



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

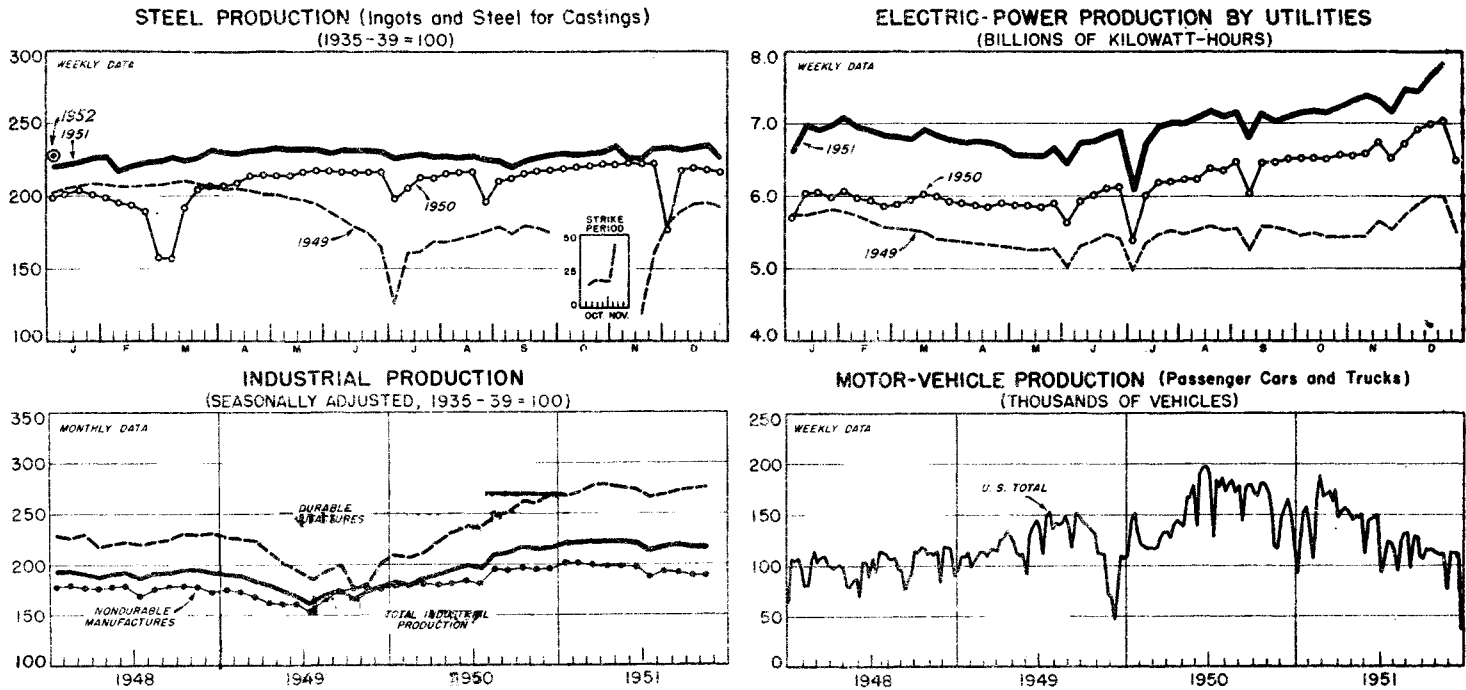
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS



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

JANUARY 4, 1952

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS ¹

ITEM	1950		1951				
	Dec. 23	Dec. 30	Dec. 1	Dec. 8	Dec. 15	Dec. 22	Dec. 29
Commodity prices, wholesale:							
All commodities.....1926=100..	175.8	177.0	177.7	177.1	177.1	177.0	177.4
Farm products.....do.....	187.6	190.3	197.8	193.9	193.7	193.2	193.2
Food.....do.....	179.0	180.2	189.9	187.5	188.4	188.9	189.2
All other.....do.....	167.2	167.8	165.2	165.5	165.6	165.6	165.6
28 commodities ^{2/}.....August 1939=100..	363.8	367.6	326.5	328.7	327.2	328.3	328.7
Cotton, middling, 15/16", 10 markets ^{3/}.....dol. per lb..	.432	.433	.426	.431	.420	.417	.419
Wheat, No. 2, hard winter (Kansas City) ^{3/}.....dol. per bu..	2.40	2.40	2.56	2.55	2.55	2.54	.....
Department store sales.....1935-39=100..	640	237	464	550	613	655	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,083	1,176	1,052	1,036	.....	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	1,032	1,124	1,019	1,003	.....	.....	.....
Finance:							
Currency in circulation ^{3/}.....mil. of dol..	27,951	27,850	28,770	28,932	29,069	29,311	.....
Federal Reserve bank credit, total.....do....	21,864	21,720	24,579	25,081	24,980	25,745	25,576
Member bank reserve balances.....do.....	17,436	17,174	19,603	19,919	19,964	20,798	20,208
Excess reserves, estimated.....do.....	866	759	439	770	747	1,120	635
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:							
Bank debits, total.....mil. of dol..	30,583	24,772	23,249	28,964	27,096	33,673	.....
New York City.....do.....	12,430	9,983	8,807	11,624	11,238	14,701	10,116
Deposits, demand, adjusted.....do.....	51,770	51,642	53,040	53,204	54,243	54,636	.....
Loans and investments, total.....do.....	71,444	71,789	73,260	73,072	73,771	74,844	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	33,854	33,674	32,082	31,856	32,115	32,582	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do....	17,801	17,839	20,865	21,006	21,219	21,442	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	174	125	148	136	143	117	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) ^{3/}.....percent..	2.88	2.87	3.22	3.24	3.25	3.25	3.26
Stock prices, 416 stocks (Standard and Poor's).....1935-39=100..	159.7	162.0	177.1	181.0	182.8	183.9	182.4
Industrials, 365 stocks.....do.....	172.6	175.1	192.6	197.3	199.2	200.8	199.1
Production:							
Bituminous coal ^{3/}.....thous. of short tons..	1,886	1,907	2,024	1,874	1,912	176.7	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	7,033	6,479	7,476	7,444	7,667	7,824	.....
Motor vehicles (Ward's).....number..	152,612	127,033	112,825	112,465	111,410	102,837	37,434
Petroleum, crude ^{2/}.....thous. of bbl..	5,685	5,691	6,159	6,134	6,136	6,115	.....
Steel ^{4/}.....1935-39=100..	217.8	216.3	232.9	232.0	233.1	234.9	227.1
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	747	602	822	774	753	672	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	375	305	397	388	376	332	.....

^{1/} Data do not always cover calendar weeks. ^{2/} Thursday prices. ^{3/} Daily averages. ^{4/} Week ending January 5, 228.4.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1950		1951			
	October	November	August	September	October	November
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Industrial production (Federal Reserve):						
Unadjusted, combined index.....1935-39=100..	220	215	220	223	222	p219
Manufactures.....do.....	229	226	229	233	r230	p228
Durable manufactures.....do.....	263	260	269	274	r275	p275
Iron and steel.....do.....	253	246	254	258	261	p260
Lumber and products.....do.....	176	168	158	158	158	p153
Furniture.....do.....	198	197	165	167	r170	p169
Lumber.....do.....	165	153	154	153	151	p146
Machinery.....do.....	303	311	328	336	r341	p343
Nonferrous metals and products.....do.....	223	226	197	199	r202	p208
Smelting and refining.....do.....	217	221	213	214	r230	p231
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do.....	240	233	237	237	r231	p223
Clay products.....do.....	177	182	180	180	r183	180
Transportation equipment.....do.....	291	278	306	311	r308	p309
Automobiles (including parts).....do.....	271	249	224	228	r219	p215
Nondurable manufactures.....do.....	201	197	197	199	r193	p189
Chemical products.....do.....	282	284	303	306	r304	p302
Industrial chemicals.....do.....	488	497	556	557	r552	p552
Leather and products.....do.....	115	111	98	100	91	.....
Leather tanning.....do.....	107	111	80	83	80	.....
Shoes.....do.....	121	110	110	111	98	.....
Manufactured food products.....do.....	173	163	188	190	r176	p160
Meat packing.....do.....	158	184	139	149	156	p186
Processed fruits and vegetables.....do.....	190	137	260	282	r202	p121
Printing and publishing.....do.....	183	182	166	180	181	p185
Rubber products.....do.....	250	250	245	246	r238	.....
Textiles and products.....do.....	197	193	170	164	155	p156
Cotton consumption.....do.....	162	158	145	142	140	144
Rayon deliveries.....do.....	374	381	361	335	293	290
Tobacco.....do.....	170	174	190	188	191	.....
Minerals.....do.....	169	159	170	171	r176	p170
Fuels.....do.....	170	165	171	172	r179	p178
Anthracite.....do.....	102	84	77	79	104	99
Bituminous coal.....do.....	151	138	134	137	147	152
Crude petroleum.....do.....	184	184	194	195	r199	p196
Metals.....do.....	161	124	167	166	r163	p127
Adjusted, combined index 1/.....do.....	216	215	217	219	r218	p218
Manufactures.....do.....	225	224	226	228	r226	p227
Durable manufactures.....do.....	261	260	267	272	274	p275
Lumber and products.....do.....	166	169	146	146	149	p155
Lumber.....do.....	150	155	137	135	138	p148
Nonferrous metals.....do.....	223	226	197	199	r202	p208
Smelting and refining.....do.....	217	221	213	214	r230	p231
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do.....	229	227	228	228	r221	p217
Clay products.....do.....	168	175	174	173	r173	p174
Nondurable manufactures.....do.....	196	195	193	192	r188	p188
Chemical products.....do.....	277	280	306	303	r299	p297
Leather and products.....do.....	115	109	99	100	91	.....
Leather tanning.....do.....	106	108	81	84	80	.....
Manufactured food products.....do.....	162	161	165	r166	r163	p161
Meat packing.....do.....	158	165	162	168	157	p167
Processed fruits and vegetables.....do.....	147	149	137	144	r157	p131
Printing and publishing.....do.....	179	174	174	179	177	p177
Tobacco.....do.....	165	171	183	177	185	.....
Minerals.....do.....	166	160	165	167	r174	p171
Metals.....do.....	141	130	134	137	r144	p134
BUSINESS POPULATION						
Industrial and commercial failures:						
Failures, total.....number..	707	683	678	620	644	587
Commercial service.....do.....	64	67	56	39	57	48
Construction.....do.....	91	87	89	84	85	68
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	150	150	136	150	150	106
Retail trade.....do.....	339	310	333	277	304	307
Wholesale trade.....do.....	63	69	64	70	48	58
Liabilities, total.....thous. of dol..	16,649	18,864	26,417	26,643	30,417	17,567
Commercial service.....do.....	2,009	1,742	1,358	782	2,044	952
Construction.....do.....	2,410	2,726	4,290	4,668	1,937	3,740
Manufacturing and mining.....do.....	5,949	8,412	10,497	14,908	12,444	6,158
Retail trade.....do.....	4,683	4,235	6,173	4,826	6,701	4,369
Wholesale trade.....do.....	1,598	1,749	4,099	1,459	7,285	2,348
COMMODITY PRICES						
Wholesale prices of selected commodities:						
Coal, bituminous, mine run, composite...dol. per short ton..	8.713	8.735	9.127	9.234	r9.710	9.258
Coffee, Santos, No. 4 (New York).....dol. per lb..	.530	.519	.536	.542	.545	.542
Cotton cloth, print, 64 x 60.....cents per yd..	21.5	21.9	15.1	15.1	15.1	15.8
Wheat flour, stand. patents (Minn.)...dol. per 100 lb. sack..	5.730	5.738	5.919	5.794	5.780	6.038
Lumber:						
Douglas fir, dim., No. 1, com. 2"x4", R.L....dol. per M bd. ft..	86.940	79.026	81.935	82.212	r82.648	82.408
Southern pine, boards, No. 2, com., 1"x6" or 8"x12'..do.....	82.954	79.027	77.453	78.052	79.400	80.484
Ponderosa pine, boards, No. 3, common, 1"x8".....do.....	81.380	82.520	81.680	78.970	78.850	78.170

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

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1950		1951			
	October	November	August	September	October	November
COMMODITY PRICES - Continued						
Wholesale prices of selected commodities - Continued						
Steel, scrap, heavy melting (Pittsburgh)..dol. per long ton..	44.00	44.00	45.00	45.00	44.75	44.00
Gasoline, tank wagon (New York).....dol. per gal..	.147	.147	.147	.147	.147	.147
Petroleum, crude (Oklahoma-Kansas), at wells..dol. per bbl..	2.570	2.570	2.570	2.570	2.570	2.570
Sugar, refined, granulated (New York).....dol. per lb..	.081	.081	.084	.083	.081	.081
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Contract awards, 37 States (F. W. Dodge Corp.):						
Total projects.....number..	49,604	46,856	46,319	42,435	42,735	36,323
Total valuation.....thous. of dol..	1,135,815	1,087,062	1,262,811	1,082,855	1,051,419	931,768
Building, total.....do....	956,687	931,576	1,043,523	884,178	914,450	771,590
Highway concrete pavement contract awards: 1/						
Total.....thous. of sq. yd..	3,605	3,084	4,508	4,342	2,856	3,757
Airports.....do....	50	299	714	458	275	671
Roads.....do....	1,634	1,314	1,436	1,681	803	1,814
Streets and alleys.....do....	1,920	1,471	2,358	2,202	1,777	1,271
Construction cost index (E. H. Boeckh and Associates, Inc.):						
Average, 20 cities:						
Apartments, hotels, and office buildings:						
Brick and concrete.....U. S. avg. 1926-29=100..	220.9	222.9	233.5	234.2	235.1	235.1
Brick and steel.....do....	221.9	223.9	234.8	235.6	236.4	236.4
Brick and wood.....do....	233.2	233.7	244.4	245.7	246.8	246.9
Commercial and factory buildings:						
Brick and concrete.....do....	222.9	224.8	235.5	236.1	236.8	236.9
Brick and steel.....do....	221.5	223.4	235.2	235.8	236.5	236.5
Brick and wood.....do....	227.9	229.3	240.4	241.5	242.5	242.5
Frame.....do....	238.9	237.9	248.0	249.7	251.1	251.1
Steel.....do....	206.2	208.2	220.5	221.0	221.5	221.5
Residences:						
Brick.....do....	233.7	234.2	244.8	246.1	247.3	247.3
Frame.....do....	233.0	232.7	242.8	244.3	245.6	245.7
FINANCE						
Bonds:						
Average price of all listed bonds (N.Y.S.E.).....dollars..	100.83	100.82	99.23	98.72	98.29	97.82
Domestic.....do....	101.27	101.30	99.73	99.22	98.78	98.30
Foreign.....do....	73.37	71.88	73.66	72.93	73.00	72.65
Value, issues listed on New York Stock Exchange:						
Market value, all issues.....mil. of dol..	118,417	118,507	99,271	97,925	97,511	97,151
Domestic.....do....	116,802	116,870	97,580	96,290	95,876	95,427
Foreign.....do....	1,362	1,385	1,399	1,347	1,345	1,339
Face value, all issues.....do....	117,441	117,544	100,045	99,197	99,206	99,318
Domestic.....do....	115,334	115,367	97,846	97,050	97,062	97,075
Foreign.....do....	1,857	1,927	1,899	1,847	1,843	1,843
Stocks:						
Cash dividend payments publicly reported.....do....	496.4	247.1	216.7	1,132.7	532.9	224.0
Finance.....do....	87.6	38.0	41.6	80.6	104.3	43.5
Manufacturing.....do....	220.8	129.1	102.2	757.3	211.5	106.1
Mining.....do....	5.9	2.5	2.0	91.1	7.3	1.2
Communications.....do....	66.6	.6	.7	25.1	82.2	.7
Heat, light, and power.....do....	50.6	43.4	47.1	66.6	56.1	49.4
Railroad.....do....	13.4	15.1	10.9	40.7	13.0	10.9
Trade.....do....	43.0	8.3	7.7	50.0	41.7	8.2
Miscellaneous.....do....	8.5	5.1	4.5	21.3	16.8	4.0
Shares listed on New York Stock Exchange:						
Market value.....do....	88,525	89,506	108,307	108,911	106,439	106,309
Number of shares listed.....millions..	2,325	2,333	2,568	2,581	2,592	2,604
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Fats, oils, and byproducts:						
Animal fats:						
Production.....thous. of lb..	300,360	354,641	297,887	281,549	327,893	374,561
Stocks, end of month.....do....	221,073	246,609	270,761	258,887	261,850	269,855
Greases:						
Production.....do....	53,751	58,895	54,642	46,862	49,801	57,918
Stocks, end of month.....do....	86,676	82,816	113,712	110,682	103,919	104,489
Fish oils:						
Production.....do....	22,961	11,247	25,240	18,789	16,612	2,297
Stocks, end of month.....do....	68,503	69,024	104,219	97,846	109,630	118,170
Vegetable oils:						
Production, crude.....do....	560,274	570,573	395,506	439,614	r615,919	603,842
Stocks, end of month: Crude.....do....	884,304	960,062	1,005,073	1,014,187	r1,094,497	1,195,236
Refined.....do....	215,669	269,148	255,635	256,321	r298,346	373,507
Cottonseed oil, refined:						
Production.....do....	143,075	160,209	40,499	96,085	173,826	186,793
Stocks, end of month.....do....	107,144	155,036	98,103	102,715	154,868	225,137
Linseed oil:						
Production.....do....	68,708	72,635	60,500	57,057	59,964	54,981
Stocks, end of month.....do....	556,570	591,636	634,748	635,184	640,760	638,785
Soybean oil:						
Production: Crude.....do....	190,723	216,217	187,910	148,658	214,799	225,365
Refined.....do....	153,276	170,013	154,263	130,391	143,782	136,668
Stocks, end of month: Crude.....do....	65,896	81,162	107,993	90,907	r121,135	164,529
Refined.....do....	51,274	51,045	85,236	79,870	r75,261	73,602

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for November 1950 and August and November 1951 are for 5 weeks, other months, 4 weeks.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS — Continued

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1950		1951			
	October	November	August	September	October	November
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS - Continued						
Fats, oils, and byproducts - Continued						
Oleomargarine:						
Production.....thous. of lb..	74,234	93,852	86,286	85,074	98,219	94,979
Stocks (factory and warehouse).....do....	14,807	12,645	17,022	16,461	19,218	17,704
Shortenings and compounds:						
Production.....do....	142,215	155,333	126,290	109,636	136,469	131,721
Stocks, end of month.....do....	85,962	81,121	104,682	97,018	94,231	93,110
FOODSTUFFS AND TOBACCO						
Dairy products, production:						
Butter, creamery (factory).....do....	r89,251	r75,555	r120,185	95,900	r87,810	67,325
Cheese (factory), total.....do....	r80,836	r67,927	r111,005	r91,945	r82,445	65,090
Meats, production, total.....mil. of lb..	1,621	1,809	1,488	1,374	1,668	1,841
Beef and veal.....thous. of lb..	686,636	669,181	617,158	553,317	648,917	645,256
Lamb and mutton.....do....	47,326	43,293	39,369	36,652	47,490	42,803
Pork, including lard.....do....	886,656	1,096,444	831,556	784,336	971,381	1,153,267
Lard.....do....	161,749	200,922	158,700	149,769	184,705	221,097
Tobacco, manufactured products:						
Production, total.....do....	23,417	19,063	21,665	19,777	18,292	.....
Chewing, plug, and twist.....do....	7,877	6,884	8,240	7,049	7,120	.....
Smoking.....do....	11,918	8,894	9,741	9,669	8,017	.....
Snuff.....do....	3,622	3,285	3,684	3,060	3,154	.....
Consumption (withdrawals):						
Cigarettes, small, tax-free.....millions..	3,223	2,837	3,499	2,773	3,416	.....
Cigarettes, small, tax-paid.....do....	29,738	29,825	35,601	30,800	37,477	p34,229
Cigars, tax-paid.....thousands..	553,776	544,792	533,739	490,938	590,616	554,341
Manufactured tobacco and snuff, tax-paid.....thous. of lbs..	22,322	18,591	21,551	19,486	14,374	24,005
LEATHER						
Leather production:						
Calf and kip.....thous. of skins..	962	993	559	492	607	.....
Cattle hide.....thous. of hides..	2,193	2,249	1,885	r1,644	1,859	.....
Goat and kid.....thous. of skins..	3,205	3,319	2,469	r1,830	2,011	.....
Sheep and lamb.....do....	2,856	2,546	1,873	1,674	2,138	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (Lake Superior district):						
Consumption by furnaces.....thous. of long tons..	7,415	6,861	7,699	7,473	7,749	7,624
Stocks, end of month, total.....do....	39,711	41,543	39,920	45,453	50,229	49,099
At furnaces.....do....	35,651	36,919	35,057	39,504	43,425	42,258
On Lake Erie docks.....do....	4,059	4,624	4,863	5,950	6,804	6,841
Castings, gray iron:						
Shipments, total.....thous. of short tons..	1,255	1,161	1,219	1,115	1,303	.....
For sale.....do....	701	657	698	626	734	.....
Orders, unfilled, for sale, end of month.....do....	1,840	1,930	r2,145	2,055	1,991	.....
Castings, malleable iron:						
Orders, unfilled, for sale.....short tons..	160,278	180,099	249,273	244,575	229,995	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	89,968	85,163	90,727	82,276	92,386	.....
For sale.....do....	50,157	48,670	57,164	48,568	56,754	.....
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	5,924	5,387	6,063	5,890	6,197	5,911
Castings, steel:						
Shipments, total.....short tons..	149,558	145,929	r177,096	160,695	189,929	.....
For sale, total.....do....	109,660	108,263	128,981	116,658	139,953	.....
Railway specialties.....do....	30,048	30,775	41,162	34,693	39,290	.....
Lead, refined (primary refineries):						
Production.....do....	54,123	50,725	31,756	30,474	34,273	36,234
Shipments (domestic).....do....	62,138	58,658	40,252	31,654	31,164	37,084
Stocks, end of month.....do....	50,854	40,910	24,997	23,640	26,742	25,871
Machine tools:						
New orders.....1945-47=100..	289.6	291.9	488.9	380.2	r403.9	p332.6
Shipments.....do....	100.9	110.9	178.9	189.8	r221.3	p225.7
PAPER AND PRINTING						
Newsprint, Canada (including Newfoundland):						
Production.....short tons..	456,443	456,743	484,563	431,082	492,475	471,732
Shipments from mills.....do....	465,253	477,708	480,581	427,738	497,410	491,020
Stocks, at mills, end of month.....do....	128,331	107,366	148,957	152,301	147,366	128,078
Newsprint, United States:						
Consumption by publishers.....do....	420,786	407,943	344,470	381,437	405,277	402,829
Production.....do....	91,305	87,980	96,059	87,036	96,173	91,835
Shipments from mills.....do....	92,779	85,141	94,488	88,795	93,625	95,289
Stocks, end of month: At mills.....do....	7,823	10,662	10,191	8,432	10,980	7,526
At publishers.....do....	356,782	334,783	467,052	439,547	434,841	436,244
In transit to publishers.....do....	88,332	98,499	77,646	87,037	100,292	107,144
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS						
Portland cement:						
Production.....thous. of bbl..	22,461	20,226	22,513	22,269	22,797	20,736
Shipments.....do....	24,167	19,791	25,852	23,256	26,140	18,001
Stocks, finished, end of month.....do....	5,945	6,382	r11,282	10,287	r6,945	9,680
Stocks, clinker, end of month.....do....	2,852	2,962	4,851	4,138	3,544	3,891
Glass containers:						
Production.....thous. of gross..	10,612	9,451	10,575	9,134	9,341	7,804
Shipments.....do....	8,967	8,104	10,543	9,397	8,948	7,714
Stocks, end of month.....do....	6,123	7,079	10,102	9,839	9,884	9,710

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.