

March 9, 1956



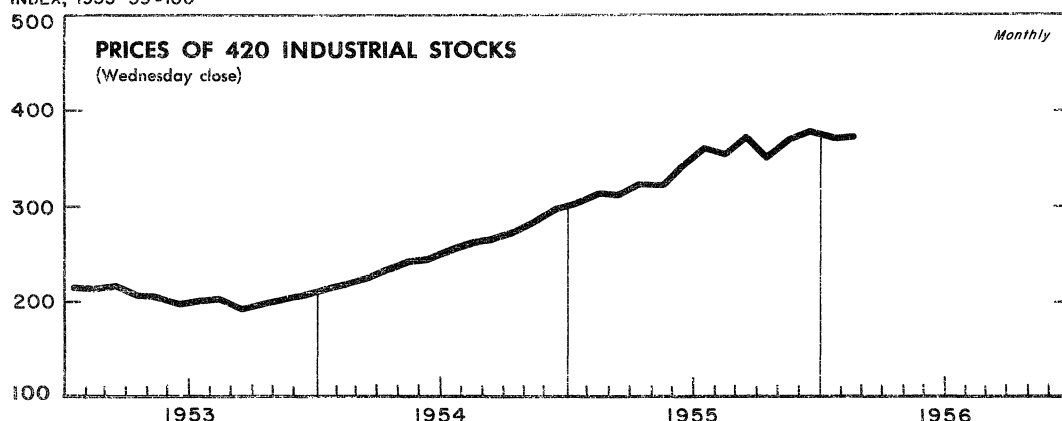
BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

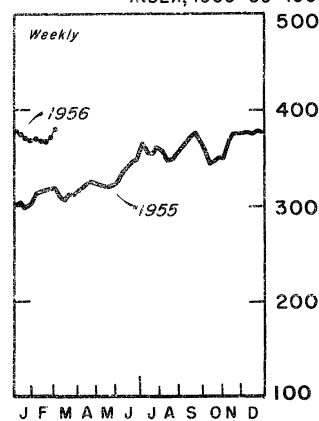
Available only with subscription to the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS, at \$3.25 annually, this Supplement provides selected weekly and monthly data subsequent to those published in the latest monthly SURVEY

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

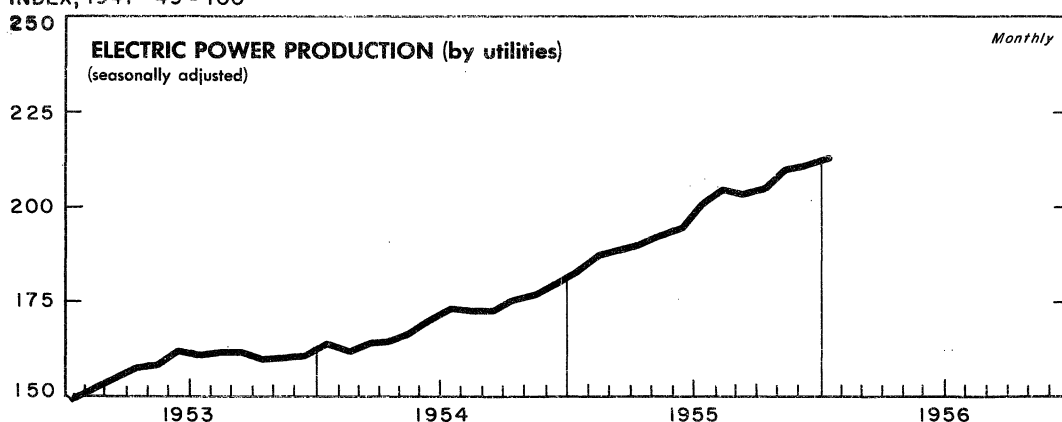
INDEX, 1935-39 = 100



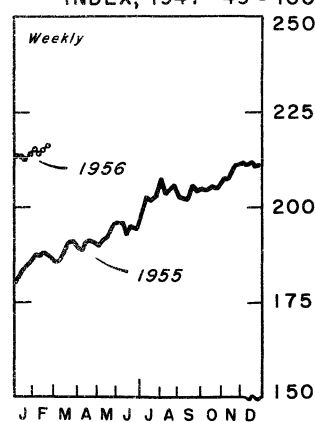
INDEX, 1935-39 = 100



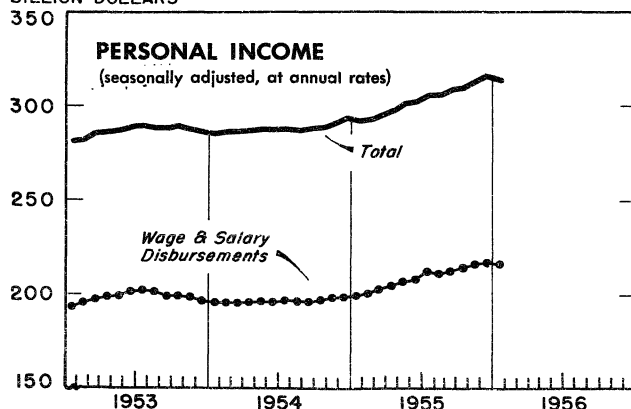
INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



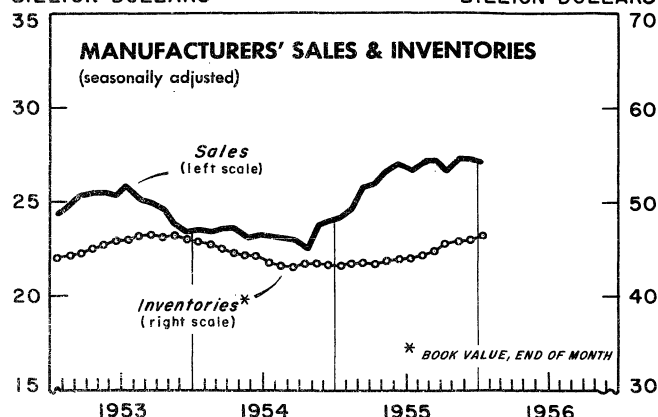
INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



BILLION DOLLARS



BILLION DOLLARS



ITEM	1955		1956			
	Feb. 26	Mar. 5	Feb. 11	Feb. 18	Feb. 25	Mar. 3
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..		*110.4	111.9	112.1	112.0	112.1
Farm products.....do....		*93.1	84.7	86.0	85.7	85.1
Foods, processed.....do....		*103.2	98.7	98.7	98.4	98.7
All other.....do....		*115.7	120.2	120.2	120.2	120.4
22 commodities 2/.....do....	90.9	89.9	88.9	88.6	88.5	89.0
Department store sales.....do....	93	98	97	95	97	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	2,074	2,017	1,637	1,622	.....	.....
State programs.....do....	1,846	1,797	1,497	1,483	.....	.....
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	29,796	29,804	30,230	30,225	30,196	30,188
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	24,932	24,892	25,104	25,174	25,360	25,089
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	18,716	18,642	18,773	18,693	18,749	18,596
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do....	608	553	473	523	535	403
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	56,744	56,270	57,048	56,391	56,106	.....
Time deposits, except Government.....do....	21,470	21,493	21,460	21,428	21,452	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	84,241	84,341	84,143	84,310	84,073	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	34,750	34,599	28,499	28,542	28,395	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do....	22,108	22,241	26,181	26,271	26,241	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	7,342	7,359	8,162	8,197	8,194	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	178	222	236	252	230	293
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.20	3.21	3.28	3.27	3.27	3.27
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/..1935-39=100..	280.4	283.0	321.6	321.0	325.7	331.5
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do....	314.4	316.6	369.3	368.5	374.5	382.3
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,467	1,297	1,692	1,675	1,662	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	9,725	9,727	11,343	11,321	11,277	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	186,241	183,748	160,967	151,551	148,175	159,020
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl.,	6,789	6,806	7,046	7,116	7,184	.....
Steel 3/.....thous. of short tons..	2,191	2,218	2,439	2,433	2,433	2,459
Percent of capacity 3/.....do....	#90.8	#91.9	99.1	98.8	98.8	99.9
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	631	659	684	698	687	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	338	363	354	363	374	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week ended March 10, 1956: Production, 2,422 thous. short tons; operating rate, 98.4 percent. * Monthly index for February 1955. # Not comparable with 1956 rates which are based on higher capacity.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1954	1955				1956
	December	January	October	November	December	January
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Personal income, by source, seasonally adj., at annual rates:						
Total personal income.....bil. of dol..	293.4	292.2	309.2	312.0	r314.8	312.5
Wage and salary disbursements, total.....do....	198.8	199.3	213.3	215.3	r215.8	215.5
Commodity-producing industries.....do....	84.8	85.4	92.8	94.0	94.1	93.6
Distributive industries.....do....	53.1	52.9	56.4	56.8	r56.9	56.9
Service industries.....do....	26.6	26.8	28.2	28.5	r28.7	28.7
Government.....do....	34.3	34.2	35.9	36.0	r36.1	36.3
Other labor income.....do....	6.7	6.8	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.2
Proprietors' and rental income.....do....	48.9	49.1	49.8	50.2	r49.9	49.8
Personal interest income and dividends.....do....	26.5	25.0	27.4	27.6	29.9	28.0
Transfer payments.....do....	17.1	17.0	16.9	17.1	17.4	17.7
Less personal contributions for social insurance.....do....	4.6	5.0	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.7
Total nonagricultural income.....do....	278.1	276.5	294.4	296.6	r299.9	297.9
Manufacturers' sales:						
Value (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	24,164	23,699	27,830	27,292	r26,977	26,464
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	11,737	11,400	13,656	13,723	r13,716	13,152
Primary metal.....do....	1,793	1,873	2,369	2,390	r2,433	2,429
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,043	1,078	1,548	1,381	r1,306	1,366
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,287	2,920	3,577	3,473	r3,777	3,549
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles).....do....	3,213	3,166	3,087	3,633	r3,529	3,175
Lumber and furniture.....do....	955	944	1,188	1,133	r1,045	1,028
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	530	498	738	668	r613	547
Non-durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	12,427	12,299	14,174	13,569	r13,261	13,312
Food and beverage.....do....	3,975	3,908	4,352	4,084	r4,016	4,002
Tobacco.....do....	317	277	320	334	r327	305
Textile.....do....	1,077	1,047	1,246	1,221	r1,115	1,063
Paper.....do....	712	756	921	886	r838	897
Chemical.....do....	1,621	1,776	2,040	1,919	r1,801	1,959
Petroleum and coal.....do....	2,470	2,339	2,362	2,454	r2,695	2,557
Rubber.....do....	400	437	483	443	457	.....
Value (adjusted), total.....do....	24,097	24,287	26,637	27,343	r27,300	27,121
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	11,570	11,850	13,261	13,721	r13,688	13,634
Primary metal.....do....	1,719	1,829	2,324	2,393	r2,341	2,369
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,098	1,123	1,582	1,395	r1,375	1,423

ITEM	1954	1955				1956
	December	January	October	November	December	January
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS - Continued						
Manufacturers' sales, value (adjusted) - Continued						
Durable-goods industries - Continued						
Machinery (including electrical).....mil. of dol..	3,147	3,075	3,472	3,553	r3,648	3,738
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)....do....	3,061	3,221	3,252	3,576	r3,460	3,205
Lumber and furniture.....do....	985	1,026	1,131	1,144	r1,124	1,117
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	596	586	665	655	r674	644
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	12,527	12,437	13,376	13,622	r13,612	13,487
Food and beverage.....do....	3,991	3,993	4,104	4,047	r4,095	4,103
Tobacco.....do....	299	298	327	327	r337	328
Textile.....do....	1,046	1,068	1,112	1,197	r1,126	1,085
Paper.....do....	742	741	877	886	r873	879
Chemical.....do....	1,764	1,740	1,939	2,014	r1,959	1,918
Petroleum and coal.....do....	2,287	2,293	2,339	2,479	r2,495	2,483
Rubber.....do....	417	424	447	482	476	.....
Manufacturers' inventories, end of month:						
Book value (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	43,511	43,503	44,959	45,317	r46,085	46,586
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	24,047	24,053	25,377	25,670	r26,235	26,626
Primary metal.....do....	3,345	3,280	3,512	3,600	r3,603	3,597
Fabricated metal.....do....	2,391	2,417	2,617	2,649	r2,658	2,709
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	7,820	7,822	8,093	8,232	r8,412	8,718
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)....do....	5,825	5,831	6,346	6,388	r6,624	6,586
Lumber and furniture.....do....	1,690	1,719	1,806	1,806	r1,855	1,872
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	860	882	900	901	r956	992
By stages of fabrication:						
Purchased materials.....bil. of dol..	6.5	6.4	7.1	7.1	r7.1	7.1
Goods in process.....do....	9.7	9.8	10.5	10.6	r10.8	11.0
Finished goods.....do....	7.8	7.9	7.8	8.0	r8.3	8.5
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....mil. of dol..	19,464	19,450	19,582	19,647	r19,850	19,960
Food and beverage.....do....	4,730	4,697	4,656	4,661	r4,584	4,499
Tobacco.....do....	1,919	1,963	1,777	1,797	r1,867	1,936
Textile.....do....	2,327	2,330	2,349	2,377	r2,422	2,450
Paper.....do....	1,014	1,028	1,028	1,031	r1,063	1,090
Chemical.....do....	3,082	3,049	3,101	3,142	r3,280	3,336
Petroleum and coal.....do....	2,669	2,581	2,880	2,823	r2,758	2,686
Rubber.....do....	821	806	848	888	905	.....
By stages of fabrication:						
Purchased materials.....bil. of dol..	8.1	7.9	7.9	8.2	r8.4	8.3
Goods in process.....do....	2.7	2.8	3.0	2.9	r2.9	3.1
Finished goods.....do....	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.5	r8.6	8.6
Book value (adjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	43,265	43,196	45,356	45,669	r45,885	46,217
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	24,023	23,984	25,659	26,059	r26,317	26,519
Primary metal.....do....	3,235	3,239	3,426	3,491	r3,494	3,540
Fabricated metal.....do....	2,440	2,417	2,726	2,759	r2,740	2,709
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	7,881	7,804	8,240	8,397	r8,494	8,698
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)....do....	5,780	5,838	6,331	6,475	r6,603	6,575
Lumber and furniture.....do....	1,690	1,719	1,843	1,843	r1,837	1,872
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	860	865	947	948	r956	973
By stages of fabrication:						
Purchased materials.....bil. of dol..	6.3	6.4	7.0	6.9	7.0	7.1
Goods in process.....do....	9.8	9.7	10.5	10.8	r10.9	10.9
Finished goods.....do....	7.9	7.9	8.2	8.3	r8.4	8.5
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....mil. of dol..	19,242	19,212	19,697	19,619	r19,568	19,698
Food and beverage.....do....	4,532	4,558	4,497	4,450	r4,382	4,369
Tobacco.....do....	1,845	1,852	1,759	1,779	r1,795	1,826
Textile.....do....	2,399	2,354	2,397	2,426	r2,471	2,475
Paper.....do....	1,004	1,028	1,049	1,041	r1,052	1,079
Chemical.....do....	3,013	3,020	3,190	3,157	r3,199	3,283
Petroleum and coal.....do....	2,643	2,634	2,824	2,768	r2,731	2,741
Rubber.....do....	821	790	902	935	896	.....
By stages of fabrication:						
Purchased materials.....bil. of dol..	7.8	7.8	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.2
Goods in process.....do....	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.1	r2.9	3.0
Finished goods.....do....	8.6	8.6	8.7	8.4	r8.5	8.5
Manufacturers' orders:						
New orders, net (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	24,309	24,324	28,213	27,726	r28,694	27,533
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	11,788	11,940	14,061	14,026	r15,478	14,339
Primary metal.....do....	2,151	2,222	2,302	2,613	r2,629	2,543
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,159	1,135	1,540	1,412	r1,430	1,398
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,029	2,983	3,882	3,682	r4,268	3,889
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)....do....	3,173	3,015	3,434	3,726	r4,634	3,702
Nondurable-goods industries, total.....do....	12,521	12,384	14,152	13,700	r13,216	13,194
New orders, net (adjusted), total.....do....	24,760	24,641	27,466	28,315	r29,306	28,131
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	11,963	12,142	14,094	14,680	r15,605	14,710
Primary metal.....do....	2,068	2,136	2,373	2,751	r2,528	2,445
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,288	1,135	1,540	1,569	r1,589	1,472
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	2,933	2,936	3,929	4,006	r4,118	3,827
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)....do....	3,173	3,350	3,434	3,653	r4,634	4,159
Nondurable-goods industries, total.....do....	12,797	12,499	13,372	13,635	r13,701	13,421
Unfilled orders, end of month (unadjusted), total.....do....	46,529	47,174	53,340	53,774	r55,491	56,560
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	43,790	44,350	50,054	50,357	r52,119	53,306
Primary metal.....do....	3,760	4,109	6,619	6,842	r7,038	7,152
Fabricated metal.....do....	3,184	3,241	3,934	3,965	r4,089	4,121
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	13,363	13,446	15,504	15,713	r16,204	16,544
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)....do....	19,505	19,354	19,484	19,577	r20,682	21,209
Nondurable-goods industries, total.....do....	2,739	2,824	3,286	3,417	r3,372	3,254

ITEM	1955				1956	
	January	February	November	December	January	February
COMMODITY PRICES						
Prices received and paid by farmers:						
Prices received, all farm products.....1910-14=100..	243	244	225	223	226	226
Crops.....do....	247	244	224	227	231	231
Commercial vegetables, fresh market.....do....	257	258	231	231	244	244
Cotton.....do....	275	268	274	264	259	262
Feed grains and hay.....do....	204	203	164	170	171	173
Food grains.....do....	241	240	220	221	220	220
Fruit.....do....	216	203	193	207	225	212
Oil-bearing crops.....do....	274	270	228	232	236	239
Potatoes <u>1</u> /.....do....	192	198	143	144	161	175
Tobacco.....do....	425	436	438	455	452	452
Livestock and products.....do....	240	245	225	219	221	220
Dairy products.....do....	258	255	267	265	260	256
Meat animals.....do....	263	264	216	201	207	215
Poultry and eggs.....do....	163	190	195	204	205	188
Wool.....do....	284	285	219	220	222	226
Prices paid:						
All commodities and services.....do....	264	264	259	259	259	259
Family living items.....do....	273	271	273	273	272	272
Production items.....do....	253	r255	244	243	246	245
All commodities and services, interest, taxes, and wage rates.....do....	283	283	279	278	281	280
Parity ratio.....do....	86	86	81	80	80	81
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
New construction (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	2,815	2,698	3,617	3,177	r2,842	2,705
Private, total.....do....	2,073	2,002	2,632	2,410	r2,124	2,019
Residential (nonfarm).....do....	1,122	1,049	1,422	1,283	r1,079	981
New dwelling units.....do....	1,030	960	1,280	1,160	r980	885
Additions and alterations.....do....	71	68	110	92	r69	66
Nonresidential building, total <u>2</u> /.....do....	543	548	717	683	r651	650
Industrial.....do....	186	187	225	226	r225	229
Commercial.....do....	189	198	296	269	r250	250
Farm construction.....do....	92	95	94	83	83	86
Public utility.....do....	302	297	388	351	303	295
Public, total.....do....	742	696	985	767	r718	686
Nonresidential building.....do....	342	320	318	287	290	279
Military facilities.....do....	78	77	115	106	r86	81
Highway.....do....	155	150	355	200	r170	165
New construction (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	3,422	3,453	3,518	3,489	r3,455	3,461
Private, total.....do....	2,400	2,438	2,517	2,486	r2,438	2,436
Residential (nonfarm).....do....	1,338	1,348	1,345	1,326	r1,285	1,258
Nonresidential building, total <u>2</u> /.....do....	554	582	680	669	r664	691
Farm construction.....do....	123	122	111	110	110	110
Public utility.....do....	368	371	370	369	369	369
Public, total.....do....	1,022	1,015	1,001	1,003	r1,017	1,025
Nonresidential building.....do....	388	380	334	322	330	332
Highway.....do....	342	339	357	367	r378	375
Construction cost index:						
Department of Commerce composite.....1947-49=100..	122.7	122.7	126.8	127.0	127.7	.....

1/ Revised. 2/ Includes sweetpotatoes and dry edible beans. 2/ Except farm and public utility.

14,237

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

FIRST CLASS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS