



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

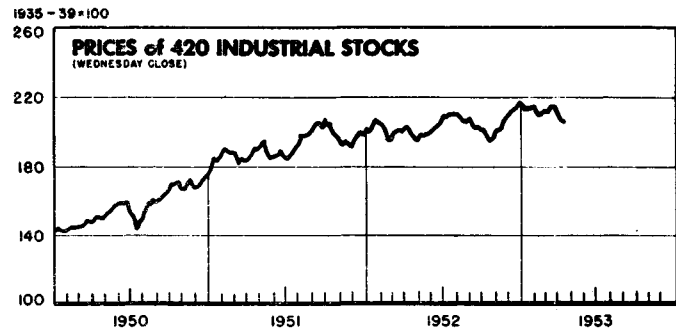
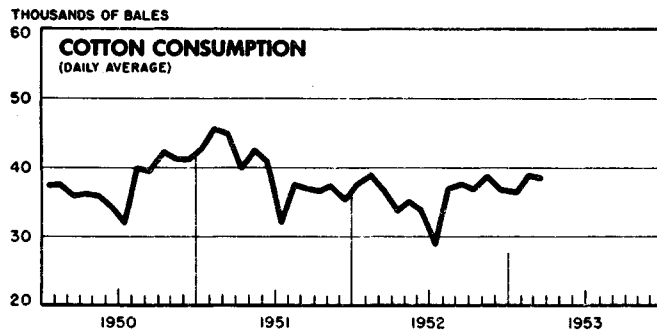
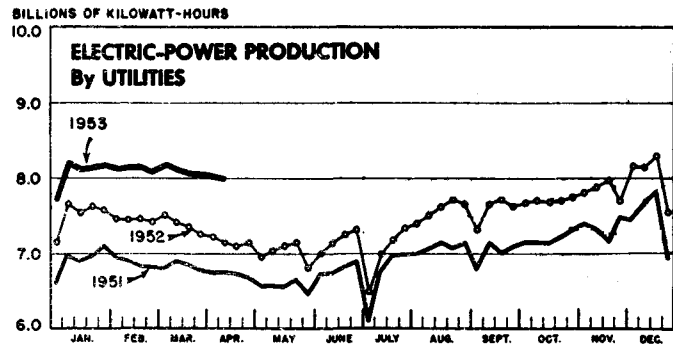
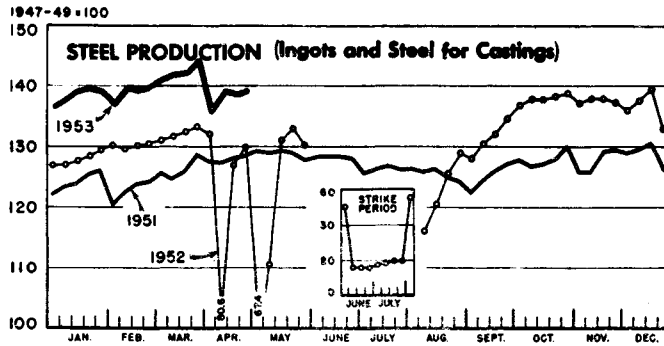


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS

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

APRIL 24, 1953

SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1952		1953				
	Apr. 12	Apr. 19	Mar. 21	Mar. 28	Apr. 4	Apr. 11	Apr. 18
Commodity prices, wholesale:							
All commodities..... 1947-49=100.....		*111.8	**110.1			109.6	109.5
Farm products..... do.....		*108.7	**100.0			98.6	98.0
Foods, processed..... do.....		*108.0	**105.0			103.6	103.4
All other..... do.....		*113.3	**113.4			113.2	113.3
22 commodities 2/..... do.....	98.4	97.9	90.5	90.3	89.5	88.2	87.8
Cotton, middling, 15/16", 10 markets 3/..... dol. per lb..	.417	.410	.333	.329	.330	.329	.329
Wheat, No. 2, hard winter (Kansas City) 3/..... dol. per bu..	2.50	2.49	2.41	2.40	2.38	2.35	2.40
Department store sales..... 1947-49=100.....	111	97	109	112	118	97	
Insured unemployment, total..... thous..	1,182	1,198	1,089	1,056	1,053		
State programs..... do.....	1,152	1,167	1,004	976	975		
Finance:							
Currency in circulation 3/..... mil. of dol..	28,542	28,454	29,726	29,662	29,799	29,801	29,782
Federal Reserve bank credit, total..... do.....	23,393	24,109	26,178	25,387	25,023	25,427	25,549
Member bank reserve balances..... do.....	19,652	20,218	20,865	20,148	19,305	19,629	19,932
Excess reserves, estimated..... do.....	576	993	875	280	-306	76	337
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities: 4/							
Demand deposits, adjusted..... mil. of dol..	51,176	51,823	54,479	53,275	51,802	52,723	
Time deposits, except Government..... do.....	16,600	16,602	18,115	18,122	18,087	18,189	
Loans and investments, total..... do.....	72,917	73,108	78,010	77,808	76,827	76,882	
U. S. Government obligations..... do.....	31,006	31,244	31,014	30,650	29,547	29,736	
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)..... do.....	21,049	21,052	23,418	23,337	23,269	23,297	
Real-estate loans (gross)..... do.....	5,657	5,673	6,159	6,173	6,176	6,180	
Failures, industrial and commercial..... number..	184	188	160	188	171	140	165
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/..... percent..	3.17	3.16	3.30	3.33	3.35	3.37	3.40
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Standard and Poor's)..... 1935-39=100..	186.0	182.9	199.2	198.5	193.1	190.8	190.9
Industrials, 420 stocks..... do.....	202.3	198.5	216.1	215.2	209.2	206.8	206.4
Production:							
Bituminous coal 3/..... thous. of short tons..	1,343	1,532	1,353	1,376	1,334	1,404	
Electric power, by utilities..... mil. of kw.-hr..	7,154	7,104	8,078	8,075	8,019	8,001	
Motor vehicles (Ward's)..... number..	115,879	121,805	159,329	170,870	160,736	164,932	144,307
Petroleum, crude 3/..... thous. of bbl..	6,271	6,271	6,391	6,384	6,243	6,171	
Steel 5/..... 1947-49=100.....	80.6	126.8	142.4	144.7	136.3	138.8	138.7
Freight car loadings, total..... thous. of cars..	691	735	701	715	705	721	
Miscellaneous..... do.....	354	366	391	400	384	377	

¹/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily averages. 4/ New basis beginning March 7, 1953; not strictly comparable with earlier data. 5/ Week ending April 25, 1954. * Monthly index for April 1952. ** Monthly index for March 1953.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1952			1953		
	February	March	December	January	February	March
COMMODITY PRICES						
Wholesale prices (U. S. Department of Labor), indexes:						
All commodities..... 1947-49=100..	112.5	112.3	109.6	109.9	109.6	110.1
Farm products..... do.....	107.8	108.2	99.2	99.6	97.9	100.0
Fruits and vegetables, fresh and dried..... do.....	112.6	123.9	112.3	107.3	r 102.2	105.9
Grains..... do.....	101.7	102.0	96.1	94.6	93.1	94.7
Livestock and live poultry..... do.....	106.2	105.2	86.8	92.7	91.2	91.7
Foods, processed..... do.....	109.5	109.2	104.3	105.5	r 105.2	105.0
Cereals and bakery products..... do.....	107.4	107.5	106.8	106.8	107.6	108.9
Dairy products and ice cream..... do.....	115.1	113.3	113.0	111.9	110.9	109.7
Fruits and vegetables, canned and frozen..... do.....	104.8	104.9	105.0	105.4	r 105.5	105.1
Meats, poultry, and fish..... do.....	110.8	111.0	93.9	99.3	98.2	94.4
Commodities other than farm products and foods..... do.....	114.2	113.8	112.9	113.1	113.1	113.4
Chemicals and allied products..... do.....	105.9	105.4	103.3	103.6	103.6	104.2
Chemicals, industrial..... do.....	117.5	117.0	112.3	112.8	113.1	113.9
Drugs, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics..... do.....	93.4	93.1	91.3	91.5	91.4	91.6
Fats and oils, inedible..... do.....	51.2	47.3	52.8	53.5	52.7	59.0
Fertilizer materials..... do.....	109.6	109.6	113.0	112.9	112.7	112.8
Paint and paint materials..... do.....	108.7	107.9	106.1	106.2	105.9	106.0
Fuel, power, and lighting materials..... do.....	107.2	107.4	107.2	107.8	r 108.1	108.5
Coal..... do.....	108.8	108.7	116.1	116.3	115.9	114.8
Electricity..... do.....	98.0	99.1	98.5	99.6	r 100.7	100.7
Gas..... do.....	107.0	105.7	104.9	108.0	r 109.5	109.5
Petroleum and products..... do.....	110.4	110.6	107.9	107.9	107.9	109.0
Furniture and other household durables..... do.....	112.4	111.9	112.3	112.7	r 112.9	113.1
Appliances, household..... do.....	108.0	107.4	107.5	107.4	107.4	107.8
Furniture, household..... do.....	113.5	113.4	113.0	113.2	r 113.4	113.7
Radio..... do.....			95.0	95.0	r 95.5	95.5
Television..... do.....	93.1	90.7	74.9	74.5	r 75.6	75.6
Hides, skins, and leather products..... do.....	99.5	98.0	99.0	97.3	98.0	98.1
Footwear..... do.....	116.1	115.9	112.0	112.0	112.1	112.1
Hides and skins..... do.....	63.7	59.6	70.6	62.1	66.5	65.2
Leather..... do.....	89.5	87.6	92.9	92.0	91.9	93.5
Lumber and wood products..... do.....	120.3	120.5	119.7	120.5	121.1	121.7
Lumber..... do.....	120.6	120.7	119.8	120.1	120.3	120.9
Machinery and motive products..... do.....	122.0	121.8	121.4	121.5	121.6	121.7
Agricultural machinery and equipment..... do.....	121.8	121.8	121.7	121.8	121.8	122.0
Construction machinery and equipment..... do.....	125.2	124.9	126.3	126.2	126.3	126.9
Electrical machinery and equipment..... do.....	121.6	121.5	119.6	119.6	119.7	119.7
Motor vehicles..... do.....	120.0	120.0	119.7	119.8	119.9	120.0
Metals and metal products..... do.....	122.6	122.6	124.0	124.0	r 124.6	125.5
Heating equipment..... do.....	114.0	114.0	113.6	113.8	113.9	113.9
Iron and steel..... do.....	123.2	123.2	127.0	127.1	r 127.5	127.7
Nonferrous metals..... do.....	125.0	124.9	122.3	122.5	124.4	131.5
Nonmetallic minerals, structural..... do.....	112.9	112.9	114.6	114.6	114.6	114.9
Clay products..... do.....	121.4	121.4	124.0	124.0	124.0	124.1
Concrete products..... do.....	112.4	112.4	112.7	112.8	112.8	112.8
Gypsum products..... do.....	117.7	117.7	117.7	117.7	117.7	118.3
Pulp, paper, and allied products..... do.....	118.3	117.7	115.9	115.8	r 115.3	115.2
Paper..... do.....	123.7	123.8	124.9	124.9	124.9	124.9
Rubber and products..... do.....	143.1	142.0	127.7	127.3	126.2	125.7
Tires and tubes..... do.....	133.4	133.4	126.3	126.3	126.3	126.3
Textile products and apparel..... do.....	102.1	100.6	98.2	98.8	98.5	97.6
Apparel..... do.....	101.7	101.6	98.3	100.0	99.9	99.6
Cotton products..... do.....	101.0	99.6	97.7	97.0	r 96.1	93.1
Silk products..... do.....	130.2	129.1	139.7	141.4	141.4	141.4
Synthetic textiles..... do.....	89.9	87.3	87.8	88.1	88.3	87.9
Wool products..... do.....	114.4	111.8	112.6	113.0	r 111.5	112.0
Tobacco manufactures and bottled beverages..... do.....	110.8	r 112.0	110.8	112.2	r 111.9	114.8
Beverages, alcoholic..... do.....	111.2	111.2	111.2	110.7	r 110.1	110.0
Cigarettes..... do.....	105.0	105.0	105.7	112.0	112.0	124.0
Wholesale prices of selected commodities:						
Butter, 92-score (N.Y.)..... dol. per lb..	0.845	0.738	0.678	0.670	0.668	0.668
Eggs, extras, large (Chicago)..... dol. per doz..	.364	.382	.489	.454	.443	.495
Corn, weighted average, 5 markets..... dol. per bu..	1.587	1.637	1.597	1.573	1.525	1.540
Wheat, weighted average, 6 markets..... do.....	2.422	2.436	2.568	2.530	2.505	2.551
Livestock and meats:						
Beef steers (Chicago)..... dol. per 100 lb..	33.78	33.41	28.77	26.04	23.41	21.98
Hogs, all grades (Chicago)..... do.....	17.07	16.56	16.52	17.98	19.39	20.50
Beef, fresh, steer carcasses, good (N.Y.)..... dol. per lb..	.562	.560	.514	.477	.432	.392
Pork, fresh, loins, 8-12 lb (N.Y.)..... do.....	.423	.448	.402	.424	.464	.479
Metals and manufactures:						
Pig iron, composite..... dol. per long ton..	53.67	53.67	56.31	1/54.73	1/54.73	1/54.73
Steel, composite, finished..... dol. per lb..	.0471	.0471	.0498	.0498	.0498	.0498
Copper, electrolytic (N.Y.)..... do.....	.2420	.2420	.2420	.2420	.2497	.2929
Lead, refined, pig, desilverized (N.Y.)..... do.....	.1900	.1900	.1413	.1419	.1350	.1340
Zinc, prime Western (St. Louis)..... do.....	.1950	.1950	.1250	.1259	.1148	.1103
Wool, raw, territory, fine, scoured (Boston)..... do.....	2/1.644	2/1.600	1.725	1.725	1.725	1.722
DOMESTIC TRADE						
Mail-order and store sales, total, 2 companies.. thous. of dol..	246,182	279,095	546,465	268,261	258,518	327,550
Montgomery Ward & Co..... do.....	67,879	79,273	155,594	62,778	62,171	87,515
Sears, Roebuck and Co..... do.....	178,303	199,822	390,870	205,483	196,347	240,036

r/ Revised. 1/ See note on corresponding item in the April 1953 Survey. 2/ Nominal price.

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1952			1953		
	February	March	December	January	February	March
FINANCE						
Federal Government finance:						
Receipts, Treasury, total.....mil. of dol..	6,194	10,800	6,350	5,232	6,300	11,870
Receipts, net.....do.....	5,553	9,886	6,003	5,061	5,479	10,502
Customs.....do.....	43	44	51	51	43	56
Income and employment taxes.....do.....	5,258	9,816	5,024	4,130	5,294	10,719
Miscellaneous internal revenue.....do.....	605	825	939	842	856	993
Expenditures, total.....do.....	5,105	5,704	7,124	5,737	5,595	6,187
Interest on debt.....do.....	142	689	1,146	235	311	563
National defense and related activities.....do.....	3,146	3,414	4,081	3,632	3,501	3,789
FOREIGN TRADE						
Exports, including reexports, total <u>l</u> /.....mil. of dol..	1,344	1,447	1,390	1,276	1,194	.....
Exports of U. S. merchandise <u>l</u> /.....do.....	1,331	1,434	1,380	1,265	1,183	.....
General imports, total.....do.....	893	964	1,051	927	855	.....
Imports for consumption.....do.....	902	972	1,021	914	847	.....
TRANSPORTATION						
Freight car loadings:						
Federal Reserve indexes, total, adjusted.....1935-39=100..	136	133	131	134	130	132
Coal.....do.....	120	111	111	108	97	92
Coke.....do.....	192	196	191	184	181	184
Forest products.....do.....	146	141	152	154	146	142
Grain and grain products.....do.....	140	139	131	128	114	130
Livestock.....do.....	72	66	69	62	57	60
Ore.....do.....	277	257	248	278	275	273
Merchandise, l.c.l.....do.....	49	47	45	44	45	45
Miscellaneous.....do.....	149	149	144	151	149	154
Freight-car surplus and shortage, daily averages:						
Car surplus.....number..	8,185	9,264	24,003	79,262	69,294	73,260
Box cars.....do.....	1,012	2,161	8,113	21,625	8,145	7,429
Coal cars.....do.....	2,084	1,516	10,456	46,558	51,776	56,584
Car shortage.....do.....	3,992	2,621	792	827	1,376	1,745
Box cars.....do.....	1,747	845	449	564	768	976
Coal cars.....do.....	1,550	993	173	137	194	203
FOODSTUFFS AND TOBACCO						
Grains:						
Receipts, principal markets:						
Barley.....thous. of bu..	9,481	7,787	7,659	6,877	r7,005	9,402
Corn.....do.....	32,248	27,248	33,489	22,037	18,195	21,403
Oats.....do.....	5,826	6,805	13,979	6,708	6,884	6,796
Rye.....do.....	636	664	2,470	321	239	240
Wheat.....do.....	29,072	24,341	23,372	23,399	15,809	19,833
Stocks, commercial, end of month:						
Barley.....do.....	21,005	19,160	13,415	11,902	10,717	7,992
Corn.....do.....	63,778	61,849	62,039	51,032	46,101	37,288
Oats.....do.....	17,065	11,785	25,041	21,592	19,819	12,734
Rye.....do.....	5,844	5,321	2,892	2,685	2,254	2,186
Wheat.....do.....	144,640	124,865	260,102	240,968	231,647	217,258
Livestock slaughter (Federally inspected):						
Calves.....thous. of animals..	343	397	523	453	422	535
Cattle.....do.....	985	927	1,252	1,313	1,170	1,299
Hogs.....do.....	5,779	5,776	7,251	6,267	4,550	4,962
Sheep and lambs.....do.....	990	971	1,218	1,289	1,088	1,190
Stocks, cold storage, end of month:						
Apples, fresh.....thous. of bu..	10,753	5,983	20,061	15,265	r10,775	6,432
Butter, creamery.....thous. of lb..	7,879	6,505	72,723	85,737	r99,557	129,261
Cheese, total.....do.....	166,040	155,195	238,803	227,499	r218,371	225,730
Fruits and vegetables, frozen:						
Fruits.....do.....	471,101	466,735	455,479	481,129	r496,233	449,336
Vegetables.....do.....	398,699	348,023	534,933	494,893	r450,265	416,625
Eggs:						
Shell.....thous. of cases..	942	1,596	153	120	248	376
Frozen.....thous. of lb..	60,576	84,295	50,176	34,980	r42,419	65,077
Meats, total.....do.....	1,209,783	1,242,349	921,974	1,038,030	r1,043,480	989,299
Beef and veal.....do.....	265,700	267,437	286,299	287,258	r274,457	252,339
Lamb and mutton.....do.....	13,532	14,896	21,912	20,816	r23,670	20,883
Pork, excluding lard.....do.....	793,870	822,006	489,152	595,546	r604,813	570,491
Poultry.....do.....	270,397	232,832	278,595	261,072	r220,606	174,597
Sugar, U. S., deliveries and supply (raw value):						
Production.....short tons..	32,439	24,680	388,838	69,484	34,014	.....
Entries from off-shore.....do.....	293,390	692,525	194,722	469,755	398,576	627,988
Hawaii and Puerto Rico.....do.....	40,217	221,145	123,853	149,498	143,730	192,443
Deliveries, total.....do.....	554,917	r862,191	596,070	576,630	546,884	848,936
For domestic consumption.....do.....	553,279	r860,115	593,793	574,789	545,674	847,848
Stocks, raw and refined, end of mo.....thous. of short tons..	1,473	r1,240	1,602	1,587	1,513	.....
Tobacco, manufactured products:						
Production, total.....thous. of lb..	18,553	17,912	16,369	16,683	16,385	.....
Chewing, plug, and twist.....do.....	7,253	6,705	6,469	6,394	6,638	.....
Smoking.....do.....	7,826	7,729	6,662	6,893	6,639	.....
Snuff.....do.....	3,473	3,478	3,237	3,396	3,108	.....

l/ Revised. l/ See note on corresponding item in the April 1953 Survey.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

Earlier data are available in monthly issues of the Survey and the 1951 Statistical Supplement	1952			1953		
	February	March	December	January	February	March
LEATHER						
Leather production:						
Calf and kip.....thous. of skins..	805	732	994	930	857	.....
Cattle hide.....thous. of hides..	1,862	1,753	2,093	r2,123	1,995	.....
Goat and kid.....thous. of skins..	2,513	2,430	2,989	r2,802	2,719	.....
Sheep and lamb.....do.....	2,279	2,081	2,243	2,215	2,368	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Steel ingots and steel for castings:						
Production.....thous. of short tons..	8,657	9,404	9,690	9,897	8,932	10,153
Percent of capacity.....	101	102	106	99	99	102
Steel products, net shipments:						
Total.....thous. of short tons..	6,358	6,890	7,105	7,068	6,533	.....
Bars, hot rolled: All grades.....do.....	757	801	865	853	779	.....
Reinforcing.....do.....	158	193	211	146	156	.....
Semimanufactures.....do.....	268	317	395	358	335	.....
Pipes and tubes.....do.....	795	872	857	832	804	.....
Plates.....do.....	711	784	720	714	659	.....
Rails.....do.....	138	162	153	166	148	.....
Sheets.....do.....	1,534	1,609	1,843	1,851	1,695	.....
Strip: Cold rolled.....do.....	158	156	179	190	167	.....
Hot rolled.....do.....	171	170	196	203	183	.....
Structural shapes.....do.....	437	431	422	418	395	.....
Tin plate and terneplate.....do.....	359	478	373	433	373	.....
Wire and wire products.....do.....	448	465	454	458	435	.....
Copper:						
Production:						
Mine or smelter.....short tons..	80,876	87,110	85,239	81,625	r83,653	99,932
Refinery.....do.....	95,979	94,563	113,965	108,010	101,538	112,016
Deliveries, refined, domestic.....do.....	104,795	112,719	143,088	125,133	117,204	133,462
Stocks, refined, end of month.....do.....	59,747	58,487	58,858	59,836	60,944	55,807
PAPER AND PRINTING						
Paperboard:						
Orders, new.....short tons..	829,300	923,000	1,077,600	971,800	968,700	1,156,300
Orders, unfilled, end of month.....do.....	355,200	380,400	478,400	455,100	437,300	567,500
Production.....do.....	867,800	880,500	1,029,100	985,500	973,800	1,072,900
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Cotton: <u>1</u> /						
Consumption.....bales..	769,641	735,251	697,984	893,806	765,778	772,176
Manufactures:						
Spindle activity (cotton system spindles):						
Active spindles, last working day, total.....thousands..	21,126	21,159	21,632	21,680	21,622	21,575
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do.....	19,854	19,885	20,290	20,314	20,277	20,221
Spindle hours operated, all fibers, total.....mil. of hr..	9,265	9,040	9,183	12,282	10,179	10,251
Average per working day.....do.....	471	452	483	501	518	513
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do.....	8,696	8,478	8,637	11,521	9,561	9,635
Operations as percent of capacity.....	127	122	131	136	140	140

1/ Revised. 1/ Data for January 1953 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT
SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS