



SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS



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July 30, 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			
	July 25				July 10					July 17				July 24			
Commodity prices, wholesale:									Stock prices (480), Standard and Poor's, 1935-39=100	185.0	229.4	230.2	230.3				
All commodities, 1947-49=100	*110.9	110.0	110.2	110.1					Industrials (420).....do..	199.8	253.4	253.6	253.0				
Farm products.....do..	*97.9	94.8	95.9	95.7					Production:								
Foods, processed.....do..	*105.5	105.3	105.6	105.5					Bitum. coal 3/..thous.sh.tons	**1,526	1,068	1,200	....			
All other.....do..	*114.8	114.2	114.2	114.2					Electric power,by utilities								
22 commodities 2/.....do..	88.2	92.1	91.6	91.5					mil. kw.-hr.	**8,209	8,185	8,951	.....			
Department store sales.....do..	**84	77	88	.....					Motor vehicles (Ward's)....No.	161,137	99,082	125,091	121,975				
Insured unemployment, total									Petroleum,crude 3/..thous.bb1.	**6,464	6,183	6,200	.....			
thous.	**934	#2,083	.....	.....					Steel (ingots & for castings,								
State programs.....do..	**882	#1,919	.....	.....					quantity) 4/.....1947-49=100	132.5	89.0	95.5	96.9				
Failures, ind. & comm.number	184	196	226	188					Freight car loadings.thous.cars	**791	570	695	.....			
Bond yields, domestic corpo-									Miscellaneous.....do..	**369	280	332	.....			
rate (Moody's) 3/....percent	3.53	3.16	3.16	3.15													

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily averages. 4/ Week ended July 31, 1953. * Monthly index for July 1953. ** For week corresponding to latest. # Data for preceding week: Total, 1,937,000; State programs, 1,777,000.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1953				1954				ITEM	1953				1954			
	June				April					May				June			
BUSINESS POPULATION									COMMODITY PRICES - Con.								
Industrial & comm. failures:									Wholesale prices - Con.								
Failures, total.....number	817	975	943	965					Beef steers (Chicago)								
Commercial service.....do..	74	66	81	81					dol. per 100 lb.	21.73	23.77	23.54	23.49				
Construction.....do..	99	92	111	132					Hogs (Chicago).....do..	23.24	26.75	24.79	21.43				
Manufacturing & mining.....do..	145	200	200	208					Beef,choice (N.Y.)..dol.per lb.	.387	.398	.408	.405				
Retail trade.....do..	419	535	460	455					Pork, loins (N.Y.).....do..	.576	.574	.626	.587				
Wholesale trade.....do..	80	82	91	89					Pig iron, comp.dol.per 1.ton	54.80	56.03	56.03	56.03				
Liabilities,total..thous. dol.	32,379	42,512	38,494	41,613					Steel,comp.,fin...dol. per lb.	.0513	.0524	.0524	.0524				
Commercial service.....do..	1,759	1,648	2,961	2,045					Aluminum, scrap castings								
Construction.....do..	3,200	3,692	3,674	4,514					(N.Y.).....dol. per lb.	.0936	.1037	.1092	.1000				
Manufacturing & mining.....do..	11,179	20,568	15,621	18,454					Copper,electro. (N.Y.)...do..	.2969	.2970	.2970	.2970				
Retail trade.....do..	12,464	12,030	11,739	11,722					Lead, refined, pig, desil-								
Wholesale trade.....do..	3,777	4,574	4,499	4,878					verized (N.Y.)..dol. per lb.	.1341	.1390	.1400	.1411				
COMMODITY PRICES									Zinc, prime W.(St.Louis).do..	.1100	.1025	.1029	.1096				
Consumer price index, all									Cotton, middling 15/16", av.								
items.....1947-49=100	114.5	114.6	115.0	1/ 115.1					10 markets.....cents per lb.	33.2	34.2	34.4	34.2				
Apparel.....do..	104.6	104.1	104.2	104.2					Wool, raw (Boston).dol.per lb.	2/ 1,748	1,688	1,731	1,767				
Food.....do..	113.7	112.4	113.3	113.8					CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE								
Dairy products.....do..	107.5	104.6	103.5	102.9					Construction cont. awarded, 37								
Fruits & vegetables.....do..	121.7	110.0	114.6	117.1					States (F. W. Dodge Corp.):								
Meats, poultry & fish.....do..	111.3	110.5	111.0	111.1					Total projects.....number	40,069	65,521	65,641	59,741				
Housing.....do..	117.4	118.5	118.9	118.9					Total valuation.....mil. dol.	1,115.5	1,691.9	1,925.3	1,733.3				
Gas & electricity.....do..	106.4	107.6	107.7	107.6					Building, total.....do..	922.3	1,401.6	1,497.6	1,376.7				
Housefurnishings.....do..	108.0	106.1	105.9	105.8					Construc.cost indexes,avg. 20								
Rent.....do..	123.3	128.2	128.3	128.3					cities (E.H.Boeckh & Assoc.):								
Medical care.....do..	121.1	124.9	125.1	125.1					Apts.,hotels & off. bldgs.:								
Personal care.....do..	112.6	112.9	113.0	112.7					Brick and concrete								
Reading and recreation.....do..	107.8	106.5	106.4	106.4					U. S. avg. 1926-29=100	251.3	254.2	255.7	256.1				
Transportation.....do..	129.4	129.1	129.1	128.9					Brick and steel.....do..	249.6	250.2	251.3	251.5				
Other goods & services.....do..	118.2	120.2	120.1	120.1					Brick and wood.....do..	257.1	252.8	253.9	254.7				
Wholesale p., selected items:									Comm. & factory bldgs.:								
Butter, 92-score (N.Y.)									Brick and concrete.....do..	257.5	261.0	262.9	263.4				
dol. per lb.	.656	.583	.577	.575					Brick and steel.....do..	254.7	257.4	258.8	259.3				
Eggs, extras, large (Chicago)									Brick and wood.....do..	254.0	251.9	253.1	253.6				
dol. per doz.	.517	.380	.355	.351					Frame.....do..	259.2	251.5	252.6	253.9				
Corn,av.5 markets..dol.per bu.	1.522	1.504	1.532	1.577					Steel.....do..	239.1	241.2	242.2	242.4				
Wheat,av. 6 markets.....do..	2.265	2.589	2.544	2.293					Residences:								
									Brick.....do..	257.4	253.4	254.5	255.3				
									Frame.....do..	253.5	247.4	248.3	249.3				

1/ Revised. 2/ Index on base previously used (1935-39=100) is 192.4. 3/ Nominal price.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1953				1954				ITEM	1953				1954			
	June	April	May	June	June	April	May	June		June	April	May	June	June	April	May	June
DOMESTIC TRADE																	
Mail-order & store sales, total, 2 Cos.....thous. dol.	380,397	333,209	335,726	352,655													
Montgomery Ward & Co.....do..	92,804	83,562	78,109	81,318													
Sears, Roebuck & Co.....do..	287,593	249,647	257,617	271,337													
FINANCE																	
Federal Government finance:																	
Receipts, Treasury...mil. dol.	10,323	3,956	5,037	p11,241													
Receipts, net.....do..	9,744	2,751	3,592	p10,539													
Customs.....do..	51	52	44	p49													
Income & empl. taxes.....do..	9,179	2,865	3,946	p10,135													
Miscel. internal rev.....do..	939	660	877	p852													
Expenditures, total.....do..	7,988	5,296	5,203	p7,115													
Interest on debt.....do..	1,882	350	249	p1,752													
National defense, etc.....do..	4,056	3,691	3,374	.....												
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS																	
Superphosphate (bulk):																	
Production.....sh. ton	*201,072	r216,618	182,637	.....												
Stocks, end of month.....do..	*190,574	r185,090	198,809	.....												
FOODSTUFFS AND TOBACCO																	
Stocks, cold storage, end mo.:																	
Butter, creamery...thous. lb.	257,447	375,584	r421,997	462,252													
Cheese, total.....do..	373,855	487,209	r521,763	562,970													
Apples, fresh.....thous. bu.	306	3,267	r1,302	289													
Fruits, frozen.....thous. lb.	487,259	619,011	r702,561	712,340													
Vegetables, frozen.....do..	384,292	469,050	r444,834	440,802													
Meats, total.....mil. lb.	749	706	r653	600													
Beef and veal.....thous. lb.	190,408	160,002	r138,622	123,198													
Lamb and mutton.....do..	13,461	8,897	r8,135	7,783													
Pork, excluding lard.....do..	414,227	420,917	r384,643	347,500													
Poultry.....do..	117,876	184,743	r167,499	152,144													
Eggs: Shell.....thous. cases	1,513	728	r1,348	1,624													
Frozen.....thous. lb.	159,755	136,488	r166,983	188,266													
Tobacco, manufactured prod.:																	
Production, total...thous. lb.	*17,806	17,369	17,243	.....												
Chewing, plug & twist...do..	*7,246	6,723	6,906	.....												
Smoking.....do..	*7,494	7,356	7,030	.....												
Snuff.....do..	*3,066	3,290	3,307	.....												
Consumption (withdrawals):																	
Cigarettes, small, tax-free millions	*2,658	2,485	2,487	.....												
Cigarettes, small, tax-paid millions	*30,587	30,499	31,863	.....												
Cigars, tax-paid...thousands	*507,629	445,991	483,650	.....												
Manufactured tobacco & snuff, tax-paid.....thous. lbs.	*17,488	17,402	16,944	.....												
METALS AND MANUFACTURES																	
Iron ore (Lake Superior dis.):																	
Shipments from upper lake ports.....thous. l. tons	13,745	1,525	9,952	10,608													
Consumption by furnaces...do..	8,056	5,287	5,376	5,403													
Stocks, end of mo., total...do..	32,070	26,142	29,563	34,989													
At furnaces.....do..	28,526	20,690	24,147	29,180													
On Lake Erie docks.....do..	3,544	5,452	5,416	5,809													
METALS & MANUFACTURES - Con.																	
Pig iron, production																	
thous. sh. tons	6,373	4,503	4,624	4,724													
Steel forgings:																	
Orders, unfilled.....do..	*1,239	460	431	.....												
Shipments, for sale.....do..	*191	116	107	.....												
Drop and upset.....do..	*135	66	81	.....												
Press and open hammer...do..	*57	29	26	.....												
Cans, metal, shipments, total																	
sh. tons	*305,205	323,903	317,344	.....												
Food.....do..	*177,976	187,779	179,802	.....												
Nonfood.....do..	*127,229	136,124	137,542	.....												
Shipments for sale.....do..	*259,822	278,292	275,991	.....												
Machine tools:																	
New orders 1/.....1945-47=100	273.4	142.8	r139.5	p186.8													
Shipments 1/.....do..	342.2	302.7	r270.3	p277.8													
PULP, PAPER, AND PRINTING																	
Newsprint, Canada:																	
Production.....sh. tons	463,193	500,199	497,221	490,726													
Shipments from mills.....do..	486,389	503,292	497,561	523,966													
Stocks, mills, end mo.....do..	172,660	185,974	185,634	152,394													
Newsprint, United States:																	
Consump. by publishers...do..	381,186	414,877	422,157	384,444													
Production.....do..	90,727	89,839	96,670	96,564													
Shipments from mills.....do..	89,640	88,968	95,716	95,148													
Stocks, end of month:																	
At mills.....do..	10,211	9,557	7,511	7,927													
At publishers.....do..	484,762	484,226	446,739	453,407													
TEXTILE PRODUCTS																	
Cotton: 2/																	
Consumption.....bales	740,864	660,209	645,875	781,767													
Mfrs., spindle activity:																	
Active spindles, last working day, total.....thous.	21,201	20,715	20,627	20,646													
Consum. 100% cotton...do..	19,824	19,457	19,325	19,332													
Spindle hours operated, all fibers, total 2/...mil. hr.	9,938	8,991	8,932	10,939													
Av. per working day...do..	496.9	457.1	446.6	446.5													
Consum. 100% cotton 2/do..	9,330	8,475	8,366	10,216													
Operations as % of capacity	136.1	125.3	122.6	122.8													
Rayon and acetate:																	
Shipments, dom., producers':																	
Filament yarn.....mil. lb.	60.3	r60.5	r58.4	57.7													
Staple (incl. tow).....do..	27.0	r28.9	r32.1	35.7													
Stocks, producers', end mo.:																	
Filament yarn.....mil. lb.	56.8	69.8	r68.5	66.9													
Staple (incl. tow).....do..	30.1	28.3	27.9	28.1													
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT																	
Motor vehicles, factory sales, total.....number	660,131	631,769	588,561	598,847													
Coaches, total.....do..	380	379	273	350													
Domestic.....do..	359	348	250	348													
Passenger cars, total...do..	585,678	534,667	497,062	507,055													
Domestic.....do..	568,906	515,192	475,889	469,994													
Trucks, total.....do..	74,073	96,723	91,226	91,442													
Domestic.....do..	66,073	79,439	73,712	74,254													

□/ Revised. ▽/ Preliminary. * May 1953 data. 1/ Index based on monthly average shipments, 1945-47=100. 2/ Data for June 1954 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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