



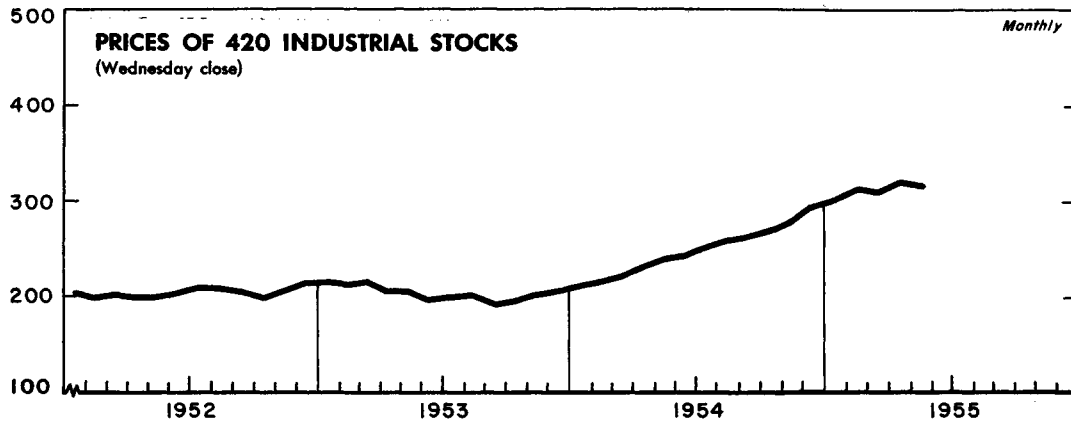
BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

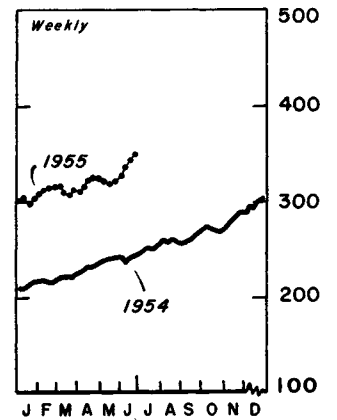
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SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

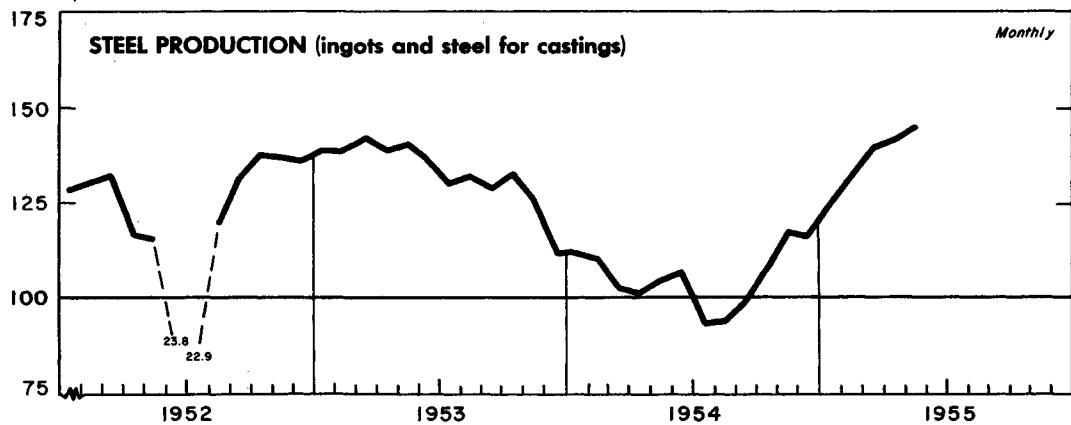
INDEX, 1935-39 = 100



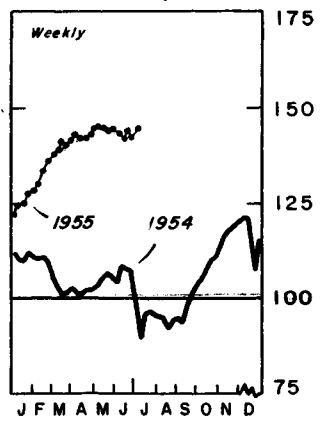
INDEX, 1935-39 = 100



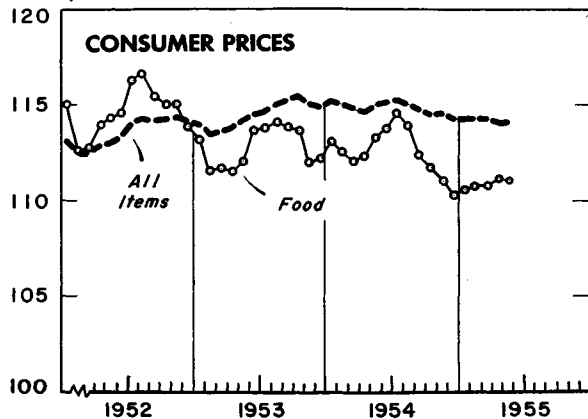
INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



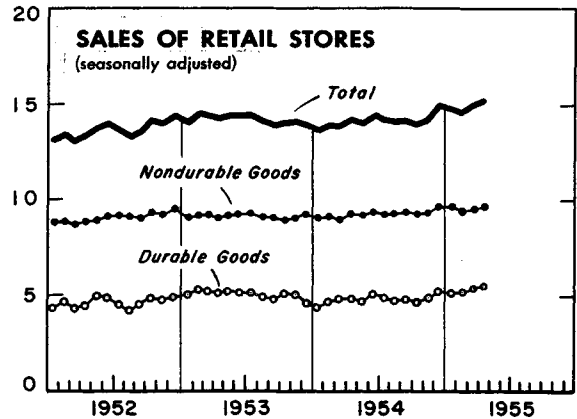
INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



BILLION DOLLARS



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1954		1955			
	June 19	June 26	June 4	June 11	June 18	June 25
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..		*110.0		110.0	110.2	110.3
Farm products.....do.....		*94.8		90.8	91.9	91.6
Foods, processed.....do.....		*105.0		103.0	103.6	103.6
All other.....do.....		*114.2		115.5	115.5	115.7
22 commodities 2/.....do.....	91.6	91.9	89.0	89.6	90.4	90.8
Department store sales.....do.....	115	97	102	114	117	.....
Insured unemployment, total 3/.....thous..	2,071	2,024	⊔/ 1,303	1,273	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	1,914	1,873	⊔/ 1,194	1,162	.....	.....
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 4/.....mil. of dol..	29,825	29,767	30,035	30,058	30,053	30,000
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 4/.....do....	25,764	26,134	25,001	25,044	24,956	25,055
Member bank reserve balances 4/.....do.....	19,934	19,818	18,496	18,648	18,678	18,998
Excess reserves, estimated 4/.....do.....	891	860	428	620	587	709
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:5/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	56,166	54,116	56,011	56,374	57,726	.....
Time deposits, except Government.....do.....	20,745	20,783	21,527	21,599	21,600	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do.....	80,997	80,210	84,164	84,012	85,009	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	34,058	33,379	33,026	32,831	32,842	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do....	21,973	21,896	22,636	22,623	23,355	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do.....	6,623	6,641	7,719	7,756	7,797	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	207	215	203	230	214	205
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 4/.....percent..	3.15	3.15	3.23	3.23	3.23	3.23
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Standard and Poor's), 1935-39=100..	222.1	223.3	289.5	297.6	302.2	306.7
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do.....	244.5	246.0	325.4	336.2	342.4	348.6
Production:						
Bituminous coal 4/.....thous. of short tons..	1,326	1,454	1,598	1,558	1,600	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	8,850	8,981	9,537	10,041	9,887	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	133,893	133,926	149,929	159,696	165,437	184,934
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 4/.....thous. of bbl..	6,495	6,510	6,592	6,600	6,626	.....
Steel 6/.....thous. of short tons..	1,725	1,720	2,312	2,286	2,316	2,292
Percent of capacity 6/.....do.....	#72.3	#72.1	95.8	94.7	96.0	95.0
Freight car loadings, total.....thous. of cars..	707	713	714	787	785	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	347	347	352	383	380	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Includes UCFE program beginning January 8, 1955. 4/ Daily average. 5/ Wednesday data. 6/ Week ended July 2; Production, 2,320 thous. short tons; operating rate, 96.1 percent. * Monthly index for June 1954. # Not comparable with 1955 rates which are based on higher capacity as reported January 1, 1955. ⊔/ Corrected.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1954		1955			
	April	May	February	March	April	May
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumer price index, all items.....1947-49=100..	114.6	115.0	114.3	114.3	114.2	1/ 114.2
Apparel.....do.....	104.1	104.2	103.4	103.2	103.1	103.3
Food.....do.....	112.4	113.3	110.8	110.8	111.2	111.1
Dairy products.....do.....	104.6	103.5	106.1	105.4	104.6	104.0
Fruits and vegetables.....do.....	110.0	114.6	110.7	112.0	117.5	120.2
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do.....	110.5	111.0	102.5	102.3	103.0	102.1
Housing.....do.....	118.5	118.9	119.6	119.6	119.5	119.4
Gas and electricity.....do.....	107.6	107.7	109.9	110.3	110.3	110.9
Housefurnishings.....do.....	106.1	105.9	104.8	104.6	104.5	103.7
Rent.....do.....	128.2	128.3	129.7	130.0	129.9	130.3
Medical care.....do.....	124.9	125.1	126.8	127.0	127.3	127.5
Personal care.....do.....	112.9	113.0	113.5	113.5	113.7	113.9
Reading and recreation.....do.....	106.5	106.4	106.4	106.6	106.6	106.5
Transportation.....do.....	129.1	129.1	127.4	127.3	125.3	125.5
Other goods and services.....do.....	120.2	120.1	119.8	119.8	119.8	119.9
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by—						
Wholesale prices.....do.....	90.1	90.2	90.6	90.9	90.5	2/ 91.0
Consumer prices.....do.....	87.3	87.0	87.5	87.5	87.6	2/ 87.6
Retail food prices.....do.....	89.0	88.3	90.3	90.3	89.9	2/ 90.0
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Construction contracts awarded, 37 States (F.W. Dodge Corp.):						
Total projects.....number..	65,521	65,641	58,456	75,533	79,184	75,896
Total valuation.....mil. of dol..	1,692	1,925	1,581	2,135	2,322	2,185
Building, total.....do.....	1,402	1,498	1,279	1,749	1,776	1,737
Value of contract awards (F. R. indexes):						
Total, unadjusted.....1947-49=100..	225	234	228	264	290	286
Residential, unadjusted.....do.....	251	257	266	307	336	326
Total, adjusted.....do.....	196	193	261	260	253	237
Residential, adjusted.....do.....	213	216	297	291	286	275

1/ Index based on 1935-39=100 is 190.9. 2/ Indexes based on 1935-39=100 are as follows: Measured by—wholesale prices, 47.6; consumer prices, 52.4; retail food, 44.6.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS — Continued

ITEM	1954		1955			
	April	May	February	March	April	May
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE - Continued						
Construction cost indexes (E. H. Boeckh and Associates):						
Average, 20 cities:						
Apartments, hotels, and office buildings:						
Brick and concrete.....U. S. avg. 1926-29=100..	254.2	255.7	258.8	259.0	260.7	261.8
Brick and steel.....do.....	250.2	251.3	254.7	254.9	256.2	257.3
Brick and wood.....do.....	252.8	253.9	257.9	258.6	260.0	261.3
Commercial and factory buildings:						
Brick and concrete.....do.....	261.0	262.9	266.5	266.7	268.5	269.7
Brick and steel.....do.....	257.4	258.8	262.6	262.9	264.5	265.6
Brick and wood.....do.....	251.9	253.1	256.3	256.8	258.1	259.6
Frame.....do.....	251.5	252.6	257.7	258.8	260.3	261.8
Steel.....do.....	241.2	242.2	246.1	246.3	247.4	248.3
Residences:						
Brick.....do.....	253.4	254.5	258.6	259.3	260.7	262.3
Frame.....do.....	247.4	248.3	252.6	253.5	254.9	256.4
EMPLOYMENT						
Labor turnover in manufacturing establishments:						
Accession rate.....monthly rate per 100 employees..	2.4	2.7	3.2	3.6	r3.5	p3.8
Separation rate, total.....do.....	3.8	3.3	2.5	3.0	r3.1	p3.2
Discharge.....do.....	.2	.2	.2	.2	.3	p.3
Lay-off.....do.....	2.4	1.9	1.1	1.3	r1.2	p1.2
Quit.....do.....	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.3	r1.5	p1.5
Military and miscellaneous.....do.....	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2	p.2
FINANCE						
Federal Government finance:						
Receipts, total.....mil. of dol..	3,956	5,037	5,954	11,089	4,941	6,119
Receipts, net.....do.....	2,751	3,592	5,427	9,741	3,732	4,438
Customs.....do.....	52	44	47	60	51	56
Income and employment taxes.....do.....	2,865	3,946	4,857	9,906	3,976	4,849
Miscellaneous internal revenue.....do.....	860	877	774	995	795	939
All other receipts.....do.....	179	170	276	127	119	276
Expenditures, total.....do.....	5,296	5,203	4,831	5,894	5,228	5,356
Interest on public debt.....do.....	350	249	396	478	355	443
Veterans' services and benefits.....do.....	383	352	365	386	383	381
National security.....do.....	3,691	3,374	3,048	r3,759	r3,382	p3,289
All other expenditures.....do.....	872	1,229	1,022	r1,271	r1,108	p1,244
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Organic chemicals, production:						
Acetic acid (synthetic and natural).....thous. of lb..	37,113	31,754	36,944	48,100	45,256	.....
Acetic anhydride.....do.....	52,836	53,336	60,353	78,590	72,127	.....
Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin).....do.....	1,337	1,072	1,202	1,509	1,217	.....
Creosote oil.....thous. of gal..	15,750	15,417	8,934	11,064	10,167	.....
Ethyl acetate (85%).....thous. of lb..	7,849	6,436	8,395	4,571	9,006	.....
Methanol:						
Natural (100%).....thous. of gal..	170	162	157	167	185	.....
Synthetic (100%).....do.....	14,079	12,905	13,825	15,531	15,886	.....
Phthalic anhydride.....thous. of lb..	23,258	20,233	24,976	30,450	29,263	.....
Synthetic plastics and resin materials:						
Production:						
Cellulose acetate and mixed ester plastics:						
Sheets, rods, and tubes.....thous. of lb..	2,716	2,812	3,215	4,281	3,265	.....
Molding and extrusion materials.....do.....	6,478	5,370	7,177	7,422	7,574	.....
Nitrocellulose, sheets, rods, and tubes.....do.....	554	483	364	483	427	.....
Other cellulose plastics.....do.....	428	401	559	744	584	.....
Phenolic and other tar acid resins.....do.....	31,567	32,805	37,195	41,459	39,448	.....
Polystyrene.....do.....	36,889	35,039	36,360	44,185	41,824	.....
Urea and melamine resins.....do.....	17,892	18,630	20,676	24,956	23,711	.....
Vinyl resins.....do.....	43,413	42,163	51,650	59,767	56,773	.....
Alkyd resins.....do.....	31,055	30,152	31,909	38,899	38,835	.....
Rosin modifications.....do.....	11,473	12,138	10,478	12,126	8,420	.....
FOODSTUFFS						
Distilled spirits:						
Production.....thous. of tax gal..	14,688	13,881	13,753	15,671	14,962	.....
Tax-paid withdrawals.....do.....	12,030	11,858	10,007	13,403	11,419	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	864,017	864,001	843,285	842,565	844,138	.....
Whisky:						
Production.....do.....	9,800	9,586	9,470	10,725	10,122	.....
Tax-paid withdrawals.....do.....	5,998	5,748	5,609	7,027	5,361	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	718,726	719,567	709,665	710,970	713,985	.....
Rectified spirits and wines, prod.....thous. of proof gal..	6,608	6,875	5,485	7,164	6,332	.....
Wines and distilling materials:						
Sparkling wines:						
Production.....thous. of wine gal..	108	223	227	160	212	.....
Tax-paid withdrawals.....do.....	74	95	83	112	108	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	1,296	1,418	1,304	1,333	1,420	.....
Still wines:						
Production.....do.....	1,404	1,114	1,620	1,945	1,317	.....
Tax-paid withdrawals.....do.....	10,444	9,842	10,123	13,167	10,979	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	159,748	150,758	172,024	160,347	150,427	.....
Distilling materials produced at wineries.....do.....	486	593	1,737	3,204	1,530	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.

ITEM	1954		1955			
	April	May	February	March	April	May
FOODSTUFFS - Continued						
Rice, Southern States (Ark., La., Tenn., Tex.):						
Receipts, rough, at mills.....thous. of lb..	36,832	37,382	61,315	58,409	18,276	10,437
Shipments from mills, milled rice.....do....	100,069	124,217	112,015	133,727	115,091	88,903
Stocks, rough and cleaned (cleaned basis).....mil. of lb..	573.7	390.6	784.8	653.8	610.1	599.2
Meats, production, total.....do....	1,609	1,563	1,665	1,962	1,736	1,760
Beef and veal.....thous. of lb..	828,596	838,154	760,473	890,867	844,205	901,574
Lamb and mutton.....do....	52,190	48,262	53,174	61,429	56,802	57,606
Pork, including lard.....do....	727,839	676,709	851,694	1,009,567	834,963	800,728
Lard.....do....	131,394	125,254	163,743	189,884	158,080	156,320
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (Lake Superior district):						
Consumption by furnaces.....thous. of long tons..	5,287	5,376	6,447	7,481	7,290	7,798
Stocks, end of month, total.....do....	26,142	29,563	31,108	23,711	18,907	21,901
At furnaces.....do....	20,690	24,147	25,222	18,616	14,545	17,465
On Lake Erie docks.....do....	5,452	5,416	5,886	5,095	4,362	4,436
Castings, gray iron:						
Orders, unfilled, for sale.....thous. of short tons..	826	775	852	934	966	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	995	943	1,106	1,315	1,294	.....
For sale.....do....	528	516	578	689	680	.....
Castings, malleable iron:						
Orders, unfilled, for sale.....short tons..	69,094	67,040	101,766	99,730	104,091	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	74,515	67,856	85,979	102,364	101,226	.....
For sale.....do....	39,102	37,306	48,721	60,063	57,397	.....
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	4,503	4,624	5,443	6,464	6,385	6,805
Castings, steel:						
Shipments, total.....short tons..	105,788	94,610	106,430	127,460	120,053	.....
For sale, total.....do....	78,754	70,596	80,729	98,926	92,237	.....
Railway specialties.....do....	10,768	9,337	16,501	19,339	16,646	.....
Lead, refined (primary refineries):						
Production.....do....	46,730	49,139	40,173	50,308	50,274	45,435
Shipments (domestic).....do....	47,161	40,183	46,645	42,381	44,878	46,130
Stocks, end of month.....do....	100,441	109,302	64,938	59,881	54,956	50,947
Machine tools (metal-cutting types):						
New orders.....mo. avg. shipments, 1945-47=100..	142.8	139.5	209.4	214.6	r 178.1	p 244.0
Shipments.....do....	302.7	270.3	168.2	202.5	r 180.1	p 180.7
Vacuum cleaners, standard type, sales billed.....thousands..	220.8	209.4	262.7	358.2	244.1	261.2
Radio sets, production <u>1</u> /.....do....	745.2	722.1	1,089.7	1,482.3	1,099.8	1,114.0
Television sets (incl. combination), production <u>1</u> /.....do....	457.6	396.3	702.5	831.2	583.2	467.4
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS						
Clay products:						
Brick, unglazed:						
Production.....thous. of standard brick..	514,238	522,589	445,775	562,507	569,355	.....
Shipments.....do....	532,442	527,964	405,001	r 568,469	605,391	.....
Clay sewer pipe, vitrified:						
Production.....short tons..	138,364	136,696	133,933	163,417	142,879	.....
Shipments.....do....	143,050	139,563	108,975	148,750	147,018	.....
Structural tile, unglazed:						
Production.....do....	83,211	83,272	65,438	72,470	65,146	.....
Shipments.....do....	80,703	81,331	59,583	69,059	70,105	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Data for March 1955 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
DIVISION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT
SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS