



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS



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August 28, 1953

* * * This Supplement provides selected weekly data and monthly data subsequent to those published in the latest monthly SURVEY * * * *

WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1952	1953			ITEM	1952	1953		
	Aug. 23	Aug. 8	Aug. 15	Aug. 22		Aug. 23	Aug. 8	Aug. 15	Aug. 22
Commodity prices, wholesale:					Stock prices (480), Standard and Poor's.....1935-39=100	189.7	189.0	190.0	186.7
All commodities...1947-49=100	*112.2	110.7	110.5	110.8	Industrials (420).....do..	206.1	204.3	205.3	201.5
Farm products.....do..	*109.9	97.0	96.3	97.7	Production:				
Foods, processed.....do..	*110.5	105.2	104.8	105.2	Bitum.coal $\frac{3}{2}$...thous.sh.tons	**1,631	1,561	1,594	.....
All other.....do..	*113.0	114.8	114.8	114.8	Electric power, by utilities				
22 commodities $\frac{2}{2}$.....do..	96.0	87.8	88.1	89.0	mil. kw.-hr.	**7,627	8,464	8,514	.....
Department store sales.....do..	**95	92	95	.....	Motor vehicles (Ward's)....No.	109,611	135,482	154,114	155,712
Insured unemployment, total					Petroleum, crude $\frac{3}{2}$...thous.bbl.	**6,204	6,451	6,507	.....
thous.	**1,257	#911	.....	.....	Steel (ingots & for castings, quantity) $\frac{4}{2}$.....1947-49=100	125.5	131.9	133.6	134.6
State programs.....do..	**1,193	#859	.....	.....	Freight car loadings.thous.cars	**806	785	807	.....
Failures, ind. & comm...number	154	195	150	122	Miscellaneous.....do..	**374	376	390	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate rate (Moody's) $\frac{3}{2}$.....percent	3.18	3.50	3.50	3.51					

¹/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. ²/ Tuesday prices. ³/ Daily averages. ⁴/ Week ended August 29, 1952. * Monthly index for August 1952. ** For week corresponding to latest. # For preceding week: Total, 895,000; State programs, 843,000.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1952	1953			ITEM	1952	1953		
	July	May	June	July		July	May	June	July
BUSINESS POPULATION					CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE				
Industrial & comm. failures:					Construction cont. awarded, 37 States (F. W. Dodge Corp.):				
Failures, total.....number	580	697	817	724	Total projects.....number	52,078	52,544	40,069	53,304
Commercial service.....do..	41	66	74	43	Total valuation.....mil. dol.	1,511.3	1,606.1	1,115.5	1,793.3
Construction.....do..	48	70	99	64	Building, total.....do..	1,170.8	1,219.8	922.3	1,417.8
Manufacturing & mining.....do..	133	143	145	164	DOMESTIC TRADE				
Retail trade.....do..	299	344	419	380	Newspaper advertising:				
Wholesale trade.....do..	59	74	80	73	Lineage, total (52 cities)				
					thous. lines	#209,251	244,446	215,965	.....
Liabilities, total..thous. dol.	22,789	32,789	32,379	41,324	Classified.....do..	#52,744	62,385	56,330	.....
Commercial service.....do..	1,466	3,536	1,759	1,210	Display, total.....do..	#156,506	182,061	159,635	.....
Construction.....do..	3,196	2,511	3,200	2,789	Automotive.....do..	#10,288	13,493	13,550	.....
Manufacturing & mining.....do..	8,882	13,981	11,179	17,139	Financial.....do..	#2,762	2,549	2,691	.....
Retail trade.....do..	5,434	6,909	12,464	11,282	General.....do..	#31,251	36,191	31,171	.....
Wholesale trade.....do..	3,811	5,852	3,777	8,904	Retail.....do..	#112,204	129,828	112,223	.....
COMMODITY PRICES					Dept. store sales, U.S. total:				
Wholesale p., selected items:					Unadjusted index..1947-49=100	84	114	108	p87
Butter, 92-score (N.Y.)					Adjusted index.....do..	105	115	114	p108
dol. per lb.	.714	.658	.656	.656	Mail-order & store sales,				
Eggs, extras, large (Chicago)					total, 2 cos.....thous. dol.	304,313	384,048	380,397	316,298
dol. per doz.	.525	.486	.517	.531	Montgomery Ward & Co.....do..	82,995	95,059	92,804	78,977
Corn, av. 5 markets..dol. per bu.	1.735	1.578	1.522	1.511	Sears, Roebuck & Co.....do..	221,318	288,989	287,593	237,320
Wheat, av. 6 markets.....do..	2.314	2.530	2.265	2.202	EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES				
Beef steers (Chicago)					Employees in nonagr. estab.,				
dol. per 100 lb.	32.53	21.83	21.73	24.26	total, unadj.....thousands	47,078	r49,039	r49,372	p49,371
Hogs (Chicago).....do..	19.96	23.54	23.24	23.29	Manufacturing.....do..	15,402	r17,050	r17,155	p17,125
Beef, choice (N.Y.)..dol. per lb.	.534	.385	.387	.426	Mining.....do..	784	r831	r837	p828
Pork, loins (N.Y.).....do..	.552	.567	.576	.597	Contract construction....do..	2,751	r2,492	r2,584	p2,676
Pig iron, comp...dol. per 1 ton	54.26	54.73	54.80	56.22	Transp. & pub. util.....do..	4,198	r4,280	r4,312	p4,345
Steel, composite, finished					Wholesale & retail trade.do..	10,108	r10,337	r10,401	p10,349
dol. per lb.	.0476	.0501	.0513	.0524	Finance, ins. & real est..do..	1,997	r2,026	r2,050	p2,075
Copper, electro. (N.Y.)....do..	.2420	.2968	.2969	.2969	Service & miscellaneous..do..	5,382	r5,354	r5,395	p5,413
Lead, refined, pig, desilverized (N.Y.)...dol. per lb.	.1600	.1275	.1341	.1368	Government.....do..	6,456	6,669	6,638	p6,560
Zinc, prime W. (St. Louis)..do..	.1500	.1100	.1100	.1100					
Wool, raw (Boston).....do..	1.627	1.752	1/ 1.748	1.725					

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. # For June 1952. 1/ Nominal price.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1952	1953			ITEM	1952	1953		
	July	May	June	July		July	May	June	July
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES - Con.					EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES - Con.				
Prod. workers in mfg. ind.:					Hours and earnings - Con.				
Total.....thousands	12,229	r13,717	r13,788	p13,731	Average hourly earnings,				
Durable goods.....do..	6,748	r8,198	r8,199	p8,105	all manufacturing - Con.				
Ordnance & acces.....do..	126	r156	r158	p164	Nondurable goods.....dollars	1.54	1.60	1.60	p1.61
Lumber & wood prod.....do..	744	r713	r729	p719	Food & kindred prod....do..	1.51	r1.60	r1.61	p1.60
Furniture & fixtures.....do..	296	322	r317	p314	Tobacco manufactures...do..	1.22	r1.28	r1.27	p1.27
Stone, clay, etc.....do..	434	r460	r465	p455	Textile-mill products...do..	1.35	1.37	r1.36	p1.37
Primary metal ind.....do..	643	1,138	1,143	p1,133	Apparel, etc.....do..	1.29	1.29	r1.32	p1.34
Fab. metal prod. ↓/.....do..	768	r952	r958	p939	Paper & allied prod....do..	1.61	1.68	r1.68	p1.71
Machinery (exc. elec.)do..	1,218	r1,303	r1,299	p1,276	Printing, etc.....do..	2.11	2.20	r2.21	p2.19
Electrical machinery...do..	755	r921	r913	p880	Chemicals, etc.....do..	1.72	1.81	r1.82	p1.85
Transportation equip...do..	1,190	r1,576	r1,557	p1,574	Products of petroleum				
Instruments, etc.....do..	219	244	r245	p245	and coal.....do..	2.13	2.18	r2.18	p2.22
Miscel. mfg. ind.....do..	354	413	r416	p406	Rubber products.....do..	1.82	1.94	r1.93	p1.95
					Leather & leath. prod...do..	1.30	1.38	1.37	p1.36
Nondurable goods.....do..	5,481	r5,519	r5,589	p5,626	FINANCE				
Food & kindred prod....do..	1,199	r1,052	r1,089	p1,183	Federal Government finance:				
Tobacco manufactures...do..	85	85	85	p87	Receipts, Treasury...mil. dol.	3,649	5,140	10,323	3,619
Textile-mill products...do..	1,067	r1,113	r1,119	p1,100	Receipts, net.....do..	3,316	4,380	9,744	3,308
Apparel, etc.....do..	1,018	r1,061	1,076	p1,044	Customs.....do..	48	51	51	52
Paper & allied prod....do..	411	r440	r445	p443	Income & empl. taxes...do..	2,464	3,998	9,179	2,395
Printing, etc.....do..	490	499	502	p501	Miscel. internal rev....do..	949	922	939	937
Chemicals, etc.....do..	501	516	r513	p511	Expenditures, total....do..	6,742	6,241	7,988	6,068
Products of petroleum					Interest on debt.....do..	320	179	1,882	237
and coal.....do..	177	188	r190	p193	National defense, etc...do..	3,884	3,746	4,056	3,890
Rubber products.....do..	195	r221	221	p218	FOODSTUFFS				
Leather & leath. prod...do..	338	r344	r350	p347	Livestock slaughter:				
Manufacturing production-					Calves.....thous. animals	430	504	586	616
worker employment indexes:					Cattle.....do..	1,100	1,345	1,450	1,498
Unadjusted.....1947-49=100	98.9	110.9	r111.5	p111.0	Hogs.....do..	3,641	3,643	3,607	3,276
Adjusted.....do..	100.6	112.7	r112.7	p113.0	Sheep and lambs.....do..	908	1,015	1,055	1,108
Manufacturing production-					METALS AND MANUFACTURES				
worker payroll index, un-					Steel products, net shipments:				
adjusted.....1947-49=100	122.2	r150.0	r150.8	p149.9	Total.....thous.sh.tons	#1,250	7,209	6,950	.....
Hours and earnings:					Bars, hot rolled:				
Average weekly hours per					All grades.....do..	#123	873	843	.....
worker, all mfg.....hours	39.9	40.7	40.7	p40.4	Reinforcing.....do..	#28	159	157	.....
Durable goods.....do..	40.2	41.5	r41.4	p41.0	Semimanufactures.....do..	#55	352	329	.....
Nondurable goods.....do..	39.4	39.5	39.6	p39.5	Pipes and tubes.....do..	#182	828	847	.....
Average weekly earnings,					Plates.....do..	#110	698	614	.....
all manufacturing.....dollars	65.44	71.63	r71.63	p71.51	Rails.....do..	#11	161	162	.....
Durable goods.....do..	69.55	77.19	r77.42	p77.08	Sheets.....do..	#321	2,003	1,924	.....
Nondurable goods.....do..	60.68	63.20	63.36	p63.60	Strip: Cold rolled.....do..	#62	187	190	.....
Average hourly earnings,					Hot rolled.....do..	#33	214	210	.....
all manufacturing.....do..	1.64	1.76	r1.76	p1.77	Structural shapes.....do..	#36	417	397	.....
Durable goods.....do..	1.73	1.86	1.87	p1.88	Tin plate & terneplate..do..	#104	459	441	.....
Ordnance & acces.....do..	1.79	r1.89	r1.90	p1.92	Wire & wire prod.....do..	#85	449	426	.....
Lumber & wood prod.....do..	1.57	r1.63	1.64	p1.67	Copper:				
Furniture & fixtures.....do..	1.44	1.53	r1.52	p1.52	Production:				
Stone, clay, etc.....do..	1.59	1.72	1.72	p1.71	Mine or smelter.....sh. tons	81,601	93,197	r84,948	88,984
Primary metal ind.....do..	1.81	2.02	r2.05	p2.06	Refinery.....do..	96,049	117,929	124,480	112,570
Fab. metal prod. ↓/.....do..	1.70	r1.84	r1.84	p1.85	Deliveries, ref., dom....do..	115,390	146,215	139,520	104,593
Machinery (exc. elec.)do..	1.84	1.95	r1.95	p1.95	Stocks,ref.,end of mo....do..	73,657	52,762	58,126	77,100
Electrical machinery...do..	1.66	1.74	1.75	p1.77					
Transportation equip...do..	1.92	2.05	r2.07	p2.08					
Instruments, etc.....do..	1.71	r1.76	1.77	p1.77					
Miscel. mfg. ind.....do..	1.48	1.57	1.57	p1.56					

↓/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. # For June 1952. ↓/ Except ordnance, machinery, and transportation equipment.

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