

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

For immediate release, Monday, August 15, 1955

REC'D IN RECORDS SECTION

AUG 17 1955

August 15, 1955

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BUSINESS INDEXES  
1947-49 average = 100

	Seasonally adjusted				Unadjusted			
	1955		1954		1955		1954	
	pJuly	June	May	July	pJuly	June	May	July
Industrial production								
Total	140	139	138	123	133	139	138	116
Manufactures								
Total	143	141	140	124	134	141	139	116
Durable	157	155	153	134	149	155	155	125
Nondurable	128	128	127	114	119	126	124	107
Minerals	122	123	121	112	122	122	122	110
Consumer durable goods								
Total	155	147	145	116	138	144	147	102
Major consumer durables	174	165	164	126	153	160	167	107
Autos	195	180	189	127	195	184	205	125
Household	158	154	143	127	117	142	136	92
Other consumer durables	110	106	103	93	104	106	102	90
Construction contracts, value								
Total	n.a.	252.7	244.6	205.7	n.a.	293.5	295.7	224.9
Residential	n.a.	289.5	280.1	233.0	n.a.	320.0	332.2	236.4
All other	n.a.	228.3	221.0	187.6	n.a.	275.8	271.4	217.2
Employment and payrolls								
Nonagricultural emp., total	113.6	113.1	112.5	109.8	113.1	113.1	111.8	109.4
Manufacturing prod. workers								
Employment, total	106.8	106.7	105.8	99.7	105.5	105.8	104.1	98.5
Durable	114.9	114.4	113.1	104.6	113.3	114.3	112.8	103.0
Nondurable	97.3	97.7	97.1	94.1	96.3	95.8	94.0	93.1
Payrolls, total	--	--	--	--	150.9	152.1	150.1	131.9
Freight carloadings	95	94	96	82	99	98	98	86
Department store sales, value	e123	116	117	111	e 97	109	115	88
Department store stocks, value	n.a.	p128	124	124	n.a.	p122	128	116

Note: Construction contract indexes based on 3-month moving averages, centered at second month, of F. W. Dodge data for 37 Eastern States. Employment and payrolls indexes are compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

e--Estimated

p--Preliminary

n.a.--Not available

**INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION**  
(1947-49 average = 100)

	Seasonally adjusted				Unadjusted			
	1955			1954	1955			1954
	pJuly	June	May	July	pJuly	June	May	July
<b>DURABLE MANUFACTURES:</b>								
Primary metals	139	142	140	103	126	143	143	94
Metal fabricating	168	163	162	147	159	164	165	138
Fabricated metal products	138	135	134	121	133	135	134	116
Machinery	158	155	151	141	143	153	151	128
Nonelectrical	137	136	134	125	130	137	135	119
Electrical	199	194	183	173	167	184	181	145
Transportation equipment	204	194	199	170	203	200	209	165
Instruments	153	149	142	136	148	149	142	132
Clay, glass and lumber prod.	143	142	138	113	138	145	139	109
Stone, clay and glass prod.	156	153	149	131	153	155	149	123
Lumber and products	131	133	128	96	126	137	129	91
Furniture and miscellaneous	135	134	131	120	126	130	126	112
Furniture and fixtures	122	122	117	106	113	117	113	99
Miscellaneous manufactures	145	143	140	130	135	139	136	121
<b>NONDURABLE MANUFACTURES:</b>								
Textiles and apparel	111	112	113	98	97	108	110	86
Textile mill products	n.a.	108	109	95	n.a.	108	108	82
Apparel and allied products	n.a.	116	117	102	n.a.	108	113	91
Rubber and leather products	125	126	124	99	110	126	121	86
Rubber products	n.a.	149	147	97	n.a.	150	145	85
Leather and products	n.a.	107	105	100	n.a.	105	100	87
Paper and printing	138	138	137	126	127	137	137	116
Paper and allied products	n.a.	156	156	133	n.a.	156	153	120
Printing and publishing	127	127	125	121	119	126	126	113
Chemicals and petroleum prod.	162	160	158	141	153	157	155	133
Chemicals and allied prod.	n.a.	169	167	148	n.a.	164	164	138
Petroleum and coal products	136	136	134	122	136	136	131	122
Food, beverages and tobacco	109	109	110	105	113	112	105	108
Food and beverage mfrs.	n.a.	109	110	105	n.a.	112	104	109
Tobacco manufactures	n.a.	n.a.	109	101	n.a.	n.a.	109	92
<b>MINERALS:</b>								
Mineral fuels	124	123	121	112	120	119	120	108
Coal	87	86	81	70	77	74	77	57
Crude oil and natural gas	141	140	140	133	141	140	140	133
Metal, stone and earth min.	115	123	120	108	127	138	132	119

p--Preliminary

n.a.--Not available

**INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION**  
(1947-49 average = 100)

	Without seasonal adjustment				
	1955			1954	
	June	May	Apr.	June	May
Primary metals					
Ferrous metals	141	143	143	105	104
Pig iron	137	138	134	99	94
Steel	147	151	148	109	108
Carbon steel	144	148	145	111	108
Alloy steel	169	169	171	102	109
Castings and forgings	129	128	133	97	97
Nonferrous metals	150	144	148	122	120
Fabricated metal products					
Structural metal parts	136	136	132	126	125
Stampings and misc. metal products	128	131	129	114	116
Nonelectrical machinery					
Farm machinery	95	95	95	84	84
Industrial and commercial machinery	136	134	131	127	127
Machine tools and presses	162	157	154	157	161
Electrical machinery					
Electrical apparatus and parts	176	175	171	156	159
Transportation equipment					
Autos	184	205	223	143	146
Trucks	134	132	137	96	101
Aircraft and parts	466	469	472	472	472
Railroad cars	29	39	28	25	32
Stone, clay and glass products					
Glass and pottery products	136	131	132	115	117
Cement	n.a.	159	151	138	137
Lumber and products					
Lumber	122	116	115	106	117
Millwork and plywood	207	195	201	155	161
Textile mill products					
Cotton and synthetic fabrics	110	117	118	96	99
Cotton consumption	100	104	103	92	95
Synthetic fabrics	134	146	154	110	107
Wool textiles	86	83	79	70	68
Knit goods	113	108	108	106	105
Apparel and allied products					
Men's outerwear	107	119	118	95	108
Women's outerwear	114	116	129	104	105
Misc. apparel, etc.	107	103	103	98	97

n.a.--Not available

**INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION**  
(1947-49 average = 100)

	Without seasonal adjustment				
	1955			1954	
	June	May	Apr.	June	May
Rubber products					
Tires and tubes	146	135	128	119	111
Leather and products					
Leather	n.a.	92	95	89	90
Paper and allied products					
Wood pulp	175	171	169	153	148
Paper and board	145	143	140	129	125
Paperboard	157	151	147	136	132
Printing and publishing					
Newsprint consumption	131	135	134	119	125
Job printing and periodicals	123	122	122	120	119
Chemicals and allied products					
Industrial chemicals	184	182	182	152	150
Synthetic fibers	184	178	189	157	149
Paints	131	125	122	117	116
Petroleum and coal products					
Petroleum refining	142	135	136	131	130
Gasoline	153	146	144	141	140
Fuel oil	137	128	129	122	122
Coke	103	105	104	79	80
Food and beverage manufactures					
Food manufactures	108	102	100	106	100
Meat products	114	114	118	108	105
Dairy products	145	140	117	145	135
Canned and frozen foods	108	87	81	99	85
Grain mill products	108	104	102	114	106
Bakery products	99	97	94	98	96
Beverages	n.a.	113	107	124	113
Alcoholic beverages	n.a.	107	106	114	108
Beer and ale	n.a.	120	113	128	117
Coal					
Bituminous coal	78	83	77	65	65
Crude oil and natural gas					
Crude oil	127	128	132	125	124
Metal mining	141	131	101	120	108
Iron ore	179	152	79	152	126
Stone and earth minerals	134	133	128	127	125

Note.--Groups and subgroups include individual series not published separately.

n.a.--Not available

OUTPUT OF CONSUMER DURABLE GOODS  
(1947-49 average = 100)

	Seasonally adjusted				Unadjusted			
	1955			1954	1955			1954
	June	May	Apr.	June	June	May	Apr.	June
<b>MAJOR HOUSEHOLD GOODS:</b>								
Furniture and floor coverings	117	113	110	96	113	109	111	93
Furniture	122	118	115	102	118	114	113	98
Floor coverings <sup>1/</sup>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Appliances and heaters	152	146	145	110	154	145	150	112
Major appliances	156	153	152	111	160	156	162	114
Ranges	122	105	101	79	117	100	106	76
Refrigeration appliances	178	169	166	131	191	183	187	141
Laundry appliances	163	188	199	113	168	181	193	117
Heating apparatus	n.a.	125	121	107	n.a.	113	113	104
Radio and television sets	269	222	226	243	192	189	228	165
Radio sets	66	68	65	45	65	75	74	44
Television sets	658	516	532	621	434	408	521	397
<b>OTHER CONSUMER DURABLE GOODS:</b>								
Auto parts and tires	105	101	98	96	108	101	96	96
Misc. home and personal goods	108	104	102	96	104	102	102	93

<sup>1/</sup> Publication suspended pending revision of data back to 1952.

OUTPUT OF MAJOR HOUSEHOLD GOODS  
(1947-49 average = 100)

	Without seasonal adjustment				
	1955			1954	
	June	May	Apr.	June	May
Woven carpets	79	71	85	66	68
Gas ranges	93	86	94	70	71
Electric ranges	159	125	126	86	96
Refrigerators	121	117	125	78	85
Freezers	179	154	131	188	169
Washing machines	146	163	169	112	107
Driers and ironers	364	336	412	158	147
Vacuum cleaners	86	92	91	69	78
Furnaces	126	101	103	93	85
Water heaters	n.a.	147	140	134	125
Auto radios	166	200	201	96	112
Household radios	37	41	39	30	30
Table model TV	461	546	629	428	396
Console model TV	410	283	424	369	328

Note.--For description and back figures see Federal Reserve Bulletin for May 1954 pp.438-452, reprint available on request. Back figures, not in Bulletin, on individual indexes for major household goods, without seasonal adjustment, also available on request to Division of Research and Statistics.