



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS



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October 16, 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		
	Oct. 11	Sept. 26	Oct. 3	Oct. 10		Oct. 11	Sept. 26	Oct. 3	Oct. 10
Commodity prices, wholesale:					Stock prices (480), Standard and Poor's.....1935-39=100	185.8	178.1	179.2	180.8
All commodities.....1947-49=100	*111.1	110.7	110.7	110.2	Industrials (420).....do..	201.3	191.3	192.4	194.2
Farm products.....do..	*104.9	98.1	98.1	96.1	Production:				
Foods, processed.....do..	*108.5	104.7	104.8	104.2	Bitum.coal 3/...thous.sh.tons	**1,518	1,610	1,538	.....
All other.....do..	*113.0	114.6	114.6	114.4	Electric power, by utilities				
22 commodities 2/.....do..	93.8	87.6	87.1	85.6	mil. kw.-hr.	**7,665	8,354	8,414	.....
Department store sales.....do..	**116	114	112	.....	Motor vehicles (Ward's)....No.	129,107	132,329	134,400	137,621
Insured unemployment, total					Petroleum,crude 3/...thous.bbl.	**6,438	6,397	6,353	.....
thous.	**665	#801	.....	.....	Steel (ingots & for castings,				
State programs.....do..	**637	#753	.....	.....	quantity) 4/.....1947-49=100	137.8	133.5	133.7	133.6
Failures, ind. & comm....number	**129	152	189	.....	Freight car loadings.thous.cars	**852	820	813	.....
Bond yields, domestic corpo-					Miscellaneous.....do..	**416	398	400	.....
rate (Moody's) 3/.....percent	3.21	3.54	3.52	3.48					

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily averages. 4/ Week ended October 17, 1953. * Monthly index for October 1952. ** For week corresponding to latest. # For preceding week: Total, 845,000; State programs, 795,000.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1952	1953			ITEM	1952	1953		
	September	July	August	September		September	July	August	September
COMMODITY PRICES					CONSTRUC. & REAL ESTATE - Con.				
Prices rec'd by farmers, all					New construction - Con.				
farm products.....1910-14=100	288	259	258	256	Public, total.....mil. dol.	r1,131	r1,089	r1,118	1,125
Crops.....do..	264	237	237	234	Residential.....do..	r54	46	r43	47
Food grains.....do..	240	218	215	219	Nonresidential building.do..	r393	r372	r373	375
Feed grains and hay.....do..	234	197	198	200	Military and naval.....do..	r134	r121	r121	120
Tobacco.....do..	428	426	430	452	Highway.....do..	r380	375	405	400
Cotton.....do..	329	269	277	279	Conservation, etc.....do..	r81	r79	r77	77
Fruit.....do..	200	207	205	221	Other types.....do..	r89	r96	r99	106
Truck crops.....do..	182	216	221	159	Construction cost indexes:				
Oil-bearing crops.....do..	305	268	262	251	The American Appraisal Co.:				
Livestock and products.....do..	309	280	276	276	Avg. 30 cities.....1913=100	561	580	583	583
Meat animals.....do..	349	318	305	299	Atlanta.....do..	604	639	639	639
Dairy products.....do..	307	261	267	274	New York.....do..	556	601	601	601
Poultry and eggs.....do..	227	223	230	231	San Francisco.....do..	514	526	526	521
Prices paid by farmers:					St. Louis.....do..	551	574	574	574
All commodities.....do..	271	261	262	259	Associated General Contrac-				
Used in living.....do..	271	271	273	270	tors (all types)....1913=100	394	411	416	417
Used in production.....do..	272	250	249	247	DOMESTIC TRADE				
All commodities, interest,					Dept.store sales,U.S. total:				
taxes, and wage rates					Unadjusted index..1947-49=100	113	89	r97	p113
1910-14=100	r286	r279	r279	277	Adjusted index.....do..	108	113	111	p108
Parity ratio.....do..	101	93	r92	92	EMPLOYMENT				
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE					Labor force (Bureau Census):				
New construction, total					Civilian labor force.....thous.	63,698	64,668	64,648	63,552
mil. dol.	r3,160	r3,270	r3,323	3,310	Employed.....do..	62,260	63,120	63,408	62,306
Private, total.....do..	r2,029	r2,181	r2,205	2,185	Agricultural.....do..	7,548	7,628	7,274	7,262
Residential (nonfarm).....do..	r1,045	r1,111	r1,107	1,087	Nonagricultural.....do..	54,712	55,492	56,134	55,044
New dwelling units.....do..	r930	r975	r970	950	Unemployed.....do..	1,438	1,548	1,240	1,246
Additions, etc.....do..	r97	112	r112	111	FINANCE				
Nonresidential building,					Federal Reserve banks, condi-				
total, exc. farm and pub-					tion, end of month:				
lic utility.....mil. dol.	r434	492	502	516	Assets, total.....mil. dol.	50,479	50,466	49,994	51,130
Industrial.....do..	r190	178	179	180	Reserve bank credit out-				
Commercial.....do..	101	165	172	183	standing, total.....mil. dol.	24,747	26,176	25,958	25,567
Farm construction.....do..	r162	155	158	144	U. S. securities.....do..	23,694	24,964	25,063	25,235
Public utility.....do..	r381	410	427	428	Gold certif. reserves.....do..	22,147	21,085	20,993	20,933

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1952	1953			ITEM	1952	1953		
	September	July	August	September		September	July	August	September
FINANCE - Con.					FINANCE - Con.				
Federal Reserve banks condition, end of month - Con.					Stocks - Con.				
Liabilities, total...mil. dol.	50,479	50,466	49,994	51,130	Prices - Con.				
Deposits.....do..	21,455	21,068	20,623	20,815	Combined index (480 stocks),				
Member bank res. bal....do..	20,066	19,607	19,278	19,309	S&P Corp.....1935-39=100	188.2	185.5	187.3	179.2
Excess reserves, est. do..	319	590	p463	p482	Industrial (420).....do..	204.2	200.1	202.1	192.6
FR notes in circulat.. do..	25,215	25,872	25,983	26,033	Capital goods (129)....do..	187.6	185.9	188.1	180.2
Reserve ratio.....percent	47.5	44.9	45.0	44.7	Consumers' goods (195)				
Federal Government finance:					1935-39=100	172.8	171.7	172.8	165.4
Gross debt (direct), end of					Public utility (40)....do..	118.5	119.2	121.1	119.6
month.....mil. dol.	262,682	272,669	273,206	272,937	Railroad (20).....do..	171.1	173.7	170.2	156.1
Interest bearing, total...do..	260,577	270,603	271,145	270,744	TRANSPORTATION				
Public issues.....do..	222,216	230,009	230,157	229,785	Freight carload.(A.A.R.): 1/				
Special issues.....do..	38,360	40,594	40,988	40,958	Total cars.....thousands	3,364	2,964	4,022	3,153
Noninterest bearing.....do..	2,105	2,066	2,061	2,193	Coal.....do..	636	397	678	532
Obligations guaranteed by					Coke.....do..	57	50	64	49
U. S. Government...mil. dol.	40	63	63	64	Forest products.....do..	179	172	238	176
Bonds:					Grain and grain prod....do..	186	236	254	198
Prices:					Livestock.....do..	49	25	38	40
Dom.municipal (15 bonds),					Ore.....do..	388	378	473	361
S&P Corp. dol.per \$100 bond	126.6	115.1	116.9	116.9	Merchandise, l.c.l.....do..	289	257	347	271
U. S. Treasury.....do..	96.86	92.98	92.89	93.40	METALS & MANUFACTURES				
Yields:					Iron ore (Lake Superior dis.):				
Dom.corp.(Moody's)...percent	3.19	3.55	3.51	3.54	Shipments from upper lake				
By ratings: Aaa.....do..	2.95	3.28	3.24	3.29	ports.....thous. l. tons	14,389	14,497	15,237	13,214
Aa.....do..	3.07	3.42	3.39	3.43	Zinc, slab:				
A.....do..	3.22	3.62	3.56	3.56	Production.....sh. tons	76,019	80,825	83,241	81,144
Baa.....do..	3.52	3.86	3.85	3.88	Shipments, total.....do..	78,129	74,204	69,250	57,547
By groups: Industrial...do..	3.02	3.42	3.37	3.39	Domestic.....do..	69,343	69,498	65,450	55,167
Pub. util...do..	3.20	3.56	3.54	3.58	Stocks, end of month.....do..	94,541	103,906	117,897	141,494
Railroad...do..	3.36	3.67	3.61	3.65	PETROLEUM, COAL, AND PRODUCTS				
Dom.municipal (15 bonds),					Coal, production:				
S&P Corp.....percent	2.33	2.99	2.89	2.88	Anthracite....thous. sh. tons	3,761	2,475	r2,378	p2,546
U. S. Treasury.....do..	2.71	2.99	3.00	2.97	Bituminous.....do..	46,885	35,045	40,275	p41,095
Stocks:					RUBBER AND RUBBER PRODUCTS				
Dividend rate per share:					Tires and tubes:				
Common (200),Moody's.dollars	3.95	3.98	3.99	3.99	Pneumatic casings:				
Industrial (125).....do..	4.20	4.15	4.16	4.15	Production.....thousands	#6,928	8,173	7,416	.....
Public utility (24).....do..	1.92	2.01	2.07	2.07	Shipments.....do..	#7,983	9,555	8,798	.....
Railroad (25).....do..	2.81	3.09	3.11	3.11	Original equipment.....do..	#1,633	3,616	3,130	.....
Banks (15).....do..	2.68	2.89	2.89	2.89	Stocks, end of month.....do..	#10,637	14,883	13,550	.....
Insurance (10).....do..	2.87	3.10	3.10	3.10	Inner tubes:				
Dividend yields:					Production.....do..	#4,860	6,395	5,679	.....
Common (200),Moody's,percent	5.56	5.46	5.75	5.74	Shipments.....do..	#5,423	r7,302	6,529	.....
Industrial (125).....do..	5.63	5.44	5.79	5.76	Stocks, end of month.....do..	#10,627	12,097	10,226	.....
Public utility (24).....do..	5.28	5.46	5.57	5.56	TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT				
Railroad (25).....do..	6.03	6.30	7.01	7.13	Motor vehicles, factory sales,				
Banks (15).....do..	4.23	4.70	4.66	4.64	total.....number	#270,982	705,132	615,386	.....
Insurance (10).....do..	3.18	3.40	3.46	3.40	Coaches, total.....do..	#349	376	451	.....
Pref. stocks, 11 high-grade,					Domestic.....do..	#271	368	411	.....
S&P Corp.....percent	4.12	4.37	4.30	4.30	Passenger cars, total....do..	#218,577	r599,134	513,457	.....
Prices:					Domestic.....do..	#211,140	r581,870	501,055	.....
Dow-Jones & Co., Inc. (65					Trucks, total.....do..	#52,056	105,622	101,478	.....
stocks).....dol. per share	105.29	106.08	106.21	100.98	Domestic.....do..	#45,204	92,788	89,911	.....
Industrial (30).....do..	272.40	270.32	272.21	261.90					
Public utility (15).....do..	50.30	49.03	50.40	49.16					
Railroad (20).....do..	100.43	105.68	103.12	94.46					

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. # For August 1952. 1/ Data for August 1953 are for 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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