

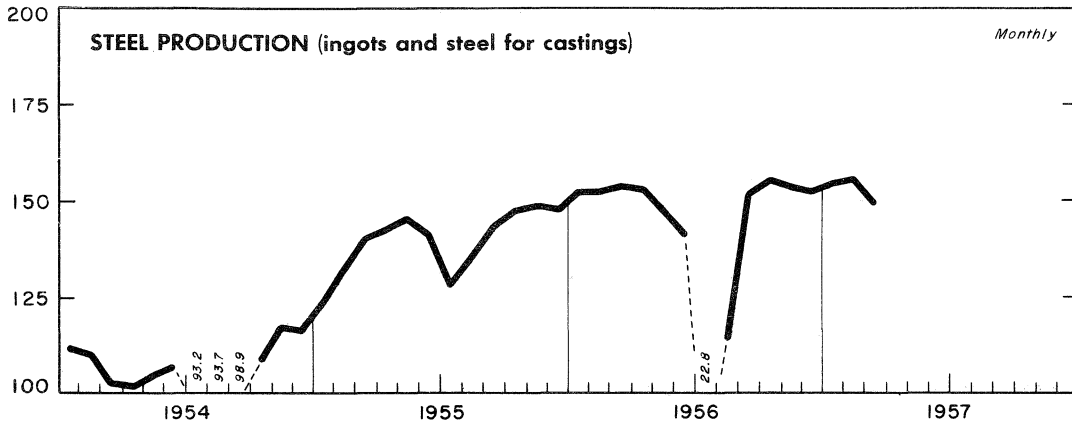
# BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

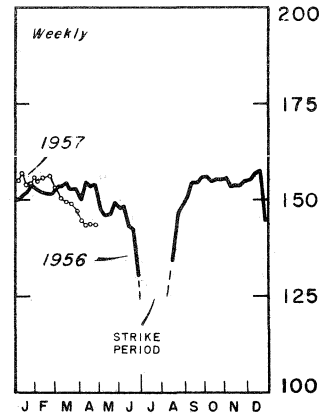
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## SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

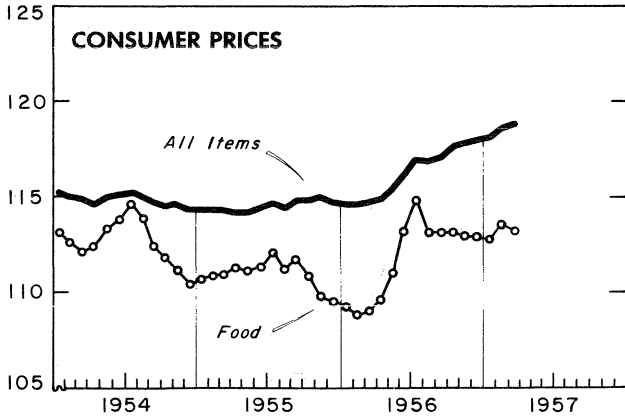
INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



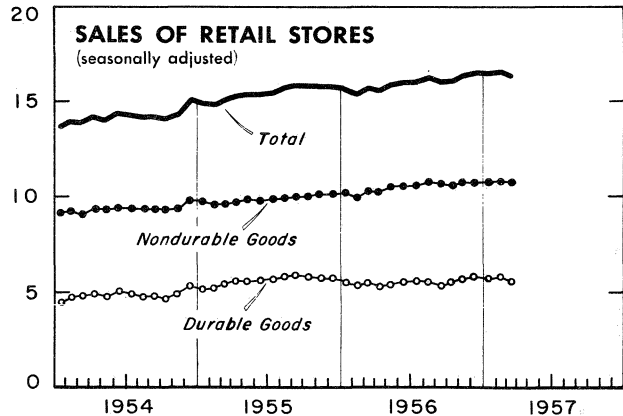
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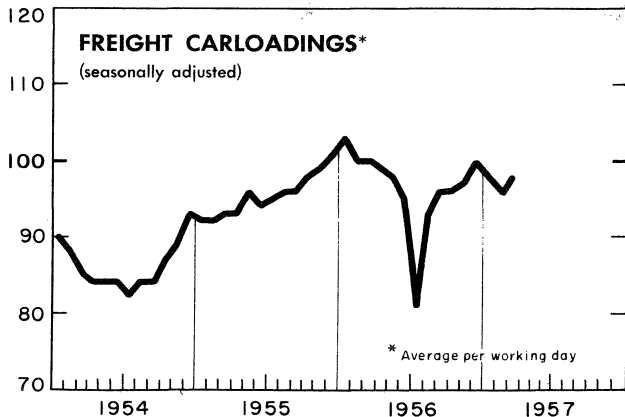
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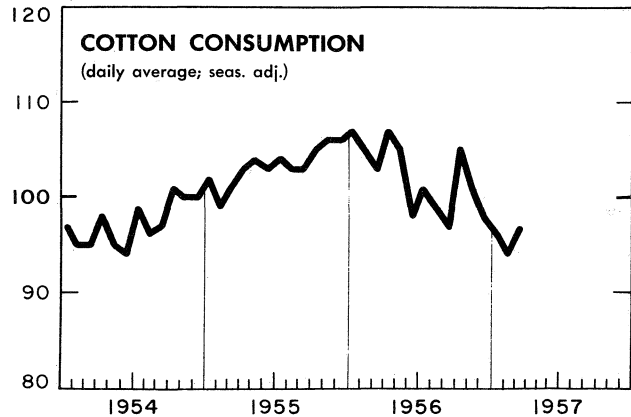
BILLION DOLLARS



INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

ITEM	1956		1957			
	Apr. 14	Apr. 21	Mar. 30	Apr. 6	Apr. 13	Apr. 20
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..		*113.6		117.0	117.2	117.2
Farm products.....do.....		*88.0		89.2	90.2	90.7
Foods, processed.....do.....		*100.4		104.0	104.7	104.5
All other.....do.....		*121.6		125.4	125.3	125.3
+ 22 commodities 2/.....do.....	91.9	91.9	88.6	88.5	89.2	89.1
Department store sales.....do.....	114	113	112	113	122	
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,488	1,424	1,611	1,594		
State programs.....do.....	1,381	1,324	1,448	1,474		
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	30,300	30,290	30,502	30,588	30,655	30,681
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	25,481	25,497	24,930	25,165	25,400	25,520
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do.....	18,917	18,909	18,971	18,868	19,088	19,107
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do.....	633	591	594	342	547	548
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	56,211	56,713	55,472	55,118	55,343	
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	21,607	21,596	23,067	23,157	23,164	
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do.....	85,447	85,487	85,604	87,253	86,887	
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	27,696	27,695	25,164	26,635	26,319	
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do....	27,683	27,770	31,443	31,322	31,354	
Real-estate loans (gross).....do.....	8,377	8,412	8,740	8,691	8,689	
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	255	252	290	231	308	302
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.39	3.43	3.96	3.96	3.95	3.96
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/..1941-43=10..	48.31	47.74	44.09	44.54	44.98	45.08
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do.....	51.71	51.02	46.97	47.47	47.99	48.10
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,656	1,631	1,762	1,600	1,650	
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	10,918	10,894	11,694	11,693	11,695	
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	160,160	153,163	152,712	154,214	148,955	142,524
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	7,156	7,130	7,786	7,614	7,442	
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	2,483	2,466	2,364	2,319	2,310	2,313
Percent of capacity 5/.....do.....	#100.9	#100.2	92.4	90.6	90.3	90.4
Freight car loadings, total.....thous. of cars..	742	763	695	644	674	
Miscellaneous.....do.....	380	389	361	344	345	

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data; S&P's index on revised basis. 5/ Week beginning April 22, 1957; Production, 2,310 thous. short tons; operating rate, 90.3 percent. \*Monthly index for April 1956. #Not comparable with 1957 rates, which are based on higher capacity.

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1956			1957		
	February	March	December	January	February	March
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Business incorporations:						
New incorporations (48 States).....number..	12,503	12,822	10,788	r13,387	r10,791	11,815
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumer price index:						
All items.....1947-49=100..	114.6	114.7	118.0	118.2	118.7	1/118.9
Apparel.....do.....	104.6	104.8	107.0	106.4	106.1	106.8
Food.....do.....	108.8	109.0	112.9	112.8	113.6	113.2
Dairy products.....do.....	107.3	106.9	111.3	111.2	111.1	110.7
Fruits and vegetables.....do.....	113.3	114.8	117.4	116.9	116.5	116.1
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do.....	93.6	92.8	98.0	99.0	101.4	100.6
Housing.....do.....	120.7	120.7	123.5	123.8	124.5	124.9
Gas and electricity.....do.....	111.7	111.7	112.0	112.3	112.4	112.4
Housefurnishings.....do.....	102.5	103.1	104.1	104.0	105.0	104.9
Rent.....do.....	131.5	131.6	134.2	134.2	134.2	134.4
Medical care.....do.....	130.9	131.4	134.7	135.3	135.5	136.4
Personal care.....do.....	118.9	119.2	121.8	122.1	122.6	122.9
Reading and recreation.....do.....	107.5	107.7	109.3	109.9	110.0	110.5
Transportation.....do.....	126.9	126.7	133.1	133.6	134.4	135.1
Private.....do.....	117.0	116.8	123.3	123.8	124.5	125.2
Public.....do.....	170.5	170.8	174.1	174.9	175.8	175.8
Other goods and services.....do.....	120.9	121.2	123.3	123.8	124.0	124.2
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by--						
Wholesale prices.....do.....	89.0	88.7	86.0	85.5	85.5	2/85.5
Consumer prices.....do.....	87.3	87.2	84.7	84.6	84.2	2/84.1
Retail food prices.....do.....	91.9	91.7	88.6	88.7	88.0	2/88.3
Wholesale prices of selected commodities:						
Wheat flour, short patents (Minn.)..dol. per 100 lb. sack..	6.220	6.110	6.030	6.020	6.020	p5.950
Calves, vealers (Chicago).....dol. per 100 lb..	28.00	24.50	21.50	25.00	27.50	p26.00
Lumber:						
Douglas fir, const., No. 1, 2" x 4", R.L..dol. per M bd. ft..	89.180	89.320	80.654	81.989	80.905	p80.185
Southern pine, boards, No. 2, 1" x 6", R.L.....do....	81.294	84.079	82.062	80.465	78.395	p78.121
Ponderosa pine, boards, No. 3, common, 1" x 8".....do....	81.30	82.31	71.46	72.52	73.38	p73.38

Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Index based on 1935-39=100 is 198.8. 2/ Indexes based on 1935-39=100 are as follows: Measured by-- wholesale prices, 44.7; consumer prices, 50.3; retail food, 43.7.

ITEM	1956			1957		
	February	March	December	January	February	March
COMMODITY PRICES - Continued						
Wholesale prices of selected commodities - Continued						
Pig iron:						
Basic (furnace).....dol. per long ton..	58.50	58.50	62.50	62.50	62.50	p64.50
Foundry, No. 2, Northern.....do....	59.00	59.00	63.00	63.00	63.00	p65.00
Steel:						
Steel billets, rerolling, carbon, f.o.b. mill dol. per short ton..	78.50	78.50	84.00	84.00	89.00	p89.00
Structural shapes (carbon), f.o.b. mill.....dol. per lb..	.0487	.0487	.0527	.0553	r.0567	p.0567
Scrap, No. 1, heavy melting (Pittsburgh).dol.per long ton..	49.00	48.50	66.50	62.50	53.50	p50.50
Coal, bituminous:						
Screenings, indust. use, f.o.b. car at mine dol. per short ton..	4.731	4.779	5.433	5.467	5.467	p5.467
Large domestic sizes, f.o.b. car at mine.....do....	7.229	7.071	7.630	7.641	7.641	p7.486
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Highway concrete pavement contract awards: <u>1/</u>						
Total.....thous. of sq. yd..	8,259	8,362	<u>2/6,501</u>	7,163	7,229	9,582
Airports.....do....	1,726	798	405	1,499	1,489	3,023
Roads.....do....	4,319	4,547	<u>2/3,955</u>	3,990	4,425	4,660
Streets and alleys.....do....	2,214	3,017	<u>2/2,141</u>	1,674	1,316	1,899
Construction cost indexes:						
American Appraisal Co., The, average, 30 cities...1913=100..	623	625	647	649	653	654
Atlanta.....do....	667	676	699	702	705	710
New York.....do....	648	652	687	701	703	704
San Francisco.....do....	586	588	594	594	610	610
St. Louis.....do....	630	632	638	640	643	644
E. H. Boeckh and Associates:						
Apartments, hotels, and office buildings:						
Brick and concrete.....U. S. avg. 1926-29=100..	271.6	272.4	281.9	282.7	283.1	283.5
Brick and steel.....do....	267.7	268.7	277.7	278.3	278.5	278.8
Brick and wood.....do....	270.5	271.6	277.4	277.9	278.3	278.4
Commercial and factory buildings:						
Brick and concrete.....do....	279.4	280.4	290.2	291.3	291.8	292.4
Brick and steel.....do....	277.1	278.4	289.6	290.3	291.3	291.6
Brick and wood.....do....	269.0	269.9	276.5	277.4	278.1	278.2
Frame.....do....	270.5	271.4	275.5	275.4	275.3	275.4
Steel.....do....	261.8	263.3	276.4	276.8	278.4	278.7
Residences:						
Brick.....do....	271.2	272.1	277.8	278.3	278.6	278.7
Frame.....do....	265.2	266.2	270.6	270.7	270.8	270.9
FINANCE						
Federal Government finance:						
Receipts, total.....mil. of dol..	7,158	12,499	5,898	5,279	7,486	12,145
Receipts, net.....do....	6,195	11,313	5,412	4,809	6,188	10,737
Customs.....do....	57	59	59	64	53	66
Income and employment taxes.....do....	5,959	11,344	4,570	3,903	6,313	10,887
Miscellaneous internal revenue.....do....	944	963	894	978	963	1,063
All other receipts.....do....	198	133	374	333	157	129
Expenditures.....do....	4,950	5,399	5,718	6,095	5,743	5,584
Interest on public debt.....do....	553	559	631	651	585	601
All other expenditures.....do....	4,397	4,840	5,087	5,444	5,158	4,983
	1956			1957		
	January	February	November	December	January	February
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS						
Operations on scheduled airlines:						
Miles flown, revenue.....thousands..	47,988	44,500	51,671	54,232	56,255	.....
Express and freight ton-miles flown.....do....	16,756	16,108	22,803	23,344	20,431	.....
Mail, ton-miles flown.....do....	7,145	7,181	7,522	10,482	7,866	.....
Passengers carried, revenue.....do....	2,810	2,645	3,040	2,913	3,045	.....
Passenger-miles flown, revenue.....millions..	1,653	1,507	1,656	1,765	1,896	.....
Telephone carriers:						
Operating revenues.....thous. of dol..	487,210	481,642	520,872	536,491	538,572	.....
Station revenues.....do....	281,381	279,770	297,972	304,385	307,397	.....
Tolls, message.....do....	164,415	160,248	176,933	185,135	184,278	.....
Operating expenses, before taxes.....do....	322,446	317,403	352,456	348,942	353,586	.....
Net operating income.....do....	66,367	65,936	68,729	78,940	74,122	.....
Phones in service, end of month.....thousands..	49,216	49,488	52,034	52,475	52,897	.....
Telegraph, cable, and radiotelegraph carriers:						
Wire-telegraph:						
Operating revenues.....thous. of dol..	18,720	18,395	20,250	20,828	20,680	19,182
Operating expenses, including depreciation.....do....	16,658	15,985	17,879	18,135	18,299	16,924
Net operating revenues.....do....	1,155	1,522	1,713	2,264	1,371	1,306
Ocean-cable:						
Operating revenues.....do....	2,903	2,692	3,078	3,094	3,034	2,689
Operating expenses, including depreciation.....do....	2,145	2,066	2,205	2,072	2,231	2,249
Net operating revenues.....do....	482	369	626	728	528	197
Radiotelegraph:						
Operating revenues.....do....	3,083	2,961	3,656	3,569	3,591	3,332
Operating expenses, including depreciation.....do....	2,453	2,390	2,519	2,653	2,641	2,443
Net operating revenues.....do....	512	465	1,069	814	843	791

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