

December 2, 1955

BUSINESS STATISTICS

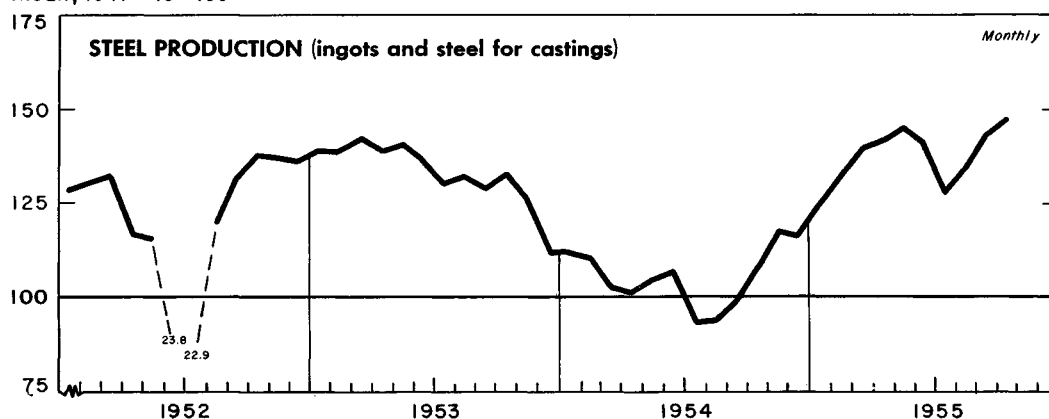


A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

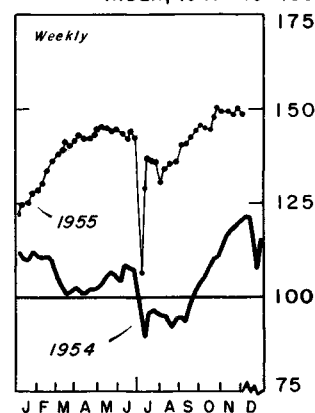
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SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

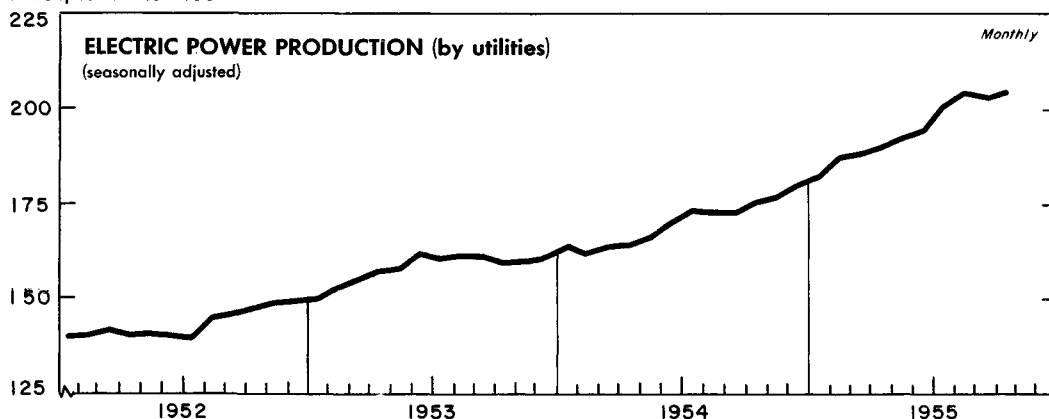
INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



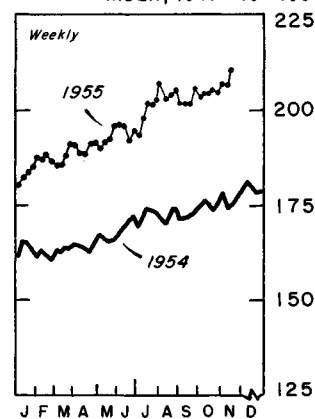
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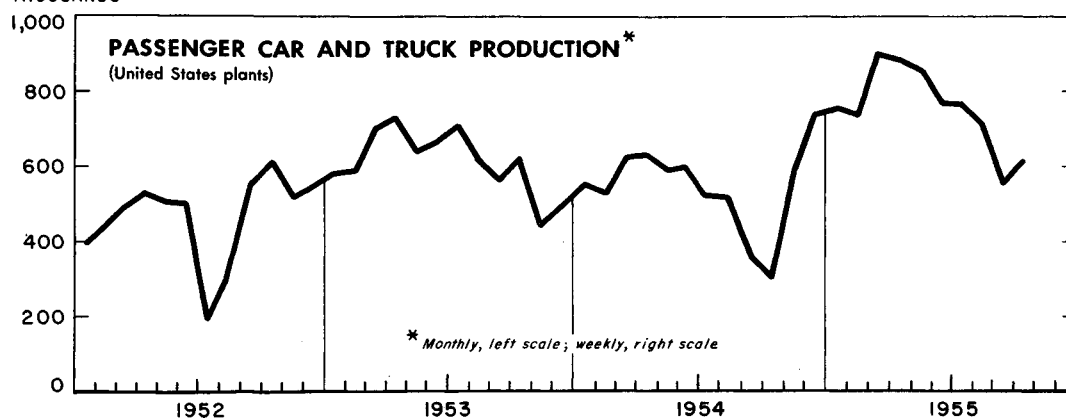
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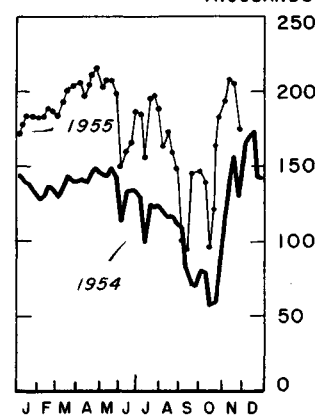
INDEX, 1947-49 = 100



THOUSANDS



THOUSANDS



WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS¹

ITEM	1954		1955			
	Nov. 20	Nov. 27	Nov. 5	Nov. 12	Nov. 19	Nov. 26
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..		*110.0	111.3	111.2	111.1	111.1
Farm products.....do....		*93.2	85.6	85.2	84.3	84.6
Foods, processed.....do....		*103.8	99.2	99.0	98.8	98.4
All other.....do....		*114.8	119.1	119.1	119.2	119.2
22 commodities 2/.....do....	90.4	90.4	88.5	88.4	88.6	89.0
Department store sales.....do....	134	133	128	141	142	.....
Insured unemployment, total 3/.....thous..	1,592	1,708	875	899	.....	.....
State programs.....do....	1,413	1,516	792	813	.....	.....
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 4/.....mil. of dol..	30,266	30,407	30,577	30,774	30,774	30,919
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 4/.....do....	25,708	25,900	25,748	25,963	26,272	26,208
Member bank reserve balances 4/.....do....	19,306	19,205	18,898	18,899	18,883	19,036
Excess reserves, estimated 4/.....do....	883	681	497	552	601	615
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities:5/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	55,682	56,254	56,394	55,955	56,027	.....
Time deposits, except Government.....do....	21,221	21,214	21,763	21,731	21,628	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	85,745	85,897	85,623	85,259	85,781	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	37,677	37,411	30,559	30,300	30,377	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross).....do....	22,107	22,137	25,303	25,485	25,783	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	7,051	7,077	8,073	8,106	8,143	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	208	226	237	207	214	205
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 4/.....percent..	3.13	3.12	3.30	3.28	3.28	3.30
Stock prices, 480 stocks (Standard and Poor's) 1935-39=100..	254.5	258.6	307.0	320.5	327.4	326.1
Industrials, 420 stocks.....do....	284.8	289.8	350.7	368.3	376.8	375.1
Production:						
Bituminous coal 4/.....thous. of short tons..	1,512	1,486	1,697	1,670	1,700	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	9,317	9,087	10,853	10,878	11,149	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	156,012	130,396	193,561	209,141	206,536	174,094
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 4/.....thous. of bbl..	6,265	6,270	6,777	6,808	6,851	.....
Steel 6/.....thous. of short tons..	1,892	1,915	2,400	2,404	2,394	2,416
Percent of capacity 6/.....do....	#79.3	#80.3	99.4	99.6	99.2	100.1
Freight car loadings, total.....thous. of cars..	697	584	809	797	772	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	354	306	404	396	379	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Wednesday prices. 3/ Includes UCFE program beginning January 8, 1955. 4/ Daily average. 5/ Wednesday data. 6/ Week ended December 3: Production, 2,394 thous. short tons; operating rate, 99.2 percent. * Monthly index for November 1954. # Not comparable with 1955 rates which are based on higher capacity as reported January 1, 1955.

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1954		1955			
	September	October	July	August	September	October
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumer price index, all items.....1947-49=100..	114.7	114.5	114.7	114.5	114.9	1/ 114.9
Apparel.....do....	104.3	104.6	103.2	103.4	104.6	104.6
Food.....do....	112.4	111.8	112.1	111.2	111.6	110.8
Dairy products.....do....	105.8	106.7	104.7	105.7	106.5	107.5
Fruits and vegetables.....do....	110.5	111.1	121.9	111.3	110.2	108.5
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do....	106.7	103.9	103.7	102.9	103.5	100.9
Housing.....do....	119.5	119.5	119.9	120.0	120.4	120.8
Gas and electricity.....do....	107.9	108.5	110.8	110.8	111.2	111.2
Housefurnishings.....do....	106.0	105.6	103.6	103.2	103.6	104.4
Rent.....do....	128.8	129.0	130.4	130.5	130.5	130.8
Medical care.....do....	125.7	125.9	127.9	128.0	128.2	128.7
Personal care.....do....	113.5	113.4	115.5	115.8	116.6	117.0
Reading and recreation.....do....	106.5	106.9	106.3	106.3	106.7	106.7
Transportation.....do....	126.4	125.0	125.4	125.4	125.3	126.6
Other goods and services.....do....	120.1	120.1	120.3	120.4	120.6	120.6
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by—						
Wholesale prices.....do....	90.9	91.2	90.5	90.2	89.5	2/ 89.7
Consumer prices.....do....	87.2	87.3	87.2	87.3	87.0	2/ 87.0
Retail food prices.....do....	89.0	89.4	89.2	89.9	89.6	2/ 90.3
DOMESTIC TRADE						
Television advertising:						
Cost of facilities, total.....thous. of dol..	26,198	31,671	29,997	30,345	33,058	.....
Automotive, including accessories.....do....	1,932	2,837	3,670	3,358	3,620	.....
Drugs and toiletries.....do....	6,053	7,202	8,762	8,661	8,133	.....
Foods, soft drinks, confectionery.....do....	5,795	6,571	6,069	5,947	6,896	.....
Soaps, cleansers, etc.....do....	3,054	3,055	3,416	3,849	4,134	.....
Smoking materials.....do....	3,510	3,728	3,354	3,203	3,499	.....
Magazine advertising:						
Cost, total.....do....	51,787	63,048	37,329	40,836	58,673	.....
Apparel and accessories.....do....	6,399	5,712	918	4,197	7,515	.....
Automotive, including accessories.....do....	3,162	3,262	4,540	3,762	3,661	.....
Building materials.....do....	3,198	3,236	1,690	1,699	3,848	.....
Drugs and toiletries.....do....	4,460	6,195	4,221	3,744	4,845	.....

1/ Index based on 1935-39=100 is 192.1. 2/ Indexes based on 1935-39=100 are as follows: Measured by wholesale prices, 46.9; consumer prices, 52.1; retail food, 44.7.

ITEM	1954		1955			
	September	October	July	August	September	October
DOMESTIC TRADE - Continued						
Magazine advertising, cost - Continued						
Foods, soft drinks, confectionery.....thous. of dol..	5,999	8,885	6,388	6,139	7,347	.....
Beer, wine, liquors.....do....	2,005	3,158	2,084	1,888	2,354	.....
Household equipment and supplies.....do....	3,005	4,450	1,748	1,670	3,674	.....
Household furnishings.....do....	2,510	3,690	715	1,496	2,493	.....
Industrial materials.....do....	4,303	4,769	3,200	3,451	4,469	.....
Soaps, cleansers, etc.....do....	729	810	492	540	836	.....
Smoking materials.....do....	1,285	1,377	1,272	1,369	1,524	.....
EMPLOYMENT						
Labor turnover in manufacturing establishments:						
Accession rate.....monthly rate per 100 employees..	3.4	3.6	3.4	4.5	r4.4	p4.0
Separation rate, total.....do....	3.9	3.3	3.2	4.0	4.4	p3.4
Discharge.....do....	.2	.2	.3	.3	.3	p.3
Lay-off.....do....	1.7	1.6	1.1	1.3	1.1	p1.1
Quit.....do....	1.8	1.2	1.6	2.2	r2.8	p1.8
Military and miscellaneous.....do....	.3	.2	.2	.2	.2	p.2
FINANCE						
Federal Government finance:						
Receipts, total.....mil. of dol..	5,280	2,887	3,089	5,848	6,180	2,998
Receipts, net.....do....	4,951	2,639	2,765	4,734	5,498	2,692
Customs.....do....	48	47	54	55	57	62
Income and employment taxes.....do....	4,277	1,850	1,924	4,459	4,968	1,873
Miscellaneous internal revenue.....do....	838	850	877	945	947	890
All other receipts.....do....	117	140	234	390	208	173
Expenditures, total.....do....	5,019	4,857	5,382	6,225	5,340	5,355
Interest on public debt.....do....	541	346	592	522	529	542
Veterans' services and benefits.....do....	321	349	364	434	363	p364
National security.....do....	3,261	3,300	2,863	3,420	p3,611	p3,161
All other expenditures.....do....	897	863	1,564	1,850	p837	p1,288
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Organic chemicals, production:						
Acetic acid (synthetic and natural).....thous. of lb..	44,691	42,002	43,987	44,647	47,421	.....
Acetic anhydride.....do....	69,282	69,104	66,359	69,499	66,299	.....
Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin).....do....	1,151	1,250	1,099	912	716	.....
Creosote oil.....thous. of gal..	9,246	8,577	8,538	11,539	9,784	.....
DDT.....thous. of lb..	6,444	5,526	11,334	11,277	10,190	.....
Ethyl acetate (85%).....do....	5,952	6,960	7,017	7,726	7,765	.....
Ethylene glycol.....do....	51,284	59,353	82,831	86,963	84,885	.....
Formaldehyde (37% HCHO).....do....	92,551	94,720	82,131	93,912	97,092	.....
Methanol:						
Natural (100%).....thous. of gal..	184	177	181	187	190	.....
Synthetic (100%).....do....	12,896	15,319	17,463	17,465	17,590	.....
Phthalic anhydride.....thous. of lb..	22,136	24,647	31,582	29,735	30,414	.....
Synthetic plastics and resin materials, production:						
Cellulose acetate and mixed ester plastics:						
Sheets, rods, and tubes.....thous. of lb..	3,430	3,074	2,283	3,390	4,012	.....
Molding and extrusion materials.....do....	7,840	7,520	6,271	7,681	8,728	.....
Nitrocellulose sheets, rods, and tubes.....do....	362	332	260	413	396	.....
Other cellulose plastics.....do....	586	416	313	332	430	.....
Phenolic and other tar acid resins.....do....	33,519	33,057	30,288	39,087	42,221	.....
Polystyrene.....do....	37,352	39,196	35,749	41,144	50,304	.....
Urea and melamine resins.....do....	19,588	21,132	17,110	22,416	24,280	.....
Vinyl resins.....do....	44,389	48,970	54,628	57,022	60,968	.....
Alkyd resins.....do....	27,411	27,943	31,979	35,886	36,700	.....
Resin modifications.....do....	9,767	9,702	12,303	10,767	12,148	.....
FOODSTUFFS AND TOBACCO						
Livestock slaughter (Federally inspected):						
Cattle.....thous. of animals..	706	738	550	646	710	728
Cattle.....do....	1,638	1,616	1,524	1,797	1,752	1,693
Hogs.....do....	4,743	5,178	3,428	4,475	5,144	6,144
Sheep and lambs.....do....	1,290	1,291	1,076	1,239	1,344	1,248
Meats, production, total.....mil. of lb..						
Beef and veal.....thous. of lb..	1,796	1,897	1,596	1,897	1,977	2,121
Lamb and mutton.....do....	917,746	924,790	878,641	1,032,932	1,021,504	999,507
Pork, including lard.....do....	55,324	56,119	47,030	54,343	58,742	55,245
Lard.....do....	822,728	915,733	670,129	809,765	896,472	1,065,839
Tobacco, manufactured products:	146,772	171,156	128,545	149,419	159,349	190,120
Production, total.....thous. of lb..						
Chewing, plug, and twist.....do....	18,866	18,252	12,763	17,934	17,388	.....
Smoking.....do....	7,105	7,021	5,468	7,233	6,967	.....
Snuff.....do....	8,361	8,214	5,233	7,024	7,054	.....
Consumption (withdrawals):	3,399	3,017	2,062	3,678	3,366	.....
Cigarettes, small:						
Tax-free.....millions..	3,395	2,472	2,369	2,232	2,937	.....
Tax-paid.....do....	31,964	31,593	28,561	36,760	32,076	.....
Cigars, tax-paid.....thousands..	r503,476	501,498	414,250	535,596	533,707	.....
Manufactured tobacco and snuff, tax-paid.....thous. of lb..	18,487	17,219	13,021	17,518	16,624	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary.

ITEM	1954		1955			
	September	October	July	August	September	October
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (Lake Superior district):						
Consumption by furnaces.....thous. of long tons..	4,620	5,398	7,273	7,485	7,539	7,850
Stocks, end of month, total.....do....	49,753	51,868	33,424	39,506	45,406	49,523
At furnaces.....do....	43,083	44,980	27,940	33,100	38,459	42,167
On Lake Erie docks.....do....	6,670	6,889	5,485	6,405	6,948	7,356
Castings, gray iron:						
Orders, unfilled, for sale.....thous. of short tons..	811	789	1,050	1,160	1,151	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	921	943	1,070	1,226	1,253	.....
For sale.....do....	534	552	579	688	713	.....
Castings, malleable iron:						
Orders, unfilled, for sale.....short tons..	66,742	71,090	115,420	123,473	116,636	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	58,015	64,321	75,570	82,448	87,215	.....
For sale.....do....	33,929	36,956	44,914	48,126	55,471	.....
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	4,462	4,984	6,391	6,601	6,703	6,965
Castings, steel:						
Shipments, total.....short tons..	88,359	87,085	97,875	126,406	r 140,843	.....
For sale, total.....do....	64,722	64,004	71,170	96,290	107,622	.....
Railway specialties.....do....	8,668	8,580	11,631	20,576	23,594	.....
Steel forgings (for sale):						
Orders, unfilled, total.....thous. of short tons..	409.0	382.0	513.3	r 547.0	552.4	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	109.4	113.0	115.0	134.8	148.8	.....
Drop and upset.....do....	81.7	86.0	82.7	99.9	110.1	.....
Press and open hammer.....do....	27.7	27.0	32.3	34.9	38.6	.....
Vacuum cleaners, standard type, sales billed.....thousands..	238.2	263.2	207.8	255.5	308.3	350.7
Washers, domestic, sales billed.....do....	379.7	339.2	245.9	403.8	414.9	362.3
STONE, CLAY, AND GLASS PRODUCTS						
Glass containers:						
Production.....thous. of gross..	9,929	10,908	11,858	13,109	11,234	12,173
Shipments, domestic, total.....do....	10,730	10,145	10,996	14,361	11,194	11,147
General-use food:						
Narrow-neck food.....do....	1,511	1,121	1,217	1,852	r 1,746	1,348
Wide-mouth food (incl. packers' tumblers, jelly glasses, and fruit jars).....do....	3,210	3,033	3,093	4,749	r 3,013	3,271
Beverage.....do....	343	325	1,230	931	480	411
Beer bottles.....do....	677	586	1,161	1,145	739	597
Liquor and wine.....do....	1,165	1,408	972	1,144	r 1,203	1,486
Medicinal and toilet.....do....	2,536	2,452	2,196	3,027	r 2,669	2,791
Chemical, household and industrial.....do....	985	977	915	1,184	r 1,015	1,003
Dairy products.....do....	303	243	212	329	329	240
Stocks, end of month.....do....	13,336	13,721	14,805	13,263	13,040	13,719
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Cotton, manufactures:						
Spindle activity (cotton system spindles): <u>1</u> /						
Active spindles, last working day, total.....thousands..	20,634	20,696	20,708	20,735	20,799	20,883
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	19,276	19,295	19,147	19,136	19,243	19,302
Spindle hours operated, all fibers, total....mil. of hr..	11,222	9,735	8,234	10,088	12,287	10,290
Average per working day.....do....	458	493	433	504	455	515
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	10,455	9,042	7,546	9,293	11,363	9,512
Operations as percent of capacity.....do....	123.5	134.6	115.7	141.4	138.0	144.9
Wool, consumption, mill (clean basis): <u>1</u> /						
Apparel class.....thous. of lb..	24,405	19,850	20,682	23,142	r 25,895	22,908
Carpet class.....do....	11,498	9,459	6,637	10,509	r 13,245	11,892

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for September 1954 and September 1955 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

UNITED STATES
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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