



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS



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October 23, 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. 18	Oct. 3	Oct. 10	Oct. 17	Oct. 18	Oct. 3	Oct. 10	Oct. 17		Oct. 18	Oct. 3	Oct. 10	Oct. 17	Oct. 18	Oct. 3	Oct. 10	Oct. 17
Commodity prices, wholesale:									Stock prices (480), Standard and Poor's.....1935-39=100	182.6	179.2	180.8	181.7				
All commodities...1947-49=100	*111.1	.....	110.3	110.1					Industrials (420).....do..	197.5	192.4	194.2	195.1				
Farm products.....do..	*104.9	.....	96.1	95.3					Production:								
Foods, processed.....do..	*108.5	.....	104.2	104.0					Bitum.coal $\frac{3}{4}$...thous.sh.tons	**1,520	1,538	1,546	.....			
All other.....do..	*113.0	.....	114.6	114.6					Electric power, by utilities	**7,698	8,414	8,307	.....			
22 commodities $\frac{2}{3}$.....do..	92.6	87.1	85.6	85.9					Motor vehicles (Ward's)....No.	130,872	134,400	140,402	144,626				
Department store sales.....do..	**126	112	120	.....					Petroleum,crude $\frac{3}{4}$...thous.bb1.	**6,441	6,353	6,223	.....			
Insured unemployment, total									Steel (Ingots & for castings, quantity) $\frac{4}{5}$.....1947-49=100	137.7	133.7	133.6	135.2				
thous.	**654	#810	.....	.....					Freight car loadings.thous.cars	**843	813	804	.....			
State programs.....do..	**627	#761	.....	.....					Miscellaneous.....do..	**416	400	394	.....			
Failures, ind. & comm..number	139	189	186	169													
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) $\frac{3}{4}$.....percent	3.22	3.52	3.48	3.45													

¹/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. ²/ Tuesday prices. ³/ Daily averages. ⁴/ Week ended October 24, 1953. * Monthly index for October 1952. ** For week corresponding to latest. # For preceding week: Total, 805,000; State programs, 756,000.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1952				1953				ITEM	1952				1953			
	September	July	August	September	September	July	August	September		September	July	August	September	September	July	August	September
COMMODITY PRICES								COMMODITY PRICES - Con.									
Wholesale prices (Dept.Labor):									Wholesale prices - Con.								
All commodities...1947-49=100	111.8	110.9	110.6	111.0					Machinery, motive prod.-Con.								
Farm products.....do..	106.6	97.9	r96.4	97.9					Elec. mach.,etc.1947-49=100	119.7	124.8	r125.6	125.9				
Fruits and vegetables..do..	115.6	94.7	98.0	96.0					Motor vehicles.....do..	119.7	118.6	118.6	118.6				
Grains.....do..	96.9	85.4	86.5	88.2					Metals & metal prod....do..	124.6	129.3	r129.4	128.4				
Livestock, live poultry..do..	99.3	95.9	88.1	90.6					Heating equipment.....do..	113.7	115.1	r115.6	115.8				
Foods, processed.....do..	110.3	105.5	104.8	106.5					Iron and steel.....do..	127.5	135.7	r136.2	134.5				
Cereals & bakery prod..do..	106.5	108.5	r108.4	110.4					Nonferrous metals.....do..	124.7	126.4	r124.5	122.8				
Dairy prod. & ice cream..do..	116.4	110.0	110.7	111.3					Nonmetallic minerals,								
Fruits and vegetables..do..	105.9	105.0	r104.7	104.7					structural.....do..	113.8	119.4	119.6	120.7				
Meats,poultry & fish...do..	109.4	97.0	93.6	97.2					Clay products.....do..	121.3	131.1	r131.4	131.7				
Commodities other than farm prod. & foods.1947-49=100	113.2	114.8	r114.9	114.8					Concrete products.....do..	112.7	115.6	116.1	117.4				
Chemicals, etc.....do..	104.0	106.2	106.3	106.7					Gypsum products.....do..	117.7	122.1	122.1	122.1				
Chemicals, indust.....do..	114.3	120.2	120.2	120.0					Pulp, paper, etc.....do..	115.6	115.8	116.2	116.9				
Drugs, etc.....do..	92.1	93.6	93.5	93.5					Paper.....do..	124.0	125.1	125.9	126.5				
Fats and oils.....do..	48.9	46.7	r46.9	51.1					Rubber and products.....do..	126.3	124.6	r123.5	124.1				
Fertilizer materials..do..	111.0	113.8	113.8	113.0					Tires and tubes.....do..	126.3	126.4	125.1	126.4				
Paint, etc.....do..	107.0	106.1	106.3	107.1					Textile prod., etc.....do..	99.5	97.5	97.5	97.2				
Fuel, power, etc.....do..	106.2	111.1	r111.0	111.1					Apparel.....do..	99.3	99.3	99.3	99.3				
Coal.....do..	107.6	111.8	r111.7	112.3					Cotton products.....do..	98.9	94.1	r94.1	93.7				
Electricity.....do..	101.3	98.5	r99.1	99.1					Silk products.....do..	139.3	134.7	134.7	134.7				
Gas.....do..	100.3	106.1	r105.7	105.7					Synthetic textiles....do..	89.9	87.5	86.7	86.7				
Petroleum & prod.....do..	108.5	116.8	116.5	116.5					Wool products.....do..	112.4	111.7	111.8	111.2				
Furniture, etc.....do..	112.0	114.7	114.8	114.9					Tobacco manufactures and bottled bev....1947-49=100	112.1	115.6	115.6	116.2				
Appliances, household..do..	107.3	108.8	108.9	109.1					Beverages, alcoholic...do..	110.5	110.0	110.0	111.2				
Furniture, household...do..	112.6	113.8	r113.8	114.2					Cigarettes.....do..	112.0	124.0	124.0	124.0				
Radios.....do..	.....	95.0	95.0	95.0					Wholesale p., selected items:								
Television sets.....do..	.....	74.3	r74.0	74.0					Butter, 92-score (N.Y.)								
Hides, skins, etc.....do..	96.5	100.0	99.9	98.7					dol. per lb.	.732	.656	.661	.670				
Footwear.....do..	110.6	111.7	111.8	111.8					Eggs, extras, large (Chicago)								
Hides and skins.....do..	64.4	73.4	74.6	74.2					dol. per doz.	.553	.531	.587	.624				
Leather.....do..	89.3	96.1	95.0	94.5					Garn, av.5 markets..dol.per bu.	1,716	1,511	1,550	1,568				
Lumber & wood prod....do..	120.4	121.1	r120.4	119.2					Wheat, av. 6 markets.....do..	2,474	2,202	2,439	2,533				
Lumber.....do..	120.6	120.2	r119.3	118.3					Beef steers (Chicago)								
Machinery, motive prod..do..	121.5	123.4	r123.7	124.0					dol. per 100 lb.	32.19	24.26	24.79	25.41				
Agri. machinery, etc..do..	121.5	122.7	122.3	122.3					Hogs (Chicago).....do..	19.11	23.29	22.97	24.18				
Construction mach....do..	125.8	130.8	r130.5	130.9													

^r/ Revised.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1952	1953			ITEM	1952	1953		
	September	July	August	September		September	July	August	September
COMMODITY PRICES - Con.					FOODSTUFFS - Con.				
Wholesale p., sel. items - Con.					Stocks, cold storage, end mo.:				
Beef, choice (N.Y.)...dol. per lb.	0.562	0.426	0.432	0.451	Apples, fresh.....thous. bu.	6,221	128	r509	8,231
Pork, loins (N.Y.).....do..	.569	.597	.570	.543	Butter, creamery.....thous. lb.	111,319	309,894	r334,853	323,693
Pig iron, comp. 1/dol. per l. ton	56.31	56.22	56.23	56.10	Cheese, total.....do..	262,467	420,281	r445,575	459,405
Steel, composite, finished					Fruits, frozen.....do..	556,897	568,132	r602,001	576,343
dol. per lb.	.0498	.0524	.0524	.0524	Vegetables, frozen.....do..	530,091	468,377	r573,601	675,011
Copper, electro. (N.Y.)....do..	.2420	.2969	.2961	.2962	Eggs: Shell.....thous. cases	1,709	1,199	r827	495
Lead, refined, pig, desil-					Frozen.....thous. lb.	123,661	152,835	r133,427	110,056
verized (N.Y.)...dol. per lb.	.1600	.1368	.1400	.1374	Meats, total 3/.....mil. lb.	587	638	r532	452
Zinc, prime W. (St. Louis) do..	.1398	.1100	.1098	.1067	Beef and veal.....thous. lb.	184,158	163,626	r153,672	155,378
Wool, raw (Boston).....do..	2/ 1.996	1.725	1.725	1.725	Lamb and mutton.....do..	12,553	10,410	r9,460	9,892
					Pork, excluding lard.....do..	290,931	350,825	r265,981	198,077
					Poultry.....do..	182,786	112,460	r127,340	175,763
DOMESTIC TRADE					METALS AND MANUFACTURES				
Mail-order & store sales,					Steel ingots and steel for				
total, 2 cos.....thous. dol.	373,724	316,298	339,713	351,988	castings:				
Montgomery Ward & Co.....do..	102,462	78,977	89,164	91,513	Production....thous. sh. tons	9,063	9,276	9,406	8,913
Sears, Roebuck & Co.....do..	271,262	237,320	250,549	260,475	Percent of capacity.....	102	93	94	92
					Steel products, net shipments:				
FINANCE					Total.....thous. sh. tons	#6,312	6,583	6,499	.....
Bank debts, total (345 cen-					Bars, hot rolled:				
ters).....mil. dol.	136,067	148,128	134,589	147,873	All grades.....do..	#744	794	750	.....
New York City.....do..	49,131	51,799	45,516	54,888	Reinforcing.....do..	#188	166	148	.....
6 other centers.....do..	28,611	32,683	29,958	31,422	Semimanufactures.....do..	#306	295	252	.....
Stocks:					Pipes and tubes.....do..	#717	801	778	.....
Cash dividend payments:					Plates.....do..	#680	587	586	.....
Total (pub. reported)....do..	1,166.5	576.0	220.9	1,235.3	Rails.....do..	#121	156	150	.....
Finance.....do..	78.2	137.0	52.0	86.4	Sheets.....do..	#1,567	1,957	1,921	.....
Manufacturing.....do..	763.5	200.6	88.0	796.1	Strip: Cold rolled.....do..	#127	151	188	.....
Mining.....do..	87.9	5.6	2.5	86.2	Hot rolled.....do..	#155	161	195	.....
Communications.....do..	46.9	104.3	1.0	51.8	Structural shapes.....do..	#428	414	391	.....
Heat, light & power....do..	76.8	66.3	55.4	94.7	Tin plate & terneplate..do..	#479	405	390	.....
Railroad.....do..	42.4	14.1	10.0	49.3	Wire & wire prod.....do..	#416	328	378	.....
Trade.....do..	47.2	39.2	7.6	50.8					
Miscellaneous.....do..	23.6	8.9	4.4	19.9	PAPER AND PRINTING				
					All paper & paperboard mills:				
TRANSPORTATION					Paper & paperboard prod.,				
Freight car loadings:					total.....thous. sh. tons	#2,059	2,042	2,297	.....
Federal Reserve indexes,					Paper.....do..	#990	981	1,081	.....
total, adj.....1935-39=100	134	123	130	126	Paperboard.....do..	#942	941	1,099	.....
Coal.....do..	135	94	112	114	Building board.....do..	#126	120	117	.....
Coke.....do..	189	167	169	164	TEXTILE PRODUCTS				
Forest products.....do..	140	146	145	137	Cotton: 4/				
Grain & grain prod.....do..	123	138	131	131	Consumption.....bales	r737,054	739,050	725,849	702,425
Livestock.....do..	70	60	58	59	Manufactures:				
Ore.....do..	235	213	221	216	Spindle activity:				
Merchandise, l.c.l.....do..	45	42	44	43	Active spindles, last work-				
Miscellaneous.....do..	144	139	145	139	ing day, total.....thous.	21,432	21,344	21,391	21,322
					Consum. 100% cotton...do..	20,041	20,007	20,063	20,039
FOODSTUFFS					Spindle hours operated, all				
Grains:					fibers, total....mil. hr.	9,768	10,126	9,857	9,582
Receipts, principal markets:					Av. per working day...do..	501	405	493	491
Barley.....thous. bu.	11,264	8,037	25,503	18,859	Consum. 100% cotton...do..	9,134	9,484	9,279	9,044
Corn.....do..	21,567	24,231	25,011	25,234	Operations as % of capacity	135	111	135	134
Oats.....do..	10,705	17,033	24,375	8,784					
Rye.....do..	815	1,136	1,916	2,663					
Wheat.....do..	43,666	103,118	38,907	40,988					

□/ Revised. # For August 1952. 1/ See note on corresponding item in the October 1953 SURVEY. 2/ Nominal price. 3/ Excluding lard. 4/ Data for July 1953 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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