



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS



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April 2, 1954

*** This Supplement provides selected weekly data and monthly data subsequent to those published in the latest monthly SURVEY ***

WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1953	1954				ITEM	1953	1954			
	Mar. 28	Mar. 13	Mar. 20	Mar. 27	Mar. 28		Mar. 13	Mar. 20	Mar. 27		
Commodity prices, wholesale:					Stock prices (480), Standard						
All commodities..1947-49=100	*110.0	110.6	110.6	110.8	and Poor's.....1935-39=100	198.5	204.7	204.7	203.9		
Farm products.....do..	*99.8	99.0	98.8	99.6	Industrials (420).....do..	215.2	222.5	222.6	221.7		
Foods, processed.....do..	*104.1	104.6	104.7	104.8	Production:						
All other.....do..	*113.4	114.4	114.3	114.4	Bitum.coal <u>3</u> /...thous.sh.tons	**1,373	1,157	1,125	.....	
22 commodities <u>2</u> /.....do..	90.3	88.8	87.9	90.3	Electric power,by utilities						
Department store sales.....do..	**109	92	95	.....	mil. kw.-hr.	**8,078	8,519	8,572	.....	
Insured unemployment, total					Motor vehicles (Ward's)....No.	170,810	132,673	144,698	139,710		
thous.	**1,118	#2,395	.....	.....	Petroleum,crude <u>3</u> /...thous.bb.l.	**6,391	6,352	6,354	.....	
State programs.....do..	**1,030	#2,187	.....	.....	Steel (ingots & for castings,				
Failures, ind. & comm..number	188	229	243	277	quantity) <u>4</u> /.....1947-49=100	144.7	102.8	100.4	101.1		
Bond yields, domestic corpo-					Freight car loadings.thous.cars	**701	610	610	.....	
rate (Moody's) <u>3</u> /....percent	3.33	3.15	3.13	3.13	Miscellaneous.....do..	**391	322	334	.....	

¹/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. ²/ Tuesday prices. ³/ Daily averages. ⁴/ Week ended April 3, 1954. * Monthly index for March 1953. ** For week corresponding to latest. # Data for preceding week follow: Total, 2,409,000; State programs, 2,201,000.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1953		1954		ITEM	1953		1954	
	February	December	January	February		February	December	January	February
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS					CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE				
Personal income, seasonally adjusted, at annual rates:					Value of contracts awarded (Federal Reserve indexes):				
Total.....bil. dol.	281.0	284.6	r283.7	282.9	Total, unadj.....1947-49=100	151	168	156	167
Wage & salary disbursements, total.....bil. dol.	194.6	196.3	r195.7	194.7	Residential, unadj.....do..	163	151	151	174
Comm.-producing ind.....do..	88.0	86.4	r85.4	84.7	Total, adjusted.....do..	173	208	190	191
Distributive ind.....do..	50.6	52.2	r52.6	52.5	Residential, adjusted.....do..	182	177	181	195
Service industries.....do..	22.8	24.2	r24.1	24.1	Construction cost index, comp.				
Government.....do..	33.2	33.5	r33.6	33.4	Dept. of Commerce.....1947-49=100	120.7	123.0	122.4	121.8
& salary receipts, total.....bil. dol.	190.9	192.5	r191.2	190.2	DOMESTIC TRADE				
Wage & labor income.....do..	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	Radio advertising:				
Proprietors' and rental income.....bil. dol.	50.2	50.3	50.0	49.8	Cost of facilities, total				
Personal interest income and dividends.....do..	21.7	22.7	r23.0	23.1	thous. dol.	#13,878	14,185	13,221	.....
Transfer payments.....do..	13.3	14.3	r14.7	15.0	Automotive, inc. acces.....do..	#598	896	772	.....
Less personal contributions for social ins.....bil. dol.	3.9	4.1	r4.8	4.8	Drugs & toiletries.....do..	#4,212	3,935	3,685	.....
Total nonagr. income.....do..	263.3	267.2	r266.4	265.8	Elec. household equip.....do..	#388	284	251	.....
COMMODITY PRICES					Financial & insurance.....do..	#215	255	233	.....
Consumer price index, all items.....1947-49=100	113.4	114.9	115.2	<u>1</u> / 115.0	Foods, soft drinks, etc.....do..	#3,511	3,256	2,992	.....
Apparel.....do..	104.6	105.3	104.9	104.7	Gasoline & oil.....do..	#446	539	641	.....
Food.....do..	111.5	112.3	113.1	112.6	Soap, cleansers, etc.....do..	#1,192	1,482	1,282	.....
Dairy products.....do..	110.7	110.3	109.7	109.0	Smoking materials.....do..	#1,295	1,353	1,182	.....
Fruits & vegetables.....do..	115.9	109.2	110.8	108.0	Magazine advertising:				
Meats, poultry & fish.....do..	107.7	107.8	110.2	109.7	Cost, total.....do..	#35,018	47,531	38,847	.....
Housing.....do..	116.6	118.9	118.8	118.9	Apparel & accessories.....do..	#1,563	3,725	1,971	.....
Gas & electricity.....do..	106.1	107.2	107.1	107.5	Automotive, inc. acces.....do..	#4,033	2,617	4,657	.....
Housefurnishings.....do..	108.0	108.1	107.2	107.2	Building materials.....do..	#1,343	1,094	1,741	.....
Rent.....do..	121.5	127.6	127.8	127.9	Drugs & toiletries.....do..	#4,461	5,109	4,920	.....
Medical care.....do..	119.3	123.6	123.7	124.1	Foods, soft drinks, etc.....do..	#5,173	7,035	6,400	.....
Personal care.....do..	112.5	113.6	113.7	113.9	Beer, wine, liquors.....do..	#1,480	4,165	1,287	.....
Reading and recreation.....do..	107.5	108.9	108.7	108.0	Household equip., etc.....do..	#1,013	2,975	854	.....
Transportation.....do..	129.1	128.9	130.5	129.4	Household furnishings.....do..	#938	1,904	1,169	.....
Other goods & services.....do..	115.8	120.3	120.3	120.2	Industrial materials.....do..	#2,639	3,277	2,638	.....
					Soaps, cleansers, etc.....do..	#830	618	896	.....
					Smoking materials.....do..	#1,112	1,702	1,211	.....
					Linage, total.....thous. lines	4,251	3,161	3,655	4,131
					Mail-order & store sales,				
					total, 2 cos.....thous. dol.	258,518	511,657	231,649	228,687
					Montgomery Ward & Co.....do..	62,171	138,930	52,587	53,131
					Sears, Roebuck & Co.....do..	196,347	372,727	179,062	175,556

1/ Revised. # For January 1953. 1/ Index on base previously used (1935-39=100) is 192.3.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1953		1954		ITEM	1953		1954	
	February	December	January	February		February	December	January	February
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS					METALS AND MANUFACTURES - Con.				
Paints, varnish, and lacquer:					Castings, steel:				
Factory shipments, total					Shipments, total...short tons	#167,211	123,281	122,758	.....
thous. dol.	#107,729	r92,557	104,764	.....	For sale, total.....do..	#126,819	91,017	93,577	.....
Industrial sales.....do..	#42,960	r40,217	40,005	.....	Railway specialties.....do..	#r27,150	18,685	20,058	.....
Trade sales.....do..	#64,769	r52,340	64,759	.....	Steel products, net shipments:				
FOODSTUFFS AND TOBACCO					Total.....thous.sh.tons	#7,068	5,685	5,728	.....
Livestock slaughter:					Bars, hot rolled:				
Calves.....thous. animals	422	634	546	518	All grades.....do..	#853	586	569	.....
Cattle.....do..	1,170	1,653	1,541	1,302	Reinforcing.....do..	#146	125	111	.....
Hogs.....do..	4,550	5,194	4,712	3,883	Semimanufactures.....do..	#358	190	169	.....
Sheep and lambs.....do..	1,088	1,227	1,241	1,090	Pipes and tubes.....do..	#832	714	664	.....
Meats, production, total...mil. lb.	1,572	1,952	1,836	1,517	Plates.....do..	#714	633	572	.....
Beef and veal.....thous. lb.	701,489	939,793	895,446	761,153	Rails.....do..	#166	185	178	.....
Lamb and mutton.....do..	53,166	57,079	59,522	53,274	Sheets.....do..	#1,851	1,674	1,738	.....
Pork, including lard.....do..	816,995	954,712	881,313	702,169	Strip: Cold rolled.....do..	#190	140	123	.....
Lard.....do..	157,799	178,155	162,245	128,867	Hot rolled.....do..	#203	116	127	.....
Tobacco, manufactured prod.:					Structural shapes.....do..	#418	481	473	.....
Production, total.....thous. lb.	#16,683	14,735	15,502	.....	Tin plate & terneplate.....do..	#433	266	411	.....
Chewing, plug & twist...do..	#6,394	5,978	6,796	.....	Wire & wire prod.....do..	#458	264	292	.....
Smoking.....do..	#6,893	5,373	5,549	.....	Lead, refined (primary ref.):				
Snuff.....do..	#3,396	3,384	3,157	.....	Production.....sh. tons	45,423	48,687	48,518	42,046
Consumption (withdrawals):					Shipments (domestic).....do..	36,811	35,007	37,108	36,551
Cigarettes, small, tax-free					Stocks, end of month.....do..	58,949	81,152	92,496	97,981
millions	#2,649	3,534	2,700	.....	Machine tools:				
Cigarettes, small, tax-paid					New orders 1/.....1945-47=100	282.1	149.8	r173.5	p160.2
millions	#32,498	29,141	28,858	.....	Shipments 1/.....do..	354.5	301.4	r319.4	p321.3
Cigars, tax-paid...thousands	#431,158	443,532	401,693	.....	Electrical appl., sales billed:				
Manufactured tobacco & snuff,					Vacuum cleaners, stand. number	246,007	190,773	221,233	199,035
tax-paid.....thous. lbs.	#16,804	15,213	14,997	.....	Washers.....do..	333,601	200,034	256,596	306,639
LEATHER AND PRODUCTS					Radio sets, production 2/				
Leather production:					thousands	1,192.4	1,101.1	872.0	769.2
Calf and kip.....thous. skins	#930	846	804	.....	Television sets, prod. 2/ number	730,597	449,787	420,571	426,933
Cattle hide.....thous. hides	#2,123	r1,978	1,949	.....	PETROLEUM, COAL, AND PRODUCTS				
Goat and kid.....thous. skins	#2,802	r2,353	2,262	.....	Coal, production:				
Sheep and lamb.....do..	#2,215	r1,825	1,648	.....	Anthracite.....thous. sh. tons	2,365	2,370	2,632	p2,354
METALS AND MANUFACTURES					Bituminous.....do..	34,398	37,082	33,640	p29,430
Iron ore (Lake Superior dis.):					TEXTILE PRODUCTS				
Consumption by furnaces					Cotton: 2/				
thous. l. tons	7,396	7,022	6,996	5,787	Consumption.....bales	766,090	757,152	678,827	684,367
Stocks, end of mo., total.....do..	29,949	48,815	41,974	36,386	Mfrs., spindle activity:				
At furnaces.....do..	25,741	41,145	34,797	29,661	Active spindles, last-work-				
On Lake Erie docks.....do..	4,207	7,671	7,178	6,725	ing day, total.....thous.	21,622	20,933	20,897	20,888
Castings, gray iron:					Consum. 100% cotton.....do..	20,277	19,695	19,652	19,656
Orders, unfilled, for sale					Spindle hours operated, all				
thous. sh. tons	#1,333	955	872	.....	fibers, total 2/...mil. hr.	10,179	10,246	9,145	9,231
Shipments, total.....do..	#1,162	1,032	932	.....	Av. per working day.....do..	517.5	436.0	457.2	469.3
For sale.....do..	#622	553	488	.....	Consum. 100% cotton 2/do..	9,561	9,683	8,631	8,697
Castings, malleable iron:					Operations as % of capacity	140.2	118.8	124.7	128.1
Orders, unf., for sale.sh.tons	#174,809	95,612	85,565	.....	Rayon and acetate:				
Shipments, total.....do..	#87,249	72,126	70,288	.....	Shipments, dom., producers':				
For sale.....do..	#53,272	39,657	38,266	.....	Filament yarn.....mil. lb.	71.0	53.9	55.9	.....
Pig iron, production					Staple (incl. tow).....do..	18.4	21.9	24.3	.....
thous. short tons	5,882	5,779	5,580	4,811	Stocks, producers', end mo.:				
					Filament yarn.....mil. lb.	62.9	77.2	78.6	75.2
					Staple (incl. tow).....do..	16.5	32.7	33.1	30.6

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. # For January 1953. 1/ Monthly average shipments, 1945-47=100. 2/ Data for December 1953 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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