



# SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

## WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS



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March 26, 1954

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

### WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

ITEM	1953				1954				ITEM	1953				1954				
	Mar. 21	Mar. 6	Mar. 13	Mar. 20	Mar. 21	Mar. 6	Mar. 13	Mar. 20		Mar. 21	Mar. 6	Mar. 13	Mar. 20	Mar. 21	Mar. 6	Mar. 13	Mar. 20	
Commodity prices, wholesale:									Stock prices (480), Standard and Poor's..... 1935-39=100	199.2	203.0	204.7	204.7					
All commodities..1947-49=100	*110.0	.....	110.6	110.6	Industrials (420).....do..	216.1	220.5	222.5	222.6	Production:								
Farm products.....do..	*99.8	.....	99.0	98.8	Bitum.coal 3/...thous.sh.tons	**1,430	1,043	1,157	.....	Electric power,by utilities								
Foods, processed.....do..	*104.1	.....	104.6	104.7	mil. kw.-hr.	**8,138	8,586	8,519	.....	Motor vehicles (Ward's)....No.	159,329	129,609	132,673	144,240				
All other.....do..	*113.4	.....	114.4	114.3	Petroleum,crude 3/...thous.bb1.	**6,449	6,327	6,352	.....	Steel (ingots & for castings, quantity) 4/..... 1947-49=100	142.4	105.0	102.8	100.4				
22 commodities 2/.....do..	90.5	87.8	88.8	87.9	Freight car loadings.thous.cars	**700	591	610	.....	Miscellaneous.....do..	**384	326	322	.....				
Department store sales...do..	**100	85	92	.....														
Insured unemployment, total																		
thous.	**1,155	#2,402	.....	.....														
State programs.....do..	**1,064	#2,221	.....	.....														
Failures, ind. & comm.number	160	223	229	243														
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/...percent	3.30	3.18	3.15	3.13														

<sup>1</sup>/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily averages. 4/ Week ended March 27, 1954. \* Monthly index for March 1953. \*\* For week corresponding to latest. # Data for preceding week follow: Total, 2,413,000; State programs, 2,213,000.

### MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1953		1954		ITEM	1953		1954	
	February	December	January	February		February	December	January	February
<b>BUSINESS POPULATION</b>					<b>COMMODITY PRICES - Con.</b>				
Industrial & comm. failures:					Wholesale prices - Con.				
Failures, total.....number	691	813	867	926	Furniture, etc...1947-49=100	112.9	115.0	115.2	115.1
Commercial service.....do..	49	64	60	74	Appliances,household...do..	107.4	109.1	109.6	109.7
Construction.....do..	86	89	86	109	Furniture,household...do..	113.4	114.1	114.2	114.0
Manufacturing & mining...do..	132	193	192	207	Radios.....do..	95.5	94.3	96.1	96.1
Retail trade.....do..	348	382	450	449	Television sets.....do..	75.6	74.0	73.5	73.6
Wholesale trade.....do..	76	85	79	87	Hides, skins, etc.....do..	98.0	95.6	95.3	94.8
Liabilities,total.thous. dol.	27,273	43,754	29,592	47,774	Footwear.....do..	112.1	111.8	111.9	111.9
Commercial service.....do..	1,180	1,871	3,134	4,341	Hides and skins.....do..	66.5	57.7	56.8	55.4
Construction.....do..	3,378	4,154	3,166	4,082	Leather.....do..	91.9	88.7	88.1	87.4
Manufacturing & mining...do..	8,452	23,731	11,431	23,043	Lumber & wood prod.....do..	121.1	117.4	117.0	116.7
Retail trade.....do..	9,139	9,757	8,623	11,770	Lumber.....do..	120.3	116.4	115.9	115.5
Wholesale trade.....do..	5,124	4,241	3,238	4,538	Machinery, motive prod...do..	121.6	124.3	124.4	124.4
<b>COMMODITY PRICES</b>					Agri. machinery, etc...do..	121.8	122.5	122.7	122.7
Wholesale prices (Dept.Labor):					Construction mach.....do..	r126.2	131.1	131.2	131.1
All commodities...1947-49=100	109.6	110.1	r110.9	110.5	Elec. mach. & equip...do..	119.7	126.8	126.8	126.8
Farm products.....do..	97.9	94.4	r97.8	97.9	Motor vehicles.....do..	119.9	118.5	r118.9	118.9
Fruits and vegetables...do..	102.2	89.8	91.2	89.7	Metals & metal products.do..	124.6	127.5	r127.2	126.2
Grains.....do..	93.1	90.6	91.3	91.6	Heating equipment.....do..	113.9	115.5	115.3	115.1
Livestock,live poultry...do..	91.2	83.9	91.8	91.3	Iron and steel.....do..	127.5	132.8	132.0	131.0
Foods, processed.....do..	105.2	104.3	106.2	104.8	Nonferrous metals.....do..	124.4	122.1	121.5	119.8
Cereals & bakery prod...do..	107.6	112.2	112.4	112.7	Nonmetallic minerals,				
Dairy prod.& ice cream.do..	110.9	111.3	109.4	107.4	structural.....do..	114.6	120.8	r120.9	121.0
Fruits and vegetables...do..	105.5	103.9	103.8	102.9	Clay products.....do..	124.0	132.1	r131.9	131.9
Meats,poultry & fish...do..	98.2	89.7	96.4	92.9	Concrete products.....do..	112.8	117.2	117.2	117.6
Commodities other than farm					Gypsum products.....do..	117.7	122.1	122.1	122.1
prod. & foods..1947-49=100	113.1	114.6	r114.6	114.4	Pulp, paper, etc.....do..	115.3	117.1	r117.0	117.1
Chemicals, etc.....do..	103.6	107.1	107.2	107.3	Paper.....do..	124.9	126.8	126.8	126.8
Chemicals, indust...do..	113.1	118.6	118.4	118.1	Rubber and products.....do..	126.2	124.8	124.8	124.6
Drugs, etc.....do..	91.4	93.8	93.9	94.0	Tires and tubes.....do..	126.3	130.1	r130.3	130.3
Fats and oils.....do..	52.7	58.6	r61.2	63.5	Textile prod., etc.....do..	98.5	95.8	r96.1	95.2
Fertilizer materials...do..	112.7	113.9	114.0	114.0	Apparel.....do..	99.9	97.9	r99.1	98.9
Prepared paint.....do..	110.5	112.7	112.8	112.8	Cotton products.....do..	96.1	90.9	r90.4	88.7
Fuel, power, etc.....do..	108.1	111.1	r110.8	110.3	Silk products.....do..	141.4	139.3	142.1	138.6
Coal.....do..	115.9	112.5	r111.9	111.0	Synthetic textiles...do..	88.3	85.5	r85.4	85.4
Electricity.....do..	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	Wool products.....do..	111.5	112.1	111.0	109.0
Gas.....do..	109.5	109.6	r111.8	111.8	Tobacco mfrs.& bot.bev...do..	111.9	118.1	118.2	118.0
Petroleum & prod.....do..	107.9	114.9	114.2	113.5	Beverages, alcoholic...do..	110.1	114.9	115.0	114.6
					Cigarettes.....do..	112.0	124.0	124.0	124.0

r/ Revised.

**MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued**

ITEM	1953		1954		ITEM	1953		1954	
	February	December	January	February		February	December	January	February
<b>CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE</b>					<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES - Con.</b>				
Construction cont. awarded, 37 States (F. W. Dodge Corp.):					Hours and earnings - Con.				
Total projects.....number	34,561	35,777	38,361	40,787	Average hourly earnings,				
Total valuation.....mil. dol.	1,021.3	1,299.8	1,152.0	1,221.3	all manufacturing....dollars	1.74	1.79	1.80	p1.79
Building, total.....do..	792.9	973.8	935.6	977.5	Durable goods.....do..	1.85	1.90	1.91	p1.90
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES</b>					Ordinance & acces.....do..	1.86	1.93	1.94	p1.95
Employees in nonagr. establ., total, unadj.....thousands	48,369	r49,722	r47,770	p47,476	Lumber & wood prod.....do..	1.56	r1.59	r1.57	p1.58
Manufacturing.....do..	17,013	r16,488	r16,177	p16,027	Furniture & fixtures.....do..	1.51	1.57	1.56	p1.56
Mining.....do..	856	809	r792	p782	Stone, clay, etc.....do..	1.69	1.76	r1.76	p1.75
Contract construction.....do..	2,280	r2,521	r2,251	p2,240	Primary metal ind.....do..	2.01	r2.08	r2.08	p2.06
Transp. & pub. util.....do..	4,210	r4,240	r4,137	p4,118	Fab. metal prod. 1/.....do..	1.82	1.88	r1.89	p1.88
Wholesale & retail trade.....do..	10,214	r11,310	r10,386	p10,297	Machinery (exc. elec.).....do..	1.94	2.00	2.00	p2.01
Finance, ins. & real est.....do..	1,977	2,064	r2,054	p2,062	Electrical mach.....do..	1.73	r1.80	1.80	p1.81
Service & miscellaneous.....do..	5,194	r5,272	r5,227	p5,225	Transportation equip.....do..	2.05	2.11	r2.12	p2.11
Government.....do..	6,625	7,018	r6,746	p6,725	Instruments, etc.....do..	1.76	r1.81	r1.82	p1.82
Prod. workers in mfg. ind.:					Miscel. mfg. ind.....do..	1.56	1.61	r1.61	p1.61
Total.....thousands	13,733	r13,107	r12,821	p12,677	Nondurable goods.....do..	1.58	r1.64	1.65	p1.64
Durable goods.....do..	8,115	r7,651	r7,493	p7,371	Food & kindred prod.....do..	1.59	1.65	1.68	p1.67
Ordinance & acces.....do..	142	r150	r146	p131	Tobacco manufactures.....do..	1.23	r1.25	r1.27	p1.29
Lumber & wood prod.....do..	677	r650	r620	p617	Textile-mill products.....do..	1.37	1.37	1.37	p1.37
Furniture & fixtures.....do..	332	r301	r295	p291	Apparel, etc.....do..	1.34	1.36	r1.37	p1.37
Stone, clay, etc.....do..	453	r446	r426	p421	Paper & allied prod.....do..	1.67	1.72	1.72	p1.71
Primary metal ind.....do..	1,142	r1,061	r1,037	p1,017	Printing, etc.....do..	2.17	r2.26	r2.25	p2.24
Fab. metal prod. 1/.....do..	942	r879	r880	p865	Chemicals, etc.....do..	1.77	1.86	r1.87	p1.87
Machinery (exc. elec.).....do..	1,323	r1,202	r1,194	p1,192	Products of petroleum and coal.....do..	2.17	2.26	r2.26	p2.26
Electrical machinery.....do..	916	r856	r830	p814	Rubber products.....do..	1.92	1.93	r1.93	p1.95
Transportation equip.....do..	1,543	r1,460	r1,437	p1,395	Leather & leath. prod.....do..	1.35	r1.38	r1.37	p1.38
Instruments, etc.....do..	241	240	r236	p233	<b>FINANCE</b>				
Miscel. mfg. ind.....do..	404	r406	r392	p396	Bank debits, total (345 centers).....mil. dol.	129,163	168,596	154,294	141,933
Nondurable goods.....do..	5,618	r5,456	r5,328	p5,306	New York City.....do..	45,749	65,367	62,306	56,115
Food & kindred prod.....do..	1,033	r1,068	r1,015	p1,001	6 other centers.....do..	28,126	35,557	30,806	29,341
Tobacco manufactures.....do..	94	r106	r99	p90	Stocks, cash div. payments:				
Textile-mill products.....do..	1,134	r1,036	r1,005	p1,001	Total (publicly reported)				
Apparel, etc.....do..	1,137	r1,071	r1,053	p1,066	mil. dol.	181.3	1,715.2	689.5	244.1
Paper & allied prod.....do..	437	r446	r441	p438	Finance.....do..	44.9	170.6	134.7	68.9
Printing, etc.....do..	497	r512	503	p499	Manufacturing.....do..	65.0	1,081.7	239.8	84.2
Chemicals, etc.....do..	519	r501	500	p496	Mining.....do..	2.9	141.3	8.3	1.9
Products of petroleum and coal.....do..	186	r181	180	p180	Communications.....do..	.9	43.7	104.4	1.1
Rubber products.....do..	219	202	r199	p196	Heat, light & power.....do..	r42.3	100.3	68.0	56.9
Leather & leath. prod.....do..	364	r333	r334	p339	Railroad.....do..	6.9	87.4	32.3	10.1
Mfg. prod.-worker indexes:					Trade.....do..	15.5	48.8	92.3	17.0
Employment:					<b>METALS AND MANUFACTURES</b>				
Unadjusted.....1947-49=100	111.0	r106.0	r103.7	p102.5	Steel ingots and steel for castings:				
Adjusted.....do..	111.2	r105.2	r104.1	p102.7	Production.....thous. sh. tons	8,933	7,946	7,951	7,083
Payrolls, unadjusted.....do..	149.3	r144.0	r138.9	p136.9	Percent of capacity 2/.....	99	80	75	74
Hours and earnings:					Copper:				
Average weekly hours per worker, all mfg.....hours	40.9	40.2	39.4	p39.5	Production:				
Durable goods.....do..	41.7	40.8	r40.0	p40.0	Mine or smelter.....sh. tons	83,653	88,732	r84,216	75,656
Nondurable goods.....do..	39.8	39.3	38.5	p38.9	Refinery.....do..	101,538	123,296	111,553	103,496
Average weekly earnings, all manufacturing....dollars	71.17	71.96	70.92	p70.71	Deliveries, ref., dom.....do..	117,204	112,244	77,091	87,384
Durable goods.....do..	77.15	77.52	r76.40	p76.00	Stocks, ref., end of mo.....do..	60,944	89,193	108,121	118,417
Nondurable goods.....do..	62.88	r64.45	63.53	p63.80					

1/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Except ordnance, machinery, and transportation equipment. 2/ See note on corresponding item in March SURVEY.

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