

The transportation equipment group was slightly lower than in 1954. Although the volume of output of the automobile industry was 29 p.c. higher, the lower levels at which the shipbuilding, aircraft and railway rolling-stock industries operated more than offset that increase, leaving a decline of 1.2 p.c. for the group as a whole as compared with 1954 and a 20.0-p.c. decline from the high level of 1953. The iron and steel group, despite the recovery made in 1955, was still about 1.8 p.c. below the record level of 1952.

6.—Indexes of the Volume of Manufactured Production of the Groups Comprised within the Durable Manufactures Classification 1946-55

(1935-39=100)

NOTE.—Indexes for the years 1935-45 are given in the 1954 Year Book, p. 630.

Year	Wood Products	Iron and Steel Products	Transportation Equipment	Non-ferrous Metal Products	Electrical Apparatus and Supplies	Non-metallic Mineral Products
1946.....	175.0	222.6	221.5	160.1	247.3	221.4
1947.....	195.6	249.9	239.5	182.8	316.8	269.8
1948.....	200.7	270.4	232.6	201.6	328.5	283.7
1949.....	202.3	264.5	243.9	200.5	333.8	284.4
1950.....	215.1	263.2	262.2	212.8	367.6	314.6
1951.....	220.6	292.2	315.0	234.7	392.3	342.1
1952.....	214.1	292.7	373.1	232.2	393.1	346.1
1953.....	235.3	290.8	436.3	243.3	486.7	399.0
1954.....	230.3	251.8	354.9	246.7	477.8	409.5
1955.....	255.1	287.3	350.7	270.9	535.2	471.5

Non-durable Manufactures.—The trend of output in the non-durable sector of manufacturing from 1946 to 1955 was visibly smoother than in the durable sector. Except for 1954 there has been no interruption in the upward movement of production during this period. Unlike durable goods, non-durable commodities are mostly consumer goods and are less influenced by sudden changes in the international situation or the capital investment programs of producers and governments. By 1955 the non-durables index of output had reached 235.2, the highest on record. All groups reported increased activity in 1955 as compared with 1954, the greatest increases being reported by rubber goods and textiles.

7.—Indexes of the Volume of Manufactured Production of the Groups Comprised within the Non-durable Manufactures Classification 1946-55

(1935-39=100)

NOTE.—Indexes for the years 1935-45 are given in the 1954 Year Book, p. 629.

Year	Foods	Beverages	Tobacco and Tobacco Products	Rubber Products	Leather Products	Textile Products (except Clothing)
1946.....	177.2	234.4	204.4	158.0	167.9	161.7
1947.....	181.5	249.4	211.9	230.7	148.7	172.9
1948.....	183.0	270.9	215.8	227.6	129.6	180.2
1949.....	180.3	285.7	224.4	208.5	133.5	186.0
1950.....	183.6	282.9	227.5	251.9	126.8	212.4
1951.....	188.7	297.7	212.2	264.3	117.0	208.6
1952.....	195.5	323.6	242.3	246.4	128.0	184.1
1953.....	194.0	336.6	269.6	264.2	136.7	187.6
1954.....	198.1	328.6	279.3	252.6	128.6	161.0
1955.....	203.0	358.3	303.3	296.3	136.7	185.3