



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS



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December 17, 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			
	Dec. 12	Nov. 27	Dec. 4	Dec. 11	Dec. 12	Nov. 27	Dec. 4	Dec. 11		Dec. 12	Nov. 27	Dec. 4	Dec. 11	Dec. 12	Nov. 27	Dec. 4	Dec. 11
Commodity prices, wholesale:									Stock prices (480), Standard and Poor's.....1935-39=100	190.8	258.6	258.2	264.7				
All commodities...1947-49=100	*109.8	109.5	109.5	109.3					Industrials (420).....do..	206.0	289.8	289.1	296.7				
Farm products.....do..	*93.7	92.0	91.8	90.7					Production:								
Foods, processed.....do..	*103.8	103.2	103.5	103.4					Bitum. coal <u>3</u> /..thous.sh.tons	**1,395	1,470	1,417	.....			
All other.....do..	*114.5	114.5	114.5	114.5					Electric power, by utilities								
22 commodities <u>2</u> /.....do..	88.6	90.4	90.2	90.3					mil. kw.-hr.	**8,582	9,087	9,612	.....			
Department store sales.....do..	**190	133	191	.....					Motor vehicles (Ward's)...No.	105,758	130,396	166,715	169,258				
Insured unemployment, total									Petroleum, crude <u>3</u> /..thous.bb.l.	**6,085	6,167	6,181	.....			
thous.	**1,371	#1,701	.....	.....					Steel (ingots & for castings, quantity) <u>4</u> /.....1947-49=100	121.7	119.2	120.8	121.9				
State programs.....do..	**1,275	#1,516	.....	.....					Freight car loadings, thous.cars	**662	584	662	.....			
Failures, ind. & comm...number	216	226	221	223					Miscellaneous.....do..	**354	306	348	.....			
Bond yields, domestic corporate																	
rate (Moody's) <u>3</u> /.....percent	3.39	3.12	3.13	3.13													

¹/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Week ended December 18, 1954. * Monthly index for November 1953. ** For week corresponding to latest for which data are shown. # Data for preceding week: Total, 1,592,000; State programs, 1,413,000.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1953				1954				ITEM	1953				1954			
	November	September	October	November	November	September	October	November		November	September	October	November	November	September	October	November
DOMESTIC TRADE								EMPLOYMENT & WAGES - Con.									
All retail stores:									Prod. workers in mfg. ind.:								
Sales (unadjusted), total <u>1</u> /									Total.....thousands	13,534	r12,611	r12,655	p12,679				
mil. dol.	13,955	14,139	r14,665	14,551					Durable goods.....do..	7,910	r7,015	r7,139	p7,232				
Durable-goods stores:									Ordnance & acces.....do..	187	r114	r113	p112				
Automotive group.....do..	2,531	2,536	r2,491	2,558					Lumber & wood prod.....do..	695	r697	r710	p700				
Furniture & appliances...do..	813	740	r812	842					Furniture & fixtures...do..	308	r296	r299	p297				
Nondurable-goods stores:									Stone, clay, etc.....do..	459	r437	r438	p440				
Apparel group.....do..	866	847	r911	911					Primary metal ind.....do..	1,088	r965	r972	p980				
Drug & prop. stores...do..	384	392	r406	396					Fab. metal products <u>2</u> /..do..	902	r820	r827	p833				
Eating and drinking									Machinery (exc. elec.)...do..	1,240	r1,095	r1,093	p1,094				
places.....do..	1,051	1,156	r1,139	1,081					Electrical machinery...do..	913	r802	r818	p833				
Food group.....do..	3,291	3,475	r3,661	3,444					Transportation equip...do..	1,449	r1,184	r1,257	p1,337				
Gasoline serv.stations.do..	898	975	r1,017	985					Instruments, etc.....do..	243	214	r213	p213				
General-merch. group...do..	1,753	1,543	r1,686	1,820					Miscel. mfg. ind.....do..	425	r392	r399	p395				
Inventories (adj.), total...do..	*22,720	r22,425	21,996	.....					Nondurable goods.....do..	5,624	r5,596	r5,516	p5,447				
Durable-goods stores.....do..	*10,727	10,234	9,974	.....					Food & kindred prod...do..	1,149	r1,252	r1,165	p1,099				
Nondurable-goods stores...do..	*11,993	r12,191	12,022	.....					Tobacco manufactures...do..	101	110	110	p102				
Dept.store sales, U.S. total:									Textile-mill products...do..	1,046	r987	r991	p992				
Unadjusted index..1947-49=100	136	r112	r118	e138					Apparel, etc.....do..	1,085	r1,053	r1,049	p1,045				
Adjusted index.....do..	113	r107	r113	e114					Paper & allied prod...do..	446	441	r440	p442				
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES								Products of petroleum									
Labor force (Bureau Census):									and coal.....do..	184	177	r176	p175				
Civilian labor force...thous.	r63,905	65,243	64,882	64,624					Rubber products.....do..	210	r199	r205	p208				
Employed.....do..	r62,206	62,144	62,141	61,731					Leather & leath. prod...do..	334	330	r329	p331				
Agricultural.....do..	r6,636	7,527	7,239	6,154					Mfg. prod.-worker indexes:								
Nonagricultural.....do..	r55,570	54,617	54,902	55,577					Employment: Unadj. 1947-49=100	109.4	102.0	r102.3	p102.5				
Unemployed.....do..	1,699	3,099	2,741	2,893					Adj.....do..	108.7	100.2	r101.0	p101.8				
Employees in nonagr. establ.,									Payrolls, unadjusted...do..	148.0	138.4	r139.6	p141.3				
total, unadj.....thousands	49,851	r48,526	r48,620	p48,673					Hours and earnings, all mfg.:								
Manufacturing.....do..	16,988	16,019	r16,045	p16,071					Average weekly hours per								
Mining.....do..	829	r719	r713	p719					worker.....do..	40.0	39.7	39.9	p40.1				
Contract construction...do..	2,789	r2,817	2,764	p2,692					Durable goods.....do..	40.6	40.1	40.4	p40.6				
Transp. & pub. util....do..	4,216	r4,032	r4,014	p3,993					Nondurable goods.....do..	39.1	39.3	39.2	p39.4				
Wholesale & retail trade...do..	10,828	r10,480	r10,565	p10,727					Avg. weekly earnings, dollars	71.60	71.86	72.22	p72.98				
Finance, ins. & real est...do..	2,034	r2,115	r2,108	p2,105					Durable goods.....do..	76.73	76.99	77.97	p78.36				
Service & miscellaneous...do..	5,467	5,606	r5,546	p5,509					Nondurable goods.....do..	63.73	65.24	65.07	p65.80				
Government.....do..	6,700	6,738	r6,865	p6,857													

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. e/ Estimated. * October 1953 data. 1/ November 1954 figures are advance estimates. 2/ Except ordnance, machinery, and transportation equipment.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1953	1954			ITEM	1953	1954		
	November	September	October	November		October	August	September	October
EMPLOYMENT & WAGES - Con.					PAPER AND PRINTING				
Hours and earnings - con.					Paper, ex. bldg. paper, news-				
Avg. hourly earnings..dollars.	1.79	1.81	1.81	p1.82	print & paperboard (APPA):				
Durable goods.....do..	1.89	1.92	1.93	p1.93	Orders, new.....sh. tons	917,863	r881,041	867,980	895,000
Ordnance & acces.....do..	1.91	2.02	r2.01	p2.00	Production.....do..	936,711	r888,960	861,099	917,000
Lumber & wood prod.....do..	1.63	1.67	1.68	p1.65	Shipments.....do..	937,805	r880,206	856,917	911,000
Furniture & fixtures...do..	1.56	1.58	1.58	p1.58	Stocks, end of month....do..	391,840	r421,584	428,204	431,500
Stone, clay, etc.....do..	1.75	1.79	1.78	p1.78	Fine paper:				
Primary metal ind.....do..	2.08	2.13	r2.12	p2.12	Orders, new.....do..	109,887	r106,820	108,552	117,000
Fab. metal prod. 1/.....do..	1.87	1.90	r1.92	p1.93	Production.....do..	115,846	r112,279	110,331	118,000
Machinery (exc. elec.)..do..	1.99	2.03	2.03	p2.03	Shipments.....do..	116,817	r106,813	107,736	114,000
Electrical mach.....do..	1.79	1.82	1.83	p1.83	Stocks, end of month....do..	86,660	r104,741	109,274	111,000
Transportation equip...do..	2.10	2.15	r2.15	p2.16	Printing paper:				
Instruments, etc.....do..	1.81	1.85	r1.85	p1.85	Orders, new.....do..	311,553	r297,809	307,601	312,000
Miscel. mfg. ind.....do..	1.60	1.61	r1.61	p1.62	Production.....do..	321,420	r308,034	299,596	315,000
					Shipments.....do..	315,040	r306,948	297,900	314,000
					Stocks, end of month....do..	164,379	r151,600	153,295	154,000
Nondurable goods.....do..	1.63	1.66	1.66	p1.67	Coarse paper:				
Food & kindred prod....do..	1.65	1.66	r1.67	p1.72	Orders, new.....do..	313,043	r302,502	283,590	292,000
Tobacco manufactures...do..	1.24	1.25	1.25	p1.29	Production.....do..	313,984	r293,602	280,604	308,000
Textile-mill products..do..	1.37	1.36	1.36	p1.37	Shipments.....do..	317,495	r289,863	280,946	308,000
Apparel, etc.....do..	1.55	1.36	1.34	p1.33	Stocks, end of month....do..	75,423	r99,898	99,935	100,000
Paper & allied prod....do..	1.71	1.77	r1.77	p1.78					
Printing, etc.....do..	2.22	2.29	2.29	p2.29	RUBBER AND RUBBER PRODUCTS				
Chemicals, etc.....do..	1.86	1.94	r1.91	p1.93	Natural rubber:				
Products of petroleum					Consumption.....long tons	46,744	38,069	r52,412	56,167
and coal.....do..	2.26	2.32	r2.28	p2.29	Stocks, end of month....do..	114,191	124,810	r119,191	116,195
Rubber products.....do..	1.92	1.98	2.02	p2.03	Synthetic rubber:				
Leather & leath. prod...do..	1.38	1.38	1.39	p1.38	Production.....do..	57,170	48,807	51,384	55,644
					Consumption.....do..	58,515	42,051	r53,878	57,582
					Stocks, end of month....do..	166,724	170,159	r161,662	161,711
LUMBER					Tires and tubes:				
Lumber (NLMA):					Pneumatic casings:				
Prod., total.....mil. bd. ft.	*3,540	3,240	3,349	.....	Production.....thousands	7,666	5,427	7,279	7,869
Softwoods.....do..	*2,748	2,657	2,748	.....	Shipments.....do..	7,565	8,080	r6,269	6,266
Shipments, total.....do..	*3,252	3,202	3,330	.....	Original equipment.....do..	3,152	2,527	1,601	1,868
Softwoods.....do..	*2,602	2,662	2,730	.....	Stocks, end of month....do..	13,446	9,985	11,184	12,799
Stocks, gross.....do..	*8,577	8,967	8,934	.....	Inner tubes:				
Softwoods.....do..	*5,565	5,103	5,093	.....	Production.....do..	5,758	3,773	4,490	3,953
					Shipments.....do..	5,956	5,748	r4,034	3,087
					Stocks, end of month....do..	10,904	6,588	r7,179	8,313
METALS AND MANUFACTURES					STONE, CLAY, & GLASS PRODUCTS				
Iron ore, shipments (Lake					Portland cement:				
Superior dis.)..thous. l. tons	5,300	7,951	7,252	2,918	Production.....thous. bbl.	**23,795	25,681	25,549	.....
Steel ingots & steel for cast.: Production.....thous. sh. tons	8,690	6,807	7,702	8,074	Shipments.....do..	**27,438	28,802	29,058	.....
Percent of capacity.....	90	67	73	79	Stocks, finished.....do..	**12,859	r14,399	10,890	.....
Steel products, net shipments: Total.....thous. sh. tons	*6,727	5,004	5,035	.....	Stocks, clinker.....do..	**5,001	6,029	4,673	.....
Bars: Hot rolled.....do..	*758	471	530	.....				
Reinforcing.....do..	*161	151	150	.....	TEXTILE PRODUCTS				
Semimanufactures.....do..	*232	138	141	.....	Women's, misses', juniors' outerwear, cuttings:				
Pipes and tubes.....do..	*864	694	662	.....	Coats.....thous. units	2/ 5,711	2,751	2,452	2,269
Plates.....do..	*644	379	395	.....	Dresses.....do..	2/53,358	20,429	17,157	17,593
Rails.....do..	*164	63	59	.....	Suits.....do..	2/ 2,987	1,257	874	738
Sheets.....do..	*2,003	1,357	1,633	.....	Waists, etc.....thous. doz.	2/ 3,071	1,234	1,170	1,200
Strip: Cold rolled.....do..	*194	103	110	.....	Wool, consumption, mill: 3/ Apparel class.....thous. lb.	29,930	23,760	r24,810	20,184
Hot rolled.....do..	*180	108	130	.....	Carpet class.....do..	11,790	9,253	r11,580	9,500
Structural shapes.....do..	*442	346	344	.....				
Tin plate & terneplate..do..	*361	580	273	.....				
Wire & wire prod.....do..	*329	359	360	.....				

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. * October 1953 data. ** September 1953 data. 1/ Except ordnance, machinery, and transportation equipment.
2/ Total for three months, October, November, December. 3/ Data for October 1953 and September 1954 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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