

REC'D IN RECORDS SECTION  
 APR 17 1956

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

For immediate release, Monday, April 16, 1956

G.12.3

April 16, 1956

BUSINESS INDEXES  
 1947-49 average = 100

	Seasonally adjusted				Unadjusted			
	1955			1955	1956			1955
	pMar.	Feb.	Jan.	Mar.	pMar.	Feb.	Jan.	Mar.
<b>Industrial production</b>								
<b>Total</b>	142	143	143	135	145	144	143	133
<b>Manufactures</b>								
<b>Total</b>	143	144	145	136	146	146	144	140
<b>Durable</b>	157	158	160	150	161	161	160	154
<b>Non-durable</b>	129	129	129	123	132	131	128	125
<b>Minerals</b>	131	131	131	121	127	128	128	113
<b>Consumer durable goods</b>								
<b>Total output</b>	133	137	143	142	144	143	144	155
<b>Major consumer durables</b>	144	148	156	161	159	157	159	179
<b>Autos</b>	148	158	171	192	163	164	173	215
<b>Household</b>	143	142	145	136	158	154	150	151
<b>Other consumer durables</b>	109	111	113	100	109	109	109	99
<b>Construction contracts, value</b>								
<b>Total</b>	n.a.	306	300	260	n.a.	267	247	264
<b>Residential</b>	n.a.	318	290	291	n.a.	285	242	307
<b>All other</b>	n.a.	298	306	239	n.a.	255	250	235
<b>Employment and payrolls</b>								
<b>Nonagricultural emp., total</b>	114.8	114.9	115.0	111.5	113.8	113.3	113.4	110.2
<b>Manufacturing prod. workers</b>								
<b>Employment, total</b>	106.9	107.1	107.8	103.5	106.7	107.0	107.3	103.3
<b>Durable</b>	114.7	115.2	116.3	110.1	115.1	115.4	116.2	110.5
<b>Non-durable</b>	97.8	97.7	97.8	95.7	96.9	97.0	96.8	94.9
<b>Payrolls, total</b>	--	--	--	--	158.4	157.9	159.2	146.5
<b>Freight carloadings</b>	100	100	103	93	93	92	94	87
<b>Department store sales, value</b>	e118	p118	124	115	e107	p92	95	100
<b>Department store stocks, value</b>	n.a.	p138	137	124	n.a.	p131	122	127

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			
	1956			1955	1956			1955
	Mar.	Feb.	Jan.	Mar.	Mar.	Feb.	Jan.	Mar.
<b>DURABLE MANUFACTURES:</b>								
Primary metals	146	148	148	136	151	152	151	142
Metal fabricating	167	168	170	160	172	172	172	165
Fabricated metal products	134	134	136	129	135	134	135	130
Machinery	162	163	164	147	169	168	167	154
Nonelectrical	146	148	146	126	154	152	149	132
Electrical	192	192	197	190	198	200	201	195
Transportation equipment	197	201	205	200	202	204	206	209
Instruments	160	162	160	143	162	162	160	145
Clay, glass and lumber prod.	139	139	140	125	137	135	132	133
Stone, clay and glass prod.	153	155	154	143	155	150	153	140
Lumber and products	121	124	128	127	120	121	117	126
Furniture and miscellaneous	132	134	135	126	133	136	133	128
Furniture and fixtures	118	119	122	112	121	123	122	114
Miscellaneous manufactures	141	144	144	136	142	145	141	137
<b>NONDURABLE MANUFACTURES:</b>								
Textiles and apparel	110	111	111	107	118	119	113	115
Textile mill products	n.a.	109	108	104	n.a.	114	111	109
Apparel and allied products	n.a.	114	113	111	n.a.	124	117	123
Rubber and leather products	121	124	127	122	123	131	123	129
Rubber products	n.a.	141	149	140	n.a.	147	140	146
Leather and products	n.a.	110	108	105	n.a.	118	109	113
Paper and printing	141	140	141	134	145	141	138	137
Paper and allied products	n.a.	152	159	147	n.a.	162	157	152
Printing and publishing	130	129	130	125	132	128	126	128
Chemicals and petroleum prod.	166	166	165	151	170	170	163	157
Chemicals and allied prod.	n.a.	174	174	161	n.a.	180	177	166
Petroleum and coal products	141	142	142	134	140	142	143	133
Food, beverages and tobacco	113	112	111	107	105	102	102	100
Food and beverage mfrs.	n.a.	112	111	107	n.a.	102	102	100
Tobacco manufactures	n.a.	n.a.	109	107	n.a.	n.a.	107	105
<b>MINERALS:</b>								
Mineral fuels	131	131	132	121	131	131	133	121
Coal	86	88	87	72	86	88	91	71
Crude oil and natural gas	152	152	153	145	152	152	153	145
Metal, stone and earth min.	129	129	129	123	110	108	106	104

p--preliminary

n.a.--Not available

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION  
(1947-49 average = 100)

	Without seasonal adjustment				
	1955		1956		
	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Feb.	Jan.
Primary metals					
Ferrous metals	119	119	115	132	121
Pig iron	113	113	111	122	117
Steel	159	159	154	139	130
Carbon steel	153	153	147	134	125
Alloy steel	149	147	142	165	155
Castings and forgings	130	123	128	121	113
Nonferrous metals	160	160	153	149	143
Manufactured metal products					
Structural metal parts	139	140	144	129	127
Machinery and equip. metal products	138	131	147	126	124
Farm machinery	98	95	97	90	85
Industrial and commercial machinery	152	150	150	125	124
Machine tools and presses	195	170	190	149	143
Electrical machinery					
Electrical apparatus and parts	181	184	184	167	165
Transportation equipment					
autos	164	173	193	210	195
Trucks	125	113	122	87	93
Aircraft and parts	519	517	516	477	479
Railroad cars	47	40	36	25	20
Stone, clay and glass products					
Glass and pottery products	141	141	141	129	126
Cement	n. a.	126	136	115	119
Lumber and products					
Lumber	104	100	98	103	101
Millwork and plywood	201	189	173	206	193
Textile mill products					
Cotton and synthetic fabrics	122	119	110	116	114
Cotton consumption	112	110	101	106	105
Synthetic fabrics	139	135	131	139	132
Wool textiles	84	83	80	72	70
Knit goods	114	107	107	112	105
Apparel and allied products					
Men's outerwear	124	119	102	113	115
Women's outerwear	152	118	98	125	120
Misc. apparel, etc.	117	113	119	109	103

n. a.--Not available.

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

	Without seasonal adjustment				
	1956		1955		
	Feb.	Mar.	Dec.	Nov.	Jan.
<b>Rubber products</b>					
Tires and tubes	134	127	123	134	130
<b>Leather and products</b>					
Leather	n.a.	93	95	93	94
<b>Paper and allied products</b>					
Wood pulp	136	131	141	156	153
Paper and board	154	149	136	139	132
Paper board	163	159	144	145	136
<b>Printing and publishing</b>					
Newsprint consumption	127	117	126	121	114
Job printing and periodicals	129	129	133	129	122
<b>Chemicals and allied products</b>					
Industrial chemicals	202	200	197	177	169
Synthetic fibers	198	193	196	181	172
Paints	126	123	126	116	116
<b>Petroleum and coal products</b>					
Petroleum refining	151	154	159	144	142
Gasoline	154	153	161	147	146
Fuel oil	161	160	149	152	146
Coke	111	111	111	93	96
<b>Food and beverage manufactures</b>					
Food manufactures	104	106	109	99	102
Meat products	141	153	152	124	136
Dairy products	99	91	81	91	85
Canned and frozen foods	83	85	95	72	77
Grain mill products	93	100	100	102	103
Bakery products	95	95	95	95	94
Beverages	n.a.	87	91	85	84
Alcoholic beverages	n.a.	84	82	84	89
Beer and ale	n.a.	86	81	84	85
<b>Coal</b>					
Bituminous coal	94	95	97	82	81
<b>Crude oil and natural gas</b>					
Crude oil	139	138	137	131	130
<b>Metal mining</b>					
Iron ore	n.a.	42	44	39	36
<b>Stone and earth minerals</b>	127	124	129	113	115

**Notes.**--Groups and subgroups include individual series not published separately.

**n.a.**--Not available

OUTPUT OF CONSUMER DURABLE GOODS  
(1927-29 average = 100)

	Seasonally adjusted				Unadjusted			
	1956		1955		1954		1953	
	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Feb.	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Feb.
<b>MAJOR HOUSEHOLD GOODS:</b>								
Furniture and floor coverings	113	120	121	107	122	120	125	111
Furniture	122	121	125	113	124	124	130	115
Floor coverings	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Appliances and heaters	n.a.	150	143	127	n.a.	148	130	137
Major appliances	n.a.	151	152	122	n.a.	161	140	146
Range	n.a.	113	111	74	n.a.	115	99	101
Refrigeration appliances	n.a.	150	151	133	n.a.	157	130	152
Laundry appliances	221	223	237	111	252	235	222	207
Heating apparatus	n.a.	131	115	120	n.a.	109	77	102
Radio and television sets	194	207	216	226	233	233	224	272
Radio sets	66	72	111	63	72	72	95	74
Television sets	137	135	105	163	160	161	129	198
<b>OTHER DURABLE GOODS:</b>								
Auto parts and tires	106	113	112	96	102	107	104	92
Misc. home and personal goods	115	114	113	101	116	111	113	102

1/ Data after seasonal revision of data back to 1952.

OUTPUT OF MAJOR HOME HOLD GOODS  
(1927-29 average = 100)

	Without seasonal adjustment				
	1956			1955	
	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Feb.	Jan.
Seven circuits	63	83	81	73	74
Gas ranges	n.a.	105	93	91	71
Electric ranges	111	119	124	112	110
Refrigerators	115	116	120	107	108
Freezers	n.a.	143	101	155	117
Washers and dryers	201	166	174	173	141
Electric and gas	715	763	51	597	494
Vacuum cleaners	106	137	86	102	93
Stoves	112	131	90	89	84
Water heaters	n.a.	129	115	137	119
Auto radios	115	121	245	212	204
Household radios	19	11	55	36	37
Table model TV	374	314	377	373	378
Console model TV	516	599	353	625	663

Note.--For description and back figures see Federal Reserve Bulletin for May 1951, pp. 147-152, 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.

n.s.--Not available