

SEMI-ANNUAL ISSUE

TEXAS BUSINESS REVIEW

A MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN TEXAS

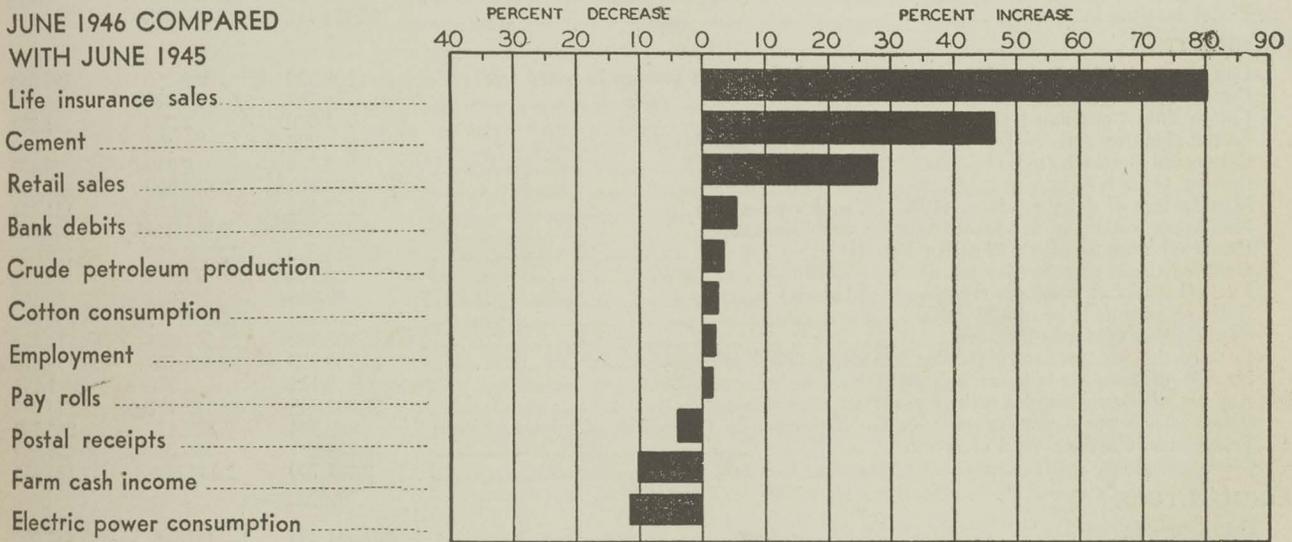
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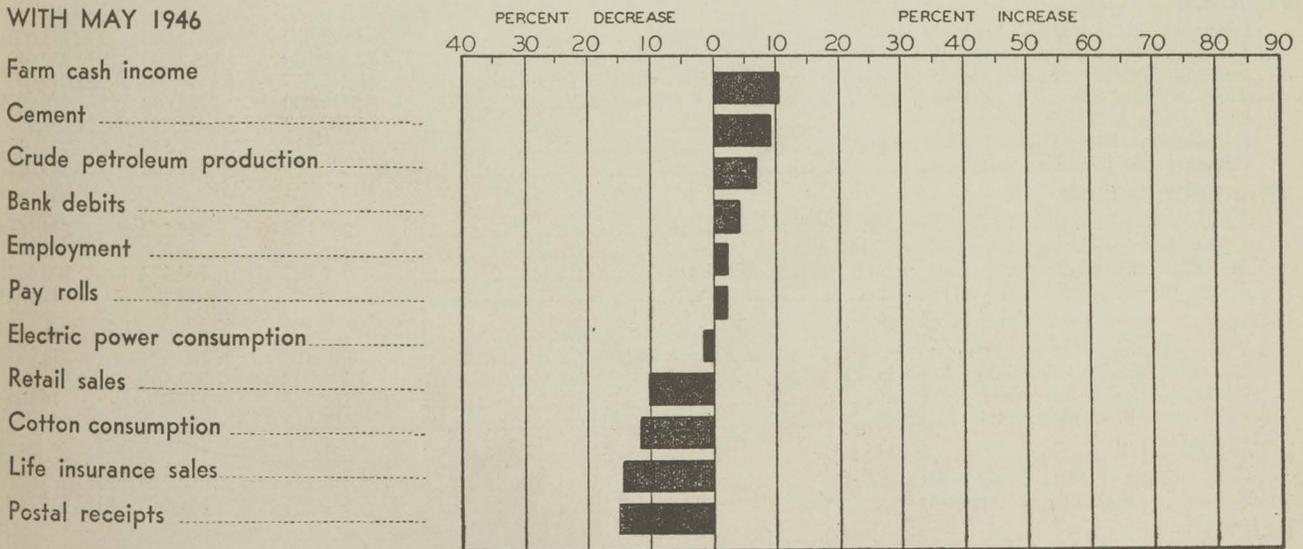
July 1946

HIGHLIGHTS OF TEXAS BUSINESS

JUNE 1946 COMPARED
WITH JUNE 1945



JUNE 1946 COMPARED
WITH MAY 1946



TEN CENTS PER COPY

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

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THE REPUBLIC NATIONAL BANK, DALLAS, TEXAS

FIGURES FOR THE MONTH

	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945
INDEX OF TEXAS BUSINESS ACTIVITY (1935-39=100)*.....	181.1	178.1	215.7
Index of department and apparel store sales (10).....	269.1	268.0	214.0
Index of miscellaneous freight carloadings in Southwestern District (20).....	147.7	143.1	181.8
Index of crude oil runs to stills (5).....	174.8	166.2	188.0
Index of electric power consumption (15).....	244.2	244.4	262.9
Index of employment (25).....	110.1	107.9	148.0
Index of pay rolls (25).....	188.1	184.6	281.0
TRADE			
Retail sales of 865 independent stores.....	\$26,797,093	\$29,848,586	\$20,946,492
Ratio of credit sales to net sales in department and apparel stores.....	47.9%	47.7%	40.6%
Ratio of collections to outstandings in department and apparel stores.....	64.1%	68.7%	66.7%
Postal receipts in 54 cities.....	\$2,431,712	\$2,898,528	\$2,560,118
PRODUCTION			
Lumber production in Southern pine mills (weekly per unit average in board feet).....	196,930	182,756	199,866
Cotton consumption (running bales).....	16,559	18,783	16,146
Cotton linters consumed (running bales).....	1,890	2,224	1,334
Cotton spinning activity (average spindle hours per spindle).....	383	402	360
Cottonseed crushed (tons).....	3,239	8,240	25,478
Cement (barrels).....	970,000	888,000	661,000
Manufacture of dairy products (1000 lbs. milk equivalent).....	97,482	95,697	131,334
Man-hours worked in 478 manufacturing establishments.....	3,012,567	2,991,943	4,309,380
Crude oil runs to stills (42-gallon barrels).....	43,813,000	43,257,000	45,770,000
Gasoline stocks at refineries (thousands of barrels).....	68,264	71,181	68,128
Fuel oil stocks at refineries (thousands of barrels).....	49,326	45,051	49,195
Building permits issued in 49 cities.....	\$19,216,762	\$18,252,917	\$6,059,786
Construction contracts awarded.....	\$38,955,302	\$24,507,453	\$8,274,262
Construction contracts awarded for residential building.....	\$8,930,903	\$6,801,600	\$1,073,878
Number of loans made by savings and loan associations.....	2,114	2,342	1,196
Amount of loans made by savings and loan associations.....	\$8,005,905	\$8,562,501	\$3,274,395
Industrial electric power consumption for 10 companies (thousands of kilowatt hours).....	229,394	222,474	283,557
Telephones in service (end of month).....	738,921	734,265	659,559
Crude petroleum production (daily average in barrels).....	2,251,700	2,114,800	2,180,450
AGRICULTURE			
Farm cash income.....	\$87,341,000	\$79,141,000	\$97,351,000
Shipments of livestock (carloads).....	9,138	11,577	9,945
Rail shipments of poultry (carloads).....	53	71	33
Rail shipments of eggs (shell equivalent).....	589	1,036	715
Interstate receipts of eggs at Texas stations (shell-equivalent).....	99	99	224
FINANCE			
Loans, reporting member banks in Dallas District (thousands).....	\$673,000	\$682,000	\$471,000
Loans and investments, reporting member banks in Dallas District (thousands).....	\$2,038,000	\$2,092,000	\$1,852,000
Demand deposits adjusted, reporting member banks in Dallas District (thousands).....	\$1,443,000	\$1,426,000	\$1,219,000
Time deposits, reporting member banks in Dallas District (thousands).....	\$310,000	\$304,000	\$249,000
Bank debits in 20 cities (thousands).....	\$2,529,139	\$2,426,744	\$2,402,851
Corporation charters issued (number).....	270	336	45
Ordinary life insurance sales.....	\$68,491,000	\$80,277,000	\$38,009,000
TRANSPORTATION			
Revenue freight loaded in Southwestern District (carloads).....	289,105	249,280	322,761
Export and coastal cars unloaded at Texas ports.....	16,218	9,500	12,254
Miscellaneous freight carloadings in Southwestern District.....	165,523	162,977	208,432
Air express shipments (number).....	20,185	23,608	12,536
LABOR			
Total manufacturing employment.....	305,100	299,600	378,700
Nonagricultural civilian labor force in 21 cities.....	1,310,512	1,303,651	1,331,457
Unemployment in 21 cities.....	112,537	118,006	16,136
Placements in employment in 21 cities.....	23,668	24,124	46,417
GOVERNMENT			
Cash receipts of State Comptroller.....	\$23,413,731	\$30,260,718	\$17,795,521
Federal internal revenue collections.....	\$101,561,334	\$52,166,567	\$125,017,682
PRICES			
Index of consumers' prices in Houston (1935-39=100).....	130.5	128.0	126.7
Index of food prices in Houston (1935-39=100).....	145.0	139.7	139.5

*The composite index is made up of the indexes listed. All component indexes except employment and pay rolls are adjusted for seasonal variation, and all indexes are based on the average month of the years 1935-39. Numbers in parentheses following the component indexes indicate the weight of each index in the composite.

The Business Situation in Texas

Business activity in Texas rose in June according to the *index of business activity* prepared by the Bureau of Business Research. The rise for the month was 1.7% and was in sharp contrast to the downward break of 3.4% in the index between April and May of this year and to the 4.9% decrease between May and June of last year. Furthermore, the upward movement in the index this past month narrowed the gap between last year's wartime activity and the present reconversion level, the June 1946 index being only 16.0% below the June 1945 index. Compared to the prewar (1935-39) period, Texas business activity last month was up 81.1%.

Since the first shock of reconversion in the summer and early fall of 1945, business activity in Texas has been alternately up and down from month to month. No trend is apparent in the present situation. Business activity in June stood approximately at the January level. There was no change in the index between January and February. In March business was down, in April up, in May down, and in June it was up again. For the past eight months changes in the index have been confined to a range of 6%.

The present business situation in Texas is unique. There have been other periods in which business was comparatively stable but none in which such strong forces have been tugging at business from opposite directions. Sooner or later business activity in Texas is bound to begin a movement in one direction, but whether that direction will be upward or downward cannot be definitely determined from developments at the present time.

Five of the six *component indexes* of business activity advanced in June over May. The largest gain (5.2%) was in the seasonally-adjusted index of *crude oil runs to stills*. Other increases were more modest. After seasonal adjustment the indexes of *miscellaneous freight carloadings* in the Southwestern District and *department and apparel store sales* were up 3.2% and 0.4%, respectively. *Employment* rose 2.0% and *pay rolls* 1.9%,

according to their respective indexes. The seasonally-adjusted index of *electric power consumption* was off very slightly (0.1%) for the month.

Last year between May and June four of the six component indexes declined and two advanced. Both gains and losses were larger than they were this year. The indexes of miscellaneous freight carloadings and electric power consumption dropped 8.3% and 4.1%, respectively, after seasonal adjustment. Employment fell 5.4% and pay rolls 8.3% with the curtailment of war production. However, after adjustment for seasonal factors the index of crude oil runs to stills went up 5.7% and the sales index for department and apparel stores rose 2.2%.

During the past 12 months only crude oil runs to stills have remained close to their former level. They were 1.7% lower in June 1946 than in June 1945. All of the other major indexes of business activity except department and apparel store sales were down from their levels of last year, electric power consumption by 7.1%, miscellaneous freight carloadings by 18.8%, employment by 25.7%, and pay rolls by 33.1%. Rising prices and the reappearance of more merchandise lie back of the 25.7% jump in the sales of department and apparel stores over June of last year.

Measured in terms of the prewar years 1935-39, employment last month was up 10.1%, miscellaneous freight carloadings 47.7%, crude oil runs to stills 74.8%, pay rolls 88.1%, electric power consumption 144.2%, and department and apparel store sales 169.1%.

An analysis of these changes in the major business indexes for the State is revealing. At the present time business activity is much more stable than it was a year ago. The upward movement in business last month was general, but the end of the war brought a downturn in most lines of Texas business not directly affected by inflation. Compared to the years before the war, the Texas business situation in June was very good. Employment was still up and pay rolls were high. Retail



trade was excellent and production was holding up well. Although no one believed the situation was perfect, it was clear that by most standards business in June 1946 was not bad.

When attention is turned from the principal indicators of general business activity to specific business indicators, further light is shed on the current business situation in the State.

Trade indicators continued to show a seasonal decline and some new factors appeared in the markets for consumers' goods. *Retail sales* in June were 10.2% less than in May, although they were 27.9% higher than in June of last year. *Postal receipts* likewise declined 15.2% in June and remained 4.0% below receipts in June 1945. Last year postal receipts were off 4.7% between May and June. *Credit sales* continued their rise in relation to total sales and *collections* declined in proportion to outstanding accounts despite the retention of wartime credit controls.

The *production* picture in Texas was definitely brighter in June than in May, although weaknesses appeared in several spots. Among the increases for the month were *lumber production* in southern pine mills (7.8%), *cement production* (9.2%), the *manufacture of dairy products* (1.9%), *crude oil runs to stills* (0.7%), the value of *building permits* (5.3%), *construction contracts awarded* (59.0%), *telephones in service* (0.6%), and *crude petroleum production* (6.5%). More general indicators of the improvement in production were the 0.7% gain in the *man-hours* worked in manufacturing establishments and the 3.1% rise in *industrial electric power consumption*.

Weaknesses appeared in *cotton consumption* (down 11.8%), *cotton linters consumed* (down 15.0%), *cottonseed crushed* (down 60.7%), and the *amount of loans made by savings and loan associations* (down 6.5%). *Gasoline stocks* at refineries were also off 4.1% for the month, but *fuel oil stocks* were up 9.5%.

Last year between May and June a number of production series declined which advanced this year. Included in this group were *lumber production* (down 2.0%), the *manufacture of dairy products* (down 10.6%), *crude oil runs to stills* (down 8.4%), the value of *building permits* (down 34.5%), and *construction contracts* (down 70.5%). Moreover, in some lines of production the May-to-June gains this year topped those of 1945. Examples of this situation were *cement production*, *telephones in service*, *crude petroleum production*, and *industrial electric power consumption*. The only exceptions to the generally improved situation in production were *crude oil runs to stills*, which rose less this summer than last, and *cotton consumption*, which fell more this year between May and June than it did between the same months of 1945.

When June 1945 is compared with June 1946, the cement production situation appears less favorable. Decreases were registered in *lumber production* (1.5%), *cottonseed crushings* (87.3%), *dairy products manufacturing* (25.8%), and *crude oil runs to stills* (4.3%), as well as in more general indicators such as *man-hours worked in manufacturing establishments* (30.1%) and *industrial electric power consumption* (19.1%).

Increases were prominent in the construction field for the 12-month interval: the value of *building permits* (217.1%), *construction contracts* (370.8%), and the amount of *loans made by savings and loan associations in the State* (144.5%). Other gains included *cotton consumption* (2.6%), *cotton linters consumed* (41.7%), *cement production* (46.7%), *telephones in service* (12.0%), and *crude petroleum production* (3.3%).

The bright spot in the June agricultural situation in Texas was the 10.4% rise in *farm cash income* over May. Other agricultural series prepared by the Bureau of Business Research turned downward: *shipments of livestock* (21.1%), *rail shipments of poultry* (25.4%), *rail shipments of eggs* (43.2%), and *interstate receipts of eggs* (55.8%). These changes were seasonal in part. Last year between May and June *farm cash income* rose 6.7%, *livestock shipments* dropped 31.0%, and *rail shipments of eggs* slumped 13.2%. *Shipments of poultry by rail*, however, went up 10.0% last year at this season. From June 1945 to June 1946 there was an increase in only one agricultural series carried by the Bureau—*rail shipments of poultry* jumped 60.6%. On the other hand, declines of 10.3% in *farm cash income*, 8.1% in *livestock shipments*, and 17.6% in *rail shipments of eggs* were recorded for the 12-month period. *Interstate receipts of eggs* were the same as in June a year ago.

Financial indicators of Texas business showed little change from May to June of this year. *Loans and loans*

THIS MONTH

The Bureau of Business Research presents a special four-page section in the REVIEW in which Texas business during the first six months of 1946 is compared with business during the first six months of 1945. The analysis which accompanies the tables has been prepared by Dr. John R. Stockton, statistician for the Bureau and professor of business statistics in the College of Business Administration.

In this issue series on tomato canning, the sales and inventories of Texas wholesalers, exports and imports of general merchandise through the four Texas customs districts, exports and imports of merchandise by air, and telephones in service are introduced for the first time in the appropriate sections of the REVIEW. The Bureau is indebted to the Texas Cannery Association and the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for the series on tomato canning and telephones in service, respectively.

New members of the REVIEW's co-operating faculty staff this month are Mr. W. J. Hudson, assistant professor and Mr. Keith Davis, assistant professor, both in the College of Business Administration. Mr. Hudson has written the analysis of current developments in Texas transportation and Mr. Davis the sections on employment and pay rolls.

and investments of reporting member banks in the Dallas Federal Reserve District were down slightly, while *time deposits, demand deposits, and bank debits* were up somewhat. *Ordinary life insurance sales* showed a larger decrease (14.7%). The pace at which new enterprises have been incorporated in Texas was broken by a drop of 19.7% in the *number of corporation charters* issued. The situation in the financial field was quite different last year. Loans and loans and investments rose 16.3% and 10.2%, respectively, between May and June; bank debits went up 12.7%; life insurance sales declined 8.4%; and demand deposits fell 4.4%. Only the 2.5% rise in demand deposits matched this year's 2.0% gain. During the past 12 months, however, all of the Bureau's financial indicators for the State have shown strong gains.

There was an increased movement of goods by rail in and out of Texas during June as compared with May of this year. The advances appeared in *miscellaneous freight carloadings* (1.6%), *revenue freight loaded* (16.0%), and *export and coastal cars unloaded* (70.7%). Only *air express shipments* were down (14.5%) for the month. Last year between May and June miscellaneous freight carloadings decreased 9.4%. The end of the war brought shifts in the Texas transportation situation apparent in the June 1945-June 1946 comparison. Miscellaneous freight carloadings and revenue freight loaded declined 20.6% and 10.4%, respectively, while export and coastal cars unloaded and air express shipments registered respective gains of 32.3% and 61.0%.

The labor situation in Texas continued to improve in June over May. *Manufacturing employment* rose 1.8% and the *nonagricultural civilian labor force* increased 0.5%. *Unemployment and placements in employment* were down 4.6% and 1.9%, respectively. In 1945 between these same two months manufacturing employment decreased 3.5%, the nonagricultural civilian labor force dwindled (4.7%), unemployment was up 51.6%, and placements advanced 13.5%. Since the close of the war in Europe a year ago, manufacturing employment in Texas has fallen 19.4%, the nonagricultural civilian labor force has decreased 1.6%, unemployment has gone up 597.2%, and placements in employment have dropped 49.0%.

Cash receipts of the State Comptroller declined from \$30,260,718 in May to \$23,413,731 in June, while *federal internal revenue collections* in Texas rose from \$52,166,567 to \$101,561,334. The latter increase was seasonal and should be viewed in light of the 18.8% decrease in federal internal revenue collections between June 1945 and June 1946.

TRADE

Retail Trade

(The record of the movement of goods into the hands of the ultimate consumers is one of the fundamental series of statistical data on business activity, since for business to be sound the volume of retail trade must be good. It must be remembered, particularly in a period of rising prices, such as the present, that an increase in sales may result from a rise in prices as well as from an increase in the amount of business.)

Independent store sales for June remained substantially above sales of a year ago, with the sales of all types of stores 27.9% above June 1945. This percentage was not essentially different from the 31.0% increase shown by May 1946 sales over May 1945, but it was well below the 54.9% increase registered for April sales compared with the same month a year ago. Sales for June 1946 showed a seasonal decline of 10.2% from May 1946.

The extent of the rise in retail sales is again demonstrated by the fact that sales of every *kind of business* showed an increase over June of last year. Durable goods stores were still far ahead of other types of retail outlets, with motor vehicle dealers 74.8% ahead of June 1945, lumber and building material dealers 67.9%, furniture and household 47.2%, farm implement dealers 45.3%, and hardware stores 40.3%.

Department store sales were 20.3% ahead of June 1945, and general merchandise store sales 10.6%. Apparel store sales again increased less than the average for all types of stores, with a gain of 19.7%. Shoe store sales increased 45.3%, far more than the average for apparel stores, while women's specialty shops showed the smallest increase in the apparel group (9.7%). In May the sales of women's specialty shops increased only 3.7% over the same month a year ago. Jewelry store sales increased 20.9% over June of last year, compared with a 25.6% increase in May 1946 over May 1945.

RETAIL SALES OF INDEPENDENT STORES BY KINDS OF BUSINESS

Source: Bureau of Business Research in co-operation with the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

Business	Number of reporting establishments	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	865	+27.9	-10.2
APPAREL	117	+19.7	-11.9
Family clothing stores	26	+17.0	- 7.4
Men's and boys' clothing stores	40	+27.3	-10.5
Shoe stores	16	+45.3	- 0.8
Women's specialty shops	35	+ 9.7	-16.2
AUTOMOTIVE*	82	+72.7	-20.6
Motor vehicle dealers	73	+74.8	-23.9
COUNTRY GENERAL	74	+ 6.2	- 4.2
DEPARTMENT STORES	53	+20.3	-12.9
DRUG STORES	92	+13.6	- 3.7
GENERAL MERCHANDISE	28	+10.6	- 4.7
FILLING STATIONS	19	+16.3	-11.1
FLORISTS	20	+12.9	-30.9
FOOD*	109	+ 9.1	- 1.7
Grocery stores	29	+ 5.2	- 2.0
Grocery and meat stores	74	+10.0	- 1.6
FURNITURE AND HOUSEHOLD	70	+47.2	- 4.9
Furniture stores	65	+44.2	- 5.0
JEWELRY	23	+20.9	- 9.0
LUMBER, BUILDING MATERIALS, AND HARDWARE*	140	+58.9	+10.2
Farm implement dealers	17	+45.3	- 5.7
Hardware stores	46	+40.3	- 3.2
Lumber and building material dealers	77	+67.9	+18.1
RESTAURANTS	24	+ 9.4	+ 2.5
ALL OTHER STORES	10	+ 4.9	-17.4

*Total includes kinds of business other than the classifications listed.

RETAIL SALES OF INDEPENDENT STORES BY DISTRICTS

Source: Bureau of Business Research in co-operation with the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce

District	Number of reporting establishments	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	865	+27.9	-10.2
Northern High Plains (District 1-N)	54	+21.2	- 9.7
Southern High Plains (District 1-S)	25	+46.2	-14.9
Red Bed Plains (District 2)	78	+20.5	-10.6
Western Cross Timbers (District 3)	33	+13.9	- 9.9
Black and Grand Prairies (District 4)	205	+24.0	-15.2
East Texas Timbered Plains (District 5)	86	+24.5	- 8.0
Trans-Pecos (District 6)	27	+50.9	- 0.2
Edwards Plateau (District 7)	50	+27.9	- 5.9
Southern Texas Prairies (District 8)	147	+26.6	- 8.5
Coastal Prairies (District 9)	98	+29.5	- 8.7
Southern Texas Plains (District 10)	23	+24.0	- 5.0
Lower Rio Grande Valley (District 10-A)	39	+35.4	- 8.6

Food store sales increased 9.1% over June 1945, and restaurant sales increased 9.4%. Drug stores increased 13.6% over June 1945, the same percentage increase shown in May 1946 over May 1945.

The seasonal decline in June from May occurred in all kinds of business except restaurants and lumber and building material dealers. This decline from May was large for florists (30.9%) and small for food stores (1.7%). Other types of business registered declines between these two extremes. Filling station sales, which

RETAIL SALES OF INDEPENDENT STORES BY CITY-SIZE GROUPS AND CITIES

Source: Bureau of Business Research in co-operation with the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

City-size group and city	Number of reporting establishments	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	865	+27.9	-10.9
OVER 100,000 POPULATION	127	+25.8	-13.7
Dallas	26	+29.1	-16.5
Fort Worth	27	+17.7	-18.9
Houston	37	+30.5	-10.0
San Antonio	37	+24.0	-10.2
50,000-100,000 POPULATION	111	+40.1	- 3.8
Amarillo	20	+26.8	+ 0.7
Austin	14	+52.8	- 4.2
Beaumont	10	+14.6	- 5.5
Corpus Christi	22	+25.0	-12.4
El Paso	13	+53.8	+ 0.5
Galveston	10	+35.9	- 2.8
Waco	22	+28.0	- 7.4
2,500-50,000 POPULATION	440	+25.0	- 9.6
Abilene	13	+22.5	-12.3
Jacksonville	8	+26.4	- 0.2
Lubbock	15	+52.2	-14.2
Plainview	13	+12.7	-25.9
San Angelo	11	+31.7	- 7.1
Temple	17	+ 6.7	- 6.1
Tyler	10	+30.8	-11.9
Wichita Falls	12	+ 7.1	-14.4
Other	336	+23.9	- 9.1
UNDER 2,500 POPULATION	187	+17.4	- 5.7

usually increase in June, declined 11.1% in comparison with May 1946.

All districts of the State had sales increases over June 1945, these increases ranging from 50.9% in the Trans-Pecos (District 6) to 13.9% in the Western Cross Timbers (District 3). All districts showed the seasonal decline from May of this year. The decline in the Trans-Pecos was very small (0.2%), but for all other districts the decline was not greatly different from that for the State as a whole.

Every city in the State for which separate tabulations were made showed an increase over June 1945. The smallest increase was for Temple (6.7%), and the largest was for El Paso (53.8%). The four largest cities continued to show consistent gains over last year, with an average increase of 25.8%. Houston (30.5%) and Dallas (29.1%) were slightly above the average for the group, while San Antonio (24.0%) and Fort Worth (17.7%) were below the group average.

The cities in the 50,000 to 100,000 population group showed the largest gains over the same month last year, with an increase of 40.1%. Sales in cities of the 2,500 to 50,000 population group increased 25.0%, while sales in towns of less than 2,500 population increased only 17.4%.

CREDIT RATIOS IN DEPARTMENT AND APPAREL STORES (in percent)

Classification	Number of reporting stores	Ratio of credit sales to net sales*		Ratio of collections to outstandings†		Ratio of credit salaries to credit sales‡	
		June 1946	June 1945	June 1946	June 1945	June 1946	June 1945
ALL STORES	55	47.9	40.6	64.1	66.7	1.3	1.4
STORES GROUPED BY CITIES							
Austin	6	41.1	37.4	73.1	71.5	1.7	1.5
Bryan	3	41.0	35.5	57.2	64.8	2.9	2.4
Dallas	6	55.9	47.4	71.4	71.3	0.9	1.2
El Paso	3	44.3	37.9	54.2	60.3	1.4	1.1
Fort Worth	4	50.4	40.6	68.1	67.7	1.3	1.4
Houston	7	47.7	40.1	59.9	65.0	1.7	1.7
San Antonio	5	42.9	36.6	58.1	65.4	1.3	1.3
Waco	4	51.2	44.4	61.1	59.8	1.2	1.6
Other	17	45.3	39.5	68.2	69.2	1.2	1.3
STORES GROUPED BY TYPE OF STORE							
Department stores (annual sales over \$500,000)							
	15	50.3	42.6	63.0	66.5	1.3	1.3
Department stores (annual sales under \$500,000)							
	8	46.3	39.5	65.6	63.4	1.2	1.4
Dry goods - apparel stores							
	4	35.7	35.2	71.5	71.2	2.2	1.9
Women's specialty shops							
	16	41.5	34.3	64.5	67.1	1.1	1.3
Men's clothing stores							
	12	44.5	38.6	69.9	68.7	1.2	1.6
STORES GROUPED BY VOLUME OF NET SALES (1945)							
Over \$2,500,000	17	46.4	41.2	62.2	65.6	1.3	1.3
\$1,000,000-\$2,500,000	10	41.5	37.0	67.2	68.7	1.3	1.5
\$500,000-\$1,000,000	15	37.7	33.3	67.8	67.8	1.3	1.3
Less than \$500,000	13	30.1	26.9	64.9	62.7	3.2	3.5

*Credit sales divided by net sales.

†Collections during the month divided by the total accounts unpaid on the first of the month.

‡Salaries of the credit department divided by credit sales.

June sales were below May sales for every city except Amarillo and El Paso, and in these two the increases were less than one percent, 0.7% and 0.5%, respectively.

The index of department and apparel store sales compiled by the Bureau increased 25.6% over June 1945, and 4.3% over May 1946. This index is adjusted for seasonal variation, which means that the 4.3% rise in June over May was due to factors other than seasonal.

The ratio of credit sales to net sales was 47.9% for June 1946 compared with a ratio of 40.6% for June 1945, and 47.7% for May 1946. The ratio of collections to total accounts unpaid on the first of the month

was 64.1% for June 1946, 66.7% for June 1945, and 68.7% for May 1946. The ratio of credit salaries to credit sales decreased slightly from 1.4% in June 1945 to 1.3% in June 1946. The ratio for last month (May 1946) was 1.1%.

Dallas and Waco were again highest in the ratio of credit sales to net sales, 55.9% and 51.2%, respectively. Both of these ratios were slightly higher than the ratios for last month, when they were 54.8% and 50.8%. In both cities the ratios for June 1946 were considerably higher than for June 1945. The June 1945 ratio for Dallas was 47.4% and for Waco 44.4%. The ratio of collections to accounts outstanding at the first of the month was highest in Austin with 73.1%. The lowest ratio was for El Paso, where the ratio was 54.2%.

Gasoline sales for May 1946 increased 26.0% over May 1945, according to the report of tax collections by the State Comptroller. Sales for May 1946 increased 6.0% over April 1946. Total sales, exclusive of government sales, amounted to 158,611,482 gallons in May 1946 and 149,682,448 gallons in April 1946. Government sales for May 1946 were 39,549,457 gallons and for May 1945 were 309,692,967. April 1946 government sales were 58,871,300 gallons.

Postal receipts in 53 Texas cities showed a decrease of 5.0% from June 1945, and a decrease of 16.1% from May 1946. Receipts were above June of last year in seven cities, with the largest gain in Corsicana (17.3%). Of the 46 cities showing decreases, 14 showed decreases of more than 25%. For May 1946 there were 46 cities showing decreases, but only 11 declined more than 25%. For both May and June Gainesville showed the greatest decline in receipts.

Wholesale Trade

(Wholesale sales represent movement of goods to retailers, and when compared with the changes in retail sales indicate whether stocks in the hands of retailers are being maintained at a constant level or are being allowed to increase or decrease. The information on inventories of wholesalers gives an indication of the availability of goods to retailers, which in this period of shortages is a significant factor in the business situation.)

Wholesale sales for May 1946 increased 27% over May 1945, according to reports from 106 establishments reporting to the Bureau of the Census. Every line of business increased; automotive supplies 66%, tobacco

POSTAL RECEIPTS

City	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	\$2,431,712	\$2,898,528	\$2,560,118	- 5.0	-16.1
Abilene	25,949	27,416	28,257	- 8.2	- 5.4
Amarillo	55,416	57,614	61,175	- 9.4	- 3.8
Austin	112,456	118,828	106,054	+ 6.0	- 5.4
Beaumont	45,832	46,527	45,416	+ 0.9	- 1.5
Big Spring	7,298	11,222	12,952	-43.7	-35.0
Brownsville	10,439	10,133	11,105	- 6.0	+ 3.0
Brownwood	9,996	11,955	18,832	-46.9	-16.4
Bryan	8,010	8,405	10,102	-20.7	- 4.7
Childress	3,053	3,936	6,771	-54.9	-22.4
Cleburne	4,568	5,250	6,393	-28.5	-13.0
Coleman	3,368	4,080	3,859	-12.7	-17.5
Corpus Christi	61,784	63,691	74,445	-17.0	- 3.0
Corsicana	12,272	8,274	10,466	+17.3	+48.3
Dallas	609,135	647,573	569,069	+ 7.0	- 5.9
Del Rio	4,432	4,381	6,820	-35.0	+ 1.2
Denison	8,555	9,385	10,498	-18.5	- 8.9
Denton	9,163	11,000	10,857	-15.6	-16.7
Edinburg	5,274	5,135	5,165	+ 2.1	+ 2.7
El Paso	86,319	95,591	92,382	- 7.1	- 9.7
Fort Worth	250,052	275,319	254,725	- 1.8	- 9.2
Gainesville	4,880	4,984	12,905	-62.2	- 2.1
Galveston	50,872	52,727	52,059	- 2.3	- 3.5
Gladewater	3,612	3,849	4,588	-21.3	- 6.2
Graham	2,997	3,337	3,491	-14.2	-10.2
Greenville	10,117	8,946	10,748	- 5.9	+13.1
Harlingen	10,472	10,455	15,186	-31.0	+ 0.2
Houston	417,304	424,998	410,144	+ 1.7	- 1.8
Jacksonville	5,842	6,652	5,796	+ 0.8	-12.2
Kenedy	1,670	1,786	2,032	-17.8	- 6.5
Kerrville	5,032	4,381	5,309	- 5.2	+14.9
Laredo	15,104	14,506	22,619	-33.2	+ 4.1
Longview	11,749	12,884	15,311	-23.3	- 8.8
Lubbock	28,554	32,216	32,747	-12.8	-11.4
Lufkin	7,116	7,026	7,725	- 7.9	+ 1.3
McAllen	9,085	8,727	8,083	+12.4	+ 4.1
Marshall	8,600	10,496	11,533	-25.4	-18.1
Midland	10,377	12,429	14,212	+147.5	+183.0
Orange	12,174	12,819	15,454	-21.2	- 5.0
Palestine	7,058	6,299	8,745	-19.3	+12.0
Paris	8,175	9,961	20,736	-60.6	-17.9
Plainview	5,976	6,372	6,642	-10.0	- 6.2
Port Arthur	22,669	22,994	25,354	-10.6	- 1.4
San Angelo	23,118	23,729	27,160	-14.9	- 2.6
San Antonio	232,031	257,553	254,586	- 8.9	- 9.9
Seguin	3,923	4,323	4,556	-13.9	- 9.4
Sherman	11,222	11,260	12,927	-13.2	- 0.3
Temple	10,483	12,537	16,642	-37.0	-16.4
Texarkana	27,337	23,865	23,130	- 2.7	+14.8
Texas City	6,445	6,869	8,140	-20.8	- 6.2
Tyler	21,215	25,518	29,463	-28.0	-16.9
Vernon	5,130	5,551	7,298	-29.7	- 7.6
Victoria	7,597	8,610	13,959	-45.6	-11.8
Waco	53,240	57,250	54,687	- 2.7	- 7.0
Wichita Falls	37,115	42,299	49,308	-24.7	-12.3

WHOLESALESALES

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

Business	Number of reporting firms	Percent change	
		May 1946 from May 1945	May 1946 from Apr. 1946
TOTAL	106	+27	+ 3
Automotive supplies	10	+66	+ 4
Drugs and sundries, excluding liquor	10	+24	- 1
Electrical goods	11	+46	+ 8
Groceries, full line	28	+17	+ 4
Wines and liquor*	8	+21	+ 9
General hardware	11	+38	+ 2
Tobacco and its products	5	+51	0
Machinery, equipment and supplies	6	+ 6	-24
All other	17	+38	+ 8

*Chiefly of the wholesale drug trade.

51%, electrical goods 46%, general hardware 38%, drugs and sundries 24%, wines and liquors 21%, groceries 17%, and machinery, equipment, and supplies 6%. Total sales for May 1946 increased 3% over April 1946, and every line of business showed an increase except drugs and sundries (-1%) and machinery, equipment, and supplies (-24%).

Wholesalers' inventories increased in May 1946 by 9% over May 1945. Inventories of every kind of business except wines and liquors (-29%) increased. Tobacco inventories increased the largest percentage (66%) and groceries the least (3%). Inventories of all wholesale establishments for May 1946 decreased 6% from April 1946. Three lines of business decreased and five showed increases.

WHOLESALE INVENTORIES

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

Business	Percent change	
	May 1946 from May 1945	May 1946 from Apr. 1946
TOTAL	+ 9	- 6
Automotive supplies	+10	+ 5
Drugs and sundries (liquor excluded)	+10	- 7
Electrical goods	+23	+11
Groceries, full line	+ 3	- 6
Wines and liquors*	-29	-39
General hardware	+16	+ 2
Tobacco and its products	+66	+ 4
Machinery, equipment and supplies	+22	+ 8
All other	+25	+ 2

*Chiefly of the wholesale drug trade.

Foreign Trade

(Tonnage figures for export shipments from the principal ports of the State provide an accurate physical measure of the current volume of foreign export trade. Value figures for exports and imports, however, represent a more common measurement of foreign trade transactions.)

Export trade through Houston, Galveston, and Texas City recovered about half of its decrease from March to April during May. Tonnage in May was 491,436 for the three ports, an increase of 21.7% over the previous month. Houston exported 66,422 more tons of merchandise in May than in April, while Galveston's exports were up 66,422 tons. Exports from Texas City, however, decreased 33,108 tons.

All of the important items in Galveston's export trade except wheat went out in larger quantities in May than in April. The same situation prevailed at Houston, where the outstanding increase was in cotton exports, which jumped from 6,511 tons to 31,152 tons. Texas City's exports fell in every category, wheat exports dropping from 14,385 tons to 0, according to data supplied by the Galveston and Houston Maritime Associations.

Detailed figures for exports by products and ports are shown in the accompanying table.

There was a sharp (163.4%) rise in the dollar volume of exports from the four Texas customs districts between March 1945 and March 1946. Total value of the exports

EXPORTS

(in tons)

Source: Galveston and Houston Maritime Associations, Inc.

Port and product	May 1946	Apr. 1946	Percent change	
			May 1946 from Apr. 1946	
TOTAL	491,436	403,844	+ 21.7	
GALVESTON, TOTAL	311,516	245,094	+ 27.1	
Carbon black	1,916	532	+260.2	
Cotton	33,870	29,873	+ 13.4	
Flour	19,543	15,874	+ 23.1	
Lubricating oil	518	4,258	- 87.8	
Metals	2,131	3,222	- 33.9	
Rice	378	10,842	- 96.5	
Scrap iron		6,427	-100.0	
Sulphur	56,999	55,695	+ 2.3	
Wheat	60,649	64,588	- 6.1	
Other	135,512	53,783	+152.0	
HOUSTON, TOTAL	152,687	98,409	+ 55.2	
Carbon black	5,734	4,076	+ 40.7	
Cotton	31,152	6,511	+378.5	
Flour	4,133	8,597	- 51.9	
Livestock		517	-100.0	
Lubricating oil	9,505	5,088	+ 86.8	
Metals	12,029	4,242	+133.6	
Rice	3,637	3,917	- 7.2	
Scrap iron	5,320	4,384	+ 21.4	
Sulphur	2,526	4,166	- 39.4	
Wheat	1,982	3,761	- 47.3	
Other	72,536	53,150	+ 36.5	
TEXAS CITY, TOTAL	27,233	60,341	- 54.9	
Asphalt	6,504	10,497	- 38.0	
Carbon black		717	-100.0	
Potash	1,000	1,500	- 33.3	
Wheat		14,385	-100.0	
Other	19,729	33,242	- 40.7	

in March of this year was \$105,946,000, compared with \$40,221,000 a year earlier when the war was at its height. Between February and March 1945 Texas exports rose 7.2%, increases in the more important Galveston and Laredo districts offsetting decreases in the El Paso and Sabine districts. (In March the Galveston District led the country in the shipping weight of all exports.)

Imports of general merchandise into the four customs districts in Texas present a different picture. The value of imports for all four districts was only \$12,552,000 in March, up 13.9% over February but down 22.2% from March a year ago. All districts except the Sabine

IMPORTS OF GENERAL MERCHANDISE BY CUSTOMS DISTRICTS

(in thousands of dollars)

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

Customs district	Mar. 1946	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1945	Percent change	
				Mar. 1946 from Mar. 1945	Mar. 1946 from Feb. 1946
TOTAL	\$12,562	\$11,017	\$16,133	-22.2	+13.9
El Paso	2,105	1,994	1,887	+11.6	+ 5.6
Galveston	5,519	5,371	7,501	-26.4	+ 2.8
Laredo	4,818	3,539	6,585	-26.8	+36.1
Sabine	110	113	160	-31.2	- 2.7

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN MERCHANDISE

(in thousands of dollars)

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

Customs district	Mar. 1946	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1945	Percent change	
				Mar. 1946 from Mar. 1945	Mar. 1946 from Feb. 1946
TOTAL	\$105,946	\$ 98,810	\$ 40,221	+163.4	+ 7.2
El Paso	2,666	2,819	1,815	+ 46.9	- 5.4
Galveston	70,998	62,531	18,067	+293.0	+ 13.5
Laredo	22,765	20,587	17,371	+ 31.1	+ 10.6
Sabine	9,517	12,873	2,968	+220.7	- 26.1

District participated in the February-to-March upswing. For the 12-month comparison the El Paso District alone showed an increase.

Exports of merchandise by air from Texas in March totaled \$2,224,735, up 62.4% from the \$1,369,590 exported in February. El Paso exports by air were off for the month, but Galveston and Laredo showed substantial gains.

Imports of general merchandise into Texas by air during March were \$362,004 compared with \$201,544 in February. The Galveston District handled well over half of the incoming March traffic and the Laredo District most of the remainder. Increases in imports by air between February and March of this year were registered by the Galveston and El Paso districts; the Laredo District showed a decline of 24.6% in air imports.

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE BY AIR

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

District and port	Mar. 1946	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1946 from Feb. 1946	Percent change	
				Mar. 1946 from Feb. 1946	Mar. 1946 from Feb. 1946
TOTAL	\$2,224,735	\$1,369,590	+ 62.4		
Galveston	528,957	188,639	+180.4		
Dallas		2,131			
Fort Worth	528,957	186,508	+183.6		
Laredo	1,643,408	1,112,828	+ 47.7		
Brownsville	1,337,678	839,903	+ 59.3		
Laredo	68,482	24,124	+183.9		
San Antonio	237,248	248,801	- 4.6		
El Paso	52,370	68,123	- 23.1		
El Paso	52,370	68,123	- 23.1		

IMPORTS OF GENERAL MERCHANDISE BY AIR

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

District and port of unloading	Mar. 1946	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1946 from Feb. 1946	Percent change	
				Mar. 1946 from Feb. 1946	Mar. 1946 from Feb. 1946
TOTAL	\$362,004	\$201,554	+ 79.6		
Galveston	210,253	36,983	+468.5		
Dallas	164,420	22,487	+631.2		
Fort Worth	45,833	14,496	+216.2		
Laredo	111,574	147,996	- 24.6		
Brownsville	43,831	88,436	- 50.4		
Laredo	2,252	3,851	- 41.5		
San Antonio	65,491	55,709	+ 17.6		
El Paso	40,177	16,565	+142.5		
El Paso	40,177	16,565	+142.5		

PRODUCTION

Manufacturing

(The volume of manufacturing activity in any industrial area is a sensitive measure of the changes in business activity. The volume of durable goods manufactured tends to fluctuate more violently than the volume of nondurable goods such as foods, and may serve to indicate changes in the business situation at an early date. Since many manufacturing industries vary regularly with the seasons, this factor must be taken into consideration in interpreting the changes from month to month.)

The average weekly production of lumber per unit of mills reporting to the Southern Pine Association, as well as the average weekly shipments per unit for June 1946 were somewhat above the corresponding figures for May 1946. However, the figures for both items were slightly below the corresponding figures for June 1945. Average unfilled orders per unit at the end of June 1946 were 6.0% below those for May 1946 and 30.0% below those for June 1945.

The index of lumber production in southern pine mills stood at 68.5% of the 1935-39 average, after adjustment for seasonal variation, 7.8% higher than in May 1946, but 1.5% under its June 1945 level.

LUMBER PRODUCTION IN SOUTHERN PINE MILLS

(in board feet)

Source: Southern Pine Association

Item	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Average weekly production per unit	196,930	182,756	199,866	- 1.5	+ 7.8
Average weekly shipments per unit	203,988	197,191	206,139	- 1.0	+ 3.4
Average unfilled orders per unit, end of month	1,051,899	1,119,132	1,502,443	-30.0	- 6.0

Cotton consumption in Texas for June 1946 was 11.8% below the figure for May 1946, and consumption of cotton linters registered a decrease of 15.0% from the May 1946 figure. Whereas cotton consumption was only 2.6% greater in June 1946 than in June 1945, consumption of cotton linters jumped 41.7% in the same period.

CONSUMPTION OF COTTON AND COTTON LINTERS

(in running bales)

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

Place	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Cotton	16,559	18,783	16,146	+ 2.6	-11.8
Linters	1,890	2,224	1,334	+41.7	-15.0

Cottonseed received at mills in Texas for June 1946 was more than 10 times as great as the figure for May 1946. The amount of cottonseed crushed during June 1946 in Texas was 60.7% below the figure for May 1946 and 87.3% below the figure for June 1945. Stocks

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at the end of June 1946 were 14.9% below those at the end of May 1946 and 83.1% below their level at the end of June 1945.

COTTONSEED PRODUCTION

(in tons)

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

Item	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Received at mills...	1,206	112	7,309	-83.5	+976.8
Crushed	3,239	8,240	25,478	-87.3	-60.7
Stocks at end of month	11,627	13,660	68,832	-83.1	-14.9

Cotton spinning activity in Texas was curtailed in June 1946 as compared with May. Only 227,380 spindles were active in June, 5.5% less than in May, and average spindle hours were down 4.7%. There was no change in the number of spinning spindles in place at the end of June from one month earlier. Whereas fewer spindles were in use in June 1946 than in June 1945, the average hours per spindle increased 6.4%.

COTTON SPINNING ACTIVITY

Source: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce

Place and item	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Spinning spindles in place*	242,392	242,392	239,352	+1.3	0.0
Spindles active	227,380	240,640	233,940	-2.8	-5.5
Average spindle hours	383	402	360	+6.4	-4.7

*End of the month.

Wheat grindings and flour production in Texas in May 1946 were considerably below their respective May 1945 levels, according to data supplied by the Bureau of the Census, United States Department of Commerce. Only 2,754,000 bushels of wheat were ground in May 1946, or 31.3% less than a year earlier, and wheat flour production fell 24.0%. Between April and May this year wheat grindings dropped 1.3% while flour production rose 1.2%. In comparison, the amount of wheat ground in May 1945 rose 13.3% from April 1945,

and at the same time wheat flour output was lowered by 12.3%.

WHEAT GRINDINGS AND FLOUR PRODUCTION

Source: Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce

Item	Unit	May 1946	Apr. 1946	May 1945	Percent change	
					May 1946 from May 1945	May 1946 from Apr. 1946
Wheat ground	1,000 bu.	2,754	2,790	4,007	-31.3	-1.3
Wheat flour	1,000 sks.	1,296	1,281	1,706	-24.0	+1.2

Cement production in Texas for June 1946 was 9.2% above the figure for May 1946 and 46.7% above the June 1945 figure. Cement shipments in Texas for June 1946 were 5.7% above those for May 1946 and 33.6% above those for June 1945. Stocks at the end of June 1946 were slightly below those for the end of May 1946 and were 42.1% below those at the end of June 1945.

When adjustments are made for seasonal variation, cement production was 15.0% higher in June 1946 than in the previous month, and the *index* was 84.7% above the 1935-39 average. Compared with June 1945 the index was 46.8% higher in June 1946.

CEMENT PRODUCTION

(in thousands of barrels)

Source: Bureau of Mines, U. S. Department of Interior

Item	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Production	970	888	661	+46.7	+9.2
Shipments	975	922	730	+33.6	+5.7
Stocks	438	443	756	-42.1	-1.1

The *index of crude oil runs to stills*, based on the average month of 1935-39 and adjusted for seasonal variation, was at 174.8 in June 1946, up 5.2% from May 1946, but 1.7% under the June 1945 index.

Refinery stocks of gasoline in Texas at the end of June 1946 were 4.1% below the figure for May 1946;

REFINERY STOCKS*

(in thousands of barrels)

Source: *The Oil and Gas Journal*

Section and item	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Present change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TEXAS					
Gasoline	68,264	71,181	68,128	+0.2	-4.1
Distillate	25,027	23,051	23,452	+6.7	+8.6
Residual	24,299	22,000	25,743	-5.6	+10.5
TEXAS GULF COAST					
Gasoline	56,341	59,141	56,371	-0.1	-4.7
Distillate	23,620	21,792	21,737	+8.7	+8.4
Residual	21,548	19,248	22,119	-2.6	+11.9
INLAND TEXAS					
Gasoline	11,923	12,040	11,757	+1.4	-1.0
Distillate	1,407	1,259	1,715	-18.0	+11.8
Residual	2,751	2,752	3,624	-24.1	-0.03

*Figures shown for week ending nearest last day of month.

distillate and residual stocks, however, were higher than in May 1946.

The total milk equivalent consumed in the *manufacture of dairy products* in Texas during June 1946 was 1.9% above the May 1946 figure, but was 25.8% below the figure for June 1945. Creamery butter production for June 1946 was slightly below the May 1946 figure but was 48.7% below the figure for June 1945. Ice cream production in June 1946 was 3.7% above the May 1946 figure, but 28.2% below that for June 1945. American cheese production for June 1946 was 6.7% below that for May 1946 and 49.1% below that for June 1945.

MANUFACTURE OF DAIRY PRODUCTS

Product	Unit	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
					June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL MILK EQUIVALENT*						
1,000 lbs.		97,482	95,697	131,334	-25.8	+ 1.9
Creamery butter	1,000 lbs.	1,719	1,728	3,352	-48.7	- 0.5
Ice cream†	1,000 gal.	3,354	3,234	2,616	+28.2	+ 3.7
American cheese	1,000 lbs.	888	952	1,745	-49.1	- 6.7

*Milk equivalent of dairy products was calculated from production data.

†Includes sherbets and ices.

Production of canned tomatoes and tomato products for the 1946 season in Texas was 40.0% above the figure for the 1945 season. Shipments were nearly five times as large as in the comparable 1945 season. Stocks on June 30, 1946 were 81.7% below those for June 30, 1945. Figures on canning of tomatoes, tomato puree, and tomato juice are given separately in the accompanying table.

TOMATO CANNING

(in cases of 24/2's)

Sources: Texas Cannery Association

Item	1946 Season*	1945 Season*	Percent change from 1945
TOTAL:			
Production	2,824,324	2,016,712	+ 40.0
Shipments	2,666,626	541,964	+392.0
Stocks on June 30	275,278	1,506,798	- 81.7
TOMATOES:			
Production	1,102,728	922,274	+ 19.6
Shipments	1,043,063	103,210	+910.6
Stocks on June 30	84,270	828,347	- 89.8
TOMATO PUREE:			
Production	800,633	700,644	+ 14.3
Shipments	797,960	324,513	+145.9
Stocks on June 30	95,271	398,898	- 76.1
TOMATO JUICE:			
Production	920,963	393,794	+133.9
Shipments	825,603	114,241	+622.7
Stocks on June 30	95,737	279,553	- 65.8

*January 1-June 30.

Construction

(Because of the accumulated deficiency of building in all sections of the State, data on the volume of construction work are an extremely important part of the business situation. Building permits or contracts awarded are generally used to measure building activity, but it must be kept in mind that data on both permits and contracts reflect the value of new work begun, rather than the volume of actual construction activity in a particular month.)

The value of *building permits* issued in 49 Texas cities amounted to \$19,216,762 in June 1946 for a gain of 5.3% over the previous month. In comparison with June 1945, permits this June were more than three times as great in the cities covered. Whereas the monthly comparison was spotted with gains and losses, nearly every city reported higher June 1946 permits than were issued in the same month last year.

The seasonally-adjusted *index of building permits* rose again in June, after its downturn in May from April.

BUILDING PERMITS

City	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945
TOTAL	\$19,216,762	\$18,252,917	\$ 6,059,786
Abilene	304,813	217,227	26,895
Amarillo	451,640	688,615	267,483
Austin	1,326,123	1,514,540	268,742
Beaumont	217,505	213,406	408,561
Big Spring	74,900	209,100	55,990
Berger	34,000	34,700	9,500
Brownsville	65,393	67,678	20,151
Brownwood	8,750	10,725	14,570
Bryan	190,839	186,030	24,820
Childress	14,665	40,931	7,710
Cleburne	28,570	43,625	13,272
Coleman	51,750	26,000	0
Corpus Christi	1,084,397	543,169	314,700
Corsicana	12,896	40,295	5,000
Dallas	2,710,248	2,554,210	1,412,628
Denison	80,009	100,912	44,826
Denton	142,150	111,950	7,525
Edinburg	24,300	21,350	6,700
El Paso	216,804	909,466	125,811
Fort Worth	1,564,919	2,781,073	492,936
Gainesville	37,935	18,960	15,350
Galveston	191,357	84,819	113,265
Graham	6,600	14,800	8,350
Harlingen	96,892	95,668	26,300
Houston	2,400,957	3,516,258	1,020,730
Jacksonville	10,000	41,450	6,850
Kenedy	25,000	3,050	0
Kerrville	71,530	61,174	15,004
Longview	101,960	67,675	13,005
Lubbock	3,776,308	237,771	318,235
Lufkin	109,550	136,975	33,790
McAllen	159,625	54,311	62,385
Marshall	134,377	68,475	19,695
Midland	135,800	340,225	144,140
New Braunfels	19,260	58,452	5,460
Palestine	58,675	39,900	10,550
Paris	87,200	65,525	18,430
Plainview	94,150	253,125	46,760
Port Arthur	261,920	111,284	44,744
San Antonio	1,748,291	1,521,436	417,857
Seguin	38,409	25,735	3,800
Sherman	73,259	49,688	20,600
Sweetwater	35,100	51,000	19,915
Texarkana	70,370	118,071	31,780
Texas City	45,960	71,940	7,165
Tyler	395,150	336,417	90,213
Victoria	38,000	37,400	4,650
Waco	404,866	459,786	82,815
Wichita Falls	153,090	96,545	53,423

At 317.3% of the 1935-39 base period, the index in June 1946 was up 31.0% over May 1946 and was more than three times as high as in June 1945.

Construction contracts for Texas during June 1946 registered a gain of 59.0% over the May 1946 figure and a gain of 370.8% over the June 1945 figure. Engineering construction contracts decreased 14.7% from May to June 1946: nonresidential contracts showed a gain of 157.8%, and residential contracts a gain of 31.3%.

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS

Source: Texas Contractor

Type of building	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	\$38,955,302	\$24,507,453	\$ 8,274,262	+370.8	+ 59.0
Engineering	7,728,705	9,058,208	758,976	+918.3	- 14.7
Nonresidential	22,295,694	8,647,645	2,547,617	+775.2	+157.8
Residential	8,930,903	6,801,600	1,073,878	+731.6	+ 31.3
War construction			3,893,791		

The amount of all loans made by savings and loan associations in Texas during June 1946 registered a decrease of 6.5% from the May 1946 figure. Loans in the several categories—construction, purchase, refinance, and recondition—all showed decreases. Fewer loans were made also in June than in May. Compared to June 1945 the total amount of loans was up 144.5% and total number 76.8%, indicating that the average size of loans increased substantially. All types of loans except recondition loans were higher in June 1946 than in June 1945, in both amount and number.

LOANS MADE BY SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS*

Source: Federal Home Loan Bank of Little Rock

Type	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL NUMBER	2,114	2,342	1,196	+ 76.8	- 9.7
Construction	449	474	131	+242.7	- 5.3
Purchase	1,257	1,405	774	+ 62.4	-10.5
Refinance	148	162	63	+134.9	- 8.7
Recondition	121	141	148	- 18.3	-14.2
Other	139	160	80	+ 73.8	-13.1
TOTAL AMOUNT	\$8,005,905	\$8,562,501	\$3,274,395	+144.5	- 6.5
Construction	1,804,845	1,939,112	392,280	+360.1	- 6.9
Purchase	5,211,330	5,597,220	2,357,204	+121.1	- 6.9
Refinance	520,464	558,117	183,637	+183.4	- 6.8
Recondition	143,633	174,115	169,642	- 15.3	-17.5
Other	325,633	293,937	171,632	+ 89.7	+10.8

*There are 119 insured associations in Texas.

Public Utilities

(The consumption of electric power by industrial concerns is a measure of the volume of industrial activity, since it may be assumed that the amount of power used will be directly related to

manufacturing volume. Residential and commercial power consumption shows a seasonal variation due to the changing amount of lighting needed.)

Texas electric power consumption in June 1946 showed a slight gain over that for May 1946. Consumption in commercial, industrial, and residential categories showed

ELECTRIC POWER CONSUMPTION*

(in thousands of kilowatt hours)

Use	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	456,523	448,631	515,278	-11.4	+ 1.8
Commercial	95,411	89,165	92,145	+ 3.5	+ 7.0
Industrial	229,394	222,474	283,557	-19.1	+ 3.1
Residential	66,378	65,884	60,755	+ 9.3	+ 0.7
Other	65,341	71,108	78,821	-17.1	- 8.1

*Prepared from reports of 10 electric power companies to the Bureau of Business Research.

TELEPHONES IN SERVICE*

Source: Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

City	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	738,921	734,265	659,599	+12.0	+ 0.6
Abilene	9,871	9,858	8,619	+14.5	+ 0.1
Amarillo	19,109	19,165	17,955	+ 6.4	- 0.3
Austin	31,708	31,411	28,257	+12.2	+ 0.9
Beaumont	21,050	20,887	19,178	+ 9.8	+ 0.8
Big Spring	3,468	3,418	3,371	+ 2.9	+ 1.5
Borger	3,649	3,588	2,512	+45.3	+ 1.7
Brownsville	3,548	3,498	3,304	+ 7.4	+ 1.4
Cleburne	2,710	2,654	2,255	+20.2	+ 2.1
Corpus Christi	23,801	24,374	21,474	+10.8	- 2.4
Corsicana	3,952	3,896	3,291	+20.1	+ 1.4
Dallas	140,214	140,648	125,811	+11.4	- 0.3
Denison	5,092	5,087	4,447	+14.5	+ 0.1
Edinburg	1,391	1,366	1,118	+24.4	+ 1.8
Fort Worth	70,396	69,400	62,277	+13.0	+ 1.4
Gainesville	2,633	2,635	2,988	-11.2	+ 0.7
Galveston	20,555	20,506	18,854	+ 9.0	+ 0.2
Harlingen	3,645	3,560	3,599	+ 1.3	+ 2.4
Houston	163,706	162,807	143,486	+14.1	+ 0.6
Kingsville	2,051	2,201	1,959	+ 4.7	- 6.8
Laredo	4,833	4,768	4,686	+ 3.1	+ 1.4
Longview	5,545	5,419	4,925	+12.6	+ 2.3
Lubbock	12,463	12,341	10,466	+19.1	+ 1.0
Marshall	4,259	4,215	3,636	+17.1	+ 1.0
McAllen	2,873	2,851	2,406	+19.4	+ 0.8
McKinney	2,222	2,144	1,905	+16.6	+ 3.6
Midland	4,188	4,092	3,621	+15.7	+ 2.3
Mineral Wells	2,759	2,745	2,955	- 6.6	+ 0.5
Orange	3,949	3,554	3,508	+12.6	+11.1
Pampa	4,463	4,421	3,734	+19.5	+ 1.0
Paris	4,733	4,714	4,739	+ 0.9	+ 1.5
Port Arthur	15,049	14,873	12,955	+16.2	+ 1.2
San Antonio	80,212	79,390	72,237	+11.0	+ 1.0
San Benito	1,315	1,307	1,093	+20.3	+ 0.6
Sweetwater	2,192	2,187	2,107	+ 4.0	+ 0.2
Temple	4,389	4,349	3,974	+10.4	+ 0.9
Tyler	9,719	9,571	8,303	+17.1	+ 1.5
Vernon	2,485	2,478	2,161	+15.0	+ 0.3
Victoria	4,131	4,003	4,188	- 1.4	+ 3.2
Waco	16,436	17,371	15,675	+ 4.9	- 5.4
Wichita Falls	17,727	16,513	15,530	+14.2	+ 7.4

*Figures shown for the end of the month.

gains. Power consumption was down 11.4% from June 1945, however, primarily as a result of the sharp (19.1%) drop in electric power consumption for industrial purposes.

Electric power consumption in June 1946 was 244.2% of the 1935-39 average, down 0.1% from May 1946 and 7.1% from June 1945, according to the seasonally-adjusted *index of electric power consumption* in Texas prepared by the Bureau of Business Research.

The *production of electric energy* for public use in Texas amounted to 611,235,000 kilowatt hours in May 1946, according to the Federal Power Commission. This was an increase of 8.1% over April 1946, but a decline of 6.8% from the May 1945 production.

The number of *telephones in service* in 40 Texas cities moved up very slightly (0.6%) between May and June 1946. In the past twelve months 4,296 telephones were installed, bringing the figure for the end of June 1946 up 12.0% from that of June 1945. The accompanying table shows the number of instruments in service at the end of May and June, this year and last, with percentage comparisons for each city. These figures were supplied by the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.

Natural Resources

(The production of crude petroleum is a major industry in Texas, and the changes in the volume of production have a direct effect upon the income produced in the State. Figures on the number of well completions by districts indicate the extent to which new sources of oil and gas are being developed and the areas of the State in which drilling operations are in process.)

The daily average production of *crude petroleum* in Texas for June 1946 showed an increase of 6.5% over the May 1946 figure. The output for June 1946 was also 3.3% above the figure for June 1945.

The *index of crude petroleum production* in Texas computed by the Bureau of Business Research rose 6.5% from May to June 1946, after adjustments were made for seasonal variation. It was 3.3% higher than the June 1945 index and was 81.4% above the 1935-39 base period.

Texas well completions from January-June 1946 showed an increase over the comparable period for 1945. During June 1946 North Central Texas led in total completions; West Texas held second place, followed by the Texas Gulf Coast. Smallest number of completions was in the Panhandle, with 25, of which 9 were oil wells, 10 were gas wells, and 6 were dry holes.

WELL COMPLETIONS

Source: *The Oil and Gas Journal*

District	June*				Jan.-June (all wells)	
	Total	Oil	Gas	Dry	1946	1945
TEXAS	630	385	39	206	3,957	3,554
North Central Texas	237	210	4	112	1,420	1,047
West Texas	137	116	2	19	823	934
Panhandle	25	9	10	6	173	269
Eastern Texas	54	38	8	8	368	157
Texas Gulf Coast	130	84	13	33	884	815
Southwest Texas	47	17	2	28	289	332

*For 4 weeks ending June 29, 1946.

AGRICULTURE

Income

(The amount of income received by farmers is a composite measure of the prosperity of agriculture, taking into account both the volume of products sold and the prices received. Since the marketings of many products are concentrated in certain seasons of the year, it is important that the data be adjusted for seasonal variation in order to show the basic changes in the situation of agriculture.)

Cash income of Texas farmers climbed 10.4% during June from the May figure, but remained substantially below the June 1945 cash income, according to estimates made by the Bureau of Business Research. Rising from 226.2 at the end of May, the index of Texas *farm cash income*, based on the 1935-39 average, stood at 234.6 on June 30, or 12.5% below June 1945 when the index was 268.1.

The estimated \$87,341,000 received by Texas farmers during June, highest for any month thus far this year, brought the total income for the first half of 1946 to \$416,190,000. Income for the period was estimated to be \$56,547,000 less than that received for the same six months of last year.

Largely contributing to the increased income during June over the preceding month were the large marketings of grain crops—particularly wheat (a bumper crop, in spite of early unfavorable conditions), grain sorghums, and oats. These increases largely offset the decrease in shipments of Texas livestock to markets and the decline in marketing of vegetables from the Rio Grande Valley. Increased marketings of wool supported the upswing of cash income for June.

Despite larger marketings of wheat in June 1946 than June 1945 the drop in shipments of livestock to stockyards and the decrease in vegetable marketings pulled the index for June considerably below the 1945 figure. The gain in income between May and June of 1946 (10.4%), however, was only slightly greater than the 6.7% increase shown between May and June 1945.

CASH FARM INCOME*

District	Indexes, 1935-39=100, adjusted for seasonal variation			Amount, Jan.-June (in thousands of dollars)	
	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	1946	1945
TEXAS	234.6	226.2	268.1	416,190	472,737
1-N	230.5	226.8	184.6	39,082	46,778
1-S	306.6	308.1	346.8	29,317	42,074
2	505.8	226.9	414.7	42,086	51,948
3	229.9	167.3	255.2	20,675	24,051
4	196.3	185.4	183.7	47,981	55,729
5	213.3	185.9	414.5	20,572	32,181
6	203.3	295.2	187.1	23,811	21,383
7	160.8	192.3	212.3	41,918	43,790
8	242.7	236.7	339.3	36,087	38,310
9	215.2	199.3	290.6	19,482	22,394
10	110.6	131.3	358.5	20,491	21,558
10-A	203.2	764.4	105.8	74,688	72,541

*Farm cash income as computed by the Bureau understates actual farm cash income by from 6 to 10%. This situation does not impair the accuracy of the indexes.

Prices

(One of the elements that bring about changes in the level of farm income is the price received for products. Changes in prices are of primary concern to the farmer and all businesses relying on the farm market.)

Prices of Texas farm products showed general but slight rises on June 15 over their May 15 levels, according to price information released by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture.

In most products price rises varied from 1.1% to 7.0% in June over the preceding month. However, potatoes and sweet potatoes dropped sharply, while no change was reported in the prices of grain sorghum, rice, hogs, wool, and eggs.

During the same period last year, from May 15 to June 15, prices evidenced almost exactly the opposite changes. A general but slight decline in prices was evident between the two months with oats experiencing the greatest change, falling 15.7% below May's figure. Sharp rises in rice and grain sorghums were reported between the two months last year while smaller gains were shown in cotton, cottonseed, sweet potatoes, hogs, wool, eggs, and chickens. No changes were reported in the prices of corn and turkeys.

Prices of Texas farm products during June were reported to be substantially higher than during June of last year with exceptionally sharp rises evident in oats, up 49%; barley, 46.5% higher; grain sorghums, 34.7%; cotton, 27.9%; and corn, 23.4%. Slight to moderate increases were shown in cottonseed and livestock prices and slight declines in rice, sweet potato, egg, chicken, and turkey prices, while only the potato price dropped sharply (58.5%) below the June 1945 figure.

PRICES OF TEXAS FARM PRODUCTS

Source: Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Commodity	Unit	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945
Cotton	lb.	\$ 0.261	\$ 0.244	\$ 0.204
Cottonseed	ton	57.00	55.00	54.29
Corn	bu.	1.53	1.46	1.24
Grain sorghum	cwt.	2.60	2.60	1.93
Oats	bu.	.88	.87	.59
Rice	bu.	1.85	1.85	1.89
Wheat	bu.	1.72	1.67	1.42
Barley	bu.	1.26	1.23	.86
Potatoes	bu.	1.10	1.50	2.65
Sweet potatoes	bu.	2.50	2.85	2.61
Beef cattle	cwt.	13.10	12.90	11.57
Milk cows	head	92.00	91.00	80.85
Veal calves	cwt.	14.60	14.00	12.74
Hogs	cwt.	14.10	14.10	13.77
Sheep	cwt.	7.90	7.70	7.24
Horses	head	54.00	52.00	57.21
Mules	head	79.00	83.00	83.75
Wool	lb.	.420	.420	.409
Eggs	doz.	.310	.310	.319
Butterfat	lb.	.500	.490	.479
Chickens	lb.	.240	.242	.258
Turkeys	lb.	.263	.267	.296

Marketings

(The level of farm income is affected not only by changes in prices, but by the volume of products farmers send to market in a

given month. Data on shipments of farm products must also be used to explain the changes in the level of farm income from month to month.)

Shipments of Texas livestock, poultry, and eggs by rail during June were substantially below shipments during May 1946 and June 1945, according to reports by station agents at Texas shipping points, collected by the Bureau of Business Research in co-operation with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Shipments of livestock by rail during June were 31.1% less than May, with major declines reported in the movement of cattle, calves, and hogs. Carloads of sheep and lambs moved from Texas shipping points were 18.9% above shipments during the preceding month.

June shipments were substantially below movements during June 1945, with all classes showing a lighter movement. Total carloads of livestock were off 9.1% during June 1946 as compared with June 1945. Although sheep and cattle showed relatively minor decreases of 1.8% and 4.7%, respectively, carload movements of calves dropped 29.8%, while hogs were down 66.1%.

Despite rises in prices during June, the substantially decreased livestock movement was a contributing factor in the decline in farm cash income during June as compared with June 1945.

SHIPMENTS OF LIVESTOCK

(in carloads)*

Source: Bureau of Business Research in co-operation with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Classification	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945
TOTAL SHIPMENTS	9,138	11,577	10,051
Cattle	5,249	7,435	5,510
Calves	654	991	931
Hogs	164	569	484
Sheep	3,071	2,582	3,126
INTERSTATE PLUS FORT WORTH	8,287	10,575	9,485
Cattle	4,652	6,648	5,165
Calves	576	869	859
Hogs	162	565	461
Sheep	2,897	2,493	3,000
INTRASTATE MINUS FORT WORTH†	851	1,002	566
Cattle	597	787	345
Calves	78	122	72
Hogs	2	4	23
Sheep	174	89	126

*Rail-car basis: cattle, 30 head per car; calves, 60; hogs, 80; and sheep, 250.

†Intrastate truck shipments are not included. Fort Worth shipments are combined with interstate forwardings in order that the bulk of market disappearance for the month may be shown.

Shipments of poultry and eggs by rail from Texas stations dropped during June from the unusual activity reported in May. Although shipments of chickens were up 8.6%, and shipments of shell eggs increased 2.4%, the total shipments of poultry and egg products were considerably less than in May 1946 or June 1945.

Shell egg equivalent in carloads of shell, frozen, and dried eggs shipped was off 43.2% from the number of carloads shipped during May and was 17.6% less than for June 1945. Turkey shipments were down 58.3%

RAIL SHIPMENTS OF POULTRY AND EGGS FROM TEXAS STATIONS

(in carloads)

Source: Bureau of Business Research in cooperation with the Division of Agricultural Statistics, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Classification	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945
TOTAL SHIPMENTS			
Chickens	38	35	16
Turkeys	15	36	17
Eggs—shell equivalent*	589	1,036	715
Shell	43	42	91
Frozen	73	81	132
Dried	50	104	45
INTRASTATE SHIPMENTS			
Chickens	10	4	0
Turkeys	1	2	2
Eggs—shell equivalent*	75	116	176
Shell	27	30	30
Frozen	24	31	45
Dried	—	3	7
INTERSTATE SHIPMENTS†			
Chickens	23	31	16
Turkeys	14	34	15
Eggs—shell equivalent*	514	920	539
Shell	16	12	61
Frozen	49	50	87
Dried	50	101	38

*Dried eggs and frozen eggs are converted to a shell-egg equivalent on the following basis: 1 rail-carload of dried eggs=8 carloads of shell eggs and 1 carload of frozen eggs=2 carloads of shell eggs.

†The destination above is the first destination as shown by the original waybill. Changes in destination brought about by diversion factors are not shown.

from May movements, frozen eggs were down 9.9%, and dried eggs 51.9%.

Interstate receipts of eggs by rail were essentially the same during June as they were during May, although the shell egg equivalent of shell, frozen, and dried eggs moved by rail was 55.8% below receipts during June 1945.

INTERSTATE RECEIPTS OF EGGS BY RAIL AT TEXAS STATIONS

(in carloads)

Source: Bureau of Business Research in co-operation with the Division of Agricultural Statistics, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture

Type	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945
TOTAL RECEIPTS—SHELL EQUIVALENT*			
Shell	99	99	224
Frozen	35	21	12
Dried	32	31	50
Dried	—	2	14

*Dried eggs and frozen eggs are converted to a shell-egg equivalent on the following basis: 1 rail-carload of dried eggs = 8 carloads of shell eggs and 1 carload of frozen eggs = 2 carloads of shell eggs.

Cold Storage

(In both periods of shortages and surpluses, the storage holdings of perishable food products are important because of their effect on prices. The seasonal nature of farm production is in part offset by the accumulation of stocks in periods of peak production to be

drawn in periods of low production. Deviations from the normal levels of holdings will exert pressure on the price structure.)

Cold storage space occupied in public cold storage warehouses remained essentially the same on July 1 as it had been at the beginning of June, but was considerably above the space utilized on July 1, 1945. Freezer space remained at the same level as on June 1, 1946, and approximately the same as on July 1, 1945.

Although cooler space occupied in private and semi-private warehouses remained almost the same, cooler space occupied in meat packing establishments dropped from 92% of capacity on June 1 to 12% on July 1. Freezer space occupied in similar establishments remained about the same.

During June, cold storage holdings of cream, butter, cheese, shell eggs, and poultry increased appreciably, while the general movement of frozen eggs out of storage was reflected in a 5.5% decrease in holdings as compared with a month earlier. Creamery butter holdings increased 51.9% during the month; American cheese was up 35.8%; and holdings of fluid and plastic cream were up 32.9% and 51.9%, respectively.

A similar movement of products into storage was evidenced during June 1945 as was reported for June of this year with somewhat smaller movements of plastic cream and American cheese into storage during June 1945 than during June 1946.

COLD STORAGE SPACE

Source: Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture

Type	Net piling space* (1,000 cu. ft.)	Percent of space occupied		
		July 1 1946	June 1 1946	July 1 1945
Public cold storage warehouses				
Cooler	4,553	87	86	72
Freezer	3,965	80	80	81
Private and semiprivate warehouses				
Cooler	312	100	99	75
Freezer	71	—	—	—
Meat-packing establishments				
Cooler	2,453	12	92	98
Freezer	1,039	82	83	94

*Space survey October 1, 1943.

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

Source: Production and Marketing Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Item	Unit	July 1 1946	June 1 1946	July 1 1945	Percent change	
					July 1 1946 from July 1 1945	July 1 1946 from June 1 1946
Cream:						
Fluid	1,000 lbs.	326	140	197	+ 65.5	+32.9
Plastic	1,000 lbs.	1,080	711	178	+506.7	+51.9
Creamery butter ..	1,000 lbs.	1,378	907	2,696	— 48.9	+51.9
American cheese ..	1,000 lbs.	4,446	3,275	4,125	+ 7.8	+35.8
Shell eggs	1,000 cases	231	224	202	+ 14.4	+ 3.1
Frozen eggs	1,000 lbs.	14,081	14,905	22,735	— 38.1	— 5.5
Total poultry	1,000 lbs.	2,937	2,849	1,158	+ 53.6	+ 3.1

LOCAL BUSINESS

ABILENE	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 22.5	- 12.3
Postal receipts	\$ 25,949	- 8.2	- 5.4
Building permits	\$ 304,813	+ 33.3	+ 40.3
Telephones in service	9,871	+ 14.5	+ 0.1
Air express shipments	103	+ 80.7	- 12.0
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 23,394	+ 28.5	+ 1.0
Placements in employment	652	- 3.6	+ 11.3
Unemployment	1,696	+1077.8	- 9.5

AMARILLO	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 26.8	+ 0.7
Postal receipts	\$ 55,416	- 9.4	- 3.8
Building permits	\$ 451,640	+ 68.8	- 34.4
Telephones in service	19,109	+ 6.4	- 0.3
Air express shipments	339	+ 38.9	- 32.5
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 59,186	+ 15.6	+ 7.2
Placements in employment	833	- 12.7	+ 11.5
Unemployment	1,000	+1150.0	

AUSTIN	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 52.8	- 4.2
Department and apparel store sales		+ 33.1	- 12.7
Postal receipts	\$ 112,456	+ 6.0	- 5.4
Building permits	\$1,326,123	+393.5	- 12.5
Telephones in service	31,708	+ 12.2	+ 0.9
Air express shipments	534	+196.7	- 5.0
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 96,296	+ 18.8	+ 17.1
Placements in employment	808	- 1.8	- 13.6
Unemployment	2,871	+367.6	- 4.8

BEAUMONT	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 14.6	- 5.5
Department and apparel store sales		+ 11.2	- 12.2
Postal receipts	\$ 45,832	+ 0.9	- 1.5
Building permits	\$ 217,505	- 46.8	+ 1.9
Telephones in service	21,050	+ 9.8	+ 0.8
Air express shipments	219	+ 40.4	- 21.5
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 57,355	- 7.6	+ 0.1
Placements in employment (area)	2,201	- 52.9	+ 14.7
Unemployment (area)	10,900	+2080.0	- 8.9

CORPUS CHRISTI	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 25.0	- 12.4
Postal receipts	\$ 61,784	- 17.0	- 3.0
Building permits	\$1,084,897	+244.7	+ 99.7
Telephones in service	23,801	+ 10.8	- 2.4
Air express shipments	504	+ 51.4	- 6.8
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 65,035		+ 1.9
Placements in employment	665	- 9.3	- 5.5
Unemployment	3,100	+933.3	- 6.1

CORSIANA	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 44.9	- 0.4
Postal receipts	\$ 12,272	+ 17.3	+ 48.3
Building permits	\$ 12,896	+157.9	- 68.0
Telephones in service	3,952	+ 20.1	+ 1.4
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 6,528	- 20.2	- 18.0

DALLAS	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 29.1	- 16.5
Department and apparel store sales		+ 28.7	- 14.4
Postal receipts	\$ 609,135	+ 7.0	- 5.9
Building permits	\$2,710,248	+ 91.9	+ 6.1
Telephones in service	140,214	+ 11.4	- 0.3
Air express shipments	5,770	+ 39.0	- 18.3
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 713,020	+ 4.0	+ 4.3
Placements in employment	3,813	- 57.7	- 3.8
Unemployment	18,800	+530.2	- 1.1

EL PASO	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		- 53.3	+ 0.5
Department and apparel store sales		+ 16.3	- 12.1
Postal receipts	\$ 86,319	- 7.1	- 9.7
Building permits	\$ 216,804	+ 72.3	- 76.2
Air express shipments	1,114	+ 63.6	- 13.3
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 83,275	+ 14.8	- 5.0
Placements in employment	491	- 56.7	+ 3.6
Unemployment	3,550	+343.8	+ 5.3

FORT WORTH	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 17.7	- 13.9
Department and apparel store sales		+ 11.1	- 13.2
Postal receipts	\$ 250,052	- 1.8	- 9.2
Building permits	\$1,564,919	+217.5	- 43.7
Telephones in service	70,396	- 13.0	+ 1.4
Air express shipments	2,206	+ 39.1	- 16.1
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 254,322	+ 1.6	+ 13.8
Placements in employment	3,035	- 38.0	- 2.6
Unemployment	11,400	+185.0	+ 2.7

GALVESTON	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 35.9	- 2.8
Postal receipts	\$ 50,372	- 2.3	- 3.5
Building permits	\$ 191,357	+ 68.9	+125.6
Telephones in service	20,555	+ 9.0	+ 0.2
Air express shipments	327	+168.0	+ 0.6
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 54,007		+ 1.5
Placements in employment (area)	770	- 60.5	- 33.9
Unemployment (area)	2,900	+866.7	+ 3.6

CONDITIONS

HOUSTON	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 30.5	- 10.0
Department and apparel store sales		+ 19.6	- 11.9
Postal receipts	\$ 417,304	+ 1.7	- 1.8
Building permits	\$2,400,957	+135.2	- 31.7
Telephones in service	163,706	+ 14.1	+ 0.6
Air express shipments	3,064	+ 87.9	- 18.1
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 672,717	+ 1.6	+ 2.5
Placements in employment	4,364	- 62.6	- 5.1
Unemployment	19,500	+631.7	- 7.2

JACKSONVILLE	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 26.4	- 0.2
Postal receipts	\$ 5,842	+ 0.8	- 12.2
Building permits	\$ 10,000	+ 46.0	- 75.9

LUBBOCK	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 52.2	- 14.2
Postal receipts	\$ 28,554	- 12.8	- 11.4
Building permits	\$3,776,808	+1086.8	+1448.4
Telephones in service	12,463	+ 19.1	+ 1.0
Air express shipments	177		- 14.5
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 41,251	+ 22.3	+ 11.9
Placements in employment	406	- 25.5	- 20.9
Unemployment	1,600	+1500.0	+ 14.3

PLAINVIEW	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 12.7	- 25.9
Postal receipts	\$ 5,976	- 10.0	- 6.2
Building permits	\$ 94,150	+101.3	- 62.8

PORT ARTHUR	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 19.7	- 13.1
Postal receipts	\$ 22,669	- 10.6	- 1.4
Building permits	\$ 261,920	+485.4	+135.4
Telephones in service	15,049	+ 16.2	+ 1.2
Air express shipments	150	+ 76.5	+ 33.9
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 25,522	+ 2.3	+ 3.4

SAN ANGELO	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 31.7	- 7.1
Postal receipts	\$ 23,118	- 14.9	- 2.6
Air express shipments	212	+116.3	+ 5.5
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 24,872	+ 17.7	+ 9.0

SAN ANTONIO	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 24.0	- 10.2
Department and apparel store sales		+ 29.0	- 15.8
Postal receipts	\$ 232,031	- 8.9	- 9.9
Building permits	\$1,748,291	+318.4	+ 14.9
Telephones in service	80,212	+ 11.0	+ 1.0
Air express shipments	1,728	+ 42.9	- 10.2
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 208,826	+ 14.9	+ 1.6
Placements in employment	2,448	- 49.2	+ 35.0
Unemployment	17,100	+5600.0	- 5.0

TYLER	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 30.8	- 11.9
Postal receipts	\$ 21,215	- 28.0	- 16.9
Building permits	\$ 395,150	+338.0	- 17.5
Telephones in service	9,719	+ 17.1	+ 1.5
Air express shipments	255		+ 10.4
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 29,562	+ 14.4	- 2.4

WACO	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 28.0	- 7.4
Department and apparel store sales		+ 17.6	- 13.6
Postal receipts	\$ 53,240	- 2.7	- 7.0
Building permits	\$ 404,866	+388.9	- 12.0
Telephones in service	16,436	+ 4.9	- 5.4
Air express shipments	195	+119.1	- 21.4
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 39,554	+ 26.6	+ 4.5
Placements in employment	1,111	- 2.1	+ 12.9
Unemployment	4,500	+359.2	- 10.0

WICHITA FALLS	June 1946	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
Retail sales of independent stores..		+ 7.1	- 14.4
Postal receipts	\$ 37,115	- 24.7	- 12.3
Building permits	\$ 130,090	+186.5	+ 58.6
Telephones in service	17,727	+ 14.2	+ 7.4
Air express shipments	189	+ 46.5	- 31.5
Bank debits to individual accounts (thousands)	\$ 39,026	+ 4.0	- 0.1
Placements in employment	473	- 37.6	+ 0.9
Unemployment	1,631	+1424.3	+ 3.1

COTTON BALANCE SHEET FOR THE UNITED STATES AS OF JULY 1, 1946
(figures in thousands of running bales except as noted)

Year	Carryover Aug. 1	Imports to July 1*	Final ginnings	Total	Consumption to July 1	Exports to July 1	Total	Balance as of July 1
1930-31	4,530	98	13,756	18,384	4,812	6,501	11,313	7,071
1931-32	6,369	123	16,595	23,087	4,587	8,258	12,845	10,242
1932-33	9,682	118	12,710	22,510	5,537	7,727	13,264	9,246
1933-34	8,176	137	12,664	20,977	5,340	7,229	12,569	8,408
1934-35	7,746	100	9,472	17,318	4,970	4,519	9,489	7,829
1935-36	7,138	135	10,417	17,690	5,744	5,806	11,550	6,140
1936-37	5,397	234	12,180	17,761	7,362	5,316	12,678	5,083
1937-38	4,498	134	18,242	22,874	5,307	5,403	10,710	12,164
1938-39	11,533	134	11,621	23,288	6,334	3,220	9,554	13,734
1939-40	13,033	150	11,447	24,630	7,161	6,055	13,216	11,414
1940-41	10,596	176	12,287	23,059	8,792	1,042	9,834	13,225
1941-42	12,367	259	10,489	23,115	10,176	1,100	11,276	11,839
1942-43	10,590	217	12,437	23,244	10,260	1,244	11,504	11,740
1943-44	10,687	196	11,121	22,004	9,218	1,175	10,393	11,611
1944-45	10,727	106	11,806	22,639	8,903	1,150	10,053	12,586
1945-46	11,164	298†	8,781	20,243	8,436	2,755†	11,191	9,052

*In 500 lb. bales.

†Imports and exports for 10 months ending in May.

Cotton

(The cotton balance sheet shows the basic demand and supply factors affecting cotton, which is an outstanding element in the farm income of the State.)

The high rate of *cotton* consumption in the United States and the very strong demand for exports due to the subsidy of four cents a pound on exports, to the large loans being granted to foreign countries by the United States Government, and to UNRRA gifts promised months ago to create a tight cotton supply situation. There had been gradual advances in the price of cotton in response to the growing scarcity, but most traders figured that the new crop would be sufficient to keep supply in balance with the huge demand.

On July 8 the Government issued its first estimate of acreage planted to cotton in the United States. It was only 13,316,000 acres, about 3.2% more than last year, and substantially less than was anticipated by the cotton world. This report, plus unfavorable weather and insect damage reports, a strong domestic and foreign demand, and the weakening of price controls, served to touch off a strong bull movement in the price of cotton. It passed 36 cents per pound, the highest level since November 1923 when December New York contracts passed 37 cents. The highest price since the Civil War was reached in April 1920 following the first

World War when May New York contracts reached 43.75 cents.

The acreage planted to cotton in Texas is estimated by the Government to be 6,350,000, compared with 6,133,000 last year.

FINANCE

Bank Credit

(Since bank credit is essential to all business, the condition of the commercial banks and the Federal Reserve Banks is a significant indicator of the state of business. Changes in the volume of credit the banks have outstanding reflect the state of business. The condition of the Federal Reserve Banks in like manner reflects the condition of credit available to commercial banks.)

There was an increase of 10% in the total loans and investments of weekly reporting member banks in the Dallas Federal Reserve District during the year ended June 26, 1946. The increase represented principally a larger volume of loans, which rose 42% during the year, whereas there was a slight decline in holdings of United States Government securities. Weekly reporting member banks reduced their holdings of Treasury bills, certificates of indebtedness and Treasury notes, but the decline in holdings of these shorter term Government securities was offset in part by an increase in holdings of Treasury bonds, which rose from \$599 million to \$645 million during the year. In addition, there was a small increase in holdings of nongovernmental securities. During the year ended June 26, 1946, demand deposits adjusted rose \$124 million, which was slightly more than enough to offset Treasury withdrawals from War Loan Accounts. The decline in United States Government deposits amounted to \$118 million during the year.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas continued to add moderately to its holdings of United States Government securities during June, and at the end of the month holdings of all types of United States Government se-

LOCKER FREEZER PLANTS IN TEXAS

The list of *Locker Freezer Plants in Texas* issued as a supplement to the 1946 edition of the *Directory of Texas Manufacturers* is now available upon request at the Bureau of Business Research. Other listings to be issued will cover Texas chick hatcheries, electric power companies, queen bee breeders, and cotton textile mills.

CONDITION OF WEEKLY REPORTING MEMBER BANKS*

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

Item	Percent change		
	June 26 1946 from June 27 1945	June 26 1946 from May 29 1946	June 27 1945 from May 30 1945
	ASSETS		
Loans and investments	+10.0	- 2.6	+10.2
Loans	+42.9	- 1.3	+16.3
Treasury bills	-29.9	-11.3	+ 6.3
Treasury certificates of indebtedness.....	- 1.3	- 7.1	+ 2.6
Treasury notes	-20.7	- 1.9	+24.9
United States bonds	+ 7.7	- 0.8	+ 8.9
Other securities	+36.7
Reserve with Federal Reserve Banks	+ 9.4	+ 1.3	+ 0.6
Cash in vault	+ 4.0	+ 4.0
Balances with domestic banks	-21.8	- 2.3	+11.5
LIABILITIES			
Demand deposits adjusted	+18.4	+ 1.2	- 4.4
Time deposits	+24.5	+ 2.0	+ 2.5
United States Government deposits	-31.2	-24.0	+125.0
Interbank deposits:			
Domestic banks	- 4.0	+ 0.2	+ 8.2
Foreign banks	-25.0	+50.0
CAPITAL ACCOUNTS	+17.6	+ 1.4	+ 1.6

*Percentage comparisons based on week ending nearest the close of calendar month.

curities had risen to about \$900 million, an increase of \$240 million during the year. Federal Reserve notes of that Bank in actual circulation at the end of June stood at \$594 million, about \$20 million above the level a year ago.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CONDITION OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS

(in thousands of dollars)

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

Classification	June 26 1946	May 29 1946	June 27 1945	Percent change	
				June 26 1946 from June 27 1945	June 26 1946 from May 29 1946
				ASSETS	
Gold certificate reserves..	494,110	479,511	551,024	-10.3	+ 3.0
U.S. Government securities	899,453	893,252	739,471	+21.6	+ 0.7
Discounts and advances..	3,984	3,984	75	+431.2	0.0
Other cash	9,710	7,891	10,178	- 4.6	+23.1
Other assets	97,096	90,265	75,904	+27.9	+ 7.6
TOTAL ASSETS	1,504,353	1,474,903	1,376,652	+ 9.3	+ 2.0
LIABILITIES					
Federal Reserve notes.....	593,755	591,358	572,180	+ 0.4	+ 0.4
Deposits	809,345	790,415	728,743	+11.1	+ 2.4
Other liabilities	79,189	71,307	58,151	+36.2	+11.1
TOTAL LIABILITIES.....	1,482,289	1,453,080	1,359,074	+ 9.1	+ 2.0
Capital paid in	6,615	6,589	5,708	+15.9	+ 0.4
Surplus	11,977	11,977	7,332	+63.4	0.0
Other capital accounts....	3,472	3,257	4,538	-23.5	+ 6.6
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL AC- COUNTS	1,504,353	1,474,903	1,376,652	+ 9.3	+ 2.0

Bank Debits

(Since the bulk of business transactions are settled by check, changes in bank debits to individual accounts represent changes in the volume of transactions and are a basic measure of business activity.)

Bank debits in 20 Texas cities during June (\$2.5 billion) were 5.3% above the wartime peak reached in June 1945 and 4.2% above those in May this year. Gains were general throughout the State and occurred in all except three of the reporting centers, with the largest relative gains appearing in Abilene, Waco, Lubbock, Austin, and Amarillo. As a result of the larger volume during June, the Bureau's index of bank debits in Texas cities, which has been adjusted for seasonal variation, rose to another new peak of 318% of the 1935-39 average.

BANK DEBITS*

(in thousands of dollars)

Source: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

City	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
				TOTAL	2,529,139
Abilene	23,394	23,171	18,208	+28.5	+ 1.0
Amarillo	59,186	55,207	51,197	+15.6	+ 7.2
Austin	96,296	82,249	81,083	+18.8	+17.1
Beaumont	57,355	57,324	62,065	- 7.6	+ 0.1
Corpus Christi.....	65,035	63,809	65,029	0.0	+ 1.9
Corsicana	6,528	7,958	8,184	-20.2	-18.0
Dallas	713,020	683,332	685,839	+ 4.0	+ 4.3
El Paso	83,275	87,690	72,538	+14.8	- 5.0
Fort Worth	254,322	223,428	250,228	+ 1.6	+13.8
Galveston	54,007	53,235	53,999	0.0	+ 1.5
Houston	672,717	656,098	661,860	+ 1.6	+ 2.5
Laredo	15,140	16,379	14,007	+ 8.1	- 7.6
Lubbock	41,251	36,856	33,731	+22.3	+11.9
Port Arthur	25,522	24,671	25,954	+ 2.3	+ 3.4
San Angelo	24,872	22,812	21,123	+17.7	+ 9.0
San Antonio	208,826	205,475	181,707	+14.9	+ 1.6
Texarkana†	20,251	19,891	22,458	- 9.8	+ 1.8
Tyler	29,562	30,279	25,850	+14.4	- 2.4
Waco	39,554	37,837	31,248	+26.6	+ 4.5
Wichita Falls	39,026	39,043	37,543	+ 4.0	- 0.1

*Debits to deposit accounts except interbank accounts.
†Includes two banks in Arkansas, Eighth District.

Failures

(The number of failures and the amount of liabilities vary inversely with the prosperity of business and reflect in a simple and direct manner what is happening to business.)

After a four-month period during which no business failures were reported in Texas, there was one failure during June. According to information furnished by Dun and Bradstreet, there have been only two business failures in Texas during the present year.

Corporations

(The issue of corporation charters measures the additions to the business population and reflects the state of optimism or pessimism of businessmen.)

The number of new business corporations chartered in Texas during June, although somewhat below the

number in May, was six times as large as the number chartered in June 1945. There were 270 new charters issued during June representing corporations with a total capitalization of \$6,563,000. The new businesses included 70 merchandising, 35 manufacturing, and 30 real estate and building corporations. Most of the new corporations were small businesses, only 16 of the new corporations having a capitalization in excess of \$100,000 each.

CORPORATION CHARTERS ISSUED BY CAPITALIZATION

Source: Secretary of State

Capitalization	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945
Over \$100,000	16	13	3
\$5,000-\$100,000	155	207	27
Less than \$5,000	61	65	15
Capitalization not specified	5	8	---
No capital stock	33	42	---

CORPORATION CHARTERS ISSUED BY CLASSIFICATION

Source: Secretary of State

Classification	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945
DOMESTIC CORPORATIONS			
Capitalization (1,000 dollars)	6,563	8,085	820
Number	270	336	45
Banking-finance	5	7	1
Construction	16	18	*
Manufacturing	35	49	5
Merchandising	70	94	8
Oil	7	21	6
Public service	2	2	3
Real estate building	30	30	2
Transportation	8	13	2
All others	80	60	18
No capital stock	33	42	*
FOREIGN CORPORATIONS			
Number	22	50	8

*Not tabulated separately.

Life Insurance Sales

(Since the sales of life insurance are relatively sensitive to the changes in consumer income, they may be used as a measure of the consumer market.)

Sales of ordinary *life insurance* in Texas during June amounted to \$68,500,000, a decline of 15% from the May figure, but still 80% above the level of June 1945. According to data compiled by the Life Insurance Agency Management Association, the decline in sales in Texas from May to June was larger than the national average, but compared with June 1945 the increase in sales in Texas was well above the average for the nation.

Credits and Collections

(Expansion of retail sales depends to a considerable degree upon the expansion of credit, but the soundness of the sales expansion is related to the soundness of the extension of credit. Changes in the ratios of credit sales to total sales and collections to outstanding accounts indicate what is happening to this phase of business activity.)

Department and apparel store customers in Texas continued to pay cash for more than half of their total pur-

chases but the tendency toward greater reliance on charge accounts, noticeable in other recent months, also continued during June. Cash sales accounted for only 52.1% of total sales during June 1946 as compared with 59.4% during the same month last year. Although credit sales as a percentage of total sales varied from city to city, the increasing use of charge accounts was evident in all major reporting centers of the State and in all types of stores. In Dallas credit sales amounted to 55.9% of total sales during June, whereas in Austin and Bryan credit sales were only about 41% of total sales.

The decline in the *ratio* of collections to accounts outstanding from 66.7% in June 1945 to 64.1% in June this year seems to indicate that there may have been some lengthening of the interval between credit purchases and payment for these credit purchases. Compared with a year earlier there were declines in the ratio of collections to accounts outstanding in Houston, San Antonio, El Paso, and Bryan. It is to be noted, however, that the declines were relatively small and may be offset by increases in subsequent months.

The ratio of credit salaries to credit sales was 1.3% during June this year, as compared with 1.4% during June 1945.

TRANSPORTATION

Rail

(The movement of goods by rail is fundamental to all business operations, and changes in the number of freight cars loaded reflect basic changes in the volume of business. The commodity groups are significant for the information they give on specific industries. The miscellaneous group includes manufactured goods, and is generally considered a measure of the volume of trade. Merchandise l.c.l. shipments include the same type of goods shipped in smaller lots. Cars unloaded for export reflect the changes in the volume of exports.)

Total *revenue freight carloadings* in the Southwestern District were up 16.0% for June 1946 over May. The principal factor in the increase was the large volume of grain shipments induced by the harvesting of a bumper crop and the prevalence of high prices. Two other categories of freight—coal and forest products—with increases of 131.1% and 19.1%, respectively, also lent major support to the rise. Coke was the only item to register a decline in shipments, with a loss of 2.6%.

REVENUE FREIGHT LOADED IN SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT

(in carloads)

Source: Car Service Division, Association of American Railroads

Commodity	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	289,105	249,280	322,761	-10.4	+ 16.0
Grain and grain products	31,505	14,321	26,740	+17.8	+120.0
Livestock	9,063	8,820	9,202	- 1.5	+ 2.8
Coal	24,025	10,396	26,039	- 7.7	+131.1
Coke	633	650	857	-26.1	- 2.6
Forest products	22,132	18,585	19,463	+13.7	+ 19.1
Ore	2,029	1,869	2,349	-13.6	+ 8.6
Merchandise l.c.l.	34,195	31,662	29,679	+15.2	+ 8.0
Miscellaneous	165,523	162,977	208,432	-20.6	+ 1.6

In general the upward swing followed the usual seasonal movement. More stable general economic conditions resulting from settlement of strikes in coal, steel, and related industries further strengthened the rise.

The *index of miscellaneous freight carloadings* for June 1946 showed a 3.2% gain over last month. It stood at 147.6% of the 1935-39 average, after adjustment for seasonal variation. In comparison with June 1945 the index decreased by 18.8%.

Export and coastal freight movements through Texas ports continued at a high level during June 1946. Figures for all ports showed a 70.7% improvement over May, as well as increases over May and June of last year. Although registering only a 24.4% gain as compared to 1279.5% for Beaumont, Galveston retained its leading position in volume of export shipments, with 8,594. Houston placed second with 4,992 shipments. Shipments consisted principally of grains and cotton.

Port Arthur was the only port where coastal freight was unloaded. There the June 1946 cars totaled 455 compared with only 74 a year earlier.

EXPORT AND COASTAL CARLOADS UNLOADED*

Source: Car Service Division, Association of American Railroads

Port and type	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	16,218	9,500	12,254	+ 32.3	+ 70.7
Beaumont	538	668	39	+1279.5	- 19.5
Galveston	8,594	5,154	6,906	+ 24.4	+ 66.7
Houston	4,992	2,800	3,863	+ 29.2	+ 78.3
Port Arthur	924	500	573	+ 61.3	+ 84.8
Texas City	1,170	378	873	+ 34.0	+209.5
EXPORT, TOTAL	15,809	9,045	12,180	+ 29.8	+ 74.8
Beaumont	538	668	39	+1279.5	- 19.5
Galveston	8,594	5,154	6,906	+ 24.4	+ 66.7
Houston	4,992	2,800	3,863	+ 29.2	+ 78.3
Port Arthur	515	45	499	+ 3.2	+1044.4
Texas City	1,170	378	873	+ 34.0	+209.5
COASTAL	455	455	74	+514.9	-----
Port Arthur	455	455	74	+514.9	-----

*Excluding coal.

Air Express

(The total volume of commodities shipped by air express is only a very small percentage of all commodities moved, but the rapid increase in the use of this type of transportation makes its growth of general interest to business.)

For the first time this year *air express shipments* have shown a downward movement. The 14.5% decline in June 1946 from the previous month followed rather closely the national pattern. The accelerated production of civilian merchandise and its greater availability at marketing and distribution centers was partly responsible for the decline. This is reflected by the numerical decrease in shipments from large distribution centers of the State—Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, and San Antonio. The decrease in shipments from these points amounted to approximately 75% of the total loss for the month.

AIR EXPRESS SHIPMENTS

Source: Railway Express Agency

Cities	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	20,185	23,608	12,536	+ 61.0	- 14.5
Abilene	103	117	57	+ 80.7	- 12.0
Amarillo	339	502	244	+ 38.9	- 32.5
Austin	534	562	180	+196.7	- 5.0
Beaumont	219	279	156	+ 40.4	- 21.5
Big Spring	50	52	25	+100.0	- 3.8
Brownsville	2,590	2,709	1,495	+ 73.2	- 4.4
Corpus Christi	504	541	333	+ 51.4	- 6.8
Dallas	5,770	7,062	4,152	+ 39.0	- 18.3
El Paso	1,114	1,285	681	+ 63.6	- 13.3
Fort Worth	2,206	2,628	1,586	+ 39.1	- 16.1
Galveston	327	325	122	+168.0	+ 0.6
Houston	3,064	3,739	1,631	+ 87.9	- 18.1
Laredo	302	348	209	+ 44.5	- 13.2
Lubbock	177	207	*	-----	- 14.5
Midland	95	157	11	+763.6	- 39.5
Port Arthur	150	112	85	+ 76.5	+ 33.9
San Angelo	212	201	98	+116.3	+ 5.5
San Antonio	1,728	1,925	1,209	+ 42.9	- 10.2
Texarkana	62	102	44	+ 40.9	- 39.2
Tyler	255	231	†	-----	+ 10.4
Waco	195	248	89	+119.1	- 21.4
Wichita Falls	189	276	129	+ 46.5	- 31.5

*Airport opened in July, 1945.

†Airport opened in February, 1946.

A second reason for the leveling out of air express shipments is that the regularly scheduled airlines are now carrying as air cargo many shipments heretofore classified as air express.

LABOR

Employment

(Employment statistics are among the most important indicators of Texas business and economic activity. The estimates of total employment in Texas manufacturing industries include all employees, both production workers and others. The Bureau's statistics of nonmanufacturing industries also comprise all employees. However, the statistics of manufacturing employment and manufacturing pay rolls are based on production and related workers only. Proprietors, officers of corporations, and other principal executives are excluded from all the series.)

The *employment index* for Texas took a decided upswing of 2.0% in June, according to reports collected from 1,606 employers by the Bureau of Business Research in co-operation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor. Considered with the 2.9% increase between March and April and a decrease of only 0.4% between April and May, this indicates an upward trend in Texas employment during the second quarter of 1946. The downward trend from December 1945 through March 1946 appears to have been checked.

Although there was an over-all 2.0% upturn in employment from May to June 1946 some industrial groups showed a decline, notably textile manufacturing (6.9%) and commercial products manufacturing (2.6%). Most other industrial groups increased slightly from May to

June 1946. The largest increases were in the miscellaneous manufacturing group (13.0%), laundries (5.5%), and crude petroleum production (4.0%).

Compared with June 1945 Texas employment last month increased 1.8%, excluding seven aircraft and shipbuilding establishments that declined 58.5% in employment during the same period. Since June 1945 employment has increased in 17 of the groups surveyed and decreased in only 7 of them. The greatest decreases were in the miscellaneous manufacturing group (57.9%), machinery, except electrical (27.0%), and iron and steel products (17.6%). The greatest increases were in stone and clay products (47.0%), other non-manufacturing (42.6%), public utilities (26.4%), and printing and publishing (24.3%). The figures clearly indicate the trend away from heavy employment in the war industries in June 1945 toward increasing employment in the peacetime manufacturing and commercial establishments in June 1946. A notable exception was food products manufacturing, which declined 12.3% from June 1945 to June 1946.

Total manufacturing employment in Texas in June 1946 was estimated at 305,100 by the Bureau of Business Research, in co-operation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor. This compared with 299,600 in May 1946 and 378,700 in June 1945. The decline from June 1945 was 19.4%, but

there was an increase of 1.8% from May to June 1946. There were increases from May to June 1946 in 10 of the industrial groups and decreases in 3 of them.

According to the United States Employment Service, the *civilian labor force* in 17 major Texas districts in-

NONAGRICULTURAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

Source: U. S. Employment Service

Area	June 1946	May 1946	Percent change
			June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	1,310,512	1,303,651	+ 0.5
Abilene	18,193	18,484	- 1.6
Amarillo	27,500	27,400	+ 0.4
Austin	42,652	41,996	+ 1.6
Beaumont-Port Arthur-Orange	84,315	84,131	+ 0.2
Brownsville	13,491	13,705	- 1.6
Corpus Christi	53,500	53,400	+ 0.2
Dallas	205,815	203,550	+ 1.1
El Paso	49,225	48,370	+ 1.8
Fort Worth	116,900	116,700	+ 0.2
Galveston-Texas City	52,494	52,204	+ 0.6
Houston-Baytown	303,735	303,155	+ 0.2
Longview	24,550	23,650	+ 3.8
Lubbock	25,011	24,811	+ 0.8
San Antonio	171,500	171,204	+ 0.2
Texarkana	41,500	41,400	+ 0.2
Waco	47,000	46,800	+ 0.4
Wichita Falls	33,131	32,691	+ 1.3

PRELIMINARY COMPARISON OF EMPLOYMENT AND PAY ROLLS IN IDENTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS

Source: Bureau of Business Research in co-operation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

Industrial group	EMPLOYMENT					PAY ROLLS			
	Number of reporting establishments	Number of wage earners*		Percent change		Amount (weekly)		Percent change	
		June 1946	May 1946	June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946	June 1946	May 1946	June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	1,606	123,488	121,063	+ 1.8	+ 2.0	\$5,388,931	\$5,286,848	+ 2.2	+ 1.9
MANUFACTURING									
Food products	144	8,173	7,904	- 12.3	+ 3.4	292,934	282,312	- 11.0	+ 3.8
Textiles	17	4,293	4,609	+ 6.7	- 6.9	145,073	156,784	+ 25.8	- 7.5
Apparel	39	3,776	3,699	- 11.9	+ 2.1	93,868	92,035	- 5.4	+ 2.0
Finished lumber products	27	1,796	1,781	+ 5.0	+ 0.8	60,057	57,040	+ 21.1	+ 5.3
Forest products	21	2,842	2,847	+ 2.4	- 0.2	90,230	85,983	+ 12.7	+ 4.9
Paper products	8	1,289	1,289	+ 10.3	0.0	55,491	60,490	+ 27.4	- 8.3
Printing and publishing	36	1,360	1,364	+ 24.3	- 0.3	68,505	70,228	+ 31.2	- 2.5
Commercial products	80	4,772	4,897	- 7.4	- 2.6	237,012	235,619	- 8.6	+ 0.6
Petroleum refining	43	25,752	25,322	+ 4.8	+ 1.7	1,397,021	1,408,552	- 2.7	- 0.5
Stone and clay products	33	3,012	3,035	+ 47.0	- 0.8	110,758	103,468	+ 55.1	+ 7.0
Iron and steel products	36	5,604	5,424	- 17.6	+ 3.3	238,507	232,597	- 21.9	+ 2.5
Nonferrous metal products	9	1,435	1,400	+ 17.5	+ 2.5	62,956	62,088	+ 14.6	+ 1.4
Machinery (except electrical)	49	9,257	9,138	- 27.0	+ 1.3	446,743	452,891	- 25.7	- 1.4
Other manufacturing	18	10,735	9,503	- 57.9	+ 13.0	505,853	444,985	- 66.6	+ 13.7
NONMANUFACTURING									
Crude petroleum production	55	7,980	7,672	+ 15.2	+ 4.0	444,197	437,200	+ 11.5	+ 1.6
Dyeing and cleaning	5	42	44	+ 10.5	- 4.5	1,603	1,559	+ 22.6	+ 2.8
Hotels	17	1,895	1,874	+ 2.6	+ 1.1	42,986	42,281	+ 7.6	+ 1.7
Insurance	90	1,895	1,853	+ 18.3	+ 2.3	93,608	80,424	+ 27.0	+ 4.0
Laundries	12	691	655	- 1.7	+ 5.5	15,017	14,549	+ 1.6	+ 3.2
Public utilities	230	7,097	7,008	+ 26.4	+ 1.3	308,967	305,491	+ 27.4	+ 1.1
Quarrying	12	1,257	1,218	+ 12.5	+ 3.2	59,644	57,991	+ 4.5	+ 2.9
Retail trade	445	11,742	11,792	+ 10.4	- 0.4	368,104	360,524	+ 28.5	+ 2.1
Wholesale trade	155	4,630	4,599	+ 9.2	+ 0.7	182,875	177,762	+ 21.8	+ 2.9
Other nonmanufacturing	25	2,163	2,136	+ 42.6	+ 1.3	76,922	68,995	+ 64.9	+ 11.5

*Does not include proprietors, firm members, officers of corporations, or other principal executives. Manufacturing employment comprises production and related workers; nonmanufacturing employment comprises all employees.

†Excluding 7 aircraft and shipbuilding establishments that declined 58.5% in employment and 67.1% in pay roll from June, 1945.

ESTIMATES OF TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT IN TEXAS

(in thousands)

Source: Bureau of Business Research in co-operation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

Industrial group	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946	June 1946
				from 1945	from 1946
TOTAL	305.1	299.6	378.7	-19.4	+ 1.8
Food	61.7	58.2	63.2	- 2.4	+ 6.0
Textile mill products and other fiber manufactures	8.4	8.6	7.7	+ 9.1	- 2.3
Apparel and other finished textile products	22.0	21.7	22.3	- 1.3	+ 1.4
Furniture and finished lumber products	11.1	11.0	10.5	+ 5.7	+ 0.9
Lumber and timber basic products	26.7	26.6	24.0	+11.3	+ 0.4
Paper and allied products	3.8	3.8	3.6	+ 5.6	---
Printing, publishing, and allied industries	17.4	17.3	14.6	+19.2	+ 0.6
Chemicals and allied products	17.1	17.5	20.5	-16.6	- 2.3
Products of petroleum and coal	38.8	38.2	39.7	- 2.3	+ 1.6
Stone, clay, and glass products	9.7	9.7	7.3	+32.9	---
Iron and steel and their products	16.4	16.3	28.0	-41.4	+ 0.6
Transportation equipment, except autos	22.1	22.1	85.0	-74.0	---
Nonferrous metals and their products	9.6	9.3	9.8	- 2.0	+ 3.2
Machinery, except electrical	29.5	29.1	34.0	-13.2	+ 1.4
Miscellaneous industries	3.6	3.8	3.3	+ 9.1	- 5.3
All others	7.1	6.5	5.2	+36.5	+ 9.2

creased 0.5% between May and June of this year. For the 17 districts the civilian labor force, excluding agricultural workers and those out of a job who are not seeking work, totaled 1,310,512 persons. Of the 17 districts, only Abilene and Brownsville showed decreases (1.6% each) from May to June of this year.

Pay Rolls

(Pay roll figures are generally recognized as significant indicators of income and purchasing power by both economists and businessmen. Emphasis on the maintenance of purchasing power as a goal for the country's postwar economy gives particular importance to these figures at this time.)

Pay rolls in Texas rose 1.9% from May to June 1946, paralleling the 2.0% rise in employment, according to reports from 1,606 employers collected by the Bureau of Business Research in co-operation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor. Although there was a decrease of 0.6% in May, the quarterly trend from April through June 1946 was upward, along with the quarterly upward trend in employment. Nine out of 14 manufacturing groups and all nonmanufacturing groups showed slight to moderate increases in their total pay rolls from May to June of this year.

Compared with June 1945, pay rolls in June 1946 were 2.2% higher, excluding seven aircraft and shipbuilding establishments that declined 67.1%. This increase was brought about by sizable increases in seven of the manufacturing groups and in all of the nonmanufacturing groups. Increases were unusually large in the stone and clay products (55.1%) and printing and publishing industries (31.2%). Offsetting decreases oc-

HOURS AND EARNINGS

Source: Bureau of Business Research in co-operation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor

Industrial group	Average weekly hours		Average hourly earnings (in cents)		Average weekly earnings (in dollars)		Percent change June 1946 from June 1945		
	June 1946	June 1945	June 1946	June 1945	June 1946	June 1945	Weekly hours	Hourly earnings	Weekly earnings
	MANUFACTURING								
Food products	46.9	50.2	71.9	66.1	33.72	33.18	- 6.6	+ 8.8	+ 1.6
Textiles	41.0	42.4	82.3	69.7	33.74	29.55	- 3.3	+ 18.1	+ 14.2
Apparel	38.4	37.8	65.1	61.5	25.00	23.25	+ 1.6	+ 5.9	+ 7.5
Finished lumber products	41.9	45.6	81.0	70.9	33.94	32.33	- 8.1	+ 14.2	+ 5.0
Forest products	43.7	47.7	75.1	64.0	32.82	30.53	- 8.4	+ 17.3	+ 7.5
Paper products	44.4	43.9	95.4	81.0	42.36	35.56	+ 1.1	+ 17.8	+ 19.1
Printing and publishing	41.4	44.0	113.3	105.2	46.91	46.29	- 5.9	+ 7.7	+ 1.3
Commercial products	43.3	48.7	107.1	93.7	46.37	45.63	- 11.1	+ 14.3	+ 1.6
Petroleum refining	38.4	46.8	139.5	122.5	53.57	57.33	- 18.0	+ 13.9	- 6.6
Stone and clay products	46.0	47.2	77.5	71.7	35.65	33.84	- 2.5	+ 8.1	+ 5.3
Iron and steel products	42.4	46.6	103.2	95.3	43.76	44.41	- 9.0	+ 8.3	- 1.5
Nonferrous metal products	42.2	48.0	102.8	99.9	43.38	47.95	- 12.1	+ 2.9	- 9.5
Machinery (except electrical)	43.5	48.5	108.1	97.5	47.02	47.29	- 10.3	+ 10.9	- 0.6
Other manufacturing	39.8	48.3	118.3	124.8	47.08	60.28	- 17.6	- 5.2	- 21.9
NONMANUFACTURING									
Crude petroleum production	40.2	46.0	140.3	116.1	56.40	53.41	- 12.6	+ 20.8	+ 5.6
Dyeing and cleaning	55.0	48.5	72.4	66.9	39.82	32.45	+ 13.4	+ 8.2	+ 22.7
Hotels	45.4	45.8	38.7	35.0	17.57	16.03	- 0.9	+ 10.6	+ 9.6
Laundries	48.7	44.4	42.5	44.3	20.70	19.67	+ 9.7	- 4.1	+ 5.2
Public utilities	40.0	45.3	110.4	95.8	44.16	43.40	- 11.7	+ 15.2	+ 1.8
Quarrying	41.0	48.6	115.7	99.7	47.44	48.45	- 15.6	+ 16.0	- 2.1
Retail trade	43.7	41.8	70.7	62.8	30.90	26.25	+ 4.5	+ 12.6	+ 17.7
Wholesale trade	43.6	45.7	88.8	79.5	38.72	36.33	- 4.6	+ 11.7	+ 6.6
Other nonmanufacturing	43.6	43.8	80.6	68.8	35.14	30.13	- 0.5	+ 17.2	+ 16.6

curred in the other manufacturing group (66.6%), machinery, except electrical (25.7%), iron and steel products (21.9%), and petroleum refining (19.3%).

Hours and Earnings

(Statistics on hours and earnings show clearly the effects of the shift of the State's economy and the general upward movement of wages since V-J Day. Average hourly earnings are computed by dividing the total number of man-hours worked in reporting establishments into total pay rolls.)

The average number of *hours* worked in manufacturing plants was approximately 42 in June, dropping from 43 in May 1946 and from 47 in June a year ago. Between May and June last year average hours rose from 46 to 47, instead of declining as they did in 1946.

In only two manufacturing industries—apparel and paper products—has there been an increase in the average weekly hours since June 1945, and both gains were relatively small. Workers in food products industries continued to have the heaviest work week, putting in 47 hours in June 1946. As might be expected, the major declines in weekly hours from June 1945 were in the industries formerly engaged in war work—petroleum refining (17.9%), nonferrous metal products (12.1%), commercial products (including chemical industries, 11.1%), and miscellaneous manufacturing (17.6%). The miscellaneous manufacturing group includes the industries engaged in shipbuilding and aircraft manufacturing.

In the nonmanufacturing industries covered by the Bureau's reports, average weekly hours were also generally less in June 1946 than in June 1945. Three groups, however, showed sizable increases: dyeing and cleaning (13.4%), laundries (9.7%), and retail trade (4.5%). Compared with May 1946 four of the eight nonmanufacturing groups worked longer hours in June.

Hourly earnings were higher in all manufacturing industries except the miscellaneous group in June 1946 over June 1945. Led by wage rate increases of 17 and 18% in the textile and forest and paper products industries, over half the industrial groups in June 1946 were paying hourly wages at least 10% higher than a year earlier. In nonmanufacturing, laundries alone paid lower hourly wages (4.1%) than a year ago. The outstanding gain in this group was the 20.8% pay raise for workers in crude petroleum production.

Despite the shorter work week, hourly earnings went up enough to effect an increase in *weekly take-home pay* between June 1945 and June 1946 for the majority of manufacturing and nonmanufacturing groups. Petroleum refining, iron and steel, nonferrous metal, non-electrical machinery, and miscellaneous industries in the manufacturing group and quarrying in the non-manufacturing group were the exceptions. It is significant that both hours and earnings have risen in four of the groups—apparel and paper manufacturing and dyeing and cleaning and retail trade, and that as a consequence weekly take-home pay has increased more than the average hourly earnings.

Man-hours

(The reports which the Bureau receives on employment include every employee who worked any part of the week. This means that changes in the number of employees in an industry do not always measure the changes in the volume of output. Changes in the number of man-hours worked, however, are closely associated with the rate of manufacturing activity, and may be used as a measure of the volume of production.)

Total *man-hours* worked in 478 identical manufacturing establishments rose fractionally (0.7%) in June over May, although 8 of the 14 groups reported declines. In the textile industry, where strikes held up production during the latter part of June, man-hours dropped 10.3% between May and June 1946. Significant, though smaller, increases likewise showed up in stone and clay products manufacturing (8.4%) and in miscellaneous manufacturing (13.5%).

Compared with 1945, the situation in June appeared more favorable than a month ago. The over-all decline in man-hours worked was only 30.1% between June 1945 and June 1946, compared to 40.9% between May 1945 and May 1946. This change no doubt reflects in part the drop in man-hours worked in June 1945, the month immediately following V-E Day. As in May, however, the industries reporting the greatest 12-month decreases in man-hours in June 1946 were those formerly engaged in war production and allied work.

MAN-HOURS WORKED IN IDENTICAL MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS

Source: Bureau of Business Research in co-operation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor

Industrial group	Number of reporting establishments	Percent change	
		June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	478	-30.1	+ 0.7
Food products	110	-20.6	+ 3.2
Textiles	14	+ 4.2	-10.3
Apparel	25	-11.0	- 2.0
Finished lumber products	25	- 0.3	+ 3.4
Forest products	20	- 5.9	+ 1.0
Paper products	8	+12.3	- 3.2
Printing and publishing	31	+24.4	- 1.0
Petroleum refining	36	-14.9	- 1.1
Commercial products	74	-18.8	- 3.4
Stone and clay products	31	+42.2	+ 8.4
Iron and steel products	35	-28.9	- 0.4
Nonferrous metal products	8	+ 3.0	- 1.6
Machinery (except electrical)	45	-35.6	- 3.5
Other manufacturing	16	-65.7	+13.5

Industrial Relations

(Although no statistical data are available on industrial disputes in Texas, a knowledge of current developments in industrial relations is necessary to an understanding of the State's labor picture.)

Commercial construction in Houston was stopped during the month by a labor dispute over union recognition. Approximately 7,000 workers were idle or shifted to residential building pending settlement of the dispute. Labor difficulties were also reported in the cement industry, where employment fell 0.5% for the month. Strikes continued during the month in the auto parts, textile, and rubber industries.

Unemployment

(Estimates of unemployment in various areas of the State are currently made by the district supervisors of the United States Employment Service. Data on the payment of unemployment benefits also provide a rough measure of unemployment in Texas, although only employees in establishments employing 8 or more workers for 20 or more weeks per year are covered. Veterans' claim actions and disbursements are less inclusive, but throw light on the important problem of veteran re-employment. The number of placements reported by the United States Employment Service indicates the relationship of the supply of and the demand for jobs in various parts of the State.)

Unemployment in 17 Texas areas decreased 4.6% in June from May, from 118,006 to 112,537, according to the United States Employment Service. There were still more than seven times as many unemployed in these areas as there were in June 1945, when there were only 16,136. Nine of the areas reported less unemployment in June than in May this year, one showed no change, while the remaining eight had more unemployed persons. Longview and Lubbock were the centers in which the number of unemployed rose by the greatest percentage over May 1946.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Source: U. S. Employment Service

Area	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945
TOTAL	112,537	118,006	16,136
Abilene	1,696	1,874	144
Amarillo	1,000	1,000	80
Austin	2,871	3,015	614
Beaumont-Port Arthur-Orange	10,900	11,960	500
Brownsville	1,889	1,805	130
Corpus Christi	3,100	3,300	300
Dallas	18,800	19,000	2,983
El Paso	3,550	3,370	800
Fort Worth	11,400	11,100	4,000
Galveston-Texas City	2,900	2,800	300
Houston-Baytown	19,500	21,000	2,665
Longview	3,100	2,800	278
Lubbock	1,600	1,400	100
San Antonio	17,100	18,000	300
Texarkana	7,000	8,400	1,855
Waco	4,500	5,000	980
Wichita Falls	1,631	1,582	107

Unemployment benefit payments by the Texas Unemployment Compensation Commission amounted to \$1,354,815 in June 1946, more than 40% less than the record \$2,262,966 paid out in the preceding month. During June 43,888 checks were issued. Contributions by employers to the Unemployment Trust Fund totaled \$1,102,071 in June, which was below the May figure of \$1,654,565 by 33.4%. Contributions during June 1946 were \$252,744 short of the disbursements.

The latest quarterly report of the Texas Unemployment Compensation Commission revealed that 22,111 first payments were made to newly unemployed individuals in the three months ending June 30. The number of active claimant accounts, however, was only 23,470 at the end of June, compared with 37,011 at the end of the preceding quarter, indicating that more individuals were finding jobs than were becoming unemployed and seeking unemployment compensation. Of the first payments made during April, May, and June, 57% went

to former employees in manufacturing industries, 16% to retail and wholesale trade unemployed, with the construction, mining, and service industries following in number of newly unemployed.

Payments to veterans rose again in June, after a sizable decline in May, but were still below their April level. During June 190,090 checks were issued for \$7,371,606, representing an increase of 13.5% in number and 13.9% in amount over May of this year. The number of applications filed fell 21.2%, from 21,769 in May to 17,159 in June.

Placements in employment through the United States Employment Service dropped 1.9% in June from May for 17 Texas areas, where 23,668 workers were placed in jobs during June 1946. Twelve months earlier (in June 1945) there were 46,417 placements in the same area. Eight of the 17 areas, however, had more placements in June 1946 than May 1946, whereas only one (Longview) placed more applicants for work in June 1946 than in June 1945.

PLACEMENTS IN EMPLOYMENT

Source: U. S. Employment Service

Area	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945	Percent change	
				June 1946 from June 1945	June 1946 from May 1946
TOTAL	23,668	24,124	46,417	-49.0	-1.9
Abilene	652	586	676	-3.6	+11.3
Amarillo	333	747	954	-12.7	+11.5
Austin	808	935	823	-1.8	-13.6
Beaumont-Port Arthur-Orange	2,201	1,919	4,671	-52.9	+14.7
Brownsville	164	477	1,131	-85.5	-65.6
Corpus Christi	665	704	733	-9.3	-5.5
Dallas	3,813	3,963	9,004	-57.7	-3.8
El Paso	491	474	1,133	-56.7	+3.6
Fort Worth	3,035	3,115	4,892	-38.0	-2.6
Galveston-Texas City	770	1,260	1,949	-60.5	-38.9
Houston-Baytown	4,364	4,597	11,670	-62.6	-5.1
Longview	642	602	382	+68.1	+6.6
Lubbock	406	513	545	-25.5	-20.9
San Antonio	2,448	1,813	4,814	-49.2	+35.0
Texarkana	792	966	1,147	-31.0	-18.0
Waco	1,111	984	1,135	-2.1	+12.9
Wichita Falls	473	469	758	-37.6	-0.9

GOVERNMENT

Federal Finance

(Federal collections of income, pay roll, and excise taxes vary directly with the level of business prosperity. During the war period federal taxation has likewise become an important determinant of general business activity.)

Federal internal revenue collections in Texas for the federal fiscal year ending June 30, 1946, totaled \$1,066,297,023, compared with \$1,144,239,626 collected in Texas during the previous year, a decrease of 6.8%.

Collections for June in the State totaled \$101,561,334, or 18.8% less than collections for June 1945. In the First (or South Texas) District collections were \$58,883,080, or 16.3% less than the amount collected during the corresponding month last year. Collections in the Second (or North Texas) District totaled \$42,678,254, a decrease of 21.9% from June 1945.

FEDERAL INTERNAL REVENUE COLLECTIONS

Source: Office of the Collector, Internal Revenue Service, Treasury Department

District	June			July 1-June 30		
	1946	1945	Percent change	1945-46	1944-45	Percent change
TEXAS	\$101,561,334	\$125,017,682	-18.8	\$1,066,297,023	\$1,144,239,626	- 6.8
First District	58,883,080	70,338,694	-16.3	575,957,811	646,689,274	-10.9
Second District	42,678,254	54,678,988	-21.9	490,339,212	497,550,352	- 1.4

Total federal collections for the First (or South Texas) District in the year just ended were \$575,957,811, or 10.9% less than the total reported for the 1944-45 fiscal year. In the Second (or North Texas) District collections amounted to \$490,339,212, or 1.4% below the amount for the year before.

State Finance

(Statistics on State finance are closely connected with changes in the level of business activity. State occupation, production, use, and sales taxes and license fees vary directly with changing business conditions.)

Cash receipts for June 1946 reported by the Texas State Comptroller of Public Accounts totaled \$23,413,731. For the 10-month period—September 1 to June 30—cash receipts amounted to \$280,039,305, or 19.2% more than receipts for the corresponding period last year.

Use and sales taxes for June amounted to \$8,601,120. Total taxes collected for the State fiscal year to date for this group were \$77,576,209, an increase of 34.1% over last year. The greatest percentage increase of the several tax items listed was in collections from public lands and buildings, 61.1% above last year. Income from this source totaled \$3,121,622 for June 1946 and \$14,670,653 for the first 10 months of the current fiscal period.

Ad valorem, inheritance, and poll taxes were 45.4% ahead of last year's collections. Receipts for June were

\$711,034, or nearly \$148,000 less than the sum collected in May, while the total tax receipts for the fiscal year to date totaled \$30,202,033.

All items included in cash receipts of the State Comptroller were up from last year except contributions and aid. This group totaled \$1,316,427 for June 1946, although total collections thus far this year amounting to \$48,001,279 were 4.2% below receipts for the same period last year.

PRICES

Consumers' Prices

(All income figures must be used in connection with a measure of changes in consumers' prices, since the purchasing power of income is more significant than the aggregate amount in dollars. The increasing cost of living, as measured by indexes of consumers' prices, is of vital importance to all businessmen and consumers. The Bureau of Labor Statistics warns users of the index that it shows only partially the wartime effects of changes in the quality and availability of consumer goods.)

The over-all consumers' price index for Houston was 28.0% higher than for the average month 1935-39, according to the May 15 survey of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. No other Texas city is included in the Bureau's reports. Prices rose only 0.2% from April to May 1946 and only 1.5% from May 1945 to May 1946.

Clothing made the greatest advance in prices of any of the items covered in the report, with an increase of 0.9% from April to May 1946 and 5.4% for the 12-month period.

No changes in food prices were noted from April to May, and for the year, May 1945 to May 1946, there was a gain of only 0.9%.

CASH RECEIPTS OF STATE COMPTROLLER

Source: State Comptroller of Public Accounts

Item	June 1946	Sept. 1-June 30		
		1945-46	1944-45	Percent change
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS	\$23,413,731	\$280,039,305	\$235,010,146	+19.2
TOTAL REVENUE RECEIPTS	21,844,570	250,225,858	214,268,092	+16.8
Ad valorem, inheritance, and poll taxes	711,034	30,202,033	20,766,041	+45.4
Occupation, gross receipts, and production taxes	4,406,709	48,122,583	48,743,416	- 1.3
Use and sales tax	8,601,120	77,576,209	57,844,754	+34.1
License fees and maintenance taxes	396,526	9,473,717	8,339,064	+13.6
Income from public lands and buildings	3,121,622	14,670,653	9,108,727	+61.1
Interest	1,365,422	7,552,854	7,254,049	+ 4.1
Miscellaneous revenues	925,710	14,626,530	12,117,484	+20.7
Contributions and aid	1,316,427	48,001,279	50,094,537	- 4.2
NONREVENUE RECEIPTS	1,569,161	29,813,447	20,742,054	+43.7

INDEXES OF CONSUMERS' PRICES IN HOUSTON

(1935-1939=100)

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor

Group	May 1946	Apr. 1946	May 1945	Percent change	
				May 1946 from May 1945	May 1946 from Apr. 1946
ALL ITEMS	128.0	127.7	126.1	+ 1.5	+ 0.2
Food	139.7	139.7	138.4	+ 0.9	0.0
Clothing	146.9	145.6	139.4	+ 5.4	+ 0.9
Rent	*	*	*	—	—
Fuel, electricity, and ice	88.7	88.7	91.1	- 2.6	0.0
Housefurnishings	147.9	147.0	143.5	+ 3.1	+ 0.6
Miscellaneous	125.5	125.4	123.4	+ 1.7	+ 0.1

*Surveyed quarterly only.

Housefurnishings were up 47.9% over the prewar period. However, they rose less than 1% during the month of May 1946 and have shown an increase of 3.1% since May 1945.

The index for fuel, electricity, and ice stood at 88.7 compared with 91.1 for May 1945. No change appeared in prices of these commodities from April to May of this year.

Rents were not included in the monthly survey.

Wholesale Prices

(Changes in the prices of commodities are of fundamental importance to businessmen, since the level of prices has an important effect on profits. The index of wholesale prices compiled by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics is the most comprehensive measure of price changes published in the United States.)

Wholesale prices in the United States rose 0.7% from April to May 1946, compared with a rise of 1.2% from March to April, indicating a reduction in the rate of increase during May.

The index for all commodities, according to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics index, stood at 111.0 for May (1926=100), which was an increase of 0.7% over April 1946 and an increase of 4.7% over May 1945.

Prices of farm products showed the greatest gains of any group for the month of May. The index of 137.5 represented an increase of 1.6% from April to May and a 5.9% increase over May 1945. All foods rose 0.6% from April to May and 4.2% during the year.

All commodities increased in price for the month and for the year—May 1945 to May 1946—with lumber showing the greatest increase of any of the groups included in the report. Prices of lumber, with an index of 172.5 for May 1946, registered a gain of more than 11% over last year and increased 0.6% during the month.

Next to farm products and building materials, textile prices advanced more than any other group with an 0.8% increase from April to May 1946 and an increase of 9.2% for the 12-month period.

INDEXES OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN THE UNITED STATES
(1926=100)

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor

Group	Percent change				
	May 1946	Apr. 1946	May 1945	May 1946 from May 1945	May 1946 from Apr. 1946
ALL COMMODITIES	111.0	110.2	106.0	+ 4.7	+ 0.7
Farm products	137.5	135.4	129.9	+ 5.9	+ 1.6
Foods	111.5	110.8	107.0	+ 4.2	+ 0.6
Hides and leather products	120.4	119.8	117.9	+ 2.1	+ 0.5
Textile products	108.8	107.9	99.6	+ 9.2	+ 0.8
Building materials	127.8	126.5	117.3	+ 9.0	+ 1.0
Cement	102.6	102.4	99.4	+ 3.2	+ 0.2
Lumber	172.5	171.4	154.9	+11.4	+ 0.6
All commodities other than farm products	105.1	104.5	100.6	+ 4.5	+ 0.6
All commodities other than farm products and foods	103.9	103.8	99.4	+ 4.5	+ 0.6

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Review of Business Activity in Texas

January-June 1946

Total business activity during the first half of 1946 showed very little change, although individual phases of business showed considerable fluctuation during the six months. The sharp decline in certain lines of manufacturing activity during the last half of 1945 apparently completed the reconversion phase in Texas. The failure of business activity in all lines to show much increase during the first half of 1946 was due to various unsettling factors, particularly strikes and material shortages. Consumer income as represented by pay rolls and farm income remained fairly stable during the past six months, after the decline in the fall of 1945. Retail trade, on the other hand, continued to increase rapidly all during the first half of 1946. Some of this increase was due to the rise in commodity prices, but a considerable part was due to an increased volume of business. This increase in retail sales in conjunction with the failure of consumer incomes to rise means that savings are being used to finance purchases at retail. Shortages of goods, particularly such consumer durable goods as household appliances and automobiles, highlight the retail picture. Long waiting lists for scarce items indicate a booming business for a long time to come, although the question sometimes arises as to how much duplication exists in such lists. Furthermore, the high level of retail sales, which now consist chiefly of the soft lines, suggests the possibility that savings are being spent now for whatever goods are available. Although the number of unemployed has increased, the volume is far below official estimates of what could be expected in the reconversion period. There is even some evidence that to a limited extent the manpower shortage is still a part of the business picture. In spite of shortages, strikes, and governmental controls business profits were good and business failures almost non-existent. Dun and Bradstreet reported only two failures in Texas for the first six months of 1946.

The number of new *corporation charters* issued by the Secretary of State reflects the optimism with which businessmen view the immediate future. For the first six months of 1946, a total of 1,640 domestic corporation charters were issued, compared with 376 in the first half of 1945. Of this number 228 were issued for corporations to engage in building or the sale of real estate, an increase of 484.5% over the number in this classification last year. Merchandising and manufacturing corporations also show striking increases over the number chartered in the same period last year; the former classification increased over four times the 1945 number, and the latter nearly three and three-fourths times. These data indicate that businessmen consider that the greatest prospects for increased business exist in these three fields, although oil and transportation company charters were issued to nearly one and one-half times as many concerns as in 1945. The number of banking and finance

companies increased from 19 to 24, while the number of public service charters issued declined from 55 to 11.

The *index of Texas business activity* stood at 181.0 for June, a decrease of 16.1% from June 1945 and an increase of 1.0% in the last six months. In December 1945 the index was 179.2. The change of 1.0% in the index for the last six months serves as a measure of the relative stability in the average level of total business activity.

Another measure of total business activity is the index of *bank debits*, representing changes in the volume of checks cashed by banks in 20 Texas cities. Bank debits for the first six months of 1946 were 11.4% greater than last year. This index is a measure of the volume of transactions, including all types of business and speculative payments. Since it is affected by an increase in prices as well as by the volume of business done, the rising price trend of the last six months helped push it up. Also, the volume of real estate transactions at greatly inflated prices is represented, but since this activity is part of the business situation at the present, it should be included. The increase in bank debits for the last six months has been greater than the rise in the index of total business activity, with the bank debits index at 275.2 for December 1945 and 317.9 for June, an increase of 15.5%.

The data on freight carloadings of miscellaneous merchandise also measure the volume of business, since this freight classification contains manufactured goods moving to wholesalers and to retailers. The index of *miscellaneous freight carloadings* in the Southwestern district for the first six months of 1946 was 25.7% below the first six months of 1945, but like the index of business activity it showed little change for the six months of this year (+1.9%). The decline during the last half of 1945 represented the ending of the movement of war materials; the changes during the first half of 1946 were the effects of changes in business activity.

Retail sales of independent stores in Texas for the first six months of 1946 were 28.7% above sales for the first six months of 1945. This is one of the factors causing an increase in the index of bank debits. The greatest gain was in sales of durable goods stores, an indication that in spite of the fact that production of consumer durable goods is still below what is needed, scarce items are reaching retail dealers. Sales of automobile dealers were 63.6% above the first half of last year; furniture and household equipment stores 47.8%; lumber, building material, and hardware stores 40.0%; and jewelry stores 33.8%. The only other type of retail outlet showing increases above the average for all stores was filling stations, with a gain of 44.1% over the first half of 1945. The resumption of normal driving with the removal of gasoline rationing is an obvious explanation of this increase.

Since sales of automotive, furniture, household equipment, and building material stores all increased by more than 40%, with production of durable goods still below normal, it is indicated that further increases can be expected when production difficulties have been overcome.

Sales of all types of nondurable goods stores were greater than for the first half of 1945, although by smaller percentages than durable goods stores. Department store sales increased 24.5%, apparel stores 23.0%, country general stores 22.8%, florists 17.5%, food stores 14.2%, restaurants 12.2%, and general merchandise stores 11.2%.

The increase in sales was general in both large and small communities, although the *population group* under 2,500 showed the smallest increase (17.4%) and the 50,000 to 100,000 population group showed the largest (32.9%). The cities over 100,000 population and the 2,500 to 50,000 population group increased at nearly the same rate as all retail stores, 28.5% and 28.4%, respectively.

Industrial production in total declined in comparison with the first six months of 1945, but most of this decline was due to the decline in war production. Ordnance plants, shipyards, and airplane plants have either closed completely or cut operations drastically. Other industrial plants have generally shown an increase over a year ago. *Industrial consumption of electric power* decreased 22.0% in the first half of 1946 in comparison with the same period of 1945, reflecting the closing down of war industries. *Crude petroleum production* and refinery operations dropped sharply immediately following V-J Day, but recovered quickly and for the first half of 1946 were not far below the level of the first half of 1945. Crude production was only 5.0% below the first six months of 1945, and the average of the *index of crude runs to stills* for the first half of 1946 was 4.9% below the first half of last year.

The production of *cement* increased 51.4% over the first half of 1945, but *southern pine production* decreased 5.8%. In view of the huge demand for housing, this decrease in southern pine production has been the cause of much concern, for the volume at the beginning of 1946 was at a lower level than the bottom of the depression in 1932.

Cotton textile mill activity increased slightly, with spindle hours up 6.1% over the first half of 1945, and cotton consumption up 8.3%. Since the reconversion problems of the cotton textile industry were simple, the industry has been able to continue the output of goods at high levels. However, in spite of this high level production, many items continue scarce and retailers are unable to build up stocks.

The shortage of housing that has come about during the war makes the volume of activity in the construction industry a matter of major interest in the business situation. The volume of *building permits* issued in Texas cities in the first half of 1946 increased 161.9% over the first half of 1945. The volume of residential and non-residential *construction contracts* awarded, as reported by the *Texas Contractor*, increased 106% over the first half of 1945. The increase in nonresidential contracts

awarded was only 37.5%, but this type of construction has been held back by the Civilian Production Administration in favor of the building of homes. Residential construction contracts awarded have increased 579.2% over the first half of 1945. The housing shortage and the efforts to stimulate the building of homes represent one of the most important phases of the 1946 business situation. The percentage increases in the production of building materials were much smaller than the increases in both permits and contracts, which inevitably means that the actual building is not proceeding as rapidly as it would normally. This conclusion is supported by reports of extreme delays in the finishing of projects due to material shortages.

Loans made by insured savings and loans associations have increased at a rate approximating the increase in building activity, with construction loans up 371.2%. The increase in the purchase of homes already built is shown by the increase of 109.2% in purchase loans over the first half of 1945. Refinancing loans increased 104.5% and reconditioning loans 40.9%.

The index of Texas *farm cash income* continued at levels more than double those prevailing before the war, although the first six months of 1946 averaged 12.0% below the first half of 1945. This decline resulted from a reduction in marketings, since prices of farm products continued to rise throughout the first six months of 1946. One exception to the trend of *marketings* was in *fruits and vegetables*, since shipments increased 10.9% over the first half of 1945. On the other hand, *rail shipments of livestock* (a major component in the index of farm income) declined 5.5% from the levels of the first half of 1945. Cattle shipments decreased 6.3%, calves 8.0%, hogs 4.0%, and sheep 1.2%.

The index of *pay rolls* began to decline early in 1945, and dropped precipitously after V-J Day. By the end of 1945 the decline had come to an end, and throughout the first half of 1946 the pay rolls index fluctuated between 175% and 190% of the prewar level. This seems to indicate that the adjustments growing out of reconversion were made during 1945, and that pay rolls have for the present been stabilized.

It is significant, with cash farm income approximately 150% and pay rolls 75% to 90% above prewar levels, retail sales should be approximately 175% above the prewar level. The only conclusion that can be drawn from these facts is that the first half of 1946 saw a considerable withdrawal of savings to finance the purchase of consumers' goods.

The level of prices, both wholesale and retail, continued to advance steadily through the first six months of 1946. The *index of wholesale prices* of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (1926=100) was 107.1 in December 1945, and had risen to 112.4 in the week of June 19, 1946. In June 1945 the index was 106.1, which means that during the last six months of 1945 the index rose 1.0 point from 106.1 to 107.1, but during the first six months of 1946 it rose 5.3 points, from 107.1 to 112.4. The average of the monthly index numbers of wholesale prices for the first five months of 1945 was 105.4, and for the comparable period of 1946 was 109.0, an increase of 3.4%.

FIGURES FOR THE YEAR TO DATE

INDEX OF TEXAS BUSINESS ACTIVITY (monthly average; 1935-39=100)*	January-June		Percent change
	1946	1945	
	180.8	231.6	-21.9
Index of department and apparel store sales	275.2	222.4	+ 23.8
Index of miscellaneous freight loadings in Southwestern District	146.2	192.6	- 24.1
Index of crude oil runs to stills	176.2	185.4	- 5.0
Index of electric power consumption	246.1	276.6	- 11.0
Index of employment	108.3	161.3	- 32.9
Index of pay rolls	184.4	315.5	- 41.6
TRADE			
Retail sales of reporting independent stores, by kinds of business, total	\$161,188,011	\$125,250,891	+ 28.7
Apparel stores	\$ 30,609,884	\$ 24,879,797	+ 23.0
Automotive dealers	\$ 16,789,047	\$ 10,260,351	+ 63.6
Country general stores	\$ 4,191,813	\$ 3,412,427	+ 22.8
Department stores	\$ 65,744,729	\$ 52,822,310	+ 24.5
Drug stores	\$ 4,215,378	\$ 3,622,690	+ 16.4
General merchandise stores	\$ 2,211,968	\$ 1,988,510	+ 11.2
Filling stations	\$ 1,345,046	\$ 933,516	+ 44.1
Florists	\$ 804,651	\$ 684,744	+ 17.5
Food stores	\$ 7,133,287	\$ 6,244,428	+ 14.2
Furniture-household stores	\$ 9,222,220	\$ 6,240,405	+ 47.8
Jewelry stores	\$ 1,304,653	\$ 975,434	+ 33.8
Lumber, building materials, and hardware stores	\$ 14,040,491	\$ 10,031,821	+ 40.0
Restaurants	\$ 2,902,512	\$ 2,586,414	+ 12.2
Retail sales of reporting independent stores, by city-size groups:			
Over 100,000 population	\$ 75,702,468	\$ 58,908,268	+ 28.5
50,000-100,000 population	\$ 24,999,061	\$ 18,816,183	+ 32.9
2,500-50,000 population	\$ 52,574,858	\$ 40,946,235	+ 28.4
Under 2,500 population	\$ 1,324,255	\$ 1,128,212	+ 17.4
Postal receipts in 53 cities	\$ 15,380,509	\$ 16,153,900	- 4.8
PRODUCTION			
Lumber in southern pine mills (weekly average per unit in board feet):			
Production	187,270	198,706	- 5.8
Shipments	195,186	205,673	- 5.1
Cotton (running bales):			
Consumption of cotton	105,475	97,408	+ 8.3
Consumption of cotton linters	14,244	9,084	+ 56.8
Cottonseed (tons):			
Received at mills	42,706	150,014	- 71.5
Crushed	244,753	438,667	- 44.2
Cotton spinning activity (spindle hours)	558,879,367	526,956,158	+ 6.1
Cement (barrels):			
Production	5,256,000	3,472,000	+ 51.4
Shipments	5,476,000	3,724,000	+ 47.0
Crude oil runs to stills	251,139	261,061	- 3.8
Milk equivalent of manufactured dairy products, total (1,000 lbs.)	465,574	610,755	- 23.8
Creamery butter production (1,000 lbs.)	9,743	16,894	- 42.3
Ice cream production (1,000 gals.)	14,004	10,115	+ 38.4
American cheese production (1,000 lbs.)	4,290	8,270	- 48.1
Tomato canning (cases of 24/2's):			
Production	2,824,324	2,016,712	+ 40.0
Shipments	2,666,626	541,964	+392.0
Building permits issued in 47 cities (value)	\$152,122,476	\$ 58,085,057	+161.9
Construction contracts awarded, total	\$198,950,657	\$119,493,230	+ 66.5
Engineering	\$ 42,773,724	\$ 13,797,536	+210.0
Nonresidential	\$ 99,472,053	\$ 72,333,359	+ 37.5
Residential	\$ 56,704,880	\$ 8,348,403	+579.2
Loans made by insured savings and loan associations, total	\$ 48,726,071	\$ 20,640,494	+136.1
Construction	\$ 9,267,300	\$ 1,966,537	+371.2
Purchase	\$ 31,638,906	\$ 15,124,593	+109.2
Refinance	\$ 3,067,454	\$ 1,500,193	+104.5
Recondition	\$ 1,226,659	\$ 870,321	+ 40.9
Electric power consumption reported by 10 companies, total (thousands of kw. hours)	2,605,521	2,953,351	- 11.8
Commercial	522,847	508,917	+ 2.7
Industrial	1,273,104	1,631,676	- 22.0
Residential	409,316	363,244	+ 12.7
Electric energy production for public use (thousands of kw. hours) †	2,797,345	3,058,542	- 8.5
Crude petroleum production (daily average in barrels)	2,051,695	2,159,917	- 5.0

	January-June 1946	January-June 1945	Percent change
AGRICULTURE			
Farm cash income	\$416,190,000	\$472,737,000	- 12.0
Shipments of livestock, total (carloads)	54,153	57,319	- 5.5
Cattle	37,205	39,719	- 6.3
Calves	4,619	5,020	- 8.0
Hogs	3,449	3,594	- 4.0
Sheep	8,880	8,986	- 1.2
Rail shipments of fruits and vegetables, total (carloads)	67,271	60,677	+ 10.9
Beets	1,449	2,110	- 31.3
Cabbage	6,524	7,396	- 11.8
Carrots	5,575	5,790	- 3.7
Corn	1,515	1,206	+ 25.6
Cucumbers	391	424	- 7.8
Grapefruit	17,664	16,162	+ 9.3
Onions	9,525	5,529	+ 72.3
Oranges	5,265	4,406	+ 19.5
Potatoes	2,506	1,570	+ 59.6
Spinach	2,881	3,543	- 18.7
Tomatoes	13,959	12,541	+ 11.3
Rail shipments of poultry and eggs (carloads) :			
Chickens	162	88	+ 84.1
Turkeys	140	70	+100.0
Eggs—shell equivalent	3,635	5,192	- 30.0
Interstate receipts of eggs by rail at Texas stations (carloads)	171	398	- 57.0
FINANCE			
Bank debits to individual accounts in 20 cities	\$ 14,294,615	\$ 12,827,106	+ 11.4
Business failures:			
Number	2	4	- 50.0
Liabilities	\$ 4,754	\$ 19,200	- 75.2
Corporation charters issued by classification, total	1,640	376	+336.2
Banking-finance	24	19	+ 26.3
Manufacturing	203	43	+372.1
Merchandising	503	97	+418.6
Oil	82	33	+148.5
Public service	11	55	- 80.0
Real estate-building	228	39	+484.6
Transportation	51	21	+142.9
Corporation charters issued by capitalization:			
Over \$100,000	135	13	+938.5
\$5,000-\$100,000	997	211	+372.5
Less than \$5,000	375	152	+146.7
Ordinary life insurance sales	\$380,903,000	\$216,936,000	+ 75.6
TRANSPORTATION			
Total revenue freight loaded in Southwestern District (carloads)	1,578,548	1,906,381	- 17.2
Miscellaneous freight loaded in Southwestern District (carloads)	941,663	1,266,564	- 25.7
Export and coastal cars unloaded at Texas ports (carloads)	73,721	43,929	+ 67.8
Air express shipments (number)	115,546	75,301	+ 53.4
LABOR			
Employment in manufacturing establishments, total (monthly averages)	299,488	396,888	- 24.5
Food	57,938	60,000	- 3.4
Apparel	21,731	22,200	- 2.1
Lumber and timber basic products	26,423	23,850	+ 10.8
Petroleum and coal products	38,009	39,116	- 2.8
Transportation equipment, except autos	23,232	10,280	+126.0
Textile mill products and other fiber manufactures	8,427	7,433	+ 13.4
Furniture and finished lumber products	11,048	10,567	+ 4.6
Paper and allied products	3,802	3,583	+ 6.1
Printing, publishing, and allied industries	16,990	14,533	+ 16.9
Chemicals and allied products	18,149	20,900	- 13.2
Stone, clay, and glass products	9,325	7,050	+ 32.3
Nonferrous metals and their products	9,365	10,067	- 7.0
GOVERNMENT‡			
Federal internal revenue collections	\$1,066,297,023	\$1,144,239,626	- 6.8
Cash receipts of State Comptroller	\$ 280,039,305	\$ 235,010,146	+ 19.2
PRICES†			
Index of wholesale prices for United States (monthly average; 1926=100)	109.0	105.4	+ 3.4
Index of consumers prices in Houston (monthly average; 1935-39=100)	127.5	125.3	+ 1.8
Index of food prices in Houston (monthly average; 1935-39=100)	139.8	136.4	+ 2.5

*The composite index is made up of the indexes listed. All component indexes except employment and pay rolls adjusted for seasonal variation and are based on the average month of the years 1935-39.

†Figures for first five months only.

‡Figures for fiscal year to date.

BAROMETERS OF TEXAS BUSINESS

