



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS

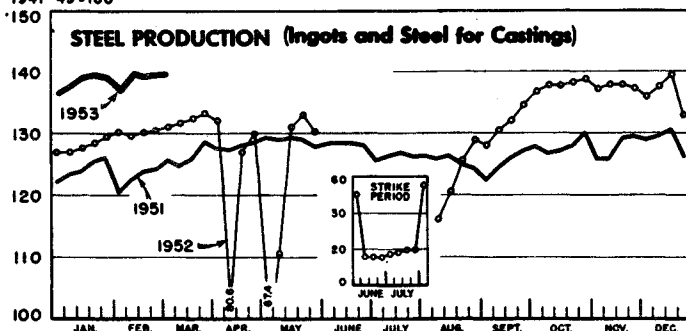


Available only with subscription to the monthly magazine SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

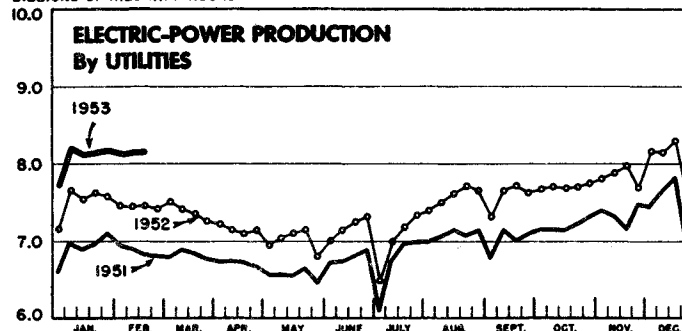
MARCH 6, 1953

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

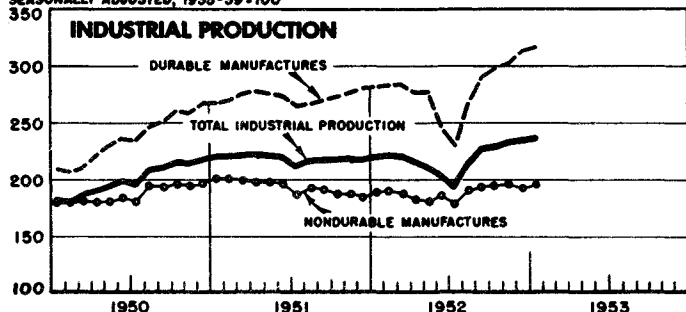
1947-49=100



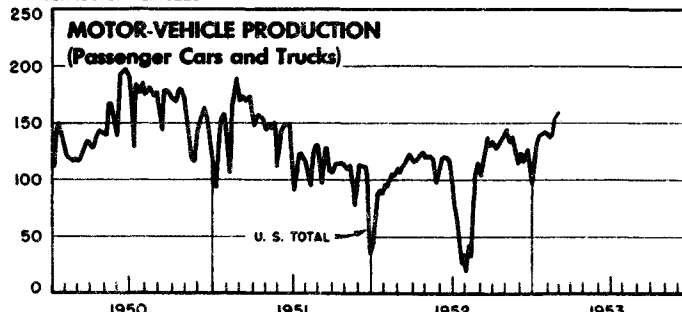
BILLIONS OF KILOWATT-HOURS



SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, 1935-39=100



THOUSANDS OF VEHICLES



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1952		1953				
	Feb. 23	Mar. 1	Jan. 31	Feb. 7	Feb. 14	Feb. 21	Feb. 28
Commodity prices, wholesale:							
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	*112.5	.....	#109.9	109.2	109.4	109.6	109.7
Farm products.....do.....	*107.8	.....	#99.8	97.5	98.9	98.5	98.2
Foods, processed.....do.....	*109.5	.....	#105.5	104.2	104.5	105.3	105.4
All other.....do.....	*114.2	.....	#112.9	112.8	112.7	112.8	113.1
22 commodities 2/.....do.....	103.2	102.0	88.7	87.8	87.9	89.5	89.7
Cotton, middling, 15/16", 10 markets 3/.....dol. per lb..	.398	.402	.330	.330	.326	.327	.330
Wheat, No. 2, hard winter (Kansas City) 3/.....dol. per bu..	2.50	2.48	2.39	2.37	2.32	2.36	2.41
Department store sales.....1947-49=100..	83	85	87	88	92	85	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,325	1,294	1,207	1,149	1,191	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	1,280	1,253	1,117	1,060	1,100	.....	.....
Finance:							
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	28,395	28,428	29,653	29,687	29,753	29,688	29,755
Federal Reserve bank credit, total.....do.....	23,887	23,750	26,009	26,148	25,912	25,648	25,406
Member bank reserve balances.....do.....	20,007	19,710	20,502	20,584	20,376	20,318	19,975
Excess reserves, estimated.....do.....	714	486	397	538	445	337	166
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:							
Bank debits, total.....mil. of dol..	30,962	24,342	28,668	31,409	26,948	30,383	.....
New York City.....do.....	12,736	9,487	11,108	13,227	10,767	11,608	10,107
Deposits, demand, adjusted.....do.....	52,557	52,683	54,799	53,848	53,609	53,066	.....
Loans and investments, total.....do.....	73,504	73,526	77,341	76,990	76,902	77,051	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	31,973	31,892	31,687	31,432	31,278	31,089	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do.....	21,148	21,157	22,837	22,780	22,814	22,715	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	177	163	162	159	200	176	178
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.18	3.18	3.24	3.24	3.26	3.27	3.28
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Standard and Poor's) 1935-39=100..	179.6	180.3	197.4	198.8	194.2	193.7	196.6
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do.....	194.8	195.4	213.9	215.6	210.0	209.4	212.9
Production:							
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,702	1,716	1,479	1,428	1,392	1,420	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	7,461	7,416	8,151	8,129	8,147	8,196	.....
Motor vehicles (Ward's).....number..	104,393	111,360	141,137	137,732	137,425	152,029	154,695
Petroleum, crude 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,267	6,267	6,428	6,427	6,449	6,446	.....
Steel (revised series) 4/.....1947-49=100..	130.1	130.5	139.5	137.1	139.9	139.1	139.5
Freight car loadings, total.....thous. of cars..	684	756	698	691	682	690	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	350	390	374	371	372	377	.....

^{1/} Data do not always cover calendar weeks. ^{2/} Tuesday prices. ^{3/} Daily averages. ^{4/} Week ending March 7, 1953. * Monthly index for February 1952. # Monthly index for January 1953.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1951	1952				1953
	December	January	October	November	December	January
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Industrial production (Federal Reserve):						
Unadjusted, combined index.....1935-39=100..	217	217	233	235	233	p233
Manufactures.....do.....	227	227	245	246	246	p246
Durable manufactures.....do.....	280	280	301	305	311	p314
Iron and steel.....do.....	263	261	280	283	r287	p287
Lumber and products.....do.....	141	142	164	159	151	p152
Furniture.....do.....	178	175	190	190	r195	p191
Lumber.....do.....	122	125	151	143	128	p132
Machinery.....do.....	358	359	363	372	r385	p391
Nonferrous metals and products.....do.....	207	216	236	240	245	p247
Smelting and refining.....do.....	235	243	251	251	r259	p265
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do.....	212	205	234	226	r215	p207
Clay products.....do.....	177	169	171	167	r168	p159
Transportation equipment.....do.....	320	318	368	376	r398	p403
Automobiles (including parts).....do.....	221	218	261	271	r293	p302
Nondurable manufactures.....do.....	185	184	200	199	r192	p192
Chemical products.....do.....	302	302	309	313	r314	p311
Industrial chemicals.....do.....	563	562	577	594	r599	p595
Leather and products.....do.....	88	100	112	114	107	.....
Leather tanning.....do.....	79	86	104	106	99	.....
Shoes.....do.....	94	110	118	120	112	.....
Manufactured food products.....do.....	158	151	178	r165	r158	p152
Meat packing.....do.....	195	193	169	190	208	p199
Processed fruits and vegetables.....do.....	96	83	194	114	r98	p91
Printing and publishing.....do.....	178	170	180	183	172	p167
Rubber products.....do.....	250	248	258	263	r270	p272
Textiles and products.....do.....	152	157	172	176	r169	p172
Cotton consumption.....do.....	136	144	142	149	141	140
Rayon deliveries.....do.....	283	296	361	356	337	349
Minerals.....do.....	159	162	166	170	r163	p160
Fuels.....do.....	170	175	167	177	r176	p172
Anthracite.....do.....	86	91	95	87	71	60
Bituminous coal.....do.....	135	147	93	135	125	116
Crude petroleum.....do.....	193	194	203	202	r207	p205
Metals.....do.....	89	88	164	132	r85	p87
Adjusted, combined index 1/.....do.....	218	221	230	234	235	p237
Manufactures.....do.....	228	231	242	245	247	p250
Durable manufactures.....do.....	282	282	299	304	r314	p317
Lumber and products.....do.....	154	159	161	161	164	p172
Lumber.....do.....	141	150	138	146	149	p163
Nonferrous metals.....do.....	207	216	236	240	245	p247
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do.....	219	217	224	221	r222	p220
Clay products.....do.....	172	182	161	161	r163	p171
Nondurable manufactures.....do.....	185	189	195	197	r193	p196
Chemical products.....do.....	298	r301	303	308	r309	p310
Leather and products.....do.....	88	100	112	113	107	.....
Leather tanning.....do.....	79	86	103	103	100	.....
Manufactured food products.....do.....	160	162	165	161	161	p164
Meat packing.....do.....	163	162	169	170	176	p170
Processed fruits and vegetables.....do.....	123	128	151	124	r126	p140
Printing and publishing.....do.....	174	175	176	175	168	p172
Minerals.....do.....	163	167	164	171	r168	p165
Metals.....do.....	122	125	145	138	r118	p123
BUSINESS POPULATION						
Industrial and commercial failures:						
Failures, total.....number..	612	671	631	590	583	647
Commercial service.....do.....	48	50	52	61	43	39
Construction.....do.....	71	68	88	62	76	78
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	131	143	146	121	131	130
Retail trade.....do.....	296	348	291	280	288	334
Wholesale trade.....do.....	66	62	54	66	45	66
Liabilities, total.....thous. of dol..	19,403	26,208	35,049	18,757	23,400	23,309
Commercial service.....do.....	1,874	4,249	2,175	3,027	953	868
Construction.....do.....	2,251	2,672	5,167	1,588	5,068	2,735
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	6,515	8,365	13,079	5,853	8,458	9,107
Retail trade.....do.....	5,177	7,761	6,078	5,865	7,046	8,009
Wholesale trade.....do.....	3,586	3,161	8,550	2,424	1,875	2,590
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Value of contracts awarded (Federal Reserve indexes):						
Total, unadjusted.....1947-49=100..	134	132	r201	177	r166	158
Residential, unadjusted.....do.....	124	118	r181	172	r156	153
Total, adjusted.....do.....	166	161	210	196	r205	192
Residential, adjusted.....do.....	145	142	185	178	r183	184
Construction cost index (Department of Commerce), composite 1947-49=100..	117.5	118.4	122.6	122.5	122.5	122.8
FOREIGN TRADE						
Exports, including reexports, total 1/.....mil. of dol..	1,438	r1,254	r1,213	r1,186	1,388	.....
Exports of U. S. merchandise 1/.....do.....	r1,429	r1,241	r1,205	r1,176	1,380	.....
General imports, total.....do.....	r800	922	918	804	1,052	.....
Imports for consumption.....do.....	800	915	966	795	1,021	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ See note on corresponding item in the February 1953 Survey.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1951	1952				1953
	December	January	October	November	December	January
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Fats, oils, and byproducts:						
Animal fats:						
Production.....thous. of lb..	398,619	417,530	358,024	367,547	r431,751	426,887
Stocks, end of month.....do....	303,436	327,037	296,004	327,150	406,370	460,719
Greases:						
Production.....do....	56,659	58,919	54,838	55,434	57,588	57,636
Stocks, end of month.....do....	100,465	103,801	101,152	107,530	114,150	117,840
Fish oils:						
Production.....do....	2,305	900	9,268	5,743	3,037	486
Stocks, end of month.....do....	96,437	82,084	103,115	92,801	90,117	76,243
Vegetable oils, total:						
Production, crude.....mil. of lb..	552	584	627	592	566	572
Stocks, end of month:						
Crude.....do....	1,254	1,279	1,049	1,096	1,115	1,147
Refined.....do....	445	504	474	578	689	777
Cottonseed oil, refined:						
Production.....thous. of lb..	182,865	185,037	173,856	190,034	r198,592	185,476
Stocks, end of month.....do....	292,881	336,814	343,165	445,493	r544,572	627,573
Linseed oil, raw:						
Production.....do....	52,120	46,857	58,017	54,620	46,016	51,336
Stocks, end of month.....do....	656,147	652,687	622,079	626,611	634,959	647,703
Soybean oil:						
Production: Crude.....do....	221,798	234,386	238,300	230,609	r226,935	231,000
Refined.....do....	149,822	179,073	199,066	173,576	198,811	202,469
Stocks, end of month: Crude.....do....	197,471	230,950	124,629	139,602	r153,674	166,159
Refined.....do....	83,920	97,092	75,677	73,545	83,716	87,118
Oleomargarine:						
Production.....do....	96,240	128,145	123,403	105,480	116,840	126,530
Stocks (factory and warehouse).....do....	18,830	17,485	23,362	21,694	25,283	23,417
Shortenings and compounds:						
Production.....do....	116,509	128,313	178,057	126,622	131,749	141,446
Stocks, end of month.....do....	101,441	94,405	86,653	93,678	93,668	87,442
FOODSTUFFS						
Dairy products, production:						
Butter, creamery (factory).....thous. of lb..	70,397	77,980	89,575	76,420	95,855	106,095
Cheese (factory), total.....do....	66,491	70,170	89,090	78,110	84,840	87,355
Condensed milk (sweetened):						
Bulk goods.....do....	13,636	13,400	10,250	9,050	10,100	10,100
Case goods.....do....	6,191	6,550	3,725	3,275	4,575	5,050
Evaporated milk (unsweetened), case goods.....do....	141,096	157,000	208,000	167,100	171,750	170,600
Dry milk:						
Dry whole milk.....do....	6,157	7,415	5,475	4,840	5,840	7,400
Nonfat dry milk solids (human food).....do....	35,960	45,350	45,100	43,000	65,950	78,000
Meats, production, total.....mil. of lb..	1,866	1,977	1,819	1,742	2,127	1,999
Beef and veal.....thous. of lb..	585,399	656,307	801,489	662,271	735,078	775,091
Lamb and mutton.....do....	37,915	50,536	61,726	47,505	56,616	61,371
Pork, including lard.....do....	1,242,339	1,269,791	955,425	1,031,841	1,335,205	1,162,504
Lard.....do....	246,363	248,037	175,664	194,381	256,269	234,448
Coffee, visible supply, United States.....thous. of bags..	689	658	611	529	691	712
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (Lake Superior district):						
Consumption by furnaces.....thous. of long tons..	7,639	7,527	8,048	7,826	8,220	8,293
Stocks, end of month, total.....do....	43,711	35,927	47,839	51,208	45,172	37,077
At furnaces.....do....	37,315	30,369	41,699	44,318	39,055	31,967
On Lake Erie docks.....do....	6,396	5,558	6,140	6,890	6,116	5,110
Castings, gray iron:						
Orders, unfilled, for sale.....thous. of short tons..	1,847	1,801	1,392	1,309	1,316	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	1,033	1,199	1,233	1,061	1,142	.....
For sale.....do....	583	694	684	590	619	.....
Castings, malleable iron:						
Orders, unfilled, for sale.....short tons..	215,134	202,799	168,609	167,842	173,494	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	76,045	87,003	88,062	76,099	80,680	.....
For sale.....do....	45,543	54,988	52,922	46,708	50,485	.....
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	5,977	6,040	6,515	6,227	6,510	6,564
Castings, steel:						
Shipments, total.....short tons..	165,110	183,738	165,155	148,259	161,733	.....
For sale, total.....do....	123,448	139,488	124,626	110,467	122,166	.....
Railway specialties.....do....	32,733	36,650	22,610	22,287	25,972	.....
Steel products, net shipments:						
Total.....thous. of short tons..	6,411	6,589	7,156	6,648	7,105	.....
Bars, hot rolled: Carbon and alloy.....do....	748	797	846	828	865	.....
Reinforcing.....do....	162	168	197	153	211	.....
Semimanufactures.....do....	313	285	377	350	395	.....
Pipes and tubes.....do....	777	811	861	783	857	.....
Plates.....do....	708	707	709	679	720	.....
Rails.....do....	146	156	156	145	153	.....
Sheets.....do....	1,590	1,644	1,819	1,714	1,843	.....
Strip: Cold rolled.....do....	154	180	189	166	179	.....
Hot rolled.....do....	180	186	207	194	196	.....
Structural shapes.....do....	409	427	412	416	422	.....
Tin plate and terneplate.....do....	352	298	435	388	373	.....
Wire and wire products.....do....	441	477	497	443	454	.....

□/ Revised.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1951	1952				1953
	December	January	October	November	December	January
METALS AND MANUFACTURES - Continued						
Lead, refined (primary refineries):						
Production.....short tons..	36,754	43,746	51,521	49,806	48,651	47,295
Shipments (domestic).....do....	37,274	40,390	43,150	51,271	40,370	37,678
Stocks, end of month.....do....	25,339	28,578	37,718	35,686	43,560	52,760
Foundry equipment (new), new orders, net.....1937-39=100..	230.5	404.5	335.8	258.1	343.3	301.0
Machine tools:						
New orders.....1945-47=100..	376.5	347.8	243.3	205.4	r225.2	p254.9
Shipments.....do....	264.7	266.6	357.8	342.5	r355.0	p361.9
Electrical equipment, domestic:						
Washers, standard size, shipments <u>1</u> /.....number..	224,471	218,956	335,616	298,641	317,914	282,453
Radio sets, production <u>2</u> /.....do....	868,100	632,455	772,346	924,195	1,325,158	1,093,142
Television sets (incl. combination), production <u>2</u> /.....do....	467,108	404,932	724,117	780,486	921,086	719,234
PETROLEUM AND PRODUCTS						
Crude petroleum:						
Production.....thous. of bbl..	191,650	192,712	202,044	194,611	205,645	.....
Consumption (runs to stills).....do....	206,032	205,829	213,358	211,456	215,504	.....
Stocks, end of month:						
Gasoline-bearing in U. S. ....do....	255,783	254,007	269,776	267,852	271,928	.....
Refined petroleum products:						
Fuel oil:						
Production: Distillate fuel oil.....do....	44,693	45,141	45,183	45,310	46,768	.....
Residual fuel oil.....do....	40,693	41,483	37,321	38,984	40,351	.....
Stocks, end of month: Distillate fuel oil.....do....	80,785	<u>1</u> /66,969	120,721	116,096	99,582	.....
Residual fuel oil.....do....	42,063	<u>1</u> /39,523	53,052	53,069	48,706	.....
Lubricating oils:						
Production.....do....	5,157	4,963	4,940	4,507	4,416	.....
Stocks, refinery, end of month.....do....	9,617	9,856	9,869	10,561	11,021	.....
Motor fuel:						
Production, total.....do....	100,039	98,551	104,873	104,894	106,432	.....
Gasoline and naphtha from crude petroleum.....do....	88,800	87,446	92,564	93,148	94,725	.....
Natural gasoline and allied products.....do....	18,941	19,058	19,605	19,396	20,804	.....
Stocks, gasoline, end of month:						
Finished gasoline.....do....	117,235	136,161	111,770	121,645	127,792	.....
Unfinished gasoline.....do....	7,747	8,178	8,292	7,864	8,236	.....
Natural gasoline.....do....	8,186	7,896	8,890	8,584	7,807	.....
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Hosiery:						
Production.....thous. of dozen pairs..	11,393	r13,899	15,627	14,108	13,278	14,360
Shipments.....do....	11,611	r13,191	16,757	15,034	12,886	13,555
Stocks, end of month.....do....	28,199	28,907	27,068	26,140	26,327	27,204
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT						
Motor vehicles, factory sales, total.....number..	380,655	375,410	604,261	519,536	r535,027	563,923
Coaches, total.....do....	845	778	389	319	231	248
Domestic.....do....	746	755	260	244	189	213
Passenger cars, total.....do....	293,325	273,122	471,808	405,111	r418,982	453,319
Domestic.....do....	284,831	258,158	459,958	394,313	r406,156	435,129
Trucks, total.....do....	86,485	101,510	132,064	114,106	115,814	110,356
Domestic.....do....	70,322	85,493	116,449	102,504	103,648	96,728

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ See note on corresponding item in February 1953 Survey. 2/ Data for December 1951 cover 5 weeks; December 1952, 6 weeks; and other months, 4 weeks.

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
DIVISION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

FIRST CLASS

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Permit No. 1009

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT
SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS