

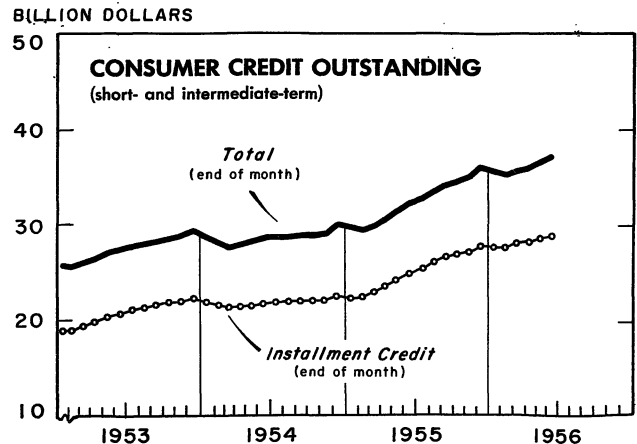
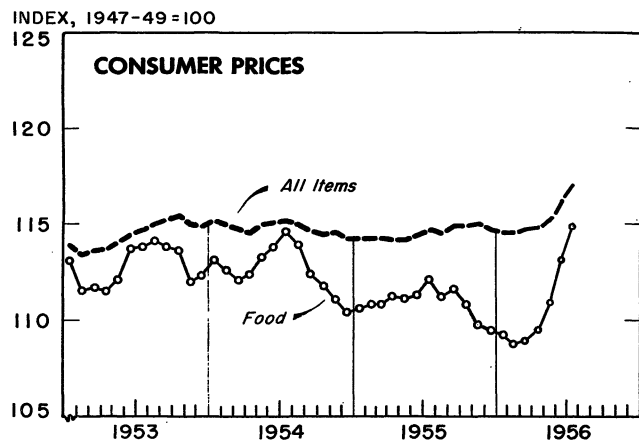
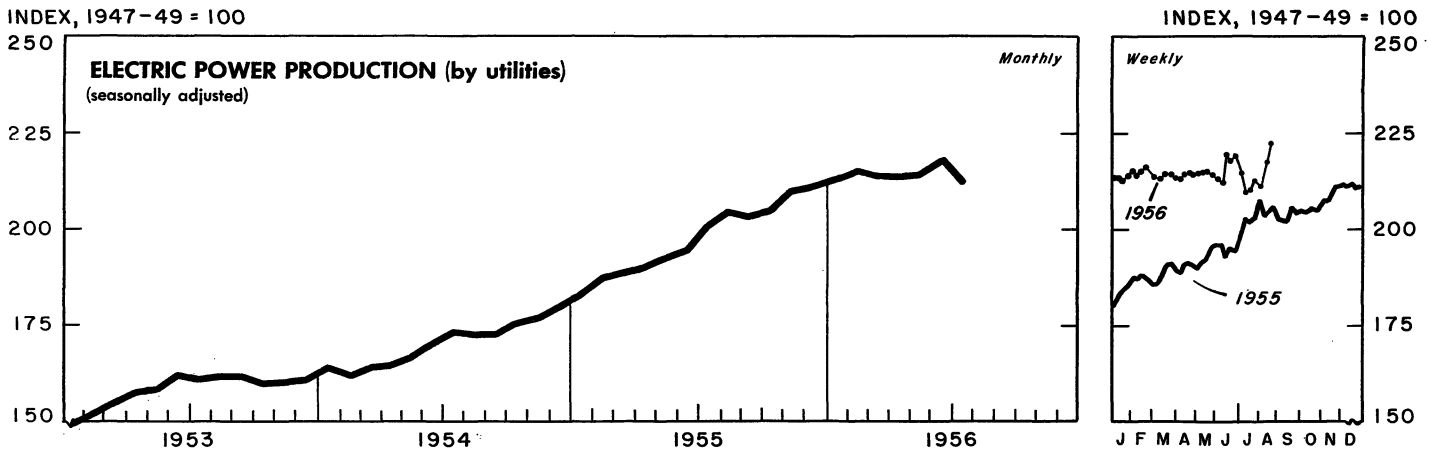
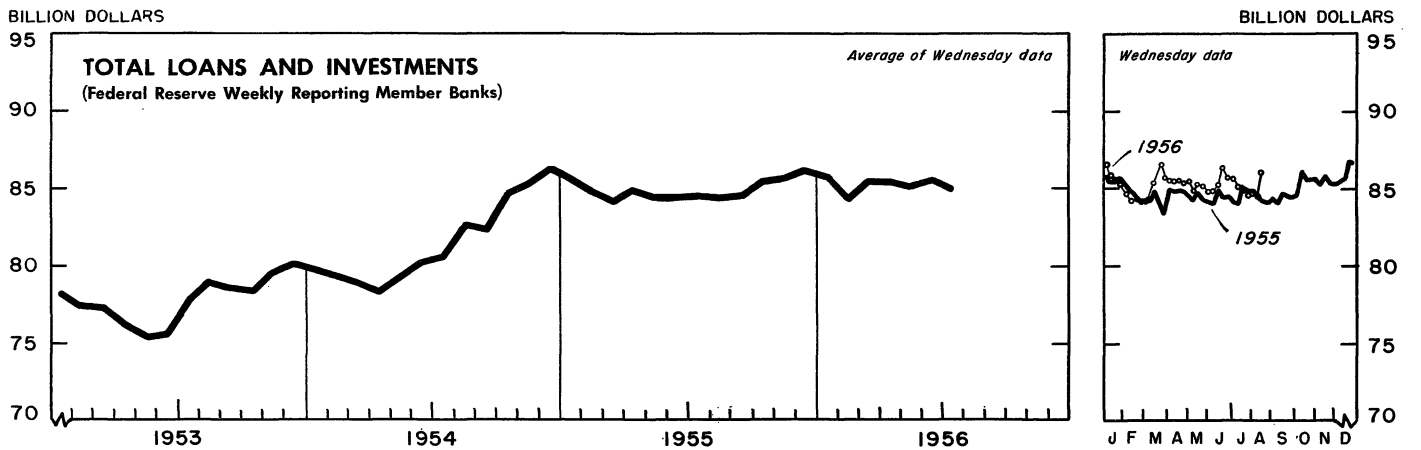


# BUSINESS STATISTICS

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



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS <sup>1</sup>

ITEM	1955		1956			
	Aug. 20	Aug. 27	Aug. 4	Aug. 11	Aug. 18	Aug. 25
<b>Commodity prices, wholesale:</b>						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*110.9	.....	114.2	114.5	114.6
Farm products.....do.....	.....	*88.1	.....	89.1	89.0	88.9
Foods, processed.....do.....	.....	*101.9	.....	102.4	102.8	103.0
All other.....do.....	.....	*117.5	.....	121.9	122.2	122.3
22 commodities <u>2/</u> .....do.....	89.0	89.2	89.4	90.6	90.9	90.9
Department store sales.....do.....	106	111	104	107	111	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,045	1,051	1,246	1,212	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	939	944	1,113	1,078	.....	.....
<b>Finance:</b>						
Currency in circulation <u>3/</u> .....mil. of dol..	30,336	30,288	30,575	30,633	30,681	30,654
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total <u>3/</u> .....do.....	25,495	25,425	25,172	25,182	25,254	25,642
Member bank reserve balances <u>3/</u> .....do.....	18,757	18,673	18,591	18,588	18,593	19,117
Excess reserves, estimated <u>3/</u> .....do.....	602	573	485	570	559	655
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities: <u>4/</u>						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	55,360	55,669	55,556	55,428	54,697	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do.....	21,567	21,532	21,904	21,913	21,897	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do.....	84,210	84,098	84,609	84,402	86,051	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	31,261	30,972	25,978	25,824	27,199	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do.....	23,940	24,050	28,734	28,727	29,029	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do.....	8,069	9,428	8,671	8,678	8,716	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	216	180	282	229	289	215
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) <u>3/</u> .....percent..	3.29	3.30	3.55	3.59	3.62	3.65
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) <u>4/</u> .....1935-39=100..	307.4	311.9	362.9	363.7	360.2	350.6
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do.....	349.5	355.5	424.9	426.2	421.7	409.6
<b>Production:</b>						
Bituminous coal <u>3/</u> .....thous. of short tons..	1,564	1,607	1,540	1,583	1,660	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	10,812	10,906	11,190	11,530	11,794	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	159,525	149,766	131,916	127,648	120,027	88,399
Petroleum (crude) and condensate <u>3/</u> .....thous. of bbl..	6,701	6,685	7,065	7,086	7,122	.....
Steel <u>5/</u> .....thous. of short tons..	2,176	2,186	415	1,415	2,154	2,359
Percent of capacity <u>5/</u> .....do.....	#90.2	#90.6	16.9	57.5	87.5	95.8
Freight carloadings, total <u>6/</u> .....thous. of cars..	776	792	660	715	770	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	374	382	320	344	367	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning August 27, 1956: Production, 2,376 thous. short tons; operating rate, 96.5 percent. 6/ Data for 1956 adjusted to revised classification of class I railroads.  
\* Monthly index for August 1955. # Not comparable with 1956 rates which are based on higher capacity.

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1955		1956			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
<b>GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS</b>						
<b>Farm income and marketings:</b>						
Cash receipts from farming, including Government payments, total.....mil. of dol..	2,027	2,143	1,883	2,038	2,091	.....
Farm marketings and CCC loans, total.....do.....	2,016	2,133	1,866	2,022	2,077	.....
Crops.....do.....	727	940	578	627	779	.....
Livestock and products, total.....do.....	1,289	1,193	1,288	1,395	1,298	.....
Dairy products.....do.....	386	362	381	420	411	.....
Meat animals.....do.....	633	566	622	676	617	.....
Poultry and eggs.....do.....	240	243	258	268	241	.....
Indexes of cash receipts from marketings and CCC loans, unadjusted:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	83	87	77	83	85	.....
Crops.....do.....	68	87	54	58	72	.....
Livestock and products.....do.....	95	88	95	102	95	.....
Indexes of volume of farm marketings, unadjusted:						
All commodities.....do.....	95	102	88	93	96	.....
Crops.....do.....	66	94	44	45	64	.....
Livestock and products.....do.....	116	108	122	129	121	.....
<b>Industrial and commercial failures:</b>						
Failures, total.....number..	914	861	985	1,164	1,105	1,018
Commercial service.....do.....	75	68	91	94	93	87
Construction.....do.....	114	102	153	132	163	141
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	200	179	186	245	183	165
Retail trade.....do.....	446	423	463	575	551	540
Wholesale trade.....do.....	79	89	92	118	115	85
Liabilities (current), total.....thous. of dol..	36,667	32,543	41,871	59,901	43,013	48,689
Commercial service.....do.....	5,259	1,502	2,900	3,619	3,588	7,442
Construction.....do.....	4,702	6,289	6,967	8,877	8,598	7,488
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	13,888	11,865	17,142	28,450	10,684	9,005
Retail trade.....do.....	9,564	8,605	10,772	13,242	12,812	11,945
Wholesale trade.....do.....	3,254	4,282	4,090	5,713	7,331	12,809

CORRECTION for p. 2 of the August 24, 1956 Weekly Supplement to the SURVEY: E. H. Boeckh and Associates, construction cost index, July 1956, for frame residences, 270.6 (1926-29=100).

ITEM	1955		1956			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
<b>COMMODITY PRICES</b>						
Consumer price index, all items.....1947-49=100..	114.4	114.7	114.9	115.4	116.2	<u>1/</u> 117.0
Apparel.....do....	103.2	103.2	104.8	104.8	104.8	105.3
Food.....do....	111.3	112.1	109.6	111.0	113.2	114.8
Dairy products.....do....	104.1	104.7	106.4	107.5	107.7	108.7
Fruits and vegetables.....do....	119.5	121.9	116.7	121.5	131.4	135.2
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do....	103.8	103.7	94.0	95.5	98.0	99.3
Housing.....do....	119.7	119.9	120.8	120.9	121.4	121.8
Gas and electricity.....do....	110.7	110.8	111.8	111.8	111.7	111.7
Housefurnishings.....do....	103.8	103.6	102.7	102.6	102.8	102.8
Rent.....do....	130.4	130.4	131.7	132.2	132.5	133.2
Medical care.....do....	127.6	127.9	131.6	131.9	132.0	132.7
Personal care.....do....	114.7	115.5	119.5	119.6	119.9	120.1
Reading and recreation.....do....	106.2	106.3	108.2	108.2	107.6	107.7
Transportation.....do....	125.8	125.4	126.4	127.1	126.8	127.7
Other goods and services.....do....	119.9	120.3	121.4	121.5	121.8	122.2
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by—						
Wholesale prices.....1947-49=100..	90.7	90.5	88.0	87.4	87.6	<u>2/</u> 87.7
Consumer prices.....do....	87.4	87.2	87.0	86.7	86.1	<u>2/</u> 85.5
Retail food prices.....do....	89.8	89.2	91.2	90.1	88.3	<u>2/</u> 87.1
<b>DOMESTIC TRADE</b>						
Printers' Ink advertising index, adjusted:						
Combined index.....1947-49=100..	185	185	198	199	192	.....
Business papers.....do....	170	163	187	184	181	.....
Magazines.....do....	144	142	155	157	152	.....
Newspapers.....do....	198	186	205	201	183	.....
Outdoor.....do....	148	153	172	165	157	.....
Radio (network).....do....	46	48	39	36	38	.....
Television (network).....1950-52=100..	299	342	337	351	357	.....
<b>FINANCE</b>						
Federal Government finance:						
Receipts, total.....mil. of dol..	11,279	3,089	5,562	7,107	p12,574	p3,927
Receipts, net.....do....	10,125	2,765	4,082	5,050	p11,576	p3,485
Customs.....do....	57	54	59	63	p57	p63
Income and employment taxes.....do....	9,921	1,924	4,461	5,780	p11,256	p2,601
Miscellaneous internal revenue.....do....	989	877	894	1,014	p966	p970
All other receipts.....do....	311	234	147	251	p294	p292
Expenditures, total.....do....	6,753	5,382	5,387	5,467	p6,783	p5,542
Interest on public debt.....do....	1,476	592	565	561	p608	p627
Veterans' services and benefits.....do....	398	361	406	432	p405	p368
Major national security.....do....	<u>3/</u> 4,146	3,046	3,232	3,433	p4,316	p2,951
All other expenditures.....do....	733	1,383	1,185	1,040	p1,455	p1,595
Life Insurance Agency Management Association:						
Insurance written (new paid-for insurance):						
Value, estimated total.....do....	3,995	3,560	4,188	4,543	4,344	4,251
Group and wholesale.....do....	713	649	847	1,014	915	931
Industrial.....do....	545	505	512	581	538	503
Ordinary.....do....	2,737	2,406	2,829	2,948	2,891	2,817
Stocks:						
Cash dividend payments publicly reported:						
Total dividend payments.....do....	1,390.3	669.2	707.1	288.9	1,623.3	731.8
Finance.....do....	95.6	142.3	125.6	56.9	109.1	147.9
Manufacturing.....do....	909.6	221.8	248.3	130.1	1,078.3	254.1
Mining.....do....	104.0	7.3	9.2	2.1	128.7	8.0
Public utilities:						
Communications.....do....	40.4	127.5	138.8	1.2	41.0	140.5
Electric and gas.....do....	112.9	86.9	92.9	75.8	122.8	94.7
Railroad.....do....	62.5	18.0	23.6	7.2	66.0	16.6
Trade.....do....	38.6	57.5	61.3	9.4	50.4	61.7
Miscellaneous.....do....	28.7	7.9	7.4	6.2	27.0	8.3
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>						
Operations on scheduled airlines:						
Miles flown, revenue.....thousands..	47,526	49,180	50,204	52,625	52,823	.....
Express and freight ton-miles flown.....do....	18,933	16,967	16,702	18,560	19,083	.....
Mail, ton-miles flown.....do....	6,910	6,305	7,216	7,742	7,179	.....
Passengers carried, revenue.....do....	3,121	3,070	3,172	3,230	3,536	.....
Passenger-miles flown, revenue.....millions..	1,765	1,760	1,787	1,782	2,085	.....
<b>CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS</b>						
Organic chemicals, production:						
Acetic acid (synthetic and natural).....thous. of lb..	43,729	43,987	45,006	44,221	46,410	.....
Acetic anhydride.....do....	67,664	66,359	71,802	77,102	74,232	.....
Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin).....do....	1,406	1,099	1,412	1,453	1,731	.....
Creosote oil.....thous. of gal..	r12,504	8,538	<u>4/</u> 9,162	10,165	10,837	.....
DDT.....thous. of lb..	10,673	11,334	10,967	13,712	12,100	.....
Ethyl acetate (85%).....do....	6,639	7,017	6,820	7,204	5,398	.....
Ethylene glycol.....do....	74,909	82,831	80,315	80,050	85,686	.....
Formaldehyde (37% HCHO).....do....	99,344	82,131	112,692	116,444	112,656	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Index based on 1935-39=100 is 195.6. 2/ Indexes based on 1935-39=100 are as follows: Measured by— wholesale prices, 45.9; consumer prices, 51.1; retail food, 43.1. 3/ Not entirely comparable with data beginning July 1955. 4/ Incomplete; see note on corresponding item in the August 1956 SURVEY.

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1955		1956			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS - Continued						
Organic chemicals, production - Continued						
Methanol:						
Natural (100%).....thous. of gal..	186	181	204	199	194	.....
Synthetic (100%).....do....	16,071	17,463	19,078	17,814	19,386	.....
Phthalic anhydride.....thous. of lb..	24,851	31,582	28,271	24,507	22,919	.....
Synthetic plastics and resin materials, production:						
Cellulose acetate and mixed ester plastics:						
Sheets, rods, and tubes.....thous. of lb..	3,903	2,283	3,606	3,481	4,055	.....
Molding and extrusion materials.....do....	7,723	6,271	7,376	r7,458	7,799	.....
Nitrocellulose sheets, rods, and tubes.....do....	415	260	513	569	487	.....
Other cellulose plastics.....do....	333	313	429	489	407	.....
Phenolic and other tar acid resins.....do....	41,994	30,288	42,807	r41,746	40,054	.....
Polystyrene.....do....	42,273	35,749	48,812	r50,480	44,023	.....
Urea and melamine resins.....do....	21,231	17,110	23,360	23,455	24,830	.....
Vinyl resins.....do....	56,118	54,628	65,487	63,977	54,833	.....
Alkyd resins.....do....	39,136	31,979	31,566	31,968	29,542	.....
Rosin modifications.....do....	11,665	12,303	11,819	11,493	10,344	.....
FOODSTUFFS						
Livestock slaughter (Federally inspected):						
Calves.....thous. of animals..	611	550	604	606	596	610
Cattle.....do....	1,641	1,524	1,545	1,646	1,679	1,728
Hogs.....do....	3,713	3,428	5,252	4,875	4,326	4,199
Sheep and lambs.....do....	1,205	1,076	1,129	1,063	1,084	1,168
Meats:						
Production, total.....mil. of lb..	1,753	1,596	1,930	1,942	1,865	1,853
Beef and veal.....thous. of lb..	952,637	878,641	945,019	1,006,233	1,001,765	1,020,823
Lamb and mutton.....do....	52,892	47,030	53,754	47,254	46,211	50,571
Pork, including lard.....do....	747,208	670,129	931,304	888,730	817,521	781,561
Lard.....do....	144,297	128,545	182,846	174,120	159,086	149,603
LEATHER AND PRODUCTS						
Leather production:						
Calf and whole kip.....thous. of skins..	891	606	759	701	644	.....
Cattle hide and side kip.....thous. of hides and kips..	2,229	1,664	r2,165	r2,364	2,076	.....
Goat and kid.....thous. of skins..	2,400	1,828	2,155	2,544	2,061	.....
Sheep and lamb.....do....	2,310	1,622	2,275	2,360	2,100	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	6,544	6,391	6,925	6,921	6,435	.....
Steel forgings (for sale):						
Orders, unfilled, total.....do....	501.6	513.3	569.4	551.3	539.6	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	155.5	115.0	150.0	150.6	143.4	.....
Drop and upset.....do....	117.0	82.7	114.8	112.0	103.4	.....
Furnaces, industrial, new orders, net:						
Electric processing.....thous. of dol..	2,635	786	1,924	2,035	2,555	1,089
Fuel-fired (except for hot rolling steel).....do....	2,836	2,981	6,182	1,178	1,432	2,726
Machine tools (metal-cutting types):						
New orders (net), total.....mil. of dol..	74.55	62.20	79.30	87.10	r61.85	p62.10
Domestic.....do....	68.35	56.80	74.00	79.45	r55.65	p55.45
Shipments, total.....do....	58.80	45.20	71.80	76.80	r76.25	p65.35
Domestic.....do....	52.95	40.25	65.00	70.50	r69.55	p60.95
Estimated backlog.....months..	5.0	5.4	8.4	8.2	r7.8	p7.8

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.

38,052

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WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS