



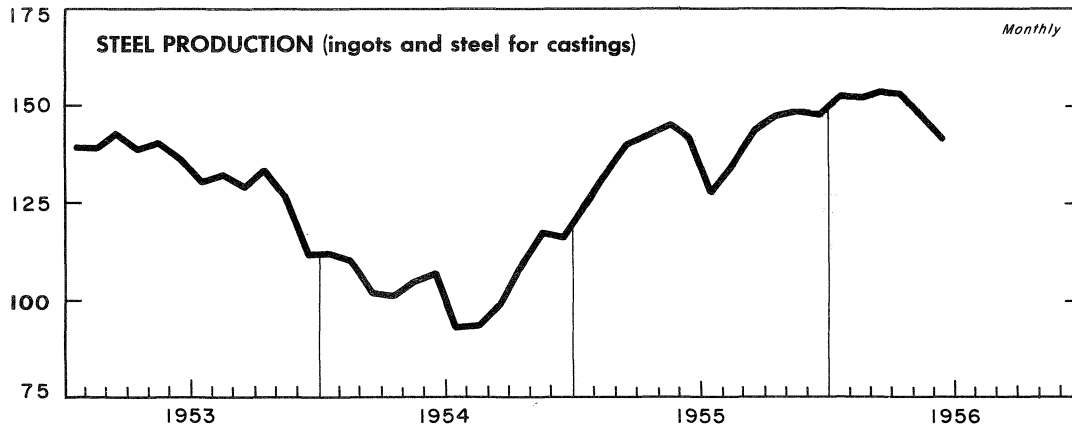
BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

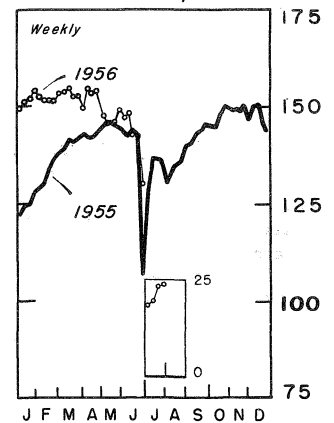
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SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

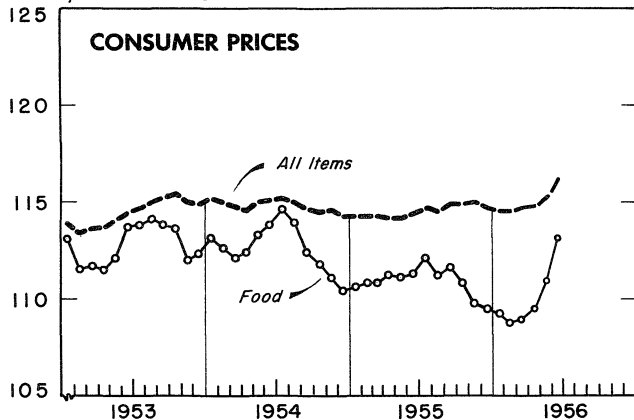
INDEX, 1947-49=100



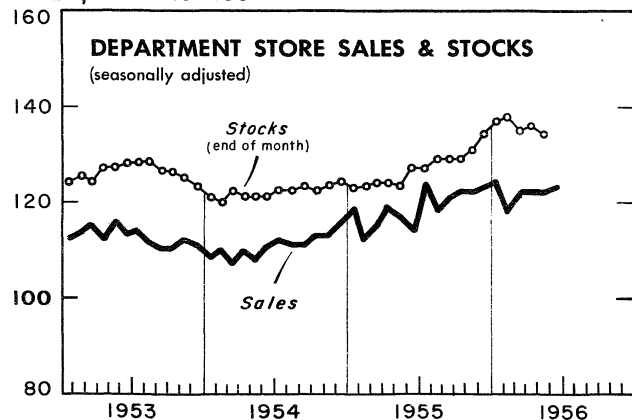
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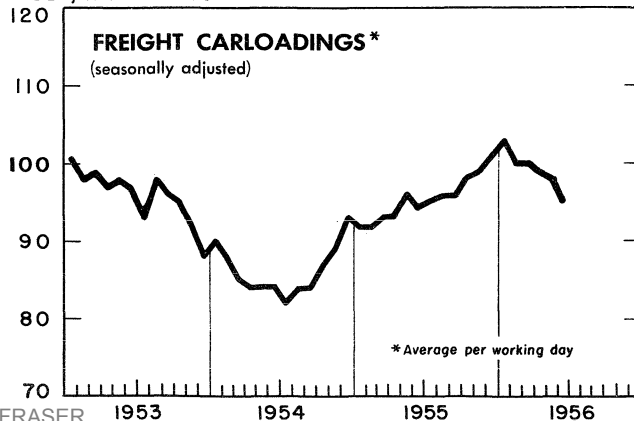
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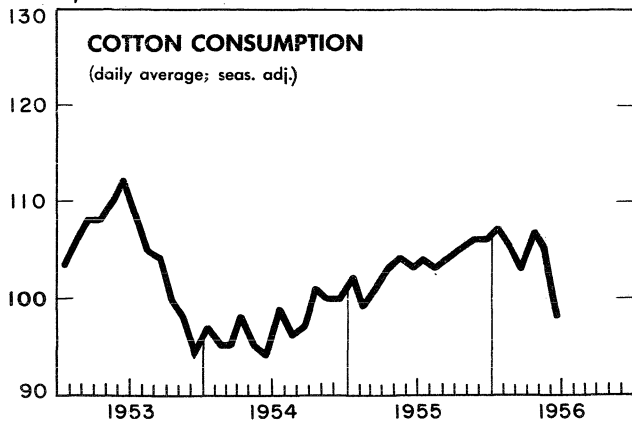
INDEX, 1947-49=100



INDEX, 1947-49=100



INDEX, 1947-49=100



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1955		1956			
	July 16	July 23	June 30	July 7	July 14	July 21
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..		*110.5		113.9	114.1	114.0
Farm products.....do.....		*89.5		89.2	90.4	90.3
Foods, processed.....do.....		*103.1		102.1	102.6	102.4
All other.....do.....		*116.5		121.4	121.4	121.3
22 commodities 2/.....do.....	91.1	90.4	88.1	87.5	88.4	88.8
Department store sales.....do.....	97	94	105	90	99	
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,250	1,193	1,147	1,285		
State programs.....do.....	1,139	1,084	1,076	1,211		
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	30,416	30,287	30,485	30,763	30,923	30,808
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	25,571	25,432	25,621	25,684	25,903	25,769
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do.....	18,779	18,774	19,030	18,902	19,040	18,869
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do.....	732	565	592	472	756	622
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	56,113	55,866	56,210	55,248	55,346	
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	21,568	21,560	22,014	21,988	21,916	
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	84,013	85,169	85,622	85,521	85,132	
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	31,663	32,565	26,582	26,559	26,349	
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do....	23,465	23,429	28,845	28,843	28,734	
Real-estate loans (gross).....do.....	7,923	7,937	8,606	8,591	8,619	
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	224	172	249	208	251	223
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.24	3.24	3.47	3.48	3.49	3.49
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/.....1935-39=100..	311.7	311.8	345.0	347.7	356.2	360.3
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do.....	354.8	354.6	402.5	406.2	416.8	422.5
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,613	1,572	2,086	1,843	1,375	
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	10,440	10,620	11,498	10,391	10,878	
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	195,423	196,434	123,331	79,671	133,773	135,192
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,626	6,650	7,034	7,086	7,084	
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	2,202	2,195	2,090	302	317	377
Percent of capacity 5/.....do.....	#91.2	#91.0	84.9	12.3	12.9	15.3
Freight car loadings, total 6/.....thous. of cars..	794	786	755	478	620	
Miscellaneous.....do.....	369	368	376	274	316	

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week ended July 28, 1956: Production, 385 thous. short tons; operating rate, 15.6 percent. 6/ Data for 1956 adjusted to revised classification of class 1 railroads. * Monthly index for July 1955. # Not comparable with 1956 rates which are based on higher capacity.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1955		1956			
	May	June	March	April	May	June
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Industrial and commercial failures:						
Failures, total.....number..	955	914	1,170	985	1,164	1,105
Commercial service.....do.....	80	75	102	91	94	93
Construction.....do.....	121	114	150	153	132	163
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	168	200	224	186	245	183
Retail trade.....do.....	499	446	572	463	575	551
Wholesale trade.....do.....	87	79	122	92	118	115
Liabilities (current), total.....thous. of dol..	34,714	36,667	42,622	41,871	59,901	43,013
Commercial service.....do.....	1,998	5,259	2,015	2,900	3,619	3,588
Construction.....do.....	4,885	4,702	7,089	6,967	8,877	8,598
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	14,093	13,888	15,649	17,142	28,450	10,684
Retail trade.....do.....	10,874	9,564	12,430	10,772	13,242	12,812
Wholesale trade.....do.....	2,864	3,254	5,439	4,090	5,713	7,331
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumer price index, all items.....1947-49=100..	114.2	114.4	114.7	114.9	115.4	1/ 116.2
Apparel.....do.....	103.3	103.2	104.8	104.8	104.8	104.8
Food.....do.....	111.1	111.3	109.0	109.6	111.0	113.2
Dairy products.....do.....	104.0	104.1	106.9	106.4	107.5	107.7
Fruits and vegetables.....do.....	120.2	119.5	114.8	116.7	121.5	131.4
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do.....	102.1	103.8	92.8	94.0	95.5	98.0
Housing.....do.....	119.4	119.7	120.7	120.8	120.9	121.4
Gas and electricity.....do.....	110.9	110.7	111.7	111.8	111.8	111.7
Housefurnishings.....do.....	103.7	103.8	103.1	102.7	102.6	102.8
Rent.....do.....	130.3	130.4	131.6	131.7	132.2	132.5
Medical care.....do.....	127.5	127.6	131.4	131.6	131.9	132.0
Personal care.....do.....	113.9	114.7	119.2	119.5	119.6	119.9
Reading and recreation.....do.....	106.5	106.2	107.7	108.2	108.2	107.6
Transportation.....do.....	125.5	125.8	126.7	126.4	r127.1	126.8
Other goods and services.....do.....	119.9	119.9	121.2	121.4	121.5	121.8
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by—						
Wholesale prices.....1947-49=100..	91.0	90.7	88.7	88.0	r87.4	2/ 87.6
Consumer prices.....do.....	87.6	87.4	87.2	87.0	86.7	2/ 86.1
Retail food prices.....do.....	90.0	89.8	91.7	91.2	90.1	2/ 88.3

ITEM	1955		1956			
	May	June	March	April	May	June
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Construction contracts awarded, 37 States (F.W.Dodge Corp.):						
Total projects.....number..	75,896	75,141	79,196	81,231	78,801	62,249
Total valuation.....mil. of dol..	2,185	2,255	2,382	2,421	2,480	2,198
Building, total.....do....	1,737	1,794	1,986	1,966	1,949	1,620
Construction cost index (E. H. Boeckh and Associates):						
Apartments, hotels, and office buildings:						
Brick and concrete.....U. S. avg. 1926-29=100..	261.8	263.8	272.4	274.1	276.8	278.0
Brick and steel.....do....	257.3	259.5	268.7	270.3	272.5	273.7
Brick and wood.....do....	261.3	263.1	271.6	273.4	275.4	276.1
Commercial and factory buildings:						
Brick and concrete.....do....	269.7	271.5	280.4	282.3	285.3	286.6
Brick and steel.....do....	265.6	267.3	278.4	280.0	282.2	283.5
Brick and wood.....do....	259.6	261.3	269.9	271.5	273.8	274.6
Frame.....do....	261.8	263.8	271.4	273.6	275.4	275.9
Steel.....do....	248.3	249.8	263.3	264.6	266.2	267.5
Residences:						
Brick.....do....	262.3	263.9	272.1	273.8	276.1	276.8
Frame.....do....	256.4	258.3	266.2	268.2	269.9	270.4
DOMESTIC TRADE						
Magazine advertising: Linage, total.....thous. of lines..	4,548	3,402	5,249	5,399	4,648	3,734
FINANCE						
Bank debits, total (344 centers).....mil. of dol..	167,714	177,917	189,793	176,760	185,584	186,540
New York City.....do....	62,211	67,634	73,214	65,715	69,452	70,733
6 other centers.....do....	36,570	37,569	40,132	37,763	38,766	38,937
Turnover of demand deposits except interbank and						
U. S. Government, annual rate:						
New York City.....ratio of debits to deposits..	42.7	44.7	47.2	45.4	46.0	47.0
6 other centers.....do....	28.4	28.3	29.7	30.1	p28.6	p28.9
337 other reporting centers.....do....	20.6	20.8	20.8	21.5	p21.7	p21.7
Bonds, yields:						
U. S. Treasury bonds, taxable.....percent..	2.75	2.76	2.90	3.05	2.93	2.89
Stocks:						
Cash dividend payments publicly reported:						
Total dividend payments.....mil. of dol..	251.3	1,390.3	1,607.1	707.1	288.9	1,623.3
Finance.....do....	62.0	93.6	102.7	125.6	56.9	109.1
Manufacturing.....do....	104.8	909.6	1,088.5	248.3	130.1	1,078.3
Mining.....do....	3.3	104.0	115.0	9.2	2.1	128.7
Public utilities:						
Communications.....do....	1.4	40.4	41.1	138.8	1.2	41.0
Electric and gas.....do....	61.9	112.9	120.3	92.9	75.8	122.8
Railroad.....do....	4.5	62.5	68.5	23.6	7.2	66.0
Trade.....do....	8.3	38.6	42.3	61.3	9.4	50.4
Miscellaneous.....do....	5.1	28.7	28.7	7.4	6.2	27.0
Dividend rate per share:						
Common stocks (200 stocks), Moody's.....dollars..	4.62	4.63	5.25	5.27	5.28	5.29
Industrial (125 stocks).....do....	4.95	4.95	5.73	5.76	5.77	5.77
Public utility (24 stocks).....do....	2.21	2.23	2.32	2.32	2.32	2.32
Railroad (25 stocks).....do....	3.36	3.40	3.86	3.89	3.93	3.93
Banks (15 stocks).....do....	3.15	3.15	3.36	3.36	3.36	3.36
Insurance (10 stocks).....do....	3.49	3.49	3.87	3.87	3.87	4.01
Dividend yields:						
Common stocks (200 stocks), Moody's.....percent..	4.14	3.87	3.86	3.87	4.13	4.01
Industrial (125 stocks).....do....	4.05	3.71	3.68	3.69	3.97	3.82
Public utility (24 stocks).....do....	4.55	4.53	4.52	4.66	4.73	4.68
Railroad (25 stocks).....do....	4.69	4.66	5.02	4.97	5.41	5.35
Banks (15 stocks).....do....	4.06	4.01	4.36	4.35	4.52	4.41
Insurance (10 stocks).....do....	2.49	2.40	2.72	2.89	3.07	3.19
Prices:						
Dow-Jones & Co., Inc. (65 stocks).....dol. per share..	157.89	162.77	176.71	180.80	177.74	173.76
Industrial (30 stocks).....do....	421.55	440.79	502.67	511.04	495.20	485.33
Public utility (15 stocks).....do....	64.06	64.23	67.05	66.20	65.69	66.24
Railroad (20 stocks).....do....	157.75	161.16	167.71	172.87	173.33	165.97
TRANSPORTATION						
Freight carloadings (A.A.R.): <u>1</u> /						
Total cars.....thousands..	3,045	3,762	3,517	2,969	3,115	3,862
Coal.....do....	498	557	662	536	551	646
Coke.....do....	47	57	67	52	53	62
Forest products.....do....	179	231	226	179	184	236
Grain and grain products.....do....	195	273	239	196	202	293
Livestock.....do....	29	28	35	29	26	30
Ore.....do....	304	411	110	202	331	432
Merchandise, l.c.l.....do....	251	327	312	245	242	290
Miscellaneous.....do....	1,543	1,877	1,866	1,529	1,526	1,873
Freight carloadings:						
Federal Reserve indexes, total, adjusted.....1935-39=100..	128	125	133	131	130	126
Coal.....do....	105	99	109	111	114	107
Coke.....do....	149	151	167	167	170	158
Forest products.....do....	139	147	146	145	145	149
Grain and grain products.....do....	155	152	146	157	163	167
Livestock.....do....	57	50	63	59	52	54
Ore.....do....	177	191	268	208	208	196
Merchandise, l.c.l.....do....	40	42	39	38	38	38
Miscellaneous.....do....	144	140	148	146	143	138

1/ Preliminary. 1/ Data for June 1955 and March and June 1956 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

ITEM	1955		1956			
	May	June	March	April	May	June
TRANSPORTATION - Continued						
Freight-car surplus and shortage, daily average:						
Car surplus, total.....number..	14,414	9,583	3,854	4,477	6,910	7,663
Box cars.....do.....	2,911	3,383	777	366	2,172	3,767
Gondolas and open hoppers.....do.....	2,317	866	444	165	27	40
Car shortage, total.....do.....	6,350	10,456	4,802	5,674	6,999	6,686
Box cars.....do.....	3,866	6,103	3,844	3,797	3,557	2,642
Gondolas and open hoppers.....do.....	2,048	3,788	740	1,430	2,929	3,490
PAPER AND PRINTING						
Paperboard (National Paperboard Association):						
Orders, new.....thous. of short tons..	1,248.4	1,239.0	1,303.0	1,210.7	1,282.4	1,120.9
Orders, unfilled, end of month.....do.....	621.0	582.2	547.0	535.0	557.9	418.2
Production, total.....do.....	1,187.2	1,210.6	1,291.1	1,184.8	1,289.5	1,233.5
Percent of activity.....do.....	96	99	100	98	97	98
Paper products:						
Shipping containers, corrugated and solid fiber, shipments mil. sq. ft. surface area..	7,912	8,133	8,686	7,979	8,287	8,315
Folding paper boxes, index of value:						
New orders.....1947-49=100..	183.8	198.9	232.0	206.8	197.8	202.8
Shipments.....do.....	167.1	179.9	186.1	166.4	185.5	180.0
Book publication, total.....number of editions..						
New books.....do.....	1,069	993	1,334	1,125	982	956
New editions.....do.....	838	800	1,066	912	798	773
New editions.....do.....	231	193	268	213	184	183
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Cotton: <u>l</u> /						
Consumption.....bales..	704,029	849,413	916,396	721,577	713,940	812,330
Manufactures:						
Spindle activity (cotton system spindles):						
Active spindles, last working day, total.....thousands..	19,834	r19,888	20,888	20,827	20,796	20,492
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do.....	18,315	18,394	19,350	19,290	19,276	18,954
Spindle hours operated, all fibers, total.....mil. of hr..	9,690	r11,844	12,562	9,991	9,793	11,459
Average per working day.....do.....	485	474	503	500	490	458
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do.....	8,949	10,928	11,740	9,324	9,128	10,664
Operations as percent of capacity.....do.....	135.9	132.9	142.8	142.2	139.6	130.6
Rayon and acetate (filament yarn and staple):						
Shipments, domestic, producers':						
Filament yarn.....mil. of lb..	70.5	69.9	66.3	r58.1	56.9	50.9
Staple (incl. tow).....do.....	30.1	30.6	33.9	r26.6	r28.9	25.3
Stocks, producers', end of month:						
Filament yarn.....do.....	40.1	43.5	49.5	55.0	61.0	64.1
Staple (incl. tow).....do.....	21.0	20.5	40.1	47.5	49.6	54.8
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT						
Railway equipment, American Railway Car Institute:						
Freight cars:						
Shipments, total.....number..	4,320	3,057	5,989	5,967	6,723	5,607
Equipment manufacturers, total.....do.....	2,675	1,732	4,366	4,152	4,549	3,318
Domestic.....do.....	2,438	1,690	4,326	4,128	4,493	3,261
Railroad shops, domestic.....do.....	1,645	1,325	1,623	1,815	2,174	2,289
Passenger cars, equipment manufacturers:						
Orders unfilled, end of month, total.....do.....	1,024	1,001	812	793	740	758
Domestic.....do.....	1,007	982	784	764	720	737
Shipments, total.....do.....	49	55	54	25	53	40
Domestic.....do.....	41	48	54	25	44	36

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. l/ Data for June 1955 and March and June 1956 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS