



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS

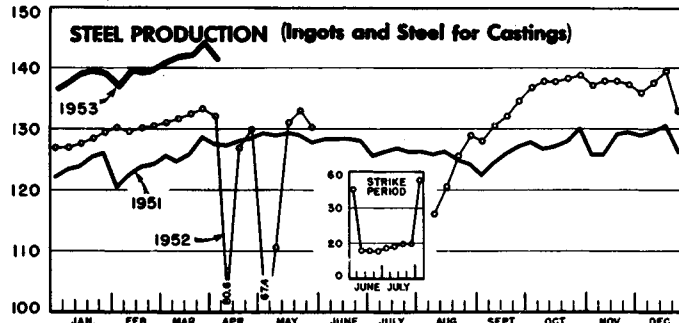


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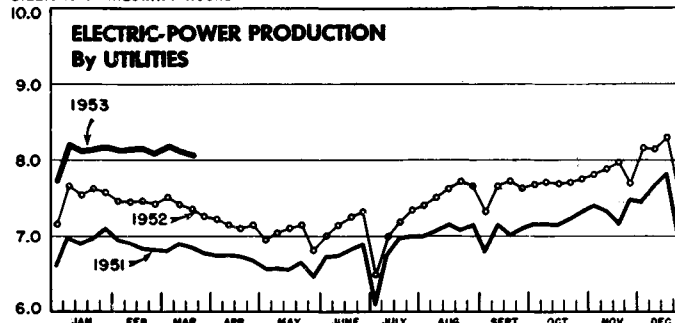
APRIL 3, 1953

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

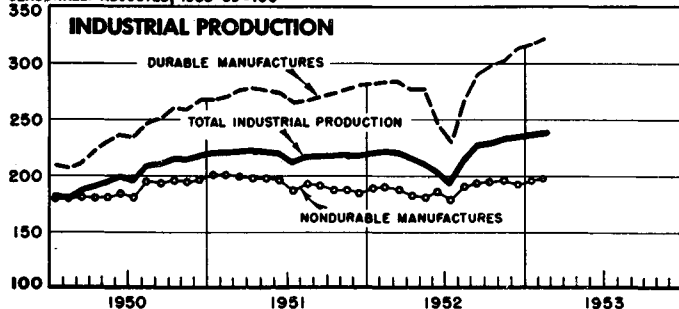
1947-49=100



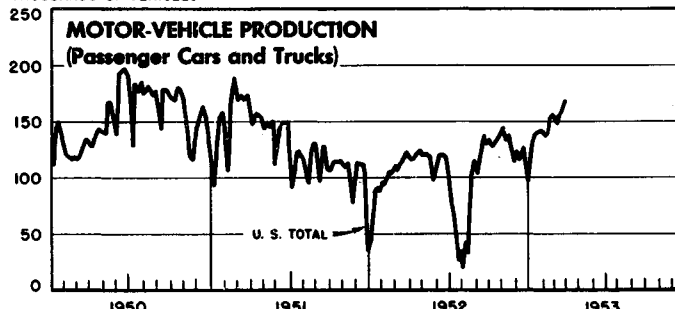
BILLIONS OF KILOWATT-HOURS



SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, 1935-39=100



THOUSANDS OF VEHICLES



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1952		1953				
	Mar. 22	Mar. 29	Feb. 28	Mar. 7	Mar. 14	Mar. 21	Mar. 28
Commodity prices, wholesale:							
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	*112.3	.....	**109.6	.....	109.9	110.2	110.0
Farm products.....do.....	*108.2	.....	**97.9	.....	98.4	100.1	98.9
Foods, processed.....do.....	*109.2	.....	**105.1	.....	105.4	104.9	105.1
All other.....do.....	*113.8	.....	**113.1	.....	113.3	113.4	113.4
22 commodities 2/.....do.....	100.9	100.6	89.7	90.0	90.3	90.5	90.3
Cotton, middling, 15/16", 10 markets 3/.....dol. per lb..	.414	.413	.330	.333	.335	.333	.329
Wheat, No. 2, hard winter (Kansas City) 3/.....dol. per bu..	2.51	2.50	2.41	2.39	2.39	2.41	2.40
Department store sales.....1947-49=100..	94	101	93	96	100	109	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,223	1,175	1,163	1,155	1,120	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	1,188	1,142	1,071	1,064	1,030	.....	.....
Finance:							
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	28,380	28,387	29,755	29,797	29,813	29,726	29,662
Federal Reserve bank credit, total.....do.....	24,216	23,413	25,406	25,742	25,941	26,178	25,387
Member bank reserve balances.....do.....	21,038	20,276	19,975	20,090	20,212	20,865	20,148
Excess reserves, estimated.....do.....	1,411	776	166	201	363	875	280
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities 4/							
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	52,993	51,909	53,243	53,876	54,841	54,479	.....
Time deposits, except Government.....do.....	16,580	16,589	17,701	18,078	18,106	18,115	.....
Loans and investments, total.....do.....	73,919	73,728	76,826	77,534	77,844	78,010	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	31,959	31,961	31,052	31,276	31,328	31,014	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do.....	21,469	21,364	22,711	22,922	23,139	23,418	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do.....	5,646	5,653	6,057	6,156	6,167	6,159	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	181	164	178	180	165	160	188
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.18	3.18	3.28	3.29	3.29	3.30	3.33
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Standard and Poor's).....1935-39=100..	185.7	185.3	196.6	195.9	198.2	199.2	198.5
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do.....	202.0	201.5	212.9	212.0	214.8	216.1	215.2
Production:							
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,587	1,639	1,417	1,350	1,410	1,353	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	7,354	7,263	8,070	8,173	8,138	8,078	.....
Motor vehicles (Ward's).....number..	116,412	124,035	157,565	148,827	155,608	159,329	169,379
Petroleum, crude 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,324	6,304	6,424	6,343	6,352	6,391	.....
Steel (revised series) 3/.....1947-49=100..	132.4	133.3	139.5	140.8	142.2	142.4	144.7
Freight car loadings, total.....thous. of cars..	720	725	669	685	700	701	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	380	381	370	374	384	391	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily averages. 4/ New basis beginning March 7, 1953; not strictly comparable with earlier data. 5/ Week ending April 4, 1953. * Monthly index for March 1952. ** Monthly index for February 1953.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1952				1953	
	January	February	November	December	January	February
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Industrial production (Federal Reserve):						
Unadjusted, combined index.....1935-39=100..	217	218	235	233	r232	p235
Manufactures.....do....	227	229	246	246	246	p249
Durable manufactures.....do....	280	281	305	311	r313	p319
Iron and steel.....do....	261	261	283	287	r287	p291
Lumber and products.....do....	142	148	159	151	r151	p156
Furniture.....do....	175	176	191	195	r189	p192
Lumber.....do....	125	133	143	128	132	p138
Machinery.....do....	359	360	372	385	r392	p399
Nonferrous metals and products.....do....	216	217	240	245	r249	p253
Smelting and refining.....do....	243	249	251	259	r266	p279
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	205	208	227	215	r210	p209
Clay products.....do....	169	168	169	168	r157	p162
Transportation equipment.....do....	318	322	378	398	r394	p406
Automobiles (including parts).....do....	218	219	275	293	r286	p301
Nondurable manufactures.....do....	184	186	199	193	r191	p193
Chemical products.....do....	302	300	313	314	311	p309
Industrial chemicals.....do....	562	562	595	599	r597	p590
Leather and products.....do....	100	109	114	107	116	.....
Leather tanning.....do....	86	96	107	99	103	.....
Shoes.....do....	110	118	120	112	126	.....
Manufactured food products.....do....	151	149	165	160	r153	p151
Meat packing.....do....	193	175	190	208	199	p164
Processed fruits and vegetables.....do....	83	84	112	98	r92	p92
Printing and publishing.....do....	170	175	183	172	r168	p176
Rubber products.....do....	248	243	265	270	r268	.....
Textiles and products.....do....	157	160	176	169	r169	p171
Cotton consumption.....do....	144	150	149	141	140	149
Rayon deliveries.....do....	296	295	356	337	r350	339
Minerals.....do....	162	162	170	163	r159	p158
Fuels.....do....	175	174	177	176	172	p170
Anthracite.....do....	91	77	87	71	60	60
Bituminous coal.....do....	147	135	135	125	116	109
Crude petroleum.....do....	194	199	202	207	r204	p205
Metals.....do....	88	91	131	84	r83	p86
Adjusted, combined index <u>1</u> /.....do....	221	222	234	235	r236	p239
Manufactures.....do....	231	232	245	247	r249	p253
Durable manufactures.....do....	282	284	305	314	r316	p322
Lumber and products.....do....	159	162	161	164	r171	p172
Lumber.....do....	150	154	146	149	r162	p161
Nonferrous metals.....do....	216	217	240	245	r249	p253
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	217	224	221	222	r224	p225
Clay products.....do....	182	177	164	163	r169	p171
Nondurable manufactures.....do....	189	190	197	193	r195	p198
Chemical products.....do....	301	297	308	309	310	p306
Leather and products.....do....	100	107	113	107	116	.....
Leather tanning.....do....	86	90	103	100	102	.....
Manufactured food products.....do....	162	165	161	162	165	p168
Meat packing.....do....	162	182	170	176	169	p172
Processed fruits and vegetables.....do....	128	133	121	126	r142	p146
Printing and publishing.....do....	175	177	175	168	r173	p178
Minerals.....do....	167	167	171	168	r164	p163
Metals.....do....	125	128	138	117	r119	p122
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumer price index, all items.....1947-49=100..	113.1	112.4	114.3	114.1	113.9	113.4
Apparel.....do....	107.0	106.8	105.2	105.1	104.6	104.6
Food.....do....	115.0	112.6	115.0	113.8	113.1	111.5
Dairy products.....do....	112.0	112.7	113.3	112.7	111.6	110.7
Fruits and vegetables.....do....	118.2	109.5	115.9	115.8	116.7	115.9
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do....	117.1	116.7	114.3	113.0	110.9	107.7
Housing.....do....	113.9	114.0	115.7	116.4	116.4	116.6
Gas and electricity.....do....	103.5	103.8	105.4	105.6	105.9	106.1
Housefurnishings.....do....	110.2	110.0	108.0	108.2	107.7	108.0
Rent.....do....	116.0	116.4	119.5	120.7	121.1	121.5
Medical care.....do....	114.7	114.8	118.9	119.3	119.4	119.3
Personal care.....do....	111.0	111.1	112.4	112.5	112.4	112.5
Reading and recreation.....do....	107.2	106.6	107.4	108.0	107.8	107.5
Transportation.....do....	122.8	123.7	128.9	128.9	129.3	129.1
Other goods and services.....do....	113.2	114.4	115.8	115.9	115.9	115.8
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Value of contracts awarded (Federal Reserve indexes):						
Total, unadjusted.....1947-49=100..	132	136	177	166	r156	151
Residential, unadjusted.....do....	118	145	172	156	r144	165
Total, adjusted.....do....	161	156	196	205	r190	173
Residential, adjusted.....do....	142	163	178	183	r173	184
Construction cost index (Department of Commerce), composite 1947-49=100..	118.4	118.3	122.5	122.5	122.8	122.6

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Indexes for which seasonal factors have been fixed at 100 are not shown; see unadjusted series.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

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Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1952				1953	
	January	February	November	December	January	February
DOMESTIC TRADE						
Radio advertising:						
Cost of facilities, total.....thous. of dol..	14,520	13,561	14,478	14,925	13,878	.....
Automotive, including accessories.....do....	407	276	640	522	598	.....
Drugs and toiletries.....do....	3,993	3,691	3,787	4,278	4,212	.....
Electric household equipment.....do....	224	204	474	357	388	.....
Financial.....do....	359	353	285	323	215	.....
Foods, soft drinks, confectionery.....do....	3,917	3,792	3,424	3,789	3,510	.....
Gasoline and oil.....do....	475	447	366	446	446	.....
Soap, cleansers, etc.....do....	1,592	1,482	1,482	1,588	1,192	.....
Smoking materials.....do....	1,772	1,590	1,277	1,322	1,295	.....
All other.....do....	1,781	1,726	2,744	2,301	2,022	.....
Magazine advertising:						
Cost, total.....do....	r31,917	44,629	63,849	48,083	35,018	.....
Apparel and accessories.....do....	r1,670	3,108	4,296	3,802	1,563	.....
Automotive, including accessories.....do....	r2,437	2,878	5,102	2,507	4,033	.....
Building materials.....do....	r1,204	1,919	2,363	942	1,343	.....
Drugs and toiletries.....do....	r4,546	6,107	7,657	5,502	4,461	.....
Foods, soft drinks, confectionery.....do....	r4,754	7,147	8,753	6,957	5,173	.....
Beer, wine, liquors.....do....	r1,588	2,290	3,250	4,261	1,480	.....
Household equipment and supplies.....do....	r764	2,167	4,171	3,209	1,013	.....
Household furnishings.....do....	1,176	1,521	3,290	1,744	938	.....
Industrial materials.....do....	r2,392	2,887	4,175	3,118	2,639	.....
Soaps, cleansers, etc.....do....	r728	971	1,429	818	830	.....
Smoking materials.....do....	r1,101	1,209	1,527	1,669	1,112	.....
All other.....do....	r9,555	12,424	17,838	13,555	10,434	.....
Linage, total.....thous of lines..	3,466	3,985	4,299	3,162	3,667	4,251
FOREIGN TRADE						
Exports, including reexports, total <u>1</u> /.....mil. of dol..	1,254	1,344	1,186	1,390	1,275	.....
Exports of U. S. merchandise <u>1</u> /.....do....	1,241	1,331	1,176	1,380	1,265	.....
General imports, total.....do....	922	893	804	1,051	927	.....
Imports for consumption.....do....	915	902	795	1,021	914	.....
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Alcohol, ethyl:						
Production.....thous. of proof gal..	42,254	42,421	31,552	42,182	46,161	.....
Stocks, total.....do....	94,442	94,566	81,702	83,245	84,263	.....
In industrial alcohol bonded warehouses.....do....	58,660	58,891	42,281	44,833	52,686	.....
In denaturing plants.....do....	35,782	35,675	39,421	38,412	31,577	.....
Used for denaturation.....do....	48,917	44,935	34,286	40,638	35,349	.....
Withdrawn tax-paid.....do....	1,993	1,788	2,101	1,448	1,815	.....
Alcohol, denatured:						
Production.....thous. of wine gal..	26,106	24,060	19,613	23,417	19,037	.....
Consumption (withdrawals).....do....	24,768	21,388	18,428	23,665	20,225	.....
Stocks.....do....	10,478	13,608	8,548	8,285	7,084	.....
Fats, oils, and byproducts:						
Animal fats:						
Production.....thous. of lb..	417,530	388,109	367,547	431,751	r427,887	341,498
Stocks, end of month.....do....	327,037	329,625	327,150	406,370	460,719	453,843
Greases:						
Production.....do....	58,919	58,217	55,434	57,588	57,636	51,541
Stocks, end of month.....do....	103,801	105,938	107,530	114,150	117,840	115,820
Fish oils:						
Production.....do....	900	169	5,743	3,037	486	223
Stocks, end of month.....do....	82,084	73,295	92,801	90,117	r76,380	65,644
Vegetable oils, total:						
Production, crude.....mil. of lb..	584	522	592	566	572	488
Stocks, end of month: Crude.....do....	1,279	1,287	1,096	1,115	1,147	1,110
Refined.....do....	504	556	578	689	777	853
Cottonseed oil, refined:						
Production.....thous. of lb..	185,037	164,076	190,034	198,592	185,476	170,469
Stocks, end of month.....do....	336,814	383,410	445,493	544,572	627,573	705,022
Linseed oil, raw:						
Production.....do....	46,857	44,020	54,620	46,016	51,336	41,300
Stocks, end of month.....do....	652,657	659,688	626,611	634,959	643,703	641,675
Soybean oil:						
Production: Crude.....do....	234,386	222,247	230,609	226,935	231,000	200,142
Refined.....do....	179,073	180,626	173,576	198,811	202,969	186,396
Stocks, end of month: Crude.....do....	230,950	240,510	139,602	153,674	r166,204	154,574
Refined.....do....	97,092	103,120	73,545	83,716	87,118	88,183
Oleomargarine:						
Production.....do....	128,145	114,051	105,480	116,840	126,580	113,473
Stocks (factory and warehouse).....do....	17,485	24,951	21,694	25,283	23,412	27,227
Shortenings:						
Production.....do....	128,313	131,040	126,622	131,749	141,878	134,857
Stocks, end of month.....do....	94,405	91,890	93,678	93,668	87,976	97,290
Paints, varnish, and lacquer: <u>1</u> /						
Factory shipments, total.....thous. of dol..	113,445	106,386	95,848	r90,563	107,544	.....
Industrial sales.....do....	42,031	41,608	40,552	r41,273	42,874	.....
Trade sales.....do....	71,414	64,778	55,296	r49,290	64,670	.....
ELECTRIC POWER						
Electric power, production, total.....mil. of kw.-hr..	39,710	36,768	29,351	42,310	42,656	39,165
Utilities.....do....	34,203	31,536	33,747	36,452	36,663	33,597
Industrial establishments.....do....	5,507	5,232	5,604	5,858	5,994	5,567

r/ Revised. 1/ See note on corresponding item in the March 1953 Survey.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1952				1953	
	January	February	November	December	January	February
FOODSTUFFS						
Meats, production, total.....mil. of lb..	1,977	1,715	1,742	2,127	1,999	1,572
Beef and veal.....thous. of lb..	656,307	593,420	662,271	735,078	775,091	701,489
Lamb and mutton.....do....	50,536	48,986	47,505	56,616	61,371	53,166
Pork, including lard.....do....	1,269,791	1,072,252	1,031,841	1,335,205	1,162,504	816,995
Lard.....do....	248,037	220,934	194,381	256,269	234,448	157,799
Coffee, visible supply, United States.....thous. of bags..	658	955	529	691	712	776
LEATHER						
Leather production:						
Calf and kip.....thous. of skins..	717	805	847	994	930	.....
Cattle hide.....thous. of hides..	1,880	1,862	1,959	2,093	2,107	.....
Goat and kid.....thous. of skins..	2,614	2,513	2,577	2,989	2,793	.....
Sheep and lamb.....do....	2,047	2,279	2,441	2,243	2,215	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Castings, gray iron:						
Orders, unfilled, for sale.....thous. of short tons..	1,801	1,766	1,309	1,316	1,333	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	1,199	1,155	1,061	1,142	1,162	.....
For sale.....do....	694	655	590	619	622	.....
Castings, malleable iron:						
Orders, unfilled, for sale.....short tons..	202,799	193,061	167,842	173,494	174,809	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	87,003	82,898	76,099	80,680	87,249	.....
For sale.....do....	54,988	50,129	46,708	50,485	53,272	.....
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	6,040	5,785	6,227	6,510	6,564	5,882
Castings, steel:						
Shipments, total.....short tons..	183,738	174,626	148,259	161,733	167,211	.....
For sale, total.....do....	139,488	133,602	110,467	122,166	126,819	.....
Railway specialties.....do....	36,650	31,317	22,287	25,972	26,752	.....
Steel products, net shipments:						
Total.....thous. of short tons..	6,589	6,358	6,648	7,105	7,068	.....
Bars, hot rolled: Carbon and alloy.....do....	797	757	828	865	853	.....
Reinforcing.....do....	168	158	153	211	146	.....
Semimanufactures.....do....	285	268	350	395	358	.....
Pipes and tubes.....do....	811	795	783	857	832	.....
Plates.....do....	707	711	679	720	714	.....
Rails.....do....	156	138	145	153	166	.....
Sheets.....do....	1,644	1,534	1,714	1,843	1,851	.....
Strip: Cold rolled.....do....	180	158	166	179	190	.....
Hot rolled.....do....	186	171	194	196	203	.....
Structural shapes.....do....	427	437	416	422	418	.....
Tin plate and terneplate.....do....	298	359	388	373	433	.....
Wire and wire products.....do....	477	448	443	454	458	.....
Machine tools:						
New orders.....1945-47=100..	347.8	318.8	205.4	225.2	r255.8	p282.2
Shipments.....do....	266.6	279.6	342.5	355.0	r361.6	p354.1
PAPER AND PRINTING						
All paper and paperboard mills (Bureau of the Census):						
Paper and paperboard production, total, thous. of short tons..	r2,105	2,005	2,104	r2,023	2,206	.....
Paper.....do....	r1,116	1,048	992	r977	1,055	.....
Paperboard.....do....	r894	859	997	r936	1,032	
Building board.....do....	r95	97	115	r109	119	

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.

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SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS