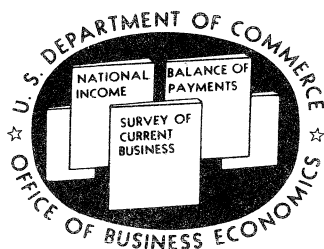


March 1, 1957



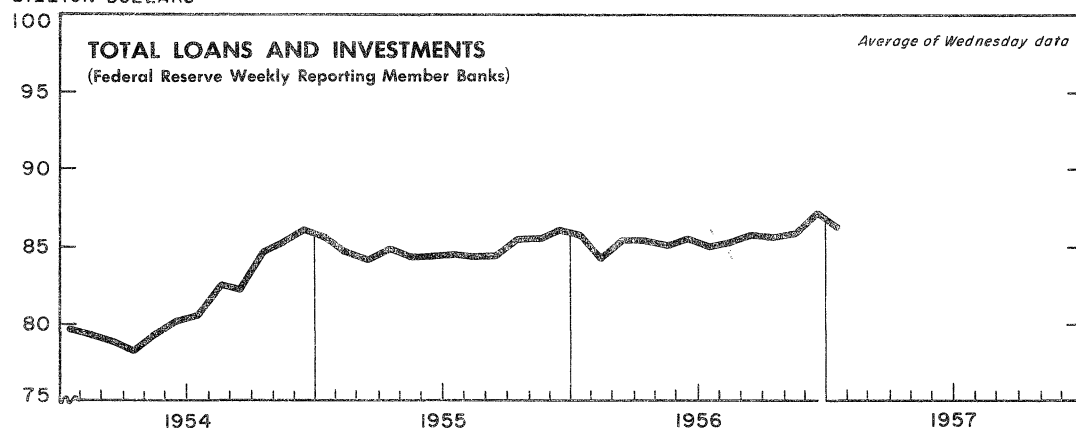
BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

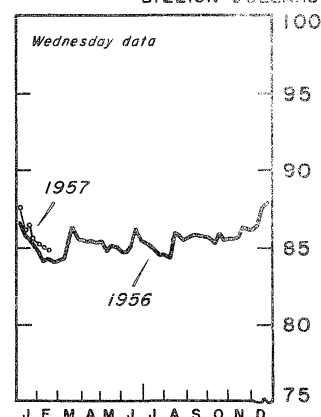
Available only with subscription to the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS, at \$4.00 annually, this Supplement provides selected weekly and monthly data subsequent to those published in the latest monthly SURVEY

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

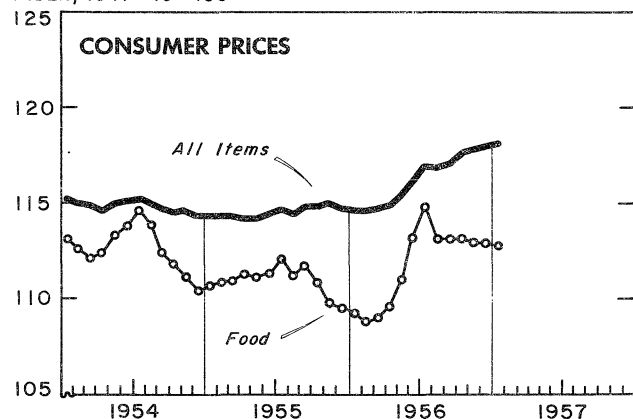
BILLION DOLLARS



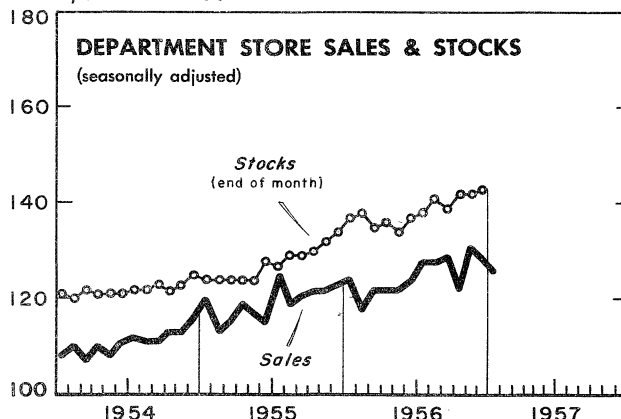
BILLION DOLLARS



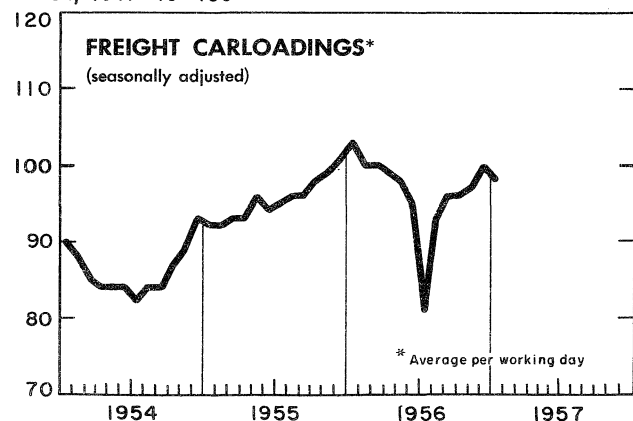
INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



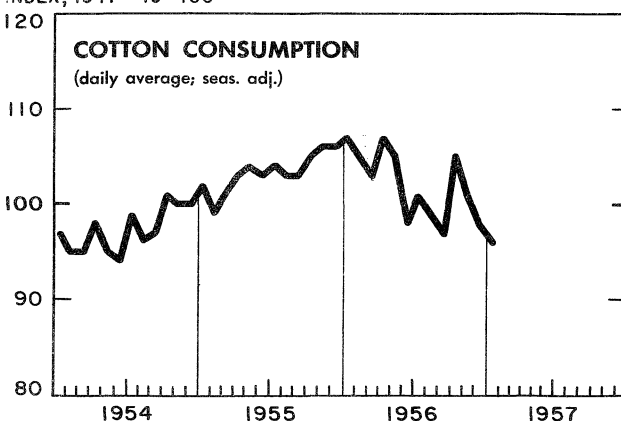
INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1956		1957			
	Feb. 18	Feb. 25	Feb. 2	Feb. 9	Feb. 16	Feb. 23
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..		*112.4		117.1	117.0	116.9
Farm products.....do.....		*86.0		89.3	88.8	88.5
Foods, processed.....do.....		*99.0		104.6	104.0	103.7
All other.....do.....		*120.6		125.3	125.5	125.4
22 commodities 2/.....do.....	88.6	88.5	90.7	89.7	**89.0	88.5
Department store sales.....do.....	95	97	93	101	102	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,624	1,683	1,883	1,858	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	1,482	1,536	1,747	1,722	.....	.....
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	30,247	30,210	30,607	30,595	30,641	30,605
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	25,174	25,360	25,087	25,146	24,997	24,764
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do.....	18,693	18,749	18,918	18,920	18,808	18,895
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do.....	549	574	309	378	471	505
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	56,391	56,106	58,076	56,874	56,423	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	21,428	21,452	22,401	22,470	22,500	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do.....	84,310	84,072	85,297	85,069	84,828	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	28,452	28,395	26,101	25,921	25,672	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do....	26,301	26,271	30,260	30,162	30,257	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do.....	8,197	8,194	8,790	8,770	8,782	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	252	230	320	287	317	300
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.27	3.27	4.01	4.01	3.99	3.98
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/.1935-39=100..	321.0	325.7	330.2	323.2	318.3	323.9
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do.....	368.5	374.5	382.4	373.5	367.6	374.8
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,675	1,662	1,463	1,621	1,625	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	11,321	11,277	12,322	12,019	11,946	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	151,547	148,210	163,504	170,120	169,959	162,498
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	7,116	7,184	7,422	7,461	7,515	.....
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	2,433	2,433	2,498	2,485	2,501	2,504
Percent of capacity 5/.....do.....	#98.8	#98.8	97.6	97.1	97.7	97.8
Freight car loadings, total.....thous. of cars..	698	687	648	665	676	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	363	364	344	344	349	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning February 25, 1957: Production, 2,456 thous. short tons; operating rate, 96.0 percent. * Monthly index for February 1956. ** Wednesday price. # Not comparable with 1957 rates, which are based on higher capacity.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1955	1956				1957
	December	January	October	November	December	January
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Business incorporations:						
New incorporations (48 States).....number..	11,539	13,363	11,546	9,749	10,788	14,632
Industrial and commercial failures:						
Failures, total.....do.....	908	1,048	1,158	999	982	1,148
Commercial service.....do.....	73	72	82	86	83	71
Construction.....do.....	136	126	182	171	183	177
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	191	209	198	166	172	197
Retail trade.....do.....	404	535	584	482	472	612
Wholesale trade.....do.....	104	106	112	94	72	91
Liabilities (current), total.....thous. of dol..	41,643	42,890	50,004	39,886	50,279	54,060
Commercial service.....do.....	1,106	2,974	3,629	1,854	3,780	4,086
Construction.....do.....	7,341	6,163	11,145	11,099	8,149	10,672
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	11,554	14,442	17,345	11,714	21,785	16,105
Retail trade.....do.....	10,775	14,936	12,368	11,476	10,946	17,862
Wholesale trade.....do.....	10,867	4,375	5,517	3,743	5,619	5,335
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumer price index, all items.....1947-49=100..	114.7	114.6	117.7	117.8	118.0	118.2
Apparel.....do.....	104.7	104.1	106.8	107.0	107.0	106.4
Food.....do.....	109.5	109.2	113.1	112.9	112.9	112.8
Dairy products.....do.....	107.7	107.3	110.7	111.1	111.3	111.2
Fruits and vegetables.....do.....	110.7	112.6	113.9	115.8	117.4	116.9
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do.....	94.6	93.3	100.8	98.8	98.0	99.0
Housing.....do.....	120.8	120.6	122.8	123.0	123.5	123.8
Gas and electricity.....do.....	111.5	111.7	112.0	111.8	112.0	112.3
Housefurnishings.....do.....	103.4	102.0	103.6	103.8	104.1	104.0
Rent.....do.....	131.1	131.4	133.4	133.8	134.2	134.2
Medical care.....do.....	130.2	130.7	134.1	134.5	134.7	135.3
Personal care.....do.....	117.9	118.5	120.8	121.4	121.8	122.1
Reading and recreation.....do.....	106.8	107.3	108.5	109.0	109.3	109.9
Transportation.....do.....	127.3	126.8	132.6	133.2	133.1	133.6
Private.....do.....	117.8	117.0	122.9	123.5	123.3	123.8
Public.....do.....	167.8	170.3	173.0	173.4	174.1	174.9
Other goods and services.....do.....	120.6	120.8	123.0	123.2	123.3	123.8

1/ Index based on 1935-39=100 is 197.6.

ITEM	1955	1956				1957
	December	January	October	November	December	January
COMMODITY PRICES - Continued						
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by--						
Wholesale prices.....1947-49=100..	89.8	89.4	86.5	86.3	86.0	1/85.5
Consumer prices.....do....	87.2	87.3	85.0	84.9	84.7	1/84.6
Retail food prices.....do....	91.3	91.6	88.4	88.6	88.6	1/88.7
FINANCE						
Life insurance (Institute of Life Insurance):						
Assets, total, all U.S. life insurance companies						
mil. of dol..	90,219	90,842	94,869	95,274	95,819	.....
Bonds (book value), domestic and foreign, total....do....	47,690	47,967	48,970	48,983	49,058	.....
U. S. Government.....do....	8,546	8,593	7,850	7,749	7,532	.....
State, county, municipal (U. S.).....do....	1,998	2,125	2,218	2,229	2,237	.....
Public utility (U. S.).....do....	13,533	13,579	13,914	13,963	13,997	.....
Railroad (U. S.).....do....	3,847	3,840	3,845	3,842	3,839	.....
Industrial and miscellaneous (U. S.).....do....	17,292	17,522	18,537	18,581	18,807	.....
Stocks (book value), domestic and foreign, total....do....	2,923	2,930	2,962	2,970	2,906	.....
Preferred (U. S.).....do....	1,720	1,719	1,700	1,701	1,634	.....
Common (U. S.).....do....	1,192	1,199	1,247	1,254	1,257	.....
Mortgage loans, total.....do....	29,433	29,800	32,399	32,709	33,017	.....
Nonfarm.....do....	27,166	27,526	29,938	30,243	30,546	.....
Real estate.....do....	2,557	2,568	2,778	2,813	2,809	.....
Policy loans and premium notes.....do....	3,293	3,307	3,461	3,483	3,503	.....
Cash.....do....	1,254	1,167	1,093	1,109	1,273	.....
Other assets.....do....	3,069	3,103	3,206	3,207	3,253	.....
Payments to policyholders and beneficiaries, estimated						
total.....mil. of dol..	555.7	522.8	516.6	473.1	590.9	.....
Death benefits.....do....	209.2	204.9	223.2	197.5	209.0	.....
Matured endowments.....do....	56.9	59.3	57.7	56.3	63.7	.....
Disability payments.....do....	9.5	10.2	9.9	9.1	8.9	.....
Annuity payments.....do....	38.2	54.4	45.5	44.1	38.1	.....
Surrender values.....do....	78.8	76.9	95.8	86.0	94.9	.....
Policy dividends.....do....	163.0	117.1	84.5	80.1	176.3	.....
Turnover of demand deposits except interbank and						
U. S. Government, annual rate:						
New York City.....ratio of debits to deposits..	51.3	45.7	45.2	48.3	51.8	48.3
6 other centers.....do....	28.1	29.5	28.4	31.0	p30.0	p29.9
337 other reporting centers.....do....	21.6	21.7	22.1	23.6	p23.6	p22.5
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Organic chemicals, production:						
Acetic acid (synthetic and natural).....thous. of lb..	47,771	49,619	49,343	46,853	49,737	.....
Acetic anhydride.....do....	80,027	77,404	70,277	75,122	90,378	.....
Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin).....do....	1,606	1,225	1,356	1,488	1,618	.....
Creosote oil.....thous. of gal..	9,633	9,539	11,707	12,201	14,456	.....
DDT.....thous. of lb..	10,991	11,592	10,949	10,641	11,201	.....
Ethyl acetate (85%).....do....	7,636	9,360	10,171	8,285	8,306	.....
Ethylene glycol.....do....	82,575	90,684	95,494	90,119	95,181	.....
Formaldehyde (37% HCHO).....do....	107,479	111,691	119,056	116,914	107,918	.....
Methanol:						
Natural (100%).....thous. of gal..	196	206	189	156	172	.....
Synthetic (100%).....do....	19,675	19,020	20,004	19,408	21,312	.....
Phthalic anhydride.....thous. of lb..	29,749	30,522	27,002	25,041	27,093	.....
Synthetic plastics and resin materials, production:						
Cellulose acetate and mixed ester plastics:						
Sheets, rods, and tubes.....thous. of lb..	4,041	3,508	3,837	3,374	3,724	.....
Molding and extrusion materials.....do....	7,705	6,492	9,390	9,291	8,452	.....
Nitrocellulose sheets, rods, and tubes.....do....	428	519	396	365	317	.....
Other cellulose plastics.....do....	433	450	564	551	472	.....
Phenolic and other tar acid resins.....do....	43,044	43,407	43,493	40,145	35,206	.....
Polystyrene.....do....	47,434	47,002	48,789	44,467	41,794	.....
Urea and melamine resins.....do....	24,206	26,411	25,691	24,269	21,370	.....
Vinyl resins.....do....	61,285	66,890	67,176	65,900	67,870	.....
Alkyd resins.....do....	35,689	32,409	35,383	34,509	27,874	.....
Rosin modifications.....do....	10,617	10,823	10,908	11,553	10,024	.....
Polyester resins.....do....	5,552	5,510	6,473	6,542	6,139	.....
Polyethylene resins.....do....	40,610	42,721	49,110	51,421	51,413	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	12,085	14,121	13,363	13,977	13,679	.....
FOODSTUFFS						
Distilled spirits, consumption for beverage purposes						
thous. of wine gal..	r23,847	13,371	22,321	20,865	25,159	.....
Wines and distilling materials:						
Effervescent wines:						
Production.....do....	200	139	205	188	162	.....
Tax-paid withdrawals.....do....	279	131	276	272	261	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	1,257	1,246	1,648	1,547	1,418	.....
Still wines:						
Production.....do....	r10,075	3,201	71,849	24,070	3,912	.....
Tax-paid withdrawals.....do....	r12,966	r10,895	14,615	13,879	11,953	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	207,556	197,957	202,848	210,541	198,721	.....
Distilling materials produced at wineries.....do....	28,397	6,220	142,607	41,839	6,075	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Indexes based on 1935-39=100 are as follows: Measured by--wholesale prices, 44.7; consumer prices, 50.6; retail food, 43.9.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1955	1956				1957
	December	January	October	November	December	January
FOODSTUFFS - Continued						
Stocks, cold storage, end of month:						
Butter, creamery.....thous. of lb..	163,136	131,664	62,261	39,640	r25,103	29,225
Cheese, total.....do....	518,885	496,746	489,385	454,729	r441,082	414,197
Apples, fresh.....thous. of bu..	27,321	20,618	38,090	33,933	r26,578	20,168
Frozen fruits, juices and vegetables:						
Fruits.....thous. of lb..	420,092	389,245	483,068	467,046	r450,967	419,917
Fruit juices.....do....	249,910	321,536	354,871	303,742	r294,282	391,736
Vegetables.....do....	624,049	558,178	914,895	905,439	r857,942	783,314
Meats, total.....mil. of lb..	777	858	449	591	r677	1/615
Beef and veal.....thous. of lb..	224,391	230,316	163,026	220,008	r263,929	247,173
Lamb and mutton.....do....	10,630	10,566	11,203	11,016	r11,590	10,261
Pork, excluding lard.....do....	420,816	481,602	167,955	248,637	r279,768	289,044
Poultry (frozen).....do....	228,378	214,723	361,756	368,378	r332,817	328,999
Eggs, frozen.....do....	74,354	50,525	131,547	108,684	r86,807	74,860
LEATHER AND PRODUCTS						
Leather production:						
Calf and whole kip.....thous. of skins..	807	874	738	r737	722	.....
Cattle hide and side kip.....thous. of hides and kips..	2,255	2,202	2,275	r2,193	1,988	.....
Goat and kid.....thous. of skins..	2,212	2,251	2,198	r1,820	1,663	.....
Sheep and lamb.....do....	2,328	2,212	2,202	r2,113	1,766	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	6,954	7,050	7,316	7,036	7,335	7,282
Machine tools (metal-cutting types):						
New orders (net), total.....mil. of dol..	151.30	109.55	66.10	64.25	57.20	p63.00
Domestic.....do....	137.40	96.70	57.55	58.70	51.90	p56.10
Shipments, total.....do....	70.30	54.60	89.75	81.70	85.15	p76.60
Domestic.....do....	64.40	49.40	79.85	73.60	75.05	p67.75
Estimated backlog.....months..	7.6	8.4	7.2	6.7	6.2	p6.1
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Cotton: 2/						
Consumption.....bales..	852,135	r750,282	732,319	880,549	631,507	840,567
Manufactures:						
Spindle activity (cotton system spindles):						
Active spindles, last working day, total.....thousands..	r20,991	r20,998	20,343	20,289	20,237	20,231
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	19,440	19,399	18,839	18,786	18,736	18,725
Spindle hours operated, all fibers, total.....mil. of hr..	r11,820	r10,311	9,847	11,952	8,681	11,600
Average per working day.....do....	r473	516	492	478	434	580
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	10,992	9,577	9,162	11,145	8,062	10,790
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT						
Railway equipment, American Railway Car Institute:						
Freight cars:						
Shipments, total.....number..	3,814	4,199	5,666	6,740	7,260	7,822
Equipment manufacturers, total.....do....	2,714	2,981	3,728	4,367	4,272	4,686
Domestic.....do....	2,696	2,981	3,728	4,322	4,272	4,686
Railroad shops, domestic.....do....	1,100	1,218	1,938	2,373	2,988	3,136
Passenger cars, equipment manufacturers:						
Orders unfilled, end of month, total.....do....	860	903	706	791	842	840
Domestic.....do....	851	884	684	679	724	728
Shipments, total.....do....	39	42	26	5	9	9
Domestic.....do....	39	42	25	5	5	3

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Excludes stocks of sausage and sausage room products and edible offal. 2/ Data for December 1955, November 1956, and January 1957 cover 5 weeks, other months, 4 weeks.
38,245

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WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT
SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS