



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS



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May 7, 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			
	May 2	Apr. 17	Apr. 24	May 1	May 2		Apr. 17	Apr. 24	May 1		
Commodity prices, wholesale:					Stock prices (480), Standard						
All commodities..1947-49=100	*109.4	111.0	111.3	111.1	and Poor's.....1935-39=100	188.1	213.7	213.1	214.7		
Farm products.....do..	*97.3	100.3	101.1	100.4	Industrials (420).....do..	203.5	234.3	233.8	235.6		
Foods, processed.....do..	*103.2	105.2	105.6	105.4	Production:						
All other.....do..	*113.2	114.5	114.6	114.6	Bitum.coal 3/...thous.sh.tons	**1,504	1,108	1,123	.....		
22 commodities 2/.....do..	87.6	92.6	93.1	93.0	Electric power,b ¹ utilities						
Department store sales.....do..	**104	118	102	.....	mil. kw.-hr.	**8,016	8,345	8,257	.....		
Insured unemployment, total					Motor vehicles (ward's)....No.	172,706	139,624	147,152	144,677		
thous.	**1,037	#2,415	.....	.....	Petroleum,crude 2/...thous.bbl.	**6,104	6,484	6,482	.....		
State programs.....do..	**971	#2,206	.....	.....	Steel (ingots & for castings,						
Failures, ind. & comm. number	169	198	229	234	quantity) 4/.....1947-49=100	140.8	101.0	101.8	101.9		
Bond yields, domestic corporate					Freight car loadings.thous.cars	**780	613	626	.....		
rate (Moody's) 3/....percent	3.46	3.11	3.12	3.13	Miscellaneous.....do..	**395	342	337	.....		

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily averages. 4/ Week ended May 8, 1954. * Monthly index for April 1953. ** For week corresponding to latest. # Data for preceding week follow: Total, 2,361,000; State programs, 2,151,000.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1953	1954			ITEM	1953	1954		
	April	February	March	April		March	January	February	March
COMMODITY PRICES					CONSTRUC. & REAL ESTATE - Con.				
Prices rec'd by farmers, all farm products...1910-14=100	259	258	256	257	Construction cost index, comp., Dept. of Commerce.1947-49=100	120.8	122.4	121.8	121.8
Crops.....do..	246	237	239	240	GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS				
Food grains.....do..	244	236	238	234	Personal income, seasonally adjusted, at annual rates:				
Feed grains and hay.....do..	213	208	208	208	Total.....bil. dol.	283.6	283.7	r283.0	282.8
Tobacco.....do..	424	443	443	443	Wage & salary disbursements, total.....bil. dol.	196.2	195.7	194.7	193.6
Cotton.....do..	267	258	263	267	Comm.-producing ind....do..	88.8	85.4	r84.9	83.9
Fruit.....do..	207	210	212	217	Distributive ind.....do..	50.9	52.6	r52.2	52.0
Commercial vegetables.....do..	233	233	246	225	Service industries.....do..	23.2	24.1	24.1	24.3
Oil-bearing crops.....do..	289	269	275	283	Government.....do..	33.3	33.6	r33.5	33.4
Livestock and products.....do..	270	277	271	271	Wage & salary receipts, total.....bil. dol.	192.4	191.2	190.2	189.1
Meat animals.....do..	299	315	316	333	Other labor income.....do..	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.2
Dairy products.....do..	263	267	257	237	Proprietors' and rental income.....bil. dol.	50.7	50.0	r50.0	49.9
Poultry and eggs.....do..	219	208	188	178	Personal interest income and dividends.....do..	21.9	23.0	r23.0	23.1
Prices paid by farmers:					Transfer payments.....do..	13.7	14.7	15.0	15.7
All commod. & services.....do..	r263	264	264	265	Less personal contributions for social ins.....bil. dol.	4.0	4.6	4.8	4.7
Family living items.....do..	269	271	272	273	Total nonagr. income.....do..	265.4	266.4	r266.0	265.5
Production items.....do..	257	255	255	256	Manufacturers' sales, inventories, and orders - value:				
All commod., services, int., taxes, etc.....1910-14=100	280	282	283	263	Sales, total 2/.....mil. dol.	25,763	r23,902	r23,620	24,045
Parity ratio.....do..	92	91	90	91	Durable goods.....do..	13,116	11,580	r11,278	11,410
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE					Nondurable goods.....do..	12,647	r12,322	r12,342	12,635
New construc., total.mil. dol.	2,758	2,317	r2,555	2,795	Inventories, book value, end of month,total 2/.....mil. dol.	44,797	r46,382	r46,115	45,698
Private, total.....do..	1,872	1,638	r1,780	1,897	Durable goods.....do..	25,019	26,526	r26,168	25,863
Residential (nonfarm).....do..	964	766	r870	956	Nondurable goods.....do..	19,778	r19,856	r19,947	19,835
New dwelling units.....do..	850	680	r775	840	New orders, net,total 2/.....do..	25,096	r20,749	r22,016	23,308
Additions, etc.....do..	94	64	r73	92	Durable goods.....do..	12,520	8,475	r9,629	10,342
Nonres. bldg.,total 1/.....do..	427	476	r469	465	Nondurable goods.....do..	12,576	r12,274	r12,387	12,666
Industrial.....do..	192	177	r173	169	Unfilled orders,total 3/.....do..	75,713	56,128	r54,684	53,536
Commercial.....do..	114	158	r154	152	Durable goods.....do..	72,442	53,776	r52,303	51,107
Farm construction.....do..	120	89	96	106	Nondurable goods.....do..	3,271	2,352	r2,381	2,429
Public utility.....do..	352	300	338	362					
Public, total.....do..	886	679	r775	898					
Residential.....do..	49	34	34	32					
Nonresid. building.....do..	370	339	r371	383					
Military and naval.....do..	113	62	r64	71					
Highway.....do..	200	115	r160	250					
Conservation, etc.....do..	72	45	53	62					

r/ Revised. 1/ Except farm and public utility. 2/ Adjusted. 3/ Unadjusted.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1953	1954			ITEM	1953	1954		
	March	January	February	March		March	January	February	March
BUSINESS POPULATION					ELECTRIC POWER				
Industrial & comm. failures:					Electric power, production,				
Failures, total.....number	739	867	926	1,102	total.....mil. kw.-hr.	42,993	45,478	40,887	45,166
Commercial service.....do..	63	60	74	87	Utilities.....do..	36,969	39,423	35,211	38,918
Construction.....do..	85	86	109	143	Industrial establish.....do..	6,024	6,055	5,676	6,247
Manufacturing & mining..do..	154	192	207	198	FOODSTUFFS				
Retail trade.....do..	361	450	449	551	Distilled spirits:				
Wholesale trade.....do..	76	79	87	123	Production.....thous. tax gal.	r12,429	13,120	14,405	16,387
Liabilities, total..thous. dol.	31,082	29,592	47,774	57,280	Tax-paid withdrawals.....do..	r11,343	8,650	10,156	12,718
Commercial service.....do..	1,387	3,134	4,341	3,506	Stocks, end of month.....do..	r887,826	861,381	862,917	864,231
Construction.....do..	3,506	3,166	4,082	7,255	Whisky:				
Manufacturing & mining..do..	12,213	11,431	23,043	15,359	Production.....do..	8,295	8,301	9,020	10,029
Retail trade.....do..	10,423	8,623	11,770	26,043	Tax-paid withdrawals.....do..	r6,150	4,878	5,315	6,272
Wholesale trade.....do..	3,553	3,238	4,538	5,117	Stocks, end of month.....do..	r732,437	717,441	718,413	718,516
EMPLOYMENT					Rectified spirits & wines,				
Labor turnover in mfg. establ:					prod., total..thous. proof gal.	8,313	5,533	5,745	7,400
Accession rate					Whisky.....do..	7,217	4,634	4,834	6,349
mo. rate per 100 employees	4.4	2.8	r2.5	p2.8	Meats, production, total..mil. lb.	1,712	1,836	1,517	1,772
Separation rate, total...do..	4.1	4.3	r3.5	p3.8	Beef and veal.....thous. lb.	779,450	895,446	761,153	886,182
Discharge.....do..	.4	.2	.2	p.2	Lamb and mutton.....do..	58,129	59,522	53,274	55,672
Lay-off.....do..	.8	2.8	r2.2	p2.3	Pork, including lard.....do..	874,686	881,313	702,169	830,303
Quit.....do..	2.5	1.1	1.0	p1.0	Lard.....do..	164,072	162,245	128,867	147,106
Military and misc.....do..	.3	.3	r.2	p.2	Coffee, vis. supply..thous. bags	700	1,009	829	735
FINANCE					METALS AND MANUFACTURES				
Life insurance (LIAA):					Iron ore (Lake Superior dis.):				
Assets, admitted, 49 compa-					Consumption by furnaces				
nies, total.....mil. dol.	r65,367	68,989	69,337	69,652	thous. l. tons	8,257	6,996	5,787	5,932
Bonds & stocks, total...do..	r40,779	42,607	42,801	42,942	Stocks, end of mo., total...do..	22,065	41,974	36,386	30,587
Government (domestic and					At furnaces.....do..	19,026	34,797	29,661	24,553
foreign), total...mil. dol.	r10,790	10,509	10,541	10,461	On Lake Erie docks.....do..	3,039	7,178	6,725	6,035
U. S. Government.....do..	8,711	8,407	8,414	8,306	Lead, refined (primary ref.):				
Public utility.....do..	r11,660	12,325	12,447	12,548	Production.....sh. tons	47,993	48,518	42,046	50,808
Railroad.....do..	3,403	3,505	3,507	3,499	Shipments (domestic).....do..	42,242	37,108	36,551	47,837
Other.....do..	r14,926	16,267	16,307	16,433	Stocks, end of month.....do..	62,371	92,496	97,981	100,927
Cash.....do..	r751	889	793	790	PULP, PAPER, AND PRINTING				
Mortgage loans, total...do..	18,038	19,410	19,525	19,689	Wood pulp:				
Farm.....do..	r1,542	1,674	1,685	1,697	Production, total, all grades				
Other.....do..	r16,497	17,736	17,840	17,992	thous. short tons	r1,512	1,487	1,362	1,541
Policy loans and premium					Sulphate (paper grades).....do..	811	809	735	832
notes.....do..	2,329	2,447	2,460	2,480	Sulphite (paper grades).....do..	203	202	r183	210
Real-estate holdings.....do..	r1,670	1,769	1,778	1,792	Groundwood.....do..	r207	202	185	209
Other admitted assets...do..	r1,801	1,868	1,980	1,959	Stocks, end of month, total,				
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS					all grades.....short tons	r165,342	155,081	r159,946	164,003
Alcohol, ethyl:					Sulphate (paper grades).....do..	r42,161	42,188	r44,248	44,329
Production.....thous. proof gal.	46,851	27,112	23,912	32,594	Sulphite (paper grades).....do..	36,738	33,457	r32,363	33,262
Stocks, total.....do..	64,238	51,403	47,590	46,976	Groundwood.....do..	33,052	28,436	29,056	29,494
In industrial alcohol					TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT				
bonded warehouses.....do..	54,592	33,204	28,138	26,183	Motor vehicles, factory sales,				
In denaturing plants.....do..	9,646	18,199	19,452	20,794	total.....number	700,685	r551,130	r534,143	633,002
Used for denaturation.....do..	56,260	28,122	26,171	33,664	Coaches, total.....do..	236	401	326	296
Withdrawn tax-paid.....do..	2,171	982	1,113	978	Domestic.....do..	189	361	320	288
Alcohol, denatured:					Passenger cars, total.....do..	566,320	r454,562	r446,676	531,529
Production.....thous. wine gal.	30,199	15,213	14,171	18,176	Domestic.....do..	545,961	r435,139	r425,392	510,024
Consump. (withdrawals).....do..	25,169	16,210	13,332	17,206	Trucks, total.....do..	134,129	96,167	r87,141	101,177
Stocks.....do..	14,909	5,421	6,603	7,637	Domestic.....do..	122,043	83,563	r72,468	85,154

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.

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