# Economic Indicators 

## JUNE 1954

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

## COMMENTS INVITED

The Joint Committee in House Report 1256, February 26, 1954, directed the committee staff to sponsor an intensive review of Economic Indicators. As part of this review, which is being undertaken with the cooperation of the Council of Economic Advisers and the Bureau of the Budget, it would be helpful to receive comments from the users of Economic Indicators. The purpose of this monthly publication is to provide the committee, the Congress, and others with information on current economic trends in a concise and graphic form. Selections for inclusion are limited to presently available data from Government or recognized private sources. If you have suggestions relating to the series selected or to their presentation, would you please write to the Joint Committee on the Economic Report, Senate Post Office, Washington 25, D. C., by June 30, 1954.

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# [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

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

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## THE TOTAL OUTPUT OF THE ECONOMY THE NATION'S ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS

Economic activity as measured by over-all expenditures and incomes showed a further moderate decline in the first quarter of 1954.


Gross national product declined about $11 / 2$ percent in the first quarter of 1954. A decline in inventory investment accounted for most of the drop in total private investment. Lower Federal expenditures were partially offset by a rise in Siate and local expenditures. Consumer expenditures were clese to the level of the fourth quarter of 1953.



1 Includes expenditures for military services, tnternational security and foreign relations (except foreign loans), development and control of atomic energy, pronioton of the merchant marine, promotion of defense production and economic stabilization, and civil defense. For furtber details. see Annual Economic Retort of thr Presideni, January 1954 (p. 16\%), and Survet of Current Rusiness, July 1953 ( p . 10). These expenditures are not comparable with the "national security" ceatepory it The Budget of the U. S. Government tor the Fiscal Year Ending June 90, 1955, and sbown on p. 31 of Economic Indicatore.

Note--Dctail will not necessarily add to totals because of roundinf. Source: Department of Commerce.

## CONSUMER PRICES

Consumer prices declined 0.2 percent between March 15 and April 15. Reductions in Federal excise taxes, which became effective April 1 , were reflected in price decreases for groups of goods and services including house furnishings, household operation, apparel, personal care, and recreation. These decreases, however, were partially offset by a moderate advance in food prices and continued increases in rent, medical care, and other personal services.


| $[1947-49=100]^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Period | Allitems | Food | Housing |  | Apparel | Trans porta. tion | $\begin{gathered} \text { Medical } \\ \text { care } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Personal } \\ \text { care } \end{gathered}$ | Reading and recreation | Other goods and services |
|  |  |  | Total | Rent |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1939 monthly average | 59.4 | 47. 1 | (2) | 86.6 | 52.5 | (a) | (2) | (3) | (1) | (2) |
| 1942 monthly average | 69.7 | 61.3 | (3) | 90.4 | 64.9 | (2) | (2) | (a) | (2) | (3) |
| 1945 monthly average | 76. 9 | 68. 9 | (2) | 90.9 | 76.3 | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) | (\%) |
| 1946 monthly average | 83.4 | 79.0 | (2) | 91.4 | 83.7 | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) |
| 1948 monthly average | 102. 8 | 104. 1 | 101. 7 | 100. 7 | 103.5 | 100.9 | 100.9 | 101.3 | 100. 4 | 100.5 |
| 1949 monthly average | 101.8 | 100.0 | 103.3 | 105. 0 | 99. 4 | 108.5 | 104. 1 | 101.1 | 104. 1 | 103. 4 |
| 1950 monthly average | 102.8 | 101. 2 | 106. 1 | 108. 8 | 98.1 | 111.3 | 106. 0 | 101. 1 | 103.4 | 105. 2 |
| 1951 monthly average | 111.0 | 112.6 | 112. 4 | 113. 1 | 106. 9 | 118.4 | 111. 1 | 110.5 | 106. 5 | 109. 7 |
| 1952 monthly average | 113.5 | 114.6 | 114.6 | 117. 9 | 105.8 | 126. 2 | 117.2 | 111.8 | 107.0 | 115. 4 |
| 1953 monthly average | 114.4 | 112.8 | 117.7 | 124. 1 | 104.8 | 129.7 | 121.3 | 112.8 | 108.0 | 118.2 |
| 1953: March | 113.6 | 111.7 | 116. 8 | 121.7 | 104. 7 | 129.3 | 119.5 | 112.4 | 107.7 | 117.5 |
| April. | 113.7 | 111.5 | 117.0 | 122. 1 | 104. 6 | 129.4 | 120.2 | 112.5 | 107.9 | 117.9 |
| May | 114.0 | 112. 1 | 117.1 | 123. 0 | 104. 7 | 129. 4 | 120. 7 | 112.8 | 108. 0 | 118.0 |
| June | 114.5 | 113. 7 | 117.4 | 123. 3 | 104.6 | 129. 4 | 121.1 | 112.6 | 107.8 | 118.2 |
| July | 114. 7 | 113. 8 | 117.8 | 123. 8 | 104. 4 | 129.7 | 121.5 | 112. 6 | 107.4 | 118.3 |
| August. | 115. 0 | 114.1 | 118.0 | 125. 1 |  | 130.6 | 121.8 | 112.7 | 107.6 | 118. 4 |
| September | 115.2 | 113. 8 | 118. 4 | 126. 0 | 105. 3 | 130.7 | 122.6 | 112.9 | 107. 8 | 118. |
| October- | 115. 4 | 113. 6 | 118.7 | 126.8 | 105. 5 | 130.7 | 122.8 | 113.2 | 108. 6 | 119.7 |
| November | 115.0 | 112. 0 | 118.9 | 127.3 | 105. 5 | 130. 1 | 123.3 | 113.4 | 108.9 | 120.2 |
| December | 114.9 | 112.3 | 118.9 | 127.6 | 105. 3 | 128. 9 | 123.6 | 113.6 | 108.9 | 120.3 |
| 1954: January | 115.2 | 113. 3 | 118.8 | 127.8 | 104. 9 | 130.5 | 123. 7 | 113. 7 | 108. 7 | 120.3 |
| Februar | 115.0 | 112. 6 | 118.9 | 127.9 | 104. 7 | 129. 4 | 124. $]$ | 113.9 | 108. 0 | 120.2 |
| March. | 114.8 | 112. 1 | 119.0 | 128.0 | 104.3 | 129.0 | 124. 4 | 114. $]$ | 108. 2 | 120.1 |
| April | 114.6 | 112.4 | 118. 5 | 128. 2 | 104. $]$ | 129.] | 124.9 | 112.9 | 106.5 | 120.2 |

1 The new base $1947-49=100$ is in compliance with recommendations of the U. S. Bureau of the Budget. Beginging with January 1953 the index structure has ben
Source: Department of Labor. changed.

Wholesale prices on the average were relatively stable during May. Prices for farm products averaged lower than in April while processed foods were somewhat higher.


| $11947-49=1001$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Period | All commodities | Farm products | Processed foods | Other than farm products and foods (industrial) |
| 1942 monthly average. | 64.2 | 59.2 | 59.1 | 68. 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 |
| 1951 monthly average | 114.8 | 113.4 | 111.4 | 115.9 |
| 1952 monthly average. | 111.6 | 107. 0 | 108. 8 | 113.2 |
| 1953 monthly average. | 110.1 | 97.0 | 104. 6 | 114.0 |
| 1953: May | 109. 8 | 97.8 | 104. 3 | 113. 6 |
| June_ | 109. 5 | 95.4 | 103. 3 | 113. 9 |
| July | 110.9 | 97.9 | 105. 5 | 114.8 |
| August | 110.6 | 96.4 | 104. 8 | 114.9 |
| September | 111.0 | 98.1 | 106. 6 | 114.7 |
| October-. | 110.2 | 95.3 | 104. 7 | 114.6 |
| November | 109.8 | 93.7 | 103. 8 | 114.5 |
| December- | 110.1 | 94.4 | 104. 3 | 114.6 |
| 1954: January | 110.9 | 97.8 | 106.2 | 114.6 |
| February | 110.5 | 97.7 | 104. 8 | 114.4 |
| March. | 110.5 | 98. 4 | 105. 3 | 114.2 |
| April. | 111.0 | 99.4 | 105. 9 | 114.5 |
| May | 110.9 | 98.0 | 106. 8 | 114.5 |
| Week ended: |  |  |  |  |
| 1954: June ${ }_{8}^{1}$ | 110.7 | 97.9 | 106. 2 | 114.4 |
| 8 . | 110.5 | 96.5 | 105.8 | 114.4 |

Source: Department of Labor.

## PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS

Prices received by farmers rose 0.4 percent during the month ended May 15. Increased prices for potatoes and catile and high prices for new-crop melons more than offset lower prices for hogs, milk, and strawberries. Prices paid also increased 0.4 percent. For the eighth straight month the parity ratio remained within the narrow range of $90-92$.

$[1910-14=100]$

| Period | Prices paid for items used in |  | Parity index (prices paid, interest, taxes, and wage rates) | Prices received by farmers | Parity ratio ${ }^{1}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Family living | Production |  |  |  |
| 1939 monthly average. | 120 | 121 | 123 |  | 77 |
| 1942 monthly average. | 149 | 148 | 152 | 159 | 105 |
| 1944 monthly average. | 175 | 173 | 182 | ${ }^{2} 197$ | 108 |
| 1946 monthly average. | 202 | 191 | 208 | ${ }^{2} 236$ | 113 |
| 1948 monthly average. | 251 | 250 | 260 | 287 | 110 |
| 1949 monthly average. | 243 | 238 | 251 | 250 | 100 |
| 1950 monthly average. | 246 | 246 | 256 | 258 | 101 |
| 1951 monthly average. | 268 | 273 | 282 | 302 | 107 |
| 1952 monthly average. | 271 | 274 | 287 | 288 | 100 |
| 1953 monthly average. | 270 | 253 | 279 | 258 | 92 |
| 1953: April 15. | 269 | 257 | 280 | 259 | 92 |
| May 15. | 270 | 256 | 280 | 263 | 94 |
| June 15 | 271 | 248 | 277 | 257 | 93 |
| July 15. | 271 | 250 | 279 | 260 | 93 |
| August 15. | 273 | 249 | 279 | 255 | 91 |
| September 15 | 270 | 247 | 277 | 257 | 93 |
| October 15.... | 270 | 246 | 276 | 249 | 90 |
| November 15 | 270 | 248 | ${ }_{2}^{278}$ | 249 | 90 |
| December 15.. | 270 | 250 | 278 | 254 | 91 |
| 1954: January 15 | 271 | 254 | 282 | 259 | 92 |
| February 15 | 271 | 255 | 282 | 258 | 91 |
| March 15.. | 272 | 255 | 283 | 256 | 90 |
| April 15. | 273 | 256 | 283 | 257 | $9]$ |
| May 15.. | 276 | 256 | 284 | 258 | $9]$ |

[^0]Stock prices continued their upward movement through May but have declined in early June.


| Period | $11435=1001$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Manamacturing |  |  |  | Traneportation | Utilities | Trade, finance, and service | Mining |
|  | posite index ${ }^{1}$ | Total | Durable goods | Nondurable goode |  |  |  |  |
| Weekly average: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1940 | 94.2 | 93.4 | 92. 5 | 94.2 | 99.2 | 99.9 | 90.4 | 75. 6 |
| 1946 | 149. 4 | 146. 6 | 138. 6 | 154. 5 | 202. 4 | 121. 0 | 204.3 | 125.5 |
| 1949 | 127 | 132. 1 | 116.0 | 147. 2 | 136. 0 | 98.1 | 160. 7 | 129. 4 |
| 19.50 | 154. 1 | 165. 7 | 150. 2 | 180. 2 | 160. 0 | 108.9 | 183. 8 | 143. 5 |
| 1951 | 184. 9 | 206. 8 | 178. 5 | 233. 1 | 199. 0 | 112.6 | 207. 7 | 204. 9 |
| 1952 | 195.0 | 220.2 | 188. 8 | 249.3 | 220.6 | 117.9 | 206. 0 | 275.7 |
| 1953 | 193. 3 | 220. 1 | 192. 6 | 245. 2 | 218. 7 | 121. 5 | 207. 1 | 240.5 |
| 1953: May | 194. 1 | 220. 9 | 195. 9 | 243. 8 | 225.7 | 120.0 | 209. 3 | 247.0 |
| June | 187. 3 | 212. 7 | 186. 8 | 236. 4 | 219.2 | 116. 6 | 204. 3 | 237.4 |
| July | 190.4 | 216. 7 | 188. 0 | 242.9 | 223.2 | 118.9 | 206.0 | 236. 8 |
| August. | 190. 2 | 216. 6 | 185.9 | 244. 7 | 217.2 | 120.7 | 206. 3 | 236.3 |
| Septembe | 181. 0 | 205. 0 | 175. 2 | 232.2 | 198. 9 | 118.8 | 198. 0 | 219.2 |
| October | 187.1 | 213.5 | 184. 4 | 240.2 | 202. 4 | 121. 4 | 201. 2 | 218.8 |
| November | 191. 2 | 218.7 | 190.4 | 244.8 | 203. 8 | 123. 2 | 207.0 | 231.4 |
| December. | 193. 4 | 221. S | 192. 1 | 249.1 | 200.0 | 124. 5 | 209. 2 | 229. 6 |
| 1954: January. | 198. 4 | 228. 4 | 198.8 | 255.5 | 206. 2 | 126. 1 | 213. 0 | 238. 6 |
| February | 203. 1 | 233.9 | 204. 2 | 261.2 | 214.6 | 128. 4 | 216.0 | 250.3 |
| March. | 207. 1 | 239.8 | 209. 6 | 267.5 | 212. 3 | 130. 4 | 214.6 | 259. 2 |
| April | 215.8 | 252. 9 | 223. 2 | 280.3 | 211.6 | 131. 8 | 219.8 | 265. 9 |
| May | 223. 2 | 262.9 | 232.5 | 290.8 | 220.6 | 134. 2 | 225.6 | 269. 6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1954: May 7 | 221. 5 | 260.8 | 231. 2 | 287.9 | 218. 1 | 133. 6 | 222. 8 | 265. 0 |
| 14 | 222. 4 | 261. 9 | 230.6 | 290.7 | 219. 3 | 133. 5 | 225. 7 | 267.6 |
| 21 | 224. $]$ | 263.7 | 233. 2 | 291.7 | 222. 5 | 134. 8 | 227.0 | 273.7 |
| 2 S | 225. 0 | 265. 2 | 234. 9 | 292. 9 | 222. 3 | 134.7 | 226. 9 | 271.9 |
| June $4^{2}$ | 224. 4 | 263. 7 | 233.7 | 291. 3 | 223. 5 | 135. 3 | 228. 0 | 272.5 |
| 112. | 218.1 | 255. 3 | 226. 6 | 281.5 | 217.7 | 133. 4 | 223. 3 | 264. S |

[^1]
## EMPLOYIMENT AND WAGES

## LABOR FORCE

Employment ircrecseá obout a half millicn from early April to early May. The seasonal rise in agricultural employment was accompanied by a relatively small drop in nonagricultural employment. Unemployment decreased slightly less than is usual at this time of the vear.


| Period | 'iotal labor force (including armed forces) | Civilian <br> labor <br> force | Employment ' |  |  | Tempo-rarylayofis | Unemployment ${ }^{3}$ |  | Insured unemployment <br> (thousands of persons) ${ }^{4}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Total | Agricultural | Nonagricultural |  | Number | $\begin{gathered} \text { \% of } \\ \text { civilian } \\ \text { labor } \\ \text { force } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  |
| arca uample ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | Thousands of persons 14 years of age and over |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1939 monthiy average.. | 55, 600 | 55, 230 | 45, 750 | 9, 610 | 36, 140 |  | 9,480 | 17.2 |  |
| 1944 monthly average.. | 66, 040 | 54,630 | 53, 960 | 8, 950 | 45,010 |  | 670 | 1. 2 |  |
| $1: 849$ monthly average.- | 63, 721 | 62.105 | 58, 710 | 8, 026 | 50, 684 | 185 | 3. 395 | 5. 5 | 2, 470 |
| 1950 monthly a verage.- | 64. 749 | 63, 099 | 59,957 | 7, 507 | 52, 450 | 92 | 3. 1.42 | 5. 0 | 1,599 |
| 1953 monthly average.- | 67. 001 | 63, 453 | 61, 929 | 6. 683 | 55, 245 | 142 | 1,524 | 2.4 | 1, 058 |
| 1953: June. | 6S. 290 | 64, 734 | 63, 172 | 8. 126 | 55, 046 | 122 | 1, 562 | 2. 4 | 878 |
| July | 68. 258 | 64.668 | 63, 120 | 7. 828 | 55, 292 | 144 | 1. 548 | 2. 4 | 913 |
| August | 6S. 238 | 64, 648 | 63, 408 | 7, 474 | 55, 934 | 170 | 1, 240 | 1. 9 | 868 |
| September | 67.127 | 63. 552 | 62, 306 | 7, 262 | 55.044 | 141 | 1. 246 | 2. 0 | 830 |
| October. | 66. 954 | 63, 404 | 62, 242 | 7, 159 | 55, 083 | 133 | 1, 162 | 1. 8 | 897 |
| November | 66. 874 | 63, 353 | 61, 925 | 6. 651 | 55, 274 | 183 | 1, 428 | 2. 3 | 1, 198 |
| December. | 66, 106 | 62, 614 | 60, 764 | 5, 438 | 55, 326 | 195 | 1, 850 | 3. 0 | 1,632 |
| 1954: January | 65, 589 | 62, 137 | 59, 778 | 5. 345 | 54, 433 | 273 | 2. 359 | 3. 8 | 2, 205 |
| February.. | 66. 905 | 63, 491 | 60, 106 | 5, 626 | 54, 480 | 177 | 3, 385 | 5. 3 | 2,362 |
| 230-area sample: ${ }^{\text {b }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1954: January | 66. 292 | 62, 840 | 59, 753 | 5,284 | 54, 469 | 427 | 3. 087 | 4. 9 | 2,205 |
| February | 67. 139 | 63, 725 | 60, 055 | 5. 704 | 54, 351 | 216 | 3. 671 | 5. 8 | 2, 362 |
| March. | 67.218 | 63, 825 | 60, 100 | 5. 875 | 54, 225 | 236 | 3. 725 | 5. 8 | 2,389 |
| April.........- | 67.438 | 64, 063 | 60,598 | 6. 076 | 54, 322 | 216 | 3. 465 | 5. 4 | 2, 383 |
| May-........--- | 67.786 | 64.425 | 61, 119 | 6.822 | 54, 297 | 294 | 3, 305 | 5.1 | ${ }^{\text {¢ }} 2,249$ |

[^2]Gains in employment in construction, transportation, and service industries in May failed to offset the continued decline in manufacturing emplovment.


| Period | Manufacturing |  |  | Contract construction | Wholesale and retail trade | Finance, service. etc. | Government (Federal, State, local) | Transpor- <br> tation <br> and <br> public <br> utilities | Mining |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | $\begin{gathered} \text { Durable } \\ \text { goods } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Nondu- } \\ \text { rable goods } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1939 monthly average. | 10, 078 | 4, 683 | 5,394 | 1, 150 | 6, 612 | 4,703 | 3,987 | 2, 912 | 845 |
| 1948 monthly average. | 15, 321 | 8, 312 | 7,010 | 2, 169 | 9, 519 | 6, 636 | 5,614 | 4, 141 | 982 |
| 1949 monthly average | 14, 178 | 7, 473 | 6, 705 | 2, 165 | 9, 513 | 6, 736 | 5, 837 | 3, 949 | 918 |
| 1950 monthly average | 14, 967 | 8, 085 | 6, 882 | 2, 333 | 9, 645 | 6, 894 | 5, 992 | 3, 977 | 889 |
| 1951 monthly average | 16, 104 | 9, 080 | 7, 024 | 2, 603 | 10,012 | 7, 140 | 6, 348 | 4, 166 | 916 |
| 1952 monthly average | 16, 334 | 9, 340 | 6,994 | 2, 634 | 10, 281 | 7, 380 | 6, 609 | 4, 185 | 885 |
| 1953 monthly average. | 17,259 | 10, 129 | 7, 131 | 2, 644 | 10, 533 | 7, 511 | 6, 645 | 4, 224 | 844 |
| 1953: April | 17, 309 | 10,283 | 7, 026 | 2, 509 | 10,370 | 7, 492 | 6, 691 | 4, 197 | 845 |
| May | 17, 283 | 10, 269 | 7,014 | 2, 607 | 10, 405 | 7, 548 | 6, 613 | 4, 233 | 842 |
| June. | 17, 416 | 10, 301 | 7,115 | 2, 711 | 10, 473 | 7,613 | 6, 585 | 4, 260 | 846 |
| July | 17, 336 | 10, 190 | 7, 146 | 2, 768 | 10, 414 | 7,674 | 6, 405 | 4, 283 | 836 |
| August | 17,537 | 10, 192 | 7, 345 | 2, 825 | 10, 392 | 7,668 | 6, 422 | 4, 274 | 844 |
| September | 17, 510 | 10, 145 | 7,365 | 2. 866 | 10, 523 | 7,607 | 6, 590 | 4, 265 | 839 |
| Oetober. | 17, 301 | 10, 072 | 7,229 | 2, 889 | 10,669 | 7, 546 | 6, 692 | 4, 257 | 826 |
| November | 16,988 | 9, 897 | 7, 091 | 2, 789 | 10, 828 | 7, 501 | 6, 700 | 4, 216 | 829 |
| December | 16, 765 | 9, 773 | 6,992 | 2, 632 | 11,361 | 7,475 | 6, 955 | 4,187 | 822 |
| 1954: January | 16, 434 | 9,591 | 6, 843 | 2, 349 | 10, 421 | 7,410 | 6, 659 | 4, 069 | 805 |
| February | 16, 322 | 9, 480 | 6, 842 | 2, 356 | 10,310 | 7, 424 | 6,639 | 4, 039 | 790 |
| March | 16, 234 | 9, 389 | 6,845 | 2, 415 | 10, 305 | 7,463 | 6, 667 | 3, 992 | 772 |
| April ${ }^{2}$ | 15, 996 | 9, 251 | 6,745 | 2, 536 | 10, 485 | 7,585 | 6, 698 | 4, 006 | 750 |
| May ${ }^{2}$ | 15, 803 | 9, 128 | 6, 675 | 2,613 | 10, 411 | 7,639 | 6, 703 | 4, 020 | 743 |

${ }^{3}$ Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in nonagricultural establishments who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Excludes proprjetors, self-emploved 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 pro prietors, self-employed persons, and domestic servants; which count persons as employed when they are not at work because of industrial disputes; and which art ased on an enumeration of jopulation, whereas the estimates in this table are based on reports from employing establisbments.

Noth.-Beginning with 1951, data bave been adjusted to first quarter 1953 benchmark levels.
Source: Department of Labor.

## AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS - SElected industries

The average workweek of factory production workers increased 0.3 hours in May to 39.3 hours. However, the workweek averaged 1.4 hours less than a year earlier.

[Hours per week, for production workers or nonsupervisory employees]

| Period |  | Manufacturing |  |  | Building construction | Retail trade |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Durable goods | Nondurable goods |  |  |
| 1939 m | monthly average.. | 37.7 | 38. 0 | 37. 4 | 32.6 | 42.7 |
| 1943 m | monthiy average. | 44. 9 | 46. 6 | 42.5 | 38. 4 | 40. 3 |
| 1946 m | monthly average. | 40.4 | 40.2 | 40.5 | 38. 1 | 40. 7 |
| 1948 m | monthly average. | 40. 1 | 40.5 | 39.6 | ${ }^{1} 37.3$ | 40.3 |
| 1949 m | monthly average. | 39. 2 | 39.5 | 38.8 | 36. 7 | 40.4 |
| 1950 m | monthly average. | 40.5 | 41.2 | 39.7 | 36.3 | 40.5 |
| 1951 m | monthly average. | 40.7 | 41.6 | 39.5 | 37.2 | 40. 2 |
| 1952 m | monthly average... | 40. 7 | 41.5 | 39. 6 | 38.1 | 39.9 |
| 1953 n | monthly average. | 40.5 | 41.3 | 39.5 | 37.0 | 39.3 |
| 1953: | April | 40. 8 | 41.7 | 39. 5 | 36.9 | 39.1 |
|  | May | 40.7 | 41.5 | 39.5 | 37.3 | 39.0 |
|  | June... | 40. 7 | 41.4 | 39. 7 | 37.8 | 39.4 |
|  | July.. | 40.3 | 40.8 | 39.6 | 37.1 | 39.9 |
|  | August... | 40. 5 | 41.1 | 39. 6 | 37.6 | 39.8 |
|  | September-- | 39.9 | 40.6 | 39.0 | 36.1 | 39. 1 |
|  | October-- | 40.3 | 41.0 | 39.3 | 37.7 | 38. 9 |
|  | December. | 40.2 | 40.8 | 39. 3 | 36.3 | 39. 2 |
| 1954: | January | 39.4 | 40.1 | 38. 5 | 33.9 | 39. 0 |
|  | February | 39.6 | 40. 2 | 38. 8 | 36. 0 | 39. $]$ |
|  | March- | 39. 5 | 40. 0 | 38. 8 | 36.4 | 39. ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |
|  | April ${ }^{2}$ - | 39. 0 | 39.7 | 38. 0 | (3) 36.5 | 39.1 |
|  | May ${ }^{2}$ | 39. 3 | 40.0 | 38. 4 | ${ }^{(3)}$ | ${ }^{(3)}$ |

1 Dats beginning with January 1948 are not strictly comparable with those for earlier periocs
${ }^{2}$ Not arailable.
NoiE.-Beginning with 1951, data have been revised as the result of adjusting employment series to a more recent"benchmark.
Source: Department of Labor.

## AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS - SELECTED industries

Average hourly earnings of production workers in manufacturing industries rose slightly in May. They reached $\$ 1.81$ per hour, or 5 cents above a year aso.


| Period | All manufacturing |  | Durable goods manufacturing |  | Nondurable goods manufacturing |  | Building construction |  | Retail trade |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current prices | 1953 prices ${ }^{1}$ | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1953 \\ \text { prices }{ }^{1} \end{gathered}$ | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1953 \\ \text { prices } 1 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1953 \\ \text { prices }^{1} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1953 \\ \text { prices } \end{gathered}$ |
| 1939 monthly average . | 80.633 | \$1.220 | \$0.698 | \$1.345 | \$0. 582 | \$1. 121 | 80.932 | \$1.796 | \$0.542 | \$1.044 |
| 1943 monthly average. | 961 | 1. 485 | 1. 059 | 1. 637 | . 803 | 1. 241 | 1. 252 | 3. 935 | . 679 | 1. 049 |
| 1946 monthly average. | 1. 086 | 1. 490 | 1. 156 | 1. 586 | 1. 015 | 1. 392 | 1. 478 | 2. 027 | . 893 | 1. 225 |
| 1947 monthly average | 1. 237 | 1. 481 | 1. 292 | 1. 547 | 1. 171 | 1. 402 | 1. 681 | 2. 013 | 1. 009 | 1. 208 |
| 1948 monthly average - | 1. 350 | 1. 502 | 1. 410 | 1. 568 | 1. 278 | 1. 422 | ${ }^{2} 1.848$ | 22. 056 | 1. 088 | 1. 210 |
| 1949 monthly average. | 1. 401 | 1. 574 | 1. 463 | 1. 651 | 1. 325 | 1. 489 | 1. 935 | 2. 174 | 1. 137 | J. 278 |
| 1950 monthly average. | 1. 465 | 1. 630 | 1. 537 | 1. 710 | 1. 378 | 1. 533 | 2. 031 | 2. 259 | 1. 176 | 1. 305 |
| 1951 monthly average. | 1. 59 | 1. 64 | 1. 65 | 1. 72 | 1. 48 | 1. 53 | 2. 19 | 2. 26 | 1. 26 | 1. 30 |
| 1952 monthly average | 1. 67 | 1.68 | 1. 74 | 1. 78 | 1. 54 | 3. 55 | 2. 31 | 2.33 | 1. 32 | 1. 33 |
| 1953 monthly average | 1. 77 | 1. 77 | 1.87 | 1. 87 | 1.61 | 1. 61 | 2. 48 | 2. 48 | 1. 40 | 1. 40 |
| 1953: April. | 1. 75 | 1. 76 | 1. 86 | 1. 87 | 1.59 | 1. 60 | 2. 44 | 2.45 | 1. 38 | 1. 39 |
| May. | 1. 76 | 1. 77 | 1. 86 | 1. 87 | 1. 60 | 1. 60 | 2. 44 | 2. 45 | 1. 39 | 1. 39 |
| June. | 1. 77 | 1. 77 | 1. 87 | 1. 87 | 1. 60 | 1. 60 | 2. 44 | 2. 44 | J. 40 | 1. 40 |
| July | 1. 77 | 1. 76 | 1.88 | 1. 87 | 1. 61 | 1. 61 | 2.45 | 2. 46 | 1. 41 | 1. 41 |
| August | 1. 77 | 1. 76 | 1. 88 | 1.87 | 1. 61 | 1.60 | 2. 49 | 2.48 | 1. 41 | 1. 40 |
| Septemb | 1. 79 | 1. 78 | 1. 90 | 1. 89 | 1. 63 | 1. 62 | 2. 52 | 2. 50 | 1. 42 | 1. 41 |
| October | 1. 79 | 1. 76 | 1. 90 | 1.88 | 1.62 | 1. 61 | 2. 54 | 2. 52 | 1. 42 | 1.4) |
| November | 1. 79 | 1. 78 | 1. 89 | 1. 88 | 1.63 | 1.62 | 2.55 | 2. 54 | 1. 42 | 1.43 |
| December | 1. 80 | 1. 79 | 1. 90 | 1. 89 | 1.64 | 1. 63 | 2.57 | 2. 56 | 1. 39 | 1. 38 |
| 1954: January | 1. 80 | 1. 79 | 1. 9] | 1. 90 | 1.65 | 1. 63 | 2.58 | 2. 56 | 1. 43 | 1. 42 |
| Februar | 1. 80 | 1. 79 | 1. 90 | 1. 89 | 1.65 | 1. 64 | 2. 59 | 2. 58 | 1.43 | 1. 42 |
| March. | 1. 79 | 1. 78 | 1. 90 | 1. 89 | 1. 65 | 1.65 | 2. 59 | 2. 58 | 1. 43 | 1. 43 |
| April ${ }^{3}$ | 1. 80 | 1. 80 | 1. 90 | 1. 90 | 1. 65 | 1. 65 | 2. 57 | 2. 56 | 1. 43 | 1. 43 |
| May ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 1. 81 | (4) | 1. 91 | (4) | 1. 66 | (4) | (s) | (4) | (4) | (9) |

1 ]armings in current prices divided by consumer price index on base $1953=100 \quad$ Preliminary estimates.
J Jato buthing with Janmary jo4n are not strictls comparable with those for earlier periods. Not arailable.
Not - brgmany win lut data have been revised as the result of adjusting employment series to a more recent benchmarb. Source: Department of Labor.

## AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS - SELECTED INDUSTRIES

Average weekly earnings of factory production workers increased 93 cents in May to $\$ 71.13$, reflecting a longer workweek and a small rise in hourly earnings. Earnings were only 50 cents below the May postwar peak reached last year.

[For production workers or nonsupervisory employees]

| Period | All manufacturing |  | Durable goods manufacturing |  | Nondurable goods manufacturing |  | Building construction |  | Retail trade |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1953 \\ \text { prices } 1 \end{gathered}$ | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1953 \\ \text { prices } \end{gathered}$ | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1953 \\ \text { prices } \end{gathered}$ | Current prices | $\underset{\text { prices }}{1953}$ | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1953 \\ \text { prices } \end{gathered}$ |
| 1939 monthly a | \$23. 86 | \$45. 97 | \$26. 50 | \$51. 06 | \$21. 78 | \$41. 97 | \$30. 39 | \$58. 55 | \$23. 14 | \$44. 59 |
| 1943 monthly average | 43. 14 | 66.68 | 49.30 | 76. 20 | 34. 12 | 52. 74 | 48. 13 | 74. 39 | 27.36 | 42. 29 |
| 1946 monthly average | 43. 82 | 60.11 | 46. 49 | 63. 77 | 41.14 | 56.43 | 56. 24 | 77.15 | 36. 35 | 49. 86 |
| 1947 monthly average | 49.97 | 59. 84 | 52. 46 | 62. 83 | 46. 96 | 56.24 | 63. 30 | 75. 81 | 40.66 | 48. 69 |
| 1948 monthly average | 54. 14 | 60.22 | 57.11 | 63. 53 | 50.61 | 56. 30 | ${ }^{2} 68.85$ | ${ }^{2} 76.59$ | 43. 85 | 48. 78 |
| $194!9$ monthly average | 54. 92 | 61. 71 | 58. 03 | 65.20 | 51. 41 | 57.76 | 70. 95 | 79. 72 | 45. 93 | 51.61 |
| 1950 monthly average | 59. 33 | 66. 00 | 63. 32 | 70. 43 | 54. 71 | 60. 86 | 73. 73 | 82.01 | 47. 63 | 52.98 |
| 1951 monthly average | 64. 71 | 66. 71 | 69. 47 | 71. 62 | 58.46 | 60.27 | 81.47 | 83. 99 | 50.65 | 52. 22 |
| 1952 monthly average | 67. 97 | 68. 52 | 73.46 | 74. 05 | 60. 98 | 61. 47 | 88. 01 | 88. 72 | 52.67 | 53. 09 |
| $195 \%$ monthly average | 71.69 | 71.69 | 77. 23 | 77.23 | 63.60 | 63. 60 | 91. 76 | 91.76 | 55.02 | 55. 02 |
| 1953: April. | 71.40 | 71. 83 | 77.56 | 78.05 | 62.81 | 63. 19 | 90.04 | 90.58 | 53.96 | 54. 29 |
| May | 71.63 | 71. 85 | 77. 19 | 77.42 | 63. 20 | 63. 39 | 91.01 | 91.28 | 54. 21 | 54. 37 |
| June | 72.04 | 71.97 | 77. 42 | 77.34 | 63.52 | 63. 46 | 92. 23 | 92. 14 | 55. 16 | 55. 10 |
| July | 71.33 | 71. 12 | 76.70 | 76.47 | 63. 76 | 63.57 | 91. 64 | 91. 37 | 56. 26 | 56. 09 |
| August | 71.69 | 71. 33 | 77.27 | 76. 89 | 63. 76 | 63. 44 | 93. 62 | 93. 15 | 56.12 | 55. 84 |
| Septembe | 71. 42 | 70.92 | 77. 14 | 76. 60 | 63.57 | 63. 13 | 90.97 | 90. 34 | 55.52 | 55. 13 |
| October | 72. 14 | 71.50 | 77. 90 | 77.21 | 63.67 | 63. 10 | 95. 76 | 94.91 | 55. 24 | 54. 75 |
| November | 71. 60 | 71. 24 | 76. 73 | 76. 35 | 63.73 | 63. 41 | 93. 59 | 93. 12 | 55. 10 | 54.83 |
| jecemb | 72. 36 | 72.07 | 77.52 | 77. 21 | 64.45 | 64. 19 | 93. 29 | 92.92 | 54. 49 | 54. 27 |
| 954: January | 70. 92 | 70.43 | 76. 59 | 76. 06 | -63. 53 | 63. 09 | 87.46 | 86. 85 | 55. 77 | 55. 38 |
| Februar | 71. 28 | 70.93 | 76.38 | 76. 00 | 64.02 | 63. 70 | 93. 24 | 92. 78 | 55. 91 | 55. 63 |
| Natel | 70. 71 | 70. 50 | 76.00 | 75.77 | 64.02 | 63. 83 | 94. 28 | 94.00 | 55. 91 | 55. 74 |
| April | 70. 20 | 70.06 | 75. 43 | 75. 28 | 62. 70 | 62. 57 | 93.81 | 93. 62 | 55. 91 | 55. 80 |
| May | 71. 13 | (4) | 76. 40 | ( ${ }^{4}$ ) | 63.74 | ( ${ }^{\text {c }}$ | (4) | (4) | (4) | (4) |

1 Earnings in current prlces dirided by consumer price indes on base $1953=100$.

[^3]2 Data beginning with January 1948 are not strictly with those for earlier periods
N OTE.- Beginuing with 1951, Gata bave been revised as the result of adjusting employment serjes 10 a more recent benchmart.
Source: Department of labor.

## トKUVUU゙I゙IUN AND BUぶNEから AU゙IIVIIY INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

The industrial production index is estimated to have increased in May to 125 （1947－49＝100）－the first rise since last July．Increases occurred in many lines．

$[1947-49=100$, seasonally adjusted］

| Period |  | Total industrial production | Manufactures |  |  | Minerals |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Durable | Nondurable |  |
| 1939 |  |  | 58 | 57 133 | 49 162 | ${ }^{66}$ | 68 |
| 1943 |  | 127 90 | 133 90 | 162 86 | $\begin{array}{r}103 \\ 95 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | 87 91 |
| 1947 |  | 100 | 100 | 101 | 99 | 100 |
| 1948 |  | 104 | 103 | 104 | 102 | 106 |
| 1949 |  | 97 | 97 | 95 | 99 | 94 |
| 1950 |  | 112 | 113 | 116 | 111 | 105 |
| 1951 |  | 120 | 121 | 128 | 114 | 115 |
| 1952 |  | 124 | 125 | 136 | 114 | 114 |
| 1953. |  | 134 | 136 | 153 | 118 | 116 |
| 1953： | March． | 135 | 137 | 155 | 119 | 115 |
|  | April． | 136 | 138 | 155 | 121 | 115 |
|  | May | 137 | 139 | 156 | 123 | 117 |
|  | June．． | 136 | 138 | 154 | 121 | 119 |
|  | July－－ | 137 | 139 | 157 | 121 | 120 |
|  | August．．．．． | 136 | 138 | 157 | 119 | 119 |
|  | September．－ | 133 | 135 | 152 | 117 | 118 |
|  | October－－－ | 132 | 134 | 151 | 117 | 114 |
|  | November | 129 | 131 | 146 | 115 | 111 |
|  | December | 126 | 127 | 142 | 112 | 113 |
| 1954： | Jaduary－ | 125 | 127 | 140 | 113 | 113 |
|  | February． | 124 | 126 | 139 | 113 | 113 |
|  | March ${ }^{1}$ | 123 | 124 | 135 | 114 | 112 |
|  | April ${ }^{1}$ ． | 123 | 125 | 134 135 | 115 | 111 |
|  | May ${ }^{1}$ ． | 125 | 126 | 135 | 117 | 112 |

${ }^{1}$ Preliminary estimates for May and revised estimstos for March and A pril became available after chart was prepared．
Source：Board of Governors of the Federsl Reserve System．
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## WEEKLY PRODUCTION - SELECTED INDICATORS

Steel production showed some improvement in May, exceeding 70 percent of theoretical capacity for the first time since early March. Electric power distribution continued to run above levels of a year earlier. Auto assemblies, increasing for the third consecutive month, reached the highest rate since last August.


| Period | Steel |  | Electric power by utilities (millions of kilowatt-hours) | Bituminous coal (thousands of short tons) ${ }^{2}$ | Cars and trucks (number) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Thousands of net tons | Percent of theoretical capacity ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |
| Weekly average: |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1950 | 1,857 | 96.9 | 6,183 | 1,687 | 154, 212 |
| 1951 | 2,018 | 100. 9 | 6958 | 1, 772 | 129, 828 |
| 1952 | 1, 782 | 85. 8 | 7451 | 1, 548 | 106, 834 |
| 1953 | 2,141 | 94.9 | 8, 244 | 1, 507 | 140, 551 |
| 1953: April | 2,225 | 98.7 | 8. 018 | 1, 468 | 166, 322 |
| May | 2, 257 | 100. 1 | 7. 956 | 1, 465 | 149, 834 |
| June- | 2, 192 | 97.2 | 8. 279 | 1, 603 | 150, 252 |
| July. | 2, 099 | 93.1 | 8, 238 | 1, 540 | 154, 274 |
| August.. | 2, 123 | 94.2 | 8. 488 | 1. 549 | 147, 542 |
| September | 2,076 | 92. ${ }^{94} 7$ | S, 352 | 1,640 1,503 | 128,375 140,317 |
| Novenber | 2, 026 | 89.9 | 8, 352 | 1, 496 | 103, 57 ti |
| December | 1, 798 | 79.7 | 8, 502 | 1, 466 | 103, 511 |
| 1954: January- | 1, 795 | 75.3 | 8, 918 | 1, 346 | 138, 387 |
| February | 1, 771 | 74.3 | 8, 576 | 1, 226 | 132, 416 |
| Marsh.- | 1,646 | 69. 0 | 8. 526 | 1, 146 | 136, 951 |
| April | 1,625 | 68. 1 | 8,347 | 1, 109 | 144, 140 |
| Week ended: ${ }^{\text {May }}{ }^{3}$ - | 1, 686 | 70.7 | 8, 406 | 1, 142 | 144, 496 |
| 1954: May 1. | 1,637 | 68.7 | 8, 390 | 1, 113 | 148, 238 |
|  | 1,654 | 69. 4 | 8, 438 | 1, 129 | 144, 533 |
| 15 | 1, 690 | 70. 9 | 8, 380 | 1, 183 | 143, 629 |
| 22 | 1, 712 | 71. 8 | 8, 373 | 1, 192 | 148, 645 |
| 293 | 1, 698 | 71.2 | 8, 433 | 1, 206 | 141, 177 |
| June $5^{5}{ }^{3}$ | 1,674 1,740 | 70.2 | 8, 246 | 1,194 | 111,588 |

[^4]
## PRODUCTION OF SELECTED MANUFACTUKE*

Production of most major groups of manufacturing industries in May equalled or exceeded somewhat their April levels.

[1947-49 $=100$, seasonally adjusted]

| Period | Durable manufactures |  |  |  | Nondurable manufactures |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Primary metals | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Lumber } \\ & \text { and } \\ & \text { products } \end{aligned}$ | Machinery | $\begin{gathered} \text { Transpor- } \\ \text { tation } \\ \text { equip- } \\ \text { ment } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Textiles and apparel | Petroleum and coal products | Food and beverage manufactures | Chemicals and allied products |
| 1939 | 53 | 80 | 38 | 48 | 80 | 63 | 66 | 45 |
| 1947 | 103 | 101 | 103 | 96 | 99 | 97 | 101 | 97 |
| 1948 | 107 | 106 | 104 | 102 | 103 | 104 | 99 | 103 |
| 1949 | 90 | 93 | 93 | 102 | 97 | 99 | 100 | 101 |
| 1950 | 115 | 113 | 114 | 120 | 110 | 110 | 103 | 121 |
| 1951 | 126 | 113 | 130 | 135 | 106 | 122 | 105 | 136 |
| 1952 | 116 | 111 | 147 | 154 | 105 | 123 | 105 | 137 |
| 1953 | 132 | 118 | 160 | 189 | 107 | 130 | 107 | 147 |
| 1953: February | 137 | 124 | 163 | 191 | 108 | 128 | 107 | 143 |
| March | 136 | 121 | 163 | 190 | 110 | 128 | 107 | 145 |
| April | 136 | 120 | 164 | 190 | 113 | 131 | 108 | 148 |
| May | 139 | 119 | 162 | 192 | 115 | 131 | 109 | 151 |
| June. | 137 | 114 | 161 | 188 | 113 | 131 | 106 | 150 |
| July .-- | 136 | 119 | 164 | 196 | 111 | 132 | 108 | 152 |
| August | 137 | 116 | 165 | 191 | 106 | 132 | 108 | 148 |
| September | 130 | 114 | 161 | 186 | 102 | 131 | 109 | 147 |
| October... | 128 | 117 | 159 | 189 | 102 | 129 | 108 | 146 |
| November | 122 | 115 | 152 | 180 | 98 | 129 | 108 | 145 |
| December | 113 | 110 | 146 | 182 | 95 | 128 | 103 | 146 |
| 1954: Jamuary | 111 | 115 | 143 | 183 | 96 | 124 | 105 | 143 |
| February | 109 | 120 | 141 | 178 | 95 | 126 | 106 | 146 |
| March ${ }^{1}$. | 103 | 116 | 138 | 171 | 97 | 122 | 107 | 146 |
| April ${ }^{1}$ | 104 | 113 | 138 | 172 | 101 | 122 | 106 | 146 |
| May ${ }^{1}$ | 106 |  | 138 | 177 | 103 | 121 | 109 | 148 |

1 Preliminary estimates for May and revised estimates for March and April became available after chart was prepared. Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

## GKUSS PKIVAIE DUNLEHILC INVESHMEIN'

Gross private domestic investment in the first quarter of 1954 fell $\$ 2$ billion (seasonally adjusted annual rate). Inventory investment fell by $\$ 1.8$ billion while investment in fixed capital declined only $\$ 200$ million. An increase in new construction offset a decline in producers' durable equipment.

[Billions of dollars]

| Period |  | Total gross private domestic investment | New construction |  |  | Producers' durable equipment | Change in business inventories |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Residential nonfarm | Other |  |  |
| 1930. |  |  | 9. 9 | 4. 9 | 2.7 | 2.2 | 4. 6 | 0.4 |
| 1944 |  | 7. 7 | 2. 8 | . 8 | 2. 0 | 5. 7 | $-.8$ |
| 1046 |  | 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 |
| 1040 |  | 33.5 | 17.2 | 8.3 | 9.0 | 18.7 | -2. 5 |
| 1050. |  | 52.5 | 22. 7 | 12.6 | 10. 1 | 22.3 | 7.5 |
| 106. |  | 58.6 | 23. 1 | 11.0 | 12. 2 | 24.6 | 10. 9 |
| 1052. |  | 52.5 | 23. 4 | 11. 1 | 12. 3 | 25. 4 | 3. 7 |
| 11163 |  | 54.4 | 25.1 | 11.8 | 13. 3 | 26. 7 | 2.5 |
|  |  | Seasonally adjusted annual rates |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.2 | Third quarter |  | 23.1 | 10. 8 | 12. 3 | 24. 9 | 4.2 |
|  | Fourth quarter. | 57. 9 | 23. 9 | 11.6 | 12. 3 | 25. 5 | 8.5 |
| 106a: | Fimt quarter | 54.9 | 25.0 | 12. 2 | 12. 8 | 26. 2 | 3. 7 |
|  | Wewnd quarter | 58.5 | 25. 3 | 12.0 | 13.4 | 26.9 | 6. 3 |
|  | Third quarter | 55. 2 | 24.9 | 11.5 | 13.4 | 27. 1 | 3.1 -3.0 |
|  | Fommh quarter. | 48.8 | 25.3 | 11. 6 | 13. 6 | 26. 5 | $-3.0$ |
| 106. | 1 imat gurter. | 46. 8 | 26. 4 | 12. 3 | 14. 1 | 25. 2 | -4.8 |

[^5]
## EXPENDITURES FOR NEW PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Business expenditures for new plant and equipment totaled $\$ 27.5$ billion (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in the first quarter of this year and are scheduled at a rate of almost $\$ 27$ billion in the second and third quarters, according to a survey made in April and May. Manufacturing and transportation industries anticipate slightly lower expenditures during the second and third quarters, while other nonagricultural industries plan small increases.

[Billions of dollars]

| Period | Total ${ }^{1}$ | Manufacturing |  |  | Mining | Transportation |  | Public utilities | Commercial and other ${ }^{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Durable goods | Nondurable goods |  | Railroads | Other |  |  |
| 1939 | 5. 51 | 1. 94 | 0.76 | 1. 19 | 0. 33 | 0.28 | 0.36 | 0. 52 | 2.08 |
| 1945 | 8. 69 | 3. 98 | 1. 59 | 2. 39 | . 38 | . 55 | . 57 | . 50 | 2.70 |
| 1948 | 22. 06 | 9. 13 | 3. 48 | 5. 65 | . 88 | 1. 32 | 1. 28 | 2. 54 | 6. 90 |
| 1949 | 19. 28 | 7.15 | 2. 59 | 4. 56 | . 79 | 1. 35 | . 89 | 3. 12 | 5. 98 |
| 1950 | 20. 60 | 7.49 | 3. 14 | 4. 36 | . 71 | 1. 11 | 1. 21 | 3. 31 | 6. 78 |
| 1951 | 25. 64 | 10. 85 | 5. 17 | 5. 68 | . 93 | 1. 47 | 1. 49 | 3. 66 | 7. 24 |
| 1952 | 26. 49 | 11. 63 | 5. 61 | 6. 02 | . 98 | 1. 40 | 1. 50 | 3. 89 | 7. 09 |
| $1953{ }^{3}$ | 28. 39 | 12. 28 | 5. 82 | 6. 46 | 1. 01 | 1. 31 | 1.46 | 4. 55 | 7. 78 |
|  | Seasonally adjusted annual rates |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1953: First quarter-------- | 27.84 | 12. 35 | 5. 98 | 6. 36 | . 96 | 1. 34 | 1. 38 | 4. 40 | 7. 42 |
| Second quarter------- | 28. 48 | 12. 26 | 5. 88 | 6. 38 | . 93 | 1. 34 | 1. 38 | 4. 64 | 7. 92 |
| Third quarter ......- | 28. 92 | 12. 30 | 5. 76 | 6. 54 | 1. 06 | 1. 30 | 1. 59 | 4. 72 | 7. 94 |
| Fourth quarter .-.... | 28. 56 | 12. 22 | 5. 69 | 6. 53 | 1. 10 | 1. 26 | 1. 52 | 4. 46 | 8. 00 |
| 1954: First quarter---.--- | 27.48 | 11. 87 | 5. 50 | 6. 37 | . 95 | 1. 06 | 1. 47 | 4. 29 | 7. 84 |
| Second quarter ${ }^{4}$ - - -- | 26. 94 | 11. 42 | 5. 54 | 5. 87 | . 98 | . 86 | 1. 27 | 4. 44 | 7. 98 |
| Third quarter ${ }^{4}$-....-- | 26. 79 | 11. 02 | 5. 09 | 5. 94 | 1. 04 | . 70 | 1. 30 | 4. 53 | 8. 20 |

Exchudes agriculture
2 Commercial and other includes trade, service, finance, communications, and construction.
annual total is sum of seasonally unadjusted quarterly expenditures; it does not necessarily coincide with average of seasonally adjusted figures, in part because of adjustments when necessary for systematic tendencies in anticipatory data.

- Estimates based on anticipated capital expenditures as reported by business in April and May 1954.

Note.-These figures do not agree with the totals included in the gross national product estimates of the Department of Commerce, principally because the Iatter 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.

## 

Expenditures for new construction continued at a high level in May with increases occurring in most types of private construction.

[Millions of dollars, seasonally adjusted]

| Period | Total new construction | Private construction |  |  | Federal, State, and local ${ }^{1}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 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. | 1,806 | 1,404 | 715 | 689 | 402 |
| 1949 monthly average. | 1.899 | 1, 365 | 689 | 676 | 534 |
| 1950 monthly average | 2,371 | 1,788 | 1, 050 | 738 | 583 |
| 1951 | 2,598 | 1,814 | 914 | 899 | 785 |
| 1952 | 2, 751 | 1,842 | 925 | 917 | 908 |
| 1953 | 2,938 | 1,990 | 994 | 996 | 948 |
| 1953: April | 2, 988 | 2, 021 | 1, 016 | ], 005 | 967 |
| May | 2,932 | 2, 012 | 1,003 | 1,009 | 920 |
| June | 2,961 | 2, 032 | 1, 031 | 1,001 | 929 |
| July - | 2,916 | 2, 008 | 1, 015 | 993 | 908 |
| August. | 2, 883 | 2, 000 | I. 005 | 995 | 883 |
| September | 2, 925 | 1,994 | 995 | 999 | 931 |
| October. | 2, 880 | 1,982 | 979 | 1,003 | 898 |
| November | 2,936 | 2,002 | 976 | 1,026 | 934 |
| December. | 2,955 | 1,992 | 981 | 1. 011 | 963 |
| 1954: January | 2,956 | 1,992 | 971 | 1,021 | 964 |
| February | 3, 050 | 2, 004 | 972 | 1, 032 | ]. 046 |
| March. | 3, 001 | 2, 017 | 981 | 1, 036 | 984 |
| April | 3, 018 | 2, 055 | 1, 023 | 1, 032 | 963 |
| May ${ }^{2}$ | 3, 052 | 2,091 | 1,053 | 1,038 | 961 |

[^6][^7]
## NEW HOUSING STARTS

The number of new housing starts increased 13 percent in April to a total of 110,000 , which is nearly equal to the total for April 1953. On a seasonally adjusted basis, private starts in April of this year were at an annual rate of $1,159,000$ units. This figure is 8 percent more than the 1953 total.



[^8]Soure: Department of Labor.

## INVENTORIES AND SALES

Total business soles (seasonally odjusted) rose in April for the third consecutive month. Business inventories were reduced by a larger amount thicn in any previous month this year, with most of the decline occurring in stocks of durable goods manufacturers. New orders increcsed for the third month in a row.


| Period | Total business ${ }^{1}$ |  | Retail |  | Manufacturing |  |  | Department stores |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Inventories ${ }^{2}$ | Sales * | Inventories ${ }^{2}$ | Sales ${ }^{3}$ | lnventories ${ }^{2}$ | Sales ${ }^{3}$ | New orders ${ }^{3}$ | Inventories ${ }^{4}$ | Sales ${ }^{8}$ |
|  | Millions of doliars, seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  | Index $1947-49=100$, seasonally adjusted |  |
| 1939 | 20, 051 | 10, 802 | 5, 334 | 3,503 | 11,465 | 5, 112 | 5,354 | 35 | 35 |
| 1946 | 42. 832 | 27, 150 | 11.852 | 8,541 | 24, 457 | 12, 617 | 13,694 | 77 | 90 |
| 1948. | $55,6] 2$ | 36,438 | 15,828 | 10.877 | 31,693 | 17.630 | 17, 350 | 107 | 104 |
| 1949 | 52, 111 | 34, 664 | 15.311 | 10, 893 | 2S, 860 | 16,416 | 15, 903 | 100 | 98 |
| 1950 | 64, 721 | 39,917 | 18,652 | 11. 974 | 34, 314 | 19,285 | 20, 980 | 109 | 105 |
| 1951 | = 75, 268 | ${ }^{5} 44,821$ | - 21, 239 | ${ }^{5} 13,185$ | 42, 004 | 22, 205 | 24, 391 | 129 | 109 |
| 1952 | 77, 109 | 46, 080 | 21,592 | 13,674 | 44, 190 | 23, 046 | 23, 710 | 118 | 110 |
| 1953 | 81, 072 | 4S, S17 | 22.661 | 14,234 | 46, 722 | 25, 271 | 23, 846 | 126 | 112 |
| 1953: March | 78,266 | 49, 671 | 21.981 | 14, 437 | 44, 797 | 25, 763 | 25, 096 | 122 | 115 |
| April. | 78,996 | 50, 186 | 22, 38. | 14, 280 | 45, 164 | 26, 358 | 25, 682 | 125 | 111 |
| May | 79, 678 | 49,395 | 22, 455 | 14, 424 | 45.673 | 25, 816 | 25, 883 | 127 | 117 |
| June | 80, 167 | 50, 003 | 22. 294 | 14.412 | 46, 160 | 25, 882 | 25, 152 | 128 | 115 |
| July | 81, 116 | 50, 398 | 22, 743 | 14, 469 | 46. 485 | 26, 366 | 24,525 | 130 | 113 |
| August | 81,586 | 48, 138 | 22. 775 | 14,073 | 46, 888 | 25, 067 | 22, 339 | 131 | 112 |
| September | 82,000 | 48,652 | 22, 924 | 13,982 | 47,087 | 25,379 | 22, 661 | 128 | 107 |
| October- | 81, 805 | 48. 284 | 22, 720 | 14. 040 | 47, 044 | 25, 010 | 22, 163 | 128 | 110 |
| November | 81, 276 | 47. 518 | 22, 437 | 14, 104 | 46, 909 | 24, 256 | 21, 594 | 127 | 113 |
| 1954. December | 81, 072 | 47. 209 | 22, 661 | 13,932 | 46, 722 | 24, 126 | 22, 026 | 123 | 112 |
| 1954: January | 80,688 | 46, 450 | 22, 521 | 13, 622 | 46, 382 | 23. 902 | 20, 749 | 120 | 107 |
| Februar | 80,390 | 46.714 | 22, 421 | 13,922 | 46,115 | 23, 620 | 22,016 | 119 | 109 |
| March | 80.091 | 47.094 | 22,563 | 13,900 | 45,774 | 24, 064 | 22, 859 | $12]$ | 105 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Apri] } \\ & \text { May } \end{aligned}$ | 79,613 | 47,639 | 22,686 | 14,248 | 45,292 | 24.367 | 23, 058 | 120 | 110 109 |

[^9]
## MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

Commercial exports and imports, increasing sharply in April, set new records for 1954. Part of the gains was attributed to the shipping strike in March. Grent-aid shipments dropped in April.


| Period | [Millions of dollars] |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Merchandise exports |  |  | Merchandise imports | Excess of exports ( + ) or imports ( - ) |  |
|  | Total ${ }^{1}$ | Grant-aid shipments ${ }^{2}$ | Excluding grant-aid shipments |  | Total | Excluding grant-aid shipments |
| 1936-38 monthly averag | 247 |  |  | 207 | $+40$ |  |
| 1946 monthly a verage. | 812 | 54 | 757 | 412 | $+400$ | $+345$ |
| 1948 monthly average | 1,054 |  |  | 594 | $+460$ |  |
| 1949 monthly average. | 1,003 |  |  | 552 | +452 |  |
| 1950 monthly average. | 856 | 24 | 833 | 738 | +118 +339 | +95 |
| 1951 monthly average. | 1,253 | 89 | 1,164 | 914 | +339 | +250 |
| 1952 monthly average. | 1, 266 | 166 | 1, 100 | 893 | +373 +406 | +207 +114 |
| 1953 monthly average... | 1,312 | 292 | 1, 020 | 906 | $+406$ | +114 |
| 1953: March. | 1,390 | 338 | 1,052 | 1,005 | $+386$ | $+48$ |
| April | 1,394 | 340 | 1,054 | 1,013 | +380 | +41 |
| May .- | 1,453 | 368 | 1,085 | 902 | +551 +451 | +183 |
| June.. | 1,384 <br> 1,358 | 372 <br> 398 | 1,012 | 933 908 | +451 +450 + | +79 +52 |
| July August | 1,358 1,186 | 375 275 | ${ }_{911}^{960}$ | 908 840 | +450 +346 | +52 +71 |
| September | 1, 255 | 205 | 1,051 | 925 | +330 | +126 |
| October | 1,253 | 234 | 1, 019 | 814 | +440 | $+206$ |
| November | 1,246 | 216 | 1,030 | 849 | +397 | $+181$ |
| December. | 1,351 | 215 | 1, 136 | 907 | +444 | +228 |
| 1954: January | 1, 092 | 169 | 922 | 834 | $+258$ | $+88$ |
| February | 1,181 | 184 | 997 | 809 | +372 | +188 |
| March | 1, 123 | 204 | 919 | 858 | +265 +464 | +61 +296 |
| April ${ }^{\text {P }}$ | 1, 421 | 167 | 1, 254 | 957 | +464 | +296 |

[^10]
## PURCHASING POWER

## NATIONAL INCOME

Compensation of employees continued to fall moderately in the first quarter of 1954 as employment and hours continued downward. Proprietors' income and net interest showed little or no change. Corporate profits increased.

[Billions of dollars]

${ }^{1}$ Preliminary estimates by Council of Economic Advisers. Data became available after chart was prepared.
Note.-Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

## CUKYUKA'I' FKUH'I'S

Corporate profits, both belore and after taxes, appear to have been somewhat larger in the first quarter of this year than during the preceding quarter. Abolition of the excess profits tax contributed to the relatively favorable showing of profits after taxes.

|Billions of dollaref

| Period | Corporate profits before taxes | Corporate taE liability | Corporate profits after taxer |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Tota | Dividend paymente | Undistributed profite |
| 1439. | 6. 5 | 1.5 | 5. 0 | 3.8 | 1. 2 |
| 1944 | 24.3 | 13.5 | 10. 8 | 4. 7 | f. 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 | 72 | 13. 5 |
| 1949 | 27.1 | 10.8 | 16. 3 | 7.5 | 8. |
| 1950 | 41. 0 | 18.2 | 22.7 | 9. 1 | 13. 6 |
| 1951 | 43.7 | 23.6 | 20.1 | 9.2 | 10.9 |
| 1952 | 39. 2 | 20.6 | 18.6 | 9. 1 | 9. 5 |
| 1953. | 41.9 | 22. 9 | 19.0 | 9. 3 | 9.7 |
| 1952: Third quarter | Seasonally adjusted annual rates |  |  |  |  |
|  | 37. 0 | 19.4 21.2 | 17.519.1 | 9.11 | 8.410.0 |
|  | 40.3 |  |  |  |  |
| 1953: $\begin{array}{r}\text { First quarter } \\ \text { Second quarter } \\ \text { Third quarter } \\ \text { Fourth quarter }\end{array}$ | 44.6 | 24.4 | 20.3 | 9. 2 | 11.1 |
|  | 45. 9 | 25. 0 | 20.8 | 9. 4 | 11.4 |
|  | 4.3 .3 34.0 | 23.6 | 19.6 15.4 | 9. <br> 9. | 10.0 6.0 |
|  |  | 18.5 | 18.0 | 9.6 | 8.4 |
| 1954: First quarter ${ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  | 8.4 |

${ }^{1}$ Preliminary estimates by Conncil of Economic Advisers. Data became availabie after chart was prepared.
Noti.- ite p. 21 for profts before taxes and inventors raluation adjustment. Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Source: Department of Commerce (except as noted).

Personal income in April is estimated at an annual rate of $\$ 282$ billion (seasonally adjusted), $\$ 900$ million lower than in March. Farm income (for which the monthly estimates are especially erratic) fell off at an annual rate of $\$ 800$ million, while the sum of all other incomes declined at a raie of $\$ 100$ million. Wages and salaries extended their decline.



1 Excludes social insurance eontribut mus of employees and. beginnine january 1952 , of selfemployed persons.
2 Includes $\$ 2.7$ billion National Service Life insurance diviond. nost of which was paid in the first hall of the year.
a Preliminary estimates.
Note.-Detall will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.

## CONSUMER INCOME, SPENDING, AND SAVING

Disposable personal income, reflecting a reduction in personal income taxes, showed a small rise in the first quarter of 1954. Consumer spending continued close to the fourth quarter of 1953 rate, with the increase in expenditures for services almost offsetting the drop in outlays for durable goods. Personal net saving is estimated at 8 percent of disposable income.


| Period | Disposable personal income ${ }^{1}$ | Less: Personal consumption expenditures |  |  |  | Equals: Personal net saving | Net baving as percent of disposable income |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Durable goods | Nondurable goods | Services |  |  |
|  | Billions of dollare |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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. 8 | 194.6 | 29.2 | 102. 6 | 62.7 | 11. 3 | 5. 5 |
| 1951 | 225. 0 | 208. 1 | 27.3 | 113.4 | 67.4 | 16.9 | 7.5 |
| 1952 | 235. 0 | 218.1 | 26. 7 | 118.8 | 72.7 | 16. 9 | 7. 2 |
| 1953 | 247.9 | 229. 8 | 30. 1 | 121. 2 | 78.4 | 18.1 | 7. 3 |
|  | Seasonally adjusted annual rates |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1952: Third quarter | 236. 6 | 217.2 | 25.1 | 118.7 | 73.3 | 19.4 | 8.2 |
|  | 243. 0 | 224.4 | 28.2 | 121. 1 | 75.1 | 18.6 | 7.7 |
| 1953: First quarter... | 245. 4 | 227.7 | 30.2 | 121. 2 | 76. 3 | 17. 7 | 7.2 |
| Second quarter | 247.7 | 230. 4 | 30. 7 | 122. 1 | 77. 6 | 17. 2 | 6. 9 |
| Third quarter.. | 249. 8 | 231.0 | 30.4 | 121. 3 | 79.2 | 18.8 | 7. 5 |
| Fourth quarter | 249.3 | 230.0 | 29.1 | 120.4 | 80.5 | 19.3 | 7. 7 |
| 1954: First quarter. | 249.8 | 229.8 | 28.2 | 120.4 | 81.3 | 20.0 | 8.0 |

Income less taxes.
Note.-Detall will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
Source: Department of Commerci.

## ト上K UAFIIA UISFUNABLE INUUME

Per capita disposable income dropped very slightly in the first quarter of 1954.


| Perioci | Total disposable personal income (billions of dollars) ${ }^{1}$ |  | Per capila disposable personal income (dollars) ${ }^{1}$ |  | Population (thousands) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current prices | $\begin{gathered} 1953 \\ \text { prices } \end{gathered}$ | Current prices | $\underset{\text { prices }}{1953}$ |  |
| 1939 | 70.2 | 139.8 | 536 | 1, 067 | 131,028 |
| 1941 | 92.0 | 171.3 | 690 | 1, 284 | 133, 402 |
| 1942 | 116.7 | 193. 2 | 865 | 1, 432 | 134. 860 |
| 1944 | 147.0 | 212.7 | 1, 062 | 1,537 | 138, 397 |
| 1946 | 158. 9 | 206. 6 | 1,124 | 1, 461 | 141,389 |
| 1947 | 159.5 | 200.6 | 1,176 | 1, 392 | 144, 126 |
| 1948 | 188. 4 | 211.4 | 1,285 | 1, 442 | 146, 631 |
| 1949 | 187.2 | 212.5 | 1, 255 | 1, 424 | 149, 188 |
| 1950 | 205. 8 | 228.9 | 1,357 | 1, 509 | 151, 683 |
| 1951 | 225.0 | 232.7 | 1,458 | 1, 508 | 154. 360 |
| 1952 | 235. 0 | 238.1 | 1, 497 | 1,516 | 157, 022 |
| 1953. | 247.9 | 247.9 | ], 553 | 1, 553 | 159, 629 |
|  | Seasonally adjusted annual rates |  |  |  |  |
| 1952: Third quarter | 236. 6 | 239. 0 | 1,503 | 1,518 | 157, 388 |
| Fourth quarter. | 243.0 | 245. 0 | 1,537 | 1, 549 | 158, 109 |
| 1953: First quarter. | 245. 4 | 247.4 | 1,546 | 1,558 | 158, 714 |
| Second quarter | 247.7 | 248.2 | 1,555 | 1,558 | 153. 306 |
| Third quarter - | 249.8 | 248.3 | 1,561 | 1, 552 | 160, 022 |
| Fourth quarter | 249.3 | 247.8 | 1,551 | 1,542 | 160, 764 |
| 1954: First quarter | 249.8 | 247.6 | 1,547 | 1,533 | 161. 436 |

[^11]
## FARM INCOME

Dimng the lirst 4 months of 1954 , farmers received on the average $\$ 2.1$ billion per month from cash marketings and Government payments, about 4 percent below the same pericd in 1953. Livestock receipts were about the same as last year. Crop receipts were about 10 percent lower.


| Period | Farm income (millions of current dollars) | Parity index (prices paid, interest, taxes, and wage rates) $1953=100^{3}$ | Farm income (millions of 1953 dollars) ${ }^{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1939 monthly average. | 715 | 44 | 1, 625 |
| 1942 monthly average. | 1,345 | 54 | 2, 491 |
| 1944 monthly average.. | 1, 763 | 65 | 2, 712 |
| 1946 monthiy average.. | 2, 111 | 75 | 2, 815 |
| 1948 monthly average... | 2, 539 | 93 | 2, 730 |
| 1949 monthly average. | 2, 344 | 90 | 2, 604 |
| 1950 monthly average.. | 2, 384 | 92 | 2,59] |
| 1951 monthly average. | 2,757 | 103 | 2, 730 |
| 1952 monthly average. | 2. 721 | 103 | 2, 642 |
| 1953 monthly average ... | 2,599 | 100 | 2. 59. |
| 1953: March. | 2,119 | 103 | 2,098 |
| April. | 2, 020 | 100 | 2, 020 |
| May - | 2. 009 | 100 | 2, 009 |
| June...... | 2, 156 | 99 | 2, 178 |
| July--- | 2, 404 | 100 | 2, 404 |
| August.- | 2, 461 | 100 | 2,461 |
| September. | 3, 169 | 99 | 3, 201 |
| October-.- | 3, 700 | 99 | 3,737 |
| November. | 3, 443 | 99 | 3,478 |
| December | 2, 986 | 100 | 2, 986 |
| 1954 : January - | 2, 649 | 101 | 2, 623 |
| February... | 1, 942 | 101 | 1.923 |
| March-- | 2, 1.914 | 101 | 1,996 1,895 |

1 Converted from the reported base, $1910-14=100$, to the base $1953=100$.
, Farm income in current dollars dirided by naritr index on base $1953=j 00$

- Jreliminary estimatic

Note-Farm income includes casin receints from marketings and Goverdment parments.

[^12]
## CREDIT, MONEY, AND FEDERAL FINANCE BANK LOANS AND INVESTMENTS

Loans by commercial banks declined slightly in April. Bank holdings of U.S. Government securities increased $\$ 1.5$ billion and holdings of other securities rose $\$ 100$ million.

[Billions of dollars]

| End of period | All commercial banks |  |  |  |  | Weekly reporting member banksbusiness loans ${ }^{1}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total loans and investments | Loans | lnvestments |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Total | U. S. Government securities | Other securities |  |
| 1939 | 40.7 | 17. 2 | 23.4 | 16.3 | 7. 1 | 4. 7 |
| 1945 | 124.0 | 26. 1 | 97.9 | 90.6 | 7.3 | 7.2 |
| 1947 | 116.3 | 38. 1 | 78.2 | 69.2 | 9. 0 | 14.7 |
| 1949 | 120.2 | 43. 0 | 77.2 | 67.0 | 10. 2 | 13.9 |
| 1950 | 126.7 | 52.2 | 74.4 | 62.0 | 12. 4 | 17.9 |
| 1951 | 132.6 | 57.7 | 74. 9 | 61.5 | 13. 3 | 21. 6 |
| 1952 | 141.6 | 64.2 | 77.5 | 63.3 | 14.1 | 23.4 |
| 1953 | 146. 4 | 68.3 | 78.1 | 63.6 | 14. 6 | 23.4 |
| 1953: March | 140.0 | 65.2 | 74.8 | 60.5 | 14. 3 | 23.3 |
| April | 138. 5 | 65.3 | 73. 2 | 58.9 | 14. 4 | 23. 1 |
| May | 138. $]$ | 65.4 | 72.7 | 58.3 | 14. 4 | 22. 8 |
| June. | 138. 0 | 65.0 | 72.9 | 58.6 | 14. 3 | 22. 8 |
| July --. | 143. 2 | 65. 6 | 77. 6 | 63.2 | 14. 3 | 22. 6 |
| August. | 143. 1 | 66. 0 | 77. 1 | 62. 6 | 14. 5 | 22. 9 |
| September. | 143. 0 | 66.3 | 76.7 | 62.2 | 14.5 | 23. 1 |
| October. | 144. 0 | 67.1 | 76.8 | 62.3 | 14.5 | 23. 3 |
| November. | 145. 5 | 67.2 | 78. 3 | 63.7 | 14. 6 | 23. 2 |
| December | 145. 7 | 67.6 | 78.1 | 63.4 | 14.7 | 23.4 |
| 1954: January | 145. 3 | 66. 5 | 78. 9 | 64.2 | 14. 7 | 22.5 |
| February- | 144.9 | 66.9 | 78. 0 | 63.0 | 15. 0 | 22. 4 |
| March | 142.8 | 67.0 | 75.7 | 60.6 | 15. 1 | 22. |
| April 2 | 144.] | 66.8 | 77.4 | 62.1 | 15. 2 | 22.9 |

## CONSUMER CREDIT

Consumer credit outstanding, which rose in April for the first time this year, totaled $\$ 27.3$ billion at the end of the month, or $\$ 179$ milion more than a month ecrlier. Most of the rise occurred in charge accounts.


| End of period | Total consumer credit outstanding | Instalment eredit |  |  |  |  | Noninstalment credit |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total | Auto. mobile paper ${ }^{1}$ | Other consumer goods paper | Repair and modernization: loans ${ }^{2}$ | Personal loans | Total | Charge accounts | Other ${ }^{3}$ |
| 1939 | 7, 222 | 4, 503 | 1,497 | 1, 620 | 298 | 1, 088 | 2, 719 | 1, 414 | 1,305 |
| 1945 | 5, 665 | 2, 462 | 455 | 816 | 182 | 1, 009 | 3, 203 | 1. 612 | 1, 591 |
| 1950 | 20, 813 | 14, 490 | 6, 342 | 4,337 | 1,006 | 2, 805 | 6, 323 | 3, 006 | 3,317 |
| 1951 | 21, 468 | 14, 837 | 6, 242 | 4, 270 | 1,090 | 3, 235 | 6, 631 | 3, 096 | 3, 535 |
| 1952 | 25, 827 | 18. 684 | 8. 099 | 5, 328 | 1, 406 | 3, 851 | 7, 143 | 3, 342 | 3, 801 |
| 1953 | 28, 896 | 21, 807 | 10.289 | 5,605 | 1, 606 | 4. 307 | 7,089 | 3,249 | 3, 840 |
| 1953: March | 25, 946 | 19, 391 | 8,799 | 5, 217 | 1, 416 | 3, 959 | 6,555 | 2. 613 | 3, 942 |
| Apri] | 26. 455 | 19,767 | 9. 111 | 5, 217 | 1,435 | 4, 004 | 6, 688 | 2, 682 | 4, 006 |
| May | 27,056 | 20, 213 | 9, 432 | 5, 272 | 1, 462 | 4, 047 | 6, 843 | 2, 763 | 4, 080 |
|  | 27. 411 | 20, 635 | 9. 692 | 5, 333 | 1,493 | 4,117 | 6, 776 | 2, 781 | 3, 995 |
| July | 27, 581 | 21, 004 | 9. 973 | 5, 351 | 1,516 | 4, 164 | 6, 577 | 2, 705 | 3, 872 |
| August | 27,810 | 21, 218 | 10. 136 | 5, 362 | 1,534 | 4, 186 | 6, 592 | 2, 668 | 3, 924 |
| September | 27, 979 | 21, 347 | 10.232 | 5, 352 | 1,562 | 4, 201 | 6, 632 | 2. 716 | 3, 916 |
| October | 28. 166 | 21. 486 | 10.333 | 5, 366 | 1. 585 | 4. 198 | 6,680 | 2. 811 | 3, 869 |
| November | 28. 252 | 21. 286 | 10.358 | 5,405 | 1,604 | 4, 218 | 6, 666 | 2, 840 | 3, 826 |
| December | 28, 896 | 21, 807 | 10,289 | 5,605 | 1,606 | 4, 307 | 7, 089 | 3, 249 | 3. 840 |
| 1954: January | 28, 125 | 21, 441 | 10.084 | 5. $49 \overline{5}$ | 1,587 | 4, 278 | 6, 681 | 2, 893 | 3,788 |
| February | 27, 478 | 21. 151 | 9. 915 | 5. 377 | 1. 570 | 4, 289 | 6, 327 | 2. 550 | 3. 73 |
| March. | 27.151 | 20.900 | 9. 800 | 5, 220 | 1,554 | 4. 320 | 6. 251 | 2,438 | 3, 813 |
| April | 27,330 | 20, 909 | 9.798 | 5, 188 | 1,554 | 4. 369 | 6. 421 | 2,566 | 3, 855 |

${ }^{1}$ Includes all consumer credit extended for the purpose of purchasing automobiles and otber consumer goods and secured by the items purchased
" Includer oniy such loans beld by fnancial institutions: those beld by retail outlets are included in "otber consumer goods paper."
${ }^{3}$ Single-payment loans and service credii
Note.-Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding. Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve Systerin

## BOND YIELDS AND INTEREST RATES

Yields on 3-month Treasury bills dropped sharply in May to the lowest level in almost 7 years and the rate on prime commercial paper also continued its dowinward course. Both Treasury and corporate bond yields increased for the first time this year.


| [Percent per annum] |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Period | U. S. Government security yields |  |  | Corporate <br> Aaa bonds <br> (Moody's) | Prime commercial paper, 4-6 months |
|  | 3-month <br> Treasury bills ${ }^{\text {: }}$ | Taxable bonds ? |  |  |  |
|  |  | Old series ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | New series ${ }^{4}$ |  |  |
| 1939. | 0.023 |  |  | 3. 01 | 0.59 |
| 1946 | 375 | 2. 19 |  | 2. 53 | . 81 |
| 1950 | 1. 218 | 2. 32 |  | 2. 62 | 1. 45 |
| 1951 | 1. 552 | 2. 57 |  | 2. 86 | 2. 17 |
| 1952 | 1. 760 | 2. 68 |  | 2. 96 | 2. 33 |
| 1953.- | 1. 931 | 2. 93 | 3. 16 | 3. 20 | 2. 52 |
| 1953: May | 2. 200 | 3. 09 | 3. 26 | 3. 34 | 2. 68 |
| June | 2. 231 | 3. 09 | 3. 29 | 3. 40 | 2. 75 |
| July .- | 2. 101 | 2. 99 | 3. 25 | 3. 28 | 2. 75 |
| August--- | 2. 088 | 3. 00 | 3. 22 | 3. 24 | 2. 75 |
| September. | 1. 876 | 2. 97 | 3. 19 | 3. 29 | 2. 74 |
| October November | 1. l . 402 | 2. 283 | 3. 06 | 3. 16 | 2. 55 |
| December | 1. 630 | 2. 7 ? | 2. 96 | 3. 13 | 2. 25 |
| 1954: January | 1. 214 | 2. 68 | 2. 90 | 3. 06 | 2. 13 |
| February | . 984 | 2. 60 | 2. 85 | 2. 95 | 2. 00 |
| March .-. | 1. 053 | 2. 51 | 2. 73 | 2. 86 | 2. 00 |
| April | 1. 011 | 2. 47 | 2. 70 | 2. 85 | 1. 77 |
| Week Mayded------ | . 782 | 2. 52 | 2. 72 | 2. 88 | 1. 59 |
| Week ended: 1954: May ] | 886 | 2. 46 | 2. 69 | 2. 87 |  |
| 1954. May 8 | 773 | 2. 48 | 2. 69 | 2.87 | 1.69 |
| 15 | 825 | 2. 52 | 2. 71 | 2.87 | 1. 56 |
| 22. | 813 | 2. 54 | 2. 72 | 2. 87 | 1. 56 |
| 29. | 718 | 2. 56 | 2. 74 | 2. 89 | 1. 56 |
| June 5- | 714 | 2. 58 | 2. 74 | 2. 91 | 1. 56 |
| 12. | 616 | 2. 56 | 2. 70 | 2. 92 | 1. 56 |

[^13]a Fonds in this classification were first issued in March 1941.
21 -percent bonds first callable afiem 12 years. Prior 10 A pril 1952, omly bonds due or callable after 15 years were included.
Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

## MONEY SUPPLY

Demand'deposits, which had been declining since the end of 1953 , rose about $\$ 2$ billion during April. Time deposits continued to increase. Goverrment deposits were down obout $\$ 1$ billion.

[Billions of dollars]

| End of period |  | Total deposite and currency | U. S. Government deposite ${ }^{1}$ | Total excluding U. S. Government deposite (privately held money supply) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Tota] |  | Currency outside banke | Demand deposite adjusted ${ }^{2}$ | Time deposite ${ }^{2}$ |
| 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 |  | 1727 | 36 | 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 |
| 1951 |  | 189.8 | 3. 9 | 186. 0 | 26. 3 | 98.2 | 61.4 |
| 1952 |  | 200.4 | 5. 6 | 194. 8 | 27.5 | 101. 5 | 65.8 |
| 1953 |  | 205. 8 | 4.5 | 201.3 | 27.8 | 103. 3 | 70.1 |
| 1953: | March | 196. 9 | 5.8 | 191. 0 | 26. 9 | 97.4 | 66.8 |
|  | April. | 195. 4 | 3.2 | 192. 2 | 27.0 | 98.0 | 67.2 |
|  | May | 195. 3 | 3. 3 | 192.1 | 27.0 | 97.5 | 67. 6 |
|  | June- | 196. 6 | 4. 1 | 192.6 | $\stackrel{27.4}{4}$ | 96.9 | 68.3 |
|  | July | 201.3 | 8. 3 | 193. 0 | 27. 2 | 97.4 | 68. 4 |
|  | Angust | 201.1 | 7.7 | 193. 4 | 27.3 | 97.5 | 68.7 |
|  | Septemier | 201.1 | 6. 8 | 194. 3 | 27.5 | 97.7 | 69. 1 |
|  | October- | 201.7 | 4. 4 | 197. 3 | $\stackrel{27.4}{ }$ | 100.3 | 69.6 69.3 |
|  | November | 203.7 | 6.2 4.8 | 197.4 200.9 | $\stackrel{27.9}{ } \stackrel{9}{1}$ |  | $\begin{array}{r}\text { 69. } \\ 70 \\ \hline\end{array}$ |
| 190.0: | Jamuary | 203.5 | 3. 7 | 199.8 | 26.9 | 102.3 | 70.6 |
|  | Febmar | 202. 5 | 5. 0 | 197.4 | 26.9 | 99. 6 | 71.0 |
|  | Marela. | 201.3 | 6. $]$ | 193. 2 | 26. 4 | 96.7 | 71.7 |
|  | April ${ }^{\text {4 }}$ | 202.3 | 5. 0 | 197.3 | 26.7 | 98.6 | 72.0 |

[^14]
## FEDERAL BUDGET RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

Budget receipts dropped seasonally in Apil, while expenditures were moderately lower than in March. The cumulative budget deficit lor the first 10 months of this fiscal year was $\$ 4.8$ billion, compared to a deficit of $\$ 7.9$ billion at the same time last year.


' Jipvisod to include the items classified as "national securit'"in The Rudoet of The United States Government for the Fiscal Yeat Enaino Juge so, 19is. These whphditure tums are: Military services, foreign military assistance. development and control of atomic energy, and allocation of critical and strategir materials.
themues guaranteed securities, except those beld by the Treasury. Not all of total shown is subject to suatutory debt limitation
3 Jepiming with February 1954, the reporting of budget receipts and expenditures has been changed to a basis consistent with that used in preparing budget rstumates. For comparative purposes, figures for fiscal 1953 are shown on a like basis.

NomF-- Jonta for earlier months have not been published by the Treasury Department.
Wetnil will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
sourcus: Treasury Department and Bureau of the Budeet.

FEDERAL CASH RECEIPTS FROM AND PAYMENTS TO THE PUBLIC
The cash surplus of almost $\$ 7$ billion for the first quarter of 1954 compares with a surplus of $\$ 4.4$ billion for the same quarter of 1953 , reflecting a rise of $\$ 0.8$ billion in receipts and a decline of $\$ 1.8$ billion in payments.

[Millions of dollars|

| Calendar year | Federal cash receiptr from the public | Pederai case payments to the public | Exeess of receipte ( + ) or payments (-) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Camendar year totel: |  |  |  |
| 1946. | 41, 441 | 41,399 | $+42$ |
| 1947 | 44, 282 | 38, 616 | +5,666 |
| 1948 | 44, 922 | 36, 897 | +8,02\% |
| 1949 | 41, 346 | 42, 642 | - 1, 295 |
| 1950 | 42, 419 | 41, 969 | $+450$ |
| 1951 | 59,278 | 58. 034 | +1,244 |
| 19.52 | 71,339 | 72, 980 | - ], 641 |
| 1953 | 70,382 | 76,541 | $-6,159$ |
| Ousrteriy totals, not sdjusted for seasonal variation: |  |  |  |
| 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 | 22, 539 | 18, 166 | +4,373 |
| Second quarter | 18, 674 | 21, 049 | -2,375 |
| Third quarter. | 15,502 | 19, 015 | $-3,513$ |
| Fourth quarter | 13,667 | 18,311 | -4,644 |
| 1954: First quarter ${ }^{1}$ | 23, 353 | 16,358 | +6,995 |

: Friminary ostimates; data became available after chart was prepareá.
Note- - hetaij wijn not becessarity add io wotals becatse of tounding.


For faje by the Superintendeni of Documente. D. E. Government Printing office. Wainington 25, D. C


[^0]:    Ratio of index of prices received br farmers to parity index.
    I lncludes wartime subsidy payments paid on beef catule, sheep, lambs, milk, and butterfat between October 1943 and June 1946.
    Source: Department of Agriculture.

[^1]:    1 Inchutes 26 common stocks: 14 for mining, $9 s$ for durable goods manufacturing, 72 for nondurable goods manufacturing, 21 for transportation, 28 for utililis, mad 32 for tradt. finance, and smrice. Indexes are for weeklv chesing prices.
     hource: Becuritien atud Exchange Commission.

[^2]:    Includes part-time workers and these with iohs but not at work for such reasons as vacabon. iliness. bad weather, temporary layoff and industrial disputes. Thenumber of temporary la yofis, which the Census Burean includes in the employment bare (see foomote 1), is shown separately so as to afford a basis for further analysis of emplorment and unemporment

    All proprams, Weeky arerage for perioc. For description of series. see Labor Xarket and Employment Security, April 3954
    i Ferkine 10 iabor force data only. Data pinr 101953 not comparable with subsequent data. Sources: Deparment of Commerce (labor force) and Department of Labor (insured unemployment).

[^3]:    3 Preliminsry eatimates
    4 Not availabie.

[^4]:    1 Percent of capacity based on weekly net ton capacity or $1,906,268$ for the first half of $1950,1,928,721$ beginning July 1, 1950, 1,999,034 beginning January 1,1951 2,077,040 beginning January 1, 1952, 2,254,459 beginning January 1, 1953, and 2,384,549 beginning January 3, 1954. 2 Daily a verage for week. $\quad$ ? Preliminary estimates.
    Sources: American Iron and Steel Institute, Edison Electric Institute, Department of the Interior, and Ward's Automotive Reports. 48050-54-3

[^5]:    He*.. iminil will not necessarily add to totals because of rounding.
    

[^6]:    ${ }^{1}$ Includes public residential construction.
    Note - Data bare been revised beginning with January 1951.

[^7]:    : Preliminary estimates.
    Soures: Department of Commerct and Department of Labor.

[^8]:    1 less than 60.
    2 ]roliminary estinute:

[^9]:    'Also includes wholesale, not shown separately in this tsble
    a Book value, end of period.

    - Monthyy aversge for year and total for month.

    3 New series on retail trade beginning with 10si; not comparable with previous
    4 Book ralue, end of period, except annal Creliminary estimates
    Sources: Department of Commerce and Board of Governory of the Federal Fieserve Esatem.

[^10]:    : Includes shimments under the various grant-aid programs: for some of these programs separate data are not available.
    Beginning with 1950, fifures include only Department of Defense shipments of grant-aid military supplies and equipment under the Mutual Securits Prosram. Shipments for the first 6 months of the program (July-December 1950) amonnted to 282 million dollars.
    ${ }^{2}$ Prefiminary estimate:
    Note-- Detail will not necessarily add to totals because of roundins.
    Sources: Department of Commerce and Department of Defense

[^11]:    1ncome less taxes
    2 Dollar estimates in current prices divided by an over-all implicit price indes for personal consumption expenditures. This price index is based on Department of Commerce data, shifted from a 1939 bast
    ${ }^{3}$ Including armed forces overseas. Annual data as of July 1 ; quarteris dats centered in the midde of the period. interpolated from monthly figures

[^12]:    Source: Department of Agriculture.

[^13]:    1 Rate on new issuns within nerion.

[^14]:    
    
    
    
    

