

August 28, 1959

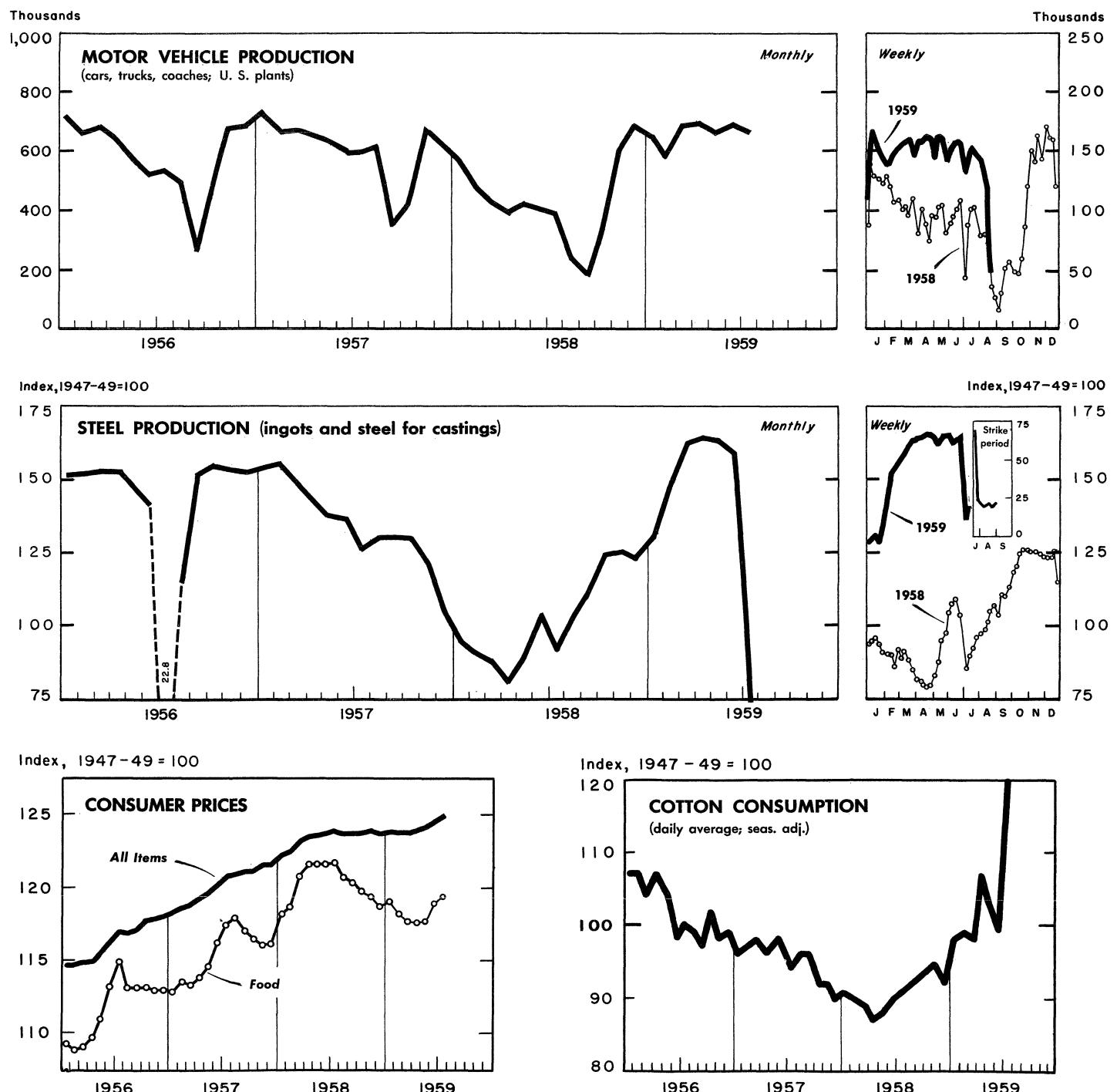


# BUSINESS STATISTICS

## 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	1958		1959			
	Aug. 16	Aug. 23	Aug. 1	Aug. 8	Aug. 15	Aug. 22
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....	1947-49=100..	.....	*119.1	.....	.....	119.2
Farm products.....	do.....	.....	*93.2	.....	.....	87.2
Foods, processed.....	do.....	.....	*111.3	.....	.....	106.1
All other.....	do.....	.....	*126.1	.....	.....	128.4
22 commodities <sup>2/</sup> .....	do.....	87.1	86.5	86.2	86.8	86.3
Department store sales.....	do.....	124	134	121	131	132
Insured unemployment, total <sup>3/</sup> .....	thous..	2,407	2,353	1,464	1,455	.....
State programs (incl. Alaska and Hawaii).....	do.....	2,202	2,153	1,310	1,301	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....	number..	262	272	252	274	269
Finance:						
Currency in circulation <sup>4/</sup> .....	mil. of dol..	31,291	31,295	31,890	31,925	32,071
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total <sup>4/</sup> .....	do.....	26,685	26,665	28,374	28,399	28,473
Member bank reserve balances <sup>4/</sup> .....	do.....	18,760	18,648	18,702	18,696	18,622
Excess reserves, estimated <sup>4/</sup> .....	do.....	687	621	379	428	535
Reporting member banks (of F.R. System) in leading cities <sup>5/</sup> :						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....	mil. of dol..	59,670	.....	62,214	61,218	61,076
Time deposits, except interbank.....	do.....	30,303	.....	30,754	30,759	30,750
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....	do.....	.....	104,187	103,737	103,396	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....	do.....	36,308	.....	30,242	29,646	29,202
Commercial and industrial loans (gross).....	do.....	.....	.....	28,585	28,688	28,766
Real-estate loans (gross).....	do.....	10,786	.....	12,277	12,264	12,298
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) <sup>4/</sup> .....	percent..	4.16	4.20	4.72	4.70	4.70
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) <sup>5/</sup> .....	1941-43=10..	47.81	47.32	60.62	60.30	59.25
Industrials, 425 stocks.....	do.....	51.12	50.59	65.26	64.85	63.55
Production:						
Bituminous coal <sup>4/</sup> .....	thous. of short tons..	1,341	1,371	1,198	1,134	1,191
Electric power, by utilities.....	mil. of kw.-hr..	12,850	12,486	13,775	13,675	13,648
Motor vehicles (cars, trucks, coaches).....	number..	72,941	34,816	142,964	119,453	83,839
Petroleum (crude) and condensate <sup>4/</sup> .....	thous. of bbl..	6,839	6,875	6,808	6,789	6,823
Steel <sup>6/</sup> .....	thous. of short tons..	1,632	1,690	345	318	335
Percent of capacity.....	.....	*60.5	*62.6	12.2	11.2	11.8
Freight car loadings, total.....	thous. of cars..	626	634	544	532	544
Miscellaneous.....	do.....	299	308	288	282	291

<sup>1/</sup> Data do not always cover calendar weeks. <sup>2/</sup> Tuesday prices. <sup>3/</sup> Includes the following programs: State; R.R.; Federal employees; veterans; and ex-servicemen. <sup>4/</sup> Daily average. <sup>5/</sup> Wednesday data. Figures for member banks are on revised basis; leaders indicate data not available. <sup>6/</sup> Week beginning August 24, 1959: Production, 343 thous. short tons; operating rate, 12.1 percent. \* Monthly index for August 1958. # Based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons); not comparable with 1959 rates which are based on January 1, 1959, annual capacity (147,633,670 tons).

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1958		1959			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Industrial and commercial failures:						
Failures, total.....	number..	1,260	1,253	1,292	1,135	1,244
Commercial service.....	do.....	99	99	121	104	111
Construction.....	do.....	161	181	166	172	167
Manufacturing and mining.....	do.....	235	255	202	199	203
Retail trade.....	do.....	640	613	671	567	633
Wholesale trade.....	do.....	125	105	132	93	130
Liabilities (current), total.....	thous. of dol..	61,445	65,375	71,907	50,917	49,197
Commercial service.....	do.....	7,719	4,164	9,994	3,336	5,069
Construction.....	do.....	7,390	13,966	8,623	12,262	8,519
Manufacturing and mining.....	do.....	18,959	22,673	16,501	10,835	12,143
Retail trade.....	do.....	21,692	18,784	22,839	19,638	18,234
Wholesale trade.....	do.....	5,685	5,788	13,950	4,846	5,232
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumer price index:						
All items.....	1947-49=100..	123.7	123.9	123.9	124.0	124.5
Apparel.....	do.....	106.7	106.7	107.0	107.3	107.5
Food.....	do.....	121.6	121.7	117.6	117.7	118.9
Dairy products.....	do.....	111.7	112.4	112.9	112.6	112.3
Fruits and vegetables.....	do.....	134.3	131.9	123.6	125.6	134.5
Meats, poultry, and fish.....	do.....	118.3	119.2	111.5	111.6	112.0
Housing.....	do.....	127.8	127.7	128.7	128.8	128.9
Gas and electricity.....	do.....	116.9	117.0	118.2	118.7	119.3
Housefurnishings.....	do.....	104.1	104.0	103.8	103.7	104.1
Rent.....	do.....	137.7	137.8	139.3	139.3	139.5
Medical care.....	do.....	144.2	145.0	149.6	150.2	150.6
Personal care.....	do.....	128.6	128.9	130.0	130.7	131.1
Reading and recreation.....	do.....	116.7	116.6	117.7	117.8	118.1
Transportation.....	do.....	138.9	140.3	145.3	145.4	145.9
Private.....	do.....	128.0	129.3	134.4	134.5	134.9
Public.....	do.....	187.7	189.5	192.6	192.7	192.7
Other goods and services.....	do.....	127.2	127.2	128.2	128.4	129.2

**MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued**

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ITEM	1958		1959			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
<b>COMMODITY PRICES - Continued</b>						
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by—						
Wholesale prices.....1947-49=100..	83.9	83.9	83.3	83.4	83.5	*83.7
Consumer prices.....do.....	80.8	80.7	80.7	80.6	80.3	*80.1
<b>CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE</b>						
Highway concrete pavement contract awards: 1/						
Total.....thous. of sq. yd..	12,129	18,366	9,171	9,338	10,222	11,734
Airports.....do.....	2,741	6,631	848	809	1,088	977
Roads.....do.....	6,450	7,999	5,115	5,015	5,792	6,642
Streets and alleys.....do.....	2,938	3,737	3,207	3,515	3,342	4,116
<b>FINANCE</b>						
Agricultural loans and discounts outstanding of agencies supervised by the Farm Credit Adm.:						
Total.....mil. of dol..	3,670	3,725	4,184	4,294	4,400	4,470
Farm mortgage loans: Federal land banks.....do.....	1,989	2,002	2,206	2,237	2,262	2,282
Loans to cooperatives.....do.....	408	425	.515	513	526	542
Other loans and discounts.....do.....	1,273	1,298	1,463	1,543	1,612	1,646
Federal Government finance:						
Receipts, total.....do.....	11,939	3,624	6,375	8,155	11,137	3,936
Receipts, net.....do.....	10,785	2,946	4,258	5,425	10,042	3,246
Customs.....do.....	66	72	85	89	94	94
Individual income taxes.....do.....	3,665	1,453	4,002	4,813	4,236	1,603
Corporation income and profits taxes.....do.....	5,906	479	477	410	4,786	568
Employment taxes.....do.....	818	355	558	1,488	697	332
Other internal revenue and receipts.....do.....	1,484	1,265	1,255	1,355	1,323	1,339
Expenditures.....do.....	6,621	6,613	6,427	6,164	8,632	6,557
Interest on public debt.....do.....	615	642	652	650	704	728
All other expenditures.....do.....	5,962	5,971	5,776	5,515	7,929	5,829
Life insurance written (new paid-for insurance):						
Value, estimated total.....do.....	5,264	5,290	5,718	5,593	6,097	5,492
Group and wholesale.....do.....	786	630	835	754	1,091	703
Industrial.....do.....	600	569	575	633	598	541
Ordinary.....do.....	3,878	4,091	4,308	4,206	4,408	4,248
<b>CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS</b>						
Organic chemicals, production:						
Acetic acid (synthetic and natural).....thous. of lb..	47,906	48,148	48,729	57,734	57,435	.....
Acetic anhydride.....do.....	89,671	80,769	90,445	89,656	88,733	.....
Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin).....do.....	1,695	1,602	1,797	1,610	1,393	.....
Creosote oil.....thous. of gal..	9,354	8,471	7,819	8,727	9,052	.....
DDT.....thous. of lb..	12,173	12,722	13,440	14,095	14,604	.....
Ethyl acetate (85%).....do.....	6,548	6,872	5,394	8,441	9,359	.....
Ethylene glycol.....do.....	88,210	99,151	91,187	94,677	94,808	.....
Formaldehyde (37% HCHO).....do.....	108,888	87,472	144,117	141,493	149,652	.....
Methanol:						
Natural (100%).....thous. of gal..	175	153	156	203	192	.....
Synthetic (100%).....do.....	16,092	17,034	18,849	21,144	21,806	.....
Phthalic anhydride.....thous. of lb..	23,426	24,107	33,316	r34,911	31,850	.....
Synthetic plastics and resin materials, production:						
Cellulose acetate and mixed ester plastics:						
Sheets, rods, and tubes.....thous. of lb..	4,043	3,497	4,634	3,882	4,028	.....
Molding and extrusion materials.....do.....	6,176	6,911	9,432	8,121	8,292	.....
Nitrocellulose sheets, rods, and tubes.....do.....	231	205	317	315	304	.....
Phenolic and other tar acid resins.....do.....	31,176	28,476	44,943	46,567	43,648	.....
Polystyrene.....do.....	47,513	40,988	67,625	73,915	72,312	.....
Urea and melamine resins.....do.....	21,049	17,940	31,565	30,370	33,967	.....
Vinyl resins.....do.....	57,986	53,747	92,122	98,884	98,405	.....
Alkyd resins.....do.....	29,677	28,552	36,373	r35,729	34,395	.....
Rosin modifications.....do.....	9,238	8,876	12,413	r12,518	12,601	.....
Polyester resins.....do.....	10,743	8,962	15,691	14,068	13,680	.....
Polyethylene resins.....do.....	68,068	70,035	98,312	104,549	98,907	.....
<b>FOODSTUFFS</b>						
Livestock slaughter (Federally inspected):						
Calves.....thous. of animals..	430	435	406	358	366	382
Cattle.....do.....	1,506	1,561	1,433	1,412	1,473	1,557
Hogs.....do.....	4,209	4,326	5,652	4,970	4,902	5,184
Sheep and lambs.....do.....	1,042	1,013	1,101	1,017	1,056	1,107
<b>METALS AND MANUFACTURES</b>						
Cans, metal, shipments (in terms of steel consumed), total						
for sale and own use.....thous. of short tons..	408.8	477.8	389.4	400.4	444.7	.....
Food.....do.....	222.5	288.6	218.6	219.1	251.4	.....
Nonfood.....do.....	186.2	189.2	170.9	181.3	193.3	.....
Shipments for sale.....do.....	352.5	418.0	329.5	346.4	385.5	.....
Oil burners:						
Shipments.....number..	48,403	45,047	43,500	48,232	68,445	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	52,485	47,782	53,150	52,238	51,891	.....
Stoves and ranges, domestic cooking, including built-ins:						
Shipments, total 2/.....number..	164,754	137,910	175,631	170,279	183,268	.....
Gas (including bungalow and combination) 2/.....do....	155,860	129,262	164,802	161,336	172,406	.....
Kerosene, gasoline, and fuel oil.....do....	5,246	4,980	6,790	6,536	6,991	.....

<sup>1/</sup> Revised. \* Indexes based on 1935-39=100 are as follows: Measured by—wholesale prices, 43.8; consumer prices, 47.9. <sup>1/</sup> Data for July 1958 and April and July 1959 are for 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks. <sup>2/</sup> Excludes shipments of cooking tops (for use with built-in ovens); such shipments totaled 37,500 units (4-burner equivalent) in June 1959.

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1958		1959			
	June	July	April	May	June	July
<b>METALS AND MANUFACTURES - Continued</b>						
Stoves, domestic heating, shipments, total.....number..	145,234	202,594	131,104	122,111	200,736	.....
Gas.....do....	98,481	131,441	75,837	63,375	126,616	.....
Kerosene, gasoline, and fuel oil.....do....	29,419	46,433	36,705	37,821	46,854	.....
Warm-air furnaces, shipments, total.....do....	98,608	94,064	97,608	100,581	119,346	.....
Gas.....do....	69,800	65,254	74,589	75,709	89,394	.....
Oil.....do....	26,044	25,941	21,147	23,168	26,925	.....
Water heaters, gas, shipments.....do....	226,886	217,383	248,109	227,576	236,731	.....
Foundry equipment (new), new orders, net mo. avg. shipments, 1947-49=100..	87.7	77.9	154.2	157.0	125.1	.....
Furnaces, industrial, new orders, net: Electric processing.....thous. of dol..	979	1,217	1,230	1,037	1,483	2,209
Fuel-fired (except for hot rolling steel).....do....	1,344	3,578	6,924	2,526	3,066	6,210
<b>PAPER AND PRINTING</b>						
Newsprint, Canada (including Newfoundland): Production.....thous. of short tons..	482.5	508.4	534.6	551.3	534.2	535.8
Shipments from mills.....do....	480.6	523.2	577.5	589.1	535.6	547.0
Stocks at mills, end of month.....do....	223.6	208.8	275.4	237.5	236.1	224.9
Newsprint, United States: Production.....do....	141.8	134.9	161.3	172.4	167.9	149.2
Shipments from mills.....do....	138.6	137.8	168.6	166.8	161.4	156.5
Stocks at mills, end of month.....do....	21.5	18.6	16.9	22.5	29.0	21.7
Consumption by publishers.....do....	409.2	364.5	466.5	484.2	428.9	400.1
Stocks at and in transit to publishers, end of month.....do....	667.8	698.1	567.9	562.4	579.8	625.8
<b>TEXTILE PRODUCTS</b>						
Cotton: 1/ Consumption.....bales..	595,408	613,950	716,820	702,362	819,538	650,449
Manufactures: Spindle activity (cotton system spindles): Active spindles, last working day.....thousands..	19,018	19,241	19,555	19,238	19,266	19,166
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	17,469	17,513	17,945	17,591	17,598	17,501
Spindle hours operated, all fibers, total.....millions..	8,304	8,662	9,567	9,592	11,382	8,817
Average per working day.....do....	415	347	478	480	455	441
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	7,644	7,909	8,776	8,781	10,392	8,020
<b>TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT</b>						
Truck trailers (complete), production.....number..	3,697	3,780	r6,218	r6,141	6,617	.....
Vans.....do....	1,784	1,794	r3,271	3,227	3,863	.....
Trailer chassis, for sale separately.....do....	273	237	417	280	289	.....
Railway equipment, American Railway Car Institute: Freight cars: Shipments, total.....do....	2,501	2,178	3,741	3,468	4,219	4,334
Equipment manufacturers, total.....do....	1,273	1,145	2,334	2,373	3,196	3,197
Railroad and private-line shops, domestic.....do....	1,228	1,033	1,407	1,095	1,023	1,137
New orders, total.....do....	320	821	3,777	r5,203	8,054	4,159
Equipment manufacturers, total.....do....	192	821	3,240	r3,415	7,238	2,519
Railroad and private-line shops, domestic.....do....	128	0	537	1,788	816	1,640
Unfilled orders, end of month.....do....	27,777	26,449	35,969	37,249	41,084	40,359
Equipment manufacturers, total.....do....	5,444	5,149	15,041	16,128	20,170	19,442
Railroad and private-line shops, domestic.....do....	22,333	21,300	20,928	21,121	20,914	20,917

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for July 1958 and June 1959 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.  
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