Monthly Review

ATLANTA, GEORGIA, SEPTEMBER 30, 1956

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DISTRICT BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

The trend of manufacturing activity in the District is upward, with employment and payrolls in most industries rising. Total nonfarm employment is still gaining, and unemployment has declined. Farmers are faring about the same as last year, but their total 1956 income will probably be lower. Consumers continue to spend at near-record rates. Bank loans to business have increased seasonally, but the expansion in other lending has slackened. The reserve position of member banks in the District is somewhat easier than in the United States generally.

Manufacturing payrolls, after adjustment for seasonal variation, rose further in July and August, reflecting increases in employment.

Nonfarm employment increased to a new seasonally adjusted high in July, with preliminary data indicating a further rise in August.

Insured unemployment decreased in August more than usual for this time of year and the number of employed workers increased.

Steel production in Birmingham recovered rapidly following the strike settlement. Output in late August reached near capacity and continued near that rate in September.

Crude petroleum production in Mississippi and coastal Louisiana rose more than seasonally in August, after declining in other recent months.

Residential construction contracts awarded in August were sharply above July, but total awards declined slightly.

Farm prices of milk, peanuts, rice, and truck crops exceeded those of last year; prices of cotton, corn, hogs, beef, and chickens were lower; while prices of eggs and beef were the same.

Output of livestock products is exceeding that of a year ago because of increased production of milk, eggs, pork, and poultry.

Crop output is falling behind a year ago as the harvest season gains headway.

The harvest was favored by dry weather during early September, but as the month ended, a hurricane damaged some crops in the southern part of Louisiana, Alabama, and Georgia and in northern Florida.

Cotton prices in August were lower than in July and in August last year.

Spending by check in August, as measured by seasonally adjusted bank debits at District banks, is down slightly from July but well over August 1955.

Department store sales in September, seasonally adjusted, were off slightly from August, but the third quarter was the highest quarter on record.

Furniture, radio, and television sales at department stores in August were brisk, but sales of major household appliances still were lagging.

Consumer instalment credit outstanding at commercial banks edged upward slightly in August, with the largest gain in loans for repair and modernization purposes.

Business loans at weekly reporting banks increased seasonally during September, but total loans, according to preliminary data, have declined.

Deposits at District member banks, after seasonal adjustment, were slightly higher in August than in July and probably were still higher in September.

Member bank borrowing from the Federal Reserve Bank declined gradually during September and by the end of that month had reached a relatively low level.

Total reserves increased somewhat during September; and, with required reserves holding at August levels, unborrowed reserves rose further.

Reserves . . . *Through the Window or from the Market*

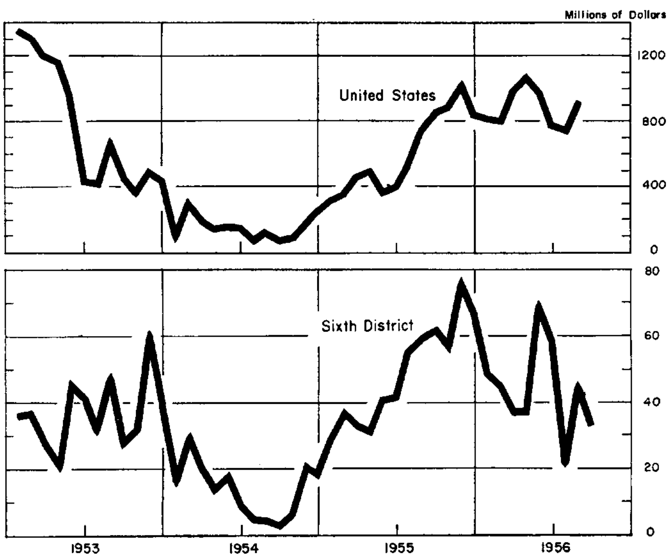
Quite properly, we think of the commercial banker as being primarily a lender of money. Yet the banker is sometimes a borrower. Borrowing by banks, however, is a bit different from that by businessmen or farmers. Banks usually borrow for much shorter periods; frequently to redress temporary losses in their reserve funds. In many instances, they borrow through the "discount window" at their Federal Reserve Bank. Sometimes they obtain needed reserves in the Federal funds market.

Bank borrowing fluctuates a great deal. It usually declines both nationally and regionally when banks gain deposits or when their loan demand falls off. But when banks with low excess reserves are hard pressed by customers for loans or when their deposits fall off, then their borrowing increases. Because many commercial banks traditionally are reluctant to go into debt, however, most of them do not borrow even then. Banks in small communities are particularly reluctant to borrow. Rather than do so, they usually sell Government securities or wait for loans to mature or for deposits to rise. The larger city banks, on the other hand, often supplement their reserves by borrowing. Since these banks are responsible for the lion's share of total member bank borrowing, the most comprehensive information available is for that group of banks. Our discussion, therefore, deals largely with them.

Thus far in 1956 in the Sixth District, two-thirds of the large banks in Atlanta, Birmingham, Chattanooga, Jacksonville, Knoxville, Nashville, Miami, Mobile, New Orleans, and Savannah have borrowed. Their borrowings from the Federal Reserve and other banks averaged 40 million dollars each Wednesday during the year, slightly less than in the like period of 1955. In the nation such borrowing has been much higher this year than last. The lower-than-last-year rate of borrowing by banks in this District is partly attributable to a relatively slower loan expansion in the District than in the nation; in part it was because the District gained deposits and reserves from other areas.

Member Bank Borrowings from Federal Reserve Banks

Sixth District and United States, 1953-56



Total borrowings by member banks in the nation are higher this year than in 1955, contrary to experience in the District.

When it was necessary for District banks to borrow, however, they relied more on discounting at the Federal Reserve than on borrowing from other banks, which was contrary to the national experience. To understand this difference requires a closer look at interbank borrowing.

Borrowing from Other Banks

When banks borrow from each other, they often borrow for one business day. The usual procedure is to buy (borrow) "Federal funds," that is, sums in excess of the legally required reserves that member banks maintain at the Federal Reserve Bank. Many banks prefer to fill their temporary needs by buying Federal funds rather than by using the Federal Reserve discount window or by selling their investments. By the same token, banks with excess reserves usually prefer to sell (lend) them to another bank rather than leave them idle or invest them.

The transfer of Federal funds between banks in the same city usually involves an exchange of checks, whereas a sale of Federal funds between member banks in different localities is commonly made through the Federal Reserve wire transfer service. The lending bank transfers funds to the borrower on one day, and the borrower usually returns it the next day. Sometimes, the transaction takes another form—the borrowing bank sells Treasury bills and repurchases them the next day from the lending bank.

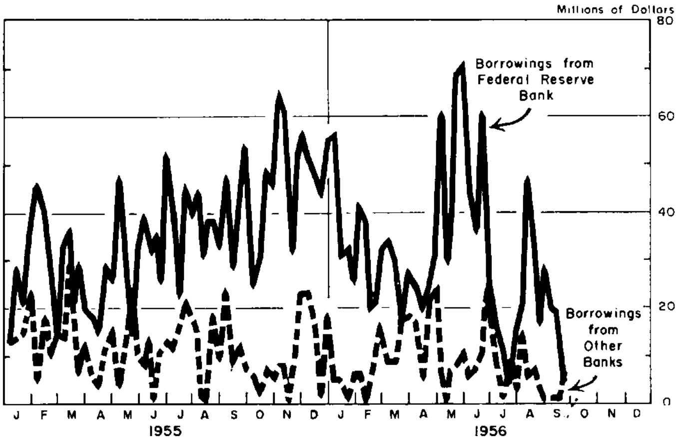
Some banks that need Federal funds deal directly with the lending bank; others transact their business through a financial intermediary, who may or may not maintain a regular quotation on Federal funds. The rate for which such funds are bought or sold, however, is actually determined by the supply and demand for them. If money is hard to get, the rate on Federal funds is typically at, or only slightly below, the Federal Reserve discount rate. Otherwise a bank would borrow from the Federal Reserve rather than buy Federal funds. Thus, during July, when banks were under considerable pressure for funds, the rate at which large volumes of Federal funds were traded dropped below the discount rate on only two business days. Of course, if banks anticipate shortages of reserves for several days they may choose to borrow from the Federal Reserve, knowing that if the Federal funds rate declines sharply, the discount can be repaid by borrowing Federal funds.

Sums involved in Federal funds transactions are large; an individual bank would usually not find it worthwhile to buy or sell less than $500,000. For that reason only the larger banks, requiring big sums, usually buy funds.

Since the proportion of smaller banks is great in the Sixth District, there is less borrowing from other banks here than in some other areas. Evidently, most of this borrowing from other banks is in the form of Federal funds, although exact figures on Federal funds borrowing are not available, for either the District or the nation.

Borrowing by major Sixth District banks from other banks constitute about one-fourth of their total borrowings so far in 1956. And those banks that relied on both the Federal Reserve and other banks borrowed about equal amounts from each source.

Borrowings by Weekly Reporting Member Banks
Sixth District, 1955-56



Sixth District banks rely more on borrowing from the Federal Reserve than they do on other banks.

Some District banks that borrowed also lent money to other banks. In late July, when many out-of-District institutions were pressed for funds and those in the District had ample reserves, several large District banks sold considerable amounts of Federal funds. To avoid the legal limit on size of loans (sales of Federal funds) to a single borrower, some banks traded with several others rather than with one.

Since the District apparently has no regional market for Federal funds, there is little trading between institutions here. Typically, arrangements are made by wide transfer with correspondents or security dealers in New York.

Discounting at the Federal

For the larger major city banks in the District, the Federal Reserve was the principal source of funds this year, and for the majority of those that borrowed at all, it was the only source. Such borrowing was commonly collateraled by Government securities.

An examination of the loans, deposits, and investments of large city banks shows us why some borrowed and some did not. During May, for example, when discounts and advances at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta were at a peak, a higher proportion of borrowing banks increased their loans and lost deposits than did nonborrowers. Loss of deposits was a more important cause of borrowing in less populated centers than in the big cities.

An alternative to borrowing Federal funds or to borrowing from the Federal Reserve is to sell short-term securities. Many banks have done this in 1956. Others have done this and borrowed too. During May, a greater percentage of borrowing than nonborrowing banks in small cities sold investments. In large cities, however, such was not the case, partly because the borrowing banks there held a larger portion of their investments in securities that could not be liquidated profitably at prevailing prices.

Sources of Borrowing and Bank Reserves

Bank borrowing, either from the Federal Reserve or from other banks, makes possible more lending or investing by all banks. It does, however, make a difference where the banks borrow. When they go to the Federal Reserve for money, it increases the total amount that all banks combined can lend or invest. When one bank borrows from another, on the other hand, it does not add to the total reserves of the banking system; it merely involves transferring funds from banks that have plenty of reserves to those that do not have enough and therefore leads to the most efficient utilization of bank reserves. One function of the Federal funds market is to distribute excess reserves among the thousands of member banks in the Reserve System.

To sum up, bank borrowing is an important mechanism for evening up pressures in the banking system. Since discounting at the Federal Reserve has become an increasingly significant aspect of monetary policy, analyses of bank borrowing are valuable in studies and discussions of the economic situation.

HARRY BRANDT

Bank Announcements

The Federal Reserve System is happy to welcome three new banks into membership during September. On September 19, the Miami National Bank, Miami, Florida, opened for business. Its officers are Louis E. Goldman, President, and Daniel B. Hudson, Vice President and Cashier. Capital stock amounts to $900,000 and surplus to $900,000.

Another new member is the City National Bank of Coral Gables, Coral Gables, Florida, which opened for business September 26. Robert M. Altemus is President, R. Ernest Nitzsche is Vice President, and Allan T. Abess, Jr., is Cashier. It has capital stock of $500,000 and surplus of $200,000.

The First National Bank in Plant City, Plant City, Florida, a newly organized member bank, opened for business on September 28. Officers are J. T. Haynsworth, President; Charles R. Westfall, Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer; and William M. Rickert, Cashier. Capital totals $300,000 and Surplus and Undivided Profits $100,020.

On September 1, the Peoples Trust and Savings Bank, Goodwater, Alabama, a nonmember bank, began to remit at par for checks drawn on it when received from the Federal Reserve Bank. Officers of the bank are Sim S. Wilbanks, President; Joseph F. Gilliland, Cashier; and Avanelle T. Peoples, Assistant Cashier. Capital stock amounts to $100,000 and surplus and undivided profits to $85,531.

On September 17, the Marietta Commercial Bank, Marietta, Georgia, a newly-organized, nonmember bank, opened for business and began to remit at par. Officers are C. G. Arant, President; James E. Berry, Vice President; and Fred Hutchins, Cashier. Capital stock amounts to $200,000 and surplus and undivided profits to $100,000.

Lower District Farm Income in 1956

Net farm income in 1956 will be down roughly 6 percent from 1955 in Sixth District states. Alabama and Mississippi are destined to suffer the largest declines, but Louisiana will also experience a sizable drop. Florida and Tennessee are the only states in which farm income will be up from last year. Lower receipts and higher expenses are responsible for the lesser income that District farmers will receive.

Earlier this year farmers' cash receipts were exceeding receipts of a year ago by a tenth or more. There was little hope even then, however, that total receipts for the year would be great enough to raise farm income above the near record of 1955. Not only were planted acreages of major crops sharply reduced this year, but price supports for important District crops were lower. The effect of such developments, of course, could not be expected until the fall harvest, when about half of the total receipts from farm marketings is obtained. As the crop season advanced, adverse weather reduced prospective yields and turned a probable decline in receipts into a certainty. Livestock production, although growing in importance in the District, is not contributing sufficiently to sales in 1956 to lift total farm cash receipts to the 1955 level.

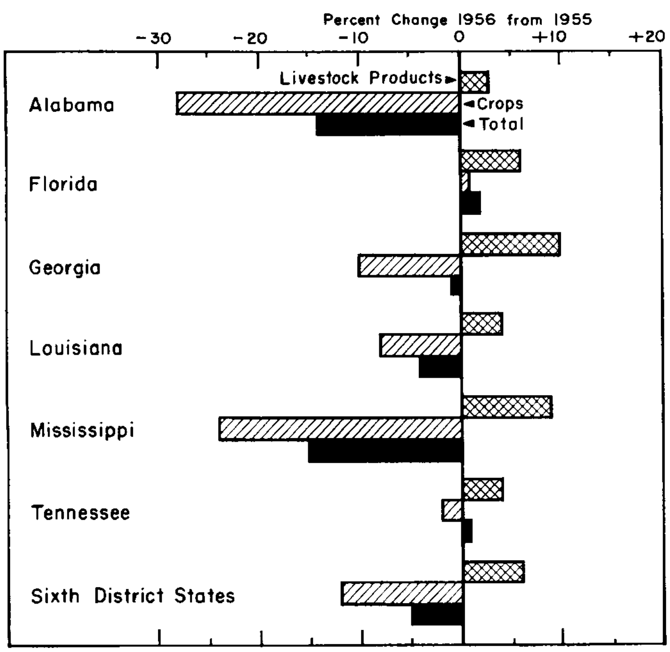
Receipts from Crops Reduced

When the year's sales of crops in District states are totaled, the amount will be about 12 percent less than the total for 1955. Sales will be much smaller in Alabama and Mississippi, and somewhat lower in Georgia and Louisiana. There will be small gains in Florida and Tennessee. The major cause for lower sales is the reduced output of cotton and cottonseed, tobacco, peanuts, rice, and sweet potatoes, as indicated by the United States Department of Agriculture's September 1 report on crop production. Lower average prices received by District farmers, however, also are contributing to smaller receipts from cotton, tobacco, corn, oats, and potatoes.

It is those farmers who depend heavily upon the basic crops who will suffer an income loss; those growing soybeans, fruits, and vegetables will gain income. Output of soybeans, peaches, strawberries, and grapefruit is improved, and prices are favorable. Receipts from vegetables have been especially large in 1956: Output this year is either approaching or exceeding that in 1955, and prices are averaging much higher. Gross income from vegetables, therefore, will probably be a fifth larger in 1956. The situation is most pronounced in Florida, where truck crops account for a fourth of the receipts from farm marketings.

Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings

Sixth District States



Note: Cash receipts for 1956 estimated by this Bank.

Greater Receipts from Livestock

Producers of most livestock products will regard 1956 as a reasonably good year. Receipts from the sale of all livestock products in the District will exceed those in 1955 by roughly 6 percent. Beef and sheep and lambs are the only items not showing gains, largely because marketings have been reduced.

Hogs especially are bringing in more dollars this year, since farmers are selling many more of them than they did last year. Prices are averaging lower, but they are not down enough to offset the increase in sales. The improvement in receipts from hogs is sizable in all District states except Alabama, where the volume of sales is down.

Larger sales of poultry products are raising gross income from livestock this year. Receipts from broilers, for instance, are larger in all states except Florida. Broiler growers increased their output enough to raise their receipts about a tenth over those of last year, despite prices that averaged about six cents a pound less. Farmers' gross incomes from egg sales in the District show a substantial rise, with the largest gains in Florida and Tennessee. Receipts from eggs are also up in Mississippi and Alabama, but they are lower in Georgia.

Meanwhile, total farm costs inched higher this year. Wages rose further and, indicative of the trend in items supplied by industry, prices of building materials and hardware moved upward. Other expenses, like taxes, also increased. Feedstuffs, on the other hand, averaged less. The decline in farm income registered in much of the District, however, should not be great enough to cause seriously depressed business and loan carryovers in very many rural areas, although in some rural communities in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi where crop income has a large impact, business probably will be somewhat depressed.

ARTHUR H. KANTNER

Banks Extend More Term Loans to Business

Long-term loans are gaining favor with business borrowers and with bankers in the Sixth District. Late last year member banks had on their books about 300 million dollars in business loans with maturities extending one year or more. About a decade earlier they had only 78 million dollars in such loans outstanding. The difference in these figures emphasizes two developments: the much greater amount of long-term credit that business in this area is now getting from banks than they were ten years ago, and the greater importance of this type of lending to member banks.

In 1946, term loans, as loans with maturities of a year or over are commonly called, constituted only 14 percent of total business loans. In late 1955, such loans amounted to 21 percent of business loans in member banks' portfolios. Despite these gains, however, banks in this area still make relatively fewer long-term loans than do member banks throughout the country.

The term loan occupies a special place not only in commercial bank lending but also in the economic development of a region. Although short-term bank credit provides businesses with a great deal of the working capital

Term Loans at Sixth District Member Banks

(Loans Outstanding for One Year or More)

	Amount Outstanding			
	Millions of Dollars		Percent of Total	
	Oct. 5, 1955	*Nov. 20, 1946*	*Oct. 5, 1955*	*Nov. 20, 1946*
All businesses	298.7	77.9	100.0	100.0
Manufacturing and mining	65.5	20.7	21.9	26.6
Food, liquor, and tobacco	13.1	6.8	4.4	8.8
Textiles, apparel, and leather	9.3	.3	3.1	.3
Metals and metal products	12.4	3.3	4.1	4.3
Petroleum, coal, chemicals, and rubber	16.7	4.5	5.6	5.8
All other manufacturing and mining	14.0	5.8	4.7	7.4
Trade, total	69.2	18.7	23.2	24.0
Wholesale[1]	22.1	9.6	7.4	12.3
Retail	47.1	9.1	15.8	11.7
Other, total	164.0	38.5	54.9	49.4
Sales finance companies	1.0	.1	.3	.2
Transportation, communication, and other public utilities	42.0	20.2	14.0	25.9
Construction	17.8	5.7	6.0	7.4
Services	45.7	5.3	15.3	6.7
All other non-financial[2]	57.5	7.2	19.3	9.2

[1] Includes commodity dealers
[2] Includes real-estate firms

needed for current operations, if credit is to be used to make the kind of investments that a business needs to permanently expand its scale of operations, it must generally be granted on an intermediate or a long-term basis. For a rapidly developing, capital-hungry region, such as the Sixth Federal Reserve District, therefore, access to long-term credit has much to do with raising income.

The results of the Survey of Business Loans, conducted by the Federal Reserve Banks as of October 5, 1955, provide a rare view of the extent to which long-term credit is being provided by member banks in the area. The Survey data provide information not only on the amount of long-term bank credit being extended, but also on who is doing the borrowing and the lending and the terms under which credit is granted. The data also provide an opportunity to compare term lending in this area with that in the entire United States. By comparing the findings of the recent survey with those of a similar survey in 1946, one may also note changes that have occurred in the structure of term lending.

Banks of all sizes located throughout the District do some term lending, but large banks overshadow small banks in the amount of such loans. Banks with deposits over 100 million dollars, for example, originated over half of the dollar volume of total term loans of member banks, whereas banks with deposits under 10 million dollars (of which there is a larger number) accounted for only 7 percent. Small banks tend to make smaller amounts of term loans in relation to total business loans than large banks: Term loans averaged 17 percent of total business loans at banks with less than 10 million dollars in deposits, compared with 21 percent at banks with deposits over 100 million dollars.

Some people associate term loans with borrowing by industries having large investments in costly, long-lived capital equipment. Although this is true for the nation as a whole, the two top long-term borrowers in the Sixth District are retail trade and service concerns, neither of which requires large fixed investment. Together they had outstanding term loans amounting to 93 million dollars, or 31 percent of the total for all borrowers. Utility firms, including transportation and communication companies, were third with 42 million dollars. Wholesale trade, construction, and petroleum and chemicals companies, with combined borrowings of 57 million dollars, rounded out the major long-term borrowers.

Long-term business borrowers paid an average interest rate of 4.9 percent, somewhat more than the 4.5 percent paid by short-term borrowers. Moreover, large borrowers paid a somewhat lower rate than small borrowers.

Small borrowers, however, rely more heavily on long-term borrowings than large borrowers. Sixty percent of the amount outstanding late last year was to the credit of firms with less than a million dollars in assets. Almost a third originated with businesses smaller than 250,000 dollars. The smallest size group of borrowers, those with assets of less than 50,000 dollars, however, accounted for only 9 percent of the dollar total in 1955; but this represented almost a half of the total number of term loans. Moreover, small businesses secured over a half of their total bank credit through long-term loans, substantially more than larger borrowers did.

Term lending has been, and continues to be, less important in the District than in the nation. Nevertheless, term lending has been increasing in importance in the District, whereas in the nation it has remained unchanged.

W. M. Davis

Sixth District Statistics

Instalment Cash Loans

		Percent Change			
		Volume		Outstandings	
		August 1956 from		August 1956 from	
Lender	No. of Lenders	July 1956	August 1955	July 1956	August 1955
Federal credit unions	36	+12	+7	+5	+17
State credit unions	17	+1	+3	+2	+18
Industrial banks	8	—6	—11	—1	+5
Industrial loan companies	11	+0	+8	+1	+6
Small loan companies	31	+4	+10	+1	+9
Commercial banks	32	+1	—6	+1	+22

Retail Furniture Store Operations

	Percent Change	
	August 1956 from	
Item	July 1956	August 1955
Total sales	+11	—1
Cash sales	+19	+2
Instalment and other credit sales	+11	—1
Accounts receivable, end of month	+2	+6
Collections during month	+3	+4
Inventories, end of month	+3	+7

Wholesale Sales and Inventories*

	Percent Change					
	Sales			Inventories		
		Aug. 1956 from			Aug. 1956 from	
Type of Wholesaler	No. of Firms	July 1956	Aug. 1955	No. of Firms	July 1956	Aug. 1955
Grocery, confectionery, meats	61	+4	+5	60	—14	+21
Edible farm products	11	+8	+16	10	—7	+29
Drugs, chems., allied prod.	8	+2	—14	6	—5	+3
Tobacco	10	+17	+24	10	+6	+7
Dry goods apparel	9	+64	+3	7	+5	+17
Automotive	57	+11	+17	54	—3	+4
Electrical, electronic and appliance goods	11	+7	—3	9	—2	—1
Hardware	8	+13	+1	8	+5	+10
Plumbing and heating goods	23	+8	+1	20	+1	+8
Lumber, construction materials	9	+17	—4	7	—5	+68
Machinery: equip. and supplies	30	+22	+12	26	+1	+5
Iron and steel scrap and waste materials	5	—29	—8			

*Based on information submitted by wholesalers participating in the Monthly Wholesale Trade Report issued by the Bureau of the Census.

Department Store Sales and Inventories*

	Percent Change				
	Sales			Inventories	
	Aug. 1956 from		8 Months	Aug. 31, 1956, from	
Place	July 1956	Aug. 1955	1956 from 1955	July 31 1956	Aug. 31 1955
ALABAMA	+16	+10	+7	+9	+12
Birmingham	+20	+10	+6	+7	+5
Mobile	+19	+12	+9	..	..
Montgomery	+16	+6	+4	..	..
FLORIDA	+10	+8	+10	+4	+13
Jacksonville	+12	+5	+7	+6	+10
Orlando	+15	+6	+4	..	..
St. Ptrsbg-Tampa Area	—0	+2	+6	..	..
St. Ptrsbg	+1	+9	+8	+4	+10
Tampa	—2	—3	+4	..	..
GEORGIA	+23	+8	+3	+10	+4
Atlanta**	+26	+9	+2	+10	+1
Augusta	+18	+3	+0	..	..
Columbus	+21	+2	+1	+7	+12
Macon	+14	+11	+7	+17	+8
Rome**	+25	+24	+19	..	..
Savannah**	+8	+2	+4	..	..
LOUISIANA	+27	+11	+9	+7	+9
Baton Rouge	+19	+17	+12	+13	+28
New Orleans	+30	+8	+7	+6	+6
MISSISSIPPI	+22	+11	+6	+12	+2
Jackson	+26	+14	+6	+9	+2
Meridian**	+14	+9	+7	..	..
TENNESSEE	+20	+9	+5	+8	+7
Bristol (Tenn. & Va.)**	+27	+8	+3	+20	+18
Bristol-Kingsport-Johnson City**	+25	+6	+4	..	..
Chattanooga	+21	+12	+4	..	..
Knoxville	+15	—2	+3	+8	+2
Nashville	+23	+19	+7	+4	+7
DISTRICT	+19	+9	+7	+8	+8

*Reporting stores account for over 90 percent of total District department store sales.
**In order to permit publication of figures for this city, a special sample has been constructed that is not confined exclusively to department stores. Figures for non-department stores, however, are not used in computing the District percent changes.

Condition of 27 Member Banks in Leading Cities

(In Thousands of Dollars)

				Percent Change Sept. 19, 1956, from	
Item	Sept. 19, 1956	August 22, 1956	Sept. 21, 1955	Aug. 22, 1956	Sept. 21, 1955
Loans and investments—					
Total	3,343,341	3,364,655	3,251,902	—1	+3
Loans—Net	1,803,024	1,810,917	1,558,815	—0	+16
Loans—Gross	1,832,055	1,839,887	1,582,741	—0	+16
Commercial, industrial, and agricultural loans	981,662	974,367	865,372	+1	+13
Loans to brokers and dealers in securities	37,481	38,297	29,276	—2	+28
Other loans for purchasing or carrying securities	52,930	53,144	41,477	—0	+28
Real estate loans	165,118	165,818	147,031	—0	+12
Loans to banks	32,525	39,500	27,733	—18	+17
Other loans	562,339	568,761	471,852	—1	+19
Investments—Total	1,540,317	1,553,738	1,693,087	—1	—9
Bills, certificates, and notes	508,731	497,768	572,600	+2	—11
U. S. bonds	722,966	744,528	793,646	—3	—9
Other securities	308,620	311,442	326,841	—1	—6
Reserve with F. R. Bank	509,430	502,325	497,840	+1	+2
Cash in vault	51,414	51,325	48,470	+0	+6
Balances with domestic banks	261,936	234,189	277,152	+12	—6
Demand deposits adjusted	2,350,369	2,374,843	2,357,818	—1	—0
Time deposits	667,061	664,858	628,400	+0	+6
U. S. Gov't deposits	97,005	112,510	89,601	—14	+8
Deposits of domestic banks	715,923	659,377	674,190	+9	+6
Borrowings	11,000	19,700	38,000	—44	—71

Debits to Individual Demand Deposit Accounts

(In Thousands of Dollars)

				Percent Change		
				Aug. 1956 from		8 Months 1956 from 1955
	August 1956	July 1956	August 1955	July 1956	Aug. 1955	
ALABAMA						
Anniston	35,877	36,161	33,579	—1	+7	+14
Birmingham	608,406	587,678	596,594	+4	+2	+21
Dothan	22,872	21,748	22,162	+5	+3	+15
Gadsden	29,106	31,099	30,206	—6	—4	+6
Mobile	253,566	240,089	224,806	+6	+13	+12
Montgomery	132,113	127,188	116,381	+4	+14	+8
Tuscaloosa*	39,503	41,727	39,358	—5	+0	+8
FLORIDA						
Jacksonville	591,532	557,589	530,113	+6	+12	+12
Miami	588,560	628,583	506,898	—6	+16	+14
Greater Miami*	904,835	963,454	788,538	—6	+15	+13
Orlando	121,698	124,793	106,653	—2	+14	+11
Pensacola	78,991	71,809	63,257	+10	+25	+19
St. Petersburg	122,656	126,974	112,991	—3	+9	+8
Tampa	256,900	247,526	216,139	+4	+19	+15
West Palm Beach*	76,619	78,686	68,273	—3	+12	+13
GEORGIA						
Albany	51,304	49,591	46,965	+3	+9	+8
Atlanta	1,581,137	1,516,757	1,546,776	+4	+2	+8
Augusta	88,415	86,586	90,195	+2	—2	—1
Brunswick	19,427	17,252	15,241	+13	+27	+23
Columbus	101,447	87,414	92,502	+16	+10	+8
Elberton	8,001	7,220	4,531	+11	+77	+42
Gainesville*	46,792	45,022	39,634	+4	+18	+21
Griffin*	14,904	14,378	14,450	+4	+3	+8
Macon	104,915	99,076	98,456	+6	+7	+7
Newnan	14,369	13,651	16,618	+5	—14	+7
Rome*	37,734	37,041	38,226	+2	—1	+6
Savannah	152,811	145,638	128,535	+5	+19	+9
Valdosta	48,040	27,114	53,993	+77	—11	+5
LOUISIANA						
Alexandria*	66,694	68,796	50,142	—3	+33	+23
Baton Rouge	168,949	179,481	149,281	—6	+13	+7
Lake Charles	72,492	73,099	63,376	—1	+14	+13
New Orleans	1,223,004	1,200,458	1,100,669	+2	+11	+9
MISSISSIPPI						
Hattiesburg	28,310	27,374	24,005	+3	+18	+18
Jackson	205,533	199,311	182,436	+3	+13	+9
Meridian	36,725	34,250	30,812	+7	+19	+13
Vicksburg	17,342	16,856	15,658	+3	+11	+4
TENNESSEE						
Bristol*	33,487	34,312	30,091	—2	+11	+13
Chattanooga	266,075	267,211	252,915	—0	+5	+12
Johnson City*	37,103	35,524	33,272	+4	+12	+10
Kingsport*	62,290	59,930	59,653	+4	+4	+5
Knoxville	159,892	149,441	170,950	+7	—6	—5
Nashville	586,635	583,102	550,975	+1	+6	+9
SIXTH DISTRICT 32 cities	7,777,100	7,582,119	7,194,668	+3	+8	+10
UNITED STATES 345 cities	183,819,000	181,284,000	167,365,000	+1	+10	+10

*Not included in Sixth District totals.

Sixth District Indexes

1947-49 = 100

	Nonfarm Employment			Manufacturing Employment			Manufacturing Payrolls			Construction Contracts			Furniture Store Sales*/**		
	July 1956	June 1956	July 1955	July 1956	June 1956	July 1955	July 1956	June 1956	July 1955	Aug. 1956	July 1956	Aug. 1955	Aug. 1956	July 1956	Aug. 1955
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED															
District Total	127	127	124r	117	117	118r	183	180r	177r	..	..	..	110p	119	111
Alabama	114	114	115r	105	106	110	148	153	157	..	..	..	123	132	120
Florida	156	154	147r	151	151	145r	239	231	208r	..	..	..	115	129	115
Georgia	128	128r	124	123	125	124r	191	189r	186r	..	..	..	113p	118r	113
Louisiana	121	122r	118r	101	101	103	166	162	155r	..	..	..	128p	130r	132
Mississippi	121	120	120r	121	119	122r	202	194r	187r	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tennessee	120	120	119r	119	118	119r	181	179	175r	..	..	..	83	92	85
UNADJUSTED															
District Total	125	126	122r	115	116	116r	175	177	170r	..	..	..	115p	111r	115
Alabama	113	114	114r	102	104	107	145	152	154	416	650	189	129	116r	126
Florida	147	149	138r	142	147	137r	218	224	190r	330	251	266	115	118	115
Georgia	127	128	123	121	122	121r	183	185r	178r	271	320	331	119p	117r	120
Louisiana	121	121	118r	100	100	102r	167	162	156r	282	344	208	128p	125r	132
Mississippi	121	120	120r	120	119	121r	198	192r	183r	236	139	145	..	..	..
Tennessee	120	120	119r	117	117	117r	179	179	174r	250	162	191	91	90	93

Department Store Sales and Stocks**

	Adjusted			Unadjusted		
	Aug. 1956	July 1956	Aug. 1955	Aug. 1956	July 1956	Aug. 1955
DISTRICT SALES*	156p	160	143r	140p	128	128r
Atlanta[1]	151	157	139	147	126	134
Baton Rouge	137	135	117r	125	113	107r
Birmingham	130	138	118r	118	106	107r
Chattanooga	140	140	125	126	113	113
Jackson	125	125	109	115	98	100
Jacksonville	130	135	124	115	111	110
Knoxville	152	158	155	140	131	143
Macon	151p	162	136	137	130p	124
Nashville	155	156	130	138	121	115
New Orleans	155	151	143	144	120	133
St. Ptrsbg-Tampa Area	147	164	144	121	131	118
Tampa	123	136	126	107	117	110
DISTRICT STOCKS*	166p	161	154	163p	151	151

[1]To permit publication of figures for this city, a special sample has been constructed that is not confined exclusively to department stores. Figures for non-department stores, however, are not used in computing the District index.

*For Sixth District area only. Other totals for entire six states.

**Daily average basis.

Sources: Nonfarm and mfg. emp. and payrolls, state depts. of labor; cotton consumption, U. S. Bureau Census; construction contracts, F. W. Dodge Corp.; furn. sales, dept. store sales, turnover of dem. dep., FRB Atlanta; petrol. prod., U. S. Bureau of Mines; elec. power prod., Fed. Power Comm. All indexes calculated by this Bank.

Other District Indexes

	Adjusted			Unadjusted		
	Aug. 1956	July 1956	Aug. 1955	Aug. 1956	July 1956	Aug. 1955
Construction contracts*	..	..	..	313	324r	247
Residential	..	..	..	306	228r	284
Other	..	..	..	318	396r	219
Petrol. prod. in Coastal Louisiana and Mississippi**	162	161	148	162	161	148
Cotton consumption**	91	90	100r	93	72	102r
Furniture store stocks*	109p	106r	102	106p	103r	99
Turnover of demand deposits*	22.5	22.8	21.3	20.9	21.9	19.8
10 leading cities	24.9	24.7	23.6	22.4	23.5	21.2
Outside 10 leading cities	17.9	18.3	16.9	17.0	17.6	16.1
	July 1956	June 1956	July 1955	July 1956	June 1956	July 1955
Elec. power prod., total**	..	..	..	n.a.	286	258
Mfg. emp. by type						
Apparel	161	164	158r	158	159	155r
Chemicals	134	133	131	129	128	126
Fabricated metals	163	161r	161r	154	155	152r
Food	114	114	112r	111	112	109r
Lbr., wood prod., furn. and fix.	83	83	85r	83	83	85r
Paper and allied prod.	164	163	155r	163	161	153r
Primary metals	81	88	106r	80	88	105r
Textiles	93	93	96r	92	93	95r
Trans. equip.	195	194	195r	189	188	189r

r Revised p Preliminary n.a. Not Available