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# Monthly Review

# Adjusting Reserves Through the Federal Funds Market

#### The Record of District Banks

During 1961, Sixth District commercial banks lent almost \$9 billion of a special kind of money called Federal funds. Last year District banks also borrowed over \$6 billion of this item. Although such transactions are unfamiliar to most persons outside the banking community, they have since the early 1950's become part of the regular operations of an increasing number of banks.

"Federal funds" is a shorthand expression for funds, or deposits, that member banks hold at Federal Reserve banks. Member banks are required by the Federal Reserve System to set aside certain percentages of deposits as reserves, held either as deposits at Reserve banks or as cash in their own vaults. In a given week, some banks may have reserves that exceed System requirements, and these are known as excess reserves. It is these excess reserves that are available for lending or "trading" in the Federal funds market.

Banks, particularly those in financial centers, are subject to considerable swings in their reserve positions. On any day some banks may find themselves with substantial excess reserves. At the same time, others may have reserve deficiencies or, at least, less excess reserves than they desire to hold. Thus the market for Federal funds helps meet the needs of both groups of banks. Those with a temporary surplus of excess reserves can lend or "sell" Federal funds to banks desiring them and, thereby, earn interest at a stipulated rate of return; otherwise, such funds might well remain idle. The purchase of Federal funds enables a bank to adjust its reserve position without having to borrow from the Federal Reserve Bank.

The growth and increasing importance of Federal funds trading in recent years has caused the Federal Reserve System to give attention to the scope and structure of this market and its relation to the money and Government securities markets. The trading of Federal funds by District banks fits into the national pattern. Federal funds activity of banks in this region has been influenced by changing national credit conditions and by growth of the funds market.

#### The District Pattern

Recently about 35 District banks have been participating in the Federal funds market. Although larger than in earlier years, this number still represents only 8 percent of the member banks in the District. The banks that trade actively, however, are among the largest in the District, and the volume of their transactions is substantial. Large banks tend to dominate the Federal funds market for two reasons: First, individual Federal funds transactions are large in amount, usually in units of a million dollars or more; second, only banks that have specialists managing their reserve positions on a day-to-day basis are

likely to be active Federal funds participants, and these banks tend to be larger ones.

District banks trade in Federal funds almost entirely with banks outside this area. About three-fifths of the dollar volume of both purchases and sales during the period from September 1959 through April 1962 was transacted with the large New York City banks. Indeed, the big New York banks are the hub of the Federal funds market, as well as of other segments of the money market. Their importance in Federal funds trading reflects their size, the great volatility of their reserve positions, and their correspondent relationships with banks throughout the country. One stock market firm acts as a broker, bringing together lending and borrowing banks that may not be linked as correspondents. Banks in the San Francisco District, which rank just after those in New York City in volume of Federal funds transactions, also accounted for a relatively large portion—about one-seventh—of gross transactions by District banks.

Percent Distribution of Federal Funds Purchases and Sales by Reporting Sixth District Member Banks September 1959-April 1962

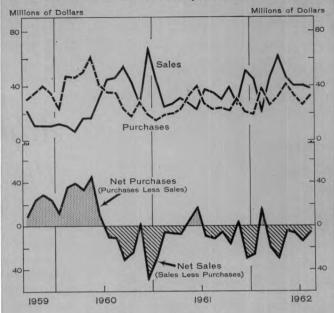
By Seller or Purchaser	Purchases	Sales
Banks	100	92
Government Security Dealers	*	8
Others	*	0
Banks by Location**		
New York City	64	62
Twelfth District, San Francisco	21	9
Sixth District, Atlanta	3	6
All other banks	12	23
By Type of Transaction		
One-day		
Unsecured	96	34
Secured	1	64
Over one-day	3	1

Banks in the District, like those in other parts of the country, have lent some Federal funds to U. S. Government securities dealers. Amounts of sales to dealers varied substantially during the 1959-62 period, depending upon dealers' needs for inventory financing. On the average, about 8 percent of total Federal funds sales by District banks during this period were to dealers. Since dealers are primarily in the market as borrowers, District banks rarely purchased Federal funds from them.

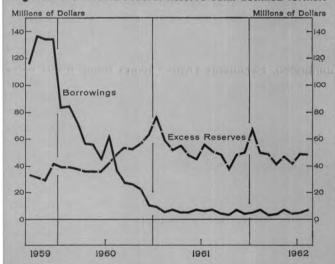
Almost all Federal funds purchases by District banks are made on a one-day unsecured basis. This is the most readily handled type of transaction. It is often arranged by telephone and is consummated by telegraphic transfer of reserve credit. The following day a return wire transfer effects repayment of the loan.

Nearly two-thirds of the amount of sales by District banks, however, are on a secured basis for the day. U. S. Government, state, or municipal securities may serve as collateral. The chief advantage of secured transactions is that the usual legal limit on the size of a loan to a single

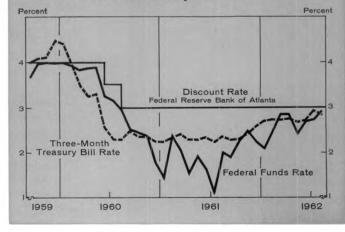
Since early 1960, District member banks that actively participate in the Federal funds market have increased Federal funds sales and reduced purchases.



During the second half of 1960, an increase in excess reserves of member banks was accompanied by a shift from net purchases of Federal funds to net sales. Borrowing from the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank declined further.



As credit conditions eased in 1960, the Federal funds rate dropped below the Federal Reserve discount rate below the three-month Treasury bill rate.



<sup>\*</sup>Less than 0.2 percent.
\*\*Percent distribution among banks only.
Note: Totals may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

borrower does not apply to them. This is an important consideration when District banks lend to the large New York City banks.

# Federal Funds Activity Adjusts To Shifting Credit Conditions

During the past three years, dollar volumes of Federal funds purchases and sales at District banks have varied substantially. A most pronounced shift occurred in mid-1960. Purchases dropped suddenly from a high level and sales rose sharply. Since July 1960, sales have generally exceeded purchases.

Only a minority of banks mirrored the overall shift from a predominantly borrowing to a lending position in the market. At other banks—those that characteristically operate largely on one side of the market—either purchases decreased or sales rose, depending upon which side of the market the banks were on. Still other banks, largely borrowers of Federal funds, had dropped out of the market before mid-1960. These observations, it should be noted, are only for banks that began regularly reporting transactions in 1959. Since their activity accounts for the bulk of total trading, however, they should be representative of all banks in the market.

What brought about the overall shift in position in the Federal funds market at District member banks? After credit demands began to weaken in early 1960 and the Federal Reserve authorities switched from a policy of restraint to one of ease, pressures on bank reserves diminished. Eventually District banks found it less necessary to borrow from commercial banks, as well as from the Federal Reserve Bank, and they became more eager to engage in Federal funds lending.

Obviously, not all Federal Reserve districts could simultaneously have shown less Federal funds purchases and more sales. The large New York City banks, which tend to keep fully invested and to maintain their excess reserves at minimal levels, on balance, remained borrowers of Federal funds. These banks were the ones that largely absorbed the increased volume of Federal funds lending by District banks.

The amount of Federal funds that a region's banks sell and buy in any short period depends not only upon the need for or availability of reserves, however. It depends also upon the extent to which banks normally active in the Federal funds market are at that time using this market or are using an alternative means of reserve adjust-

ment, such as borrowing from the Federal Reserve Bank or varying their portfolio of short-term Government securities. In considering alternatives, banks take account of such factors as convenience, traditional preference, and, perhaps most important, the comparative gains or costs involved.

Some of the variation in Federal funds sales by District banks was probably due to changing relationships between the yields on Federal funds and on three-month Treasury bills. When in late May and June 1960 the bill rate dropped sharply below the Federal funds rate, certain banks tended to "invest" in Federal funds sales as a short-term asset, rather than in bills. During early 1961, when the Federal funds rate fell below the bill rate, those banks were more inclined to buy bills.

On the borrowing side, District banks at times probably sought Federal funds rather than Federal Reserve Bank credit because of an interest rate advantage. When many banks shifted from Federal Reserve to Federal funds borrowing in early 1960, factors other than comparative costs must have been significant, for the rate on most Federal funds transactions was still the same as the Federal Reserve discount rate. Beginning in early 1961, however, when the funds rate was frequently far below the discount rate, banks bought substantial amounts of Federal funds and borrowed little from the Federal Reserve Bank.

Changing relationships between the Federal funds rate and three-month Treasury bill yields do not seem to influence Federal funds borrowing as they do lending. One might, for example, have expected banks to sell bills rather than borrow Federal funds when in the spring and summer months of 1960 the three-month bill rate was below the Federal funds rate, but they did not do so. Convenience was probably a more important factor then than cost: Liquidating bills is not a practical alternative if a reserve deficiency is expected to last only a few days. Then, too, at that time holdings of short-term Government securities may have been less than the banks desired.

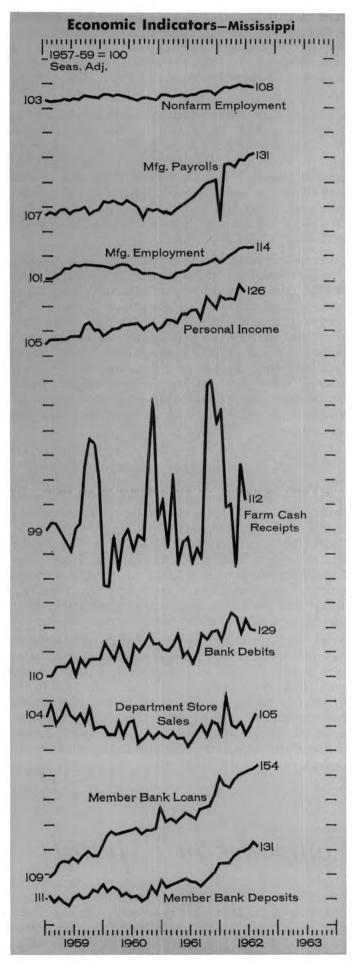
We have seen that in the short-run the main determinant of the volume of Federal funds transactions by District banks and of the relative amounts of purchases and sales is the basic monetary and credit situation. In the longer run the volume has grown because more banks have participated in the market. If past influences continue, the interaction of these short- and long-run factors should shape the future of Federal funds activity in the District.

ALBERT A. HIRSCH

# Mississippi's Economy Continues to Expand

Mississippi's economic performance has been characterized by widespread gains since the low point of the previous business cycle in February 1961. If the trend continues through the rest of 1962, the gap may be modestly nar-

rowed between the per capita income of the state's citizens and those of the United States generally. Per capita personal income in the state totaled \$1,229, compared with \$2,263 in the U. S. in 1961, the latest year for which



data are available. At 54 percent of the national average, this amount represented a small gain from the 53 percent recorded in 1960.

#### **Rapid Growth Continues**

The rate of growth in manufacturing employment during the current period of expansion continues to outpace both that of the nation and of the other District states. From the recession low of 101.2 in February 1961, the index of manufacturing employment had climbed to 113.8 by August 1962, indicating a gain of over 12 percent. The index dipped slightly during July, but more than regained the loss during August.

The increase in manufacturing employment has been sparked by gains in food processing and in apparel manufacturing, particularly men's and boys' apparel. That these industries are continuing to show strength is highly significant, since they employ well over a third of the state's total manufacturing workers. In addition, employment in transportation equipment manufacturing has steadily increased since mid-1961 and in July was 37 percent higher than a year ago. About half of the total employment in transportation equipment is concentrated in the shipbuilding industry located on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and most of the recent gains have taken place in that area.

Although the industries just mentioned have been responsible for most of the expansion in the state's factory employment, other types of manufacturing have also contributed to this growth. For example, the furniture and fixtures industry has increased the number of its workers over the past year. Then, too, employment in lumber and wood products, the state's second most important job source, has been fairly steady over the past year, following a lengthy period of weakness.

Growth in the various sectors of a state's economy seldom takes place at a uniform rate. This is illustrated by the failure of employment in some types of nonmanufacturing to match the gains that occurred in the manufacturing sector. Nonmanufacturing employment has changed little since early 1962, but the total in August was about 2 percent above the level of August 1961. Most of the gains in nonmanufacturing were attributable to additional jobs in state and local governments, particularly in education, and to expanded employment in retail trade and the service industries. Construction employment, reflecting initial work on a large project, has also picked up momentum in recent months.

Prosperity is usually contagious. It is no surprise, therefore, to find that the banking sector of Mississippi's economy is being affected by the rising trend of economic activity in the state and is, in turn, participating in this growth. Total loans at member banks located in the Sixth District portion of the state have been rising sharply and were 12.8 percent higher at the end of August than they were in August 1961. Deposits also have moved upward at about the same rate. The largest contribution to deposit growth, especially since the end of last December, has been made by time deposits. They began to increase rapidly after banks raised their interest rates early in 1962

and, since that time, have accounted for over half of the growth in total deposits at Mississippi's member banks. Also, it is significant that the gains in loans and deposits in 1962 have exceeded the increases in each of the five other District states.

The steady gains in total nonfarm employment, together with an improvement in the average weekly earnings in manufacturing, have boosted the personal incomes of Mississippi's residents. Personal income, in many ways the most satisfactory measure of the state's economic progress, was 7 percent higher in June 1962 than it was a year earlier. This was the second highest percentage increase among District states.

The farm sector, still a major source of income, is contributing to this year's gains in personal income. Farm cash receipts stand a good chance of topping last year's volume. During the first half of 1962, they exceeded the total for the corresponding period last year by 11 percent, mainly because of high crop receipts. Livestock receipts, however, dropped below year-ago levels during this period. Also, recent dry weather has reduced the high yields of cotton and soy beans that were anticipated earlier this year. Nevertheless, according to most forecasts, crop receipts will continue to exceed the year-ago total as the state's farmers bring in good harvests, particularly of cotton and rice.

Higher incomes usually prompt consumers to step up their spending for goods and services. This seems to be true of Mississippians for, judging from information available, spending appears to have moved upward. Bank debits, which represent check payments of all types, have been on the rise and were 8 percent higher in August than they were a year earlier. State sales tax receipts, another indicator of spending, also point to a rising trend. Department store spending has risen over the last few months, but this gain has not equaled the increases recorded by other measures of spending.

Most sections of the state apparently have been participating in the rising trend of business activity. Judging from the gains registered in nonfarm employment, economic activity is brisk in the Hattiesburg, Vicksburg, and Natchez areas, and, especially so, in the Pascagoula-Biloxi-Gulfport section. Other data available for local areas also support this conclusion. Bank debits, for example, have recently shown large increases in the areas just mentioned. Also, a substantial increase in bank debits was reported by Jackson.

#### **New Industry**

Some persons are optimistic about the headway the state is making in its efforts to secure new industries. They point to the steady, strong gains in manufacturing employment as one piece of evidence. In addition to this established fact, they also anticipate that the large refinery to be located in the Pascagoula area will be the harbinger of a host of related industries that will eventually form the nucleus of a thriving petro-chemical industry. This announcement was also encouraging to those persons who have long argued that the state could not move for-

ward at a really fast clip until it had a large-scale industry of this type.

Industrial promotion groups are also observing with satisfaction the rate at which new firms have been locating in the state and the pace of expansion of existing firms. According to the Agricultural and Industrial Board, 1961 was a record year, for announcements of 83 new manufacturing plants at a cost of \$155 million were posted. This figure includes the huge \$125 million refinery that will be built by the Standard Oil Company of Kentucky. In addition, 68 existing firms announced plans for expansion that will require a total expenditure of \$24 million. When these new and expanded plant outlays are completed, the Board estimates that over 10,000 additional manufacturing jobs will be supplied.

The announcement by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of plans to build a series of missile test towers in Mississippi has further stirred expectations for economic gains. The test facilities will consist of six test towers, located in Hancock County, to be used in static testing of the large Saturn and Nova rockets that will be transported by barges from the manufacturing plant at Michoud, Louisiana, to the test site. The Board reports that construction of the test facility will involve an expenditure of between \$200 and \$400 million by the completion date in 1965.

#### The Future

It is difficult to assess the full economic impact such huge expenditures as those represented by the Standard Oil refinery and the missile test site will have on the state. Even if optimistic expectations are not fully realized, we do know that the impact will be much greater than the amount of construction outlays alone. This is true because at least a portion of these funds will remain in the state and will be spent many times over. Furthermore, the initial impact of the construction of these two projects will be quite large and will greatly affect economic activity in the coastal area. For this reason, many think that the short-term outlook for the state, particularly for the Gulf Coast area, is very bright. Construction employment on the refinery project now totals only a few hundred workers, but is expected to provide jobs for several thousand more by the end of this year. Apparently, the peak in activity at the missile test site will come somewhat later, but the effect of this installation is already being felt as land acquisition continues.

How successful the state's new industries will be in attracting related industries to the Gulf Coast area depends upon many variables. Nevertheless, these industries represent an important contribution to employment and income that should considerably broaden the economic opportunities for Mississippi's citizens.

W. M. DAVIS

This is one of a series in which economic developments in each of the Sixth District states are discussed. Developments in Alabama's economy were analyzed in the May Review, and a discussion of Louisiana's economy is scheduled for a forthcoming issue.

#### Bank Announcements

On September 4, the First National Bank of North Broward County, Lighthouse Point, Florida, a newly organized member bank, opened for business and began to remit at par for checks drawn on it when received from the Federal Reserve Bank. Officers are Walter A. Hobbs, Jr., President; H. Eugene Nace, Executive Vice President and Cashier; and W. Kenneth Pittman, Vice President. Capital totals \$400,000, and surplus and other capital funds, \$300,000.

The Bank of Commerce of Florida, Fort Lauder-dale, Florida, a newly organized nonmember bank, opened for business on September 11 and began to remit at par. Officers include Homer B. Williamson, President; Norman W. Lewis, Vice President; and Robert L. Cooper, Cashier. Capital totals \$800,000, and surplus and undivided profits, \$200,000.

On September 26, the Trail National Bank, Sarasota, Florida, a newly organized member bank, opened for business and began to remit at par. Officers are Al Schmacker, President; Kenneth Odom, Vice President and Cashier; Thomas R. Graves, Vice President; and A. D. MacCaskie, Comptroller. Capital totals \$300,000, and surplus and other capital funds, \$200,000.

On September 29, the First National Bank of Fair-hope, Fairhope, Alabama, through a conversion of the par-remitting, nonmember Bank of Fairhope, became a member of the Federal Reserve System. Officers are H. G. Bishop, President; and John M. Beasley, Vice President and Cashier.

#### Department Store Sales and Inventories\*

	Percent Change							
		Sales		Inventories				
	Aug	. 1962 from	8 Months	Aug. 31,	1962 from			
Place	July 1962	Aug. 1961	1962 from 1961	July 31, 1962	Aug. 31, 1961			
ALABAMA	+13 +19 +13 +10	+2 +1 +9 —0	+1 1 +6 +4	+9 +11 	+4 +4			
FLORIDA Daytona Beach Jacksonville Miami Area Miami Orlando St. Ptrsbg-Tampa Area	+7 +6 +18 +6 +7 +6 +2	+13 +8 +6 +8 +4 +65 +14	+12 +2 +5 +8 +4 +51 +20	+3 +10   +3	+19 +11  +27			
GEORGIA	+15 +15 +20 +16 +16 +5	+7 +9 +6 +0 +9 +7	+8 +11 +5 +3 +7 +3	+7 +8 -4 	—2 —1 —6 			
LOUISIANA Baton Rouge	+19 +10 +22	+6 +12 +5	+4 +13 +2	+5 +7 +4	+6 +6 +5			
MISSISSIPPI Jackson	+11 +15	+6 +5	+6 +8	$^{+12}_{+11}$	+14 +19			
TENNESSEE	+14	—1	+2	+12	+13			
Johnson City** Bristol (Tenn. & Va.)** Chattanooga Knoxville DISTRICT	+23 +21 +24 +8 +11	+3 -2 -2 -3 +7	+3 +2 +4 +1 +8	+12   +6	+10   +9			

<sup>\*</sup>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.

#### **Debits to Individual Demand Deposit Accounts**

(In Thousands of Dollars)

				Percent Change Year-to-da 8 montl		
	Aug. 1962	July 1962	Aug. 1961	Aug. 196 July 1962		1962 from 1961
ALABAMA Anniston Birmingham Dothan Gadsden Huntsville* Mobile Montgomery Selma* Tuscaloosa* Total Reporting Cities Other Cities	47,555 918,731 38,780 36,948 84,703 303,360 205,616 26,901 70,651 1,733,245 811,912	49,485 904,396 36,932 37,692 85,541 310,250 186,084 25,507 68,544 1,704,431 801,897	44,519 869,418 35,665 36,119 71,774 316,688r 179,343 24,692 58,034 1,636,252r 750,995r	-4 +2 +5 -2 -1 -2 +10 +3 +2 +1	+7 +6 +9 +2 +18 -4 +15 +9 +22 +6 +8	+8 +8 +7 +4 +19 +2 +8 +13 +7 +4
FLORIDA  Bradenton* Daytona Beach* Fort Lauderdale* Gainesville* Jacksonville Key West* Lakeland* Miami Greater Miami* Orlando Pensacola St. Petersburg Sarasota* Tallahassee* Tampa W. Palm-Palm Bch.* Total Reporting Cities Other Cities†	44,452 58,960 196,404 52,584 939,932 16,846 80,150 958,231 1,371,424 262,264 87,178 198,814 72,771 74,506 422,844 4,028,997 1,640,709	47,525 63,915 205,284 46,764 864,320 18,803 82,331 986 633 1,415,103 263,759 230,362 84,183 84,183 84,252 439,288 161,366 4,083,845 1,708,970	n.a. 55,119 191,085 41,845 866,569 16,263 73.009 858,576 1,271,921 235,155 83,704r 199,594 n.a. 139,808 3,587,256r 1,672,218r	-68 -44 +12 +9 -10 -33 -31 -11 -14 -14 -7 -1	n.a. +73 +26 +8 +10 +12 +12 +40 -n.a. n.a. +27 +12	n.a. +7 +6 +13 +7 +6 +3 +7 +7 +7 n.a. n.a. +16 +11 +4
GEORGIA  Albany Athens* Atlanta Augusta Brunswick Columbus Dalton* Elberton Gainesville* Griffin* LaGrange* Macon Marietta* Newnan Rome* Savannah Valdosta Total Reporting Cities Other Cities*	59,511 44,808 2,570,304 127,155 34,367 129,700 54,734 8,807 55,047 21,744 17,060 145,646 47,122 24,655 49,421 184,485 45,672 3,610,238 1,052,009	59,703 48,303 2,597,671 121,214 37,173 120,944 49,989 11,017 54,096 23,586 16,214 147,490 20,422 54,945 178,992 37,725 3,617,419 1,031,287	50,981 42,239 2,314 010 112,351 27,264 120,485 n.a. 10,571 49,249 20 074 15,800 130,061 33,719 20,656 47,065 178,491 50,270 3,223,286 1,001,510	-0 -7 -15 -8 +7 -20 +22 +51 -21 +21 -21 +21 +3 +21 -2 +2 -2 +2 +2 +2 +2 +2 +2 +2 +2 +2 +2 +2 +2 +2	+17 +13 +126 +13 +126 +14 -17 +12 +12 +12 +19 +15 +15 +15	+13 +10 +15 +12 +27 +11 n.a. +6 +10 +11 -1 +12 +12 +13 +7 +7 +45 +8
LOUISIANA Alexandria*	85,058 309,721 73,521 83,611 1,463,900 2,015,811 656,589	80,851 310,663 68,735 87,178 1,517,444 2,064,871 652,068	78,198 268,072 65,579 79,240 1,364,921 1,856.010 603,955r	+5 -0 +7 -4 -4 -2 +1	+9 +16 +12 +6 +7 +9	+17 +14 +11 +10 +8 +9 +12
MISSISSIPPI Biloxi-Gulfport* Hattiesburg Jackson Laurel* Meridian Natchez* Vicksburg Total Reporting Cities Other Cities*	62,674 40,703 371,915 30,529 50,088 26,198 22,929 605,036 279,909	68,890 38,573 347,102 28,809 52,162 25,332 23,999 584,867 299,787	52,843 38,661 345,205 28,199 44,640 24,211 22,073 555,832 262,731r	-9 +6 +7 +6 -4 +3 -4 +3	+19 +5 +8 +8 +12 +8 +4 +9 +7	+15 +5 +13 +2 +11 +8 +9 +12
TENNESSEE  Bristol* Chattanooga Johnson City* Kingsport* Knoxville Nashville Total Reporting Cities Other Cities*	53,497 369,442 48,208 92,254 264,752 913,180 1,741,333 701,121	51,274 363,380 48,975 92,676 271,971 869,596 1,697,872 664,775	48,334 366,247 44,281 89,867 270,785 29,629 1,649,143 649,804r	+4 +2 -2 -0 -3 +5 +3 +5	+11 +1 +9 +3 -2 +10 +6 +8	+9 +5 +13 +8 +4 +8 +7 +9
SIXTH DISTRICT Reporting Cities Other Cities Total, 32 Cities	18 876,909 13,734,660 5,142,249 11,640,796	18,912,089 13,753,305 5,158,784 11,610,210	17,448,992r 12,507,779r 4,941,213r 10,783,147r	0 0	+8 +10 +4 +8	+9 +11 +6 +9
UNITED STATES 344 Cities	281,200,000	279,700,000	· <b>2</b> 55,500,000	+1	+10	+11

<sup>\*</sup>Not included in total for 32 cities that are part of the national debit series maintained by the Board of Governors. †Estimated. r Revised. n.a. Not available.

### Sixth District Statistics

#### Seasonally Adjusted

(All data are indexes, 1957-59 = 100, unless indicated otherwise.)

		it Month 962)	One Month Ago	Two Months Ago	One Year Ago			t Month 962)	One Month Ago	Two Months Ago	One Year Ago
SIXTH DISTRICT						GEORGIA	-				
INCOME AND SPENDING  Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate)  Farm Cash Receipts	July July	38,143 102 92 106	37,872r 113 116 110	37,827r 117 129 111	35,691 96 93 96	INCOME AND SPENDING Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate) Farm Cash Receipts Department Store Sales**	July	7,107 94 111	7,002r 95 113	7,020 107 113	6,497 93 103
Department Store Sales*/** Department Store Stocks* Instalment Credit at Banks,* (Mil. \$) New Loans Repayments	Sept. Aug. Aug.	116p 116 141 135	118 120 142 140	118 115 144 129	109 108 128 129	PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT  Nonfarm Employment	Aug. Aug.	107 104 108 116	107 104 109r 114	107 104 108 107	102 100 103 93
PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT  Nonfarm Employment	Aug. Aug.	106 106 120	106 107 122r	107 106 119	104 103 113	Farm Employment . Insured Unemployment, (Percent of Cov. Emp.) Avg. Weekly Hrs. in Mfg., (Hrs.) Manufacturing Payrolls	Aug. Aug.	82 3.2 40.2 120	93 3.4 39.9 119	77 3.3 39.9 118	80 4.6 39.8 109
Chemicals Fabricated Metals Food Lbr., Wood Prod., Furn. & Fix. Paper Primary Metals	Aug. Aug. Aug. Aug. Aug.	101 101 104 97 105 93	101 105r 105 98 104r 93	101 104 105 98 103 96 96	101 100 103 96 104 96	FINANCE AND BANKING Member Bank Loans Member Bank Deposits Bank Debits**	Aug.	145 126 128	143 127 136	144 128 134r	129 114 116
Textiles Transportation Equipment Nonmanufacturing Construction Farm Employment Insured Unemployment, (Percent of Cov. Emp.) Avg. Weekly Hrs. in Mfg., (Hrs.)	Aug. Aug. Aug. Aug.	95 106 106 96 85 4.5 40.3	96r 105 106 96r 89 4.4 40.7	105 107 94 85 4.1 40.9	97 86 104 90 88 5.5 40.1	INCOME AND SPENDING Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate) Farm Cash Receipts Department Store Sales*/**	July	5,639 102 107	5,597r 122 107	5,603 120 100	5,391 95 100
Manufacturing Payrolls Construction Contracts* Residential All Other Electric Power Production** Cotton Consumption** Petrol. Prod. in Coastal La. and Miss.**	Aug. July July July July Aug.	122 113 111 114 136 104 147	121 117 120 114 131 106 146	122 122 124 120 130 109 144r	113 109 110 109 122 102 130	PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT  Nonfarm Employment  Manufacturing  Nonmanufacturing  Construction  Farm Employment	Aug. Aug. Aug. Aug.	97 94 98 73 94	97 94 98 74 90	98 93 99 <b>72</b> 101	97 93 99 75 107
FINANCE AND BANKING Member Bank Loans* All Banks		138	136	136	125	Insured Unemployment, (Percent of Cov. Emp.) Avg. Weekly Hrs. in Mfg., (Hrs.) Manufacturing Payrolls		4.5 42.3 110	4.6 41.7 107	4.7 41.2 107	6.1 40.6 100
Leading Cities Member Bank Deposits* AII Banks Leading Cities Bank Debits*/**	Aug. Sept.	138 123 122 123	137 123 120 128	136 122 122 128	126 112 114 114	FINANCE AND BANKING  Member Bank Loans*	Aug.	131 115 112	131 115 120	132 113 122r	119 108 103
,						MISSISSIPPI					
ALABAMA INCOME AND SPENDING Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate)	July July Aua.	5,147 104 107	5,159r 103 107	5,185 116 102	4,925 93 105	INCOME AND SPENDING  Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate)  Farm Cash Receipts  Department Store Sales*/**	July	2,913 92 105	2,884r 112 100	2,948r 126 97	2,714 87 97
PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT  Nonfarm Employment	Aug. Aug. Aug. Aug.	102 99 103 89	102 99 104 90r	102 99 104 90	102 97 105 92	PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT  Nonfarm Employment  Manufacturing  Nonmanufacturing  Construction  Farm Employment	Aug. Aug. Aug.	108 114 106 97 84	109 114 107 100 85	109 114 107 101 81	106 107 105 100 82
Farm Employment Insured Umemnloyment, (Percent of Cov. Emp.) Avg. Weekly Hrs. in Mfg., (Hrs.) Manufacturing Payrolls	Aug. Aug.	85 5.0 40.8 114	103 5.1 39.8r 111	85 4.9 40.7 116	92 5.3 39.7 106	Insured Unemployment, (Percent of Cov. Emp.) Avg. Weekly Hrs. in Mfg., (Hrs.) Manufacturing Payrolls FINANCE AND BANKING		4.7 39.7 131	4.6 40.2 130r	4.1 39.9 129	6.7 40.3 115
FINANCE AND BANKING Member Bank Loans Member Bank Deposits Bank Debits**	Aug.	137 122 120	134 122 123	136 121 123r	127 110 112	Member Bank Loans*	Aug. Aug. Aug.	154 131 129	152 133 130	152 130 133r	136 115 120
FLORIDA						TENNESSEE					
INCOME AND SPENDING Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate) Farm Cash Receipts	July	11,241 118 141	11,215r 131 142	11,049 133 140	10,441 100 123	INCOME AND SPENDING  Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate)  Farm Cash Receipts  Department Store Sales*/**	July	6,076 97 102	6,015r 93 101	6 ,022 87 99	5,723 99 102
PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT  Nonfarm Employment Manufacturing Nonmanufacturing Construction Farm Employment	Aug. Aug. Aug. Aug.	114 121 113 98 91	115r 124 113 96r 86	115 123 114 95 84	110 116 109 89 85	PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT  Nonfarm Employment	Aug. Aug.	105 107 105 113 85	105 108 104 112 84	105 108 104 113 86	104 104 104 109 87
Insured Unemployment, (Percent of Cov. Emp.) Avg. Weekly Hrs. in Mfg., (Hrs.) Manufacturing Payrolls	Aug. Aug.	4.2 41.0 148	4.0 41.0 148	3.3 41.6 150	4.5 41.3 138	Insured Unemployment, (Percent of Cov. Emp.) Avg. Weekly Hrs. in Mfg., (Hrs.) Manufacturing Payrolls	Aug.	5.3 40.5 119	5.3 40.7 121	4.9 40.3 121	6.8 40.3 112
FINANCE AND BANKING Member Bank Loans Member Bank Deposits Bank Debits**	Aug.	135 125 124	132 126 126	131 122 127r	122 112 115	FINANCE AND BANKING  Member Bank Loans*	Aug.	139 123 125	136 122 129	135 119 131r	127 113 118

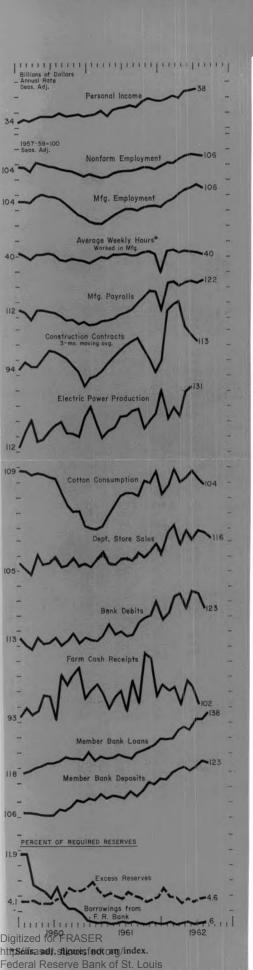
<sup>\*</sup>For Sixth District area only. Other totals for entire six states.

r Revised.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Daily average basis.

Sources: Personal income estimated by this Bank; nonfarm, mfg. and nonmfg. emp., mfg. payrolls and hours, and unemp., U.S. Dept. of Labor and cooperating state agencies; cotton consumption, U.S. Bureau of Census; construction contracts, F. W. Dodge Corp.; petrol. prod., U.S. Bureau of Mines; elec. power prod., Fed. Power Comm.; farm cash receipts and farm emp., U.S.D.A. Other indexes based on data collected by this Bank. All indexes calculated by this Bank.

## DISTRICT BUSINESS CONDITIONS



Those observers who anticipated a strengthened uptrend in the District's economy will be disappointed by the latest performance of most of the important indicators. Lack of decisive change or slight weakness was the general rule, although gains occurred in banking and in farm activity.

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Nonfarm employment was virtually unchanged in August, as a slight decline occurred in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing held steady. September employment undoubtedly was boosted by the resumption of operations of a strike-bound airline, although figures are not yet available to show this. Florida, Georgia, and Louisiana showed little change in total nonfarm employment during August, while declines occurred in Alabama and Mississippi. Employment in Tennessee rose slightly. Manufacturing payrolls for the states as a group edged upward, continuing the recent pattern of small changes at an advanced level.

Textile activity, as measured by cotton consumption, weakened somewhat further in August, but remained close to the high volume that has prevailed during most of this year. Construction contracts, partly reflecting August figures, declined again; but construction employment continued to hold its improved level. Crude oil production in coastal Louisiana and Mississippi maintained a near-record volume, and improvement also occurred in District steel mill operations.

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Consumer spending, at a near-record level according to available indicators, continues to support a high volume of economic activity, but is adding little, if any, upward push. Some weakness was, in fact, apparent in August as department store sales declined slightly. Preliminary September data so far available fail to show any pickup. Furniture store sales also declined in August. The use of bank credit for consumer purchases, however, continued to hold at a high level.

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The latest available estimates show that personal income rose further in July, thus providing an explanation for the continued high volume of consumer spending. Savings, in the form of time deposits and savings and loan shares, changed little in August.

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A quickened tempo marked the pace of the farm economy as farmers accelerated their harvesting operations. In August, farm employment increased in Florida, where farmers were busy harvesting cash crops and preparing for fall vegetable plantings, and in Louisiana and Tennessee, where they were gathering large rice, cotton, and tobacco crops. Alabama and Georgia, however, reported declines in farm employment. Although recent dry weather favored the harvest, it reduced prospective yields for cotton, corn, and other major crops and caused fall seedings to be delayed. During the past few weeks, marketings of livestock and some important crops have been larger than a year earlier, and higher prices have recently been posted for some products.

Gains have also been registered in loans and investments at member banks. Loans rose in August, after showing little change in the previous month. In the first three weeks of September, however, loans at weekly reporting banks increased less than usual. An increase in investments occurred in August, which, together with the gain in loans, more than offset the July decline in bank credit. Total member bank deposits decreased, as declines at banks in Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi more than offset gains at banks in other District states.

Note: Data on which statements are based have been adjusted to eliminate seasonal influences.