

August 26, 1955

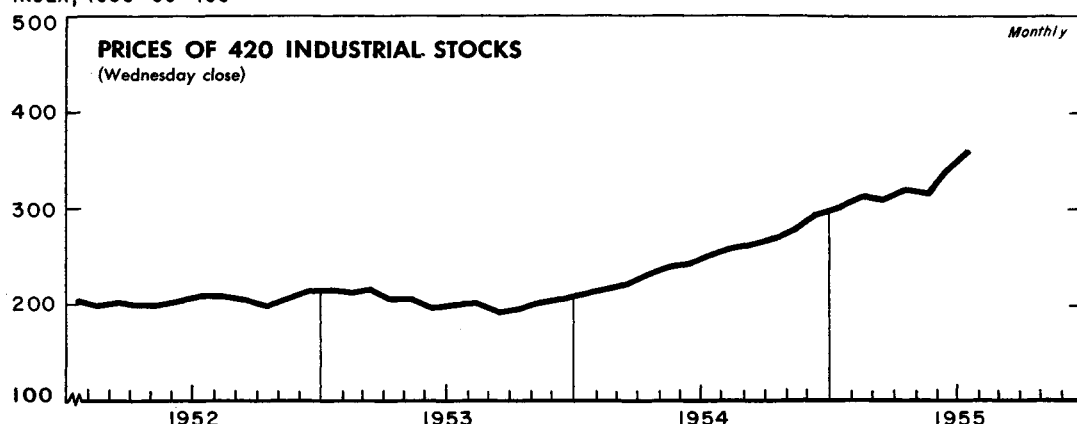
BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

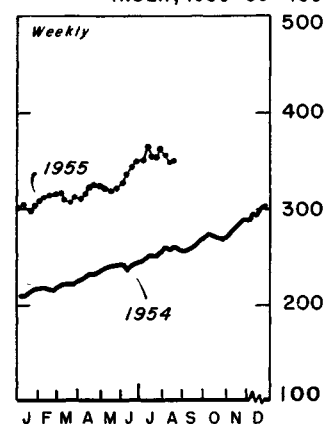
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SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

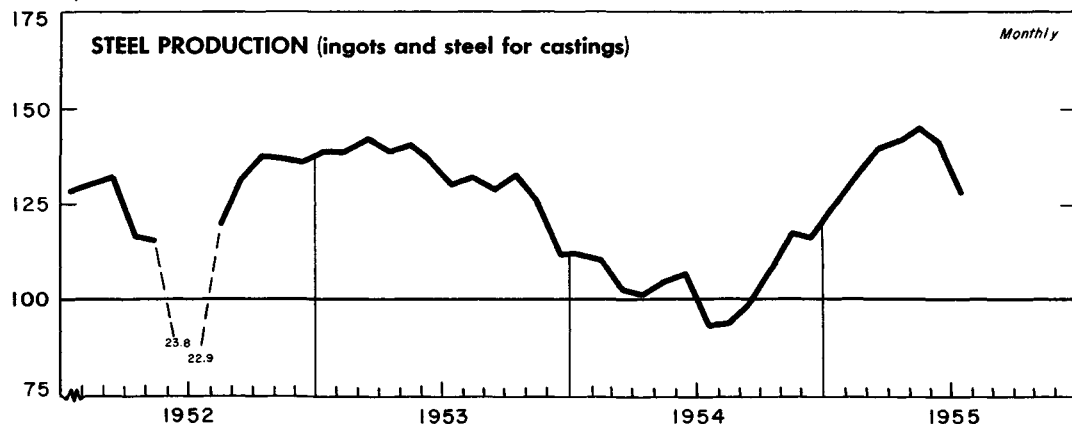
INDEX, 1935-39 = 100



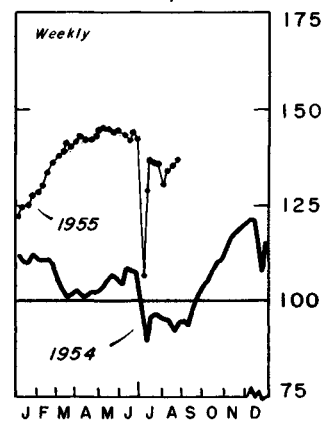
INDEX, 1935-39 = 100



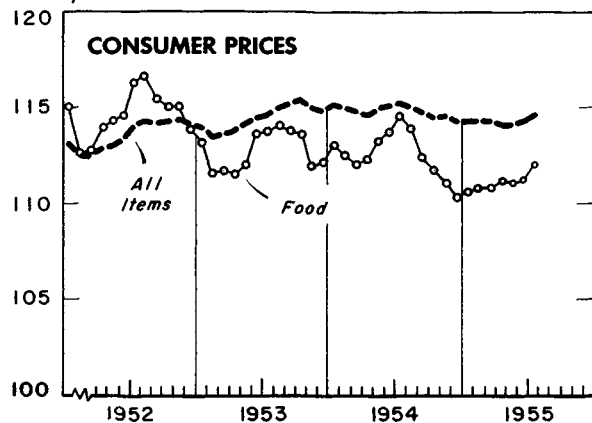
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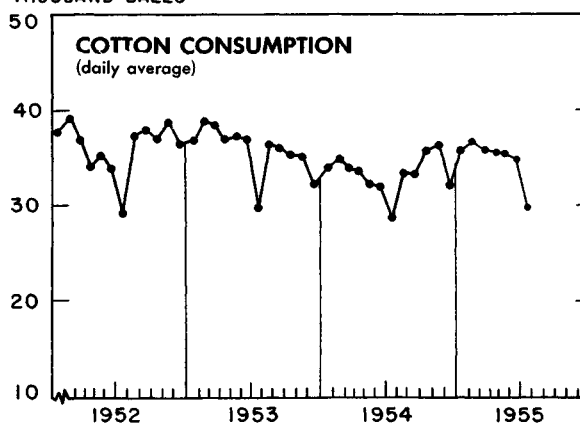
INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



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THOUSAND BALES



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1954		1955			
	Aug. 14	Aug. 21	July 30	Aug. 6	Aug. 13	Aug. 20
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*110.5	.....	110.1	110.2	110.3
Farm products.....do.....	.....	*95.8	.....	87.2	87.8	87.9
Foods, processed.....do.....	.....	*106.4	.....	101.1	100.9	101.5
All other.....do.....	.....	*114.4	.....	116.7	116.8	116.8
22 commodities 2/.....do.....	90.8	91.2	90.3	90.1	89.9	89.0
Department store sales.....do.....	97	100	98	97	100	.....
Insured unemployment, total 3/.....thous..	1,899	1,856	1,139	1,128	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	1,716	1,677	1,031	1,020	.....	.....
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 4/.....mil. of dol..	29,932	29,882	30,191	30,265	30,320	30,315
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 4/.....do.....	24,925	24,933	25,505	25,638	25,584	25,495
Member bank reserve balances 4/.....do.....	18,586	18,525	18,945	18,910	18,824	18,757
Excess reserves, estimated 4/.....do.....	898	863	606	619	633	592
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities: 5/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	54,127	53,748	54,416	55,865	55,645	.....
Time deposits, except Government.....do.....	21,213	21,213	21,539	21,552	21,570	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do.....	82,720	82,405	84,914	84,878	84,416	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	36,389	36,185	32,161	31,975	31,634	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do.....	20,829	20,759	23,526	23,550	23,754	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do.....	6,766	6,801	7,978	7,993	8,025	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	233	246	201	213	169	216
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 4/.....percent..	3.14	3.13	3.25	3.27	3.28	3.29
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Standard and Poor's). 1935-39=100..	235.8	238.0	318.9	313.7	306.4	307.4
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do.....	259.8	262.6	363.7	357.1	348.1	349.5
Production:						
Bituminous coal 4/.....thous. of short tons..	1,311	1,275	1,608	1,532	1,553	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	8,996	9,207	10,727	10,925	10,729	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	116,193	117,023	187,506	163,105	172,697	164,702
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 4/.....thous. of bbl..	6,158	6,156	6,616	6,640	6,635	.....
Steel 6/.....thous. of short tons..	1,527	1,474	2,190	2,098	2,157	2,176
Percent of capacity 6/.....do.....	#64.0	#61.8	90.7	86.9	89.4	90.2
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	685	679	796	765	775	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	337	338	374	367	374	.....

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 August 27: Production, 2,206 thous. short tons; operating rate, 91.4 percent. * Monthly index for August 1954. # Not comparable with 1955 rates which are based on higher capacity as reported January 1, 1955.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1954		1955			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Industrial and commercial failures:						
Failures, total.....number..	965	856	903	955	914	861
Commercial service.....do.....	81	80	66	80	75	68
Construction.....do.....	132	95	106	121	114	102
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	208	165	154	168	200	179
Retail trade.....do.....	455	417	484	499	446	423
Wholesale trade.....do.....	89	99	93	87	79	89
Liabilities (current), total.....thous. of dol..	41,613	32,230	35,968	34,714	36,667	32,543
Commercial service.....do.....	2,045	2,524	2,229	1,998	5,259	1,502
Construction.....do.....	4,514	4,958	6,450	4,885	4,702	6,289
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	18,454	9,986	12,653	14,093	13,888	11,865
Retail trade.....do.....	11,722	9,622	10,765	10,874	9,564	8,605
Wholesale trade.....do.....	4,878	5,140	3,871	2,864	3,254	4,282
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumer price index, all items.....1947-49=100..	115.1	115.2	114.2	114.2	114.4	1/ 114.7
Apparel.....do.....	104.2	104.0	103.1	103.3	103.2	103.2
Food.....do.....	113.8	114.6	111.2	111.1	111.3	112.1
Dairy products.....do.....	102.9	104.3	104.6	104.0	104.1	104.7
Fruits and vegetables.....do.....	117.1	120.1	117.5	120.2	119.5	121.9
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do.....	111.1	109.7	103.0	102.1	103.8	103.7
Housing.....do.....	118.9	119.0	119.5	119.4	119.7	119.9
Gas and electricity.....do.....	107.6	107.8	110.3	110.9	110.7	110.8
Housefurnishings.....do.....	105.8	105.7	104.5	103.7	103.8	103.6
Rent.....do.....	128.3	128.5	129.9	130.3	130.4	130.4
Medical care.....do.....	125.1	125.2	127.3	127.5	127.6	127.9
Personal care.....do.....	112.7	113.3	113.7	113.9	114.7	115.5
Reading and recreation.....do.....	106.4	107.0	106.6	106.5	106.2	106.3
Transportation.....do.....	128.9	126.7	125.3	125.5	125.8	125.4
Other goods and services.....do.....	120.1	120.3	119.8	119.9	119.9	120.3
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by—						
Wholesale prices.....do.....	90.9	90.6	90.5	91.0	90.7	2/ 90.4
Consumer prices.....do.....	86.9	86.8	87.6	87.6	87.4	2/ 87.2
Retail food prices.....do.....	87.9	87.3	89.9	90.0	89.8	2/ 89.2

1/ Index based on 1935-39=100 is 191.8. 2/ Indexes based on 1935-39=100 are as follows: Measured by—wholesale prices, 47.3; consumer prices, 52.1; retail food, 44.2.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1954		1955			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Construction contracts awarded, 37 States (F. W. Dodge Corp.):						
Total projects.....number..	59,741	60,996	79,184	75,896	75,141	73,130
Total valuation.....mil. of dol..	1,755	1,857	2,522	2,185	2,255	2,272
Building, total.....do....	1,377	1,387	1,776	1,737	1,794	1,852
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..	256.1	257.3	260.7	261.8	263.8	266.1
Brick and steel.....do....	251.5	252.8	256.2	257.3	259.5	262.0
Brick and wood.....do....	254.7	256.2	260.0	261.3	263.1	264.3
Commercial and factory buildings:						
Brick and concrete.....do....	263.4	265.0	268.5	269.7	271.5	274.0
Brick and steel.....do....	259.3	261.0	264.5	265.6	267.3	271.9
Brick and wood.....do....	253.6	254.9	258.1	259.6	261.3	262.3
Frame.....do....	253.9	255.4	260.3	261.8	263.8	264.5
Steel.....do....	242.4	244.7	247.4	248.3	249.8	257.5
Residences:						
Brick.....do....	255.3	256.8	260.7	262.3	263.9	264.9
Frame.....do....	249.3	250.8	254.9	256.4	258.3	259.1
DOMESTIC TRADE						
Printers' Ink advertising index, adjusted:						
Combined index.....1947-49=100..	173	170	179	186	191	.....
Business papers.....do....	r172	160	168	165	172	.....
Magazines.....do....	144	128	145	148	145	.....
Newspapers.....do....	r165	157	178	188	201	.....
Outdoor.....do....	147	152	149	156	146	.....
Radio (network).....do....	r62	64	54	54	56	.....
Television (network).....1950-52=100..	r256	298	301	311	324	.....
FINANCE						
Federal Government finance:						
Receipts, total.....mil. of dol..	11,347	3,148	4,941	6,119	11,193	3,089
Receipts, net.....do....	10,644	2,827	3,732	4,438	10,038	2,765
Customs.....do....	49	45	51	56	57	54
Income and employment taxes.....do....	10,123	2,059	3,976	4,849	9,920	1,924
Miscellaneous internal revenue.....do....	834	790	795	939	972	877
All other receipts.....do....	340	254	119	276	243	234
Expenditures, total.....do....	7,308	4,827	5,228	5,356	6,677	5,382
Interest on public debt.....do....	1,763	213	355	443	1,495	592
Veterans' services and benefits.....do....	376	336	383	381	398	358
National security.....do....	4,663	3,061	3,382	3,346	p3,939	) 4,432
All other expenditures.....do....	506	1,217	1,108	1,187	p845	)
ELECTRIC POWER						
Sales to ultimate customers, total (Edison Electric Institute).....mil. of kw.-hr...	*32,931	**32,531	38,140	38,127	.....	.....
Commercial and industrial:						
Small light and power.....do....	*5,685	**5,694	6,225	6,240	.....	.....
Large light and power.....do....	*16,027	**16,234	19,496	20,248	.....	.....
Railways and railroads.....do....	*403	**379	374	365	.....	.....
Residential or domestic.....do....	*8,942	**8,321	9,917	9,208	.....	.....
Rural (distinct rural rates).....do....	*756	**818	928	879	.....	.....
Street and highway lighting.....do....	*311	**290	334	314	.....	.....
Other public authorities.....do....	*763	**747	817	822	.....	.....
Interdepartmental.....do....	*44	**48	50	49	.....	.....
Revenue from sales to ultimate customers (Edison Electric Institute).....thous. of dol..	*585,775	**579,312	644,841	639,059	.....	.....
FOODSTUFFS						
Livestock:						
Cattle and calves:						
Receipts, principal markets.....thous. of animals..	2,316	2,298	2,040	2,277	2,122	1,956
Shipments, feeder, to 9 corn-belt States.....do....	130	174	272	236	149	169
Hogs:						
Receipts, principal markets.....do....	1,993	1,900	2,473	2,337	2,140	1,929
Sheep and lambs:						
Receipts, principal markets.....do....	1,193	1,140	1,302	1,246	1,110	1,043
Shipments, feeder, to 9 corn-belt States.....do....	90	100	156	113	96	147
LEATHER AND PRODUCTS						
Leather production:						
Calf and kip.....thous. of skins..	750	628	882	r863	886	.....
Cattle hide.....thous. of hides..	2,049	1,647	2,148	r2,169	2,222	.....
Goat and kid.....thous. of skins..	2,485	2,087	2,186	2,227	2,389	.....
Sheep and lamb.....do....	2,141	1,613	2,143	2,266	2,243	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	4,724	4,626	6,385	6,805	6,544	6,391
Steel forgings:						
Orders, unfilled, total.....do....	409.2	395.4	499.4	509.4	519.6	.....
Shipments, for sale, total.....do....	113.1	96.8	149.6	147.0	155.5	.....
Drop and upset.....do....	86.2	74.4	113.5	109.4	117.0	.....
Press and open hammer.....do....	26.9	22.3	36.2	37.7	38.4	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. * April 1954 data. ** May 1954 data.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1954		1955			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
METALS AND MANUFACTURES - Con.						
Copper:						
Production:						
Crude (mine or smelter, incl. custom intake).short tons..	86,119	76,320	104,228	106,773	r 101,940	39,421
Refined.....do....	112,474	107,193	122,129	135,042	r 130,881	51,182
Deliveries, refined, domestic.....do....	106,252	97,436	119,863	124,853	r 132,730	60,143
Stocks, refined, end of month.....do....	69,289	69,077	42,759	43,340	38,533	36,293
Oil burners:						
Shipments.....number..	68,798	65,184	60,155	65,407	68,600	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	80,845	75,345	71,864	69,732	68,141	.....
Stoves and ranges, domestic cooking, excluding electric:						
Shipments, total.....number..	187,944	145,829	196,705	199,682	216,879	.....
Coal and wood.....do....	4,206	4,351	4,283	4,107	4,817	.....
Gas (including bungalow and combination).....do....	174,806	134,896	182,502	187,735	204,170	.....
Kerosene, gasoline, and fuel oil.....do....	8,932	6,582	9,920	7,840	7,892	.....
Stoves, domestic heating, shipments, total.....do....	180,323	203,901	98,307	122,722	186,201	.....
Coal and wood.....do....	10,935	23,443	8,624	10,624	15,589	.....
Gas.....do....	111,796	114,195	50,311	74,605	116,854	.....
Kerosene, gasoline, and fuel oil.....do....	57,592	66,263	39,372	37,493	53,758	.....
Warm-air furnaces (forced-air and gravity air-flow),						
shipments, total.....do....	95,359	92,463	91,908	r 99,937	117,376	.....
Gas.....do....	57,229	53,116	58,012	r 62,696	74,125	.....
Oil.....do....	33,923	35,474	31,484	34,284	39,657	.....
Solid fuel.....do....	4,207	3,873	2,412	2,957	3,594	.....
Water heaters, gas, shipments.....do....	202,574	186,528	231,694	216,731	214,607	.....
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Men's apparel, cuttings: 1/						
Tailored garments:						
Suits.....thous. of units..	1,630	944	1,636	1,816	1,945	1,012
Overcoats and topcoats.....do....	510	280	372	496	565	288
Trousers (separate), dress and sport.....do....	4,680	3,312	5,856	5,328	5,580	3,648
Shirts (woven fabrics), dress and sport.....thous. of doz..	1,550	1,288	1,908	1,744	1,830	1,336
Work clothing:						
Dungarees and waistband overalls.....do....	345	288	416	424	430	308
Shirts.....do....	420	300	360	360	410	324
Cotton consumption 1/.....bales..	778,558	541,553	696,354	703,240	849,116	566,640
Rayon and acetate:						
Shipments, domestic, producers':						
Filament yarn.....mil. of lb..	57.9	53.1	77.5	70.5	r 68.8	65.5
Staple (incl. tow).....do....	35.7	32.1	33.0	30.2	r 30.2	27.5
Stocks, producers', end of month:						
Filament yarn.....do....	67.0	70.2	39.3	r 40.1	r 43.6	46.3
Staple (incl. tow).....do....	28.0	29.0	22.1	21.0	20.5	24.8
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT						
Railway equipment, American Railway Car Institute:						
Freight cars:						
Shipments, total.....number..	2,683	2,051	3,075	4,320	3,057	2,862
Equipment manufacturers, total.....do....	1,263	955	1,989	2,675	1,732	1,954
Domestic.....do....	1,230	705	1,664	2,438	1,690	1,284
Railroad shops, domestic.....do....	1,420	1,096	1,086	1,645	1,325	908
Passenger cars, equipment manufacturers:						
Orders unfilled, end of month, total.....do....	500	502	920	1,024	1,001	993
Domestic.....do....	285	316	896	1,007	982	977
Shipments, total.....do....	44	65	36	49	55	39
Domestic.....do....	30	34	25	41	48	33

1/ Revised. 1/ Data for June 1954 and June 1955 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT
SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS