

# Monthly Review

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Tederal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

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## The Impact of Defense Spending on the District Economy

The escalation of the Viet Nam conflict has reversed a decline in defense purchases of goods and services. Moreover, in each of the last four quarters, the increase was greater than that in the preceding quarter. The change in defense purchases accounted for 18 percent of the gain in gross national product in the first quarter of this year, which contrasts sharply with 7 percent of GNP going for defense spending in 1965. What has this increase meant to the District economy?

The impact of defense spending on a region depends upon the composition of national defense spending, the structure of the region's economy, and the additional spending resulting from the initial defense expenditures in the area. The first two factors are principal determinants of the amount and makeup of defense spending in the region, and for convenience, can be referred to as the structural effect. The third factor will be labeled the multiplier effect. A look at these three factors will provide a basis for estimating the effect of increased national defense spending on the District.

#### National Defense Spending

During the first half of 1965, defense spending remained essentially unchanged, as stepped-up procurement, depicted by the rise in defense shipments, was offset by a decline in the armed forces. While procurement continued upward, the armed forces expanded after June. A jump in military payscales in September added \$1 billion to personal income at an annual rate. By April of this year, the number of armed forces personnel passed the 3 million mark from a low of 2,680 thousand only ten months earlier. Military wages and salaries advanced from \$11.8 billion in the second quarter of 1965 to \$14.4 billion in the first quarter of this year.

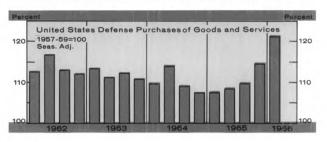
Defense spending will increase in the coming months. The third chart on page 50 evidences a continued high level of military procurement. Although some decline occurred in the first-quarter 1966 contract awards because of the bunching of orders in the previous four months, the level remains considerably above the year-ago figure. Much of the production generated by prime contracts in recent quarters will occur only after a lag of several quarters. Department of Defense payrolls will increase by 3.2 percent because of recent legislation raising military and civilian payscales.

In view of the increases in military pay rates, it appears that a greater proportion of the recent gain in defense spending went for wages and salaries. According to the latest data available (1963), military and civilian wages and salaries accounted for 35 percent of expenditures for military services and foreign military assistance, and procurement accounted for the remaining 65 percent.

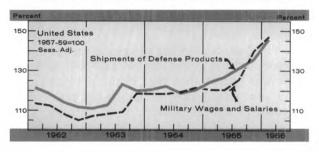
#### District Defense Employment

Both the higher level of defense spending and its emphasis on higher wages and salaries have given a special push to the District economy.

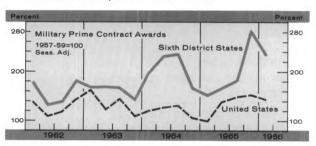
#### Defense spending has increased sharply since mid-1965.



Both procurement and payrolls have shared in the gain.



The upsurge in defense spending has taken place within the District, as well as the nation.



An important part of the \$5.3-billion advance in District personal income during the past 12 months came from the increase in defense spending. For example, a speedup in shipbuilding for the Navy in Louisiana and Mississippi and expanded work on defense contracts by aircraft companies in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia have boosted transportation equipment payrolls. In Tennessee, employment at ordnance and control instrument industries has jumped over 30 percent in the past year.

The large number of defense installations in our region play an important role in the nation's defense. As of June 30, 1965, the Department of Defense had total payrolls of \$1,960 million in the six states. These payrolls include \$1,211 million for military personnel and \$748 million for civilian personnel. With 9.1 percent of national personal income, the District states account for 13.5 percent of D.O.D. military and civilian payrolls.

Defense payrolls are considerably more important in some District states than in others. Florida and Georgia received over half of the six states' total as of June 1965, with D.O.D. payrolls of \$620 million and \$530 million, respectively. D.O.D. payrolls in Alabama were \$358 million; Louisiana, \$172 million; Mississippi, \$147 million; and Tennessee, \$135 million. Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville makes Alabama the only District state in which D.O.D. civilian payrolls are greater than military payrolls.

#### District Defense Procurement

Although the District states have a higher percentage of personal income coming from D.O.D. payrolls than the nation, they have a smaller percentage of manufacturing production in defense-oriented industries.<sup>1</sup> The 1963 Census of Manufacturing credits the region with 8 percent of value added in manufacturing, but only 4 percent of the national value added in defense-oriented industries.

The lesser importance of defense-oriented industries to the District is not surprising, as a smaller proportion of District manufacturing is in durable goods industries than is the case for the U.S. Yet the area plays a larger role in defense procurement than is indicated by the figures for defense-oriented industries. Last year, the District states accounted for 8 percent of prime contract awards over \$10,000. The higher percentage of the national total the region has in prime contract awards than in the defense-oriented industries can be explained by the wider coverage of prime contract awards and a larger number of these contracts going to the District in 1965 than in 1963.

The table shows that the District has a relatively large share of contracts in nondefense-oriented industries; the area claims 23 percent of the textiles, clothing and equipage, and construction contracts.

The high percentage of prime contracts for construction and services going to the region reflects a large number of military installations. The textile, apparel, and petroleum refining industries in the District represent an important part of their respective national markets, so these industries account for a sizable share of defense contracts. Yet, these industries are not "defense-oriented," as only a small proportion of their total output is for defense.

Florida and Georgia lead the District in the value of prime contracts received, as is the case for D.O.D. payrolls. In the last calendar year, Florida received more defense contracts than Georgia. The reverse was true in 1964.

A look at the types of procurements by states illustrates the wide diversity of contracts received. No two District states have the largest volume of contracts in the same procurement category. Georgia received the majority of her contracts for aircraft equipment. Florida's largest volume was for missile and space systems, although construction, services, and electronics and communications equipment also accounted for a substantial volume of contracts. Over half the contracts in Louisiana and Mississippi went for petroleum products and ships, respectively. A considerable diversity in the contracts received occurred in Alabama and Tennessee. Construction, the leading procurement category in Alabama, accounted for only 7 percent of the state's total defense contracts. Ammunition led Tennessee prime contract awards, with 22 percent of the state's total.

Defense prime contracts are indicative of defense procurement trends, even though the data has drawbacks. First, there is a variable lag between the letting of the contract and the production of goods and services. Second,

<sup>1</sup>The 30 defense-oriented industries surveyed in "Special Report on Defense-Oriented Industries" in the 1963 Census of Manufacturing account for the major portion of government procurement, and approximately 62 percent of their shipments go to the Federal Government.

extensive subcontracting by the prime contractors makes the value of the production in the state less than the value of the contract award. For many large contracts, over half the work is subcontracted. Therefore, one needs to know the relation between inflowing subcontracts and outflowing ones.

There is reason to believe that the District's inflow of subcontracts is greater than its outflow. For establishments with over \$100,000 in defense shipments, the District's percentage of national shipments on subcontracts was greater than the percentage of national shipments on prime contracts in 1963.<sup>2</sup> Moreover, many of the area's defense contracts are for construction, services, textiles, and fuels. Subcontracting outside the area is probably small for these categories.

This region's defense production probably accounted for about 8.5 percent of the national total last year. A recent study entitled *Defense Purchases and Regional Growth* by Roger E. Bolton estimated that about 60 percent of the total work on defense contracts occurred in the year the contract was let; 30 percent, the following year; and the remaining 10 percent in the third year. If this estimate is accurate, the region's defense production last year depended upon defense prime contracts issued in 1965, 1964, and 1963. Applying these timing adjustments to defense prime contracts, we estimate area defense production as 8.5 percent of the national total. This figure would be low if more subcontracts were flowing into the area than were going out.

Weighting the defense production estimate for the District and its share of D.O.D. payrolls by their respective shares of the national total would reveal that the District's proportion of total defense spending within the United States is a little over 10 percent. Since 10 percent is greater than the District's share of most other national economic variables, defense spending is more important to the area's economy than to the nation as a whole. Accordingly, the region's economy may be shouldering more than its share of the recent buildup in the nation's defense.

Defense spending in the District probably amounted to over \$4 billion last year. Although total national defense purchases of goods and services amounted to \$50 billion, a sizable portion was spent abroad. According to Bolton, defense spending abroad averaged about \$7 billion. With the conflict in Viet Nam, the figure would likely be higher, and domestic defense spending would be around \$40 billion

#### Multiplier Effects

The \$4 billion in District defense spending only tells part of the story. The total effect on the area's economy is considerably greater. The local sector of the economy, consisting of producers of goods for local consumption, will expand their operations as outside sources of the region's income grow. Recipients of income earned in defense production will buy many locally produced goods. The local producers will then spend the money for goods and services, and the process will be repeated numerous times. However, some of the spending goes for goods produced outside the region, and insofar as this happens, the total effect of the outside spending will be reduced.

With this model in mind, analysts often separate "exogenous" income from total income. Exogenous income, which comes from outside the region, generally includes Federal Government spending and the region's production for national markets. In studies of the relation between exogenous income and total income, most analysts have found that total income is two or three times as large as the exogenous component, varying with the region and the definition of exogenous income. These results would indicate that defense spending in the District supported a total personal income of \$8 billion to \$12 billion.

Studies of military spending indicate that the multiplier effect is usually somewhat lower than that for exogenous income from nonmilitary sources. Military personnel generally spend a smaller proportion of their income within the region than do area residents. Many of their purchases are made at the military base, and in a number of in-

"Ibid.

Department of Defense Prime Contract Awards, Fiscal Year 1965
(Millions of Dollars)

	<b>A</b> labama	Florida	Georgia	Louisiana	Mississippi	Tennessee	Six States	Percent of Six-State Total	Six-State Percent of U.S.
Transportation Equipment	60.1	52.6	525.3	86.3	60.8	8.1	793.3	38.4	9.4
Construction	24.7	155.6	60.1	8.6	59.4	6.9	315.2	15.3	23.2
Machinery and Equipment	21.1	206.6	13.2	.1	1.9	65.9	308.8	14.9	4.1
Services	21.2	163.4	15.9	20.9	2.8	18.9	243.1	11.8	11.6
Fuels	4.2	4.8	1.7	116.3	6.1	7.3	140.4	6.8	17.4
Textiles, Clothing, and Equipage	20.4	5.4	20.0	2.1	7.0	28.2	83.1	4.0	22.6
Ordnance	4.0	7.0	5.6	8.8	2.2	46.2	73.8	3.6	6.9
Other	9.4	38.0	20.6	12.7	11.9	15.9	108.5	5.3	6.7
TOTAL	165.2	633.3	662.4	255.8	152.2	197.3	2,066.2	100.0	8.9
State Total as Percent of District	8.0	30.7	32.0	12.4	7.4	9.5	100.0		
State Total as Percent of U. S.	0.7	2.7	2.8	1.1	0.7	0.8	8.9		

<sup>\*</sup>The sum of the parts may not equal the total because of rounding.

stances, the family does not live in the local area. These factors indicate that the estimate of the total impact might be nearer the lower end of the range. But even if the total impact were \$8 billion, it constitutes a sizable proportion of the Sixth District's personal income, which was \$48.6 billion last year.

With the recent increases in defense spending so pronounced and the structure of the District economy geared more toward defense spending than the nation, there can be little doubt that defense spending has contributed to the faster pace of the area's economy in the past year. Further increases in defense spending would place additional demands upon the resources of the region's economy, which is already utilizing a high proportion of its capacity.

C. RICHARD LONG

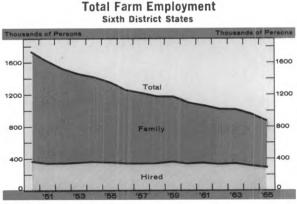
## District Farm Employment Continues Decline

A steady downtrend in farm employment for the past 15 years, interrupted by seasonal changes in the number of farm workers, raises many questions about the farm labor market. How can the labor supply be so elastic that labor is available during peak demand? Why does employment change from month to month and year to year? (Last year the farm labor force in Sixth District states varied from 640,000 workers in January to 1.0 million and 1.2 million in May and September, respectively.) Have seasonal patterns in farm employment changed in recent years and will they be modified in the future? Will the long-run trend for farm labor continue downward?

#### Composition of Labor Force

Much of the elasticity of the farm labor supply can be explained by the composition of the labor force. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, it is made up of two basic components, family and hired workers. "Family workers include farm operators who work on their farms during the survey week and other family members doing 15 hours or more of farm work without receiving cash wages." As defined, the family labor force tends to be quite broad and flexible. When the work load increases, sons, daughters, and wives of operators expand farm employment by working 15 hours or more per week. As the work load declines, these family members leave the labor force and cause farm employment to drop. In 1965, farm employment in the District dropped to 877,000 persons, or 9 percent below 1964 and 50 percent below 1950.

Although family labor varies considerably from month to month, the basic level of family workers available depends upon the farm population. In 1965, the farm



Family farm workers are leaving District farms at a faster rate than hired laborers.

population of the United States totaled 12.4 million persons, nearly 47 percent below the 1950 level. This sharp decline in the farm population has reduced the number of farm families, causing the farm component of the labor force to decline steadily. Historically, family workers have been the largest component of the total farm labor force, and this trend continues in all District states except Florida. However, the ratio of family-to-hired labor is declining, since family labor is leaving the farm at a faster rate.

The hired labor component of the farm labor force "includes all persons who work for pay at farm work during designated survey weeks." Like family labor, the number of hired laborers varies from month to month. In some District states, actual employment of hired workers is as much as ten times higher in periods of peak demand than in months of only limited farm work. In all District states except Florida, the average number of hired employees is also declining but not so rapidly as the family labor component of the farm labor force.

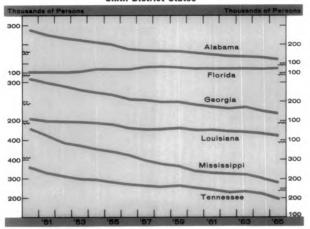
In Florida, the hired labor force has been growing and has been sufficient to more than offset the reduced number of family workers, so that total farm employment is actually increasing. The expanding production of labor intensive crops, such as citrus, sugarcane, and truck crops, has increased demands for hired workers sharply. Now the average number of hired employees is approximately twice as large as family employment. Florida is the only state that had more farm workers in 1965 than in 1950.

#### Seasonal Variations

Differences in the month-to-month seasonal changes in farm employment are explained by the dominant type of agriculture in different areas. In Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee, most of the cropland is planted in corn, cotton, soybeans, rice, and other crops which require large amounts of labor in the spring and fall. Farm employment expands through the spring and peaks in May (June in Tennessee), as farmers prepare fields, plant crops, and start weed control. By midyear, only limited fieldwork is necessary and employment declines for two months. As crops start to mature, the demand for labor once more increases and employment starts to rise. In September and October, when peak harvesting activities are underway, farm employment reaches its highest level but declines throughout the rest of the year.

This seasonal pattern of farm employment is representative of much of the cotton- and feed grain-producing regions across the nation. However, seasonal farm em-

#### Average Annual Farm Employment Sixth District States



Since 1950, total farm employment has declined methodically in all District states except Florida.

ployment patterns vary slightly from one region to another, as different growing seasons modify the employment somewhat.

#### Seasonal Patterns Change

In Florida, seasonal variations in farm employment have been changing significantly and now differ considerably from earlier patterns. In 1950, farm employment tended to peak twice, with the first crest coming in March, two months earlier than in other District states, and the other in September. March recorded the highest level of farm employment for the year.

The seasonal pattern for farm employment appeared to be reflecting the demand for labor in two different sectors of Florida's farm economy in 1950. The first peak was caused by the strong demand for labor to harvest citrus and other early spring crops. Once these crops were harvested, employment dropped sharply through July or August. By September, the row crops associated with traditional agriculture were maturing, causing farm employment to expand once again. After this harvest season, employment declined.

By 1965, however, the production of the crops that require large amounts of labor during the spring had expanded sharply. For example, the output of oranges and other citrus crops had increased over 35 percent since 1950. Likewise, the production of winter and early spring vegetable crops expanded sharply across the entire state, and in Southern Florida the 1965 production of sugarcane was over five times larger than in 1950. Meanwhile, the production of "traditional" row crops declined steadily. Corn plantings showed the sharpest decline, with a reduction of 166,000 acres in the 16-year period. Cotton acreages dropped to 23,000 acres. By 1965, the fall peak in farm employment no longer existed.

While seasonal variations in Florida's hired labor force vary considerably from other District states, the family labor component moves similarly to states with "traditional" crop-producing patterns. This seems to indicate that in Florida the family labor market still reflects the "classic" agriculture production pattern of relatively small farms producing row crops with family labor. Meanwhile,

the hired worker of the total labor force is mainly employed for the labor intensive crops of citrus, vegetables, and sugarcane. Family labor is relatively unimportant in the production of these crops.

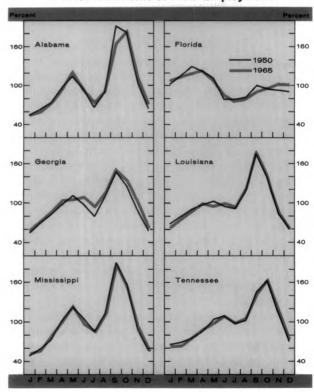
The overall influence of livestock production on the seasonal variation of farm labor is probably very small. However, it may affect the absolute level of farm employment. Generally, on most farms the livestock enterprise tends to supplement or complement crop enterprises. For example, many farmers across the District supplement farm incomes with beef cattle herds. A herd of brood cows may utilize fed from pasture and hay ground, as well as graze timber lots and stubble fields after crops are harvested. Farmers in North Central Florida complement their crop enterprises by fertilizing shade tobacco land with manure from feed lots used to fatten feeder cattle. In these cases, family and hired labor are used more fully when fieldwork is not pressing.

In some local areas, it might be possible for livestock enterprises to dominate the seasonal characteristics of the farm labor market. Month-to-month changes in employment might be small in areas that had a very high concentration of dairy or poultry operations and relatively small crop acreages. However, for large regions such as an entire state, monthly changes in farm employment will be caused by crop production patterns.

#### **Future Farm Employment**

For most District states, main changes in farm labor since 1950 have been the downtrend in average employment and a slight reduction in the amplitude of the seasonal variation. The continuous decline in farm employment reflects, in part, the steady reduction in farm popu
(continued on page 58)

#### Seasonal Patterns of Farm Employment





Employees at this chemical plant play a vital role in the production of nylon yarn.



Painted steel coils are ready for packaging and shipment at this new coil painting facility.

A weaver in one of Alabama's textile mills creates a beautiful design with this loom.





An electric steelmaking furnace receives a charge of molten iron from blast furnaces.

## Diversification Aids Alabama's Growth

Now in the sixth year of expansion, Alabama's economy continues to exhibit strength. Overall gains in recent months, which have about equaled those of earlier years of the current upswing, reflect the growing diversification of the state's economy. In many cases, the segments which formerly provided the bulwark of strength are now advancing at a slower rate. Production of coal, coke, iron, and steel actually declined last year. Offsetting these declines and boosting the general economy upward were larger outputs of pulp and paper, textiles (as measured by cotton consumption), and machinery.

#### **Economic Activity Expands**

Continuing expansion in Alabama's economy is reflected in employment gains and a reduction in the number of unemployed workers. Nonagricultural industries added about 29,000 workers between May 1965 and May 1966. Although the large number of young people entering the work force in May caused some increases in unemployment, the rate still remained below a year earlier.

Increased levels of employment, accompanied by an 11-percent rise in manufacturing payrolls over the past year, raised personal incomes. Last year's record farm income also contributed significantly to the gain. In 1965, per capita personal income advanced by 8 percent to \$1,910, a level 70 percent as high as that for the entire nation. It was only 66 percent as high in 1961. Estimates prepared by this Bank show that personal incomes in Alabama have continued to rise this year at a faster rate than in the nation.

As incomes have risen, so has consumer spending. Sales tax collections, an indicator of consumer spending, are considerably above the year-ago level. Bank debits, another measure of spending, have also risen. In most areas the gain was close to the 10-percent increase for the state.

For the Gadsden area, however, the gain was considerably higher at 16 percent, while in the Huntsville area the advance was only 7 percent.

During the past year, Alabamians' spending for automobiles has been high. Banks have financed a large number of these automobile purchases through the extension of instalment credit. The expansion in automobile instalment loans and the increasing credit demands from other sectors have resulted in a substantial increase in bank lending activity in the past 12 months.

Loans and investments of member banks of the Sixth Federal Reserve District in Alabama were 10 percent higher than a year ago. Total deposits went up 11 percent, with time deposits advancing by 14 percent.

In the Birmingham trade and banking area, the center of Alabama's iron and steel industry, loans went up 7.1 percent and deposits 8.4 percent, both rising less rapidly than in other areas of the state. The Dothan area, primarily an agricultural region, experienced the sharpest gain, with loans and deposits both advancing about 20 percent. In terms of dollar volume of loans and deposits, however, this area represents the smallest of the state's five trade and banking areas. In the Anniston-Gadsden, Mobile, and Montgomery areas, bank lending and deposit growth advanced at a slightly faster pace than the state average.

#### Sources of Strength

Although Alabama's overall record of expansion has continued, the sources of strength supporting her recent growth have shifted. A more diversified industrial mixture, and thus a wider range of job opportunities, have stimulated her economy.

A wide array of industrial firms, ranging from steel, chemicals, pulp and paper, plastics, and electronics to

the space-related complex in northern Alabama, add much diversity to the economy. This industrial base is continuously being broadened. According to figures from the Alabama State Planning and Industrial Development Board, the volume of new and expanded industries during 1965 amounted to \$623 million. Approximately 136 new industries were announced in the state last year which will provide over 10,000 job opportunities when completed. An additional 18,000 jobs will be created with the expansion of 224 Alabama industries.

On top of the list of growth industries are pulp and paper. With the demand for pulp and paper products expanding rapidly, the abundant water and timber resources in Alabama should continue to attract an increasing number of forest-related industries.

In addition to new and expanded private industries, the continuing expansion of educational and space-related research activity adds further diversification to Alabama's economy. This broadened and more varied industrial base is reflected in the shifting sources of employment gains during the past year. As the accompanying table shows, overall employment gains of 3.2 percent in the past year have about matched the average percentage rise in earlier years of the current expansion. This has occurred despite some slowdown in the sectors which formerly provided most of the strength.

Employment in seven manufacturing industries grew less rapidly during the last twelve months than in the early years of this expansion (see table). These industries, which make up about one-half of the state's 286,000 manufacturing jobs, accounted for a much smaller portion of the increase during this period. In the previous four years, these industries netted almost three-fourths of the manufacturing job gains.

Employment in the primary metals industry was held back by a declining output of iron and steel following the strike threat last fall. Steel production also declined last year, in line with the U. S. pattern. Actually, the 5-percent drop in Southern steel production, most of which is located in Alabama, was greater than the national decline. Increased imports of steel probably had a greater impact on the smaller and less diversified mills in the South than it did in other areas of the country. Installation of more of the basic oxygen furnaces, such as the one at a Gadsden plant, and the expansion of facilities at other mills for the production of a wider range of products could eventually enhance Alabama's relative share of the national steel market.

A slower rate of employment increases in the transportation equipment industry reflects continuing declines in shipbuilding and repairs. Most of this decrease was localized in the Mobile area, where about nine-tenths of the state's employment in this segment is found. Other parts of this industry—aircraft, automobiles, and railroad equipment—added jobs at about the same rate of earlier years. In the Birmingham area, employment in this industry rose by nearly 5 percent over the year, primarily reflecting gains in railroad equipment.

Smaller employment gains in the apparel industry are mainly the result of a growing shortage of workers. Demand for apparel continues strong. A leveling off in the number of jobs in agricultural chemicals contributed to a

Alabama Employment Trends, by Industry Classification
May 1961 - May 1966
(Percent changes)

(Percent cha	iiges)	
	Change May 1965- May 1966	Average Annual Change, May 1961- May 1965
Nonagricultural	3.2	3.7
Manufacturing	3.9	5.3
Advancing more rapidly in past year	ar	
Lumber and Wood Products Fabricated Metals Textile Mill Products Paper and Allied Products Printing and Publishing Rubber Products	4.2 5.1 6.7 5.8 3.2 3.0	0.4 4.2 0.1 3.1 3.1 2.5
Advancing less rapidly in past year Stone, Clay, and Glass Product Primary Metals Transportation Equipment Apparel Chemicals Machinery, including electrical Food and Kindred Products		2.2 3.3 27.5 10.9 6.8 13.1 2.2
Nonmanufacturing		
Advancing more rapidly in past year Transportation, Communications and Utilities Government		0.8 2.1
Advancing less rapidly in past year	•	
Mining and Quarrying Contract Construction	-7.6 5.0	-5.5 7.6
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate Service and Miscellaneous Trade	0.6 2.3 1.4	2.5 5.7 2.9

Based on data collected by Alabama Department of Industrial Relations.

slower rate of overall gain for the chemical industry. Job gains in industrial chemicals advanced by 8 percent between May 1965 and May 1966. Near Mobile, where a major portion of the state's chemical complex is located, job gains continued to show a rapid increase.

Within the nonmanufacturing sector—which accounts for about two-thirds of Alabama's nonfarm jobs—mining, construction, finance, insurance and real estate, trade and service-related industries grew less rapidly during the twelve months ending with May. Representing over one-half of total nonmanufacturing employment, these industries accounted for less than one-third of the gain. In earlier years of the expansion, these industries were responsible for over two-fifths of the yearly increase. With the exception of mining, however, each of these industries expanded its employment. Mining employment, on the decline throughout this expansion, dropped at a faster rate in recent months.

Despite these recent slowdowns in several of Alabama's industries, others advanced sufficiently enough to keep the uptrend in overall employment gains about in line with previous years. The lumber and wood products and paper and allied products industries alone, with employment advancing by 4.2 percent and 5.8 percent, respectively, accounted for nearly one-fifth of the manufacturing job gains during the past 12 months. Also, textiles, fabricated metals, and rubber products advanced more rapidly, helping keep overall gains high.

Rapid advances in transportation, communications, utilities, and government employment aided the growth of nonmanufacturing employment. Over one-half of the rise came from the government segment, where state and local government advanced the most rapidly and the Federal component gained only moderately as a result of a decline in defense employment.

#### **Continuing Advances**

Can Alabama's economy continue to grow at the same

rate for another year? A declining pool of employable workers could hamper future gains. However, a more diversified economic base will definitely help sustain continuing advances.

JOE W. MCLEARY

This is one of a series in which economic developments in each of the Sixth District states are discussed. Developments in Florida's economy were analyzed in the June 1966 REVIEW, and a discussion of Louisiana's economy is scheduled for a forthcoming issue.

## Time and Savings Deposits in Perspective

Member banks in the Sixth District have been giving more emphasis to consumer-type certificate savings, according to a recent survey on time and savings deposits by the Federal Reserve System.\* The survey also shows that these savings, rather than business-type savings, are more important to District banks than to all-member banks in the nation. District banks have been no more aggressive as a group in attempting to attract deposits by paying higher rates than other banks, although rate competition has been intense in certain areas. Member banks were asked to provide detailed information on their savings and time deposits, types of instruments offered, rates paid, and maturity structure on December 3, March 2, and May 11. The survey provides more detail on time and savings deposits in this District than has heretofore been available.

Table I compares Sixth District banks' time and savings deposits with those of all banks in the Federal Reserve System. Such deposits now account for 39 percent of total deposits at District banks. Although this percentage is less than the 46 percent of banks in the nation, time and sav-

ings deposits at District banks have increased rapidly in recent years.

A comparison of deposit amounts, by type of intermediary claim, is also given in this table. Going on to Table II, we see a percentage comparison of the relative importance of time and savings deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations and the change in these relationships between December 3, 1965, and May 11, 1966.

Savings deposits, or passbook savings, were by far the largest type of intermediary claim issued by banks in the District and the United States on both dates. This type of claim decreased somewhat in importance, but the District decline in relative importance was considerably less than the national decline. Thus, while total savings deposits dropped \$1,218 million at U. S. banks, District banks actually rose \$135 million between December and May. Moreover, no state grouping showed an absolute decline in amount of passbook savings, so that the decline in relative importance was the result of a slowing in the rate of gain of savings deposits.

In the nation, people shifted from savings deposits

\*Hereafter in the text, all banks discussed are member banks.

Table I

Member Bank Time and Savings Deposits

May 11, 1966

					ember 1 ed Instr											
		d Sixth s Distri		Fla.	Ga.	La.1	Miss.	Tenn.1	United States	Sixth District	Ala.	Fla.	Ga.	La.1	Miss.1	Tenn.
Percent of Total Time and Savings Deposits to Total Deposits									462	39	42 (Mi	42 Ilions of	36 Dollars)	33	35	42
Total Time and Savings Deposits, IPC <sup>3</sup>									. 110,944	5,747	920	1,892	1,068	646	303	918
Banks Offering Savings Deposits	95	99	99	100	100	100	100	97	72,871	3,908	691	1,352	419	519	132	795
Consumer-Type Time Deposits									18,384	1,398	200	503	408	59	132	96
Savings Certificates	54	59	63	61	70	38	67	49	9,487	623	114	205	200	**	40	54
Savings Bonds	3	7	2	8	13	2	33	1	856	201	*	22	159	**	18	**
Other Nonnegotiable CD's	24	23	24	29	10	30	21	17	4,844	359	46	217	12	26	53	**
Negotiable CD's under \$100,000	25	26	25	18	30	35	29	43	3,197	215	39	59	37	23	21	35
Business-Type Time Deposits									19,689	441	28	39	241	68	39	26
Negotiable CD's \$100,000 and over	10	8	4	5	20	10	8	10	13,815	321	16	11	196	51	**	**
Time Deposits, Open Accounts,																
Christmas Savings, etc.	66	67	42	86	63	85	79	44	3,655	91	12	20	28	16	**	6
All Other	14	8	2	8	21	8	()	7	2,219	29	*	8	17	1	0	**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Data are for District portions of these states only.

Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>As of May 11, 1966; data partly estimated. Percentages of District and six-state member banks as of May 11, 1966, computed from survey questionnaires. <sup>3</sup>Individuals, partnerships, and corporations.

<sup>\*</sup>Less than \$1 million.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Withheld to prevent disclosure.

Source for Tables I, II, and III: Board of Governors, Press Release, June 27, 1966, for all-member banks. Data for Sixth District member banks computed from survey questionnaires.

Table II

Changing Importance of Member Bank Time and Savings Deposits

December 3, 1965, and May 11, 1966

		iited ates	Six Dist		Alabama		Florida		ia Geor		Loui	isiana¹	Missi	issippi¹	sippi¹Tenn	
	Dec.	May	Dec.	May	Dec.	May	Dec.	May	Dec.	May	Dec.	May	Dec.	May	Dec.	Мау
Total Time and Savings Deposits, IPC (Millions of Dollars)	105,372	110,944	5.325	5,747	870	920	1,726	1,892	964	1,068	609	646	255	303	902	918
Percentage Distribution of Total IPC	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Banks Offering Savings Deposits	70	66	71	68	78	75	76	71	43	39	81	80	47	44	84	87
Consumer-Type Time Deposits	12	17	22	24	20	22	22	26	36	38	9	9	40	43	13	11
Savings Certificates	(6)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(11)	(12)	(9)	(11)	(16)	(19)	(**)	(**)	(15)	(13)	(7)	(6)
Savings Bonds	(*)	(1)	(3)	(4)	(*)	(*)	(1)	(1)	(16)	(15)	(**)	(**)	(6)	(6)	(**)	(**)
Other Nonnegotiable CD's	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(4)	(5)	(10)	(11)	(1)	(1)	(4)	(4)	(12)	(17)	(**)	(**)
Negotiable CD's under \$100,000	(2)	(3)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(4)	(3)	(4)	(7)	(7)	(5)	(4)
Business-type Time Deposits Negotiable CD's \$100,000	17	18	7	8	2	3	2	2	21	23	10	10	13	13	4	3
and over	(13)	(13)	(6)	(6)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(18)	(18)	(9)	(8)	(**)	(**)	(**)	(**)
Time Deposits, Open Accounts, Christmas Savings, etc.	(3)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(**)	(**)	(**)	(**)
All Other	(2)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(**)	(**)	(1)	(*)	(1)	(2)	(*)	(*)	(**)	(**)	(**)	(**)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>See note 1, Table I.

to other types of consumer-oriented intermediary claims. A similar but less pronounced shift occurred among District banks. The four types of claims increased in relative importance at all banks. Furthermore, savings certificates grew in significance, both in amount and as a larger component of total time and savings deposits.

Growth in deposits represented by business-type claims was less than consumer-type claims at all banks, although both groups of banks showed gains. Well over half the District's total amount of business-type claims were issued by banks in Georgia. Moreover, these banks held over three-fifths of District time deposits represented by negotiable certificates of deposits of \$100,000 and over.

Table III compares Sixth District banks' rate of deposit gain or loss, by type of intermediary claim, with the average of all banks. Banks in four states of the District showed a greater percentage gain than the average for total savings and time deposits of individuals, partnerships, and

Table III
Comparative Rates of Change
December 3, 1965, To May 11, 1966

	Percent Change by Member Bank Groupings											
	United States	Sixth District		. Fla.	Ga.	La.	Miss.	Tenn.				
Total	5	8	6	10	11	6	19	2				
Savings Deposits	-2	4	2	3	2	5	10	5				
Consumer-Type Time Deposits	40	20	18	33	17	14	28	—15				
Savings Certificates	40	21	17	30	30	15	9	-10				
Savings Bonds	113	13	-7	171	4	-15	13	27				
Other Nonnegotiable CD's	44	28	20	30	1	<b>-1</b>	68	-0				
Negotiable CD's under \$100,00	0 26	12	18	33	18	37	13	-26				
Business-Type Time Deposits	8	14	46	5	20	7	20	-22				
Negotiable CD's \$100,000 and	over 5	7	60	-9	15	-3	14	-36				
Time Deposits, Open Accounts Christmas Savings, etc.	, 11	45	31	35	49	64	45	53				
All Other	26	19	-4	-21	57	5	0	23				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>See note 1, Table I.

corporations. Tennessee banks, subject to state interest rate ceilings, had a significantly smaller gain than did the District group or the all-bank group. Mississippi banks, also subject to rate ceilings, added sharply to their total time and savings deposits. However, as noted in Table III, most of the gains resulted from mergers, so that the growth rate, when adjusted, was almost the same as that of all banks.

Banks in the District responded to increased competition for available savings flows in about the same way as did all banks. In the December-May period, the percentage of banks offering rates on savings deposits between 3.51 and 4 percent rose from 57 to 73. Both proportions are somewhat higher than those of all banks. Georgia banks had the lowest ratio of ceiling rate offerings, at 59 percent, while 84 percent of Tennessee banks offered between 3.51 and 4 percent on passbook savings.

The number of banks paying higher rates on savings certificates rose significantly between December and May. The most common interest rate paid on these instruments also increased, from 4 to 4.5 percent. Although 50 District banks were paying more than 4.5 percent on this type instrument on May 11, all but 6 of these were in Florida and Georgia. This indicates that rates in excess of 4.5 percent were not widespread in the District. However, two District states do not permit these higher rates.

Rate behavior in other consumer-type certificates generally resembled that in savings certificates. Since the survey, District banks in some areas have raised rates on time deposits further.

#### Interest Rates and the Demand for Credit

A recent MONTHLY REVIEW article considers this important subject and points out the reason for the increase in interest rates. Free upon request to the Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

<sup>\*</sup>Less than one percent.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Withheld to prevent disclosure. Subgroups of percentages may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Growth rates for member banks in Mississippi were substantially affected by mergers. After making allowance for the mergers, the growth rate in both total IPC and savings deposits drops below the District average.

#### Farm Employment (continued from page 53)

lation that has occurred since 1950. People will likely continue to leave the farm in the future, as increases in mechanization, combined with relatively low farm incomes and good employment possibilities in the nonfarm sector, enhance migration from farms.

Long-run average employment trends may change in Florida, however. Since 1950, average numbers of hired labor have exhibited an uptrend, while family labor has declined slightly. If present trends continue, family labor will decline further, as nonfarm employment opportunities draw these people away from farms.

What are the prospects for continued growth in the hired labor market? In the past, part of the hired labor force in Florida has been composed of foreign or offshore workers. Many of these workers entered the state under the authority of Public Law 78 of the 82nd Congress. This legislation was originally enacted in 1951 as a temporary two-year program but was extended periodically for thirteen years until Congress permitted it to expire on December 13, 1964. Its termination caused a reduction in the available supply of foreign labor. During the harvest season of 1965-66, however, when a severe freeze in late January caused a critical labor shortage, the Secretary of Labor did permit the use of offshore labor for the balance of the harvest season. In future years, the success in securing domestic workers as substitutes for offshore labor will have an important impact on aggregate hired farm employment in Florida.

The success in developing new harvesting equipment for the numerous fruit and vegetable crops grown in Florida may also influence future employment levels. If these ventures are successful and the harvesting of citrus and winter vegetables and sugarcane is increasingly mechanized, the need for large amounts of hand labor may diminish. Further moderation of the uptrend in the level of hired labor employed may also occur if the output of these labor intensive crops fails to grow at the same rates experienced since 1950.

Despite the continued downtrends in the District's total employment and possible innovations in production processes that might reduce average employment even further, the seasonal variations in farm employment will continue. Even though rapid mechanization of crop production has occurred already, the main effect on seasonal fluctuations has been merely to reduce the amplitude of the variation. A new machine may double or triple the productivity of a farm worker, but he may still work more hours during the planting and harvesting season than at other times.

ROBERT E. SWEENEY

#### Bank Announcements

THE FARMERS BANK, Locust Grove, Georgia, a nonmember bank, began to remit at par on June 1 for checks drawn on it when received from the Federal Reserve Bank.

On June 15, the AMERICAN BANK, Welsh, Louisiana, opened for business as a nonmember par-remitting bank. U. J. Prevost is President, and Wayford Hollis, Executive Vice President. Capital totals \$100,000, and surplus and other capital funds, \$150,000.

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

Insured Commercial Banks in the Sixth District

(In Thousands of Dollars)

				Per	ent Char				
				Year-to-Date 5 months May 1966 from 1966					
	May	Apr.	May	May 196 Apr.	6 from May	1966 from			
	1966	1966	1965	1966	1965	1965			
STANDARD METROPOLI' STATISTICAL AREAS†	TAN								
Birmingham	1,368,875	1,438,156r	1,226,447	—5	+8	+14			
Gadsden Huntsville	64,165 171,146	60,077 166,282	55,094 159,645	+7 +3	+16 +7	+9 +2			
Mobile	449,424	502,260	405,997 269,212	11	+11	+11			
Montgomery Tuscaloosa	295,748 86,691	280,437 85,263	269,212 77,090	+5 +2	+10 +12	+11 +14			
Ft. Lauderdale—	,		,		,	,			
Hollywood Jacksonville	574,574 1,414,016	653,432 1,303,839	456,315 1,190,501	12 +8	+26 +19	+17 +20			
Miami	2,020,545	2,082,065r	1,676,648	3	+21	+14			
Orlando Pensacola	496,802 205,150	464,808 198,716	418,471 184,820	+7 +3	$^{+19}_{+11}$	+9 +5			
Tampa—				<b>—4</b>		+11			
St. Petersburg . W. Palm Beach	1,151,051 445,445	1,192,960 510,615	1,006,054 337,355	13	+14 +32	+22			
Albany	87,327	84,415	84,122	+3	+4	+6			
Atlanta Augusta	4,085,447 249,172	4,178,745r 235,365	3,593,980 194,903r		$^{+14}_{+27}$	+13 +24r			
Columbus Macon	206,422 211,861	189,314 215,457	184,580 189,66 <b>3</b>	+9 —2	$^{+12}_{+12}$	+6 +7			
Savannah	245,346	245,249	228,071	+0	+8	+12			
Baton Rouge	473,260	481,918	402,832	<u>_2</u>	+17	+17			
Lafayette Lake Charles	116,723 130,571	111,304 137,754	98,596 107,9 <b>2</b> 5	+5 5	$^{+18}_{+21}$	+17 +15			
New Orleans	2,484,408	2,286,063	2,053,227	+9	+21	+18			
Jackson	582,084	547,402	483,712	+6	+20	+17			
Chattanooga Knoxville	545,720 429,332	553,008 418,533r	447,948 405,148	—1 +3	+22 +6	+14 +8			
Nashville	1,329,558	1,230,926	1,145,514	+8	+16	+13			
OTHER CENTERS									
Anniston Dothan	65,276 55,801	60,982 56,603	50,120 49,667	+7 1	+30 +12	+16 +12			
Selma	38,869	41,513	35,858	<u>—</u> 6	+8	+18			
Bartow Bradenton	43,300 48,784	40,110 57,340	30,552 46,091	+8 15	+42 +6	$^{+16}_{+11}$			
Brevard County	210,534	204,024	199,940	+3	+5	+13			
Daytona Beach Ft. Myers—	80,141	87,896	73,726	—9	+9	+9			
N. Ft. Myers .	71,719	79,715 77, <b>22</b> 5	61,148	10	+17 +13	+14			
Gainesville Monroe County	76,532 34,831	77,225 34,283	67,804 26,223	1 +2	+33	$^{+10}_{+18}$			
Lakeland Ocala	119,818 53,235	123,083 54,581	101,840 48,304	—3 —2	$^{+18}_{+10}$	+12 +11			
St. Augustine	18,481	20,456	16,333	—10	+13	+18			
St. Petersburg Sarasota	276,684 102,639	309,557 113,953	242,779 85,038	$-11 \\ -10$	$^{+14}_{+21}$	$+14 \\ +13$			
Tallahassee Tampa	119,461	113,953 111,164	102,564	+7	+16	+14 +9			
Winter Haven	651,373 64,962	642,361 62,898	573,108 57,517	$^{+1}_{+3}$	$^{+14}_{+13}$	+8			
Athens	68,985	66,070	59,321	+4	+16	+15			
Brunswick Dalton	38,387 85,708	37,347 80,178	35,898 76,563	+3 +7	+7 +12	—1 —2			
Elberton	12,720	14,570	14,718	-13	-14 + 12	+7 +7			
Griffin	70,969 32,712	73,245 30,722	63,637 27,265	+6	+20	+10			
LaGrange Newnan	25,603 27,012	22,530 28,816	18,642 23,884	+14 - 6	+37 +13	+20 +9			
Rome	71,691 47,233	66,068 46,882	61,073 43,023	+9 +1	+17 +10	+12 +9			
Abbeville	10,604	9,995	8,827	+6	+20	+12			
Alexandria	114,075	107,820	104,553 5,482	+6 -2	+9 +2	+9 +4			
Hammond	5,609 39,368	5,718 34,662	32,800	+14	+20	+9			
New Iberia Plaquemine	34,811 9,827	33,678 9,751	30,317 8,543	+3 +1	+15 +15	+9 +15			
Thibodaux	20,987	22,636	18,943	<del></del> 7	+11	+15			
Biloxi-Gulfport	92,555	91,327	77,381	+1	+20 +10	+19 +14			
Hattiesburg Laurel	49,060 32,169	50,483 34,402	44,499 34,688	3 6	7	+5			
Meridian Natchez	61,365 33,846	63,890 35,741	58,156 33,471	4 5	+6 +1	+8 +11			
Pascagoula—-									
Moss Point Vicksburg	48,866 37,876	48,899 39,012	44,636 32,907	—0 3	+9 +15	+15 +16			
Yazoo City	34,175	30,934	30,058	+10	+14	+19			
Bristol Johnson City	66,590 70,231	68,302 70,860	61,372 60,705	3 1	+9 +16	+12 +13			
Kingsport	147,171	135 737	127,331	+8	+16	+13			
SIXTH DISTRICT, Total		27,428,276r		+0	+15	+13			
Alabama‡ Florida‡	3.485,365 8,437,171	3,587,685r 8,640,127r	3,161,255 7,202,151	—3 —2	$^{+10}_{+17}$	+11 +13			
Georgia‡	6,704,718	6,731,850r	5,940,605 3,351,435	—0	+13 +18	+12			
Louisiana*†	3,968,066	3,750,206	3,351,435	$^{+6}_{+1}$	+18	+16			
Mississippi*†	1,246,041	1,234,614	1,088,584	<b>+</b> 1	+14	+16			

<sup>\*</sup>Includes only banks in the Sixth District portion of the state. †Partially estimated. ‡Estimated. r-Revised.

### Sixth District Statistics

#### Seasonally Adjusted

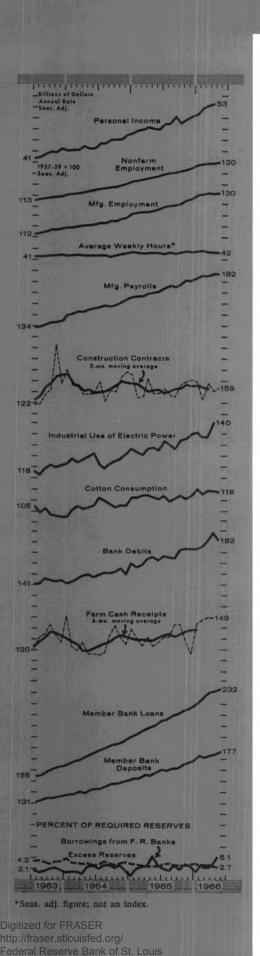
(All data are indexes, 1957-59 = 100, unless indicated otherwise.)

						·	
	Latest 1		One Month Ago	Two Months Ago	One Year Ago	One Tw Latest Month Month Month (1966) Ago Ago	hs Year
SIXTH DISTRICT						GEORGIA	
INCOME AND SPENDING  Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate)	May Apr. Apr.	182 149 146	52,821r 183r 150 158	52,420r 181 147 151	47,965 165 132 158	INCOME AND SPENDING  Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate) Apr. 10,167 10,043r 9,94 Manufacturing Payrolls May 183 186r 14 Farm Cash Receipts Apr. 150 150 1	32 167
Livestock Instalment Credit at Banks, *(Mil. S) New Loans Repayments	May	153 263 259	152 287 <b>2</b> 49	292 233	122 247 219	PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT           Nonfarm Employment	27 120
PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT  Nonfarm Employment , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	May May	130 130 160 124	130 130 160r 123	130 130 159 123	123 122 150 117	Farm Employment May 54 58	52 67 .3 1.7 .3 41.3
Fabricated Metals Food Lbr., Wood Prod., Furn. & Fix	May May May May May May	143 111 103 112 114 104	143 111 104 113 114 103	143 113 104 111 113 103	130 107 100 108 111 99	Member Bank Loans May 247 247 2	51 208 88 171 96 180r
Transportation Equipment Nonmanufacturing Construction Farm Employment Insured Unemployment. (Percent of Cov. Emp.) Avg. Weekly Hrs. in Mfg., (Hrs.) Construction Contracts*	May May May May May	168 130 127 69 1.6 41.6 159	168 130 128 67 1.6 41.8r 152	168 130 132 71 1.8 41.8	149 124 120 75 2.3 41.6 146	INCOME AND SPENDING   Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate)   Apr. 8,148   8,021r   7,9	70r 7,300 59 147 12 137
Residential	May May Apr. May	163 156 140 118 201	164 143 134 118 191	184 157 134 119 198r	155 139 128 113 179	Manufacturing         May         111         111         1           Nonmanufacturing         May         122         121         1           Construction         May         137         140         1           Farm Employment         May         80         69	20 112 12 106 21 114 46 110 72 77 ,4 3.2
Member Bank Loans* All Banks	May	232	230	229	203	Avg. Weekly Hrs. in Mfg., (Hrs.) , . May 42.7 42.4r 42	
Leading Cities Member Bank Deposits* All Banks Leading Cities Bank Debits*/**	June May June	216 177 161 182	210 174 159 188	210 173 157 180	189 158 151 166	Member Bank Deposits* May 154 151 1	05 187 50 139 56 149
ALABAMA						MISSISSIPPI	
INCOME AND SPENDING  Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate)  Manufacturing Payrolls  Farm Cash Receipts	May	7,184 168 150	7,156r 168 153	7,082r 169 154	6,575 156 126	INCOME AND SPENDING  Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate) Apr. 4,135 4,032r 4,0  Manufacturing Payrolls May 203 202 2	52r 3,725 00 181 58 121
PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT  Nonfarm Employment	May May May May May	121 120 122 130 67 1.9 41.5	120 119 121 128r 69 2.0 42.0r	121 120 121 126 66 2.2 42.1	117 115 118 123 77 2.3 41.3	Manufacturing          May         143         142         1           Nommanufacturing          May         126         126         1           Construction          May         132         140         1           Farm Employment          May         59         59	31 126 43 133 26 122 39 129 64 68 .2 2.4 .7 41.5
FINANCE AND BANKING  Member Bank Loans  Member Bank Deposits  Bank Debits**	May	216 174 164	213 173 184	218 173 169	197 157 155	FINANCE AND BANKING  Member Bank Loans* May 272 277 20  Member Bank Deposits* May 210 209 2	58 220 10 168 90 170
FLORIDA							
INCOME AND SPENDING  Personal Income, (Mil. \$, Annual Rate)  Manufacturing Payrolls  Farm Cash Receipts	May	.5,126 209 160	15,161r 206 161	15,020r 207 147	13,765 189 164		50r 7,584 78 161 24 107
PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT  Nonfarm Employment  Manufacturing  Nonmanufacturing  Construction  Farm Employment  Insured Unemployment, (Percent of Cov. Emp.  Avg. Weekly Hrs. in Mfg., (Hrs.)	May May May May May	141 141 141 109 96 1.4 42 4	140 140 140 109r 90 1.3 42.1r	141 142 140 115 90 1.3 42.4	134 134 135 110 87 2.1 42.1	PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT           Nonfarm Employment         May         132         131         1           Manufacturing         May         139         138         1           Nonmanufacturing         May         128         128         1           Construction         May         153         154         1           Farm Employment         May         74         70	31 123 38 127 27 121 56 140 78 80 .2 2.6
FINANCE AND BANKING  Member Bank Loans  Member Bank Deposits  Bank Debits**	May	234 176 182	232 174 184	2 <b>2</b> 8 1 <b>73</b> 174	206 158 162	FINANCE AND BANKING  Member Bank Loans* May 231 228 2  Member Bank Deposits* May 172 171 1.	25 203 58 159 96 181

<sup>\*</sup>For Sixth District area only. Other totals for entire six states. \*\*Daily average basis. r-Revised.

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; industrial use of elec. power, 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



Growth still marks the District's economy, but the pace is less feverish than in early 1966. Although unemployment remained low, employers were able to add to the work force in May. Dollar volume of new construction contracts, including residential, was maintained surprisingly well in view of changed mortgage market conditions. In June, banks in leading cities expanded both loans and investments. Consumer borrowing increased at these banks, as did finance company borrowing. Estimates of crop production for 1966 are now less optimistic because of the recent dry weather in some areas.

Despite continued worker scarcity, the number of nonfarm job holders edged higher in May. The insured unemployment rate held at 1.6 percent. Manufacturing jobs moved up, largely on the impetus of expanded employment at chemical and textile firms. Increased defense spending created more employment in the defense-oriented transportation equipment industry than was lost through layoffs by automakers. Programs to match young people out of school with jobs have already alleviated some worker shortages.

Construction activity has not yet fully reflected the substantial cutback in new mortgage commitments by numerous lenders. Residential construction contract volume remained large through May, as did total contract volume. Although this region is faring relatively better than most in construction activity, several lenders within the District have felt reduced availability and higher costs of mortgage money.

Lending activity at banks in leading cities advanced sharply in June, following a temporary slowdown in May. Business loans, normally rising around the June tax and dividend period, increased more than usual. Loans to finance companies and consumers also gained.

Interest charges on business loans were substantially higher in June than three months ago, according to a survey of large District banks in Atlanta and New Orleans. The advance reflected, in part, increases in the prime rate in March. Further increases were announced by some District banks in early July in response to increases in other major cities. The Board of Governors raised reserve requirements at member banks, effective July 14 for reserve city banks and July 21 for all other member banks. Reserve requirements against time deposits (other than passbook savings) beyond the first \$5 million were increased from 4 to 5 percent. This change will mean larger required reserves for about 100 District banks.

Consumer loans gained more than seasonally in June, following a slow-down in April and May. The May decline in new loan volume occurred mainly in the automobile category, reflecting another month of decreasing sales. Only repair and modernization loans gained during May.

Dry, cool weather has reduced crop prospects in some sections of the Southeast. In recent weeks, cotton, corn, and soybean crops have been especially retarded. Pasture conditions are very poor in many parts of Tennessee. Overall, the 1966 crop production is not expected to match last year's level. Meanwhile, both average crop prices and cash receipts are lower than a year earlier. The livestock sector continues strong. Reduced milk production has caused prices of most dairy products to stay well above last year's levels.

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