

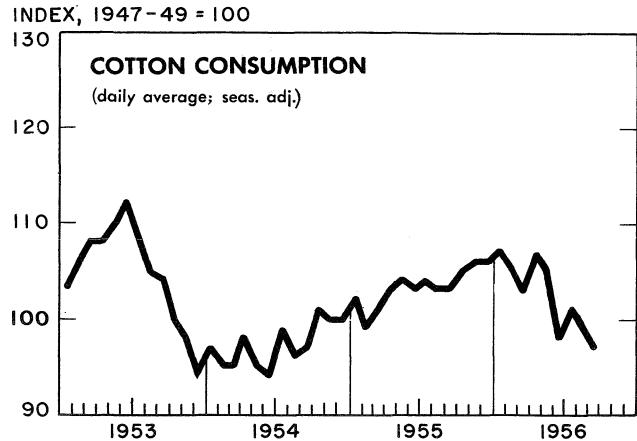
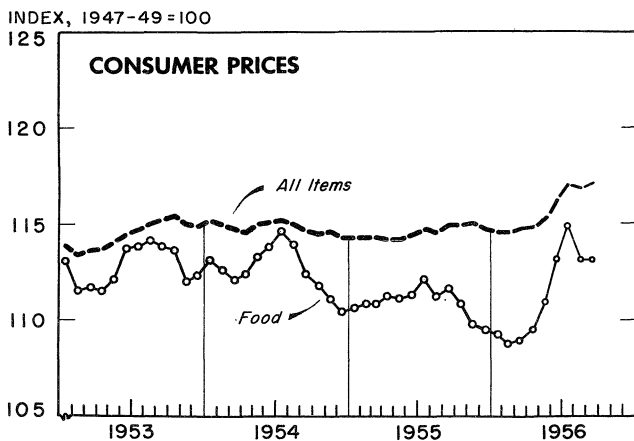
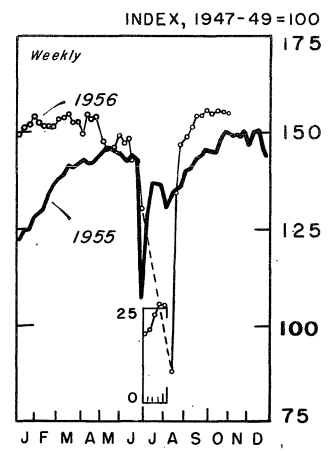
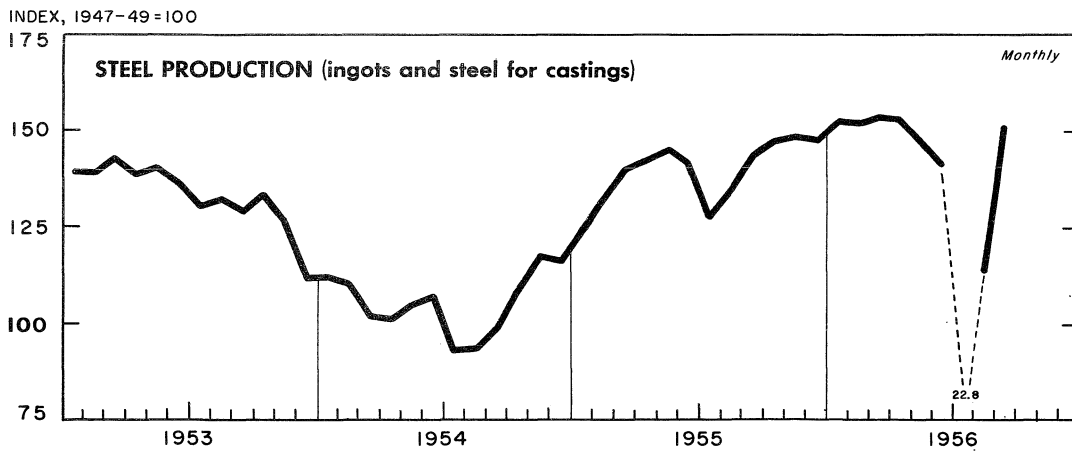
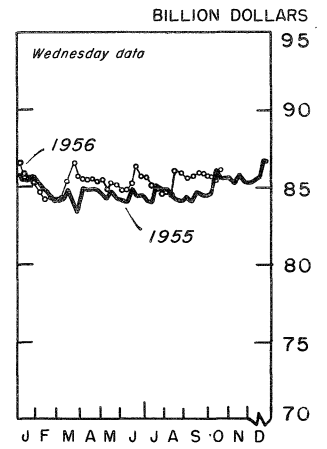
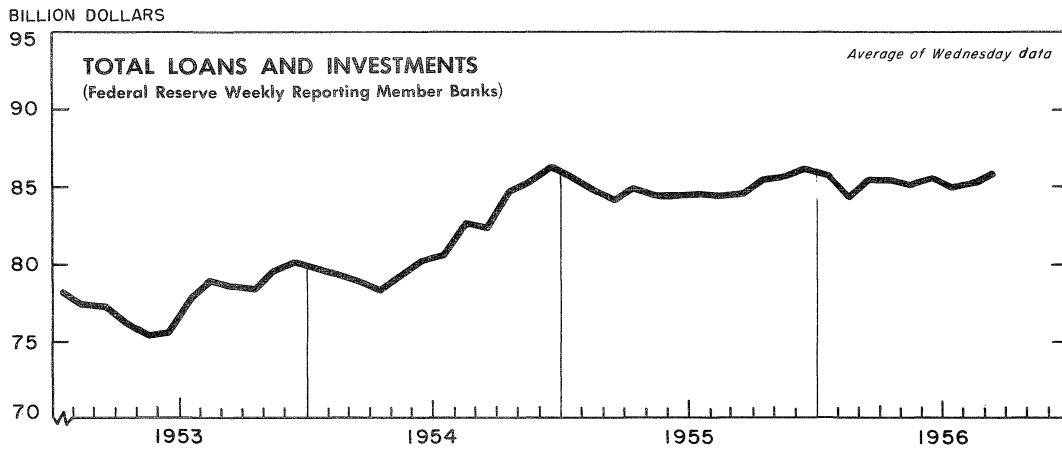


# BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

Available only with subscription to the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS, at \$4.00 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			
	Oct. 22	Oct. 29	Oct. 6	Oct. 13	Oct. 20	Oct. 27
<b>Commodity prices, wholesale:</b>						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*111.6	115.2	115.0	115.2	115.0
Farm products.....do....	.....	*86.8	88.9	88.1	88.3	88.2
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*100.2	104.1	103.3	103.6	103.1
All other.....do....	.....	*119.0	122.9	123.0	123.1	123.0
22 commodities <u>2</u> /.....do....	89.5	88.5	91.1	90.6	90.7	90.1
Department store sales.....do....	133	126	127	134	129	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	861	862	949	936	.....	.....
State programs.....do....	781	781	874	862	.....	.....
<b>Finance:</b>						
Currency in circulation <u>3</u> /.....mil. of dol..	30,621	30,498	30,767	30,880	30,953	30,864
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total <u>3</u> /.....do....	26,169	25,747	25,593	25,707	25,810	25,866
Member bank reserve balances <u>3</u> /.....do....	19,119	18,891	18,935	18,929	18,890	19,137
Excess reserves, estimated <u>3</u> /.....do....	625	458	517	597	571	596
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities: <u>4</u>						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	56,293	57,066	54,915	55,289	55,623	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	21,676	21,700	22,040	22,043	22,029	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	85,542	85,571	85,655	85,338	86,066	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	30,941	30,922	25,979	25,732	26,392	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do....	25,082	25,124	29,849	29,833	29,836	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	8,040	8,049	8,794	8,815	8,834	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	239	230	253	259	254	267
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) <u>3</u> /.....percent..	3.30	3.30	3.79	3.80	3.81	3.83
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Stand.& Poor's) <u>4</u> /..1935-39=100..	305.5	307.0	337.1	340.2	337.9	336.0
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do....	349.4	351.0	393.9	398.3	394.6	392.4
<b>Production:</b>						
Bituminous coal <u>3</u> /.....thous. of short tons..	1,629	1,665	1,735	1,705	1,747	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	10,644	10,659	11,342	11,300	11,333	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	163,816	182,581	79,277	91,203	110,208	134,184
Petroleum (crude) and condensate <u>3</u> /.....thous. of bbl..	6,753	6,750	7,022	6,993	6,997	.....
Steel <u>5</u> /.....thous. of short tons..	2,386	2,413	2,506	2,483	2,495	2,491
Percent of capacity <u>5</u> /.....do....	#98.9	#100.0	101.8	100.9	101.4	101.2
Freight carloadings, total <u>6</u> /.....thous. of cars..	829	835	815	823	829	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	416	417	391	399	401	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning October 29, 1956: Production, 2,486 thous. short tons; operating rate, 101.0 percent. 6/ Data for 1956 adjusted to revised classification of class I railroads.  
\* Monthly index for October 1955. # Not comparable with 1956 rates which are based on higher capacity.

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1955		1956			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
<b>GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS</b>						
<b>Industrial and commercial failures:</b>						
Failures, total.....number..	888	822	1,105	1,018	1,101	932
Commercial service.....do....	59	75	93	87	95	72
Construction.....do....	134	114	163	141	146	146
Manufacturing and mining.....do....	158	168	183	165	195	140
Retail trade.....do....	430	366	551	540	567	489
Wholesale trade.....do....	107	99	115	85	98	85
Liabilities (current), total.....thous. of dol..	36,028	33,120	43,013	48,689	55,040	39,313
Commercial service.....do....	1,987	2,666	3,588	7,442	4,127	2,058
Construction.....do....	9,663	4,256	8,598	7,488	7,507	7,840
Manufacturing and mining.....do....	10,102	10,798	10,684	9,005	17,828	9,539
Retail trade.....do....	10,024	8,253	12,812	11,945	14,772	15,656
Wholesale trade.....do....	4,252	7,147	7,331	12,809	10,806	4,220
<b>COMMODITY PRICES</b>						
Consumer price index, all items.....1947-49=100..	114.5	114.9	116.2	117.0	116.8	<u>1</u> /117.1
Apparel.....do....	103.4	104.6	104.8	105.3	105.5	106.5
Food.....do....	111.2	111.6	113.2	114.8	113.1	113.1
Dairy products.....do....	105.7	106.5	107.7	108.7	109.2	109.8
Fruits and vegetables.....do....	111.3	110.2	131.4	135.2	120.7	114.8
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do....	102.9	103.5	98.0	99.3	99.9	101.3
Housing.....do....	120.0	120.4	121.4	121.8	122.2	122.5
Gas and electricity.....do....	110.8	111.2	111.7	111.7	112.1	112.2
Housefurnishings.....do....	103.2	103.6	102.8	102.8	102.6	103.3
Rent.....do....	130.5	130.5	132.5	133.2	133.2	133.4
Medical care.....do....	128.0	128.2	132.0	132.7	133.3	134.0
Personal care.....do....	115.8	116.6	119.9	120.1	120.3	120.5
Reading and recreation.....do....	106.3	106.7	107.6	107.7	107.9	108.4
Transportation.....do....	125.4	125.3	126.8	127.7	128.5	128.6
Other goods and services.....do....	120.4	120.6	121.8	122.2	122.1	122.7
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by--						
Wholesale prices.....1947-49=100..	90.2	89.5	87.6	87.7	87.2	<u>2</u> /86.7
Consumer prices.....do....	87.3	87.0	86.1	85.5	85.6	<u>2</u> /85.4
Retail food prices.....do....	89.9	89.6	88.3	87.1	88.4	<u>2</u> /88.4

ITEM	1955		1956			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
COMMODITY PRICES - Continued						
Wholesale prices of selected commodities:						
Wheat flour, short patents (Minn.)..dol. per 100 lb. sack..	6,150	6,225	6,195	6,310	r6,040	p6,045
Calves, vealers (Chicago).....dol. per 100 lb..	23,00	24,00	22,50	22,50	23,50	p21,00
Lumber:						
Douglas fir, const., No. 1, 2" x 4", R.L..dol. per M bd. ft..	89,173	89,320	89,174	88,206	r86,773	p85,081
Southern pine, boards, No. 2, com., 1" x 6", R. L...do....	78,922	80,155	81,891	82,425	r81,884	p81,884
Ponderosa pine, boards, No. 3, common, 1" x 8".....do....	80,76	80,74	82,21	79,80	r77,39	p77,39
Pig iron:						
Basic (furnace).....dol. per long ton..	58,50	58,50	60,00	60,00	62,50	p62,50
Foundry, No. 2, Northern.....do....	59,00	59,00	60,50	63,00	63,00	p63,00
Steel:						
Structural shapes (carbon), f.o.b. mill.....dol. per lb..	.0487	.0487	.0487	.0487	.0527	p.0527
Scrap, No. 1, heavy melting (Pittsburgh).dol. per long ton..	44,50	43,50	44,50	44,50	54,00	p58,50
Coal, bituminous:						
Screenings, indust. use, f.o.b. car at mine dol. per short ton..	4,430	4,737	5,057	5,051	r5,083	p5,088
Large domestic sizes, f.o.b. car at mine.....do....	6,738	7,104	6,735	6,795	r6,987	p7,129
Gasoline, regular grade (New York).....dol. per gal..	.125	.125	.125	.125	.125	p.125
Petroleum, crude (Oklahoma-Kansas). at wells.dol. per bbl..	2,82	2,82	2,82	2,82	2,82	p2,82
DOMESTIC TRADE						
Printers' ink advertising index, adjusted:						
Combined index.....1947-49=100..	190	187	192	204	214	.....
Business papers.....do....	177	182	181	184	182	.....
Magazines.....do....	149	149	152	161	160	.....
Newspapers.....do....	199	188	183	202	207	.....
Outdoor.....do....	144	173	157	152	155	.....
Radio (network).....do....	46	41	38	33	42	.....
Television (network).....1950-52=100..	316	312	357	392	447	.....
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Organic chemicals, production:						
Acetic acid (synthetic and natural).....thous. of lb..	44,647	47,421	46,410	44,480	47,922	.....
Acetic anhydride.....do....	69,499	66,299	74,232	73,797	72,202	.....
Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin).....do....	912	716	1,731	1,271	1,046	.....
Creosote oil.....thous. of gal..	11,567	9,807	10,837	11,537	9,160	.....
DDT.....thous. of lb..	11,277	10,190	12,100	11,927	12,138	.....
Ethyl acetate (85%).....do....	7,726	7,765	5,398	6,736	8,111	.....
Ethylene glycol.....do....	86,963	84,885	85,686	72,263	84,495	.....
Formaldehyde (37% HCHO).....do....	93,912	97,092	112,656	86,139	108,512	.....
Methanol:						
Natural (100%).....thous. of gal..	187	190	194	200	196	.....
Synthetic (100%).....do....	17,465	17,590	19,386	19,054	19,720	.....
Phthalic anhydride.....thous. of lb..	29,735	30,414	22,919	24,965	24,143	.....
Synthetic plastics and resin materials, production:						
Cellulose acetate and mixed ester plastics:						
Sheets, rods, and tubes.....thous. of lb..	3,390	4,012	4,055	2,355	3,814	.....
Molding and extrusion materials.....do....	7,681	8,728	7,254	5,872	7,395	.....
Nitrocellulose sheets, rods, and tubes.....do....	413	396	487	344	443	.....
Other cellulose plastics.....do....	332	430	407	370	554	.....
Phenolic and other tar acid resins.....do....	39,087	42,221	40,607	31,207	37,826	.....
Polystyrene.....do....	41,144	50,304	44,023	41,277	44,288	.....
Urea and melamine resins.....do....	22,416	24,280	25,083	15,901	21,171	.....
Vinyl resins.....do....	57,022	60,968	54,796	49,751	57,051	.....
Alkyd resins.....do....	35,886	36,700	29,643	25,730	30,421	.....
Rosin modifications.....do....	10,767	12,148	10,544	8,729	11,211	.....
FOODSTUFFS						
Corn, grindings, wet process.....thous. of bu..	12,541	11,358	11,099	11,391	12,694	11,473
Meats, production, total.....mil. of lb..	1,897	1,977	1,865	1,853	1,883	1,832
Beef and veal.....thous. of lb..	1,032,932	1,021,504	1,001,765	1,020,822	1,025,995	931,120
Lamb and mutton.....do....	54,343	58,742	46,211	50,571	55,246	50,991
Pork, including lard.....do....	809,765	896,472	817,521	781,561	801,478	849,556
Lard.....do....	149,419	159,349	159,086	149,603	150,261	154,242
Coffee, visible supply, United States.....thous. of bags..	527	521	872	981	891	1,063
LEATHER AND PRODUCTS						
Leather production:						
Calf and kip.....thous. of skins..	871	827	644	496	668	.....
Cattle hide.....thous. of hides..	2,210	2,158	2,076	1,731	2,228	.....
Goat and kid.....thous. of skins..	2,000	2,001	2,061	1,797	2,018	.....
Sheep and lamb.....do....	2,560	2,130	2,109	1,777	2,578	.....
Shoes and slippers, production, total.....thous. of pairs..	54,115	50,610	44,416	42,158	54,647	44,569
Shoes, sandals, and play shoes, exc.athletic, total.....do....	46,691	42,767	38,751	36,856	46,469	37,189
Men's.....do....	9,316	9,127	8,091	7,518	9,819	8,169
Youths' and boys'.....do....	1,997	1,857	1,561	1,567	1,968	1,622
Women's.....do....	26,246	23,622	21,495	20,889	25,600	19,731
Misses' and children's.....do....	6,074	5,223	5,056	4,700	6,130	5,029
Infants' and babies'.....do....	3,058	2,938	2,548	2,182	2,952	2,638
Slippers for housewear.....do....	6,461	7,245	4,987	4,573	7,252	6,660
Athletic.....do....	386	388	457	356	528	476
Other footwear.....do....	577	210	221	373	398	244

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1955		1956			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
<b>METALS AND MANUFACTURES</b>						
Machine tools (metal-cutting types):						
New orders (net), total.....mil. of dol..	62.05	58.35	61.85	61.90	r87.50	p79.55
Domestic.....do.....	54.35	53.40	55.65	55.25	r78.25	p69.90
Shipments, total.....do.....	48.65	57.80	76.25	65.15	75.10	p71.15
Domestic.....do.....	44.00	51.10	69.55	60.70	r69.00	p65.40
Estimated backlog.....months..	5.6	5.6	7.8	7.8	7.7	p7.7
Vacuum cleaners, standard type, sales billed.....thousands..	252.7	306.5	248.3	259.8	276.9	320.3
Washers, domestic, sales.....do.....	403.8	414.9	340.2	380.2	373.9	402.6
Radio sets, production <u>1</u> /.....do.....	930.1	1,242.1	1,073.8	566.7	990.8	1,319.2
Television sets (incl. combination), production <u>1</u> /.....do.....	647.9	939.5	553.0	336.9	612.9	894.2
<b>PAPER AND PRINTING</b>						
Paper, excluding building paper, newsprint, and paperboard:						
Orders, new <u>2</u> /.....thous. of short tons..	949.4	997.6	r854.3	r827.6	855.0	.....
Orders, unfilled, end of month <u>2</u> /.....do.....	860.8	898.8	r904.0	r915.0	877.0	.....
Production.....do.....	950.5	946.8	r1,029.4	r938.1	1,050.0	.....
Shipments <u>2</u> /.....do.....	941.6	949.1	r891.5	r794.4	896.0	.....
Stocks, end of month <u>2</u> /.....do.....	446.9	446.1	r399.0	r397.8	398.0	.....
Fine paper:						
Orders, new.....do.....	113.5	128.4	129.9	r119.0	127.0	.....
Orders, unfilled, end of month.....do.....	96.2	109.4	143.1	r143.6	142.0	.....
Production.....do.....	116.7	123.5	136.4	r118.5	143.0	.....
Shipments.....do.....	118.6	124.1	141.4	r119.1	141.0	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	94.7	100.5	98.8	r96.0	87.0	.....
Printing paper:						
Orders, new.....do.....	337.1	338.2	r362.5	r354.1	351.0	.....
Orders, unfilled, end of month.....do.....	451.5	435.1	r531.1	r536.4	514.0	.....
Production.....do.....	329.7	325.2	r357.0	r331.2	371.0	.....
Shipments.....do.....	330.7	323.8	r357.8	r330.9	367.0	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	155.2	156.6	r159.1	r159.4	163.0	.....
Coarse paper:						
Orders, new.....do.....	313.9	331.6	r309.7	r300.7	320.0	.....
Orders, unfilled, end of month.....do.....	188.9	223.9	r181.9	r181.5	171.0	.....
Production.....do.....	311.0	306.9	r336.1	r295.1	328.0	.....
Shipments.....do.....	308.2	305.5	r332.7	r293.8	328.0	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	93.4	88.7	r90.9	r88.4	94.0	.....
Newsprint, Canada (including Newfoundland):						
Production.....do.....	539.5	503.2	536.4	532.5	570.4	514.0
Shipments from mills.....do.....	534.6	501.6	544.5	543.1	559.3	528.7
Stocks, at mills, end of month.....do.....	123.6	125.2	132.9	122.2	133.3	118.5
Newsprint, United States:						
Consumption by publishers.....do.....	384.7	424.8	422.4	388.8	402.5	434.9
Production.....do.....	136.7	126.7	141.9	138.5	154.3	140.6
Shipments from mills.....do.....	138.9	125.9	144.4	137.3	153.5	141.1
Stocks, end of month:						
At mills.....do.....	8.4	9.1	6.4	7.7	8.5	8.0
At publishers.....do.....	404.0	379.7	376.1	449.8	518.5	513.0
In transit to publishers.....do.....	81.0	86.2	112.2	102.5	114.0	111.8
<b>STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS</b>						
Glass containers:						
Production.....thous. of gross..	13,340	11,441	12,606	12,203	13,290	13,162
Shipments.....do.....	14,525	11,289	11,971	11,150	15,759	10,331
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	13,263	13,040	15,917	16,518	13,685	13,162

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Data for September 1955 and June and September 1956 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks. 2/ Beginning 1956, excludes estimates for tissue paper.

28,110

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