

November 1, 1957

BUSINESS STATISTICS

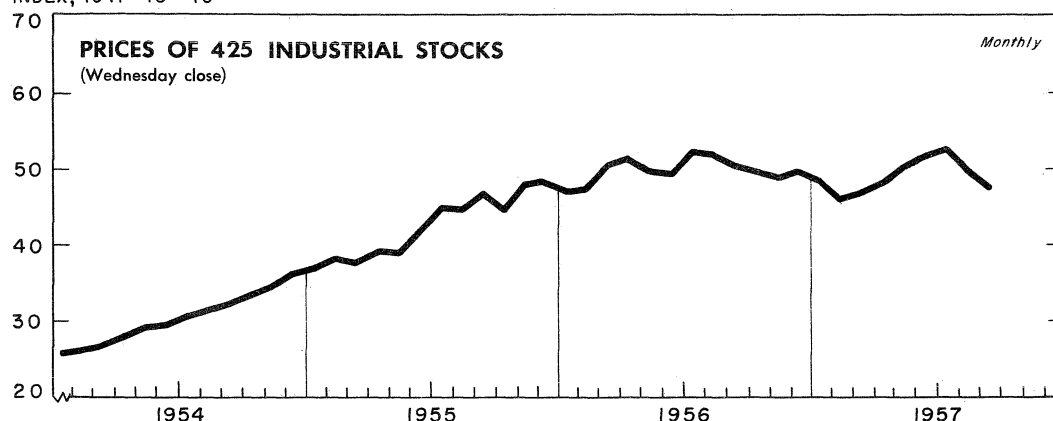


A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

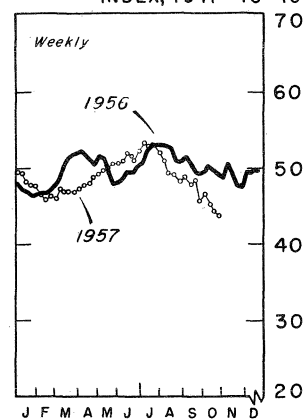
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SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

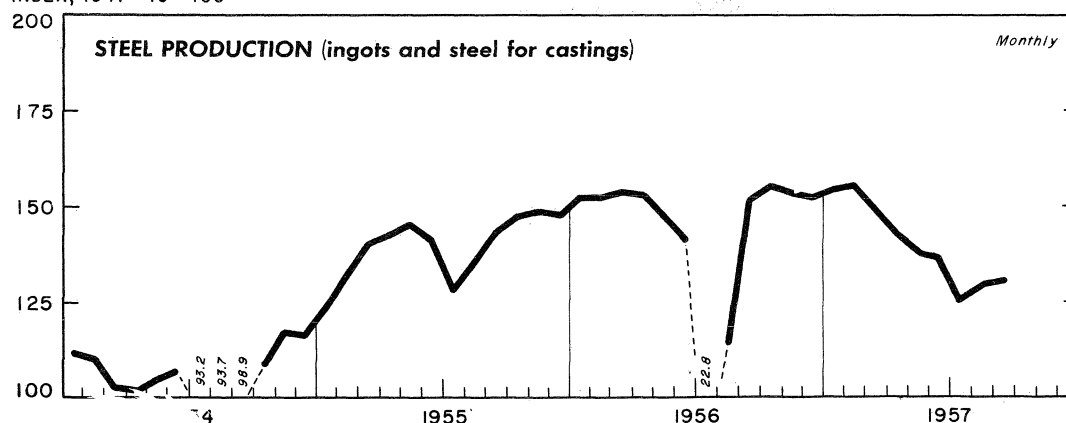
INDEX, 1941-43 = 10



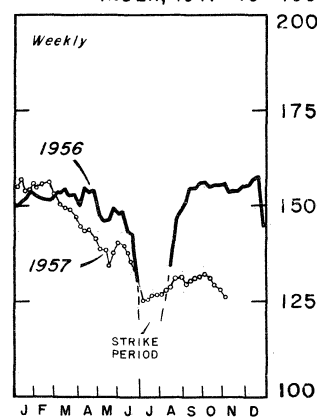
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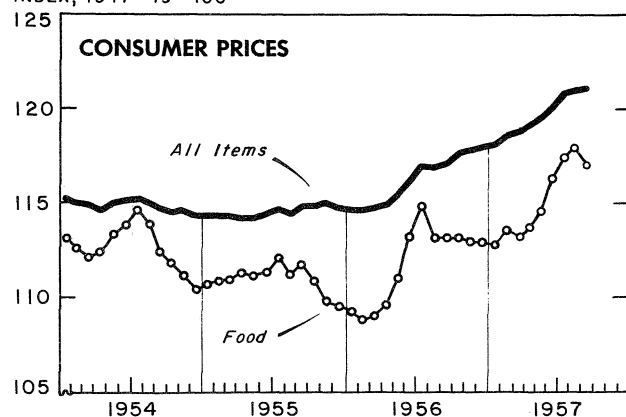
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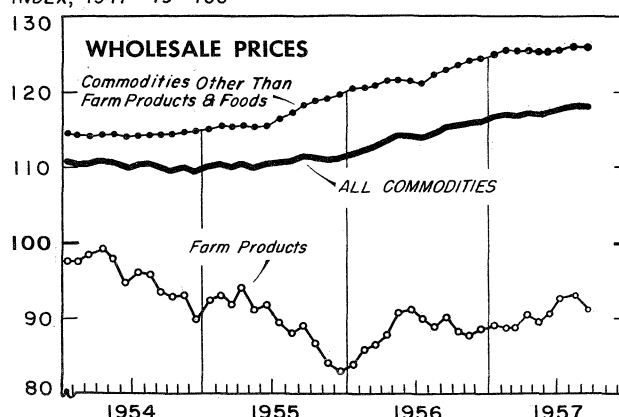
INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



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WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1956		1957			
	Oct. 20	Oct. 27	Oct. 5	Oct. 12	Oct. 19	Oct. 26
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*115.6	.....	117.6	117.7	117.7
Farm products.....do.....	.....	*88.4	.....	91.3	91.7	91.7
Foods, processed.....do.....	.....	*103.6	.....	105.0	105.2	105.0
All other.....do.....	.....	*123.6	.....	125.7	125.7	125.6
22 commodities <u>2</u> /.....do.....	90.7	90.1	85.3	85.2	84.6	84.5
Department store sales.....do.....	129	128	127	132	129	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	928	936	1,261	1,286	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	854	860	1,169	1,193	.....	.....
Finance:						
Currency in circulation <u>3</u> /.....mil. of dol..	30,953	30,864	31,038	31,129	31,191	31,129
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total <u>3</u> /.....do....	25,810	25,866	25,304	25,563	25,451	25,407
Member bank reserve balances <u>3</u> /.....do.....	18,890	19,137	19,034	19,189	19,068	19,137
Excess reserves, estimated <u>3</u> /.....do.....	577	563	393	553	479	552
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities: <u>4</u> /						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	55,623	56,206	54,015	54,344	54,744	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	22,029	22,023	23,900	23,956	23,975	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	86,066	85,584	87,898	87,267	87,292	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	26,392	26,057	25,654	25,324	25,346	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do....	29,836	29,692	32,331	32,137	32,084	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do.....	8,834	8,849	8,727	8,729	8,759	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	254	267	261	244	250	281
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) <u>3</u> /.....percent..	3.81	3.83	4.45	4.44	4.45	4.47
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) <u>4</u> /.....1941-43=10..	46.26	45.93	43.10	41.99	41.33	40.73
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do.....	49.51	49.14	46.54	45.22	44.47	43.93
Production:						
Bituminous coal <u>3</u> /.....thous. of short tons..	1,756	1,739	1,658	1,652	1,648	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	11,333	11,391	11,564	11,709	11,684	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	110,208	125,967	33,653	57,486	93,244	124,431
Petroleum (crude) and condensate <u>3</u> /.....thous. of bbl..	6,997	6,998	6,812	6,729	6,747	.....
Steel <u>5</u> /.....thous. of short tons..	2,495	2,491	2,115	2,105	2,070	2,052
Percent of capacity <u>5</u> /.....do.....	#101.4	#101.2	82.6	82.2	80.9	80.2
Freight car loadings, total.....thous. of cars..	829	817	748	742	727	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	401	394	358	358	356	.....

¹/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. ²/ Tuesday prices. ³/ Daily average. ⁴/ Wednesday data. ⁵/ Week beginning October 28, 1957: Production, 2,024 thous. short tons; operating rate, 79.1 percent. * Monthly index for October 1956. # Not comparable with 1957 rates, which are based on higher capacity.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1956		1957			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumer price index:						
All items.....1947-49=100..	116.8	117.1	120.2	120.8	121.0	<u>1</u> /121.1
Apparel.....do.....	105.5	106.5	106.6	106.5	106.6	107.3
Food.....do.....	113.1	113.1	116.2	117.4	117.9	117.0
Dairy products.....do.....	109.2	109.8	110.0	110.5	111.5	113.1
Fruits and vegetables.....do.....	120.7	114.8	126.8	126.9	121.3	114.8
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do.....	99.9	101.3	106.9	109.5	111.9	110.3
Housing.....do.....	122.2	122.5	125.5	125.5	125.7	126.3
Gas and electricity.....do.....	112.1	112.2	112.3	112.3	113.3	113.7
Housefurnishings.....do.....	102.6	103.3	104.6	104.1	103.9	104.8
Rent.....do.....	133.2	133.4	135.0	135.2	135.4	135.7
Medical care.....do.....	133.3	134.0	137.9	138.4	138.6	139.0
Personal care.....do.....	120.3	120.5	124.2	124.7	124.9	125.1
Reading and recreation.....do.....	107.9	108.4	111.8	112.4	112.6	113.3
Transportation.....do.....	128.5	128.6	135.3	135.8	135.9	135.9
Private.....do.....	118.6	118.7	125.4	125.6	125.6	125.5
Public.....do.....	172.9	173.0	176.8	180.2	180.6	181.1
Other goods and services.....do.....	122.1	122.7	124.6	126.6	126.7	126.7
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by--						
Wholesale prices.....do.....	87.2	86.6	85.2	84.6	84.5	<u>2</u> /84.7
Consumer prices.....do.....	85.6	85.4	83.2	82.8	82.6	<u>2</u> /82.6
DOMESTIC TRADE						
Printers' Ink advertising index, adjusted:						
Combined index.....1947-49=100..	218	203	209	214	215	.....
Business papers.....do.....	196	209	217	218	206	.....
Magazines.....do.....	159	153	160	164	166	.....
Newspapers.....do.....	206	194	205	202	214	.....
Outdoor.....do.....	155	161	170	180	170	.....
Radio (network).....do.....	40	34	35	40	40	.....
Television (network).....do.....	450	383	384	406	405	.....

ITEM	1956		1957			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
FINANCE						
Life insurance written (new paid-for insurance):						
Value, estimated total.....mil. of dol..	4,601	4,195	5,545	5,281	4,963	4,602
Group and wholesale.....do....	1,164	985	1,365	1,090	759	672
Industrial.....do....	545	544	521	492	515	517
Ordinary.....do....	2,892	2,666	3,659	3,699	3,689	3,413
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS						
Hotels:						
Average sale per occupied room.....dollars..	8.37	8.17	8.39	7.93	8.79	8.58
Rooms occupied.....percent of total..	71	74	72	63	68	71
Restaurant sales index.....same month 1929=100..	273	268	289	252	270	271
Telegraph, cable, and radiotelegraph carriers:						
Wire-telegraph:						
Operating revenues.....thous. of dol..	20,544	19,565	20,772	20,430	20,673	.....
Operating expenses, including depreciation.....do....	18,542	17,550	18,123	18,943	18,535	.....
Net operating revenues.....do....	1,114	1,354	1,692	545	1,358	.....
Ocean-cable:						
Operating revenues.....do....	2,826	2,760	2,840	3,041	2,796	.....
Operating expenses, including depreciation.....do....	2,143	2,106	2,381	2,548	2,463	.....
Net operating revenues.....do....	440	408	192	198	48	.....
Radiotelegraph:						
Operating revenues.....do....	3,307	3,044	3,345	3,450	3,411	.....
Operating expenses, including depreciation.....do....	2,484	2,384	2,629	2,739	2,637	.....
Net operating revenues.....do....	705	580	609	599	670	.....
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Explosives (industrial), shipments:						
Black blasting powder.....thous. of lb..	448	415	107	210	195	307
High explosives.....do....	82,333	78,839	78,911	82,007	80,288	86,887
Animal fats and greases:						
Tallow, edible:						
Production.....thous. of lb..	17,836	14,712	21,976	21,301	25,682	23,377
Stocks (incl. refined grades), end of month.....do....	11,679	7,895	17,364	17,107	16,900	15,055
Tallow and grease (except wool), inedible:						
Production.....do....	223,301	198,140	212,554	211,120	227,447	208,097
Stocks (excl. refined grades), end of month.....do....	311,126	297,957	250,302	253,161	247,307	231,469
Fish and marine mammal oils:						
Production.....do....	37,688	21,703	19,010	34,146	25,742	18,293
Stocks, end of month.....do....	86,981	114,465	66,412	83,788	77,512	81,394
Vegetable oils, oilseeds, and byproducts:						
Vegetable oils, total:						
Production, crude.....mil. of lb..	395	497	416	436	464	486
Stocks, end of month:						
Crude.....do....	471	503	476	492	462	478
Refined.....do....	348	313	367	313	272	242
Cottonseed oil, refined:						
Production.....thous. of lb..	47,268	69,432	65,405	54,947	43,777	75,529
Stocks, end of month.....mil. of lb..	180	158	205	154	99	82
Linseed oil, raw:						
Production.....thous. of lb..	18,575	46,931	30,533	61,488	68,387	58,787
Stocks at factory, end of month.....do....	71,051	75,388	69,912	71,442	73,249	72,649
Soybean oil:						
Production:						
Crude.....do....	249,027	221,302	271,970	268,757	276,614	244,415
Refined.....do....	223,378	203,733	238,089	211,177	241,083	210,216
Stocks, end of month:						
Crude.....do....	154,421	139,671	180,480	217,629	199,167	182,123
Refined.....do....	100,148	86,865	98,325	98,925	113,725	103,781
Margarine:						
Production.....do....	106,727	114,970	98,088	109,977	116,812	120,737
Stocks (factory and warehouse).....do....	22,356	22,236	28,855	25,444	28,453	27,303
Shortening:						
Production.....do....	150,554	133,396	147,478	131,433	160,503	160,173
Stocks, end of month.....do....	141,573	129,175	130,125	118,022	108,393	112,674
FOODSTUFFS						
Distilled spirits, consumption for beverage purposes						
thous. of wine gallons..	16,784	16,572	16,443	15,121	16,994	.....
Corn grindings, wet process.....thous. of bu..	12,694	11,473	11,473	11,661	12,321	11,716
Livestock:						
Cattle and calves:						
Slaughter (federally inspected):						
Calves.....thous. of animals..	691	661	535	596	615	638
Cattle.....do....	1,774	1,617	1,535	1,759	1,726	1,627
Receipts, principal markets.....do....	2,697	2,721	1,860	2,312	2,207	2,491
Shipments, feeder, to 9 corn-belt States.....do....	580	734	160	272	475	679
Hogs:						
Slaughter (federally inspected).....do....	4,559	4,979	3,993	4,185	4,418	5,060
Receipts, principal markets.....do....	2,521	2,676	2,245	2,294	2,326	2,599
Sheep and lambs:						
Slaughter (federally inspected).....do....	1,268	1,167	1,044	1,200	1,111	1,104
Receipts, principal markets.....do....	1,405	1,770	914	1,108	1,059	1,308
Shipments, feeder, to 9 corn-belt States.....do....	361	679	108	222	341	502
Coffee, visible supply, United States.....thous. of bags..	891	1,063	954	954	927	1,005

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1956		1957			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
LEATHER AND PRODUCTS						
Leather production:						
Calf and whole kip.....thous. of skins..	668	586	732	546	818	.....
Cattle hide and side kip.....thous. of hides and kips..	2,226	1,979	2,130	1,887	2,274	.....
Goat and kid.....thous. of skins..	2,066	1,750	1,814	1,774	1,785	.....
Sheep and lamb.....do....	2,648	2,203	2,148	1,722	2,195	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Steel forgings (for sale):						
Orders, unfilled, total.....thous. of short tons..	562.4	619.9	445.1	430.7	417.5	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	123.2	121.5	128.5	104.1	115.4	.....
Drop and upset.....do....	89.1	88.2	92.9	79.1	88.4	.....
Press and open hammer.....do....	34.0	33.3	35.5	25.0	27.0	.....
Barrels and drums, steel, heavy types (for sale):						
Orders, unfilled, end of month.....thousands..	2,266	2,126	2,351	2,156	2,109	.....
Shipments.....do....	2,035	1,731	2,124	2,050	2,052	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do....	65	62	71	86	79	.....
Furnaces, industrial, new orders, net:						
Electric processing.....thous. of dol..	3,263	1,410	1,261	1,487	894	727
Fuel-fired (except for hot rolling steel).....do....	2,988	1,007	1,320	2,404	2,673	1,229
Machine tools (metal-cutting):						
New orders (net), total.....mil. of dol..	87.50	78.45	43.10	55.50	44.50	p28.85
Domestic.....do....	78.25	68.80	40.05	50.50	40.40	p25.10
Shipments, total.....do....	75.10	71.10	82.95	58.70	63.20	p64.60
Domestic.....do....	69.00	65.40	72.85	51.50	58.00	p58.35
Estimated backlog.....months..	7.7	7.7	4.2	4.2	4.0	p3.7
Vacuum cleaners, standard type, sales billed.....thousands..	276.9	320.3	207.3	218.3	241.2	302.9
Washers, domestic, sales billed <u>1</u> /.....do....	373.9	402.6	282.3	335.1	329.1	384.3
Radio sets, production <u>2</u> /.....do....	990.8	1,319.2	1,088.3	612.6	965.7	1,610.7
Television sets (incl. combination), production <u>2</u> /.....do....	612.9	894.2	543.8	360.7	673.7	832.6
PAPER AND PRINTING						
Paper products:						
Shipping containers, corrugated and solid fiber, shipments mil. sq. ft. surface area..	8,962	8,116	7,739	7,550	9,028	8,407
Folding paper boxes, index of value:						
New orders.....1947-49=100..	202.5	191.2	190.5	192.7	203.0	200.4
Shipments.....do....	192.0	181.3	170.4	167.7	192.4	190.3
RUBBER AND RUBBER PRODUCTS						
Natural rubber:						
Consumption.....long tons..	46,614	44,095	41,282	39,789	44,932	43,527
Stocks, end of month.....do....	99,668	98,069	90,694	98,871	99,093	101,603
Synthetic rubber:						
Production.....do....	86,468	90,602	84,413	80,951	93,422	94,537
Consumption.....do....	72,394	69,076	70,456	69,044	79,272	77,401
Stocks, end of month.....do....	192,486	200,793	173,170	163,648	161,688	161,433
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS						
Glass containers:						
Production.....thous. of gross..	13,237	9,878	12,747	12,565	14,090	12,201
Shipments.....do....	15,859	10,222	12,081	12,194	17,867	9,110
Stocks, end of month.....do....	13,940	13,371	17,860	17,955	13,866	16,688

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Figures beginning June 1957 exclude sales of combination washer-dryer units (included in earlier data); sales of such types totaled 132,600 units in the first nine months of 1957. 2/ Data for September 1956 and June and September 1957 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT
SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS