indebted to underworld money lenders lost control of brokerage houses and were forced into high pressure stock sales involving the sale of thousands of shares of worthless stock. Even a few banks, whose loan officers coöperated with loan sharks, were virtually ruined through losess totaling millions of dollars. In the Chicago area some builders became hard pressed financially. They borrowed $150,000 from well known crime syndicate loan sharks. During the course of a year they had paid back $165,000 but the juice racketeers insisted that they still owed $124,000. Two of the borrowers were kidnapped and held for fifteen hours while they were kicked and beaten. They gained their release only when they agreed to sign an obligation reflecting that they still owed $200,000. In desperatiou the borrowers finally went to the authorities. The loan sharks, long identified as members of Chicago's crime syndicate, were convicted and given long prison terms.

The impact of organized crime on business, particularly small business, and on the overall economy has been tremendous. In many instances organized crime elements have gained control over small businesses through the loan shark route. Businessmen who have made loans from crime syndicate loan sharks have found themselves in the clutches of organized crime. They are compelled to follow the dictates of syndicate hoodlums who take over the business, milk its assets or use it in furtherance of some fraudulent scheme.

Examples of the detrimental effects of organized crime on business are legion. In the Chicago area Manny Skar and Rocco DeStefano, long-time associates of Capone gang big-wigs, succeeded in borrowing $5,840,576 from the Marshall Savings and Loan Association in Riverside, Illinois, to build two motels. There were strong indications that a substantial amount of the money advanced for motel construction was actually siphoned to crime syndicate figures for their benefit. When Manny Skar got in trouble with the Federal Government over his income tax returns, he threatened to divulge where the money actually went. He was killed in a typical gangland type slaying. The motel venture suffered huge losses. The Marshall Savings and Loan Association, not only lost heavily on the loans to the Skar and DeStefano combination, but the unfavorable publicity resulted in shaking confidence in this financial institution. The State of Illinois took over the savings and loan association and closed its doors.

On numerous occasions crime syndicate figures have gained control of businesses after which they have milked its assets for their benefit and before long the establishment goes out of busness.

In a Berwyn, Illinois shopping center men with crime syndicate connections took over a discount business. They purchased huge quantities of merchandise on credit without intending to pay for it, sold the merchandise, pocketed the money and the establishment was thrown into bankruptcy. Creditors were swindled out of $100,000. This type of "skimming" operation by the organized underworld has become commonplace.

In April 1965 Alan Robert Rosenberg, a front for important crime syndicate figures, walked into a travel agency in Chicago and offered to buy it for $60,000. He paid down $15,000 and was to pay the balance of $45,000 later. While he operated the travel agency a number of important crime syndicate big-wigs including Milwaukee Phil Alderisio frequented the establishment and appeared to have an interest in the place. Within a period of a few weeks, the new operators of the travel agency obtained $236,000 from the sale of the agency's accounts receivables to a commercial factoring or credit banking firm, $100,000 in commissions from the sale of airline tickets and cashed bogus checks issued by the travel agency totaling about $35,000. The losses amounted to almost $400,000. Rosenberg who engineered this deal, as well as scores of others, reportedly had a falling out with his crime syndicate associates and in March 1967 was killed in a typical gangland slaying. Rosenberg and his associates had engaged in fraudulent business dealings in Oklahoma, Iowa, New York, Indiana and other places. Skimming operations by the organized underworld are far too commonplace.

Organized crime has also been involved in the manipulations of stocks in a number of major American cities. There have been reports that underworld figures have compromised certain stock brokers in Chicago, New York City, Los Angeles and Cleveland. Brokers thus controlled by the underworld were ordered to "push" the sale of marginal stocks in which the mobsters had acquired large holdings. Through artificial market activity generated in these stocks, the gangsters made huge profits. In one underworld scheme, allegedly masterminded by Milwaukee Phil Alderisio, two businessmen were reportedly swindled out of $100,000. In this case through phony bidding the price of over-the-counter stocks not listed on major stock exchanges had been forced up. And the beneficiaries were the underworld figures who had acquired large holdings of the stocks.