

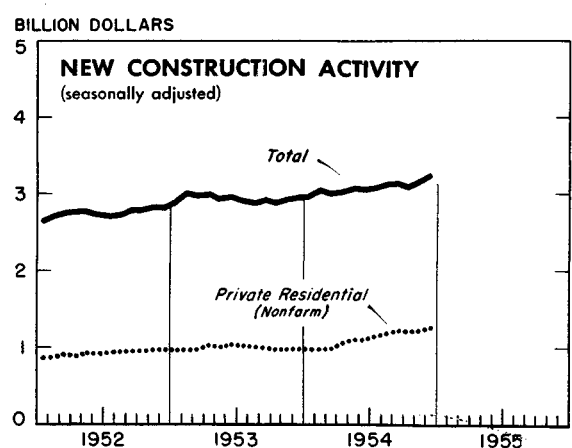
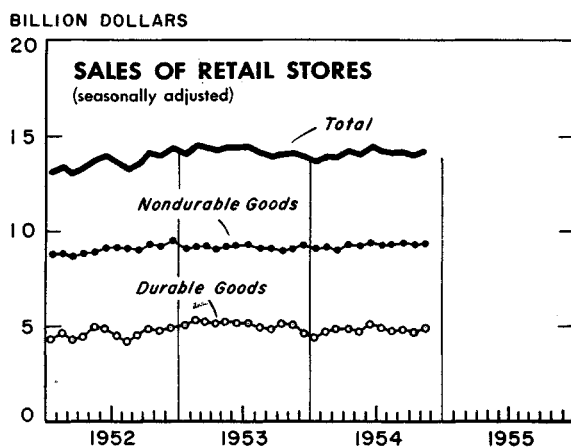
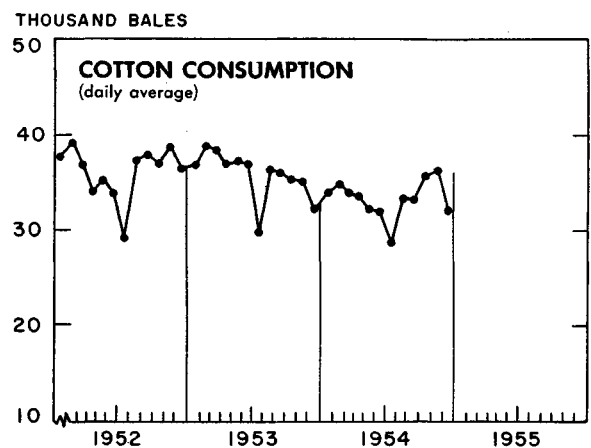
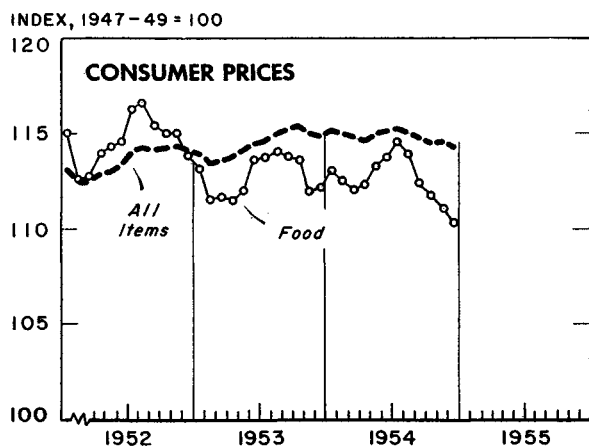
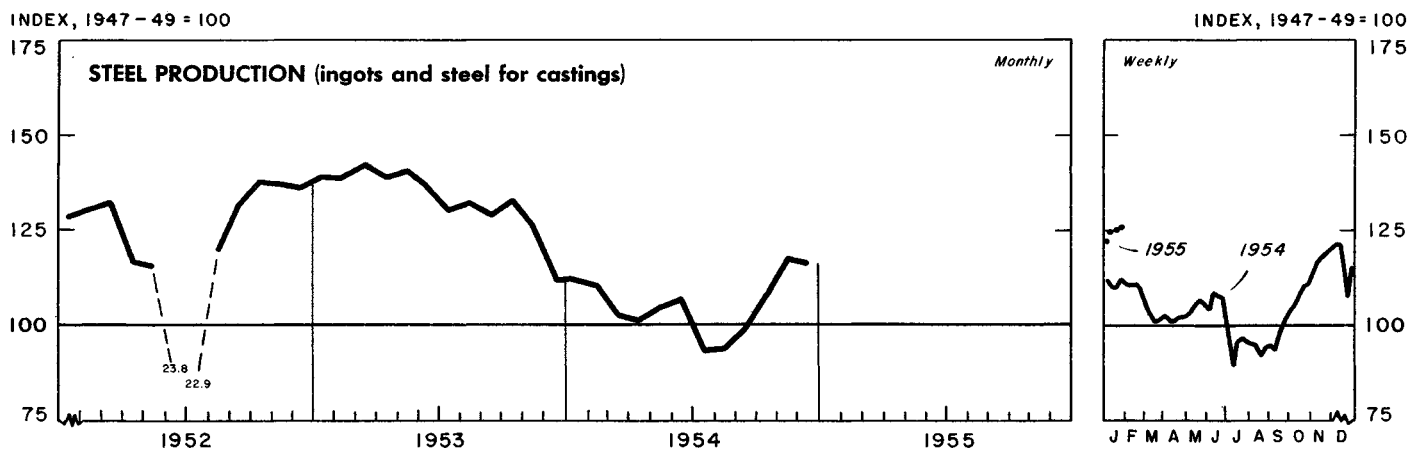


# BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

Available only with subscription to the SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS, at \$3.25 annually, this Supplement provides selected weekly and monthly data subsequent to those published in the latest monthly SURVEY

## SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

ITEM	1954		1955			
	Jan. 16	Jan. 23	Jan. 1	Jan. 8	Jan. 15	Jan. 22
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities..... 1947-49=100.....		*110.9		109.8	110.1	110.1
Farm products..... do.....		*97.8		91.2	92.7	92.6
Foods, processed..... do.....		*106.2		103.3	103.7	104.0
All other..... do.....		*114.6		115.1	115.1	115.1
22 commodities <sup>2/</sup> ..... do.....	88.6	87.7	90.2	90.8	90.8	91.0
Department store sales..... do.....	85	86	80	106	99	
Insured unemployment, total <sup>3/</sup> ..... thous..	2,204	2,279	2,061	2,179		
State programs..... do.....	2,038	2,104	1,847	1,956		
Finance:						
Currency in circulation <sup>4/</sup> ..... mil. of dol..	30,299	30,084	30,618	30,436	30,192	29,958
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total..... do.....	26,230	26,412	26,371	26,207	25,739	25,082
Member bank reserve balances..... do.....	20,228	20,874	19,233	19,566	19,170	19,066
Excess reserves, estimated..... do.....	978	1,539	638	1,000	764	633
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:						
Demand deposits, adjusted..... mil. of dol..	56,044	56,090	58,445	57,857	57,981	
Time deposits, except Government..... do.....	19,503	19,538	21,407	21,447	21,490	
Loans and investments (adjusted), total..... do.....	79,778	79,478	86,534	85,824	85,481	
U. S. Government obligations..... do.....	32,870	32,987	36,902	36,573	36,513	
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)..... do.....	22,846	22,686	22,486	22,334	22,237	
Real-estate loans (gross)..... do.....	6,490	6,484	7,176	7,182	7,217	
Failures, industrial and commercial..... number..	200	208	152	198	200	265
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) <sup>4/</sup> ..... percent..	3.35	3.33	3.14	3.14	3.14	3.15
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Standard and Poor's) <sup>4/</sup> ..... 1935-39=100..	192.5	197.1	270.6	268.6	270.5	265.6
Industrials, 420 stocks..... do.....	208.3	213.8	304.2	301.8	304.2	297.7
Production:						
Bituminous coal <sup>4/</sup> ..... thous. of short tons..	1,363	1,402	1,486	1,418	1,417	
Electric power, by utilities..... mil. of kw.-hr..	9,014	8,976	9,425	9,833	9,928	
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's)..... number..	139,341	137,681	142,384	171,219	177,329	185,916
Petroleum (crude) and condensate <sup>4/</sup> ..... thous. of bbl..	6,333	6,292	6,343	6,574	6,689	
Steel <sup>5/</sup> ..... thous. of short tons..	1,772	1,766	1,850	1,960	2,007	2,008
Percent of capacity <sup>5/</sup> .....	#74.3	#74.1	#77.6	81.2	83.2	83.2
Freight car loadings, total..... thous. of cars..	620	617	529	602	645	
Miscellaneous..... do.....	321	320	273	309	331	

<sup>1/</sup> Data do not always cover calendar weeks. <sup>2/</sup> Tuesday prices. <sup>3/</sup> Includes UCFE program beginning January 8, 1955. <sup>4/</sup> Daily average. <sup>5/</sup> Week ended January 29: Production, 2,027 thous. short tons; operating rate, 84.0 percent. \* Monthly index for January 1954. # Not comparable with 1955 rates which are based on higher capacity as reported January 1, 1955.

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1953		1954			
	November	December	September	October	November	December
COMMODITY PRICES						
Commodity price index, all items..... 1947-49=100..	115.0	114.9	114.7	114.5	114.6	<sup>1/</sup> 114.3
Apparel..... do.....	105.5	105.3	104.3	104.6	104.6	104.3
Food..... do.....	112.0	112.3	112.4	111.8	111.1	110.4
Dairy products..... do.....	110.5	110.3	105.8	106.7	106.6	106.8
Fruits and vegetables..... do.....	107.4	109.2	110.5	111.1	109.6	108.4
Meats, poultry, and fish..... do.....	107.0	107.8	106.7	103.9	103.5	102.2
Housing..... do.....	118.9	118.9	119.5	119.5	119.5	119.7
Gas and electricity..... do.....	107.3	107.2	107.9	108.5	108.7	109.1
Housefurnishings..... do.....	108.3	108.1	106.0	105.6	105.4	105.4
Rent..... do.....	127.3	127.6	128.8	129.0	129.2	129.4
Medical care..... do.....	123.3	123.6	125.7	125.9	126.1	126.3
Personal care..... do.....	113.4	113.6	113.5	113.4	113.8	113.6
Reading and recreation..... do.....	108.9	108.9	106.5	106.9	106.8	106.6
Transportation..... do.....	130.1	128.9	126.4	125.0	127.6	127.3
Other goods and services..... do.....	120.2	120.3	120.1	120.1	120.0	119.9
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by—						
Wholesale prices..... 1947-49=100..	91.1	90.8	90.9	91.2	90.9	<sup>2/</sup> 91.3
Consumer prices..... do.....	87.0	87.0	87.2	87.3	87.3	<sup>2/</sup> 87.5
Retail food prices..... do.....	89.3	89.0	89.0	89.4	90.0	<sup>2/</sup> 90.6
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Construction contracts awarded, 37 States (F.W.Dodge Corp.):						
Total projects..... number..	41,379	35,777	65,832	67,701	54,671	62,394
Total valuation..... mil. of dol..	1,394	1,300	1,816	1,965	1,499	1,829
Building, total..... do.....	1,096	974	1,424	1,523	1,200	1,463
Construction cost indexes (E. H. Boeckh and Associates):						
Average, 20 cities:						
Apartments, hotels, and office buildings:						
Brick and concrete..... U. S. avg. 1926-29=100..	256.0	256.3	258.3	258.5	258.2	258.5
Brick and steel..... do.....	253.7	253.8	253.7	253.9	253.4	253.8
Brick and wood..... do.....	257.4	257.1	256.5	256.8	256.8	257.1
Commercial and factory buildings:						
Brick and concrete..... do.....	262.2	262.5	266.1	266.3	266.0	266.2
Brick and steel..... do.....	258.9	259.1	262.1	262.2	262.0	262.2

<sup>1/</sup> Index on base previously used (1935-39=100) is 191.1. <sup>2/</sup> Indexes on base previously used (1935-39=100) are as follows: Measured by—wholesale prices, 47.8; consumer prices, 52.3; retail food, 44.8.

## MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS—Continued

ITEM	1953		1954			
	November	December	September	October	November	December
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE - Continued						
Construction cost indexes (E.H.Boeckh and Assoc.) - continued						
Commercial and factory buildings - continued						
Brick and wood.....U. S. avg. 1926-29=100..	255.3	255.1	255.4	255.6	255.5	255.7
Frame.....do.....	257.8	257.2	255.7	256.1	256.1	256.4
Steel.....do.....	242.8	243.0	245.9	245.9	245.6	245.9
Residences:						
Brick.....do.....	257.9	257.7	257.2	257.5	257.4	257.7
Frame.....do.....	253.0	252.6	251.1	251.4	251.4	251.7
FINANCE						
Federal Government finance:						
Receipts, total.....mil. of dol..	5,107	4,845	5,280	2,887	4,905	4,217
Receipts, net.....do.....	4,555	4,588	4,951	2,639	4,201	3,742
Customs.....do.....	48	44	48	47	52	47
Income and employment taxes.....do.....	3,731	3,913	4,277	1,850	3,791	3,204
Miscellaneous internal revenue.....do.....	1,152	691	838	850	839	801
All other receipts.....do.....	177	196	117	140	224	165
Expenditures, total.....do.....	5,183	6,437	5,019	4,857	3,842	6,288
Interest on public debt.....do.....	164	1,294	541	346	368	1,200
Veterans' services and benefits.....do.....	349	376	321	349	373	401
National security.....do.....	3,685	4,228	3,261	3,300	p3,316	p3,739
All other expenditures.....do.....	984	539	897	863	p215	p947
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Organic chemicals:						
Acetic acid (synthetic and natural), production thous. of lb..	36,515	40,132	44,691	42,002	41,502	.....
Acetic anhydride, production.....do.....	49,075	51,786	69,282	69,104	66,302	.....
Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin), production.....do.....	1,056	987	1,151	1,250	974	.....
Creosote oil, production.....thous. of gal..	13,079	11,206	9,752	9,240	8,992	.....
Ethyl acetate (85%), production.....thous. of lb..	5,165	5,859	5,952	6,960	7,143	.....
Glycerin, refined (100% basis):						
High gravity and yellow distilled:						
Production.....do.....	7,135	5,798	5,067	4,663	4,804	.....
Consumption.....do.....	6,136	5,630	5,909	5,922	5,776	.....
Stocks.....do.....	16,712	17,259	15,005	13,435	12,782	.....
Chemically pure:						
Production.....do.....	11,203	15,142	11,964	11,631	12,917	.....
Consumption.....do.....	8,558	8,718	9,499	9,279	8,966	.....
Stocks.....do.....	25,144	27,689	20,546	17,889	17,445	.....
Methanol, production:						
Natural (100%).....thous. of gal..	173	165	184	177	163	.....
Synthetic (100%).....do.....	13,973	14,151	12,896	15,319	16,464	.....
Phthalic anhydride, production.....thous. of lb..	18,848	19,133	22,136	24,647	23,004	.....
FOODSTUFFS						
Wines and distilling materials:						
Sparkling wines:						
Production.....thous. of wine gal..	76	81	49	85	118	.....
Tax-paid withdrawals.....do.....	197	198	159	158	192	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	1,186	1,052	1,335	1,259	1,175	.....
Still wines:						
Production.....do.....	r20,771	4,148	26,985	65,505	20,795	.....
Tax-paid withdrawals.....do.....	r12,442	12,966	11,899	12,299	12,726	.....
Stocks, end of month.....do.....	r214,954	202,631	139,287	195,813	202,620	.....
Distilling materials produced at wineries.....do.....	r34,929	4,971	61,975	119,756	40,197	.....
Livestock:						
Cattle and calves:						
Receipts, principal markets.....thous. of animals..	2,997	2,342	2,878	2,992	2,980	2,177
Shipments, feeder, to 9 corn-belt States.....do.....	643	286	540	939	815	355
Hogs:						
Receipts, principal markets.....do.....	2,950	2,721	2,496	2,746	3,308	3,315
Sheep and lambs:						
Receipts, principal markets.....do.....	1,412	1,182	1,806	1,841	1,323	1,192
Shipments, feeder, to 9 corn-belt States.....do.....	292	185	631	539	344	185
LEATHER AND PRODUCTS						
Leather production:						
Calf and kip.....thous. of skins..	724	846	730	r787	945	.....
Cattle hide.....thous. of hides..	1,904	1,978	1,959	r2,009	2,069	.....
Goat and kid.....thous. of skins..	2,101	2,550	1,920	1,951	2,078	.....
Sheep and lamb.....do.....	2,189	1,820	2,036	1,873	1,959	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (Lake Superior district):						
Consumption by furnaces.....thous. of long tons..	7,522	7,022	4,620	5,398	5,845	6,341
Stocks, end of month, total.....do.....	54,981	48,815	49,753	51,868	r49,975	44,018
At furnaces.....do.....	46,896	41,145	43,083	44,980	r43,065	37,427
On Lake Erie docks.....do.....	8,085	7,671	6,670	6,889	6,911	6,591
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	6,063	5,779	4,462	4,984	5,257	5,587
Steel forgings:						
Orders, unfilled, total.....do.....	740	651	409	382	461	.....
Shipments, for sale, total.....do.....	143	143	109	r113	120	.....
Drop and upset.....do.....	103	99	82	86	89	.....
Press and open hammer.....do.....	40	44	27	r27	30	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.

ITEM	1953		1954			
	November	December	September	October	November	December
METALS AND MANUFACTURES - Continued						
Copper:						
Production:						
Crude (mine or smelter, incl. custom intake).short tons..	85,724	88,732	r69,882	r79,231	r97,837	97,806
Refined.....do....	119,230	123,296	r88,786	r92,918	r116,135	133,523
Deliveries, refined, domestic.....do....	100,908	112,244	89,198	105,293	r118,925	119,626
Stocks, refined, end of month.....do....	93,274	89,193	48,775	33,290	37,094	47,108
Foundry-equipment (new), new orders, net						
mo. avg. shipments, 1947-49=100..	150.0	161.2	68.3	147.5	61.4	.....
Machine tools (metal-cutting types):						
New orders.....mo. avg. shipments, 1945-47=100..	146.6	149.8	180.9	148.9	r119.5	p203.2
Shipments.....do....	320.2	301.4	213.4	191.0	r179.5	p203.6
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS						
Clay products:						
Brick, unglazed:						
Production.....thous. of standard brick..	496,810	456,985	576,185	561,190	557,097	.....
Shipments.....do....	474,163	380,495	589,340	571,103	548,588	.....
Clay sewer pipe, vitrified:						
Production.....short tons..	136,317	132,725	156,115	148,169	148,573	.....
Shipments.....do....	124,789	95,623	157,590	153,246	140,320	.....
Structural tile, unglazed:						
Production.....do....	83,608	76,844	81,278	81,367	79,699	.....
Shipments.....do....	74,672	62,907	77,095	79,160	71,874	.....
Glass containers:						
Production.....thous. of gross..	10,094	9,328	9,883	10,843	9,252	8,494
Shipments.....do....	9,298	9,765	10,634	10,079	9,164	8,824
Stocks, end of month.....do....	11,633	10,932	13,299	13,684	13,423	12,862
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Cotton: <u>l</u> /						
Consumption.....bales..	684,976	r756,758	815,315	706,603	703,697	801,748
Manufactures:						
Spindle activity (cotton system spindles):						
Active spindles, last working day, total....thousands..	21,252	20,933	20,634	20,696	20,782	20,626
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	19,990	19,695	19,276	19,295	19,348	19,136
Spindle hours operated, all fibers, total..mil. of hr..	9,232	10,246	11,222	9,735	9,464	11,059
Average per working day.....do....	474	436	458	493	485	442
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	8,719	9,683	10,455	9,042	8,768	10,239
Operations as percent of capacity.....do....	129.1	118.8	126.0	136.3	134.6	122.5
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT						
Railway equipment, American Railway Car Institute:						
Freight cars:						
Shipments, total.....number..	6,574	4,752	2,958	2,348	1,770	2,232
Equipment manufacturers, total.....do....	4,173	3,169	1,600	1,338	1,085	1,428
Domestic.....do....	3,912	2,873	1,208	807	617	1,369
Railroad shops, domestic.....do....	2,401	1,583	1,358	1,010	685	804
Passenger cars, equipment manufacturers:						
Orders unfilled, end of month, total.....do....	736	712	587	563	514	757
Domestic.....do....	422	398	448	434	405	671
Shipments, total.....do....	44	27	42	38	54	57
Domestic.....do....	44	26	22	25	34	34

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. l/ Data for December 1953 and September and December 1954 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
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WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT  
SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS