



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS

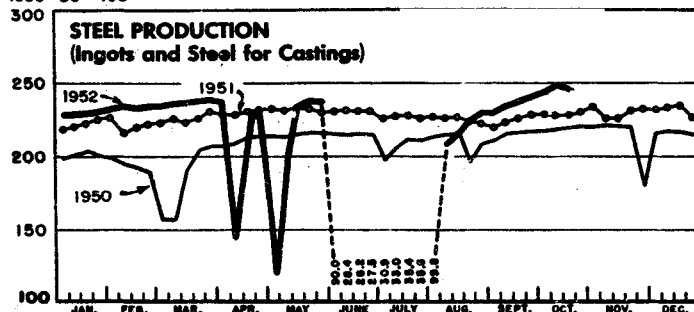


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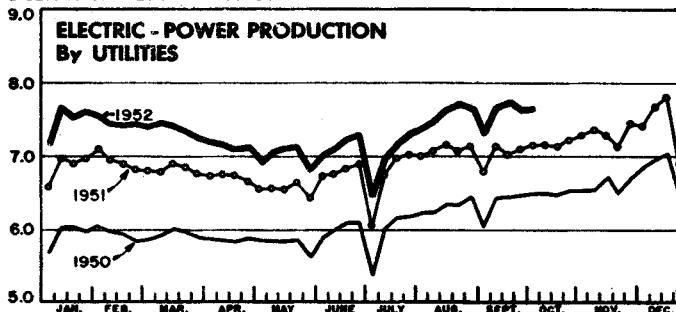
OCTOBER 17, 1952

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

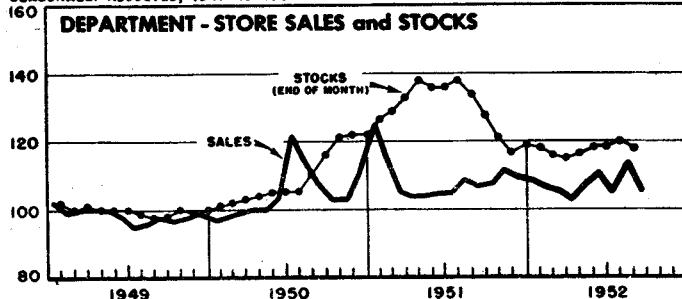
1935-39 = 100



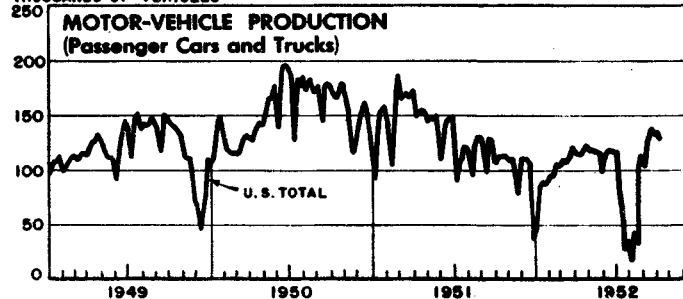
BILLIONS OF KILOWATT-HOURS



SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, 1947-49=100



THOUSANDS OF VEHICLES



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1951		1952				
	Oct. 6	Oct. 13	Sept. 13	Sept. 20	Sept. 27	Oct. 4	Oct. 11
Commodity prices, wholesale:							
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*113.7	111.4	111.3	111.1	111.0	111.0
Farm products.....do.....	.....	*111.5	107.2	106.2	105.2	105.9	106.0
Food, processed.....do.....	.....	*111.6	110.3	110.0	109.8	108.4	108.2
All other.....do.....	.....	*114.6	112.6	112.7	112.7	112.6	112.6
28 commodities 2/.....August 1939=100..	333.9	331.4	289.6	290.5	290.4	288.7	287.0
Cotton, middling, 15/16", 10 markets 3/.....dol. per lb..	.366	.367	.394	.386	.386	.383	.377
Wheat, No. 2, hard winter (Kansas City) 3/.....dol. per bu..	2.41	2.41	2.41	2.42	2.42	2.41	2.41
Department store sales.....1947-49=100..	110	117	114	113	112	116	.....
Unemployment, total.....thous..	854	884	743	704	.....	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	834	863	711	672	.....	.....	.....
Finance:							
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	28,345	28,454	29,368	29,314	29,303	29,262	29,576
Federal Reserve bank credit, total.....do.....	25,030	25,025	24,872	25,249	24,857	24,963	25,384
Member bank reserve balances.....do.....	20,004	19,939	20,340	21,067	20,581	20,098	20,239
Excess reserves, estimated.....do.....	1,161	1,071	819	1,204	747	356	662
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:							
Bank debits, total.....mil. of dol..	29,474	23,366	24,802	31,576	28,693	29,997	.....
New York City.....do.....	12,156	8,882	9,812	12,733	11,296	12,450	11,091
Deposits, demand, adjusted.....do.....	50,517	50,878	52,925	53,221	52,274	52,317	.....
Loans and investments, total.....do.....	71,223	71,085	75,303	76,019	75,532	75,773	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	30,878	30,864	31,786	31,928	31,685	31,579	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do.....	20,171	20,314	21,235	21,516	21,606	21,671	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	133	126	91	145	156	129	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.10	3.10	3.19	3.19	3.20	3.21	3.21
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Standard and Poor's).....1935-39=100..	188.6	186.9	187.2	186.4	187.8	185.6	185.8
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do.....	206.5	204.3	203.1	202.1	203.6	201.1	201.3
Production:							
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,820	1,838	1,975	1,930	1,672	1,496	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	7,156	7,160	7,654	7,725	7,625	7,665	.....
Motor vehicles (Ward's).....number..	106,359	114,479	127,685	138,380	132,624	134,671	130,453
Petroleum, crude 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,257	6,248	6,386	6,439	6,431	6,438	.....
Steel 4/.....1935-39=100..	229.8	228.0	234.5	237.6	242.0	245.9	248.0
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	859	869	881	874	862	852	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	408	416	409	407	414	416	.....

¹ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Thursday prices. 3/ Daily averages. 4/ Week ending October 18, 1952. * Monthly index for October 1951.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1951		1952			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
COMMODITY PRICES						
Wholesale prices of selected commodities:						
Butter, 92-score (New York).....dol. per lb..	0.673	0.682	0.690	0.714	0.737	0.732
Eggs, extras, large (Chicago).....dol. per doz..	.595	.630	.404	.525	.553	.553
Grains and grain products:						
Corn, weighted average, 5 markets.....dol. per bu..	1.705	1.712	1.763	1.735	1.764	1.716
Wheat, weighted average, 6 markets.....do....	2.339	2.341	2.350	2.314	2.413	2.474
Livestock and meats:						
Beef steers (Chicago).....dol. per 100 lb..	36.39	36.99	32.22	32.53	32.52	32.19
Hogs, all grades (Chicago).....do.....	20.35	19.62	19.25	19.96	19.98	19.11
Beef, fresh, steer carcasses, good (N. Y.)..dol. per lb..	.578	.594	.540	.534	.559	.562
Pork, fresh, loins, 8-12 lb. (New York).....do....	.544	.559	.535	.552	.612	.569
Metals and manufactures:						
Steel, composite, finished.....dol. per lb..	.0471	.0471	.0471	.0476	.0498	.0498
Copper, electrolytic (New York).....do....	.2420	.2420	.2420	.2420	.2420	.2420
Lead, refined, pig, desilverized (New York).....do....	.1700	.1700	.1526	.1600	.1600	.1600
Zinc, prime, Western (St. Louis).....do....	.1750	.1750	.1574	.1500	.1406	.1398
Wool, raw, territory, fine, scoured (Boston).....do....	1/2.230	1/1.825	1/1.600	1.627	1/1.660	1/1.596
DOMESTIC TRADE						
Retail trade:						
All retail stores:						
Estimated sales (adjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	13,074	12,992	r14,000	r13,646	13,391	.....
Durable-goods stores.....do.....	4,387	4,398	r4,887	r4,492	4,240	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	8,687	8,594	9,113	r9,154	9,151	.....
Estimated inventories (adjusted), total.....do....	19,429	18,761	17,847	r17,810	17,284	.....
Durable-goods stores.....do.....	9,154	8,693	7,733	r7,467	7,293	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	10,275	10,068	10,114	r10,343	9,991	.....
Department store sales, United States total:						
Unadjusted index.....1947-49=100..	93	r113	105	84	98	p112
Adjusted index.....do....	109	107	111	105	114	p106
EMPLOYMENT						
Labor turn-over in manufacturing establishments:						
Accession rate.....monthly rate per 100 employees..	4.5	4.3	4.9	4.4	p5.7	.....
Separation rate, total.....do....	5.3	5.1	3.9	5.0	p4.5	.....
Discharges.....do.....	.4	.3	.3	.3	p.3	.....
Lay-offs.....do....	1.4	1.3	1.1	2.2	p.9	.....
Quits.....do.....	3.1	3.1	2.2	2.2	p3.0	.....
Military and miscellaneous.....do....	.4	.4	.3	.3	p.3	.....
FINANCE						
Bank debits, total (141 centers).....mil. of dol..						
New York City.....do....	111,190	107,504	129,870	131,960	110,578	123,886
Outside New York City.....do....	41,363	41,145	54,922	57,052	43,166	49,278
Life insurance, assets, admitted:	69,827	66,359	74,948	74,908	67,412	74,608
All companies (Institute of Life Insur.), est. total.do....	66,455	66,777	70,334	70,774	71,123	.....
Securities and mortgages.....do....	59,701	59,961	63,083	63,590	63,855	.....
49 companies (Life Insurance Association of America):						
Total.....do....	r58,703	58,975	61,857	62,201	62,495	.....
Bonds and stocks, book value, total.....do....	r37,573	37,652	38,780	39,079	39,184	.....
Government (domestic and foreign), total.....do....	12,410	12,326	11,096	11,134	11,131	.....
U. S. Government.....do....	10,166	10,050	8,989	9,007	9,025	.....
Public utility.....do....	10,548	10,587	11,066	11,109	11,184	.....
Railroad.....do....	3,044	3,065	3,238	3,251	3,253	.....
Other.....do....	r11,572	11,675	13,380	13,585	13,615	.....
Cash.....do....	739	721	847	750	758	.....
Mortgage loans, total.....do....	15,365	15,518	16,852	16,976	17,082	.....
Farm.....do....	1,310	1,319	1,439	1,454	1,463	.....
Other.....do....	14,054	14,198	15,413	15,521	15,619	.....
Policy loans and premium notes.....do....	2,167	2,175	2,246	2,254	2,262	.....
Real-estate holdings.....do....	r1,362	1,378	1,498	1,510	1,520	.....
Other admitted assets.....do....	r1,498	1,531	1,633	1,634	1,688	.....
Bonds:						
Prices:						
Standard and Poor's Corporation:						
Domestic municipal (15 bonds).....dol. per \$100 bond..	132.1	132.0	130.9	130.4	128.6	126.6
U. S. Treasury bonds, taxable.....do....	98.90	99.10	98.32	98.40	97.09	96.86
Yields:						
Domestic corporate (Moody's).....percent..	3.12	3.08	3.17	3.17	3.18	3.19
By ratings: Aaa.....do....	2.88	2.84	2.94	2.95	2.94	2.95
Aa.....do....	2.92	2.88	3.03	3.04	3.06	3.07
A.....do....	3.17	3.15	3.20	3.19	3.21	3.22
Baa.....do....	3.50	3.46	3.50	3.50	3.51	3.52
By groups: Industrial.....do....	2.92	2.89	2.98	2.99	3.00	3.02
Public utility.....do....	3.13	3.09	3.20	3.20	3.20	3.20
Railroad.....do....	3.31	3.27	3.32	3.33	3.34	3.36
Dom. municipal (15 bonds), Stand. and Poor's Corp.do....	2.04	2.05	2.10	2.12	2.22	2.33
U. S. Treasury bonds (taxable).....do....	2.57	2.56	2.61	2.61	2.70	2.71
Stocks:						
Cash dividend payments publicly reported.....mil. of dol..	214.9	1,148.4	1,176.4	541.7	230.8	1,158.3
Finance.....do....	40.6	81.1	79.8	127.0	50.3	77.7
Manufacturing.....do....	102.4	761.2	754.0	198.5	106.1	754.9
Mining.....do....	2.5	92.2	97.6	6.8	3.3	95.0

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Nominal price. 2/ These figures are not yet revised to the new retail sales series shown above.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

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Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1951		1952			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
FINANCE - Continued						
Stocks - Continued						
Cash dividends publicly reported - Continued						
Communications.....mil. of dol..	.7	40.0	42.4	88.9	.8	42.0
Heat, light, and power.....do....	47.3	66.0	76.2	55.9	49.1	75.7
Railroad.....do....	7.8	35.9	55.8	12.4	6.4	42.4
Trade.....do....	7.8	50.4	45.6	38.7	10.4	47.1
Miscellaneous.....do....	5.8	21.6	25.0	13.5	4.4	23.5
Dividend rate per share:						
Common stocks (200 stocks), Moody's.....dollars..	4.11	4.12	3.96	3.96	3.96	3.95
Industrial (125 stocks).....do....	4.45	4.47	4.22	4.22	4.22	4.20
Public utility (24 stocks).....do....	1.88	1.90	1.91	1.91	1.92	1.92
Railroad (25 stocks).....do....	2.58	2.55	2.69	2.69	2.71	2.81
Banks (15 stocks).....do....	2.63	2.63	2.64	2.64	2.64	2.68
Insurance (10 stocks).....do....	2.73	2.73	2.88	2.88	2.87	2.87
Dividend yields:						
Common stocks (200 stocks), Moody's.....percent..	5.86	5.91	5.45	5.39	5.46	5.56
Industrial (125 stocks).....do....	5.98	6.03	5.48	5.41	5.51	5.63
Public utility (24 stocks).....do....	5.67	5.78	5.51	5.44	5.31	5.28
Railroad (25 stocks).....do....	6.33	6.13	5.64	5.61	5.68	6.03
Banks (15 stocks).....do....	4.67	4.70	4.56	4.52	4.39	4.23
Insurance (10 stocks).....do....	3.20	3.28	3.18	3.21	3.15	3.18
Pref. stocks, 11 high-grade (Stand. and Poor's Corp.).....do....	4.13	4.16	4.04	4.09	4.12	4.12
TRANSPORTATION						
Freight carloadings:						
Cars, total (A.A.R.) 1/.....thousands..	4,120	3,312	2,608	2,236	3,882	3,363
Coal.....do....	740	605	478	317	613	636
Coke.....do....	82	64	22	15	58	57
Forest products.....do....	240	181	179	170	243	179
Grain and grain products.....do....	269	202	232	255	263	187
Livestock.....do....	44	59	26	24	42	49
Ore.....do....	446	337	96	44	447	387
Merchandise, l.c.l.....do....	372	291	278	257	364	289
Miscellaneous.....do....	1,928	1,573	1,298	1,155	1,852	1,579
FOODSTUFFS						
Wheat flour:						
Production:						
Flour.....thous. of sacks (100 lb.)..	19,653	18,795	18,101	19,099	19,177	.....
Operations, percent of capacity.....	76.3	88.5	77.5	78.2	82.3	.....
Offal.....short tons..	396,000	378,000	367,535	387,693	386,219	.....
Grindings of wheat.....thous. of bu..	45,928	43,789	42,234	44,530	44,698	.....
LEATHER AND PRODUCTS						
Shoes and slippers, production, total.....thous. of pairs..						
Shoes, sandals, and play shoes, except athletic, total	37,532	30,844	35,408	33,946	40,703	.....
thous. of pairs..						
Men's.....do....	9,156	7,969	8,279	7,256	8,986	.....
Youths' and boys'.....do....	1,468	1,258	1,586	1,485	1,949	.....
Women's.....do....	19,862	15,580	17,926	18,385	21,910	.....
Misses' and children's.....do....	4,480	3,800	4,728	4,393	5,135	.....
Infants' and babies'.....do....	2,566	2,237	2,889	2,427	2,723	.....
Slippers for housewear.....do....	5,091	4,660	3,816	4,070	5,249	.....
Athletic.....do....	198	189	181	169	234	.....
Other footwear.....do....	413	437	342	335	366	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (Lake Superior district):						
Shipments from upper lake ports.....thous. of long tons..	13,229	12,672	2,487	1,904	14,368	14,389
Steel ingots and steel for castings:						
Production.....thous. of short tons..	8,739	8,660	1,639	1,627	8,499	9,034
Percent of capacity.....	99	101	18	r18	92	102
Zinc, slab:						
Production.....short tons..	74,035	70,623	77,463	76,930	78,167	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	74,191	64,632	47,265	43,353	78,435	.....
Domestic.....do....	65,696	58,436	36,894	r38,714	72,963	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	11,244	17,235	63,342	96,919	96,651	.....
Foundry equipment (new), new orders, net.....1937-39=100..	404.5	346.5	353.8	343.9	311.6	.....
PETROLEUM, COAL, AND PRODUCTS						
Anthracite, production.....thous. of short tons..						
Anthracite, production.....thous. of short tons..	3,514	3,178	3,103	2,484	2,663	3,694
Bituminous coal:						
Production.....do....	47,184	42,954	31,460	25,800	34,320	46,870
Industrial consumption, total.....do....	31,521	30,190	20,235	r20,270	27,449	.....
Beehive coke ovens.....do....	990	850	133	104	403	.....
Byproduct coke ovens.....do....	8,742	8,454	2,930	r3,293	8,259	.....
Cement mills.....do....	701	688	582	603	681	.....
Electric-power utilities.....do....	8,625	8,288	7,369	7,597	8,250	.....
Railways (class I).....do....	4,064	3,902	2,569	2,342	2,722	.....
Steel and rolling mills.....do....	579	544	208	229	532	.....
Retail deliveries.....do....	5,135	5,564	2,978	3,219	5,212	.....
Stocks, ind. and retail dealers, end of month, total.....do....	75,414	76,245	80,744	r79,359	81,156	.....
Industrial, total.....do....	73,492	74,352	79,108	r77,698	79,485	.....
Retail dealers.....do....	1,922	1,893	1,636	1,661	1,671	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for August 1951 and 1952 are for 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1951		1952			
	July	August	May	June	July	August
PAPER AND PRINTING						
All paper and paperboard mills (Bureau of the Census):						
Paper and paperboard production, total, thous. of short tons..	1,997	r2,208	2,011	1,949	r1,762	2,052
Paper.....do.....	975	r1,106	1,029	981	r869	985
Paperboard.....do.....	906	r992	875	858	r783	941
Building board.....do.....	116	r110	106	110	110	126
Paper, excluding building paper, newsprint, and paperboard (American Paper and Pulp Association):						
Orders, new.....short tons..	812,496	854,043	740,502	r753,235	r715,195	722,000
Production.....do.....	783,778	894,740	817,027	r773,003	r674,613	736,000
Shipments.....do.....	770,991	895,659	803,031	r769,654	r671,085	724,000
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	312,183	311,254	376,503	r381,065	r384,550	395,750
Fine paper:						
Orders, new.....do.....	108,242	104,721	91,140	r89,628	r83,848	80,000
Production.....do.....	95,741	116,506	115,790	r100,121	r84,195	98,000
Shipments.....do.....	98,572	116,652	109,550	r96,843	r81,323	97,000
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	63,605	63,459	78,490	r81,905	r84,750	85,750
Printing paper:						
Orders, new.....do.....	268,285	290,115	261,286	r276,760	r262,177	253,000
Production.....do.....	254,382	304,666	288,313	r278,120	r238,014	252,000
Shipments.....do.....	254,294	305,590	285,851	r279,095	r232,209	245,000
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	113,845	112,920	140,488	r139,500	r145,300	152,000
Coarse paper:						
Orders, new.....do.....	277,783	302,539	246,360	r237,383	r221,837	245,000
Production.....do.....	277,523	303,033	269,058	r250,159	r216,643	244,000
Shipments.....do.....	270,980	303,762	262,180	r240,210	r212,651	240,000
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	84,993	84,265	84,000	r95,000	r99,000	103,000
RUBBER AND RUBBER PRODUCTS						
Natural rubber:						
Consumption.....long tons..	35,478	36,506	r36,347	36,946	r32,760	32,678
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	67,816	67,491	63,988	72,995	r84,839	84,299
Synthetic rubber:						
Production.....do.....	76,250	74,951	61,368	64,040	58,992	59,214
Consumption.....do.....	61,419	67,260	67,339	66,203	r58,642	60,998
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	89,527	96,382	154,339	151,324	r152,373	150,248
Tires and tubes:						
Pneumatic casings:						
Production.....thousands..	6,718	7,533	7,433	7,366	7,097	6,933
Shipments.....do.....	6,584	7,145	7,443	9,003	7,148	7,989
Original equipment.....do.....	2,361	2,813	2,719	2,617	1,186	1,632
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	3,586	4,033	13,263	11,668	11,647	10,637
Inner tubes:						
Production.....do.....	5,179	6,141	5,771	5,536	4,790	4,867
Shipments.....do.....	5,042	5,729	5,330	6,040	4,507	5,431
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	5,685	6,272	11,493	10,974	r11,223	10,627
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS						
Portland cement:						
Production.....thous. of bbl..	22,439	22,514	21,829	20,748	21,342	23,573
Shipments.....do.....	24,259	25,841	23,282	25,067	25,084	25,915
Stocks, finished, end of month.....do.....	14,812	11,491	23,220	18,896	r15,158	12,816
Stocks, clinker, end of month.....do.....	5,601	4,851	9,513	8,483	7,548	6,097

r/ Revised.

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WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT
SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS