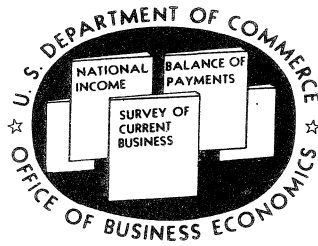


# BUSINESS

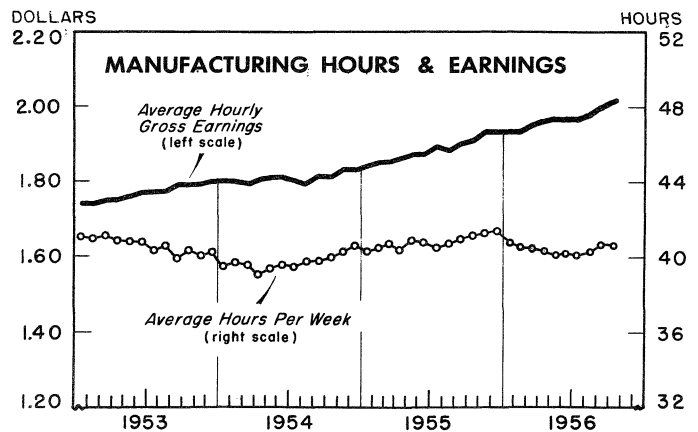
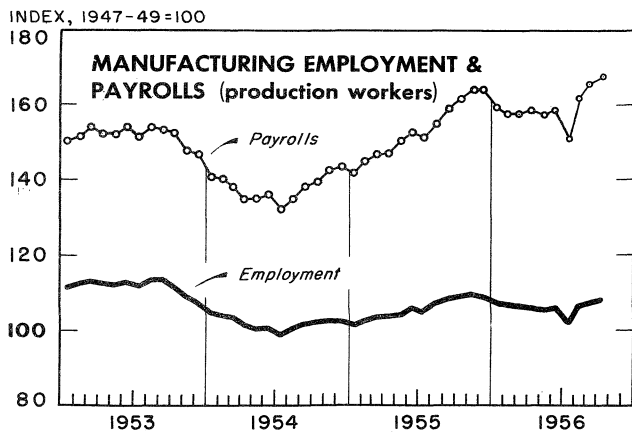
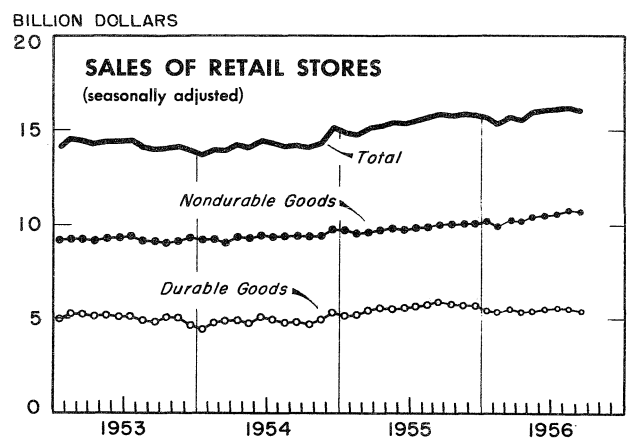
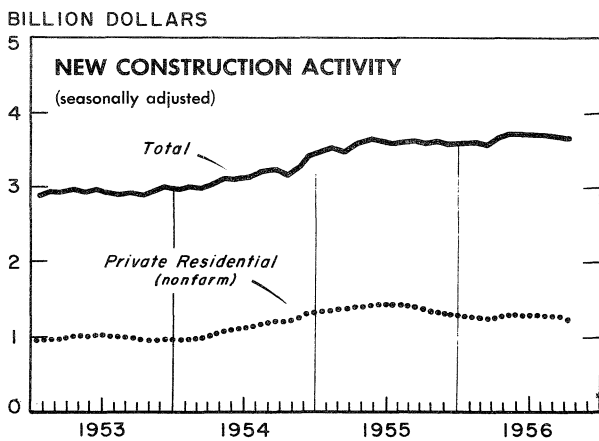
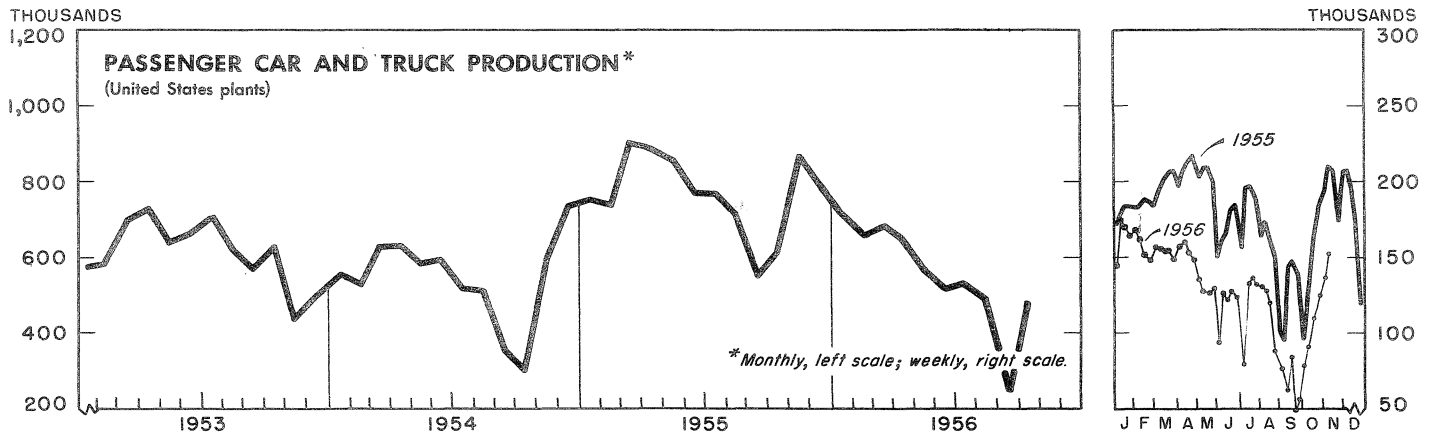


# STATISTICS

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    |         |         |         |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|  | Nov. 5  | Nov. 12 | Oct. 20 | Oct. 27 | Nov. 3  | Nov. 10 |
| <b>Commodity prices, wholesale:</b>                                  |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| All commodities.....1947-49=100..                                    | .....   | *111.6  | 115.2   | 115.0   | 114.9   | 114.9   |
| Farm products.....do....   | .....   | *86.8   | 88.3    | 88.2    | 87.9    | 87.7    |
| Foods, processed.....do....  | .....   | *100.2  | 103.6   | 103.1   | 102.6   | 102.6   |
| All other.....do....   | .....   | *119.0  | 123.1   | 123.0   | 123.0   | 123.0   |
| 22 commodities <u>2/</u> .....do....                                 | 88.4    | **88.5  | 90.7    | 90.1    | 90.6    | **91.2  |
| Department store sales.....do....                                    | 128     | 141     | 129     | 128     | 124     | .....   |
| Insured unemployment, total.....thous..                              | 875     | 900     | 928     | 934     | .....   | .....   |
| State programs.....do....  | 792     | 813     | 854     | 861     | .....   | .....   |
| <b>Finance:</b>  |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Currency in circulation <u>3/</u> .....mil. of dol..                 | 30,528  | 30,656  | 30,953  | 30,864  | 30,793  | 30,963  |
| Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total <u>3/</u> .....do.... | 25,748  | 25,963  | 25,810  | 25,866  | 25,466  | 25,762  |
| Member bank reserve balances <u>3/</u> .....do....                   | 18,898  | 18,899  | 18,890  | 19,137  | 18,810  | 19,004  |
| Excess reserves, estimated <u>3/</u> .....do....                     | 477     | 556     | 571     | 596     | 390     | 574     |
| Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities: <u>4/</u>  |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..                          | 56,394  | 55,955  | 55,623  | 56,206  | 56,122  | .....   |
| Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....                    | 21,763  | 21,731  | 22,029  | 22,023  | 22,054  | .....   |
| Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....                   | 85,623  | 85,259  | 86,066  | 85,584  | 85,642  | .....   |
| U. S. Government obligations.....do....                              | 30,559  | 30,300  | 26,392  | 26,057  | 25,961  | .....   |
| Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do....            | 25,303  | 25,485  | 29,836  | 29,692  | 29,911  | .....   |
| Real-estate loans (gross).....do....                                 | 8,073   | 8,106   | 8,834   | 8,849   | 8,857   | .....   |
| Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..                     | 237     | 207     | 254     | 267     | 271     | 219     |
| Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) <u>3/</u> .....percent..   | 3.30    | 3.28    | 3.81    | 3.83    | 3.83    | 3.87    |
| Stock prices, 480 stocks (Stand.& Poor's) <u>4/</u> ..1935-39=100..  | 307.0   | 320.5   | 337.9   | 336.0   | 333.1   | 343.9   |
| Industrials, 420 stocks.....do....                                   | 350.7   | 368.3   | 394.6   | 392.4   | 388.9   | 402.3   |
| <b>Production:</b>   |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Bituminous coal <u>3/</u> .....thous. of short tons..                | 1,699   | 1,674   | 1,757   | 1,740   | 1,755   | .....   |
| Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..                    | 10,853  | 10,878  | 11,333  | 11,391  | 11,487  | .....   |
| Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..                      | 193,561 | 209,141 | 110,208 | 125,967 | 136,420 | 153,597 |
| Petroleum (crude) and condensate <u>3/</u> .....thous. of bbl..      | 6,777   | 6,808   | 6,997   | 6,998   | 6,981   | .....   |
| Steel <u>5/</u> .....thous. of short tons..                          | 2,400   | 2,404   | 2,495   | 2,491   | 2,493   | 2,463   |
| Percent of capacity <u>5/</u> .....do....                            | #99.4   | #99.6   | 101.4   | 101.2   | 101.3   | 100.1   |
| Freight carloadings, total <u>6/</u> .....thous. of cars..           | 804     | 797     | 829     | 817     | 800     | .....   |
| Miscellaneous.....do....   | 403     | 396     | 401     | 394     | 388     | .....   |

<sup>1/</sup> Data do not always cover calendar weeks. <sup>2/</sup> Tuesday prices. <sup>3/</sup> Daily average. <sup>4/</sup> Wednesday data. <sup>5/</sup> Week beginning November 12, 1956: Production, 2,463 thous. short tons; operating rate, 100.4 percent. <sup>6/</sup> Data for 1956 adjusted to revised classification of class I railroads. \* Monthly index for October 1955. \*\* Wednesday price. # Not comparable with 1956 rates which are based on higher capacity.

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

| ITEM  | 1955      |         | 1956   |        |           |         |
|---|-----------|---------|--------|--------|-----------|---------|
|   | September | October | July   | August | September | October |
| <b>COMMODITY PRICES</b>   |           |         |        |        |           |         |
| Prices received and paid by farmers:                                  |           |         |        |        |           |         |
| Prices received, all farm products.....1910-14=100..                  | 235       | 229     | 244    | 237    | 236       | 234     |
| Crops.....do....  | 229       | 222     | 258    | 236    | 234       | 232     |
| Commercial vegetables, fresh market.....do....                        | 224       | 208     | 286    | 230    | 178       | 203     |
| Cotton.....do....   | 285       | 278     | 274    | 263    | 275       | 270     |
| Feed grains and hay.....do....  | 174       | 167     | 194    | 197    | 196       | 178     |
| Food grains.....do....  | 217       | 220     | 216    | 218    | 222       | 225     |
| Fruit.....do....  | 212       | 189     | 225    | 210    | 233       | 232     |
| Oil-bearing crops.....do....  | 225       | 227     | 250    | 249    | 234       | 249     |
| Potatoes <u>1/</u> .....do....  | 129       | 127     | 387    | 203    | 161       | 141     |
| Tobacco.....do....  | 427       | 443     | 453    | 451    | 455       | 453     |
| Livestock and products.....do....                                     | 240       | 235     | 232    | 238    | 238       | 236     |
| Dairy products.....do....   | 257       | 264     | 253    | 256    | 264       | 272     |
| Meat animals.....do....   | 249       | 239     | 246    | 259    | 254       | 254     |
| Poultry and eggs.....do....   | 203       | 195     | 174    | 171    | 172       | 167     |
| Wool.....do....   | 234       | 225     | 233    | 232    | 231       | 238     |
| Prices paid:  |           |         |        |        |           |         |
| All commodities and services.....do....                               | 259       | 261     | 266    | 267    | 266       | 265     |
| Family living items.....do....  | 272       | 274     | 282    | 281    | 279       | 279     |
| Production items.....do....   | 246       | 246     | 248    | 250    | 252       | 250     |
| All commodities, services, interest, taxes, and wage rates.....do.... | 279       | 280     | 287    | 288    | 287       | 287     |
| Parity ratio.....do....   | 84        | 82      | 85     | 82     | 82        | 82      |
| Retail price:   |           |         |        |        |           |         |
| All commodities (U.S.Dept.of Commerce index).....1935-39=100..        | 208.9     | 208.7   | 213.6  | r212.5 | 213.1     | .....   |
| <b>CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE</b>                                   |           |         |        |        |           |         |
| New construction (unadjusted), total <u>2/</u> .....mil. of dol..     |           |         |        |        |           |         |
| Private, total.....do....   | 4,148     | 4,037   | r4,231 | r4,286 | r4,250    | 4,126   |
| Residential (nonfarm).....do....                                      | 2,879     | 2,810   | r2,865 | r2,873 | r2,833    | 2,751   |
| New dwelling units.....do....   | 1,561     | 1,509   | r1,445 | r1,431 | r1,405    | 1,350   |
| Additions and alterations.....do....                                  | 1,410     | 1,360   | r1,260 | r1,250 | r1,225    | 1,175   |
| Nonresidential building, total <u>3/</u> .....do....                  | 119       | 116     | 142    | 140    | 140       | 134     |
| Industrial.....do....   | 714       | 721     | r787   | r788   | r788      | 793     |
| Commercial.....do....   | 213       | 219     | r270   | r276   | r276      | 274     |
| Commercial.....do....   | 303       | 306     | r300   | r293   | r288      | 287     |

| ITEM  | 1955      |         | 1956    |         |           |         |
|---|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|
|   | September | October | July    | August  | September | October |
| <b>CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE—Continued</b>                   |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| New construction (unadjusted) <u>1</u> - Continued              |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Private - Continued   |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Farm construction.....mil. of dol..                             | 159       | 132     | 159     | 161     | 148       | 122     |
| Public utility.....do....                                       | 433       | 437     | 462     | 481     | 480       | 474     |
| Public, total.....do....  | 1,269     | 1,227   | r1,366  | r1,413  | r1,417    | 1,375   |
| Nonresidential building.....do....                              | 374       | 350     | r380    | r389    | r379      | 371     |
| Military facilities.....do....                                  | 136       | 136     | r135    | r139    | r139      | 143     |
| Highway.....do....  | 533       | 524     | 575     | 600     | 615       | 585     |
| New construction (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....        | 3,623     | 3,598   | r3,726  | r3,714  | r3,693    | 3,661   |
| Private, total.....do....                                       | 2,629     | 2,594   | r2,620  | r2,608  | r2,587    | 2,537   |
| Residential (nonfarm).....do....                                | 1,422     | 1,375   | r1,302  | r1,289  | r1,277    | 1,227   |
| Nonresidential building, total <u>2</u> .....do....             | 679       | 685     | r759    | r758    | r750      | 752     |
| Farm construction.....do....                                    | 132       | 132     | 125     | 124     | 123       | 122     |
| Public utility.....do....                                       | 384       | 391     | 424     | 426     | 425       | 423     |
| Public, total.....do....  | 994       | 1,004   | r1,106  | r1,106  | r1,106    | 1,124   |
| Nonresidential building.....do....                              | 339       | 326     | r339    | r344    | r345      | 347     |
| Construction cost index:  |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Department of Commerce composite.....1947-49=100..              | 126.3     | 126.4   | 131.3   | 132.1   | 132.2     | .....   |
| <b>DOMESTIC TRADE</b>   |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| All retail stores:  |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Estimated sales (unadjusted), total <u>3</u> .....mil. of dol.. | 15,905    | 15,824  | r15,527 | 16,335  | r15,730   | 16,321  |
| Durable-goods stores:   |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Automotive group.....do....                                     | 3,367     | 2,964   | 3,066   | 3,110   | r2,676    | 2,806   |
| Furniture and appliance group.....do....                        | 822       | 909     | 846     | 900     | r860      | 954     |
| Nondurable-goods stores:  |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Apparel group.....do....  | 910       | 974     | 768     | 863     | r981      | 1,000   |
| Drug and proprietary stores.....do....                          | 425       | 437     | 464     | 475     | r465      | 485     |
| Eating and drinking places.....do....                           | 1,220     | 1,204   | 1,306   | 1,333   | r1,240    | 1,240   |
| Food group.....do....   | 3,766     | 3,705   | 3,772   | 3,988   | r3,896    | 3,851   |
| Gasoline service stations.....do....                            | 1,049     | 1,083   | 1,239   | 1,253   | r1,181    | 1,201   |
| General-merchandise group.....do....                            | 1,674     | 1,807   | 1,414   | 1,663   | r1,699    | 1,823   |
| Estimated inventories:  |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Unadjusted, total.....do....                                    | 23,300    | 23,890  | 23,300  | 23,540  | 23,540    | .....   |
| Durable-goods stores.....do....                                 | 10,390    | 10,390  | 10,650  | 10,400  | 10,030    | .....   |
| Nondurable-goods stores.....do....                              | 12,910    | 13,500  | 12,650  | 13,140  | 13,510    | .....   |
| Adjusted, total.....do....                                      | 23,230    | 23,290  | 23,800  | r23,750 | 23,430    | .....   |
| Durable-goods stores.....do....                                 | 10,720    | 10,720  | 10,650  | 10,470  | 10,260    | .....   |
| Nondurable-goods stores.....do....                              | 12,510    | 12,570  | 13,150  | r13,280 | 13,170    | .....   |
| Firms with 11 or more stores, estimated sales:                  |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Unadjusted.....do....   | 2,896     | 2,949   | 2,770   | 3,052   | 3,009     | .....   |
| Adjusted.....do....   | 2,875     | 2,820   | 3,019   | r3,075  | 3,058     | .....   |
| Department store sales, United States total:                    |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Unadjusted index.....1947-49=100..                              | 123       | 128     | 101     | 113     | r131      | p129    |
| Adjusted index.....do....                                       | 121       | 122     | 128     | 128     | r129      | p123    |
| Wholesale trade:  |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Sales, estimated (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..          | 10,730    | 10,500  | 10,060  | r11,120 | 10,480    | .....   |
| Durable-goods establishments.....do....                         | 3,640     | 3,590   | 3,500   | 3,780   | 3,560     | .....   |
| Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....                      | 7,090     | 6,910   | 6,560   | r7,350  | 6,920     | .....   |
| Inventories, estimated (unadjusted), total.....do....           | 12,180    | 12,600  | 12,630  | 12,830  | 13,110    | .....   |
| Durable-goods establishments.....do....                         | 6,000     | 6,060   | 6,590   | 6,530   | 6,600     | .....   |
| Nondurable-goods establishments.....do....                      | 6,180     | 6,540   | 6,040   | 6,300   | 6,510     | .....   |
| <b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES</b>                                     |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Labor force (Bureau of the Census):                             |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Civilian labor force.....thousands..                            | 66,882    | 67,292  | 69,489  | 68,947  | 68,069    | 68,082  |
| Employed.....do....   | 64,733    | 65,161  | 66,655  | 66,752  | 66,071    | 66,174  |
| Agricultural employment.....do....                              | 7,875     | 7,905   | 7,700   | 7,265   | 7,388     | 7,173   |
| Nonagricultural employment.....do....                           | 56,858    | 57,256  | 58,955  | 59,487  | 58,683    | 59,000  |
| Unemployed.....do....   | 2,149     | 2,131   | 2,833   | 2,195   | 1,998     | 1,909   |
| Employees in nonagricultural establishments:                    |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Total, unadjusted (U. S. Department of Labor).....do....        | 50,992    | 51,125  | 50,896  | r51,881 | r52,183   | p52,370 |
| Manufacturing.....do....  | 16,919    | 17,006  | 16,291  | r17,034 | r17,079   | p17,184 |
| Mining.....do....   | 784       | 778     | 746     | r817    | r816      | p812    |
| Contract construction.....do....                                | 3,094     | 3,031   | 3,270   | r3,353  | r3,335    | p3,282  |
| Transportation and public utilities.....do....                  | 4,148     | 4,121   | 4,148   | r4,178  | r4,178    | p4,171  |
| Wholesale and retail trade.....do....                           | 10,902    | 10,990  | 11,015  | r11,047 | r11,138   | p11,259 |
| Finance, insurance, and real estate.....do....                  | 2,248     | 2,241   | 2,342   | r2,355  | r2,323    | p2,309  |
| Service and miscellaneous.....do....                            | 5,971     | 5,915   | 6,137   | 6,137   | 6,104     | p6,039  |
| Government.....do....   | 6,926     | 7,043   | 6,947   | r6,960  | r7,210    | p7,314  |
| Production workers in manufacturing industries:                 |           |         |         |         |           |         |
| Total.....do....  | 13,365    | 13,440  | 12,514  | r13,245 | r13,299   | p13,387 |
| Durable-goods industries.....do....                             | 7,612     | 7,721   | 7,081   | r7,541  | r7,567    | p7,701  |
| Ordnance and accessories.....do....                             | 91        | 89      | 82      | r80     | 80        | p80     |
| Lumber and wood products (except furniture).....do....          | 715       | 705     | 688     | r700    | 687       | p678    |
| Furniture and fixtures.....do....                               | 323       | 327     | 304     | r316    | r322      | p323    |
| Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....                      | 482       | 481     | 473     | r482    | r476      | p480    |
| Primary metal industries.....do....                             | 1,118     | 1,118   | 743     | r1,091  | r1,120    | p1,128  |
| Fabricated metal products.....do....                            | 912       | r922    | 825     | 864     | r887      | p907    |
| Machinery (except electrical).....do....                        | 1,162     | 1,206   | 1,254   | r1,257  | r1,261    | p1,267  |
| Electrical machinery.....do....                                 | 845       | 880     | 854     | r878    | r892      | p909    |
| Transportation equipment.....do....                             | 1,324     | 1,344   | 1,250   | 1,235   | r1,190    | p1,267  |
| Instruments and related products.....do....                     | 227       | 230     | 229     | 233     | r236      | p239    |
| Nondurable-goods industries.....do....                          | 5,753     | 5,719   | 5,433   | r5,704  | r5,732    | p5,686  |
| Food and kindred products.....do....                            | 1,255     | 1,200   | 1,158   | r1,276  | r1,292    | p1,227  |
| Tobacco manufactures.....do....                                 | 118       | 118     | 77      | r103    | r110      | p108    |

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

| ITEM  | 1955      |         | 1956     |         |           |         |
|---|-----------|---------|----------|---------|-----------|---------|
|   | September | October | July     | August  | September | October |
| EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES - Continued  |           |         |          |         |           |         |
| Production workers in manufacturing industries - Continued                |           |         |          |         |           |         |
| Nondurable-goods industries - Continued                                   |           |         |          |         |           |         |
| Textile-mill products.....thousands..                                     | 989       | 992     | 922      | r950    | r950      | p954    |
| Apparel and other finished textile products.....do....                    | 1,100     | 1,108   | 1,020    | r1,082  | 1,078     | p1,090  |
| Paper and allied products.....do....                                      | 463       | 465     | 461      | r469    | r471      | p471    |
| Printing, publishing, and allied products.....do....                      | 537       | 542     | 544      | 550     | r554      | p559    |
| Chemicals and allied products.....do....                                  | 551       | 555     | 544      | r549    | 553       | p555    |
| Products of petroleum and coal.....do....                                 | 175       | 173     | 170      | r178    | r177      | p175    |
| Rubber products.....do....  | 221       | 224     | 208      | r211    | r217      | p218    |
| Leather and leather products.....do....                                   | 344       | 342     | 330      | r338    | 331       | p331    |
| Manufacturing production-worker indexes:                                  |           |         |          |         |           |         |
| Employment: Unadjusted.....1947-49=100..                                  | 108.1     | 108.7   | 101.2    | 107.1   | r107.5    | p108.2  |
| Adjusted.....do....   | 106.2     | 107.1   | 102.6    | r106.0  | r105.5    | p106.7  |
| Payrolls, unadjusted.....do....   | 158.6     | 161.1   | 151.0    | r161.4  | r165.3    | p167.7  |
| Hours and earnings:   |           |         |          |         |           |         |
| Average weekly hours per worker, all manufacturing.....hours..            | 40.9      | 41.1    | r40.1    | r40.3   | r40.7     | p40.6   |
| Durable-goods industries.....do....                                       | 41.5      | 41.7    | r40.7    | r40.8   | r41.4     | p41.4   |
| Nondurable-goods industries.....do....                                    | 40.1      | 40.3    | r39.4    | r39.6   | 39.7      | p39.6   |
| Average weekly earnings, all manufacturing.....dollars..                  | 77.71     | 78.50   | r79.00   | r79.79  | r81.40    | p82.01  |
| Durable-goods industries.....do....                                       | 84.66     | 85.07   | r84.25   | r85.68  | r88.18    | p89.01  |
| Nondurable-goods industries.....do....                                    | 68.97     | 69.32   | r71.71   | r71.68  | 72.25     | p72.47  |
| Average hourly earnings, all manufacturing.....do....                     | 1.90      | 1.91    | 1.97     | 1.98    | 2.00      | p2.02   |
| Durable-goods industries.....do....                                       | 2.04      | 2.04    | 2.07     | 2.10    | 2.13      | p2.15   |
| Nondurable-goods industries.....do....                                    | 1.72      | 1.72    | 1.82     | 1.81    | 1.82      | p1.83   |
| ELECTRIC POWER  |           |         |          |         |           |         |
| Electric power; production, total.....mil. of kw.-hr..                    | 53,170    | 54,566  | 55,229   | 58,576  | 55,649    | .....   |
| Electric utilities.....do....   | 46,326    | 47,405  | 49,451   | 52,194  | 48,819    | .....   |
| Industrial establishments.....do....                                      | 6,844     | 7,161   | 5,778    | 6,382   | 6,830     | .....   |
| LUMBER AND MANUFACTURES   |           |         |          |         |           |         |
| Lumber (National Lumber Manufacturers Association):                       |           |         |          |         |           |         |
| Production, total.....mil. of bd.ft..                                     | 3,544     | 3,432   | 3,067    | 3,537   | 3,147     | .....   |
| Softwoods.....do....  | 2,873     | 2,729   | 2,434    | 2,880   | 2,489     | .....   |
| Shipments, total.....do....   | 3,471     | 3,374   | 2,949    | 3,262   | 2,871     | .....   |
| Softwoods.....do....  | 2,759     | 2,619   | 2,438    | 2,707   | 2,300     | .....   |
| Stocks, gross (mill and concentration yards).....do....                   | 8,512     | 8,569   | 8,716    | 8,991   | 9,247     | .....   |
| Softwoods.....do....  | 5,048     | 5,158   | 5,388    | 5,561   | 5,730     | .....   |
| METALS AND MANUFACTURES   |           |         |          |         |           |         |
| Industrial trucks (electric), shipments:                                  |           |         |          |         |           |         |
| Hand (motorized).....number..   | 670       | 650     | 682      | 554     | 577       | .....   |
| Rider type.....do....   | 441       | 449     | 512      | 374     | 442       | .....   |
| Industrial trucks and tractors (gasoline-powered), shipments.....number.. | 2,463     | 2,569   | 2,725    | 2,137   | 2,141     | .....   |
| TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT  |           |         |          |         |           |         |
| Motor vehicles, factory sales, total.....number..                         | 559,962   | 601,256 | r522,018 | 503,276 | 275,555   | .....   |
| Coaches, total.....do....   | 223       | 469     | 307      | 429     | 368       | .....   |
| Domestic.....do....   | 198       | 385     | 220      | 397     | 364       | .....   |
| Passenger cars, total.....do....  | 467,845   | 505,177 | 440,980  | 417,020 | 203,888   | .....   |
| Domestic.....do....   | 459,073   | 491,893 | 429,813  | 410,164 | 202,159   | .....   |
| Trucks, total.....do....  | 91,894    | 95,610  | r80,731  | 85,827  | 71,299    | .....   |
| Domestic.....do....   | 76,851    | 81,390  | r63,044  | 68,809  | 56,852    | .....   |

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.  
38,122

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

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