



# SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS



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May 14, 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		
	May 9	Apr. 24	May 1	May 8		May 9	Apr. 24	May 1	May 8
Commodity prices, wholesale:					Stock prices (480), Standard and Poor's.....1935-39=100	190.3	213.1	214.7	217.1
All commodities..1947-49=100	*109.8	111.3	111.1	111.0	Industrials (420).....do..	206.3	233.8	235.6	238.2
Farm products.....do..	*97.9	101.1	100.4	100.1	Production:				
Foods, processed.....do..	*104.4	105.6	105.4	105.6	Bitum.coal <u>3</u> /...thous.sh.tons	**1,462	1,123	1,113	.....
All other.....do..	*113.5	114.6	114.6	114.5	Electric power,by utilities				
22 commodities <u>2</u> /.....do..	88.0	93.1	93.0	92.3	mil. kw.-hr.	**7,939	8,257	8,390	.....
Department store sales.....do..	**114	102	113	.....	Motor vehicles (Ward's)....No.	167,632	147,152	148,238	145,605
Insured unemployment, total					Petroleum,crude <u>3</u> /...thous.bbl.	**6,183	6,482	6,519	.....
thous.	**1,011	#2,404	.....	.....	Steel (ingots & for castings, quantity) <u>4</u> /.....1947-49=100	140.6	101.8	101.9	103.0
State programs.....do..	**951	#2,202	.....	.....	Freight car loadings.thous.cars	**781	626	648	.....
Failures, ind. & comm.number	165	229	234	206	Miscellaneous.....do..	**397	337	342	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) <u>3</u> /...percent	3.51	3.12	3.13	3.13					

<sup>1</sup>/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily averages. 4/ Week ended May 15, 1954. \* Monthly index for May 1953. \*\* For week corresponding to latest. # Data for preceding week follow: Total, 2,410,000; State programs, 2,206,000.

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1953	1954			ITEM	1953	1954		
	April	February	March	April		April	February	March	April
<b>GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS</b>					<b>DOMESTIC TRADE - Con.</b>				
Farm income and marketings:					All retail stores,sales <u>2</u> /-Con.				
Cash receipts from farming, inc.Gov't paym'ts...mil.dol.	#2,119	1,942	p2,062	.....	Adjusted, total.....mil. dol.	14,280	r13,972	13,813	14,285
Farm marketings and CCC loans, total.....do..	#2,094	1,928	p2,038	.....	Durable goods.....do..	5,124	r4,745	4,770	4,930
Crops.....do..	#677	664	p594	.....	Automotive group.....do..	2,856	r2,502	2,651	2,730
Livestock and products, total.....mil. dol.	#1,417	1,264	p1,444	.....	Furniture & appliances..do..	744	r779	758	780
Dairy products.....do..	#357	297	p342	.....	Nondurable goods.....do..	9,156	r9,228	9,042	9,355
Meat animals.....do..	#742	680	p805	.....	Apparel group.....do..	865	r878	807	890
Poultry and eggs.....do..	#305	267	p278	.....	Drug & prop. stores....do..	405	r416	410	420
Indexes of cash receipts from marketings, etc. <u>1</u> / 1935-39=100	#316	291	p307	.....	Food group.....do..	3,407	r3,396	3,362	3,380
Crops.....do..	#239	235	p210	.....	Gasoline serv.stations..do..	855	r916	915	920
Livestock and products..do..	#373	333	p380	.....	General-merch. group...do..	1,526	r1,528	1,490	1,570
Indexes, volume of farm marketings, etc. <u>1</u> /...do..	#126	122	p130	.....	Dept.store sales, U.S. total:				
Crops.....do..	#85	99	p87	.....	Unadjusted index...1947-49=100	104	r86	p89	e106
Livestock and products..do..	#157	139	p162	.....	Adjusted index.....do..	110	109	p105	e107
<b>COMMODITY PRICES</b>					<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>				
Retail price (Dept. Comm.):					Labor force (Bureau Census):				
All commodities...1935-39=100	#208.2	208.9	208.3	.....	Civilian labor force.....thous.	62,810	63,725	63,825	64,063
<b>DOMESTIC TRADE</b>					Employed.....do..	61,228	60,055	60,100	60,598
All retail stores, sales: <u>2</u> /					Agricultural.....do..	6,270	5,704	5,875	6,076
Unadjusted, total...mil. dol.	14,167	r12,065	13,451	14,312	Nonagricultural.....do..	54,958	54,351	54,225	54,522
Durable goods:					Unemployed.....do..	1,582	3,671	3,725	3,465
Automotive group.....do..	2,919	r2,254	2,682	2,841	Employees in nonagr. establ., total, unadj. <u>3</u> /...thousands	49,413	47,880	p47,800	p47,925
Furniture & appliances..do..	676	r652	690	699	Manufacturing.....do..	17,309	16,322	p16,220	p15,965
Nondurable goods:					Mining.....do..	845	790	p770	p747
Apparel group.....do..	866	r604	715	966	Contract construction....do..	2,509	2,356	p2,403	p2,512
Drug & prop. stores....do..	383	r394	401	401	Transp. & pub. util.....do..	4,197	4,039	p3,990	p4,006
Food group.....do..	3,395	r3,112	3,340	3,383	Wholesale & retail trade..do..	10,370	10,310	p10,286	p10,422
Gasoline serv.stations..do..	826	r800	970	884	Finance, ins. & real est..do..	2,009	2,044	p2,057	p2,073
General-merch. group...do..	1,479	r1,142	1,330	1,534	Service & miscellaneous...do..	5,483	5,380	p5,407	p5,501
					Government.....do..	6,691	6,639	p6,667	p6,699
					Prod. workers in mfg. ind.: <u>3</u> /				
					Total.....thousands	13,939	12,906	p12,813	p12,561
					Durable goods.....do..	8,341	7,520	p7,424	p7,274
					Ordnance & acces.....do..	184	165	p150	p133
					Lumber & wood prod....do..	707	627	p636	p636
					Furniture & fixtures....do..	328	292	p290	p281
					Stone, clay, etc.....do..	464	427	p429	p429

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Estimated. # March 1953 data. 1/ Unadjusted. 2/ April 1954 figures are advance estimates. 3/ See note 1/ on the following page.

**MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued**

ITEM	1953		1954		ITEM	1953		1954	
	April	February	March	April		April	February	March	April
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES - Con.</b>					<b>FINANCE</b>				
Prod. workers in mfg. ind.-Con.					Federal Government finance:				
Durable goods - Con. <u>1</u> /					Gross debt (direct), end of				
Primary metal ind. ....thous.	1,151	1,027	p1,012	p990	month.....mil. dol.	264,590	274,782	270,235	271,047
Fab. metal prod. ....do..	950	864	p852	p830	Interest-bearing, total....do..	262,550	272,536	267,823	268,855
Machinery (exc. elec.)...do..	1,348	1,220	p1,206	p1,186	Public issues.....do..	223,077	231,466	226,821	227,806
Electrical machinery....do..	952	839	p830	p810	Special issues.....do..	39,474	41,070	41,002	41,049
Transportation equip....do..	1,601	1,435	p1,409	p1,377	Noninterest bearing.....do..	2,040	2,246	2,412	2,192
Instruments, etc.....do..	244	233	p223	p223	Obligations guaranteed by				
Miscel. mfg. ind.....do..	413	393	p388	p380	U. S. Government.....do..	52	77	77	80
Nondurable goods.....do..	5,598	5,386	p5,389	p5,287	Gold, monetary stock, U.S....do..	22,562	21,958	21,965	p21,969
Food & kindred prod....do..	1,035	1,009	p1,008	p1,012	Currency in circulation....do..	29,843	29,904	29,707	p29,731
Tobacco manufactures...do..	83	90	p84	p84	Stocks:				
Textile-mill products...do..	1,110	995	p991	p982	Cash dividend payments				
Apparel, etc.....do..	1,097	1,088	p1,102	p1,034	publicly reported...mil. dol.	#1,251.1	244.1	1,274.5	.....
Paper & allied prod....do..	437	437	p436	p434	Finance.....do..	#81.4	68.9	78.7	.....
Printing, etc.....do..	508	514	p514	p513	Manufacturing.....do..	#821.9	84.2	835.1	.....
Chemicals, etc.....do..	562	536	p540	p529	Mining.....do..	#86.9	1.9	93.9	.....
Products of petroleum					Communications.....do..	#46.9	1.1	39.4	.....
and coal.....do..	187	178	p177	p178	Heat, light & power.....do..	#r93.0	56.9	102.3	.....
Rubber products.....do..	226	203	p200	p198	Railroad.....do..	#57.7	10.1	60.0	.....
Leather & leath. prod....do..	353	339	p338	p324	Trade.....do..	#40.3	17.0	43.8	.....
Mfg. prod.-worker indexes: <u>1</u> /					Div. yields, pref. stocks,				
Employment:					11 high-grade (S&P)...percent	4.33	4.08	4.04	4.02
Unadjusted.....1947-49=100	112.7	104.3	p103.6	p101.6	Price, combined index (480)				
Adjusted.....do..	113.9	104.6	p103.9	p102.7	(S&P Corp.).....1935-39=100	190.0	199.6	204.9	212.7
Payrolls, unadjusted....do..	152.0	.....	p138.4	p134.7	Industrial (420).....do..	205.5	216.5	222.9	233.1
Hours and earnings, all mfg. <u>1</u> /					Capital goods (129).....do..	191.8	204.8	211.7	225.3
Average weekly hours per					Consumers' goods (195)...do..	177.8	178.1	180.5	184.6
worker.....hours	40.8	.....	p39.5	p39.0	Public utility (40).....do..	121.5	128.8	131.0	132.5
Durable goods.....do..	41.7	.....	p40.0	p39.7	Railroad (20).....do..	173.3	165.8	165.4	163.7
Nondurable goods....do..	39.5	.....	p38.8	p38.1	<b>LUMBER AND MANUFACTURES</b>				
Avg. weekly earnings..dollars	71.40	.....	p70.71	p70.20	Lumber (NLMA):				
Durable goods.....do..	77.56	.....	p76.00	p75.43	Prod., total.....mil. bd. ft.	#3,311	2,901	3,358	.....
Nondurable goods....do..	62.81	.....	p64.02	p62.87	Softwoods.....do..	#2,670	2,221	2,668	.....
Avg. hourly earnings....do..	1.75	.....	p1.79	p1.80	Shipments, total.....do..	#3,450	2,808	3,353	.....
Durable goods.....do..	1.86	.....	p1.90	p1.90	Softwoods.....do..	#2,664	2,196	2,754	.....
Ordnance & acces....do..	1.88	.....	p1.96	p1.97	Stocks, gross, total....do..	#7,921	9,221	9,227	.....
Lumber & wood prod....do..	1.61	.....	p1.60	p1.62	Softwoods.....do..	#4,974	5,842	5,757	.....
Furniture & fixtures...do..	1.53	.....	p1.56	p1.56	<b>RUBBER AND RUBBER PRODUCTS</b>				
Stone, clay, etc.....do..	1.70	.....	p1.74	p1.75	Natural rubber:				
Primary metal ind....do..	2.02	.....	p2.05	p2.05	Consumption.....long tons	#50,707	r46,897	53,670	.....
Fab. metal prod....do..	1.83	.....	p1.88	p1.88	Stocks, end of month....do..	#98,627	r115,228	112,022	.....
Machinery (exc. elec.)do..	1.95	.....	p2.00	p2.00	Synthetic rubber:				
Electrical mach....do..	1.74	.....	p1.80	p1.81	Production.....do..	#81,408	53,356	55,835	.....
Transportation equip...do..	2.06	.....	p2.10	p2.09	Consumption.....do..	#77,903	r49,060	55,369	.....
Instruments, etc.....do..	1.76	.....	p1.80	p1.82	Stocks, end of month....do..	#116,089	r183,405	184,953	.....
Miscel. mfg. ind....do..	1.56	.....	p1.61	p1.61	Tires and tubes:				
Nondurable goods....do..	1.59	.....	p1.65	p1.65	Pneumatic casings:				
Food & kindred prod....do..	1.60	.....	p1.68	p1.68	Production.....thousands	#9,407	7,042	7,981	.....
Tobacco manufactures...do..	1.28	.....	p1.32	p1.34	Shipments.....do..	#8,256	6,308	7,629	.....
Textile-mill products...do..	1.37	.....	p1.37	p1.32	Original equipment....do..	#3,570	2,634	3,163	.....
Apparel, etc.....do..	1.29	.....	p1.37	p1.72	Stocks, end of month....do..	#16,456	r15,709	16,077	.....
Paper & allied prod....do..	1.67	.....	p1.73	p1.72	Inner tubes:				
Printing, etc.....do..	2.19	.....	p2.25	p2.25	Production.....do..	#r7,551	5,896	6,399	.....
Chemicals, etc.....do..	1.80	.....	p1.87	p1.88	Shipments.....do..	#r6,586	5,617	6,013	.....
Prod. of petro. & coal.do..	2.18	.....	p2.25	p2.26	Stocks, end of month....do..	#r11,384	10,448	10,869	.....
Rubber products.....do..	1.93	.....	p1.93	p1.95					
Leather & leath. prod....do..	1.37	.....	p1.38	p1.39					

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. # March 1953 data. 1/ Adjusted to 1st quarter 1953 benchmarks; not comparable with figures shown in May 1954 SURVEY and earlier issues. February data for hours and earnings not available on revised basis.

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