



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS



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March 5, 1954

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

WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1953	1954				ITEM	1953	1954			
	Feb. 28	Feb. 13	Feb. 20	Feb. 27	Feb. 28		Feb. 13	Feb. 20	Feb. 27		
Commodity prices, wholesale:					Stock prices (480), Standard						
All commodities..1947-49=100	*109.6	110.5	110.5	110.5	and Poor's.....1935-39=100	196.6	200.7	199.2	198.9		
Farm products.....do..	*97.9	98.2	98.0	98.1	Industrials (420).....do..	212.9	217.8	215.8	215.5		
Foods, processed.....do..	*105.2	104.7	105.1	105.2	Production:						
All other.....do..	*113.1	114.4	114.4	114.3	Bitum.coal 3/...thous.sh.tons	**1,442	1,266	1,204	.....	
22 commodities 2/.....do..	89.7	88.4	87.8	87.9	Electric power,by utilities						
Department store sales...do..	**85	91	87	.....	mil. kw.-hr.	**8,196	8,684	8,551	.....	
Insured unemployment, total					Motor vehicles (Ward's)...No.	157,565	130,425	136,682	134,472		
thous.	**1,189	#2,370	.....	.....	Petroleum,crude 3/...thous.bbl.	**6,446	6,221	6,217	.....	
State programs.....do..	**1,100	#2,178	.....	.....	Steel (ingots & for castings,				
Failures, ind. & comm.number	178	277	215	204	quantity) 4/.....1947-49=100	132.5	110.4	110.7	109.3		
Bond yields, domestic corpo-					Freight car loadings.thous.cars	**689	624	619	.....	
rate (Moody's) 3/.....percent	3.28	3.24	3.23	3.21	Miscellaneous.....do..	**377	333	337	.....	

^{1/} Data do not always cover calendar weeks. ^{2/} Tuesday prices. ^{3/} Daily averages. ^{4/} Week ended March 6, 1954. * Monthly index for February 1953. ** For week corresponding to latest. # For preceding week: Total, 2,310,000; State programs, 2,120,000.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1953			1954	ITEM	1953			1954
	January	November	December	January		January	November	December	January
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS					CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE				
Personal income, seasonally adjusted, at annual rates:					Construction cont. awarded, 37 States (F. W. Dodge Corp.):				
Total.....bil. dol.	280.5	285.9	r284.6	282.5	Total projects.....number	35,475	41,379	35,777	38,361
Wage & salary disbursements, total.....bil. dol.	192.8	198.3	r196.3	194.9	Total valuation.....mil. dol.	1,075.9	1,394.1	1,299.8	1,152.0
Comm.-producing ind...do..	86.8	87.7	r86.4	85.2	Building, total.....do..	867.0	1,096.0	973.8	935.6
Distributive ind.....do..	50.2	52.9	r52.2	52.2	Construction cost indexes:				
Service industries...do..	22.7	24.1	24.2	24.0	Department of Commerce, composite.....1947-49=100	120.8	122.9	123.0	122.4
Government.....do..	33.1	33.6	33.5	33.5	DOMESTIC TRADE				
Wage & salary receipts, total.....bil. dol.	188.8	194.5	r192.5	190.5	Money orders issued, domestic (50 cities):				
Other labor income.....do..	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	Number.....thousands	6,672	5,995	6,669	6,112
Proprietors' and rental income.....bil. dol.	51.6	50.0	r50.3	50.2	Value.....thous. dol.	121,828	113,791	125,106	116,272
Personal interest income and dividends.....do..	21.6	22.7	r22.7	22.8	Mail-order & store sales, total, 2 cos.....thous. dol.	268,261	369,320	511,657	231,649
Transfer payments.....do..	13.5	13.8	14.3	14.5	Montgomery Ward & Co.....do..	62,778	93,800	138,930	52,587
Less personal contributions for social ins.....bil. dol.	4.1	4.0	r4.1	4.8	Sears, Roebuck & Co.....do..	205,483	275,521	372,727	179,062
Total nonagr. income.....do..	261.1	269.0	267.2	265.2	FINANCE				
COMMODITY PRICES					Federal Government finance:				
Consumer price index, all items.....1947-49=100	113.9	115.0	114.9	^{1/} 115.2	Receipts, Treasury...mil. dol.	5,232	5,144	5,403	4,619
Apparel.....do..	104.6	105.5	105.3	104.9	Receipts, net.....do..	r5,047	4,695	5,183	4,458
Food.....do..	113.1	112.0	112.3	113.1	Customs.....do..	51	47	48	39
Dairy products.....do..	111.6	110.5	110.3	109.7	Income & empl. taxes.....do..	4,130	3,947	4,133	3,538
Fruits & vegetables.....do..	116.7	107.4	109.2	110.8	Miscel. internal rev.....do..	842	968	919	749
Meats, poultry & fish...do..	110.9	107.0	107.8	110.2	Expenditures, total.....do..	5,723	5,423	6,387	5,058
Housing.....do..	116.4	118.9	118.9	118.8	Interest on debt.....do..	235	164	1,294	245
Gas & electricity.....do..	105.9	107.3	107.2	107.1	National defense, etc.....do..	3,632	3,540	3,465	3,001
Housefurnishings.....do..	107.7	108.3	108.1	107.2	Stocks, cash div. payments: Total (publicly reported)				
Rent.....do..	121.1	127.3	127.6	127.8	mil. dol.	548.1	232.4	1,715.2	689.5
Medical care.....do..	119.4	123.3	123.6	123.7	Finance.....do..	125.6	52.5	170.6	134.7
Personal care.....do..	112.4	113.4	113.6	113.7	Manufacturing.....do..	170.5	102.0	1,081.7	239.8
Reading and recreation...do..	107.8	108.9	108.9	108.7	Mining.....do..	5.0	2.5	141.3	8.3
Transportation.....do..	129.3	130.1	128.9	130.5	Communications.....do..	95.7	1.1	43.7	104.4
Other goods & services...do..	115.9	120.2	120.3	120.3	Heat, light & power.....do..	64.3	57.0	100.3	68.0
					Railroad.....do..	18.2	2.9	87.4	32.3
					Trade.....do..	57.0	7.8	48.8	92.3

^{1/} Revised. ^{1/} Index on base previously used (1935-39=100) is 192.6.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1953			1954	ITEM	1953			1954
	January	November	December	January		January	November	December	January
FOODSTUFFS AND TOBACCO					METALS & MANUFACTURES - Con.				
Meats, production, total...mil. lb.	1,999	1,941	1,952	1,836	Machine tools:				
Beef and veal.....thous. lb.	775,091	897,620	939,793	895,446	New orders.....1945-47=100	255.8	146.6	r 149.8	p 173.7
Lamb and mutton.....do..	61,371	51,566	57,079	59,522	Shipments.....do..	361.6	320.2	r 301.4	p 319.6
Pork, including lard.....do..	1,162,504	991,497	954,712	881,313	Electrical appl., sales billed:				
Lard.....do..	234,448	180,413	178,155	162,245	Vacuum cleaners, stand. number	255,886	216,227	190,773	221,233
Tobacco, manufactures prod.:					Washers.....do..	282,453	244,144	200,034	256,596
Production, total...thous. lb.	#16,369	16,170	14,735	.....	Radio sets, production 1/				
Chewing, plug & twist...do..	#6,469	6,808	5,977	.....	thousands	1,093.1	1,065.8	1,101.1	872.0
Smoking.....do..	#6,662	6,307	5,372	.....	Television sets, prod. 1/ number	719.2	560.2	449.8	420.6
Snuff.....do..	# 3,237	3,055	3,384	.....				
Consumption (withdrawals):					PETROLEUM AND PRODUCTS				
Cigarettes, small, tax-free					Crude petroleum:				
millions	#2,859	3,535	3,534	.....	Production.....thous. bbl.	#205,904	188,315	193,378	.....
Cigarettes, small, tax-paid					Consumption.....do..	#215,504	209,599	215,892	.....
millions	#30,066	30,338	29,141	.....	Stocks, end of month:				
Cigars, tax-paid...thousands	#448,045	547,704	443,532	.....	Gasoline-bearing in U. S.				
Manufactured tobacco & snuff,					thous. bbl.	#271,928	283,021	276,676	.....
tax-paid.....thous. lbs.	#15,786	15,825	15,213	.....	Refined petroleum products:				
METALS AND MANUFACTURES					Fuel oil:				
Iron ore (Lake Superior dis.):					Prod.: Distillate...thous. bbl.	#46,768	r 43,901	44,663	.....
Consumption by furnaces					Residual.....do..	#40,351	r 38,684	38,652	.....
thous. l. tons	8,293	7,522	7,022	6,996	Stocks, end of month:				
Stocks, end of mo., total...do..	37,077	54,981	48,815	41,974	Distillate.....do..	#99,582	r 133,381	111,944	.....
At furnaces.....do..	31,967	46,896	41,145	34,797	Residual.....do..	#48,706	r 51,267	49,370	.....
On Lake Erie docks.....do..	5,110	8,085	7,671	7,178	Lubricating oils:				
Castings, gray iron:					Production.....do..	#4,416	r 4,553	4,572	.....
Orders, unfilled, for sale					Stocks, ref., end mo....do..	#11,021	r 9,846	10,070	.....
thous. sh. tons	#1,316	977	955	.....	Motor fuel:				
Shipments, total.....do..	#r 1,144	1,004	1,032	.....	Gasoline (incl. aviation):				
For sale.....do..	#r 621	564	553	.....	Production, total...thous. bbl.	#107,877	108,623	112,473	.....
Castings, malleable iron:					Gasoline and naphtha from				
Orders, unf., for sale, sh. tons	#173,494	93,156	95,612	.....	crude oil.....thous. bbl.	#94,725	95,544	98,980	.....
Shipments, total.....do..	#80,680	63,435	72,126	.....	Natural gasoline:				
For sale.....do..	#50,485	37,500	39,657	.....	Used at refineries...do..	#9,451	10,145	9,873	.....
Castings, steel:					Sold to jobbers.....do..	#3,329	2,756	3,075	.....
Shipments, total...short tons	#r 162,237	114,088	123,281	.....	Stocks, gasoline, end mo.:				
For sale, total.....do..	#r 122,670	84,945	91,017	.....	Finished.....thous. bbl.	#127,792	r 142,472	151,129	.....
Railway specialties.....do..	#25,972	17,784	18,685	.....	Unfinished.....do..	#8,236	r 8,275	8,820	.....
Steel products, net shipments:					Natural.....do..	#7,807	12,223	10,428	.....
Total.....thous. sh. tons	#7,105	5,904	5,685	.....	Aviation gasoline:				
Bars, hot rolled:					Production, total.....do..	#7,476	7,074	7,676	.....
All grades.....do..	#865	633	586	.....	100-octane and above...do..	#6,050	6,120	6,230	.....
Reinforcing.....do..	#211	140	125	.....	Stocks, total.....do..	#9,263	10,162	10,172	.....
Semimanufactures.....do..	#395	190	190	.....	100-octane and above...do..	#4,851	5,856	5,498	.....
Pipes and tubes.....do..	#857	728	714	.....	TEXTILE PRODUCTS				
Plates.....do..	#720	609	633	.....	Cotton, manufactures:				
Rails.....do..	#153	182	185	.....	Spindle activity:				
Sheets.....do..	#1,843	1,768	1,674	.....	Active spindles, last work-				
Strip: Cold rolled.....do..	#179	169	140	.....	ing day, total.....thous.	21,680	21,252	20,933	20,897
Hot rolled.....do..	#196	151	116	.....	Consum. 100% cotton...do..	20,314	19,990	19,695	19,652
Structural shapes.....do..	#422	443	481	.....	Spindle hours operated, all				
Tin plate & terneplate...do..	#373	303	266	.....	fibers, total 2/...mil. hr.	12,282	9,232	10,246	9,145
Wire & wire prod.....do..	#454	270	264	.....	Av. per working day...do..	501	474	436	457
Lead, refined (primary ref.):					Consum. 100% cotton 2/...do..	11,521	8,719	9,683	8,631
Production.....sh. tons	47,295	52,562	48,687	48,518	Operations as % of capacity.	135.7	129.1	118.8	124.7
Shipments (domestic).....do..	35,529	43,234	35,007	37,108					
Stocks, end of month.....do..	52,760	67,494	81,152	92,496					

⌄/ Revised. Ⓐ/ Preliminary. # December 1952 data. 1/ Data for December 1953 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks. 2/ Data for January and December 1953 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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