



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

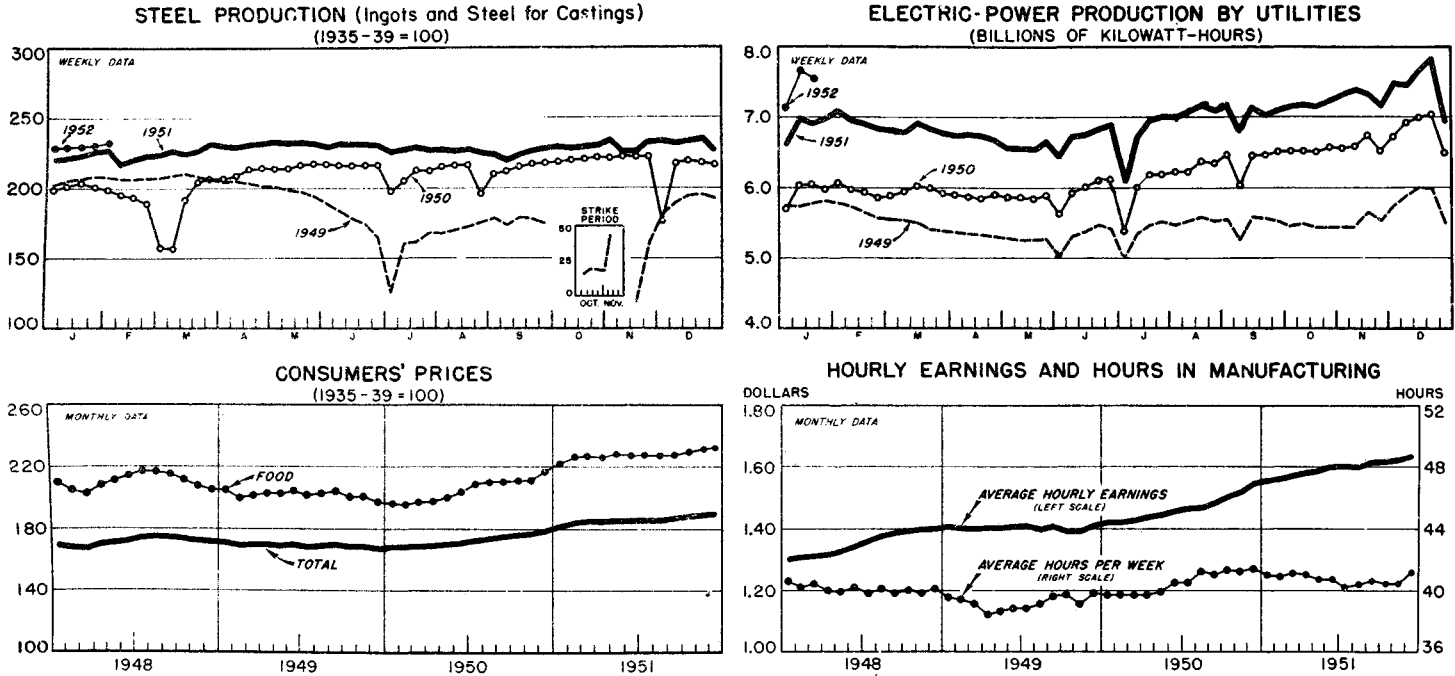


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS

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

FEBRUARY 1, 1952

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1951			1952			
	Jan. 20	Jan. 27	Dec. 29	Jan. 5	Jan. 12	Jan. 19	Jan. 26
Commodity prices, wholesale:							
All commodities.....1926=100..	179.9	181.4	177.3	177.2	177.2	176.5	175.9
Farm products.....do.....	192.6	197.5	195.1	193.7	193.9	192.0	188.9
Food.....do.....	181.1	182.9	189.2	189.2	188.8	187.5	186.2
All other.....do.....	170.5	171.1	165.5	165.4	165.3	165.2	165.1
28 commodities ^{2/}.....August 1939=100..	386.0	386.1	328.7	327.5	324.6	321.5	323.1
Cotton, middling, 15/16", 10 markets ^{3/}.....dol. per lb..	..443	..447	..420	..419	..423	..417	..418
Wheat, No. 2, hard winter (Kansas City) ^{3/}.....dol. per bu.	2.38	2.40	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.51	2.52
Department store sales.....1935-39=100..	301	278	265	225	265	259	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,195	1,125	1,305	1,458	.....	.....	.....
State programs.....do.....	1,144	1,075	1,263	1,416	.....	.....	.....
Finance:							
Currency in circulation ^{3/}.....mil. of dol..	27,208	27,041	29,333	29,104	28,787	28,543	28,354
Federal Reserve bank credit, total.....do....	21,923	21,608	25,576	24,825	24,554	24,372	24,116
Member bank reserve balances.....do.....	18,587	18,260	20,208	20,364	20,369	20,488	20,660
Excess reserves, estimated.....do.....	969	650	635	669	797	918	1,091
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:							
Bank debits, total.....mil. of dol..	27,459	26,650	24,682	32,894	26,517	27,296	.....
New York City.....do.....	10,424	10,092	10,116	14,225	10,531	10,277	9,866
Deposits, demand, adjusted.....do.....	51,702	51,684	54,059	53,370	53,706	54,544	.....
Loans and investments, total.....do.....	70,449	70,384	74,878	74,217	73,729	74,217	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	32,634	32,443	32,522	32,224	32,074	32,283	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do....	17,972	18,018	21,592	21,419	21,267	21,441	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	167	193	163	126	164	158	142
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) ^{3/}.....percent..	2.86	2.85	3.26	3.27	3.26	3.24	3.23
Stock prices, 416 stocks (Standard and Poor's).....1935-39=100..	171.2	168.8	182.4	185.5	184.5	187.0	189.7
Industrials, 365 stocks.....do.....	185.5	182.8	199.1	202.8	201.4	204.2	207.5
Production:							
Bituminous coal ^{3/}.....thous. of short tons..	1,863	1,902	1,571	1,839	1,960	1,888	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	6,909	6,970	6,922	7,149	7,666	7,540	.....
Motor vehicles (Ward's).....number..	152,783	158,319	35,193	48,545	85,630	91,940	87,621
Petroleum, crude ^{3/}.....thous. of bbl..	5,973	5,987	6,112	6,094	6,084	6,101	.....
Steel ^{4/}.....1935-39=100..	223.0	225.9	227.1	228.5	228.7	229.6	231.3
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	780	784	502	613	743	748	.....
Miscellaneous.....do.....	392	392	254	308	364	371	.....

^{1/} Data do not always cover calendar weeks. ^{2/} Thursday prices. ^{3/} Daily averages. ^{4/} Week ending February 2, 1952.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1950		1951			
	November	December	September	October	November	December
BUSINESS POPULATION						
Industrial and commercial failures:						
Failures, total.....number..	683	679	620	r643	587	612
Commercial service.....do....	67	67	39	57	48	48
Construction.....do.....	87	62	84	85	68	71
Manufacturing and mining.....do....	150	143	150	150	106	131
Retail trade.....do.....	310	330	277	304	307	296
Wholesale trade.....do.....	69	77	70	r47	58	66
Liabilities, total.....thous. of dol..	18,864	21,044	26,643	r29,742	17,567	19,403
Commercial service.....do.....	1,742	3,205	782	2,044	952	1,874
Construction.....do.....	2,726	4,748	4,668	1,937	3,740	2,251
Manufacturing and mining.....do....	8,412	5,352	14,908	r12,219	6,158	6,515
Retail trade.....do.....	4,235	5,479	4,826	6,707	4,369	5,177
Wholesale trade.....do.....	1,749	2,260	1,459	r6,835	2,348	3,586
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumers' price index, all items.....1935-39=100..	176.4	178.8	186.6	187.4	188.6	189.1
Apparel.....do.....	194.3	195.5	209.0	208.9	207.6	206.8
Food.....do.....	210.8	226.3	227.3	229.2	231.4	232.2
Cereals and bakery products.....do....	177.6	177.7	189.4	189.4	190.2	190.4
Dairy products.....do.....	192.8	194.0	206.4	207.9	210.4	213.2
Fruits and vegetables.....do.....	195.7	203.9	205.1	210.8	223.5	236.5
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do.....	250.3	253.4	275.6	276.6	273.5	270.1
Fuels, electricity, and refrigeration.....do....	142.5	142.8	144.4	144.6	144.8	144.9
Gas and electricity.....do.....	96.8	96.8	97.3	97.4	97.4	97.5
Other fuels.....do.....	200.8	201.7	204.9	205.8	206.3	206.6
Housefurnishings.....do.....	201.1	203.2	211.1	210.4	210.8	210.2
Rent.....do.....	132.5	132.9	137.5	138.2	138.9	139.2
Miscellaneous.....do.....	159.2	160.6	166.0	166.6	168.4	169.1
Wholesale prices (U. S. Department of Labor):						
Combined index.....1926=100..	171.7	175.3	177.6	178.1	178.3	177.8
Economic classes:						
Manufactured products.....do.....	165.1	169.0	174.2	174.3	174.1	173.9
Raw materials.....do.....	184.5	187.1	187.0	r188.9	189.6	188.8
Semimanufactured articles.....do....	173.0	178.1	168.8	168.3	168.7	167.9
Farm products.....do.....	183.7	187.4	189.2	192.3	r195.1	193.6
Grains.....do.....	172.1	180.9	181.6	187.3	195.1	197.6
Livestock and poultry.....do.....	197.3	204.9	227.8	225.2	212.4	209.8
Commodities other than farm products.....do....	168.8	172.4	174.8	174.8	r174.3	174.1
Food.....do.....	175.2	179.0	188.0	189.4	188.8	187.3
Cereal products.....do.....	154.1	157.6	160.4	161.3	163.8	163.5
Dairy products.....do.....	164.1	164.4	170.3	173.8	178.7	183.2
Fruits and vegetables.....do.....	140.4	138.0	141.9	143.3	151.6	161.3
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do.....	223.4	233.7	258.4	260.8	251.8	246.2
Commodities other than farm products and foods.....do....	163.7	166.7	167.0	r166.6	166.9	166.9
Building materials.....do.....	217.8	221.4	223.0	223.6	r224.5	224.0
Brick and tile.....do.....	177.6	179.1	179.5	179.5	179.5	179.5
Cement.....do.....	140.8	141.2	147.2	147.2	147.2	147.2
Lumber.....do.....	347.6	348.4	343.3	344.4	r345.0	344.1
Paint and paint materials.....do....	148.2	154.9	159.8	161.3	164.4	164.1
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	135.7	139.6	140.8	141.1	138.7	137.9
Chemicals.....do.....	134.3	136.1	144.7	144.7	144.7	144.5
Drugs and pharmaceutical materials.....do....	163.8	175.1	184.1	184.1	169.1	169.0
Fertilizer materials.....do.....	112.0	115.6	118.5	120.2	122.4	123.2
Oils and fats.....do.....	171.5	180.9	141.9	142.6	132.0	126.1
Fuels and lighting materials.....do.....	135.7	135.7	138.8	138.9	139.1	139.2
Bituminous coal.....do.....	193.3	193.2	196.9	197.6	198.0	198.3
Electricity.....do.....	65.5	65.7	65.4	64.9	.....	.....
Gas.....do.....	90.5	90.2	94.7	94.6	97.7	.....
Petroleum and products.....do.....	118.1	118.0	120.5	120.5	120.6	120.4
Hides and leather products.....do.....	211.5	218.7	212.1	208.3	r196.6	192.3
Hides and skins.....do.....	269.3	277.5	225.3	220.9	182.2	174.0
Leather.....do.....	204.9	213.8	195.5	194.5	r183.5	175.7
Shoes.....do.....	203.7	209.3	221.8	215.8	210.9	208.6
Housefurnishing goods.....do.....	166.9	170.2	172.4	171.7	172.0	172.0
Furnishings.....do.....	176.6	180.6	183.1	181.8	182.0	182.1
Furniture.....do.....	156.7	159.2	161.2	161.1	161.5	161.5
Metals and metal products.....do.....	180.4	184.9	189.1	191.2	191.5	191.7
Iron and steel.....do.....	174.0	182.1	185.9	186.0	186.1	186.1
Nonferrous metals.....do.....	181.7	182.5	176.4	180.4	180.8	181.1
Plumbing and heating.....do.....	182.5	183.6	184.4	184.2	184.1	184.3
Textile products.....do.....	166.8	171.4	163.2	157.7	r159.4	160.5
Clothing.....do.....	151.4	155.4	164.7	163.8	160.4	160.4
Cotton goods.....do.....	231.7	236.6	196.5	r193.6	r198.8	202.6
Hosiery and underwear.....do.....	111.4	113.7	110.0	108.0	107.5	107.4
Rayon.....do.....	42.7	43.0	43.1	43.1	43.1	43.1
Silk.....do.....	69.0	75.0	72.6	75.8	76.3	77.6
Woolen and worsted goods.....do.....	192.7	195.6	196.7	169.9	177.8	176.7
Miscellaneous.....do.....	137.6	140.5	138.5	r139.2	r141.3	141.6
Tires and tubes.....do.....	82.3	82.5	82.9	82.9	82.9	82.9
Paper and pulp.....do.....	178.7	189.0	199.7	200.5	201.1	200.9
Wholesale prices of selected commodities:						
Coal, bituminous, mine run, composite..dol. per short ton..	8.735	8.741	9.234	9.710	9.258	9.262
Coffee, Santos, No. 4 (New York).....dol. per lb..	.519	.540	.542	.545	.542	.541
Cotton cloth, print, 64 x 60.....cents per yd..	21.9	22.5	15.1	15.1	15.8	16.2

r/ Revised.

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1950		1951			
	November	December	September	October	November	December
COMMODITY PRICES - Continued						
Wholesale prices of selected commodities - Continued						
Wheat flour, stand. patents (Minn.)...dol.per 100 lb.sack..	5.738	5.925	5.794	5.780	6.038	5.954
Lumber:						
Douglas fir, dim., No. 1, com. 2"x4", R.L...dol. per M bd. ft..	79.026	78.090	1/82.212	1/82.648	r1/81.741	1/81.368
Southern pine, boards, No. 2, com., 1"x6" or 8"x12'...do....	79.027	78.822	78.052	79.400	80.484	80.702
Ponderosa pine, boards, No. 3, common, 1"x6".....do....	82.520	84.470	78.970	78.850	78.170	78.740
Steel, scrap, heavy melting (Pittsburgh)...dol. per long ton..						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	.081	.083	.081	.081
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
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..	222.9	224.7	234.2	235.1	235.1	235.9
Brick and steel.....do....	223.9	226.4	235.6	236.4	236.4	237.2
Brick and wood.....do....	233.7	236.9	245.7	246.8	246.9	246.9
Commercial and factory buildings:						
Brick and concrete.....do....	224.8	226.3	236.1	236.8	236.9	237.7
Brick and steel.....do....	223.4	225.9	235.8	236.5	236.5	237.0
Brick and wood.....do....	229.3	232.4	241.5	242.5	242.5	242.7
Frame.....do....	237.9	241.3	249.7	251.1	251.1	250.5
Steel.....do....	208.2	211.0	221.0	221.5	221.5	221.9
Residences:						
Brick.....do....	234.2	237.4	246.1	247.3	247.3	247.3
Frame.....do....	232.7	236.1	244.3	245.6	245.7	245.4
DOMESTIC TRADE						
Newspaper advertising:						
Lineage, total (52 cities).....thous. of lines..	226,880	217,856	211,499	228,673	230,083	214,041
Classified.....do....	42,944	39,099	51,465	51,844	47,780	42,998
Display, total.....do....	183,936	178,757	160,033	176,829	182,304	171,043
Automotive.....do....	11,721	8,395	7,889	9,811	9,519	6,553
Financial.....do....	2,267	2,347	2,234	2,732	2,417	2,526
General.....do....	39,502	29,682	30,318	37,983	34,510	25,044
Retail.....do....	130,447	138,334	119,592	126,303	135,857	136,915
EMPLOYMENT						
Labor turn-over in manufacturing establishments:						
Accession rate.....monthly rate per 100 employees..	4.0	3.0	4.3	4.4	3.7	2.9
Separation rate, total.....do....	3.8	3.6	5.1	4.7	4.1	3.3
Discharges.....do....	.3	.3	.3	.4	.3	.2
Lay-offs.....do....	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.4
Quits.....do....	2.1	1.7	3.1	2.5	1.9	1.4
Military and miscellaneous.....do....	.3	.3	.4	.4	.3	.3
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Alcohol, ethyl:						
Production.....thous. of proof gal..	35,320	34,859	40,945	47,336	40,477	39,732
Stocks, total.....do....	44,066	44,053	101,740	103,927	91,184	89,377
In industrial alcohol bonded warehouses.....do....	42,735	43,341	71,103	66,465	61,803	59,298
In denaturing plants.....do....	1,331	713	30,636	37,462	29,381	30,079
Used for denaturation.....do....	30,654	39,457	39,924	43,362	45,582	42,072
Withdrawn tax-paid.....do....	3,877	3,035	3,595	3,016	3,161	2,417
Alcohol, denatured:						
Production.....thous. of wine gal..	16,574	21,265	21,421	23,723	24,415	22,464
Consumption (withdrawals).....do....	16,853	19,888	22,392	27,232	24,186	21,944
Stocks.....do....	1,744	3,118	10,252	6,645	7,477	8,333
Fats, oils, and byproducts:						
Animal fats:						
Production.....thous. of lb..	354,641	393,136	281,549	327,893	r 378,755	398,619
Stocks, end of month.....do....	246,609	274,271	258,887	261,850	r 269,893	303,436
Greases:						
Production.....do....	58,895	60,254	46,862	49,801	r 58,013	56,659
Stocks, end of month.....do....	82,816	92,536	110,682	103,919	r 104,574	100,465
Fish oils:						
Production.....do....	11,247	10,006	18,789	16,612	2,297	2,305
Stocks, end of month.....do....	69,024	72,207	97,846	109,630	r 102,999	97,237
Vegetable oils:						
Production, crude.....do....	570,573	544,970	439,614	615,919	r 604,260	551,146
Stocks, end of month: Crude.....do....	960,062	1,023,486	1,014,187	1,094,497	r 1,196,594	1,244,883
Refined.....do....	269,148	297,359	256,321	298,346	r 373,449	441,211
Cottonseed oil, refined:						
Production.....do....	160,209	122,009	96,085	173,826	186,793	182,865
Stocks, end of month.....do....	155,036	171,591	102,715	154,868	225,137	279,881
Linseed oil:						
Production.....do....	72,635	74,946	57,057	59,964	54,981	52,120
Stocks, end of month.....do....	591,636	609,867	635,184	640,760	638,785	652,696
Soybean oil:						
Production: Crude.....do....	216,217	235,609	148,658	214,799	r 224,834	221,400
Refined.....do....	170,013	163,893	130,391	143,782	136,668	149,822
Stocks, end of month: Crude.....do....	81,162	99,828	90,907	121,135	164,529	197,246
Refined.....do....	51,045	54,237	79,870	75,261	73,602	83,920

r/ Revised. 1/ See note on corresponding item in the January 1952 Survey.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1950		1951			
	November	December	September	October	November	December
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS - Continued						
Fats, oils, and byproducts - Continued						
Oleomargarine:						
Production.....thous. of lb..	93,852	89,959	85,074	98,219	94,979	96,240
Stocks (factory and warehouse).....do....	12,645	14,150	16,461	19,218	17,704	18,830
Shortenings and compounds:						
Production.....do....	155,333	144,092	109,636	136,469	131,721	116,509
Stocks, end of month.....do....	81,121	103,583	97,018	94,231	93,110	101,441
FOODSTUFFS AND TOBACCO						
Fermented malt liquors:						
Production.....thous. of bbl..	6,168	5,896	7,032	6,841	6,142	6,284
Tax-paid withdrawals.....do....	6,022	6,166	6,995	6,732	6,410	6,077
Stocks, end of month.....do....	9,451	8,814	10,522	10,211	9,506	9,240
Grains:						
Receipts, principal markets:						
Barley.....thous. of bu..	12,581	9,821	12,411	10,200	11,518	8,039
Corn.....do....	52,010	42,716	21,578	24,565	33,948	34,498
Oats.....do....	7,211	7,370	15,684	7,503	9,224	9,450
Rye.....do....	1,052	2,800	2,330	1,381	806	1,267
Wheat.....do....	39,472	33,151	60,975	47,284	35,730	32,396
Stocks, commercial, end of month:						
Barley.....do....	34,541	32,625	28,254	27,704	26,779	25,483
Corn.....do....	52,137	59,365	32,785	38,497	47,299	51,394
Oats.....do....	18,226	17,698	33,213	31,507	28,173	26,931
Rye.....do....	7,716	7,871	6,183	6,471	6,217	6,344
Wheat.....do....	253,690	247,318	238,443	224,941	202,464	199,890
Dairy products, production:						
Butter, creamery (factory).....thous. of lb..	75,555	77,886	95,900	87,815	67,515	69,945
Cheese (factory), total.....do....	67,927	68,409	91,945	82,445	64,750	65,480
Meats, production, total.....mil. of lb..						
Beef and veal.....thous. of lb..	1,809	1,948	1,374	1,668	1,841	1,866
Lamb and mutton.....do....	669,181	650,935	553,317	648,917	645,256	585,399
Pork, including lard.....do....	43,293	41,964	36,652	47,490	42,803	37,915
Lard.....do....	1,096,444	1,255,175	784,336	972,381	1,153,267	1,242,339
Coffee, visible supply, United States.....thous. of bags..	200,922	242,183	149,769	184,705	221,097	246,363
Sugar, U. S., deliveries and supply (raw value):	810	791	619	736	562	689
Production.....short tons..	866,935	531,464	98,067	464,289	627,843	.....
Entries from off-shore.....do....	320,519	203,654	396,322	444,726	314,637	164,866
Hawaii and Puerto Rico.....do....	131,587	84,803	111,020	92,575	102,389	155,925
Deliveries, total.....do....	523,250	688,617	646,163	678,741	546,529	476,930
For domestic consumption.....do....	510,224	681,353	643,958	676,573	544,224	461,556
Stocks, raw and refined, end of mo.....thous. of short tons..	1,767	1,838	958	1,169	1,540	.....
Tobacco, manufactured products, consumption (withdrawals):						
Cigarettes, small, tax-free.....millions..	2,837	2,619	2,773	3,416	3,708	.....
Cigarettes, small, tax-paid.....do....	29,825	25,000	30,800	37,477	33,904	23,531
Cigars, tax-paid.....thousands..	544,792	374,800	490,938	550,616	554,341	367,906
Manufactured tobacco and snuff, tax-paid.....thous. of lbs..	18,591	13,498	19,486	14,374	24,005	14,353
LEATHER						
Leather production:						
Calf and kip.....thous. of skins..	993	860	492	607	568	.....
Cattle hide.....thous. of hides..	2,249	2,046	1,644	1,859	1,746	.....
Goat and kid.....thous. of skins..	3,319	3,019	1,830	2,011	1,837	.....
Sheep and lamb.....do....	2,546	2,333	1,674	2,138	2,163	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (Lake Superior district):						
Consumption by furnaces.....thous. of long tons..	6,861	7,289	7,473	7,149	7,624	7,639
Stocks, end of month, total.....do....	41,543	37,169	45,453	50,229	49,059	43,710
At furnaces.....do....	36,919	31,771	39,504	43,425	42,258	37,016
On Lake Erie docks.....do....	4,624	5,398	5,950	6,804	6,801	6,694
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	5,387	5,693	5,890	6,197	5,911	5,977
PAPER AND PRINTING						
Newsprint, Canada (including Newfoundland):						
Production.....short tons..	456,743	430,551	431,082	482,475	471,732	421,287
Shipments from mills.....do....	477,708	448,775	427,738	497,410	491,020	461,455
Stocks, at mills, end of month.....do....	107,366	89,142	152,301	147,366	128,078	101,910
Newsprint, United States:						
Consumption by publishers.....do....	407,943	398,309	381,437	405,277	402,829	387,783
Production.....do....	87,980	85,355	190,728	100,339	195,847	91,763
Shipments from mills.....do....	85,141	87,776	192,487	197,791	199,301	91,721
Stocks, end of month:						
At mills.....do....	10,662	8,241	8,432	10,980	7,526	7,568
At publishers.....do....	334,783	328,018	439,547	434,841	436,244	430,431
In transit to publishers.....do....	98,499	96,942	87,037	100,292	107,144	91,765
Paperboard:						
Orders, new.....do....	1,019,900	876,700	856,000	961,900	804,500	798,300
Orders, unfilled, end of month.....do....	722,000	617,200	458,150	487,800	365,400	358,700
Production.....do....	1,012,700	940,500	852,500	951,700	866,300	789,900

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.