



# SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

## WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT



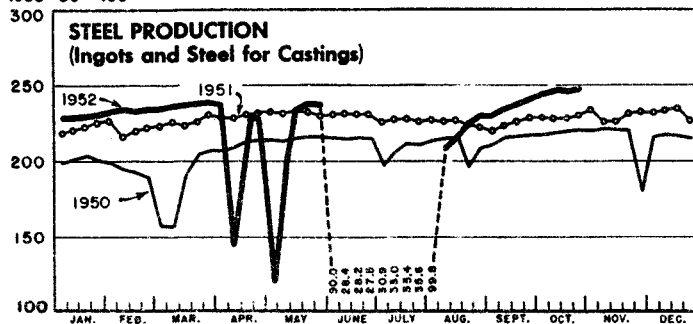
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS

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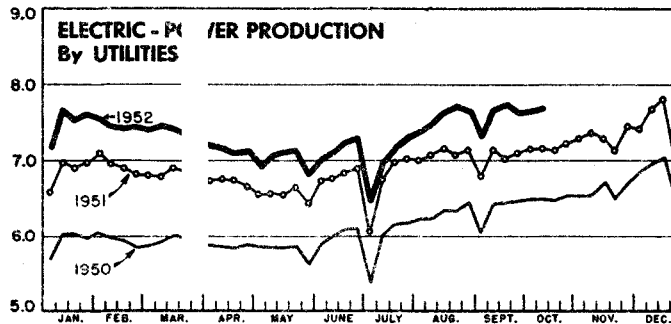
OCTOBER 24, 1952

### SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

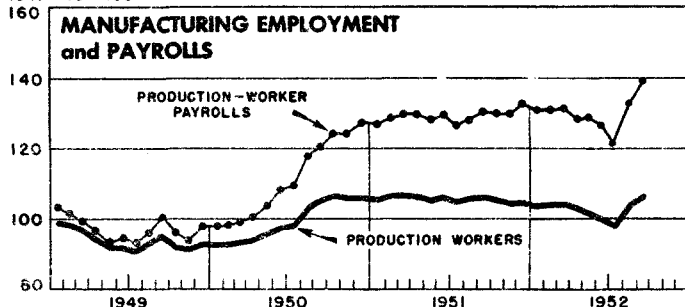
1935-39 = 100



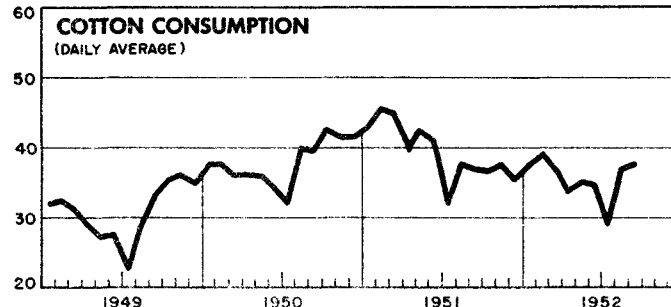
BILLIONS OF KILOWATT-HOURS



1947-49 = 100



THOUSANDS OF BALES



### WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

ITEM	1951		1952				
	Oct. 13	Oct. 20	Sept. 20	Sept. 27	Oct. 4	Oct. 11	Oct. 18
<b>Commodity prices, wholesale:</b>							
All commodities.....1947-49=100..		*113.7	**111.7			111.1	110.7
Farm products.....do.....		*111.5	**106.4			106.6	104.6
Foods, processed.....do.....		*111.6	**110.5			108.5	108.1
All other.....do.....		*114.6	**113.1			112.6	112.6
28 commodities 2/.....August 1939=100..	331.4	329.7	290.5	290.4	288.7	287.0	284.8
Cotton, middling, 15/16", 10 markets 3/.....dol. per lb..	.367	.367	.386	.386	.383	.377	.365
Wheat, No. 2, hard winter (Kansas City) 3/.....dol. per bu..	2.41	2.47	2.42	2.42	2.41	2.41	2.38
Department store sales.....1947-49=100..	117	116	113	112	116	125	
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	884	872	701	656			
State programs.....do.....	863	851	672	637			
<b>Finance:</b>							
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	28,454	28,407	29,314	29,303	29,462	29,576	29,610
Federal Reserve bank credit, total.....do.....	25,025	25,117	25,249	24,857	24,963	25,384	25,325
Member bank reserve balances.....do.....	19,939	20,068	21,067	20,581	20,098	20,239	20,613
Excess reserves, estimated.....do.....	1,071	1,113	1,204	747	356	662	591
<b>Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:</b>							
Bank debits, total.....mil. of dol..	23,366	25,680	31,576	28,693	29,997	27,367	
New York City.....do.....	8,862	9,514	12,733	11,296	12,450	11,091	10,133
Deposits, demand, adjusted.....do.....	50,878	51,323	53,221	52,274	52,317	52,185	
Loans and investments, total.....do.....	71,065	71,508	76,019	75,532	75,773	77,281	
U. S. Government obligations.....do.....	30,864	30,976	31,928	31,685	31,579	32,976	
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do.....	20,314	20,489	21,516	21,606	21,671	21,808	
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	126	157	145	156	129	147	139
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.10	3.12	3.19	3.20	3.21	3.21	3.22
Stock prices, 400 stocks (Standard and Poor's).....1935-39=100..	186.9	187.5	186.4	187.8	185.6	185.8	182.6
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do.....	204.3	205.2	202.1	203.6	201.1	201.3	197.5
<b>Production:</b>							
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,838	1,904	1,930	1,672	1,513	1,508	
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	7,160	7,149	7,725	7,625	7,665	7,698	
Motor vehicles (Ford's).....number..	114,479	114,347	138,390	132,624	134,671	129,107	132,963
Petroleum, crude 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,248	6,271	6,439	6,431	6,438	6,441	
Steel 4/.....1935-39=100..	228.0	228.6	237.6	242.0	245.9	248.0	247.8
Freight car loadings, total.....thous. of cars..	869	887	874	862	852	843	
Miscellaneous.....do.....	416	428	407	414	416	416	

<sup>1/</sup> Data do not always cover calendar weeks. <sup>2/</sup> Thursday prices. <sup>3/</sup> Daily averages. <sup>4/</sup> Week ending October 25, 248.0. \* Monthly index for October 1951. \*\* Monthly index for September 1952.

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1951		1952			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
COMMODITY PRICES						
Wholesale prices (U. S. Department of Labor), indexes:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	113.7	113.4	111.2	111.8	r112.2	111.7
Farm products.....do....	110.4	109.9	107.2	110.2	r109.9	106.4
Fruits and vegetables, fresh and dried.....do....	89.4	92.8	124.2	128.2	r124.3	115.6
Grains.....do....	95.8	96.6	95.4	94.9	r96.9	96.9
Livestock and live poultry.....do....	118.2	116.2	107.2	108.2	r106.4	99.3
Foods, processed.....do....	111.2	110.9	108.5	110.0	r110.5	110.5
Cereal and bakery products.....do....	106.7	106.4	106.7	106.5	r106.4	106.5
Dairy products and ice cream.....do....	107.9	106.1	110.1	113.8	r113.0	116.4
Fruits and vegetables, canned and frozen.....do....	103.4	104.7	103.5	103.9	r105.1	106.1
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do....	117.5	118.3	110.1	110.6	r112.3	110.1
Commodities other than farm products and foods.....do....	114.9	114.8	112.6	112.5	r113.0	113.1
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	108.5	108.7	104.3	104.2	r104.0	104.0
Chemicals, industrial.....do....	120.4	120.7	114.9	114.7	r114.6	114.3
Drugs, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics.....do....	95.6	95.6	92.2	92.1	r92.1	92.1
Fats and oils, inedible.....do....	70.4	73.0	52.0	49.8	r47.5	48.9
Fertilizer materials.....do....	107.2	107.2	109.9	110.7	r110.9	111.0
Paint and paint materials.....do....	107.4	108.0	107.0	106.9	r106.9	107.0
Fuel, power, and lighting materials.....do....	106.3	106.7	105.9	106.0	r105.8	106.1
Coal.....do....	107.5	108.4	105.3	106.0	r106.5	107.7
Electricity.....do....	97.4	98.0	98.5	99.1	r100.7	100.7
Gas.....do....	98.0	98.4	102.0	101.4	r100.4	100.4
Petroleum and products.....do....	110.8	110.9	109.6	109.4	r108.3	108.5
Furniture and other household durables.....do....	113.5	113.1	111.6	111.5	r111.5	111.9
Appliances, household.....do....	107.7	108.0	106.8	106.8	r106.8	106.9
Furniture, household.....do....	115.6	115.5	112.7	112.6	r112.5	112.6
Radios, television, and phonographs.....do....	93.2	92.9	93.8	93.8	r93.7	93.7
Hides, skins, and leather products.....do....	118.0	118.0	95.9	96.2	r96.5	96.5
Footwear.....do....	122.0	121.9	111.0	110.6	r110.6	110.6
Hides and skins.....do....	113.3	111.5	59.5	61.8	r64.4	64.1
Leather.....do....	118.7	120.4	88.9	89.3	r89.3	89.3
Lumber and wood products.....do....	122.3	121.6	119.9	120.2	r120.5	120.4
Lumber.....do....	121.7	120.9	120.1	120.4	r120.6	120.6
Machinery and motive products.....do....	118.9	119.4	121.3	121.4	r121.4	121.4
Agricultural machinery and equipment.....do....	120.1	120.1	121.5	121.5	r121.5	121.5
Construction machinery and equipment.....do....	123.7	123.7	125.4	125.4	r125.3	125.9
Electrical machinery and equipment.....do....	122.1	122.1	120.0	119.9	r119.8	119.8
Motor vehicles.....do....	112.8	114.1	119.7	119.7	r119.7	119.7
Metals and metal products.....do....	122.2	122.1	121.1	121.9	r124.1	124.5
Heating equipment.....do....	114.5	114.5	113.5	113.6	r113.7	113.7
Iron and steel.....do....	123.1	123.1	122.4	122.3	r127.2	127.4
Nonferrous metals.....do....	121.6	122.0	120.0	124.0	r124.4	124.7
Nonmetallic minerals, structural.....do....	113.6	113.6	113.8	113.8	r113.8	113.8
Clay products.....do....	121.4	121.4	121.4	121.3	r121.3	121.3
Concrete products.....do....	112.4	112.4	112.4	112.4	r112.4	112.7
Gypsum products.....do....	117.4	117.4	117.7	117.7	r117.7	117.7
Pulp, paper, and allied products.....do....	119.5	119.4	116.7	115.3	r115.6	115.7
Paper.....do....	119.8	121.5	124.2	123.8	r124.0	124.0
Rubber and products.....do....	144.3	144.7	133.4	130.0	r127.8	126.3
Tires and tubes.....do....	133.9	133.9	130.5	129.6	r126.3	126.3
Textile products and apparel.....do....	108.5	105.9	99.0	98.9	r99.1	99.5
Apparel.....do....	104.5	104.1	100.3	99.5	r99.1	99.3
Cotton products.....do....	106.9	102.5	95.4	96.1	r97.6	99.1
Silk products.....do....	112.3	117.9	129.8	134.7	r139.3	139.3
Synthetic textiles.....do....	94.0	92.9	88.6	89.2	r90.5	90.0
Wool products.....do....	140.0	129.8	112.8	113.9	r113.3	112.2
Tobacco manufactures and bottled beverages.....do....	107.8	107.8	110.8	110.8	r110.6	110.8
Beverages, alcoholic.....do....	105.8	105.8	111.2	111.2	r111.2	111.2
Cigarettes.....do....	105.7	105.7	105.0	105.7	r105.7	105.7
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Contract awards:						
37 States (F. W. Dodge Corp.):						
Total projects.....number..	46,319	42,435	50,845	52,078	52,909	47,006
Total valuation.....thous. of dol..	1,262,811	1,082,855	1,488,850	1,511,265	1,438,725	2,039,203
Building, total.....do....	1,043,523	884,178	1,133,292	1,170,764	1,147,536	1,790,833
Engineering construction, value (E.N.R.) <u>1</u> /.....do....	1,145,715	917,158	1,140,654	2,310,504	2,210,600	952,200
Construction cost indexes:						
American Appraisal Co.: Average 30 cities.....1913=100..	535	536	550	555	558	561
Atlanta.....do....	561	561	588	600	602	604
New York.....do....	545	546	554	554	555	556
San Francisco.....do....	495	495	504	513	513	514
St. Louis.....do....	530	532	544	549	549	551
Associated General Contractors (all types).....do....	378	377	382	391	393	394
Engineering News-Record:						
Building <u>2</u> /.....do....	400.3	403.4	414.5	422.4	424.8	424.8
Construction <u>2</u> /.....do....	543.0	546.5	570.7	583.7	586.5	588.4
DOMESTIC TRADE						
Mail-order and store sales, total, 2 companies.thous. of dol..	328,568	338,278	354,385	304,313	351,558	373,724
Montgomery Ward & Co.....do....	98,508	100,873	92,345	82,995	101,150	102,462
Sears, Roebuck and Co.....do....	230,060	237,405	262,040	221,318	250,409	271,262

1/ Revised. 2/ Data for August 1951 and for July 1952 are for 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks. 3/ Data reported at the beginning of each month are shown here for the previous month.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1951		1952			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES</b>						
<b>Employees in nonagricultural establishments:</b>						
Total, unadjusted.....thousands..	46,724	46,956	r46,292	r45,992	r47,060	p47,579
Manufacturing.....do....	16,008	16,039	r15,410	r15,153	r15,976	p16,284
Mining.....do....	922	917	r814	r784	r887	p885
Contract construction.....do....	2,809	2,768	2,663	r2,721	r2,781	p2,747
Transportation and public utilities.....do....	4,190	4,178	r4,168	r4,141	r4,202	p4,216
Trade.....do....	9,641	9,781	r9,838	r9,787	r9,789	p9,931
Finance.....do....	1,914	1,898	1,977	r1,991	r1,992	p1,972
Service.....do....	4,839	4,831	r4,837	r4,857	r4,844	p4,832
Government.....do....	6,401	6,544	6,585	6,558	6,589	p6,712
<b>Production workers in manufacturing industries:</b>						
Total.....do....	13,069	13,087	r12,329	r12,059	r12,846	p13,159
Durable-goods industries.....do....	7,261	7,279	r6,888	r6,550	r7,096	p7,322
Ordnance and accessories.....do....	41	44	r60	60	r59	p55
Lumber and wood products (except furniture).....do....	754	745	r697	r693	r706	p698
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	285	285	288	284	r293	p292
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	484	482	453	441	458	p462
Primary metal industries.....do....	1,165	1,162	r716	r702	r1,106	p1,146
Fabricated metal products <u>1/</u> .....do....	817	810	r769	r722	r763	p799
Machinery (except electrical).....do....	1,209	1,219	r1,261	r1,200	r1,191	p1,187
Electrical machinery.....do....	696	707	r706	r683	r705	p744
Transportation equipment.....do....	1,198	1,211	r1,323	r1,159	r1,185	p1,280
Instruments and related products.....do....	224	226	r233	r232	r236	p238
Miscellaneous manufacturing industries.....do....	388	388	r382	r374	r393	p408
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	5,808	5,808	r5,441	5,509	r5,750	p5,837
Food and kindred products.....do....	1,307	1,330	r1,138	r1,221	r1,288	p1,312
Tobacco manufactures.....do....	84	89	78	78	r86	p90
Textile-mill products.....do....	1,152	1,136	r1,082	r1,081	r1,123	p1,141
Apparel and other finished textile products.....do....	1,047	1,037	r972	r985	r1,052	p1,068
Paper and allied products.....do....	419	416	403	r395	r408	p412
Printing, publishing, and allied industries.....do....	509	515	r511	r507	508	p512
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	531	543	r512	r512	514	p531
Products of petroleum and coal.....do....	198	197	r190	r190	r203	p201
Rubber products.....do....	218	218	215	r201	r211	p219
Leather and leather products.....do....	343	327	r340	339	r357	p351
<b>Manufacturing production-worker employment index:</b>						
Unadjusted (U. S. Department of Labor).....1947-49=100..	105.7	105.8	r99.7	r97.5	r103.9	p106.4
Adjusted (Federal Reserve).....do....	104.8	103.9	r100.8	r99.2	r103.1	p104.6
<b>Manufacturing production-worker payroll index, unadjusted (U. S. Department of Labor).....1947-49=100..</b>						
	128.4	130.9	r126.4	r121.1	r133.0	p130.6
<b>FINANCE</b>						
<b>Federal Government finance:</b>						
Receipts, Treasury, total.....mil. of dol..	4,165	6,524	10,220	3,649	4,585	6,875
Receipts, net.....do....	3,594	6,209	9,796	3,516	4,050	6,585
Customs.....do....	50	42	45	48	47	52
Income and employment taxes.....do....	3,131	5,691	9,147	2,464	3,546	5,834
Miscellaneous internal revenue.....do....	806	707	845	949	862	877
Expenditures, total.....do....	5,087	5,163	6,930	6,742	5,018	6,070
Interest on debt.....do....	222	580	1,518	320	183	559
National defense and related activities.....do....	3,040	2,628	3,699	3,884	2,971	4,008
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>						
Freight car loadings (F. R. indexes), total, adj. 1935-39=100..	133	133	108	102	125	134
Coal.....do....	122	130	96	75	101	135
Coke.....do....	215	211	69	57	160	189
Forest products.....do....	148	142	139	146	149	140
Grain and grain products.....do....	140	132	161	153	134	123
Livestock.....do....	67	81	56	56	65	70
Ore.....do....	209	205	53	46	216	235
Merchandise, l.c.l.....do....	47	46	44	43	46	45
Miscellaneous.....do....	144	143	119	115	140	144
<b>Freight-car surplus and shortage, daily averages:</b>						
Car surplus.....number..	4,422	3,640	28,136	40,311	17,418	5,693
Box cars.....do....	1,412	164	14,669	7,477	2,114	331
Coal cars.....do....	0	4	6,372	26,642	7,888	113
Car shortage.....do....	18,154	14,902	2,933	2,070	6,156	12,028
Box cars.....do....	7,531	4,181	1,865	1,490	2,448	3,822
Coal cars.....do....	9,359	9,231	717	448	3,429	7,691
<b>FOODSTUFFS</b>						
<b>Livestock slaughter (Federally inspected):</b>						
Calves.....thous. of animals..	422	373	392	430	426	496
Cattle.....do....	1,064	956	966	1,100	1,135	1,215
Hogs.....do....	4,236	4,398	4,259	3,641	3,592	4,290
Sheep and lambs.....do....	889	827	926	908	1,020	1,243
<b>Stocks, cold storage, end of month:</b>						
Apples, fresh.....thous. of bu..	293	7,684	282	153	r238	5,615
Butter, creamery.....thous. of lb..	116,790	113,501	68,616	99,751	r111,400	110,571
Cheese, total.....do....	269,564	272,053	217,604	239,632	r253,563	260,454
Fruits, frozen.....do....	610,299	599,766	580,264	593,518	r578,699	553,650
Vegetables, frozen.....do....	445,724	515,766	336,911	385,494	r463,011	524,406
Eggs: Shell.....thous. of cases..	1,615	958	3,357	2,728	r2,169	1,692
Frozen.....thous. of lb..	176,273	151,293	166,419	163,359	r144,326	121,754

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Except ordnance, machinery, and transportation equipment.

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1951		1952			
	August	September	June	July	August	September
<b>FOODSTUFFS - Continued</b>						
Stocks, cold storage, end of month - Continued						
Meats, total.....thous. of lb..	605,151	521,665	1,029,337	850,405	r701,062	579,602
Beef and veal.....do....	101,377	102,301	201,504	171,444	r167,437	179,754
Lamb and mutton.....do....	6,407	7,227	14,902	11,814	r11,318	12,254
Pork, excluding lard.....do....	401,573	325,959	685,033	542,707	r407,558	286,181
Lard.....do....	34,702	28,372	132,041	132,583	r124,296	106,683
Poultry.....do....	121,493	166,242	174,040	157,045	r144,508	182,690
<b>METALS AND MANUFACTURES</b>						
Copper:						
Production:						
Mine or smelter.....short tons..	73,324	74,165	80,392	81,601	r79,368	81,868
Refinery.....do....	79,613	74,354	92,151	96,049	95,366	98,930
Deliveries, refined, domestic.....do....	104,938	121,879	98,416	115,179	r127,106	134,689
Stocks, refined, end of month.....do....	70,937	62,093	70,856	73,657	83,771	71,456
<b>TEXTILE PRODUCTS</b>						
Cotton: <u>1/</u>						
Consumption.....bales..	753,621	r721,248	695,965	692,594	744,383	736,248
Manufactures, spindle activity (cotton system spindles):						
Active spindles, last working day, total.....thousands..	22,000	21,895	20,770	21,325	21,398	21,432
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	20,755	20,714	19,453	19,948	20,000	20,041
Spindle hours operated, all fibers, total.....mil. of hr..	9,368	9,247	8,700	9,112	9,516	9,768
Average per working day.....do....	468	474	435	380	476	501
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	8,786	8,745	8,102	8,501	8,870	9,134
Operations as percent of capacity.....do....	126	128	117	102	128	135
Rayon: Consumption:						
Filament yarn.....mil. of lb..	69.6	57.1	75.2	83.1	r84.7	81.1
Staple fiber.....do....	28.5	24.8	27.2	26.9	r28.0	26.5
Stocks, producers', end of month:						
Filament yarn.....do....	36.1	54.2	78.8	65.1	57.7	54.8
Staple fiber.....do....	6.1	8.7	15.2	15.9	15.0	15.6
Wool: <u>1/</u>						
Consumption (scoured basis):						
Apparel class.....thous. of lb..	29,280	27,648	27,284	r31,350	30,432	.....
Carpet class.....do....	4,160	4,276	5,644	6,380	9,044	.....
Machinery activity (weekly average):						
Looms:						
Woolen and worsted:						
Pile and Jacquard.....thous. of active hours..	139	141	r145	130	163	.....
Broad.....do....	1,908	1,772	r1,743	r1,528	1,724	.....
Narrow.....do....	13	14	20	19	20	.....
Carpet and rug:						
Broad.....do....	89	89	73	56	113	.....
Narrow.....do....	45	41	40	27	46	.....
Spinning spindles: Woolen.....do....						
Woolen.....do....	71,567	67,806	69,696	r61,138	73,654	.....
Worsted.....do....	83,351	77,342	r78,524	r68,504	83,342	.....
Worsted combs.....do....	142	129	131	r120	149	.....
Manufactures, wool yarn, production, total...thous. of lb..						
Knitting.....do....	52,012	47,888	50,205	r54,200	55,320	.....
Weaving.....do....	5,884	5,148	6,563	r7,455	7,956	.....
Weaving.....do....	38,920	36,180	36,844	r39,585	37,192	.....
Carpet and other.....do....	7,208	6,560	6,798	r7,160	10,172	.....

1/ Revised. 1/ Data for July 1952 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT  
SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS