. 7 | 2.2 | 4. 6 | 0.4 |
| 1944 | 7. 7 | 2.8 | . 8 | 2. 0 | 5. 7 | $-.8$ |
| 1946 | 28. 7 | 10. 3 | 4. 0 | 6. 3 | 12. 3 | 6.1 |
| 1947 | 30.2 | 13.9 | 6. 3 | 7.6 | 17.1 | -. 8 |
| 1948 | 42. 7 | 17. 7 | 8. 6 | 9.1 | 19.9 | 5. 0 |
| 1949 | 33.5 | 17.2 | 8. 3 | 9. 0 | 18.7 | -2. 5 |
| 1950 | 50.3 | 22.9 | 12.6 | 10.3 | 22.0 | 5. 5 |
| 1951 | 58.5 | 23. 3 | 11. 0 | 12. 3 | 24. 9 | 10. 3 |
| 1952 | 52.1 | 23. 5 | 11.1 | 12.4 | 25.5 | 3. 1 |
|  | Seasonally adjusted annual rates |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1951: Third quarter. | 56.2 |  | 9. 9 |  | 24. 9 | 8. 9 |
| Fourth quarter | 52.9 | 22.4 | 10.3 | 12.1 | 24. 7 | 5.8 |
| 1952: First quarter. | 50.0 | 23.7 | 11.0 | 12.7 | 25. 7 | . 6 |
| Second quarter. | 49.3 | 23. 6 | 11.0 | 12.6 | 25.7 | . 1 |
| Third quarter-- | 51.7 | 23. 0 | 10.9 | 12.2 | 25. 0 | 3. 7 |
| Fourth quarter | 57.3 | 23.7 | 11.6 | 12. 0 | 25.6 | 8. 1 |
| 1953: First quarter ${ }^{1}$. | 54.0 | 24.5 | 11.8 | 12.7 | 27. 0 | 2.5 |

1 Preliminary estimates by the Office of the Economic Adviser to the President.
Nore.-Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

## EXPENDITURES FOR NEW PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Business plans to spend $\$ 27$ billion on new plant and equipment in 1953, according to a survey made in February and early March. This compares with $\$ 26.5$ billion in 1952 and $\$ 25.6$ billion in 1951 . The survey shows that during 1953 public utilities plan to spend 14 percent more than last year and railroads 7 percent less, while other industries show little change.



1 Excludes agriculture
2 Commercial and other includes trade, service, finance, communicatious, and construction.
Not avsilable.
4 Estimates based on anticipated capital expenditures as reported by business between February 15 and March 15.
Note. - These figures do not agree with the totals included in the gross national product estimates of the Department of Commerce, principally because the
atter cover agricultural investment and also certain equipment and construction outlays charged to current expense.
Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Sources: Securities and Exchange Commission and Department of Commerce.

## NEW CONSTRUCTION

The value of new construction put in place during March, seasonally adjusted, was at an all-time peak of nearly $\$ 3$ billion, or 3 percent larger than in February. Expenditures for both private residential and nonresidential construction increased, while public construction dropped somewhat.

[Millions of dollars, seasonally adjusted]

|  |  | Private construction |  |  | Federal, State, and local ${ }^{1}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Period | construction | Total private | Residential (nonfarm) | Other |  |
| 1939 monthly average. | 683 | 366 | 223 | 143 | 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 | 468 | 197 |
| 1943 monthly average. | 1,806 | 1,404 | 715 | 689 | 402 |
| 1949 monthly average. | 1,899 | 1,365 | 689 | 676 | 534 |
| 1950 monthly average. | 2, 396 | 1, 801 | 1,050 | 751 | 595 |
| 1951 June........-- | 2,389 | 1,808 | 1, 072 | 736 | 581 |
| 1951 monthly average. | 2,574 | 1,807 | 914 | 893 | 767 |
| 1952 monthly average. | 2,694 | 1,815 | 925 | 890 | 879 |
| 1952: February | 2,723 | 1,811 | 900 | 911 | 912 |
| March... | 2,835 | 1,920 | 1, 010 | 910 | 915 |
| April | 2,779 | 1,857 | 953 | 904 | 922 |
| May | 2,701 | 1,798 | 902 | 896 | 903 |
| June. | 2,683 | 1,773 | 885 | 888 | 910 |
| July --- | 2, 640 | 1, 784 | 896 | 888 | 856 |
| August. | 2, 634 | 1,789 | 902 | 887 | 845 |
| September | 2, 654 | 1,794 | 911 | 883 | 860 |
| October.- | 2, 660 | 1, 812 | 942 | 870 | 848 |
| November | 2. 699 | 1,846 | 973 | 873 | 853 |
| December | 2,738 | 1,864 | 992 | 872 | 874 |
| 1953: January | 2,768 | 1, 868 | 950 | 918 | 900 |
| February ${ }^{2}$ | 2, 914 | 1, 965 | 1,015 | 950 | 949 |
| March ${ }^{\text {2 }}$. | 2,998 | 2, 061 | 1,084 | 977 | 937 |

1 Includes public residential construction.
${ }^{2}$ Preliminary estimates.

## NEW HOUSING STARTS

New housing starts in February rose more than seasonally to 77,000 . This was 6,000 more than in January and about the same as in February 1952. Starts for the first 2 months of this year totaled 148,000, compared with 143,000 and 167,000 in the corresponding periods of 1952 and 1951, respectively.


| Month | New nonfarm units started |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 |  | 1953 |  |
|  |  |  |  | Monthly total | Seasonally adjusted annual rate ${ }^{1}$ | $\underset{\text { total }}{\text { Monthly }}$ | Seasonally adjusted annual rate ${ }^{1}$ |
| January | 50, 000 | 78,700 | 85,900 | 64, 900 |  | 2 71, 000 | ${ }^{2} 1,157,000$ |
| February | 50,400 | 82, 900 | 80, 600 | 77, 700 |  | 2 77, 000 | ${ }^{2} 1,227,000$ |
| March | 69, 400 | 117, 300 | 93, 800 | 103, 900 |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{\text {April }}$ | 88, 300 | 133, 400 | 96, 200 | 106, 200 |  |  |  |
| Mane | 95, 400 | 149, 100 | 101, 000 | 109, 600 |  |  |  |
| June | 95, 500 | 144, 300 | 132, 500 | 103, 500 | 1, 040, 000 |  |  |
| July August | 96, 100 | 144, 400 | 90, 500 | 102, 600 | 1, 073, 000 |  |  |
| August. | 99, 000 | 141, 900 | 89, 100 | 99, 100 | 1, 037, 000 |  |  |
| September | 102, 900 | 120, 600 | 96,400 | 100, 800 | 1, 122, 000 |  |  |
| November | - 95 , 500 | 102, 800 | 74, 500 | 101,100 86,100 | 1, 159, 15000 |  |  |
| December. | 78, 300 | 93, 600 | 60, 800 | 276,000 | 2 1, 237, 000 |  |  |
| Total... | 1, 025, 100 | 1,396, 000 | 1, 091, 300 | 2 1, 131, 500 |  |  |  |
| Monthly a | 85, 400 | 116, 300 | 90,900 | 294,300 |  |  |  |

1 Seasonally adjusted annual rate data are shown monthly beginning with June 1952, the first month used in determining "periods of residential credit control relasation" pursuant to the provisions of the Defense Production Act Amendments of 1952 (sec. 607). For method of computing seasonally adjusted annual rates, see special release of August 28, 1952, by the Department of Labor.

Preliminary estimates.
Source: Department of Labor.

## INVENTORIES AND SALES

Business inventories (seasonally adjusted) rose moderately in February, with the largest increase occurring at the retail level. The increase in sales was much sharper, with all levels participating in the rise.


| Period | Total busiuess ${ }^{1}$ |  | Retail |  | Manufacturing |  |  | Department stores |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Inventories ${ }^{2}$ | Sales ${ }^{3}$ | Inventories ${ }^{2}$ | Sales ${ }^{\text {8 }}$ | Inventories ${ }^{2}$ | Sales ${ }^{3}$ | New orders ${ }^{3}$ | Inventories | Sales * |
|  | Millions of dollars, seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  | Index $1947-49=100$, seasonally adjusted |  |
| 1939 | 20, 051 | 10,802 | 5,534 | 3, 503 | 11,465 | 5,112 | 5, 354 | 35 | 35 |
| 1943 | 31, 343 | 21, 920 | 7,561 | 5, 270 | 20, 098 | 12, 820 | 12, 705 | 55 | 56 |
| 1946 | 42, 942 | 27, 150 | 11, 852 | 8, 541 | 24, 498 | 12, 617 | 13, 694 | 77 | 90 |
| 1947 | 50,605 | 33, 156 | 14, 060 | 9,967 | 28, 920 | 15, 917 | 15, 622 | 93 | 98 |
| 1948 | 55. 647 | 36, 438 | 15, 828 | 10,877 | 31, 734 | 17, 630 | 17, 351. | 107 | 104 |
| 1949 | 52, 264 | 34, 664 | 15. 311 | 10,893 | 28, 973 | 16, 416 | 15, 903 | 100 | 98 |
| 195 | 62, 423 | 39, 425 | 18, 652 | 11, 974 | 34, 118 | 19, 312 | 20, 966 | 109 | 105 |
| Jun | 54, 191 | 39, 548 | 16, 139 | 12, 669 | 29, 603 | 19,502 | 20, 506 | 105 | 103 |
| 1951 | 8 74, 059 | - 44,454 | ${ }^{5} 20,754$ | ${ }^{\text {b }} 13,185$ | 43, 039 | 22, 335 | 24, 431 | 129 | 109 |
| 1952 | 74, 757 | 45, 556 | 20, 804 | 13, 662 | 43. 824 | 23, 065 | 23, 584 | 118 | 109 |
| 1952: January- | 74, 097 | 44, 792 | 20, 681 | 13, 154 | 43, 178 | 22, 634 | 22, 721 | 118 | 108 |
| February | 73, 829 | 45, 866 | 20, 625 | 13, 406 | 43, 168 | 23, 506 | 23, 493 | 116 | 106 |
| March | 73, 620 | 43, 431 | 20, 321 | 13, 020 | 43, 237 | 22, 085 | 23, 075 | 115 | 105 |
| April | 73, 876 | 45, 748 | 20, 477 | 13, 348 | 43, 402 | 23, 538 | 24, 569 | 116 | 103 |
| May | 73, 074 | 45, 533 | 20, 069 | 13, 838 | 43, 144 | 23, 247 | 23, 284 | 118 | 108 |
| June | 72, 913 | 44, 381 | 20, 125 | 14, 000 | 42, 892 | 21, 888 | 24, 327 | 118 | 111 |
| July | 72, 765 | 44, 455 | 20, 127 | 13, 648 | 42, 748 | 21, 858 | 23, 688 | 120 | 105 |
| August---1 | 72, 714 | 43, 612 | 19,745 | 13, 343 | 43, 107 | 21, 898 | 21, 792 | 118 | 114 |
| September | 73, 437 | 46. 276 | 20, 281 | 13, 558 | 43, 224 | 23, 663 | 24, 386 | 120 | 106 |
| October | 74, 189 | 48, 229 | 20, 652 | 14,187 | 43, 415 | 24, 753 | 24, 152 | 120 | 115 |
| November | 74,682 | 46, 230 | 20, 895 | 14, 027 | 43, 596 | 23, 430 | 23, 061 | 120 | 113 |
| 1953: December | 74, 757 | 48, 023 | 20, 804 | 14, 410 | 43, 824 | 24, 276 | 24, 466 | 119 | 115 |
| 1953: January... | 74, 619 | 47, 383 | 20, 814 | 14, 140 | 43, 766 | 24, 292 | 24, 270 | 123 | 111 |
| February | 74, 969 | 49, 025 | 21, 006 | 14, 581 | 43, 865 | 25, 288 | 25, 000 | 122 | 112 |

${ }^{1}$ Also includes wholesale. not shown separately in this table.
Boot value, end of period
1 Monthly averake for year and total for month.
' Revised series beginning with 1951; not comparable with previous data.

- Book value, end of period, ercept annual

See Survey of Current Business. September and November, 1952. for detail.
book value, end periad, except annus data, which are monthly averages.
Sources: Department of Commerce and Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

## MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

Imports declined 12 percent in January from the 1952 high reached in December, but were about 4 percent above the 1952 monthly average. While exports also fell substantially, they were slightly above last year's monthly average. Preliminary estimates indicate a further drop in both imports and exports in February.

[Millions of dollars]

| Period | [Millions of dollars] |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Merchandise expoorts |  |  | Merchandise imports | Excess of exports ( + ) or imports (-) |  |
|  | Total | Grant-aid shipments ${ }^{1}$ | Excluding grant-aid shipments |  | Total | Excluding grant-aid shipments |
| 1936-38 monthly averag | 247 | $\left.{ }^{2}\right)$ | ${ }^{(2)}$ | 207 | +40 | $\left.{ }^{2}\right)$ |
| 1946 monthly average. . | 812 | ${ }^{(2)}$ | ${ }^{(2)}$ | 412 | $+400$ | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| 1947 monthly average. | 1,278 | ${ }^{(2)}$ | ${ }^{2}$ ) | 480 | $+799$ | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| 1948 monthly average. | 1, 054 | ${ }^{(2)}$ | ${ }^{(2)}$ | 594 | $+461$ | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| 1949 monthly average. | 1, 003 | ${ }^{(2)}$ | ${ }^{(2)}$ | 552 | +452 | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| 1950 monthly average | 856 | ${ }^{2}$ ) | ${ }^{(2)}$ | 738 | +119 | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| June...- | 877 | (2) | ${ }^{(2)}$ | 687 | $+190$ | ${ }^{(2)}$ |
| 1951 monthly average | 1,253 | 89 | 1,164 | 914 | $+339$ | +250 |
| 1952 monthly average | 1, 2¢3 | 165 | 1, 098 | 893 | +371 | $+206$ |
| 1952: January .- | 1,254 | 65 | 1, 189 | 922 | +332 | $+267$ |
| February | 1,344 | 84 | 1, 260 | 893 | +451 | $+368$ |
| March_ | 1, 447 | 117 | 1, 330 | 964 | +483 | $+366$ |
| April. | 1,352 | 167 | 1, 185 | 932 | $+420$ | +252 |
| May: | 1, 473 | 236 | 1, 237 | 834 | +638 | $+403$ |
| June.- | 1, 167 | 113 | 1, 053 | 861 | +306 | +193 |
| July | 1, 027 | 137 | 890 | 839 | +188 | +51 |
| August | 1,087 | 170 | 916 | 817 | +269 | +99 |
| September | 1,225 | 248 | 978 | 876 | +348 | $+100$ |
| October- | 1,214 | 173 | 1, 040 | 918 | +296 | +123 |
| November | 1, 187 | 195 | , 992 | 804 | $+383$ | +188 |
| December | 1, 283 | 276 | 1, 107 | 1,051 | +352 | +56 |
| 1953: January | 1, 276 | 268 | 1, 008 | 927 | $+349$ | $+81$ |
| February: | 1,194 | 272 | 922 | 855 | +339 | +67 |

1 Department of Defense shipments of grant-aid military equipment and supplies under the Mutual Defense Assistance and Mutual Security Programs* - Shipments began in July 1950 . For the year 1950, total grant-aid shipments amounted to 282 Irillion dollars. $\quad$ Preliminary estimate

Notr.-Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Sovacis: Department of Commerceand Department of Defense.

## PURCHASING POWER

## NATIONAL INCOME

National income (seasonally adjusted) increased slightly in the first quarter, according to preliminary estimates. There was a small rise in compensation of employees and corporate profits before taxes, and practically no change in proprietors' and rental income and net interest.

[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 | -. 3 |
| 1946 | 180.3 | 117.1 | 42.0 | 2. 9 | 18.3 | 23.5 | -5. 2 |
| 1947 | 198. 7 | 128.0 | 42.1 | 3. 5 | 24.7 | 30.5 | -5. 8 |
| 1948 | 223.5 | 140.2 | 47. 3 | 4. 3 | 31.7 | 33.8 | -2. 1 |
| 1949 | 216.3 | 139.9 | 42.1 | 5. 0 | 29.2 | 27.1 | +2.1 |
| 1950 | 239. 2 | 153. 4 | 45. 2 | 5. 8 | 34.8 | 39.6 | -4.8 |
| 1951 | 277.6 | 178.9 | 50. 6 | 6. 4 | 41.6 | 42.9 | -1.3 |
| 1952 | 290.4 | 190.4 | 52. 5 | 7.0 | 40.5 | 39.7 | +.8 |
|  | Seasonally adjusted annual rates |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1951: Third quarter | 280.2 | 181. 0 | 50.8 | 6. 5 | 41.9 | 38.6 | +3.2 |
| Fourth quarter. | 285.6 | 183.4 | 53.1 | 6. 6 | 42.5 | 39.5 | +3.0 |
| 1952: First quarter. | 288. 0 | 186.5 | 52.1 | 6. 7 | 42.7 | 42.7 | -. 1 |
| Second quarter | 285. 6 | 186. 9 | 51. 9 | 6. 9 | 39.9 | 38.2 | +1.7 |
| Third quarter.- | 287.7 | 190.3 | 52. 5 | 7. 1 | 37.8 | 37.2 | +. 6 |
| Fourth quarter | 300.2 | 197.9 | 53. 6 | 7. 2 | 41.5 | 40.3 | +1.2 |
| 1953: First quarter ${ }^{1}$ | 304. 3 | 200.5 | 53.7 | 7. 3 | 42.8 | 42.8 | . 0 |

${ }^{1}$ Preliminary estimates by the Office of the Economic Adviser to the President.
Note.-Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted.)

CORPORATE PROFITS
Corporate profits are estimated to have increased in the first quarter to about the rate of a year ago. Dividend payments were the same as in the preceding quarter.


| [Billinns of dollars] |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Period | Corporate profits before taxes | Corporate tax liability | Corporate profite after taxes |  |  |
|  |  |  | Total | Dividend payments | Undistributed profite |
| 1939 | 6. 5 | 1.5 | 5. 0 | 3. 8 | 1. 2 |
| 1944. | 24.3 | 13.5 | 10. 8 | 4. 7 | \%. 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. 8 | 13.0 | 20. 7 | 7. 2 | 13. 5 |
| 1949 | 27.1 | 10.8 | 16. 3 | 7.5 | 8.8 |
| 1950 | 39.6 | 18.4 | 21.2 | 9. 0 | 12.3 |
| 1951 | 42. 9 | 24.2 | 18. 7 | 9. 0 | 9. 6 |
| 1952 | 39. 7 | 22.6 | 17. 1 | 9.1 | 8.0 |
|  | Seasonally adjusted annual rates |  |  |  |  |
| 1951: Third quarter- | 38.6 | 21.8 | 16. 9 | 9. 2 | 7.7 |
| Fourth quarter | 39.5 | 22.2 | 17.3 | 9. 3 | 8. 0 |
| 1952: First quarter | 42.7 | 24.3 | 18. 4 | 8. 9 | 9. 5 |
| 1052. Second quarter. | 38.2 | 21.8 | 16. 4 | 9. 6 | 6. 8 |
| Third quarter. | 37.2 | 21.2 | 16.0 | 9. 3 | 6. 7 |
| Fourth quarter | 40.3 | 23. 0 | 17. 3 | 9.0 | 8. 3 |
| 1953: First quarter ${ }^{1}$ | 42.8 | 24. 4 | 18. 4 | 9.0 | 9. 4 |

${ }^{3}$ Preliminary estimates by the Office of the Economic Adviser to the President.
Note.-See p. 21 for profts before taxes and inventory valuation adjustment. Detull will not momanarly add to totala because of rounding. Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

## PERSONAL INCOME

Total personal income showed practically no change between January and February. A downward movement in farm proprietors' income was offset by an increase in labor income.

[Billions of dollars]

| Period | Total personal income | Labor income (salaries, wages, and other labor income) ${ }^{1}$ | Proprietors' income ${ }^{\text {1 }}$ |  | Dividends and personal interest | Transfer payments |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Farm | Business, professional, and rental income |  |  |
| 1939 | 72. 6 | 45.7 | 4. 5 | 10. 3 | 9.2 | 3. 0 |
| 1944 | 165. 9 | 116. 2 | 11. 8 | 23. 7 | 10. 6 | 3. 6 |
| 1948 | 209. 5 | 134.9 | 17. 7 | 29.6 | 16. 0 | 11. 3 |
| 1949 | 2059 | 134. 2 | 12. 8 | 29.3 | 17.1 | 12.4 |
| 1950 | 226. 3 | 146. 5 | 13. 3 | 31.9 | 19. 5 | ${ }^{2} 15.1$ |
| 1951 | 254.1 | 170. 7 | 15. 6 | 35. 0 | 20.4 | 12. 4 |
| 1952. | 268.3 | 182. 4 | 15. 2 | 37.0 | 21. 1 | 12. 7 |
|  | Seasonally adjusted annual rates |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1950: June_ | 221.0 | 144. 9 | 12. 1 | 31.7 | 18. 7 | 13. 6 |
| 1952: January | 263. 4 | 177. 4 | 16. 6 | 36. 5 | 20.1 | 12. 8 |
| February | 263.5 | 178. 8 | 15. 2 | 36. 6 | 20.5 | 12. 4 |
| March. | 261.9 | 178. 2 | 14. 4 | 35. 9 | 21. 0 | 12. 4 |
| April.-. | 262. 5 | 177.8 | 14. 4 | 36. 5 | 21.5 | 12. 3 |
| May -- | 264.5 | 179.0 | 14. 6 | 36. 8 | 21.5 | 12. 6 |
| June... | 266. 7 | 180. 3 | 15. 5 | 37.0 | 21. 4 | 12. 5 |
| July - | 263.9 | 178. 4 | 15.0 | 36.8 | 21.3 | 12. 4 |
| August.-. | 269. 6 | 183. 5 | 14.8 | 36.8 | 21. 4 | 13. 1 |
| September | 273. 8 | 186. 4 | 15. 7 | 37. 4 | 21.4 | 12.9 |
| October-- | 276. 1 | 188.6 | 15. 3 | 37.9 37 | 21.3 | 13. 0 |
| November | 275. 8 | 189.0 | 15. 1 | 37.6 | 21.3 | 12. 8 |
| December | 280.0 | 191. 1 | 15.9 | 38.4 | 21. 2 | 13. 4 |
| 1953: January | 280.6 | 191. 2 | 15.7 | 38. 7 | 21.4 | 13. 6 |
| February ${ }^{3}$ | 280.4 | 192. 1 | 14.6 | 38.8 | 21.5 | 13. 4 |

[^5]Nota.-Detall will not necescarily add to totals becanse of rounding
Source: Department of Commerce.

Consumer spending rose more than disposable income in the first quarter. In consequence the saving rate dropped, although it remained at a high peacetime level.


| Period | Disposable personal income ${ }^{1}$ | Less: Personal consumption expenditures |  |  |  | Equals: <br> Personal net saving | Net saving as percent of disposable income |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Durable goods | Nondurable goods | Services |  |  |
|  | Billions of dollars |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1939 | 70. 2 | 67.5 | 6. 7 | 35. 3 | 25.5 | 2.7 | 3. 8 |
| 1941 | 92.0 | 82. 3 | 9.8 | 44. 0 | 28. 5 | 9. 8 | 10. 7 |
| 1942 | 116. 7 | 91.2 | 7. 1 | 52. 9 | 31.2 | 25. 6 | 21. 9 |
| 1944 | 147. 0 | 111. 6 | 7. 1 | 67.1 | 37.4 | 35.4 | 24. 1 |
| 1946 | 158. 9 | 146. 9 | 16. 6 | 85. 8 | 44. 5 | 12.0 | 7. 6 |
| 1947 | 169. 5 | 165. 6 | 21. 4 | 95. 1 | 49.1 | 3.9 | 2. 3 |
| 1948 | 188. 4 | 177.9 | 22. 9 | 100. 9 | 54.1 | 10.5 | 5. 6 |
| 1949 | 187. 2 | 180. 6 | 23. 8 | 99.2 | 57.5 | 6. 7 | 3. 6 |
| 1950 | 205. 5 | 194. 3 | 29.2 | 102. 8 | 62.4 | 11.2 | 5. 5 |
| 1951 | 225. 0 | 208. 0 | 27.1 | 113. 5 | 67.3 | 17.0 | 7. 6 |
| 1952 | 234. 3 | 216. 3 | 25. 8 | 119.0 | 71.5 | 18.0 | 7. 7 |
|  | Seasonally adjusted annual rates |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1951: Third quarter. | 227.1 | 206. 4 | 25. 5 | 113. 2 | 67. 6 | 20.7 | 9.1 |
| Fourth quarter | 231.5 | 210.5 | 25.3 | 116.2 | 69.0 | 21. 1 | 9.1 |
| 1952: First quarter. | 229.5 | 213.2 | 25. 2 | 118. 0 | 70. 0 | 16. 3 | 7. 1 |
| Second quarter | 230.8 | 214.9 | 26.4 | 117.8 | 70.8 | 15. 9 | 6. 9 |
| Third quarter.- | 234. 8 | 215. 0 | 24. 2 | 118.9 | 71. 9 | 19.8 | 8. 4 |
| Fourth quarter | 242.5 | 222. 0 | 27.3 | 121. 4 | 73.3 | 20.5 | 8.5 |
| 1953: First quarter ${ }^{2}$ | 245. 0 | 226. 0 | 29.0 | 122. 5 | 74.5 | 19.0 | 7.8 |

[^6]Note.-Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

## PER CAPITA DISPOSABLE INCOME

In the first quarter, per capita disposable income in both current and constant prices increased again, but at a slower rate than in the preceding quarter.


| Period | Total disposable personal income (billions of dollars)' |  | Per capita disposable personal income (dollars)' |  | Population (thousands) ${ }^{3}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current prices | $\begin{array}{r} 1952 \\ \text { prices } \end{array}$ | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1952 \\ \text { prices }{ }^{2} \end{gathered}$ |  |
| 1939 | 70.2 | 138.2 | 536 | 1,055 | 131,028 |
| 1941 | 92. 0 | 169.1 | 690 | 1, 268 | 133, 402 |
| 1942 | 116.7 | 191.0 | 865 | 1. 416 | 134, 860 |
| 1944 | 147. 0 | 210.0 | 1,062 | 1,517 | 13S. 397 |
| 1946 | 158.9 | 204. 0 | 1,124 | 1,443 | 141, 389 |
| 1947 | 169.5 | 198. 0 | 1.176 | 1,374 | 144, 126 |
| 1948. | 188. 4 | 208. 4 | 1. 285 | 1. 421 | 146, 631 |
| 1949 | 187. 2 | 209.6 | 1,255 | 1. 405 | 149, 188 |
| 1950 | 205.5 | 225. 1 | 1.355 | 1, 484 | 151.677 |
| 1951 | 225. 0 | 229. 4 | 1.458 | 1. 486 | 154, 360 |
| 1952 | 234.3 | 234.3 | 1,493 | 1, 493 | 156, 981 |
|  | Seasonally adjusted annual rates |  |  |  |  |
| 1951: Third quarter_ | 227. 1 | 231.7 | I, 468 | 1,498 | 154, 722 |
| Fourth quarter. | 231. 5 | 233.6 | 1, 489 | ], 503 | 155, 442 |
| 1952: First quarter. | 229.5 | 230.9 | 1,471 | 1,480 | 156, 064 |
| Second quarter | 230.8 | 230.8 | 1. 473 | 1, 473 | 156,669 |
| Third quarter | 234.8 | 234.1 | 1, 492 | 1, 488 | $157,370$ |
| Fourth quarter. | 242.5 | 241.5 | 1, 384 | 1, 527 | 158, 122 |
| 1953: First quarter ${ }^{4}$ | 245.0 | 244.0 | 1,543 | 1,537 | 158,758 |

[^7]
## FARM INCOME

In February, farm income declined more sharply than in February 1952, and was at the lowest level since May 1950.


| Period | Farm income (millions of current dollars) | Parity index (prices paid, interest, taxes, and wage rates) $1952=10{ }^{1}$ | Farm income (millions of 1952 dollars $)^{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1939 monthly average. | 715 | 43 | 1,663 |
| 1941 monthly average. | 968 | 46 | 2, 104 |
| 1944 monthly average. | 1, 763 | 64 | 2, 755 |
| 1946 monthly average. | 2, 111 | 72 | 2, 932 |
| 1948 monthly average. | 2,539 | 91 | 2, 790 |
| 1949 monthly average._ | 2, 344 | 87 | 2, 694 |
| 1950 monthly average. | 2,384 | 89 | 2,679 |
| June...-.-.-.-. | 1, 889 | 89 | 2, 122 |
| 1951 monthly average. | 2, 742 | 98 | 2,798 |
| 1952 monthly average | 2, 785 | 100 | 2, 785 |
| 1952: January . . | 2, 642 | 100 | 2, 642 |
| February | 2, 043 | 101 | 2, 023 |
| March..- | 2, 122 | 101 | 2, 101 |
| April. | 2, 100 | 101 | 2, 079 |
| May | 2, 176 | 101 | 2, 154 |
| June- | 2, 381 | 100 | 2, 381 |
| August | 2,882 | 100 | 2, 2111 |
| September. | 3, 620 | 100 | 3, 620 |
| October-. | 4, 123 | 99 | 4, 165 |
| November | 3, 546 | 98 | 3, 618 |
| December. | 3, 072 | 98 | 3, 135 |
| 1953: January ${ }^{\text {3 }}$ | 2, 742 | 99 | 2, 770 |
| February ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 1,889 | 98 | 1,928 |

1 Converted from the reported base, $1910-14=100$. to the base $1952=100$.
Farm income in current dollars divided by parity index on base $1952=100$.
Preliminary estimates.
NOTE.-Farm income includes cash receipts from marketings and Government payments.
Source: Department of Agriculture.

# CREDIT, MONEY, AND FEDERAL FINANCE BANK LOANS AND INVESTMENTS 

Bank loans, which had declined seasonally in January, rose slightly during February. Investments in U. S. Government securities declined $\$ 800$ million. There was again no change in holdings of other securities.


\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \multirow[b]{3}{*}{End of period} \& \multicolumn{5}{|c|}{All commercial banks} \& \multirow[t]{3}{*}{Weekly reporting member banksBusiness loans \({ }^{1}\)} \\
\hline \& \multirow[b]{2}{*}{Total loans and investments} \& \multirow[b]{2}{*}{Bank loans} \& \multicolumn{3}{|c|}{Investments} \& \\
\hline \& \& \& Total \& \begin{tabular}{l}
U. S. \\
Government securities
\end{tabular} \& Other securities \& \\
\hline 1939 \& 40.7 \& 17. 2 \& 23.4 \& 16. 3 \& 7.1 \& 4. 4 \\
\hline 1945 \& 124. 0 \& 26.1 \& 97.9 \& 90.6 \& 7.3 \& 7.3 \\
\hline 1947 \& 116.3 \& 38. 1 \& 78.2 \& 69.2 \& 9. 0 \& 14.6 \\
\hline 1949 \& 120.2 \& 43.0 \& 77.2 \& 67.0 \& 10.2 \& 13.9 \\
\hline 1950 \& 126. 7 \& 52.2 \& 74.4 \& 62.0 \& 12.4 \& 17.8 \\
\hline June \& 121. 8 \& 44.8 \& 77.0 \& 65.8 \& 11.2 \& 13.6 \\
\hline 1951 \& 132.6 \& 57.7 \& 74.9 \& 61.5 \& 13.3 \& 21.6 \\
\hline 1952 \& 141. 6 \& 64.3 \& 77.3 \& 63.2 \& 14. 1 \& 23.2 \\
\hline 1952: February \& 132.2 \& 57.6 \& 74. 7 \& 61.3 \& 13.4 \& 21.2 \\
\hline March_-. \& 132. 5 \& 57.8 \& 74.7 \& 61.1 \& 13. 6 \& 21. 4 \\
\hline April. \& 132.3 \& 58. 2 \& 74.1 \& 60.5 \& 13. 7 \& 20.8 \\
\hline May \& 133. 1 \& 58.5 \& 74.5 \& 60.7 \& 13.8 \& 20.5 \\
\hline June. \& 134.4 \& 59. 2 \& 75. 2 \& 61.2 \& 14. 0 \& 20.8 \\
\hline July.--- \& 136. 8 \& 59.7 \& 77.0 \& 62.9 \& 14.1
14.4

14 \& 20.6 <br>
\hline August..- \& 136. 6 \& 60.2
61.2 \& 76.3
75.9 \& 62. 0 \& 14.4
14.3 \& 20.9 <br>
\hline September \& 137.1
139.4 \& 61.2
62.4 \& 75.9
77.0 \& 61. 6 \& 14.3
14.2 \& 21. 6 <br>
\hline November. \& 141.7 \& 63.5 \& 78. 2 \& 64. 0 \& 14.2 \& 22.9 <br>
\hline December.. \& 141.6 \& 64.3 \& 77.3 \& 63.2 \& 14.1 \& 23.2 <br>
\hline 1953: January \& 140.8 \& 64.0 \& 76.8 \& 62.6 \& 14.1 \& 22.8 <br>
\hline February ${ }^{\text {March }}$ \& 140.1 \& 64.2 \& 75.9 \& 61.8 \& 14. 1 \& 22.7
23.3 <br>
\hline
\end{tabular}

## CONSUMER CREDIT

Total consumer credit outstanding declined slightly in February, reflecting a seasonal reduction in charge accounts. Instalment credit rose for the eleventh consecutive month.


SOURCE: gGard of governofs of the federal reserve system

| End of period | Total consumer credit outstanding | hnstalment credit |  |  |  |  | Charge accounts | Other consumer credit ${ }^{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total instalment credit | Sale credit |  |  | Loans ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |
|  |  |  | Total | Antomobile sale credit | Other sale credit |  |  |  |
| 1939- | 7,031 | 4, 424 | 2,792 | 1,267 | 1,525 | 1, 632 | 1,544 | 1,063 |
| 1945 | 5,627 | 2, 364 | 942 | 227 | 715 | 1, 422 | 1, 981 | 1,282 |
| 1950 | 20, 097 | 13, 459 | 7, 904 | 4, 126 | 3. 778 | 5,555 | 4, 239 | 2, 399 |
| June | 17,651 | 12, 105 | 6, 995 | 3, 790 | 3, 205 | 5, 110 | 3, 392 | 2, 154 |
| 1951 | 20, 644 | 13, 510 | 7,546 | 4, 039 | 3, 507 | 5. 964 | 4, 587 | 2.547 |
| 1952 | 23, 952 | 16,507 | 9,399 | 5, 205 | 4, 194 | 7, 108 | 4,745 | 2. 700 |
| 1952: January | 20, 126 | 13, 314 | 7,322 | 3, 962 | 3, 360 | 5. 992 | 4. 253 | 2. 559 |
| February | 19, 717 | 13, 185 | 7, 158 | 3, 927 | 3, 231 | 6, 027 | 3, 967 | 2, 565 |
| March. | 19,565 | 13, 156 | 7,047 | 3, 891 | 3, 156 | 6, 109 | 3. 855 | 2,554 |
| April | 19,788 | 13, 319 | 7, 099 | 3, 946 | 3,153 | 6, 220 | 3, 913 | 2,556 |
| May | 20, 293 | 13, 806 | 7, 421 | 4, 171 | 3, 250 | 6, 385 | 3, 921 | 2, 556 |
| June | 20, 961 | 14, 409 | 7, 820 | 4, 446 | 3, 374 | 6, 589 | 3, 980 | 2, 572 |
| Juiy | 21, 213 | 14, 745 | 8, 039 | 4,597 | 3, $4+2$ | 6,706 | 3, 891 | 2,577 |
| August | 21, 433 | 14, 939 | 8, 149 | 4, 634 | 3,515 | 6, 790 | 3, 902 | 2,592 |
| September | 21, 657 | 15,193 | 8,339 | 4, 708 | 3. 631 | 6. 854 | 3, 848 | 2, 616 |
| October.- | 22, 289 | 15,573 | 8, 653 | 4, 882 | 3, 771 | 6, 920 | 4, 075 | 2, 64] |
| November | 22,798 | 15, 885 | 8, 917 | E, 038 | 3, 879 | 6, 968 | 4, 242 | 2, 671 |
| December | 23, 952 | 16,507 | 9, 399 | 5,205 | 4. 194 | 7, 108 | 4, 745 | 2, 700 |
| 1953: January ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 23,676 | 16,538 | 9, 365 | 5, 309 | 4, 056 | 7, 173 | 4. 397 | 2, 741 |
| February | 23, 521 | 16,689 | 9, 460 | 5,452 | 4,008 | 7, 229 | 4, 060 | 2, 772 |

I Indindes repair and modernization loans insured by Fedaral Goushg A aministration.
' Ineludes lohme by pawnbrokers, serveie credit, and unclassified single-payment lobns under $\$ 3,000$ made by commercial banks.
Frmmanary astimates
Noti.-- Thiail "ill not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Source: Board of Governors of the Federal linsirve System.

## BOND YIELDS AND INTEREST RATES

Average yields on new issues of 3-month Treasury bills increased moderately in March, after declining for 2 months from the peak level of December 1952. The rate on commercial paper rose from the level which had prevailed for 10 consecutive months. Yields on U. S. Government taxable bonds and high grade corporate bonds continued to rise, setting new post-World War II records.

$\nu_{\text {see note }} 2$ on table below.
Source: board of governors of the federal reserve system.

[^8] Aprij.
${ }^{1}$ Bonds in this classification were first issued in March 1941. Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

## MONEY SUPPLY

The total money supply dropped $\$ 900$ million in February, extending the decline of the preceding month. Bank sales of U. S. Government securities and shifts of funds From private to Government accounts were major factors in the $\$ 2.2$ billion decline in demand deposits.

[Billions of dollars]

| End of period | Total deposits and currency | U.S. <br> Government deposits ${ }^{1}$ | Total excluding U. S. Government deposits (privately held money supply) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Total | Currency outside banks | Demand deposits adjusted ${ }^{2}$ | Time deposits ${ }^{2}$ |
| 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 |
| 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. 6 | 3. 7 | 176. 9 | 25.4 | 92.3 | 59.2 |
| June_ | 174. 7 | 4. 8 | 170. 0 | 25. 2 | 85. 0 | 59. 7 |
| 1951 | 189.8 | 3. 9 | 186. 0 | 26.3 | 98. 2 | 61. 4 |
| 1952 | 200. 1 | 5. 6 | 194. 5 | 27.5 | 101. 2 | 65. 7 |
| 1952: January .- | 188. 2 | 3. 0 | 185. 2 | 25. 6 | 97.9 | 61.7 |
| February | 188. 0 | 4. 6 | 183. 4 | 25. 6 | 95.7 | 62. 0 |
| March | 188. 7 | 5. 8 | 182. 9 | 25.7 | 94.8 | 62.5 |
| April | 188. 7 | 4. 9 | 183. 8 | 25. 9 | 95.1 | 62. 8 |
| May | 189. 3 | 4. 9 | 184. 4 | 26. 0 | 95.3 | 63. 0 |
| June.-- | 191. 4 | 6. 5 | 184.9 | 26.5 | 94.8 | 63. 7 |
| July - .-. | 193. 4 | 7.6 | 185.8 | 26.2 | 95.7 | 638 |
| August | 193. 1 | 6. 9 | 186. 2 | 26. 3 | 95. 8 | 64. 1 |
| September | 194. 1 | 6. 7 | 187.4 | 26. 6 | 96.4 | 64. 5 |
| October--. | 196. 1 | 5. 9 | 190.2 | 26. 7 | 98. 6 | 64.9 |
| November | 198. 9 | 7. 3 | 191. 6 | 27. 4 | 99. 4 | 64. 8 |
| December. | 200. 1 | 5. 6 | 194. 5 | 27.5 | 101. 2 | 65. 7 |
| 1953: January | 198. 3 | 5. 0 | 193. 3 | 26.8 | 100. 5 | 66. 0 |
| February ${ }^{4}$ | 197.4 | 5. 8 | 191.6 | 26. 9 | 98. 3 | 66. 3 |

${ }^{1}$ Includes U. E. Government deposits at Federal Reserve banks and commercial and savings banks. and U. S. Treasurer's time deposits, open account.
${ }_{2}^{2}$ Includes demand deposits, other than interbank and U. B. Government, less cash items in process of collection.
Incjudes deposits in commercial banks, mutual savings banks, and Postal Sovings System, but excludes interbank deposits.

- Preliminary estimates.

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

## FEDERAL BUDGET RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

Receipts of $\$ 10.5$ billion in March exceeded the previous record in March 1952 by $\$ 600$ million and reduced the budget deficit for the first 9 months of the current fiscal year to $\$ 5.8$ billion. In March, expenditures for major national security programs increased to $\$ 4.7$ billion.

[Billions of dollars]

| Period | Budget expenditures |  |  |  | Net budget receipts |  | Budget surplus (+) or deficit (-) |  | Public debt (end of period) ${ }^{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total |  | Major national security programs ${ }^{1}$ |  | Total for period | Cumulative fiscal year totals | Total for period | Cumulative fiscal year totals |  |
|  | Total for period | Cumulative fiscal year totals | Total for period | Cumulative fiscal year totals |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fiscal year 1944 | 95. 3 |  | 88. 2 |  | 43. 9 |  | -51. 4 |  | 202. 6 |
| Fiscal year 1947 | 39.3 |  | 20. 9 |  | 40. 0 |  | +. 8 |  | 258. 4 |
| Fiscal year 1948 | 33.8 |  | 16. 4 |  | 42. 2 |  | +8.4 |  | 252. 4 |
| Fiscal year 1949 | 40. 1 |  | 19.1 |  | 38. 2 |  | -1.8 |  | 252. 8 |
| Fiscal year 1950 | 40.2 |  | 17. 8 |  | 37.0 |  | -3. 1 |  | 257. 4 |
| Fiscal year 1951 | 44. 6 |  | 26. 4 |  | 48. 1 |  | $+3.5$ |  | 255. 3 |
| Fiscal year 1952 | 66.1 |  | ${ }^{2} 47.2$ |  | 62.1 |  | -4. 0 |  | 259. 2 |
| 1952: Februar | 5.1 | 41.8 | 3. 8 | 28.8 | 5. 6 | 34. 3 | +. 4 | $-7.5$ | 260.4 |
| March. | 5. 7 | 47.5 | 4. 1 | 32.8 | 9. 9 | 44. 2 | +4.2 | -3. 3 | 258. 1 |
| April | 6. 0 | 53.6 | 4. 5 | 37.3 | 4. 3 | 48.5 | $-1.7$ | $-5.0$ | 258. 3 |
| May | 5.7 | 59.2 | 4.5 | 41. 9 | 3. 8 | 52.3 | $-1.9$ | -6.9 | 260.0 |
| June | 6. 9 | 66.1 | 4.3 | 46. 2 | 9. 8 | 62.1 | +2.9 | -4.0 | 259. 2 |
| July | 6. 7 | 6. 7 | 4.7 | 4. 7 | 3. 3 | 3. 3 | -3. 4 | -3.4 | 263. 1 |
| August. | 5.0 | 11.8 | 3. 8 | 8. 5 | 4. 0 | 7. 4 | $-1.0$ | -4.4 | 263. 2 |
| September | 6.1 | 17.8 | 4.5 | 13. 0 | 6. 6 | 14.0 | $+.5$ | -3.9 | 262. 7 |
| October-- | 6. 4 | 24.2 | 4. 4 | 17.4 | 3. 1 | 17.0 | -3. 3 | $-7.2$ | 265. 0 |
| November | 5.2 | 29.4 | 3. 9 | 21.2 | 4. 2 | 21.2 | $-1.0$ | $-8.2$ | 267.5 |
| December | 7.1 | 36. 5 | 4. 6 | 25.9 | 6. 0 | 27.2 | $-1.1$ | $-9.3$ | 267.4 |
| 1053: January | 5. 7 | 42.2 | 4. 2 | 30. 1 | 5. 1 | 32.3 | $-7$ | $-10.0$ | 267.5 |
| February | 5. 6 | 47. 8 | 4. 2 | 34. 2 | 5. 5 | 37. 7 | $-1$ | $-10.1$ | 267.6 |
| March.. | 6.2 | 54.0 | ${ }^{4} 4.7$ | ${ }^{4} 38.9$ | 10. 5 | 48. 2 | +4.3 | $-5.8$ | 264. 5 |

1 Includes expenditures for military services, international security and foreign relations, development and control of atomic energy, promotion of the inerchant marine, promotion of defense production and economic stabilization, and civil defense.

Includes guaranteed securities, except those held by the Treasury.
I Data for flscal year not strictly comparable with monthly figures.
D Data for flscal year not strictly comparable with monthly figures.
Nerz.-Detall will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
4 Preliminary estimates.
Sources: Treasury Department and Bureau of the Budget.

## FEDERAL CASH RECEIPTS FROM AND PAYMENTS TO THE PUBLIC

The seasonal rise in cash receipts in the first quarter of 1952 resulted in a large cash surplus. But the surplus was about $\$ 600$ million smaller than in the first quarter of 1951 , reflecting cash payments about $\$ 1.2$ billion higher than a year ago and cash receipts $\$ 600$ million higher.

$1 /$ prelimimart estimates.
SOUACES: BUREAU OF THE BUDGET AND TREASUAY DEPARTMENT.

| Calendar year | Federal cash receipts from the publie | Pederal cash payments to the public | Excess of receipts ( + ) or pryments (一) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Calendar year total: |  |  |  |
| 1946 | 41, 441 | 41,399 | +42 |
| 1947 | 44, 282 | 38, 616 | +5,666 |
| 1948 | 44, 922 | 36, 897 | +8,027 |
| 1949 | 41,346 | 42, 642 | -1,295 |
| 1950 | 42, 419 | 41, 969 | +450 |
| 1951 | 59, 278 | 58.034 | +1,244 |
| 1952 | 71,339 | 72, 979 | - 1, 641 |
| Quarterly totals, not adjusted for seas |  |  |  |
| 1951: First quarter | 18, 051 | 11, 179 | +6,874 |
| Second quarter | 14, 462 | 14,521 | -59 |
| Third quarter.- | 13, 993 | 15, 270 | -1,277 |
| Fourth quarter | 12, 770 | 17, 064 | -4,295 |
| 1952: First quarter | 21, 874 | 16,921 | +4,953 |
| Second quarter | 19, 389 | 18, 701 | +688 |
| Third quarter- | 15, 354 | 17, 921 | -2,567 |
| Fourth quarter | 14, 722 | 19, 436 | -4,715 |
| 1953: First quarter ${ }^{1}$ | 22, 500 | 18, 100 | +4,400 |

1 Preliminary estimates.
Note.-Detsil will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Bources: Bureau of the Budget and Tressury Department

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents. U. S. Govermment Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.


[^0]:    1 Includes expenditures for military services, international security and foreign relations (except foreign loans), atomic energy, merchant marine, promotion of defense production and economic stabilization, and civil defense: excludes Federal Government sales. For further detail, see Annual Economic Report of ine President January 1953 (D. 165), and Survey of Current Business, July 1952 (p. 12).
    ' Residual: expenditures by the Federal Government for other than "national security" and total expenditures by State and local governments.
    2 Preliminary estimates by the Office of the Economic Adviser to the President.
    Note.-Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
    2

[^1]:    transportation, 28 for utilities, and 32 for trade, finance, and service.

    Source: Securities and Exchange Commission.

[^2]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes part-time workers and those who had jobs but were not at work for such ressons as vacation, iliness, bad weather, temporary lay-of. and Induserial fienutes
    ${ }^{2}$ Not ava!lable. ${ }^{8}$ Data became available after chart was prepared.
    Note.-Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

[^3]:    For production and related workers.
    Not etrictly comparable with previous data.

[^4]:    1 Weekly data are scheduled rates of operation; monthly figures are for actual output except latest month which is an average of the weekily estimates. Percent of capacity based on weekly net ton capacity of $1,906,268$ for the first half of 1950, 1,928, 23 j beginning July $1,1950,1,999,034$ begimming Jamary 1 , $1051,2,074,040$ beginning January 1,1952 , and $2,254,459$ beginning January 1,1953 . 2 Dailv average for week. 3 Prelimimary estimates.

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

[^5]:    1 Excludes employee contributions for social insurance, and selfemployed contributions (which became effective january 1952).
    ${ }^{3}$ Includes $\$ 2.7$ billion Nationsl Bervice Life Insurance dividend. most of which was paid in the frat half of the year.
    Preliminary estimates.

[^6]:    1 Income less taxes.
    2 Preliminary estimates by the Office of the Economic Adviser to the President.

[^7]:    ${ }^{1}$ Income less taxes.
    I Dollar estimates in current prices divided by an over-all implicit price index for personal consumption expencitures. This price index is based on Department of Commerce data, shifted from a 1939 base.
    ${ }^{3}$ Provisional intercensal estimates of the population of the United States inchoding armpd forces overseas, taking into account the final 1950 Census total population count. Annual data as of July 1; cuarterly data centered in the middle of the period, interpolated from monthif figures.

    1 Preliminary estimates.
    Sources: Department of Commerce and the Office of the Economic Adviser to the President.

[^8]:    1 Rate of new issues within period.
    : 15 years and over prior to April 1952; 12 years and over beginning in

