

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

For immediate release, Friday, June 15, 1956

REC'D IN DIVISION 123

JUN 18 1956

3.12.3

June 15, 1956

BUSINESS INDEXES  
1947-49 average = 100

	Seasonally adjusted				Unadjusted			
	1956		1955		1956		1955	
	pMay	Apr.	Mar.	May	pMay	Apr.	Mar.	May
<b>Industrial production</b>								
<b>Total</b>	142	143	141	138	142	144	143	138
<b>Manufactures</b>								
<b>Total</b>	143	144	142	140	143	146	145	140
<b>Durable</b>	158	160	156	153	158	163	161	155
<b>Non-durable</b>	129	129	127	127	127	129	130	124
<b>Minerals</b>	129	129	130	121	130	129	127	122
<b>Consumer durable goods</b>								
<b>Total output</b>	126	132	132	145	126	141	143	147
<b>Major consumer durables</b>	133	142	143	163	134	154	157	167
<b>Autos</b>	119	142	148	190	128	162	163	205
<b>Household</b>	145	145	141	141	142	150	155	136
<b>Other consumer durables</b>	110	110	109	103	109	109	108	102
<b>Construction contracts, value</b>								
<b>Total</b>	n.a.	277	287	245	n.a.	319	291	296
<b>Residential</b>	n.a.	315	317	280	n.a.	370	334	332
<b>All other</b>	n.a.	252	267	221	n.a.	284	263	271
<b>Employment and payrolls</b>								
<b>Nonagricultural emp., total</b>	117.2	117.2	116.7	113.7	116.6	116.1	115.4	113.1
<b>Manufacturing prod. workers</b>								
<b>Employment, total</b>	106.5	107.2	106.4	105.6	105.0	106.0	106.1	104.1
<b>Durable</b>	113.9	115.0	113.8	113.0	113.7	114.9	114.2	112.7
<b>Non-durable</b>	97.7	98.0	97.7	96.9	94.8	95.6	96.6	94.3
<b>Payrolls, total</b>	--	--	--	--	155.5	158.2	157.9	150.3
<b>Freight carloadings</b>	98	99	100	96	100	97	93	98
<b>Department store sales, value</b>	e123	p122	122	117	e121	p113	111	116
<b>Department store stocks, value</b>	n.a.	p136	135	123	n.a.	p142	139	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
	May	Apr.	Mar.	May	May	Apr.	Mar.	May
<b>DURABLE MANUFACTURES:</b>								
Primary metals	143	145	145	140	146	151	152	143
Metal fabricating	168	171	166	163	169	174	172	165
Fabricated metal products	135	135	132	134	135	136	134	134
Machinery	169	171	162	153	167	172	168	151
Nonelectrical	150	151	147	134	151	154	154	135
Electrical	206	209	191	189	198	207	196	181
Transportation equipment	188	194	197	202	193	202	203	209
Instruments	165	163	160	142	165	165	161	142
Clay, glass and lumber products	140	139	137	137	142	141	135	139
Stone, clay and glass products	159	158	156	149	159	158	153	149
Lumber and products	123	121	121	125	127	126	119	129
Furniture and miscellaneous	135	134	132	132	130	132	134	127
Furniture and fixtures	121	121	120	117	116	119	122	113
Miscellaneous manufactures	145	142	141	142	140	141	142	137
<b>NONDURABLE MANUFACTURES:</b>								
Textiles and apparel	108	108	107	110	108	111	115	110
Textile mill products	n.a.	106	106	106	n.a.	108	110	108
Apparel and allied products	n.a.	109	108	114	n.a.	114	120	113
Rubber and leather products	116	118	119	125	112	120	125	121
Rubber products	n.a.	n.a.	136	147	n.a.	n.a.	141	146
Leather and products	n.a.	105	105	105	n.a.	105	112	100
Paper and printing	142	143	140	138	143	146	144	137
Paper and allied products	n.a.	160	157	156	n.a.	165	163	153
Printing and publishing	n.a.	131	129	126	n.a.	134	132	127
Chemicals and petroleum products	168	168	166	159	164	168	169	156
Chemicals and allied products	n.a.	177	174	168	n.a.	179	179	165
Petroleum and coal products	142	142	144	134	139	138	142	131
Food, beverages and tobacco	112	112	110	108	109	104	103	105
Food and beverage mfrs.	n.a.	112	111	108	n.a.	104	103	104
Tobacco manufactures	n.a.	n.a.	107	109	n.a.	n.a.	105	109
<b>MINERALS:</b>								
Mineral fuels	130	130	130	121	130	129	127	120
Coal	89	86	86	81	85	86	86	77
Crude oil and natural gas	149	150	151	139	149	150	151	139
Metal, stone and earth minerals	128	125	130	120	141	124	109	132

p--preliminary

n.a.--Not available

3.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION  
(1947-49 a base = 100)

	Without seasonal adjustment				
	1952			1953	
	Jan.	Mar.	Feb.	Apr.	Mar.
Primary metals					
Ferrous metals	149	149	149	143	153
pig iron	145	145	143	134	131
Steel	159	160	159	148	146
Carbon steel	155	155	153	145	143
Alloy steel	181	192	199	171	163
Castings and forgings	129	123	130	133	124
Nonferrous metals	158	161	160	148	155
Fabricated metal products					
Structural metal parts	140	138	138	132	131
Stampings and misc. metal products	125	126	129	129	129
Machinery					
Agricultural machinery	92	94	95	95	94
Industrial and commercial machinery	156	154	153	131	128
Machine tools and presses	197	196	195	154	152
Electrical machinery					
Electrical apparatus and parts	203	184	184	171	169
Transportation equipment					
Autos	162	163	164	223	215
Trucks	131	130	125	137	104
Aircraft and parts	517	513	521	472	479
Railroad cars	60	57	49	28	26
Stone, clay and glass products					
Glass and pottery products	113	140	141	132	131
Cement	n.a.	137	123	151	132
Lumber and products					
Lumber	112	105	104	115	109
Millwork and plywood	199	193	201	201	210
Textile mill products					
Cotton and synthetic fabrics	112	115	122	110	113
Cotton consumption	107	108	112	103	105
Synthetic fabrics	119	132	141	154	147
Wool textiles	89	85	84	79	74
Knit goods	110	110	114	108	110
Apparel and allied products					
Men's outerwear	119	118	124	118	113
Women's outerwear	115	127	132	129	143
Misc. apparel, etc.	107	114	117	103	112

n.a.--Not available

4.

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

	Without seasonal adjustment				
	1956			1955	
	Apr.	Mar.	Feb.	Apr.	Mar.
<b>Rubber products</b>					
Tires and tubes	n.a.	130	134	123	123
<b>Leather and products</b>					
Leather	n.a.	95	103	95	94
<b>Paper and allied products</b>					
Wood pulp	134	183	185	169	170
Paper and board	154	153	154	140	142
Paperboard	161	159	153	147	149
<b>Printing and publishing</b>					
Newsprint consumption	141	134	127	131	132
Job printing and periodicals	130	131	129	124	125
<b>Chemicals and allied products</b>					
Industrial chemicals	200	201	201	182	184
Synthetic fibers	182	191	194	189	196
Paints	125	125	125	122	119
<b>Petroleum and coal products</b>					
Petroleum refining	142	143	151	136	139
Gasoline	150	155	155	144	143
Fuel oil	140	149	158	129	142
Coke	110	111	111	104	102
<b>Food and beverage manufactures</b>					
Food manufactures	103	102	104	100	100
Meat products	131	136	140	118	122
Dairy products	121	109	99	117	104
Canned and frozen foods	85	82	83	71	74
Grain mill products	98	99	98	102	101
Bakery products	94	94	95	74	95
Beverages	n.a.	105	96	107	101
Alcoholic beverages	n.a.	105	94	106	100
Beer and ale	n.a.	103	92	113	101
<b>Coal</b>					
Bituminous coal	91	92	94	77	76
<b>Crude oil and natural gas</b>					
Crude oil	137	139	138	132	132
<b>Metal mining</b>					
Iron ore	n.a.	46	49	79	41
<b>Stone and earth minerals</b>					
	136	128	126	128	128

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			
	1956			1955	1956			1955
	Apr.	Mar.	Feb.	Apr.	Apr.	Mar.	Feb.	Apr.
<b>MAJOR HOUSEHOLD GOODS:</b>								
Furniture and floor coverings	116	117	119	110	117	121	123	111
Furniture	121	121	123	115	118	123	125	112
Floor coverings <sup>1/</sup>	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Appliances and heaters	n.a.	149	146	142	n.a.	168	156	152
Major appliances	160	151	150	149	178	183	169	165
Ranges	110	111	110	101	115	125	118	106
Refrigeration appliances	160	153	145	158	197	194	165	194
Laundry appliances	222	206	221	199	222	237	252	193
Heating apparatus	n.a.	139	133	121	n.a.	121	113	113
Radio and television sets	207	186	194	226	209	212	233	228
Radio sets	55	62	66	65	63	70	72	74
Television sets	496	423	439	532	466	499	540	521
<b>OTHER CONSUMER DURABLE GOODS:</b>								
Auto parts and tires	103	104	106	97	101	101	101	95
Misc. home and personal goods	115	112	115	102	115	115	116	102

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

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

	Without seasonal adjustment				
	1956			1955	
	Apr.	Mar.	Feb.	Apr.	Mar.
Woven carpets	89	91	93	85	86
Gas ranges	88	98	97	94	92
Electric ranges	160	170	154	126	139
Refrigerators	120	131	115	125	120
Freezers	192	159	140	176	161
Washing machines	196	199	200	169	169
Driers and ironers	443	571	715	412	485
Vacuum cleaners	131	140	106	91	121
Furnaces	103	112	102	103	103
Water heaters	n.a.	149	143	140	144
Auto radios	106	136	155	201	220
Household radios	51	52	49	39	42
Table model TV	623	545	533	629	678
Console model TV	363	458	546	424	537

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.

n.a.--Not available